

# **Datasheet**

DS000391

# **TDC-GP30**

# **System-Integrated Solution for Ultrasonic Flow Meters**

### **(Volume 1: General Data and Frontend Description)**

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### **Notational Conventions**

Throughout the GP30 documentation, the following stile formats are used to support efficient reading and understanding of the documents:

- Hexadecimal numbers are denoted by a leading 0x, e.g. 0xAF = 175 as decimal number. Decimal numbers are given as usual.
- **EXECUTE:** Binary numbers are denoted by a leading 0b, e.g.  $0b1101 = 13$ . The length of a binary number can be given in bit (b) or Byte (B), and the four bytes of a 32b word are denoted B0, B1, B2 and B3 where B0 is the lowest and B3 the highest byte.
- Abbreviations and expressions which have a special or uncommon meaning within the context of GP30 application are listed and shortly explained in the list of abbreviations, see following page. They are written in plain text. Whenever the meaning of an abbreviation or expression is unclear, please refer to the glossary at the end of this document.
- **Variable names** for hard coded registers and flags are in bold. Meaning and location of these variables is explained in the datasheet (see registers CR, SRR and SHR).
- **Variable names** which represent memory or code addresses are in bold italics. Many of these addresses have a fixed value inside the ROM code, others may be freely defined by software. Their meaning is explained in the firmware and ROM code description, and their physical addresses can be found in the header files. These variable names are defined by the header files and thus known to the assembler as soon as the header files are included in the assembler source code. Note that different variable names may have the same address, especially temporary variables.
- Physical variables are in italics (real times, lengths, flows or temperatures).

### **Abbrevations**



For details see the glossary in section 9.



### **Content**



# **Ultrasonic Flow Converter**





### <span id="page-6-0"></span>**1 Overview**

TDC-GP30 is the next generation in acam's development for ultrasonic flow converters. The objectives of the TDC-GP30 development are as follows:

- Easy-to-adapt two-chip solution for ultrasonic heat and water meters (GP30 + simple uP)
- **EXECT:** Single-chip solution for many industrial applications or pure flow meter parts
- All flow and temperature calculations are done by GP30
- External µP needed only for interfaces (e.g. LCD, wireless, etc.) and other general-purpose tasks
- **·** Integrated standard pulse interface enables one-to-one replacement of mechanical meters by GP30 based single-chip heat and water meters – customer  $\mu$ P and software remains unchanged. All in all, the TDC-GP30 is the next step in ultrasonic flow metering. It drastically simplifies the design of ultrasonic heat and water meters and is the necessary step for compact energy-saving ultrasonic water meters. The ultra-low-current capabilities allow the use of standard 2/3 AA or AA

lithium thionyl chloride batteries at 6-8 Hz measuring frequency even in the water meter version. The TDC-GP30 is a system-on-chip approach that allows you to perform all measurement tasks in one IC.

### <span id="page-6-1"></span>**1.1 Key Features**

- High performance + ultra-low power 32-Bit CPU with
	- 128 <sup>\*</sup> 32 bit NVRAM (non-volatile RAM) for user firmware parameter & data
	- 4k \* 8 bit NVRAM (non-volatile RAM) for user firmware program code
	- 4k \* 8 bit ROM for system task code and special flow library code
- Capability of MID-compliant flow & temperature calculation, GP30-supported
- **EXECT** Flexible interfaces, SPI, UART, pulse (flow only)
- Advanced high-precision analog part
- Transducers can be connected directly to GP30, no external components required
- Amplitude measurements of receiving signal for secure bubble, aging and empty spool piece detection
- Up to 31 multi-hits for flow measurement yield the highest accuracy
- High update rates with very low power consumption of for example  $6 \mu A$  at 8 Hz, including flow and temperature calculations, measure rate adopted to the flow
- Very low space and component requirements

### <span id="page-7-0"></span>**1.2 Block diagram**

Figure 1-1: Block diagram



Main functional blocks of TDC-GP30:

- A) Supervisor: Timing and voltage control
- B) Frontend: TOF and sensor temperature measurements
- C) Post processing: CPU operations, including initialization and firmware operations
- D) User interfaces: Chip communication over SPI or UART, Pulse interface and GPIOs

### <span id="page-7-1"></span>**1.3 Ordering Numbers**



This product is RoHS-compliant and does not contain any Pb.



### <span id="page-8-0"></span>**2 Characteristics & Specifications**

### <span id="page-8-1"></span>**2.1 Electrical Characteristics**

Absolute Maximum Ratings Stresses beyond those listed under "Absolute Maximum Ratings" may cause permanent damage to the device. These are stress ratings only. Functional operation of the device at these or any other conditions beyond those indicated under "Electrical Characteristics" is not implied. Exposure to absolute maximum rating conditions for extended periods may affect device reliability.



### Table 2-1 Absolute maximum ratings

### Table 2-2 Recommended operating conditions







**Note**: See also section [4.5.2](#page-39-1) for more information about the current consumption

Table 2-4 Terminal Capacitance





### Table 2-5 Analog Frontend



\* Without external load.

### Table 2-6 NVRAM



\* See 6.2 EEPROM interface for backup applications.

### **Converter Specification**

Table 2-7 Time Measuring Unit ( $V_{CC} = 3.0$  V,  $T_j = 25$  °C)



### Table 2-8 Temperature Measuring Unit<sup>1</sup>





 $^1$  2-Wire measurement with compensation of  $R$ ds(on) and gain (Schmitt trigger). All values measured at  $V_{CC}$  = 3.0 V,  $C$ load = 100 nF for PT1000 and 200 nF for PT500 (C0G-type)

2 Compared to an ideal gain of 1.0



### <span id="page-12-0"></span>**2.2 Timings**

At  $V_{CC}$  = 3.0 V  $\pm$  0.3 V, ambient temperature -40 °C to +85 °C unless otherwise specified

### **2.2.1 Oscillators**

Table 2-9 Oscillator specifications



#### **Remark:**

It is strongly recommended that a ceramic oscillator be used for HSO\_CLK because a quartz oscillator needs much longer time to settle than a ceramic oscillator. This consumes a lot of current, but using a quartz oscillator has no advantage when high speed clock calibration is done as supported by GP30.

### **2.2.2 Power-On**

Table 2-10 Power-on timings



### **2.2.3 UART Interface**

#### Table 2-11UART timings



#### Figure 2-1 UART timing



### **2.2.4 SPI Interface**

Table 2-12 SPI timings



Serial interface (SPI compatible, clock phase bit =1, clock polarity bit =0):

Figure 2-2 SPI Write





### Figure 2-3 SPI Read



### **2.2.5 EEPROM Interface**

 $(f_{HSO} = 4MHz)$ 

Table 2-13 EEPROM timings



#### Figure 2-4 EEPROM timing







#### <span id="page-16-0"></span>**2.3 Pin Description 2.3.1 Device Marking**  Example: GP30 Y A 15 03 Device family Silicon revision (Y) Chip package  $(A = QFN40; D = QFN32)$ Year (15 = YEAR 2015) Calendar week  $(03 = CW 03)$ **2.3.2 QFN Packages Chips**  QFN40 QFN32 XOUT\_4MHZ PTWCOMA PTWCOM<br>PTOTAD<br>PTOTAD<br>PTOTAD<br>PTOTAD<br>PTOTAD<br>PTOTADA<br>PTOTADADA <sup>n.C.</sup><br>PTHOTB<br>PTCOLDA<br>PTCOLDA<br>PTCOLDB<br>PTCOLDB<br>PTCOLDB VCC  $\overline{q}$ 31 32 25 PTWCOMB 30 XIN\_4MHZ 1 PTWCOMB XOUT\_4MHZ 24 1 GP30YD VDD18\_IN VDD18\_IN VDD18\_IN XIN\_4MHZ C **1** GP30YA VDD18\_OUT SSN\_GPIO2 Ċ VDD18\_OUT  $\overline{\phantom{0}}$ VDD18\_IN 歐 MOSI GPIO3 **VCC** Ċ. **VCC** SSN\_GPIO2  $\overline{\phantom{0}}$ بر LP\_MODE Ċ GPIO6 LP\_MODE MOSI GPIO3  $\mathbf{\mathsf{O}}$ C س US UP *for test only*  $\bar{U}$ S up  $\mathbf{\mathsf{O}}$ Ċ *For test only* ယ GND SCK\_RXD **GND** SCK\_RXD ယ US\_DOWN MISO\_TXD MISO\_TXD US\_DOWN | 8 17 16 US\_VREF INTN\_DIR  $\sigma$ OPEXT\_IN GPIO5 UCC<br>COCO COCO<br>GPION 10 21 US\_VREF INTN\_DIR UART\_SEL XIN\_32KHZ XOUT\_32KHZ 11 VCC OPEXT\_OUT *for test only for test only* XOUT\_32KHZ GPIO4 UART\_SEL XIN\_32KHZ SO<br>GPIO<br>GPI

Figure 2-5 GP30 Pinout







### <span id="page-18-0"></span>**2.4 Package Drawings**

Figure 2-6 QFN-40 package outline,  $6 \times 6 \times 0.9$  mm<sup>3</sup>, 0.5 mm lead pitch, bottom view



Side view





Caution: The center pad is internally connected to GND. No wires other than GND are allowed underneath. It is **not necessary** to connect the center pad to GND.

Figure 2-7 QFN-32 package outline,  $5 \times 5 \times 0.9$  mm<sup>3</sup>, 0.5 mm lead pitch, bottom view



Marking:



: **Date Code:** YYWW: YY = Year, WW = week

**Thermal resistance:** Roughly 28 K/W (value just for reference).

**Environmental:** The package is RoHS-compliant and does not contain any lead.

### **Moisture Sensitive Level (MSL)**

Based on JEDEC 020 moisture sensitivity level definition the TDC-GP30 is classified as MSL 3. **Soldering Temperature Profile** 

The temperature profile for infrared reflow furnace (in which the temperature is the resin's surface temperature) should be maintained within the range described below.

Figure 2-8 Soldering profile



### **Maximum temperature**

The maximum temperature requirement for the resin surface, where 260ºC is the peak temperature of the package body's surface, is that the resin surface temperature must not exceed 250ºC for more than 10 seconds. This temperature should be kept as low as possible to reduce the load caused by thermal stress on the package, which is why soldering is recommended only for short periods. In addition to using a suitable temperature profile, we also recommend that you check carefully to confirm good soldering results.



### <span id="page-20-0"></span>**3 Flow and Temperature Measurement**

The TDC-GP30 incorporates the complete system to measure and calculate the flow through a spool piece for ultrasonic flow metering: the driver for the piezo transducers, the offset stabilized comparator, the analog switches, the CPU to calculate the flow, the clock control unit and, above all, the measure rate control and task sequencer which manage the timing and interaction of all the units during measurement.

### <span id="page-20-1"></span>**3.1 Measuring principle**

The GP30 measures flow by measuring the difference in time-of-flight (TOF) of an ultrasonic pulse which travels with the flow (downstream) and opposite to the flow (upstream). For water meters, water temperature can be calculated from the time-of-flight data, too.. For heat meters, a highprecision temperature measurement unit is additionally integrated (see section 3.3).

Figure 3-1 Ultrasonic time-of-flight principle: Cross sections of an example spool piece with down- and upstream measurement



The flow speed  $v$  is a measure for the actual flow through the spool piece, and integrating the flow over time yields the flow volume.

Connecting the sensors is very simple. The ultrasonic transducer which sends against flow (in up direction) is directly connected to the US\_UP pin, the ultrasonic transducer which sends with flow (in down direction) is directly connected to the US\_DOWN pin. The resistors and capacitors in the transducer driver path are integrated in TDC-GP30 .

The temperature sensors, reference resistor and charge capacitors are connected to the temperature ports and GND. The temperature unit is suitable for sensors with 500 Ohm and higher like PT500 or PT1000. The chip supports 2-wire sensors and 4-wire sensors and is good for 1.5 mK rms resolution.

Figure 3-2 External connection of sensors: ultrasonic transducers (left) and temperature sensors (right for 2-Wire; for 4-wire sensors, see section 3.3)



### **3.1.1 Measurement Sequence**

The GP30 is designed for autonomous operation. In self-controlled flow meter mode it triggers all measurements and does data processing to deliver final results, independent of external control. It can also be configured to wake up an external microcontroller for communication of results.. Alternatively, the GP30 can act as a pure converter that controls the measurement but without any data processing (time conversion mode, self-controlled). For debugging, individual tasks can also be triggered remotely by an external microcontroller (time conversion mode, remote controlled).

Table 3-1 Operating modes



The various functional blocks of the TDC-GP30 are controlled by hard-wired configuration registers (CR) and system handling registers (SHR) in the random access memory area (RAA). For selfcontrolled applications the configurations are stored in the firmware data section FWD2 of the RAA. From there the configuration data is automatically copied into the direct mapped registers during a boot sequence. The various configuration registers and system handling registers are described in detail in section [7.](#page-56-0) The variable names are formatted in bold in this document for better reading.

In low power mode, the GP30 generally needs a 32.768 kHz oscillator to act as a continuously running clock (LSO). For time measurement the GP30 typically uses a high speed oscillator (HSO), typically featuring a 4 MHz ceramic resonator. The HSO is activated only for the short period of the measurement. In the same manner, the comparator and other analog elements are powered only for the short period of the measurement.



The low-frequency clock LSO is used as

- Base for the task sequencer cycle
- Base for the pulse interface
- Base for the time stamp
- Base for an initial UART baud rate of 4,800 baud

In self-controlled modes, the supervisor function block of TDC-GP30 fully controls the entire operation sequence. It determines cycle timing through the measurement rate generator (MRG), which triggers the task sequencer (TS). The task sequencer calls and coordinates the different tasks according to configuration.

The tasks themselves can be grouped as shown in the following table.

Table 3-2 GP30 Tasks



The rate of measurement and calibration tasks can be configured, while initialization, post processing and communication are typically controlled by various flags which indicate the preceding measurement processes or resets. For example, post processing by the firmware typically depends on the flag register **SRR\_FEP\_STF**, it decides for flow or sensor temperature calculations according to the most recent measurements done. See section 7.5 for details on status and result registers. The following figure illustrates rate settings for various tasks.

Figure 3-3 Rate settings of various tasks



The most important parameters are set in configuration registers (**CR**, see section 7.3):

### Register **CR\_MRG\_TS**, address 0xC6

**MR\_CT:** Task sequencer cycle time. The actual physical cycle time is  $t_{cycle}$  = MR CT<sup>\*</sup> 976.5625 µs [0, 1...8191]. The measurement rate generator triggers measurements in two alternating channels, one **MR\_CT** (A) triggering the flow and amplitude measurement, the other one (B) triggering temperature and voltage measurement as well as the high speed clock (HSO) and the comparator offset calibration. Channel B triggers a half cycle time after channel A, to avoid mutual influences among the measurements.

### Register: **CR\_TM**, address 0xC7

**TM\_RATE:** Defines the number of sequence cycle triggers between sensor temperature measurements [0=off, 1, 2…1023]. The sensor temperature measurement frequency is  $1 / (t_{cycle} * TM \text{ RATE})$ 

### Register: **CR\_USM\_AM**, address 0xCB

- **AM\_RATE:** Defines the number of sequence cycle triggers between amplitude measurements [0=off, 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 50, 100].
- **AMC\_RATE** sets the number of amplitude measurements between amplitude calibration measurements [0=off, 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 50, 100].

### Register: **SHR\_TOF\_RATE**, address 0xD0

**TOF\_RATE:** Defines the number of sequence cycle triggers between TOF measurements  $[0=$ off, 1...63]. The TOF measurement frequency is 1 / ( $t_{cycle}$  **\* TOF RATE)** Register **CR CPM**, address 0xC5

- **HSC\_RATE:** Defines the number of sequence cycle triggers between high-speed clock calibration measurements (4 MHz ceramic against 32.768 kHz quartz) [0=off, 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 50, 100].
- **VM\_RATE:** Defines the number of sequence cycle triggers between low battery detection measurements [0=off, 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 50, 100].

The following sections describe the front end measurement tasks in more detail.



### <span id="page-24-0"></span>**3.2 Ultrasonic Measurement**

The measurement rate generator in channel A typically triggers the task sequencer (TS) for a complete sequence of flow measurement, starting with an ultrasonic time-of-flight (TOF) measurement, and – if desired – ending in front end processing which does all necessary calculations. .The TOF measurement is made up of the two time-of-flight measurements in up and down direction (in other words, against flow and with flow). The pause time between the two measurements can be configured in multiples of ¼ period of the base frequency (50 Hz or 60 Hz) in several steps, to optimize rejection of mains frequency distortions.

The time-of-flight measurement triggers the amplitude measurement. The GP30 can automatically toggle the measurement direction sequence between up /down- and down/up-measurement from cycle to cycle. This helps suppress errors caused by temperature drift.



Figure 3-4 Timing of the ultrasonic measurement with 20 ms pause interval (example)

Important configuration parameters are:

Register **CR\_CPM**, address 0xC5

- **HS\_CLK\_ST:** Settling time for the high-speed clock HSO, from 76 us to 5 ms
- **BF SEL**: Selection of base frequency (50 Hz/ 60 Hz) with period thase

Register **CR\_MRG**, address 0xC6

**PP\_EN:** Enables post-processing

### Register **CR\_USM\_PRC**, address 0xC8

- **USM\_TO**: sets the timeout for the TOF measurement [128 µs ... 4096 µs]
- **USM DIR MODE:** defines start direction or the toggling of start direction
- **USM PAUSE**: pause time between measurements  $[0=$ only one measurement, 2: 0.25 $*$ tbase, 3..7: 0.5..2.5\*tbase]

Register **CR\_USM\_FRC**, address 0xC9

- **FPG\_FP\_NO**: number of fire pulses [1...128]
- **FPG CLK DIV:** HSO frequency divided by this factor +1 gives the actual frequency of the measurement signal (fire frequency)

Further important parameters configure the first wave detection and amplitude measurement as

described in the following sections.

### **3.2.1 First Wave Detection**

To do a time-of-flight measurement, the received signal needs to be identified and its arrival time needs to be measured thoroughly. This can be done by defining a first wave, and then counting subsequent waves and storing the relevant arrival times. This is elaborated in the following: The receive signal, typically a burst-like signal, is converted into a digital signal using an internal comparator. While receiving, the reference voltage of the comparator most of the time equals the zero line of the receive signal to identify zero crossings (Actually, the zero line is the overlaid reference voltage  $V_{ref}$ , and the comparator's reference is set to the zero cross detection level  $V_{ZCD}$ , which is calibrated to  $V_{ref}$ ). This way, received wave periods are converted into digital hits. To determine an absolute numbering of the hits, a so-called first wave is defined by adding a welldefined voltage level, the first hit level ( $V_{FHL}$ ), to the comparator's reference. This first wave detection, at a comparator level which differs from the zero cross level, is implemented to make the time-of-flight measurement independent from temperature and flow. The offset level  $V_{FHL}$  practically represents the level of receive signal at which the first wave is detected, which generates the first hit. After the first hit was detected, the comparator's reference is brought back to zero cross detection level  $(V_{ZCD})$  at the 2<sup>nd</sup> hit, and the subsequent hit measurements are done at zero crossing. The following parameters define the first wave detection and the TOF hits:

- The trigger level **ZCD** FHL, which defines the comparator offset level  $V_{FHL}$
- The count number of the first subsequent TOF hit (TOF Start hit) which is actually measured
- The number of measured TOF hits
- The interval between measured TOF hits
- **•** The TOF start hit delay: This delay disables hit detections for some defined lead time. This parameter is used as alternative to the first wave detection.

The diagram 3-5 below shows the measurement flow in TDC-GP30 first wave mode.

Starting the measurement with the comparator offset  $V_{FHL}$  different from zero, e.g. 100 mV, helps suppressing noise and allows the detection of a dedicated wave of the receive burst that can be used as reference. Once this first wave is detected, the offset is set back to the zero cross detection level V<sub>ZCD</sub>. It is recommended to start actual TOF hit measurements after at least two more wave periods. The count number of the TOF start hit, the total number of TOF hits and the number of ignored hits between TOF hits are set by configuration. Ignored hits are in particular helpful when signal frequencies approaching half of the HSO frequency are used (e. q. 2 MHz signals when using a 4 MHz HSO). In such cases, the internal arithmetic unit is not fast enough to do all necessary calculations for each single hit, so at least every second hit must be ignored.



#### Figure 3-5 First wave detection



PW\_FH = pulse width first hit, PW\_SH = pulse width start hit

The important parameters are:

**EXECT LVL:** The zero cross detection level V<sub>zcD</sub> is automatically calibrated to the reference voltage level  $V_{ref.}$  This calibration should be configured to be repeated regularly (see section 7.4.8)

#### Register **CR\_USM\_PRC**, address 0xC8

**USM\_NOISE\_MASK:** Opens the receive channel after a programmable delay, e.g. for noise suppression

#### Register **CR\_USM\_FRC**, address 0xC9

- **ZCD FHL**: First hit level, offset to  $V_{ZCD}$ , to be set from -224 mV to +200 mV (typ.). The actual physical value is  $V_{FHL} = \pm 0.88$ mV \* **ZCD\_FHL** (typ.; sign given by **ZCD\_FHL\_DIR**).
- **EXECT FHL DIR:** Offset sign positive or negative
- **ZCC\_TS\_RATE**: Configuring the offset calibration of the comparator

### Register **CR\_USM\_TOF**, address 0xCA

- **TOF HIT NO:** Number of hits for the time-of-flight measurement [1...31]
- **TOF HIT IGN:** Number of waves ignored between the TOF measurements  $[0...3]$
- **TOF START HIT MODE:** Selects mode for TOF start hit
- **TOF START HIT NO:** Number of waves counted after first detected hit which is defined as TOF start hit [2…31]

### Register **SHR\_TOF\_START\_HIT\_DLY**

**TOF START HIT DLY: Delay window after which the next detected hit is defined to TOF start** hit. Starting time of the delay window refers to rising edge of 1<sup>st</sup> fire pulse (like stop masking in predecessor TDC-GP22, defined by DELVAL)

Like in TDC-GP22, the first wave detection is supported by a pulse width measurement option. Therefore the pulse width of the first hit, measured at the signal amplitude  $V_{FH}$  (unequal to zero), is compared to the pulse width of the TOF start hit measured without offset at *V<sub>zcD</sub>*. The result is read as PWR = **PW\_FH/PW\_SH** and is typically < 1. The ratio PWR can be used to track  $V_{FHL}$ .

### Register **CR\_USM\_AM**, address 0xCB

**• PWD EN:** Enable the pulse width detection

### **3.2.2 Amplitude Measurement**

A new feature in TDC-GP30 is a true amplitude measurement. The result is time data that reflect the amplitude of the receive burst. During operation the relative time information is fully sufficient for amplitude comparisons. The formula to calculate the amplitude in mV is given in the user manual DB\_GP30\_Vol3.pdf.

The features are:

- True peak amplitude measurement with every TOF (configurable)
- **EXECT** Highly reliable bubble and aging detection
- Very good consistency check in comparison to first wave detection
- Easy quality check in production and development
- **•** Configurable number of hits to stop the amplitude measurement this allows to measure the peak amplitude of each single wave at the start of the burst signal (but only one single value in each TOF measurement)



Figure 3-6 Amplitude measurement

The most important parameters are:

### Register **CR\_USM\_AM**, address 0xCB

- **AM\_RATE:** Rate for amplitude measurement in sequence cycles [0=off, 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 50, 100]
- **AM PD END:** Number of the wave when peak detection stops  $[0=0$ ff, 1…31]
- **AMC\_RATE:** Calibration rate for amplitude measurement  $[0=off, 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 50, 100]$



### **3.2.3 Reading Ultrasonic Measurement Results**

The GP30 measurement results are stored in a RAM section called front end data buffer (FDB). This section is used for flow measurement data and temperature measurement data alternately. Therefore, it is necessary to read the time-of-flight data directly after the end of a flow measurement and before the temperature measurement starts. The ultrasonic flow measurement stores the following results in the RAM section:



Table 3-3 Reading results from front end data buffer in the RAM

For debugging purposes, it is possible to read the individual TOF up and TOF down data for the first eight hits. Furthermore, the user can read the pulse width ratio PWR and the peak amplitude value AM for both directions.

Single TOF values (addresses 0x88 … 0x97) are only posted if **TOF\_HITS\_TO\_FDB** is set in configuration register **CR\_USM\_TOF**.

TOF and amplitude measurement data are all times, given as 32-bit fixed point numbers with 16 integer bits and 16 fractional bits in multiples of the HSO period (typically 250 ns with 4 MHz HSO). So the meaning of the least significant bit is 1 LSB = 250 ns  $/2^{16}$  = 3.8146972 ps. Note that these values may need a further calibration step, depending on usage (see section 3.4.1)

The pulse width ratio PWR is an 8-bit fixed point number with 1 integer bit and 7 fractional bits. For example, PWR=0b01001101 means 0.6015625 in decimal.

### <span id="page-28-0"></span>**3.3 Temperature Measurement**

Precision temperature measurement is mandatory in heat meters. Therefore, for example external platinum sensors of 500 Ohm or 1000 Ohm are placed in the input stream (hot) and the output

stream (cold). In addition to the ultrasonic measurement interface, TDC-GP30 has a dedicated temperature sensor interface which permits measurements of such resistive sensors.

The resistance measurement of the temperature sensor interface is based on discharge time measurement, as known from acam's PICOSTRAIN chip family. A load capacitor  $C_{load}$  of typically100 nF capacitance (COG recommended), is discharged via the sensors and via a common reference resistor. GP30 supports 2-wire sensors and 4-wire sensors. The 2-wire sensors wiring is simpler, having one side at GND, but can't correct for additional line resistances and possibly changing contact resistances and thus demands a soldered connection.

The 4-wire connection corrects for the contact resistance and therefor can be used with plugs instead of solder connections. For details on the interface function and calibration, please refer to the user manual DB\_GP30\_Vol3.pdf.

Figure 3-8: 4-wire temperature sensor setup





New in GP30 is the implementation of the PICOSTRAIN method for resistive sensors. This method adds internal compensation measurements to improve the temperature stability of the results. In two wire mode this results in 4 or 5 discharge cycles for actual resistance measurements. In 4 wire mode, the maximal number of discharge cycles for the measurement itself is 14. In both cases, 2 or 8 fake measurements need to be added for increased measurement accuracy. The measurement sequence is typically repeated with configurable pause time and order, such that each measurement is done twice in a cycle. The pause time can be configured in multiples of ¼ period of the base frequency (50 Hz or 60 Hz) in several steps, to optimize rejection of mains frequency distortions. Reversing the order of the measurements helps suppressing linear changes during a measurement sequence, by adding up the associated results pairwise.

In addition to the external measurement ports, a simple temperature sensor is also integrated in the chip. The interface can be configured to toggle between internal and external measurements, such that both options can be used alternatingly. For details on internal temperature measurement, please refer to the user manual DB\_GP30\_Vol3.pdf.



The following parameters are important for the configuration of the temperature measurement:

Register **CR\_CPM**, address 0xC5

**BF SEL:** Selection of base frequency (50 Hz/ 60 Hz)

Register **CR\_TM**, address 0xC7

- **TM\_RATE:** Rate for temperature measurements in sequence cycles [0=off, 1...1023]
- **TM\_PAUSE**: pause time between the two temperature measurement sequences [0=only one measurement, 2: 0.25\*tbase, 3..7: 0.5..2.5\*tbase]
- **· TM\_PORT\_NO**: sets number of ports, 1 or 2
- **· TM\_WIRE\_MODE:** selects between 2–wire and 4-wire modes
- **TM\_FAKE\_NO**: sets number of fake measurements, 2 or 8
- **TM\_PORT\_MODE:** 0 = pull-down for inactive ports, 1 = no pull own
- **TM MODE**:  $0 =$  internal,  $1 =$  external,  $2$ ,  $3 =$  toggling
- **TM\_DCH\_SEL:** selects the cycle time and therefore the discharge time limit, 512 us or 1024 µs
- **TM\_PORT\_ORDER**: defines the order of the port switching (00: always default order, 01: always reversed, 10: 1st measurement: default order / 2nd measurement: reversed order, 11: vice versa

Figure 3-9 Cload discharge cycles, 2-wire mode (schematic)



### **3.3.1 Reading Temperature Measurement Results**

After a temperature measurement, the discharge times can be read from the following RAM addresses. **Note:** Those RAM cells are used also by the TOF measurements. Therefore data must be read before the next TOF measurement. For details on measurement description, switch setting and calibration calculation, please refer to the user manual DB\_GP30\_Vol3.pdf.

<b>RAA Address</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Description</b>
0x080	FDB_TM_PP_M1	Schmitt trigger delay Compensation Value
0x081	FDB_TM_PTR_RAB_M1	PT Ref: Discharge Time Value
0x082	FDB_TM_PTC_CAB_M1	PT Cold: Discharge Time Value
0x083	FDB_TM_PTH_HAB_M1	PT Hot: Discharge Time Value
0x084	FDB_TM_PTR_RA_M1	PT Ref: 1 <sup>st</sup> Rds(on) correction Value
0x085	FDB_TM_PP_M2	Schmitt trigger delay Compensation Value
0x086	FDB_TM_PTR_RAB_M2	PT Ref: Discharge Time Value
0x087	FDB_TM_PTC_CAB_M2	PT Cold: Discharge Time Value
0x088	FDB_TM_PTH_HAB_M2	PT Hot: Discharge Time Value
0x089	FDB_TM_PTR_RA_M2	PT Ref: 1 <sup>st</sup> Rds(on) correction Value
0x08A	FDB_TM_PTR_4W_RB_M1	PT Ref: 2 <sup>nd</sup> Rds(on) correction Value
0x08B	FDB_TM_PTC_4W_CA_M1	PT Cold: 1 <sup>st</sup> Rds(on) correction Value
0x08C	FDB_TM_PTC_4W_CB_M1	PT Cold: 2 <sup>nd</sup> Rds(on) correction Value
0x08D	FDB_TM_PTC_4W_AC_M1	PT Cold: 3rd Rds(on) correction Value

Table 3-4 Reading temperature measurement data from front end data buffer in the RAM





Values with names ending in **M2** come from the repeated measurements. They remain unchanged when no second measurement is done ( $TM$   $PAUSE = 0$ ). Letters before the measurement number indicate active port (**R**ef., **C**old and **H**ot, **A** or **B**; preceeding **A** or **B** means ground port switched). The values at the shaded addresses (0x08A – 0x09B) are only posted if **TM\_WIRE\_MODE** is set to 4 wire in **CR\_TM.** 

Temperature measurement data is all times given as 32-bit fixed-point numbers with 16 integer bits and 16 fractional bits in multiples of the HSO period (250 ns with 4 MHz HSO).

So the meaning of the least significant bit is  $1$  LSB = 250 ns  $/2^{16}$  = 3.8146972 ps.

For 2-Wire measurements, simple calibration calculations yield corrected resistance values:



A good approximation gives for the Schmitt trigger delay compensation  $\Delta t = 2t_{PP} - 2 \frac{t_{CAB} t_{RAB}}{t_{CAB} + t_{RAB}}$ and for the  $R_{ds}$ (on) correction (the correction of switch resistances)  $t_{RO} = t_{RA} - t_{RAB}$ . Note that the Schmitt trigger delay compensation requires a measurement of the cold sensor. In case one sensor may be optional, always use the hot sensor for the optional one.

With the known reference resistor value  $R_{REF}$  we then get the



When a PT sensor of resistance  $R_0$  is used, the actual temperature may be derived from the corrected resistance using the following simplified approximation

$$
T/{}^{\circ}C = C_2 * \left(\frac{R}{R_0}\right)^2 + C_1 * \left(\frac{R}{R_0}\right) + C_0
$$

Note that  $R/R_0 = (R/R_{REF})/(R_0/R_{REF})$ , so the argument can as well be the relative resistance, depending on knowledge of  $R_{0}$  or  $R_{0}/R_{REF}$  from calibration. Using the coefficients  $\mathcal{C}_{2} = 10.115,$  $C_1 = 235.57$  and  $C_0 = -245.683$ , the approximation is valid in the range 0°C to 100 °C with less than 3 mK deviation from the normed polynomial for PT's (see IEC 60751:2008)

A simpler linear approach would be:

$$
T_c = T_0 + (R_c - R_{PTC})/R_{REF}/S_{PTC}
$$
  

$$
T_H = T_0 + (R_H - R_{PTH})/R_{REF}/S_{PTH}
$$

 $T_0$  is temperature at a calibration point, e.g. 20 °C, and  $R_{PTC}$  and  $R_{PTH}$ , respectively, are the sensor resistances at calibration temperatures. The gain  $S_{PTC}$  or  $S_{PTH}$  is the sensitivity of the sensor, e.g. 3850 ppm for platinum. This simple equation is valid in the range 0 °C to 100 °C with about 250 mK deviation from the normed polynomial for PT's.

Both, polynomial and linear calculation are supported by ROM routines. See volume 2, **ROM\_TEMP\_POLYNOM** and **ROM\_TEMP\_LINEAR\_FN.**

### <span id="page-33-0"></span>**3.4 Chip level calibrations**

TDC-GP30 features calibration functions on chip level which make the chip widely independent of tolerances and aging effects. Most chip level calibrations are enabled through measurements that are done performed as configurable frontend tasks. Of course, any other desired calibration like flow or temperature calibration of the whole measurement system can be implemented in a suitable firmware. In contrast, the following chip level calibrations are already supported by dedicated hardware functions:

- Calibration of high-speed clock
- Calibration of amplitude measurement
- Calibration of comparator offset
- TDC Calibration (automatically)

### **3.4.1 Calibration of high-speed clock**

In the majority of applications, it makes sense to use for the high speed clock HSO a ceramic resonator, with (in comparison to a crystal) low quality factor. Then the overall current consumption is reduced by switching on the HSO only when needed (during any TDC or TOF measurement). The low quality factor permits low settling times for the HSO. Of course, in consequence the accuracy and long term stability of the HSO is worse than with a crystal. The appropriate solution is to calibrate the HSO regularly against the stable high-quality, but low power LSO. To enable this calibration, TDC-GP30 measures four periods of the LSO with the TDC, which is always referred to the instantaneous HSO period (see section 3.4.4). The measurement result can be used to recalculate TDC time data to refer to the higher accuracy of the LSO. While the calibration



measurement is supported by GP30, the re-calculation and correction of TDC results has to be done by the user according to his needs. This happens typically in a firmware.

HSO calibration is done at a rate defined in:

### Register **CR\_CPM**, address 0xC5

**HSC\_RATE:** Defines the number of sequence cycle triggers between high-speed clock calibration measurements (4 MHz ceramic against 32.768 kHz quartz) [0=off, 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 50, 100].

The resulting measurements are then stored as raw TDC values in:



The measured value corresponds to four LSO periods in terms of raw TDC values (HSO-periods in fd16). For example, the nominal value for  $f_{HSO} = 4$  MHz and  $f_{LSO} = 32.768$  kHz would be 0x01E8 4800 (488.28125 in decimal numbers). From the actual value in **SRR\_HCC\_VAL** and the ideal value, a calibration factor can be derived such that corrected TDC result values are calculated as

(corrected TDC result) = (raw TDC result)  $*\frac{4f_{HSO,nom}}{SRR HCC}$  $\frac{4}{5}$ . HSO, nom.<br>SRR\_HCC\_VAL\*  $f_{LSO,nom}$ .

This calculation is not implemented in hardware and has to be done whenever needed. It is not necessary when only ratios of results are of interest, for example in sensor temperature measurements. It is of interest when precise actual time values are needed, for example when calculating flow from TOF measurements.

### **3.4.2 Calibration of amplitude measurement**

The amplitude measurement is done by a single slope AD-conversion of a stored peak amplitude value. In practice, this means a sample & hold detector stores the amplitude peak value during the measurement interval (between the first wave and the configured end of the measurement) in a capacitor. Then this capacitor is discharged at constant current down to Vref, which yields a discharge time measured by the internal TDC.

The amplitude measurement is calibrated against two reference level measurements at nominal offset levels of  $V_{ref}$  and  $V_{ref}$  /2, respectively. From these two reference time measurements, slope and offset of the calibration curve can be calculated, which permits to calculate actual amplitudes from the measured peak amplitudes. The rate and interval length of amplitude measurements, and the rate of calibrations is defined in:

Register **CR\_USM\_AM**, address 0xCB

- **AM\_RATE:** Rate for amplitude measurement in sequence cycles [0=off, 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 50, 100]
- **AM PD END:** Number of the wave when peak detection stops  $[0=off, 1...31]$
- **AMC\_RATE:** Calibration rate for amplitude measurement per amplitude measurement [0=off, 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 50, 100]

The resulting measurements are then stored as raw TDC values in:



It is, however, not necessary to calculate actual amplitudes since the measured time values themselves can be used for relative amplitude comparison. In this case, the calibration values are used in reverse way to derive time values, for example from given limits, for amplitude comparison. For details please refer to the user manual DB\_GP30\_Vol3.pdf.

While the amplitude measurement is repeatable and stabilized through calibration, it is still not a high-precision measurement. It has a minimal measurement level above  $V_{ref}$  which is given by an offset of some mV. In the final measurement result another offset of a few mV typically remains. And, since amplitude measurement always starts at the first wave, it should be clear that the result can never be smaller than the first hit detection level  $V_{FHL}$ .

### **3.4.3 Calibration of comparator offset**

The zero line of the receive signal is structurally given by the hard-coded  $V_{ref}$  level (typically 0.7 V). The zero cross detection level  $V_{ZCD}$  is the corresponding reference level of the comparator and is defined in register **SHR\_ZCD\_LVL**. To ensure that the comparator correctly detects zero crossings of the signal,  $V_{ZCD}$  has to be calibrated to  $V_{ref}$  regularly – basically this compensates the offset of the comparator. The calibration is automatically done once after power-on, and then at a rate defined in: Register **CR\_USM\_FRC**, address 0xC9

**ZCC\_TS\_RATE:** Configuring the rate of offset calibration of the comparator

The calibration automatically updates the value in **SHR\_ZCD\_LVL**, such that the user does not need to take any action. Note that the value in **SHR\_ZCD\_LVL** may be changed by the user, but such changes are overwritten by the next comparator offset calibration.

### **3.4.4 TDC calibration (automatically)**

The TDC measures time using a fast ring oscillator with fine time resolution. This ring oscillator is automatically calibrated against the HSO at the beginning of every TDC measurement. This results in time data from the TDC which is automatically referred to HSO periods – raw TDC values are always given as 32 bit numbers, where the first 16 bit are full HSO periods (typically 250 ns), the lower 16 bit are the corresponding fractions (LSB is typically 3.8 ps). The user does not need to care about this calibration. However, the HSO uses typically a ceramic resonator and needs in this case calibration against the crystal LSO. This changes the absolute time data of the TDC, see section 3.4.1.


# **4 Special Service Functions**

## **4.1 Watchdog**

After a system reset the watchdog of GP30 is enabled. After a watchdog time of roughly 13 s, the watchdog resets the chip if its timer is not being cleared before. This is typically done by the firmware using the command clrwtd, such that a system reset happens whenever the firmware skips clearing the watchdog (for any reason). Watchdog time is based on a not stabilized internal oscillator clock source of 10 kHz.

For operation in time conversion mode, it can be useful to disable the watchdog of GP30. For that a special code should be written to register **CR\_WD\_DIS**.



## **4.2 Time Stamp (RTC)**

The time stamp function is an elapsed time counter with an additional register for latching counter value. The latched time stamp can be read via two registers, representing hours, minutes & seconds.

In configuration register **CR\_CPM** the user defines the mode of how the timestamp is updated:



The actual timestamp can be read from the following status registers:



### **4.3 Backup**

Backup handling in GP30 can optionally be performed via firmware in the integrated CPU and an external EEPROM.

Please refer to the user manual volume 3 for details about this special function.

### **4.4 Clock Management**

GP30 is equipped with pins for two external clock sources. A low speed clock (LSO, typically 32.768 kHz) is made up by connecting a resonator at pins XIN 32KHZ & XOUT 32KHZ, and a high speed clock (HSO, typically 4 or 8 MHz) via pins XIN\_4MHZ & XOUT\_4MHZ. Alternatively, active external clocks may be fed into the XOUT pins (XIN must be grounded then).

Following clock operating modes can be distinguished:

- Low Power Mode
- Single Source Clocking Mode

### **4.4.1 Low Power Mode**

Typically the GP30 operates in low power mode. In this mode the internal low speed clock LSO is made up by a quartz crystal resonator connected to pins XIN\_32KHZ & XOUT\_32KHZ. The high speed clock HSO, made up by a ceramic resonator on pins XIN 4MHZ & XOUT 4MHZ, is activated by internal control only when needed for measurement.

To support ultrasonic transducers with a frequency of up to 4MHz, the GP30 can also be sourced with a high speed clock of 8 MHz (Note: not suitable with UART).

Compared to a quartz, a ceramic resonator with lower quality factor has the benefit of a short settling time, which saves power consumption of GP30. On the other hand the HSO needs to be calibrated against the more stable LSO regularly in this case. This calibration can be triggered by the task sequencer or by an external command.

#### **Important register**



**HSC\_RATE** sets the high-speed clock calibration rate. 0 turns it off, higher values set the clock calibration every  $2^{nd}/5^{th}/10^{th}/20^{th}/50^{th}/100^{th}$  cycle trigger.

**HS\_CLK\_SEL** selects between a 4 MHz clock and an 8 MHz clock. After a reset this is automatically set. For initial communication or operating in time conversion mode HS\_CLK\_SEL in SHR\_RC has to be set actively by the user.

**HCC\_UPD:** High-Speed Clock Calibration Update (see section 3.4.1)

- 0: No update in **SRR\_HCC\_VAL**
- 1: Updated value in **SRR\_HCC\_VAL**

Status register:



The low speed clock can be sourced by a quartz or directly by an oscillator clock.









Connecting XIN\_32KHZ & XOUT\_32KHZ with a quartz:





#### **4.4.2 Single Source Clocking Mode**

This mode is not recommended for applications where low power is needed. In single source clocking mode, no external low speed source is needed. The internal low speed clock is derived from high speed clock and is provided with a frequency of 32 kHz. For this reason the high speed clock is enabled all the time.

### **Note**: **In this mode, Timestamp Counter, General Purpose Counter und Recall/Checksum Counter are disabled.**

The high speed clock can be sourced by an external quartz.

Table 4-2 Oscillator pins in single source clocking mode



Connecting XIN\_4MHZ & XOUT\_4MHZ with a quartz:



 $C1, C2 = 10 pF$  $f(Quartz) = 4$  or 8 MHz

### **4.5 Power Supply**

#### **4.5.1 Supply voltage**

GP30 is a high-end mixed analog/digital device. Good power supply is mandatory for the chip to reach full performance. It should be highly capacitive and of low inductance.

Figure 4-1



Low series resistance from the same source should be applied to all VCC pins, even though all VCC pins are internally connected. All ground pins should be connected to a ground plane on the printed circuit board. The supply voltage should be provided by a battery or fixed linear voltage regulator. Do not use switched regulators, to avoid disturbances caused by the add-on noise of this type of regulator. The chip can also be driven directly with battery voltage – due to the wide operation voltage range, there is no need to regulate operation voltage for the GP30 to some fixed value..

The measurement quality of a time-to-digital converter depends on good power supply. Due to its cyclic short-time operations, the chip draws strongly pulsed instantaneous operation currents, and therefore sufficient bypassing is mandatory:

Recommendations:



#### **4.5.2 Current consumption**

The current consumption of the total system is a very important parameter for heat and water meters. The demands are higher especially for water meters because the measurement rate needs to be higher. A typical measurement rate for a water meter should be in the range of 6 to 8 Hz. The architecture of the GP30 is especially designed to reach an extremely low operating current to allow the use of small battery sizes like 2/3 AA or AA cells.

In the following tables, data for average operating current is given at  $V_{CC} = 3.0$  V and an environment temperature of 25 °C. At  $V_{CC}$  = 3.6 V the current will increase by a constant offset of roughly 2  $\mu$ A. In the extreme case of  $V_{CC}$  = 3.6 V and an environment temperature of 85 °C, the additional current offset caused by voltage and temperature will be typically 11uA. Furthermore, any communication over serial interface or pulse interface will increase current consumption according to the current drawn on the interface lines. The current consumption is the sum of the various parts and can be estimated in the following manner:





Table 4-3 Current calculation ( $V_{CC}$  = 3.0 V, environment temperature 25 °C, no communication)

While Heat meters typically run with 2 Hz, in water meters a higher measurement rate of 6 to 8 Hz is desirable. Intelligent software will also take care of zero flow situations when the measurement rate can be reduced. The table below uses as example a time share of 90% of zero flow..

The following table shows the estimated current consumption in different applications:



Table 4-4 Current consumption examples (measured values  $@$  V<sub>CC</sub> = 3.0 V, environment temperature 25 °C)

### **4.6 Voltage Measurement**

The voltage measurement is the only measurement task which is performed directly by the supervisor and not by frontend processing. It's automatically executed if **VM\_RATE** > 0. The value of  $V_{CC}$  is measured and can be compared to a low battery threshold.

#### **Important registers**





# **5 Remote Port Interfaces**

The GP30 is able to operate in **flow meter mode** or in **time conversion mode**.

In flow meter mode a remote port interface is needed to program the GP30. In time conversion mode a remote port interface is needed to configure and for measurement related communication with the GP30. The remote port interface can be selected as an **SPI** or as a **UART** interface by the pin UART SEL. The function of the five remote port pins depends on the port selection:



\*Pin MISO TXD must be grounded over 3.3 MΩ to avoid undefined logic levels in high Z state

### **5.1 SPI Interface**

The SPI interface of the GP30 is able to operate as a slave in a multi-slave SPI bus working in SPI mode 1. Pin MISO TXD is in high  $Z$  state when the chip is not communicating.

SPI mode 1 (CPOL =  $0$ , CPHA = 1) is defined as follows:

- **·** Idle State of SCK is LOW
- Data is sent in both directions with rising edge of SCK

Data is latched on both sides with falling edge of SCK

Slave select (SSN) and slave interrupt (INTN) are low active.

## **5.2 UART Interface**

The GP30 can also use a universal asynchronous receive/transmit interface. This is mainly used for data transfer via long cables. This UART always works in half duplex. Remote requests from external controller are always acknowledged by the GP30. Also, the GP30 is able to send messages by itself.

### **UART - Framing**

- Little endian: LSB (least significant bit) und LSByte (least significant byte) first
- Inter byte gap needed
- **EXED** Incremental write & read to memories

#### **UART CRC Generation**

- **•** Default Polynomial:  $X^{16} + X^{12} + X^5 + 1$  (CRC16-CCITT)
- Data byte & CRC in reverse order (little endian)
- Initial Value: 0xFFFF
- User definable CRC polynomial

#### **UART –Error handling (see section 5.4.9)**

- Wrong CRC (cyclic redundancy check)
- Collision handling
- **■** Unknown commands
- Inter-byte gap too large
- Wrong start or stop bit

#### **UART Messaging Mode**

The UART can be configured to operate in a messaging mode, transferring measurement results, triggered by measure cycle or by firmware decision. Optionally a wakeup byte can be send before a message is transferred.

#### **UART Baud Rates**

The GP30 is able to operate with a low baud rate (4,800 baud) or one of 4 different high baud rates of up to 115,200.

The baud rate can be changed with the baud rate command by the remote control. Before changing to a new baud rate, the remote control first has to receive an acknowledge message from the GP30 with the current baud rate.

A low baud rate is typically used for

▪ Initial communication

A high baud rate is typically used for

- **Programming firmware code & data to GP30**<br>• Messaging measurement results in flow meter
- Messaging measurement results in flow meter mode

The baud rate generation in GP30 can be derived from low speed clock frequency  $f_{LSO}$  (32.768 kHz)

or high speed clock frequency  $f_{HSO}$  (4 MHz).

For baud rates which are derived from HSO, this clock has to be activated by writing 0b10 to HSO\_MODE in **SHR\_RC** register before starting remote communication with new baud rate. For messaging mode the baud rate can be separately configured to operate in a high baud rate.





## **5.3 Remote Communication (Opcodes)**

A remote control always starts communication with the GP30 by sending a remote command RC\_xx\_xx (see the list of possible commands in section 5.4) as the first byte of a remote request, independently from the selected interface. In case of the UART a 2-byte CRC follows. This is always followed by an acknowledge of the GP30 with a 2-byte CRC included. Acronyms:



### **5.4 Opcodes**

#### **5.4.1 Resets & Inits**







#### **5.4.2 Memory Access**



The least significant bits of remote commands RC\_RAA\_WR, RC\_RAA\_RD correlate to the most significant bit of the RAA address RAA\_ADR[8]. RAA\_ADR[7:0] are defined in a separate address byte.

### **5.4.3 RAA Write (in blocks, x = 0 to 127)**



### **5.4.4 RAA Read (in blocks, x = 0 to 127)**





# **5.4.5 FWC Write (in blocks, x = 0 to 127)**



CRC CRC\_B0 CRC\_B1

WR

#### **5.4.6 Measurement Task Request**



The Measure Task Request is followed by an extended command EC\_MT\_REQ which defines the requested measure task(s):





### **5.4.7 System Commands**





### **5.4.8 Baud Rate Change**







### **5.4.9 UART Messages**



Message Interrupt Request



Communication Error



#### Message Data



Communication Error EM\_COM\_ERR:

EM\_COM\_ERR [Bit 0] = Collision

EM\_COM\_ERR [Bit 1] = Unknown command

EM\_COM\_ERR [Bit 2] = CRC error

EM\_COM\_ERR [Bit 3] = Inter-byte gap too long

EM\_COM\_ERR  $[Bit 4] = Start / stop bit not detected$ 

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# **6 General Purpose IO Unit**

The General Purpose IO Unit supports up to 7 GPIOs which can be used for different internal signals and/or interfaces. Dependent on package size and remote interface, following GPIOs are available (signed by X):



Following GPIO assignments are possible if pins are available (as defined above):



The assignment of the GPIOs has to be configured by

▪ **GPx\_DIR** & **GPx\_SEL** (x = 0..6) in **CR\_GP\_CTRL** ▪ **E2P\_MODE** in **CR\_PI\_E2P**

Registered general purpose signals:

- GPI[6:0]: General Purpose Inputs readable via **SRR\_GPI**
- GPO[6:0]: General Purpose Outputs writable via **SHR\_GPO**

Pulse interface signals (for more details, see section below):

- **•** PI\_PULSE: Pulse Interface Out (for more details, see section below)
- PI\_DIR: Pulse Interface Direction (for more details, see section below)



Ultrasonic measurement signals, suitable for extended circuits outside GP30, e.g. gas meter applications:

- US IFC EN: Signalizes time when ultrasonic interface is enabled
- US DIR: Direction of ultrasonic measurement (up / down)
- US\_FIRE\_BUSY: Signalizes time while fire burst is sent
- US\_FIRE: Ultrasonic fire burst
- US\_RCV\_EN: Signalizes time while detection of receive burst is enabled

Other signals:

- LS CLK: Low speed clock of GP30 (32,768 kHz)
- TSQ\_BUSY: Signalizes time while task sequencer & GP30 is busy
- ERROR N: Signalizes error state (low active)

### **6.1 Pulse Interface**

The pulse interface for flow indication is a separate, independent unit integrated in the GPIO unit. It is designed to provide pulse signals that signal flow volume, fully compatible to typical pulse interfaces of mechanical flow meters. It is thus possible to design an ultrasonic flow meter subsystem using TDC-GP30, which can be used as one-to-one replacement for mechanical flow meters.

The pulse interface generates pulses, where each pulse corresponds to a configurable flow volume (pulse valence, for example one pulse per 100 ml). The parameters of the pulse interface are configured as described below, in register **CR\_PI\_E2P**. The interface then operates at its configured update rate, independent of measurement interface and CPU, by generating pulses according to the actual flow volume. The flow volume must be signaled and updated, typically by a firmware running on the CPU, by updating the register **SHR\_PI\_NPULSE** or, more simple, by using the ROM routine **ROM\_PI\_UPD.** The ROM routine calculates the necessary input variables for the pulse interface from a given flow volume. For more details please refer to DB\_GP30Y\_Vol2 and DB\_GP30Y\_Vol3.

It is of course also possible to configure and update the pulse interface via remote interface by an external µController.

The following figure gives on overview of the relevant units and variables.



Figure 6-1 Relevant function blocks and variables in pulse interface



#### **6.1.1 Configuration of the pulse output**

The pulse interface outputs can be provided via GPIO0/GPIO1 (optionally via GPIO2/GPIO3 or GPIO5/GPIO6) see section 7.3.3 (register **CR\_GP\_CRTL**)

Basic configuration of the pulse interface is done in register **CR\_PI\_E2P**, see section 7.3.2. The most important configuration variables have the following meaning:

**PI\_OUT\_MODE:** Selects the two possible output formats.

### **PI\_OUT\_MODE**=0

GPIO0 = Pulse output, provides the pulses, indicating flow

GPIO1 = Direction output, provides the direction of the measured flow rate, indicating positive/negative flow

#### Figure 6-2



**PI\_TPW**: Pulse width in multiples of 976.5625 μs (= period of 1024 Hz generated by 32.768 kHz clock), configurable from 1 to 255 (976.5625 μs to 249 ms).

**PI\_OUT\_MODE** and **PI\_TPW** are initial parameters, which are typically configured once.

The general FW library of GP30 provide subroutines for pulse interface initialization dependent on following application parameter:

- TOF measure cycle time
- Pulse valence (ratio pulses/liter)
- Maximum flow

For more details please refer to DB\_GP30Y\_Vol2 and DB\_GP30Y\_Vol3.



## **6.2 EEPROM Interface**

The EEPROM interface for an external memory extension (e.g. for backup purpose) is a separate, independent unit, integrated in the GPIO unit, which can be controlled by firmware of the integrated CPU.

The EEPROM interface is a master interface suited for a single two-wire connection to an I2C compatible EEPROM in fast mode (400 k). It does not support I2C spike suppression or output slope control.

E2P\_SCL: Serial clock line

E2P\_SDA: Serial data line (bidirectional)

The assignment of E2P signal lines to GPIOs can be configured by **E2P\_MODE** in **CR\_PI\_E2P** as follows:



\*) as configured by **GPx\_DIR** & **GPx\_SEL** (table at beginning of this chapter)

A 7-bit slave address of external EEPROM can be configured by **E2P\_ADR** in **CR\_PI\_E2P**. With **E2P\_PU\_EN** in CR\_PI\_E2P, internal pullup resistors can connected to both EEPROM signal lines.

The general FW library of GP30 provide subroutines for EEPROM communication. For more details, please refer to DB\_GP30Y\_Firmware.

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# **7 Memory Organization & CPU**

TDC-GP30 is a system-on-chip approach designed to perform all measurement and calculation tasks in one chip. This kind of operation as a complete measurement system is called flow meter mode (see also section 3.1.1). Operation in flow meter mode requires usage of the internal 32-bit CPU and an appropriate firmware. Details on this are given in DB\_GP30Y\_Vol2 and DB\_GP30Y\_Firmware. In the following, the main focus is on description of memory organization, including register addresses and functions. The knowledge of the various memory and register structures is important for operation in flow meter mode, but of course equally important for operation in time conversion mode. In time conversion mode, the GP30 does no further result evaluation and acts mainly as time-of-flight measurement system. This operation mode is comparable to the well-known acam chips GP21 and GP22.

The following diagram shows the memory organization and how the frontend, the CPU and the remote interface interact.



Figure 7-1 Memory organization

In time conversion mode, the chip is configured by writing to the register area in the RAM via the remote interface. After completion of a measurement, the frontend writes the various results for time-

of-flight, temperature, amplitude, pulse width and voltage into the front end data buffer (FDB, see section [7.2.1\)](#page-60-0) in the RAM. From there the user can read the raw data via the remote interface.



In the case of flow meter mode, the frontend processing would be followed by a post processing in CPU. Controlled by post processing a subsequent remote communication could be initiated, if desired.

Figure 7-3 Flow Meter Mode



Any programmable firmware has to be stored in the firmware code memory, a non-volatile 4kByte NVRAM block. Additionally, many functions are already implemented as ROM routines in the ROM code memory block. The CPU uses the 176 \* 32 bit RAM to read measurement results, to do its calculations and to write the final results. Configuration and calibration data is stored in the 128 \* 32 bit firmware data memory. RAM and firmware data, as well as configuration and other system registers are all located in the random access address area (RAA). ROM and firmware code memory share a different address bus system and are not readable from outside the chip.

The firmware code memory and the firmware data memory are zero static power NVRAMs. Since they don't draw current when not in use, they are not switched down and remain permanently usable. However, the address and data bus of the RAA can only be allocated to one system at a time, so outside access to RAA memory cells is usually not possible when the frontend or the CPU operate on it.



## **7.1 Program Area**

Program area consists of two memory parts: A 4-kbyte NVRAM for re-programmable program code, and a 4-kbyte ROM with read-only program code.



The firmware code in re-programmable NVRAM memory consists of:

- A USER part which can be programmed by customer (green colored)
- An acam part, pre-programmed by acam including general subroutines addressable by customer.

The available size of USER Firmware (FWU) is defined in register **SRR\_FWU\_RNG** which can be read by customer. The USER firmware has also a 4-byte reserved area at the end of the code memory, which can be used to implement a revision number. The revision can be read via register **SRR\_FWU\_REV**. Additionally the revision of ACAM firmware can be read via **SRR\_FWA\_REV**. Note that these two registers get updated by the bootloader and may contain invalid data before the bootloader had been operated.

The firmware code in read-only ROM memory includes system subroutines (bootloader, checksum generation) and general subroutines which are also addressable by customer. It also handles initial check of CPU requests set in **SHR\_CPU\_REQ** register. For more details on FW program development, please refer to DB\_GP30Y\_Firmware.

## **7.2 Random Access Area (RAA)**

The random access area can be separated into 3 sections:

- Random access memory (RAM) storing volatile firmware data and including frontend data buffer
- Register area
- Non-volatile RAM (NVRAM) storing non-volatile firmware data

The RAA has the following structure:



\*Access through the Remote Interface (RI) may be read/write (RW) or read only (RO)

![](_page_60_Picture_1.jpeg)

A detailed CPU and NVRAM memory description is given in DB\_GP30Y\_Vol2.

The configuration data is described in section [7.3,](#page-65-0) the system handling registers in section [7.4.](#page-76-0)

Firmware variables may be any intermediate or final results as well as custom control variables of the firmware, and firmware data typically contains any configuration and calibration data. For details, please refer to DB\_GP30Y\_Firmware.

### <span id="page-60-0"></span>**7.2.1 Frontend data buffer (FDB)**

The front end data buffer is used by the time-of-flight measurement and the temperature measurement alternately. For explanations on the data format, see sections 3.2.3 and 3.3.1. Depending on which measurement has been executed recently, and depending on configuration, the RAM of the FDB can have the following content:

#### **Time-of-flight measurement:**

![](_page_60_Picture_171.jpeg)

Table 7-1 RAM addresses TOF data

![](_page_61_Picture_229.jpeg)

#### **Temperature measurement:**

![](_page_61_Picture_230.jpeg)

![](_page_61_Picture_231.jpeg)

![](_page_62_Picture_1.jpeg)

The values at the shaded addresses (0x08A – 0x09B) are only posted if **TM\_WIRE\_MODE** is set to 4-wire in **CR\_TM.** 

#### **7.2.2 Configuration Registers**

The TDC-GP30 has 15 configuration registers of up to 32 bit word length. Configuration registers mainly contain fixed parameters which define the operation of all units of the GP30. They can be automatically updated by the bootloader from firmware data. For details see section 7.3.

![](_page_62_Picture_142.jpeg)

#### **7.2.3 System Handling Registers (SHR)**

The TDC-GP30 has 14 system handling registers of up to 32 bit word length. System handling registers also define the operation of the various units of GP30, like the configuration registers. Unlike the configuration registers, they contain data which is supposed to change during operation. These registers are not automatically updated. For details see section 7.4.

![](_page_63_Picture_114.jpeg)

![](_page_64_Picture_1.jpeg)

### **7.2.4 Status & Result Registers**

The TDC-GP30 has 16 status & result registers of up to 32 bit word length. The status & result registers contain information generated by the chip hardware, e.g. status information like error flags or timing information, or measurement values from various hard-coded calibrations. They can't be directly written. For details see section 7.5.

![](_page_64_Picture_160.jpeg)

### **7.2.5 Debug Registers**

The four debug registers are for test purpose only. In debug mode (not available yet), they will contain internal CPU variables.

![](_page_64_Picture_161.jpeg)

### <span id="page-65-0"></span>**7.3 Configuration Registers**

#### **7.3.1 CR\_WD\_DIS (Watchdog Disable) 0x0C0**

![](_page_65_Picture_183.jpeg)

### **7.3.2 CR\_PI\_E2P (Pulse & EEPROM Interface) 0x0C1**

![](_page_65_Picture_184.jpeg)

![](_page_66_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_66_Picture_222.jpeg)

![](_page_67_Picture_222.jpeg)

#### 7.3.4 CR\_UART (UART Interface) 0x0C3

![](_page_67_Picture_223.jpeg)

![](_page_68_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_68_Picture_234.jpeg)

## **7.3.5 CR\_IEH (Interrupt & Errorhandling) 0x0C4**

![](_page_68_Picture_235.jpeg)

![](_page_69_Picture_270.jpeg)

#### **7.3.6 CR\_CPM (Clock- & Power-Management) 0x0C5**

#### **Bit** Description **Format Reset <b>Reset Example 2 Format Reset** 31:24 Not used 23 **BF\_SEL:** Base Frequency Select  $0: 50$  Hz  $T(BF_{SEL}) = 20$  ms 1: 60 Hz T(BF\_SEL) = 16.66 ms  $BIT$   $b0$ 22 **TSV\_UPD\_MODE:** Time stamp update mode 0: Timestamp updated by TSV\_UPD in SHR\_EXC 1: Timestamp automatically update with every second  $BIT$  b<sub>0</sub> 21:16 **LBD TH:** Low battery detection threshold, can be used for  $V_{CC}$ measurement 1 LSB: 25 mV LBD TH =  $0:$  2.13 V LBD\_TH = 63: 3.70 V UINT  $\begin{bmatrix} 5:0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$  0

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![](_page_70_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_70_Picture_242.jpeg)

# **7.3.7 CR\_MRG\_TS (Measure Rate Generator & Task Sequencer) 0x0C6 Bit** Description **Format Reset <b>Reset Example 2 Format Reset** 31:24 Not used

<b>Bit</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Format</b>	<b>Reset</b>
23	TS_START_MODE: Task Sequencing Start Mode 0: Task Sequencing first starts when remote interface isn't busy 1: Task Sequencing starts independent of remote busy state	<b>BIT</b>	b <sub>0</sub>
22:20	<b>TS CST: Checksum Timer</b> 000: Checksum timer disabled 001:1h 010:2h 011:6h 100:24h 101:48h 110:96h 111:168h This function is not executed when TOF RATE = 1 and TM RATE = 1 is set at the same time.	BIT3	b000
19:17	Has to be set 000	BIT3	$\mathbf 0$
16	BG_PLS_MODE: Bandgap pulse mode 0: Bandgap in self-pulsed mode 1: Bandgap synchronized pulsed by Task sequencer	<b>BIT</b>	b <sub>1</sub>
15	PP_MODE: Post processing mode (only if post processing is enabled) 0: Post processing requested with every task sequencer trigger 1: Post processing only requested if a measurement task is requested	<b>BIT</b>	b <sub>0</sub>
14	PP_EN: Post processing enable, used by CPU, if operating in flow meter mode 0: Post processing disabled 1: Post processing enabled If enabled, CPU_REQ_EN_PP in CR_IEH has also be set.	<b>BIT</b>	b <sub>0</sub>
13	TS_RESTART_EN: Task Sequencer Restart Enable 0: No automatic restart of task sequencer if not in IDLE 1: Task Sequencer automatically restarts with next measure cycle trigger if not in IDLE	<b>BIT</b>	b <sub>1</sub>
12:0	MR_CT: Measure rate cycle time Measure rate generator disabled 0: $1 - 8191$ : Cycle time = $MR_CT * 976.5625 \mu s$ $(LP_MODE = 1),$ MR CT <sup>*</sup> 1 ms $(LP MODE = 0)$ $=$	<b>UINT</b> [12:0]	$\mathbf 0$

## **7.3.8 CR\_TM (Temperature Measurement) 0x0C7**

![](_page_71_Picture_237.jpeg)




### **7.3.9 CR\_USM\_PRC (Ultrasonic Measurement Processing) 0x0C8**





#### **7.3.10 CR\_USM\_FRC (Ultrasonic Measurement Fire & Receive Control) 0x0C9**







#### **7.3.11 CR\_USM\_TOF (Ultrasonic Measurement Time of Flight) 0x0CA**





#### **7.3.12 CR\_USM\_AM (Ultrasonic Measurement Amplitude Measurement) 0x0CB**





#### **7.3.13 CR\_TRIM1 (Trim Parameter 1) 0x0CC**



#### **7.3.14 CR\_TRIM2 (Trim Parameters) 0x0CD**



#### **7.3.15 CR\_TRIM3 (Trim Parameters) 0x0CE**



### **7.4 System Handling Register**

### **7.4.1 SHR\_TOF\_RATE (Time Of Flight Rate) 0x0D0**



### **7.4.2 SHR\_GPO (General Purpose Out) 0x0D3**









#### **7.4.4 SHR\_PI\_TPA (Pulse Interface Time Pulse Distance) 0x0D5**



#### **7.4.5 SHR\_PI\_IU\_TIME (Pulse Interface Internal Update Time Distance) 0x0D6**



#### **7.4.6 SHR\_PI\_IU\_NO (Pulse Interface Number of Auto Updates) 0x0D7**



#### **7.4.7 SHR\_TOF\_START\_HIT\_DLY (TOF Start Hit Delay) 0x0D8**



#### **7.4.8 SHR\_ZCD\_LVL (Zero Cross Detection Level) 0x0D9**



#### **7.4.9 SHR\_FHL\_U (First Hit Level Up) 0x0DA**



#### **7.4.10 SHR\_FHL\_D (First Hit Level Down) 0x0DB**



#### **7.4.11 SHR\_CPU\_REQ (CPU Requests) 0x0DC**

This register is automatically cleared when the CPU stops operation, typically due to a stop command. All bits are typically triggered by the task sequencer, the error handling, a general purpose pin or the remote control.

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For test or debugging purposes it is also possible to write directly to these registers.

Bits have to be cleared by the system program code or the user program code.



#### **7.4.12 SHR\_EXC (Executables) 0x0DD**

Executables implemented as self-clearing bits.





To change a dedicated bit write a 1 to this one and a 0 to all others.







**Bit** Description **Format Reset <b>Reset Example 2 Format Reset** 









#### **7.4.14 SHR\_FW\_TRANS\_EN (Firmware Transaction Enable) 0x0DF**

**Bit** Description **Format Reset <b>Reset Example 2 Format Reset** 31:0 **FW\_TRANS\_EN:** Firmware Transaction Enable Code to enable transactions of firmware into NVRAMs: h50F5\_B8CA Write only register Status of this register can be checked in FW\_TRANS\_EN in register SRR\_MSC\_STF BIT32  $\left| \begin{array}{c} \text{hAF0A} \\ 7435 \end{array} \right|$ \_7435

#### **7.5 Status Registers**

**7.5.1 SRR\_IRQ\_FLAG (Interrupt Flags) 0x0E0** 



#### **7.5.2 SRR\_ERR\_FLAG (Error Flags) 0x0E1**

**Bit Description Format Reset All Accords**  $\blacksquare$  **Format Reset** 31:16 Not used **EF CS\_FWA\_ERR:** Error Flag FWA Checksum BIT b0 **EF\_CS\_FWU\_ERR:** Error Flag FWU Checksum BIT b0 **EF CS FWD2 ERR:** Error Flag FWD2Checksum BIT b0 **EF CS FWD1 ERR:** Error Flag FWD1Checksum BIT b0 11 | Not used BIT | b0 **EF E2P ACK ERR:** Error Flag EEPROM Acknowledge BIT b0 **EF TSQ TMO:** Error Flag Task Sequencer Timeout BIT b0 **EF TM SQC TMO:** Error Flag Temperature Sequence Timeout BIT b0 **EF USM SQC TMO:** Error Flag Ultrasonic Sequence Timeout BIT BIT b0 **EF LBD ERR:** Error Flag Low Battery Detect BIT b0 **EF ZCC ERR:** Error Flag Zero Cross Calibration BIT b0 **EF TM SC ERR:** Error Flag Temperature Measurement Short Circuit **BIT** BIT b0 **EF TM OC ERR:** Error Flag Temperature Measurement Open Circuit **BIT** BIT b0 **EF AM TMO:** Error Flag Amplitude Measurement Timeout BIT b0 **EF TOF TMO:** Error Flag TOF Timeout BIT b0 **EF TDC TMO:** Error Flag TDC Timeout BIT b0





#### **7.5.3 SRR\_FEP\_STF (Frontend Processing Status Flags) 0x0E2**

### **7.5.4 SRR\_GPI (General Purpose In) 0x0E3**

1: Updated value in SRR\_HCC\_VAL









#### 7.5.6 SRR\_VCC\_VAL (*V<sub>CC</sub>* Value) 0x0E5



#### **7.5.7 SRR\_TS\_HOUR (Time Stamp Hours) 0x0E6**



#### **7.5.8 SRR\_TS\_MIN\_SEC (Time Stamp Minutes & Seconds) 0x0E7**



#### **7.5.9 SRR\_TOF\_CT (Time of Flight, Cycle Time) 0x0E8**







### **7.5.10 SRR\_TS\_TIME (Task Sequencer time) 0x0E9**



#### **7.5.11 SRR\_MSC\_STF (Miscellaneous Status Flags) 0x0EA**



#### **7.5.12 SRR\_E2P\_RD (EEPROM Read Data) 0x0EB**





### **7.5.13 SRR\_FWU\_RNG (FW User Range) 0x0EC**



#### **7.5.14 SRR\_FWU\_REV (FW User Revision) 0x0ED**



#### **7.5.15 SRR\_FWA\_REV (FW ACAM Revision) 0x0EE**



#### **7.5.16 SRR\_LSC\_CV (Low Speed Clock Count Value) 0x0EF**







## **8 Applications**

### **8.1 GP30-DEMO Board**

#### **For Ultrasonic Heat/Water Meter with 2-Wire Temperature Measurement**

The following diagram shows the complete schematics of a heat meter front end. For details refer to the GP30-DEMO-KIT datasheet.

Figure 8-1 Complete schematics of the GP30 DEMO board:



### **8.2 GP30 Typical Configuration**

The following table shows a typical configuration as it is used in our example that simply calculates the DIFTOF and converts this to an output via the pulse interface (DIF\_over\_PI.cfg).



Table 8-1 Typical configuration



# **9 Glossary**



















## **10 Miscellaneous**

### **10.1 Bug Report**

#### **10.1.1 Communication Request Flag**



### **10.2 Last Changes from 0.4 to current version 5**





 $A$ 

 $x$ 

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