



Mukund

In addition to the existing IDLE & SCAN Modes for MCM, two more modes have been added to the MCM software. These are as follows:

1> MEAN MODE:  
-----

There are two inputs to this command which the user has to specify :

- a) Analog Mask and
- b) Averaging factor

Out of these two inputs, analog mask can be set by the "set analog mask" command, while the averaging factor is an argument embeded in the command packet (for "set mean mode" command) itself.

In this mode, program averages the channel data, for the channels selected by the analog mask, with the no. of samples = averageing factor. Once the averaging is over for all the channels selected, program does not loop back; it just waits for a command from the ABC. As it receives any command packet from ABC, the averaged data is sent to ABC as the first logical packet and the program again jumps into the mean mode, provided the mode is left unchanged.

MAXIMUM NO. OF CHANNELS THAT CAN BE AVERAGED OUT IS 32.  
-----

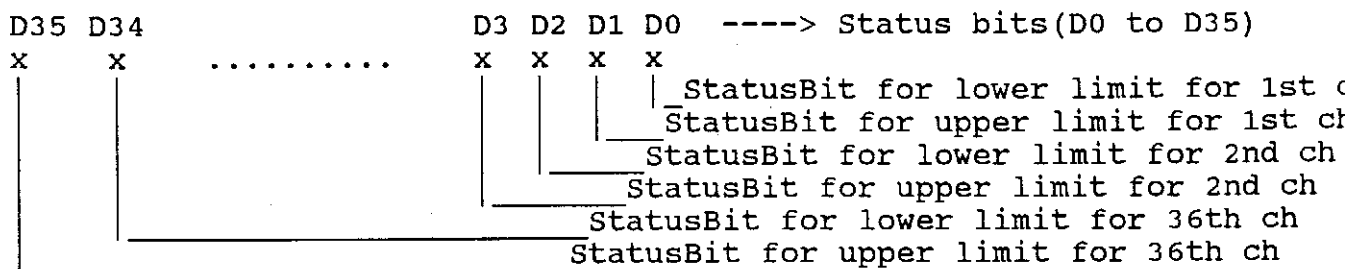
2> THRESHOLD MODE :  
-----

Before user issues the "set threshold mode" command, analog mask and the threshold (lower & upper) values should be specified. Threshold values can be specified by the "set threshold" command. Arguments to this set threshold command are nothing but the series of bytes that specify the lower & upper limits for the channles selected by the analog mask. The lower limit should be the first byte and the upper limit is the second byte. Thus for each channel there will be two bytes specifying the threshold values. Max. no. of threshold bytes that can be specified is 6 per packet. (i.e. threshold can be specified only for 3 channels at a time). To assign the thresholds for the no. of channels greater than three, user has to issue multiple "set threshold" commands.

MAX. NO. OF CHANNELS THAT CAN BE SELECTED FOR THIS MODE IS 18.  
-----

In this mode, program checks if the ADC o/p for the selected channel is within the lower and upper limits or not. There are 2 status bits per channel. If the adc o/p is within the limits, both the bits, assigned to that channel, are cleared. Otherwise, if it exceeds the lower limit, lower bit is set and if it exceeds the upper limit upper bit is set. Max. no. of status bits is 36 (18\*2) i.e. 5 bytes.

Status bits mapping:

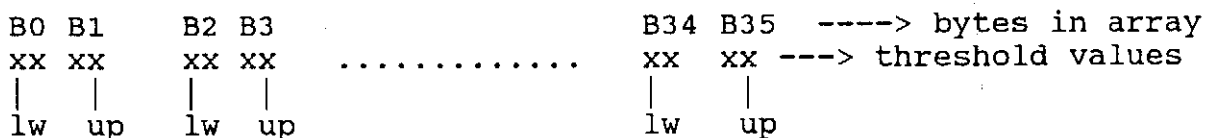


All the channel numbers in above mapping are the "selected" channel numbers.

These 36 bits (5 bytes) indicate the status of the voltage levels of the channels selected by analog mask. 0th & 1st bit correspond to first selected channel, 2nd & 3rd bits correspond to second selected channel .... and 34th & 35th bits correspond to 18th selected channel.

In this mode, program continuously checks channel data and ORes the current status with the old status. Thus, for any channel, even if the channel data exceeds the limits only once, the corresponding status bit will always be set to 1 untill the data is sent to ABC. While sending the status data back to ABC, MCM always sends 5 status bytes irrespective of the no. of channels selected.

Threshold values for the channels can be set with the "set threshold values" command. On MCM on-chip RAM there is an array of 36 bytes reserved for these threshold values for the channels. Within this array 0th and 1st bytes correspond to lower and upper thresholds for the first selected channel, 2nd and 3rd bytes correspond to the lower & upper limits for the second selected channel and so on. (Thus 34th, 35th bytes are the lower/upper limits for the 18th selected channel.) Note the word "selected". First "selected" channel should not be confused with the "actual" first channel. For example, if the analog mask is set to : 00 01 00 00 00 00 00 00 then the first selected channel is actually the 8th channel.



Before issuing the "set threshold values" command, user should specify the channels selected by setting the proper analog mask. While issuing the "set threshold values" command, user has to specify three things:

- i> How many threshold bytes ,
- ii> Offset from the start of the array for storing these bytes in the array and
- iii>Actual bytes (lower-limit-byte first)

For example, let us suppose that lower & upper limits (thresholds) for 3rd selected channel (remember that channel numbering starts from 0) are 10h and 20h respectively. Then, in order to specify these values, the above three parameters would be:

- i> no. of threshold bytes = 2 and
- ii> offset = 8 and
- iii> actual bytes: 10 20.

Offset of 8 exactly corresponds to the lower-limit-byte position in the array, for the 3rd selected channel.

