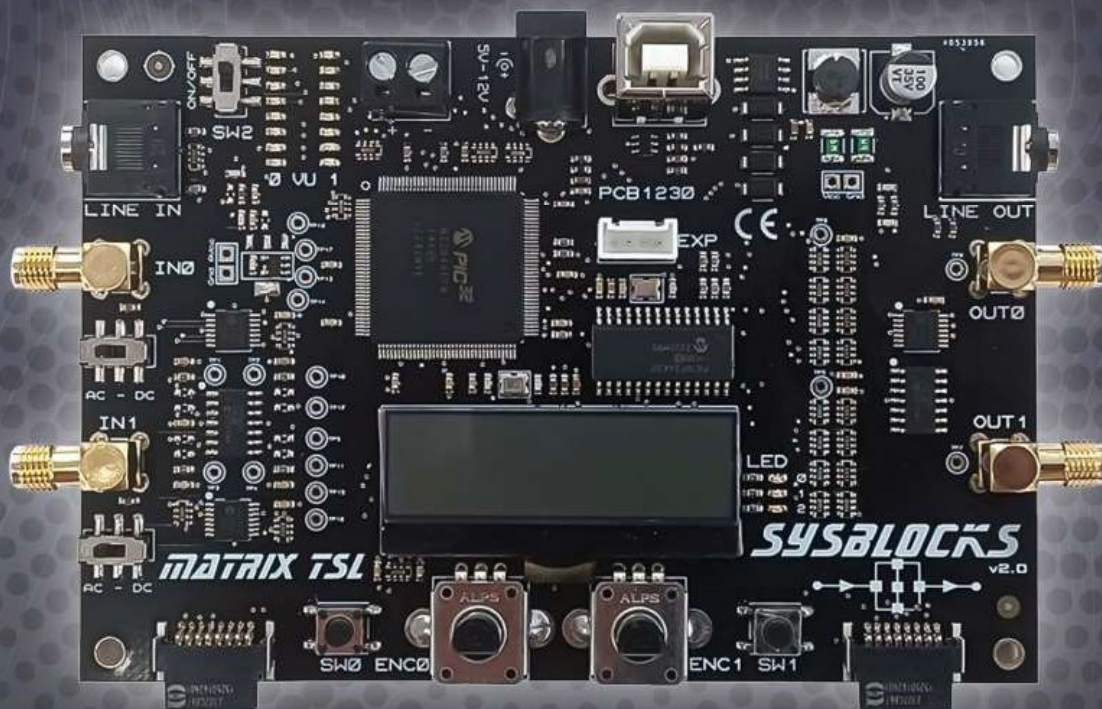


MATRIX

INTRODUCING



Sysblocks



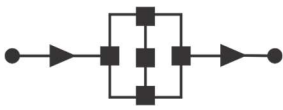
SYSBLOCKS AND FLOWCODE 10 THE FUTURE OF SIGNAL PROCESSING TEACHING

Excellence in education for over
30 years

www.matrixtsl.com

BL4386

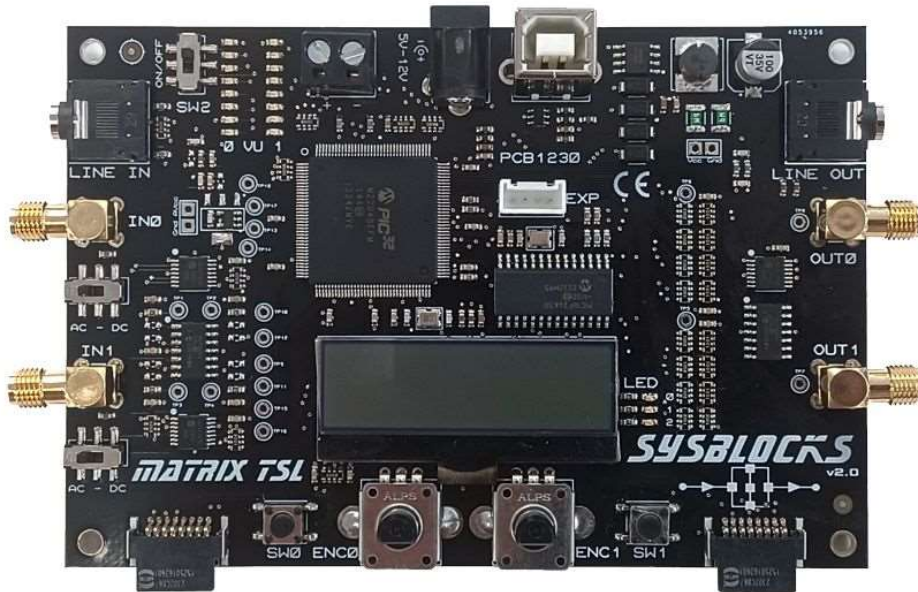




Contents

| | |
|---|----|
| Introduction to Sysblocks | 3 |
| Hardware: PCB overview | 4 |
| Hardware: block diagram | 5 |
| Hardware: Sysblocks products | 6 |
| Software: Flowcode | 7 |
| Curriculum: Music with microcontrollers course | 8 |
| Curriculum: Systems, signals, DSP and FFT | 10 |
| Curriculum: Communications and Digital radio techniques | 12 |
| Your first Sysblocks program | 14 |
| The Sysblocks Flowcode component | 20 |
| DSP icons | 22 |
| Connection tables | 23 |
| Product codes | 24 |
| PCB layout | 25 |
| Schematics | 26 |

Introduction to Sysblocks



Sysblocks and Flowcode 10 provide a new way of teaching about signal processing for Music technology, DSP, Communications and Software Defined Radio.

Hardware:

The opportunity of developing a product like Sysblocks is facilitated by the advent of low cost high speed, high power microcontrollers - in this case a 32bit PICmicro microcontroller. The Sysblock hardware topology is very simple: Input bufferA/D....processor...D/A....output amplifier.

Sysblocks boards also include two E-blocks II boards so that students can use a wide variety of expansion boards from Matrix, Grove, Mikroelektronika and others.

Software:

Flowcode 10 software is a graphical programming solution for microcontrollers and PCs. Flowcode allows those with limited programming experience to develop complex electronic systems using graphical and conventional C code programming.

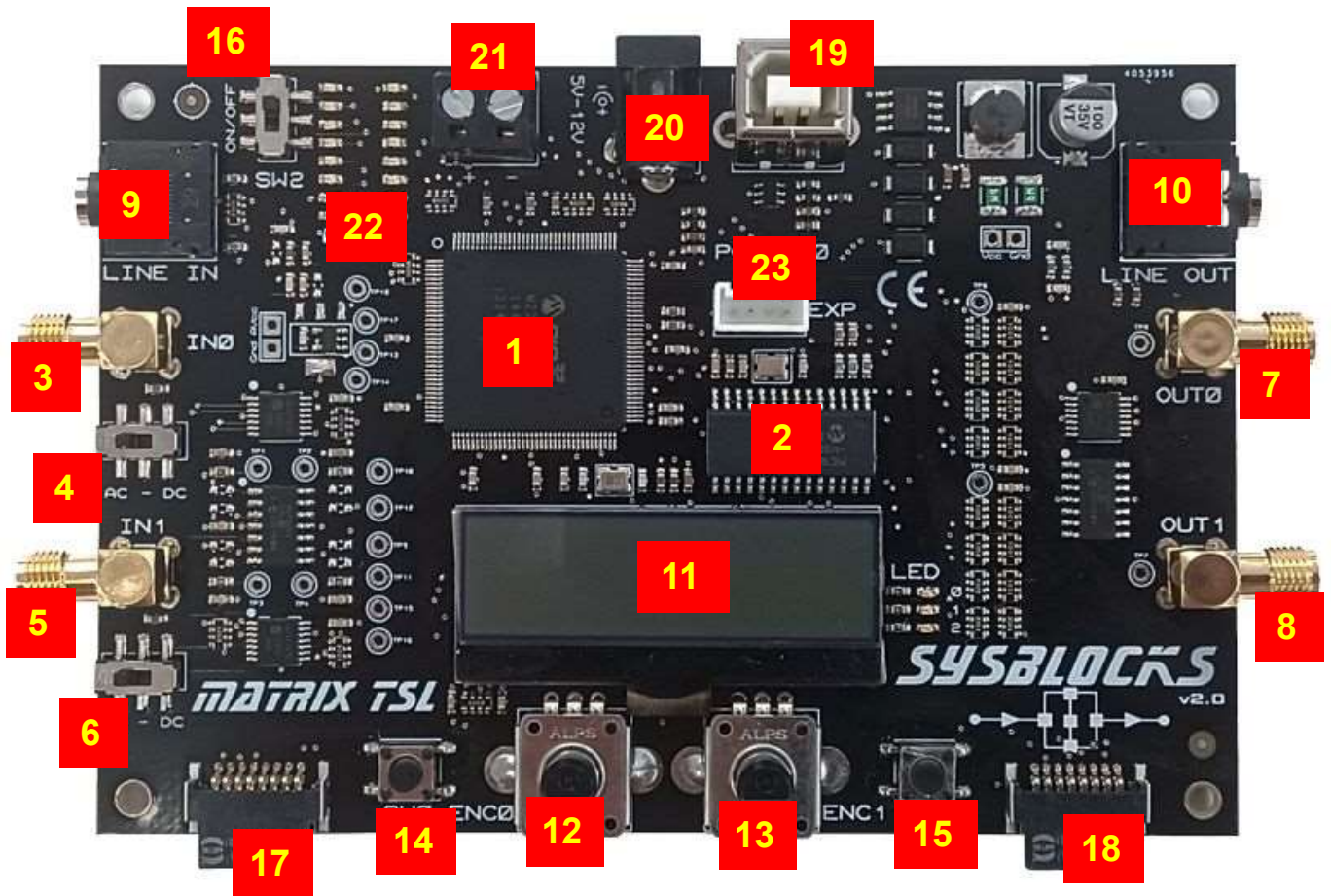
Curriculum:

There are three separate curricula for Sysblocks and Flowcode 10:

- Music with microcontrollers
- Systems, signals, DSP, and FFT
- Communications and Software Defined Radio

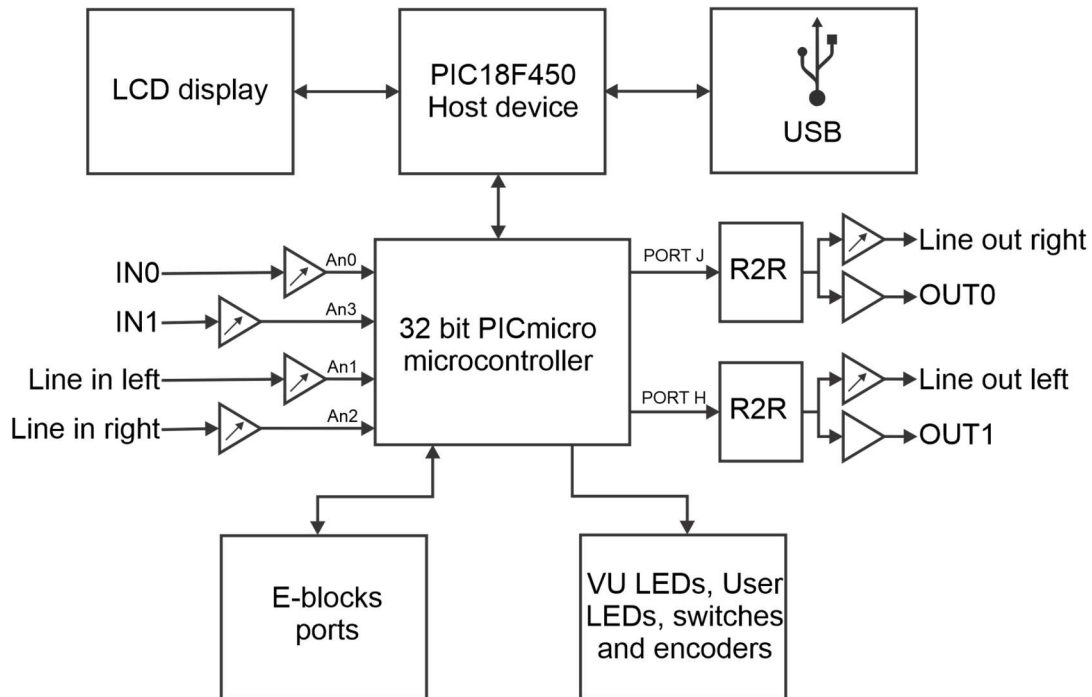
The following information will explain to you how Sysblocks and Flowcode 10 can be used to provide fantastic learning opportunities in electronics.

Hardware: PCB overview



- | | | | |
|-----|---|-----|---|
| 1. | Fast 32 bit PIC processor | 16. | Input switch SW2 |
| 2. | PIC18F24K50 control processor that handles the USB communications, 32 bit PIC programming, LCD display, encoders and input switches | 17. | E-blocks II expansion port A |
| 3. | SMA connector Input IN0 | 18. | E-blocks II expansion port B |
| 4. | AC / DC coupling switch SW4 | 19. | USB socket / power in |
| 5. | SMA connector Input IN1 | 20. | 2.1mm power jack, 5 - 12V |
| 6. | AC / DC coupling switch SW3 | 21. | Screw terminal power connector (input or output) |
| 7. | SMA connector Output OUT0 | 22. | 2 x banks of 8 user programmable LEDs - for VU meters |
| 8. | SMA connector Output OUT1 | 23. | Grove sensor expansion socket |
| 9. | 3.5mm jack stereo line in | | |
| 10. | 3.5mm jack stereo line out | | |
| 11. | 4 line monochrome LCD display | | |
| 12. | Rotary encoder input ENC0 | | |
| 13. | Rotary encoder input ENC1 | | |
| 14. | Input switch SW0 | | |
| 15. | Input switch SW1 | | |

Hardware: block diagram



Sysblocks has four analogue inputs, two analogue outputs and support circuitry.

At the heart of the system is a very powerful 32 bit Micro chip PICmicro microcontroller running at 200MHz. This is capable of standard microcontroller type functions and also is capable of Digital Signal Processing the incoming audio signals. The 32 bit processor has a Coremark of 652 (around 330 Drystone MIPS) which is more than fast enough for the signal processing tasks involved for learning about Music technology, Digital Signal Processing and Modern communications theory.

The 32 bit PICmicro microcontroller is programmed by a host device which is a standard 18 series PICmicro microcontroller. This host device takes care of non-core tasks like USB communications, LCD display, encoder and switch inputs. This architecture keeps the main 32bit device free for signal processing.

Two E-blocks ports are made available for expansion. E-block boards for Wifi, keypad, Bluetooth, CAN, Zigbee and many other functions are available. This gives huge flexibility to the Sysblocks system as a wide range of projects can be built around it. A Grove connector is also available which allows users to access the wide range of Grove accessories.

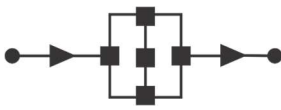
The analogue input signals are buffered and level shifted to half of the supply voltage – 1.65V – and then fed to the internal A to D converters of the main 32 bit PICmicro microcontroller. A digital potentiometer allows the level of the input signals to be adjusted in software.

The microcontroller processes the digital signals and feeds the results to 2 x external R2R ladder DACs which are buffered by operational amplifier circuits. Line out left and right include a digital potentiometer that allows the output level to be adjusted in software.

The board is fitted with a number of switches and encoders for control purposes. The board also has a miniature monochrome graphical display and a number of programmable LEDs including 2 x 8 LED VU meter LEDs.

The board is powered from 3.3V from USB or from a plug top power supply.

- Vin max 2.2V pk to pk
- Vout max 2.2V pk to pk



Hardware: Sysblocks products

Sysblocks experimentation panel

Digital pot

- Channel 0 Line in right gain
- Channel 1 Line in left gain
- Channel 2 In 1 gain
- Channel 3 In 0 gain
- Channel 4 Line out right gain
- Channel 5 Line out left gain
- Power@VDC

PIC32 connections

| VU meter 1 | | VU meter 0 | | Inputs | | Switches & LEDs | |
|-------------------|------|-------------------|------|-------------|------|-----------------|------|
| VU-A0 | RD0 | VU-B0 | RED | LINE-L | RB2 | LED0 | RD13 |
| VU-A1 | RD1 | VU-B1 | RE1 | LINE-R | RB8 | LED1 | RK7 |
| VU-A2 | RD2 | VU-B2 | RE2 | IN0 | RB6 | LED2 | RA6 |
| VU-A3 | RD3 | VU-B3 | RE3 | IN1 | RB4 | SW0 | RK6 |
| VU-A4 | RD4 | VU-B4 | RE4 | DAC1 output | DAC0 | SW1 | RC13 |
| VU-A5 | RD5 | VU-B5 | RE5 | DACA0 | RH0 | DAC0 | RJ0 |
| VU-A6 | RD6 | VU-B6 | RE6 | DACA1 | RH1 | DAC1 | RJ1 |
| VU-A7 | RD7 | VU-B7 | RE7 | DACA2 | RH2 | DAC2 | RJ2 |
| E-blocks A | | E-blocks B | | DACA3 | RH3 | DAC3 | RJ3 |
| E2BA0 | RG9 | E2BB0 | RC2 | DACA4 | RH4 | DAC4 | RJ4 |
| E2BA1 | RE8 | E2BB1 | RC3 | DACA5 | RH5 | DAC5 | RJ5 |
| E2BA2 | RB11 | E2BB2 | RC0 | DACA6 | RH6 | DAC6 | RJ6 |
| E2BA3 | RB10 | E2BB3 | RD11 | DACA7 | RH7 | DAC7 | RJ7 |
| E2BA4 | RB9 | E2BB4 | RF5 | DACA8 | RH8 | DAC8 | RJ8 |
| E2BA5 | RF13 | E2BB5 | RD10 | DACA9 | RH9 | DAC9 | RJ9 |
| E2BA6 | RA0 | E2BB6 | RF2 | DACA10 | RH10 | DAC10 | RJ10 |
| E2BA7 | RE9 | E2BB7 | RF8 | DACA11 | RH11 | DAC11 | RJ11 |
| E2BA8 | RB12 | E2BB8 | RK5 | DACA12 | RH12 | DAC12 | RJ12 |
| E2BA9 | RB13 | E2BB9 | RK4 | DACA13 | RH13 | DAC13 | RJ13 |
| E2BA8 | RK0 | E2BB8 | RC1 | DACA14 | RH14 | DAC14 | RJ14 |
| | | | | DACA15 | RH15 | DAC15 | RJ15 |

Encoders

- ENC1A RG0
- ENC1B RG1
- ENC2A RG12
- ENC2B RG13

Glows

- SCL RA2
- SDA RA3

Block Diagram: A schematic showing a PIC18F450 microcontroller connected to an LCD display, a USB host device, and various input/output ports. It also shows connections to E-blocks and VU LEDs.

BL8386 is our standard Sysblocks experimentation panel. It consists of a single Sysblocks board on a plastic panel with power supply and USB lead and is shipped in a standard tray for storage. The Sysblocks board is protected with a clear acrylic cover to make it more rugged in the lab.

Students use conventional oscilloscopes and spectrum analysers to examine the results of signal processing in a music and DSP context.

Sysblocks communication panel

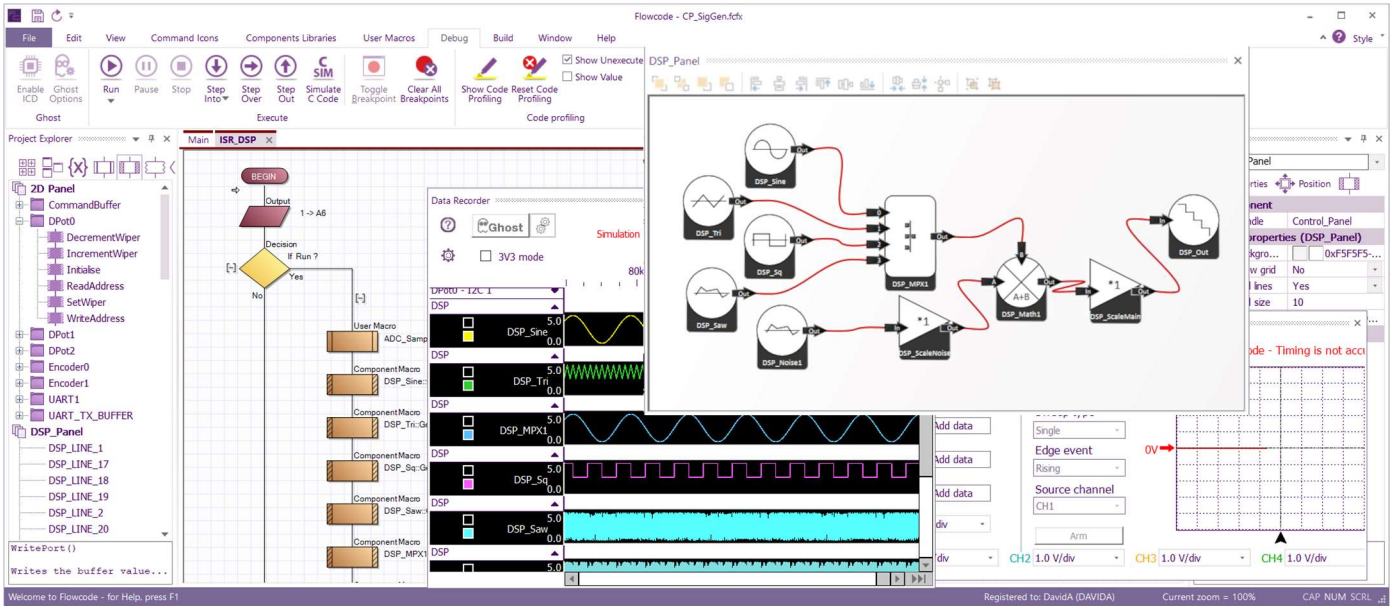
BL9296 is our Sysblocks Communications panel. This includes 3 x Sysblocks boards and a signal mixer board on a plastic panel. This configuration allows students to experiment with lots of different types of communications and examine their characteristics.

The first Sysblocks board is used to modulate and / or encode a signal into a digital format. The second Sysblocks board is used to generate noise. The encoded/modulated signal and noise are mixed together in the mixer board and fed into the third Sysblocks board. Where the signal is then demodulated/decoded and fed to the outputs. Separate programs are used in each Sysblock. This configuration allows students to experiment with multiple modulating/demodulating and encoding/decoding systems and examine their noise characteristics.

The Sysblocks Communications panel is supplied with a set of 6 micro BNC leads, USB lead and power supply in a standard tray. Sysblocks boards are protected with a clear acrylic covers.

Students use conventional oscilloscopes and spectrum analysers to examine the signals in the system.

Software: Flowcode



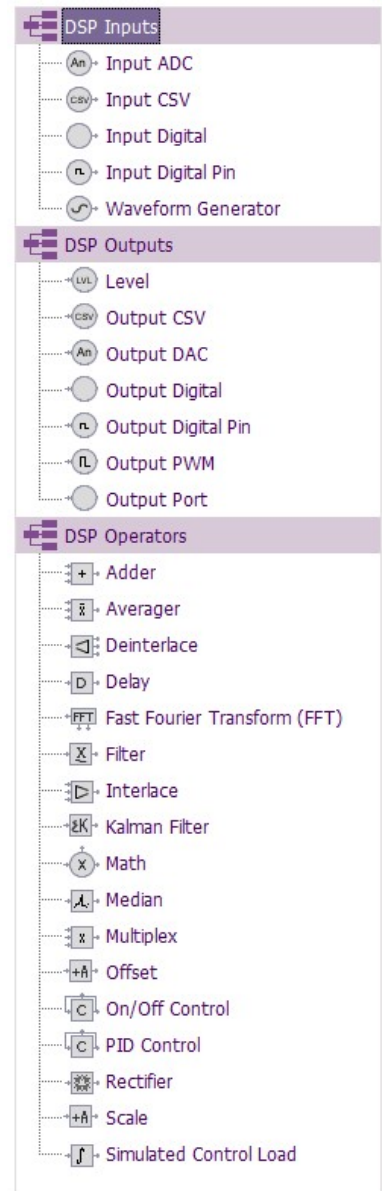
Flowcode 10 Electronic system design software includes Data flow / DSP components which you can see on the right. This programming paradigm allows students to build a wide variety of signal processing systems using conventional graphics that are used in text books and papers to describe the behaviour of signal processing systems.

To build a system students simply select the DSP / Data flow operator they want from the component library and drag it onto the panel. They then select the component's properties and connect the relevant inputs to the outputs of other icons to create a functioning system. They then connect inputs and outputs to the real world – A/D and D/A. Students can combine these data flow programs with flow charts, C code, pseudocode and state machine diagrams to produce highly functional electronic systems based on microcontrollers and Windows computers.

Once the system is constructed students can use the internal simulation engine to see the results of the program using the internal logic analyser and oscilloscope tools.

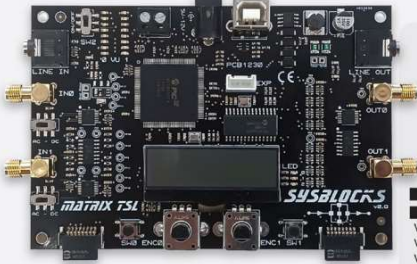
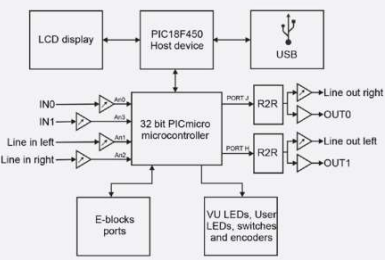
Once they are happy with their program they can compile it to the powerful Sysblock 32 bit PIC in just a few seconds. They can then use conventional oscilloscopes, spectrum analysers and other instruments to see their program working.

The images that follow demonstrate the kind of systems that can be developed with Flowcode 10.



Curriculum: Music with microcontrollers course

Sysblocks experimentation panel

Digital pot

- Channel 0 Line in right gain
- Channel 1 Line in left gain
- Channel 2 In 1 gain
- Channel 3 In 0 gain
- Channel 4 Line out right gain
- Channel 5 Line out left gain

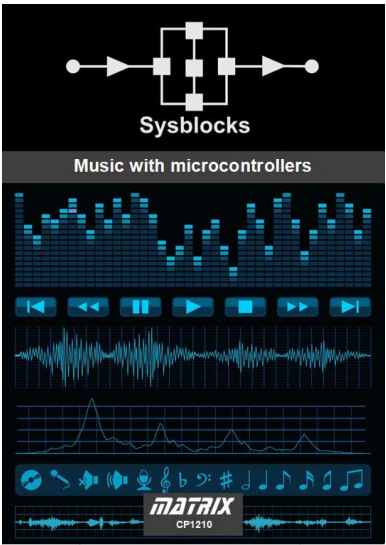
Power=6VDC

PIC32 connections

| VU meter 1 | VU meter 0 | Inputs | Switches & LEDs |
|------------|------------|--------------|-----------------|
| VU-A0 RD0 | VU-B0 RE0 | LINE-L RB2 | LED0 RD13 |
| VU-A1 RD1 | VU-B1 RE1 | LINE-R RB8 | LED1 RK7 |
| VU-A2 RD2 | VU-B2 RE2 | IN0 RB6 | LED2 RA6 |
| VU-A3 RD3 | VU-B3 RE3 | IN1 RB4 | SW0 RK6 |
| VU-A4 RD4 | VU-B4 RE4 | DAC-1 output | SW1 RC13 |
| VU-A5 RD5 | VU-B5 RE5 | DACA0 RH0 | SW2 RA7 |
| VU-A6 RD6 | VU-B6 RE6 | DACA1 RH1 | |
| VU-A7 RD7 | VU-B7 RE7 | DACA2 RH2 | |
| | | DAC0 output | |
| | | DACA3 RH3 | |
| | | DACA4 RH4 | |
| | | DACA5 RH5 | |
| | | DACA6 RH6 | |
| | | DACA7 RH7 | |
| | | DACA8 RH8 | |
| | | DACA9 RH9 | |
| | | DACA10 RH10 | |
| | | DACA11 RH11 | |
| | | DACA12 RH12 | |
| | | DACA13 RH13 | |
| | | DACA14 RH14 | |
| | | DACA15 RH15 | |

| E-blocks A | E-blocks B | Encoders |
|------------|------------|------------|
| E2BA0 RG9 | E2BB0 RC2 | ENC1A RG0 |
| E2BA1 RE8 | E2BB1 RC3 | ENC1B RG1 |
| E2BA2 RB11 | E2BB2 RC9 | ENC2A RG12 |
| E2BA3 RB10 | E2BB3 RD11 | ENC2B RG13 |
| E2BA4 RB9 | E2BB4 RF5 | |
| E2BA5 RF13 | E2BB5 RD10 | |
| E2BA6 RA0 | E2BB6 RF2 | |
| E2BA7 RE9 | E2BB7 RF8 | |
| E2BAD RB12 | E2BB8 RK5 | |
| E2BAC RB13 | E2BAC RK4 | |
| E2BAM RK0 | E2BAM RC1 | |

| Grove |
|---------|
| SCL RA2 |
| SDA RA3 |

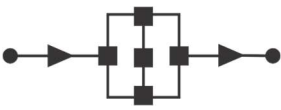


Description

The Music Technology pack uses a single Sysblock and Flowcode Embedded to allow students to quickly construct a wide variety of digital music applications and understand the principles of digital music manipulation and effects. Students will gain an appreciation of D/A conversion and A/D conversion and Digital Signal Processing Techniques that allow music to be sampled, delayed, manipulated and produces in the digital domain. Students make use of signal generators, microphones and speakers/headphones to create and understand a variety of applications in Music Technology. The pack is suitable for students 16+ with an interest in embedded programming and Music.

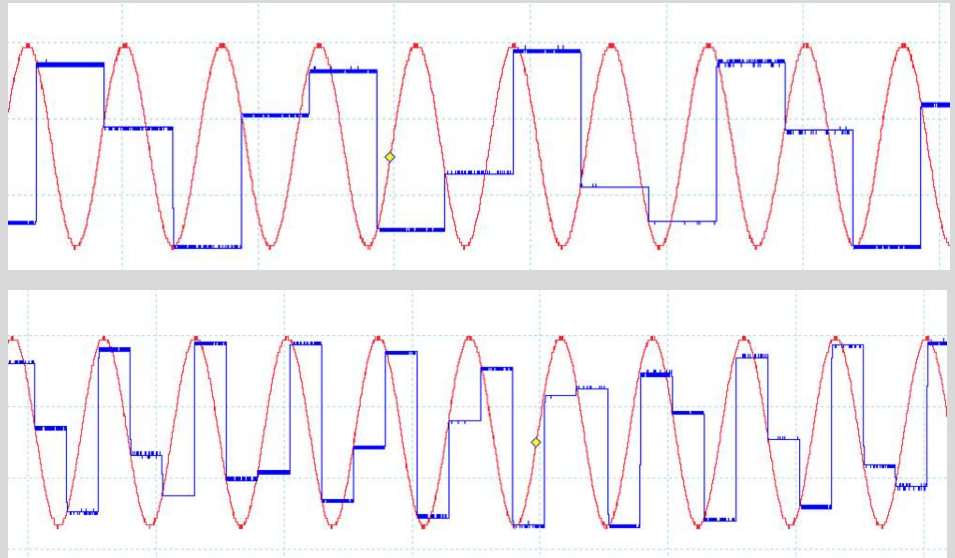
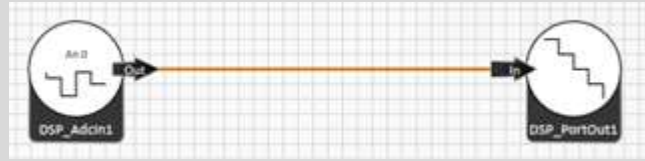
Learning objectives

- Analogue to Digital Conversion
- Digital to Analogue conversion
- Simple Digital Signal Processing
- Nyquist
- Audio effects including echo, reverb, distortion
- Mixers
- Sampling and music creation
- Delays and stadium balancing
- EQ and filters



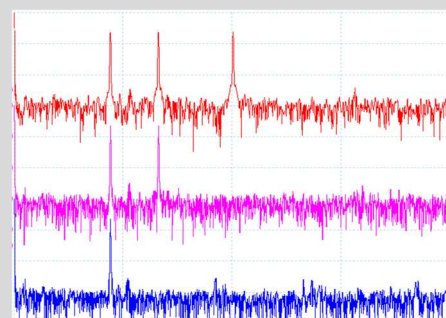
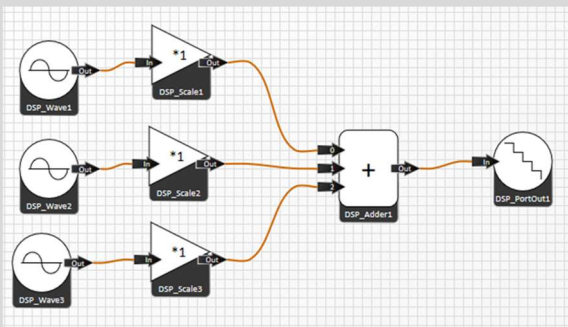
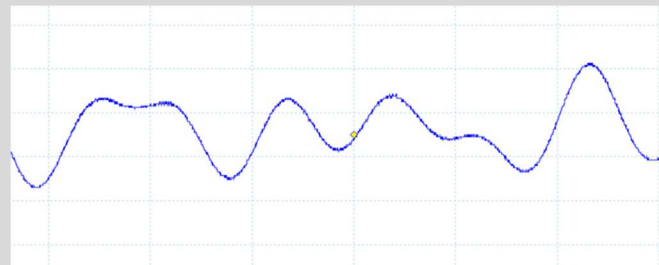
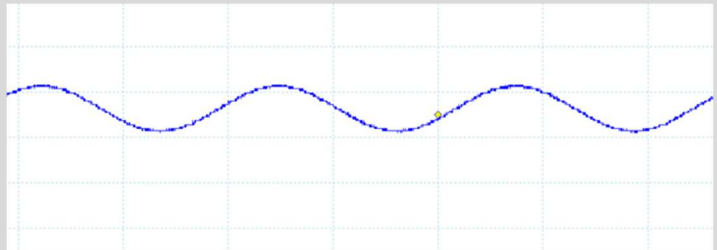
Example: Nyquist

Simply connecting the input to the output allows students to study sampling techniques in digital audio systems. Varying the sample rate allows students to understand the Nyquist criteria. Shown here are the simple data flow program and oscillograms for Nyquist compatible and incompatible sample rates.



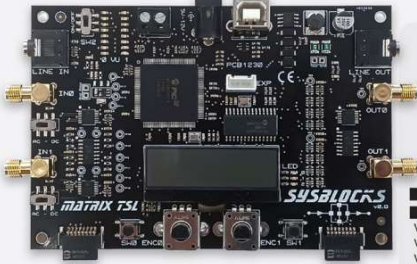
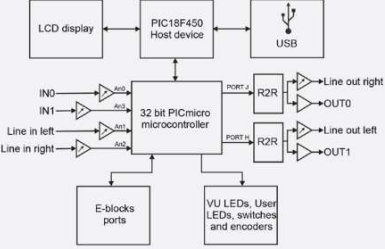
Example: Audio mixer

Students can understand how digital audio signals are constructed and manipulated. In this case a mixer program allows students to mix together different frequencies and waveforms to create musical chords and study their shape on an oscilloscope and their spectral plot. Shown here are the waveforms for note A and chord A with spectral plot.



Curriculum: Systems, signals, DSP, FFT

Sysblocks experimentation panel

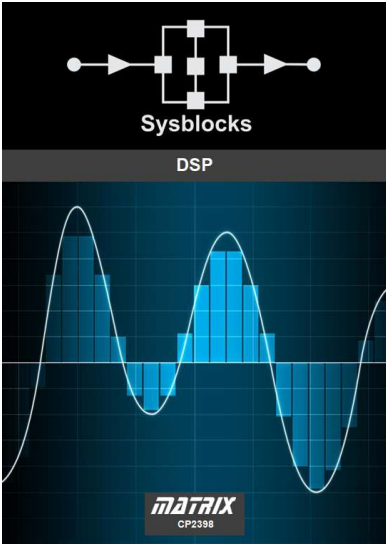
Digital pot

- Channel 0 Line in right gain
- Channel 1 Line in left gain
- Channel 2 In 1 gain
- Channel 3 In 0 gain
- Channel 4 Line out right gain
- Channel 5 Line out left gain

Power=6VDC

PIC32 connections

| VU meter 1 | | VU meter 0 | | Inputs | | Switches & LEDs | |
|-------------------|------|-------------------|------|---------------------|------|-----------------|------|
| VU-A0 | RD0 | VU-B0 | RE0 | LINE-L | RB2 | LED0 | RD13 |
| VU-A1 | RD1 | VU-B1 | RE1 | LINE-R | RB8 | LED1 | RK7 |
| VU-A2 | RD2 | VU-B2 | RE2 | IN0 | RB6 | LED2 | RA6 |
| VU-A3 | RD3 | VU-B3 | RE3 | IN1 | RB4 | SW0 | RK6 |
| VU-A4 | RD4 | VU-B4 | RE4 | DAC 1 output | | SW1 | RC13 |
| VU-A5 | RD5 | VU-B5 | RE5 | DACA0 | RH0 | SW2 | RA7 |
| VU-A6 | RD6 | VU-B6 | RE6 | DACA1 | RH1 | Encoders | |
| VU-A7 | RD7 | VU-B7 | RE7 | DACA2 | RH2 | ENC1A | RG0 |
| E-blocks A | | E-blocks B | | DACA3 | RH3 | ENC1B | RG1 |
| E2BA0 | RG9 | E2BB0 | RC2 | DACA4 | RH4 | ENC2A | RG12 |
| E2BA1 | RE8 | E2BB1 | RC3 | DACA5 | RH5 | ENC2B | RG13 |
| E2BA2 | RB11 | E2BB2 | RD9 | DACA6 | RH6 | Grove | |
| E2BA3 | RB10 | E2BB3 | RD11 | DACA7 | RH7 | SCL | RA2 |
| E2BA4 | RB9 | E2BB4 | RF5 | DACA8 | RH8 | SDA | RA3 |
| E2BA5 | RF13 | E2BB5 | RD10 | DACA9 | RH9 | | |
| E2BA6 | RA0 | E2BB6 | RF2 | DACA10 | RH10 | | |
| E2BA7 | RE9 | E2BB7 | RF8 | DACA11 | RH11 | | |
| E2BAD | RB12 | E2BBAD | RK5 | DACA12 | RH12 | | |
| E2BAC | RB13 | E2BAC | RK4 | DACA13 | RH13 | | |
| E2BAM | RK0 | E2BAM | RC1 | DACA14 | RH14 | | |
| | | | | DACA15 | RH15 | | |

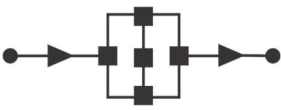


Description

The Systems, signals, DSP and FFT pack introduces students to a number concepts in digital systems including A/D and D/A conversion, Nyquist, Digital Signal Processing, signal manipulation, Fourier analysis of signals and the FFT algorithm, and Digital Filters. Students perform a range of experiments that teach them about the details of signal manipulation using a single Sysblock, pre-written programs created in Flowcode embedded, a signal generator, an oscilloscope and a spectrum analyser. Students download the programs and carry out a number of experiments that teach them about the parameters and techniques of Signal processing. There is also plenty of chance for creative programming using Flowcode embedded for the advanced students who will find that the Sysblocks and Flowcode combination provide the perfect platform for the rapid creation of signal manipulation systems.”

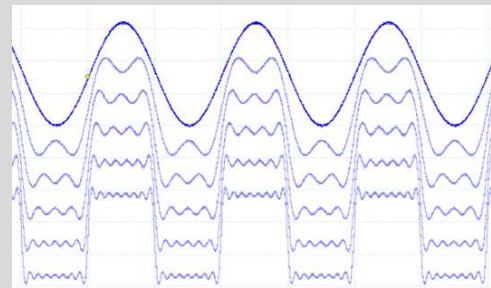
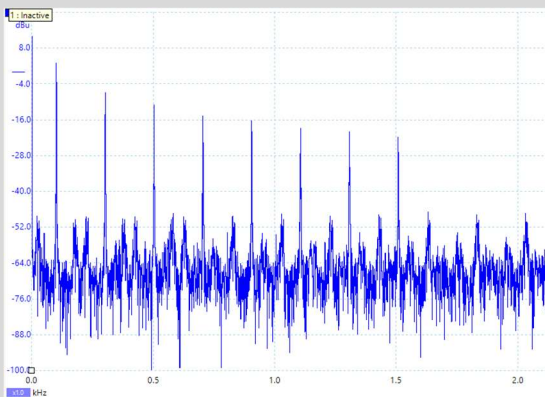
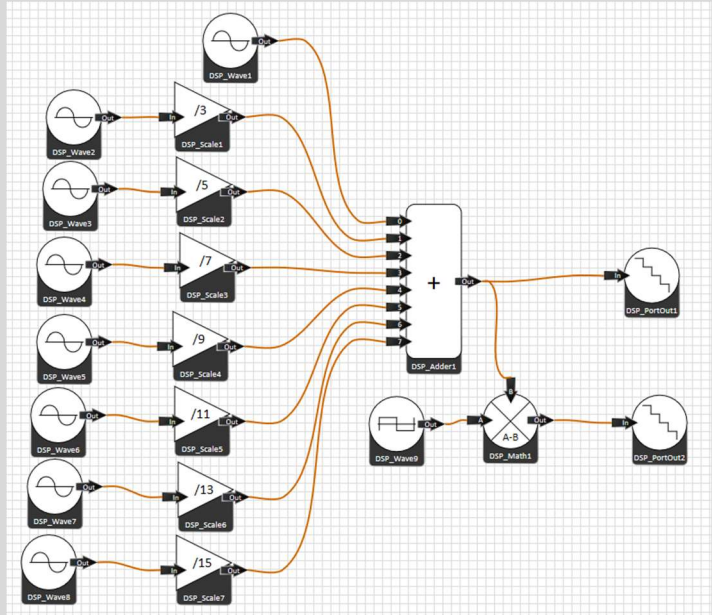
Learning objectives

- Analogue to Digital Conversion
- Digital to Analogue conversion
- Nyquist
- Digital Signal Processing techniques
- Digital Signal manipulation
- Convolution and level detection
- Fourier analysis
- FFT systems
- Digital filters



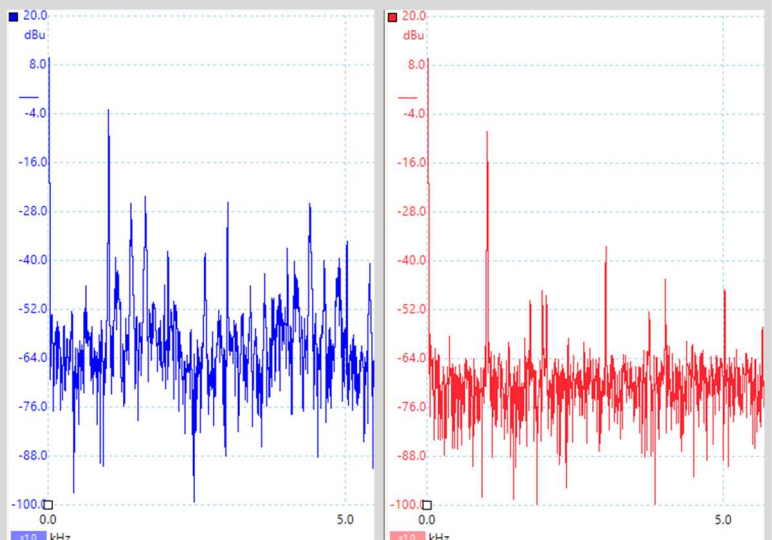
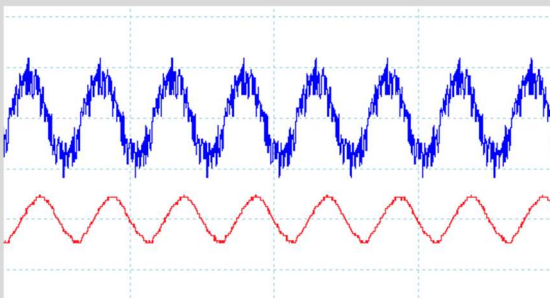
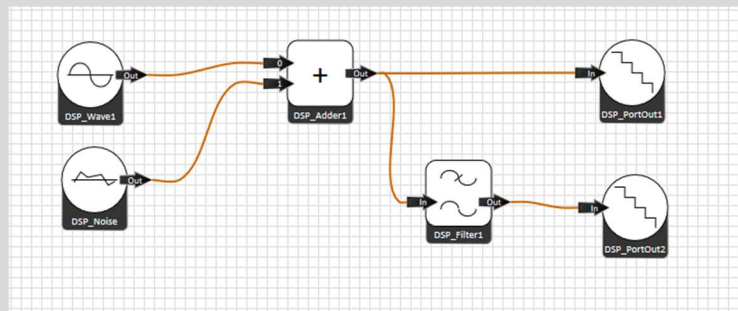
Example: Theory of Fourier

This example shows how harmonics can be added to create a square wave. Images show the data flow diagram, a composite oscillogram with different numbers of harmonics and a typical spectral plot.

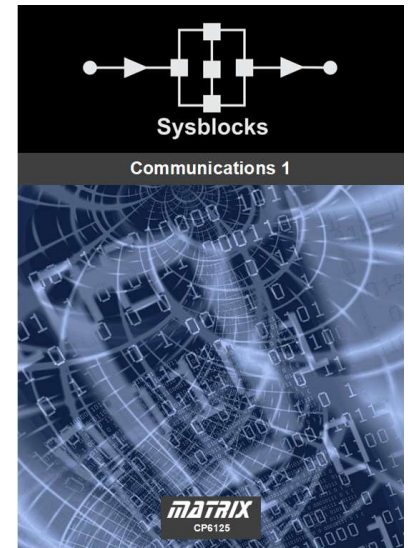
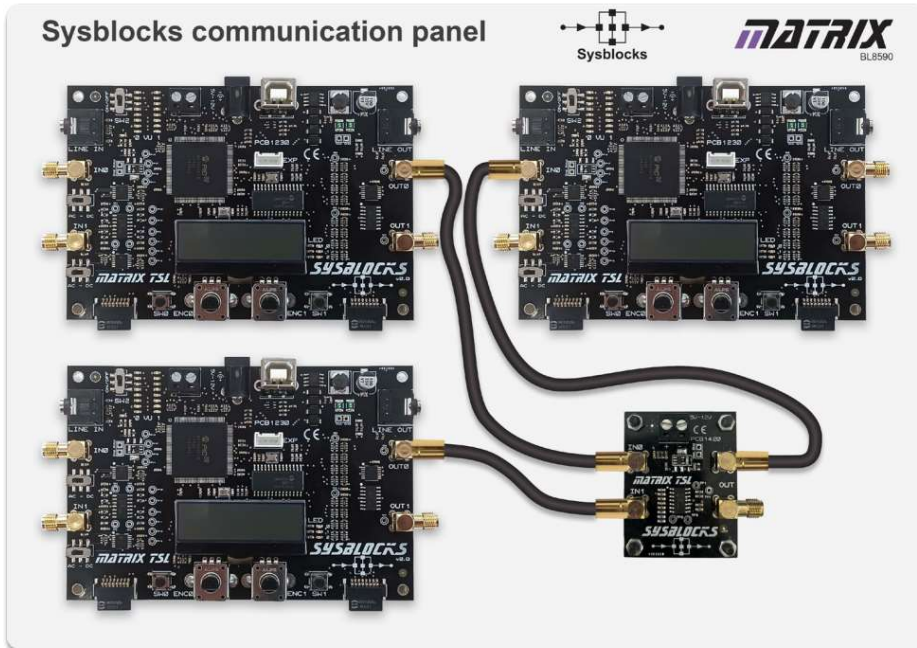


Example: Digital filters

Students can construct a wide range of different types of digital filter - including FIR and IIR types - and study their performance. The images show the simple data flow program, and oscillograms and spectral plots of signals before and after filtering.



Curriculum: Communications and digital radio techniques

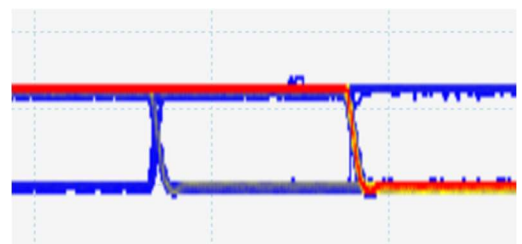


Description

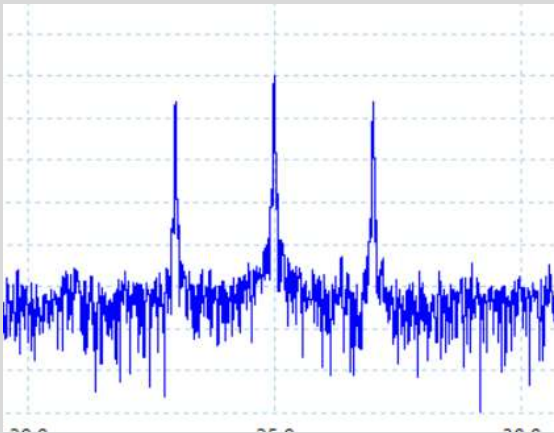
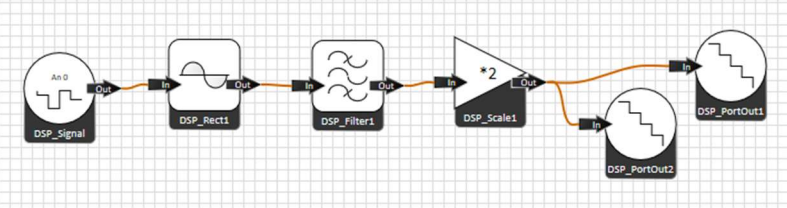
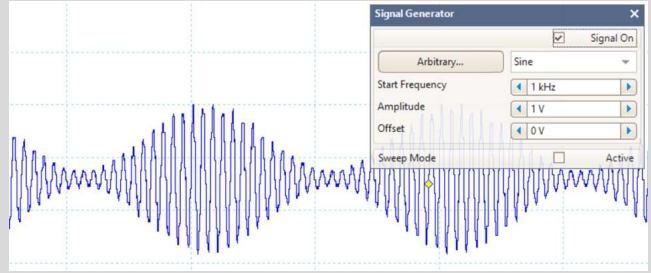
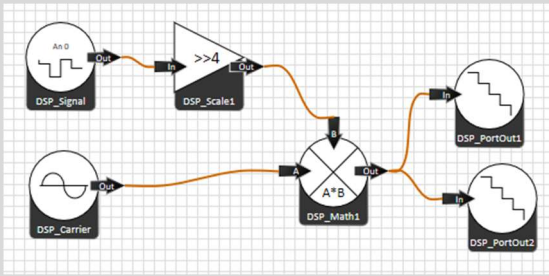
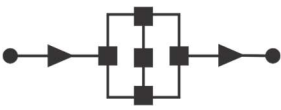
Once students have been through the Systems, signals, DSP and FFT pack they can move onto the Communications and digital radio techniques course. This course allows students to construct and experiment on a wide range of systems based on Sysblocks. Students use a panel with three Sysblocks on to create a sequence of communications modulators and encoders, add noise, and then demodulate / decode the resulting signals. In doing so students understand the parameters of communications systems including Phase Locked Loop performance, signal to noise ratios, bit error rates and the principles of software defined radio. The communications systems students investigate include PLLs, AM, FM, OOK, ASK, FSK, BPSK, QAM, QPSK and DSSS. Students can also examine spread spectrum systems and correlation. Students work with pre-written programs for Sysblocks. There is also plenty of chance for creative programming using Flowcode for the advanced students who will find that the Sysblocks panel and Flowcode combination provide the perfect platform for experimentation with digital comms. The hardware platform includes 3 x Sysblocks panels (encode/modulate, decode/demodulate, and noise generator) and a mixer board.

Learning objectives

- AM and FM
- Digital communications systems
- Modulation / Demodulation
- Encoders / Decoders
- Phase Locked Loops
- PRBS and Bit Error Rates
- AM, FM, OOK, ASK, FSK, BPSK, QAM, QPSK and DSSS
- Digital Radio Techniques
- Spread spectrum techniques

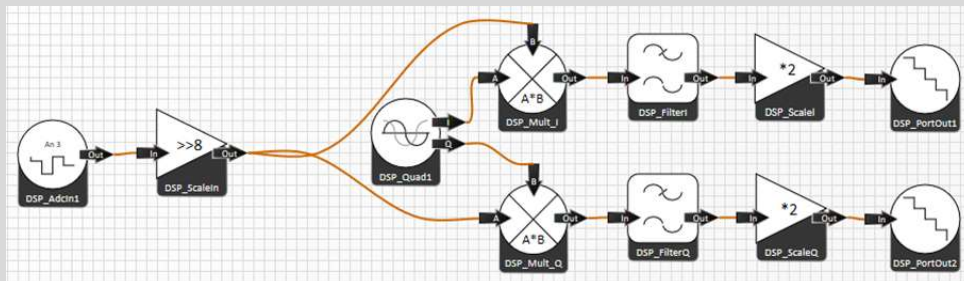


Eye diagrams can be produced for OOK, ASK, FSK and BPSK.



Example: AM transmitter receiver

The equipment allows students to set up AM and FM systems that show some of the principles of digital radio technology. Here you can see the AM transmitter and receiver Flowcode data flow programs, an oscillogram of a 1kHz modulated wave and the associated spectral plot.



Example: 8-PSK detector

With the equipment it is possible to set up various kinds of modulator encoder - demodulator -decoder systems: in this case 8PSK. The first image here shows the Data Flow program in Flowcode. Accompanying code sets up data packets. Also shown here are the I and Q outputs, the constellation plot, and the Bit Error Rate counter program.

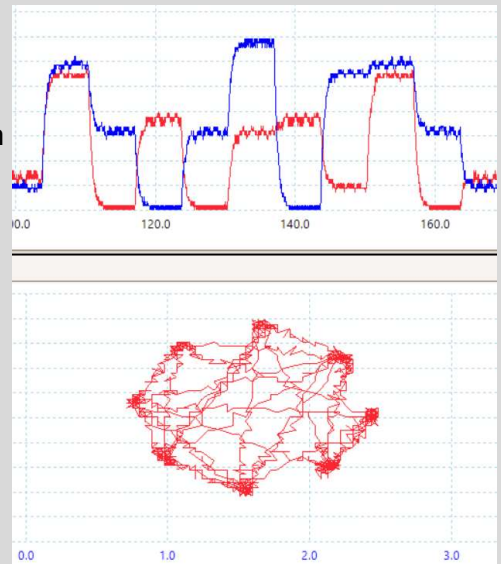
SYSBLOCKS DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS

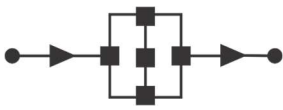
| Carrier Frequency | Baud Rate | Preamble Length | Group Length | Modulation Scheme |
|-------------------|-----------|-----------------|--------------|-------------------|
| 10.0 kHz | 150 | 2 | 4 | OOK |

Tx String Test data to transmit. **Test Data**

54 65 73 74 20 64 61 74 61 20 74 6F 20 74 72 61
 6E 73 6D 69 74 2E 16 17 18 19 1A 1B 1C 1D 1E 1F
Tx Data 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 2A 2B 2C 2D 2E 2F **Edit**

54 65 73 74 20 64 61 74 61 20 74 6F 20 74 72 61 **Rx Length: 16**
 6E 73 6D 69 74 2E 16 17 18 19 1A 1B 1C 1D 1E 1F **Errors: 0**
 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 2A 2B 2C 2D 2E 2F **BER: 0.0 %**





Your first Sysblocks program

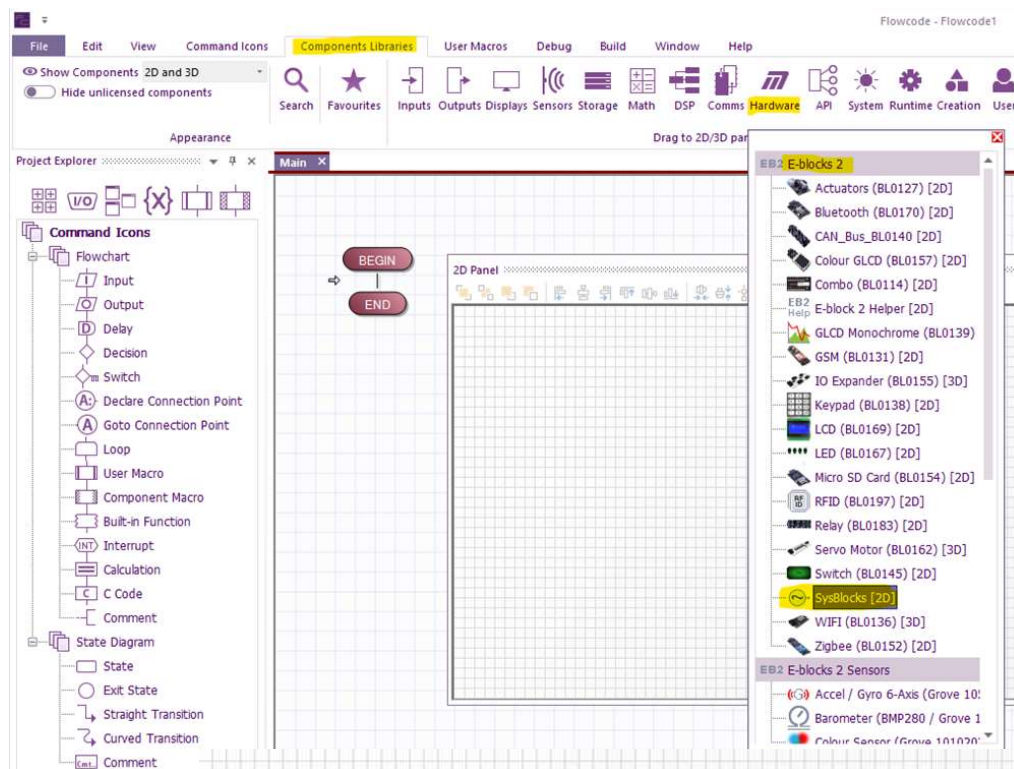
1 Create a new project

Choose a target for a new project. You can find the SysBlocks by the path **32-bit PIC->Misc->SysBlocks**.

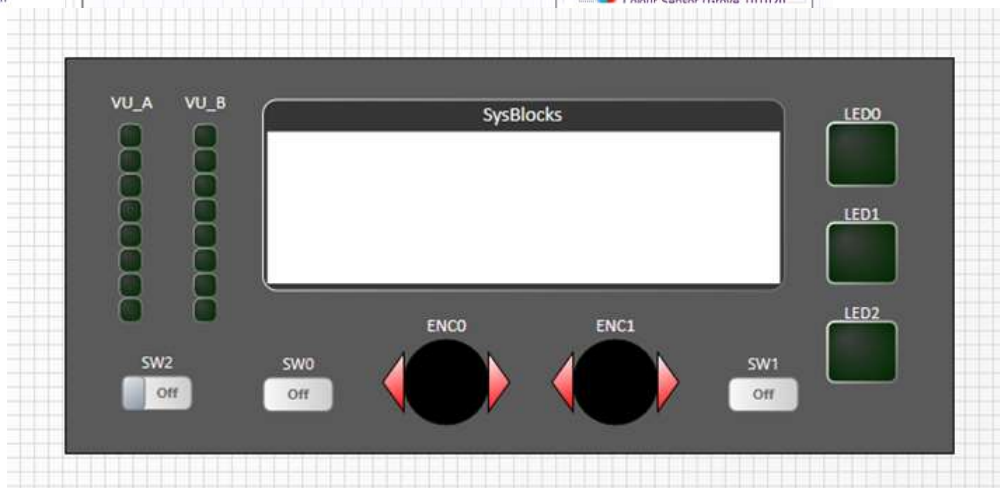


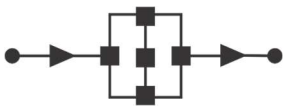
2 Add the Sysblocks control panel to the 2D panel

One of the potential difficulties with the Sysblocks architecture is that there are two processors on the board that handle different tasks. Flowcode takes care of this through a hardware component that allows access to the switches, display, and encoders. A single component allows easy access to all of them for the user.



From Component Libraries->Hardware->E2Blocks->SysBlocks.

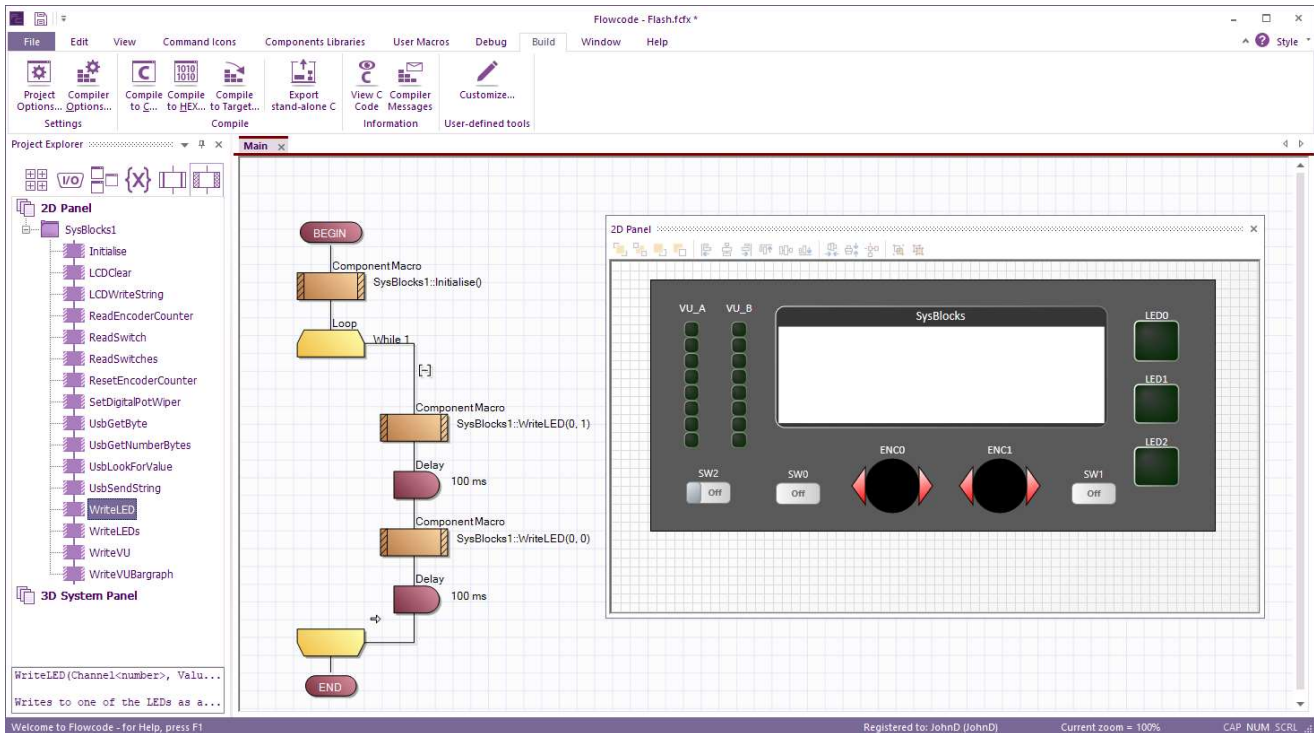




Your first Sysblocks program

3 Develop your program

Use a component macro to initialise the Sysblocks component. Create a loop - while 1 - and Use Sysblocks LED component macro, and a couple of 100ms delays, to flash LED 1 on and off.



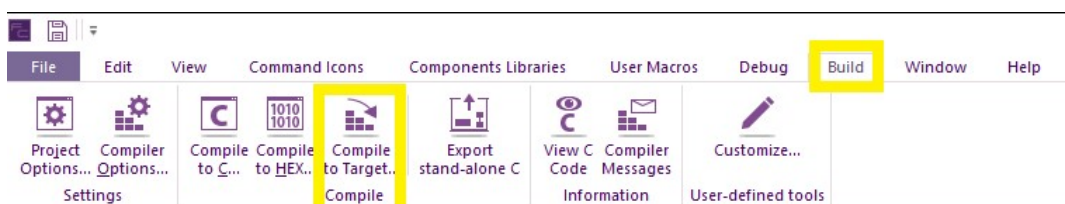
4 Simulate your program

Select DEBUG...RUN to simulate the program

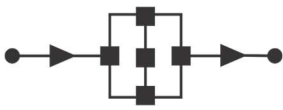


5 Program the Sysblocks board

Select BUILD...COMPILE TO TARGET to send your program to the Sysblocks board.



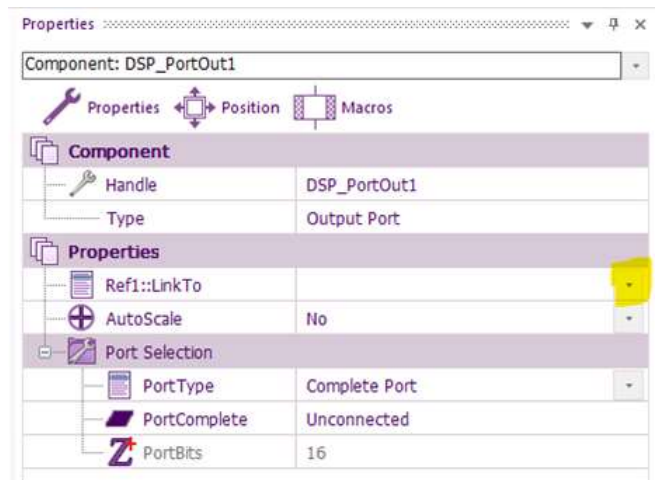
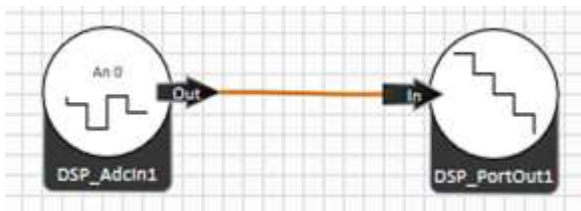
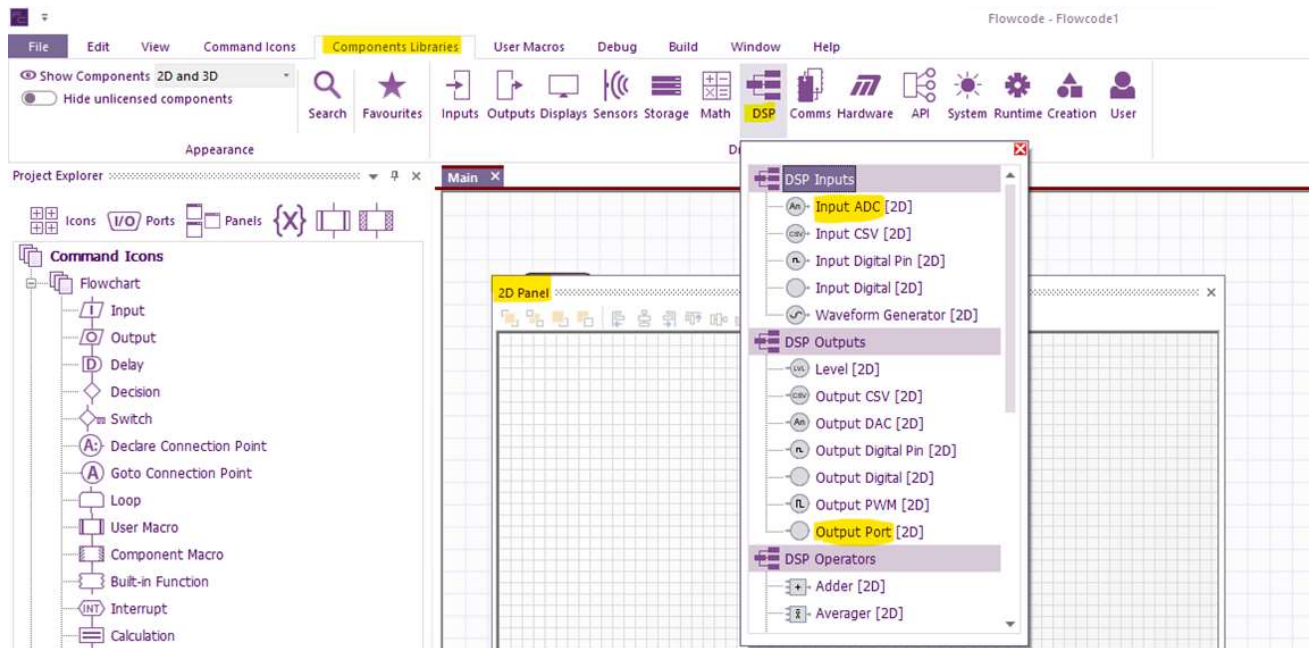
Congratulations! You have built your first Sysblocks program. LED 0 should be flashing at 1 second intervals.



Your first Sysblocks program

6 Create a Data flow program

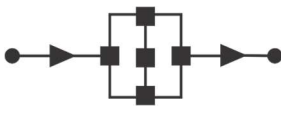
For a Data flow program you need to add at least one **Input ADC** and one **Output Port** from the Components Libraries. You can find the **Input ADC** and **Output Port** in the **DSP** section of Flowcode which is under the **Components Libraries**. You need to drag them to the **2D Panel**.



After dragging them to the 2D Panel, you need to connect the components **DSP_PortOut** and **DSP_Adcln** together by setting up the properties of **DSP_PortOut**. The properties would be shown in the right if you click the component **DSP_PortOut** in **2D Panel**. Click the triangle of the **Ref1::LinkTo** to connect the component **DSP_PortOut** to the component **DSP_Adcln**. If they are connected, you will see a line between them.

Select Autoscale for DSP_PortOut to YES. The sampling is 12 bit but the output is 16 bit and Autoscale takes care of that.

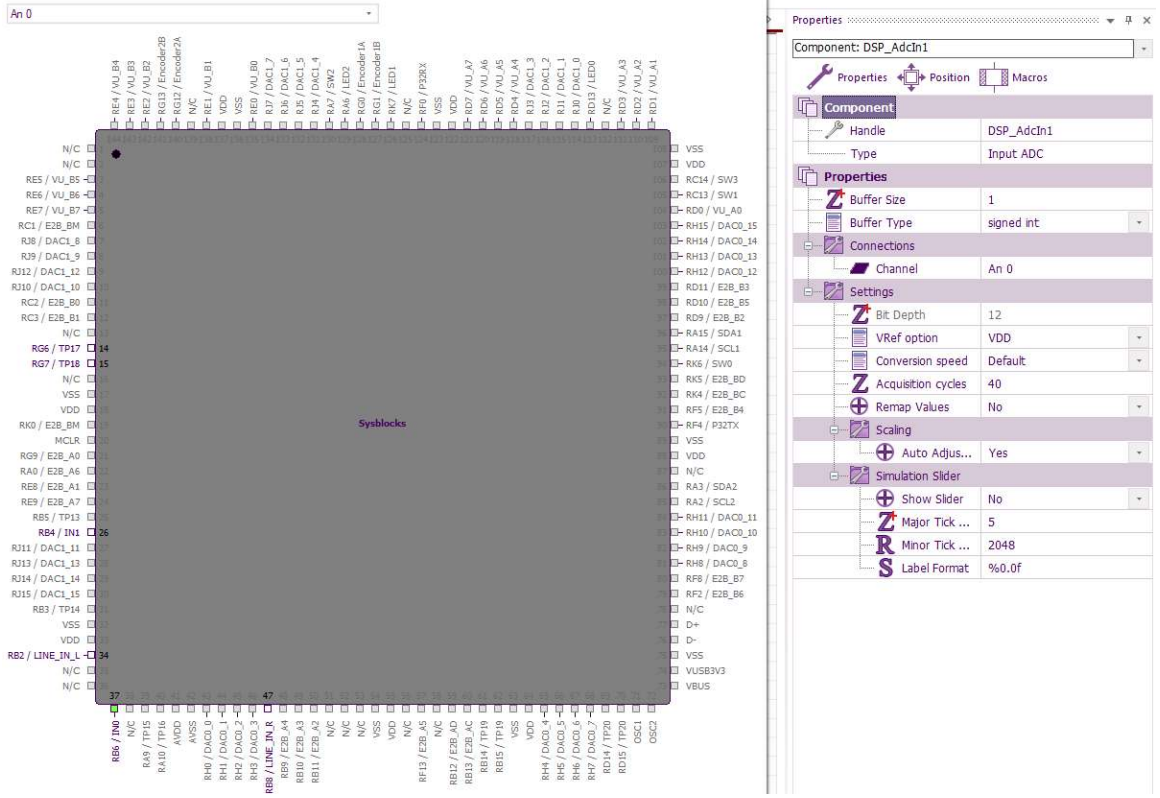
Of course this is a very simple program - we take an input, sample it at 3kHz to create a digital data stream, we pass that to an output DAC and recreate the signal. Its not a very useful program, but it gets the system up and running and you can then add other data processing icons to develop a more complex system.



Your first Sysblocks program

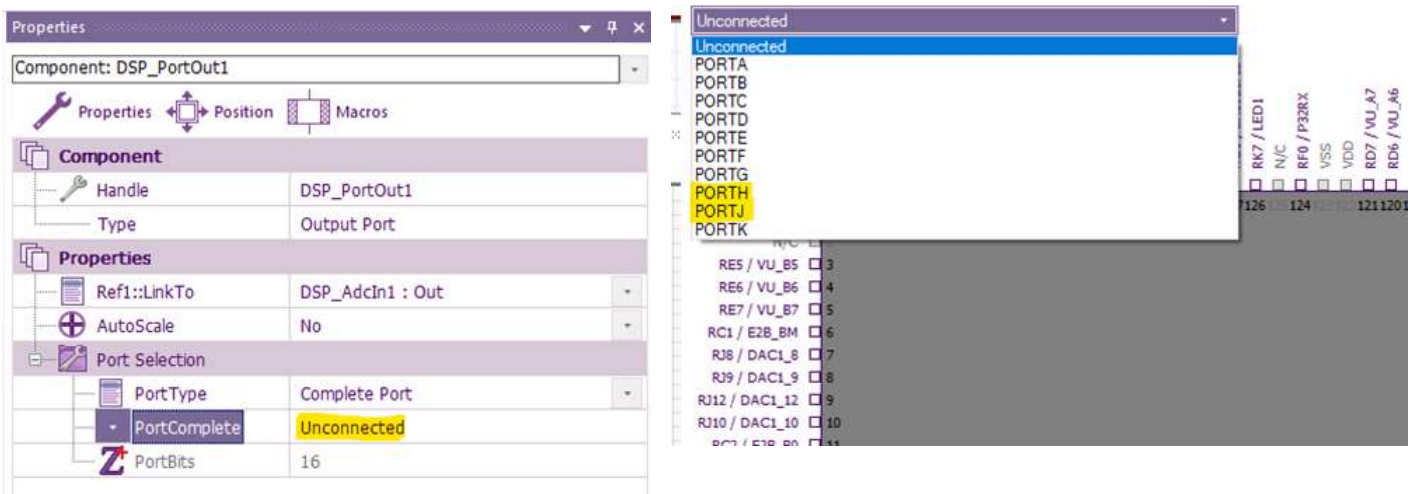
7 Connect the input port

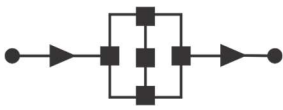
You need to set up the input in the hardware of the Sysblocks board by right clicking the **DSP_Adcln** in 2D and selecting Properties. Under CONNECTIONS ... CHANNEL select the input port you want. We have selected AN0 which is the Micro BNC IN0.



8 Connect the output port

You need to set up the mapped Port in the hardware of the Sysblocks by click the **PortSelection** in the properties of DSP_PortOut. The two output ports of the Sysblocks board could be Port J (OUT0) and Port H (OUT1) , which you can check with the **User Drawing** at the Appendix of this document. Just choose one mapped port for the Output. Also, you need to set the **AutoScale** as **Yes** in the Properties of **DSP_PortOut** to make sure the output data does not overflow.



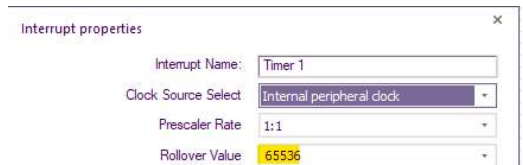
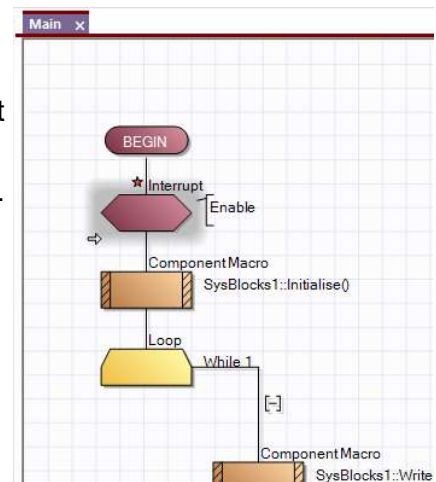
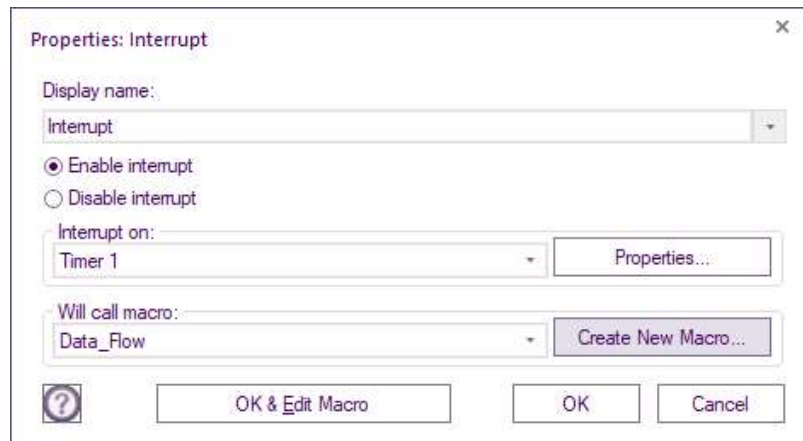


Your first Sysblocks program

9 Setting up the interrupt

Add an Interrupt icon to the start of your program. Double click to set the properties. Select **Timer 1** to call a new macro: **Data-flow**.

Click on **CREATE NEW MACRO** to create the new Data-flow macro.



Set the Properties of the interrupt so that the interrupt frequency is 3051Hz.

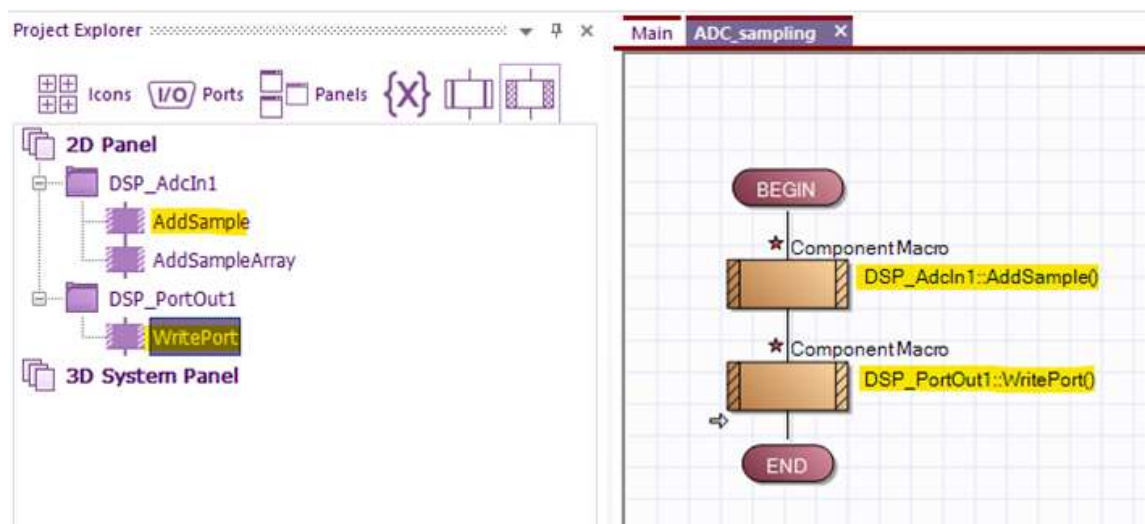
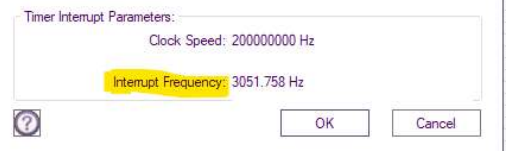
This is now the 'Tick' frequency for your Data flow program.

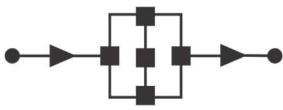
10 Your Data flow program

Add the **AddSample** and **WritePort** to the Data_flow macro.

Every time there is an interrupt these routines in the Data flow program will be executed. You can now send the program to the board as in step 5.

Note that you still have your Main flow chart program executing: so LED0 is flashing at regular intervals at the same time as the Data Flow program is running.





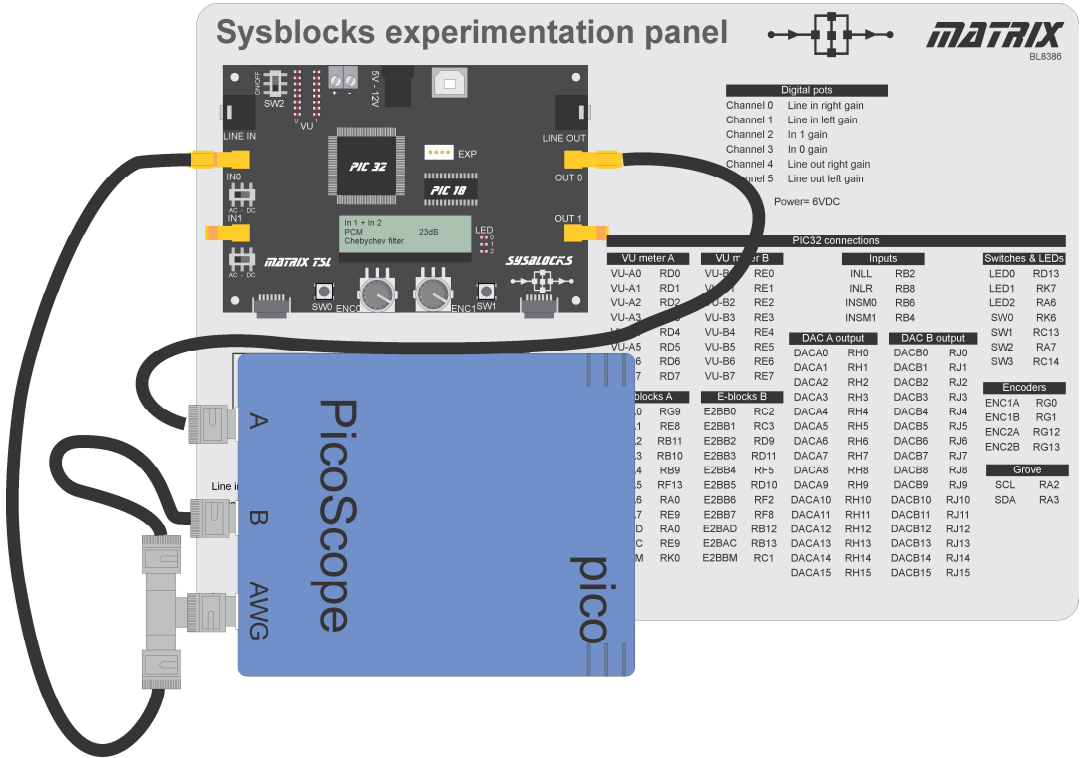
Your first Sysblocks program

11 Evaluating the first program

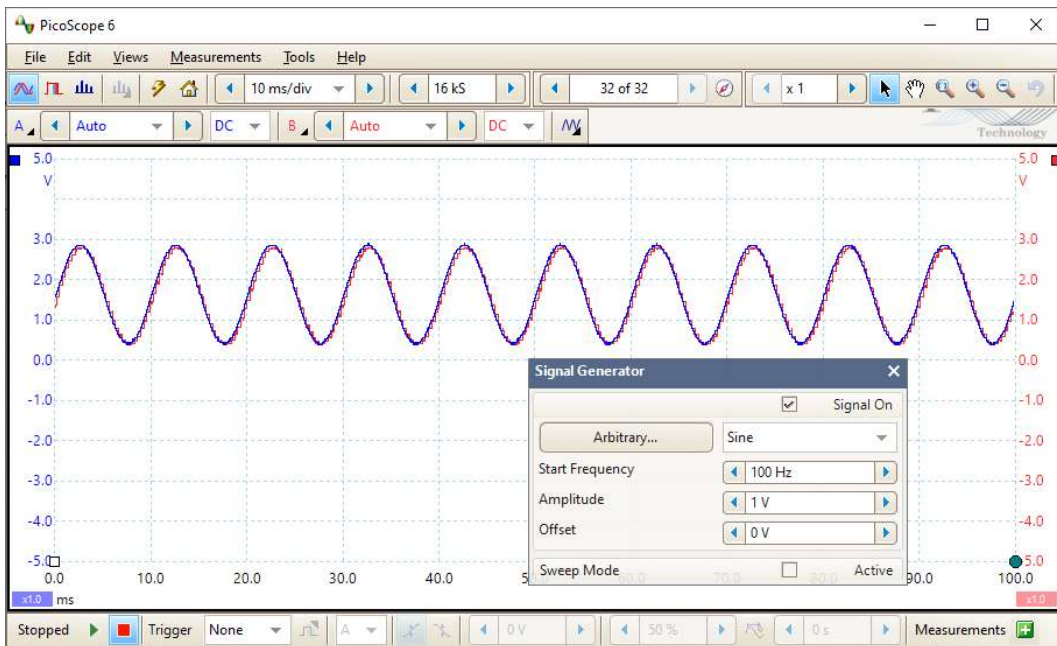
For this section you will need a signal source and a two channel oscilloscope like a PicoScope.

The Pico scope has a waveform generator that you can use as a signal source. You will need a splitter so that you can feed this into channel A of the scope and IN0 on the Sysblocks board. Set switch SW4 to AC coupling.

You can connect OUT0 to channel B of the oscilloscope.

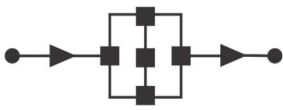


Set the waveform generator to produce a sinewave at a frequency of 100Hz. Your Data flow program will sample this at 3kHz and will send the sampled waveform to the output. You should see this on your oscilloscope:



What you can see here is that the Sysblocks board has sampled the input (blue) and reflected it on the output (red).

Now that you have the basic system up and running you are ready to start to manipulate signals.

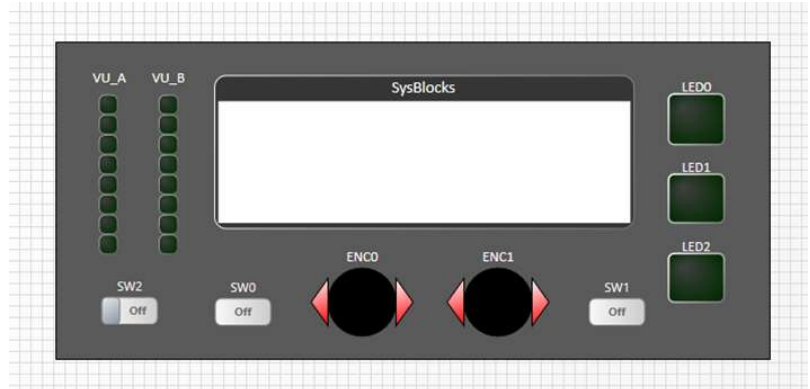


The Sysblocks Flowcode component

Sysblocks has two processors - the main 32 bit PIC processor that executes the program and a secondary 18 series PIC that takes care of USB communications and the LCD.

This architecture allows the 32bit PIC freedom to focus on number crunching and not I/O tasks.

The potential downside of this architecture is that using the LCD could be complex. The complexity is taken care of for you by the Sysblocks component. This includes all of the hardware routines that you need to control the board.



Initialise ()

Must be called at the start of any Sysblocks program to initialise the hardware functions

LCDClear()

Clears the LCD display

LCDWriteString()

Allows you to write a message to the LCD. Max 20 characters per row.

X BYTE Starting column for the text.

Y BYTE Row to write text on (0..3)

Data <-STRING The string to write.

ReadEncoderCounter()

Read one of the two encoders on the board.

Channel BYTE Encoder to read. 0=ENC0, 1=ENC1

RETURN INT The current value of the encoder

ReadSwitch()

Read one of the three switches on the board.

Channel BYTE Switch to read. 0=SW0, 1=SW1, 2=SW2

RETURN BOOL The state of the switch.

ReadSwitches()

Read all three switches at once.

RETURN BYTE States of all switches. Bit0=SW0, Bit1=SW1, Bit2=SW2

ResetEncoderCounter()

Make the current one of the encoder counters zero.

Channel BYTE Encoder to reset. 0=ENC0, 1=ENC1

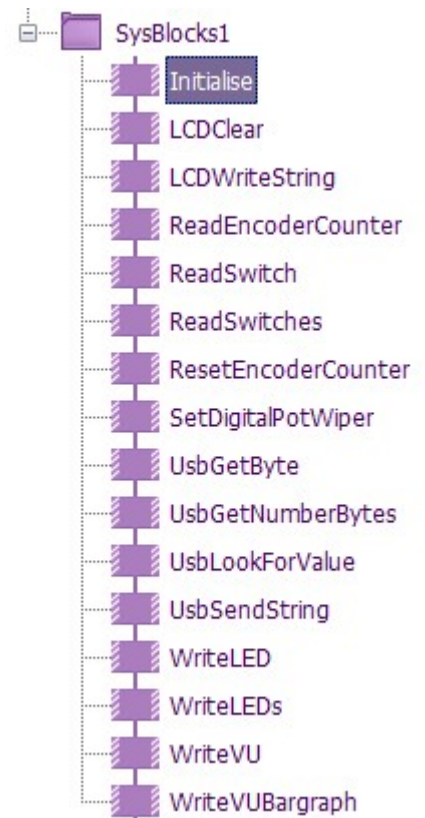
SetDigitalPotWiper()

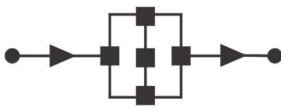
Set the position of one of the digital potentiometers on the board. When the board powers up, all the potentiometers are set to the mid-way position. For most applications, it is not necessary to alter them.

Channel BYTE The channel to set: -

0 Line in left gain.

1 Line in right gain





The Sysblocks Flowcode component

2 IN 0 gain

3 IN 1 gain

4 Line out left level

5 Line out right level

Value UINT The wiper setting from 0 to 128.

USBGetByte()

Returns the next available byte from the USB virtual com port. This provides a way for an application running on a PC to send data to the SysBlocks firmware.

RETURN UINT The byte read from the stream.

USBGetNumberBytes()

Returns the number of bytes available in the stream from the USB host.

RETURN UINT Number of bytes available.

USBLookForValue()

Peek into the stream from the USB host to look for a specific value or sequence of values. This can be used to respond to commands that are marked by delimiters.

Value <- STRING String containing the character or sequence to search for.

NumChars BYTE The number of characters in the sequence.

RemoveContent BYTE
 0 = Just search, leave the stream unaltered.
 1 = Remove bytes up to and including the search term.

ResetFind BYTE
 0 = If removing bytes, then remember if the first part of the sequence has been found.

1 = Ignore partial sequences and start again.

RETURN BYTE
 0 = Not found

1 = Found

USBSendString()

Send a string to the USB host.

Data STRING The string to send.

WriteLEDs

Set the states of all three of the LEDs that are to the right of the LCD.

Values BYTE A binary number where the first three bits represent the states of the three LEDs.

WriteVU()

Set the state of one of the banks of eight LEDs at the upper left corner of the board.

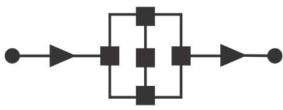
Channel BYTE The channel, 0 or 1.

Value BYTE Eight-bit binary number to be shown by the LEDs. Bit 0 is the lowest LED and bit 7 is the topmost.

WriteVUBargraph()

Channel BYTE The channel, 0 or 1.

Value BYTE The number of LEDs to be lit.

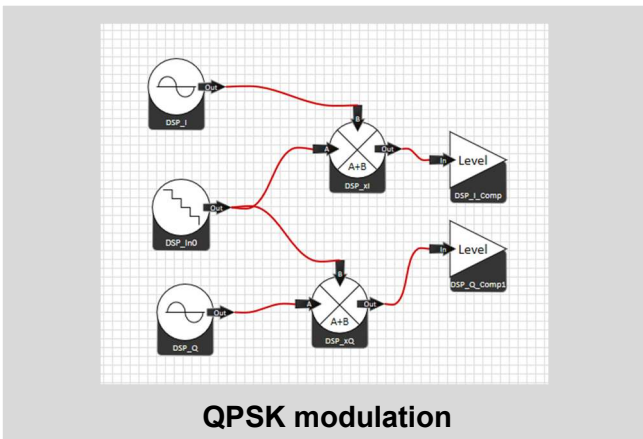
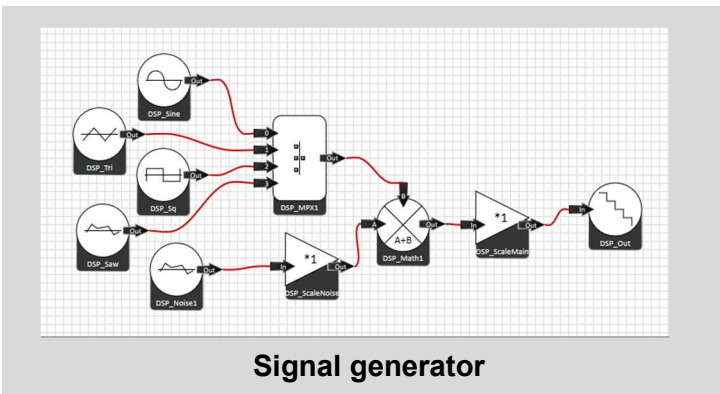
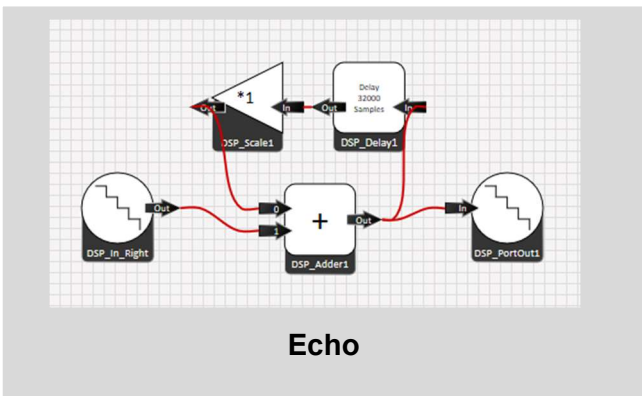


DSP icons

At the time of going to press the image on the right shows the DSP icons currently available.

These are documented in the Flowcode wiki which can be found at www.flowcode.co.uk/wiki.

You can use these icons by dragging them onto the 2D panel and connecting them together. Connections are made between the icons using the properties panel of each icon. When connected you will see an appropriate Data flow line between icons.



DSP Inputs

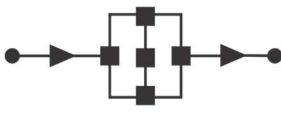
- An → Input ADC
- CSV → Input CSV
- → Input Digital
- n → Input Digital Pin
- ~ → Waveform Generator

DSP Outputs

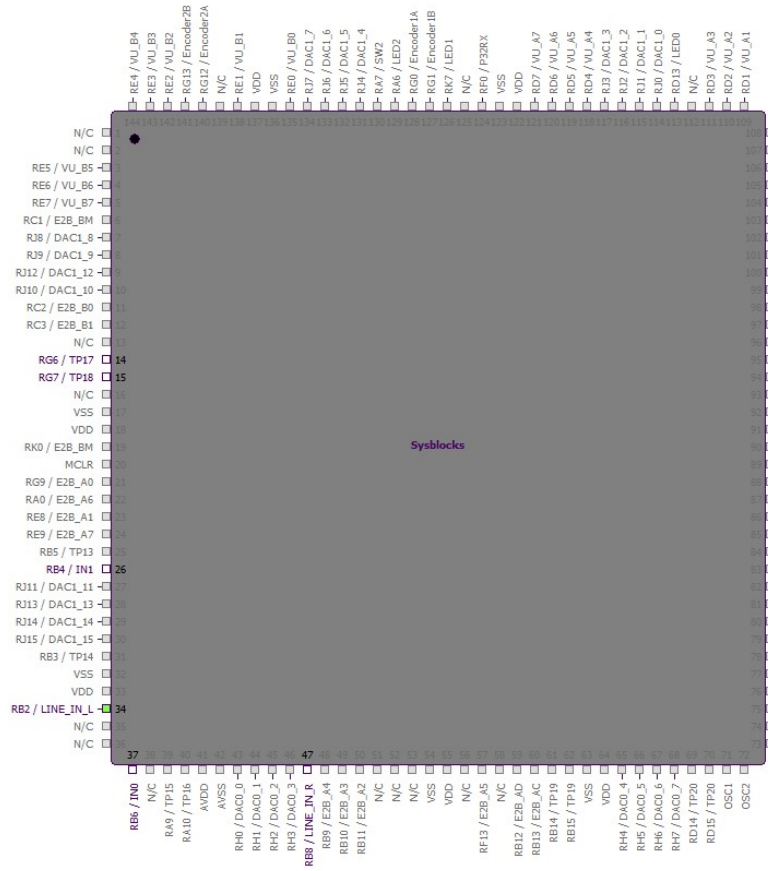
- LVL → Level
- CSV → Output CSV
- An → Output DAC
- → Output Digital
- n → Output Digital Pin
- Π → Output PWM
- → Output Port

DSP Operators

- + → Adder
- x̄ → Averager
- ≡ → Deinterlace
- D → Delay
- FFT → Fast Fourier Transform (FFT)
- X → Filter
- ≡ → Interlace
- K → Kalman Filter
- X → Math
- M → Median
- X → Multiplex
- +H → Offset
- C → On/Off Control
- C → PID Control
- □ → Rectifier
- +H → Scale
- ∫ → Simulated Control Load

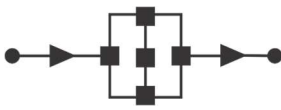


Connection tables

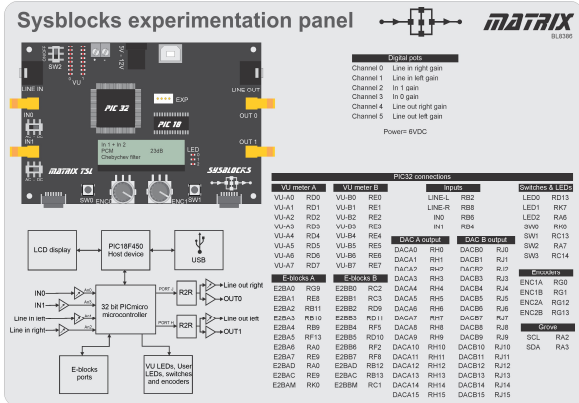


PIC32 connections

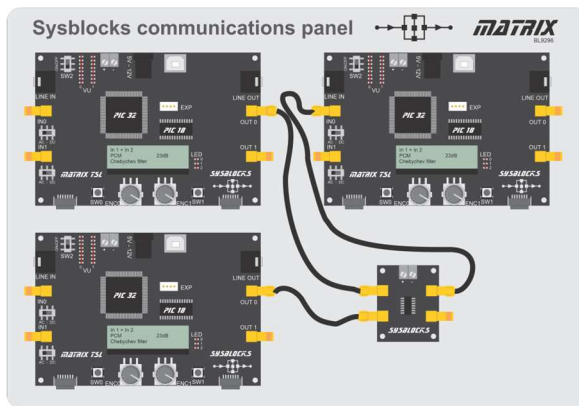
| VU meter A | | VU meter B | | Inputs | | Switches & LEDs | |
|-------------------|------|-------------------|------|---------------------|------|---------------------|------|
| VU-A0 | RD0 | VU-B0 | RE0 | LINE-L | RB2 | LED0 | RD13 |
| VU-A1 | RD1 | VU-B1 | RE1 | LINE-R | RB8 | LED1 | RK7 |
| VU-A2 | RD2 | VU-B2 | RE2 | IN0 | RB6 | LED2 | RA6 |
| VU-A3 | RD3 | VU-B3 | RE3 | IN1 | RB4 | SW0 | RK6 |
| VU-A4 | RD4 | VU-B4 | RE4 | | | SW1 | RC13 |
| VU-A5 | RD5 | VU-B5 | RE5 | DAC A output | | DAC B output | |
| VU-A6 | RD6 | VU-B6 | RE6 | DACA0 | RH0 | DACB0 | RJ0 |
| VU-A7 | RD7 | VU-B7 | RE7 | DACA1 | RH1 | DACB1 | RJ1 |
| | | | | DACA2 | RH2 | DACB2 | RJ2 |
| | | | | DACA3 | RH3 | DACB3 | RJ3 |
| | | | | DACA4 | RH4 | DACB4 | RJ4 |
| | | | | DACA5 | RH5 | DACB5 | RJ5 |
| | | | | DACA6 | RH6 | DACB6 | RJ6 |
| | | | | DACA7 | RH7 | DACB7 | RJ7 |
| | | | | DACA8 | RH8 | DACB8 | RJ8 |
| | | | | DACA9 | RH9 | DACB9 | RJ9 |
| | | | | DACA10 | RH10 | DACB10 | RJ10 |
| | | | | DACA11 | RH11 | DACB11 | RJ11 |
| | | | | DACA12 | RH12 | DACB12 | RJ12 |
| | | | | DACA13 | RH13 | DACB13 | RJ13 |
| | | | | DACA14 | RH14 | DACB14 | RJ14 |
| | | | | DACA15 | RH15 | DACB15 | RJ15 |
| E-blocks A | | E-blocks B | | Encoders | | | |
| E2BA0 | RG9 | E2BB0 | RC2 | ENC1A | RG0 | ENC1B | RG1 |
| E2BA1 | RE8 | E2BB1 | RC3 | ENC2A | RG12 | ENC2B | RG13 |
| E2BA2 | RB11 | E2BB2 | RD9 | Grove | | | |
| E2BA3 | RB10 | E2BB3 | RD11 | SCL | RA2 | SDA | RA3 |
| E2BA4 | RB9 | E2BB4 | RF5 | | | | |
| E2BA5 | RF13 | E2BB5 | RD10 | | | | |
| E2BA6 | RA0 | E2BB6 | RF2 | | | | |
| E2BA7 | RE9 | E2BB7 | RF8 | | | | |
| E2BAD | RA0 | E2BAD | RB12 | | | | |
| E2BAC | RE9 | E2BAC | RB13 | | | | |
| E2BAM | RK0 | E2BBM | RC1 | | | | |



Product codes



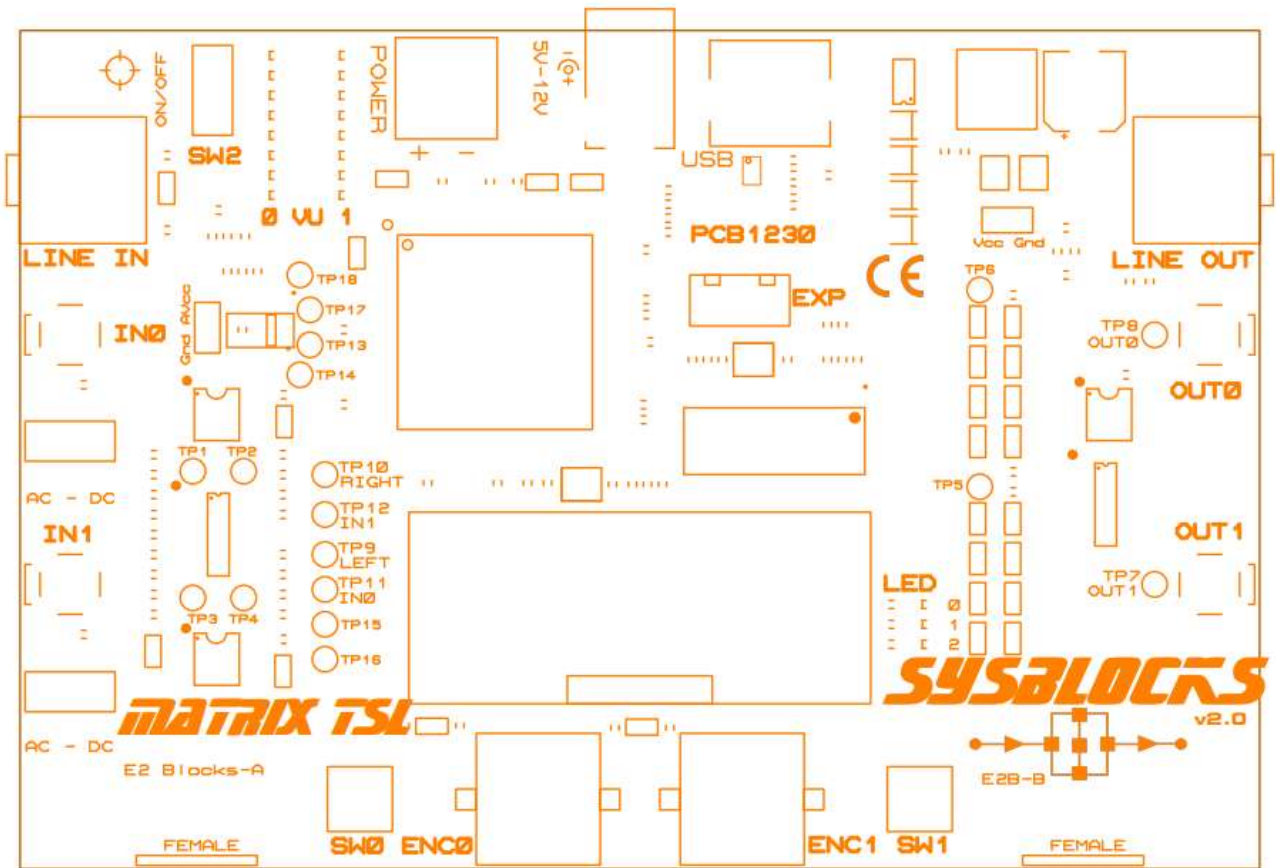
BL8386 standard experimentation panel with power supply and USB lead in standard tray. Sysblocks board is protected with a clear acrylic cover. E-blocks II compatible.



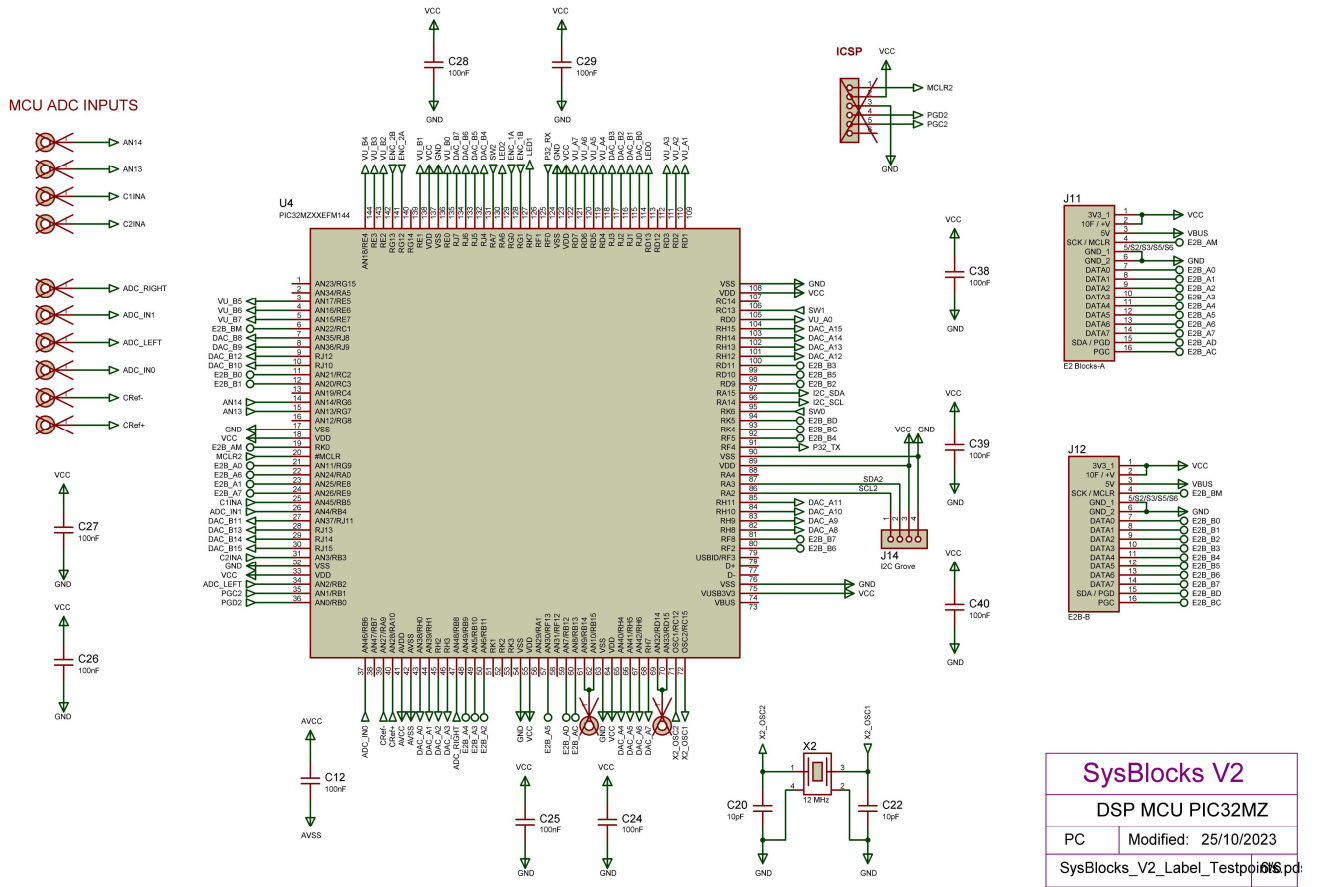
BL9296 Communications panel including 3 x Sysblocks boards, mixer board, set of 6 micro BNC leads, USB lead and power supply in a standard tray. Sysblocks boards are protected with a clear acrylic covers. E-blocks II compatible.

- | | | | |
|--------|--|---------|--|
| BL2461 | Sysblocks PCB only | BL0129 | E-blocks II Grove sensors board |
| BL9731 | Sysblocks mixer PCB only | BL0154 | E-blocks II SD card board |
| CP1210 | Music with microcontrollers curriculum | BL0173 | E-blocks II Terminal board |
| CP2398 | Systems, signals, DSP, FFT curriculum | BL0162 | E-blocks II Servo motor board |
| CP6125 | Communications and Software Defined Radio | BL0152R | E-blocks II Zigbee router board |
| BL8386 | Standard Sysblocks experimentation system (Music with microcontrollers or DSP) | BL0152C | E-blocks II Zigbee coordinator board |
| BL9296 | Sysblocks Communications experimentation system | BL0183 | E-blocks II Relay board |
| BL6374 | BNC splitter | BL0157 | E-blocks II Colour graphical display board |
| BL4585 | BNC to SMA adaptor | BL0170 | E-blocks II Bluetooth board |
| BL6889 | SMA to SMA lead 250mm | BL0136 | E-blocks II Wifi board |
| BL0167 | E-blocks II LED board | BL0106 | E-blocks II Mikroe adaptor board |
| BL0145 | E-blocks II Switch board | BL0187 | E-blocks II Ethernet board |
| BL0117 | E-blocks II Prototype board | BL0169 | E-blocks II Mono graphical LCD board |
| BL0169 | E-blocks II Mono LCD board | BL0140 | E-blocks II CAN bus board |
| BL0138 | E-blocks II Keypad board | BL0197 | E-blocks II RFID board |
| BL0127 | E-blocks II Actuators board | BL0131 | E-blocks II GSM board |

PCB layout

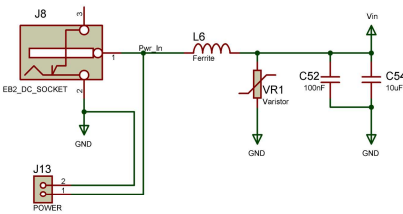


Schematics

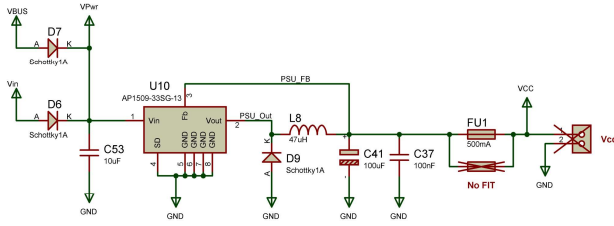


| SysBlocks V2 | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|
| DSP MCU PIC32MZ | |
| PC | Modified: 25/10/2023 |
| SysBlocks_V2_Label_Testpoint16.pcb | |

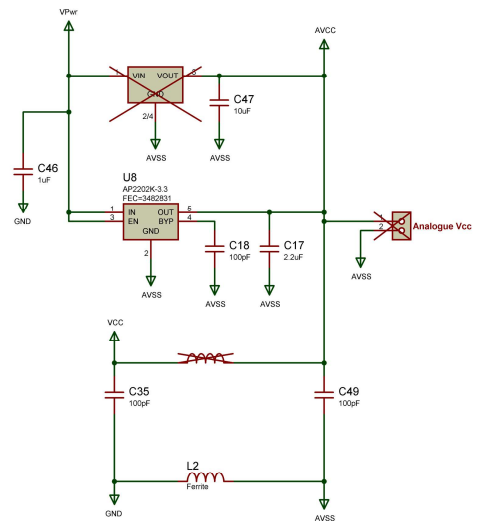
6 - 12 VDC Barrel Connector Input



Digital 3.3 Volt Supply from Barrel or USB



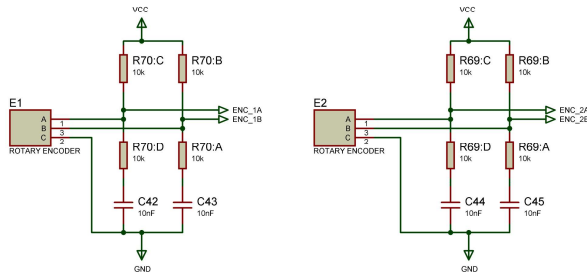
Power PIC18 when USB is not connected.



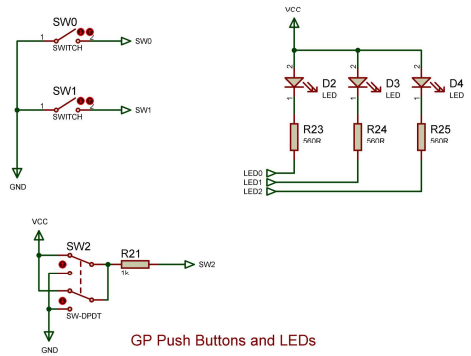
Three options for AVcc
Depends on AVDD current for PIC32MZ
Ideally use SOT23.

| SysBlocks V2 | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Power Supply | |
| PC | Modified: 23/10/2023 |
| SysBlocks_V2_Label_Testpoint16.pcb | |

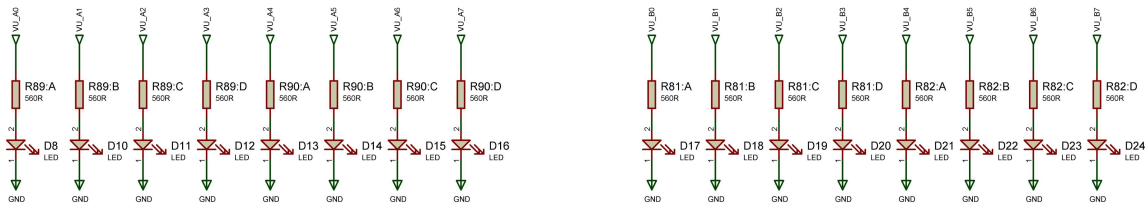
Schematics



Encoders

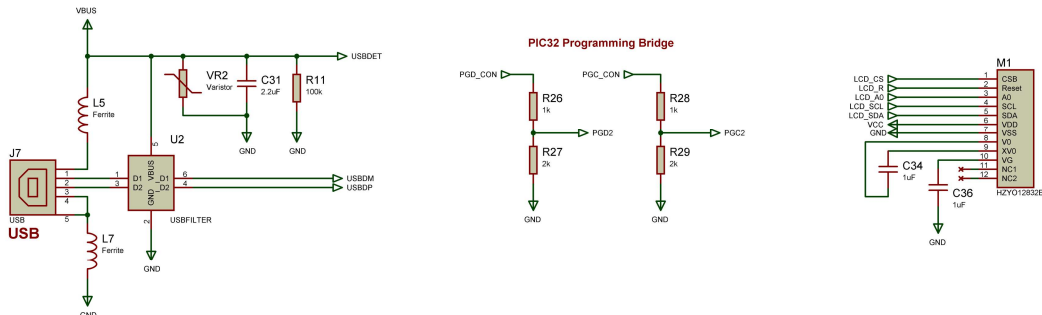
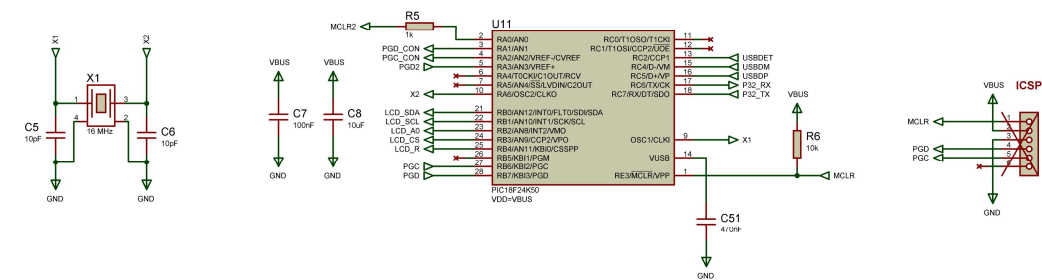


GP Push Buttons and LEDs

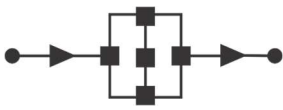


VU Meter LEDs

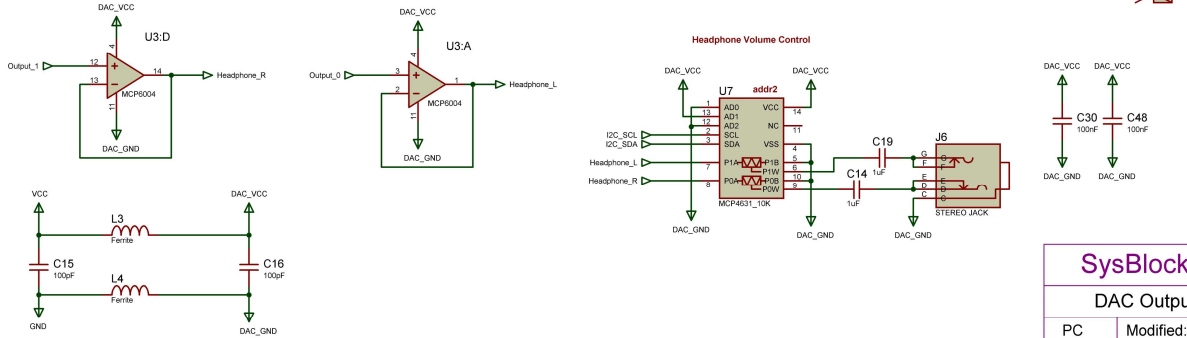
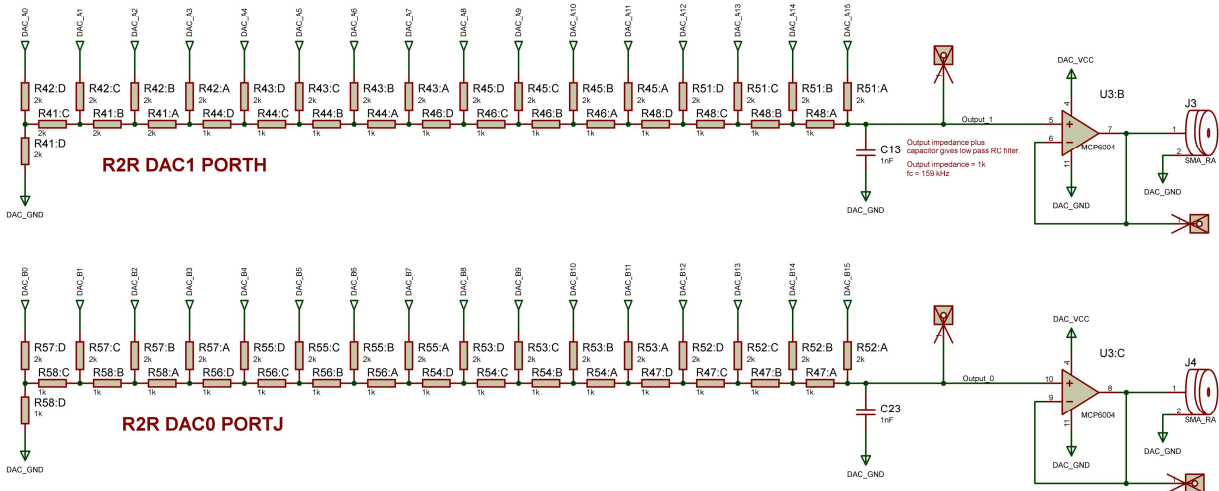
| SysBlocks V2 | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|
| User Interface | |
| PC | Modified: 23/10/2023 |
| SysBlocks_V2_Label_Testpoint16.spd | |



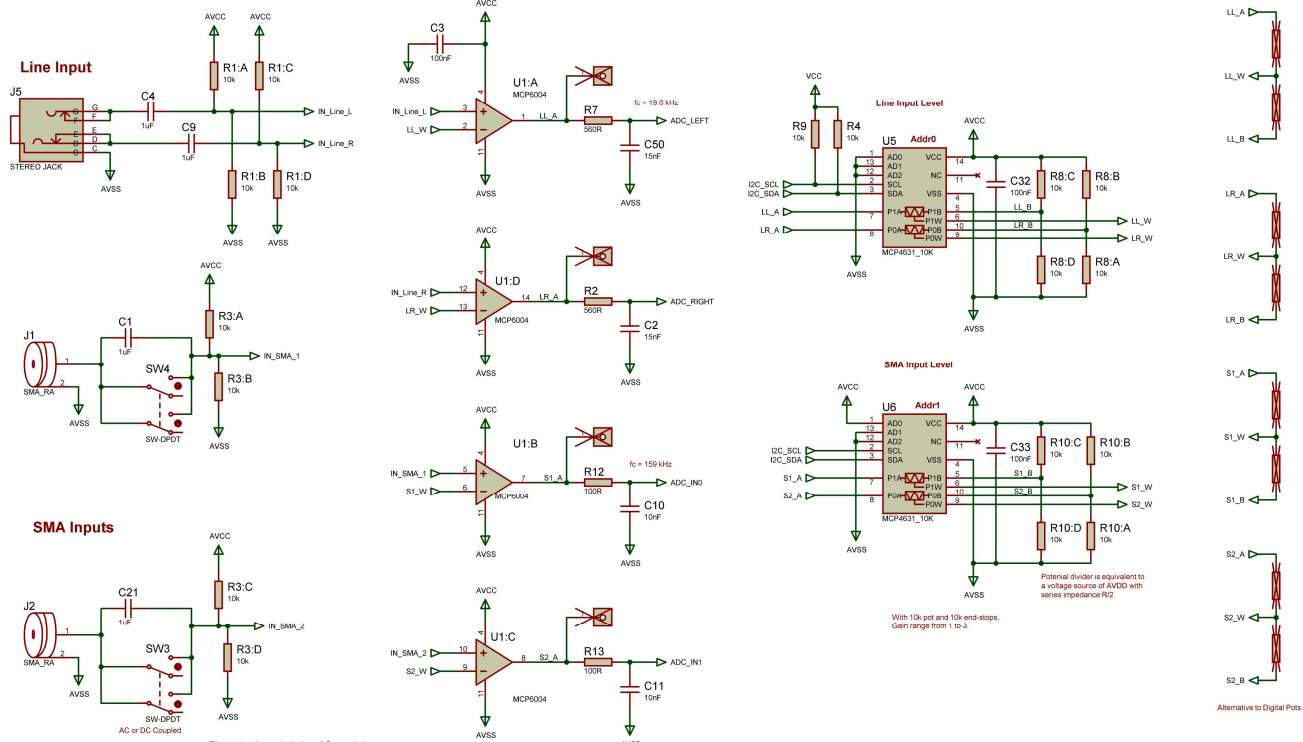
| SysBlocks V2 | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|
| USB and LCD MCU | |
| PC | Modified: 23/10/2023 |
| SysBlocks_V2_Label_Testpoint16.spd | |



Schematics

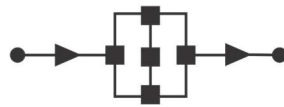
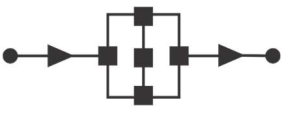


| SysBlocks V2 | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|
| DAC Output | |
| PC | Modified: 23/10/2023 |
| SysBlocks_V2_Label_Testpoint@6.pdf | |



Four ADC inputs; two SMA and two TRS jack.

| SysBlocks V2 | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Analogue Input | |
| PC | Modified: 23/10/2023 |
| SysBlocks_V2_Label_Testpoint@6.pdf | |



SYSBLOCKS



FLOWCODE

Electronic system design software

EBLOCKS²

Matrix TSL
33 Gibbet Street
Halifax
West Yorkshire
UK
+44 1422 252380
www.matrixtsl.com