Data Acquisition

NI-DAQ™mx Base 3.x C Function Reference Help

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Thank you for using NI-DAQmx Base 3.x. The NI-DAQmx Base 3.x software contains a C Application Programming Interface (API), which allows you to create applications for your device.

For more information about this help file, refer to the following topics:

Conventions—formatting and typographical conventions in this help file

Related Documentation

Glossary

Important Information

Technical Support and Professional Services

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Conventions

This help file uses the following formatting and typographical conventions: edit this list according to the specific conventions used in your help file.

- < Angle brackets that contain numbers separated by an ellipsis represent a range of values associated with a bit or signal name—for example, AO <0..3>.
- [] Square brackets enclose optional items—for example, [response].
- The » symbol leads you through nested menu items and dialog box options to a final action. The sequence File»Page Setup»Options directs you to pull down the File menu, select the Page Setup item, and select Options from the last dialog box.
- ♦ The ♦ symbol indicates that the following text applies only to a specific product, a specific operating system, or a specific software version.



This icon denotes a tip, which alerts you to advisory information.



This icon denotes a note, which alerts you to important information.



This icon denotes a caution, which advises you of precautions to take to avoid injury, data loss, or a system crash.



When symbol is marked on a product, it denotes a warning advising you to take precautions to avoid electrical shock. Only use in conventions, *not* in text.



When symbol is marked on a product, it denotes a component that may be hot. Touching this component may result in bodily injury. Only use in conventions, *not* in text.

bold Bold text denotes items that you must select or click in the software, such as menu items and dialog box options. Bold text also denotes parameter names.

green Underlined text in this color denotes a link to a help topic, help file, or Web address.

italic Italic text denotes variables, emphasis, cross-references, or an introduction to a key concept. Italic text also denotes text that is a placeholder for a word or value that you must supply.

Related Documentation

The following documents contain information that you might find helpful as you use this help file:

- NI-DAQmx Base Readme
- NI-DAQmx Base 3.x Getting Started Guide
- NI-DAQmx Base VI Reference Help
- E Series User Manual
- M Series User Manual

- PCI-DIO-96/PXI-6508/PCI-6503 User Manual
- NI CF-6004 User Guide and Specifications
- NI USB-6008/6009 User Guide and Specifications
- NI USB-6501 User Guide and Specifications
- NI USB-621x User Manual
- NI USB-621x Specifications
- NI USB-9211/9211A User Guide and Specifications
- NI USB-9215 Series User Guide and Specifications
- NI USB-9233 Series User Guide and Specifications
- NI USB-9234 Series User Guide and Specifications
- Documentation for your Windows Mobile device
- Getting Started with the LabVIEW Windows Mobile Module
- LabVIEW Help
- LabVIEW Fundamentals
- NI-DAQmx Help

Clocks

Periodic digital edges measure time and are called *clocks*. Clocks such as a sample timebase clock and the 20 MHz timebase clock mark the passing of time or are used to align other signals in time. Clocks usually do not cause actions in the sense that triggers do. The names of clocks usually do not refer to actions. The sample clock is a notable exception.

Clocks in NI-DAQmx

- Al Convert Clock—The E Series clock that directly causes ADC conversions.
- Al Convert Clock Timebase—The clock that is divided down to produce the AI convert clock.
- AI Sample Clock—The clock that controls the time interval between samples. Each time the sample clock ticks (produces a pulse) one sample per channel is acquired.
- AI Sample Clock Timebase—The clock used as the onboard clock source of the sample clock. When the source of the sample clock is set to the onboard clock, the Sample Clock Timebase is divided down to produce the sample clock. When the source of the Sample Clock Timebase is also the onboard clock, the master timebase is divided down to produce the Sample Clock Timebase.
- AO Sample Clock—The clock that controls the time interval between samples. Each time the sample clock ticks (and produces a pulse), one sample per channel is generated.
- AO Sample Clock Timebase—The onboard clock used as the source of the AO sample clock. The AO Sample Clock Timebase is divided down to produce the AO sample clock.
- Counter Timebase—The clock connected to the Source terminal of a counter (Ctr0Source, for example).
- Master Timebase—An onboard clock used by other counters on the device. The master timebase is divided down to produce a slower clock or to measure elapsed time. This timebase is the onboard clock used as the source of the AI Sample Clock timebase, the AO Sample Clock timebase, and the counter timebases, for example.
- 20 MHz Timebase—The onboard clock source for the master timebase from which other timebases are derived.
- 100 kHz Timebase—The clock produced by dividing the 20 MHz Timebase by 200.

Trigger and Clock Confusion

The distinction between triggers and clocks is blurred when the digital edges used as a trigger are periodic. In such a case, a clock causes the device to perform an action. The sample clock is the primary example. The stimulus for the action of producing a sample is so often a clock that NI-DAQmx Base configures the sample clock instead of the sample trigger. The distinction is made clear when you consider the sample clock is in fact just one way of providing the source of a sample trigger.

Terminal Names

Onboard Clock An alias for the terminal within a device where the default source for a clock can be found. If

your application does not set the source of a clock (or uses an empty string as the source), the clock's particular onboard clock is used. For example, the onboard clock for the ai sample

clock is the ai Sample Clock Timebase.

PFIn Programmable Function Interface—general-purpose input terminals, fixed-purpose output

terminals. The name of the fixed output signal is often placed on the I/O connector next to

the terminal as a hint.

PXITriq*n* PXI Trigger bus—general-purpose input/output lines.

RTSI*n* Real Time System Integration bus—general-purpose input/output lines. RTSI7 is the

exception. It is the only line to use for the 20 MHz Timebase signal.

ai/StartTrigger A terminal within a device where the analog input sample clock can be found.

A terminal within a device where the analog input Start Trigger can be found.

ai/ReferenceTrigger A terminal within a device where the analog input Reference Trigger can be found.

ao/SampleClock A terminal within a device where the analog output sample clock can be found.

A terminal within a device where the analog output Start Trigger can be found.

20MHzTimebase A terminal within a device where the onboard clock source for the master timebase can be

found.

MasterTimebase A terminal within a device where the master timebase signal can be found. This signal

originates either from the 20MHzTimebase terminal or the RTSI7 terminal. This signal is the onboard source for the Sample Clock Timebases and is one of the possible sources for the AI $\,$

convert clock timebase.

100kHzTimebase A terminal within a device where the 100 kHz Timebase signal can be found. This signal is

created by dividing the signal at the 20MHzTimebase terminal by 200 and is one of the

possible sources for the Sample Clock Timebases.

ai/ConvertClock A terminal within a device where the AI Convert Clock can be found.

ai/ConvertClockTimebase A terminal within a device where the AI Convert Clock Timebase can be found. This is the

onboard clock source for the AI convert clock.

ai/HoldCompleteEvent A terminal within a device where the AI Hold Complete Event signal can be found.

AI Hold Complete The terminal at the I/O connector (external to the device) where the AI Hold Complete Event

signal can be emitted.

ai/PauseTrigger A terminal within a device where the analog input pause trigger can be found.

ai/SampleClockTimebase A terminal within a device where the AI Sample Clock Timebase can be found. This is the

onboard clock source for the AI sample clock.

AnalogComparisonEvent A terminal within a device where the output of the analog comparison circuit, the Analog

Comparison Event signal, can be found. This circuit is active whenever an analog edge or

window trigger is configured.

ao/PauseTrigger A terminal within a device where the analog output pause trigger can be found.

ao/SampleClockTimebase A terminal within a device where the AO Sample Clock Timebase can be found. This is the

onboard clock source for the AO sample clock.

Ctr0Out, Ctr1Out Terminals at the I/O connector where the output of counter 0 or counter 1 can be emitted.

You also can use Ctr0Out also as an input terminal for driving an external signal onto the

RTSI bus.

Ctr0Gate, Ctr1Gate Terminals within a device whose purpose depends on the application.

Ctr0Source, Ctr1Source Terminals within a device whose purpose depends on the application.

Ctr0InternalOutput, Ctr1InternalOutput

Terminals within a device where you can choose the pulsed or toggled output of the counters.

PairedCtrInternalOutput An alias for one of the counter internal output terminals. For example, if you use counter 1,

PairedCtrInternalOutput refers to Ctr0InternalOutput. If you use counter 0,

PairedCtrInternalOutput refers to Ctr1InternalOutput.

PairedCtrOutputPulse A terminal within a device that chains counters together without using any external

connections. If you configure counter 0, PairedCtrOutputPulse refers to the pulsed output of counter 1. If you configure counter 1, PairedCtrOutputPulse refers to the pulsed output of counter 0. When the counter reaches terminal count (zero when counting down, its maximum count when counting up), the output of the PairedCtrOutputPulse pulses. By using this terminal, you can chain counters together to create a wider counter, perform buffered event counting using the other counter as your clock source, perform finite pulse-train generation,

and create other custom applications.

DAQmxBaseClearTask

int32 DAQmxBaseClearTask (TaskHandle taskHandle);

Purpose

Clears the task. Make sure the task has been stopped by calling DAQmxBaseStop Task before calling this VI. Before clearing, this VI releases any resources the task reserved. You cannot use a task after you clear it unless you recreate the task.

If you use the DAQmxBaseCreateTask function or any of the NI-DAQmxBase Create Channel functions within a loop, use this function within the loop after you finish with the task to avoid allocating unnecessary memory.

Parameters

Input

Name Type Description taskHandle TaskHandle The task to clear.

Return Value

Name Type Description

status int32 The error code returned by the function in the event of an error or warning. A value of 0 indicates success. A positive value indicates a warning. A negative value indicates an error.

DAQmxBaseCreateTask

int32 DAQmxBaseCreateTask (const char taskName[], TaskHandle *taskHandle);

Purpose

Creates a task. If you use this function to create a task, you must use DAQmxBaseClearTask to destroy it.

If you use this function within a loop, NI-DAQmxBase creates a new task in each iteration of the loop. Use the DAQmxBaseClearTask function within the loop after you finish with the task to avoid allocating unnecessary memory.

Parameters

Input

Name Type Description
taskName const char [] Name assigned to the task.

Output

Name Type Description

taskHandle TaskHandle * A reference to the task created in this function.

Return Value

Name Type Description

status int32 The error code returned by the function in the event of an error or warning. A value of 0 indicates success. A positive value indicates a warning. A negative value indicates an error.

DAQmxBaseIsTaskDone

int32 DAQmxBaseIsTaskDone (TaskHandle taskHandle, bool32 *isTaskDone);

Purpose

Queries whether the task completed execution. Use this function to ensure that the specified operation is complete before you stop the task.

Parameters

Input

Name Type Description

taskHandle TaskHandle The task used in this function.

Output

Name Type Description

isTaskDone bool32 * Indicates whether the measurement or generated completed.

Return Value

Name Type Description

status int32 The error code returned by the function in the event of an error or warning. A value of 0 indicates success. A positive value indicates a warning. A negative value indicates an error.

DAQmxBaseLoadTask

int32 DAQmxBaseLoadTask (const char taskName[], TaskHandle *taskHandle);

Purpose

Loads an existing named task created by you with the NI-DAQmx Base Task Configuration Utility. If you use this function to load a task, you must use DAQmxBaseClearTask to destroy it.

Parameters

Input

Name Type Description

taskName const char [] A named task in the NI-DAQmx Base Task Configuration Utility.

Output

Name Type Description

taskHandle TaskHandle * A reference to the task returned by this function.

Return Value

Name Type Description

status int32 The error code returned by the function in the event of an error or warning. A value of 0 indicates success. A positive value indicates a warning. A negative value indicates an error.

DAQmxBaseResetDevice

int32 DAQmxBaseResetDevice (const char deviceName[]);

Purpose

Immediately aborts all tasks associated with a device and returns the device to an initialized state. Aborting a task stops and releases any resources the task reserved.

Parameters

Input

Name Type Description

deviceName const char [] The name of the device to which this operation applies.

Return Value

Name Type Description

status int32 The error code returned by the function in the event of an error or warning. A value of 0 indicates success. A positive value indicates a warning. A negative value indicates an error.

DAQmxBaseStartTask

int32 DAQmxBaseStartTask (TaskHandle taskHandle);

Purpose

Transitions the task from the committed state to the running state, which begins measurement or generation. Using this function is required for all NI-DAQmx Base applications. This function is not required if you are using a DAQmxBase Write function with autoStart set to TRUE.

Parameters

Input

Name Type Description taskHandle TaskHandle The task to start.

Return Value

Name Type Description

status int32 The error code returned by the function in the event of an error or warning. A value of 0 indicates success. A positive value indicates a warning. A negative value indicates an error.

DAQmxBaseStopTask

int32 DAQmxBaseStopTask (TaskHandle taskHandle);

Purpose

Stops the task and returns it to the state it was in before you called DAQmxBaseStartTask or called an DAQmxBase Write function with autoStart set to TRUE. Using this function is required for all NI-DAQmx Base applications.

Parameters

Input

Name Description Type taskHandle TaskHandle The task to stop.

Return Value

Name Type Description

status int32 The error code returned by the function in the event of an error or warning. A value of 0 indicates success. A positive value indicates a warning. A negative value indicates an error.

DAQmxBaseCreateAlThrmcplChan

int32 DAQmxBaseCreateAIThrmcplChan (TaskHandle taskHandle, const char physicalChannel[], const char nameToAssignToChannel[], float64 minVal, float64 maxVal, int32 units, int32 thermocoupleType, int32 cjcSource, float64 cjcVal, const char cjcChannel[]);

Purpose

This function is only valid for a NI USB-9211 device. Creates channel(s) that use a thermocouple to measure temperature and adds the channel(s) to the task you specify with taskHandle.

Parameters

Input

Name	Туре	Description	
taskHandle	TaskHandle	The task to which to add the channels that this function creates.	
physicalChannel	const char []	The names of the physical channels to use to create virtual channels. You can specify a list or range of physical channels such as the following: $Dev1/ai0:3$ or $Dev1/ai0, Dev1/ai2$	
nameToAssignToChannel	const char []	Pass NULL for this parameter. NI-DAQmx Base currently ignores this parameter.	
minVal	float64	The minimum value, in volts, that you expect to measure.	
maxVal	float64	The maximum value, in volts , that you expect to measure.	
units	int32	The units to use to return the measurement.	
		Name	Description
		DAQmx_Val_DegC	Degrees Celsius
		DAQmx_Val_DegF	Degrees Fahrenheit
		DAQmx_Val_Kelvins	Kelvins

		DAQmx_Val_DegR	Degrees Rankin
thermocoupleType	int32	The type of thermocouple	connected to the channel.
		Value	Description
		DAQmx_Val_J_Type_TC	J-type thermocouple.
		DAQmx_Val_K_Type_TC	K-type thermocouple.
		DAQmx_Val_N_Type_TC	N-type thermocouple.
		DAQmx_Val_R_Type_TC	R-type thermocouple.
		DAQmx_Val_S_Type_TC	S-type thermocouple.
		DAQmx_Val_T_Type_TC	T-type thermocouple.
		DAQmx_Val_B_Type_TC	B-type thermocouple.
		DAQmx_Val_E_Type_TC	E-type thermocouple.
cjcSource	int32	The source of cold junction	compensation.
		Value	Description
		DAQmx_Val_BuiltIn	Use a cold-junction compensation channel built into the terminal block.
		DAQmx_Val_ConstVal	You must specify the cold-junction temperature.
		DAQmx_Val_Chan	Use a channel for cold-junction compensation.
cjcVal	float64	The temperature of the cold junction of the thermocouple if you set cjcSource to DAQmx_Val_ConstVal.	
cjcChannel	const char []	The channel that acquires if you set cjcSource to DA	the temperature of the thermocouple cold-junction Qmx_Val_Chan.

Name Type Description

status int32 The error code returned by the function in the event of an error or warning. A value of 0 indicates success. A positive value indicates a warning. A negative value indicates an error.

DAQmxBaseCreateAl VoltageChan

int32 DAQmxBaseCreateAIVoltageChan (TaskHandle taskHandle, const char physicalChannel[], const char nameToAssignToChannel[], int32 terminalConfig, float64 minVal, float64 maxVal, int32 units, const char customScaleName []);

Purpose

Creates channel(s) for voltage measurement and adds the channel(s) to the task you specify with taskHandle.

Parameters

Input

Name	Туре	Description	
taskHandle	TaskHandle	The task to which to add the cha	annels that this function creates.
physicalChannel	const char []	The names of the physical channels to use to create virtual channels. You can specify a list or range of physical channels such as the following: ${\tt Dev1/ai0:3}$ or ${\tt Dev1/ai0:Dev1/ai2}$	
nameToAssignToChannel	const char []	Pass NULL for this parameter. NI-DAQmx Base currently ignores this parameter.	
terminalConfig	int32	The input terminal configuration for the channel.	
		Value	Description
		DAQmx_Val_Cfg_Default	At run time, NI-DAQmx Base chooses the

		(-1)	default input terminal configuration for the channel. On E Series devices, if the channel supports differential mode, NI-DAQmx Base chooses DAQmx_Val_Diff. Otherwise, NI-DAQmx Base chooses DAQmx_Val_RSE.
		DAQmx_Val_RSE	Referenced single-ended mode
		DAQmx_Val_NRSE	Non-referenced single-ended mode
		DAQmx_Val_Diff	Differential mode
minVal	float64	The minimum value, in	volts, that you expect to measure.
maxVal	float64	The maximum value, in volts, that you expect to measure.	
units	int32	Always pass DAQmx_Val_	Volts
		Name	Description
		DAQmx_Val_Volts.	Volts
customScaleName	const char []	Pass NULL for this paran	neter.

Name Type Description

status int32 The error code returned by the function in the event of an error or warning. A value of 0 indicates success. A positive value indicates a warning. A negative value indicates an error.

DAQmxBaseCreateAOVoltageChan

int32 DAQmxBaseCreateAOVoltageChan (TaskHandle taskHandle, const char physicalChannel[], const char nameToAssignToChannel[], float64 minVal, float64 maxVal, int32 units, const char customScaleName[]);

Purpose

Creates channel(s) to generate voltage and adds the channel(s) to the task you specify with **taskHandle**.

Parameters

Input

Name	Туре	Description	
taskHandle	TaskHandle	The task to which to add the channels that this function creates.	
physicalChannel	const char []	The names of the physical channels to use to create virtual channels. You can specify a list or range of physical channels such as the following: $Dev1/ao0:1$ or $Dev1/ao0$, $Dev1/ao2$	
nameToAssignToChannel	const char []	Pass NULL for this parameter. NI-DAQmx Base currently ignores this parameter.	
minVal	float64	The minimum value, in volts, that you expect to generate.	
maxVal	float64	The maximum value, in volts , that you expect to generate.	
units	int32	Always pass DAQmx_Val_Volts.	
		Name	Description
		DAQmx_Val_Volts	Volts
customScaleName	const char []	Pass NULL for this param	neter.

Return Value

Name Type Description

status int32 The error code returned by the function in the event of an error or warning. A value of 0 indicates success. A positive value indicates a warning. A negative value indicates an error.

DAQmxBaseCreateDIChan

int32 DAQmxBaseCreateDIChan (TaskHandle taskHandle, const char lines[], const char nameToAssignToLines[], int32 lineGrouping);

Purpose

Creates channel(s) to measure digital signals and adds the channel(s) to the task you specify with **taskHandle**. For some devices (such as E Series), NI-DAQmx Base supports grouping the digital lines of a port as single channel, not multiple channels.

Parameters

Input			
Name	Туре	Description	
taskHandle	TaskHandle	The task to which to add the channe	s that this function creates.
lines	const char []	The names of the digital lines used to list or range of lines such as the follow Dev1/port0, Dev1/port2 or Dev1/p	3
nameToAssignToLines	const char []	Pass NULL for this parameter. NI-DA	Qmx Base currently ignores this parameter.
lineGrouping	int32	Always pass DAQmx_Val_ChanForAllLines.	
		Value	Description
		DAQmx_Val_ChanForAllLines	One channel for all lines

Return Value

Name Type Description

status int32 The error code returned by the function in the event of an error or warning. A value of 0 indicates success. A positive value indicates a warning. A negative value indicates an error.

DAQmxBaseCreateDOChan

int32 DAQmxBaseCreateDOChan (TaskHandle taskHandle, const char lines[], const char nameToAssignToLines[], int32 lineGrouping);

Purpose

Creates channel(s) to generate digital signals and adds the channel(s) to the task you specify with **taskHandle**. For some devices (such as E Series), NI-DAQmx Base supports grouping the digital lines of a port as a single channel, not multiple channels.

Parameters

Ir	gr	ut

Name	Туре	Description	
taskHandle	TaskHandle	The task to which to add the channels that this function creates.	
lines	const char []	The names of the digital lines used to create a virtual channel. You can specify a list or range of lines such as the following: $Dev1/port0:1$ or $Dev1/port0$, $Dev1/port2$ or $Dev1/port0/line0:4$	
nameToAssignToLines	const char []	Pass NULL for this parameter. NI-DAQmx Base currently ignores this parameter.	
lineGrouping	int32	Always pass DAQmx_Val_ChanForAllLines.	
		Value	Description
		DAQmx_Val_ChanForAllLines	One channel for all lines

Return Value

Name Type Description

status int32 The error code returned by the function in the event of an error or warning. A value of 0 indicates success. A positive value indicates a warning. A negative value indicates an error.

DAQmxBaseCreateCI PeriodChan

int32 DAQmxBaseCreateCIPeriodChan (TaskHandle taskHandle, const char counter[], const char nameToAssignToChannel [], float64 minVal, float64 maxVal, int32 units, int32 edge, int32 measMethod, float64 measTime, uInt32 divisor, const char customScaleName[]);

Purpose

Creates a channel to measure the period of a digital signal and adds the channel to the task you specify with **taskHandle**. You can create only one counter input channel at a time with this function because a task can include only one counter input channel. To read from multiple counters simultaneously, use a separate task for each counter. Connect the input signal to the default input terminal of the counter.

Parameters

Input	
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Name	Туре	Description	
taskHandle	TaskHandle	The task to which to add the channels that this function creates.	
counter	const char []	The name of the counter to use to create virtual channels such as ${\tt Dev1/ctr0}.$	
nameToAssignToChannel	const char []	Pass NULL for this parame parameter.	ter. NI-DAQmx Base currently ignores this
minVal	float64	The minimum value, in un	its, that you expect to measure.
maxVal	float64	The maximum value, in ur	nits, that you expect to measure.
units	int32	The units to use to return	the measurement.
		Value	Description
		DAQmx_Val_Seconds	Seconds
		DAQmx_Val_Ticks	Timebase ticks
edge	int32	Specifies between which e signal.	dges to measure the frequency or period of the
		Value	Description
		DAQmx_Val_Rising	Rising edge(s)
		DAQmx_Val_Falling	Falling edge(s)
measMethod	int32	Always pass DAQmx_Val_Lo	owFreq1Ctr.
		Value	Description
		DAQmx_Val_LowFreq1Ctr	Use one counter that uses a constant timebase to measure the input signal.
measTime	float64	Always pass 0 for this para	, ,
measTime	float64		, ,
measTime	float64 uInt32	Warning If you r time, the count re	nmeter. neasure a high-frequency signal for too long a gister could roll over, resulting in an incorrect

Return Value

Name Type Description

status int32 The error code returned by the function in the event of an error or warning. A value of 0 indicates success. A positive value indicates a warning. A negative value indicates an error.

DAQmxBaseCreateCICountEdgesChan

int32 DAQmxBaseCreateCICountEdgesChan (TaskHandle taskHandle, const char counter[], const char nameToAssignToChannel[], int32 edge, uInt32 initialCount, int32 countDirection);

Purpose

Creates a channel to count the number of rising or falling edges of a digital signal and adds the channel to the task you

specify with **taskHandle**. You can create only one counter input channel at a time with this function because a task can include only one counter input channel. To read from multiple counters simultaneously, use a separate task for each counter. Connect the input signal to the default input terminal of the counter.

Parameters

Input	
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Name	Туре	Description		
taskHandle	TaskHandle	The task to which to add the channels that this function creates.		
counter	const char []	The name of the counter to	se to create virtual channels such	as Dev1/ctr0.
nameToAssignToChannel	const char []	Pass NULL for this parameter. NI-DAQmx Base currently ignores this parameter.		es this
edge	int32	Specifies on which edges of the input signal to increment or decrement the count.		crement the
		Value	escription	
		DAQmx_Val_Rising	ising edge(s).	
		DAQmx_Val_Falling	alling edge(s).	
initialCount	uInt32	The value from which to st	counting.	
countDirection	int32	Specifies whether to incren	nt or decrement the counter on ea	ach edge.
		Value	Description	
		DAQmx_Val_CountUp	Increment the count registe edge.	r on each
		DAQmx_Val_CountDown	Decrement the count registe edge.	er on each
		DAQmx_Val_ExtControlle	The state of a digital line co count direction. Each counted default count direction term default for Counter 0 is PFI default for Counter 1 is PFI	er has a inal. The 10. The

Return Value

Name Type Description

status int32 The error code returned by the function in the event of an error or warning. A value of 0 indicates success. A positive value indicates a warning. A negative value indicates an error.

DAQmxBaseCreateCIPulseWidthChan

int32 DAQmxBaseCreateCIPulseWidthChan (TaskHandle taskHandle, const char counter[], const char nameToAssignToChannel[], float64 minVal, float64 maxVal, int32 units, int32 startingEdge, const char customScaleName []);

Purpose

Creates a channel to measure the width of a digital pulse and adds the channel to the task you specify with **taskHandle**. **startingEdge** determines whether to measure a high pulse or low pulse. You can create only one counter input channel at a time with this function because a task can include only one counter input channel. To read from multiple counters simultaneously, use a separate task for each counter. Connect the input signal to the default input terminal of the counter.

Parameters

Name	Туре	Description
taskHandle	TaskHandle	The task to which to add the channels that this function creates.
counter	const char []	The name of the counter to use to create virtual channels such as ${\tt Dev1/ctr0.}$
nameToAssignToChannel	const char []	Pass NULL for this parameter. NI-DAQmx Base currently ignores this parameter.

minVal	float64	The minimum value, in units , that you expect to measure.		
maxVal	float64	The maximum value, in units, that you expect to measure.		
units	int32	The units to use to return Value	the measurement. Description	
		DAQmx_Val_Seconds	Seconds	
		DAQmx_Val_Ticks	Timebase ticks	
startingEdge	int32	Specifies on which edge to Value	begin measuring pulse width. Description	
		DAQmx_Val_Rising	Rising edge(s)	
		DAQmx_Val_Falling	Falling edge(s)	
customScaleName	const char []	Pass NULL for this parame	eter.	

Name Type Description

status int32 The error code returned by the function in the event of an error or warning. A value of 0 indicates success. A positive value indicates a warning. A negative value indicates an error.

DAQmxBaseCreateCILinEncoderChan

int32 DAQmxBaseCreateCILinEncoderChan (TaskHandle taskHandle, const char counter[], const char nameToAssignToChannel[], int32 decodingType, bool32 ZidxEnable, float64 ZidxVal, int32 ZidxPhase, int32 units, float64 distPerPulse, float64 initialPos, const char customScaleName[]);

Purpose

Creates a channel that uses a linear encoder to measure linear position. You can create only one counter input channel at a time with this function because a task can include only one counter input channel. To read from multiple counters simultaneously, use a separate task for each counter. Connect the input signals to the default input terminals of the counter unless you select different input terminals.

Parameters

Input	
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Name	Туре	Description	
taskHandle	TaskHandle	The task to which to add the channel	s that this function creates.
counter	const char []	The name of the counter to use to cre	eate virtual channels such as Dev1/ctr0.
nameToAssignToChannel	const char []		rtual channel. If you specify your own el, you must use the names when you AQmxBase functions.
		specify a list of names separated by o	you create, NI-DAQmxBase automatically
decodingType	int32	Specifies how to count and interpret the pulses that the encoder gene signal A and signal B. DAQmx_Val_X1, DAQmx_Val_X2, and DAQmx_Val_val_valid for quadrature encoders only. DAQmx_Val_TwoPulseCounting is conly for two-pulse encoders. DAQmx_Val_X2 and DAQmx_Val_X4 decoding are more sensitive to smatchanges in position than DAQmx_Val_X1 encoding, with DAQmx_Val_X4 the most sensitive. However, more sensitive decoding is more likely to produce erroneous measurements if there is vibration in the encoder of noise in the signals.	
		Value	Description
		DAQmx_Val_X1	If signal A leads signal B, count the rising edges of signal A. If signal B

				leads signal A, count the falling edges of signal A.
		DAQmx_Val_X2		Count the rising and falling edges of signal A.
		DAQmx_Val_X4		Count the rising and falling edges of both signal A and signal B.
		DAQmx_Val_TwoPulseCountin	ng	Increment the count on rising edges of signal A. Decrement the count on rising pulses of signal B.
ZidxEnable	const char []	Specifies whether to enable z	indexin	g for the measurement.
ZidxVal	float64			the measurement when signal Z is high states you specify with ZidxPhase .
ZidxPhase	int32	NI-DAQmxBase to reset the m	neasure	al B must be while signal Z is high for ment. If signal Z is never high while the ample, you must choose a phase other
		When signal Z goes high and I encoder. Refer to the docume of signal Z with respect to sign	ntation	ng it stays high varies from encoder to for the encoder to determine the timing and signal B.
		Value	Desci	ription
		DAQmx_Val_AHighBHigh		the measurement when both signal A ignal B are at high logic.
		DAQmx_Val_AHighBLow		the measurement when signal A is at ogic and signal B is at low logic.
		DAQmx_Val_ALowBHigh		the measurement when signal A is at gic and signal B is at high logic.
		DAQmx_Val_ALowBLow		the measurement when both signal A ignal B are at low logic.
units	int32	The units to use to return line	ar posit	cion measurements from the channel.
		Name		Description
		DAQmx_Val_Meters		Meters.
		DAQmx_Val_Inches		Inches.
		DAQmx_Val_Ticks		Timebase Ticks.
		DAQmx_Val_FromCustomScale		Units a custom scale specifies. Use customScaleName to specify a custom scale.
distPerPulse	float64	The distance measured for each value in units.	ch puls	e the encoder generates. Specify this
initialPos	float64	The position of the encoder when units.	hen the	measurement begins. This value is in
customScaleName	const char []	Pass NULL for this parameter.		

Name Type Description

status int32 The error code returned by the function in the event of an error or warning. A value of 0 indicates success. A positive value indicates a warning. A negative value indicates an error.

DAQmxBaseCreateCIAngEncoderChan

int32 DAQmxBaseCreateCIAngEncoderChan (TaskHandle taskHandle, const char counter[], const char nameToAssignToChannel[], int32 decodingType, bool32 ZidxEnable, float64 ZidxVal, int32 ZidxPhase, int32 units, uInt32 pulsesPerRev, float64 initialAngle, const char customScaleName[]);

Purpose

Creates a channel that uses an angular encoder to measure angular position. You can create only one counter input channel at a time with this function because a task can include only one counter input channel. To read from multiple counters simultaneously, use a separate task for each counter. Connect the input signals to the default input terminals of the counter unless you select different input terminals.

Parameters

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Name	Туре	Description	
taskHandle	TaskHandle	The task to which to add the channels that this function creates.	
counter	const char []] The name of the counter to use to create virtual channels such as ${\tt Dev1/ctr}$	
nameToAssignToChannel	const char []	The name to assign to the created virtual channel. If you specify your ow names for nameToAssignToChannel , you must use the names when y refer to these channels in other NI-DAQmxBase functions.	
		If you create multiple virtual channels with one call to this function, you can specify a list of names separated by commas. If you provide fewer names than the number of virtual channels you create, NI-DAQmxBase automatica assigns names to the virtual channels.	
decodingType	int32	Specifies how to count and interpret the pulses that the encoder general signal A and signal B. DAQmx_Val_X1, DAQmx_Val_X2, and DAQmx_Val_X valid for quadrature encoders only. DAQmx_Val_TwoPulseCounting is valid for two-pulse encoders.	
		changes in position than DAQmathe most sensitive. However, I	_X4 decoding are more sensitive to smaller c_Val_X1 encoding, with DAQmx_Val_X4 being more sensitive decoding is more likely to ents if there is vibration in the encoder or other
		Value	Description
		DAQmx_Val_X1	If signal A leads signal B, count the rising edges of signal A. If signal B leads signal A, count the falling edges of signal A.
		DAQmx_Val_X2	Count the rising and falling edges of signal A.
		DAQmx_Val_X4	Count the rising and falling edges of both signal A and signal B.
		DAQmx_Val_TwoPulseCountir	Increment the count on rising edges of signal A. Decrement the count on rising pulses of signal B.
ZidxEnable	bool32	Specifies whether to enable z	indexing for the measurement.
ZidxVal	float64		o reset the measurement when signal Z is high at the states you specify with ZidxPhase .
ZidxPhase	int32	NI-DAQmxBase to reset the m	nd signal B must be while signal Z is high for easurement. If signal Z is never high while the for example, you must choose a phase other
			now long it stays high varies from encoder to ntation for the encoder to determine the timing hal A and signal B.
		Value	Description
		DAQmx_Val_AHighBHigh	Reset the measurement when both signal A and signal B are at high logic.
		DAQmx_Val_AHighBLow	Reset the measurement when signal A is at high logic and signal B is at low logic.

		DAQmx_Val_ALowBHigh DAOmx Val ALowBLow	low lo	the measurement when signal A is at gic and signal B is at high logic. the measurement when both signal A
		212101_1101121011		ignal B are at low logic.
units	int32	The units to use to return ang	ular po	sition measurements from the channel.
		Value		Description
		DAQmx_Val_Degrees		Degrees
		DAQmx_Val_Radians		Radians
		DAQmx_Val_Ticks		Timebase ticks
		DAQmx_Val_FromCustomScal		Units a custom scale specifies. Use customScaleName to specify a custom scale.
pulsesPerRev	uInt32	•	ther Å s	enerates per revolution. This value is the signal or B signal, not the total number of
initialAngle	float64	The starting angle of the encovalue in units .	der wh	en the measurement begins. Specify this
customScaleName	const char []	Pass NULL for this parameter.		

Name Type Description

status int32 The error code returned by the function in the event of an error or warning. A value of 0 indicates success. A positive value indicates a warning. A negative value indicates an error.

DAQmxBaseCreateCOPulseChanFreq

int32 DAQmxBaseCreateCOPulseChanFreq (TaskHandle taskHandle, const char counter[], const char nameToAssignToChannel[], int32 units, int32 idleState, float64 initialDelay, float64 freq, float64 dutyCycle);

Purpose

Creates a channel to generate digital pulses defined by **freq** and **dutyCycle** and adds the channel to the task you specify with **taskHandle**. The pulses appear on the default output terminal of the counter.

You can create only one counter output channel at a time with this function because a task can include only one counter output channel. To use multiple counters simultaneously, use a separate task for each counter.

Parameters

Name	Туре	Description	
taskHandle	TaskHandle	The task to which to add the channels that this function creates.	
counter	const char []	The name of the counter to use to create virtual channels such as ${\tt Dev1/ctr0}.$	
nameToAssignToChannel	const char []	Pass NULL for this parameter. NI-DAQmx Base currently ignores this parameter.	
units	int32	The units in which to	specify freq .
		Name	Description
		DAQmx_Val_Hz	Hertz
idleState	int32	The resting state of th	ne output terminal.
		Value	Description
		DAQmx_Val_High	High state. M Series only.
		DAQmx_Val_Low	Low state

initialDelay	float64	The amount of time in seconds to wait before generating the first pulse.
freq	float64	The frequency of the pulses to generate.
dutyCycle	float64	The width of the pulse divided by the pulse period. NI-DAQmx Base uses this ratio, combined with frequency, to determine both pulse width and pulse delay.

Name Type Description

status int32 The error code returned by the function in the event of an error or warning. A value of 0 indicates success. A positive value indicates a warning. A negative value indicates an error.

DAQmxBaseCfgSampClkTiming

int32 DAQmxBaseCfgSampClkTiming (TaskHandle taskHandle, const char source[], float64 rate, int32 activeEdge, int32 sampleMode, uInt64 sampsPerChanToAcquire);

Purpose

Sets the source of the Sample Clock, the rate of the Sample Clock, and the number of samples to acquire or generate.

Parameters

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Name	Туре	Description		
taskHandle	TaskHandle	The task used in this function.		
source	const char []	The source terminal of the	Sam	nple Clock.
rate	float64			per second. If you use an external source for e to the maximum expected rate of that clock.
activeEdge	int32	Specifies on which edge of	the	clock to acquire samples.
		Value	Des	scription
		DAQmx_Val_Rising		quire samples on the rising edges of the mple Clock.
		DAQmx_Val_Falling		quire samples on the falling edges of the mple Clock.
sampleMode	int32	Specifies whether the task a finite number of samples		uires or generates samples continuously or for
		Name		Description
		DAQmx_Val_FiniteSamps		Acquire a finite number of samples.
		DAQmx_Val_ContSamps		Acquire samples until you call the DAQmxBaseStopTask function.
sampsPerChanToAcquire	uInt64	The number of samples to acquire for each channel in the task if sampleMode is DAQmx_Val_FiniteSamps. NI-DAQmx Base currently supports the lower 32-bits of this parameter.		

Return Value

Name Type Description

status int32 The error code returned by the function in the event of an error or warning. A value of 0 indicates success. A positive value indicates a warning. A negative value indicates an error.

DAQmxBaseCfgImplicitTiming

int32 DAQmxBaseCfgImplicitTiming (TaskHandle taskHandle, int32 sampleMode, uInt64 sampsPerChanToAcquire);

Purpose

Sets only the number of samples to acquire or generate without specifying timing. Typically, you should use this function when the task does not require sample timing, such as tasks that use counters for buffered frequency measurement,

buffered period measurement, or pulse train generation.

Parameters

Input

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Name	Туре	Description		
taskHandle	TaskHandle	The task used in this function.		
sampleMode	int32	Specifies whether the task acquires or generates samples continuously or for a finite number of samples.		
		Name	Description	
		DAQmx_Val_FiniteSamps	Acquire a finite number of samples.	
		DAQmx_Val_ContSamps	Acquire samples until you call the DAQmxBaseStopTask function.	
sampsPerChanToAcquire	uInt64	•	ire for each channel in the task if sampleMode -DAQmx Base currently supports the lower 32-	

Return Value

Name Type Description

status int32 The error code returned by the function in the event of an error or warning. A value of 0 indicates success. A positive value indicates a warning. A negative value indicates an error.

DAQmxBaseDisableStartTrig

int32 DAQmxBaseDisableStartTrig (TaskHandle taskHandle);

Purpose

Configures the task to start acquiring or generating samples immediately upon starting the task.

Parameters

Input

Name Type Description
taskHandle TaskHandle The task used in this function.

Return Value

Name Type Description

status int32 The error code returned by the function in the event of an error or warning. A value of 0 indicates success. A positive value indicates a warning. A negative value indicates an error.

DAQmxBaseCfgDigEdgeStartTrig

int32 DAQmxBaseCfgDigEdgeStartTrig (TaskHandle taskHandle, const char triggerSource[], int32 triggerEdge);

Purpose

Configures the task to start acquiring or generating samples on a rising or falling edge of a digital signal.

Parameters

Name	Туре	Description	
taskHandle	TaskHandle	The task used in this function.	
triggerSource	const char []	The name of a terminal where there is a digital signal to use as the source of the trigger such as the following: $\protect\ensuremath{Dev1/PFI0}$.	-
triggerEdge	int32	Specifies on which edge of a digital signal to start acquiring or generating samples. Value Description	

DAQmx_Val_Rising	Rising edge(s)
DAQmx_Val_Falling	Falling edge(s)

Name Type Description

status int32 The error code returned by the function in the event of an error or warning. A value of 0 indicates success. A positive value indicates a warning. A negative value indicates an error.

DAQmxBaseCfgAnlgEdgeStartTrig

int32 DAQmxBaseCfgAnlgEdgeStartTrig (TaskHandle taskHandle, const char triggerSource[], int32 triggerSlope, float64 triggerLevel);

Purpose

Configures the task to start acquiring samples when an analog signal crosses the level you specify.

Parameters

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Name	Туре	Description		
taskHandle	TaskHandle	The task used in this function.		
triggerSource	const char []	The name of a terminal where there is an analog signal to use as the source of the trigger such as the following: /Dev1/PFI0. The only terminal you can use for E Series devices is PFI0.		
triggerSlope	int32	Specifies on which slope of the signal to start acquiring samples when the signal crosses triggerLevel.		
		Value	Description	
		DAQmx_Val_RisingSlope	Trigger on the rising slope of the signal.	
		DAQmx_Val_FallingSlope	Trigger on the falling slope of the signal.	
triggerLevel	float64		e to specify on which slope to trigger at this threshold.	

Return Value

Name Type Description

status int32 The error code returned by the function in the event of an error or warning. A value of 0 indicates success. A positive value indicates a warning. A negative value indicates an error.

DAQmxBaseCfgAnlgEdgeRefTrig

int32 DAQmxBaseCfgAnlgEdgeRefTrig (TaskHandle taskHandle, const char triggerSource[], int32 triggerSlope, float64 triggerLevel, uInt32 pretriggerSamples);

Purpose

Configures the task to stop the acquisition when the device acquires all pretrigger samples, an analog signal reaches the level you specify, and the device acquires all post-trigger samples.

Parameters

Name	Туре	Description
taskHandle	TaskHandle	The task used in this function.
triggerSource	const char []	The name of a terminal where there is an analog signal to use as the source of the trigger, such as the following: $/Dev1/PFI0$. The only terminal you can use for E Series devices is PFI0.
triggerSlope	int32	Specifies on which slope of the signal the Reference Trigger occurs.

		Value	Description	
		DAQmx_Val_RisingSlope	Trigger on the rising slope of the signal.	
		DAQmx_Val_FallingSlope	Trigger on the falling slope of the signal.	
triggerLevel	float64	Specifies at what threshold to trigger. Specify this value in the units of the measurement. Use triggerSlope to specify on which slope to trigger at this threshold.		
Refe num		The minimum number of samples per channel to acquire before recognizing the Reference Trigger. The number of post-trigger samples per channel is equal to number of samples per channel in the NI-DAQmx Base Timing functions minus pretriggerSamples .		

Name Type Description

status int32 The error code returned by the function in the event of an error or warning. A value of 0 indicates success. A positive value indicates a warning. A negative value indicates an error.

DAQmxBaseCfgDigEdgeRefTrig

int32 DAQmxBaseCfgDigEdgeRefTrig (TaskHandle taskHandle, const char triggerSource[], int32 triggerEdge, uInt32 pretriggerSamples);

Purpose

Configures the task to stop the acquisition when the device acquires all pretrigger samples, detects a rising or falling edge of a digital signal, and acquires all posttrigger samples.

Parameters

Input

Name	Туре	Description		
taskHandle	TaskHandle	The task used in this function.		
triggerSource	const char []	The name of a terminal where there is an analog signal to use as the source of the trigger such as the following: /Dev1/PFI0. The only terminal you can use for E Series devices is PFI0.		
triggerEdge	int32	Specifies on which edge of the digital signal the Reference Trigger occurs. Value Description		
		DAQmx_Val_Rising	Rising edge(s)	
		DAQmx_Val_Falling	Falling edge(s)	
pretriggerSamples	uInt32	The minimum number of samples per channel to acquire before recognizing the Reference Trigger. The number of post-trigger samples per channel is equal to number of samples per channel in the NI-DAQmx Base Timing functions minus pretriggerSamples .		

Return Value

Name Type Description

status int32 The error code returned by the function in the event of an error or warning. A value of 0 indicates success. A positive value indicates a warning. A negative value indicates an error.

DAQmxBaseDisableRefTrig

int32 DAQmxBaseDisableRefTrig (TaskHandle taskHandle);

Purpose

Disables reference triggering for the measurement or generation.

Parameters

Input

Name Type Description

taskHandle TaskHandle The task used in this function.

Return Value

Name Type Description

status int32 The error code returned by the function in the event of an error or warning. A value of 0 indicates success. A positive value indicates a warning. A negative value indicates an error.

DAQmxBaseReadAnalogF64

int32 DAQmxBaseReadAnalogF64 (TaskHandle taskHandle, int32 numSampsPerChan, float64 timeout, bool32 fillMode, float64 readArray[], uInt32 arraySizeInSamps, int32 *sampsPerChanRead, bool32 *reserved);

Purpose

Reads multiple floating-point samples from a task that contains one or more analog input channels.

Parameters

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Name	Туре	Description		
taskHandle	TaskHandle	The task to read samples from.		
numSampsPerChan	int32	The number of samples, per channel, to read. If the task acquires a finite number of samples and you set this parameter to -1, the function waits for the task to acquire all requested samples, and then reads those samples.		
timeout	float64	The amount of time, in seconds, to wait for the function to read the sample(s). This function returns an error if the timeout elapses.		
fillMode	bool32	Specifies whether or not the samples are interleaved.		
		Value	Description	
		DAQmx_Val_GroupByChannel	Group by channel (non-interleaved)	
		DAQmx_Val_GroupByScanNumber	Group by scan number (interleaved)	
arraySizeInSamps	uInt32	The size of the array, in samples, into	which data is read.	
reserved	bool32 *	Reserved for future use. Pass NULL to	this parameter.	
Output				
Name	Туре	Description		
readArray	float64 []	The array to read data into, organized according to fillMode.		
sampsPerChanRead	int32 *	The actual number of samples read from each channel.		

Return Value

Name Type Description

status int32 The error code returned by the function in the event of an error or warning. A value of 0 indicates success. A positive value indicates a warning. A negative value indicates an error.

DAQmxBaseReadBinaryl16

int32 DAQmxBaseReadBinaryI16 (TaskHandle taskHandle, int32 numSampsPerChan, float64 timeout, bool32 fillMode, int16 readArray[], uInt32 arraySizeInSamps, int32 *sampsPerChanRead, bool32 *reserved);

Purpose

Reads multiple unscaled, signed 16-bit integer samples from a task that contains one or more analog input channels.

Parameters

Name	Туре	Description	
taskHandle	TaskHandle	The task to read samples from.	
numSampsPerChan	int32	The number of samples, per channel, to read. The default value of -1 (DAQmx_Val_Auto) reads all available data. If readArray does not contain enough space, this function returns as much data as fits in readArray.	
		NI-DAQmx Base determines how man acquires samples continuously or acqu	y samples to read based on whether the task uires a finite number of samples.
		If the task acquires samples continuous function reads all the samples current	usly and you set this parameter to -1, this ly available in the buffer.
		If the task acquires a finite number of samples and you set this parameter to -1, the function waits for the task to acquire all requested samples, and then reads those samples.	
timeout	float64	The amount of time, in seconds, to wait for the function to read the sample(s). This function returns an error if the timeout elapses.	
fillMode	bool32	Specifies whether or not the samples	are interleaved.
		Value	Description
		DAQmx_Val_GroupByChannel	Group by channel (non-interleaved)
		DAQmx_Val_GroupByScanNumber	Group by scan number (interleaved)
arraySizeInSamps	uInt32	The size of the array, in samples, into	which data is read.
reserved	bool32 *	Reserved for future use. Pass NULL to	this parameter.
Output			
Name	Туре	Description	
readArray	int16 []	The array to read data into, organized	according to fillMod e.
sampsPerChanRead			

Name Type Description

status int32 The error code returned by the function in the event of an error or warning. A value of 0 indicates success. A positive value indicates a warning. A negative value indicates an error.

DAQmxBaseReadCounterF64

int32 DAQmxBaseReadCounterF64 (TaskHandle taskHandle, int32 numSampsPerChan, float64 timeout, float64 readArray [], uInt32 arraySizeInSamps, int32 *sampsPerChanRead, bool32 *reserved);

Purpose

Reads multiple floating-point samples from a counter task. Use this function when counter samples are scaled to a floating-point value, such as for frequency and period measurements.

Parameters

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Name	Туре	Description
taskHandle	TaskHandle	The task to read samples from.
numSampsPerChan	int32	The number of samples, per channel, to read. The default value of -1 (DAQmx_Val_Auto) reads all available data. If readArray does not contain enough space, this function returns as much data as fits in readArray.
		NI-DAQmx Base determines how many samples to read based on whether the task acquires samples continuously or acquires a finite number of samples.
		If the task acquires samples continuously and you set this parameter to -1, this function reads all the samples currently available in the buffer.
		If the task acquires a finite number of samples and you set this parameter to -1, the function waits for the task to acquire all requested samples, and then reads those

timeout	float64	samples. The amount of time, in seconds, to wait for the function to read the sample(s). This function returns an error if the timeout elapses.
arraySizeInSamps	uInt32	The size of the array, in samples, into which data is read.
reserved	bool32 *	Reserved for future use. Pass NULL to this parameter.
Output		
Name	Туре	Description
readArray	float64 []	The array to read data into.
sampsPerChanRead	I int32 *	The actual number of samples read from each channel.

Name Type Description

status int32 The error code returned by the function in the event of an error or warning. A value of 0 indicates success. A positive value indicates a warning. A negative value indicates an error.

DAQmxBaseReadCounterScalarF64

int32 DAQmxBaseReadCounterScalarF64 (TaskHandle taskHandle, float64 timeout, float64 *value, bool32 *reserved);

Purpose

Reads a single floating-point sample from a counter task. Use this function when the counter sample is scaled to a floating-point value, such as for frequency and period measurement.

Parameters

Input

Name	Туре	Description	
taskHandle	TaskHandle	The task to read the sample from.	
timeout	float64	The amount of time, in seconds, to wait for the function to read the sample(s). This function returns an error if the timeout elapses.	
reserved	bool32 *	Reserved for future use. Pass NULL to this parameter.	
Output			
Name	Туре	Description	
value	float64 *	The sample read from the task.	

Return Value

Name Type Description

status int32 The error code returned by the function in the event of an error or warning. A value of 0 indicates success. A positive value indicates a warning. A negative value indicates an error.

DAQmxBaseReadCounterScalarU32

int32 DAQmxBaseReadCounterScalarU32 (TaskHandle taskHandle, float64 timeout, uInt32 *value, bool32 *reserved);

Purpose

Reads a 32-bit integer sample from a counter task. Use this function when the counter sample is returned unscaled, such as for edge counting.

Parameters

Input

Name Type Description

taskHandle TaskHandle The task to read the sample from.

timeout	float64	The amount of time, in seconds, to wait for the function to read the sample(s). This function returns an error if the timeout elapses.
reserved	bool32 *	Reserved for future use. Pass NULL to this parameter.
Output		
Name	Туре	Description
value	uInt32 *	The sample read from the task.

Name Type Description

status int32 The error code returned by the function in the event of an error or warning. A value of 0 indicates success. A positive value indicates a warning. A negative value indicates an error.

DAQmxBaseReadCounterU32

int32 DAQmxBaseReadCounterU32 (TaskHandle taskHandle, int32 numSampsPerChan, float64 timeout, uInt32 readArray [], uInt32 arraySizeInSamps, int32 *sampsPerChanRead, bool32 *reserved);

Purpose

Reads multiple 32-bit integer samples from a counter task. Use this function when counter samples are returned unscaled, such as for edge counting.

Parameters

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Name	Туре	Description
taskHandle	TaskHandle	The task to read samples from.
numSampsPerChan	int32	The number of samples, per channel, to read. The default value of -1 (DAQmx_Val_Auto) reads all available data. If readArray does not contain enough space, this function returns as much data as fits in readArray .
		NI-DAQmx Base determines how many samples to read based on whether the task acquires samples continuously or acquires a finite number of samples.
		If the task acquires samples continuously and you set this parameter to -1, this function reads all the samples currently available in the buffer.
		If the task acquires a finite number of samples and you set this parameter to -1, the function waits for the task to acquire all requested samples, and then reads those samples.
timeout	float64	The amount of time, in seconds, to wait for the function to read the sample(s). This function returns an error if the timeout elapses.
arraySizeInSamps	uInt32	The size of the array, in samples, into which data is read.
reserved	bool32 *	Reserved for future use. Pass NULL to this parameter.
Output		
Name	Туре	Description
readArray	uInt32 []	The array to read data into.
sampsPerChanRead	int32 *	The actual number of samples read from each channel.

Return Value

Name Type Description

status int32 The error code returned by the function in the event of an error or warning. A value of 0 indicates success. A positive value indicates a warning. A negative value indicates an error.

DAQmxBaseReadDigitalScalarU32

int32 DAQmxBaseReadDigitalScalarU32 (TaskHandle taskHandle, float64 timeout, uInt32 *value, bool32 *reserved);

Purpose

Reads a single 32-bit integer sample from a task that contains a single digital input channel. Use this return type for devices with up to 32 lines per port. The data is returned in unsigned integer format.

Parameters

Input

Name	Туре	Description
taskHandle	TaskHandle	The task to read the sample from.
timeout	float64	The amount of time, in seconds, to wait for the function to read the sample(s). This function returns an error if the timeout elapses.
reserved	bool32 *	Reserved for future use. Pass NULL to this parameter.
Output		
Name	Туре	Description
value	uInt32 *	The sample read from the task.

Return Value

Name Type Description

status int32 The error code returned by the function in the event of an error or warning. A value of 0 indicates success. A positive value indicates a warning. A negative value indicates an error.

DAQmxBaseReadDigitalU32

int32 DAQmxBaseReadDigitalU32 (TaskHandle taskHandle, int32 numSampsPerChan, float64 timeout, bool32 fillMode, uInt32 readArray[], uInt32 arraySizeInSamps, int32 *sampsPerChanRead, bool32 *reserved);

Purpose

Reads multiple 32-bit integer samples from a task that contains one or more digital input channels. Use this return type for devices with up to 32 lines per port. The data is returned in unsigned integer format.

Parameters

Name	Туре	Description	
taskHandle	TaskHandle	The task to read samples from.	
numSampsPerChan	int32	The number of samples, per channel, to read. The default value of -1 (DAQmx_Val_Auto) reads all available data. If readArray does not contain enough space, this function returns as much data as fits in readArray.	
		NI-DAQmx Base determines how many samples to read based on whether the task acquires samples continuously or acquires a finite number of samples.	
		If the task acquires samples continuously and you set this parameter to -1, this function reads all the samples currently available in the buffer.	
		If the task acquires a finite number of samples and you set this parameter to -1, the function waits for the task to acquire all requested samples, and then reads those samples.	
timeout	float64	The amount of time, in seconds, to wait for the function to read the sample(s). This function returns an error if the timeout elapses.	
fillMode	bool32	Specifies whether or not the samples a	are interleaved.
		Value	Description
		DAQmx_Val_GroupByChannel	Group by channel (non-interleaved)
		DAQmx_Val_GroupByScanNumber Group by scan number (interleaved)	
arraySizeInSamps	uInt32	The size of the array, in samples, into which data is read.	

reserved	bool32 *	Reserved for future use. Pass NULL to this parameter.
Output		
Name	Туре	Description
readArray	uInt32 []	The array to read data into, organized according to fillMode.
sampsPerChanRead	int32 *	The actual number of samples read from each channel.

Name Type Description

status int32 The error code returned by the function in the event of an error or warning. A value of 0 indicates success. A positive value indicates a warning. A negative value indicates an error.

DAQmxBaseReadDigitalU8

int32 DAQmxBaseReadDigitalU8 (TaskHandle taskHandle, int32 numSampsPerChan, float64 timeout, bool32 fillMode, uInt8 readArray[], uInt32 arraySizeInSamps, int32 *sampsPerChanRead, bool32 *reserved);

Purpose

Reads multiple 8-bit integer samples from a task that one or more multiple digital input channels. Use this function for devices with up to 8 lines per port. The data is returned in unsigned byte format.

Parameters

Input			
Name	Туре	Description	
taskHandle	TaskHandle	The task to write samples to.	
numSampsPerChan	int32	The number of samples, per channel, to read. The default value of -1 (DAQmx_Val_Auto) reads all available data. If readArray does not contain enough space, this function returns as much data as fits in readArray.	
		NI-DAQmx Base determines how man acquires samples continuously or acqu	y samples to read based on whether the task uires a finite number of samples.
		If the task acquires samples continuous function reads all the samples current	usly and you set this parameter to -1, this ly available in the buffer.
		If the task acquires a finite number of samples and you set this parameter to -1, the function waits for the task to acquire all requested samples, and then reads those samples.	
timeout	float64	The amount of time, in seconds, to wait for the function to read the sample(s). This function returns an error if the timeout elapses.	
fillMode	bool32	Specifies whether or not the samples	are interleaved.
		Value	Description
		DAQmx_Val_GroupByChannel	Group by channel (non-interleaved)
		DAQmx_Val_GroupByScanNumber	Group by scan number (interleaved)
arraySizeInSamps	uInt32	The size of the array, in samples, into	which data is read.
reserved	bool32 *	Reserved for future use. Pass NULL to	this parameter.
Output			
Name	Туре	Description	
readArray	uInt8 []	The array into which data is read, organized according to fillMode.	

Return Value

Name Type Description

sampsPerChanRead int32 *

status int32 The error code returned by the function in the event of an error or warning. A value of 0 indicates success.

The actual number of samples read from each channel.

A positive value indicates a warning. A negative value indicates an error.

DAQmxBaseWriteAnalogF64

int32 DAQmxBaseWriteAnalogF64 (TaskHandle taskHandle, int32 numSampsPerChan, bool32 autoStart, float64 timeout, bool32 dataLayout, float64 writeArray[], int32 *sampsPerChanWritten, bool32 *reserved);

Purpose

Writes multiple floating-point samples to a task that contains one or more analog output channels.



Note Buffered writes require a minimum buffer size of two samples.

Parameters

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Name	Туре	Description				
taskHandle	TaskHandle	The task to write samples to.				
numSampsPerChan	int32		to write. You must pass in a value of 0 or If you pass a negative number, this function			
autoStart	bool32	Always set to FALSE.				
timeout	float64	The amount of time, in seconds, to wait for this function to write all the samples. This function returns an error if the timeout elapses.				
dataLayout	bool32	Specifies how the samples are arranged, either interleaved or non-inte				
		Value	Description			
		DAQmx_Val_GroupByChannel	Group by channel (non-interleaved)			
		DAQmx_Val_GroupByScanNumber	Group by sample (interleaved)			
writeArray	float64[]	The array of 64-bit samples to write to	the task.			
reserved	bool32 *	Reserved for future use. Pass NULL to	this parameter.			
Output						
Name	Туре	Description				
sampsPerChanWritten	int32 *	The actual number of samples per cha	nnel successfully written to the buffer.			

Return Value

Name Type Description

status int32 The error code returned by the function in the event of an error or warning. A value of 0 indicates success. A positive value indicates a warning. A negative value indicates an error.

DAQmxBaseWriteDigitalU8

int32 DAQmxBaseWriteDigitalU8 (TaskHandle taskHandle, int32 numSampsPerChan, bool32 autoStart, float64 timeout, bool32 dataLayout, uInt8 writeArray[], int32 *sampsPerChanWritten, bool32 *reserved);

Purpose

Writes multiple eight-bit unsigned integer samples to a task that contains one or more digital output channels. Use this format for devices with up to 8 lines per port.



Note Buffered writes require a minimum buffer size of two samples.

Parameters

Input

Name Type Description

taskHandle	TaskHandle	The task to write samples to.					
numSampsPerChan	int32	The number of samples, per channel, to write. You must pass in a value of 0 or more in order for the sample to write. If you pass a negative number, this function returns an error.					
autoStart	bool32		nutomatically starts the task if you do not tatic digital tasks; otherwise set autoStart to				
timeout	float64	The amount of time, in seconds, to wait for this function to write all the samples. This function returns an error if the timeout elapses.					
dataLayout	bool32	Specifies how the samples are arrange	d, either interleaved or non-interleaved.				
		Value	Description				
		DAQmx_Val_GroupByChannel	Group by channel (non-interleaved)				
		DAQmx_Val_GroupByChannel DAQmx_Val_GroupByScanNumber	•				
writeArray	uInt8 []	~ = = 11	Group by channel (non-interleaved) Group by sample (interleaved)				
writeArray reserved	uInt8 [] bool32 *	DAQmx_Val_GroupByScanNumber	Group by channel (non-interleaved) Group by sample (interleaved) rite to the task.				
-		DAQmx_Val_GroupByScanNumber The array of 8-bit integer samples to w	Group by channel (non-interleaved) Group by sample (interleaved) rite to the task.				
reserved		DAQmx_Val_GroupByScanNumber The array of 8-bit integer samples to w	Group by channel (non-interleaved) Group by sample (interleaved) rite to the task.				

Name Type Description

status int32 The error code returned by the function in the event of an error or warning. A value of 0 indicates success. A positive value indicates a warning. A negative value indicates an error.

DAQmxBaseWriteDigitalU32

 $int 32 \ DAQmxBaseWriteDigitalU32 \ (TaskHandle\ taskHandle,\ int 32\ numSampsPerChan,\ bool 32\ autoStart,\ float 64\ timeout,\ bool 32\ dataLayout,\ uInt 32\ writeArray[\],\ int 32\ *sampsPerChanWritten,\ bool 32\ *reserved);$

Purpose

Writes multiple 32-bit unsigned integer samples to a task that contains one or more digital output channels. Use this format for devices with up to 32 lines per port.



Note Buffered writes require a minimum buffer size of 2 samples.

Parameters

Name	Туре	Description						
taskHandle	TaskHandle	The task to write samples to.	he task to write samples to.					
numSampsPerChan	int32		The number of samples, per channel, to write. You must pass in a value of 0 or more in order for the sample to write. If you pass a negative number, this function returns an error.					
autoStart	bool32	Specifies whether or not this function automatically starts the task if you do not start it. This is used only for static digital tasks, otherwise set autoStart to False.						
timeout	float64	The amount of time, in seconds, to wait for this function to write all the samples. This function returns an error if the timeout elapses.						
dataLayout	bool32	Specifies how the samples are arrange	d, either interleaved or non-interleaved.					
		Value Description						
		DAQmx_Val_GroupByChannel Group by channel (non-interleaved)						
		DAQmx_Val_GroupByScanNumber Group by sample (interleaved)						

writeArray	uInt32 []	The array of 32-bit integer samples to write to the task.
reserved	bool32 *	Reserved for future use. Pass NULL to this parameter.
Output		
Name	Туре	Description
sampsPerChanWritten	int32 *	The actual number of samples per channel successfully written to the buffer.

Name Type Description

status int32 The error code returned by the function in the event of an error or warning. A value of 0 indicates success. A positive value indicates a warning. A negative value indicates an error.

DAQmxBaseWriteDigitalScalarU32

int32 DAQmxBaseWriteDigitalScalarU32 (TaskHandle taskHandle, bool32 autoStart, float64 timeout, uInt32 value, bool32 *reserved);

Purpose

Writes a single 32-bit unsigned integer sample to a task that contains a single digital output channel. Use this format for devices with up to 32 lines per port. Useful for static digital tasks only.

Parameters

Input

Name	Туре	Description
taskHandle	TaskHandle	The task to write the sample to.
autoStart	bool32	Specifies whether or not this function automatically starts the task if you do not start it. This is used only for static digital tasks; otherwise set autoStart to FALSE.
timeout	float64	The amount of time, in seconds, to wait for this function to write the value . This function returns an error if the timeout elapses.
value	uInt32	A 32-bit integer sample to write to the task.
reserved	bool32 *	Reserved for future use. Pass NULL to this parameter.

Return Value

Name Type Description

status int32 The error code returned by the function in the event of an error or warning. A value of 0 indicates success. A positive value indicates a warning. A negative value indicates an error.

DAQmxBaseExportSignal

 $int 32\ DAQmxBase Export Signal\ (TaskHandle\ taskHandle,\ int 32\ signal ID,\ const\ char\ output Terminal []);$

Purpose

Routes a control signal to the specified terminal. The output terminal can reside on the device that generates the control signal or on a different device. Use this function to share clocks and triggers between multiple tasks and devices. The routes created by this function are task-based routes.

Parameters

Name	Туре	Description				
taskHandle	TaskHandle	The task used in this function.				
signall D	int32	The name of the trigger, clock, or event to export.				
		Value	Description			
		DAOmx Val AIConvertClock	Clock that causes an analog-to-digital			

	conversion on an E Series device. One conversion corresponds to a single sample from one channel.
DAQmx_Val_20MHzTimebaseClock	Output of an oscillator that is the onboard source of the Master Timebase. Other timebases are derived from this clock.
DAQmx_Val_SampleClock	Clock the device uses to time each sample.
DAQmx_Val_AdvanceTrigger	Trigger that moves a switch to the next entry in a scan list.
DAQmx_Val_ReferenceTrigger	Trigger that establishes the reference point between pretrigger and posttrigger samples.
DAQmx_Val_StartTrigger	Trigger that begins a measurement or generation.
DAQmx_Val_AdvCmpltEvent	Signal that a switch product generates after it both executes the command(s) in a scan list entry and waits for the settling time to elapse.
DAQmx_Val_AIHoldCmpltEvent	Signal that an E Series device generates when the device latches analog input data (the ADC enters "hold" mode) and it is safe for any external switching hardware to remove the signal and replace it with the next signal. This event does not indicate the completion of the actual analog-to-digital conversion.
DAQmx_Val_CounterOutputEvent	Signal that a counter generates. Each time the counter reaches terminal count, this signal toggles or pulses.
DAQmx_Val_ChangeDetectionEvent	Signal that a static DIO device generates when the device detects a rising or falling edge on any of the lins or ports you selected when you configured change detection timing.
DAQmx_Val_WDTExpiredEvent	Signal that a static DIO device generates when the watchdog timer expires.

outputTerminal const char [] The destination terminal of the exported signal.

Return Value

Name Type Description

status int32 The error code returned by the function in the event of an error or warning. A value of 0 indicates success. A positive value indicates a warning. A negative value indicates an error.

DAQmxBaseCfgInputBuffer

int32 DAQmxBaseCfgInputBuffer (TaskHandle taskHandle, uInt32 numSampsPerChan);

Purpose

Overrides the automatic input buffer allocation that NI-DAQmx Base performs.

Parameters

Name	Туре	Description
taskHandle	TaskHandle	The task used in this function.
numSampsPerChan	uInt32	The number of samples the buffer can hold for each channel in the task. Zero indicates no buffer should be allocated. Use a buffer size of 0 to perform a hardware-timed operation without using a buffer.

Name Type Description

status int32 The error code returned by the function in the event of an error or warning. A value of 0 indicates success. A positive value indicates a warning. A negative value indicates an error.

DAQmxBaseGetExtendedErrorInfo

int32 DAQmxBaseGetExtendedErrorInfo (char errorString[], uInt32 bufferSize);

Purpose

Returns dynamic, specific error information. This function is valid only for the last function that failed; additional NI-DAQmxBase calls may invalidate this information.

If you pass valid values for errorString and bufferSize, this function returns as much of the available data as possible.

If you pass NULL for errorString or 0 for bufferSize, this function returns the number of bytes you need to allocate.

Parameters

Input

Name Type Description

bufferSize uInt32 The size, in bytes, of errorString. If you pass 0, this function returns the number of bytes you

need to allocate.

Output

Name Type Description

errorString char [] Dynamic error information. If you pass NULL, this function returns the number of bytes you need to

allocate.

Return Value

Name Type Description

status int32 The error code returned by the function in the event of an error or warning. A value of 0 indicates success. A negative value indicates an error.

If you pass in a valid value for **errorString** and its **bufferSize**, this function returns as much of the available data as possible.

If you pass NULL for **errorString** or 0 for **bufferSize**, this function returns the number of bytes you need to allocate.

Glossary

Prefixes	Numbers/Symbols	A	B	ח	F	F	اءا	н	Т		м	N		Р	R	5	Т	\prod	\mathbf{v}	W	
Prenxes	Nullibers/Symbols	A	ᄓ	וטו			G	П	I	ᄔ	I*I	11	10		K			0	V	VV	

Prefix	Meaning	Value
n-	nano-	10^-9
μ-	micro-	10^-6
m-	milli-	10^-3
k-	kilo-	10^3
M-	mega-	10^6

Symbols	Meaning
%	percent
+	positive of, or plus
_	negative of, or minus
Ω	ohm
0	degree

Α

accelerometer

A sensor that represents acceleration as a voltage.

ADC

Analog-to-digital converter—an electronic device, often an integrated circuit, that converts an

analog signal to a digital value.

ADE

Application development environment—some examples include LabVIEW and LabWindows/CVI.

ΑI

Analog input—acquisition of data.

amplification

A type of signal conditioning that improves accuracy in the resulting digitized signal by increasing

signal amplitude relative to noise.

analog

Data represented by continuously variable physical quantities.

AO

Analog output—generation of data.

API

Application programming interface—A library of functions, classes or VIs, attributes, and properties for creating applications for your device.

asynchronous

- 1. Hardware—a signal that occurs or is acted upon at an arbitrary time, without synchronization to another signal, such as a reference clock.
- 2. Software—a VI or function that begins an operation and returns prior to the completion or termination of the operation.

attenuation

The reduction of a voltage or acoustical pressure. Measured referenced to the original voltage.

В

bandwidth

The range of frequencies present in a signal, or the range of frequencies to which a measuring device can respond.

bipolar

A signal range that includes both positive and negative values (for example, o V to +5 V).

bit

The smallest unit of data used in a digital operation. Bits are binary, so they can be either a 1 or a 0

buffer

In software, temporary storage for acquired or to-be-generated samples.

C

СН

Channel.

channel

- 1. Physical—a terminal or pin at which you can measure or generate an analog or digital signal. A single physical channel can include more than one terminal, as in the case of a differential analog input channel or a digital port of eight lines. The name used for a counter physical channel is an exception because that physical channel name is not the name of the terminal where the counter measures or generates the digital signal.
- Virtual—a collection of property settings that can include a name, a physical channel, input terminal connections, the type of measurement or generation, and scaling information. You can define NI-DAQmx virtual channels outside a task (global) or inside a task (local). Configuring virtual channels is optional in Traditional NI-DAQ and earlier versions, but is integral to every measurement you take in NI-DAQmx. In Traditional NI-DAQ, you configure virtual channels in MAX. In NI-DAQmx, you can configure virtual channels either in MAX or in a program, and you can configure channels as part of a task or separately.
- 3. Switch—a switch channel represents any connection point on a switch. It may be made up of one or more signal wires (commonly one, two, or four), depending on the switch topology. A virtual channel cannot be created with a switch channel. Switch channels may be used only in the NI-DAQmx Switch functions and VIs.

clock

A periodic digital signal.

CMRR

Common-mode rejection ratio—a measure of the ability of an instrument to reject interference from a common-mode signal, usually expressed in decibels. (dB)

code width

The smallest detectable change in an input voltage of a DAQ device.

cold-junction compensation

A method of compensating for inaccuracies in thermocouple circuits.

counter/timer

A circuit that counts digital edges. Counters and timers usually have from 16 bits to 48 bits (sometimes more) counting capability. The total number of counts possible equals 2^N , where N is

the number of bits in the counter. When the edges counted are produced by a clock, elapsed time can be computed from the number of edges counted if the clock frequency is known.

custom scale

A method of instructing NI-DAQmx to apply additional scaling to your data. Refer to the Create

Scale function/VI in your reference help.

D

dB

Digital-to-analog converter—an electronic device, often an integrated circuit, that converts a DAC

digital number into a corresponding analog voltage or current.

DAQ Refer to data acquisition.

DAQ Assistant A graphical interface for configuring measurement tasks, channels, and scales.

DAQ device A device that acquires or generates data and can contain multiple channels and conversion

devices. DAQ devices include plug-in devices, PCMCIA cards, and DAQPad devices, which connect

to a computer USB or 1394 (FireWire) port. SCXI modules are considered DAQ devices.

data Samples.

data acquisition 1. Acquiring and measuring analog or digital electrical signals from sensors, acquisition

transducers, and test probes or fixtures.

Generating analog or digital electrical signals.

Decibel—the unit for expressing a logarithmic measure of the ratio of two signal levels:

dB=20log10 V1/V2, for signals in volts.

DC Direct current.

delay from sample The amount of time to wait after receiving a sample clock edge before beginning the acquisition

of a sample.

The amount of time to wait after receiving a start trigger before beginning the operation. delay from start

device 1. An instrument or controller you can access as a single entity that controls or monitors real-

world I/O points. A device often is connected to a host computer through some type of communication network.

2. See also <u>DAQ device</u> and <u>measurement device</u>.

digital A TTL signal. Refer to edge.

DIO digital input/output.

DMA Direct Memory Access—A method of transferring data between a buffer and a device that is used

most often for high-speed operations.

driver Software unique to the device or type of device, and includes the set of commands the device

accepts.

Ε

A standard architecture for instrumentation-class, multichannel data acquisition devices. E Series

edge A digital edge is a single rising or falling TTL transition. An analog edge is defined by the slope,

level, and hysteresis settings.

A digital signal produced from a device or circuit. event

excitation Supplying a voltage or current source to energize an active sensor or circuit.

F

fall time The time for a signal to transition from 90% to 10% of the maximum signal amplitude.

FIFO A type of memory that implements a First In First Out strategy in which samples are removed in

the order they were written. FIFOs are typically used as intermediate buffers between an ADC or

DAC and the memory buffer.

filtering A type of signal conditioning that you can use to remove unwanted frequency components from

the signal you are measuring.

floating signal sources Signal sources with voltage signals that are not connected to an absolute reference or system

ground.

G

gain The factor by which a signal is amplified, often expressed in dB. Gain as a function of frequency

is commonly referred to as the magnitude of the frequency response function.

grounded signal

sources

Signal sources with voltage signals that are referenced to a system ground, such as the earth or

a building ground. Grounded signal sources are also called referenced signal sources.

Н

hardware triggering A form of triggering in which the source of the trigger is an analog or digital signal. Refer to

Software Trigger.

hysteresis A window around a trigger level that is often used to reduce false triggering due to noise or jitter

in the signal.

Hz Hertz—cycles per second of a periodic signal.

ı

instrument driver Refer to driver.

interrupts A method whereby a device notifies the computer of some condition on the device that requires

the computer's attention. When this condition is a request for data or a notification of available

data, interrupts are used as a data transfer mechanism.

I/O Input/output—the transfer of data to/from a computer system involving communications

channels, operator interface devices, and/or data acquisition and control interfaces.

isolation A type of signal conditioning in which you isolate the transducer signals from the computer.

Isolation makes sure the measurements from the measurement device are not affected by

differences in ground potentials.

L

LED Light-emitting diode—a semiconductor light source.

line An individual signal in a digital port. The difference between a bit and a line is that the bit refers

to the actual data transferred, and the line refers to the hardware the bit is transferred on. However, the terms line and bit are fairly interchangeable. For example, an 8-bit port is the

same as a port with eight lines.

linearization A type of signal conditioning in which software linearizes the voltage levels from transducers, so

the voltages can be scaled to measure physical phenomena.

LSB Least significant bit—often used to refer to the smallest voltage change detectable by an A/D

converter or the smallest voltage change that can be generated by a $\ensuremath{\mathsf{D}}\xspace/\ensuremath{\mathsf{A}}$ converter.

LVDT Linear variable differential transformer—a sensor that measures linear displacement.

M

M Series An architecture for instrumentation-class, multichannel data acquisition devices based on the

earlier E Series architecture with added new features.

Measurement & Automation Explorer

(MAX)

A centralized configuration environment that allows you to configure all of your National

Instruments devices.

measurement device DAQ devices such as the E Series multifunction I/O (MIO) devices, SCXI signal conditioning

modules, and switch modules.

memory buffer Refer to buffer.

memory mapping A technique for reading and writing to a device directly from your program, which avoids the

overhead of delegating the reads and writes to kernel-level software. Delegation to the kernel is safer, but slower. Memory mapping is less safe because an entire 4 KB page of memory must be

exposed to your program for this to work, but it is faster.

MIO Multifunction I/O—Designates a family of data acquisition devices that have multiple analog input

channels, digital I/O channels, timing, and optionally, analog output channels. An MIO product can be considered a miniature mixed signal tester, due to its broad range of signal types and

flexibility. It is also known as multifunction DAQ. An E Series device is an example of an MIO

device.

module A board assembly and its associated mechanical parts, front panel, optional shields, and so on. A

module contains everything required to occupy one or more slots in a mainframe. SCXI and PXI

devices are modules.

multiplexer A switching device with multiple terminals that sequentially connects each of its terminals to a

single terminal, typically at high speeds. Often used to measure several signals with a single

analog input channel.

Ν

NI-DAQ Driver software included with all NI measurement devices. NI-DAQ is an extensive library of VIs

> and functions you can call from an application development environment (ADE), such as LabVIEW, to program all the features of an NI measurement device, such as configuring,

acquiring and generating data from, and sending data to the device.

The latest NI-DAQ driver with new VIs, functions, and development tools for controlling NI-DAQmx

measurement devices. The advantages of NI-DAQmx over earlier versions of NI-DAQ include the DAQ Assistant for configuring channels and measurement tasks for your device for use in LabVIEW, LabWindows/CVI, and Measurement Studio; increased performance such as faster single-point analog I/O; and a simpler API for creating DAQ applications using fewer functions

and VIs than earlier versions of NI-DAQ.

NI-DAQmx Base NI-DAQmx Base is a NI-DAQ driver with the following features: provides a high-level NI-DAQmx

interface on LabVIEW PDA for Pocket PC 2003, Linux, Mac OS X, and certain USB devices on Windows; is a subset of the NI-DAQmx API: if you are familiar with NI-DAQmx, you should be able to comfortably use NI-DAQmx Base; is comprised of LabVIEW VIs, which allows you to

customize the driver, if needed.

nonlinearity A measure in percentage of full-scale range (FSR) of the worst-case deviation from the ideal

transfer function—a straight line.

This specification is included only for DAQ products, such as signal conditioning products, that do not have an ADC. Because a product with this specification can also be used with a DAQ product with an ADC, this nonlinearity specification must be added to the relative accuracy specification

of the DAQ product with the ADC.

NRSE Nonreferenced single-ended mode—all measurements are made with respect to a common

(NRSE) measurement system reference, but the voltage at this reference can vary with respect

to the measurement system ground.

0

onboard Provided by the data acquisition device.

onboard channels Channels provided by the plug-in data acquisition device.

onboard clock The default source for a particular clock. Usually, the device has dedicated a circuit for producing

this signal and its only purpose is to act as the source for a certain clock.

onboard memory Memory provided by a device for temporary storage of input or output data. Typically, onboard

memory is a FIFO, which is distinct from computer memory.

Р

parallel mode A type of SCXI operating mode in which the module sends each of its input channels directly to a

separate analog input channel of the device connected to the module.

Pattern input and output—a digital I/O operation on which a clock signal initiates a digital pattern I/O

transfer. Because the clock signal is a constant frequency, you can generate and receive patterns

at a constant rate.

PCI Peripheral Component Interconnect—a high-performance expansion bus architecture originally

developed by Intel to replace ISA and EISA. PCI has achieved widespread acceptance as a standard for PCs and work stations, and it offers a theoretical maximum transfer rate of 132

Mbytes/s.

PFI Programmable Function Interface—general purpose input terminals, fixed purpose output

terminals. The name of the fixed output signal is often placed on the I/O connector next to the

terminal as a hint.

physical channel Refer to <u>channel</u>.
pin Refer to <u>terminal</u>.

Poisson's Ratio The negative ratio of the strain in the transverse direction (perpendicular to the force) to the

strain in the axial direction (parallel to the force).

port A collection of digital lines. Usually the lines are grouped into either a 8-bit or 32-bit port. Most E

Series devices have one 8-bit port.

port width The number of lines in a port. For example, most E Series devices have one port with eight lines;

therefore, the port width is eight.

started. If there is a reference trigger, this is the data acquired after the reference trigger.

pretrigger samples Data acquired before the occurrence of the reference trigger.

pretriggering The technique used on a measurement device to keep a circular buffer filled with samples, so

that when the reference trigger conditions are met, the buffer includes samples leading up to the

trigger condition as well as samples acquired immediately after the trigger.

programmed I/O a data transfer mechanism in which a buffer is not used and instead, the computer reads and

writes directly to the device.

propagation delay The amount of time required for a signal to pass through a circuit.

pulsed output A form of counter signal generation by which a pulse is generated when a counter reaches a

certain value.

PXI PCI eXtensions for Instrumentation—a rugged, open system for modular instrumentation based

on CompactPCI, with special mechanical, electrical, and software features. The PXI standard was originally developed by National Instruments in 1997 and is now managed by the PXI Systems

Alliance.

PXI trigger bus The timing bus that connects PXI DAQ devices directly, by means of connectors built into the

backplane of the PXI chassis, for precise synchronization of functions. This bus is functionally

equivalent to the RTSI bus for PCI DAQ devices.

R

range The minimum and maximum analog signal levels that the ADC can digitize.

raw Data that has not been changed in any way. For input, data is returned exactly as received from

the device. For output, data is written as is to the device. Refer to unscaled and scaled.

referenced signal

source

Signal sources with voltage signals that are referenced to a system ground, such as the earth or

a building ground. Also called grounded signal sources.

resolution The smallest amount of input signal change that a device or sensor can detect. The term

discrimination is also used for resolution.

rise time The time for a signal to transition from 10% to 90% of the maximum signal amplitude.

route A connection between a pair of terminals. Any time the source or destination terminal of a signal

is specified, a route is created.

RSE Referenced single-ended mode—all measurements are made with respect to a common reference

measurement system or a ground. Also called a grounded measurement system.

RTD Resistance temperature detector—a metallic probe that measures temperature based on its

coefficient of resistivity.

RTSI bus Real-time system integration bus—the NI timing bus that connects DAQ devices directly, by

means of connectors on top of the devices, for precise synchronization of functions. This bus is

functionally equivalent to the PXI Trigger bus for PXI DAQ devices.

RVDT Rotary variable differential transformer—a sensor whose output signal represents the rotation of

the shaft.

S

s Seconds.

S Samples. Refer to Sample.

S/s Samples per second—used to express the rate at which a measurement device samples an

analog signal.

sample A sample is a single measurement from a single channel or, for output, a single generation to a

single channel. A device may produce more than one sample per channel upon receiving a single digital edge of a sample clock. An E Series device, for example, produces one sample from each

analog input channel in its task for every sample clock edge.

sample clock The clock controlling the time interval between samples. Each time the Sample Clock ticks

(produces a pulse) one sample per channel is acquired or generated.

sample clock rate The number of samples per channel per second. For example, a sample clock rate of 10 S/s

means sampling each channel 10 times per second.

scaled Data that has been mathematically transformed into engineering units. Other manipulations also

can be done such as reordering to match the channel order.

scanning Method of sequentially connecting channels.

SCXI Signal Conditioning eXtensions for Instrumentation—the NI product line for conditioning low-level

signals within an external chassis near sensors so that only high-level signals are sent to measurement devices in the noisy PC environment. SCXI is an open standard available for all

venaors.

sensor A device that responds to a physical stimulus (heat, light, sound, pressure, motion, flow, and so

on) and produces a corresponding electrical signal.

signal A means of conveying information. An analog waveform, a clock, and a single digital (TTL) edge

are all examples of signals.

signal conditioning The manipulation of signals to prepare them for digitizing.

software trigger A VI or function that, when it executes, triggers an action such as starting an acquisition.

source impedance A parameter of signal sources that reflects current-driving ability of voltage sources (lower is

better) and the voltage-driving ability of current sources (higher is better).

STC System timing controller.

synchronous

1. Hardware—a signal that occurs or is acted upon in synchrony with another signal, such as a

reference clock.

2. Software—a VI or function that begins an operation and returns only when the operation is complete.

•

Т

task A collection of one or more channels, timing, and triggering and other properties that apply to

the task itself. Conceptually, a task represents a measurement or generation you want to

perform.

task buffer Refer to <u>buffer</u>.

terminal A named location on a DAQ device where a signal is either generated (output or produced) or

acquired (input or consumed).

terminal count When counting up, an N bit counter reaches its terminal count at 2^N -1. An N bit counter

counting down reaches its terminal count at 0.

thermistor A semiconductor sensor that produces a repeatable change in electrical resistance as a function

of temperature. Most thermistors have a negative temperature coefficient.

thermocouple A temperature sensor created by joining two dissimilar metals. The junction produces a small

voltage as a function of the temperature.

threshold The voltage level a signal must reach for a trigger to occur.

tick A digital edge of a clock.

timebase A clock that is divided down to produce another clock or a clock provided to a counter for

measuring elapsed time.

Traditional NI-DAQ An upgrade to the earlier version of NI-DAQ. Traditional NI-DAQ has the same VIs and functions

and works the same way as NI-DAQ 6.9.x. You can use both Traditional NI-DAQ and NI-DAQmx

on the same computer, which is not possible with NI-DAQ 6.9.x.

transducer Refer to sensor.

transducer excitation — A type of signal conditioning that uses external voltages and currents to excite the circuitry of a

signal conditioning system into measuring physical phenomena.

trigger Any signal that causes a device to perform an action, such as starting an acquisition.

TTL Transistor-transistor logic—a signal having two discrete levels, a high and a low level.

U

unipolar A signal range that is always positive (for example, 0 to +10 V).

unscaled Samples in the integer form that the hardware produces or requires. Although no mathematical

transformations are applied to unscaled data, other manipulations may be done such as

reordering to match the channel order.

V

V Volts.

VI Virtual instrument. Refer to virtual instrument.

virtual channel Refer to channel.

virtual instrument A program in LabVIEW that models the appearance and function of a physical instrument.

W

waveform data type A LabVIEW data type that bundles timing information along with the data.

WDT Refer to <u>waveform data type</u>.

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