

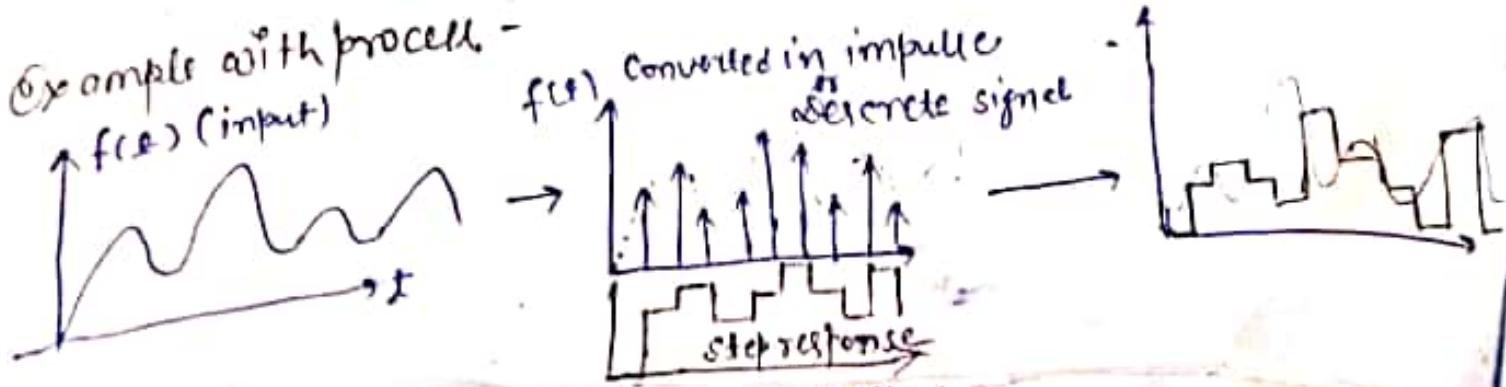
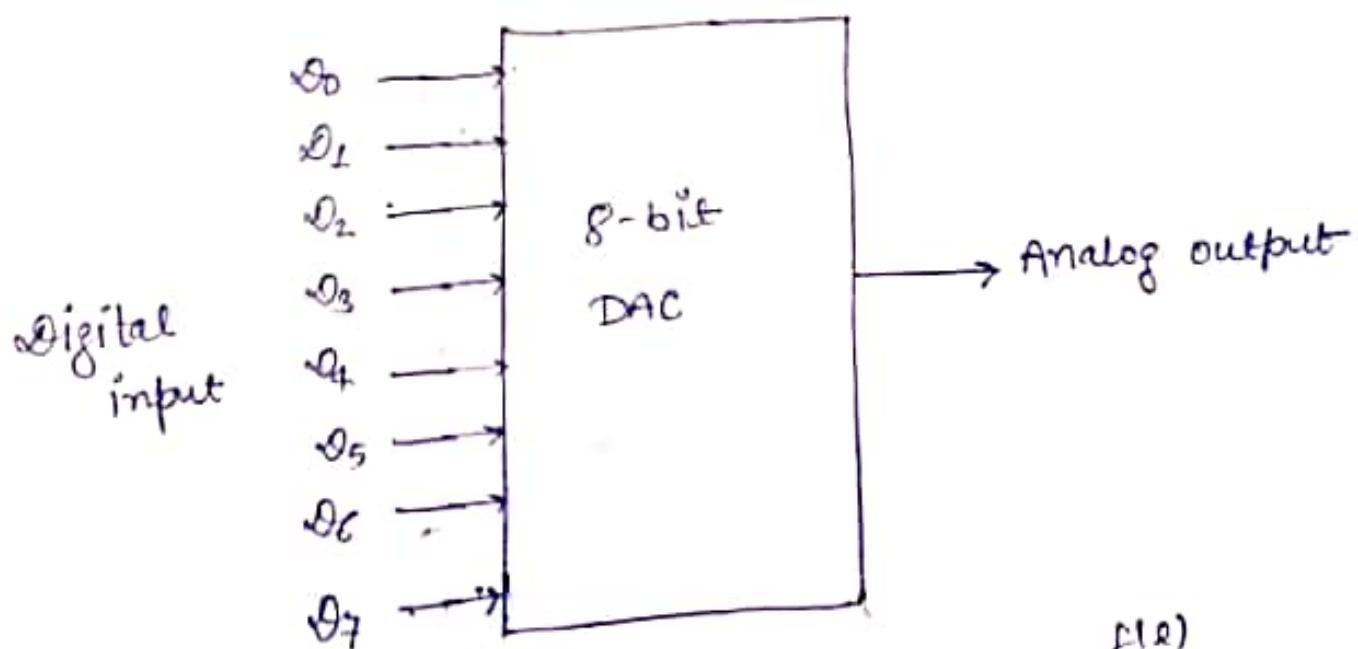
Unit IV [Digital to analog converters]

A DAC converts an abstract finite-precision number (usually a fixed point binary number) into a physical quantity (e.g. a voltage or a pressure etc) in particular.

DACs are often used to convert finite-precision time series data to a continuous varying physical signal.

An ideal DAC converts the abstract numbers into a conceptual sequence of impulse that are then processed by a reconstruction filter (it is used to construct a smooth analog signal from a digital input).

functional diagram of 8-bit DAC.



A digital to analog converter converts digital input signal into an analog output signal.

The digital signal is represented with a binary code which is 0 and 1
in general, the number of binary input will be a power of two.

Common Types of DACs

(1) Binary Weighted resistor DAC

(2) R-2R Ladder DAC

other types of DACs

(1) * Pulse width modulator

(2) * oversampling DACs or interpolating DACs

* Binary weighted DACs

switched resistor DAC

switched current source DAC

(from which different current sources are selected based on the digital input)

switched capacitor DAC (it contains parallel capacitor networks, individual capacitors are connected or disconnected with switch based on the input)

R-2R Ladder DAC

weighted voltage source DAC

(1) Successive approximation or cyclic DAC

(2) Thermocoded DAC

(3) Hybrid DACs ----- many