

# **Operation Schemes of Touch Screen Controllers**

Wendy Fang

PAM - DAP Nyquist ADC

#### ABSTRACT

This application report describes the two operation schemes of touch-screen controller (TSC) devices, *command-based* and *register-based*, to help designers to select and use the TSC devices best for their systems or applications. Under the different schemes, the typical TSC operation steps are listed, the analog and digital interfaces are probed, and the system performances, including power consumption, are analyzed.

#### Contents

1	Introduction	. 2
2	TSC System	. 3
3	Command-Based Scheme	. 4
4	Advanced Command-Based Scheme	. 8
5	Register-Based Scheme	11
6	Register-Based Scheme With Batch-Delay	13
7	Conclusion	15
8	References	15
9	Glossary	16

#### List of Figures

1	Block Diagram of a 4-Wire Touch Screen System Using TI's TSC Device	3
2	TSC2003 Analog Interface (Acquiring X, Y, Z <sub>1</sub> , Z <sub>2</sub> )	5
3	TSC2003 Digital Interface (Host reads X Data, then Y, etc.)	5
4	Operating Sequence of Normal Command-Based TSC (for 2 touch data, X and Y)	6
5	TSC2007 Analog Interface (Acquiring X, Y, Z <sub>1</sub> and Z <sub>2</sub> )	9
6	TSC2007 Digital Interface (Host reads X Data, then Y, etc.)	9
7	Operating Sequence of Advanced Command-Based TSC with Built-In 7-Data-Set MAVF	10
8	TSC2004 Analog Interface Without Batch-Delay	12
9	TSC2004 Digital Interface (X/Y/Z <sub>1</sub> / Read)	12
10	Operating Sequence of Normal Register-Based TSC	13
11	TSC2004 Analog Interface With Batch Delay	14
12	Operating Sequence of Register-Based TSC With Batch Delay	15

#### List of Tables

1	TI Resistive Touch Screen Controllers Main Features	3
2	Operating Sequence of Command-Based TSC Devices	4
3	Maximum SSPS Rate of the TSC2003 I <sup>2</sup> C Digital Interface	7
4	Operating Sequence of TSC2007-Based Touch System	8
5	Maximum SSPS Rate for the TSC2007 I <sup>2</sup> C Interface	10
6	Operating Sequence of Register-Based TSC Devices	11
7	Operating Sequence of Register-Based TSC with Batch Delay	14

 ${\sf I}^2{\sf C}$  is a trademark of Koninklijke Philips Electronics N.V.. SPI is a trademark of Motorola, Inc..

1

### 1 Introduction

There are various resistive touch screen controller (TSC) devices on today's market. As a leading provider, TI manufactures a family of high performance TSC devices, from the benchmark ADS7843, ADS7845 and ADS7846, to the highly-popular TSC2003 and TSC2046, and further to the newly released ultra low-power TSC2004, TSC2005 and TSC2007.

You may ask, "Which of these TSC devices best suits my application?" This application report answers this question from a specific view: the operation schemes of the TSC devices.

Classified by operating scheme, there are two main types of resistive TSC devices: one uses *command-based* technology, such as TI's ADS7846, TSC2003, or TSC2007; and another uses built-in digital registers with fully software-programmable features and functions, and thus are called *register-based* TSC devices, such as TI's TSC2004, or TSC2005.

The TSC's operation scheme greatly effects analog and digital interface design, touch-screen system performance, system power consumption, and development costs.

Considering system performance, we can further classify TSC operation schemes into:



This application report describes typical TSC-system operation under the different schemes, explores system analog and digital interfaces, and analyzes system performance, including power consumption.



## 2 TSC System

As shown in Figure 1, a TSC device is used between a resistive touch screen (panel) and a host processor. In a system where the touch panel is the analog sensor, the processor typically handles multiple tasks/functions in an application such as a PDA.

There are two interfaces in a TSC system:

- The analog interface, the connection between the TSC and the touch panel
- The digital interface, the bridge between the TSC and the host processor.



Figure 1. Block Diagram of a 4-Wire Touch Screen System Using TI's TSC Device

There are 4- (or 8-) wire and 5- (or 7-) wire resistive touch panels on the market. The most popular type is the 4-wire, because it is the simplest, with lowest cost of hardware and software development.

On the digital interface side, a TSC is connected to a host processor through either a SPI<sup>™</sup> or an I<sup>2</sup>C<sup>™</sup> bus. Since it is the control center of an application/product, the processor usually connects with various peripheral devices and performs multiple functions. As one of the processor's many peripheral devices, a TSC is a digital-bus slave, communicating with the processor only when the TSC detects pressure on the touch panel.

To select a resistive TSC device for your application, the first consideration is the TSC's interfaces. For example, the analog interface may be connected to a panel with a 4- or 5-wire interface. The digital interface can be SPI or I<sup>2</sup>C. The next most important consideration is the operation scheme of the TSC. Table 1 provides a list for TI's TSC devices on the analog and digital interface types and operation schemes.

-			
TSC DEVICE	ANALOG INTERFACE TYPE	DIGITAL INTERFACE TYPE	OPERATION SCHEME
ADS7843	4-wire	SPI	Normal Command-Based
ADS7845	5-wire	SPI	Normal Command-Based
ADS7846	4-wire	SPI	Normal Command-Based
TSC2003	4-wire	l <sup>2</sup> C	Normal Command-Based
TSC2046	4-wire	SPI	Normal Command-Based
TSC2004	4-wire	l <sup>2</sup> C	Register-Based with Batch-Delay
TSC2005	4-wire	SPI	Register-Based with Batch-Delay
TSC2006	4-wire	SPI	Register-Based with Batch-Delay
TSC2007	4-wire	l <sup>2</sup> C	Advanced Command-Based

Tahlo 1	TI Rosistivo	Touch	Screen	Controllers	Main	Features
i apie i.	II RESISTIVE	Touch	Screen	Controllers	IVIAIII	realures

## 3 Command-Based Scheme

The *command-based* TSC device operates completely under the control or command of the host processor. Usually, the command-based TSC device requests the full attention of the host during touch pressure-ON. The TSC2003 (I<sup>2</sup>C digital bus) and the TSC2046 (SPI digital bus) are typical command-based TSC devices.

## 3.1 Typical Operation

Under the command-based scheme, the typical operation sequence for the host to read the touch data is listed in Table 2.

Step	Condition	Operation
1	No pressure on the touch panel	The TSC powers DOWN; no traffic is on either analog or digital interface; and host is performing other tasks or idle.
2	Pressure on the panel	The TSC detects pressure on touch panel, and sends the host an interrupt (usually denoted by PENIRQ).
3		The Host receives PENIRQ, disables/masks-out the interrupt, and starts the corresponding interrupt service routine (ISR).
4		The ISR sends a command to the TSC over the SPI or $I^2C$ bus, and requests the TSC to read one of the touch coordinates, X for this example.
5		Upon receiving the command, the TSC turns ON its X driver to power up the touch panel's X layer.
6		The TSC acquires X signal; converts the analog signal to digital data, and sends the data bit-by-bit to the host, over the bus.
7		The Host receives an X data unit. If more than one data unit is needed (for averaging/filtering purpose), Steps 4 - 6 are repeated multiple times. Or
8		The ISR sends a command to the TSC by the SPI or I $^2$ C bus, and requests the TSC to read another coordinate, Y.
9		The TSC receives the command, turns OFF the X and turns ON theY driver to power up the touch panel's Y layer.
10		The TSC acquires the Y signal; converts the analog signal to digital data; and sends the data bit-by-bit to the host over the bus.
11		The Host receives a Y data unit. If more than one data is needed for averaging/filtering purpose, the Steps 8 - 10 will be repeated multiple times.
12		Upon receiving the complete set of touch data, the host enables the $\overline{\text{PENIRQ}}$ interrupt and checks again if touch pressure is still on. If yes, it returns to Step 3 for the next set of touch data.
13	Pressure removed from the panel	Return to Step 1.

Table 2. Operating Sequence of Command-Based TSC Devices

During the period of time when the touch system implements the above Steps 2 to 12 in Table 2, both analog interface and digital interface are heavily involved, shown by Figure 2 and Figure 3. Figure 2 shows the analog interface timing, and Figure 3 is the digital (I<sup>2</sup>C) bus activity between TSC and host, measured with a TSC2003EVM.

In Figure 2), the intervals between samples are determined by the host's bandwidth; the faster the host's speed is, the shorter the interval becomes. The TSC driver ON period is determined by the digital interface clock rate; the faster the clock is, the shorter the ON time becomes.



Figure 2. TSC2003 Analog Interface (Acquiring X, Y, Z<sub>1</sub>, Z<sub>2</sub>)



Figure 3. TSC2003 Digital Interface (Host reads X Data, then Y, etc.)

Figure 3 shows a complete I<sup>2</sup>C read cycle for touch coordinate X. This takes 45 SCL clocks, plus one START, one REPEATED START (or one STOP and one START), and one STOP. A complete I<sup>2</sup>C read for a 12-bit touch data unit needs at least 48 SCL clocks, if using a REPEATED START between the command write and data read, or 49 SCL clocks if using STOP and START between.



Command-Based Scheme

Figure 4 displays the operation flow of a normal command-based touch system (with the TSC2003 for example). The processing steps and interface activities have been detailed in Table 2 and Figure 2.



## Figure 4. Operating Sequence of Normal Command-Based TSC (for 2 touch data, X and Y)

Through the Operating Sequence shown in Figure 4, the host gets only 2 touch data units, an X and a Y data unit.

## 3.2 Digital Bus Limitations

To read the touch coordinates X Y,  $Z_1$ , and  $Z_2$ , a complete touch data set, the sequence in Figure 3 must be repeated 4 times. Moreover, if the host needs multiple data units for each coordinate (to average or filter out noise in data), the sequence must be repeated multiple times for each.

A command-based touch system has an obvious limitation on the number of sample sets per second (SSPS) that can be acquired through the digital bus, due to the bus-traffic capacity. The bus limitation may become a problem especially for I<sup>2</sup>C TSC devices. TI's TSC2003 device is used as an example for this discussion.

As previously discussed, a complete  $I^2C$  read for a 12-bit touch coordinate needs at least 48 SCL clocks. (See Figure 3). Thus, the maximum SSPS rate of the TSC2003 is lower than:

 $\frac{^{f}SCL}{48 \times N}$ 

(1)

Where f<sub>SCL</sub> is the I<sup>2</sup>C bus speed or SCL clock rate, and N is the number of data units in a set of samples.

For example, N = 2 if a set of samples includes an X and a Y data; N = 4 if a set of samples includes an X, a Y, a  $Z_1$  and a  $Z_2$ ; .....; and N=28 if a set of samples has 7 [X, Y,  $Z_1$ , and  $Z_2$ ], or 7×4 data units.

Table 3 shows the TSC2003 I<sup>2</sup>C bus capacity for transmitting at the maximum SSPS rate at three I<sup>2</sup>C speed modes (using Equation 1).

			<b>J</b>	
SET OF SAMPLES	X AND Y (N = 2)	X, Y AND Z (N = 4)	3x (X, Y AND Z) (N = 12)	7x (X, Y AND Z) (N = 28)
Standard mode (SCL=100 kHz)	1,042	521	174	74
Fast mode (SCL=400 kHz)	4,167	2,083	694	298
High Speed mode (SCL=3.4 MHz)	35,417	17,708	5,903	2,530

Table 3. Maximum SSPS Rate of the TSC2003 I<sup>2</sup>C Digital Interface

When using a touch screen as human interface, one usually expects around 100 to 500 valid sets of samples per second, in real world applications. Thus, the command-based touch system may not be able to provide sufficient sets of valid touch data with a standard I<sup>2</sup>C digital interface.

For example, in Table 3, it can be seen that the host can read a maximum of 521 sets of complete touch coordinates (X, Y,  $Z_1$  and  $Z_2$ ) with its standard I<sup>2</sup>C interface, adequate for many applications. However, if there is noise in the data, which happens normally in practice, you need *valid* data, typically obtained by using 7 (for example) raw data units to average or filter each coordinate. Under these conditions the host can read less than 74 data sets per second.

The SSPS rates in Table 3 are calculated with the assumption that:

1. The host has no delay for responding to the PENIRQ interrupt from the TSC.

2. The I<sup>2</sup>C bus is kept running without delay between two consecutive data sets.

Therefore, the practical SSPS rate can be expected to be lower than that shown in Table 3, because both assumptions are practically impossible.

For a SPI TSC device, even though the digital bus speed may not become a problem to limit the touch data's SSPS rate, but heavy bus traffic may still cause problems on the host, and/or consume more power.



#### Advanced Command-Based Scheme

## 3.3 Other Limitations

The host processor's bandwidth and resources may need to be concerned when using a normal command-based (such as TSC2003) touch system, because:

- With a *command-based* touch system, the analog interface interval (for example, the interval between sample X and Y in Figure 2) is determined by the host response speed and bandwidth.
- When there is noise in the touch system and the host processor must perform averaging or filtering
  with multiple touch data units, the number of multiple samples is also limited by the host bandwidth and
  resources (computational time and space).

The analog driver power-ON period in a command-based touch system may be also related to the digital-bus clock rate (refer to the data sheet of TSC2046 for example). Slower digital-bus clocks typically result in longer driver-ON time; longer driver-ON time obviously increases analog power consumption.

Under the high speed (HS) I<sup>2</sup>C mode, the bus has the capability to transmit much more data and thus the digital bus traffic may not be a problem. The maximum data rate may be limited by the TSC ADC's sample rate, which is another topic that is beyond the scope of this application note.

## 4 Advanced Command-Based Scheme

A new addition to TI's TSC family is the <u>TSC2007</u>. Even though this is a command-based device, it has a built-in 7-data-unit median value and averaging filter (MAVF). The MAVF not only eliminate the need for the host software routine to reduce touch-data noise, but also greatly reduces I<sup>2</sup>C bus traffic. (See item 9 in the *References* section.)

### 4.1 Typical Operation

With the advanced command-based touch system, such as using TSC2007, the operation sequence for the host to read a set of touch coordinates is simplified, as shown in Table 4. Where the TSC2007 MAVF is enabled to reduce noise and get the refined sets of touch data.

Step	Condition	Operation
1	No pressure on the touch panel	TSC powers DOWN; no traffic is on either the analog or the digital interface; host is performing other tasks or is idle.
2	Pressure on the panel	TSC detects pressure on touch panel, and sends the host an interrupt, PENIRQ.
3		Host receives PENIRQ, disables/Masks-out the interrupt, and starts the corresponding interrupt service routine (ISR).
4		ISR sends a command to TSC by I <sup>2</sup> C bus, and requests TSC to read one of the touch coordinates X.
5		TSC receives the commands, turns ON the X driver, and powers up the touch panel's X layer.
6		TSC acquires X data, 7 times; converts the 7 data, filters them (deletes 2 largest and 2 smallest, averages the middle 3 values) to get one low-noise data, and sends the data bit-by-bit to host, through the bus.
7		Host receives the refined X data. (one, not 7 data units). The host repeats Steps 2 - 6 to get Y, $Z_1$ and $Z_2$ as needed.
8		Host enables PENIRQ interrupt and check again if touch is still on. If yes, go back to Step 3 for the next set of touch data.
9	Pressure removed from the panel	Otherwise, return to Step 1.

Table 4. Operating Sequence	e of TSC2007-Based	<b>Touch System</b>
-----------------------------	--------------------	---------------------

During the period of time when the touch system implements the above Steps 2 to 8 in Table 4, the analog interface traffic (Figure 5) seems similar to that of the normal *command-based* system (Figure 2) but, in fact, TSC2007 samples each touch coordinate 7 times each time when the driver is powered ON.



Figure 5. TSC2007 Analog Interface (Acquiring X, Y, Z<sub>1</sub> and Z<sub>2</sub>)



Figure 6. TSC2007 Digital Interface (Host reads X Data, then Y, etc.)

Thus, the touch-screen driving-power ON/OFF frequency is reduced, because for sampling multiple data, it is powered ON only once no matter how many data units must be sampled for each touch coordinate. The analog traffic is reduced, and the driver-ON time as whole gets shorter.

Shorter driver-ON time saves significant power. For example, consider applying 3.0-V touch driver power on a 400- $\Omega$  touch panel; at the instant of driver-ON, current is (3.0/400 =) 7.5 mA. Using the TSC2003 (Figure 2) as an example, the driver-ON time for a sample is about 100  $\mu$ S. To get 100 SSPS of low-noise data, you need to sample 4 (X, Y, Z<sub>1</sub>, Z<sub>2</sub>) × 7 (7 samples per coordinate) × 100 = 2800 times per second. The average TSC2003 driver-ON current is then:

7.5 mA  $\times$  100  $\mu S$   $\times$  2800 = 2.1 mA

Considering another device, the TSC2007 (Figure 5) driver-ON time for reading a coordinate (7 samples) is about 150 $\mu$ S. To get 100 SSPS of low-noise data, you need to sample 4 (X, Y, Z<sub>1</sub>, Z<sub>2</sub>) × 100 = 400 times per second. The average TSC2007 driver-ON current is then:

7.5 mA  $\times$  150  $\mu S \times$  400 = 450  $\mu A$ 

This represents a saving of 80% in analog power.

At the digital-interface side, the data traffic (Figure 6) is also notably decreased by 6/7 or 86%, because instead of multiple data sets, only one refined data set must be transmitted through the digital bus.



Advanced Command-Based Scheme

Figure 7 displays the Operating Sequence of an advanced command-based touch system using a TSC2007. The Operating Sequence and timing are the same as those shown in Table 4, Figure 5 and Figure 6.



Figure 7. Operating Sequence of Advanced Command-Based TSC with Built-In 7-Data-Set MAVF

Through the Operating Sequence shown in Figure 7, the TSC samples 7 data sets, processes them via the MAVF, then sends the host a low-noise X-data sample. Compare this scenario with the normal command-based scheme (Figure 4) where the TSC samples only one data set during each touch driver-ON period.

# 4.2 Digital Bus Capacity

Table 5 provides the I<sup>2</sup>C bus capability for host/TSC communication, under different I<sup>2</sup>C modes and with the same functions shown by Table 3.

SET OF SAMPLES	X, and Y (7x2 Data)	X, Y and Z (7x4 Data)
Standard mode (SCL=100 kHz)	1,042	521
Fast mode (SCL=400 kHz)	4,167	2,083
High Speed mode (SCL=3.4 MHz)	35,417	17,708

Table 5. Maximum SSPS Rate for the TSC2007 I<sup>2</sup>C Interface

Even though it is the same I<sup>2</sup>C interface, the TSC2007 sends only one data set through the I<sup>2</sup>C bus due to the built-in MAVF filter that pre-processes 7 samples of each coordinate. Thus, the TSC2007 can handle 521 sets of low-noise touch data through the standard I<sup>2</sup>C bus, providing sufficient sets of data for human interface applications. Another major advantage is that the host does not need to run the data averaging/filtering routine, freeing resources and processing power for other tasks.

Unlike older command-based TSC devices such as the TSC2003, in systems based on advanced command-based TSC devices such as the TSC2007, the I<sup>2</sup>C digital bus is not the SSPS bottleneck.

## 5 Register-Based Scheme

The *register-based* TSC device has built-in computational data and configuration registers, usually with pre-processing capabilities, and can operate either in host-controlled mode or TSC self-controlled mode. The register-based TSC device is often more flexible in applications. the TSC2004 (I<sup>2</sup>C digital interface) and TSC2005 (SPI digital interface) are typical register-based TSC devices.

# 5.1 Typical Operation

Table 6 shows the operating sequence of typical register-based TSC devices in TSC self-controlled mode.

Step	Condition	Operation Sequence
1	System is powered up	The host initializes the TSC to set up touch mode and various timings based on application and hardware circuit (more options than command-based scheme).
2	No pressure on the touch panel	The TSC powers DOWN, no traffic is on either analog or digital interface, and the host is performing other tasks or is idle.
3	Pressure on the panel	The TSC detects pressure on the touch panel, powers ON the Y driver, acquires the Y signal, converts analog to digital, taking and processing multiple data if programmed to do so, and saving the final data to the corresponding register. (The above tasks are implemented by the TSC according to programmed timings.)
4		The TSC repeats Step 3 for X, $Z_1$ and $Z_2$ coordinates as needed.
5		The TSC sends a data-ready or DAV interrupt to host, and checks to see if the pressure is still on. If yes, back to Step 3 for the next set of touch data.
6		The Host receives the $\overline{\text{DAV}}$ interrupt, disables/Masks-out the interrupt, and starts the corresponding interrupt service routine (ISR). The ISR reads back the refined data set from the TSC data registers.
7	Pressure removed from the panel	Return to Step 2.

The register-based TSC device can greatly reduce the traffic to the host, since the TSC performs all of the tasks automatically, needing the host's attention only at the end of its processing. Thus, the register-based TSC reduces digital bus traffic, reduces digital power consumption, and also reduces the host's overhead.



Figure 8. TSC2004 Analog Interface Without Batch-Delay



Figure 9. TSC2004 Digital Interface (X/Y/Z<sub>1</sub>/... Read)

During the period of time when the touch system implements Steps 3-6 in Table 6 and at normal (without batch-delay) mode, TSC2004's analog interface traffic is shown in Figure 8, and digital bus is shown in Figure 9.

Similar to the analog interface of the advanced command-based scheme (Figure 5), the register-based TSC samples multiple touch data sets and automatically performs averaging/filtering on each touch coordinate according to the programmed parameters. Moreover, register-based TSC devices usually provide more choices or options in the filtering feature.

The interval between two coordinates, such as between Y and X, can be set by programming the TSC touch timings, including panel voltage stabilization (or PVS) time, pre-charge (or PR) time, and sense (or SN) time.



Figure 10 displays the Operating Sequence of a normal register-based touch system (such as TSC2004 or TSC2005). The operating sequence interface activity are shown in Table 6, Figure 8, and Figure 9.

Figure 10. Operating Sequence of Normal Register-Based TSC

In Figure 10 within steps 3 and 4, N (=  $4 \times W$ , with W being the filter's window width) data units are acquired / sampled / processed, while only 4 refined data units (X, Y, Z<sub>1</sub> and Z<sub>2</sub>) are sent to the host in Step 6.

# 6 Register-Based Scheme With Batch-Delay

While pressure remains on the touch panel, the normal register-based TSC devices above respond to the touch continuously, and both analog and digital buses become very busy. Many sets of refined touch data can be generated from the system, greatly exceeding real-world application requirements. The disadvantage is that much more power is unnecessarily consumed to generate extra sets of data that can never be used.

There are three ways to slow down the register-based touch system and avoid the extra data and extra power consumption:

- 1. Use a host-processor timer to control the interval between sampling two sets of touch data, with the TSC in host-controlled mode. This is similar to the command-based scheme, with more host computational overhead.
- 2. Initialize the TSC with longer touch timings to add delays between coordinates, (See *References*, items 6 8 for more details).
- 3. Utilize the batch delay feature of the TSC, if available.

Batch delay is a feature that allows the TSC2004/5/6 to control the time interval between two sets of touch screen data. With batch-delay, the TSC drives and samples the touch data at fixed intervals (the batch-delay) while touch pressure is on the panel.

## 6.1 Typical Operation

Table 7 shows the operating sequence of a typical register-based TSC with batch delay.

Step	Condition	Operation Sequence	
1	System is powered up	The Host initializes the TSC to set up the TSC self-controlled and batch modes, and also various modes and timings based on the application and hardware.	
2	No pressure on the touch panel	The TSC powers DOWN, no traffic is on either analog or digital interface, and the host is performing other tasks or is idle.	
3	Pressure on the panel	The TSC detects pressure on the touch panel, powers ON the Y driver, acquires the Y signal, converts analog to digital, taking and processing multiple data if programmed to do so, and saving the final data to the corresponding register. (The above tasks are implemented by the TSC according to programmed timings.)	
4		The TSC repeats Step 3 for X, $Z_1$ and $Z_2$ coordinates as needed.	
5		The TSC sends a data-ready or DAV interrupt to host and waits until the batch delay time is reached, then goes back to Step 3 for the next set of touch data.	
6		The host receives the $\overline{\text{DAV}}$ interrupt, disables/Masks-out the interrupt, and starts the corresponding interrupt service routine (ISR) .The ISR reads back the refined data set from the TSC data registers.	
7	Pressure removed from the panel	Return to Step 2.	

### Table 7. Operating Sequence of Register-Based TSC with Batch Delay

With the batch-delay, the TSC enters the batch-wait mode after the first processed sample set is completed and until the end of the batch delay time, even though the pen touch is still detected during the whole time. Therefore, the unneeded panel driver-ON is eliminated, the analog/digital interface traffic is reduced, and power is saved.

Comparing the analog interface (Figure 11) with batch delay to that without batch delay (Figure 8), you can see that the TSC without batch delay keeps driving, sampling, and converting Y, X,  $Z_1$  and  $Z_2$  data at a rate of  $1/(274\mu S) = 3650$  sets per seconds (Figure 8) but the set sampling interval is controllable and the analog interface traffic is greatly reduced with batch delay Figure 11.



Figure 11. TSC2004 Analog Interface With Batch Delay

TSC2004 and TSC2005/6 batch-delay can be programmed to 1 ms, 2 ms, 4 ms, 10 ms, 20 ms, 40 ms or 100 ms, corresponding to 1000, 500, 250, 100, 50, 25 or 10 SSPS (Sample Sets Per Second). See *References*, items 6–8 for more information.

During the delay time in batch-wait mode, the touch-panel driver is powered OFF, the TSC's ADC is powered OFF, and no traffic is on the analog bus. The TSC can have very good performance, and with far fewer interrupts to the host, and with very low power consumption.

Figure 12 shows the Operating Sequence of the register-based TSC with batch delay. The steps are described in Table 7. The analog interface activity is shown in Figure 11 and the digital interface is the same as that in Figure 9 (TSC2004 example).



Figure 12. Operating Sequence of Register-Based TSC With Batch Delay

# 7 Conclusion

This application report discusses the two operation schemes of touch screen controller (TSC) devices, *command-based* and *register-based*. The TSC's operation scheme greatly affects the analog and digital interface activities, the touch screen system performance, the system power consumption, and the application's hardware and software development costs.

Further, the command-based TSC scheme is further categorized to show the advantages of the advanced command-based TSC scheme and its improvement on reducing both analog and digital interface traffic, reducing data noise, and reducing host processing overhead.

The register-based TSC with batch delay, as a new feature, presents the combined advantages of the advanced command-based and the normal register-based TSC schemes, and can be configured optimally for various applications.

# 8 References

- 1. ADS7843 Touch Screen Controller (SBAS090)
- 2. ADS7845 Touch Screen Controller (SBAS104)
- 3. ADS7846 Touch Screen Controller (SBAS125)
- 4. TSC2003 I<sup>2</sup>C Touch Screen Controller (SBAS162)
- 5. TSC2046 Low Voltage IO Touch Screen Controller (SBAS265)
- TSC2004 1.2V to 3.6V, 12-Bit, Nanopower, 4-wire Touch Screen Controller with I<sup>2</sup>C Interface (<u>SBAS408</u>)
- TSC2005 1.6V to 3.6V, 12-Bit, Nanopower, 4-wire Touch Screen Controller with SPI Interface (SBAS379)
- 8. TSC2006 Nanopower, 4-wire Touch Screen Controller with SPI™ Interface (SBAS415)
- TSC2007 1.2V to 3.6V, 12-Bit, Nanopower, 4-Wire Micro Touch Screen Controller with I<sup>2</sup>C Interface (<u>SBAS405</u>)



#### Glossary

## 9 Glossary

Data unit - group of bits treated as a unit, which can be 8 bits, 10 bits, or 12 bits in typical TSC devices.

Sample set - complete set of coordinates treated as a set. A sample set may include X, Y,  $Z_1$ , and  $Z_2$ . A sample set contains multiple data units.

SSPS - sample sets per second.

MAVF - median value and averaging filter. The TSC2007 automatically collects 7 data units of touch-screen data, and transmits a single refined data set to the host system.

#### **IMPORTANT NOTICE**

Texas Instruments Incorporated and its subsidiaries (TI) reserve the right to make corrections, modifications, enhancements, improvements, and other changes to its products and services at any time and to discontinue any product or service without notice. Customers should obtain the latest relevant information before placing orders and should verify that such information is current and complete. All products are sold subject to TI's terms and conditions of sale supplied at the time of order acknowledgment.

TI warrants performance of its hardware products to the specifications applicable at the time of sale in accordance with TI's standard warranty. Testing and other quality control techniques are used to the extent TI deems necessary to support this warranty. Except where mandated by government requirements, testing of all parameters of each product is not necessarily performed.

TI assumes no liability for applications assistance or customer product design. Customers are responsible for their products and applications using TI components. To minimize the risks associated with customer products and applications, customers should provide adequate design and operating safeguards.

TI does not warrant or represent that any license, either express or implied, is granted under any TI patent right, copyright, mask work right, or other TI intellectual property right relating to any combination, machine, or process in which TI products or services are used. Information published by TI regarding third-party products or services does not constitute a license from TI to use such products or services or a warranty or endorsement thereof. Use of such information may require a license from a third party under the patents or other intellectual property of the third party, or a license from TI under the patents or other intellectual property of TI.

Reproduction of information in TI data books or data sheets is permissible only if reproduction is without alteration and is accompanied by all associated warranties, conditions, limitations, and notices. Reproduction of this information with alteration is an unfair and deceptive business practice. TI is not responsible or liable for such altered documentation.

Resale of TI products or services with statements different from or beyond the parameters stated by TI for that product or service voids all express and any implied warranties for the associated TI product or service and is an unfair and deceptive business practice. TI is not responsible or liable for any such statements.

TI products are not authorized for use in safety-critical applications (such as life support) where a failure of the TI product would reasonably be expected to cause severe personal injury or death, unless officers of the parties have executed an agreement specifically governing such use. Buyers represent that they have all necessary expertise in the safety and regulatory ramifications of their applications, and acknowledge and agree that they are solely responsible for all legal, regulatory and safety-related requirements concerning their products and any use of TI products in such safety-critical applications, notwithstanding any applications-related information or support that may be provided by TI. Further, Buyers must fully indemnify TI and its representatives against any damages arising out of the use of TI products in such safety-critical applications.

TI products are neither designed nor intended for use in military/aerospace applications or environments unless the TI products are specifically designated by TI as military-grade or "enhanced plastic." Only products designated by TI as military-grade meet military specifications. Buyers acknowledge and agree that any such use of TI products which TI has not designated as military-grade is solely at the Buyer's risk, and that they are solely responsible for compliance with all legal and regulatory requirements in connection with such use.

TI products are neither designed nor intended for use in automotive applications or environments unless the specific TI products are designated by TI as compliant with ISO/TS 16949 requirements. Buyers acknowledge and agree that, if they use any non-designated products in automotive applications, TI will not be responsible for any failure to meet such requirements.

Following are URLs where you can obtain information on other Texas Instruments products and application solutions:

Products		Applications	
Amplifiers	amplifier.ti.com	Audio	www.ti.com/audio
Data Converters	dataconverter.ti.com	Automotive	www.ti.com/automotive
DSP	<u>dsp.ti.com</u>	Broadband	www.ti.com/broadband
Interface	interface.ti.com	Digital Control	www.ti.com/digitalcontrol
Logic	logic.ti.com	Military	www.ti.com/military
Power Mgmt	power.ti.com	Optical Networking	www.ti.com/opticalnetwork
Microcontrollers	microcontroller.ti.com	Security	www.ti.com/security
RFID	www.ti-rfid.com	Telephony	www.ti.com/telephony
Low Power Wireless	www.ti.com/lpw	Video & Imaging	www.ti.com/video
		Wireless	www.ti.com/wireless

Mailing Address: Texas Instruments, Post Office Box 655303, Dallas, Texas 75265 Copyright © 2007, Texas Instruments Incorporated