

OpenCPI  
AGC Real Component Data Sheet

OpenCPI Release: v2.4.8

## Summary - AGC Real

|                   |                                                                    |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Name              | agc_real                                                           |
| Worker Type       | Application                                                        |
| OpenCPI Release   | v2.4.8                                                             |
| Last Update       | 4/2019                                                             |
| Component Library | ocpi.assets.util_comps                                             |
| Workers           | agc_real.hdl                                                       |
| Tested Platforms  | alst4, isim, Matchstiq-Z1(PL), ml605, modelsim, xsim, ZedBoard(PL) |

## Functionality

The Automatic Gain Control (AGC) Real component inputs real signed samples, drives the amplitude of the input data to a reference level, and outputs real signed samples.

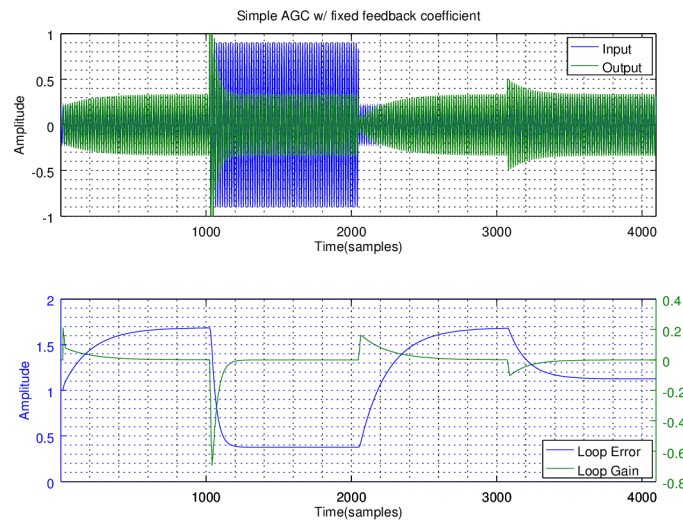


Figure 1: MATLAB AGC implementation with  $\text{ref}=0\text{x}1\text{B}26$  and  $\text{mu}=0\text{x}144\text{E}$

## Worker Implementation Details

### agc\_real.hdl

The response time and output level of the circuit are programmable, as is the ability to update/hold the gain differential used in the feedback loop. The size of the averaging window used for peak detection is build-time programmable using the `AVG_WINDOW_p` parameter, which is recommended to be a power-of-two to enable hardware division implementation with shift registers.

The `ref` property controls the desired output amplitude, while the `mu` property controls the AGC time constant, thus determining the response time of the circuit.

This implementation uses three multipliers to process input data at the clock rate - i.e. this worker can handle a new input value every clock cycle. This circuit will produce output one clock cycle after each valid input, but the input-to-output latency is actually three valid clock cycles.

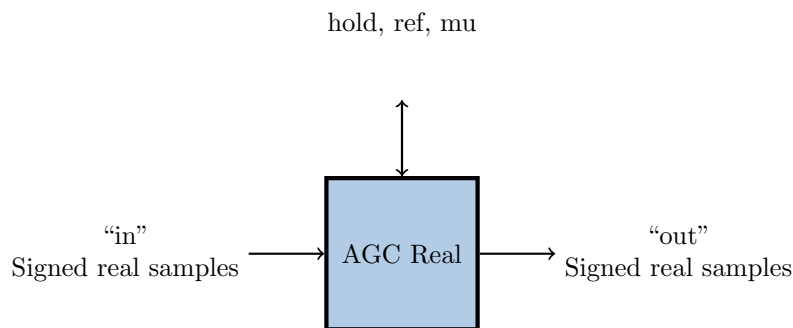
The AGC Real worker utilizes the OCPI *rstream\_protocol* for both input and output ports. The *rstream\_protocol* defines an interface of 16-bit real signed samples. The `DATA_WIDTH_p` parameter may be used to reduce the worker's internal data width to less than 16-bits.

## Theory

The circuit is based upon Richard G. Lyons' "Understanding Digital Signal Processing, Third Edition" Automatic Gain Control (AGC) circuit found on Page 783. The text may also be found online here: [DSP-Tricks-A simple way to add AGC to your communications receiver design](#). Lyons' circuit in Figure 13-76a implements the AGC function with a feedback loop on  $y(n)$  that consists of a magnitude operation to remove the sign, a comparator against the reference level "ref", a multiplier that uses "mu" to control the amplitude of the feedback signal (and thus the response time), and finally an accumulator. This implementation uses a peak detector in place of Lyons' simple magnitude operation. From Lyons: "The process is a nonlinear, time-varying, signal-dependent feedback system. As such, it's highly resistant to normal time-domain or z-domain analysis. This is why AGC analysis is empirical rather than mathematical ..."

## Block Diagrams

### Top level



### State Machine

There are no finite-state machines (FSM) implemented in the user-code of this worker.

## Source Dependencies

### agc\_real.hdl

- assets/components/util\_comps/agc\_real.hdl/agc\_real.vhd
- assets/hdl/primitives/util\_prims/util\_prims\_pkg.vhd
  - assets/hdl/primitives/util\_prims/agc/src/agc.vhd

# Component Spec Properties

N/A

## Worker Properties

agc\_real.hdl

| Type     | Name         | Type   | SequenceLength | ArrayDimensions | Accessibility       | Valid Range                          | Default | Usage                                                                                                |
|----------|--------------|--------|----------------|-----------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|---------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Property | DATA_WIDTH_p | UShort | -              | -               | Readable, Parameter | 1-16                                 | 16      | Worker internal non-sign-extended data width                                                         |
| Property | AVG_WINDOW_p | UShort | -              | -               | Readable, Parameter | 4-256                                | 16      | Length of the averaging buffer; should be a power of two                                             |
| Property | hold         | Bool   | -              | -               | Readable, Writable  | Standard                             | false   | Hold disables the gain differential feedback circuit, thus maintaining the current gain              |
| Property | ref          | UShort | -              | -               | Readable, Writable  | 1 to $2^{\text{DATA\_WIDTH\_P}} - 1$ | 0x3FFF  | Desired output amplitude expressed in percentage of full scale expected peak value in rms            |
| Property | mu           | UShort | -              | -               | Readable, Writable  | 1 to $2^{\text{DATA\_WIDTH\_P}} - 1$ | N/A     | Feedback coefficient used to control the response time of the circuit; expressed as $\mu$ *fullscale |

## Component Ports

| Name | Producer | Protocol         | Optional | Advanced | Usage               |
|------|----------|------------------|----------|----------|---------------------|
| in   | false    | rstream_protocol | false    | -        | Real signed samples |
| out  | true     | rstream_protocol | false    | -        | Real signed samples |

## Worker Interfaces

agc\_real.hdl

| Type            | Name | DataWidth | Advanced                | Usage               |
|-----------------|------|-----------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| StreamInterface | in   | 16        | ZeroLengthMessages=true | Signed real samples |
| StreamInterface | out  | 16        | ZeroLengthMessages=true | Signed real samples |

## Control Timing and Signals

The AGC Real worker uses the clock from the Control Plane and standard Control Plane signals.

## Worker Configuration Parameters

agc\_real.hdl

## Performance and Resource Utilization

agc\_real.hdl

## Test and Verification

A single test case is implemented to validate the AGC Real component. An input file is generated with a single tone at  $F_s/16$  Hz, where  $F_s = 100$  Hz, but applies 20% of the maximum amplitude to the first quarter of the file, 90% maximum amplitude to the second quarter of the file, 20% maximum amplitude to the third quarter of the file, and 30% maximum amplitude to the fourth quarter of the file. The real waveform is then scaled to fixed-point signed 16-bit integers. Time and frequency domain plots may be viewed in Figures 2 and 3 below, respectively.

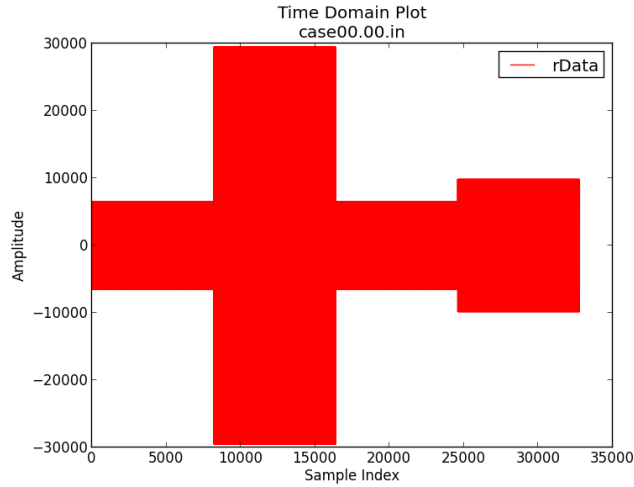


Figure 2: Time Domain Tone

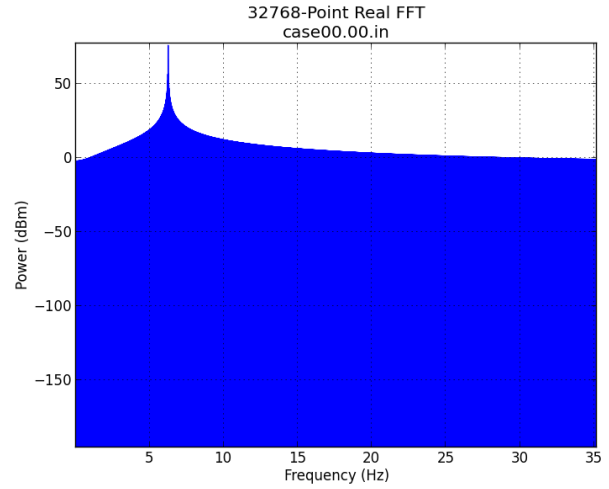


Figure 3: Frequency Domain Tone

For verification, the output file is first checked that the data is not all zero, and is then checked for the expected length of 32,768 real samples. Once these quick checks are made a floating-point python implementation of the AGC is performed on the input data, which is then compared sample-by-sample to the output data. Figures 4 and 5 depict the output of the AGC Real worker.

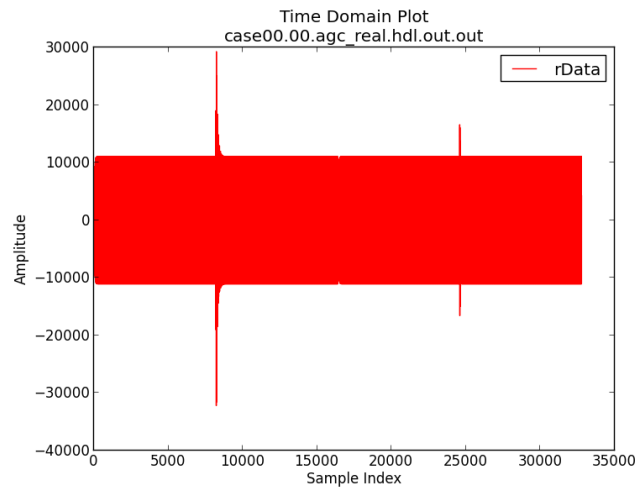


Figure 4: Time Domain Tones with AGC

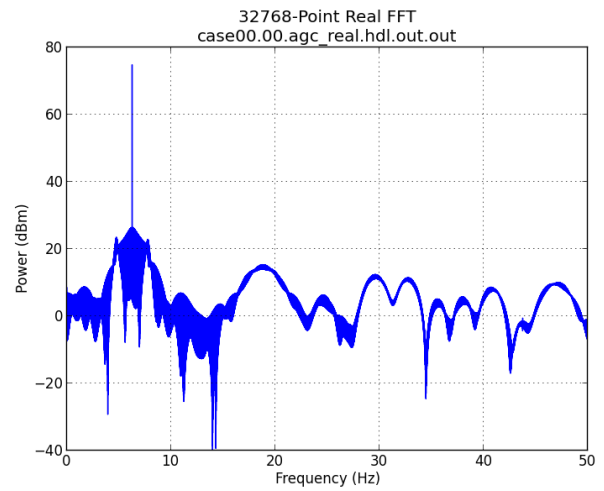


Figure 5: Frequency Domain Tones with AGC

## References

- (1) Richard G. Lyons. *Understanding Digital Signal Processing*. Third Edition. Pearson Education, Inc., Boston. 2001.
- (2) Richard G. Lyons. (2011, March 29). *A simple way to add AGC to your communications receiver design*. Retrieved from <http://www.embedded.com/design/other/4214571/A-simple-way-to-add-AGC-to-your-communications-receiver-design->.