



Analog to Digital Conversion

CSIS Faculty Seminar Series #1

Numbers & Bytes Meeting

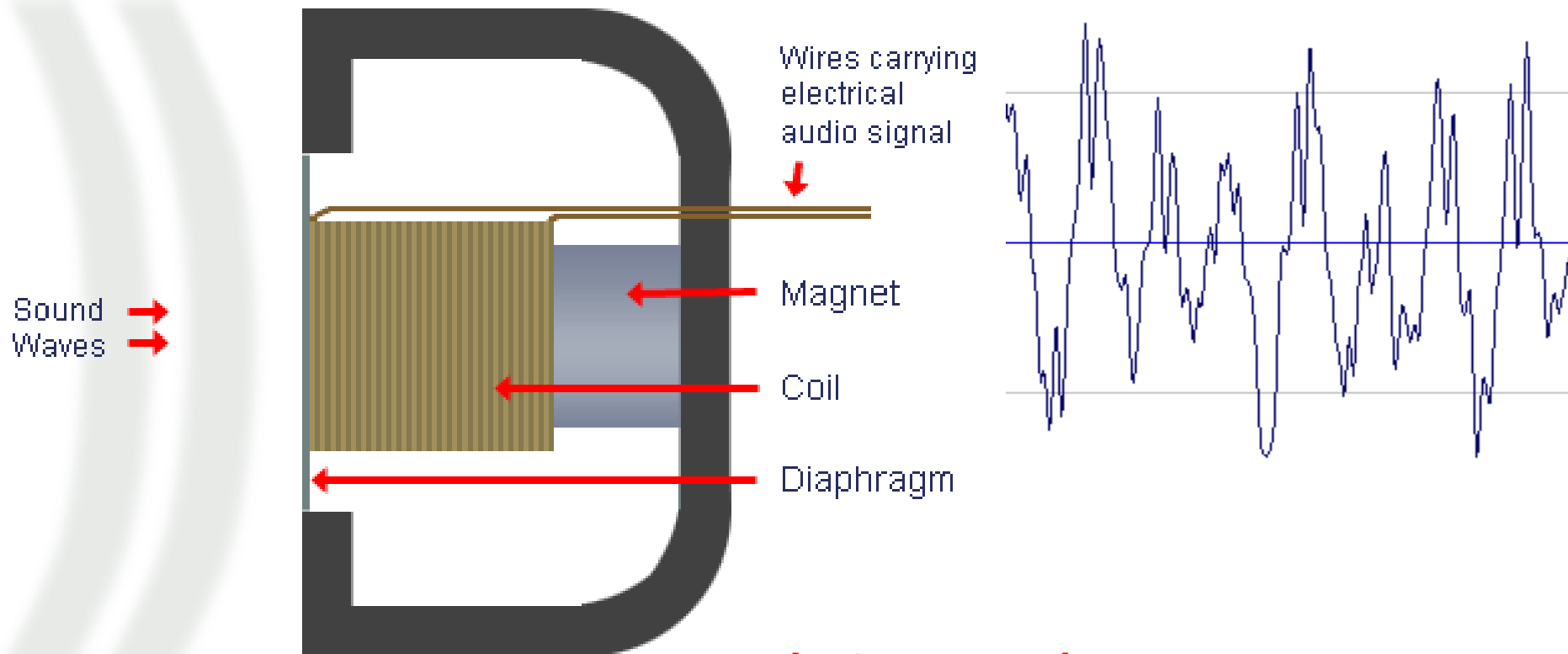
04 February 2011 : 4:00 – 5:00 PM

CSCC Room 203

William M. Jones, Ph.D.

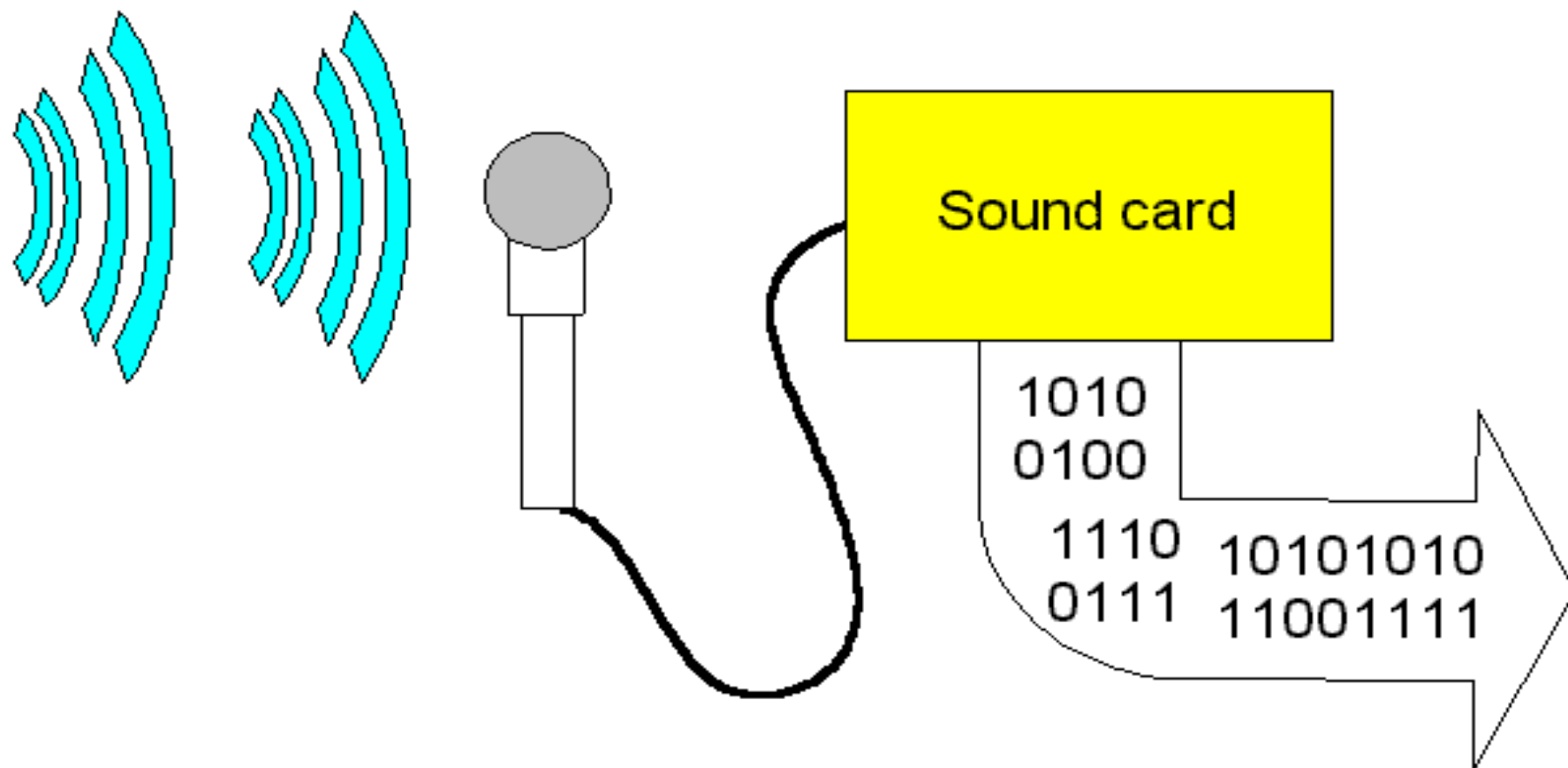
What are analog signals? WDTCF?

Cross-Section of Dynamic Microphone



*Just an example, many, many more
Sensors, transducers, etc.*

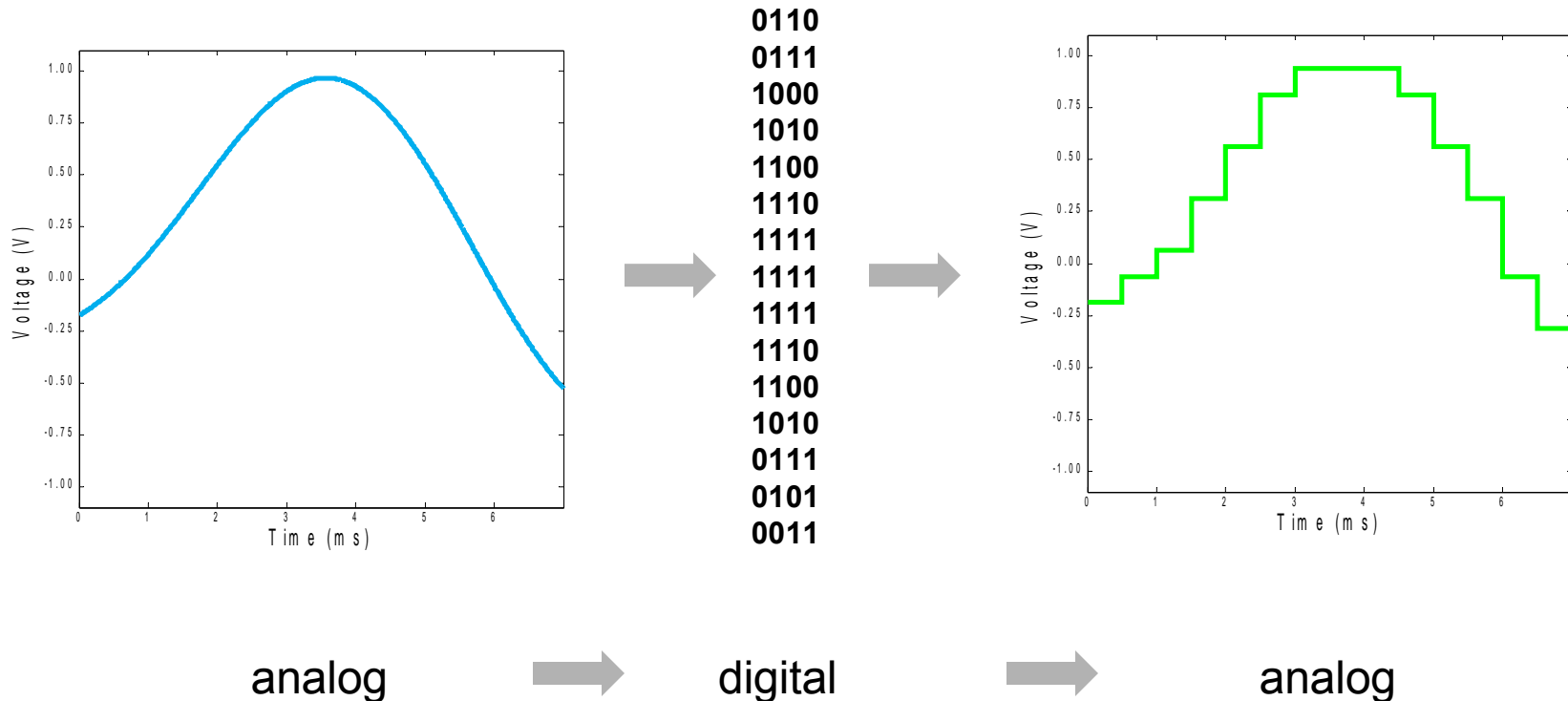
So what's this talk about?



What's happening in that sound card?

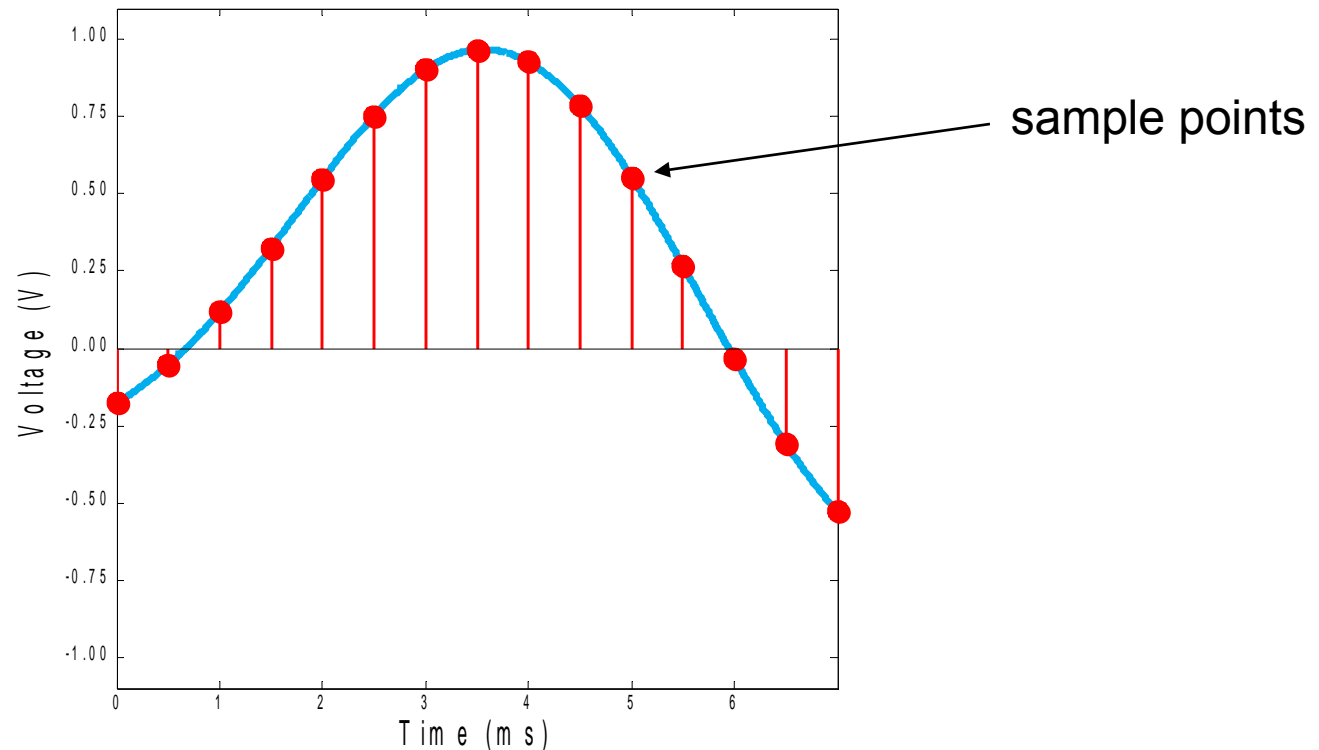
Conversion from analog to digital

- We will consider the problem of converting an analog waveform into binary values and then converting it back into analog.

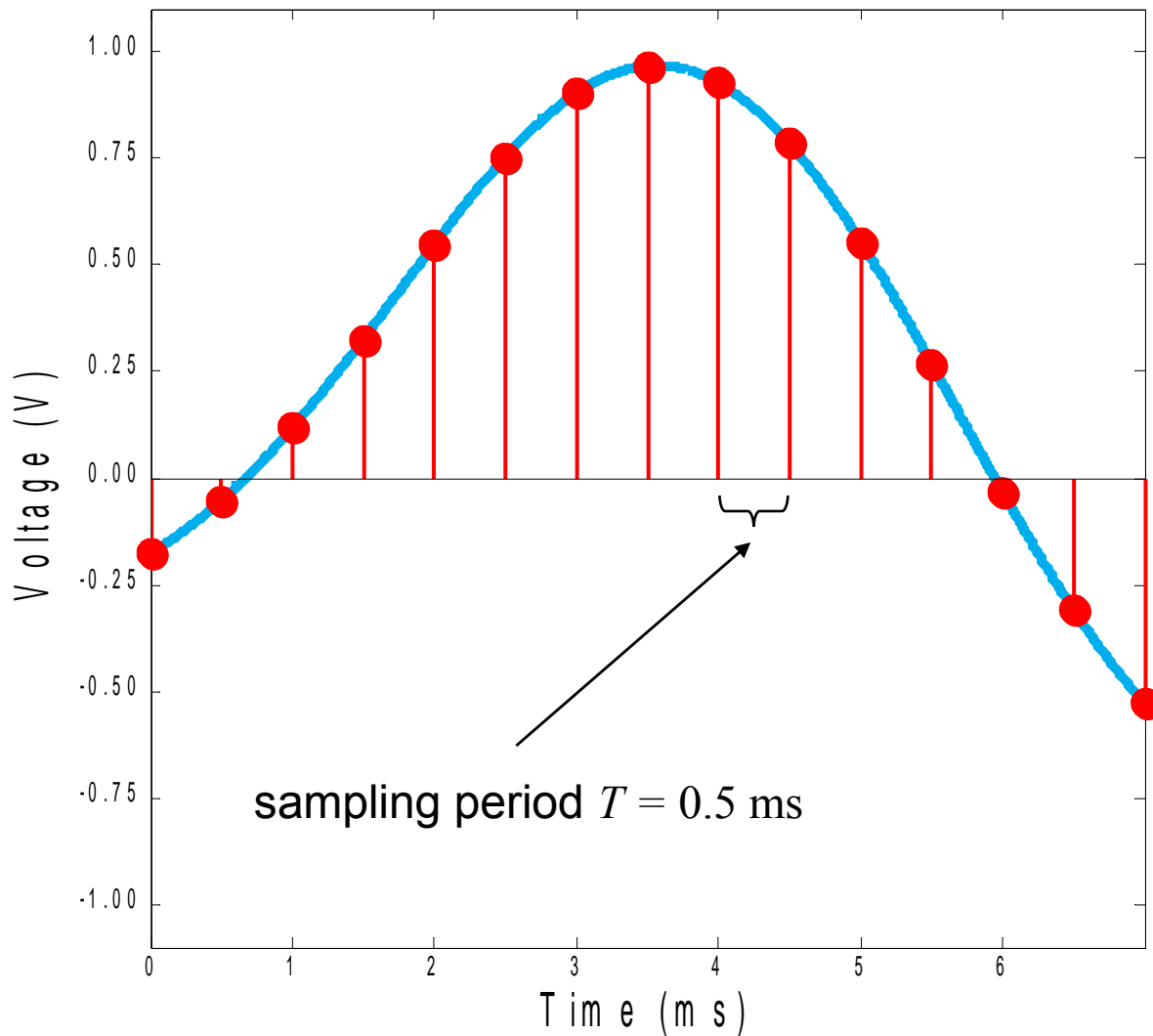


Sampling

- The analog waveform is composed of an infinite number of points.
- Therefore, we must take samples of this continuous waveform to send.



Sampling



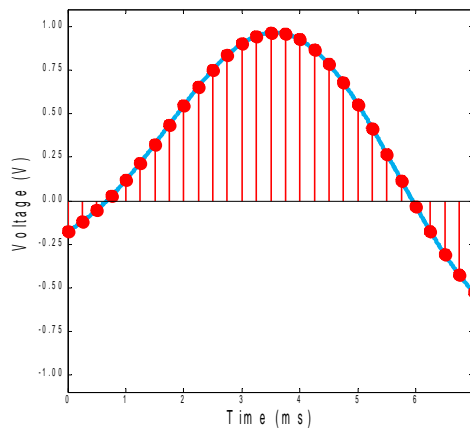
sampling frequency f

$$f = \frac{1}{T} = \frac{1}{0.0005} = 2 \text{ kHz}$$

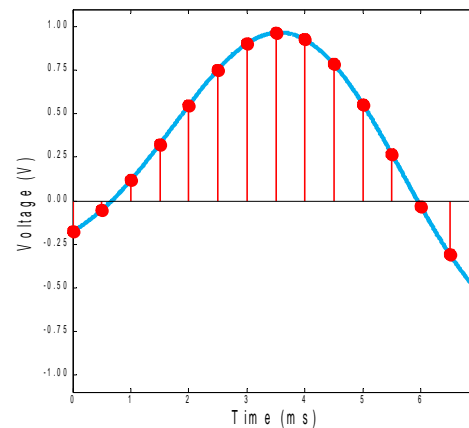
Sampling

■ How fast does our sampling rate f need to be?

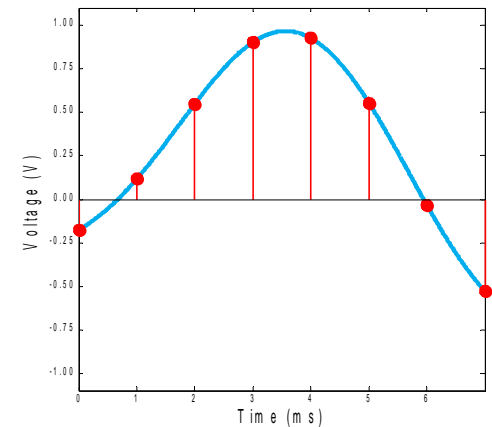
sampling frequency $f = 4$ kHz



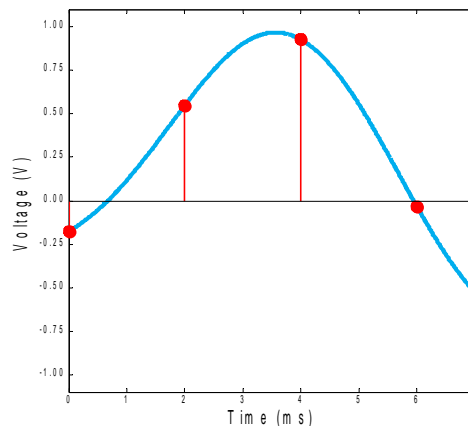
sampling frequency $f = 2$ kHz



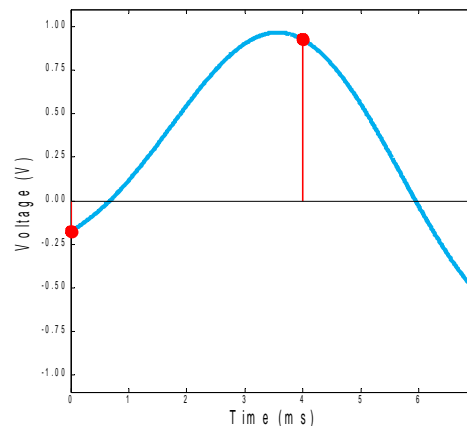
sampling frequency $f = 1$ kHz



sampling frequency $f = 500$ Hz



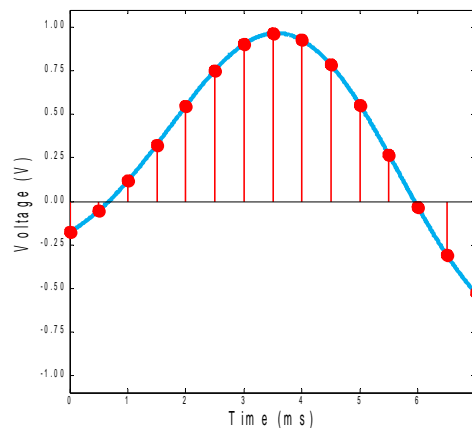
sampling frequency $f = 250$ Hz



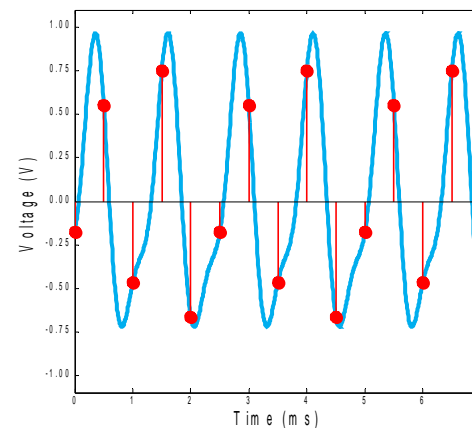
Sampling

- The number of samples required is dictated by the frequency content of our analog waveform.
 - A slowly changing waveform (i.e. low frequency) can be sampled at a **lower rate**.
 - A rapidly changing waveform (i.e. high frequency) must be sampled at a **high rate** in order to capture the rapid changes.

sampling frequency $f = 2$ kHz



sampling frequency $f = 2$ kHz



Minimum sampling frequency

- The minimum sampling rate required in order to accurately reconstruct the analog input is given by the **Nyquist** sampling rate f_N given

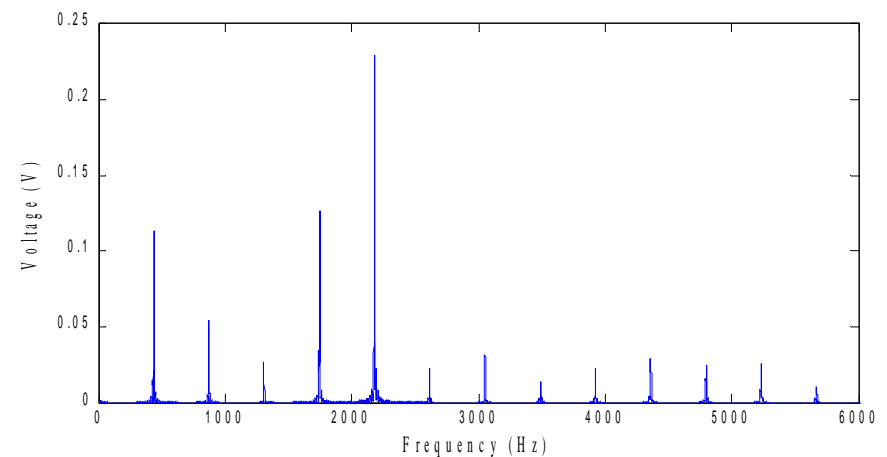
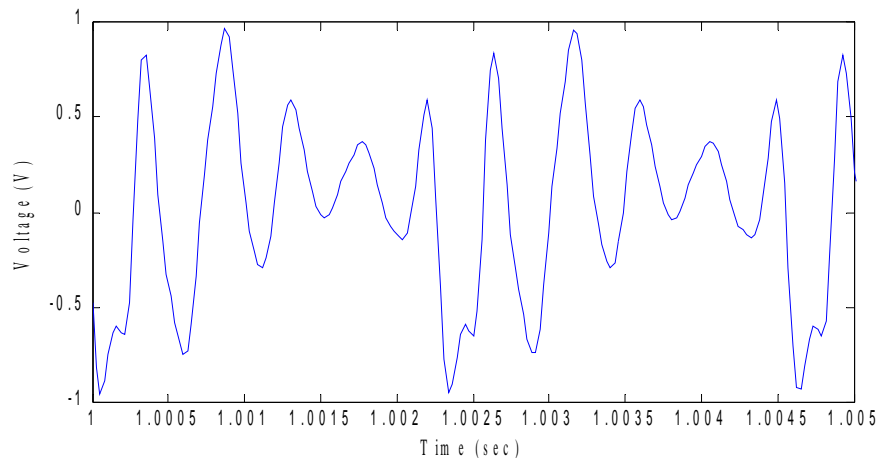
$$f_N \geq 2f_m$$

- where f_m is the highest frequency of the analog signal.
 - The Nyquist rate is a theoretical minimum.
 - In practice, sampling rates are typically 2.5 to 3 times the Nyquist rate f_N .
 - Audio CDs ?

Example Problem 1

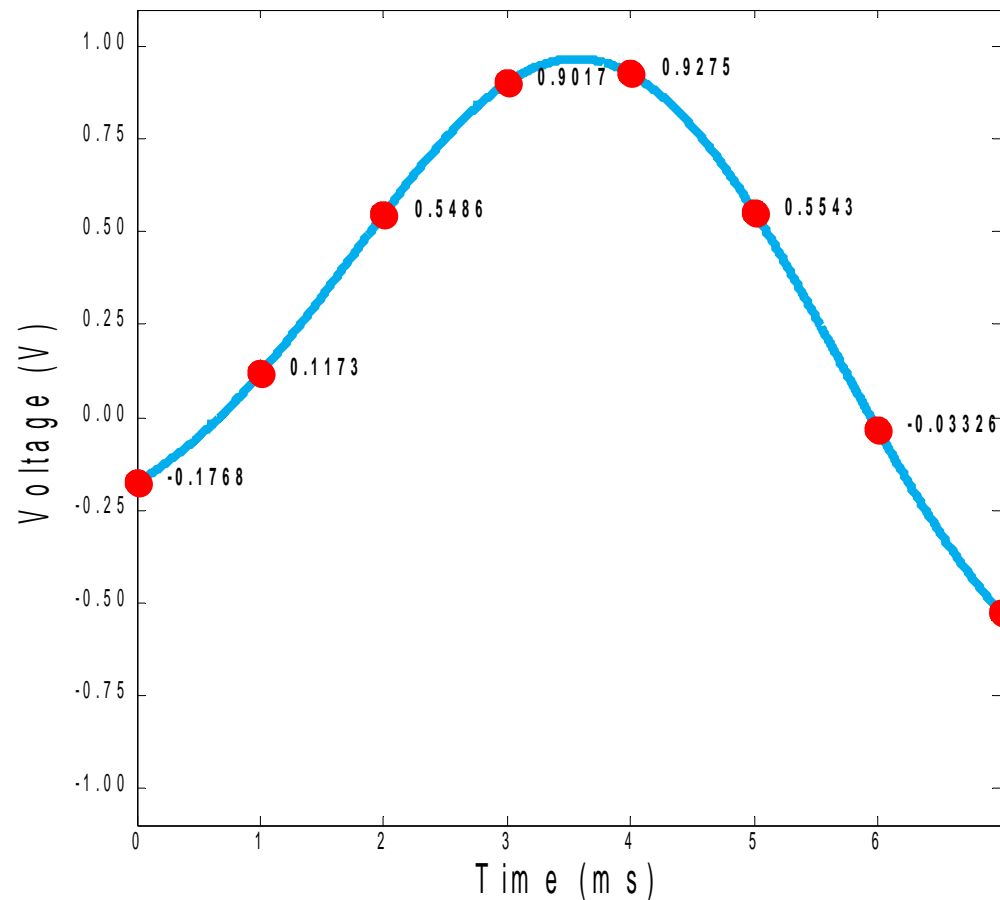
Consider the signal from the oboe depicted below in time and frequency domain representations.

- What is the maximum frequency present in the oboe signal?
- Based upon this, what would be the minimum sampling rate according to Nyquist?
- What would be a practical sampling rate?



Sampled waveform

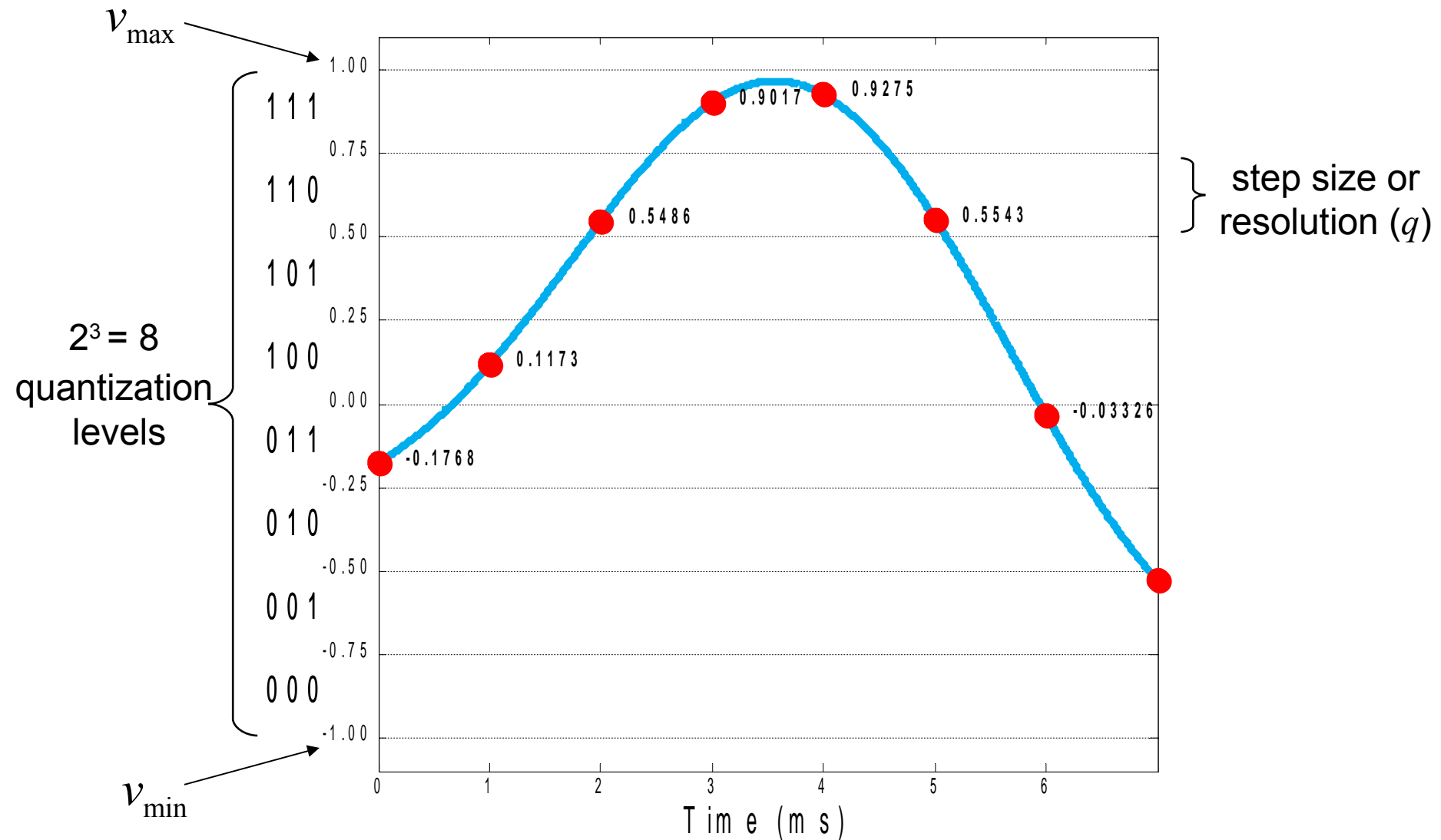
- We can now determine the amplitudes associated with each sample point.



Quantization

- We now need to convert these amplitudes (real numbers) into binary integers.
- The process of mapping the sampled analog voltage levels to discrete, binary values is called **quantization**.
- Quantizers are characterized length of the binary words they produce.
- An N -bit quantizer has 2^N levels and outputs binary numbers of length N .
 - Telephones use 8-bit encoding $\rightarrow 2^8 = 256$ levels
 - CD audio use 16-bit encoding $\rightarrow 2^{16} = 65,536$ levels

Quantization intervals (3-bit)



Quantization intervals

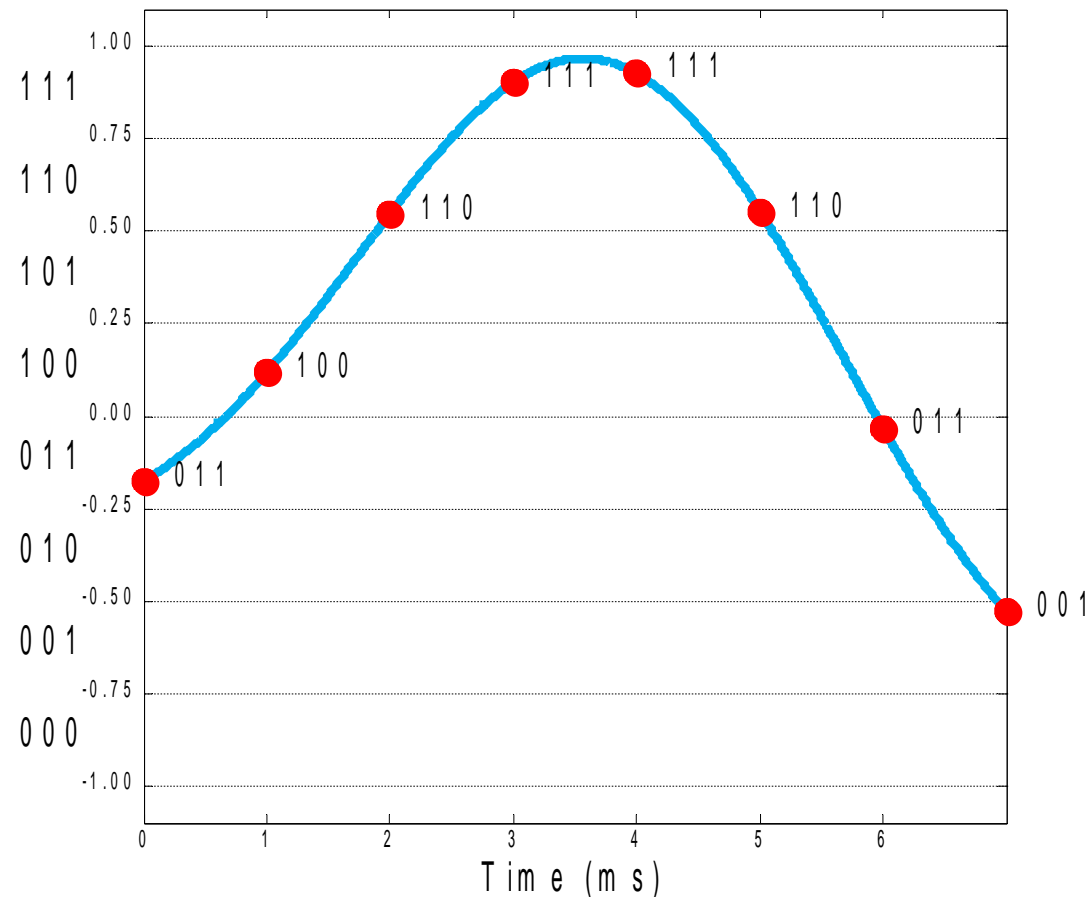
- Quantizers are limited to specific voltage range.
 - For this example we will assume that our analog input falls within a range of -1.0 to +1.0 volts.
- The quantizer will partition this range into 2^N steps of size q given

$$q = \frac{v_{\max} - v_{\min}}{2^N} \quad \text{quantizer step size [volts]}$$

- q is also called the **resolution**. *What improves resolution?*
- Each of these intervals (or bins) is assigned a binary value from 0 to $2^N - 1$.

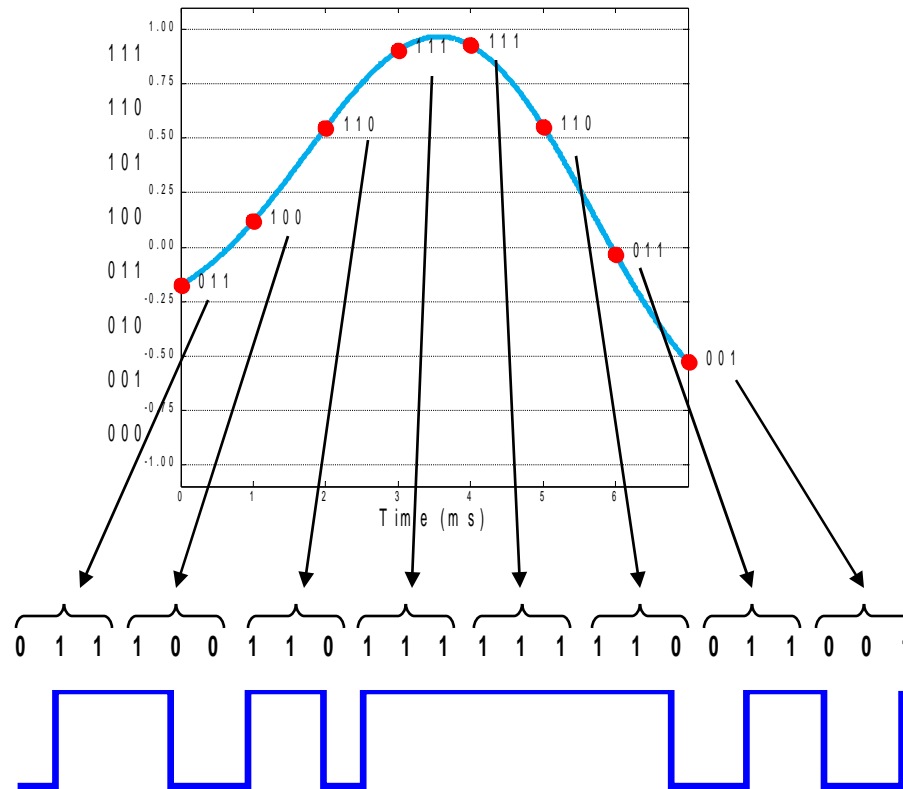
Quantization intervals

- If sampled point falls within that interval (or bin), it is assigned that binary value.



Digital signal

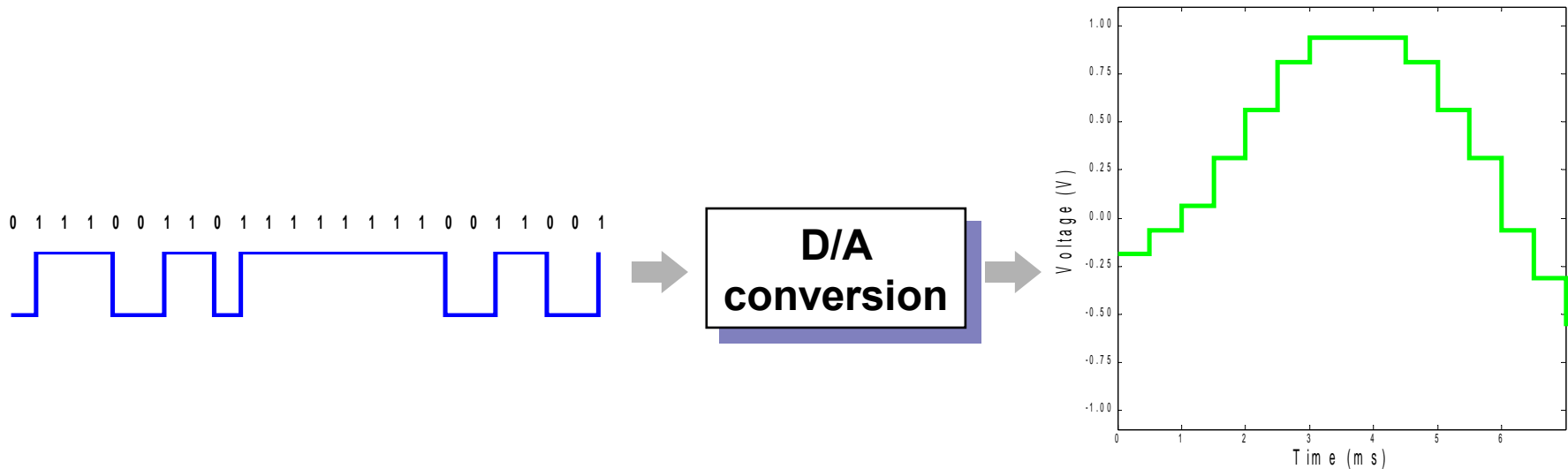
- These binary values are then transmitted to the receiver as a digital signal.



transmitted digital
signal

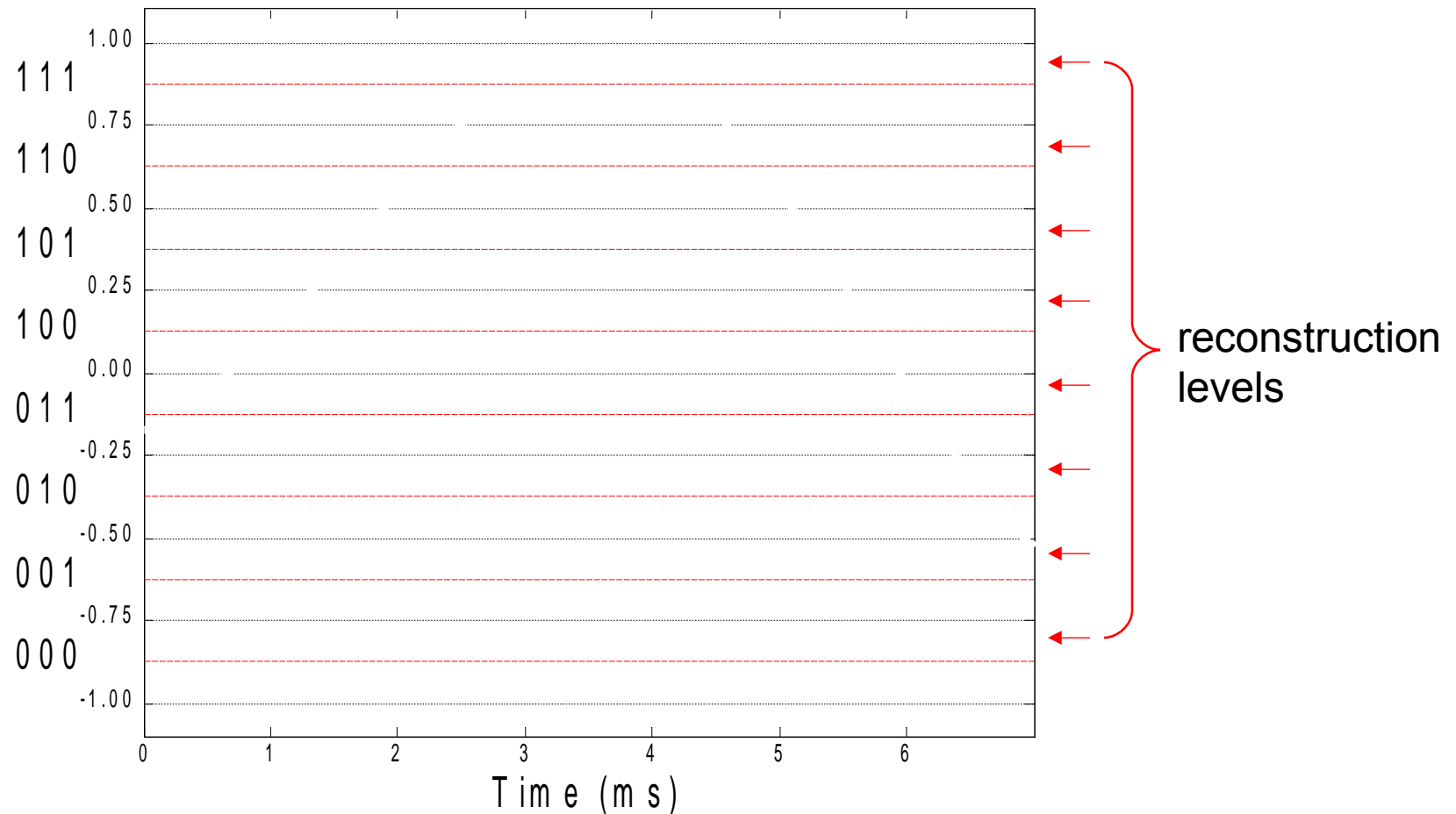
Digital-to-analog (D/A) conversion

- At the receiver, these binary values must be converted back into an analog signal.
- This process is called digital-to-analog (D/A) conversion.

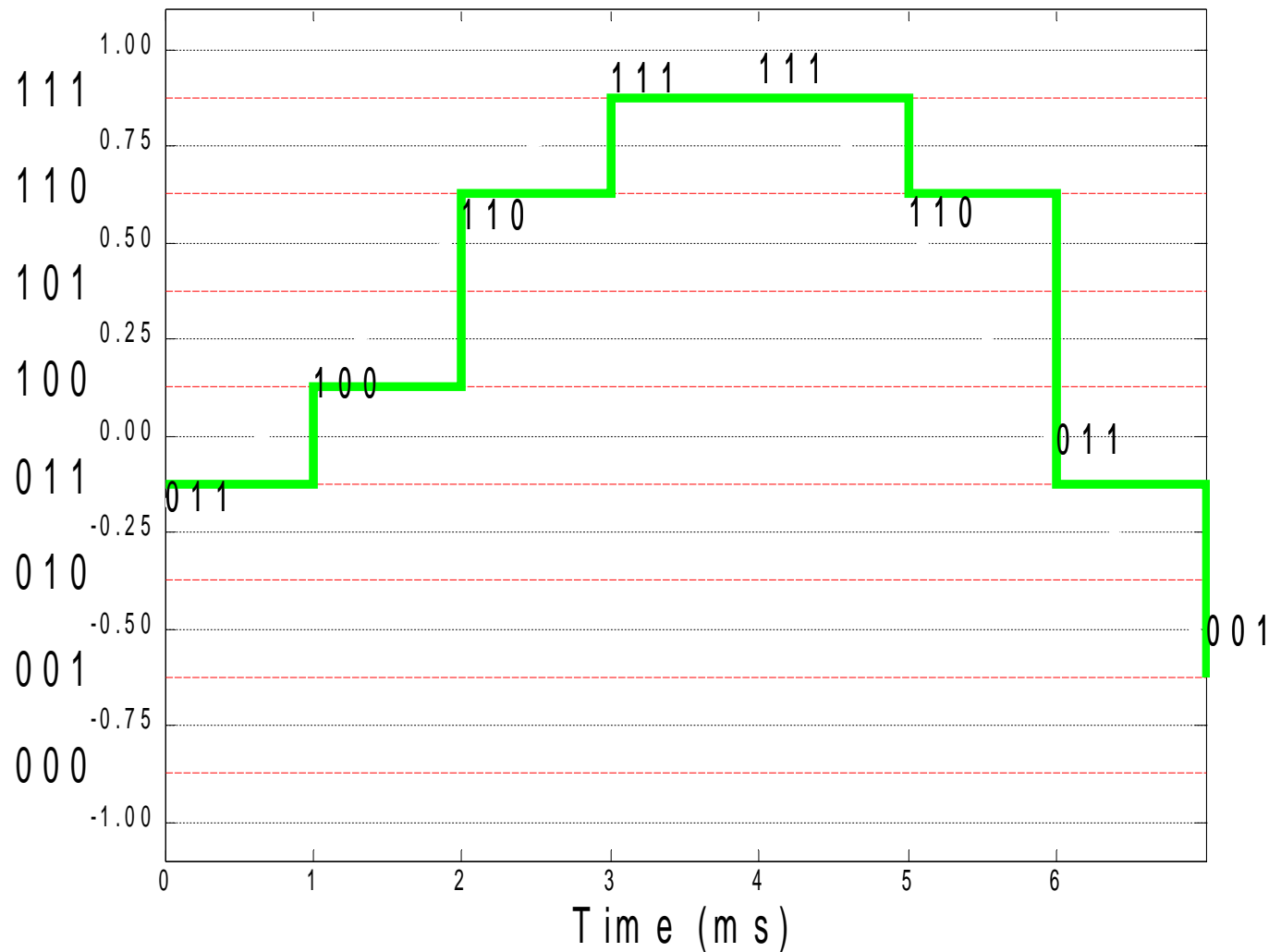


Digital-to-analog (D/A) conversion

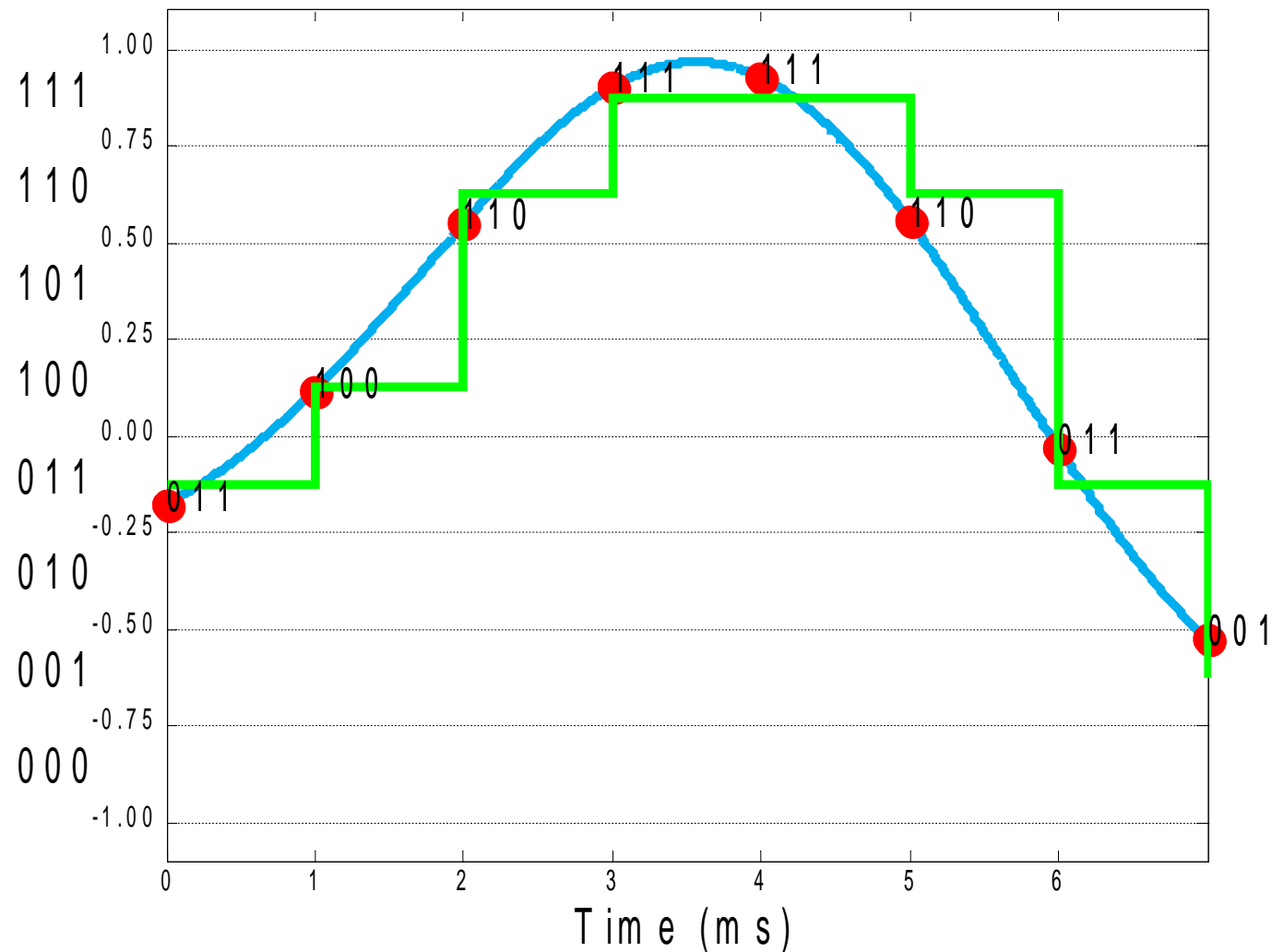
- The reconstruction levels are the midpoints of the intervals used by the quantizer.



Digital-to-analog (D/A) conversion



Digital-to-analog (D/A) conversion



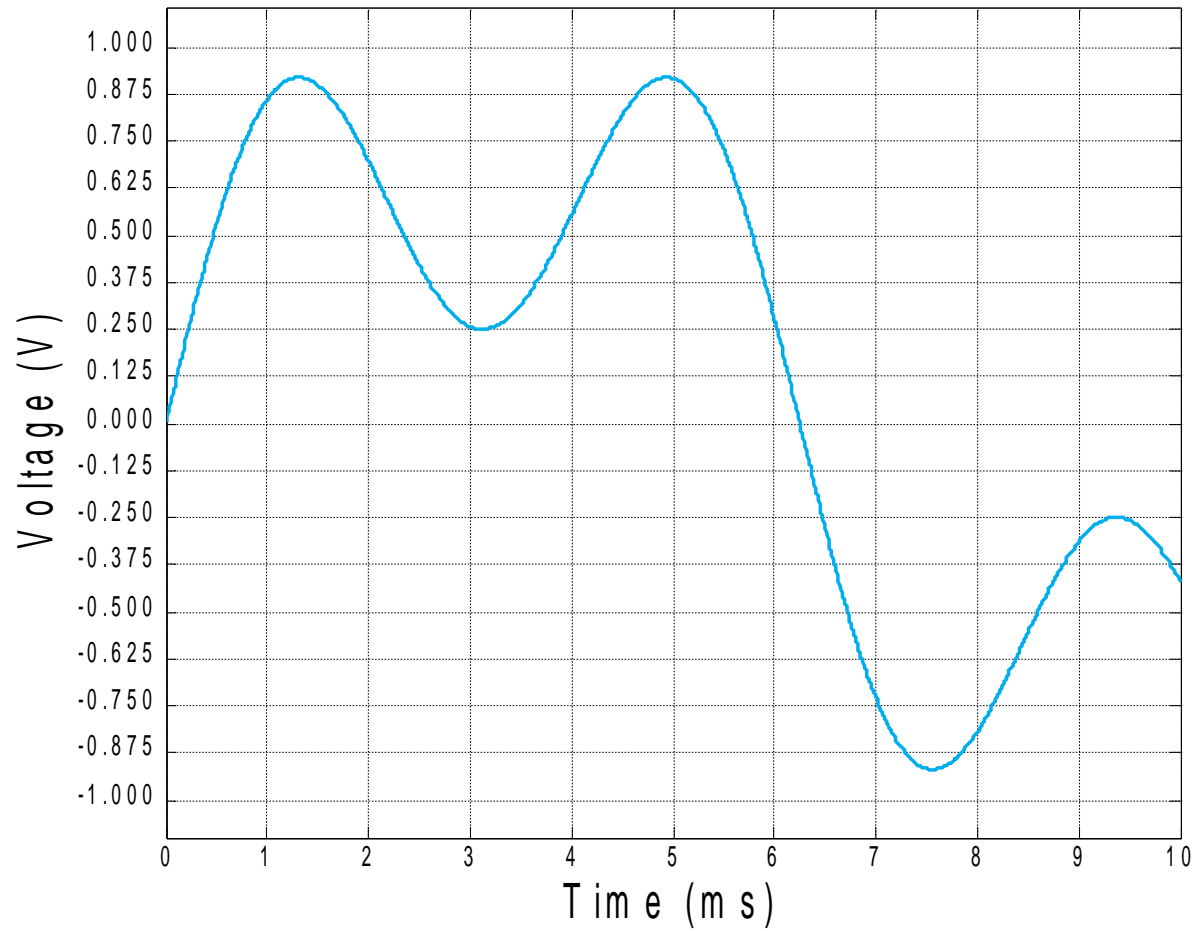


Example Problem 2

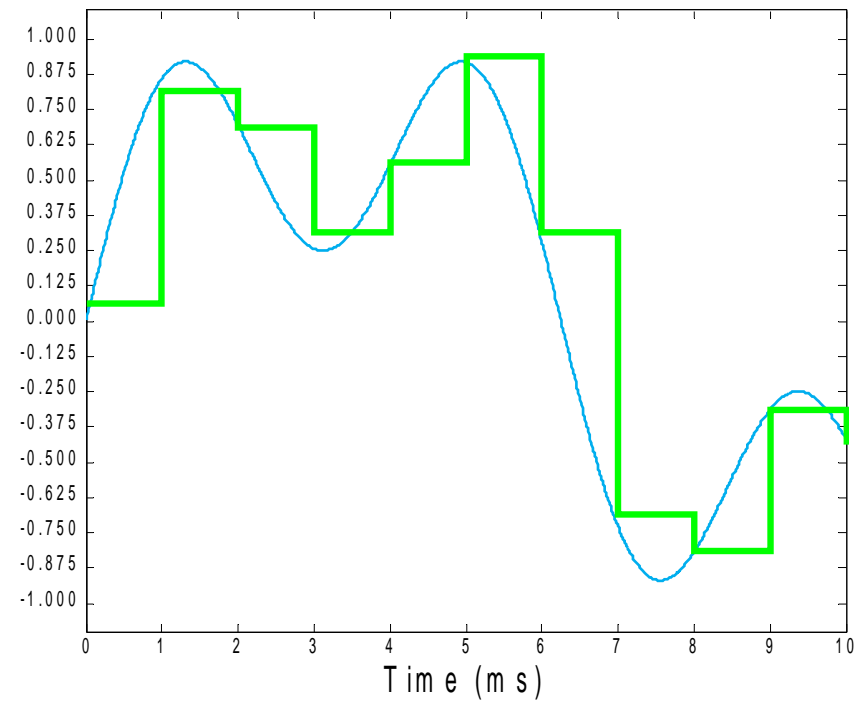
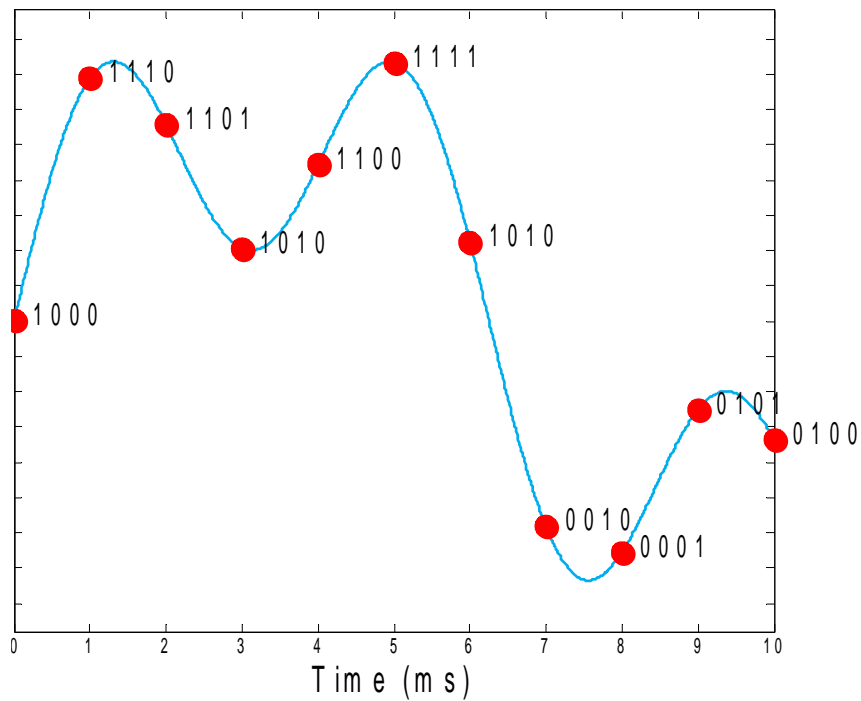
Consider the following analog waveform. This waveform is sampled at a 1-kHz rate and quantized with a 4-bit quantizer (input range -1.0 to +1.0 V).

- a. Circle the sample points.
- b. Indicate the quantization intervals and corresponding binary values.
- c. Indicate the binary number assigned to each sample point.
- d. Sketch the reconstructed waveform at the D/A.

Example Problem 2

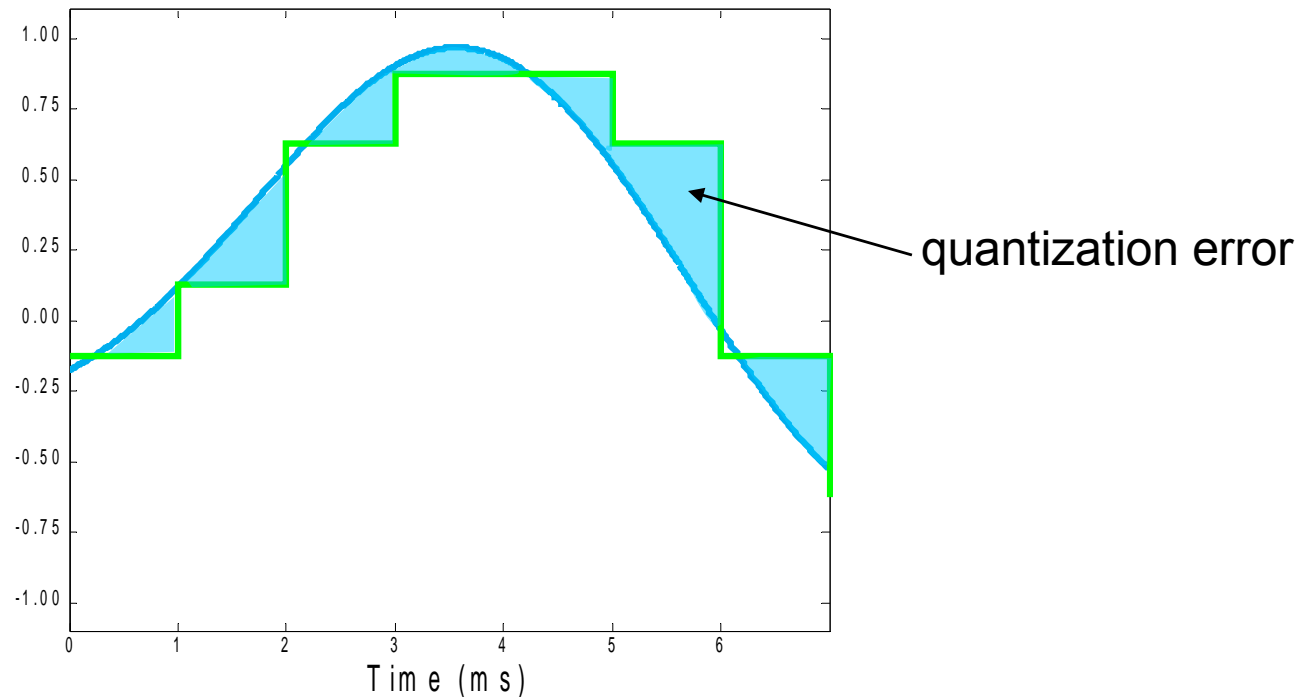


Problem 2 solution



Quantization error

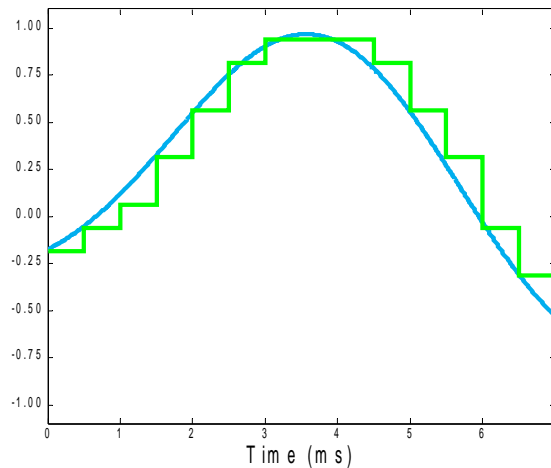
- Notice that there is some error associated with this conversion process.
 - This error is the difference between analog input and the reconstructed signal.



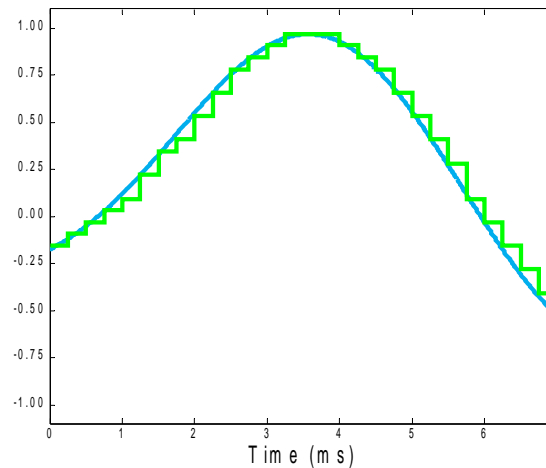
Quantization error

- Quantization error can be reduced by increasing the bits N and the sampling rate.

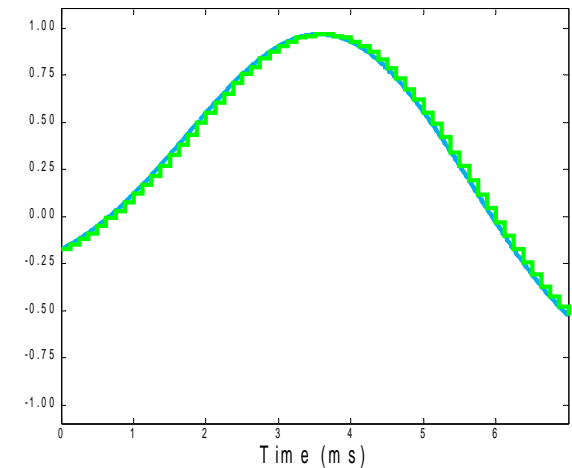
4-bit quantization
sampling frequency $f = 2$ kHz



5-bit quantization
sampling frequency $f = 4$ kHz

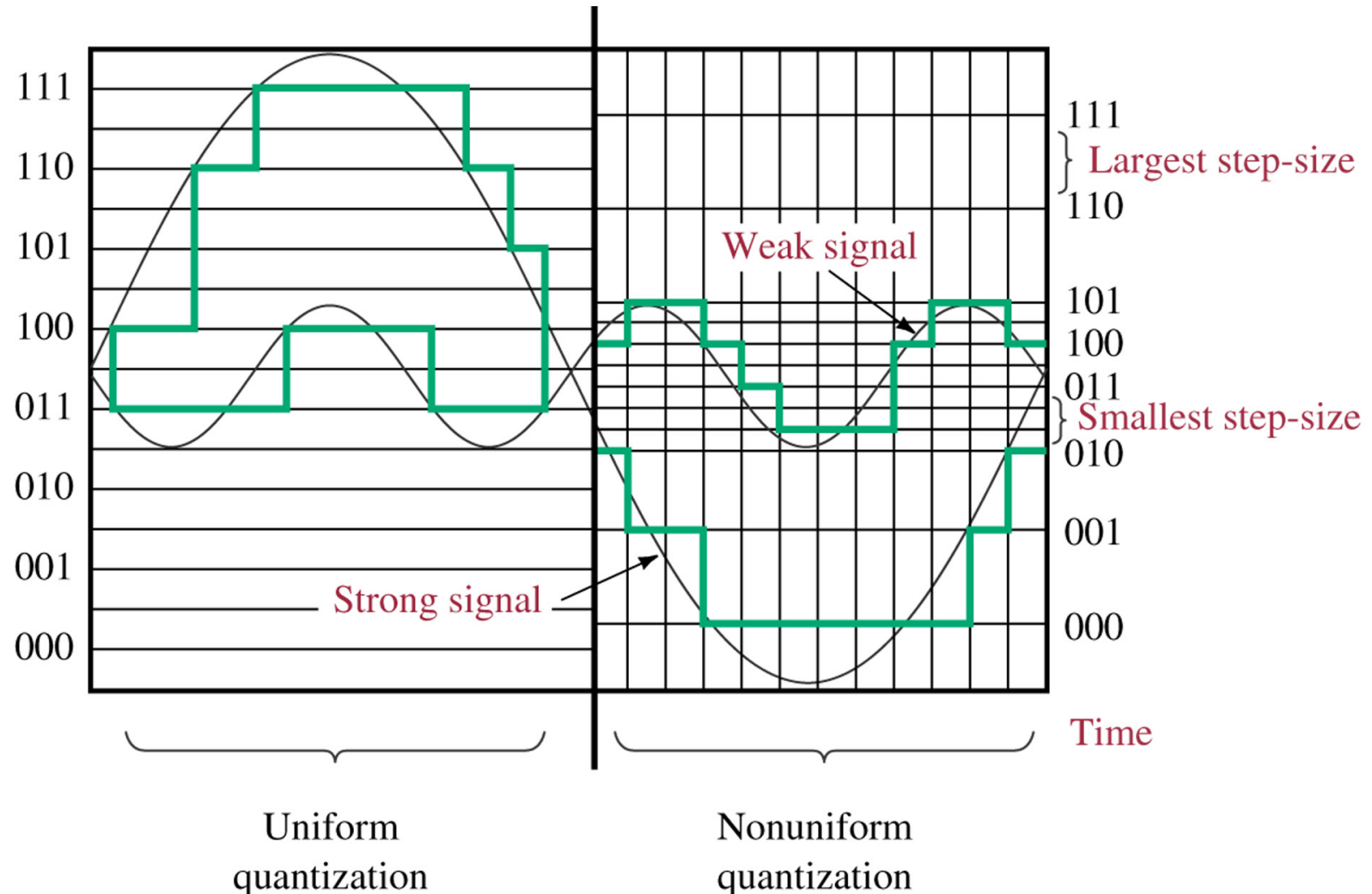


8-bit quantization
sampling frequency $f = 8$ kHz



Quantization Schemes

Voltage

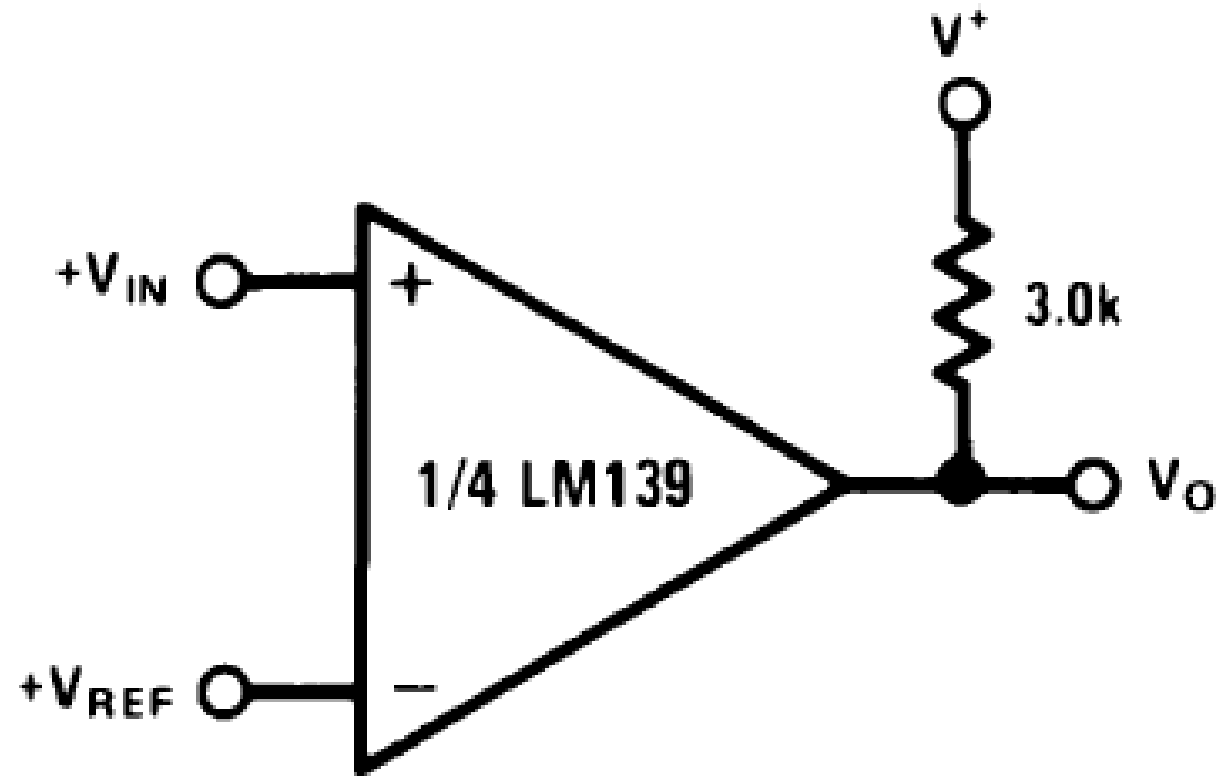




Great!

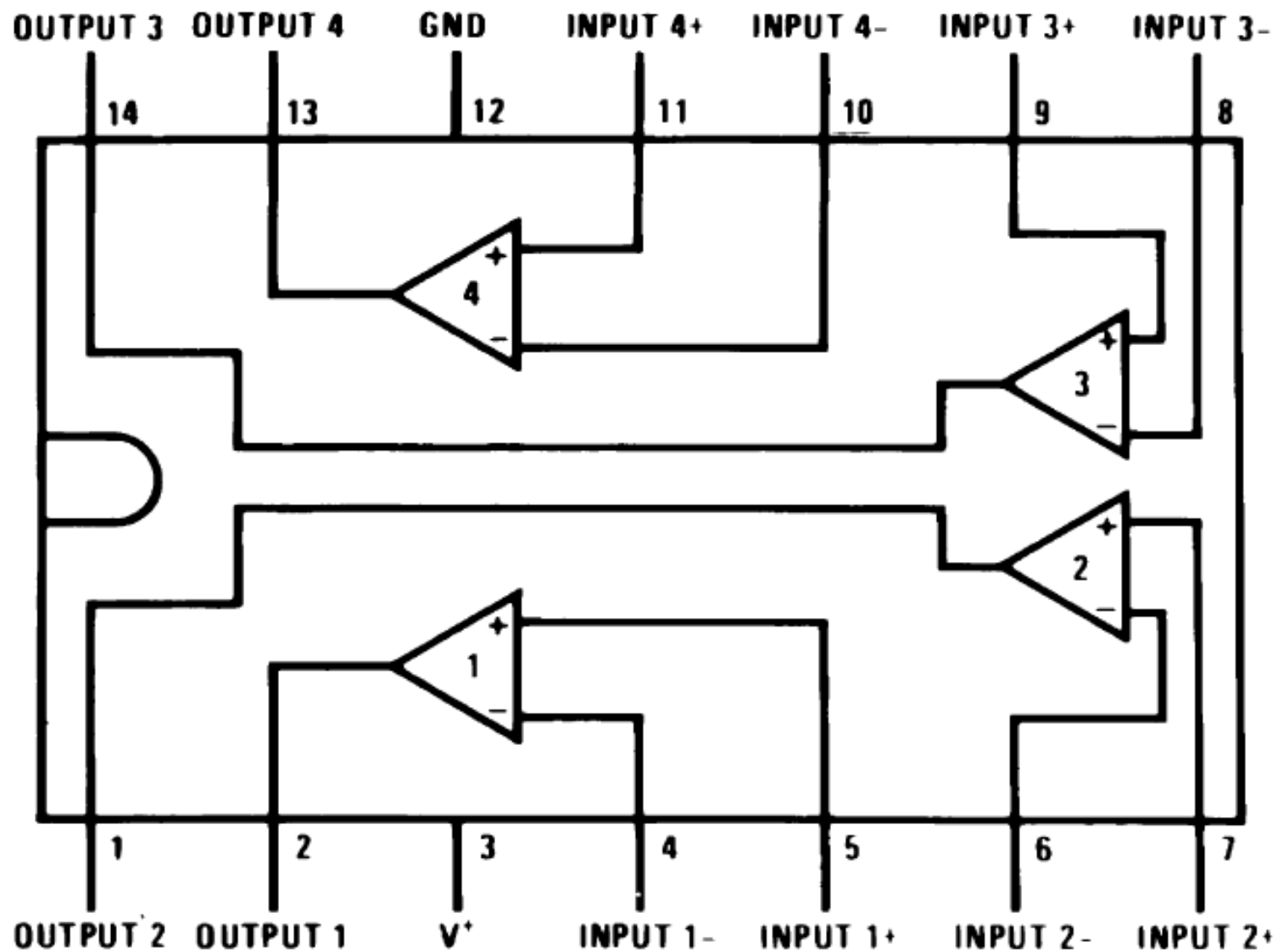
But HOW do you do it?
(enough already!)

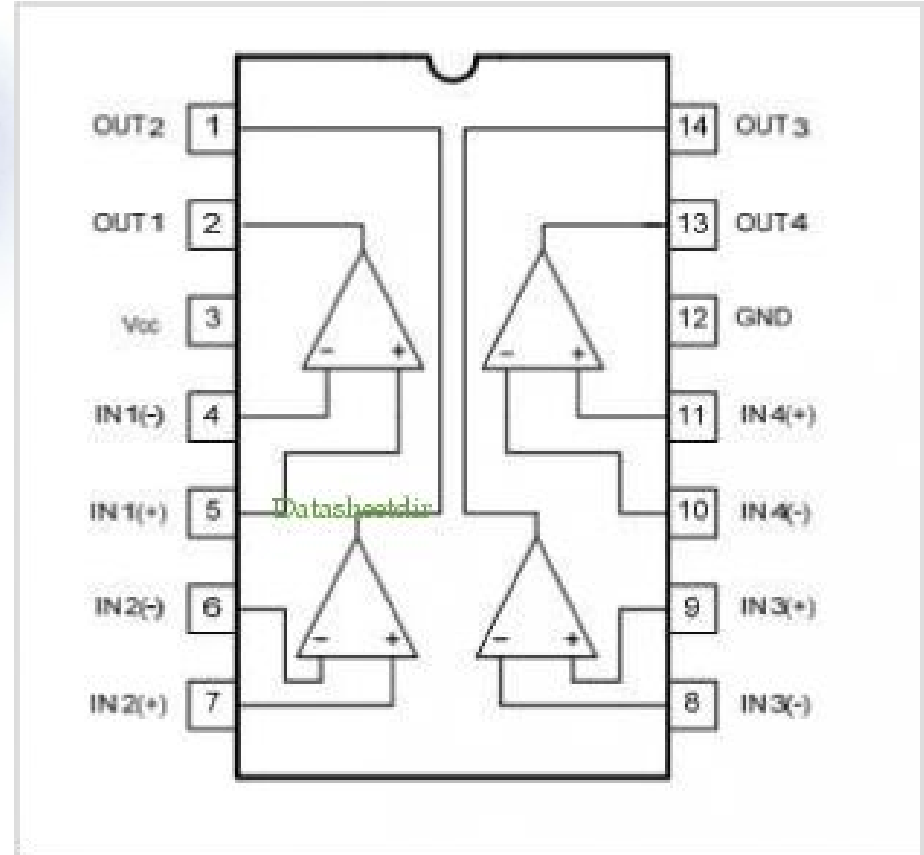
Basic Comparator



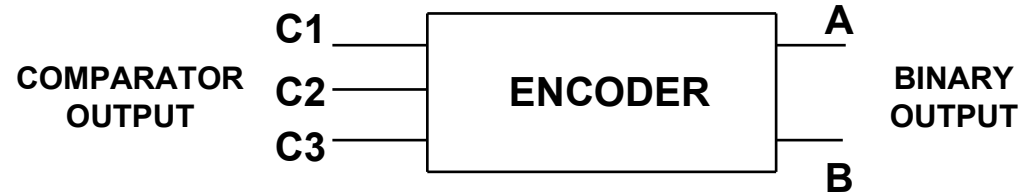
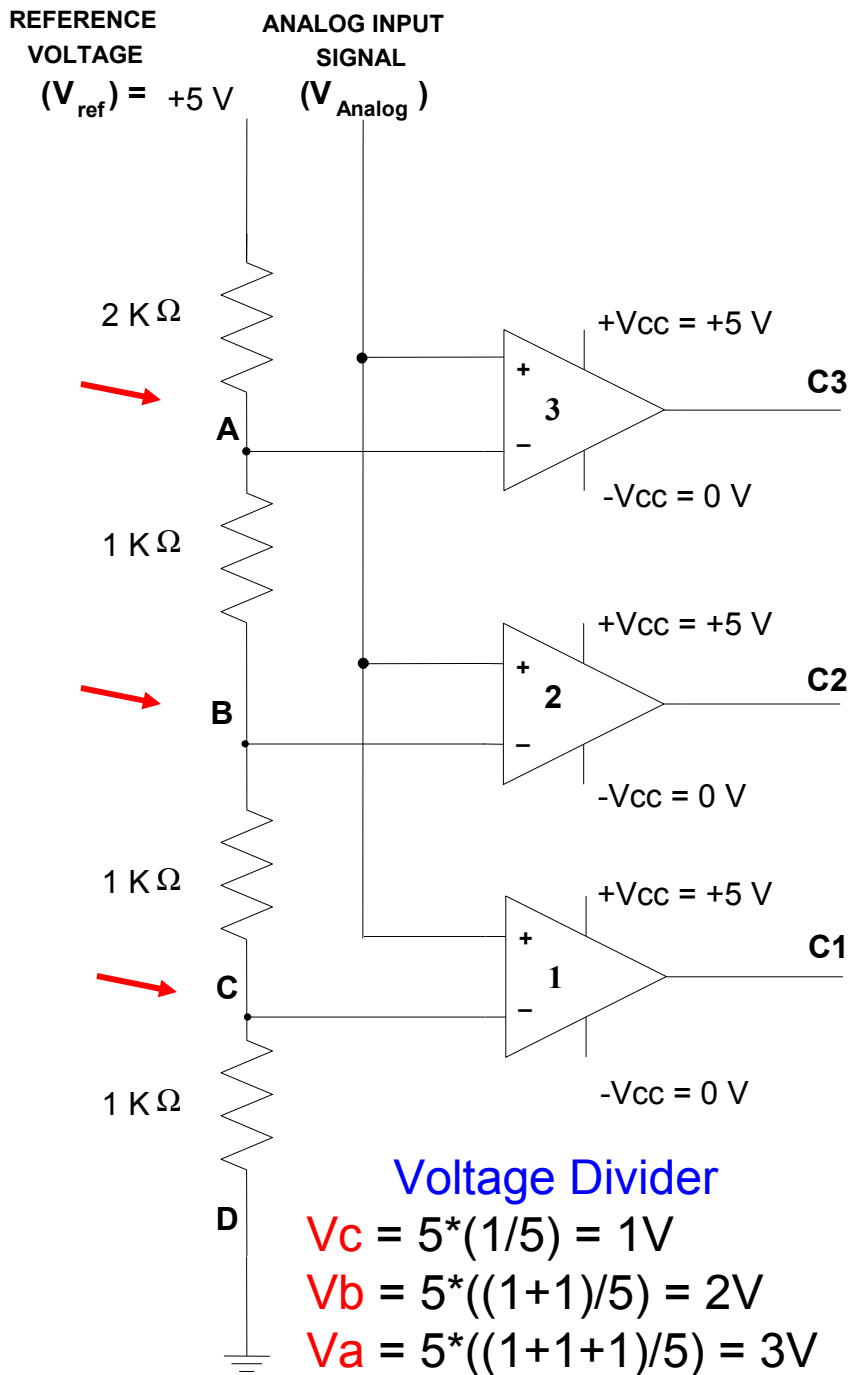
```
if( $V_{in} > V_{ref}$ )  
     $V_o = \text{logic } 1$   
else  
     $V_o = \text{logic } 0$ 
```

Dual-In-Line Package



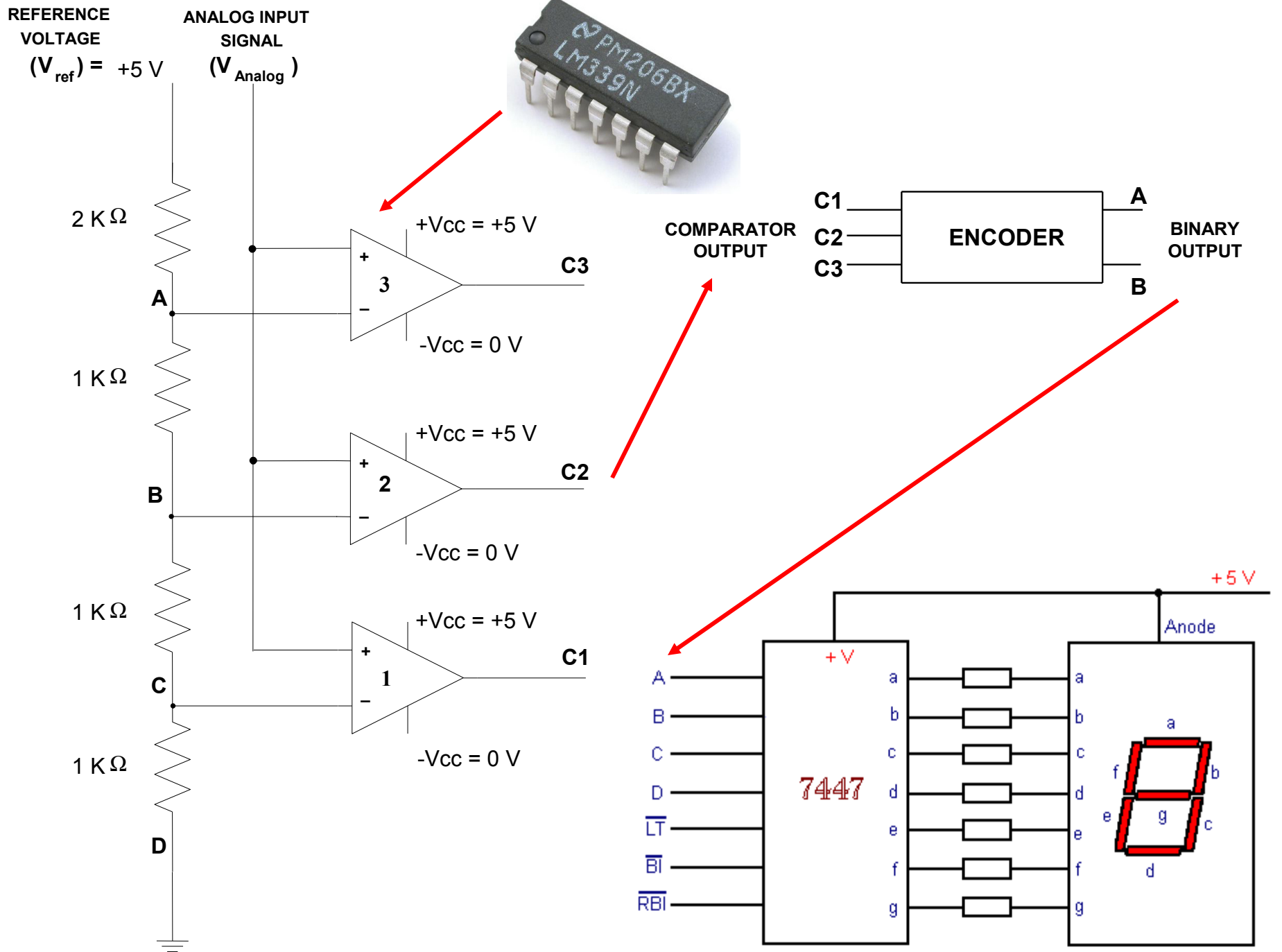


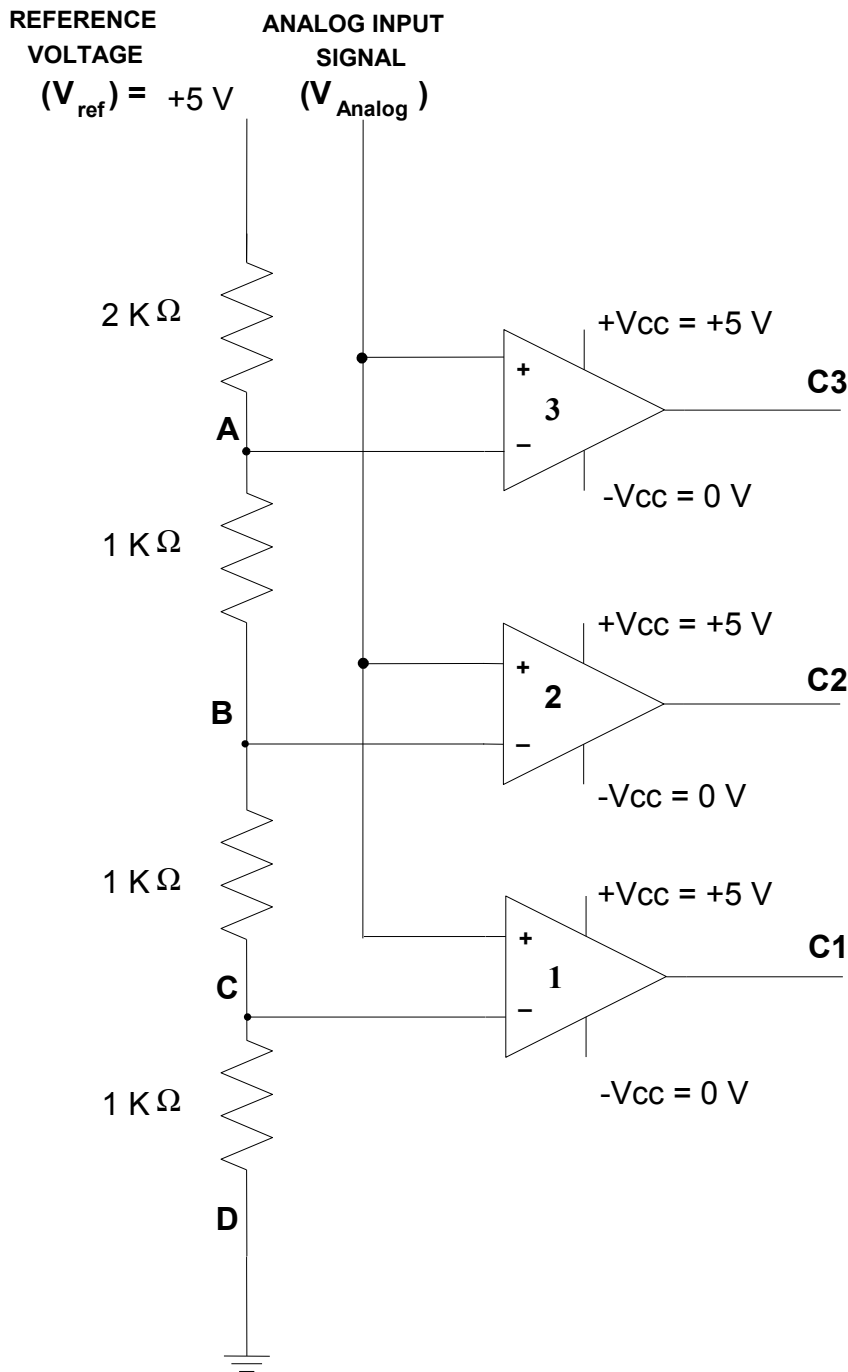
“Flash” ADC



C3	C2	C1		A	B		Decimal #
0	0	0		0	0		0
0	0	1		0	1		1
0	1	1		1	0		2
1	1	1		1	1		3

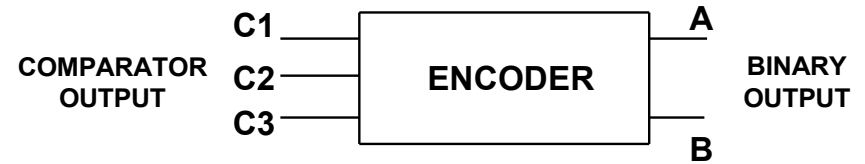
Figure 4. Encoder Output





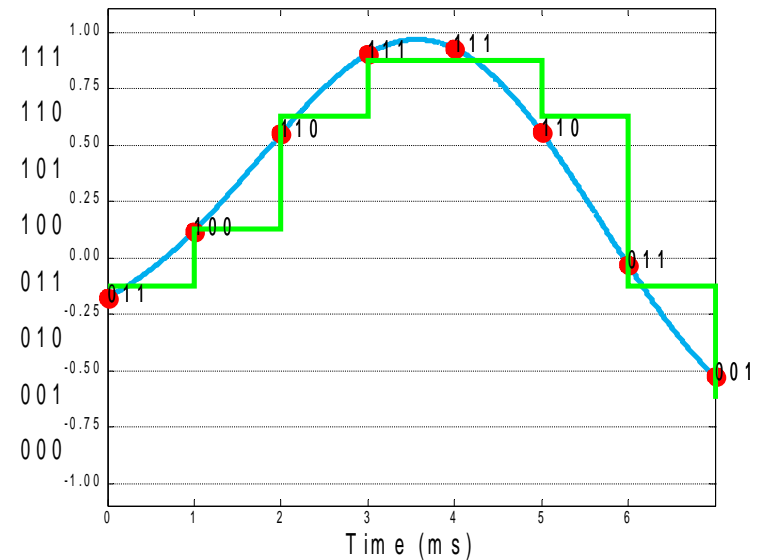
Characteristics:

- * Fast
- * Expensive

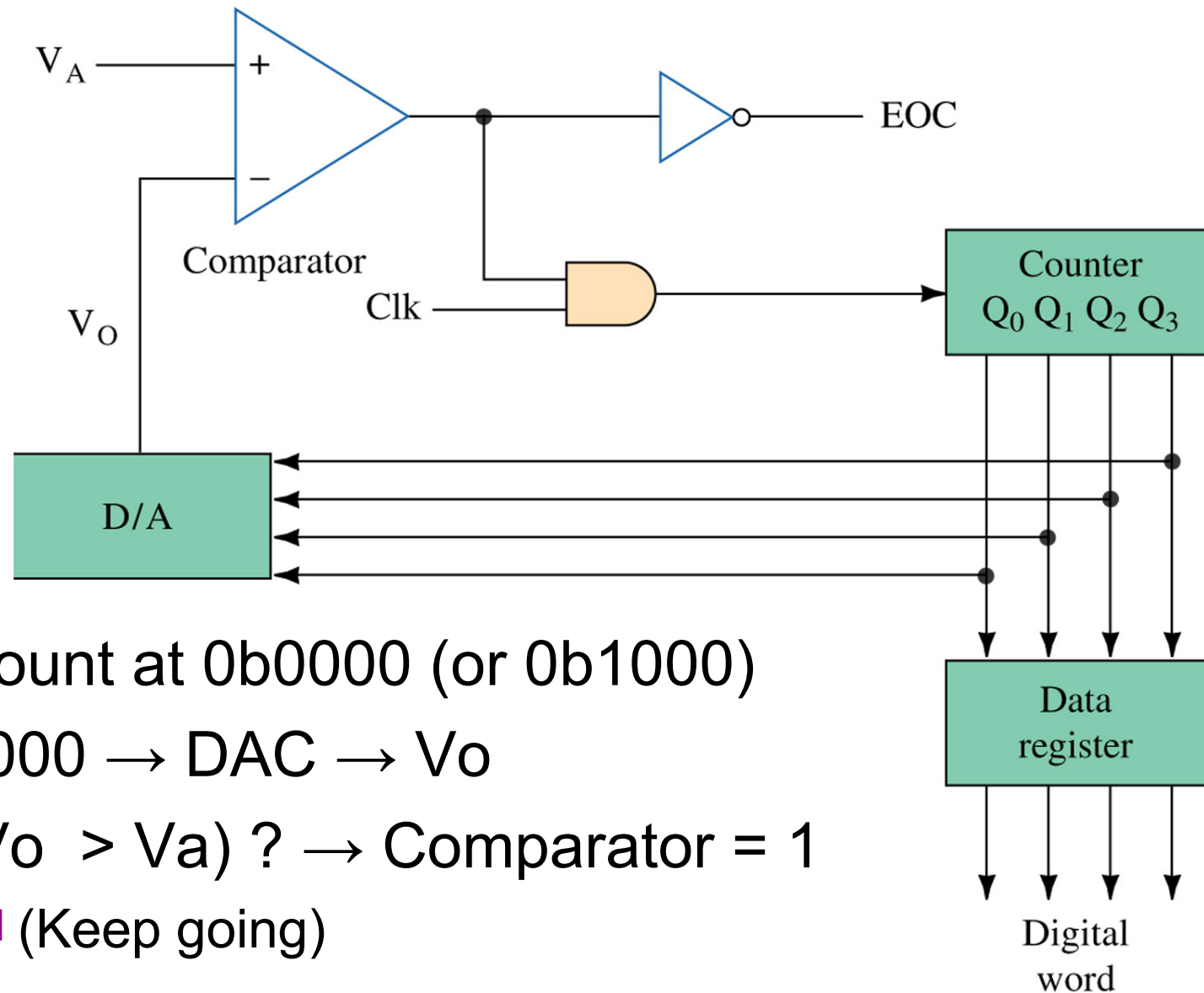


$(2^n - 1)$ comparators for a n bit conversion

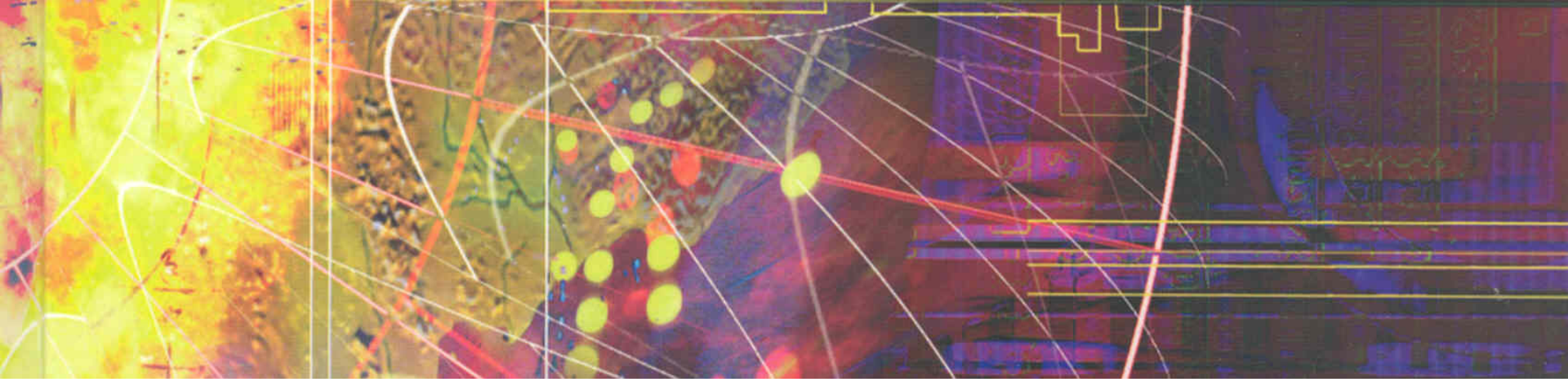
16-bit ADC \rightarrow 65,535 comparators!



Successive Approximation ADC (Ramp)



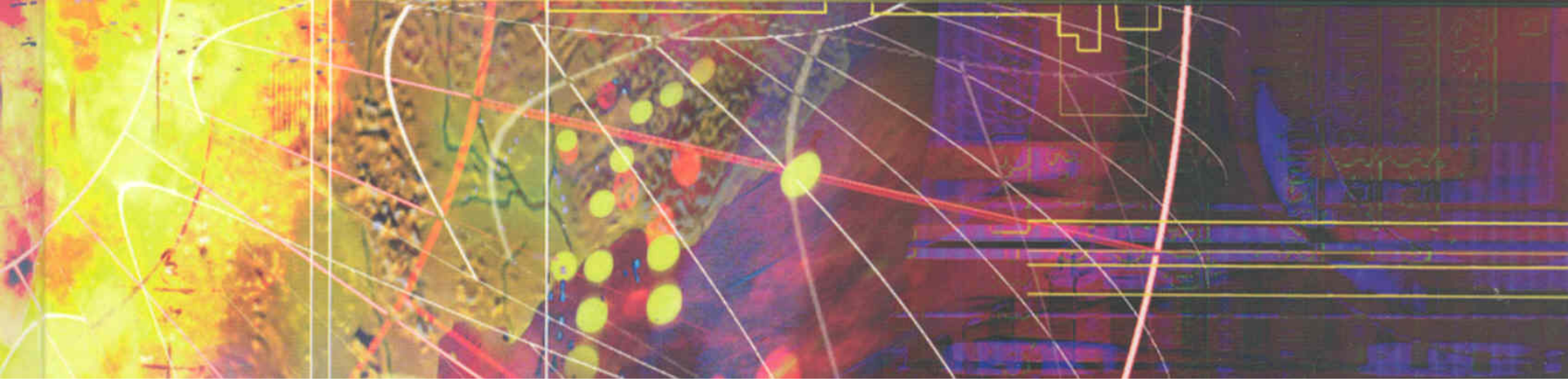
- Count at 0b0000 (or 0b1000)
- 0000 \rightarrow DAC $\rightarrow V_O$
- $(V_O > V_A) ? \rightarrow \text{Comparator} = 1$
 - (Keep going)



Thank you!
Questions?

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More stuff after this.

Lasciate ogni speranza, voi ch'intrate
All hope abandon ye who enter here.

Figure 8-21 DAC input/output.

What is LSB? MSB?
Give example on board

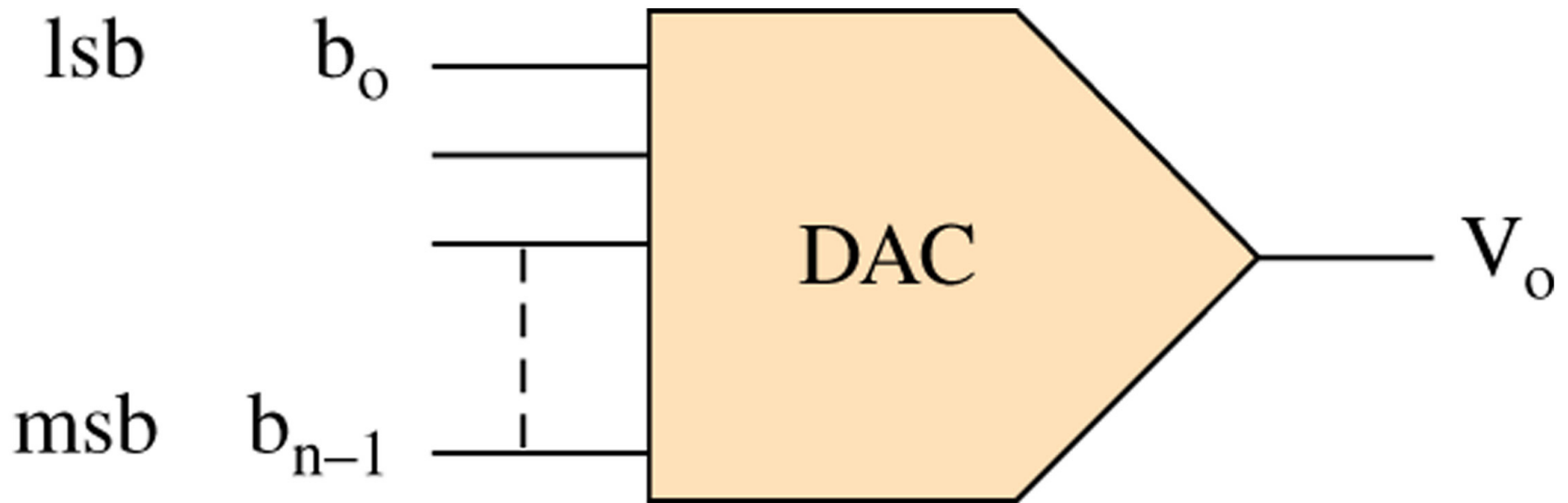


Figure 8-22 Binary-weighted resistor DAC.

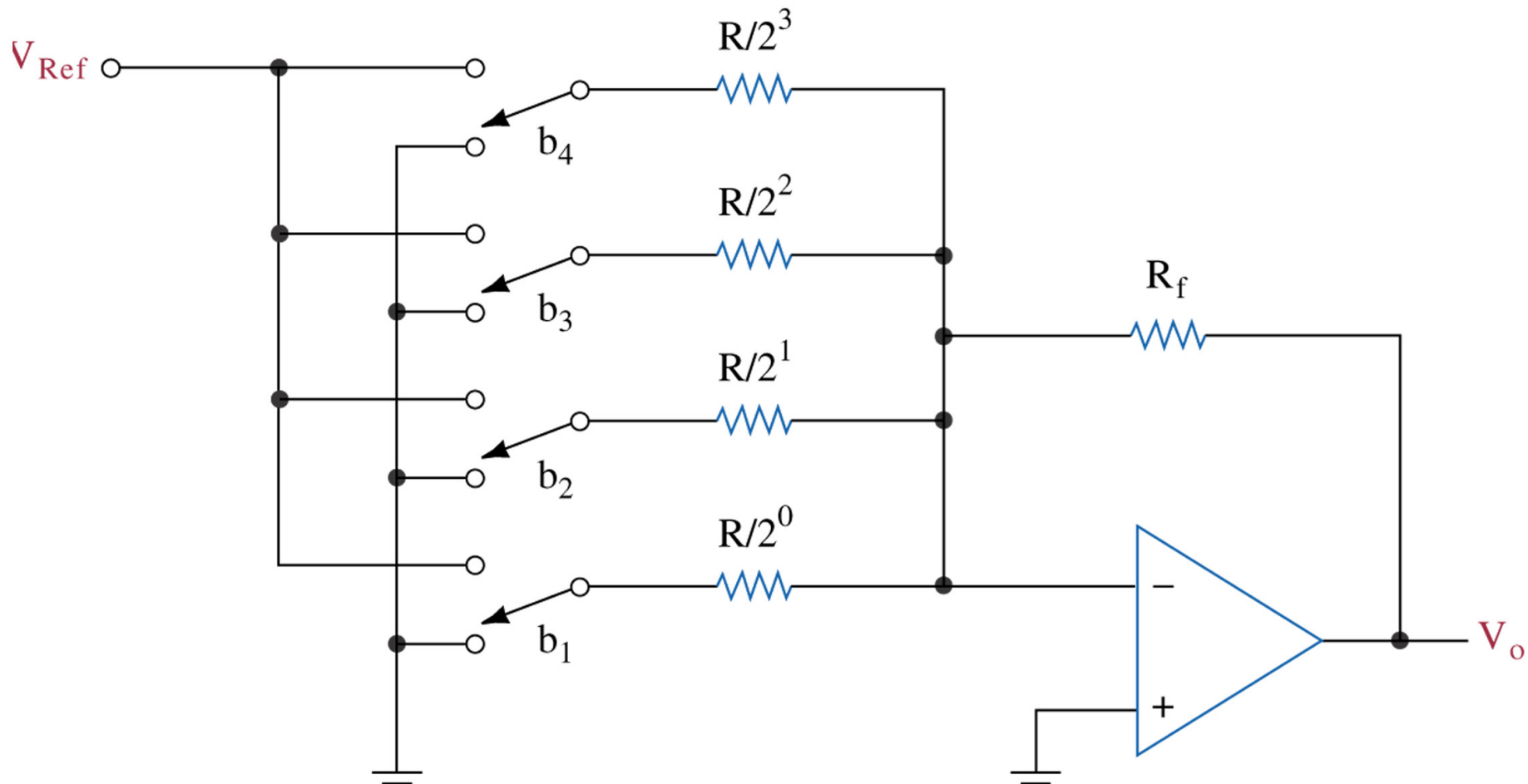
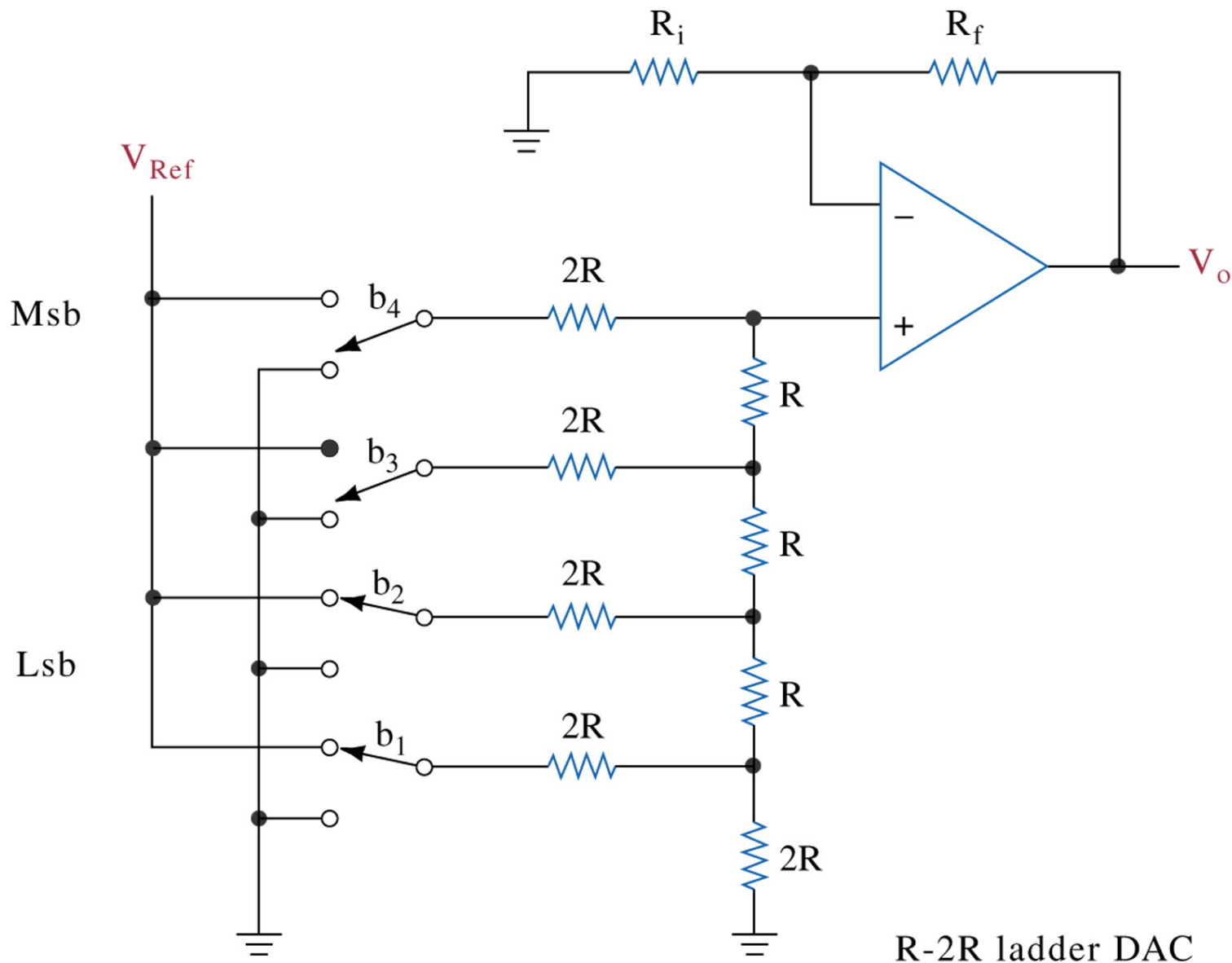
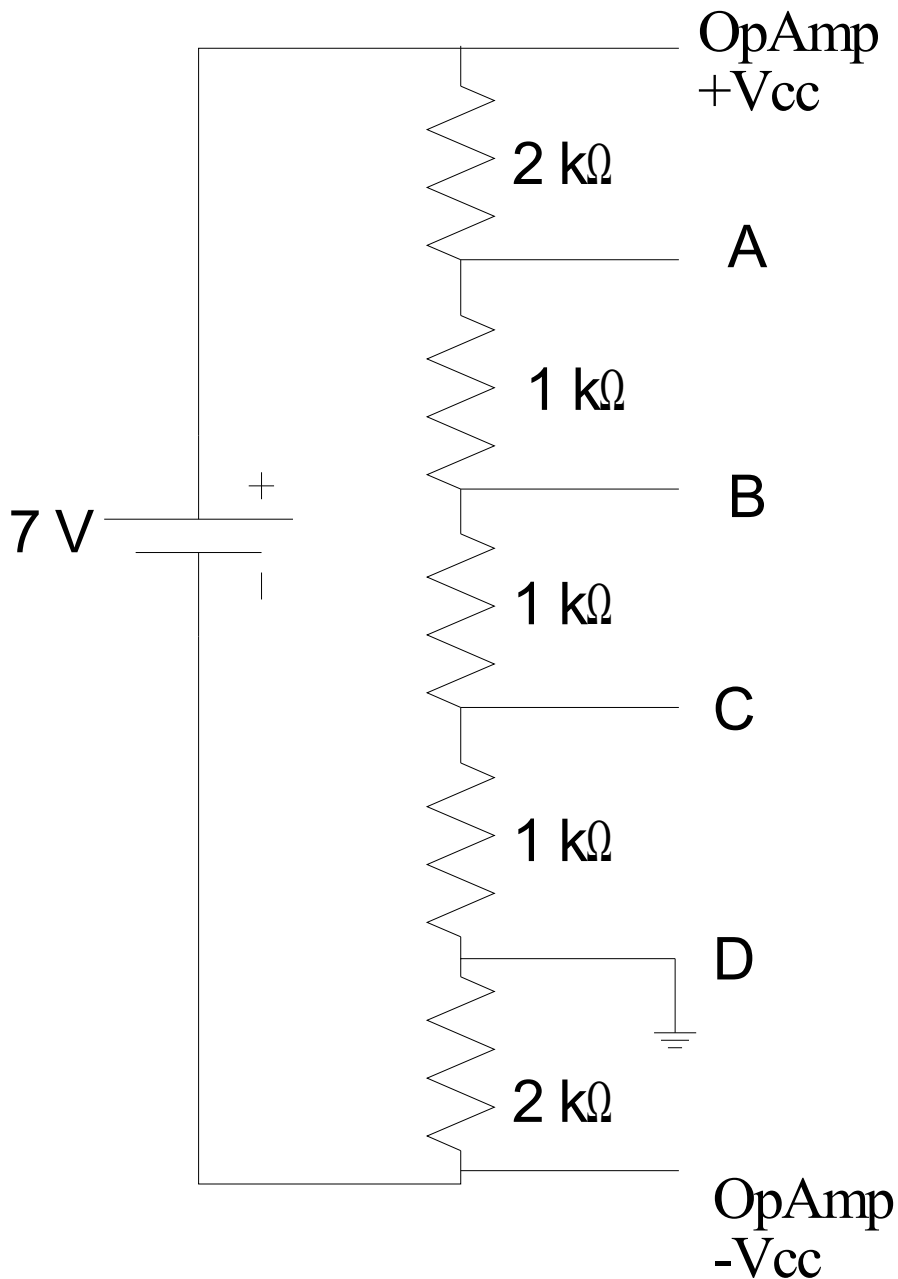


Figure 8-23 R-2R ladder DAC.



R-2R ladder DAC



How much current flows?

$$V = IR \rightarrow I = V/R$$

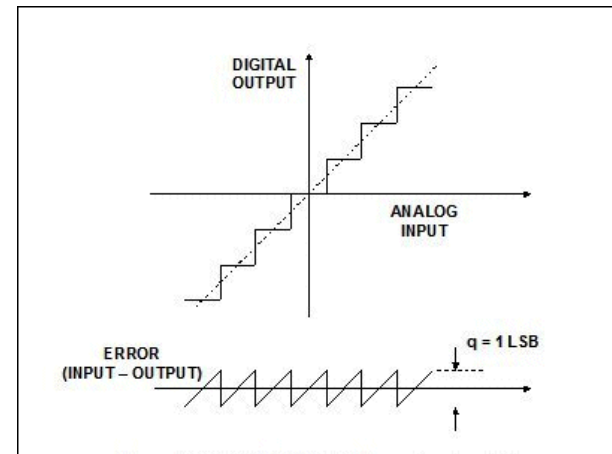
$$I = 7 / (2+1+1+1+2) = 7/7 = 1$$

So, how much across each Resistor?

So how much between A/B/C And ground?

Quantization error

- This error manifests itself as additive noise due to the difference between the analog value and its closest digital value.



- Quantization noise has an approximate rms voltage given

$$V_n = \frac{q}{\sqrt{12}}$$

Dynamic range

- The dynamic range of an A/D converter is the ratio of the maximum input voltage to the minimum recognizable voltage level (q).
- Dynamic range is typically express in decibels and for an N -bit quantizer is given

$$\text{DR} = 20 \log \frac{V_{\max} - V_{\min}}{q} = 20 \log 2^N = 6.02 \cdot N \quad [\text{dB}]$$

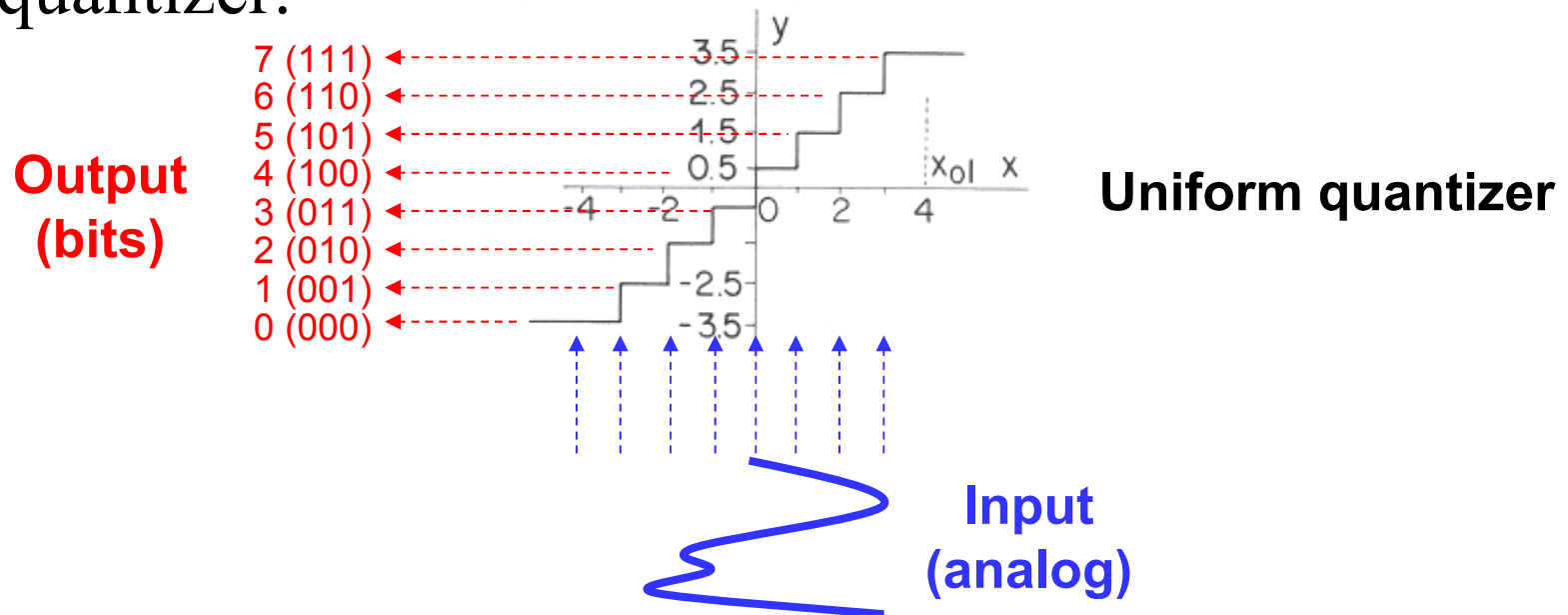


Example Problem 3

What is the dynamic range of an 8-bit quantizer used for digitizing telephone signals?

Uniform quantization

- Thus far we have assumed equal spacing between all of our quantizer levels. This is called a **uniform quantizer**.
- This is a good choice for signals whose values are uniformly distributed across the range of the quantizer.

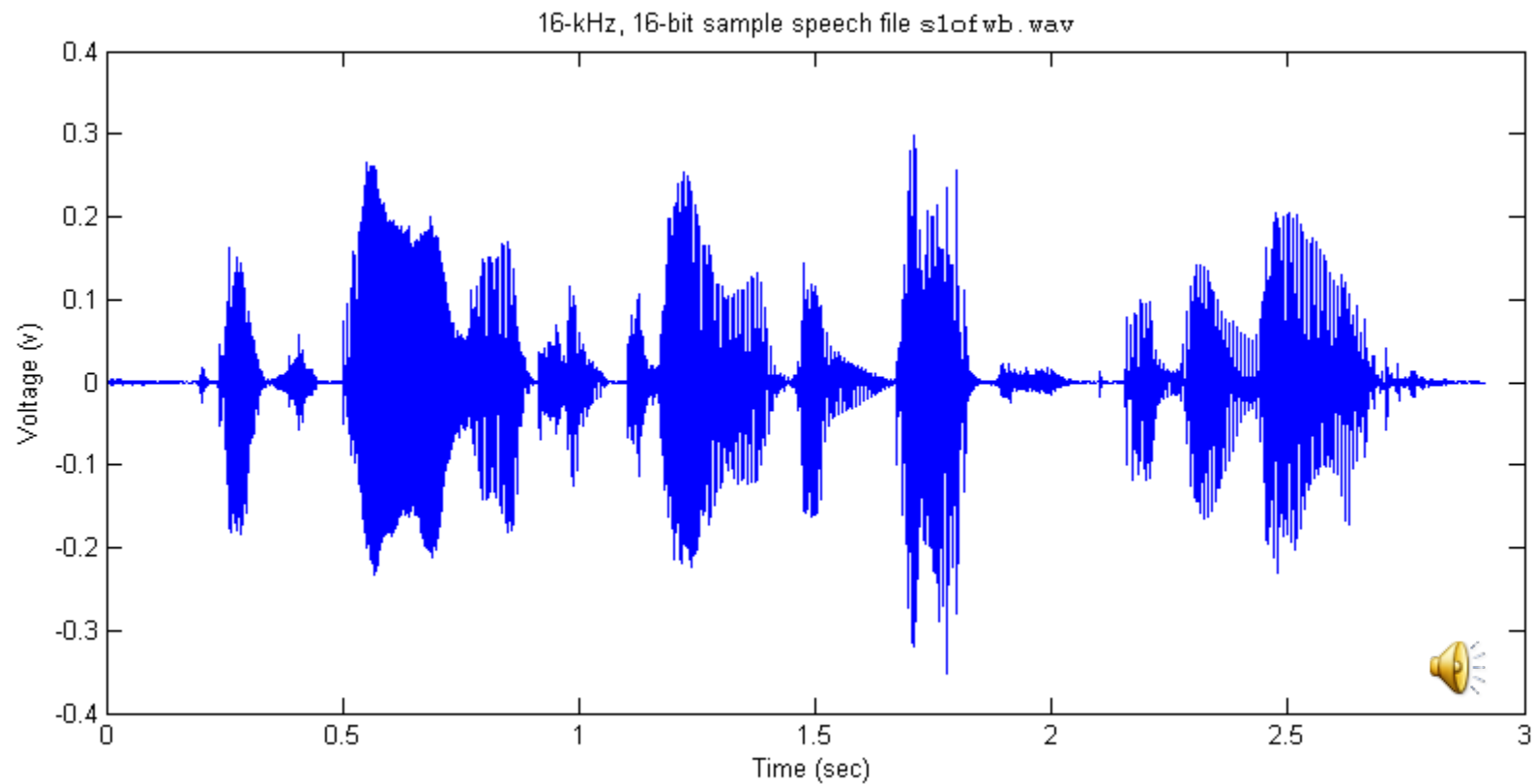




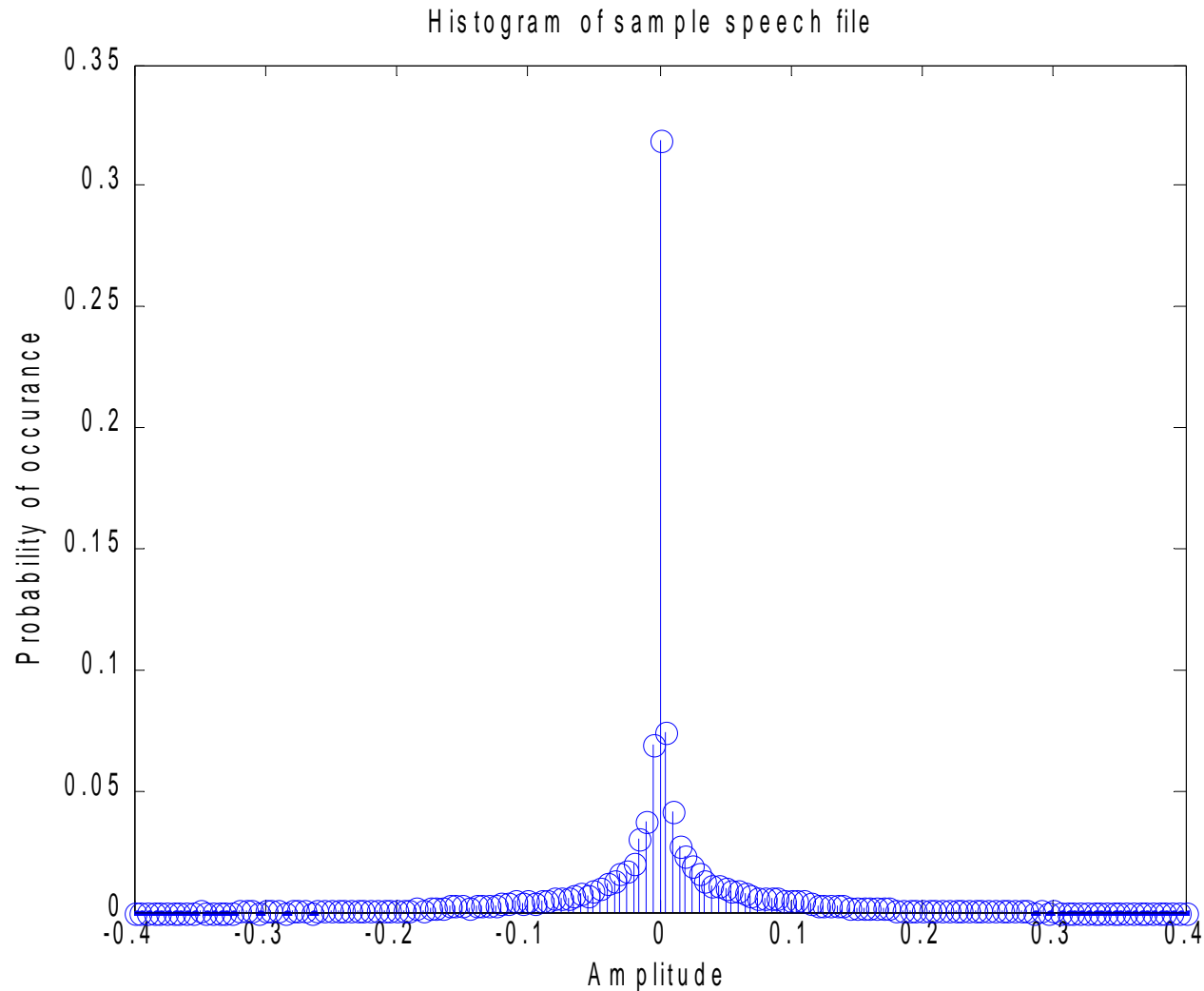
Non-uniform quantization

- Many real-life signals are *not* uniformly distributed.
- In speech signals, small amplitudes occur more frequently than large amplitudes.

Non-uniform quantization



Non-uniform quantization



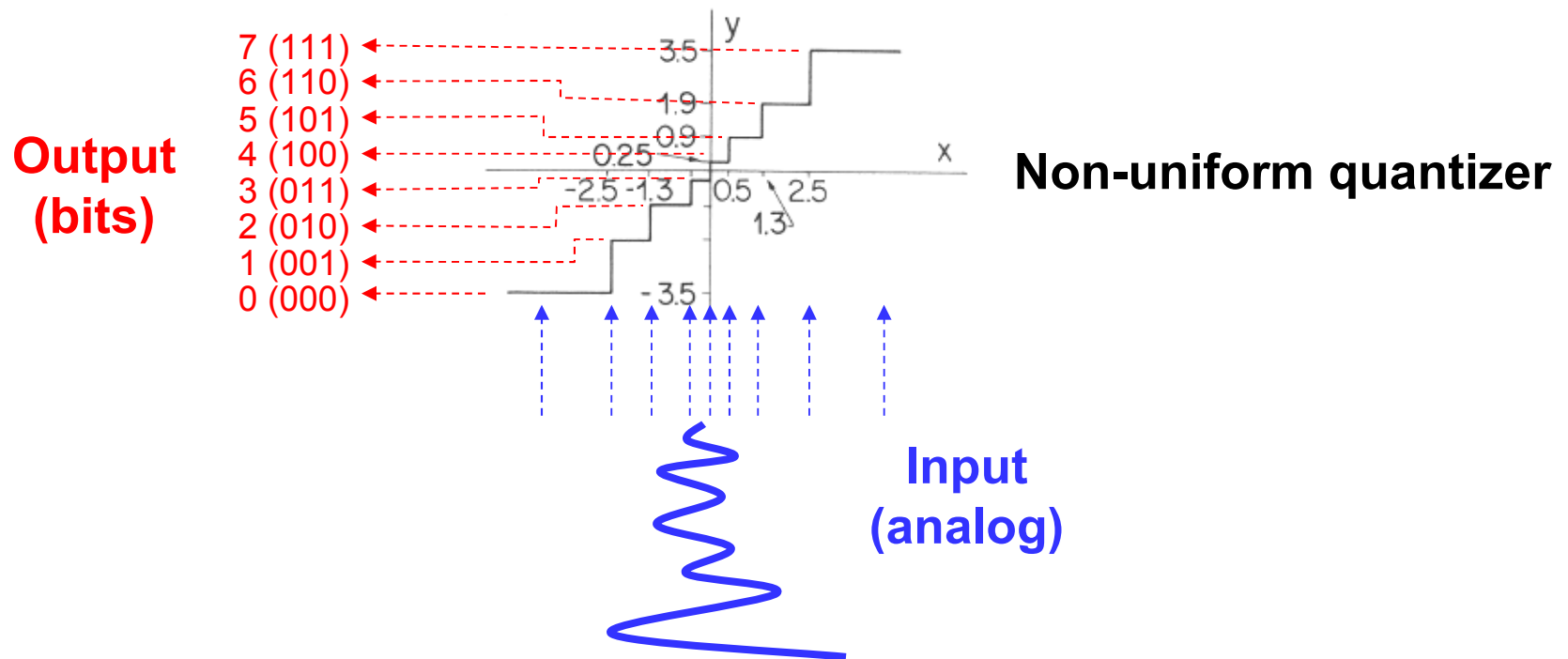


Non-uniform quantization

- Because small amplitudes occur more frequently, it makes sense to improve the resolution of the quantizer at small amplitudes.
- A **non-uniform quantizer** accomplishes this by having quantization levels in are not a fixed size.

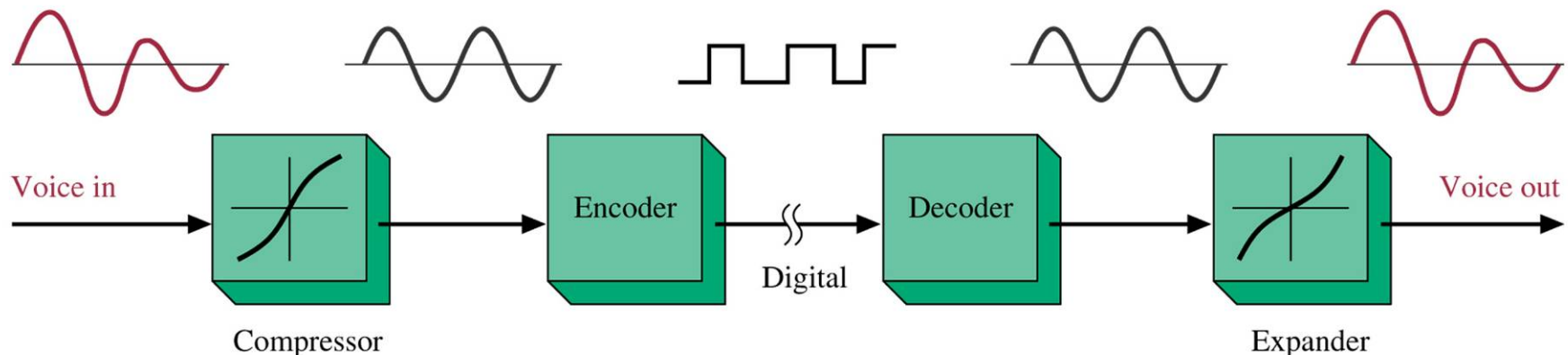
Non-uniform quantization

- A **non-uniform quantizer** accomplishes this by having quantization levels that are not a fixed size.
- This will result in reduced quantization error which improves S/N .

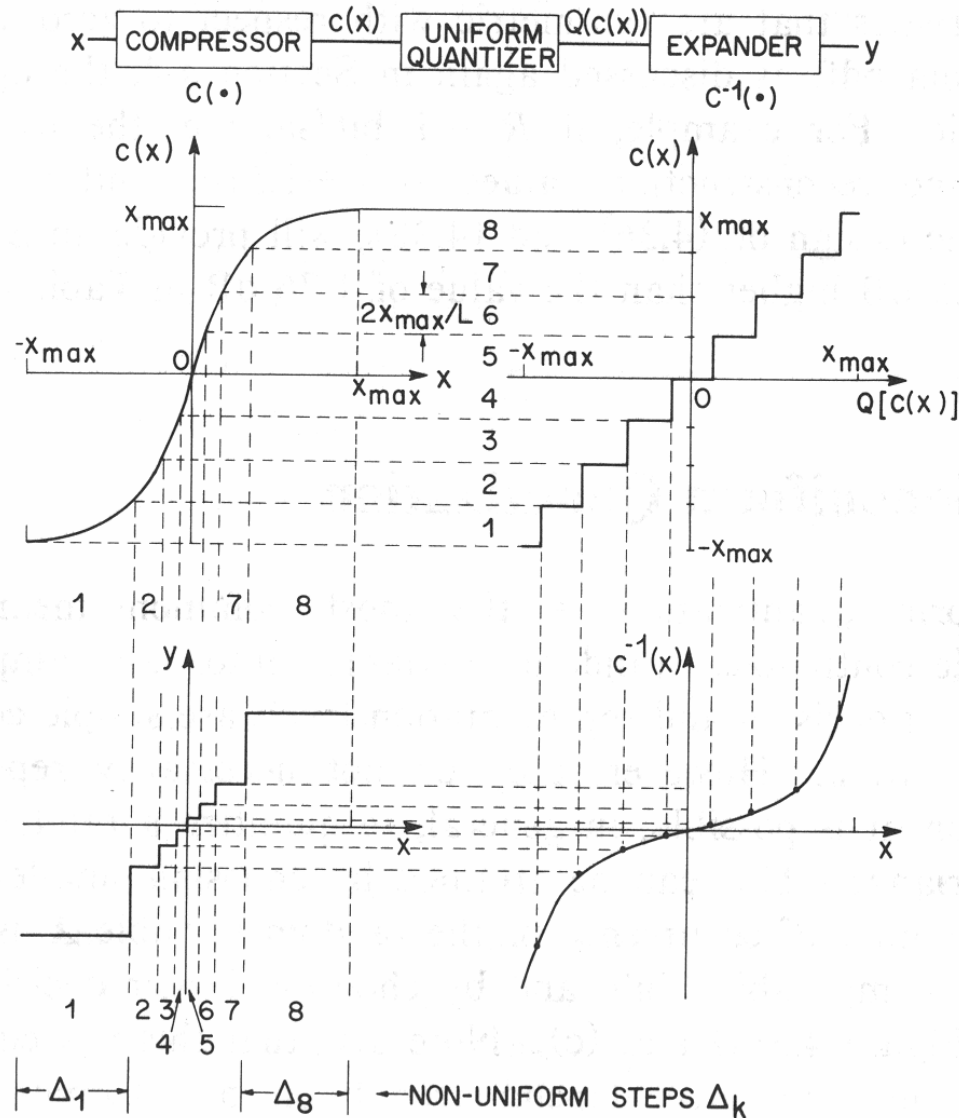


Companing

- One way of realizing **non-uniform quantization** with a uniform quantizer is through a process called companding.
- **Companing** (*compressing* and *expanding*) involves compressing a signal, quantizing it, and then expanding it when it is converted back to analog.



Companding



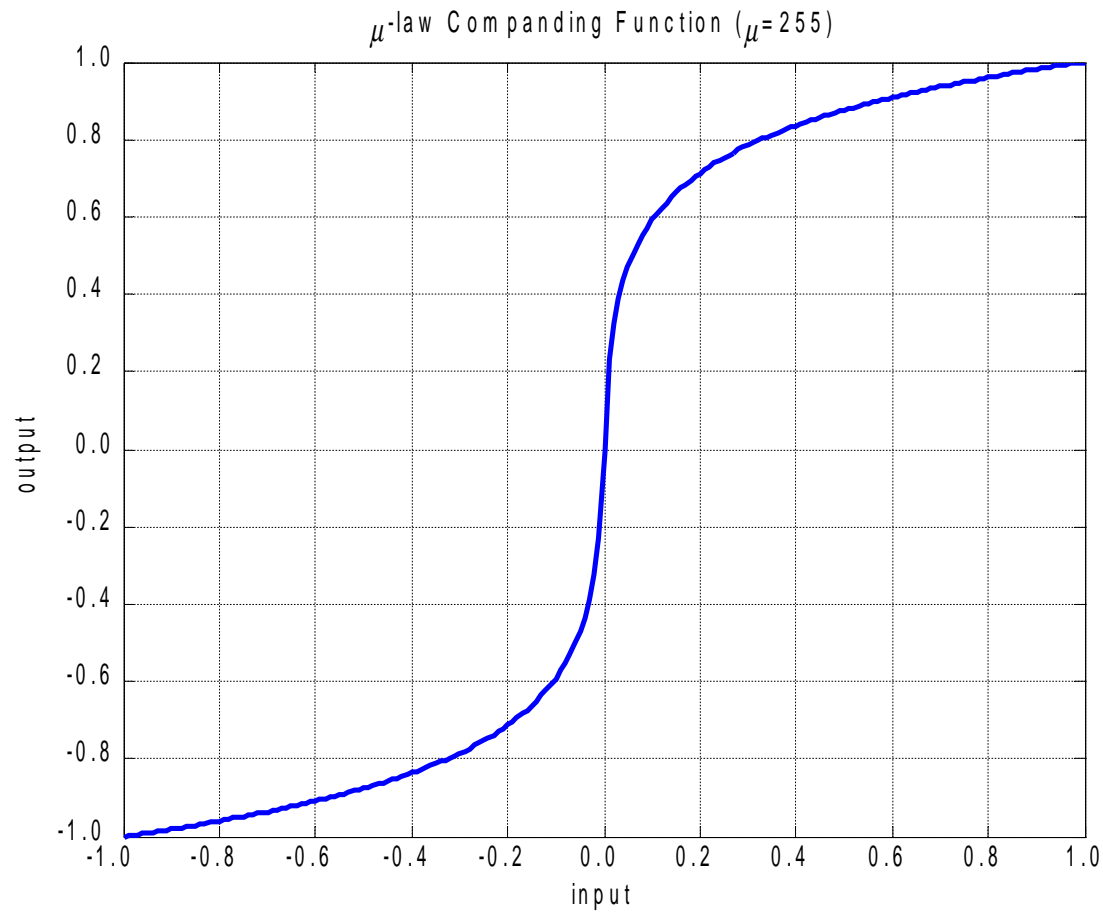
μ -law companding

- One commonly used companding function is called μ -law companding defined as

$$V_{out} = \frac{V_{max} \times \ln(1 + \mu V_{in} / V_{max})}{\ln(1 + \mu)}$$

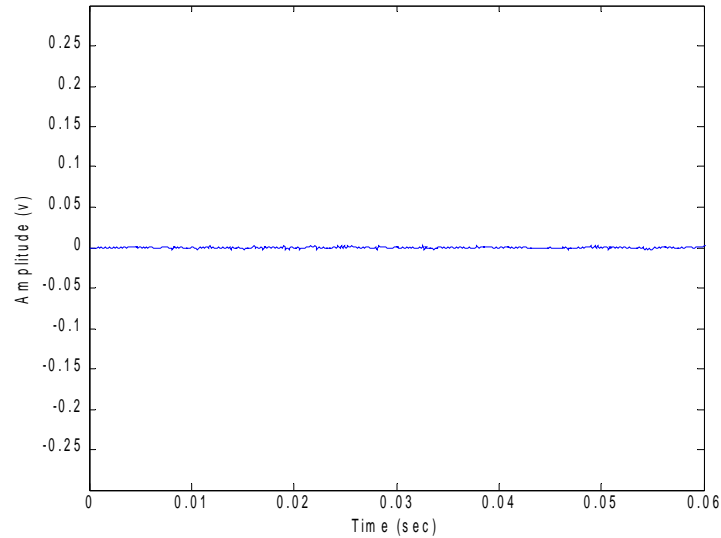
- PCM telephone systems is the U.S., Canada and Japan μ -law companding with $\mu = 255$.

μ -law companding

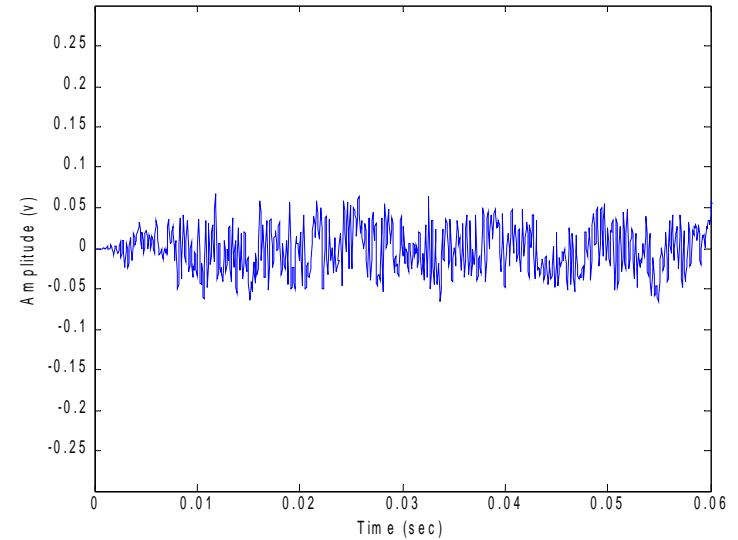


μ -law companding

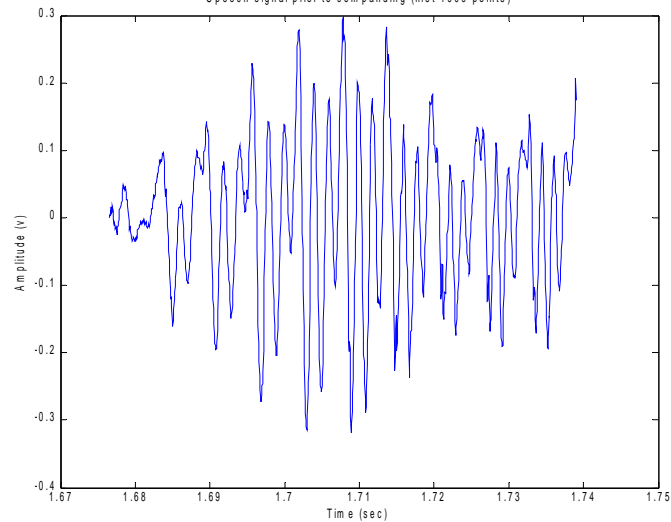
Speech signal prior to companding (first 1000 points)



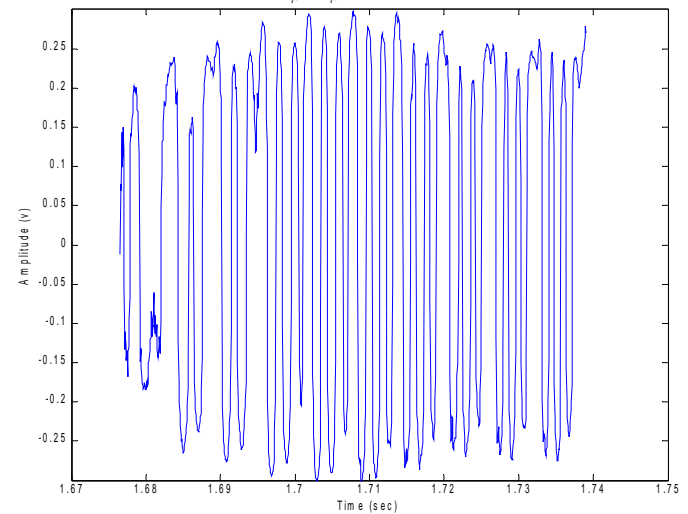
Speech signal after μ -law ($\mu = 255$) companding (first 1000 points)

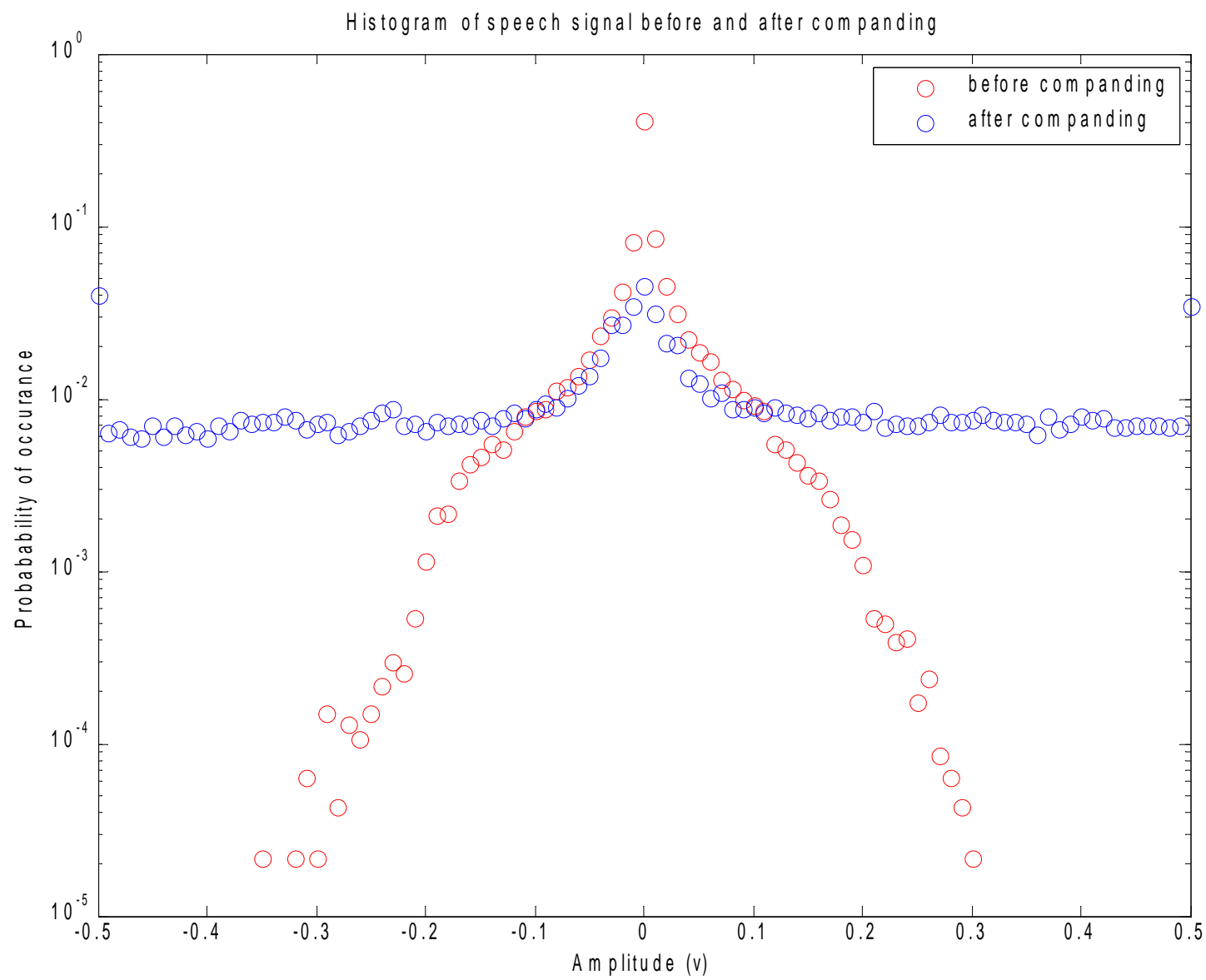


Speech signal prior to companding (first 1000 points)



Speech signal after μ -law ($\mu = 255$) companding (first 1000 points)





μ -law companding

- **Bottom line:** The increase in S/N as a result of non-uniform quantization (through μ -law companding) allows an 8-bit non-uniform quantizer to achieve the same quality speech as a 12-bit uniform quantizer.
- For the phone company, this means a savings of 33% in required bandwidth.



Original sample file (16-bit)



Sample file after 6-bit uniform quantization



Sample file after 6-bit non-uniform quantization w/ $\mu=255$ companding