

# AN14743

## S32M27 Analog to Digital Converter (ADC) Example in S32 Design Studio

Rev. 1.0 — 1 July 2025

Application note

### Document information

Information	Content
Keywords	NXP, S32M27, S32 Design Studio, ADC, LLD, RTD
Abstract	Analog to Digital Converter (ADC) implementation using Low Level Drivers (LLD) and Real-Time Drivers (RTD) is a key feature for time-critical applications on S32M2 microcontrollers. The S32M2 microcontrollers from NXP integrates up to two SAR ADCs with three configurable channel groups—Precision, Standard, and External. It supports resolutions from 8 to 14 bits, delivering consistent 15-bit results. Designed for fast and accurate signal conversion, it achieves 1µs sampling at 80 MHz and up to 1M samples/sec, with ±6 LSB accuracy. Key features include multiple conversion modes, DMA and pre-sampling support, analog watchdogs, interrupt flags, calibration, interleaving, averaging, and self-test, making it ideal for automotive analog signal processing.



## 1 Introduction

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The S32M2 microcontroller family from NXP is a highly integrated solution tailored for 12V motor control applications. Built on a system-in-package (SiP) design, it combines high-voltage analog components, such as MOSFET gate pre-drivers, LIN/CAN FD interfaces, and voltage regulators, with a robust embedded MCU core based on the Arm® Cortex®-M4 or M7. This architecture supports functional safety up to ISO 26262 ASIL B and enables advanced motor diagnostics, noise reduction algorithms, and seamless firmware-over-the-air (FOTA) updates through the S32 Automotive Platform.

Analog-to-Digital Converters (ADCs) are fundamental components in embedded systems, especially within the automotive domain, where they serve as the bridge between the physical world and digital control systems. In vehicles, ADCs are used to digitize signals from various sensors—such as temperature, pressure, speed, and position—allowing the microcontroller to interpret and respond to real-world conditions with precision and speed. This capability is essential for functions like engine control, battery management, driver assistance systems, and climate regulation.

The S32M2 microcontroller family from NXP, including the S32M27, is specifically designed for automotive applications, integrating high-performance SAR ADCs that support multiple resolution levels and conversion modes. These ADCs are optimized for fast sampling rates and high accuracy, enabling real-time data acquisition and processing. With features like programmable DMA, analog watchdogs, and hardware averaging, the S32M2xx ADCs provide robust and flexible solutions for demanding automotive environments. Their integration into the S32 Design Studio IDE, along with support for Low-Level Drivers (LLD) and Real-Time Drivers (RTD), facilitates efficient development and deployment of reliable, real-time embedded systems.

## 2 ADC Design

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The S32M27 family of devices supports up to two instances of Analog-to-Digital Converters (ADCs), providing flexible and efficient data acquisition capabilities. The ADC channels are organized into three distinct groups: Precision, Standard, and External. Each group features independent configuration settings, tailored to meet varying accuracy and performance requirements. This design allows developers to optimize ADC behavior according to specific application needs. The configuration details for each ADC group are summarized in the following table.

Instance	S32M27x
ADC_0	Yes
ADC_1	Yes

Table 233. ADC configuration

Feature	ADC_0	ADC_1
No. of precision channels	8	8
No. of standard channels <sup>1</sup>	16	16
No. of special internal channels	1 <sup>2</sup>	0
No. of external channels	32	32
BCTU trigger support	Yes	Yes
DMA support	Yes	Yes
Hardware interleaving	Yes	Yes
No. of watchdogs	4	4
No. of Hardware trigger	3	3

Figure 1. S32M27 ADC Instances

NXP S32M27 automotive microcontroller devices are equipped with a 14-bit resolution successive approximation Analog-to-Digital Converter (SAR ADC), designed for the precise acquisition and digitalization of analog input signals. Notably, the conversion result consistently yields a 15-bit wide output, even when the selected resolution is lower, ensuring enhanced accuracy and consistency in signal processing.

The SAR ADC in the S32MK27 microcontroller family supports selectable resolutions of 8, 10, 12, or 14 bits, yet consistently delivers a 15-bit wide conversion result regardless of the chosen resolution. It achieves high-speed performance with a sampling and conversion time of approximately 1 microsecond using an 80 MHz conversion clock, supporting rates up to 1 million samples per second.

The converter maintains an accuracy of ±6 LSB Total Unadjusted Error (TUE) and offers three conversion modes: Normal (one-shot and scan), Injected (one-shot only), and BCTU (single and list conversions). Each ADC channel is equipped with independent data registers and features programmable DMA and pre-sampling enable options.

Additional capabilities include configurable analog watchdogs for individual channels, distinct interrupt flags for end-of-conversion conditions (single, chain, or BCTU), watchdog threshold violations, and software-triggered calibration. The system also supports hardware interleaving, a hardware averaging function, and a built-in self-test for enhanced reliability.

S32M27 Analog to Digital Converter (ADC) Example in S32 Design Studio

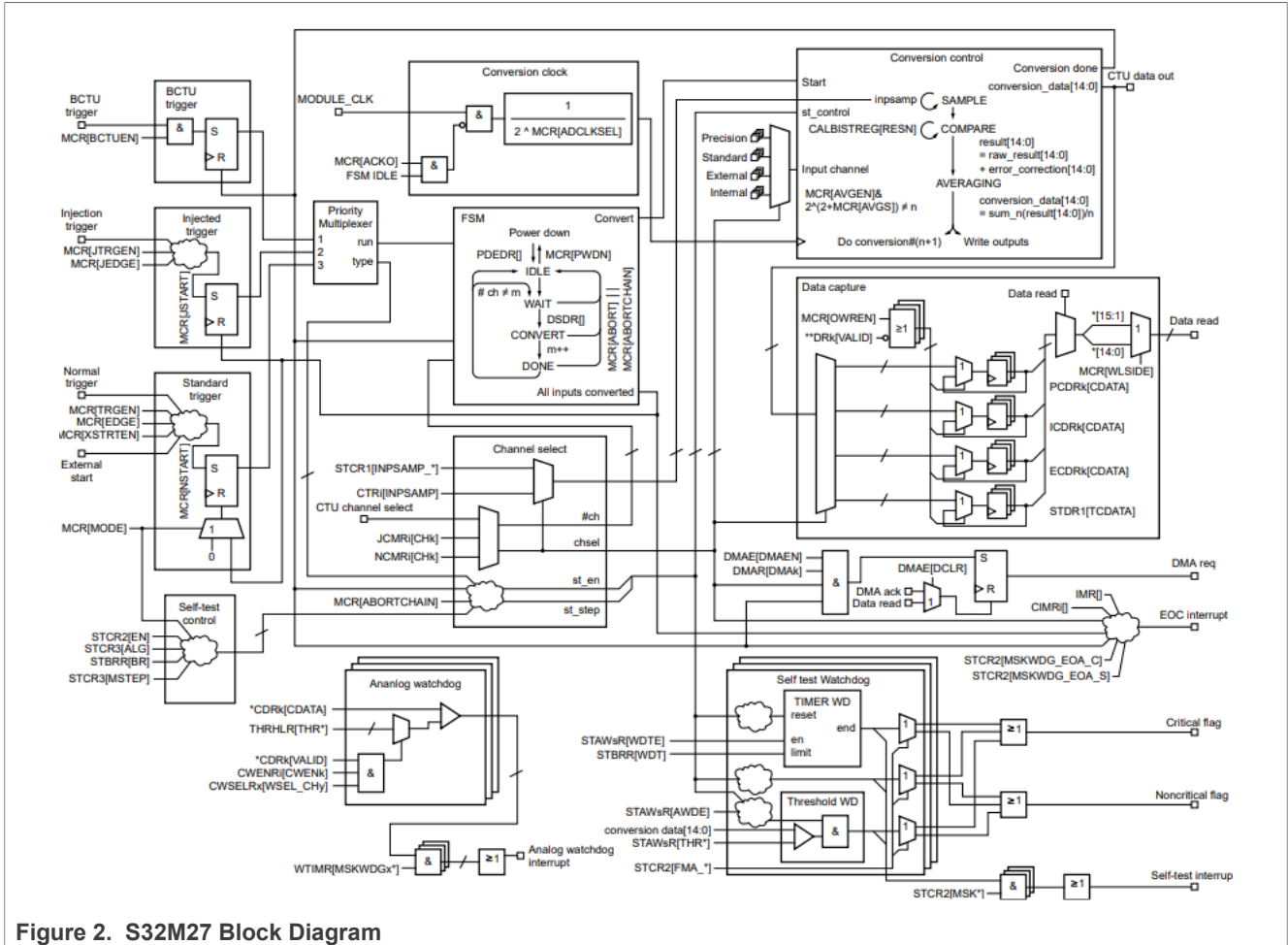


Figure 2. S32M27 Block Diagram

The ADC operates exclusively in Functional mode, with its behavior primarily governed by the Main Configuration Register (MCR). Most of the ADC's features are configured through this register, and adjustments to its field values should only be made when the ADC is in the Idle state—except for the ABORTCHAIN and ABORT fields, which may be modified at any time. To conserve power, the ADC can be placed into Power-Down mode by setting the MCR[PWDN] bit to 1. Additionally, clock signal gating can be achieved by setting MCR[ACKO] to 1, also while the ADC is in the Idle state. For the S32M27 family of devices the following DCM GPR bits have been used:

S32M27 Analog to Digital Converter (ADC) Example in S32 Design Studio

ADC channel	GPR_bit	Connected pad
ADC0 Standard channel 8 (ADC0 S8)	DCM.DCMRWF4[1]	0: GPIO PAD0 (default) 1: GPIO PAD45
ADC0 Standard channel 9 (ADC0 S9)	DCM.DCMRWF4[2]	0: GPIO PAD1 (default) 1: GPIO PAD46
ADC 1 standard channel 14 (ADC1 S14)	DCM.DCMRWF4[3]	0: GPIO PAD69 (default) 1: GPIO PAD32
ADC 1 standard channel 15 (ADC1 S15)	DCM.DCMRWF4[4]	0: GPIO PAD4 (default) 1: GPIO PAD33
ADC1 Standard channel 22 (ADC1 S22)	DCM.DCMRWF4[5]	0: GPIO PAD124 (default) 1: GPIO PAD145
ADC1 Standard channel 23 (ADC1 S23)	DCM.DCMRWF4[6]	0: GPIO PAD125 (default) 1: GPIO PAD146

Figure 3. S32M27 ADC Mux Mode

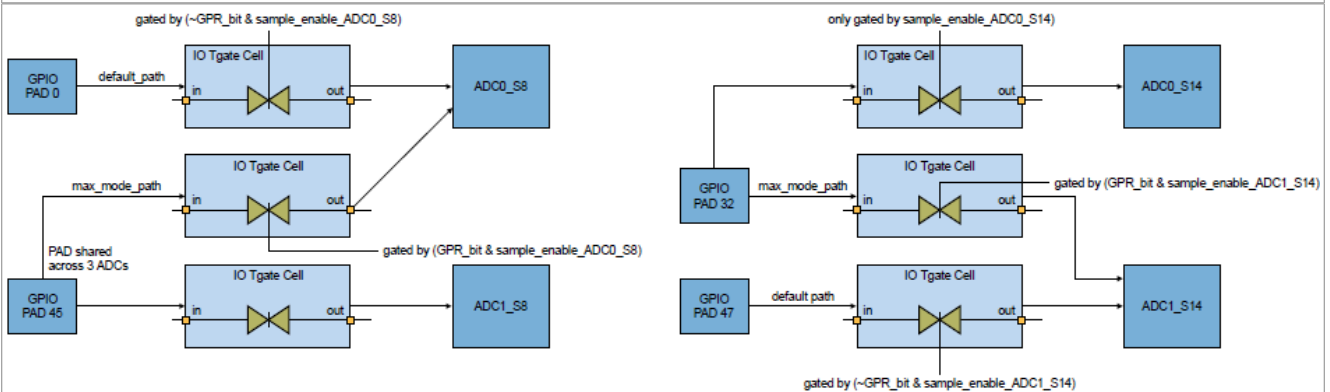


Figure 4. S32M27 ADC Channel Interleaving

The total conversion time of the ADC is directly influenced by the conversion clock frequency, designated as AD\_clk. This frequency is configured through the MCR[ADCLKSEL] bit within the Main Configuration Register. The relationship between the clock configuration and the ADC's performance characteristics is illustrated in the accompanying figure, which depicts the ADC\_n clocking setup for each MCU.

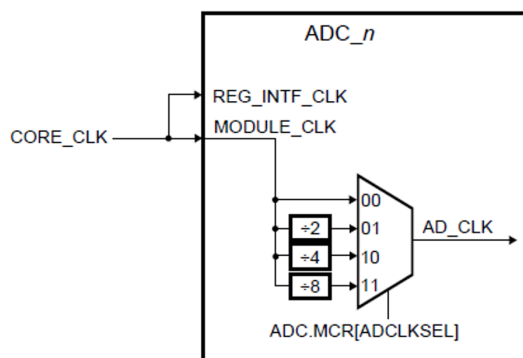


Figure 5. S32M27 ADC Clocking

**S32M27 ADC Normal Conversion**

To initiate a normal conversion in the ADC module, the Normal Conversion Mask Registers (NCMRn) and the Main Configuration Register (MCR) must first be properly configured. Once these settings are in place, a software-triggered conversion can begin by setting the MCR[NSTART] bit. Every conversion sequence includes both sampling and conversion phases. The ADC supports two operation modes: One-Shot mode (MODE = 0), where the sequential conversion is executed only once, and Scan mode (MODE = 1), which enables continuous sequential conversions.

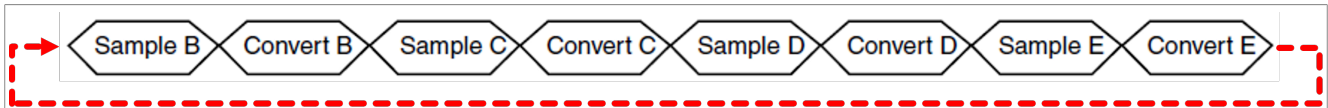


Figure 6. S32M27 ADC Normal Conversion Sequence

At the conclusion of each ADC conversion, the resulting value is stored in the corresponding register—PCDRn, ICDRn, or ECDRn—depending on the type of conversion performed. Simultaneously, the End of Conversion (EOC) flag is set, and, if enabled via the Interrupt Mask Register (IMR[MSKEOC]), an EOC interrupt is triggered. Once the final conversion in a defined chain is completed, the End of Chain (ECH) flag is asserted, and an ECH interrupt is issued if it has been enabled through IMR[MSKECH].

**S32M27 ADC Injected Conversion**

To initiate an injected conversion, the Injected Conversion Enable Inputs Registers (JCMRn) must be configured for the desired group—whether precision, standard, or external. Once set, a software-triggered conversion can be launched by setting the MCR[JSTART] bit. Injected conversions are restricted to insertion within an active Normal conversion chain and must operate in One-Shot mode exclusively. Upon completion of each injected conversion, an End of Injected Conversion (JEOC) interrupt is issued, while the conclusion of the entire injected chain triggers an End of Injected Chain (JECH) interrupt.

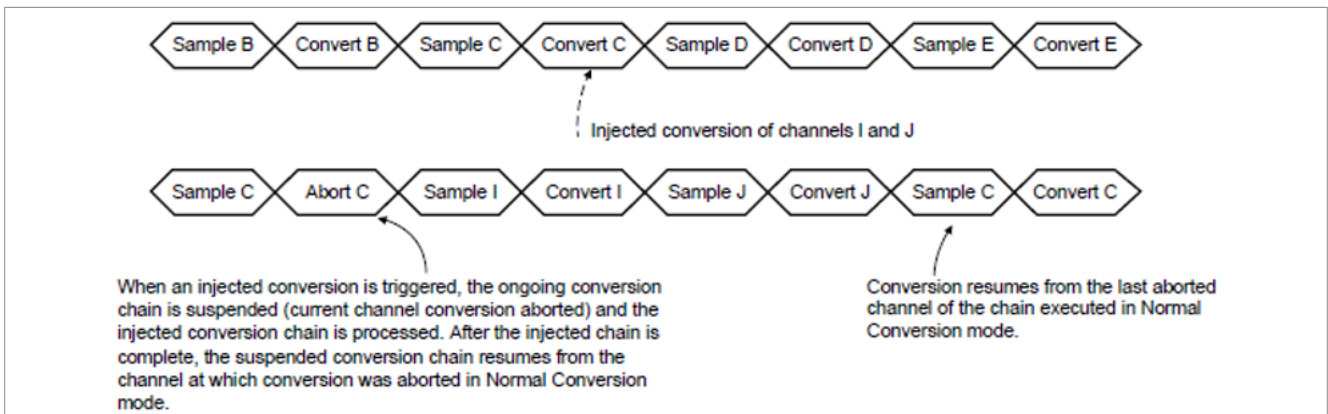


Figure 7. S32M27 ADC Injected Conversion Sequence

**3 Code Description**

This project configures the ADC driver with the RTD 4.0.0 P01.

The RTD interface is used for the peripheral configuration.

For the implementation of this application, a **S32M27XEVB-C064** will be used.

**Function Description**

This function set the clock configuration according to pre-defined structure.

```
Clock_Ip_StatusType Clock_Ip_Init(Clock_Ip_ClockConfigType const * Config)
```

This function enable a clock for a given peripheral.

```
void Clock_Ip_EnableModuleClock(Clock_Ip_NameType ClockName)
```

This function configures the pins with the options provided in the given structure.

```
Siul2_Port_Ip_PortStatusType Siul2_Port_Ip_Init(uint32 pinCount, const  
Siul2_Port_Ip_PinSettingsConfig config[])
```

This function initializes the configured interrupts at interrupt controller level.

```
IntCtrl_Ip_StatusType IntCtrl_Ip_Init(const IntCtrl_Ip_CtrlConfigType *pIntCtrlCtrlConfig)
```

This function configures the global functionalities of a BCTU instance.

```
void Bctu_Ip_Init(const uint32 u32Instance, const Bctu_Ip_ConfigType * const pConfig)
```

This function initializes the ADC\_SAR module by configuring all available features.

```
Adc_Sar_Ip_StatusType Adc_Sar_Ip_Init(const uint32 u32Instance, const Adc_Sar_Ip_ConfigType * const  
pConfig)
```

This function sets the state of the Global Trigger Enable flag.

```
void Bctu_Ip_SetGlobalTriggerEn(const uint32 u32Instance, const boolean bState)
```

This function enables notifications selected by the given mask on the selected BCTU instance.

```
void Bctu_Ip_EnableNotifications(const uint32 u32Instance, const uint32 u32NotificationMask)
```

This function triggers a conversion or list of conversions associated with a trigger index.

```
void Bctu_Ip_SwTriggerConversion(const uint32 u32Instance, const uint8 u8TrigIdx)
```

This function returns the conversion result data stored in the BCTU result FIFO at the given index.

```
uint16 Bctu_Ip_GetFifoData(const uint32 u32Instance, const uint8 u8FifoIdx)
```

This function writes the given pin from a port, with the given value ('0' represents LOW, '1' represents HIGH).

```
void Siul2_Dio_Ip_WritePin(Siul2_Dio_Ip_GpioType * const base, Siul2_Dio_Ip_PinsChannelType pin,  
Siul2_Dio_Ip_PinsLevelType value)
```

## Project Creation

1. Download and open S32 Design Studio for S32 Platform.
2. Download the S32M2xx Development Package version 3.6.0 from S32DS:
  - a. Select Help > S32DS Extensions and Updates > S32M2xx development package
  - b. Click on Install button and follow the instructions.
3. Select File > New > S32DS Application Project.
4. Write a project name without spaces. For example: *S32M2xx\_ADC\_Example*.
5. Open folder *Family S32M2xx*, select S32M276 in the *Processors* section and click next.

6. Click on the three dots (...) to select a Software Development Kit (SDK), click ok and click finish.

### Pins ConfigTool

1. Expand your project folder in the *Project Explorer* view.
2. Double click on the <Project name>.mex file.
3. Click on the *Pins* view on the toolbar if not already selected.
4. In the pins tab, type PTD15 in the search bar and select the check box on the corresponding pin name to open pin alternatives.
5. Select alternative *SIUL2:gpio,111 > Output > OK > Done*.
6. Search PTD16 by repeating step 4 and select *SIUL2:gpio,112 > Output > OK > Done*
7. Search PTE6 by repeating step 4 and select *ADC1:adc1\_p6 > Done*
8. (Optional) In the Routing Details tab, is recommended to give a meaningful identifier to the pin and configure electrical characteristics as needed.

### Peripherals ConfigTool

1. Click on the *Peripherals* view near the *Pins* view in the toolbar.
2. In the components tab at the left side, click the Drivers plus "+" button.
3. Select "All" in the components that should be offered in the top center.
4. Type *Bctu\_Ip* in the search bar and double click to add the component.
  - a. Select BCTU\_FIFO1 in Data Destination field.
  - b. Disable field in Enable HW Triggering field.
  - c. Select List in BCTU ADC Command List Operating field.
  - d. Type "2" in ADC Target Mask field.
  - e. Add 3 items in Bctu LIST items.
  - f. Select P6\_ChNum6 in ADC Channel ID.
  - g. Select VREFH\_ChNum55 in ADC Channel ID.
  - h. Select VREFL\_ChNum54 in ADC Channel ID and enable Last channel check box.
  - i. Add an item in Result FIFOs.
  - j. Enable interrupt notifications check box.
  - k. Type "*Bctu\_Notification*" at Watermark notification field.
5. Add *Adc\_Sar\_Ip* component by repeating steps 2 to 4.
  - a. Open *Adc\_Sar\_Ip* component by double click.
  - b. Select ADC1 in Adc Hardware Unit field.
  - c. Select Scan in Adc Conversion Mode field.
  - d. Select Trigger Mode in Adc Ctu mode tab.
  - e. Select P6\_ChNum6 in Adc Physical Channel Name of Channel configurations array section.
6. Add *Siul2\_Dio* component by repeating steps 2 to 4.
7. Add *Siul2\_Port* component by repeating steps 2 to 4.
8. Open *Siul2\_Port*.
  - a. Click on *PortConfigSet* tab.
  - b. In *PortPin Mscr* type "111".
  - c. Click on the plus "+" button to add a new port pin.
  - d. In *PortPin Mscr* type "112".
  - e. Click on the plus "+" button to add a new port pin.
  - f. In *PortPin Mscr* type "134".
9. Add *IntCtrl\_Ip* component by repeating steps 2 to 4
10. Open *IntCtrl\_Ip*.
  - a. Click on *General Configuration* tab.



- b. Disable *Development errors detection* check box.
  - c. Click on *Interrupt Controller* tab.
  - d. Add an item by clicking the plus "+" button.
  - e. Add a new interrupt by clicking the plus "+" button in *PlatformIsrConfig*.
  - f. For this example, select interrupt name *BCTU\_IRQn*.
  - g. Click on the *Interrupt Enabled* check box.
  - h. In *Priority* type "3".
  - i. In *Handler* type "Bctu\_0\_Isr".
11. Update the code by clicking *Update Code* button in the toolbar and click OK.

### Main Code

1. To go back to the main file click on *S32DS C/C++* in the toolbar.
2. Replace the auto-generated code with the following:

```

/* Including necessary configuration files. */
#include "Clock_Ip.h"
#include "IntCtrl_Ip.h"
#include "Siul2_Port_Ip.h"
#include "Siul2_Dio_Ip.h"
#include "Adc_Sar_Ip.h"
#include "Bctu_Ip.h"

#define clockConfig      &Clock_Ip_aClockConfig[0]
#define BCTU_Instance_0  (0U)
#define ADC_Instance_1  (1U)

volatile uint8_t flag = 0;

volatile uint16_t data[3] = {0, 0, 0};
volatile uint8_t index = 0;

void Bctu_Notification(void)
{
    for(index = 0; index < 3; index++)
    {
        data[index] = Bctu_Ip_GetFifoData(BCTU_Instance_0, 0U);
    }
    flag = 1;
}

int main(void)
{
    /* Initial Clock */
    Clock_Ip_Init(clockConfig);
    Clock_Ip_EnableModuleClock(ADC1_CLK);
    Clock_Ip_EnableModuleClock(BCTU0_CLK);

    /* Initial Pin */
    Siul2_Port_Ip_Init(NUM_OF_CONFIGURED_PINS_PortContainer_0_BOARD_InitPeripherals,
        g_pin_mux_InitConfigArr_PortContainer_0_BOARD_InitPeripherals);

    /*Initial ISR*/
    IntCtrl_Ip_Init(&IntCtrlConfig_0);

    /* BCTU */
    Bctu_Ip_Init(BCTU_Instance_0, &BctuHwUnit_0);

    /* ADC */
    Adc_Sar_Ip_Init(ADC_Instance_1, &AdcHwUnit_0);

    /* Notification and Trigger of BCTU */
    Bctu_Ip_SetGlobalTriggerEn(BCTU_Instance_0, 1U);
    Bctu_Ip_EnableNotifications(BCTU_Instance_0, BCTU_IP_NOTIF_FIFO1);
    Bctu_Ip_SwTriggerConversion(BCTU_Instance_0, 0U);

    for(;;)
    {
        if(1U == flag)

```

```
{
    flag = 0;
    if(4095 >= data[0])
    {
        Siul2_Dio_Ip_WritePin(LED1_PORT, LED1_PIN, 0);
        Siul2_Dio_Ip_WritePin(LED2_PORT, LED2_PIN, 0);
    }
    else if(8191 >= data[0])
    {
        Siul2_Dio_Ip_WritePin(LED1_PORT, LED1_PIN, 0);
        Siul2_Dio_Ip_WritePin(LED2_PORT, LED2_PIN, 1);
    }
    else if(12287 >= data[0])
    {
        Siul2_Dio_Ip_WritePin(LED1_PORT, LED1_PIN, 1);
        Siul2_Dio_Ip_WritePin(LED2_PORT, LED2_PIN, 0);
    }
    else
    {
        Siul2_Dio_Ip_WritePin(LED1_PORT, LED1_PIN, 1);
        Siul2_Dio_Ip_WritePin(LED2_PORT, LED2_PIN, 1);
    }
    Bctu_Ip_SwTriggerConversion(BCTU_Instance_0, 0U);
}
}
```

3. Click the hammer icon in the toolbar or "Ctrl+b" to build the project.
4. Connect the board.
5. Click the bug icon in the toolbar to debug the project as the standard debug configuration.
6. (Optional) Check if Debug Configurations are as follows:
  - a. Click on the arrow next to the debug icon.
  - b. Select Debug Configurations.
  - c. Expand GDB PEMicro Interface Debugging.
  - d. Select <project name>\_Debug\_FLASH\_PNE.
  - e. Click on the *PEMicro Debugger* tab and review the options in the figure.
  - f. Click on Apply and then Debug.
7. Click the play icon in the toolbar to run the application.

S32M27 Analog to Digital Converter (ADC) Example in S32 Design Studio

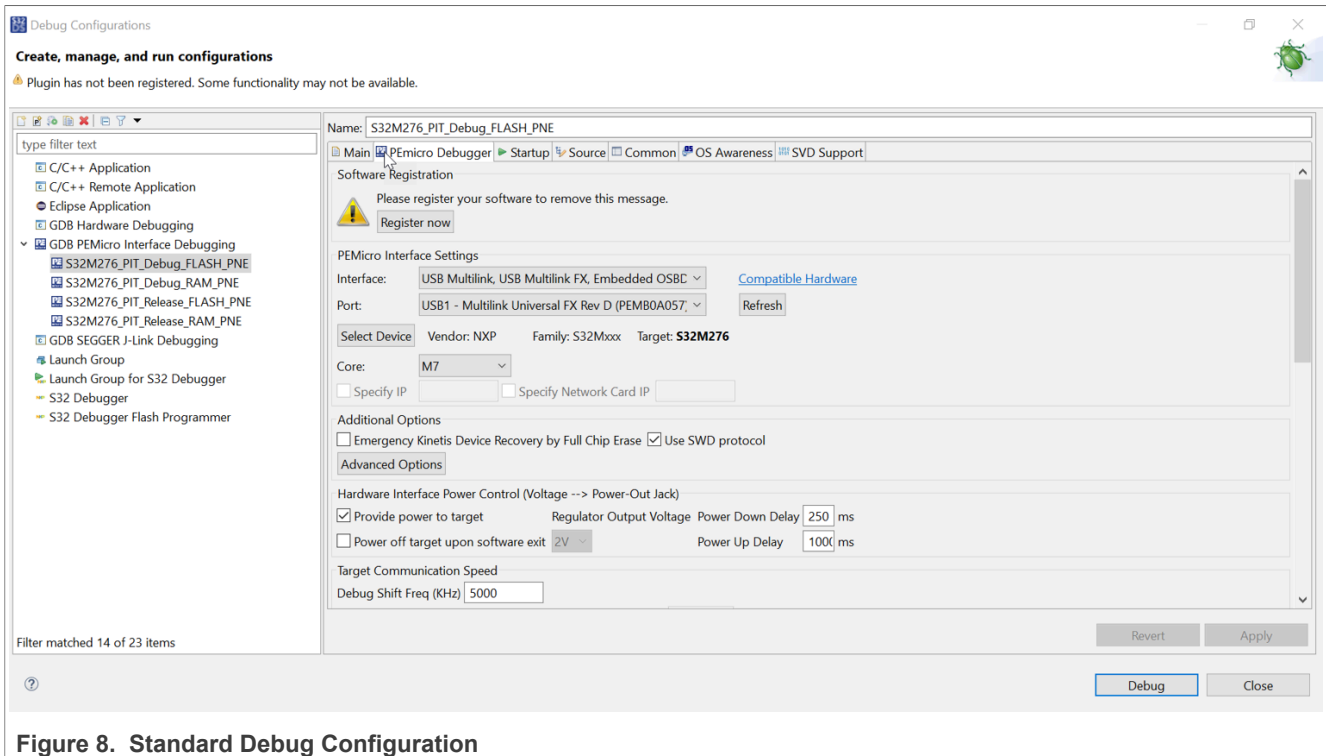


Figure 8. Standard Debug Configuration

## 4 Conclusion

In conclusion, the ADC module in the NXP S32MK27x family of automotive microcontrollers delivers a high-performance, flexible, and feature-rich solution for analog signal acquisition and digital conversion. With its configurable resolution, rapid conversion rates, and multi-mode operation—including Normal, Injected, and BCTU conversions—it supports a wide range of application requirements. The comprehensive control provided by registers such as MCR, NCMRn, and JCMRn allows for precise configuration, while the intelligent interrupt system and diagnostic features like self-test and watchdogs enhance both responsiveness and reliability. Overall, this ADC architecture is engineered to offer robust performance, optimized power management, and extensive configurability, making it well-suited for demanding automotive environments.

## 5 Note about the source code in the document

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## 6 Revision history

Table 1. Revision history

Document ID	Release date	Description
AN14743 v.1.0	01 July 2025	• Initial version

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