



PicoScope 3000A/B Series

PC Oscilloscopes

Programmer's Guide



Contents

1 Introduction	1
1 Overview	1
2 Minimum PC requirements	1
3 Legal information	2
4 Company details	3
2 Technical Information	4
1 Programming the 3000 Series Oscilloscopes	4
1 3000A Driver	4
2 System requirements	4
3 Voltage ranges	5
4 Triggering	5
5 Sampling modes	5
6 Oversampling	16
7 Timebases	17
8 Combining several oscilloscopes	18
9 API functions	19
10 Programming examples	88
11 Driver status codes	91
12 Enumerated types and constants	95
13 Numeric data types	98
3 Glossary	99
Index	101



1 Introduction

1.1 Overview

The new PicoScope 3000 Series of PC Oscilloscopes from Pico Technology is a range of high-specification, real-time measuring instruments that connect to the USB port of your computer. The oscilloscopes are fully [USB 2.0](#)-capable and backwards-compatible with [USB 1.1](#), and obtain their power supply through the USB cable, so they do not need an additional power supply and are therefore highly portable.



This manual explains how to use the API (application programming interface) functions, so that you can develop your own programs to collect and analyse data from the oscilloscope.

The new PicoScope 3000 Series* consists of six oscilloscopes, falling into two categories:

- 3204A, 3205A, 3206A A high speed portable oscilloscope, with a function generator.
- 3204B, 3205B, 3206B As the A series, also featuring an arbitrary waveform generator and deeper memory over its A series counterpart.

*For information on any PicoScope 3000 Series oscilloscope, refer to the documentation on our [website](#).

1.2 Minimum PC requirements

To ensure that your PicoScope 3000 Series PC Oscilloscope operates correctly, you must have a computer with at least the minimum system requirements to run one of the supported operating systems, as shown in the following table. The performance of the oscilloscope will be better with a more powerful PC, and will benefit from a multi-core processor. Please note the PicoScope software is not installed as part of the SDK.

Item	Absolute minimum	Recommended minimum	Recommended full specification
Operating system	Windows XP SP2 Windows Vista Windows 7		
	32 bit and 64* bit versions supported		
Processor	As required by Windows	300 MHz	1 GHz
Memory		256 MB	512 MB
Free disk space**		1.5 GB	2 GB
Ports	USB 1.1 compliant port	USB 2.0 compliant port	

* While the driver will run on a 64 bit operating system, the driver itself is 32 bit, and therefore will run as a 32 bit.

** The PicoScope software does not use all the disk space specified in the table. The free space is required to make Windows run efficiently.

1.3 Legal information

The material contained in this release is licensed, not sold. Pico Technology Limited grants a licence to the person who installs this software, subject to the conditions listed below.

Access

The licensee agrees to allow access to this software only to persons who have been informed of these conditions and agree to abide by them.

Usage

The software in this release is for use only with Pico products or with data collected using Pico products.

Copyright

Pico Technology Ltd. claims the copyright of, and retains the rights to, all material (software, documents, etc.) contained in this SDK except the example programs. You may copy and distribute the SDK without restriction, as long as you do not remove any Pico Technology copyright statements. The example programs in the SDK may be modified, copied and distributed for the purpose of developing programs to collect data using Pico products.

Liability

Pico Technology and its agents shall not be liable for any loss, damage or injury, howsoever caused, related to the use of Pico Technology equipment or software, unless excluded by statute.

Fitness for purpose

As no two applications are the same, Pico Technology cannot guarantee that its equipment or software is suitable for a given application. It is your responsibility, therefore, to ensure that the product is suitable for your application.

Mission-critical applications

This software is intended for use on a computer that may be running other software products. For this reason, one of the conditions of the licence is that it excludes use in mission-critical applications, for example life support systems.

Viruses

This software was continuously monitored for viruses during production, but you are responsible for virus-checking the software once it is installed.

Support

If you are dissatisfied with the performance of this software, please contact our technical support staff, who will try to fix the problem within a reasonable time. If you are still dissatisfied, please return the product and software to your supplier within 28 days of purchase for a full refund.

Upgrades

We provide upgrades, free of charge, from our web site at www.picotech.com. We reserve the right to charge for updates or replacements sent out on physical media.

Trademarks

Windows is a trademark or registered trademark of Microsoft Corporation. Pico Technology Limited and PicoScope are internationally registered trademarks.

1.4 Company details

You can obtain technical assistance from Pico Technology at the following address:

Address: Pico Technology
James House,
Colmworth Business Park,
Eaton Socon,
St Neots,
Cambridgeshire PE19 8YP
United Kingdom

Phone: +44 (0) 1480 396 395

Fax: +44 (0) 1480 396 296

Email:
Technical Support: support@picotech.com
Sales: sales@picotech.com

Web site: www.picotech.com

2 Technical Information

2.1 Programming the 3000 Series Oscilloscopes

The `ps3000a.dll` dynamic link library in your PicoScope installation directory allows you to program a [PicoScope 3000 Series oscilloscope](#) using standard C [function calls](#).

A typical program for capturing data consists of the following steps:

- [Open](#) the scope unit.
- Set up the input channels with the required [voltage ranges](#) and [coupling type](#).
- Set up [triggering](#).
- Start capturing data. (See [Sampling modes](#), where programming is discussed in more detail.)
- Wait until the scope unit is ready.
- Stop capturing data.
- Copy data to a buffer.
- Close the scope unit.

Numerous sample programs are included in the SDK. These demonstrate how to use the functions of the driver software in each of the modes available.

2.1.1 3000A Driver

Your application will communicate with a PicoScope 3000 API driver called `ps3000a.dll`. This driver is used by both the 320XA and 320XB 3000 Series oscilloscopes. The driver exports the PicoScope 3000 [function definitions](#) in standard C format, but this does not limit you to programming in C. You can use the API with any programming language that supports standard C calls.

The API driver depends on a low-level driver called `WinUsb.sys`. This low-level driver is installed by the SDK when you plug the [PicoScope 3000 Series](#) oscilloscope into the computer for the first time. Your application does not call these drivers directly.

2.1.2 System requirements

General requirements

See [Minimum PC requirements](#).

USB

The PicoScope 3000A driver offers [four different methods](#) of recording data, all of which support both USB 1.1 and USB 2.0, although the fastest transfer rates are achieved using USB 2.0.

2.1.3 Voltage ranges

You can set a device input channel to any voltage range from ± 50 mV to ± 20 V with the [ps3000aSetChannel](#) function. Each sample is scaled to 16 bits so that the values returned to your application are as follows:

Function	Voltage	Value returned	
		decimal	hex
<code>ps3000aMinimumValue</code>	minimum	-32 512	8100
	zero	0	0000
<code>ps3000aMaximumValue</code>	maximum	32 512	7F00

2.1.4 Triggering

PicoScope 3000 Series oscilloscopes can either start collecting data immediately, or be programmed to wait for a **trigger** event to occur. In both cases you need to use the PicoScope 3000 trigger function [ps3000aSetSimpleTrigger](#), which in turn calls [ps3000aSetTriggerChannelConditions](#), [ps3000aSetTriggerChannelDirections](#) and [ps3000aSetTriggerChannelProperties](#) (these can also be called individually, rather than using [ps3000aSetSimpleTrigger](#)). A trigger event can occur when one of the signal or trigger input channels crosses a threshold voltage on either a rising or a falling edge.

2.1.5 Sampling modes

PicoScope 3000 Series oscilloscopes can run in various **sampling modes**.

- **Block mode.** In this mode, the scope stores data in internal RAM and then transfers it to the PC. When the data has been collected it is possible to examine the data, with an optional downsampling factor. The data is lost when a new run is started in the same [segment](#), the settings are changed, or the scope is powered down.
- **ETS mode.** In this mode, it is possible to increase the effective sampling rate of the scope when capturing repetitive signals. It is a modified form of [block mode](#).
- **Rapid block mode.** This is a variant of block mode that allows you to capture more than one waveform at a time with a minimum of delay between captures. You can use downsampling in this mode if you wish.
- **Streaming mode.** In this mode, data is passed directly to the PC without being stored in the scope's internal RAM. This enables long periods of slow data collection for chart recorder and data-logging applications. Streaming mode supports downsampling and triggering, while providing fast streaming at up to:
 - 15.625 MS/s (64 ns per sample) when two channels are active
 - 31.25 MS/s (32 ns per sample) when one channel is active

In all sampling modes, the driver returns data asynchronously using a [callback](#). This is a call to one of the functions in your own application. When you request data from the scope, you pass to the driver a pointer to your callback function. When the driver has written the data to your buffer, it makes a callback (calls your function) to signal that the data is ready. The callback function then signals to the application that the data is available.

Because the callback is called asynchronously from the rest of your application, in a separate thread, you must ensure that it does not corrupt any global variables while it runs.

For compatibility of programming environments not supporting callback, polling of the driver is available in block mode.

2.1.5.1 Block mode

In **block mode**, the computer prompts a [PicoScope 3000 series](#) oscilloscope to collect a block of data into its internal memory. When the oscilloscope has collected the whole block, it signals that it is ready and then transfers the whole block to the computer's memory through the USB port.

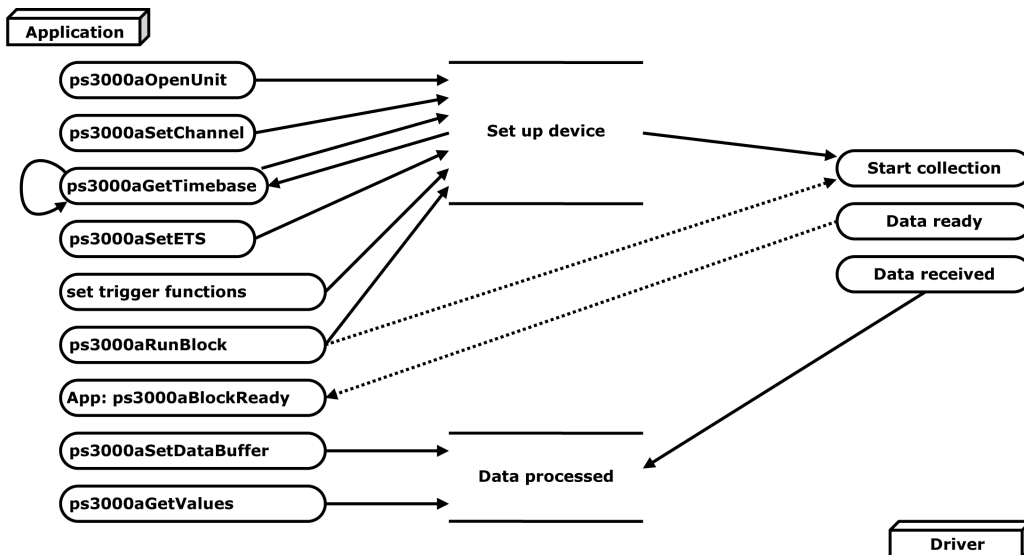
- **Block size.** The maximum number of values depends upon the size of the oscilloscope's memory. The memory buffer is shared between the enabled channels, so if two channels are enabled, each receives half the memory. These features are handled transparently by the driver. The block size also depends on the number of memory segments in use (see [ps3000aMemorySegments](#)).
- **Sampling rate.** A PicoScope 3000 Series oscilloscope can sample at a number of different rates according to the selected [timebase](#) and the combination of channels that are enabled. See the [PicoScope 3000 Series User's Guide](#) for the specifications that apply to your scope model.
- **Setup time.** The driver normally performs a number of setup operations, which can take up to 50 milliseconds, before collecting each block of data. If you need to collect data with the minimum time interval between blocks, use [rapid block mode](#) and avoid calling setup functions between calls to [ps3000aRunBlock](#), [ps3000aStop](#) and [ps3000aGetValues](#).
- **Downsampling.** When the data has been collected, you can set an optional [downsampling](#) factor and examine the data. Downsampling is a process that reduces the amount of data by combining adjacent samples. It is useful for zooming in and out of the data without having to repeatedly transfer the entire contents of the scope's buffer to the PC.
- **Memory segmentation.** The scope's internal memory can be divided into segments so that you can capture several waveforms in succession. Configure this using [ps3000aMemorySegments](#).
- **Data retention.** The data is lost when a new run is started in the same segment, the settings are changed, or the scope is powered down.

See [Using block mode](#) for programming details.

2.1.5.1.1 Using block mode

This is the general procedure for reading and displaying data in [block mode](#) using a single [memory segment](#):

1. Open the oscilloscope using [ps3000aOpenUnit](#).
2. Select channel ranges and AC/DC coupling using [ps3000aSetChannel](#).
3. Using [ps3000aGetTimebase](#), select timebases until the required nanoseconds per sample is located.
4. Use the trigger setup functions [ps3000aSetTriggerChannelConditions](#), [ps3000aSetTriggerChannelDirections](#) and [ps3000aSetTriggerChannelProperties](#) to set up the trigger if required.
5. Start the oscilloscope running using [ps3000aRunBlock](#).
6. Wait until the oscilloscope is ready using the [ps3000aBlockReady](#) callback (or poll using [ps3000aIsReady](#)).
7. Use [ps3000aSetDataBuffer](#) to tell the driver where your memory buffer is.
8. Transfer the block of data from the oscilloscope using [ps3000aGetValues](#).
9. Display the data.
10. Stop the oscilloscope using [ps3000aStop](#).
11. Repeat steps 5 to 9.



12. Request new views of stored data using different downsampling parameters: see [Retrieving stored data](#).

2.1.5.1.2 Asynchronous calls in block mode

The [ps3000aGetValues](#) function may take a long time to complete if a large amount of data is being collected. For example, it can take 3.5 seconds (or several minutes on USB 1.1) to retrieve the full 128M samples from a PicoScope 3206B using a USB 2.0 connection. To avoid hanging the calling thread, it is possible to call [ps3000aGetValuesAsync](#) instead. This immediately returns control to the calling thread, which then has the option of waiting for the data or calling [ps3000aStop](#) to abort the operation.

2.1.5.2 Rapid block mode

In normal [block mode](#), the PicoScope 3000 series scopes collect one waveform at a time. You start the the device running, wait until all samples are collected by the device, and then download the data to the PC or start another run. There is a time overhead of tens of milliseconds associated with starting a run, causing a gap between waveforms. When you collect data from the device, there is another minimum time overhead which is most noticeable when using a small number of samples.

Rapid block mode allows you to sample several waveforms at a time with the minimum time between waveforms. It reduces the gap from milliseconds to less than 2 microseconds (on fastest timebase).

See [Using rapid block mode](#) for details.

2.1.5.2.1 Using rapid block mode

You can use [rapid block mode](#) with or without [aggregation](#). With aggregation, you need to set up two buffers for each channel to receive the minimum and maximum values.

Without aggregation

1. Open the oscilloscope using [ps3000aOpenUnit](#).
2. Select channel ranges and AC/DC coupling using [ps3000aSetChannel](#).
3. Using [ps3000aGetTimebase](#), select timebases until the required nanoseconds per sample is located.
4. Use the trigger setup functions [ps3000aSetTriggerChannelConditions](#), [ps3000aSetTriggerChannelDirections](#) and [ps3000aSetTriggerChannelProperties](#) to set up the trigger if required.
5. Set the number of memory segments equal to or greater than the number of captures required using [ps3000aMemorySegments](#). Use [ps3000aSetNoOfCaptures](#) before each run to specify the number of waveforms to capture.
6. Start the oscilloscope running using [ps3000aRunBlock](#).
7. Wait until the oscilloscope is ready using the [ps3000aIsReady](#) or wait on the callback function.
8. Use [ps3000aSetDataBuffer](#) to tell the driver where your memory buffers are.
9. Transfer the blocks of data from the oscilloscope using [ps3000aGetValuesBulk](#).
10. Retrieve the time offset for each data segment using [ps3000aGetValuesTriggerTimeOffsetBulk64](#).
11. Display the data.
12. Repeat steps 6 to 11 if necessary.
13. Stop the oscilloscope using [ps3000aStop](#).

With aggregation

To use rapid block mode with aggregation, follow steps 1 to 7 above and then proceed as follows:

- 8a. Call [ps3000aSetDataBuffer](#) or ([ps3000aSetDataBuffers](#)) to set up one pair of buffers for every waveform segment required.
- 9a. Call [ps3000aGetValuesBulk](#) for each pair of buffers.
- 10a. Retrieve the time offset for each data segment using [ps3000aGetValuesTriggerTimeOffsetBulk64](#).

Continue from step 11 above.

2.1.5.2.2 Rapid block mode example 1: no aggregation

```
#define MAX_SAMPLES 1000
```

Set up the device up as usual.

- Open the device
- Channels
- Trigger
- Number of memory segments (this should be equal or more than the no of captures required)

```
// set the number of waveforms to 100
ps3000aSetNoOfCaptures (handle, 100);

pParameter = false;
ps3000aRunBlock
(
    handle,
    0, // noOfPreTriggerSamples
    10000, // noOfPostTriggerSamples
    1, // timebase to be used
    1, // oversample
    &timeIndisposedMs,
    1, // segment index
    lpReady,
    &pParameter
);
```

Comment: these variables have been set as an example and can be any valid value. pParameter will be set true by your callback function lpReady.

```
while (!pParameter) Sleep (0);

for (int i = 0; i < 10; i++)
{
    for (int c = PS3000A_CHANNEL_A; c <= PS3000A_CHANNEL_B; c++)
    {
        ps3000aSetDataBuffer
        (
            handle,
            c,
            &buffer[c][i],
            MAX_SAMPLES,
            i
            PS3000A_RATIO_MODE_NONE
        );
    }
}
```

Comments: buffer has been created as a two-dimensional array of pointers to shorts, which will contain 1000 samples as defined by MAX_SAMPLES. There are only 10 buffers set, but it is possible to set up to the number of captures you have requested.

```
ps3000aGetValuesBulk
(
    handle,
    &noOfSamples,           // set to MAX_SAMPLES on entering the
    function                function
    10,                    // fromSegmentIndex
    19,                    // toSegmentIndex
    1,                      // downsampling ratio
    PS3000A_RATIO_MODE_NONE, // downsampling ratio mode
    overflow                // an array of size 10 shorts
)
```

Comments: the number of samples could be up to `noOfPreTriggerSamples + noOfPostTriggerSamples`, the values set in `ps3000aRunBlock`. The samples are always returned from the first sample taken, unlike the `ps3000aGetValues` function which allows the sample index to be set. The above segments start at 10 and finish at 19 inclusive. It is possible for the `fromSegmentIndex` to wrap around to the `toSegmentIndex`, by setting the `fromSegmentIndex` to 98 and the `toSegmentIndex` to 7.

```
ps3000aGetValuesTriggerTimeOffsetBulk64
(
    handle,
    times,
    timeUnits,
    10,
    19
)
```

Comments: the above segments start at 10 and finish at 19 inclusive. It is possible for the `fromSegmentIndex` to wrap around to the `toSegmentIndex`, if the `fromSegmentIndex` is set to 98 and the `toSegmentIndex` to 7.

2.1.5.2.3 Rapid block mode example 2: using aggregation

```
#define MAX_SAMPLES 1000
```

Set up the device up as usual.

- Open the device
- Channels
- Trigger
- Number of memory segments (this should be equal or more than the number of captures required)

```
// set the number of waveforms to 100
ps3000aSetNoOfCaptures (handle, 100);

pParameter = false;
ps3000aRunBlock
(
    handle,
    0,                //noOfPreTriggerSamples,
    1000000,         // noOfPostTriggerSamples,
    1,                // timebase to be used,
    1,                // oversample
    &timeIndisposedMs,
    1,                // oversample
    lpReady,
    &pParameter
);
```

Comments: the set-up for running the device is exactly the same whether or not aggregation will be used when you retrieve the samples.

```
for (int segment = 10; segment < 20; segment++)
{for (int c = PS3000A_CHANNEL_A; c <= PS3000A_CHANNEL_D; c++)
{
    ps3000aSetDataBuffers
    (
        handle,
        c,
        &bufferMax[c],
        &bufferMin[c]
        MAX_SAMPLES
        Segment,
        PS3000A_RATIO_MODE_AGGREGATE
    );
}
}
```

Comments: since only one waveform will be retrieved at a time, you only need to set up one pair of buffers; one for the maximum samples and one for the minimum samples. Again, the buffer sizes are 1000 samples.

```
ps3000aGetValues
(
    handle,
    0,
    &noOfSamples, // set to MAX_SAMPLES on entering
    1000,
    &downSampleRatioMode, //set to RATIO_MODE_AGGREGATE
    index,
    overflow
);

ps3000aGetTriggerTimeOffset64
(
    handle,
    &time,
    &timeUnits,
    index
)
}
```

Comments: each waveform is retrieved one at a time from the driver with an aggregation of 1000.

2.1.5.3 ETS (Equivalent Time Sampling)

ETS is a way of increasing the effective sampling rate of the scope when capturing repetitive signals. It is a modified form of [block mode](#), and is controlled by the ps3000a set of trigger functions and the [ps3000aSetEts](#) function.

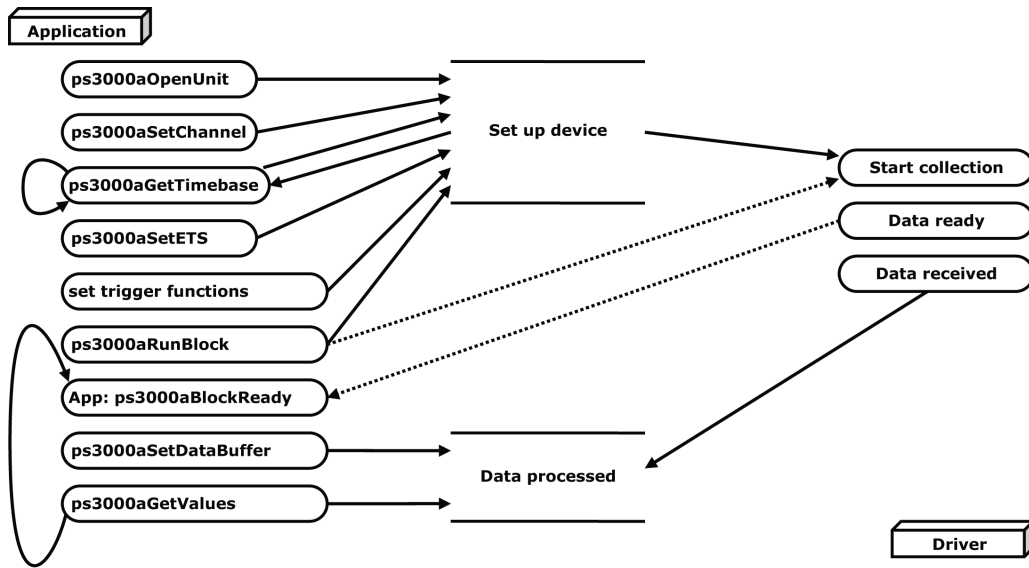
- **Overview.** ETS works by capturing several cycles of a repetitive waveform, then combining them to produce a composite waveform that has a higher effective sampling rate than the individual captures. The scope hardware adds a short, variable delay, which is a small fraction of a single sampling interval, between each trigger event and the subsequent sample. This shifts each capture slightly in time so that the samples occur at slightly different times relative to those of the previous capture. The result is a larger set of samples spaced by a small fraction of the original sampling interval. The maximum effective sampling rates that can be achieved with this method are listed in the User's Guide for the scope device.
- **Trigger stability.** Because of the high sensitivity of ETS mode to small time differences, the trigger must be set up to provide a stable waveform that varies as little as possible from one capture to the next.
- **Callback.** ETS mode calls the [ps3000aBlockReady](#) callback function when a new waveform is ready for collection. The [ps3000aGetValues](#) function needs to be called for the waveform to be retrieved.

Applicability	<p>Available in block mode only.</p> <p>Not suitable for one-shot (non-repetitive) signals.</p> <p>Aggregation and oversampling are not supported.</p> <p>Edge-triggering only.</p> <p>Auto trigger delay (autoTriggerMilliseconds) is ignored.</p>
---------------	---

2.1.5.3.1 Using ETS mode

This is the general procedure for reading and displaying data in [ETS mode](#) using a single [memory segment](#):

1. Open the oscilloscope using [ps3000aOpenUnit](#).
2. Select channel ranges and AC/DC coupling using [ps3000aSetChannel](#).
3. Using [ps3000aGetTimebase](#), select timebases until the required nanoseconds per sample is located.
4. Use the trigger setup functions [ps3000aSetTriggerChannelConditions](#), [ps3000aSetTriggerChannelDirections](#) and [ps3000aSetTriggerChannelProperties](#) to set up the trigger if required.
5. Start the oscilloscope running using [ps3000aRunBlock](#).
6. Wait until the oscilloscope is ready using the [ps3000aBlockReady](#) callback (or poll using [ps3000aIsReady](#)).
7. Use [ps3000aSetDataBuffer](#) to tell the driver where your memory buffer is.
8. Transfer the block of data from the oscilloscope using [ps3000aGetValues](#).
9. Display the data.
10. While you want to collect updated captures, repeat steps 6-9.
11. Stop the oscilloscope using [ps3000aStop](#).
12. Repeat steps 5 to 11.



2.1.5.4 Streaming mode

Streaming mode can capture data without the gaps that occur between blocks when using [block mode](#). Streaming mode supports downsampling and triggering, while providing fast streaming at up to 15.625 MS/s (64 ns per sample) when two channels are active, and 31.25 MS/s (32 ns per sample) when one channel is active, depending on the computer's performance. This makes it suitable for **high-speed data acquisition**, allowing you to capture long data sets limited only by the computer's memory.

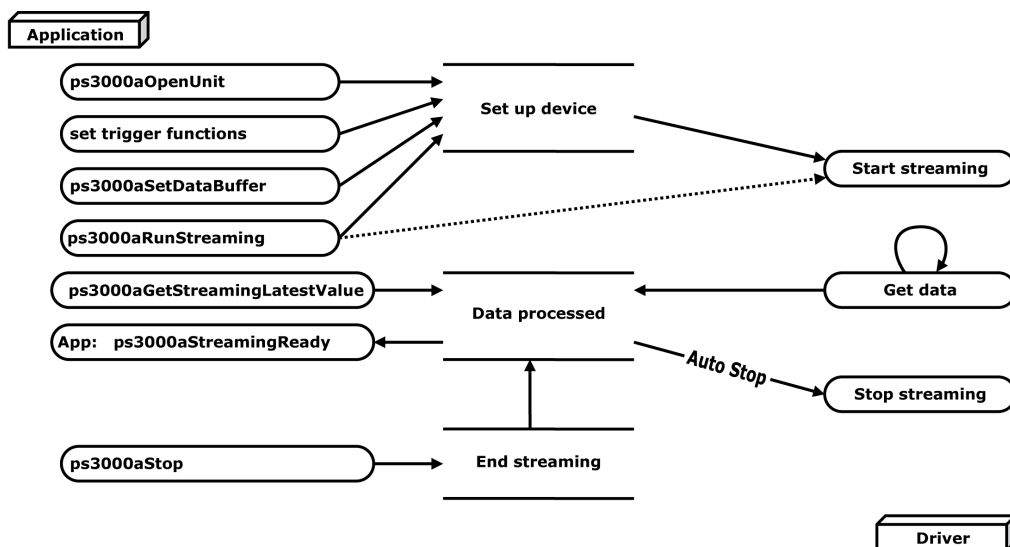
- **Aggregation.** The driver returns [aggregated readings](#) while the device is streaming. If aggregation is set to 1 then only one buffer is used per channel. When aggregation is set above 1 then two buffers (maximum and minimum) per channel are used.
- **Memory segmentation.** The memory can be divided into [segments](#) to reduce the latency of data transfers to the PC. However, this increases the risk of losing data if the PC cannot keep up with the device's sampling rate.

See [Using streaming mode](#) for programming details.

2.1.5.4.1 Using streaming mode

This is the general procedure for reading and displaying data in [streaming mode](#) using a single [memory segment](#):

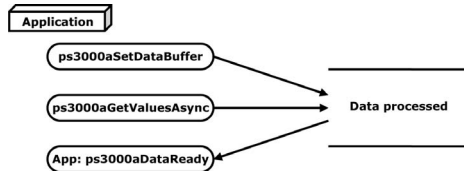
1. Open the oscilloscope using [ps3000aOpenUnit](#).
2. Select channels, ranges and AC/DC coupling using [ps3000aSetChannel](#).
3. Use the trigger setup functions [ps3000aSetTriggerChannelConditions](#), [ps3000aSetTriggerChannelDirections](#) and [ps3000aSetTriggerChannelProperties](#) to set up the trigger if required.
4. Call [ps3000aSetDataBuffer](#) to tell the driver where your data buffer is.
5. Set up aggregation and start the oscilloscope running using [ps3000aRunStreaming](#).
6. Call [ps3000aGetStreamingLatestValues](#) to get data.
7. Process data returned to your application's function. This example is using Auto Stop, so after the driver has received all the data points requested by the application, it stops the device streaming.
8. Call [ps3000aStop](#), even if Auto Stop is enabled.



9. Request new views of stored data using different downsampling parameters: see [Retrieving stored data](#).

2.1.5.5 Retrieving stored data

You can collect data from the PicoScope 3000A driver with a different [downsampling](#) factor when [ps3000aRunBlock](#) or [ps3000aRunStreaming](#) has already been called and has successfully captured all the data. Use [ps3000aGetValuesAsync](#).



2.1.6 Oversampling

Note: This feature is provided for backward-compatibility only. The same effect can be obtained more efficiently with the PicoScope 3000 Series using the hardware averaging feature (see [Downsampling modes](#)).

When the oscilloscope is operating at sampling rates less than its maximum, it is possible to **oversample**. Oversampling is taking more than one measurement during a time interval and returning the average as one sample. The number of measurements per sample is called the oversampling factor. If the signal contains a small amount of wideband noise (strictly speaking, *Gaussian noise*), this technique can increase the effective [vertical resolution](#) of the oscilloscope by n bits, where n is given approximately by the equation below:

$$n = \log(\text{oversampling factor}) / \log 4$$

Conversely, for an improvement in resolution of n bits, the oversampling factor you need is given approximately by:

$$\text{oversampling factor} = 4^n$$

An oversample of 4, for example, would quadruple the time interval and quarter the maximum samples, and at the same time would increase the effective resolution by one bit.

Applicability	Available in block mode only. Cannot be used at the same time as downsampling .
----------------------	--

2.1.7 Timebases

The API allows you to select any of 2^{32} different timebases based on a maximum sampling rate of 500 MHz. The timebases allow slow enough sampling in block mode to overlap the streaming sample intervals, so that you can make a smooth transition between block mode and streaming mode.

timebase	sample interval formula	sample interval examples
0 to 2	$2^{\text{timebase}} / 500,000,000$	0 => 2 ns 1 => 4 ns 2 => 8 ns
3 to $2^{32}-1$	$(\text{timebase} - 2) / 62,500,000$	3 = 16 ns ... $2^{32}-1$ => ~ 68.7 s

Applicability	Use ps3000aGetTimebase API call.
----------------------	--

2.1.8 Combining several oscilloscopes

It is possible to collect data using up to 64 [PicoScope 3000 Series oscilloscopes](#) at the same time, depending on the capabilities of the PC. Each oscilloscope must be connected to a separate USB port. The [ps3000aOpenUnit](#) function returns a handle to an oscilloscope. All the other functions require this handle for oscilloscope identification. For example, to collect data from two oscilloscopes at the same time:

```
CALLBACK ps3000aBlockReady(...)
// define callback function specific to application

handle1 = ps3000aOpenUnit()
handle2 = ps3000aOpenUnit()

ps3000aSetChannel(handle1)
// set up unit 1
ps3000aRunBlock(handle1)

ps3000aSetChannel(handle2)
// set up unit 2
ps3000aRunBlock(handle2)

// data will be stored in buffers
// and application will be notified using callback

ready = FALSE
while not ready
    ready = handle1_ready
    ready &= handle2_ready
```

2.1.9 API functions

The PicoScope 3000A Series API exports the following functions for you to use in your own applications. All functions are C functions using the standard call naming convention (`__stdcall`). They are all exported with both decorated and undecorated names.

ps3000aBlockReady	indicate when block-mode data ready
ps3000aCloseUnit	close a scope device
ps3000aDataReady	indicate when post-collection data ready
ps3000aEnumerateUnits	find all connected oscilloscopes
ps3000aFlashLed	flash the front-panel LED
ps3000aGetChannelInformation	queries which ranges are available on a scope device
ps3000aGetMaxDownSampleRatio	find out aggregation ratio for data
ps3000aGetNoOfCaptures	find out how many captures are available
ps3000aGetNoOfProcessedCaptures	finds out how many captures have been processed
ps3000aGetStreamingLatestValues	get streaming data while scope is running
ps3000aGetTimebase	find out what timebases are available
ps3000aGetTimebase2	find out what timebases are available
ps3000aGetTriggerTimeOffset	find out when trigger occurred (32-bit)
ps3000aGetTriggerTimeOffset64	find out when trigger occurred (64-bit)
ps3000aGetUnitInfo	read information about scope device
ps3000aGetValues	retrieve block-mode data with callback
ps3000aGetValuesAsync	retrieve streaming data with callback
ps3000aGetValuesBulk	retrieve data in rapid block mode
ps3000aGetValuesOverlapped	set up data collection ahead of capture
ps3000aGetValuesOverlappedBulk	set up data collection in rapid block mode
ps3000aGetValuesTriggerTimeOffsetBulk	retrieve rapid-block waveform timings (32-bit)
ps3000aGetValuesTriggerTimeOffsetBulk64	retrieve rapid-block waveform timings (64-bit)
ps3000aIsReady	poll driver in block mode
ps3000aIsTriggerOrPulseWidthQualifierEnabled	find out whether trigger is enabled
ps3000aMaximumValue	returns the maximum ADC count returned by calls to get values
ps3000aMemorySegments	divide scope memory into segments
ps3000aMinimumValue	returns the minimum ADC count returned by calls to get values
ps3000aNoOfStreamingValues	get number of samples in streaming mode
ps3000aOpenUnit	open a scope device
ps3000aOpenUnitAsync	open a scope device without waiting
ps3000aOpenUnitProgress	check progress of OpenUnit call
ps3000aPingUnit	checks for successful communication with the opened device
ps3000aRunBlock	start block mode
ps3000aRunStreaming	start streaming mode
ps3000aSetChannel	set up input channels
ps3000aSetDataBuffer	register data buffer with driver
ps3000aSetDataBuffers	register aggregated data buffers with driver
ps3000aSetEts	set up equivalent-time sampling
ps3000aSetEtsTimeBuffer	set up buffer for ETS timings (64-bit)
ps3000aSetEtsTimeBuffers	set up buffer for ETS timings (32-bit)
ps3000aSetNoOfCaptures	set number of captures to collect in one run
ps3000aSetPulseWidthQualifier	set up pulse width triggering
ps3000aSetSigGenArbitrary	set up arbitrary waveform generator
ps3000aSetSigGenBuiltIn	set up standard signal generator
ps3000aSetSimpleTrigger	set up level triggers only
ps3000aSetTriggerChannelConditions	specify which channels to trigger on
ps3000aSetTriggerChannelDirections	set up signal polarities for triggering
ps3000aSetTriggerChannelProperties	set up trigger thresholds
ps3000aSetTriggerDelay	set up post-trigger delay
ps3000aSigGenSoftwareControl	trigger the signal generator
ps3000aStop	stop data capture

[ps3000aStreamingReady](#)

indicate when streaming-mode data ready

2.1.9.1 ps3000aBlockReady

```
typedef void (CALLBACK *ps3000aBlockReady)
(
    short        handle,
    PICO_STATUS  status,
    void         * pParameter
)
```

This [callback](#) function is part of your application. You register it with the PicoScope 3000A series driver using [ps3000aRunBlock](#), and the driver calls it back when block-mode data is ready. You can then download the data using the [ps3000aGetValues](#) function.

Applicability	Block mode only
Arguments	<p><code>handle</code>, the handle of the device returning the samples.</p> <p><code>status</code>, indicates whether an error occurred during collection of the data.</p> <p>* <code>pParameter</code>, a void pointer passed from ps3000aRunBlock. Your callback function can write to this location to send any data, such as a status flag, back to your application.</p>
Returns	nothing

```
2.1.9.2 ps3000aCloseUnit
        PICO_STATUS ps3000aCloseUnit
        (
            short handle
        )
```

This function shuts down a PicoScope 3000A oscilloscope.

Applicability	All modes
Arguments	<code>handle</code> , the handle, returned by ps3000aOpenUnit , of the scope device to be closed.
Returns	PICO_OK PICO_HANDLE_INVALID PICO_USER_CALLBACK PICO_DRIVER_FUNCTION

2.1.9.3 ps3000aDataReady

```
typedef void (CALLBACK *ps3000aDataReady)
(
    short          handle,
    PICO_STATUS    status,
    unsigned long  noOfSamples,
    short          overflow,
    void           * pParameter
)
```

This is a [callback](#) function that you write to collect data from the driver. You supply a pointer to the function when you call [ps3000aGetValuesAsync](#), and the driver calls your function back when the data is ready.

Applicability	All modes
Arguments	<p><i>handle</i>, the handle of the device returning the samples.</p> <p><i>status</i>, a PICO_STATUS code returned by the driver.</p> <p><i>noOfSamples</i>, the number of samples collected.</p> <p><i>overflow</i>, a set of flags that indicates whether an overvoltage has occurred and on which channels. It is a bit field with bit 0 representing Channel A.</p> <p>* <i>pParameter</i>, a void pointer passed from ps3000aGetValuesAsync. The callback function can write to this location to send any data, such as a status flag, back to the application. The data type is defined by the application programmer.</p>
Returns	nothing

2.1.9.4 ps3000aEnumerateUnits

```
PICO_STATUS ps3000aEnumerateUnits
(
    short * count,
    char * serials,
    short * serialLth
)
```

This function counts the number of PicoScope 3000A units connected to the computer, and returns a list of serial numbers as a string.

Applicability	All modes
Arguments	<p>* <i>count</i>, on exit, the number of PicoScope 3000A units found</p> <p>* <i>serials</i>, on exit, a list of serial numbers separated by commas and terminated by a final null. Example: AQ005/139,VDR61/356,ZOR14/107. Can be NULL on entry if serial numbers are not required.</p> <p>* <i>serialLth</i>, on entry, the length of the char buffer pointed to by <i>serials</i>; on exit, the length of the string written to <i>serials</i></p>
Returns	PICO_OK PICO_BUSY PICO_NULL_PARAMETER PICO_FW_FAIL PICO_CONFIG_FAIL PICO_MEMORY_FAIL PICO_CONFIG_FAIL_AWG PICO_INITIALISE_FPGA

2.1.9.5 ps3000aFlashLed

```
PICO_STATUS ps3000aFlashLed
(
    short handle,
    short start
)
```

This function flashes the LED on the front of the scope without blocking the calling thread. Calls to [ps3000aRunStreaming](#) and [ps3000aRunBlock](#) cancel any flashing started by this function. It is not possible to set the LED to be constantly illuminated, as this state is used to indicate that the scope has not been initialized.

Applicability	All modes
Arguments	<p><code>handle</code>, the handle of the scope device</p> <p><code>start</code>, the action required: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> < 0 : flash the LED indefinitely. 0 : stop the LED flashing. > 0 : flash the LED <code>start</code> times. If the LED is already flashing on entry to this function, the flash count will be reset to <code>start</code>.
Returns	<p>PICO_OK</p> <p>PICO_HANDLE_INVALID</p> <p>PICO_BUSY</p> <p>PICO_DRIVER_FUNCTION</p> <p>PICO_NOT_RESPONDING</p>

2.1.9.6 ps3000aGetAnalogueOffset

```

PICO_STATUS ps3000aGetAnalogueOffset
(
    short          handle,
    PS3000A_RANGE range,
    PS3000A_COUPLING coupling,
    float          * maximumVoltage,
    float          * minimumVoltage
)

```

This function is used to get the maximum and minimum allowable analogue offset for a specific voltage range.

Applicability	All modes
Arguments	<p>handle, the value returned from opening the device.</p> <p>range, the voltage range to be used when gathering the min and max information.</p> <p>coupling, the type of AC/DC coupling used.</p> <p>* maximumVoltage, a pointer to a float, an out parameter set to the maximum voltage allowed for the range, may be NULL.</p> <p>* minimumVoltage, a pointer to a float, an out parameter set to the minimum voltage allowed for the range, may be NULL.</p> <p>If both maximumVoltage and minimumVoltage are set to NULL the driver will return PICO_NULL_PARAMETER.</p>
Returns	<p>PICO_OK</p> <p>PICO_INVALID_HANDLE</p> <p>PICO_DRIVER_FUNCTION</p> <p>PICO_INVALID_VOLTAGE_RANGE</p> <p>PICO_NULL_PARAMETER</p>

2.1.9.7 ps3000aGetChannelInformation

```
PICO_STATUS ps3000aGetChannelInformation
(
    short          handle,
    PS3000A_CHANNEL_INFO info
    int           probe
    int           * ranges
    int           * length
    int           channels
)
```

This function queries which ranges are available on a scope device.

Applicability	All modes
Arguments	<p><code>handle</code>, the handle of the required device.</p> <p><code>info</code>, the type of information required. The following value is currently supported: PS3000A_CI_RANGES</p> <p><code>probe</code>, not used, must be set to 0.</p> <p>* <code>ranges</code>, an array that will be populated with available PS3000A_RANGE values for the given <code>info</code>. If NULL, <code>length</code> is set to the number of ranges available.</p> <p>* <code>length</code>, on input: the length of the <code>ranges</code> array; on output: the number of elements written to <code>ranges</code> array.</p> <p><code>channels</code>, the channel for which the information is required.</p>
Returns	PICO_OK PICO_HANDLE_INVALID PICO_BUSY PICO_DRIVER_FUNCTION PICO_NOT_RESPONDING PICO_NULL_PARAMETER PICO_INVALID_CHANNEL PICO_INVALID_INFO

2.1.9.8 ps3000aGetMaxDownSampleRatio

```

PICO_STATUS ps3000aGetMaxDownSampleRatio
(
    short          handle,
    unsigned long  noOfUnaggregatedSamples,
    unsigned long  * maxDownSampleRatio,
    PS3000A_RATIO_MODE downSampleRatioMode,
    unsigned short segmentIndex
)

```

This function returns the maximum downsampling ratio that can be used for a given number of samples in a given downsampling mode.

Applicability	All modes
Arguments	<p><code>handle</code>, the handle of the required device</p> <p><code>noOfUnaggregatedSamples</code>, the number of unprocessed samples to be downsampled</p> <p><code>* maxDownSampleRatio</code>: the maximum possible downsampling ratio output</p> <p><code>downSampleRatioMode</code>: the downsampling mode. See ps3000aGetValues</p> <p><code>segmentIndex</code>, the memory segment where the data is stored</p>
Returns	<p>PICO_OK</p> <p>PICO_INVALID_HANDLE</p> <p>PICO_NO_SAMPLES_AVAILABLE</p> <p>PICO_NULL_PARAMETER</p> <p>PICO_INVALID_PARAMETER</p> <p>PICO_SEGMENT_OUT_OF_RANGE</p> <p>PICO_TOO_MANY_SAMPLES</p>

2.1.9.9 ps3000aGetMaxSegments

```
PICO_STATUS ps3000aGetMaxSegments
(
    short          handle,
    unsigned short * maxsegments
)
```

This function returns the maximum number of segments allowed for the opened variant. Refer to [ps3000aMemorySegments](#) for specific figures.

Applicability	All modes
Arguments	<code>handle</code> , the value returned from opening the device. <code>* maxsegments</code> , pointer to a unsigned short, out parameter that has the maximum number of segments allowed.
Returns	PICO_OK PICO_INVALID_HANDLE PICO_DRIVER_FUNCTION PICO_NULL_PARAMETER

2.1.9.10 ps3000aGetNoOfCaptures

```
PICO_STATUS ps3000aGetNoOfCaptures
(
    short          handle,
    unsigned long * nCaptures
)
```

This function finds out how many captures are available in rapid block mode after [ps3000aRunBlock](#) has been called when either the collection completed or the collection of waveforms was interrupted by calling [ps3000aStop](#). The returned value (`nCaptures`) can then be used to iterate through the number of segments using [ps3000aGetValues](#), or in a single call to [ps3000aGetValuesBulk](#) where it is used to calculate the `toSegmentIndex` parameter.

Applicability	rapid block mode
Arguments	<p><code>handle</code>: handle of the required device.</p> <p>* <code>nCaptures</code>, output: the number of available captures that has been collected from calling ps3000aRunBlock.</p>
Returns	<p>PICO_OK PICO_DRIVER_FUNCTION PICO_INVALID_HANDLE PICO_NOT_RESPONDING PICO_NO_SAMPLES_AVAILABLE PICO_NULL_PARAMETER PICO_INVALID_PARAMETER PICO_SEGMENT_OUT_OF_RANGE PICO_TOO_MANY_SAMPLES</p>

2.1.9.11 ps3000aGetNoOfProcessedCaptures

```
PICO_STATUS ps3000aGetNoOfProcessedCaptures
(
    short      handle,
    unsigned long * nCaptures
)
```

This function finds out how many captures in rapid block mode have been processed after [ps3000aRunBlock](#) has been called when either the collection completed or the collection of waveforms was interrupted by calling [ps3000aStop](#). The returned value (`nCaptures`) can then be used to iterate through the number of segments using [ps3000aGetValues](#), or in a single call to [ps3000aGetValuesBulk](#) where it is used to calculate the `toSegmentIndex` parameter.

Applicability	in rapid block mode
Arguments	<p><code>handle</code>: handle of the required device.</p> <p>* <code>nCaptures</code>, output: the number of available captures that has been collected from calling ps3000aRunBlock.</p>
Returns	<p>PICO_OK PICO_DRIVER_FUNCTION PICO_INVALID_HANDLE PICO_NO_SAMPLES_AVAILABLE PICO_NULL_PARAMETER PICO_INVALID_PARAMETER PICO_SEGMENT_OUT_OF_RANGE PICO_TOO_MANY_SAMPLES</p>

2.1.9.12 ps3000aGetStreamingLatestValues

```
PICO_STATUS ps3000aGetStreamingLatestValues
(
    short          handle,
    ps3000aStreamingReady lpPs3000AReady,
    void          * pParameter
)
```

This function instructs the driver to return the next block of values to your [ps3000aStreamingReady](#) callback function. You must have previously called [ps3000aRunStreaming](#) beforehand to set up [streaming](#).

Applicability	Streaming mode only
Arguments	<p><code>handle</code>, the handle of the required device.</p> <p><code>lpPs3000AReady</code>, a pointer to your ps3000aStreamingReady callback function.</p> <p>* <code>pParameter</code>, a void pointer that will be passed to the ps3000aStreamingReady callback function. The callback function may optionally use this pointer to return information to the application.</p>
Returns	PICO_OK PICO_INVALID_HANDLE PICO_NO_SAMPLES_AVAILABLE PICO_INVALID_CALL PICO_BUSY PICO_NOT_RESPONDING PICO_DRIVER_FUNCTION

2.1.9.13 ps3000aGetTimebase

```
PICO_STATUS ps3000aGetTimebase
(
    short          handle,
    unsigned long  timebase,
    long           noSamples,
    long           * timeIntervalNanoseconds,
    short         oversample,
    long           * maxSamples,
    unsigned short segmentIndex
)
```

This function calculates the sampling rate and maximum number of samples for a given [timebase](#) under the specified conditions. The result will depend on the number of channels enabled by the last call to [ps3000aSetChannel](#).

This function is provided for use with programming languages that do not support the `float` data type. The value returned in the `timeIntervalNanoseconds` argument is restricted to integers. If your programming language supports the `float` type, then we recommend that you use [ps3000aGetTimebase2](#) instead.

To use [ps3000aGetTimebase](#) or [ps3000aGetTimebase2](#), first estimate the timebase number that you require using the information in the [timebase guide](#). Next, call one of these functions with the timebase that you have just chosen and verify that the `timeIntervalNanoseconds` argument that the function returns is the value that you require. You may need to iterate this process until you obtain the time interval that you need.

Applicability	All modes
Arguments	<p><code>handle</code>, the handle of the required device.</p> <p><code>timebase</code>, see timebase guide</p> <p><code>noSamples</code>, the number of samples required.</p> <p>* <code>timeIntervalNanoseconds</code>, on exit, the time interval between readings at the selected timebase. Use NULL if not required.</p> <p><code>oversample</code>, the amount of oversample required (see Oversampling). Range: 0 to PS3000A_MAX_OVERSAMPLE.</p> <p>* <code>maxSamples</code>, on exit, the maximum number of samples available. The result may vary depending on the number of channels enabled, the timebase chosen and the oversample selected. Use NULL if not required.</p> <p><code>segmentIndex</code>, the index of the memory segment to use.</p>
Returns	<p>PICO_OK</p> <p>PICO_INVALID_HANDLE</p> <p>PICO_TOO_MANY_SAMPLES</p> <p>PICO_INVALID_CHANNEL</p> <p>PICO_INVALID_TIMEBASE</p> <p>PICO_INVALID_PARAMETER</p> <p>PICO_SEGMENT_OUT_OF_RANGE</p> <p>PICO_DRIVER_FUNCTION</p>

2.1.9.14 ps3000aGetTimebase2

```

PICO_STATUS ps3000aGetTimebase2
(
    short          handle,
    unsigned long  timebase,
    long           noSamples,
    float          * timeIntervalNanoseconds,
    short         oversample,
    long           * maxSamples
    unsigned short segmentIndex
)

```

This function is an upgraded version of [ps3000aGetTimebase](#), and returns the time interval as a float rather than a long. This allows it to return sub-nanosecond time intervals. See [ps3000aGetTimebase](#) for a full description.

Applicability	All modes
Arguments	<p>* <code>timeIntervalNanoseconds</code>, a pointer to the time interval between readings at the selected timebase. If a null pointer is passed, nothing will be written here.</p> <p>All other arguments: see ps3000aGetTimebase.</p>
Returns	See ps3000aGetTimebase .

2.1.9.15 ps3000aGetTriggerTimeOffset

```
PICO_STATUS ps3000aGetTriggerTimeOffset
(
    short          handle
    unsigned long  * timeUpper
    unsigned long  * timeLower
    PS3000A_TIME_UNITS * timeUnits
    unsigned short segmentIndex
)
```

This function gets the time, as two 4-byte values, at which the trigger occurred. Call it after [block-mode](#) data has been captured or when data has been retrieved from a previous block-mode capture. A 64-bit version of this function, [ps3000aGetTriggerTimeOffset64](#), is also available.

Applicability	Block mode , rapid block mode
Arguments	<p><code>handle</code>, the handle of the required device</p> <p>* <code>timeUpper</code>, on exit, the upper 32 bits of the time at which the trigger point occurred</p> <p>* <code>timeLower</code>, on exit, the lower 32 bits of the time at which the trigger point occurred</p> <p>* <code>timeUnits</code>, returns the time units in which <code>timeUpper</code> and <code>timeLower</code> are measured. The allowable values are: -</p> <p>PS3000A_FS PS3000A_PS PS3000A_NS PS3000A_US PS3000A_MS PS3000A_S</p> <p><code>segmentIndex</code>, the number of the memory segment for which the information is required.</p>
Returns	<p>PICO_OK PICO_INVALID_HANDLE PICO_DEVICE_SAMPLING PICO_SEGMENT_OUT_OF_RANGE PICO_NOT_USED_IN_THIS_CAPTURE_MODE PICO_NOT_RESPONDING PICO_NULL_PARAMETER PICO_NO_SAMPLES_AVAILABLE PICO_DRIVER_FUNCTION</p>

2.1.9.16 ps3000aGetTriggerTimeOffset64

```
PICO_STATUS ps3000aGetTriggerTimeOffset64
(
    short          handle,
    __int64        * time,
    PS3000A_TIME_UNITS * timeUnits,
    unsigned short segmentIndex
)
```

This function gets the time, as a single 64-bit value, at which the trigger occurred. Call it after [block-mode](#) data has been captured or when data has been retrieved from a previous block-mode capture. A 32-bit version of this function, [ps3000aGetTriggerTimeOffset](#), is also available.

Applicability	Block mode , rapid block mode
Arguments	<p>handle, the handle of the required device</p> <p>* time, on exit, the time at which the trigger point occurred</p> <p>* timeUnits, on exit, the time units in which time is measured. The possible values are: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PS3000A_FS PS3000A_PS PS3000A_NS PS3000A_US PS3000A_MS PS3000A_S <p>segmentIndex, the number of the memory segment for which the information is required</p>
Returns	<p>PICO_OK</p> <p>PICO_INVALID_HANDLE</p> <p>PICO_DEVICE_SAMPLING</p> <p>PICO_SEGMENT_OUT_OF_RANGE</p> <p>PICO_NOT_USED_IN_THIS_CAPTURE_MODE</p> <p>PICO_NOT_RESPONDING</p> <p>PICO_NULL_PARAMETER</p> <p>PICO_NO_SAMPLES_AVAILABLE</p> <p>PICO_DRIVER_FUNCTION</p>

2.1.9.17 ps3000aGetUnitInfo

```
PICO_STATUS ps3000aGetUnitInfo
(
    short      handle,
    char       * string,
    short      stringLength,
    short      * requiredSize
    PICO_INFO info
)
```

This function retrieves information about the specified oscilloscope. If the device fails to open, or no device is opened only the driver version is available.

Applicability	All modes
Arguments	<p><code>handle</code>, the handle of the device from which information is required. If an invalid handle is passed, only the driver versions can be read.</p> <p>* <code>string</code>, on exit, the unit information string selected specified by the <code>info</code> argument. If <code>string</code> is NULL, only <code>requiredSize</code> is returned.</p> <p><code>stringLength</code>, the maximum number of chars that may be written to <code>string</code>.</p> <p>* <code>requiredSize</code>, on exit, the required length of the <code>string</code> array.</p> <p><code>info</code>, a number specifying what information is required. The possible values are listed in the table below.</p>
Returns	<p>PICO_OK PICO_INVALID_HANDLE PICO_NULL_PARAMETER PICO_INVALID_INFO PICO_INFO_UNAVAILABLE PICO_DRIVER_FUNCTION</p>

info		Example
0	PICO_DRIVER_VERSION Version number of PicoScope 3000A DLL	1,0,0,1
1	PICO_USB_VERSION Type of USB connection to device: 1.1 or 2.0	2.0
2	PICO_HARDWARE_VERSION Hardware version of device	1
3	PICO_VARIANT_INFO Variant number of device	3206B
4	PICO_BATCH_AND_SERIAL Batch and serial number of device	KJL87/6
5	PICO_CAL_DATE Calibration date of device	30Sep09
6	PICO_KERNEL_VERSION Version of kernel driver	1,1,2,4
7	PICO_DIGITAL_HARDWARE_VERSION Hardware version of the digital section	1
8	PICO_ANALOGUE_HARDWARE_VERSION Hardware version of the analogue section	1

2.1.9.18 ps3000aGetValues

```
PICO_STATUS ps3000aGetValues
(
    short          handle,
    unsigned long  startIndex,
    unsigned long  * noOfSamples,
    unsigned long  downSampleRatio,
    PS3000A_RATIO_MODE downSampleRatioMode,
    unsigned short segmentIndex,
    short          * overflow
)
```

This function returns block-mode data, with or without [downsampling](#), starting at the specified sample number. It is used to get the stored data from the driver after data collection has stopped.

Applicability	Block mode , rapid block mode
Arguments	<p><code>handle</code>, the handle of the required device.</p> <p><code>startIndex</code>, a zero-based index that indicates the start point for data collection. It is measured in sample intervals from the start of the buffer.</p> <p>* <code>noOfSamples</code>, on entry, the number of samples required. On exit, the actual number retrieved. The number of samples retrieved will not be more than the number requested, and the data retrieved starts at <code>startIndex</code>.</p> <p><code>downSampleRatio</code>, the downsampling factor that will be applied to the raw data.</p> <p><code>downSampleRatioMode</code>, which downsampling mode to use. The available values are: - PS3000A_RATIO_MODE_NONE (<code>downSampleRatio</code> is ignored) PS3000A_RATIO_MODE_AGGREGATE PS3000A_RATIO_MODE_AVERAGE PS3000A_RATIO_MODE_DECIMATE</p> <p>AGGREGATE, AVERAGE, DECIMATE are single-bit constants that can be ORed to apply multiple downsampling modes to the same data.</p> <p><code>segmentIndex</code>, the zero-based number of the memory segment where the data is stored.</p> <p>* <code>overflow</code>, on exit, a set of flags that indicate whether an overvoltage has occurred on any of the channels. It is a bit field with bit 0 denoting Channel A.</p>

Returns	PICO_OK PICO_INVALID_HANDLE PICO_NO_SAMPLES_AVAILABLE PICO_DEVICE_SAMPLING PICO_NULL_PARAMETER PICO_SEGMENT_OUT_OF_RANGE PICO_STARTINDEX_INVALID PICO_ETS_NOT_RUNNING PICO_BUFFERS_NOT_SET PICO_INVALID_PARAMETER PICO_TOO_MANY_SAMPLES PICO_DATA_NOT_AVAILABLE PICO_STARTINDEX_INVALID PICO_INVALID_SAMPLERATIO PICO_INVALID_CALL PICO_NOT_RESPONDING PICO_MEMORY PICO_RATIO_MODE_NOT_SUPPORTED PICO_DRIVER_FUNCTION
----------------	---

2.1.9.18.1 Downsampling modes

Various methods of data reduction, or **downsampling**, are possible with the PicoScope 3000A Series oscilloscopes. The downsampling is done at high speed by dedicated hardware inside the scope, making your application faster and more responsive than if you had to do all the data processing in software.

You specify the downsampling mode when you call one of the data collection functions such as [ps3000aGetValues](#). The following modes are available:

PS3000A_RATIO_MODE_AGGREGATE	Reduces every block of n values to just two values: a minimum and a maximum. The minimum and maximum values are returned in two separate buffers.
PS3000A_RATIO_MODE_AVERAGE	Reduces every block of n values to a single value representing the average (arithmetic mean) of all the values.
PS3000A_RATIO_MODE_DECIMATE	Reduces every block of n values to just the first value in the block, discarding all the other values.

2.1.9.19 ps3000aGetValuesAsync

```

PICO_STATUS ps3000aGetValuesAsync
(
    short                handle,
    unsigned long        startIndex,
    unsigned long        noOfSamples,
    unsigned long        downSampleRatio,
    PS3000A_RATIO_MODE  downSampleRatioMode,
    unsigned short       segmentIndex,
    void                 * lpDataReady,
    void                 * pParameter
)

```

This function returns data either with or without [downsampling](#), starting at the specified sample number. It is used to get the stored data from the scope after data collection has stopped. It returns the data using a [callback](#).

Applicability	Streaming mode and block mode
Arguments	<p>handle, the handle of the required device</p> <p>startIndex: see ps3000aGetValues</p> <p>noOfSamples: see ps3000aGetValues</p> <p>downSampleRatio: see ps3000aGetValues</p> <p>downSampleRatioMode: see ps3000aGetValues</p> <p>segmentIndex: see ps3000aGetValues</p> <p>* lpDataReady, a pointer to the user-supplied function that will be called when the data is ready. This will be a ps3000aDataReady function for block-mode data or a ps3000aStreamingReady function for streaming-mode data.</p> <p>* pParameter, a void pointer that will be passed to the callback function. The data type is determined by the application.</p>
Returns	PICO_OK PICO_INVALID_HANDLE PICO_NO_SAMPLES_AVAILABLE PICO_DEVICE_SAMPLING PICO_NULL_PARAMETER PICO_STARTINDEX_INVALID PICO_SEGMENT_OUT_OF_RANGE PICO_INVALID_PARAMETER PICO_DATA_NOT_AVAILABLE PICO_INVALID_SAMPLERATIO PICO_INVALID_CALL PICO_DRIVER_FUNCTION

2.1.9.20 ps3000aGetValuesBulk

```

PICO_STATUS ps3000aGetValuesBulk
(
    short          handle,
    unsigned long  * noOfSamples,
    unsigned short fromSegmentIndex,
    unsigned short toSegmentIndex,
    unsigned long  downSampleRatio,
    PS3000A_RATIO_MODE downSampleRatioMode,
    short          * overflow
)

```

This function retrieves waveforms captured using [rapid block mode](#). The waveforms must have been collected sequentially and in the same run.

Applicability	Rapid block mode
Arguments	<p><code>handle</code>, the handle of the device</p> <p>* <code>noOfSamples</code>, on entry, the number of samples required; on exit, the actual number retrieved. The number of samples retrieved will not be more than the number requested. The data retrieved always starts with the first sample captured.</p> <p><code>fromSegmentIndex</code>, the first segment from which the waveform should be retrieved</p> <p><code>toSegmentIndex</code>, the last segment from which the waveform should be retrieved</p> <p><code>downSampleRatio</code>: see ps3000aGetValues</p> <p><code>downSampleRatioMode</code>: see ps3000aGetValues</p> <p>* <code>overflow</code>, an array of integers equal to or larger than the number of waveforms to be retrieved. Each segment index has a corresponding entry in the <code>overflow</code> array, with <code>overflow[0]</code> containing the flags for the segment numbered <code>fromSegmentIndex</code> and the last element in the array containing the flags for the segment numbered <code>toSegmentIndex</code>. Each element in the array is a bit field as described under ps3000aGetValues.</p>
Returns	<p>PICO_OK</p> <p>PICO_INVALID_HANDLE</p> <p>PICO_INVALID_PARAMETER</p> <p>PICO_INVALID_SAMPLERATIO</p> <p>PICO_ETS_NOT_RUNNING</p> <p>PICO_BUFFERS_NOT_SET</p> <p>PICO_TOO_MANY_SAMPLES</p> <p>PICO_SEGMENT_OUT_OF_RANGE</p> <p>PICO_NO_SAMPLES_AVAILABLE</p> <p>PICO_NOT_RESPONDING</p> <p>PICO_DRIVER_FUNCTION</p>

2.1.9.21 ps3000aGetValuesOverlapped

```

PICO_STATUS ps3000aGetValuesOverlapped
(
    short          handle,
    unsigned long  startIndex,
    unsigned long  * noOfSamples,
    unsigned long  downSampleRatio,
    PS3000A_RATIO_MODE downSampleRatioMode,
    unsigned short segmentIndex,
    short          * overflow
)

```

This function allows you to make a deferred data-collection request, which will later be executed, and the arguments validated, when you call [ps3000aRunBlock](#) in block mode. The advantage of this function is that the driver makes contact with the scope only once, when you call [ps3000aRunBlock](#), compared with the two contacts that occur when you use the conventional [ps3000aRunBlock](#), [ps3000aGetValues](#) calling sequence. This slightly reduces the dead time between successive captures in block mode.

After calling [ps3000aRunBlock](#), you can optionally use [ps3000aGetValues](#) to request further copies of the data. This might be required if you wish to display the data with different data reduction settings.

Applicability	Block mode
Arguments	<p>handle, the handle of the device</p> <p>startIndex: see ps3000aGetValues</p> <p>* noOfSamples: see ps3000aGetValues</p> <p>downSampleRatio: see ps3000aGetValues</p> <p>downSampleRatioMode: see ps3000aGetValues</p> <p>segmentIndex: see ps3000aGetValues</p> <p>* overflow: see ps3000aGetValuesBulk</p>
Returns	<p>PICO_OK</p> <p>PICO_INVALID_HANDLE</p> <p>PICO_INVALID_PARAMETER</p> <p>PICO_DRIVER_FUNCTION</p>

2.1.9.22 ps3000aGetValuesOverlappedBulk

```

PICO_STATUS ps3000aGetValuesOverlappedBulk
(
    short          handle,
    unsigned long  startIndex,
    unsigned long  * noOfSamples,
    unsigned long  downSampleRatio,
    PS3000A_RATIO_MODE downSampleRatioMode,
    unsigned short fromSegmentIndex,
    unsigned short toSegmentIndex,
    short          * overflow
)

```

This function allows you to make a deferred data-collection request, which will later be executed, and the arguments validated, when you call [ps3000aRunBlock](#) in rapid block mode. The advantage of this method is that the driver makes contact with the scope only once, when you call [ps3000aRunBlock](#), compared with the two contacts that occur when you use the conventional [ps3000aRunBlock](#), [ps3000aGetValuesBulk](#) calling sequence. This slightly reduces the dead time between successive captures in rapid block mode.

After calling [ps3000aRunBlock](#), you can optionally use [ps3000aGetValues](#) to request further copies of the data. This might be required if you wish to display the data with different data reduction settings.

Applicability	Rapid block mode
Arguments	<p>handle, the handle of the device</p> <p>startIndex: see ps3000aGetValues</p> <p>* noOfSamples: see ps3000aGetValues</p> <p>downSampleRatio: see ps3000aGetValues</p> <p>downSampleRatioMode: see ps3000aGetValues</p> <p>fromSegmentIndex: see ps3000aGetValuesBulk</p> <p>toSegmentIndex: see ps3000aGetValuesBulk</p> <p>* overflow, see ps3000aGetValuesBulk</p>
Returns	<p>PICO_OK</p> <p>PICO_INVALID_HANDLE</p> <p>PICO_INVALID_PARAMETER</p> <p>PICO_DRIVER_FUNCTION</p>

2.1.9.23 ps3000aGetValuesTriggerTimeOffsetBulk

```
PICO_STATUS ps3000aGetValuesTriggerTimeOffsetBulk
(
    short          handle,
    unsigned long  * timesUpper,
    unsigned long  * timesLower,
    PS3000A_TIME_UNITS * timeUnits,
    unsigned short fromSegmentIndex,
    unsigned short toSegmentIndex
)
```

This function retrieves the time offsets, as lower and upper 32-bit values, for waveforms obtained in [rapid block mode](#).

This function is provided for use in programming environments that do not support 64-bit integers. If your programming environment supports this data type, it is easier to use [ps3000aGetValuesTriggerTimeOffsetBulk64](#).

Applicability	Rapid block mode
Arguments	<p><code>handle</code>, the handle of the device</p> <p>* <code>timesUpper</code>, an array of integers. On exit, the most significant 32 bits of the time offset for each requested segment index. <code>times[0]</code> will hold the <code>fromSegmentIndex</code> time offset and the last <code>times</code> index will hold the <code>toSegmentIndex</code> time offset. The array must be long enough to hold the number of requested times.</p> <p>* <code>timesLower</code>, an array of integers. On exit, the least-significant 32 bits of the time offset for each requested segment index. <code>times[0]</code> will hold the <code>fromSegmentIndex</code> time offset and the last <code>times</code> index will hold the <code>toSegmentIndex</code> time offset. The array size must be long enough to hold the number of requested times.</p> <p>* <code>timeUnits</code>, an array of integers. The array must be long enough to hold the number of requested times. On exit, <code>timeUnits[0]</code> will contain the time unit for <code>fromSegmentIndex</code> and the last element will contain the time unit for <code>toSegmentIndex</code>. Refer to ps3000aGetTriggerTimeOffset for specific figures</p> <p><code>fromSegmentIndex</code>, the first segment for which the time offset is required</p> <p><code>toSegmentIndex</code>, the last segment for which the time offset is required. If <code>toSegmentIndex</code> is less than <code>fromSegmentIndex</code> then the driver will wrap around from the last segment to the first.</p>
Returns	PICO_OK PICO_INVALID_HANDLE PICO_NOT_USED_IN_THIS_CAPTURE_MODE PICO_NOT_RESPONDING PICO_NULL_PARAMETER PICO_DEVICE_SAMPLING PICO_SEGMENT_OUT_OF_RANGE PICO_NO_SAMPLES_AVAILABLE PICO_DRIVER_FUNCTION

2.1.9.24 ps3000aGetValuesTriggerTimeOffsetBulk64

```

PICO_STATUS ps3000aGetValuesTriggerTimeOffsetBulk64
(
    short          handle,
    __int64        * times,
    PS3000A_TIME_UNITS * timeUnits,
    unsigned short fromSegmentIndex,
    unsigned short toSegmentIndex
)

```

This function retrieves the 64-bit time offsets for waveforms captured in [rapid block mode](#).

A 32-bit version of this function, [ps3000aGetValuesTriggerTimeOffsetBulk](#), is available for use with programming languages that do not support 64-bit integers.

Applicability	Rapid block mode
Arguments	<p><code>handle</code>, the handle of the device</p> <p>* <code>times</code>, an array of integers. On exit, this will hold the time offset for each requested segment index. <code>times[0]</code> will hold the time offset for <code>fromSegmentIndex</code>, and the last <code>times</code> index will hold the time offset for <code>toSegmentIndex</code>. The array must be long enough to hold the number of times requested.</p> <p>* <code>timeUnits</code>, an array of integers long enough to hold the number of requested times. <code>timeUnits[0]</code> will contain the time unit for <code>fromSegmentIndex</code>, and the last element will contain the time unit for <code>toSegmentIndex</code>. Refer to ps3000aGetTriggerTimeOffset64 for specific figures.</p> <p><code>fromSegmentIndex</code>, the first segment for which the time offset is required. The results for this segment will be placed in <code>times[0]</code> and <code>timeUnits[0]</code>.</p> <p><code>toSegmentIndex</code>, the last segment for which the time offset is required. The results for this segment will be placed in the last elements of the <code>times</code> and <code>timeUnits</code> arrays. If <code>toSegmentIndex</code> is less than <code>fromSegmentIndex</code> then the driver will wrap around from the last segment to the first.</p>
Returns	PICO_OK PICO_INVALID_HANDLE PICO_NOT_USED_IN_THIS_CAPTURE_MODE PICO_NOT_RESPONDING PICO_NULL_PARAMETER PICO_DEVICE_SAMPLING PICO_SEGMENT_OUT_OF_RANGE PICO_NO_SAMPLES_AVAILABLE PICO_DRIVER_FUNCTION

2.1.9.25 ps3000aIsReady

```
PICO_STATUS ps3000aIsReady
(
    short handle,
    short * ready
)
```

This function may be used instead of a callback function to receive data from [ps3000aRunBlock](#). To use this method, pass a NULL pointer as the `lpReady` argument to [ps3000aRunBlock](#). You must then poll the driver to see if it has finished collecting the requested samples.

Applicability	Block mode
Arguments	<p><code>handle</code>, the handle of the required device</p> <p>* <code>ready</code>: output: indicates the state of the collection. If zero, the device is still collecting. If non-zero, the device has finished collecting and ps3000aGetValues can be used to retrieve the data.</p>
Returns	<p>PICO_OK PICO_INVALID_HANDLE PICO_DRIVER_FUNCTION PICO_NULL_PARAMETER PICO_NO_SAMPLES_AVAILABLE PICO_CANCELLED PICO_NOT_RESPONDING</p>

2.1.9.26 ps3000alsTriggerOrPulseWidthQualifierEnabled

```
PICO_STATUS ps3000aIsTriggerOrPulseWidthQualifierEnabled
(
    short handle,
    short * triggerEnabled,
    short * pulseWidthQualifierEnabled
)
```

This function discovers whether a trigger, or pulse width triggering, is enabled.

Applicability	Call after setting up the trigger, and just before calling either ps3000aRunBlock or ps3000aRunStreaming .
Arguments	<p>handle, the handle of the required device</p> <p>* triggerEnabled, on exit, indicates whether the trigger will successfully be set when ps3000aRunBlock or ps3000aRunStreaming is called. A non-zero value indicates that the trigger is set, zero that the trigger is not set.</p> <p>* pulseWidthQualifierEnabled, on exit, indicates whether the pulse width qualifier will successfully be set when ps3000aRunBlock or ps3000aRunStreaming is called. A non-zero value indicates that the pulse width qualifier is set, zero that the pulse width qualifier is not set.</p>
Returns	PICO_OK PICO_INVALID_HANDLE PICO_NULL_PARAMETER PICO_DRIVER_FUNCTION

2.1.9.27 ps3000aMaximumValue

```
PICO_STATUS ps3000aMaximumValue
(
    short      handle
    short      * value
)
```

This function returns the maximum ADC count returned by calls to get values.

Applicability	All modes
Arguments	<p>handle, the handle of the required device</p> <p>* value, pointer to a short, (output) set to the maximum ADC value.</p>
Returns	<p>PICO_OK</p> <p>PICO_USER_CALLBACK</p> <p>PICO_INVALID_HANDLE</p> <p>PICO_TOO_MANY_SEGMENTS</p> <p>PICO_MEMORY</p> <p>PICO_DRIVER_FUNCTION</p>

2.1.9.28 ps3000aMemorySegments

```
PICO_STATUS ps3000aMemorySegments
(
    short          handle
    unsigned short nSegments,
    long           * nMaxSamples
)
```

This function sets the number of memory segments that the scope will use.

When the scope is [opened](#), the number of segments defaults to 1, meaning that each capture fills the scope's available memory. This function allows you to divide the memory into a number of segments so that the scope can store several waveforms sequentially.

Applicability	All modes
Arguments	<p><code>handle</code>, the handle of the required device</p> <p><code>nSegments</code>, the number of segments required, from:</p> <p>1 to 16,384 for the PicoScope PS3204A 1 to 32,768 for the PicoScope PS3204B 1 to 65,535 for PS3205A, PS3205B, PS3206A, and PS3206B</p> <p>* <code>nMaxSamples</code>, on exit, the number of samples available in each segment. This is the total number over all channels, so if more than one channel is in use then the number of samples available to each channel is <code>nMaxSamples</code> divided by the number of channels.</p>
Returns	PICO_OK PICO_USER_CALLBACK PICO_INVALID_HANDLE PICO_TOO_MANY_SEGMENTS PICO_MEMORY PICO_DRIVER_FUNCTION

2.1.9.29 ps3000aMinimumValue

```
PICO_STATUS ps3000aMinimumValue
(
    short      handle
    short      * value
)
```

This function returns the minimum ADC count returned by calls to get values.

Applicability	All modes
Arguments	<p>handle, the handle of the required device</p> <p>* value, pointer to a short, (output) set to the minimum ADC value.</p>
Returns	<p>PICO_OK</p> <p>PICO_USER_CALLBACK</p> <p>PICO_INVALID_HANDLE</p> <p>PICO_TOO_MANY_SEGMENTS</p> <p>PICO_MEMORY</p> <p>PICO_DRIVER_FUNCTION</p>

2.1.9.30 ps3000aNoOfStreamingValues

```
PICO_STATUS ps3000aNoOfStreamingValues
(
    short      handle,
    unsigned long * noOfValues
)
```

This function returns the number of samples available after data collection in [streaming mode](#). Call it after calling [ps3000aStop](#).

Applicability	Streaming mode
Arguments	handle, the handle of the required device * noOfValues, on exit, the number of samples
Returns	PICO_OK PICO_INVALID_HANDLE PICO_NULL_PARAMETER PICO_NO_SAMPLES_AVAILABLE PICO_NOT_USED PICO_BUSY PICO_DRIVER_FUNCTION

2.1.9.31 ps3000aOpenUnit

```
PICO_STATUS ps3000aOpenUnit
(
    short * handle,
    char * serial
)
```

This function opens a PicoScope 3000A or 3000B Series scope attached to the computer. The maximum number of units that can be opened depends on the operating system, the kernel driver and the computer.

Applicability	All modes
Arguments	<p>* <i>handle</i>, on exit, the result of the attempt to open a scope: -1 : if the scope fails to open 0 : if no scope is found > 0 : a number that uniquely identifies the scope If a valid handle is returned, it must be used in all subsequent calls to API functions to identify this scope.</p> <p>* <i>serial</i>, on entry, a null-terminated string containing the serial number of the scope to be opened. If <i>serial</i> is NULL then the function opens the first scope found; otherwise, it tries to open the scope that matches the string.</p>
Returns	PICO_OK PICO_OS_NOT_SUPPORTED PICO_OPEN_OPERATION_IN_PROGRESS PICO_EEPROM_CORRUPT PICO_KERNEL_DRIVER_TOO_OLD PICO_FPGA_FAIL PICO_MEMORY_CLOCK_FREQUENCY PICO_FW_FAIL PICO_MAX_UNITS_OPENED PICO_NOT_FOUND (if the specified unit was not found) PICO_NOT_RESPONDING PICO_MEMORY_FAIL PICO_ANALOG_BOARD PICO_CONFIG_FAIL_AWG PICO_INITIALISE_FPGA

2.1.9.32 ps3000aOpenUnitAsync

```
PICO_STATUS ps3000aOpenUnitAsync
(
    short * status
    char * serial
)
```

This function opens a scope without blocking the calling thread. You can find out when it has finished by periodically calling [ps3000aOpenUnitProgress](#) until that function returns a non-zero value.

Applicability	All modes
Arguments	<p>* <i>status</i>, a status code: 0 if the open operation was disallowed because another open operation is in progress 1 if the open operation was successfully started</p> <p>* <i>serial</i>: see ps3000aOpenUnit</p>
Returns	PICO_OK PICO_OPEN_OPERATION_IN_PROGRESS PICO_OPERATION_FAILED

2.1.9.33 ps3000aOpenUnitProgress

```
PICO_STATUS ps3000aOpenUnitProgress
(
    short * handle,
    short * progressPercent,
    short * complete
)
```

This function checks on the progress of a request made to [ps3000aOpenUnitAsync](#) to open a scope.

Applicability	Use after ps3000aOpenUnitAsync
Arguments	<p>* <code>handle</code>: see ps3000aOpenUnit. This handle is valid only if the function returns PICO_OK.</p> <p>* <code>progressPercent</code>, on exit, the percentage progress towards opening the scope. 100% implies that the open operation is complete.</p> <p>* <code>complete</code>, set to 1 when the open operation has finished</p>
Returns	<p>PICO_OK</p> <p>PICO_NULL_PARAMETER</p> <p>PICO_OPERATION_FAILED</p>

2.1.9.34 ps3000aPingUnit

```
PICO_STATUS ps3000aPingUnit
(
    short handle,
)
```

This function can be used to check that the already opened device is still connected to the USB port and communication is successful.

Applicability	All modes
Arguments	handle, the handle of the required device
Returns	PICO_OK PICO_INVALID_HANDLE PICO_DRIVER_FUNCTION PICO_BUSY PICO_NOT_RESPONDING

2.1.9.35 ps3000aRunBlock

```

PICO_STATUS ps3000aRunBlock
(
    short          handle,
    long           noOfPreTriggerSamples,
    long           noOfPostTriggerSamples,
    unsigned long  timebase,
    short          oversample,
    long           * timeIndisposedMs,
    unsigned short segmentIndex,
    ps3000aBlockReady lpReady,
    void           * pParameter
)

```

This function starts collecting data in [block mode](#). For a step-by-step guide to this process, see [Using block mode](#).

The number of samples is determined by `noOfPreTriggerSamples` and `noOfPostTriggerSamples` (see below for details). The total number of samples must not be more than the size of the [segment](#) referred to by `segmentIndex`.

Applicability	Block mode , rapid block mode
Arguments	<p><code>handle</code>, the handle of the required device.</p> <p><code>noOfPreTriggerSamples</code>, the number of samples to return before the trigger event. If no trigger has been set then this argument is ignored and <code>noOfPostTriggerSamples</code> specifies the maximum number of samples to collect.</p> <p><code>noOfPostTriggerSamples</code>, the number of samples to be taken after a trigger event. If no trigger event has been set then this specifies the maximum number of samples to be taken. If a trigger condition has been set, this specifies the number of samples to be taken after a trigger has fired, and the number of samples to be collected is then: -</p> $\text{noOfPreTriggerSamples} + \text{noOfPostTriggerSamples}$ <p><code>timebase</code>, a number in the range 0 to $2^{32}-1$. See the guide to calculating timebase values.</p> <p><code>oversample</code>, the oversampling factor, a number in the range 1 to 256.</p> <p><code>* timeIndisposedMs</code>, on exit, the time, in milliseconds, that the scope will spend collecting samples. This does not include any auto trigger timeout. If this pointer is null, nothing will be written here.</p> <p><code>segmentIndex</code>, zero-based, specifies which memory segment to use.</p> <p><code>lpReady</code>, a pointer to the ps3000aBlockReady callback function that the driver will call when the data has been collected. To use the ps3000aIsReady polling method instead of a callback function, set this pointer to NULL.</p>

	<p>* <code>pParameter</code>, a void pointer that is passed to the ps3000aBlockReady callback function. The callback can use this pointer to return arbitrary data to the application.</p>
Returns	<p>PICO_OK PICO_BUFFERS_NOT_SET (in Overlapped mode) PICO_INVALID_HANDLE PICO_USER_CALLBACK PICO_SEGMENT_OUT_OF_RANGE PICO_INVALID_CHANNEL PICO_INVALID_TRIGGER_CHANNEL PICO_INVALID_CONDITION_CHANNEL PICO_TOO_MANY_SAMPLES PICO_INVALID_TIMEBASE PICO_NOT_RESPONDING PICO_CONFIG_FAIL PICO_INVALID_PARAMETER PICO_NOT_RESPONDING PICO_TRIGGER_ERROR PICO_DRIVER_FUNCTION PICO_FW_FAIL PICO_NOT_ENOUGH_SEGMENTS (in Bulk mode) PICO_PULSE_WIDTH_QUALIFIER PICO_SEGMENT_OUT_OF_RANGE (in Overlapped mode) PICO_STARTINDEX_INVALID (in Overlapped mode) PICO_INVALID_SAMPLERATIO (in Overlapped mode) PICO_CONFIG_FAIL</p>

2.1.9.36 ps3000aRunStreaming

```

PICO_STATUS ps3000aRunStreaming
(
    short          handle,
    unsigned long  * sampleInterval,
    PS3000A_TIME_UNITS sampleIntervalTimeUnits
    unsigned long  maxPreTriggerSamples,
    unsigned long  maxPostTriggerSamples,
    short         autoStop,
    unsigned long  downSampleRatio,
    PS3000A_RATIO_MODE downSampleRatioMode,
    unsigned long  overviewBufferSize
)

```

This function tells the oscilloscope to start collecting data in [streaming mode](#). When data has been collected from the device it is [downsampled](#) if necessary and then delivered to the application. Call [ps3000aGetStreamingLatestValues](#) to retrieve the data. See [Using streaming mode](#) for a step-by-step guide to this process.

When a trigger is set, the total number of samples stored in the driver is the sum of `maxPreTriggerSamples` and `maxPostTriggerSamples`. If `autoStop` is false then this will become the maximum number of samples without downsampling.

Applicability	Streaming mode
Arguments	<p><code>handle</code>, the handle of the required device.</p> <p><code>* sampleInterval</code>, on entry, the requested time interval between samples; on exit, the actual time interval used.</p> <p><code>sampleIntervalTimeUnits</code>, the unit of time used for <code>sampleInterval</code>. Use one of these values: PS3000A_FS PS3000A_PS PS3000A_NS PS3000A_US PS3000A_MS PS3000A_S</p> <p><code>maxPreTriggerSamples</code>, the maximum number of raw samples before a trigger event for each enabled channel. If no trigger condition is set this argument is ignored.</p> <p><code>maxPostTriggerSamples</code>, the maximum number of raw samples after a trigger event for each enabled channel. If no trigger condition is set, this argument states the maximum number of samples to be stored.</p> <p><code>autoStop</code>, a flag that specifies if the streaming should stop when all of <code>maxSamples</code> have been captured.</p> <p><code>downSampleRatio</code>: see ps3000aGetValues <code>downSampleRatioMode</code>: see ps3000aGetValues</p>

	<p>overviewBufferSize, the size of the overview buffers. These are temporary buffers used for storing the data before returning it to the application. The size is the same as the bufferSize value passed to ps3000aSetDataBuffer.</p>
Returns	<p>PICO_OK PICO_INVALID_HANDLE PICO_ETS_MODE_SET PICO_USER_CALLBACK PICO_NULL_PARAMETER PICO_INVALID_PARAMETER PICO_STREAMING_FAILED PICO_NOT_RESPONDING PICO_TRIGGER_ERROR PICO_INVALID_SAMPLE_INTERVAL PICO_INVALID_BUFFER PICO_DRIVER_FUNCTION PICO_FW_FAIL PICO_MEMORY</p>

2.1.9.37 ps3000aSetChannel

```

PICO_STATUS ps3000aSetChannel
(
    short          handle,
    PS3000A_CHANNEL channel,
    short          enabled,
    PS3000A_COUPLING type,
    PS3000A_RANGE range,
    float          analogueOffset,
)

```

This function specifies whether an input channel is to be enabled, its input coupling type, voltage range, analog offset and bandwidth limit.

Applicability	All modes
Arguments	<p><code>handle</code>, the handle of the required device</p> <p><code>channel</code>, the channel to be configured. The values are: PS3000A_CHANNEL_A: Channel A input PS3000A_CHANNEL_B: Channel B input</p> <p><code>enabled</code>, whether or not to enable the channel. The values are: TRUE: enable FALSE: do not enable</p> <p><code>type</code>, the impedance and coupling type. The values are: PS3000A_AC: 1 megohm impedance, AC coupling. The channel accepts input frequencies from about 1 hertz up to its maximum -3 dB analog bandwidth. PS3000A_DC: 1 megohm impedance, DC coupling. The scope accepts all input frequencies from zero (DC) up to its maximum -3 dB analog bandwidth.</p> <p><code>range</code>, the input voltage range: PS3000A_50MV: ±50 mV PS3000A_100MV: ±100 mV PS3000A_200MV: ±200 mV PS3000A_500MV: ±500 mV PS3000A_1V: ±1 V PS3000A_2V: ±2 V PS3000A_5V: ±5 V PS3000A_10V: ±10 V PS3000A_20V: ±20 V</p> <p><code>analogueOffset</code>, a voltage to add to the input channel before digitization. The allowable range of offsets depends on the input range selected for the channel, as obtained from the ps3000aGetAnalogueOffset.</p>
Returns	PICO_OK PICO_USER_CALLBACK PICO_INVALID_HANDLE PICO_INVALID_CHANNEL PICO_INVALID_VOLTAGE_RANGE

	PICO_INVALID_COUPLING PICO_INVALID_ANALOGUE_OFFSET PICO_DRIVER_FUNCTION
--	---

2.1.9.38 ps3000aSetDataBuffer

```
PICO_STATUS ps3000aSetDataBuffer
(
    short          handle,
    PS3000A_CHANNEL channel,
    short          * buffer,
    long           bufferLth,
    unsigned short segmentIndex
    PS3000A_RATIO_MODE mode
)
```

This function tells the driver where to store the data, either unprocessed or [downsampled](#), that will be returned after the next call to one of the [GetValues](#) functions. The function allows you to specify only a single buffer, so for aggregation mode, which requires two buffers, you need to call [ps3000aSetDataBuffers](#) instead.

You must allocate memory for the buffer before calling this function.

Applicability	Block , rapid block and streaming modes. All downsampling modes except aggregation .
Arguments	<p><code>handle</code>, the handle of the required device</p> <p><code>channel</code>, the channel you want to use with the buffer. Use one of these values: PS3000A_CHANNEL_A PS3000A_CHANNEL_B PS3000A_CHANNEL_C PS3000A_CHANNEL_D</p> <p>* <code>buffer</code>, the location of the buffer</p> <p><code>bufferLth</code>, the size of the <code>buffer</code> array</p> <p><code>segmentIndex</code>, the number of the memory segment to be used</p> <p><code>mode</code>, the downsampling mode. See ps3000aGetValues for the available modes, but note that a single call to ps3000aSetDataBuffer can only associate one buffer with one downsampling mode. If you intend to call ps3000aGetValues with more than one downsampling mode activated, then you must call ps3000aSetDataBuffer several times to associate a separate buffer with each downsampling mode.</p>
Returns	PICO_OK PICO_INVALID_HANDLE PICO_INVALID_CHANNEL PICO_RATIO_MODE_NOT_SUPPORTED PICO_SEGMENT_OUT_OF_RANGE PICO_DRIVER_FUNCTION PICO_INVALID_PARAMETER

2.1.9.39 ps3000aSetDataBuffers

```

PICO_STATUS ps3000aSetDataBuffers
(
    short          handle,
    PS3000A_CHANNEL channel,
    short         * bufferMax,
    short         * bufferMin,
    long          bufferLth,
    unsigned short segmentIndex
    PS3000A_RATIO_MODE mode
)

```

This function tells the driver the location of one or two buffers for receiving data. You need to allocate memory for the buffers before calling this function. If you do not need two buffers, because you are not using [aggregate](#) mode, then you can optionally use [ps3000aSetDataBuffer](#) instead.

Applicability	Block and streaming modes with aggregation .
Arguments	<p><code>handle</code>, the handle of the required device.</p> <p><code>channel</code>, the channel for which you want to set the buffers. Use one of these constants: PS3000A_CHANNEL_A PS3000A_CHANNEL_B PS3000A_CHANNEL_C PS3000A_CHANNEL_D</p> <p>* <code>bufferMax</code>, a buffer to receive the maximum data values in aggregation mode, or the non-aggregated values otherwise.</p> <p>* <code>bufferMin</code>, a buffer to receive the minimum aggregated data values. Not used in other downsampling modes.</p> <p><code>bufferLth</code>, the size of the <code>bufferMax</code> and <code>bufferMin</code> arrays.</p> <p><code>segmentIndex</code>, the number of the memory segment to be used</p> <p><code>mode</code>: see ps3000aGetValues</p>
Returns	PICO_OK PICO_INVALID_HANDLE PICO_INVALID_CHANNEL PICO_RATIO_MODE_NOT_SUPPORTED PICO_SEGMENT_OUT_OF_RANGE PICO_DRIVER_FUNCTION PICO_INVALID_PARAMETER

2.1.9.40 ps3000aSetEts

```

PICO_STATUS ps3000aSetEts
(
    short          handle,
    PS3000A_ETS_MODE mode,
    short          etsCycles,
    short          etsInterleave,
    long           * sampleTimePicoseconds
)

```

This function is used to enable or disable [ETS](#) (equivalent-time sampling) and to set the ETS parameters. See [ETS overview](#) for an explanation of ETS mode.

Applicability	Block mode
Arguments	<p><code>handle</code>, the handle of the required device</p> <p><code>mode</code>, the ETS mode. Use one of these values:</p> <p><code>PS3000A_ETS_OFF</code>: disables ETS</p> <p><code>PS3000A_ETS_FAST</code>: enables ETS and provides <code>etsCycles</code> of data, which may contain data from previously returned cycles</p> <p><code>PS3000A_ETS_SLOW</code>: enables ETS and provides fresh data every <code>etsCycles</code>. This mode takes longer to provide each data set, but the data sets are more stable and are guaranteed to contain only new data.</p> <p><code>etsCycles</code>, the number of cycles to store: the computer can then select <code>etsInterleave</code> cycles to give the most uniform spread of samples.</p> <p>Range: between two and five times the value of <code>etsInterleave</code>, and not more than either: PS3204A_MAX_ETS_CYCLES PS3205A_MAX_ETS_CYCLES PS3206A_MAX_ETS_CYCLES</p> <p><code>etsInterleave</code>, the number of waveforms to combine into a single ETS capture.</p> <p>Maximum value is either: PS3204A_MAX_INTERLEAVE PS3205A_MAX_INTERLEAVE PS3206A_MAX_INTERLEAVE</p> <p>* <code>sampleTimePicoseconds</code>, on exit, the effective sampling interval of the ETS data. For example, if the captured sample time is 4 ns and <code>etsInterleave</code> is 10, then the effective sample time in ETS mode is 400 ps.</p>
Returns	<p><code>PICO_OK</code></p> <p><code>PICO_USER_CALLBACK</code></p> <p><code>PICO_INVALID_HANDLE</code></p> <p><code>PICO_INVALID_PARAMETER</code></p> <p><code>PICO_DRIVER_FUNCTION</code></p>

2.1.9.41 ps3000aSetEtsTimeBuffer

```
PICO_STATUS ps3000aSetEtsTimeBuffer
(
    short          handle,
    __int64       * buffer,
    long          bufferLth
)
```

This function tells the driver where to find your application's ETS time buffers. These buffers contain the 64-bit timing information for each ETS sample after you run a [block-mode](#) ETS capture.

Applicability	ETS mode only. If your programming language does not support 64-bit data, use the 32-bit version ps3000aSetEtsTimeBuffers instead.
Arguments	<code>handle</code> , the handle of the required device <code>* buffer</code> , an array of 64-bit words, each representing the time in picoseconds at which the sample was captured <code>bufferLth</code> , the size of the buffer array
Returns	PICO_OK PICO_INVALID_HANDLE PICO_NULL_PARAMETER PICO_DRIVER_FUNCTION

2.1.9.42 ps3000aSetEtsTimeBuffers

```
PICO_STATUS ps3000aSetEtsTimeBuffers
(
    short          handle,
    unsigned long * timeUpper,
    unsigned long * timeLower,
    long           bufferLth
)
```

This function tells the driver where to find your application's ETS time buffers. These buffers contain the timing information for each ETS sample after you run a [block-mode](#) ETS capture. There are two buffers containing the upper and lower 32-bit parts of the timing information, to allow programming languages that do not support 64-bit data to retrieve the timings.

Applicability	<p>ETS mode only.</p> <p>If your programming language supports 64-bit data then you can use ps3000aSetEtsTimeBuffer instead.</p>
Arguments	<p><code>handle</code>, the handle of the required device</p> <p>* <code>timeUpper</code>, an array of 32-bit words, each representing the upper 32 bits of the time in picoseconds at which the sample was captured</p> <p>* <code>timeLower</code>, an array of 32-bit words, each representing the lower 32 bits of the time in picoseconds at which the sample was captured</p> <p><code>bufferLth</code>, the size of the <code>timeUpper</code> and <code>timeLower</code> arrays</p>
Returns	<p>PICO_OK PICO_INVALID_HANDLE PICO_NULL_PARAMETER PICO_DRIVER_FUNCTION</p>

2.1.9.43 ps3000aSetNoOfCaptures

```
PICO_STATUS ps3000aSetNoOfCaptures
(
    short          handle,
    unsigned short nCaptures
)
```

This function sets the number of captures to be collected in one run of [rapid block mode](#). If you do not call this function before a run, the driver will capture only one waveform. Once a value has been set, the value remains constant unless changed.

Applicability	Rapid block mode
Arguments	handle, the handle of the device nCaptures, the number of waveforms to capture in one run
Returns	PICO_OK PICO_INVALID_HANDLE PICO_INVALID_PARAMETER PICO_DRIVER_FUNCTION

2.1.9.44 ps3000aSetPulseWidthQualifier

```

PICO_STATUS ps3000aSetPulseWidthQualifier
(
    short          handle,
    PS3000A_PWQ_CONDITIONS * conditions,
    short          nConditions,
    PS3000A_THRESHOLD_DIRECTION direction,
    unsigned long  lower,
    unsigned long  upper,
    PS3000A_PULSE_WIDTH_TYPE type
)

```

This function sets up pulse-width qualification, which can be used on its own for pulse-width triggering or combined with window triggering to produce more complex triggers. The pulse-width qualifier is set by defining one or more structures that are then ORed together. Each structure is itself the AND of the states of one or more of the inputs. This AND-OR logic allows you to create any possible Boolean function of the scope's inputs.

Applicability	All modes
Arguments	<p><code>handle</code>, the handle of the required device</p> <p><code>* conditions</code>, an array of PS3000A_PWQ_CONDITIONS structures specifying the conditions that should be applied to each channel. In the simplest case, the array consists of a single element. When there are several elements, the overall trigger condition is the logical OR of all the elements. If <code>conditions</code> is <code>NULL</code> then the pulse-width qualifier is not used.</p> <p><code>nConditions</code>, the number of elements in the <code>conditions</code> array. If <code>nConditions</code> is zero then the pulse-width qualifier is not used. Range: 0 to PS3000A_MAX_PULSE_WIDTH_QUALIFIER_COUNT.</p> <p><code>direction</code>, the direction of the signal required for the pulse width trigger to fire. See PS3000A_THRESHOLD_DIRECTION constants for the list of possible values. Each channel of the oscilloscope (except the EXT input) has two thresholds for each direction—for example, PS3000A_RISING and PS3000A_RISING_LOWER—so that one can be used for the pulse-width qualifier and the other for the level trigger. The driver will not let you use the same threshold for both triggers; so, for example, you cannot use PS3000A_RISING as the <code>direction</code> argument for both ps3000aSetTriggerConditions and ps3000aSetPulseWidthQualifier at the same time. There is no such restriction when using window triggers.</p> <p><code>lower</code>, the lower limit of the pulse-width counter with relation to number of samples captured on the device.</p> <p><code>upper</code>, the upper limit of the pulse-width counter with relation to number of samples captured on the device. This parameter is used only when the type is set to PS3000A_PW_TYPE_IN_RANGE or PS3000A_PW_TYPE_OUT_OF_RANGE.</p>

Arguments	type, the pulse-width type, one of these constants: PS3000A_PW_TYPE_NONE : do not use the pulse width qualifier PS3000A_PW_TYPE_LESS_THAN : pulse width less than lower PS3000A_PW_TYPE_GREATER_THAN : pulse width greater than lower PS3000A_PW_TYPE_IN_RANGE : pulse width between lower and upper PS3000A_PW_TYPE_OUT_OF_RANGE : pulse width not between lower and upper
Returns	PICO_OK PICO_INVALID_HANDLE PICO_USER_CALLBACK PICO_CONDITIONS PICO_PULSE_WIDTH_QUALIFIER PICO_DRIVER_FUNCTION

2.1.9.44.1 ps3000A_PWQ_CONDITIONS structure

A structure of this type is passed to [ps3000aSetPulseWidthQualifier](#) in the `conditions` argument to specify the trigger conditions. It is defined as follows:

```
typedef struct tPwqConditions
{
    PS3000A_TRIGGER_STATE channelA;
    PS3000A_TRIGGER_STATE channelB;
    PS3000A_TRIGGER_STATE channelC;
    PS3000A_TRIGGER_STATE channelD;
    PS3000A_TRIGGER_STATE external;
    PS3000A_TRIGGER_STATE aux;
} PS3000A_PWQ_CONDITIONS
```

Each structure is the logical AND of the states of the scope's inputs. The [ps3000aSetPulseWidthQualifier](#) function can OR together a number of these structures to produce the final pulse width qualifier, which can therefore be any possible Boolean function of the scope's inputs.

The structure is byte-aligned. In C++, for example, you should specify this using the `#pragma pack()` instruction.

Elements	<p><code>channelA</code>, <code>channelB</code>, <code>external</code>: the type of condition that should be applied to each channel. Use these constants: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PS3000A_CONDITION_DONT_CARE PS3000A_CONDITION_TRUE PS3000A_CONDITION_FALSE <p>The channels that are set to PS3000A_CONDITION_TRUE or PS3000A_CONDITION_FALSE must all meet their conditions simultaneously to produce a trigger. Channels set to PS3000A_CONDITION_DONT_CARE are ignored.</p> <p><code>channelC</code>, <code>channelD</code>, <code>aux</code>: not used</p>
-----------------	--

2.1.9.45 ps3000aSetSigGenArbitrary

This function only applies to the 'B' type models.

```
PICO_STATUS ps3000aSetSigGenArbitrary
(
    short          handle,
    long           offsetVoltage,
    unsigned long  pkToPk,
    unsigned long  startDeltaPhase,
    unsigned long  stopDeltaPhase,
    unsigned long  deltaPhaseIncrement,
    unsigned long  dwellCount,
    short         * arbitraryWaveform,
    long           arbitraryWaveformSize,
    PS3000A_SWEEP_TYPE sweepType,
    PS3000A_EXTRA_OPERATIONS operation,
    PS3000A_INDEX_MODE indexMode,
    unsigned long  shots,
    unsigned long  sweeps,
    PS3000A_SIGGEN_TRIG_TYPE triggerType,
    PS3000A_SIGGEN_TRIG_SOURCE triggerSource,
    short         extInThreshold
)
```

This function programs the signal generator to produce an arbitrary waveform.

The arbitrary waveform generator uses direct digital synthesis (DDS). It maintains a 32-bit phase accumulator that indicates the present location in the waveform buffer. For the PS3204B and PS3205B, 13 bits (30-18) of the accumulator are used as an index into a buffer containing the arbitrary waveform. For the 3206B, 14 bits (31-18) of the accumulator are used.

The generator steps through the waveform by adding a "delta phase" between 1 and $2^{32}-1$ to the phase accumulator every 50 ns. If the delta phase is constant, then the generator produces a waveform at a constant frequency, where:

$$\text{Frequency} = 20 \text{ MHz} \times ([\text{Delta Phase}] / [2^{(32-14)}]) / [\text{Waveform Length}]$$

It is also possible to sweep the frequency by progressively modifying the delta phase. This is done by setting up a "delta phase increment" which is added to the delta phase at specified intervals.

Applicability	All modes
Arguments	<p><code>handle</code>, the handle of the required device</p> <p><code>offsetVoltage</code>, the voltage offset, in microvolts, to be applied to the waveform</p> <p><code>pkToPk</code>, the peak-to-peak voltage, in microvolts, of the waveform signal. Note that if the signal voltages described by the combination of <code>offsetVoltage</code> and <code>pkToPk</code> extend outside the voltage range of the signal generator, the output waveform will be clipped</p>

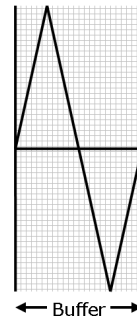
Arguments	<p><code>startDeltaPhase</code>, the initial value added to the phase accumulator as the generator begins to step through the waveform buffer</p> <p><code>stopDeltaPhase</code>, the final value added to the phase accumulator before the generator restarts or reverses the sweep</p> <p><code>deltaPhaseIncrement</code>, the amount added to the delta phase value every time the <code>dwellCount</code> period expires. This determines the amount by which the generator sweeps the output frequency in each dwell period.</p> <p><code>dwellCount</code>, the time, in 50 ns steps, between successive additions of <code>deltaPhaseIncrement</code> to the delta phase accumulator. This determines the rate at which the generator sweeps the output frequency. Minimum value: PS3000A_MIN_DWELL_COUNT</p> <p>* <code>arbitraryWaveform</code>, a buffer that holds the waveform pattern as a set of samples equally spaced in time. If <code>pkToPk</code> is set to its maximum (4 V) and <code>offsetVoltage</code> is set to 0, then a sample of -32768 corresponds to -2 V, and +32767 to +2 V.</p> <p><code>arbitraryWaveformSize</code>, the size of the arbitrary waveform buffer, in samples, from MIN_SIG_GEN_BUFFER_SIZE to MAX_SIG_GEN_BUFFER_SIZE or PS3206B_MAX_SIG_GEN_BUFFER_SIZE.</p> <p><code>sweepType</code>, determines whether the <code>startDeltaPhase</code> is swept up to the <code>stopDeltaPhase</code>, or down to it, or repeatedly swept up and down. Use one of these values: - PS3000A_UP PS3000A_DOWN PS3000A_UPDOWN PS3000A_DOWNUP</p> <p><code>operation</code>, the type of waveform to be produced, specified by one of the following enumerated types:</p> <p>PS3000A_ES_OFF, normal signal generator operation specified by wavetype.</p> <p>PS3000A_WHITENOISE, the signal generator produces white noise and ignores all settings except <code>pkToPk</code> and <code>offsetVoltage</code>.</p> <p>PS3000A_PRBS, produces a random bitstream with a bit rate specified by the start and stop frequency.</p> <p><code>indexMode</code>, specifies how the signal will be formed from the arbitrary waveform data. Single, and dual index modes are possible. Use one of these constants: PS3000A_SINGLE PS3000A_DUAL</p>
------------------	--

Arguments	shots, see ps3000aSigGenBuiltIn sweeps, see ps3000aSigGenBuiltIn triggerType, see ps3000aSigGenBuiltIn triggerSource, see ps3000aSigGenBuiltIn extInThreshold, see ps3000aSigGenBuiltIn
Returns	PICO_OK PICO_AWG_NOT_SUPPORTED PICO_BUSY PICO_INVALID_HANDLE PICO_SIG_GEN_PARAM PICO_SHOTS_SWEEPS_WARNING PICO_NOT_RESPONDING PICO_WARNING_EXT_THRESHOLD_CONFLICT PICO_NO_SIGNAL_GENERATOR PICO_SIGGEN_OFFSET_VOLTAGE PICO_SIGGEN_PK_TO_PK PICO_SIGGEN_OUTPUT_OVER_VOLTAGE PICO_DRIVER_FUNCTION PICO_SIGGEN_WAVEFORM_SETUP_FAILED

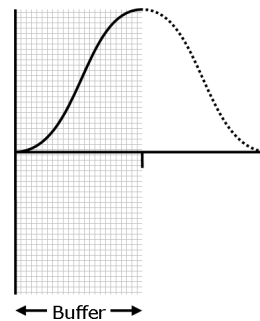
2.1.9.45.1 AWG index modes

The [arbitrary waveform generator](#) supports **single** and **dual** index modes to help you make the best use of the waveform buffer.

Single mode. The generator outputs the raw contents of the buffer repeatedly. This mode is the only one that can generate asymmetrical waveforms. You can also use this mode for symmetrical waveforms, but the dual and quad modes make more efficient use of the buffer memory.



Dual mode. The generator outputs the contents of the buffer from beginning to end, and then does a second pass in the reverse direction through the buffer. This allows you to specify only the first half of a waveform with twofold symmetry, such as a Gaussian function, and let the generator fill in the other half.



2.1.9.46 ps3000aSetSigGenBuiltIn

```

PICO_STATUS ps3000aSetSigGenBuiltIn
(
    short          handle,
    long           offsetVoltage,
    unsigned long  pkToPk,
    PS3000A_WAVE_TYPE waveType,
    float          startFrequency,
    float          stopFrequency,
    float          increment,
    float          dwellTime,
    PS3000A_SWEEP_TYPE sweepType,
    PS3000A_EXTRA_OPERATIONS operation,
    unsigned long  shots,
    unsigned long  sweeps,
    PS3000A_SIGGEN_TRIG_TYPE triggerType,
    PS3000A_SIGGEN_TRIG_SOURCE triggerSource,
    short         extInThreshold
)

```

This function sets up the signal generator to produce a signal from a list of built-in waveforms. If different start and stop frequencies are specified, the device will sweep either up, down or up and down.

Applicability	All modes																		
Arguments	<p><code>handle</code>, the handle of the required device</p> <p><code>offsetVoltage</code>, the voltage offset, in microvolts, to be applied to the waveform</p> <p><code>pkToPk</code>, the peak-to-peak voltage, in microvolts, of the waveform signal. Note that if the signal voltages described by the combination of <code>offsetVoltage</code> and <code>pkToPk</code> extend outside the voltage range of the signal generator, the output waveform will be clipped</p> <p><code>waveType</code>, the type of waveform to be generated.</p> <table> <tr> <td>PS3000A_SINE</td> <td>sine wave</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PS3000A_SQUARE</td> <td>square wave</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PS3000A_TRIANGLE</td> <td>triangle wave</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PS3000A_DC_VOLTAGE</td> <td>DC voltage</td> </tr> </table> <p>The following <code>waveTypes</code> apply to B models only.</p> <table> <tr> <td>PS3000A_RAMP_UP</td> <td>rising sawtooth</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PS3000A_RAMP_DOWN</td> <td>falling sawtooth</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PS3000A_SINC</td> <td>(sin x)/x</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PS3000A_GAUSSIAN</td> <td>Gaussian</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PS3000A_HALF_SINE</td> <td>half (full-wave rectified) sine</td> </tr> </table> <p><code>startFrequency</code>, the frequency that the signal generator will initially produce. For allowable values see PS3000A_SINE_MAX_FREQUENCY and related values.</p>	PS3000A_SINE	sine wave	PS3000A_SQUARE	square wave	PS3000A_TRIANGLE	triangle wave	PS3000A_DC_VOLTAGE	DC voltage	PS3000A_RAMP_UP	rising sawtooth	PS3000A_RAMP_DOWN	falling sawtooth	PS3000A_SINC	(sin x)/x	PS3000A_GAUSSIAN	Gaussian	PS3000A_HALF_SINE	half (full-wave rectified) sine
PS3000A_SINE	sine wave																		
PS3000A_SQUARE	square wave																		
PS3000A_TRIANGLE	triangle wave																		
PS3000A_DC_VOLTAGE	DC voltage																		
PS3000A_RAMP_UP	rising sawtooth																		
PS3000A_RAMP_DOWN	falling sawtooth																		
PS3000A_SINC	(sin x)/x																		
PS3000A_GAUSSIAN	Gaussian																		
PS3000A_HALF_SINE	half (full-wave rectified) sine																		

Arguments	<p><code>stopFrequency</code>, the frequency at which the sweep reverses direction or returns to the initial frequency</p> <p><code>increment</code>, the amount of frequency increase or decrease in sweep mode</p> <p><code>dwellTime</code>, the time for which the sweep stays at each frequency, in seconds</p> <p><code>sweepType</code>, whether the frequency will sweep from <code>startFrequency</code> to <code>stopFrequency</code>, or in the opposite direction, or repeatedly reverse direction. Use one of these constants:</p> <p>PS3000A_UP PS3000A_DOWN PS3000A_UPDOWN PS3000A_DOWNUP</p> <p><code>operation</code>, the type of waveform to be produced, specified by one of the following enumerated types (B models only):</p> <p>PS3000A_ES_OFF, normal signal generator operation specified by <code>wavetype</code>.</p> <p>PS3000A_WHITENOISE, the signal generator produces white noise and ignores all settings except <code>pkToPk</code> and <code>offsetVoltage</code>.</p> <p>PS3000A_PRBS, produces a random bitstream with a bit rate specified by the start and stop frequency.</p> <p><code>shots</code>, the number of cycles of the waveform to be produced after a trigger event. If non-zero (from 1 to PS3000A_MAX_SWEEPS_SHOTS), then <code>sweeps</code> must be zero.</p> <p><code>sweeps</code>, the number of times to sweep the frequency after a trigger event, according to <code>sweepType</code>. If non-zero (from 1 to PS3000A_MAX_SWEEPS_SHOTS), then <code>shots</code> must be zero.</p> <p><code>triggerType</code>, the type of trigger that will be applied to the signal generator:</p> <table> <tr> <td><code>PS3000A_SIGGEN_RISING</code></td> <td>trigger on rising edge</td> </tr> <tr> <td><code>PS3000A_SIGGEN_FALLING</code></td> <td>trigger on falling edge</td> </tr> <tr> <td><code>PS3000A_SIGGEN_GATE_HIGH</code></td> <td>run while trigger is high</td> </tr> <tr> <td><code>PS3000A_SIGGEN_GATE_LOW</code></td> <td>run while trigger is low</td> </tr> </table> <p><code>triggerSource</code>, the source that will trigger the signal generator.</p> <table> <tr> <td><code>PS3000A_SIGGEN_NONE</code></td> <td>run without waiting for trigger</td> </tr> <tr> <td><code>PS3000A_SIGGEN_SCOPE_TRIG</code></td> <td>use scope trigger</td> </tr> <tr> <td><code>PS3000A_SIGGEN_AUX_IN</code></td> <td>use EXT input</td> </tr> <tr> <td><code>PS3000A_SIGGEN_SOFT_TRIG</code></td> <td>wait for software trigger provided by ps3000aSigGenSoftwareControl</td> </tr> <tr> <td><code>PS3000A_SIGGEN_TRIGGER_RAW</code></td> <td>reserved</td> </tr> </table>	<code>PS3000A_SIGGEN_RISING</code>	trigger on rising edge	<code>PS3000A_SIGGEN_FALLING</code>	trigger on falling edge	<code>PS3000A_SIGGEN_GATE_HIGH</code>	run while trigger is high	<code>PS3000A_SIGGEN_GATE_LOW</code>	run while trigger is low	<code>PS3000A_SIGGEN_NONE</code>	run without waiting for trigger	<code>PS3000A_SIGGEN_SCOPE_TRIG</code>	use scope trigger	<code>PS3000A_SIGGEN_AUX_IN</code>	use EXT input	<code>PS3000A_SIGGEN_SOFT_TRIG</code>	wait for software trigger provided by ps3000aSigGenSoftwareControl	<code>PS3000A_SIGGEN_TRIGGER_RAW</code>	reserved
<code>PS3000A_SIGGEN_RISING</code>	trigger on rising edge																		
<code>PS3000A_SIGGEN_FALLING</code>	trigger on falling edge																		
<code>PS3000A_SIGGEN_GATE_HIGH</code>	run while trigger is high																		
<code>PS3000A_SIGGEN_GATE_LOW</code>	run while trigger is low																		
<code>PS3000A_SIGGEN_NONE</code>	run without waiting for trigger																		
<code>PS3000A_SIGGEN_SCOPE_TRIG</code>	use scope trigger																		
<code>PS3000A_SIGGEN_AUX_IN</code>	use EXT input																		
<code>PS3000A_SIGGEN_SOFT_TRIG</code>	wait for software trigger provided by ps3000aSigGenSoftwareControl																		
<code>PS3000A_SIGGEN_TRIGGER_RAW</code>	reserved																		

Arguments	If a trigger source other than P3000A_SIGGEN_NONE is specified, then either <code>shots</code> or <code>sweeps</code> , but not both, must be non-zero. <code>extInThreshold</code> , used to set trigger level for external trigger.
Returns	PICO_OK PICO_BUSY PICO_INVALID_HANDLE PICO_SIG_GEN_PARAM PICO_SHOTS_SWEEPS_WARNING PICO_NOT_RESPONDING PICO_WARNING_AUX_OUTPUT_CONFLICT PICO_WARNING_EXT_THRESHOLD_CONFLICT PICO_NO_SIGNAL_GENERATOR PICO_SIGGEN_OFFSET_VOLTAGE PICO_SIGGEN_PK_TO_PK PICO_SIGGEN_OUTPUT_OVER_VOLTAGE PICO_DRIVER_FUNCTION PICO_SIGGEN_WAVEFORM_SETUP_FAILED PICO_NOT_RESPONDING

2.1.9.47 ps3000aSetSimpleTrigger

```

PICO_STATUS ps3000aSetSimpleTrigger
(
    short          handle,
    short          enable,
    PS3000A\_CHANNEL source,
    short          threshold,
    PS3000A\_THRESHOLD\_DIRECTION direction,
    unsigned long  delay,
    short          autoTrigger_ms
)

```

This function simplifies arming the trigger. It supports only the LEVEL trigger types and does not allow more than one channel to have a trigger applied to it. Any previous pulse width qualifier is cancelled.

Applicability	All modes
Arguments	<p>handle: the handle of the required device.</p> <p>enable: zero to disable the trigger, any non-zero value to set the trigger.</p> <p>source: the channel on which to trigger.</p> <p>threshold: the ADC count at which the trigger will fire.</p> <p>direction: the direction in which the signal must move to cause a trigger. The following directions are supported: ABOVE, BELOW, RISING, FALLING and RISING_OR_FALLING.</p> <p>delay: the time between the trigger occurring and the first sample being taken.</p> <p>autoTrigger_ms: the number of milliseconds the device will wait if no trigger occurs. If this is set to zero, the scope device will wait indefinitely for a trigger.</p>
Returns	PICO_OK PICO_INVALID_CHANNEL PICO_INVALID_PARAMETER PICO_MEMORY PICO_CONDITIONS PICO_INVALID_HANDLE PICO_USER_CALLBACK PICO_DRIVER_FUNCTION

2.1.9.48 ps3000aSetTriggerChannelConditions

```
PICO_STATUS ps3000aSetTriggerChannelConditions
(
    short                handle,
    PS3000A_TRIGGER_CONDITIONS * conditions,
    short                nConditions
)
```

This function sets up trigger conditions on the scope's inputs. The trigger is defined by one or more [PS3000A_TRIGGER_CONDITIONS](#) structures that are then ORed together. Each structure is itself the AND of the states of one or more of the inputs. This AND-OR logic allows you to create any possible Boolean function of the scope's inputs.

If complex triggering is not required, use [ps3000aSetSimpleTrigger](#).

Applicability	All modes
Arguments	<p><code>handle</code>, the handle of the required device.</p> <p><code>* conditions</code>, an array of PS3000A_TRIGGER_CONDITIONS structures specifying the conditions that should be applied to each channel. In the simplest case, the array consists of a single element. When there is more than one element, the overall trigger condition is the logical OR of all the elements.</p> <p><code>nConditions</code>, the number of elements in the <code>conditions</code> array. If <code>nConditions</code> is zero then triggering is switched off.</p>
Returns	<p>PICO_OK</p> <p>PICO_INVALID_HANDLE</p> <p>PICO_USER_CALLBACK</p> <p>PICO_CONDITIONS</p> <p>PICO_MEMORY</p> <p>PICO_DRIVER_FUNCTION</p>

2.1.9.48.1 PS3000A_TRIGGER_CONDITIONS structure

A structure of this type is passed to [ps3000aSetTriggerChannelConditions](#) in the `conditions` argument to specify the trigger conditions, and is defined as follows: -

```
typedef struct tTriggerConditions
{
    PS3000A_TRIGGER_STATE channelA;
    PS3000A_TRIGGER_STATE channelB;
    PS3000A_TRIGGER_STATE channelC;
    PS3000A_TRIGGER_STATE channelD;
    PS3000A_TRIGGER_STATE external;
    PS3000A_TRIGGER_STATE aux;
    PS3000A_TRIGGER_STATE pulseWidthQualifier;
} PS3000A_TRIGGER_CONDITIONS
```

Each structure is the logical AND of the states of the scope's inputs. The [ps3000aSetTriggerChannelConditions](#) function can OR together a number of these structures to produce the final trigger condition, which can be any possible Boolean function of the scope's inputs.

The structure is byte-aligned. In C++, for example, you should specify this using the `#pragma pack()` instruction.

Elements	<p><code>channelA</code>, <code>channelB</code>, <code>external</code>, <code>pulseWidthQualifier</code>: the type of condition that should be applied to each channel. Use these constants:</p> <p>PS3000A_CONDITION_DONT_CARE PS3000A_CONDITION_TRUE PS3000A_CONDITION_FALSE</p> <p>The channels that are set to PS3000A_CONDITION_TRUE or PS3000A_CONDITION_FALSE must all meet their conditions simultaneously to produce a trigger. Channels set to PS3000A_CONDITION_DONT_CARE are ignored.</p> <p><code>channelC</code>, <code>channelD</code>, <code>aux</code>: not used</p>
-----------------	---

2.1.9.49 ps3000aSetTriggerChannelDirections

```
PICO_STATUS ps3000aSetTriggerChannelDirections
(
    short                handle,
    PS3000A_THRESHOLD_DIRECTION channelA,
    PS3000A_THRESHOLD_DIRECTION channelB,
    PS3000A_THRESHOLD_DIRECTION channelC;
    PS3000A_THRESHOLD_DIRECTION channelD;
    PS3000A_THRESHOLD_DIRECTION ext,
    PS3000A_THRESHOLD_DIRECTION aux
)
```

This function sets the direction of the trigger for each channel.

Applicability	All modes
Arguments	<p>handle, the handle of the required device</p> <p>channelA, channelB, ext, the direction in which the signal must pass through the threshold to activate the trigger. See the table below for allowable values. If using a level trigger in conjunction with a pulse-width trigger, see the description of the <code>direction</code> argument to ps3000aSetPulseWidthQualifier for more information.</p> <p>channelC, channelD and aux: not used</p>
Returns	<p>PICO_OK</p> <p>PICO_INVALID_HANDLE</p> <p>PICO_USER_CALLBACK</p> <p>PICO_INVALID_PARAMETER</p>

[PS3000A_THRESHOLD_DIRECTION](#) constants

PS3000A_ABOVE	for gated triggers: above the upper threshold
PS3000A_ABOVE_LOWER	for gated triggers: above the lower threshold
PS3000A_BELOW	for gated triggers: below the upper threshold
PS3000A_BELOW_LOWER	for gated triggers: below the lower threshold
PS3000A_RISING	for threshold triggers: rising edge, using upper threshold
PS3000A_RISING_LOWER	for threshold triggers: rising edge, using lower threshold
PS3000A_FALLING	for threshold triggers: falling edge, using upper threshold
PS3000A_FALLING_LOWER	for threshold triggers: falling edge, using lower threshold
PS3000A_RISING_OR_FALLING	for threshold triggers: either edge
PS3000A_INSIDE	for window-qualified triggers: inside window
PS3000A_OUTSIDE	for window-qualified triggers: outside window
PS3000A_ENTER	for window triggers: entering the window
PS3000A_EXIT	for window triggers: leaving the window
PS3000A_ENTER_OR_EXIT	for window triggers: either entering or leaving the window
PS3000A_POSITIVE_RUNT	for window-qualified triggers
PS3000A_NEGATIVE_RUNT	for window-qualified triggers
PS3000A_NONE	no trigger

2.1.9.50 ps3000aSetTriggerChannelProperties

```
PICO_STATUS ps3000aSetTriggerChannelProperties
(
    short                handle,
    PS3000A_TRIGGER_CHANNEL_PROPERTIES * channelProperties
    short                nChannelProperties
    short                auxOutputEnable,
    long                 autoTriggerMilliseconds
)
```

This function is used to enable or disable triggering and set its parameters.

Applicability	All modes
Arguments	<p><code>handle</code>, the handle of the required device.</p> <p><code>* channelProperties</code>, a pointer to an array of TRIGGER_CHANNEL_PROPERTIES structures describing the requested properties. The array can contain a single element describing the properties of one channel, or a number of elements describing several channels. If <code>null</code> is passed, triggering is switched off.</p> <p><code>nChannelProperties</code>, the size of the <code>channelProperties</code> array. If zero, triggering is switched off.</p> <p><code>auxOutputEnable</code>: not used</p> <p><code>autoTriggerMilliseconds</code>, the time in milliseconds for which the scope device will wait before collecting data if no trigger event occurs. If this is set to zero, the scope device will wait indefinitely for a trigger.</p>
Returns	<p>PICO_OK</p> <p>PICO_INVALID_HANDLE</p> <p>PICO_USER_CALLBACK</p> <p>PICO_TRIGGER_ERROR</p> <p>PICO_MEMORY</p> <p>PICO_INVALID_TRIGGER_PROPERTY</p> <p>PICO_DRIVER_FUNCTION</p> <p>PICO_INVALID_PARAMETER</p>

2.1.9.50.1 PS3000A_TRIGGER_CHANNEL_PROPERTIES structure

A structure of this type is passed to [ps3000aSetTriggerChannelProperties](#) in the `channelProperties` argument to specify the trigger mechanism, and is defined as follows: -

```
typedef struct tTriggerChannelProperties
{
    short                thresholdUpper;
    unsigned short      thresholdUpperHysteresis;
    short                thresholdLower;
    unsigned short      thresholdLowerHysteresis;
    PS3000A_CHANNEL     channel;
    PS3000A_THRESHOLD_MODE thresholdMode;
} PS3000A_TRIGGER_CHANNEL_PROPERTIES
```

The structure is byte-aligned. In C++, for example, you should specify this using the `#pragma pack()` instruction.

Elements	
	<code>thresholdUpper</code> , the upper threshold at which the trigger must fire. This is scaled in 16-bit ADC counts at the currently selected range for that channel.
	<code>thresholdUpperHysteresis</code> , the hysteresis by which the trigger must exceed the upper threshold before it will fire. It is scaled in 16-bit counts.
	<code>thresholdLower</code> , the lower threshold at which the trigger must fire. This is scaled in 16-bit ADC counts at the currently selected range for that channel.
	<code>thresholdLowerHysteresis</code> , the hysteresis by which the trigger must exceed the lower threshold before it will fire. It is scaled in 16-bit counts.
	<code>channel</code> , the channel to which the properties apply. This can be one of the four input channels listed under ps3000aSetChannel , or PS3000A_TRIGGER_AUX for the AUX input.
	<code>thresholdMode</code> , either a level or window trigger. Use one of these constants: - PS3000A_LEVEL PS3000A_WINDOW

2.1.9.51 ps3000aSetTriggerDelay

```
PICO_STATUS ps3000aSetTriggerDelay
(
    short          handle,
    unsigned long delay
)
```

This function sets the post-trigger delay, which causes capture to start a defined time after the trigger event.

Applicability	All modes
Arguments	<p><code>handle</code>, the handle of the required device</p> <p><code>delay</code>, the time between the trigger occurring and the first sample. For example, if <code>delay=100</code> then the scope would wait 100 sample periods before sampling. At a timebase of 500 MS/s, or 2 ns per sample (<code>timebase = 0</code>), the total delay would then be $100 \times 2 \text{ ns} = 200 \text{ ns}$. Range: 0 to MAX_DELAY_COUNT</p>
Returns	<p>PICO_OK PICO_INVALID_HANDLE PICO_USER_CALLBACK PICO_DRIVER_FUNCTION</p>

2.1.9.52 ps3000aSigGenSoftwareControl

```
PICO_STATUS ps3000aSigGenSoftwareControl
(
    short    handle,
    short    state
)
```

This function causes a trigger event, or starts and stops gating. It is used when the signal generator is set to [SIGGEN_SOFT_TRIG](#).

Applicability	Use with ps3000aSetSigGenBuiltIn or ps3000aSetSigGenArbitrary .
Arguments	<p><code>handle</code>, the handle of the required device</p> <p><code>state</code>, sets the trigger gate high or low when the trigger type is set to either <code>SIGGEN_GATE_HIGH</code> or <code>SIGGEN_GATE_LOW</code>. Ignored for other trigger types.</p>
Returns	<p><code>PICO_OK</code></p> <p><code>PICO_INVALID_HANDLE</code></p> <p><code>PICO_NO_SIGNAL_GENERATOR</code></p> <p><code>PICO_SIGGEN_TRIGGER_SOURCE</code></p> <p><code>PICO_DRIVER_FUNCTION</code></p> <p><code>PICO_NOT_RESPONDING</code></p>

2.1.9.53 ps3000aStop

```
PICO_STATUS ps3000aStop  
(  
    short handle  
)
```

This function stops the scope device from sampling data. If this function is called before a trigger event occurs, the oscilloscope may not contain valid data.

Always call this function after the end of a capture to ensure that the scope is ready for the next capture.

Applicability	All modes
Arguments	<code>handle</code> , the handle of the required device.
Returns	PICO_OK PICO_INVALID_HANDLE PICO_USER_CALLBACK PICO_DRIVER_FUNCTION

2.1.9.54 ps3000aStreamingReady

```
typedef void (CALLBACK *ps3000aStreamingReady)
(
    short          handle,
    long           noOfSamples,
    unsigned long  startIndex,
    short          overflow,
    unsigned long  triggerAt,
    short         triggered,
    short         autoStop,
    void          * pParameter
)
```

This [callback](#) function is part of your application. You register it with the driver using [ps3000aGetStreamingLatestValues](#), and the driver calls it back when streaming-mode data is ready. You can then download the data using the [ps3000aGetValuesAsync](#) function.

Applicability	Streaming mode only
Arguments	<p><code>handle</code>, the handle of the device returning the samples.</p> <p><code>noOfSamples</code>, the number of samples to collect.</p> <p><code>startIndex</code>, an index to the first valid sample in the buffer. This is the buffer that was previously passed to ps3000aSetDataBuffer.</p> <p><code>overflow</code>, returns a set of flags that indicate whether an overvoltage has occurred on any of the channels. It is a bit pattern with bit 0 denoting Channel A.</p> <p><code>triggerAt</code>, an index to the buffer indicating the location of the trigger point. This parameter is valid only when <code>triggered</code> is non-zero.</p> <p><code>triggered</code>, a flag indicating whether a trigger occurred. If non-zero, a trigger occurred at the location indicated by <code>triggerAt</code>.</p> <p><code>autoStop</code>, the flag that was set in the call to ps3000aRunStreaming.</p> <p><code>* pParameter</code>, a void pointer passed from ps3000aGetStreamingLatestValues. The callback function can write to this location to send any data, such as a status flag, back to the application.</p>
Returns	nothing

2.1.10 Programming examples

Your PicoScope installation includes programming examples in the following languages and development environments:

- C
- Excel
- LabView

2.1.10.1 C

The **C** example program is a comprehensive console mode program that demonstrates all of the facilities of the driver.

To compile the program, create a new project for an Application containing the following files: -

- `ps3000acon.c`

and:

- `ps3000abc.lib` (Borland 32-bit applications) or
- `ps3000a.lib` (Microsoft Visual C 32-bit applications)

The following files must be in the compilation directory:

- `ps3000aApi.h`
- `picoStatus.h`

and the following file must be in the same directory as the executable:

- `ps3000a.dll`

2.1.10.2 Excel

1. Load the spreadsheet `ps3000a.xls`
2. Select **Tools | Macro**
3. Select **GetData**
4. Select **Run**

Note: The Excel macro language is similar to Visual Basic. The functions which return a `TRUE/FALSE` value, return 0 for `FALSE` and 1 for `TRUE`, whereas Visual Basic expects 65 535 for `TRUE`. Check for `>0` rather than `=TRUE`.

2.1.10.3 LabView

The SDK contains a library of VIs that can be used to control the PicoScope 3000A and some simple examples of using these VIs in [streaming mode](#), [block mode](#) and [rapid block mode](#).

The LabVIEW library (`PicoScope3000A.llb`) can be placed in the `user.lib` sub-directory to make the VIs available on the 'User Libraries' palette. You must also copy `ps3000a.dll` and `ps3000awrap.dll` to the folder containing your LabView project.

The library contains the following VIs:

- `PicoErrorHandler.vi` - takes an error cluster and, if an error has occurred, displays a message box indicating the source of the error and the status code returned by the driver
- `PicoScope3000AAdvancedTriggerSettings.vi` - an interface for the advanced trigger features of the oscilloscope

This VI is not required for setting up simple triggers, which are configured using `PicoScope3000ASettings.vi`.

For further information on these trigger settings, see descriptions of the trigger functions:

```
ps3000aSetTriggerChannelConditions  
ps3000aSetTriggerChannelDirections  
ps3000aSetTriggerChannelProperties  
ps3000aSetPulseWidthQualifier  
ps3000aSetTriggerDelay
```

- `PicoScope3000AAWG.vi` - controls the arbitrary waveform generator

Standard waveforms or an arbitrary waveform can be selected under 'Wave Type'. There are three settings clusters: general settings that apply to both arbitrary and standard waveforms, settings that apply only to standard waveforms and settings that apply only to arbitrary waveforms. It is not necessary to connect all of these clusters if only using arbitrary waveforms or only using standard waveforms.

When selecting an arbitrary waveform, it is necessary to specify a text file containing the waveform. This text file should have a single value on each line in the range -1 to 1. For further information on the settings, see descriptions of `ps3000aSetSigGenBuiltIn` and `ps3000aSetSigGenArbitrary`.

- `PicoScope3000AClose.vi` - closes the oscilloscope

Should be called before exiting an application.

- `PicoScope3000AGetBlock.vi` - collects a block of data from the oscilloscope

This can be called in a loop in order to continually collect blocks of data. The oscilloscope should first be set up by using `PicoScope3000ASettings.vi`. The VI outputs data arrays in two clusters (max and min). If not using aggregation, 'Min Buffers' is not used.

- `PicoScope3000AGetRapidBlock.vi` - collects a set of data blocks or captures from the oscilloscope in [rapid block mode](#)

This VI is similar to `PicoScope3000AGetBlock.vi`. It outputs two-dimensional arrays for each channel that contain data from all the requested number of captures.

- `PicoScope3000AGetStreamingValues.vi` - used in [streaming mode](#) to get the latest values from the driver

This VI should be called in a loop after the oscilloscope has been set up using `PicoScope3000ASettings.vi` and streaming has been started by calling `PicoScope3000AStartStreaming.vi`. The VI outputs the number of samples available and the start index of these samples in the array output by `PicoScope3000AStartStreaming.vi`.

- `PicoScope3000AOpen.vi` - opens a PicoScope 3000A and returns a handle to the device
- `PicoScope3000ASettings.vi` - sets up the oscilloscope

The inputs are clusters for setting up channels and simple triggers. Advanced triggers can be set up using `PicoScope3000AAdvancedTriggerSettings.vi`.

- `PicoScope3000AStartStreaming.vi` - starts the oscilloscope [streaming](#)

It outputs arrays that will contain samples once `PicoScope3000AGetStreamingValues.vi` has returned.

- `PicoStatus.vi` - checks the status value returned by calls to the driver

If the driver returns an error, the status member of the error cluster is set to 'true' and the error code and source are set.

2.1.11 Driver status codes

Every function in the ps3000a driver returns a **driver status code** from the following list of PICO_STATUS values. These definitions can also be found in the file `picoStatus.h`, which is included in the PicoScope 3000A Series SDK. The following list of **driver status codes** is Pico Technology's complete list. Not all codes apply to the PicoScope 3000A Series SDK.

Code (hex)	Symbol and meaning
00	PICO_OK The PicoScope 3000A is functioning correctly
01	PICO_MAX_UNITS_OPENED An attempt has been made to open more than PS3000A_MAX_UNITS.
02	PICO_MEMORY_FAIL Not enough memory could be allocated on the host machine
03	PICO_NOT_FOUND No PicoScope 3000A could be found
04	PICO_FW_FAIL Unable to download firmware
05	PICO_OPEN_OPERATION_IN_PROGRESS
06	PICO_OPERATION_FAILED
07	PICO_NOT_RESPONDING The PicoScope 3000A is not responding to commands from the PC
08	PICO_CONFIG_FAIL The configuration information in the PicoScope 3000A has become corrupt or is missing
09	PICO_KERNEL_DRIVER_TOO_OLD The <code>picopp.sys</code> file is too old to be used with the device driver
0A	PICO_EEPROM_CORRUPT The EEPROM has become corrupt, so the device will use a default setting
0B	PICO_OS_NOT_SUPPORTED The operating system on the PC is not supported by this driver
0C	PICO_INVALID_HANDLE There is no device with the handle value passed
0D	PICO_INVALID_PARAMETER A parameter value is not valid
0E	PICO_INVALID_TIMEBASE The timebase is not supported or is invalid
0F	PICO_INVALID_VOLTAGE_RANGE The voltage range is not supported or is invalid
10	PICO_INVALID_CHANNEL The channel number is not valid on this device or no channels have been set
11	PICO_INVALID_TRIGGER_CHANNEL The channel set for a trigger is not available on this device
12	PICO_INVALID_CONDITION_CHANNEL The channel set for a condition is not available on this device
13	PICO_NO_SIGNAL_GENERATOR The device does not have a signal generator
14	PICO_STREAMING_FAILED Streaming has failed to start or has stopped without user request
15	PICO_BLOCK_MODE_FAILED Block failed to start - a parameter may have been set wrongly
16	PICO_NULL_PARAMETER A parameter that was required is NULL
18	PICO_DATA_NOT_AVAILABLE

	No data is available from a run block call
19	PICO_STRING_BUFFER_TOO_SMALL The buffer passed for the information was too small
1A	PICO_ETS_NOT_SUPPORTED ETS is not supported on this device variant
1B	PICO_AUTO_TRIGGER_TIME_TOO_SHORT The auto trigger time is less than the time it will take to collect the pre-trigger data
1C	PICO_BUFFER_STALL The collection of data has stalled as unread data would be overwritten
1D	PICO_TOO_MANY_SAMPLES Number of samples requested is more than available in the current memory segment
1E	PICO_TOO_MANY_SEGMENTS Not possible to create number of segments requested
1F	PICO_PULSE_WIDTH_QUALIFIER A null pointer has been passed in the trigger function or one of the parameters is out of range
20	PICO_DELAY One or more of the hold-off parameters are out of range
21	PICO_SOURCE_DETAILS One or more of the source details are incorrect
22	PICO_CONDITIONS One or more of the conditions are incorrect
23	The driver's thread is currently in the ps3000a...Ready callback function and therefore the action cannot be carried out
24	PICO_DEVICE_SAMPLING An attempt is being made to get stored data while streaming. Either stop streaming by calling ps3000aStop , or use ps3000aGetStreamingLatestValues
25	PICO_NO_SAMPLES_AVAILABLE ...because a run has not been completed
26	PICO_SEGMENT_OUT_OF_RANGE The memory index is out of range
27	PICO_BUSY Data cannot be returned yet
28	PICO_STARTINDEX_INVALID The start time to get stored data is out of range
29	PICO_INVALID_INFO The information number requested is not a valid number
2A	PICO_INFO_UNAVAILABLE The handle is invalid so no information is available about the device. Only PICO_DRIVER_VERSION is available.
2B	PICO_INVALID_SAMPLE_INTERVAL The sample interval selected for streaming is out of range
2D	PICO_MEMORY Driver cannot allocate memory
35	PICO_SIGGEN_OUTPUT_OVER_VOLTAGE The combined peak to peak voltage and the analog offset voltage exceed the allowable voltage the signal generator can produce
36	PICO_DELAY_NULL NULL pointer passed as delay parameter
37	PICO_INVALID_BUFFER The buffers for overview data have not been set while streaming
38	PICO_SIGGEN_OFFSET_VOLTAGE The analog offset voltage is out of range
39	PICO_SIGGEN_PK_TO_PK The analog peak to peak voltage is out of range

3A	PICO_CANCELLED A block collection has been cancelled
3B	PICO_SEGMENT_NOT_USED The segment index is not currently being used
3C	PICO_INVALID_CALL The wrong GetValues function has been called for the collection mode in use
3F	PICO_NOT_USED The function is not available
40	PICO_INVALID_SAMPLERATIO The aggregation ratio requested is out of range
41	PICO_INVALID_STATE Device is in an invalid state
42	PICO_NOT_ENOUGH_SEGMENTS The number of segments allocated is fewer than the number of captures requested
43	PICO_DRIVER_FUNCTION You called a driver function while another driver function was still being processed
45	PICO_INVALID_COUPLING An invalid coupling type was specified in ps3000aSetChannel
46	PICO_BUFFERS_NOT_SET An attempt was made to get data before a data buffer was defined
47	PICO_RATIO_MODE_NOT_SUPPORTED The selected downsampling mode (used for data reduction) is not allowed
49	PICO_INVALID_TRIGGER_PROPERTY An invalid parameter was passed to ps3000aSetTriggerChannelProperties
4A	PICO_INTERFACE_NOT_CONNECTED The driver was unable to contact the oscilloscope
4D	PICO_SIGGEN_WAVEFORM_SETUP_FAILED A problem occurred in ps3000aSetSigGenBuiltIn or ps3000aSetSigGenArbitrary
4E	PICO_FPGA_FAIL
4F	PICO_POWER_MANAGER
50	PICO_INVALID_ANALOGUE_OFFSET An impossible analogue offset value was specified in ps3000aSetChannel
51	PICO_PLL_LOCK_FAILED Unable to configure the PicoScope 3000A
52	PICO_ANALOG_BOARD The oscilloscope's analog board is not detected, or is not connected to the digital board
53	PICO_CONFIG_FAIL_AWG Unable to configure the signal generator
54	PICO_INITIALISE_FPGA The FPGA cannot be initialized, so unit cannot be opened
56	PICO_EXTERNAL_FREQUENCY_INVALID The frequency for the external clock is not within $\pm 5\%$ of the stated value
57	PICO_CLOCK_CHANGE_ERROR The FPGA could not lock the clock signal
58	PICO_TRIGGER_AND_EXTERNAL_CLOCK_CLASH You are trying to configure the AUX input as both a trigger and a reference clock
59	PICO_PWQ_AND_EXTERNAL_CLOCK_CLASH You are trying to configure the AUX input as both a pulse width qualifier and a reference clock
5A	PICO_UNABLE_TO_OPEN_SCALING_FILE The scaling file set can not be opened.
5B	PICO_MEMORY_CLOCK_FREQUENCY The frequency of the memory is reporting incorrectly.
5C	PICO_I2C_NOT_RESPONDING The I2C that is being actioned is not responding to requests.

5D	PICO_NO_CAPTURES_AVAILABLE There are no captures available and therefore no data can be returned.
5E	PICO_NOT_USED_IN_THIS_CAPTURE_MODE The capture mode the device is currently running in does not support the current request.
103	PICO_GET_DATA_ACTIVE Reserved
104	PICO_IP_NETWORKED The device is currently connected via the IP Network socket and thus the call made is not supported.
105	PICO_INVALID_IP_ADDRESS An IP address that is not correct has been passed to the driver.
106	PICO_IPSOCKET_FAILED The IP socket has failed.
107	PICO_IPSOCKET_TIMEDOUT The IP socket has timed out.
108	PICO_SETTINGS_FAILED The settings requested have failed to be set.
109	PICO_NETWORK_FAILED The network connection has failed.
10A	PICO_WS2_32_DLL_NOT_LOADED Unable to load the WS2 dll.
10B	PICO_INVALID_IP_PORT The IP port is invalid
10C	PICO_COUPLING_NOT_SUPPORTED The type of coupling requested is not supported on the opened variant.
10D	PICO_BANDWIDTH_NOT_SUPPORTED Bandwidth limit is not supported on the opened variant.
10E	PICO_INVALID_BANDWIDTH The value requested for the bandwidth limit is out of range.
10F	PICO_AWG_NOT_SUPPORTED The arbitrary waveform generator is not supported by the opened variant.
110	PICO_ETS_NOT_RUNNING Data has been requested with ETS mode set but run block has not been called, or stop has been called.
111	PICO_SIG_GEN_WHITENOISE_NOT_SUPPORTED White noise is not supported on the opened variant.
112	PICO_SIG_GEN_WAVETYPE_NOT_SUPPORTED The wave type requested is not supported by the opened variant.

2.1.12 Enumerated types and constants

Here are the enumerated types used in the PicoScope 3000A Series SDK, as defined in the file `ps3000aApi.h`. We recommend that you refer to these constants by name unless your programming language allows only numerical values.

```
#define PS3000A_MAX_OVERSAMPLE 256

#define MAX_PULSE_WIDTH_QUALIFIER_COUNT 232-1

#define PS3206B_MAX_SIG_GEN_BUFFER_SIZE 16384
#define MAX_SIG_GEN_BUFFER_SIZE 8192
#define MIN_SIG_GEN_BUFFER_SIZE 1
#define MIN_DWELL_COUNT 10
#define MAX_SWEEPS_SHOTS ((1 << 30) - 1)

#define MAX_WAVEFORMS_PER_SECOND 1000000

#define MAX_ANALOGUE_OFFSET_50MV_200MV 0.250f
#define MIN_ANALOGUE_OFFSET_50MV_200MV -0.250f
#define MAX_ANALOGUE_OFFSET_500MV_2V 2.500f
#define MIN_ANALOGUE_OFFSET_500MV_2V -2.500f
#define MAX_ANALOGUE_OFFSET_5V_20V 20.f
#define MIN_ANALOGUE_OFFSET_5V_20V -20.f

#define PS3206B_MAX_ETS_CYCLES 500
#define PS3206A_MAX_ETS_INTERLEAVE 40
#define PS3205B_MAX_ETS_CYCLES 250
#define PS3205A_MAX_ETS_INTERLEAVE 20
#define PS3204B_MAX_ETS_CYCLES 125
#define PS3204A_MAX_ETS_INTERLEAVE 10

typedef enum enPS3000AChannel
{
    PS3000A_CHANNEL_A,
    PS3000A_CHANNEL_B,
    PS3000A_CHANNEL_C,
    PS3000A_CHANNEL_D,
    PS3000A_EXTERNAL,
    PS3000A_MAX_CHANNELS = PS3000A_EXTERNAL,
    PS3000A_TRIGGER_AUX,
    PS3000A_MAX_TRIGGER_SOURCES
} PS3000A_CHANNEL;

typedef enum enPS3000AChannelBufferIndex
{
    PS3000A_CHANNEL_A_MAX,
    PS3000A_CHANNEL_A_MIN,
    PS3000A_CHANNEL_B_MAX,
    PS3000A_CHANNEL_B_MIN,
    PS3000A_CHANNEL_C_MAX,
    PS3000A_CHANNEL_C_MIN,
    PS3000A_CHANNEL_D_MAX,
    PS3000A_CHANNEL_D_MIN,
    PS3000A_MAX_CHANNEL_BUFFERS
} PS3000A_CHANNEL_BUFFER_INDEX;

typedef enum enPS3000ARange
{
    PS3000A_10MV,
    PS3000A_20MV,
    PS3000A_50MV,
    PS3000A_100MV,
    PS3000A_200MV,
    PS3000A_500MV,
    PS3000A_1V,
    PS3000A_2V,
    PS3000A_5V,
    PS3000A_10V,
    PS3000A_20V,
    PS3000A_50V,
    PS3000A_MAX_RANGES
} PS3000A_RANGE;

typedef enum enPS3000ACoupling
{
```

```

    PS3000A_AC,
    PS3000A_DC,
} PS3000A_COUPLING;

typedef enum enPS3000AEtsMode
{
    PS3000A_ETS_OFF,
    PS3000A_ETS_FAST,
    PS3000A_ETS_SLOW,
    PS3000A_ETS_MODES_MAX
} PS3000A_ETS_MODE;

typedef enum enPS3000ATimeUnits
{
    PS3000A_FS,
    PS3000A_PS,
    PS3000A_NS,
    PS3000A_US,
    PS3000A_MS,
    PS3000A_S,
    PS3000A_MAX_TIME_UNITS,
} PS3000A_TIME_UNITS;

typedef enum enPS3000ASweepType
{
    PS3000A_UP,
    PS3000A_DOWN,
    PS3000A_UPDOWN,
    PS3000A_DOWNUP,
    PS3000A_MAX_SWEEP_TYPES
} PS3000A_SWEEP_TYPE;

typedef enum enPS3000AWaveType
{
    PS3000A_SINE,
    PS3000A_SQUARE,
    PS3000A_TRIANGLE,
    PS3000A_RAMP_UP,
    PS3000A_RAMP_DOWN,
    PS3000A_SINC,
    PS3000A_GAUSSIAN,
    PS3000A_HALF_SINE,
    PS3000A_DC_VOLTAGE,
    PS3000A_MAX_WAVE_TYPES
} PS3000A_WAVE_TYPE;

typedef enum enPS3000AExtraOperations
{
    PS3000A_ES_OFF,
    PS3000A_WHITENOISE,
    PS3000A_PRBS
} PS3000A_EXTRA_OPERATIONS;

#define PS3000A_SINE_MAX_FREQUENCY      1000000.f
#define PS3000A_SQUARE_MAX_FREQUENCY    1000000.f
#define PS3000A_TRIANGLE_MAX_FREQUENCY  1000000.f
#define PS3000A_SINC_MAX_FREQUENCY      1000000.f
#define PS3000A_RAMP_MAX_FREQUENCY      1000000.f
#define PS3000A_HALF_SINE_MAX_FREQUENCY 1000000.f
#define PS3000A_GAUSSIAN_MAX_FREQUENCY  1000000.f
#define PS3000A_PRBS_MAX_FREQUENCY      1000000.f
#define PS3000A_PRBS_MIN_FREQUENCY      0.03f
#define PS3000A_MIN_FREQUENCY           0.03f

typedef enum enPS3000ASigGenTrigType
{
    PS3000A_SIGGEN_RISING,
    PS3000A_SIGGEN_FALLING,
    PS3000A_SIGGEN_GATE_HIGH,
    PS3000A_SIGGEN_GATE_LOW
} PS3000A_SIGGEN_TRIG_TYPE;

typedef enum enPS3000ASigGenTrigSource
{
    PS3000A_SIGGEN_NONE,
    PS3000A_SIGGEN_SCOPE_TRIG,
    PS3000A_SIGGEN_AUX_IN,
    PS3000A_SIGGEN_EXT_IN,
    PS3000A_SIGGEN_SOFT_TRIG,
    PS3000A_SIGGEN_TRIGGER_RAW
} PS3000A_SIGGEN_TRIG_SOURCE;

```

```

typedef enum enPS3000AIndexMode
{
    PS3000A_SINGLE,
    PS3000A_DUAL,
    PS3000A_QUAD,
    PS3000A_MAX_INDEX_MODES
} PS3000A_INDEX_MODE;

typedef enum enPS3000AThresholdMode
{
    PS3000A_LEVEL,
    PS3000A_WINDOW
} PS3000A_THRESHOLD_MODE;

typedef enum enPS3000AThresholdDirection
{
    PS3000A_ABOVE,
    PS3000A_BELOW,
    PS3000A_RISING,
    PS3000A_FALLING,
    PS3000A_RISING_OR_FALLING,
    PS3000A_ABOVE_LOWER,
    PS3000A_BELOW_LOWER,
    PS3000A_RISING_LOWER,
    PS3000A_FALLING_LOWER,

    // Windowing using both thresholds
    PS3000A_INSIDE = PS3000A_ABOVE,
    PS3000A_OUTSIDE = PS3000A_BELOW,
    PS3000A_ENTER = PS3000A_RISING,
    PS3000A_EXIT = PS3000A_FALLING,
    PS3000A_ENTER_OR_EXIT = PS3000A_RISING_OR_FALLING,
    PS3000A_POSITIVE_RUNT = 9,
    PS3000A_NEGATIVE_RUNT,

    // no trigger set
    PS3000A_NONE = PS3000A_RISING
} PS3000A_THRESHOLD_DIRECTION;

typedef enum enPS3000ATriggerState
{
    PS3000A_CONDITION_DONT_CARE,
    PS3000A_CONDITION_TRUE,
    PS3000A_CONDITION_FALSE,
    PS3000A_CONDITION_MAX
} PS3000A_TRIGGER_STATE;

typedef enum enPS3000ARatioMode
{
    PS3000A_RATIO_MODE_NONE,
    PS3000A_RATIO_MODE_AGGREGATE = 1,
    PS3000A_RATIO_MODE_AVERAGE = 2,
    PS3000A_RATIO_MODE_DECIMATE = 4,
} PS3000A_RATIO_MODE;

typedef enum enPS3000APulseWidthType
{
    PS3000A_PW_TYPE_NONE,
    PS3000A_PW_TYPE_LESS_THAN,
    PS3000A_PW_TYPE_GREATER_THAN,
    PS3000A_PW_TYPE_IN_RANGE,
    PS3000A_PW_TYPE_OUT_OF_RANGE
} PS3000A_PULSE_WIDTH_TYPE;

```

2.1.13 Numeric data types

Here is a list of the sizes and ranges of the numeric data types used in the PicoScope 3000A Series API.

Type	Bits	Signed or unsigned?
short	16	signed
enum	32	enumerated
int	32	signed
long	32	signed
unsigned long	32	unsigned
float	32	signed (IEEE 754)
__int64	64	signed

3 Glossary

AC/DC control. Each channel can be set to either AC coupling or DC coupling. With DC coupling, the voltage displayed on the screen is equal to the true voltage of the signal. With AC coupling, any DC component of the signal is filtered out, leaving only the variations in the signal (the AC component).

Aggregation. The PicoScope 3000 driver can use a method called aggregation to reduce the amount of data your application needs to process. This means that for every block of consecutive samples, it stores only the minimum and maximum values. You can set the number of samples in each block, called the aggregation parameter, when you call [ps3000aRunStreaming](#) for real-time capture, and when you call [ps3000aGetStreamingLatestValues](#) to obtain post-processed data.

Aliasing. An effect that can cause digital oscilloscopes to display fast-moving waveforms incorrectly, by showing spurious low-frequency signals ("aliases") that do not exist in the input. To avoid this problem, choose a sampling rate that is at least twice the frequency of the fastest-changing input signal.

Analog bandwidth. All oscilloscopes have an upper limit to the range of frequencies at which they can measure accurately. The analog bandwidth of an oscilloscope is defined as the frequency at which a displayed sine wave has half the power of the input sine wave (or, equivalently, about 71% of the amplitude).

Block mode. A sampling mode in which the computer prompts the oscilloscope to collect a block of data into its internal memory before stopping the oscilloscope and transferring the whole block into computer memory. This mode of operation is effective when the input signal being sampled is high frequency. Note: To avoid [aliasing](#) effects, the maximum input frequency must be less than half the sampling rate.

Buffer size. The size, in samples, of the oscilloscope buffer memory. The buffer memory is used by the oscilloscope to temporarily store data before transferring it to the PC.

ETS. Equivalent Time Sampling. ETS constructs a picture of a repetitive signal by accumulating information over many similar wave cycles. This means the oscilloscope can capture fast-repeating signals that have a higher frequency than the maximum sampling rate. Note: ETS should not be used for one-shot or non-repetitive signals.

External trigger. This is the BNC socket marked **EXT** on the PicoScope 3204A/B, 3205A/B and 3206A/B PC Oscilloscopes. It can be used to start a data collection run but cannot be used to record data.

Maximum sampling rate. A figure indicating the maximum number of samples the oscilloscope is capable of acquiring per second. Maximum sample rates are given in MS/s (megasamples per second). The higher the sampling capability of the oscilloscope, the more accurate the representation of the high frequencies in a fast signal.

Oversampling. Oversampling is taking more than one measurement during a time interval and returning an average. If the signal contains a small amount of noise, this technique can increase the effective vertical resolution of the oscilloscope.

Overvoltage. Any input voltage to the oscilloscope must not exceed the overvoltage limit, measured with respect to ground, otherwise the oscilloscope may be permanently damaged.

PC Oscilloscope. A measuring instrument consisting of a Pico Technology scope device and the PicoScope software. It provides all the functions of a bench-top oscilloscope without the cost of a display, hard disk, network adapter and other components that your PC already has.

PicoScope software. This is a software product that accompanies all our oscilloscopes. It turns your PC into an oscilloscope, spectrum analyzer, and meter display.

Signal generator. This is a feature of some oscilloscopes which allows a signal to be generated without an external input device being present. The signal generator output is the BNC socket marked **GEN** on the oscilloscope. If you connect a BNC cable between this and one of the channel inputs, you can send a signal into one of the channels. It can generate a sine, square or triangle wave that can be swept back and forth.

Spectrum analyzer. An instrument that measures the energy content of a signal in each of a large number of frequency bands. It displays the result as a graph of energy (on the vertical axis) against frequency (on the horizontal axis). The PicoScope software includes a spectrum analyzer.

Streaming mode. A sampling mode in which the oscilloscope samples data and returns it to the computer in an unbroken stream. This mode of operation is effective when the input signal being sampled contains only low frequencies.

Timebase. The timebase controls the time interval across the scope display. There are ten divisions across the screen and the timebase is specified in units of time per division, so the total time interval is ten times the timebase.

USB 1.1. USB (Universal Serial Bus) is a standard port that enables you to connect external devices to PCs. A typical USB 1.1 port supports a data transfer rate of 12 Mbps (12 megabits per second), and is much faster than a serial port.

USB 2.0. USB (Universal Serial Bus) is a standard port that enables you to connect external devices to PCs. A typical USB 2.0 port supports a data transfer rate that is 40 times faster than that supported by USB 1.1. USB 2.0 is backwards-compatible with USB 1.1.

Vertical resolution. A value, in bits, indicating the degree of precision with which the oscilloscope can turn input voltages into digital values. Calculation techniques can improve the effective resolution.

Voltage range. The voltage range is the difference between the maximum and minimum voltages that can be accurately captured by the oscilloscope.

Index

A

- AC coupling 61
- AC/DC control 99
- Access 2
- ADC count 49, 51
- Address 3
- Aggregation 15
- Aliasing 99
- Analog offset 61
- Analogue bandwidth 99
- Analogue offset 26
- API function calls 19
- Arbitrary waveform generator 72, 74

B

- Bandwidth limiter 61
- Block mode 5, 6, 7, 99
 - asynchronous call 7
 - callback 21
 - polling status 47
 - running 57
- Buffer size 99

C

- C programming 88
- Callback 5, 13
- Callback function
 - block mode 21
 - for data 23
 - streaming mode 87
- Channels
 - enabling 61
 - settings 61
- Closing units 22
- Common-mode voltage 99
- communication 56
- connection 56
- Constants 95
- Contact details 3
- Copyright 2
- Coupling type, setting 61

D

- Data acquisition 15
- Data buffers

- declaring 63
 - declaring, aggregation mode 64
- Data retention 6
- DC coupling 61
- Downsampling 6, 39
 - maximum ratio 28
 - modes 40
- Driver 4
 - status codes 91

E

- Email 3
- Enabling channels 61
- Enumerated types 95
- Enumerating oscilloscopes 24
- ETS
 - overview 13
 - setting time buffers 66, 67
 - setting up 65
 - using 13
- ETS mode 5
- Excel macros 88

F

- Fax 3
- Fitness for purpose 2
- Function calls 19
- Functions
 - ps3000aBlockReady 21
 - ps3000aCloseUnit 22
 - ps3000aDataReady 23
 - ps3000aEnumerateUnits 24
 - ps3000aFlashLed 25
 - ps3000aGetAnalogueOffset 26
 - ps3000aGetChannelInformation 27
 - ps3000aGetMaxDownSampleRatio 28
 - ps3000aGetMaxSegments 29
 - ps3000aGetNoOfCaptures 30, 31
 - ps3000aGetStreamingLatestValues 32
 - ps3000aGetTimebase 17, 33
 - ps3000aGetTimebase2 34
 - ps3000aGetTriggerTimeOffset 35
 - ps3000aGetTriggerTimeOffset64 36
 - ps3000aGetUnitInfo 37
 - ps3000aGetValues 7, 39
 - ps3000aGetValuesAsync 7, 41
 - ps3000aGetValuesBulk 42
 - ps3000aGetValuesOverlapped 43
 - ps3000aGetValuesOverlappedBulk 44
 - ps3000aGetValuesTriggerTimeOffsetBulk 45

Functions

- ps3000aGetValuesTriggerTimeOffsetBulk64 46
- ps3000aIsReady 47
- ps3000aIsTriggerOrPulseWidthQualifierEnabled 48
- ps3000aMaximumValue 5, 49
- ps3000aMemorySegments 50
- ps3000aMinimumValue 5, 51
- ps3000aNoOfStreamingValues 52
- ps3000aOpenUnit 53
- ps3000aOpenUnitAsync 54
- ps3000aOpenUnitProgress 55
- ps3000aPingUnit 56
- ps3000aRunBlock 57
- ps3000aRunStreaming 59
- ps3000aSetChannel 5, 61
- ps3000aSetDataBuffer 63
- ps3000aSetDataBuffers 64
- ps3000aSetEts 13, 65
- ps3000aSetEtsTimeBuffer 66
- ps3000aSetEtsTimeBuffers 67
- ps3000aSetNoOfCaptures 68
- ps3000aSetPulseWidthQualifier 69
- ps3000aSetSigGenArbitrary 72
- ps3000aSetSigGenBuiltIn 75
- ps3000aSetSimpleTrigger 5, 78
- ps3000aSetTriggerChannelConditions 5, 79
- ps3000aSetTriggerChannelDirections 5, 81
- ps3000aSetTriggerChannelProperties 5, 82
- ps3000aSetTriggerDelay 84
- ps3000aSigGenSoftwareControl 85
- ps3000aStop 7, 86
- ps3000aStreamingReady 87

H

Hysteresis 83

I

Index modes

- dual 74
- single 74

Information, reading from units 37

Input range, selecting 61

Intended use 1

L

LabView 88

LED

- flashing 25

Legal information 2

Liability 2

M

Macros in Excel 88

Memory in scope 6

Memory segment 7

Memory segmentation 6, 15

Memory segments 50

Mission-critical applications 2

Multi-unit operation 18

N

Numeric data types 98

O

One-shot signals 13

Opening a unit 53

- checking progress 55

- without blocking 54

Oversampling 16

P

PC Oscilloscope 1, 99

PC requirements 1

PICO_STATUS enum type 91

PicoScope 3000 Series 1

PicoScope software 1, 4, 91, 99

Programming

- C 88

- Excel 88

- LabView 88

ps3000a.dll 4

PS3000A_CONDITION_ constants 71, 80

PS3000A_LEVEL constant 83

PS3000A_PWQ_CONDITIONS structure 71

PS3000A_RATIO_MODE_AGGREGATE 40

PS3000A_RATIO_MODE_AVERAGE 40

PS3000A_RATIO_MODE_DECIMATE 40

PS3000A_TIME_UNITS constant 35, 36

PS3000A_TRIGGER_CHANNEL_PROPERTIES structure 83

PS3000A_TRIGGER_CONDITIONS 79

PS3000A_TRIGGER_CONDITIONS structure 80

PS3000A_WINDOW constant 83

Pulse-width qualifier 69

- conditions 71

- requesting status 48

R

- Ranges 27
- Rapid block mode 5, 8, 30, 31
 - Aggregation 11
 - No aggregation 9
 - setting number of captures 68
- Resolution, vertical 16, 99
- Retrieving data 39, 41
 - block mode, deferred 43
 - rapid block mode 42
 - rapid block mode, deferred 44
 - stored 16
 - streaming mode 32
- Retrieving times
 - rapid block mode 45, 46

S

- Sampling rate 99
 - maximum 6
- Scaling 5
- Serial numbers 24
- Setup time 6
- Signal generator
 - arbitrary waveforms 72
 - built-in waveforms 75
 - software trigger 85
- Spectrum analyser 1, 99
- Status codes 91
- Stopping sampling 86
- Streaming mode 5, 15, 99
 - callback 87
 - getting number of samples 52
 - retrieving data 32
 - running 59
 - using 15
- Support 2

T

- Technical assistance 3
- Telephone 3
- Threshold voltage 5
- Time buffers
 - setting for ETS 66, 67
- Timebase 17, 99
 - calculating 33, 34
- Trademarks 2
- Trigger 5
 - channel properties 82
 - conditions 79, 80

- delay 84
- directions 81
- pulse-width qualifier 69
- pulse-width qualifier conditions 71
- requesting status 48
- setting up 78
- time offset 35, 36
- Trigger stability 13

U

- Upgrades 2
- Usage 2
- USB 1, 4, 99
 - hub 18

V

- Vertical resolution 16
- Viruses 2
- Voltage range 99
- Voltage ranges 5
 - selecting 61

W

- Website 3
- WinUsb.sys 4





Pico Technology

James House
Colmworth Business Park
ST. NEOTS
Cambridgeshire
PE19 8YP
United Kingdom
Tel: +44 (0) 1480 396 395
Fax: +44 (0) 1480 396 296
www.picotech.com

ps3000abpg.en-2

08.12.11

Copyright © 2011 Pico Technology Limited. All rights reserved.