

## 9.0 COMPARATOR MODULE

The comparator can be used to interface analog circuits to a digital circuit by comparing two analog voltages and providing a digital indication of their relative magnitudes. The comparator is a very useful mixed signal building block because it provides analog functionality independent of the program execution. The Analog Comparator module includes the following features:

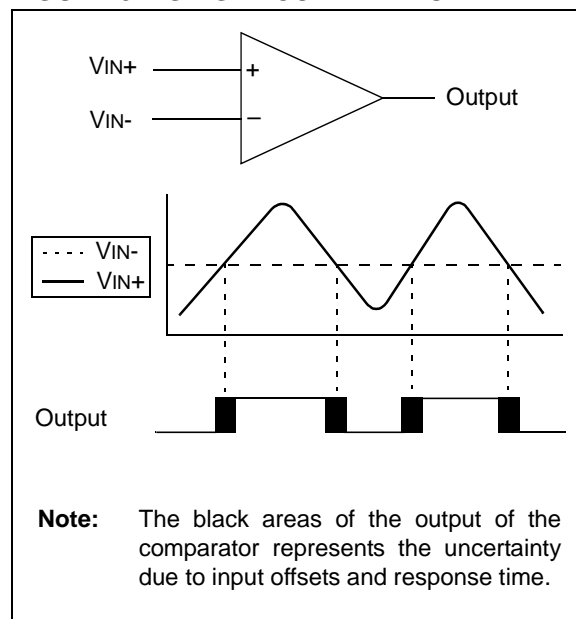
- Programmable input section
- Comparator output is available internally/externally
- Programmable output polarity
- Interrupt-on-change
- Wake-up from Sleep
- PWM shutdown
- Timer1 gate (count enable)
- Output synchronization to Timer1 clock input
- Programmable voltage reference
- User-able Comparator Hysteresis

### 9.1 Comparator Overview

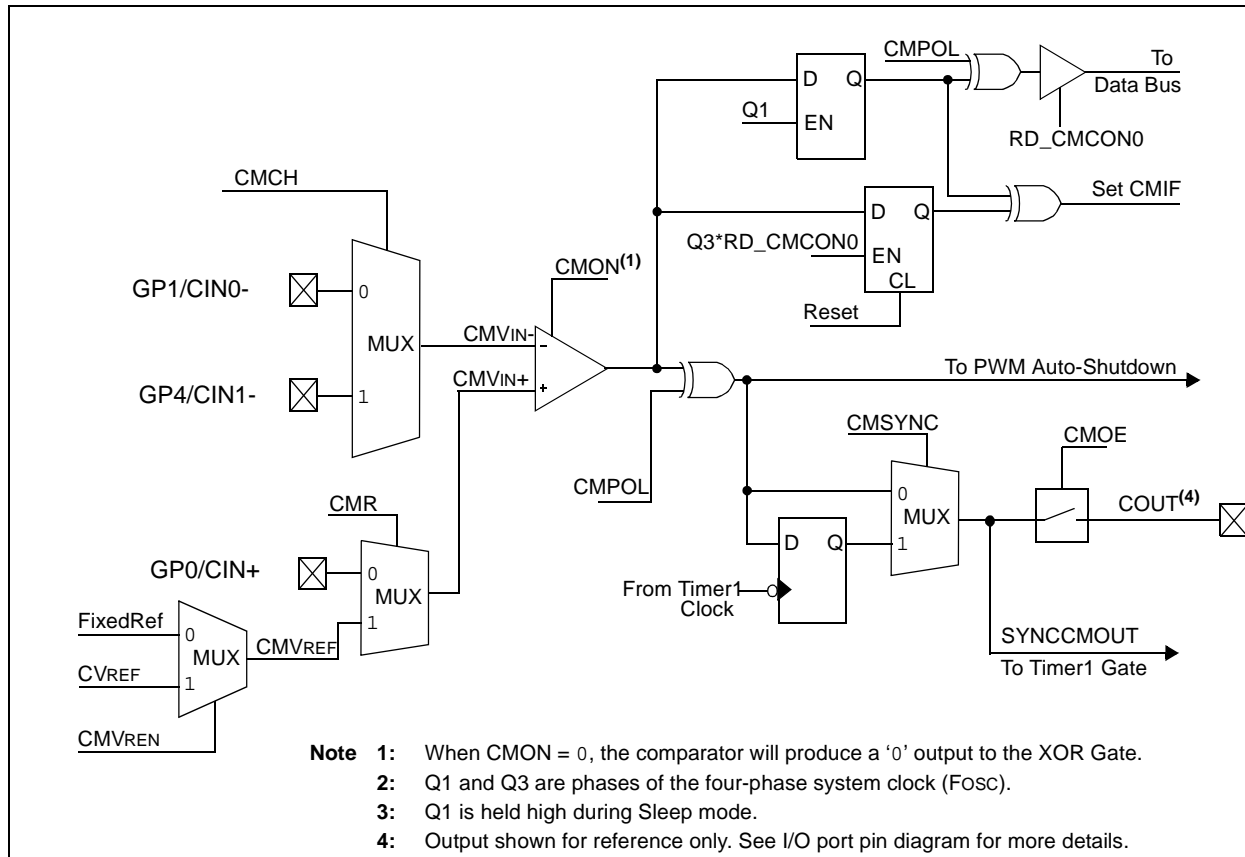
The comparator is shown in Figure 9-1 along with the relationship between the analog input levels and the digital output. When the analog voltage at  $V_{IN+}$  is less

than the analog voltage at  $V_{IN-}$ , the output of the comparator is a digital low level. When the analog voltage at  $V_{IN+}$  is greater than the analog voltage at  $V_{IN-}$ , the output of the comparator is a digital high level.

**FIGURE 9-1: SINGLE COMPARATOR**



**FIGURE 9-2: COMPARATOR SIMPLIFIED BLOCK DIAGRAM**



# PIC12F609/615/617/12HV609/615

## 9.2 Analog Input Connection Considerations

A simplified circuit for an analog input is shown in Figure 9-3. Since the analog input pins share their connection with a digital input, they have reverse biased ESD protection diodes to  $V_{DD}$  and  $V_{SS}$ . The analog input, therefore, must be between  $V_{SS}$  and  $V_{DD}$ . If the input voltage deviates from this range by more than 0.6V in either direction, one of the diodes is forward biased and a latch-up may occur.

A maximum source impedance of 10 k $\Omega$  is recommended for the analog sources. Also, any external component connected to an analog input pin, such as a capacitor or a Zener diode, should have very little leakage current to minimize inaccuracies introduced.

**Note 1:** When reading a GPIO register, all pins configured as analog inputs will read as a '0'. Pins configured as digital inputs will convert as an analog input, according to the input specification.

**2:** Analog levels on any pin defined as a digital input, may cause the input buffer to consume more current than is specified.

**FIGURE 9-3: ANALOG INPUT MODEL**

