

### Hardware Datapath Components Lab

### Lab Overview

- This lab will use:
  - A new output: An RGB LED that can produce many different colors when combined with the hardware PWM of your Arduino
  - New inputs: The buttons on your LCD panel and a potentiometer (dial that creates a variable resistance) that generates an varying ANALOG voltage as you twist it (i.e. 0, 0.1, 0.2, ..., 4.8, 4.9, 5V)
    - You will learn how to use the Arduino's built-in Analog-to-Digital Converter (ADC) to convert these analog voltage to digital numbers in the range 0-255
  - Combinational and sequential logic chips to offload some processing to hardware (and not software)

#### **RGB LED**

- You will build your own controllable PWM system to produce varying combinations of intensities of red, green, or blue light from an RGB LED
  - While normally we would control all 3 colors at the same time, our system will produce varying intensities on only 1 color at a time but allow you to turn the other LED's on or off to produce many combinations



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<u>This Photo</u> by Unknown Author is licensed under <u>CC</u> <u>BY-SA</u> The RGB LEDs consist of three separate LEDs in one package. Each color has a separate cathode (–) lead, and all the the anode (+) leads are connected together.

### **Analog Inputs**

- Potentiometer is a variable resistor that chances as you rotate it
- The LCD shield has 5 buttons
- However, they do not produce 5 individual signals like you are used to from previous labs
- They are configured in such a way such that they sum together to produce a single analog voltage which the shield connects to the A0 input of the Arduino

5 Button Inputs => 1 analog voltage



Potentiomers or "pots"



Functional diagram of a potentiometer, schematic symbol, and diagram of pin layout.



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### Hardware/Software Lab

- We will use combinational and sequential components to:
  - Offload software tasks from the Arduino.
    - In many embedded systems there will be too much processing and control for software to keep up with
  - Illustrate how to save I/O pins by using external hardware
  - Illustrate how the internal Arduino hardware operates



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### **Overall System Description**

- You will use a "potentiometer" dial to produce a continuous range of voltages that you will then digitize to the range 0-255.
- That digitized input will control the duty cycle (on-time) of a PWM signal that your Arduino will generate.
- Using buttons on the LCD and external hardware, you will then be able to route (demultiplex) that PWM signal to any of the 3 light segments (R, G, B).
- Using the buttons on the LCD you'll be able to also control whether the other segments are ON or OFF to produce a variety of colors.
- You'll save pins by using only 2 outputs to control the various selections of light segments and which color uses the PWM signal.



Block diagram of circuit to control 3 LEDs



#### **ANALOG TO DIGITAL CONVERSION**

### **Electric Signals**

- Information is represented electronically as a timevarying voltage
  - Each voltage level may represent a unique value
  - Frequencies may represent unique values (e.g. sound)



Sound converted to electronic signal (voltage vs. time)

### **Electronic Information**

- Digital Camera
  - CCD's (Charge-Coupled Devices) output a voltage proportional to the intensity of light hitting it
  - 3 CCD's filtered for measuring Red, Green, and Blue light produce 1 color pixel



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## Signal Types

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- Analog signal
  - Continuous time signal where each voltage level has a unique meaning
  - Most information types are inherently analog
- Digital signal
  - Continuous signal where voltage levels are mapped into 2 ranges meaning 0 or 1
  - Possible to convert a single analog signal to a set of digital signals



### Analog to Digital Conversion

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- 1 Analog signal can be converted to a set of digital signals (0's and 1's)
- 3 Step Process
  - Sample
  - Quantize (Measure)
  - Digitize



### Sampling

- Measure (take samples) of the signals voltage at a regular time interval
- Sampling converts the continuous time scale into discrete time samples







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#### Quantization

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- Voltage scale is divided into a set of finite numbers (e.g. 256 values: 0 255)
- Each sample is rounded to the nearest number on the scale
- Quantization converts continuous voltage scale to a discrete (finite) set of numbers



### Digitization

• The measured number from each sample is converted to a set of 1's and 0's



to bits

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 Error is introduced because the discrete time and quantized samples only approximate the original analog signal



**Original Analog Signal** 

Sampled Signal

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#### Sampling Rates and Quantization Levels

• Higher sampling rates and quantization levels produce more accurate digital representations



Lower sampling rate and quantization levels

Higher sampling rate and more quantization levels

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## **Digital Sound**

- Lossless / High Quality (aka CD Quality) Sound
  - 44.1 Kilo-samples per second
  - 65,536 quantization levels (16bits per sample)
  - 44.1KSamples \* 16bits/sample = 705 Kbps
- MP3 files compress that information to 128Kbps – 320 Kbps



Your parents know what these are!

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Converting voltages to digital numbers

#### **ADC MODULE**

### **ADC Module**

- Your Atmel micro has an A-to-D Converter (ADC) built in
- The ADC module can be used to convert an analog voltage signal into 10 bit digital numbers.
- Not fast enough for video or audio.
- Controlled by a set of six registers which you must program appropriately



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#### Note

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- Microcontroller modules often come with many adjustable features and settings to make it useful to a wide variety of applications
- In EE 109 we may not want to use all that functionality, so we have to enable or disable those features or alter certain settings
- How do we do this? By setting bits in specific registers
  - The values we program into the registers control how the hardware works!

# **ADC Registers**

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- ADC is primarily controlled by two registers whose bits control various aspects of the ADC
  - ADMUX ADC Multiplexor Selection Register
  - ADCSRA ADC Control and Status Register A
- We will see what these bits means as we continue through our slides...





Only need to perform once before you start using the ADC

#### **ADC INITIALIZATION PROCESS**

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### **ADC Code Organization**

- Just like with our LCD, we will create separate files for our ADC software so we can easily reuse it in later labs
- We will walk through how to write each function

void adc\_init();
uint8\_t adc\_sample(uint8\_t channel);

adc.h

```
void adc_init()
{
    // Initialization steps
}
uint8_t adc_sample(uint8_t channel)
{
    // Take a sample and
    // return the numeric result
}
```

# **ADC Voltage Reference**

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- The ADC can only measure voltages in the range of V<sub>hi</sub> to V<sub>low</sub>
  - If the voltage is higher than Vhi it just converts to 1023=0x3ff
  - If the voltage is lower than Vlow it just converts to 0
  - Voltages between the limits are converted linearly to digital values.
- Samples will be taken either at regular intervals or just when you tell it to take a sample



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# ADC Voltage Reference

- The low reference is fixed at ground = 0V.
- High reference is selectable
  - AVCC (connected to VCC)
    - Usually the one we want!
  - AREF
  - Internal 1.1V reference
- Reference selection controlled by bits in a register
- ADC Init Step 1: Set REF bits to choose AVCC to give analog range of 0-5V
  - Set ADMUX register bit
    - REFS1 to a 0
    - REFSO to a 1





## **ADC Clock Generation**

- Documentation requirement: The ADC needs a clock in the range 50kHz to 200kHz in order to operate.
- Clock generated for the Arduino's processor is 16Mhz
- Prescalar (a.k.a. divider) reduces the clock to a lower frequency by dividing its frequency
- Divide by 2, 4, 8, 16, 32, 64, or 128
  - ADC Freq =  $\frac{CPU Clock Freq}{Prescalar}$
  - If Precalar=64 then ADC Freq = 16MHz / 64 = 250KHz (still too fast)
- ADC Init Step 3: Set prescalar to 128 by turning on (setting) ADPS2, ADPS1, ADPS0 bits in ADCSRA register



**ADCSRA Register** 

### Scale

- Analogy: Some scales give your weight to the nearest pound (137) while others are accurate to the tenth of pound (137.6)
  - It's nice to have accuracy but for most of us we are content with the accuracy just at the nearest pound
- Our ADC can provide readings up to 10-bits accuracy (on a scale from 1023)...
- ...but it can also drop the lower 2 bits to provide readings of 8-bit accuracy (on a scale from 256)



- In EE109 we'll always use 8-bit readings
- **ADC Init Step 4:** Set ADLAR bit to 1 in the ADMUX register (1 = 8-bit results, 0 = 10-bit results)



ADMUX Register





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### Enable the ADC

- The ADC module has an 'enable' bit which effectively acts as an on/off switch (turn off to save power)
- ADC Init Step 5: Set ADEN bit to 1

0 = Disable	1 = Enable 0 = Disable						
ADEN AD	DSC	AD ATE	ADIF	ADIE	AD PS2	AD PS1	AD PS0

**ADCSRA Register** 

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# **ADC Register Review**

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- ADMUX ADC Multiplexor Selection Register
  - REFS Voltage reference selection (bits 7-6)
    - 01 to select AVCC, connected to VCC (+5V) on  $\mu C$
  - ADLAR Left adjust results (bit 5)
    - 0 = "right adjust" for 10-bit result
    - 1 = "left adjust" for 8-bit result
  - MUX Input channel selection (bits 3-0)
    - Use values 0000 to 0101 to select pins A0 to A5





# **ADC Register Review**

- ADCSRA ADC Control and Status Register A
  - ADPS Prescalar selection (bits 2-0)
    - Selects the clock divisor used in the prescaler
  - ADEN ADC Enable (bit 7)
    - Set to 1 to turn on the ADC (must do)
  - ADSC ADC Start Conversion (bit 6) [More on this in a few slides]
    - Set to 1 to start a conversion
    - When goes to a zero, conversion is complete
  - Other bits for generating interrupts (to be discussed in future labs)

	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
ADCSRA	ADEN	ADSC	ADATE	ADIF	ADIE	ADPS2	ADPS1	ADPS0



Perform each time you want to take a new sample

#### **ADC SAMPLING PROCESS**

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# **ADC Input Selection**

- The ADC has six input channels/pins that can be connected to the one built-in converter
- Only one channel can be converted at any one time (i.e. is internally muxed)
- Channel selection controlled by bits in a register
- ADC Sample Step 0: Set MUX bits in ADMUX register to desired channel number
  - If we want channel A3, set mux bits to 0011



**ADMUX** Register



### Selecting a Channel

• ADC Sampling Step 0: Copy the 4-bit channel argument to the ADMUX register

```
unsigned char adc_sample(char channel)
{
    // Step 0: copy channel bits into ADMUX
    // Step 1: Start a sample
    // Step 2: Wait for ADC to indicate
    // Step 2: Wait for ADC to indicate
    // the sample is ready
    // Step 3: Retrieve and return the sample
}
```



O Copy channel into MUX bits

### Starting a Sample

- The ADC does not continuously sample
- We must tell it when to take a sample by setting the 'start' bit (ADSC)
- ADC Sampling Step 1: Set the ADSC bit in the ADCSRA register
- Some time will elapse while the ADC takes the sample. During this time the ADSC bit will remain at 1
- When the ADC is done it will AUTOMATICALLY clear the ADSC bit to 0
- ADC Sampling Step 2
  - Need to continuously check whether the ADSC bit has turned back to 0 (i.e. loop \*while\* the ADSC is still a 1)

#### **ADMUX Register**

						register				
	REF	REF	AD		MUX	MUX	MUX	MUX		
	S1	S0	LAR		3	2	1	0		
O Copy channel into MUX bits 1 = Start/(ed) 0 = Done										
	ADEN	ADSC	AD ATE	ADIF	ADIE	AD PS2	AD PS1	AD PS0		
	ADCSRA Register									

1 ADCSRA  =;							;	
	ADEN	ADSC 1	AD ATE	ADIF	ADIE	AD PS2	AD PS1	AD PS0
23	<pre>2 3 while((ADCSRA &amp;) != 0) {}</pre>							
	ADEN	ADSC 1	AD ATE	ADIF	ADIE	AD PS2	AD PS1	AD PS0
f								

ADIF

AD

ATE

ADEN ADSC

ADIE

AD

PS2

AD

PS1

AD

PS0

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### **Retrieving a Sample**

- [From last slide] Need to continuously check whether the ADSC bit has turned back to 0 (i.e. loop \*while\* the ADSC is still a 1)
  - Once the loop finishes we know the sample is ready!
- **ADC Sampling Step 3:** Read (retrieve) the 8bit sample result from the **ADCH** register
  - Just read the value from ADCH
     (i.e. unsigned char result = ADCH;) and then use that value in your application
- You can repeat the process as many times as you like
  - Set the start (ADSC) bit
  - Loop until the start (ADSC) bit goes to 0
  - Retrieve the sample from ADCH



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### Named Bit Constants

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- In <avr/io.h> there are constants defined for each bit name and position
  - REFS1 = 7, REFS0 = 6, ADLAR = 5, ...

$$- \text{ ADEN} = 7, \text{ ADSC} = 6, ...$$

 Using these we can write shift expressions with more clarity

$$- ADCSRA \mid = (1 << ADSC);$$

$$- ADMUX \&= \sim (1 << ADLAR)$$





#### **ADC SOURCES**



#### Potentiometers: Generating Analog Signals

• A potentiometer acts as a slider or knob that can be set to the desired level or position

- Use your screwdriver to twist the potentiometer

• A potentiometer is like a variable series resistor (i.e. voltage divider)



schematic symbol, and diagram of pin layout.

### **LCD Shield Buttons**

- The LCD shield has 5 buttons
- However, they do not produce 5 individual signals like you are used to from previous labs
- They are configured in such a way such that they sum together to produce a single analog voltage which the shield connects to the A0 input of the Arduino
- If the voltage is in certain range we can infer that a particular button is being pressed



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### **LCD Shield Buttons**

- You can use the Arduino's A-to-D converter to sense when a button is pressed
- Each button produces a certain voltage when pressed and the default value of 5V when no button is pressed
- The table to the right shows the nominal voltages and 8-bit ADC result
  - Note these are nominal and could be different so it would be best to just split the range evenly (e.g. to know the 'Up' button is pressed check if the 8-bit ADC results is between 26 and 77)



Button	Volts (V)	Avg. 8-bit Value
Right	0 V	0
Up	1.0 V	52
Down	2.0 V	104
Left		
Select		
None		



#### **DEMULTIPLEXERS AND DECODERS**



#### **Recalling Our Circuit**



Block diagram of circuit to control 3 LEDs



#### Demuxes = Decoders

- A demultiplexer does the opposite job as a mux: passes the 1 input to the selected output
- It turns out a demux is EQUIVALENT to a decoder



### **NEGATIVE (ACTIVE-LO) LOGIC**



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### Negative (Active-Lo) Logic

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- Recall it is up to us humans to assign **MEANING** to the **TWO** voltage levels our digital circuits produce and process
  - Thus, far we've (unknowingly) used the positive logic convention where:
     1 means true and 0 means false
  - In negative logic,

0 means true and 1 means false



### Why Active-low

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 Some digital circuits are better at "sinking" (draining/sucking) electric current than "sourcing" (producing) current



#### **Converting Between Active-hi and low**

- Active-hi convention
  - 1 = on/true/active
  - 0 = off/false/inactive
- Active-low convention
  - 0 = on/true/active
  - 1 = off/false/inactive



- As shown above, what if I had an active-high output and wanted to connect it to an active-low input?
- To convert between conventions

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#### Decoder w/ Active Low Enable and Outputs



Enable

Inputs and outputs that have a "true/false" or "yes/no" meaning (e.g. enable or decoder outputs) are often candidates to be active-low. 49

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Bubbles and signals starting with a slash '/' indicate an active-low input or output...not an inverter...the inverters are actually in the logic diagram on the next pages...



#### **Active-Lo Outputs**



When E=inactive (inactive means 0), Outputs turn off (off means 1) When E=active (active means 1), Selected outputs turn on (on means 0)



#### **Active-Lo Enable**



When E=inactive (inactive means 1), Outputs turn off (off means 1) When E=active (active means 0), Selected outputs turn on (on means 0)



#### **COMPONENTS USED**



#### Decoder (Demux) Component











#### **Counter and Shift Register Components**



Shift Register w/ FF's

Q3

Component As Presented in Lecture

![](_page_54_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_54_Picture_2.jpeg)

### Laying Out your Circuit Board

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- You have the 74HCT00 (NAND gates) and 74HCT04 (inverters) in your kit. All others can be collected when you come to lab.
- Layout your chips as we show below to make your wiring task easier and so our staff can help you more quickly via common placement.

![](_page_55_Figure_3.jpeg)

### LED Control Circuit

• Wire the remaining components

![](_page_56_Figure_2.jpeg)

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![](_page_56_Figure_3.jpeg)

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![](_page_57_Picture_0.jpeg)

Software Task 1a

![](_page_57_Figure_2.jpeg)

- Sending bits to the shift register is similar to your LCD interface
- Output 1 data bit at a time on PC3 (in the correct order) and then generate your own "clock" pulse on PC5 which will cause the shift register to capture the data bit and shift all the other outputs over by 1 location.
- Notice we can't change just 1 or 2 bits without affecting others (since they all shift). Thus, we must always send 4 bits, repeating any bits we don't want to change.

![](_page_57_Figure_6.jpeg)

### Software Task 1b

- Actual button interface and display software are written
- You need only write the functions to serially send the 4 mux and demux (decoder) select bits to the shift register
- You will write
  - shift1bit(uint8\_t bit);
    - Sends the LSB of **bit** variable (as data on PC3) and generates a clock pulse on PC5
  - void shift\_load(uint8\_t demux, uint8\_t r, uint8\_t g, uint8\_t b);
    - Call shift1bit() multiple times to send all the 5-bits; The demux's select bits are assumed to be in the lower 2 bits of the argument, while DATA (PC3) each of r, g, and b have the desired value in the LSB of the byte.
    - Take care to decide the order to send the 5 bits (refer to the schematic and look at how the shift register outputs are wired)

![](_page_58_Figure_9.jpeg)

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