Introduction to Arduino programming

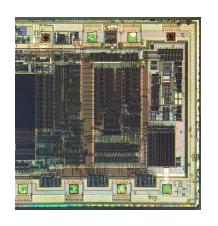
MARCO BARUZZO

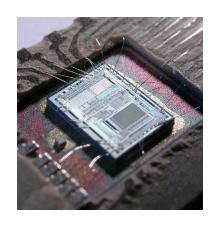
ICTP SCIFABLAB

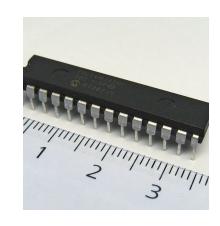
Summary

- ► Introduction
- Interacting with the World
- Arduino Programming
- Arduino Family and other microcontroller
- Some projects

Introduction: What is a microcontroller:







Small computing unit equipped with all the required hardware (RAM, ROM, bus, IO) to perform real-time tasks designed for embedded applications

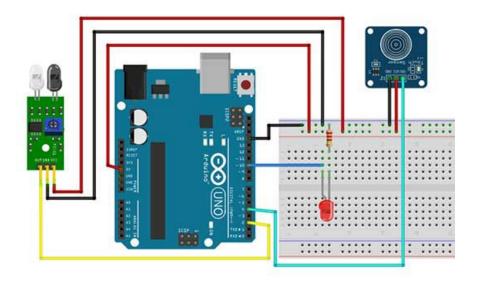
(It's different to microprocessor (CPU) which has to be supplied with all the additional hardware)

Introduction: What is a microcontroller:

Small computing unit equipped with all the required hardware (RAM, ROM, bus, IO) to perform real-time tasks designed for embedded applications

Standard example on the use of microcontrollers:

- Connecting to sensors
- Controlling devices
- Automatizing tasks
- Doing repetitive tasks!

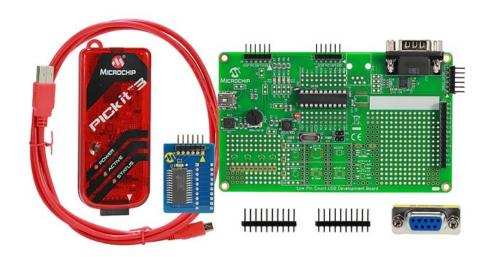


Programming microcontroller before Arduino

- Preparing your own board and programming interface with the microcontroller
- Usually assembly coding (not every case)
- Lack of libraries
- Lack of support

Because of these reasons:

- Not really fast for R&D
- Not encouraging for the general public

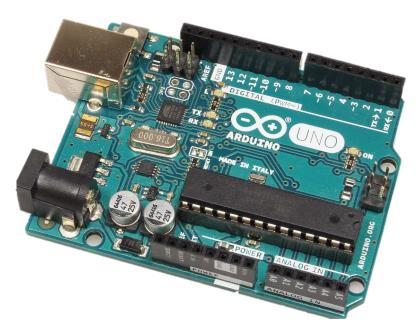


The Arduino breakthrough

- Preparing your own board and programming interface with the microcontroller
- Arduino provides you a standard board with programming interface and compatible with lots of devices
- Usually assembly coding (not every case)
- Simplified C++ coding
- Lack of libraries
- A HUGE selection of libraries
- Lack of support
- HUGE and supportive community!

Because of these reasons:

- Super fast R&D
- A new gold era of homemade projects



Arduino

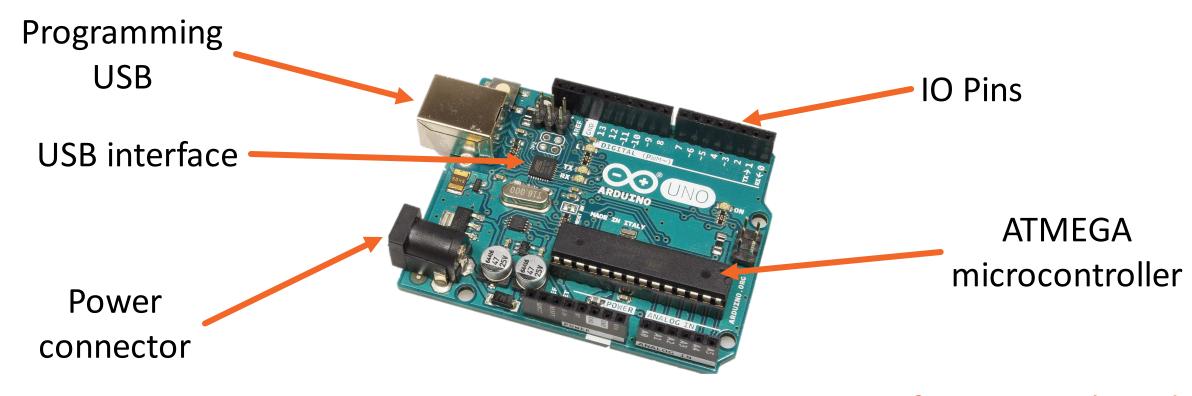
It is an electronic board hosting a microcontroller.

This board permits you to:

- Connect in a simple way the microprocessor with the PC, using serial-USB converter, in order to be programmed with the firmware
- Power electronics
- Connect to the digital and analog pin of the microcontroller via jumper cable



Anatomy of an Arduino board

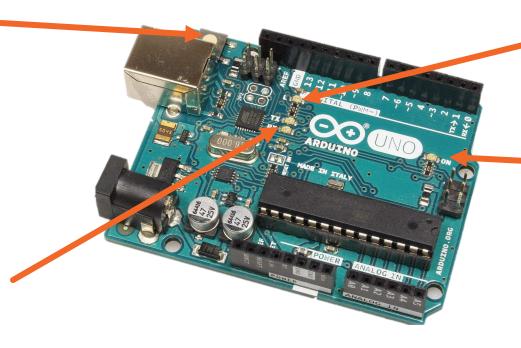


Major features on board

Anatomy of an Arduino board

Reset button (restart code)

Indicates Rx/Tx connections on Serial Port



LED connected to pin 13

ON indicator

LED indicator and button

Powering Arduino

USB

Connector

Arduino can be powered via:

Via USB connector (with PC or USB charger)

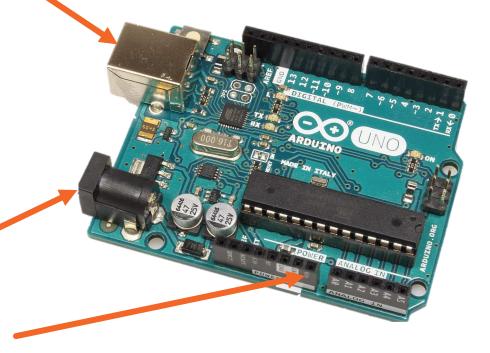
 Via power connector (connected to internal voltage regulator input 7-12 V)

Via Vin pin (only regulated 5 V)

Power

Connector

Vin pin



Arduino senses and arms: 10 pins

USB

Connector

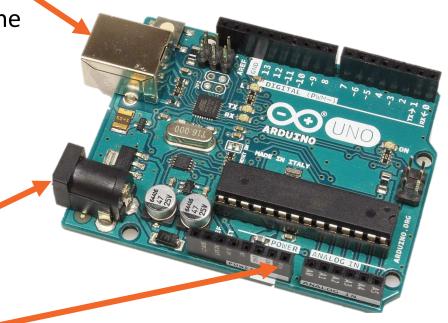
An I/O pin is an interface between the microcontroller and the external world, these can be:

- Via USB connector (with PC or USB charger)
- Via power connector (connected to internal voltage regulator input 7-12 V)
- Via Vin pin (only regulated 5 V)

Power

Connector

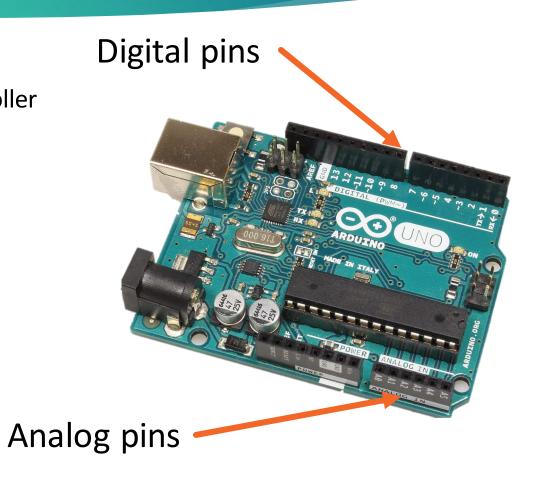
Vin pin



Arduino senses and arms: IO pins

I/O pins are the interfaces between the microcontroller and the external world, these can be:

- Input
- Output
- Analogic
- Digital
- PWM
- General Purpose

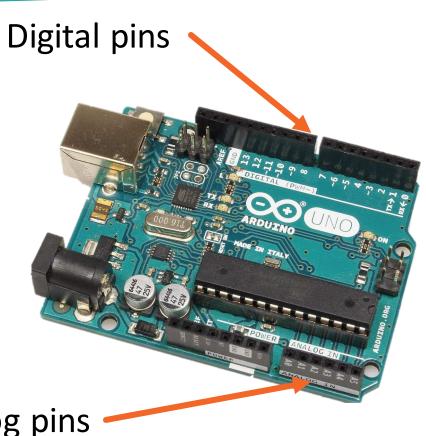


Arduino senses and arms: 10 pins

The <u>inputs</u> are the way in which the microcontroller acquire information and <u>output</u> are used by the microcontroller to "act" on the external environment

As human we use light and light sensors (eyes) to acquire most of the information.

The microcontroller uses voltage and voltage meter

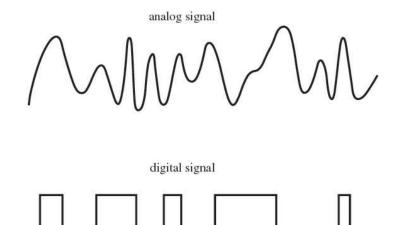


Analog pins

Arduino senses and arms: 10 pins

Voltage can vary continuously, from 0 to 5 Volts, to give an idea of a continuous value (like the luminosity of a light source). This is called <u>Analogic</u> value

Or voltage can be set in only two "levels", High and Low, 5 Volts and 0 Volts, to say On or Off (there is light, there's not light). This is called <u>Digital</u> value



Arduino senses and arms: 10 pins

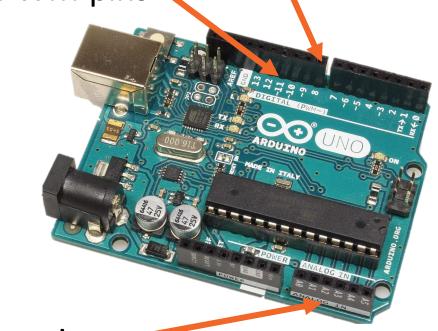
Digital IO pins

Digital IO PWM pins

Most Arduinos have a set of <u>analog inputs</u> to measure sensors and a set of <u>digital inputs</u> that can work also as <u>output</u>, I/O.

Some digital output can also perform a <u>Pulse-Width Modulation</u> <u>or PWM</u>. This technique simulates an <u>Analog Output</u>.

Pins on most advanced microcontrollers can be used as analog or digital and are called <u>General Purpose I/O</u>, or <u>GPIO</u>

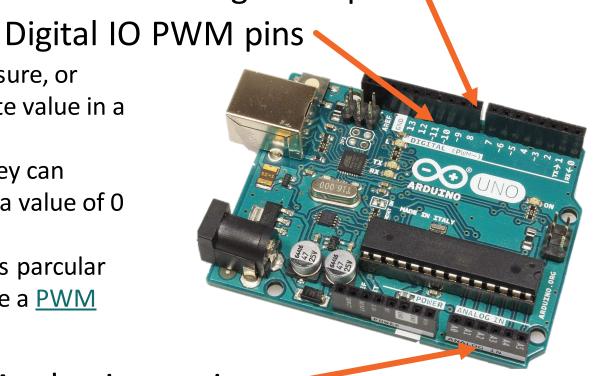


Analog input pins

10 pins recap

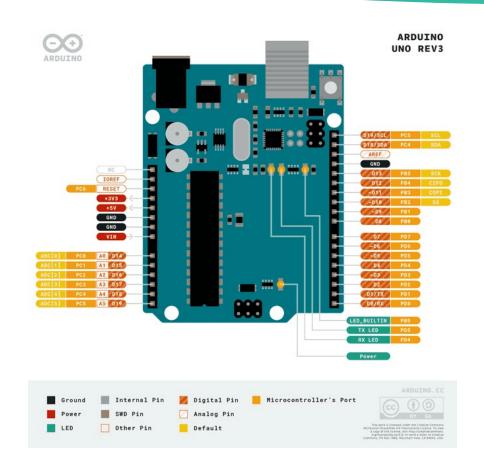
Digital IO pins

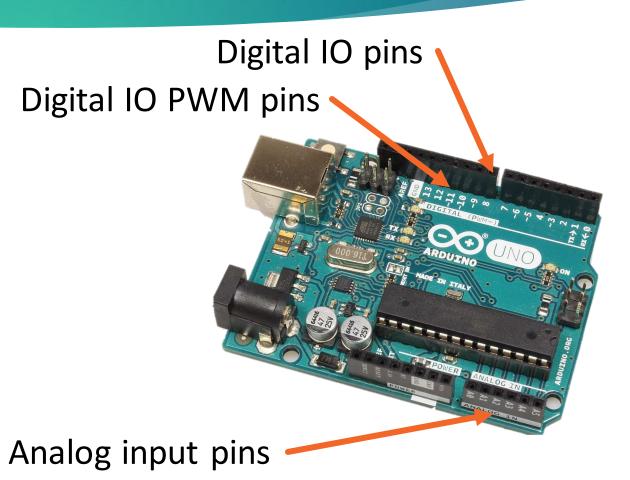
- Analog pins are usually only inputs and can measure, or convert, a continuous analog signal into a discrete value in a specific range
- <u>Digital pins</u> usually can be inputs and output. They can measure if a value is 0 or 5V or they can put out a value of 0 or 5V.
- Analog output are really uncommon and requires parcular devices. To simulate an analog output we can use a <u>PWM</u> output.



Analog input pins

Interaction with the World: IO pins recap





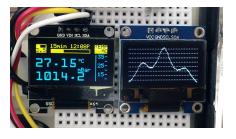
Using pins: connecting devices

- LED =)
- A lot of different types of sensors (Temperature, Light)
- Controllers (Buttons, Analog stick, Touch)
- Motors (DC motors, Steppers, Servo)
- Relays (Microcontroller controlled switches)
- Screens (LCD, OLED)
- Speakers (Not so simple)
- Memory (SD card)









Analog sensors

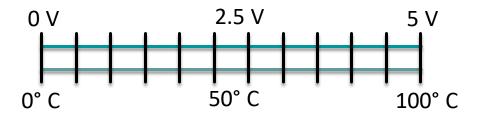
- Temperature
- Humidity
- Pressure
- Light
- Strain
- Weight
- Accelerometer
- Movement
- Distance
- Presence
- Sound (microphone)
-

Sensors can be analogic or digital.

Analogic means that the sensor will produce a <u>voltage "proportional" to the value that you are measuring with the sensor.</u>

This means that you have to measure the voltage with an analog pin and calculate the proportion to have the value of the temperature.

Choosing the relation between voltage and temperature is called <u>calibration</u>.

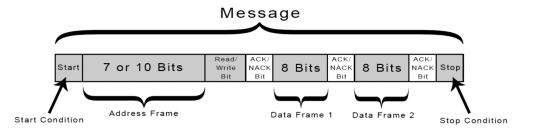


Digital sensors

- Temperature
- Humidity
- Pressure
- Light
- Strain
- Weight
- Accelerometer
- Movement
- Distance
- Presence
- Sound (microphone)
- •

Digital sensors have internally another small controller that measure and do all the math required to have the result, but you need to connect/collect the controller with to the Arduino through a digital.

The values are encoded in a series of 0 and 1 in a particular format that you need to decode. This is a <u>communication protocol</u> (More on this later)



LEDs

LED are really simple to be used with Arduino.

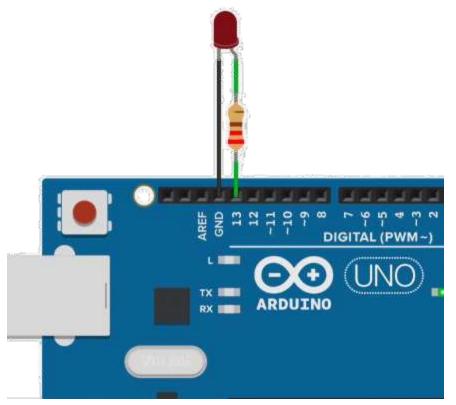
To light up a LED you need to:

- Connect the negative wire of the LED to GND on the Arduino
- Connect the positive wire of the LED a digital pin with a resistor in series (to limit the current flowing into the LED, usually around 300Ω)

Write the code to use that pin as a digital output and set it to 5V

Tips: if it not working probably you need to invert the LED wires=)





Relays



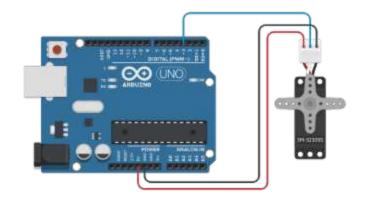
Relays are very useful to control other devices and more powerful lamps, some motors, or any other device that can be used with a switch.

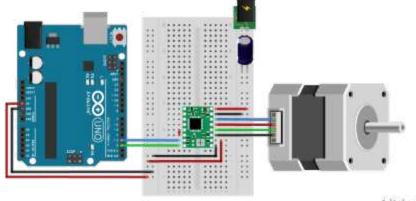
Also in this case you can control it directly with a digital pin

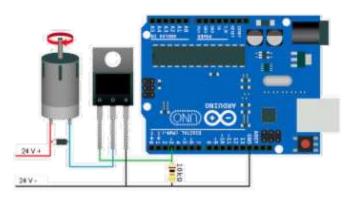
Motors

The most common motors to be connected to Arduino are:

- Servomotor: it can do precise repeatable movements and, in case of small servos, can be powered and used directly with an Arduino
- DC motors: it's a very fast and powerful motor, but no precise small movement. It required additional controller circuit (MOSFET, relay,...)
- Stepper motors: powerful, precise and repeatable but it requires another driver circuit that can be controlled by an Arduino







Connecting Arduino to PC: Arduino IDE

Important part of the Arduino ecosystem:

Arduino Integrated Development Environment (IDE).

This is a PC program can:

- Connect to Arduino (simple driver managing)
- Editor where to write your code
- Compile the code for the specific model of Arduino
- Upload the code in the microcontroller
- Monitor in real-time the Arduino Serial Port
- Full list of code examples

You can download it for free from the Arduino webpage

```
Blink | Arduino IDE 2.3.3
                 Arduino Nano Every
               https://www.arduino.cc/en/Tutorial/BuiltInExamples/Blink
             // the setup function runs once when you press reset or power the board
               // initialize digital pin LED BUILTIN as an output
               pinMode(LED_BUILTIN, OUTPUT);
             // the loop function runs over and over again forever
               digitalWrite(LED_BUILTIN, LOW); // turn the LED off by making the voltage LOW
        37
        38
                                                                                                                      ■ A
       Sketch uses 1118 bytes (2%) of program storage space. Maximum is 49152 bytes.
       Global variables use 22 bytes (0%) of dynamic memory, leaving 6122 bytes for local variables. Maximum is 6144 by
                                                                        Ln 1, Col 1 Arduino Nano Every on COM8 [not connected] ## 1 | E
```

Connecting Arduino to PC: Arduino IDE

- Managing driver and compilers for all Arduino (and not only models)
- Library manager
- Serial Port Monitor
- Editor
- Compiler Output

```
Blink | Arduino IDE 2.3.3

♣ Arduino Nano Every

               https://www.arduino.cc/en/Tutorial/F
                     setup function runs once when you press reset or power the board
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               digitalWrite(LED BUILTIN, HIGH); // turn the LED on (HIGH is the voltage level)
                                                  // wait for a second
               digitalWrite(LED_BUILTIN, LOW); // turn the LED off by making the voltage LOW
               delay(1000);
                                                  // wait for a second
        37
                                                                                                                   ■ 6
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                                                                       Ln 1, Col 1 Arduino Nano Every on COM8 [not connected] ## 1 |
```

Arduino IDE

Arduino IDE from my PC:

- Adding a new board
- Adding a new library
- Opening a code example
- Compiling

Arduino language

Arduino IDE supports a C++ with simplified syntax as programming language



```
// the setup function runs once when you press reset or power the board
     void setup() {
26
      // initialize digital pin LED BUILTIN as an output.
27
       pinMode(LED BUILTIN, OUTPUT);
28
29
30
     // the loop function runs over and over again forever
     void loop() {
32
       digitalWrite(LED BUILTIN, HIGH); // turn the LED on (HIGH is the voltage level)
                                        // wait for a second
       delay(1000);
34
35
       digitalWrite(LED BUILTIN, LOW); // turn the LED off by making the voltage LOW
                                        // wait for a second
36
       delay(1000);
37
```

But it has a lot of other functions and variables that are not standard C++, why?

Arduino language

Because you have to control pins and other stuff in real-time....

First things to be noted:

- void setup()
 This is the first part of the code that the microprocessor will run only one time when it is switched on. Usually it runs the initialization of hardware and objects.
- void loop(pin, value)
 This loop contains all the instructions that will run continuously indefinitely until the microprocessor will be powered off

```
// the setup function runs once when you press reset or power the board
     void setup() {
       // initialize digital pin LED BUILTIN as an output.
       pinMode(LED BUILTIN, OUTPUT);
28
29
30
     // the loop function runs over and over again forever
     void loop() {
       digitalWrite(LED BUILTIN, HIGH); // turn the LED on (HIGH is the voltage level)
33
34
       delay(1000):
                                         // wait for a second
       digitalWrite(LED BUILTIN, LOW); // turn the LED off by making the voltage LOW
       delay(1000);
                                         // wait for a second
37
```

Arduino language

Because you have to control pins and other stuff in real-time....

There are of course some strange functions:

- pinMode(pin, value)
 Used to set one of the Arduino pins in input or output
- digitalWrite(pin, value)
 Used to change the status of the Arduino pin from HIGH to LOW and vice versa
- delay(value)
 Used to wait some time before next instruction

```
// the setup function runs once when you press reset or power the board
     void setup() {
       // initialize digital pin LED BUILTIN as an output.
28
       pinMode(LED BUILTIN, OUTPUT);
29
30
     // the loop function runs over and over again forever
     void loop() {
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                                         // wait for a second
       digitalWrite(LED_BUILTIN, LOW); // turn the LED off by making the voltage LOW
       delay(1000);
                                         // wait for a second
37
```

Arduino language

Other common Arduino functions are:

- analogRead(pin)
 Returns a value proportional to the voltage applied to the pin
- digitalRead(pin)
 Returns 1 or 0 if the voltage applied to the pic in 5V or 0V
- Serial.Begin(baudrate)
 Open a Serial COM Port
- Serial.print(string)
 Write on Serial COM Port
- Serial.read()
 Read on Serial COM Port

```
// the setup function runs once when you press reset or power the board
     void setup() {
       // initialize digital pin LED BUILTIN as an output.
       pinMode(LED BUILTIN, OUTPUT);
28
29
30
     // the loop function runs over and over again forever
     void loop() {
       digitalWrite(LED BUILTIN, HIGH); // turn the LED on (HIGH is the voltage level)
33
34
       delay(1000);
                                         // wait for a second
       digitalWrite(LED_BUILTIN, LOW); // turn the LED off by making the voltage LOW
       delay(1000);
                                         // wait for a second
37
```

Arduino language

For example this code:

- In the setup initialize a digital pin to be an output
- In the main loop:
 - 1. Set the pin to HIGH (5V)
 - 2. Wait 1 second
 - 3. Set the pin to LOW (0V)
 - 4. Wait 1 second
 - 5. Restart forever

This code blink a LED=)

```
// the setup function runs once when you press reset or power the board
     void setup() {
       // initialize digital pin LED BUILTIN as an output.
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       delay(1000);
                                         // wait for a second
       digitalWrite(LED_BUILTIN, LOW); // turn the LED off by making the voltage LOW
35
                                         // wait for a second
       delay(1000);
37
```

Arduino language

For example this code:

- In the setup initialize a Serial COM Port
- In the main loop:
 - 1. Read the value from the Analog Pin
 - 2. Map the value (Calibration)
 - 3. Write the results in the Serial
 - 4. Wait 2 millisecond
 - Restart forever

This is perfect to read an analog temperature sensor

```
// These constants won't change. They're used to give names to the pins used:
     const int analogInPin = A0; // Analog input pin that the potentiometer is attached to
25
     int sensorValue = 0; // value read from the pot
     int outputValue = 0; // value output to the PWM (analog out)
28
     void setup() {
       // initialize serial communications at 9600 bps:
31
       Serial.begin(9600);
32
33
     void loop() {
35
       // read the analog in value:
       sensorValue = analogRead(analogInPin);
36
37
       // map it to the range of the analog out:
       outputValue = map(sensorValue, 0, 1023, 0, 255);
39
       // print the results to the Serial Monitor:
41
       Serial.print("sensor = ");
42
       Serial.print(sensorValue);
       Serial.print("\t output = ");
43
       Serial.println(outputValue);
45
       // wait 2 milliseconds before the next loop for the analog-to-digital
47
       // converter to settle after the last reading:
       delay(2);
```

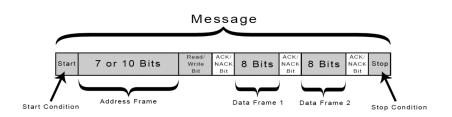
Arduino Programming: Libraries

I mentioned drivers for motors and connection protocols for devices or sensors. Of course these requires a specific code to be run.

A communication protocol is a standard set of rules that describes how two circuits speaks each other.

Common Arduino examples are I2C, SPI, UART, OneWire

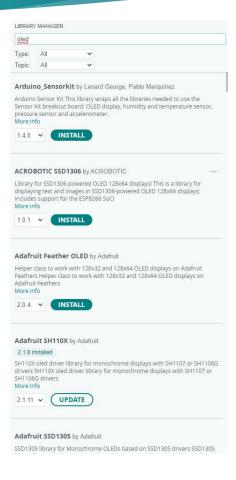
Luckily there are library already prepared for our devices.



Libraries

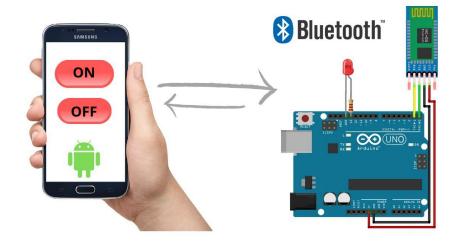
Most of the library can be downloaded directly from the Arduino IDE using the specific tool and searching the sensor or driver that is required.

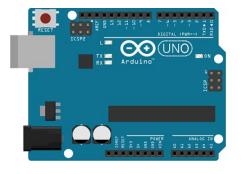
For most of the library there are also well commented example on how to use the various functions.



WiFi and Bluetooth

Some Arduinos can be connected via WiFi or Bluetooth. This can add a lot of features as remote control, remote data logging, etc









New features from Arduino

Arduino App

- Arduino App provides a user-friendly interface for controlling and monitoring Arduino projects
- On the App can be added features like data visualization, remote control, and real-time feedback
- Develop apps for iOS, Android, or web platforms to reach a wider audience

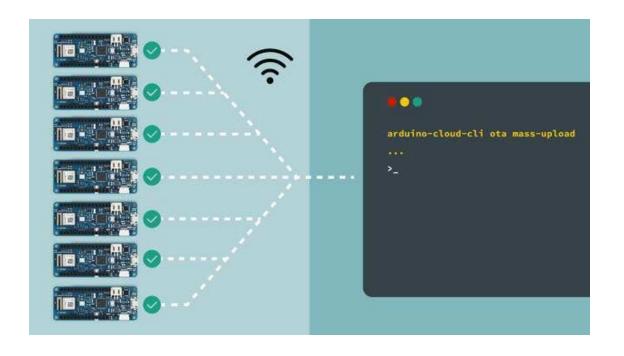


Arduino Programming:

New features from Arduino

Arduino Cloud

- Simplified IoT Development: user-friendly platform for creating and managing IoT projects.
- Remote Monitoring and Control: Access and control your Arduino devices from remote.
- Data Collection and Analysis
- Integration with Other Services (Google Assistant, Amazon Alexa)
- Over-the-Air Updates of firmware



Arduino UNO specifications

Microcontroller: ATmega328P

Digital Pin IO: 14

Analog Pin I: 6

PWM Pin: 6

Working voltage: 5V

Max current on Digital Pin: 20 mA

Flash Memory: 32KB

SRAM Memory: 2KB

EEPROM Memory: 1KB

Clock: 16 MHz

Led built-in: D13

Native USB: no

ADC: 1x 10bit

DAC: no

■ Time/Counter: 2x 8bit, 1x 16bit



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A lot of data!

Do we need all of them? It depends on our project!

Arduino UNO specifications

Microcontroller: ATmega328P

Digital Pin IO: 14

Analog Pin I: 6

Most common criteria

PWM Pin: 6

Working voltage: 5V

Max current on Digital Pin: 20 mA

Flash Memory: 32KB

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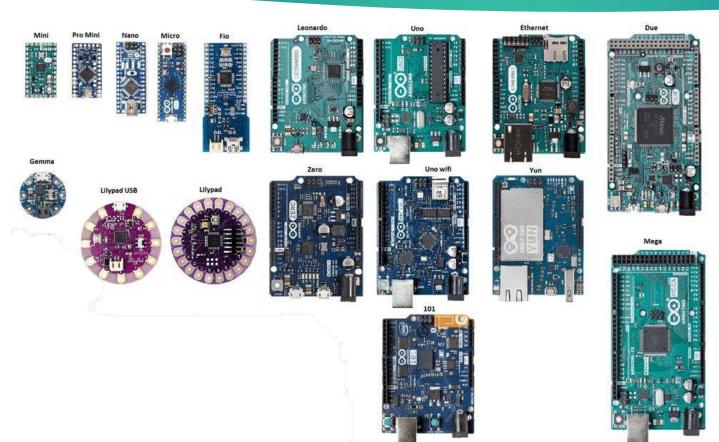
DAC: no

■ Time/Counter: 2x 8bit, 1x 16bit



What if these IO pins are not enough?

Arduino Family and other microcontroller **Arduino Big Family**



Uno Leonardo Mega Fio

Nano

LilyPad

Yun

101

Nano 33 BLE

Nano Every

Micro

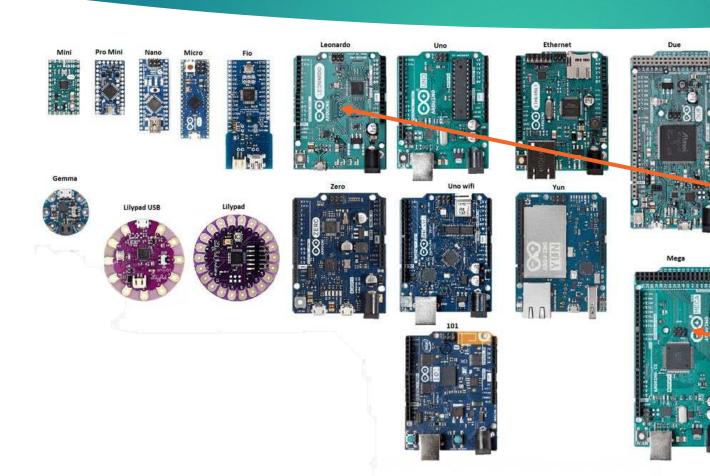
MKR1000

...and many others!

The list is very long

What are your project requirements?

Arduino Family and other microcontroller Arduino Big Family



An example: UNO has 13 digital pins

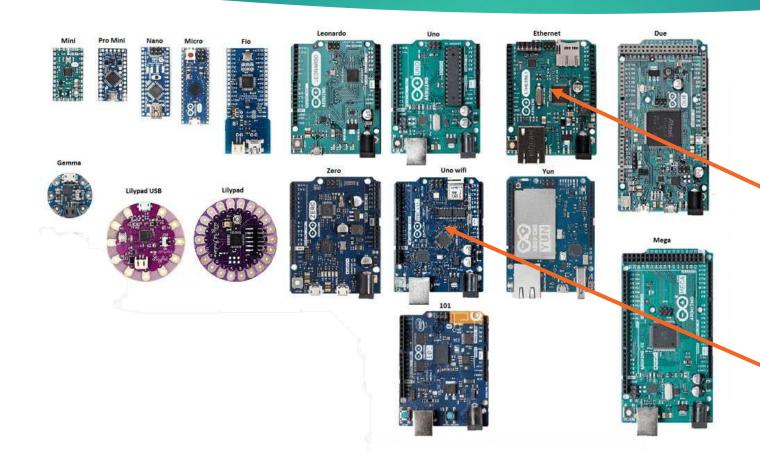
More pins?

Leonardo has 20 digital IO pins

More Pins?

Mega has 54 Digital IO pins!

Arduino Family and other microcontroller Arduino Big Family



Another example:
UNO can be connected to
the PC only via USB (serial
port)

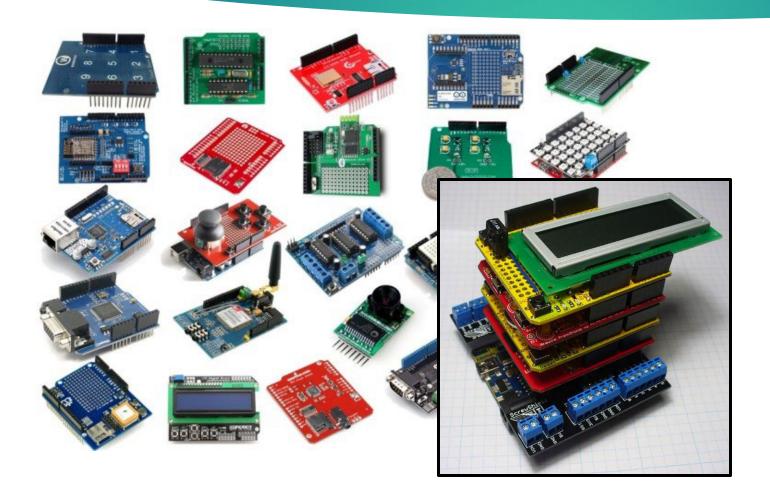
Other connection?

Ethernet!

Cannot run the cable?

Uno WIFI!

More features? Arduino shields!



Try a shield!

Stackable electronic board that can be connected on the Arduino board!

Different versions for different requirements:

- Screens
- Controllers
- Motor drivers
- Sensors
- Connections

This was the basic Arduino

The Arduino that I showed you are the basics...
They are our allies in our small project.
What if I need something more powerful?



Arduino Family and other microcontroller Arduino MKR

- Small Arduino board with more advanced micro than the other
- Designed for IOT
- Different sensors or receiver (GPS)
- They have some type of wireless connection



Arduino Portenta

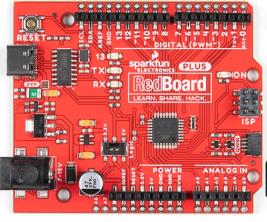
- Powerful SOC (system on chip)
- It is like a tiny computer (it also runs Linux)
- You can run AI stuff and other programs that require more resources
- Developed for fast industrial R&D

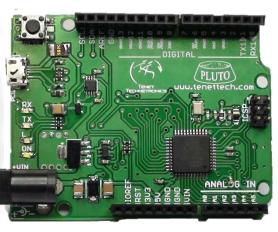


Arduino Family and other microcontroller Arduino Clones

Arduino hardware is mostly opensource/openhardware, It can be made by everyone!









Arduino Family and other microcontroller Arduino Competitors

Nowadays there are a lot of competitors with different spec.

The most common is the ESP32







It is a SOC microcontroller very common, with a very large community and very cheap (10\$).

It has:

- X32 core (some version dual)
- WiFi
- Bluetooth
- Up to 34 GPIO







To be mentioned: TTGO

Based on ESP32, it is a series of board which comprehend different versions with different setup:

- Built in OLEO screen
- Power circuit
- LoRa chips
- GPS receiver
- SD card reader







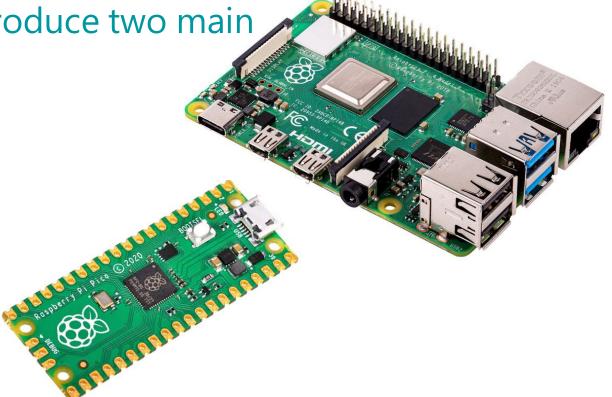


I heard about Raspberry Pi

It is another known brand, they produce two main categories of of board:

Raspberry Pi Pico – RP2040

■ Raspberry Pi 3 – 4 – 5 - Zero



Raspberry PI 3B-4-5-Zero

These are like real computer, they run Linux and are useful for an incredible number of applications, like:

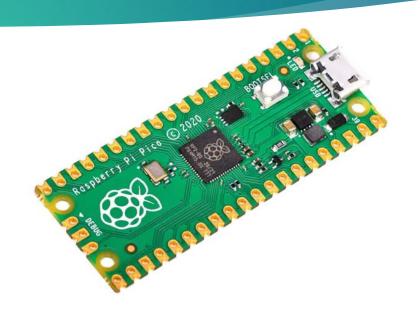
- Low cost desktop computer
- Video/multimedia player
- Small server
- ••••

I use them to collect data for tracking planes=)



Arduino Family and other microcontroller Raspberry Pi Pico

It is like an Arduino, in some way similar to a MKR

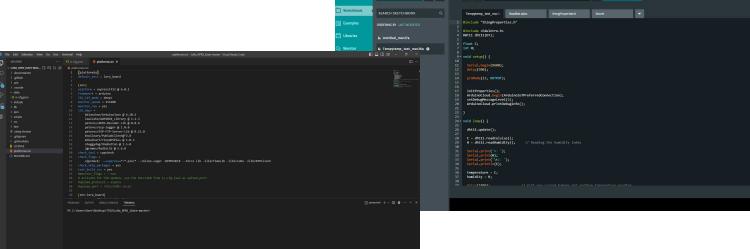


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Arduino Family and other microcontroller Other Arduino programming platforms

The three most used platforms for programming:

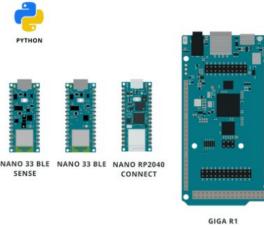
- Arduino IDE
- Arduino Web Editor
- PlatformIO



Blink | Arduino IDE 2.3.3

Arduino Family and other microcontroller Micropython

There are different boards which support also micropython and the code is uploaded to the board via a simple file copy/paste. Then, it is interpreted by the firmware running on the microprocessor





Some Arduino projects

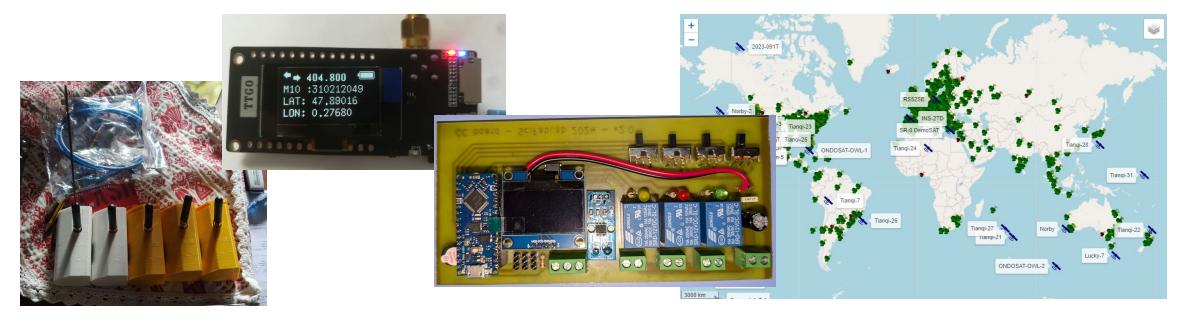
- Robotic arm
- 3D printer
- Watering system
- Weather station
- Air pollution monitor
- Robots
- • • •



Some other projects

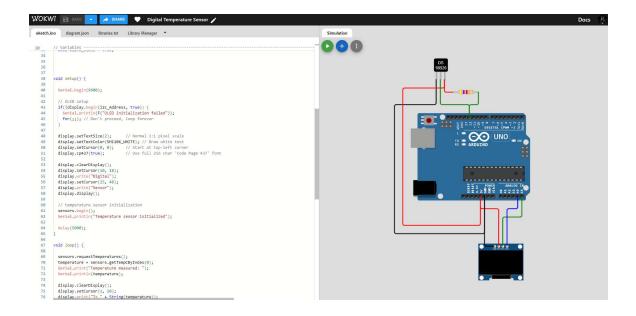
- LoRa satellite receiver (tinygs.com)
- Weather balloons receiver (mysondy.altervista.org)
- Cloud Chamber =)





Some other side

Wokwi – Arduino code/project tester



Questions?

Thank you for your attention