R O Y A L S T . G E O R G E ' S C O L L E G E A D V A N C E D C O M P U T E R E N G I N E E R I N G S C H O O L

AVR OPTIMIZATION

H A R D W A R E ◆ S O F T W A R E ◆ D E S I G N ◆ M A T H E M A T I C S

ACES IIIb takes our prospective engineers to the deepest accessible layer of the hardware architecture of the 8 bit AVR microcontroller family, specifically the ATmega328P and the ATtiny84. AVR's Register Level and Assembly Language Programming are explored.

 $ACE:$

Course: ICS4U (ACES IIIb)

Year: 2022-2023

Instructor: C. D'Arcy

Photo: X. Chin's, Giant RGBW LED Matrix, Spring 2022

Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KatHkq3PDNg

ATmega328P/Arduino Quick Reference

Digital Pins 11, 12 & 13 are used by the ICSP header for MISO, MOSI, SCK connections (Atmega168 pins 17,18 & 19). Avoid lowimpedance loads on these pins when using the ICSP header.

https://www.arduino.cc/en/Main/ArduinoBoardUno

Dolgin Development Board: Parts List and Encasement

Live Parts Links: http://darcy.rsgc.on.ca/ACES/TEI4M/2021/DDPv6.html

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Selection of Recent ICS4U ISPs

Seb Atkinson: Dolgin/Atkinson Dev Board v8 Jackon Shibley: Rocket Guidance System https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SYQoG84IRUQ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jd08QXdUqzw

Adam Goldman: Smart Soap Dispenser Jasper Schaffer: Rubik's Cube Solver

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3JjT-ef_25w https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hqTbJypHeqQ

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s8sXL5Ja8Gs http://portfolio.petetech.net/flex-equalizer/

Ethan McAuliffe: Photophone Ethan Peterson: Flex Equalizer

0 Introduction

Our second course within the ACES program, ICS3U, focuses largely on an introduction to various interfacing techniques and devices under monitoring and control of an AVR microcontroller. On the hardware side, the Arduino UNO offers beginners easy access to the ports and peripherals of the ATmega328P. On the software side, the Arduino IDE offered programmers an enhanced subset of ANSI C which can reasonably be referred to as Arduino C. Your own code, coupled with open source, off-the-shelf component libraries, formed the basis of your programs or sketches as they're referred to.

Our third course, ICS4U, takes engineering-minded Georgians behind the curtain, down to the lower levels of hardware and software concepts where the efficiencies and optimization of embedded systems are best achieved. To support your studies in this course you may wish to take a quick scan of the video tutorial offerings Vegard Wollan, co-inventor of AVR, provides on his YouTube Channel,

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLtQdQmNK_0DQgr3A3C6AEHp6DggewClmM

0.0 Register-Level (RLP) and Assembly Language (ALP) Programming?

My preferred reasons for introducing you to this curriculum are that it elevates you to an unparalleled level of embedded software competency. There's (almost) nothing between you and the CPU that is executing your code and, finally, this knowledge will give you a head start on your university courses and advantage in your internship interviews.

Here's the justification in a frame from an informative online slide show.

https://www.slideshare.net/rsamurti/l10-assemblylanguageprogrammingofatmega328-p

0.1 Embedded Systems: Eliminating the Middle Man

Like most things in life, coding involves tradeoffs. The high-level C, Java, or Python programmers get to express themselves in an English-like language with little to no regard for the underlying hardware that the code will be executed on. This mindset ranges anywhere from a missed opportunity to an outright problem for the Embedded Systems engineer.

Consider the ubiquitous Blink sketch in C that highlevel coders are quite familiar with.

Now, here's a low-level assembly language view of the same $Blink$ sketch that is actually flashed into your MCU,

This Disassembler view is available within your new IDE, Atmel Studio, while engaging a debugging session (Debug > Window > Disassembler)

As can be seen, the compiler translates each high-level statement into **one or more** assembly language instructions. Generic comments are even added for your convenience.

The opportunity for the embedded systems programmer is to make this even more efficient.

Teaching you how to code in assembly language is one of the goals of this final ACES course. In doing so, we eliminate the compiler and all the assumptions it makes about your high-level intentions to ensure what is flashed into your MCU is the most efficient code achievable.

0.2 Dolgin Development Platform

0.3 Bit Coding Gymnastics

One difference between a painter and an artist may very well be the size of the brush. So, too, does the beginning coder use the broad coding strokes that may accomplish the intended task but often results in collateral damage (aka side effects) and performance inefficiency. Setting, clearing or inverting a single, or group of, bits is an example of the fine brush strokes the register-level or assembly-level programmer is frequently required to do. Use of the bitwise operators (not-~, and- $\&$, or- \vert , and x or- \uparrow) are brought to bear. Register-level examples of these tasks appear below.

0.3.0 Setting a Bit

Setting a bit means making it 1. The example below is a register-level improvement on pinMode(13, OUTPUT); for the ATmega328P,

PORTB $|= 1 < P$ B5;

0.3.1 Clearing a Bit

Clearing a bit means making it 0. The example below is a register-level improvement on digitalWrite(7, LOW); for the ATmega328P,

PORTD $&= \sim (1 \le P D 7)$;

0.3.2 Inverting a Bit

Inverting (aka complementing) a bit means switching it from 0 to 1 or vice versa. The example below is a register-level approach to inverting the I/O state of digital pin 13 for the ATmega328P,

```
PORTB ^{\wedge} = 1<<PB5;
```
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1 AVR Memories

The AVR family of microcontrollers uses a modified Harvard Architecture (instructions and data in separate areas) which uses 3 types of memory: Flash, SRAM and onboard EEPROM.

1.0 Flash Program Flash (ProgMem)

Flash is non-volatile memory, which means it persists when power is removed. Its purpose is to hold instructions that the microcontroller executes. The amount of flash can range from 512 bytes on an ATtiny to 384K on an ATxmega384A1.

1.1 Static RAM (SRAM)

SRAM (Data Memory) is **volatile** memory that stores the runtime state of the program being executed. The amount of RAM can range from 32 bytes on an ATtiny28L to 32KB on an ATxmega384A1. In many AVR microcontrollers RAM is split into 4 subsections: General Purpose Registers, General Purpose I/O Registers, Extended I/O Registers, and Internal RAM. AVR microcontrollers have RAM on-chip but some AVRs (e.g. ATmega128) can use external RAM modules.

Ahead. Given there is considerably more space available in Flash Program Memory that either SRAM or EEPROM, C allows programmers to place data in the former when the latter is full. Certain steps must be undertaken to do so but it is easily doable. We'll discuss this technique later in the course.

1.1.0 32 Private General Purpose (GP) Registers (0x00-0x1F)

The lowest 32 bytes of the AVR SRAM $(0 \times 00 - 0 \times 1F)$ are mapped to the CPU for its efficient manipulation of data in support of assembly language instructions. These are referred to as the MCU's private, general purpose registers and are consistent throughout the mega and tiny families. As far as I know these locations are inaccessible to the register-level programmer.

1.1.1 64 I/O Registers (0x20-0x5F)

Located above the GP Registers, within the AVR's SRAM, lies a block of 64 bytes (0x20-0x5F) referred to as the I/O Register Space. The digital I/O Registers (aka Ports) are mapped to this area and, understandably, vary within the MCU families depending on their offerings. There are some consistencies maintained for compatibility.

1.1.1.0 Digital I/O Registers (Ports) (PINx, DDRx, PORTx)

IO Ports are the most common vehicle for your AVR to interface with real world. Each of the 328P and 84 digital pin numbers your code referenced in ICS3U are available for your review in the Quick Reference Guides inside the front cover of this workbook. Control over each digital pin number is accomplished through bit manipulation within three registers as shown below.

1.1.1.0.0 ATmega328P Digital I/O Registers (Ports)

A subset of the digital I/O addresses for the ATmega328P appears below.

http://mail.rsgc.on.ca/~cdarcy/Datasheets/RegisterSummary.pdf

1.1.1.0.1 ATtiny84 I/O Registers (Ports)

A subset of the I/O addresses for the ATtiny84 appears below.

http://mail.rsgc.on.ca/~cdarcy/Datasheets/ATtiny84Registers.pdf

Each Port has dedicated set of 3 registers mapped to it that are manipulated by your code to control the flow of data between the AVR and its external circuitry. The registers (aka ports) are the Data Direction Register (DDRx), and Output Register (PORTx) and Input Register (PINx), where x is replaced with an MCU-specific uppercase letter.

By virtue of its 8-bit width, each Port can govern to eight pins on the AVR. For example, the 8-bit register PORTD, on the ATmega328P is responsible for managing the behaviour of pins PD0 through PD7. One bit in each of the three PORTD registers is dedicated to each pin. A quick glance at the pinout diagram of the ATmega328P a few pages later reveals that PD0 is actually pin 2 on the chip. This pin maps to digital pin 0 on the Arduino UNO. A second look at the pinout diagram reveals other interesting details. There is no PORTA on this chip and PORTC only has seven active pins (PC0- PC6). All of these details can be reviewing the snapshot of the Register Summary on presented earlier on page 5.

Many of the high-level Arduino C instructions you used last year manipulate the bits in these ports in some way. For example, the pinMode (pin, mode) instruction, first determined the PORT pin that as mapped to the Arduino pin you were attempting to manipulate before clearing (INPUT) or setting (OUTPUT) the corresponding bit in the PORTs DDR register.

1.1.1.0.2 DDRx

The value of the bits within a *Data Direction* Register defines the I/O direction of the corresponding digital pin: 0 for Input, 1 for Output. This helps explain why Input is the default.

1.1.1.0.3 PORTx

The bits within a Port's *Output* Register define the voltage level for the corresponding digital pin: 0 for 0V, 1 for 5V.

1.1.1.0.4 PINx

The bits within a Port's *Input* Register define the voltage level read that appears on corresponding digital pin: 0 for 0V, 1 for 5V.

1.1.1.2 Stack Pointer (SPH and SPL)

The Stack is a (LIFO) data structure of significance that will be discussed thoroughly. Similar to the **SREG**, its use is essential for the correct execution of code. Not surprisingly then, the addresses of this two-byte register is tucked just under the SREG address. Again from the images above, the addresses are consistent between the 328P and 84. The Stack is an area of SRAM that expands and shrinks dynamically during execution. The Stack Pointer (SP) always holds the address of the top of the Stack. Initially, it is positioned at the highest address of available SRAM and

grows 'backwards' in the sense that as data or addresses are added to the Stack (pushed), the contents of the Stack Pointer, decreases. As data or addresses are removed from the Stack (popped), the contents of the Stack Pointer, increases.

An implication of the Stack's characteristics is the number of bits that must be reserved for the Stack Pointer. From the images above it is 10 for the 328P and 9 for the 84. The Stack Pointer then consists of two sub-registers, Stack Pointer High (SPH) and Stack Pointer Low (SPL).

1.1.1.3 Status Register (SREG)

Each of the hundred-plus AVR assembly language instructions has the ability to reflect the result of the operation through the setting of a set of 8 bits, referred to as *flags*. These flags are bundled together in a register known as the *Status Register* or **SREG**. So critical to the correct execution of code is the **SREG** that it is given a prominent address in SRAM at the top $(0 \times 5F)$. This address is consistent between the ATmega328P and ATtiny84 MCUs.

When an assembly language instruction completes execution, the results are reflected in the Status Register (SREG). Conditions that can be examined and registered include whether the result of a calculation was negative (N), or whether the result of an arithmetic operation overflowed the 8 bit destination register (V) In total, there are 8 'flags' that can potentially be affected. The manner in which the flags are affected is detailed for each instruction in the AVR Instruction Manual (a link appears at the top of our course page). The second-to-last column in the Instruction Set Summary indicates which flags are affected by each instruction, but not how.

The purpose of leaving flags in certain state is so that next instruction can take appropriate action based on the result of its previous instruction. This is particularly true of the branching instructions.

http://mail.rsgc.on.ca/~cdarcy/Datasheets/InstructionSetSummary.pdf

1.1.2 160 Extended I/O Registers (0x60-0xFF)

To accommodate the broader capabilities in the ATmega family over the ATtiny family, an additional 160 bytes of SRAM are set aside in the mega family for the extended I/O register set. This might seem like an unusual number, but when taken together with the previous address ranges, the total amounts to a familiar 256 bytes of reserved SRAM (32+64+160=256).

Consult Chapter 36, Register Summary, of the ATmega328P datasheet to see the specific details of address mapping.

1.1.3 SRAM (Heap and Stack) (0x??-RAMEND)

With the lowest SRAM addresses (varies between families) set aside for dedicated Register use as described above, the remaining space is free for use by your code to influence and exploit dynamically. The amount of free space remaining depends on your MCU. The highest address can be determined programmatically by accessing a predefined constant typically included in the toolchain as RAMEND.

Although your code is free to use the entire range of SRAM between the end of the Extended Register section and RAMEND, there are additional transparent code

behaviours you must be aware to ensure correct code performance. The concepts are generally referred to as the heap and the system stack.

1.1.3.0 Heap

The heap is the preferred area of SRAM that the assembler looks to, to satisfy the bytes of storage required by your global variable declarations (dynamic memory allocation is beyond the scope of this course). Generally, the byte range of the heap extends from just above the Extended Register set and continues as required.

Should your code attempt to declare an array of bytes required storage that exceeded the .variables that you declare are stored here, as are parameters passed to functions and local variables declared within them.

1.1.3.1 (System) Stack

1.2 EEPROM

EEPROM (Electronically Erasable Programmable Read Only Memory) is non-volatile memory which is used to store data. The most common use is to store configurable parameters. The amount of EEPROM can range from 32 bytes on an ATtiny to 4KB on an XMega.

EEPROM is a good place to log data from sensors, store values as a Lookup Table (LuT) for faster performance by avoiding computationally-intense calculations (trig values), or data such as font maps, to name a couple of common uses.

.Reference: http://www.protostack.com/blog/2010/12/avr-memory-architecture/

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1.3 Predefines (.h and .inc)

The specific register names and corresponding addresses are available for use in your register-level Arduino C programs in the form of a header file (.h). Selecting the target board within the Arduino IDE results in the correct files of predefines being included in the toolchain, automatically. The files of predefines are iom328p.h and iotnx4.h for the UNO and DDB, respectively. You can explore the contents of these files by following the links at the top of our course page.

When programming in Assembly Language within Atmel Studio 7, the appropriate file of predefines (.inc) are made known to your project when you select the target board in the project creation dialog sequence.

Once you complete a successful build of your assembly language project the predefine include file (.inc) will appear in the *Dependencies* section. Click to open to examine its contents.

2 Interrupts

MCUs are designed with the ability to immediately stop executing some code and address a service alert from a secondary source (e.g. *sensor, timer, button*, etc.) they are responsible for. Software that is configured in this manner is called *interrupt-driven*. The list of alerts to which 8-bit AVR MCUs can respond are summarized within the respective datasheets in an Interrupt Vector Table.

2.0 Interrupt Vector Table (IVT)

An Interrupt Vector Table (aka, Interrupt Jump Table) is a dedicated set of bytes at the beginning of Program Flash Memory reserved for programmers to populate with code addresses of their functions to execute when specific events occur. These user functions are best referred to as Interrupt Service Routines (ISRs). When correctly configured, the system automatically saves the current contents of the Program Counter (on the Stack), goes to a location within the IVT and loads the address it finds there into the Program Counter, thereby transferring control (aka jump) to your ISR. When your ISR finishes execution, the previously saved address is retrieved from the top of the Stack and execution continues as it did prior to the event.

2.0.0 ATmega328P IVT

12.1 Interrupt Vectors in ATmega48A and ATmega48PA

Vector No.	Program Address	Source	Interrupt Definition
1	0x000	RESET	External Pin, Power-on Reset, Brown-out Reset and Watchdog System Reset
$\overline{2}$	0x001	INT ₀	External Interrupt Request 0
3	0x002	INT ₁	External Interrupt Request 1
$\overline{4}$	0x003	PCINT ₀	Pin Change Interrupt Request 0
5	0x004	PCINT ₁	Pin Change Interrupt Request 1
$6\overline{6}$	0x005	PCINT ₂	Pin Change Interrupt Request 2
$\overline{7}$	0x006	WDT	Watchdog Time-out Interrupt
8	0x007	TIMER2 COMPA	Timer/Counter2 Compare Match A
9	0x008	TIMER2 COMPB	Timer/Counter2 Compare Match B
10	0x009	TIMER2 OVF	Timer/Counter2 Overflow
11	0x00A	TIMER1 CAPT	Timer/Counter1 Capture Event
12	0x00B	TIMER1 COMPA	Timer/Counter1 Compare Match A
13	0x00C	TIMER1 COMPB	Timer/Coutner1 Compare Match B
14	0x00D	TIMER1 OVF	Timer/Counter1 Overflow
15	0x00E	TIMERO COMPA	Timer/Counter0 Compare Match A
16	0x00F	TIMER0 COMPB	Timer/Counter0 Compare Match B
17	0x010	TIMERO OVF	Timer/Counter0 Overflow
18	0x011	SPI, STC	SPI Serial Transfer Complete
19	0x012	USART, RX	USART Rx Complete
20	0x013	USART, UDRE	USART, Data Register Empty
21	0x014	USART, TX	USART, Tx Complete
22	0x015	ADC	ADC Conversion Complete
23	0x016	EE READY	EEPROM Ready

Table 12-1. Reset and Interrupt Vectors in ATmega48A and ATmega48PA

2.0.1 ATtiny84 IVT

Understandably, MCUs within the tiny family offer fewer resources, hence a smaller vector table.

Interrupt Vectors

2.1 Avoiding Conflicts with the IVT in Assembly Language

Given its critical role in the successful execution of interrupt-driven applications, the IVT is expected to appear at the very start of Program Flash, addresses $0 \times 0000 - 0 \times ? ? ?$. To ensure your assembly language data and code avoids this range, use of the . org directive is encouraged. The predefine INT_VECTORS_SIZE supports a degree of MCU-compatibility, as in,

```
24 ; CODE Segment (default)
25. cseg; locate for Code Segment (PROGRAM FLASH)
26 ; ***** INTERRUPT VECTOR TABLE **************
27 .org 0x0000 ; start of Interrupt Vector Table (IVT) aka. Jump Table
The most complete the context of the conte
```
2.1.0 Interrupt Priorities

The order of the interrupt sources within the vector table is significant. Should two or more interrupts occur simultaneously, the sources are queued, with the lower address given priority.

A natural consequence of this is that a request to reset the MCU is awarded the highest priority.

2.2 Reset Interrupt

A Reset event results in the clearing of (set to 0) the Program Counter. Your code then has the responsibility of placing a jump instruction at address 0x0000 of the first executable instruction.

A Reset event can be triggered in a number of ways depending on the MCU. The most common is the power on reset. Every time you reconnect power to the MCU a **Power** On Reset event is generated.

Alternatively, whenever a falling edge (5V \rightarrow 0V) is presented on pin 1, such as the momentary button your wired into your breadboard Arduino is Grade 11, you generate an **External Reset** event.

Another common Reset source is the **WatchDog Timer**. In this way your software can generate a WatchDog Reset when a specific event occurs or at periodic intervals.

2.2.0 MCUSR (Reset) Register

The source of a reset can be determined by examining the bits (flags) within the MCU Status Register (MCUSR). Unlike many other registers the address and bits with the register are the same for the mega328P and tiny84 MCUs.

9.10.1 MCUSR - MCU Status Register

The MCU status register provides information on which reset source caused an MCU reset.

2.2.1 Rotary Encoder on RSGC ACES Breakout Board

2.3 External Interrupts

Next the Reset interrupt, an **external interrupt** event can be configured to trigger an immediate response. The mega328P has two pins (INTO and INT1) capable of responding to a changing edge, and the tiny84 (INT0) just one.

2.3.0 ATmega328P External Interrupt Registers

13.2 Register Description

13.2.1 EICRA - External Interrupt Control Register A

The External Interrupt Control Register A contains control bits for interrupt sense control.

13.2.2 EIMSK - External Interrupt Mask Register

· Bit 0 - INT0: External Interrupt Request 0 Enable

When the INT0 bit is set (one) and the I-bit in the Status Register (SREG) is set (one), the external pin interrupt is enabled. The Interrupt Sense Control0 bits 1/0 (ISC01 and ISC00) in the External Interrupt Control Register A (EICRA) define whether the external interrupt is activated on rising and/or falling edge of the INT0 pin or level sensed. Activity on the pin will cause an interrupt request even if INT0 is configured as an output. The corresponding interrupt of External Interrupt Request 0 is executed from the INT0 Interrupt Vector.

2.3.1 ATtiny84 External Interrupt Registers

Interrupt Sense Control bits (ISC01 and ISC00) for the ATtiny84 defines the same edges as the ATmega328P.

11.2.1 MCUCR - MCU Control Register

The external interrupt control register A contains control bits for interrupt sense control.

11.2.2 GIMSK - General Interrupt Mask Register

2.4 Pin Change Interrupts

By this point you are aware that your MCUs can sense and respond to external events through the use of the External Interrupt System (INTn). The good news is that their corresponding ISCnn bits can configured to monitor low, logical, falling, or rising signals. The downside is that their application is limited to two specific pins on the ATmega328P and only one on the ATtiny84.

A useful alternative to External Interrupts for sensing and responding to external signal events are Pin Change Interrupts that are applicable to any digital pin! This means that your ATmega328P can perform a similar function on all 23 pins and the ATtiny84 on all 12. However, as is always the case, the downside is that, as its name implies, only a change (falling or rising) signal edge triggers the interrupt.

2.4.0 ATmega328P Pin Change Interrupt Control Register

13.2.4 PCICR - Pin Change Interrupt Control Register

2.4.1 ATtiny84 General Interrupt Mask Register

11.2.2 GIMSK - General Interrupt Mask Register

2.4.2 ATtiny84 Pin Change Mask Registers

11.2.4 PCMSK1 - Pin Change Mask Register 1

11.2.5 PCMSK0 - Pin Change Mask Register 0

3 Timer/Counters

The heartbeat of a functioning MCU is either an internal or external **clock source**, aka *oscillator* (e.g. crystal, RC, etc.). The source of the oscillation can be an external crystal (attached to MCU pins 9 and 10) or an internal oscillator. Every tick of the clock source (up to 20 MHz) is registered as the MCU's free-running clock (clk_{I0}) that runs in the background. Each AVR MCU has multiple Timer/Counters. Each Timer/Counter has a suite of registers that can be programmed to produce into various waveform shapes from the clock. In addition to its role in coordination around a common beat, Timers these peripherals can also **count** pulses. Your first exposure to the value of counting may have been your Grade 10 Counting Circuit project that used a NAND-Gate Oscillator as a clock source that was fed into a 4017 decade counter to monitor the 'ticking'. Specific registers are set aside within each Timer/Counter for the accumulation of clock source 'ticks'.

Of the many uses a Timer/Counter can be put to, pulse width modulation (PWM) was likely your earliest and most common Grade 11 application. Arduino C's analogWrite (pin, duty) function exploits the uses of the respective Timer/Counter associated with the pin requested.

3.0 ATmega328P

The ATmega328P has three Timer/Counters available for use. For each of the timers two digital pins can be directly influenced by register behaviour, allowing for maximum efficiency, as shown to the right.

Care must be taken not to inadvertently overlap their use. Here is a brief table of common functions and libraries that rely on the availability of the timers for their correct execution.

Digital Pins 11, 12 & 13 and used by the ICSP header for MISO,
MOSI, SCK connections (Atmega168 pins 17,18 & 19). Avoid low the loads on these pins when jusing the ICSP heads

3.0.0 ATmega328P Timer/Counter0 Modes

Notes: 1. MAX = $0xFF$

2. BOTTOM = $0x00$

3.0.1 ATmega328P Timer/Counter1 Modes

Table 16-4. Waveform Generation Mode Bit Description⁽¹⁾

Note: 1. The CTC1 and PWM11:0 bit definition names are obsolete. Use the WGM12:0 definitions. However, the functionality and location of these bits are compatible with previous versions of the timer.

3.0.2 ATmega328P Timer/Counter2 Modes

Table 18-8. Waveform Generation Mode Bit Description

Notes: 1. MAX= 0xFF

2. BOTTOM=0x00

3.0.3 ATmega328P Pulse Width Modulation (PWM) with AnalogWrite()

Arduino C's analogWrite(pin, uint8 t) function generates a PWM signal on the back of an MCU's Timer/Counter. Through the use of the second parameter users can control the *duty cycle* of the signal. Since users can not control the *frequency* of the PWM waveform the function is not suitable in all cases where a digital approximation of a voltage level is required (e.g. servo motor horn positioning).

The table below lists the default frequencies associated with using the

analogWrite(pin,uint8 t) on each of the respective pins of the ATmega328P, as well as the other library functions that rely on these respective Timer/Counters. Users should be aware of the potential conflicts that can arise.

Readers are encouraged to explore Ken Shirriff's remarkable blog, "Secrets of Arduino PWM" at, http://www.righto.com/2009/07/secrets-of-arduino-pwm.html

3.0.3.0 Scope Trace of an AnalogWrite() PWM Waveform

Below is one of my favourite images captured on our scope by Tim Morland (ACES '18, Queen's '23).

3.0.4 Atmega328P Timer/Counter1 Registers 16.11 Register Description

16.11.1 TCCR1A - Timer/Counter1 Control Register A

16.11.2 TCCR1B - Timer/Counter1 Control Register B

16.11.3 TCCR1C - Timer/Counter1 Control Register C

16.11.4 TCNT1H and TCNT1L - Timer/Counter1

16.11.6 OCR1BH and OCR1BL - Output Compare Register 1 B

16.11.7 ICR1H and ICR1L - Input Capture Register 1

16.11.8 TIMSK1 - Timer/Counter1 Interrupt Mask Register

16.11.9 TIFR1 - Timer/Counter1 Interrupt Flag Register

3.0.5 Atmega328P Timer/Counter 1 Normal Mode 0

An example of the simplest programmable Timer/Counter1 mode would be Mode 0: Normal Mode. In this configuration,

- 1. Ticks of the clock sources are accumulated in its 16 -bit (2^{16}) 2-byte register pair: TCNT1H:TCNT1L.
- 2. When the count reaches the top $(65535 = 0 \times \text{eff})$, an overflow interrupt is generated
- 3. The interrupt can be dealt with in at least 3 ways: ignored completely, handled in software or responded to in hardware for example, with the **OC1A** or **OC1B** pins connected.
- 4. The counter simply rolls over and resumes counting from 0×0000 .
- 5. A prescaler may be applied to the clock to map the counting source to a reduced frequency.
- 6. As an example, consider Timer/Counter 1 in Normal Mode 0 under a 16 MHz crystal clock source with a prescaler of 256. The overflow frequency would be $2^{24}/2^8/2^{16} = 1$ Hz.

TIMER1: Normal Mode (OC1A/OC1B disconnected)

Table 13-9. Clock Select Bit Description

If external pin modes are used for the Timer/Counter0, transitions on the T0 pin will clock the counter even if the pin is configured as an output. This feature allows software control of the counting.

You'll be shown how different techniques in class for #defineing and #includeing these type of bit sequences depending on your preferred toolchain.

3.1 ATtiny84

From it inception, our RSGC ACES Dolgin Development Platform hosts the AVR ATtiny84 as its preferred MCU. The JLCPCB rendering of V7 appears to the right. This microcontroller was selected for a variety of reasons not the least of which was DAMellis/Konde ATtinyCore suite of Arduino IDE software supports, its compact footprint (14 pins) and having just enough peripheral features (External Interrupt, two Timer/Counters, ADC, Watchdog etc.) to support a wide range of applications.

You are encouraged to undertake a visual comparison of the features attached to each of the pins in the official diagram below and how the DDB breaks out the pins to the headers on our PCB to the right.

In the diagram below, the two pins of the 8-bit Timer/Counter0 are highlighted in red. As well, the two pins of the 16-bit Timer/Counter1 are highlighted in green.

3.1.0 ATtiny84 Timer/Counter0 Modes

 $BOTTOM = 0x00$

3.1.1 ATtiny84 Timer/Counter1 Modes

Table 14-5. Waveform Generation Mode Bit Description⁽¹⁾

Note: $1.$ The CTC1 and PWM11:0 bit definition names are obsolete. Use the WGM12:0 definitions. However, the functionality and location of these bits are compatible with previous versions of the timer.

3.1.2 ATtiny84 Pulse Width Modulation (PWM) with AnalogWrite()

Through the use of the analogWrite(pin, duty cycle) function provide by the core Arduino libraries, a limited form of PWM signals have been available to you for such applications as dimming LEDs and DC motor speed control. Depending on which pin you invoke the behaviour on, you are implicitly selecting one of the available Timer/Counters on your MCU. This is summarized for the Ttiny84 in the table below.

Care must be taken when using analog Write to avoid pins required by parallel use of the dependent functions indicated above that would result in strange behaviour.

Finally, As useful as the analogWrite function is, it does not offer control over the frequency of the square wave which is essential for a wider variety of MCU functionality and applictions. We need to dig deeper.

3.1.3 ATtiny84 Timer/Counter Registers

3.2 ATtiny85 Timer Application: Function Generator

Inspiration for an RSGC ACES Function Generator developed in the Spring of 2021, based on the position of a rotary encoder, came from David Johnson-Davies terrific blog on the project, http://www.technoblogy.com/show?22HF.

3.3 Accessing 16-Bit Registers

(Lifted directly from the ATmega328P datasheet…)

The TCNT1, OCR1A/B, and ICR1 are 16-bit registers that can be accessed by the AVR CPU via the 8 bit data bus. The 16-bit register must be byte accessed using two read or write operations. Each 16 bit timer has a single 8-bit register for temporary storing of the high byte of the 16-bit access. The same temporary register is shared between all 16-bit registers within each 16-bit timer. Accessing the low byte triggers the 16-bit read or write operation. When the low byte of a 16-bit register is written by the CPU, the high byte stored in the temporary register, and the low byte written are both copied into the 16-bit register in the same clock cycle. When the low byte of a 16-bit register is read by the CPU, the high byte of the 16-bit register is copied into the temporary register in the same clock cycle as the low byte is read.

Not all 16-bit accesses uses the temporary register for the high byte. Reading the OCR1A/B 16-bit registers does not involve using the temporary register.

To do a 16-bit write, the high byte must be written before the low byte. For a 16-bit read, the low byte must be read before the high byte.

The following code examples show how to access the 16-bit Timer Registers assuming that no interrupts update the temporary register. The same principle can be used directly for accessing the OCR1A/B and ICR1Registers. Note that when using "C", the compiler handles the 16-bit access.

```
Assembly Code Examples<sup>(1)</sup>
              \cdots; Set TCNT1 to OxO1FF
              1di r17,0x01r16,0xFFldi
                         TCNT1H, r17
              out
                         TCNT1L, r16
              out
              ; Read TCNT1 into r17:r16
                         r16, TCNT1L
              in
                         r17, TCNT1H
              in
              . . .
C Code Examples<sup>(1)</sup>
              unsigned int i;
              . . .
              /* Set TCNT1 to 0x01FF */
              TCNT1 = 0x1FF;/* Read TCNT1 into i */
              i = TCNT1;\cdot . .
```
4 ADC: Analog to Digital Conversion

The real world is continuous; the behaviours that nature exhibits (heat, pressure, light, force, etc.) are said to be analog. Many forms of sensors exist that convert these analog behaviours to continuous voltage levels. A light-dependent resistor or LDR (aka. *photoresistor*) for example, in series with another known resistor level, can provide an MCU with access to a continuous voltage.

The **digital** world of MCUs interpret the analog voltage output of the sensors by mapping them to a range of *discrete* voltage levels represented internally, by binary numbers. The MCU's process of transforming a continuous analog voltage reading to a discrete digital approximation is the subject of this chapter.

Of all the features that microcontrollers offer, a strong case could be made for Analog to Digital Conversion being its most important function. After all, the ability to capture real world data and digitize it for manipulation, transmission, and storage purposes is an undeniably critical feature within our modern world. Although the AVR line of 8-bit MCUs offers a 10-bit onboard ADC unit that we've exploited for a number of purposes, what if our needs called for either a higher or lower sampling accuracy? A deeper understanding of how the ADC function works is called for should we wish to build our own ADC unit.

4.0 Analog Comparator

In previous years you likely explored the ability of operational amplifier to act as a comparator. The classic LM741 will output a high signal on Pin 6 if the voltage on the non-inverting input (Pin 3) is greater than the voltage appearing on the inverting input (Pin 2), otherwise Pin 6 will present a low.

The AVR family of MCUs has a built-in comparator that can be accessed.

Support for 2020-2021 RSGC ACES Successive Approximation Project on the DDP's Universal Shield V1

4.1 DAC: Digital to Analog Conversion (DAC)

Of all the features that microcontrollers offer, a strong case could be made for Analog to Digital Conversion being its most important function. After all, the ability to capture real world data and digitize it for manipulation, transmission, and storage purposes is an undeniably critical feature within our modern world.

The fundamentals of how a DAC works can be vividly explored through the use of a passive resistor network known as an R2R Ladder, which we shall undertake. Although the AVR line of 8-bit MCUs offers a 10-bit onboard DC unit that we've

exploited for a number of purposes, what if our needs called for either a higher or lower sampling accuracy? A deeper understanding of how the ADC function works is called for should we wish to build our own ADC unit.

4.2 Successive Approximation

An informative base from which to mount our investigation might start with a somewhat familiar **binary tree**. As a child you might have engaged in a guessing game in which a series of ranked guesses with a response of either lower or higher could lead you to your target. Indeed, this approach could lead to a conversion method from decimal to binary as suggested by the labeled paths.

5 Preparations for AVR Assembly Language Programming (AALP)

The past year-and-a-half has prepared you for a journey very few secondary school students are able to undertake. That is, descend to the deepest levels possible of a modern microcontroller. In fairness, the deepest level an embedded system programmer can go is to program in Machine Language (aka. binary or hexadecimal). Since this is barely readable by humans the numeric codes are assigned 2-4 letter mnemonic names to make them reasonably understandable while taking nothing away from their

efficiency. This set of codes is the focus of this course and is known as *Assembly* Language. Here is a list of the top 10 most popular computer languages as of June 2021,

Embedded systems is the computer engineers' term for modern smart devices. Microcontrollers lie at the heart of these systems and, in order to maximize their performance, you must speak their native language.

With the exception of C and Assembly the remaining eight languages are high-level tools designed to run on operating systems that hide keep the hardware efficiencies out of site for their practitioners.

Each microcontroller or microprocessor line (from AVR, PIC, NXP, Intel, etc.) has its own native machine and assembly language.

5.0 Development Preparations

5.0.0 Hardware: Atmel/Microchip AVR Microcontrollers

Up until recently, two microcontroller companies dominated the marketplace. ATMEL backed its AVR line of MCU products and Microchip championed its PIC family. The two companies merged in April 2016 under the Microchip name, continuing to offer both products. Until such time as the Arduino ceases to use the AVR line as its microcontroller of choice, RSGC ACES will stick with it.

5.0.0.0 Peripheral Integration

All AVR microcontrollers share the same assembly language consisting of approximately 130 different instructions. A handful of instructions are MCUspecific.

Although our course focuses on the ATmega328P, ATtiny84, and ATtiny85, you should not feel limited to these alone for your particular application. You are encouraged to explore the 8-bit AVR MCU Peripheral Integration document to choose just the right combination of features for your embedded system.

8-bit AVR[®] Microcontrollers Peripheral Integration ziaz:

There are a wide variety of options for you to choose from that will suit almost any application.

http://ww1.microchip.com/downloads/en/DeviceDoc/30010135D.pdf

5.0.1 Software Development Tools

5.0.1.0 Integrated Development Environment: Atmel Studio 7

ATMEL, the manufacturers of the AVR line of microcontrollers have developed the most comprehensive IDE for their MCUs. The latest version, ATMEL Studio 7, offers the richest, most professional, set of tools for AVR embedded systems development.

Note. Since I run Windows 7 on my laptop, I am limited to Atmel Studio 6 as the screenshots reflect.

The screenshot above is of Blink-like code running in the AS6 **Simulator**. Numbered panels are as follows,

- 1. Source code.
- 2. Processor View. Shows the contents of the General Purpose Registers and selected Extended Registers reflecting the flow of control after each statement execution.
- 3. IO View. Shows the state of the peripherals and IO Ports after each statement execution.

There is so much ahead of us, but what is unique to note at this early stage of the course is the intimate relationship between the assembly code statements and the hardware. It is only through deliberate precision that your code has on the hardware that the absolute efficiency required of your embedded systems can be achieved.

5.0.1.1 Operating System: Windows 10

Unfortunately, only a Windows version of ATMEL Studio 7 exists. So, you need to install Windows 10 on your laptop. Ethan Peterson (ACES '18, Queen's '22) was kind enough to assemble the following installation guide for your convenience…

Before You Begin:

- Your Mac (Connected to its charger)
- A USB Flash Drive to act as your Windows installation media
	- o 16GB or larger
	- o Should be completely blank. If not, backup your files elsewhere and erase the flash drive. Depending on the file system, the flash drive may need to be reformatted using Disk Utility as a MS-FAT volume using Master Boot Record (MBR)
- Download a copy of the Windows 10 ISO Image. (https://www.microsoft.com/enus/software-download/windows10)
- Make a backup of important files on the Mac side of your computer. This is needed in case the installation goes wrong.

Step 1: Open BootCamp Assistant

- Click "Continue"

Step 2: Format your Windows Partition

- Depending on the age of your MacBook the next screen in the BootCamp Wizard will be different.
- If you are prompted to connect a USB flash drive go ahead and do so. If not, your laptop will store the windows installation media internally.
- Select the location of the Windows 10 ISO file you downloaded as shown above.
- Select a size for the Windows partition on your computer. The minimum size is 40GB, which should be more than enough for your AVR Studio projects throughout

the year. Depending on your MacBook, this minimum may be different.

This partition cannot be adjusted later so it is better to reserve additional space if you think you may need it.

Step 3: Installing Windows

- Unplug any external devices from your laptop that are not critical to the installation, such as an external keyboard, mouse and hard drive, as they can interfere with the installation. Leave only the charger and USB connected if it is required and click "Install" on the BootCamp Wizard.

- BootCamp will start downloading the Windows Support Software drivers.
- These drivers are installed in Windows to ensure the keyboard, trackpad and other peripherals on your Mac run correctly.
- When the download is complete your computer will prompt you to restart.
- The computer should automatically boot into the Windows installer.
- Follow the onscreen instructions

- When the "Activate Windows" screen is reached, click "I don't have a product key" and select the Pro edition of Windows.
- Click "Next" and accept the terms and conditions
- If prompted, pick the partition called "BOOTCAMP" as your installation destination.
- Once Windows is done installing, the system will reboot into your fresh installation of Windows. If your computer boots into OSX, shut it down and hold the option key while starting up. When the computer prompts you for what OS you would like to use, select Windows.
- When Windows is started for the first time you will have to configure some settings. Follow the onscreen instructions for this.
- When you reach the Windows Desktop, the Windows Support Software installer should open and guide you through the driver installation. If not, you will have to install it manually from your installation media.
	- o Follow the instructions here: https://support.apple.com/en-ca/HT208495
	- \circ If you used a USB flash drive for installation, plug it back in and get the software from there as opposed to the OSXRESERVED Partition on Windows.

Step 4: Install Atmel Studio

- Download Atmel Studio 7: http://www.microchip.com/mplab/avr-support/atmel-studio-7
- Select the offline installer
- Open the file and follow the installation prompts.

5.0.1.2 Programmer: Atmel ICE

Currently, the best programmer for use with ATMEL Studio 7 is the ATMEL Basic ICE. These are expensive programmers so you will be lent one for use this year.

Return it in working order at the end of the year and its use is free of charge. Caution. For such an expensive device the ribbon cable is surprisingly cheesy.

Strangely is does not provide its own power. You must supply power to your Arduino separately.

https://www.digikey.ca/product-detail/en/microchiptechnology/ATATMEL-ICE-BASIC/ATATMEL-ICE-BASIC-ND/4753381

5.1 Microchip's Online Reference

Learning Assembly Language and gaining familiarity with the tools takes a time and practice. Online support is available and I recommend starting any search for insight at Microchip's online home page. You may even wish to bookmark this URL,

https://www.microchip.com/webdoc/index.html

5.2 New Atmel Studio Project

- 1. Before beginning your first project create a folder to house your ICS4U Assembly projects.
- 2. Launch File > New > Project and complete the dialog as shown below, left. Press, OK.
- 3. In the Device Selection dialog, select the target device (ATmega328P).

5.3 Your First Project: Blink

5.3.0 Simulator

Without an Arduino plugged into your laptop, the Arduino IDE allows you to compile your code to stabilize your syntax but, understandably, prevents you from uploading to test if it works.

Atmel Studio does allow you to execute your code without a physical MCU being present. It does so through the services of a built-in Simulator utility.

Select Project > (project) Properties > Tools > Simulator

5.3.1 Hardware

Launching the Atmel Studio Simulator allows you to step through your assembly code, one statement at a time, and monitor the MCU hardware. The IO View, shown to right is where the detailed status of each peripheral can be followed.

Checking the pin mapping diagram inside the cover of this workbook reveals that pin 13 is mapped to bit 5 of PORTB. Terminology,

To set a bit, means to make it 1

To clear a bit means to make it 0

So, a blinking LED on Arduino pin 13 is the result of two actions,

- a) The direct setting bit 5 of the DDRB (Data Direction Register of PORTB), and,
- b) Applying a square wave signal (alternate setting and clearing) to bit 5 of PORTB.

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5.3.2 Software

Create a new Atmel Studio Assembly project and name it Blink. Download the source code Blink.asm and replace the default Blink.asm that was create for you in Debug folder.

rsgcaces > AVROptimization > 1_Getting_Started > Blink.asm

5.3.2.0 Source Code Appearance

A quick glance that assembly source code of the Blink program reveals some standard features of the IDE that include,

- 1. Syntax highlighting (green for comments, blue for keywords)
- 2. Line numbers
- 3. Tab stops
- 4. Live hyperlinks

5.3.2.1 Assembly Source Code

Unlike high level source code, executable statements in AVR Assembly follow one of four a common syntactic structure (square brackets indicate an optional element),

```
[label:] instruction [operands] [Comment]
```

```
[label:] directive [operands] [Comment]
```
Comment

Empty line

- 1. A label provides a symbol that is the target of branch or a variable.
- 2. An instruction is a 2-4 letter mnemonic opcode.
- 3. Zero, one, or two operands provide the domain of the instruction.
- 4. A preprocessor directive (starts with a #) and an assembler directive (starts with a dot, .) are requests for some preparatory action prior to the assembler converting your code to machine language.
- 5. A comment illuminates the purpose of the statement and either appears at the end of the statement, or starts in Column 1 and occupies a line by itself. The syntax below confirms that a semicolon alone qualifies as a comment.
	- ; [Text]

5.3.3 Debugging Blink.asm

Once the Blink Project has been established, and the Simulator declared as the default debugger/programmer Tool,

Project > Blink Properties

debugging is initiated by going to the Build menu and selecting,

Start Debugging and Break (Alt-F5)

At that moment you will see the first executable instruction line highlighted in yellow and Processor Window displayed (right). A few things to note about the Processor Window,

- 1. The Program Counter always hold the address of the instruction to be executed.
- 2. The Stack Pointer holds the address of the top of the Stack. The Stack starts at the end of SRAM (0x8FF) and grows upwards (more on this later).
- 3. The X , Y , and Z registers are aliases for the double 16-bit register combinations R26:R27, R28:R29, and R30:R31, respectively.
- 4. The Status Register (SREG) is a special byte register in SRAM (0x5F) consisting of a set of bits (aka flags) that are either set, cleared of left unchanged by the previously executed statement. This byte can be read by your code to determine whether a course of action needs to be taken.

5. The contents of the CPU's 32 General Purpose registers are updated dynamically to facilitate your debugging objectives.

1.3.3.0 Stepping and Breakpoints

Once the simulator is underway you have a options to step through your code, statement by statement monitoring the effect on the

processors resources. Breakpoints can be toggled on or off by clicking in the left margin.

The IO View can also be displayed allowing to both read and write data on the fly.

5.4 ATmega328P Features

http://mail.rsgc.on.ca/~cdarcy/Datasheets/ATmega328PSummary.pdf

· Special Microcontroller Features

- Power-on Reset and Programmable Brown-out Detection
- Internal Calibrated Oscillator
- External and internal interrupt Sources
- Six Sleep Modes: Idle, ADC Noise Reduction, Power-save, Power-down, Standby, and Extended Standby · I/O and Packages
- 23 Programmable I/O Lines
- 28-pin PDIP, 32-lead TGFP, 28-pad GFN/MLF and 32-pad GFN/MLF
- Operating Voltage:
- $1.8 5.5V$ - Temperature Range
- 40°C to 85°
- · Speed Grade:
- 0 4MHz@1.8 5.5V, 0 10MHz@2.7 5.5.V, 0 20MHz @ 4.5 5.5V
	- Power Consumption at 1MHz, 1.8V, 25°C
		- Active Mode: 0.2mA Power-down Mode: 0.1µA
		- Power-save Mode: 0.75µA (Including 32KHz RTC)

5.5 Peripherals

What separates a microcontroller from a microprocessor is that the format has a number of internal peripherals. Here is a partial list of those on the ATmeg328P,

- ADC: Analog-to-Digital Converter
- Timers/Counters: 8- and 16-bit
- PWM: 8- and 16-bit Pulse Width Modulation
- Temperature Sensor
- Internal Voltage Regulator
- Multiplication: Dedicated hardware for multiplying two 8-bit values with 16-bit result
- USART, I2C, SPI
- QTouch (Capacitive Touch Sensor) Support, Sleep Modes

5.6 AVR Central Processing Unit (CPU)

Just before we take a detailed look at the structure of AVR Assembly Source code in the next chapter, it is instructive to familiarize yourself with how the CPU works.

The AVR Central Processing Unit consists of a number of different modules interconnected through a number of buses. The 8-bit data bus is highlighted by the thicker line. The address bus and control bus are not shown. The execution cycle can be thought of as a repetition of three stages: Fetch-Decode-Execute.

Although it does not use the AVR as its hardware, sequence is identical in this terrific video,

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XM4lGflQFvA

It's all quite fascinating but the **Decode** stage is worth a mention at this point. The first assembly instruction in the Blink code from Chapter 1 is,

The decoder is a combinational hardware circuit that must accept the two byte (16-bit) input E020 and parse it in such a way that the rest of the CPU assets know to place the binary value of B0010 0000 in Register 16. To keep the Decoder to a manageable level of complexity, the number of possible instructions, and their complexity must be **reduced** to a minimum. These requirements give rise to the identification of the 8-bit AVR line of microcontroller as begin of a RISC (Reduced Instruction Set Computer) type.

Finally, a word about execution. Given a threestage execution cycle, it might appear that instructions are only executed every third stage. However a strategy referred to as pipelining has the three stages functioning synchronously, resulting in a statement being executed every clock cycle.

Reference: http://darcy.rsgc.on.ca/ACES/TEI4M/Assembly/AVRCPURegisters.pdf

The image below offers a good summary of a number of features discussed to this point. It was taken from the short but informative pdf referenced above.

5.7 Package Types

5.7.0 Digikey: Ordering

5.7.1 Digikey: SchemeIt

RSGC ACES: DDBv6 Software Serial Output

5.8 Interesting Exercises

5.8.0 Delay Calculator

Here is the link to the online version of Bret Mulvey's AVR Delay utility,

http://www.bretmulvey.com/avrdelay.html

A remarkable example of ACES insight and initiative was one afternoon in 2018 where I happened to mention that I thought Mulvey's calculator could be improved if the user was permitted to name the starting register for the sequence of delays. Nothing more was said in class. T. Morland (ACES '18) went home that afternoon and upgrade Mulvey's code that we prefer to link to, Amazing.

http://darcy.rsgc.on.ca/ACES/TEI4M/AVRdelay.html

5.8.1 Traffic Light

Insert a Schaffer traffic light into your Arduino in such a way that all four pins land within a single PORT.

Create the project TrafficLight and model the solution to a continuous display after the Blink project code.

Comment your code thoroughly, but not gratuitously.

5.8.2 RGB LED

Insert an RGB LED into your Arduino in such a way that all four pins land within a single PORT.

Create the project RGBLED and develop a continuous display that runs through all eight combinations of LEDs (1 blank, 3 singles, 3 doubles, 1 triple).

Comment your code thoroughly, but not gratuitously.

5.8.3 Questions

- 1. ATmega328P has 32K worth of PROGRAM FLASH. What is the highest address in hexadecimal?
- 2. The ATmega328P has 2K worth of SRAM. What is the highest address in hexadecimal?
- 2. The ATmega328P has 1K worth of EEPROM. What is the highest address in hexadecimal?

RGB LED

444

 19.4

5.9 Just Before We Start: C

```
/*
 * CBeast.c
 * Example of AVR-gcc C Code to present the 
`* value of pi on 'The Beast'.'The Beast' is a 
 * PCB designed to present a 12-digit 
                                                        3.19.159265539
  * PoV display using a normal 595 shift registers 
  * for the segment and TPIC6C595 Power logic 
  * current sink for the LA-301 cathodes
  * Created: 8/10/2018 1:10:28 PM
                                                        000
  * Author: Chris Darcy */ 
                                                        4 - 1#include <avr/io.h> 
#define F_CPU 16000000UL // 16 MHz
#include <util/delay.h> 
uint8 t latch = 1<<PB2; //digital pin 10
uint8 t clock = 1<<PB3; //digital pin 11
uint8 t data = 1<<PB4; //digital pin 12
// Seven Segment Order:dGFEDCBA
uint8 t dp = 1<<7;
//Assemble the hexadecimal segment maps into single array...
uint8 t segMaps[] = {0b00111111,0b00000110, 0b01011011,}0b01001111,0b01100110,0b01101101,0b01111100,0b00000111,0b01111111,0b01100111, 
0b01110111,0b01111100,0b00111001,0b01011110,0b01111001,0b01110001}; 
char display[] = "314159265539"; //Sample...
//my 'super' shiftout (23 bits are shifted in one go)
void shiftOut(uint8 t d, uint8 t c, uint8 t l, uint32 t segMap, uint32 t digit ){
      uint32 t bits = (segMap<<16) | digit;
      // assemble the 23-bit shift out value from the segMap and the respective digit
      //pull latch low...
      PORTB &= ~latch;
       //synchronously clock in the data bits 
      for (uint32 t mask=1L<<23; mask>0; mask>>=1) {
             PORTB &= ~clock;
              // should the data bit be set or clear?
              if (bits & mask) 
                     PORTB |= data; 
              else
                    PORTB &= \sim \text{data};
              PORTB |= clock; 
       }
       //pull latch high to present present flipflops on the output pins...
      PORTB |= latch; 
} 
int main(void) { 
   // Let's use three pins of portB for the shifting...
  DDRB = 0xFF;uint8 t i = 0;uint3\overline{2}<sub>_</sub>t segments;
  while(1) {
       segments = segMaps[display[i]-48]; 
      if (!i) segments | = dp; //add decimal point on the 3 for pi
      shiftOut(data,clock,latch,segments,1L<<(11-i));
      i = (i+1) % 12;
   }}
```
6 AALP: AVR Assembly Language Programming

A clarification about the terminology, assembly and assembler. Whereas some sources prefer to use the terms interchangeably, I do not. I use the term *assembly* to refer to the mnemonic-based language of the CPU. I use to the term assembler, when I am referring to the **program** that converts code written in assembly $(.\text{asm})$ into machine code $(.\text{hex})$

6.1 Assembly Code Organization

Earlier in Chapter 1 the four possible varieties of assembly source code statements were reviewed.

In this section we'll tackle the *organization* of these statements within ATMEL Studio and the conventional layout of your .asm files.

- 1. **Comment.** At the top of your code a comment describing the purpose, author and date is expected
- 2. Preprocessor. Starting after the opening comment and continuing throughout the source file, a set of directives assist the assembler in building your final machine loadable (hex) file. These commands start with # as the first non-space character of which #include "m328Pdef.inc" would be one such directive. This directive is done automatically so it is optional.
- 3. Assembler Directives. Numerous directives that start with a dot, are recognized by the assembler to facilitate code organization, memory requests, aliases, and conditional execution to name a few. Some examples are,

```
. EQU io offset = 0x23 .DSEG 
      var1: .BYTE 1 ; reserve 1 byte to var1
      table: .BYTE tab size ; reserve tab size bytes
      .DEF temp = r16.DEF ior = r0 .CSEG 
 ldi temp,0xf0 ; Load 0xf0 into temp register 
in ior, 0x3f ; Read SREG into ior register
eor temp,ior ; Exclusive or temp and ior
```
4. Interrupt Jump Table. As required, the first 30 addresses of Program Flash or so are reserved for the Interrupt Jump Table. Care should be taken when using this space. To avoid code

```
 .CSEG 
 .ORG 0 ;ensure PC starts at the beginning 
      rjmp reset
```
reset: ldi r16,1<<PB5 ; first instruction in your code

- 5. One-Time Initializations (setup). Very much like the setup() function in Arduino C last year, include assembly code that needs to run only once at this point.
- 6. Main Loop Body. Include assembly instructions that run continuously.
- 7. Additional Functions and Interrupt Service Routines.

6.2 Reusable Building Blocks

The code fragments below offer common building blocks you will use repeatedly.

1. Numeric constants can be defined as binary, octal, decimal (default) or hexadecimal. Here is how you would represent the base 10 number 100 in each of the other three bases,

2. The shift left $\left\langle \langle \cdot \rangle \right\rangle$ operator offers an efficient expression resulting in the setting a specific bit initialization of a byte.

3. Non-consecutive bits within a byte are set with the \circ r operator (|).

ldi r16, (1<<ICIE1) | (1<<TOIE1) ;falling edges in ICR1H:L

- 4. Labels as operands. Use of the .ORG directive assists in laying out your code and data in memory. Labels are aliases for their location in memory and can be used as such as operands.
- 5. Initializing the pointer registers $(X, Y, and Z)$ with the starting address of an array is as follows,

 ldi XL,low(RPMStart<<1) ;position X and Y pointers to the ldi XH, high(RPMStart<<1) ; start and end addresses of RPM array

6. Toggling a specific bit is best accomplished with the exclusive-or, ϵ or. Consider how the mask, 0b0010000 can be applied repeatedly to toggle bit 5 of the data,

> data: 0b11**1**11111 mask: 0b00100000

data^mask = data: 0b11011111 mask: 0b00100000 data ^mask=data: 0b111111111 mask: 0b00100000 data ^mask=data: 0b11011111

7. Understand the difference between logical NOT and bitwise NOT.

6.3 Basic Instructions by Function

The complete list of functions either in summary or full descriptions is available off links at the top of our home page.

6.3.0 Register Setting

6.3.1 Copying

6.3.2 Adding

6.3.3 Subtracting

6.3.4 Shift & Rotate

RSGC ACES: Charlieplex Audio-Responsive Equalizer

6.3.5 Binary

6.3.6 Bit Manipulation

6.3.7 Compare

6.3.8 Jump: Unconditional

6.3.9 Skip: Conditional

6.3.10 Branch Instructions

Branch instructions are employed with the intent of immediately altering the contents of Program Counter (that is, the address of the next instruction to be executed) based on a flag, or combination of flags in the Status Register as a result of the previous executable statement. Unlike the $rcall$ instruction that returns control to the 'what would have been the next instruction' after the function is complete, branch instructions alter the **Program Counter** permanently.

6.4 Signed Representation of Numbers

Due to the limitations of hardware it is simply not practical to maintain the normal arithmetic conventions of $+$ and $-$ signs as indicators of positive and negative numbers.

Even if that were possible, in designing a technique for the signed representation of numbers, computer engineers realized that whatever they came up with should place no additional burden on arithmetic operations for positive and negative operands.

Although a number of strategies have been employed for the signed representation of, binary numbers is two's complement algorithm.

6.4.0 Two's Complement

The accepted process of negation for binary numbers is referred to as the two's complement algorithm. This is a two-step process by which you form the one's complement first and then add 1. Three examples appear below. Explain each one in terms of it's decimal equivalent.

Note that the value 10000000 is its own two's complement value! What to do? Since the msb is 1 computer engineers decided that, to be consistent, it should be interpreted as a negative number, and the largest number in the range at that! This is why signed integer ranges are always asymmetric as in, $-128 \le n < 127$, $-32768 \le n < 32767$, etc.

6.5 Expressions

AVR expressions are constructed from numeric constants, operators, labels (addresses) and functions.

6.5.0 Operators

https://www.microchip.com/webdoc/index.html

6.5.1 Expression Separation Functions

The AVR Assembler offers a number of built-in functions to facilitate your coding. A useful collection of functions allows you to separate bytes and words from larger expressions. Here is a list taken from the,

AVR Assembler's User's Guide (https://www.microchip.com/webdoc/)

Functions defined for the assembler.

- LOW(expression) returns the low byte of an expression
- HIGH(expression) returns the second byte of an expression
- BYTE2(expression) is the same function as HIGH
- . BYTE3(expression) returns the third byte of an expression
- BYTE4(expression) returns the fourth byte of an expression
- LWRD(expression) returns bits 0-15 of an expression
- HWRD(expression) returns bits 16-31 of an expression
- PAGE(expression) returns bits 16-21 of an expression
- EXP2(expression) returns 2 to the power of expression
- LOG2(expression) returns the integer part of log2(expression)
- . INT(expression) Truncates a floating point expression to integer (i.e. discards fractional part)
- · FRAC(expression) Extracts fractional part of a floating point expression (i.e. discards integer part).

The last four functions support your mathematics algorithms.

RSGC ACES Universal Shield V1: R2R Ladder as a DAC

6.6 Variables

Variables required an **identifier** (address) and **storage space** (bytes).

A label serves as the variable's identifier and bytes of storage can be set aside in any of the three memories (Program Flash, SRAM or EEPROM) through the use of **assembler directives**.

6.6.0 Variable Use in SRAM

This example demonstrates the use of byte-size variables in SRAM. Use of the . DSEG and . BYTE assembler directives ensure the storage for the count variable is located in SRAM. The assembly instructions lds and sts are the load and store instructions for SRAM addresses.

```
rsgcaces > AVROptimization > 2_Small_Steps > VariablesSRAM.asm
```
The screen capture below was taken at the end of a debug session with the Memory and Processor Windows (Debug>Windows>etc.) revealing the contents of their respective locations.

Notes.

- The SRAM free memory map begins at 0×0100 as expected and without the use of the .org directive this is default location of the where the value is loaded.
- \bullet An inline expression is used to calculate the target address of an s ts instruction.
- The swap instruction interchanges the high and low nibbles of a byte.

6.6.1 Variable Use in Program Flash and EEPROM

The ATmega328P offers just under 2 KB of SRAM. This space has to accommodate variables as well as the Stack which grows from the end of SRAM (0x8FF), upwards.

If SRAM space for your variables gets tight, you can consider using Program Flash or even EEPROM as a source of additional storage. The .DB, .DW, .DD, and .DQ assembler directives are used to reserve space in Program Flash or EEPROM.

6.6.1.0 .DB

(From online help)Define constant byte(s) in program memory and EEPROM. The \overline{DB} directive reserves memory resources in the program memory or the EEPROM memory. In order to be able to refer to the reserved locations, the DB directive should be preceded by a label. The DB directive takes a list of expressions, and must contain at least one expression. The DB directive must be placed in a Code Segment or an EEPROM Segment.

The expression list is a sequence of expressions, delimited by commas. Each expression must evaluate to a number between -128 and 255. If the expression evaluates to a negative number, the 8-bits twos complement of the number will be placed in the program memory or EEPROM memory location.

If the DB directive is given in a Code Segment and the expression-list contains more than one expression, the expressions are packed so that two bytes are placed in each program memory word. If the expression-list contains an odd number of expressions, the last expression will be placed in a program memory word of its own, even if the next line in the assembly code contains a DB directive. The unused half of the program word is set to zero. A warning is given, in order to notify the user that an extra zero byte is added to the .DB statement.

6.6.1.1 .DW

Define constant word(s) in program memory and EEPROM.

The **DW** directive reserves memory resources in the program memory or the EEPROM. In order to be able to refer to the reserved locations, the DW directive should be preceded by a label. The DW directive takes a list of expressions, and must contain at least one expression. The DB directive must be placed in a Code Segment or an EEPROM Segment.

The expression list is a sequence of expressions, delimited by commas. Each expression must evaluate to a number between -32768 and 65535. If the expression evaluates to a negative number, the 16-bits two's complement of the number will be placed in the program memory or EEPROM location.

6.6.1.2 .DD

Define constant double-word(s) in program memory and EEPROM.

This directive is very similar to the **DW** directive, except it is used to define 32-bit (double-word). The data layout in memory is strictly little-endian.

6.6.1.3 .DQ

Define constant quad-word(s) in program memory and EEPROM.

This directive is very similar to the DW directive, except it is used to define 64-bit (quad-word). The data layout in memory is strictly little-endian.

6.6.1.4 Example: Variable in Flash

The example below makes use of the four assembler directives that both reserve storage space in Program Flash and initialize the byte contents at the same time.

rsgcaces > AVROptimization > 2 Small Steps > VariablesFlash.asm \bigcirc

Once the VariablesFlash project is created, select the Simulator Tool and use the debugger to step through the code. Be sure to have the Memory: Program Flash and Processor windows open (Debug>Window>…)

6.6.1.4.0 Questions

- 1. What is meant by little and big endian?
- 2. What is the AVR byte order (little or big endian)?
- 2. The first executable instruction, r_1 mp reset, appears as $5f$ c0. Interpret these contents.
- 3. Identify the byte address of vars
- 4. What is the most efficient way express the largest possible positive value for,
	- a) a double word (.DD)
	- b) a quad word $(.DQ)$
- 5. Explain Lines 19 and 20.
- 6. How is the decimal value -32768 stored? Explain this.

6.7 Arrays

An array declaration reserves a contiguous block of storage under a single identifier that is used to identify the base address of the storage block. Initialization of the elements is optional.

The requirement that the data in an array to be homogenous enables the index of each cell to be used to determine the address of the element as an offset from the base address.

6.7.0 C Array Example

Let's start with familiar high-level C code that declares and initializes an integer array, before proceeding to total the contents. A complete debugging session leaves SRAM in the state shown.

6.7.0.0 Comments and Observations from C Array Example

Some notable aspects from the graphic above include the following,

- 1. Line 9: The storage for the byte array \bf{A} is located within SRAM and starts at @0x0100, immediately following the bank of 256 registers (32 GP, 64 IO and 160 Extended)
- 2. Line 9: The byte order of the array matches the initialization order
- 3. Line 9: The assembler maintains storage allocation to even byte boundaries. Since an odd number of elements were defined, it pads the storage with an extra byte $(@0x0105)$
- 4. Line 10: Although the byte array B is declared and initialized, since the assembler recognizes that it is never referenced, no storage is set aside for its use.
- 5. Line 11: The assembler appears to use a JIT (Just in Time) storage allocation strategy. Although the variable \pm is declared *before* the variable sum, only the latter's value is known at this time, so it is given the next available free address, @0x0106. Stepping through the code, you'll notice the updating of SRAM is suspended until the loop is finished.

6. Line 16: Immediately following the end of the main method, the disassembled version appears.

--- C:\Users\Chris Darcy\Documents\MyAtmelStudio\ArrayExample1\ArrayExample1\Debug/.././ArrayExample1.c

6.7.1 Data Indirect Addressing Modes

Beyond their use as general purpose registers, the two-byte combinations R27:R26, R29:R28, and R31:R30 are given aliases (X, Y, and Z, respectively), for the purpose of facilitating the addressing of memory. These registers serve as 16-bit address pointers for indirect addressing of SRAM.

Look back at the disassembled version of the C array example at the top of this page, in particular Lines 55 and 56. Explain what this is doing.

Explain lines 57 and 58.

Explain the body of the loop: lines 59 to 5D.

Explain the exit of the loop: lines 5E to 61.

6.7.2 Assembly Example

With a working knowledge of the high-level C array example above, we take on the assembly equivalent. In doing so, we optimize where we can.

```
rsgcaces > AVROptimization > 2_Small_Steps > ArrayExample1.asm 
/*
 * ArrayExample1.asm
  * Created: 8/18/2018 8:21:17 AM
  * Author: Chris Darcy
  */ 
 .DSEG ;
.BYTE 6 ;reserve an even number of bytes in SRAM 
.CSEG
.org 0x0000 
     rjmp copy 
.org 0x0030 
A: .DB 16,2,77,40,107,0 ;define and initialize the array, A
Aend: 
.org 0x0100 
copy: ;.BYTE does not permit initialization
     ldi ZL,low(A<<1) ;we frst copy from program flash to SRAM
     ldi ZH,high(A<<1) ;lpm instruction requires Z register
     ldi YL, low (Aend<<1) ; point Y to the end of the array
     ldi YH, high (Aend<<1) ;
     clr XL ; point X to the start of SRAM
     ldi XH,0x01 ;
     lpm r0, Z+ ;Load from program memory and postincrement<br>st X+, r0 ;Store indirect and postincrement<br>cp ZL, YL ;end of the array? Compare low bytes<br>brne PC-0x03 ;branch if not equal
                          ; Store indirect and postincrement
                          ; end of the array? Compare low bytes
                          ;branch if not equal
                           ;leave X at first address after array
     clr r18 \qquad \qquad ; zero a register for sum prior to accumulation
     clr ZL ;point Z to the beginning of the array 
     ldi ZH,0x01 ;SRAM address: 0x0100 
     ld r19, Z+ ;get the (next) element of the array
     add r18, r19 ;add it to the running sum: sum += A[i];
     cp ZL, XL ;end of the array? Compare low bytes
     brne PC-0x03 ;branch if not at end
     st Z, r18 ; store sum in SRAM
wait: rjmp wait ;done...
```
2.7.2.0 Comments and Observations from Assembly Array Example

1. Comparing this assembly version with the disassembled version of the C code, identify as many improvements, efficiencies, or optimizations that you can.

2.

6.8 If…then…else

For practice using branch instructions, consider coding an $if...$ then…else structure in assembly. Specifically, place an RGB LED in pins 10 through 13 of you Arduino. Obtain a value for temp and display the red LED if it's greater than 25°, and the blue LED if it's less than 15°.

```
rsgcaces > AVROptimization > 2 Small_Steps > IfThenElse.asm \bigcirc/*
 * IfThenElse.asm
 *
  * Created: 8/8/2018 3:19:27 PM
  * Author: Chris Darcy
 */
\begin{array}{rcl} .def \quad util \ = \ r16 \end{array} ;\begin{array}{rcl} .def \  \  \, led \  \  \, = \; r17 \end{array} \qquad \qquad ;\text{equ} \quad \text{COL} = 15 ;
\text{.equ} WARM = 25 \mid\text{.equ } \text{temp} = 10 ;
\text{.equ} red = 1<<PB2 ;
\text{.equ} gnd = 1<<PB3 ;
\text{.equ blue} = 1 \leq P55 ;
.org 0x0000 
    rjmp reset ;
.org 0x0100 
reset: 
    rcall initPORT \qquad \qquad ;again: 
    rcall getTemp \qquad \qquad ;cpi r16,COOL ;
    brmi sayCool ;
    cpi r16, WARM ;
    brpl sayWARM ;
    rjmp again ;
sayCool: 
    ldi led, blue ;
    out PORTB, led ;
     rjmp again ;
sayWarm: 
    ldi led, red ;
    out PORTB, led ;
    rjmp again ;
initPORT: 
    ldi util, red|gnd|blue ;
    out DDRB, util ;
    ret 
getTemp: 
     ldi r16, temp ;
    ret
```
6.9 Loop

A loop is a structure in which a block of statements is repeated until an event occurs. In high-level languages the **event** is coded as a boolean expression (aka. condition).

If the number of repetitions (aka iterations) is not known in advance, the convention is to code the structure using the while keyword.

If the number iterations **is known in advance**, the convention is to code the structure using the **for** keyword.

Assembly languages do not have data types, per se, so a boolean expression is reduced to an interpretation of the state of one or more flags of the Status Register.

6.9.0 for Loop

Here's an example of how you might code a **for** loop that iterates from 9 to 0 inclusive, mimicking the C statement, for (uint8 t i=0; i<10, i++).

```
rsgcaces > AVROptimization > 2 Small Steps > folloop.asm \bigcirc/*
 * forLoop.asm
 * Performs 10 iterations (5 cycles) of Blinking LED on pin 13
 * Author: Chris Darcy
\star /<br>.equ START = 0
.equ START = 0 ;<br>lower bound of for loop<br>.equ END = 10 ;<br>upper (exclusive) bound<br>.equ PIN13 = 1<<PB5 ;<br>visual confirmation of :
                               ;upper (exclusive) bound of for loop
\text{def} index = r18 ; index of the for loop (lcv)
.equ PIN13 = 1<<PB5 ; visual confirmation of iteration
.def util = r16 ;generic utility register
def util = r16 ; generic utility register<br>def led = r17 ;led register for toggling purposes
.org 0x0000<br>rjmp setup
rjmp setup ;let's use the Arduino C terminology<br>org 0x0100 ;well past the interrupt jump vector
                                ; well past the interrupt jump vector table
setup: 
     ldi led,PIN13 ;one-time code<br>out DDRB, led : set PORTB bit
                               ; set PORTB bit 5 for output (pin 13)
loop: 
      clr util 
      out PORTB, util : start with LED on pin 13 OFF
      ldi index, START ;initialize loop control variable
forLoop: 
      cpi index, END ;are we finished?
      breq exit \qquad \qquad ; if so, exit the for loop
      eor util,led ;body of the for loop: toggle state of pin 13
      out PORTB, util ;display it
      rcall delay1s (admire
      inc index ;advance the loop control variable
     rjmp forLoop ;back to the top of the for loop
exit: 
      rcall delay1s (admire
      rcall delay1s (admire
      rcall delay1s ; admire
      rjmp loop 
delay1s: \qquad \qquad \qquad \text{included in download}
```
7 AALP: Arithmetic and Mathematics

The table of Arithmetic and Logic Instructions below is taken from Atmel's AVR 8-bit Instruction Set Manual.

http://mail.rsgc.on.ca/~cdarcy/Datasheets/InstructionSetSummary.pdf

7.0 Terminology: Overflow and Underflow

Like the odometer on your car, when you go past the maximum value your display can represent the count simply rolls over and the counting starts again at 0. In computing, when an arithmetic operation on an MCU results in a value too large for the target register to contain we refer to this as an overflow condition.

The interpretation of the term **underflow** depends on the context. For **fixed point** numbers (integers), such as the 8-bit registers we are using, an underflow condition is said to occur when the value would be less than the minimum value an integer (register) can hold (0). For **floating point** numbers, an underflow condition occurs when the result of an arithmetic operation results in a value too close to zero to distinguish it from the same.

7.1 Adding or Subtracting One from a Register

Incrementing and decrementing a register, the hallmark of counting and loop control, is best accomplished through the dedicated instructions inc and dec. Each instructions requires only a single register from $r0$ through $r31$. Overflow and underflow conditions will generate SREG flag responses that can be monitored with branch instructions.

7.2 Multiplying and Dividing a Single Byte by a Power of 2

Just as shifting the digits to the left or right of a decimal number has the effect of multiplying or dividing by a power of 10 so, too, does shifting bits in a binary number have the effect of doing the same for powers of 2. Furthermore, hardware circuits are embedded within the processor's hardware to expedite the process. Not surprisingly then, the following instructions figure prominently in low-level multiplication and division routines.

7.2.0 Multiplying a Single Byte by a Power of 2

In this example, the intent is to multiple a single byte by **four**. Recognizing this operation could result in two-byte, 16-bit outcome, we designate a registers as the high byte of the eventual product and clear it at the outset. The lsl (logical shift left) instruction is used on the lower byte because it will shift the contents one bit to the left, a zero is shifted into the lowest bit and the highest bit is shifted into the carry flag. We immediately employ a col (rotate left though Carry) instruction command on the high byte because it will also shift contents one bit to the left, but it will shift the contents of the Carry Flag into the lowest bit. Every time we shift the multiplicand to the left we are multiplying by two. So, to multiply by four we simply repeat this pair of instruction.

7.2.1 Dividing Two-Byte (Word) Dividend by a Power of 2

The AVR Instruction Set does not contain a divide instruction. This must be accomplished, manually. Later on we'll tackle general divisors but, for now, we'll restrict ourselves to dividing by powers of 2. As with multiplication, division of binary numbers by powers of 2 can be accomplished by shifting bits to the right. To make things more interesting, we'll start with the 16-bit product of our previous example (400) as our initial dividend. It should be apparent that we are simply undoing the multiplication steps.

The lsr (logical shift right) instruction is applied to the high byte because it will shift the contents one bit to the right, a zero is shifted into the highest bit and the lowest bit is shifted into the Carry Flag. We then employ the ror (rotate right though Carry) command on the low byte because it will also shift contents one bit to the right, but it will shift the contents of the Carry Flag into the highest bit. Every time we shift the dividend to the right we are dividing it by two. So, to divide by four, we simply shift the entire dividend to the right two times.

7.3 Byte Arithmetic

Care must be taken when employing arithmetic operations involving single byte registers to appreciate overflow and underflow situations. When either condition is triggered, the C flag within the SREG is set to allow you to recognize and respond to it in some manner.

7.3.0 Byte Addition with Overflow (Carry Flag)

This example serves to demonstrate an **overflow** condition triggered by the addition of two registers in which the sum exceeded 255. The BRCS (Branch if Carry Set) instruction MUST immediately follow the instruction that generated the condition. Note that the lower order 8 bits of the sum (in A) remains accurate. Create the project, obtain the course code, and step through a debugging session to experience it for yourself.

```
rsgcaces > AVROptimization > 2 Small Steps > SingleByteAddition.asm (
```


7.3.1 Byte Subtraction with Underflow (Carry Flag)

The difference between the two registers yields a value less than (0) triggering an underflow.

```
rsgcaces>AVROptimization> 2_Small_Steps > SingleByteSubtraction.asm
```


7.3.2 Unsigned Byte Multiplication with the MUL Instruction

The ATmega328P supports the MUL (Multiply Unsigned) Instruction. Any two registers (r0-r31) can be used as operands and are left unaffected as the product is placed in the register pair $r1:r0$. The instruction takes 2 clock cycles.

7.3.3 Signed Byte Multiplication with the MULS Instruction

In this example, the product of two negative operands yields a positive product that replaces the source operands,

7.3.4 Byte Division See Algorithms: Byte Division

7.4 Arithmetic with Multi-Byte Operands

First, there are two dedicated word instructions for addition and subtraction that should be noted.

7.4.0 Two Dedicated Word Instructions: ADIW and SBIW

Two specialized arithmetic instructions are offered, primarily for the purpose of purpose of manipulating pointers (indices into arrays). Both adiw (add immediate to word) and sbiw (subtract immediate from word) apply a constant in the interval [0,63] to a register pair, r25:r24, r27:r26, r29:r28, or r31:r30.

In the following example, an 8x8 LED matrix image defining the letter 'A' is placed into program flash. The final column in each row of the matrix contains the number of set bits in the row. The assembly code below runs through the rows tallying the total number of set bits and placed the sum in r16 (total).

Lines 25 and 30 make use of the adiw instruction to point to the final column of each row.

Debugging Note. While in a debugging session, clicking in the leftmost gray column sets a breakpoint. Clicking again removes it. With a breakpoint set, you can select **Run to Cursor** from the Debug > Window Menu to see the net effect of executing the instructions in between.

3.4.1 Preparing Multi-Byte Operands

If we wish to perform arithmetic operations on integers greater than 255 special preparation must be undertaken to separate multi-byte operands into respective byte registers.

3.4.1.0 Applicable Byte Functions

The AVR Assembler recognizes the following set of convenient functions that return bytes separated from words and double words

- low (expression) returns the low byte of an expression
- high (expression) returns the high byte of an expression
- byte2(expression) is the same as high
- byte3(expression) returns the third byte of an expression
- byte4(expression) returns the fourth byte of an expression

These functions are to be employed to separate operands into respective registers prior to perform arithmetic operations.

3.4.2 Adding Two Words

In this example, two 16-bit constants are defined as source operands (Lines 7 and 8), before separating those into two register pairs, A and B (Lines 17-20). The intent is to implement the assignment statement, $B = A+B$.

The Memory view confirms that after adding the low bytes of the operands with add instruction, followed by the addition of the high bytes of the operands with the adc instruction, the sum is correct (0x0909).

3.4.3 Subtracting Two Double Words

In this somewhat extreme example, the difference between two double-word (4-byte) operands is determined. Each of the operands opA and opB have their bytes separated into respective registers prior to implementing the equivalent of the assignment statement, A=A-B.

Lines 22 through 29 separate the double word. Starting with the lower byte pairs, perform the first subtraction with the sub instruction. If the result is negative, the Carry flag is set. This explains why the subsequent subtractions of the remaining byte pairs must be undertaken with the support of the sbc instruction.

3.4.4 Multiplying two Words with the MUL Instruction

8 AALP: AVR Assembly Language Programming within the Arduino IDE

8.0 Inline Assembly

Within the Arduino IDE, there are a number of ways to embed assembly code within your Arduino C code. The AVR Inline Assembly Cookbook, dating from 2002, describes a highly cryptic technique that is far too cumbersome for my taste, but you may find it more to your liking:

http://www.nongnu.org/avr-libc/user-manual/inline_asm.html

Hats off to this guy who presents a tutorial making it more palatable:

https://ucexperiment.wordpress.com/2016/03/04/arduino-inline-assembly-tutorial-1/

The use of Special Function Register (SFR) macros allows one to access the registers by name rather than their memory-mapped addresses.

8.0.0 Blink

The technique below is perhaps the simplest.

```
1// Purpose : Demonstrates the use of inline assembly to Blink pin 13
 2 // Author : C. D'Arcy
 3 // Date : 2017 10 13
 4 // Status : Working
 5 void setup () {
 6
    asm(7<sup>1</sup>"ldi r16,0b00100000 \n"
                                   //prepare pin 13 (PB5) for output
      "sts 0x24, r168
                           \mathbb{R}^n//do it"ldi r16,0b00100000 \n"
 9
                                   //constant for setting pin 13 high
10
     "sts 0x25, r16 \n"
                                   //do it11\mathcal{E}12 }
13 void loop() {
14
    delay(1000);//pause
15asm("com r16\ln"
                                   //invert previous value of r16
16
17"sts 0x25, r16\ln"
                                   //toggle PORTB
18
     \rightarrow19
      \mathbf{E}
```
8.0.1 Blink Without Delay

This tutorial documents one user's attempts to pursue inline assembly within the Arduino IDE:

http://rwf.co/dokuwiki/doku.php?id=smallcpus

The two files below are used in conjunction with the driver from Section 2.1.1

8.1 Pure Assembly

I found it too great a challenge develop pure assembly code within the Arduino IDE that mimicked the way I did it years ago within AVR Studio on PCs. PlatformIO appers to offer something very close on Macs so I'd like to give it a shot this year.

8.1.0 Blink

The pure assembly Blink sketch is provided as an example within the PlatformIO Project Samples.

Appendices

A Development Environments

A Development Environment (DE) consists of a suite of software applications that can run the entire range from converting a programmer's ideas to uploading and running the machine– executable version of those ideas to the target hardware platform or simulator. Tools could include a UML utility, compiler, linker, debugger, uploader, simulator, etc.

A.0 Integrated

An Integrated Development Environment (IDE) provides immediate access to the majority of development tools through and interactive interface.

A.0.0 Arduino IDE

https://www.arduino.cc/en/Main/Software

Due to its familiarity, our first few attempts at AVR Assembly language programming will be undertaken within this environment.

A.0.1 ATMEL Studio 7 (Windows)

http://www.atmel.com/Microsite/atmel-studio/

A.0.2 Crosspack (Mac)

https://www.obdev.at/products/crosspack/index.html

A.0.3 Atom and PlatformIO (Cross-Platform)

Ethan Peterson (ACES '18) brought this IDE to my attention and, to my mind, since it's the closest match to AVR Studio for the Mac, we'll use it for most of our investigations.

A.0.4 WinAVR (Windows)

http://winavr.sourceforge.net/

A.0.5 AVR-Eclipse

http://avr-eclipse.sourceforge.net/wiki/index.php/The_AVR_GCC_Toolchain

A.1 Standalone

Default ASCII text editors (Mac:TextEdit-Plain Text; Windows:Notepad) can be used to edit your code code.

A.1.0 TextMate (Mac)

The' missing' Mac Editor: https://macromates.com/

A.1.1 Notepad++(Windows)

Useful programming enhancements to Notepad can be found in Notepad++ at https://notepad-plus-plus.org/

A.1.2 Programmers Notepad (Windows)

http://www.pnotepad.org/

B Software: GNU Toolchain

Our study of AVR Assembly Language will make use of the Free Software Foundation's open source GNU Compiler Collection (GCC). Within this broad project, tools are provided for a number of target platforms. Consult the link below for an overview of the toolchain available for the AVR family of microcontrollers:

http://www.nongnu.org/avr-libc/user-manual/overview.html

B.0 GCC

"GCC focuses on translating a high-level language to the target assembly only. AVR GCC has three available compilers for the AVR: C language, C++, and Ada. The compiler itself does not assemble or link the final code.

GCC is also known as a "driver" program, in that it knows about, and drives other programs seamlessly to create the final output. The assembler, and the linker are part of another open source project called GNU Binutils. GCC knows how to drive the GNU assembler (gas) to assemble the output of the compiler. GCC knows how to drive the GNU linker (ld) to link all of the object modules into a final executable.

The two projects, GCC and Binutils, are very much interrelated and many of the same volunteers work on both open source projects.

When GCC is built for the AVR target, the actual program names are prefixed with "avr-". So the actual executable name for AVR GCC is: avr-gcc. The name "avr-gcc" is used in documentation and discussion when referring to the program itself and not just the whole AVR GCC system.

See the GCC Web Site and GCC User Manual for more information about GCC."

B.1 GNU Binutils

"The name GNU Binutils stands for "Binary Utilities". It contains the GNU assembler (gas), and the GNU linker (ld), but also contains many other utilities that work with binary files that are created as part of the software development toolchain.

Again, when these tools are built for the AVR target, the actual program names are prefixed with "avr-". For example, the assembler program name, for a native assembler is "as" (even though in documentation the GNU assembler is commonly referred to as "gas"). But when built for an AVR target, it becomes "avr-as". "

B.1.0 avr-as

The assembler. The online reference can be found here:

https://sourceware.org/binutils/docs-2.19/as/

B.1.1 avr-ld

The linker.

B.2 avr-libc

"GCC and Binutils provides a lot of the tools to develop software, but there is one critical component that they do not provide: a Standard C Library.

There are different open source projects that provide a Standard C Library depending upon your system time, whether for a native compiler (GNU Libc), for some other embedded system (newlib), or for some versions of Linux (uCLibc). The open source AVR toolchain has its own Standard C Library project: avr-libc.

AVR-Libc provides many of the same functions found in a regular Standard C Library and many additional library functions that is specific to an AVR. Some of the Standard C Library functions that are commonly used on a PC environment have limitations or additional issues that a user needs to be aware of when used on an embedded system.

AVR-Libc also contains the most documentation about the whole AVR toolchain."

B.3 Building Software

"Even though GCC, Binutils, and avr-libc are the core projects that are used to build software for the AVR, there is another piece of software that ties it all together: Make. GNU Make is a program that makes things, and mainly software. Make interprets and executes a Makefile that is written for a project. A Makefile contains dependency rules, showing which output files are dependent upon which input files, and instructions on how to build output files from input files.

Some distributions of the toolchains, and other AVR tools such as MFile, contain a Makefile template written for the AVR toolchain and AVR applications that you can copy and modify for your application.

See the GNU Make User Manual for more information."

B.4 AVRDUDE

"After creating your software, you'll want to program your device. You can do this by using the program AVRDUDE which can interface with various hardware devices to program your processor. AVRDUDE is a very flexible package. All the information about AVR processors and various hardware programmers is stored in a text database. This database can be modified by any user to add new hardware or to add an AVR processor if it is not already listed

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C AVR Assembly Reference

The 8-bit AVR Instruction Set (AVRIS) is detailed in the following pdf:

http://mail.rsgc.on.ca/~cdarcy/Datasheets/doc0856.pdf

C.0 Status Register (Flags), Register and Instruction Operands

(Included) Can be found on pp.1-2 of the AVRIS.

C.1 Program and Addressing Modes

(Included) Can be found on pp.3-10 of the AVRIS.

C.2 Register (GP, I/O & Extended I/O) Summary

 (Included) Can be found on pp.9-12 of http://mail.rsgc.on.ca/~cdarcy/Datasheets/ATmega328PSummary.pdf

C.3 Frequently Used AVR-as Directives

Directives, like many other features, are assembler-dependent (AVRASM vs AVR-as). Since we're using AVR-as the applicable assembler directives can be found here: https://sourceware.org/binutils/docs-2.19/as/Pseudo-Ops.html#Pseudo-Ops

C.4 Interrupt Vector Table

12.4 Interrupt Vectors in ATmega328 and ATmega328P

2. When the IVSEL bit in MCUCR is set, Interrupt Vectors will be moved to the start of the Boot Flash Section. The address of each Interrupt Vector will then
be the address in this table added to the start address of the B

Table 12-7 on page 66 shows reset and Interrupt Vectors placement for the various combinations of BOOTRST and IVSEL settings. If the program never enables an interrupt source, the Interrupt Vectors are not used, and

C.5 Instruction Set

C.5.0 Summary of Instructions

(Included) Can be found on pp.13-15 of:

http://mail.rsgc.on.ca/~cdarcy/Datasheets/ATmega328PSummary.pdf

C.5.1 Detailed Instruction Set

See pages 11-157 of http://mail.rsgc.on.ca/~cdarcy/Datasheets/doc0856.pdf