

A microcontroller program for running state-based behavioral tasks and/or stimulus delivery.

Dependencies:

csTeensyBehavior uses some 3rd party libraries. Because the program is embedded, you need these libraries to compile and upload the code to a Teensy, even if you aren't going to use the features they offer. You can install libraries into the Arduino IDE in a variety of ways, but I recommend downloading these libraries, placing them in a .zip and installing them by selecting "Sketch -> Include Library -> Add .zip library"

A) Adafruit's neopixel library:

https://github.com/adafruit/Adafruit_NeoPixel

https://github.com/adafruit/Adafruit_NeoPixel/archive/master.zip

This is used to control neopixel strips. Intended use is to have neopixel strips like this: <https://www.adafruit.com/product/2847> or any of them, in a behavior rig enabling you to change light colors for cues, habituation reasons, or just to have light around.

B) HX711 ADC Library by Bodge:

<https://github.com/bogde/HX711>

<https://github.com/bogde/HX711/archive/master.zip>

This is to interface with and read data from the loadcell. There are a ton of HX711 libraries around, but Bodge got all the "little things" right.

C) Adafruit's MCP4725 (DAC) Library

https://github.com/adafruit/Adafruit_MCP4725

https://github.com/adafruit/Adafruit_MCP4725/archive/master.zip

There are a bunch of MCP libraries around too. This one is fine, and I like Adafruit. This is used to add two more DAC channels via MCP4725 breakouts. I use one from Adafruit and one from Sparkfun, because the default addresses differ. But, you can change the address of either and just buy two from one place.

<https://www.adafruit.com/product/935>

Basics:

By default, *csTeensyBehavior* runs at 1 kHz. The program is a state machine instantiated as a function that is timed using an interrupt timer. Each interrupt a function called *vStates* runs and it: a) evaluates which state it should be in, b) runs a state header if it enters a new state, c) executes code determined by its state, d) streams, over serial, a data report.

It is important to note that the intended approach of the broader *csBehavior* library to stimulus and behavior control involves using a python program to interact with the teensy, such that real-time processes are effected by the Teensy and the python program saves data, shows plots, and makes determinations about when to change states. In this way, the Teensy program is designed to be as "dumb" as possible, yet it is the core of the behavioral control stack. *csTeensyBehavior* provides the master clock, and the state the Teensy is in, is considered by all other interacting processes (like the python program) to be "ground truth."

csTeensyBehavior, by default, sits in "State 0; S0" where it does very little. There is no data report sent in S0. However, in S0, the Teensy does evaluate whether it should move to a new state, responds to serial-based commands, and it can execute a series of pre-programmed device interactions "relays" based on specific relay pins being turned high. These relays are intended to allow other users the ability to gain access to devices attached to your Teensy/

Behavior Rig without having to use the program. For example, a user may be using Matlab code and NI-DAQ boards to do their work, but they want to trigger a microscope, change light brightness, and trigger rewards from a pump. Instead of having to split connections, the user can trigger a pin on the Teensy and it will do any, or all, of those things. Also, in S0, the state of connected devices can be polled asynchronously for general use. Lastly, certain sensors that cannot be polled in real-time can be used in S0 (such as environmental sensors).

Data Report:

What is streamed in the data report changes frequently, and can be customized. As of this writing, the data report streams the following in a serial packet that has a header called "tData:"

a) **intCount**: this is the actual number of interrupts fired since the Teensy has left S0. By default, csTeensyBehavior runs a 1kHz, thus, each interrupt is 1 ms. This should be considered to be the actual clock.

b) **sesTime**: this is the session clock, as determined by evaluating elapsedMillis(). Conceptually, this value should be identical to intCount. It can differ by 1 at the beginning, as sometimes the first elapsedMillis will report 0 or 1. Beyond that, the two clocks should be identical. If it isn't, that means the function did not finish evaluating before the next interrupt. Despite common conception, Teensy's and related boards are very fast, each evaluation of vStates() takes less than 200 us.

c) **stateTime**: this is the state clock, as determined by evaluating elapsedMillis(), and resetting the reference each time you enter a new state. The intention of this variable is to help make evaluation of state-specific conditions/functions easier. Also, it may help with post-hoc analysis.

d) **currentTeensyState** (aka knownValues[0]): this is the current state the Teensy is in.

e) **loadCellValue** (aka knownValues[17]): this is the reading of the loadCell from the HX711 amplifier.

f) **lickSensorAValue**: this is the value of the sensor used for determining licks. By default, even digital sensors are treated as analog allowing an external program to threshold as you see fit. csTeensyBehavior does not evaluate licks in real-time, and does not need to.

g) **encoderAngle**: this is the value reported by a rotary encoder used to track the location of a wheel.

h) **pulseCountA**: this is the incremental pulse count determined by an interrupt-based pulse counter. It can be used to keep track of elapsed frames from a two-photon microscope or ccd camera, etc. It resets every session.

i) **loopTime**: this is the amount of time in micro-seconds that the function took to evaluate for the last interrupt.

j-m) **genAnalogInput0-3**: these are the values of 4 different analog inputs chosen by the user.