

# Signoff Request - September 16th - Motor Driver Microcontroller

Friday, September 16, 2022

9:23 PM

## "What it's gonna do"

The Mechanical Movement System requires Motor Drivers that will be used to control the motors and act as an interface between them and the control circuitry. This is because motors operate at a high current and voltage, and the control circuitry provides low current signals. [1] Speaking of control circuitry, this signoff will also be for the microcontroller that will be responsible for creating a closed feedback loop. This microcontroller will deliver movement instructions delivered by the Raspberry Pi from the Nav System, and it will control the speed of the robot by making use of the Hall Effect Encoders that come on the motors.

## "Specs and Constraints"

Specifications:

Microcontroller

- Communicate with the Raspberry Pi
- PWM Capability to control motor speed
- Enough GPIO pins (to be calculated below)

Motor Driver

- Accept PWM input to control motor speed
- Bidirectional movement

Constraints

Microcontroller

- Vin must accept 12V. This constraint comes from the bus in the Power Distribution Unit.
- At least 2 PWM pins and channels must exist to send signals to the motor driver.
- SPI, I2C, or Serial Capabilities must exist to communicate with the Raspberry Pi.
- Read digital input of a maximum of 48 counts per revolution from the motor encoders.

Motor Driver

- The 5A stall current from the motors means that the driver must be able to handle a maximum of 5A.
- Operate at 12V. This constraint also comes from the power distribution unit.

## "Analysis"

The first component to discuss is the selected motor driver from Cytron Technology, the MD20A [2].

"The MD20A enables bidirectional control of one high-power brushed DC motor up to 30V. With discrete NMOS H-Bridge design, this motor driver is able to support continuous operation without any heatsink" [2].

"This motor driver can be controlled with PWM and DIR inputs. With input logic levels from 1.8V to 12V, it's compatible with wide variety of host controller (e.g. Arduino, Raspberry Pi, etc.)"

Pi, PLC)" [2].

Since the MD20A can only support one motor, two motor drivers will be needed. This helps to increase the modularity of the design by having a separate driver. The driver can be seen in Figure 1.



Figure 1: MD20A Motor Driver [2]

The MD20A satisfies all the above specifications and constraints in the following

- The driver accepts up to 20A and 30V, which fulfills the input constraints
- The driver accepts PWM input and a DIR input. This satisfies the speed control and bidirectional movement specifications.

Figure 2 shows the connection interface as well as an input truth table. This helps in building everything up, and it gives a good idea of how many pins the microcontroller needs.

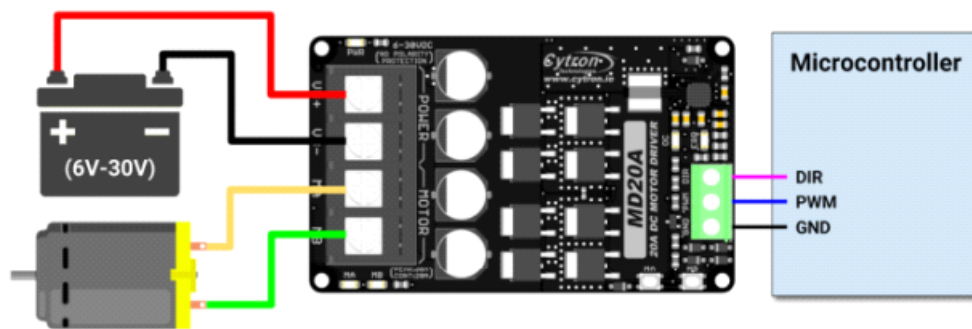


Figure 2: Motor Driver Connections and Input Truth Table

## General Analysis of Arduino Nano Every

Now for the brains of the operation. The selected microcontroller is the Arduino [4]. Figure 3 displays the Microcontroller, and Figure 4 shows some of the Tech given information, the part can be analyzed to see if it meets some of easily id and constraints that were laid out previously. Figure 4 clearly shows that the N pins, which satisfies the requirement of the 2 that are necessary for controlling motors. It is also stated that the board accepts a VIN of anywhere from 6-21 V acceptable because the board can be connected to the 12V line. The Arduino c communicate with the Pi by means of USB, SPI, I2C, or UARP. This allows for a methods for communication, and this will be discussed more later on. Finally, 1

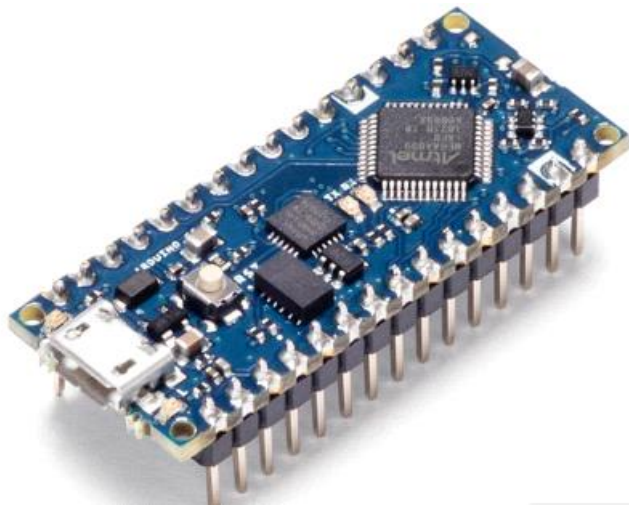


Figure 3: Arduino Nano Every Image [4].

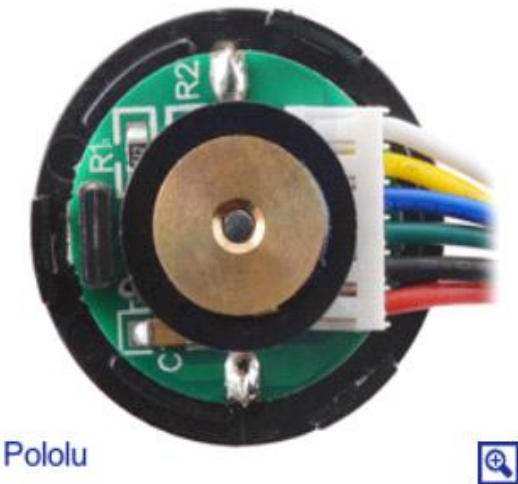
<div>  </div> <div> <a href="https://store.arduino.cc/nano-every-with-headers">STORE.ARDUI.NO.CC/NANO-EVERY-WITH-HEADERS</a> </div> <div> <small>SMALL &amp; POWERFUL.</small>  <small>EVERY PROJECT MATTERS</small> </div>				
Chip	ATMEGA4809			
Clock	20 MHz			
Memory	48 KB <small>FLASH</small>	6 KB <small>SRAM</small>		
Interfaces	USB	SPI	I2C	UART
Voltage	5V	6-21V		5V

Figure 4: Arduino Nano Specs [4]

**GPIO Pins:**

2 of the digital pins will be used for the PWM signals to the motor drivers resp  
2 pins will be used as the DIR signals to the drivers respectively. This takes care

used on the motor drivers. Figure 2 shows those GND wires going from the driver microcontroller, but connecting to the robot's main ground line will do. Additionally, need to be connected to the Hall Effect Encoders on the motors. This will allow the microcontroller to monitor the speed at which the robot is moving. Figure 5 shows the connections. The Yellow and White wires from each motor need to be connected to the microcontroller. This results in another 4 pins being used. It is also important that the Arduino will communicate with the Raspberry Pi. Using UART, an additional TX and RX capability will be required. The Arduino Nano Every has 14 digital pins ready to go. That number is enough to satisfy the 10 pin requirement with 2 of PWM and another 2 for TX and RX. Figure 6 shows the pinout of the Arduino Nano. In Figure 6, the PWM compatible digital pins are denoted with a "~" in the pinout.



**25D mm metal gearmotor with 48 CPR encoder (with end cap removed).**



Color	Function
Red	motor power (connects to one motor terminal)
Black	motor power (connects to the other motor terminal)
Green	encoder GND
Blue	encoder Vcc (3.5 V to 20 V)
Yellow	encoder A output
White	encoder B output

Figure 5: Motor Connections Explanation [.

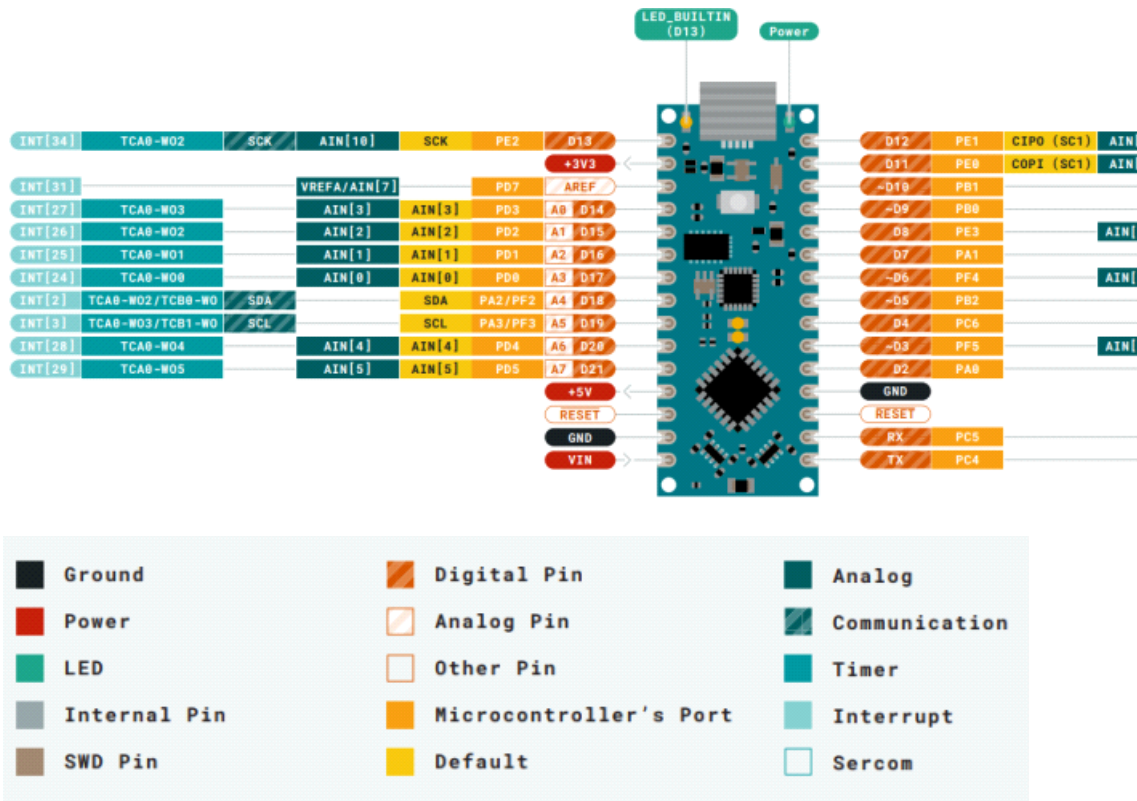


Figure 6: Arduino Nano Every Pinout [4

### Communication Protocol:

Next up is the analysis for how the Arduino will communicate with the Raspbe selected protocol of UART allows for full duplex communication so that the Ar Raspberry Pi can communicate with one another at the same time. UART has r such as only using two wires (TX and RX) and it does not require a clock. The T) 1) will connect to the Pi's GPIO pin 10 which is RX 1. The Arduino's RX pin (digi connected to the Pi's GPIO pin 8 which is TX1. This allows the two devices to t simultaneously. Figure 7 depicts the connections, and Figure 8 shows the othe connected to the pi. This proves that there are enough pins and other connect around. BIG NOTE!!! Figure 8 shows the INCORRECT CONNECTIONS for the Arc





command takes about 48 clock cycles [6]. The total amount of clock cycles needed for 176 counts in one second is  $48 \times 176 = 8448$  cycles per second. The Arduino's clock



25D mm metal gearmotor with 48 CPR encoder (with end cap removed).



Color	Function
Red	motor power (connects to one motor terminal)

Figure 9: Hall Effect Encoder Connections Explanation

Lastly, to ensure complete third party buildability, a full electrical schematic to provide instruction on how all the pieces of the Mechanical Movement System with each other. Figure 10 shows those connections.

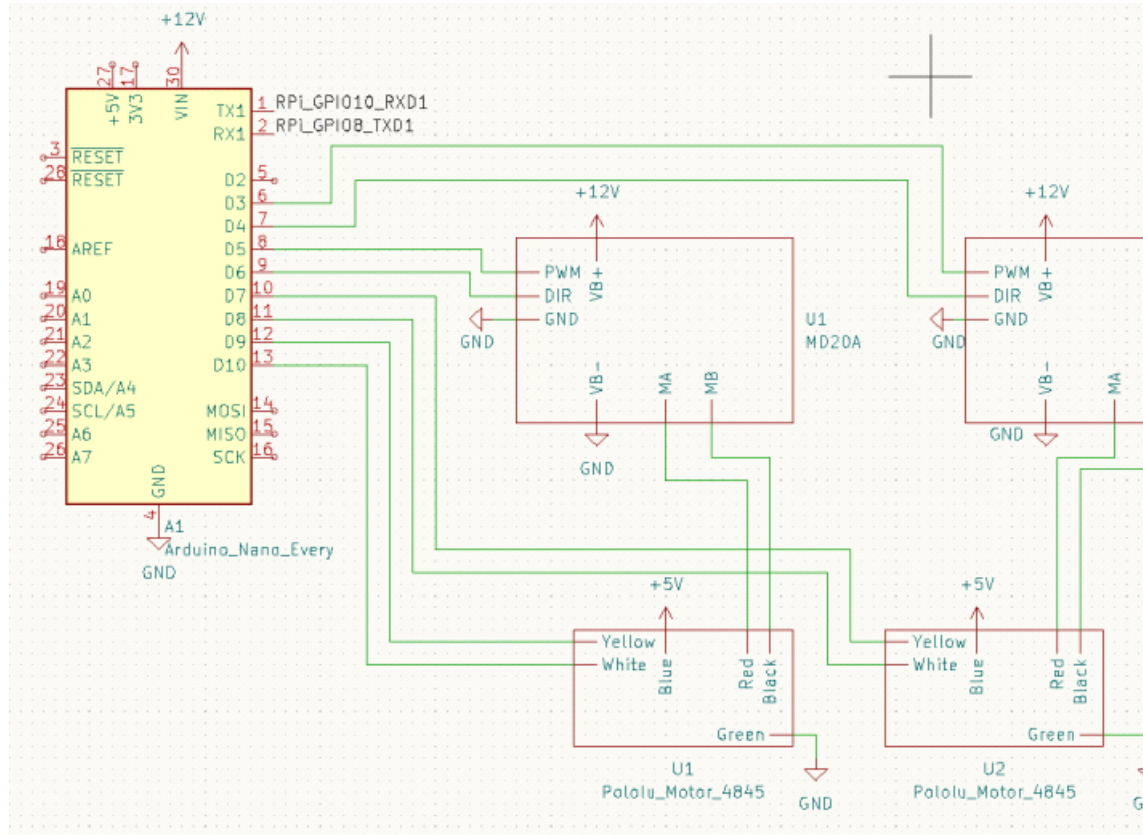


Figure 10: Electrical build for Mechanical Movement System

MD20A Motor Driver: \$21.00 each (2 needed)

Arduino Nano Every: \$15.00

## Sources

- [1] [Motor Drivers are Important](#)
- [2] [MD20A from Cytron](#)
- [3] [MD20A Datasheet](#)
- [4] [Arduino Nano Every](#)
- [5] [Pololu Motor 4845](#)
- [6] [DigitalRead Time](#)