UTAustinX: UT.6.01x Embedded Systems - Shape the World

Courseware (/courses/UTAustinX/UT.6.01x/1T2014/courseware)

Course Info (/courses/UTAustinX/UT.6.01x/1T2014/info)

Discussion (/courses/UTAustinX/UT.6.01x/1T2014/discussion/forum)

Progress (/courses/UTAustinX/UT.6.01x/1T2014/progress)

Questions (/courses/UTAustinX/UT.6.01x/1T2014/a3da417940af4ec49a9c02b3eae3460b/)

Syllabus (/courses/UTAustinX/UT.6.01x/1T2014/a827a8b3cc204927b6efaa49580170d1/)

Embedded Systems Community (/courses/UTAustinX/UT.6.01x/1T2014/e3df91316c544d3e8e21944fde3ed46c/)

Throughout this course we have seen that an embedded system uses its input/output devices to interact with the external world. In this chapter we will focus on input devices that we use to gather information about the world. More specifically, we present a technique for the system to measure analog inputs using an analog to digital converter (ADC). We will use periodic interrupts to sample the ADC at a fixed rate. We will then combine sensors, the ADC, software, PWM output and motor interfaces to implement intelligent control on our robot car.

Learning Objectives:

- Develop a means for a digital computer to sense its analog world.
- Review digitization: Quantization, range, precision and resolution.
- Extend the Nyquist Theorem to cases the ADC is used to sense information.
- Study the basics of transducers: conversion of physical to electrical.
- Use an optical sensor to measure distance to an object.



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