***Efficient Embedded Course***

**LAB 6**

**COMPARATOR LAB EXERCISE:**

**VOLTAGE MONITOR**

**Issue 1.0**

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# Introduction

## Lab overview

In this project you will implement a software based comparator to monitor the voltage from a potentiometer-based divider. You will evaluate the polling software.

# Learning Objectives

* Implement a comparator-based voltage monitor and compile C program to read the ADC input.

# Requirements

In this lab, we will be using the following hardware and software:

* **Keil µVision5 MDK IDE**
  + Please see the included Getting Started with Keil guide on how to download and install Keil.
* **STM32 Nucleo-L552ZE-Q**
  + For more information, click [here](https://www.st.com/en/evaluation-tools/nucleo-l552ze-q.html).
* **Potentiometer**

# Details

## Hardware

Please see the Nucleo-L552ZE-Q User manual for the pinout of the Arduino-included Zio connectors for CN7, CN8, CN9 and CN10 using this link: https://www.st.com/resource/en/user\_manual/um2581-stm32l5-nucleo144-board-mb1361-stmicroelectronics.pdf

### Connections

Diagram, schematic

Description automatically generated

Figure 2. Potentiometer circuit forming voltage divider for comparator monitoring.

Build the circuit shown in Figure 2 on your breadboard. Connect the potentiometer signals to MCU board as shown in table below. This matches the pins used in the lab code.

Table 1. Signals and connections

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Signal Name | Description | Direction | MCU | |
| P3V3 | Positive supply voltage | Power | |  |
| GND | Ground | Power |  | |
| VCompNeg | Variable input voltage | Input to MCU | PA\_0 | |
| VCompPlus | Fixed voltage reference | Input to MCU | PA\_1 | |

## Procedure

1. Compile the supplied lab software for polling operation, load it onto the MCU and run it.
2. Measure the 3V3 supply rail, which is divided for the comparator’s negative reference voltage.   
   V3v3. = \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_V.
3. At what input voltage (from the potentiometer) does the LED change color? Use a multimeter to measure this voltage.
4. At what input voltage do you expect the LED to change color, given the input to VCompNeg? Does this match the actual code?
5. Change the source code to use interrupts (controlled by the #if in the main function). Verify the code still has the same threshold voltage. What has changed?
6. Modify the resistors to change LED color at 1V. Verify that your changes work.