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Code credits:

Ball text by Marinus and Nina 3D text by Denzel and Jort

Description

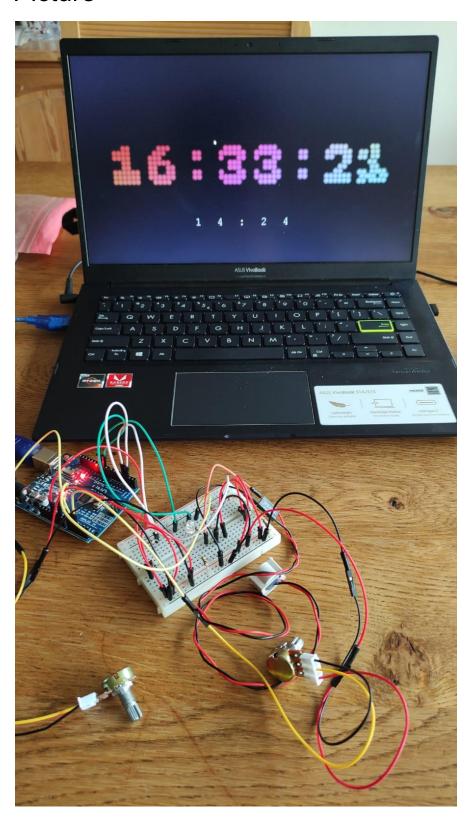
We have made a smart alarm clock. This clock will lower its screen brightness when it is in a dark environment. It also has two knobs with which you can set the hour and minute of when the alarm should go off, and two buttons. One button enables and disables whether the alarm will ring, and the other button will turn off the ringing when the alarm is going off.

For output, there is a buzzer and a light, which will fluctuate in brightness and tone to make sure the alarm is noticed.

The screen is drawn by processing. It contains the clock and the alarm, and when the alarm goes off, the brightness is forced to its maximum and the numbers go wild.

The screen could theoretically be put on a raspberry pi to make it its own device.

Picture



Code

Arduino

```
/*
 * Interface of an alarm clock, requires the accompanying Processing sketch
 * Program made by Marinus Bos and Denzel Hagen
 * Made as final assignment for the course Programming and Physical
Computing at the University of Twente
 * made in module 2 of 2021/2022
 */
// constants
static const int bdrate = 19200;  // baudrate for the Serial Monitor
static const int potThreshold = 5:  // threshold before a change in
static const int potThreshold = 5;
                                         // threshold before a change in
the potentiometers is detected.
static const int loopWait = 16;
// pins
static const int lightSensorPin = A0; // pin for the voltage divider that
senses the light pin
static const int hourPotPin = A1;  // pin for the potentiometer that
controls the hours
static const int minPotPin = A2;  // pin for the potentiometer that
controls the minutes
static const int setButtonPin = 2; // pin for the button that enables or
disables the alarm
static const int ringingOffPin = 3; // pin for the button that turns off
the alarm when it rings
static const int buzzerPin = 9;  // pin for the buzzer
static const int lightPin = 10;
                                          // pin for the light
// timers
long ringTimer = 0;
long lastLoop = 0;
// variables
int hourPotVal = 0;
int minPotVal = 0;
// alarm set button
bool alarmOn = false;
int alarmOnInt = 0;  // integer version of alarmOn for easier
```

```
comparison.
```

```
// alarmRinging settings
bool alarmRinging = false;
int alarmPWM = 0;
                              // variable pulse width to make sure effects
are not static
bool pwmIncreasing = false; // keeps track whether the PWM is increasing
or decreasing now
long alarmTimer = 0;
                             // keeps track of when the PWM is changing.
void setup() {
  Serial.begin(bdrate);
  Serial.setTimeout(10);
  // setting pins
  pinMode(lightSensorPin, INPUT);
  pinMode(hourPotPin, INPUT);
  pinMode(minPotPin, INPUT);
  pinMode(setButtonPin, INPUT);
  pinMode(ringingOffPin, INPUT);
  pinMode(buzzerPin, OUTPUT);
  pinMode(lightPin, OUTPUT);
}
void loop() {
  if(millis() > lastLoop+loopWait) {
      lastLoop = millis();
      readVals();
      alarmSetButton();
      alarmDismissButton();
      readLight();
      readHour();
      readMinute();
      if (alarmRinging) {
      alarmRing();
      }
 }
}
//Receive data from Processing
void readVals() {
  if (Serial.available() > 0) {
      Serial.println("Something's available");
      String input = Serial.readString();
```

```
input.trim();
      if (input.equals("AA1")) {
      Serial.println("Alarm time!");
      alarmRinging = true;
      else if (input.equals("AA0")) {
      Serial.println("No more alarm");
      ringingOff();
  }
}
void alarmSetButton() {
  int val1 = digitalRead(setButtonPin);
  if (val1 != alarmOnInt) {
      delay(5);
      int val2 = digitalRead(setButtonPin);
      if (val1 == val2) {
      alarmOnInt = val1;
      alarmOn = !alarmOn;
      Serial.print("PA");
      Serial.println(alarmOn);
      }
      if(alarmRinging == true) {
      ringingOff();
 }
}
void alarmDismissButton() {
  int val = digitalRead(ringingOffPin);
  if (val > 0) {
      ringingOff();
  }
}
void readLight() {
      int val = analogRead(lightSensorPin);
      Serial.print("PL");
      Serial.println(val);
}
void readHour() {
```

```
int val = analogRead(hourPotPin);
  if (abs(val - hourPotVal) > potThreshold) {
      hourPotVal = val;
      Serial.print("PH");
      Serial.println(val);
 }
}
void readMinute() {
  int val = analogRead(minPotPin);
  if (abs(val - minPotVal) > potThreshold) {
      minPotVal = val;
      Serial.print("PM");
      Serial.println(val);
  }
}
// accesses both the buzzer and the alarm LED.
void alarmRing() {
  int alarmTone = 100+alarmPWM*10;
  tone(buzzerPin, alarmTone);
  analogWrite(lightPin, alarmPWM);
  if (pwmIncreasing) {
      if (alarmPWM < 255) {</pre>
      alarmPWM++;
      } else {
      pwmIncreasing = false;
      }
  } else {
      if (alarmPWM > 0) {
      alarmPWM--;
      } else {
      pwmIncreasing = true;
      }
  }
}
void ringingOff() {
  alarmRinging = false;
  alarmPWM = ∅;
  noTone(buzzerPin);
  analogWrite(lightPin, 0);
  Serial.print("PE");
```

```
Serial.println(alarmRinging);
}
```

Processing

Main page

```
Text ball animation by Marinus and Nina
Clock program made by Marinus Bos and Denzel Hagen
Made as final assignment for the course Programming and Physical Computing
made in module 2 of 2021/2022
import processing.serial.*;
TimeDisplay timeDisplay; // displays current time
SerialComm Arduino;
                                  // connects to Arduino for user input
AlarmDisplay alarm;
Updater up;
                                   // custom class that takes care of the
updates.
ScreenBrightness screenBrightness; // adjusts screen brightness
                                        // enables keyboard controls in
boolean testing = false;
place of Arduino, used for testing
boolean modifyDisplayBrightness = false; // if the program should attempt
to change the actual brightness of the display (not recommended)
void setup() {
 //size(1000, 600, P3D);
 fullScreen(P3D);
 PVector field = new PVector(width, height);
 //Attempt to connect to an Arduino
 try {
     Arduino = new SerialComm(new Serial(this, Serial.list()[0], 19200));
  catch(Exception E) {
     println("Arduino not found! (" + E + ")");
```

```
timeDisplay = new TimeDisplay(field, loadImage("background.jpeg"));
  alarm = new AlarmDisplay();
  if(modifyDisplayBrightness == true) {
      screenBrightness = new ScreenBrightness(127, 64, 255, field, 0, 100);
draw brightness
  } else {
      screenBrightness = new ScreenBrightness(127, 64, 255, field); //
 up = new Updater(Arduino, alarm, screenBrightness);
void draw() {
  background(0);
 // update things
  Arduino.serialRead();
 up.update();
 alarm.updateClock();
 timeDisplay.mainLoop();
  alarm.drawClock();
 screenBrightness.drawBrightness();
// used for testing in place of an Arduino
void keyPressed() {
  if(testing){
      switch(key) {
      case 'q':
      Arduino.hour = (abs((alarm.getHour()+1)%24));
      break:
      case 'a':
      // turn down the alarm hour
      Arduino.hour = (abs((alarm.getHour()-1)%24));
      break;
      case 'w':
```

```
// turn up the alarm minute
Arduino.minute = (abs((alarm.getMinute()+1)%60));
break;
case 's':
Arduino.minute = (abs((alarm.getMinute()-1)%60));
break;
case 'W':
Arduino.minute = (abs((alarm.getMinute()+1)%60));
break;
case 'S':
Arduino.minute = (abs((alarm.getMinute()-1)%60));
break;
case 'e':
// turn off the ringing
Arduino.alarmDismiss = true;
break;
case 'r':
alarm.startRinging();
Arduino.triggerAlarm();
break;
case 'd':
// toggle the alarm
Arduino.alarmToggle = true;
break;
case 't':
// turn up the screen brightness
Arduino.light = ((screenBrightness.getBrightness()+8)%256);
break;
case 'g':
// turn down the screen brightness
Arduino.light = ((screenBrightness.getBrightness()-8)%256);
```

```
break;
}
}
```

AlarmDisplay

```
Also changes color depending on if the alarm is turned on or off
class AlarmDisplay {
  PFont font;
  AlarmLetter[] clock = new AlarmLetter[5];
  int[] xPos = new int[5];
  int hour;
  int minute;
  static final float HEIGHT_FACT = 0.8;
  boolean alarmEnabled;
  boolean isRinging;
  AlarmDisplay() {
      font = loadFont("CourierNewPSMT-48.vlw");
      textFont(font);
      alarmEnabled = false;
      isRinging = false;
      for (int i = 0; i < 5; i++) {
      xPos[i] = width/3+i*width/15;
      if (i == 2) {
      clock[i] = new AlarmLetter(':', xPos[i], height*HEIGHT_FACT, i);
      } else {
      clock[i] = new AlarmLetter('0', xPos[i], height*HEIGHT_FACT, i);
      }
  }
  void drawClock() {
      for (int i = 0; i < 5; i++) {
```

```
clock[i].drawLetter();
}
void updateClock() {
    for (int i = 0; i < 5; i++) {
    clock[i].updateLetter();
    }
}
void toggleAlarm(boolean on) {
    alarmEnabled = on;
    color colour = color(64);
    if (on) {
    colour = color(255);
    for (int i = 0; i < 5; i++) {
    clock[i].setColor(colour);
}
void stopRinging() {
    isRinging = false;
    timeDisplay.alarmOff();
    for (int i = 0; i < 5; i++) {
    clock[i].stopRinging();
    }
}
void startRinging() {
    isRinging = true;
    timeDisplay.alarmOn();
    for (int i = 0; i < 5; i++) {
    clock[i].startRinging();
    }
}
void setHour(int newHour) {
    hour = newHour;
    char leftHour = (""+(newHour/10)).charAt(0);
    char rightHour = (""+(newHour%10)).charAt(0);
```

```
clock[∅].setLetter(leftHour);
    clock[1].setLetter(rightHour);
}
void setMinute(int newMin) {
    minute = newMin;
    char leftMin = (""+(newMin/10)).charAt(0);
    char rightMin = (""+(newMin%10)).charAt(0);
    clock[3].setLetter(leftMin);
    clock[4].setLetter(rightMin);
}
int getHour() {
    return hour;
int getMinute() {
    return minute;
boolean isEnabled() {
    return alarmEnabled;
}
boolean isRinging() {
    return isRinging;
```

AlarmLetter

```
static final int RING SIZE = 200;
char myLetter;
float xPos, yPos, zPos;
float xOrigin, yOrigin;
float angleX, angleY, angleZ;
color letterColor;
boolean ringing;
float rotaX, rotaY, rotaZ; // rotation in the various dimensions
int num;
int textSize;
AlarmLetter (char letter, float xPos, float yPos, int num) {
    myLetter = letter;
    this.xPos = xPos;
    this.yPos = yPos;
    xOrigin = xPos;
    yOrigin = yPos;
    zPos = 0;
    angleX = 0; //random (2 * PI);
    angleY = 0;
    angleZ = 0;
    ringing = false;
    letterColor = color(255);
    textSize = DEF_SIZE;
    this.num = num;
}
void drawLetter() {
    pushMatrix();
    translate(xPos, yPos, zPos);
    fill(letterColor);
    rotateX(angleX);
    rotateY(angleY);
    rotateZ(angleZ);
    textSize(textSize);
    text(myLetter, 0, 0);
    popMatrix();
}
// this method updates the letter
void updateLetter() {
```

```
if (ringing) {
    angleX = angleX + rotaX;
    angleY = angleY + rotaY;
    angleZ = angleZ + rotaZ;
}
void stopRinging() {
    ringing = false;
    rotaX = 0;
    rotaY = 0;
    rotaZ = 0;
    angleX = 0;
    angleY = 0;
    angleZ = 0;
    xPos = xOrigin;
    yPos = yOrigin;
    zPos = 0;
    textSize = DEF_SIZE;
}
void startRinging() {
    ringing = true;
    xPos = (num*width/5)+RING_SIZE/2;
    yPos = width/3;
    rotaX = random(-0.25, 0.25);
    rotaY = random(-0.25, 0.25);
    rotaZ = random(-0.25, 0.25);
    textSize = RING_SIZE;
}
void setColor(color letterColour) {
    letterColor = letterColour;
}
void setLetter(char number) {
    myLetter = number;
```

```
A basic ball. Pulls color from the background image
and drifts back to its initial position constantly.
Clock changelog:
- Added ability to change size on the fly
- Spiral and recoil have their input reworked
- Alarm function where the ball rotates around the center of the screen
class Ball {
  PVector initPos, currPos, velocity;
  int movementType = 0;
  float size;
  PVector field;
  color fillColor;
  PImage background;
  boolean alarmState = false;
  Ball(PVector initPos, float size, PVector field, PImage background) {
      this.initPos = initPos.copy(); //the position to which it returns
      this.currPos = initPos.copy(); //the current position
      this.size = size;
      this.background = background;
      this.fillColor = getColor();
      this.field = field;
      velocity = new PVector(0, 0);
  }
  void move() {
screen
      if(alarmState) {
      velocity.add(spiral(new PVector(field.x/2, field.y/2), field.x/250));
      }
      velocity.add(gravity()); //apply gravity
      velocity.div(resistance()); //apply resistance
```

```
currPos.add(velocity); //move the ball
}
// Draw the ball with a slight glow
void display(float seperation) {
    pushMatrix();
    translate(seperation/2, seperation/2);
    ellipseMode(CENTER);
    noStroke();
    fillColor = getColor();
    fill(fillColor, 25);
    float glowRadius = size*2;
    float glowSteps = (glowRadius-size)/10;
    for(; glowRadius >= size; glowRadius -= glowSteps) {
    circle(currPos.x, currPos.y, glowRadius);
    fill(fillColor, 255);
    circle(currPos.x, currPos.y, size);
    popMatrix();
}
void alarmOn() {
    alarmState = true;
}
void alarmOff() {
    alarmState = false;
}
//set a new home location for the balls
void setHome(PVector newHome) {
    initPos = newHome.copy();
}
//set a new size of the ball
void setSize(float size) {
    this.size = size;
}
// Constantly pull the ball back towards the initial position, with the
PVector gravity() {
    final float gravityAmp = 0.01;
```

```
return(initPos.copy().sub(currPos).div(1/gravityAmp));
 // Constant resistance to movement
 float resistance() {
     final float resistanceAmp = 0.1;
     return(1+resistanceAmp);
  }
 // Get color from the background image to be used for the ball color
  color getColor() {
     return background.get((int)this.currPos.x, (int)this.currPos.y);
  }
 PVector recoil(PVector gravityPoint, float gravityAmp) {
     float mag = gravityAmp/(sqrt(currPos.dist(gravityPoint)));
     float angle = currPos.copy().sub(gravityPoint).heading();
     return(PVector.fromAngle(angle).setMag(mag));
 }
 PVector spiral(PVector gravityPoint, float gravityAmp) {
     float rotAngle =
currPos.copy().sub(gravityPoint).rotate(PI/2).heading();
     return(PVector.fromAngle(rotAngle).setMag(gravityAmp));
 }
```

Letter

```
class Letter {
  int[][] bitmap;
  char character;
 int charWidth;
 int charHeight;
 float seperation;
 float size;
 PVector charSize;
 PVector charPos;
 PVector field;
 ArrayList<Ball> balls;
 PImage background;
 boolean alarmState;
 int recoilCountdown = 0;
  Letter(char initCharacter, PVector charPos, float seperation, PVector
field, PImage background) {
     this.field = field;
     this.seperation = seperation;
     this.charPos = charPos;
     this.background = background;
     //char width and height in amount of balls
      charWidth = 8;
      charHeight = 8;
     bitmap = new int[charHeight][charWidth];
     balls = new ArrayList<Ball>();
     //initialize the PVector
      charSize = new PVector(0, 0);
     //set the character
      changeChar(initCharacter);
 //calls the main functions of the balls
 void mainLoop() {
     for (Ball ball : balls) {
     ball.move();
     ball.display(seperation);
```

```
}
 //update the home position and size of the balls from the bitmap and size
variables
 void updateBalls() {
     this.size = seperation*0.8; //the size of the inner ball
      charSize.set(charWidth, charHeight).mult(seperation); //character
      int ballIndex = -1; //keeps track of the amount of the next ball
needing to be updated
     for (int i = 0; i < charWidth*charHeight; i++) { //check through the</pre>
entire bitmap
      PVector gridPos = new PVector(i%int(charWidth), i/int(charHeight));
//calculate the current bitmap position
      if (bitmap[int(gridPos.y)][int(gridPos.x)] == 1) { //check if the
     ballIndex++;
     if(alarmState == false) {
            balls.get(ballIndex).initPos =
gridPos.copy().mult(seperation).add(charPos); //update the ball's home
position
            balls.get(ballIndex).alarmOff();
      } else {
            balls.get(ballIndex).alarmOn();
      }
     balls.get(ballIndex).setSize(size); //update the ball's size
      }
      }
  }
 //move the entire character
  void relocate(PVector newLocation) {
      charPos = newLocation;
     updateBalls();
  }
  //resize the character by changing the seperation value and updating the
```

```
size and position of the balls accordingly
  void resizeChar(float seperation) {
      this.seperation = seperation;
     updateBalls();
 }
 //change the character bitmap by updating the amount of balls and giving
them a new home position
  void changeChar(char newCharacter) {
      bitmap = convert(newCharacter); //convert the character code to a
      //count the amount of balls in the new bitmap
      int newBallCount = 0;
      for (int i = 0; i < charWidth*charHeight; i++) {</pre>
     PVector gridPos = new PVector(i%int(charWidth), i/int(charHeight));
      if (bitmap[int(gridPos.y)][int(gridPos.x)] == 1) {
      newBallCount++;
      }
     //remove or add balls until the right amount is reached for the new
     while(newBallCount != balls.size()) {
      //if the old bitmap doesn't have any balls and the new one does,
spawn a ball in the center of the character
      if(balls.size() == 0) {
     balls.add(new Ball(charSize.copy().div(2).add(charPos), size, field,
background));
      }
      //if there are currently balls and you need more, spawn a new ball on
top of an old ball, giving the appearance of them splitting
     if(newBallCount > balls.size()) {
      balls.add(int(random(∅, balls.size()-1)), new
Ball(balls.get(int(random(∅, balls.size()-1))).currPos.copy(), size, field,
background));
      //if the new bitmap needs less balls, remove a random ball
     else {
      balls.remove(int(random(0, balls.size()-1)));
      }
      }
```

```
updateBalls();
  }
 void alarmOn() {
     alarmState = true;
 }
 void alarmOff() {
     alarmState = false;
  }
 //=====BITMAP GENERATION======
 //Converts a string to a binary array that visually spells out the text
 int[][] convert(char input) {
     return stringToIntArr(intsToBinaryStr(charToIntMap(input)));
 }
  int[] charToIntMap(char input) {
     int[] convertedHex = new int[charHeight];
     if(input > 0x7F) {
     input = 0x7F;
     convertedHex = hexmap[int(input)];
     return convertedHex;
 }
binary being an element
 String[] intsToBinaryStr(int[] input) {
     String[] converted = new String[charHeight];
     for(int i = 0; i < input.length; i++) {</pre>
      converted[i] = intToBinary(input[i]);
```

```
return converted;
}
String intToBinary(int input) {
    String output = "";
    while(input > 0) {
    if(input%2 == 0) {
    output +="0";
    input = input/2;
    } else {
    output +="1";
    input = (input-1)/2;
    }
    }
    while(output.length() < 8) {</pre>
    output += "0";
    }
    return output;
}
int[][] stringToIntArr(String[] input) {
    int[][] output = new int[input.length][input[0].length()];
    for(int i = 0; i < input.length; i++){</pre>
    for(int j = 0; j < input[i].length(); j++){</pre>
    output[i][j] = Character.getNumericValue(input[i].charAt(j));
    }
    }
    return output;
}
//Print the letter bitmap (mostly for debugging)
void printBit() {
    for(int i = 0; i < bitmap.length; i++) {</pre>
    for(int j = 0; j < bitmap[i].length; j++) {</pre>
    print(bitmap[i][j]);
    println();
```

```
}
 }
 //The map for basic characters
 int hexmap[][] = {
      \{ 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00\},
                                                             // U+0000 (nul)
      \{ 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00 \},
                                                             // U+0001
      \{ 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00 \},
                                                             // U+0002
      \{ 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00 \},
                                                             // U+0003
      \{ 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00 \},
                                                             // U+0004
      \{ 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00 \},
                                                             // U+0005
      \{ 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00 \},
                                                             // U+0006
      \{ 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00 \},
      \{ 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00 \},
                                                             // U+0008
      \{ 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00\},
                                                             // U+0009
      \{ 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00 \},
                                                             // U+000A
      \{ 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00 \},
                                                             // U+000B
     \{ 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00 \},
      \{ 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00 \},
                                                             // U+000D
      \{ 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00 \},
                                                             // U+000E
      { 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00},
                                                             // U+000F
      \{ 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00 \},
                                                             // U+0010
      \{ 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00 \},
                                                             // U+0011
      \{ 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00 \},
                                                             // U+0012
      \{ 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00 \},
                                                             // U+0013
      { 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00},
                                                             // U+0014
      \{ 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00 \},
                                                             // U+0015
     \{ 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00 \},
                                                             // U+0016
      \{ 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00 \},
                                                             // U+0017
      \{ 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00 \},
                                                             // U+0018
      \{ 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00 \},
      \{ 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00 \},
                                                             // U+001A
      \{ 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00 \},
                                                             // U+001B
      \{ 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00\},
                                                             // U+001C
      \{ 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00 \},
      \{ 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00 \},
                                                             // U+001E
      { 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00},
                                                             // U+001F
      { 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00},
                                                             // U+0020
(space)
                                                             // U+0021 (!)
      \{ 0x18, 0x3C, 0x3C, 0x18, 0x18, 0x00, 0x18, 0x00 \},
      \{ 0x36, 0x36, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00 \},
      { 0x36, 0x36, 0x7F, 0x36, 0x7F, 0x36, 0x36, 0x00},
      \{ 0x0C, 0x3E, 0x03, 0x1E, 0x30, 0x1F, 0x0C, 0x00 \},
                                                             // U+0024 ($)
```

```
\{ 0x00, 0x63, 0x33, 0x18, 0x0C, 0x66, 0x63, 0x00 \},
                                                       // U+0025 (%)
{ 0x1C, 0x36, 0x1C, 0x6E, 0x3B, 0x33, 0x6E, 0x00},
                                                       // U+0026 (&)
\{ 0x06, 0x06, 0x03, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00 \},
                                                       // U+0027 (')
\{ 0x18, 0x0C, 0x06, 0x06, 0x06, 0x0C, 0x18, 0x00 \},
                                                       // U+0028 (()
\{ 0x06, 0x0C, 0x18, 0x18, 0x18, 0x0C, 0x06, 0x00 \},
{ 0x00, 0x66, 0x3C, 0xFF, 0x3C, 0x66, 0x00, 0x00},
{ 0x00, 0x0C, 0x0C, 0x3F, 0x0C, 0x0C, 0x00, 0x00},
                                                       // U+002B (+)
\{ 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x0C, 0x0C, 0x06 \},
                                                      // U+002C (,)
\{ 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x3F, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00 \},
                                                      // U+002D (-)
\{ 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x0C, 0x0C, 0x00\},
                                                      // U+002E (.)
\{ 0x60, 0x30, 0x18, 0x0C, 0x06, 0x03, 0x01, 0x00 \},
                                                      // U+002F (/)
\{0x3C, 0x66, 0x66, 0x66, 0x66, 0x66, 0x3C\},
\{0x18, 0x1E, 0x1E, 0x18, 0x18, 0x7E, 0x7E, 0x7E\},
\{0x3C, 0x7E, 0x66, 0x60, 0x30, 0x18, 0x7E, 0x7E\},
\{0x3C, 0x7E, 0x62, 0x38, 0x38, 0x62, 0x7E, 0x3C\},\
\{0x78, 0x7C, 0x6E, 0x66, 0x66, 0x7E, 0x60, 0x60\},
\{0x7E, 0x7E, 0x02, 0x3E, 0x60, 0x60, 0x7E, 0x3C\},
\{0x38, 0x1C, 0x0E, 0x3E, 0x66, 0x66, 0x7E, 0x3C\},
\{0x7E, 0x7E, 0x70, 0x78, 0x3C, 0x1C, 0x1C, 0x1C\},
\{0x3C, 0x66, 0x66, 0x3C, 0x66, 0x66, 0x66, 0x3C\},
\{0x3C, 0x7E, 0x66, 0x66, 0x7C, 0x60, 0x3C, 0x1C\},
\{ 0x00, 0x18, 0x18, 0x00, 0x00, 0x18, 0x18, 0x00 \},
                                                       // U+003A (:)
{ 0x00, 0x0C, 0x0C, 0x00, 0x00, 0x0C, 0x0C, 0x06},
                                                      // U+003B (;)
\{ 0x18, 0x0C, 0x06, 0x03, 0x06, 0x0C, 0x18, 0x00 \},
                                                       // U+003C (<)
{ 0x00, 0x00, 0x3F, 0x00, 0x00, 0x3F, 0x00, 0x00},
                                                       // U+003D (=)
{ 0x06, 0x0C, 0x18, 0x30, 0x18, 0x0C, 0x06, 0x00},
                                                       // U+003E (>)
{ 0x1E, 0x33, 0x30, 0x18, 0x0C, 0x00, 0x0C, 0x00},
                                                       // U+003F (?)
{ 0x3E, 0x63, 0x7B, 0x7B, 0x7B, 0x03, 0x1E, 0x00},
                                                       // U+0040 (@)
                                                       // U+0041 (A)
{ 0x0C, 0x1E, 0x33, 0x33, 0x3F, 0x33, 0x33, 0x00},
\{ 0x3F, 0x66, 0x66, 0x3E, 0x66, 0x66, 0x3F, 0x00 \},
                                                       // U+0042 (B)
{ 0x3C, 0x66, 0x03, 0x03, 0x03, 0x66, 0x3C, 0x00},
                                                       // U+0043 (C)
\{ 0x1F, 0x36, 0x66, 0x66, 0x66, 0x36, 0x1F, 0x00 \},
                                                       // U+0044 (D)
\{ 0x7F, 0x46, 0x16, 0x1E, 0x16, 0x46, 0x7F, 0x00 \},
                                                       // U+0045 (E)
\{ 0x7F, 0x46, 0x16, 0x1E, 0x16, 0x06, 0x0F, 0x00\},
                                                       // U+0046 (F)
\{ 0x3C, 0x66, 0x03, 0x03, 0x73, 0x66, 0x7C, 0x00 \},
                                                       // U+0047 (G)
{ 0x33, 0x33, 0x33, 0x3F, 0x33, 0x33, 0x33, 0x00},
                                                       // U+0048 (H)
{ 0x1E, 0x0C, 0x0C, 0x0C, 0x0C, 0x1E, 0x00},
                                                       // U+0049 (I)
{ 0x78, 0x30, 0x30, 0x30, 0x33, 0x1E, 0x00},
                                                       // U+004A (J)
                                                       // U+004B (K)
\{ 0x67, 0x66, 0x36, 0x1E, 0x36, 0x66, 0x67, 0x00 \},
\{ 0x0F, 0x06, 0x06, 0x06, 0x46, 0x66, 0x7F, 0x00 \},
                                                       // U+004C (L)
{ 0x63, 0x77, 0x7F, 0x7F, 0x6B, 0x63, 0x63, 0x00},
                                                       // U+004D (M)
{ 0x63, 0x67, 0x6F, 0x7B, 0x73, 0x63, 0x63, 0x00},
                                                      // U+004E (N)
\{ 0x1C, 0x36, 0x63, 0x63, 0x63, 0x36, 0x1C, 0x00 \},
                                                       // U+004F (0)
```

```
\{ 0x3F, 0x66, 0x66, 0x3E, 0x06, 0x06, 0x0F, 0x00 \},
                                                      // U+0050 (P)
{ 0x1E, 0x33, 0x33, 0x38, 0x1E, 0x38, 0x00},
                                                      // U+0051 (Q)
{ 0x3F, 0x66, 0x66, 0x3E, 0x36, 0x66, 0x67, 0x00},
                                                      // U+0052 (R)
\{ 0x1E, 0x33, 0x07, 0x0E, 0x38, 0x33, 0x1E, 0x00 \},
                                                      // U+0053 (S)
{ 0x3F, 0x2D, 0x0C, 0x0C, 0x0C, 0x0C, 0x1E, 0x00},
                                                      // U+0054 (T)
{ 0x33, 0x33, 0x33, 0x33, 0x33, 0x3F, 0x00},
                                                      // U+0055 (U)
{ 0x33, 0x33, 0x33, 0x33, 0x1E, 0x0C, 0x00},
                                                      // U+0056 (V)
\{ 0x63, 0x63, 0x63, 0x6B, 0x7F, 0x77, 0x63, 0x00 \},
                                                      // U+0057 (W)
\{ 0x63, 0x63, 0x36, 0x1C, 0x1C, 0x36, 0x63, 0x00 \},
                                                      // U+0058 (X)
\{ 0x33, 0x33, 0x33, 0x1E, 0x0C, 0x0C, 0x1E, 0x00\},
                                                      // U+0059 (Y)
{ 0x7F, 0x63, 0x31, 0x18, 0x4C, 0x66, 0x7F, 0x00},
                                                      // U+005A (Z)
{ 0x1E, 0x06, 0x06, 0x06, 0x06, 0x06, 0x1E, 0x00},
                                                      // U+005B ([)
{ 0x03, 0x06, 0x0C, 0x18, 0x30, 0x60, 0x40, 0x00},
\{ 0x1E, 0x18, 0x18, 0x18, 0x18, 0x18, 0x1E, 0x00 \},
                                                      // U+005D (])
{ 0x08, 0x1C, 0x36, 0x63, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00},
                                                      // U+005E (^)
{ 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0xFF},
\{ 0x0C, 0x0C, 0x18, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00 \},
                                                      // U+0060 (`)
\{ 0x00, 0x00, 0x1E, 0x30, 0x3E, 0x33, 0x6E, 0x00 \},
                                                      // U+0061 (a)
\{ 0x07, 0x06, 0x06, 0x3E, 0x66, 0x66, 0x3B, 0x00 \},
                                                      // U+0062 (b)
{ 0x00, 0x00, 0x1E, 0x33, 0x03, 0x33, 0x1E, 0x00},
                                                      // U+0063 (c)
{ 0x38, 0x30, 0x30, 0x3e, 0x33, 0x33, 0x6E, 0x00},
                                                      // U+0064 (d)
\{ 0x00, 0x00, 0x1E, 0x33, 0x3f, 0x03, 0x1E, 0x00 \},
                                                      // U+0065 (e)
{ 0x1C, 0x36, 0x06, 0x0f, 0x06, 0x06, 0x0F, 0x00},
                                                      // U+0066 (f)
\{ 0x00, 0x00, 0x6E, 0x33, 0x33, 0x3E, 0x30, 0x1F \},
                                                      // U+0067 (g)
{ 0x07, 0x06, 0x36, 0x6E, 0x66, 0x66, 0x67, 0x00},
{ 0x0C, 0x00, 0x0E, 0x0C, 0x0C, 0x0C, 0x1E, 0x00},
                                                      // U+0069 (i)
\{ 0x30, 0x00, 0x30, 0x30, 0x30, 0x33, 0x33, 0x1E \},
                                                      // U+006A (j)
{ 0x07, 0x06, 0x66, 0x36, 0x1E, 0x36, 0x67, 0x00},
                                                      // U+006B (k)
\{ 0x0E, 0x0C, 0x0C, 0x0C, 0x0C, 0x0C, 0x1E, 0x00 \},
                                                      // U+006C (1)
\{ 0x00, 0x00, 0x33, 0x7F, 0x7F, 0x6B, 0x63, 0x00 \},
                                                      // U+006D (m)
\{ 0x00, 0x00, 0x1F, 0x33, 0x33, 0x33, 0x33, 0x00 \},
                                                      // U+006E (n)
{ 0x00, 0x00, 0x1E, 0x33, 0x33, 0x33, 0x1E, 0x00},
                                                      // U+006F (o)
{ 0x00, 0x00, 0x3B, 0x66, 0x66, 0x3E, 0x06, 0x0F},
                                                      // U+0070 (p)
\{ 0x00, 0x00, 0x6E, 0x33, 0x33, 0x3E, 0x30, 0x78 \},
                                                      // U+0071 (q)
\{ 0x00, 0x00, 0x3B, 0x6E, 0x66, 0x06, 0x0F, 0x00 \},
{ 0x00, 0x00, 0x3E, 0x03, 0x1E, 0x30, 0x1F, 0x00},
                                                      // U+0073 (s)
{ 0x08, 0x0C, 0x3E, 0x0C, 0x0C, 0x2C, 0x18, 0x00},
                                                      // U+0074 (t)
{ 0x00, 0x00, 0x33, 0x33, 0x33, 0x33, 0x6E, 0x00},
\{ 0x00, 0x00, 0x33, 0x33, 0x33, 0x1E, 0x0C, 0x00 \},
                                                      // U+0076 (v)
\{ 0x00, 0x00, 0x63, 0x6B, 0x7F, 0x7F, 0x36, 0x00 \},
                                                      // U+0077 (w)
{ 0x00, 0x00, 0x63, 0x36, 0x1C, 0x36, 0x63, 0x00},
{ 0x00, 0x00, 0x33, 0x33, 0x38, 0x36, 0x30, 0x1F},
                                                      // U+0079 (y)
\{ 0x00, 0x00, 0x3F, 0x19, 0x0C, 0x26, 0x3F, 0x00 \},
                                                      // U+007A (z)
```

```
{ 0x38, 0x0C, 0x0C, 0x07, 0x0C, 0x0C, 0x38, 0x00},
                                                        // U+007B ({)
    { 0x18, 0x18, 0x18, 0x00, 0x18, 0x18, 0x18, 0x00},
   { 0x07, 0x0C, 0x0C, 0x38, 0x0C, 0x0C, 0x07, 0x00}, // U+007D (})
    { 0x6E, 0x3B, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00},
                                                       // U+007E (~)
    { 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00}
   //\{ 0x3E, 0x63, 0x73, 0x7B, 0x6F, 0x67, 0x3E, 0x00\},
                                                          // U+0030 (0)
   //\{ 0x0C, 0x0E, 0x0C, 0x0C, 0x0C, 0x0C, 0x3F, 0x00\},
                                                          // U+0031 (1)
   //{ 0x1E, 0x33, 0x30, 0x1C, 0x06, 0x33, 0x3F, 0x00},
                                                         // U+0032 (2)
   //{ 0x1E, 0x33, 0x30, 0x1C, 0x30, 0x33, 0x1E, 0x00},
                                                          // U+0033 (3)
   //\{ 0x1C, 0x06, 0x03, 0x1F, 0x33, 0x33, 0x1E, 0x00\},
                                                          // U+0036 (6)
   //{ 0x3F, 0x33, 0x30, 0x18, 0x0C, 0x0C, 0x0C, 0x00},
                                                          // U+0038 (8)
    //\{ 0x1E, 0x33, 0x33, 0x3E, 0x30, 0x18, 0x0E, 0x00\},
                                                         // U+0039 (9)
};
```

ScreenBrightness

```
import java.io.IOException;
import java.io.InputStreamReader;
class ScreenBrightness {
  int brightness = 127; //The screen brightness, between 0 and 255
  int drawBrightnessMin = 0, drawBrightnessMax = 0; //the range of
transparancy of the darkening overlay. Default values disable it as a
fallback. Values between 0 and 255 are allowed.
  PVector field = new PVector(0, 0);
 int backlightBrightnessMin = 0, backlightBrightnessMax = 100; //the range
of screen brightnesses, values between 0 and 100 are allowed
  int backlightChangeWait = 1000; //limits the rate in which the backlight
 int lastBacklightChange = 0;
  boolean changeBackgroundBrightness; //sets if the backlight brightness
will be changed
 //initialize to only affect background brightness
  ScreenBrightness(int startBrightness, int backlightBrightnessMin, int
backlightBrightnessMax) {
      this.backlightBrightnessMin = backlightBrightnessMin;
      this.backlightBrightnessMax = backlightBrightnessMax;
      changeBackgroundBrightness = true;
      setBrightness(startBrightness);
  }
 //initialize to only affect draw brightness
  ScreenBrightness(int startBrightness, int drawBrightnessMin, int
drawBrightnessMax, PVector field) {
      this.drawBrightnessMin = drawBrightnessMin;
     this.drawBrightnessMax = drawBrightnessMax;
     this.field = field;
      changeBackgroundBrightness = false;
      setBrightness(startBrightness);
  }
  ScreenBrightness(int startBrightness, int drawBrightnessMin, int
drawBrightnessMax, PVector field, int backlightBrightnessMin, int
```

```
backlightBrightnessMax) {
     this.drawBrightnessMin = drawBrightnessMin;
     this.drawBrightnessMax = drawBrightnessMax;
     this.field = field;
     this.backlightBrightnessMin = backlightBrightnessMin;
     this.backlightBrightnessMax = backlightBrightnessMax;
      changeBackgroundBrightness = true;
     setBrightness(startBrightness);
 }
 //call to change the brightness, performs a sanity check and then sets a
variable for drawbrightness and calls the change method for background
 void setBrightness(int newBrightness) {
     if(newBrightness < 256 && newBrightness > 0) {
     this.brightness = newBrightness;
     if(changeBackgroundBrightness == true) { //set the background
      setBacklightBrightness(brightness);
     println(brightness);
 int getBrightness() {
     return(brightness);
 }
brightness
  void drawBrightness() {
      int alpha = int(map(brightness, 0, 255, drawBrightnessMin,
drawBrightnessMax));
     fill(0,0,0,255-alpha);
     rect(0,0,width,height);
 }
 //changes the backlight brightness, with try statement to handle any
errors
 void setBacklightBrightness(int brightness) {
```

```
if(millis() > lastBacklightChange + backlightChangeWait) {
      lastBacklightChange = millis();
      try {
      brightness = int(map(brightness, 0, 255, backlightBrightnessMin,
backlightBrightnessMax));
      trySetBacklightBrightness(brightness);
      }
      catch(Exception E) {
      println(E);
      }
      }
  }
 //uses Windows PowerShell to change the background brightness. Needs to
be called from a try-statement to handle any errors.
  //Processing adaptation of Java code by Darty11 on Stackoverflow
(https://stackoverflow.com/questions/15880547/how-to-change-laptop-screen-b
rightness-from-a-java-application)
  void trySetBacklightBrightness(int brightness)
      throws IOException {
      //Creates a powerShell command that will set the brightness to the
requested value (0-100), after the requested delay (in milliseconds) has
     String s = String.format("$brightness = %d;", brightness)
     + "$delay = 0;"
      + "$myMonitor = Get-WmiObject -Namespace root\\wmi -Class
WmiMonitorBrightnessMethods;"
      + "$myMonitor.wmisetbrightness($delay, $brightness)";
     String command = "powershell.exe " + s;
      Process powerShellProcess = Runtime.getRuntime().exec(command);
      powerShellProcess.getOutputStream().close();
      String line;
      BufferedReader stderr = new BufferedReader(new InputStreamReader(
      powerShellProcess.getErrorStream()));
      line = stderr.readLine();
      if (line != null)
```

```
System.err.println("Standard Error:");
do
{
    System.err.println(line);
}
while ((line = stderr.readLine()) != null);
}
stderr.close();
}
```

SerialComm

```
Reads data in the following packet structure:
 PA123\r\n
   ^ A indicates what variable to store the data in
      ^^^ 123 is the value being transmitted
      ^^^^ newline indicates the end of a packet
In this case the following variables are accepted:
in, so values between 0 - 1023)
E = alarm dismissed button, A = alarm toggle button (Digital inputs, so
class SerialComm {
  Serial serial;
  //Store values received from the serial communication
  int light, hour, minute;
  boolean alarmToggle, alarmDismiss;
  SerialComm(Serial serial) {
      // Opening the port
      this.serial = serial;
      serial.bufferUntil('\n');
      // defaults when no Arduino is attached:
```

```
light = 255;
     hour = 17;
     minute = 30;
     alarmToggle = false;
     alarmDismiss = false;
 }
 void triggerAlarm() {
     serial.write("AA1\r\n");
 }
 void serialRead() {
     String input = "";
     while(serial.available() > 0) {
     try {
     // read the data until the newline n appears
     input = serial.readStringUntil('\n');
     if (input != null) { //if there's data to process
            input = trim(input); //trim whitespace
            if(input.charAt(0) == 'P') { //see if the packet is destined
for Processing
            char type = input.charAt(1); //seperate the variable indicator
            int val = int(input.substring(2)); //seperate the value from
the packet
            switch(type) { //store the value in the appropriate variable
            case 'L':
            light = val;
            println("Light: " + light);
            break:
            case 'H':
            hour = val;
            println("Hour: " + hour);
            break;
            case 'M':
            minute = val;
            println("Minute: " + minute);
            break;
            case 'E':
            alarmDismiss = true;
```

```
println("Alarm dismissed");
    break;
    case 'A':
    alarmToggle = val > 0; //returns false if value is 0, true if

value is 1
    println("Alarm toggled");
    break;
    }
    }
}

catch(Exception E) {
    println(E);
    }
}
```

TimeDisplay

```
characters = new ArrayList<Letter>();
     //generate initial letters
     for (int i = 0; i < getTimeString().length(); i++) {</pre>
      characters.add(new Letter(' ', new PVector(∅, ∅), 1, field,
background));
      }
     //organise the characters on the field
     organise(field);
     //resize the background image
     background.resize(width, height);
  }
  void mainLoop() {
     updateTime();
     organise(field);
     for (Letter letter : characters) {
     letter.mainLoop();
      }
  }
 //calculate and set the location and size of the letters
 void organise(PVector field) {
     //figure out the strings's displayed size
      stringSize = new PVector(0, 0);
     for(Letter letter : characters) {
     stringSize.x += letter.charSize.x;
     if(letter.charSize.y > stringSize.y) {
     stringSize.y = letter.charSize.y;
      }
      }
     //resize the characters to fit in the screen, with some margins
     seperation = seperation*field.x/(stringSize.x*1.2);
     for(Letter letter : characters) {
     letter.resizeChar(seperation);
     }
     //find where the string needs to start to be centered
     PVector letterPos = field.copy().div(2).sub(stringSize.div(2));
```

```
float xPos = 0;
     for(Letter letter : characters) {
     letter.relocate(letterPos.copy().add(xPos, 0));
     xPos += letter.charSize.x;
 }
 //update the time displayed
 void updateTime() {
      char[] newCharDisplay = getTimeString().toCharArray();
     if(newCharDisplay != charDisplay) { //only update if the time has
     charDisplay = newCharDisplay;
     for (int i = 0; i < charDisplay.length; i++) {</pre>
     characters.get(i).changeChar(charDisplay[i]);
     }
 }
 void alarmOn() {
     for(Letter letter : characters) {
     letter.alarmOn();
     }
 }
 void alarmOff() {
     for(Letter letter : characters) {
     letter.alarmOff();
     }
 }
 String getTimeString() {
     return String.format("%02d", hour())+":"+String.format("%02d",
minute())+":"+String.format("%02d", second());
  }
```

Updater

```
/*==========
```

```
Prepares variables to be used by functions, and calls these functions when
class Updater {
 SerialComm s;
 AlarmDisplay alarm;
 ScreenBrightness screen;
 boolean alarmHasBeenToggled = false; //makes sure each button press only
 Updater(SerialComm serial, AlarmDisplay a, ScreenBrightness scr) {
     s = serial;
     alarm = a;
     screen = scr;
 }
 //call relevant functions to update parts of the program based on
variables
 void update() {
     updateHour();
     updateMinute();
     updateAlarm();
     updateRinging();
     checkAlarm();
     updateBrightness();
 }
 void checkAlarm() {
      if (hour() == alarm.getHour() && minute() == alarm.getMinute() &&
alarm.isEnabled() && !alarm.isRinging() && second() == 0) {
     alarm.startRinging();
     s.triggerAlarm();
 }
 //when the toggle alarm button has been pressed, toggle the alarm state
 void updateAlarm() {
     if(s.alarmToggle) {
     if(alarmHasBeenToggled == false) {
     if(alarm.isEnabled()) {
```

```
alarm.toggleAlarm(false);
            alarmHasBeenToggled = true;
      } else {
            alarm.toggleAlarm(true);
            alarmHasBeenToggled = true;
     }
      }
     } else {
     alarmHasBeenToggled = false;
 }
 void updateRinging() {
     if (s.alarmDismiss) {
     s.alarmDismiss = false;
     alarm.stopRinging();
     }
 }
 void updateHour() {
      int hour = int(map(s.hour, 0, 1000, 0, 23)); //map the analog in
values to hours, with some margins for the upper value
     if(hour > 23) {
     hour = 23;
     } else if(hour < 0) {</pre>
     hour = 0;
     }
     if (hour != alarm.getHour()) {
     alarm.setHour(hour);
     }
 }
 void updateMinute() {
      int min = int(map(s.minute, 0, 1000, 0, 59)); //map the analog in
values to minutes, with some margins for the upper value
     //ensure that the values are in the correct range
     if(min > 59) {
```

```
min = 59;
    } else if(min < 0) {
    min = 0;
    }

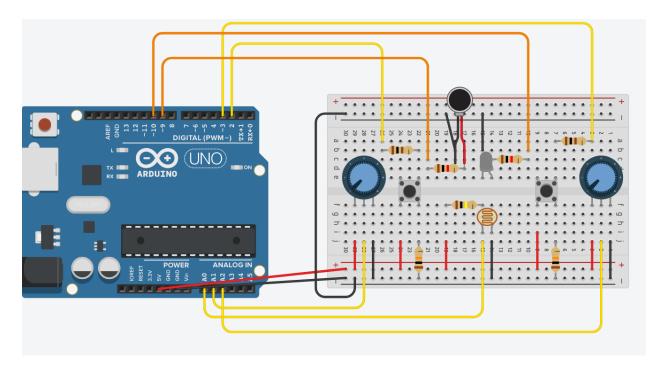
    //if the value has been updated, call the relevant function
    if (min != alarm.getMinute()) {
        alarm.setMinute(min);
    }
}

void updateBrightness() {
    int brightness = int(map(s.light, 512, 32, 0, 255)); //map the analog
in values to a byte, with large margins

    println("Mapped light: " + brightness);

    //if the value has been updated, call the relevant function
    if (brightness != screenBrightness.getBrightness()) {
        screenBrightness.setBrightness(brightness);
    }
}
</pre>
```

Schematic



Insightful mistakes

#1: Attempting to change the actual screen brightness of the computer

This one didn't quite pan out as hoped. I found some Java code online that uses Windows PowerShell to change the brightness of the screen, but it ended up just being too much. Every time the brightness changed, the program stuttered for a bit, and the code ended up messy and unorganized. We ended up settling for a translucent black overlay instead.

#2: Poor planning

It is 21:30 on the day of the deadline as I write this, and I really want to go to bed. This is something that seems to happen on every major project I work on, and fixing it would be outside of the scope of PPC. It is presumably due to us having to divide time over both PPC and SE projects, and the SE project has more people behind it and more time invested in it, so it usually gets priority.

#3: Simulation Versus Reality

I worked on the basic Arduino code, but I didn't have time to set up the circuitry physically, so I used Tinkercad's simulation feature. It is a bit clunky, but it mostly works. The only problem I had with this is that a button that was working as intended (like a latch) on the simulation, but didn't work in the real setup. In the future we should test this sooner.