

# Lab 5

## Ultrasonic sensor

M. Briday

October 15, 2021

### 1 Principle

This lab focuses on the interrupts, but still uses GPIOs and timers. The objective is to write the driver for an ultrasonic sensor, without any polling implementation.

The sensor embeds an integrated circuit for an easy management by the MCU. The interface consists in only 2 logic signals (*Trigger* and *echo*), as in figure 1.

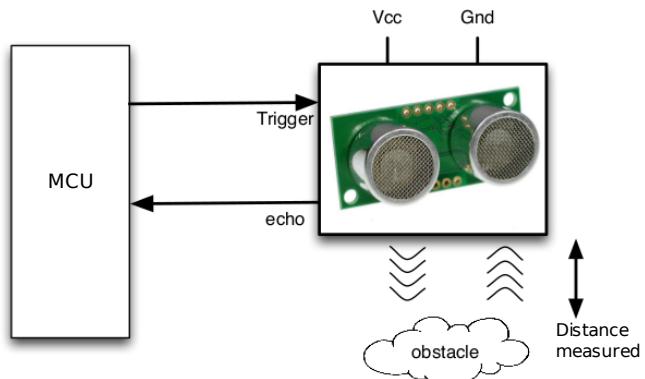


Figure 1: Connection between the ultrasonic sensor and the MCU.

The sensor works as follow (figure 2):

- a pulse to the *Trigger* signal is a request to perform a measure.
- the integrated circuit generates a sequence of 40KHz ultrasonic burst.
- an analog circuit detects the echo from an obstacle;
- The distance to the obstacle is deduced from the time elapsed between the trigger ultrasonic burst and the incoming echo, knowing the sound speed. A pulse is transmitted back on the *echo* signal, on which the pulse width depends on the distance to the obstacle:  $58\mu\text{s}/\text{cm}$ .

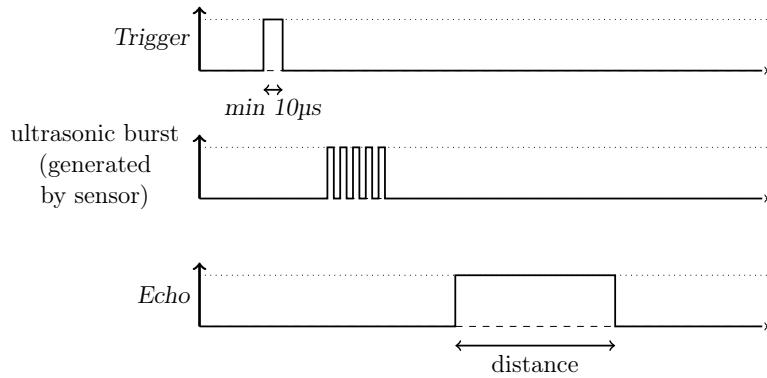


Figure 2: Time sequence of the ultrasonic sensor. The echo pulse width depends on the distance to the obstacle (58 $\mu$ s/cm)

In our configuration, signals *Trigger* and *Echo* share the same pin (PA10), we will have to change its configuration dynamically (output/input).

## 2 Trigger signal

The *Trigger* signal is just a pulse that should not be too fast, so that the integrated electronic in the sensor can detect it. The signal should be in high state for at least 10 $\mu$ s. We will insert a simple waiting loop to respect this constraint:

```
//set PA10
for(volatile int i=0;i<20;i++);
//reset PA10
```

We will send *Trigger* request at 10Hz, using an interrupt and timer TIM6. To be sure that the *Trigger* signal is detected by the sensor, we just wait a little:

For an easy debug, we will toggle the green led PB0 in the interrupt handler.

**Question 1** Write the trigger part of the application:

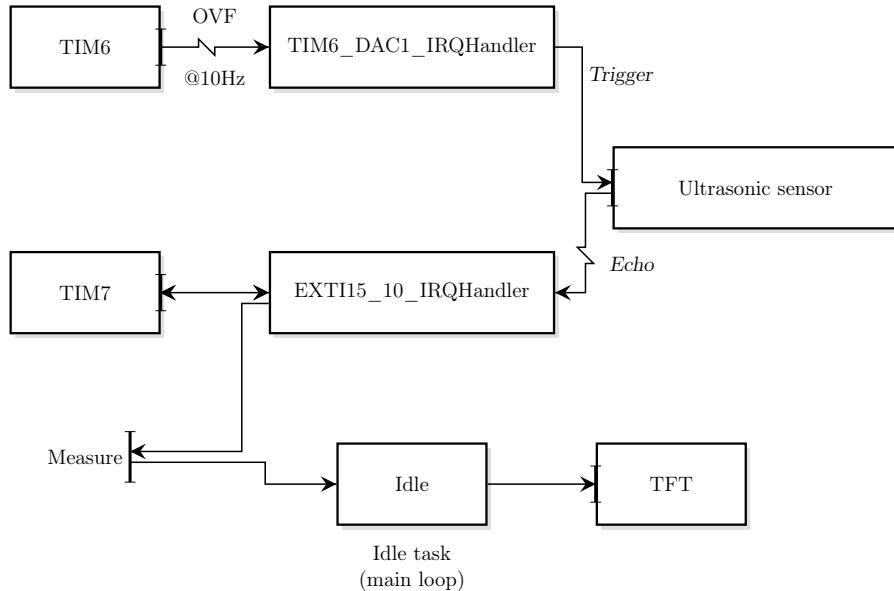
- configuration of the sensor pin PA10 as an output (do not forget the GPIOA clock!).
- interrupt @10Hz using TIM6.
- generation of the Trigger signal.

Permanent configuration (for instance GPIOx clocks) should be done once in the `setup()`.

**NOTE:** pin PA10 shares both *Trigger* (output) and *Echo* (input) signals. As a consequence, the pin should be in the output mode as little time as possible.

### 3 Echo signal

The distance to the obstacle is given by the duration of the Echo pulse. We use the EXTI peripheral to detect rising/falling edges, and a timer (TIM7) as a stopwatch to get the pulse width. The measure is stored in a global variable (figure 3).



The principle uses TIM7 as a chronometer (resolution 1 $\mu$ s) and an interrupt in Echo:

- if there is a rising edge on Echo, TIM7 count value is reset
- if there is a falling edge on Echo, the value of TIM7 is stored to the measure value.

To determine if an interrupt is a consequence of a rising or falling edge, you just have to read the logical level of the pin.

**Important note:** The Trigger signal should be updated, because it will generate an interrupt (modifying the output state generates an interrupt). So the EXTI interrupt should be deconfigured during the trigger generation, with IMR (Interrupt Mask Register):

```

EXTI->IMR  &= ~EXTI_IMR_MR10 ;
//generate trigger signal ..
EXTI->IMR  |= EXTI_IMR_MR10 ;

```

**Question 2** Program the whole application, that refresh the value of `measure` periodically. check the correct value using the debugger.

**Question 3** Add a continuous display of the sensor value on the TFT (in the main loop), in mm. There is a quick documentation with an exemple in the `tft.md` file.

## 4 Interface

The TFT display allows to have a feedback on the distance to an obstacle.

**Question 4** Use the text and graphic functions of the TFT display to make a user interface as shown in figure 3. The bar graphs gets higher when the distance to the obstacle gets shorter. You can use colors.

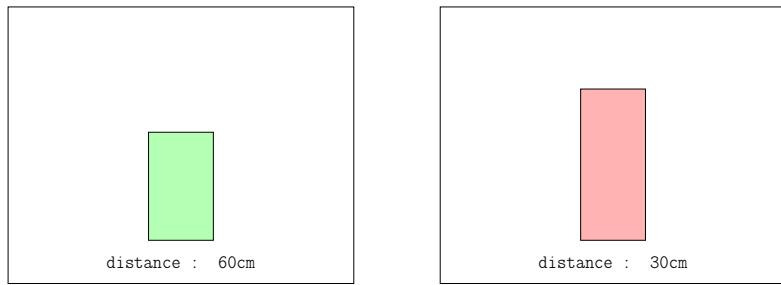


Figure 3: display example: sensor returns a long distance at left and a shorter at right

Note: you can choose another graphical representation, and add some extra information (max/min, mean, ...) .

## 5 Robustness

The echo signal should occurs less than 50ms after the trigger.

**Question 5** Add a timeout function that informs the user (TFT) that the sensor is not available if there is no response after 50ms (using an interrupt of course - TIM7 for instance).