

Claw Device Controller

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Chapter 1

claw

Raspberry pico 2 code to drive stepper motor driven claw

Chapter 2

Class Index

2.1 Class List

Here are the classes, structs, unions and interfaces with brief descriptions:

stepper_state	Structure to hold stepper motor state	7
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Chapter 3

File Index

3.1 File List

Here is a list of all documented files with brief descriptions:

claw.c	Firmware to control a claw device with stepper motors via USB serial commands	9
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Chapter 4

Class Documentation

4.1 stepper_state Struct Reference

Structure to hold stepper motor state.

Public Attributes

- int **current_position**
Current position in steps.
- int **target_position**
Target position in steps.
- int **step_period**
Step period in TIMER_INTERVAL_US units.
- bool **moving**
Is the stepper currently moving.
- bool **enabled**
Is the stepper enabled.

4.1.1 Detailed Description

Structure to hold stepper motor state.

The documentation for this struct was generated from the following file:

- [claw.c](#)

Chapter 5

File Documentation

5.1 claw.c File Reference

Firmware to control a claw device with stepper motors via USB serial commands.

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include "pico/stdlib.h"
#include "hardware/timer.h"
#include <string.h>
#include "pico/assert.h"
#include <stdlib.h>
#include "hardware/gpio.h"
#include <ctype.h>
#include <math.h>
```

Classes

- struct [stepper_state](#)

Structure to hold stepper motor state.

Macros

- #define LED_DELAY_MS 1000
- #define TIMER_INTERVAL_US 10
- #define DEFAULT_STEPPER_PERIOD 4
- #define MIN_STEPPER_PERIOD 4
- #define STEPPER_STEP_PIN 2
- #define STEPPER_DIR_PIN 3
- #define STEPPER_ENABLE_PIN 4
- #define STEPPER_ENABLE_PIN_INVERTED true
- #define STEPPER_DIRECTION_FORWARD 1
- #define STEPPER_DIRECTION_BACKWARD 0
- #define STEPPER_STEPS_PER_REV 3200
- #define STEPPER_MAX_REVOLUTIONS 12
- #define STEPPER_BUMP_STEPS (STEPPER_STEPS_PER_REV / 4)
- #define MAX_STEPPER_POSITION (STEPPER_STEPS_PER_REV * STEPPER_MAX_REVOLUTIONS)

- #define **MIN_STEPPER_POSITION** 0
- #define **MAX_COMMAND_LENGTH** 50
- #define **CLAW_SET_POSITION_COMMAND** "claw_set "
- #define **LED_PERIOD_COMMAND** "led_period "
- #define **SET_STEPPER_PERIOD_COMMAND** "set_stepper_period "
- #define **SET_STEPPER_ZERO_COMMAND** "set_stepper_zero"
- #define **MOVE_STEPPER_ABSOLUTE_COMMAND** "move_stepper_absolute "
- #define **MOVE_STEPPER_RELATIVE_COMMAND** "move_stepper_relative "
- #define **MOVE_STEPPER_ROTATIONS_COMMAND** "move_stepper_rotations "
- #define **MOVE_STEPPER_BUMP_DOWN_COMMAND** "move_stepper_bump_down"
- #define **STOP_STEPPER_COMMAND** "stop_stepper"
- #define **GET_STEPPER_STATUS_COMMAND** "get_stepper_status"
- #define **ENABLE_STEPPER_COMMAND** "enable_stepper"
- #define **DISABLE_STEPPER_COMMAND** "disable_stepper"

TypeDefs

- typedef struct **stepper_state stepper_state_t**

Functions

- bool **stepper_init** (stepper_state_t *stepper, int initial_position, int step_period)
Initialize the stepper state.
- bool **stepper_set_target_position** (stepper_state_t *stepper, int target_position)
Set the target position for the stepper motor.
- bool **stepper_set_step_period** (stepper_state_t *stepper, int step_period_us)
Set the step period for the stepper motor.
- bool **stepper_stop** (stepper_state_t *stepper)
Stop the stepper motor, setting target position to current position.
- bool **stepper_enable** (stepper_state_t *stepper, bool enable)
Enable the stepper motor.
- int **pico_led_init** (void)
Initialise the LED.
- void **pico_set_led** (bool led_on)
Turn the LED on or off.
- bool **process_stepper_movement** (stepper_state_t *stepper)
Process stepper movement.
- void **process_led_tick** (void)
Process LED timing tick.
- bool **timer_callback** (struct repeating_timer *t)
Millisecond timer callback.
- bool **process_command** (const char *cmd, stepper_state_t *stepper)
Process a command string.
- char * **process_stdin_input** (void)
Process stdin input.
- bool **command_claw_set_position** (stepper_state_t *stepper, const char *cmd)
Command helper function to set claw position.
- bool **command_set_led_period** (const char *cmd)
Command helper function to set LED period.
- bool **command_set_steerer_period** (stepper_state_t *stepper, const char *cmd)

- `bool command_set_stepper_zero (stepper_state_t *stepper)`
Command helper function to set stepper position to zero.
- `bool command_move_stepper_absolute (stepper_state_t *stepper, const char *cmd)`
Command helper function to move stepper to an absolute position.
- `bool command_move_stepper_relative (stepper_state_t *stepper, const char *cmd)`
Command helper function to move stepper by a relative amount.
- `bool command_move_stepper_rotations (stepper_state_t *stepper, const char *cmd)`
Command helper function to move stepper by a relative amount.
- `bool command_move_stepper_bump_down (stepper_state_t *stepper)`
Command helper function to move stepper by a relative amount.
- `bool command_stop_stepper (stepper_state_t *stepper)`
Command helper function to stop stepper movement.
- `bool command_get_stepper_status (stepper_state_t *stepper)`
Command helper function to get stepper status.
- `int main ()`
Main function.

Variables

- `volatile int led_period = LED_DELAY_MS`
LED blink period in milliseconds.
- `volatile int ten_us_ticks_count = 0`
Global ten microsecond ticks count.
- `volatile int ms_ticks_count = 0`
Global millisecond ticks count.
- `const char * help_message`
Help message.

5.1.1 Detailed Description

Firmware to control a claw device with stepper motors via USB serial commands.

Author

Jon Wade

Date

19 Dec 2025

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Command interface for controlling stepper motors and other functions associated with the claw device. This file implements a simple command interface over USB serial to control the claw device.

5.1.2 Function Documentation

5.1.2.1 command_claw_set_position()

```
bool command_claw_set_position (
    stepper_state_t * stepper,
    const char * cmd)
```

Command helper function to set claw position.

Note

: Function is not completely safe, assumes valid command string

Parameters

<i>stepper</i>	pointer to stepper state structure
<i>cmd</i>	pointer to command string

Returns

: true on success, false on failure

5.1.2.2 command_get_stepper_status()

```
bool command_get_stepper_status (
    stepper_state_t * stepper)
```

Command helper function to get stepper status.

Parameters

<i>stepper</i>	pointer to stepper state structure
----------------	------------------------------------

Returns

: true on success, false on failure

5.1.2.3 command_move_stepper_absolute()

```
bool command_move_stepper_absolute (
    stepper_state_t * stepper,
    const char * cmd)
```

Command helper function to move stepper to an absolute position.

Note

: Function is not completely safe, assumes valid command string

Parameters

<i>stepper</i>	pointer to stepper state structure
<i>cmd</i>	pointer to command string

Returns

: true on success, false on failure

5.1.2.4 command_move_stepper_bump_down()

```
bool command_move_stepper_bump_down (
    stepper_state_t * stepper)
```

Command helper function to move stepper by a relative amount.

Parameters

<i>stepper</i>	pointer to stepper state structure
----------------	------------------------------------

Returns

: true on success, false on failure

5.1.2.5 command_move_stepper_relative()

```
bool command_move_stepper_relative (
    stepper_state_t * stepper,
    const char * cmd)
```

Command helper function to move stepper by a relative amount.

Note

: Function is not completely safe, assumes valid command string

Parameters

<i>stepper</i>	pointer to stepper state structure
<i>cmd</i>	pointer to command string

Returns

: true on success, false on failure

5.1.2.6 command_move_stepper_rotations()

```
bool command_move_stepper_rotations (
    stepper_state_t * stepper,
    const char * cmd)
```

Command helper function to move stepper by a relative amount.

Note

: Function is not completely safe, assumes valid command string

Parameters

<i>stepper</i>	pointer to stepper state structure
<i>cmd</i>	pointer to command string

Returns

: true on success, false on failure

5.1.2.7 command_set_led_period()

```
bool command_set_led_period (
    const char * cmd)
```

Command helper function to set LED period.

Note

: Function is not completely safe, assumes valid command string

Parameters

<i>cmd</i>	pointer to command string
------------	---------------------------

Returns

: true on success, false on failure

5.1.2.8 command_set_stepper_period()

```
bool command_set_stepper_period (
    stepper_state_t * stepper,
    const char * cmd)
```

Command helper function to set stepper period.

Note

: Function is not completely safe, assumes valid command string

Parameters

<i>stepper</i>	pointer to stepper state structure
<i>cmd</i>	pointer to command string

Returns

: true on success, false on failure

5.1.2.9 command_set_stepper_zero()

```
bool command_set_stepper_zero (
    stepper_state_t * stepper)
```

Command helper function to set stepper position to zero.

Parameters

<i>stepper</i>	pointer to stepper state structure
----------------	------------------------------------

Returns

: true on success, false on failure

5.1.2.10 command_stop_stepper()

```
bool command_stop_stepper (
    stepper_state_t * stepper)
```

Command helper function to stop stepper movement.

Parameters

<i>stepper</i>	pointer to stepper state structure
----------------	------------------------------------

Returns

: true on success, false on failure

5.1.2.11 main()

```
int main ()
```

Main function.

Parameters

<input type="checkbox"/>	none
--------------------------	------

Returns

: none

5.1.2.12 pico_led_init()

```
int pico_led_init (
    void )
```

Initialise the LED.

Parameters

<input type="checkbox"/>	none
--------------------------	------

Returns

: PICO_OK on success, error code on failure

5.1.2.13 pico_set_led()

```
void pico_set_led (
    bool led_on)
```

Turn the LED on or off.

Parameters

<i>led_on</i>	true to turn on, false to turn off
---------------	------------------------------------

Returns

: none

5.1.2.14 process_command()

```
bool process_command (
    const char * cmd,
    stepper_state_t * stepper)
```

Process a command string.

Note

Generated by Doxygen

: This function parses the command string and calls the appropriate command helper function. It checks for null pointers and command length.

Parameters

<i>cmd</i>	pointer to command string
<i>stepper</i>	pointer to stepper state structure

Returns

: true on success, false on failure

5.1.2.15 process_led_tick()

```
void process_led_tick (
    void )
```

Process LED timing tick.

Parameters

<input type="checkbox"/>	none
--------------------------	------

Returns

: none

5.1.2.16 process_stdin_input()

```
char * process_stdin_input (
    void )
```

Process stdin input.

Note

: This function reads characters from stdin, builds commands, and returns complete command strings.

This function has a simple lock to prevent re-entrancy.

Parameters

<input type="checkbox"/>	none
--------------------------	------

Returns

: non-null pointer to command string when a complete command is received,

5.1.2.17 process_stepper_movement()

```
bool process_stepper_movement (
    stepper_state_t * stepper)
```

Parameters

<i>stepper</i>	pointer to stepper state structure
----------------	------------------------------------

Returns

: true if stepper is still moving, false if it has reached target

5.1.2.18 stepper_enable()

```
bool stepper_enable (
    stepper_state_t * stepper,
    bool enable)
```

Enable the stepper motor.

Parameters

<i>stepper</i>	pointer to stepper state structure, must not be NULL
<i>enable</i>	true to enable, false to disable

Returns

: true on success, false on failure

5.1.2.19 stepper_init()

```
bool stepper_init (
    stepper_state_t * stepper,
    int initial_position,
    int step_period)
```

Initialize the stepper state.

Parameters

<i>stepper</i>	pointer to stepper state structure to initialize, must not be NULL
<i>initial_position</i>	initial position in steps must be between MIN_STEPPER_POSITION and MAX_STEPPER_POSITION
<i>step_period</i>	step period in TIMER_INTERVAL_US must be greater than 1 ms

Returns

: true on success, false on failure

5.1.2.20 stepper_set_step_period()

Generated by Doxygen

```
bool stepper_set_step_period (
    stepper_state_t * stepper,
    int step_period_us)
```

Parameters

<i>stepper</i>	pointer to stepper state structure, must not be NULL
<i>step_period</i>	step period in microseconds must be greater than MIN_STEPPER_PERIOD

Returns

: true on success, false on failure

5.1.2.21 stepper_set_target_position()

```
bool stepper_set_target_position (
    stepper_state_t * stepper,
    int target_position)
```

Set the target position for the stepper motor.

Parameters

<i>stepper</i>	pointer to stepper state structure, must not be NULL
<i>target_position</i>	target position in steps must be between MIN_STEPPER_POSITION and MAX_STEPPER_POSITION

Returns

: true on success, false on failure

5.1.2.22 stepper_stop()

```
bool stepper_stop (
    stepper_state_t * stepper)
```

Stop the stepper motor, setting target position to current position.

Parameters

<i>stepper</i>	pointer to stepper state structure, must not be NULL
----------------	--

Returns

: true on success, false on failure

5.1.2.23 timer_callback()

```
bool timer_callback (
    struct repeating_timer * t)
```

Generated by Doxygen

Millisecond timer callback.

Parameters

<i>t</i>	pointer to repeating_timer struct
----------	-----------------------------------

Returns

: true to keep repeating, false to stop

5.1.3 Variable Documentation

5.1.3.1 help_message

```
const char* help_message
```

Initial value:

```
=
"\n"
"Available commands:\n"
"  claw_set <position>          - Set the claw position 0 to 100\n"
"  led_period <ms>              - Set the LED blink period in milliseconds\n"
"  set_stepper_period <us>      - Set the stepper motor step period in us\n"
"  set_stepper_zero             - Set the current position to zero\n"
"  move_stepper_absolute <steps> - Move the stepper to an absolute position\n"
"  move_stepper_relative <steps> - Move the stepper by a relative number of steps\n"
"  move_stepper_rotations <rotations> - Move the stepper by a number of rotations\n"
"  move_stepper_bump_down       - Move the stepper down by a small fixed amount\n"
"  stop_stepper                - Stop the stepper motor\n"
"  get_stepper_status          - Get the current status of the stepper motor\n"
"  enable_stepper              - Enable the stepper motor\n"
"  disable_stepper             - Disable the stepper motor\n"
"  help                        - Show this help message\n"
"----\n"
```

Help message.

This message is displayed when the user requests help or enters an unknown command.

5.1.3.2 led_period

```
volatile int led_period = LED_DELAY_MS
```

LED blink period in milliseconds.

This variable can be modified via command interface to change the LED blink rate.

5.1.3.3 ms_ticks_count

```
volatile int ms_ticks_count = 0
```

Global millisecond ticks count.

This variable is incremented by the timer callback every 100 calls (1 ms = 100 * 10 us) and decremented in the main loop to track when the millisecond tasks should run.

5.1.3.4 ten_us_ticks_count

```
volatile int ten_us_ticks_count = 0
```

Global ten microsecond ticks count.

This variable is incremented by the timer callback and decremented in the main loop to track when the ten microsecond tasks should run.

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