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## Information for the MH-Z16 CO<sub>2</sub> Sensor

### Introduction

- The MH-Z16 is a low-cost rod-shaped sensor that uses NDIR technology to measure CO<sub>2</sub>.
- Any microcontroller can be used to control this sensor. However, this guide and the associative codes will use an Arduino Uno to operate the device.
- The sensor connects to a blue I<sup>2</sup>C/UART Interface board that easily connects to an Arduino or Raspberry Pi.

### Important Notes

- The sensor is sensitive to sunlight. Therefore, DO NOT place in direct contact with sunlight.
- Do not expose the sensor to water or rainy conditions.

### Links

- Product Info:  
<https://sandboxelectronics.com/?product=mh-z16-ndir-co2-sensor-with-i2cuart-5v3-3v-interface-for-arduino-raspberry-pi>
- Datasheet:  
<https://sandboxelectronics.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/Z16DS.pdf>
- Arduino Library:  
<https://github.com/SandboxElectronics/NDIR>

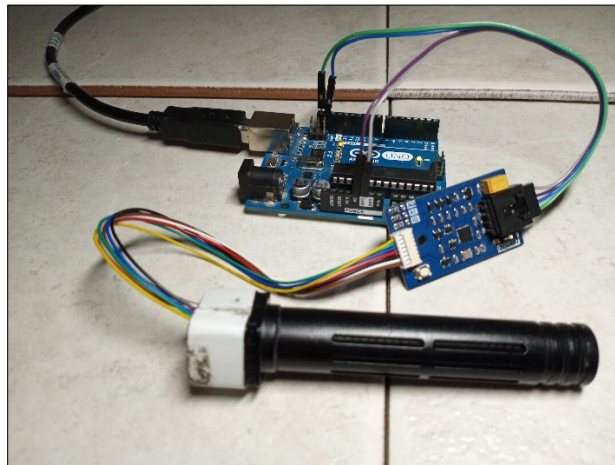


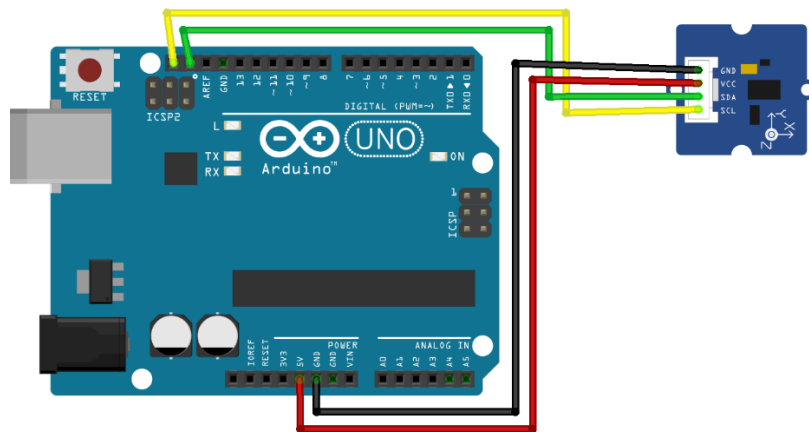
Figure 1. Picture of the sensor and the interface board connected to an Arduino Uno

## Wiring

- Communication with the sensor is performed via the I<sup>2</sup>C, UART, or PWM methods.
- The Interface board allows for the I<sup>2</sup>C and UART methods.
- The MH-Z16 sensor is still operable without an Interface board via the PWM method.
- This guide will cover how to use the sensor through I<sup>2</sup>C and PWM.

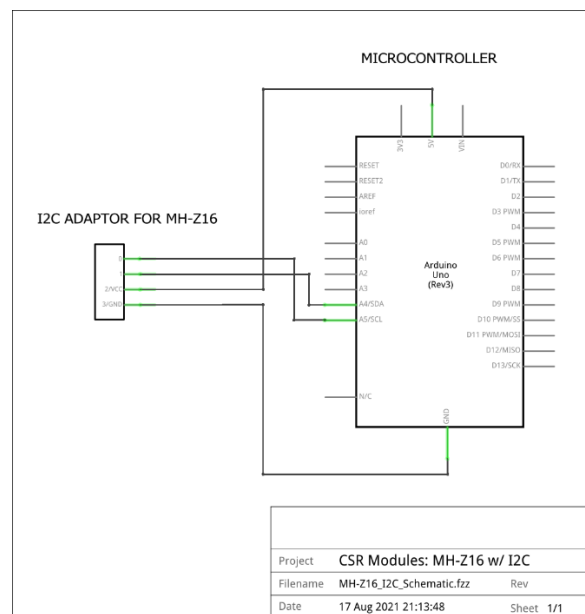
### Wiring – Method # 1 (Recommended for ease and more accurate data)

- This method requires the Interface board so that I<sup>2</sup>C is used to communicate with the sensor.
- Below is a wiring diagram and a schematic diagram of the circuit.



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Figure 2. Wiring Diagram between an Arduino Uno and the interface board



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Figure 3. Schematic between an Arduino Uno and the interface board

**Wiring – Method #2 (Not recommended, but is usable)**

- This method does not require the Interface board.
- Use this only if an Interface board is unavailable.

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**Contact**

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