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# Implement SPI communication protocol between Raspberry Pi Pico and a peripheral device

#### **Objective:**

To implement and demonstrate SPI communication between Raspberry Pi Pico (Master) and an SPI-compatible peripheral device using C.

#### **Apparatus Required:**

- Raspberry Pi Pico
- SPI peripheral (e.g., OLED Display / SD Card / MCP3008 ADC)
- Breadboard & jumper wires
- USB cable
- Computer with Visual Studio Code + Pico SDK
- Optional pull-up/down resistors

#### **Theory:**

**SPI (Serial Peripheral Interface)** is a fast, synchronous, full-duplex communication protocol primarily used for short-distance data exchange between a **master** (e.g., Raspberry Pi Pico) and one or more **slave devices** (e.g., ADCs, SD cards, OLEDs, flash memory).

- MOSI (Master Out, Slave In): Sends data from master to slave
- MISO (Master In, Slave Out): Sends data from slave to master
- **SCK (Serial Clock):** Clock signal generated by the master to sync data transfer

• CS/SS (Chip Select/Slave Select): Activates communication with a specific slave

#### **Characteristics of SPI:**

- Full-duplex communication (simultaneous send/receive)
- High-speed data transfer (faster than I2C)
- Single master, multiple slaves (with separate CS lines)
- No built-in addressing (each device needs its own CS line)

#### **SPI on Raspberry Pi Pico:**

Raspberry Pi Pico has two SPI peripherals: **spi0** and **spi1**, each of which can be mapped to different GPIO pins using gpio\_set\_function().

Developers can use the **hardware SPI controller** with functions from the **Pico SDK**, such as:

- spi init()
- spi\_write\_blocking()
- spi\_read\_blocking()
- spi\_write\_read\_blocking()

These functions make it easy to transfer data between Pico and SPI devices at speeds up to **50 MHz** (depending on the device and wiring).

### **Applications of SPI:**

- Reading analog signals via ADC chips (e.g., MCP3008)
- Interfacing with OLED or TFT displays
- Communicating with **SD cards** for file storage

• Using flash memory chips for data logging

#### **Clock Polarity and Phase:**

SPI has different **modes (0–3)** based on **Clock Polarity (CPOL)** and **Clock Phase (CPHA)**. Both master and slave must agree on the same mode for correct communication.

#### **Circuit Connections:**

Raspberry Pi Pico	MCP3008 / SPI Device
GPIO18 (SPI0 SCK)	CLK (Clock)
GPIO19 (SPI0 MOSI)	DIN / MOSI
GPIO16 (SPI0 MISO)	DOUT / MISO
GPIO17 (Any GPIO as CS)	CS / Chip Select
3.3V	VDD
GND	GND

#### **Procedure:**

- 1. Set up the Raspberry Pi Pico environment in Visual Studio Code using the Pico SDK.
- 2. Make the correct SPI wiring as shown above.
- 3. Initialize SPI using spi\_init() in your C code.
- 4. Communicate with the SPI device by sending and receiving bytes.
- 5. Use printf() to display the output on the serial monitor.

#### **Program:**

```
#include "hardware/spi.h"
#include "pico/stdlib.h"
#include <stdbool.h>
#include <string.h>
// === NRF24L01+ Commands and Registers ===
#define R_REGISTER
                      0x00
#define W_REGISTER
                      0x20
#define R_RX_PAYLOAD 0x61
#define W TX PAYLOAD 0xA0
#define FLUSH_TX
                      0xE1
#define FLUSH RX
                      0xE2
#define NOP
                      0xFF
#define CONFIG
                      0x00
#define EN AA
                      0x01
#define EN_RXADDR
                      0x02
#define SETUP AW
                      0x03
#define SETUP_RETR
                      0x04
#define RF_CH
                      0x05
#define RF SETUP
                      0x06
#define STATUS
                      0x07
#define RX_ADDR_P0
                      A0x0
#define TX_ADDR
                      0x10
#define RX PW P0
                      0x11
#define FIFO_STATUS
                      0x17
typedef struct {
    spi inst t *spi;
    uint csn pin;
    uint ce_pin;
} nrf24_t;
```

```
// ====== Internal Helpers ======
static void csn(nrf24_t *nrf, bool level) { gpio_put(nrf->csn_pin, level); }
static void ce(nrf24 t *nrf, bool level) { gpio put(nrf->ce pin, level); }
static void nrf write reg(nrf24_t *nrf, uint8_t reg, const uint8_t *data, size t len) {
    csn(nrf, false);
   uint8_t cmd = W_REGISTER | (reg & 0x1F);
    spi write blocking(nrf->spi, &cmd, 1);
   spi write blocking(nrf->spi, data, len);
   csn(nrf, true);
static void nrf read reg(nrf24 t *nrf, uint8 t reg, uint8 t *data, size t len) {
   csn(nrf, false);
   uint8_t cmd = R_REGISTER | (reg & 0x1F);
    spi write blocking(nrf->spi, &cmd, 1);
   spi read blocking(nrf->spi, 0xFF, data, len);
    csn(nrf, true);
// ====== Public Functions ======
void nrf24_init(nrf24_t *nrf, spi inst t *spi, uint csn pin, uint ce pin, bool is rx) {
    nrf->spi = spi;
    nrf->csn pin = csn pin;
    nrf->ce pin = ce pin;
    gpio init(csn pin); gpio set dir(csn pin, GPIO OUT); csn(nrf, true);
    gpio init(ce pin); gpio set dir(ce pin, GPIO OUT); ce(nrf, false);
    sleep ms(100);
    uint8_t val;
```

```
val = 0x0E; nrf write reg(nrf, CONFIG, &val, 1);
   val = 0x01; nrf write reg(nrf, EN_AA, &val, 1);
   val = 0x01; nrf write reg(nrf, EN_RXADDR, &val, 1);
   val = 0x03; nrf_write_reg(nrf, SETUP_AW, &val, 1);
   val = 0x4F; nrf_write_reg(nrf, SETUP_RETR, &val, 1);
   val = 76; nrf_write_reg(nrf, RF_CH, &val, 1);
   val = 0x06; nrf_write_reg(nrf, RF_SETUP, &val, 1);
    val = 32; nrf_write_reg(nrf, RX_PW_P0, &val, 1);
    uint8_t addr[5] = { 'n', 'R', 'F', '2', '4' };
    nrf_write_reg(nrf, RX_ADDR_P0, addr, 5);
    nrf_write_reg(nrf, TX_ADDR, addr, 5);
    if (is_rx) ce(nrf, true);
}
void nrf24_send(nrf24_t *nrf, const uint8_t *data, size t len) {
   ce(nrf, false);
   csn(nrf, false);
   uint8_t cmd = W_TX_PAYLOAD;
   spi_write_blocking(nrf->spi, &cmd, 1);
   spi write blocking(nrf->spi, data, len);
   csn(nrf, true);
   ce(nrf, true);
   sleep ms(1);
   ce(nrf, false);
}
bool nrf24_data_ready(nrf24_t *nrf) {
    uint8_t status;
   nrf read reg(nrf, STATUS, &status, 1);
    return status & 0x40;
```

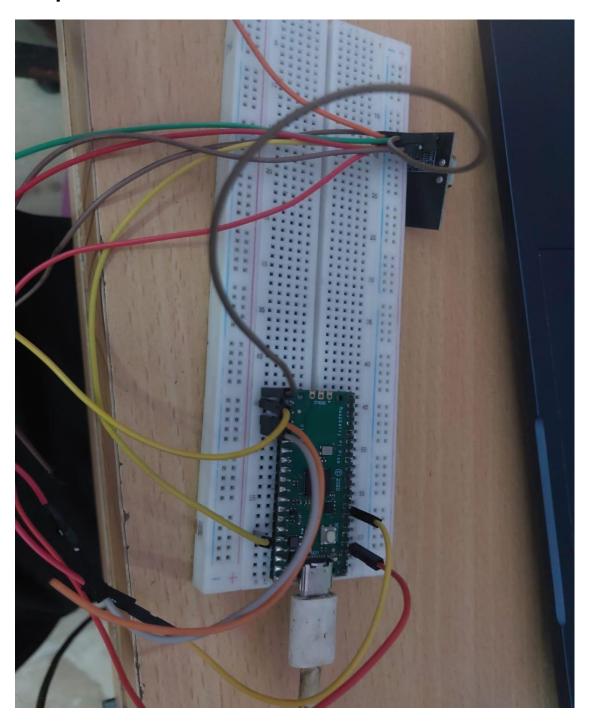
```
void nrf24_read(nrf24_t *nrf, uint8_t *data, size_t len) {
    csn(nrf, false);
    uint8_t cmd = R_RX_PAYLOAD;
    spi_write_blocking(nrf->spi, &cmd, 1);
    spi_read_blocking(nrf->spi, 0xFF, data, len);
    csn(nrf, true);

uint8_t clear = 0x40;
    nrf_write_reg(nrf, STATUS, &clear, 1);
}
```

## QR;



# Output:



#### Inference:

SPI communication was successfully established between the Raspberry Pi Pico and the SPI peripheral. The master (Pico) was able to send and receive data using the SPI bus. The output confirms proper wiring and SPI initialization. This demonstrates Pico's ability to interface with high-speed SPI devices in embedded projects.

#### **Result:**

Therefore, SPI protocol was implemented using Raspberry Pi Pico and verified through successful data exchange with a peripheral device.