

MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Christopher Peters
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DATE: 28 Oct 2021
SUBJECT: ECE-303 Lab 5: Graphical User Interfaces

Summary

In this experiment, the same circuit schematic is used as in the previous one. The duty cycle is being incremented from 1% to 100% in 1% increments. For each iteration, points are taken and plotted on the graph to visualize the system behavior. The project is now extended by adding a graphical user interface (GUI), while performing serial communication between the Arduino and MATLAB.

Introduction

In this experiment, the LED and photocell circuits from previous lab are kept intact. Unlike the previous experiment, the PWM approach can be replaced with `analogWrite()`. The goal of this lab is to implement automatic measuring and data acquisition, establish communication from the Arduino to MATLAB through the serial port, and display the results in MATLAB using graphical interface. The GUI has the following characteristics:

- A start button to start the process
- A text area to display the current duty cycle
- Plots of the following:
 - Photocell current versus duty cycle
 - Photocell voltage versus duty cycle
 - Photocell resistance versus duty cycle

Methods

Experimental apparatus used in this lab:

- Breadboard.
- Arduino MEGA 2560 connected as follows:
 - To laptop via USB cable.
 - To outlet via power cable.
- One 1k Ω resistor.
- One 10k Ω resistor.
- One photocell.
- Four jump wires.

The LED used in this experiment is a red LED in series with a 1k Ω resistor (either one can be connected to ground). On a different circuit, the photocell will be connected to the 5V pin, and in series with a 10k Ω resistor (resistor to ground).

The circuit used for the lab is shown in Figure 1.

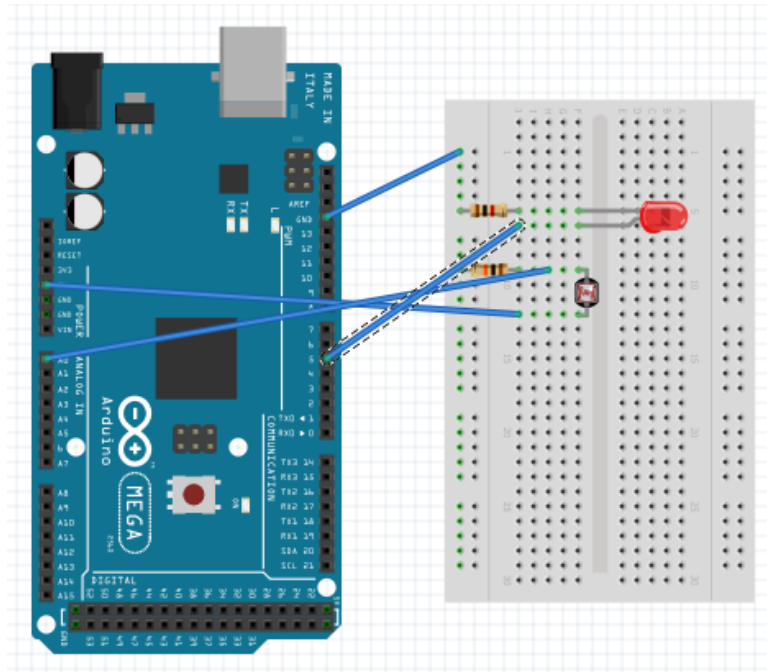


Figure 1. Circuit setup

Note that the LED should be placed near the photocell head, and photocell wiring needs to be bent such that the photocell head is in direct line with the LED. This minimizes energy losses, resulting in a more accurate measurement. In addition, the measurements should be performed in a dark environment so that external light sources do not interfere.

Results

The physical circuit used for the experiment, built according to Figure 1, is displayed in Figure 2.

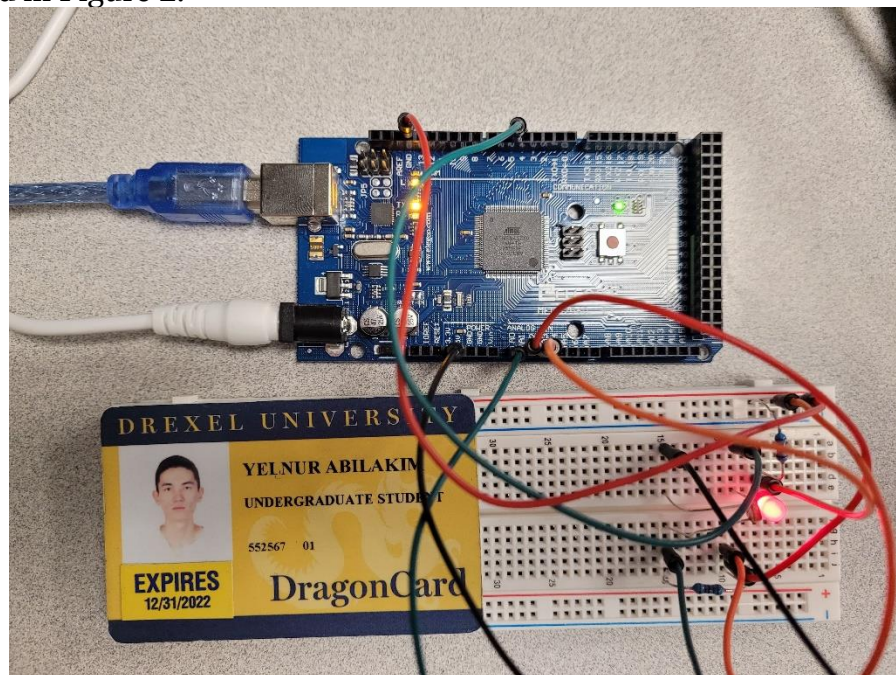


Figure 2. Physical circuit

Figure 3 demonstrates the plots created using the Serial Monitor outputs through the GUI in MATLAB window.

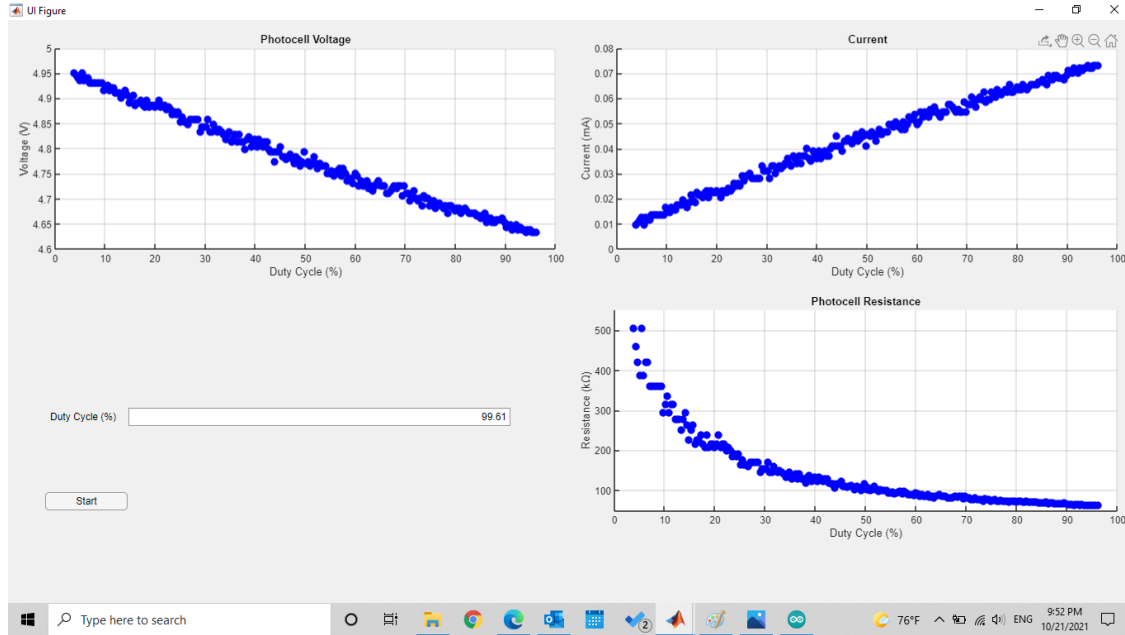


Figure 3. Plots

The Arduino and MATLAB codes used for this experiment are appended at the end.

Conclusions/Recommendations

The experiment was successful. Automatic measuring and data acquisition were implemented, and communication from the Arduino to MATLAB through the serial port was established, thus achieving the goal of the lab. The Serial Monitor has displayed all required plots as expected.

Appendices

Arduino code is shown in Figure 4.

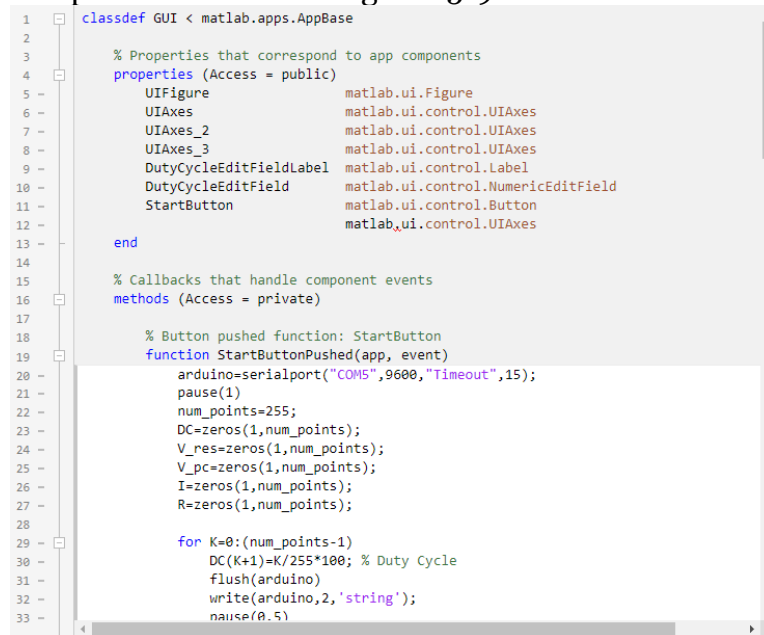
```
const int pinLED = 5; // timer 3
const int pinPhoto = A0; // photocell at analog pin 0
const int pinRes = A1;
const int pinDuty = A2;
int val1 = 0;
int val2 = 0;
int val3 = 0;
unsigned int val = 0;
unsigned int counter = 0;

void setup() {
  Serial.begin(9600);
  pinMode(pinLED, OUTPUT);
}

void loop() {
  val = Serial.parseInt();
  analogWrite(pinLED, counter);
  delay(500);
  val1 = analogRead(pinPhoto);
  Serial.println(val1);
  val2 = analogRead(pinRes);
  Serial.println(val2);
  val3 = analogRead(pinDuty);
  Serial.println(val3);
  counter += 1;
}
```

Figure 6. Arduino code

The MATLAB script can be found in Figures 5-9.



```
1 classdef GUI < matlab.apps.AppBase
2
3     % Properties that correspond to app components
4     properties (Access = public)
5         UIFigure                matlab.ui.Figure
6         UIAxes                  matlab.ui.control.UIAxes
7         UIAxes_2                matlab.ui.control.UIAxes
8         UIAxes_3                matlab.ui.control.UIAxes
9         DutyCycleEditFieldLabel matlab.ui.control.Label
10        DutyCycleEditField       matlab.ui.control.NumericEditField
11        StartButton              matlab.ui.control.Button
12                                matlab.ui.control.UIAxes
13    end
14
15    % Callbacks that handle component events
16    methods (Access = private)
17
18        % Button pushed function: StartButton
19        function StartButtonPushed(app, event)
20            arduino=serialport("COM5",9600,"Timeout",15);
21            pause(1)
22            num_points=255;
23            DC=zeros(1,num_points);
24            V_res=zeros(1,num_points);
25            V_pc=zeros(1,num_points);
26            I=zeros(1,num_points);
27            R=zeros(1,num_points);
28
29            for K=0:(num_points-1)
30                DC(K+1)=K/255*100; % Duty Cycle
31                flush(arduino)
32                write(arduino,2,'string');
33                pause(0.5)
```

Figure 5. MATLAB script (part 1)

```

33 -         pause(0.5)
34 -         a=read(arduino,4,'string');
35 -         flush(arduino)
36 -         V_res(K+1)=str2double(a)/1023*5;
37 -         V_pc(K+1)=5-V_res(K+1);
38 -         I(K+1)=V_res(K+1)/5000*1000; % Current (mA)
39 -         R(K+1)=V_pc(K+1)/I(K+1); % Resistance (kOhm)
40 -         app.DutyCycleEditField.Value=DC(K+1);
41 -         plot(app.UIAxes,DC(1:(K+1)),V_pc(1:(K+1)),'bo','MarkerFaceColor','b')
42 -         plot(app.UIAxes_2,DC(1:(K+1)),I(1:(K+1)),'bo','MarkerFaceColor','b')
43 -         plot(app.UIAxes_3,DC(1:(K+1)),R(1:(K+1)),'bo','MarkerFaceColor','b')
44 -     end
45 -     delete(arduino)
46 - end
47 end
48
49 % Component initialization
50 methods (Access = private)
51
52 % Create UIFigure and components
53 function createComponents(app)
54
55 % Create UIFigure and hide until all components are created
56 app.UIFigure = uifigure('Visible', 'off');
57 app.UIFigure.Position = [100 100 640 480];
58 app.UIFigure.Name = 'UI Figure';
59
60 % Create UIAxes
61 app.UIAxes = uiaxes(app.UIFigure);
62 title(app.UIAxes, 'Photocell Voltage')
63 xlabel(app.UIAxes, 'Duty Cycle (%)')
64 ylabel(app.UIAxes, 'Voltage (V)')
65 app.UIAxes.XGrid = 'on';

```

Figure 6. MATLAB script (part 2)

```

66 - app.UIAxes.YGrid = 'on';
67 - app.UIAxes.Position = [12 282 300 185];
68
69 % Create UIAxes_2
70 app.UIAxes_2 = uiaxes(app.UIFigure);
71 title(app.UIAxes_2, 'Current')
72 xlabel(app.UIAxes_2, 'Duty Cycle (%)')
73 ylabel(app.UIAxes_2, 'Current (mA)')
74 app.UIAxes_2.XGrid = 'on';
75 app.UIAxes_2.YGrid = 'on';
76 app.UIAxes_2.Position = [330 282 300 185];
77
78 % Create UIAxes_3
79 app.UIAxes_3 = uiaxes(app.UIFigure);
80 title(app.UIAxes_3, 'Photocell Resistance')
81 xlabel(app.UIAxes_3, 'Duty Cycle (%)')
82 ylabel(app.UIAxes_3, 'Resistance (kΩ)')
83 app.UIAxes_3.XGrid = 'on';
84 app.UIAxes_3.YGrid = 'on';
85 app.UIAxes_3.Position = [330 78 300 185];
86
87 % Create DutyCycleEditFieldLabel
88 app.DutyCycleEditFieldLabel = uilabel(app.UIFigure);
89 app.DutyCycleEditFieldLabel.HorizontalAlignment = 'right';
90 app.DutyCycleEditFieldLabel.Position = [46 159 86 22];
91 app.DutyCycleEditFieldLabel.Text = 'Duty Cycle (%)';
92
93 % Create DutyCycleEditField
94 app.DutyCycleEditField = uieditfield(app.UIFigure, 'numeric');
95 app.DutyCycleEditField.Position = [147 159 100 22];
96
97 % Create StartButton
98 app.StartButton = uibutton(app.UIFigure, 'push');

```

Figure 7. MATLAB script (part 3)

```

99 -         app.StartButton.ButtonPushedFcn = createCallbackFcn(app, @StartButtonPush, true);
100 -         app.StartButton.Position = [46 57 100 22];
101 -         app.StartButton.Text = 'Start';
102 -
103 -         % Create
104 -         app.UIFigure = uiaxes(app.UIFigure);
105 -         title(app.UIFigure, 'Title');
106 -         xlabel(app.UIFigure, 'X');
107 -         ylabel(app.UIFigure, 'Y');
108 -         app.UIFigure.Position = [72 233 300 185];
109 -
110 -         % Show the figure after all components are created
111 -         app.UIFigure.Visible = 'on';
112 -     end
113 - end
114 -
115 - % App creation and deletion
116 - methods (Access = public)
117 -
118 -     % Construct app
119 -     function app = GUI
120 -
121 -         % Create UIFigure and components
122 -         createComponents(app)
123 -
124 -         % Register the app with App Designer
125 -         registerApp(app, app.UIFigure)
126 -
127 -         if nargin == 0
128 -             clear app
129 -         end
130 -     end
131 - end

```

Figure 8. MATLAB script (part 4)

```

131 -
132 - % Code that executes before app deletion
133 - function delete(app)
134 -
135 -     % Delete UIFigure when app is deleted
136 -     delete(app.UIFigure)
137 - end
138 -
139 - end

```

Figure 9. MATLAB script (part 5)