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Microprocessors

🕒 🗀 SPI - Serial Peripheral Interface - for Arduino

SPI - Serial Peripheral Interface - for Arduino

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Message

This page can be quickly reached from the link: http://www.gammon.com.au/spi

This post describes how the SPI interface works, with particular reference to the Arduino Uno which is based on the ATmega328P microprocessor chip. A lot of the details however will be of more general interest.

SPI is used to send serial data from a microprocessor to another one, or a peripheral, for example an LCD display, a temperature sensor, a memory (SD) chip, and so on.

More information about SPI at:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Serial Peripheral Interface Bus

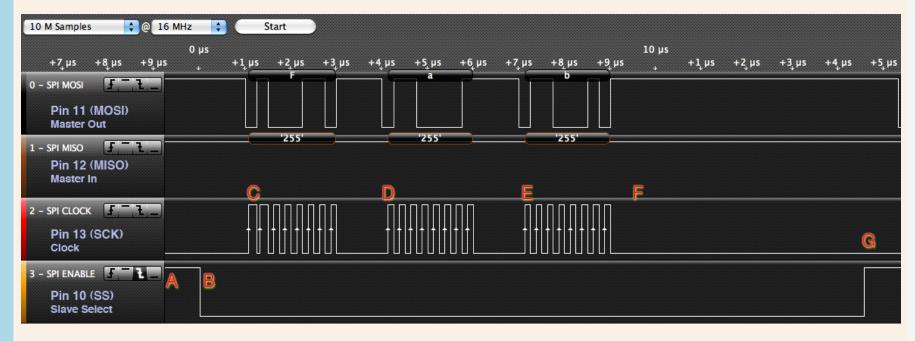
More information about the Arduino SPI interface at:

Other protocols

- Summary of protocols: http://www.gammon.com.au/forum/?id=10918
- 1-wire: http://www.gammon.com.au/forum/?id=10902
- Parallel interface: http://www.gammon.com.au/forum/?id=10903
- Two-wire (I2C): http://www.gammon.com.au/i2c
- Serial (async): http://www.gammon.com.au/forum/?id=10894

Sending data

Let's start with an image - this is a screenshot taken with a logic analyser. It shows the 3-character sequence "Fab" being sent from the Arduino.



I put a trigger on the SS (Slave Select) pin so that the logic analyser would start analysing from when the sequence started.

From the above graphic note the following points of interest:

- A no data (SS is high, clock is low)
- B SS taken low to enable the slave (peripheral). At this point the slave should prepare to transfer data by setting the MOSI (master out, slave in) line, and the SCK (serial clock) as inputs, and the MISO (master in, slave out) as an output. The slave can now prepare to notice clock pulses on the SCK line.
- C First character arrives (the letter "F" or 0x46 or 0b01000110). For each of the 8 bits the SCK (clock) line is briefly brought high, and then low again. This tells the slave to read the data on the MOSI line. Also the slave can place data on the MISO line for the master to simultaneously read in.
- D The letter "a" arrives
- E The letter "b" arrives
- F "No data" after "Fab" however the SS is still enabled.
- G SS taken high to indicate end of the sequence of data. At this stage the slave should release the MISO line (configure it as an input, or "high impedance"). Also the slave should ignore any clock pulses now (they may be for a different peripheral).

The code to produce this (in Arduino's C++ language) was:

```
delay (5000); // 5 seconds delay to start logic analyser.

char c;

// enable Slave Select
digitalWrite(SS, LOW); // SS is pin 10

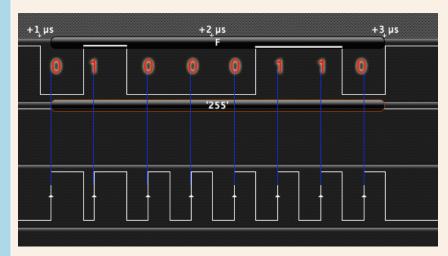
// send test string
for (const char * p = "Fab" ; c = *p; p++)
    SPI.transfer (c);

// disable Slave Select
digitalWrite(SS, HIGH);

// turn SPI hardware off
SPI.end ();

while (1); //loop
}
```

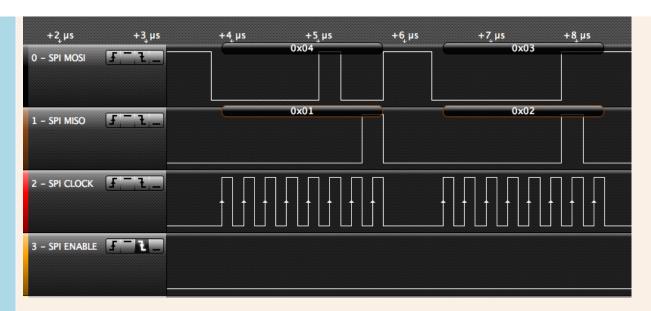
More detail for the first character (the letter "F" or 0x46 or 0b01000110) can be seen here:



Notice how for each bit (starting with the most significant bit) the MOSI line is first changed to the correct state (o or 1) and then the SCK (clock) line is pulsed to indicate that the data should be read.

Sending and receiving data

The next graphic, taken while sending data to an Ethernet card, shows how both MOSI and MISO lines can be exchanging data simultaneously:



Basically, while the master hardware is clocking out bits on the MOSI line (master out, slave in) it is also clocking in bits on the MISO (master in, slave out). Effectively, during one character time, it both sends and receives one byte. Hence the name of the function SPI.transfer.

The code that produced the above might have looked like:

```
char a, b;
a = SPI.transfer (4);
// a is now 1
b = SPI.transfer (3);
// b is now 2
```

Timing

As you can see from the Logic analyser timing, each byte seems to take about 3 microseconds to be sent, so that means you could send 333,333 bytes in one second, effectively being 325.5 Kbytes/s (333333/1024).

The clock pulses are 0.25 microseconds apart (0.125 microseconds on and 0.125 microseconds off). Effectively this means it is clocking at 4 MHz.

[EDIT] However see below ("SPI speeds") for a more detailed analysis. In particular, rates of 888,888 bytes per second are theoretically achievable (868 Kbytes/s). Also you can slow SPI down if the receiving end operates more slowly or needs time to process the data.

Slave Select

There is a bit of confusion about the Slave Select pin. This is because the SPI hardware can be used to communicate with a number of slaves at once. The way this is done is to tie the SCK, MISO and MISO lines together (for each slave) and have a separate SS (slave select) line for each slave. This way you only need 3 wires (plus ground) in total, **plus** one slave select for each slave.

Thus, slaves should let each of the lines float (as inputs) unless their slave select is taken low. Then, and only then, should they configure their MISO line (master in, slave out) to be an output, so they can send data back to the master.

Pin 10 of the Arduino is the SS line - so does this mean you have to use it for the peripheral SS line? Or should it be kept high? The answer (from the Atmega documentation) is that the SS line (pin 10) must be configured as an **output** (regardless of what value is on it). If configured as an output the Arduino ignores the value on that line, and thus the SPI hardware will not be put into slave mode.

Since the value on pin 10 is ignored, providing it is set as an output, then it can also be used as the SS line for your first, or only, slave. You could then use other pins (eg. 5, 6, 7, 8, 9) to control other slaves.

Protocols

The SPI spec does not specify protocols as such, so it is up to individual master/slave pairings to agree on what the data means. Whilst you can send and receive bytes simultaneously, the received byte cannot be a direct response to the sent byte (as they are being assembled simultaneously). For example, in the graphic above, the slave is not replying with a 1 to the transfer of 4, because it doesn't know it has received 4 before it has already sent 1.

So it would be more logical for one end to send a request (eg. 4 might mean "list the disk directory") and then do transfers (perhaps just sending zeros outwards) until it receives a complete response. The response might terminate with a newline, or oxoo character.

You also don't necessarily know if you even have a peripheral attached. One way might be to send out a "query", like this:

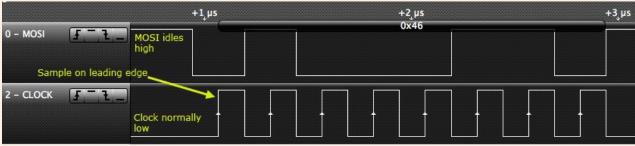
This example asks the slave to reply with oxEF if it receives oxCD - this presumably wouldn't happen if the wires were not connected to anything. This could be used to verify that the slave actually was there and "alive".

Modes

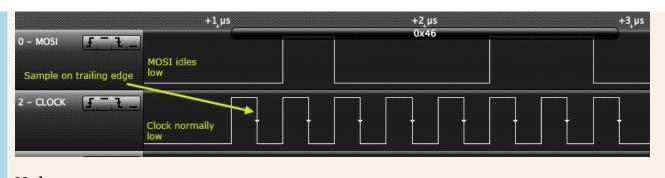
For maximum flexibility with various slaves, the SPI protocol allows for variations on the polarity of the clock pulses. CPOL is clock polarity, and CPHA is clock phase.

- Mode o (the default) clock is normally low (CPOL = o), and the data is sampled on the transition from low to high (leading edge) (CPHA = o)
- Mode 1 clock is normally low (CPOL = 0), and the data is sampled on the transition from high to low (trailing edge) (CPHA = 1)
- Mode 2 clock is normally high (CPOL = 1), and the data is sampled on the transition from high to low (leading edge) (CPHA = 0)
- Mode 3 clock is normally high (CPOL = 1), and the data is sampled on the transition from low to high (trailing edge) (CPHA = 1)

Mode o

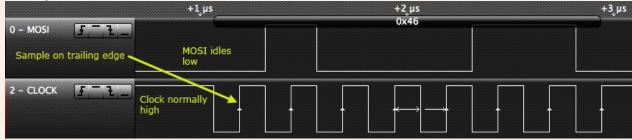


Mode 1



Mode 2 +1, µs +2, µs 0 - Mosi Sample on leading edge 2 - CLOCK





Example code to change mode:

SPI.setDataMode (SPI_MODE3);

Clock normally high

There is also a DORD (data order) flag. The normal order is most significant bit first (as above) but the alternate order is least significant bit first.

Arduino Library

The Arduino development kit comes with an SPI library. To use it you just need to include it, like this:

#include <SPI.h>

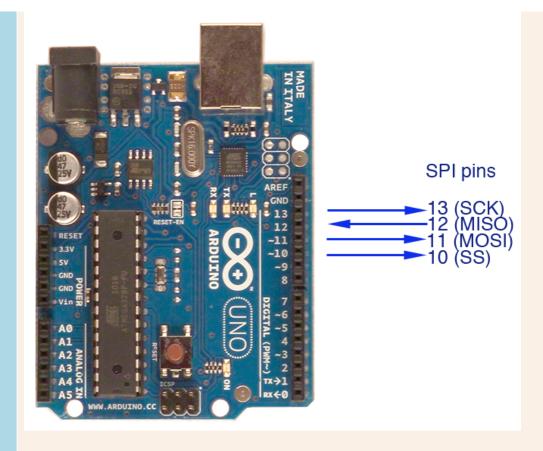
This gives you an SPIClass, and an instance of that class called SPI in SPI.cpp.

To condition the hardware you call SPI.begin () which configures the SPI pins (SCK, MOSI, SS) as outputs. It sets SCK and MOSI low, and SS high. It then enables SPI mode with the hardware in "master" mode. This has the side-effect of setting MISO as an input.

If you need to change the mode or bit order you have the functions SPI.setDataMode and SPI.setBitOrder. Normally you wouldn't have to.

The function SPI.transfer does the actual transferring of bytes. It is up to you to set SS low at an appropriate time (this may or may not be pin 10 as described above). When finished call SPI.end () to turn the hardware SPI off.

Pinouts on the Arduino Uno



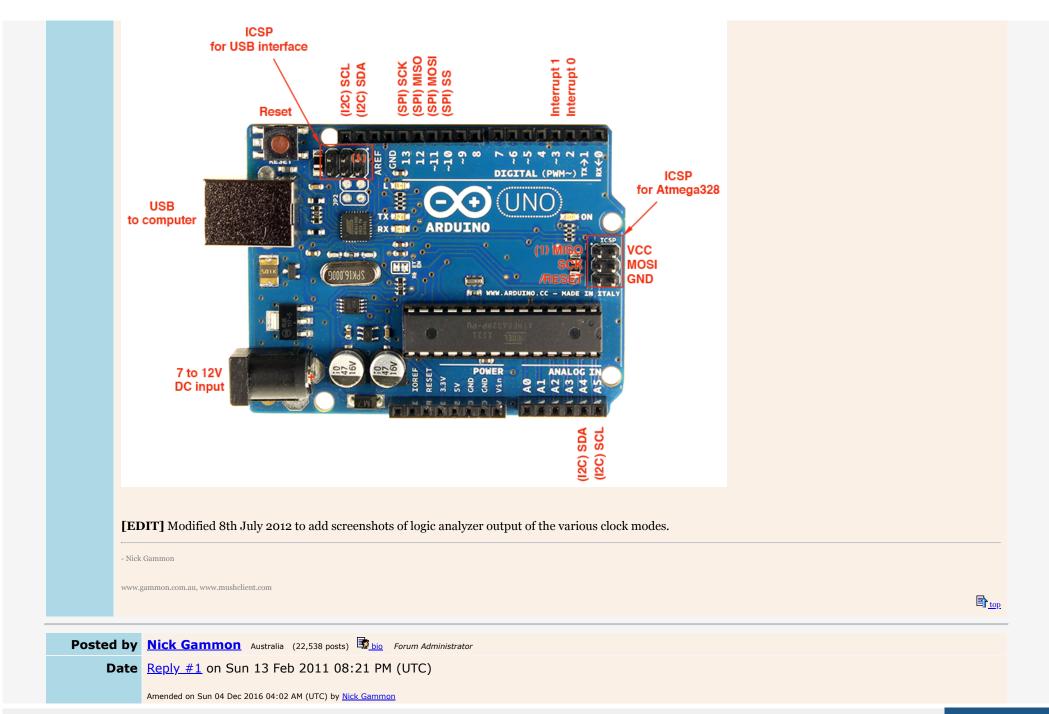
Pinouts on the Arduino Mega2560



On the Arduino Mega, the pins are 50 (MISO), 51 (MOSI), 52 (SCK), and 53 (SS).

Pinouts using the ICSP header

You can also connect to the SPI pins (except SS) by using the ICSP header (on both the Uno and the Mega2560):



Message

How to make an SPI slave

The earlier example shows the Arduino as the master, sending data to a slave device. This example shows how the Arduino can be a slave.

Hardware setup

Connect two Arduinos together with the following pins connected to each other:

- 10 (SS)
- 11 (MOSI)
- 12 (MISO)
- 13 (SCK)
- +5v (if required)
- GND (for signal return)

On the Arduino Mega, the pins are 50 (MISO), 51 (MOSI), 52 (SCK), and 53 (SS).

In any case, MOSI at one end is connected to MOSI at the other, you **don't** swap them around (that is you **do not have** MOSI <-> MISO). The software configures one end of MOSI (master end) as an output, and the other end (slave end) as an input.

Master (example)

```
// Written by Nick Gammon
// February 2011

#include <SPI.h>

void setup (void)
{
    digitalWrite(SS, HIGH); // ensure SS stays high for now
    // Put SCK, MOSI, SS pins into output mode
    // also put SCK, MOSI into LOW state, and SS into HIGH state.
    // Then put SPI hardware into Master mode and turn SPI on
```

This sends "Hello, world" every second to the slave.

Slave

```
// Written by Nick Gammon
// February 2011

#include <SPI.h>
char buf [100];
volatile byte pos;
volatile boolean process_it;

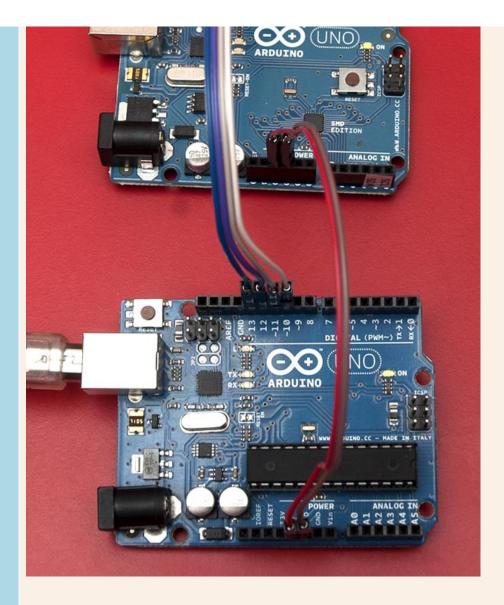
void setup (void)
{
    Serial.begin (115200); // debugging
    // turn on SPI in slave mode
    SPCR |= bit (SPE);
    // have to send on master in, *slave out*
    pinMode(MISO, OUTPUT);
```

```
// get ready for an interrupt
  pos = 0; // buffer empty
 process it = false;
  // now turn on interrupts
 SPI.attachInterrupt();
} // end of setup
// SPI interrupt routine
ISR (SPI_STC_vect)
byte c = SPDR; // grab byte from SPI Data Register
  // add to buffer if room
 if (pos < (sizeof (buf) - 1))</pre>
   buf [pos++] = c;
  // example: newline means time to process buffer
 if (c == '\n')
   process it = true;
} // end of interrupt routine SPI_STC_vect
// main loop - wait for flag set in interrupt routine
void loop (void)
 if (process_it)
    buf [pos] = 0;
    Serial.println (buf);
    pos = 0;
    process it = false;
   } // end of flag set
} // end of loop
```

The slave is entirely interrupt-driven, thus it can doing other stuff. The incoming SPI data is collected in a buffer, and a flag set when a "significant byte" (in this case a newline) arrives. This tells the slave to get on and start processing the data.

Example of connecting master to slave using SPI





[EDIT] Modified 25 June 2012 to allow for version 1.0 of the Arduino IDE.

[EDIT] Modified 8th July 2012 to add photo of connecting SPI master and slave.

- Nick Gammon



```
Posted by Nick Gammon Australia (22,538 posts) bio Forum Administrator
```

Date Reply #2 on Thu 07 Apr 2011 11:44 PM (UTC)

Amended on Mon 24 Aug 2015 08:39 PM (UTC) by Nick Gammon

Message

How to get a response from a slave

Following on from the code above which sends data from an SPI master to a slave, the example below shows sending data to a slave, having it do something with it, and return a response.

The master is similar to the example above. However an important point is that we need to add a slight delay (something like 20 microseconds). Otherwise the slave doesn't have a chance to react to the incoming data and do something with it.

The example shows sending a "command". In this case "a" (add something) or "s" (subtract something). This is to show that the slave is actually doing something with the data.

After dropping slave-select (SS) to initiate the transaction, the master sends the command, followed by any number of bytes, and then raises SS to terminate the transaction.

A very important point is that the slave cannot respond to an incoming byte at the same moment. The response has to be in the next byte. This is because the bits which are being sent, and the bits which are being received, are being sent simultaneously. Thus to add something to four numbers we need five transfers, like this:

```
transferAndWait (10);
a = transferAndWait (17);
b = transferAndWait (33);
c = transferAndWait (42);
d = transferAndWait (0);
```

First we request action on number 10. But we don't get a response until the next transfer (the one for 17). However "a" will be set to the reply to 10. Finally we end up sending a "dummy" number 0, to get the reply for 42.

Master (example)

```
// Written by Nick Gammon
// April 2011
#include <SPI.h>
void setup (void)
 Serial.begin (115200);
 Serial.println ();
 digitalWrite(SS, HIGH); // ensure SS stays high for now
 // Put SCK, MOSI, SS pins into output mode
 // also put SCK, MOSI into LOW state, and SS into HIGH state.
  // Then put SPI hardware into Master mode and turn SPI on
 SPI.begin ();
 // Slow down the master a bit
 SPI.setClockDivider(SPI CLOCK DIV8);
} // end of setup
byte transferAndWait (const byte what)
 byte a = SPI.transfer (what);
 delayMicroseconds (20);
 return a;
} // end of transferAndWait
void loop (void)
 byte a, b, c, d;
 // enable Slave Select
 digitalWrite(SS, LOW);
 transferAndWait ('a'); // add command
 transferAndWait (10);
 a = transferAndWait (17);
 b = transferAndWait (33);
  c = transferAndWait (42);
 d = transferAndWait (0);
  // disable Slave Select
  digitalWrite(SS, HIGH);
  Serial.println ("Adding results:");
  Serial.println (a, DEC);
  Serial.println (b, DEC);
  Serial.println (c, DEC);
  Serial.println (d, DEC);
 // enable Slave Select
  digitalWrite(SS, LOW);
 transferAndWait ('s'); // subtract command
```

```
transferAndWait (10);
a = transferAndWait (17);
b = transferAndWait (33);
c = transferAndWait (42);
d = transferAndWait (0);

// disable Slave Select
digitalWrite(SS, HIGH);

Serial.println ("Subtracting results:");
Serial.println (a, DEC);
Serial.println (b, DEC);
Serial.println (c, DEC);
Serial.println (d, DEC);
Serial.println (d, DEC);
delay (1000); // 1 second delay
} // end of loop
```

The code for the slave basically does almost everything in the interrupt routine (called when incoming SPI data arrives). It takes the incoming byte, and adds or subtracts as per the remembered "command byte". Note that the response will be "collected" next time through the loop. This is why the master has to send one final "dummy" transfer to get the final reply.

In my example I am using the main loop to simply detect when SS goes high, and clear the saved command. That way, when SS is pulled low again for the next transaction, the first byte is considered the command byte.

More reliably, this would be done with an interrupt. That is, you would physically connect SS to one of the interrupt inputs (eg, on the Uno, connect pin 10 (SS) to pin 2 (an interrupt input).

Then the interrupt could be used to notice when SS is being pulled low or high. (See further down for an example).

Slave (example)

```
// Written by Nick Gammon
// April 2011

// what to do with incoming data
volatile byte command = 0;

void setup (void)
{

    // have to send on master in, *slave out*
    pinMode(MISO, OUTPUT);
```

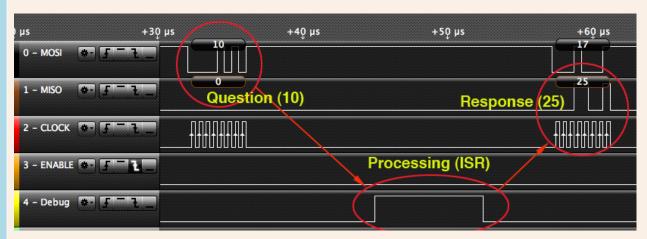
```
// turn on SPI in slave mode
 SPCR |= _BV(SPE);
 // turn on interrupts
 SPCR |= _BV(SPIE);
} // end of setup
// SPI interrupt routine
ISR (SPI_STC_vect)
 byte c = SPDR;
 switch (command)
 // no command? then this is the command
  case 0:
    command = c;
   SPDR = 0;
   break;
 // add to incoming byte, return result
  case 'a':
   SPDR = c + 15; // add 15
    break;
 // subtract from incoming byte, return result
 case 's':
   SPDR = c - 8; // subtract 8
   break;
 } // end of switch
} // end of interrupt service routine (ISR) SPI_STC_vect
void loop (void)
 // if SPI not active, clear current command
 if (digitalRead (SS) == HIGH)
   command = 0;
} // end of loop
```

 $Example \ output:$

```
Adding results:
25
32
48
57
```

```
Subtracting results:
2
9
25
34
Adding results:
25
32
48
57
Subtracting results:
2
9
25
34
```

This logic analyzer screenshot shows the timing involved:



- The number 10 is sent down during an early SPI.transfer.
- The ISR (interrupt service routine) kicks in, and processes the number (adding 15) and putting the result back into SPDR (SPI Data Register)
- During the subsequent SPI.transfer (when the next number is sent down) the result (25) is returned back to the master.

Slave (example) using interrupt for SS pin

This slightly modified version of the slave sketch shows how you can detect SS being brought low with an interrupt, this would be more reliable than testing for it in the main loop.

Note that to do this you connect together the SS pin (pin 10 on the Uno, pin 53 on the Mega) to pin 2. You could choose other interrupt-configurable pins if you wanted to. Pin 2 is interrupt number 0, hence the attachInterrupt for interrupt 0.

```
// Written by Nick Gammon
// April 2011
// what to do with incoming data
byte command = 0;
// start of transaction, no command yet
void ss falling ()
  command = 0;
} // end of interrupt service routine (ISR) ss falling
void setup (void)
 // have to send on master in, *slave out*
 pinMode(MISO, OUTPUT);
 // turn on SPI in slave mode
 SPCR |= BV(SPE);
 // turn on interrupts
 SPCR |= _BV(SPIE);
 // interrupt for SS falling edge
 attachInterrupt (0, ss falling, FALLING);
} // end of setup
// SPI interrupt routine
ISR (SPI_STC_vect)
 byte c = SPDR;
  switch (command)
  // no command? then this is the command
  case 0:
    command = c;
   SPDR = 0:
    break;
```

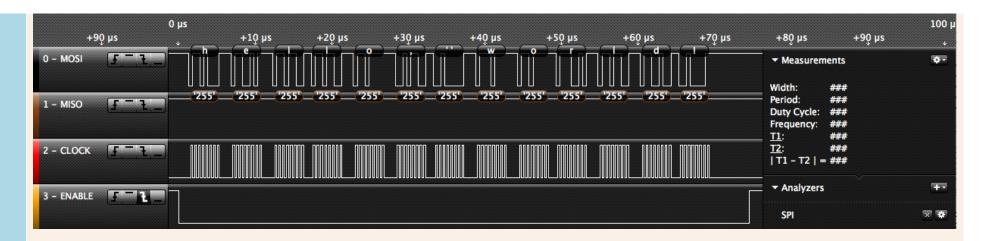
```
SPDR = c + 15; // add 15
                           break;
                         // subtract from incoming byte, return result
                           SPDR = c - 8; // subtract 8
                           break:
                        } // end of switch
                      } // end of interrupt service routine (ISR) SPI STC vect
                      void loop (void)
                       // all done with interrupts
                      } // end of loop
                  - Nick Gammon
                 www.gammon.com.au, www.mushclient.com
                                                                                                                                                                 <u>top</u>
  Posted Nick Gammon Australia (22,538 posts) bio Forum Administrator
       by
     Date Reply #3 on Thu 12 Apr 2012 04:36 AM (UTC)
            Amended on Sat 28 Apr 2012 02:52 AM (UTC) by Nick Gammon
Message
            SPI from the USART ... an alternative
            The Atmega328 also provides a second SPI hardware port - the USART chip (the one normally used for hardware serial).
            If you want another SPI port, and don't need async serial, you can use this. Note that in this mode you can only make an SPI master, not a slave.
            The example code below shows sending a message via SPI at 2 MHz clock.
                 Example of USART in SPI mode on the Atmega328.
                  Author: Nick Gammon
```

// add to incoming byte, return result

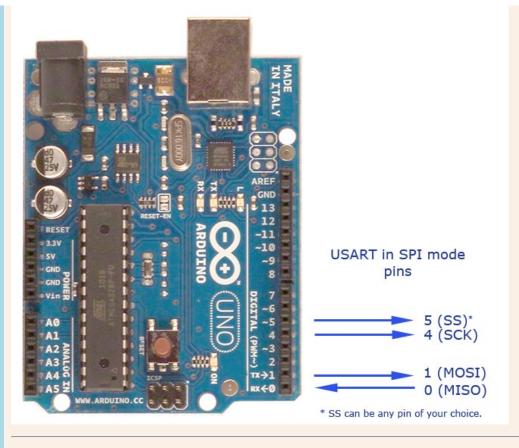
```
Date:
         12th April 2012
Version: 1.0
Licence: Released for public use.
Pins: D0 MISO (Rx)
     D1 MOSI (Tx)
     D4 SCK (clock)
     D5 SS (slave select) <-- this can be changed
Registers of interest:
UDRO - data register
UCSROA - USART Control and Status Register A
    Receive Complete, Transmit Complete, USART Data Register Empty
UCSROB — USART Control and Status Register B
     RX Complete Interrupt Enable, TX Complete Interrupt Enable, Data Register Empty Interrupt Enable,
    Receiver Enable, Transmitter Enable
UCSROC - USART Control and Status Register C
    Mode Select (async, sync, SPI), Data Order, Clock Phase, Clock Polarity
UBRROL and UBRROH - Baud Rate Registers - together are UBRRO (16 bit)
const byte MSPIM SCK = 4;
const byte MSPIM SS = 5;
// sends/receives one byte
byte MSPIMTransfer (byte c)
 // wait for transmitter ready
 while ((UCSR0A & BV (UDRE0)) == 0)
   {}
 // send byte
 UDR0 = c;
 // wait for receiver ready
 while ((UCSR0A \& _BV (RXC0)) == 0)
   {}
 // receive byte, return it
 return UDR0:
} // end of MSPIMTransfer
// select slave, write a string, wait for transfer to complete, deselect slave
void spiWriteString (const char * str)
 if (!str) return; // Sanity Clause
 char c;
 // enable slave select
 digitalWrite (MSPIM SS, LOW);
 // send the string
```

```
while (c = *str++)
   MSPIMTransfer (c);
 // wait for all transmissions to finish
 while ((UCSR0A \& _BV (TXC0)) == 0)
   {}
 // disable slave select
 digitalWrite (MSPIM SS, HIGH);
 } // end of spiWriteString
void setup()
 pinMode (MSPIM_SS, OUTPUT); // SS
 // must be zero before enabling the transmitter
 UBRR0 = 0;
 UCSR0A = _BV (TXC0); // any old transmit now complete
 pinMode (MSPIM_SCK, OUTPUT); // set XCK pin as output to enable master mode
 // must be done last, see page 206
 UBRR0 = 3; // 2 Mhz clock rate
 } // end of setup
void loop()
 spiWriteString ("hello, world!");
 } // end of loop
```

Results on logic analyzer:



Pins for MSPIM mode



- Nick Gammon

www.gammon.com.au, www.mushclient.com



The default setting for SPI is to use the system clock speed divided by four, that is, one SPI clock pulse every 250 nS. You can change the clock divider by using setClockDivider like this:

```
SPI.setClockDivider(divider);
```

Where "divider" is one of:

- SPI CLOCK DIV2
- SPI_CLOCK_DIV4
- SPI_CLOCK_DIV8
- SPI CLOCK DIV16
- SPI_CLOCK_DIV32
- SPI CLOCK DIV64
- SPI_CLOCK_DIV128

The fastest rate is "divide by 2" or one SPI clock pulse every 125 nS. This would therefore take 8 * 125 nS or 1 uS to transmit one byte.

However empirical testing shows that it is necessary to have two clock pulses between bytes, so the maximum rate at which bytes can be clocked out is 1.125 uS each (with a clock divider of 2).

To transfer data this fast you can't afford the time taken to check the "completed" register, so a timed loop is better, eg.

A loop like the above takes 18 cycles as you can see from the cycles counts in brackets below:

```
368:
      89 91
                    ld
                           r24, Y+ (2)
36a: 8e bd
                    out
                           0x2e, r24
                                         ; 46 (1)
36c: 00 00
                    nop (1)
36e: 00 00
                    nop (1)
370: 00 00
                        (1)
                    nop
372: 00 00
                    nop
                         (1)
374: 00 00
                         (1)
                    nop
376: 00 00
                         (1)
                    nop
378: 00 00
                         (1)
                    nop
37a: 00 00
                    nop (1)
37c: 00 00
                    nop (1)
                   nop (1)
37e: 00 00
380: 00 00
                    nop (1)
                    cp r28, r16 (1)
cpc r29, r17 (1)
382: c0 17
                          r29, r17 (1)
384: d1 07
                    срс
386: 81 f7
                                         ; 0x368 < loop+0x4c> (1/2)
```

That takes 18 cycles if the branch is taken.

To summarize, each byte can be sent at a maximum rate of one per 1.125 uS (with a 16 MHz clock) giving a theoretical maximum transfer rate of 1/1.125 uS, or 888,888 bytes per second (excluding overhead like setting SS low and so on).

This is achievable with both the "normal" SPI hardware and the MSPIM mode described above.

- Nick Gammon

www.gammon.com.au, www.mushclient.com



Posted by Nick Gammon Australia (22,538 posts) bio Forum Administrator

Date Reply #5 on Wed 06 Mar 2013 01:29 AM (UTC)

Amended on Sun 27 Oct 2013 03:02 AM (UTC) by Nick Gammon

Message

SPI for ATtiny25 / ATtiny45 / ATtiny85

The small "namespace" below illustrates how you can do SPI on the ATtiny25/45/85 chips.

```
// Written by Nick Gammon
// March 2013
// ATMEL ATTINY45 / ARDUINO pin mappings
// RESET Ain0 (D 5) PB5 1|
                              18 Vcc
// CLK1 Ain3 (D 3) PB3 2
                               7 PB2 (D 2) Ain1 SCK / USCK / SCL
                              6 PB1 (D 1) pwm1 MISO / DO
// CLK0 Ain2 (D 4) PB4 3
                   GND 4 5 PB0 (D 0) pwm0 MOSI / DI / SDA
//
namespace tinySPI
  const byte DI = 0; // D0, pin 5 Data In
  const byte D0 = 1; // D1, pin 6 Data Out (this is *not* MOSI)
  const byte USCK = 2; // D2, pin 7 Universal Serial Interface clock
  const byte SS = 3; // D3, pin 2 Slave Select
  void begin ()
   digitalWrite (SS, HIGH); // ensure SS stays high until needed
   pinMode (USCK, OUTPUT);
   pinMode (DO, OUTPUT);
   pinMode (SS, OUTPUT);
   pinMode (DI, INPUT);
   USICR = bit (USIWM0); // 3-wire mode
   } // end of tinySPI begin
  // What is happening here is that the loop executes 16 times.
 // This is because the 4-bit counter in USISR is initially zero, and then
  // toggles 16 times until it overflows, thus counting out 8 bits (16 toggles).
 // The data is valid on the clock leading edge (equivalent to CPHA == 0).
  byte transfer (const byte b)
   USIDR = b; // byte to output
   USISR = bit (USIOIF); // clear Counter Overflow Interrupt Flag, set count to zero
   do
     USICR = bit (USIWM0) // 3-wire mode
             bit (USICS1) | bit (USICLK) // Software clock strobe
             bit (USITC); // Toggle Clock Port Pin
     } while ((USISR & bit (USIOIF)) == 0); // until Counter Overflow Interrupt Flag set
    return USIDR; // return read data
   } // end of tinySPI transfer
 }; // end of namespace tinySPI
```

Example code using the above:

```
void setup (void)
{
  tinySPI::begin ();
} // end of setup

void loop (void)
{
  char c;

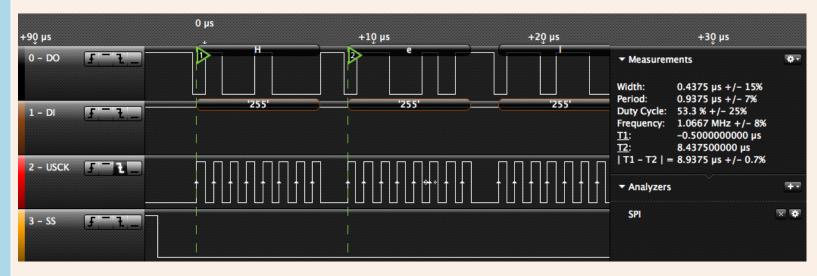
  // enable Slave Select
  digitalWrite(tinySPI::SS, LOW);

  // send test string
  for (const char * p = "Hello, world!" ; c = *p; p++)
      tinySPI::transfer (c);

  // disable Slave Select
  digitalWrite(tinySPI::SS, HIGH);

  delay (100);
} // end of loop
```

You can choose any pin for SS (slave select). You may not even require it. The library uses a tight loop to clock out a byte (and receive the incoming byte). Timing on my logic analyzer gives:



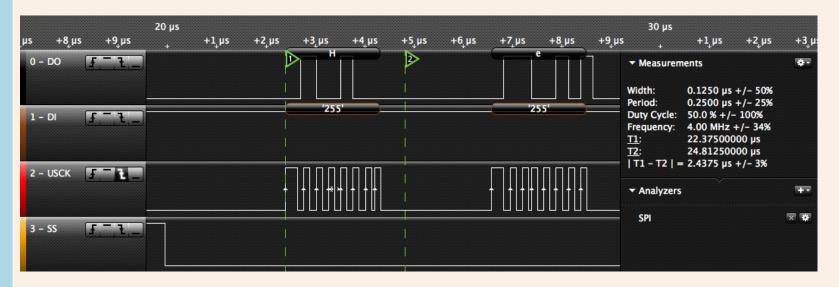
This is around 9 uS for each byte, with a SPI clock speed of 1 MHz.

Faster version

The version below uses the second suggested method in the Atmel datasheet. Rather than looping, the loop is "unwound" to save the overhead of executing a loop 8 times. This improves the speed somewhat.

```
// Written by Nick Gammon
// March 2013
// ATMEL ATTINY45 / ARDUINO
//
                         +-\/-+
// RESET Ain0 (D 5) PB5 1| |8 Vcc
7 PB2 (D 2) Ain1 SCK / USCK / SCL
                   GND 4 | 5 PB0 (D 0) pwm0 MOSI / DI / SDA
//
namespace tinySPI
  const byte DI = 0; // D0, pin 5 Data In
  const byte D0 = 1; // D1, pin 6 Data Out (this is *not* MOSI)
  const byte USCK = 2; // D2, pin 7 Universal Serial Interface clock
  const byte SS = 3; // D3, pin 2 Slave Select
  void begin ()
   digitalWrite (SS, HIGH); // ensure SS stays high until needed
   pinMode (USCK, OUTPUT);
   pinMode (D0, OUTPUT);
   pinMode (SS. OUTPUT):
   USICR = bit (USIWM0); // 3-wire mode
   } // end of tinySPI begin
  // Clock out 8 bits. We write to USICR 16 times, because we need 16
  // toggles of the clock (on/off/on/off etc.) but only 8 shifts.
  // Thus first we clock, then we clock-and-shift.
 // The data is valid on the clock leading edge (equivalent to CPHA == 0).
  const byte toggleClock = bit (USIWM0) | bit (USICS1) | bit (USITC);
  const byte toggleClockAndShift = bit (USIWM0) | bit (USICS1) | bit (USITC) | bit (USICLK);
  byte transfer (const byte b)
   USIDR = b; // byte to output
```

```
USICR = toggleClock;
                                // MSB
  USICR = toggleClockAndShift;
  USICR = toggleClock;
                                // LSB
  USICR = toggleClockAndShift;
  return USIDR; // return read data
      // end of tinySPI_transfer
}; // end of namespace tinySPI
```



The logic analyzer shows that the SPI clock speed is now 4 MHz and the time taken to clock out one byte is just over 2 uS.

- Nick Gammon

www.gammon.com.au, www.mushclient.com



Posted by Nick Gammon Australia (22,538 posts) bio Forum Administrator

Date Reply #6 on Sun 24 Mar 2013 03:50 AM (UTC)

Amended on Sat 23 Aug 2014 03:59 AM (UTC) by Nick Gammon

Message

Bit-banged SPI

I have written a small library to implement "bit banged" SPI for situations where you might not want to use the hardware SPI. It can be downloaded from:

http://www.gammon.com.au/Arduino/bitBangedSPI.zip

Also at:

https://github.com/nickgammon/bitBangedSPI

Example code:

```
#include <bitBangedSPI.h>
bitBangedSPI bbSPI (5, 6, 7); // MOSI, MISO, SCK
const byte mySS = 8; // slave select
void setup (void)
 bbSPI.begin ();
 pinMode (mySS, OUTPUT);
 } // end of setup
void loop (void)
  char c;
 // enable Slave Select
 digitalWrite(mySS, LOW);
  // send test string
 for (const char * p = "Hello, world!"; c = *p; p++)
   bbSPI.transfer (c);
 // disable Slave Select
 digitalWrite(mySS, HIGH);
 delay (100);
 } // end of loop
```

The constructor specifies the MOSI, MISO and SCK pins. It is your responsibility to manage "slave select".

Both MOSI and MISO may be bitBangedSPI::NO_PIN, in which case they are not written to/read from, in case you are working with a one-way device (eg. an output shift register).

The library uses digitalRead and digitalWrite so it is not particularly fast, but for situation like reading configuration switches this shouldn't be an issue. Timing shows that it takes around 240 uS to transfer one byte.

Faster bit-banged SPI

The library below uses direct port manipulations to speed up the bit-banged SPI. It is a bit fiddlier to use, because you need to look up the ports/pins/data-direction registers for the appropriate pins. However, it is faster.

Download:

http://www.gammon.com.au/Arduino/bitBangedSPIfast.zip

Example of use:

```
#include <bitBangedSPIfast.h>
bitBangedSPIfast bbSPI (PORTD, 5, PIND, 6, PORTD, 7, // MOSI port (D5), MISO pin (D6), SCK port (D7)
                      DDRD, 5, DDRD, 6, DDRD, 7); // MOSI ddr (D5), MISO ddr (D6), SCK ddr (D7)
const byte mySS = 8; // slave select
void setup (void)
  bbSPI.begin ();
 pinMode (mySS, OUTPUT);
 } // end of setup
void loop (void)
  char c;
 // enable Slave Select
 digitalWrite(mySS, LOW);
 // send test string
  for (const char * p = "Hello, world!" ; c = *p; p++)
   bbSPI.transfer (c);
  // disable Slave Select
 digitalWrite(mySS, HIGH);
 delay (100);
  } // end of loop
```

This takes about 52 uS to transfer one byte.

Both of these are somewhat slower than hardware SPI, but could come in handy where you are using the hardware SPI for other purposes, and just want to draw to an LCD screen, or update some LEDS, where speed is not really of the essence.

- Nick Gammon

www.gammon.com.au, www.mushclient.com



Posted by Nick Gammon Australia (22,538 posts) bio Forum Administrator

Date Reply #7 on Sun 27 Oct 2013 03:00 AM (UTC)

Amended on Sun 27 Oct 2013 03:07 AM (UTC) by Nick Gammon

Message

SPI for ATtiny24 / ATtiny44 / ATtiny84

The small "namespace" below illustrates how you can do SPI on the ATtiny24/44/84 chips.

See further up for the ATtiny25/45/85 version.

```
// Written by Nick Gammon
// October 2013
// ATMEL ATTINY84 / ARDUINO
                 VCC 1
                            |14 GND
         (D 10) PBO 2|
(D 9) PB1 3|
                           |13 AREF (D 0)
|12 PA1 (D 1)
  PB3 4|
INTO (D 8) PB2 5|
                         | 11 PA2 (D 2)
| 10 PA3 (D 3)
         (D 7) PA7 6
                           9 PA4 (D 4) SCK
   MOSI (D 6) PA6 7 8 PA5 (D 5) MISO
namespace tinySPI
  const byte DI = 6; // D6, pin 7 Data In (MOSI)
  const byte D0 = 5; // D5, pin 8 Data Out (MISO)
  const byte USCK = 4; // D4, pin 9 Universal Serial Interface clock
  const byte SS = 3; // D3, pin 10 Slave Select
```

```
void begin ()
  digitalWrite (SS, HIGH); // ensure SS stays high until needed
  pinMode (USCK, OUTPUT);
  pinMode (DO, OUTPUT);
  pinMode (SS, OUTPUT);
pinMode (DI, INPUT);
  USICR = bit (USIWM0); // 3-wire mode
  } // end of tinySPI begin
// What is happening here is that the loop executes 16 times.
// This is because the 4-bit counter in USISR is initially zero, and then
// toggles 16 times until it overflows, thus counting out 8 bits (16 toggles).
// The data is valid on the clock leading edge (equivalent to CPHA == 0).
byte transfer (const byte b)
  USIDR = b; // byte to output
  USISR = bit (USIOIF); // clear Counter Overflow Interrupt Flag, set count to zero
    USICR = bit (USIWM0) // 3-wire mode
            bit (USICS1) | bit (USICLK) // Software clock strobe
            bit (USITC); // Toggle Clock Port Pin
    } while ((USISR & bit (USIOIF)) == 0); // until Counter Overflow Interrupt Flag set
  return USIDR; // return read data
      // end of tinySPI transfer
}; // end of namespace tinySPI
```

Example code using the above:

```
void setup (void)
{
  tinySPI::begin ();
} // end of setup

void loop (void)
{
  char c;

// enable Slave Select
  digitalWrite(tinySPI::SS, LOW);

// send test string
  for (const char * p = "Hello, world!" ; c = *p; p++)
        tinySPI::transfer (c);

// disable Slave Select
  digitalWrite(tinySPI::SS, HIGH);
```

```
delay (100);
} // end of loop
```

You can choose any pin for SS (slave select). You may not even require it. The library uses a tight loop to clock out a byte (and receive the incoming byte). Timing on my logic analyzer was similar to the code in the earlier post for the Attiny85.

This is around 9 uS for each byte, with a SPI clock speed of 1 MHz.

Faster version

The version below uses the second suggested method in the Atmel datasheet. Rather than looping, the loop is "unwound" to save the overhead of executing a loop 8 times. This improves the speed somewhat.

```
// Written by Nick Gammon
// October 2013
// ATMEL ATTINY84 / ARDUINO
                VCC 1
                          |14 GND
         (D 10) PBO 2
                           13 AREF (D 0)
         (D 9) PB1 3
                          12 PA1 (D 1)
                        | 11 PA2 (D 2)
| 10 PA3 (D 3)
                PB3 4
  INTO (D 8) PB2 5
                        9 PA4 (D 4) SCK
    (D 7) PA7 6
  MOSI (D 6) PA6 7| |8 PA5 (D 5) MISO
namespace tinySPI
 const byte DI = 6; // D6, pin 7 Data In (MOSI)
 const byte D0 = 5; // D5, pin 8 Data Out (MISO)
 const byte USCK = 4; // D4, pin 9 Universal Serial Interface clock
 const byte SS = 3; // D3, pin 10 Slave Select
  void begin ()
   digitalWrite (SS, HIGH); // ensure SS stays high until needed
   pinMode (USCK, OUTPUT);
   pinMode (DO, OUTPUT);
   pinMode (SS,
                 OUTPUT):
   pinMode (DI, INPUT);
   USICR = bit (USIWM0); // 3-wire mode
```

```
} // end of tinySPI_begin
// Clock out 8 bits. We write to USICR 16 times, because we need 16
// toggles of the clock (on/off/on/off etc.) but only 8 shifts.
// Thus first we clock, then we clock-and-shift.
// The data is valid on the clock leading edge (equivalent to CPHA == 0).
const byte toggleClock
                            = bit (USIWM0) | bit (USICS1) | bit (USITC);
const byte toggleClockAndShift = bit (USIWM0) | bit (USICS1) | bit (USITC) | bit (USICLK);
byte transfer (const byte b)
  USIDR = b; // byte to output
  USICR = toggleClock;
  USICR = toggleClockAndShift;
                                // LSB
  USICR = toggleClock;
  USICR = toggleClockAndShift;
  return USIDR; // return read data
     // end of tinySPI_transfer
}; // end of namespace tinySPI
```

The logic analyzer shows that the SPI clock speed is now 4 MHz and the time taken to clock out one byte is just over 2 uS.

https://github.com/JChristensen/tinySPI

- Nick Gammon
www.gammon.com.au, www.mushclient.com



Posted by Nick Gammon Australia (22,538 posts) bio Forum Administrator

Date Reply #8 on Tue 07 Oct 2014 10:01 PM (UTC)

Amended on Tue 07 Oct 2014 10:04 PM (UTC) by Nick Gammon

Message

Send and receive any data type

So far we have described just sending individual bytes (or strings). If we want to send or receive a *structure* (eg. some integers and floats) we can use something similar to the I2C_anything library described here:

http://www.gammon.com.au/forum/?id=10896&reply=8#reply8

We can make a library (SPI_anything) which basically consists of this file:

SPI_anything.h:

```
#include <Arduino.h>
template <typename T> unsigned int SPI writeAnything (const T& value)
    const byte * p = (const byte*) &value;
    unsigned int i;
    for (i = 0; i < size of value; i++)
          SPI.transfer(*p++);
    return i;
  } // end of SPI writeAnything
template <typename T> unsigned int SPI readAnything(T& value)
    byte * p = (byte*) &value;
    unsigned int i;
    for (i = 0; i < size of value; i++)
          *p++ = SPI.transfer (0);
    return i;
 } // end of SPI readAnything
template <typename T> unsigned int SPI readAnything ISR(T& value)
    byte * p = (byte*) &value;
    unsigned int i;
    *p++ = SPDR; // get first byte
    for (i = 1; i < sizeof value; i++)
          *p++ = SPI.transfer (0);
    return i;
  } // end of SPI readAnything ISR
```

It uses templates to convert any data type into a stream of bytes. For example, to send a structure to another Arduino ...

Master

```
// master
#include <SPI.h>
#include "SPI_anything.h"
// create a structure to store the different data values:
typedef struct myStruct
 byte a;
 int b;
 long c;
myStruct foo;
void setup ()
  SPI.begin ();
  // Slow down the master a bit
 SPI.setClockDivider(SPI_CLOCK_DIV8);
  foo.a = 42;
  foo.b = 32000;
 foo.c = 100000;
 } // end of setup
void loop ()
  digitalWrite(SS, LOW); // SS is pin 10
 SPI_writeAnything (foo);
digitalWrite(SS, HIGH);
  delay (1000); // for testing
  foo.c++;
 } // end of loop
```

Now to receive that structure. First, a version which does not use interrupts:

Slave

```
// slave
#include <SPI.h>
#include "SPI anything.h"
// create a structure to store the different data values:
typedef struct myStruct
 byte a;
 int b;
 long c;
};
myStruct foo;
void setup ()
 Serial.begin (115200); // debugging
 // have to send on master in, *slave out*
 pinMode(MISO, OUTPUT);
 // turn on SPI in slave mode
 SPCR |= BV(SPE);
 } // end of setup
void loop ()
 SPI_readAnything (foo);
  Serial.println ((int) foo.a);
 Serial.println (foo.b);
 Serial.println (foo.c);
 Serial.println ();
 } // end of loop
```

This just waits inside "loop" for data to arrive. But if you want to do something else you would want to use a SPI receive interrupt:

```
// slave
#include <SPI.h>
#include "SPI_anything.h"

// create a structure to store the different data values:
typedef struct myStruct
{
  byte a;
  int b;
  long c;
};
volatile myStruct foo;
```

```
volatile bool haveData = false;
void setup ()
  Serial.begin (115200); // debugging
  // have to send on master in, *slave out*
 pinMode(MISO, OUTPUT);
  // turn on SPI in slave mode
 SPCR |= _BV(SPE);
  // now turn on interrupts
 SPI.attachInterrupt();
 } // end of setup
void loop ()
  if (haveData)
     Serial.println ((int) foo.a);
     Serial.println (foo.b);
    Serial.println (foo.c);
     Serial.println ();
     haveData = false;
 } // end of loop
// SPI interrupt routine
ISR (SPI_STC_vect)
  SPI_readAnything_ISR (foo);
  haveData = true;
  } // end of interrupt routine SPI STC vect
```

This is slightly trickier, because when the interrupt fires we already have the first byte. So we need to use a different version designed to go into an ISR (SPI readAnything ISR). That function retrieves the first byte (which caused the interrupt) and then waits for the remaining ones.

Output:

```
42
32000
101060
42
32000
```

101063 42 32000 101064 42 32000 101065 32000 101066 32000 101067 - Nick Gammon www.gammon.com.au, www.mushclient.com 1 top Posted by Nick Gammon Australia (22,538 posts) bio Forum Administrator Date Reply #9 on Sun 22 Feb 2015 09:48 PM (UTC) Amended on Wed 23 Sep 2015 09:44 PM (UTC) by Nick Gammon Message SPI under IDE 1.6.0 and later The Arduino IDE (Integrated Development Environment) has implemented some changes in SPI starting in version 1.6.0. SPI.begin() This functions similarly to before, except that it now has a "reference count", so that if you do multiple SPI.begin() calls in a row only the first one does anything useful. SPI.end() This functions similarly to before, except that it now decrements the "reference count", and only turns SPI mode off if the reference count is zero. That is, if noone is using SPI any more.

SPI.usingInterrupt(interruptNumber)

If SPI is used from within an interrupt, this function registers that interrupt with the SPI library, so beginTransaction() can prevent conflicts. The input interruptNumber is the number used with attachInterrupt. If SPI is used from a different interrupt (eg, a timer), interruptNumber should be 255.

Note: the usingInterrupt and notUsingInterrupt functions should not to be called from ISR context or inside a transaction.

SPI.notUsingInterrupt(interruptNumber)

Indicates that we are no longer using this particular external interrupt number.

Note: the using Interrupt and not Using Interrupt functions should not to be called from ISR context or inside a transaction.

Deprecated functions

The following functions are now merged into SPI.beginTransaction():

- SPI.setBitOrder()
- SPI.setDataMode()
- SPI.setClockDivider()

These functions should not be used because SPI is waiting on the interrupt bit to be set in the hardware register:

- SPI.attachInterrupt() // do not use
- SPI.detachInterrupt() // do not use

SPI.beginTransaction(SPISettings(clockSpeed, dataOrder, dataMode))

Begin using the SPI bus. Normally this is called before asserting the chip select signal.

SPI is configured to use the clock, data order (MSBFIRST or LSBFIRST) and data mode (SPI_MODE0, SPI_MODE1, SPI_MODE2, or SPI_MODE3). The clock speed should be the maximum speed the SPI slave device can accept.

Effectively this does what SPI.setBitOrder(), SPI.setDataMode() and SPI.setClockDivider() used to do, in a single function call. Also SPI.beginTransaction() masks interrupts on the registered interrupt number(s) set by usingInterrupt() above. So for example:

```
SPI.usingInterrupt (0); // I am using external interrupt 0
SPI.usingInterrupt (1); // I am also using external interrupt 1
SPI.beginTransaction (SPISettings (2000000, MSBFIRST, SPI_MODE0)); // 2 MHz clock
digitalWrite (SS, LOW); // assert Slave Select
byte foo = SPI.transfer (42); // do a transfer
digitalWrite (SS, HIGH); // de-assert Slave Select
SPI.endTransaction (); // allow external interrupts to fire now
```

During the transaction above, external interrupts o and 1 are temporarily disabled.

SPI.transfer(byte data)

Transfers one byte (same as before), receiving a byte from the slave at the same time.

SPI.transfer16(unsigned int data)

Transfers two bytes (unsigned int), receiving two bytes from the slave at the same time. Returns unsigned int. The most significant byte is transferred first.

SPI.transfer(void *buf, size_t count)

Sends multiple (count) bytes to the slave. Returns nothing. Useful for things like LED strips where you do not expect a response.

SPI.endTransaction()

Call this to restore any external interrupts temporarily masked out during the above transaction. Before calling this, de-assert the appropriate chip select (SS) pin for the SPI slave.

Backwards compatibility

You can test for the new functionality by checking for the define SPI_HAS_TRANSACTION. For example:

```
#if SPI HAS TRANSACTION
  SPI.usingInterrupt (0); // I am using external interrupt 0
  SPI.usingInterrupt (1); // I am also using external interrupt 1
 SPI.beginTransaction (SPISettings (2000000, MSBFIRST, SPI MODEO)); // 2 MHz clock
#else
  SPI.setClockDivider(SPI_CLOCK_DIV8);
SPI.setBitOrder(MSBFIRST);
  SPI.setDataMode(SPI MODE0);
#endif // SPI HAS TRANSACTION
digitalWrite (SS, LOW);
                               // assert Slave Select
byte foo = SPI.transfer (42); // do a transfer
digitalWrite (SS, HIGH);
                               // de-assert Slave Select
#if SPI HAS TRANSACTION
  SPI.endTransaction (); // allow external interrupts to fire now
#endif // SPI HAS TRANSACTION
```

Thanks to documentation from http://www.pjrc.com/teensy/td-libs-spl.html

- Nick Gammon

www.gammon.com.au, www.mushclient.com



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