

Method to iterate over the bits in a byte sent over serial [closed]

Asked 3 years, 7 months ago Modified 3 years, 7 months ago Viewed 2k times



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This question does not appear to be about Arduino, within the scope defined in the [help center](#).

Closed 3 years ago.

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In my current project which integrates Arduino/avr IC with Raspberry-Pi, and each communicating via serial, I'm looking to send a byte of data to the Arduino from the RPi, which then would be iterated over, bit by bit.

Each bit represents a setting. If a bit is 0, then the Arduino would turn that respective device off, if a bit is 1, then Arduino would turn that respective device on. For example, a byte such as: 01100110, would mean the Arduino would have to turn four devices off, and four devices on.

I'm looking for information on how to take a byte over serial, and iterate over that byte bit by bit, and have the Arduino make decisions based on the value of each bit.

Excuse my post for lacking much technical detail, I'm refraining from using terms that are still very vague to me.

Regards.

arduino-uno

serial

raspberrypi

serial-data

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asked Jan 29, 2019 at 3:54




Colorado_Technical_Savage

11 3

1 your question is a C++ programming question it is not related to the Arduino specifically – [jsotola](#) Jan 29 2019 at 6:41

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1 Answer

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In all the examples below, `value` is the value of the byte

2

LSB -> MSB - so 00001111 would turn ON the first 4 devices and turn OFF the last 4



```
for(int i = 0, mask = 1; i < 8; i++, mask = mask << 1)
{
    if (value & mask)
    {
        // bit is on
    }
    else
    {
        // bit is off
    }
}
```

Alternatively, you can do the following, but `value` will be altered

```
for(int i = 0; i < 8; i++, value = value >> 1)
{
    if (value & 1)
    {
        // bit is on
    }
    else
    {
        // bit is off
    }
}
```

Working the other way around in each byte:

MSB -> LSB - so 00001111 would turn OFF the first 4 devices and turn ON the last 4

```
for(int i = 0, mask = 128; i < 8; i++, mask = mask >> 1)
{
    if (value & mask)
    {
        // bit "i" is on
    }
    else
    {
        // bit "i" is off
    }
}
```

Alternatively, you can do the following, but `value` will be altered

```
for(int i = 0; i < 8; i++, value = value << 1)
{
    if (value & 128)
    {
        // bit is on
    }
    else
    {
        // bit is off
    }
}
```

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edited Jan 30, 2019 at 23:16



VE7JRO

2,500

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23

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answered Jan 29, 2019 at 4:43



Jaromanda X

635

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