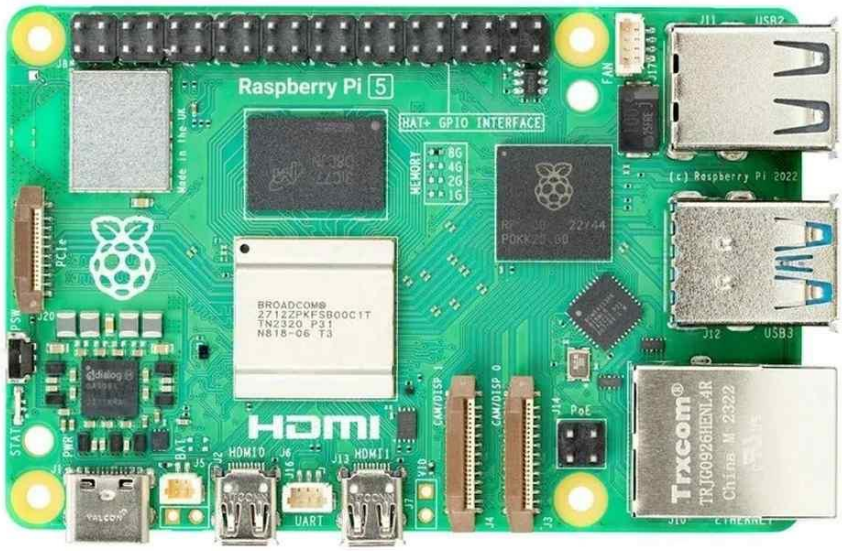
Tutorial

Using RPi/GPIO calls on a Raspberry Pi Model 5



Bob Rathbone Computer Consultancy

www.bobrathbone.com

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Introduction

The Raspberry Pi Model 5 was introduced at the end of 2023. It only works with **Raspberry Pi Bookworm OS** or later

However, the biggest impact for most developers is that the **RPi.GPIO** input/output library does not work on the **Raspberry Pi model 5**. This is because the **RPi Model 5** now has a separate chip called **RP1** for controlling I/O including the pins on the GPIO header (**j8**). This means that hundreds of thousands of programs or maybe even millions of programs need to be modified to use one of the newer libraries such as **gpiod** or **lgpio**. The **RP1** chip also controls USB ports, Gigabyte Ethernet, MIPI Camera Controllers and Low Speed Peripherals compatible with earlier versions of the Raspberry Pi.

My own product also Raspberry Pi Internet Radio is such a program and would have meant a lot of work to convert all the GPIO routines to say GPIOD which does run on the RPi Model 5. So, I decided to write a simple interface called **GPIOconverter** which converts **RPi GPIO** calls to one of the newer GPIO interfaces. GPIOD was advocated as the best way forward however I found that GPIOD was poorly documented and there didn't seem to be any examples of how to handle interrupts. I eventually settled on using the excellent **python3-lgpio** library for the **GPIOconverter** software. The architecture of the interface is shown below:

OUTPUT: User Program --> GPIO calls --> GPIOconverter --> LGPIO
INPUT: LGPIO events --> GPIOconverter --> User Program

GPIO Hardware Notes

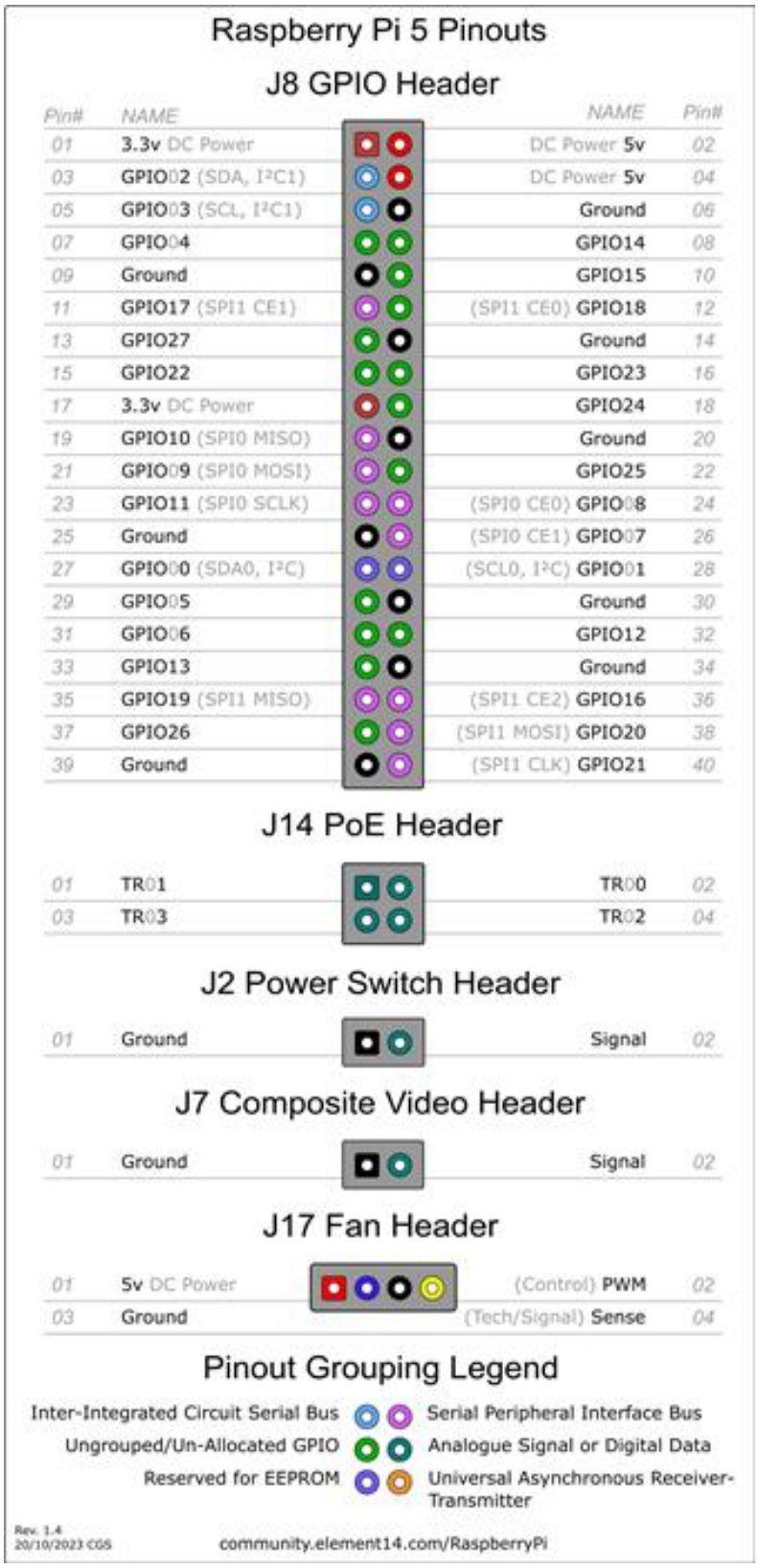

Figure 1 GPIO and other Headers Information

Conventions used in this tutorial

Installation of the radio program requires you to enter lines at the command line prompt. This requires you to log into the Raspberry PI as user '**pi**'. The default password is **raspberry**.

Note: Don't carry out any of the following commands just yet. They are just examples.

```
Raspberrypi login: pi
Password: raspberry
pi@raspberrypi:~$ Last login: Sun Apr  6 10:18:18 2014 from 192.168.2.100
pi@raspberrypi:~$
```

The prompt line is displayed ending with a **$** sign. The **pi@raspberrypi:~** string means user 'pi' on host machine called 'raspberrypi'. The ~ character means the user 'pi' home directory **/home/pi**. In this tutorial if you are required to do something as user **pi** then only the $ sign will be shown followed by the command as shown in the example below:

```
$ pinout
```

Some commands produce output which does not need to be shown. In such a case a ':' is used to indicate that some output has been omitted.

```
$ pinout
Description        : Raspberry Pi 5B rev 1.0
Revision           : c04170
: {Output ommited}
J8:
   3V3  (1) (2)  5V
 GPIO2  (3) (4)  5V
 GPIO3  (5) (6)  GND
 GPIO4  (7) (8)  GPIO14
   GND  (9) (10) GPIO15
GPIO17 (11) (12) GPIO18
GPIO27 (13) (14) GND
GPIO22 (15) (16) GPIO23
   3V3 (17) (18) GPIO24
GPIO10 (19) (20) GND
 GPIO9 (21) (22) GPIO25
GPIO11 (23) (24) GPIO8
   GND (25) (26) GPIO7
 GPIO0 (27) (28) GPIO1
 GPIO5 (29) (30) GND
 GPIO6 (31) (32) GPIO12
GPIO13 (33) (34) GND
GPIO19 (35) (36) GPIO16
GPIO26 (37) (38) GPIO20
   GND (39) (40) GPIO21
For further information, please refer to https://pinout.xyz/
```

END OF EXAMPLE COMMANDS.

What version of the OS works with my Raspberry Pi model

The following article contains a table showing which model Raspberry Pi's work with which Raspberry Pi OS:
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Raspberry_Pi_OS

RPi/GPIO.py

The **GPIO.py code** is only for use with the **Raspberry Pi Model 5**. Do not use it for earlier models such as the Model 3B or 4. It is designed to intercept traditional GPIO calls and convert them to LGPIO calls. See: https://abyz.me.uk/lg/py_lgpio.html

Installation

Pre-requisites

Install package **python3-lgpio**

```
$ sudo apt install python3-lgpio
```

Don't include the "$" sign in the command you enter.

Downloading GPIOconverter

Log into the Raspberry Pi Model 5 and clone the **GPIODconverter** software and run:

```
$ cd
$ git clone https://github.com/bobrathbone/GPIOconverter
```

Installation

Create a sub-directory called RPi in the directory where your GPIO code is installed. For example, for code in directory **/usr/share/radio**:

```
$ cd /usr/share/radio
$ mkdir RPi
```

Now copy **GPIO.py** to **/usr/share/radio**

```
$ cp <source>/GPIO.py /usr/share/radio/RPi/.
```

Enabling GPIO.py

For a Raspberry Pi model 5 only. For example, for code found in the **/usr/share/radio/** directory:

```
$ touch /usr/share/radio/RPi/__init__.py
```

The instruction above will cause the code using the GPIO calls to see directory RPi as a package.

For earlier models such as the 3B or 4B disable the package:

```
$ rm /usr/share/radio/RPi/__init__.py
```

Known Issues

The call **GPIO.setwarnings(True|False)** is currently ignored.

Support

It is not possible to provide support for the standard GPIO library as literally hundreds of thousands of programs are using GPIO routines. The code is provided as is and without any warranties or "fit for purpose" etc. However, do contact bob@bobrahbone.com for any errors or missing features in **GPIOconverter** on **Raspberry Pi Model 5** only.

Source files

The software is stored on **GitHub** at https://github.com/bobrathbone/GPIOconverter or is available as an archive (tar) for download from:
https://bobrathbone.com/raspberrypi/packages/GPIOconverter.tar.gz

The **GPIO.py** file uses the Python 3 LGPIO library (python3-lgpio) to handle calls to and from the RP1 i/o chip. More information on LGPIO see: https://abyz.me.uk/lg/py_lgpio.html

Python code examples will be found at: https://abyz.me.uk/lg/examples.html#Python%20lgpio

Appendix B Licences

The software and documentation for this project is released under the GNU General Public Licence.

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Acknowledgements

The people at https://abyz.me.uk/lg/index.html. No individuals are mentioned by name on their Web site but who ever they are, they have made an excellent product for General Purpose Input Output control on Linux Single Board Computers such as the Raspberry Pi Model 5 with extremely professional documentation. My compliments.

Glossary

GND Ground, 0 Volts

GPIO General Purpose IO (On the Raspberry PI)

RP1 Input Output Controller Chip for Raspberry Pi Model 5 peripherals