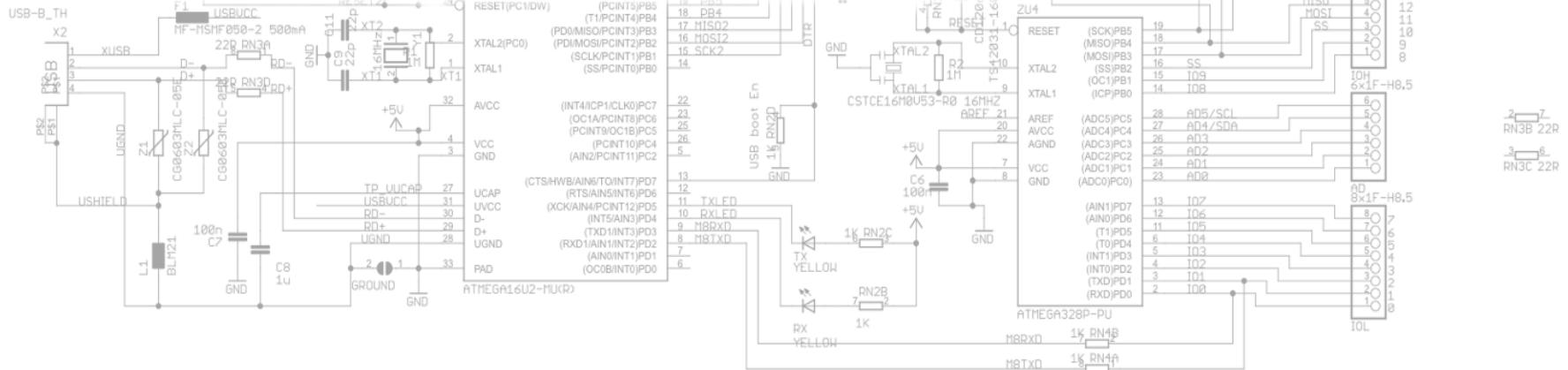
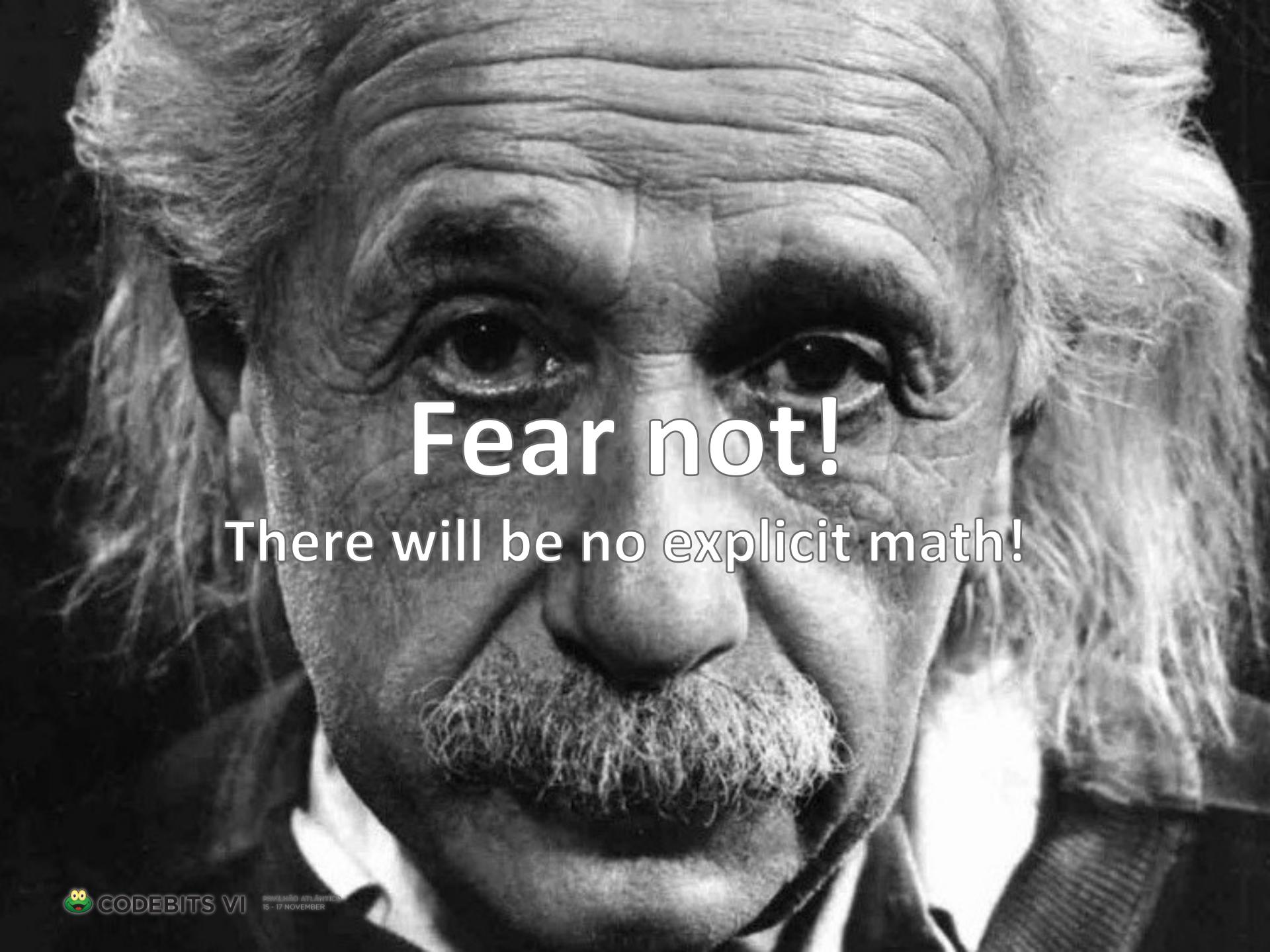


# Electronics Basics with the Arduino

## As understood by a non-Electrical Engineer





**Fear not!**  
There will be no explicit math!

# The Arduino Platform

- A library abstracting low-level MCU\* stuff
- A simplified IDE wrapping the GNU toolchain

A screenshot of the Arduino IDE interface. The title bar says "TempSensor | Arduino 1.0.1". The code editor contains the following C-like pseudocode:

```
static const char sensorPin = 0;
static const char ledPin = 13;
static const char samples = 10;

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

void loop() {
  digitalWrite(ledPin, HIGH);

  float temp = 0;
  /* Read the temperature a few times and average the results... */
  for (int i = 0; i < samples; i++) {
    temp += (5.0 * analogRead(sensorPin) * 100.0) / 1024.0;
    delay(10);
  }
  temp /= samples;

  Serial.println(temp);
  digitalWrite(ledPin, LOW);
}
```

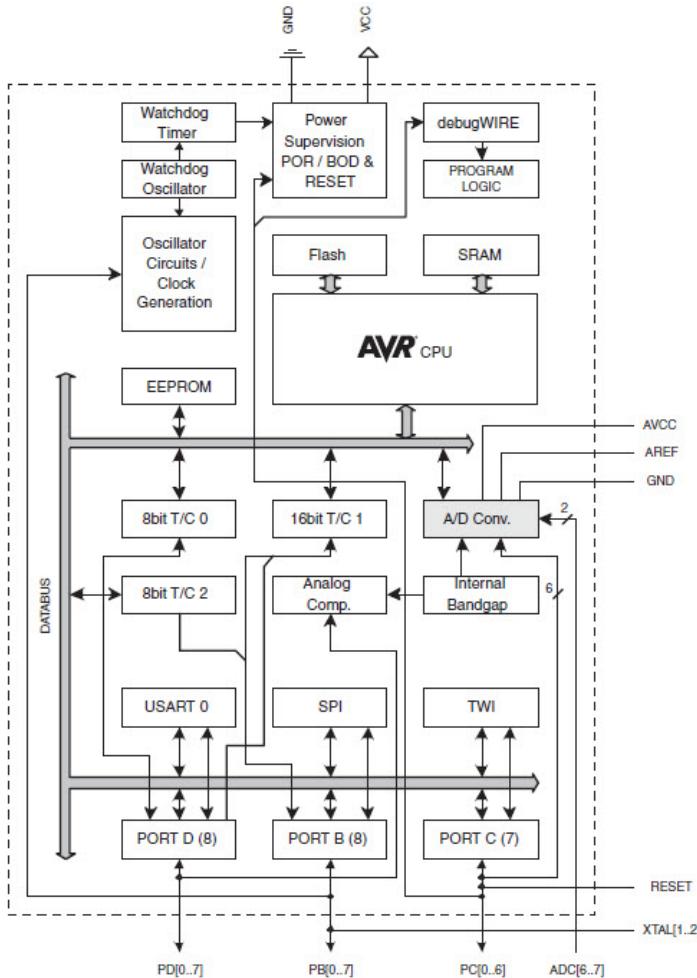
Arduino Uno on /dev/tty.usbserial-A6004nY2

- Support circuitry around the ATmega 8-bit MCU\*
- A bootloader to upload and run user programs



\*Micro-Controller Unit

# Hardware Specs (Arduino Uno)



- ATmega328P 8-bit MCU @ 16 MHz
- 2 KB of RAM
- 32 KB of Flash memory (programs)  
...plus 1 KB of EEPROM (persistent state)
- 14 digital I/O pins  
...6 with PWM capability (8-bit)  
...2 supporting interrupts
- 6 analog input pins (10-bit)

# Electrical Specs (Arduino Uno)

- Board components run at **5 V**
- Power supply can be **7 to 12 V**
  - ...can go up to 20 V, but try to avoid it
- Each I/O pin can handle **20 mA** (safely)
  - ...but **avoid** more than **100 mA** for the sum of all I/O pins
  - ...and **never** give them more than 5 V or negative voltages
- The “5V” pin can source about **100 mA** (without much heat)
  - ...but the unregulated  $V_{in}$  pin (power supply voltage) can handle up to **1 A**

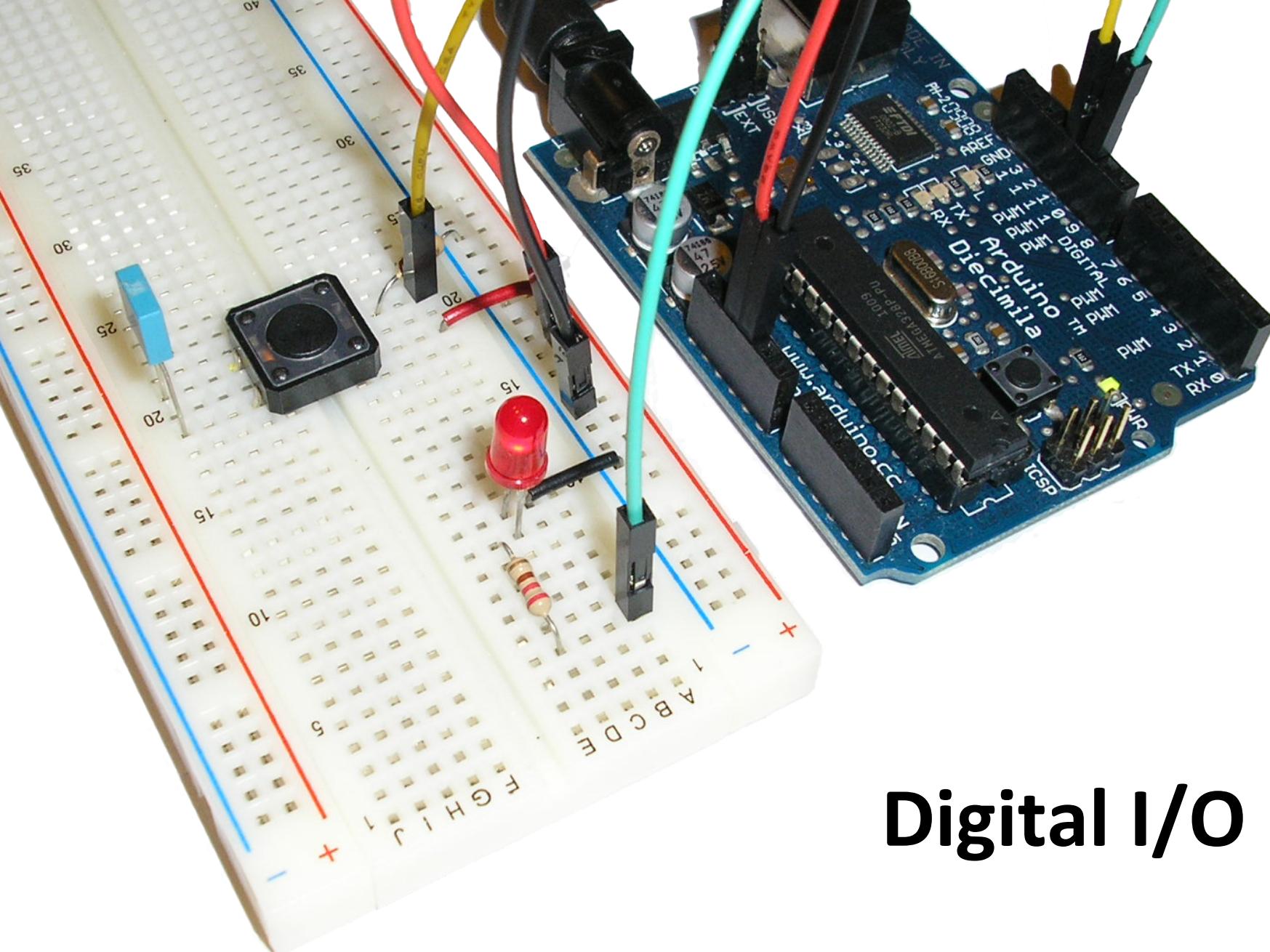


# So, get one of these...

- Voltage ( $V_{dc}$  and  $V_{ac}$ )
- Current (for both DC and AC)
- Resistance ( $\Omega$ )
- Capacitance (F)
- Transistor gain ( $hFE$ )
- Continuity check
- Temperature ( $^{\circ}C$ )

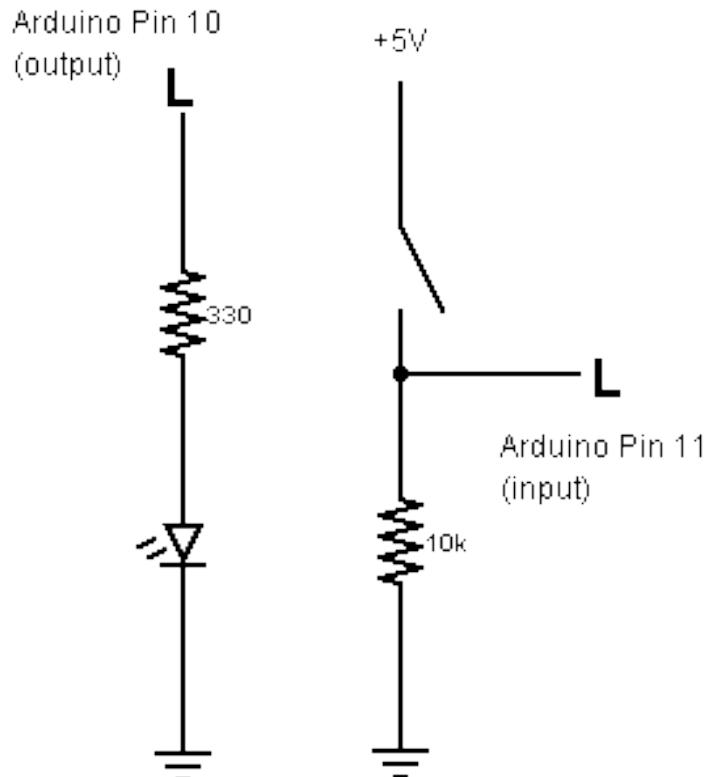
Any brand will do, but don't be cheap...





# Digital I/O

# Our First Circuit (Digital I/O)



```
// Toggle an LED by pressing a button...

static const char led_pin = 10;
static const char button_pin = 11;

boolean led_state = LOW;
boolean last_button_state = LOW;

void setup() {
    pinMode(led_pin, OUTPUT);
    pinMode(button_pin, INPUT);
}

void loop() {
    boolean button_state = digitalRead(button_pin);

    if (button_state == HIGH && last_button_state == LOW) {
        led_state = !led_state;

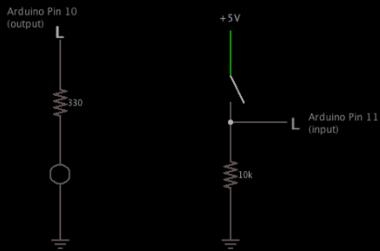
        digitalWrite(led_pin, led_state);
    }

    last_button_state = button_state;
}
```

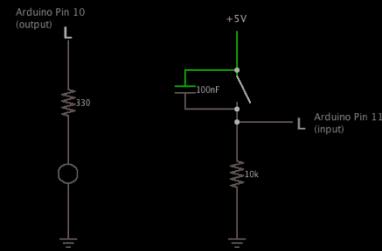
Binary size: 1082 bytes

# Simulation

Simple Digital Input and Output



Simple Digital Input and Output (debounced)



This works because Arduino digital pins have input hysteresis (Schmitt-Trigger).

# Switch Debounce with Capacitors

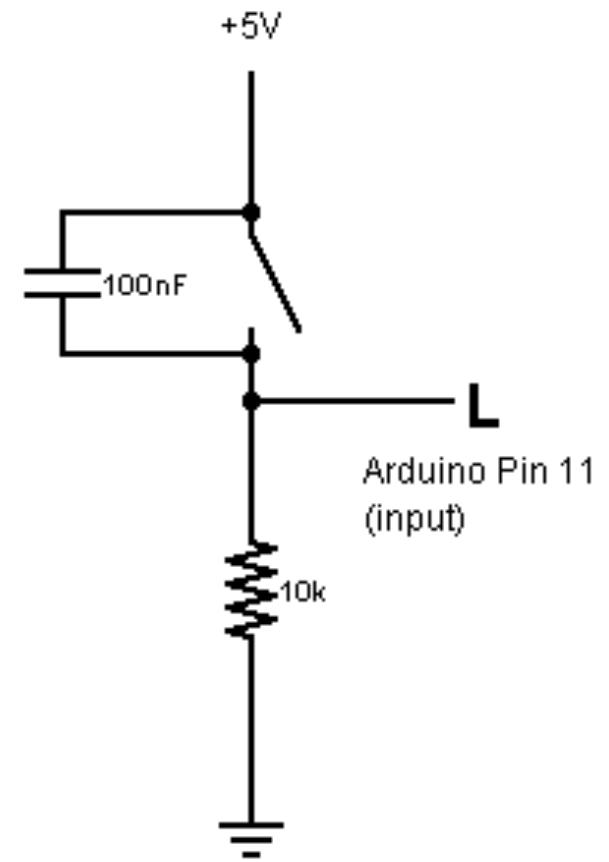
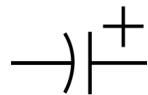
Polyester



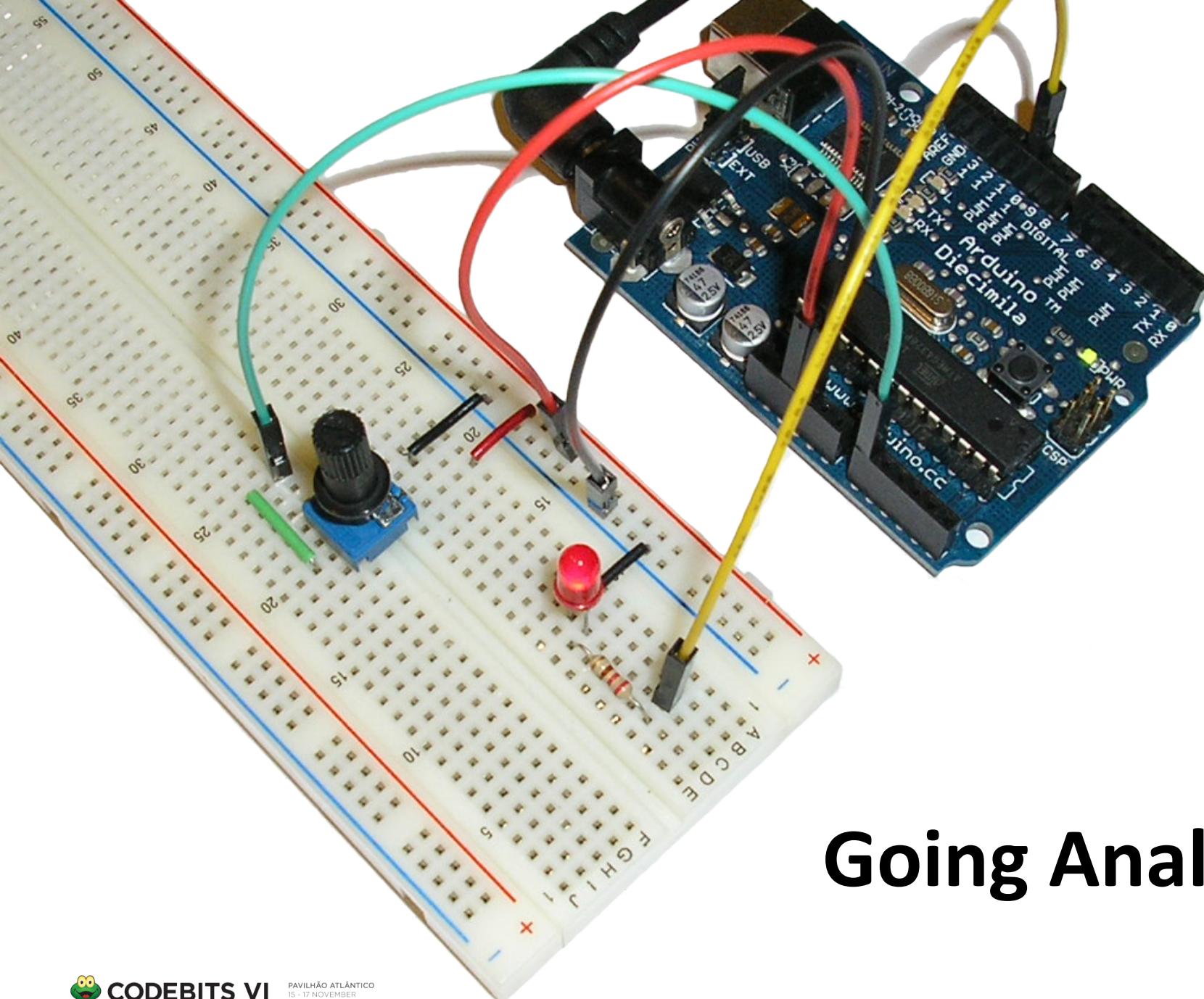
Ceramic



Tantalum

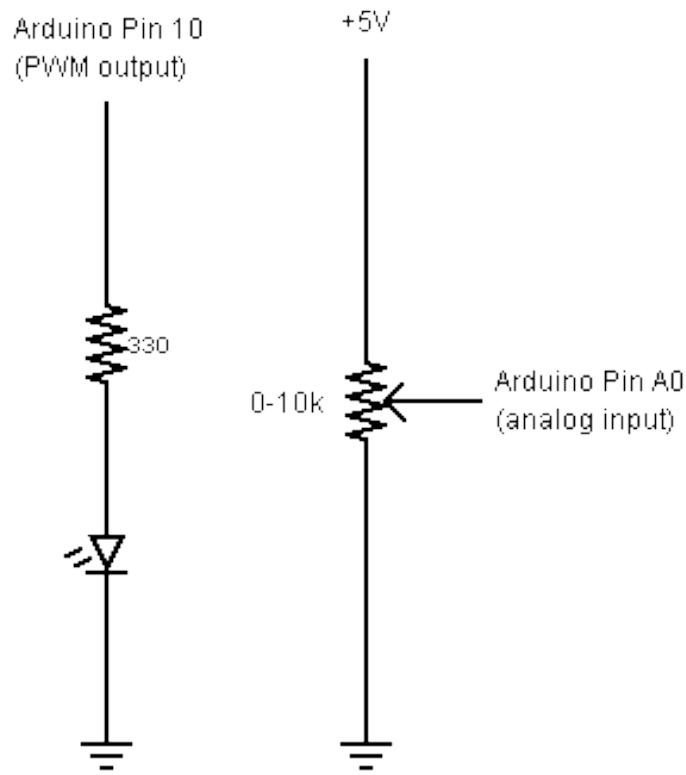


*This works because Arduino digital pins have input hysteresis (Schmitt-Trigger).*



# Going Analog

# Analog Input and PWM\* Output



```
// Control an LED brightness using a potentiometer...

static const char led_pin = 10;
static const char pot_pin = A0;

void setup() {
    pinMode(led_pin, OUTPUT);
}

void loop() {
    short pot_value = analogRead(pot_pin);
    short brightness = map(pot_value, 0, 1023, 0, 255);

    analogWrite(led_pin, brightness);

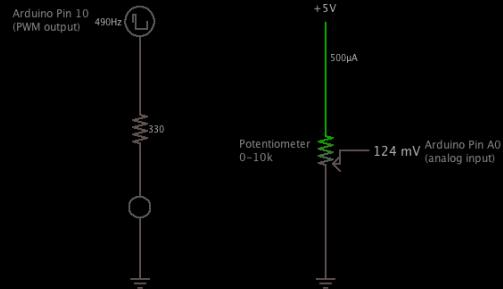
    delay(10);
}
```

\*Pulse-Width Modulation

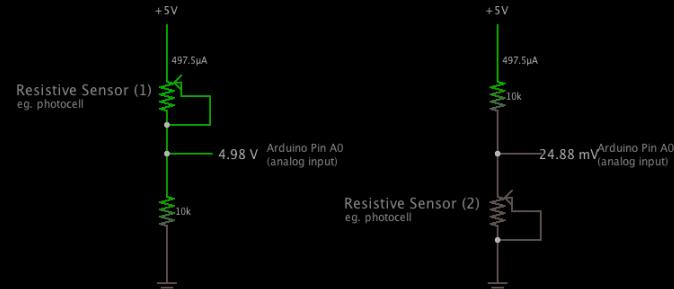
Binary size: 1764 bytes

# Simulation

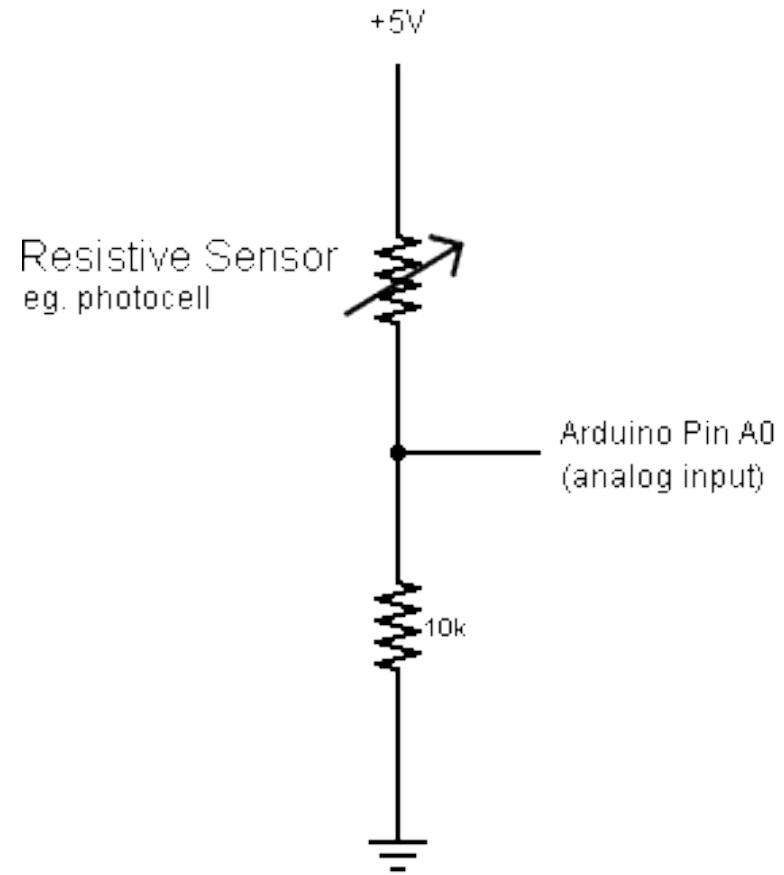
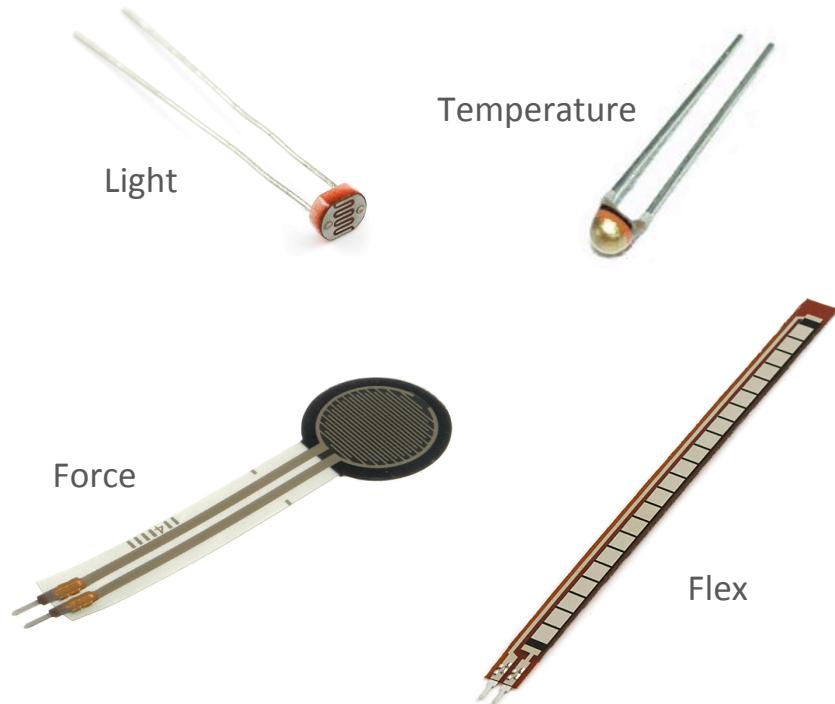
Simple Analog Input and Output



Resistive Analog Input (Voltage Divider)

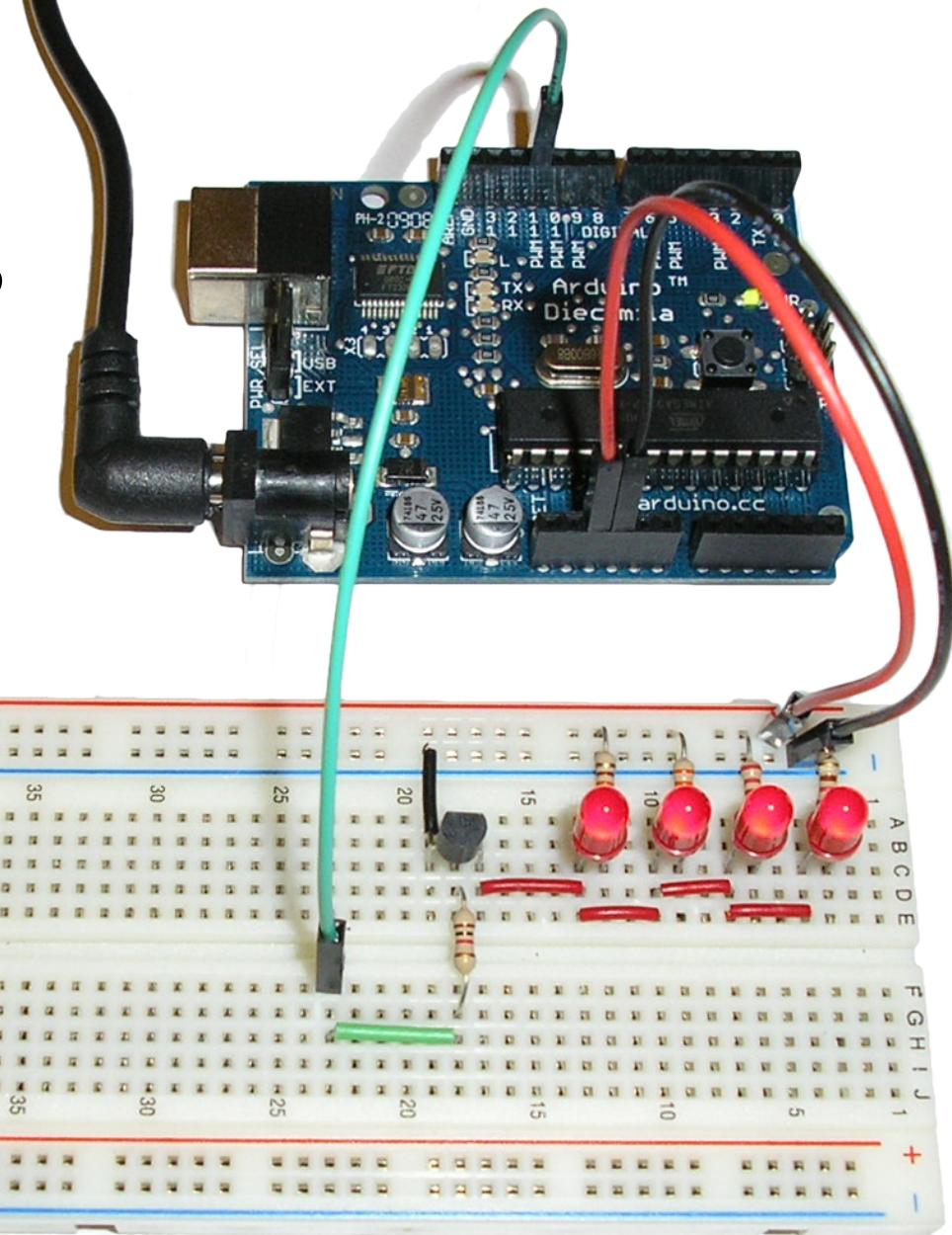


# Analog Input: Resistive Sensors

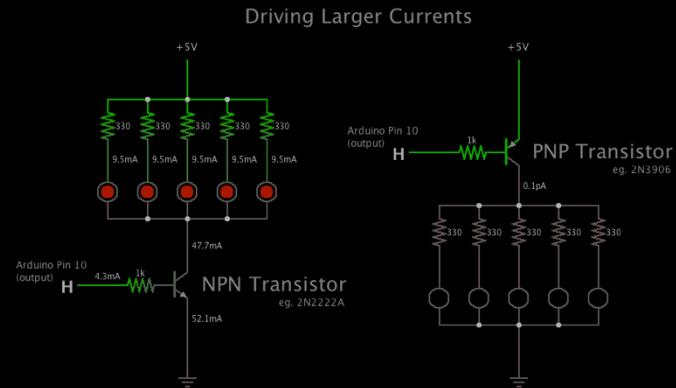


Many sensors are just variable resistors...

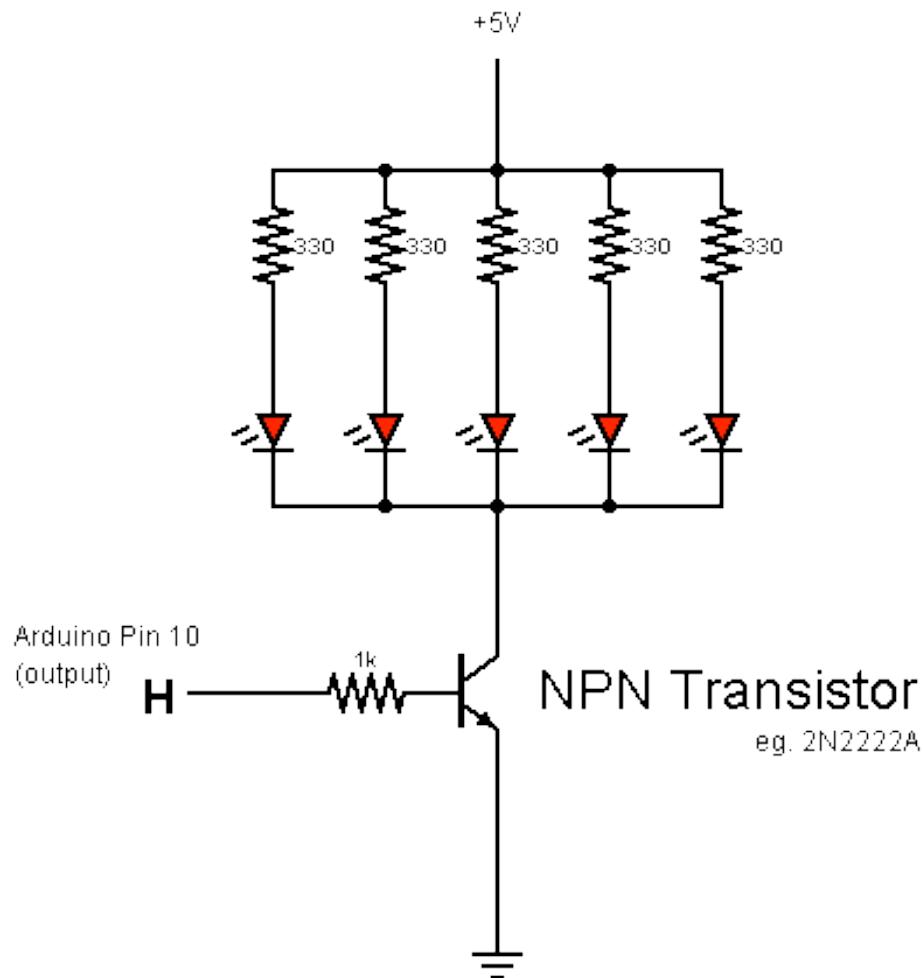
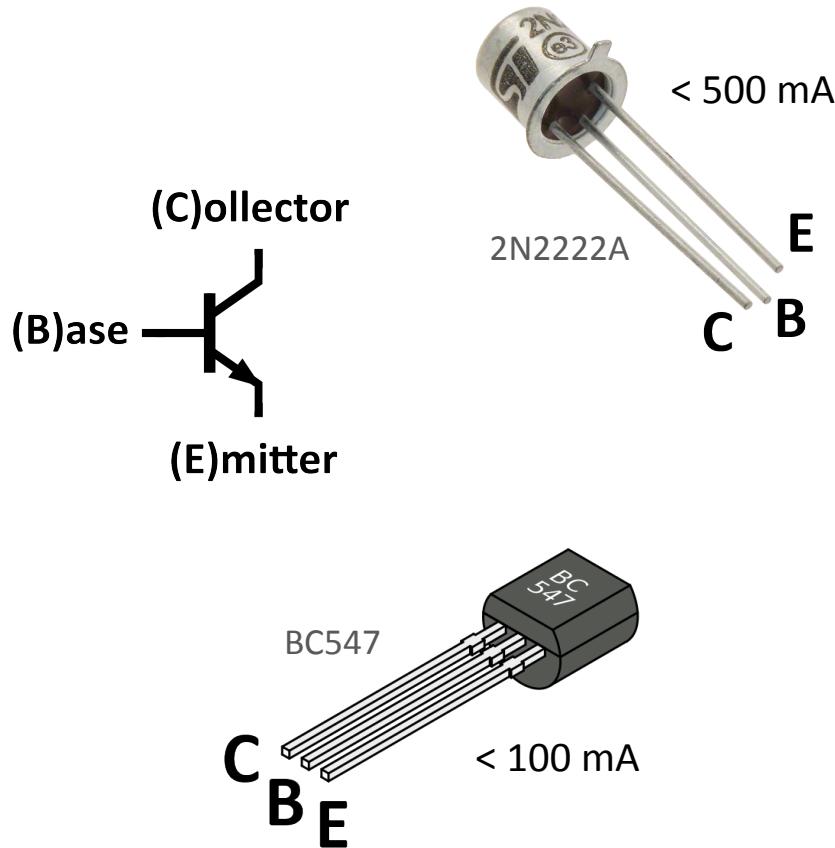
# Larger Currents



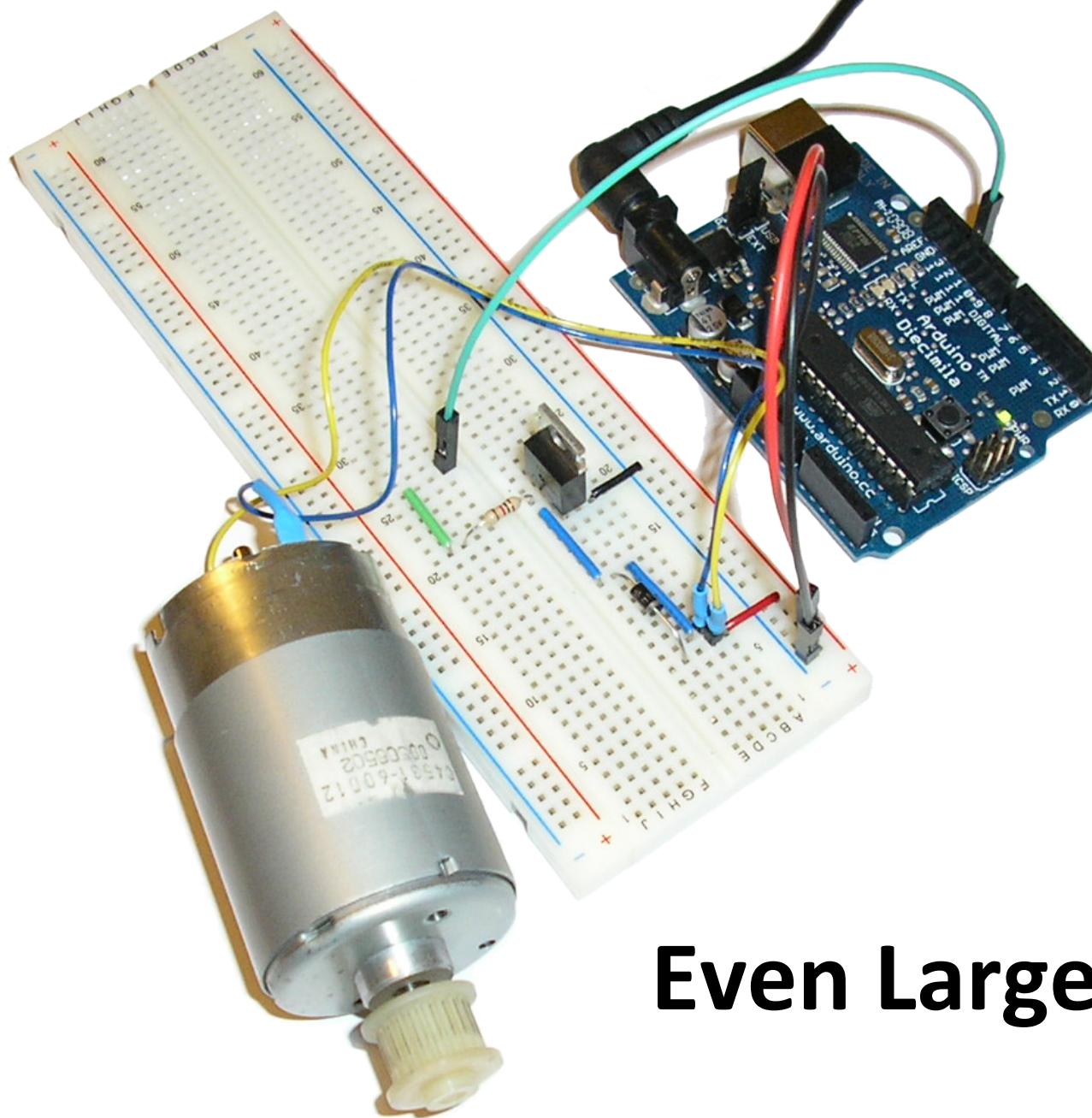
# Simulation



# Driving Larger Currents: BJTs\*



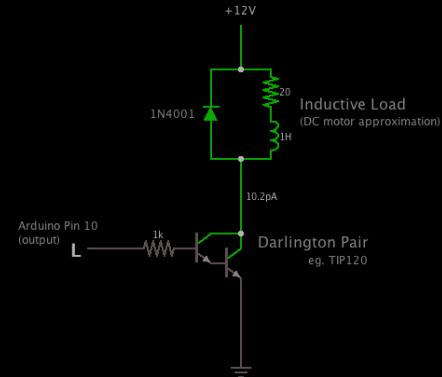
\*Bipolar Junction Transistors



# Even Larger Currents

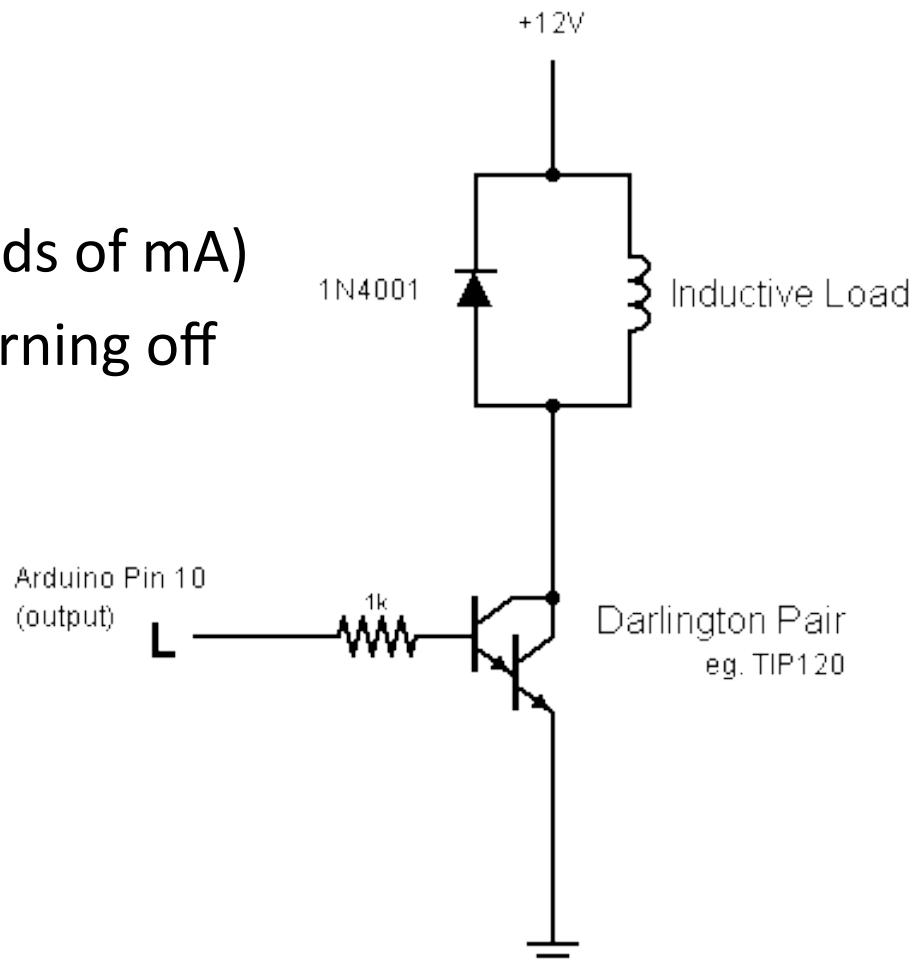
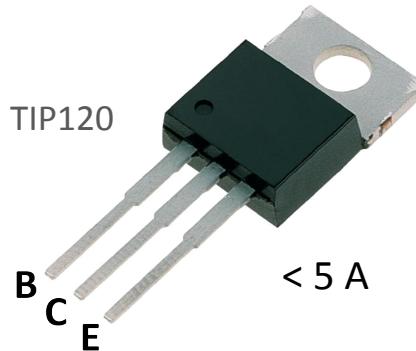
# Simulation

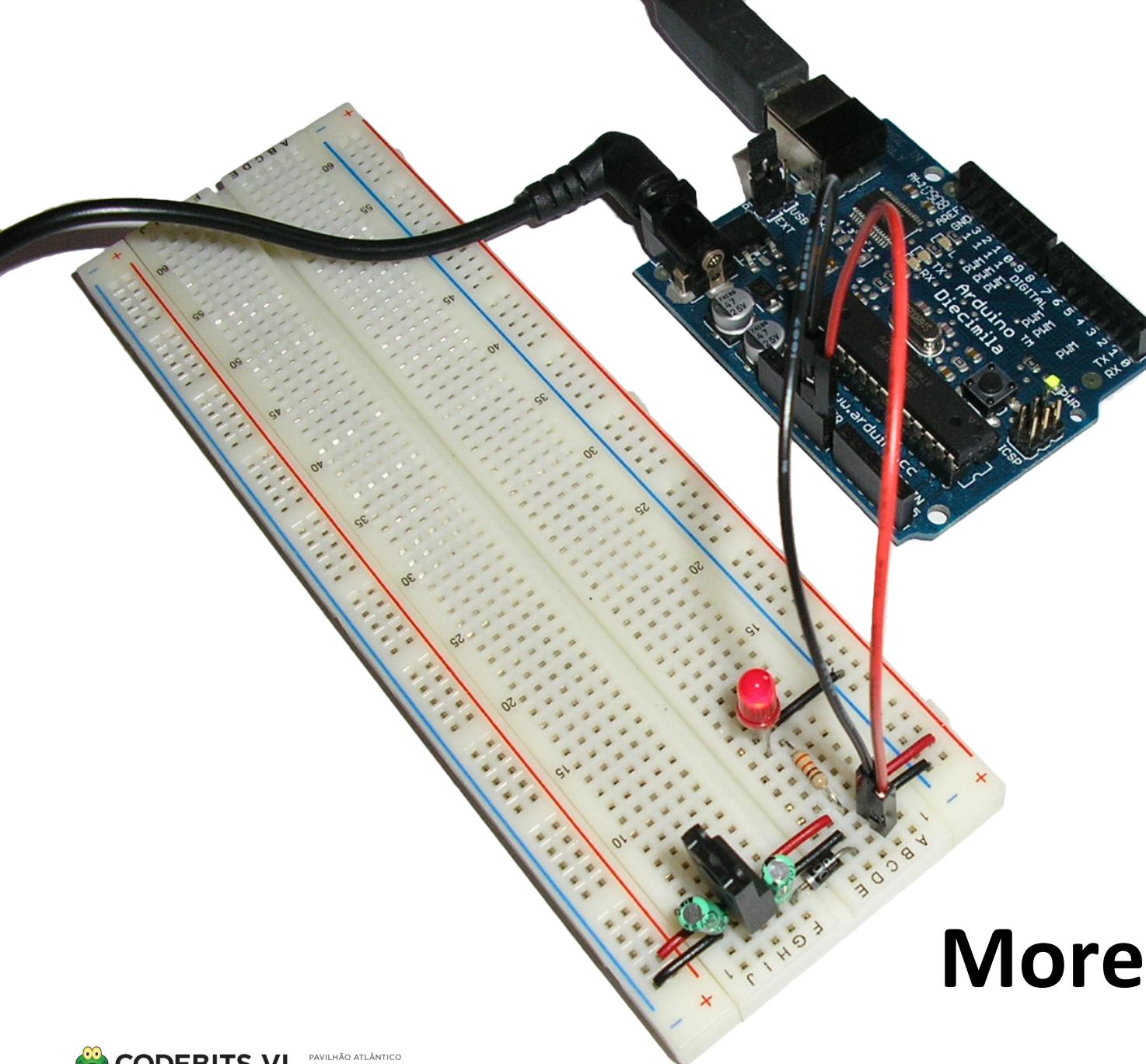
Driving Even Larger Currents (Darlington)



# Inductive Loads

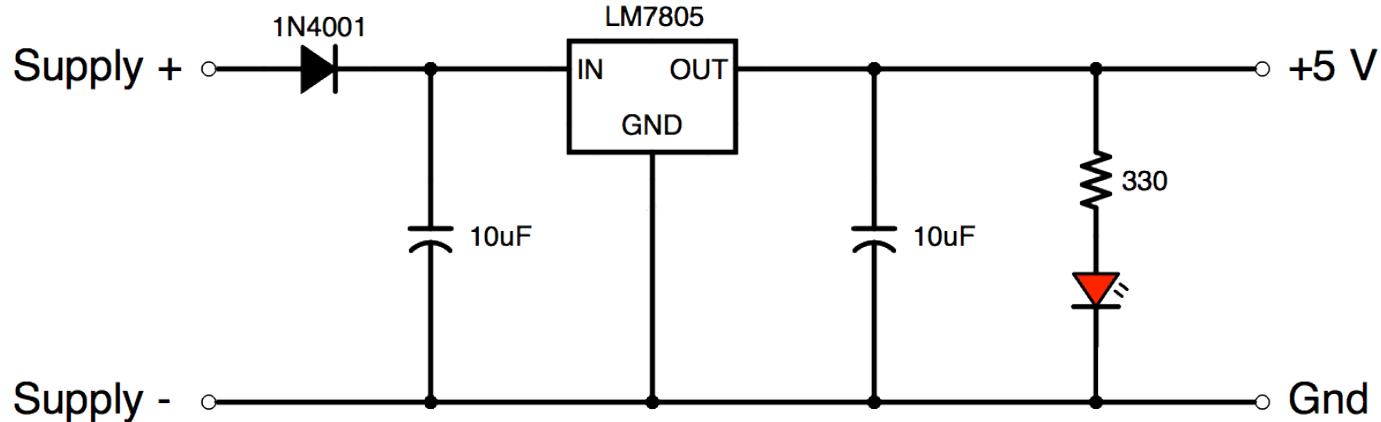
- Motors, solenoids, relays...
- Draw large currents (hundreds of mA)
- Produce “kickback” when turning off



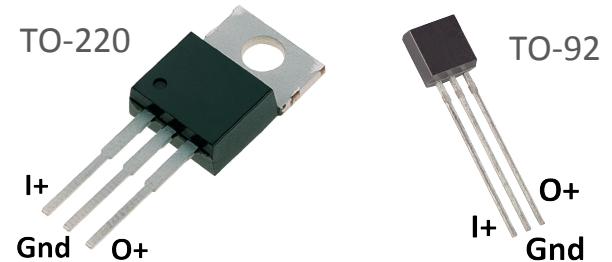


# More Power

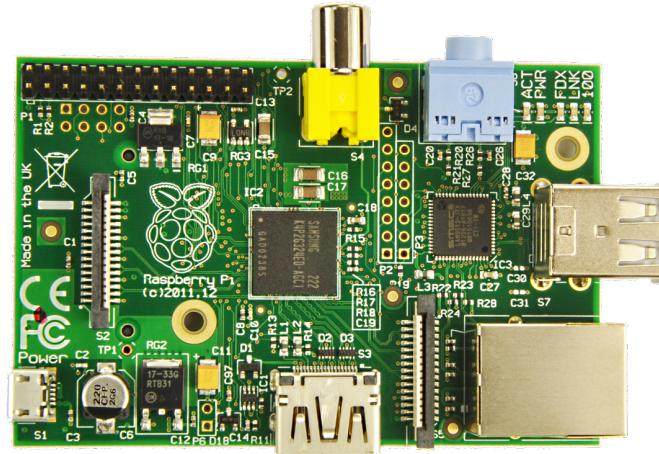
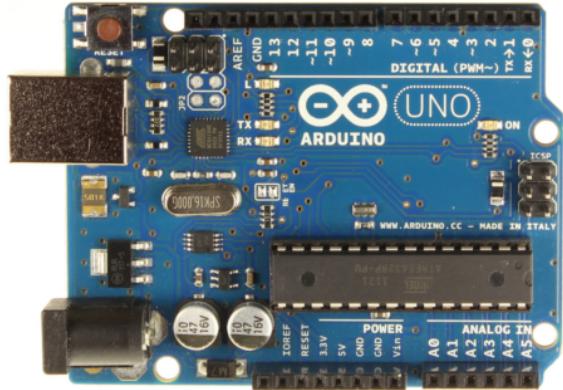
# Voltage Regulation



- 5 V (LM7805), 12 V (LM7812) and more
- Input voltage up to 35 V
- Max. 100 mA (TO-92) or **1 A** (TO-220)
- Capacitors required for proper regulation



# What about the Raspberry Pi?



- 20€
- Robust GPIOs
- Analog inputs and several PWMs
- Low power consumption
- Replaceable microcontroller (< 5€)
- 35€
- Far greater computing power
- Network connectivity out-of-the-box
- Multiple programming languages
- Runs a “standard” Linux OS

The Arduino makes for a great addition to the RPi...

# Thanks for Listening!

## Any Questions?



This presentation and simulations can be found at:  
[www.carlos-rodrigues.com/files/codebits-2012](http://www.carlos-rodrigues.com/files/codebits-2012)

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