EE308 Power Electronic

Experiment 3: Arduino Nano PCB using KiCAD7

Group Number: 4

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AIM:

- Basic of PCB design using KiCAD7
- PCB design of Arduino Nano in KiCAD7

Introduction:

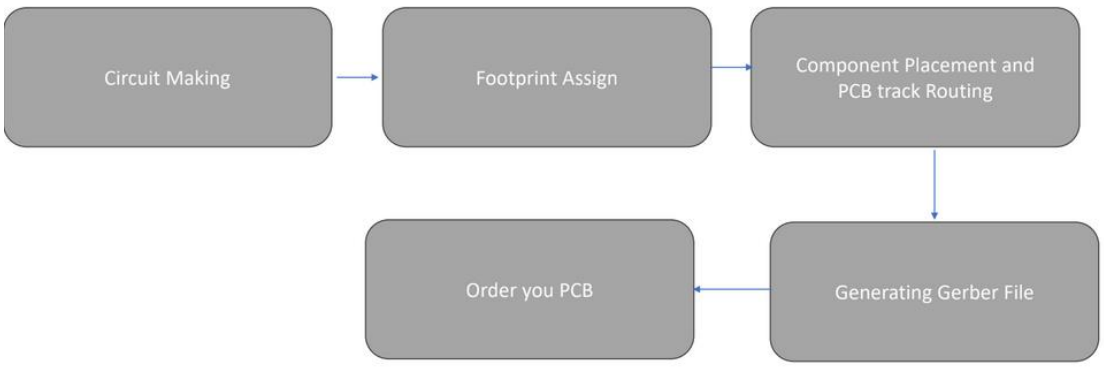
KiCad is an open-source software suite for creating electronic circuit schematics, printed circuit boards (PCBs), and associated part descriptions. KiCad supports an integrated design workflow in which a schematic and corresponding PCB are designed together, as well as standalone workflows for special uses. KiCad also includes several utilities to help with circuit and PCB design, including a PCB calculator for determining electrical properties of circuit structures, a Gerber viewer for inspecting manufacturing files, a 3D viewer for visualizing the finished PCB, and an integrated SPICE simulator for inspecting circuit behavior.

KiCad runs on all major operating systems and a wide range of computer hardware. It supports PCBs with up to 32 copper layers and is suitable for creating designs of all complexities. KiCad is developed by a volunteer team of software and electrical engineers around the world with a mission of creating free and open-source electronics design software suitable for professional designers.

Basic Concepts and Workflow:

The typical workflow in KiCad consists of two main tasks: drawing a schematic and laying out a circuit board.

The schematic is a symbolic representation of the circuit: which components are used and what connections are made between them. Schematic symbols are pictorial representations of electronic components in a schematic, such as a zigzag or rectangle for a resistor or a triangle for an opamp. The schematic contains symbols for every component in the design, with wires connecting pins in the symbols. The schematic is typically drawn first, before laying out the circuit board.



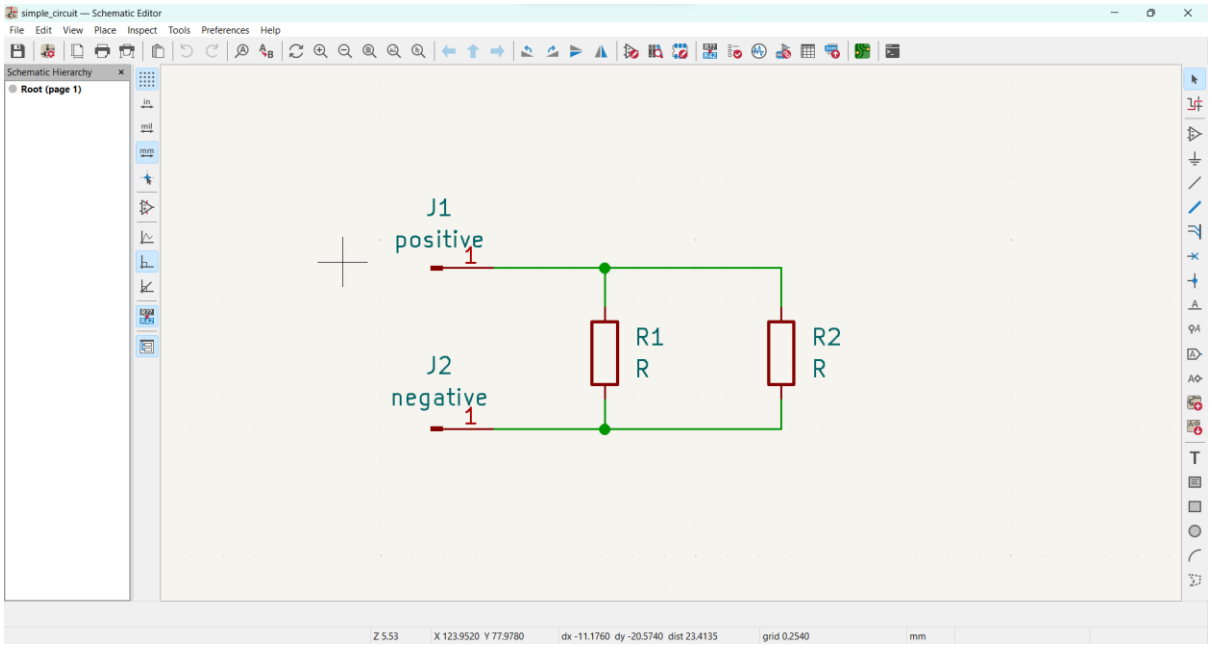


Figure 1: Schematic

The board is the physical realization of the schematic, with component footprints positioned on the board and copper tracks making the connections described in the schematic. Footprints are a set of copper pads that match the pins on a physical component. When the board is manufactured and assembled, the component will be soldered onto its corresponding footprint on the circuit board.

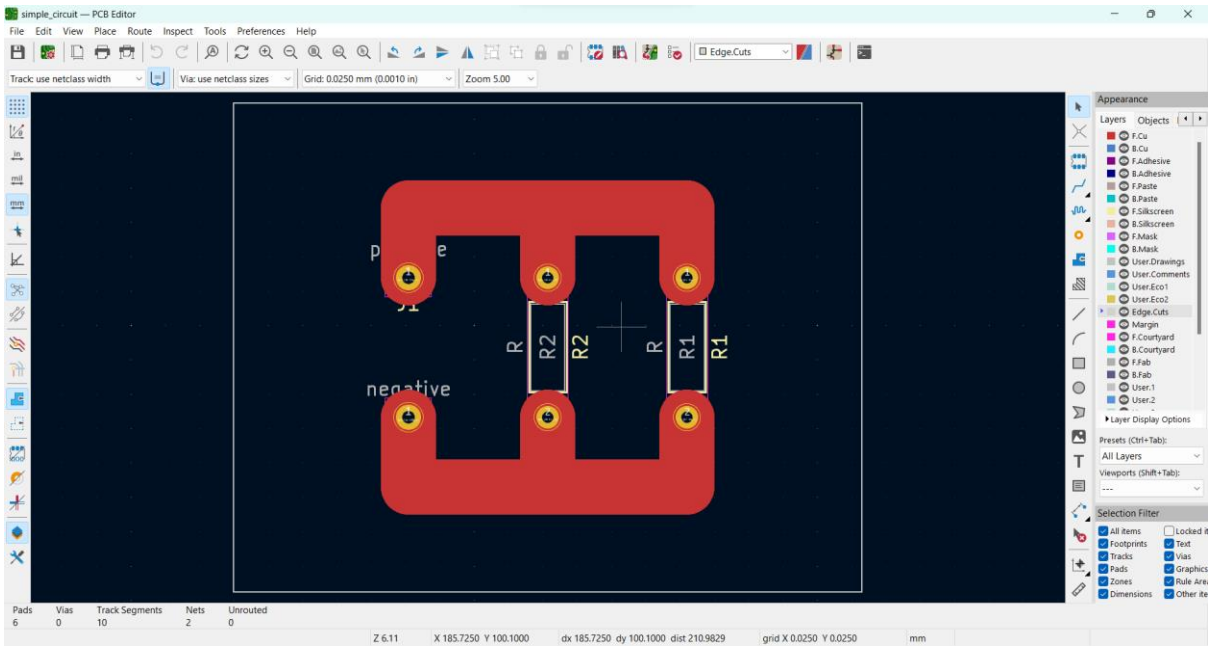


Figure 2: PCB layout and Routing

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corresponding footprint on the circuit board. KiCad has separate windows for drawing the schematic ("Schematic Editor"), laying out the board ("PCB Editor"), and editing symbols and footprints ("Symbol Editor" and "Footprint Editor"). KiCad comes with a large library of high quality, user contributed symbols and footprints, but it is also simple to create new symbols and footprints or modify existing symbols and footprints.

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PCB Design of Arduino Nano in KiCAD7:

The Arduino Nano is a small, complete, and breadboard-friendly board based on the ATmega328 (Arduino Nano 3.x). It has more or less the same functionality of the Arduino Duemilanove, but in a different package. It lacks only a DC power jack, and works with a Mini-B USB cable instead of a standard one.

The design flow, we had followed are as following:

1. Open KiCAD and open a new project from File
2. Making Circuit Schematic
3. Annotation and Footprint Assign
4. Component Placement and
5. PCB track Routing
6. Generating Gerber File
7. Saved it and Order it

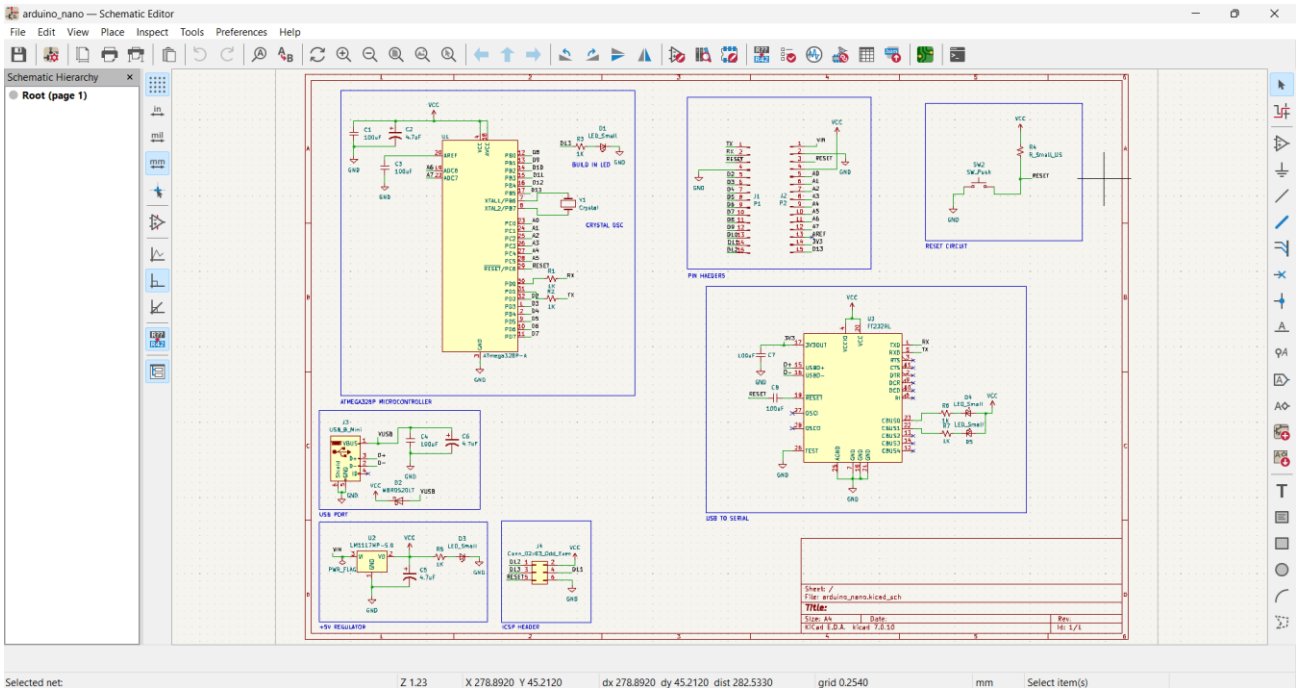

Figure 3: Schematic of Arduino Nano

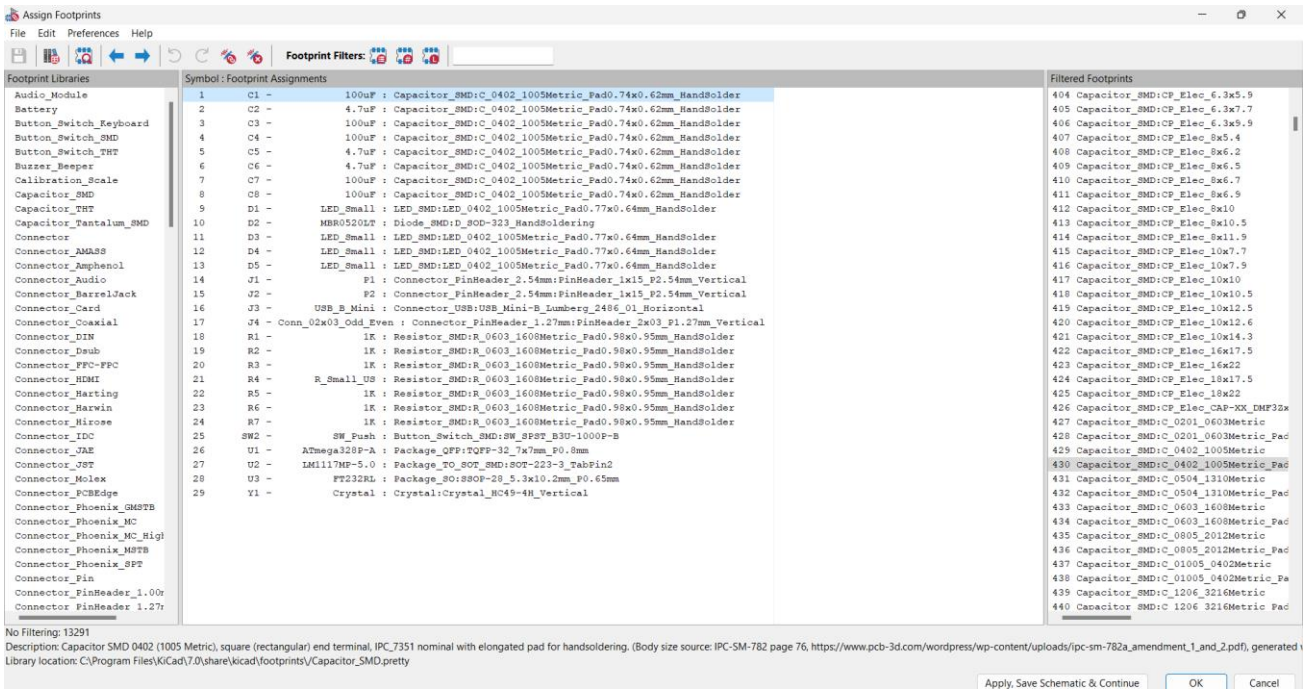

Figure 4: Footprints od given schematic

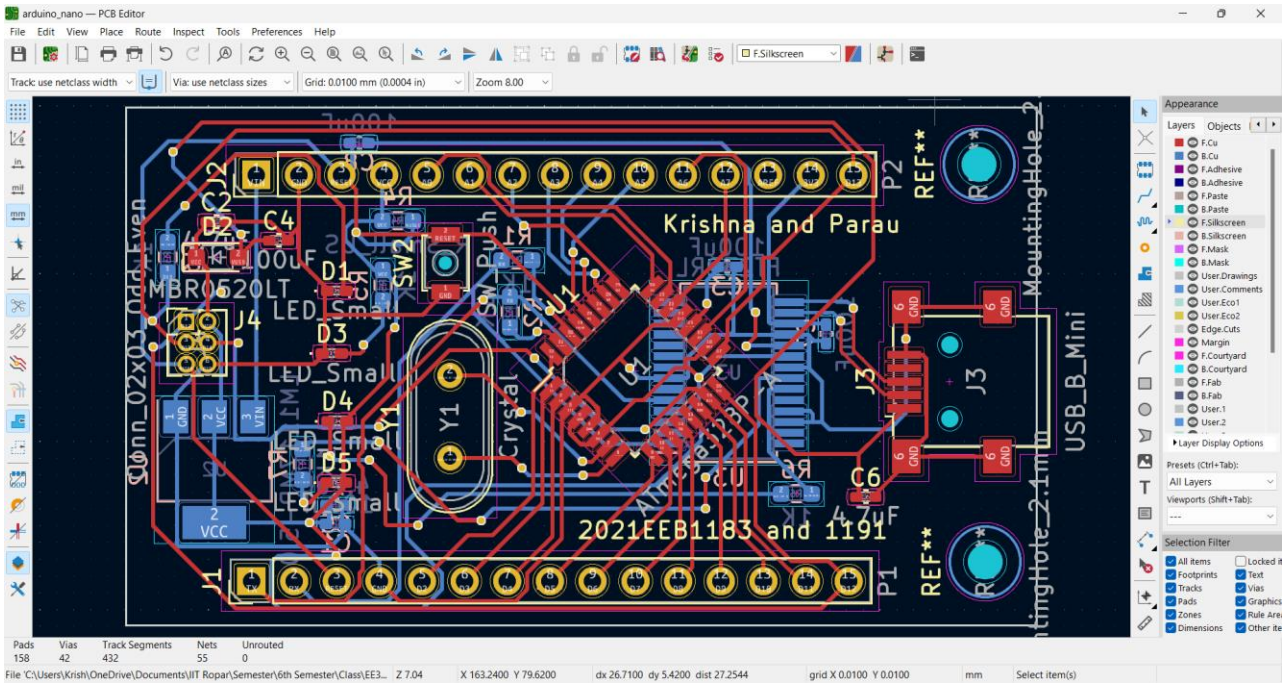

Figure 5: Placement and Routing part

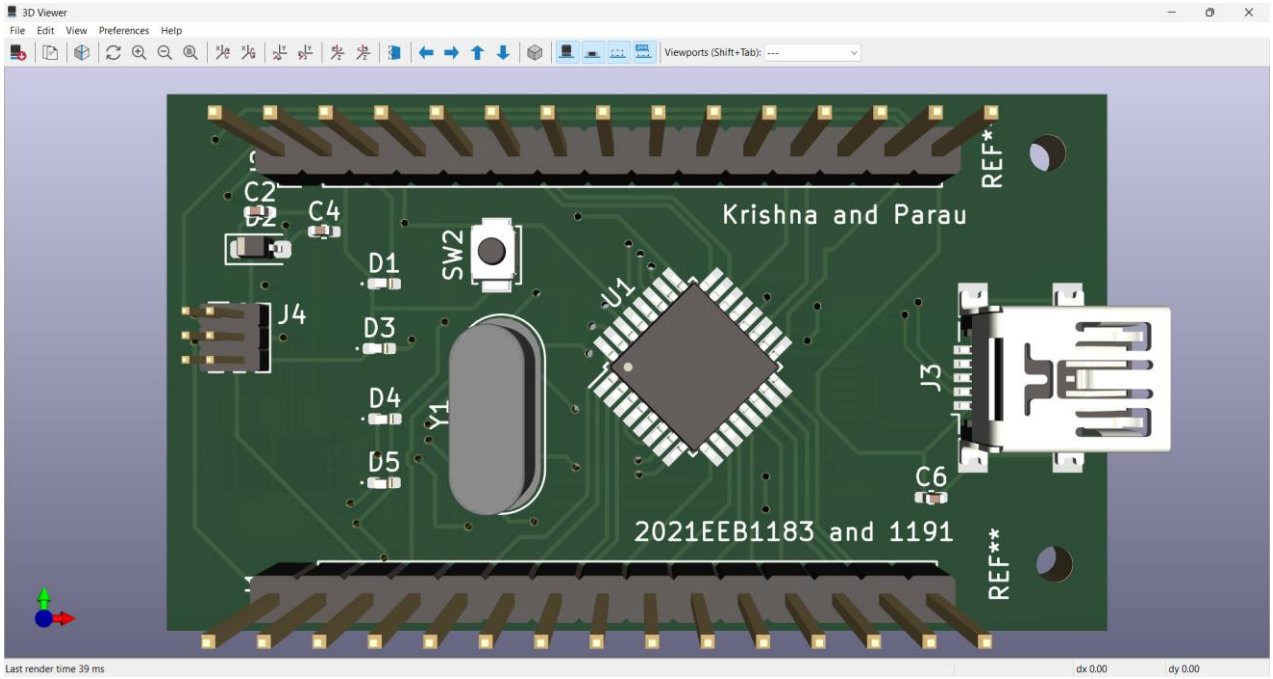

Figure 6: 3D view of Arduino Nano (front view)

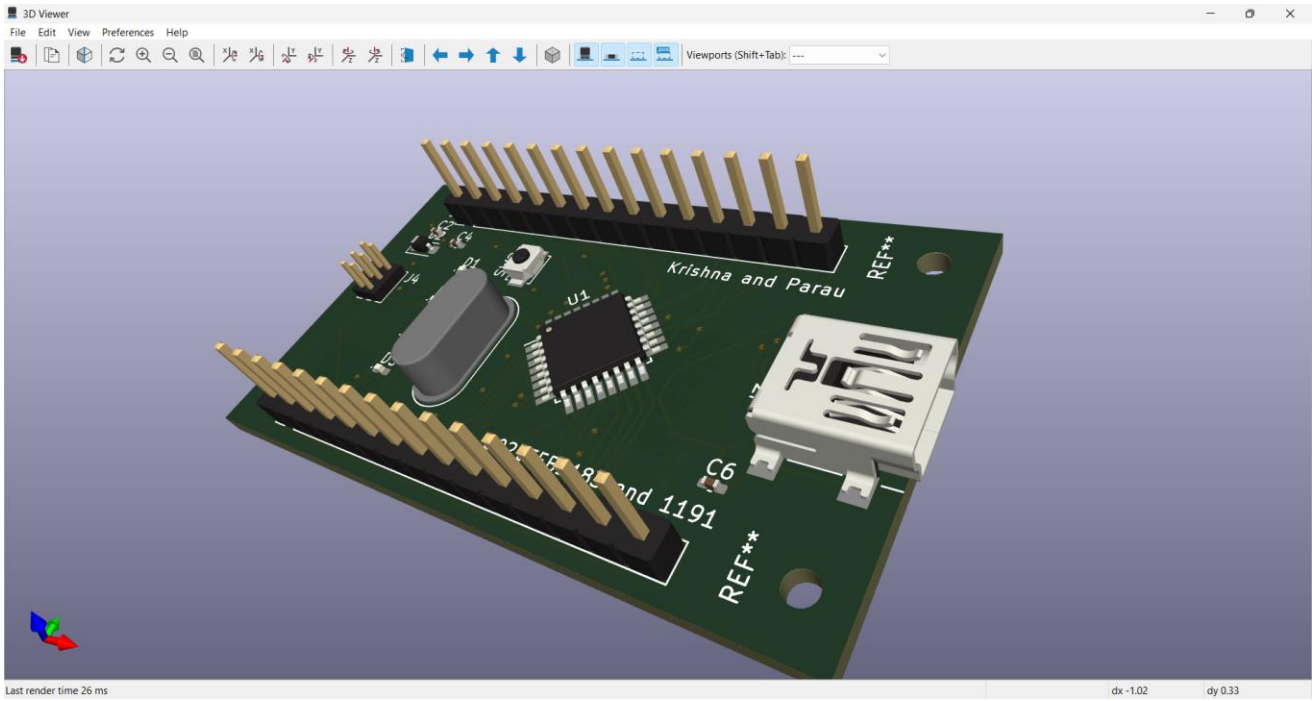

Figure 7: 3D view of Arduino Nano (side view)

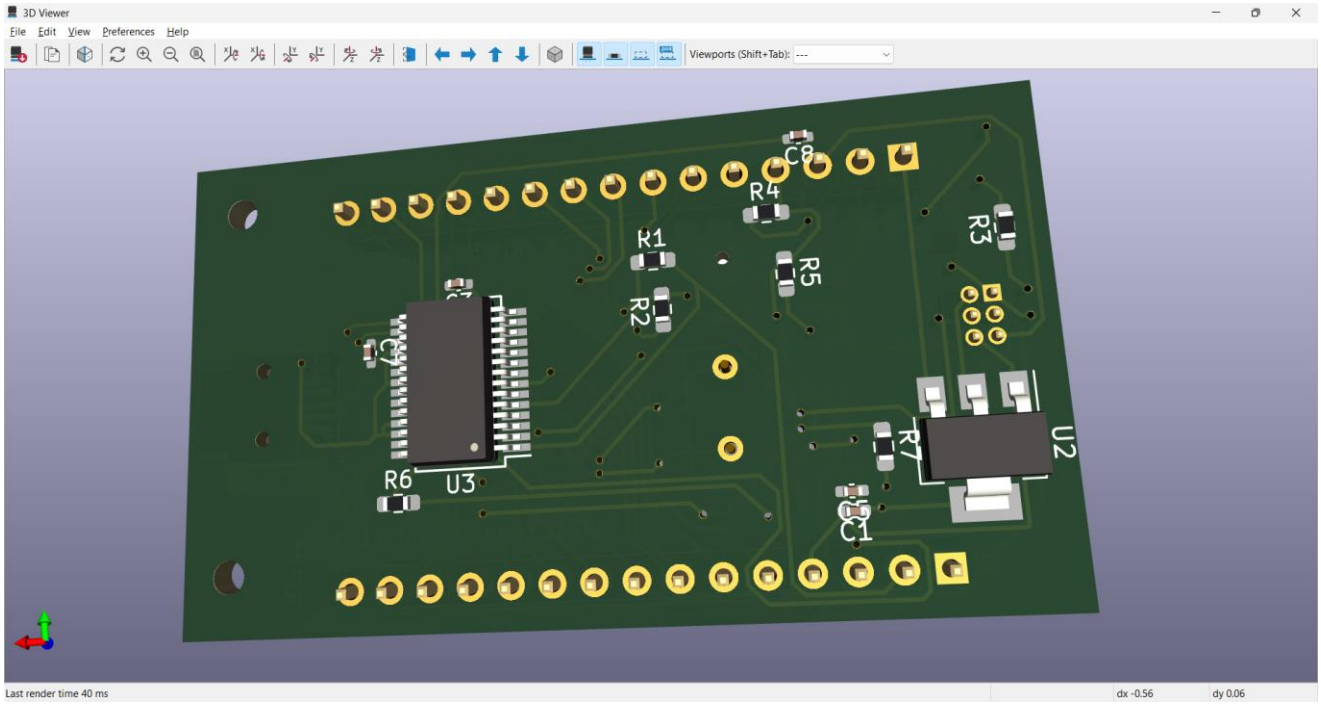

Figure 8: 3D view of Arduino Nano (back view)

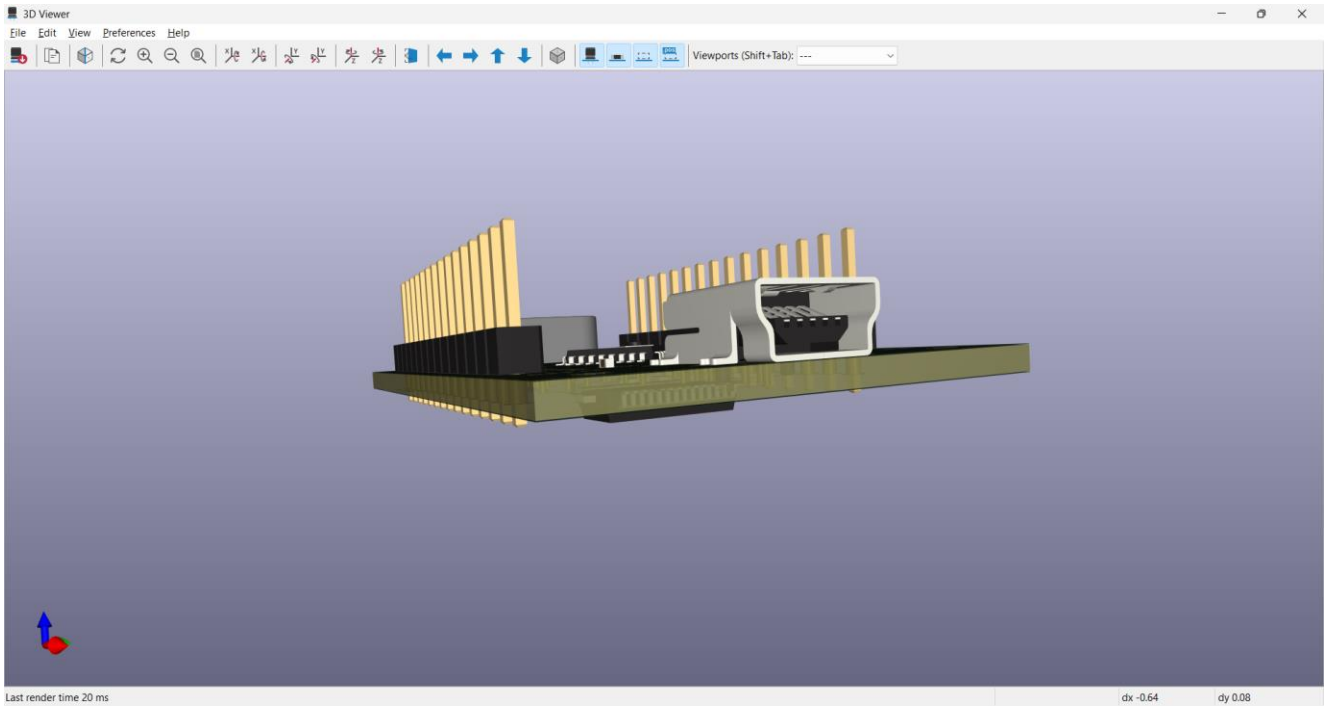

Figure 9: 3D view of Arduino Nano (side-front view)

Conclusion:

The PCB design of a Arduino Nano using KiCad offers valuable insights and practical skills that can be leveraged for various applications. Whether designing power supplies, motor control circuits, or other electronic systems, the knowledge gained from this experience can be applied to enhance convenience, efficiency, and innovation in future endeavours. Embracing the capabilities of KiCad empowers electronics enthusiasts and professionals alike to bring their ideas to life with confidence and precision.