

GeckoBot ControlBoard Manual

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1 Quickstart

1.1 Power on the Board

- Check if all Potentionmeter are in zero position (turned left)
- Check if all small black switches are OFF (switched up)
- Check if 24V Switch is OFF (up)
- Check if pressure source is zero (throttle valve turned left, manometer shows 0 bar)
- Check if I2C Interface is connected to robot or pull-up circuit board (red face on red face!)
- Power on main switch of ControlBoard

1.2 Log into BBB

- You will need a computer with LAN access in the AmP network, and a terminal with ssh capabilities. Putty on Windows. Or standard Terminal on Linux.

- For Windows (Putty):

Hostname	Port
134.28.136.51	22

- Linux:

```
1 user@pc:~ ssh root@134.28.136.51
```

- login: root password: root

1.3 Running the Code

To run the geckobot code:

- on BBB as su

```
1 root@beaglebone:~# cd Git/GeckoBot/Code
2 root@beaglebone:~ Git/GeckoBot/Code/# python3 main.py
```

If you want to run the GUI (to have the ability to save experimental data) run the the following piece of code on **bianca** with **python2**:

```
1 user@pc:~ cd Git/GeckoBot/Code
2 user@pc:~ Git/GeckoBot/Code/ python2 pc_liveplotter_main.py
```

- **Note** that you must start both programs more or less at the same time. (main on bbb is tries to connect to bianca. if there is no listing port at bianca, the gui wont start)
- In case there is an error related to the device tree, just run the code again.

1.4 Enable Pneumatic Power

When control program runs, you can enable the pneumatic energy sources:

- 24V Switch ON (down) (valves are enabled now)
- Pressure Source 1.2 bar (turn throttle valve right until manometer shows the 1.2bar)
- Plug in Vacuum Source if needed.

1.5 When your session is over

If you are done with your experiments, first disable the pneumatic power supply, then quit the control program.

- Pressure Source to 0bar
- 24V Switch OFF (up)
- All Potentiometer to zero
- All small black Switches OFF (up)
- Abort the `main.py` programm on BBB by hitting **Ctrl+C**

```
1 root@beaglebone:~ Git/GeckoBot/Code/# python3 main.py
2 ... ^C [a lot of errors]
3 root@beaglebone:~ Git/GeckoBot/Code/#
```

Note the last line in the listing above. This indicates that the terminal is ready again. This line **should** be there. Otherwise some process(es) are still running in the background... (You can use `htop` command and filter (F4) python programs to kill them. You have to use a different terminal for this purpose).

- Main Switch of ControlBoard off
- If it's friday or you know that nobody will use the ControlBoard in the next few days, you may shutdown `bianca` and `Dell Latitude`.

2 Setting Up the BBB

2.1 Install OS on BBB

The developers of BBB embedded linux systems decided to change the device tree structure from **kernel** overlay (till version 8.7), to **uboot** overlay (9.1+). The PWM setup for all possible pins is quite difficult for the early releases of the new kernel (9.1+). With kernel v8.7.xx it is easily possible to overload the device tree and from kernel 9.14.xx it is possible again (for versions in between it is very tricky). Therefore, it is recommended to use one the following images (download: <http://beagleboard.org/latest-images>):

kernel 8.7 bone-debian-8.7-iot-armhf-2017-03-19-4gb.img

kernel 9.14 bone-debian-9.9-iot-armhf-2019-08-03-4gb.img

Install on SD:

To install it on a 8GB Micro-SD Card follow the instructions:

- You can use Etcher (<https://etcher.io/>).

OR (on debian):

- Instructions from: <http://derekmolloy.ie/write-a-new-image-to-the-beaglebone-black/> and from: <https://learn.adafruit.com/beaglebone-black-installing-operating-systems?view=all#copying-the-image-to-a-microsd>
- Decompress and write on SD card (need to be **su** and make sure the security locker of SD Adapter is in writing mode):

```
1 $ xz -d bone-debian-*.img.xz
2 $ dd if=./bone-debian-*.img of=/dev/sdX
```

(Here, **sdX** is the mounted empty uSD Card. It can be found with multiple use of the command **mount** or **df**.)

2.2 Log in BBB for the first time

Assuming you are called **bianca** and your PC is also called **bianca**, your BBB is called **beaglebone** and the default user on BBB is called **debian**, then the following syntax is correct.

- Connect your PC with a MicroUSB cable to the BBB.
- Open a terminal and ssh into BBB as **debian** and then get superuser to configure the Board.

```
1 user@pc:~ ssh debian@192.168.7.2
2 temppwd
3 debian@beaglebone:~ su
4 root
5 root@beaglebone:~#
```

- Note that the default passwords are:

temppwd	for debian
root	for root

2.3 Change static IP of USB port

<https://stackoverflow.com/questions/23805457/changing-the-static-ip-of-beagle-bone-black-usb0>

- To change the static ip of BBB's usb0 interface from default 192.168.7.2 to ...5.2:

```
1 root@bbb:~# nano /etc/network/interfaces
3
3 iface usb0 inet static
4     address 192.168.5.2
5     netmask 255.255.255.0
6     network 192.168.5.0
7     gateway 192.169.5.1
```

- (I also edited the file **/opt/scripts/boot/am335_evm.sh**. Maybe it had an effect...)

2.4 Set LAN connection on BBB at AmP

This is from:

<https://groups.google.com/forum/#!msg/beaglebone/AS2US9rtNd4/8y0mZ3LxAwAJ>

- You have to configure `eth0` like this:
address 134.28.136.51 (ask administrator for your personal IP)
netmask 255.255.255.0
dns-nameservers 134.28.205.14
gateway 134.28.136.1
- Plug in LAN cable.
- Get the name of the LAN connection:

```
1 su
2 root@beaglebone:/etc/network# connmanctl services
3 *Ac Wired ethernet_689e19b50543_cable
```

- Using the appropriate ethernet service, tell `connman` to setup a static IP address for this service.
Syntax:

```
1 connmanctl config <service> --ipv4 manual <ip_addr> <netmask> <gateway> --nameservers <
  dns_server>
```

In our case:

```
1 connmanctl config ethernet_689e19b50543_cable --ipv4 manual 134.28.136.51 255.255.255.0
  134.28.136.1 --nameservers 134.28.205.14
```

- Reboot and you are done.
- You can revert back to a DHCP configuration simply as follows:

```
1 $ sudo connmanctl config ethernet_689e19b50543_cable --ipv4 dhcp
```

2.5 Configure SSH Connection to BBB

- Source: <https://askubuntu.com/questions/115151/how-to-set-up-passwordless-ssh-access-for-root-user>
- If your Board crashed, and you were forced to reinstall the OS, there already exist a ssh-key. This you have to remove first (this is for USB cable):

```
1 user@pc:~ ssh-keygen -f "/home/bianca/.ssh/known_hosts" -R 192.168.7.2
```

- Generate a new key:

```
1 user@pc:~ ssh-keygen -f "/home/bianca/.ssh/key_bianca"
```

When you are prompted for a password, just hit the enter key and you will generate a key with no password.

- Allow to log in as root with a password on the server, in aim to transfer the created key to it:

```
1 root@beaglebone:# nano /etc/ssh/sshd_config
```

Make sure you allow root to log in with the following syntax

```
1 PermitRootLogin yes
2 PasswordAuthentication yes
```

Restart the ssh-server:

```
1 root@beaglebone:# service ssh restart
```

- Now you are able to transfer the key to the server:

```
1 user@pc:~ ssh-copy-id -i /home/bianca/.ssh/key_bianca root@192.168.7.2
```

- Check if its work:

```
1 user@pc:~ ssh root@192.168.7.2
```

- Now disable root login with password on server (for safety):

```
1 root@beaglebone:# nano /etc/ssh/sshd_config
```

And modify the Line:

```
1 PermitRootLogin without-password
2 PasswordAuthentication yes
```

This will allow to login as root with valid key, but not with a password. All other users can further login with a password. Restart the ssh-server and you are done:

```
1 root@beaglebone:# service ssh restart
```

2.6 Configure BBB Device Tree (enabling all PWM pins)

In order to enable P9.28 as pwm pin, you have to load cape-universala.

Debian 9 / Kernel v4.14.71-ti-r80:

- Note: you might need to disable HDMI with `disable_uboot_overlay_video=1` in `/boot/uEnv.txt` if the pins are already in use.
- update bootloader (https://elinux.org/Beagleboard:BeagleBoneBlack_Debian#U-Boot_Overlays)
Check version (19-08-07):

```
1 root@beaglebone:~$ cd /opt/scripts/tools/
2 root@beaglebone:/opt/scripts/tools$ git pull
3 root@beaglebone:/opt/scripts/tools$ ./version.sh | grep bootloader
4 bootloader:[eMMC-(default)]:[/dev/mmcbk1]:[U-Boot 2016.01-00001-g4eb802e]:[location: dd
  MBR]
```

To upgrade your version of U-Boot:

```
1 root@beaglebone:~$ cd /opt/scripts/tools/developers/
2 root@beaglebone:/opt/scripts/tools/developers$ ./update_bootloader.sh
3 root@beaglebone:/opt/scripts/tools/developers$ reboot
4
5 ...
6
7 root@beaglebone:/opt/scripts/tools$ ./version.sh | grep bootloader
8 bootloader:[microSD-(push-button)]:[/dev/mmcbk0]:[U-Boot 2019.04-00002-gbb4af0f50f]:[
  location: dd MBR]
9 bootloader:[eMMC-(default)]:[/dev/mmcbk1]:[U-Boot 2016.01-00001-g4eb802e]:[location: dd
  MBR]
```

Delete the old version:

```
1 root@beaglebone:/opt/scripts/tools$ dd if=/dev/zero of=/dev/mmcbk1 bs=1M count=10
```

also make sure the bb-cape-overlays package is upto date

```

1 apt update
2 apt install --only-upgrade bb-cape-overlays

```

Debian 8 / Kernel version v4.4.54

- source: <https://groups.google.com/forum/#!topic/beagleboard/EYSwmyxYjdM>
- /boot/uEnv.txt should be looking something like this:

```

1 root@beaglebone:# cat /boot/uEnv.txt | grep -v "#"
3 uname_r=4.4.54-ti-r93
4 cmdline=coherent_pool=1M quiet cape_universal=enable

```

Edit it with:

```

1 root@beaglebone:# nano /boot/uEnv.txt

```

Add the following lines, such that /boot/uEnv.txt looks like:

```

1 root@beaglebone:# cat /boot/uEnv.txt | grep -v "#"
3 uname_r=4.4.54-ti-r93
4 dtb=am335x-boneblack-overlay.dtb
5 cmdline=coherent_pool=1M quiet cape_universal=enable
6 cape_enable=bone_capemgr.enable_partno=cape-universala

```

- Reboot and you should be able to configure with:

```

1 root@beaglebone:# config-pin P9-28 pwm

```

Debian 9 / Kernel version v4.9.xx

- In debian-elix-9.1+ the /boot/uEnv.txt looks like:

```

1 root@beaglebone:# cat /boot/uEnv.txt | grep -v "#"
3 uname_r=4.9.82-ti-r102
4 enable_uboot_overlays=1
5 enable_uboot_cape_universal=1
6 cmdline=coherent_pool=1M net.ifnames=0 quiet

```

If you see this, you may want to find a way to enable all the pins. I failed.

Robert C Nelson seems to be the only one, who has an idea whats going on... https://elinux.org/Beagleboard:BeagleBoneBlack_Debian#U-Boot_Overlays

2.7 Set I2C Bus to FastMode (400kHz)

Kernel version 4.14.xx:

- Backup the original .dtb:

```

1 root@beaglebone: /boot/dtbs/4.14.71-ti-r80# cp am335x-boneblack.dtb am335x-boneblack.dtb.orig

```

- Generate source device tree (.dts) from binary block device tree (.dtb) with device tree compiler (dtc):

```

1 root@beaglebone: /boot/dtbs/4.14.71-ti-r80# dtc -I dtb -O dts -o am335x-boneblack.dts am335x-boneblack.dtb

```

- There are 3 different i2c-buses in the .dts:
 - i2c0: 0x44E0B000 (Not available as Pins)

- i2c1: 0x4802A000 (Not enabled by default)
- i2c2: 0x4819C000 (The actual one for configured i2c-1 in Linux-Debian, although the register name/-expansion port is i2c2)

We want to increase the speed of the i2c2 bus. Therefore modify the .dts with nano:

```

1 i2c@4819c000 {
2     compatible = "ti,omap4-i2c";
3     #address-cells = <0x1>;
4     #size-cells = <0x0>;
5     ti,hwmods = "i2c3";
6     reg = <0x4819c000 0x1000>;
7     interrupts = <0x1e>;
8     status = "okay";
9     pinctrl-names = "default";
10    pinctrl-0 = <0x35>;

12    #clock-frequency = <0x186a0>;
13    clock-frequency = <0x61a80>;

15    linux,phandle = <0xa1>;
16    phandle = <0xa1>;

```

The clock-frequency = <0x186a0> is the frequency, 0x186a0 = 100000 = 100kHz here is the default i2c-1 (Expansion port i2c2) frequency for stock beaglebone black image. 0x61a80 = 400000 = 400kHz is the highest frequency possible for i2c-devices. This we gonna use.

- Generate the .dtb from this modified .dts:

```

1 root@beaglebone: /boot/dtbs/4.14.71-ti-r80# dtc -I dts -O dtb -o am335x-boneblack.dtb
   am335x-boneblack.dts

```

- reboot and check:

```

1 root@beaglebone:# dmesg | grep i2c

```

Something like

```

1 ...
2 omap/i2c@4819c000 is enabled at 400kHz
3 ...

```

should be the output.

Kernel version <4.4.xx:

- For Kernel version < 4.4.xx replace am335x-boneblack.dtb with am335x-boneblack-overlay.dtb

2.8 Installing Software on BBB

In order to run the GeckoBot software on the BBB install following packages:

- **python3:** on BBB as su

```

1 root@beaglebone:# apt-get update
2 root@beaglebone:# apt-get install ntpdate
3 root@beaglebone:# ntpdate pool.ntp.org
4 root@beaglebone:# apt-get install build-essential python3-pip python3-scipy python3-
   numpy -y

6 root@beaglebone:# pip3.5 install Adafruit_BBIO Adafruit_GPIO board Adafruit-Blinka
   adafruit-circuitpython-charlcd

9 root@beaglebone:~# mkdir Git
10 root@beaglebone:~# cd Git
11 root@beaglebone:~/Git/# git clone https://github.com/larslevity/GeckoBot.git

```


- **python2:** on BBB as su

```

1 root@beaglebone:# apt-get update
2 root@beaglebone:# apt-get install ntpdate
3 root@beaglebone:# ntpdate pool.ntp.org
4 root@beaglebone:# apt-get install build-essential python-dev python-pip -y
5 root@beaglebone:# pip install --upgrade pip
6 root@beaglebone:# pip install Adafruit_BBIO
7 root@beaglebone:# pip install Adafruit_GPIO
8 root@beaglebone:# pip install termcolor
9 root@beaglebone:# pip install numpy

11 root@beaglebone:~# mkdir Git
12 root@beaglebone:~# cd Git
13 root@beaglebone:~/Git/# git clone https://github.com/larslevity/GeckoBot.git

```

2.9 Disable unused programs on BBB

Webserver

```

1 root@beaglebone: systemctl stop apache2.service
2 root@beaglebone: systemctl disable apache2.service

```

NodeJS:

```

1 root@beaglebone: systemctl stop bonescript-autorun.service
2 root@beaglebone: systemctl disable bonescript-autorun.service

```

3 Pin Layout

Figure 1 shows all available pins and there functions of the Beaglebone Board Black and which of these pins are used and for what purpose.

4 Wiring the Hardware

4.1 The User Interface

Figure 2 shows the circuit of the User Interface. It consists of:

- 5 Push-Buttons (3 of them are used as reference for different operating modes, and 2 are used to enable/disable different functions inside these operating modes)
- 5 light emitting diodes, which indicates the actual status of programme, i.e. the operating mode.
- 8 potentiometer, which are used to read the reference signal for the proportional valves.
- 4 switches, which are used to read the reference signal for the discrete valves.
- 9 pull-down resistors, which pull the reference signal for discrete valves and operating modes down again, after activation.

4.2 LCD-Display

LCD-Display is connected to I2C of BBB UI. The PinOut of LCD module is shown in Figure 3

P9			P8		
Function	Physical Pins		Function	Physical Pins	
DGND	1	2	DGND	1	2
VDD 3.3 V	3	4	MMC1_DAT6	3	4
VDD 5V	5	6	MMC1_DAT7	5	6
SYS 5V	7	8	MMC1_DAT2	7	8
PWR_BUT	9	10	GPIO_66	7	8
UART4_RXD	11	12	GPIO_69	9	10
UART4_TXD	13	14	GPIO_45	11	12
GPIO_48	15	16	EHRPWM2B	13	14
SPIO_CSO	17	18	GPIO_47	15	16
I2C2_SCL	19	20	GPIO_27	17	18
SPIO_DO	21	22	EHRPWM2A	19	20
GPIO_49	23	24	MMC1_CLK	21	22
GPIO_117	25	26	MMC1_DAT4	23	24
GPIO_115	27	28	MMC1_DAT0	25	26
SP11_DO	29	30	LCD_VSYNC	27	28
SP11_SCLK	31	32	LCD_HSYNC	29	30
AIN4	33	34	LCD_DATA14	31	32
AIN6	35	36	LCD_DATA13	33	34
AIN2	37	38	LCD_DATA12	35	36
AIN0	39	40	LCD_DATA8	37	38
GPIO_20	41	42	LCD_DATA6	39	40
DGND	43	44	LCD_DATA4	41	42
DGND	45	46	LCD_DATA2	43	44
			LCD_DATA0	45	46

LEGEND		
Power, Ground, Reset		
Digital Pins		
PWM Output		
1.8 Volt Analog Inputs		
Shared I2C Bus		
Reconfigurable Digital		

P9	P8	P9	P8
DGND	1 2	DGND	1 2
PWR 5V	3 4	Bin PWR 3.3V	3 4
	5 6		5 6
	7 8		7 8
	9 10		9 10
	11 12	Drive 0 Ref	11 12
	13 14	Drive 3 Ref	13 14
	15 16	Drive 2 Ref	15 16
	17 18	Drive 1 Ref	17 18
	19 20	I2C Clock	19 20
PVValve 2 Signal	21 22	I2C Data	19 20
	23 24	PBIn Mode 1	21 22
	25 26	PBIn Mode 2	23 24
	27 28	PBIn Mode 3	25 26
	29 30	PVValve 2 Ref	27 28
	31 32	PVValve 5 Ref	29 30
	33 34	PVValve 6 Ref	31 32
	35 36	PVValve 3 Ref	33 34
	37 38	PVValve 4 Ref	35 36
	39 40	PVValve 1 Ref	37 38
	41 42	PVValve 0 Ref	39 40
	43 44		41 42
	45 46		43 44

Legend:		
pwr		
i2c		
gpio		
pwm		
ain		

Main BBB

UI BBB

Figure 1: Pin layout of BBB

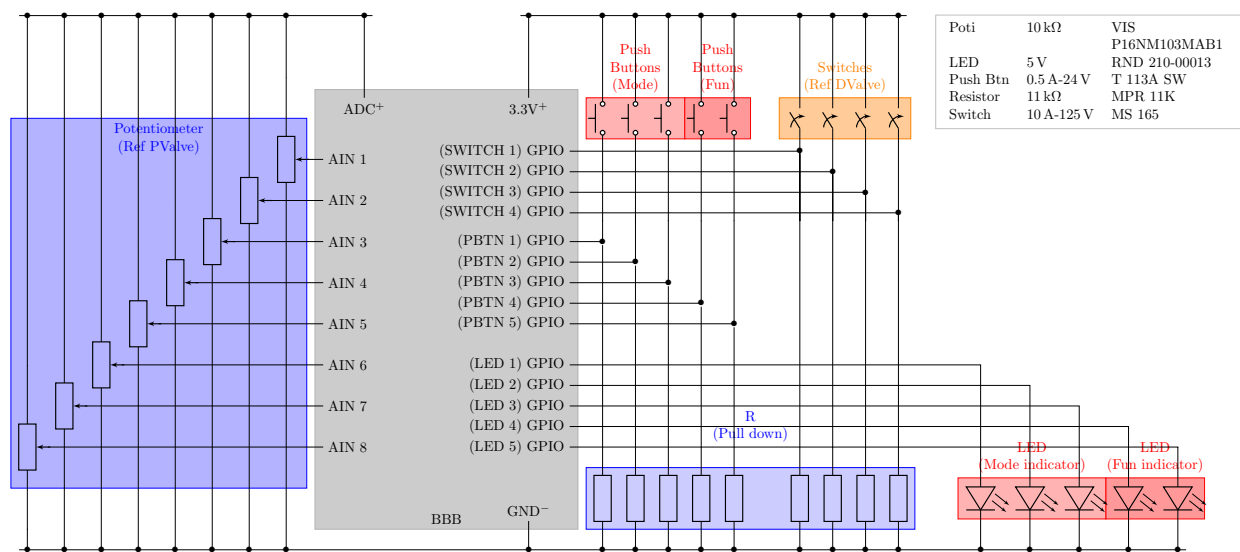


Figure 2: Circuit of User Interface

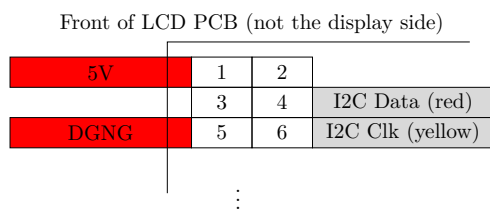


Figure 3: PinOut of LCD module

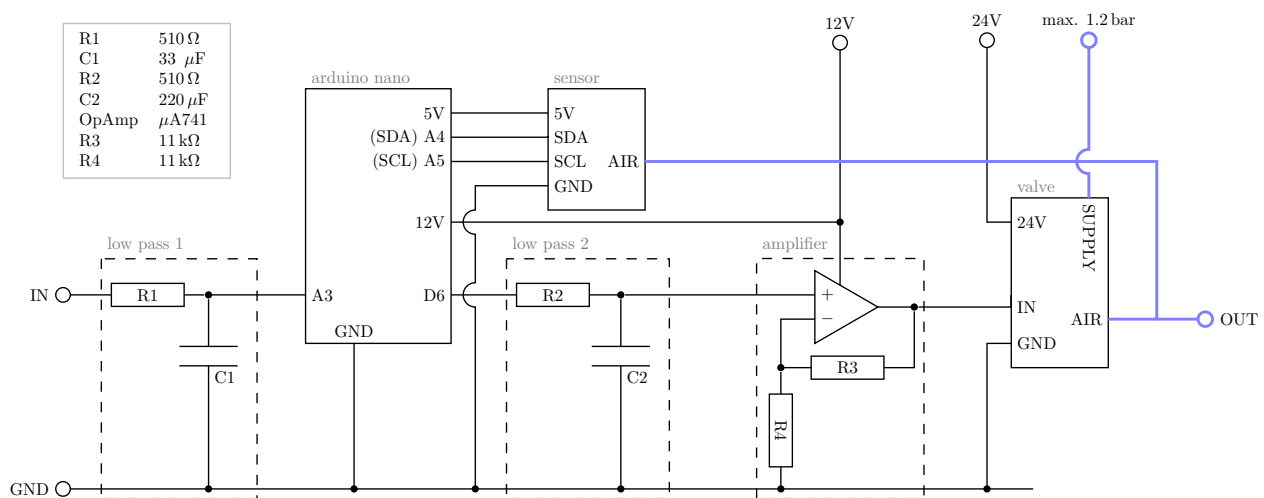


Figure 4: Circuit of Valve Unit

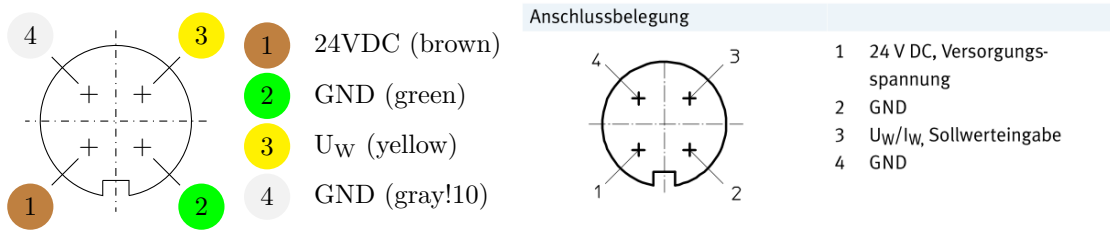


Figure 5: Color scheme of the cable used to connect proportional valves



Figure 6: Mosfet for controlling the direct acting solenoid valves

4.3 Proportional Valve Unit

To generate the control signal for the proportional valves, **pwm** is used. Since the pwm-signal oscillating and its level is smaller than 10V (input of valve), it must be lowpass-filtered and amplified. The circuit is depicted in Figure 4

For the proportional valves, the cable used (status: 28.6.18) has color scheme depicted in Figure 5 (accordingly to the data sheet[1, p. 9]).

4.4 Discrete Valves

The discrete valves are controlled directly via a GPIO. The signal controls a mosfet [3]. Figure 6 shows a break-out board, which is used for the purpose.

4.5 Pressure Sensors

Figure 7 shows the the PinOut and numbering scheme of the pressure sensors.

4.6 Complete Setup

Figure 8 shows the circuit and photographs and of the complete setup.

Table 11. Pinouts for DIP and SMT Packages

Output Type	Pin 1	Pin 2	Pin 3	Pin 4	Pin 5	Pin 6	Pin 7	Pin 8
I ² C	GND	V _{supply}	SDA	SCL	NC	NC	NC	NC
SPI	GND	V _{supply}	MISO	SCLK	SS	NC	NC	NC
Analog	NC	V _{supply}	V _{out}	GND	NC	NC	NC	NC

DIP AN: Single axial barbed port

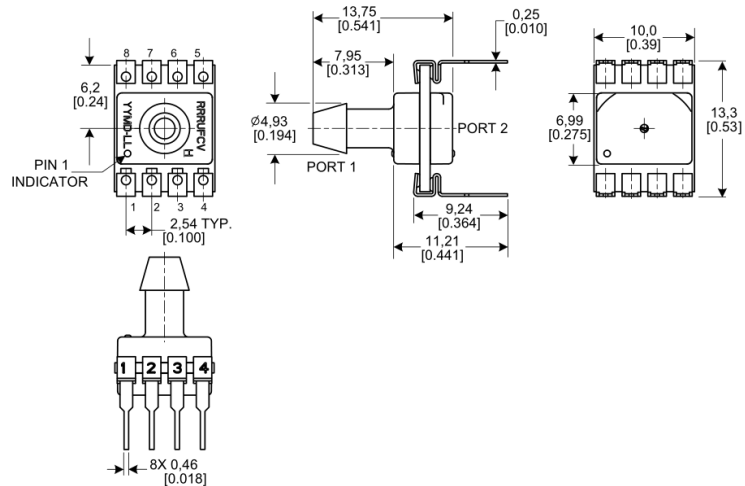


Figure 7: PinOut and pin numbering scheme of the pressure sensor used [2, p.19, p.30]

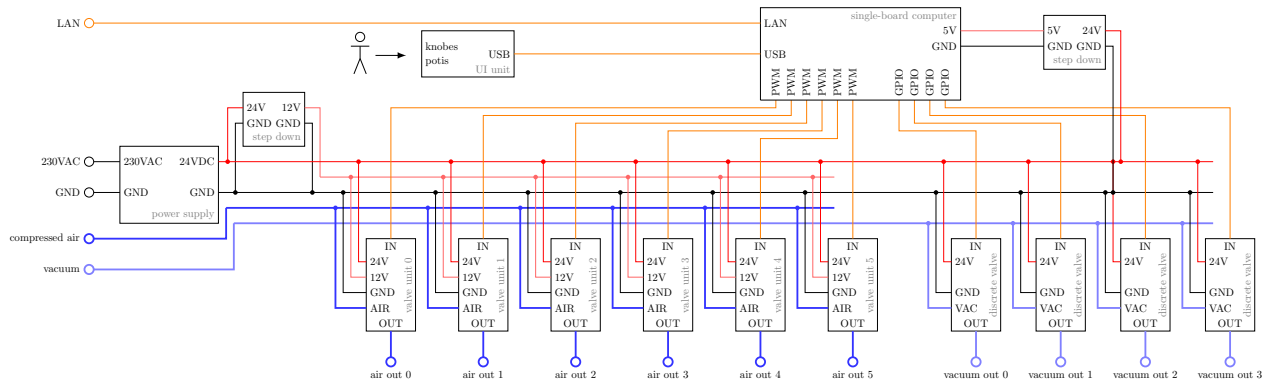
5 Auxilary

5.1 IP-Addresses in AmP

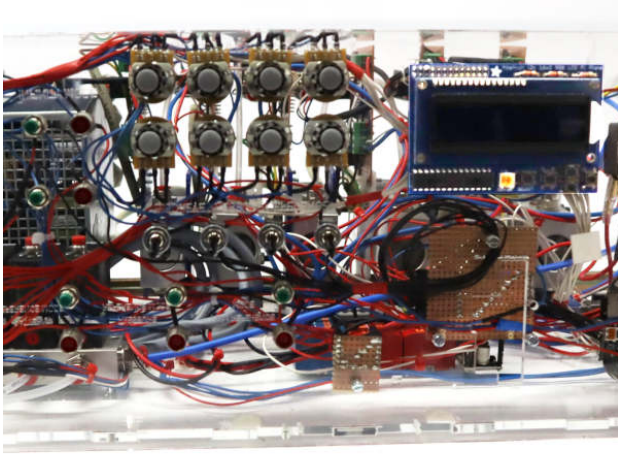
Subnet	255	.	255	.	255	.	0
Route / Gateway	134	.	28	.	136	.	1
DNS	134	.	28	.	202	.	14
alt. DNS	134	.	28	.	205	.	14
Main	134	.	28	.	136	.	30
BBB CBoard	134	.	28	.	136	.	51
VR - Mond / T500-Schiller	134	.	28	.	136	.	129
VR - Bianca	134	.	28	.	136	.	131
RaspPi IMUCam	134	.	28	.	136	.	49
RaspPi GeckoCam	134	.	28	.	136	.	118
DellLat CBoard	134	.	28	.	136	.	70
BBB Rohat	-	.	-	.	-	.	110
BBB experiment	-	.	-	.	-	.	55

References

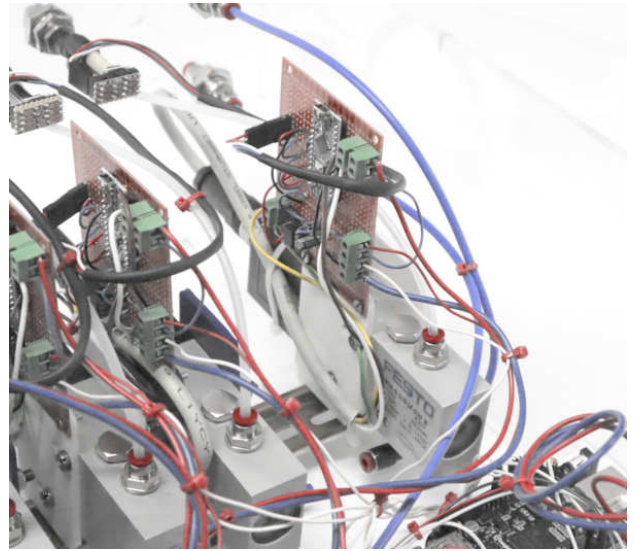
- [1] Festo. *Proportional-Wegeventile MPYE*, 2017. Datasheet.
- [2] Honeywell. *TruStability Board Mount Pressure Sensors – SSC Series*, 2017. Datasheet.
- [3] ON Semiconductor. *IRF540 TMOS E-FET*, 2006. Datasheet.



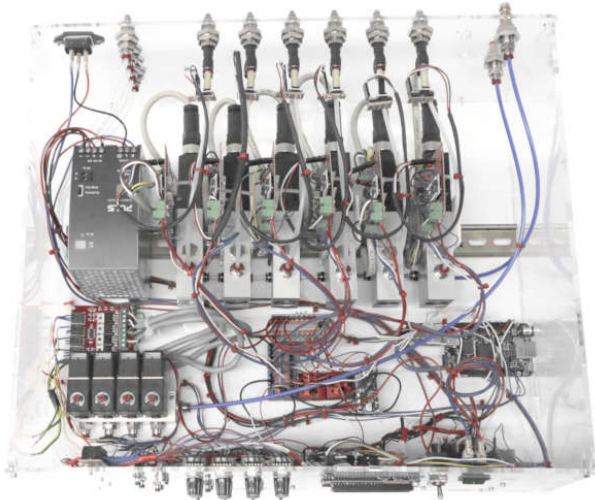
(a) circuit



(b) UI



(c) Valve unit



(d) top view

Figure 8: Circuit of the complete setup