

# Connected Things

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COMP5047 – Lecture 04

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The University of Sydney

# Is everything connected?

- Hard to find standalone systems
  - E.g. Electric razor, blow dryer, smoke alarm
- Even then, you will find there are interconnected elements inside
  - E.g. controllers, switches, motors, sensors
- Devices need information exchange
  - Send or receive data

# How do devices communicate?

**How to create smart objects by connecting sensors/actuators with computing elements (e.g. microcontrollers) and then connect them to networks.**

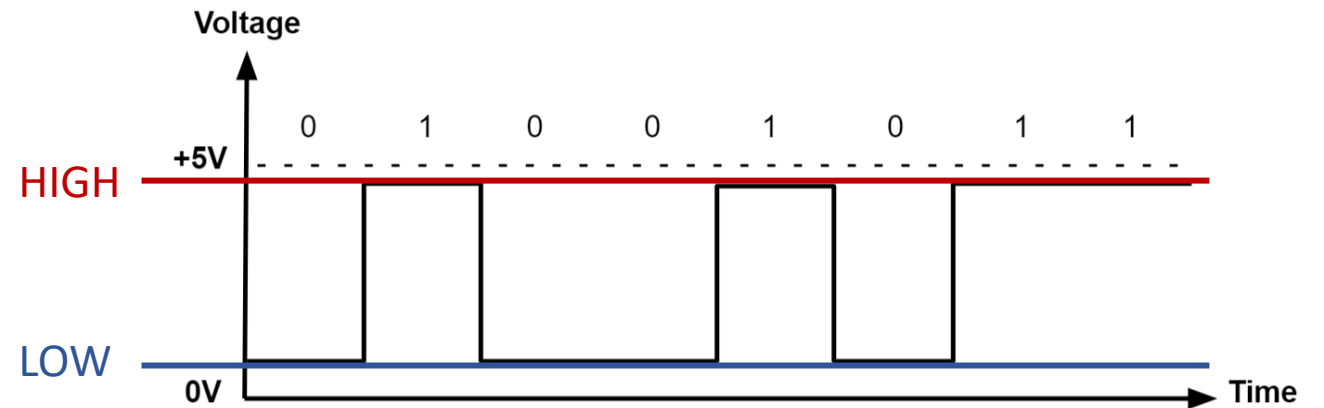
# Digital

**(of signals or data) expressed as series of the digits 0 and 1, typically represented by values of a physical quantity such as voltage or magnetic polarization.**

Definitions from [Oxford Languages](#)

# Digital

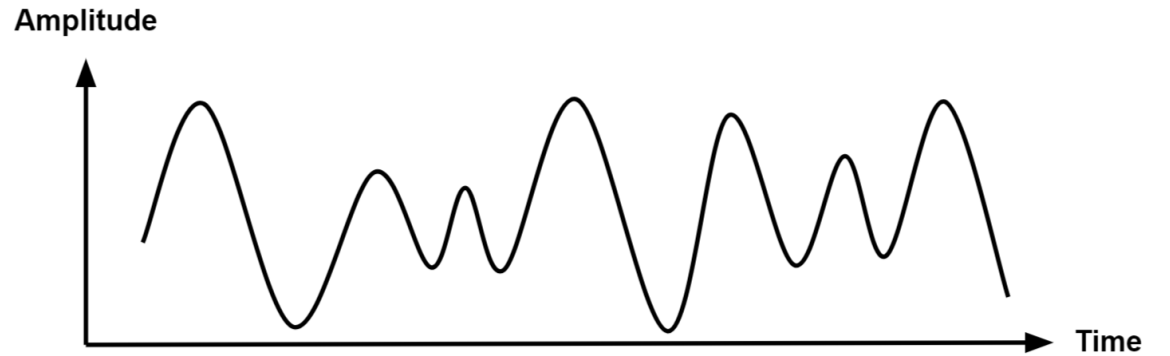
- Discrete signals
  - Amplitude
  - Time
- Represent numbers
  - Usually binary numbers
  - And we can use them to compute (+, -, \*, ...)
- Used in your computer
  - And your microcontroller
  - Various ranges of voltages
    - (0,5V), (0,3.3V), (0,1.8V), (-15V,15V),



<https://www.monolithicpower.com/en/analog-vs-digital-signal>

# Analog or Real World Signals

- Continuous signals
  - Amplitude
  - Time
- A lot of variations

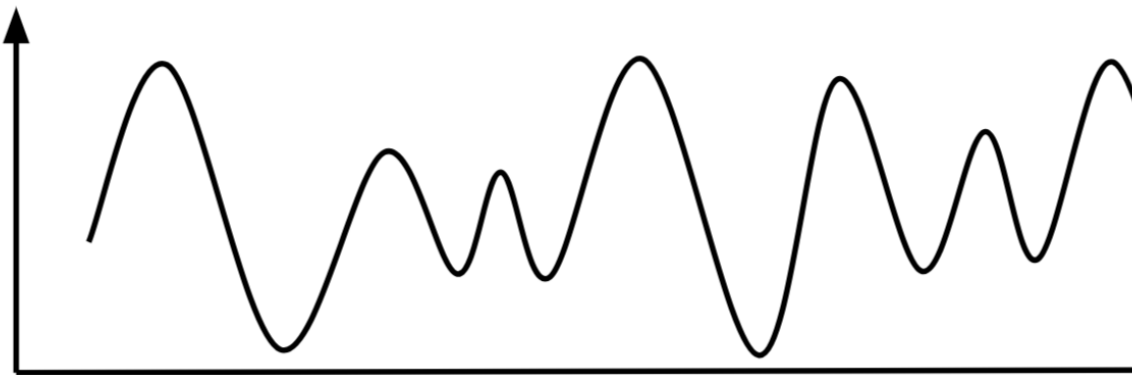


<https://www.monolithicpower.com/en/analog-vs-digital-signal>

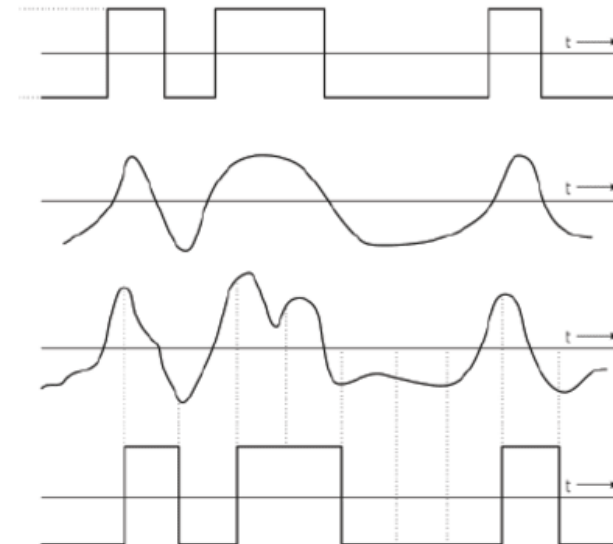
# Analog Vs. Digital

- More likely to get affected by noise reducing accuracy
  - considerable observational errors
  - Network performance is subjected to deterioration by noise.
- Less affected since noise response are analog in nature
  - has low observational errors.
  - Can be noise-immune during transmission and write/read cycle.

Amplitude



<https://www.monolithicpower.com/en/analog-vs-digital-signal>



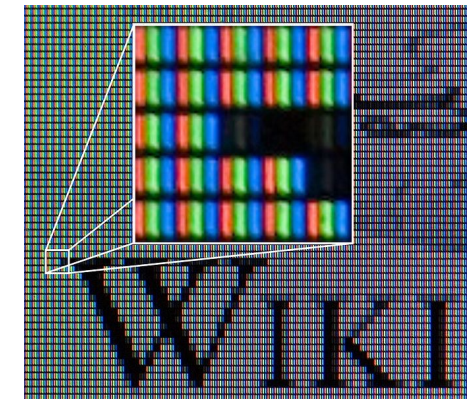
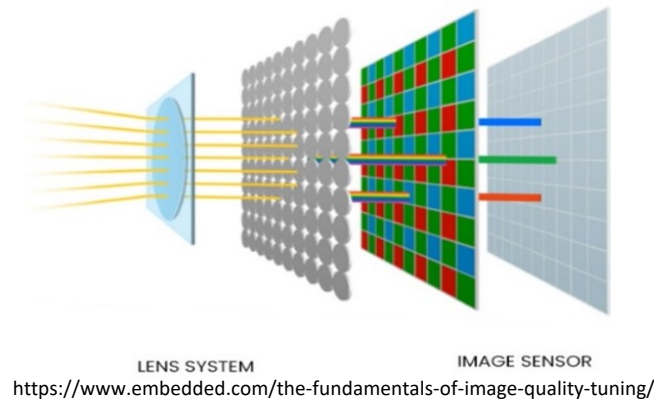
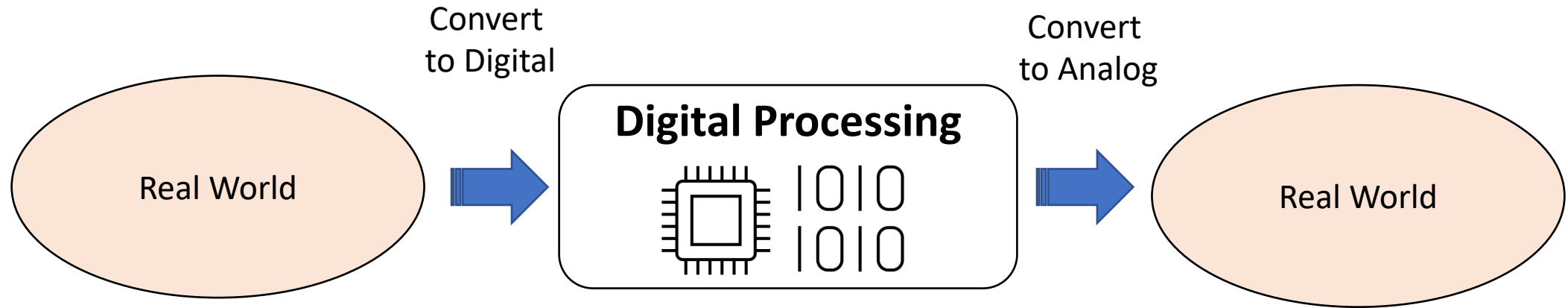
<https://www.sigmadzn.com/2018/11/27/high-speed-digital-design-part-1/>

# Analog Vs. Digital

- More likely to get affected by noise reducing accuracy
  - considerable observational errors
  - Network performance is subjected to deterioration by noise during
- Analog instrument draws large power
- Analog signal processing can be done in real time and consumes less bandwidth.
- Less affected since noise response are analog in nature
  - has low observational errors.
  - Can be noise-immune during transmission and write/read cycle.
- Draws comparatively much lower amount of power
- No guarantee that digital signal processing can be done in real time and consumes more bandwidth to carry out the same information.

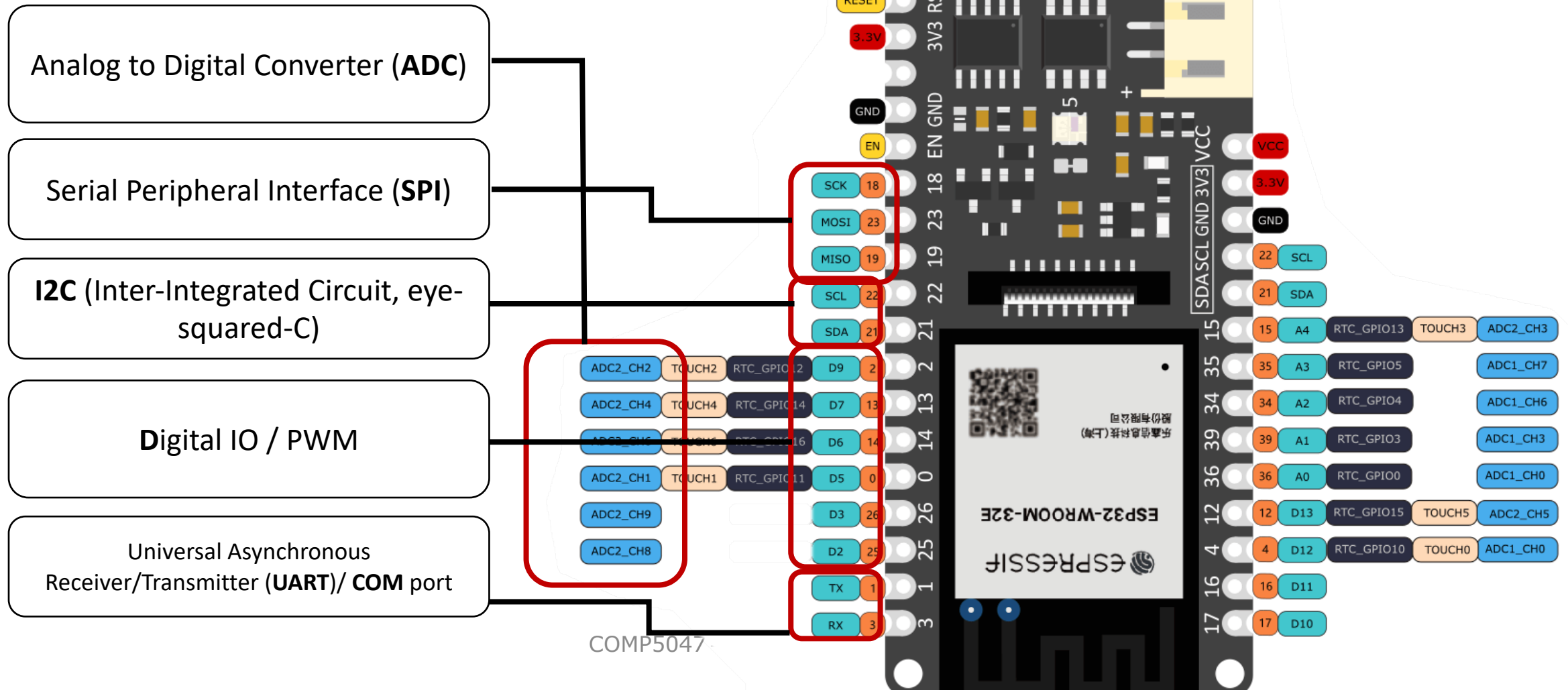


# Real World / Digital



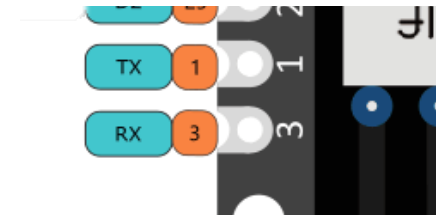
<https://commons.wikimedia.org/>

# How do we connect?



# UART/COM Port

- A serial interface
- It was widely used before USB
- A digital interface
  - Now commonly used in PerComp devices
  - E.g. Your  $\mu$ Controller has a serial ports (one through USB)
- Has so many variations
- Full duplex
  - Can transmit and receive at the same time

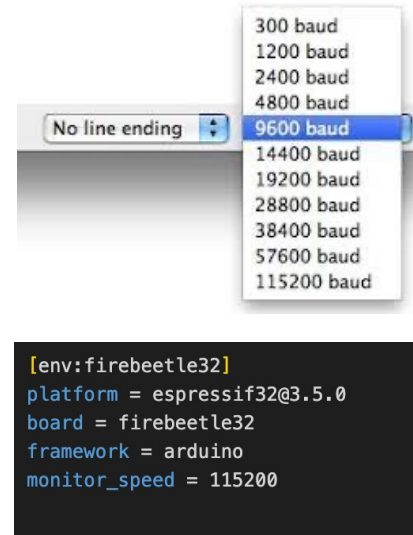


# UART/COM Port

- Slower transmission rates
  - Typical max is about 115 Kbps (kilobits per second)
- Shorter range (cable length)
- It is point to point
  - Typically no multipoint capability
- USB and Ethernet has taken over
  - But still used in small devices, industrial communications, instruments

# UART/COM Port

- Asynchronous
  - Two devices are not synced
  - You need to set a baud rate
  - The rate at which information is transferred
  - Higher the baud rate, more susceptible to noise



# Let's send some data from your $\mu$ C

```
#include <Arduino.h>

void setup()
{
  Serial.begin(115200); // start my serial interface with baud rate
}

void loop()
{
  Serial.print("Hello World");
  delay(200);
}
```

```
Hello WorldHello WorldHello WorldHello WorldHello WorldHello WorldHello WorldHello World
ello WorldHello WorldHello WorldHello WorldHello WorldHello WorldHello WorldHello World
```

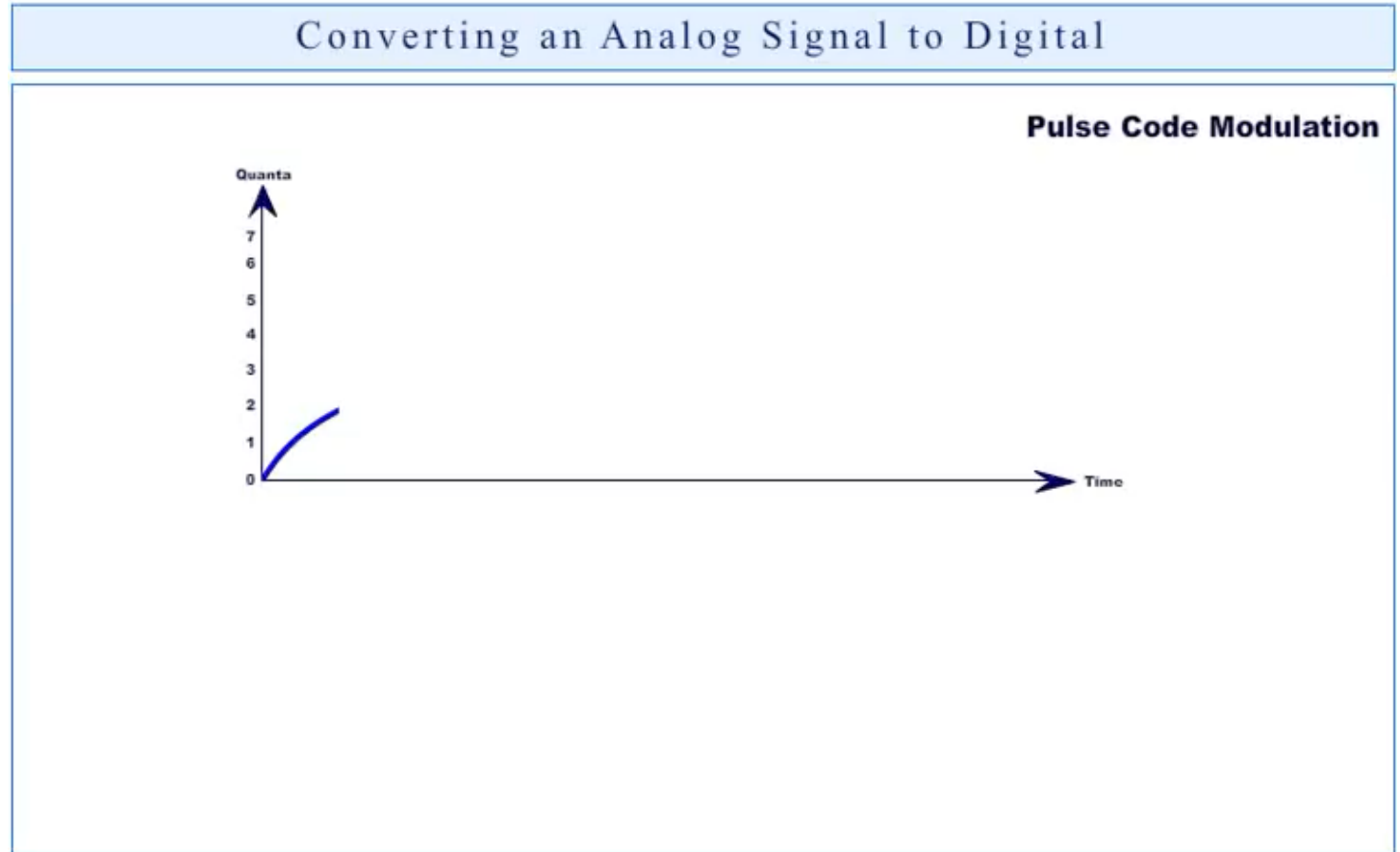
```
Serial.println("Hello World");
```

```
Serial.print("Hello World\n");
```

```
Serial.printf("Hello World\n");
```

# Analog to Digital Converter (ADC)

- ADC
  - For analog band limited signals
- 1. Sample
- 2. Quantize
- 3. Encode



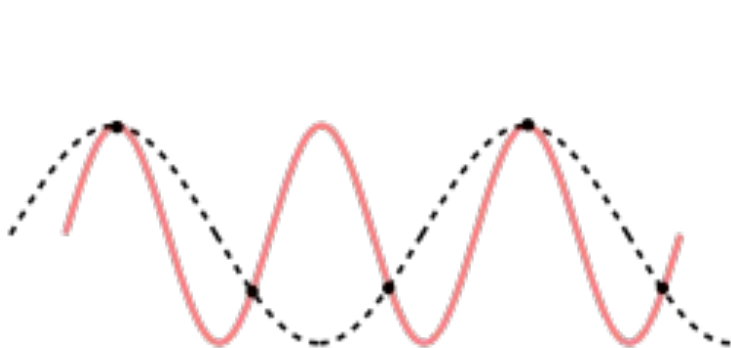
Channel: HowTo; <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tZR7hLJx6Ms>

# Analog to Digital Converter (ADC)

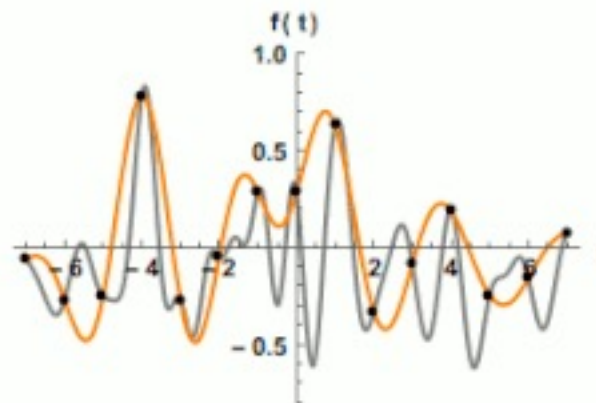
- Nyquist–Shannon sampling theorem

**If a function  $x(t)$  contains no frequencies higher than  $B$  hertz (Hz), a sufficient sample-rate is therefore anything larger than  $2B$  samples per second.**

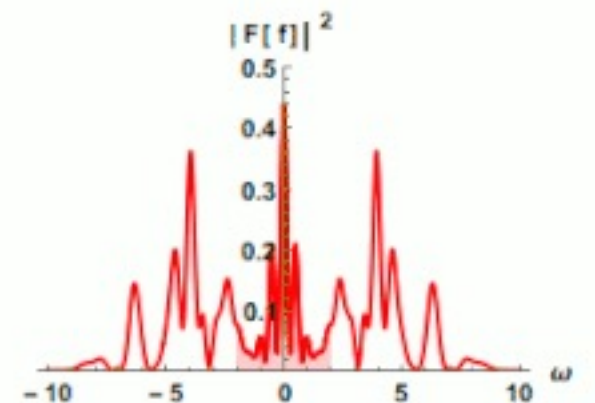
**Given sampling frequency  $f_s$ ; perfect reconstruction is guaranteed possible for a bandlimit  $B < f_s/2$**



Adapted from Wikipedia



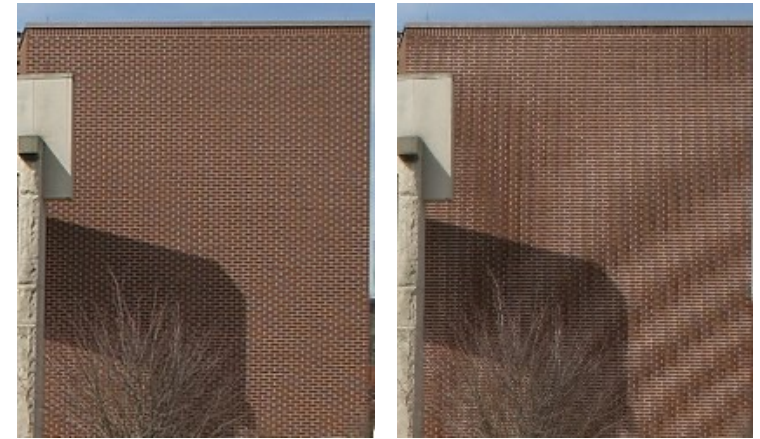
COLIF 2017 - Pervasive Computing





# Analog to Digital Converter (ADC)

- Nyquist–Shannon sampling theorem
- Sub Nyquist sampling leads to aliasing
- If you sample too fast;
  - Too much data
  - A lot of power
  - Need expensive hardware
- You want to measure a fan rotor, rotating at  $60 \pm 10\text{Hz}$ , which sampling rate is best?
  - A) 20Hz, B) 60Hz, C) 200Hz, D) 240Hz

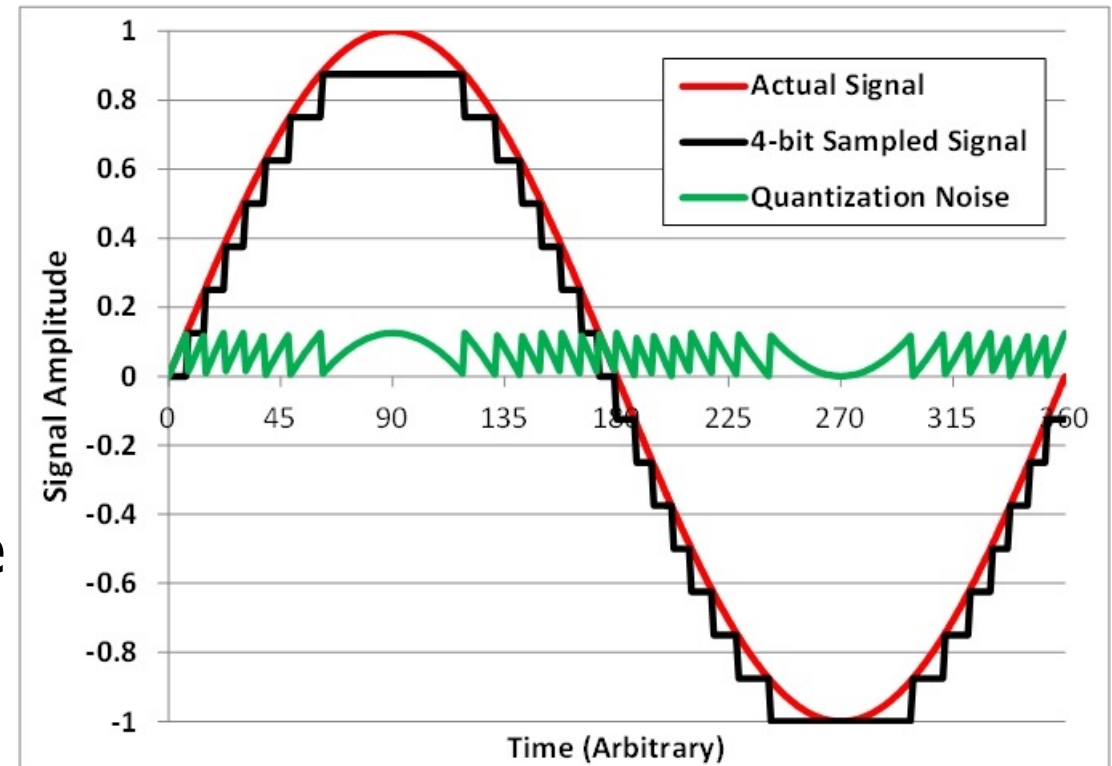


Subsampled image showing a Moiré pattern

Adapted from Wikipedia

# Analog to Digital Converter (ADC)

- Quantization steps
- The resolution of ADC
  - Leads to quantization noise
- Higher doesn't mean better
  - Same issues as sampling rate



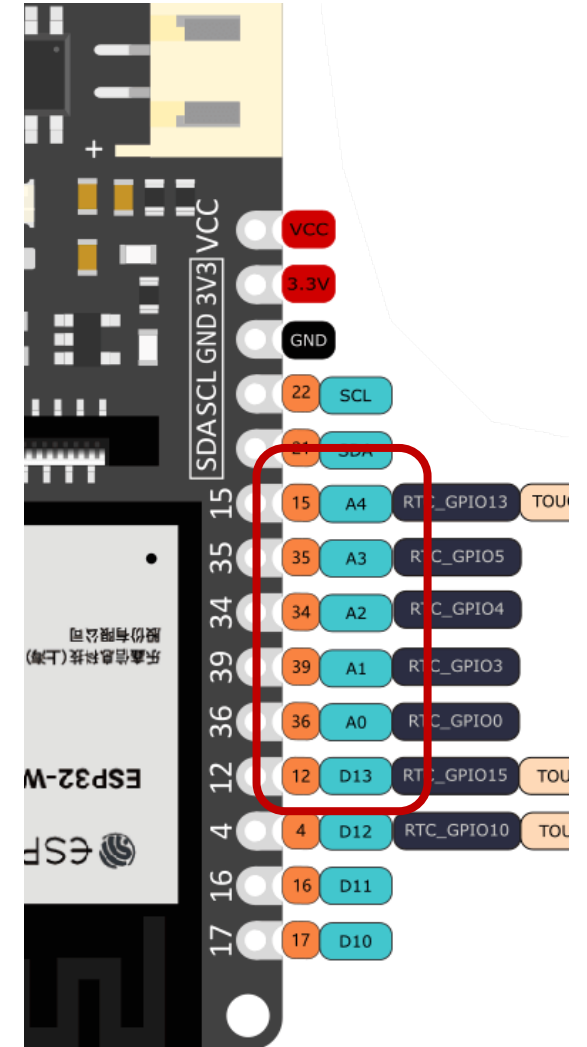
<https://e2e.ti.com/>

# Analog to Digital Converter (ADC)

- How to?

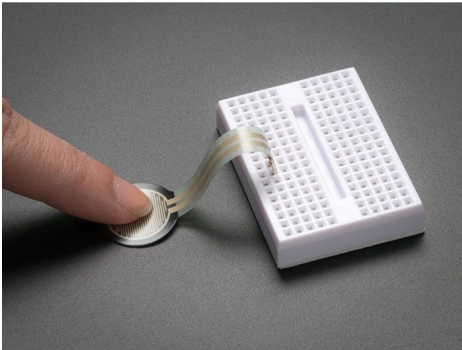
```
#include <Arduino.h>
int lightSensor = 0; //make a variable for
void setup()
{
  pinMode(A0, INPUT); // Setup pin to be an input
}

void loop()
{
  lightSensor = analogRead(A0); // read the ADC value
  delay(200); // you can control the speed of sampling here
}
```

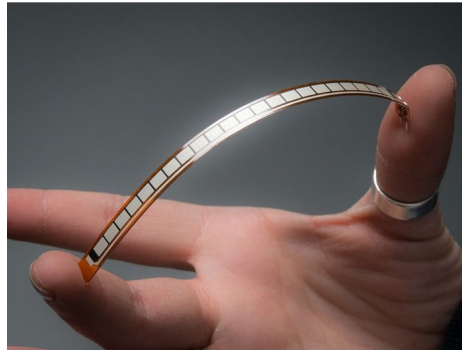


# Analog to Digital Converter (ADC)

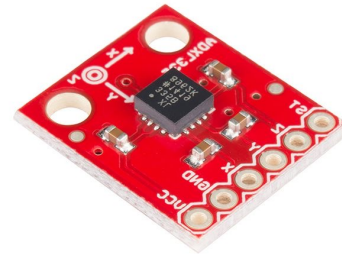
- Many sensors that gives an analog output



Force-Sensitive Resistor (FSR)



Flex sensor



Accelerometer -  
ADXL335

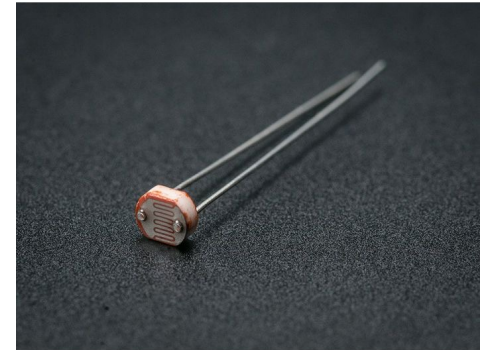


Photo cell (CdS photoresistor)

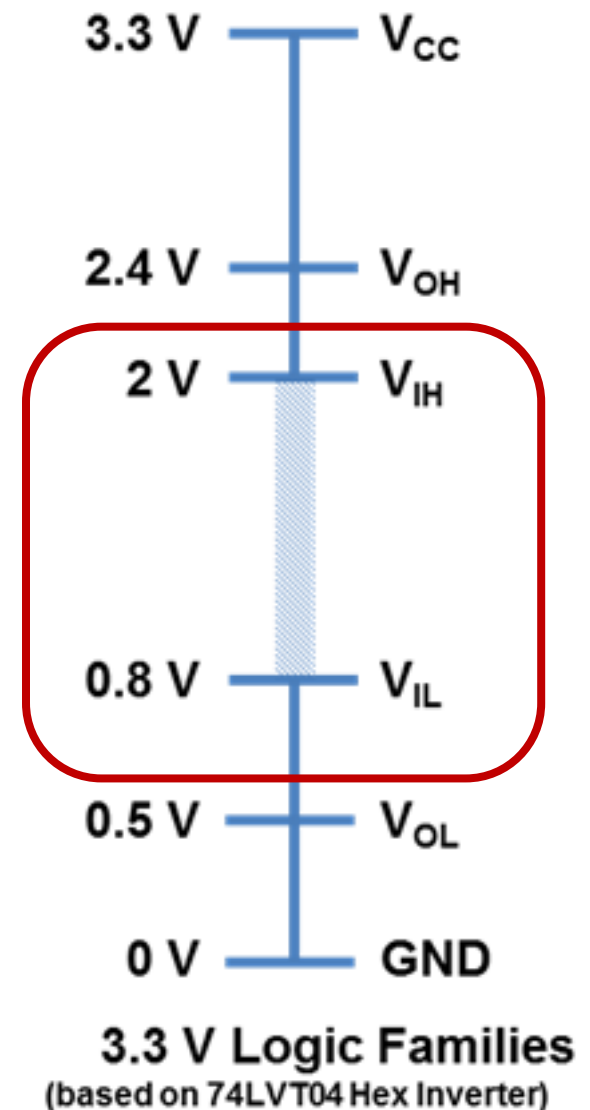
<https://core-electronics.com.au/>

# Digital IO

- Input
  - Sense if a pin is **HIGH** or **LOW**
  - Depends on threshold voltages
  - Limited to fixed input

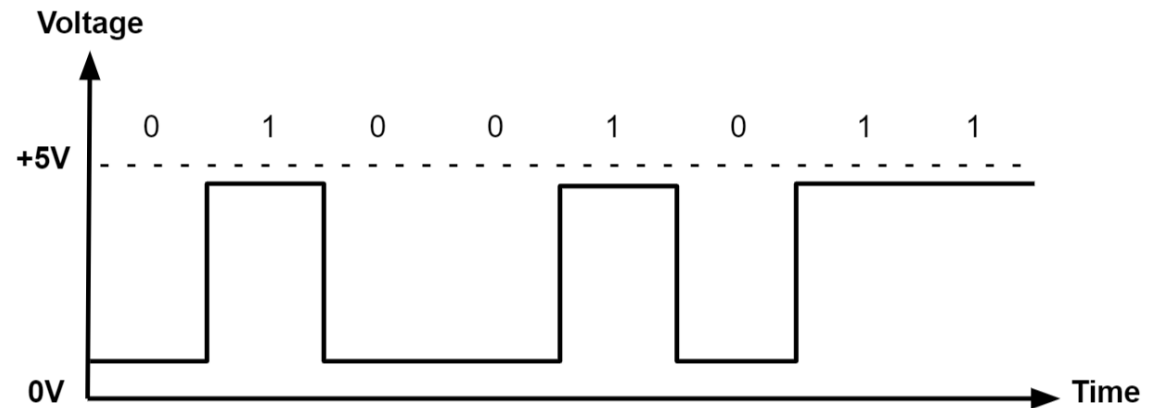
```
#include <Arduino.h>
int digitalIN = 0; // a variable to record
void setup()
{
  pinMode(D10, INPUT); // Setup pin to be an input
}

void loop()
{
  digitalIN = digitalRead(D10); // read and store the value
  // do something
  delay(500); // wait till next read
}
```



# Digital IO

- Output
  - Set pin to **HIGH** or **LOW**
  - Actual voltage depends on the device
  - Limited to fixed output



<https://www.monolithicpower.com/en/analog-vs-digital-signal>

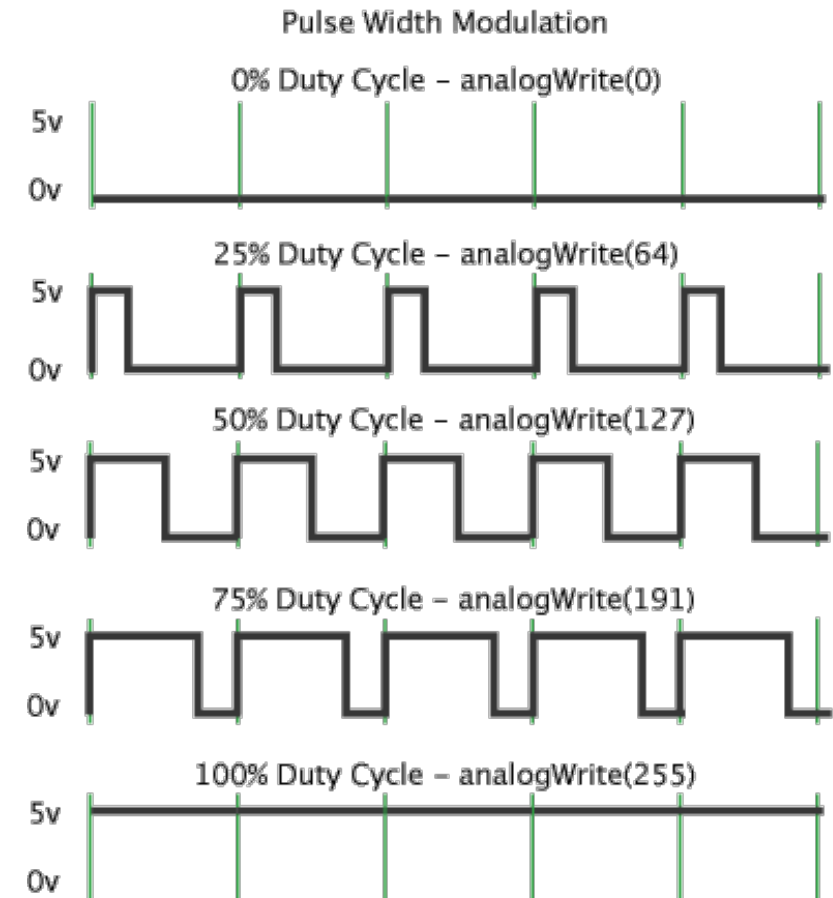
```
#include <Arduino.h>
void setup()
{
  pinMode(D9, OUTPUT); // Setup pin to be an output (this is the LED pin)
}

void loop()
{
  digitalWrite(D9, HIGH); // Turn the LED ON
  delay(500); // Leave it on for 500ms
  digitalWrite(D9, LOW); // Turn the LED OFF
  delay(500); // Leave it off for 500ms
}
```

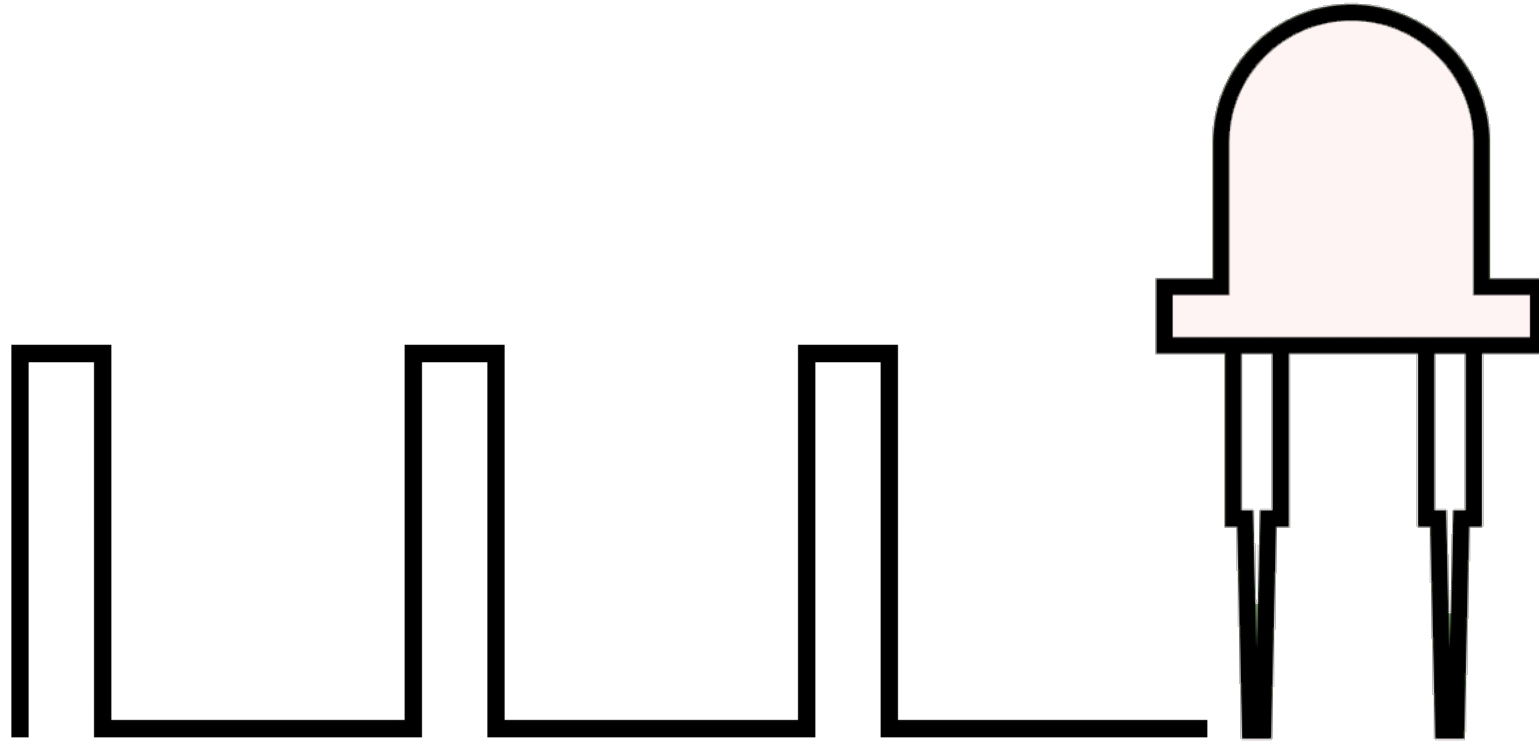


# Pulse Width Modulation (PWM)

- In digital devices, hard to control the output intensity of signals
  - It is either 0 (low) or 1 (high)
- PWM – Uses a periodic digital signal with controlled pulse width



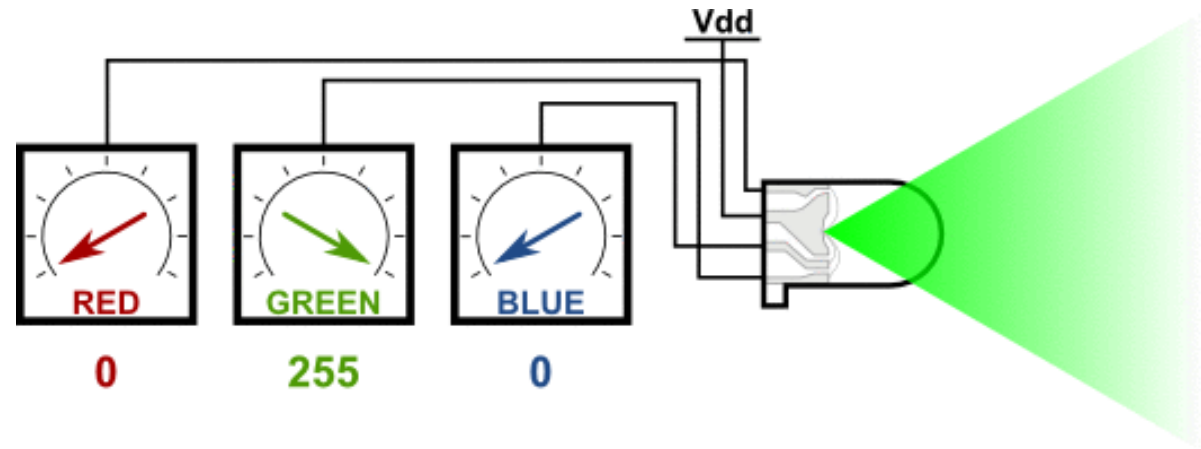
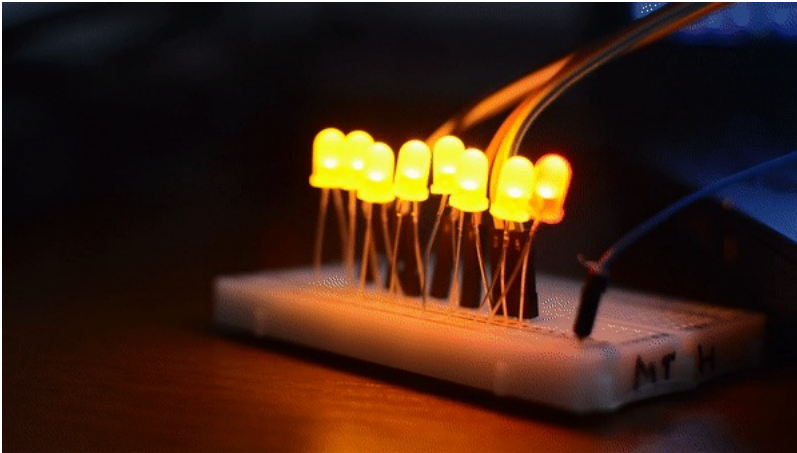
# Pulse Width Modulation (PWM)



Leverages the **Persistence of vision**



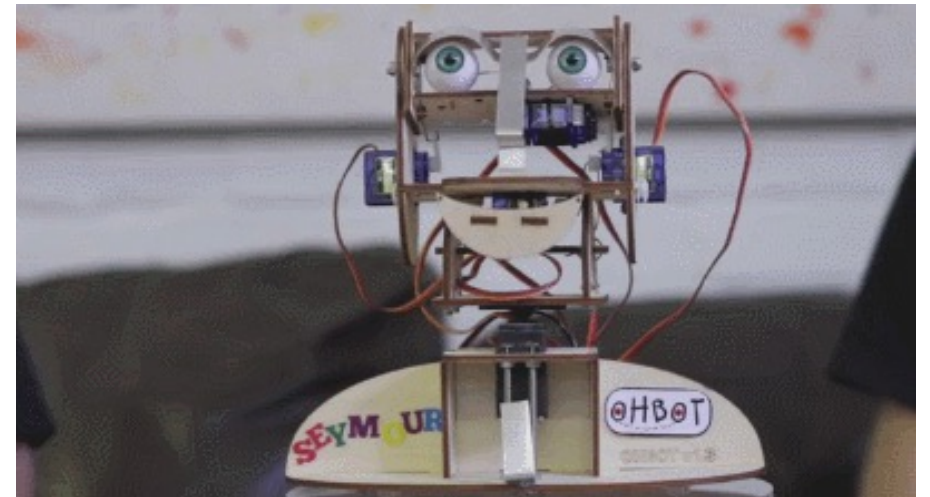
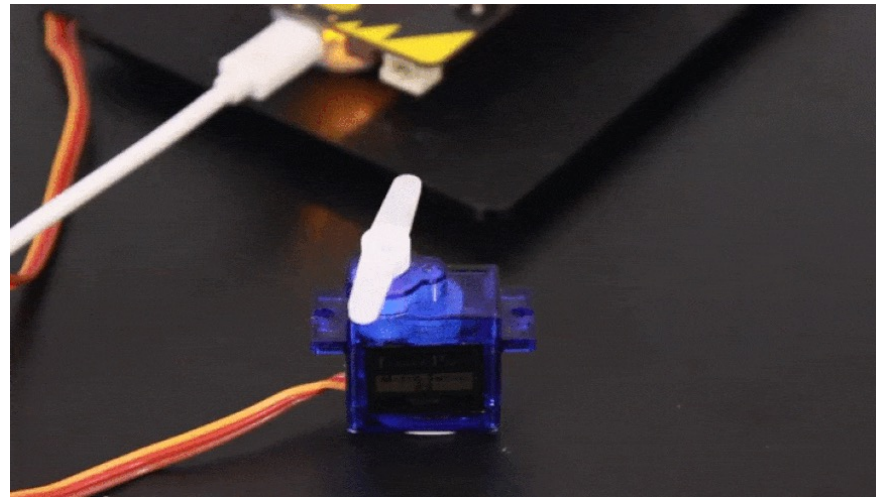
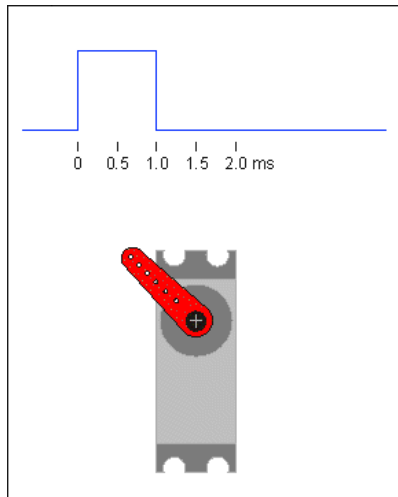
# Pulse Width Modulation (PWM)



[mtheelen.nl/pwm-pins-fading-leds/](http://mtheelen.nl/pwm-pins-fading-leds/)  
[giphy.com/gifs/led-NrzDtKdaXpNyo](https://giphy.com/gifs/led-NrzDtKdaXpNyo)

# Pulse Width Modulation (PWM)

- Also used as a communication protocol



[kroboblogs.wordpress.com](http://kroboblogs.wordpress.com)

[kitronik.co.uk/blog/using-bbc-microbit-control-servo](http://kitronik.co.uk/blog/using-bbc-microbit-control-servo)

[.roboticgizmos.com/ohbot2-programmable-robot-head](http://.roboticgizmos.com/ohbot2-programmable-robot-head)

# Pulse Width Modulation (PWM)

- Usually easy in Arduino
  - `analogWrite(pin, value)`
  - But with ESP (your  $\mu\text{C}$ ) bit difficult

```
#include <Arduino.h>
// the number of the PWM pin
const int pwmPin = D9; // D9 the LED pin

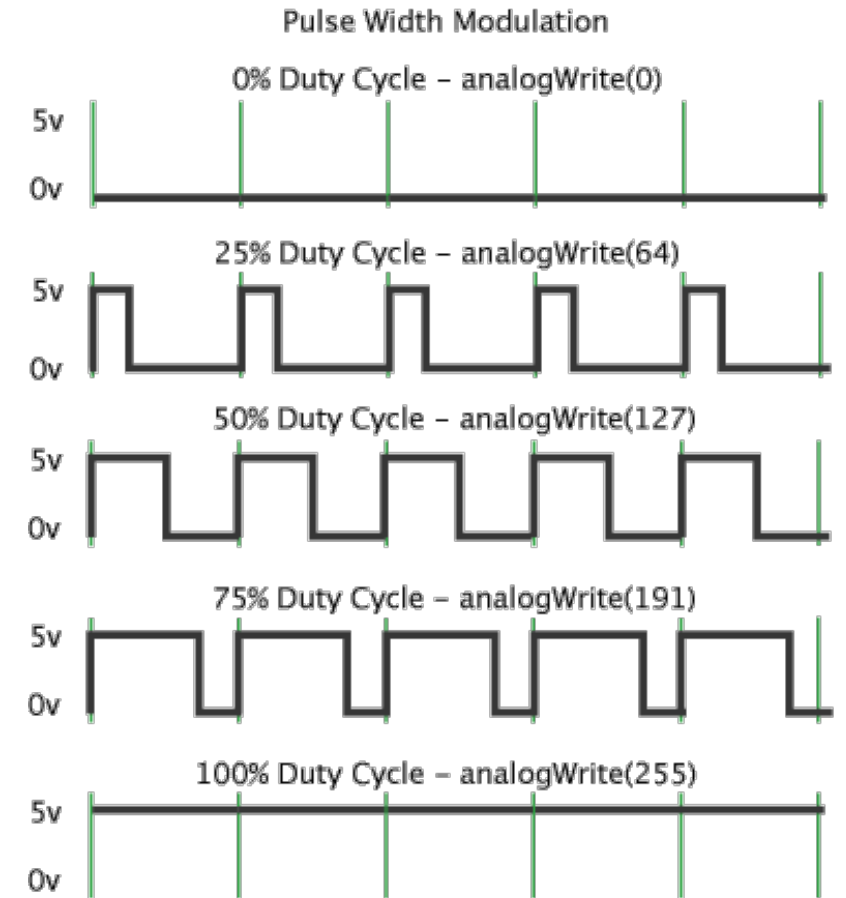
// setting PWM properties
const int freq = 5000; // how fast the PWM signal work (cycle = 1 / freq)
const int pwmChannel = 0; // which internal pwm channel to use
const int resolution = 8; // what resolution (8 bits means -> 2^8, 255 levels)

int brightness = 0; // variable to hold brightness (0 off, 255 full power)

void setup()
{
  pinMode(pwmPin, OUTPUT);

  // configure PWM functionalitites
  ledcSetup(pwmChannel, freq, resolution);

  // attach the channel to the GPIO to be controlled
  ledcAttachPin(pwmPin, pwmChannel);
  ledcWrite(pwmChannel, brightness);
}
```



[arduino.cc/en/tutorial/PWM](https://arduino.cc/en/tutorial/PWM)

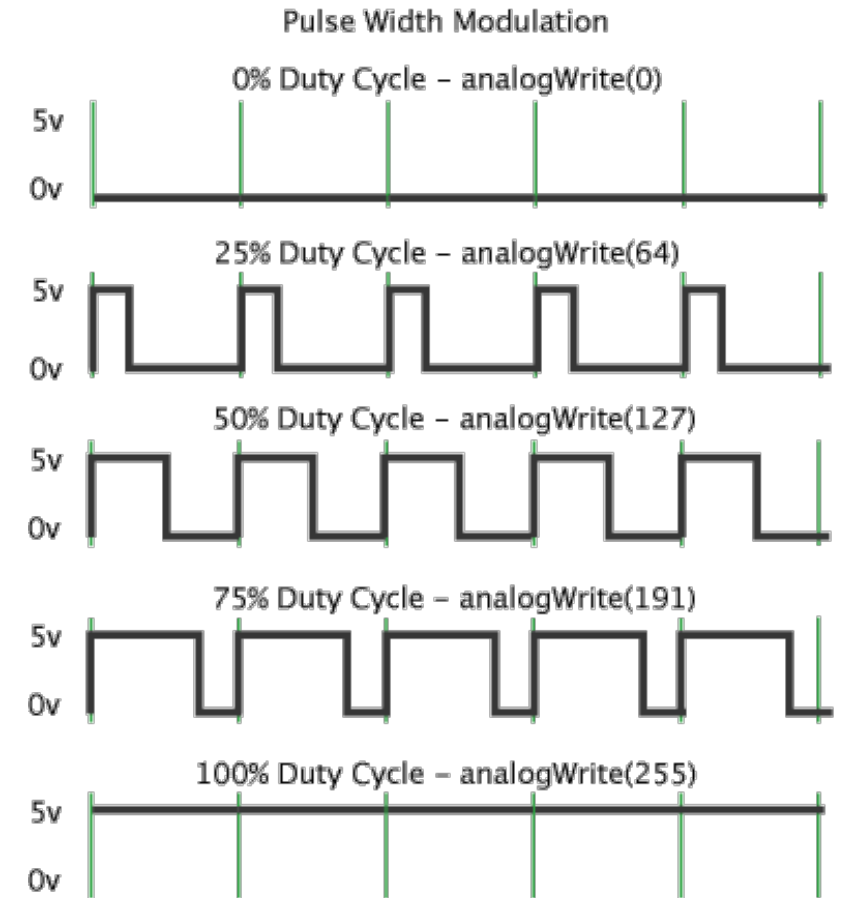
# Pulse Width Modulation (PWM)

- Usually easy in Arduino
  - `analogWrite(pin, value)`
  - But with ESP (your  $\mu$ C) bit difficult

```
void loop()
{
  // lets gradually increase and decrease the brightness

  for(int i=0; i < 100; i++){
    brightness = i * 255 / 100; // increase brightness with i
    ledcWrite(pwmChannel, brightness); // set brightness as pwm
    delay(10); // add a delay so we can really see it
  }

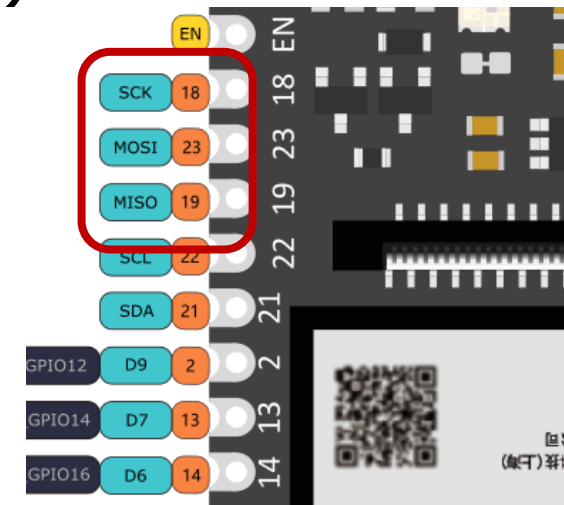
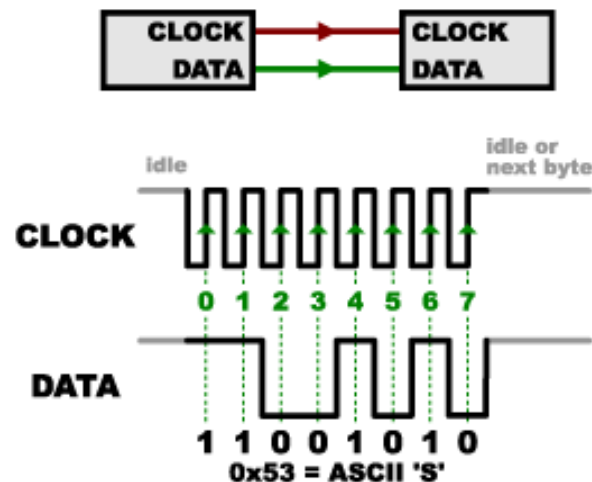
  for(int i=0; i < 100; i++){
    brightness = (100 - i) * 255 / 100; // decrease brightness with i
    ledcWrite(pwmChannel, brightness); // set brightness as pwm
    delay(10); // add a delay so we can really see it
  }
}
```



[arduino.cc/en/tutorial/PWM](https://arduino.cc/en/tutorial/PWM)

# Serial Peripheral Interface (SPI)

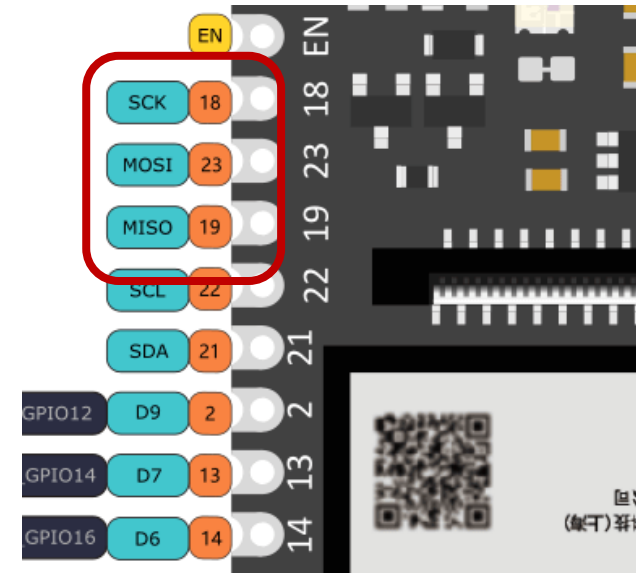
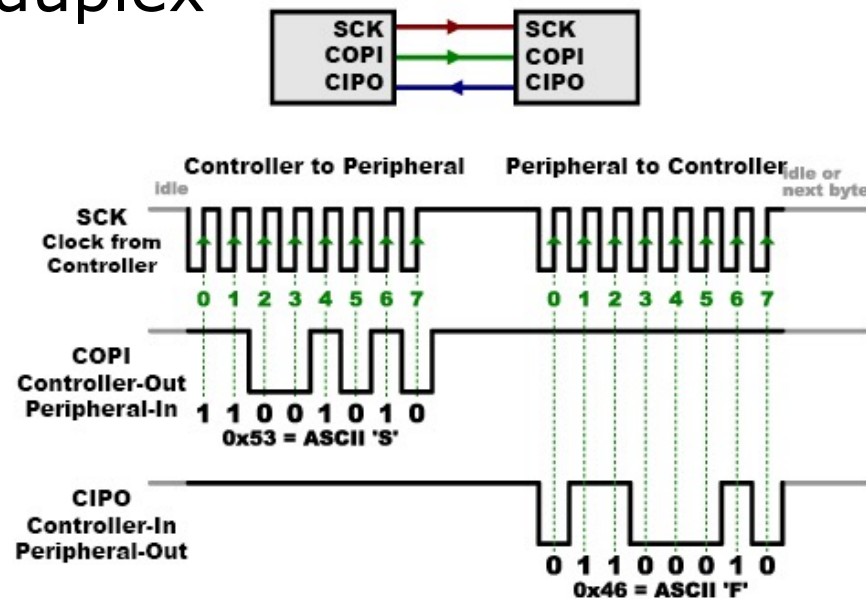
- A Synchronous Communication Interface
  - Overcome the overheads of asynchronous (e.g. UART)
- Uses a clock (a pin send a clock signal)



Adapted from: <https://learn.sparkfun.com/tutorials/serial-peripheral-interface-spi/all>. (Highly recommend read)

# Serial Peripheral Interface (SPI)

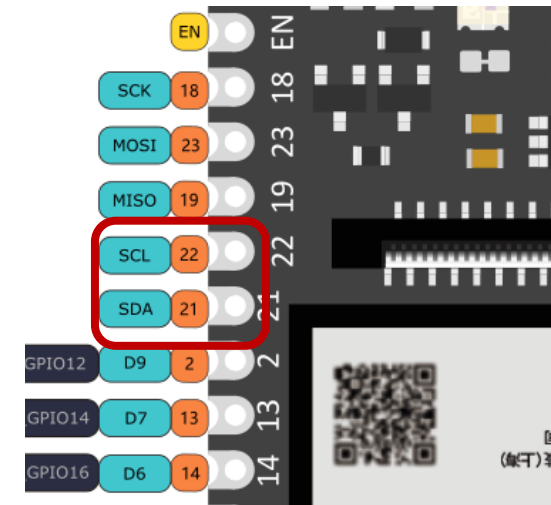
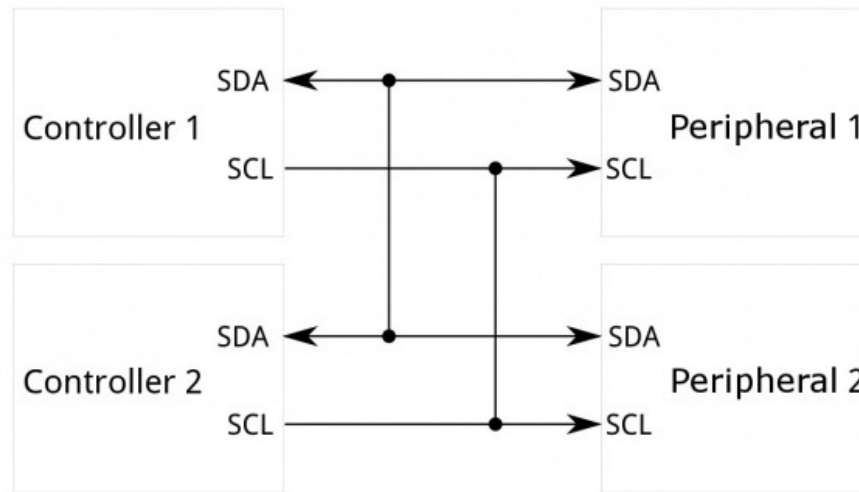
- Follows a **C**ontroller (**M**aster) and **P**eripheral (**S**lave) configuration
  - Full duplex



Adapted from: <https://learn.sparkfun.com/tutorials/serial-peripheral-interface-spi/all>. (Highly recommend read)

# I2C / I<sup>2</sup>C (Inter-Integrated Circuit)

- Another Synchronous Communication Interface
- Uses an address per peripheral instead of **CS**
  - **Half duplex**

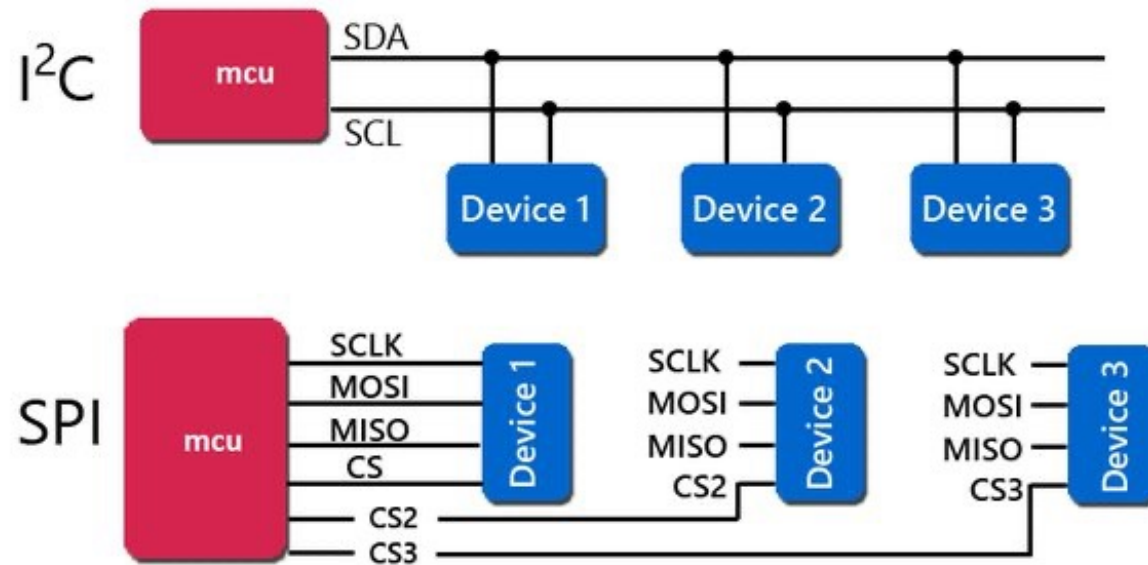


Adapted from: <https://learn.sparkfun.com/tutorials/i2c> . (Highly recommend read)



# I2C / I<sup>2</sup>C (Inter-Integrated Circuit)

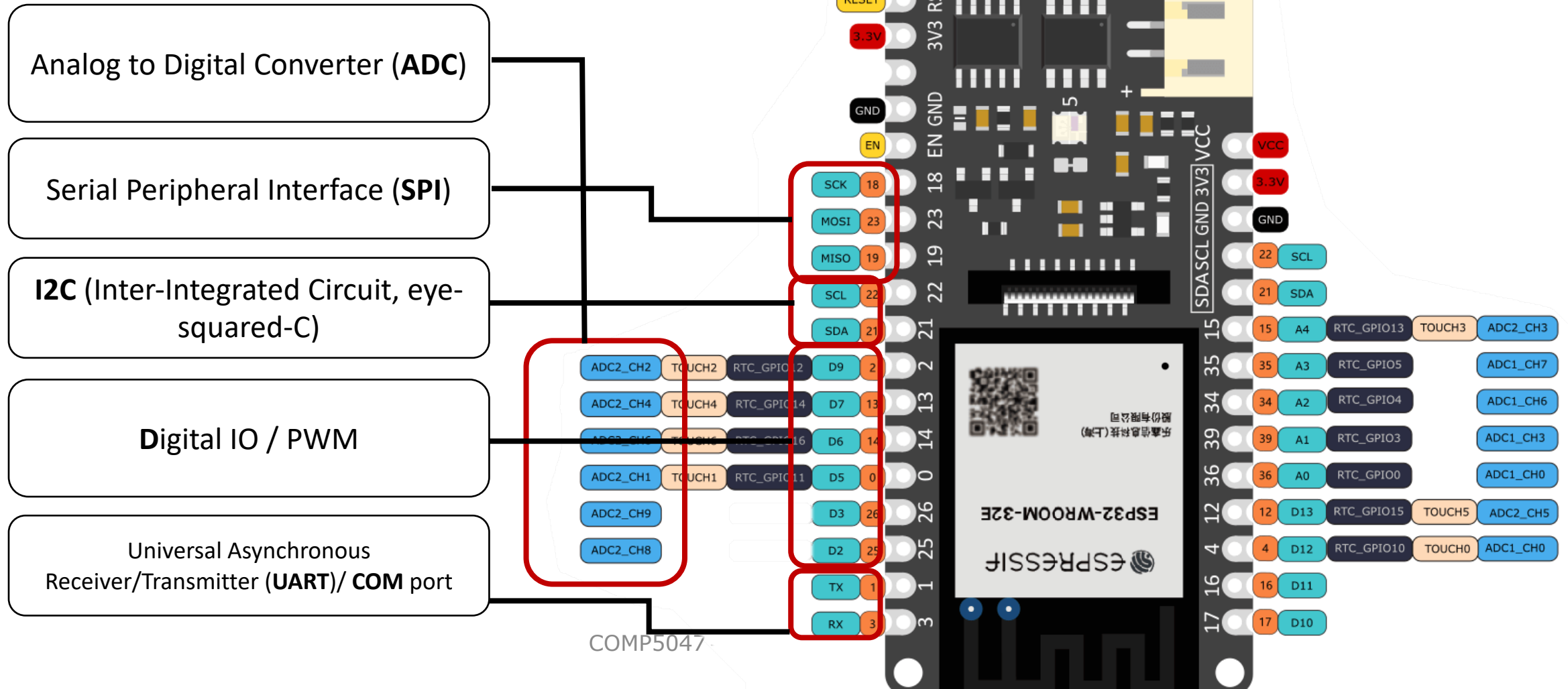
- Complexity is reduced when there are many devices
  - But the data throughput get reduced
    - 400 kbit/s in fast modes (some other faster modes, but not common)
  - More devices means more noise



<https://www.quora.com/>



# Summary



# What Are We Doing Today

Measure the ambient light in the room using the Phototransistor

CIRCUIT DIAGRAM

