



Internet of Things

Senior Design Project Course

Sensing – Part 1

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Flow of Data in Internet of Things (Review)



Image source: <http://www.cchc.cl/informacion-a-la-comunidad/industria-de-la-construccion/personaje/>

Where to Compute? (Review!)

■ **Device centric:**

- microcontroller in an IoT device can be exploited to perform the computation.
- challenges are
 - scarce resources on IoT devices
 - runtime decision

■ **Gateway centric**

- gate- way devices which are used to settle the heterogeneity between different networks and Internet usually have more computational power
 - This scheme has been used for medical and healthcare monitoring application
 - challenge
 - guarantee the availability and deadline constraints

Where to Compute? (Review!)

■ **Fog centric**

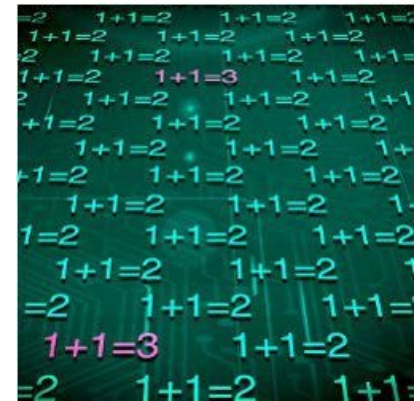
- ❑ Fogs provide more computational power compared to IoT embedded and gateway devices and have less latency compared to the cloud servers

■ **Cloud centric**

- ❑ massive data storage volume, huge processing resources
- ❑ challenges
 - Size of data (big data)
 - scalability
 - high energy cost
 - latency
 - bandwidth
 - availability

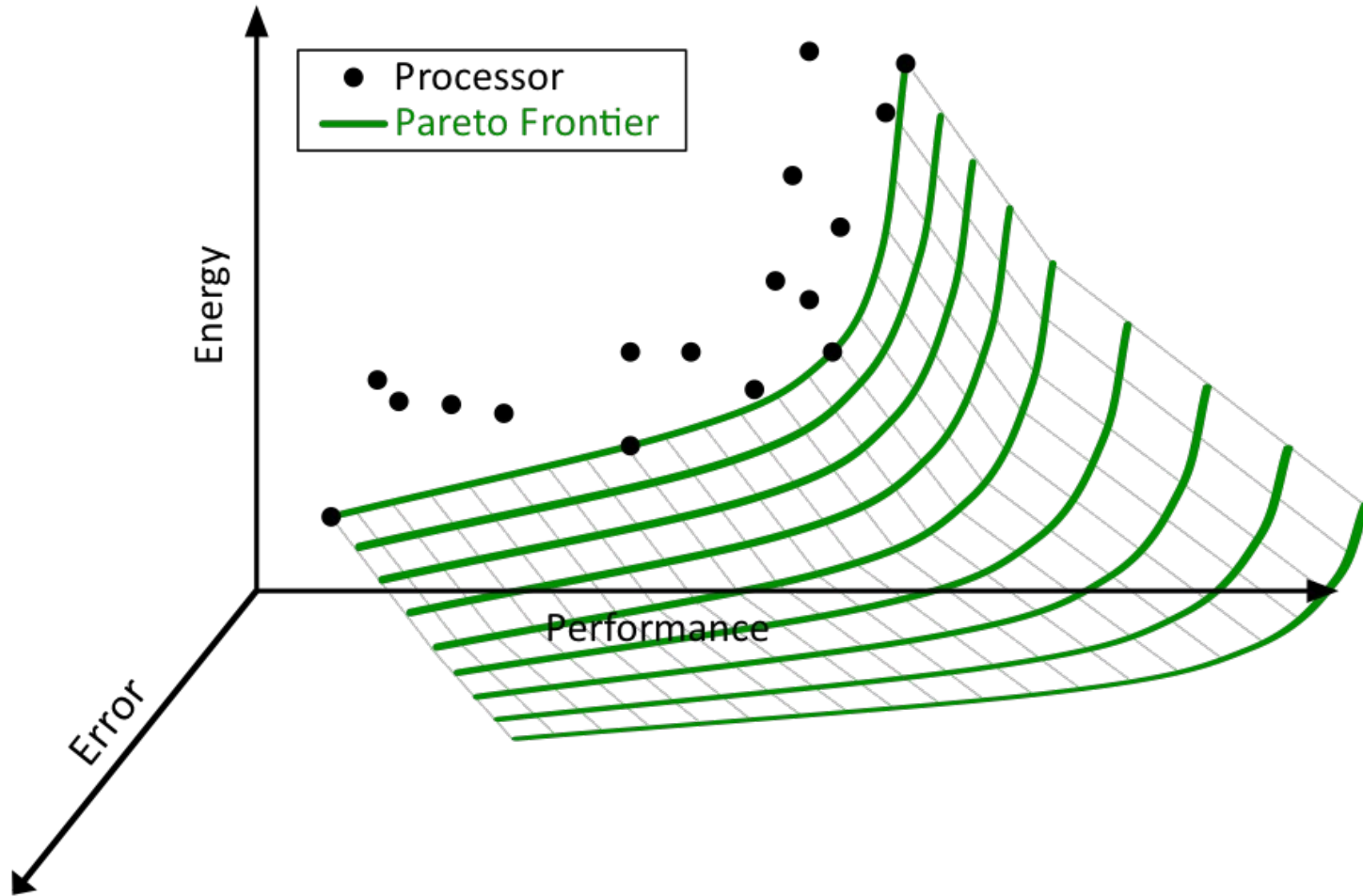
Approximate Computing

- 100% accuracy is not always required!
 - Example: Multimedia
 - 8 bits represent 256 shades of gray
 - Human can only recognize 27 shades of gray
- **Definition:** a computation which returns a possibly inaccurate result rather than a guaranteed accurate result, for a situation where an approximate result is sufficient for a purpose.
- leverages inherent resilience of applications
- relaxes the requirement of exact equivalence between the specification and implementation [1]
- Advantages: Power, Performance, Area (PPA)
- We will cover this in more details!



[1] F. Samie, L. Bauer and J. Henkel, "IoT technologies for embedded computing: A survey," *2016 International Conference on Hardware/Software Codesign and System Synthesis (CODES+ISSS)*, Pittsburgh, PA, 2016, pp. 1-10.

Approximate computing design space



Approximate computing in IoT

■ Data acquisition

- reducing the quality of input
- to reduce the energy consumption or delay

■ Data processing

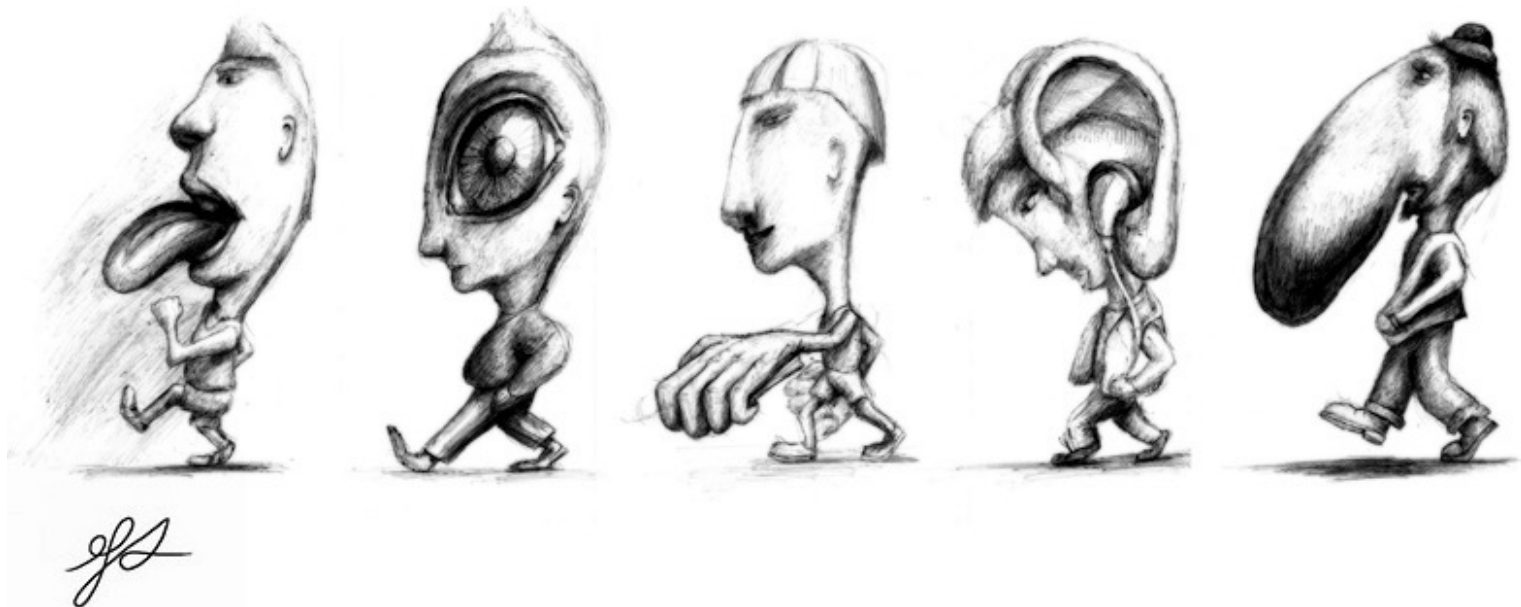
- designing inexact hardware units
 - Approximate adders, multipliers, DCT, FFT
- designing inexact software
 - Loop skipping, proliferation, stage skipping

■ Data Storage:

- Use tolerable error to
 - reduce the size of memory
 - reduce number of memory accesses
 - reduce energy consumption
 - Improve performance

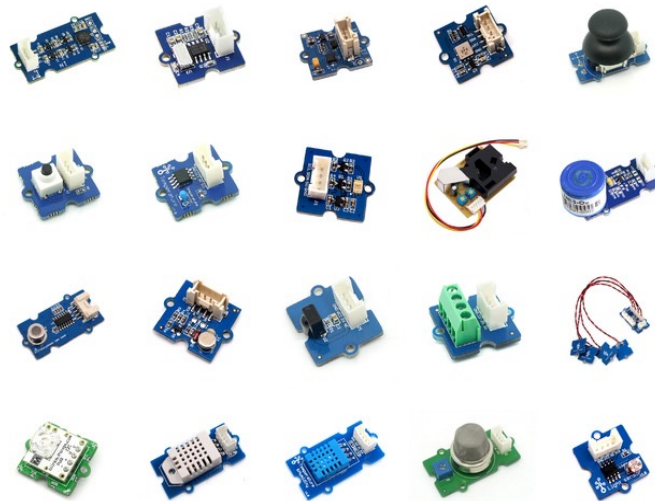
Approximate Computing to improve the PPA is a Good Topic for your Research project!

Sensing



Sensors

- Measure values
- Send raw data
- For IoT devices it is desired that sensors consume very Low power



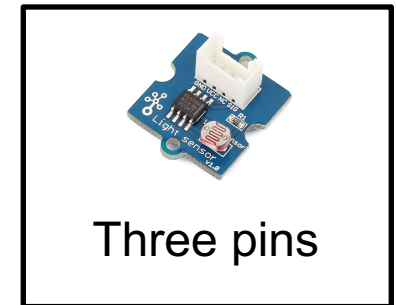
Sensor Types

■ Analog

- ❑ 2 or 3 pins
- ❑ Use pin functions
- ❑ Following article show how analog sensor could be read by Arduino processor:
 - <https://www.arduino.cc/en/Tutorial/AnalogInput>

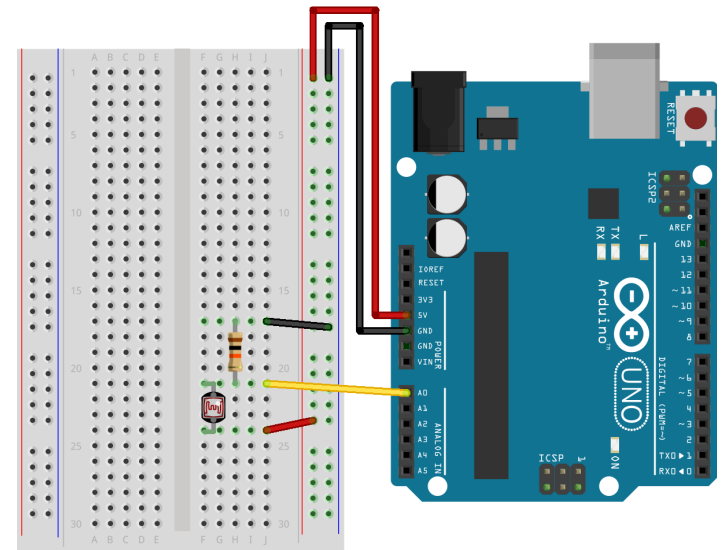
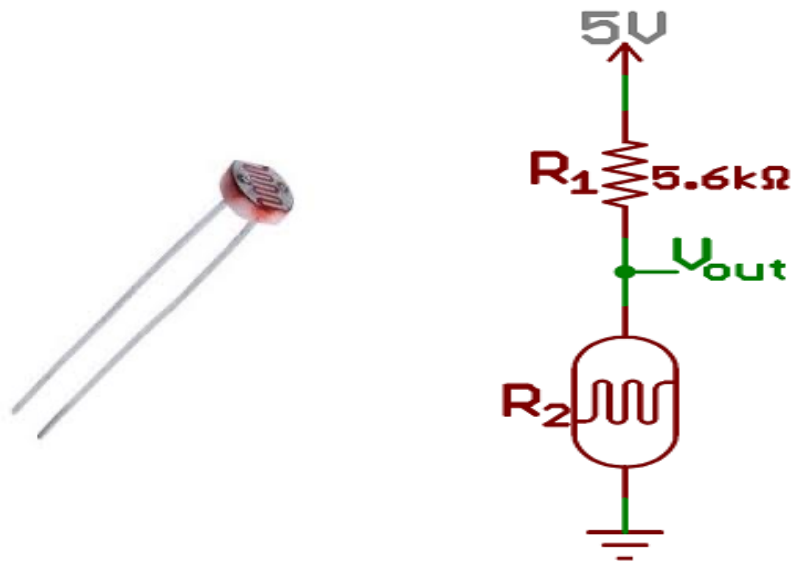
■ Digital

- ❑ Use some digital protocol
- ❑ Use libraries
- ❑ Following article show how digital sensors could be read by Arduino processor:
 - <https://www.arduino.cc/en/Tutorial/DigitalReadSerial>



Measuring Analog

- In most cases we build a Voltage Divider
- We measure the voltage in V_{out}
- Rule of Thumb :
 - To minimize readout errors read many values and average them



Made with  Fritzing.org

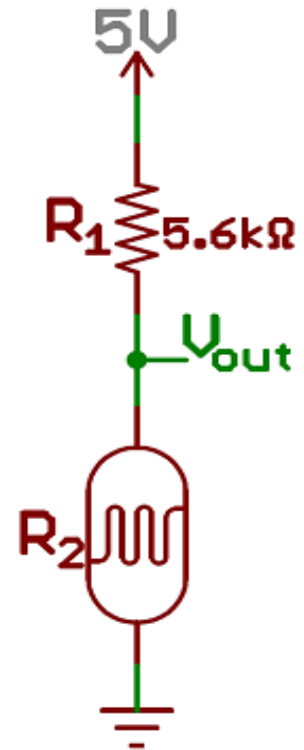
$$V_{out} = \frac{R_2}{(R_1 + R_2)} \cdot V_{supply}$$

Measuring Analog (photoresistor example)

- A resistor divider to allow the **high impedance Analog input** to measure the voltage.

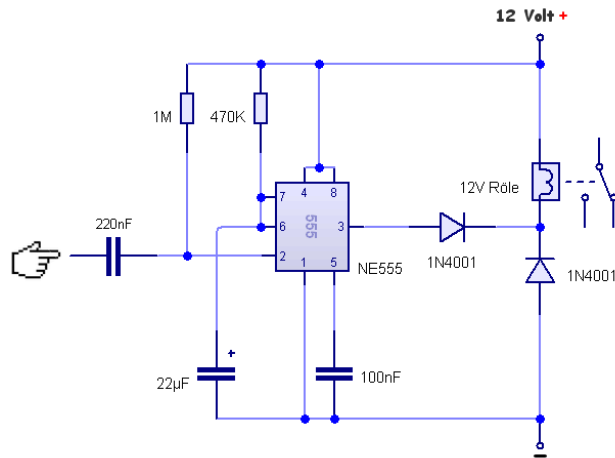
Why high impedance?

- V_{out} do not draw any current
 - By Ohm's law the voltage measured on the other end of a resistor connected to 5V is always 5V, regardless the resistor's value.
- To get a voltage proportional to the photoresistor value, a voltage divider (resistor divider) is necessary.
- This circuit uses a variable resistor, a fixed resistor and the measurement point is in the middle of the resistors.



Button is a Sensor!

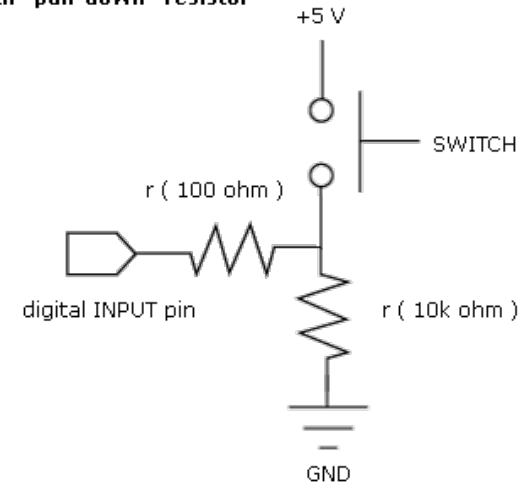
- Button is an analog sensor!
- We measure **change in resistance**:
 - Infinite \rightarrow if released
 - 0 \rightarrow if pressed



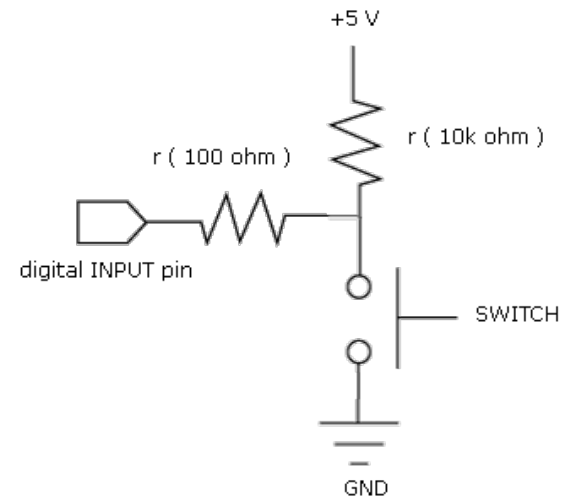
www.320volt.com



Switch with "pull-down" resistor



Switch with "pull-up" resistor



Button Debounce

When you push the switch, it initially makes contact with the other metal part, but just in a brief split of a microsecond. Then it makes contact a little longer, and then again a little longer. In the end the switch is fully closed. **The switch is bouncing between in-contact, and not in-contact.**

- **Problem:** When the button is pressed
 - ❑ Signal is bouncing, Fast reading results in 0s and 1s
- **Solutions:**
 - ❑ Read more values and average them (analogue solution)
 - ❑ Use a debouncer (RC based or SR based) → **converting it to a digital input!**

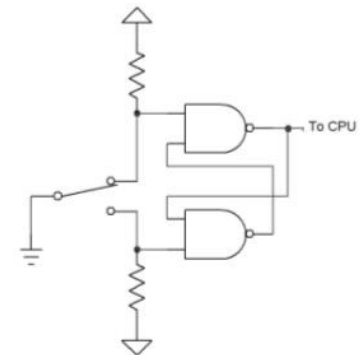
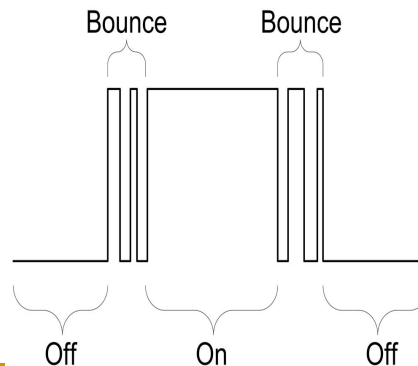
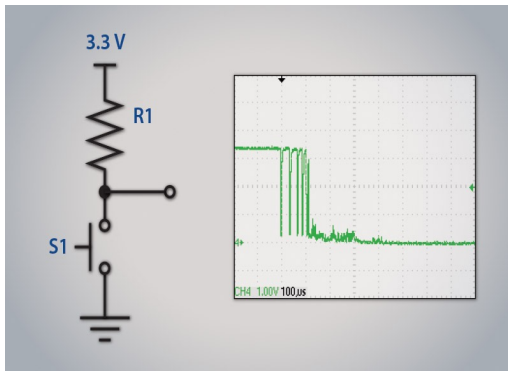


Figure 1: The SR debouncer

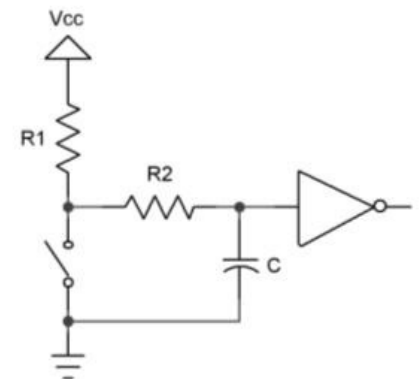
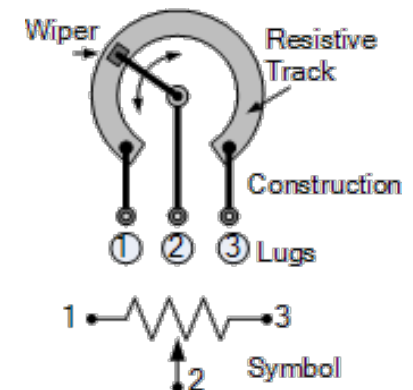
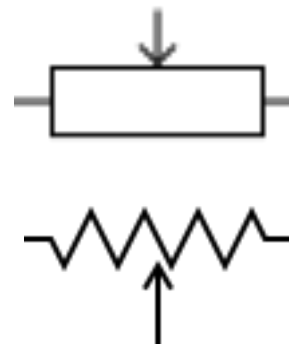
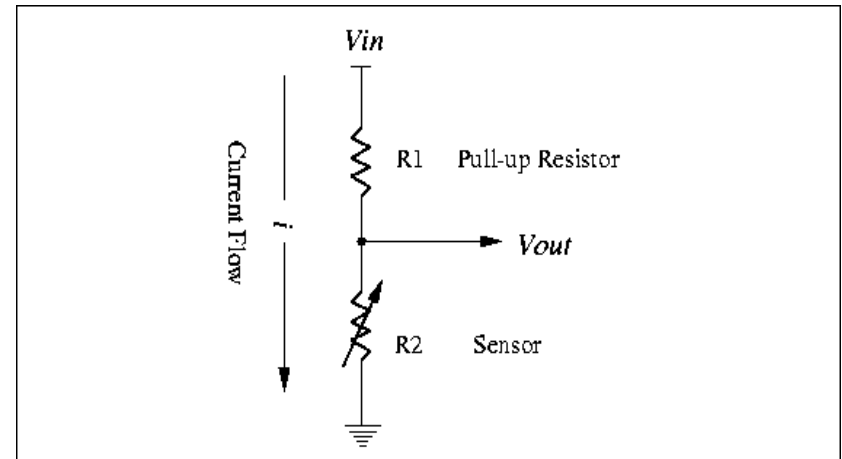
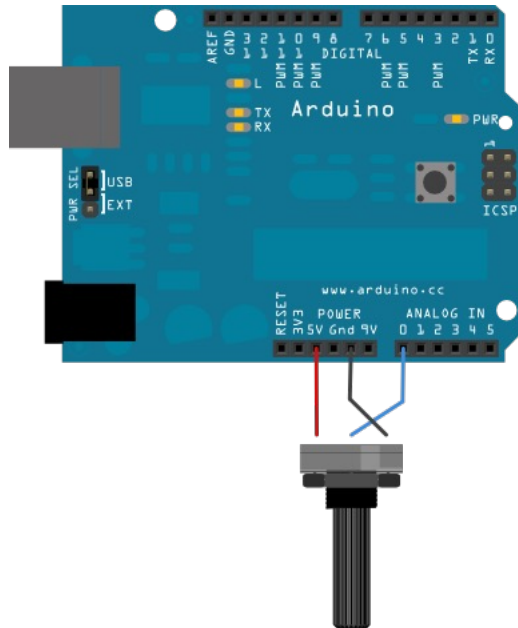


Figure 2: An RC debouncer

Potentiometer

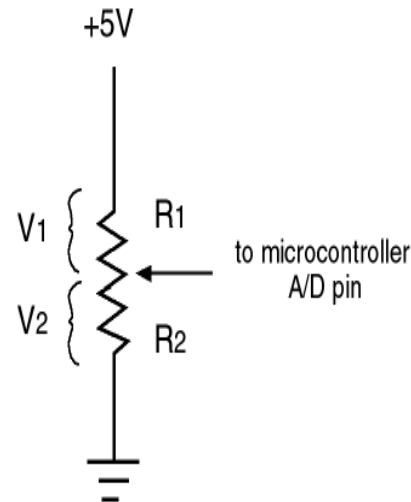
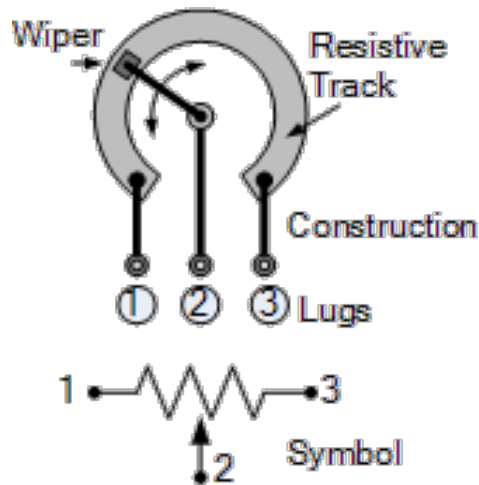
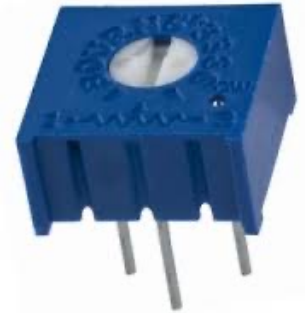
A **potentiometer**, informally a **pot**, is a three-terminal resistor with a sliding or rotating contact that forms an adjustable voltage divider.



Is this an analogue or a digital sensor?

Potentiometer is a Voltage Divider

- Variable resistance
- Connect the three pins
 - One pin to the supply voltage V_{dd}
 - The middle pin the **analog high impedance input**
 - One pin to the ground V_{ss}



Potentiometer as Voltage Divider



Photoresistor

Is a light-controlled variable resistor. The resistance of a Photoresistor decreases with increasing incident light intensity

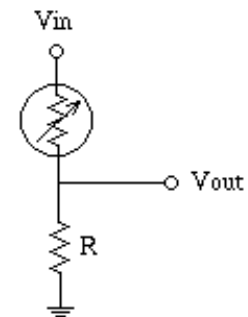


- Photo Resistor
 - 2 pins
 - R inverse proportional with the light

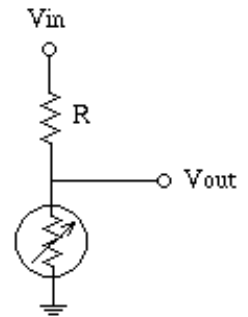
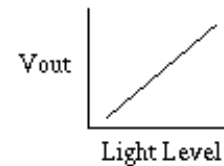


Using Photoresistors

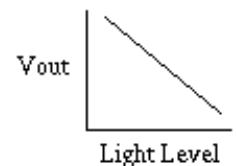
(The symbols with the circles are the photoresistors.)



This circuit gives an output voltage that increases with the light level.

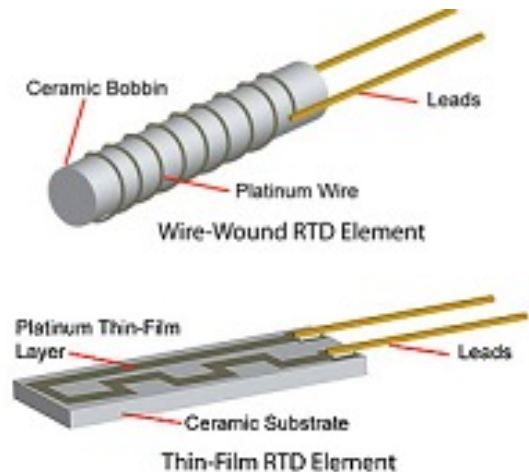
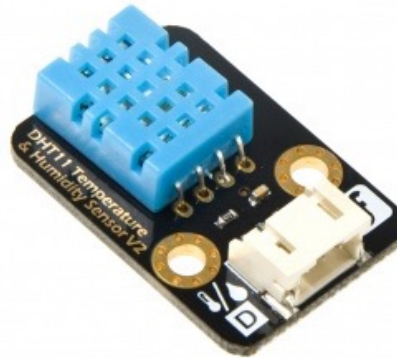
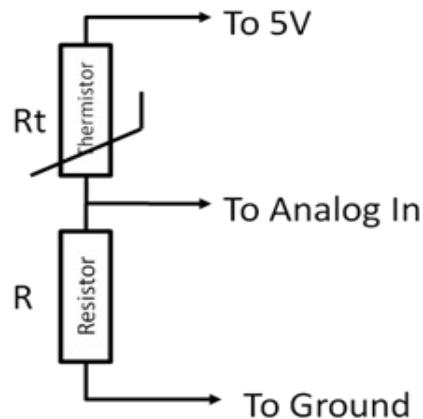
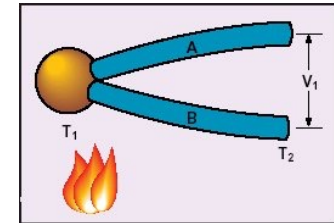


This circuit gives an output voltage that decreases with the light level.



Temperature Sensor

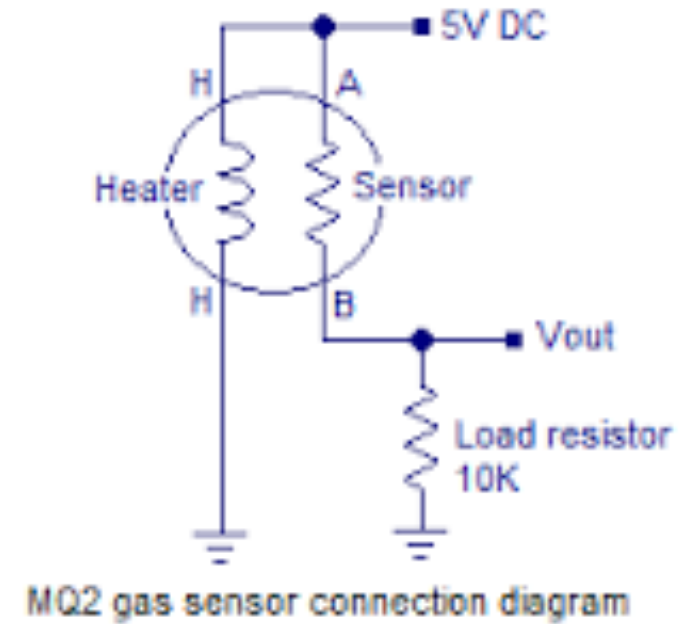
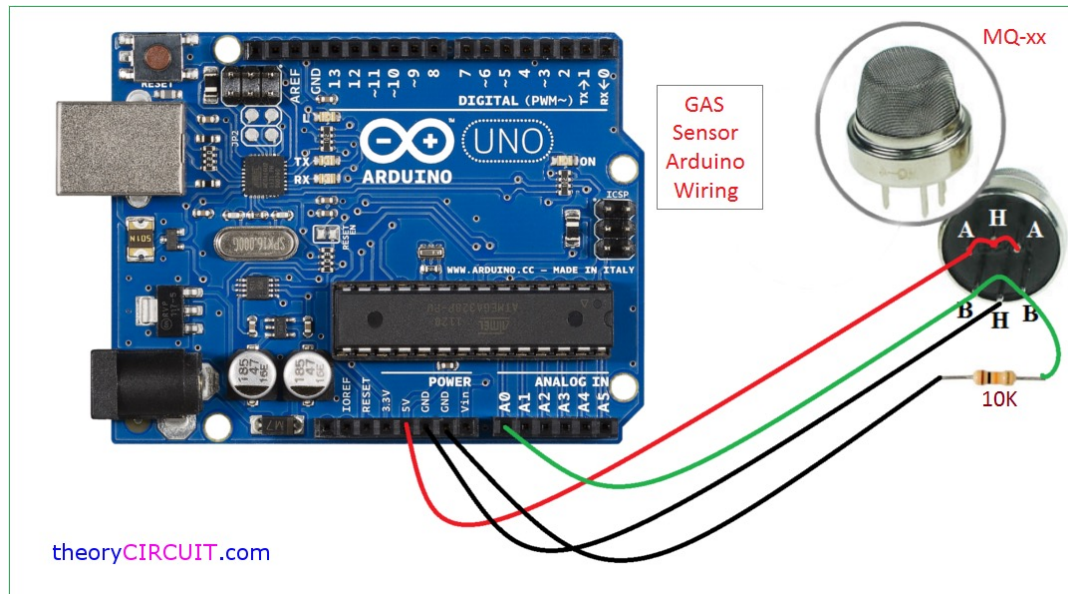
- Measure the change in temperature
- There are few different classes of temp sensors:
 - Thermocouples
 - Resistance temperature detectors
 - Temperature-transducer ICs
 - **Thermistors**



Thermistors are thermally sensitive resistors whose prime function is to exhibit a large, predictable and precise change in electrical resistance when subjected to a corresponding change in body temperature.

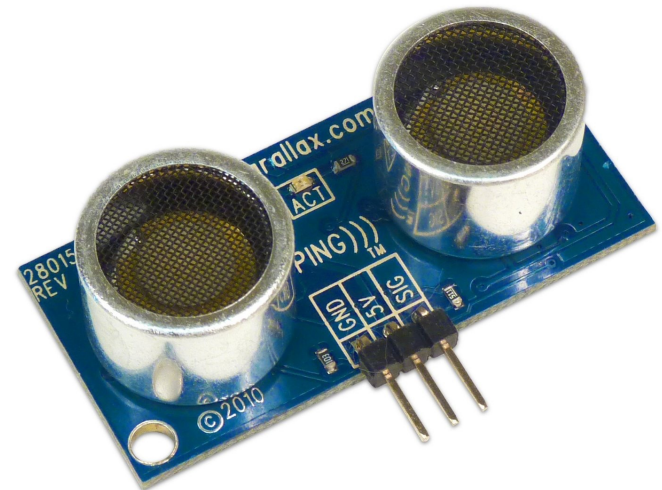
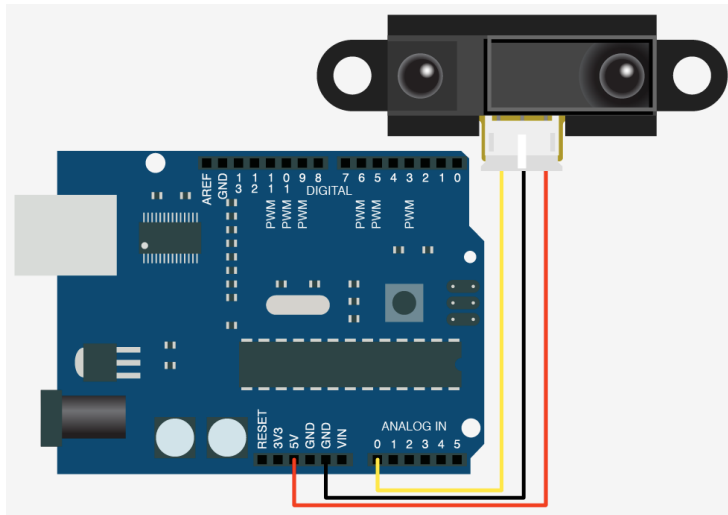
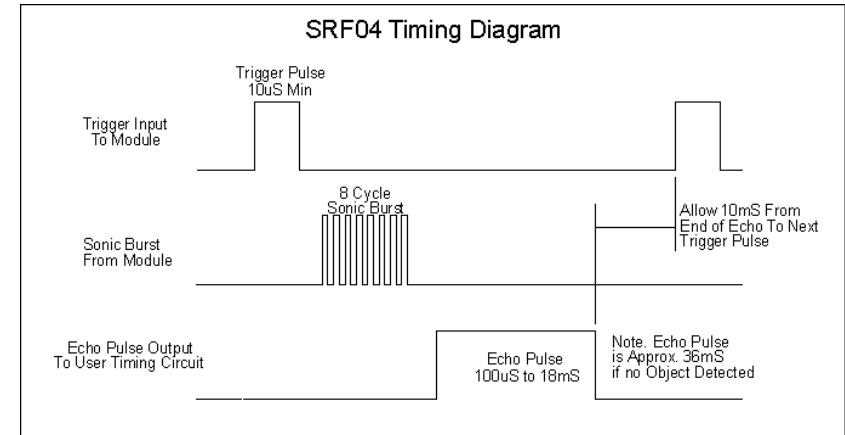
Gas Sensor

- Gas Sensor
 - Three pins
 - Vcc
 - Signal
 - Ground



Distance Sensor

- SRF04 sensor
 - ❑ Ultrasonic technology
 - ❑ Sends a pulse
 - ❑ Real time system
 - ❑ Works on microcontrollers
- Interested to know how it works:
 - ❑ <https://www.robot-electronics.co.uk/html/srf04tech.htm>



Reading Analogue Input (an example!):

■ **Objective:**

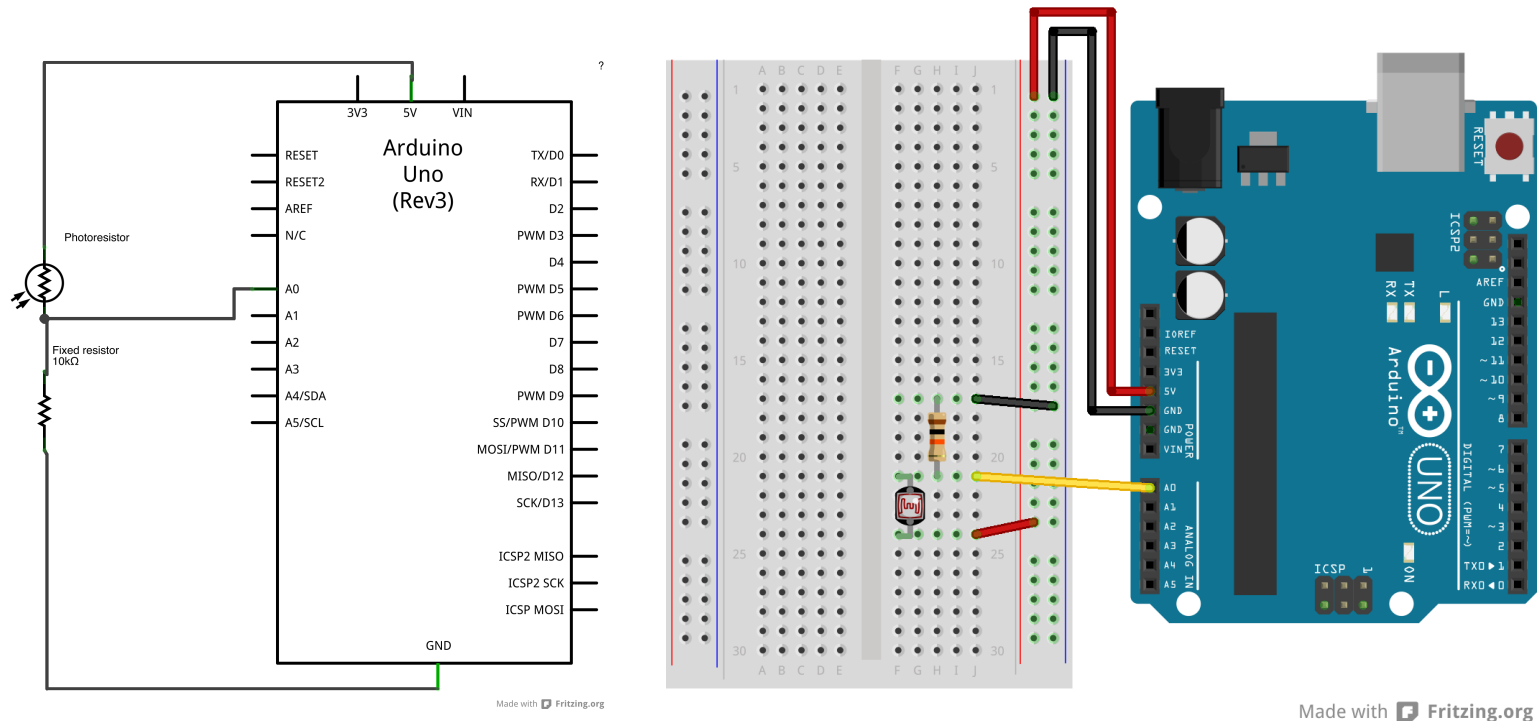
- Use a variable resistor (a potentiometer or a photoresistor), we read its value using one analog input of an Arduino or Genuino board and we change the blink rate of the built-in LED accordingly.

■ **What do we need:**

- Arduino or Genuino Board (our microprocessor)
- 10K ohm photoresistor and 10K ohm resistor
- built-in LED on pin 13 (already available on this board!)

Example Continued:

- Build the voltage divider and connect the mid point to the analogue sensor!



$$V_{out} = \frac{R_2}{(R_1 + R_2)} \cdot V_{supply} \mid V_{supply} = 5V$$

Example Continued:

■ **Microprocessor commands:**

Click here to get more details!



□ **analogRead():**

- converts the input voltage range, 0 to 5 volts, to a digital value between 0 and 1023
- **Which circuit does this conversion?**

□ **delay(variable):**

- processor busy wait for the duration specified by variable!

□ **digitalWrite():**

Click here to get more details!



- writes a HIGH (1,5V) or LOW (0,0V) to a digital pin.

- Digital pin (13) in this board is connected to the on board LED.

Example Continued

■ Program the microprocessor!

This example code is in the public domain.

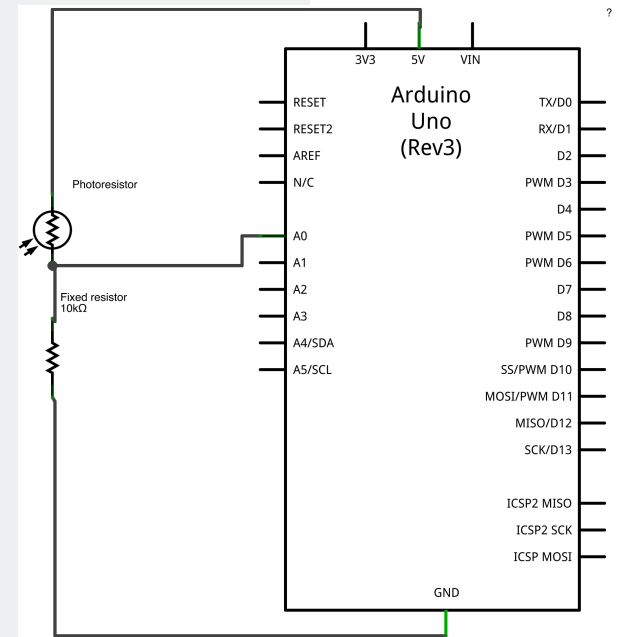
<http://www.arduino.cc/en/Tutorial/AnalogInput>

**/*

```
int sensorPin = A0;    // select the input pin for the potentiometer
int ledPin = 13;       // select the pin for the LED
int sensorValue = 0;   // variable to store the value coming from the sensor
```

```
void setup() {
  // declare the ledPin as an OUTPUT:
  pinMode(ledPin, OUTPUT);
}

void loop() {
  // read the value from the sensor:
  sensorValue = analogRead(sensorPin);
  // turn the ledPin on
  digitalWrite(ledPin, HIGH);
  // stop the program for <sensorValue> milliseconds:
  delay(sensorValue);
  // turn the ledPin off:
  digitalWrite(ledPin, LOW);
  // stop the program for for <sensorValue> milliseconds:
  delay(sensorValue);
}
```



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