Smart Dog Bowl Using FFT Analysis of Dog's Bark

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1 Motivation

In designing a smart dog bowl to open only for a specific dog, it is important that method used for identifying the dog be very accurate; there should never be a case where a dog is unable to access his food. Obvious approaches to this problem would be to put some sort of identification tag on the dog's collar, such as RFID or a modulated IR beacon.

However, these approaches can easily break down under fairly common circumstances—IR must have a clear path to the sensor, and RFID depends on a specific orientation. In addition, these approaches require the dog to be wearing his collar, and—in the case of IR—the collar must be powered. I believe that the most important part of this bowl is that a dog must never approach his bowl, only to have it not open due to something blocking the identification on his collar.

2 Method of Approach

To solve the problems described above, I have elected to identify the dog using its bark. Just as humans each have a distinct-sounding voice, a dog's bark contains a unique spectrum of frequencies. By analyzing these frequencies, I believe that a system can be designed that will open for one dog's bark but not another's.

The dog can never really "lose" his bark, so it is ideal in that the dog will always be able to open the dish on his own. Additionally, in the case that an error causes the dog to be misidentified, the dog will likely try again, reducing the probability of error.

One disadvantage of this design is that the dog will have to be trained to bark in order to open his food dish. However, this seems fairly easy, as teaching a dog to "speak" is a fairly common trick. Another obvious disadvantage is that the analysis will not get a distance measurement to the dog. In order to overcome this, I will use ultrasonic ranging sensors to determine whether or not the dog is within a 1 ft radius.

3 Hardware Operation

My design comprises a microphone with an audio amplifier, triggering logic for generating interrupts, ultrasonic rangefinders for measuring proximity, an Arduino for performing the signal processing, and a servo motor for opening the dog bowl.

All of the signal processing for this design will be performed on an Arduino board. The processor will sample the dog's bark, then perform an FFT on the data and compare it to saved values. If the bark matches, the bowl will open.

There will be 4 ultrasonic proximity detectors to determine whether or not there is an object within 1 ft of the bowl. This will consist of an ultrasonic range finder and circuitry comparing it to a reference range. This detector will output a digital 1 if there is an object within a foot, and a 0 if there is not. Each range finder can detect in a 15° angle. By putting 4 of these in a circle around the bowl, they should be able to detect anything larger than a foot wide around the entire radius. More sensors can easily be used, at a slightly increased cost.

The microphone will output a simple analog signal into the Arduino. In addition, some analog circuitry will be used to generate an interrupt whenever the analog input reaches a certain threshold in order to allow the Arduino to idle at lower power when data is not being read.

A block diagram for this design is shown in figure (1).

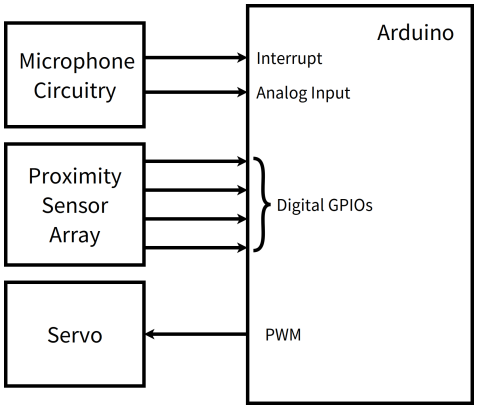

Figure 1: Top-level block diagram for the dog bowl.

3.1 Microphone Circuitry

All of the microphone circuitry is detailed in figure (2).

The microphone is powered from Vcc through a 2.2 kΩ resistor, as recommended in the data sheet. The signal is then lowpass-filtered before being fed into the amplifier. The lowpass filter is designed with a corner frequency of 10 Hz using R2 = 100 kΩ and C1 = 1 μF. This will filter out the DC component without affecting the AC signal.

The audio amplifier uses an op-amp with a single-sided supply in order to amplify the input signal. The amplifier is arranged in a noninverting configuration, with a total amplification factor of 560 (27.5 dB). The resistor Rf can be adjusted as needed to change the amplification. Note that the AC input may go below ground, but this will be clipped by the amplifier.

The output of the amplifier is then fed directly into the ADC on the Arduino board. This amplified signal is also fed into the comparator U2 in order to generate an interrupt to tell the Arduino to begin recording the audio. The trigger level is set with R4 and R5. I have found that a level of around 1.7 V works well. This interrupt trigger is fed into a GPIO pin on the Arduino to generate an interrupt.

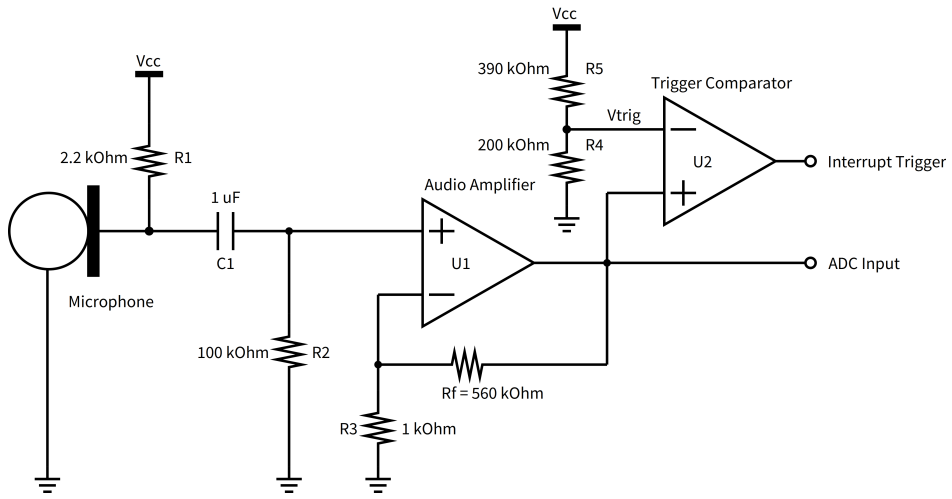

Figure 2: Microphone amplifier and trigger generator.

3.2 Proximity Sensor Array

The proximity sensor array is shown in figure (3).

The sensor array is fed by ultrasonic range finders. Each range finder outputs an analog voltage representing the distance to the nearest object (the exact relation is not important to this design). The output of these sensors will be fed into comparators, comparing them to a fixed voltage. This voltage will correspond to approximately 1 ft from the ultrasonic sensors. The voltage is created using a voltage divider with the resistors R6 and R7. I have found that a voltage level of 0.76 V works well for identifying objects approximately 1 ft away.

The outputs from all of these comparators will go into GPIO pins on the Arduino. When the microphone circuit triggers a recording, the Arduino will first check that at least one of the proximity sensors is triggered before computing the FFT of the recording.

Note that the comparators used in my design are open drain, so they do not drive the output to Vcc; rather, they put the output in a high-impedance state that requires a pull-up resistor. The Arduino GPIO pins have internal pull-up resistors, so these are not included in my analog circuitry.

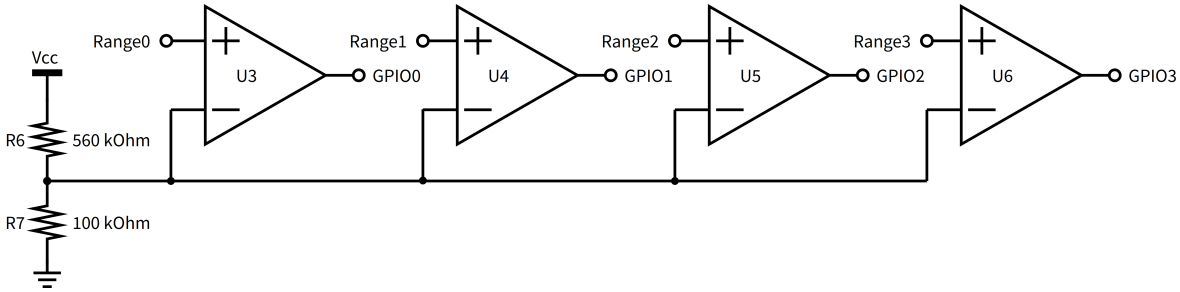

Figure 3: Circuit for the array of proximity sensors.

3.3 Servo Motor

The servo motor is a standard Parallax servo motor with 180° of motion. The position of the servo is controlled through PWM. One of the PWM outputs on the Arduino will switch the servo between the open position and the closed position when needed.

4 Software Operation

Note that the following code is still a work in progress.

4.1 Analog Data Collection Function Declarations

```
/*
 * adc.h
 *
 * Functions for collecting data over the ADC.
 *
 * This file contains functions that handle data collection from the ADC using
 * interrupts. The ADC will be run at set intervals and generate an interrupt
 * every time it has a new data point. Functions in this file will record the
 * data point and disable further interrupts once the buffer is full. Once the
 * buffer is no longer in use, interrupts can be re-enabled when needed.
 *
 * Peripherals Used:
 *      ADC
 *
 * Pins Used:
 *      PF0
 *
 * Revision History:
 *      05 Jun 2015     Brian Kubisiak      Initial revision.
 */

#ifndef _ADC_H_
#define _ADC_H_


#include "data.h"

/*
 * init_adc
 *
 * Description: This function initializes the ADC peripheral so that the proper
 *              pins are allocated for use. After this function, the ADC will
 *              *not* be running; the 'adc_start_collection' function should be
 *              called before data will be collected. This initialization
 *              involves:
 *               - Writing to ADMUX and ADCSRB to select the input channel.
 *               - Enable ADC by writing to ADCSRA.
 *               - Left-adjust the data input by writing to ADMUX.
 *               - Set the trigger source using ADCSRB.
 *
 * Notes:       This function will initialize the ADC to use PF0. If this pin is
 *              used for another purpose, these functions will not work
 *              properly.
 */
void init_adc(void);

```

```
47 /*
48  * adc_start_collection
49  *
50  * Description: Start collecting a new buffer of data. This function will enable
51  *              auto-triggering off of the ADC interrupt and start a new
52  *              conversion to start the chain of data collection. Once the
53  *              buffer is full, the interrupt vector will disable the
54  *              autotriggering automatically.
55  *
56  * Notes:       This function should not be called until the buffer is filled
57  *              and data collection halts. This can be checked with the
58  *              'is_data_collected' function.
59  */
60 void adc_start_collection(void);
61
62 /*
63  * adc_get_buffer
64  *
65  * Description: Get a pointer to the buffer of data that has been filled by the
66  *              ADC. Note that this buffer should be retrieved each time that
67  *              the data collection completes and should not be used globally.
68  *
69  * Returns:     Returns a pointer to the buffer containing the data collected by
70  *              the ADC.
71  *
72  * Notes:       This kind of makes the buffer into a global variable, so be
73  *              careful where this is used. Also note that the buffer should
74  *              only be used once it is filled.
75  */
76 complex *adc_get_buffer(void);
77
78 /*
79  * is_data_collected
80  *
81  * Description: Determines whether or not the data has been fully collected. If
82  *              the buffer is full of new data, this function returns nonzero.
83  *              If the ADC is still collecting data for the buffer, returns 0.
84  *              This is used to find if the data is ready to run through the
85  *              FFT.
86  *
87  * Returns:     If the buffer is full of new data, return nonzero. Else, return
88  *              zero.
89  *
90  * Notes:       The data collection is reset when the 'adc_start_collection'
91  *              function is called.
92  */
93 unsigned char is_data_collected(void);
94
95
96 #endif /* end of include guard: _ADC_H_ */
```

4.2 Analog Data Collection Functions

```
1 /*
2  * adc.c
3  *
4  * Functions for collecting data over the ADC.
5  *
6  * This file contains functions that handle data collection from the ADC using
7  * interrupts. The ADC will be run at set intervals and generate an interrupt
8  * every time it has a new data point. Functions in this file will record the
9  * data point and disable further interrupts once the buffer is full. Once the
```

```
 * buffer is no longer in use, interrupts can be re-enabled when needed.
 *
 * Peripherals Used:
 *      ADC
 *
 * Pins Used:
 *      PF0
 *
 * Revision History:
 *      05 Jun 2015     Brian Kubisiak      Initial revision.
 */

#include <avr/io.h>
#include <avr/interrupt.h>

#include "adc.h"

/* Initial values for the ADC configuration registers. */
#define ADMUX_VAL   0x60
#define ADCSRA_VAL  0x88
#define ADCSRB_VAL  0x00
#define DIDR0_VAL   0x01
#define DIDR2_VAL   0x00

/* ORing this with ADCSRA will begin the data collection process. */
#define ADCSTART    0x60

static complex databuf[SAMPLE_SIZE];
static unsigned int bufidx = 0;
static unsigned char buffull = 0;

/*
 * init_adc
 *
 * Description: This function initializes the ADC peripheral so that the proper
 *              pins are allocated for use. After this function, the ADC will
 *              *not* be running; the 'adc_start_collection' function should be
 *              called before data will be collected. This initialization
 *              involves:
 *               - Writing to ADMUX and ADCSRB to select the input channel.
 *               - Enable ADC by writing to ADCSRA.
 *               - Left-adjust the data input by writing to ADMUX.
 *               - Set the trigger source using ADCSRB.
 *               - Enable the ADC interrupt.
 *
 * Notes:       This function will initialize the ADC to use PF0. If this pin is
 *              used for another purpose, these functions will not work
 *              properly.
 */
void init_adc(void)
{
    /* Set all the configuration registers to their initial values. */
    ADMUX   = ADMUX_VAL;
    ADCSRA  = ADCSRA_VAL;
    ADCSRB  = ADCSRB_VAL;
    DIDR0   = DIDR0_VAL;
    DIDR2   = DIDR2_VAL;
}

/*
 * adc_start_collection
 *
 * Description: Start collecting a new buffer of data. This function will enable
 *              auto-triggering off of the ADC interrupt and start a new
 *              conversion to start the chain of data collection. Once the
```

```
 *              buffer is full, the interrupt vector will disable the
 *              autotriggering automatically.
 *
 * Notes:       This function should not be called until the buffer is filled
 *              and data collection halts. This can be checked with the
 *              'is_data_collected' function.
 */
void adc_start_collection(void)
{
    /* Reset the index to load values into the start of the buffer. */
    bufidx = 0;

    /* Buffer is no longer full. */
    buffull = 0;

    /* Enable autotriggering and start the first conversion. */
    ADCSRA |= ADCSTART;
}

/*
 * adc_get_buffer
 *
 * Description: Get a pointer to the buffer of data that has been filled by the
 *              ADC. Note that this buffer should be retrieved each time that
 *              the data collection completes and should not be used globally.
 *
 * Returns:     Returns a pointer to the buffer containing the data collected by
 *              the ADC.
 *
 * Notes:       This kind of makes the buffer into a global variable, so be
 *              careful where this is used.
 */
complex *adc_get_buffer(void)
{
    /* Return the current buffer. */
    return databuf;
}

/*
 * is_data_collected
 *
 * Description: Determines whether or not the data has been fully collected. If
 *              the buffer is full of new data, this function returns nonzero.
 *              If the ADC is still collecting data for the buffer, returns 0.
 *              This is used to find if the data is ready to run through the
 *              FFT.
 *
 * Returns:     If the buffer is full of new data, return nonzero. Else, return
 *              zero.
 *
 * Notes:       The data collection is reset when the 'adc_start_collection'
 *              function is called.
 */
unsigned char is_data_collected(void)
{
    /* Data is collected once the buffer is full. */
    return buffull;
}


/*
 * ADC_vect
 *
 * Description: Interrupt vector for the ADC interrupt. When this interrupt
 *              occurs, the function will store the new data point if the buffer
```

```
 *              is not yet full. Then, the function will check to see if the
 *              buffer is now full, updating the flag accordingly. Once the
 *              buffer is full, data collection is disabled.
 *
 * Notes:       The interrupt should be automatically reset in hardware.
 */
ISR(ADC_vect)
{
    /* If the buffer is not yet full, record the data. */
    if (!buffull)
    {
        /* Take the upper 8 bits of the ADC as the real part of the signal. The
         * imaginary part is zero. */
        databuf[bufidx].real = ADCH;
        databuf[bufidx].imag = 0;

        /* Next data point should be stored in the next slot. */
        bufidx++;

        /* Check to see if the buffer is full. */
        if (bufidx == SAMPLE_SIZE)
        {
            /* When full, set the flag. */
            buffull = 1;

            /* Disable further data collection. */
            ADCSRA = ADCSRA_VAL;
        }
    }
    /* If the buffer is already full, then we triggered once too many
     * conversions. This interrupt can be ignored. */

    /* Interrupt flag is automatically turned off in hardware. */
}
```

4.3 Complex Number Data Type

```
/*
 * data.h
 *
 * Data types and constants for analyzing a frequency spectrum.
 *
 * This file describes the complex number data type, as well as functions for
 * adding and multiplying complex numbers. Constants for determining the number
 * of samples to use are also defined here.
 *
 * Revision History:
 *      16 Apr 2015     Brian Kubisiak      Initial revision.
 *      04 Jun 2015     Brian Kubisiak      Changes to SAMPLE_SIZE macro.
 */

#ifndef _DATA_H_
#define _DATA_H_



#ifndef SAMPLE_SIZE
#define SAMPLE_SIZE         256     /* Number of samples in the buffer. */
#define LOG2_SAMPLE_SIZE    8
#endif


```

```
26 /*
27  * complex
28  *
29  * Description: Data type for holding a complex number. This data type uses
30  *              Cartesian coordinates for holding the number, so it is optimized
31  *              for addition rather than multiplication.
32  *
33  * Members:     real  The real part of the complex number.
34  *              imag  The imaginary part of the complex number.
35  */
36 typedef struct _complex {
37     char real;
38     char imag;
39 } complex;
40
41
42 /*
43  * add
44  *
45  * Description: Adds together two complex numbers in the Cartesian plane.
46  *
47  * Arguments:   a  The first number to add.
48  *              b  The second number to add.
49  *
50  * Returns:     Returns the complex number that is the sum of the two inputs.
51  */
52 complex add(complex a, complex b);
53
54
55 /*
56  * mul
57  *
58  * Description: Computes the product of two complex numbers in the Cartesian
59  *              plane.
60  *
61  * Arguments:   a  First number to multiply.
62  *              b  Second number to multiply.
63  *
64  * Returns:     Returns the complex number that is the product of the two
65  *              inputs.
66  *
67  * Notes:       The number is stored in rectangular coordinates, so taking the
68  *              product will be a bit slow.
69  */
70 complex mul(complex a, complex b);
71
72
73
74 #endif /* end of include guard: _DATA_H_ */
```

4.4 Complex Number Operations

```
1  /*
2   * data.c
3   *
4   * Data types and constants for analyzing a frequency spectrum.
5   *
6   * This file describes the complex number data type, as well as functions for
7   * adding and multiplying complex numbers. Constants for determining the number
8   * of samples to use are also defined here.
9   *
10  * Revision History:
```

```
 *      16 Apr 2015     Brian Kubisiak      Initial revision.
 */

#include "data.h"



/*
 * add
 *
 * Description: Adds together two complex numbers in the Cartesian plane.
 *
 * Arguments:   a  The first number to add.
 *              b  The second number to add.
 *
 * Returns:     Returns the complex number that is the sum of the two inputs.
 */
complex add(complex a, complex b)
{
    complex res;

    /* Real part of result is sum of real parts of inputs. */
    res.real = a.real + b.real;
    /* Imaginary part of result is sum of imaginary parts of inputs. */
    res.imag = a.imag + b.imag;

    return res;
}


/*
 * mul
 *
 * Description: Computes the product of two complex numbers in the Cartesian
 *              plane.
 *
 * Arguments:   a  First number to multiply.
 *              b  Second number to multiply.
 *
 * Returns:     Returns the complex number that is the product of the two
 *              inputs.
 *
 * Notes:       The number is stored in rectangular coordinates, so taking the
 *              product will be a bit slow.
 */
complex mul(complex a, complex b)
{
    complex res;

    /* (a + jb)(c + jd) = ac + jad + jbc + j^2 cd = (ac - cd) + j(ad + bc) */

    /* Real part of result comes from product of real parts minus product of
     * imaginary parts. */
    res.real = (a.real * b.real) - (a.imag * b.imag);
    /* Imaginary part is sum of cross products of inputs. */
    res.imag = (a.real * b.imag) + (a.imag * b.real);

    return res;
}
```

4.5 FFT Function Declarations

```
/*
 * fft.h
 *
 * Perform Fast Fourier Transforms on data.
 *
 * This code is used for computing a low-footprint, high-speed FFT on an array
 * of data. Because of the limitations of the platform that I am working on,
 * several optimizations have to be made in order for the code to work.
 * Specifically, the limitations I have are:
 *
 *      8 kB of RAM
 *      No floating-point unit
 *      8 -> 16 bit multiplier
 *      8 bit adder (for speed)
 *
 * Some limitations are self-imposed in order to produce faster code. Each data
 * point is a complex number with 8 bits for the real part and 8 bits for the
 * imaginary.
 *
 * Revision History:
 *      16 Apr 2015     Brian Kubisiak      Initial revision.
 */


#ifndef _FFT_H_
#define _FFT_H_


#include "data.h"   /* Complex data type, size of array, etc. */


/*
 * fft
 *
 * Description: Computes the fast Fourier transform (FFT) of an array of input
 *              data. This implementation is in-place, so it will take O(1)
 *              space. Additionally, optimizations are performed assuming that
 *              the data to transform is purely real. The implementation assumes
 *              8-bit characters and 16-bit shorts. It attempts to avoid 16-bit
 *              additions/multiplications wherever possible in order to cut down
 *              on the number of clocks.
 *
 * Arguments:   data An array of complex numbers for performing the FFT. This
 *                   FFT assumes that the array contains 'SAMPLE_SIZE' values of
 *                   type 'complex'. Both of these are defined in 'data.h'.
 *
 * Limitations: Assumes that the input data is purely real. Because there is no
 *              FPU and fixed-point arithmetic is used, the resulting FFT will
 *              not be normalized to anything sensible.
 */
void fft(complex *data);


#endif /* end of include guard: _FFT_H_ */
```

4.6 FFT Code

```
/*
 * fft.c
 *
 * Perform Fast Fourier Transforms on data.
 *
```

```
 * This code is used for computing a low-footprint, high-speed FFT on an array
 * of data. Because of the limitations of the platform that I am working on,
 * several optimizations have to be made in order for the code to work.
 * Specifically, the limitations I have are:
 *
 *      8 kB of RAM
 *      No floating-point unit
 *      8 -> 16 bit multiplier
 *      8 bit adder (for speed)
 *
 * Some limitations are self-imposed in order to produce faster code. Each data
 * point is a complex number with 8 bits for the real part and 8 bits for the
 * imaginary.
 *
 * Revision History:
 *      16 Apr 2015     Brian Kubisiak      Initial revision.
 */

#include <stdio.h>
#include "fft.h"

extern complex root[SAMPLE_SIZE];


/*
 * fft
 *
 * Description: Computes the fast Fourier transform (FFT) of an array of input
 *              data. This implementation is in-place, so it will take O(1)
 *              space. Additionally, optimizations are performed assuming that
 *              the data to transform is purely real. The implementation assumes
 *              8-bit characters and 16-bit shorts. It attempts to avoid 16-bit
 *              additions/multiplications wherever possible in order to cut down
 *              on the number of clocks.
 *
 * Arguments:   data An array of complex numbers for performing the FFT. This
 *                   FFT assumes that the array contains 'SAMPLE_SIZE' values of
 *                   type 'complex'. Both of these are defined in 'data.h'.
 *
 * Limitations: Assumes that the input data is purely real. Because there is no
 *              FPU and fixed-point arithmetic is used, the resulting FFT will
 *              not be normalized to anything sensible.
 *
 * Notes:       A lot of the notation below is made up. Basically, we do log2(N)
 *              passes over the data, where each pass will iterate over a
 *              cluster of butterflies (try googling 'FFT butterfly' if you
 *              don't know what this is). Each cluster of butterflies is
 *              separated by a certain stride value, so we can just continue to
 *              increment by this stride until the data is covered. Then, start
 *              the next pass.
 *
 *              If you don't understand how this works, try staring at FFT
 *              butterflies a bit longer and it will hopefully make sense. If
 *              that doesn't work, try eating ice cream because yum ice cream.
 */

void fft(complex *data)
{
    /*
     * The stride of each pass over the data is a measure of the distance
     * between the two data points combined together in a butterfly. It is
     * always a power of two.
     */
    unsigned int stride;
    unsigned int i, j, k;      /* Loop indices. */
```

```

    /* We start off with two separate clusters of butterflie nodes filling the
     * entire data set. */
    stride = SAMPLE_SIZE / 2;

    /* We need to perform log2(N) iterations over the data in order to fully
     * transform it. */
    for (i = 0; i < LOG2_SAMPLE_SIZE; i++)
    {
        /*
         * Keep striding through the data until we cover all of it. Note that we
         * only go to 'SAMPLE_SIZE / 2', since each butterfly covers 2 data
         * points.
         */
        for (j = 0; j < SAMPLE_SIZE; j += 2*stride)
        {
            /*
             * Iterate over every butterfly in the cluster. This will use one
             * data point in the cluster, and one in the next cluster. We then
             * stride over the next butterfly cluster to avoid redoing this
             * computation.
             */
            for (k = j; k < j + stride; k++)
            {
                /* Get the two data points that we are transforming. */
                complex a = data[k];
                complex b = data[k+stride];

                /* Since the roots are stored in bit-reversed order, we can just
                 * index into the array with the butterfly index. */
                complex w = root[j];

                /* The negative of the root is just 180 degrees around the unit
                 * circle. */
                complex neg_w = root[j + SAMPLE_SIZE / 2];

                /* Now transform them using a butterfly. */
                data[k]          = add(a, mul(b, w));
                data[k+stride]   = add(a, mul(b, neg_w));
            }
        }

        /* Reduce the stride for the next pass over the data. */
        stride /= 2;
    }
}
```

4.7 Proximity Sensor Function Declarations

```
/*
 * proximity.h
 *
 * Code for detecting proximity of the dog using the GPIO pins.
 *
 * This file contains an interface for detecting whether or not there is an
 * object detected by the ultrasonic rangefinders. The rangefinders feed into
 * comparators, which are connected to GPIO pins on the microcontroller; the
 * functions in this file will read the status off the GPIO pins to determine
 * whether or not anything is detected by the ultrasonic rangefinders.
 *
 * Peripherals Used:
```

```
 *      GPIO
 *
 * Pins Used:
 *      PA[0..7]
 *
 * Revision History:
 *      05 Jun 2015     Brian Kubisiak      Initial revision.
 */

#ifndef _PROXIMITY_H_
#define _PROXIMITY_H_


/*
 * init_prox_gpio
 *
 * Description: This function initializes the GPIO pins so that they are ready
 *              to read data from the proximity sensors. This process involves:
 *               - Writing a 0 to DDA to set GPIO as input.
 *               - Writing a 1 to PORTA to enable the pull-up resistor.
 *               - Writing a 0 to the PUD bit in MCUCR
 *
 * Notes:       This function assumes that no other peripherals are going to use
 *              PA[0..7] pins; the configuration might not work if this is the
 *              case.
 */
void init_prox_gpio(void);


/*
 * is_obj_nearby
 *
 * Description: Determine whether or not there is an object nearby using the
 *              ultrasonic proximity sensors. This function returns 0 if no
 *              objects are detected by the proximity sensors, and returns
 *              nonzero is objects are detected.
 *
 * Return:      If no objects are in range of the ultrasonic sensors, returns 0.
 *              If one or more objects are in range, returns nonzero.
 *
 * Notes:       The return value uses the low 4 bits to represent the
 *              rangefinders in each direction, so the number of triggered
 *              rangefinders can also be found from the return value.
 */
unsigned char is_obj_nearby(void);


#endif /* end of include guard: _PROXIMITY_H_ */
```

4.8 Proximity Sensor Functions

```
/*
 * proximity.c
 *
 * Code for detecting proximity of the dog using the GPIO pins.
 *
 * This file contains an interface for detecting whether or not there is an
 * object detected by the ultrasonic rangefinders. The rangefinders feed into
 * comparators, which are connected to GPIO pins on the microcontroller; the
 * functions in this file will read the status off the GPIO pins to determine
 * whether or not anything is detected by the ultrasonic rangefinders.
 *
```

```
 * Peripherals Used:
 *      GPIO
 *
 * Pins Used:
 *      PA[0..7]
 *
 * Revision History:
 *      05 Jun 2015     Brian Kubisiak      Initial revision.
 */

#include <avr/io.h>

#include "proximity.h"

/* Constants for setting the values of the control registers. */
#define DDR_INPUT   0x00    /* Configure all pins as inputs. */
#define PORT_PULLUP 0xFF    /* Activate all pull-up resistors. */

/* Constant for masking out the unused pins. */
#define ACTIVE_PINS 0x0F

/*
 * init_prox_gpio
 *
 * Description: This function initializes the GPIO pins so that they are ready
 *              to read data from the proximity sensors. This process involves:
 *               - Writing a 0 to DDA to set GPIO as input.
 *               - Writing a 1 to PORTA to enable the pull-up resistor.
 *
 * Notes:       This function assumes that no other peripherals are going to use
 *              PA[0..7] pins; the configuration might not work if this is the
 *              case.
 */
void init_prox_gpio(void)
{
    /* Set the configurations for IO port A. */
    DDRA  = DDR_INPUT;
    PORTA = PORT_PULLUP;
}


/*
 * is_obj_nearby
 *
 * Description: Determine whether or not there is an object nearby using the
 *              ultrasonic proximity sensors. This function returns 0 if no
 *              objects are detected by the proximity sensors, and returns
 *              nonzero is objects are detected.
 *
 * Return:      If no objects are in range of the ultrasonic sensors, returns 0.
 *              If one or more objects are in range, returns nonzero.
 *
 * Notes:       The return value uses the low 4 bits to represent the
 *              rangefinders in each direction, so the number of triggered
 *              rangefinders can also be found from the return value.
 */
unsigned char is_obj_nearby(void)
{
    /* Returns 0 if all pins are inactive, otherwise returns nonzero. */
    return ACTIVE_PINS & (PINA);
}
```