Intro to Microcontrollers Class 2: Output: Bit Math, Cylon Eyes, and PWM

September 22, 2008

Outline

Pins, Ports, and Their Registers

Bit Math and Cylon Eyes

PWM and LED Dimming

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Hello World Example

Blinkies!

- Last class, showed an example that turned a pin on and off
- Sections of the C code: preamble/includes/defines, function definitions (didn't have any), main function (chip initialization and endless loop)
- The main loop twiddled a bit back and forth in a memory register, and that made Vcc and GND volts appear on a particular pin.
- But let's flesh that all out a little more...

Registers

Special memory locations

- Usually we think of memory as being a place to store info
- In micros, some special memory regions change the way the chip behaves: Registers
- DDRx register from initialization stage of the demo blinky program
- Writing a "one" to a bit in the DDRx register sets up a corresponding pin for output
- There's a similar mapping from the PORTx register to the output of the pins: writing a "one" to a bit in PORTx sets the corresponding pin at Vcc, "zero" to GND.
- These two registers (per port) control initialization of the pins as input/output and allow you to set the voltage on the pins

Addressing the Pins

Writing bits to registers

- So, say we're working on PORTD, and we want to set pin PD2 to 5v (to light up a LED)
- ► Write a 1 in the 2 place
- Want something like: PORTD = 00000100
- Unfortunately, no direct binary access, but we can figure out the value in decimal or hexadecimal
- ▶ 00000100 = 4 or 0x0004
- So PORTD = 4; will do it

Addressing the Pins II

Writing two bits to registers

- Now say we want PD2 and PD3 both on
- ▶ PORTD = 00001100
- ▶ PORTD = 12; or PORTD = 0x000b; will work
- Quick, what's 11001101?)
- Not readable or easy to manipulate; hard to calculate
- ► Last class, I used the _BV() macro
- This class, we'll build up to it

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Using Shifts

Quiz:

- Start with 10: 00001010
- ▶ What's (10 >> 1)? 00000101 (10/2 = 5)
- ▶ What's (10 >> 2)? 00000010 (10/4 = 2)
- ▶ What's (10 << 4)? 10100000 (10 * 16 = 160)
- ▶ What's (10 << 5)? 01000000 (10 * 32 = 320 = 64)

Practical examples:

- PORTD = (1 << 3);</pre>
- PORTD = (1 << PD3);</pre>
- PORTD = (1 << (1+2));</pre>
- ▶ j = 3; PORTD = (1 << j);
- j = 3; PORTD = _BV(j);

Set Two Pins

Addition:

- Say we want PD3 and PD4 both on
- Add them together?
- PORTD = _BV(PD3) + _BV(PD4); will work 00000100
- After all: + 00001000
 = 00001100
- Works if you're just setting the port using PORT = something;









One Last Part...

...then Cylon Eyes

- So we know how to turn on bits, and how to turn them off
- How do we make cylon eyes?
- Start with light 0 on. Turn off the 0th, turn on the 1st, pause turn off the 1st, turn on the 2nd, pause etc
- PORTD &= ~_BV(PDO); PORTD |= _BV(PD1); delay PORTD &= ~_BV(PD1); PORTD |= _BV(PD2); delay etc.
- > {PORTD &= ~_BV(i) ; PORTD |= _BV(i+1); delay }
- And make i range from 0 to 7 and back again (being very careful about endpoints)

Basic Looping

The For loop

- ▶ for(i=0; i < 7; i = i + 1){...}</pre>
- Repeats the block in parentheses a bunch of times.
- ► First time, i = 0.
- Then it checks if i < 7.
 If not, it skips the block and moves on.
 If so, it executes the next command and then the block.
- So in our case, it executes the block with i = 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6and then is done.
- for(i=7; i > 0; i = i 1){...} and a different block
 will bring it back down
- ▶ i=7,6,5,4,3,2,1

Cylon Eyes Setup

In words:

- We want 8 LEDs plugged in, one per pin in PORTD
- Ideally, we'd use a current-limiting resistor per LED
- If you haven't soldered up blinkenlights, there's a nice cheat: connect one resistor from the ground pin to the ground bus then each LED from AVR pin to the "ground" bus



AVR Mega 48 Pinouts





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Pulse-Width Modulation

Making analog from digital

- So we can turn lights on and off...what about dimming?
- The trick is to turn them off so quickly the eye can't see
- ▶ How? Easy, actually. Can do it just with for loops.
- Make a big loop. Turn on the light at the beginning of the loop, turn it off somewhere in the middle.

PWM Code

Two Examples

- introPWM.c is basic: just keeps the LED at a given brightness
- fadingPWM.c is more fun: fades the LED in and out
- ► Homework: Crossfading cylon eyes
- Hint: can use same outer loop to fade one light in while the other fades out

The End		
 Outline 		