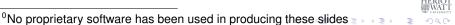
F28HS Hardware-Software Interface: Systems Programming

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Outline

- 1: Using Python and the Linux FS for GPIO Control
- 2 Tutorial 2: Programming an LED
- 3 Tutorial 3: Programming a Button input device
- Tutorial 4: Inline Assembler with gcc
- Tutorial 5: Programming an LCD Display
- Tutorial 6: Performance Counters on the RPi 2



Tutorial 5: Programming an LCD Display

This tutorial will focus on programming a simple output device: an 16x2 LCD display using an Hitachi HD44780U controller

This will be an exercise of controlling a device slightly more complicated than the LED and button devices so far. The principles of programming are the same as before.



Overview

We will cover:

- Connecting an LCD display to the RPi2
- Low-level interface in assembler (digitalWrite)
- Medium-level interface in C (lcdClear etc)
- Sending characters and strings (lcdPutChar, lcdPuts)
- Oharacter data (defining own characters)



Acknowledgements

The code in this tutorial is mostly taken directly from the wiringPi library for the Raspberry Pi, by Gordon Henderson. If you have downloaded the sources, you can look-up examples in the directory wiringPi/examples (e.g. lcd.c) and the code for the LCD functions in wiringPi/devLib (also lcd.c)

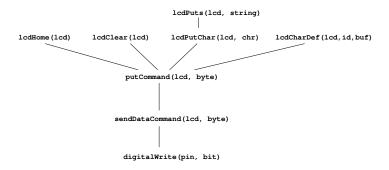
```
* wiringPi:
```

- * Arduino look-a-like Wiring library for the Raspberry Pi
- \star Copyright (c) 2012-2015 Gordon Henderson
- * Additional code for pwmSetClock by Chris Hall <chris@kchall.plus.com>
- *
- \star Thanks to code samples from Gert Jan van Loo and the
- \star BCM2835 ARM Peripherals manual, however it's missing
- * the clock section /grr/mutter/
- * This file is part of wiringPi:
- * https://projects.drogon.net/raspberry-pi/wiringpi/



Function dependencies

Here is a simple picture of the dependencies of the API functions:



NB: only the lowest level, digitalWrite is in assembler, the rest is in C

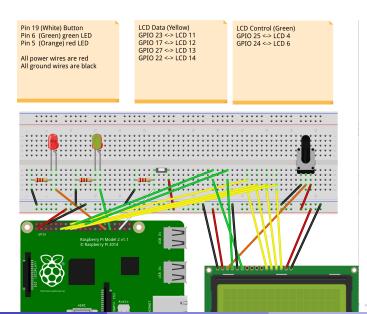
LCD commands

We need some constant definitions and boilerplate code: Here is a list of instructions for the Hitachi HD44780U controller:

```
#define LCD_CLEAR
                                0 \times 01
#define LCD HOME
                                0 \times 02
#define LCD ENTRY
                                0 \times 0.4
#define LCD CTRL
                                0 \times 0.8
#define LCD CDSHIFT
                          0 \times 10
#define LCD FUNC
                              0 \times 2.0
#define LCD CGRAM
                                0 \times 40
#define LCD DGRAM
                                0 \times 80
```

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1. The wiring



The wiring: encoded

To encode this wiring in the program we define:

```
#define STRB_PIN 24
#define RS_PIN 25
#define DATA0_PIN 23
#define DATA1_PIN 17
#define DATA2_PIN 27
#define DATA3 PIN 22
```



Data structure for the LCD-connection

The following data structure stores the pin numbers and cursor position:

```
struct lcdDataStruct
 int bits, rows, cols;
 int rsPin, strbPin;
 int dataPins [8];
 int cx, cy;
```

2. Low-level Assembler interface

This code is essentially the same as in the blinking LED example, i.e. we want to "send" one bit to a pin that's an argument to the interface:

- Set the mode of the pin to output (before calling the function)
- Identify the register and bit to write to
- Write one bit (1) into this location
- It is recommended that you use inline assembler to implement this function



2. Low-level Assembler interface

```
asm volatile(/* inline assembler version of setting/clearing LED to
    ouput" */
 "\tB___bonzo0\n"
 "_bonzo0: NOP\n"
 "\tLDR R1, %[gpio]\n"
 "\tADD, R0, R1, %[off]\n" /* R0 = GPSET/GPCLR register */
 "\tMOV.R2,.#1\n"
 "\tMOV_R1,_%[pin]\n"
                     /* NB: this works only for pin 0-31 */
 "\tAND.R1,.#31\n"
 "\tLSL R2, R1\n"
                    /* R2 = bitmask set/clear req %[act] */
 "\tSTR_R2,..[R0,..#0]\n" /* write bitmask */
 "\tMOV_%[result],_R2\n"
 : [result] "=r" (res)
 : [pin] "r" (pin)
   , [qpio] "m" (qpio)
   , [off] "r" (off*4)
 : "r0", "r1", "r2", "cc");
```



3. Medium-level interface

Sending data uses digitalWrite to send bits over the 4 pins:

```
void sendDataCmd (const struct lcdDataStruct *lcd, unsigned char data)
  unsigned char
                     i, d4 ;
 d4 = (myData >> 4) \& 0x0F;
  for (i = 0 ; i < 4 ; ++i)
   digitalWrite (lcd->dataPins [i], (d4 & 1));
   d4 >>= 1 ;
  strobe (lcd) ;
 d4 = myData \& 0x0F;
  for (i = 0 ; i < 4 ; ++i)
   digitalWrite (lcd->dataPins [i], (d4 & 1));
   d4 >>= 1 ;
  strobe (lcd) ;
```

Sending a command

Sending a command works like sending a byte, except that we only need 4 bits to encode the command, and therefore only one loop in the body:

```
void lcdPut4Command (const struct lcdDataStruct *lcd, unsigned char
    command) {
    register unsigned char myCommand = command;
    register unsigned char i;

    digitalWrite (lcd->rsPin, 0);

    for (i = 0; i < 4; ++i) {
        digitalWrite (lcd->dataPins [i], (myCommand & 1));
        myCommand >>= 1;
    }
    strobe (lcd);
}
```



Move cursor home

Now that we can send a command, we can create instances for each of the commands that are specified for the HD44780U controller:

```
void lcdHome (struct lcdDataStruct *lcd) {
  lcdPutCommand (lcd, LCD_HOME) ;
  lcd->cx = lcd->cy = 0 ;
  delay (5) ;
}
```

4. Sending characters and strings

Sending a character involves, sending the char as a byte, moving to the next position, and updating the position on the LCD display:

```
void lcdPutchar (struct lcdDataStruct *lcd, unsigned
    char data) {
  digitalWrite (lcd->rsPin, 1);
  sendDataCmd (lcd, data);
  if (++lcd->cx == lcd->cols) {
   1cd -> cx = 0;
    if (++lcd->cy == lcd->rows)
      1cd -> cy = 0;
    lcdPutCommand (lcd, lcd->cx + (LCD_DGRAM | (lcd
       ->cy>0 ? 0x40 : 0x00) /* rowOff [lcd->cy]
       */ ));
```

Writing strings

Once we can send characters, we only need a loop on top of it to send entire strings:

```
void lcdPuts (struct lcdDataStruct *lcd, const char
   *string) {
  while (*string)
    lcdPutchar (lcd, *string++) ;
```



5. Putting things together

In the main function we:

- Memory-map the GPIO address into user space (gpio)
- Configure an lcd data structure with the pin numbers for our wiring
- Initialise the connection to this lcd
- Initialise the display using lcdClear() and lcdHome()
- Write "Hello World" using lcdPuts

See the lcd-hello.c sample program.



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