



DesignNews

Understanding Industrial Controls with an ESP32

Day 2: Digital Output Signal Conditioning

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Dr. Don Wilcher

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ESP32-DEVKITC-V1E

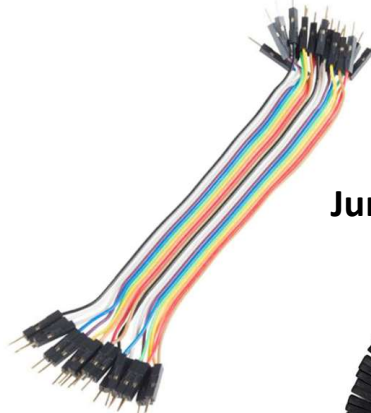


Course Kit and Materials

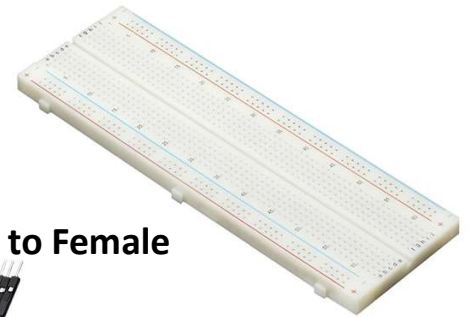
Adafruit Parts Pal Kit



Jumper Wires: Male to Male



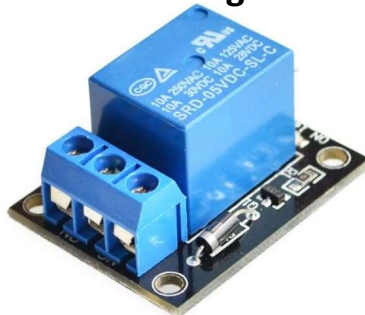
Solderless Breadboard x2



Jumper Wires: Male to Female



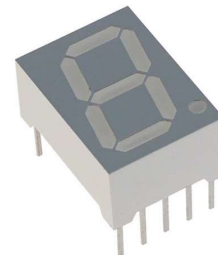
5V Relay Module, 5V Indicator Light LED



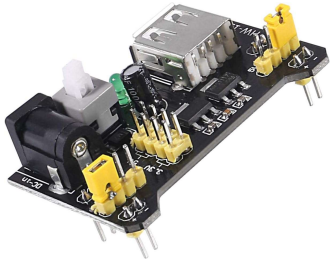
Standard Motor, 9100 RPM 6VDC



7 Segment LED Display, Common Cathode



Solderless Breadboard Power Supply



Agenda:

- MicroPython Introduction
- MicroPython REPL Programming Examples
- Digital Output Signal Conditioning
- Lab: Build An ESP32 DC Motor Controller

Research Perspective

“Programmable logic controllers (PLCs) provide an ecosystem of relatively simple software logic, robust and ruggedized hardware, networks with controllable real-time behaviors, and extensive availability of interoperable components such as sensors and actuators” (Sehr et al., 2021).

Course Question

Can an ESP32 microcontroller contribute to the Industrial Controls field?



MicroPython Introduction



- MicroPython is a lean and efficient Python 3 programming language implementation.
- Python 3 includes a small subset of the Python standard library.
- Python 3 is optimized to run on microcontrollers and in constrained environments.
- MicroPython is written in the C language.
- MicroPython includes advanced features such as:
 - a) interactive prompt (REPL)
 - b) precision integers
 - c) and exception handling.
- MicroPython aims to be as compatible with the traditional Python. 8

MicroPython Introduction...

- With such compatibility, MicroPython allows the transfer of code from a desktop development machine to a microcontroller or embedded system.
- This code transfer is based on MicroPython's ability to run with 256K of programming space and 16K of RAM.
- MicroPython is bare metal where the code runs on the target microcontroller without an operating system (OS).
- The creator of MicroPython is Damien George.
- MicroPython's initial release date was released May 3rd, 2014 (10 years ago).



Question 1

What was the initial release date for MicroPython?

- a) May 3rd, 2015**
- b) May 3rd, 2014**
- c) May 3rd, 2012**
- d) May 3rd, 2016**



MicroPython REPL Programming Examples

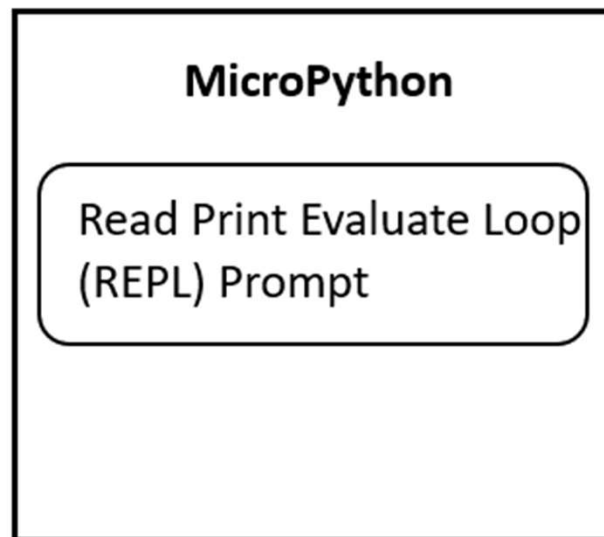
What is REPL?

- REPL stands for Read Evaluate Print Loop.
- REPL is the interactive MicroPython prompt that you can access on the ESP32 microcontroller.
- Using the REPL is by far the easiest way to test out your code and run commands.



MicroPython REPL Programming Examples...

What is REPL?

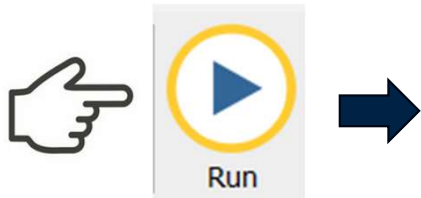


ESP32-DEVKIT



MicroPython REPL Programming Examples...

Starting a REPL Session:



```
ESP MicroPython REPL

MicroPython v1.24.0 on 2024-10-25; Generic ESP32 module with ESP32
Type "help()" for more information.
>>>
>>>
>>>
>>>
raw REPL; CTRL-B to exit
>OK
MPY: soft reboot
raw REPL; CTRL-B to exit
>OK

◆◆>
MicroPython v1.24.0 on 2024-10-25; Generic ESP32 module with ESP32
Type "help()" for more information.
>>>
```

MicroPython REPL Programming Examples...

Starting a REPL Session:

Type help ()



```
MicroPython v1.24.0 on 2024-10-25; Generic ESP32 module with ESP32
Type "help()" for more information.
>>> help()
Welcome to MicroPython on the ESP32!
```

For online docs please visit <http://docs.micropython.org/>

For access to the hardware use the 'machine' module:

```
import machine
pin12 = machine.Pin(12, machine.Pin.OUT)
pin12.value(1)
pin13 = machine.Pin(13, machine.Pin.IN, machine.Pin.PULL_UP)
print(pin13.value())
i2c = machine.I2C(scl=machine.Pin(21), sda=machine.Pin(22))
i2c.scan()
i2c.writeto(addr, b'1234')
i2c.readfrom(addr, 4)
```



MicroPython
– ESP32
Commands
will be listed!

MicroPython REPL Programming Examples...

Starting a REPL Session:



Additional
MicroPython
– ESP32
Commands
will be listed!

Basic WiFi configuration:

```
import network
sta_if = network.WLAN(network.STA_IF); sta_if.active(True)
sta_if.scan() # Scan for available access points
sta_if.connect("<AP_name>", "<password>") # Connect to an AP
sta_if.isconnected() # Check for successful connection
```

Control commands:

```
CTRL-A -- on a blank line, enter raw REPL mode
CTRL-B -- on a blank line, enter normal REPL mode
CTRL-C -- interrupt a running program
CTRL-D -- on a blank line, do a soft reset of the board
CTRL-E -- on a blank line, enter paste mode
```

For further help on a specific object, type `help(obj)`

For a list of available modules, type `help('modules')`

`>>>` is connected

Question 2

On slide 15, which MicroPython command allows for scanning available Bluetooth Access Points?

- a) `sta_if=network.WLAN(network.STA_IF)`**
- b) `sta_if.scan()`**
- c) `sta_if.isconnected ()`**
- d) none of the above**



MicroPython REPL Programming Examples...

Starting a REPL Session:



Type help('modules')



MicroPython
– ESP32
modules will
be listed!

```
>>> help('modules')
__main__      bluetooth    heapq        select
_asyncio      btree        inisetup     socket
_boot         builtins     io           ssl
_espnow       cmath        json         struct
_owewire      collections  machine      sys
_thread       cryptolib    math         time
_webrepl      deflate      micropython  tls
aioespnow     dht          mip/___init__ uasyncio
apa106        ds18x20     neopixel     ctypes
array         errno        network      umqtt/robust
asyncio/___init___ esp          ntptime      umqtt/simple
asyncio/core  esp32       onewire      upysh
asyncio/event espnow       os           urequests
asyncio/funcs flashbdev    platform     vfs
asyncio/lock  framebuf    random       webrepl
asyncio/stream gc           re           webrepl_setup
binascii      hashlib     requests/___init___ websocket
Plus any modules on the filesystem
>>>
```

MicroPython REPL Programming Examples...

Starting a REPL Session:



Storing and
Printing
numeric
data in
variables.

```
>>> a=5
>>> b=6
>>> print a, b
Traceback (most recent call last):
  File "<stdin>", line 1
SyntaxError: invalid syntax
>>> print (a,b)
5 6
>>>
```

MicroPython REPL Programming Examples...

Starting a REPL Session:



Storing and
Printing
string data
in variable.

```
>>> word = "Hello World!!"  
>>> print(word)  
Hello World!!  
>>>
```

MicroPython REPL Programming Examples...

Starting a REPL Session:

Basic Math
Functions

Note:

```
>>> a=5
```

```
>>> b=6
```

```
>>> print(a+b)
```

```
11
```

```
>>> print(a*b)
```

```
30
```

```
>>> print(a-b)
```

```
-1
```

```
>>> print(a/b)
```

```
0.83333333
```

```
>>>
```

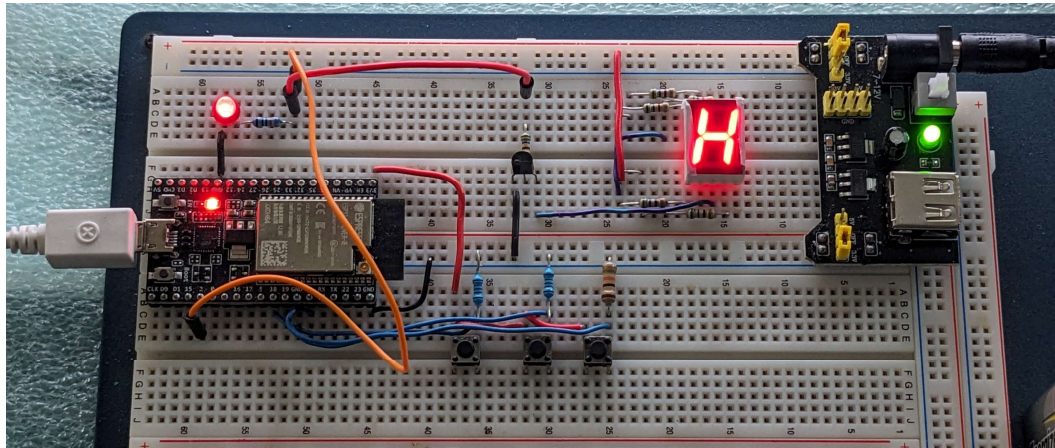


MicroPython REPL Programming Examples...

Starting a REPL Session:

Turning ON
the LED and
7-Segment
LED Display

```
>>> import machine
>>> pin2 = machine.Pin(2, machine.Pin.OUT)
>>> pin2.value(1)
```



Attach the 9V Battery
and turn ON the
Breadboard power
supply!

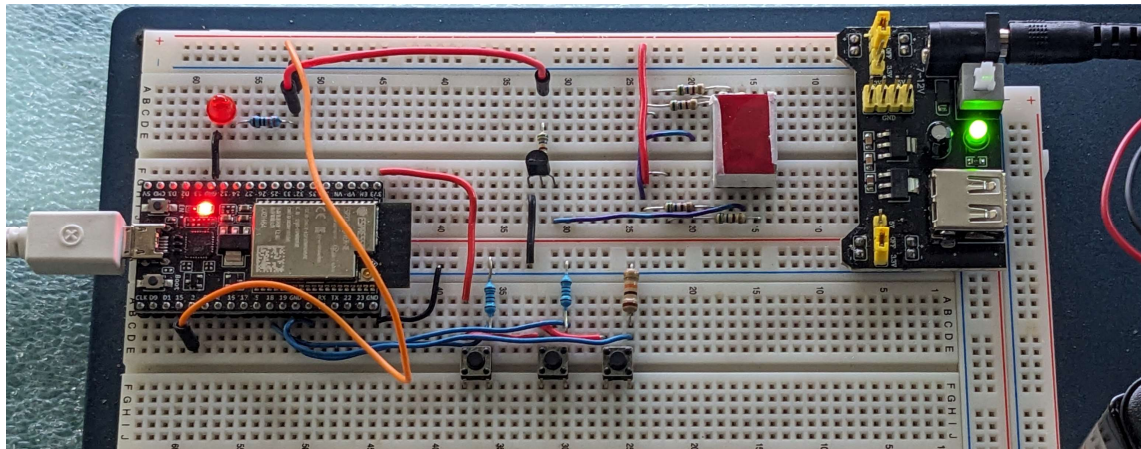


MicroPython REPL Programming Examples...

Starting a REPL Session:

Turning OFF
the LED and
7-Segment
LED Display

```
>>> pin2.value(0)
```



Attach the 9V Battery
and turn ON the
Breadboard power
supply!



Question 3

Which MicroPython command is used to turn ON the LED and the 7-Segment LED Display?

- a) `pin2.value(0)`
- b) `pin2.value(1)`
- c) `pin2.value(ON)`
- d) `pin2.value(OFF)`



Digital Output Signal Conditioning

- The outputs of microcontrollers can be used to control the status of output field devices.
- Output devices perform the work or provide motion in an industrial or process control application.
- Another word used to describe an output device is an actuator.
- Examples of actuators are
 - a) motors
 - b) solenoids
 - c) valves
 - d) electromechanical relays.



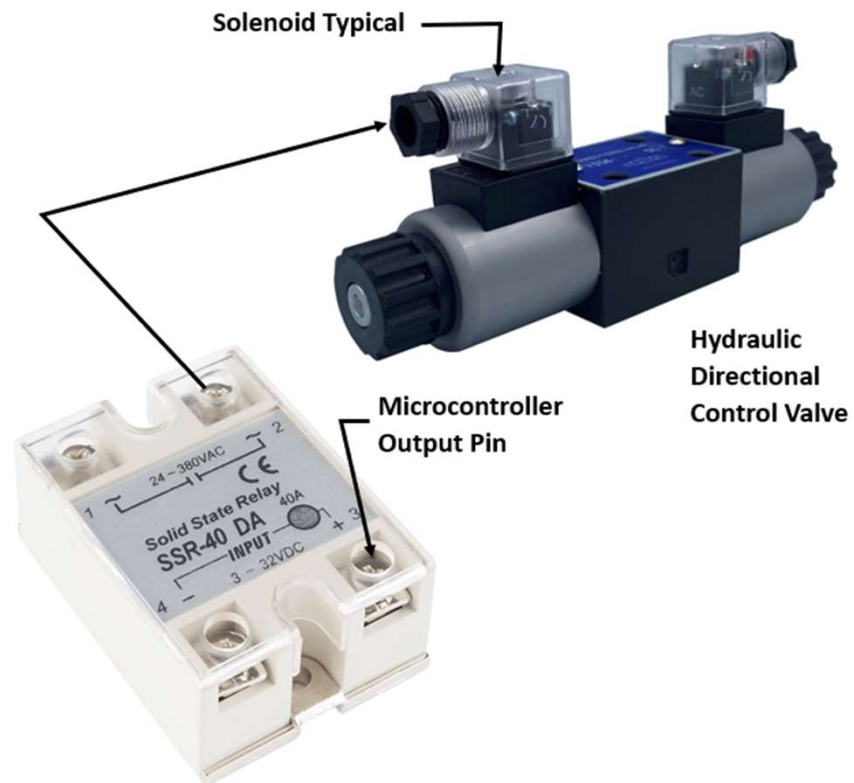
Digital Output Signal Conditioning...



Combining solenoids with pneumatic or hydraulic valves allows precise control of the hybrid actuator using a microcontroller.

Digital Output Signal Conditioning...

Controlling an AC Electro-Hydraulic Directional Control Valve (DCV) (Actuator) with a Microcontroller.



Digital Output Signal Conditioning...

Appropriate signal conditioning design begins with a review of the characteristics and limitations of the ESP32 outputs.



$$\begin{aligned} V_{OH} &= 0.8 \times V_{DD} \\ &= 2.64 \text{ V} \\ V_{OL} &= 0.1 \times V_{DD} \\ &= 0.1 \times 3.3\text{V} \\ &= 0.33\text{V} \end{aligned}$$

Parameter	Description	Min	Typ	Max	Unit	
V_{OH}	High-level output voltage	$0.8 \times V_{DD}^1$	—	—	V	
V_{OL}	Low-level output voltage	—	—	$0.1 \times V_{DD}^1$	V	
I_{OH}	High-level source current ($V_{DD}^1 = 3.3 \text{ V}$, $V_{OH} \geq 2.64 \text{ V}$, output drive strength set to the maximum)	VDD3P3_CPU power domain ^{1, 2}	—	40	—	mA
		VDD3P3_RTC power domain ^{1, 2}	—	40	—	mA
		VDD_SDIO power domain ^{1, 3}	—	20	—	mA

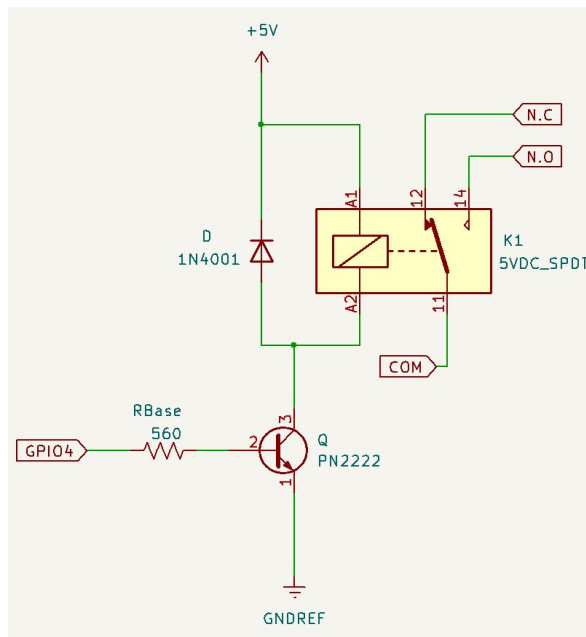
- For VDD3P3_CPU and VDD3P3_RTC power domain, per-pin current sourced in the same domain is gradually reduced from around 40 mA to around 29 mA, $V_{OH} \geq 2.64 \text{ V}$, as the number of current-source pins increases.
- For VDD_SDIO power domain, per-pin current sourced in the same domain is gradually reduced from around 30 mA to around 10 mA, $V_{OH} \geq 2.64 \text{ V}$, as the number of current-source pins increases.

Digital Output Signal Conditioning...

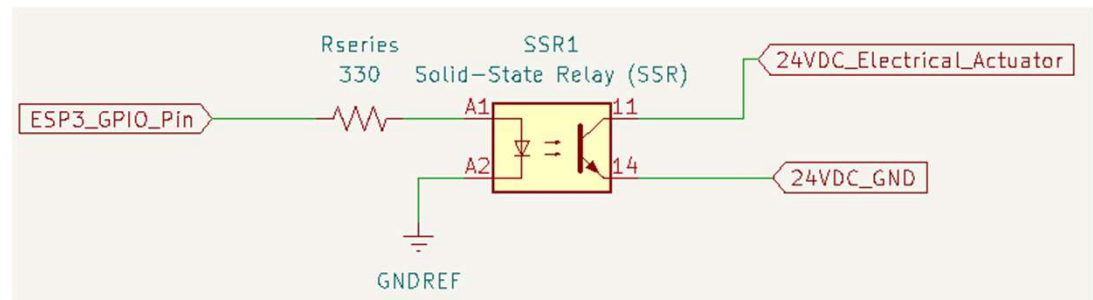
Typical Digital Output Signal Conditioned Switching Circuits for Actuators.



Transistor Relay Driver Circuit



Solid State Relay

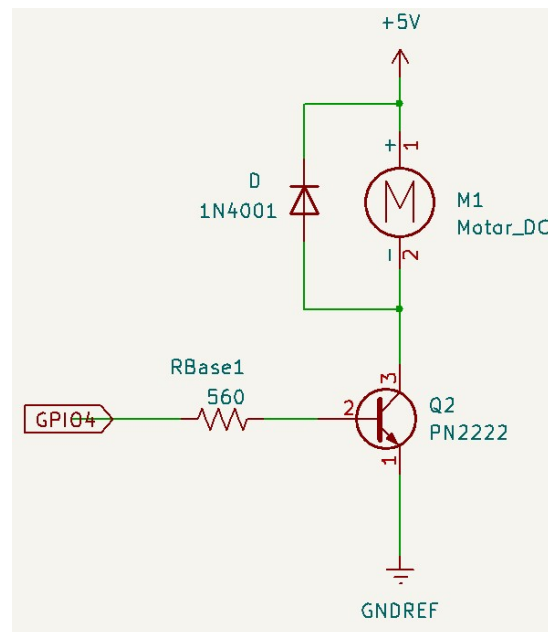


Digital Output Signal Conditioning...

Typical Digital Output Signal Conditioned Switching Circuits for Actuators.

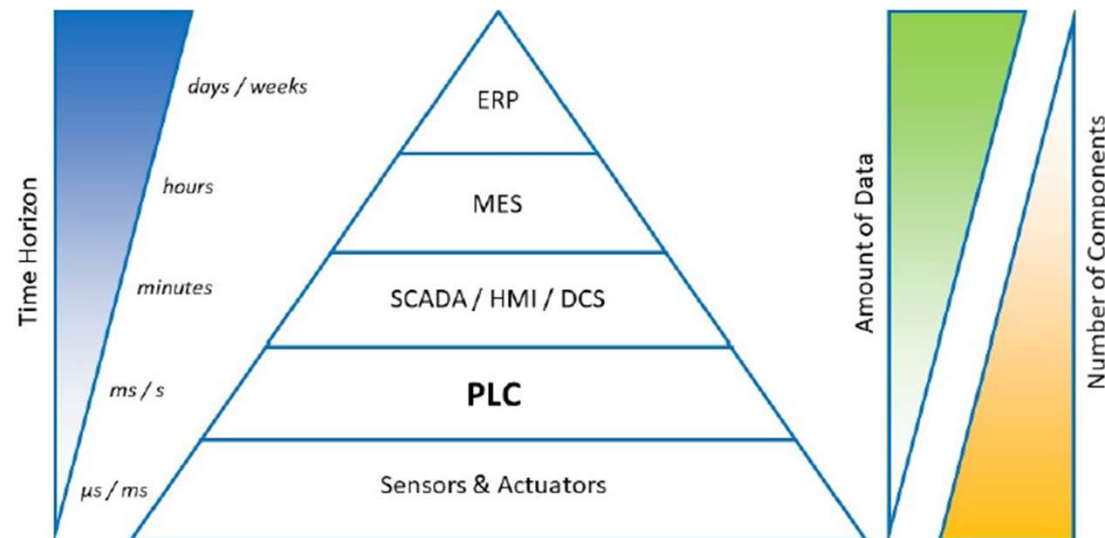


Transistor
Motor Driver
Circuit



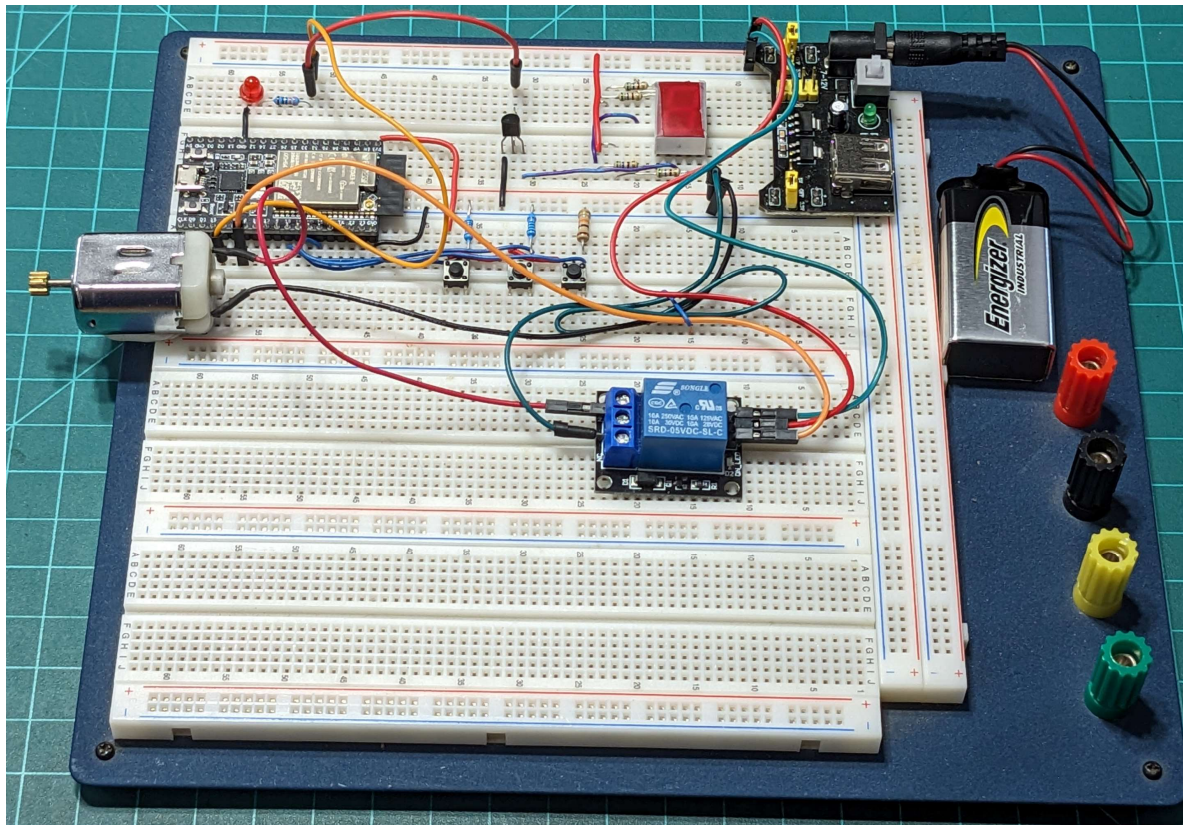
Digital Output Signal Conditioning...

Digital Output Signal Conditioned Switching Circuits for Actuators align with the Automation Pyramid's layer of Sensors & Actuators.



Sehr et al., 2021

Lab: Build An ESP32 DC Motor Controller



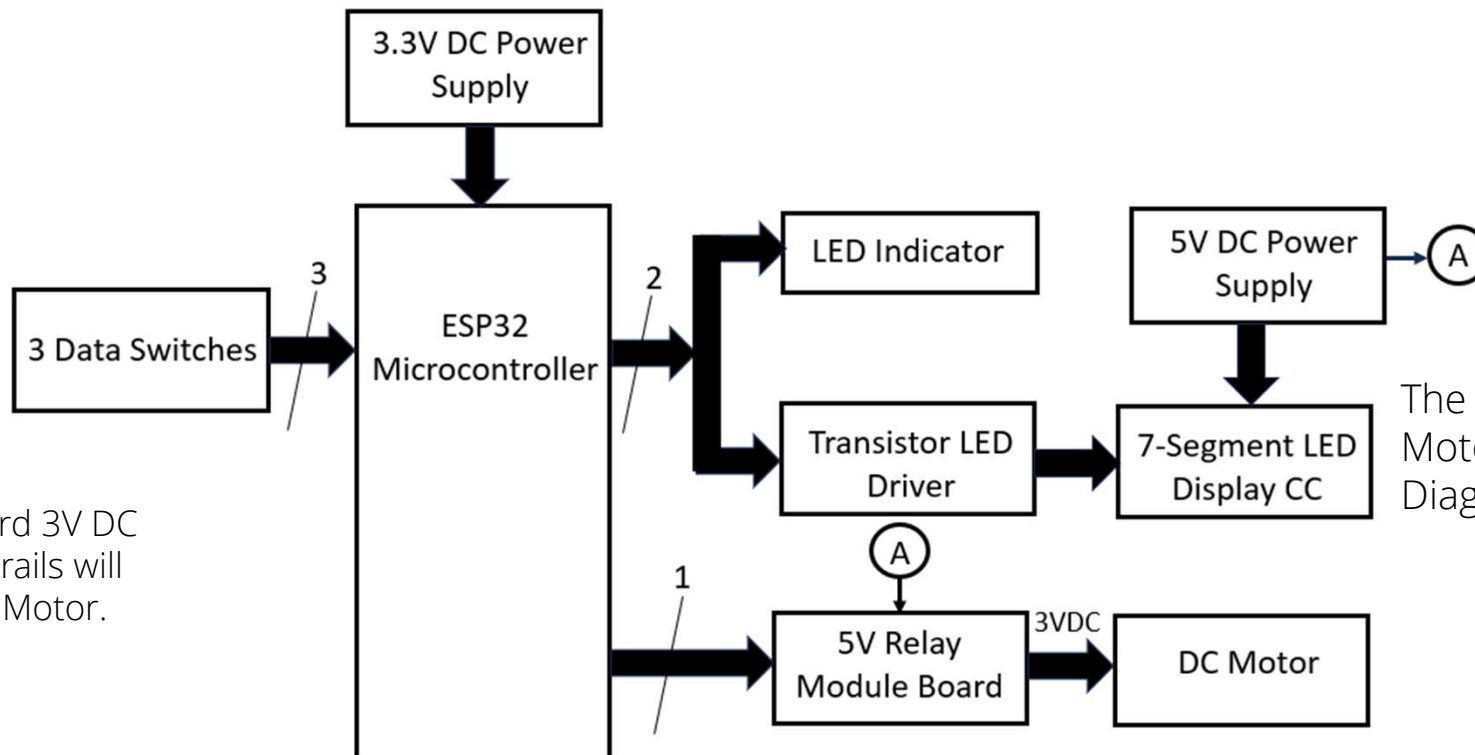
Lab: Build An ESP32 DC Motor Controller...



Participant Learning Objectives:

- Participants will learn to wire a DC Motor Controller using an ESP32 Micro Trainer, off-the-shelf electronic components, and a solderless breadboard.
- Participants will learn to install and set up the Mu programming platform.
- Participants will learn to program and test their ESP32 Micro Trainer using the MicroPython language.
- Participants will learn to operate a DC motor using the ESP32 Micro Trainer's tactile pushbutton switch.

Lab: Build An ESP32 DC Motor Controller...

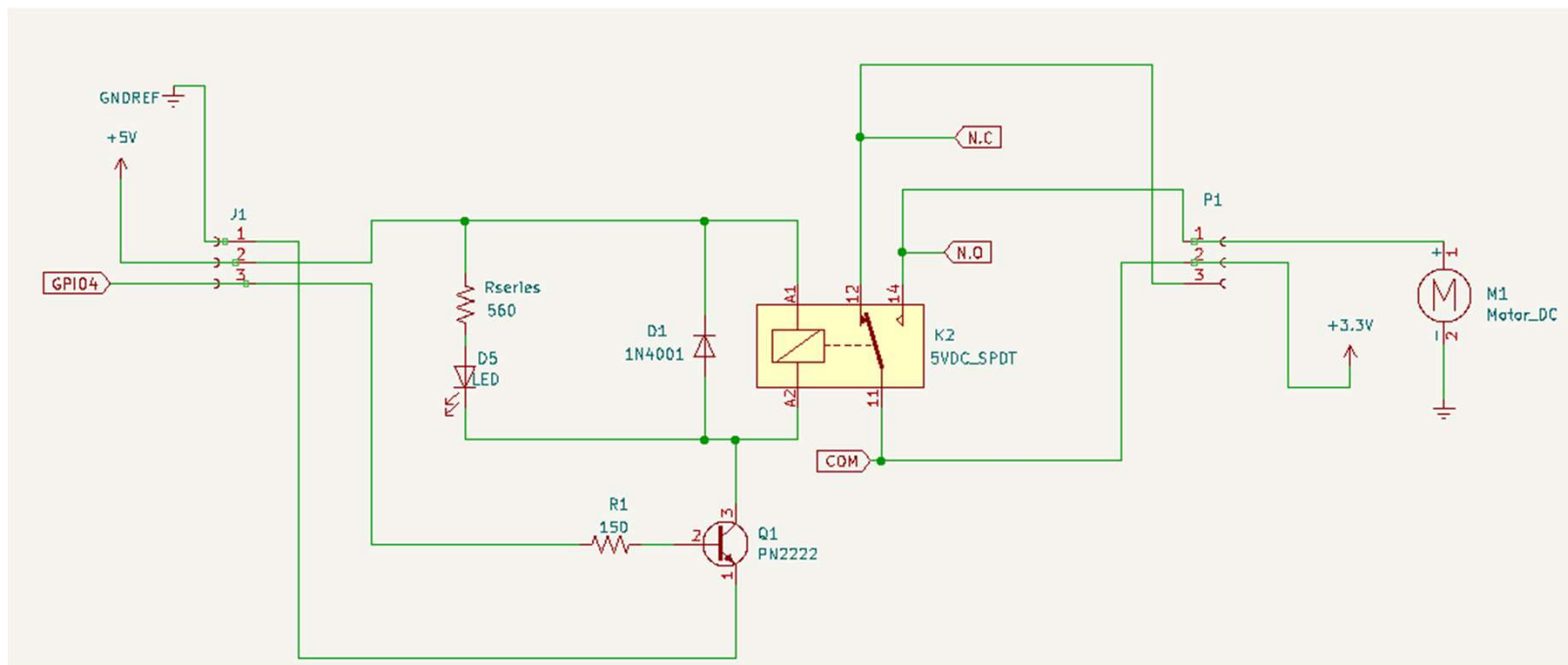


The ESP32 Micro DC Motor Controller Block Diagram

Note:
The Breadboard 3V DC Power Supply rails will power the DC Motor.

Lab: Build An ESP32 DC Motor Controller...

5V Relay Module with LED Indicator Board Electronic Circuit Schematic Diagram



Question 4

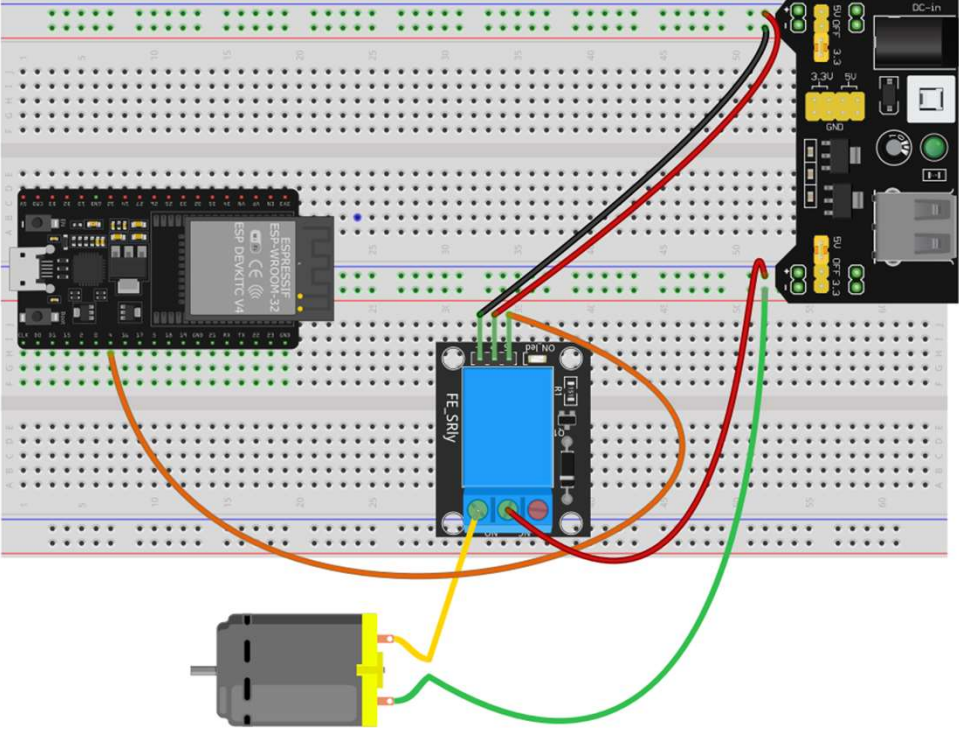
In reviewing slide 34, what is the function of LED D5?

- a) Power OFF Indicator**
- b) Power ON Indicator**
- c) Low voltage detection**
- d) none of the above**



Lab: Build An ESP32 DC Motor Controller...

DC Motor to 5V Relay Module with LED Indicator Wiring Diagram



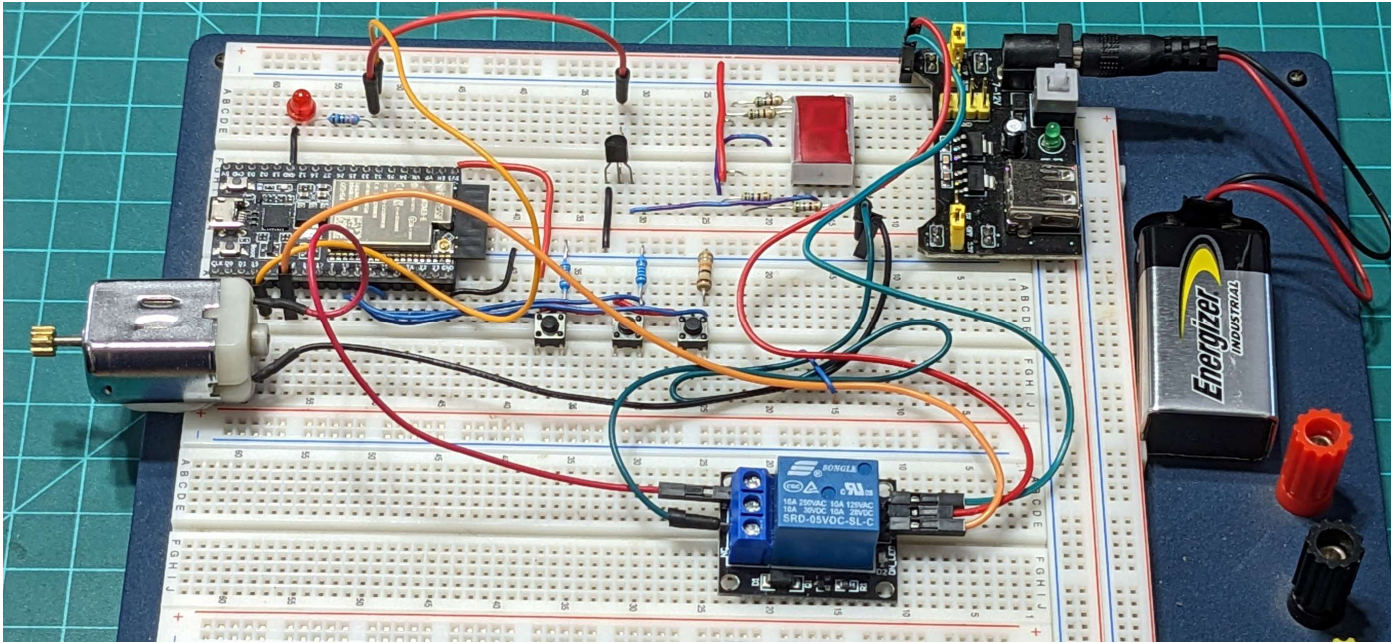
Lab: Build An ESP32 DC Motor Controller...

ESP32 DC Motor Controller: MicroPython Code

```
1 #ESP32_DC Motor_Controller
2
3 from machine import Pin
4 import time
5
6 # Define GPIO pins
7 button_pin = Pin(18, Pin.IN) # Pushbutton with pull-up resistor
8 led_pin = Pin(2, Pin.OUT) # LED pin
9 motor_pin = Pin(4, Pin.OUT) # Motor pin
10
11 # Initialize variables
12 previous_state = button_pin.value()
13
14 # Main loop
15 try:
16     while True:
17         # Read the current state of the button
18         button_state = button_pin.value()
19
20         # Detect a press event
21         if button_state == 1 and previous_state == 0: # Button pressed
22             led_pin.value(1) # Turn on LED
23             motor_pin.value(1) # Turn on Motor
24
25         # Detect a release event
26         if button_state == 0 and previous_state == 1: # Button released
27             led_pin.value(0) # Turn off LED
28             motor_pin.value(0) # Turn on Motor
29
30         # Update the previous state
31         previous_state = button_state
32
33         time.sleep(0.05) # Debounce delay
34 except KeyboardInterrupt:
35     print("Program terminated.")
36
```



Lab: Build An ESP32 DC Motor Controller...



Completed Build ESP32 DC Motor Controller

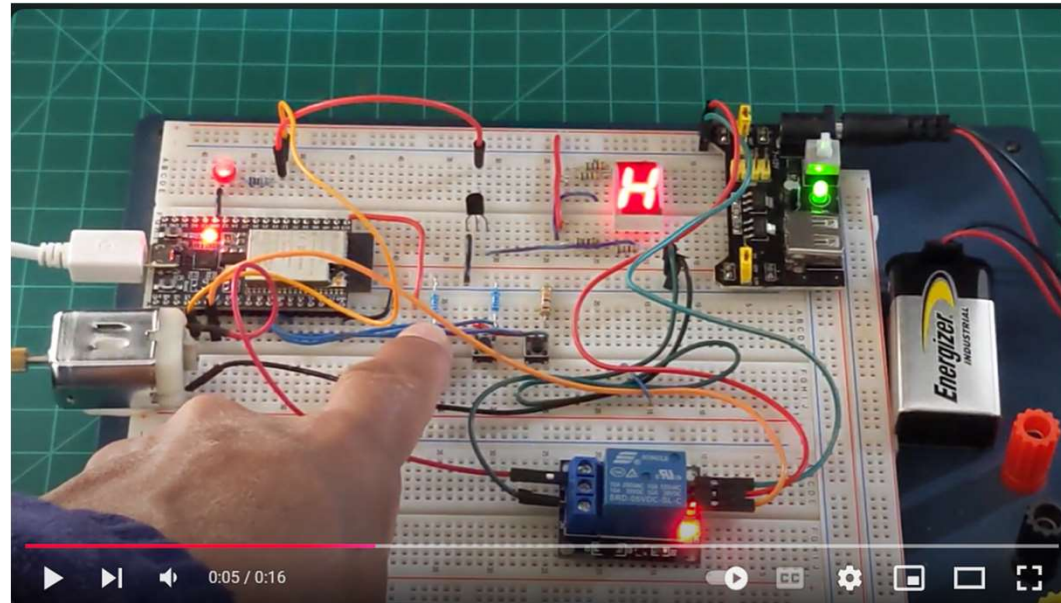
Lab: Build An ESP32 DC Motor Controller...



Functional ESP32-
DC Motor Controller

Watch the Video Clip!

<https://youtu.be/E2adQiSrKyg>



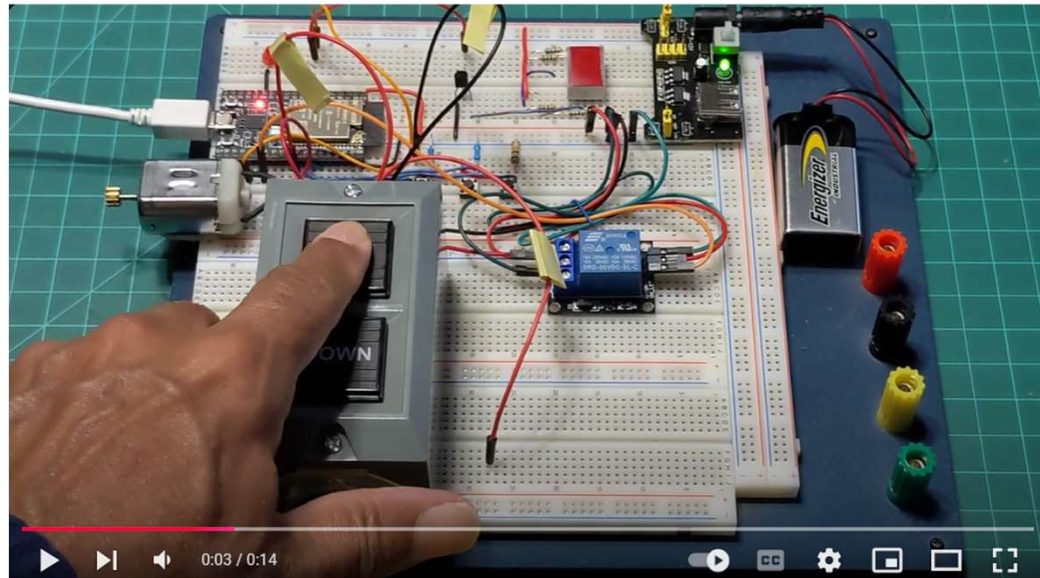
Lab: Build An ESP32 DC Motor Controller...



An Enhanced ESP32
DC Motor Controller
With An Industrial
Pushbutton Station:
Bonus Video

Watch the Video
Clip!

https://youtu.be/OyRUZyQX5_c



Question 5

What ESP32 GPIO pin is used to operate the 5V Relay with LED indicator?

- a) 2
- b) 18
- c) 19
- d) 4



Thank you for attending

Please consider the resources below:

Sehr, M.A., Lohstroh, M., Weber, M., Ugaide, I., Witte, M., Neidig, J., Hoeme, S., Niknami, M., & Lee, E.A. (2021). Programmable logic controllers in the context of industry 4.0. *IEEE Transactions On Industrial Informatics* 17(5), 3523 – 3535.
<https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/9134804>

Rockis, G.J., & Mazur, G.A. (2014). *Electrical motor controls: For integrated systems* (5th ed.). American Technical Publishers.

Wilcher, D. (2024). *Understanding industrial controls with an esp32*. GitHub.
https://github.com/DWilcher/DesignNews-WebinarCode/blob/main/December_24_Webinar_Code.zip



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