Serial Servo Controller
- USB with ADC
The "Serial Servo Controller (USB) with ADC" from Rhydolabz is a very compact solution for controlling up to eight RC servos from a PC or microcontroller which supports USB. Each servo speed and range can be controlled independently. This servo controller supports USB communication. The user could control the servomotors by sending the desired command from a USB supporting device. Servo Controller supports two communication protocols - Mini SSC-II and RHYDO-SSC protocol. The built in three ADC Ports can be used for measuring any analog voltage where one channel is permanently connected to Servo Voltage and two other can be used to measure analog inputs like Sensor values. With appropriate command from host controller the module will do ADC conversion for the selected channel and send out the result via USB. This feature is extremely useful for microcontroller without On-chip ADC (like AT89S52), and to detect the battery low condition. Up to 128 Servos can be controlled by connecting 16 Module in Parallel.

**FEATURES**

- Professional EMI/RFI Complaint PCB Layout Design for Noise Reduction
- Support Mini SSC-II and RHYDO-SSC Protocol
- USB interface with host Controller
- 3 Channel ADC measurement using command
- Servo voltage measurement using command
- Onboard EEPROM to save Configuration Parameters
- On Board Status LED Indicator
- On Board USB 4-pin connector
- On Board USB jack
- Can set Neutral Point for each servo
- Mini SSC-II Mode in default and Ready to use
SSC SPECIFICATIONS

- Number of servo ports: 8 Nos
- Pulse Width Range: 0.5 to 2.5 milli sec
- Resolution: (~0.05 degree)
- Supply voltage: 5 V
- I/O Voltage: 0-5 V
- Baud Rate: 9600-115200
- Current consumption: 5 mA (average)

PIN DIAGRAM AND FUNCTIONS
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PIN</th>
<th>PIN NAME</th>
<th>DETAILS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GND</td>
<td>Ground</td>
<td>Ground Level of Power supply</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>Data+</td>
<td>USB Data I/O pin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VCC</td>
<td>Power Supply</td>
<td>Power Supply Input (5V)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D-</td>
<td>Data-</td>
<td>USB Data I/O pin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A1</td>
<td>Analog1</td>
<td>Analog input Pin 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A2</td>
<td>Analog2</td>
<td>Analog input Pin 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SIG</td>
<td>Signal</td>
<td>Signal pin for servo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SV</td>
<td>Servo Voltage</td>
<td>Power Supply Input(for servos)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S1-S8</td>
<td>Servo1-Servo8</td>
<td>Servo Connectors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SC</td>
<td>Servo Connector</td>
<td>Power Supply Connector (for servos)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**DIMENSIONS (mm)**

- Length: 59.65001 (mm)
- Width: 34.9 (mm)
- Height: 11.45 mm
- Thickness: 4.62 mm
CONNECTIONS

Power

Controller and Servos are powered separately. Servos are powered by their supply consisting of 4-6V. This can be connected at the bottom right (as per the pin diagram above) of the board (+VE and G). Supply for servo should be capable of providing several amps of current. The controller is powered by a USB supply. This can be given at the middle left of the board (USB 4 pin connector/USB jack).

Note: *Power supply beyond the limit or reverse voltage can damage both the controller and servos.*

Control signals

The control signals are given through a USB connector. An on-board USB to TTL converting circuitry provides serial data to the servo controller. The user can give control signal using devices supporting USB communication. The user can also give control signals through data pins instead of USB connector. D+ and D- pins are used as I/O pins for data and G, VCC as supply pins. So that controllers which support USB module can communicate using these pins.

Servos

Improper connection of servo pins will cause damage to servos. The signal pin (yellow or white) should be toward the inside of the board, and the black wire (GND) should be closest to the edge of the board.
HOW TO USE SERVO CONTROLLER

Servo controller can generate 8 independent servo control signals simultaneously. The servo controller can generate pulse from 0.5 to 2.5 ms which can drive the operating range of 0-180 deg of servo motors.

- **USB input**
  
The serial can be given from any of the USB supporting devices. Built-in circuitry is provided for USB to TTL and vice versa conversion.

- **LED indication**
  
There are four LED’s for the status indication (two on top left and two on bottom left). Two LED’s as USB transmission/reception indicators and two as servo controller status indication. One LED (D2) will remain ON if the process is incomplete. The 4th LED (D1) will turn ON when a valid start byte of command arrives and turn off when the entire bytes in one control signal pattern is received.

- **Reset condition**
  
The servo is factory set to Mini SSC-II mode. When the power turns on, the controller waits for a synchronization signal 0x55 through serial data-line @ 9600 baud rate. The controller will then read the previous data stored in an external EEPROM. Baud Rate and mode of operation will be combined and transmitted through serial output (Tx) pin at a Baud Rate of 9600. The servo controller automatically sets to that particular Baud Rate and Mode. It will configure parameters like neutral angle, speed, range, Device ID and servo numbering based on the data read from EEPROM location. The location that is read on reset will be the previously selected location by the user. The user can change the mode, configuration location and Baud Rate using commands. During the reset condition LED3 will be ON and is turned OFF only after EEPROM reading and configuring is over.

*Serial output Value and their corresponding indication*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tx Value</th>
<th>Baud Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>9600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>19200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>38400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>57600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>96000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>115200</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tx Value</th>
<th>Mode</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>Rhydo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Mini SSC-II</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

60 => 115200 : Rhydo SSC  
21 => 19200 : Mini SSC-II
Interfacing the board

To communicate with the servo controller, there are two communication protocols. On reset, controller will be configured to the previously selected mode. The user can change the mode using commands. The user should use the command format of the selected mode.

Rhydo Mode: This mode allows the user to access all the features of servo controller such as speed, range, neutral settings. Several controllers can be connected on same serial line and can be controlled independently.

Mini SSC-II Mode: This mode allows the servo controller to respond to the protocol used in Mini SSC-II servo controller made by Scott Edwards Electronics. This is a simple protocol which can specify the desired servo positions in only one way. However, it’s not compatible with other serial peripheral products.

MINI SSC-II MODE

Baud Rate: Mini SSC-II will work on the previously configured BD. For changing Baud Rate, the user has to switch it to Rhydo mode.

Protocol: A sequence of three bytes is needed to set the servo position. The first byte must be always a start byte 255(0xff). Byte 2 is the servo number, and it can be between 0 and 254. Byte3 is the position to which you want servo to move, can be 1-254. The servo position should not be 0. Giving a 0 as the 3rd byte will change the protocol to Rhydo mode.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Start byte = 0XFF</th>
<th>Servo number</th>
<th>Servo position - 0X01-0XFE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

There are two motion ranges available in this mode. Each controller responds to 16 servo numbers. Addressing lower 8 will move them within an approximately 90 degree range, while addressing upper 8 servo numbers will give twice the range. The user can set the group of servo numbers to which your servo controllers responds. If your servo controller is set to servo number 0, it responds to servo numbers 0-15 and sending the command sequence [255,12,254] will move servo 4 to one extreme of its range in 180 degree mode. If you send servo numbers that are not recognized, the servo controller will ignore the command. Up to 16 servo controllers can be connected in one serial line to control up to 128 servos independently. By default the servo controller responds to servo numbers 0-15. You can change this numbering as 16-31, 32-47 … 240-254. To set the servo numbers, put the servo controller in Rhydo mode and send the command.
This mode will support several features for servo controlling. To decide a position of a servo we use a range of values from 500 – 5000. One count corresponds to half of a micro second. There are several command formats to change the features. We can individually configure the speed, position, neutral angle, minimum range, maximum range etc… A command for changing the position will turn on a servo automatically. Configuration commands will not turn on a servo.

Protocol: This protocol contains a sequence of 6 bytes. The first byte is the start byte – 0x80. Byte2 is a Device ID which can be used for controlling serially connected servo controllers independently. Byte3 is a command for configuring or controlling the servo controller. Byte4 is the servo number to which the command should be applied. Byte5 and Byte6 are the data values of the given command. In every Byte except start byte, the seventh bit must be clear so the range is 0-0x7f (0-127).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Start byte=0x80</th>
<th>Device ID</th>
<th>Command</th>
<th>Servo number (1-8)</th>
<th>Data1</th>
<th>Data2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**COMMANDS**

**Value assigning commands**

**Command 0x01: Position setting (without considering range settings)**

This command allows control of the servo position. The range settings will not affect this command. The range of value given should be in between 500 and 5000. The data2 contains lower 7 bits and data1 contains the upper bits. A servo position setting will automatically turns on the servo.

EX: 0x80 0x01(ID) 0x01(COM) SERVO_NUM DATA1 DATA2

**Command 0x02: Rotate left (range settings will be considered)**

This command allows movement of motor to the left. The data given decides the degree of rotation. If we are giving a degree which will exceeds the limit (minimum range) the motor will rotate up to that range.

EX: 0x80 0x01(ID) 0x02(COM) SERVO_NUM DATA1 DATA2
**Command 0x03: Rotate right** (range settings will be considered)

This command allows movement of motor to the right. The data given decides the degree of rotation. If we are giving a degree which will exceeds the limit (maximum range) it will rotate up to that range.

EX: 0x80 0x01(ID) 0x03(COM) SERVO_NUM DATA1 DATA2

**Command 0x04: To stop a servo**

This command will stop the signal to the specified servo.

EX: 0x80 0x01(ID) 0x04(COM) SERVO_NUM 0x00 0x00

**Command 0x05: Set to neutral angle**

This command will rotate all the enabled servos to its neutral angle. The disabled servos will not turn on while getting this command.

EX: 0x80 0x01(ID) 0x05(COM) 0x00 0x00 0x00

**Command 0x06: To stop all servos**

This command will stop the signal to all the servos.

EX: 0x80 0x01(ID) 0x06(COM) 0x00 0x00 0x00

**Command 0x07: To pause all servos**

This command will pause the movement of servo motors. This command will not stop the pulses to the servos but will stop their rotation. The same command should be given again to continue the movement from the same location.

EX: 0x80 0x01(ID) 0x07(COM) 0x00 0x00 0x00

**Command 0x08: To ON a specified servo at its neutral angle**

This command can turn on a servo at its neutral angle and also can rotate an enabled servo to its neutral angle.

EX: 0x80 0x01(ID) 0x08(COM) SERVO_NUM 0x00 0x00
**Command 0x11: To configure Neutral angle of a servo**

This command allows Neutral angle configuration of each servo independently. The default value of neutral angle is 3000.

EX: 0x80 0x01(ID) 0x11(COM) SERVO_NUM DATA1 DATA2

**Command 0x12: To configure minimum angle of a servo**

This command will configure the minimum range of each servo independently.

EX: 0x80 0x01(ID) 0x12(COM) SERVO_NUM DATA1 DATA2

**Command 0x13: To configure maximum angle of a servo**

This command will configure the maximum range of each servo independently.

EX: 0x80 0x01(ID) 0x13(COM) SERVO_NUM DATA1 DATA2

**Command 0x14: To configure speed of a servo**

This command will configure the speed of each servo independently. The range of value must be 1-127. Value 1 will give maximum speed that is 5 milli sec (pulse width) per second and 127 will give a minimum speed that is 40 microseconds per second.

EX: 0x80 0x01(ID) 0x14(COM) SERVO_NUM 0x00 SPEED

**Command 0x15: To configure speed of all servos**

This command will configure the speed of all servos simultaneously. The range of value must be 1-127. Value 1 will give maximum speed that is 5ms (pulse width) per second and 127 will give a minimum speed that is 40 microseconds per second.

EX: 0x80 0x01(ID) 0x15(COM) 0x00 0x00 SPEED
**Command 0x20: To write ID to EEPROM**

This command is used to write the ID of a servo controller to EEPROM.

EX: 0X80 0X01(ID) 0X20(COM) LOCATION NUMBER 0X00 ID

**Command 0x21: To write speed to EEPROM**

This command is used to write default speed of all servos to EEPROM

EX: 0X80 0X01(ID) 0X21(COM) LOCATION NUMBER 0X00 SPEED

**Command 0x22: To write Range min to EEPROM**

This command can be used to write default minimum range of all servos to EEPROM.

EX: 0X80 0X01(ID) 0X22(COM) LOCATION NUMBER DATA1 DATA2

**Command 0x23: To write Range max to EEPROM**

This command can be used to write default maximum range of all servos to EEPROM.

EX: 0X80 0X01(ID) 0X23(COM) LOCATION NUMBER DATA1 DATA2

**Command 0x24: To write Neutral angle to EEPROM**

This command can be used to write default Neutral angle of all servos to EEPROM. The 2nd location only can be used, location 1 is only readable.

EX: 0X80 0X01(ID) 0X24(COM) LOCATION NUMBER DATA1 DATA2

**Command 0x30: To read default data from EEPROM**

This command will read data stored in desired location in EEPROM and will transmit it back. This command can be used to check the default data given. The locations can be 1 and 2.

EX: 0X80 0X01(ID) 0X30(COM) LOCATION NUMBER 0X00 0X00
Command 0x33: To read and configure default data from EEPROM

This command will read data stored in desired location in EEPROM and will configure the controller. The locations can be 1 and 2.

EX: 0x80 0x01(ID) 0x33(COM) LOCATION NUMBER 0x00 0x00

Command 0x40: To read ADC

This command will read the ADC channels. It can be 1, 2 or 3. Channel 1 will give a decimal value corresponds to the servo supply. Channel 2 and 3 will give decimal value corresponds to pins ADC1 and ADC2 respectively.

EX: 0x80 0x01(ID) 0x40(COM) CHANNEL_NUM 0x00 0x00

Note: The example command formats are uses 0x01 as device ID. data1 is the higher bits and data2 is the lower 7 bits of a data.

Ex: The data corresponds to 1500 micro second is 3000
   Hex value of 3000 is 0x0bb8 ie 00010111 10111000
   The 8\textsuperscript{th} bit of each byte should be 0 so that we are shifting the 8\textsuperscript{th} bit of lower byte to higher byte.
   ie 00010111 00111000 or 0x1738

So for rotating 2\textsuperscript{nd} servo of a servo controller having Device ID 0x03, to an angle 90 deg(count 3000), the command format should be as follows

0x80 0x03(ID) 0x01(COM) 0x02 0x17 0x38
**ID Independent commands**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0x80</td>
<td>To change Device ID</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0x80</td>
<td>To transmit the Device ID /servo number/</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Configuration location selected

(id value should be 1 for Device ID, 2 for servo numbering and 3 for configuration location)

- **BD**: To set the baud rate (it can be 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6)
- **num**: To change Servo numbering

**Mini SSC-II Commands**

Format: 0xFF  servo_number  angle

In this mode, the servo number can be 0-254 and angle can be 1-254.

Ex1: 0xFF 3 254 will turn the 4th servo to 90 degree
Ex2: 0xFF 11 254 will turn the 4th servo to 180 degree
Ex3. 0xFF 0 0 will change the mode to Rhydo mode

**Position changing**

There are two types of position changing commands. One will help you to rotate a servo to a particular angle. This command will not consider range settings of a servo. This command is useful for a user who knows about servo angles. The other one will rotate a servo to a particular degree right or left. It’s a relative motion. This command is useful for a user who doesn’t know the present angle of a servo. This command will consider range settings of a servo. We can rotate a servo within the range limit.

**Neutral angle settings**

Neutral angle of a servo means its default angle. On reset, all the angles will have the same neutral angle. But we can configure neutral angle of each servo using commands. Neutral angle setting command helps you to make all the servos to a safe resting position using a single command. Also, we can rotate a servo to its neutral angle individually.
- **Range settings**

  Range setting commands helps the user to set safe ranges to each servo. If you are using a left rotation command it will rotate only up to the minimum range of that particular servo and if you are using a right rotation command it will rotate up to the maximum range.

- **ADC reading**

  The servo controller gives an option for reading 3 analog values. One is the voltage given to servo motors. This value (0-0xfe) helps the user to check the servo supply for preventing abnormal power supply. 0-5V supply will provide the corresponding digital values (0-0xfe), 5-5.8V will provide a value 0xfe, and any voltage above 5.8, which can cause damage to servos, will out an error value (0xff) to user.

  The other two analog (ADC1 and ADC2) pins can be used for user defined applications like sensor input etc.. Controllers having no inbuilt ADC can take advantage of this feature. The output range of these two channels will be between 0 and 0xff depending on the ADC input voltage.
PRACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR USE

i. EEPROM write/read cannot be performed while servos are working.
    You should stop all signals to servo or should configure them at the initial stage.
ii. Changing Baud Rate and Mode will stop signals to servo.
iii. The Baud Rate change will be effective only after the board is reset.
iv. In Mini SSC-II mode, zero as the 3rd byte will change the mode
v. Value assigning commands will affect the pulse given to servo
vi. Configuration commands will not affect the pulses. These commands will only configure the
    motor values. A configuration command will not turn ON a servo.
vii. ID independent commands will turn off pulses to servo.
viii. The user cannot edit the default location 1 in EEPROM. Only location 2 can be edited.
ix. On reset the controller will load the default conditions from the previously selected location
    by the user.
x. In Rhydo Mode, the servo numbers used should be between 1 and 8 (both inclusive).
xi. A synchronization command 0x55 must be send @ 9600 baud rate to initialize a servo
    controller.
   xii. In ADC reading, a servo voltage of 5-5.8V will out 0xfe and above 5.8V will out 0xff as an
        error report

Note: This product has been tested and certified by the company before shipping. Removing or
replacing the components from the PCB could damage the product. In this case, the company won’t be
liable for the damages caused and no replacement/refunding are entertained.
SOFTWARE INSTALLATION

1. Insert the CD with the software “USB Driver CDM 2.04.16” or copy the entire folder to the hard drive of your PC.
2. Connect the USB side of the board to the PC using a USB cable.
3. Windows will ask for the driver.
   - Can Windows connect to Windows Update to search for software?
     - Yes, this time only
     - Yes, now and every time I connect a device
     - No, not this time
4. Select the option “No, not this time” and click next.
   - What do you want the wizard to do?
     - Install the software automatically (Recommended)
     - Install from a list or specific location (Advanced)
5. Select “Install from a Specific location” and click next.
   - Search for the best driver in these locations.
     - Use the check boxes below to limit or expand the default search, which includes local paths and removable media. The best driver found will be installed.
     - [ ] Search removable media (floppy, CD-ROM...)
     - [ ] Include this location in the search:
     - E:\USB Driver CDM 2.04.16
     - [ ] Browse
6. Click Browse and selection the folder of the software. Windows will automatically detect the driver and install.
7. Detach the board and connect again.
8. If the installation is successful, the USB serial Port appears in the Device Manager Properties:
   (My Computer → Properties → Hardware → Device Manager → Ports)

   ![Ports (COM & LPT)]
   - Communications Port (COM1)
   - Printer Port (LPT1)
   - USB Serial Port (COM11)

9. If any error occurs, repeat the above procedure again.
TECHNICAL SUPPORT

If you are experiencing a problem that is not described in this manual, please contact us. Our phone lines are open from 9:00 AM – 5.00 PM (Indian Standard Time) Monday through Saturday excluding holidays. Email can be sent to support@rhydolabz.com

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