

R/C Servo Test Program

The **PICSmart** is programmed to read a pot and set the servo pulse length every 15 ms within the usual 1 ... 2 ms pulse range which control servo position.

Since the 16F84 does not have analogue inputs, the time for discharging a capacitor is measured. The pin is set to an output at level one for 20 microseconds, and then switched as an input. A counter is incremented as long the input level is one, that is higher than about 1.5V. In order to get a better linearity, two capacitors are used, as shown below. Components' value are not critical. Capacitor discharge time depends on the product of the capacitor and resistance. Count loop can be adjusted to adapt to this product value.

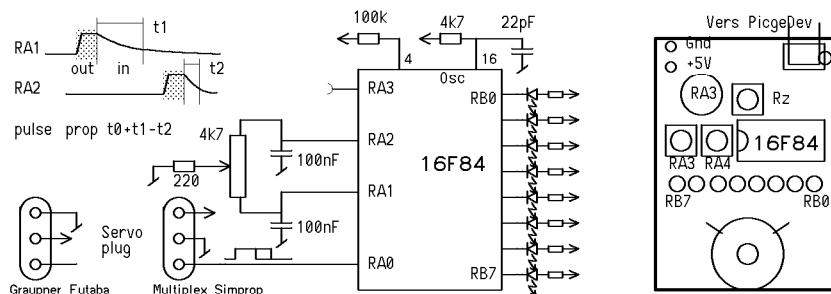


Fig. 1 Test device schematic with a PIC 16F84 microcontroller

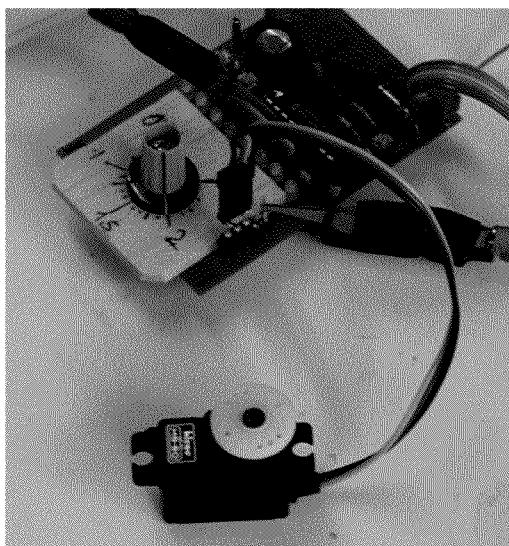


Fig. 2 Picture of the system (click here for color)

The program we have implemented uses the timer for a 15 ms repetition rate. Variable "Pulse" defines the duration of the pulse, according to two parameters: t1 and t2 depends on the capacitor value and the duration of the loop measuring the capacitor discharge (one Nop has been added for adjusting the max value when the resistor is maximum).

Macros makes it more easy to change the wiring if different port bits have to be used.

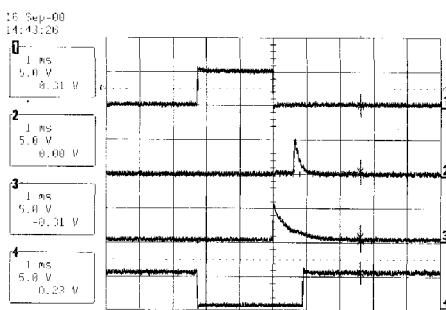


Fig. 3 Measured timings

Program PicServo

```
.Proc 16F84
TOIF = 2

Variables Variables
.Loc 16'C
T1 : .Blk.16 1 ; Pot duration
T2 : .Blk.16 1 ; Pot duration
Pulse : .Blk.16 1 ; Servo pulse duration
T0 = 120 ; So that #T0+T1-T2 value is
           ; between 80 and 240 (0.8 and 2.4
           ; ms)

Constant PortA
bServo = 0
bT1 = 1
bT2 = 2
bS0 = 3
.Macro ServoOn
    Set PortA:#bServo
.EndMacro
.Macro ServoOff
    Clr PortA:#bServo
.Endmacro
.Macro T1On
    Move #2'10100,W
    Move W, TrisA
    Set PortA:#bT1
.EndMacro
.Macro T1Off
    Move #2'10110,W
    Move W, TrisA
.EndMacro
.Macro T2On
    Move #2'10010,W
    Move W, TrisA
    Set PortA:#bT2
.EndMacro
.Macro T2Off
    Move #2'10110,W
    Move W, TrisA
.EndMacro

Program Program begin here
.Loc 0
Move #0,W ; Outputs
Move W, TrisB
Move #2'00000101,W ; Prescaler :16
Move W, Option
Clr TMR0
Move #2'10110,W
Move W, TrisA

Loop:
Set PortA:#bS0 ; Check available time
; Wait for 20ms repetition period
W$ : TestSkip,BS IntCon:#TOIF
Jump W$
Clr Intcon:#TOIF
Clr PortA:#bS0

Module Servo control
Servo pulse duration according to Pulse variable
; Loop P1 is multiple of 10 us 200 --> 2 ms
    ServoOn
P1 :
    Move #2,W
P2 : Add #-1,W ; 4 us inside loop
    Skip, EQ
    Jump P2
    DecSkip, EQ Pulse
    Jump P1
    ServoOff

Module Pot reading
One measure T1
    T1On
    Move #T0,W ; Save later add
    Move W,T1
    Move #10,W
D1 : Add #-1,W
    Skip, EQ
    Jump D1
    T1Off
A1 : Nop ; adjust
    Inc T1
    TestSkip, BC PortA:#bT1
    Jump A1

One measure T2
    T2On
    Move W,T1
    Move #10,W ; 40 us
D2 : Add #-1,W
    Skip, EQ
    Jump D2
    Clr T2
    T2Off
A2 : Nop ;
    Inc T2
    TestSkip, BC PortA:#bT2
    Jump A2

Calculation
    Move T2,W
; Move W,PortB
    Sub W,T1,W ; T1 - T2
    Move W,Pulse
    Xor #-1,W ; LEDs active low
    Move W,PortB
    Jump Loop
.End
```