## **ECE-416: Senior Project**

# **Automotive Diagnostic Tool**

Adam Serafin Jonathan Johnston December 6, 2004 Senior Project: Final Report

# **Table of Contents**



### **Introduction:**

This report is documentation of our senior project from its beginning to the very end. Our project was first conceived in ECE-414 which is the project proposal component of the Senior Project class that is required for our Bachelors degree in Computer Engineering. Our project can be subdivided into three parts; proposal, design, and implementation. This report is organized similarly.

This project was fairly well rounded in the area of Computer Engineering. The design involved both hardware and software. Designing the required hardware demanded knowledge of computer architecture, digital logic, and integrated circuits (ICs). In addition, knowledge of basic circuit theory is a must. As for software design we programmed in both assembly language and high-level language. Because our project is based upon the Motorola 68000 Series microprocessor, we wrote our program using this assembly language. In addition, we used Visual Basic to write software that would allow our M68k single board computer to communicate with any PC.

Our project was challenging in both design and implementation. It took the entire semester to complete the basic functions as we proposed. As with most engineering projects, after successful completion we have noticed many areas that can be upgraded and improved.

### **Proposal: Abstract**

 The first automobiles relied on mechanical systems to operate the engine. This proved good for the times, but the evolution of the computer would make a big change. Modern automobile fuel and ignition systems are almost entirely computer controlled. The ECU(Electronic Control Unit) of an automobile is responsible for making the precise calculations that allow the proper amounts fuel to be injected at the proper time. The ECU also determines exactly when to fire each spark plug taking into account the ignition spark advance and retard under all engine operating conditions. The ECU obtains all of its data through various electrical sensors. When an engine component fails or one of the sensors is not working properly, the engine will not function efficiently or sometimes, not at all. It is difficult to determine which sensor or mechanical system is not functioning correctly because the vehicle operator does not have access to a unit that can display sensor output. Our proposal is to make this available.

# **Proposal: Background**

Since our project emphasizes automobile engine diagnostics, we will monitor the sensors that allow the operator or technician to completely understand the common problems. Examples and information of the sensors we'd like to monitor are as follows:

**Intake Air Temperature(IAT)**: Changes its resistance with respect to the ambient air temperature. The temperature of the air is related to how dense it is. As air temperature decreases, density and oxygen content increases. The output of this sensor is important for diagnosing trouble with the intake system, and a malfunctioning of this sensor would result in a less efficient operation of the engine. The output that we would like to obtain is ambient air temperature.

**Throttle Position Sensor(TPS):** The TPS essentially is a potentiometer that is controlled by the throttle (gas pedal). This sensor is located on the throttle body. Throttle position is one of the key elements of fuel injection control. A problematic TPS sensor can result in loss of engine power. The output that we would like to obtain is throttle position in degrees.

**Manifold Absolute Pressure(MAP)**: The MAP sensor varies its voltage with respect to the air pressure inside the engines intake manifold. The MAP sensor accurately senses the amount of vacuum in the manifold. Manifold vacuum is a good indicator of engine load. A malfunctioning MAP sensor can result in erratic engine idling, loss of power, less efficient operation, etc. The type of output we would like to obtain is engine vacuum in inches mercury (unit of vacuum) the range is 30 inches mercury to 0.

**EGR System:** EGR which stands for Exhaust Gas Recirculation is a system that was implemented in the 1980's to produce cleaner vehicle emissions. The theory behind this is that engineers have noticed when inert gas is introduced into the combustion chamber of the engine, NOX emissions are reduced. However, there is one problem, introducing an inert gas from some outside source of the vehicle would be impractical. The solution to this problem was to use exhaust gas as the inert gas. This was an ideal solution because the oxygen and fuel of exhaust is almost entirely spent.

 The effectiveness of the EGR system is achieved by carefully metering exhaust gas into the intake manifold through a variable valve. This valve is vacuum controlled by a diaphragm which in tern is controlled by a solenoid actuator. To ensure that the EGR system is working properly, modern manufacturers employ a EGR Valve Lift sensor. The EGR lift sensor is used to send an analog signal representing valve lift to the ECU. The ECU then compares this actual valve lift to theoretical valve lift. If the two values do not agree then the system is not working properly which can result in a "Check Engine" light, poor running conditions, and finally increased emissions. Because this system is so

important to the clean operation of an engine, and common engine trouble, a read-out of this sensor information would be extremely valuable to a technician.

**Coolant Temperature Sensors:** The coolant temperature sensors used in modern vehicles are what are known as thermistors. This means that it varies its resistance with respect to temperature. Coolant temperature sensors are of great diagnostic value because they can detect cooling system problems. Coolant temperature sensors also allow the computer to adjust its fuel map according to the temperature. The output we would like to obtain is coolant temperature.

### **Proposal: Preliminary Design**

In our project design we will use the 0808 Analog to Digital converter. This chip contains 8 converters which will allow us to convert the analog sensor outputs into the binary data we need to complete the calculations. We will also need the Motorola 68k Single Board Computer. The M68k SBC is a Single Board Computer that we have constructed together previously. The price to build one is around \$150. We will get an LCD display (about \$30) and connect it to the SBC to have a better and easier to read display screen. The M68k will provide sufficient processing power to provide a real-time display of sensor information. We will have to program the M68k in assembly language. The programming is crucial because it will contain the algorithms that will obtain the proper conversion data in a lookup table that will be stored in the SBC's ROM. Our interface will also allow the user to toggle through the different senor outputs. We are thinking of also making the interface toggle according to a set timer. Lastly, we want to take the serial port of our SBC and connect it to a PC. This will allow a user to do further, more powerful analysis of the sensors and create a more user friendly, GUI interface. This part of our project entails knowledge of the C++ programming language and how the serial port of the SBC transfers information to the PC.

As of now the SBC is dependant on a 120VAC source. We would like to create a power supply for it that will take advantage of the automobiles 12-13.5VDC system conveniently available through the cigarette lighter. This will make our project completely portable, unlike the expensive diagnostic equipment. This offers an advantage of diagnosing problems when the engine is in highway or city conditions.

The first step in designing our project is obtaining the desired senor outputs that we want through the engine's electrical system. To simulate analog sensor outputs we will use 100k ohm potentiometers that will connect to the 8 analog inputs on the analog to digital converter. The next phase of project design will be the configuration of the analog to digital converter within our M68k SBC. This configuration will be somewhat complex because we want the user to be able to toggle through all of the different sensor outputs. This design of this will probably use a 3-8 Decoder and a 4-1 Multiplexer. The next step of the design is writing the code in assembly language that will convert the binary data obtained from the analog to digital converter. The conversion of this binary data is needed in order to obtain values corresponding to what the sensor is sensing. We will use a lookup table in the ROM of the SBC that will correspond binary values with actual data. Once this data is obtained, we will output it to an LCD display. This will allow the user to know what the sensors are outputting.

 The final phase of our project design would be to interface the SBC to a PC. This will involve programming in both C<sup>++</sup> and assembly language.

# **Motorola 68k Single Board Computer: Why the M68k?**

 To implement our project, a microprocessor is necessary to receive, process, and output data in a carefully structured manner. Because we studied the design of the Motorola 68k, and built an SBC around one in two of our undergraduate courses; using the M68k SBC in our project was a logical step.

Our SBC has many desirable features for this project, they include: serial I/O, RAM, EEPROM, parallel I/O, room for expansion, and a basic operating system. Serial I/O is necessary for our project because of the need to transmit/receive data with a PC.

The RAM would allow us to store programs on the SBC that were downloaded via the serial port. This is very important for software testing; imagine re-burning an EEPROM every time you made a change to your software? The EEPROM would serve as the storage for the final version of our software. Parallel Input is necessary, and was used to implement the sensor scroll feature of our project. Parallel Output was used to output data to our Parallel LCD display and an LED bar display. Room for expansion was a major benefit since we would have to add additional I/O to our system. The use of a 3-8 Decoder for the addressing logic in the design of the SBC allows us to add up-to 4 additional I/O devices with relative ease. This will come in handy for the sensor scroll feature and addressing the Analog to Digital Converter.

The final and perhaps greatest asset of the M68k SBC was the monitor program designed by Professor Rosenstark. The monitor program when stored on the system's EEPROM allows you to download programs to the SBC serially. This is a great way to debug software on the actual system which is necessary to accomplish things an emulator cannot possibly handle. An example of this is the need to run programs on the SBC to test and debug the LCD display, or the Analog to Digital Converter.

# **Motorola 68k Single Board Computer: Software Details**

In a class called ECE 252 we studied the instruction set architecture of the Motorola 68000 series microprocessor. This class taught us to write and emulate assembly level programs using two programs called asm68k.exe and emu68k.exe. Both of these programs are written by the author of the textbook used in ECE 252: *The 68000 Microprocessor: Hardware and Software Principles and Applications Fourth Edition,*  **James L. Antonakos.** 

Asm68k.exe is an assembler, this means it is a program that converts assembly op-code into machine code. Machine code is the hexadecimal equivalent of assembly opcode that is stored into the memory system of the SBC and is executed by the processor. In addition, asm68k.exe had advanced features that can pick up syntax errors, and create a .lst file that show addressing and disassembly data of the assembly op-code. A .lst file can be opened with any text editor, namely notepad.exe which is available on every Windows PC.

Emu68k.exe is an emulator that allows the programmer to execute programs that were designed to run on the Motorola 68k on an everyday PC instead. Emu68k.exe was extremely valuable in our software design because it allowed us to work efficiently. This holds true because it is much quicker to modify and test programs using the emulator then it is to use the SBC. One could test and debug programs on any PC without having to carry the SBC everywhere, and it is quicker to test the program in an emulator using a DOS prompt then it is to download a program to the SBC with a serial communication program. While the emulator may be more convenient, it still cannot replace the hardware of the SBC because quite a few things needed to be tested with I/O that would be difficult or impossible to emulate in some cases.

Shown below is a simple program written in Motorola 68k Series Assembly language to give you a feel on how this is done. The semicolon ';' is used for comments.



This program should be written in notepad because it is free of any text formatting characters unseen to the user. This program must be saved with the file extension of '.asm' in order to be used by the assembler. The first step in running this program is converting the opcode into machine code using asm68k.exe. To do this you must obtain this program at http://www.sunybroome.edu/~antonakos\_j/68ktoc.html . Place this program into a directory. Use a DOS prompt to access the directory and type "asm68k filename". The assembler will then assemble the file and create a .hex file that contains

the hex code needed. In order to run the program using the assembler you must obtain emu68k.exe from the address above, put this file in a directory, access this directory in DOS, and type emu68k filename. The emulator will load, at this point type 'g'. The program will then execute.

 To run this program on the SBC itself you must use serial communication software such as "hyperterminal". Open this program set these parameters: baud rate to 38400 bps, no stop bits, no parity bits, and no hardware. Once these parameters have been set the software will now be in communication with the SBC's monitor program. Now reset the SBC using the reset button, type 'L' at the prompt, from the menu select "send text file," select filename.hex of the program you want to run and click "send." The hex code will transmit, after this is done press enter and type in 'g' to run the program. The program has now been executed

 Now that the basics such as writing a program in notepad, assembling, and executing the program in an emulator and on the SBC have been covered, you will have an easier time understanding the assembly software information detailed in this report.

### **Motorola 68k Single Board Computer: Hardware Details**

 The ECE 252 and ECE 395 supplementary manuals at the URL: web.njit.edu/~rosensta provides in depth documentation of the hardware details of the Motorola 68k SBC. Below are the basic principles of the organization and architecture of the SBC that are required to understand our project design.

 The addressing logic generated from the high order address pins of the CPU is the heart of understanding the function of the SBC. To simplify matters the SBC was designed using a 3-8 decoder to generate the addressing logic. The 3 high order address bits are input into the decoder which allow up to 8 unique outputs. In technical terms this is known as high-order interleaving. When studied, the schematic illustrates the principle of addressing, for example when the three high order address bits are 000 the first output of the decoder is selected, this output when enables the EEPROM chip. Therefore the first location of EEPROM is at \$00000h. Now consider the second output on the decoder if you trace the schematic it leads to the Chip Enable CE pin of the RAM chip, this output is asserted when the 3 high order address bits are 001 now illustrated with the other address pins starting from A17-A0:

#### **00**(**1**000)(0000)(0000)(0000) =\$8000h

Therefore the starting address of the RAM is \$8000h. Using this method you will arrive with \$10000h as the starting address of the Serial Port, \$18000h as the starting address of the Parallel Input/Output port. You will notice that sel4 and sel5 are not used but when considered, these addresses will be \$20000h and \$28000h respectively. This is important to note because these two addresses will be used for our project.

 Other interesting hardware details of the M68k SBC are that it has an 8 bit data bus, a system clock speed of 9.8304 MHz, a binary ripple counter that divides the system clock into lower frequencies for the operation of the serial port interface, and several unused logic gates. Another point worth mentioning is the reset circuit design. This design uses a SPST momentary push-button switch de-bounced using a 330ms RC time constant and Schmitt-trigger inverter. By inherent design the Schmitt-trigger inverter ensures a cleaner more "square" pulse.

 The aforementioned hardware features of the SBC are necessary to understand the implementation of our hardware design. Additional, more advanced documentation of the M68k SBC design can be found at Professor Rosenstark's website (listed above)

# **Motorola 68k SBC Schematics:**



### **Hardware: Analog to Digital Conversion**

 Almost all physical occurrences are analog. This means that they are continuously variable, or measurable. Examples are length, width, voltage, pressure, temperature etc. This applies to an engine's operating conditions as well. The ECU, as explained earlier has many decisions to make in order to successfully fire the spark plugs and fuel injectors. The ECU bases these decisions on its inputs, much like humans base their decisions on their inputs, i.e. eyes, ears, taste, touch, and smell. In order for an ECU to make decisions based on the inputs it must process the information. For an ECU to process this analog data, it must first be converted to a binary value. Our project follows these same guidelines.

 In order to make the conversion, we will use an 8 bit Analog to Digital converter, namely the ADC0808. The ADC0808 can access up to 8 different analog signals via three address pins and one address latch enable pin. Once the address has been set on the three address pins the address latch enable pin must be pulsed high in order to "latch in" the new address. It is this process that selects 1 of up to 8 analog inputs.



 To integrate the converter into the SBC's system architecture several steps must be taken. The first step is to wire the 8 data pins into the data bus on the SBC. Next, for continuous conversion START and EOC on the converter must be wired together. Vcc and Vref+ must be wired to +5V, by contrast Vref- and Gnd pins are wired to ground. The address latch enable is supplied by the output of the Schmitt-trigger inverter used by the SBC's reset circuit. This means that ALE will be pulsed whenever the reset button is depressed, the reason for this will be explained in the Sensor Scroll section of this report. The three address pins on the converter will be wired to the output of a latch we added to the system. The explanation for this is in the Sensor Scroll section as well.

The ADC0808 requires a clock input in order to do conversions on analog data. We originally supplied this clock signal from the SBC's existing binary ripple counter. However, the frequency was much too high and resulted in data that seemed very unstable. To remedy this we obtained another binary ripple counter and used the MSB on the original counter to drive the CLK input on the next counter. By doing this we effectively obtained a slower, more reasonable frequency (2.4kHz) to supply our converter with.

 Finally the last step of successfully integrating the ADC0808 into the SBC is generating the output enable signal. Because the system architecture of the SBC uses memory mapped I/O we must enable this chip using addressing logic. To do this we will use the fifth output of the 3-8 decoder located on the SBC. Because the outputs of the decoder are active low we must invert this signal using an un-used Schmitt-trigger inverter (74LS14). The output of the inverter can now be input to the "output enable" pin on the ADC0808. The address of the ADC0808 is now \$20000h. To illustrate this below is a simple program that reads from the converter and writes to the output port (\$18000h)



The above program is an infinite loop that continuously reads from the converter and outputs to the output port.

#### **ADC0808 Pinouts:**





**Analog to Digital Conversion: Schematics**

### **Hardware: Sensor Scroll Feature**

 The sensor scroll feature allows the user to toggle through different sensor outputs by the push of a button. The button used to accomplish this is the reset button. As described in the hardware description section the reset button on the SBC is a SPST momentary pushbutton switch. The reason why we use the reset button to toggle through states is because its simple, shortens the amount of code need to be written, and acts as an interrupt.

 To implement this design a storage device is needed. For this purpose we used a d-type latch. We wired three input pins of the latch to the data bus of the SBC, the three output pins are wired to the input port of the SBC, and ADD A, ADD B, and ADD C in parallel. The CLK signal of the latch is generated by the addressing logic of the SBC. We used the sixth output of the 3-8 decoder. As with the converter, we needed to invert this signal using an unused Schmitt-trigger inverter. The output of this inverter is wired to the CLK pin on the latch. The latch is addressed at \$28000h. See the schematic for an illustrated view.

 The reason why we used a latch is that once the project is powered up the latch will contain \$00 which means that the converter will be reading from the  $1<sup>st</sup>$  analog sensor input. In our main program we read from address \$18000h because this address contains the value of the latch. We then store this value into a register, add 1 to this value and write the result back into the latch. The code to implement this is shown below:

Move.b #\$18000,d0 ;reads from input port Addi.b #1,d0 ;adds 1 to the value Move.b d0,\$28000 ;writes value to latch

When the  $3<sup>rd</sup>$  line of the above code is executed the latch contains the previous value+1 this means that the address pins on the converter also contain the same value. However, the present value of the address pins on the converter are not being used until the Address Latch Enable pin is pulsed. Therefore once the reset switch is depressed the present value will be latched into the converter. Now the process will repeat itself in a way that every time the reset switch is pressed, the next converter input will be read.

 The sensor scroll feature is very important to the usefulness of our project and takes advantage of the converter's ability to read from 8 different sensors. While functional, it is also simple in that it is activated by the push of a single button.

# **Sensor Scroll Hardware Schematic:**



### **Hardware: DC Power Source**

The SBC was initially powered by a 120VAC source that was stepped down, rectified, and cleaned to +5VDC. This was done using a standard 120VAC in +5VDC out power supply. Because the average car does not supply 120VAC and we want our project to be completely portable, we had to find a way to connect into an automobiles DC voltage system. To do this we simply used a ATA6405 voltage regulator IC. The reason why we chose this IC is because of its low power consumption, use for automotive applications, and thermal overload shutdown. This IC is vital to regulate the unstable 12- 14 VDC supplied by an automobile's electrical system. For ease of use, our project can be plugged into a vehicle's cigarette lighter outlet.

This feature is extremely important because it allows the user to diagnose/monitor engine operating conditions on the road. This is advantageous because most problems do not reoccur in the confines of a garage bay. Furthermore this allows our design to be completely portable.

# **Hardware: 20x1 LCD Line Display**

 The LCD we have decided to use is a parallel 20x1 line LCD. There are only fourteen pins needed for the LCD. The Hitachi HD44780U controller chip is integrated onto the LCD chip. The pin numbers and functions are as follows:



We connected pin 3 to a potentiometer to create a contrast knob for the LCD screen. Pin 5 goes to ground because we are only writing to the screen, never reading. Therefore we constructed our assembly program so we only write to the LCD and never read from it. Pin 4 is connected to address line 2. This pin toggles between the write function of characters to the LCD and the operation functions of the LCD screen. If the pin is high, the LCD is in character writing mode and operation writing mode if low. The address of writing mode is \$18002, the address of operation writing mode is \$18000. Pin 6 is connected to the enable pin on the 74LS373 chip on the SBC. This pin is pulsed to enable the LCD.

 The Hitachi chip on the LCD board allows 5x8 or 5x10 sized characters. It also allows an 8-bit operation, 8-digit x 1 line display, a 4-bit operation, 8-digit x 1 line display, and an 8-bit operation, 8-digit x 2 line display. Because the Hitachi has these choices, we needed to do a function set to tell the Hitachi chip what type of display we are using.



Note: - indicates no effect.

\* After execution of the CGRAM/DDRAM data write or read instruction, the RAM address counter<br>is incremented or decremented by 1. The RAM address counter is updated after the busy flag<br>turns off. In Figure 10, t<sub>oo</sub> is the counter is updated.



 Once again the LCD is addressed to 18000 on the board. Since the RS pin is connected to address 2, at address 18002, the RS pin is high and at 18000, the RS pin is low. We decided to not display the cursor because of the rapid change in position. Since we decided to ground the R/W pin, the SBC cannot read the busy flag of the LCD. The SBC operates at a system clock many times higher then that of the LCD circuitry. This can cause problems in the character writing and operation performing because the SBC may go to the next instruction before the LCD is finished with the instruction. To fix this problem, we wrote a delay function in our program.



The LCD is initialized when the power is turned on; however, we are using the reset button as our toggle button so we need to manually initialize the LCD. To do this, we followed this flow chart and programmed accordingly. We also used this initialization sequence in the beginning of our program.





The character chart of the Hitachi is very similar to the ASCII chart. The HEX values for numbers and letters are exactly the same. The HEX for symbols may be different. Since the HEX values for numbers are the same for Hitachi and ASCII, we were able to use an algorithm to convert the 8-bit data into the HEX value needed to display a number on the screen. The Hitachi character chart is shown below:



### **Hardware: Sensor Simulation**

 In our project, we needed a way to simulate the signals that the car sensors would send. We decided that using 8-100k ohm potentiometers are the best solution because a potentiometer is an analog signal that varies in voltage.





The wiper of each potentiometer is connected to the analog input pins on the ADC0808. The A/D converter chip can receive up to eight analog signals. Each Out pin of each potentiometer is wired to the In0-In7(pins 1-5, and 26-28) pins of the A/D converter.

# **LCD Schematics**



### **Assembly Program: BCD Conversion**

 One of the most important subsystems of our project is to output data to an LCD screen. Suppose I want to send the number 255 to the LCD screen. In order for this to work I would have to send '2' '5' '5' (when the characters are in quotes assume it's the ASCII equivalent of that character). Simply stated, only one character can be sent to the screen at one time. In order for this to occur, some processing must take place, it is known as binary to BCD conversion. If we were to convert the number 255 the following steps would have to take place:

255÷100=**2** Remainder 55 55÷10=**5** Remainder 5 5÷1=**5** Remainder 0

 As you can see from the bold type the numbers '2' '5' '5' are isolated from the original 255. This is the only way characters can be sent to the LCD screen, one at a time. A final operation must be done on this data, because of the ASCII standard a bias of \$30h must be added to each character being sent to the screen so

 $(2+$30)$  $(5+\$30)$ 

 $(5+\$30)$ 

will yield 255 written on the LCD screen.

The code to perform such an algorithm is described above with the addition of deleting most significant zeros from the 3 number string, and returning the cursor back to the start position (reset).





If traced through properly you will find that the above algorithm takes up to any 3 digit number, separates each character to send to the screen separately, removes any most significant '0' characters, and resets the cursor to a start position. This start position is different for every sensor string. For example, the start position for the following string: "The number is=xxx" is address 14. The string "The xxx is right" has a start position of 4. It is vital that the cursor return to the proper start position or the LCD display will not function properly.

## **Assembly Program: Reading Individual Sensors**

 The code to read from each sensor and output the proper data is vital to the operation of our project. Each sensor has its own data so to speak. To illustrate this consider this chart:



Because such data exists it is possible to check the data from \$18000h and perform an address jump that corresponds to a subroutine that contains the data processing for each sensor. The code for this is shown below:



Once the jump has been made the processing/retrieving characters to send to the screen is trivial. How this is done is shown in the main program.

### **Assembly Program: Processing Data**

 Raw data from the sensor output or potentiometers must be processed into information that can be comprehended by humans. In order to do this a sensor characteristic must be found, and the math processing must be done to approximate this characteristic. Below is an example taken from the code that processes the TPS sensor.



The above subroutines are what handle character fetch, send, delay, reset, and processing of the signal into useable data. Subroutines "loop", and "error" are universal for all the sensors, subroutine "loop" fetches the characters and sends them to the screen, "error" notifies the user of a sensor error. Subroutine "tpsa" handles the math, subroutine "tps" handles setting certain flags used for fetching characters and resetting the cursor.

# **Assembly Program: Program Flow**

To someone that is unfamiliar with assembly language code, it would be difficult for them to understand the program flow of our final program. The program structure is as follows:

- 1. Initialization routine to clear LCD display
- 2. Read from the latch to determine which sensor is being accessed
- 3. Write to latch for the next sensor to be accessed after the reset press
- 4. Branch to subroutine that handles the sensor being accessed
- 5. Set flags such as character fetch data, and cursor reset information
- 6. Write characters for the current sensor to the screen i.e. "TPS=xxx Degrees"
- 7. Read information from analog-digital converter for the current sensor
- 8. Process information into useable data using sensor characteristics
- 9. Perform the BCD algorithm/MSB zero deletion algorithm
- 10. Go to step 7

Additional Rules:

- Any information/initialization data send to the LCD screen must be accompanied with a delay.
- The program, when executed, is infinite, it doesn't stop until the reset button is pressed.
- When the reset button is pressed the program returns to step 1 of the basic program flow.

# **Assembly Program: Final Assembly Code**

 Below is the fully commented final assembly code used on the SBC through serial port communication.











### **PC Program**

 This program communicates with the SBC through the serial port. In the assembly program we will declare a3 as the address for the serial port. With our SBC, the address is \$10000. Then whenever we read from the potentiometer, we will send the data to the serial port as well as the LCD. We use this code:

move.b d7, a3 ; moves the data in d7 to the serial port

At this point, everything is happening at the PC end. First we needed to create a form and load in the MSComm32.OCX component. This component allows serial communication through com port 1. The program is written in Visual Basic 5. We picked an easy programmable language to get a good visual of what is happening from the sensor. In the SBC, the Intel 8251 UART is sending data at a 38400 baud rate. In the program, we set the Com Port to 8-bit, no parity, no handshaking, and 38400 baud rate, with a stop bit of 1.



 Then we had to set the length of the buffer, and the mode at which to send. Since we are going to be receiving binary data, the mode has to be set to binary. As information is sent through the serial port, a buffer stores the data until the user of the program asks for it. by setting the length of the buffer to zero, the program will read all data in the buffer. These commands set these options:



 Once everything is initialized, the port can be opened. When the port is opened, the PC will now be receiving whatever data is being sent. This data may be coming to the port incorrectly due to non-synchronization. Once the reset button is hit, however, the data should be sending correctly. Once the data is received, the PC must convert the 8-bit data into useful information. We need the data converted to a number. This is the operations needed to do so:

Select Case MSComm1.CommEvent Case comEvReceive 'redefines the size of buffer then  $txtSensor.Text = ""$ ReDim InBuffer(MSComm1.InBufferCount)



ReDim InBuffer(MSComm1.InBufferCount) 'the buffer starts to overflow End Select



The Chr\$ is the line that takes the 8 bits and converts it to a character string. Since we need a number, we need to add \$30 to the binary number to gets the correct ASCII character string we need. Below is an ASCII chart to see how it converts from binary to the character needed (taken from Professor Rosenstark's ECE 252 Supplemental Notes):



Once the PC has the correct character, which in this case is a number, we can generate a scope view. Below is the code to have the data received from the SBC transformed into graphical data:



#### $iZ = 0$

With PortSet 'Count The Additional Bits From The Ports Settings If .Parity  $\langle \rangle$  "n" Then  $iZ = 1$  $bChkParity = True$  End If iBits = CLng(.DataBits) 'Number Of Bits To Display From Port 'Settings iStop = CLng(.StopBits) 'Number Of Stop Bits To Add  $iZ = iZ + iBits + iStop'Sum Stop, Parity, and Data Bits$ End With  $iBitCount = (iZ * (iBytes + 1)) + (iBytes + 1)$ ReDim bTrace(iBitCount - 1) Trace Array One less than Total BitCount ' (array index)  $iZ = 0$ For iX = 0 To iBytes  $\frac{1}{2}$  Max iBytes is 3 (Four Byte Trace)  $bTrace(iZ) = True$  'Start Bit lblScope1(iZ + LabelOffSet).Caption = sStartBitLabel  $iZ = iZ + 1$  iOnBits = 0 'Zero Count For On Bits To Check Parity For  $iY = 1$  To iBits 'Parse Each Data Bit  $bOn = BitOn(Data(iX), iY)$  $iOnBits = Abs(bOn) + iOnBits$  $bTrace(iZ) = Not bOn$  'Invert as Negative Voltage on Scope is 'Logical True  $lbScope1(iZ + LabelOffSet).Caption = CStr(iY - 1)$  $iZ = iZ + 1$  Next If bChkParity Then 'True For All But Parity Setting Of "None" Select Case PortSet.Parity Case "e" 'Even Parity If iOnBits Mod 2 Then 'OnBits is Odd Parity Bit Is On  $bTrace(iZ) = False$  Else  $bTrace(iZ) = True$  'OnBits is Even Parity Bit Is Off End If Case "o" 'Odd Parity If iOnBits Mod 2 Then 'OnBits is Odd Parity Bit Is Off  $bTrace(iZ) = True$  Else  $bTrace(iZ) = False$  'OnBits is Even Parity Bit Is On End If Case "m" 'Mark Parity Bit is Always On  $bTrace(iZ) = False$ 

```
 Case "s" 
            bTrace(iZ) = True 'Space Parity Bit is Always Off
            End Select 
           lbScope1(iZ + LabelOffSet).Caption = sParityBitLabeliZ = iZ + 1 End If 
'Set The Scope Trace Stop Bits 
If iStop = 1 Then 'One Stop Bit
      bTrace(iZ) = False 'Stop Bit
      lbScope1(iZ + LabelOffSet).caption = sStopBitLabeliZ = iZ + 1Else 'Two Stop Bits 
      bTrace(iZ) = False 'Stop Bit
       lblScope1(iZ + LabelOffSet).Caption = sStopBitLabel 
      bTrace(iZ + 1) = False 'Stop Bit
      lbScope1(iZ + LabelOffSet + 1).Caption = sStopBitLabeliZ = iZ + 2End If 
Next 
'Get The Proper Scope Trace To Match The Background Color 
iTraceColor = typDisplayColor.Trace 
iBits = 0 'Zero The Bit Count Index
bOn = bTrace(iBits) 'Parse The Trace Array And Draw on Scope Display
For iX = 1 To picScope. Scale Width iX Coordinate
      iY = iLow - (Abs(bOn) * iDelta) 'Y Coordinate
Do While iX Mod iPW 'Draw Horizontal Line To The Pulse Width 
       SetPixel hPic, iX, iY, iTraceColor 
      iX = iX + 1Loop 
If iBits < UBound(bTrace) Then 'Check For End Of Trace 
      If bTrace(iBits) \langle \rangle bTrace(iBits + 1) Then 'Check To See If Next Bit Has
                                             'Changed State 
            For iY = iHigh To iLow 'Next Bit Change In State Draw 
                                             'Vertical Line 
                          SetPixel hPic, iX, iY, iTraceColor 
           Next 
       End If 
      iBits = iBits + 1 'Get The Next Bit
      bOn = bTrace(iBits)Else 'End Of Trace Data Set The Stop Bit 
      iX = iX + 1 'Skip a Bit for the Stop Bit
      iBits = iBits + 1 + LabelOffSet Exit For 
End If
```
Next

Do While iX < picScope.ScaleWidth 'Run The Scope Trace Out SetPixel hPic, iX, iLow, iTraceColor  $iX = iX + 1$ Loop For  $iX = iB$  is To LabelOffSet + 47 'Set The Remaining Scope Label Captions  $lblscope1(iX).Caption = "-"$ Next

 These are the basic functions needed to have the SBC communicate with the PC. The scope is the feature in the PC program that further analyses the sensors from the vehicle. The whole program can be found in the programming section of the report.

# **Visual Basic Program: Screen Shots**

Below are several preliminary screenshots of the visual basic program we created:





#### **Conclusion:**

 Designing and implementing our project was a very challenging process. Design methods that did not work had to be scrapped. Using new hardware such as LCD displays, and Analog to Digital converters involved a learning curve that required a lot of time to master. For example, the first LCD screen we ordered was defective. Unsure of our own understanding and methods to work the screen plagued us until enough testing had gone by when we finally had no doubt the LCD screen was faulty. Designing the sensor scroll feature was also met with difficulty. After several different attempts at using different hardware failed, the idea of using a latch to store next sensor states proved successful.

 Even software design proved to be a difficult endeavor that required a good understanding of the Motorola 68k Series Instruction Set Architecture. In addition to the syntax, programming structures such as loops, conditions, branches, subroutines, and data flow all had to be mastered. Software design in VB is a little less tedious then that on the assembly level but still a major pain nonetheless, and there are still bugs in this software that would take months to massage out.

 In addition to learning from the problems, we also learned a bit on structured design. By using structured design it is possible to tackle one design problem at a time rather then a host of design problems that would be difficult or impossible to debug effectively. Overall this project was a huge success because we had high goals, and met them through hard-work. The end result is a smoothly running system that is a valuable asset to any technician or car junkie wishing to diagnose a problem resulting in poor drivability, low fuel economy, and failed emissions tests.