



Scratch for Arduino Lesson 3 – Analog Input

Potentiometers, Variables, and Etch-a-Sketch*

Etch-a-Sketch may be omitted due to safety concerns.

A POSTERIORI Play · Experience · Learn

Analog Input

• Today we will extend the ongoing LED project by introducing an analog input device





Slides available at: http://a9i.sg/huayi

Graphical Dimmer Switch

• Last week some of you may have completed the Graphical Slider control







Slides available at: http://a9i.sg/huayi

Physical Dimmer Switch

• Today we will be using a Potentiometer as a variable resistor, or Rheostat, to recreate the effect with a physical switch...





Slides available at: http://a9i.sg/huayi

Resistors & Variable Resistors

• What is electrical resistance?



a measure of the difficulty to pass an electric current through a circuit element



Slides available at: http://a9i.sg/huayi

Resistors & Variable Resistors

• Fixed Resistors have fixed resistance



• Variable Resistors have variable resistance





A POSTERIORI Play · Experience · Learn

Slides available at: http://a9i.sg/huayi

 Inside there's a fixed resistor and a wiper that points between the minimum and maximum terminals of the resistor



A POSTERIORI Play · Experience · Learn

Slides available at: http://a9i.sg/huayi

• Let's use a multimeter to measure the minimum and maximum resistance of the wiper terminal



A POSTERIORI Play · Experience · Learn

Slides available at: http://a9i.sg/huayi

• Resistance causes voltage to drop, so the potentiometer also behaves as a Voltage Divider





Slides available at: http://a9i.sg/huayi

• Resistance causes voltage to drop, so the potentiometer also behaves as a Voltage Divider





Slides available at: http://a9i.sg/huayi

• Resistance causes voltage to drop, so the potentiometer also behaves as a Voltage Divider





Slides available at: http://a9i.sg/huayi

• Resistance causes voltage to drop, so the potentiometer also behaves as a Voltage Divider





Slides available at: http://a9i.sg/huayi

Analog vs. Digital Input

• Unlike the digital pins which read either 0 or 1, analog inputs can read a range of values.



Let's Get Hands-On

(the exciting part...?)

A POSTERIORI Play · Experience · Learn

Connect to Arduino



A POSTERIORI Play · Experience · Learn

Slides available at: http://a9i.sg/huayi

Start up mBlock

- Don't forget mLink
- Go to https://ide.mblock.cc to start mBlock

Q.0

• File \rightarrow New





Slides available at: http://a9i.sg/huayi

Connect with Arduino

Switch to "Live" mode and "Connect"



Select a COM port

 [x] "Show all connectable devices"

• Update) appears,	click on	Device : Arduino Uno
it followed by	Update Firmware	and	Firmware Version :
"Updates"			Online firmware(2.5.1)

Slide 17

A POSTERIORI Play · Experience · Learn

Slides available at: http://a9i.sg/huayi

Review Breadboard

Use long strips to create lots of pinholes for GND & 5v

Useful when connecting multiple devices

Experience ·

STERIORI

Learn



Slides available at: http://a9i.sg/huayi

Potentiometer Circuit



A POSTERIORI Play · Experience · Learn

Slides available at: http://a9i.sg/huayi

Exercise 3a

Read Analog Input

A POSTERIORI Play · Experience · Learn

Read Analog Input



Need to do something with the value....



Slides available at: http://a9i.sg/huayi

Read Analog Input



A POSTERIORI Play · Experience · Learn

Slides available at: http://a9i.sg/huayi

Challenges

- Note in your Student Handout the min/max values for the A0 readings for the Potentiometer's Wiper
- Write a program that:

1) checks if Potentiometer wiper is closer to GND or closer to 5V

- 2) if closer to GND Panda says "GND" else
 - Panda says "5V"



Slides available at: http://a9i.sg/huayi

Condition on Analog Input

when 🏴 clicked		
forever		
if 🛛 👓 rea	d analog pin (A)	0 < 512 then
broadcast G		
else		
broadcast 5	v •	
• •		

The "if – then" and "if – then - else" conditional constructs are very important in programming.

They allow you to change the behavior of your program based on input or state.

Add the Panda portion & Test it out!

Can you add conditions for 4 different outcomes?



Slides available at: http://a9i.sg/huayi

Light Control

• Back to our dimmer effect...



• Let's combine our LED and Potentiometer circuits to re-create this effect.



Slides available at: http://a9i.sg/huayi



• Make a Physical Dimmer Switch:





Slides available at: http://a9i.sg/huayi

Dimmer Switch Circuit





Slides available at: http://a9i.sg/huayi

Challenges

- In your **Handout**, note the math required to convert between 0-1023 (input) and 0-255 (output)
- Then program it in **mblock** *Hint: look at the* **map block** under **Data**



A POSTERIORI Play · Experience · Learn

Slides available at: http://a9i.sg/huayi

Exercise 3b

Mapping Input to Output

A POSTERIORI Play · Experience · Learn

Variables



POSTERIORI

Play · Experience · Learn

We should now have two variables.

One to read Potentiometer from A0.

Second to store the mapped output PWM (0-255).



Slides available at: http://a9i.sg/huayi

Dimmer Program

STERIORI

Play · Experience · Learn



Slide 31

Slides available at: http://a9i.sg/huayi

Challenges

Try to *upload* the program to the Arduino for a smoother effect.
 Just change the mode, and the start event to when Arduino starts up.

• Change the program so that the Potentiometer controls **how fast the LED blinks**, instead of its brightness level.



Slides available at: http://a9i.sg/huayi

Exercise 3c

Move, Panda, Move!!!

A POSTERIORI Play · Experience · Learn

Move, Panda, Move!

• Make Potentiometer control Panda's X-axis position.



A POSTERIORI Play · Experience · Learn

Slides available at: http://a9i.sg/huayi

Move, Panda, Move!

- Find Pand X-axis min and max (move it around)
- Map A0 to Panda's X-limits and store in a variable (for all sprites).
- Tell Panda to set its position to that saved value.



A POSTERIORI Play · Experience · Learn

Slides available at: http://a9i.sg/huayi

Move, Panda, Move!





Slides available at: http://a9i.sg/huayi

Challenges

- Make Panda point towards the new X
- Make Panda look like it's walking by changing costumes
 - And make Panda only walk when it's moving...
- Add a second Potentiometer to control Y. Like an Etch-a-Sketch!



Slides available at: http://a9i.sg/huayi

Extra Challenges

• Use multiple LEDs to create a **Metering Effect.** The bigger the reading, the more LEDs are lit.

You can start with 3 LEDs, e.g.:

if (AO < 330) turn off everything else if (330 < AO < 660) turn on 1 else if (660 < AO < 990) turn on 2 else turn on 3





Slides available at: http://a9i.sg/huayi

Copyright

- Created by A Posteriori LLP
- Visit http://aposteriori.com.sg/ for more tips and tutorials
- This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 4.0 International License.





Slides available at: http://a9i.sg/huayi