

Adafruit I2S MEMS Microphone Breakout

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Overview



For many microcontrollers, adding audio input is easy with one of our analog microphone breakouts (http://adafru.it/1063). But as you get to bigger and better microcontrollers and microcomputers, you'll find that you don't always have an analog input, or maybe you want to avoid the noise that can seep in with an analog mic system. Once you get past 8-bit micros, you will often find an **I2S** peripheral, that can take *digital audio data* in! That's where this **I2S Microphone Breakout** comes in.

Instead of an analog output, there are three digital pins: Clock, Data and Word-Select. When connected to your microcontroller/computer, the 'I2S Master' will drive the clock and word-select pins at a high frequency and read out the data from the microphone. No analog conversion required!



The microphone is a single mono element. You can select whether you want it to be on the Left or Right channel by connecting the Select pin to power or ground. If you have two microphones, you can set them up to be stereo by sharing the Clock, WS and Data lines but having one with Select to ground, and one with Select to high voltage.



This I2S MEMS microphone is bottom ported, so make sure you have the hole in the bottom facing out towards the sounds you want to read. It's a 1.6-3.3V device only, so not for use with 5V logic (its really unlikely you'd have a 5V-logic device with I2S anyways). Many beginner microcontroller boards *don't* have I2S, so make sure its a supported interface before you try to wire it up! This microphone is best used with Cortex M-series chips like the Arduino Zero, Feather M0, or single-board computers like the Raspberry Pi.



Assembly

Assembly is really easy, you can use straight or 'right-angle' style headers to attach to the PCB. We'll be using the plain straight headers included

The board comes with all surface-mount components pre-soldered. The included header strip can be soldered on for convenient use on a breadboard or with 0.1" connectors. You can also skip this step and solder on wires.



Prepare the header strip:

Cut the strip to length if necessary. It will be easier to solder if you insert it into a breadboard - **long pins down**



Add the breakout board:

Place the breakout board over the pins so that the short pins poke through the breakout pads Make sure the side with the components is face down, as shown in the photos in this guide!



And Solder!

Be sure to solder all 5 pins for reliable electrical contact.

(For tips on soldering, be sure to check out our <u>Guide to Excellent</u> <u>Soldering</u> (http://adafru.it/aTk)).

You're done! Check your solder



joints visually and continue onto the next steps



Pinouts

Unlike most of our breakouts, this sensor has the detection element on the**bottom** of the PCB, so we expect you to solder it 'upside down' with the sensor package on the bottom and the port on top!



Power Pins

- **3V** this is the power in pin. Technically it can be powered from as low as 1.6V to 3.6V but you'll need to make sure your logic level matches!
- GND power and data ground

I2S Data Pins

- BCLK the bit clock, also known as the data clock or just 'clock' comes from the I2S master to tell the microphone its time to transmit data. This should run at 2-4 MHz but we've found you can often run it a little slower and it'll work fine
- DOUT the data output from the mic!
- LRCLK the left/right clock, also known asWS (word select), this tells the mic when to start transmitting. When the LRCLK is low, the left channel will transmit. When LRCLK is high, the right channel will transmit.
- **SEL** the channel select pin. By default this pin is low, so that it will transmit on the left channel mono. If you connect this to high logic voltage, the microphone will instantly start transmitting on the right channel.



Arduino Wiring & Test

Remember, the I2S microphone requires an I2S peripheral and won't work with chips that *don't* support it in hardware! For this example we'll use a Feather M0, but you can also use an Arduino Zero.

Wiring

For Feather M0, Ardruino Zero and friends, use the following wiring:

- GND connected GND
- 3.3V connected 3.3V (Feather, Zero) or VCC (MKR1000, MKRZero)
- LRCLK / WS connected to pin 0 (Feather, Zero) or pin 3 (MKR1000, MKRZero)
- BCLK connected to pin 1 (Feather, Zero) or pin 2 (MKR1000, MKRZero)
- Data /SD connected to pin 9 (Zero) or pin A6 (MKR1000, MKRZero

You can leave Select disconnected



i2sfeatherm0.fzz http://adafru.it/uya

I2S Library

Luckily, there's a nice little I2S library already written for Arduinos based on the SAMD processor. Make sure you have the most recent Arduino IDE and SAMD core. Then select the board you're using (e.g. Adafruit Feather M0) and you'll see the I**2S** library examples show up in the pulldown menu

e Edit Sketch Tools Help New Ctrl+N Open Ctrl+O Open Recent	LiquidCrystal SD Servo Stepper		x Q
e Edit Sketch Tools Help New Ctrl+N Open Ctrl+O Open Recent	SD Servo Stepper D		ø
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Save Ctrl+S	Examples for Adafruit Feather M0 (Native USB Port)		_
Save As Ctrl+Shift+S	125	InputSerialPlotter	
Page Setup Ctrl+Shift+P	SAMD_AnalogCorrection	SimpleTone	
Print Ctrl+P	SPI	•	
Preferences Ctrl+Comma	USBHost		
	Wire	•	
Quit Ctrl+Q	Examples from Custom Libraries		

You could try the InputPlotter demo but this code is higher resolution:

/*

This example reads audio data from an I2S microphone breakout board, and prints out the samples to the Serial console. The Serial Plotter built into the Arduino IDE can be used to plot the audio data (Tools -> Serial Plotter)

Circuit:

- * Arduino/Genuino Zero, MKRZero or MKR1000 board
- * GND connected GND
- * 3.3V connected 3.3V (Zero) or VCC (MKR1000, MKRZero)
- * WS connected to pin 0 (Zero) or pin 3 (MKR1000, MKRZero)
- * CLK connected to pin 1 (Zero) or pin 2 (MKR1000, MKRZero)
- * SD connected to pin 9 (Zero) or pin A6 (MKR1000, MKRZero)

created 17 November 2016 by Sandeep Mistry

#include <I2S.h>

void setup() {
 // Open serial communications and wait for port to open:
 // A baud rate of 115200 is used instead of 9600 for a faster data rate
 // on non-native USB ports
 Serial.begin(115200);
 while (!Serial) {
 ; // wait for serial port to connect. Needed for native USB port only
 }
}

```
}
 // start I2S at 16 kHz with 32-bits per sample
 if (!I2S.begin(I2S PHILIPS MODE, 16000, 32)) {
   Serial.println("Failed to initialize I2S!");
  while (1); // do nothing
 }
}
void loop() {
 // read a sample
 int sample = I2S.read();
 if ((sample == 0) || (sample == -1) ) {
  return;
 }
 // convert to 18 bit signed
 sample >>= 14;
 // if it's non-zero print value to serial
 Serial.println(sample);
}
```

Upload to your Arduino Zero/Feather wired up as above, and open up the Serial Plotter



Try blowing or whistling at the sensor to see response in real time



VU Meter Demo

Often times you don't want the actual audio data but the overall "sound pressure level". This example will take a bunch of samples, normalize the data to be around 0, then give you the maximum difference between the waveforms for a 'volume graph'

/*

This example reads audio data from an Invensense's ICS43432 I2S microphone breakout board, and prints out the samples to the Serial console. The Serial Plotter built into the Arduino IDE can be used to plot the audio data (Tools -> Serial Plotter)

Circuit:

- * Arduino/Genuino Zero, MKRZero or MKR1000 board
- * ICS43432:
- * GND connected GND
- * 3.3V connected 3.3V (Zero) or VCC (MKR1000, MKRZero)
- * WS connected to pin 0 (Zero) or pin 3 (MKR1000, MKRZero)
- * CLK connected to pin 1 (Zero) or pin 2 (MKR1000, MKRZero)
- * SD connected to pin 9 (Zero) or pin A6 (MKR1000, MKRZero)

created 17 November 2016 by Sandeep Mistry

#include <I2S.h>

```
void setup() {
 // Open serial communications and wait for port to open:
 // A baud rate of 115200 is used instead of 9600 for a faster data rate
 // on non-native USB ports
 Serial.begin(115200);
 while (!Serial) {
  ; // wait for serial port to connect. Needed for native USB port only
 }
 // start I2S at 16 kHz with 32-bits per sample
 if (!!2S.begin(I2S_PHILIPS_MODE, 16000, 32)) {
  Serial.println("Failed to initialize I2S!");
  while (1); // do nothing
 }
}
#define SAMPLES 128 // make it a power of two for best DMA performance
void loop() {
 // read a bunch of samples:
 int samples[SAMPLES];
 for (int i=0; i<SAMPLES; i++) {
  int sample = 0;
  while ((sample == 0) || (sample == -1) ) {
   sample = I2S.read();
  }
  // convert to 18 bit signed
  sample >>= 14;
  samples[i] = sample;
 }
 // ok we hvae the samples, get the mean (avg)
 float meanval = 0;
 for (int i=0; i<SAMPLES; i++) {
  meanval += samples[i];
 }
 meanval /= SAMPLES;
 //Serial.print("# average: " ); Serial.println(meanval);
 // subtract it from all sapmles to get a 'normalized' output
 for (int i=0; i<SAMPLES; i++) {
  samples[i] -= meanval;
  //Serial.println(samples[i]);
 }
 // find the 'peak to peak' max
 float maxsample, minsample;
 minsample = 100000;
 maxsample = -100000;
```

```
for (int i=0; i<SAMPLES; i++) {
    minsample = min(minsample, samples[i]);
    maxsample = max(maxsample, samples[i]);
  }
  Serial.println(maxsample - minsample);
}</pre>
```

Open up the serial plotter to see how making noises will create peaks!



ArduinoSound Library

For most uses, its better to have a higher-level library for managing sound. TheArduinoSound library works with I2S mics and can do filtering, amplitude detection, etc!

Install it using the Arduino library manager

Library Manag	er		×
Type All	▼] Topic [All	➡] arduinosound	
ArduinoSound [EXPERIMENT audio devices. More info	l by Arduino (AL] A simple way to pla	y and analyze audio data using Arduino. Cun	rrently only supports SAMD21 boards and I2S
			Close

Various examples come with the library, check them out in the File->Examples->ArduinoSound sub menu

e Edit Sketch	Tools Help		
New Open Open Recent Sketchbook	Ctrl+N Ctrl+O		
Examples		A	one
Close Ctrl+W Save Ctrl+S Save As Ctrl+Shift+S	Adafruit_ZeroDMA Adafruit_ZeroTimer AdafruitMGC3130 AltRGBMatrixPanel	▶ ▶ ▶	
Page Setup	Ctrl+Shift+P	ArduinoSound	AmplitudeSerialPlotte
Print	Ctrl+P	A\$3935	ClapDetector
Preferences Ctrl+Comma Quit Ctrl+Q	AudioZero BLEPeripheral	SpectrumSerialPlotter WavePlayback	
	Ctrl+Q	CapacitiveSensor	WhistleDetector

For example, amplitude Serial plotter will do basic amplitude plotting:



You can also do FFT spectral diagramming using SpectrumSerialPlotter. We made a small change to the example so that all 128 bins are plotted:

```
х
SpectrumSerialPlotter | Arduino 1.8.1
File Edit Sketch Tools Help
                                                                                     Ø
  SpectrumSerialPlotter §
   if (!fftAnalyzer.input(AudioInI2S)) {
                                                                                         ٠
     Serial.println("Failed to set FFT analyzer input!");
     while (1); // do nothing
   }
 }
 void loop() {
  // check if a new analysis is available
  if (fftAnalyzer.available()) {
    // read the new spectrum
     fftAnalyzer.read(spectrum, spectrumSize);
    // print out the spectrum
    for (int i = 0; i < spectrumSize; i++) {</pre>
       //Serial.print((i * sampleRate) / fftSize); // the starting frequency
      Serial.print(spectrum[i]); // the spectrum value
       Serial.print("\t"); //
                                                                                         Ξ
     }
     Serial.println();
   }
 1
```





Raspberry Pi Wiring & Test

You can add mono or stereo I2S microphones to your Raspberry Pi, too!

This will work with Raspberry Pi B+, 2, 3, Zero and any other 2x20-connector-Pi

This guide is largely based on this great git repo<u>https://github.com/nejohnson2/rpi-i2s</u> (http://adafru.it/vka)

Wiring For Mono Mic



Wiring For Stereo Mic



fritzing

Pi i2s Stereo Fritzing File http://adafru.it/vkc

Raspberry Pi i2s Configuration

Start by logging into your Raspberry Pi via a terminal, we recommend ssh so you can copy + paste the many commands.

Turn on i2s support by editing /boot/config.txt with:

sudo nano /boot/config.txt

Uncomment #dtparam=i2s=on



Next, we'll make sure sound support is enabled in the kernel with:

sudo nano /etc/modules

Add snd-bcm2835 on its own line, to the modules file as shown below



Now reboot your pi with:

sudo reboot

Once rebooted, re-log in.

Enter the following to confirm the modules are loaded

Ismod | grep snd

• • •			pi@raspberrypi: ~
oi@raspberrypi:~ \$ ls	smod gr	ep	snd
snd_soc_bcm2835_i2s	6354		
nd_soc_core	125949		<pre>snd_soc_bcm2835_i2s</pre>
nd_pcm_dmaengine	3391		snd_soc_core
snd_bcm2835	20447		
snd_pcm	75762		<pre>snd_bcm2835, snd_soc_core, snd_pcm_dmaengine</pre>
snd_timer	19288		snd_pcm
	51908		<pre>snd_bcm2835, snd_soc_core, snd_timer, snd_pcm</pre>
pi@raspberrypi:~ 💲 📔			

Kernel Compiling

Ok now its time for the fun part! You'll manually compile in i2s support.

Start by updating your Pi:

sudo apt-get update sudo apt-get install rpi-update sudo rpi-update

Then reboot!

Install the compilation dependencies:

sudo apt-get install git bc libncurses5-dev

Download kernel source & compile:

sudo wget https://raw.githubusercontent.com/notro/rpi-source/master/rpi-source -O /usr/bin/rpi-source

sudo chmod +x /usr/bin/rpi-source /usr/bin/rpi-source -q --tag-update rpi-source --skip-gcc

On a Pi 3 this will take many many minutes, so don't worry if its taking 15 minutes. On a Pi Zero it can take an hour or longer!

pi@raspberrypi: ~ pi@raspberrypi:~ \$ sudo wget https://raw.githubusercontent.com/notro/rpi-source/ master/rpi-source -0 /usr/bin/rpi-source (ANSI_X3.4-1968) -> 'https://raw.githubusercontent.com/notro/rpi-source/master/ rpi-source' (UTF-8) er/rpi-source Resolving raw.githubusercontent.com (raw.githubusercontent.com)... 151.101.0.133 , 151.101.192.133, 151.101.64.133, ... Connecting to raw.githubusercontent.com (raw.githubusercontent.com) 151.101.0.13 HTTP request sent, awaiting response... 200 OK Length: 12670 (12K) [text/plain] Saving to: '/usr/bin/rpi-source' /usr/bin/rpi-source 100%[=============>] 12.37K --.-KB/s in 0.001s 2017-04-03 15:32:17 (10.3 MB/s) - '/usr/bin/rpi-source' saved [12670/12670] pi@raspberrypi:~ \$ sudo chmod +x /usr/bin/rpi-source pi@raspberrypi:~ \$ /usr/bin/rpi-source -q --tag-update pi@raspberrypi:~ \$

Prepare to Compile the i2s module

Now you're ready to compile i2s support:

sudo mount -t debugfs debugs /sys/kernel/debug

This may already be done - **mount: debugs is already mounted** - in which case keep going

If you are using Pi 3 or Pi 2 - make sure the module name isst203000.i2s

If you are using Pi Zero - the module name is20203000.i2s



Download the module, written by Paul Creaser (http://adafru.it/vkd)

git clone https://github.com/PaulCreaser/rpi-i2s-audio cd rpi-i2s-audio

Pi Zero Only

If you are using a Raspberry Pi Zero, edit**my_loader.c** with **nano my_loader.c** and change the two lines

.platform = "3f203000.i2s",

and

.name = "3f203000.i2s",

with

```
.platform = "20203000.i2s",
```

and

.name = "20203000.i2s",

pi@raspberrypi: ~/rpi-i2s-audio						
GNU nano 2.2.6 File: my_loader.c	Modified A					
<pre>* N.B. playback vs capture is determined by the codec choice * */</pre>						
<pre>void device_release_callback(struct device *dev) { /* do nothing */</pre>	};					
<pre>static struct asoc_simple_card_info snd_rpi_simple_card_info = {</pre>						
.card = "snd_rpi_simple_card", // -> snd_soc_card.name						
.name = "simple-card codec link", // -> and soc dai link.name						
.codec = "snd-soc-dummy", // "dmic-codec", // -> snd soc dai link.cod	iec name					
.platform = "20203000.i2s",						
.daifmt = SND_SOC_DAIFMT_I2S SND_SOC_DAIFMT_NB_NF SND_SOC_DAIFMT_	CBS CFS,					
.cpu_dai = {						
.name = "20203000.i2s", // -> and acc dai link.cpu dai name						
$sysclk = 0$ },						
.codec_dai = {						
.name = "snd-soc-dummy-dai", //"dmid-codec", // -> snd_soc_dai_link.codec_dai_n\$						
.sysclk = 0 },						
};						
<pre>static struct platform_device snd_rpi_simple_card_device = {</pre>						
.name = "asoc-simple-card", //module alian						
[^] G Get Help [^] O WriteOut [^] R Read File [^] Y Prev Page [^] K Cut Text [^] C ([^] X Exit [^] J Justify [^] W Where Is [^] V Next Page [^] U UnCut Text [^] T 2	Cur Pos To Spell 🔻					

If you aren't using a Pi Zero, continue on!

Compile the module with

make -C /lib/modules/\$(uname -r)/build M=\$(pwd) modules sudo insmod my_loader.ko

Verify that the module was loaded:

lsmod | grep my_loader dmesg | tail



Note that on the Pi 2/3 you'll see asoc-simple-card asoc-simple-card.0: snd-soc-dummy-dai <-> 3F203000.i2s mapping ok on the last line and on Pi Zero you'll see asoc-simple-card asoc-simple-card.0: snd-soc-dummy-dai <-> 20203000.i2s mapping ok

Auto-load the module on startup

Now you can set it up so the module is loaded every time you boot the Pi

sudo cp my_loader.ko /lib/modules/\$(uname -r) echo 'my_loader' | sudo tee --append /etc/modules > /dev/null sudo depmod -a sudo modprobe my_loader

And reboot!

sudo reboot

Test & Record!

OK that was a lot of effort but now you are ready to rock!

Use the following command to list the available input devices:

arecord -I

you should see a snd_rpi_simple_card



You can record a wav file in mono with this command:

```
arecord -D plughw:1 -c1 -r 48000 -f S32_LE -t wav -V mono -v file.wav
```

Or, if you have two i2s mics installed, record in stereo with this command:

```
arecord -D plughw:1 -c2 -r 48000 -f S32_LE -t wav -V stereo -v file_stereo.wav
```

If all is working correctly, you should see the VU meter react at the bottom of the terminal window

	pi@raspberrypi: ~
pi@raspberrypi Recording WAVE Plug PCM: Hardw	:- \$ arecord -D plughw:1 -c2 -r 48000 -f S32_LE -t wav -V stereo -v file_stereo.wav 'file_stereo.wav' : Signed 32 bit Little Endian, Rate 48000 Hz, Stereo ware PCM card 1 'snd_rpi_simple_card' device 0 subdevice 0
Its setup is:	
stream	: CAPTURE
access	: RW_INTERLEAVED
format	: \$32_LE
subformat	: STD
channels	
rate	: 48000
exact rate	: 48000 (48000/1)
msbits	: 32
buffer_size	: 24000
period_size	: 6000
period_time	: 125000
tstamp_mode	: NONE
period_step	
avail_min	: 6000
period_event	
start_thresh	old : 1
stop_thresho	ld : 24000
silence_thre:	shold: 0
silence_size	
boundary	: 1572864000
appl_ptr	
hw_ptr	
+##################	87878888888888888888888889981 MAX####################################

Test Playback

If you have speakers hooked up to the Pi, you can play the file back directly on the device:

aplay file.wav

Or, you can copy it over to your computer for playback :), just insert your Pi's IP address below:

```
scp pi@<local-ip>:/home/pi/file.wav ~/Desktop/file.wav
```

Adding Volume control

You can add volume control to your mine via alsamixer and alsa config. <u>Hat tip to</u> <u>RickTracer</u> (http://adafru.it/doW))

Run sudo nano ~/.asoundrc

and put the following in:

```
#This section makes a reference to your I2S hardware, adjust the card name
# to what is shown in arecord -I after card x: before the name in []
#You may have to adjust channel count also but stick with default first
pcm.dmic_hw {
type hw
card sndrpisimplecar
channels 2
format S32 LE
}
#This is the software volume control, it links to the hardware above and after
# saving the .asoundrc file you can type alsamixer, press F6 to select
# your I2S mic then F4 to set the recording volume and arrow up and down
# to adjust the volume
# After adjusting the volume - go for 50 percent at first, you can do
# something like
# arecord -D dmic sv -c2 -r 48000 -f S32 LE -t wav -V mono -v myfile.wav
pcm.dmic sv {
type softvol
 slave.pcm dmic hw
 control {
 name "Boost Capture Volume"
 card sndrpisimplecar
}
min_dB -3.0
 max dB 30.0
}
```

pi@raspberrypi: ~			
GNU nano 2.7.	File: /home	/pi/.asoundrc	Modified 🔺
<pre>#This section mails to what is shown is sho</pre>	kes a reference to your I2 wn in arecord -1 after car adjust channel count also rpisimplecar 2 32_LE	S hardware, adjust the c d x: before the name in but stick with default	ard name [] first
<pre>#This is the so # saving the .a. # your I2S mic " # to adjust the # After adjust is # something like # arecord -D dm pcm.dmic_sv {</pre>	tware volume control, it 1 oundrc file you can type a hen F4 to set the recordin volume g the volume - go for 50 p c_sv -c2 -r 48000 -f S32_L tvol	inks to the hardware abo lsamixer, press F6 to se g volume and arrow up an ercent at first, you can E -t wav -V mono -v myfi	ve and after lect d down do le.wav
slave.p control	m dmic_hw { name "Boost Capture Volume card sndrpisimplecar		
/ min_dB max_dB	3.0		E
^G Get Help ^O ^X Exit ^R	Write Out <mark>^W</mark> Where Is <mark>^K</mark> Read File <mark>^\</mark> Replace <mark>^U</mark>	Cut Text <mark>^J</mark> Justify ^ Uncut Text <mark>^T</mark> To Spell ^	C Cur Pos Go To Line 👻

Now before you can change the volume you need to use the device once (this is an alsa thing)

Run

arecord -D dmic_sv -c2 -r 44100 -f S32_LE -t wav -V mono -v file.wav

And cancel with ^C once it starts recording.

Now you can run alsamixer - press F6 and select the I2S simple sound card



It will complain there are no playback controls (because its for recording only).

Press **F5** to change the volume.



Then you can record with the i2c mic device using

arecord -D dmic_sv -c2 -r 48000 -f S32_LE -t wav -V mono -v recording.wav

and playback with

aplay recording.wav



Downloads

Files

- EagleCAD PCB Files on GitHub (http://adafru.it/uyb)
- Fritzing object in the Adafruit Fritzing library (http://adafru.it/aP3)

Schematic & Fab Print



