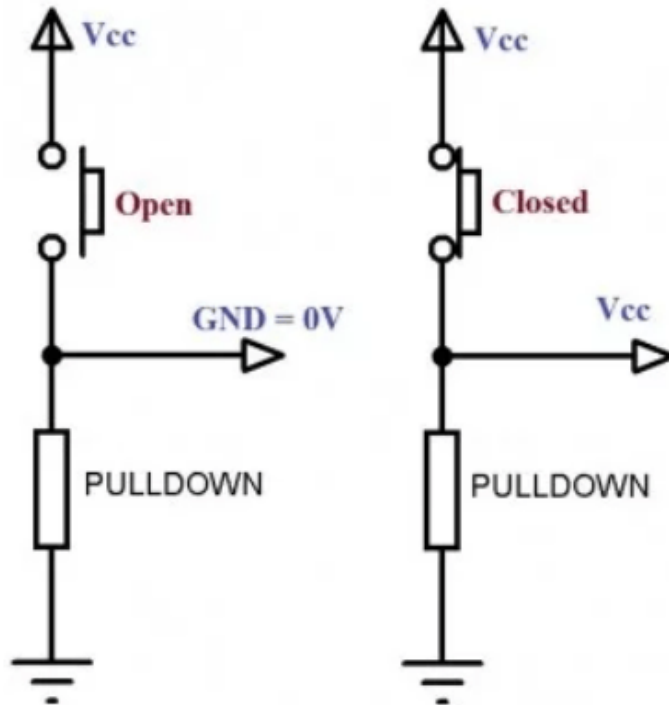# Microcontrollers & Applications

Lecture 3.1: Serial Communication & Digital Input-Output

Serial Communication

- /* Serial communication library is included by default, not necesary to declare. If different than hardware pins will be used, SoftwareSerial.h should be imported indeed */

- Serial.begin(9600)
  - Starts the serial communication with the speed of 9600 bps

- Serial.end()
  - Finalizes the serial communication

- Serial.print(value)
  - Sends the value via serial port

- Serial.println(value)

- Sends the value and the next line character (i.e., value+'\n') via serial port

- Serial.available()
  - true if there are some values received via serial port
  - false if there is no received value via serial port

- Serial.read()
  - Reads the incoming byte value from the serial port

- Serial.readString()
  - Reads the received string from the serial port

- from machine import UART
  - Import the required library

- uart = UART(id=0,baudrate=9600,bits=8,parity=None,stop=1)

- uart = UART(0, 9600)
  - Starts the serial communication via GPIO0 pin with the speed of 9600 bps

- uart.read(n)
  - Reads n characters from the serial port

- uart.read()
  - Reads all available characters from the serial port

- uart.readline()
  - Reads a line of characters (until reaching the '\n' character) from the serial port

- uart.readinto(buf)
  - Reads and stores into the given buffer

- uart.write(value)
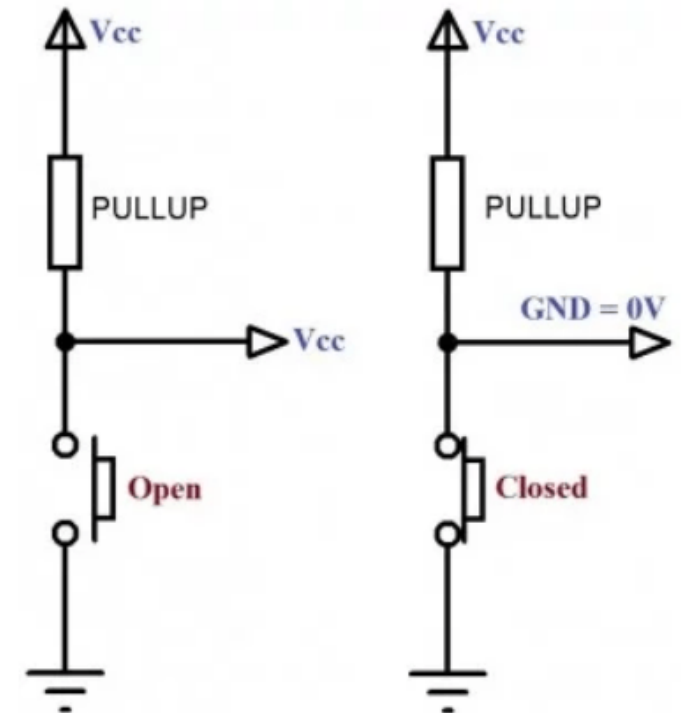 - Sends the value via serial port

Digital Inputs

- Active HIGH (PULLDOWN):
  - When you read HIGH (+5V) from the digital input it is activated (button pressed here); otherwise, it will be in passive. The pin must be connected to the GND via a pulldown resistor and the other terminal must be directly connected to the +5V.
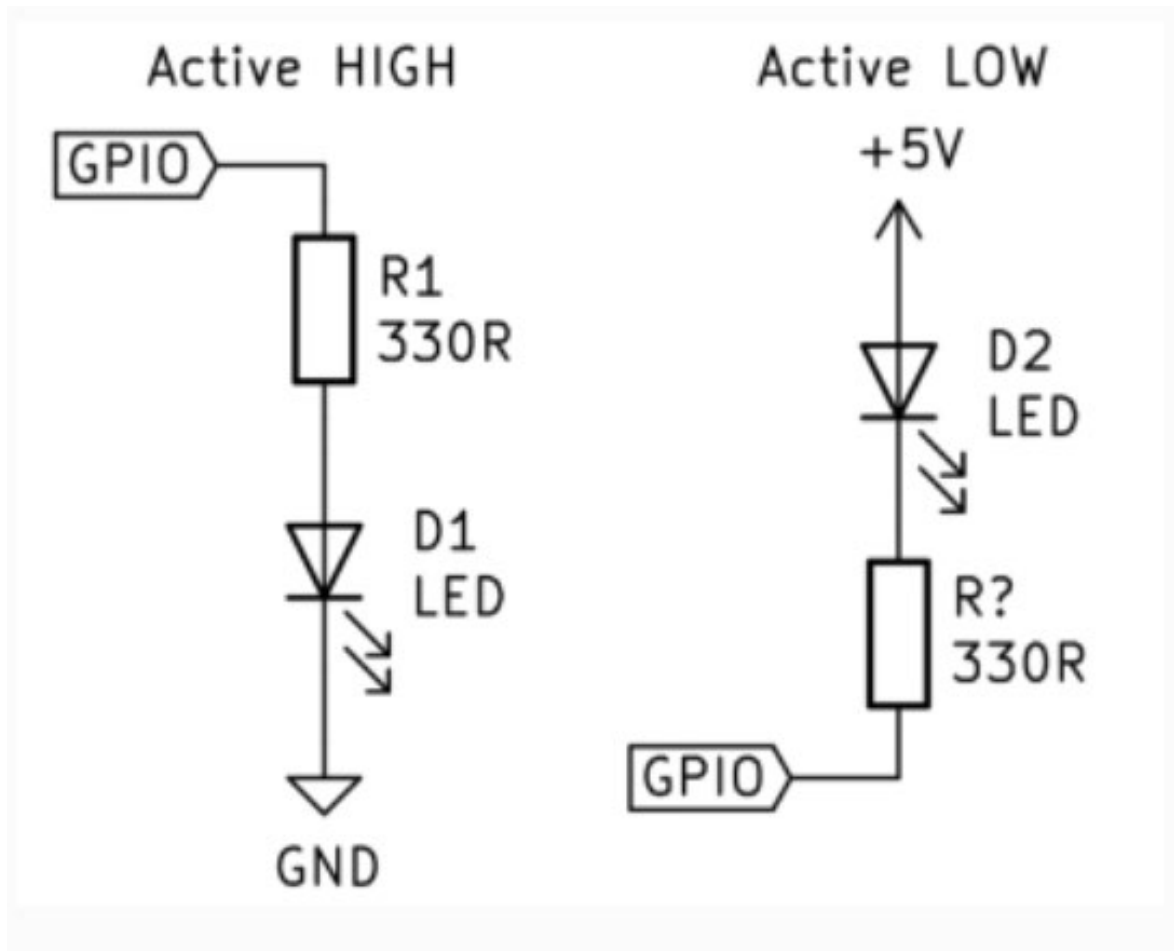
- Active LOW (PULLUP):
  - When you read LOW (GND = 0 V) from the digital input it is activated (button pressed here); otherwise, it will be in passive. The pin must be connected to the +5V via a pullup resistor and the other terminal must be directly connected to the GND.

- If the input device requires extra hardware components, you must use them in series.
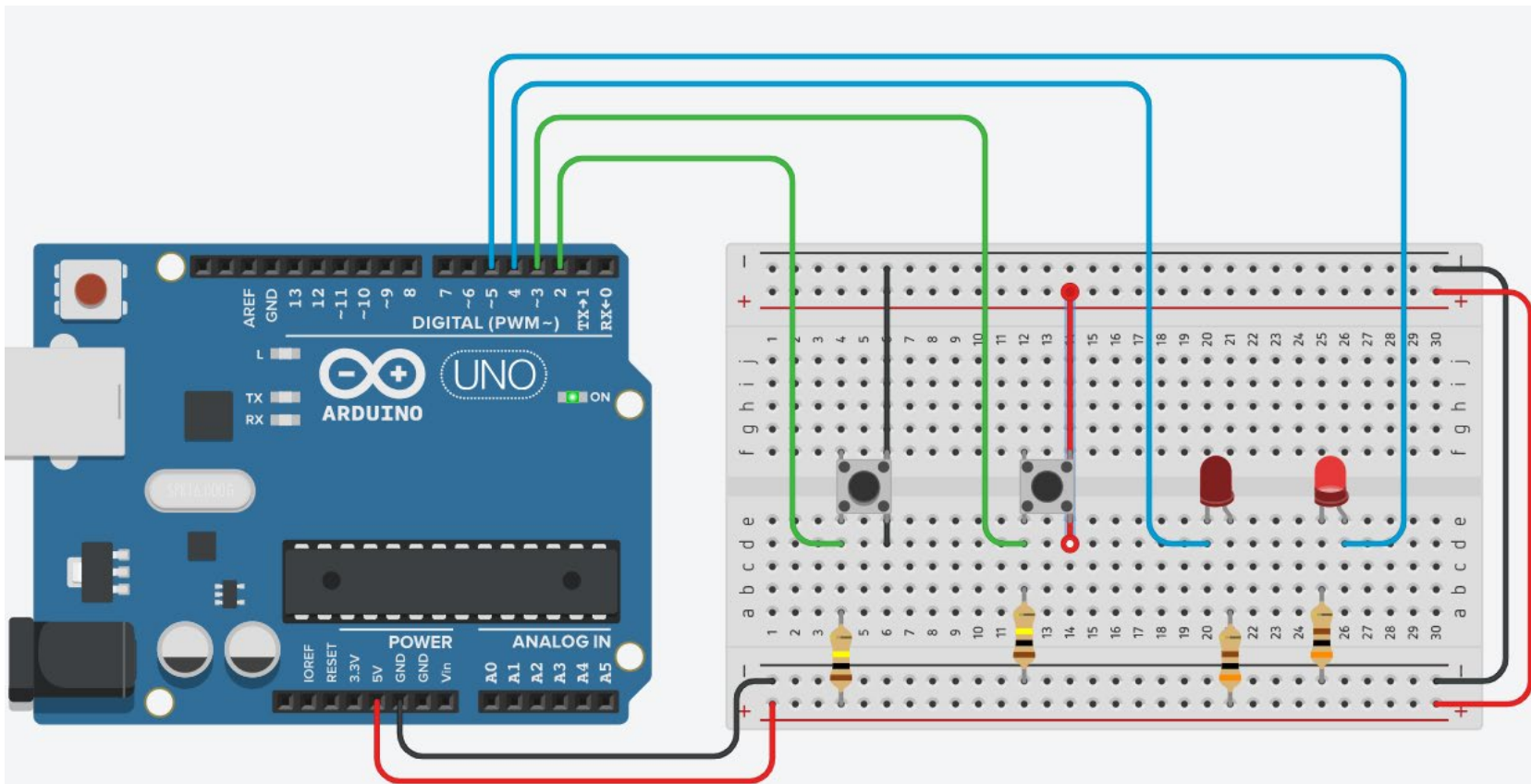
Digital Outputs

- Active HIGH:
  - When you send HIGH (+5V) to the digital output it activates (lightens here); otherwise, it will be in passive. The other terminal must be connected to the GND.

- Active LOW:
  - When you send LOW (GND = 0 V) to the digital output it activates (lightens here); otherwise, it will be in passive. The other terminal must be connected to the +5V.

- If the output device requires current limitation, you must connect a resistor in series.

Arduino Example
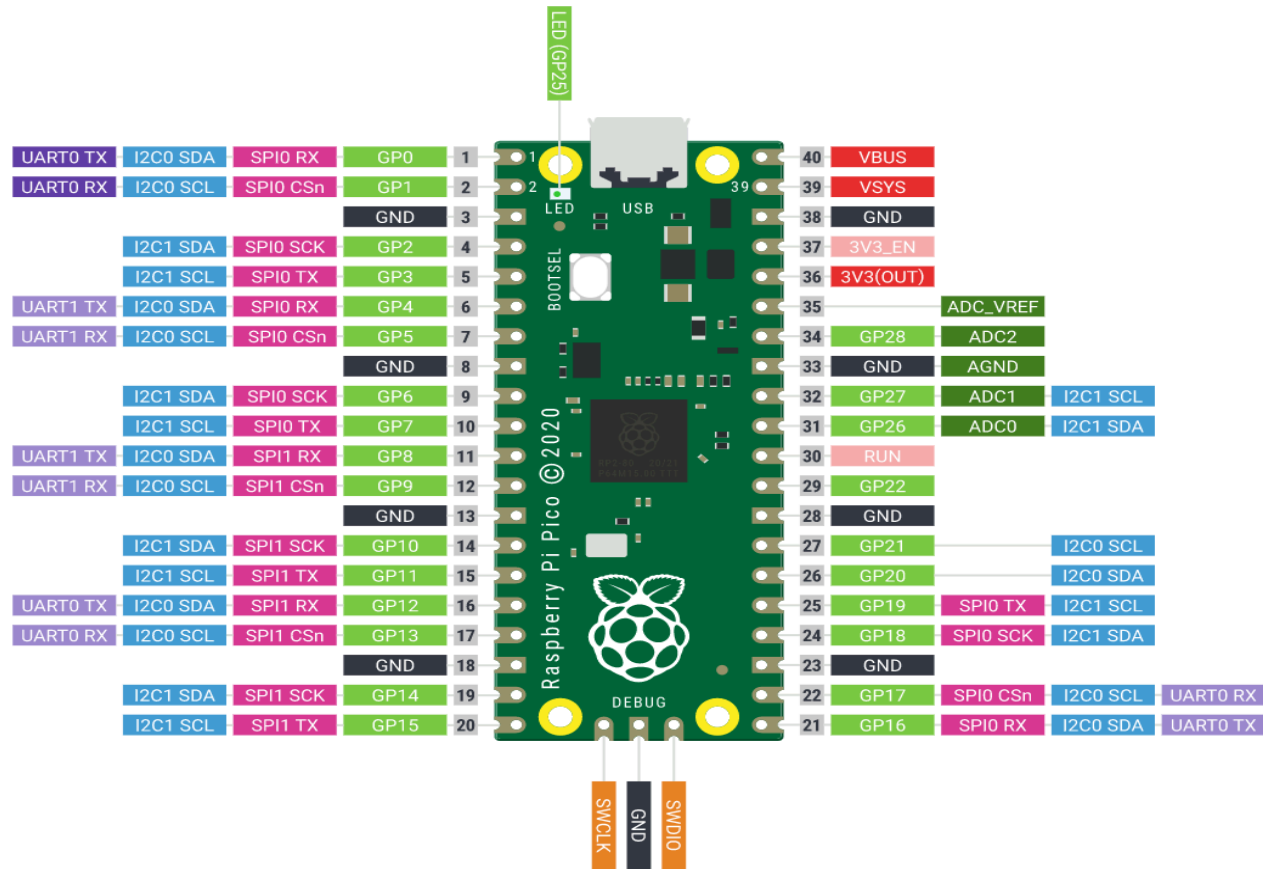
Code of Arduino Example

```
#define BUTTON_PULLUP   2
#define BUTTON_PULLDOWN 3
#define LED_ACTIVE_LOW  4
#define LED_ACTIVE_HIGH 5

void setup() {
  pinMode(BUTTON_PULLUP, INPUT);
  pinMode(BUTTON_PULLDOWN, INPUT);
  pinMode(LED_ACTIVE_LOW, OUTPUT);
  digitalWrite(LED_ACTIVE_LOW, HIGH);
  pinMode(LED_ACTIVE_HIGH, OUTPUT);
  digitalWrite(LED_ACTIVE_HIGH, LOW);
  Serial.begin(9600);
}

void loop()
{
  digitalWrite(LED_ACTIVE_LOW, LOW);
  Serial.println("Active low LED is LOW");
  delay(1000); // Wait for 1000 millisecond(s)
  digitalWrite(LED_ACTIVE_LOW, HIGH);
  Serial.println("Active low LED is HIGH");
  delay(1000); // Wait for 1000 millisecond(s)
  digitalWrite(LED_ACTIVE_HIGH, HIGH);
  Serial.println("Active high LED is HIGH");
  delay(1000); // Wait for 1000 millisecond(s)
  digitalWrite(LED_ACTIVE_HIGH, LOW);
  Serial.println("Active high LED is LOW");
  delay(1000); // Wait for 1000 millisecond(s)

  if (digitalRead(BUTTON_PULLUP) == LOW) {
    Serial.println("Pullup button is active");
    delay(100); // Wait for 100 millisecond(s)
  }
  if (digitalRead(BUTTON_PULLDOWN) == HIGH)
  {
    Serial.println("Pulldown button is active");
    delay(100); // Wait for 100 millisecond(s)
  }

}
```

Raspberry Pi Pico Example

Code of Raspberry Pi Pico Example

```python
import time

import board

import digitalio

import UART


BUTTON_PULLUP = digitalio.DigitalInOut(board.GP2)
BUTTON_PULLUP.direction = digitalio.Direction.INPUT
BUTTON_PULLDOWN = digitalio.DigitalInOut(board.GP3)

BUTTON_PULLDOWN.direction = digitalio.Direction.INPUT


LED_ACTIVE_LOW = digitalio.DigitalInOut(board.GP4)

LED_ACTIVE_LOW.direction = digitalio.Direction.OUTPUT

LED_ACTIVE_LOW.value = True

LED_ACTIVE_HIGH = digitalio.DigitalInOut(board.GP5)

LED_ACTIVE_HIGH.direction = digitalio.Direction.OUTPUT

LED_ACTIVE_HIGH.value = False

uart = UART(0, 9600)
```

```python
while True:

    LED_ACTIVE_LOW.value = False

    uart.write("Active low LED is LOW\n")

    time.sleep(1)


    LED_ACTIVE_LOW.value = True

    uart.write("Active low LED is HIGH\n")

    time.sleep(1)


    LED_ACTIVE_HIGH.value = True

    uart.write("Active high LED is HIGH\n")

    time.sleep(1)


    LED_ACTIVE_HIGH.value = False

    uart.write("Active high LED is LOW\n")

    time.sleep(1)
```
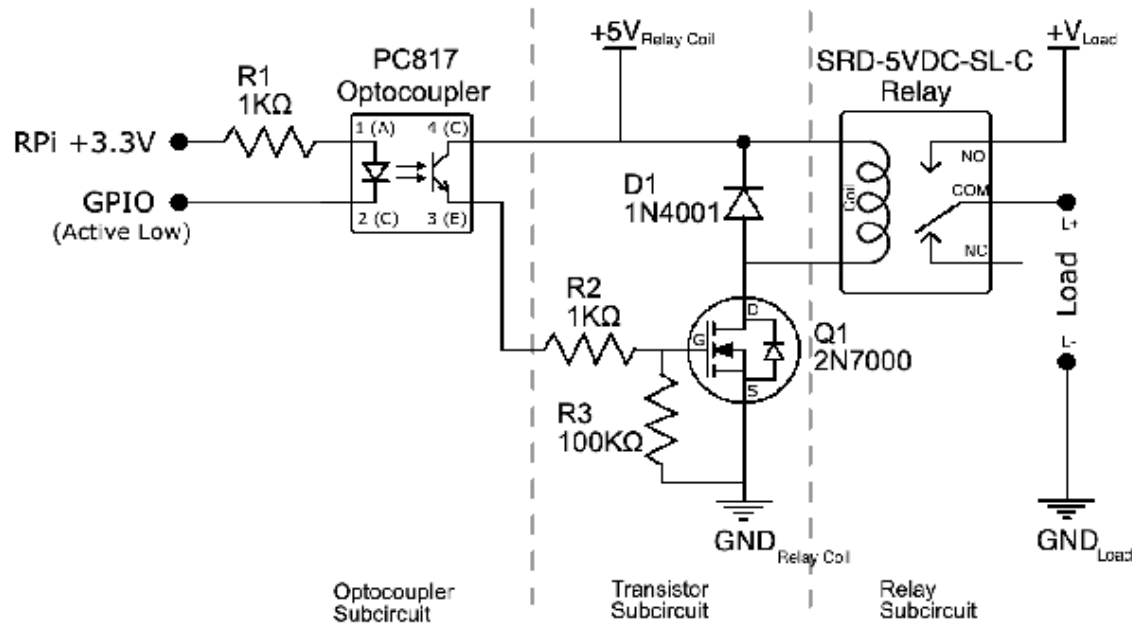
```python
    if BUTTON_PULLUP == False:

        uart.write("Pullup button is active\n")

        time.sleep(0.1)

    if BUTTON_PULLDOWN == True:

        uart.write("Pulldown button is active\n")

        time.sleep(0.1)
```
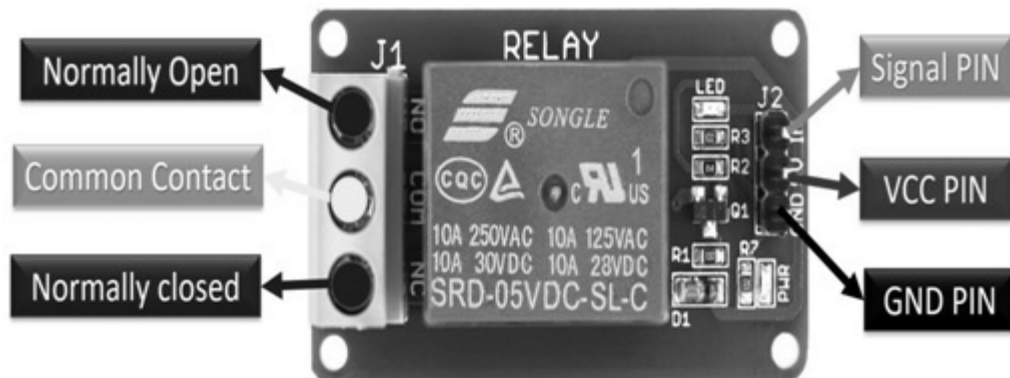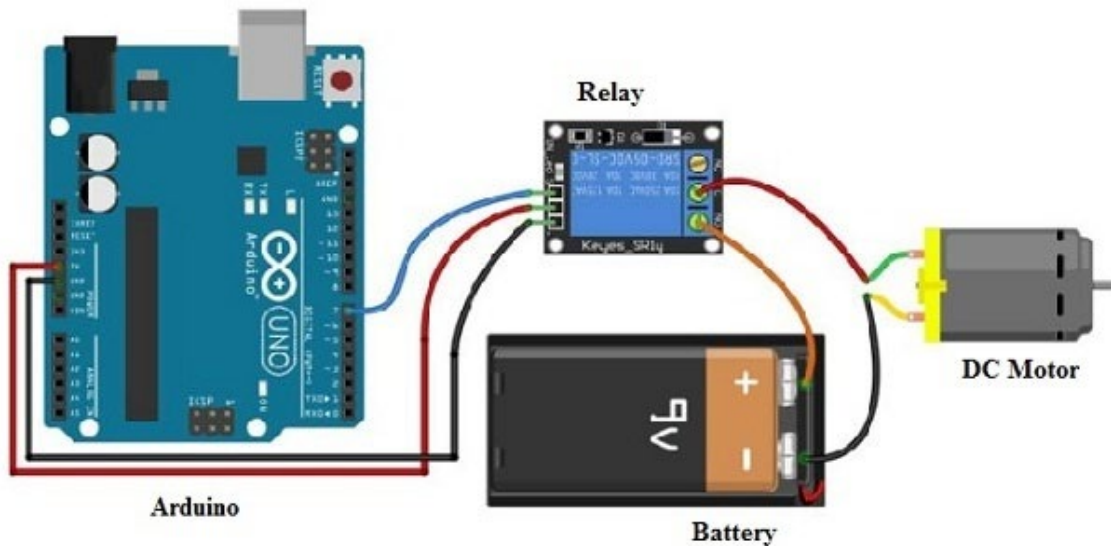
Connecting High-Power Outputs using Relays (1)

- Diode (D_1) is reversely connected to the coil of the relay via MOSFET (Q_1).

- Practical optocoupler and relay connection. Using a Raspberry Pi board (or any other microcontroller) to control very-high-voltage devices via digital input/output voltages.

Connecting High-Power Outputs using Relays (2)

Arduino

- Practical simple relay module. Using an Arduino Uno R3 board (or any other microcontroller) to control high-voltage devices (upto a 220-V lamp, or similar) via digital input/output voltages.

  - A diode (1N4007) is reversely connected to the coil of the relay via NPN transistor (BC547).

  - VCC: Relay input voltage

  - GND: Relay ground voltage reference

  - Signal: Digital control signal

  - Common Contact: Power to the external device

  - Normally Closed: Common contact is connected when the signal is LOW ; otherwise, disconnected.

  - Normally Open: Common contact is connected when the signal is HIGH; otherwise, disconnected.

Thanks for listening ☺

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