

Interfacing with Single-Wire Serial EEPROMs

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INTRODUCTION

The AT21CS Series is a family of Serial Electrically Erasable and Programmable Read-Only Memory (EEPROM) that utilizes the Single-Wire Interface (SWI) protocol.

The family software addressing scheme allows up to eight devices to share a common single-wire bus. The device is optimized for use in many industrial and commercial applications where low-power and low-voltage operation are essential. Some applications examples include analog sensor calibration data storage, ink and toner printer cartridge identification, and management of after-market consumables. The family is available in space-saving package options and operates with an external pull-up voltage on the SI/O line.

HARDWARE

The hardware used in conjunction with the firmware is shared with the Serial Memory Single-Wire Evaluation Kit (DM160232). For additional information about the hardware, refer to the DM160232 User Guide found at http://www.microchip.com. Figure 1 illustrates the hardware used with the source code.

Note: To power the hardware, the USB Base

Board should be plugged into a 5V USB

port.

FIGURE 1: USB BASE BOARD AND SWI SOCKET BOARD

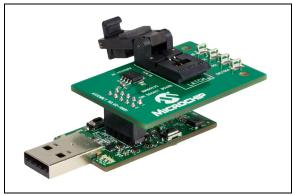
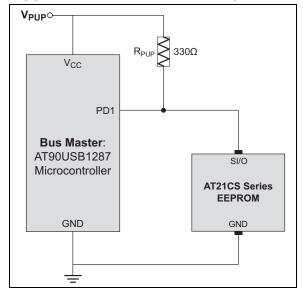


Figure 2 is the hardware schematic that depicts the interface between the Microchip AT21CS Series of devices and the USB Base Board microcontroller, AT90USB1287. The schematic shows the necessary connections between the microcontroller and the serial EEPROM as tested. The software was written assuming these connections. The single I/O connection between the microcontroller and the serial EEPROM includes a recommended pull-up resistor.

FIGURE 2: HARDWARE CIRCUIT



FIRMWARE

The purpose of the firmware is to show how to generate specific single-wire bus transaction using a generic I/O pin on the microcontroller. The focus is to provide the user with a strong understanding of communication with the AT21CS Series devices, thus allowing for more complex programs to be written in the future.

The firmware was written in C using Atmel Studio 7.0 and shares code with the Serial Memory Single-Wire Evaluation Kit (DM160232) firmware. Most of the complex tasks have been done in the firmware and the user is not expected to write any low-level subroutines.

Oscilloscope screen shots of the firmware and hardware are shown in this application note to assist in better understanding single-wire bus transactions.

Initialization

In order to use the firmware with the hardware, the firmware needs to be programmed to the DM160232 USB Base Board. The user should use the hex file (seeprom.hex) found in the "default" folder and program the firmware to the USB Base Board using the FLIP Software Utility.

Note:

In order to program the firmware to the USB Base Board, the user must use the USB Base Board Firmware Upgrade Procedure in the DM160232 User Guide found at http://www.microchip.com.

Once the firmware is programmed to the USB Base Board, the transactions can be monitored using an oscilloscope and the supplied test points.

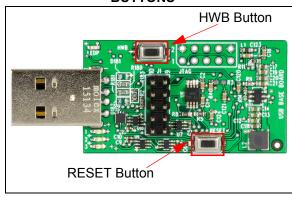
Note:

In order to restore the initial DM160232 firmware, the Firmware Upgrade Procedure should be performed again using the initial firmware. This initial firmware location is specified in the DM160232 User Guide found at http://www.microchip.com.

Overview

The firmware uses the USB Base Board HWB button to start sending single-wire bus transactions. The RESET button is used to reset the microcontroller. Figure 3 highlights the location of the HWB and RESET buttons.

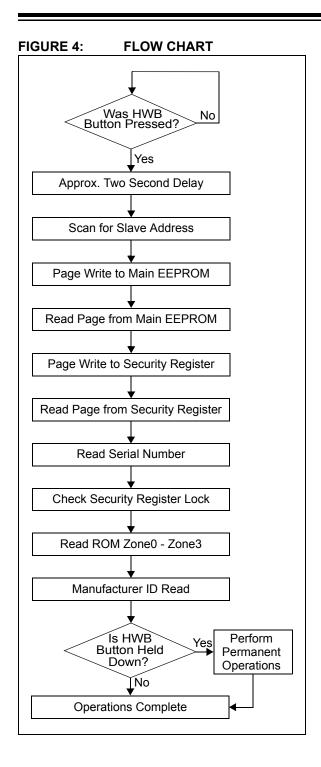
FIGURE 3: USB BASE BOARD BUTTONS



After the HWB button is pressed, an approximate two second delay is initiated. After the delay, single-wire bus transactions will be transmitted. Once all bus transactions are complete, three red LEDs located on the USB Base Board will illuminate. Figure 4 is a flowchart representing the bus transactions.

The firmware includes permanent operations to the AT21CS Series device that once completed, cannot be undone. Therefore, the firmware expects the HWB button to be held down after the initial press to ensure these operations should be performed. Below are the additional permanent operations:

- · Lock Security Register
- · Write-Protect ROMZone0 ROMZone3
- · Freeze ROM Zone State



The hardware supplies the V_{PUP} to the device. The firmware is setup to supply 3.3V to the device and this value can be changed by the user.

The firmware also includes a scan for the corresponding slave address on the installed device. This is accomplished by performing a Reset and Discovery Response, followed by a device address byte. The device address byte will start with slave address 0 (000b) and will check whether the device ACKs the byte. If the device NACKs, the firmware will increment the slave address and perform the sequence again until the device ACKs. Once an ACK is detected, the firmware will recognize that slave address and that address will be used for other operations.

SINGLE-WIRE COMMUNICATION

Types of data transmitted over the SI/O line:

- · Reset and Discovery Response
- Data Input
 - Logic '0' or Acknowledge (ACK)
 - Logic '1' or No Acknowledge (NACK)
- · Data Output
 - Logic '0' or Acknowledge (ACK)
 - Logic '1' or No Acknowledge (NACK)
- · Start and Stop Condition

Communication with the device is conducted in time intervals referred to as a bit frame and lasts $t_{\rm BIT}$ in duration. Each bit frame contains a single binary data value. Input bit frames are used to transmit data from the master to the slave device and can either be a logic '0' or a logic '1'. An output bit frame carries data from the slave device to the master. In all input and output cases, the master initiates the bit frame by driving the SI/O line low. Once the slave device detects the SI/O being driven below the VIL level, its internal timing circuits begin to run.

The duration of each bit frame is allowed to vary from bit to bit as long as the variation does not cause the t_{BIT} length to exceed the specified minimum and maximum values.

Note:

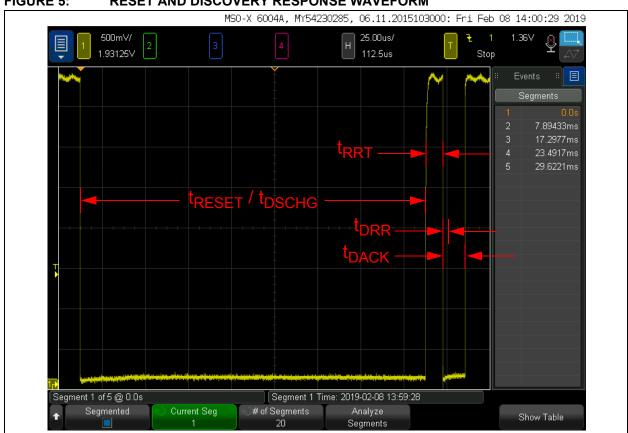
The Reset and Discovery Response is not considered to be part of the data stream to the device, whereas the remaining transactions are all required in order to send data to and receive data from the device. The difference between the different types of data stream transactions is the duration that SI/O is driven low within the bit frame.

Reset and Discovery Response

A Reset and Discovery Response sequence is used by the master to reset the slave device as well as to perform a general bus call to determine if any devices are present on the bus.

To begin the reset portion of the sequence, the master must drive SI/O low for a minimum time. If the slave device is not currently busy with other operations, the master can drive SI/O low for a time of t_{RESET} . The length of t_{RESET} differs for Standard Speed mode and for High-Speed mode. Figure 5, shown below, illustrates the Reset and Discovery Response.





Data Input

A data input bit frame can be used by the master to transmit either a logic '0' or logic '1' data bit to the slave device. The input bit frame is initiated when the master drives the SI/O line low. The length of time that the SI/O line is held low will dictate whether the master is transmitting a logic '0' or a logic '1' for that bit frame. For a logic '0' input, the length of time that the SI/O line must be held low is defined as t_{LOW0} . Similarly, for a logic '1' input, the length of time that the SI/O line must be held low is defined as t_{LOW1} .

The slave device will sample the state of the SI/O line after the maximum t_{LOW1} but prior to the minimum t_{LOW0} after SI/O was driven below the V_{IL} threshold to determine if the data input is a logic '0' or a logic '1'. If the master is still driving the line low at the sample time, the slave device will decode that bit frame as a logic '0' as SI/O will be at a voltage less than $V_{IL}.$ If the master has already released the SI/O line, the slave device will see a voltage level greater than or equal to V_{IH} because of the external pull-up resistor, and that bit frame will be decoded as a logic '1'.

LOGIC '0'

A logic '0' condition has multiple uses in the I²C emulation sequences. It is used to signify a '0' data bit, and it also is used for an Acknowledge (ACK) response. Figure 6 depicts the logic '0' input bit frame.

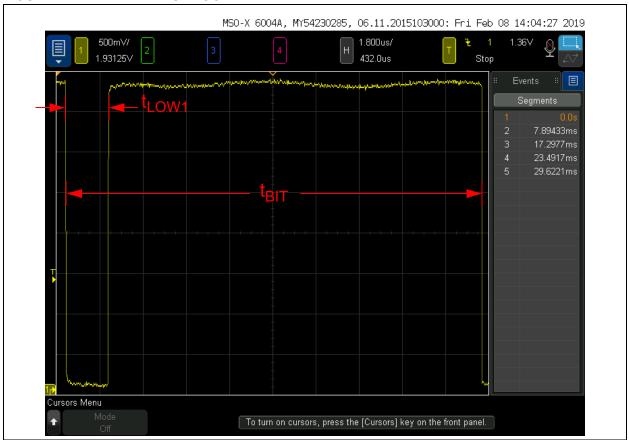




LOGIC '1'

A logic '1' condition has multiple uses in the I^2C emulation sequences. It is used to signify a '1' data bit, and it also is used for an No Acknowledge (NACK) response. Figure 7 depicts the logic '1' input bit frame.

FIGURE 7: DATA INPUT LOGIC '1'



Data Output

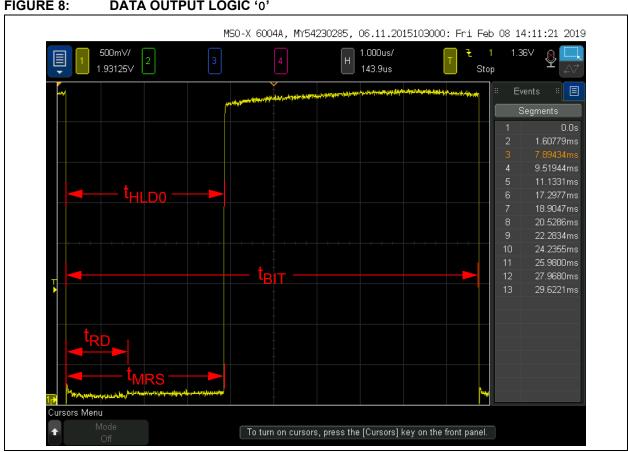
A data output bit frame is used when the master is to receive communication back from the slave device. Data output bit frames are used when reading any data out as well as any ACK or NACK responses from the slave device. Just as in the input bit frame, the master initiates the sequence by driving the SI/O line below the V_{IL} threshold which engages the device internal timing generation circuit.

Within the output bit frame is the critical timing parameter t_{RD}, which is defined as the amount of time the master must continue to drive the SI/O line low after crossing the below V_{IL} threshold to request a data bit back from the device. Once the t_{RD} duration has expired, the master must release the SI/O line.

LOGIC '0'

If the slave device is responding with a logic '0' (for either a '0' data bit or an ACK response), it will begin to pull the SI/O line low concurrently during the t_{RD} window and continue to hold it low for a duration of t_{HLD0}, after which it will release the line to be pulled back up to V_{PUP} (see Figure 8). Thus, when the master samples SI/O within the t_{MRS} window, it will see a voltage less than $V_{\text{\scriptsize IL}}$ and decode this event as a logic '0'. By definition, the t_{HLD0} time is longer than t_{MRS} time and therefore, the master is ensured to sample while the slave device is still driving the SI/O line low.

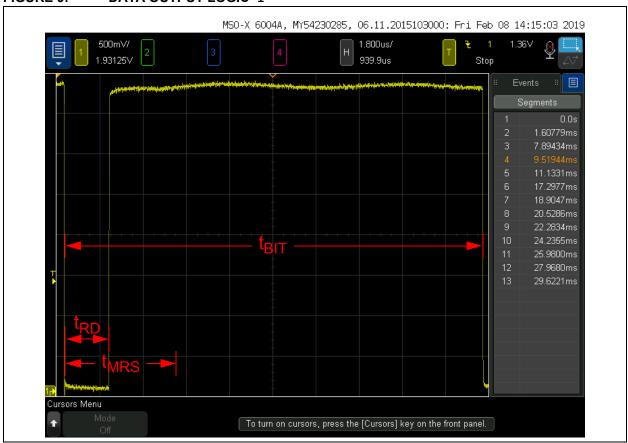




LOGIC '1'

If the slave device intends to respond with a logic '1' (for either a '1' data bit or a NACK response), it will not drive the SI/O line low at all. Once the master releases the SI/O line after the maximum t_{RD} has elapsed, the line will be pulled up to $V_{PUP}.$ Thus, when the master samples the SI/O line within the t_{MRS} window, it will detect a voltage greater than V_{IH} and decode this event as a logic '1'. Figure 9 depicts the logic '1' output bit frame.

FIGURE 9: DATA OUTPUT LOGIC '1'

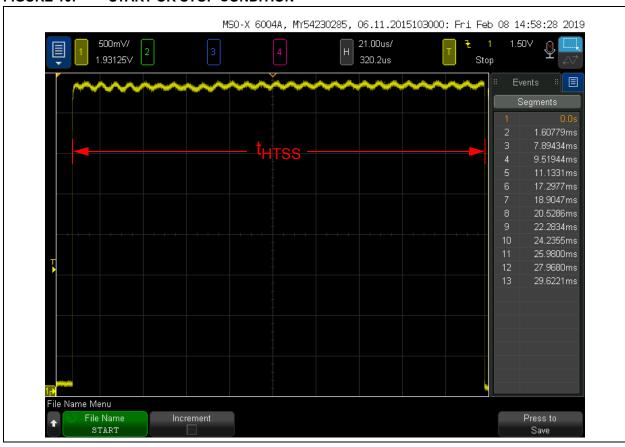


Start and Stop Conditions

All transactions to the slave device begin with a Start condition; therefore, a Start can only be transmitted by the master to the slave. Likewise, all transactions are terminated with a Stop condition and thus a Stop condition can only be transmitted by the master to the slave.

The Start and Stop conditions require identical biasing of the SI/O line. The Start/Stop condition is created by holding the SI/O line at a voltage of V_{PUP} for a duration of t_{HTSS} . Figure 10 depicts the Start and Stop conditions.

FIGURE 10: START OR STOP CONDITION



AT21CS SERIES OPERATIONS

Device Addressing

Accessing the device requires a Start condition followed by an 8-bit device address word.

The device protocol sequence emulates what would be required for an I²C Serial EEPROM, with the exception that the beginning four bits of the device address are used as an opcode for the different commands and actions that the device can perform.

Since multiple slave devices can reside on the bus, each slave device must have its own unique address so that the master can access each device independently. After the 4-bit opcode, the following three bits of the device address byte are comprised of

the slave address bits. The three slave address bits are pre-programmed prior to shipment and are read-only. Obtaining devices with different slave address bit values is done by purchasing a specific ordering code.

Following the three slave address bits is a Read/Write select bit where a logic '1' indicates a read and a logic '0' indicates a write. Upon the successful comparison of the device address, the EEPROM will return an ACK (logic '0'). If the 4-bit opcode is invalid or the three bits of slave address do not match what is preprogrammed in the device, the device will not respond on the SI/O line and will return to a Standby state. Refer to Figure 11 for an example waveform of the device address byte.

TABLE 1: DEVICE ADDRESS BYTE

4-bit Opcode				Pre-Program	Read/Write		
Bit 7	Bit 6	Bit 5	Bit 4	Bit 3	Bit 2	Bit 1	Bit 0
Refer to Table 2				A2	A1	A0	R/W

AVAILABLE OPCODES

Table 2 outlines available opcodes for the device.

TABLE 2: OPCODES USED BY THE DEVICE

Command	4-bit Opcode	Brief Description of Functionality			
EEPROM Access	1010 (Ah)	Read/Write the contents of the main memory array.			
Security Register Access	1011 (Bh)	Read/Write the contents of the Security register.			
Lock Security Register	0010 (2h)	Permanently lock the contents of the Security register.			
ROM Zone Register Access	0111 (7h)	Inhibit further modification to a zone of the EEPROM array.			
Freeze ROM Zone State	0001 (1h)	Permanently lock the current state of the ROM Zone registers			
Manufacturer ID Read	1100 (Ch)	Query manufacturer and density of device.			
Standard Speed Mode	1101 (Dh)	Switch to Standard Speed mode operation (AT21CS01 only command, the AT21CS11 will NACK this command).			
High-Speed Mode	1110 (Eh)	Switch to High-Speed mode operation (device power-on default. The AT21CS11 will ACK this command).			

MSO-X 6004A, MY54230285, 06.11.2015103000: Fri Feb 08 14:18:21 2019 15.00us/ 500mV/ 1.93125V 495.6us Stop Segments 7.89434ms 18.9047ms 22.2834ms 24.2355ms EEPROM Acc Slave 000b 29.6221ms File Name Menu File Name Press to DA BYTE

FIGURE 11: DEVICE ADDRESS BYTE

Following the device address byte, a memory address byte must be transmitted to the device immediately. The memory address byte contains a 7-bit memory array address to specify which location in the EEPROM to start reading or writing. Refer to Table 3 to review these bit positions.

TABLE 3: MEMORY ADDRESS BYTE

Bit 7	Bit 6	Bit 5	Bit 4	Bit 3	Bit 2	Bit 1	Bit 0
Don't Care	A6	A5	A4	А3	A2	A1	A0

Write Operations

All write operations to the device begin with the master sending a Start condition, followed by a device address byte (opcode Ah for the EEPROM and opcode Bh for the Security register) with the R/W bit set to '0' followed by the memory address byte. Next, the data value(s) to be written to the device are sent. Data values must be sent in 8-bit increments to the device followed by a Stop condition. If a Stop condition is sent somewhere other than at the byte boundary, the current write operation will be aborted. The device allows single byte writes, partial page writes, and full page writes.

To ensure that the address and data sent to the device for writing are not corrupted while any type of internal write operation is in progress, commands sent to the device are blocked from being recognized until the internal operation is completed. If a write interruption occurs (SI/O pulsed low) and is small enough to not deplete the internal power storage, the device will NACK, signaling that the operation is in progress. If an interruption is longer than t_{DSCHG} then internal write operation will be terminated and may result in data corruption. Figure 12 depicts a byte write operation to the main memory array.

Any attempt to interrupt the internal write cycle by driving the SI/O line low may cause the bytes being programmed to be corrupted. Other memory locations within the memory array will not be affected. If the master must interrupt a write operation, the SI/O line must be driven low for tosche

FIGURE 12: BYTE WRITE TO MAIN MEMORY ARRAY



Note:

Read Operations

Read operations are initiated in a similar way as <u>write</u> operations with the exception that the Read/Write select bit in the device address byte must be set to a logic '1'. There are multiple read operations supported by the device:

- · Current Address Read within the EEPROM
- · Random Read within the EEPROM
- · Sequential Read within the EEPROM
- · Read from the Security Register
- · Manufacturer ID Read

The device contains a single, shared-memory Address Pointer that maintains the address of the next byte in the EEPROM or Security register to be accessed. For example, if the last byte read or written was memory location 0Dh of the EEPROM, then the Address Pointer will be pointing to memory location 0Eh of the

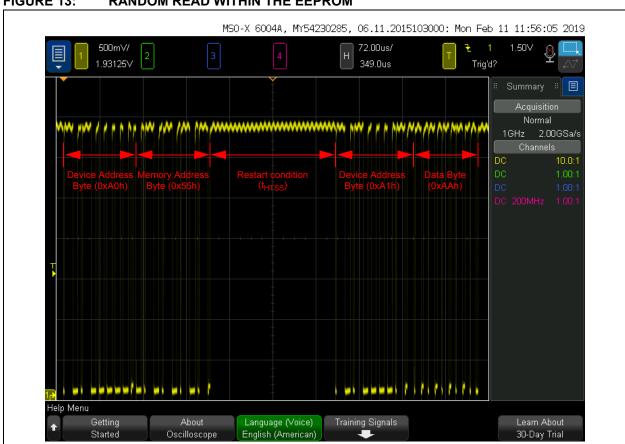
EEPROM. As such, when changing from a read in one region to the other, the first read operation in the new region should begin with a random read instead of a current address read to ensure the Address Pointer is set to a known value within the desired region.

If the end of the EEPROM or the Security register is reached, then the Address Pointer will "rollover" to the beginning (address 00h) of that region. The Address Pointer retains its value between operations as long as the pull-up voltage on the SI/O pin is maintained or the device has not been reset. Figure 13 depicts a random read operation within the main memory array.

Note:

If the last operation to the device accessed the Security register, then a random read should be performed to ensure that the Address Pointer is set to a known memory location within the EEPROM.

FIGURE 13: RANDOM READ WITHIN THE EEPROM



CONCLUSION

This application note offers designers a set of firmware routines to access the AT21CS Series Serial EEPROMs using a generic I/O pin on the microcontroller. All routines were written in C using Atmel Studio 7.0. The hardware used in this application note is the Serial Memory Single-Wire Evaluation Kit (DM160232). Details related to single-wire protocol and device operation can be found in the appropriate device data sheet found at www.microchip.com.

APPENDIX A: REVISION HISTORY

Revision A (05/2019)

Initial release of this document.



NOTES:

Note the following details of the code protection feature on Microchip devices:

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