

<https://www.halvorsen.blog>



LabVIEW LINX and Raspberry Pi

LabVIEW + LabVIEW LINX Toolkit + Raspberry Pi

Hans-Petter Halvorsen

Contents

- This Tutorial shows how we can use **Raspberry Pi** in combination with the **LabVIEW** Programming environment
- **LabVIEW LINX Toolkit** is an add-on for LabVIEW which makes it possible to program the Raspberry Pi device using LabVIEW
- In that way we can create Data Logging Applications, etc. without the need of an expensive DAQ device
- If you don't have "LabVIEW Professional" Software, you may use the "LabVIEW Community Edition" (free for non-commercial use). You then get a very low-cost DAQ/Datalogging System!

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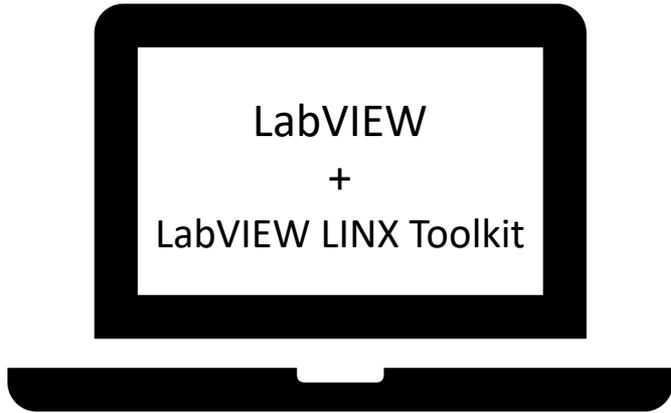
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 - **Build and Deploy Executable LabVIEW Application running on Raspberry Pi at Startup**



Introduction

LabVIEW + LabVIEW LINX Toolkit

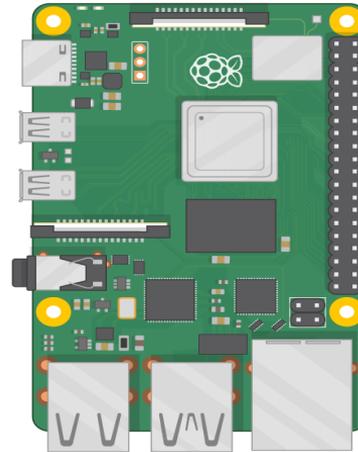
PC



Ethernet
or Wi-Fi



Raspberry Pi



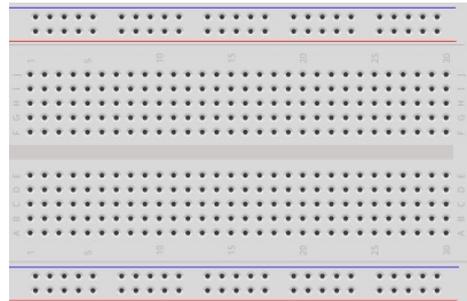
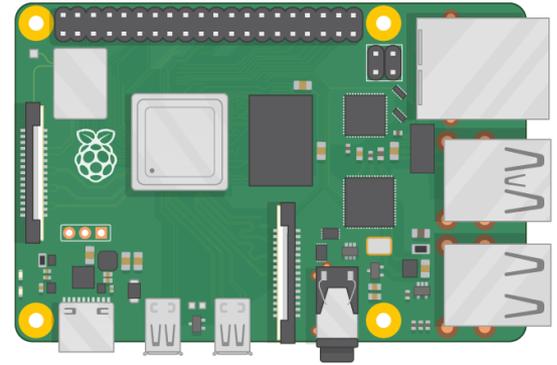
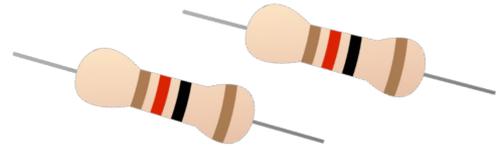
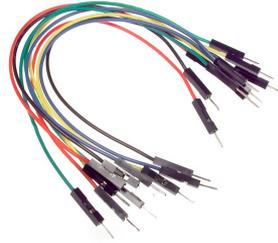
GPIO



..

Hardware Components

- Raspberry Pi
- Breadboard
- Wires (Jumper Wires)
- Resistors ($R = 270\Omega$)
- LED



Hardware and Software

- Host PC (Windows PC)
 - LabVIEW
 - LabVIEW LINUX Toolkit
 - (LabVIEW Real-Time Module)
- Raspberry Pi with Raspberry Pi OS
 - Connected to Wi-Fi
 - SSH Enabled



LabVIEW

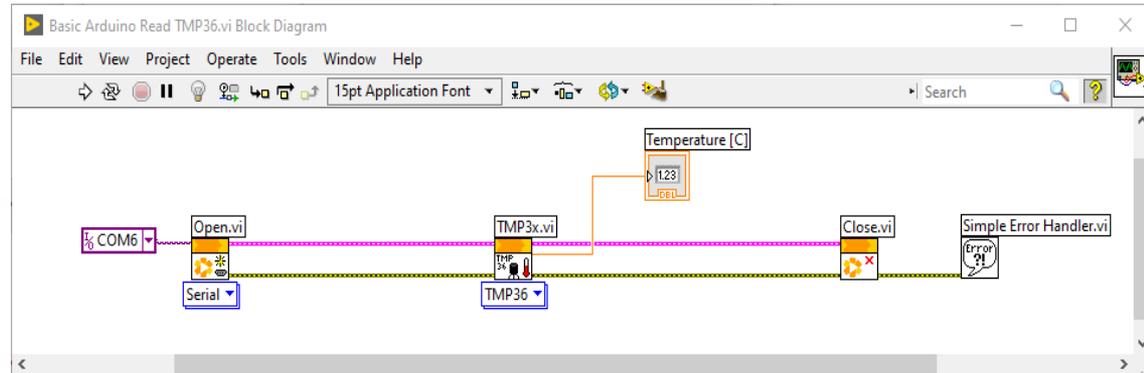
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LabVIEW

- LabVIEW is Graphical Software
- LabVIEW has powerful features for simulation, control and DAQ applications

Basic LabVIEW Example:



<https://www.halvorsen.blog>



LabVIEW LINUX Toolkit

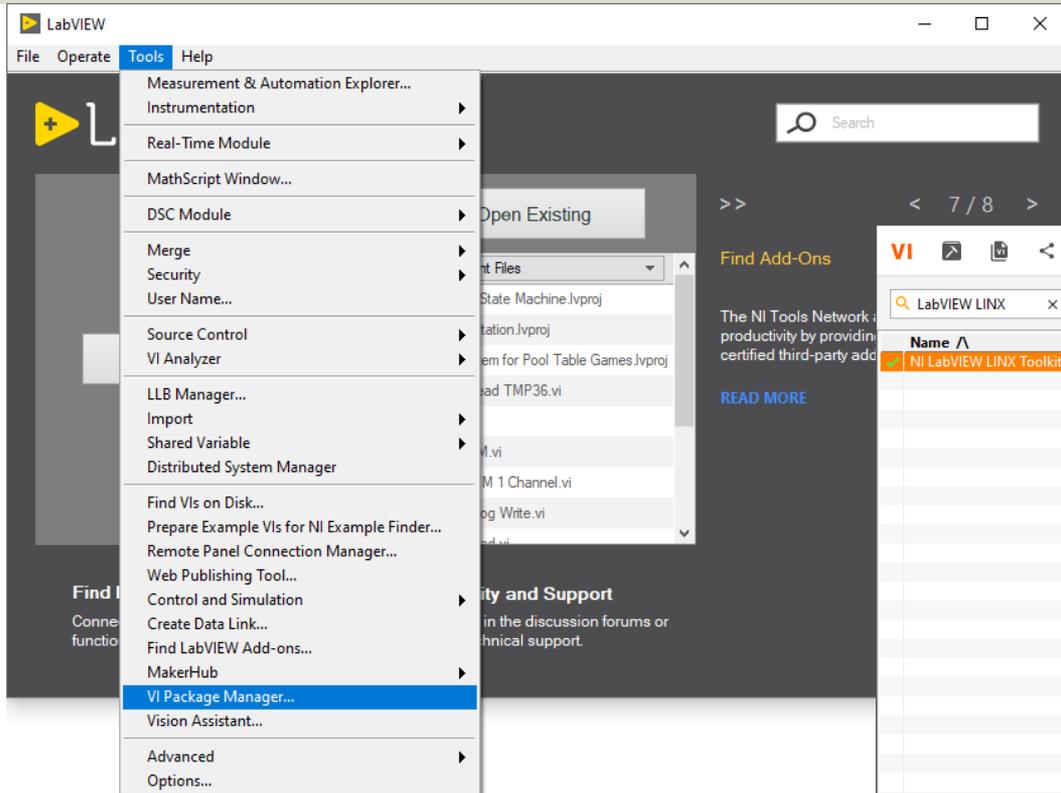
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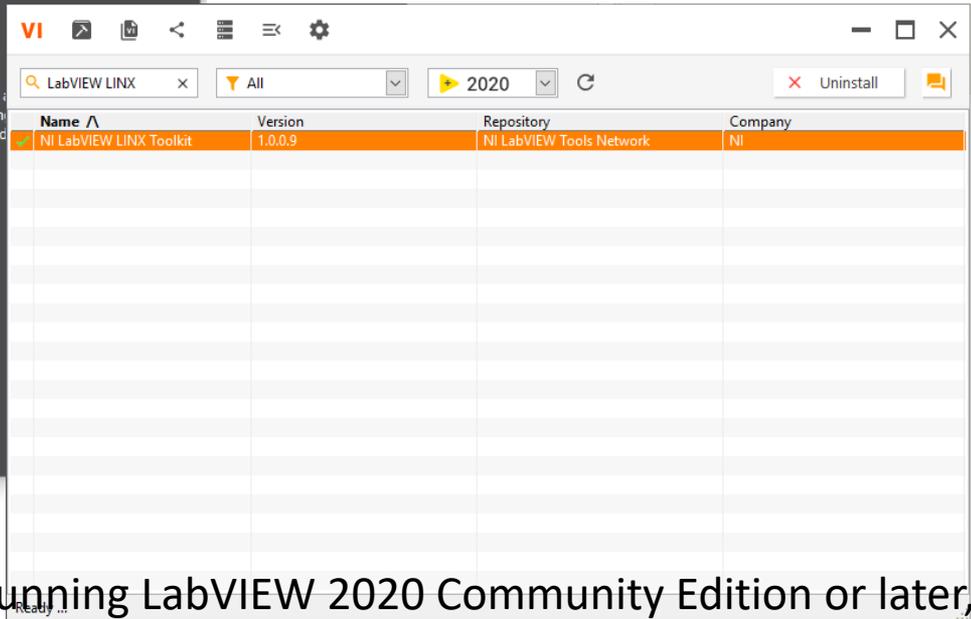
LabVIEW LINX Toolkit

- The LabVIEW LINX Toolkit adds support for Arduino, Raspberry Pi, and BeagleBone embedded platforms
- I have used LabVIEW LINX in combination with Arduino in other Tutorials
- We will use Raspberry Pi in this Tutorial

Installing LabVIEW LINX Toolkit



Use VI Package Manger



Note: Do not install this package if you are running LabVIEW 2020 Community Edition or later, as the Community Edition already includes the LabVIEW LINX Toolkit

LabVIEW Palette

Sensors

↑ Search Customize

- Accelerometer
- Beta
- Community
- Display
- Distance
- Digilent
- Lights
- Mindstorms
- Misc
- Pmods
- Temp
- Sig Gen

LINX

↑ Search Customize

- Open
- Close
- Peripherals
- Sensors
- Utilities

Peripherals

↑ Search Customize

- Analog
- Digital
- PWM
- I2C
- SPI
- UART

Utilities

↑ Search Customize

- Custom CMD
- Loop Freq
- Check Channel
- Get User ID
- Set User ID
- Config Enet
- Config Wifi



Raspberry Pi

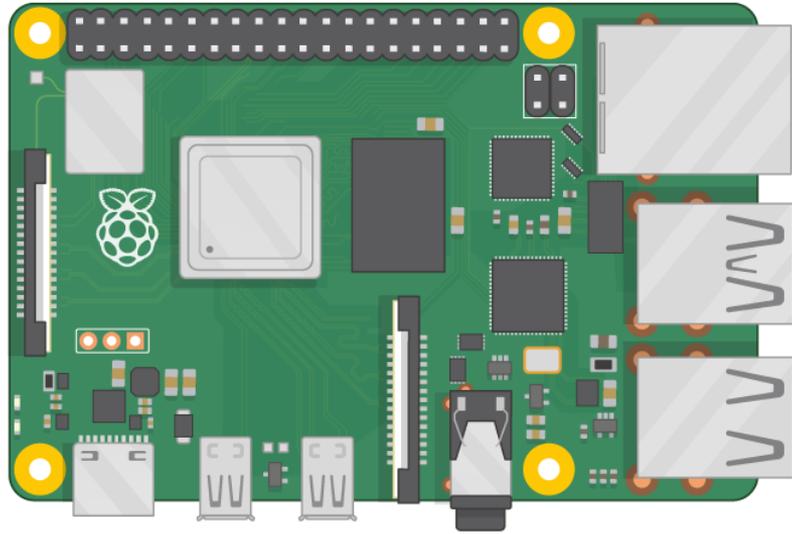
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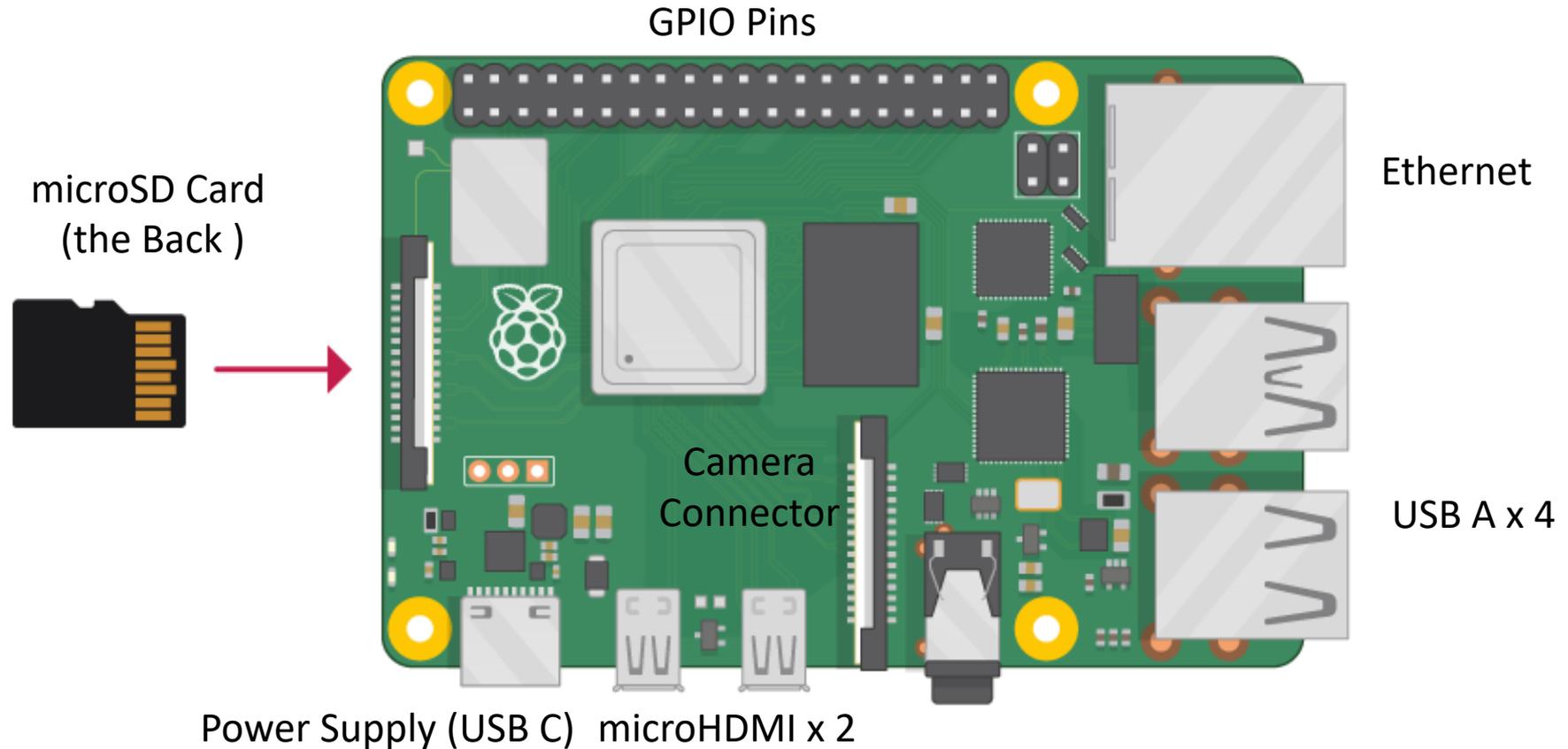
Raspberry Pi

Raspberry Pi is a **tiny** (about 9x6cm), **low-cost** (\$35+), **single-board computer** that supports embedded **Linux** operating systems

The recommended Operating System is called **Raspberry Pi OS** (Linux based)



Raspberry Pi



What Do you Need?

- Raspberry Pi
- microSD Card (+ Adapter)
- Power Supply
- microHDMI to HDMI Cable
- Monitor
- Mouse
- Keyboard
- Ethernet cable or use Wi-Fi

You need this when setting up your Raspberry Pi device

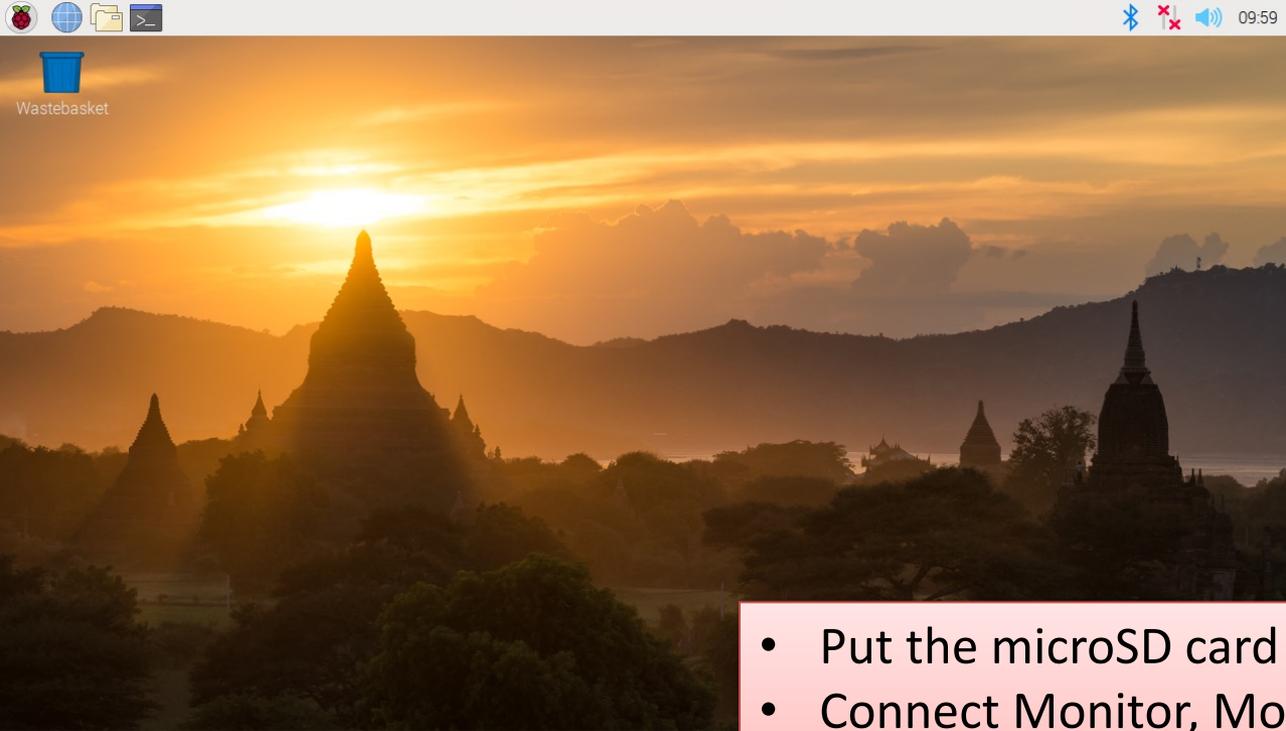
When the Raspberry Pi is configured, and you get access from your PC, you only need the Power Supply (and Ethernet cable if not using Wi-Fi)

Raspberry Pi OS

- In order to make your Raspberry Pi up and running you need to install an Operating System (OS)
- The OS for Raspberry Pi is called “**Raspberry Pi OS**” (previously known as Raspbian)
- Raspberry Pi runs a version of an operating system called **Linux** (Windows and macOS are other operating systems).
- To install the necessary OS, you need a **microSD** card
- Then you use the “**Raspberry Pi Imager**” in order to download the OS to the microSD card.

<https://www.raspberrypi.org/software/>

Start using Raspberry Pi



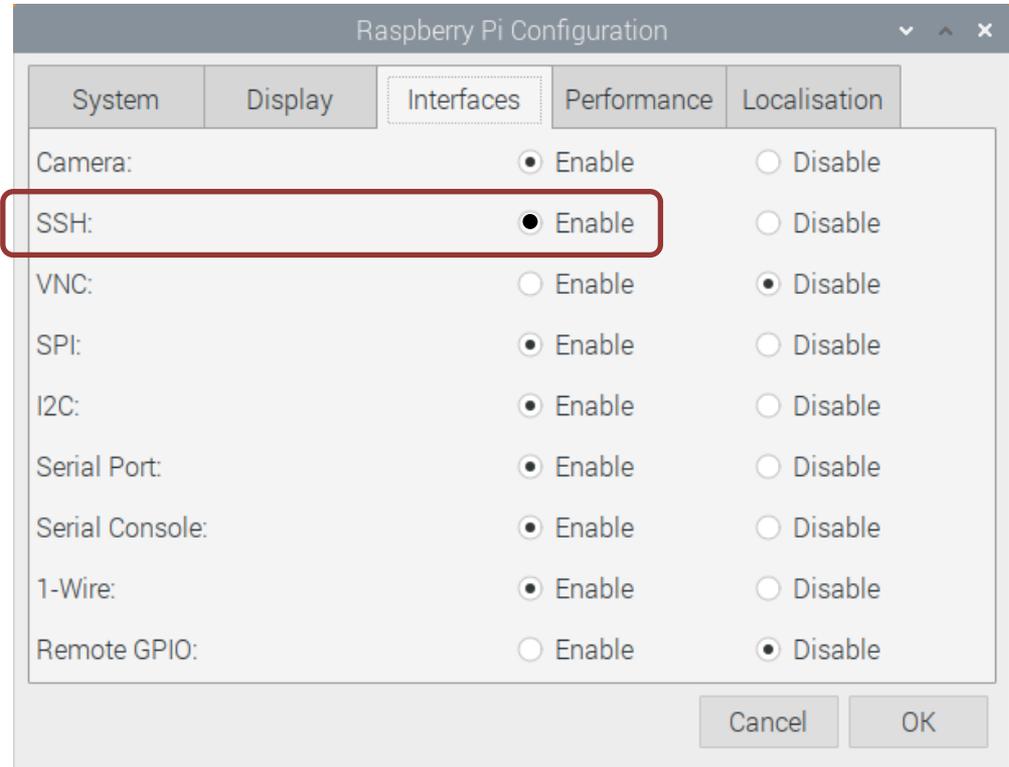
Raspberry Pi OS

- Put the microSD card into the Raspberry Pi
- Connect Monitor, Mouse and Keyboard
- Connect Power Supply
- Follow the Instructions on Screen to setup Wi-Fi

Raspberry Pi Configuration

You need to Enable **SSH** so you can remotely get access to the Raspberry Pi from your Computer

SSH, also known as Secure Shell or Secure Socket Shell, is a Network Protocol that gives users, particularly system administrators, a secure way to access a computer over an unsecured network.



Mobile Wi-Fi hotspot on Windows10

The screenshot shows the Windows 10 Settings application. The left sidebar is open to 'Network & Internet' > 'Mobile hotspot'. The main pane shows the following settings:

- Share my Internet connection with other devices:** On (toggle switch)
- Share my Internet connection from:** Wi-Fi (dropdown menu)
- Share my Internet connection over:** Wi-Fi (radio button selected), Bluetooth (radio button unselected)
- Network name:** Windows10HPH
- Network password:** [Empty text box]
- Network band:** Any available
- Edit:** Button
- Devices connected:** 1 of 8
- | Device name | IP address | Physical address (MAC) |
|-------------|------------------|------------------------|
| raspberrypi | [Empty text box] | [Empty text box] |
- Power saving:** Off (toggle switch)

A red warning message is displayed: "You're sharing your connection over the 5 GHz network band. The network might not appear on devices that can only connect over the 2.4 GHz band."

You can connect your PC and the Raspberry Pi together using an Ethernet cable or using Wi-Fi.

I configured Mobile Wi-Fi hotspot on my Windows10 PC. Then I connected my Raspberry Pi to this Wi-Fi network

Resources

Raspberry Pi and Installation of Raspberry Pi OS have been covered in more detail in other available Tutorials.

These Tutorials are available on my Blog and YouTube:

- Raspberry Pi - <https://youtu.be/sPZqZDdsrkc>
- Raspberry Pi Installation and Remote Access - <https://youtu.be/NsxZTQysah8>

Blog:

<https://www.halvorsen.blog/>

YouTube Channel @Industrial IT and Automation

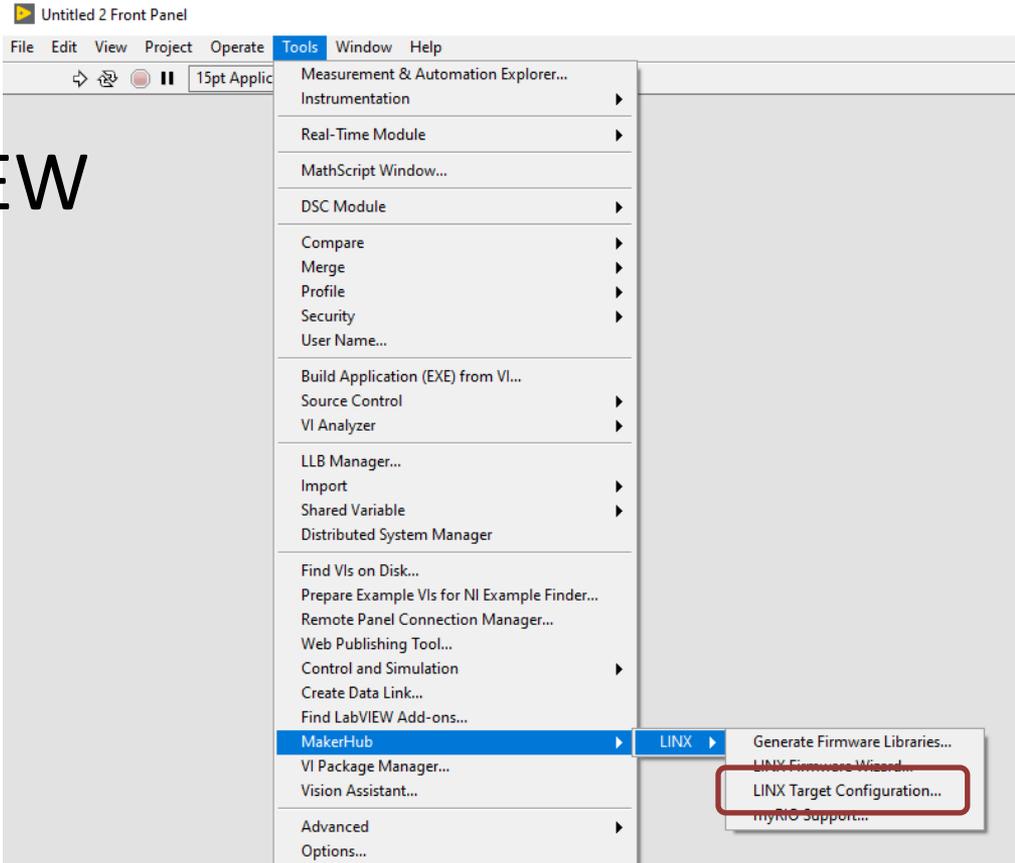
<https://www.youtube.com/IndustrialITandAutomation>



Raspberry Pi and LabVIEW LINUX Configuration

Raspberry Pi LINX Configuration

LabVIEW



Raspberry Pi LINUX Configuration

LINX Target Configuration

Connection

Installation

Network Settings

Target Info

Not Connected

Raspberry Pi

Hostname or IP: raspberrypi

Username: pi

Password: *****

Connect

Additional installation information: LabVIEWMakerHub.com

OK

Successfully connected to the target.

or Wi-Fi

Connect your device via ethernet.

Use a monitor and mouse to enable SSH.

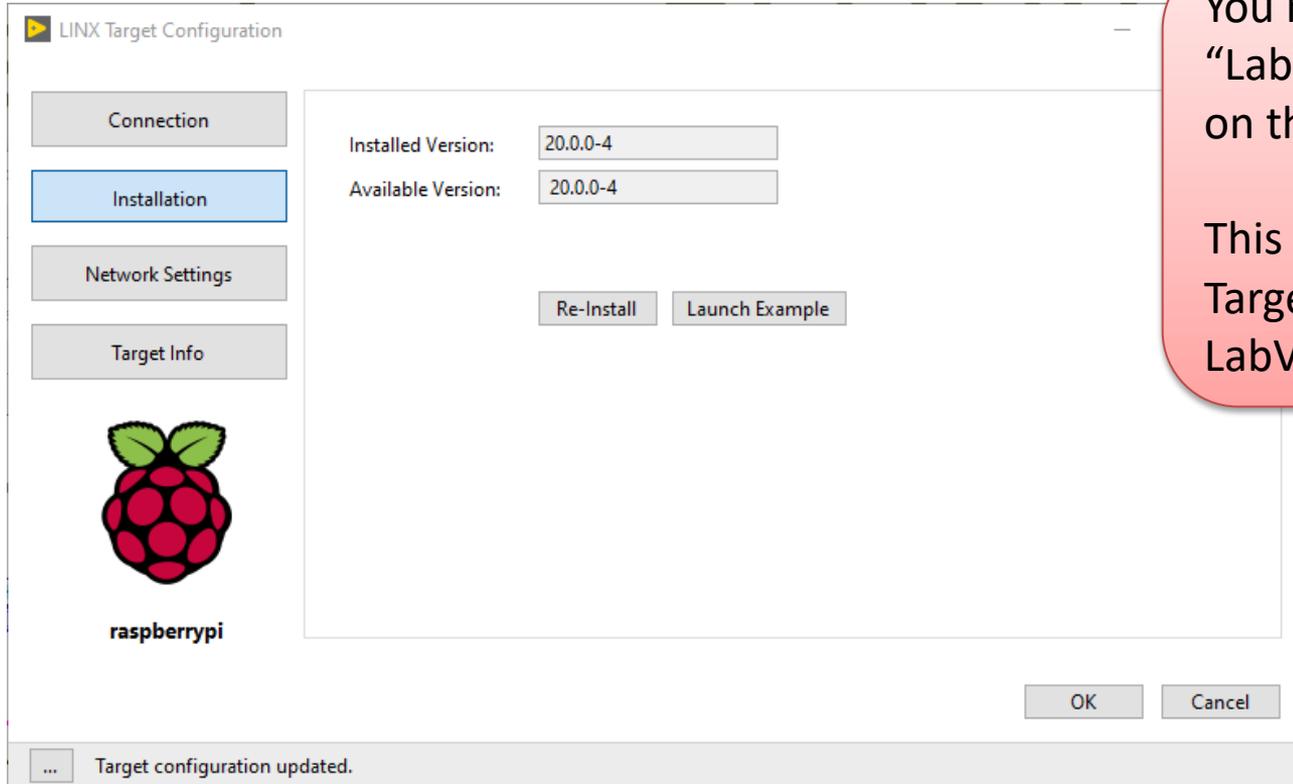
Username and **password** need to have sudo privileges on the target - 'pi' and 'raspberry' are the default.

Make sure you can connect to the Raspberry Pi from your PC where you have LabVIEW installed.

You can use Wi-Fi or an Ethernet cable

My Configuration: On my Windows PC I configured a Wi-Fi Mobile hotspot. On the Raspberry Pi I connected to this Wi-Fi hotspot

Raspberry Pi LINUX Configuration



You need to install
“LabVIEW Runtime Engine”
on the Raspberry Pi device.

This is done from the LINX
Target Configuration in
LabVIEW on your PC



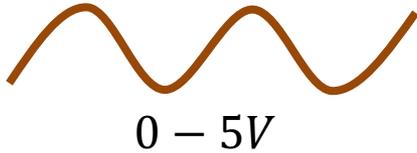
DAQ System

I/O Module



Analog Sensors

Analog Signals

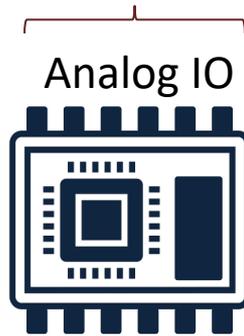


We will use a Raspberry PI as the DAQ Hardware

Analog Input (**AI**)

Analog Output (**AO**)

I/O Module

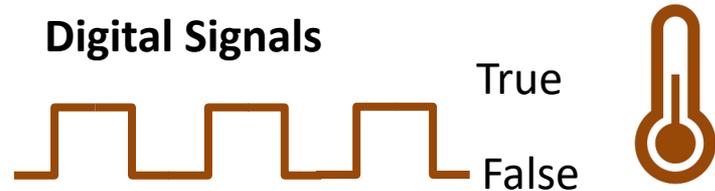


Digital Input (**DI**)

Digital Output (**DO**)

Digital IO

Digital Signals



Sensors with Digital Interface (e.g., SPI, I2C)

DAQ System

Raspberry Pi has NO Analog pins!

DAQ – Data Acquisition

Input/Output Signals

Analog Signals



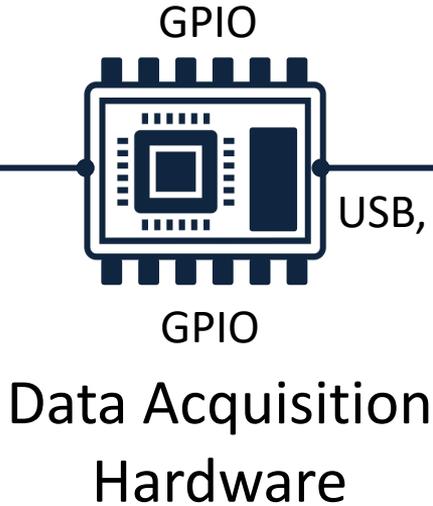
Digital Signals



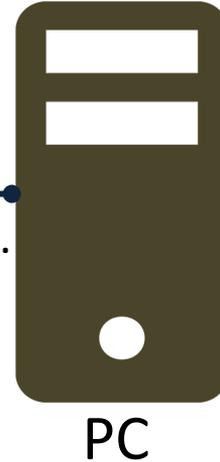
Sensors



(Analog/Digital Interface)



USB, etc.



PC

Software



Application

Hardware Driver

We will use a Raspberry Pi as the DAQ Hardware

Final Raspberry Pi DAQ System

Input/Output Signals

Analog Signals



Digital Signals



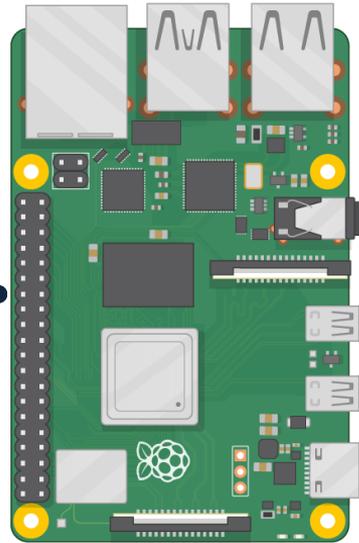
Sensors



(Analog/Digital Interface)

We will use a Raspberry Pi as the DAQ Hardware

GPIO



Raspberry Pi running
Raspberry Pi OS
and LabVIEW Run-Time
System.
LabVIEW Application running
on Raspberry Pi at Startup



Raspberry Pi GPIO

GPIO Features

Raspberry Pi has
NO Analog pins!

The GPIO pins are **Digital Pins** which are either True (+3.3V) or False (0V). These can be used to turn on/off LEDs, etc.

The Digital Pins can be either Output or Input.

In addition, some of the pins also offer some other Features:

- PWM (Pulse Width Modulation)

Digital Buses (for reading data from Sensors, etc.):

- SPI
- I2C

Analog In?

Raspberry Pi has
NO Analog pins!

What if we want to connect Analog Sensors like the TMP36 Temperature Sensor?

- You then need to use an external **ADC**. These ADC chips have either **SPI** or **I2C** interface
- Or: You can use a **Digital Sensor** that has either SPI or I2C interface built-in

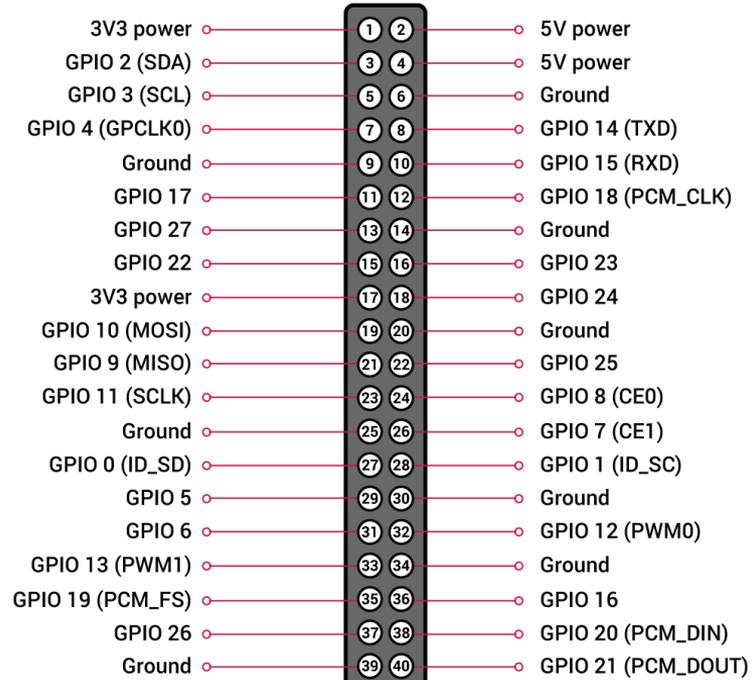
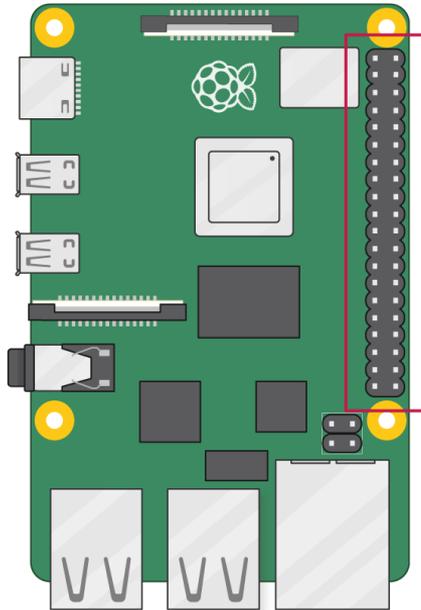
Analog Out?

Raspberry Pi has
NO Analog pins!

What if we want to control an external device using an Analog Signal between 0-5V?

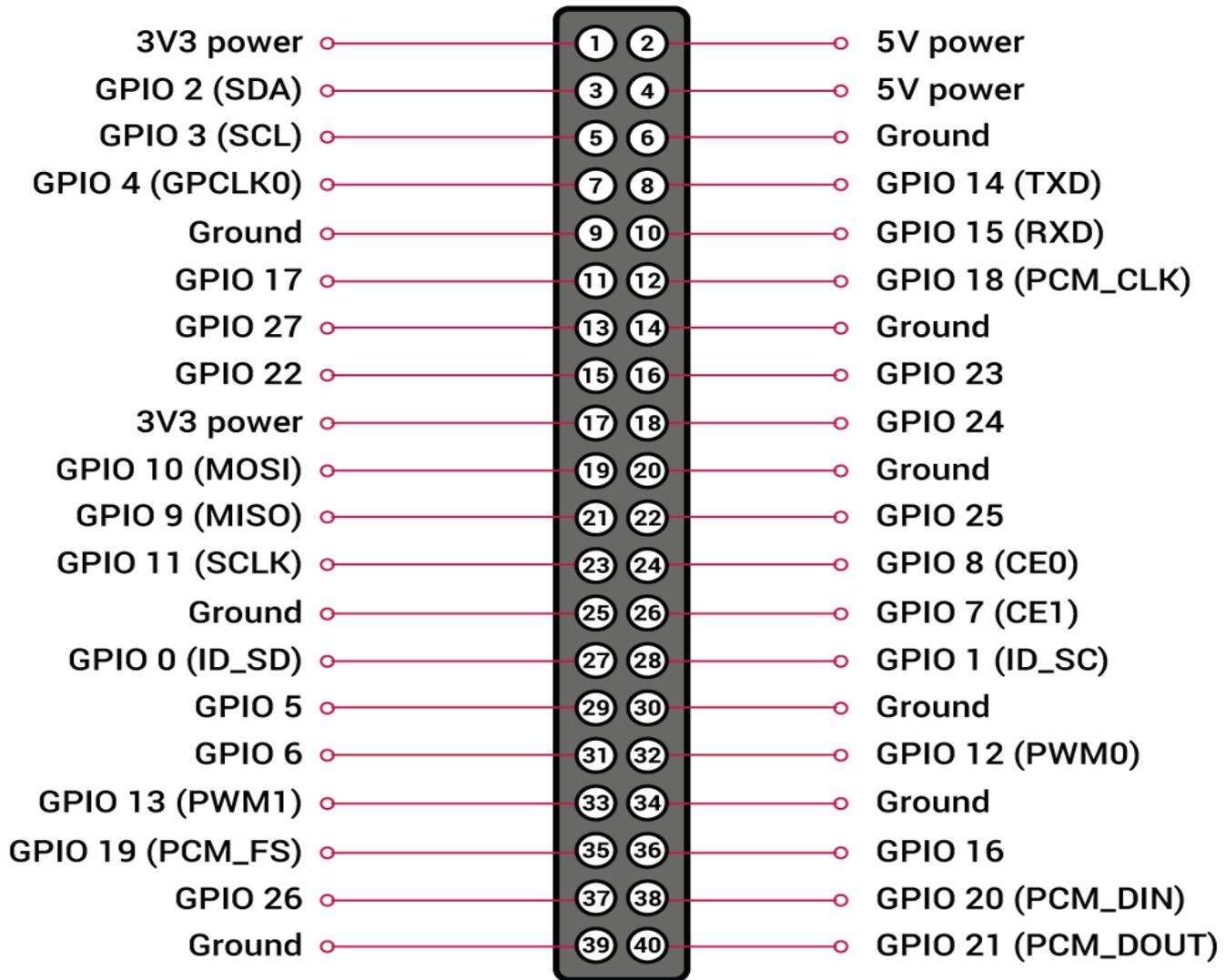
- You then need to use an external **DAC**. These DAC chips have either SPI or I2C interface
- Or: Raspberry Pi supports **PWM** (Pulse Width Modulation)
 - PWM can be used to control brightness of a LED, control the speed of a Fan, control a DC Motor, etc.

GPIO



A powerful feature of the Raspberry Pi is the GPIO (general-purpose input/output) pins. The Raspberry Pi has a 40-pin GPIO header as seen in the image

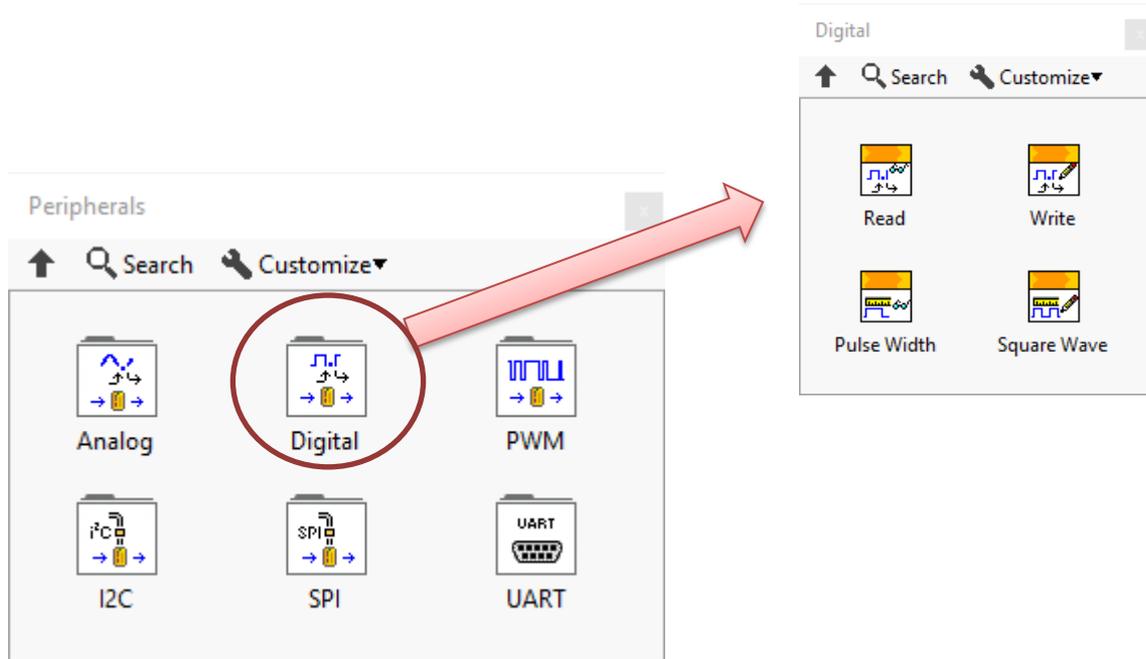
GPIO



GPIO

VDD_3v3	1	2	VDD_5v
I2C1_SDA	3	4	VDD_5v
I2C1_SCL	5	6	DGND
DIO_7	7	8	UART0_TX
DGND	9	10	UART0_RX
DIO_11	11	12	DIO_12
DIO_13	13	14	DGND
DIO_15	15	16	DIO_16
VDD_3v3	17	18	DIO_18
SPI0_MOSI	19	20	DGND
SPI0_MISO	21	22	DIO_22
SPI0_CLK	23	24	RESERVED_SPI0_CS0
DGND	25	26	RESERVED_SPI0_CS1
RESERVED_I2C0_SDA	27	28	RESERVED_I2C0_SCL
DIO_29	29	30	DGND
DIO_31	31	32	DIO_32
DIO_33	33	34	DGND
DIO_35	35	36	DIO_36
DIO_37	37	38	DIO_38
DGND	39	40	DIO_40

LabVIEW Palette – Digital I/O





LabVIEW Examples

Create your Raspberry Pi Project

The image shows the LabVIEW 2020 software interface with the 'Create Project' dialog box open. The main window displays the 'Create Project' and 'Open Existing' buttons, along with a list of recent project templates. The 'Create Project' dialog box is titled 'Choose a starting point for the project:' and lists various project templates and sample projects. The 'Blank Project' template is highlighted in yellow. The dialog box also includes an 'Additional Search' section with a 'Keyword' input field and 'Finish', 'Cancel', and 'Help' buttons at the bottom.

LabVIEW 2020

File Operate Tools Help

Create Project

Open Existing

Recent Project Templates

- Blank Project

All Recent Files

- C:\Users\hansha\OneDrive\Development\RPIProject.lvproj
- C:\Temp\LabVIEW Raspberry Pi\LabVIEW
- LabVIEW Raspberry Pi Application.lvproj
- Database Script Generator.lvproj
- LabVIEW State Machine.lvproj
- Weather Station.lvproj
- Vision System for Pool Table Games.lvproj

Find Drivers and Add-ons

Connect to devices and expand the functionality of LabVIEW.

Community and Support

Participate in the discussion forums or request technical support.

Create Project

Choose a starting point for the project:

- All
- Templates
- Sample Projects
- Desktop
- Real-Time

Blank Project *Templates*
Creates a blank project.

Blank VI *Templates*
Creates a blank VI.

Simple State Machine *Templates*
Facilitates defining the execution sequence for sections of code. **More Information**

Channeled Message Handler *Templates*
Uses channels to facilitate multiple sections of code running in parallel and sending data between them. **More Information**

Queued Message Handler *Templates*
Uses queue refs to facilitate multiple sections of code running in parallel and sending data between them. **More Information**

Actor Framework *Templates*
Creates an application that consists of multiple, independent tasks that communicate with each other. This template makes extensive use of LabVIEW classes. **More Information**

Finite Measurement *Sample Projects*
Acquires a finite measurement and provides options for exporting the measurement to disk. This sample project is based on the Simple State Machine template. **More Information**

Continuous Measurement and Logging *Sample Projects*
Acquires measurements continuously and logs them to disk. This sample project is based on the Queued Message Handler template. **More Information**

Feedback Evaporative Cooler *Sample Projects*
Implements an evaporative cooler with hot-swappable hardware, controllers, and user interfaces. This sample project is based on the Actor Framework template. **More Information**

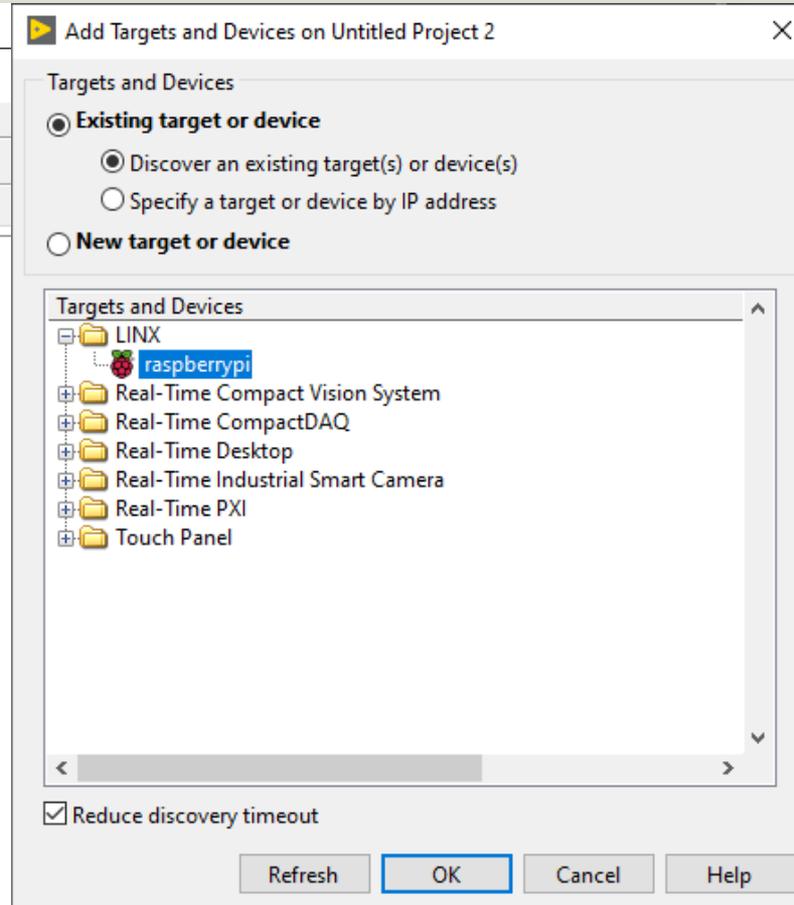
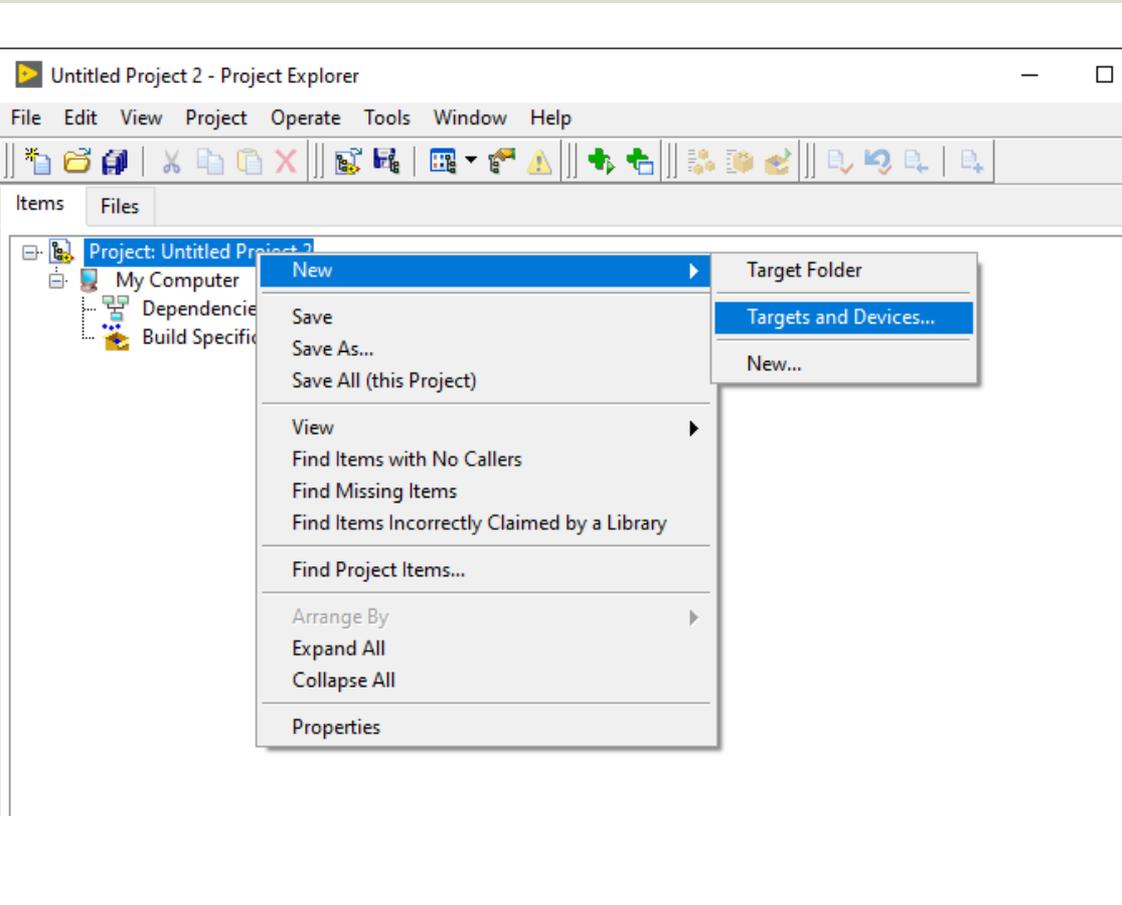
Instrument Driver Project *Templates*

Additional Search

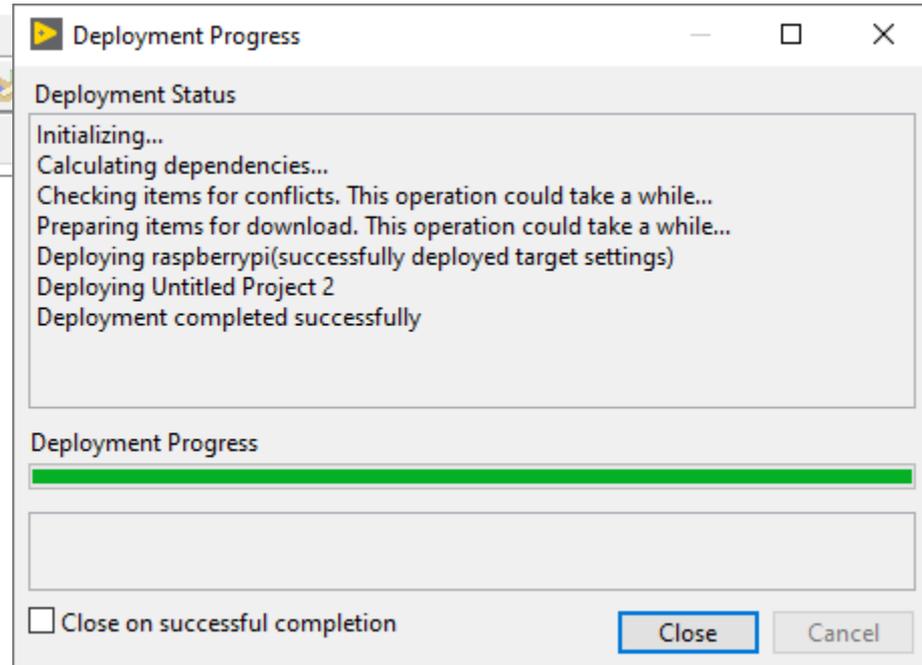
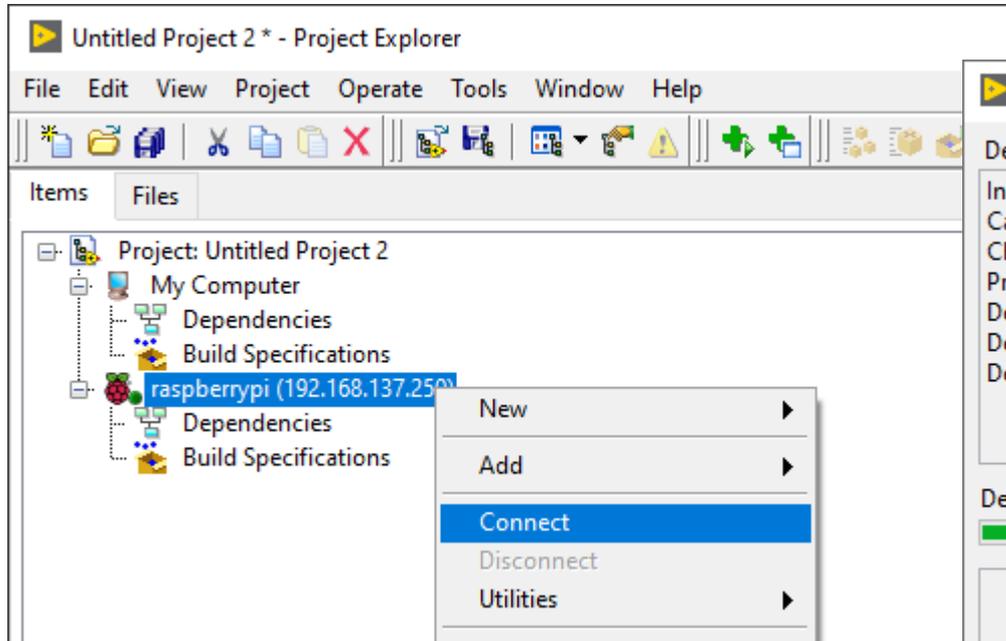
Keyword

Finish Cancel Help

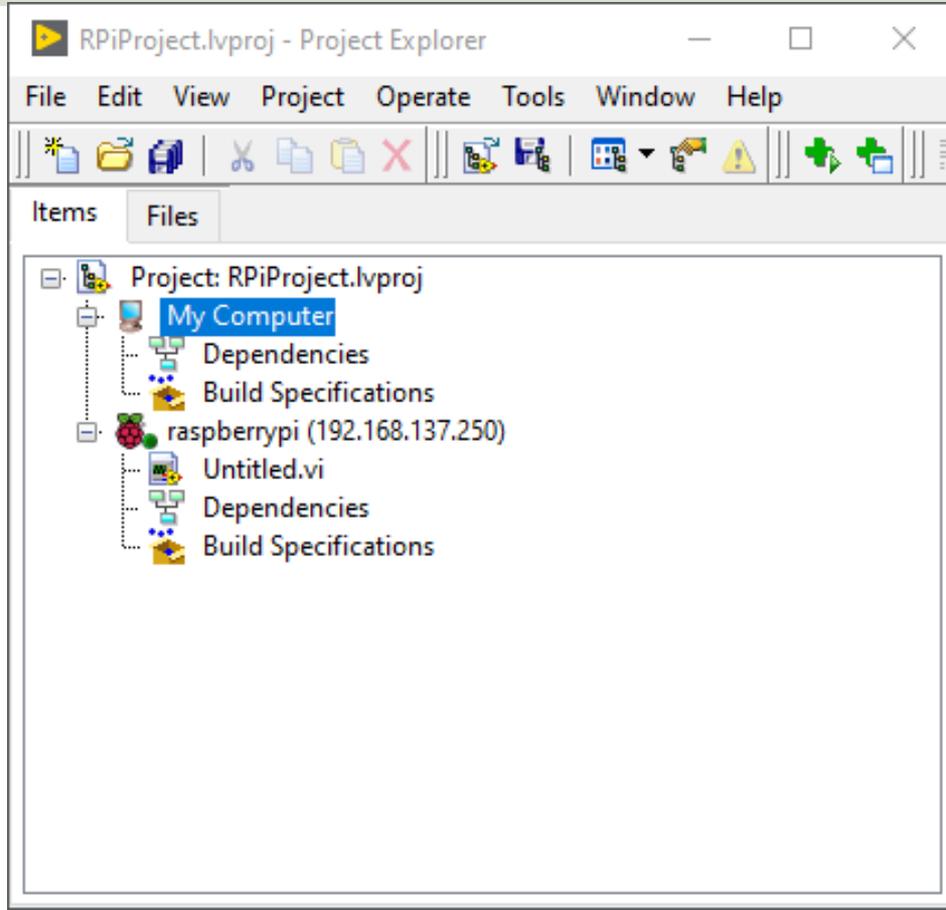
Create your Raspberry Pi Project



Create your Raspberry Pi Project



LabVIEW Project Explorer



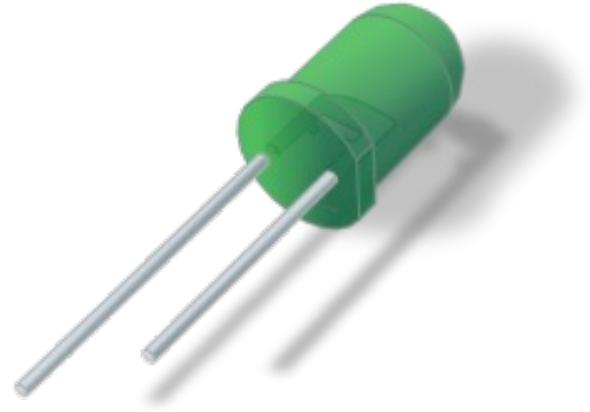
You are now ready to start creating LabVIEW Code that control the GPIO pins on the Raspberry Pi device



Digital Out (DO)

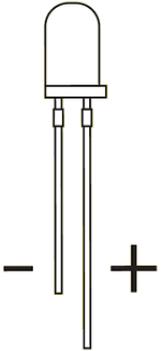
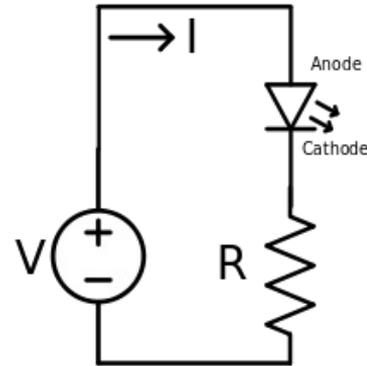
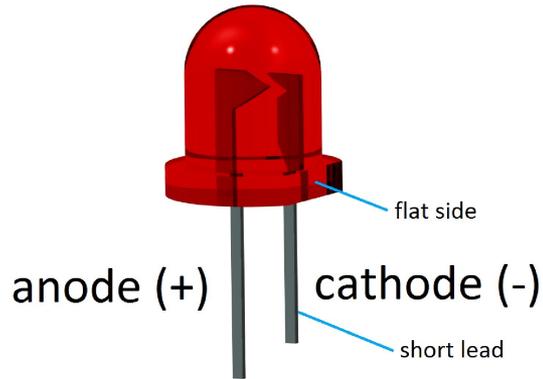
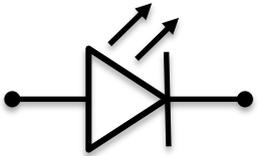
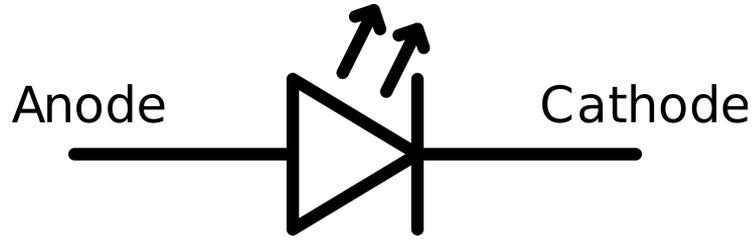
Digital Write/Out (DO)

- We will use one of the GPIO (Digital Out/Write pins to turn on/off a LED



Light-emitting diode - LED

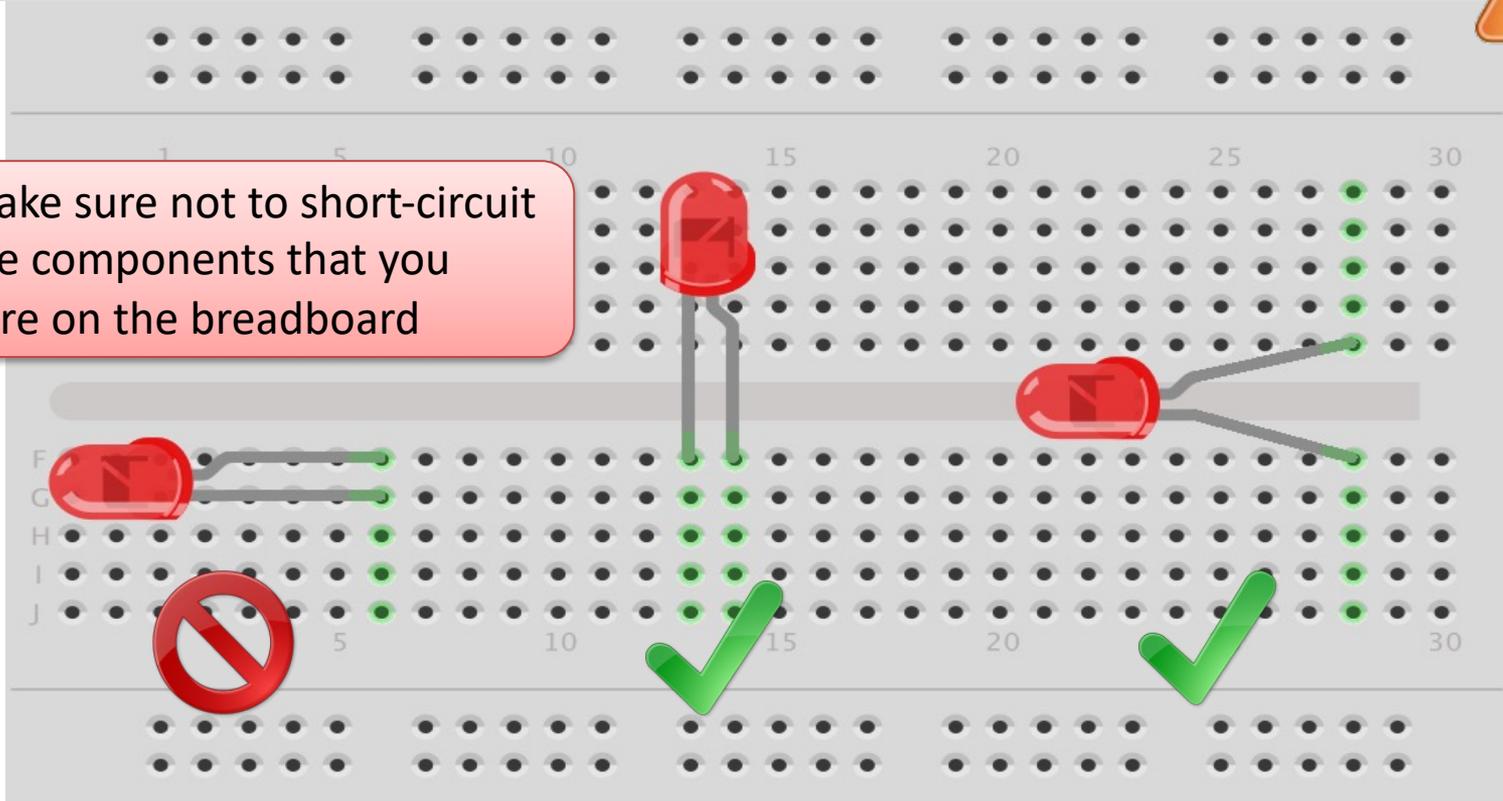
A light-emitting diode (LED) is a semiconductor light source that emits light when current flows through it



Breadboard Wiring



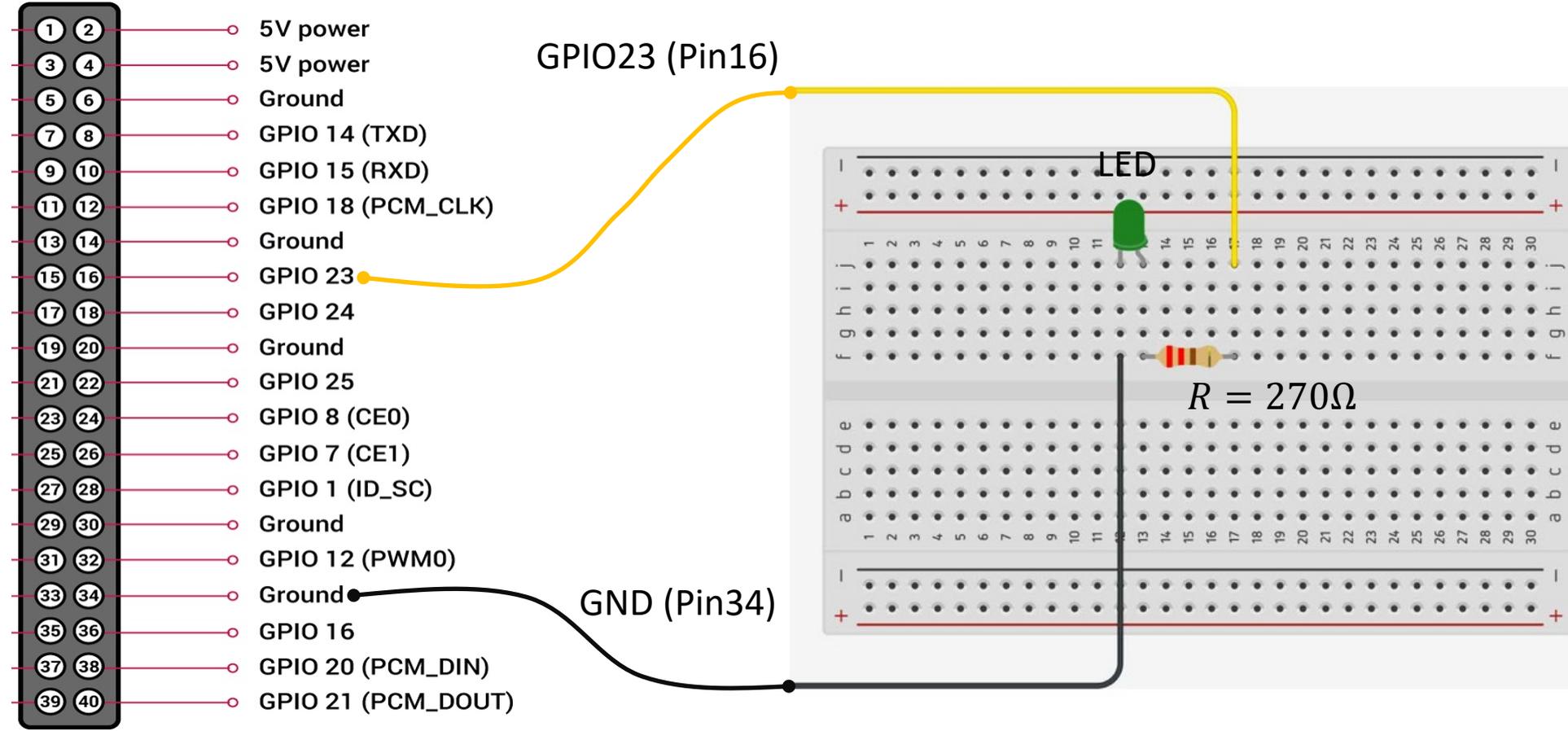
Make sure not to short-circuit the components that you wire on the breadboard



The Breadboard is used to connect components and electrical circuits

fritzing

LED Wiring



Why do you need a Resistor?

If the current becomes too large, the LED will be destroyed. To prevent this to happen, we will use a Resistor to limit the amount of current in the circuit.



What should be the size of the Resistor?

A LED typically need a current like 20mA (can be found in the LED Datasheet).

We use Ohm's Law:

$$U = RI$$

Raspberry Pi gives $U=3.3/5V$ and $I=20mA$. We then get:

$$R = \frac{U}{I}$$

The Resistor needed will be $R = \frac{5V}{0.02A} = 250\Omega$. Resistors with $R=250\Omega$ is not so common, so we can use the closest Resistors we have, e.g., 270Ω

LED ON/OFF - LabVIEW Example

The image displays the LabVIEW development environment for a project titled "LED.vi". The main window shows the "Block Diagram" for "LED.vi Block Diagram on LabVIEWPi.lvproj/raspberry".

Block Diagram Details:

- While Loop:** A central loop containing:
 - DO Channel:** A numeric control set to 16.
 - LED Value:** A numeric control set to 16.
 - Red LED:** A boolean control set to TRUE.
 - Digital Write.vi:** A subVI that receives the DO Channel value and the LED Value. It is configured with "Digital Write 1 Chan".
 - Stop Button:** A boolean control set to TRUE, which is connected to a "V" (Wait) block.
- Open.vi:** A subVI that opens the DO Channel and LED Value controls.
- Close.vi:** A subVI that closes the DO Channel and LED Value controls.
- Simple Error Handler:** A block that catches any errors from the subVIs.

Front Panel Details:

- DO Channel:** A numeric control with a value of 16.
- Red LED:** A green play button and a red indicator light.
- Stop Button:** A red button labeled "Stop".

The interface includes standard LabVIEW menus (File, Edit, View, Project, Operate, Tools, Window, Help) and a toolbar with various icons for navigation and execution. The status bar at the bottom indicates the project path: "LabVIEWPi.lvproj/raspberry".

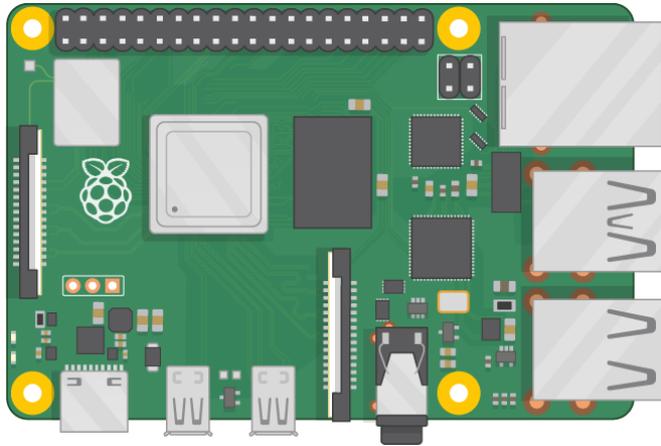
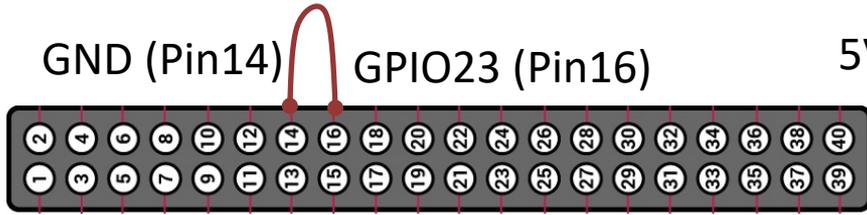


Digital In (DI)

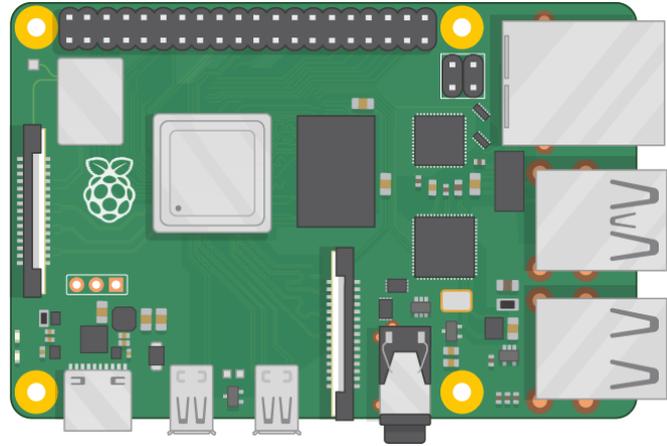
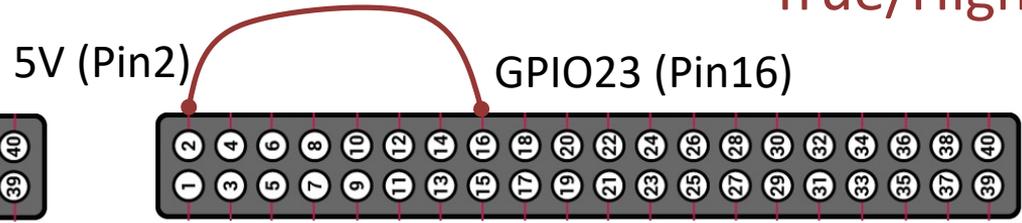
Test of Digital Read

We can test the Digital In (Read) by wiring to GND (False/Low) or 5V (True/High)
GPIO23 (Pin16) is used in this example, but you can of course use another GPIO pin

False/Low



True/High

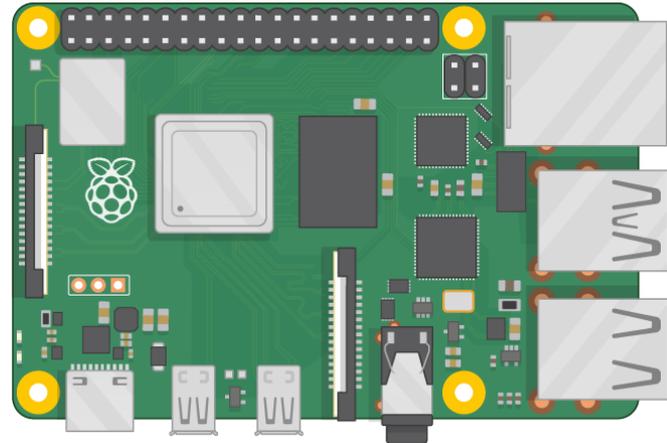
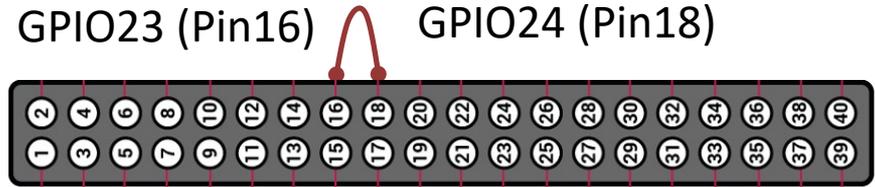
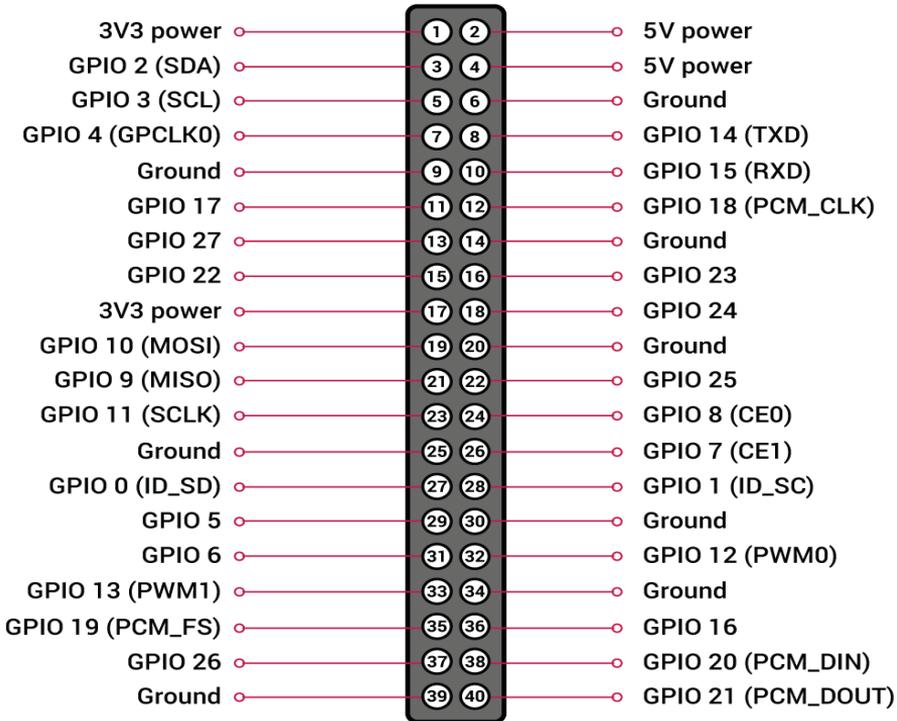


LabVIEW - Digital Read

The image displays the LabVIEW development environment for a 'Digital Read' VI. The left pane shows the 'Block Diagram' for 'Digital Read.vi' on a Raspberry Pi. The diagram features a 'While Loop' containing an 'Open.vi' block (with a 'Local I/O' dropdown), a 'Digital Read.vi' block (with a 'Digital Read 1 Chan' dropdown), and a 'Close.vi' block. A 'DI Channel' control is connected to the 'Digital Read.vi' block. A 'Digital Read' subVI is also present. A 'Stop Button' (TF) is connected to a 'V' block, which is wired to the 'While Loop' stop terminal. An 'Error?' block is connected to the 'Close.vi' block. The right pane shows the 'Front Panel' of the VI, which includes a 'DI Channel' control with a numeric value of '16', a 'Digital Read' indicator (a green circle), and a 'Stop' button (a red square).

LabVIEW Digital Write - Read

We can test the Digital Read by wiring a “Digital Out” (Write) Channel to the “Digital In” (Read) Channel



LabVIEW Digital Write - Read

The image displays the LabVIEW interface for a digital write-read application. It is divided into two main sections: the Block Diagram (left) and the Front Panel (right).

Block Diagram (Left): The diagram is titled "Digital Write - Read.vi Block Diagram on LabVIEWPi.lvproj/raspberrypi". It features a "While Loop" containing the following components:

- Open.vi:** A terminal icon for opening the device.
- Local I/O:** A dropdown menu for selecting the device.
- DO Channel:** A numeric control for selecting the digital output channel.
- Digital Write.vi:** A function block for writing a digital signal to the DO channel.
- DI Channel:** A numeric control for selecting the digital input channel.
- Digital Read.vi:** A function block for reading a digital signal from the DI channel.
- Digital Read:** A terminal icon for displaying the read value.
- Boolean:** A terminal icon for displaying the read boolean value.
- Stop Button:** A button that triggers the loop to exit.

Front Panel (Right): The front panel is titled "Digital Write - Read.vi Front Panel on LabVIEWPi.lvproj/raspberrypi". It contains the following controls:

- DO Channel:** A numeric control set to 16.
- DI Channel:** A numeric control set to 18.
- Boolean:** A toggle switch currently in the "off" position.
- Digital Read:** A green circular indicator light.
- Stop:** A red square button.



Build and Deploy Executable LabVIEW Application running on Raspberry Pi at Startup

Hans-Petter Halvorsen

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Building Executable Applications

- We will deploy an Executable LabVIEW Application, so it runs on startup of the Raspberry Pi without having a connection to the Host PC
- In order to create and build executable Application you need the Application Builder package
- From LabVIEW 2022 Q3 and newer the Application Builder is included with LabVIEW Professional Development System

Blinky Application

The image displays the LabVIEW development environment for a Blinky application. The main window is titled "Blinky.vi Block Diagram on LabVIEWPi.lvproj/raspberypi". The block diagram features a "While Loop" containing the following components:

- Open.vi**: A subVI icon for opening the device.
- Local I/O**: A dropdown menu set to "Local I/O".
- DO Channel**: A numeric control set to "16".
- Digital Write.vi**: A subVI icon for writing to the digital output.
- Digital Write 1 Chan**: A subVI icon for writing to a single channel.
- LED Status**: A subVI icon for updating the LED status.
- Wait (ms)**: A wait function block set to "1000".
- Not**: A logical NOT function block.
- Stop Button**: A subVI icon for a stop button.

The flow of the program is as follows: The "While Loop" starts with "Open.vi" and "Local I/O". The "DO Channel" value is passed to "Digital Write.vi", which then connects to "Digital Write 1 Chan". This is followed by "LED Status" and a "Wait (ms)" block set to 1000. A "Not" block is connected to the output of the "Wait" block. The "Stop Button" is connected to the "Not" block. The "While Loop" ends with "Close.vi" and a "Simple" error indicator.

The front panel, titled "Blinky.vi Front Panel on LabVIEWPi.lvproj/rasber...", shows a "LED Status" indicator (a green circle) and a "Stop" button (a red square).

Build Application

LabVIEWPi.lvproj - Project Explorer

File Edit View Project Operate Tools Window Help

Items Files

Project: LabVIEWPi.lvproj

- My Computer
 - Dependencies
 - Build Specifications
- raspberrypi (192.168.137.250)
 - Analog Write.vi
 - Blinky.vi
 - Digital Read.vi
 - Digital Write - Read.vi
 - LED.vi
 - Push Button.vi
 - PWM.vi
 - PWM2.vi
 - Dependencies
 - Build Specification

Context Menu:

- New
 - Real-Time Application
 - Packed Library
 - Source Distribution
 - Zip File
- Arrange By
- Help...

Blinky Properties

Category

- Information
- Source Files
- Destinations
- Source File Settings
- Advanced
- Additional Exclusions
- Version Information
- Web Services
- Pre/Post Build Actions
- Component Definition
- Preview

Information

Build specification name
Blinky

Target filename
startup.rtexe

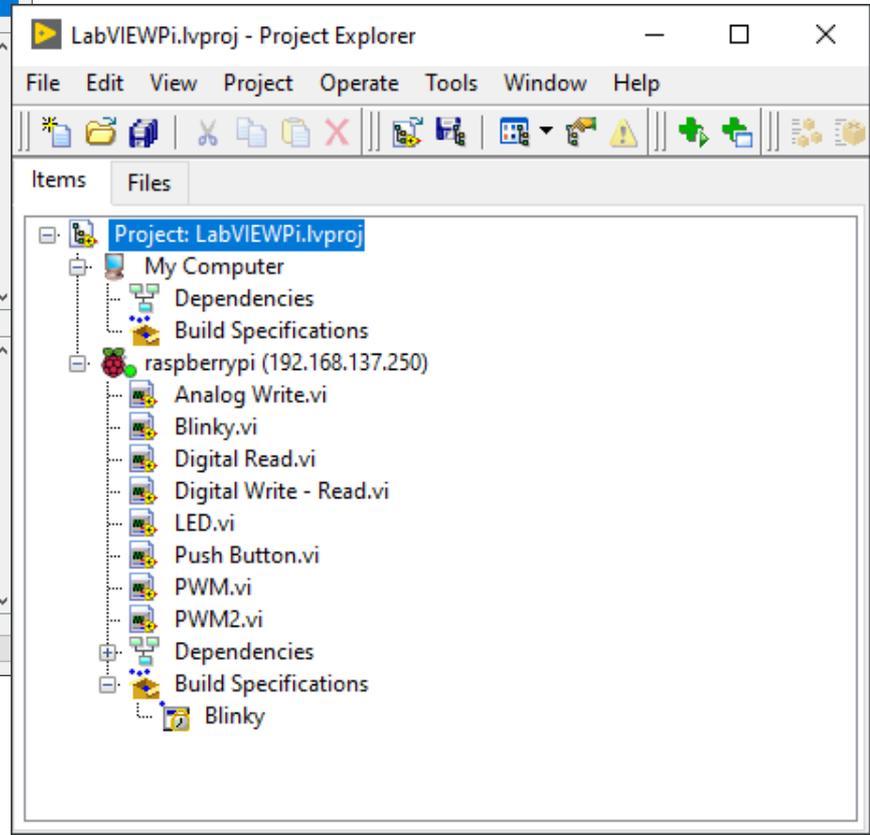
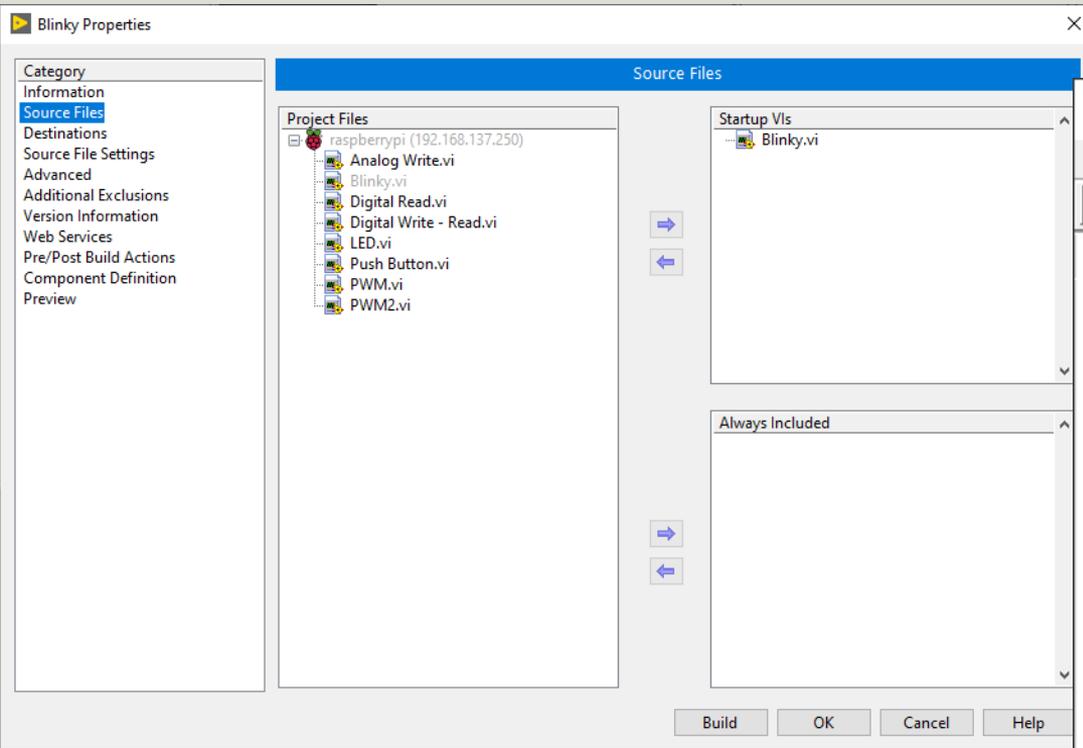
Local destination directory
C:\Users\hansha\OneDrive\Development\LabVIEW\LabVIEW LINUX\Raspberry Pi\builds\LabVIEWPi\raspberrypi\Blinky

Target destination directory
/home/lvuser/natinst/bin

Build specification description

Build OK Cancel Help

Build Application



Build Application

The image illustrates the process of building a LabVIEW application for a Raspberry Pi. It consists of four sequential screenshots:

- Project Explorer:** Shows the project structure for 'LabVIEWPi.lvproj'. The 'Blinky' file is selected, and a context menu is open with 'Build' highlighted.
- Build status dialog:** A dialog box titled 'Build status' for 'Blinky'. It displays the message: "The build is complete. You can locate the build at C:\Users\hansha\OneDrive\Development\LabVIEW builds\LabVIEWPi\raspberrypi\Blinky." A progress bar is shown at 100% green. There is a 'Warnings' section and 'Explore' and 'Done' buttons.
- Project Explorer:** Shows the same project structure. The 'Blinky' file is selected, and a context menu is open with 'Run as startup' highlighted.
- Reboot dialog:** A dialog box with the message: "The target (raspberrypi) must be rebooted for the application to launch. Proceed with reboot?" It has 'Yes' and 'No' buttons.

Summary

- This Tutorial has shown how we can use Raspberry Pi in combination with the LabVIEW Programming environment
- “LabVIEW LINX Toolkit” is an add-on for LabVIEW which makes it possible to program the Raspberry Pi device using LabVIEW
- In that way we can create Data Logging Applications, etc. without the need of an expensive DAQ device
- If you in addition use the “LabVIEW Community Edition” (free for non-commercial use) you get a very low-cost DAQ/Datalogging System!
- You can also easily add features for logging data to Files or a Database System like SQL Server, or an OPC Server, etc.
- In later Tutorials, I will show how you can use Pulse Width Modulation (PWM), Push Buttons, I2C and SPI Interfaces, etc.

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