

## Application Note

### Using the AccuStar® Serial Electronic Clinometer with a microcontroller



## Introduction

The AccuStar I 'Serial' output clinometer has been specifically designed to easily transmit its data to a microcontroller. This is accomplished through a three I/O interface. The output of the sensor resolves the angle of tilt to 17 bits of data. A complete handshaking routine is used in order to eliminate timing and transmission problems.

## Procedure

### STEP 1 = INITIAL CONDITIONS

The clinometer during power up will have its ready/working line low. The user will monitor this line waiting for it to go high (25 ms). The user request/hold line shall be low at this time.

### STEP 2 = REQUEST DATA

User sets the request/hold line high, and monitors the ready/working line to see if the request was received.

### STEP 3 = CLINOMETER ABOUT TO WORK

Clinometer ready/working line goes low to acknowledge request received.

### STEP 4 = CLINOMETER GOES TO WORK

User detects the ready/working line has gone low, sets the request/hold line low, and monitors the ready/working line for a high (data ready).

### STEP 5 = DATA READY

Clinometer sets ready/working line high to indicate data bit is ready for transmission.

### STEP 6 = CONTROLLER READS DATA BIT

User detects ready/working line has gone high, reads the logic level value, and stores it in the appropriate register.

\* The user now repeats steps 2 thru 6 sixteen additional times for a total of 17 bits of data. The first bit indicates the polarity and is high for a clockwise rotation and low for a counterclockwise rotation. The second bit is DB15 and is the most significant bit. The following bits are DB14 thru DB0, and are in true magnitude form. With the scale factor being 1000 counts per degree, a decimal conversion of the data will give a direct indication of the angle (ie; 1000 counts = 1.000 degrees).

## Notes

- 1) Averaging of eight or more readings improves repeatability.
- 2) Ignoring the clinometer for two seconds during data transmittal will cause a reset.
- 3) On power-up and reset the clinometer delays 25 ms.
- 4) The request/hold line has a pull down resistor to allow for multiplexing. This eliminates false triggering.
- 5) Clinometer and user I/O grounds must be common.
- 6) The interface between the clinometer and the user I/O device must be at 5 volt CMOS or TTL levels.

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#### Sample assembly program

Part of an application program written for the Micro-chip PIC16C54 microcontroller is attached. The application was read from the serial clinometer and displayed the results on an LCD module.

```

; PROGRAM CONTINUOUSLY READS SERIAL CLINOMETER AND STORES RESULTS IN
; REGISTERS "POL, H_BYTE, AND L_BYTE"
;*****
;Note: data line = RB,0
;      ready/working = RB,1
;      request/hold = RB,2

pol      equ      08
H_byte  equ      0B
L_byte  equ      0C
PIC54   equ      1FF
INDF    equ      0
RTCC    equ      1
PC      equ      2
STATUS  equ      3
FSR     equ      4
RA      equ      5
RB      equ      6
;*****
; protocall
;*****
protoc  bsf      RB,2          ; request start/data

wfw     btfsc   RB,1          ;see if slave is working
        goto    wfw
        bcf     RB,2          ; hold data

wfr     btfss   RB,1          ;see if slave is ready
        goto    wfr
        ;measurement is finished or data
        ;is ready

        RETLW   0

;
;*****
;getdata
;*****
getdata btfss   RB,1          ;see if slave is ready
        goto    getdata

        call    protoc          ; take measurement,polarity bit
        clrf   pol
        clrf   H_byte
        clrf   L_byte
        bcf    STATUS,0        ; clear the carry bit
        movf  RB,W             ;read port
        andlw 01               ;mask
        movwf pol              ;save polarity bit

        call    protoc          ; db15
        movf  RB,W             ;read port
        andlw 01               ;mask
        iorwf H_byte           ;save bit

```

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```

    rlf      H_byte

    call     protoc          ; db14
    movf    RB,W            ;read port
    andlw   01              ;mask
    iorwf   H_byte         ;save bit
    rlf      H_byte

    call     protoc          ; db13
    movf    RB,W            ;read port
    andlw   01              ;mask
    iorwf   H_byte         ;save bit
    rlf      H_byte

    call     protoc          ; db12
    movf    RB,W            ;read port
    andlw   01              ;mask
    iorwf   H_byte         ;save bit
    rlf      H_byte

    call     protoc          ; db11
    movf    RB,W            ;read port
    andlw   01              ;mask
    iorwf   H_byte         ;save bit
    rlf      H_byte

    call     protoc          ; db10
    movf    RB,W            ;read port
    andlw   01              ;mask
    iorwf   H_byte         ;save bit
    rlf      H_byte

    call     protoc          ; db09
    movf    RB,W            ;read port
    andlw   01              ;mask
    iorwf   H_byte         ;save bit
    rlf      H_byte

    call     protoc          ; db08
    movf    RB,W            ;read port
    andlw   01              ;mask
    iorwf   H_byte         ;save bit
    bcf     STATUS,0        ; clear the carry bit

    call     protoc          ; db07
    movf    RB,W            ;read port
    andlw   01              ;mask
    iorwf   L_byte         ;save bit
    rlf      L_byte

    call     protoc          ; db06
    movf    RB,W            ;read port
    andlw   01              ;mask
    iorwf   L_byte         ;save bit
    rlf      L_byte

    call     protoc          ; db05
    movf    RB,W            ;read port
    andlw   01              ;mask
    iorwf   L_byte         ;save bit

```

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```

    rlf      L_byte

    call     protoc          ; db04
    movf    RB,W            ;read port
    andlw   01             ;mask
    iorwf   L_byte         ;save bit
    rlf     L_byte

    call     protoc          ; db03
    movf    RB,W            ;read port
    andlw   01             ;mask
    iorwf   L_byte         ;save bit
    rlf     L_byte

    call     protoc          ; db02
    movf    RB,W            ;read port
    andlw   01             ;mask
    iorwf   L_byte         ;save bit
    rlf     L_byte

    call     protoc          ; db01
    movf    RB,W            ;read port
    andlw   01             ;mask
    iorwf   L_byte         ;save bit
    rlf     L_byte

    call     protoc          ; db00
    movf    RB,W            ;read port
    andlw   01             ;mask
    iorwf   L_byte         ;save bit
    bcf     STATUS,0       ; clear the carry bit

    RETLW   0

;*****
;                               Main Program
;*****
main    nop
        movlw 08             ;bits 0,1,2 output, 3 input
        tris  RA
        movlw 0B             ;bits 2,4,5,6,7 output, 0,1,3 input
        tris  RB
        clrf  RB
        clrf  RA

;NOTE: ADD 50ms DELAY TO INSURE THE SERIAL CLINOMETER IS UP AND RUNNING

        call  getdata ;polarity in register pol, 1 = CW , 0 = CCW
                ;DB15-DB7 in register H_byte
                ;DB8-DB0 in register L_byte

        org  1FF
        goto main

        END

```

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### Using the AccuStar® Serial Electronic Clinometer with a microcontroller

Measurement Specialties, Inc. (NASDAQ MEAS) offers many other types of sensors. Data sheets can be downloaded from our web site at: <http://www.meas-spec.com/datasheets.aspx>

MEAS acquired Schaevitz Sensors and the **Schaevitz®** trademark in 2000.

### Technical contact information

NORTH AMERICA	EUROPE	ASIA
Measurement Specialties, Inc. 1000 Lucas Way Hampton, VA 23666 United States Phone: +1-800-745-8008 Fax: +1-757-766-4297 Email: <a href="mailto:sales@meas-spec.com">sales@meas-spec.com</a> Web: <a href="http://www.meas-spec.com">www.meas-spec.com</a>	MEAS Deutschland GmbH Hauert 13 D-44227 Dortmund Germany Phone: +49-(0)231-9740-0 Fax: +49-(0)231-9740-20 Email: <a href="mailto:info.de@meas-spec.com">info.de@meas-spec.com</a> Web: <a href="http://www.meas-spec.com">www.meas-spec.com</a>	Measurement Specialties China Ltd. No. 26, Langshan Road High-tech Park (North) Nanshan District, Shenzhen 518057 China Phone: +86-755-33305088 Fax: +86-755-33305099 Email: <a href="mailto:info.cn@meas-spec.com">info.cn@meas-spec.com</a> Web: <a href="http://www.meas-spec.com">www.meas-spec.com</a>

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