

# Arduino for the Classroom

Let's Talk Science Instructional Design Team

---

Titus Ferguson, Shawn Nock

UnPacked Digital Literacy

# Goals

By the end of this class, you'll:

- Be familiar with basic electronics concepts
- Assemble a kit of sensors into a complete system
- Know how to program the Arduino platform to collect and plot the sensor data

# Enabling Exploration, Creativity, and Excellence In Art+Make+Tech

Challenging and embracing ideas related to new technologies and social platforms through the education, entertainment and engagement of our membership and the community-at-large.

- 121Studios: Coworking for Creatives
- STEAM Outreach & Education
- ExplodeConf
- Nuit Blanche

**What's in your kit?**

---

**Arduino Uno R3**

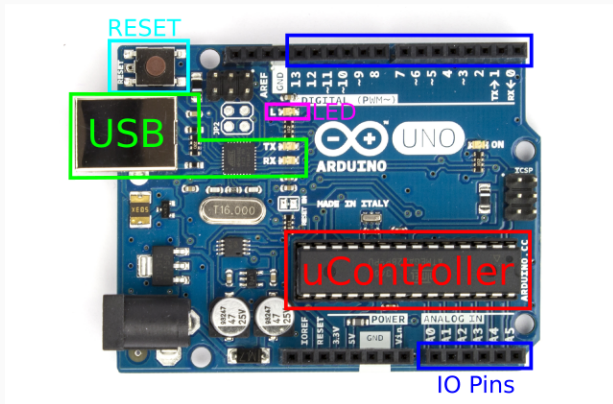
**Solderless Breadboard**

**Connecting wires**

**Sensors**

- Temperature / Humidity
- Light Sensor
- CO2 Gas Sensor

# What is Arduino?



It's a kit (on a board) with the bare minimum components to easily use the  $\mu$ C hardware. They do the basic, boring design needed for any board, so users only need to add the neat stuff.

The Arduino folks also adapted an *Integrated Development Environment* (IDE) to their boards. This IDE allows us to easily write programs for their boards and then transfer the programs to the  $\mu\text{C}$ .

Get the Arduino IDE:

<https://www.arduino.cc/en/Main/Software>

Get the libraries and sample code for this workshop:

<https://monadnock.ca/lts-workshop-Nov2017.zip>

# Circuit Basics

---



# Current

Current is the flow of charge through a circuit. Measured in Amperes (A).

## Resistance / Impedance

Circuits have a resistance to current flow that depends on the parts in the circuit.

Measured in Ohms ( $\Omega$ )

# Voltage

Voltage is a potential (akin to a pressure) pushing the current through a circuit. Current is said to flow from higher (+) voltage to lower (-) voltage.

Measured in Volts (V)

Voltage, Current and Resistance are related to each other.

- As voltage increases, current increases
- As voltage decreases, current decreases
- As resistance increases, current decreases
- As resistance decreases, current increases

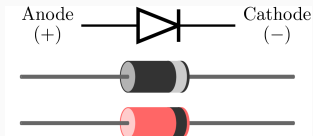
## V, $\Omega$ , A: The Water Analogy

If charge were water, then:

- resistance = obstacles blocking flow
- current = flow rate
- voltage = change in height *or* pressure.

# Diode

- One way valve for current<sup>1</sup>
- LED  $\equiv$  Light Emitting Diode
- Band marks (-)<sup>2</sup>
- Longer leg marks (+)



---

<sup>1</sup><https://learn.sparkfun.com/tutorials/diodes>

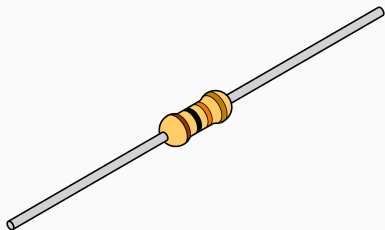
<sup>2</sup><https://learn.sparkfun.com/tutorials/polarity/diode-and-led-polarity>

- Diodes don't limit current
- Diodes aren't perfect (some current turned to heat)
- Too much current → Too much heat →

*What's that smell?*

# Resistor

- *Resists*/limits the flow of current
- Needed for LEDs:  $\approx 1000 \Omega$
- Button Pull-up/down:  
 $\geq 10 \text{ k}\Omega$
- Color coded, Google it





# Buttons

- Buttons connect *or* disconnect two wires/parts
- Momentary Switch: Normally Closed (NC), Normally Open (NO)
- Toggle Switch

A circuit is a completed loop from HIGH potential (voltage) to LOW, which causes current to flow through some other components along the way.

Often these *other* components are *transducers*, which convert electrical energy into another sort of energy:

---

Speaker	Electrical → Sound
Microphone	Sound → Electrical
LED	Electrical → Light
LED	Light → Electrical
Piezoelectric	Electrical → Motion

---

The power supply provides the energy to drive the system.

Can be a:

- Voltage Regulator (converts one potential to another)
- Batteries
- Solar Panel

In our circuits, your computer is converting it's power source to 5 V and delivering power to our circuit via USB.

Microcontroller ( $\mu$ C) is a *processor*, *memory* and a few *peripherals* on a standalone chip.

**Processor** is a group of transistors that understands a dozen or so commands (ADD, SUB, JUMP..)

**Memory** a circuit that can hold values.

**Peripherals** Vary chip to chip, but often include timers, communications and ADC, DAC.

Seems complicated, but really simple. They read a command from the start of memory, then execute the command. At the end of the command, read the next command from the next memory cell and repeat<sup>1</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup>some commands change the address of the next fetched command

- Vcc: The power supply of the circuit elements
- GND: The reference voltage (usually 0V)
- Connecting a part to Vcc = Logical 1 or High
- Connecting to GND = Logical 0 or Low
- Connecting various pins to Vcc or Ground is all the  $\mu\text{C}$  can do to talk to the world <sup>2</sup>

---

<sup>2</sup>w/o fancy peripherals or dirty tricks

Most of the pins on the Arduino can be set for INPUT or OUTPUT mode.

- INPUT mode pins listen for a signal (High or Low) from another device
- OUTPUT mode pins drive the pin High or Low

What's happens if an INPUT mode pin tries to read the value of a pin that is connected to nothing? Is that a 1 or 0?

**No one knows!**

It's dependant of transient charges, static, nearby electric fields, the phase of the moon, . . . Whenever you want to check a digital signal, make sure that something is *driving* it (ensuring Vcc or GND).



If one end of an LED is connected to ground, and the other end is connected to an OUTPUT pin on a  $\mu\text{Controller}$ , then:

- If the  $\mu\text{C}$  sets the pin High ( $V_{\text{cc}}$ , 5V) then current will flow from the pin through the LED and turn it on.
- If  $\mu\text{C}$  sets the pin Low (GND, 0V) then the current will not flow and the LED is off.

# Let's start programming

---



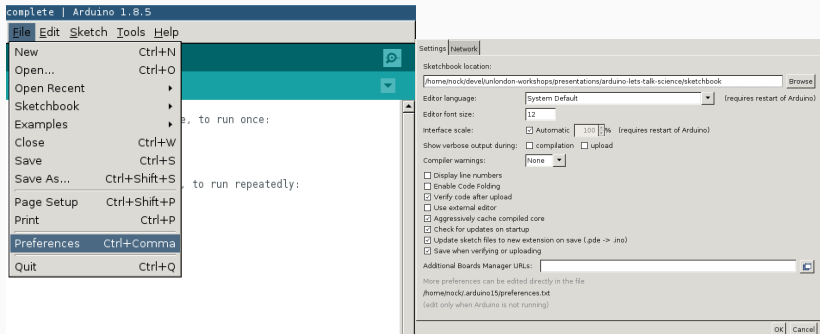
## Fetch the Class Code

Download and extract:

<https://monadnock.ca/static/lts-workshop-Nov2017.zip>

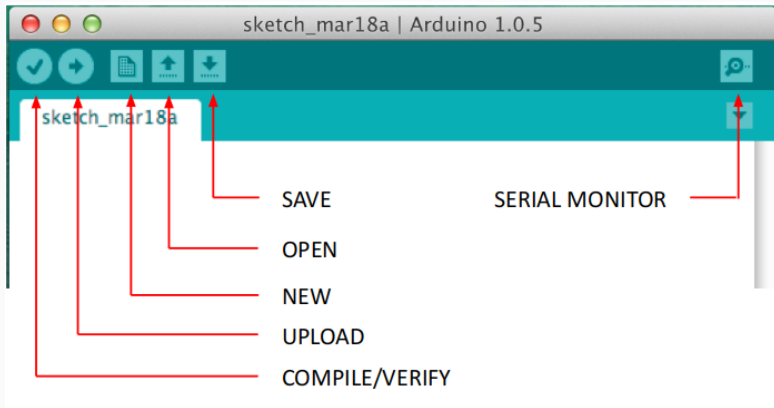
- File→Preferences
- Browse for sketchbook
- Point it at the `sketchbook` subfolder of the extracted download
- You should now see a list of projects in the File→Sketchbook menu.

# Setup the Sensor Libraries (Sketchbook)



For the *Sketchbook Location* browse to the extracted  
Its-workshop-Nov2017/sketchbook directory.

# The Code Environment



## Your first Program

```
#define LED 13
```

```
/* the setup function runs once on reset / power */
```

```
void setup() {
```

```
    pinMode(LED, OUTPUT);
```

```
}
```

```
/* loop() repeats until reset or power off */
```

```
void loop() {
```

```
    digitalWrite(LED, HIGH);    // turn on LED
```

```
    delay(1000);                // wait for a second
```

```
    digitalWrite(LED, LOW);    // turn the off LED
```

```
    delay(1000);
```

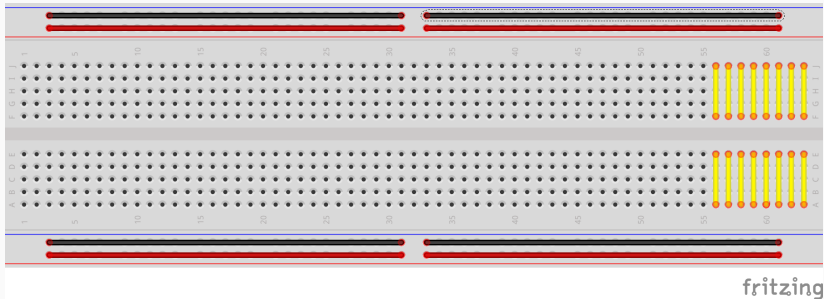
```
}
```

## Lets Add Some Parts

---



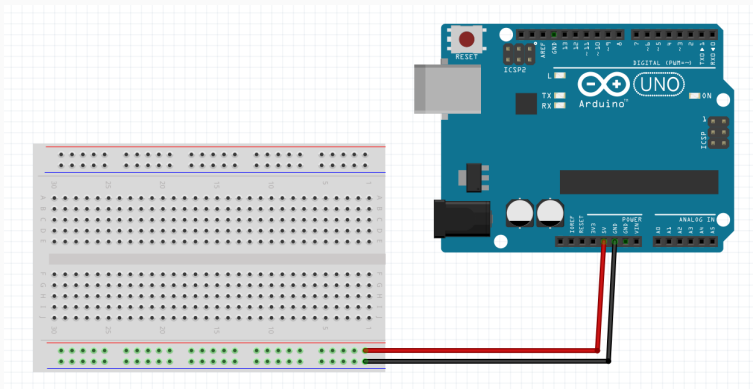
# Breadboard



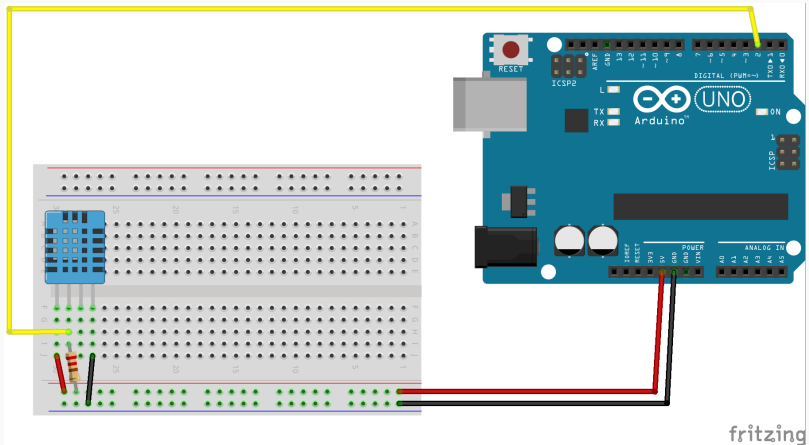
- Connectors gently pinch component leads, wires.
- Have internal connections

# Power Up the Rails

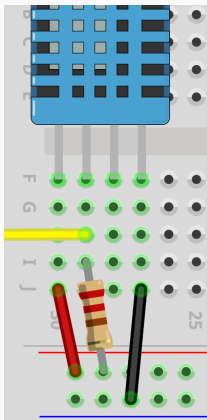
We use the long rows to distribute power. The Arduino outputs 5V on the pin marked 5V, the reference (GND) is marked GND.



# DHT11: Temperature and Humidity Sensor



## DHT11: Zoom



Connect left pin to Vcc rail (+) and right pin to GND (-) rail.  
Second from left connects to *Arduino pin #2* and a resistor to Vcc

## Pullup / Pulldown Resistors

The DHT11 uses an *Open Collector* output that switches between *Not Connected* and *Connected to Ground*. When it's not connected, the pin is left *floating*. How do we make a floating pin look like a High signal?

### **Solution:**

Connect the pin to  $V_{cc}$  so that it reads High; use a resistor to prevent short circuit (limit current).

## DHT11: Run example code

We can test the sensor by running sample code from the library.

Open the sample: File→Examples→DHT Sensor

Library→DHTtester

Once the sample is loaded click the *upload* button (looks like right arrow)

Once the sample code is uploaded, you can open the *Serial Monitor* to view the output. It can be found under:

Tools→Serial Monitor

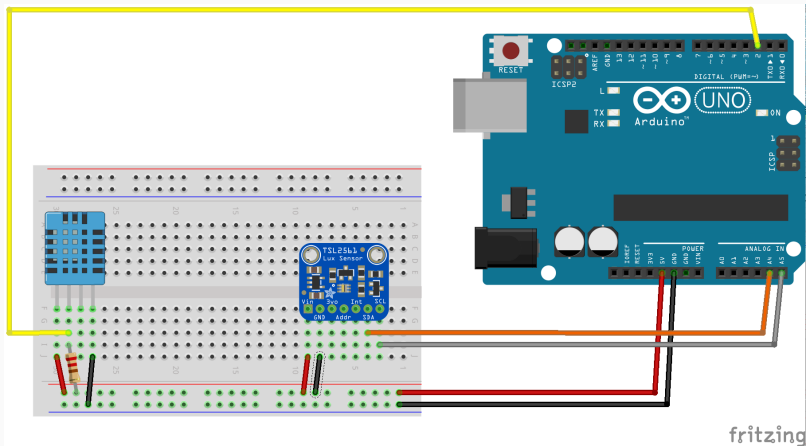
# DHTtester Output

```
DHDHTxx test!
```

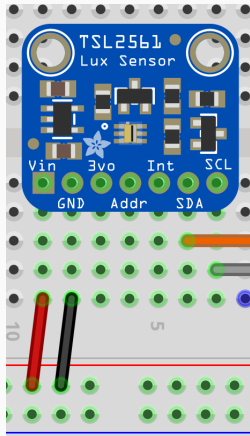
```
Humidity: 44.00 %    Temperature: 20.00 *C 68.00 *F Heat index: 19.20 *C 66.57 *F
Humidity: 44.00 %    Temperature: 20.00 *C 68.00 *F Heat index: 19.20 *C 66.57 *F
Humidity: 44.00 %    Temperature: 20.00 *C 68.00 *F Heat index: 19.20 *C 66.57 *F
Humidity: 44.00 %    Temperature: 20.00 *C 68.00 *F Heat index: 19.20 *C 66.57 *F
Humidity: 45.00 %    Temperature: 20.00 *C 68.00 *F Heat index: 19.23 *C 66.61 *F
Humidity: 45.00 %    Temperature: 20.00 *C 68.00 *F Heat index: 19.23 *C 66.61 *F
Humidity: 45.00 %    Temperature: 20.00 *C 68.00 *F Heat index: 19.23 *C 66.61 *F
Humidity: 45.00 %    Temperature: 20.00 *C 68.00 *F Heat index: 19.23 *C 66.61 *F
Humidity: 45.00 %    Temperature: 20.00 *C 68.00 *F Heat index: 19.23 *C 66.61 *F
Humidity: 45.00 %    Temperature: 20.00 *C 68.00 *F Heat index: 19.23 *C 66.61 *F
Humidity: 44.00 %    Temperature: 20.00 *C 68.00 *F Heat index: 19.20 *C 66.57 *F
Humidity: 44.00 %    Temperature: 20.00 *C 68.00 *F Heat index: 19.20 *C 66.57 *F
Humidity: 44.00 %    Temperature: 20.00 *C 68.00 *F Heat index: 19.20 *C 66.57 *F
```



# TSL2561: Ambient Light Sensor



# TSL2561: Zoom



Connect Vin to (+) rail, GND to (-) rail, SDA to Arduino pin A4 and SCL to A5

## TSL2561: Run example code

We can test the sensor by running sample code from the library.

Open the sample: File→Examples→Adafruit TSL2561→sensorapi

Once the sample is loaded click the *upload* button (looks like right arrow)

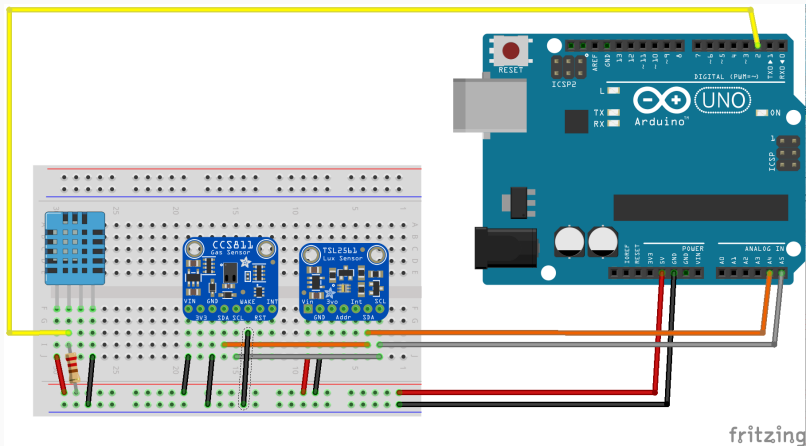
# TSL2561 Sample Output

```
Light Sensor Test
-----Light Sensor Test
-----
Sensor:      TSL2561
Driver Ver:  1
Unique ID:   12345
Max Value:   17000.00 lux
Min Value:   0.00 lux
Resolution:  1.00 lux
-----

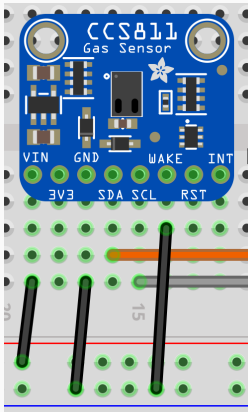
Gain:        Auto
Timing:      13 ms
-----

28.00 lux
28.00 lux
28.00 lux
28.00 lux
30.00 lux
30.00 lux
```

# CCS811: Gas Sensor



## CCS811: Zoom



*Vin* to (+) rail, *GND and WAKE* to (-) rail, *SDA* to TSL2561  
*SDA, SCL* to TSL2561 *SCL*

## CCS811: Run example code

We can test the sensor by running sample code from the library.

Open the sample: File→Examples→Adafruit CCS811

Library→CCS811\_test

Once the sample is loaded click the *upload* button (looks like right arrow)

## CCS811 Sample Output

```
CCS811 test
```

```
C02: 0ppm, TVOC: 0ppb    Temp:25.00
```

```
C02: 0ppm, TVOC: 0ppb    Temp:25.00
```

```
C02: 0ppm, TVOC: 0ppb    Temp:25.00
```

```
C02: 400ppm, TVOC: 0ppb   Temp:25.00
```

```
C02: 400ppm, TVOC: 0ppb   Temp:25.00
```

```
C02: 400ppm, TVOC: 0ppb   Temp:25.00
```

```
C02: 400ppm, TVOC: 0ppb   Temp:25.00
```

```
C02: 400ppm, TVOC: 0ppb   Temp:25.00
```

```
C02: 400ppm, TVOC: 0ppb   Temp:25.00
```

```
C02: 423ppm, TVOC: 3ppb    Temp:25.00
```



# Programming

---

## Part 1; Includes

```
#include <Wire.h>
#include <Adafruit_Sensor.h>
#include <Adafruit_TSL2561_U.h>
#include "Adafruit_CCS811.h"
#include "DHT.h"
```

```
#define DHTPIN 2  
#define DHTTYPE DHT11
```

## Part 3; Objects

```
Adafruit_CCS811 ccs;  
DHT dht(DHTPIN, DHTTYPE);  
Adafruit_TSL2561_Unified tsl =  
    Adafruit_TSL2561_Unified(TSL2561_ADDR_FLOAT, 12345);
```

## Programming Note: Variables

Declare a variable:

```
int button_state = HIGH;
```

<type> <name> [= <initial value>]; (value optional)

It's a name, like a preprocessor #define, but the value can change at *runtime*

## Part 4; Setup

```
void setup() {  
  Serial.begin(9600);  
  Serial.println("Let's Talk Science!");  
  
  dht.begin();  
  ccs.begin();  
  tsl.begin();  
  
  while(!ccs.available());  
  float temp = ccs.calculateTemperature();  
  ccs.setTempOffset(temp - 25.0);  
  
  tsl.enableAutoRange(true);  
  tsl.setIntegrationTime(TSL2561_INTEGRATIONTIME_13MS);  
}
```

## Part 4; Main Loop

```
loop () {  
  delay(500);  
  ...  
}
```

## Part 4a; Temperature / Humidity Sensor Read

```
loop () {  
    ...  
    float humidity = dht.readHumidity();  
    float temp = dht.readTemperature();  
  
    Serial.print(humidity);  
    Serial.print(" ");  
    Serial.print(temp);  
    Serial.print(" ");  
    ...  
}
```



## Part 4b; Gas Sensor Read

```
loop () {  
    ...  
    ccs.readData();  
    int co2 = ccs.geteCO2();  
    int tvoc = ccs.getTVOC();  
  
    Serial.print(co2/100);  
    Serial.print(" ");  
    Serial.print(tvoc/10);  
    Serial.print(" ");  
}
```

## Part 4c; Light Sensor Read

```
loop () {  
    ...  
    sensors_event_t event;  
    tsl.getEvent(&event);  
  
    Serial.print(event.light/10);  
    ...  
}
```

## Part 4d; Ending the output

```
loop () {  
    ...  
    Serial.println("");  
}
```

## Complete Sensor Output

```
Let's Talk Science!  
47.00 20.00 0 0 3.20  
47.00 20.00 0 0 3.20  
47.00 20.00 0 0 3.10  
47.00 20.00 0 0 3.20  
47.00 20.00 4 0 3.10  
47.00 20.00 4 0 3.10  
47.00 20.00 7 5 3.10  
47.00 20.00 7 5 3.20  
47.00 20.00 7 5 3.10  
47.00 20.00 6 4 3.10  
47.00 20.00 6 4 3.10  
47.00 20.00 6 3 3.10  
47.00 20.00 6 3 3.50  
47.00 20.00 6 3 3.50  
47.00 20.00 6 3 3.50  
47.00 20.00 5 2 3.50  
48.00 20.00 5 2 3.50  
48.00 20.00 5 2 3.50  
48.00 20.00 4 1 3.60  
48.00 20.00 4 1 3.50  
48.00 20.00 4 0 3.50
```

Why such a terse, boring output format?

Arduino has a feature where it will plot data in this specific format. You can see the plotted output by closing the *Arduino Serial Monitor* and Opening *Arduino Serial Plotter* (Tools→Serial Plotter)

# Arduino Serial Plotter Output



## Undiscussed Issues

---

## Obtaining the kit

- Educators would need to order several different parts (SKUs).
- Vendors keep very little stock (~4 dozen).
- Educators may need to “google around” to find parts, most likely from abroad (US or China)



# Installing the Software

- School machines may prevent software installation
- School machines may not be conventional computers (iPads, Chromebooks)

# Troubleshooting the Build

- Breadboards aren't rugged.
- Sockets wear out quickly
- Parts may need to be wiggled
- Some parts may be DoA
- Most troubleshooting requires a Multimeter (and training on how to use it)

## Extra Credit

---

# Ohm's Law

Ohm's Law relates current to potential and resistance.

$$V = IR$$

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

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

- $V$  = Potential in Volts (V)
- $I$  = Current in Amperes (A)
- $R$  = Resistance in Ohms ( $\Omega$ )

## Ohm's Law: Example

The datasheet for an LED says that the maximum continuous current is 15 mA. Your circuit operates at 5 V<sup>1</sup>. How big should your resistor be?

$$\Omega = \frac{5 \text{ V}}{0.015 \text{ A}} = 333.\bar{3}\Omega$$

How much current for our *cheet sheet* value?

$$\text{A} = \frac{5 \text{ V}}{1 \text{ k}\Omega} = 5 \text{ mA}$$

---

<sup>1</sup>Actually, this calculation is inaccurate. LEDs will have a \*forward voltage drop\* of between 1.8V and 3.3V this should be subtracted from V above... but it's not critical.

## Current Limits, Arduino

- No single pin should source more than 20 mA (40 mA is absolute max)
- Pins are ganged together in groups of 8, no group should source more than 150 mA total
- The whole board cannot source more than 200 mA total

Practically speaking, this means that the Arduino cannot drive speakers, most motors, or anything normally mains powered.

## So...no Arduino smart blender?

You can control almost anything with an arduino, you just can't power it with the Arduino. There are various devices that let you switch higher powered devices:

- Transistors
- Relays
- Solid State Relays
- Triac

## HIGHs and LOWs

Many different logic levels are in common use: 1.2 V, 1.8 V, 2.5 V, 3.3 V, and 5 V. The voltage cited is the *nominal*  $V_{CC}$  of the system.

A HIGH signal is generally any voltage  $\geq \frac{2}{3} V_{CC}$ .

A LOW signal is generally any voltage  $\leq \frac{1}{3} V_{CC}$ .



## HIGHs and LOWs, pt. 2

In your travels, you're likely to see both 5 V and 3.3 V sensors and peripherals.

Since  $3.3\text{ V} \geq \frac{2}{3}V_{CC}$  your Arduino will accept input from a 3.3 V peripheral without issue.

If you drive an output to 5 V while it's connected to a 3.3 V peripheral with an Arduino **it will blow up your peripheral.**<sup>3</sup>

---

<sup>3</sup>In the datasheet for the sensor, it'll have a section called *Absolute Maximums*. Generally 3.3 V parts won't accept more than  $\approx 3.6\text{ V}$ , but some will.

### Solutions:

- Level Shifter: A dedicated chip that translates between voltages. Available as uni or bidirectional.
- Buy a 3.3V Arduino Compatible. Arduinos are available that operate at the lower voltage.