





Group 10 Christian Chang - Computer Engineering Mohamed Jabbar - Photonic Science and Engineering Matthew Kalinowski - Photonic Science and Engineering Kyle Kaple - Electrical Engineering

#### Motivation

• Our intent is to create an instrument that could use lasers as a string to be plucked to make sound

• Plenty of other instruments use electronics to create sound

• MIDI is a useful interface to pair with this instrument for electronic keying



#### Goals and Objectives

- Design and construct a laser harp with built-in expression for performance
- Interface with external gear via Musical Instrument Digital Interface (MIDI)
- Utilize multiple types of sensors for note detection and distance sensing
- Implement a scale mode and transpose functions to maximize flexibility and ease-of-use

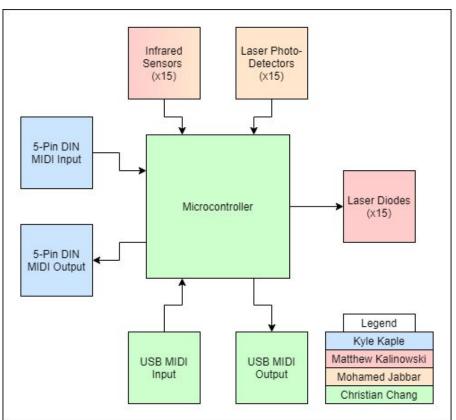


#### Specifications & Requirements

- The harp will have 15 independent laser "strings" with full polyphony
- The distance sensors will need to detect a range of 1-11 inches
- The harp will transmit MIDI data via UART at a baud rate of 31.250 kbps
  5-pin DIN and USB
- By MIDI, the harp will transmit both note on/off messages and Continuous Control (CC) messages for distance detection.
- Microcontroller will need at least 15 analog inputs for the analog distance sensor inputs. And at least 15 GPIO pins for the note on/note off detection

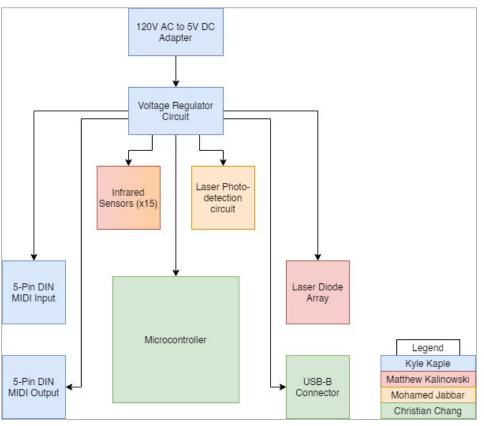


## Electronics/Data Transfer Block Diagram





## Power Block Diagram





# Design Constraints

- Size
  - Should be small enough to be considered portable.
  - Will need to big large enough to hold an entire scale without being too heavy from materials.
- Safety
  - There are laser diodes on this project and it is important to take precautions when designing the frame so that the user and any person nearby does not receive a beam to their eyes.
  - The beams will need to point downward and be covered by building materials to avoid unwanted eye contact.
- Economic
  - No sponsors so we are trying to make this a budget friendly project.



#### Framed vs Frameless

- Framed laser harps mount the lasers to a frame, and detect the beam from the opposite side
- Framed laser harps are safer
  - Less chance of accidental exposure to laser beams
- Framed laser harps are more sensible for home use
  No infinite lasers pointing into the sky
- Frameless laser harps use a mirror attached to a stepping motor
  - Motion is imperceptible to human eye
- Frameless laser harps have limited number of strings
- Framed laser harp is the best option for our case

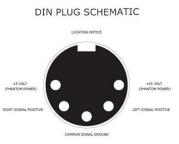






# Musical Instrument Digital Interface (MIDI)

- Serial communication protocol standard in almost all synthesizers and samplers released since the 1980's
- Utilizes UART with a baud rate of 31.25 kbps
- Transfers messages for note on/note off and continuous control (CC) for parameter modulation
  - When laser is blocked, send corresponding "note on"
  - When laser is released, send corresponding "note off"
  - While laser is being blocked, send continuous "pressure" modulation via MIDI CC to modulate any modulatable parameter
- Will send and receive by both 5-pin DIN and USB





# Light Source

- Laser diodes used to create strings of harp
- Using low powered and low cost diodes to keep budget down
- Having small diodes allows easy mounting
- Can be ran in parallel sharing a single power supply and ground node





# Light Source

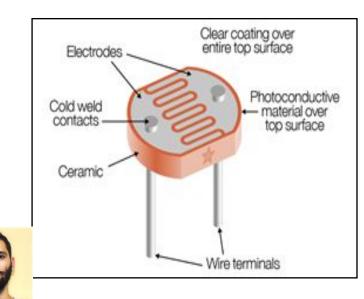


Dimension	6.5 x 18mm
Cost	\$5.99 10 pack
Wavelength	650nm
Voltage	5VDC
Operating current	>20mA
Manufacturer	HiLetgo



# Light Detection

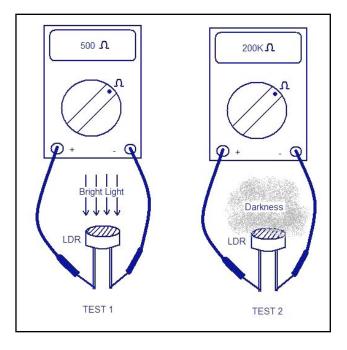
- Light-Dependent Resistor
  - Easy to install
  - Budget friendly
  - Simple integration into system



Dimension	Round 5mm
Cost	<\$1.00
Resistance Range	200kΩ- 10kΩ
Sensitivity Range	400nm-600nm
Manufacturer	EBOOT

## Light detection

- Is used to detect when the light is blocked
- The lasers will provide a low resistance
- The blocking will cause a high resistance
- Using this we can determine when and which laser diode is blocked allowing notes to be played





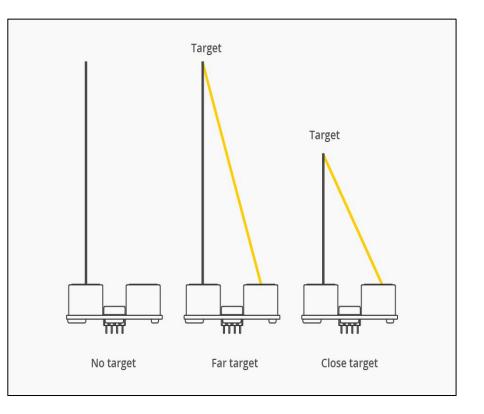
#### Distance Detection



Dimension	0.25 x 0.25 x 0.23 inches
Cost	\$10.99 each
voltage	3.3-5VDC
Detection distance	2-30cm
Manufacturer	sharp-AIMELIAE

#### **Distance** Detection

- Uses triangulation to determine distance
- Can be used in light or dark settings
- Other alternative such as ultrasonic have low resolution and refresh rates or is too costly to use for this budget





# **OLED** Display

- Need a way to communicate with the harp to change scales
- Better viewing angles and contrast compared to LCD
- Uses the same voltage as the equipment 3.3-5VDC
- Design is important and and LCD looks old school
- Using Frieda OLED at 0.96 inch





### **Microcontroller Selection**

- Arduino Nano (based around Atmel ATmega328)
  - 14 GPIO pins
  - 6 analog input pins
  - Prototyping and small-scale testing only
- Atmel ATmega2560
  - 86 GPIO pins
  - 16-channel 10-bit A/D converter
  - 1.8V 5.5V operating voltage
  - 4 UART channels

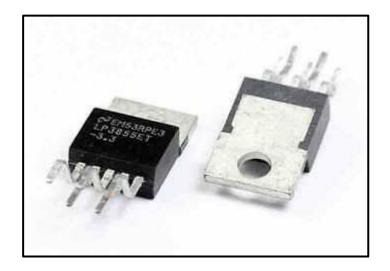






# Voltage Regulator

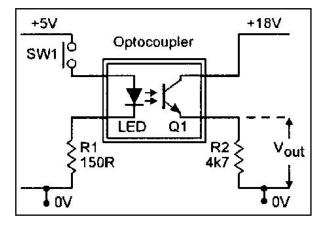
- To ensure consistent voltage input supply to the microcontroller, we need to add a simple voltage regulator circuit at the power supply input of the MCU
- Texas Instruments LP3855 linear voltage regulator
  - Low noise (improve infrared sensor accuracy)
  - TO-220 format with standard heatsink

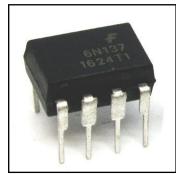




## Optocoupler

- Optical device that transfers electrical current between wires without direct connection
  - Similar to a transformer
- Included to isolate MIDI connection between external devices to remove any ground loop feedback hum
- Inexpensive and small
- 6N137 selected due to high switching speed

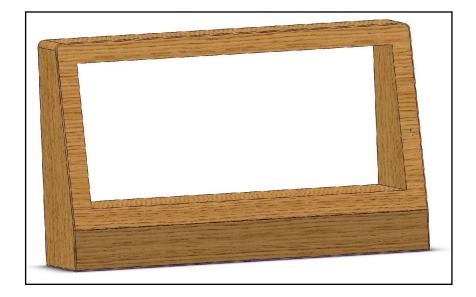






## Frame Design

- We chose to make a framed laser harp for both safety purposes and to allow for a small device with equal "string" spacing
- Approximate dimensions of 27"x16.5"x7.5"
- Will be constructed with wood and aluminum rod
  - Cost-Effective
  - Can be built without metal machining tools or plastic molds





#### Laser Diode Mount



- Will pre drill holes to the dimensions of the laser diode
- Have threaded holes on the sides to hold the diodes with set screws
- The diodes should be easily mountable and able to align using set screws
- Having them held by screws rather than glue makes it easier to change broken parts

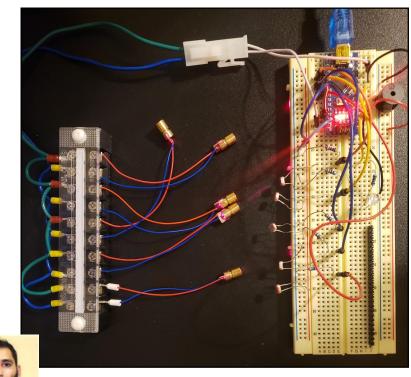
# Prototyping- Single string

- Using a single laser diode and a single LDR hooked up to a microcontroller and breadboard for initial testing
- The goal was to ensure that a musical note could be played by interfering the path of the beam
- Arduino has a way to define musical notes based on code





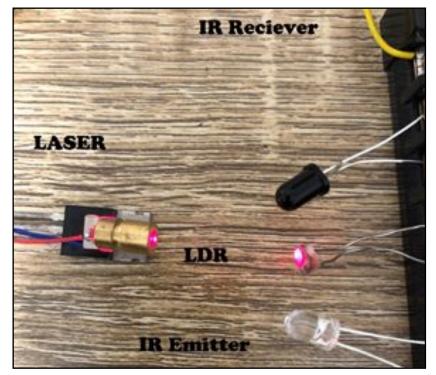
# Prototyping multi string



- Adding additional laser diodes and LDRs to the breadboard maxing pin outputs
- The test was to determine the amount of reasonable spacing for the system as a whole
- With twelve diodes we will need to create a rather long harp frame to account for the addition of distance detectors

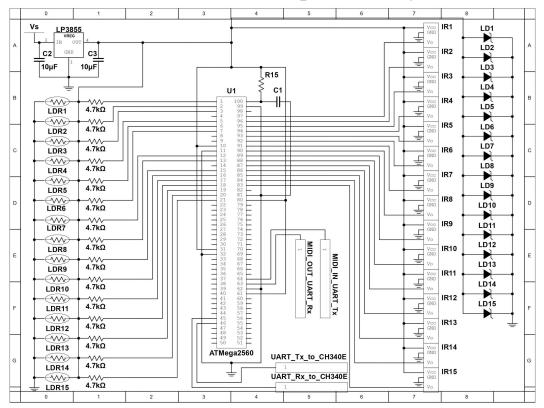
# Prototyping IR integration

- Using basic IR LED and receiver to test distance integration
- Will be using a premade configuration rather than individual components from Sharp
- Uses triangulation to calculate the distance of the interfering object



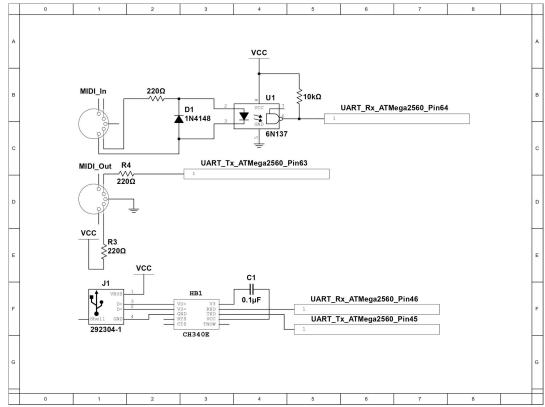


#### Microcontroller and Sensing Subsystem Schematic





#### MIDI and USB Connector Schematic





# Coding

- Arduino Assets
- C++
  - setup: Use it to initialize variables, pin modes, start using libraries, etc. which can execute the initial conditions of the code once
  - loop: which will work with setup to make it run infinite times and is the main function
  - input: : similar to an "if" loop, to take in our detectors
  - manipulate data: used to change the input
- Pins
  - 30 input pins
    - 15 digital photodetectors
    - 15 analog IR sensors



## Lithium-Ion Battery

- Has the best energy storage 3000mAh
- Longest Lasting
- Fast Charging
- Low Self Discharge
- Durable





#### Bill of Materials

Part	Price per unit	Quantity	Cost
Laser Diodes	\$0.39	15	\$12.98
Photoresistors	\$0.16	15	\$4.95
Infrared Sensor	\$8.74	15	\$131.10
Optocoupler	\$1.78	1	\$1.78
OLED module	\$4.00	1	\$4.00
Microcontroller	\$11.99	1	\$11.99
Voltage Regulator	\$4.90	1	\$4.90
PCB	\$2.66	5	\$13.30
Frame lumber	\$45.98	1	\$45.98
Total cost			\$240.83

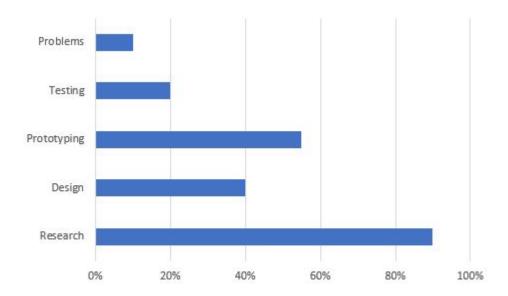


#### Work Distribution

Name	Software	Photonics	Electrical	Misc.
Christian	x			x
Mohamed		x	x	x
Matthew	x	x		x
Kyle			x	x



# Progress





#### Complications

- Spacing out the infrared sensors so that they do not interfere with each other.
- Figuring out the best material to build
- Find a way to mount the laser diodes such that they are adjustable in the case that they need to be replaced.
- Debugging



#### Plan to complete on time

- Purchase missing components
- Use worksite to build frame and base including main components
- Wire the main components to the power supply
- Design and order the PCB
- Program the harp and begin to troubleshoot any possible issues



## Questions?

