

OVERVIEW

The LC-018 Kimat Mobile Robot Shield is a compact, Arduino – Compatible, motor driver shield for 2 DC motors and with pin headers for IR sensors, Ultrasonic sensors and a Servo motor. The motor driver has 2 individual channels and can accommodate a 2- or 4wheeled robot. Each channel can deliver up to 1.2A per channel.

This shield was designed with ease of use in mind: all the essential parts of a mobile robot have been assigned a connector onboard the shield, thereby eliminating the need for another PCB, breadboard or "Sensor Shield". This greatly simplifies wiring, eliminates the need for soldering and solves electrical connection issues. The LC-018 is designed and made by Layad Circuits Electronics Engineering as part of its Kimat series of rapid prototyping products.



FEATURE HIGHLIGHTS

- Integrated motor driver and connectors for a maximum of 5 IR sensors and maximum of 3 Ultrasonic Sensors and 1 Servo motor.
- Motor Driver: two parallel L293D channels per motor terminal
- Number of Channels: 2
- Recommended Max. Motor Voltage = 12V

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LC-018 Kimat Mobot Shield Mk III User Guide

- Max. Current per Channel = around 1.2A
- Max. Surge Current per Channel = around 2.4A
- Arduino Compatible

PIN ASSIGNMENTS

LC-018	Description	Arduino
Shield		Pin
Label		
-	EN of L293D for motor A. Not	3
	available for other purposes	0
-	IN1 of L293D for motor A. Not	2
	available for other purposes	
-	IN2 of L293D for motor A. Not	4
	available for other purposes	
-	EN of L293D for motor B. Not	6
	available for other purposes	
-	IN1 of L293D for motor B. Not	7
	available for other purposes	
-	IN2 of L293D for motor B. Not	5
	available for other purposes	
"8"	unused	8
"S" and "9"	servo signal, if used	9
"10"	For sensors/external devices, also	10
	found on header H1	
"11"	For sensors/external devices, also	11
<i>"</i> 151	found on header H1	
-12″	For sensors/external devices, also	12
" • • • "	found on header H1 & H2	
AU	For sensors/external devices, also	AU
" A 1"		. 1
AI	for sensors/external devices, also	AI
"۵フ"	For sensors (external devices also	۸2
	found on header H1 & H2	72
"A3"	For sensors /external devices also	۵3
	found on header H2	73
"A4"	For sensors/external devices, also	A4
	found on header H2	
"A5"	For sensors/external devices, also	A5
	found on header H2	
"O"	unused	D0
"]"	unused	D1
"13"	unused	D13
\oplus	5V p <mark>in of the Arduin</mark> o	5V
Θ	Ground GND	
"-VM+"	Motor Power Terminals -	
"MAI"	OUT1 of L293D for motor A	-
"MA2"	OUT2 of L293D for motor A	-
"MBI"	OUT1 of L293D for motor B -	
"MB2"	OUT2 of L293D for motor B	-

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SHIELD LAYOUT





MOTOR DRIVER PINS

The Arduino pins 2-7 are permanently connected to the L293D motor driver chips and are not available for other use. All other Arduino GPIO pins may optionally be used for external devices such as sensors and communications modules.

- Pins 3 (PWMA) and 6(PWMB) are the pins used to control the speed of the motors. Applying PWM signals via analogWrite() on pins 3 and 6 controls the speed of the motors. If speed control is not needed, simply set pins 3 and 6 HIGH using digitalWrite() to keep the motors at full speed.
- Pins 2 and 4 control the direction of motor(s) A while pins 5 and 7 control the direction of motor(s) B. Follow the table below:

xIN1	xIN2	Motor
(pins 2/5)	(pins4/7)	Reaction
LOW	HIGH	Move in One Direction
HIGH	LOW	Move in Opposite Direction
LOW	LOW	Motor Stops
HIGH	HIGH	Short Break, Motor Stops

TERMINAL BLOCKS

The screw terminals labelled -VM+ is for the motor power when the EXT (not One POW) option is selected. The voltage applied will depend on the requirements of your motor. It is recommended to limit the power applied to this terminal at 12V. The absolute limit is 24V. However, >12V is not recommended and care should be taken when using higher voltages as this approaches the maximum limit.

Ensure that the negative wire goes to the "-" terminal and positive to the "+" terminal.

The screw terminals labelled MA1 and MA2 are for the terminals of motor A. MB1 and MB2 are for motor B.

Terminal Block Label	Purpose
"-VM+" or "MOTOR	This is the power source of
POWER"	the motors. If the single
	source jumper is installed,
	the motor power is derived
	from the VIN pin of the
	Arduino/Shield
"MA1 MA2" or	Connector for DC Motor A
"MOTOR A"	
"MB1 MB2" or	Connector for DC Motor B
"MOTOR B"	

ARDUINO SHIELD PIN HEADERS

These pins headers are at the bottom of the PCB and is arranged to interface directly with Arduino R3 boards such as Arduino Uno, Arduino Mega, Arduino Leonardo and the like.

PARALLEL PIN HEADERS

The parallel pin header slots that are beside the shield pin headers are provided for additional connection points when those pins are needed. The slots are connected to the shield pins beside them. Pins 2-7 does not have parallel slots as these pins cannot be used for other purposes other than for the motor driver chips.

PIN HEADER H1

H1 is a 15-pin connector arranged in 5 groups of 3 pins. Each group of 3 pins has one pin connected to an Arduino GPIO pin, another pin labeled as \ominus is connected to ground and the other pin labeled \oplus is connected to the 5V pin of the Arduino.

Each group of pins is meant for 3-pin devices such as IR sensors, temperature sensors, potentiometers and others.

Line tracing sensors and IR distance sensors will typically be connected in this header.

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PIN HEADER H2

H2 is a 12-pin connector arranged in 3 groups of 4 pins. Each group of 4 pins has two pins connected to Arduino GPIO pins, another pin labeled as \ominus is connected to ground and the other pin labeled \oplus is connected to the 5V pin of the Arduino.

Each group of pins is meant for 4-pin devices such ultrasonic sensors, Bluetooth modules, wifi modules, RF modules, LCD displays and others.

SERVO PIN HEADER

The 3-pin header labeled SRV is for the connection of a small servo motors such as a 9g micro servo motor. Note that the servo motor power pin is connected to the 5V pin of the Arduino, hence, larger motors should not be powered from this header.

SINGLE POWER SOURCE OPTION

The Mobile Robot Shield has a pin header labeled "ONE POW / EXT" with a microjumper provided.

This is shown in the figure below:



If the micro jumper is installed between the middle pin and the ONE PWR pin (pins A and B), the Arduino VIN pin and the Motor Power Supply are connected via a diode. This simplifies wiring since the user only need to apply power at the Arduino DC Jack. The same power is then transferred to the shield via the VIN pin. The only limitation is that the total power flowing through the DC jack of the Arduino should be within 1A.



If the micro jumper is installed between the middle pin and EXT pin (pins B and C), apply power to the motors via the terminal blocks labeled VM / MOTOR POWER. This will separate the power source for the motors and the Arduino. This is ideal when the voltage or current requirements of the motors exceed that of the Arduino.

When using the single power source option (ONE PWR), please take note of the following

- When micro jumper is installed at the ONE PWR side, DO NOT connect anything in the VM terminals. Motor power is taken from Vin pin of the Arduino.
- If external power source is desired, set the microjumper to the EXT position first.
- Motor voltage must match Arduino Voltage (6-12V) when using ONE PWR option
- There is a 1A power diode between the DC jack and VIN pin of the Arduino. This can take in larger surge current but make sure your motors and Arduino do not exceed 1A continuous current. This is not a problem if using the Saleng Uno. The Saleng Uno uses a 5A diode instead of 1A and hence is able to handle small and large motors and other circuits.
- While the Arduino board will have a circuit to handle when both DC Jack and USB are

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powered, it is always safer to perform the programming with the DC jack disconnected or battery power turned off

MOTOR POWER CAPACITOR SLOT

If for some reason you need to add additional large capacitor at the motor power source line, there is a slot ready made for this close to the Motor Power terminal block.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

Q: My motors turn in just one direction, what is wrong?

A: Your power source may be unable to provide sufficient current during sudden direction changes or the some shield pins do not have secure contact with the Arduino Headers. Follow these tips:

- Use a power source with sufficient current
- Add delays in between direction changes to give time for power to stablelize
- Add a large capacitor at the VM terminals. You may directly connect it at the VM terminal block
- Detach and the re-attach the shield into the Arduino headers. Ensure they are connected all the way through

Q: My motors hum but do not rotate?

A: If you are performing PWM speed control via PWMA or PWMB, try to increase your speed (duty cycle). A low duty cycle may not have enough power to keep the motor running.

Q: What is the recommended powering option between the "ONE PWR" and "EXT" option?

A: We recommend using the EXT option. This will require your though to apply power at the DC jack of your Arduino and VM terminals. The power can be from the same source.

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Q: When the microjumper is installed at the ONE PWR side of header H1, do I need power for both Arduino and Shield?

A: NO! You MUST use only one power source when the micro jumper is installed at the ONE PWR position. Apply a voltage acceptable to both Arduino and motors via the Arduino DC Jack. Note that a 1A diode is in between the Arduino's DC jack and VIN pin where the motors are powered from. This diode may be damaged if the total current drawn by the motors and Arduino exceeds this 1A rating. This is not a problem in the Saleng Uno which has a 5A diode instead of 1A.

Q: If the microjumper is at the EXT position, how do I power the shield and Arduino?

A: Power Must be applied separately at the VM terminals for the motor and at the Arduino DC jack for the Arduino. Power maybe from the same battery pack if it conforms to the limits of both motors and Arduino but must be applied at the 2 separate connectors. This means the Arduino's DC Jack and VM terminals are in parallel.

Q: What power supply / battery voltage is to be used?

A: When ONE PWR is selected, you need to fulfill the voltage requirements of both the Arduino and the motors. For example, if you are using 3-9V motors, then you may use 7-9V power source (battery) since the Arduino can operate at 7-12V. The intersection of both motor and Arduino power requirement is 7-9V.

Q: What kind of power supply/battery can be used?

A: There is nothing specific as this is mostly dependent on the motor being used and your application. Check the motor voltage required and current consumption. A good estimate is to use a power supply that can deliver, and sustain, twice the maximum current drawn by the motor. For batteries, the battery capacity will determine the running time of the robot. Choose the highest capacity that is practical. Primary (disposable) batteries like AA's in series or 9V batteries may be expensive in the long run. Secondary (rechargeable) batteries are recommended (Li Ion, Lead Acid, etc)

Q: Can I use the shield for 4-wheel and 2-wheeled robots?

A: Yes, A 4-wheeled robot has the same code as a 2-wheeled robot if both left motors are in parallel and connected to one channel of the driver and the two right motors connected in parallel to the other channel. Just make sure your combined continuous current does not exceed around 1A per channel. The common plastic geared DC motors with yellow gearbox draw some ~250mA, two of these in parallel would mean a current of ~500mA. Thus, you may use these types of motors, either as 2-wheeled or 4-wheel robots, with the shield.

Q: What powers the shield?

A: Power for the logic circuit of the driver chip is taken from the 5V pin of the Arduino, not from VM or VIN. On the other hand, the motor(s) are powered from the VM or VIN (depending on microjumper position at the ONE PWR/EXT header).

Q: Which IO pins are used by the shield?

A: The motor driver section uses pins 2-7. Do not use these pins. Pins 10,11,12 and A0-A5 have connectors routed at headers H1 and H2. If unused, these pins are free for other purposes. The rest of the pins are free.

Q: Can the shield be used as a Sumobot? Line Tracing/ Line Follower robot? Obstacle Avoidance/Maze solder Robot? A: Of course! It was built for these applications.

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Q: What is the suggested wiring?

A: for the 2WD multirole kit from Layad Circuits, you may follow the suggestion below:



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Q: Can I use more than 5 digital IR sensors?

A: Yes, so long as there are enough free pins. Beware of the current consumption of your IR sensors though, they might exceed the regulator rating of your Arduino (typically 1A).

Q: Will a PID algorithm work for a line tracing application?

A: Yes, use 5 IR sensors or more for a smoother PID algorithm

Q: what are the "+" and "-" pins at the 3 or 4-pin headers on the shield?

A: "+" is internally connected to the 5V pin of the Arduino and "-" is connected to GND. You may use them as normal "5V" or "GND" pins. These were designed in such positions to help simplify sensor wiring

VERSION HISTORY

v1.0.0 – initial creation for Mk III / 23/02/10 / CDM

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