

# AVRcard Microcontroller Core Module

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## User Manual

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[www.avrcard.com](http://www.avrcard.com)

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## Section 1

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# Product Overview

*The AVRcard has been designed to enable developers to rapidly prototype AVR based applications. The board features the most powerful 8-bit RISC CPU to date from Atmel. The board has been designed by ESS Development AG. It supports rapid development of applications for the ATmega128 8-bit RISC CPU by providing a multitude of useful hardware features.*

### Key Features

- ATmega128 8-bit RISC CPU
- 32Kbytes, 2-wire serial ferromagnetic RAM (FM24C256-SE) for persistent data storage without backup power
- 2-wire serial real time clock providing additional square wave output 1-32KHz (DS1307)
- 3V lithium battery keeping time and date up to 5 years
- RS-485 driver for two wire networking up to 1.5 km (MAX485)
- RS-232 driver supporting two serial interfaces (MAX202)
- Step-up voltage converter for 2-5V battery power supply or long supply wiring (MAX1674)
- all SMD assembly except analog voltage reference and header connectors which can be soldered manually according to the user's requirements
- CPU ports routed directly to connectors for unrestricted use (ESD protected by series resistors)
- connector for standard LCD with adjustable negative contrast voltage output
- ISP connector
- JTAG connector
- 5V supply
- credit card size (87 x 54mm)

### Additional Resources

- **Product Information** – All updated product information can be retrieved at the Web Site, [www.avrcard.com](http://www.avrcard.com).
- **Application Support** – Please check the Resources pages regularly at [www.avrcard.com](http://www.avrcard.com) for design notes and application hints. Further support is available by email from [support@avrcard.com](mailto:support@avrcard.com).
- **Custom Designs** – Custom versions of the product are available. For inquiries please contact [info@avrcard.com](mailto:info@avrcard.com).

## Section 2

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### Getting started

#### Handling Precautions

Most of the CPU ports on the AVRcard are protected by series resistors against electrostatic discharge. Please note that this is not a 100% protection and does not apply to all port pins. **Always observe ESD protection standards** while working with the board.

Especially the **RS-485 transceiver** chip is sensitive to electrostatic discharge. Therefore, an external protection circuit should be considered in rough environments. Refer to chapter RS485 - ESD protection.

Never use **battery power supply** and external supply simultaneously! The step up converter can be damaged due to reverse current flow.

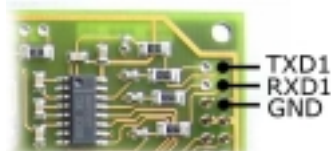
#### System Requirements

- Power Supply: 5VDC +/- 10%
- PC with terminal software, 19'200 bit/s, 8 data bits, no parity
- Cable for serial communications

#### Quick Start

Your AVRcard has been factory tested and shipped with the terminal software loaded. You can test basic functions of the board by using this preloaded software.

1. Connect a regulated 5VDC power supply to the AVRcard.
2. Connect a cable for serial communications between the serial port 1 of the AVRcard and your PC.



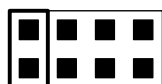
Connect these signals to a female 9 pin D-Sub connector which plugs into the COM port of your PC, as follows:

Pin 2: TXD1

Pin 3: RXD1

Pin 5: GND

3. Set jumper *RX1 select*.



4. Start your terminal program with the settings 19200 bps, 8 bits, no parity, 1 stop bit, no flow control.
5. Switch on the power supply. The AVRcard will report the command prompt '>'. Now you can send commands according to the table below. Enter '?'-Return' to get a help text describing all the available commands.

Table 1 – Commands of the preloaded terminal monitor

Command	Description
?<cr>	display this help text
help<cr>	display this help text
<ctrl><q>	serial port transparent mode (on/off)
dt<cr>	display current date and time
st<cr>	set date and time
wr<cr>	write hex byte to fram
wrtxt<cr>	write text to fram
rdump<cr>	fram hex dump
sp<cr>	show i/o port
wd<cr>	write i/o port data direction
wp<cr>	write i/o port bit
reg<cr>	read control registers
cf<cr>	create file
df<cr>	delete file
wf<cr>	write text to file
rf<cr>	read file content
fseek<cr>	read file content at specific address
fdump<cr>	file hex dump
dir<cr>	show files on virtual disk
disk<cr>	show free virtual disk space
format<cr>	format virtual disk
vref<cr>	set reference voltage for adc
adc<cr>	read voltages at adc ports

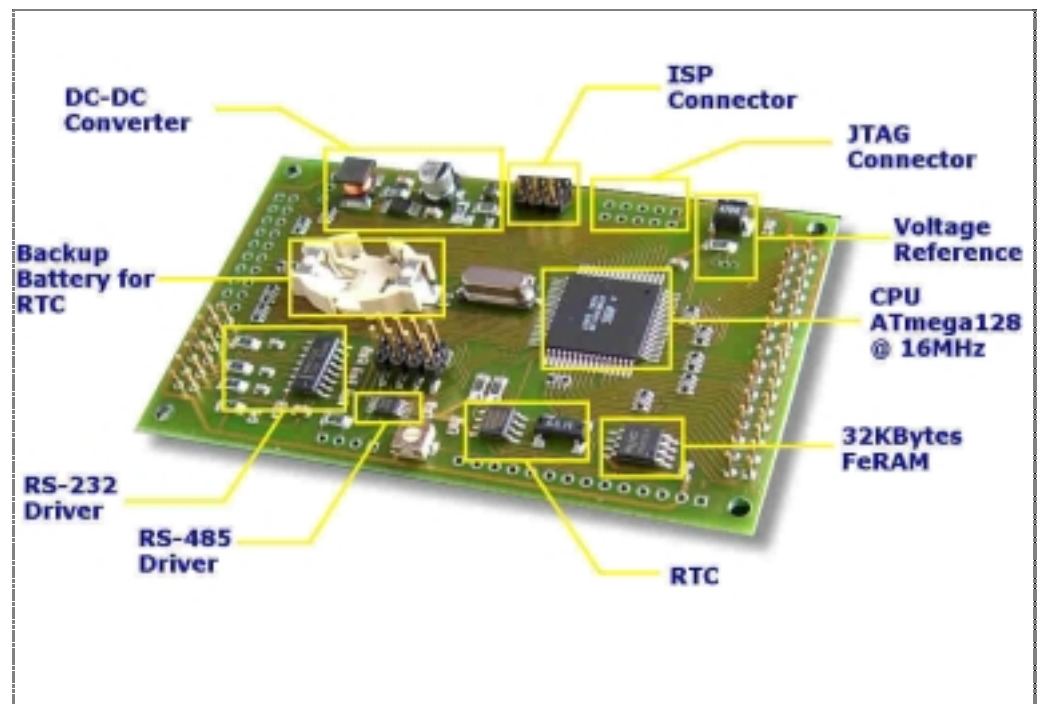
## Section 3

### Hardware Description

#### Functional Blocks

Figure 1 shows the board and its different functional areas. These areas are detailed in the following sections.

Figure 1 – Functional Blocks of the AVRcard



#### CPU

Some of the ATMEGA128 ports are routed to more than one connector or used internally. See chapter Available Connectors.

#### FRAM

The FM24C256 is a 256-kilobit nonvolatile memory employing an advanced ferroelectric process. A ferroelectric random access memory or FRAM is nonvolatile and performs reads and writes like a RAM. It provides reliable data retention for 10 years while eliminating the complexities, overhead, and system level reliability problems caused by EEPROM and other nonvolatile memories.

The FM24C256 performs write operations at bus speed. No write delays are incurred. The next bus cycle may commence immediately without the need for data polling. In addition, the product offers write endurance orders of magnitude higher than EEPROM. Also, FRAM exhibits much lower power during writes than EEPROM since write operations do not require an internally elevated power supply voltage for write circuits.

#### RTC

The DS1307 Serial Real-Time Clock is a low-power, full binary-coded decimal (BCD) clock/calendar plus 56 bytes of NV SRAM. Address and data are transferred serially via a 2-wire, bi-directional bus. The clock/calendar provides seconds, minutes, hours, day, date, month, and year information. The end of the month date is automatically adjusted for months with fewer

than 31 days, including corrections for leap year. The clock operates in either the 24-hour or 12-hour format with AM/PM indicator. The DS1307 has a built-in power sense circuit that detects power failures and automatically switches to the battery supply.

**DC-DC Converter** The MAX1674 step-up DC-DC converter features a built-in synchronous rectifier, which improves efficiency and reduces size and cost by eliminating the need for an external Schottky diode. Quiescent supply current is only 16 $\mu$ A. The input voltage ranges from 0.7V to  $V_{out}$ , where  $V_{out}$  can be set from 2V to 5.5V. Start-up is guaranteed from 1.1V inputs. The MAX1674 has a preset, pin-selectable output for 5V or 3.3V. On the AVRcard, the output voltage is preset to 5V by R13, R24 is omitted.

*Note: The MAX1674 may not be reversely fed. Therefore, never use battery power supply and external supply simultaneously. The step up converter can be damaged.*

**RS-232 Driver** The MAX202E line driver/receiver is designed for RS-232 and V.28 communications in harsh environments. Each transmitter output and receiver input is protected against  $\pm 15$ kV electrostatic discharge (ESD) shocks, without latchup. The drivers and receivers meet all EIA/TIA-232E and CCITT V.28 specifications at data rates up to 120kbps, when loaded in accordance with the EIA/TIA-232E specification.

**RS-485 Driver** The MAX485 is a low-power transceiver for RS-485 communication. Each part contains one driver and one receiver. The driver slew rates of the MAX485 is not limited, allowing it to transmit up to 2.5Mbps. These transceivers draw between 120 $\mu$ A and 500 $\mu$ A of supply current when unloaded or fully loaded with disabled drivers. The device operates from a single 5V supply. Drivers are short-circuit current limited and are protected against excessive power dissipation by thermal shutdown circuitry that places the driver outputs into a high-impedance state. The receiver input has a fail-safe feature that guarantees a logic-high output if the input is open circuit.

## Interfaces

### I2C

Internal FRAM and RTC use I2C bus on PD0 (SCL) and PD1 (SCA). These lines are pulled up to VCC by 2K7 resistors. This allows external I2C devices to be attached directly. The DS1307 limits bus speed to 100kHz.

### Serial Communication

The two serial interfaces of the Atmega128 can be configured in various ways:

- Serial port 1 (PE0, PE1) transmits to TTL and RS-232 simultaneously. Receives from TTL
- Serial port 1 receives from RS-232.
- Serial port 2 (PD2, PD3) transmits to TTL and simultaneously to RS-232
- Serial port 2 transmits to TTL and RS-485
- Serial port 2 receives from TTL
- Serial port 2 receives from RS-232
- Serial port 2 receives from RS-485.

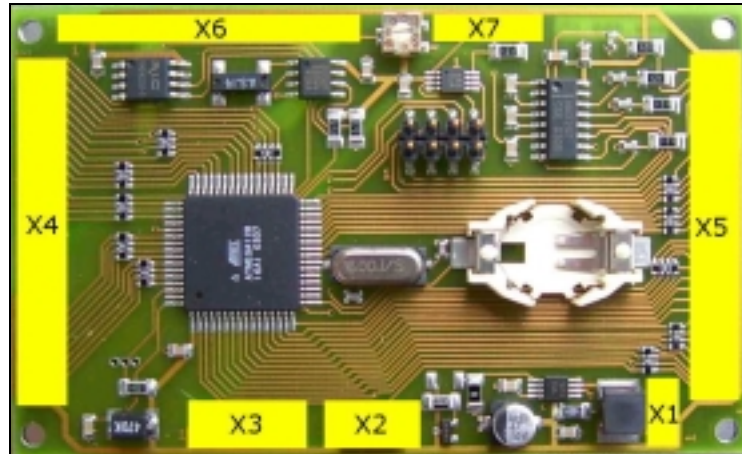
*Note: Whenever reception from RS-232 or RS-485 is selected no TTL input signal must be connected to the corresponding pins on the AVRcard as it would interfere with the signal from transceivers Refer to chapter Jumpers.*



Available Connectors

The following connectors are available:

Figure 3 – Available Connectors



- X1: battery power
- X2: ISP (in circuit programming)
- X3: JTAG
- X4: CPU and additional ports
- X5: CPU and additional ports
- X6: LCD
- X7: RS-485

X1 - battery power

Table 2 – Battery Connector Pinout

Pin	Function	Description
1	BATT+	+2..5V battery power input
2	BATT-	0V battery (GND)
3	/LOWBATT	is pulled low if battery voltage drops below 1.3V

X2 - ISP

Table 3 – ISP Connector Pinout

Pin	Function		I/O	Description
1	PE1	TXD	i/o	
2	VCC		pwr	
3	PB1	SCK	i/o	
4	PE0	RXD	i/o	
5	RST		i	
6	GND		pwr	

## X3 - JTAG

Table 4 – JTAG Connector Pinout

Pin	Function	I/O	Description
1	PF5	i/o	
2	VCC	pwr	
3	PF4	i/o	
4	PF7	i/o	
5	RST	i	
6	GND	pwr	
7	PF6		
8	-	-	not connected
9	-	-	not connected
10	-	-	not connected

X4 - common ports Please note that the ports on the connector are not always numbered in the same direction.

Table 5 – Common Ports Connector Pinout

Pin	Function	I/O	ESD	Internal Connections
1	PC0 A8	i/o	✓	X6/11
2	PC1 A9	i/o	✓	X6/12
3	PC2 A10	i/o	✓	X6/13
4	PC3 A11	i/o	✓	X6/14
5	PC4 A12	i/o	✓	X6/6
6	PC5 A13	i/o	✓	X6/4
7	PC6 A14	i/o	✓	X6/5
8	PC7 A15	i/o	✓	data direction select for RS-485
9	PA7 AD7	i/o	✓	
10	PA6 AD6	i/o	✓	
11	PA5 AD5	i/o	✓	
12	PA4 AD4	i/o	✓	
13	PA3 AD3	i/o	✓	
14	PA2 AD2	i/o	✓	
15	PA1 AD1	i/o	✓	
16	PA0 AD0	i/o	✓	
17	ALE	o		
18	/RD	o		
19	/WR	o		
20	SQW	o		
21	VCC	pwr		
22	VCC	pwr		
23	GND	pwr		
24	GND	pwr		
25	PF7 ADC7	i/o	✓	
26	PF6 ADC6	i/o	✓	
27	PF5 ADC5	i/o	✓	
28	PF4 ADC4	i/o	✓	
29	PF3 ADC3	i/o	✓	
30	PF2 ADC2	i/o	✓	
31	PF1 ADC1	i/o	✓	
32	PF0 ADC0	i/o	✓	

X5 - common ports Table 6 – Common Ports Connector Pinout

Pin	Function		I/O	ESD	Internal Connections
1	PE0	RXD	i/o	✓	
2	PE1	TXD	i/o	✓	
3	PE2	AC+	i/o	✓	
4	PE3	AC-	i/o	✓	
5	PE4	INT4	i/o	✓	
6	PE5	INT5	i/o	✓	
7	PE6	INT6	i/o	✓	
8	PE7	INT7	i/o	✓	
9	PB0	SS	i/o		
10	PB1	SCK	i/o		
11	PB2	MOSI	i/o		
12	PB3	MISO	i/o		
13	PB4	OC0	i/o	✓	
14	PB5	OC1A	i/o	✓	
15	PB6	OC1B	i/o	✓	
16	PB7	OC2	i/o	✓	
17	PD0	INT0	i/o	✓	SCL on FRAM and RTC
18	PD1	INT1	i/o	✓	SDA on FRAM and RTC
19	PD2	INT2	i/o	✓	
20	PD3	INT3	i/o	✓	
21	PD4	IC1	i/o	✓	
22	PD5		i/o	✓	
23	PD6	T1	i/o	✓	
24	PD7	T2	i/o	✓	
25	VCC	VCC	pwr		
26	VCC	VCC	pwr		
27	GND	GND	pwr		
28	GND	GND	pwr		
29	RX1		i	✓	
30	RX2		i	✓	
31	TX1		o	✓	
32	TX2		o	✓	

X6 - LCD

Table 7 – Standard LCD Connector Pinout

Pin	Function	I/O	ESD	Internal Connection
1	GND	pwr		
2	VCC	pwr		
3	V0	pwr		
4	PC5	i/o	✓	X4/6
5	PC6	i/o	✓	X4/7
6	PC4	i/o	✓	X4/5
7	-			
8	-			
9	-			
10	-			
11	PC0	i/o	✓	X4/1
12	PC1	i/o	✓	X4/2
13	PC2	i/o	✓	X4/3
14	PC3	i/o	✓	X4/4

X7 - RS485

Table 8 – RS-485 Connector Pinout

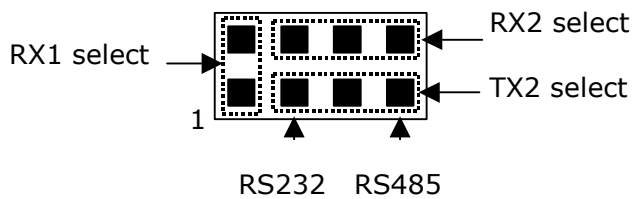
Pin	Function	I/O	ESD prot	Description
1	GND	-	no	
2	B	-	no	
3	A	-	no	
4	-	-	no	120Ω bus termination resistor. Bus can be terminated by placing a bridge on external connector (pin4 to pin 2) at far end node.

Jumpers

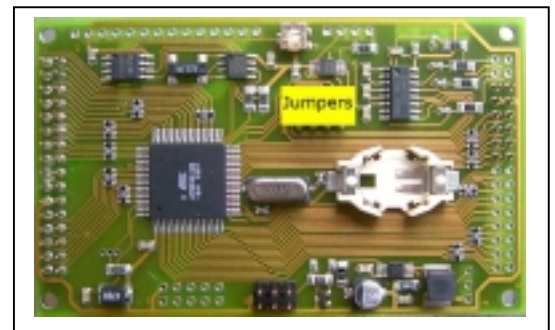
Jumpers are installed on the AVRcard to select the different possible combinations of serial transmission and reception supplied by the two UARTs on the ATmega128. RS-232, RS-485 and serial port with TTL level can be selected.

Jumpers are standard (0.1").

Figure 4 – Serial Port Configuration Jumpers



Serial port 1 can be configured for RS-232 only. For serial port 2, RS-232 or RS-485 can be selected.

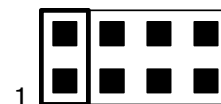


J1 - RX/TX select

RX1 select:

In transmit direction the TTL signal is routed from the ATMEGA128 to the RS232 transceiver (X5/pin31 [TX1]) as well as to the TTL port (X5/pin2 [PE1]). So that the receive direction signal from the RS232 transceiver (X5/pin29 [RX1]) does not interfere with the TTL port signal (X5/pin1 [PE0]), this jumper should be set accordingly.

jumper on: RS232 RX  
 jumper off: TTL RX



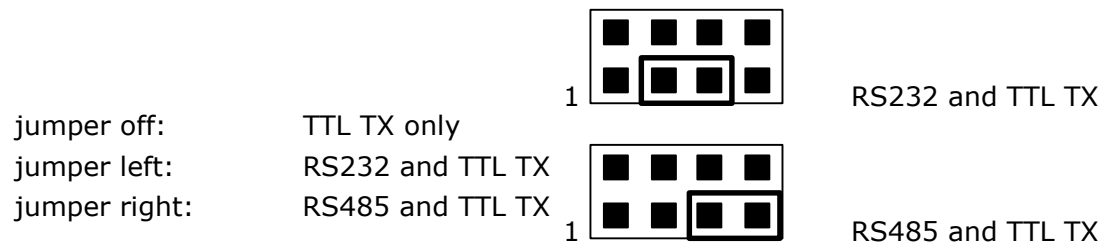
**RX2 select:**

In receive direction the serial port 2 can accept it's signal from TTL (X5/pin19 [PD2]), RS232 (X5/pin30 [RX2]) or RS485 (X7) inputs.



**TX2 select:**

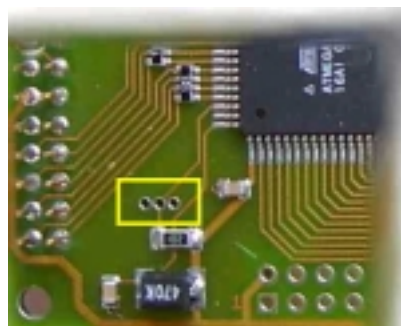
In transmit direction the serial port 2 can be connected to TTL (X5/pin10 [PD3]), RS232 (X5/pin32 [TX2]) or RS485 (X7) outputs.



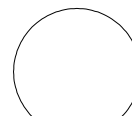
**ADC reference voltage**

The ATMEGA128 provides several internal analog to digital converters. Whenever you want to use a more precise or a different reference voltage (i.e. LM4040AIM) than the internal one you can solder this element manually as needed. The footprint of U2 fits to a TO-92 case.

Figure 5 – Location of ADC Reference Voltage Regulator



LM4040 orientation (top view)



## Section 4

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### Programming

#### Programming

For programming you can use the ISP connector as well as the JTAG connector. It is advised to refer to datasheets of ATmega128 and your programmer as well as this document for the exact connection method. Pin allocation matches ATMEL starter kit programmer as well as ISP/JTAG programmers manufactured by e-Lab ([www.e-Lab.de](http://www.e-Lab.de)).

**Never use battery power supply while programming !**

The step up convertor can be damaged due reverse current flow as VCC is also provided on programming connectors.

## Section 5

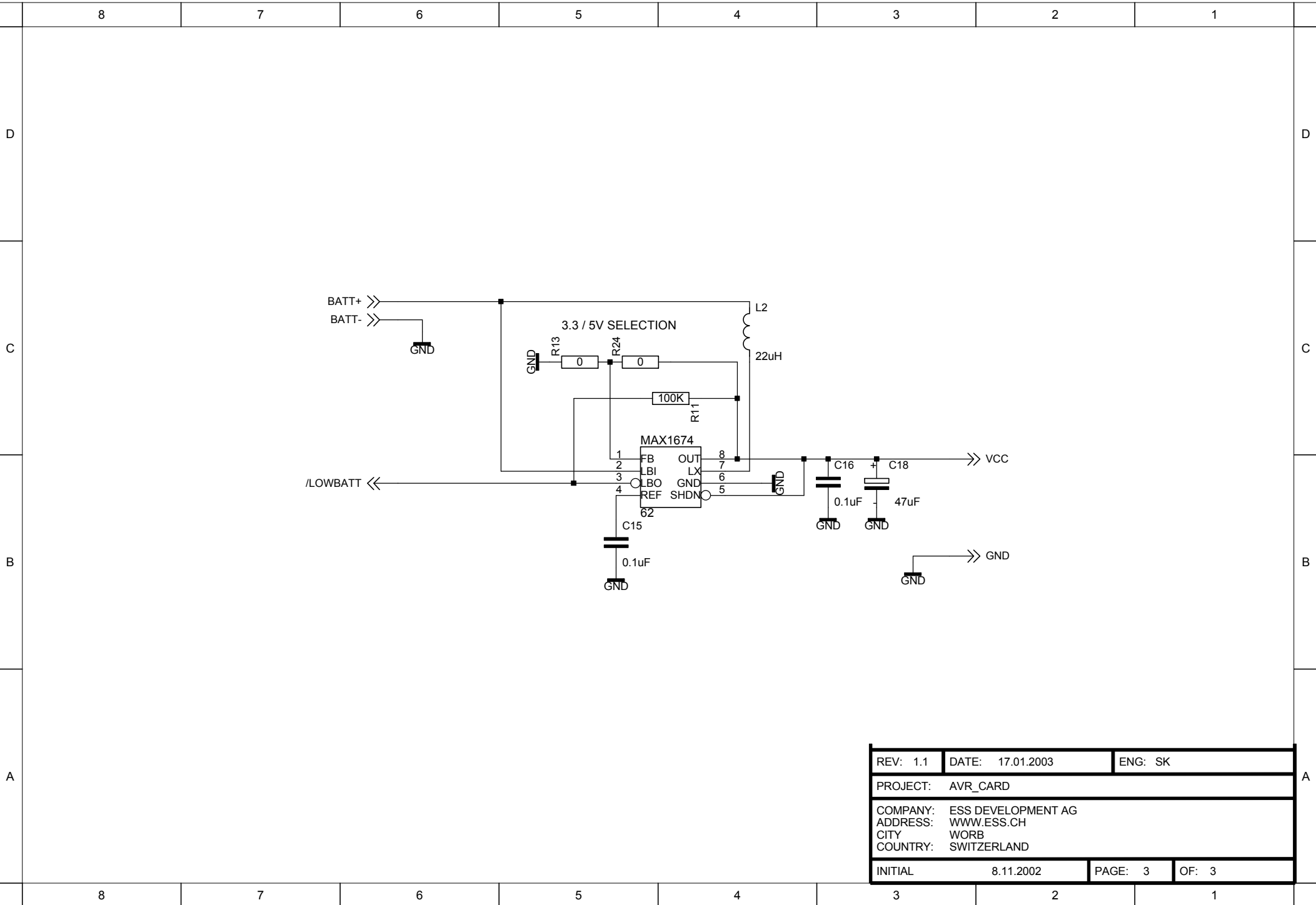
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## Circuit Diagrams

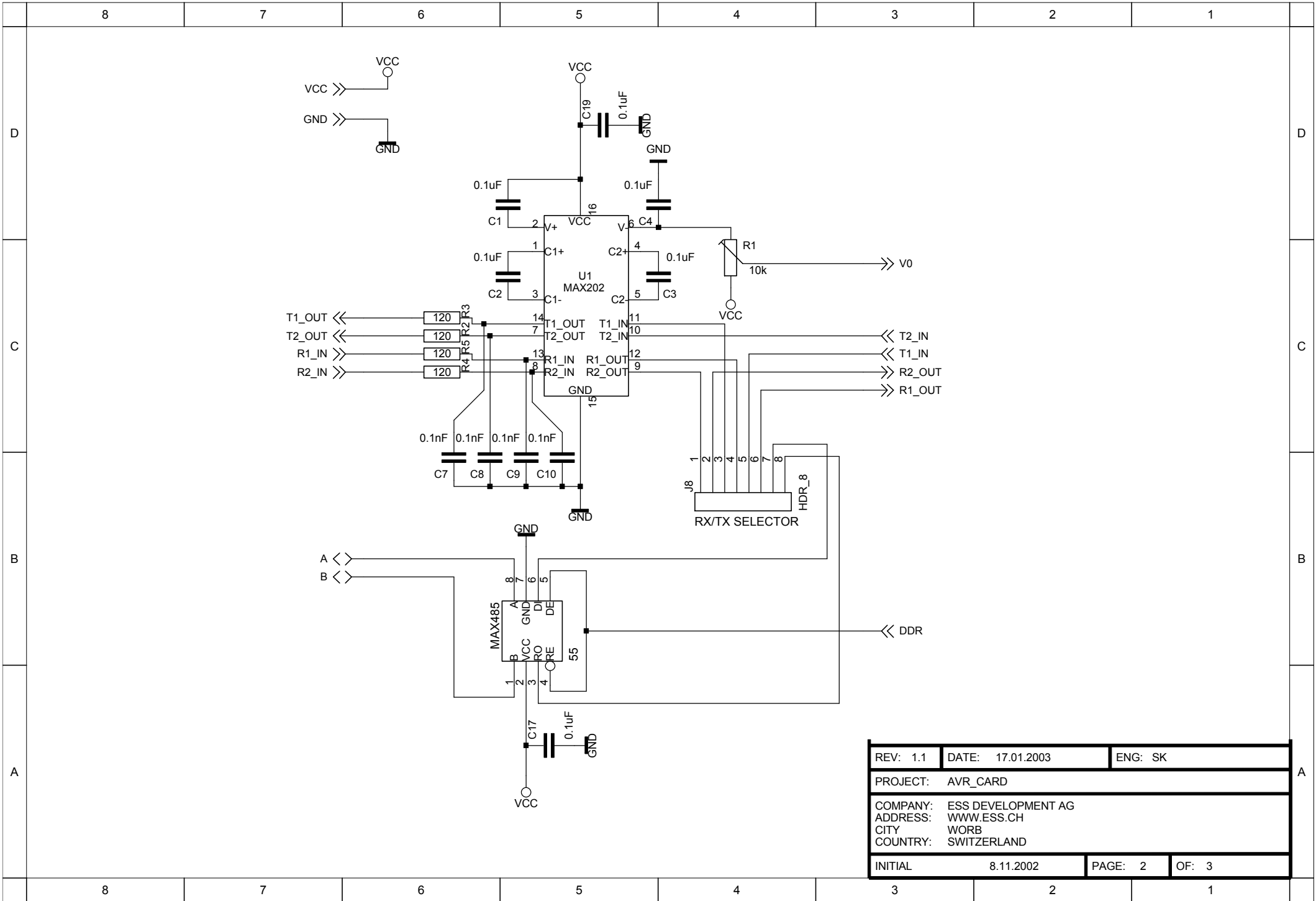
These diagrams are also available as a separate document.

- Main circuit
- Power
- Communication
- Parts Placement

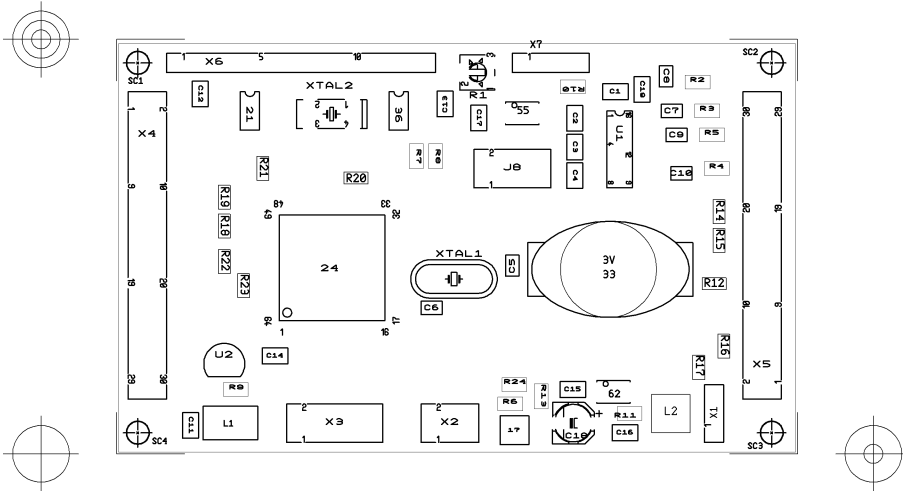




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PROJECT: AVR_CARD		
COMPANY: ESS DEVELOPMENT AG		
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CITY: WORB		
COUNTRY: SWITZERLAND		
INITIAL	8.11.2002	PAGE: 3 OF: 3



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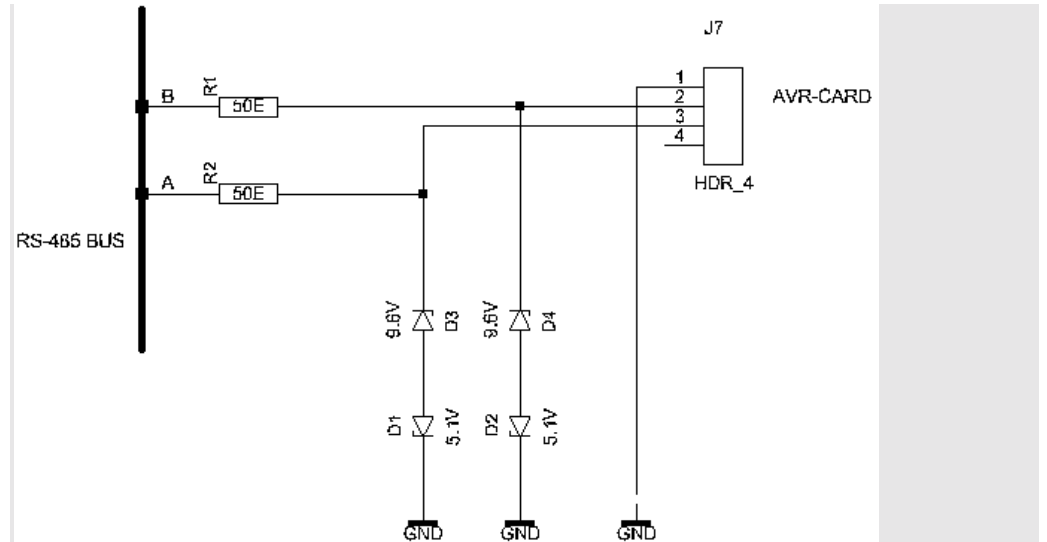


## Bill of Materials Table 9 – List of Parts

Qty.	DEVICE	VALUE	Refdes
1	ATMEGA128		24
1	BATT	3V	33
1	COIL	22uH	L2
1	COIL	47uH	L1
1	DS1307	-	36
1	ELCO	47uF	C18
1	FM24C256		21
1	HDR_10	-	X3
1	HDR_14	-	X6
1	HDR_3	-	X1
1	HDR_4	-	X7
1	HDR_6	-	X2
1	HDR_8	-	J8
1	LM4040AIM		U2
1	MAX1674		62
1	MAX202	-	U1
1	MAX485	-	55
1	MCP809	-	17
1	POT_METER	10k	R1
1	RESISTOR	100K	R11
1	RESISTOR	1k0	R9
1	RESISTOR	4k7	R6
1	XTAL	16M	XTAL1
1	XTAL	32.768KHz	XTAL2
11	RARRAY	47	R14,R15,R16,R17,R18,R19, R20,R21,R22,R12,R23
12	CAPACITOR	0.1uF	C12,C2,C13,C3,C14,C4,C15 ,C16,C17,C19,C11,C1
2	CAPACITOR	12pF	C5,C6
2	HDR_32		X4, X5
2	RESISTOR	0	13,R24
2	RESISTOR	2k7	R7,R8
4	CAPACITOR	0.1nF	C7,C8,C9,C10
5	RESISTOR	120	R2,R3,R4,R5,R10

**RS485 - ESD protection**

The following circuit is recommended for RS-485 busses that go beyond the lab desk.



## Section 6

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## References

**Data Sheets**      ATMEGA128:                    [www.atmel.com](http://www.atmel.com)  
                         FM24C256-SE:                    [www.ramtron.com](http://www.ramtron.com)  
                         DS1307, MAX202, MAX485, MAX1674:    [www.maxim-ic.com](http://www.maxim-ic.com)

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