
**Pi RTC and
NVMEM
Extension
System**



Techno Innov Pi RTC and NVMEM Extension System User Manual

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Techno Innov Pi RTC and NVMEM Extension System



Product Specifications

- **Product Name:** PiRTC_SRM Board v0.2
- **RTC:** Real-Time Clock with Super-Capa power backup
- **Non-volatile RAM:** 64 bytes
- **Connector:** 26 pins, compatible with common extension connectors on SBCs
- **Designed for:** Embedded ARM development using open source software

Product Usage Instructions

Hardware Overview:

The PiRTC_SRM Board v0.2 is an electronics development and prototyping adapter board designed for Single Board Computers (SBC) like OrangePi or Raspberry Pi SBCs. It features an RTC with Super-Capa power backup and 64 bytes of non-volatile RAM.

Hardware Setup:

Connect the PiRTC_SRM board to the SBC using the 26-pin connector, ensuring proper alignment.

Software Configuration:

Configure your SBC to recognize and utilize the RTC and NVMEM features provided by the PiRTC_SRM board.

Development Environment:

If you wish to modify the design or source files of the PiRTC_SRM board, you can use KiCad EDA (GPL) for editing and customization.

Introduction

- You are reading the System Reference Manual for the Pi RTC.
- The Pi RTC is an electronics development and prototyping adapter board for Single Board Computers (SBC) like OrangePi or Raspberry Pi SBC's.
- The Pi RTC provides an RTC with Super-Capa power backup and 64 bytes of non-volatile RAM.
- The Board uses the 26 pins version of the common extension connector found on many SBC with a form factor close to the original Raspberry Pi, often compatible with the pinout of the 40 pin connector.
- The Pi RTC is designed for users interested in embedded ARM development using free, libre and open source softwares only.
- Every information about the design is available and all components documentations are freely accessible. You

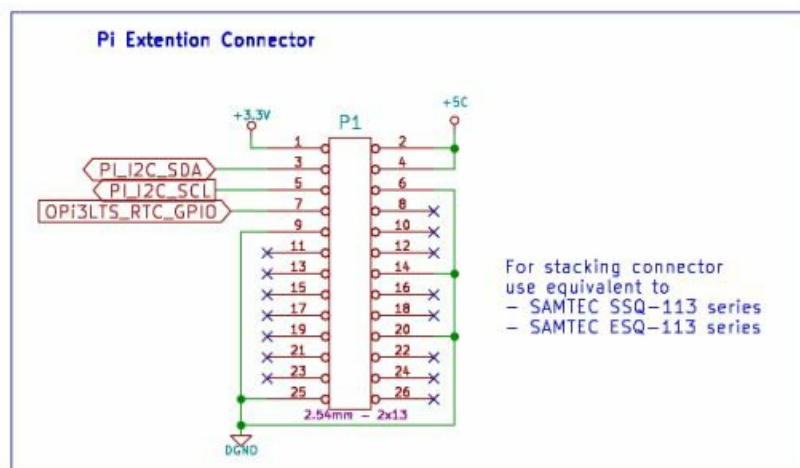


FIG 2 – P1 Connector

Pin #	Description	RPi signal
1	+3.3V from Pi	+3.3V
2	+5V from Pi (RTC charge)	+5V
3	SDA : Serial Data for I2C bus	I2C1 SDA
4	+5V from Pi (RTC charge)	+5V
5	SCL : Clock for I2C bus	I2C1 SCL
6	GND : Ground	GND
7	RTC GPIO	GPIO 4
8	Unused – Not Connected	–
9	GND : Ground	GND
10 to 13	Unused – Not Connected	–
14	GND : Ground	GND
15 to 19	Unused – Not Connected	–
20	GND : Ground	GND
21 to 24	Unused – Not Connected	–
25	GND : Ground	GND
26	Unused – Not Connected	–

Electronics

- The Pi RTC has been created using KiCad 4 EDA software suite for the creation of the schematics and printed circuit boards.
- See page 9 in the annexes for the full schematics. The sources for the schematics are available for download from the tindie product page and the Pi RTC directory 5 on techdata.techno-innov.fr.



FIG 3 – PiRTC Main Components

Name	Description
U1	NXP PCF85363 RTC Clock.
U2	TI LP2985 DC-DC step-down converter.
SC1	Bussmann 1 Farad supercapacitor.

I2C

The Pi RTC uses the only I2C bus from the 26 pins Pi connector. Bus 1 holds the PCF85363 RTC clock at address 0x51.

I2C Addresses

Table 3 shows all the possible I2C Addresses for the components used on the PiRTC.

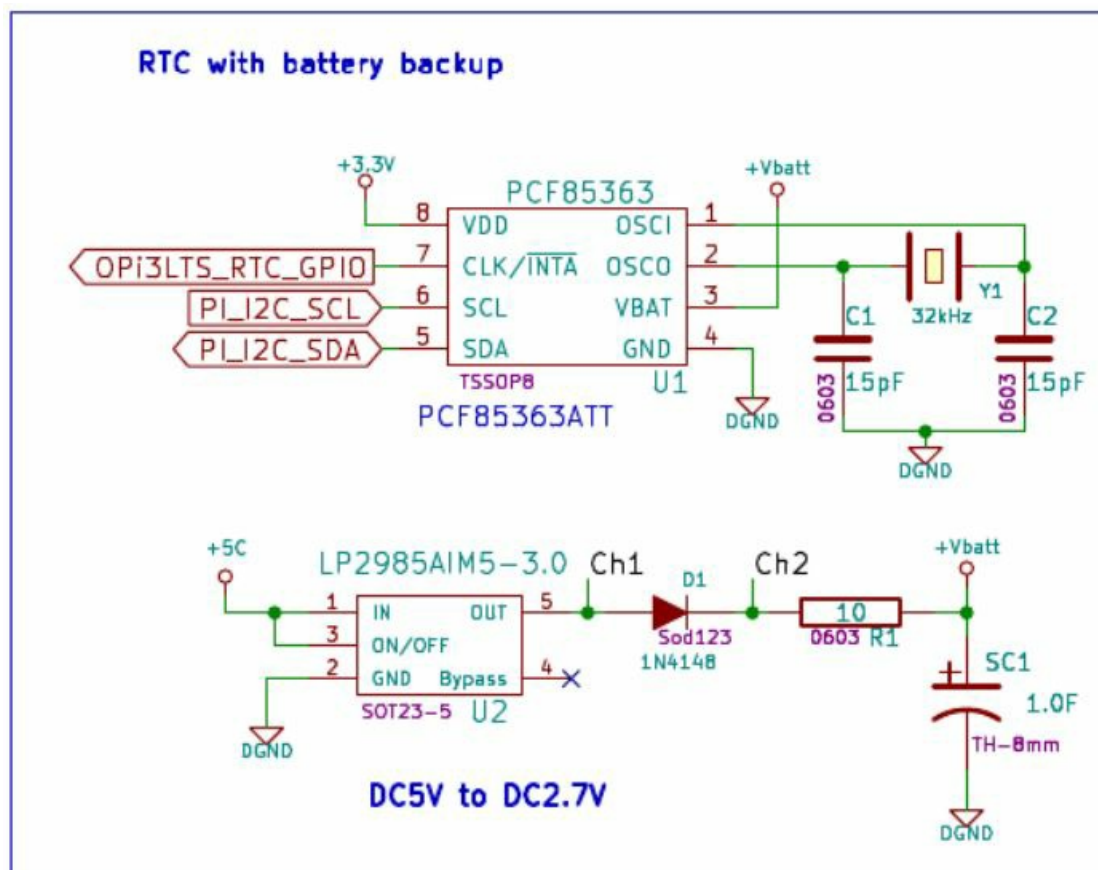


FIG 4 – RTC Clock

I2C Component	7 bits I2C address	I2C Address + R / W bit
PCF85363 RTC Clock	0x51	0xA2 / 0xA3

RTC Clock

- The Pi RTC includes a PCF85363 RTC with super-capacitor power backup.
- The use of a Super-capacitor for power backup lowers the environmental footprint and remove the need to replace (and dispose of) the battery at the expense of a shorter time retention, which is between one and two months, but should be enough for most applications.
- The Linux kernel has support for the PCF85363 RTC in the rtc-pcf85363 module (CONFIG_RTC_DRV_PCF85363). After loading the rtc-pcf85363 module in the kernel, you must add the RTC to the list of devices on the I2C bus 1 : `echo pcf85363 0x51 > /sys/bus/i2c/devices/i2c-1/new_device`
- This is not necessary if the device tree already contains the corresponding information.
- You can the access the RTC with the hwclock command (from the util-linux package on Debian based GNU/Linux distributions) as one of the /dev/rtcN (replace 'N' with the appropriate RTC number).

NVMEM

- The PCF85363 RTC includes 64 bytes of non-volatile RAM (so long as the supercapacitor power runs).
- In order to be able to access this memory you must have the following config set in your Linux Kernel.
 - CONFIG_RTC_NVMEM=y
 - CONFIG_NVMEM=y

- CONFIG_NVMEM_SYSFS=y

- Refer to our Wiki for further information about how to use the NVMEM.

Software

- We noticed that software information evolves way too quickly to be included in such a documentation.
- You will find all relevant information on our public wiki : <http://wiki.techno-innov.fr/index.php/Products/PiRTC>

Board revisions history

v0.1

- This board revision has not been sold to public.
- First prototype version, produced on customer request.

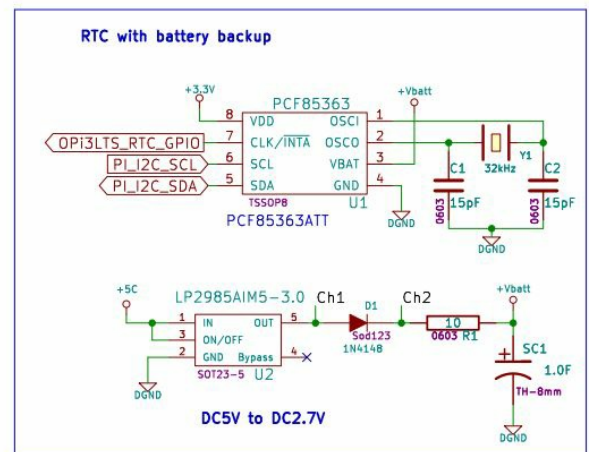
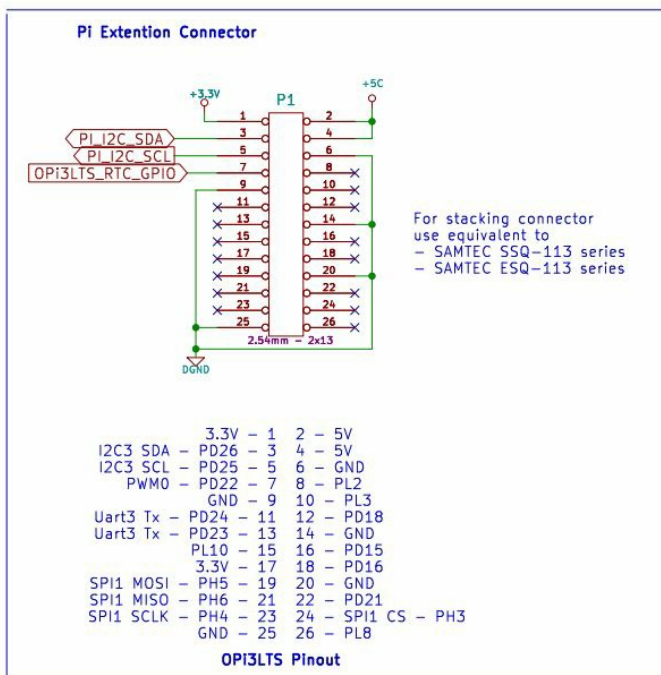
v0.2

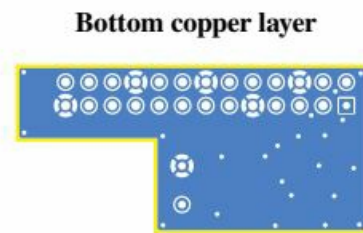
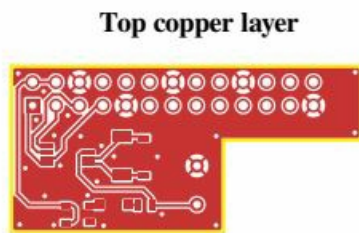
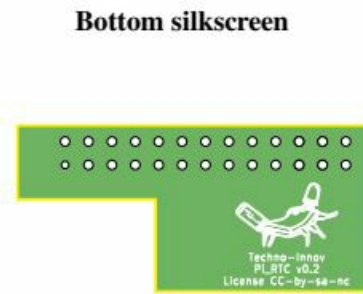
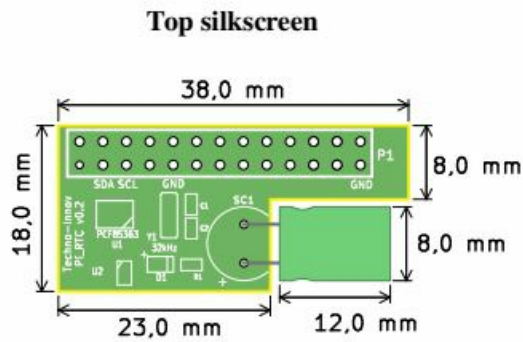
- Actual version sold as of writing of this documentation.
- Move RTC GPIO Pin to P1 pin7 instead of P1 pin 8 (UART Tx).

Annexes

Schematics

The board schematics and PCB layout have been created using KiCad 7 EDA software suite. You can download the sources on the PiRTC page 8 on wiki.techno-innov.fr.





BOM

Part Description	Ref	Module	Nb	Vendor	Vendor ref	Farnell
xRpi connector						
2×13 Extended Tail Socket	–	TH	1	–	SAMTEC	–
RTC						
PCF85363 RTC I2C 64Bytes SRAM	U1	TSSOP-8	1	NXP	PCF85363ATT/AJ	2775939
Xtal CMS ABS10 32,768KHz	Y1	ABS10	1	ABRACON	ABS10-32.768KHZ-7-T	2101351
Capacitor 15pF 0603 NPO 50V 5%	C1, C2	0603	2	MULTICO	MC0603N150J500CT	1759055
LDO 3,0V	U2	SOT23-5	1	Texas Instruments	LP2985AIM5-3.0/NOPB	1469133
Diode 1N4148	D1	SOD-123	1	DIODES Inc	1N4148W-7-F,	1776392
Super capacitor 1F, 2,7V	SC1	TH-8mm	1	BUSSMAN N	HV0810-2R7105-R	2148482
Resistor 33 Ohms – curent limit	R1	0603	1	MULTICO	MCWR06X33R0FTL	2447344

Note: Components used on Board may change for fonctionnally equivalent references without prior notice

Document revision History

Version	Date	Author	Information
0.1	January, 24 2025	Nathaël Pajani	Initial revision

Disclaimer

The Pi RTC is provided “as is” without warranty of any kind, either expressed or implied, including, but not limited to, the implied warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose. The entire risk as to the quality and performance of the Pi RTC is with you. Should the Pi RTC prove defective, you assume the cost of all necessary servicing, repair or correction.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)


- **Can I sell my own version of the PiRTC_SRM board?**

According to the license terms, you are allowed to create and produce modified versions of the PiRTC_SRM board for personal use, but not for commercial sale.

- **Is the PiRTC_SRM board compatible with all SBCs?**

The PiRTC_SRM board is designed to be compatible with Single Board Computers that feature a similar form factor and pinout to the Raspberry Pi.

Documents / Resources

	Techno Innov Pi RTC and NVMEM Extention System [pdf] User Manual Board v0.2, Pi RTC and NVMEM Extention System, Pi RTC and, NVMEM Extention System, Ex tention System, System
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References

- [Index of /](#)
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