

LamaPLC: APDS - Avago ALS and proximity detection sensors with I²C communication

The Avago APDS-9900, APDS-9930, and APDS-9960 are a series of integrated optical sensor modules that primarily offer ambient light sensing (ALS) and proximity detection, with the APDS-9960 adding advanced gesture recognition and RGB color sensing.



Feature Comparison

Feature	Avago APDS-9900	Avago APDS-9930	Avago APDS-9960
Type	Approximates Human Eye Response	Approximates Human Eye Response	Ambient Light and RGB Color Sensing, Proximity Sensing, and Gesture Detection in an Optical Module
Ambient Light Sensing (ALS)	Yes (Clear & IR channels)	Yes (Clear & IR channels)	Yes (RGBC - Red, Green, Blue, Clear)
Proximity Detection	Yes	Yes (calibrated to 100mm)	Yes (calibrated to 100mm)
Gesture Detection	No	No	Yes (Up, Down, Left, Right, etc.)
RGB Color Sensing	No	No	Yes
Interface	I ² C	I ² C	I ² C
Operating Voltage	2.5V - 3.6V	2.2V - 3.6V	2.4V - 3.6V
Key Application	Simple light/proximity in phones	Power-saving display management	HMI, robotics, complex touchless control

Communication: I²C communication, default address: 0x39



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Arduino wiring

Pin	Name	Function
VL	LED Power	Optional power for the IR LED (if not jumpered to VCC). Usually 3.0V - 4.5V
VCC	Power	2.4V to 3.6V. (Note: Use 3.3V for Arduino; 5V will damage the chip without a regulator)
GND	Ground	0V Reference

Pin	Name	Function
SCL	I ² C Clock	Serial clock line for I ² C communication
SDA	I ² C Data	Serial data line for I ² C communication
INT	Interrupt	Active Low. Goes LOW when a gesture or proximity event is triggered. For gesture sensing, it is highly recommended to connect the INT pin to a hardware interrupt pin (e.g., Digital Pin 2 on Arduino) to ensure the sensor's FIFO buffer is read immediately when data is ready.

Arduino code

FOR APDS-9960 running on an Arduino, the SparkFun APDS-9960 Library "SparkFun APDS9960" is the industry standard.

```
#include <Wire.h>
#include <SparkFun_APDS9960.h>

#define APDS9960_INT 2 // Must be an interrupt pin
SparkFun_APDS9960 apds = SparkFun_APDS9960();
volatile bool isr_flag = false;

void setup() {
  Serial.begin(9600);
  pinMode(APDS9960_INT, INPUT);

  // Initialize interrupt service routine
  attachInterrupt(digitalPinToInterrupt(APDS9960_INT), interruptRoutine,
  FALLING);

  if (apds.init()) {
    Serial.println(F("APDS-9960 initialization complete"));
  } else {
    Serial.println(F("Something went wrong during APDS-9960 init!"));
  }

  // Start sensor gesture engine
  if (apds.enableGestureSensor(true)) {
    Serial.println(F("Gesture sensor is now running"));
  } else {
    Serial.println(F("Something went wrong during gesture sensor init!"));
  }
}

void loop() {
  if (isr_flag) {
    detachInterrupt(digitalPinToInterrupt(APDS9960_INT));
    handleGesture();
    isr_flag = false;
    attachInterrupt(digitalPinToInterrupt(APDS9960_INT), interruptRoutine,
  FALLING);
  }
}
```

```

}

void interruptRoutine() {
  isr_flag = true;
}

void handleGesture() {
  if (apds.isGestureAvailable()) {
    switch (apds.readGesture()) {
      case DIR_UP:    Serial.println("UP");    break;
      case DIR_DOWN: Serial.println("DOWN");  break;
      case DIR_LEFT: Serial.println("LEFT");  break;
      case DIR_RIGHT: Serial.println("RIGHT"); break;
      case DIR_NEAR: Serial.println("NEAR");  break;
      case DIR_FAR:  Serial.println("FAR");   break;
      default:       Serial.println("NONE");
    }
  }
}
}
}

```

I²C topics on lamaPLC

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• lamaPLC project: Senson SCD CO² measurement module	2026/04/15 19:34	scd30 , scd40 , scd41 , iaq , ndir , sensor , i2c , arduino code
• LamaPLC: AHT10 Modul	2026/03/22 03:14	communication , i2c , temperature , humidity , sensor , aht , aht 10 , modul
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• LamaPLC: APDS - Avago ALS and proximity detection sensors with I²C communication	2026/04/23 21:52	avago , apds-9900 , apds-9930 , apds-9960 , als , proximity , detection , gesture recognition , gesture , i2c , communication , sensor , arduino , code
• lamaPLC: Arduino Modul: BME680	2026/05/12 18:40	code , c , 2026 , arduino , bme680 , sensor , i2c , comunication
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• lamaPLC: Bi-Directional Logic Level Converter 3.3V ↔ 5V	2026/04/12 00:34	bi-directional , logic level converter , i2c , uart , spi

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LamaPLC: BMP/BME Bosch Temperature/Humidity/Pressure sensors with I²C communication 	2026/04/23 21:52	bme280, bme680, bme688, bmp180, bmp280, hw-611, hw611, bosch, temperature, humidity, pressure, sensor, arduino, i2c, communication, ai, cjmcu, volatile organic compounds, vocs, volatile sulfur compounds, vsocs, iaq
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• lamaPLC: INA226 - current/voltage/power monitor with I ² C communication	2026/04/23 21:52	i2c, i c, communication, arduino, energy, power, current, monitor, sensor, ina226, ina219, ina
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• LamaPLC: SC16IS750 / SC16IS752: One or two serial (UART) ports from microcontroller via I ² C or SPI communication	2026/04/23 21:52	cjmcu-750, cjmcu-752, cjmcu, nxp, sc16is750, sc16is752, uart, serial, i2c, spi, modul, converter, arduino, code

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