Lab 8 Wireless Communication

Options that work with the Arduino

BlueTooth **XBee ESP8266** Infrared





IAT884: Tangible Computing

Bluetooth

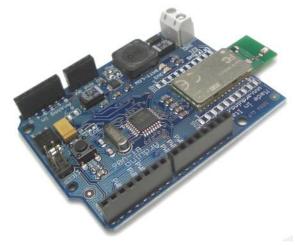
Bluetooth was designed as a wireless cable replacement between two devices.

PROS:

Fairly simple setup
Built into the Bluetooth Arduino
Relatively universal

Cons:

Requires pairing devices using a PIN#
Can only connect 2 devices
Limited Range
Expensive
Size





Infrared

Commonly used in remote control units

PROS:

DIY (Do It Yourself)

CONS:

Directional – Must face receiver Short Range Assembly required One Way



Wireless Communication Infrared

How it works

An oscillator sets a specific frequency wave on which the serial data will travel. This is known as the *carrier wave*.

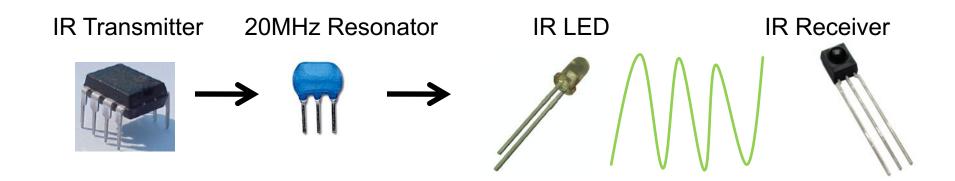
An IR LED is pulsed at a specific data rate. These pulses modulate the pulse sent by the carrier wave.

Any light not at the same frequency as the carrier wave will be filtered out by the receiver.



Infrared

Construction: What you need



XBee Radios

Use Peer to Peer / Mesh Networks

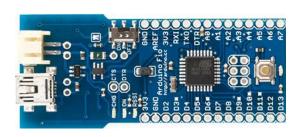
Pros

Multi-point networking
Mesh Networking capabilities
Greater Range



Energy Consumption
Configuration complexity





ESP 8266

Pros

Cost Effective Uses WIFI





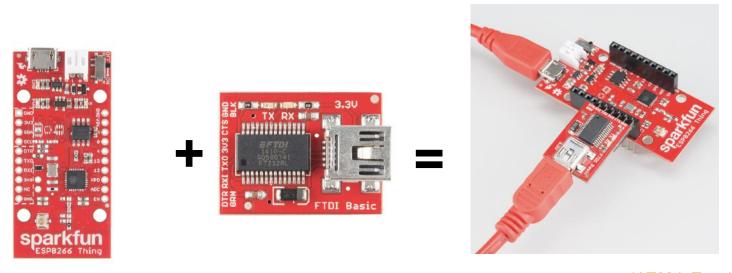
Cons

More complicated to get set up than a regular microcontroller

ESP866

Getting Started

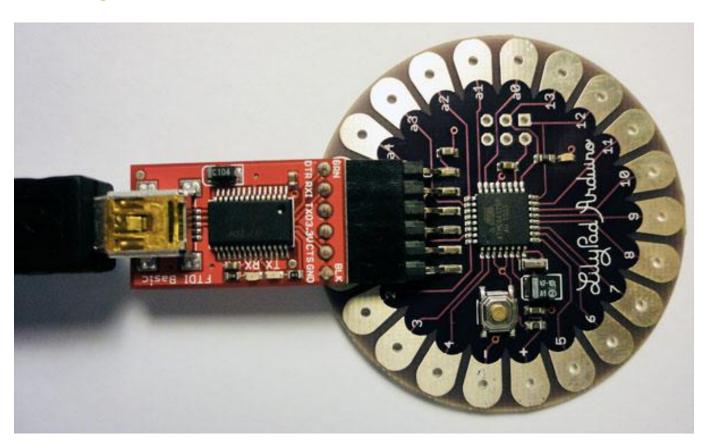
- You will need some way to connect it to a computer for programming (FTDI board)
- It can facilitate communication between a computer and an Arduino, or between two Arduinos..



ESP866

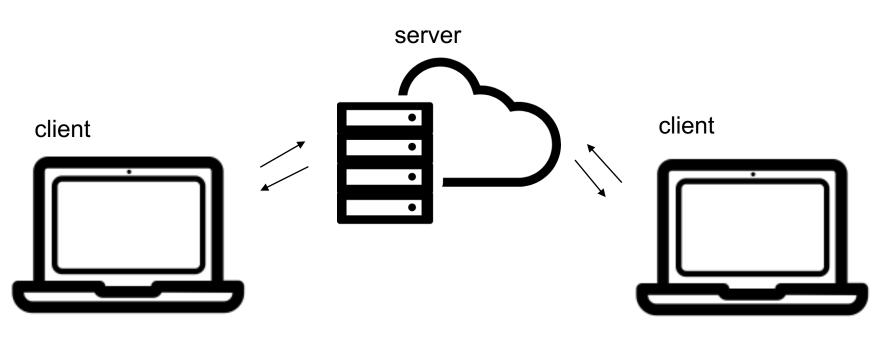
Getting Started

You might have noticed other Arduinos need FTDI.



What about sending information from one computer to another with a normal Arduino

One option is to broadcast data via the internet using websockets



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What about sending information from one computer to another with a normal Arduino

Set up a web server & send and receive packages of data.

Many popular server/websocket tools use javascript (ie: Node & Express / Socket.io).... Your arduino can do this too.

Johnny-Five lets you program your Arduino using Javascript



Socket.io & P5.js example

https://secure-sierra-92770.herokuapp.com/

Socket.io & Johnny Five Example

https://damp-stream-42889.herokuapp.com/