ESP8266
Quick Start Guide

About This Guide

This document is a quick user guide to get started with ESP8266. The document is structured as follows.

Chapter	Title	Content
Chapter 1	Configuring the development board - ESP-LAUNCHER.	Introduction to the ESP8266 development board - ESP-LAUNCHER, and how to download firmware on to the board and run it.
Chapter 2	Compiling applications	Introduction to compiling the AT application based on ESP8266_NONOS_SDK as example.
Chapter 3	ESP8266 Learning Resources	Introduction to some basic documentation and other related resources for the ESP8266.
Chapter 4	Learn more about ESP8266	More information about in-depth knowledge of ESP8266.
Chapter 5	Debug Methods	Introduction to debugging methods and sample codes.
Chapter 6	Downloading Firmware into The ESP-WROOM-02	Introduction on how to flash firmware with ESP-WROOM-02.

Release Notes

Date	Version	Release Notes
2016.08	V1.0	First release.

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1. Configuring the development board - ESP-LAUNCHER

1.1. Hardware Preparation

To get started with developing applications for the ESP8266, you will need the hardware and the corresponding software tools. There are listed as follows:

- One of the following ESP8266 Hardware Development Kits (HDK):
    - ESP8266 official development board, ESP-LAUNCHER, as noted in Table 1-1.
    - ESP8266 official module, ESP-WROOM-02, as noted in **Chapter 6**.
- PC for programming: Windows XP or Windows 7 OS is recommended, with enough RAM to run a Linux virtual machine.
- Micro USB cable.

> 📖 *Notes:*
> - *If you are using third party development boards or modules that integrate ESP8266, please use the development firmware provided by the corresponding manufacturers.*
> - *If you would like to purchase ESP-WROOM-02 or ESP-LAUNCHER, please visit Espressif's official online store at: https://espressif.taobao.com,.*

Table 1-1. The ESP8266 Development Board

ESP-LAUNCHER
• 1 ESP-LAUNCHER • 1 Micro USB cable

> ⚠️ Notice:
> *The ESP8266 Wi-Fi module requires 3.3V power supply and may draw current in the order of 500 mA.*

1.2.   Software Preparation

- ESP8266 official Flash Download Tool

    - Download: *http://www.espressif.com/support/download/other-tools*

- ESP8266 official SDK

    - Download SDK: *http://www.espressif.com/support/download/sdks-demos*

    - The official AT firmware (ESP8266_NONOS_SDK\bin\at) can be downloaded into the ESP-LAUNCHER by referring to the BIN locations mentioned in the "ReadMe" file which is in the same directory. For instructions on downloading the firmware into the ESP-LAUNCHER, please refer to **Section 1.3**.

- PC UART terminal emulator tool

    - SecureCRT/ minicom is recommended.

    - UART tools mentioned above can support the default baud rate (74880) of ESP8266. Note that certain USB-UART converters may not support all baud rates if you are using a third party development board.

1.3.   Download Firmware into The ESP-LAUNCHER

1. Using the **ESP8266_NONOS_SDK_V2.0.0_16_07_19** as example. The AT firmware binaries are located in **ESP8266_NONOS_SDK_V2.0.0_16_07_19\ESP8266_NONOS_SDK\bin**

Figure 1-1. ESP8266_NONOS_SDK *bin* **Folder**

2. Settings of the development board, ESP-LAUNCHER.
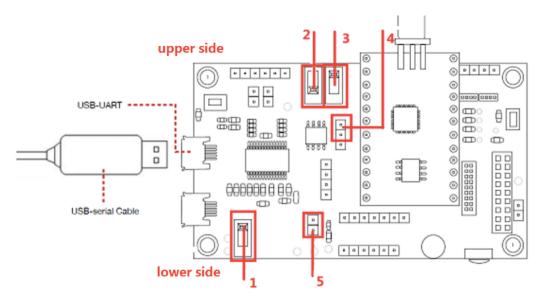
Figure 1-2. The ESP-LAUNCHER

- The **switch 1**: toggle to the lower side;
- The **switch 2**: toggle to the lower side;
- The **switch 3**: toggle to the upper side;
- The **pin 4**: put a jumper cap on the above 2 pins;
- The **pin 5**: put a jumper cap on it.

3. Use micro USB cable to connect the ESP-LAUNCHER to the PC. The UART driver needs to be installed on the PC.

4. Double-click **ESPFlashDownloadTool_v3.3.4.exe** to run the ESP8266 Flash Download Tool on PC.
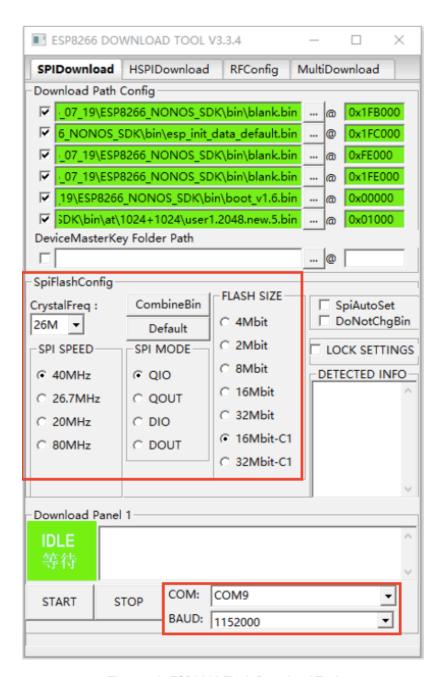
Figure 1-3. ESP8266 Flash Download Tool

Figure 1-3 uses 16 Mbit-C1 (1024+1024 map) flash as an example. The locations of binaries to be downloaded into are as Table 1-2 shows.

Table 1-2. Download AT Binaries for 16 Mbit-C1 Flash Map

BIN	Address	Description
blank.bin	0x1FB000	Initialize RF_CAL parameter area.

| BIN	Address	Description
esp_init_data_default.bin	0x1FC000	Stores default RF parameter values, has to be downloaded into flash at least once. If the RF_CAL parameter area is initialized, this bin has to be downloaded too.
blank.bin	0xFE000	Initialize Flash user parameter area.
blank.bin	0x1FE000	Initialize Flash system parameter area.
boot.bin	0x00000	In *\bin\at*.
user1.2048.new.5.bin	0x01000	In *\bin\at\1024+1024*.

📖 **Notes:**

- *The **SpiFlashConfig** area and the **COM** area on the ESP8266 Flash Download Tool should be set according to the actual hardware configuration of the ESP8266 development board.*
- *For more information of downloading AT firmware, please refer to documentation [ESP8266 AT Instruction Set](#).*

5. Click the **START** button to enter the **SYNC** state, waiting for the ESP-LAUNCHER to power up.
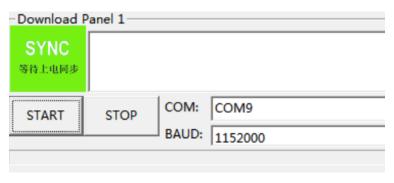
Figure 1-4. *SYNC* State of the ESP8266 Flash Download Tool

6. Power on the ESP-LAUNCHER by toggling the **switch 1** to the upper side.
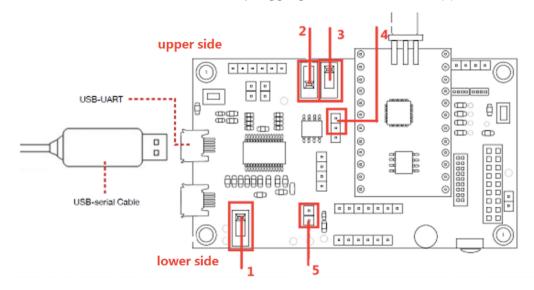
Figure 1-5. The ESP-LAUNCHER

The ESP8266 Flash Download Tool will start to download AT firmware into the ESP-LAUNCHER. The **DETECTED INFO** area will display information about the flash chip on the ESP-LAUNCHER.
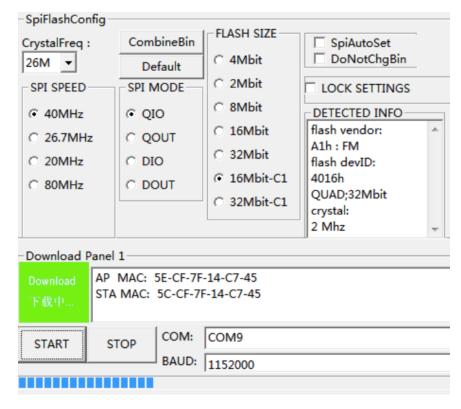
Figure 1-6. ESP8266 Flash Download Tool - Downloading Firmware

After the download is finished, toggle the **switch 1** to the lower side to power off the ESP-LAUNCHER.
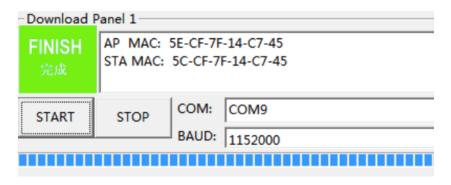
Figure 1-7. ESP8266 Flash Download Tool - Finishing downloading Firmware

7. Open the UART tool on PC, set baud rate to 115200, check the **New line mode** for the UART tool.
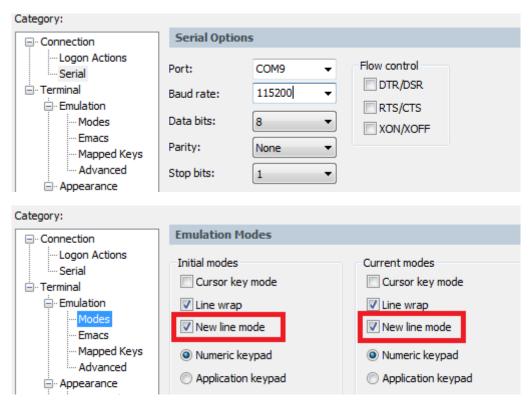
Figure 1-8. UART Emulator Tool on PC

8. Set the ESP8266 to operation mode by toggling the **switch 2** to the upper side. Then toggle the **switch 1** to the upper side to power on the ESP-LAUNCHER.
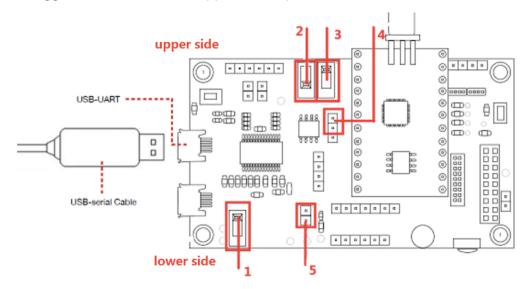
Figure 1-9. The ESP-LAUNCHER

At first, the PC UART tool will output some garbage characters (which is normal, because the power-on-default baud rate of ESP8266 is 74880). The PC UART tool will then output "ready" message, indicating that the ESP-LAUNCHER is running the AT firmware successfully.

Figure 1-10. AT Logs on The UART Tool

Input command "AT+GMR" through the UART tool, and press **Enter** button. You will get a response printing version information of the AT firmware.

For more AT commands and examples of AT command usage, please refer to the documentations *ESP8266 AT Instruction Set* and *ESP8266 AT Command Examples*.

2. Compiling Applications

This chapter presents the workflow of compiling a program for the ESP8266 based on the **ESP8266_NONOS_SDK**, using the AT demo application provided by Espressif Systems as an example.

2.1. Downloading The Development Environment

1. PC: Windows XP or Windows 7 OS is recommended.

2. The development environment provided by Espressif Systems is based on Lubuntu. The Espressif Systems also provides a virtual image of the development environment that can be run on VirtualBox.

   - Download **VirtualBox-5.0.16-105871-Win.exe**:

     https://www.virtualbox.org/wiki/Downloads

   📖 **Note:**

   Please choose the correct version of VirtualBox according to your host machine OS.

   - Download **ESP8266_lubuntu_20141021.ova** at:

   Baidu:

   https://pan.baidu.com/s/1dEOw8bZ

   Password: v81b
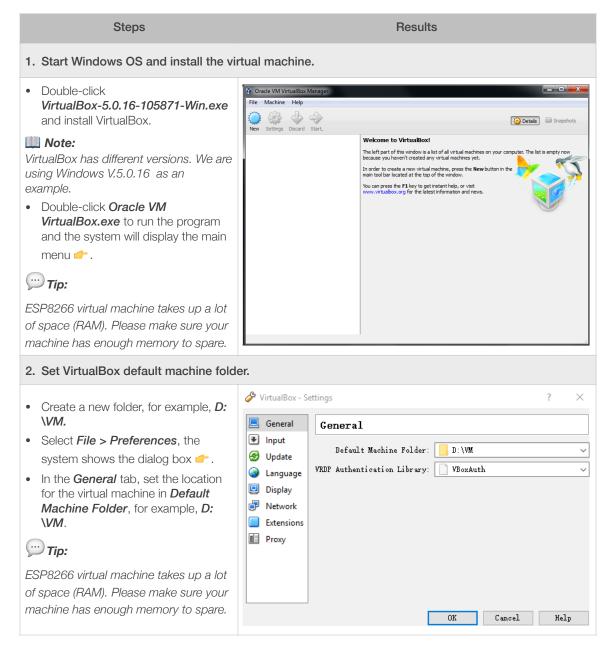
   Google:

   https://drive.google.com/folderview?id=0B5bwBE9A5dBXaExvdDExVFNrUXM&usp=sharing
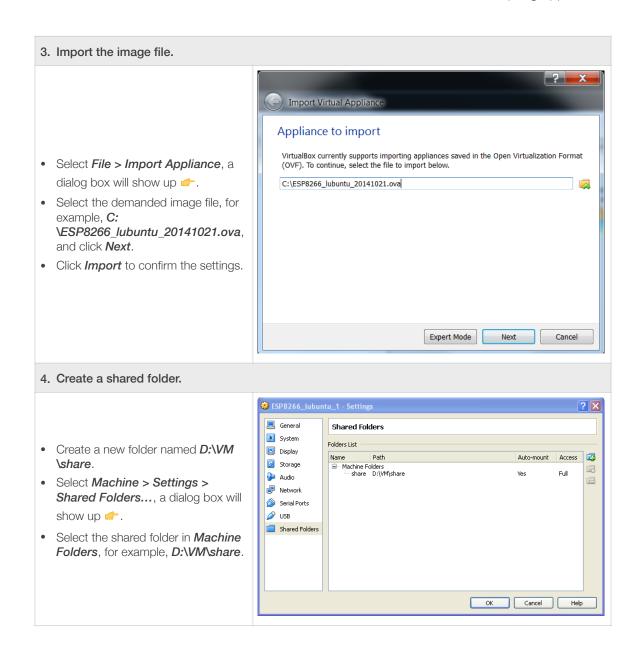
2.2. Setting up Development Environment

Steps	Results
1. Start Windows OS and install the virtual machine.	
• Double-click ***VirtualBox-5.0.16-105871-Win.exe*** and install VirtualBox. 📖 ***Note:*** *VirtualBox has different versions. We are using Windows V.5.0.16 as an example.* • Double-click ***Oracle VM VirtualBox.exe*** to run the program and the system will display the main menu 👉 . 💬 ***Tip:*** *ESP8266 virtual machine takes up a lot of space (RAM). Please make sure your machine has enough memory to spare.*	
2. Set VirtualBox default machine folder.	
• Create a new folder, for example, ***D:\VM.*** • Select ***File > Preferences***, the system shows the dialog box 👉 . • In the ***General*** tab, set the location for the virtual machine in ***Default Machine Folder***, for example, ***D:\VM***. 💬 ***Tip:*** *ESP8266 virtual machine takes up a lot of space (RAM). Please make sure your machine has enough memory to spare.*	

3. Import the image file.	
• Select *File > Import Appliance*, a dialog box will show up 👉. • Select the demanded image file, for example, *C: \ESP8266_lubuntu_20141021.ova*, and click *Next*. • Click *Import* to confirm the settings.	
4. Create a shared folder.	
• Create a new folder named *D:\VM \share*. • Select *Machine > Settings > Shared Folders...*, a dialog box will show up 👉. • Select the shared folder in *Machine Folders*, for example, *D:\VM\share*.	

5. Run the virtual machine.

- After importing, a virtual machine named ***ESP8266_lubuntu*** shows up 👉 .
- Double-click ***ESP8266_lubuntu*** or ***Start*** to power on the virtual machine.

- The system shows ESP8266 virtual machine 👉 .
- If the virtual machine enters idle mode and is locked, a dialog box as below 👇 will show up, please enter the password: ***espressif***.
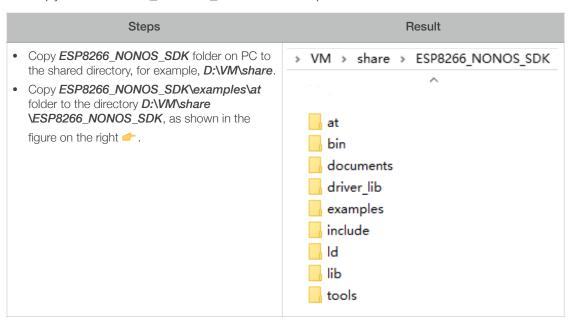
- Double-click ***LXTerminal*** to start compiling applications, for more details please refer to ***Chapter 2.3***.

2.3. Compiling Applications Using *ESP8266_NONOS_SDK*

1. Start the virtual machine. Run **LXTerminal** on the desktop of the virtual machine.

2. Copy the **ESP8266_NONOS_SDK** to be compiled to the shared folder.

| Steps	Result
• Copy **ESP8266_NONOS_SDK** folder on PC to the shared directory, for example, **D:\VM\share**. • Copy **ESP8266_NONOS_SDK\examples\at** folder to the directory **D:\VM\share \ESP8266_NONOS_SDK**, as shown in the figure on the right 👉 .	VM › share › ESP8266_NONOS_SDK 📁 at 📁 bin 📁 documents 📁 driver_lib 📁 examples 📁 include 📁 ld 📁 lib 📁 tools

3. Mount the shared directory to the virtual machine.

Steps	Result
• Execute command `./mount.sh` in the LXTerminal. • Input the password: *espressif*. Shared folder mounting is completed.	esp8266@esp8266-VirtualBox: ~ File Edit Tabs Help esp8266@esp8266-VirtualBox:~$ ./mount.sh [sudo] password for esp8266: esp8266@esp8266-VirtualBox:~$

• Open the shared directory **ESP8266_NONOS_SDK** in the virtual machine and confirm if the mounting is successful.
  - If successful, the directory contains files as the figure on the right 👉 shows.
  - If not, the directory will be empty and you will need to repeat the above step again.
	ESP8266_NONOS_SDK
	File Edit View Bookmarks Go Tools Help
	/home/esp8266/Share/ESP8266_NONOS_SDK
	Places
	🏠 Home Folder
	🖥 Desktop at bin documents driver_lib
	🗑 Trash Can
	📁 Applications
	📁 Documents examples include ld lib
	🎵 Music
	🖼 Pictures
	🎬 Videos tools License Makefile
	📁 Downloads
	11 items (1 hidden) Free space: 192.8 GiB (Total: 394.4 GiB)

4. Change the directory to **/share/ESP8266_NONOS_SDK/at** in the LXTerminal and compile it.

Steps	Result
• In the LXTerminal, change the directory by executing command: `cd /home/esp8266/Share/ESP8266_NONOS_SDK/at`	esp8266@esp8266-Vir…P8266_NONOS_SDK/at — + × File Edit Tabs Help esp8266@esp8266-VirtualBox:~$ ./mount.sh [sudo] password for esp8266: esp8266@esp8266-VirtualBox:~$ cd /home/esp8266/Share/ESP8266_NONOS_SDK/at
• Then execute command: `./gen_misc.sh` to start compiling. • For example, the choices for STEP 1 ~ 5 in the compilation can be: 1, 1, 2, 0 and 5 respectively.	esp8266@esp8266-VirtualBox:~/Share/ESP8266_NONOS_SDK/at$ ./gen_misc.sh gen_misc.sh version 20150511 Please follow below steps(1-5) to generate specific bin(s): STEP 1: choose boot version(0=boot_v1.1, 1=boot_v1.2+, 2=none) enter(0/1/2, default 2):

📖 **Note:**

For more details on compiling applications, please refer to ESP8266 SDK Getting Started Guide.

5. After compilation, the binaries generated and their corresponding download addresses on flash memory are as follows:

```
Support boot_v1.4 and +

Generate user1.2048.new.5.bin successfully in folder bin/upgrade.

boot.bin------------>0x00000

user1.2048.new.5.bin--->0x01000

!!!
```

📖 **Note:**

*You can open **/home/esp8266/Share/ESP8266_NONOS_SDK/bin/upgrade** directory and check the binaries compiled.*

6. The AT binaries generated can be downloaded to the ESP-LAUNCHER (refer to **Section 1.3**) and run.

3.   ESP8266 Study Resources

3.1.   Basic Documentation

- ESP8266EX Datasheet
- ESP8266 SDK Getting Started Guide

Download Documentation at： *http://www.espressif.com/support/download/documents*

3.2.   Other Related Resources

- ESP8266 Documentation: *http://www.espressif.com/support/download/documents*
- ESP8266 Tools: *http://www.espressif.com/support/download/other-tools*
- ESP8266 SDKs and Demos: *http://www.espressif.com/support/download/sdks-demos*
- ESP8266 APKs: *http://www.espressif.com/support/download/apks*
- ESP8266 Sample Codes: *http://www.espressif.com/support/explore/sample-codes*
- ESP8266 FAQs: *http://www.espressif.com/support/explore/faqs*
- ESP8266 forum: *http://bbs.espressif.com*

4. Learn More About *ESP8266_RTOS_SDK*

4.1. Compiling Application Using *ESP8266_RTOS_SDK*
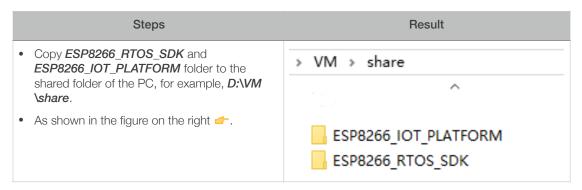
1. Download the **ESP8266_RTOS_SDK** at:

   https://github.com/espressif/ESP8266_RTOS_SDK
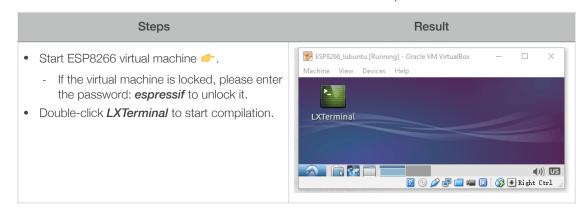
   ESP8266_IOT_PLATFORM is a demo application based on **ESP8266_RTOS_SDK**.

   Download at: *https://github.com/espressif/ESP8266_IOT_PLATFORM*

2. Copy **ESP8266_IOT_PLATFORM** and **ESP8266_RTOS_SDK** to the PC's shared folder.

Steps	Result
• Copy **ESP8266_RTOS_SDK** and **ESP8266_IOT_PLATFORM** folder to the shared folder of the PC, for example, **D:\VM \share**. • As shown in the figure on the right 👉.	

3. Start the virtual machine. Run **LXTerminal** on the desktop of the virtual machine.

Steps	Result
• Start ESP8266 virtual machine 👉. - If the virtual machine is locked, please enter the password: **espressif** to unlock it. • Double-click **LXTerminal** to start compilation.	

4. Mount the shared directory to the virtual machine.

Steps	Result
• Execute command `./mount.sh` in the LXTerminal. • Input the password: *espressif*. Shared folder mounting is completed.	
• Open the shared directory *ESP8266_RTOS_SDK* in the virtual machine and confirm if the mounting is successful. - If successful, the directory contains files as shown in the figure on the right 👉 . - If not, the directory will be empty, you will need to repeat the above step again.	

5. Set the **SDK_PATH** and the **BIN_PATH** in *ESP8266_IOT_PLATFORM\gen_misc.sh*.

Steps	Result
• **SDK_PATH**: the directory of *ESP8266_RTOS_SDK* • **BIN_PATH**: the directory which the binaries are generated in after compilation • As the figure on the right 👉 shows.	

6. Revise the ESP8266_IOT_PLATFORM\makefile.

Steps	Result
• Revise the "*LINKFLAGS_eagle.app.v6*" area in the *ESP8266_IOT_PLATFORM\makefile*: - Delete *-lminic* - Add *-lcirom* and *-lmirom* • As the figure on the right 👉 shows.	

7. Change the directory to */share/ESP8266_IOT_PLATFORM* in the LXTerminal, and compile it.

Steps	Result
• In the LXTerminal, change the directory by executing command: `cd /home/esp8266/ Share/ESP8266_IOT_PLATFORM` • Then execute command: `./gen_misc.sh` to start compiling.	

📖 *Note:*

For more details on compilation, please refer to [ESP8266 SDK Getting Started Guide](#)*.*

8. After compilation, the binaries are generated and the corresponding download addresses on the flash memory are as follows:

```
Support boot_v1.4 and +

Generate user1.1024.new.2.bin successfully in BIN_PATH

boot.bin------------>0x00000

user1.1024.new.2.bin--->0x01000

!!!
```

📖 *Note:*

*You can open **/home/esp8266/Share/ESP8266_RTOS_SDK/bin** directory and check the binaries compiled.*

9. Download the binaries generated to the ESP-LAUNCHER and run.

📖 *Note:*

The power-on-default baud rate of ESP8266 is 74880 for the ESP-LAUNCHER.

4.2. *ESP8266_RTOS_SDK* Architecture
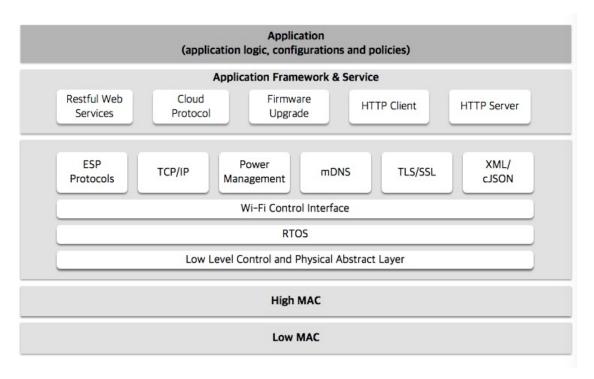
Figure 4-1. *ESP8266_RTOS_SDK* Architecture

5. Debug Methods

5.1. Debug Methods

5.1.1. Add UART Output Logs

For **ESP8266_NONOS_SDK**, you can add debug logs as shown:

```
os_printf("SDK version:%s\n", system_get_sdk_version());
```

For **ESP8266_RTOS_SDK**, you can add debug logs as shown:

```
printf("SDK version:%s\n", system_get_sdk_version());
```

5.1.2. Debug Fatal Exception

If a fatal exception occurred, UART output logs will be as shown:

```
Fatal exception (28):
epc1=0x4025bfa6, epc2=0x00000000, epc3=0x00000000,
excvaddr=0x0000000f, depc=0x00000000
```

1. Find the corresponding **.s** file which is generated with the running binaries in the same directory (**ESP8266_SDK\bin**).

    For example, if running **eagle.flash.bin** and **eagle.irom0text.bin**, the corresponding file is **eagle.s**.

2. Locate the address of **epc1** (as 0x40XXXXXX) in the **.s** file to find the target function that fatal exception occurred.

3. Add logs before and after the target function is called to debug the fatal exception problem.

5.2. Sample Codes

ESP8266 Sample Codes: *http://www.espressif.com/support/explore/sample-codes*.

6. Downloading Firmware into The ESP-WROOM-02

Please follow the steps below to download firmware into ESP-WROOM-02.

1. ESP-WROOM-02 is the official ESP8266 module provided by Espressif Systems. Lead out the pins of ESP-WROOM-02 as shown in Table 4-1.
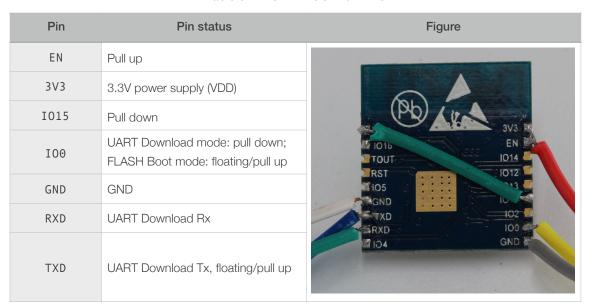
Table 6-1. ESP-WROOM-02 Pins

Pin	Pin status	Figure
EN	Pull up	
3V3	3.3V power supply (VDD)	
IO15	Pull down	
IO0	UART Download mode: pull down; FLASH Boot mode: floating/pull up	
GND	GND	
RXD	UART Download Rx	
TXD	UART Download Tx, floating/pull up	

2. Connect ESP-WROOM-02 to USB-to-TTL converter using Dupont lines as shown in Figure 6-1.
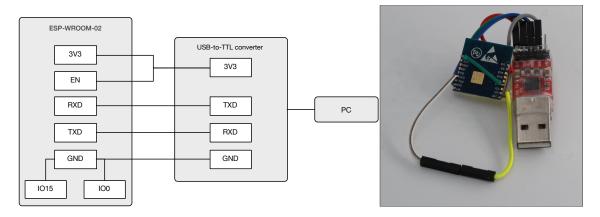
Figure 6-1. ESP-WROOM-02 Download Mode

3. Connect the USB-to-TTL converter to the PC.

4. Download firmware to flash with ESP8266 DOWNLOAD TOOL.

> 📖 **Note:**
>
> *On how to download firmware, please refer to* **Section 1.3**.

5. After downloading, set `I00` as floating or pull up and switch ESP-WROOM-02 to working mode.

6. Power on ESP-LAUNCHER again and the chip will read and run programs from the flash.

> 📖 **Note:**
>
> `I00` *is an internal pull up pin. For more information on ESP-WROOM-02 hardware, please refer to* [ESP8266 System Description](#) *and* [ESP-WROOM-02 Datasheet](#).