

## ESP-radio

This document describes the realization of an Internet radio based on an ESP8266 WiFi chip.

The ESP8266 is a remarkable thing. It has a Wi-Fi interface and a powerful processor with enough memory to store a complex application. The Internet radio described here uses this device as well as a VS1053 module to decrypt the MP3 stream and a 1.8" TFT color display to give some information about the radio station that's playing.

### Features:

- Can connect to thousands of Internet radio stations that broadcast MP3 audio streams.
- Uses a minimal number of components.
- Has a preset list of a maximum of 100 favorite radio stations in a configuration file.
- Can be controlled by a tablet or other device through a built-in webserver.
- Can be controlled by MQTT commands.
- Can be controlled by commands on the serial input.
- Optional one or three button control to skip to the next/previous/first preset station.
- The strongest available WiFi network is automatically selected. Passwords are kept in a configuration file on the SPIFFS filesystem.
- Heavily commented source code, easy to add extra functionality.
- Debug information through serial output.
- Big ring buffer for smooth playback.
- Update of software over WiFi (OTA).
- Parameters like WiFi SSID and password can be configured in a .ini file. The .ini file can be edited in the web interface.

### Software:

The software for the radio is supplied as an Arduino sketch that can be compiled for the ESP8266 using the Arduino IDE version 1.6.8, esp8266 software 2.2.0. No Arduino is required in this project.

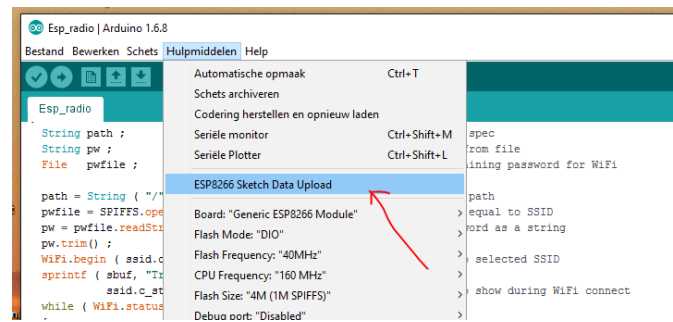
The following libraries are used:

- ESP8266WiFi – for establishing the communication with WiFi
- SPI – for communication with VS1053 and TFT display
- Adafruit\_GFX – for writing info on the TFT screen (if configured)
- TFT\_ILI9163C – driver for the TFT screen (if configured)
- ESPAsyncWebServer – for remote controlling the radio via http.
- ESPAsyncTCP – Needed for webserver.
- ArduinoOTA for software update over WiFi.
- AsyncMqttClient to handle incoming MQTT messages.

## Configuration:

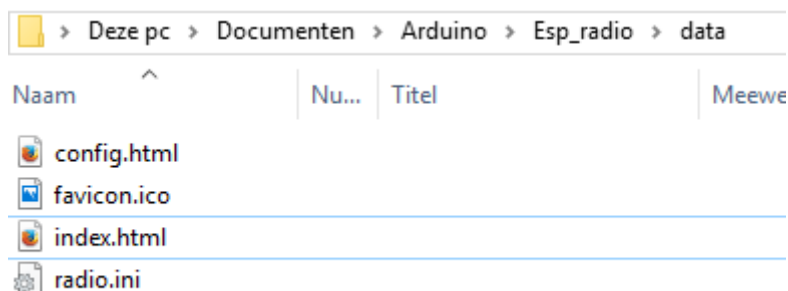
In order to work properly, the software needs some configuration.

The filesystem (SPIFFS, set to 3 MB) of the ESP8266 must contain the files necessary for the webserver and a configuration file. The plug-in for Data Upload must be present in your Arduino IDE:



If you don't see this feature, check the installation guide at the end of this document.

The files must be present in a map "data" in the Arduino project map, For Example:



The 4 files in the above figure must be present in the data map and are uploaded to the SPIFFS. The webinterface allows upload of additional files or updates to existing files.

## radio.ini file

This initialization file contains lines that are used for initializations.

You may change the contents of the file with the “Config”-button in the web interface. An example of the ini-file is:

```
# radio.ini
# Initialization file for Esp-radio
#
# MQTT broker, credentials and topic to subscribe
mqttbroker = broker.hivemq.com           # Broker to connect with
mqttport = 1883                          # Portnumber (1883 is default)
mqttuser = none                          # (No) username for broker
mqttpasswd = none                        # (No) password for broker
mqtttopic = espradio                     # Topic for receiving commands
mqttpubtopic = espradioIP                # IP will be published here
#
# WiFi network credentials, may be more than on entry. Strongest signal will be selected.
wifi_00 = NETGEAR-11/xxxxxxx
wifi_01 = ADSL-11/yyyyyyy
#
# VS1053 settings
volume = 72
toneha = 0
tonehf = 0
tonela = 0
tonelf = 0
#
# Presets
preset = 6                               # Start with preset 6
preset_00 = 109.206.96.34:8100           # 0 - NAXI LOVE RADIO, Belgrade, Serbia 128k
preset_01 = us1.internet-radio.com:8180  # 1 - Easy Hits Florida 128k
preset_02 = us2.internet-radio.com:8050  # 2 - CLASSIC ROCK MIA WWW.SHERADIO.COM
preset_03 = us1.internet-radio.com:15919 # 3 - Magic Oldies Florida
preset_04 = us2.internet-radio.com:8132   # 4 - Magic 60s Florida 60s Top 40 Classic Rock
preset_05 = us1.internet-radio.com:8105   # 5 - Classic Rock Florida - SHE Radio
preset_06 = icecast.omroep.nl:80/radio1-bb-mp3 # 6 - Radio 1, NL
preset_07 = 205.164.62.15:10032          # 7 - 1.FM - GAIA, 64k
preset_08 = skonto.ls.lv:8002/mp3        # 8 - Skonto 128k
preset_09 = 85.17.121.216:8468           # 9 - RADIO LEHOVO 971 GREECE, 64k
preset_10 = 85.17.121.103:8800           # 10 - STAR FM 88.8 Corfu Greece, 64k
preset_11 = 85.17.122.39:8530            # 11 - stylfm.gr laiko, 64k
preset_12 = 94.23.66.155:8106            # 12 - *ILR CHILL and GROOVE
preset_13 = 205.164.62.22:70102         # 13 - 1.FM - ABSOLUTE TRANCE (EURO) RADIO 64k

# End of file
```

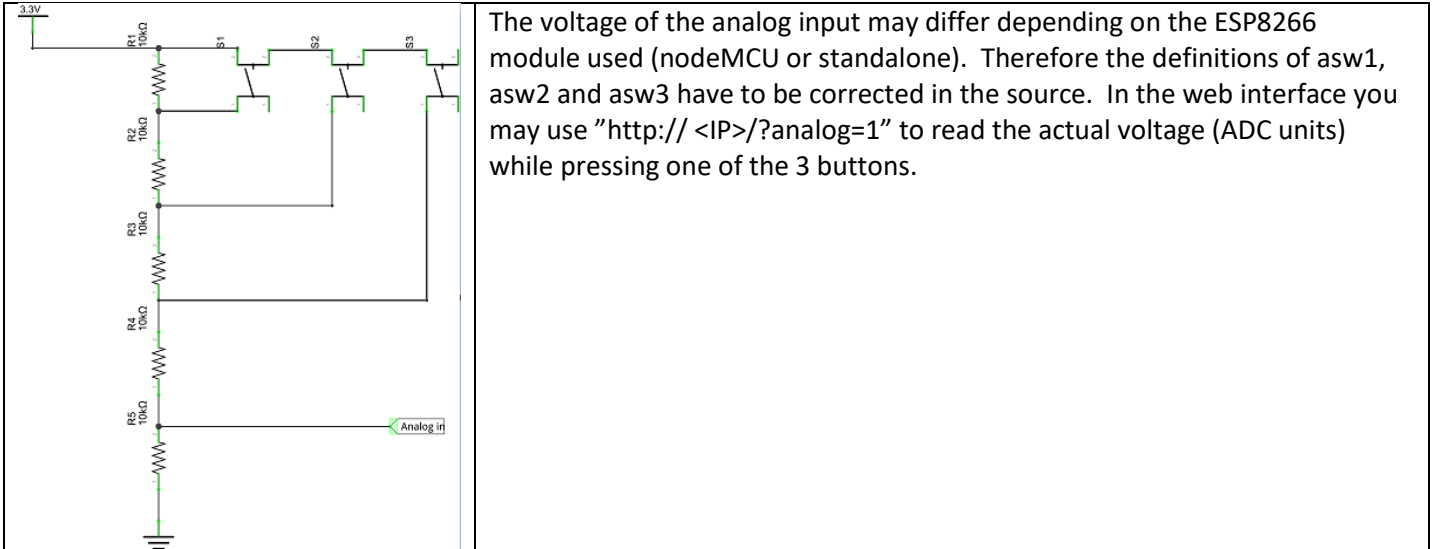
Lines starting with “#” are ignored. Comments per line (after “#”) will also be ignored, except for the “preset\_” lines. The comments on te “preset\_” lines are used to identify the resets in the webinterface.

The .ini-file itself can be edited in the webinterface. Changes will be effective after restart of the Esp-radio.

## Optional:

### Analog input:

The analog input can be used to control the radio by connecting the analog input of the ESP8266 to the following circuit:



### 3 button digital control:

Normally the radio is controlled by the web interface. However, one digital input (GPIO0) may be connected to a button to skip to the next preset station.

If TFT output is not required, 2 extra digital inputs are available. You may use the 2 extra inputs for 2 extra control buttons (GPIO2 and GPIO15): "goto preset station 1" and "goto previous preset station".

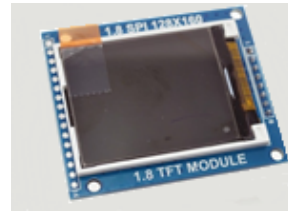
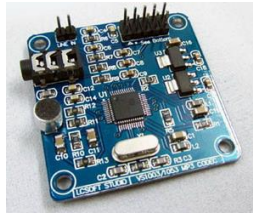
In this case you have to comment out the definition "USETFT" in the source code of the sketch.

Note that GPIO15 has to be LOW when starting the ESP8266. The button for GPIO15 must therefore be connected to VCC (3.3V) instead of GND. The software will invert this input.

## Hardware:

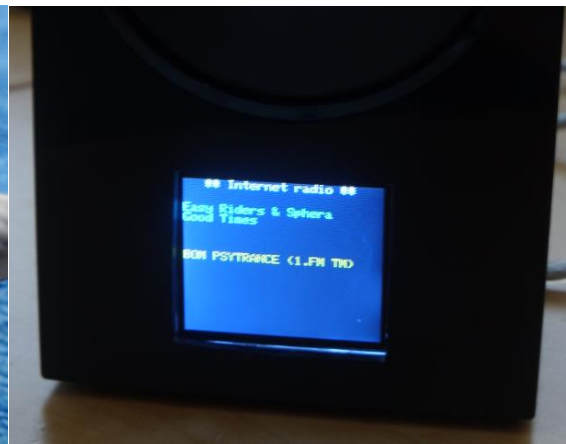
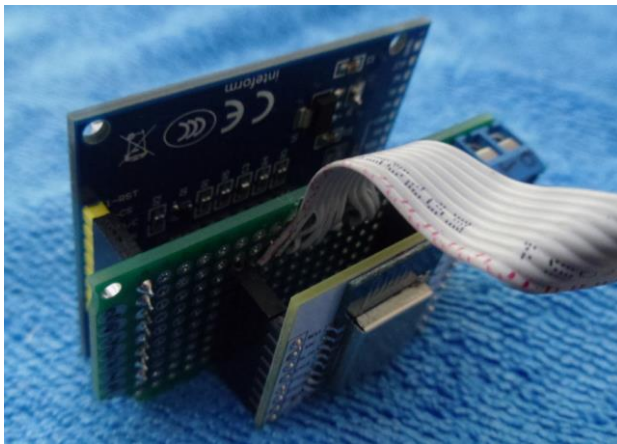
The radio is built with the following hardware:

- An ESP-12 module. This is basically an ESP8266 on a small print. There is pull-up on CH\_PD and a pull-down on GPIO15. If the ESP8266 is used without this module you have to provide at least the pull-up to set the ESP8266 to work. See figure 1. The ESP8266 is running on 160 MHz.
- A VS1053 module. This can be ordered at several Chinese web shops. See figure 2.
- A 1.8 inch color TFT display. This can be ordered at several Chinese web shops. See figure 3..
- Two small speakers.
- A Class D stereo amplifier to drive the speakers. Best quality if powered by a separate power source.
- A 3.3 volt LDO to provide power for the ESP8266.



The radio is powered by a 5 V adapter. The radio will function on single LiPo cell as well, so I used a small charge circuit powered by the 5 V input. The amplifier uses a separate LiPo cell to minimize noise caused by the ESP8266. The TFT and VS1053 work on 3.8 to 5 Volt. For the ESP8266 a small regulator (LD1117S33TR), 3.3 Volt 800 mA is used.

I used a small perforated board to connect the ESP8266 and the TFT and to mount it in a small speaker box. The TFT is visible through a hole in the front of the box:

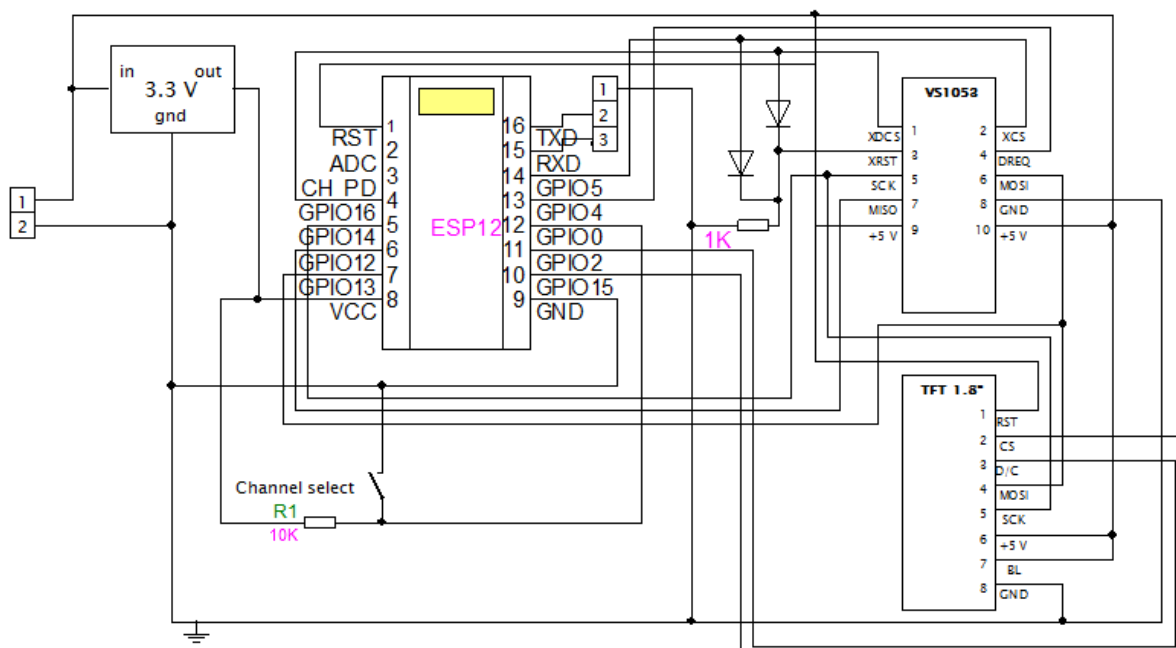


Most of the wiring is done on the green perfboard. The TFT is visible The VS1053 is connected by the grey cable:



The Class D stereo amplifier is not shown in this picture. My version uses mono playback.

## Schematic diagram:



## Wiring:

The logic wiring as shown in the diagram is also presented in the table below. The analog amplifier and the speakers are not included.

NodeMCU	GPIO	Pin to program	Wired to LCD	Wired to VS1053	Wired to rest
D0	GPIO16	16	-	pin 1 DCS	-
D1	GPIO5	5	-	pin 2 CS	-
D2	GPIO4	4	-	pin 4 DREQ	-
D3	GPIO0	0 FLASH	-	-	Control button
D4	GPIO2	2	pin 3 (D/C)	-	- *)
D5	GPIO14	14 SCLK	pin 5 (CLK)	pin 5 SCK	-
D6	GPIO12	12 MISO	-	pin 7 MISO	-
D7	GPIO13	13 MOSI	pin 4 (DIN)	pin 6 MOSI	-
D8	GPIO15	15	pin 2 (CS)	-	- *)
D9	GPIO3	3 RXD0	-	-	Reserved for serial input
D10	GPIO1	1 TXD0	-	-	Reserved for serial output
GND	-	-	pin 8 (GND)	pin 8 GND	Power supply
VCC 3.3	-	-	pin 6 (VCC)	-	LDO 3.3 Volt
VCC 5 V	-	-	-	pin 9 5V	Power supply
RST	-	-	pin 1 (RST)	pin 3 RESET	Reset circuit

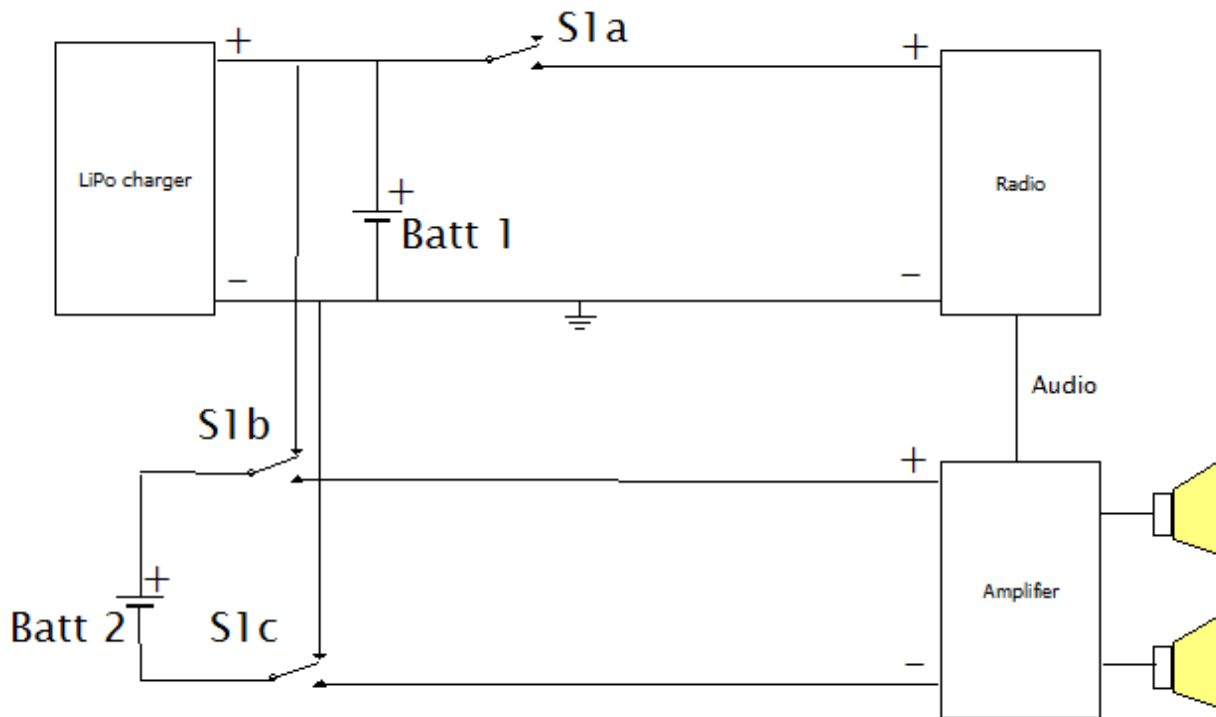
The reset circuit is a circuit with 2 diodes to GPIO5 and GPIO16 and a resistor to ground (wired OR gate) because there was not a free GPIO output available for this function.

\*) GPIO2 and GPIO15 may be used for extra control buttons if no TFT is configured, see “3 button digital control”.  
The extra input buttons are not shown in the diagram.

## Amplifier and power circuit.

The amplifier is a class D stereo amplifier. If the power is shared with the power supply of the radio, you will hear much noise. So I used a separate LiPo battery (Batt 2) for the amplifier.

During operation only Batt 1 will be charged. If the radio is switched off, both batteries will be recharged by the LiPo charger. S1a, S1b and S1c is a triple On-On switch.



## Web interface:

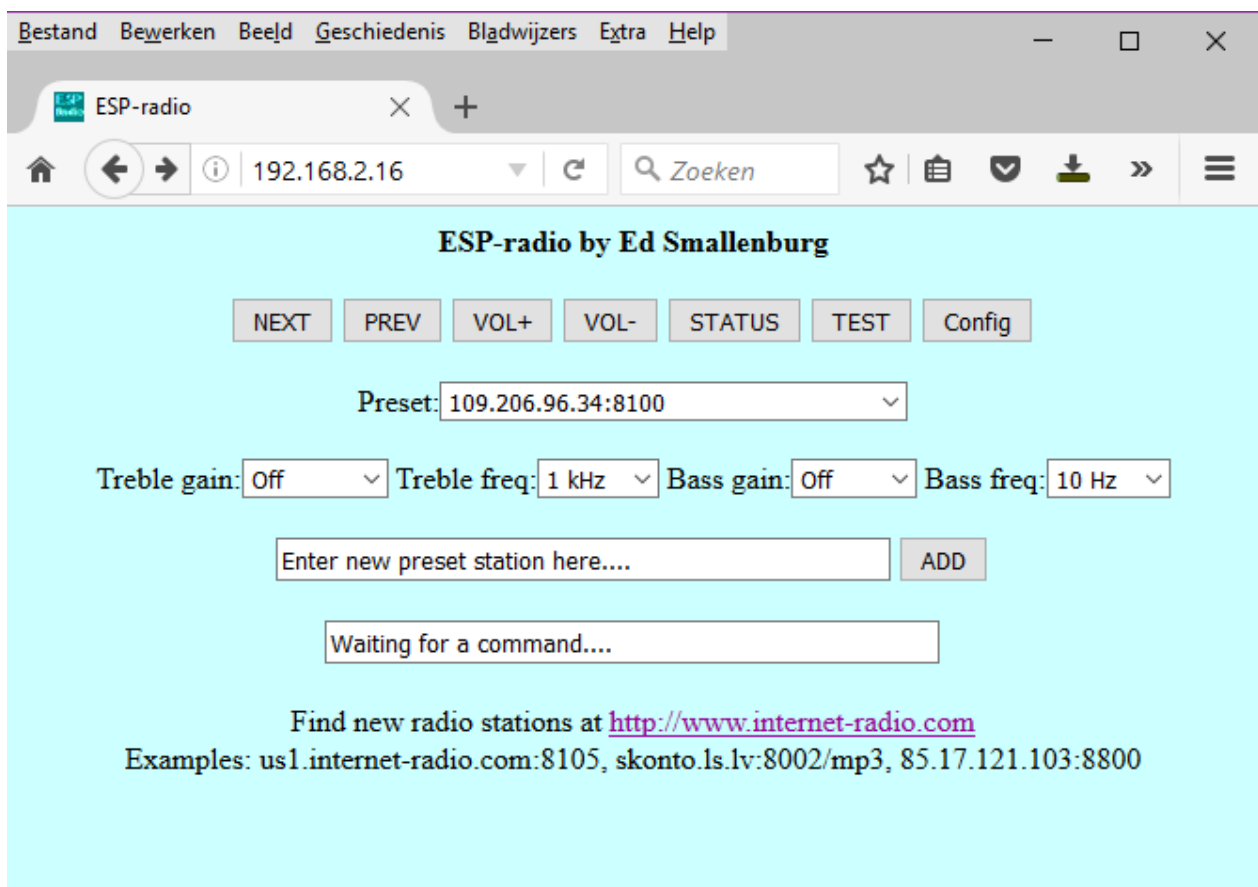
The web interface is simple and can be adapted to your needs. The basic idea is to have a html page with embedded javascript that displays an interface to the radio. Command to the radio can be sent to the http server on the ESP8266. The IP address of the webserver will be displayed on the TFT during startup.

## Capabilities of the webserver:

Let's assume that the IP of the Esp-radio is 192.168.2.12. From your browser you can show a simple root page by entering the following URL: <http://192.168.2.12>. This will display the /index.html file from the SPIFFS as well as /favicon.ico.

If your computer is configured for mDNS, you can also use <http://esp-radio.local> in your browser.

The following simple web interface will be displayed:



Clicking on one of the available buttons will control the Esp-radio. The reply of the webserver will be visible in the status box below the buttons. A click will be translated into a command to the Esp-radio in the form:

`http://192.168.2.13/?<parameter>=<value>`

For example: `http://192.168.2.13/?upvolume=2`



Not all functions are available as buttons in the web interface shown above. Commands may also come from MQTT or serial input. Not all commands are meaningful on MQTT or serial input. Working commands are:

preset	= 12	Select start preset to connect to *)
preset_00	= <mp3 stream>	Specify station for a preset 00-99 *)
volume	= 95	Percentage between 0 and 100
upvolume	= 2	Add percentage to current volume
downvolume	= 2	Subtract percentage from current volume
toneha	= <0..15>	Setting treble gain
tonehf	= <0..15>	Setting treble frequency
tonela	= <0..15>	Setting bass gain
tonelf	= <0..15>	Setting treble frequency
mute		Mute the music
unmute		Unmute the music
wifi_00	= mySSID/mypassword	Set WiFi SSID and password *)
mqttbroker	= mybroker.com	Set MQTT broker to use *)
mqttport	= 1883	Set MQTT port (default 1883) to use *)
mqttuser	= myuser	Set MQTT user for authentication *)
mqttpasswd	= mypassword	Set MQTT password for authentication*)
mqtttopic	= mytopic	Set MQTT topic to subscribe to *)
mqttpubtopic	= mypubtopic	Set MQTT topic to publish to *)
status		Show current URL to play
test		For test purposes
debug	= 0 or 1	Switch debugging on or off
reset		Restart the ESP8266
analog		Show current analog input

Commands marked with "\*" are sensible in ini-file only.

Station may also be of the form "skonto.ls.lv:8002/mp3". The default port is 80.

It is allowed to have multiple (max 100) "preset\_" lines. The number after the "\_" will be used as the preset number. The comment part (after the "#") will be shown in the webinterface.

It is also allowed to have multiple "wifi\_" lines. The strongest Wifi accesspoint will be used.

## Configuration

The Config button will bring up a second screen . Here you can edit the ini-file or upload an arbitrary file to the SPIFFS. The available Wifi networks are listed as well. The config screen will be shown automatically if the ESP8266 cannot connect to one of the WiFi stations specified in the ini-file.

In that case the ESP8266 will act as an accesspoint with the name "Esp-radio". You have to connect to this AP with password "Esp-radio". Then the ESP-radio can be reached at [http:// 192.168.4.1](http://192.168.4.1).

After changing the contents of the ini-file, it must be saved to the SPIFFS by clicking the “Save” button. Changes will have effect on the next restart of the ESP-radio, so click the “Restart” button.

ESP-radio configuration

You can edit the configuration here. Note that this will be effective on the next restart of the Esp-radio.

Available WiFi networks: Ziggo0A484

```

# radio.ini
# Initialization file for Esp-radio
#
# MQTT broker, credentials and topic to subscribe
mqttbroker = broker.hivemq.com      # Broker to connect with
mqttport = 1883                     # Portnumber (1883 is default)
mqttuser = none                     # (No) username for broker
mqtppasswd = none                   # (No) password for broker
mqtttopic = espradio                # Topic for receiving commands
mqttpubtopic = espradioIP           # IP will be published here
#
# WiFi network credentials, may be more than on entry. Strongest signal will be selected.
wifi_00 = NETGEAR-11/xxxxx
wifi_01 = ADSL-11/xxxxx
#
# VS1053 settings
volume = 72
toneha = 0
tonehf = 0
toneba = 0
tonebf = 0
#
# Presets
preset = 6                          # Start with preset 6
preset_00 = 109.206.96.34:8100      # 0 - NAXI LOVE RADIO, Belgrade, Serbia 128k
preset_01 = us1.internet-radio.com:8180 # 1 - Easy Hits Florida 128k

```

Save

Restart

Upload file: Bladeren...

Geen bestand geselecteerd.

Send

Waiting for input...

## MQTT interface.

The MQTT interface can handle the same commands as the web interface.

As publish command on a Linux system may look like:

```
$ mosquitto pub -h broker.hivemq.com -t espradio -m volume=80
```

Note that the broker in this example is heavily used, this may cause some delay. If you use your own broker the reaction on commands will be much better.

## Arduino IDE installation for Esp-radio.

- Download Windows installer for Arduino version 1.6.8 from [https://www.arduino.cc/download\\_handler.php?f=/arduino-1.6.8-windows.exe](https://www.arduino.cc/download_handler.php?f=/arduino-1.6.8-windows.exe) and start the installation.
- Start Arduino and open Preferences window.
- Enter `http://arduino.esp8266.com/stable/package_esp8266com_index.json` into *Additional Board Manager URLs* field. You can add multiple URLs, separating them with commas.
- Open Boards Manager from Tools > Board menu and install *esp8266* platform (and don't forget to select your ESP8266 board from Tools > Board menu after installation).
- Download “Async TCP Library for ESP8266 Arduino” from <https://github.com/me-no-dev/ESPAsyncTCP> and install in the IDE (add .zip library).
- Download “Async Web Server for ESP8266 Arduino” from <https://github.com/me-no-dev/ESPAsyncWebServer> and install in the IDE (add .zip library).
- Download “TFT\_ILI9163C library” from [https://github.com/sumotoy/TFT\\_ILI9163C](https://github.com/sumotoy/TFT_ILI9163C) and install in the IDE (add .zip library). There is a bug in this library: a part of the display is missing when the display is used in “landscape”-mode (mode “3”). See next paragraph for the patch.
- Install Adafruit GFX library in the IDE (library manager).
- Load the sketch. You should be able to compile it.
- Install Python 2.7 for Windows. Select option “Add python.exe to Path”.
- Download the tool: <https://github.com/esp8266/arduino-esp8266fs-plugin/releases/download/0.2.0/ESP8266FS-0.2.0.zip> and unpack it in your Arduino sketchbook directory, create `tools` directory if it doesn't exist yet. The path will look like  
`<home_dir>/Arduino/tools/ESP8266FS/tool/esp8266fs.jar.`
- Restart Arduino IDE
- Update boards.txt according to <https://github.com/esp8266/Arduino/blob/master/boards.txt>

### TFT library patch.

The display is used in mode “3”. The TFT-library has a bug for this mode. Height and width are reversed here.

To correct it, find the source code `TFT_ILI9163C.cpp` on your computer (mine is at “documents/Arduino/libraries/TFT\_ILI9163C-master”) and change the 2 lines 1096 and 1097 to:

```
_width  = _TFTHEIGHT; //-__OFFSET;  
_height = _TFTWIDTH;
```

## Debug (serial 115600 Baud) output.

This is an example of the debug output.

```
FS Total 2949250, used 13051
D: /config.html - 3817
D: /favicon.ico - 766
D: /index.html - 6767
D: /radio.ini - 1701
D: Added SSID 00 = NETGEAR-11 to acceptable networks
D: Added SSID 01 = ADSL-11 to acceptable networks
D: * Scan Networks *
D: Number of available networks: 5
D: 1 - Ziggo0A484 Signal: -83 dBm Encryption WPA2
D: 2 - Ziggo Signal: -84 dBm Encryption ???
D: 3 - ADSL-11 Signal: -80 dBm Encryption Auto Acceptable
D: 4 - ADSL-11-EXT Signal: -87 dBm Encryption Auto
D: 5 - NETGEAR-11 Signal: -59 dBm Encryption WPA2 Acceptable
D: -----
D: Command: mqttbroker with parameter broker.hivemq.com
D: Command: mqttport with parameter 1883
D: Command: mqttuser with parameter none
D: Command: mqttpasswd with parameter none
D: Command: mqtttopic with parameter espradio
D: Command: mqttpubtopic with parameter espradioIP
D: Command: wifi_00 with parameter NETGEAR-11/*****
D: Command: wifi_01 with parameter ADSL-11/*****
D: Command: volume with parameter 72
D: Command: toneha with parameter 0
D: Command: tonehf with parameter 0
D: Command: tonela with parameter 0
D: Command: tonelf with parameter 0
D: Command: preset with parameter 6
D: Preset set to 6
D: Command: preset_00 with parameter 109.206.96.34:8100
D: Command: preset_01 with parameter us1.internet-radio.com:8180
D: Command: preset_02 with parameter us2.internet-radio.com:8050
D: Command: preset_03 with parameter us1.internet-radio.com:15919
D: Command: preset_04 with parameter us2.internet-radio.com:8132
D: Command: preset_05 with parameter us1.internet-radio.com:8105
D: Command: preset_06 with parameter icecast.omroep.nl:80/radiol-bb-mp3
D: Command: preset_07 with parameter 205.164.62.15:10032
D: Command: preset_08 with parameter skonto.ls.lv:8002/mp3
D: Command: preset_09 with parameter 85.17.121.216:8468
D: Command: preset_10 with parameter 85.17.121.103:8800
D: Command: preset_11 with parameter 85.17.122.39:8530
D: Command: preset_12 with parameter 94.23.66.155:8106
D: Command: preset_13 with parameter 205.164.62.22:70102
D: Starting ESP Version 04-oct-2016... Free memory 15400
D: Sketch size 324336, free size 720896
D: Reset VS1053...
D: End reset VS1053...
D: Slow SPI, Testing VS1053 read/write registers...
D: Fast SPI, Testing VS1053 read/write registers again...
D: endFillByte is 0
D: Selected network: NETGEAR-11
D: Try WiFi NETGEAR-11
D: IP = 192.168.2.6
D: Start server for commands
D: Connecting to MQTT broker.hivemq.com, port 1883, user none, password none...
D: MQTT Connected to the broker broker.hivemq.com
D: Subscribing to espradio at QoS 2, packetId = 1
D: Publishing IP 192.168.2.6 to topic espradioIP
D: MQTT Subscribe acknowledged, packetId = 1, QoS = 2
D: MQTT Publish acknowledged, packetId = 2
D: Song stopped correctly after 0 msec
D: New preset requested = 6
D: Preset 6 found in .ini file
D: Remember preset 6
D: Connect to new host icecast.omroep.nl:80/radiol-bb-mp3
D: Slash in station
D: Connect to preset 6, host icecast.omroep.nl on port 80, extension /radiol-bb-mp3
D: Connected to server
D: HTTP/1.0 200 OK
D: Server: Icecast 2.4.2
D: Date: Tue, 04 Oct 2016 11:31:27 GMT
D: Content-Type: audio/mpeg
D: Cache-Control: no-cache
D: Expires: Mon, 26 Jul 1997 05:00:00 GMT
D: Pragma: no-cache
D: icy-br:192
D: ice-audio-info: bitrate=192
D: icy-br:192
D: icy-genre:Talk
```

D: icy-name:Radio 1  
D: icy-pub:0  
D: icy-url:http://www.radio1.nl  
D: icy-metaint:16000  
D:  
D: Switch to DATA  
D: First chunk:  
D: EF C8 9A 1E 45 18 72 18  
D: 18 DA 25 18 DA 0F 18 48  
D: 08 02 84 33 08 01 53 04  
D: C2 80 C0 0C C1 40 14 A0  
D: Metadata block 64 bytes  
D: Streamtitle found, 48 bytes  
D: StreamTitle='NPO Radio 1 - De Nieuws BV - VARA';