App Inventor + IoT: Proximity Sensor

This tutorial will help you get started with App Inventor + IoT and a proximity sensor on an <u>Arduino 101</u> controller. We are also using a <u>Seeed Grove</u> shield for this tutorial. You do not need to use this board, but it does make things easier. The proximity sensor we recommend is the <u>Grove Infrared Proximity Sensor</u>.

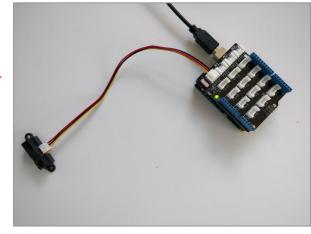
Before you start you should first complete the App Inventor + IoT Setup tutorial to

set up your Arduino device.

 Connect the proximity sensor to the Grove board in the A0 pin connector.

For this tutorial make sure
 PROXIMITY is set to
 ENABLED and all others are set to DISABLED.

 You should also click the arrow button in the top left to upload the code.

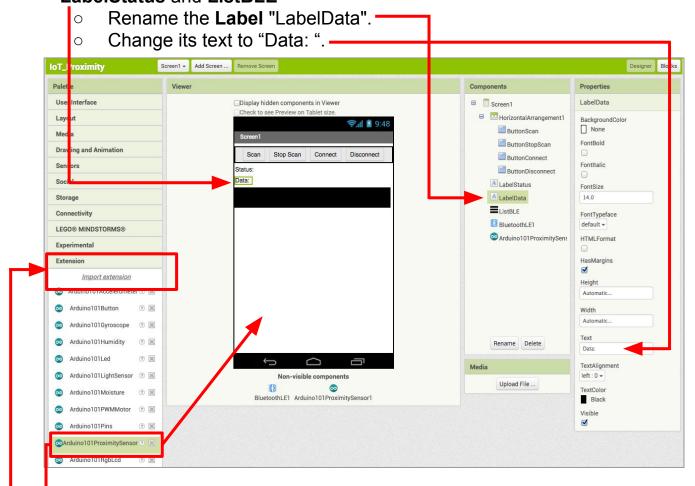


```
AIM-for-Things-Arduino101 | Arduino 1.8.1
AIM-for-Things-Arduino101 §
                             Accelerometer.hh Button.hh Camera.hh Console.hh Fingerprint.hh
 1 #define NAME
                            "App Inventor"
                                               // no more than 11 characters
 2 #define DEBUGGING
                            ENABLED
 4 #define ACCELEROMETER
                            DISABLED
 5 #define BUTTON
                            DISABLED
 6 #define CAMERA
                            DISABLED
 7 #define CONSOLE
                            DISABLED
 8 #define FINGERPRINT
                            DISABLED
 9 #define GYROSCOPE
                            DISABLED
                            DISABLED
10 #define LED
11 #define LIGHT_SENSOR
                            DISABLED
12 #define MOISTURE_SENSOR DISABLED
14 #define PROXIMITY
                            ENABLED
16 #define RGBLCD
                            DISABLED
17 #define SERVO
                            DISABLED
18 #define SOUND_RECORDER
                            DTSARI FD
19 #define TEMPERATURE
                            DISABLED
21 // frequency to read sensor values in µs
22 const unsigned long SENSOR_UPDATE_FREQ = 50000;
23 const unsigned long IMU_READ_FREQ = 5000;
24 const double IMU_FILTER_ALPHA = 0.5; //Alpha for accelerometer low pass filter
26 unsigned long nextSensorUpdate;
27 unsigned long nextIMURead;
28 double dt:
30 const uint8_t BITS[8] = { 0x01, 0x02, 0x04, 0x08, 0x10, 0x20, 0x40, 0x80 };
31 const uint8_t MASK[8] = { 0xFE, 0xFD, 0xFB, 0xF7, 0xEF, 0xDF, 0xBF, 0x7F };
33 #include "common.h"
```

Next, you should complete the <u>App Inventor + IoT Basic Connection</u> tutorial to make a basic connection to the Arduino device. If you prefer, you can download the completed .aia file <u>here</u>.

The remaining steps all build off of the the starter code for Basic Connection tutorial and .aia:

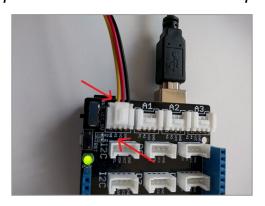
 Drag a Label from the User Interface Palette and drop it between LabelStatus and ListBLE

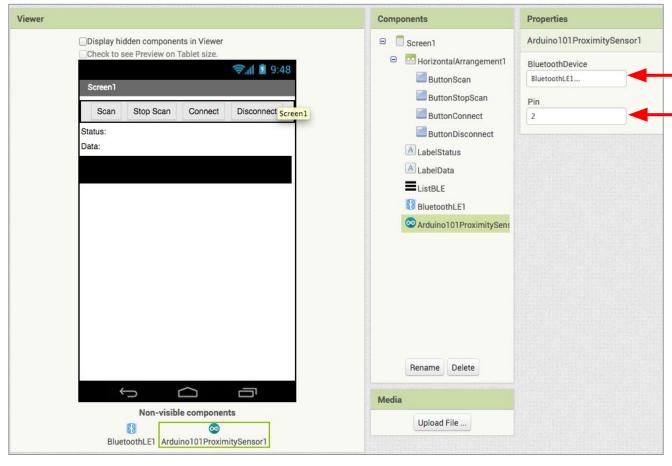


- Download the <u>Arduino101</u> extension pack to your computer.
- In the Palette, click on Extension at the bottom and then on "Import extension" and then "Choose File". Find the file on your computer and upload it.
- Add the Arduino101ProximitySensor extension to your app by dragging it onto the Viewer.

Next, we need to let App Inventor know which pin on the Grove board the proximity sensor is connected to.

- Click on **Ardunio101ProximitySensor1** in the Components pane.
- In the Properties pane under **Pin**, write in the <u>analog</u> pin that matches the one the proximity sensor is plugged into on the Grove board, (in this case A0).
 - Note: You only need to put the number (0), not the letter "A".
 - Another note: If your sensor wires look like the picture below, note that the yellow wire goes to the A1 pin, not A0 as you would think. Therefore, you should type the number 1 into the **Pin** property setting, not 0.





Now switch to the Blocks Editor view

First, we want to request data updates when the sensor value on the Arduino changes.

 from the Arduino101ProximitySensor1 drawer in the Blocks pane, add call Arduino101ProximitySensor1.RequestProximityUpdates to the existing when BluetoothLE1.Connected block you made in the Basic Connection tutorial.

Next, we need to store the data we receive from the sensor. From the Variables drawer in the docs pane, drag an **initialize global name to** block and name it "Proximity". From the Math drawer add a number block and set it to "0". We'll use this to keep track of the sensor value.

```
initialize global Proximity to 0
```

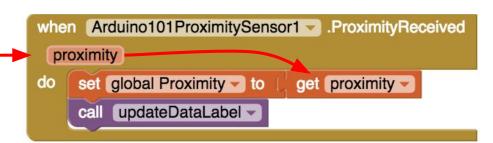
Let's make a new procedure to display the current readings in the **LabelData** when we get new data. You can create a procedure by dragging out a purple procedure block from the Procedures drawer in the Blocks pane. Let's rename it **updateDataLabel**.

- from LabelData in the Blocks pane, add set LabelData.Text to.
- from the Text drawer connect a join block.
 - From the Text drawer, connect a text block and type "Distance: ".
 - From the Variables drawer connect a **get global Proximity**.

```
to updateDataLabel
do set LabelData . Text to join "Distance: "
get global Proximity ...
```

Finally, we need to call the procedure when this data is received.

- From Arduino101ProximitySensor1 drag when
 Ardunio101ProximitySensor1.ProximitySensorDataReceived.
 - o from the Variables drawer, add set global light.
 - Hover over the orange "proximity" in .ProximityReceived to see the get proximity block. Drag the get proximity block from this window and snap to set global Proximity.
 - from the Procedures drawer, add call updateDataLabel.



Your app should now be working! Connect your Android device using the MIT Al2 Companion (if you haven't already). Test it out by moving your hand closer and farther away from the sensor. If it is working, you should see the data label change.

