# House Sensing workbook

## Part 1: Outline

ADD BASIC OUTLINE OF PROJECT

## Part 2: Planning

### Background research

#### What information is being displayed on the mobile application?

* Temperature;
* Humidity;
* Room Name; - To be named in program on hardware (Arduino / ESP8266)
* LED Strip’s On/Off State; - Is the LED strip powered
* LED Strip’s Colour; - RGB values
* Fan’s On/Off State; - POSSIBLE ADDITION
* LCD Screen Displaying Temp and Humidity and Room Name; - POSSIBLE ADDITION

#### What products are already available and what do they do?

Home automation systems and home heating Smart-meters already exist and have been on the market for a few years. British Gas already has a home heating application called HIVE that works with smart-meters to produce statistics on heating and energy usage, allowing the control of a houses heating from a mobile phone or computer.

#### Topics that require investigation

What ESP8266 board will be used?

What Temperature and Humidity Sensors will be used?

What format will the messages sent between the Hardware Circuit and the Android Application?

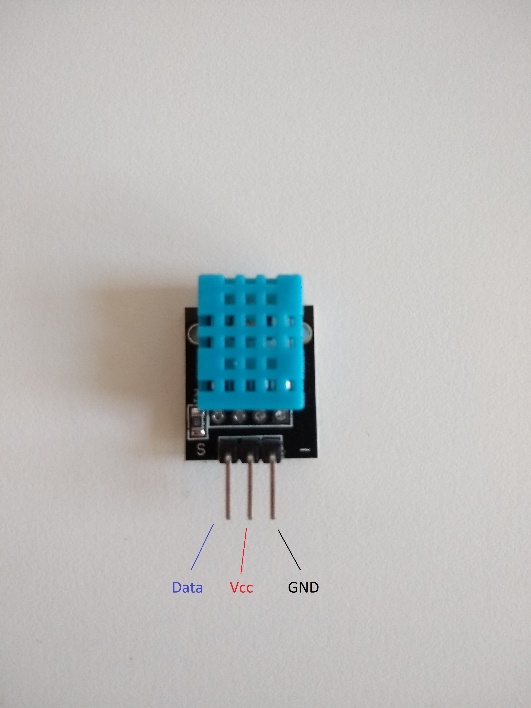
How will the LED Strip be controlled?

How will messages be transferred between the ESP8266 and the Arduino?

#### Results of investigation – strategic choices

**The WeMos D1 mini** is an ESP8266 board that has a built in USB-to-UART bridge, so a separate board isn’t required and it can be programmed directly. The board also has inbuilt voltage regulators allowing the board to be powered using 5V rather than the standard 3.3V for ESP boards. Furthermore, the chip can be powered via its micro-USB port which is useful as the ESP8266 chip consumes a lot of power compared to other components and it can be plugged directly into the mains power via a standard USB power adapter (5 volts, 1 amp). This requires a board manager (URL: <http://arduino.esp8266.com/stable/package_esp8266com_index.json>). When installing the board, the version of the driver is **2.4.2** and not the most recent version as there are issues with compiling and uploading to the board for certain libraries.

**The DHT11 Sensor** is a temperature and humidity sensor with three pins (DATA, VCC, GND). According to the product page on the Adafruit website (<https://www.adafruit.com/product/386>), the DHT11 temperature and humidity sensor can:

* Measure humidity between 20 and 80%, accurate to 5%;
* Measure temperature between 0 and 50°C, accurate to 2°C;
* Take readings once every second;

To access the sensor, the Arduino needs a couple of libraries. These libraries are:

* Adafruit’s Unified Sensor Library (<https://github.com/adafruit/Adafruit_Sensor>);
* Adafruit’s DHT Sensor Library (<https://github.com/adafruit/DHT-sensor-library>);

Both libraries can be downloaded and installed via the ArduinoIDE’s library manager.

**To control the LED Strip** a separate library will be used to minimize the length of the code. The library FTRGBLED by freetronics (<https://github.com/freetronics/FTRGBLED/> ) will be used to control the LED strips. This library was chosen as it deals with a variety of types of LED strips. A WS2801, the type being used of chip on the strip, makes each RGB LED addressable and individually controllable and is included in the types of LED strip controllers that can be controlled by the library.

Picture of one of the LED Strips that will be used. As can be seen in the picture, the strip has 4 wires: The power leads (Red and Black), the Clock wire (Yellow) and the Signal wire (Green).

**Software Serial**

For testing purposes, both the ESP8266 and the Arduino will remain plugged into the computer to monitor output, however when they are plugged in, there are issues with Sending messages via the Serial pins therefore a software solution is needed. This comes in the form of a pair of libraries both called SoftwareSerial. SoftwareSerial for the Arduino comes pre-installed on the ArduinoIDE, however a separate version of this must be downloaded for implementation on the ESP8266. The library must be downloaded online (<https://github.com/plerup/espsoftwareserial>) and installed manually. This library is implemented the same way as it would normally be implemented.

**MQTT** is the type of web protocol that will be used for the messages between the hardware and the mobile application. A library must be installed for the ESP8266 to implement this (<https://github.com/256dpi/arduino-mqtt>).

**JSON** stands for **J**ava**S**cript **O**bject **N**otation and it is a convenient format for messages as it treats them like an object with multiple values. ArduinoJSON (<https://arduinojson.org/>) is a library that allows the use of JSONObjects within the Arduino Code. The version installed is **5.13.2** as I have other projects that are being developed that are reliant on that version, however the library should still work as intended.

#### MoSCoW

**M**

* Get ESP8266 and Arduino working on the same serial;
* Temperature displayed on ESP8266/Arduino serial monitor;
* Humidity displayed on ESP8266/Arduino serial monitor;
* Communication between Android application and ESP8266 Chip; - connecting to MQTT broker.
* Temperature and Humidity displayed on android application;
* LED strip powered state changed manually;
* LED strip colour changed manually
* LED strip powered state displayed and changed via Android application;

**S**

* LED strip colour changed wirelessly;
* Multiple sets of ESP8266/Arduino connected sensors communicating with Android application;

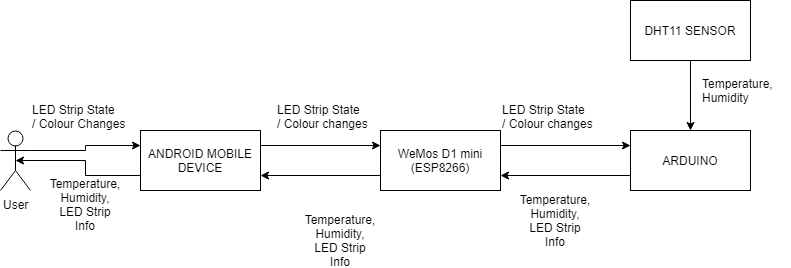
**C**

* Fan (DC MOTOR) powered dependent on temperature;
* Fan (DC MOTOR) powered state displayed on Android application;
* Scan for LCD I2C addresses connected to ESP8266/Arduino;
* Temp and Humidity displayed on LCD Screen **IF LCD AVAILABLE**;
* Wireless control of fan speed;
* House the hardware components in a project box or shell, making it visually appealing;

**W**

### Design

#### System overview diagram



#### List of system elements and their requirements

**Main System Elements:**

* **Android Application** – Programmed using Processing 3+;

INPUTS (From Circuit):

Temperature, Humidity, LED Strip info (ON/OFF/COLOUR), Fan info;

INPUTS (From User):

LED Strip state/colour changes;

OUTPUTS (To ESP8266/ARDUINO):

LED Strip state/colour changes;

OUTPUTS (To User):

Temperature, Humidity, LED Strip info (ON/OFF/COLOUR), Fan info;

* **ESP8266 Circuit** – Programmed using the Arduino IDE;

INPUTS (From Arduino):

Temperature, Humidity, LED Strip Info (ON/OFF/COLOUR), Fan Info;

INPUTS (From Mobile):

LED state/colour changes;

OUTPUTS (To Arduino):

LED state/colour changes;

OUTPUTS (To Mobile):

Temperature, Humidity, LED Strip Info (ON/OFF/COLOUR), Fan Info;

* **Arduino**;

INPUT (From Sensors):

Temperature, Humidity;

INPUT (From ESP8266):

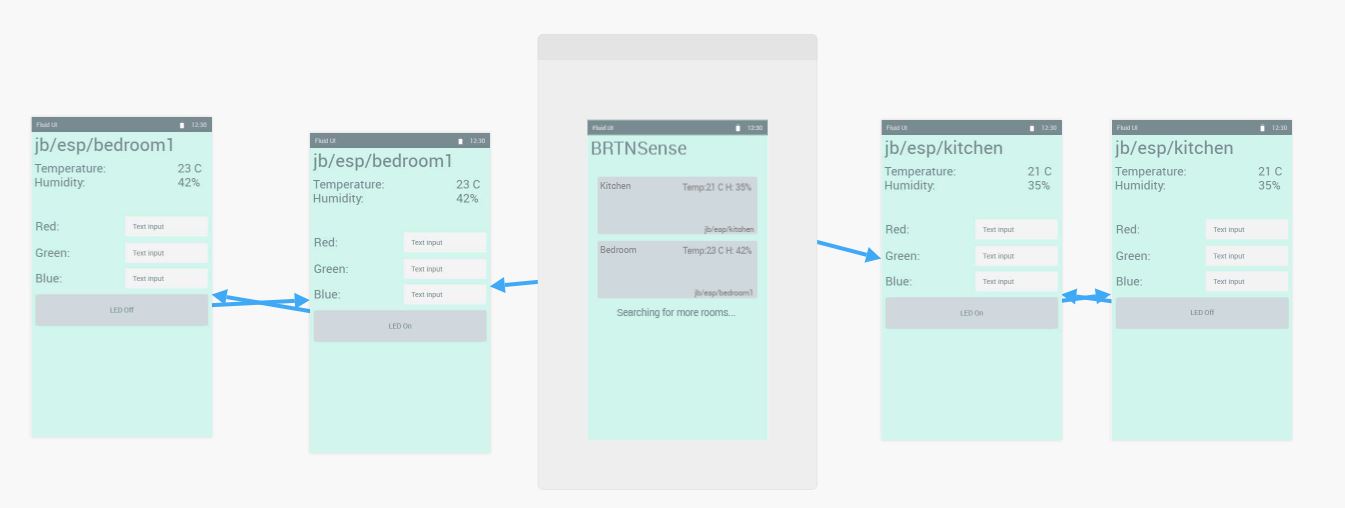
LED state/colour changes;

OUTPUT (To ESP8266):

Temperature, Humidity, LED Strip Info (ON/OFF/COLOUR), Fan Info;

The Arduino application will be written using Processing 3+ and will communicate via Wi-Fi to the ESP8266 and the ESP8266 will relay those messages to the Arduino via the Rx and Tx Serial wires.

#### Wireframes



#### Challenges expected

The main difficulties will be within the Android Processing Application and this may result in the Android Studio IDE being used instead. This will require a large amount of new research into using Android Studio AND will likely mean that the final product application will be of a lower quality. However, the Android Processing application could be an early prototype on the Mobile Application side with a future version of the application being built on Android Studio.

Additionally, the format of the message sent by both sides of the wireless communication could prove an issue due to some corruption in the message as it is transferred due to loose wires and connections etc.

### Project plan

#### Order of development

1. Set up shiftr.io account and relevant Namespace. This will be the broker for the MQTT messages that are being sent between the Mobile Application and the ESP8266.
2. Develop a Hardware prototype that only deals with taking in temperature and humidity data and printing it to the Serial.
3. Add LED strip to the circuit
4. Add WeMos D1 mini to the circuit programming it to send temperature data via the MQTT broker.
5. Make basic app to test the MQTT broker and show the temperature and humidity data
6. Add method to send a message via MQTT to the circuit
7. Use this message to turn on the LED Strip
8. Add way to transmit RGB value via JSON to the circuit for the LED Strip
9. Add a second room with controls
10. Clean up app and hardware making it more presentable

#### Time schedule

The time given for this project is approximately 4 weeks, with aims for main development to be completed by the end of week 3 and beautification occurring during week 4.

## Part 3: Implementation

### Arduino

#### Software specification

(eg. What standards, interfaces, constraints do you need to work with?)

There are multiple constraints with the development of the Hardware implementation, with memory being the main one. This is because both the Arduino and the WeMos D1 have limited memory and storage which, in turn, limits the size and complexity of code that can be written. ArduinoIDE will be used to program both the WeMos D1 and the Arduino boards, with full commentary throughout the code. Additionally, a GitHub repository will be used for version control for both the files for the Arduino and the Mobile Application.

### Processing Android application

#### Software specification

(eg. What standards, interfaces, constraints do you need to work with?)

### Integration

#### Problems encountered and solutions found

#### Description of final version

(Including, for example, links to code repository, screenshots, code snippets, etc.)

#### Limitations of final version

## Part 6: Testing

### Test plan

#### Test

(What tests does this element need to pass?)

#### Test results

## Part 7: Problems Encountered

### LED Strip not working as expected

#### Problem

Using an example script provided by the study material

#### Solution

## Part 8: Evaluation / Conclusion

## REFERENCES

<https://www.adafruit.com/product/386> – DHT11 HUMIDITY SENSOR

<https://github.com/freetronics/FTRGBLED/> - FTRGBLED LIBRARY

*PROJECT BOX*