Micro-ROS

Installation

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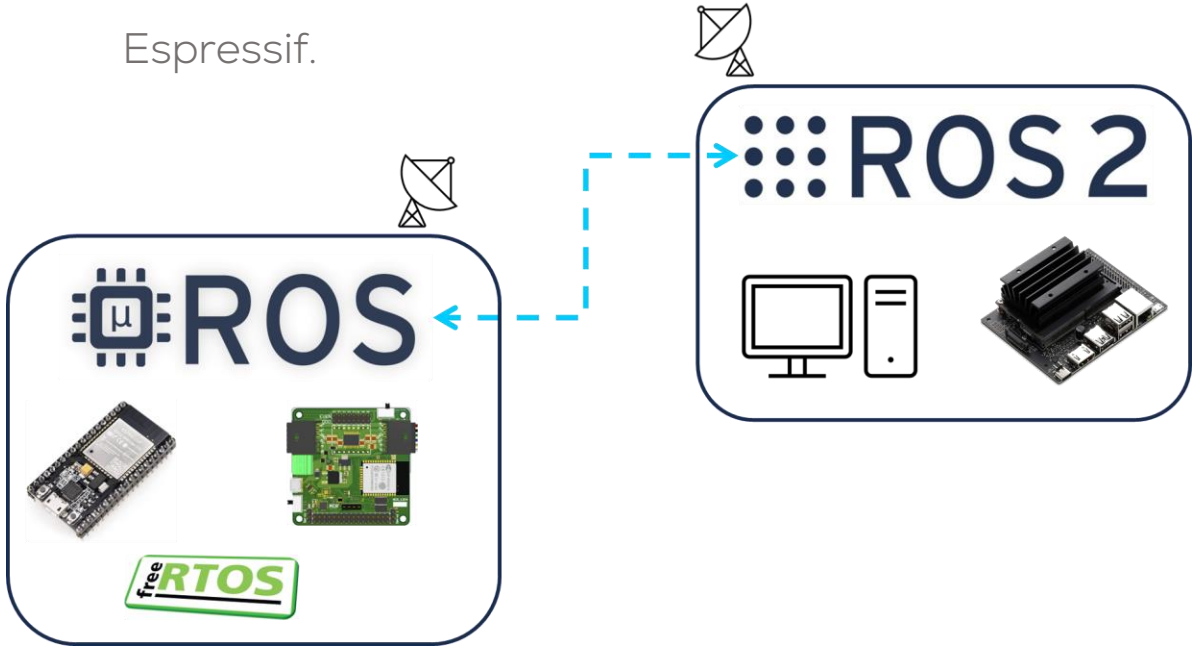
micro-ros

- Micro-ros is a tool that bridges the gap between resource-constrained microcontrollers and larger processors in robotic applications that are based on the Robot Operating System.
- The installation of micro-ros is divided in two parts.
    1. Installing the “agent” on an Ubuntu-based system with ROS 2, which is the firmware in charge of communicating with the microcontroller from the computer.
    2. Installing the microcontroller libraries required to compile the microcontroller code.
- This tutorial will show how to install both libraires for Ubuntu 22.04 with ROS2 Humble.
- micro-ros_arduino libraries for the Arduino IDE.
- The microcontroller to be used is the ESP32 by Espressif.



Ubuntu

micro-ros agent installation

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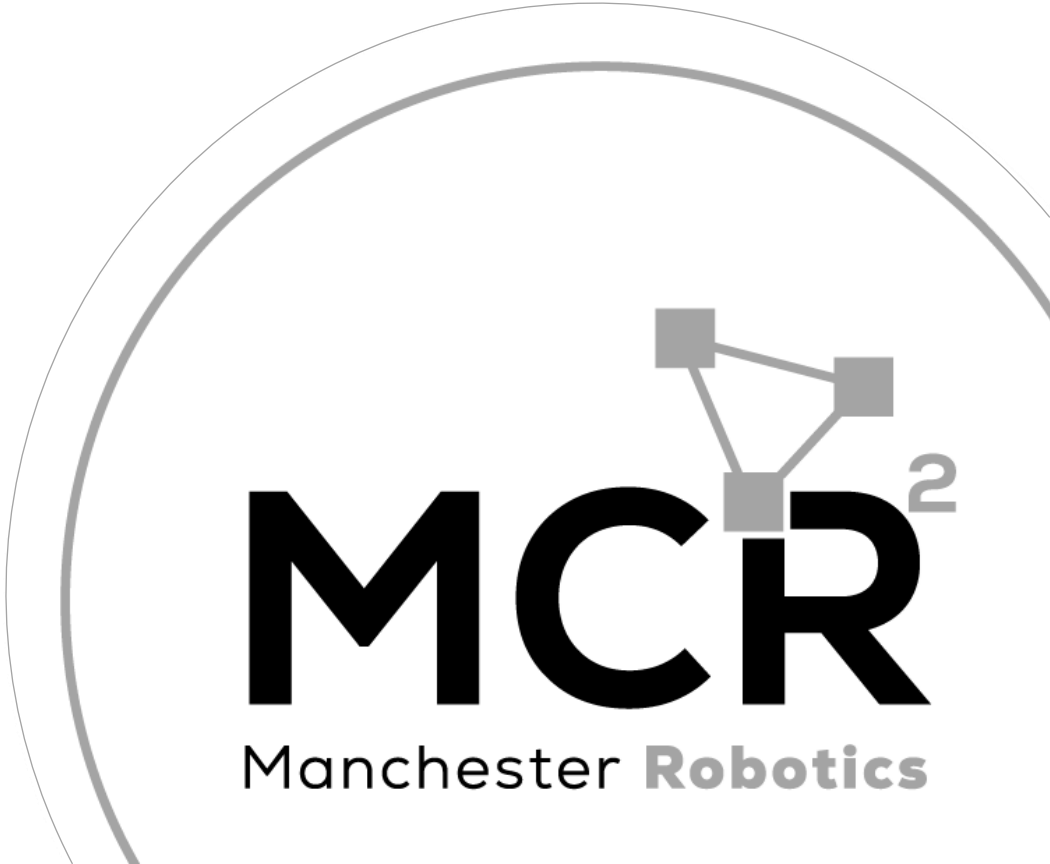

micro-ros agent installation

```
Create a ROS 2 workspace and build this package
for ROS2 Humble


$ source /opt/ros/humble/setup.bash
$ mkdir uros_ws && cd uros_ws
$ git clone -b humble https://github.com/micro-
ROS/micro_ros_setup.git src/micro_ros_setup

$ sudo apt update -y
$ sudo apt upgrade -y
$ sudo apt full-upgrade -y
$ sudo apt autoremove -y
$ sudo apt autoclean -y
$ sudo apt purge

Install and update dependencies

$ sudo rosdep init
$ rosdep update && rosdep install --from-paths src
--ignore-src -y
```

```
Build package

$ sudo apt install python3-pip -y
$ colcon build
$ source install/local_setup.sh

$ ros2 run micro_ros_setup create_agent_ws.sh
$ ros2 run micro_ros_setup build_agent.sh
$ source install/local_setup.sh

$ echo "source ~/uros_ws/install/local_setup.bash"
>> ~/.bashrc

Port Permissions
$ dmesg | grep tty
$ sudo chmod a+rw /dev/tty*
$ sudo usermod -a -G dialout $USER
```

micro-ros agent installation

- To test the installation, type the following.

```
$ ros2 run micro_ros_agent micro_ros_agent serial --dev /dev/ttyUSB
```

```
mario@MarioPC:~/uros_ws$ ros2 run micro_ros_agent mi
cro_ros_agent serial --dev /dev/ttyUSB0
[1737636664.930367] info     | TermiosAgentLinux.cpp
 | init                     | running...
 | fd: 3
[1737636664.931147] info     | Root.cpp              |
set_verbose_level        | logger setup          |
verbose_level: 4
```

- For now, nothing is published since no microcontroller is connected to the computer.
- In the next section, the instructions for installing micro-ros libraries for Arduino will be shown.

Ubuntu

Arduino IDE Configuration

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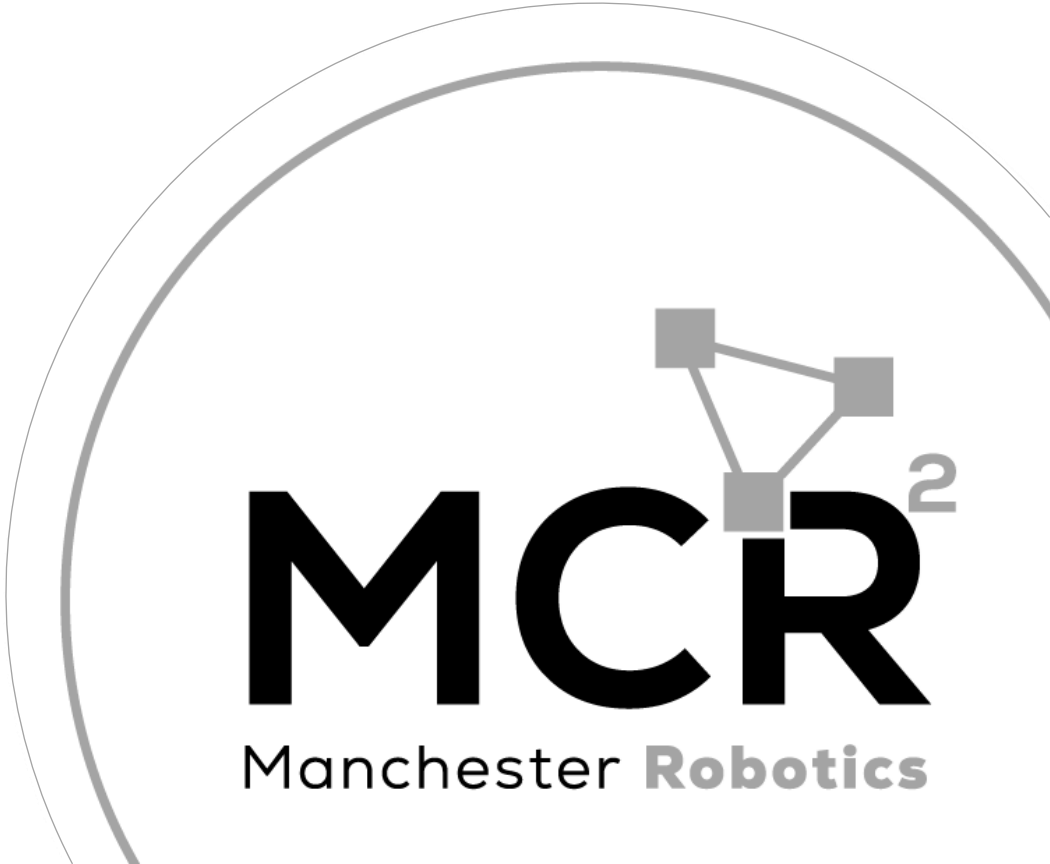
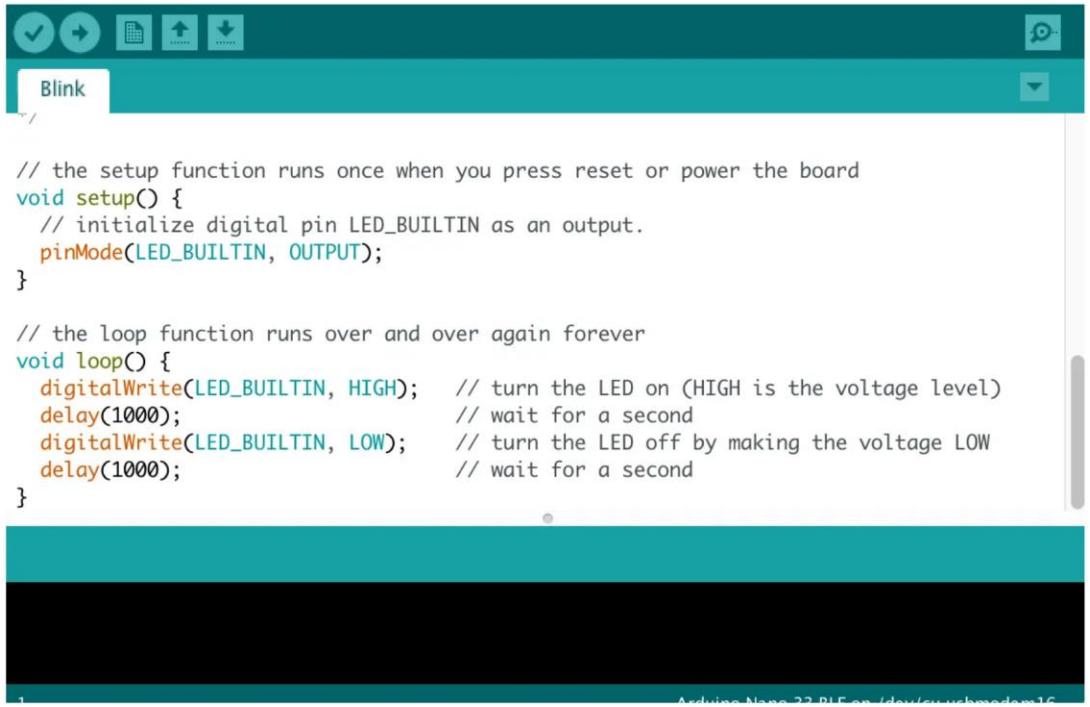


Arduino IDE

Configuring the Arduino IDE

- The Arduino and Arduino IDE are great tools for quickly and easily programming hardware.
- The micro_ros_arduino package, allows the usage of ROS directly with the Arduino IDE.
- micro_ros_arduino provides an ROS communication protocol that works with your Arduino's UART.
- micro_ros_arduino, allows Arduino to be a ROS node which can directly publish and subscribe to ROS messages, publish TF transforms, and get the ROS system time.
- Arduino IDE can also be used to program the Hackerboard and other microcontrollers like the ESP32.



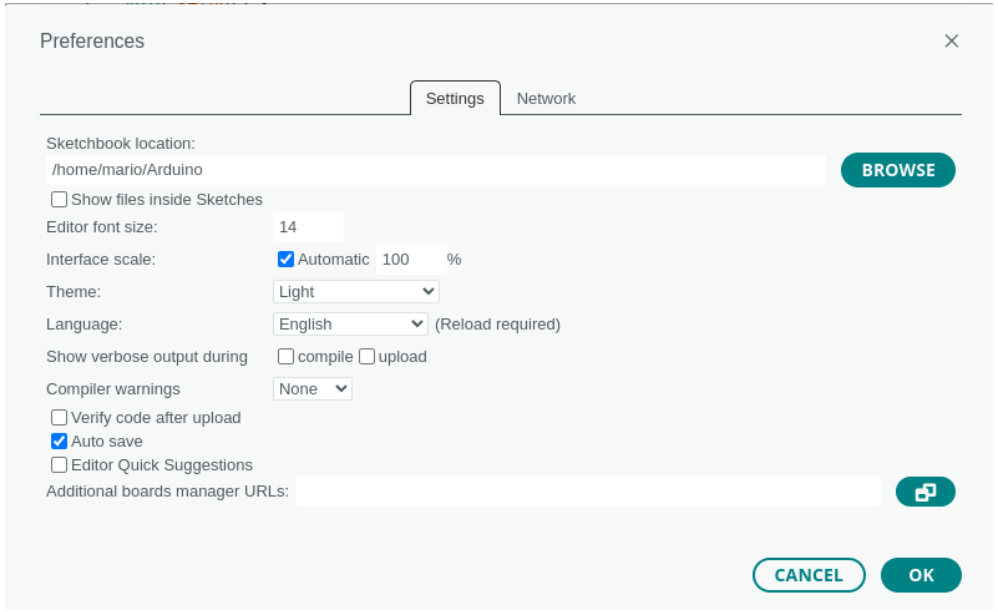
Arduino IDE

Arduino IDE

Installation

- Download the Arduino IDE from the website.
- Install the Arduino IDE application into a folder on the desktop (Windows), or home folder (Ubuntu).
- Follow the installation instructions for Windows and Linux here.
- Once installed, launch the application if you want to select your sketchbook location (File››Preferences››Sketchbook location).
    - Sketchbook is a standard place to store your programs, or sketches.
- Close the IDE when done.

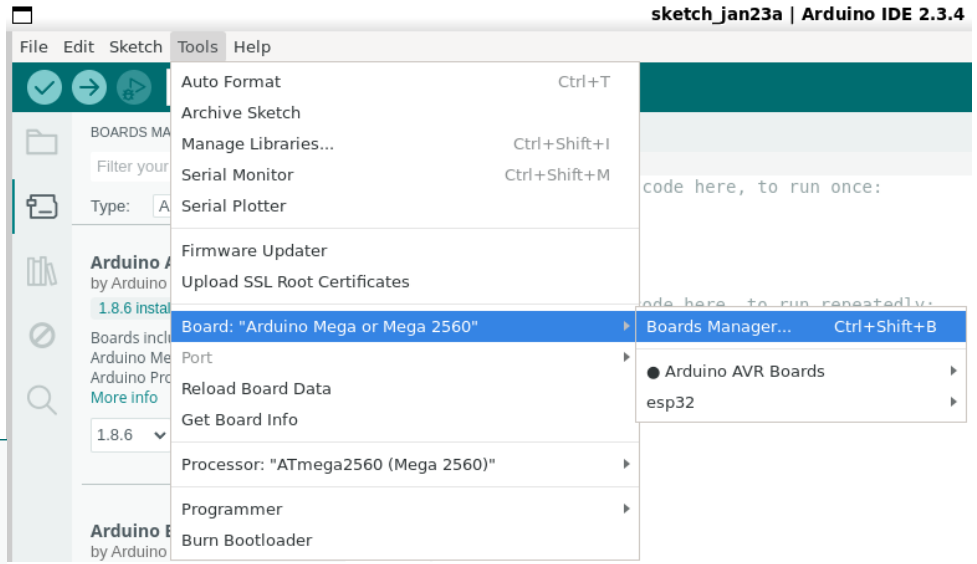
Note: The Arduino IDE can be installed in the Virtual Machine, following the same steps.

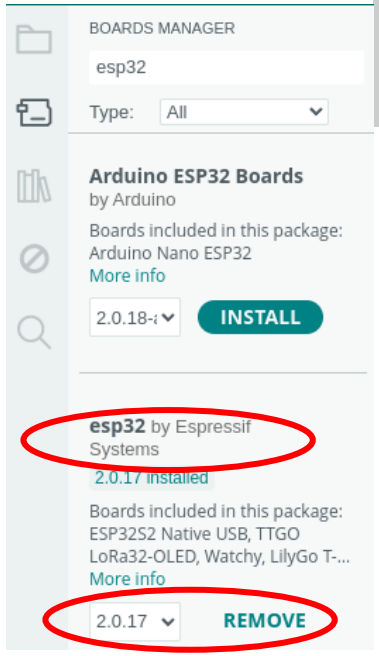


Arduino IDE-ESP32 Setup

Arduino IDE – ESP32 and Hackerboard setup

- To install the ESP32 libraries simply
- Open the Arduin IDE
- Go to Tools››Board››Boards Manager
- In the search bar of the left panel type “esp32”
- Select the “esp32 by Espressif”
- Select the **version 2.0.17 NOT THE NEWEST!! IS NOT FULLY COMPATIBLE WITH MICRO-ROS!**
- DO NOT UPGRADE THE LIBRARY!
- Press “Install”
- Test the installation using the example (at the end) here or here.

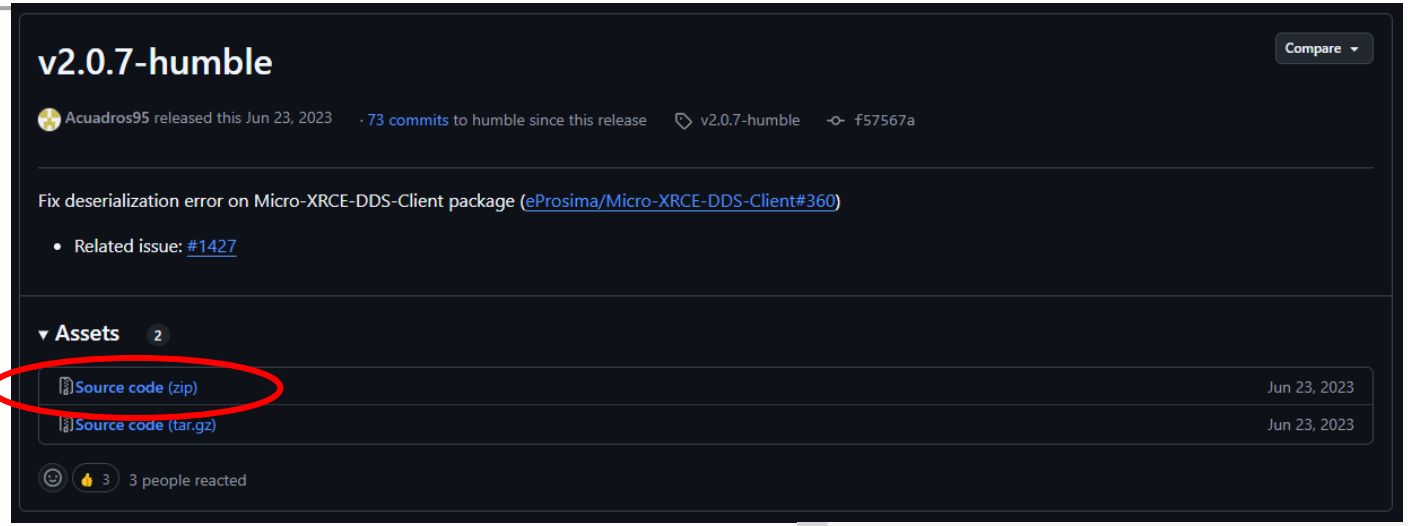


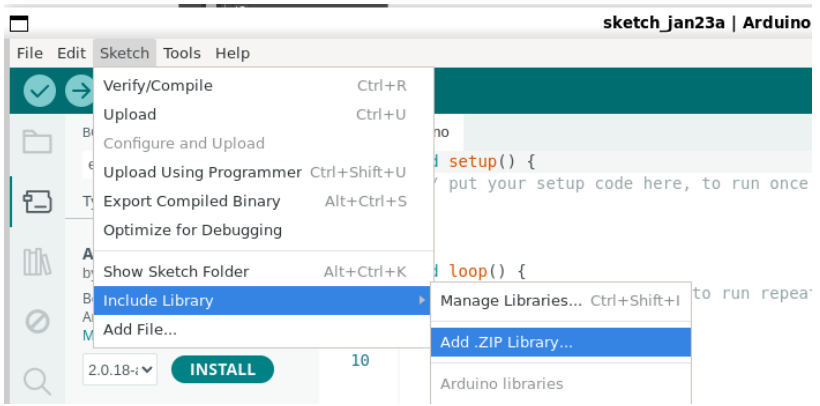


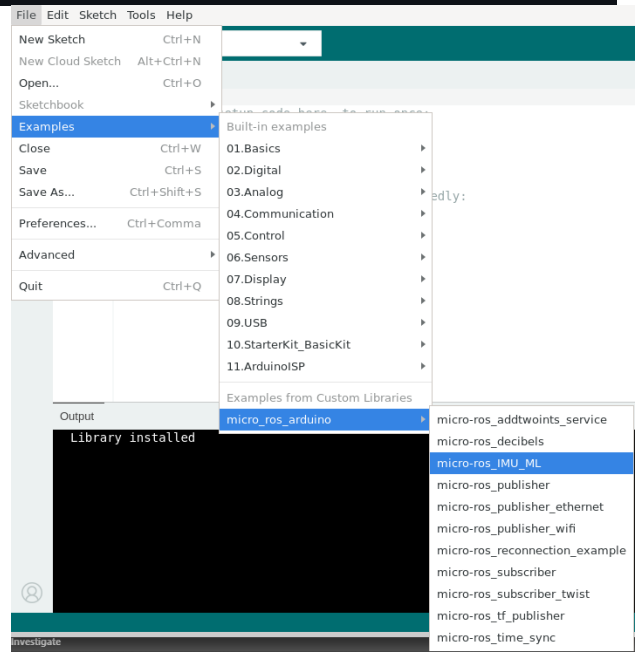
micro-ros-arduino Setup

micro-ros setup (windows/ubuntu)

1. Download the “micro_ros_arduino” package here
2. Click on **the v2.07-humble version** (stable)
3. Download “Source code.zip”
4. Open Arduino IDE
5. Go to Sketch>>Include Library>>Add .ZIP Library
6. Select the “micro_ros_arduino-2.0.7-humble.zip” library you downloaded in the first step.
7. Restart the Arduino IDE
8. If properly installed, you should be able to see the examples File>>Examples>micro_ros_arduino



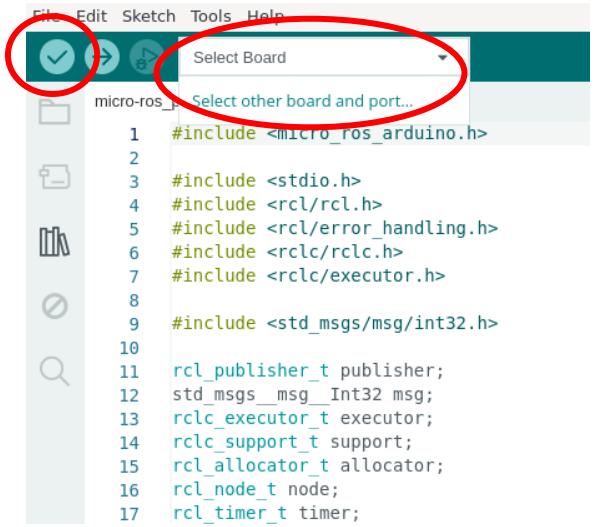


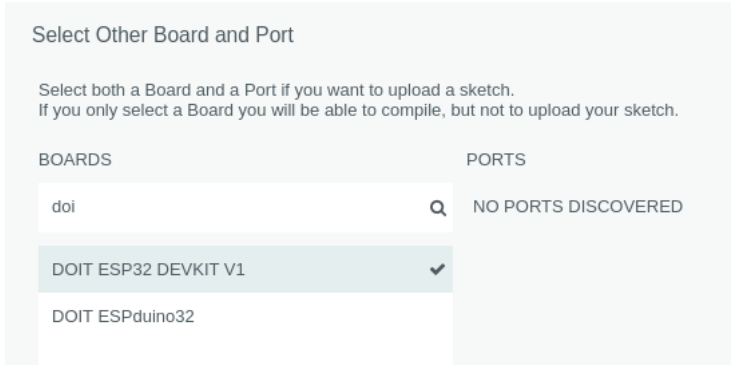


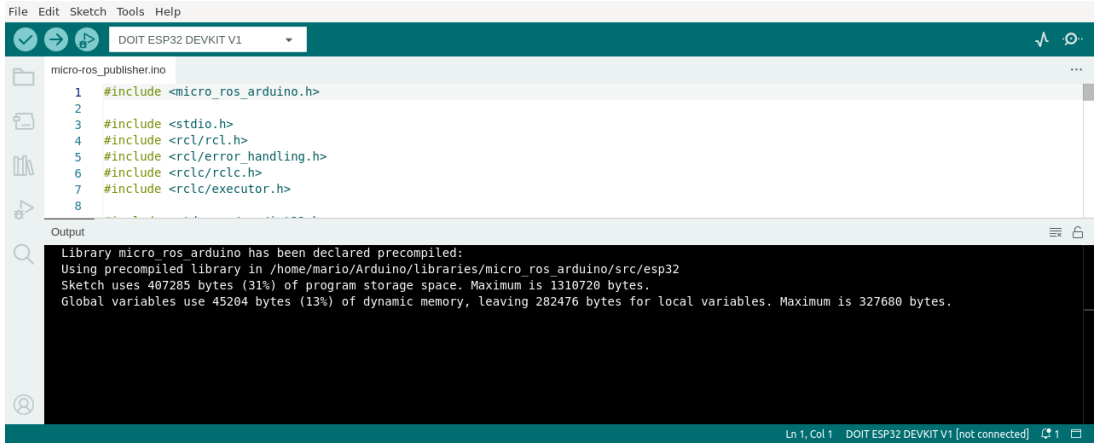
micro-ros-arduino Setup

micro-ros verification

1. Open the example micro-ros_publisher
2. Compile the example by selecting on the “Select Board” bar “DOIT ESP32 DEVKIT V1”
3. Click in the check mark at in the top left bar to compile.
4. The program should compile correctly.
5. If not, go to the Troubleshoot section of this presentation.







Port Permissions (Ubuntu)

- To use Arduino or the ESP32 in Ubuntu, the user must give permissions to the system for accessing ports.
- Make sure the port permissions are granted for the user.
  - In a new terminal type `cd ~/dev` to visualise the port designated by Ubuntu to the MCU. This port are usually called `/ttyACM0` or `/ttyUSB0`.
  - Having obtained the name of the port type the correspondent command to enable the permissions (replace the asterisk with the port number).

```
sudo chmod 666 /dev/ttyACM*
sudo chmod 666 /dev/ttyUSB*
```

- To make the change permanently, follow the steps here.

WSL (Windows Subsystem for Linux)

- To install the Arduino IDE on WSL follow the next steps.

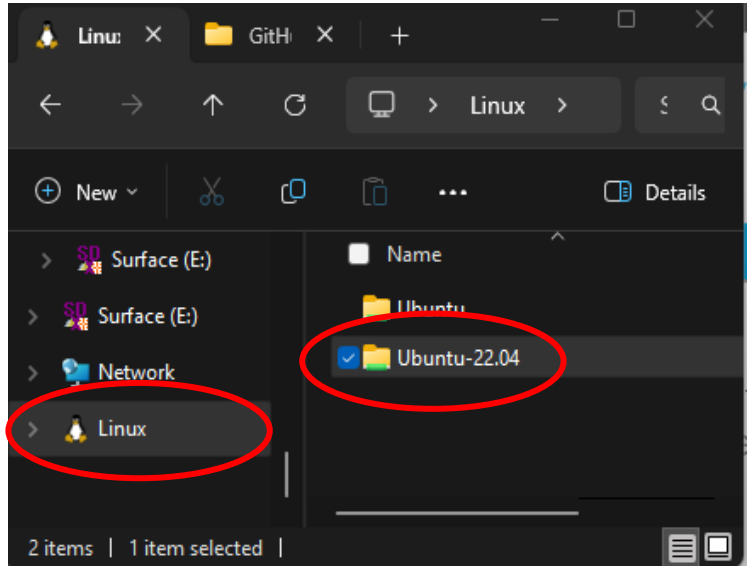
1. Install the Nautilus (File manager)

```
$ sudo apt install nautilus -y (Ubuntu Window)
$ sudo apt-get update && sudo apt-get upgrade
$ nautilus
(After nautilus window pop-up, close it) (Ubuntu Window)
```

2. Download Arduino IDE Linux AppImage under Windows

3. Copy the file using the Windows File Explorer (open a folder) then select the file and copy it or move it to Linux

```
Ubuntu-22.04/home/$USER$/
```



- Give executable permissions and update the libraries to the file in Ubuntu

```
$ chmod u+x arduino-ide_2.0.3_Linux_64bit.AppImage
$ sudo apt-get update && sudo apt-get upgrade
$ sudo apt-get install -y libgbm-dev
$ nautilus
$ Double Click AppImage File & Wait for Arduino to
   Download Packages
```

WSL (Windows Subsystem for Linux)

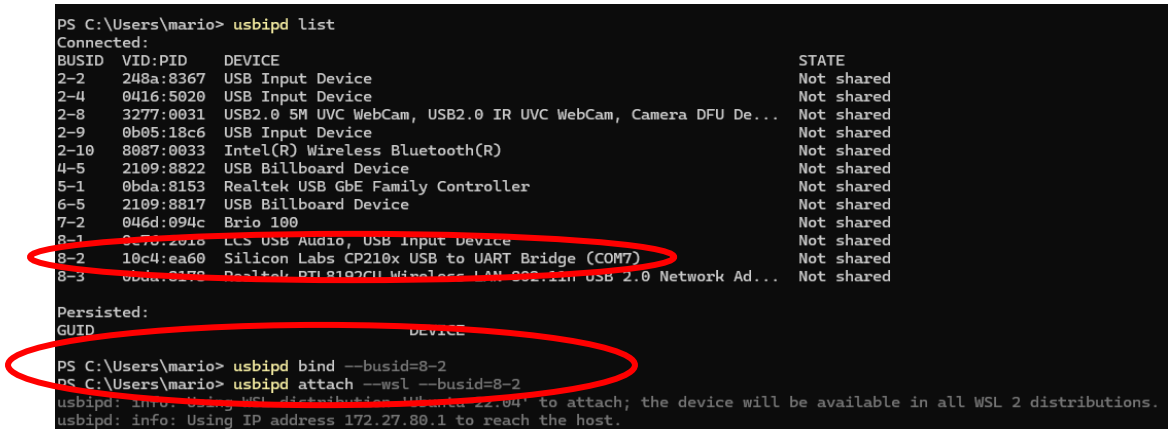
- To access the USB Port from WSL Install the “usbipd-win” package in windows.
- More information here and here.

1.
```
winget install usbipd
```
2. Attach Arduino/ESP32 Board with PC through USB
3. Make Sure Com Port Appears in Device Manager (Windows)
4. Install COM port Drivers If required (Windows)
5. Restart Powershell and run as admin

```
usbipd list
usbipd bind --busid=BUSID
usbipd attach --wsl --busid= BUSID
```

6. To finish the session

```
usbipd detach --busid= BUSID
```



- In Linux, check that the port is displayed and provide port permissions as shown previously. Now, you can work as normal in WLS. Do not forget to detach at the end of the session.

```
$ cd /dev
$ ls
```

Testing

Testing installation

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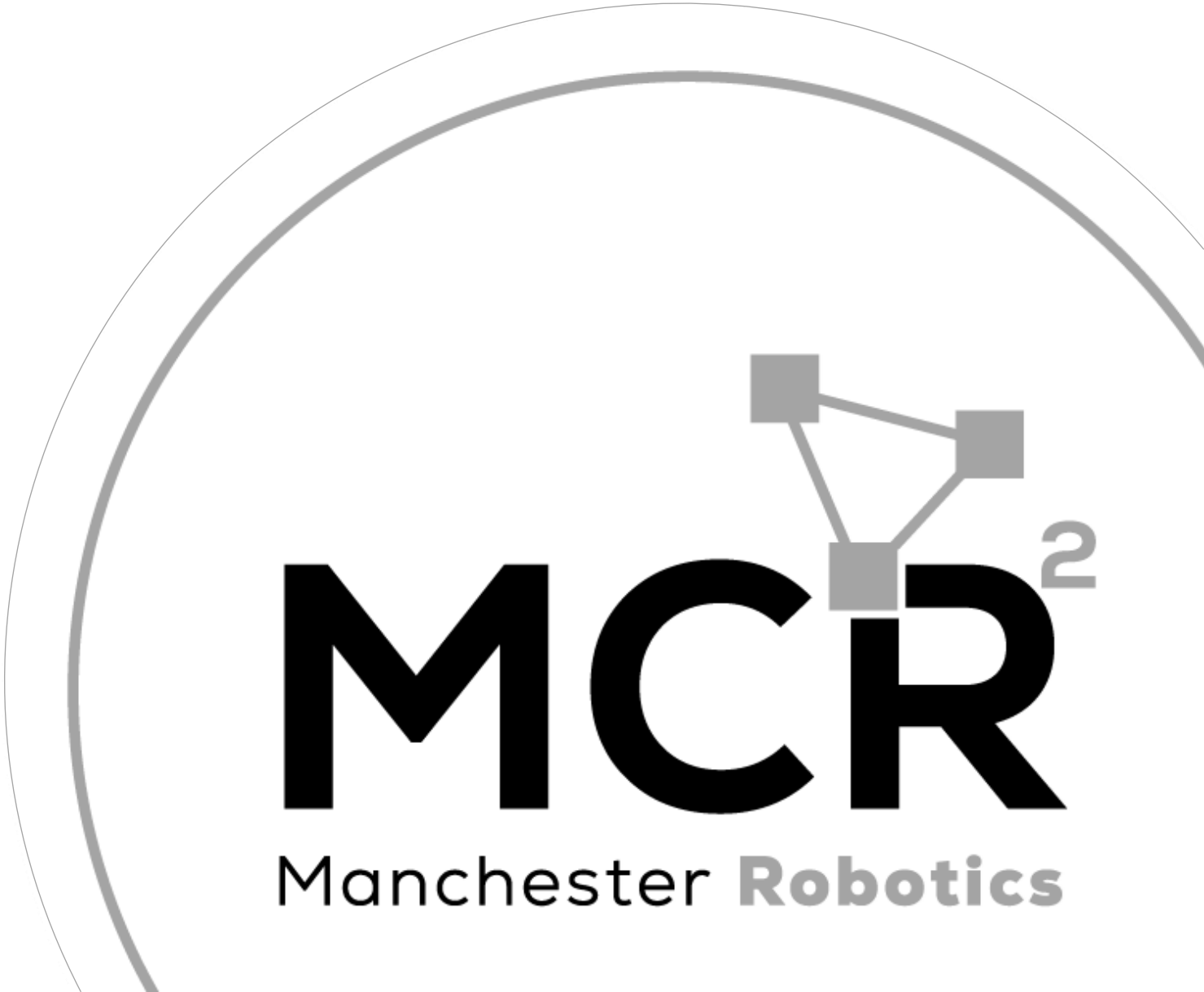
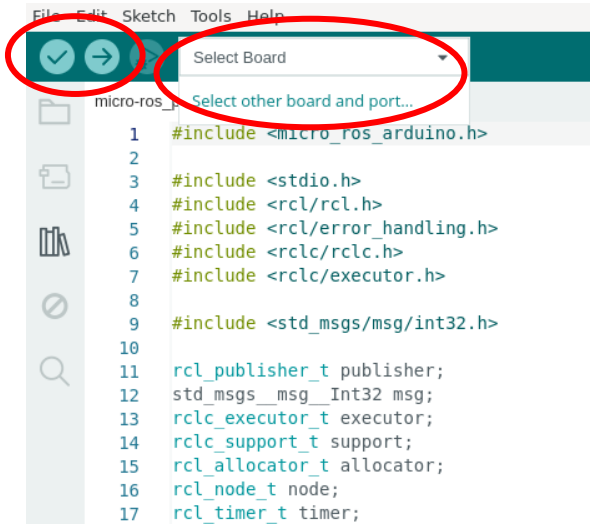
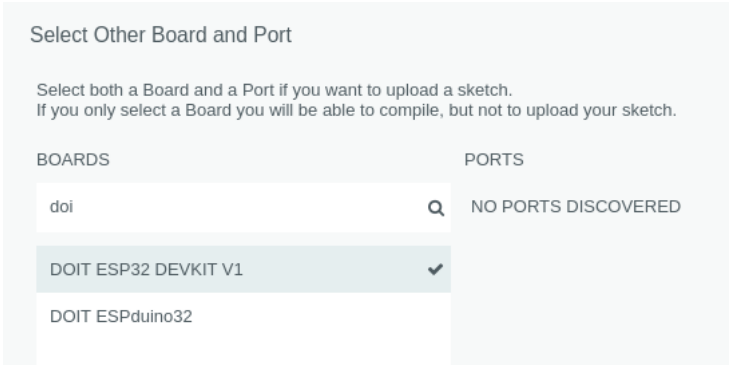


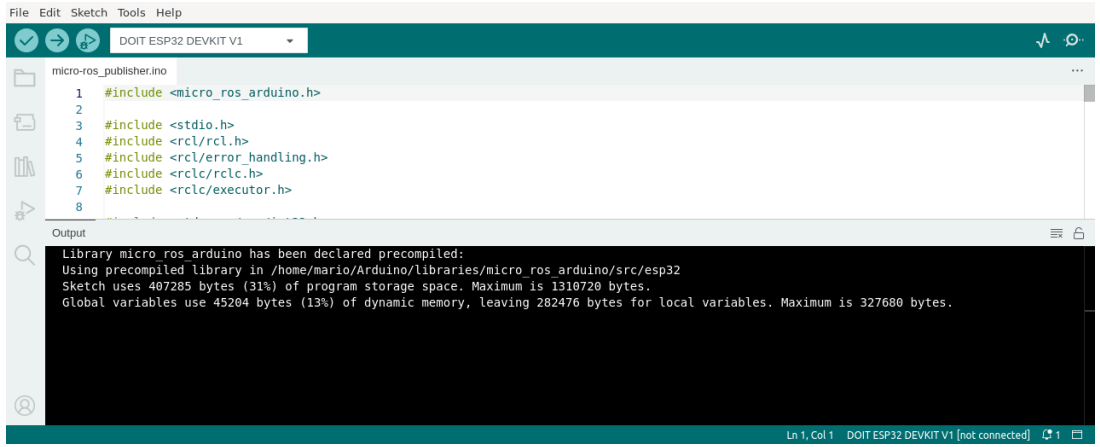
Testing installation

Test

1. Open the example micro-ros_publisher on Arduino IDE
2. Compile and upload the example by selecting on the “Select Board” bar “DOIT ESP32 DEVKIT V1”
3. Click on the arrow in the top left bar to compile.
    1. (WSL) If using WSL check how to access serial ports in the previous section.
    2. (Ubuntu) Verify that the ports have permissions in Ubuntu.
    3. (Windows) Verify the correct ports are selected in Windows and that the drivers are installed (troubleshoot section)
4. The program should compile and upload correctly.







Testing installation

Test

1. Open another terminal and type the following.

```
$ ros2 run micro_ros_agent micro_ros_agent serial --dev /dev/ttyUSB0
```

2. Reset the ESP32 (pressing the reset button) to reconnect to the computer.

```
mario@MarioPC:~/uros_ws$ ros2 run micro_ros_agent mi
cro_ros_agent serial --dev /dev/ttyUSB0
[1737636692.137695] info     | TermiosAgentLinux.cpp
 | init                     | running...
 | fd: 3
[1737636692.138467] info     | Root.cpp           |
set_verbose_level        | logger setup          |
verbose_level: 4
[1737636698.665805] info     | Root.cpp           |
create_client            | create                |
client_key: 0x0C9424D2, session_id: 0x81
[1737636698.666090] info     | SessionManager.hpp |
establish_session        | session established   |
client_key: 0x0C9424D2, address: 0
[1737636698.702311] info     | ProxyClient.cpp    |
create_participant       | participant created   |
client_key: 0x0C9424D2, participant_id: 0x000(1)
[1737636698.721583] info     | ProxyClient.cpp    |
create_topic             | topic created         |
client_key: 0x0C9424D2, topic_id: 0x000(2), particip
ant_id: 0x000(1)
[1737636698.733573] info     | ProxyClient.cpp    |
create_publisher         | publisher created     |
client_key: 0x0C9424D2, publisher_id: 0x000(3), part
```

1. Open another terminal and type the following.

```
$ ros2 topic list
```

```
mario@MarioPC:~$ ros2 topic list
/micro_ros_arduino_node_publisher
/parameter_events
/rosout
```

2. Echo the topic

   “/micro_ros_arduino_node_publisher”

```
$ ros2 topic echo /micro_ros_arduino_node_publisher
```

```
mario@MarioPC:~$ ros2 topic echo /micro_ros_arduino_
node_publisher
data: 30
---
data: 31
---
data: 32
---
```

Troubleshoot

Common problems with Arduino IDE

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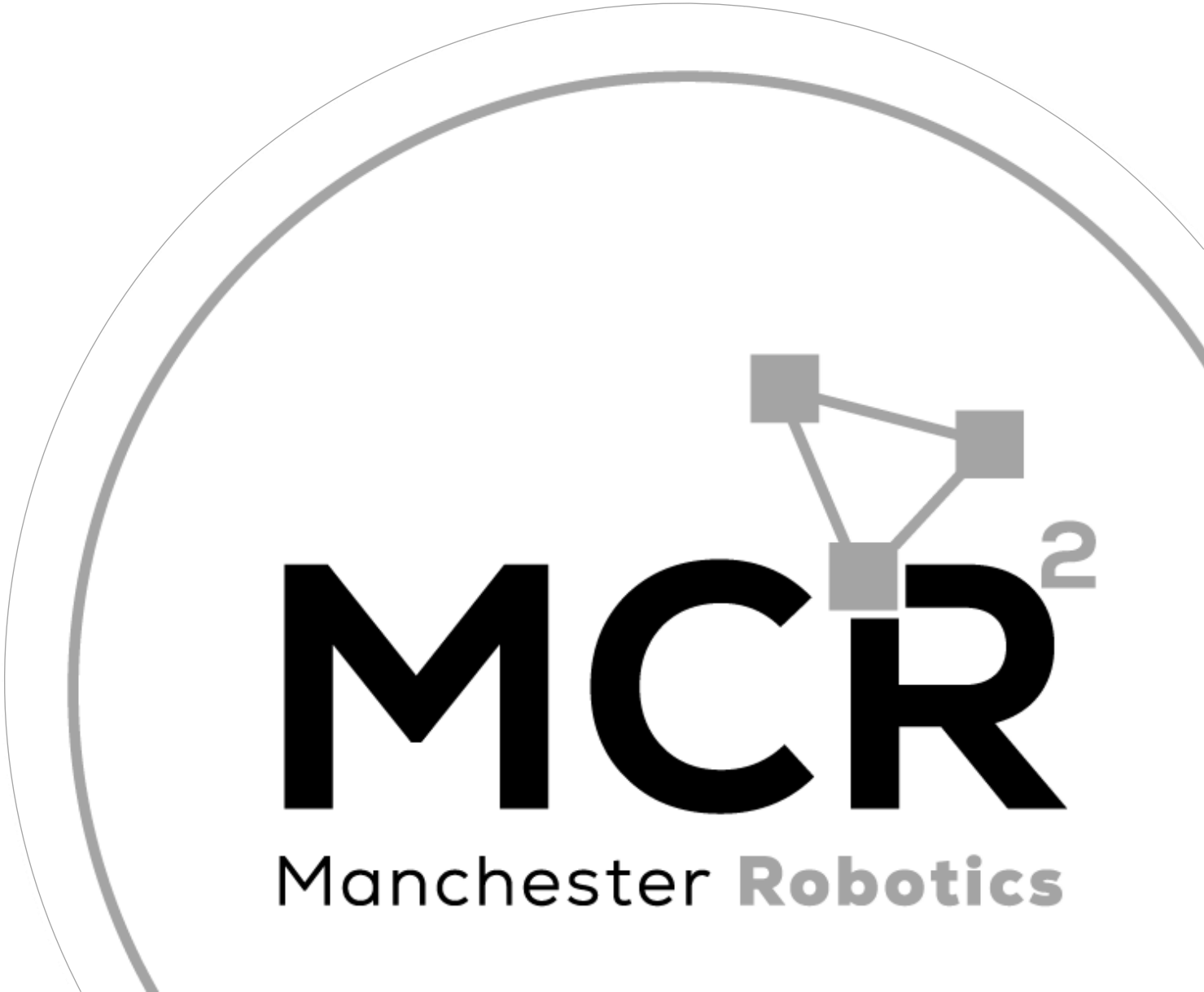
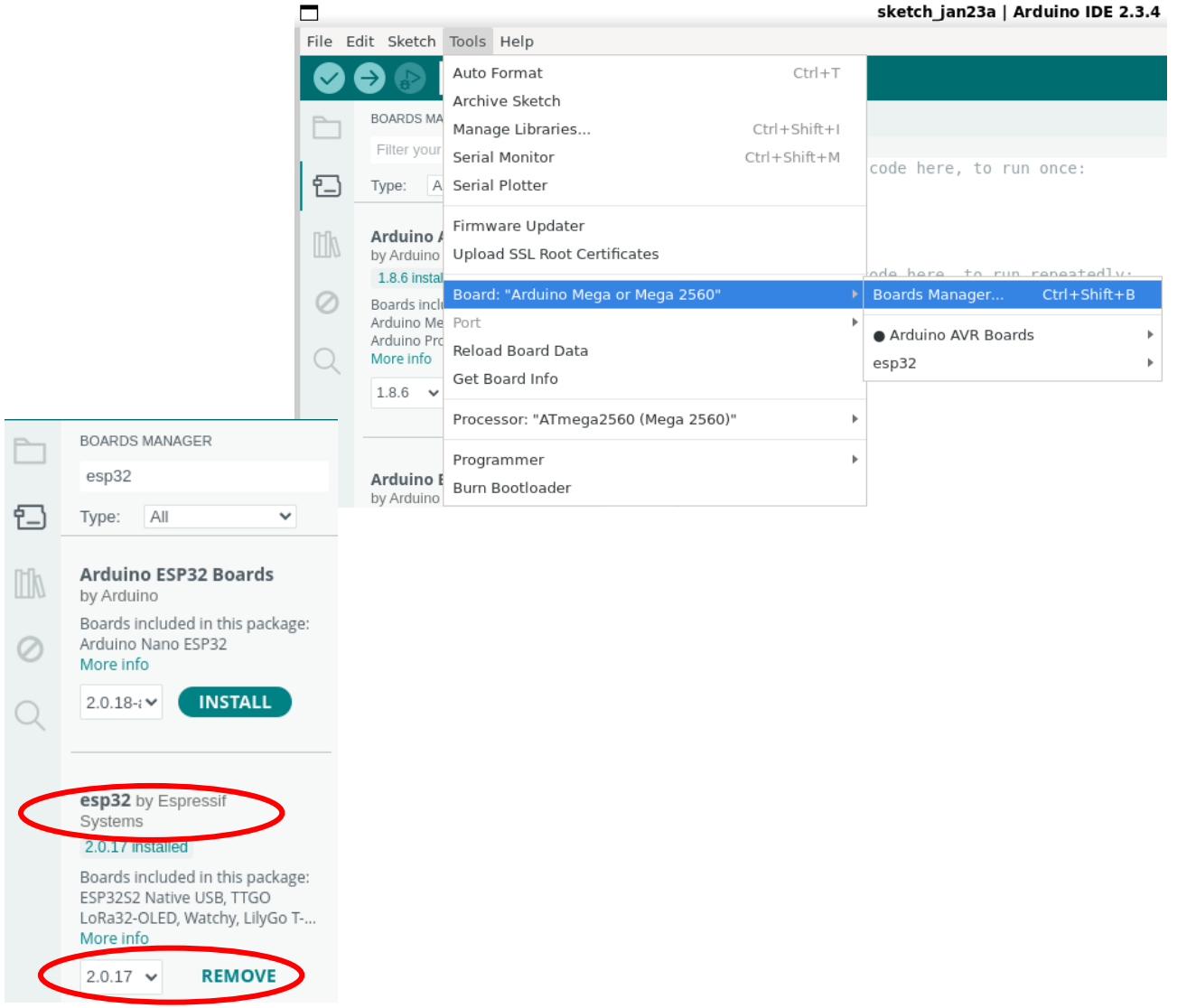


Arduino IDE-ESP32 Setup

Troubleshoot

- If the “esp32 by Espressif” is not available follow one of the next tutorials.
- Simple tutorial (not official)
  - Simple tutorial Arduino IDE 2.0 (not official)
  - Espressif Tutorial (official)
  - Official Github
- Connect the Hackerboard/ESP32 to the computer.
- Test the installation using the example (at the end) here or here.



USB Ports in VM

- When connecting a USB to a VM several steps must be performed for the virtual machine to be able to recognise the USB Port from the host computer. More information can be found here.
- Make sure the correct drivers for the device are installed in the host computer. More information can be found here.
- Give permissions to the VM to access the USB ports of the host machine. More information can be found here and here.

A video tutorial on how to connect USB devices to the VMWare Player can be found here.

Troubleshoot

Troubleshooting

- When compiling for the ESP32 the following error appears

"Missing Python: "python": executable file not found in $PATH"

To avoid this error, you can install the python-is-python3 package to create the symbolic links.

sudo apt install python-is-python3

- When compiling the following error appears

"ImportError: No module named serial"

To avoid this error, install the pyserial library

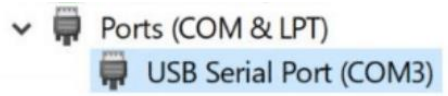
sudo apt install python3-pip
pip3 install pyserial

Additional Troubleshoot can be found here, here and here.

Troubleshoot

Troubleshoot (Drivers)

- Drivers are usually installed automatically by Windows and Ubuntu even for the Virtual Machines.
- How do I know if the drivers are properly installed (Windows)?
  - Plug the Puzzle-Bot into the USB port.
  - Go to Start › Device Manager
  - The Serial port should appear as shown in the following figure (The COM port may vary).



- If the computer cannot find the drivers, download the drivers from the following link

  https://ftdichip.com/drivers/vcp-drivers/

- Verify that the USB cable is a data cable and not only a power cable!

- Scroll down and download the executable setup as shown in the following figure

Operating System	Release Date	X86 (32-Bit)	X64 (64-Bit)	PPC	ARM	MIPSII	MIPSIV	SH4	Comments
Windows*	2021-07-15	2.12.36.4	2.12.36.4	-	-	-	-	-	WHQL Certified. Includes VCP and D2XX. Available as a setup executable Please read the Release Notes and Installation Guides.
Linux	-	-	1.5.0	-	-	-	-	-	All FTDI devices now supported in Ubuntu 11.10, kernel 3.0.0-19 Refer to TN-101 if you need a custom VCP VID/PID in Linux VCP drivers are integrated into the kernel.
Mac OS X 10.3 to 10.8	2012-08-10	2.2.18	2.2.18	2.2.18	-	-	-	-	Refer to TN-105 if you need a custom VCP VID/PID in MAC OS
Mac OS X 10.9 to 10.14	2019-12-24	-	2.4.4	-	-	-	-	-	This driver is signed by Apple

Before Installing the drivers!!

- Unplug the Puzzle-Bot from the computer.
- Unzip the drivers and run the setup (some computers are required to be restarted after the installation).
- Plug the Puzzle-Bot back into the computer.

Troubleshoot

Troubleshoot (Drivers)

- Some Hackerboards have a different USB-UART chip the CP210x.
- Drivers are usually installed automatically by Windows and Ubuntu even for the Virtual Machines.
- Verify if they are installed by following the steps in the previous slide.
- Verify that the USB cable is a data cable and not only a power cable!.
- If the computer cannot find the drivers, download the drivers from the following link

https://www.silabs.com/developers/usb-to-uart-bridge-vcp-drivers?tab=downloads

Before Installing the drivers!!

- Unplug the Puzzle-Bot from the computer.
- Unzip the drivers and run the setup (some computers are required to be restarted after the installation).
- Plug the Puzzle-Bot back into the computer.

A troubleshoot guide can be found here.

Troubleshoot

Troubleshoot (Drivers)

- My computer still not recognize the drivers even after the installation
- Plug the Puzzle-Bot into the USB port.
- Go to Start > Device Manager.
- Look for the USB Serial Converter as shown in the following picture.

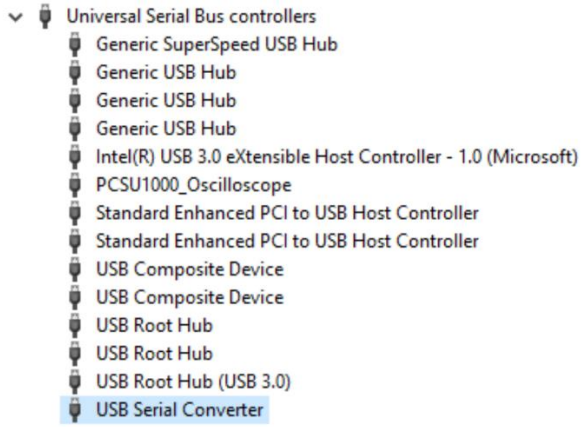


FIGURE: USB SERIAL CONVERTER

- Right Click to Properties > Advanced Tab.
- Make sure the Load VCP box is checked.
- Reconnect the Puzzle-Bot to the computer.

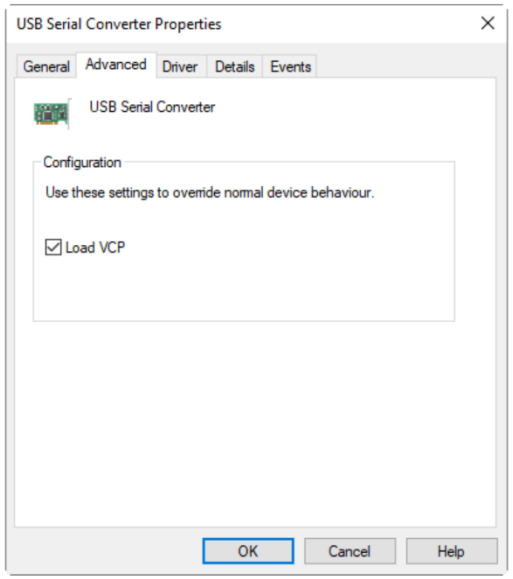


FIGURE: VCP PORT

Thank you

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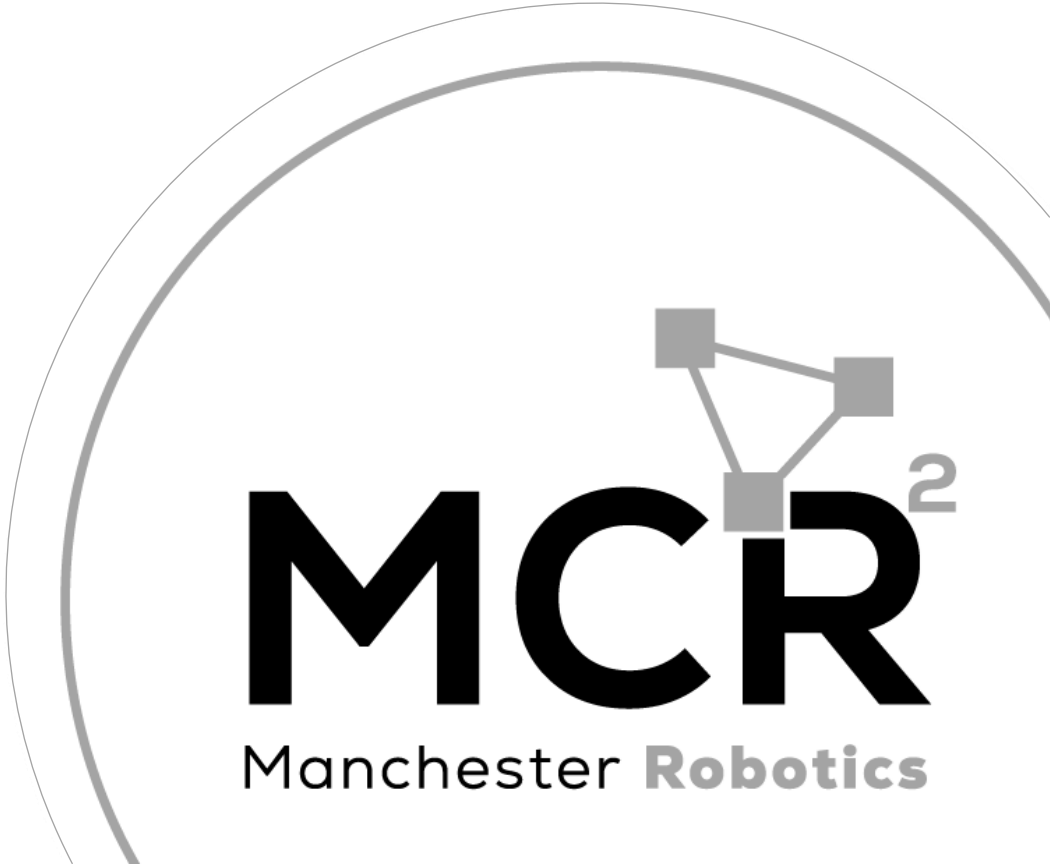

T&C

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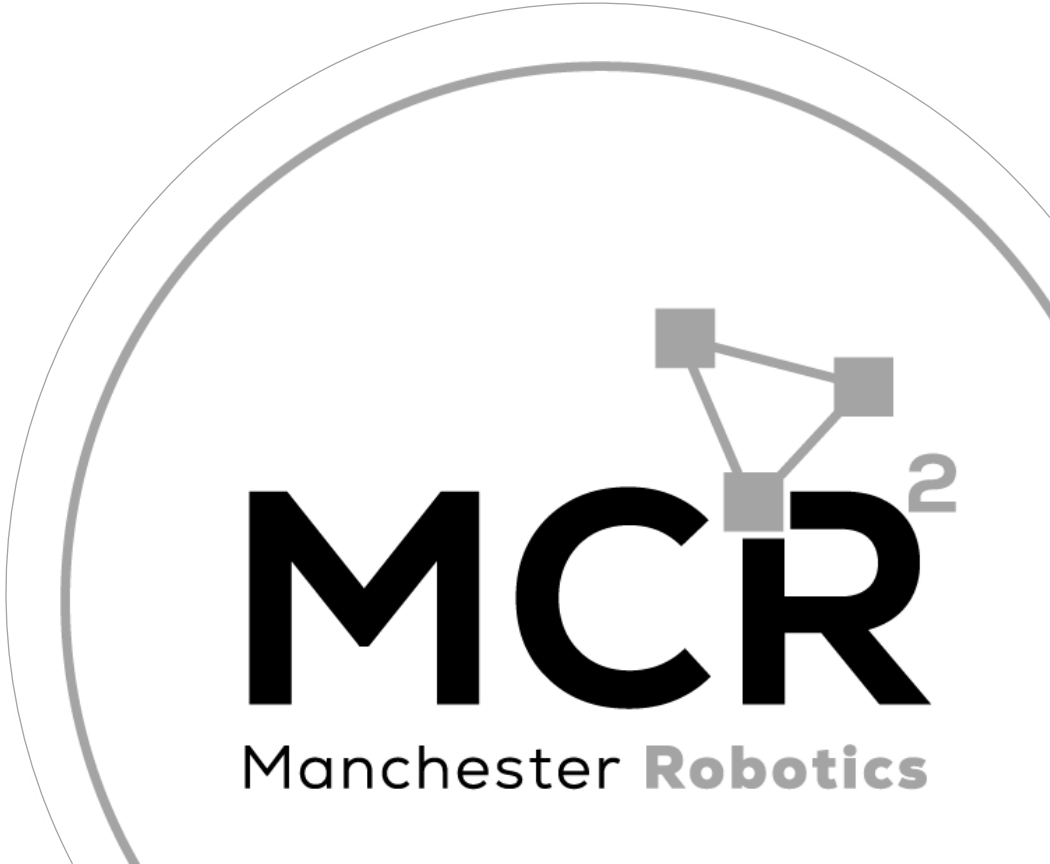

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