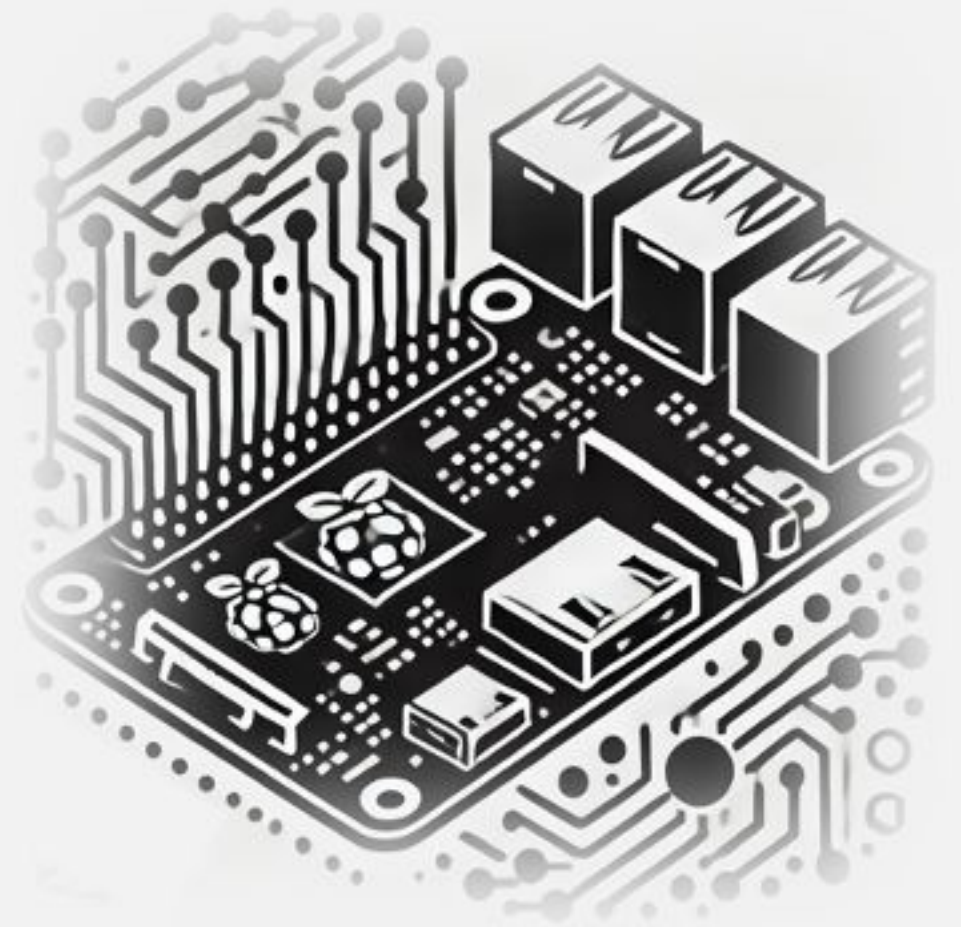


IESTI05 – Edge AI

Machine Learning System Engineering

2. Introduction to Embedded Linux and Raspberry Pi Setup



Embedded Linux

The Operating System (OS)

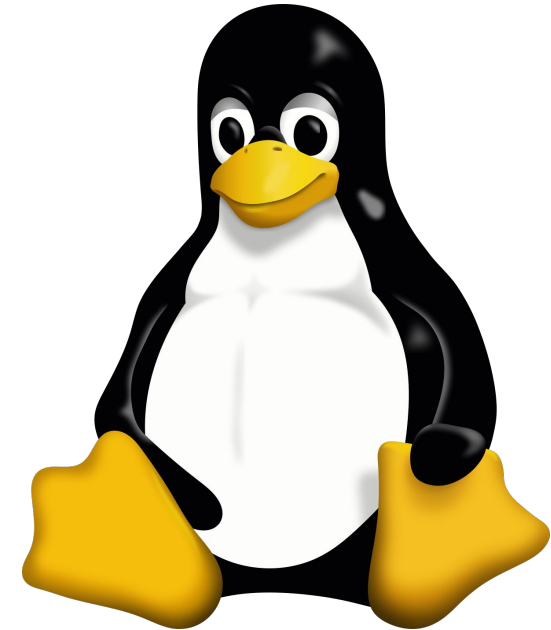
An operating system (OS) is essential software that manages computer hardware and software resources, providing standard services for computer programs. It is the core software that runs on a computer, serving as an intermediary between hardware and application software. The OS oversees the computer's memory, processes, device drivers, files, and security protocols.

1. Key functions:

- **Process management**: Allocating CPU time to different programs
- **Memory management**: Allocating and freeing up memory as needed
- **File system management**: Organizing and keeping track of files and directories
- **Device management**: Communicating with connected hardware devices
- **User interface**: Providing a way for users to interact with the computer

2. Components:

- **Kernel**: The core of the OS that manages hardware resources (i.e., Linux)
- **Shell**: The user interface for interacting with the OS
- **File system**: Organizes and manages data storage
- **Device drivers**: Software that allows the OS to communicate with hardware



What is Embedded Linux?

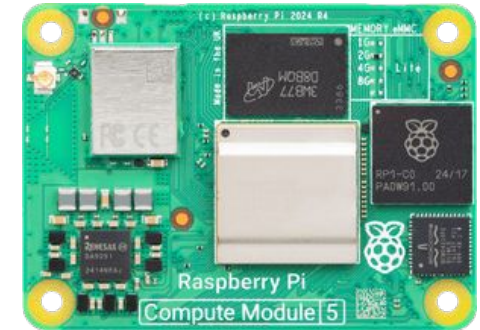
- A lightweight Linux-based OS for embedded systems
- Customizable, open-source, and widely adopted
- Used in routers, drones, SBCs, industrial systems

Raspberry Pi OS Lite (64-bit) is a minimal, headless Linux distribution for the Raspberry Pi. It is based on Debian (like the desktop version), but it **excludes a graphical desktop environment** and most bundled applications, providing just the core operating system and essential command-line tools

Why Use Linux in Embedded Systems?

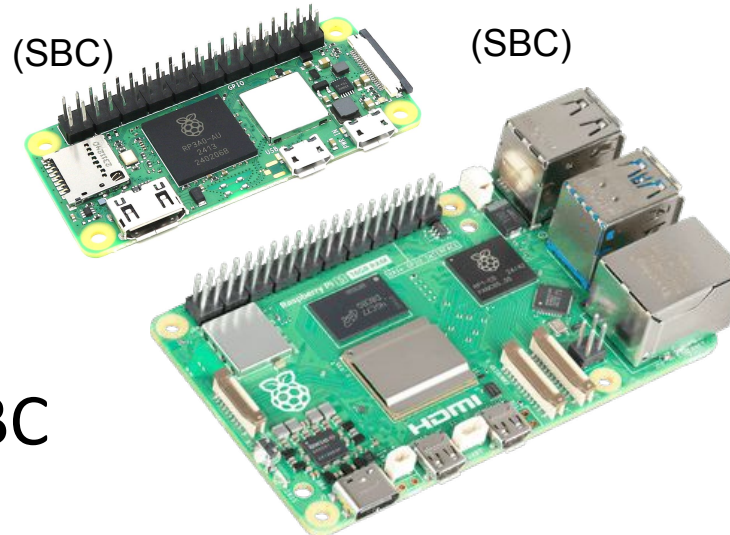
- Open-source and free
- Highly flexible and customizable
- Large developer ecosystem
- Reliable and proven in production

(Compute Module / SoM)



Characteristics

- UI: Usually headless
- Size: Minimal
- Hardware: Targeted SBC



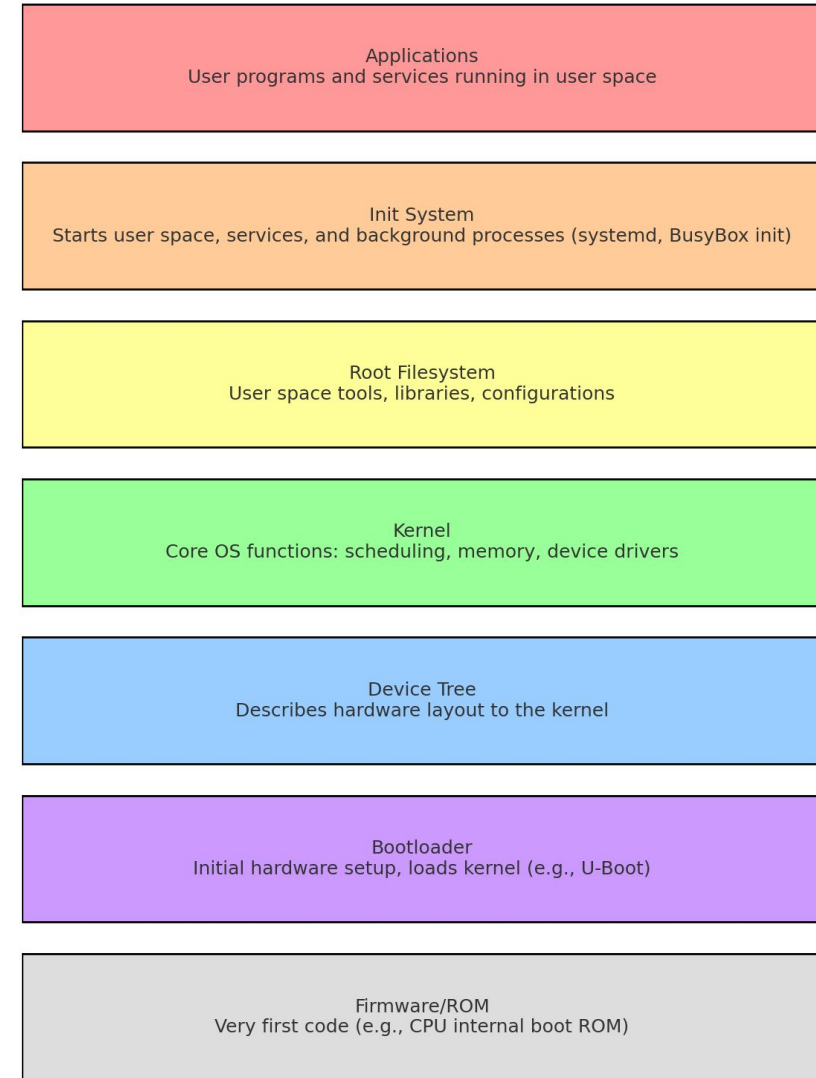
(Compute Module / SoM)



Linux System Components

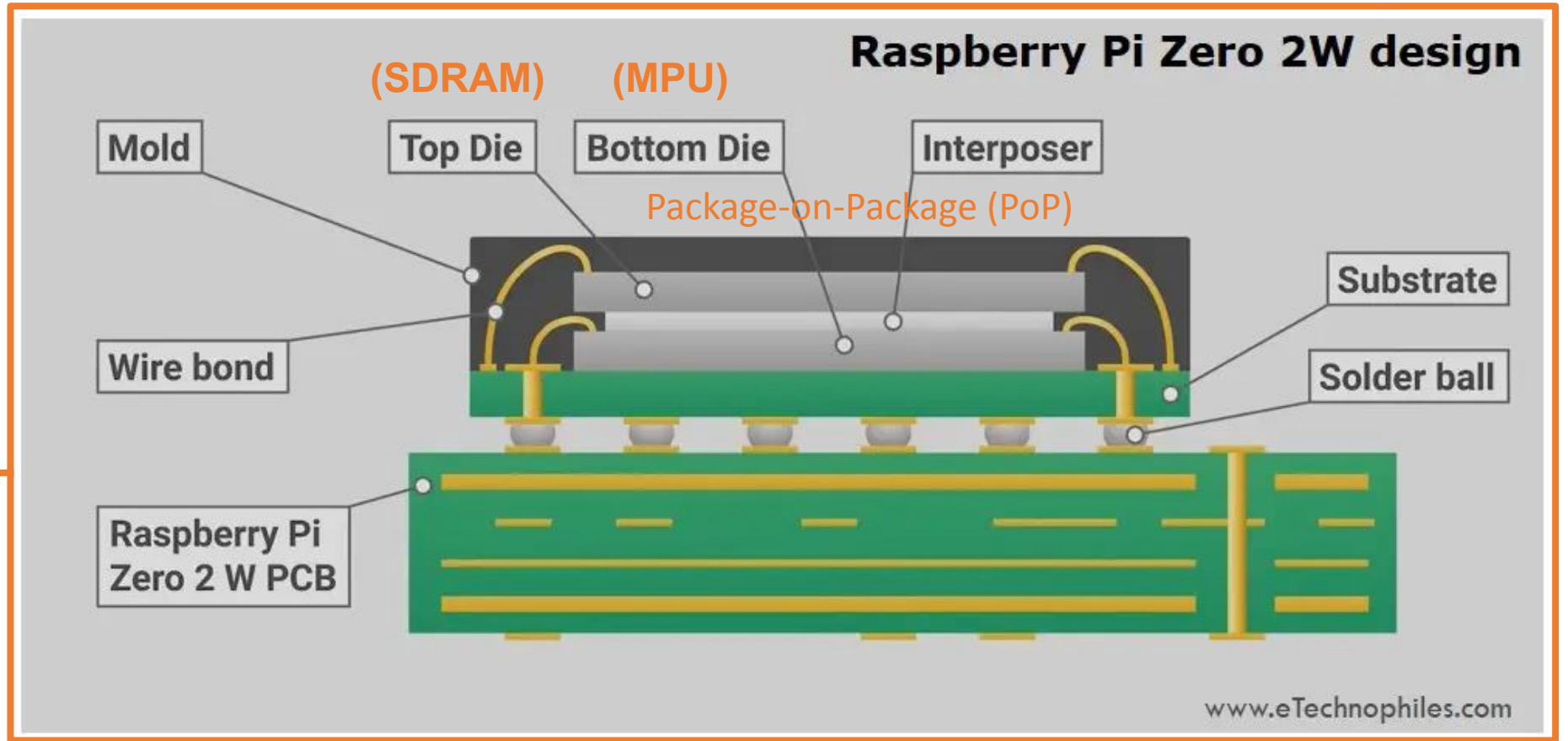
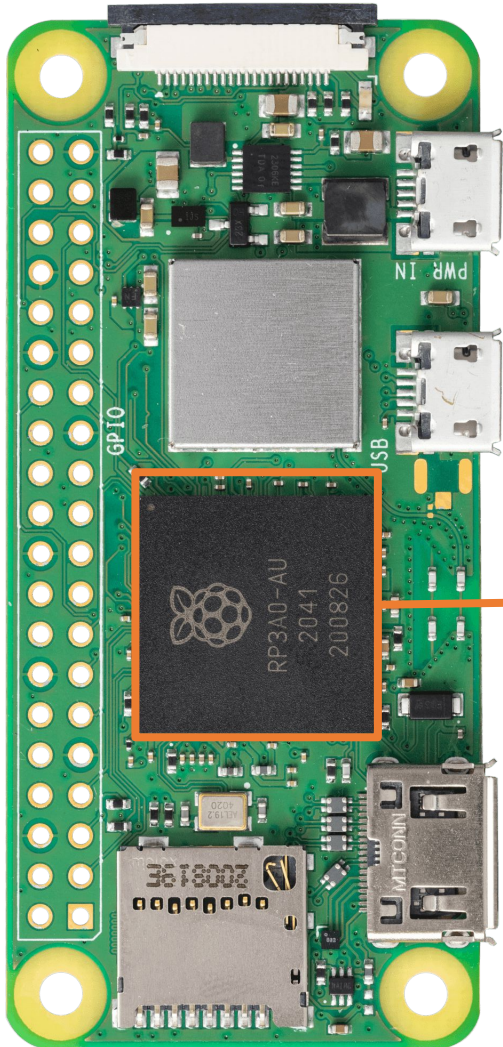
- Firmware/ROM
- Bootloader – e.g., U-Boot
- Device tree – hardware description
- Kernel – core OS functions
- Root filesystem – user space tools
- Init system – systemd or BusyBox
- Applications

Embedded Linux Boot Process Layers

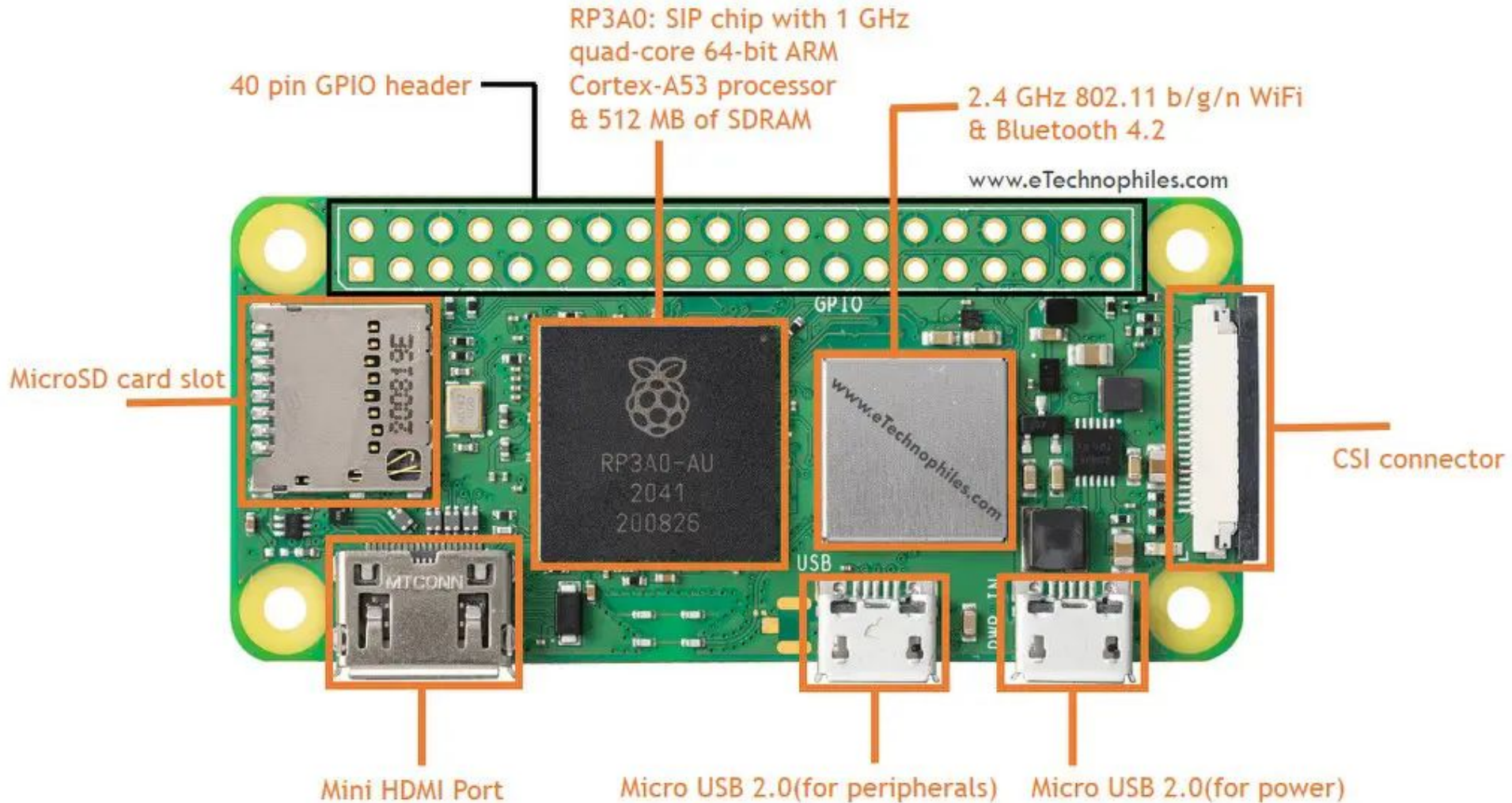


Raspberry Pi 2W

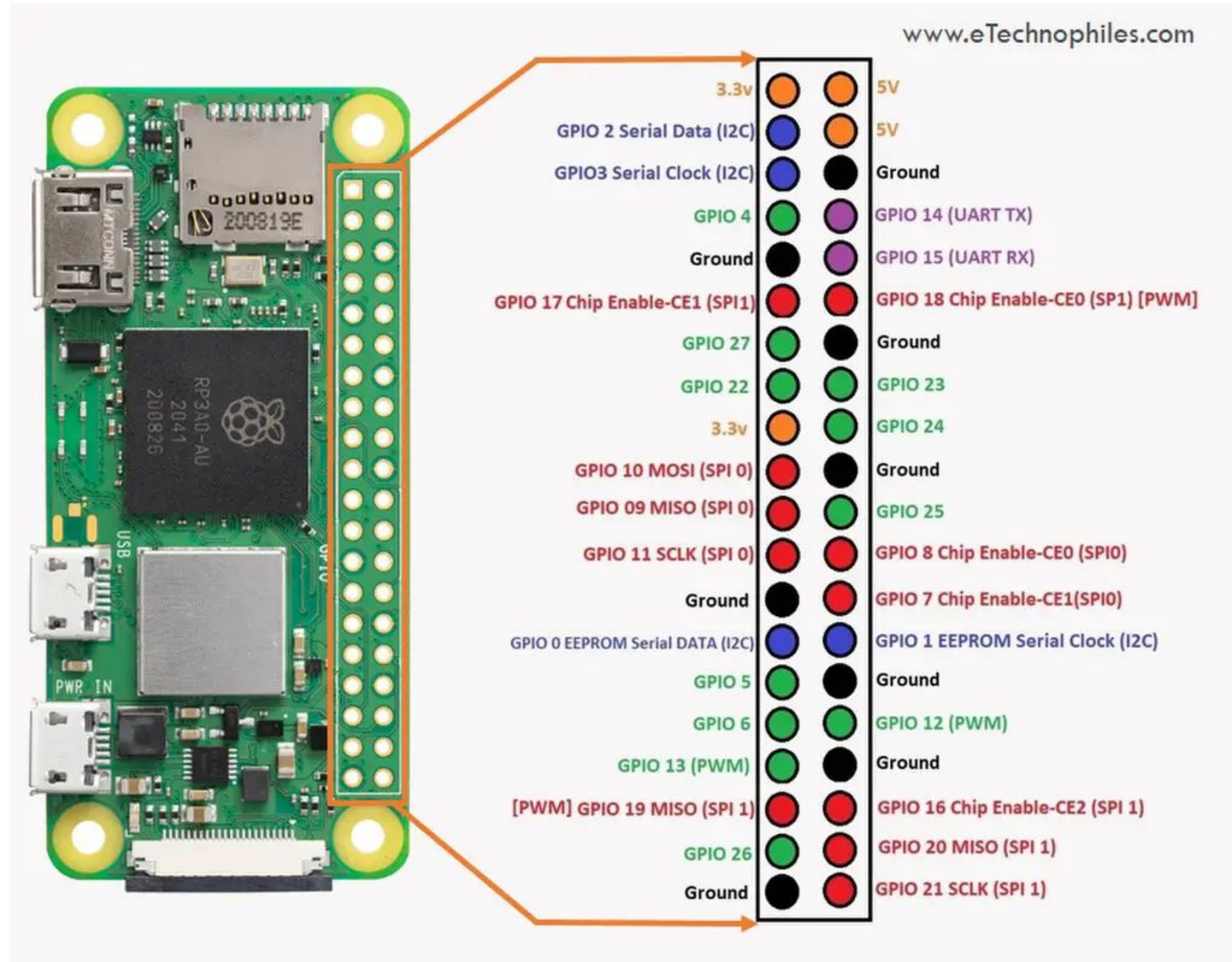
Broadcom BCM2710A1 SoC (System-on-a-chip)



Board Layout



GPIO pinout



Installing the OS

Use Raspberry Pi Imager

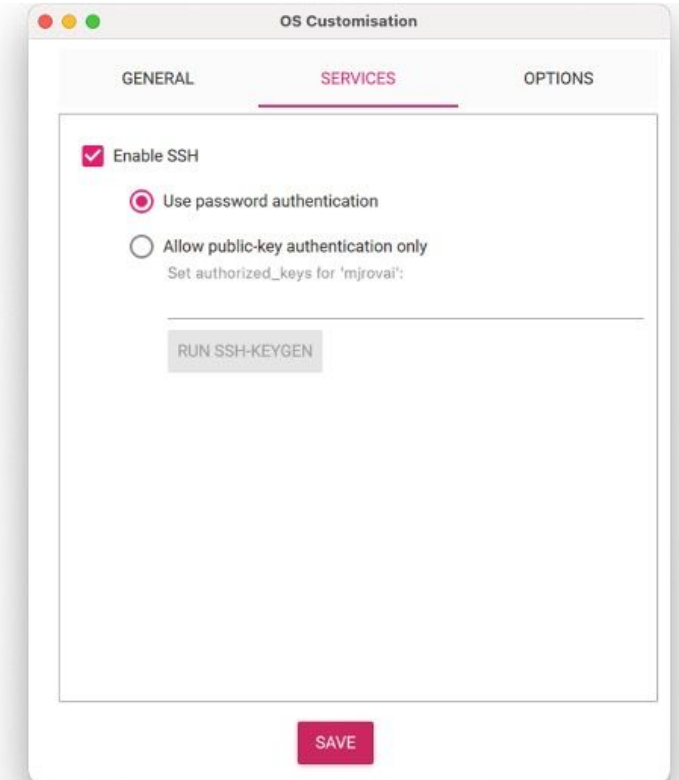
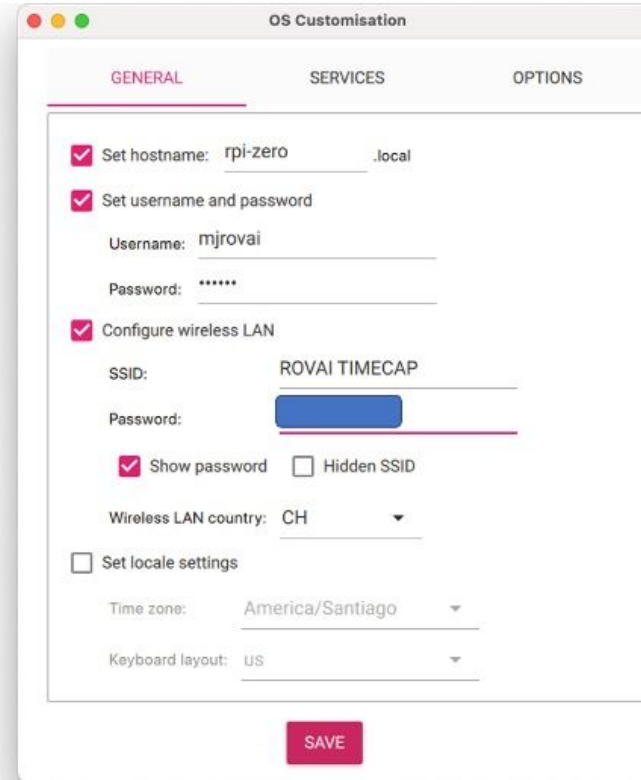
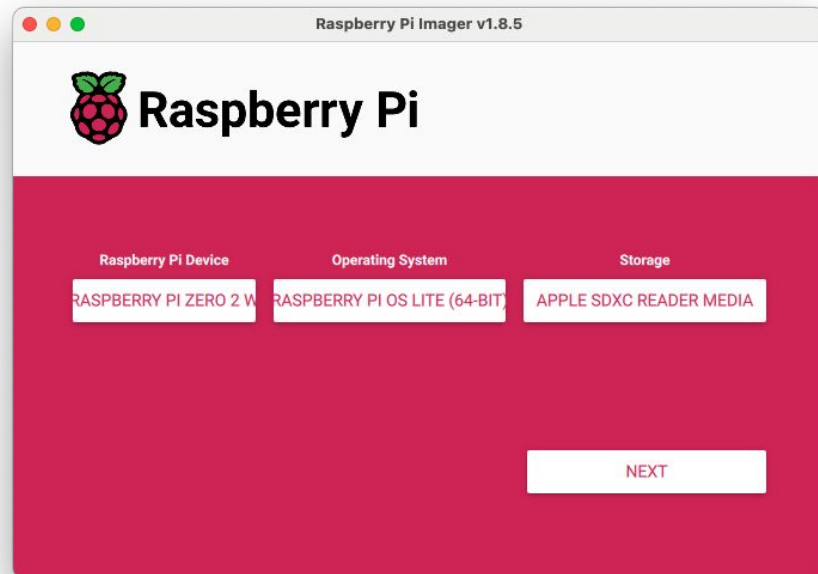
<https://www.raspberrypi.com/software/>

and select:

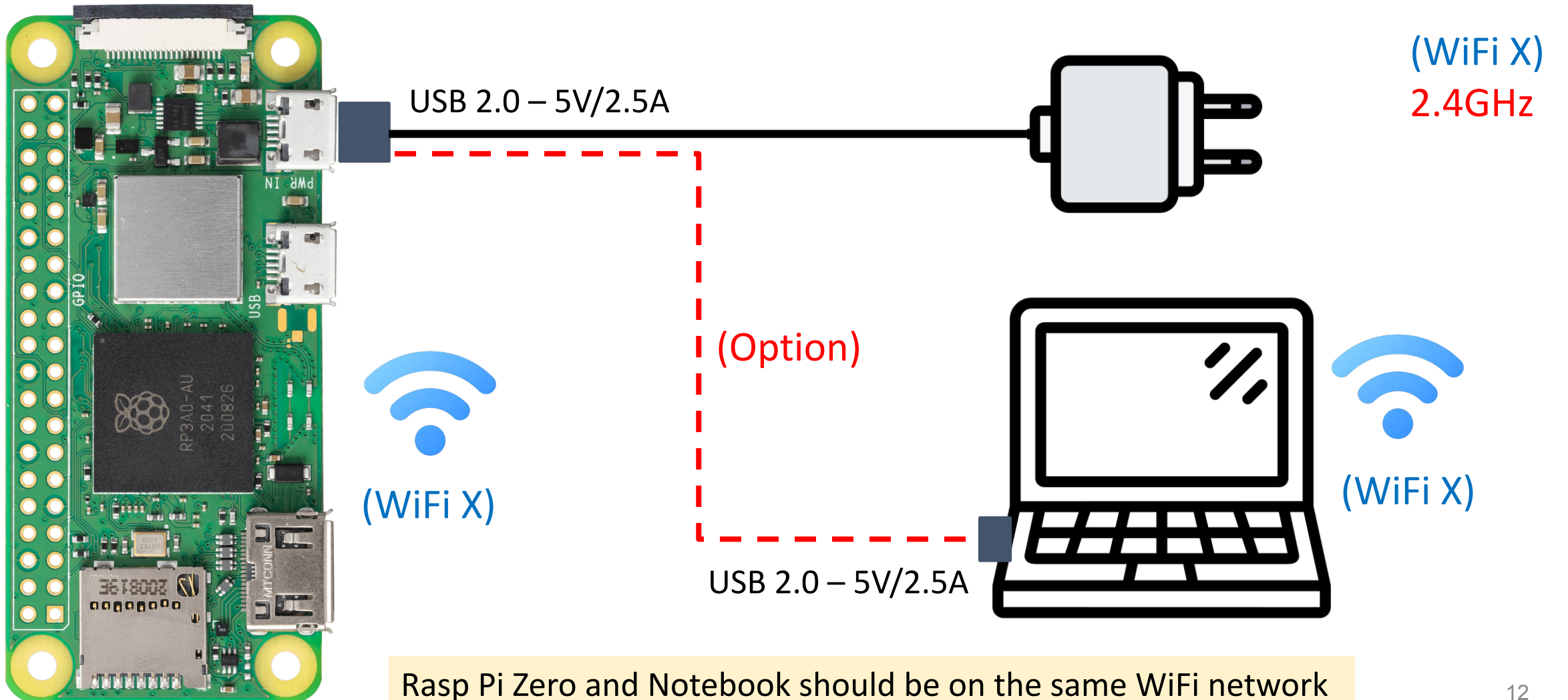
- RASPBERRY PI ZERO 2W
- RASPBERRY PI OS LITE (64-BIT)

Headless setup: enable SSH, Wi-Fi config

- Define hostname, username, and password

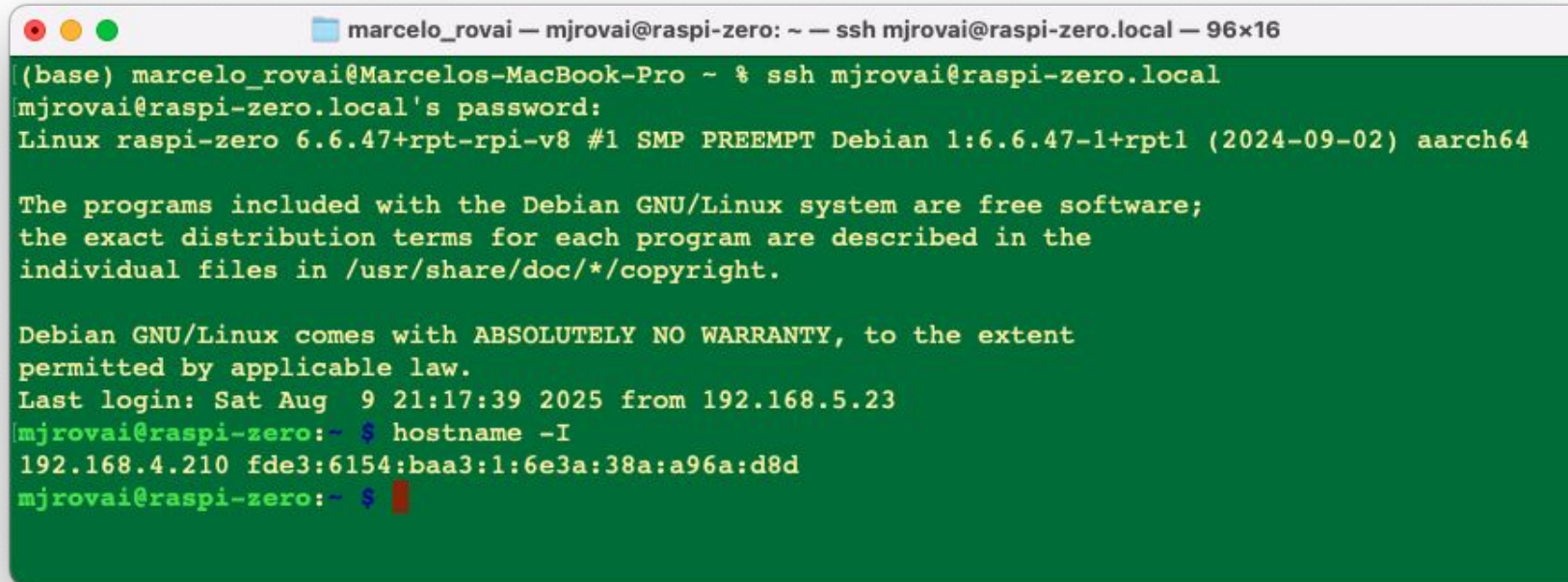


Power Supply and WiFi Network



Connecting to the Pi – SSH Via Terminal

- Enter with: `ssh username@hostname.local` (i.e., `mjrovai@raspi-zero.local`)
 - Once in the Raspi-Zero, use `hostname -I` to get the IP Address



```
(base) marcelo_rovai@Marcelos-MacBook-Pro ~ % ssh mjrovai@raspi-zero.local
mjrovai@raspi-zero.local's password:
Linux raspi-zero 6.6.47+rpt-rpi-v8 #1 SMP PREEMPT Debian 1:6.6.47-1+rpt1 (2024-09-02) aarch64

The programs included with the Debian GNU/Linux system are free software;
the exact distribution terms for each program are described in the
individual files in /usr/share/doc/*/copyright.

Debian GNU/Linux comes with ABSOLUTELY NO WARRANTY, to the extent
permitted by applicable law.
Last login: Sat Aug  9 21:17:39 2025 from 192.168.5.23
mjrovai@raspi-zero:~$ hostname -I
192.168.4.210 fde3:6154:baa3:1:6e3a:38a:a96a:d8d
mjrovai@raspi-zero:~$
```

Note: On Windows, use Command Prompt (cmd) or PowerShell.

- Knowing the IP address: Enter with:
`ssh username@ip_address` (i.e., `mjrovai@ 192.168.4.210`)

Initial Linux Commands

1. Package mgmt:

- `sudo apt update && upgrade`
- `sudo reboot`

2. System: (Open in a new terminal window)

- `htop`

```
marcelo_rovai — mjrovai@raspi-zero: ~ — ssh mjrovai@raspi-zero.local — 101x22

0% Tasks: 23, 7 thr, 119 kthr; 1 running
0.7% Load average: 0.00 0.08 0.07
0.0% Uptime: 00:09:14
0.7%
Mem[|||||||] 72.2M/417M
Swp[ ] 0K/512M

Main T/O
PID USER PRI NI VIRT RES SHR S CPU% MEM% TIME+ Command
674 mjrovai 20 0 7556 3172 2404 R 1.3 0.7 0:01.27 htop
661 mjrovai 20 0 19856 6508 4688 S 0.7 1.5 0:00.32 sshd: mjrovai@pts/0
1 root 20 0 164M 11300 8344 S 0.0 2.6 0:03.58 /sbin/init
230 root 20 0 26364 7008 6112 S 0.0 1.6 0:00.40 /lib/systemd/systemd-journald
252 root 20 0 26552 6676 4372 S 0.0 1.6 0:00.47 /lib/systemd/systemd-udev
337 systemd-ti 20 0 90712 6888 5992 S 0.0 1.6 0:00.33 /lib/systemd/systemd-timesyncd
363 systemd-ti 20 0 90712 6888 5992 S 0.0 1.6 0:00.00 /lib/systemd/systemd-timesyncd
366 avahi 20 0 7492 3196 2812 S 0.0 0.7 0:00.54 avahi-daemon: running [raspi-zero.
378 root 20 0 6696 2200 2072 S 0.0 0.5 0:00.01 /usr/sbin/cron -f
379 messagebus 20 0 8700 3952 3312 S 0.0 0.9 0:00.71 /usr/bin/dbus-daemon --system --ad
388 polkitd 20 0 229M 6720 5952 S 0.0 1.6 0:00.07 /usr/lib/polkit-1/polkitd --no-deb

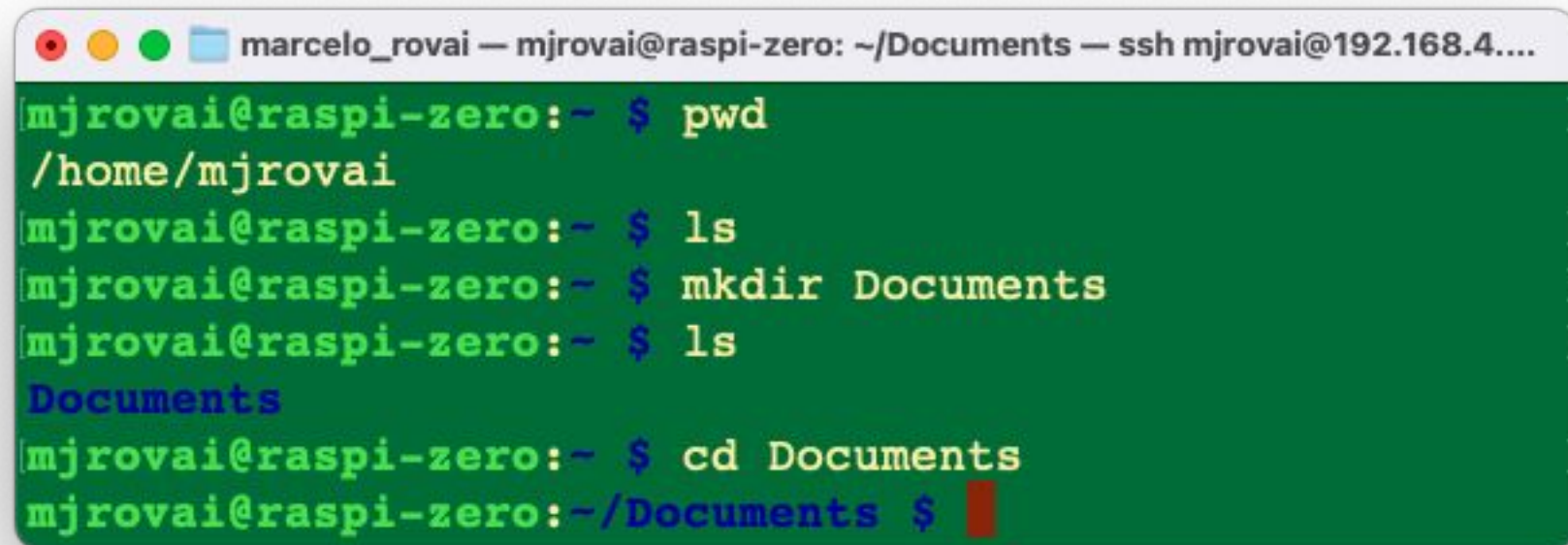
F1Help F2Setup F3Search F4Filter F5Tree F6SortBy F7Nice F8Nice F9Kill F10Quit
```


Increasing SWAP Memory

1. First, turn off the swap-file:
`sudo dphys-swapfile swapoff`
2. Next, open and modify the file /etc/dphys-swapfile. For that, we will use the **nano** text editor:
`sudo nano /etc/dphys-swapfile`
 - a. Search for the **CONF_SWAPSIZE** variable (default is 200) and
 - b. update it to **2000**: **CONF_SWAPSIZE=2000**, and
 - c. save the file: **CTRL+X** -> **Y** => **Enter**.
3. Next, turn on the swapfile again and reboot the Raspberry Pi:
`sudo dphys-swapfile setup`
`sudo dphys-swapfile swapon`
`sudo reboot`

Linux: Basic Commands

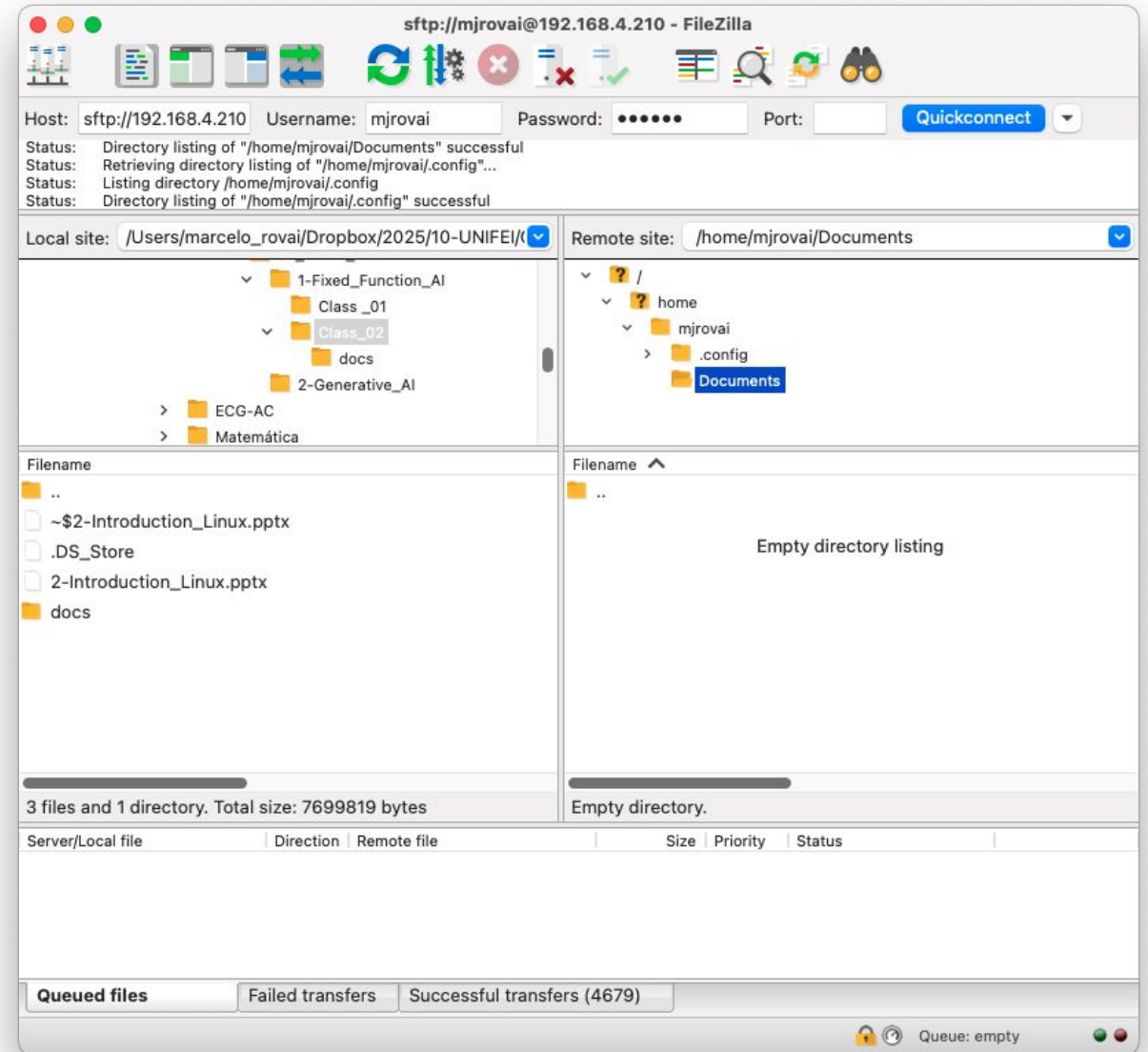
- `clear` -> Clear the terminal
- `pwd` -> Show the current directory: `/home/mjrovai`
- `ls` -> Lists the current directory content: (empty)
- `Mkdir <name>` -> Creates a directory: `mkdir Documents`
- `cd <dir>` -> Change to a directory `cd Documents`



```
marcelo_rovai — mjrovai@raspi-zero: ~/Documents — ssh mjrovai@192.168.4....  
[mjrovai@raspi-zero:~ $ pwd  
/home/mjrovai  
[mjrovai@raspi-zero:~ $ ls  
[mjrovai@raspi-zero:~ $ mkdir Documents  
[mjrovai@raspi-zero:~ $ ls  
Documents  
[mjrovai@raspi-zero:~ $ cd Documents  
mjrovai@raspi-zero:~/Documents $
```

Transferring files using FTP

1. Install FileZilla Client in the Desktop
<https://filezilla-project.org/download.php?type=client>
2. Enter with Host Credentials
(i.e., sftp://192.168.4.210)



Using the Camara Module

1. Install camera software (if not pre-installed):
`sudo apt-get install libcamera-apps`
2. List the installed cameras:
`rpikam-hello --list-cameras`
3. Capture a 640x480 JPEG image:
`rpikam-jpeg --output test_cli_camera.jpg --width 640 --height 480`
4. Use the command `ls` to check if the image was saved in the current directory and transfer it to your desktop with FileZilla.



Tips

- Connecting the Raspberry Pi to the Computer via USB can be unstable for heavy use. Prefer a 5V/2.5 Power Supply (same as used for mobile phones)
- The WiFi Network should be 2.4GHz
- Always turn off the Raspberry Pi, using the command:
`sudo shutdown -h now`
- Install packages using
`sudo apt install <package name>`

Questions?



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