

Bonus EV3 Programming Lessons



LEGO MINDSTORMS and Raspberry Pi IR Light controller



By Droids Robotics

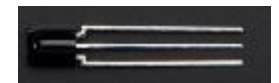
Objectives

- Program a Raspberry Pi to control a string of LED lights using an IR sensor
- Learn how to make the EV3 communicate with a Raspberry Pi
- Learn to use an IR sensor and IR LED to emulate remote signals

- **Prerequisites:**
 - *Must have basic Python programming knowledge*
 - *Must be comfortable using a Raspberry Pi (Unix/Linux commands & GPIO)*
 - *Must be familiar with EV3 Bluetooth Messaging*
 - *Must have done EV3 Raspberry Pi Communicator lesson on EV3Lessons.com*

Materials

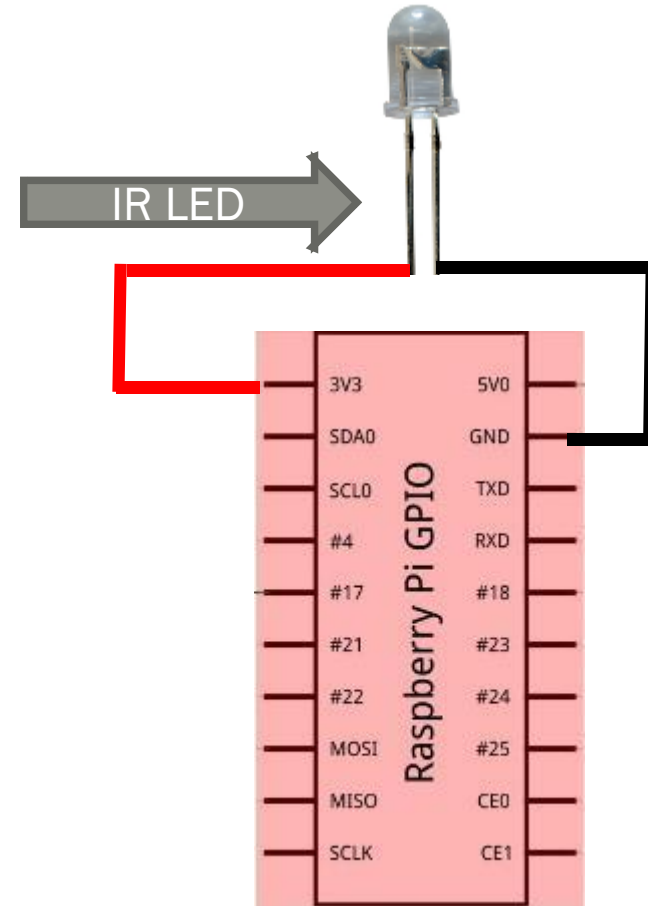
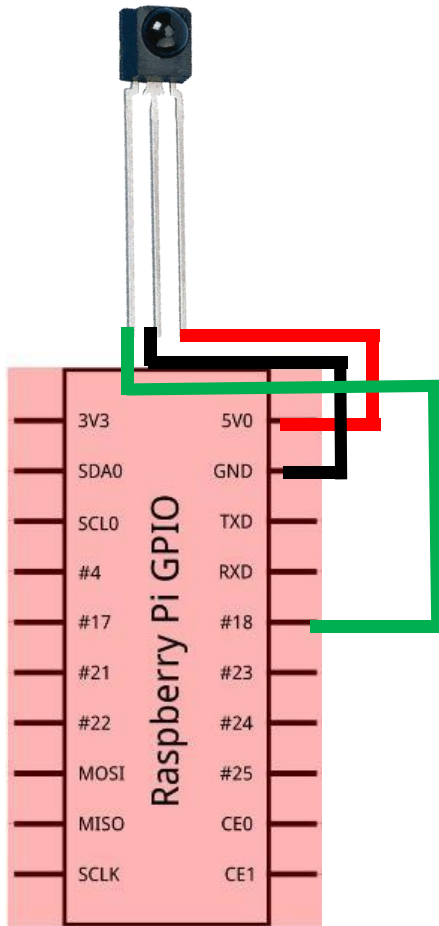
- Raspberry Pi (Tested on Model B Edition 1 using Raspbian)
- EV3 brick
- USB Bluetooth (for the Raspberry Pi)
- IR Sensor (for the Raspberry Pi)
- IR LED (for the Raspberry Pi)
- LED Strip with IR receiver and remote
 - *E.g. Intertek flexible lighting strips*
- GPIO compatible wires (for Raspberry Pi)
- Breadboard (optional)



Step 1: Pi Setup

- Setup the IR sensor and IR LED on the GPIO (see next slide).
 - *Make sure you arrange the wires correctly based on the sensor you own. (You can use a volt meter to arrange the wires correctly – to identify ground, voltage and ground)*
- Install packages on the Raspberry Pi
 - `sudo apt-get update`
 - `sudo apt-get upgrade`
 - `sudo reboot`
 - `sudo apt-get install lirc`
 - Make sure you have completed all the steps in the EV3-RPi Communicator Lesson

GPIO Setup



Configuration based on IR sensor available on Adafruit ([Product link](#))

Step 2: Edit System Files

- `sudo nano/etc/modules`
 - *add these lines at the end to make LIRC start up on boot and set the IR sensor pin to Pin-18 and IR LED pin(for later) to Pin-17:*
 - `lirc_dev`
 - `lirc_rpi gpio_in_pin=18 gpio_out_pin=17`

- Now we need to edit the LIRC hardware configuration file. Open it using: `sudo nano /etc/lirc/hardware.conf`
 - *Change the following lines:*
 - `DRIVER="default"`
 - `DEVICE="/dev/lirc0"`
 - `MODULES="lirc_rpi"`

- `sudo nano /boot/config.txt`
 - *add the following line to the file:*
 - `dtoverlay=lirc-rpi,gpio_in_pin=18,gpio_out_pin=17,gpio_in_pull=up`

- Reboot: `sudo reboot`

Step 3: Record All Remote Buttons

- Stop LIRC: `sudo /etc/init.d/lirc stop`
- To make sure you setup the IR sensor correctly, use: `mode2 -d /dev/lirc0` (press buttons on a remote to get the readings)
- Record all the buttons to the raspberry pi: `irrecord -n -d /dev/lirc0 ~/lircd.conf` -- It will take you through some detailed instructions.
- `sudo nano lircd.conf` Find the line that says "`name /home/pi/lircd.conf`" and change it to "`name remote`"
- Copy the new configuration -- `sudo cp lircd.conf /etc/lirc/lircd.conf`
- Start LIRC: `sudo /etc/init.d/lirc start`
- Reboot: `sudo reboot`
- To test the configuration run the command `irw`
 - Every time you press a button on the remote, you will get the name of the button.

Step 4: Send IR signals with Pi

- Connect the IR Led to the GPIO (See image on right)
- To send an IR signal use
 - `irsend SEND_ONCE remote ONE_OF_THE_BUTTONS_NAME`
 - We use `SEND_ONCE` to only sent the light signal once
- Now in python you can send a signal using
 - `import os`
 - `os.system("irsend SEND_ONCE remote ONE_OF_THE_BUTTONS_NAME")`
 - Replace `ONE_OF_THE_BUTTONS_NAME` with one of the names you assigned to a button in step 3
- In a terminal you can use
 - `irsend SEND_ONCE remote ONE_OF_THE_BUTTONS_NAME`

Step 5: Bluetooth EV3 to Pi (If you are not already connected)

- Run `hcitool scan` to find the mac address of EV3 (will look something like this: 00:16:53:3F:2F:C3)
- Run `bluetooth-agent 1234 & :proxy` for entering passcode for ev3
- Run `sudo rfcomm connect /dev/rfcomm0 MAC_ADDRESS & :to connect the ev3` (press enter if any message(s) appears on the screen)
- If you are not returned to a terminal, try pressing “Return/Enter”. If that did not work you probably forgot the `&` symbol.

Step 6: Base Code

- *Open RPi code you made in the EV3-RPi Communicator Lesson*
- *Open EV3 code you made in the EV3-RPi Communicator Lesson*

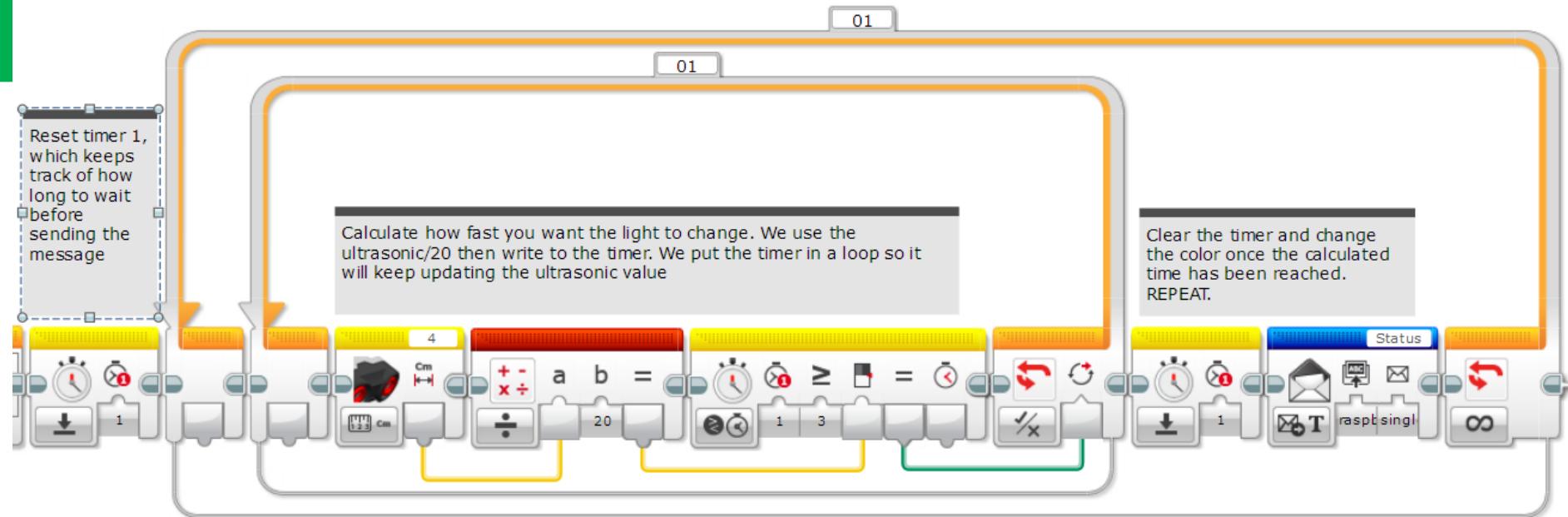
Challenge 1: Change the LED's Color Using the EV3

- Make the LED strip change color/change mode when the EV3 sends "color_change"
- *You will need to use `os.system("irsend SEND_ONCE remote ONE_OF_THE_BUTTONS_NAME")` in python*
- *Download solution code from EV3Lessons.com*

Challenge 2: Change the LED's Colors At Different Rates Using the Ultrasonic Sensor

- Make the LED strip change color/change mode when the EV3 sends "color_change"
- *Download solution code from EV3Lessons.com*

Challenge 2 Solution



CREDITS

- This tutorial was created by Sanjay Seshan and Arvind Seshan from Droids Robotics.
- More lessons are available at www.ev3lessons.com
- Author's Email: team@droidsrobotics.org
- Credits: [Antzy Carmasaic](#) for the IR remote recorder & [gipprojects](#) for the code to connect a Raspberry Pi to an EV3



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