IBM Long Range Signaling and Control

IBM LoRaWAN Modem (IMST WiMOD Edition)

IBM LoRaWAN Modem Product Information

LoRaWAN Modem is developed and marketed by the IBM Zurich Research Laboratory (IBM Research GmbH), 8803 Rüschlikon, Switzerland. For additional information please contact: lrsc@zurich.ibm.com.

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1. Introduction

The IBM LoRaWAN Modem provides access to LoRaWAN networks via high-level commands exchanged over a serial interface. All kinds of devices can be easily enabled to participate in LoRaWAN networks just by connecting the modem via a serial link and sending a few commands. The modem offers full functionality over a simple interface and handles all details of the LoRaWAN protocol internally. It can be personalized and configured with the specific network parameters.

The modem firmware is based on the IBM LoRaWAN C-library (LMiC). This edition is running on the IMST WiMOD module, featuring a STM32 Cortex-M3 MCU and the Semtech SX1272 LoRa™ radio. The firmware is shipped as Intel HEX file and can be run directly on the IMST WiMOD SK-iM880A (Figure 1) and on the IBM LRSC Modem boards (Figure 2).



Figure 1. IMST / WiMOD LoRa™ Radio Starter Kit

Directly supported by the IBM LoRaWAN Modem firmware (IMST WiMOD Edition).

Figure 2. IBM LRSC Modem v1.0



Directly supported by the IBM LoRaWAN Modem firmware (IMST WiMOD Edition).

2. Modem Interface

2.1 Connection

The modem is connected to the end device via a standard serial USART interface with the communication settings 115200bps, 8/N/1, using half-duplex mode. Only four digital lines are needed to connect the modem to the end device:

- 3.3V
- GND
- RX
- TX

2.2 LED Indicators

Two LEDs are used to indicate internal modem states:

State	IMST WIMOD SK-IM880A	IBM LRSC Modem
Power:	LED D3 (green)	LED D4 (red)
Session:	LED D2 (yellow)	LED D3 (green)

The power LED is lit at startup of the modem firmware and is kept continuously on. It is switched off and on again for a very short moment whenever an event is generated to indicate activity. The session LED is driven depending on the activation state of the modem.

Activation State	Session LED
Not activated	Off
Activated	On
Joining	Blinking

2.3 Messages

The modem processes all radio messages and LoRaWAN protocol states internally and can be driven by the end device over the serial link. It recognizes a set of commands to configure and query parameters and to initiate and report data exchanges with the network.

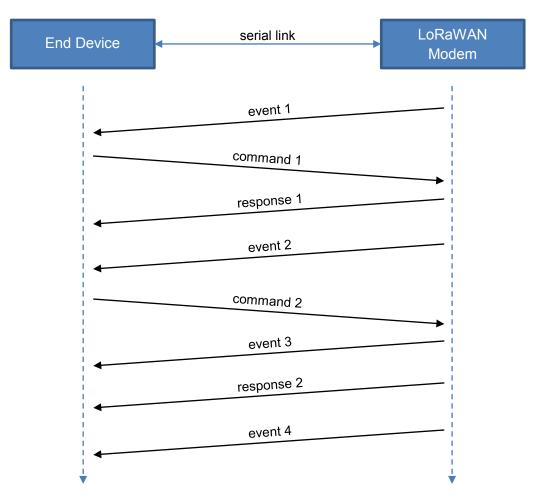
All commands are answered by the modem with a corresponding response message. The end device must not issue a new command before it has received the response to the previous command.

In addition to the response messages the modem can generate event messages. These event messages can inform the end device about certain state changes inside the modem triggered by the protocol. Given the nature of the LoRaWAN protocol these state changes and corresponding events can occur at any time. I.e. the end device application must be always prepared to accept event messages. This is even the case when a command/response exchange is in progress. If the generation of the event overlaps with the sending of a command, the event message could be received by the end device **before** the expected response message!

The types of event messages to be reported by the modem can be configured via an event mask (see section 4.11). Possible message flows are shown in Figure 3.

Currently the modem supports an ASCII AT command set (see section 4), inspired by the command set of Hayes data modems. A binary command set is planned.

Figure 3. Modem Message Flow



Exchange of command, response, and event messages.

3. Modem State

The modem has a persistent memory to store its internal state. The stored state is continuously updated, so the modem can continue operation after a power cycle without reconfiguration. Most importantly the activation state (session state) is stored and updated. This includes session keys and frame sequence counters.

3.1 Activation

To be able to exchange data with the network server the modem needs to be activated. A valid activation state requires session parameters.

3.1.1 Session Parameters

The session parameters consist of:

- Network ID (32 bit)
- Short device address (32 bit)
- Network session key (128 bit)
- Application session key (128 bit)

These parameters can be obtained by three ways:

- 1. embedded in the modem firmware (personalized activation, see section 3.2.1)
- 2. configured by a modem command (personalized activation, see section 4.5.1)
- 3. established via the JOIN command (over-the-air activation, see sections 3.1.2 and 4.7)

Once obtained the session parameters are stored and updated in the persistent storage. Whenever new session parameters are set, the upstream and downstream sequence counters are reset to zero.

3.1.2 Join Parameters

If the modem is to be activated via over-the-activation (JOIN), the following join parameters are required:

- Device EUI (64 bit)
- Application EUI (64 bit)
- Device Key (128 bit)

The join parameters can be obtained by two ways:

- 1. embedded in the modern firmware (see section 3.2.2)
- 2. configured by a modem command (see section 4.6.1)

Using the join command (see section 4.7) a new session is established over-the-air and the obtained session parameters are stored and updated in the persistent storage.

3.2 Firmware Personalization

In some cases it is desirable to have the modem firmware preconfigured with the specific network parameters, so the modem is operational without any configuration commands. Therefore the parameters can be patched into the HEX file containing the firmware. Special patterns have been embedded in the firmware to identify the locations of the parameter blocks to be patched.

3.2.1 Session Parameters

The block of session parameters can be patched into the firmware file where the following 40-byte HEX-pattern is found:

426d6633717561434a77564b55525757524565474b746d3070714c4430596872356370506b503673

The layout of the patched session parameters is as follows:

Parameter	Size in bytes	Remark
Network ID	4	least-significant-byte-first
Short device address	4	least-significant-byte-first
Network session key	16	
Application session key	16	

3.2.2 Join Parameters

The block of join parameters can be patched into the firmware file where the following 32-byte HEX-pattern is found:

6730434d7734397252626176364877514e303131356734324f706d76546e3771

The layout of the patched join parameters is as follows:

Parameter	Size in bytes	Remark
Device EUI	8	least-significant-byte-first
Application EUI	8	least-significant-byte-first
Device Key	16	

4. AT Command Set

Modem commands, responses and events are encoded as ASCII strings terminated by a carriage-return character <CR>. This way the modem can be directly accessed with the terminal application of your choice and the commands can be typed and read in a human-readable form.

All commmands are prefixed with the characters "AT", followed by comma-separated parameters, and terminated by <CR>. The interpretation of the commands is case-insensitive. All commands will be answered by the modem with "OK" and optional parameters and <CR>, or "ERROR<CR>". As mentioned in section 2.3, intermittent events can be generated by the modem before the response is sent. Event names are prefixed with "EV_" and are followed by optional comma-separated parameters and a trailing <CR>.

All available commands with their responses and possible events are described in detail in the following sub sections.

4.1 NOP Command

An empty command can be used to test the communication between the modem and the end device. It performs no operation.

Command	AT
Response	ОК

Example:

- → AT
- ← OK

4.2 Version Command

This command can be used to query the firmware version of the modem. It will return a fixed-length string containing the major and minor version number and the compile time of the modem firmware.

Command	ATV?
Response	OK, <version string=""></version>

Example:

→ ATV? ← OK, VERSION 1.2 (May 8 2015 16:32:38)

4.3 Reset Command

This command resets the internal state engine and reloads session state from persistent memory.

Command	ATZ
Response	OK

Example:

- → ATZ
- ← OK

4.4 Factory Reset Command

This command resets the persistent memory to factory state. All parameters will be reverted to the values built into the firmware or cleared. Manually configured parameters and progressed session state will be discarded.

Command	AT&F
Response	ОК

Example:

- → AT&F
- ← OK

4.5 Session Parameter Commands

The following two commands allow to set and query the session parameters.

4.5.1 Set Session Parameter Command

This command allows to directly set the session parameters. The new session parameters will be written to persistent memory and sequence counters will be reset to zero.

Command	ATS= <network id="">,<device address="">,<network key="" session="">,<application key="" session=""></application></network></device></network>
Response	ОК

Example:

- → ATS=00000002,05A49FEC,00112233445566778899AABBCCDDEFFF,00112233445566778899AABBCCDDEFF
- ← OK

4.5.2 Query Session Parameter Command

This command returns the current session parameters. If the modem is not activated, i.e. no session exists, ERROR will be returned. **Note:** The session keys are not returned by the modem!

Command	ATS?
Response	OK, <network id="">,<device address="">,<up counter="" sequence="">,<down counter="" sequence=""></down></up></device></network>

Example:

- → ATS?
- OK,00000002,05A49FEC,00000004,00000003

4.6 Join Parameter Commands

The following commands allow to set and query the join parameters which will be used by the JOIN command (section 4.7) for over-the-air activation.

4.6.1 Set Join Parameter Command

This command allows to directly set the join parameters.

Command	ATJ= <device eui="">,<application eui="">,<device key=""></device></application></device>
Response	OK

Example:

- ← OK

4.6.2 Query Join Parameter Command

This command returns the join parameters. If no join parameters are set, ERROR will be returned. **Note:** The device key is not returned by the modem!

Command	LTA?
Response	OK, <device eui="">.<application eui=""></application></device>

Example:

- → ATJ?
- ← OK, FFFFFFFFFFFFF00, DEDEAAAA0000001A

4.7 Join Command

This command triggers the over-the-air activation using the configured join parameters to establish a new session. If no join parameters are configured the command will return ERROR.

Command	АТЈ
Response	ОК
Events	EV_JOINING
	EV_JOINED

The command immediately triggers the JOINING event and the session LED starts blinking. When the join procedure succeeded a JOINED event is generated and the session LED is turned on. The newly

established session parameters will be stored persistently and the sequence counters will be reset to zero.

Example:

- → ATJ
- ← OK
- ← EV_JOINING
- ← EV_JOINED

4.8 Transmit Command

This command is used to send upstream data to the network server. If the modem is not activated and join parameters are set, the modem will implicitly join and establish a new session. If the modem is not activated and no join parameters are set, ERROR will be retuned.

Command	ATT <confirmed>,<port>[,<data>]</data></port></confirmed>			
Response	ОК			
Events	<pre>EV_TXCOMPLETE,<flags>[,<port>[,<data>]]</data></port></flags></pre>			

The data is addressed to a specific port (01-FF) and can be requested to be confirmed (0 or 1). After the data is sent by the modem it will check for downstream frames sent by the server. These frames could contain protocol information (like ACK or NACK), or application data. In any case an EV_TXCOMPLETE event will be generated to signal transmission and optional reception (see section 4.12 for description of event messages). **Note:** The data will only be sent at the point in time allowed by the modem's duty cycle.

Example:

4.9 Ping Mode Command

This command enables ping mode and prepares the modem for slotted reception of unsolicited downstream data (class B network). The modem will immediately start scanning for a beacon, and if found, it will deliver an EV_BEACON_FOUND event. This command requires a valid session. If no session exists, ERROR will be returned.

Command	ATP <interval exp=""></interval>	
Response	DK	
Events	EV_BEACON_FOUND	
	<pre>EV_RXCOMPLETE,<flags>[,<port>[,<data>]]</data></port></flags></pre>	

The ping interval is specified as an exponent (0-7) and is defined as 2^{<interval exp>} seconds. Whenever data is received in a ping slot window, an EV_RXCOMPLETE event is generated. See section 4.12 for a detailed description of event messages. **Note:** The network server is only notified of the ping mode and the interval with the next upstream frame sent by the modem!

Example:

4.10 Alarm Timer Command

This command sets an alarm timer to the specified number of seconds (variable-length HEX). When the timer expires an EV_ALARM event is generated. It can be used by the end device to periodically wake up or schedule actions at a specified time.

Command	ATA <seconds></seconds>
Response	ОК
Events	EV_ALARM

Example:

```
→ ATA1E (request ALARM event in 30 seconds)

← OK

← EV_ALARM
```

4.11 Event Mask Commands

The following commands allow to modify and query the event types which will be reported by the modem. Events not enabled in the event mask will be silently dropped and not reported by the modem.

4.11.1 Query Event Mask Command

This command returns the current event mask. By default all events are enabled.

Command	ATE?	
Response	OK, <event mask=""></event>	

Event mask can be ALL, or NONE, or a list of event names separated by the "|" character.

Example:

- → ATE?
- ← OK,ALL
- → ATE?
- ← OK, JOINED | TXCOMPLETE | RXCOMPLETE

4.11.2 Set Event Mask Command

This command directly sets the event mask to the specified event types. Event names can be abbreviated and all events matching the prefix will be included. Special masks ALL and NONE are recognized by this command.

Command	ATE= <event mask=""></event>	
Response	ОК	

Example:

- → ATE=ALL (select all events)
- ← OK
- → ATE=JOIN|TX|RX (select events beginning with JOIN* TX* RX*)
- ← OK
- → ATE?
- ← OK, JOINING | JOINED | JOIN_FAILED | TXCOMPLETE | RXCOMPLETE

4.11.3 Add Event Mask Command

This command adds events to the current event mask.

Command	ATE+ <event mask=""></event>	
Response	OK	

Example:

4.11.4 Remove Event Mask Command

This command removes events from the current event mask.

Command	ATE- <event mask=""></event>	
Response	ОК	

Example:

→ ATE-RX TX	(remove	RXCOMPLETE,	TXCOMPLETE	from	the	current	event	mask)
← OK								

4.12 Events

The following events can be generated by the modem if they are enabled in the event mask.

EV JOINING

The modem has started joining the network.

• EV_JOINED

The modem has successfully joined the network and is now ready for data exchanges.

• EV JOIN FAILED

The modem could not join the network (after retrying).

EV REJOIN FAILED

The modem did not join a new network but is still connected to the old network.

• EV TXCOMPLETE

The data has been sent, and eventually downstream data has been received in return. If confirmation was requested, the acknowledgement has been received.

EV_RXCOMPLETE

Downstream data has been received.

• EV SCAN TIMEOUT

No beacon was received within the beacon interval.

EV_BEACON_FOUND

The first beacon has been received.

EV_BEACON_TRACKED

The next beacon has been received at the expected time.

• EV BEACON MISSED

No beacon was received at the expected time.

EV_LOST_TSYNC

Beacon was missed repeatedly and time synchronization has been lost.

• EV RESET

Session reset due to rollover of sequence counters. If configured, the join parameters will be used to automatically rejoin the network.

EV LINK DEAD

No confirmation has been received from the network server for an extended period of time. Transmissions are still possible but their reception is uncertain.

Most events don't have return parameters and will be reported only with the event name. Only the two events EV_TXCOMPLETE and EV_RXCOMPLETE do have return parameters:

- EV_TXCOMPLETE,
 recv flags>[,<port>[,<data>]]
- EV_RXCOMPLETE,<recv flags>[,<port>[,<data>]]

Both event messages are always followed by flags to indicate the reception state. Optionally these events are appended with port information and the received application data.

The reception flags are coded as two ASCII digits <*X>*<*Y>* with the following meaning:

Digit Value	Description
<x>= 0</x>	No information
<x> = A</x>	Frame acknowledged, ACK
<x> = N</x>	Frame not acknowledged, NACK
<y>= 0</y>	No frame received
<y>= 1</y>	Frame received in down window 1
<y> = 2</y>	Frame received in down window 2
<y> = P</y>	Frame received in ping slot

5. Release History

Version and date	Description
V 1.0	Initial version.
February 2015	
V 1.1	Minor internal fixes. Document reformatting.
March 2015	
V 1.2	Rebuilt using LMiC v1.5.
May 2015	

IBM Long Range Signaling and Control

IBM LoRaWAN in C (LMiC)

LMiC Product Information

LMiC is developed and marketed by the IBM Zurich Research Laboratory (IBM Research GmbH), 8803 Rüschlikon, Switzerland. For additional information please contact: lrsc@zurich.ibm.com.

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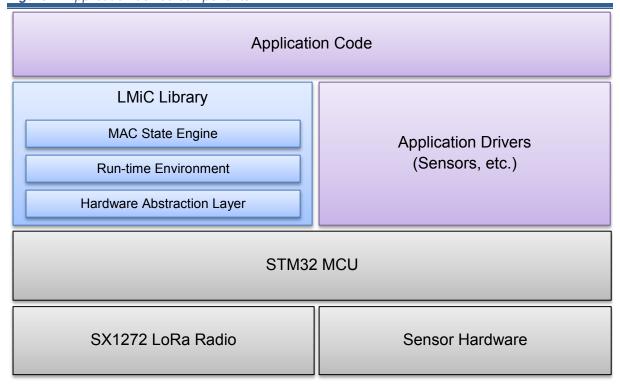
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1. Introduction

The IBM LoRaWAN C-library (LMiC) is a portable implementation of the LoRa™ MAC specification for the C programming language. It supports both the EU-868 and the US-915 variants of the specification and it can handle class A and class B devices. The library takes care of all logical MAC states and timing constraints and drives the SEMTECH SX1272 radio. This way, applications are free to perform other tasks and the protocol compliance is guaranteed by the library. In order to ensure compliance with the specification and associated regulations, the state engine has been tested and verified using a logic simulation environment. The library has been carefully engineered to precisely satisfy the timing constraints of the MAC protocol and to even consider possible clock drifts in the timing computations. Applications can access and configure all functionality via a simple event-based programming model and do not have to deal with platform-specific details like interrupt handlers. By using a thin hardware abstraction layer (HAL), the library can be easily ported to new hardware platforms. For the STM32/Cortex-M3 platform, a reference implementation of the HAL is supplied and the overall code footprint of all components on this platform is less than 20K.

In addition to the provided LMiC library a real-world application also needs drivers for the sensors or other hardware it desires to control. These application drivers are outside the scope of this document and their code will not be provided by IBM.

Figure 1. Application device components



High-level view of all application device components. On top of the STM32 MCU with the connected SX1272 radio and other sensor hardware runs the LMiC library and the application code.

2. Programming Model and API

The LMiC library can be accessed via a set of API functions, run-time functions, callback functions, and a global LMIC data structure. The interface is defined in a single header file "lmic.h" which all applications should include.

```
#include "lmic.h"
```

To identify the version of the LMiC library two constants are defined in this header file.

```
#define LMIC_VERSION_MAJOR 1
#define LMIC_VERSION_MINOR 6
```

2.1 Programming Model

The LMiC library offers a simple event-based programming model where all protocol events are dispatched to the application's onEvent() callback function (see 2.3.4). In order to free the application of details like timings or interrupts, the library has a built-in run-time environment to take care of timer queues and job management.

2.1.1 Application jobs

In this model all application code is run in so-called jobs which are executed on the main thread by the run-time scheduler function os_runloop() (see 2.2.4). These application jobs are coded as normal C functions and can be managed using the run-time functions described in section 2.2. For the job management an additional per job control struct osjob_t is required which identifies the job and stores context information. **Jobs must not be long-running** in order to ensure seamless operation! They should only update state and schedule actions, which will trigger new job or event callbacks.

2.1.2 Main event loop

All an application has to do is to initialize the run-time environment using the os_init() function and to run the job scheduler function os_runloop(), which does not return. In order to bootstrap protocol actions and generate events, an initial job needs to be set up. Therefore, a startup job is scheduled using the os_setCallback() function.

```
void main () {
    osjob_t initjob;

// initialize run-time env
    os_init();
    // setup initial job
    os_setCallback(&initjob, initfunc);
    // execute scheduled jobs and events
    os_runloop();
    // (not reached)
}
```

The startup code shown in the initfunc() function below initializes the MAC and starts joining the network.

```
// initial job
static void initfunc (osjob_t* j) {
    // reset MAC state
    LMIC_reset();
    // start joining
    LMIC_startJoining();
    // init done - onEvent() callback will be invoked...
}
```

The initfunc() function will return immediately, and the onEvent() callback function will be invoked by the scheduler later on for the events EV_JOINING, EV_JOINED or EV_JOIN_FAILED.

2.2 Run-time Functions

The run-time functions menitioned before are used to control the run-time environment. This includes initialization, scheduling and execution of the run-time jobs.

```
2.2.1 void os_setCallback (osjob_t* job, osjobcb_t cb)
```

Prepare an immediately runnable job. This function can be called at any time, including from interrupt handler contexts (e.g. if a new sensor value has become available).

```
2.2.2 void os_setTimedCallback (osjob_t* job, ostime_t time, osjobcb_t cb)
```

Schedule a timed job to run at the given timestamp (absolute system time). This function can be called at any time, including from interrupt handler contexts.

```
2.2.3 void os_clearCallback (osjob_t* job)
```

Cancel a run-time job. A previously scheduled run-time job is removed from timer and run queues. The job is identified by the address of the job struct. The function has no effect if the specified job is not yet scheduled.

```
2.2.4 void os_runloop ()
```

Execute run-time jobs from the timer and from the run queues. This function is the main action dispatcher. It does not return and must be run on the main thread.

```
2.2.5 ostime_t os_getTime ()
```

Query absolute system time (in ticks).

2.3 Application callbacks

The LMiC library requires the application to implement a few callback functions. These functions will be called by the state engine to query application-specific information and to deliver state events to the application.

2.3.1 void os_getDevEui (u1_t* buf)

The implementation of this callback function has to provide the device EUI and copy it to the given buffer. The device EUI is 8 bytes in length and is stored in little-endian format, that is, least-significant-byte-first (LSBF).

2.3.2 void os_getDevKey (u1_t* buf)

The implementation of this callback function has to provide the device-specific cryptographic application key and copy it to the given buffer. The device-specific application key is a 128-bit AES key (16 bytes in length).

2.3.3 void os_getArtEui (u1_t* buf)

The implementation of this callback function has to provide the application EUI and copy it to the given buffer. The application EUI is 8 bytes in length and is stored in little-endian format, that is, least-significant-byte-first (LSBF).

2.3.4 void onEvent (ev_t ev)

The implementation of this callback function may react on certain events and trigger new actions based on the event and the LMIC state. Typically, an implementation processes the events it is interested in and schedules further protocol actions using the LMIC API. The following events will be reported:

EV JOINING

The node has started joining the network.

EV_JOINED

The node has successfully joined the network and is now ready for data exchanges.

EV JOIN FAILED

The node could not join the network (after retrying).

• EV REJOIN FAILED

The node did not join a new network but is still connected to the old network.

EV TXCOMPLETE

The data prepared via LMIC_setTxData() has been sent, and eventually downstream data has been received in return. If confirmation was requested, the acknowledgement has been received.

EV RXCOMPLETE

Downstream data has been received.

• EV SCAN TIMEOUT

After a call to LMIC_enableTracking() no beacon was received within the beacon interval. Tracking needs to be restarted.

EV_BEACON_FOUND

After a call to LMIC_enableTracking() the first beacon has been received within the beacon interval.

EV_BEACON_TRACKED

The next beacon has been received at the expected time.

EV BEACON MISSED

No beacon was received at the expected time.

EV LOST TSYNC

Beacon was missed repeatedly and time synchronization has been lost. Tracking or pinging needs to be restarted.

• EV_RESET

Session reset due to rollover of sequence counters. Network will be rejoined automatically to acquire new session.

• EV_LINK_DEAD

No confirmation has been received from the network server for an extended period of time. Transmissions are still possible but their reception is uncertain.

Details for specific events can be obtained from the global LMIC structure decribed in the next section.

2.4 The LMIC Struct

Instead of passing numerous parameters back and forth between API and callback functions, information about the protocol state can be accessed via a global LMIC structure as shown below. All fields besides the ones explicitly mentioned below are read-only and should not be modified.

```
struct lmic_t {
               frame[MAX_LEN_FRAME];
    u1_t
                         // 0 no data or zero length data, >0 byte count of data
    u1_t
               dataBeg;
                           // 0 or start of data (dataBeg-1 is port)
    u1 t
    u1 t
               txCnt;
    u1 t
               txrxFlags; // transaction flags (TX-RX combo)
    u1 t
               pendTxPort;
    u1 t
               pendTxConf; // confirmed data
    u1_t
               pendTxLen;
               pendTxData[MAX_LEN_PAYLOAD];
    u1_t
    u1 t
               bcnChn1;
    u1 t
               bcnRxsyms;
    ostime t
               bcnRxtime;
    bcninfo_t bcninfo; // Last received beacon info
};
```

This document does not describe the full struct in detail since most of the fields of the LMIC struct are used internally only. The most important fields to examine on reception (event EV_RXCOMPLETE or EV_TXCOMPLETE) are the txrxFlags for status information and frame[] and dataLen / dataBeg for the received application payload data. For data transmission the most important fields are pendTxData[], pendTxLen, pendTxPort and pendTxConf, which are used as input to the LMIC_setTxData() API function (see 2.5.11).

For the EV_RXCOMPLETE and EV_TXCOMPLETE events, the txrxFlags field sould be evaluated and the following flags are defined:

- TXRX_ACK: confirmed UP frame was acked (mutually exclusive with TXRX_NACK)
- TXRX_NACK: confirmed UP frame was not acked (mutually exclusive with TXRX_ACK)
- TXRX_PORT: a port field is contained in the received frame

- TXRX DNW1: received in first DOWN slot (mutually exclusive with TXRX DNW2)
- TXRX_DNW2: received in second DOWN slot (mutually exclusive with TXRX_DNW1)
- TXRX PING: received in a scheduled RX slot

For the EV TXCOMPLETE event the fields have the following values:

Received frame	LMIC.txrxFlags						LMIC.dataLen LMIC.dataBe			
Neceived Iraille	ACK	NACK	PORT	DNW1	DNW2	PING	LIIIC. uataleii	Lile: databeg		
nothing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
empty frame	х	х	0	х	х	0	0	х		
port only	х	х	1	х	х	0	0	х		
port+payload	х	х	1	х	х	0	х	х		

For the EV_RXCOMPLETE event the fields have the following values:

Received frame LMIC.txrxFlags							LMIC.dataLen	LMIC.dataBeg
Neceived Iraine	ACK	NACK	PORT	DNW1	DNW2	PING	LMIC.uataLen	LHIC. Gatabeg
empty frame	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	х
port only	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	х
port+payload	0	0	1	0	0	1	х	х

2.5 API Functions

The LMiC library offers a set of API functions to control the MAC state and to trigger protocol actions.

2.5.1 void LMIC_reset ()

Reset the MAC state. Session and pending data transfers will be discarded.

2.5.2 bit_t LMIC_startJoining ()

Immediately start joining the network. Will be called implicitely by other API functions if no session has been established yet. The events EV_JOINING and EV_JOINED or EV_JOIN_FAILED will be generated.

2.5.3 void LMIC_tryRejoin ()

Check if other networks are around which can be joined. The session to the current network is kept if no new network is found. The events EV_JOINED or EV_REJOIN_FAILED will be generated.

```
2.5.4 void LMIC_setSession (u4_t netid, devaddr_t devaddr, u1_t* nwkKey, u1_t* artKey)
```

Set static session parameters. Instead of dynamically establishing a session by joining the network, precomputed session parameters can be provided. To resume a session with precomputed parameters, the frame sequence counters (LMIC.seqnoUp and LMIC.seqnoDn) must be restored to their latest values.

2.5.5 bit_t LMIC_setupBand (u1_t bandidx, s1_t txpow, u2_t txcap)

Create new band with the specified transmit power and duty cycle (1/txcap) properties.

2.5.6 bit_t LMIC_setupChannel (u1_t channel, u4_t freq, u2_t drmap, s1_t band)

Create new channel in the given band using the specified frequency and allowing the data rates defined in the data rate bitmask (1 << DRx).

2.5.7 void LMIC disableChannel (u1 t channel)

Disable specified channel.

2.5.8 void LMIC setAdrMode (bit t enabled)

Enable or disable data rate adaptation. Should be turned off if the device is mobile.

2.5.9 void LMIC setLinkCheckMode (bit t enabled)

Enable/disable link check validation. Link check mode is enabled by default and is used to periodically verify network connectivity. Must be called only if a session is established.

```
2.5.10 void LMIC setDrTxpow (dr t dr, s1 t txpow)
```

Set data rate and transmit power. Should only be used if data rate adaptation is disabled.

2.5.11 void LMIC setTxData ()

Prepare upstream data transmission at the next possible time. It is assumed, that pendTxData, pendTxLen, pendTxPort and pendTxConf have already been set. Data of length LMIC.pendTxLen from the array LMIC.pendTxData[] will be sent to port LMIC.pendTxPort. If LMIC.pendTxConf is true, confirmation by the server will be requested. The event EV_TXCOMPLETE will be generated when the transaction is complete, i.e. after the data has been sent and eventual down data or a requested acknowledgement has been received.

```
2.5.12 int LMIC_setTxData2 (u1_t port, xref2u1_t data, u1_t dlen, u1_t confirmed)
```

Prepare upstream data transmission at the next possible time. Convenience function for LMIC_setTxData(). If data is NULL, the data in LMIC.pendTxData[] will be used.

2.5.13 void LMIC_clrTxData ()

Remove data previously prepared for upstream transmission.

2.5.14 bit t LMIC enableTracking (u1 t tryBcnInfo)

Enable beacon tracking. A value of 0 for <code>tryBcnInfo</code> indicates to start scanning for the beacon immediately. A non-zero value specifies the number of attempts to query the server for the exact beacon arrival time. The query requests will be sent within the next upstream frames (no frame will be generated). If no answer is received scanning will be started. The events <code>EV_BEACON_FOUND</code> or <code>EV_SCAN_TIMEOUT</code> will be generated for the first beacon, and the events <code>EV_BEACON_TRACKED</code>, <code>EV_BEACON_MISSED</code> or <code>EV_LOST_TSYNC</code> will be generated for subsequent beacons.

2.5.15 void LMIC disableTracking ()

Disable beacon tracking. The beacon will be no longer tracked and, therefore, also pinging will be disabled.

2.5.16 void LMIC_setPingable (u1_t intvExp)

Enable pinging and set the downstream listen interval. Pinging will be enabled with the next upstream frame (no frame will be generated). The listen interval is 2^{hintvExp} seconds, valid values for intvExp are 0-7. This API function requires a valid session established with the network server either via LMIC_startJoining() or LMIC_setSession() functions (see sections 2.5.2 and 2.5.4). If beacon tracking is not yet enabled, scanning will be started immediately. In order to avoid scanning, the beacon can be located more efficiently by a preceding call to LMIC_enableTracking() with a non-zero parameter. Additionally to the events mentioned for LMIC_enableTracking(), the event EV_RXCOMPLETE will be generated whenever downstream data has been received in a ping slot.

2.5.17 void LMIC_stopPingable ()

Stop listening for downstream data. Periodical reception is disabled, but beacons will still be tracked. In order to stop tracking, the beacon a call to LMIC_disableTracking() is required.

2.5.18 void LMIC_sendAlive ()

Send one empty upstream MAC frame as soon as possible. Might be used to signal liveness or to transport pending MAC options, and to open a receive window.

2.5.19 void LMIC_shutdown ()

Stop all MAC activity. Subsequently, the MAC needs to be reset via a call to LMIC_reset() and new protocol actions need to be initiated.

3. Hardware Abstraction Layer

The LMiC library is separated into a large portion of portable code and a small platform-specific part. By implementing the functions of this hardware abstraction layer with the specified semantics, the library can be easily ported to new hardware platforms.

3.1 HAL Interface

The following groups of hardware components must be supported:

- Four digital I/O lines are needed in output mode to drive the radio's antenna switch (RX and TX), the SPI chip select (NSS), and the reset line (RST).
- Three digital I/O lines are needed in input mode to sense the radio's transmitter and receiver states (DI00, DI01 and DI02).
- A SPI unit is needed to read and write the radio's registers.
- A timer unit is needed to precisely record events and to schedule new protocol actions.
- An interrupt controller is needed to forward interrupts generated by the digital input lines.

This section describes the function interface required to access these hardware components:

3.1.1 void **hal_init** ()

Initialize the hardware abstraction layer. Configure all components (IO, SPI, TIMER, IRQ) for further use with the hal_xxx () functions.

3.1.2 void hal_failed ()

Perform "fatal failure" action. This function will be called by code assertions on fatal conditions. Possible actions could be HALT or reboot.

3.1.3 void hal_pin_rxtx (u1_t val)

Drive the digital output pins RX and TX (0=receive, 1=transmit).

3.1.4 void hal pin nss (u1 t val)

Drive the digital output pin NSS (0=low/selected, 1=high/deselected).

3.1.5 void hal_pin_rst (u1_t val)

Control the radio RST pin (0=low, 1=high, 2=floating)

3.1.6 void radio_irq_handler (u1_t dio)

The three input lines DI00, DI01 and DI02 must be configured to trigger an interrupt on the rising edge and the corresponding interrupt handlers must invoke the function radio_irq_handler() and pass the line which generated the interrupt as argument (0, 1, 2).

3.1.7 u1_t hal_spi (u1_t outval)

Perform 8-bit SPI transaction. Write given byte outval to radio, read byte from radio and return value.

```
3.1.8 u4_t hal_ticks ()
```

Return 32-bit system time in ticks.

```
3.1.9 void hal_waitUntil (u4_t time)
```

Busy-wait until specified timestamp (in ticks) is reached.

```
3.1.10 u1 t hal checkTimer (u4 t targettime)
```

Check and rewind timer for given *targettime*. Return 1 if *targettime* is close (not worthwhile programming the timer). Otherwise rewind timer for exact *targettime* or for full timer period and return 0. The only action required when *targettime* is reached is that the CPU wakes up from possible sleep states.

```
3.1.11 void hal_disableIRQs ()
```

Disable all CPU interrupts. Might be invoked nested. But will always be followed by matching call to hal_enableIRQs().

```
3.1.12 void hal enableIRQs ()
```

Enable CPU interrupts. When invoked nested, only the outmost invocation actually must enable the interrupts.

```
3.1.13 void hal_sleep ()
```

Sleep until interrupt occurs. Preferably system components can be put in low-power mode before sleep, and be re-initialized after sleep.

3.2 HAL Reference Implementation for STM32/Cortex-M3

The source code of the LMiC library includes a reference implementation of the HAL for the STM32/Cortex-M3 platform. This implementation demonstrates the required semantics of the HAL function interface. For brevity's sake it is kept as simple as possible and it is not optimized (e.g. for power consumption). We will describe here the hardware resources used by this implementation. Applications using the library must be aware of the use of these resources and must not interfere with them! Either applications have to use different resources available on the platform, or they have to modify the HAL implementation and multiplex access to the required resources!

3.2.1 Output I/O Lines

The following generic output lines are used to control the radio.

Function	GPIO
NSS	PB 0
TX	PA 4
RX	PC 13
RST	PA 2

3.2.2 Input I/O Lines

The following generic input lines are used to track the transmitter and receiver state. These lines are programmed to generate interrupts on the rising edge (see section 3.1.6 and 3.2.5).

Function	GPIO
DIO 0	PB 1
DIO 1	PB 10
DIO 2	PB 11

3.2.3 SPI

The SPI1 peripheral is connected to the radio as shown in the table below.

Function	GPIO
SCK	PA 5
MISO	PA 6
MOSI	PA 7

3.2.4 Timer

The TIMER 9 peripheral is used to provide 32kHz clock ticks and to generate comparator interrupts for scheduled protocol actions.

3.2.5 Interupts

One EXTI interrupt handler is used to handle all external I/O line interrupt groups (0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5-9, 10-15). The EXTI handler checks the source of the interrupt and eventually invokes the radio_irq_handler().

The handler for TIMER 9 interrupts updates the system clock ticks on roll-over of the counter. No specific action has to be performed by the handler when the interrupt is triggered by the comparator. It is sufficient that the CPU wakes from sleep and the run-time environment of LMiC can check for pending actions.

4. Examples

A set of examples is provided to demonstrate how typical node applications can be implemented with only a few lines of code using the LMiC library. The shipped examples are ready to run on the demo board of the $IMST/WiMOD\ LoRa^{TM}\ Radio\ Starter\ Kit$.

The examples can be built using different compiler toolchains and makefiles are provided for *IAR*, *Keil* and *GCC*. Additionally project files for the integrated development environments *IAR Workbench* and *Keil* μ *Vision* are provided in the examples directory of the ZIP file.

Note: all projects should have the following preprocessor defines set in the project options: CFG_eu868, CFG_wimod_board, CFG_sx1272_radio

In addition to driving the radio using the LMiC APIs, the examples are written to give local feedback via a LED and a serial console using the debug library described in section 4.8. The demo board will make the serial console available as "USB Serial Port" on the connected PC and the output of the debug functions can be easily viewed with the terminal application of your choice. Communication parameters are 115200bps 8/N/1.

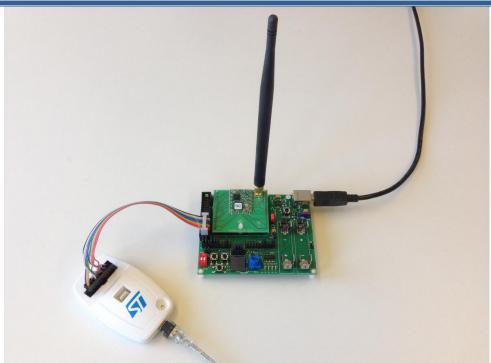


Figure 2. IMST / WiMOD LoRa™ Radio Starter Kit

The examples have been tested on IMST WiMOD SK-iM880A.

For brevity's sake only the relevant portions of the code are included in the snippets shown for each example in this section. In most cases, this is the application's onEvent() callback function plus some utility glue contained in the example's main.c file.

4.1 Example 1: hello

The first example (*hello*) can be used to verify that your development environment is up and running and all components are well connected. The example doesn't use the radio, it only uses the run-time functions and the debug library to periodically log a counter value to the serial console and to blink the LED.

```
// counter
static int cnt = 0;

// log text to USART and toggle LED
static void initfunc (osjob_t* job) {
    // say hello
    debug_str("Hello World!\r\n");
    // log counter
    debug_val("cnt = ", cnt);
    // toggle LED
    debug_led(++cnt & 1);
    // reschedule job every second
    os_setTimedCallback(job, os_getTime()+sec2osticks(1), initfunc);
}
```

If everything is set up correctly and the program is executed you should see the LED blink in a one second interval and see the following output on the terminal:

4.2 Example 2: join

The next example (*join*) can be used to verify that the radio is working and that the node settings are correct and match your network infrastructure. For the example to work, the application callbacks os_getArtEui(), os_getDevEui() and os_getDevKey() have to return correct values for the application router id, the device id, and the device key!

```
static osjob_t blinkjob;
static u1_t ledstate = 0;

static void blinkfunc (osjob_t* j) {
    // toggle LED
    ledstate = !ledstate;
    debug_led(ledstate);
    // reschedule blink job
    os_setTimedCallback(j, os_getTime()+ms2osticks(100), blinkfunc);
}
```

```
debug_event(ev);
    switch(ev) {
      // starting to join network
      case EV_JOINING:
          // start blinking
          blinkfunc(&blinkjob);
          break;
      // network joined, session established
      case EV_JOINED:
          // cancel blink job
          os_clearCallback(&blinkjob);
          // switch on LED
          debug_led(1);
          // (don't schedule any new actions)
          break;
    }
}
```

On execution the LED should start blinking fast, and after about five seconds (if the network can be successfully joined), it should become ON permanently. The output on the terminal should be JOINING at the beginning, and after about five seconds JOINED.

```
======== DEBUG STARTED ========
JOINING
JOINED
```

4.3 Example 3: transmit

After joining the network, the *transmit* example will start sending upstream frames containing one byte with the last known signal-to-noise ratio. Once a transmission is complete, a new transmission will be scheduled immediately, and hence the frames will be sent with the maximum rate permitted by the duty cycle. If downstream data has been received in the receive slot after the transmission, it will be logged to the console.

```
// schedule transmission (port 1, datalen 1, no ack requested)
    LMIC_setTxData2(1, LMIC.frame, 1, 0);
    // (will be sent as soon as duty cycle permits)
    break;
}
```

The upstream frames should be delivered to the application router and the following output should be seen on the node's console:

```
========= DEBUG STARTED =========

JOINING
JOINED
netid = 00000001
TXCOMPLETE
TXCOMPLETE
TXCOMPLETE
```

4.4 Example 4: periodic

The next example (*periodic*) will periodically report a sensor value to the network. After joining, a job is run which reads the sensor, prepares an upstream transmission with the sensor's value, and reschedules the job for repeated execution in 60 seconds. To implement the sensor, this example uses platform-specific functions initsensor() and readsensor() contained in the file sensor.c. The sample sensor simply reads the position of the "DIP switch 1" on the demo board (PB 12) as 1-bit value.

```
static osjob_t reportjob;
// report sensor value every minute
static void reportfunc (osjob_t* j) {
    // read sensor
    u2_t val = readsensor();
    debug_val("val = ", val);
    // prepare and schedule data for transmission
    LMIC.frame[0] = val << 8;</pre>
    LMIC.frame[1] = val;
    LMIC_setTxData2(1, LMIC.frame, 2, 0); // (port 1, 2 bytes, unconfirmed)
    // reschedule job in 60 seconds
    os_setTimedCallback(j, os_getTime()+sec2osticks(60), reportfunc);
void onEvent (ev_t ev) {
    debug_event(ev);
    switch(ev) {
      // network joined, session established
      case EV_JOINED:
          // switch on LED
          debug_led(1);
          // kick-off periodic sensor job
          reportfunc(&reportjob);
          break;
```

```
}
}
```

Depending on the position of DIP switch 1, this example should generate output similar to this:

```
========= DEBUG STARTED =========

JOINING
JOINED
val = 00000001
TXCOMPLETE
val = 00000001
TXCOMPLETE
val = 00000000
TXCOMPLETE
```

4.5 Example 5: interrupt

This example (*interrupt*) uses the same sensor as in the previous example but it doesn't read the sensor periodically. Instead, it is interrupt-driven and only sends the sensor value when the sensor has changed. An application-defined interrupt handler has been added in the sensor.c file to run a registered job callback when the interrupt is triggered:

```
// called by EXTI_IRQHandler
// (set preprocessor option CFG_EXTI_IRQ_HANDLER=sensorirq)
void sensorirq () {
   if((EXTI->PR & (1<<INP_PIN)) != 0) { // pending
        EXTI->PR = (1<<INP_PIN); // clear irq
        // run application callback function in 50ms (debounce)
        os_setTimedCallback(&irqjob, os_getTime()+ms2osticks(50), irqjob.func);
   }
}</pre>
```

4.6 Example 6: beacon

The following example (*beacon*) enables beacon tracking after joining the network. It drives the LED depending on the TRACKED/MISSED events in each period. If the beacon is successfully tracked, the GPS time contained in the beaon is logged to the console.

```
void onEvent (ev_t ev) {
    debug_event(ev);

switch(ev) {

    // network joined, session established
    case EV_JOINED:
        // enable tracking mode, start scanning...
        LMIC_enableTracking(0);
        debug_str("SCANNING...\r\n");
        break;

    // beacon found by scanning
    case EV_BEACON_FOUND:
```

```
// switch LEN on
          debug_led(1);
          break;
      // beacon tracked at expected time
      case EV_BEACON_TRACKED:
          debug_val("GPS time = ", LMIC.bcninfo.time);
          // switch LEN on
          debug led(1);
          break;
      // beacon missed at expected time
      case EV_BEACON_MISSED:
          // switch LEN off
          debug_led(0);
          break;
    }
}
```

Depending on the reception quality the console output should look similar to this:

```
========= DEBUG STARTED ========

JOINING
JOINED
SCANNING...
BEACON_FOUND
BEACON_TRACKED
GPS time = 545CE201
BEACON_TRACKED
GPS time = 545CE281
BEACON_TRACKED
GPS time = 545CE301
```

4.7 Example 7: ping

The next example (ping) joins the network and repeatedly listens for downstream data. This is achieved by enabling the beacon-based ping mode with an interval of two seconds. The call to LMIC_setPingable() sets the ping mode locally and starts scanning for the beacon. Once the first beacon has been found, an upstream frame needs to be sent (in this case an empty frame via LMIC_sendAlive()) to transport the MAC options and to notify the server of the ping mode and interval. Whenever the server has sent downstream data in one of the receive slots, the EV_RXCOMPLETE event is triggered and the received data can be evaluated in the frame field of the LMIC struct. The sample code logs the received data to the console and, in the special case when exactly one byte is received, it drives the LED depending on the received value.

```
void onEvent (ev_t ev) {
    debug_event(ev);

switch(ev) {

    // network joined, session established
    case EV_JOINED:
        // enable pinging mode, start scanning...
        // (set local ping interval configuration to 2^1 == 2 sec)
```

```
LMIC setPingable(1);
          debug_str("SCANNING...\r\n");
          break;
      // beacon found by scanning
      case EV_BEACON_FOUND:
          // send empty frame up to notify server of ping mode and interval!
          LMIC sendAlive();
          break;
      // data frame received in ping slot
      case EV_RXCOMPLETE:
          // log frame data
          debug_buf(LMIC.frame+LMIC.dataBeg, LMIC.dataLen);
          if(LMIC.dataLen == 1) {
              // set LED state if exactly one byte is received
              debug led(LMIC.frame[LMIC.dataBeg] & 0x01);
          }
          break;
    }
}
```

4.8 Example 8: modem

The next example *(modem)* is a full modem application and provides easy access to LoRaWAN networks via high-level ASCII commands exchanged over a serial interface. For complexity reasons the documentation of the modem has been moved to a separate file LMiC-Modem.pdf.

4.9 Debug library

A small debug library is provided to enable local text output for the examples shown in this chapter. This library is not required by LMiC but is useful for development and debugging. The library functions offer simple serial console logging and access to a LED for diagnostic output. The debug library is platform-specific and is implemented for STM32/Cortex-M3.

4.9.1 void debug_init ()

Initilize the peripherals required for the debug functions. USART1 and LED4 are used in the reference implementation for STM32/Cortex-M3. Serial communication settings are 115200 8/N/1.

Function	GPIO
USART 1 TX	PA 9
LED 4	PA 8

```
4.9.2 void debug_led (u1_t val)
```

Drive LED (0=off, 1=on).

4.9.3 void debug_char (u1_t c)

Log single character to serial console.

4.9.4 void **debug_hex** (u1_t b)

Log byte value as two hexadecimal characters to serial console.

```
4.9.5 void debug_buf (const u1_t* buf, u2_t len)
```

Log multiple bytes as space-separated hex characters to serial console.

```
4.9.6 void debug_uint (u4_t ν)
```

Log 32-bit unsigned int value as eight hexadecimal digits to serial console.

```
4.9.7 void debug_str (const u1_t* str)
```

Log arbitrary nul-terminated string to serial console.

```
4.9.8 void debug_event (int ev)
```

Log name of event followed by "\r\n" to serial console.

```
4.9.9 void debug_val (const u1_t* label, u4_t val)
```

Log label string plus hexadecimal integer value followed by "\r\n" to serial console.

5. Release History

Version and date	Description
V 1.0	Initial version.
November 2014	
V 1.1	Added API LMIC_setSession(). Minor internal fixes.
January 2015	
V 1.2	Added APIs LMIC_setupBand(), LMIC_setupChannel(),
February 2015	LMIC_disableChannel(), LMIC_setLinkCheckMode(). Minor internal fixes.
V 1.4	Changed API: port indicator flag in LMIC.txrxFlags has been inverted
March 2015	(now TXRX_PORT, previously TXRX_NOPORT). Internal bug fixes. Document
	formatting.
V 1.5	Bug fixes and documentation update.
May 2015	
V 1.6	Changed license to BSD. Included modem application (see
Jul 2016	examples/modem and LMiC-Modem.pdf). Added STM32 hardware
	drivers and Blipper board-specific peripheral code.