CHAPTER 1

Orphans: Node Structure

1.1 Node Hardware

Due to low cost and ease of use, the Arduino platform was selected as the host for the low-level I^2C interface for communication to the Melexis MLX90620 (*Melexis*). Initially, this presented some challenges, as the *Melexis* recommends a power and communication voltage of 2.6V, while the Arduino is only able to output 3.3V and 5V as power, and 5V as communication. Due to this, it was not possible to directly connect the Arduino to the *Melexis*, and similarly due to the two-way nature of the I^2C 2-wire communication protocol, it was also not possible to simply lower the Arduino voltage using simple electrical techniques, as such techniques would interfere with two-way communication.

A solution was found in the form of a I^2C level-shifter, the Adafruit "4-channel I2C-safe Bi-directional Logic Level Converter" [1], which provided a cheap method to bi-directionally communicate between the two devices at their own preferred voltages. The layout of the circuit necessary to link the Arduino and the *Melexis* using this converter can be seen in Figure 1.1 on the following page.

Additionally, as used in the Thermosense paper, a Passive Infrared Sensor (PIR) motion sensor [2] was also connected to the Arduino . This sensor, operating at 5V natively, did not require any complex circuitry to interface with the Arduino . It is connected to digital pin 2 on the Arduino , where it provides a rising signal in the event that motion is detected, which can be configured to cause an interrupt on the Arduino . In the configuration used in this project, the sensor's sensitivity was set to the highest value (TODO: check) and the time-out for re-triggering was set to the lowest value (approximately 2.5 seconds). Additionally, the continuous re-triggering feature (whereby the sensor produces continuous rising and falling signals for the duration of motion) was disabled using the provided jumpers.

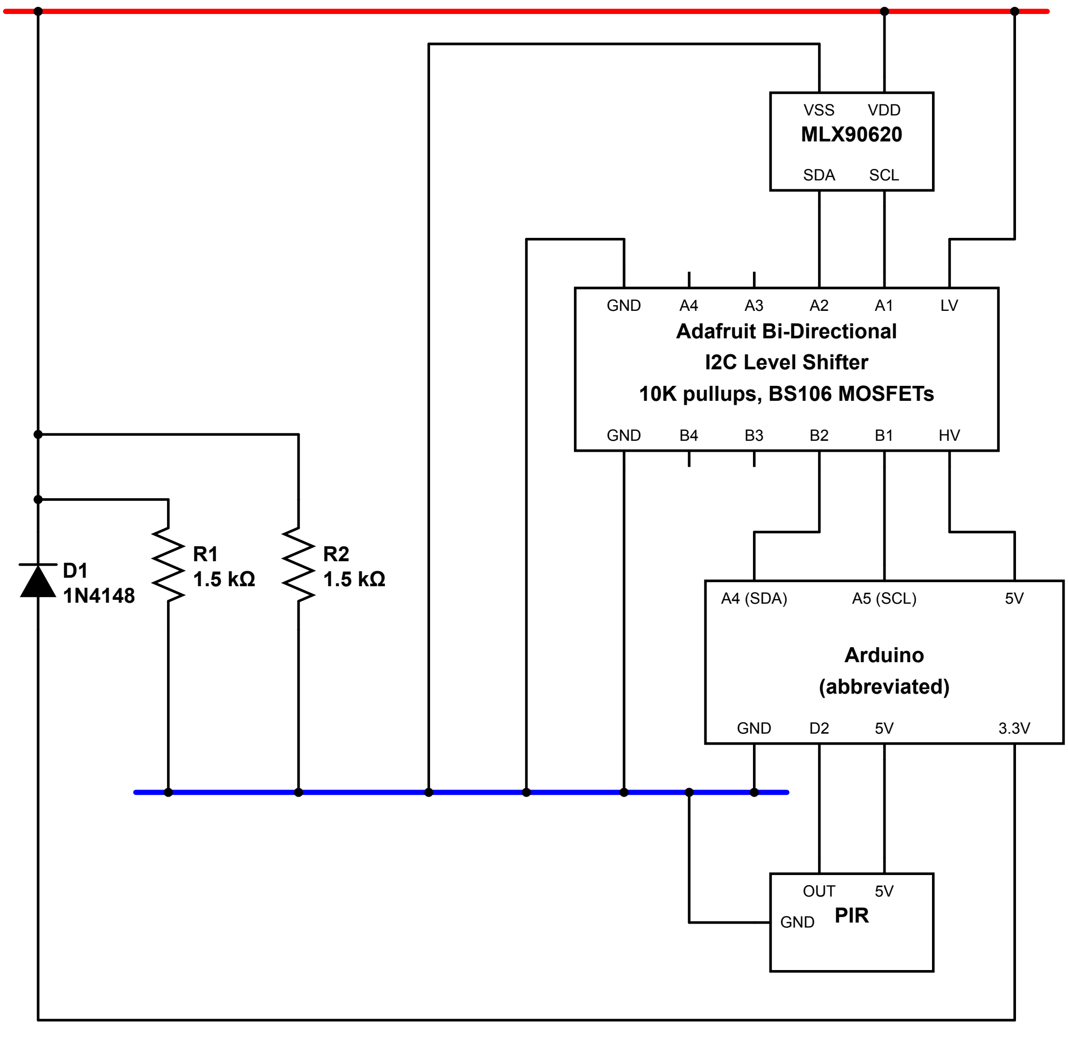


Figure 1.1: MLX90620, PIR and Arduino integration circuit

1.2 Node Software

To calculate the final temperature values that the Melexis MLX90620 (*Melexis*) offers, a complex initialisation and computational process must be followed, which is specified in the sensor's datasheet [4]. This process involves initialising the sensor with values attained from a separate on-board I^2C EEPROM, then retrieving a variety of normalisation and adjustment values, along with the raw sensor data, to compute the final temperature result.

The basic algorithm to perform this normalisation was based upon code by users "maxbot", "IIBaboomba", "nseidle" and others on the Arduino Forums [3] and was modified to operate with the newer Arduino "Wire" I^2C libraries released since the authors' posts. In pursuit of the project's aims to create a more approachable thermal sensor, the code was also restructured and rewritten to be both more readable, and to introduce a set of features to make the management of the sensor data easier for the user, and for the information to be more human readable.

The first of the features introduced was the human-readable format for serial transmission. This allows the user to both easily write code that can parse the serial to acquire the serial data, as well as examine the serial data directly with ease. When the Arduino first boots running the software, the output in Figure 1.2 on the next page is output. This specifies several things that are useful to the user; the attached sensor ("DRIVER"), the build of the software ("BUILD") and the refresh rate of the sensor ("IRHZ"). Several different headers, such as "ACTIVE" and "INIT" specify the current millisecond time of the processor, thus indicating how long the execution of the initialisation process took (33 milliseconds).

Once booted, the user is able to send several one-character commands to the sensor to configure operation, which are described in Table 1.1 on the following page. Depending on the sensor configuration, IR data may be periodically output automatically, or otherwise manually triggered. This IR data is produced in the packet format described in Figure 1.3 on the next page. This is a simple, human readable format that includes the millisecond time of the processor at the start and end of the calculation, if the Passive Infrared Sensor (PIR) has seen any motion for the duration of the calculation, and the 16x4 grid of calculated temperature values.

```
INIT 0
INFO START
DRIVER MLX90620
BUILD Feb  1 2015 00:00:00
IRHZ 1
INFO STOP
ACTIVE 33
```

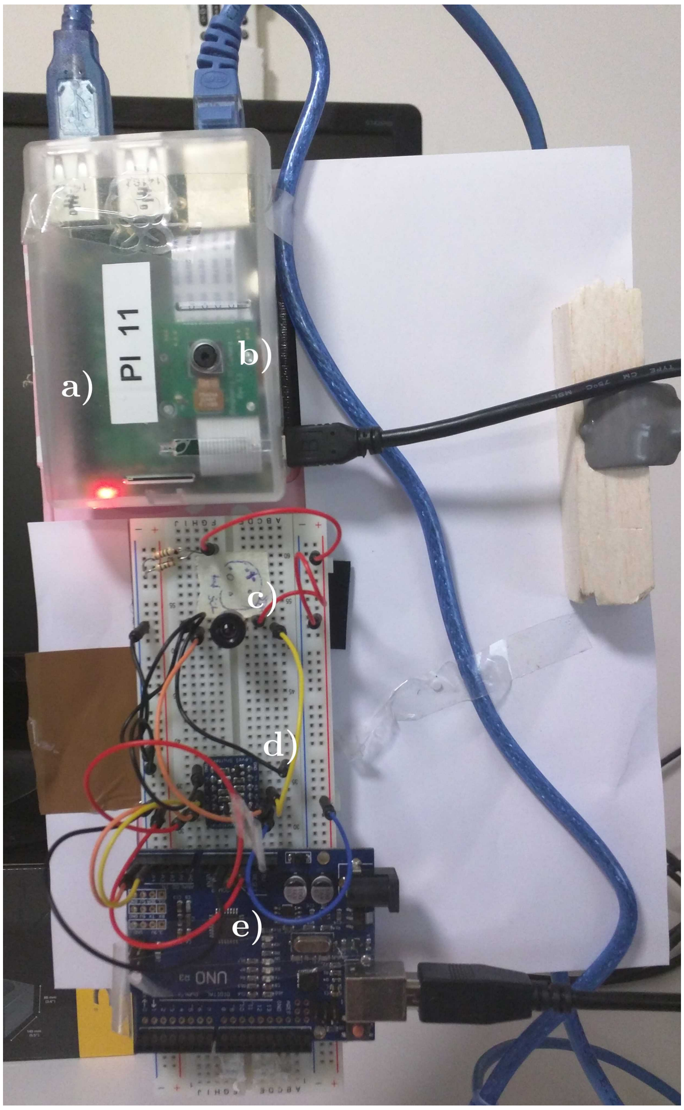
Figure 1.2: Initialisation sequence

`R`	Flush buffers and reset Arduino
`I`	Print INFO again
`T`	Activate timers for periodic IR data output
`O`	Deactivate timers for periodic IR data output
`P`	Manually trigger capture and output of IR data
`F`x	Set sensor refresh frequency to x and reboot

Table 1.1: Commands

```
START 34
MOVEMENT 0
1.0  1.0  1.0  1.0  1.0  1.0  1.0  1.0  1.0  1.0  1.0  1.0  1.0  1.0  1.0  1.0
1.0  1.0  1.0  1.0  1.0  1.0  1.0  1.0  1.0  1.0  1.0  1.0  1.0  1.0  1.0  1.0
1.0  1.0  1.0  1.0  1.0  1.0  1.0  1.0  1.0  1.0  1.0  1.0  1.0  1.0  1.0  1.0
1.0  1.0  1.0  1.0  1.0  1.0  1.0  1.0  1.0  1.0  1.0  1.0  1.0  1.0  1.0  1.0
STOP 97
```

Figure 1.3: Thermal data packet



a) Raspberry Pi

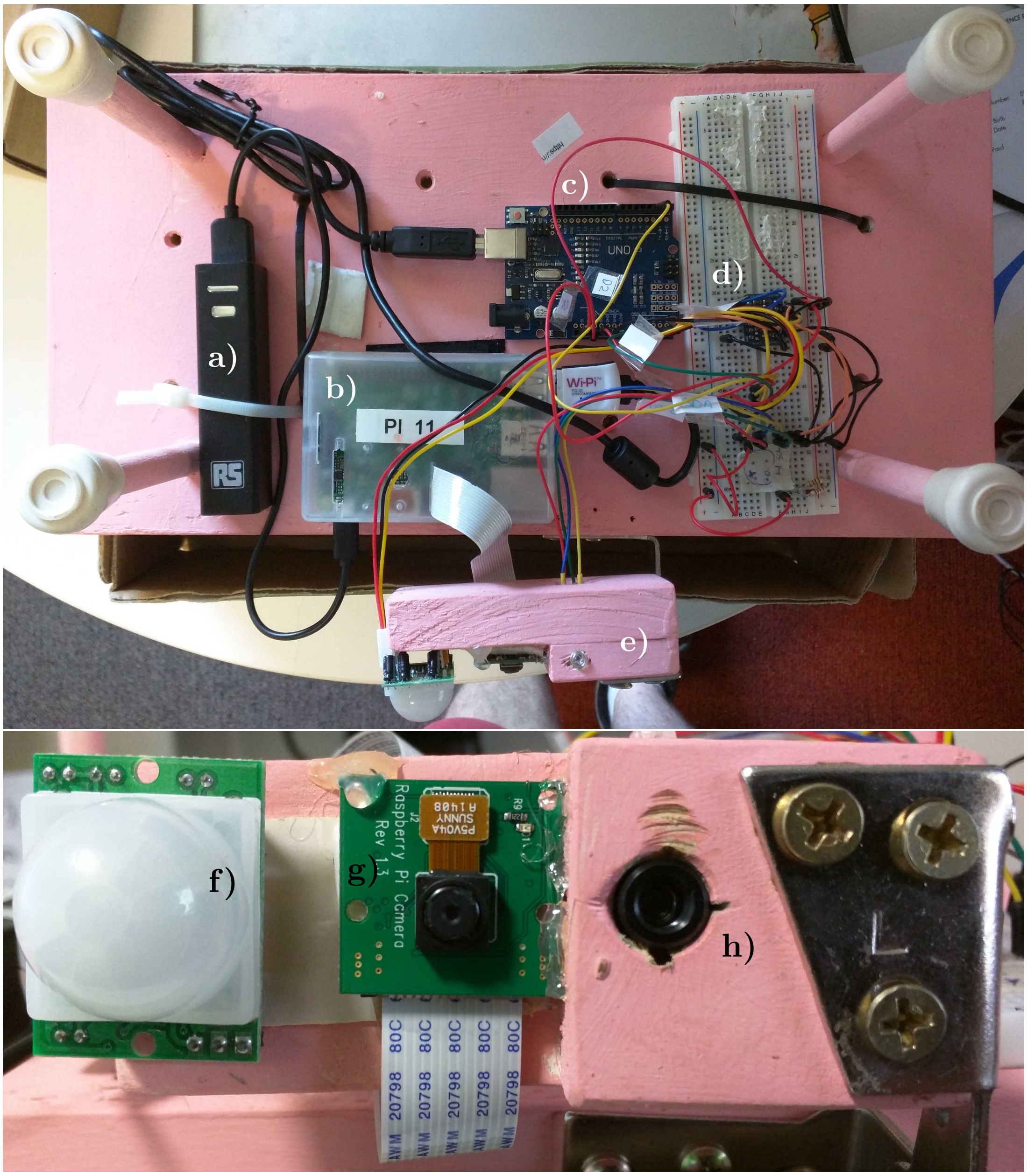
b) Camera

c) *Melexis*

d) Level-shifting circuitry

e) Arduino

Figure 1.4: Prototype A



a) Battery pack
b) Raspberry Pi
c) Arduino
d) Level-shifting circuitry
e) Movable sensor mount
f) PIR
g) Camera
h) *Melexis*

Figure 1.5: Prototype B

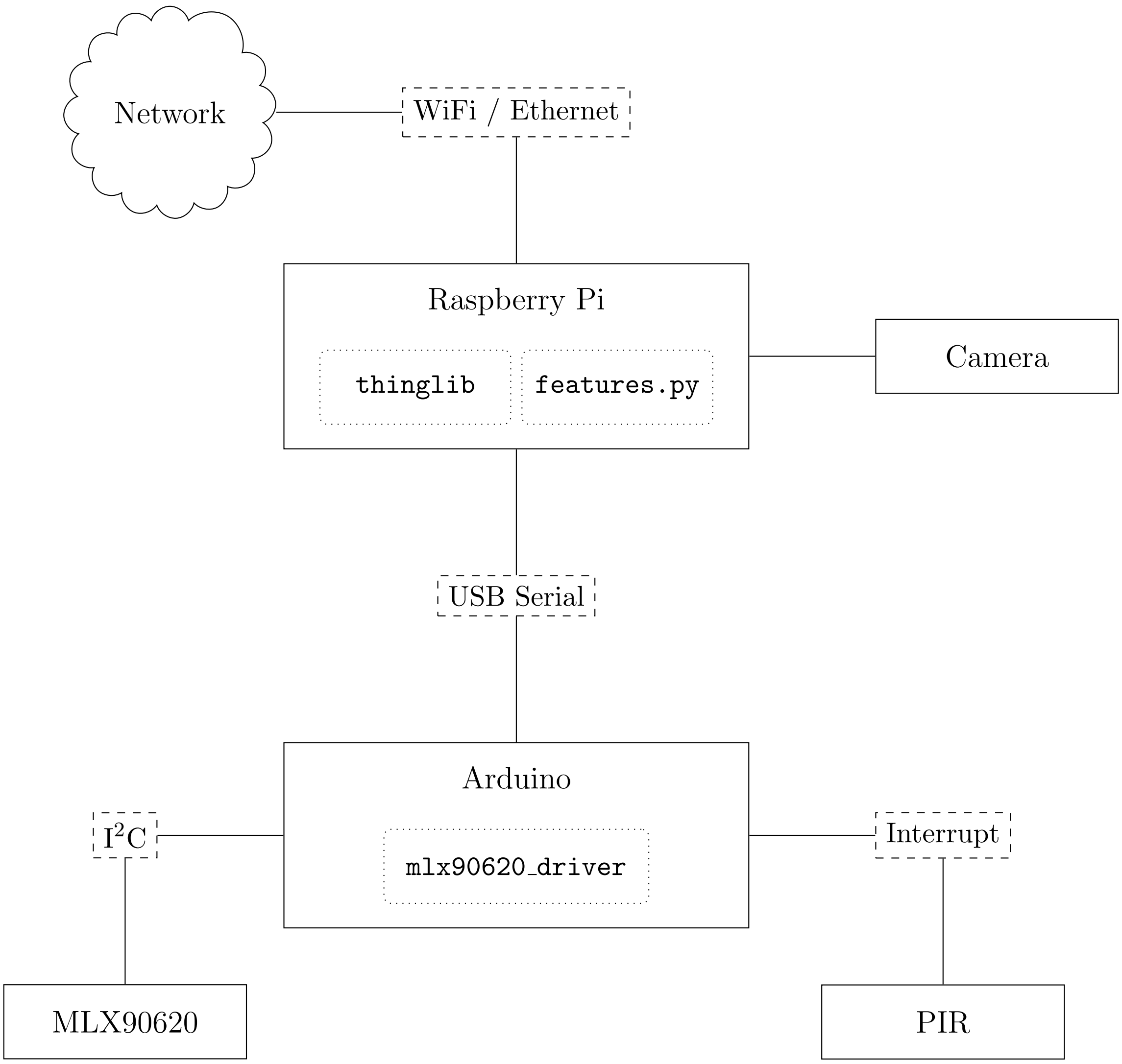


Figure 1.6: Prototype B system architecture

Bibliography

[1] ADAFRUIT. 4-channel I2C-safe bi-directional logic level converter - BSS138 (product ID 757). http://www.adafruit.com/product/757. Accessed: 2015-01-07.

[2] ADAFRUIT. PIR (motion) sensor (product ID 189). http://www.adafruit.com/product/189. Accessed: 2015-02-08.

[3] ARDUINO FORUMS. Arduino and MLX90620 16X4 pixel IR thermal array. http://forum.arduino.cc/index.php/topic,126244.0.html, 2012. Accessed: 2015-01-07.

[4] MELEXIS. Datasheet IR thermometer 16X4 sensor array MLX90620. http://www.melexis.com/Asset/Datasheet-IR-thermometer-16X4-sensor-array-MLX90620-DownloadLink-6099.aspx, 2012. Accessed: 2015-01-07.