CHAPTER 9

Integrating the Software with Raspberry Pi, and Next Steps

In this chapter, you learn to get a Raspberry Pi running and integrate your software to work in its operating system, Raspbian. You see how this proof-of-concept software can be scaled to make a full-fledged assistant, and you go through various enhancements and use cases for Melissa.

To this point, you have successfully developed a virtual assistant that listens to you, understands what you say to some extent, and speaks back to you. It can also do a lot of useful things for you, such that tell you the time and weather, tweet, upload pictures, play music, and so on. You have Melissa running successfully on OS X and Linux. Now it's time to set up Melissa in a Raspberry Pi so that she can contribute to making the Internet of Things (IoT) smarter.

First you need to set up your Raspberry Pi (RPi). Even if you don't have a RPi yet, you should still go through this chapter; it will broaden your views on how you can scale Melissa to make her more useful and how you can employ Melissa in different scenarios to make your devices smarter.

Setting Up a Raspberry Pi

If you have a RPi ready, read about its configuration on the official RPi web site. As you have probably noticed, the RPi comes as a bare-bones board. You need accessories such as a 5 V / 2 amp output micro-USB power adapter, a microSD card for installing the operating system, and an Ethernet cable for connecting the RPi to either your system or your router.

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