

# Connectivity 1

# Agenda

## **Intro to communications**

## **IoT/HW specific protocols**

Wired: UART/RS485, SPI, I2C, OneWire

Wireless: WiFi, BT 4.0/BLE, LoRa, LTE, Zigbee, Z-wave, NFC, IrDA

## **Exercises**

ESP-NOW

Bluetooth Heart Rate

# **Intro to communications**

# What is information?

## Data

Datum = something given, a thing

## Knowledge

Reduces uncertainty

Improves outcome

## Information

Measurable (abstract) knowledge [bit]

Entropy (data vs information)

*“If the base 2 is used the resulting units may be called binary digits, or more briefly **bits**, a word suggested by J. W. Tukey”*

Reducing uncertainty

$$P(A | E) \neq P(A)$$

Improving outcome

$$O'_T | E > O_T$$

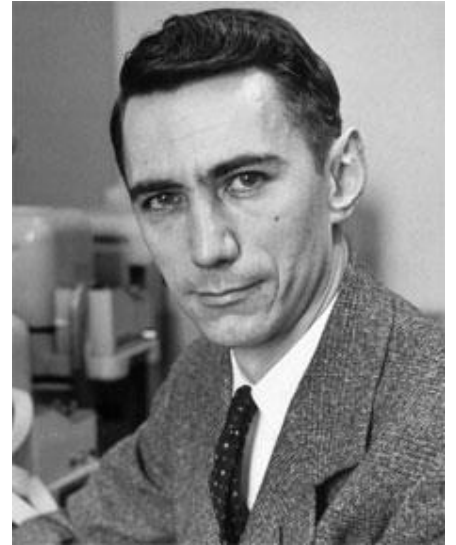
Quantity of information

$$I(m) = \log_2(M) \text{ [bit]}$$

Entropy

$$H = - \sum (P_i \log_2(P_i)) \text{ [bit]}$$

Shannon, Nyquist, Hartley, Mitchell



1916 - 2001

# What is communication?

## Communication

Conveying information (knowledge)

## Encoding & decoding

Information  $\leftrightarrow$  Data

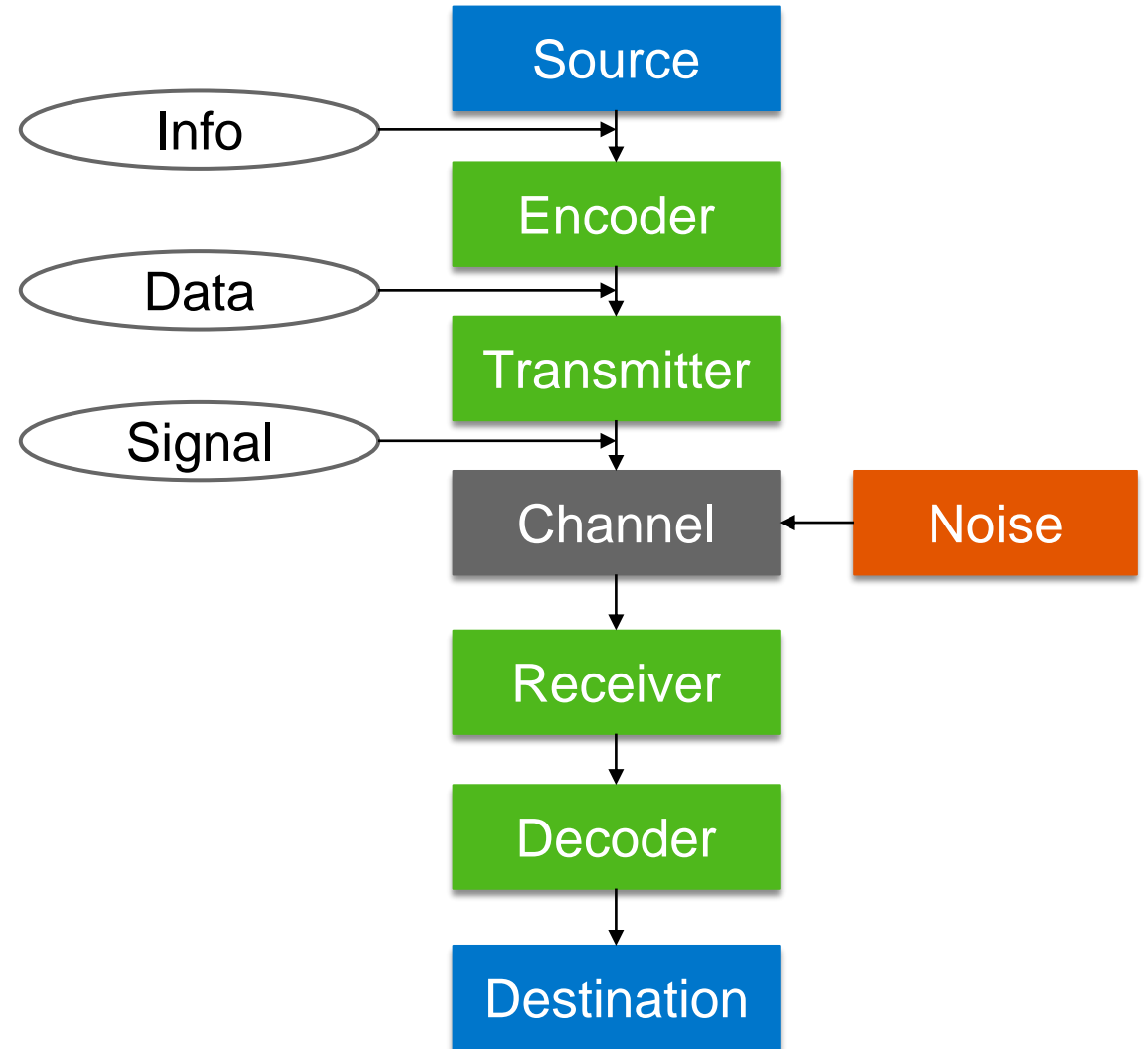
## Transmission & reception

Data  $\leftrightarrow$  Signal (energy wave)

## Channel

Carries the signal / data

May add noise/disturbance



# Signal & channel characteristics

## Signal

Energy: An energy wave

Spectrum (Fourier sum of sine waves)

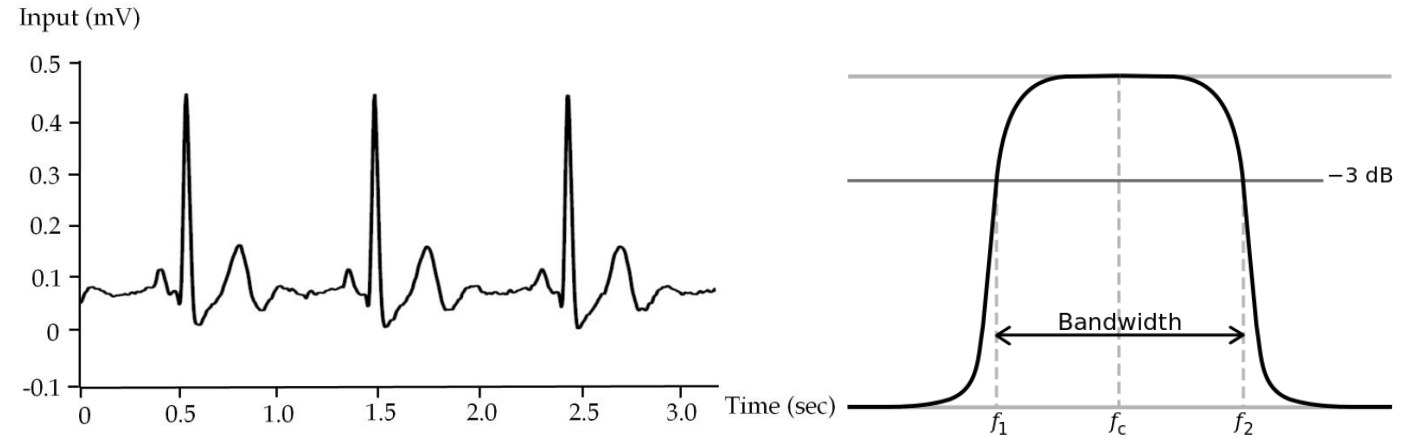
## Channel

Bandwidth, power, noise, attenuation

Latency

Capacity:  $C = B \log_2(1 + P_S/P_N)$  [bit/s]

\*P is power in Watts



<https://www.compadre.org/osp/pwa/soundanalyzer/>

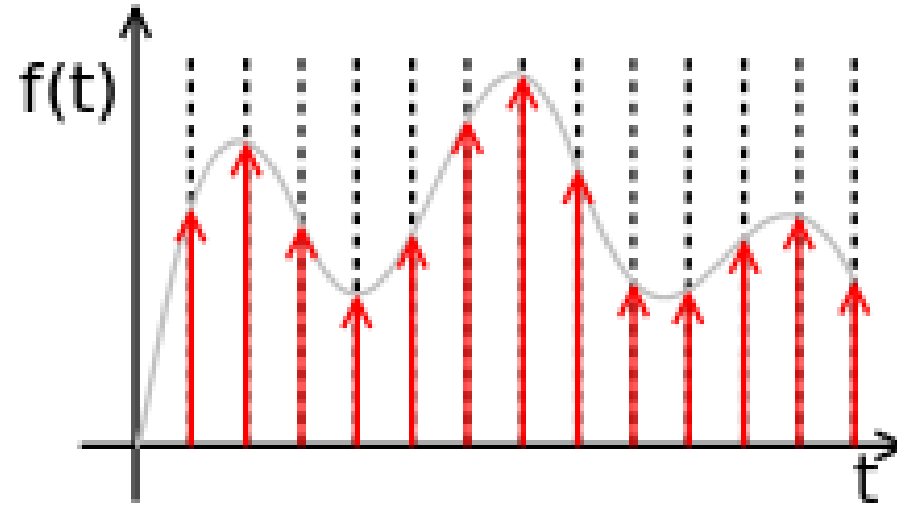
<https://teropa.info/harmonics-explorer/>

# Signal digitalization

## Time discretization

Lossless

Nyquist frequency:  $F_s > 2B$



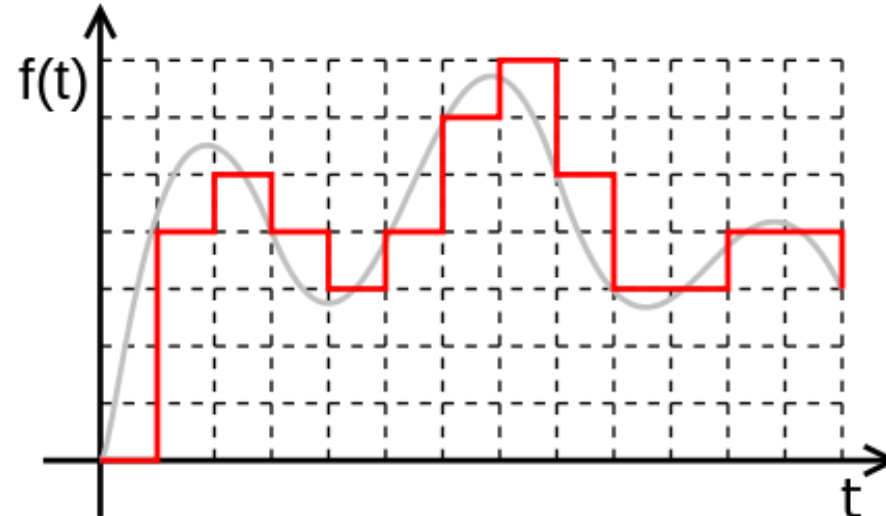
## Amplitude quantization

Always lossy

$$SQNR = 20 \log_{10}(2^Q) = 6.02 Q \text{ [dB]}$$

\* Signal to quantization noise ratio: Q bits

Trick: companding compression



# Common media types

## Electrical wires

Twisted pair: 10 GB/s, 100 m, 0.5 EUR/m

Coaxial: 10 MB/s, 450m, 0.5 EUR/m

## Optical fibers

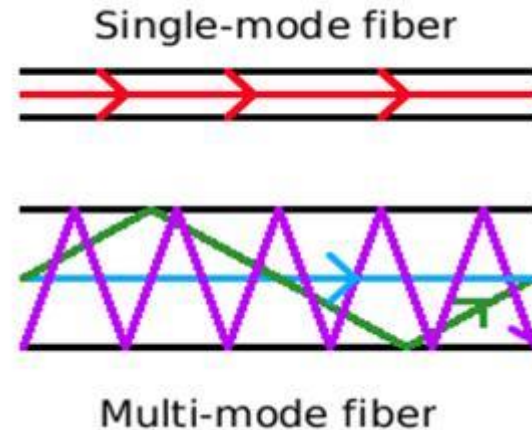
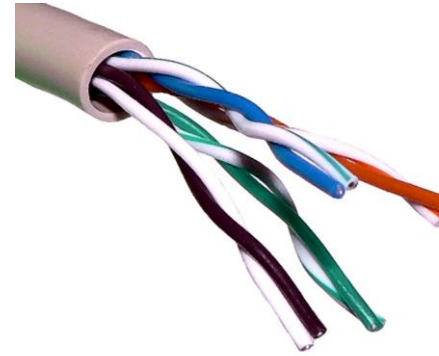
Single mode: 100TB/s, ~150 km, 0.06 EUR/m

Multi-mode: 1GB/km, ~2 km, 0.3 EUR/m

## Radio (e.g. ISM bands)

2.4 / 5GHz: 300MB/s, 50 m

433 / 868 MHz: 64KB/s, 20 km





# More about radio

## Propagation

Direction & Multi path

Penetration

Polarization

## Antennas

Omni and directed

Connectors: SMA, UF.L, BNC, F ...

## Regulations

Standard bodies: FCC(US), ETSI (EU) ...

Restrictions: Frequency, power, duty cycle



Connector	Frequency	Impedance
SMA	< 17 GHz	50Ω
UF.L	< 6 GHz	50Ω
BNC / F	< 3 GHz	50Ω, 75Ω

# What is communication?

## Communication

Conveying information (knowledge)

## Encoding & decoding

Information  $\leftrightarrow$  Data

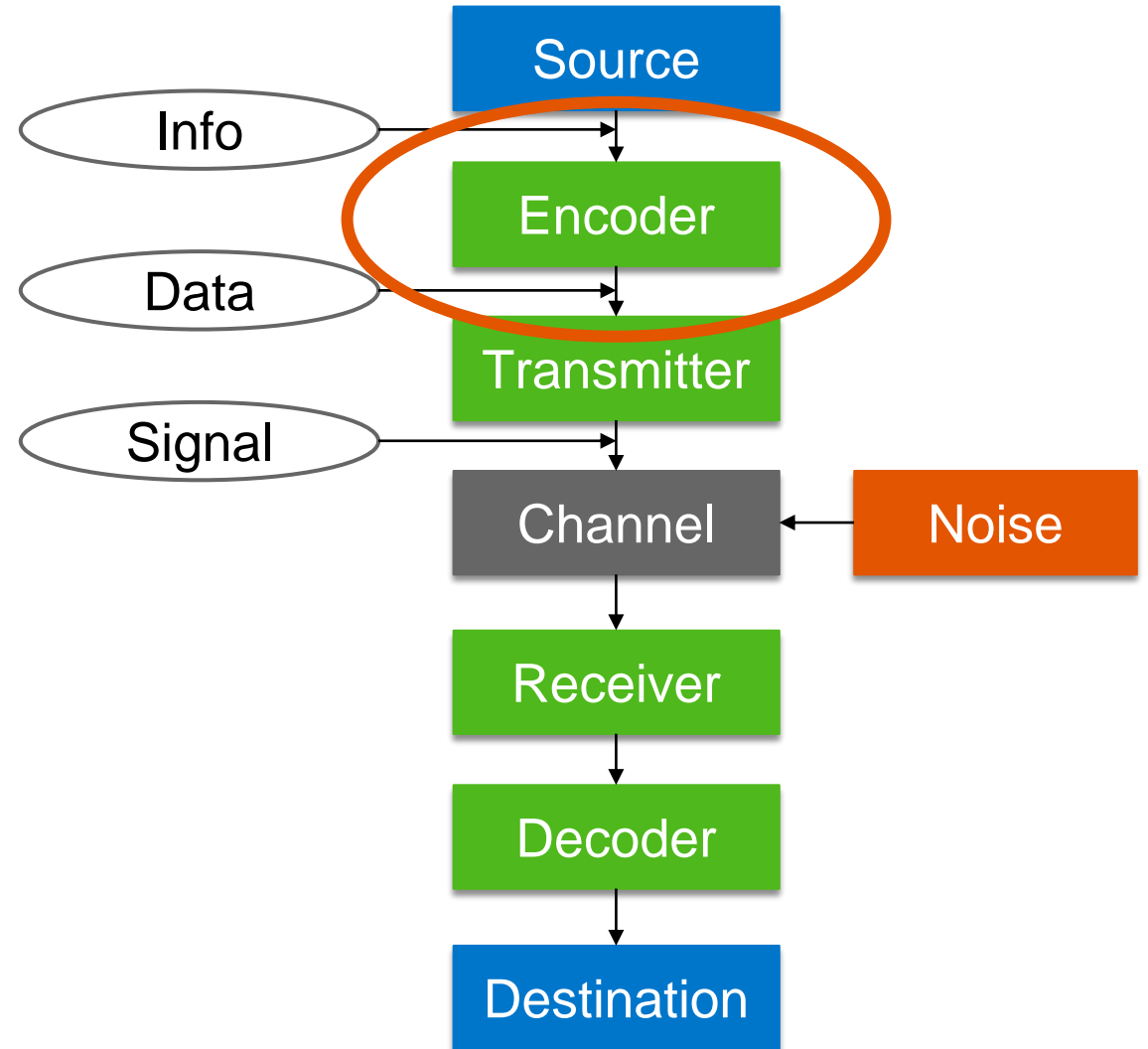
## Transmission & reception

Data  $\leftrightarrow$  Signal (energy wave)

## Channel

Carries and modifies the signal / data

Information may be affected



# Encoding & Error control

## Encoding

Text: Morse, ASCII, UTF8, CP1251 ...

Images: BMP, GIF, JPEG ...

Sound: MPEG/MP3, Flac, Vorbis, Speex ...

Video: VP9, H265 ...

## Error control

Detection: Parity bit, Checksum, Hash...

Correction:

- ACK/ARQ
- FEC: Hamming, Reed-Solomon, Turbo code, LDPC

ASCII Alphabet			
A	1000001	N	1001110
B	1000010	O	1001111
C	1000011	P	1010000
D	1000100	Q	1010001
E	1000101	R	1010010
F	1000110	S	1010011
G	1000111	T	1010100
H	1001000	U	1010101
I	1001001	V	1010110
J	1001010	W	1010111
K	1001011	X	1011000
L	1001100	Y	1011001
M	1001101	Z	1011010

# IoT wired protocols

# UART (Universal Async Receive Transmit – aka Serial)

## Overview

UART (3.3 / 5 V, few meters)

RS232 (9600 bps/ 15m)

RS485 / Modbus

- 35Mbps / 12 m ... 100kbps / 1200m
- Multi node (master slave or ethernet like)

## Applications

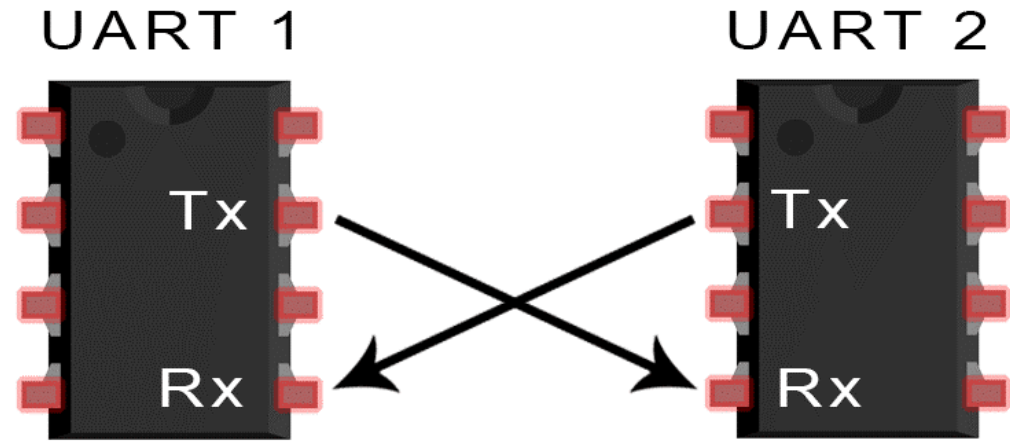
Industrial devices / solar (RS485)

Some (old) sensors

## Implementation

ESP8266: SoftwareSerial

ESP32: HardwareSerial



RS485 anemometer example

# I2C

## Overview

Distance: 1 – 10 m

Data and Clock lines

Synchronous bus (master clock)

Multi-master & up to 1008 slaves

Half-duplex, 100 kbit – 3.2mbit/s

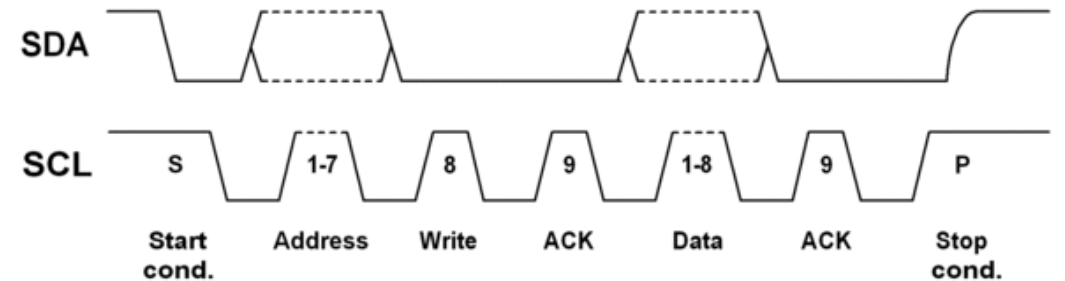
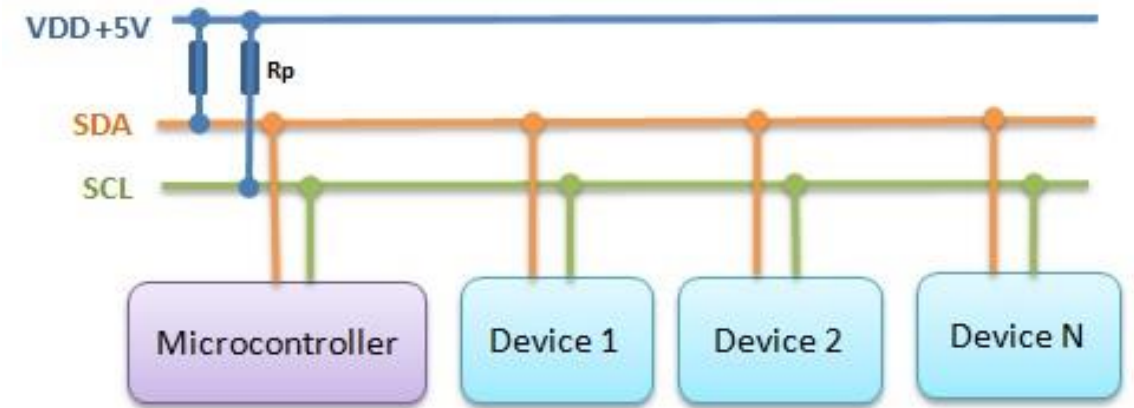
## Programming

Slave address: 7/10 bit

Open address

Write data

Read data



# SPI (Serial peripheral interface)

## Overview

Distance: 1 – 10 m

Synchronous bus (master clock)

- Data, Clock and Chip select lines
- Single master / multi slave (SS)

Full duplex, up to 50Mbit/s

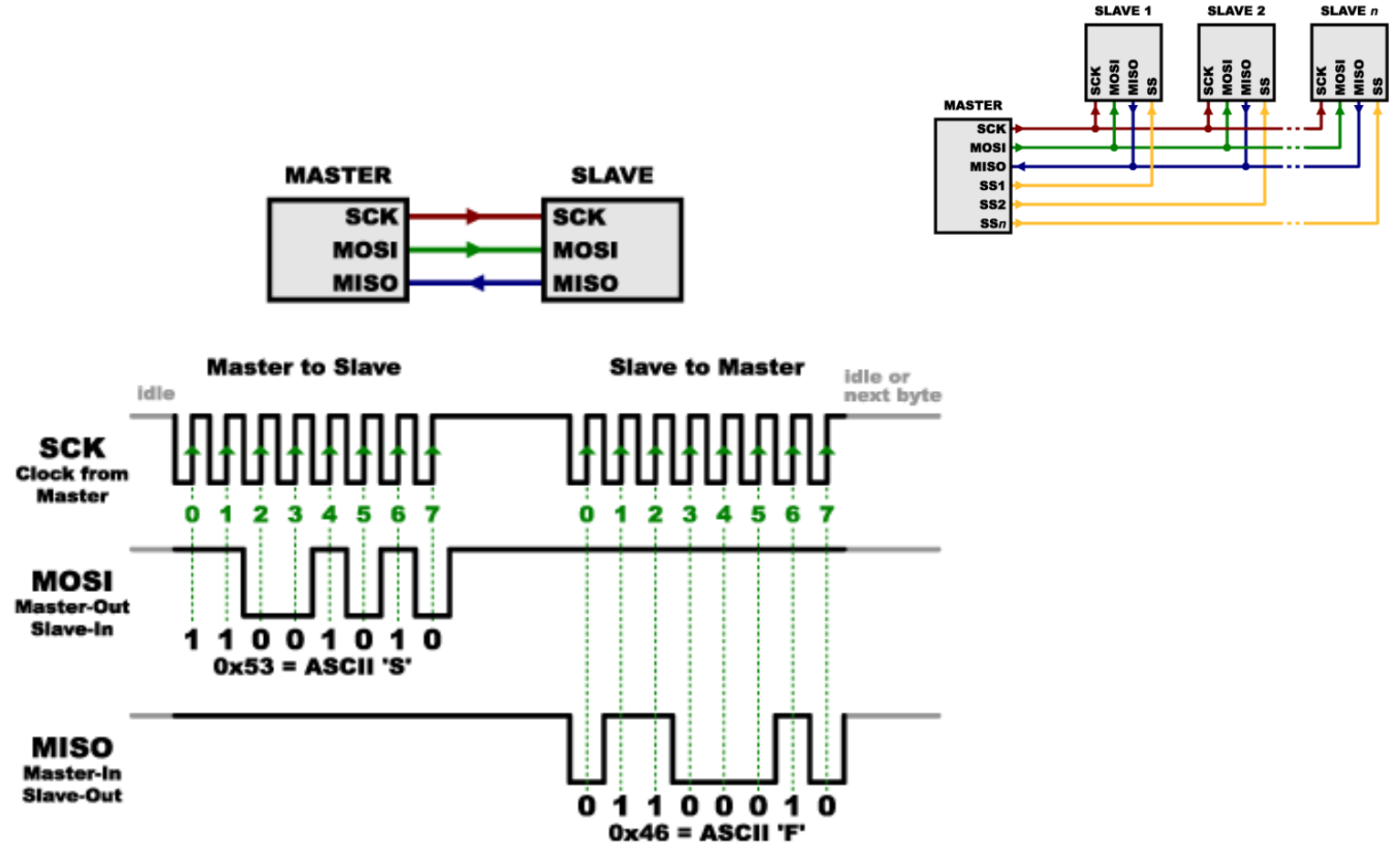
## Implementation

ESP32: [Hardware](#) SPI

Bit order (MSB/LSB)

Data mode (rising/falling edge)

Clock speed (divider)



# OneWire et al

## Overview

Distance: 10 to 100s of meters

- Radius & weight

Half-duplex, 16 kbit to 125 kbit (overdrive)

Data line only (2 or 3 wire interface)

Single master / up to 100s of slaves

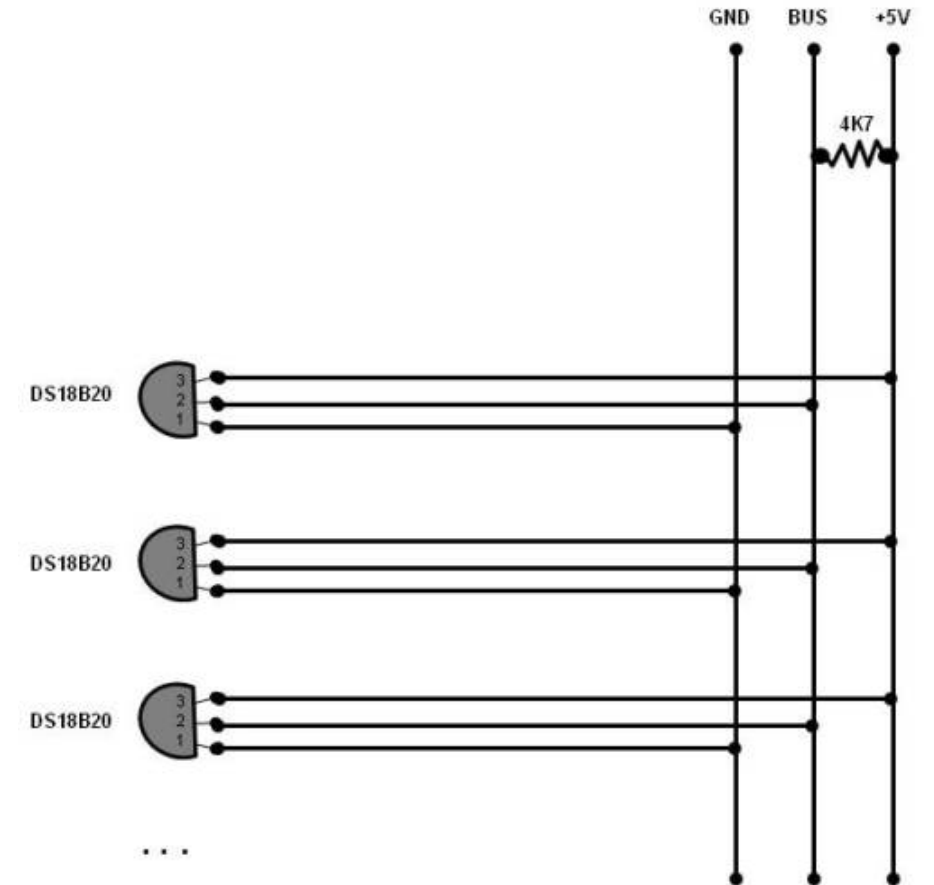
## Programming

64bit slave IDs

Parasitic power (charge up)

Find devices

Communicate





# Some other protocols

## Industrial

CAN bus (hw support in ESP32)

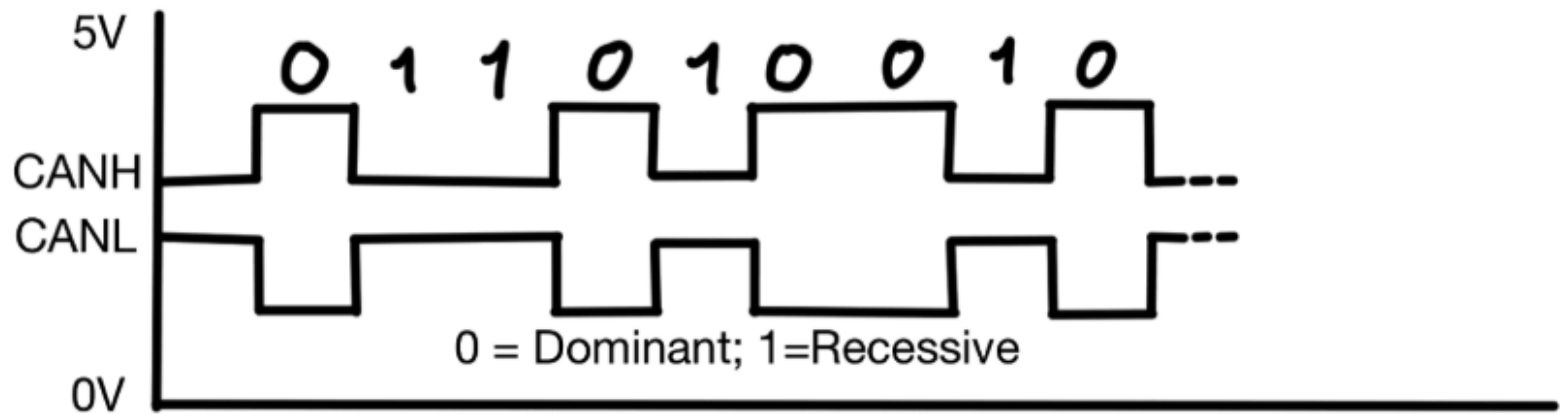
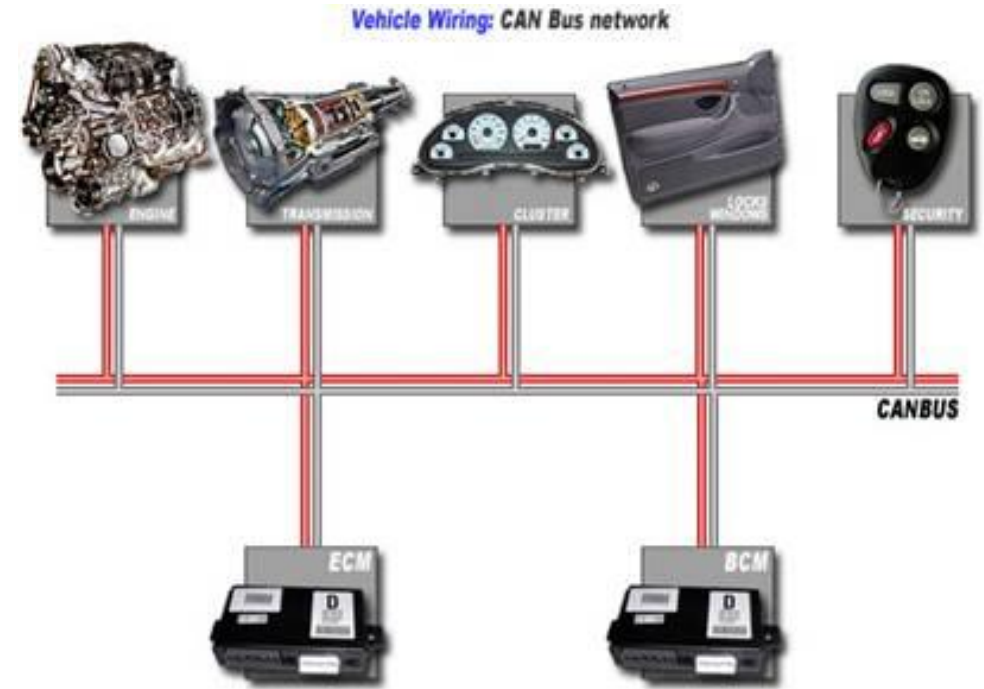
LIN bus

Industrial Ethernet (PROFINET, Modbus TCP ...)

4-20 mA

## HiFi sound

I2S



# **IoT wireless protocols**

# Common network topologies

## P2P

Simplest

## Star (Star of stars)

Common in public deployments

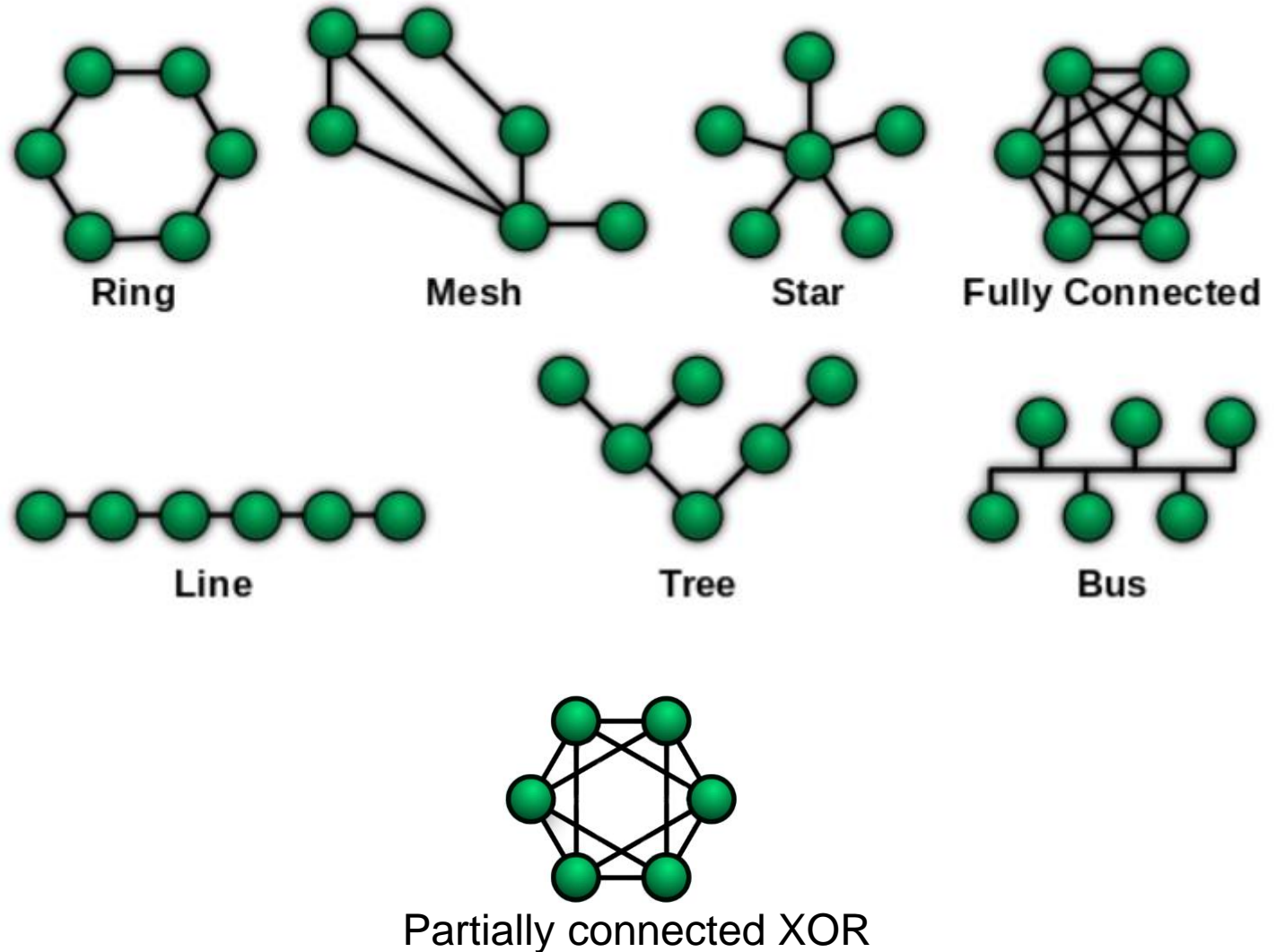
## Mesh

Complex

Potentially more reliable

Partially connected with XOR distance

(Petar Maymounkov – DHT)



# Bluetooth 4&5 (BLE)



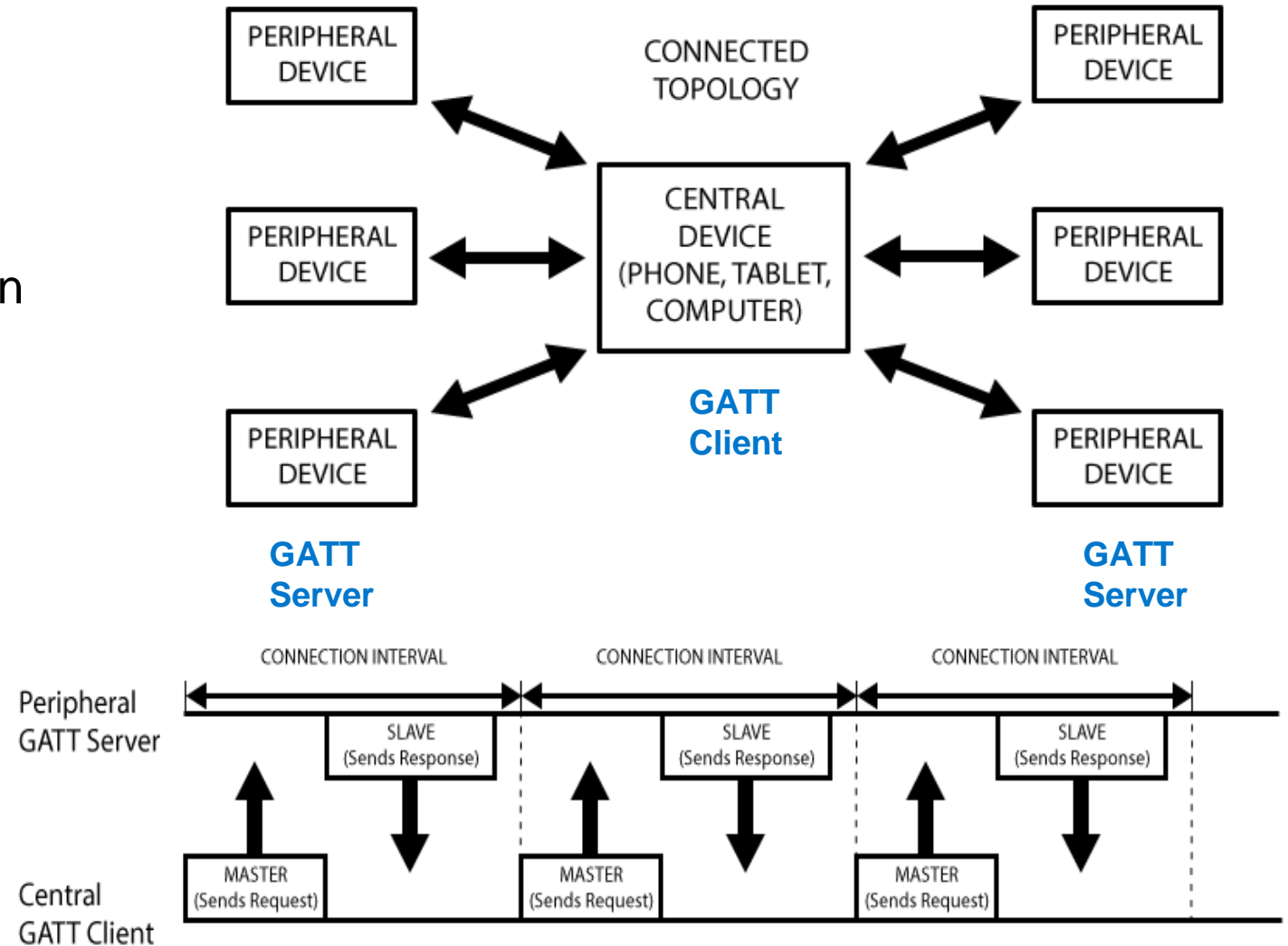
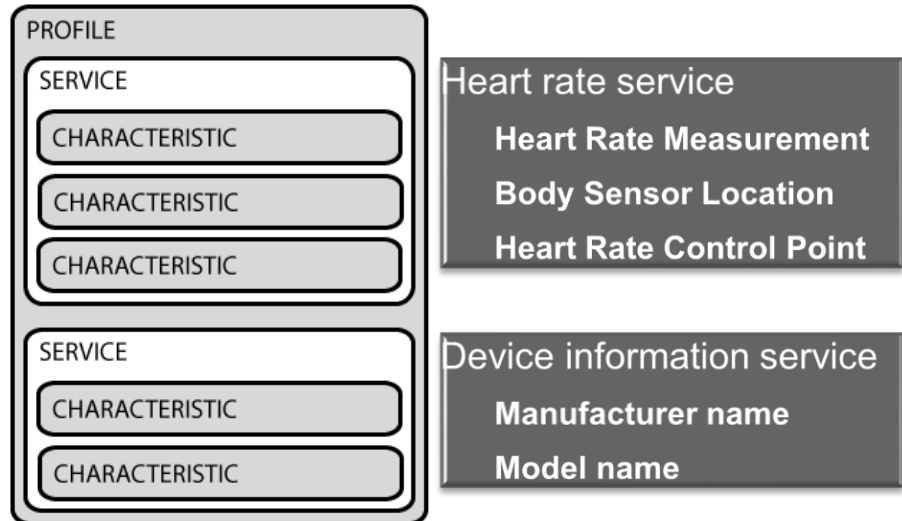
## GATT (generic attribute profile)

Designed for low power

Peripherals advertise themselves

Central device initiates two way connection

## Profiles, Services & Characteristics



# LoRa



## FM Chirp Spread Spectrum & FEC

- Noise like signal: SNR = -5 to -20dB
- Bandwidth (7.8 – 500KHz) @ 868/915 MHz carrier
- Spreading factor (64 - 4096)
- Coding rate (for FEC)
- Range: LoS ~20km, non LoS ~2km
- Throughput = 18bps – 78Kbps

## Interesting properties

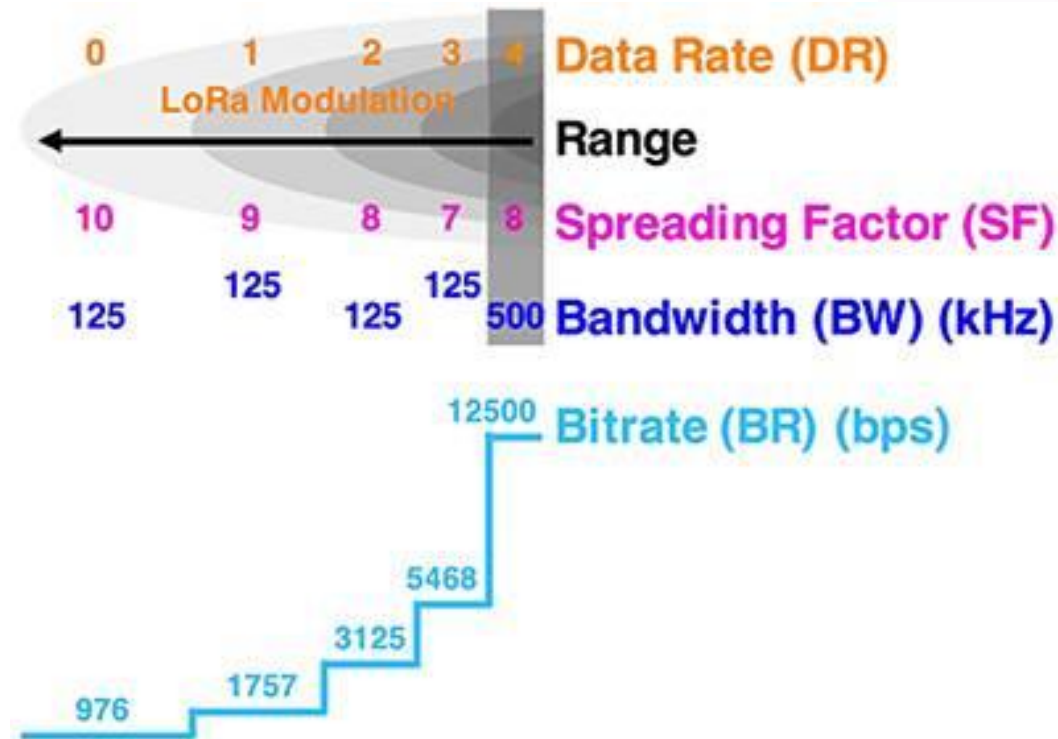
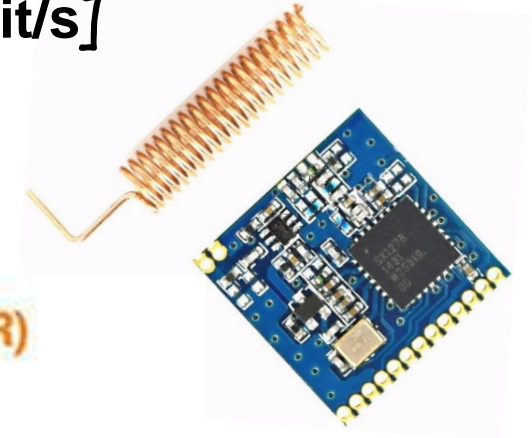
Star, P2P and Mesh topologies

Private & Public deployments (LoRaWAN)

Military origin (anti-jamming & LPI)

[LoRa Broadcast Video](#)

$$C = B \log_2(1 + P_S/P_N) \text{ [bit/s]}$$



# LoRaWAN

**TTN - The things network**

**Crowd sourced gateways**

You can build one too

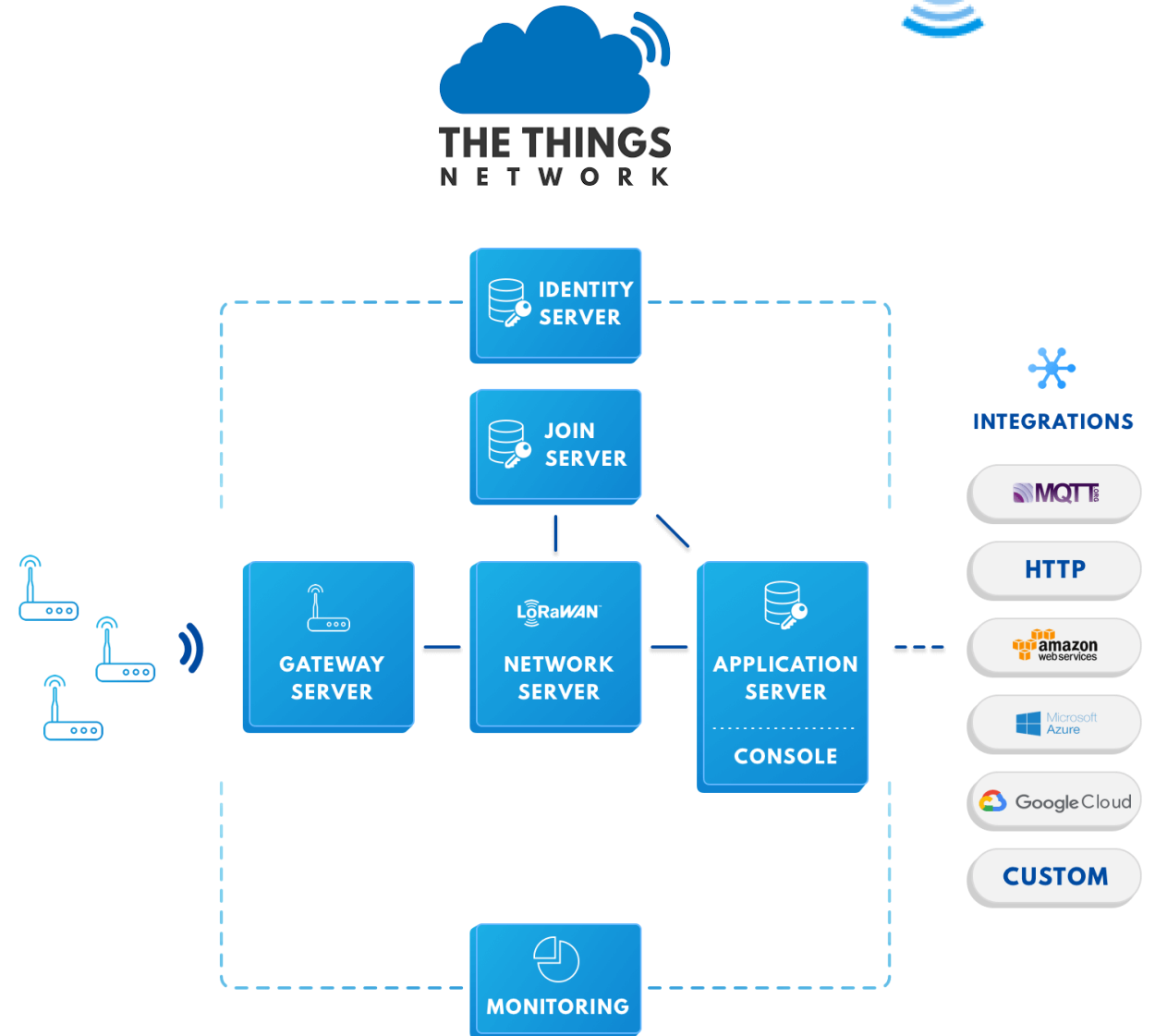
**Centralized backbone**

But you can deploy one yourself

Open source

**End devices**

Kind of expensive (compared to ESP)



# Helium IoT network



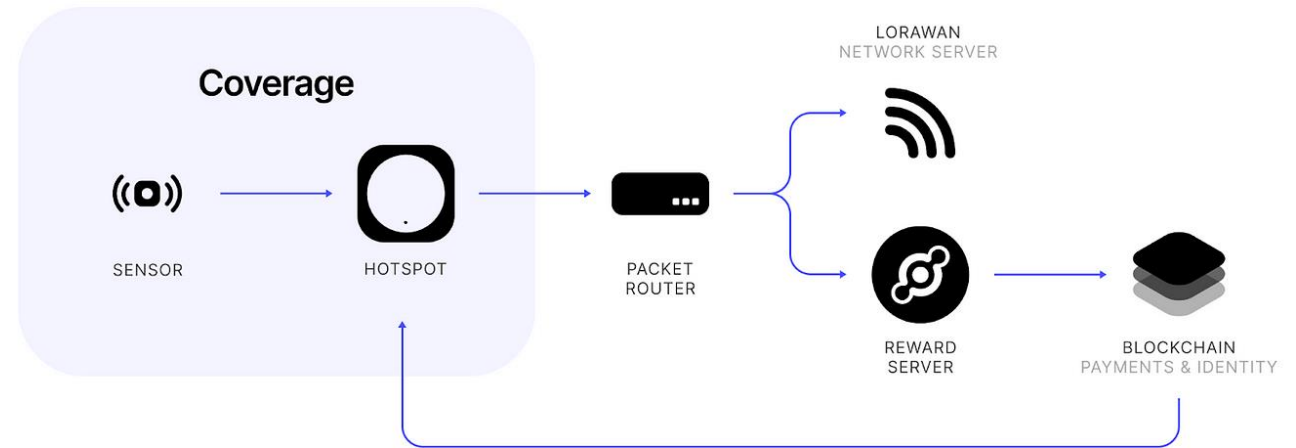
**LoRaWAN based decentralized network**

**Uses Proof-of-coverage consensus  
(challenger-transmitter-witness)**

**Rewards with Helium tokens (PoC, and  
data)**

**1 packet transfer costs 0.0001\$**

<https://docs.helium.com/iot/transaction-fees/>





# ESP-NOW

- **Espressif wireless protocol (ESP32, ESP8266)**
- **P2P one- or 2-way**
- **Lightweight, messages up to 250 bytes**
- **No need for network infrastructure**
- **Low latency**
- **Low power consumption**
- **Limited encryption**

<https://docs.arduino.cc/tutorials/nano-esp32/esp-now/>





# Some other protocols

## Cellular

3G, LTE, 4G, 5G, Sigfox, NBIoT ...

## IEEE 802.15.4

ZigBee (popular in EU)

- 2.4 GHz, Mesh, many vendors = Interop. problems
- Use cases: Home automation, Smart buildings, meters ...

Thread (evolved Zigbee, uses IPv6)

Z-wave (popular in US)

- 868MHz, Mesh, single vendor
- Use cases: Home automation, Smart buildings
- Matter (connectivity standard by Amazon, Apple, Google, Samsung SmartThings and the Zigbee Alliance)

## Custom

e.g. HC-12

