



**Getting started with Intel Edison**

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**Hints on VASY Exercise 2**

Intel Edison is a Small Embedded System with basic functionality like IO Pins; some of them are with PWM functionality, data bus (SPI, I2C, UART).

The Standard OS in Intel Edison is Linux Yacto although other OS are also available

Intel Edison supports a variety of programing and scripting languages like C/C++, note.js, python ... etc.

Here some web links with tutorials and examples how to use System Buses on Intel Edison. The Examples will use C++.

https://iotdk.intel.com/docs/master/upm/

<https://iotdk.intel.com/docs/master/mraa/>

https://iotdk.intel.com/docs/mraa/v1.8.0/edison.html

<https://github.com/intel-iot-devkit/mraa/tree/master/examples>

How to use the Motor Driver.

In Edison Cars is used a small Motor driver (TB6612FNG). To interact with this motor driver we have to understand the Control Function of the driver.

Interpretation:

If two inputs are High, the motor will break. If the first input is Low and the second is High, the first output will always be Low and the second output will have the value of the PWM.

If the first input is high and the second is Low, the first output will have the value of the PWM and the second output will be low. If both inputs are LOW and PWM will have a high the driver will stop.

The driver will be set on standby, if you set the STBY to Low; this will save Battery.

We also have to declare and configure some pins. Following Pins will be used for the motor driver. Motor A (pin 0 (pwm), pin 45, pin 46) Motor B (pin 14 (pwm), pin 47, pin 48) and STBY pin 15.

As shown in the links above, to initialise a pin we have to:

Declare it and initialise mraa::Pwm\* pwm\_pina = new mraa::Pwm(0);

Check for correct initialisation if (pwm\_pina == NULL) {std::cerr << "Can't create mraa::Pwm object, exiting" << std::endl; return MRAA\_ERROR\_UNSPECIFIED;}

by PWM pins enable the PWM Mode and check if (pwm\_pina->enable(true) != MRAA\_SUCCESS) {std::cerr << "Cannot enable PWM on mraa::PWM object, exiting" << std::endl; return MRAA\_ERROR\_UNSPECIFIED; }

by IO pins you have to set the direction if (stby\_pin->dir(mraa::DIR\_OUT) != MRAA\_SUCCESS) {std::cerr << "Can't set digital pin as output, exiting" << std::endl;return MRAA\_ERROR\_UNSPECIFIED; }

and to set some value on the IO pins use the function, write stby\_pin->write(0);

PWM also known as pulse width modulation is used to control power supplies, for example, Motors and LEDs. The term duty cycle is used for defining the proportion of "high" or "on" time to the regular interval "period" and is usually expressed in percent from 0% to 100% (0.0 to 1.0) where 100% (1.0) is fully on.

For our implementation in Edison this means that we need a duty cycle with the values between 0 and 1 and a period in nanoseconds or milliseconds.

duty cycle float duty\_cycle = 0.0

period int period = 1

to set certain pwm on a pin pwm\_pina->config\_percent(period, duty\_cycle )

and free res when you don’t need them delete pwm\_pina

After we understood the last steps, it is necessary to create a connection to our wireless connection. In this example we will use an Xbee module that communicates via UART (Serial) with the Edison.

The principles are similar to all modules that communicate via UART.

Declare it and initialise the device mraa:Uart\* dev = new mmraa::Uart(0)

set the baud rate dev->setBaudRate(115200)

set the parity dev->setMode(8,mraa:UART\_PARITY\_NONE,1)

set the flow control dev->setFlowcontrol(false,false)

and finally send some text dev->writeString("Hello NOW")

and free RES when you don’t need them delete dev

same is also possible for writing Char arrays dev->Write(buffer, sizeof(buffer))

where buffer is char buffer[] = "Hello Bufer!"

For all supported functions check the references of the mraa lib.

<https://iotdk.intel.com/docs/master/mraa/>

Now having a communication with the module we can configure it and use it with the AT commands and sending data.

Now you got all the necessary tools for work. Enjoy coding!