

Water Quality Node Building Guide

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Abbreviations

- NPT - normal pipe thread (type of threading)
- PTC - Push to connect
- OD - outer diameter
- NC - normally closed
- GND - ground
- Ways to transmit data
 - Digital
 - I2C
 - UART (aka serial) -- We do not use UART for this node
 - Analog

Components

Mechanical



Mechanical Components

- 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ " NPT to $\frac{1}{4}$ " PTC
- 8 $\frac{1}{4}$ " elbow
- 5 female PVC tees
- 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ " male to $\frac{1}{2}$ " PTC
- 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ " male to $\frac{1}{4}$ " PTC
- 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ " male to $\frac{1}{4}$ " female NPT
- 1 30mm ThermoWell
- 1 PTC t-strainer
- 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ " female 12V solenoid valve, normally closed
- $\frac{1}{4}$ " OD tubing

Tools needed:

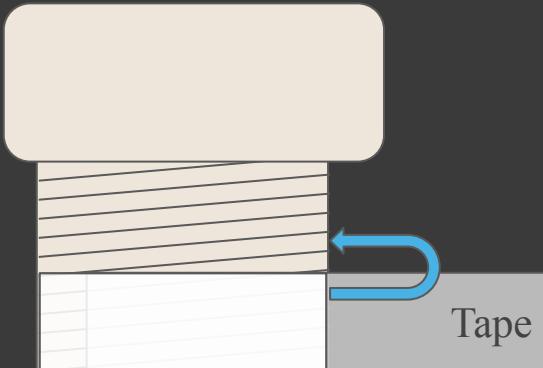
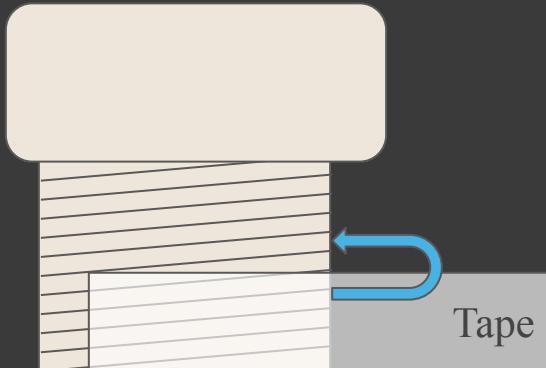
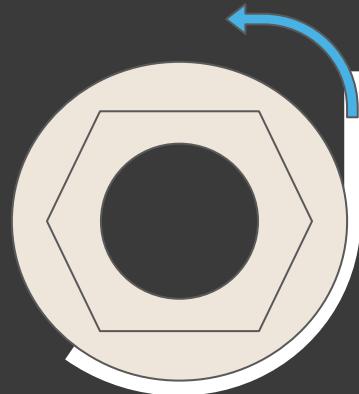
- Tape
- Wrenches (these sizes)
*optional/not needed
- Maybe drill to drill out ptc
fittings for probes and make
holes in sides of boxes



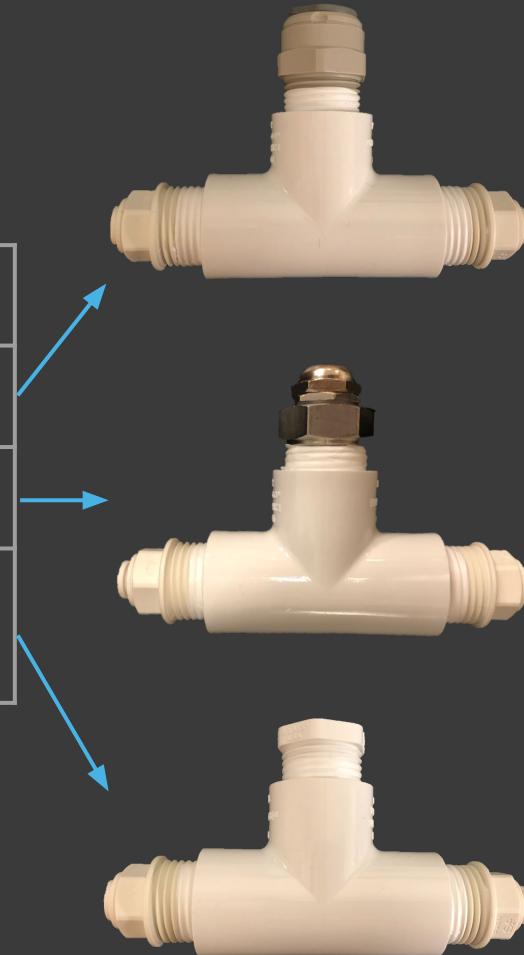
Wrap male NPT fittings in PTFE Tape

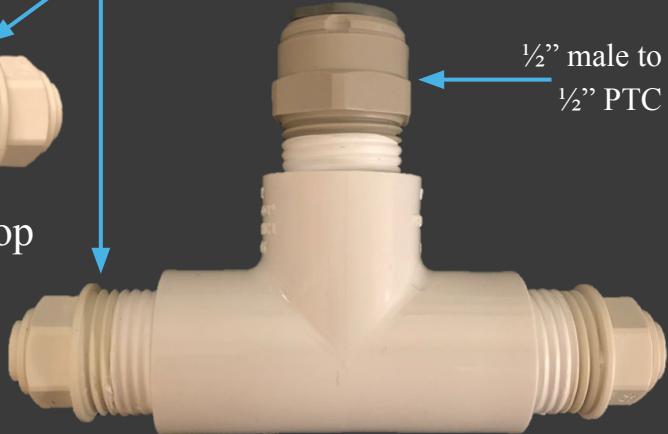
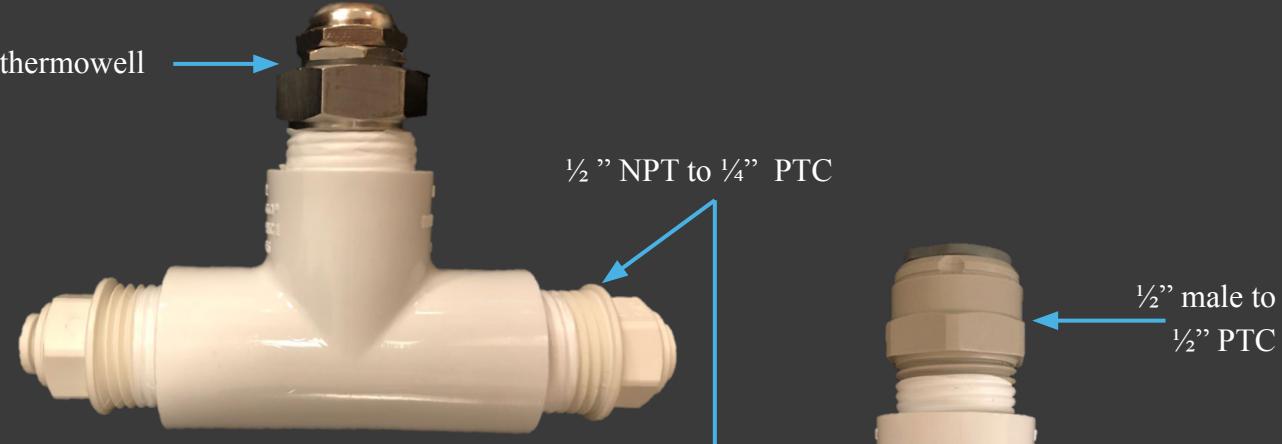
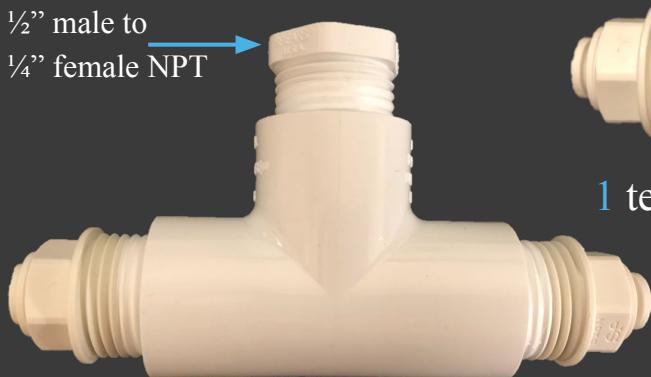
See next slide for wrapping diagram

***5 - 8 layers
of tape**



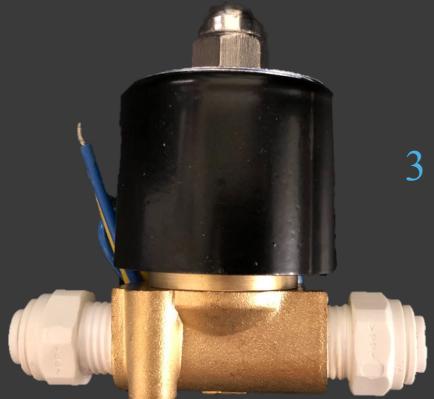
Sensor	PVC fitting used
pH, ORP, EC	$\frac{1}{2}$ " male to PTC
Temperature	ThermoWell
Pressure	$\frac{1}{2}$ " male to $\frac{1}{4}$ " female NPT



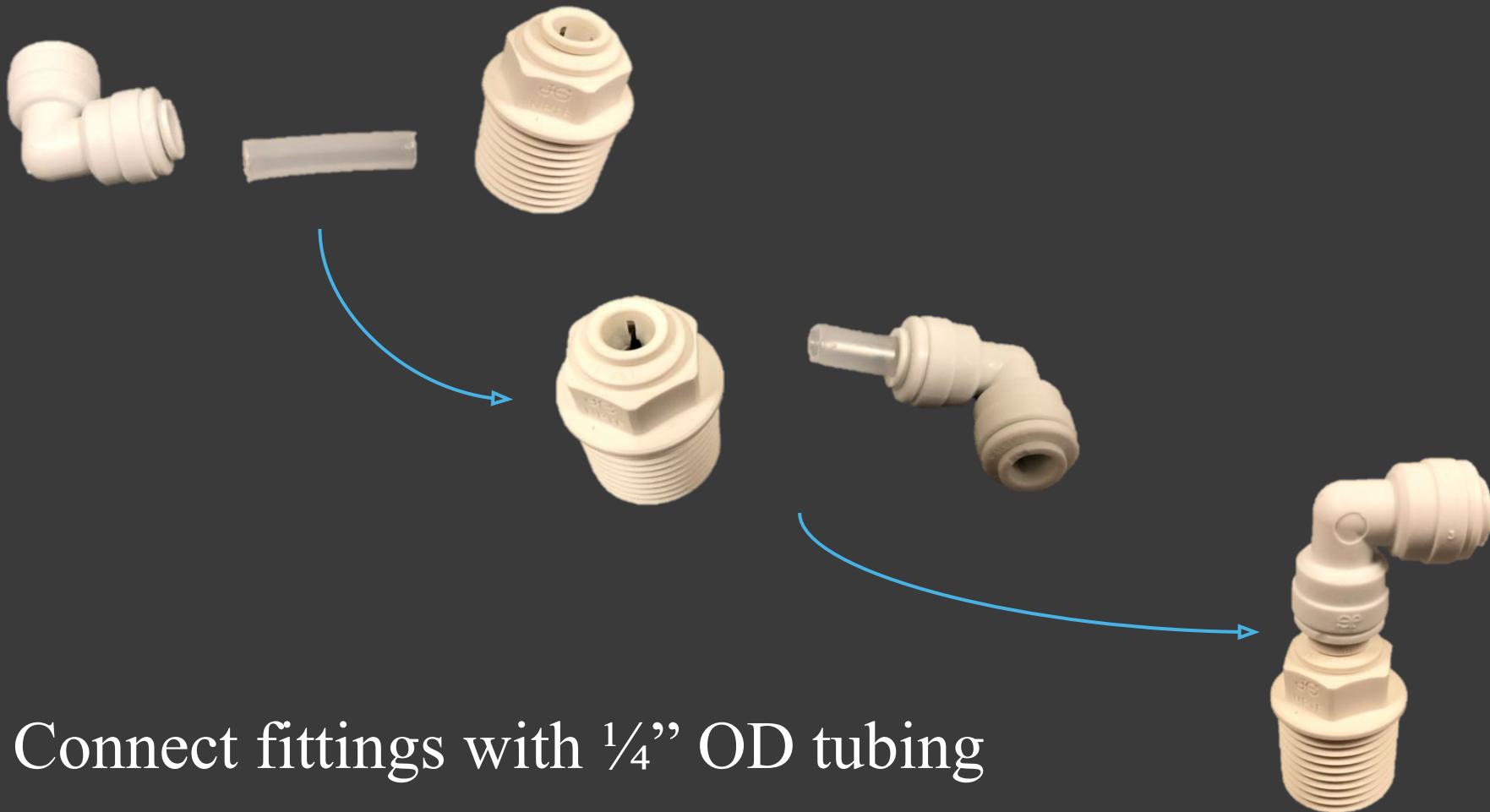


1 tee with pressure fitting on top

3 tees with probe (pH, ORP, EC) fitting on top

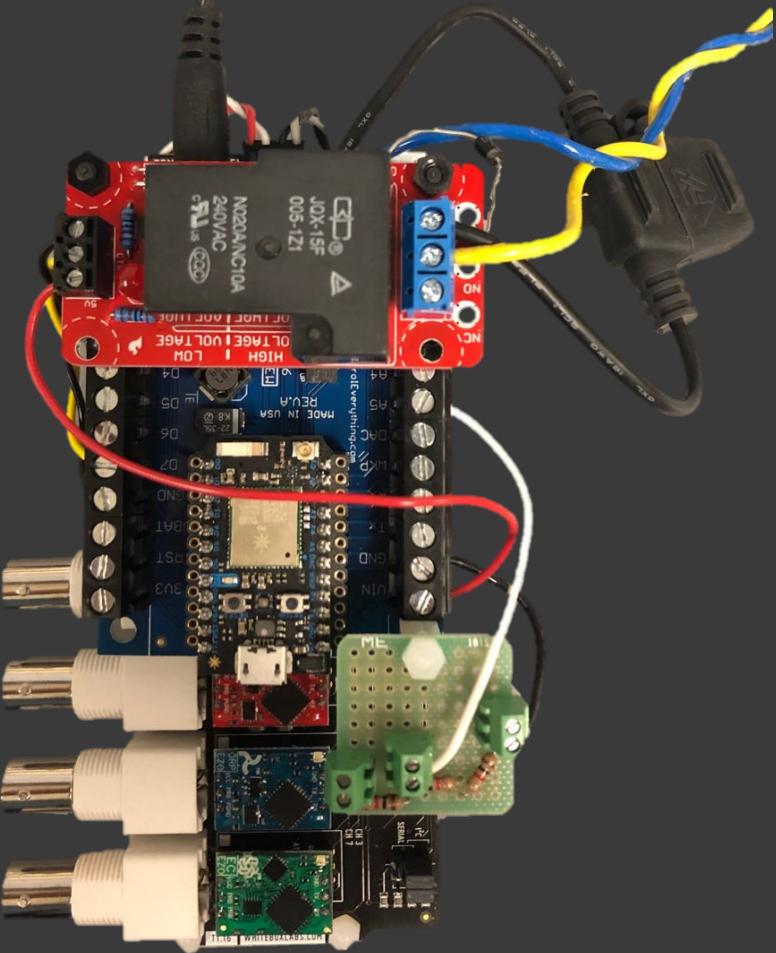


1 valve with $\frac{1}{4}''$ PTC fittings



Connect fittings with $\frac{1}{4}$ " OD tubing

Electrical



Electrical Components

- 1 Photon (wifi)
 - or Boron w/adapter (cellular)
- 1 Breakout board (Blue board)
- 1 Tentacle Shield
 - pH, EC, ORP, Temp EZO circuits (4 total)
- 1 Beefcake relay
- 1 Fuse (w/holder)
- 1 Diode
- 1 ProtoBoard
- 3 1k resistors
- 5 screw terminals
- 1 AC -1 2V power plug (give

Tools needed:

- Multimeter
- Wire cutters
- Wire strippers
- Small screwdriver
- Soldering iron
- Solder

Beefcake relay



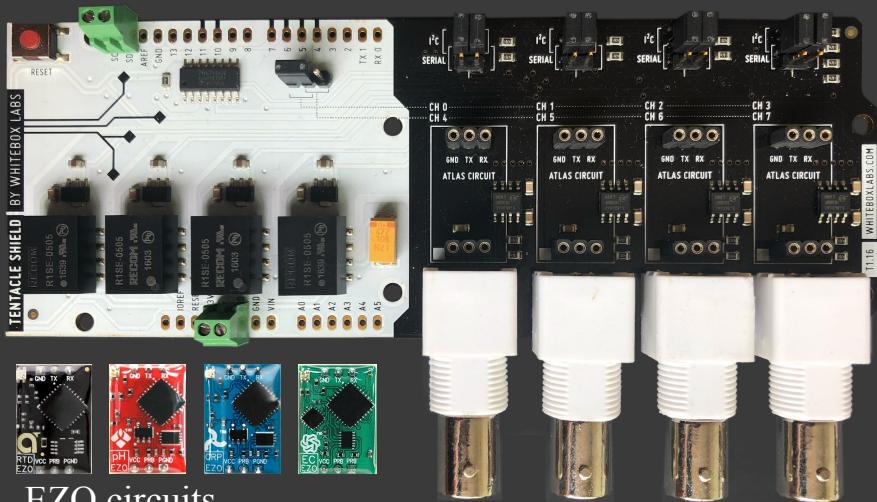
Fuse



Fuse holder

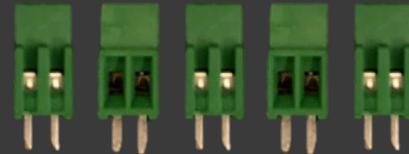
Diode

Tentacle Shield



EZO circuits

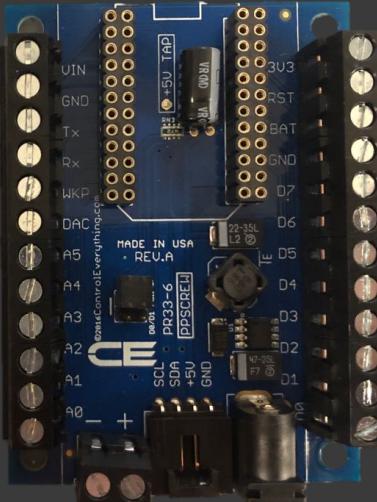
2-prong screw terminals



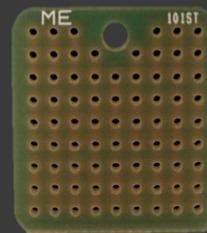
1k resistors



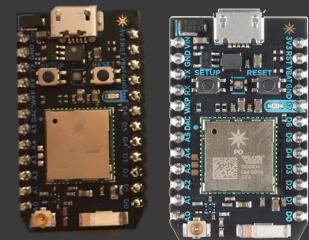
Blue board



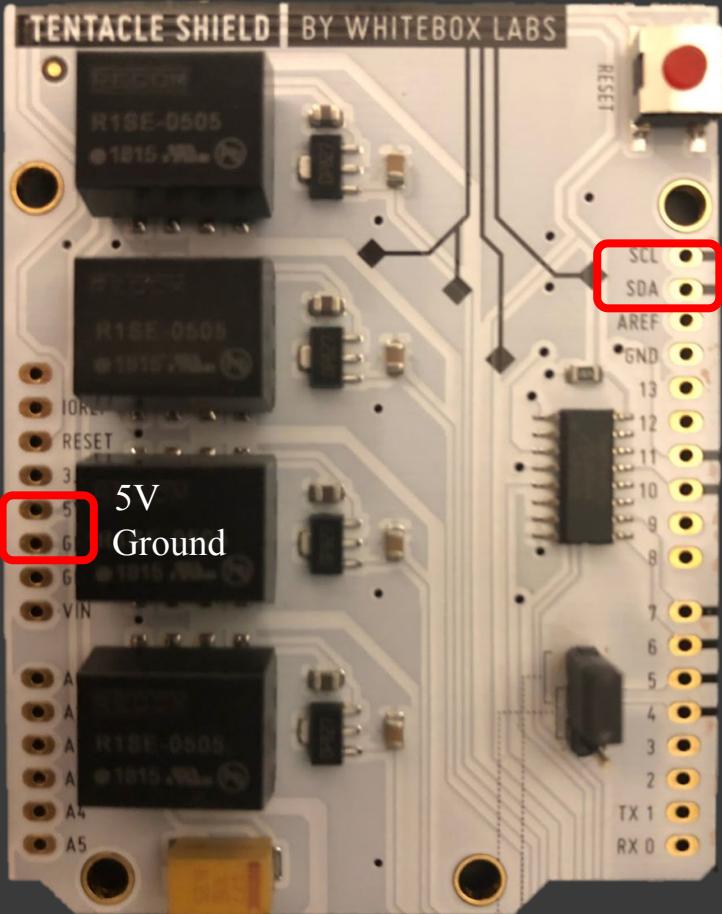
ProtoBoard



Photon

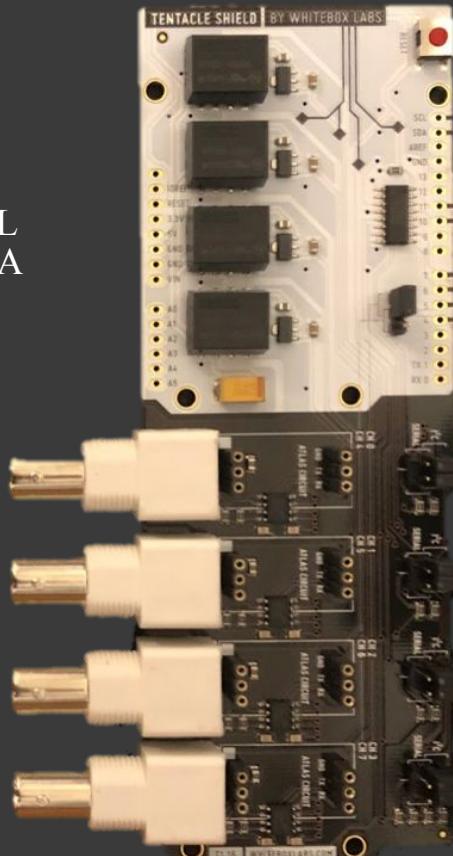


Tentacle Shield

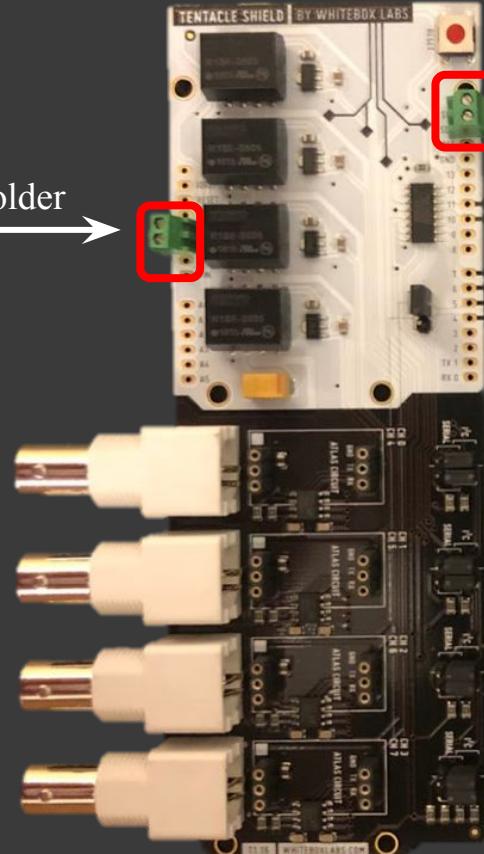


SCL
SDA

5V
GND

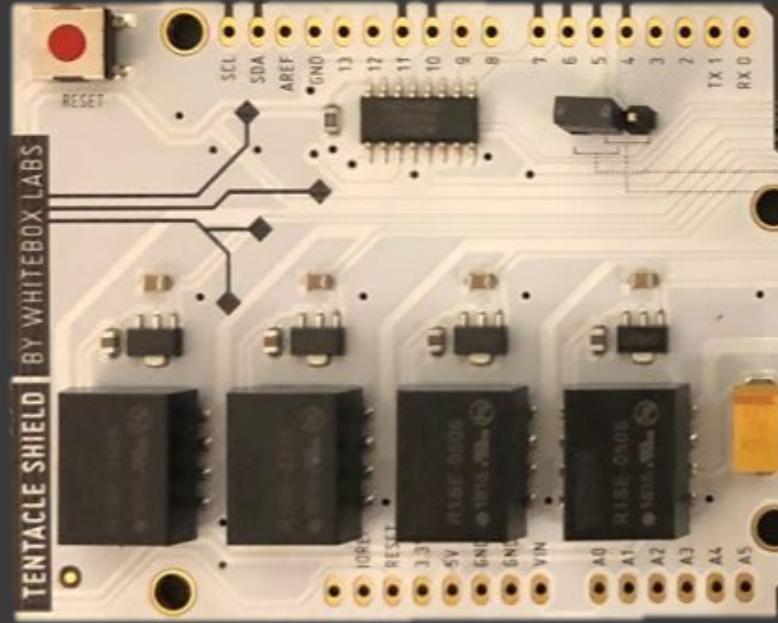


Solder

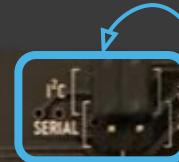


Solder terminal screw connectors to 5V and GND, SDA and SCL. Make sure to have terminal openings facing outside.

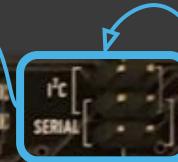
TENTACLE SHIELD | BY WHITEBOX LABS



I2C



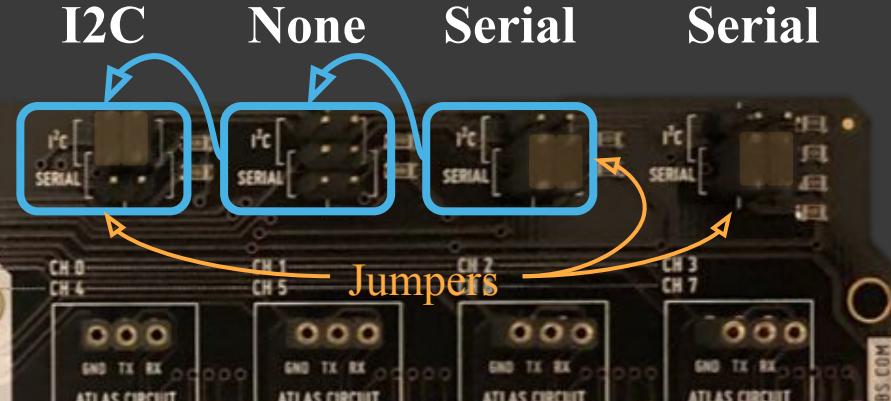
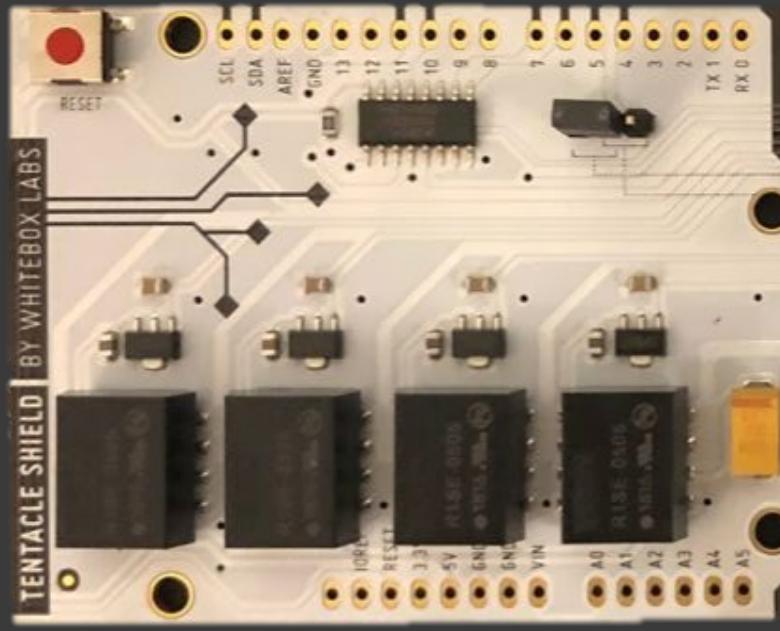
None



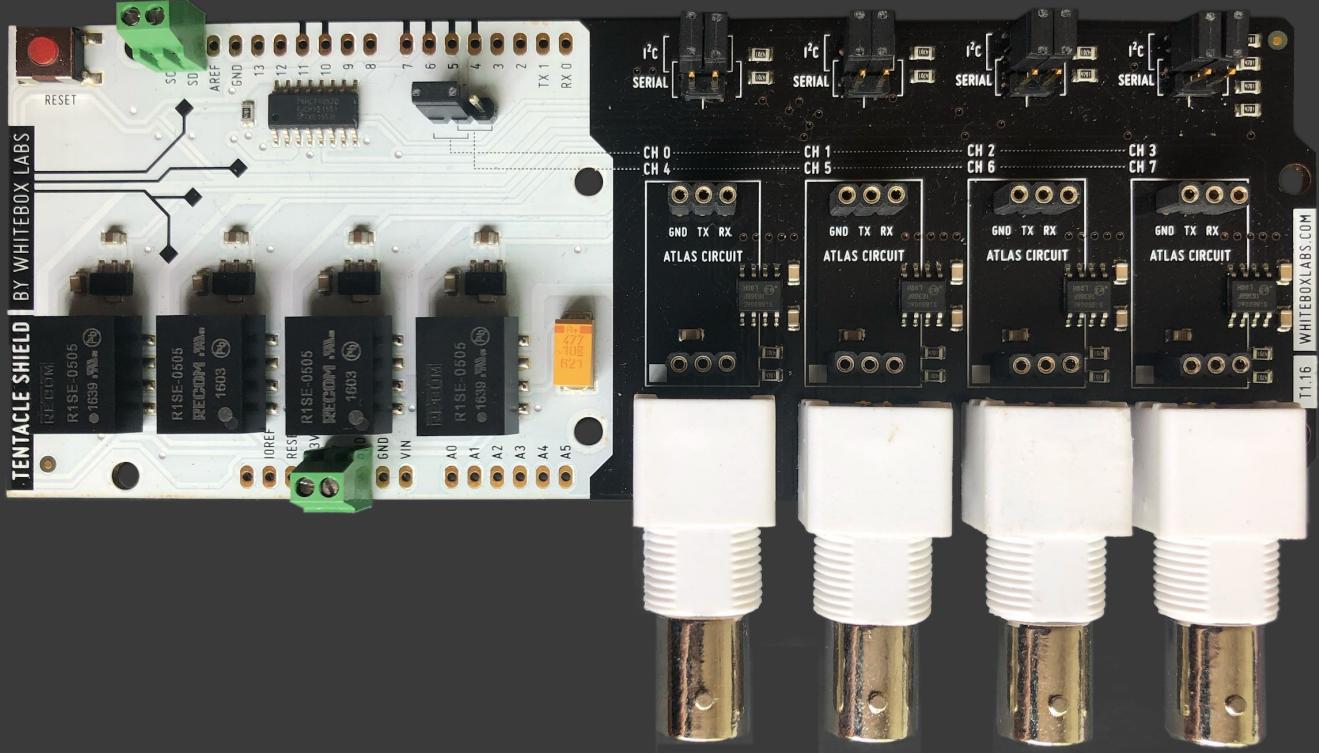
Serial



Jumpers **all** need to be in I2C mode



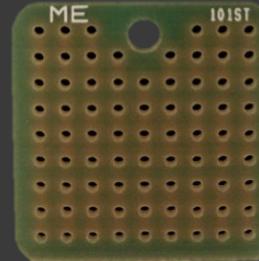
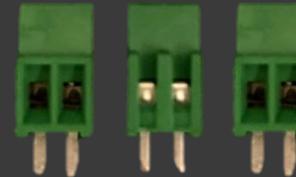
*All jumpers need to be in **I2C** position



Voltage Divider

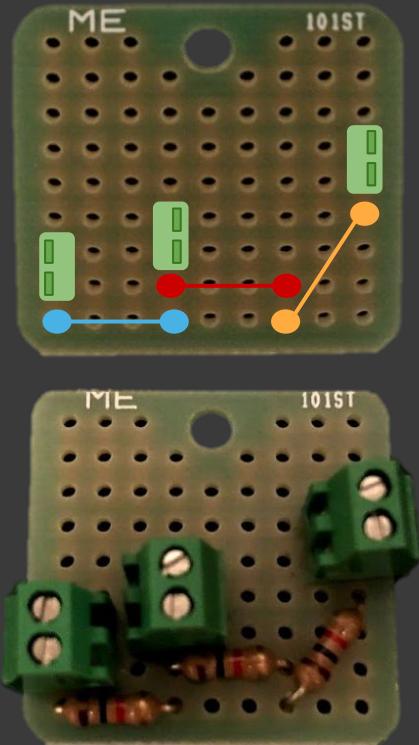
What you need:

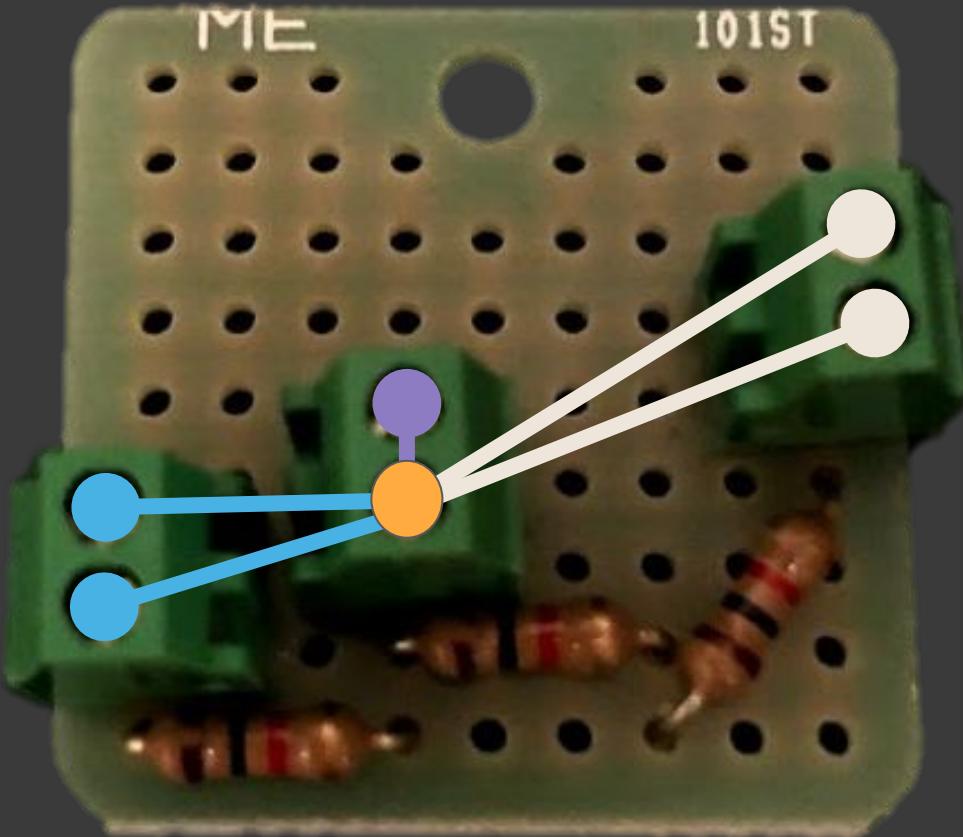
- 3 2-prong screw terminals
- 3 1000 Ω resistors
 - (to make a 2:3 voltage divider)
- 1 ProtoBoard



Steps

- **Goal:** Make a 2:3 voltage divider, if you have another way to make one, go for it
- Solder on resistors as shown, **placement DOES matter** for the terminals and resistors as of how the breadboard holes are connected to one another
- Once all resistors and terminals are soldered, test connections using a multimeter to measure resistance via screw terminal tops (see next slide for diagram)
- If resistance readings are correct, cut the excess resistor wire behind the board





Measurement points	Multimeter reading
Orange terminal - White terminal	2 kΩ
Orange terminal - Blue terminal	1 kΩ
Orange terminal - Purple terminal	0L

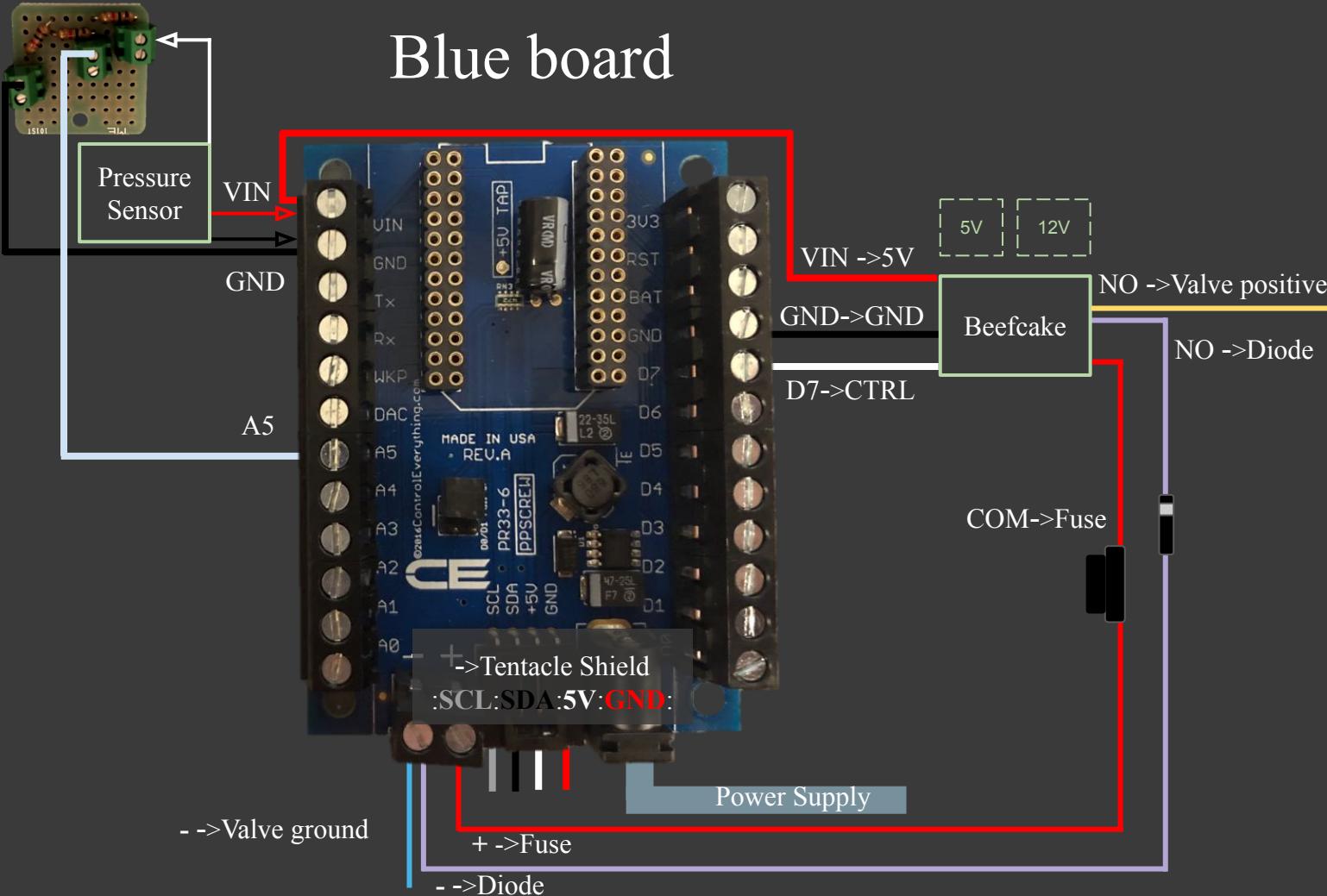
Wiring together

Beefcake

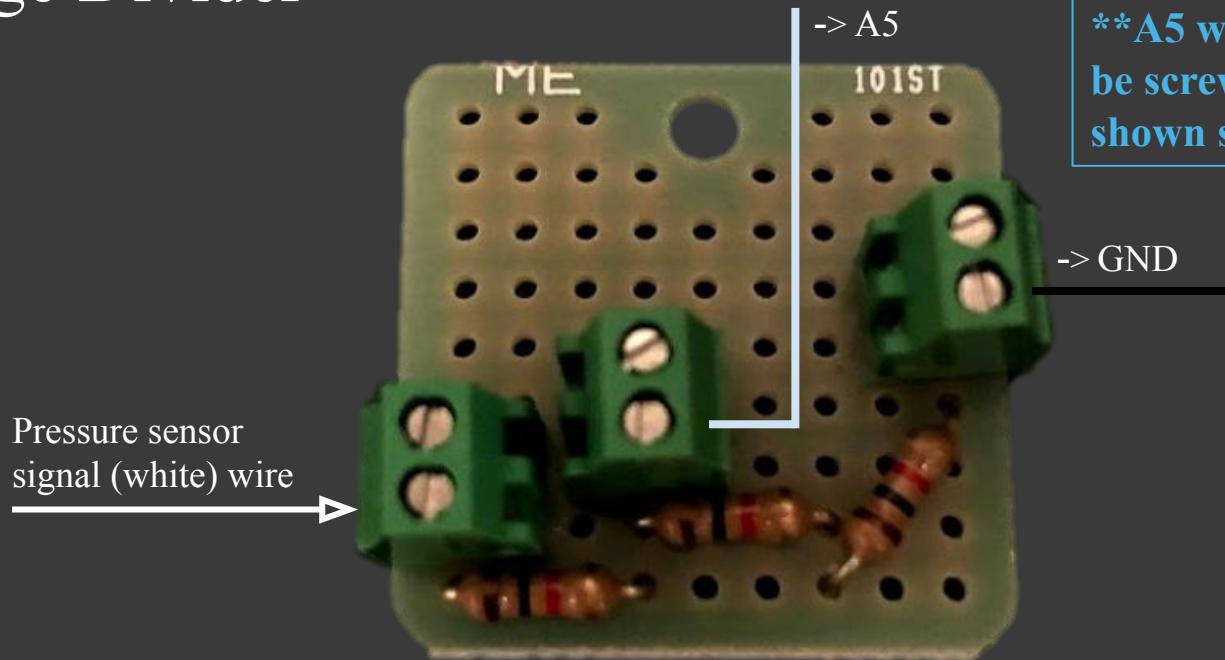


*See speaker notes for steps to build beefcake

Video: [Soldering beefcake relay](#)



Voltage Divider

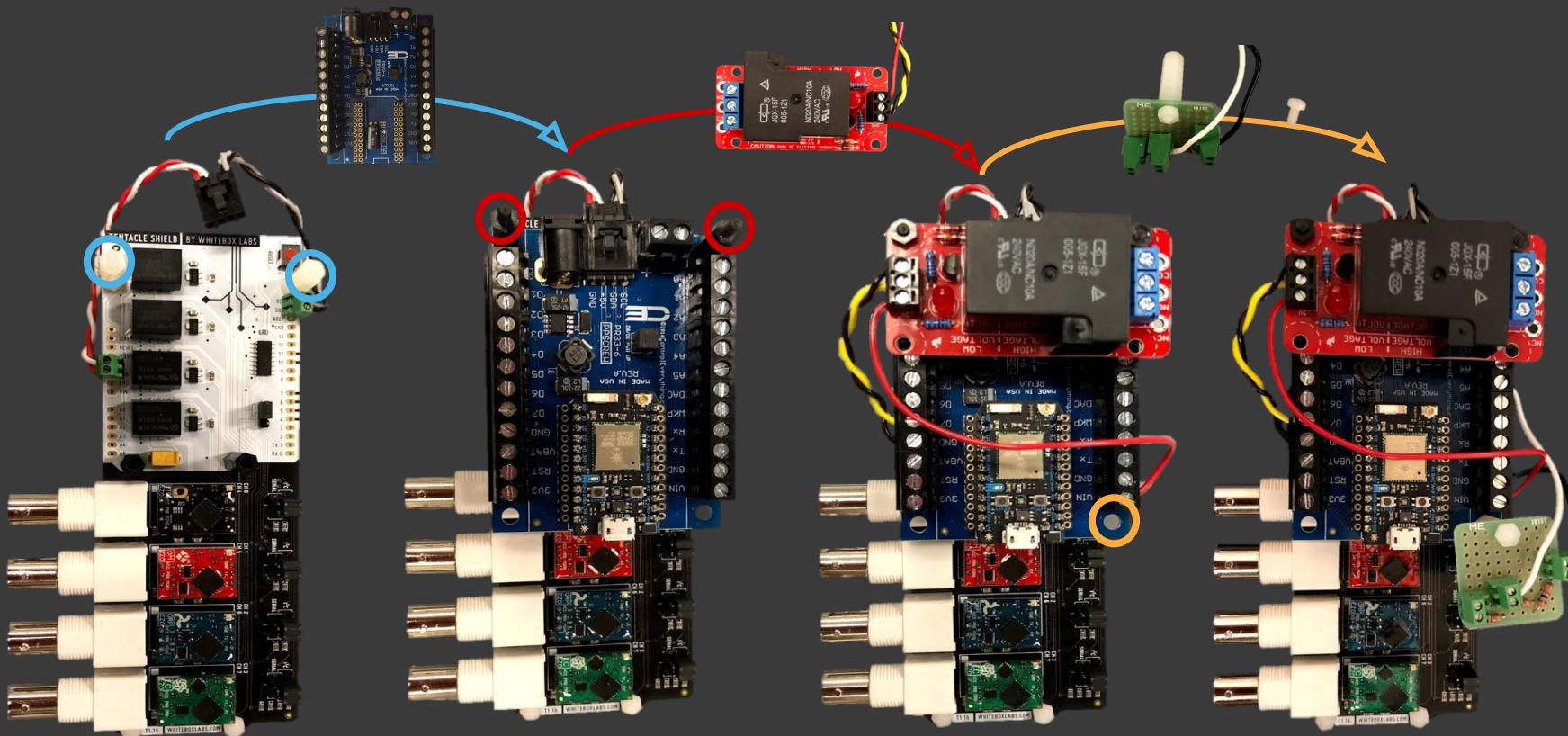


****A5 wire MUST
be screwed in
shown spot****

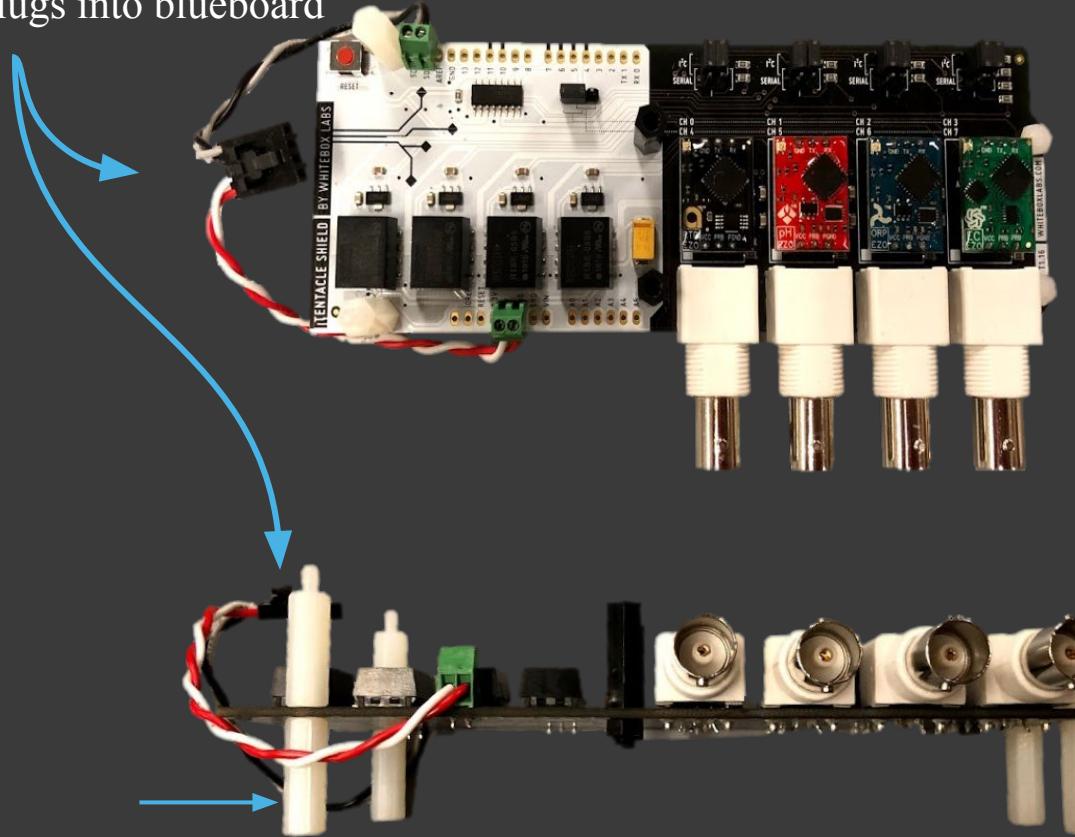
Pressure sensor
signal (white) wire

*Pressure sensor
wire and GND
wires can be in
either of the 2 slots
in screw terminal

Tentacle + Blueboard + Beefcake + Voltage Divider

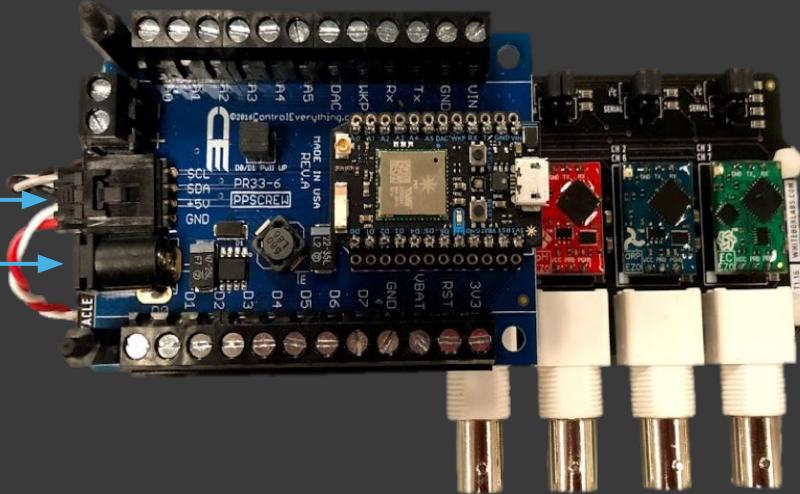


Plugs into blueboard

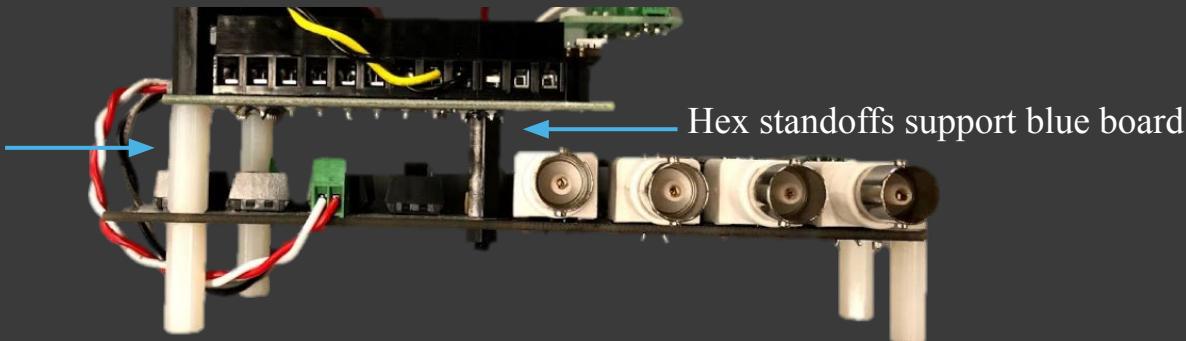


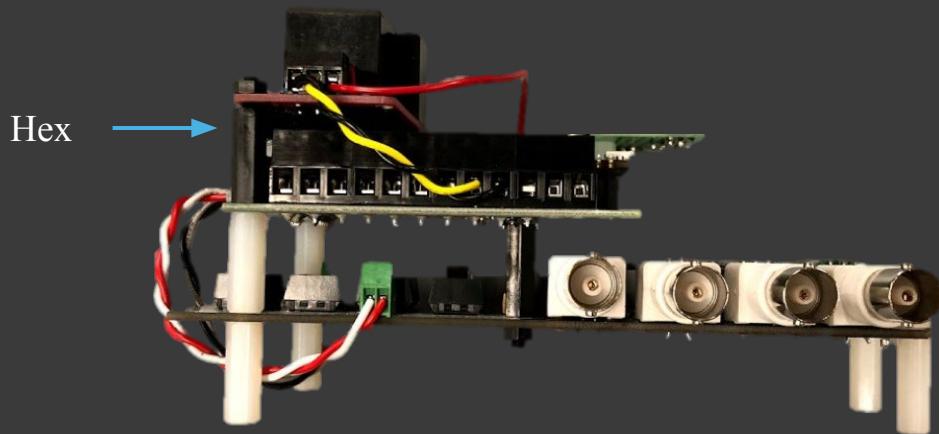
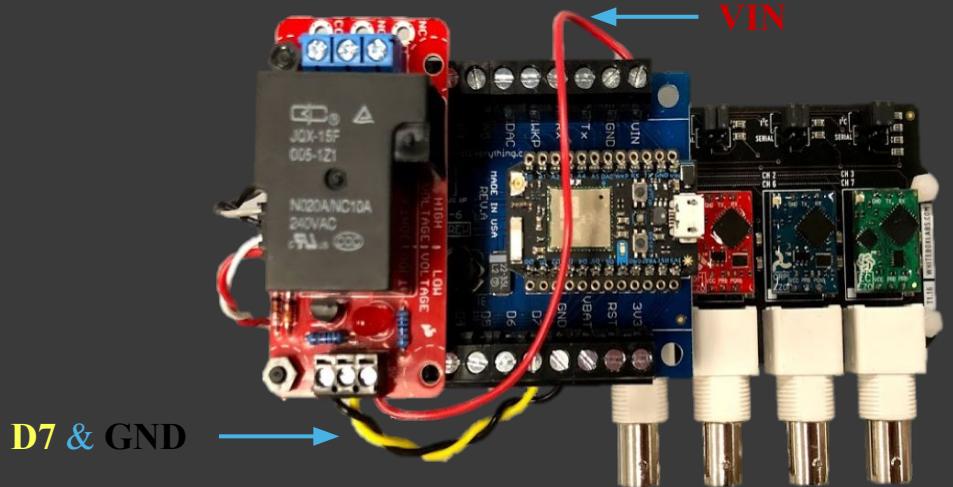
Tentacle shield with wiring
and circuits attached

← Female threaded hex standoffs
used to elevate Tentacle

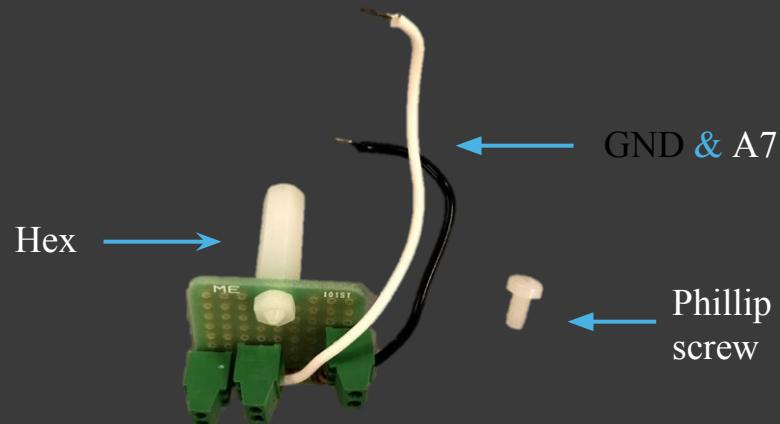
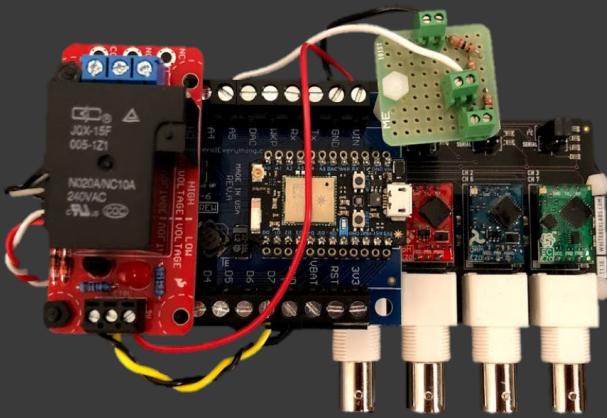


Blue board with photon attached
rests on top of tentacle shield
using hex standoffs for support

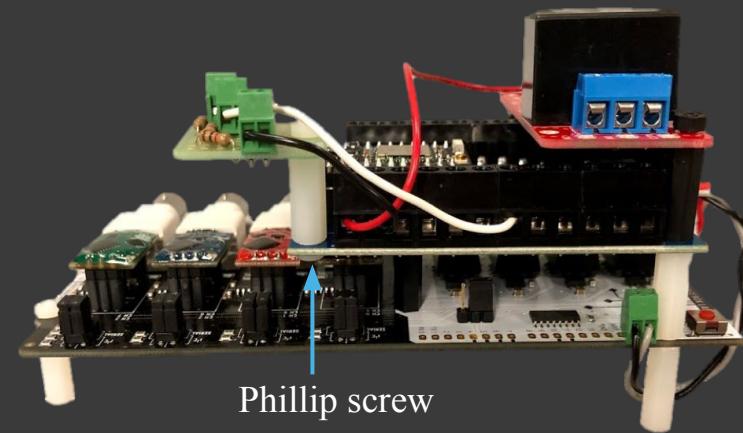
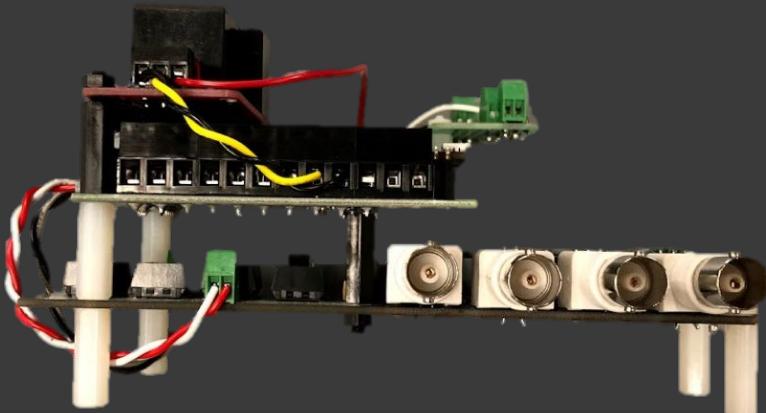




Beefcake rests on top of blueboard
(supported by hex standoffs on left side) and is wired onto blueboard



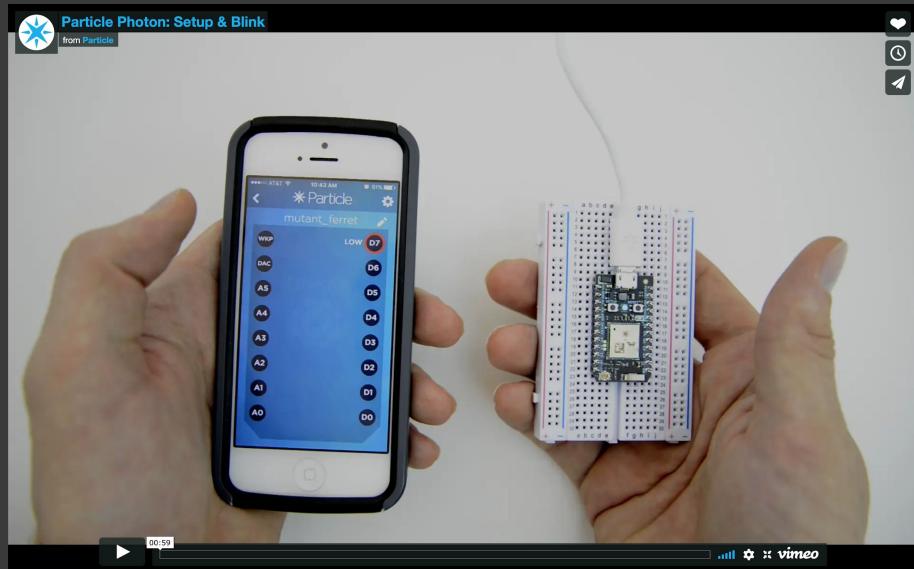
Voltage divider wired to blue board, attached to blue board using hex standoff



Flashing code

Setting up Photon

- Download Particle mobile app
- Create an account
- [Connect your Photon](#) (guide)
- Optional: [Tinker](#)
 - Can be used to control individual pins on Photon without writing code
 - Might be useful for learning but not necessary for node building



Flashing code wirelessly

- Go to build.particle.io
- Select desired code under “My apps”
- On sidebar, click “devices”
- Select device(s) to flash (star icon)
- On sidebar, click “flash” (lightning icon)

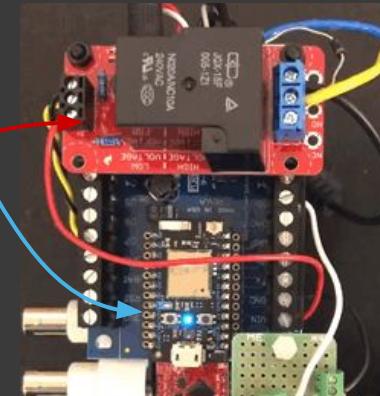
Testing

Testing the power supply with Blue board

- Connect Blue board to the Photon (no other connections)
- Power the board
- Measure the 5V and ground for the I2C connection and for VIN and 3V3
- If photon board is flashed, measure the digital pin (D7) sending the pulse (3.3V)
- If that's good, power off the board
- Connect the I2C wires to the Tentacle Shield
- Repower Blue board and make sure it reads each I2C circuit (each circuit flashes indicating it took a reading)
- If it reads, disconnect the power and move on to test Beefcake Relay (next slide)

Testing Beefcake relay

- While power is off, set up the Beefcake relay onto Blue board (should still be connected to Tentacle)
- The supply voltage for the beefcake is 5V
 - Connect to Vin and ground
- Connect the middle wire (yellow) to the digital pin that triggers the relay switch
 - D7 pin on Blue board (Photon D7 pin light will turn on)
- Power the Blue board
- Relay switch should turn on
 - Hear a click and LED on Beefcake should light up



Testing solenoid valve

- How a solenoid valve works
- Attach tube into inlet and outlet
 - Make sure water flow is in the correct direction (arrow on valve)
- Turn water pressure back on
- Power blue board to run code that opens valve
- Water should come through valve
 - Photon light (D7 pin) should turn on while valve is open
- Once light on Photon goes out, valve should close
- Shut off power and pressure from water source

Changing between UART/I2C mode with Whitebox I2C Toggler

What you need:

- 1 Whitebox I2C Toggler
 - (Might have received a free toggler from Tentacle Shield order)
- EZO circuits to switch

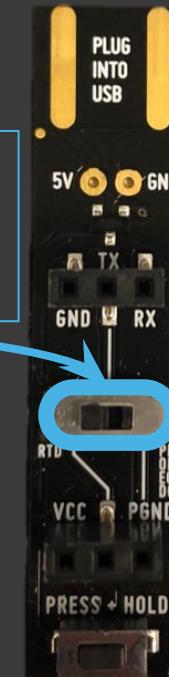


Set up:

EZO circuit switching:

pH, ORP, EC

RTD (temp)



Steps

*Orientation of circuit matters

- Make sure switch is in correct setting for EZO circuit switching
- Place EZO circuit on Toggler
 - EZO side should be next to the bottom
- Plug Toggler into USB port
- Hold down button and wait until colors flash then solid colors go:
 - Green -> Blue (UART->I2C)
 - Blue -> Green (I2C->UART)
 - Want circuits in I2C mode for node
- Unplug toggler from USB and done

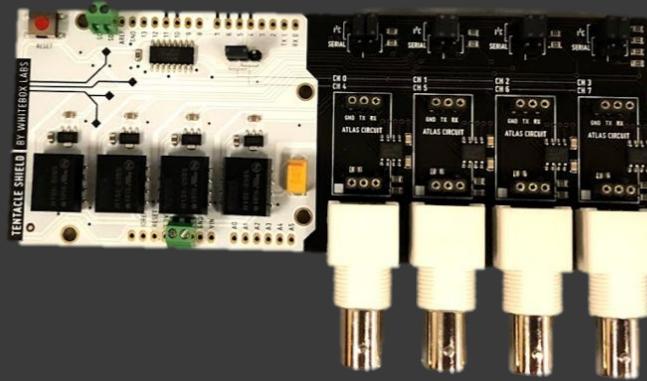
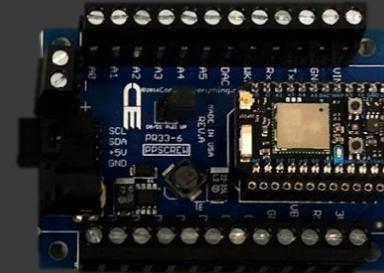


UART -> I2C
mode

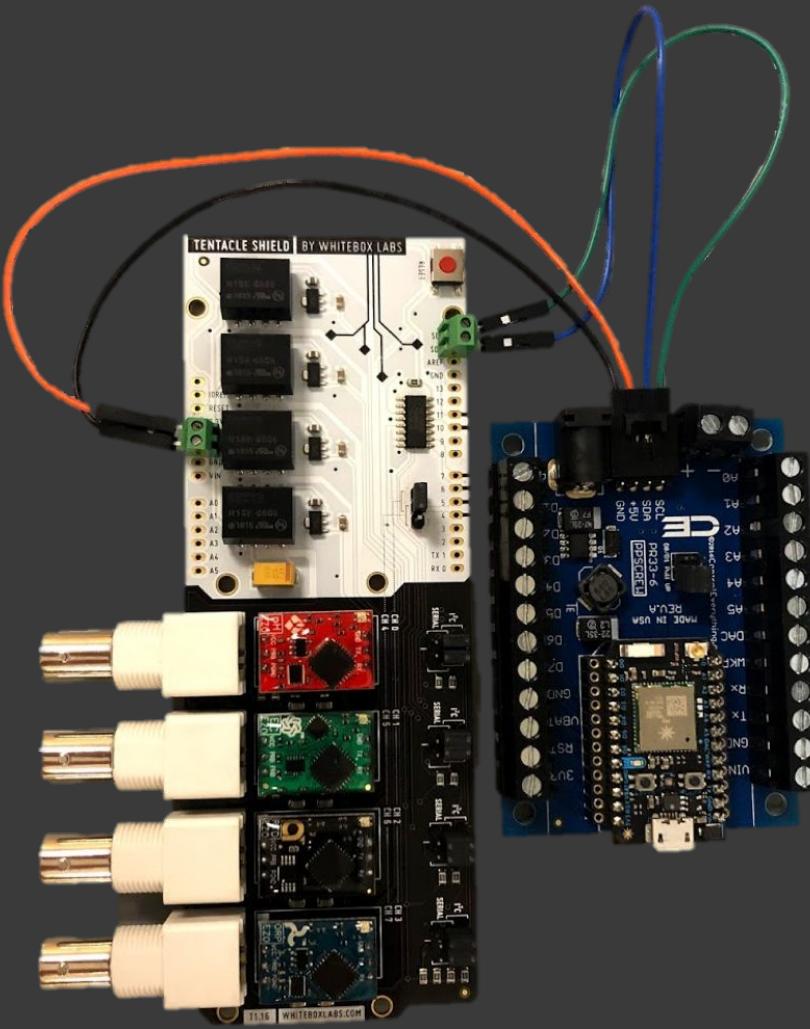
Tentacle shield testing and QA

What you need:

- 1 Blue board w/Photon
- 1 Tentacle shield
- 4 EZO circuits

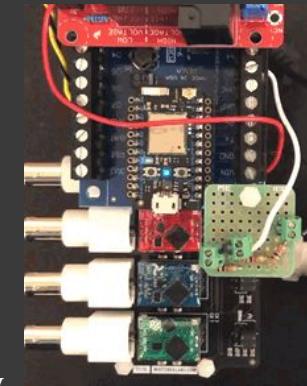
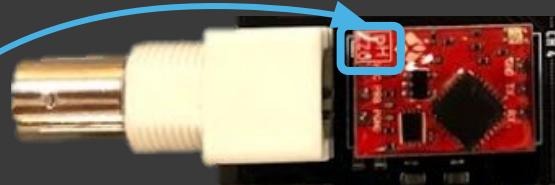


Set up:



Steps

- Place the circuits on the Tentacle Shield
 - EZO side should be next to the white block
- Connect jumper cables (or appropriate wire) into the correct pins and tighten
 - 5V & ground, SDA & SCL
- Power the Blue board, make sure photon is flashed
- Blue light on the Photon should turn on
- Circuits will light up blue when first powered if it is properly connected to power source (5V and ground)
- Each circuit should flash
 - If they don't, make sure that the SDA and SCL wires are connected properly
 - pH and ORP will do a multiple flash due to having temperature correction reading enabled



Calibration

What you need:

- 1 Blue board w/Photon
- 1 Tentacle shield
- 4 EZO circuits

pH

1. Place probe in pH 7.00 solution
2. “R” till readings level out
3. “Cal,mid,7.00”
4. Rinse with water
5. Place in pH 4.00 solution
6. “R” till readings level out
7. “Cal,low,4.00”
8. Place in pH 10.00 solution
9. “R” till readings level out
10. “Cal,high,10.00”
11. “Cal,slope” to record base and acid slope

- Order matters! Mid, low, then high, could do 1 or 2 point calibration, but recommend doing 3 point calibration

EC

1. “Cal,dry”
2. Put in 12,880 μS solution
3. “R” till readings level out
4. “Cal,low,12880”
5. Rinse with water
6. Put in 80,000 μS solution
7. “R” till readings level out
8. “Cal,high,80000”
9. “Cal,?”
 - a. Should return “?Cal,2”
10. “R” and record average 80,000 reading
11. Rinse with water
12. Put in 12,880 “R” till readings level out
13. “R” and record average 12,880 reading

- Make sure no air bubbles in slot opening
- Enable other readings if not using K1.0
then also need to send K,n where n is the number the sensor is (0.1 or 10)

Enable EC

O, [parameter],[1,0] enable or disable output parameter
O,? enabled parameter?

Example	Response
O,EC,1 / O,EC,0	 Wait 300ms 1 0 enable / disable conductivity Dec Null
O,TDS,1 / O,TDS,0	 Wait 300ms 1 0 enable / disable total dissolved solids Dec Null
O,S,1 / O,S,0	 Wait 300ms 1 0 enable / disable salinity Dec Null
O,SG,1 / O,SG,0	 Wait 300ms 1 0 enable / disable specific gravity Dec Null
O,?	 Wait 300ms 1 ? ,O,EC,TDS,S,SG 0 if all are enabled Dec ASCII Null

Optional to enable other readings, type in the code to the left to enable whichever parameters you want.

Parameters
EC conductivity
TDS total dissolved solids
S salinity
SG specific gravity

Followed by 1 or 0
1 enabled
0 disabled

* If you disable all possible data types your readings will display "no output".

ORP

1. Place probe in 225 mV ORP solution
2. “R” until readings level out
3. “Cal,225”

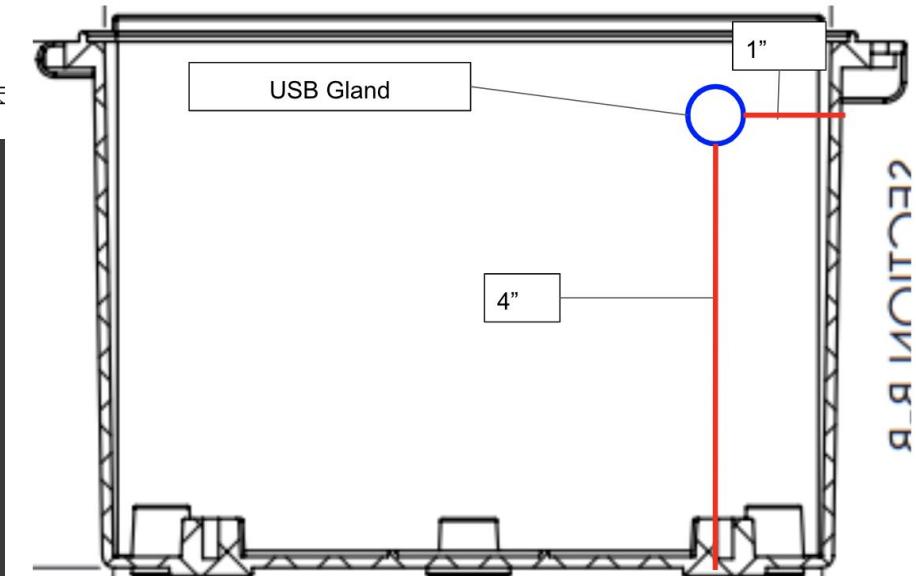
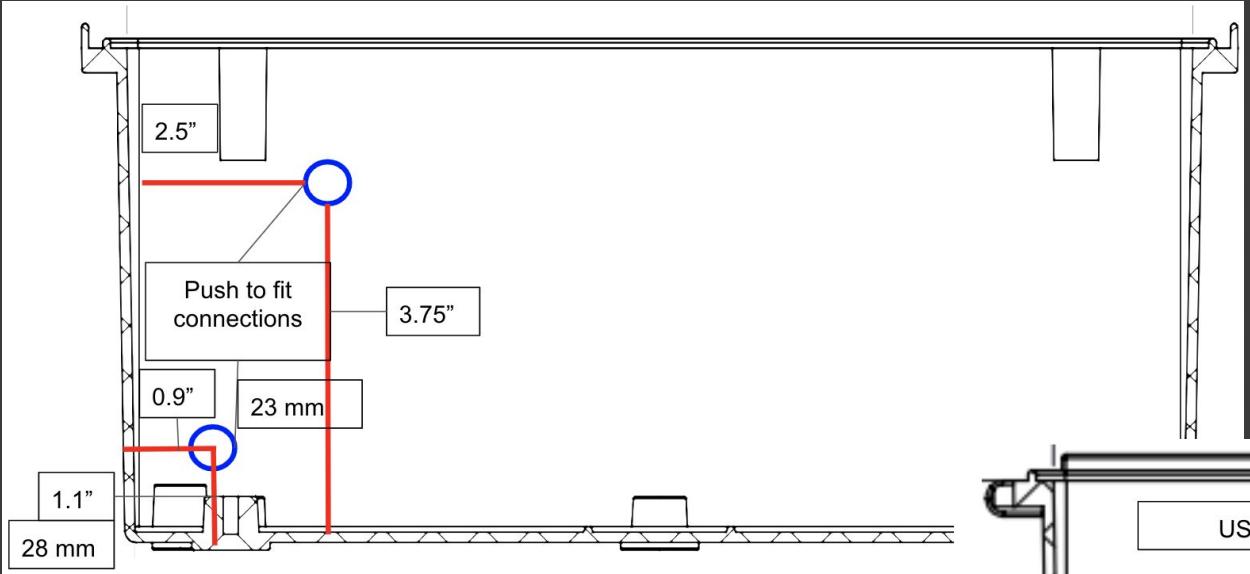
- Solution must be in opaque container as to avoid contact with sunlight

Assembly

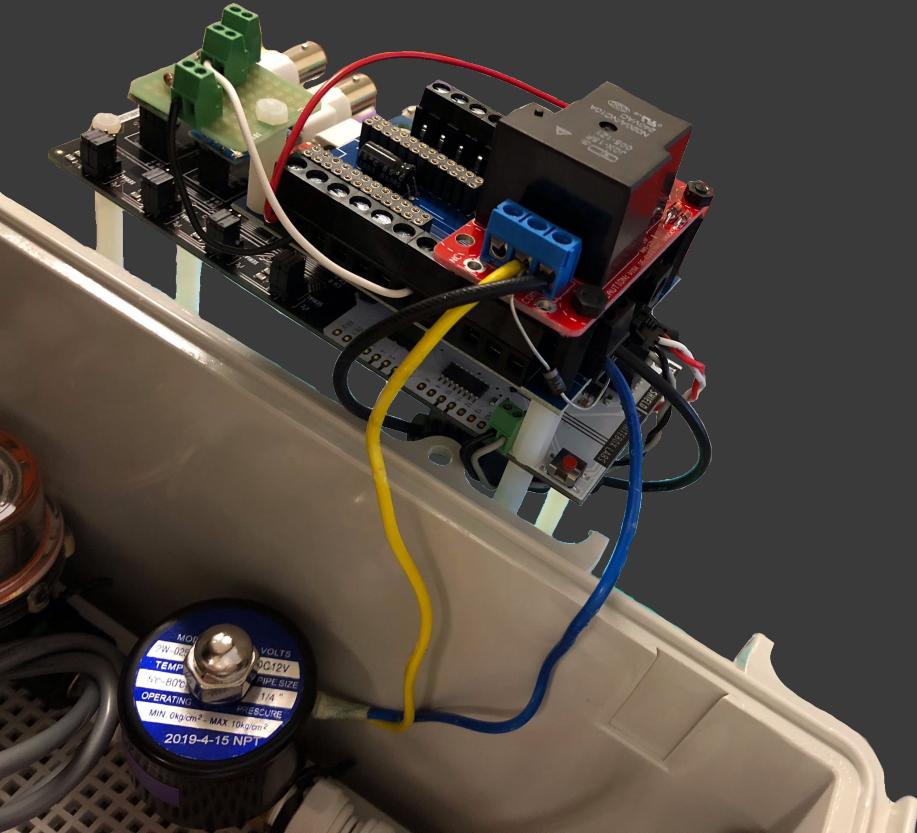
Steps

- Twist tie tees into panel
- Put in glands and connect to mechanical system with tubes
- Put in electronic gland
- Wire electronics on (but can keep separate)
- Hook up to water supply and run
 - If no leaks - screw in electronics into panel

**RECOMMEND RUNNING ALL SET UP FOR 1 DAY JUST TO SEE IF
THERE ARE NO LEAKS OVER TIME AND EVERYTHING IS REPORTING
AS IT SHOULD



Connecting Valve

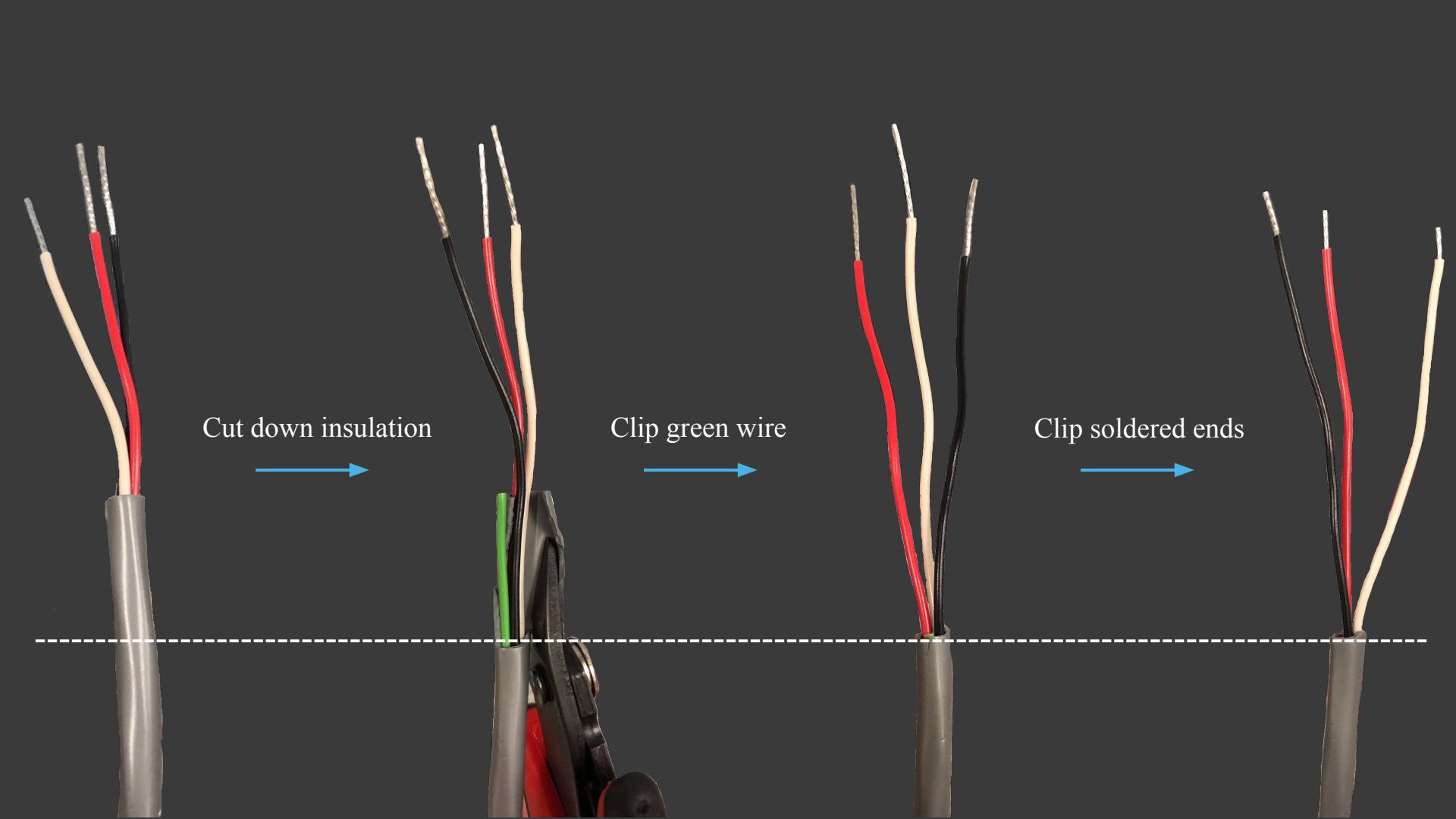


- Refer to [wiring guide](#)
- Yellow wire goes to beefcake, blue wire goes to blueboard
- Diode runs from blueboard to beefcake (side with white line on beefcake side)

Connecting Pressure Sensor

- White, black, red wires are too short so we need to cut the grey insulation down
- Cut green wire so that it remains under the insulation
- Clip the soldered ends of the wires so that they fit into the pins on the tentacle and voltage divider
- Connect wires based on [wiring guide](#)

* This process may differ if using a different pressure sensor. What matters is that it is all wired correctly



Cut down insulation

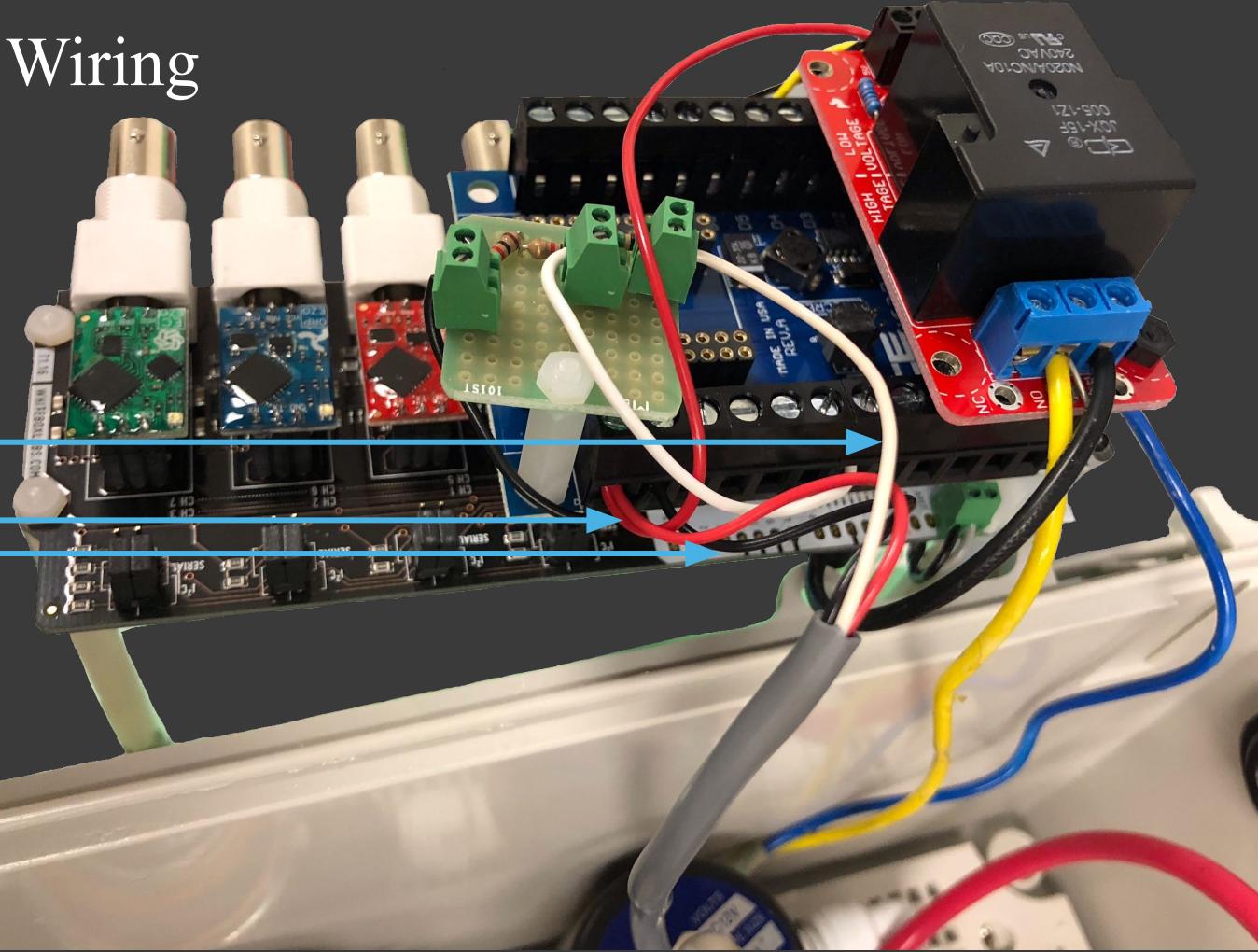
Clip green wire

Clip soldered ends

Pressure Sensor Wiring

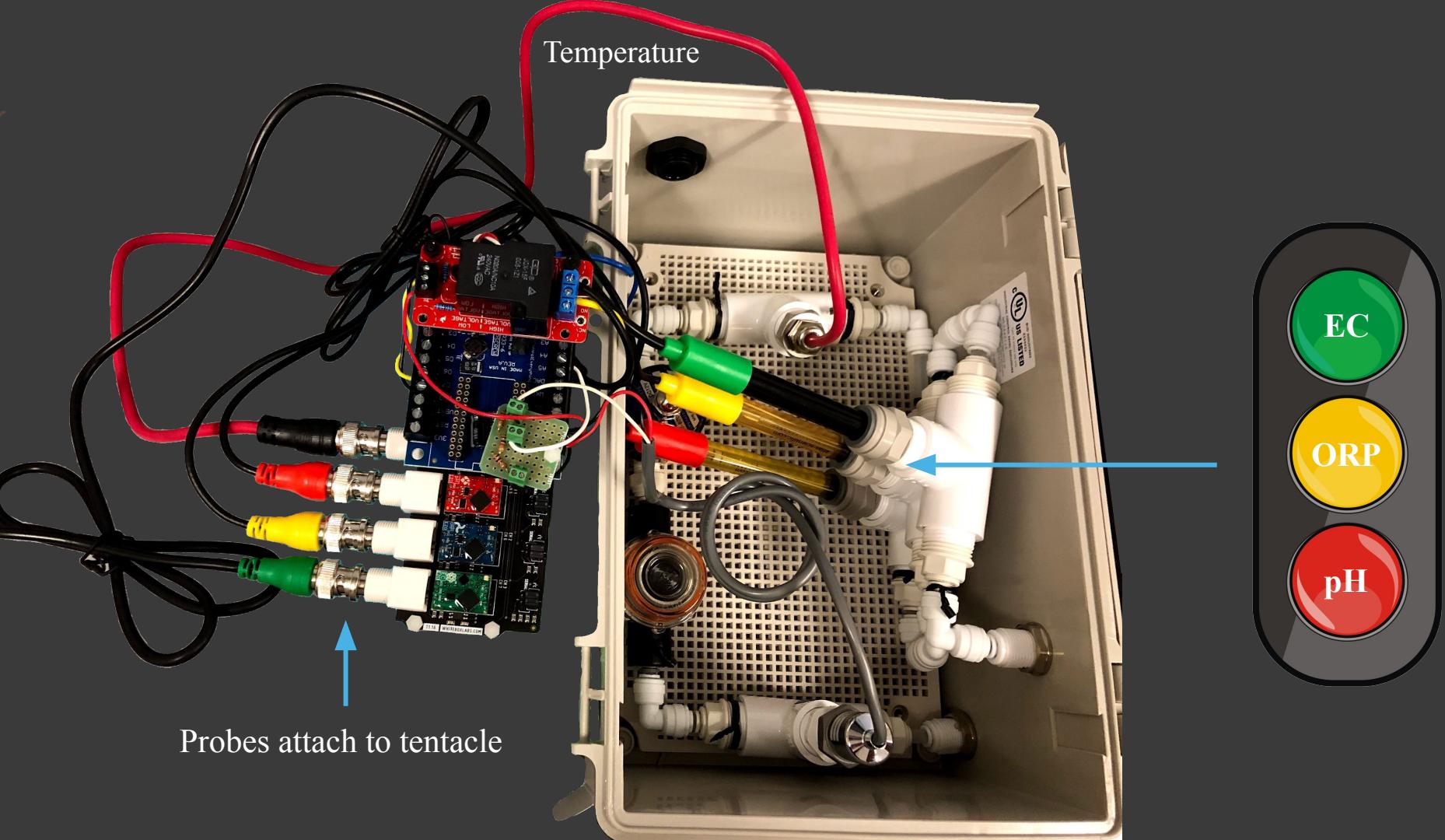
A5

VIN
GND



Attaching probes to Tentacle Shield

- In the tubing, from bottom to top, the order is: pH probe (red), ORP probe (yellow), EC probe (green)
- The ends of the probes attach to the tentacle shield
- The temperature probe also attaches there
- Make sure each probe is attached to the corresponding circuit



Twist tie placement on enclosure board

