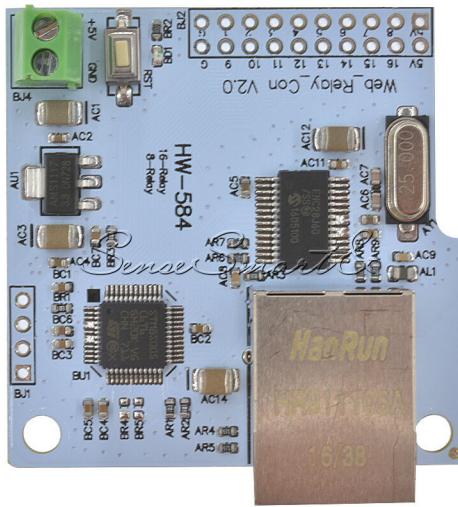


# Network Module Manual

Replacement Firmware for the  
Web\_Relay\_Con V2.0 HW-584  
April 19, 2021

## Introduction



Did you buy one (or more) of these Network Modules and then find disappointment in the software on the board?

- All of the modules have the same MAC address. That's a problem if you want more than one on your network. And the supplier does not give you a way to change the MAC.
- If you change the IP Address the device returns to its default IP Address when it power cycles. That makes it pretty much useless even if you only put one on your network - unless you're OK with it always having IP Address 192.168.1.4.

I decided to write my own firmware for the device to provide a web server interface that lets you change the IP Address, Gateway (Default Router) Address, Netmask, Port number (a REAL port number), and MAC Address. I also added the ability for the device to remember all these settings through a power cycle. Any Output settings you make are also optionally saved through a power cycle (Outputs typically being Relay controls).

NOTE 1: The software provided in this project only works with the “Web\_Relys\_Con V2.0 HW-584” which is based on the STM8S-005 or STM8S-105 processor and ENC28J60 ethernet controller. I haven't tried it with any other version of the hardware. I

think the V.1 FC-160 is based on a Nuvoton processor and this code and the tools are incompatible.

NOTE 2: I am not in any way associated with the manufacturer of this device. I only wrote code to run on it for my own hobby purposes, and I am making it available for other hobbyists.

NOTE 3: If you're looking to buy these modules the best source I've found is eBay. Best search term is "ENC28J60 Network Module". I've also seen them on Amazon, Banggood, and Aliexpress. In some cases they show photos of both the V.1 and V2.0 versions, but don't provide a way of specifying which one you want. You may need to communicate with the seller to be sure you'll get the V2.0 device.

## Thank You!

Many thanks to Carlos Ladeira for his help with user interface ideas, many hours of testing, and his patience during development of the MQTT version of this code. And many thanks to Jevdeni Kiski for his guidance and code contributions in developing the Home Assistant interface and new Configuration interface. We've ended up with a much better project as a result.

## Document License

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# Change Log

June 20, 2020 – Initial Release

August 2, 2020 – Added descriptions of “8 Output / 8 Input” and “16 Input” configurations.

August 6, 2020 – Added a note to make sure people know they don’t need to set up a development environment unless they need to change the code.

August 20, 2020 – Added a note on editing the .stp file

November 16, 2020 – Major change: Added MQTT support

Other changes:

- Changed the GUI to have a Configuration page in place of the former Address Settings page
- Moved the device Name input field to the new Configuration page
- Moved the Relay Invert control to the new Configuration page
- Added an Input Invert control
- Added the ability to select whether all relays retain their state, are all forced off, or are all forced on when a power cycle occurs. This is in the “Config” settings added to the Configuration page.
- Added the ability to select whether the Ethernet interface operates in Half or Full Duplex.
- Added the ability to configure settings for MQTT Broker IP Address and Port.
- Added the ability to provide options MQTT ID and Password information.
- Added MQTT connection status indicators in the Configuration page.
- Fixed several corner case bugs in the web server code that were causing anomalous behavior in browsers.

November 19, 2020 – Minor edits to this document:

- Corrected the screen shot for the MQTT IO Control page
- Changed text to indicate that Full Duplex worked with some unmanaged switches, but not all.
- Added that you can use “all” to turn all relays on or off with MQTT.

November 21, 2020 – Minor change to code and this document:

- Fix to the “short form” Input pin state information – it was not showing correctly if the Invert function was on.
- Added tables showing how the displayed pin states relate to the physical pin voltages.
- Added an error count statistics display to the MQTT version of the code.

November 26, 2020 – Document changes only:

- Rearranged some sections in the document.
- Added EEPROM bit field definitions.
- Added tables showing relationship of browser and MQTT fields to pin logic levels.

November 30, 2020

Code changes:

- o Added the /98 REST command
- o Corrected typo in the HELP pages that mis-stated the REST command numbers.

Document changes:

- o Added section describing all the REST commands.

December 2, 2020

Code changes:

- o Fixed issue regarding browsers on multiple IP addresses.
- o Fixed issue regarding browser interference on page changes.

Document changes:

- o Added section to describe functional limitations (like number of browser sessions, browser interference).
- o Added section on an alternative method for entering the initial IP Address.

December 4, 2020

Code changes:

- o Code change made to reduce or eliminate relay state changes during reboot.

Document changes:

- o Added section on alternative hardware design methods for maintaining relays states during power loss.

December 18, 2020 Code Revision 20201218 2202

Code changes:

- o Fixed bug in RXERIF diagnostic counter (MQTT builds only).
- o Significant rewrite of timing functions around the MQTT code to improve the rate at which MQTT commands can be executed.
- o Added Independent Watchdog (hardware watchdog) to restart the module should it hang.
- o Removed the Error Statistics button from the MQTT builds.
- o Added EEPROM lock-out except when intentionally making EEPROM changes.

Document changes:

- o Relocated the MQTT Error Statistic description

December 21, 2020

MAJOR CHANGE: Changed all MQTT commands to match the Home Assistant standard.

Code changes:

- Fixed timing issue in MQTT command processing
- Changed all MQTT commands to match the Home Assistant standard.
- Simplified the appearance of the browser interface to make code space available for continued MQTT development.

Document changes:

- Updated MQTT command list

December 30, 2020 Code Revision 20201230 0411

Code changes:

- Added window sizing to improve appearance on small devices (iPhone etc).
- Added Home Assistant Auto Discovery including a Config setting to enable Auto Discovery.
- Changed reset button routine to prevent hardware watchdog from firing while button is pressed.

Document changes:

- Added description of Auto Discovery and associated Config setting

January 23, 2021 Code Revision 20210123 1257

MAJOR CODE UPDATE. This code update will retain the majority of your settings from previous releases like your IP addresses, Port numbers, and MAC address.

However, you need to re-enter settings associated with the IO pins (Input/Output, Invert, after Boot State, etc). This will be readily apparent in the Browser GUI. Note that the default is for all pins to be Input pins.

Code changes:

- Updated GUI to improve the way IP Addresses and MAC numbers are entered.
- Updated GUI and code to provide a single build for Browser and MQTT configurations.
- Updated GUI and code to allow each pin to be individually configured as an input or output, and to allow each pin to be individually configured for Invert and Power On state.
- “Help” no longer fits in the Flash on the module, so a link was added to get to documentation on the GitHub site.
- Added a checkbox based “Features” field to replace the former “Config” bytes.
- Improved the Home Assistant Auto Discovery feature to better control population of the Home Assistant device management screen when Pin configurations are changed.

Document changes:

- Describe above code changes
- Changed Screen Shots

- Replaced Config Settings section with Feature Settings section
- Added section on Individual IO Settings
- Updated REST commands
- Eliminated section “Notes on Compiling Different Configurations”
- Updated section “Location of EEPROM Variables”
- Added section “Alternative Way to Force Defaults”
- Updated section “Programming the Module” to reflect use of a single release for all configurations.

January 26, 2021 Code Revision 20210126 0355

Code changes:

- Repaired Debug Statistics functionality, HOWEVER that functionality is still not enabled due to lack of space and continuing work on other features and bug fixes.

Document changes:

- None.

January 26, 2021 Code Revision 20210126 0527

Code changes:

- Fixed two bugs where a integer-to-hex conversion was being made that should have been integer-to-decimal.

Document changes:

- None.

January 27, 2021 Code Revision 20210127 1112

Code changes:

- Fixed bug that was allowing blank fields in the IP Address, Gateway, Netmask, and Port fields.
- Fixed bug that was preventing operation of the REST 00-31 commands.
- Fixed bug that was causing the REST 98 and 99 commands to output the wrong values.

Document changes:

- None.

February 8, 2021 Code Revision 20210208 0523

Code changes:

- Added DS18B20 Temperature Sensor interface and display functions

Document changes:

- Documented the DS18B20 interface

February 20, 2021 Code Revision 20210220 2350

Code changes:

- Added support for UART debug output messages on IO 11 in Developer builds
- Re-enabled the former MQTT Error Statistics page renamed as Link Error Statistics

Document changes:

- Documented support for UART debug output messages on IO 11
- Documented Link Error Statistics
- Added description of Debug bytes for developers
- Changed some section titles to clarify which ones are for Developers, and reorganized the document to collocate Developer sections.
- Moved the Change Log after the Table of Contents
- Updated information on where to find .stp and .sx files on GitHub

February 21, 2021 Code Revision 20210221 1826

Code changes:

- Bug fix in POST parsing routine

Document changes:

- None

April 12, 2021 Code Revision 20210412 1333

Code changes:

- Code size reductions
- Added separate build for “Browser Only” users (no MQTT) to free up memory for Browser Only features:
  - Browser Only build includes IO Names, IO Timers, and the Network Statistics page.
- Added DeviceName to the Browser tab
- Added degrees F to browser temperature sensor display

Document changes:

- Added section with Developer information on Stack Overflow detection
- Added section with Developer information on mqtt sendbuf sizing
- Added section with Developer information on Flash programming from the application.
- Added section with Developer information on Flash wear
- Added section on the the Browser Only features
- Added notes on how to reinstall the Browser Only version
- Updated Screen Shots for degrees F display and Browser Only version
- Added hardware design information regarding 16 Channel relay boards

April 13, 2021 Code Revision 20210413 1254

Code changes:

- Fixed issue where all temperature sensors were not appearing

April 19, 2021 Code Revision 20210419 2126 BETA

Code changes:

- Fixed Home Assistant issue where Temperature Sensors were not being deleted if removed from the Network Module
- Added ability to detect Temperature Sensor add/delete during run time and to update the Browser and MQTT information accordingly.

- Changed Temperature Sensor ID's from "1, 2, 3, 4, 5" to a 4 character ID per sensor that is based on the sensor serial number
- Slight improvement to temperature sensor conversion accuracy

Document changes:

- Updated description of Temperature Sensor ID's and run time add/delete functionality.

# MQTT Firmware vs Browser Only Firmware

Two firmware types are available for the Network Module: “MQTT” and “Browser Only”.

The intent of having the two firmware builds is to address two different communities of users.

The **MQTT** firmware is directed at users that have the network infrastructure to support a MQTT Broker and device management tools like Home Assistant, NodeRed, and similar tools. Those added network tools provide a very diverse set of device management capabilities including user friendly interfaces and timing control. The MQTT firmware CAN also be used by someone that only wants a Browser GUI.

The **Browser Only** firmware is directed at users that want simpler, self-contained functionality without the need for an MQTT broker and other “always on” network tools. The Browser Only firmware eliminates the MQTT code and provides a GUI that includes a few extra user interface features like “IO Naming” and “IO Timers”.

Feature Comparison:

Feature	MQTT Build	Browser Only Build
MQTT Support	x	
Home Assistant Support	x	
Full/Half Duplex	x	x
Link Error Statistics	x	x
DS18B20 Temp Sensor	x	x
IO Naming		x
IO Timers		x
Network Statistics		x

# Screen Shots and Usage - MQTT Build

## IO Control

The screenshot shows the IO Control interface for an MQTT build. It includes:

- Name:** NetworkModule-182 (Device name display. The name can be changed on the Configuration page.)
- Inputs:** Input #9 (Green), Input #10 (Green), Input #12 (Green), Input #13 (Green), Input #14 (Green), Input #15 (Green) (Color coded quick reference for Input and Output states)
- Outputs:** Output #1 through Output #11 (Red) with radio buttons for ON or OFF (Relays are turned on and off with radio buttons)
- Buttons:** Save, Undo All (Changes take effect when you click on Save. You can Undo your changes before you save)
- Links:** Refresh, Configuration (Page Refresh and Navigation to the Configuration page)
- Temperature Sensors:** 1 025.9°C 078.7°F, 2 026.1°C 079.0°F, 3 025.8°C 078.3°F, 4 026.1°C 079.0°F, 5 025.8°C 078.4°F (If DS18B20 mode is enabled on the Configuration page Temperature Sensor data appears here.)

# Screen Shots and Usage

## MQTT Build

### Configuration

Name	NetworkModule-182	Enter a device name of your choosing so that you can easily tell which Network Module you are connected to	
IP Address	192.168.1.182	Change IP Address, Gateway Address, Netmask, Port Number, MAC Address	
Gateway	192.168.1.1		
Netmask	255.255.255.0		
Port	8080		
MAC Address	c2:4d:69:6b:65:02	Features can be enabled with check boxes: Full/Half Duplex Ethernet Home Assistant Autodiscovery MQTT, DS18B20	
Features	<input type="checkbox"/> Full Duplex <input type="checkbox"/> HA Auto <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MQTT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DS18B20		
MQTT Server	192.168.1.106		
MQTT Port	1883		
MQTT Username		MQTT Server settings, Username, and Password MQTT Status indicators to show connection progress	
MQTT Password			
MQTT Status	██████		
IO	Type		Invert Boot state
#1	output	<input type="checkbox"/> off	Configure each IO as Input/Output/Disabled Do this first and Save, then configure Invert and Boot State
#2	output	<input type="checkbox"/> off	The IOControl Display shows "ON" or "OFF". The Invert setting is used to invert the condition on the physical pin.
#3	output	<input type="checkbox"/> off	
#4	output	<input type="checkbox"/> off	
#5	output	<input type="checkbox"/> off	
#6	output	<input type="checkbox"/> off	
#7	output	<input type="checkbox"/> off	
#8	output	<input type="checkbox"/> off	
#9	input	<input type="checkbox"/>	
#10	input	<input type="checkbox"/>	
#11	output	<input type="checkbox"/> off	The Boot state setting lets you control how the Output state is handled when the device reboots. Off – The Output will go to the OFF state (which can be high or low depending on the Invert setting). On – The Output will go to the ON state. Retain – The Output will go to the state it was in prior to reboot.
#12	input	<input type="checkbox"/>	
#13	input	<input type="checkbox"/>	
#14	input	<input type="checkbox"/>	
#15	input	<input type="checkbox"/>	
#16	disabled	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="button" value="Save"/> <input type="button" value="Undo All"/>			Changes take effect when you click Save You can Undo changes before you save them
<a href="#">Code Revision 20210409 2358</a>			Link to the GitHub Wiki page for this firmware
<input type="button" value="Reboot"/>			Page Refresh Navigation to IOControl page
<input type="button" value="Refresh"/> <input type="button" value="IO Control"/>			

Use caution when changing Configuration settings. If you make a mistake and can no longer access the device you may have to restore factory defaults by holding down the reset button for 10 seconds.

Make sure the MAC you assign is unique to your local network. Recommended is that you just increment the lowest octet and then label your devices for future reference.

If you change the highest octet of the MAC you MUST use an even number to form a unicast address. 00, 02, ... fc, fe, etc work fine. 01, 03 ... fd, ff are for multicast and will not work.

# Screen Shots and Usage - Browser Only Build

## IO Control

The screenshot shows the 'IO Control' page with the following interface elements:

- Name:** NetworkModule-182 (Device name display. The name can be changed on the Configuration page.)
- IO Pins (Left Column):** IO09, IO10, IO12, IO13, IO14, IO15 (Color coded quick reference for Input and Output states)
- Relay States (Right Column):** Driveway\_Light, Porch\_Light, IO03, IO04, IO05, IO06, IO07, IO08, IO11 (SET buttons: ON/OFF. Relays are turned on and off with radio buttons. Pins can be given user specified names in the Configuration page.)
- Buttons:** Save, Undo All, Refresh, Configuration (Changes take effect when you click on Save. You can Undo your changes before you save. Page Refresh and Navigation to the Configuration page.)
- Temperature Sensors:** 1 025.8°C 078.4°F, 2 026.1°C 079.0°F, 3 025.8°C 078.3°F, 4 026.1°C 078.9°F, 5 025.8°C 078.4°F (If DS18B20 mode is enabled on the Configuration page Temperature Sensor data appears here.)

# Screen Shots and Usage

## Browser Only Build

### Configuration

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Configure each IO as Input/Output/Disabled  
Do this first and Save, then configure Invert and Boot State

The IOControl Display shows "ON" or "OFF". The Invert setting is used to invert the condition on the physical pin.

The Boot state setting lets you control how the Output state is handled when the device reboots.  
Off – The Output will go to the OFF state (which can be high or low depending on the Invert setting).  
On – The Output will go to the ON state.  
Retain – The Output will go to the state it was in prior to reboot.

Set a timer value and the units to cause an output to return to its idle state after a timeout."0" disables the timer.

Set your own name for each pin.

Changes take effect when you click Save  
You can Undo changes before you save them

Link to the GitHub Wiki page for this firmware

Page Refresh  
Navigation to IOControl page

Use caution when changing Configuration settings. If you make a mistake and can no longer access the device you may have to restore factory defaults by holding down the reset button for 10 seconds.

Make sure the MAC you assign is unique to your local network. Recommended is that you just increment the lowest octet and then label your devices for future reference.

If you change the highest octet of the MAC you MUST use an even number to form a unicast address. 00, 02, ... ff, fe, etc work fine. 01, 03 ... ff, ff are for multicast and will not work.

Code Revision 20210409 2358  
[Help Wiki](#)  
[Reboot](#)  
[Refresh](#) [IO Control](#)

## Screen Shots and Usage Browser Only Build

To access the Network Statistics Page enter the http command “http://IP:Port/66”.

### Network Statistics

Values shown are since last power on or reset

0000282271	Dropped packets at the IP layer
0000282784	Received packets at the IP layer
0000000476	Sent packets at the IP layer
0000000000	Packets dropped due to wrong IP version or header length
0000000000	Packets dropped due to wrong IP length, high byte
0000000000	Packets dropped due to wrong IP length, low byte
0000000000	Packets dropped since they were IP fragments
0000000000	Packets dropped due to IP checksum errors
0000000000	Packets dropped since they were not ICMP or TCP
0000000000	Dropped ICMP packets
0000000000	Received ICMP packets
0000000000	Sent ICMP packets
0000000000	ICMP packets with a wrong type
0000000000	Dropped TCP segments
0000000518	Received TCP segments
0000000483	Sent TCP segments
0000000000	TCP segments with a bad checksum
0000000000	TCP segments with a bad ACK number
0000000000	Received TCP RST (reset) segments
0000000012	Retransmitted TCP segments
0000000000	Dropped SYNs due to too few connections available
0000000000	SYNs for closed ports, triggering a RST

[Configuration](#)

[Refresh](#)

[Clear](#)

## Screen Shots and Usage - All Builds

1111110111111011

HTML output page with a short form representation of the Relay states. Useful to app writers.

Relay states are Relay 1 on the left, Relay 16 on the right.

This display will look the same with the /98 and /99 command.

# Notes on Feature Settings

The Features checkboxes on the Configuration page let you modify operation of the code as follows:

MQTT build:

Features	<input type="checkbox"/> Full Duplex <input type="checkbox"/> HA Auto <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MQTT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DS18B20
----------	---

Browser Only build:

Features	<input type="checkbox"/> Full Duplex <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DS18B20
----------	---

## Full Duplex Setting:

The Full Duplex checkbox determines the Half / Full Duplex Ethernet communication method. **The default setting is Half Duplex because that is the most reliable setting for the ENC28J60 Ethernet chip.** Since all the Ethernet transactions that will occur with the module are small and infrequent there is no real performance advantage to using Full Duplex.

During test it was found that Cisco business level switches exhibited Half Duplex timing that the ENC28J60 cannot handle, the symptom being a device disconnect (and automatic recovery) every few hours. This isn't the fault of the Cisco switch, rather it appears to be the fault of errata in the ENC28J60. During test it was determined that we could get around this issue when connected to the Cisco switch by enabling Full Duplex mode in the ENC28J60. While there was concern that this would not work (due to chip spec notes and online discussion over the years), it seemed to run error free. There may be other switches which show the same issue. Again, the reason Full Duplex works may be the very low messaging rate used with the Network Module which eliminates the need for flow control.

Note 1: The spec for the chip indicates that Full/Half Duplex auto-negotiation DOES NOT work. However, experimentation showed that both Full and Half Duplex worked with some unmanaged switches, but not with others. Problems were always running Half Duplex only with the Cisco 1G managed switch. No problem was seen running Half Duplex with a Cisco 10/100 managed switch.

Note 2: If you choose to use the Full Duplex setting note that the spec says the Switch port the device is connected to MUST be manually configured for Full Duplex operation ... even though our testing did not always show that to be the case. Of course we had a limited number of switches and this might be an issue on some other switch.

Note3: Feel free to experiment with this setting at your own risk to see what works best in your network configuration. I recommend you use Half Duplex and only try Full Duplex if you have issues.

#### **HA Auto:**

The Home Assistant Auto Discovery setting enables the Network Module to send MQTT Auto Discovery Publish messages to your Home Assistant server. Checking this setting will automatically enable MQTT (and the MQTT checkbox will automatically be set). Do not enable this setting unless you are operating in an MQTT environment with Home Assistant.

#### **MQTT:**

Checking this box will enable the MQTT interface. HA Auto DOES NOT need to be enabled with MQTT. This will allow you to operate with MQTT servers without using Home Assistant, OR it will enable you to use Home Assistant without Auto Discovery.

#### **DS18B20:**

Checking this box will cause IO 16 (Pin 16) to be disabled for use as an Input / Output pin and will enable operation of the DS18B20 Temperature Sensor interface on IO 16 (Pin 16). You can attach up to 5 DS18B20 temperature sensors to pin 16, and the temperatures sensed by those devices will be displayed on the IOControl page. See the section “Adding DS18B20 Temperature Sensors”.

## Notes on Individual IO Settings – MQTT build

The Individual IO Settings drop down and check boxes on the Configuration page lets you modify functionality of each IO as follows:

IO	Type	Invert Boot state
#1	input	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
#2	input	<input type="checkbox"/>
#3	input	<input type="checkbox"/>
#4	input	<input type="checkbox"/>
#5	input	<input type="checkbox"/>
#6	input	<input type="checkbox"/>
#7	input	<input type="checkbox"/>
#8	input	<input type="checkbox"/>
#9	input	<input type="checkbox"/>
#10	input	<input type="checkbox"/>
#11	output	<input type="checkbox"/> off
#12	output	<input type="checkbox"/> on
#13	output	<input type="checkbox"/> retain
#14	output	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> off
#15	output	<input type="checkbox"/> off
#16	output	<input type="checkbox"/> off

### Type Drop Down Settings:

Each IO has a “Type” drop down box that lets you configure each IO as follows:

Input – Self explanatory. Sets the IO as an input.

Output – Self explanatory. Sets the IO as an output.

Disabled – In Browser applications a Disabled Input or Output will not appear in the IO Control page. REST commands will also not affect a Disable Output. In Home Assistant applications a Disabled Input or Output will result in a Config message with an empty payload, resulting in that IO being deleted from the Home Assistant configuration.

**IMPORTANT: Set the Input/Output/Disabled setting, THEN Save, THEN make other setting changes.**

**VERY IMPORTANT:** Be sure you understand your hardware design. You must avoid setting an IO as an Output if the associated pin is tied to VCC or Ground, as that is likely to damage the output driver on the processor. If your hardware design can provide high levels of input current on a pin make sure that pin is defined as an Input.

### Invert Settings:

Each IO has an “Invert” checkbox.

Effect on Inputs:

If not checked, a low voltage on the Input pin will display as OFF in the IOControl page and will be reported as OFF to MQTT clients.

If checked, a low voltage in the Input pin will display as ON in the IOControl page and will be reported as ON to MQTT clients.

Effect on Outputs:

If not checked, an OFF indication in the IOControl page or MQTT Client will result in a low voltage on the Output pin.

If checked, an OFF indication in the IOControl page or MQTT Client will result in a high voltage on the Output pin.

Since some devices connected to Output pins may be in an ON state with a low voltage, and others may be in an OFF state with a low voltage you will need to figure out what the Invert setting should be for your specific design. It is really a simple matter of connecting your peripheral device, setting ON or OFF in the Browser, then checking the Invert box as needed so that an ON state in the Browser matches an ON condition in your peripheral.

### Boot State Settings:

Each IO has a “Boot State” dropdown box. The effect of each setting is as follows:

Off: After boot the state of the Output is OFF.

On: After boot the state of the Output is ON.

Retain: After boot the state of the Output is the same as it was before boot.

**IMPORTANT:** Only use “Retain” if the output changes infrequently.

# Notes on Individual IO Settings – Browser Only build

The Individual IO Settings drop down and check boxes on the Configuration page lets you modify functionality of each IO as follows:

IO	Type	Name	Invert	Boot state	Timer
#1	output	Porch_Light	<input type="checkbox"/>	off	15 <input type="button"/> 1s <input type="button"/>
#2	output	Driveway_Light	<input type="checkbox"/>	off	60 <input type="button"/> 1m <input type="button"/>
#3	output	IO03	<input type="checkbox"/>	off	0 <input type="button"/> 0.1s <input type="button"/>
#4	output	IO04	<input type="checkbox"/>	off	0 <input type="button"/> 0.1s <input type="button"/>
#5	output	IO05	<input type="checkbox"/>	off	0 <input type="button"/> 0.1s <input type="button"/>
#6	output	IO06	<input type="checkbox"/>	off	0 <input type="button"/> 0.1s <input type="button"/>
#7	output	IO07	<input type="checkbox"/>	off	0 <input type="button"/> 0.1s <input type="button"/>
#8	output	IO08	<input type="checkbox"/>	off	0 <input type="button"/> 0.1s <input type="button"/>
#9	input	IO09	<input type="checkbox"/>		
#10	input	IO10	<input type="checkbox"/>		
#11	output	IO11	<input type="checkbox"/>	off	0 <input type="button"/> 0.1s <input type="button"/>
#12	input	IO12	<input type="checkbox"/>		
#13	input	IO13	<input type="checkbox"/>		
#14	input	IO14	<input type="checkbox"/>		
#15	input	IO15	<input type="checkbox"/>		
#16	disabled	IO16			

**Type Drop Down Settings:** Same as MQTT build.

**Invert Settings:** Same as MQTT build.

**Boot State Settings:** Same as MQTT build.

## Name Settings:

Enter a name for the IO pin. This name will appear on the IOControl page for the pin. Use any alphanumeric character plus -\*\_ and . (no spaces).

## Timer Settings:

Two fields are provided:

“Value” field:

0 disables the Timer.

1 to 16383 can be entered for the of “ticks” to operate the Timer. For example, 1 second or 1 minute or 1 hour.

“Units” field:

Select the time unit to use: 0.1 second, seconds, minutes, or hours.

How the Timers work:

Timers only work on Output pins.

If you enter “0” in the Value field the Timer will not affect the Output pin.

The Timer assumes that the “Boot State” is the idle state of the output, ie, the “normal” state the output is in. If you then change the output to its non-idle state the Timer will start and will return the output to the idle state when the Timer expires. Example:

Output #1 is named “Porch Light”. The Boot State is “off”. So, normally this output is “off”. I have the Timer value and units set to 15 seconds. If I change the output to “on” the Timer will turn the output off after 15 seconds.

“Boot State” must be “on” or “off”. “retain” will disable the Timer.

If a Reboot or power cycle occurs while a Timer is running the Output will be set to its “Boot State”.

If you change the IO Timer value while the Timer is running:

- The Timer is reloaded with the new IO Timer value. The Timer will continue running and will expire at the new value entered.
- If you entered “0” as the new value the Timer will expire immediately.

NOTE: “Name” and “IO Timer” features are not available in the MQTT build due to lack of Flash space. Typically this type of feature isn’t needed in MQTT environments as MQTT management tools provide similar functionality.

### **IMPORTANT: Don’t change the IO Names and IO Timers settings frequently.**

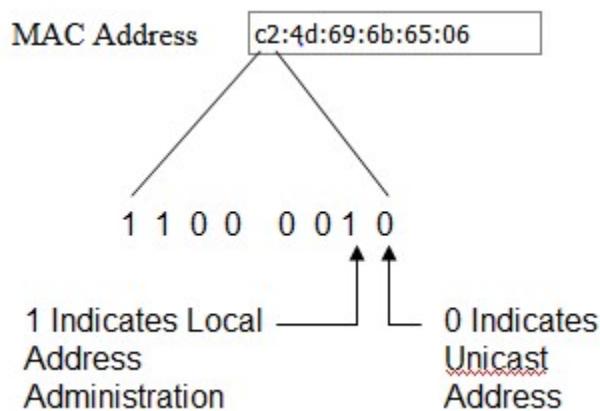
These values are stored in the Flash (not in the EEPROM). Flash has a much more limited number of write cycles than EEPROM, so try to keep the number of times you change IO Name or IO Timer settings to a few hundred per pin. This should be more than adequate for typical usage.

## Notes on the MAC Address

When new the Network Modules all have the same MAC address. This obviously doesn't work when you try to put more than one on a network.

A MAC address is only used within your network. Your router(s) and switch(es) use the MAC address as the means of uniquely addressing all the hardware in your network. The MAC address does not appear outside your network so it only needs to be unique to YOUR network, not to the entire world. This being the case, you only need to make sure that any MAC address you put in the Network Module does not conflict with any other hardware in your local network.

The default MAC address value in the code provided is just a random value with the exception that it has the two least significant bits of the most significant octet arranged to make it a "Unicast" and "Locally Administered Address (LAA)" as illustrated here. You MUST make sure you use a LAA and Unicast address.



All other bits and octets in the MAC address (including those in the most significant octet) can be anything you want as long as you set the two bits above as shown.

Despite this being a LAA MAC address there is still some very remote possibility the MAC you pick will conflict with some other hardware you have on your network. You can search on Google to find methods of finding all MAC addresses on your network – the method you choose will depend on your level of expertise. Generally this is not required, and if you suspect a conflict you may just find it easier to try a different MAC address on the Network Module. Maybe make the middle fours octets something you fancy.

A good reference for MAC address explanations is here:  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/MAC\\_address](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/MAC_address)

If you are installing multiple devices on your network I suggest that you just change the values in the least significant octet and leave the others as-is. I advise you add a label to your Network Module with the MAC you programmed into it.

# Notes on REST Commands

A REST (Representational State Transfer) type of interface has been implemented to enable access to Input/Output states and other functions without the use of the browser. This is to enable development of external programs to operate the Network Module without use of the full GUI. A complete list of the REST commands is provided here.

For all commands enter an http request as follows:

`http://IP:Port/xx`

where

- IP = the Network Module IP Address, for example 192.168.1.4
- Port = the Network Module Port number, for example 8080 (Port number may be omitted if the device is set to Port 80)
- xx = one of the codes below

00 = IO 1 OFF	08 = IO 5 OFF	16 = IO 9 OFF	24 = IO 13 OFF
01 = IO 1 ON	09 = IO 5 ON	17 = IO 9 ON	25 = IO 13 ON
02 = IO 2 OFF	10 = IO 6 OFF	18 = IO 10 OFF	26 = IO 14 OFF
03 = IO 2 ON	11 = IO 6 ON	19 = IO 10 ON	27 = IO 14 ON
04 = IO 3 OFF	12 = IO 7 OFF	20 = IO 11 OFF	28 = IO 15 OFF
05 = IO 3 ON	13 = IO 7 ON	21 = IO 11 ON	29 = IO 15 ON
06 = IO 4 OFF	14 = IO 8 OFF	22 = IO 12 OFF	30 = IO 16 OFF
07 = IO 4 ON	15 = IO 8 ON	23 = IO 12 ON	31 = IO 16 ON

55 = All Outputs ON

56 = All Outputs OFF

60 = Show IOControl Page

61 = Show Configuration Page

65 = Flash LED

91 = Reboot

98 = Show Short Form IO Settings (without HTML formatting)

99 = Same as /98

Note1: Output control commands (00 to 31) only work for IO defined as an Output. If the IO referenced in the command is an Input no action is taken.

Note 2: Commands 98 and 99 provide the IO states as 16 alphanumeric characters WITHOUT any HTML formatting. Both commands produce the same result for backward compatibility. This command may be useful to some external applications that automate interaction with the Network Module using URL style commands.

# Notes on MQTT

This is not a tutorial on MQTT as there are a lot of great resources online to bring you up to speed if you are just getting started with this protocol. Here I am only including notes on the tools and methods used in test of the MQTT functionality on the Network Module.

## Configuration Settings:

First a discussion of the Configuration page parameters associated with MQTT

MQTT Server	192.168.1.106
MQTT Port	1883
MQTT Username	[redacted]
MQTT Password	[redacted]
MQTT Status	

At this date the MQTT Broker Server must be specified in the form of an IP Address (as opposed to a URL). In future versions I may be able to allow use of a URL for the Broker Server.

The MQTT Port is self explanatory. The MQTT default value of 1883 automatically appears, but you can enter any port number you have assigned to MQTT on your Broker Server.

## Security:

The MQTT Username and MQTT Password are optional and only required if you've set up your Broker to require them.

**IMPORTANT:** SSL/TSL are NOT implemented due to memory restrictions. I haven't found any implementations that are small enough to fit in the flash space available on the Network Module, so I don't expect this to ever be possible.

If security is really important due to the need to access MQTT on the device from the internet I suggest using access to your internal MQTT Broker Server in a secure way, then letting the Broker Server pass all messages on your internal network. You don't have to do it this way, but this is a suggestion for improving security rather than just exposing the device to the internet.

## **Tools and test methods:**

Tools used in development and test of the MQTT functionality:

- The Mosquitto Broker was used on a Windows 10 laptop and worked very well with the Network Module.
- Chrome with MQTTLens was used at various points to provide a manual MQTT subscribe and publish interface.
- NodeRed was used to drive automated MQTT messages.
- Carlos Ladeira used Home Assistant in concert with NodeRed and the Mosquitto Broker in a Linux environment to perform extensive long run testing.

You aren't restricted to the above. Any tools and interfaces that are MQTT compliant should work just as well. But if you are just getting started I can recommend the above as a good place to start.

## **MQTT Status Indicators:**

MQTT Status 

The MQTT Status indicators show connection progress with the MQTT Server and Broker:

- Box 1 - Indicates that the MQTT Connection process has started.
- Box 2 - Indicates a successful ARP reply from the Server.
- Box 3 - Indicates a successful TCP connection with the Server.
- Box 4 - Indicates the MQTT Broker has responded (Connect phase)
- Box 5 - Indicates initial communication with the Broker has completed successfully (initial subscribe and publish messages completed).

Once all 5 boxes are green the Network Module is connected to the Broker and normal MQTT communications can proceed.

## **Reminder regarding the Output “Boot State” setting:**

A reminder regarding the Output Boot State setting for the Outputs on the Configuration page: If you select ‘Retain’ the Output states are written to the EEPROM every time an Output changes state. If you anticipate a lot of Output state changes you may wear out the EEPROM with too many changes to the Output states.

## **Client Publish and Subscribe messaging:**

The Client **Publishes** the following messages to control outputs:

NetworkModule/<devicename>/output/xx/set	Payload: "ON" or "OFF"
NetworkModule/<devicename>/output/all/set	Payload: "ON" or "OFF"
NetworkModule/<devicename>/state-req	Payload: none

Where "xx" is the IO number of the Output

The Client **Subscribes** to the following:

NetworkModule/<devicename>/availability

This Subscribe enables the Client to receive the Network Module online / offline messages.

NetworkModule/<devicename>/input/+

NetworkModule/<devicename>/output/+

These two Subscribes enable the Client to receive changes in Input and Output states. The "+" causes the broker to send the client the IO state messages without reflecting the client's own "set" commands back to the client (reduces traffic).

NetworkModule/<devicename>/temp/+

This allows the client to receive the Temperature Sensor data produced by the Network Module if DS18B20 mode is enabled and Temperature Sensors are attached to the Network Module.

NetworkModule/<devicename>/state

This allows the client to receive the responses to the state-req Publish commands that the Client sends.

The Network Module **Publishes** the following when an IO state change occurs:

NetworkModule/<devicename>/input/xx Payload: "ON" or "OFF"

NetworkModule/<devicename>/output/xx Payload: "ON" or "OFF"

Where "xx" is the IO number of the Input or Output

The Network Module **Publishes** the following every 30 seconds if DS18B20 mode is enabled and Temperature Sensors are attached to the Network Module::

NetworkModule/<devicename>/temp/xxxx Payload: Temperature in degrees Celsius in the format " 000.0" or "-000.0"

Where "xxxx" is the Temperature Sensor ID in 4 hex encoded characters.

The Network Module **Publishes** the following in response to receiving a state-req Publish message:

NetworkModule/<devicename>/state Payload: see below

The payload consists of two bytes with the bits organized as follows:

First byte:

- Bit 7 = IO 16 state (1 = ON, 0 = OFF)
- Bit 6 = IO 15 state
- Bit 5 = IO 14 state
- Bit 4 = IO 13 state
- Bit 3 = IO 12 state
- Bit 2 = IO 11 state
- Bit 1 = IO 10 state
- Bit 0 = IO 9 state

Second byte:

- Bit 7 = IO 8 state
- Bit 6 = IO 7 state
- Bit 5 = IO 6 state
- Bit 4 = IO 5 state
- Bit 3 = IO 4 state
- Bit 2 = IO 3 state
- Bit 1 = IO 2 state
- Bit 0 = IO 1 state

Note that Disabled IO will still have either an ON or OFF state – dependent on the last state seen for that IO. The user application is responsible for knowing which IO are Enabled and Disabled when using the above response.

The Network Module **Subscribes** to the following topics when it connects to the Broker:

NetworkModule/<devicename>/output/+/set

This Subscribe enables the Network Module to receive output Publish commands from Clients. The + as used above causes the broker to send the module the "set" commands, but won't reflect the modules own IO state messages back to the module (reduces traffic).

NetworkModule/<devicename>/state-req

This Subscribe enables the Network Module to receive the state-req Publish command from Clients

When the Network Module connects to the Broker it will establish a "last will" message of "offline" with the will topic "NetworkModule/<devicename>/availability"

When the Network Module connects to the Broker it will Publish to the following topics:

NetworkModule/<devicename>/availability Payload: online

NetworkModule/<devicename>/input/xx Payload: "ON" or "OFF"

NetworkModule/<devicename>/output/xx Payload: "ON" or "OFF"

Where “xx” is the IO number for the Input or Output.  
No Publish occurs for a Disabled IO.

NetworkModule/<devicename>/temp/xxxx Payload: Temperature in degrees Celsius in the format " 000.0" or "-000.0"  
Where “xxxx” is the Temperature Sensor ID in 4 hex characters

### **Home Assistant Auto Discovery Publish messaging:**

If the HA Auto checkbox is set to enable the Network Module **Publishes** the following messages at boot time:

For each Output:

homeassistant/switch/<macaddress>/xx/config                          Payload: see below  
homeassistant/binary\_sensor/<macaddress>/xx/config                  Payload: empty

The “binary\_sensor” message with an empty payload makes sure that Home Assistant will delete any prior Input configuration on this IO.

homeassistant/sensor/<macaddress>/yy/config                          Payload: empty  
This only occurs if IO 16 is defined as an Output. The “sensor” message with an empty payload makes sure that Home Assistant will delete any prior sensor configuration on IO 16 where IO 16 was previously defined for use as a Temperature Sensor connection.

For each Input:

homeassistant/binary\_sensor /<macaddress>/xx/config                  Payload: see below  
homeassistant/switch/<macaddress>/xx/config                          Payload: empty

The “switch” message with an empty payload makes sure that Home Assistant will delete any prior Output configuration on this IO.

homeassistant/sensor/<macaddress>/yy/config                          Payload: empty  
This only occurs if IO 16 is defined as an Input. The “sensor” message with an empty payload makes sure that Home Assistant will delete any prior Temperature Sensor configuration on IO 16.

For each Disabled IO:

homeassistant/binary\_sensor /<macaddress>/xx/config                  Payload: empty  
homeassistant/switch/<macaddress>/xx/config                          Payload: empty  
These “empty payload” messages sure that Home Assistant will delete any prior Input and Output configuration on this IO.

homeassistant/sensor/<macaddress>/yy/config                          Payload: empty  
This only occurs if DS18B20 mode is Disabled. The “sensor” message with an empty payload makes sure that Home Assistant will delete any prior Temperature Sensor configuration on IO 16.

For each Temperature Sensor:  
 homeassistant/sensor/<macaddress>/yyyy/config                      Payload: see below  
 This only occurs if DS18B20 mode is Enabled.

In the above topics <macaddress> is the MAC address of the Network Module. The “xx” is the IO number. The “yyyy” is the Temperature Sensor ID. Outputs are defined as “switch” topics, Inputs are defined as “binary\_sensor” topics, and Temperature Sensors are defined as “sensor” topics.

Where a Home Assistant Auto Discovery Payload is not empty it takes this form for the “switch” topics:

```
{
  "uniq_id": "<macaddress>_output_01",
  "name": "<devicename> output 01",
  "~": "NetworkModule/<devicename>",
  "avty_t": "~/availability",
  "stat_t": "~/output/01",
  "cmd_t": "~/output/01/set",
  "dev": {
    "ids": ["NetworkModule_<macaddress>"],
    "mdl": "HW-584",
    "mf": "NetworkModule",
    "name": "<devicename>",
    "sw": "<code_revision>"
  }
}
```

The above example is for an Output on IO 01.

<macaddress> is replaced with the MAC address of the Network Module as entered on the Configuration page..

<devicename> is replaced with the Name of the Network Module as entered on the Configuration page.

<code\_revision> is replaced with the code revision for the firmware programmed into the Network Module.

Where a Home Assistant Auto Discovery Payload is not empty it takes this form for the “binary-sensor” topics:

```
{
  "uniq_id": "<macaddress>_input_01",
```

```

"name":"<devicename> input 01",
"~":"NetworkModule/<devicename>",
"avty_t": "~/availability",
"stat_t": "~/input/01",
"dev": {
"ids": ["NetworkModule_<macaddress>"],
"mdl": "HW-584",
"mf": "NetworkModule",
"name": "<devicename>",
"sw": "<code_revision>"
}
}

```

The above example is for Input on IO 01.

<macaddress> is replaced with the MAC address of the Network Module as entered on the Configuration page..

<devicename> is replaced with the Name of the Network Module as entered on the Configuration page.

<code\_revision> is replaced with the code revision for the firmware programmed into the Network Module.

Where a Home Assistant Auto Discovery Payload is not empty it takes this form for the “sensor” topics:

```

{
"uniq_id": "<macaddress>_temp_abcd",
"name": "<devicename> temp abcd",
"~":"NetworkModule/<devicename>",
"avty_t": "~/availability",
"stat_t": "~/temp/abcd",
"unit_of_meas": "\xc2\xb0\x43",
"dev": {
"ids": ["NetworkModule_<macaddress>"],
"mdl": "HW-584",
"mf": "NetworkModule",
"name": "<devicename>",
"sw": "<code_revision>"
}
}

```

The above example is for Temperature Sensor ID “abcd”. The ID is a 4 character hex encoded field representing the 4 least significant digits of the Temperature Sensor serial number.

<macaddress> is replaced with the MAC address of the Network Module as entered on the Configuration page..

<devicename> is replaced with the Name of the Network Module as entered on the Configuration page.

<code\_revision> is replaced with the code revision for the firmware programmed into the Network Module.

# Notes on Network Statistics – Browser Only

Network Statistics are accessible only via the http command “`http://IP:Port/68`”. This page is available in the Browser Only build (there is not enough memory in the MQTT build to include it). To be honest I was reluctant to add this page as it has only been minimally useful – but it is kind of cool so here it is. The information may be useful if you are debugging your network or developing applications to interface to the Network Module.

Note: Seeing large numbers of “Dropped packets at the IP layer” is not unusual. At least not unusual in my network. I traced this to Smart Home devices that seem to attempt some form of connection maintenance with everything on the network many times per hour. And I have lots of Smart Home devices on my network ... so ... lots of connection attempts. The Network Module drops these requests. The difference between “Dropped” and “Received” is the number of packets actually destined for the Network Module.

## Network Statistics

Values shown are since last power on or reset

0000282271	Dropped packets at the IP layer
0000282784	Received packets at the IP layer
0000000476	Sent packets at the IP layer
0000000000	Packets dropped due to wrong IP version or header length
0000000000	Packets dropped due to wrong IP length, high byte
0000000000	Packets dropped due to wrong IP length, low byte
0000000000	Packets dropped since they were IP fragments
0000000000	Packets dropped due to IP checksum errors
0000000000	Packets dropped since they were not ICMP or TCP
0000000000	Dropped ICMP packets
0000000000	Received ICMP packets
0000000000	Sent ICMP packets
0000000000	ICMP packets with a wrong type
0000000000	Dropped TCP segments
0000000518	Received TCP segments
0000000483	Sent TCP segments
0000000000	TCP segments with a bad checksum
0000000000	TCP segments with a bad ACK number
0000000000	Received TCP RST (reset) segments
0000000012	Retransmitted TCP segments
0000000000	Dropped SYNs due to too few connections available
0000000000	SYNs for closed ports, triggering a RST

[Configuration](#) [Refresh](#) [Clear](#)

## Notes on Link Error Statistics

Link Error Statistics are accessible only via the http command “`http://IP:Port/66`”. The statistics may be useful to you for determining if Full Duplex works better than Half Duplex in your particular network configuration.

As noted in other parts of the manual the normal mode of operation is “Half Duplex”, and you should not need to change that. However, during development it was noticed that the Network Module works better with some Cisco 1 Gbit business class switches if the Network Module and the Cisco switch are manually set to Full Duplex. So, this statistics page can let you compare error statistics over several hours or days to help you decide which configuration works better for you.

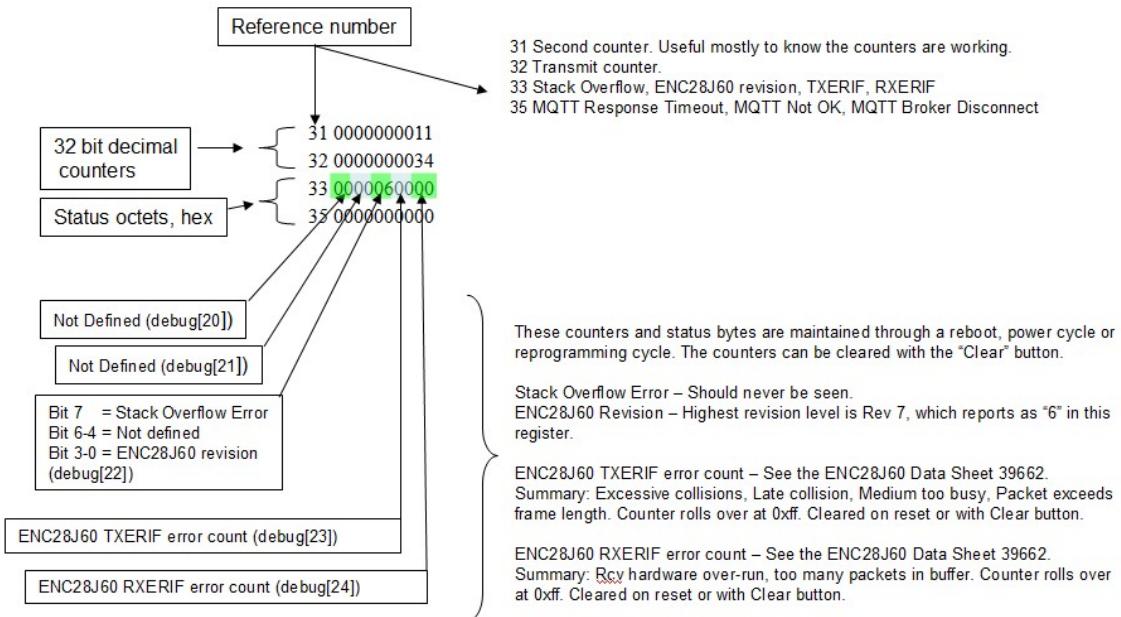
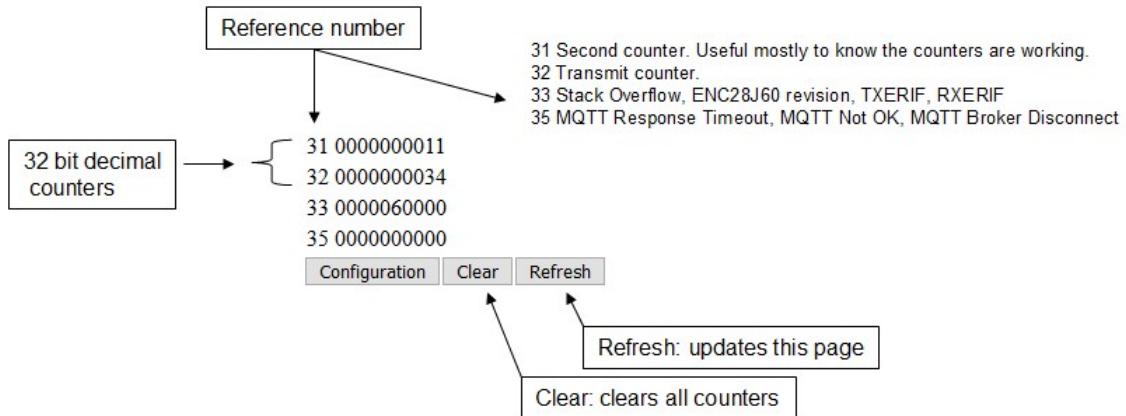
**IMPORTANT:** If you use “Full Duplex” the ENC28J60 specifications state that you must manually set your switch to “Full Duplex”. This is because the ENC28J60 cannot auto-negotiate Full/Half Duplex. If your switch does not allow you to manually set Full Duplex you should probably just leave the Network Module at Half Duplex. Having said that, experimentation seems to suggest that some switches will work just fine regardless of the Full/Half duplex setting in the Network Module. So ... do your own experiments and use the “/66” command to observe results. But in general I suggest you just leave the module at its default “Half Duplex” mode.

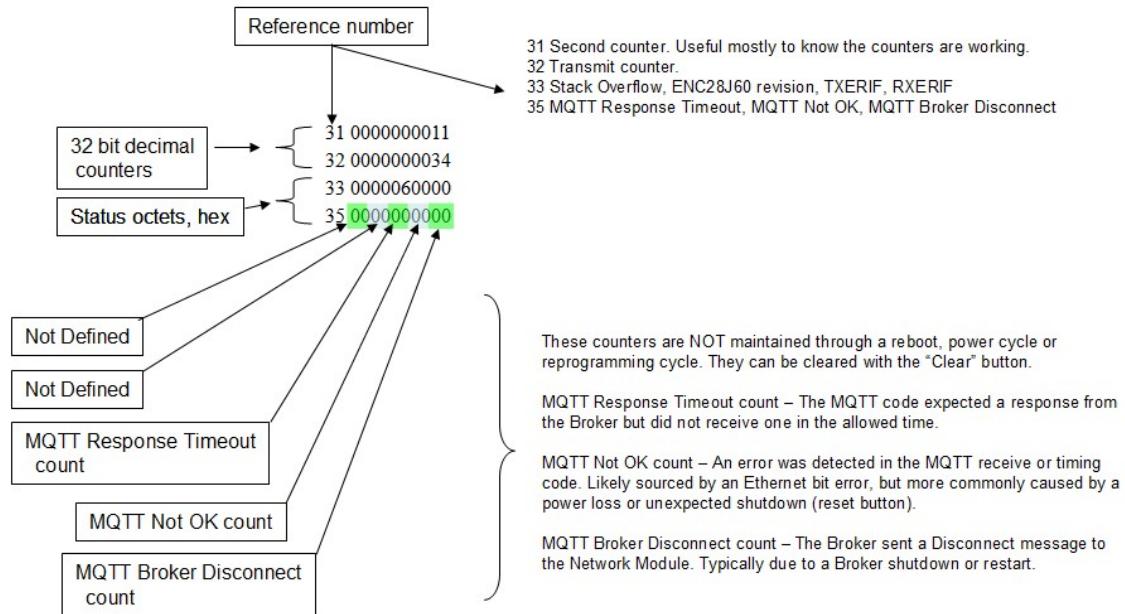
If you enter the “/66” command you’ll get a display similar to this:

```
31 0000002594
32 0000000342
33 0000060000
35 0000000100
  
```

The following explains the above fields:

## Debug Statistics Display Schema





Seconds counter: # of seconds since boot

Transmit counter: # of transmits from the ENC28J60

Stack error: Not a counter, “1” will indicate detection of a stack overflow. That’s bad ... drop me a note if you see that happen.

ENC28J60 revision: Chip revision. This should indicate “06”, which indicates chip B7.

TXERIF: count of TRXERIF errors (see ENC28J60 documentation)

RXERIF: count of RXERIF errors (see ENC28J60 documentation)

MQTT Response Timeout count: Count of response timeouts in the MQTT code

MQTT Not OK: Count of MQTT Not OK events in the MQTT code

MQTT Broker Disconnect count: Count of MQTT Broker disconnects as detected in the MQTT code

The Link Error Statistics page is “semi-hidden” and enabled only by the “/66” command because it can be very confusing to the typical user.

The content of the Link Error Stats page is likely to change as the code matures. It was added to assist with testing of MQTT performance using a variety of switches. One critical finding is that the statistics are not completely consistent, likely due to the number of variables affecting the values. Still, they can be useful for relative measurements when determining if you might have unusually high error rates on your network, and/or if you might need to experiment with the Half / Full Duplex setting.

The RXERIF error indicates that the ENC28J60 experienced a receive buffer overflow condition. This likely indicates extremely high network traffic. The impact is that packets received at the Network Module may be dropped. It is not unusual to have a few of these errors over a long period of time.

The TXERIF error indicates that a transmit abort has occurred. This error can occur as a result of the following;

- 1) Excessive Ethernet packet collisions
- 2) Late collisions
- 3) Transmission was unable to occur because the medium was occupied for too long.

It is normal to see transmit or receive errors, just not "too many", which is somewhat arbitrary. On a LAN with well behaving clients and good cabling you may only see one error every few months. Communication over WiFi, WAN, or Internet will see much higher error rates. And the error rate depends on how much traffic is occurring. Some users may never see an error indication, which is great. Others may see lots of errors, which may be 'normal' or may indicate a problem depending on their specific environment.

These counters are included because they were useful during development to help determine that Full Duplex worked much better than Half Duplex on the Cisco 1Gb "business level" managed switches. With Half Duplex a TXERIF error was occurring several times per day, accompanied by an MQTT disconnect (and automatic reconnect). Once Full Duplex was enabled zero errors were seen for several weeks in the Cisco 1Gb configuration.

On the other hand, TXERIF errors were seen when Full Duplex was used with some unmanaged switches, and no errors when those same switches were used with Half Duplex.

Your specific configuration and conditions may require some experimentation to get the best result.

Note: The "Seconds since boot" counter is approximate. The Network Module does not have a highly accurate clock, and there will be an accumulating deviation from real time, particularly if the counter is run for a long period. But, it is close enough for this purpose.

# Functional Limitations

The code space and RAM in the processor on the Network Module is extremely limited, so there are many functional limitations that you would not expect on a device without these constraints. Some of the limitations to be aware of:

## **Maximum number of TCP Connections:**

Maximum number of TCP Connections: 4. Implications: Each browser session and MQTT connection requires a TCP Connection. If you are running a non-MQTT build of the code you could connect up to 4 browsers to the device at one time. If you are running an MQTT build of the code you could also have up to 3 browser sessions connected.

## **Multiple browsers connected at the same time:**

Multiple browsers connected at the same time CAN interfere with each other. For instance, multiple browsers attempting to make configuration changes at the same time can cause unexpected results, particularly if Save is clicked on both browsers at the same time. I recommend you select ONE browser to make configuration changes, and the other browsers should be used for monitoring. Or at least make sure you only make configuration changes on one browser at a time.

## **REST command rate:**

Using the REST commands with a high repetition rate may slow the response time of the Network Module to the point that the browser interface becomes unusable. A suggestion for high repetition rates is to use the MQTT interface instead as it is more efficient than the HTML interface used by REST commands. Even so, you can push enough MQTT commands that the browsers might be unusable.

## **MQTT SSL/TSL:**

MQTT does not support SSL/TSL. There is insufficient code space to implement this functionality.

## **Overall Command rate:**

Processing speed is very limited given the functions implemented, so I imagine it will be easy to over-run the Network Module with state change requests. The code is single threaded, so whatever function has been requested must be completed before the next can be addressed. More testing needs to be done to determine if packets are simply dropped (if too many received) or if there are cases where the module may stop functioning. So far I haven't seen a "stopped functioning" scenario. If that were to occur a power cycle may be the only recovery option.

## **Configuration Errors:**

There are very few "warnings" in the code to keep the user from creating bad configurations. The most concerning is that if you enable "Retain" for the power

cycle output states AND you subject the device to rapid output state changes you run the risk of wearing out the EEPROM. Other situations likely only cause the device to lose contact with browsers or MQTT brokers (like mis-configuring IP addresses or Port numbers).

- IMPORTANT: “Retain” was ON by default in the early code releases. The default “Boot State” is now “OFF” to aid in preventing a user from inadvertently wearing out EEPROM. The original usage scenario was anticipated to be one in which output state changes would occur only via human interaction with a browser (therefore “infrequent changes”). Subsequent users have started implementing increasing automation, with some saying they may create many output changes per hour forever. In those “frequent output change” scenarios I strongly recommend using the OFF or ON “Boot State” setting instead of “Retain” to eliminate the EEPROM wearout concern.

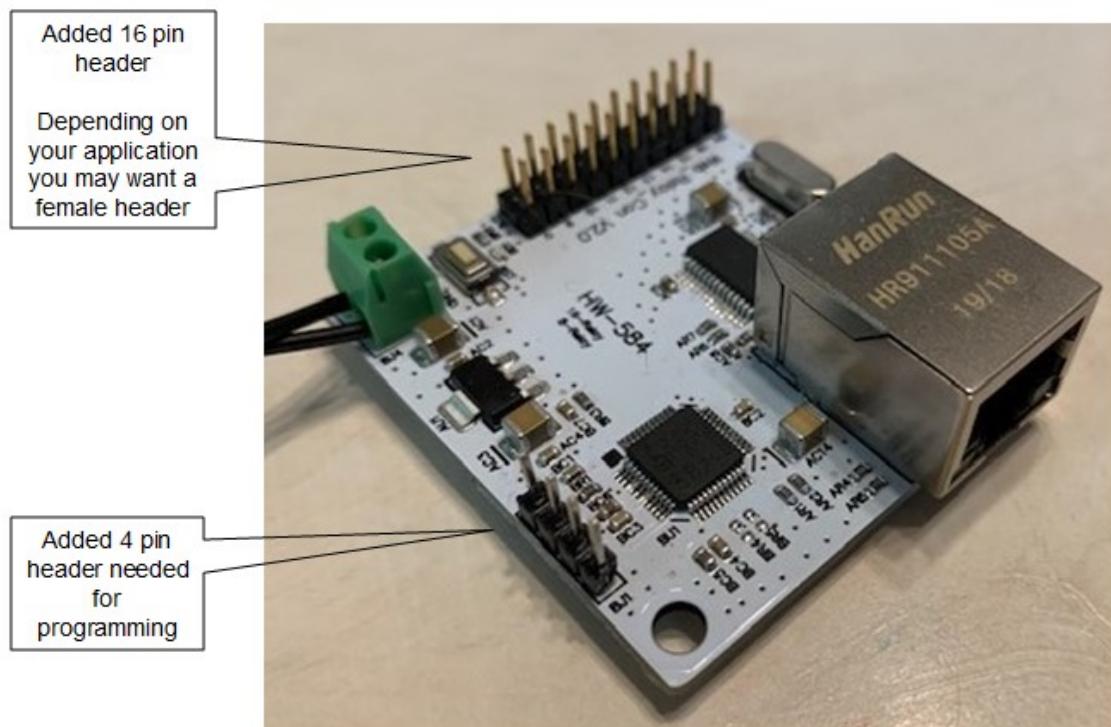
# Programming the Module

Assuming you have the Web\_Relays\_Con V2.0 HW-584 and all you want to do is apply this firmware the following describes the process.

**IMPORTANT NOTE: In the steps below you'll turn off the Read Out Protection bit on the Network Module. This will ERASE the program currently in the device. It will only work again after you successfully reprogram it. DO THIS AT YOUR OWN RISK.**

Note that as of January 2021 I've gone to one release of the firmware that covers the functionality of the four previous parallel releases.

**1) Prepare your Network Module:** Install a 4 pin header on the board (see photo)



**2) Buy the Programmer:** Purchase a ST-Link V2 (see photo). If you are patient you can get one from China in about a month for about \$3.50. Or in less than a week from within the US for about \$6.00 (assuming you are in North America). Price estimates are as of June 2020. Search on Google, Amazon, eBay, etc.

The ST-Link V2 is required to reprogram the Network Module. It is a USB to SWIM interface module supported by free software from STMicroelectronics. You'll need a four wire Dupont cable if you don't already have one. Some sellers ship the module with a cable. The Dupont cable is just a simple four wire cable with female push connectors on each end (as shown in the photo below).

The ST-Link V2 modules come in several colors so pick the color you like.



**3) Obtain and Install Free Software:** All of my development work was on the Windows 10 OS. If you are using Linux you will have a little more homework to do on your own, but I don't think there is much difference. For Windows you'll need to download and install the following files:

en.stsw-link009.zip

You'll find the above at <https://www.st.com/en/development-tools/stsw-link009.html>

en.stvp-stm8.zip

You'll find the above at <https://www.st.com/en/development-tools/stvp-stm8.html>

You'll need to create an account at st.com to get the above software. It's free but they want an email address to contact you. When you try to download the software you'll be asked for your account credentials and given the option to create an account. By providing my email address I've gotten some invitations to online programming seminars but otherwise no spam. Not much hassle.

The stsw-link009 software is the driver to operate the ST-Link V2.

The stvp-stm8 software is a development utility and the programmer specific to the STM8 processor. When you install en.stvp-stm8 you'll get two programs:

- 1) ST Visual Develop
- 2) ST Visual Programmer (STVP)

I only used STVP even when developing the code. And if you are only reprogramming your devices STVP is the only tool you'll need.

**4) Copy the Program:** Now that you've installed the necessary software you need to copy the STVP Project file and the Binary file from GitHub that will be programmed into the Network Module.

**NOTE: Beginning with the February 20, 2021 release you should obtain source code and executable files from the “Releases” part of the GitHub web page (along the right margin of the page).**

On my Windows 10 machine the project was located in the following directory:

```
C:/Users/Mike/Documents/COSMIC/FSE_Compilers/CXSTM8/NetworkModule
```

If you locate your copy of the project files in a similar Documents file location this should minimize the tinkering you have to do. And should you decide to modify the program you'll already have an appropriate directory set up.

The STVP programmer needs a “.stp” and “.sx” file pair to program the Network Module. Now that we have one code set to cover all the previous functionality you'll only need to copy the following files into the Documents directory you created above:

**For the MQTT plus limited Browser Version:**

**NetworkModule.stp** - The STVP project file  
**NetworkModule.sx** - The NetworkModule binary file

**For the Browser Only Version:**

**NetworkModule-Browser.stp** - The STVP project file  
**NetworkModule-Browser.sx** - The NetworkModule binary file

**You will find these files in the “Releases” section of the GitHub web page (along the right margin of the page).** The above are the only files you need to copy from the GitHub project account if you only want to program your module and you are not jumping right into code modifications.

**IMPORTANT1:** Since the path to your “Documents” directory will be different than mine (if for no other reason than your user ID is different than “Mike”), you may need to **edit the .stp file to match your directory path**. Open the .stp file with NotePad or NotePad++ and look for the following. Edit it to match the path to your .sz file.

```
30 File0=C:\Users\Mike\Documents\COSMIC\FSE_Compilers\CXSTM8\NetworkModule\NetworkModule.sxCRLE
```

**IMPORTANT2:** Later releases of the code have already modified the .stp file so that you should not need to edit it. If you find the following in the .stp file you only need to make sure that the .stp file and the .sx file are in the same directory:

```
30 File0=NetworkModule.sxCRLE
```

I use NotePad++ and have it set to show the CR/LF at the end of the line. If you use regular NotePad as your text editor you won't see that.

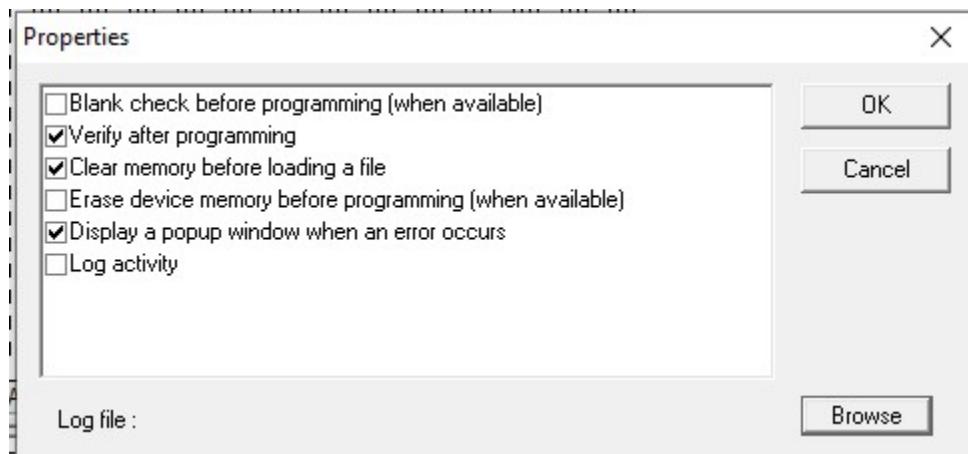
### Telling STVP where your files are:

Since your User name on your Windows machine is probably not "Mike" you'll need to start STVP, click on "**Project/Open**", and browse for the .stp file that you copied to your **Documents/...** directory. Once you open the project file STVP should automatically load the .sx file from that same directory.

### Setting up ST-Link Communication:

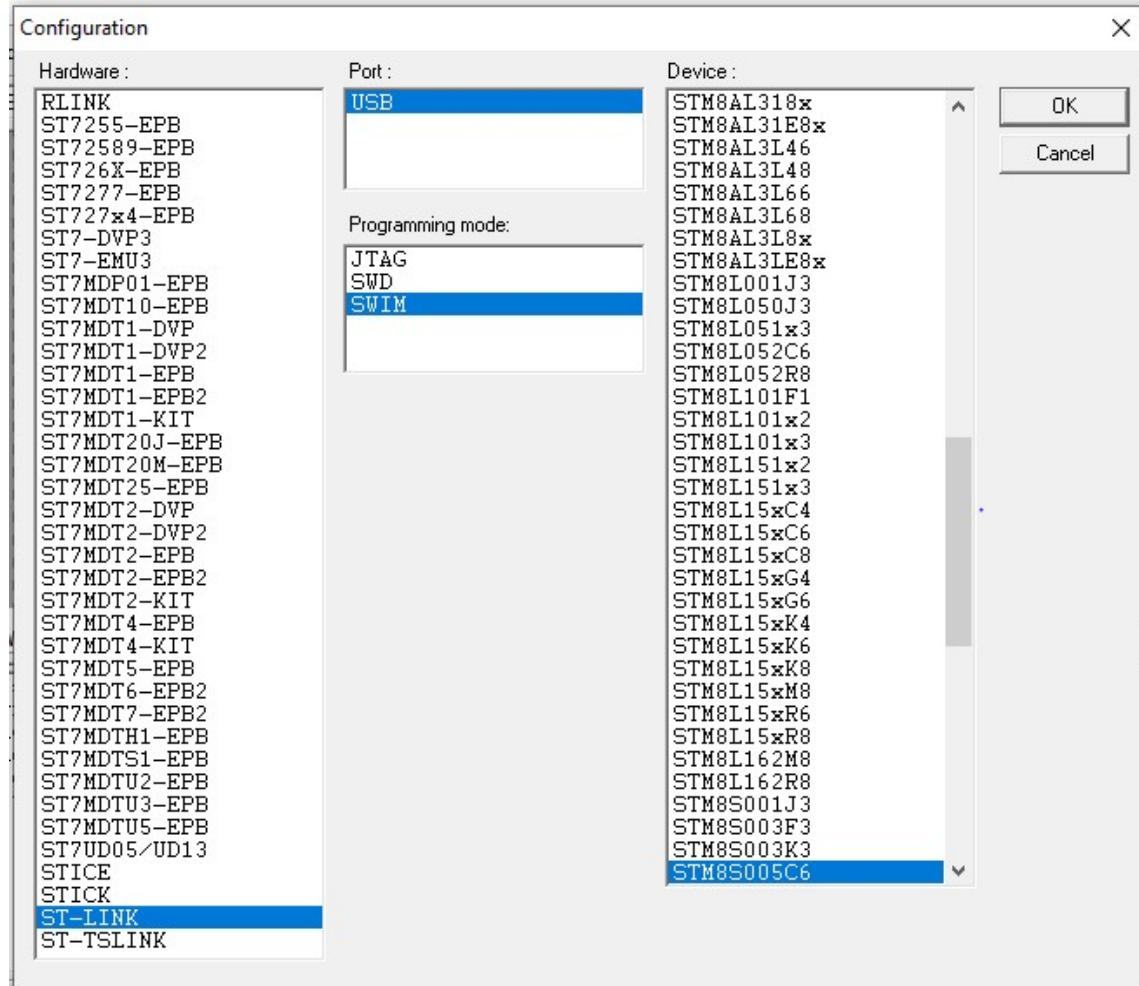
The project file contains various settings that enable the ST-Link V2 to communicate with your target board. They should already be set for you, but just in case the following is how I had them set:

Under "**Edit/Preferences**":



(Continued)

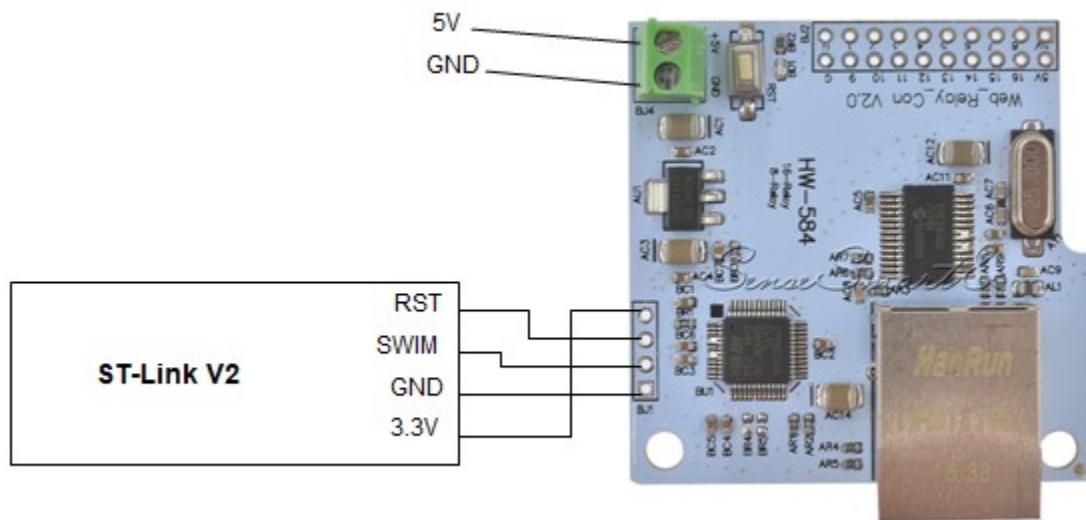
## Under “Configure/Configure ST Visual Programmer”



If the above looks OK you are ready to program the Network Module.

## Setting up the Hardware to allow programming:

First, attach the ST-Link V2 to your Network Module as follows:



Apply power to your Network Module. You should be using a 5V power supply connected to the power pins on the Network Module.

Plug the ST-Link V2 into your PC USB port.

If STVP is not already running, start it now.

If the NetworkModule.stp project is not already loaded, load it now (click on "Project/Open", and browse for the .stp file that you copied to your **Documents/...** directory). Give it 10 or 20 seconds to load the .sx file.

If you see “out of range” messages like the following this is NOT an error. It would have been nice if the messages were more informative, but they are just telling you that the indicated addresses are in non-programmable areas of the chip during program load. The addresses shown are typically in EEPROM and RAM.

```
> Loading file C:\Users\Mike\Documents\COSMIC\FSE_Compilers\CXSTM8\MQTT-Network
FILE : line 961: Address 0x4000 is out of range and is ignored!
FILE : line 961: Address 0x4001 is out of range and is ignored!
FILE : line 961: Address 0x4002 is out of range and is ignored!
FILE : line 961: Address 0x4003 is out of range and is ignored!
FILE : line 961: Address 0x4004 is out of range and is ignored!
FILE : line 961: Address 0x4005 is out of range and is ignored!
FILE : line 961: Address 0x4006 is out of range and is ignored!
```

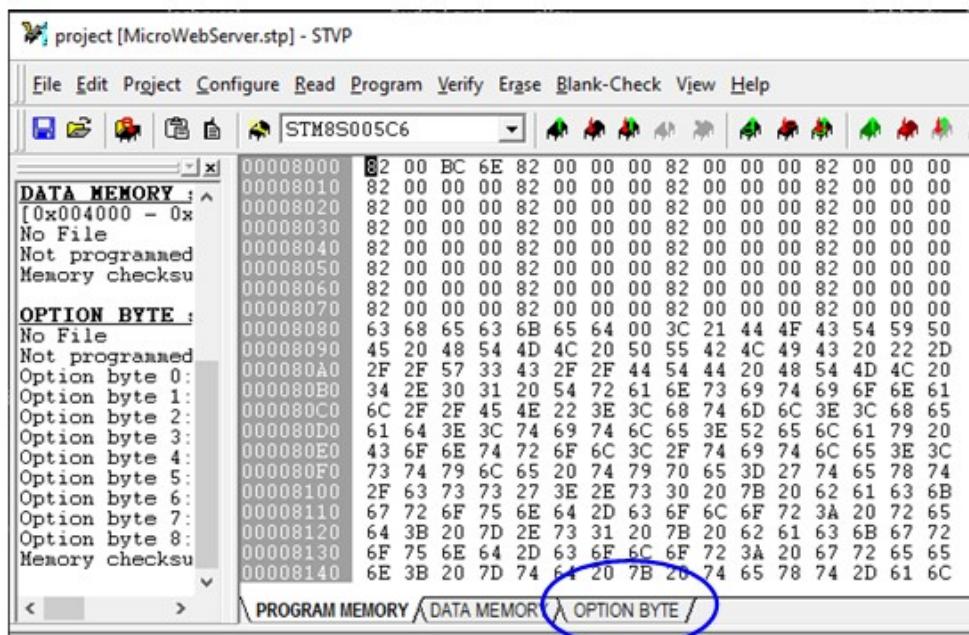
Once the program is successfully loaded in the programmer you will see a message like this (although the checksum will likely be different than what you see here).

```
FILE : line 964: Address 0xD is out of range and is ignored!
FILE : line 964: Address 0xE is out of range and is ignored!
FILE : line 964: Address 0xF is out of range and is ignored!
< File successfully loaded. File Checksum 0x297EE9
```

### Clear the ROP Bit:

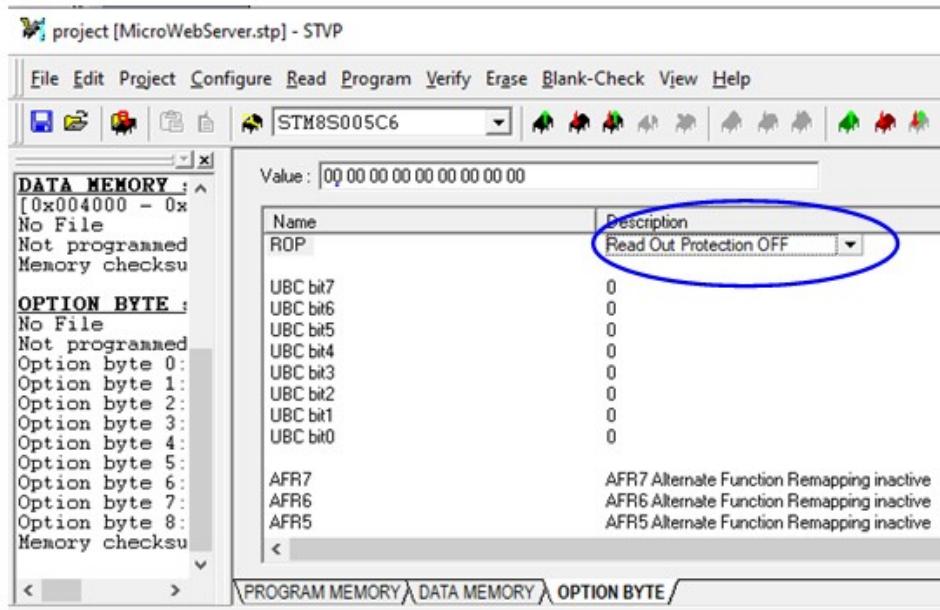
If this is the first time you are programming your Network Module you will need to clear the Read Out Protection (ROP) bit. If you don't clear the ROP any attempt to program the Network Module will give you a "This device is protected" message. How to clear the ROP bit:

In the STVP main window click on the “Option Byte” tab



(Continued)

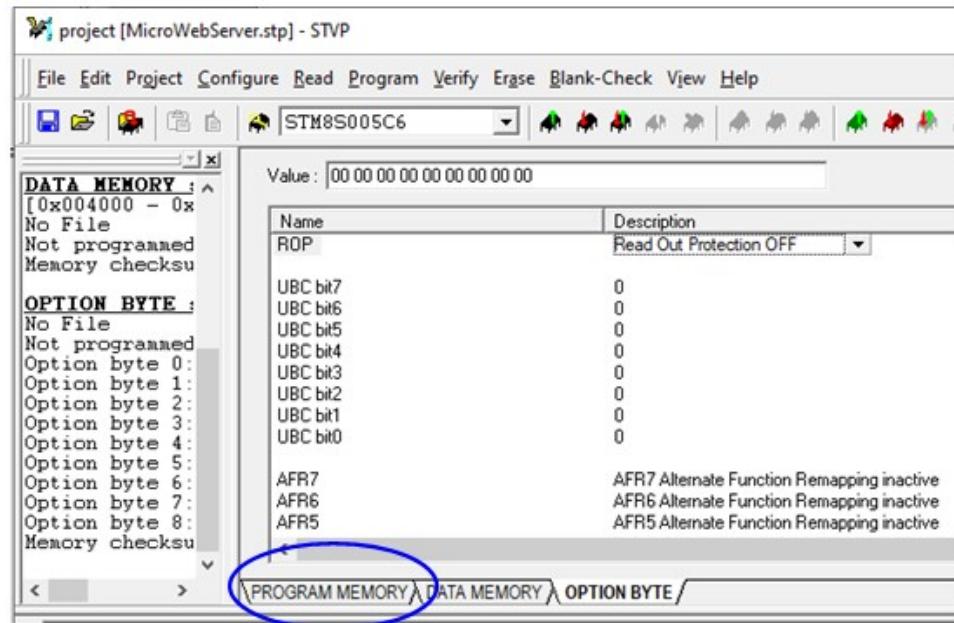
Make sure “**Read Out Protection OFF**” is selected in this drop down.



Next click on “**Program / Current Tab**”. This will clear the ROP bit and allow you to reprogram the device. **IMPORTANT: CLEARING THE ROP BIT ERASES THE CODE IN THE NETWORK MODULE.** After you clear the ROP bit you **MUST** reprogram the Network Module to make it useful again.

## Programming the Device:

Select the Program Memory tab



Next select “Program / Current Tab”

If you got an error message while attempting to program the Network Module:

- a) Make sure the RST connection is in place.
- b) Make sure the power supply connected to the Network Module is providing 5V.
- c) Make sure you have good connections from the ST-Link V2 to the Network Module.
- d) You might have to unplug the ST-Link V2 from the USB port on your PC and plug it back in again.
- e) You might have to stop the STVP program, unplug and replug the ST-Link V2, then restart the STVP program.
- f) If you have 16 relays connected to your Network Module I suggest disconnecting them while reprogramming. If you have a very robust power supply it may be possible to leave them connected. The Network Module will be reset a couple of times during programming, and this may cause the relays to simultaneously turn on and off. Whether this interferes with programming depends on whether your power supply can handle the surge caused by the relay coils.

Generally I haven't had to do any of the above as I seldom saw an error. But on occasion I saw an error message that the link was not working, and the above tinkering got it working again.

(Continued)

If you see a message indicating programming success you are ready to attempt to connect to the Network Module via the Ethernet connector.

- a) Disconnect the RST wire between the ST-Link V2 and the Network Module. You can also disconnect the other wires, or leave them connected for the time being.
- b) Connect the Ethernet cable. I suggest you do this the first time without using your network. Make a direct Ethernet cable connection from the Network Module to your PC and attempt to access it at 192.168.1.4:8080. If the connection does not work check your IPV4 Ethernet settings on the PC and set it to use IP address 192.168.1.100 (not DHCP). If you don't know how to do this Google it. Here's a helpful link:

<https://stevessmarthomeguide.com/setting-up-static-ip-address-windows-10/>

While the device is directly connected to your PC you can use your browser to make address setting changes on the Network Module that are appropriate to your network. Then you can connect the device to your network, return your PC to its original Ethernet settings, and attempt to access the device.

Comment: If your network is based on 191.168.1.xxx addresses you may be able to avoid step "b" above and just connect the Network Module to your network to contact it. You need to be sure that 192.168.1.4 and MAC c2:4d:69:6b:65:00 do not conflict with any other device on your network.

Note: See the section "Alternative Way to Set Initial IP Address".

## **IMPORTANT: WHEN REPROGRAMMING THE BROWSER ONLY VERSION**

If you need to re-install or upgrade the Browser Only version remember that the IO Names and IO Timer values are stored in Flash. For this reason you will want to make sure you don't overwrite those values, otherwise you will have to manually re-enter them. You don't have to worry about this the first time you install the Browser Only version. But on subsequent installs do the following:

INSTEAD of programming with "**Program / Current Tab**"

use "**Program / Address Range**" and enter the range 8000 to FEBF.

The above step will prevent overwriting your IO Names and IO Timer values.

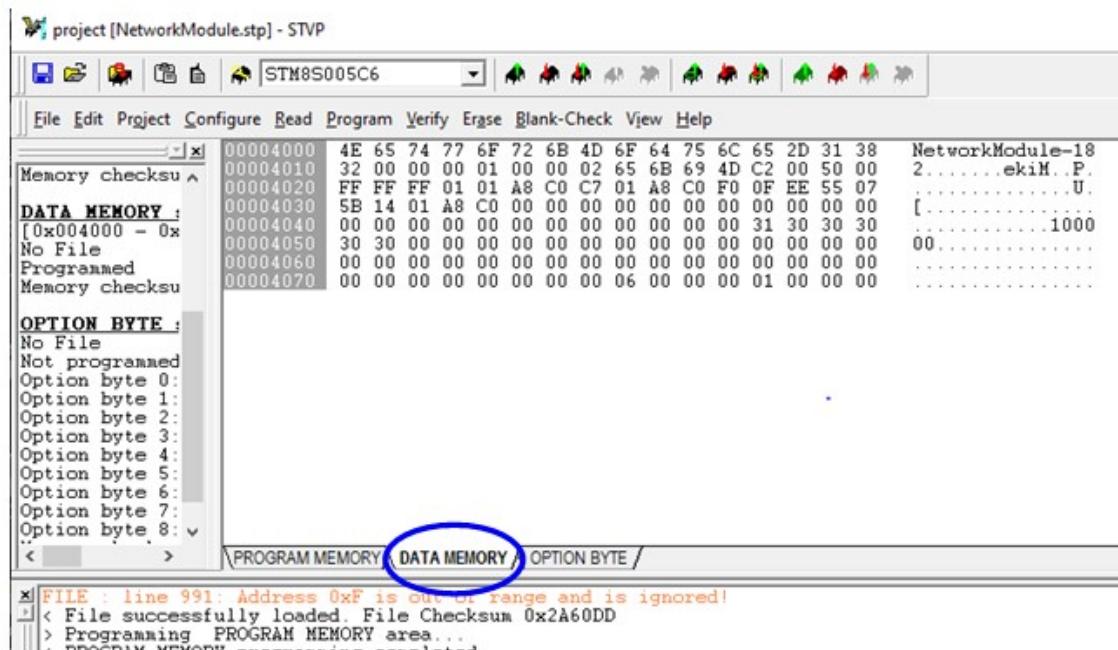
If you forget and use "**Program / Current Tab**" you'll see an error message – but the programming will complete and the IO Names and IO Timer values will return to defaults.

# Alternative Way to Force Defaults or Downgrade Firmware

Normally all you have to do to return to “factory defaults” is press the Reset button on the Network Module board for 10 seconds. However, during development there were a couple of times where pressing the Reset button did not revive the Network Module to a point that it would operate. Admittedly this was due to “in development” code errors and may not be needed, but I’m providing it just in case.

This information is only useful if you are going to do your own development from this code. I DO NOT RECOMMEND THIS METHOD UNLESS ALL ELSE HAS FAILED TO REVIVE THE DEVICE.

- 1) When the Network Module is connected to the STLink (including the Reset wire) you can access the EEPROM content with the “Data Memory” tab.



- 2a) After clicking on the Data Memory tab click on Read / Current tab to read the EEPROM contents.

Address	Value	Description
0000	64 75 6C 65 2D 31 38	NetworkModule-18
0000	6B 69 4D C2 00 50 00	2.....ekim..P.
0000	A8 C0 F0 0F EE 55 07	.....U.
0000	00 00 00 00 00 00 00	[...]
0000	00 00 00 31 30 30 30	1000
00004050	30 30 00 00 00 00 00	00.....
00004060	00 00 00 00 00 00 00	00.....
00004070	00 00 00 00 00 06 00	01 00 00 00

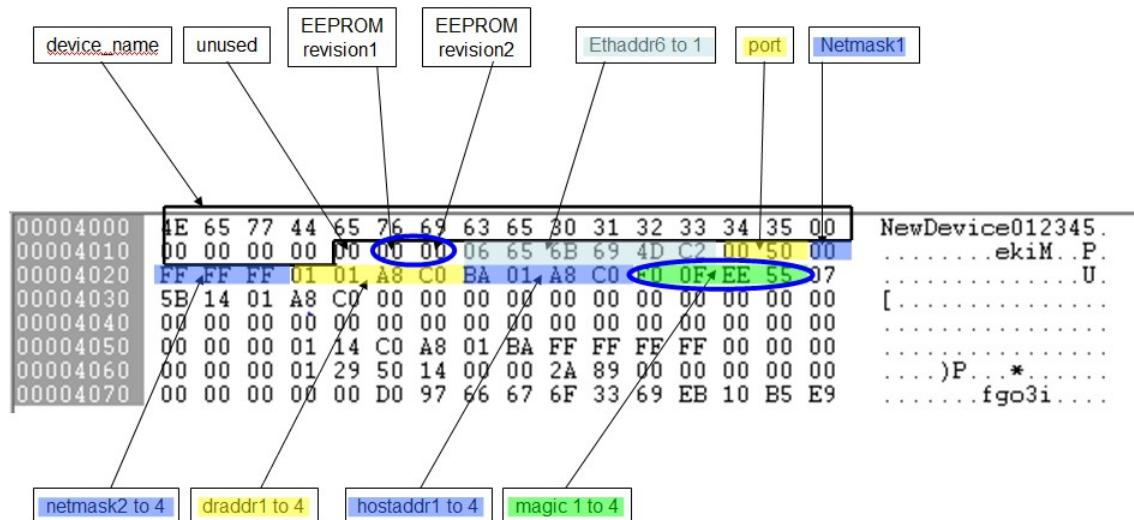
You'll get a display that looks something like this:

Address	Value	Description
00004000	4E 65 74 77 6F 72 6B 4D 6F 64 75 6C 65 2D 31 38	NetworkModule-18
00004010	32 00 00 00 01 00 00 02 65 6B 69 4D C2 00 50 00	2.....ekim..P.
00004020	FF FF FF 01 01 A8 C0 C7 01 A8 C0 F0 0F EE 55 07	.....U.
00004030	5B 14 01 A8 C0 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	[...]
00004040	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 31 30 30 30	1000
00004050	30 30 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	00.....
00004060	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	00.....
00004070	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 06 00 00 00 01 00 00 00 00	00.....

- 2b) You can change any value in the Data Memory one character at a time, then you can write the result to the EEPROM with the Program / Current tab selection.

Address	Value	Description
00004000	15 6C 65 2D 31 38	Net
00004010	9 4D C2 00 50 00	2..
00004020	0 F0 0F EE 55 07	...
00004030	0 00 00 00 00 00	[...]
00004040	0 00 31 30 30 30	...
00004050	30 30 00 00 00 00	00
00004060	00 00 00 00 00 00	00
00004070	00 00 00 00 00 06 00 00 01 00 00 00	00

- 2c) To force the EEPROM to a state where firmware must start over again set the bytes circled in blue to 0.



After committing to EEPROM reboot the device (power cycle or reconnect the reset wire, wait 2 seconds, and disconnect the reset wire).

- 2) You can now disconnect the STLink and connect the Network Module to your network. Once connected you should be able to use a browser to connect to the Network Module via the factory default address 192.168.1.4:8080.

## FIRMWARE DOWNGRADE

Once you've cleared the EEPROM content as shown above you should be able to load a prior release of the firmware should you need to do so. If your intention is to downgrade the firmware DO NOT reboot the device until you do so.

# Alternative Way to Set Initial IP Address

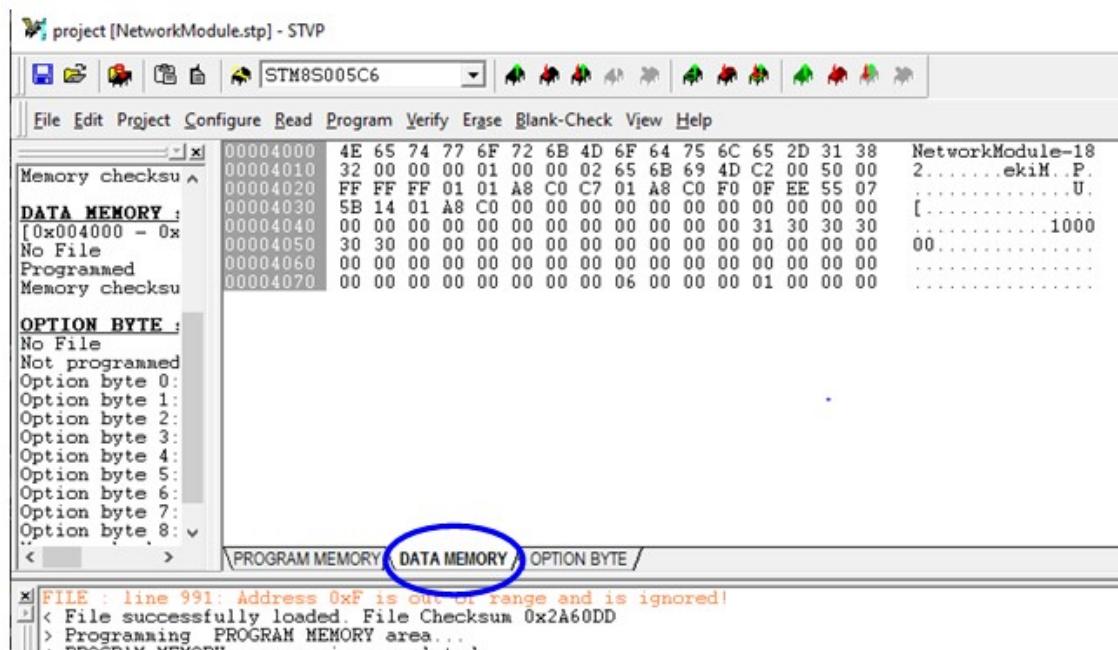
A user commented that it was cumbersome to have to set up a laptop with a fixed IP Address to program the Network Module with its first “network compatible address”. Here’s an alternative that may be useful to you.

Let’s say your network already uses 192.168.1.4, so you can’t attach the device directly to your network. Or perhaps your network uses some other variant of the 192.168.xxx.xxx address range, or even the 10.0.0.x address range. A way to work around this without needing to set up a laptop or PC for the initial Ethernet connection to the Network module as follows;

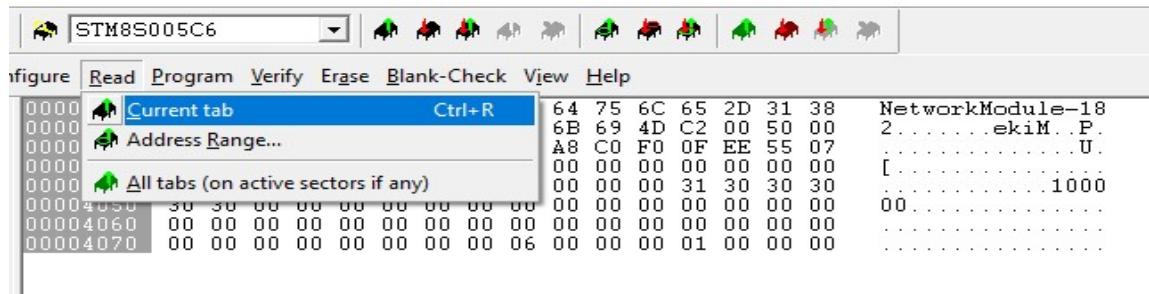
- 1) Assumption is that you successfully programmed the flash with the Network Module code. Reboot the Network Module (usually just be releasing the reset wire). Then reconnect the reset wire.
- 2) Using the STLink change the IP address in the EEPROM. Reboot the Network Module.
- 3) Attach the Network Module to your network, access the Network Module with a browser, and finish changing any settings via the Configuration menu.

Here’s an illustrated version of the above with greater detail;

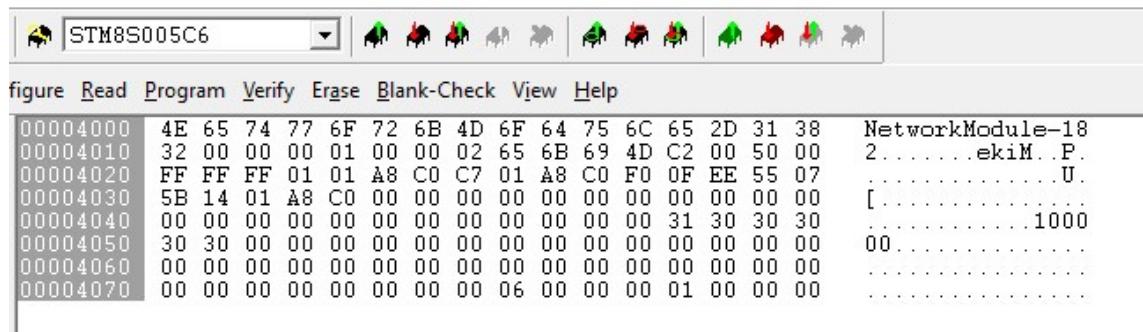
- 3) Step 1 is covered in the section “Programming the Module”
- 4) When the Network Module is connected to the STLink (including the Reset wire) you can access the EEPROM content with the “Data Memory” tab.



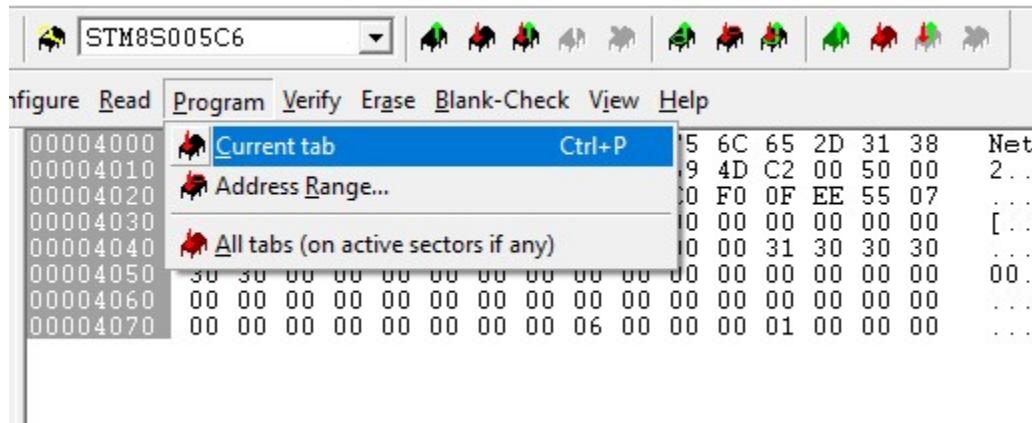
- 2a) After clicking on the Data Memory tab click on Read / Current tab to read the EEPROM contents.



You'll get a display that looks something like this:

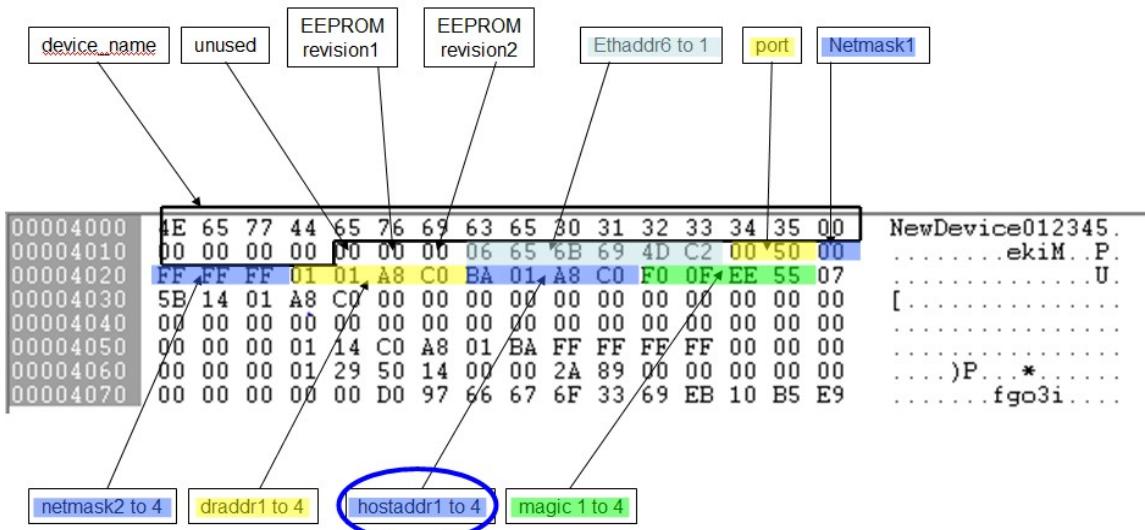


- 2b) You can change any value in the Data Memory one character at a time, then you can write the result to the EEPROM with the Program / Current tab selection.



- 2c) SO .... Which value do you want to change? You can change any of the values, but typically you only need to change the IP Address of the module to get it to appear on

your network. Looking at the EEPROM map the below shows where the IP Address is located.



“hostaddr1 to 4” is the Network Module IP Address. Note that it is in hex, and it is in reverse order (MSB on the right, LSB on the left). In decimal format the address shown is 192.168.1.186. Click on any character to change it, then be sure to use Program / Current tab to commit the changes to EEPROM.

After committing to EEPROM reboot the device (power cycle or reconnect the reset wire, wait 2 seconds, and disconnect the reset wire).

- 5) You can now disconnect the STLink and connect the Network Module to your network. Once connected you should be able to use a browser to connect to the Network Module and make any further changes you need in the Configuration page.

#### IMPORTANT NOTES:

- a) You should not use the “direct access to the EEPROM” method for anything other than the minimum needed to gain access via a browser. Usually you only need to change the Network Module IP Address (hostaddr). It’s too easy to make a mistake ... so don’t forget about the reset button if you mess it up.
- b) If you press the reset button on the Network Module it will return to the hard-coded defaults, NOT to the changes you manually put in the EEPROM. You’ll have to go through this process again to get back to a network compatible IP address.
- c) If you change the “Magic Number” it will cause a return to factory defaults on reboot.

# Display Values vs Pin Logic Levels

This information may be useful to you for understanding how the values displayed in the browser or contained in the MQTT fields correspond to output and input pin voltage levels.

16 Outputs			State Values Reported in Browser	State Values reported in Short Form (/99)	Pin numbers as marked on board									Outputs						
Outputs	Invert Setting	All On All Off 1 On 8 On All Off All On 1 On 8 On			Pin16	Pin15	Pin14	Pin13	Pin12	Pin11	Pin10	Pin9	Pin8	Pin7	Pin6	Pin5	Pin4	Pin3	Pin2	Pin1
		All Green	1111111111111111	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H		
		All Red	0000000000000000	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L		
		#1 Green	1000000000000000	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	H		
		#8 Green	0000000100000000	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L		
		All Red	0000000000000000	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H		
		All Green	1111111100000000	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L		
		#1 Green	1000000000000000	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	L		
		#8 Green	0000000100000000	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H		
		H = +3V logic level		Note that Pin 1 is the					H = +3V logic level					L = 0V logic level						

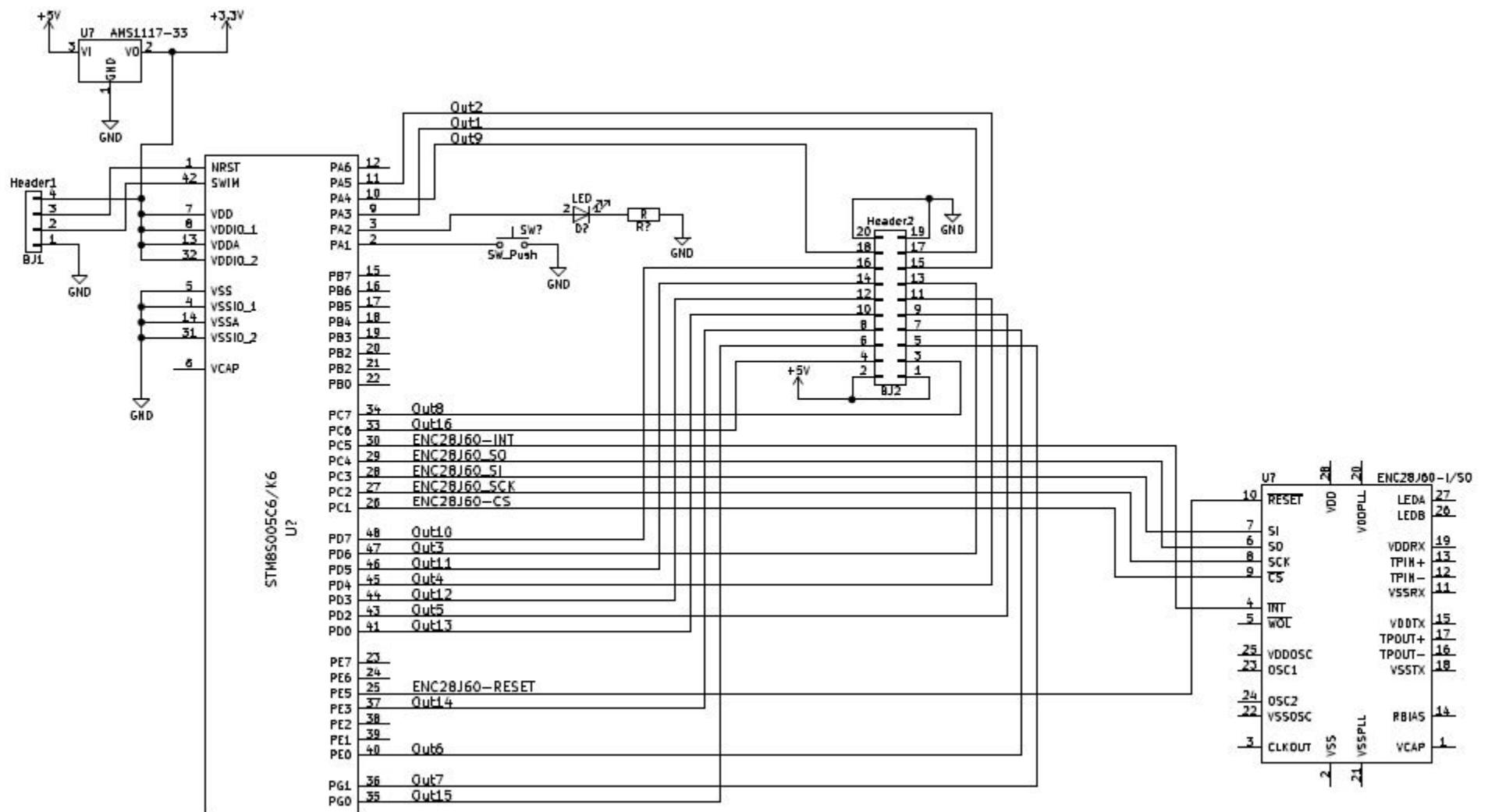
8 Out / 8 In			State Values Reported in Browser	State Values reported in Short Form (/99)	Pin numbers as marked on board									Outputs						
Inputs	Invert Setting	All On All Off 1 On 8 On All Off All On 1 On 8 On			Pin16	Pin15	Pin14	Pin13	Pin12	Pin11	Pin10	Pin9	Pin8	Pin7	Pin6	Pin5	Pin4	Pin3	Pin2	Pin1
		All Green	xxxxxxxx11111111	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H		
		All Red	xxxxxxxx00000000	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L		
		#1 Green	xxxxxxxx10000000	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	H	H		
		#8 Green	xxxxxxxx00000001	H	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L		
		All Red	xxxxxxxx00000000	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H		
		All Green	xxxxxxxx11111111	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L		
		#1 Green	xxxxxxxx10000000	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	L		
		#8 Green	xxxxxxxx00000001	L	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H		
		H = +3V logic level		Note that Pin 1 is the					H = +3V logic level					L = 0V logic level						

16 Inputs			State Values Reported in Browser	State Values reported in Short Form (/99)	Pin numbers as marked on board														
					Inputs						Inputs								
Invert Setting					Pin16	Pin15	Pin14	Pin13	Pin12	Pin11	Pin10	Pin9	Pin8	Pin7	Pin6	Pin5	Pin4	Pin3	Pin2
Inputs	All On	All high (H)	No Inv	All Green	1111111111111111	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	
	All Off	All low (L)	No Inv	All Red	0000000000000000	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	
	1 On	In1 high (H)	No Inv	#1 Green	1000000000000000	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	
	8 On	In8 high (H)	No Inv	#8 Green	00000010000000	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	H	L	L	L	L	
	All Off	All high (H)	Inv	All Red	0000000000000000	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	
	All On	All low (L)	Inv	All Green	1111111111111111	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	
	1 On	In1 low (L)	Inv	#1 Green	1000000000000000	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	L	
	8 On	In8 low (L)	Inv	#8 Green	00000010000000	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	L	H	H	H	H	
			H = +3V logic level			Note that Pin 1 is the left most bit, Pin 16 is the right most bit						H = +3V logic level							
			L = 0V logic level			L = 0V logic level													

# Network Module Schematic

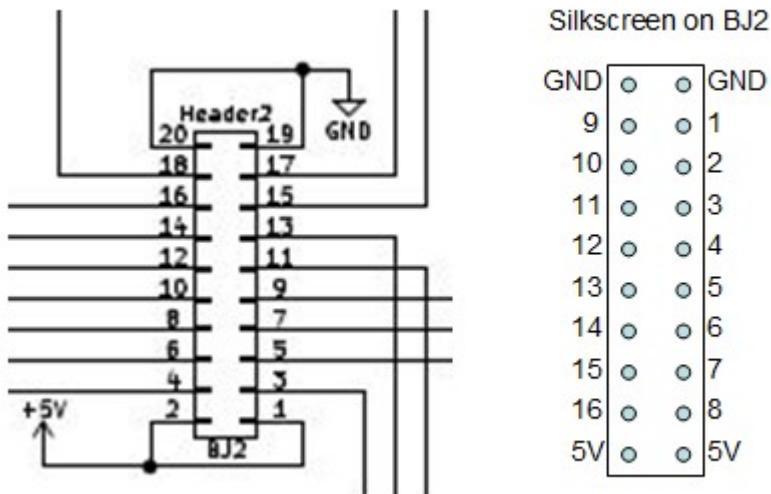
I traced out the parts of the Network Module that are pertinent to developing the new software. I did not trace ALL connections as my intention was not to reverse engineer the hardware design. My intention was only to fix the inadequate function of the software. The schematic may be useful should you decide to improve on the software I've provided. Some notes:

- There are a number of capacitors connecting power and ground. These are left out of the schematic.
- The VCAP pin on the processor was not traced.
- Unused pins or pins that did not appear to be a necessary part of the functionality were programmed to be inputs with pull-ups. These are shown as disconnected on the schematic even if there was a component attached.
  - o There are some components connected to the Port B pins. I suspect the original code used these to identify if the board was "8 port" or "16 port".
- I didn't trace out most of the pins on the ENC28J60, as I knew the design worked and did not need to do any modifications. Some notes:
  - o The SPI interface on the ENC28J60 is not connected to the SPI interface on the STM8S005. Ordinary port pins on the STM8S005 are used to "bit bang" the SPI interface. Not very fast, but this is not an Ethernet performance design so it works just fine.
  - o The -WOL pin does not appear to be connected.
  - o The CLKOUT pin is not connected.
- If you dig into the STM8S005 specification you'll find that most pins that I show simply as "port pins" can be defined for other uses. I didn't include all that information in the component drawing as it just creates confusion in this context. The Network Module uses all the pins as "port pins", so that is all I show.
- The STM8S005 operates on its internal 16MHz clock. It does not have an external crystal or clock source.



# Pinouts

Schematic representation of the connection header vs silkscreen on the board;



Following are the pin definitions for the firmware configurations.

**Silkscreen on BJ2**

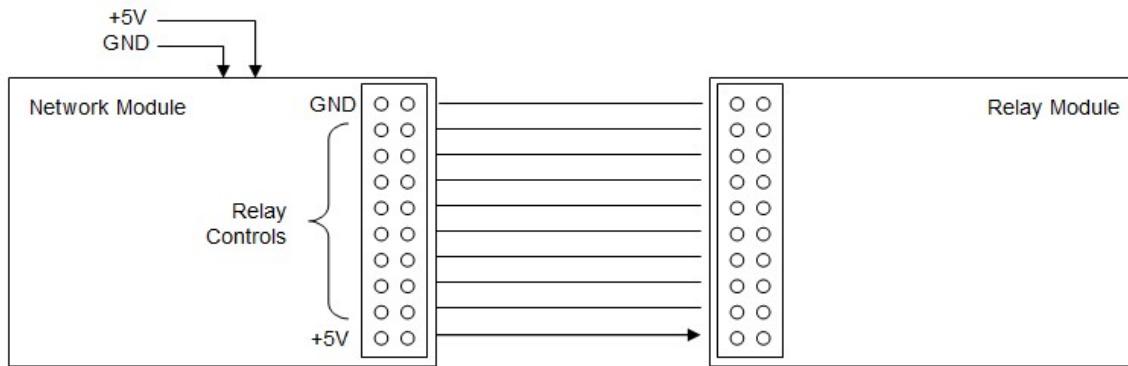
	GND	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	5V
IO 9	9	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	IO 1
IO 10	10	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	IO 2
IO 11	11	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	IO 3
IO 12	12	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	IO 4
IO 13	13	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	IO 5
IO 14	14	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	IO 6
IO 15	15	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	IO 7
IO 16	16	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	IO 8
5V		●	●							5V

# Notes on Interfacing to Relay Modules

There are two things to be cautious of when attaching relay modules to the Network Module: Power Distribution and Type of Relay Module.

## Power Distribution

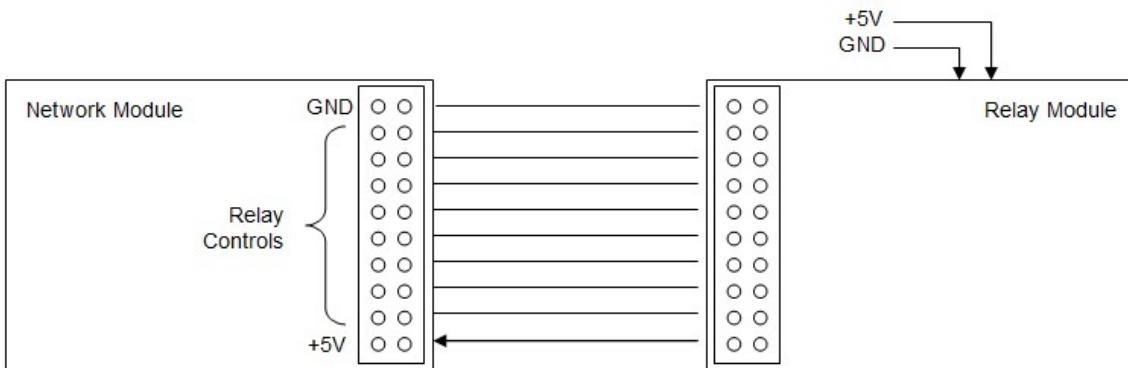
The first thing to consider is supplying power to the relay modules. The basic design of the Network Module is intended to provide +5V power to the relay modules via the pin header that also provides the relay control signals. This works well for just a few relays (up to 3 or 4). This connection method is illustrated here:



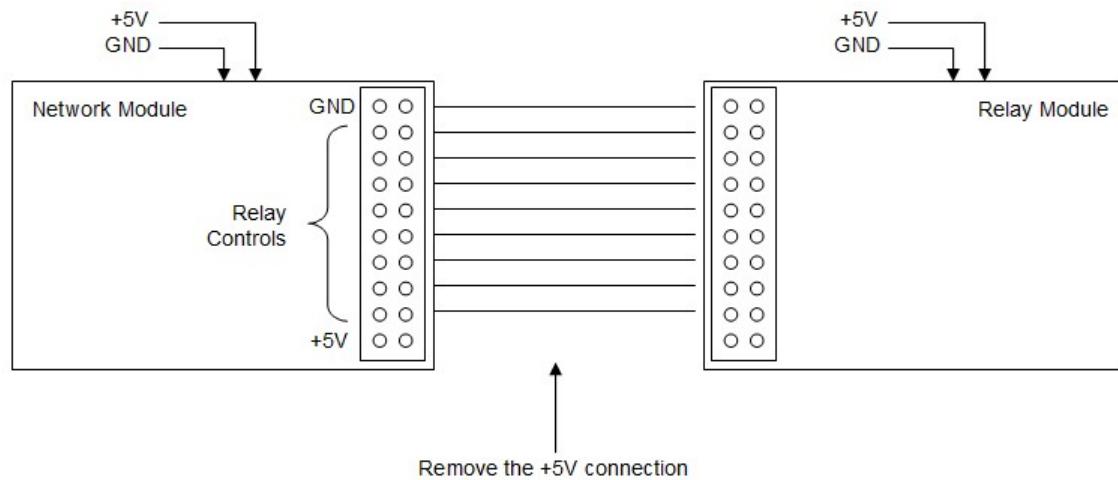
If you attach more relays you need to make sure that there is sufficient current supplied by your +5V power supply attached to the Network Module AND you need to make sure the method used to send power to the relay modules is adequate. This is particularly important if you are transferring power via a ribbon cable.

If you don't think you can provide adequate power to the relay modules via the Network Module relay header you can consider a couple of options:

- 1) Connect +5V power only at the Relays, and let the power/signal header send +5V back to the Network module.

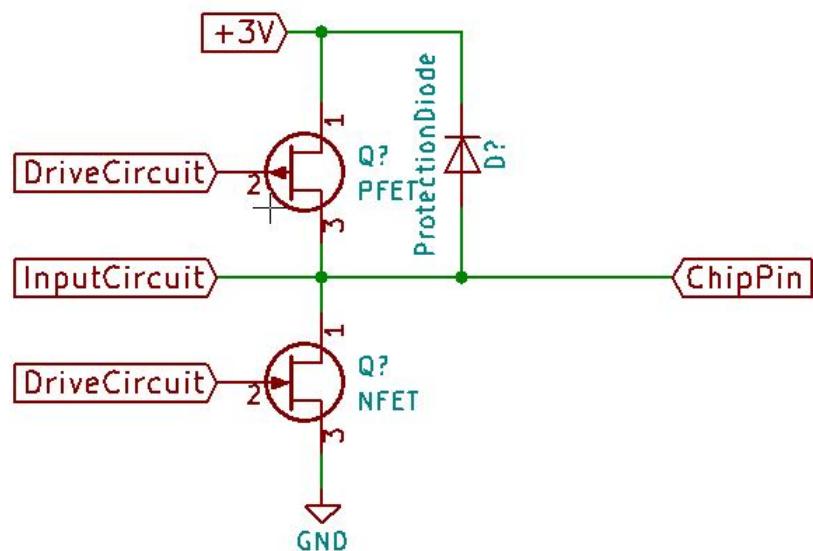


- 2) Use separate +5V power supplies on the Network Module and Relay Modules. If you do this you'll need to disconnect the +5V power connection between the headers.



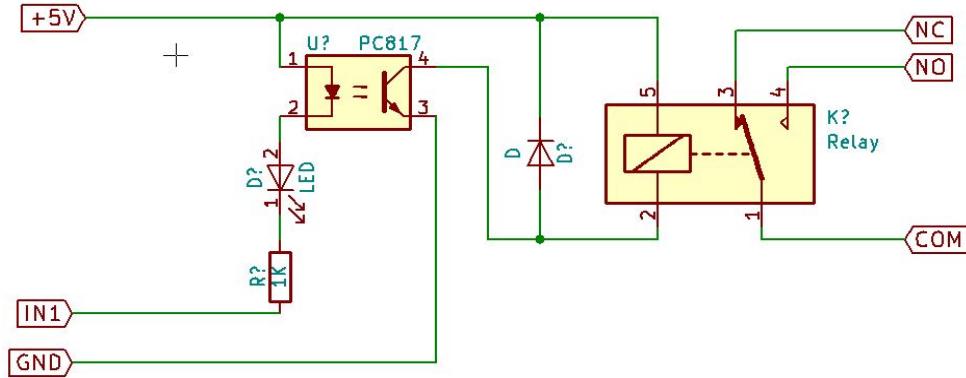
## Type of Relay Module

The second consideration is the type of relay modules you attach. The SM8S processor on the Network Module operates at 3V and its outputs are connected directly to the relay control header. So, you need to avoid inadvertently causing +5V feedback from the relay modules to the 3V output pins of the processor that exceed the processor specifications (check the spec, but the short version is: Max 3.3V and/or limit to 4mA per pin, AND limit to 20mA across all pins). The reason this is a concern is because the SM8S output pins have overvoltage protection diodes that can provide a current path if a voltage higher than 3.3V appears on the pin when it is not in an active pull-down state. To visualize this here is a drawing illustrating the output pin:



Focus on the Protection Diode. There is also a protection diode to ground, but it is not a concern in this discussion so I left it out. If any of the relay modules can provide a current path from a higher voltage through the chip pin (when the pin is not pulling down) then there is the potential for damage. Knowing this let's look at typical relay module designs.

- a) **Opto-isolated relay boards:** If you use opto-isolated relay boards there should not be a concern as long as the relay boards are designed to operate at a voltage no higher than 5V. The typical design of these relay modules looks like this:

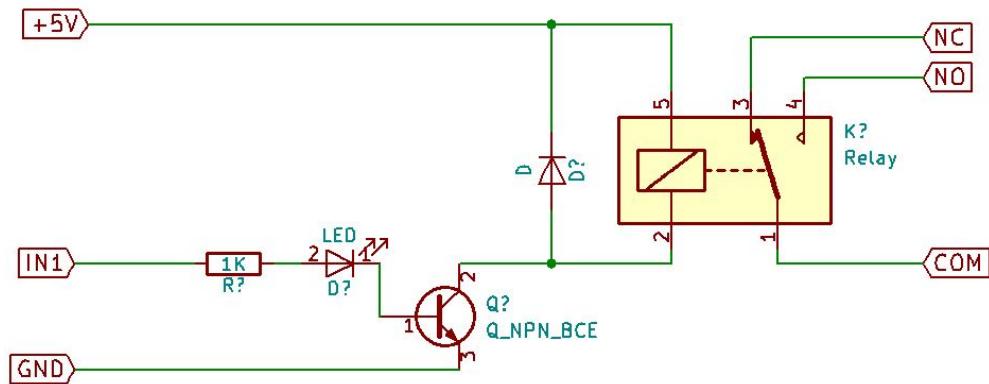


Note that in fact this relay module can provide a current path from +5V, through the photo emitter diode of the opto-isolator, through the visible LED, through the 1K resistor, then to the SM8S output pin via the “IN1” connection. But this will still work and here is why:

- The difference in voltage from the 5V supply to the SM8S output pin is  $5V - 3V$ . But about 0.7V is dropped across the photo emitter diode. Then another 0.7V is dropped across the LED. And about 0.3V is dropped across the protection diode in the SM8S. The result is that there is only  $5 - 3 - 0.7 - 0.7 - 0.3 = 0.3V$  potential across the 1K resistor. This will result in about 300 uA of current flowing through the path. This is not enough current to damage the SM8S and not enough current to cause the relay module to operate. So while not ideal it works.
- If your relay module does not have the LED in the trigger signal path as shown in the drawing above it might still work, but you'll have to test it to verify. The difference is that the 0.7 volt drop across the LED is missing from the equation so about 1mA will flow into the output pin of the SM8S. That won't hurt the SM8S, but it might cause the opto-isolator to operate in turn preventing the relay from releasing or causing the relay to release intermittently.

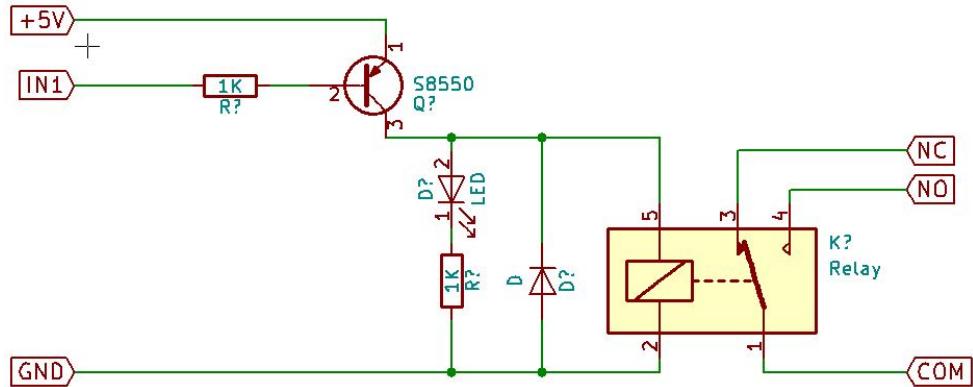
- b) **Non-isolated relay module, Active HIGH trigger signal:** Some relay modules do not have opto-isolators. If they are of a design that has an active high trigger signal then the typical design has a 1K ohm resistor feeding the base of a NPN transistor. This type of relay module should operate just fine when connected directly to the Network Module, although you'll find that the logic seems reversed and you may have to set or clear the "Invert" function in the Relay Control page of the GUI.

A typical active-high relay module circuit design:



The reason this module works with the Network Module is because it has no path from +5V back to the SM8S output pin..

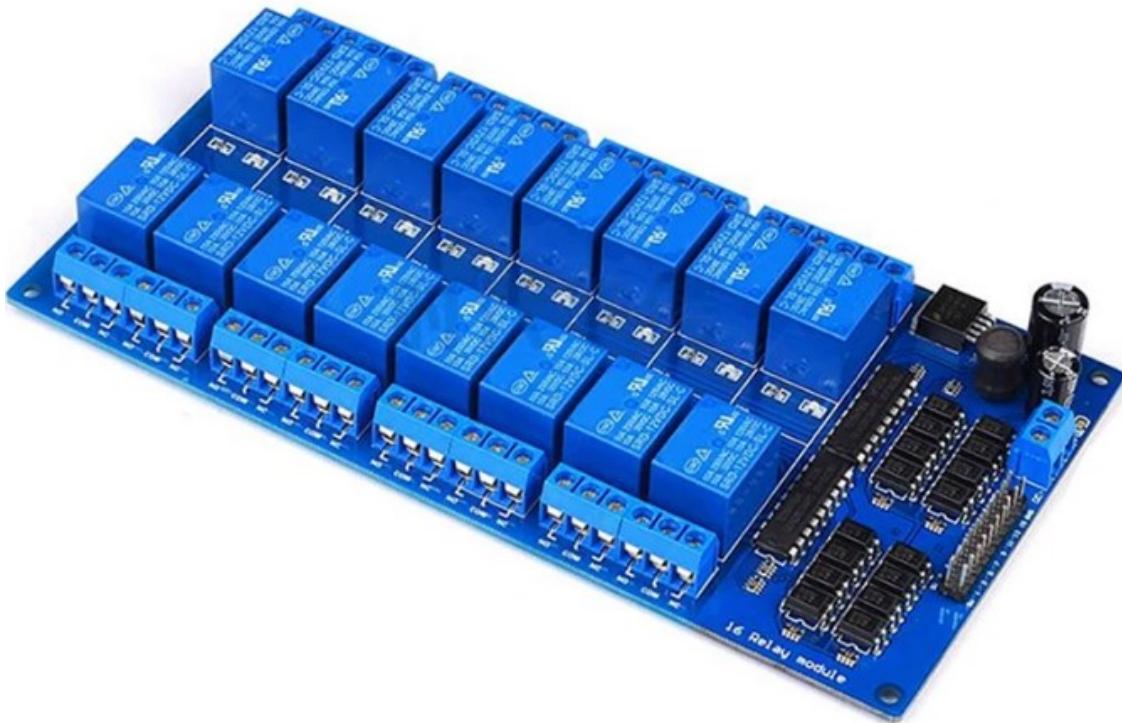
- c) **Non-isolated relay module, Active LOW trigger signal:** This is another relay module design that does not have opto-isolators. This design typically has an active low trigger signal, and the typical design has a 1K ohm resistor feeding the base of a PNP transistor. A typical relay module design looks like this:



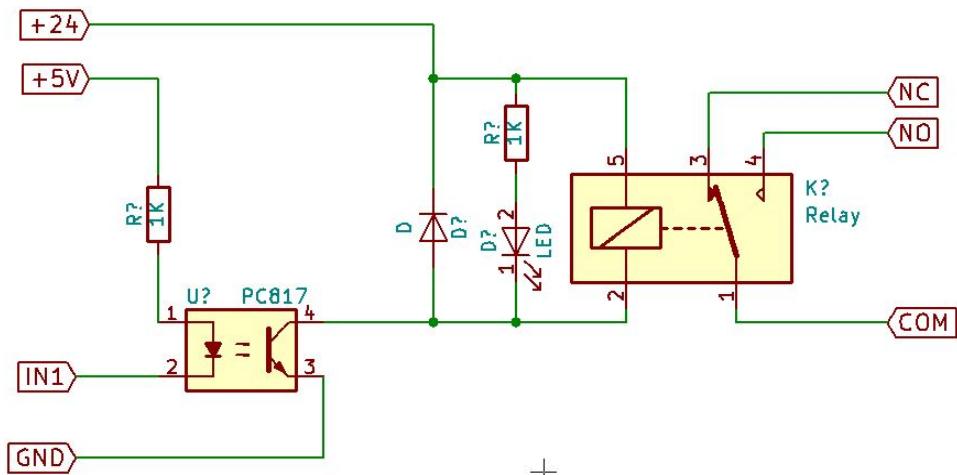
This design is problematic in that the PNP transistor is connected to 5V, and when the Network Module control signal goes to a high state a reverse current flow (also known as an injected current flow) will travel from +5V through the PNP transistor, through the 1K resistor, and into the SM8S output pin. Analyzing this path:

- The difference in voltage from the 5V power supply to the SM8S output pin is  $5V - 3V$ . About 0.7V is dropped across the PNP transistor, and about 0.3V is dropped across the protection diode in the SM8S. The result is that there is  $5 - 3 - 0.7 - 0.3 = 1V$  potential across the 1K resistor. This will result in about 1mA of current flowing through the path. This is not enough current to damage the SM8S, but it is in the active region of the PNP transistor. This may not allow the relay to turn off – or the relay may operate intermittently. If this is the case and you are unable to get a more compatible relay module you will need to provide a voltage shifting buffer between the Network Module and the Relay Module.
- If the relay module you have places the LED in series with the PNP transistor the module may work better due to the voltage drop across the LED. However, there may still be enough current to cause the PNP transistor and the relay to operate intermittently. All you can do is give it a try.

- d) **16 Channel Opto-isolated relay boards:** A user that bought 16 Channel opto-isolated boards reported problems, and on investigation it was found that the input circuit did not match what had been seen on 1, 2, 4, and 8 channel boards (even from the same supplier!). On further investigation we found that all the 16 Channel boards we could find online match this unique implementation. The type of board is shown here:

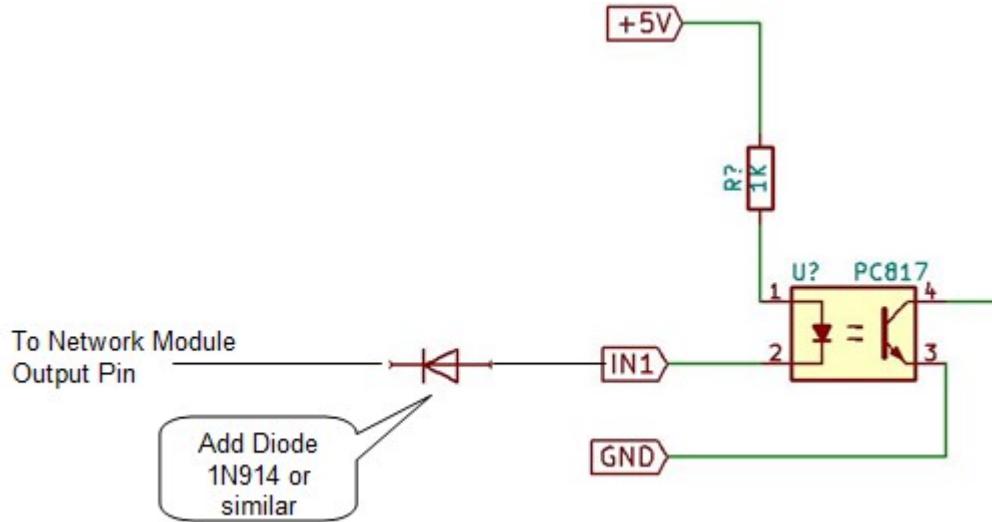


With some circuit tracing the circuit design on each channel appears to be as follows:



While the particular board this user had utilized 24V relays it appears that the board also comes in 5V and 12V relay versions. But the important thing to note is that the opto-isolator input circuit does not include an LED like the boards discussed in (a) above. This is a major problem in that the opto-isolator will remain activated regardless of the state of the output pin on the Network Module.

A marginal solution to this problem is to add some additional resistance in series with the input pin. A better solution is to add a diode in series with the input pin as shown here:



The diode replaces the voltage drop that the series LED provides on most other relay module designs and prevents the current path through the STM8S pin protection diode from keeping the PC817 in its active region (re-read (a) above for more information).

I am not sure if all 16 channel relays boards are designed this way, but all the ones found in a search on April 9 2021 appear to be as discussed here.

If you haven't bought any relay boards yet consider buying two 8 Channel boards instead of one 16 Channel board ... or do the fix described above.

## Notes on Inputs

If you configure the Network Module to include digital inputs you'll need to be careful about the voltage you put on the input pin. The pins are directly connected to the SM8S processor. The processor operates at 3V, so you'll need to limit the high level voltage applied to the pin to 3V, or limit the current to no more than 1 mA.

Each input pin has a weak pull-up applied internal to the SM8S processor. The pull-up has a typical resistance equivalent of 60Kohm, but can range from 30Kohm to 80Kohm.

Some recommendations:

- 1) If you are using 3V logic to drive the input pin you should be able to directly connect it.
- 2) If your driver circuitry might place more than 3V on the input pin you can do one of the following:
  - a) Use open collector devices or level translators to prevent putting more than 3V on the input pin.
  - b) Use relay contacts to ground the input pin, relying on the SM8S pull-up to take the pin high. This might not be adequate if the wiring to the input pin is long or is subject to electrical interference.
  - c) Put a 1Kohm resistor between the driver logic and the input pin, but be sure the driver cannot exceed 5V. This isn't ideal, but should limit any current driven into the SM8S to an acceptable level and still achieve adequate logic levels at the SM8S input.

# **Hardware Design to Maintain Relay States Through a Power Loss or Reboot**

A user wanted to know how to prevent relays from changing state during a power loss on the Network Module. This question is very dependent on the whether the relays remain powered up during the power loss on the Network Module, AND it is dependent on whether the control input to the relay is active low or active high. So let's explore why things happen and what you can do about it.

First of all, be aware that when the Network Module loses power its outputs go to a low level signal. I'm sure this makes sense to you: no power, no signal output. But there is the additional consideration that the overvoltage protection on the device pins (effectively a diode to VCC) will look like a pull-down when VCC on the STM8S processor goes to zero. Also be aware that when the STM8S processor powers up it defaults all IO pins to a "floating input" state. This is a function of the chip design, so it can't be changed.

Regardless of what you define as ON or OFF, this discussion here is purely from the perspective of the output signal levels on the Network Module and the input type of the relay being driven.

Scenarios and what happens:

## **Scenario 1:**

- a) Assume relays remain powered up while the Network Module is powered down.
- b) Relays are active high inputs (a high level signal activates the relay).

What will happen:

- When the Network Module loses power and then reboots any relay that is inactive will remain inactive if Retain was enabled in Configuration.
- When the Network Module loses power and then reboots any relay that is active will go to an inactive state during Network Module power loss, then the relay will return to an active state if Retain was enabled in Configuration.
- Note: If the relays also lose power they will of course go inactive during power loss.

## **Scenario 2:**

- a) Assume relays remain powered up while the Network Module is powered down.
- b) Relays are active low inputs (a low level signal activates the relay).

What will happen:

- When the Network Module loses power and then reboots any relay that is inactive will go to an active state because the Network Module outputs go to a low state

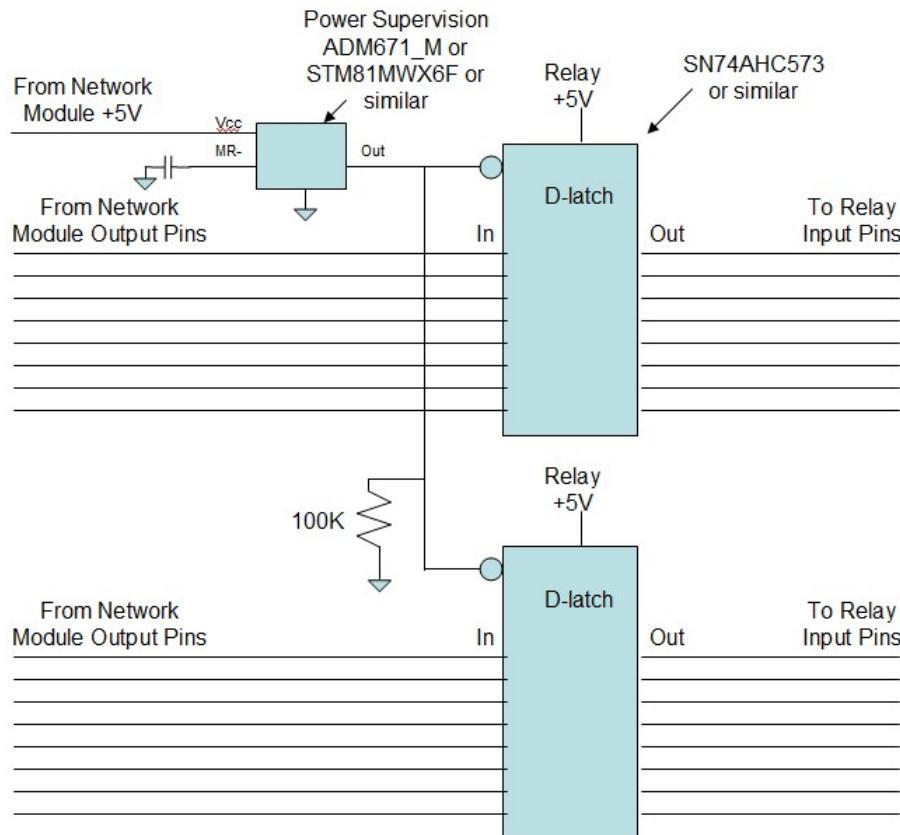
- during power loss, then the relay will return to an inactive state if Retain was enabled in Configuration.
- When the Network Module loses power and then reboots any relay that is active will remain in an active state if Retain was enabled in Configuration.
  - Note: If the relays also lose power they will of course go inactive during power loss.

So let's say you don't like the above scenarios and you want the relays to stay just the way you set them through a power loss, regardless of whether they were active or not. Well, this can only be done with hardware external to the Network Module. Here are some suggested solutions:

#### Option A:

- Assume the relays remain powered up while only the Network Module loses power.
- The relays can be either active low or active high inputs.

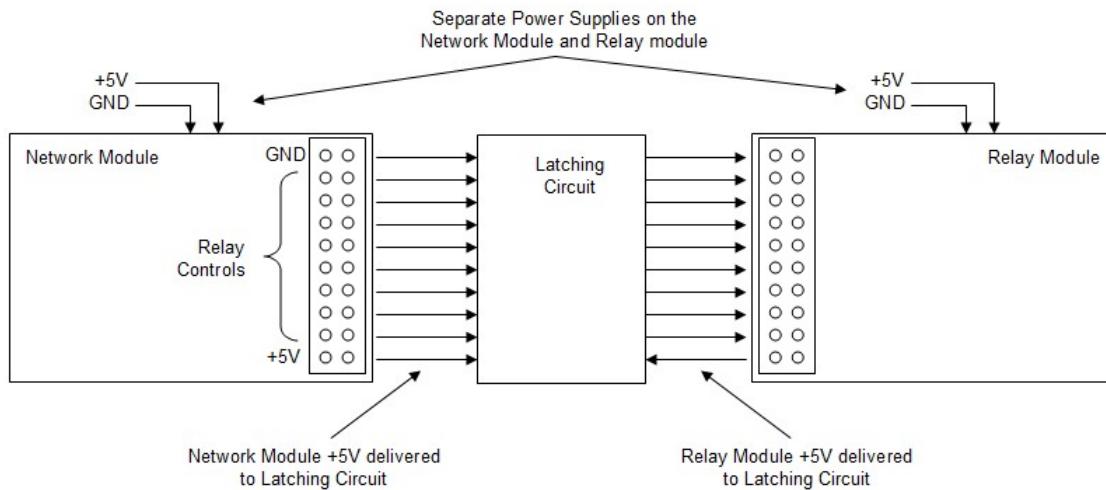
Since we know the Network Module outputs will go low during power loss we need to build hardware that will maintain the state of the relay control input during the outage. An example circuit is shown here for 16 Relays:



In the above circuit the Power Supervision device will detect when power is falling on the Network Module and will cause the D-latch devices to capture the output states of the Network Module. As long as power is maintained on the Relays and the D-latches the relays will maintain their state.

Once power returns on the Network Module the Power Supervision device will continue to keep the D-latch devices in a hold state until the STM8 processor is operating. If additional time is needed a capacitor can be added to the MR- input.

The latching circuit described above is placed between the Network Module and the Relay Module as shown here:



The downside to the above: The devices in the Latching Circuit may not all be available in DIP form – some may be surface mount. This implies that you may have to design a circuit board for this solution. That is not as onerous as you might think. There are cheap manufacturing sources in China that will make up to 10 circuit boards for almost nothing (less than \$10 USD). But you must design the board and generate gerber files.

### Option B:

- Use “Latching Relays”

This option almost sounds like nirvana until you look at the details.

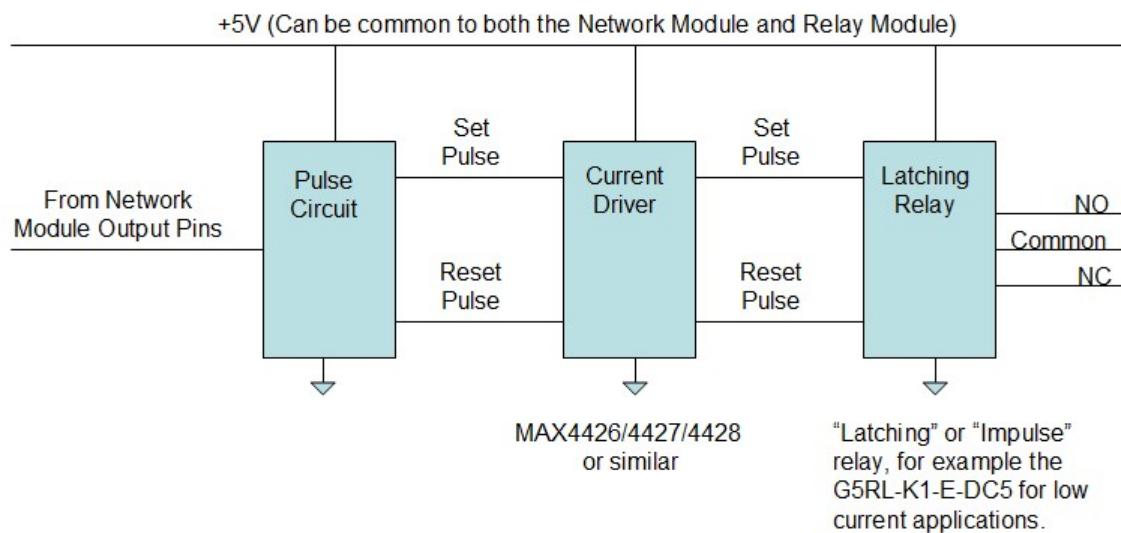
First let me caution you about “bi-stable self latching” relays that you may find on eBay. Those are meant to be provided with a pulse and they will switch and hold their state. BUT, you can’t tell what state they are in remotely, so not very useful for remote

applications. It might be possible to tap into their circuitry and find a sense point that could be fed back to one of the Network Module sense inputs. But remember these bi-stable relays are not actual latching relays as they require that power be maintained to the relay for it to retain its state (just like Option A above)..

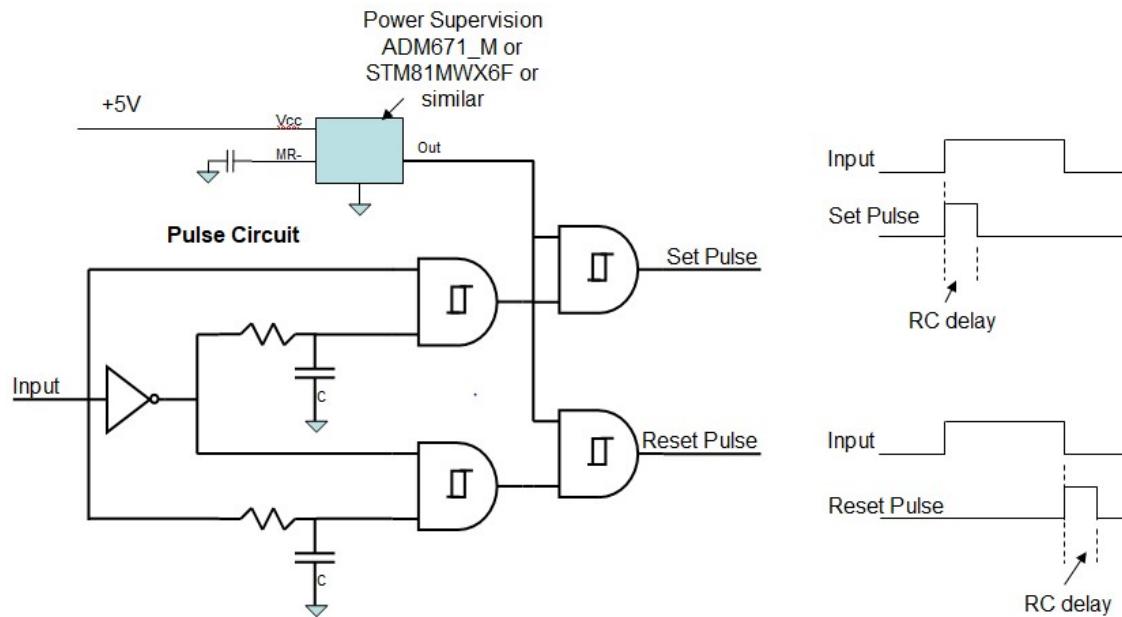
So, what about REAL latching relays? They will maintain their state even if ALL power is lost to the Network Module and the Relay Module. These relays are sometimes called “Impulse” relays because they require a pulse on a Set pin to put them in one state, and a pulse on a Reset pin to go to the other state. An example of this type of relay is the G5RL-K1-E-DC5 for low current applications (Google it).

Since the Network module only has a single state output a circuit is required to convert that signal to the pulses needed by the latching relays. And a driver is needed to supply the necessary pulse current to the relays. AND the circuit still needs to detect power loss to prevent inadvertent pulse generation when power is lost and restored.

A block diagram looks like this:



The pulse circuit looks like this:



The above needs to be repeated for each relay (except the Power Supervision can be common).

The resistor and capacitor values are determined as follows:

Need minimum pulse width of 30ms

When input is rising the output will switch at about 2.6v

When input is falling the output will switch at about 1.8v

Need about 60K and 1uF for rising signal. This will give an RC of about 60ms, with a pulse width of about 40ms.

Using 60K and 1uF for the falling signal will have a pulse width of about 60ms.

As in Option A a capacitor can be applied to the MR- input of the Power Supervision if a longer delay time is needed for the STM8 to stabilize.

Suggested part number for the Schmitt NAND gate is the SN74HC7001 and for the Inverter is the SN74LVC1G04.

After considering the Pulse Circuit, Power Supervision, and Current Drivers once again the circuit is complicated enough to require a circuit board.

### **Option C:**

You may want to consider using a UPS to prevent power loss. That will solve most of the problems discussed here. If power loss is nearly non-existent, then the only concern is brief relay chatter in event of a reboot, which should also be nearly non-existent once the Network Module is set up.

**IMPORTANT: I have not implemented any of the above power loss circuits, so there may be errors in what I've described. If you plan to go this route analyze the design carefully.**

### **Summary:**

In the end you need to consider carefully if fully retaining the relay states all the way through a power loss is really necessary. You can use the Retain setting in the Network Module to be sure the relays return to their pre-power loss state, but they may still “chatter” once or twice during reboot or power loss and recovery.

# Adding DS18B20 Temperature Sensors

Code was added to allow you to use IO 16 (pin 16) for DS18B20 Temperature Sensors. You can attach up to 5 DS18B20 sensors to this pin.

In the Features section of the Configuration page you'll see a checkbox for DS18B20.

- |          |  |
|----------|--|
| Features | <input type="checkbox"/> Full Duplex<br><input type="checkbox"/> HA Auto<br><input type="checkbox"/> MQTT<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DS18B20 |
|----------|--|

If you check this box IO 16 will show as “Disabled”, and in fact the pin IS disabled for use as an Input/Output pin. But you can now attach up to 5 DS18B20 temperature sensors to the pin and have the temperature seen at these sensors displayed in the IOControl page. If you also check MQTT the temperature is Published on MQTT. And, if you also check HA Auto the temperature sensor will be Auto Discovered in Home Assistant.

Diagram for attaching one sensor:

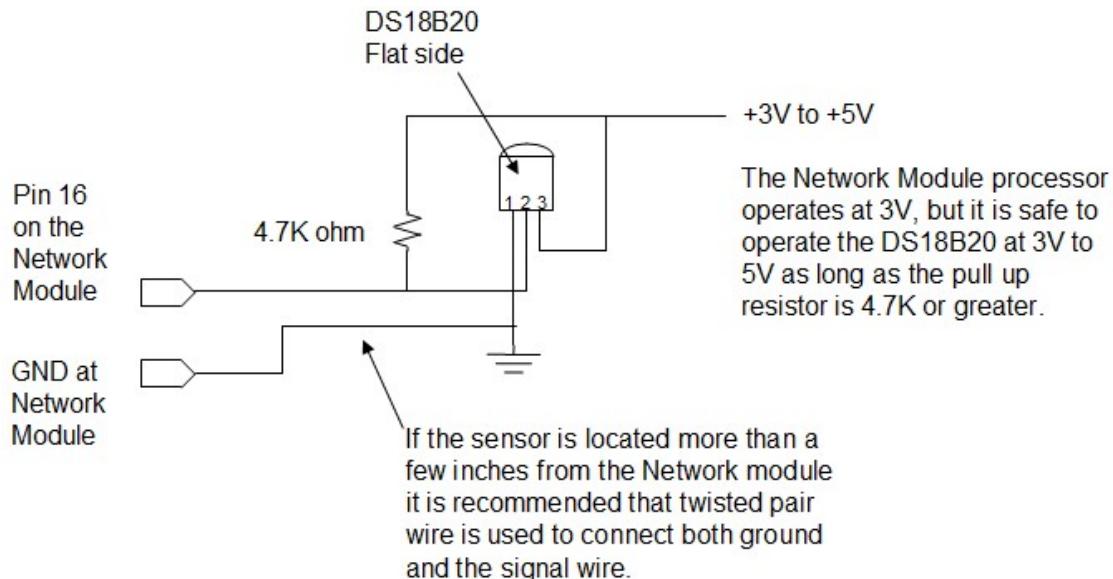
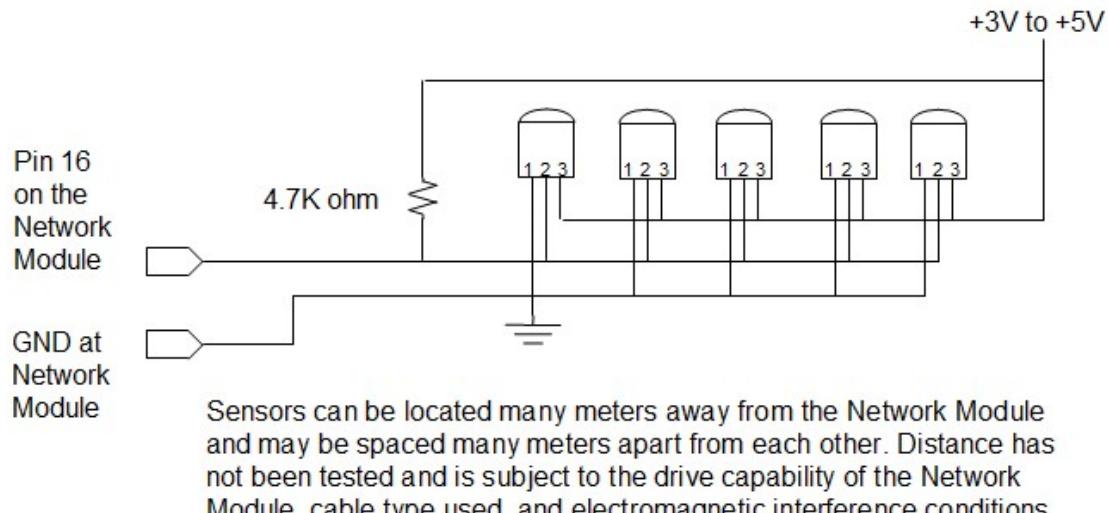


Diagram for attaching multiple sensors:



On power up the temperature display may show a “filler” value of -----°C degrees for each sensor. Likewise, if one of the 5 sensors is missing it will show the filler value. As soon as communication with the sensor is established the value will be as reported by the sensor. If the sensor fails or becomes disconnected after initial communication is established the reported temperature will be -000.1°C until the firmware discovers that the sensor is missing or unresponsive. Once the sensor is replaced or re-connected the temperature reported will require 1 to 2 minutes for the DS18B20 to begin reporting correct values. In the meantime the reported values may be indeterminate.

Note that sensors appear in the display in the order of the unique 48-bit Serial Number contained within each DS18B20. The least significant 16 bits are displayed as the Temperature sensor ID (2 bytes shown as 4 hex encoded characters). Thus if a sensor fails and is replaced the order of the sensors in the display may change, but their ID number will remain the same.

# Developers: Setting Up a Development Environment

NOTE: This information is only needed if you plan to set up your own development environment to modify and compile code. You don't need to do this if you are going to use the binaries (.stp and .sx files) already provided.

If you want to change the code for your own use I assume you have some experience with coding and the tools typically involved. I used the tools described in the previous sections for actual programming of the device, and used the Cosmic tools for the development environment. To duplicate this you'll want the following:

- 1) **Download and install the Cosmic Compiler:** Use the one that is specifically for the STM8 devices. Start at this website  
<https://www.st.com/en/development-tools/cxstm8.html#product-details>  
Click on Product Details and follow the link to the "partner website". From there you can download the compiler. The compiler is free. They will send you a 1-year license, but I think you can renew over and over. Note that the license is specific to the machine you install it on.  
As an FYI, even though my PC is x64, the tools installed in this directory:  
C:/Program Files (x86)/COSMIC/FSE\_Compilers/
- 2) **Download and install the following library from st.com:**  
en.stsw-stm8069.zip You'll find it at  
<https://www.st.com/en/embedded-software/stsw-stm8069.html>  
NOTE: I included this library in the files included with the project so you may not need this step if you copy all the files from GitHub. This is the STM8S\_StdPeriph\_Driver directory.
- 3) **Copy the Program:** With the above installed the next step is to copy the entire project from GitHub into your Documents directory. On my Windows 10 machine the project was located in the following directory:  
C:/Users/Mike/Documents/COSMIC/FSE\_Compilers/CXSTM8/NetworkModule  
Of course you will likely have a different user ID.

Start the Cosmic tools by double clicking on the NetworkModule.prjsm8 file. You should be on your way.

A note about my coding style: My coding is not particularly esoteric or convoluted. I try to keep it simple to read and understand even if that is less efficient. And I put a lot of

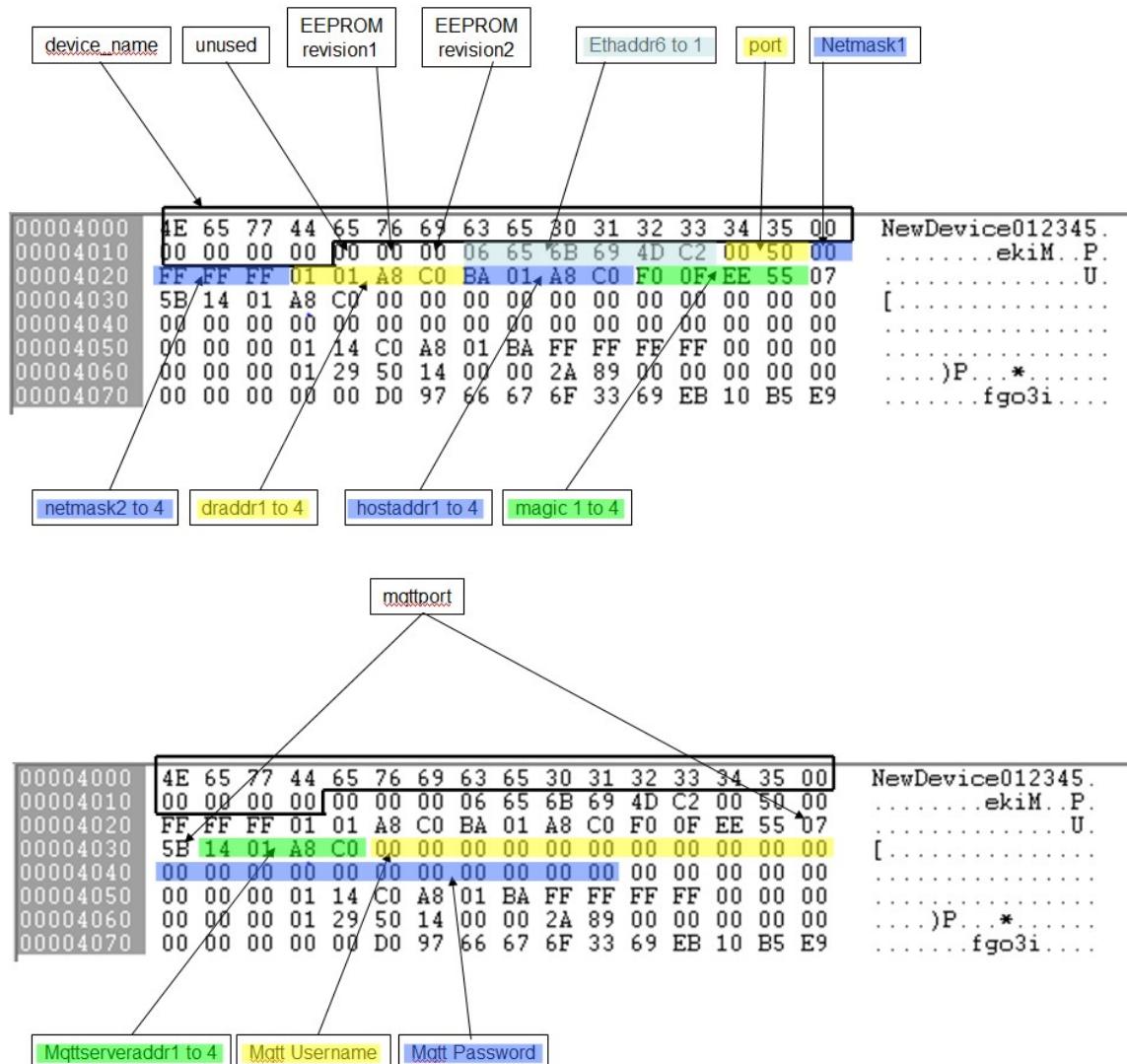
comments in, particularly if I had to do things to make the code work that didn't fully make sense to me. Sometimes that stuff happens and my intention is to come back and look at it again later. So, feel free to modify and "do it your way". I'm not proud as long as it works.

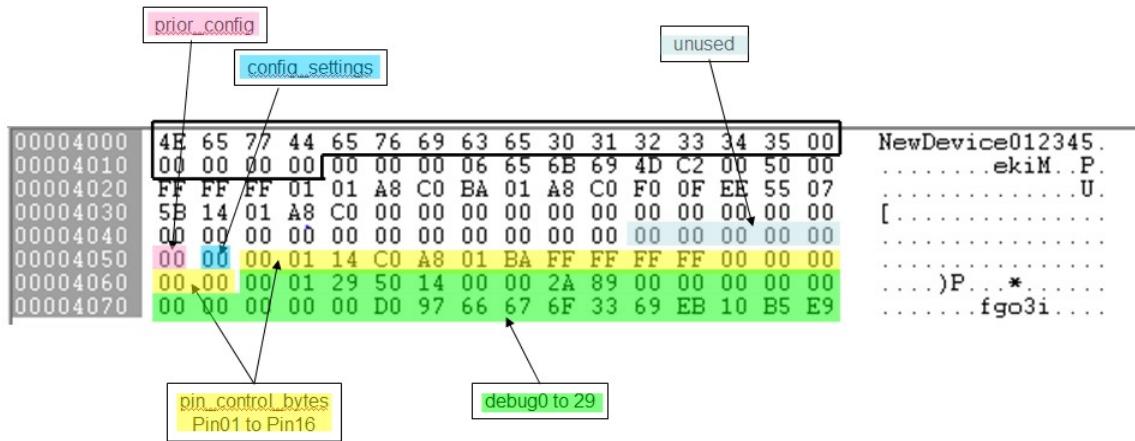
# Developers: Location of EEPROM Variables

NOTE: This information is only needed if you plan to set up your own development environment to modify and compile code.

You can view the contents of the EEPROM with the STVP programmer by selecting the “Data Memory” tab and using the “Read / Current Tab” function. The displayed information has the following definitions.

Note that the data in some fields is “left to right”, a more human readable direction. For instance the device\_name field. Some fields are “right to left”, for instance the hostaddr field.





The debug bytes are defined by the developer to provide non-volatile storage of any information the developer needs to debug code function. Some routines are already present in the source files to help with capture of debug information.

# Developers: Notes on Debug Bytes

NOTE: This information is only needed if you plan to set up your own development environment to modify and compile code.

THIS INFORMATION MAY NOT BE ACCURATE if the number of debug[] bytes changes due to code changes. In particular the number of debug[] bytes may be reduced if more EEPROM is needed to support added functionality.

The code contains compile options for implementing various debug modes. This section describes the debug modes and how debug information is captured in EEPROM.

The general idea:

DEBUG\_SUPPORT compile time options are determined by the #define DEBUG\_SUPPORT statement in the uiport.h file.

When code is compiled with any DEBUG\_SUPPORT option debug data is stored in RAM locations named debug[].

Each debug[] byte has a corresponding storage location in EEPROM named stored\_debug[].

The data in the debug[] RAM locations is copied to EEPROM when the function update\_debug\_storage1() is called, or when a function requires specific debug[] bytes to be stored in EEPROM. In some functions any change in a specific debug[] byte will cause it to be stored in EEPROM.

Note that ANY time a debug[] byte is stored in EEPROM it is first compared to the byte already stored in EEPROM, and the EEPROM write only occurs if the bytes do not compare. This is to prevent excessive writes to EEPROM. Example code:

```
for (i = 0; i < NUM_DEBUG_BYTES; i++) {  
    if (stored_debug[i] != debug[i]) stored_debug[i] = debug[i];  
}
```

IMPORTANT: This “compare before write to EEPROM” concept should be used any time a write to EEPROM of any kind is to occur. This will help prevent excessive wear on the EEPROM, particularly when a coding error is made that might cause a frequent write to EEPROM.

ALSO IMPORTANT: The EEPROM must be unlocked prior to any write (see function unlock\_eeprom() ). After the write the EEPROM should be locked again (see function lock\_eeprom() ). This helps prevent coding errors from inadvertently writing EEPROM.

### **When code is compiled with DEBUG\_SUPPORT == 1**

All debug[] bytes are available to the developer to be used as needed, and they are copied to EEPROM when the function update\_debug\_storage1() is called.

### **When code is compiled with DEBUG\_SUPPORT == 7, 11, OR 15**

The last 10 bytes of debug[] (and stored\_debug[]) are reserved for some specific debug information. The last 10 debug[] bytes are stored in EEPROM whenever the debug[] byte content changes. The debug[] bytes prior to the last 10 can be used just like the debug[] bytes are used when DEBUG\_SUPPORT == 1.

**!!!! Leave DEBUG\_SUPPORT 11 enabled for Production Code. While this seems inconsistent with the normal use of “debug”, DEBUG\_SUPPORT 11 enables the “Link Error Stats” web page. The Link Error Stats web page can be very useful to regular users that may need to diagnose whether Full Duplex is needed with their network switch(es).**

In addition to the “update\_debug\_storage1()” function there are some specialized “copy debug[] to stored\_debug[]” routines as follows:

#### **update\_debug\_storage()**

This function will copy the debug[] bytes to EEPROM only if debug[0] == 0x01. If the function finds that debug[0] contains 0x01 it will write 0x02 into debug[0]. This creates a “single snapshot” capability.

#### **capture\_uip\_buf\_transmit()**

This function will capture a portion of the uip\_buf when transmit data is present. The function can be modified to perform the capture when various triggers are present. There are some sample triggers in the code that are commented out.

#### **capture\_uip\_buf\_receive()**

This function is similar to capture\_uip\_buf\_transmit but contains triggers for capturing a portion of the uip\_buf when receive data is present. There are some sample triggers in the code that are commented out.

#### **capture\_mqtt\_sendbuf()**

This function is similar to the other capture functions above except that it is designed to capture a portion of the data in the MQTT sendbuf.

```
#define DEBUG_SUPPORT table
```

Bit 0: Enable write to EEPROM for debug[] bytes

Bit 1: Last 10 bytes of debug[] allocated to:

- Reset Status Register counters
- TXERIF counter
- RXERIF counter
- Stack Overflow bit
- ENC28J60 revision level

Bit 2: UART enabled

Will display the above plus other developer implemented information

Bit 3: Browser page enabled for Link Error Stats. Will display:

- Seconds counter (since last boot)
- Transmit counter (since last boot)
- Octets showing Stack Overflow, ENC28J60 revision, TXERIF counter, RXERIF counter
- Octets showing MQTT Response Timeout counter, MQTT Not OK counter, MQTT Broker Disconnect counter

Bits										
7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	Dec	Function	
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No debug No UART No Link Error Stats browser page	
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	debug[] bytes enabled - visible only via STVP No UART No Link Error Stats browser page	
0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	7	debug[] bytes enabled - visible only via STVP Last 10 bytes of debug[] allocated to specific debug data UART enabled No Link Error Stats browser page	
0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	11	debug[] bytes enabled – visible only via STVP Last 10 bytes of debug[] allocated to specific debug data No UART Link Error Stats browser page enabled <b>Set DEBUG_SUPPORT 11 for Production Code</b>	
0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	15	debug[] bytes enabled – visible only via STVP Last 10 bytes of debug[] allocated specific debug data UART enabled Link Error Stats browser page enabled	

“visible only via STVP” means that the STVP programmer software should be used to display the “Data Memory” in order to view these bytes. See section “Location of EEPROM Variables”.

The table below defines the debug[] bytes dependent on the DEBUG\_SUPPORT setting. Note that NUM\_DEBUG\_BYTES defined in main.h sets the total number of debug[] bytes available. If you make code changes that use up more EEPROM you will have to adjust NUM\_DEBUG\_BYTES in main.h,

## debug[] Bytes Defined

DEBUG_SUPPORT == 1	DEBUG_SUPPORT == 7, 11, 15				
debug[00] *	debug[00] *				
debug[01] *	debug[01] *				
debug[02] *	debug[02] *				
debug[03] *	debug[03] *				
debug[04] *	debug[04] *				
debug[05] *	debug[05] *				
debug[06] *	debug[06] *				
debug[07] *	debug[07] *				
debug[08] *	debug[08] *				
debug[09] *	debug[09] *				
debug[10] *	debug[10] *				
debug[11] *	debug[11] *				
debug[12] *	debug[12] *				
debug[13] *	debug[13] *				
debug[14] *	debug[14] *				
debug[15] *	debug[15] *				
debug[16] *	debug[16] *				
debug[17] *	debug[17] *				
debug[18] *	debug[18] *				
debug[19] *	debug[19] *				
debug[20] *	debug[20] ** }      debug[20] Not used; Available debug[21] ** }      debug[21] Not used; Available debug[22] ** }      debug[22] Bit 7 = Stack Overflow Error Bit 6-4 = Not defined Bit 3-0 = ENC28J60 revision debug[23] ** }      debug[23] ENC28J60 TXERIF counter debug[24] ** }      debug[24] ENC28J60 RXERIF counter				
debug[25] *	debug[25] ** }      debug[25] EMCF: EMC reset flag count debug[26] *	debug[26] ** }      debug[26] SWIMF: SWIM reset flag count debug[27] *	debug[27] ** }      debug[27] ILLOPF: Illegal opcode reset flag count debug[28] *	debug[28] ** }      debug[28] IWDGF: Independent Watchdog reset flag count debug[29] *	debug[29] ** }      debug[29] WWDGF: Window Watchdog reset flag count

\* Stored in EEPROM when update\_eeprom\_storage1() is called

\*\* Stored in EEPROM each time a change occurs

# Developers: Notes on Configuration Debug and pin\_control Bytes

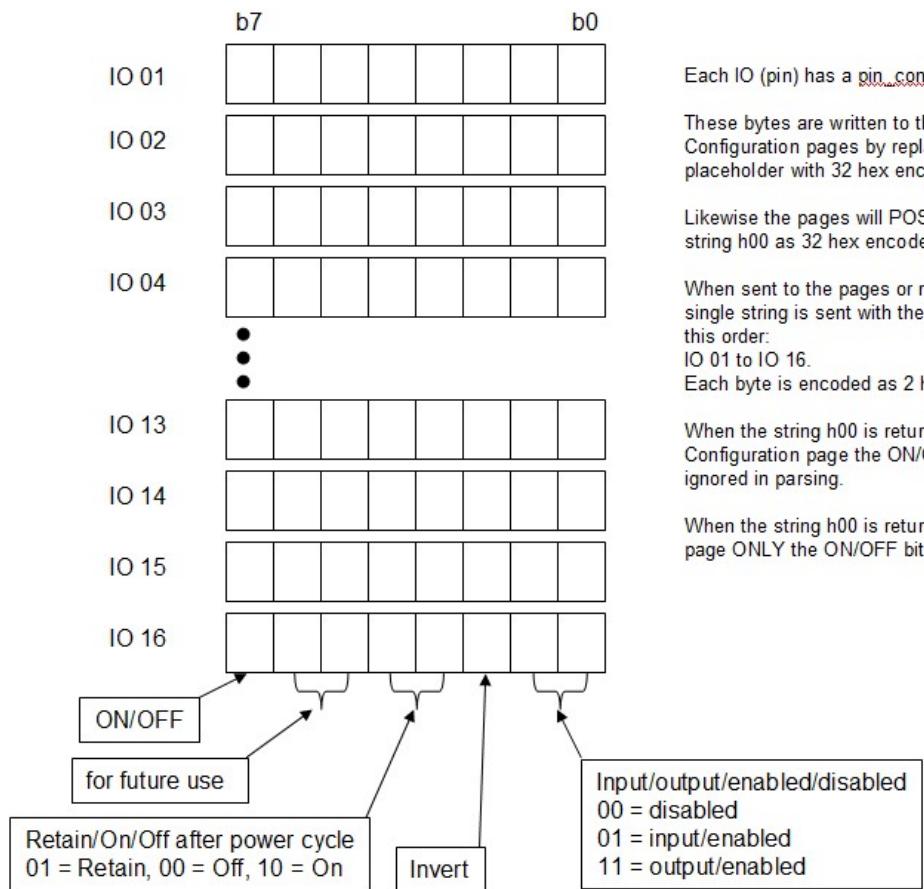
NOTE: This information is only needed if you plan to set up your own development environment to modify and compile code.

The Configuration page contains a debug feature useful for development. If you go to the Configuration page, add #d to the URL, then click Refresh a column of numbers will appear to the right of the settings as illustrated here:

IO	Type	Invert Boot state	
#1	input	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	5
#2	input	<input type="checkbox"/>	129
#3	input	<input type="checkbox"/>	129
#4	input	<input type="checkbox"/>	129
#5	input	<input type="checkbox"/>	129
#6	input	<input type="checkbox"/>	129
#7	input	<input type="checkbox"/>	129
#8	input	<input type="checkbox"/>	129
#9	input	<input type="checkbox"/>	129
#10	input	<input type="checkbox"/>	129
#11	output	<input type="checkbox"/>	off
#12	output	<input type="checkbox"/>	on
#13	output	<input type="checkbox"/>	retain
#14	output	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	off
#15	output	<input type="checkbox"/>	off
#16	disabled		128

These values are the decimal equivalents of the content of the pin\_control bytes in the code. The pin\_control bytes are defined as shown here:

## pin\_control Bytes



Each IO (pin) has a pin\_control byte.

These bytes are written to the IOControl and Configuration pages by replacing the %h00 placeholder with 32 hex encoded characters.

Likewise the pages will POST all 16 bytes in the string h00 as 32 hex encoded characters.

When sent to the pages or received in a POST a single string is sent with the pin\_control bytes in this order:

IO 01 to IO 16.

Each byte is encoded as 2 hex characters.

When the string h00 is returned by the Configuration page the ON/OFF bit will be ignored in parsing.

When the string h00 is returned by the IOControl page ONLY the ON/OFF bit is examined.

# Developers: Stack Overflow

NOTE: This information is only needed if you plan to set up your own development environment to modify and compile code.

Stack Overflow detection is a part of the released code. In the main.c file you'll find the following notes. To make code compile correctly there is a note here with regard to editing the .lkf file so that the memory area needed for stack overflow protection will compile properly.

Stack overflow detection

The following code is used to declare two constants at the top of the RAM area. Regular variable assignments start at memory address 0x0000 and grow upwards to 0x5ff. Stack starts at 0x7ff and grows downward to 0x0600. Two constants are placed at 0x5fe and 0x5ff and are monitored to make sure they never change. If they do change it implies that the Stack has grown into the variable storage RAM, or that a "wild pointer" may have caused writes to RAM to exceed the space allocated to RAM.

```
#pragma section @near [iconst]
uint8_t stack_limit1;
uint8_t stack_limit2;
#pragma section @near []
```

The pragma code creates the two variables in a special section named ".iconst". The linker needs to be told where to place this section in memory. The following directive needs to be placed in the linker file before the object file where the variables are declared. This directive will place the two stack limit variables at 0x5fe and 0x5ff.

```
+seg .iconst -b 0x5fe -n .iconst
```

For reference the +seg part of the .lkf file for this project looks like this:

```
+seg .vector -b 0x8000 -m 0x8000 -n .vector      # vectors start address
-k
+seg .const -a .vector -n .const                  # constants follow vectors
+seg .text -a .const -n .text                      # code follow constants
+seg .eeprom -b 0x4000 -m 128                     # internal eeprom
+seg .bsct -b 0 -m 0x100 -n .bsct                # internal ram
+seg .ubsct -a .bsct -n .ubsct
+seg .bit -a .ubsct -n .bit -id
+seg .data -a .bit -m 0x800 -n .data
+seg .bss -a .data -n .bss
+seg .iconst -b 0x5fe -n .iconst
```

NOTE: To enable editing the Linker .lkf file in IdeaSTM8 you must first edit the .prjsm8 file. Make sure the following line is in the .prjsm8 file:

LinkFileAutomatic=NO

When you first install IdeaSTM8 the default is for the program to auto generate the .l kf file each time a build is done. This is useful because it creates all the linker commands you typically need. However, when you reach the point that you need to make your own changes to the .l kf file (such as adding the .iconst section) edit access is disabled until the LinkFileAutomatic line is modified to “NO”.

# Developers: Using the UART

NOTE: This information is only needed if you plan to set up your own development environment to modify and compile code.

The STM8S processor includes a UART. The code can be compiled with the UART enabled so that you can add debug statements to the code. The compile option is available in the uiport.h file (see `#define DEBUG_SUPPORT`).

When the UART is enabled it will take over IO Pin 11 and use that as the UART transmit pin. No UART receive pin is implemented. The Configuration page will show the pin 11 as an Output, and you will not be able to change that pin configuration when the UART option is compiled. Likewise, the IOControl page will show the pin as an Output, and any attempt to change the pin state will not be successful. But the pin will continue to function as the UART output until the code is recompiled with the Debug UART option turned off.

The UART transmitter is set up as follows:

Baud rate: 115200

Data bits: 8

Parity: None

Stop bits: 1

To connect the Network Module UART Tx pin (IO 11) to a terminal or your PC you'll need a TTL-RS232 or TTL-USB converter. There are several ways to do this, but I will describe the method I used:

- a) Use a TTL-USB converter to connect the Tx pin to the USB port on a laptop.  
Here's the device I used:



**FT232RL 3.3V 5.5V FTDI USB to TTL Serial Adapter For Arduino Mini Port N137**

Condition: New

Bulk savings:

Buy 1 \$3.99/ea	Buy 2 \$3.79/ea	Buy 3 \$3.67/ea
-----------------	-----------------	-----------------

Quantity:  4 or more for \$3.59/ea

More than 10 available  
[164 sold](#) / [See feedback](#)

Price: US \$3.99/ea

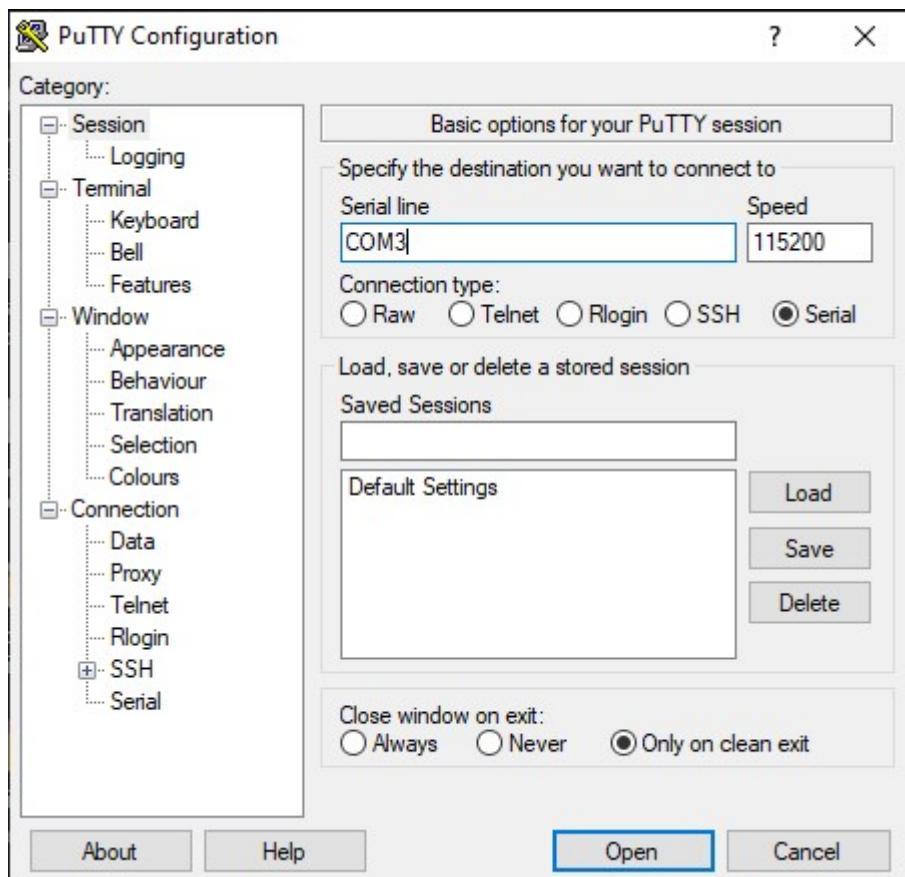
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Keep in mind that the Network Module operates at 3V, so the adapter needs to be set to 3V IO on the pin connection side of the interface.

- b) My laptop was a Windows 10 OS, so I had to download the drivers for the TTL-USB interface here:  
<https://ftdichip.com/drivers/>
- c) I used PuTTY on my laptop to communicate with the TTL-USB device. In my case the device showed up as COM3. PuTTY setup is simple:



- d) If everything is set up correctly you should see something like this in the PuTTY display when the Network Module boots:

```
Booting Rev 20210321 2317
ENC28J60 Rev Code 06
EMCF: 000 SWIMF: 015 ILLOPF: 000 IWDGF: 000 WWDGF: 001
Stack Overflow - none detected
```

Note: Use the http command “<http://IP:Port/70>” to clear the “Reset Status Register” counters (the counts for EMCF, SWIMF, ILLOPF, IWDGF, WWDGF). See the STM8S documentation for definitions of the Reset Status Register content.

# **Developers: Analysis of MQTT sendbuf sizing**

NOTE: This information is only needed if you plan to set up your own development environment to modify and compile code.

## **Analysis of the size required for the mqtt\_sendbuf:**

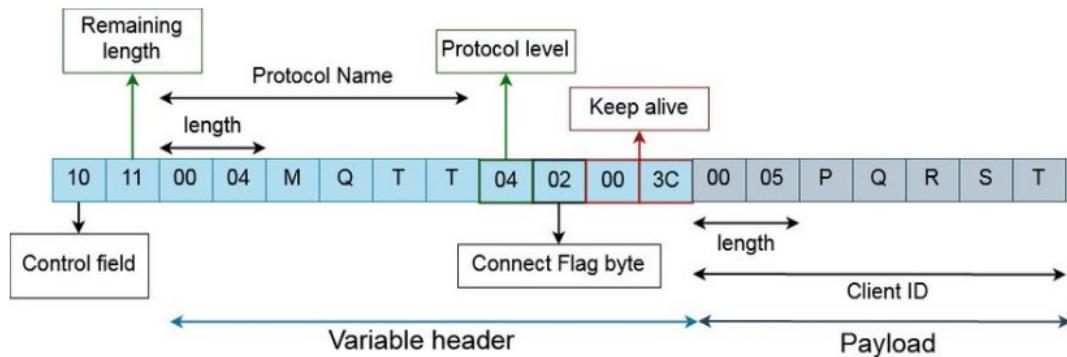
During MQTT startup we do not queue any MQTT messages. They are sent one at a time, and in the case of CONNECT or SUBSCRIBE messages the code will wait for an ACK from the broker.

After startup there can be queuing of messages, but that queue will only grow to a maximum of 2 messages. This occurs when a PINGREQ is issued, and that request immediately precedes or immediately follows some other PUBLISH message. The reason the queue is needed is because we need to watch for a PINGRESP (an ACK) to the PINGREQ. Thus, the PINGREQ is retained in the queue until the PINGRESP is received. PUBLISH does not wait for an ACK since we are operating as QOS0.

Why is all the above mentioned? Because we want the mqtt\_sendbuf to be as small as possible. The way the MQTT code works is that it places a message in the mqtt\_sendbuf, and that message is always accompanied by a queue management structure of about 11 bytes. So to determine the minimum size required for mqtt\_sendbuf we need to know that maximum size MQTT message that will go in the buffer.

**It turns out the largest message is the CONNECT message**, which is sent during MQTT startup. At that time no PINGREQ messages can be issued, so the CONNECT message will occupy the mqtt\_sendbuf by itself. An analysis of the size of the CONNECT message:

### CONNECT message



The above is 12 bytes (excluding the payload) plus the following:

**Payload:**

The payload of the CONNECT Packet contains one or more length-prefixed fields, whose presence is determined by the flags in the variable header. These fields, if present, **MUST appear in the order Client Identifier, Will Topic, Will Message, User Name, Password [MQTT-3.1.3-1]**.

**Client Identifier:**

NetworkModuleaabcccddeeff

2 length bytes + 25 bytes data = 27

**Will Topic:**

NetworkModule/NetworkModule456789/availability

2 length bytes + 46 bytes data = 48

**Will Message:**

Offline

2 length bytes + 7 bytes data

**UserName:**

2 length bytes + 10 bytes data

**Password:**

2 length bytes + 10 bytes data

Queue management structure 11 bytes

Max CONNECT message when placed in the mqtt\_sendbuf is  
120 + 11 = 131 bytes

### Largest messages AFTER MQTT startup:

The only messages that must be retained in the mqtt\_sendbuf are the CONNECT, SUBSCRIBE, and PINGREQ messages. Since the CONNECT and SUBSCRIBE messages are only sent by the mqtt\_startup state machine we can carefully manage that state machine to make sure the ACK for each of those messages is received before continuing the state machine. This means that the only message that will be retained in the mqtt\_sendbuf during normal operation is the PINGREQ message. That message is two bytes long. So, we can minimize the size of the mqtt\_sendbuf to the point that only that 2 byte message and the longest of any other MQTT transmit message will fit.

Output PUBLISH Msg (in the mqtt\_sendbuf)

Fixed Header 2 bytes

Variable Header 47 bytes

Topic NetworkModule/DeviceName012345678/output/xx 43 bytes

Topic Length 2 bytes

Packet ID 2 bytes

Total: 49 bytes

Temperature PUBLISH Msg (in the mqtt\_sendbuf)

Fixed Header 2 bytes

Variable Header 51 bytes

Topic NetworkModule/DeviceName012345678/temp/xxxx-000.0 49 bytes

Topic Length 2 bytes

Packet ID 2 bytes

Total: 55 bytes

Status PUBLISH Msg (in the mqtt\_sendbuf)

Fixed Header 2 bytes

Variable Header 57 bytes

Topic NetworkModule/DeviceName123456789/availabilityoffline 53 bytes

Topic Length 2 bytes

Packet ID 2 bytes

Total: 59 bytes

The implication of the above is that the mqtt\_sendbuf needs to be as large as one PINGREQ message (2 bytes) plus the longest Publish message (59 bytes), or 61 bytes. I

think the structure added to the mqtt\_sendbuf for each message in the queue is 11 bytes (search on struct mqtt\_queued\_message).

This would make the requirement for the mqtt\_sendbuf AFTER MQTT STARTUP = 61 + 22 = 83.

**Since we know the CONNECT message far exceeds this value it will set the size of the mqtt\_sendbuf.**

# Developers: Flash Programming from the Application

NOTE: This information is only needed if you plan to set up your own development environment to modify and compile code.

## Flash Programming

Beginning in April 2021 the ability to have user entered names for each IO pin was implemented. This required storing those names in Flash memory (not EEPROM). Following are notes on how this is done.

The following excerpts from the RM0016 and PM0051 clearly indicate that performing byte and word writes to Flash will stop application execution until the write completes. If word or byte writes are implemented it is not necessary to have code execution in RAM. However, **block** writes to Flash do require code execution in RAM.

It appears that when byte writes are performed they may cause as many as 4 erase/write cycles on all 4 bytes around a memory location. This is because Flash is actually written 4 bytes at a time even if a single byte is being written. So if you write 4 bytes in a row, you actually write all 4 bytes 4 times.

For this reason the Word method (4-bytes at a time) will cause less wear on memory. If 4 bytes are going to be written sequentially anyway then writing them as a 4-byte Word will result in one erase/write cycle on that Word instead of 4 cycles. PM0051 section 4.3 describes how to do this. A logical presumption (because I can't find it in manuals): The first byte of a Word must be at an address ending in 0, 4, 8, or C.

### Implementing FLASH writes from code

If a **byte** needs to be written do a read and compare FIRST to make sure a write is necessary, then

```
unlock_flash();
memcpy(&flash, &value, 1);
lock_flash();
```

Since writes always occur 4 bytes at a time, code should be written to write 4 byte values as much as possible. So, consideration needs to be taken to accumulate writes in RAM first, then write them as 4 byte values to Flash. The 4 byte values are on 4 byte boundaries starting at address 0x0000. Example of a 4 byte write:

```
unlock_flash();
for (i=0; i<8; i+=2) {
    // IO_TIMER values are 2 byte values. They are accumulated in RAM first, then
```

```

// the sixteen 2 byte values are written to Flash as eight 4 byte values. First
// the values in RAM are compared to what is already in Flash to make sure no
// unnecessary writes are performed.
// Compare 4 bytes at a time. If any miscompare write to Flash 4 bytes at a time.
if (IO_TIMER[i] != Pending_IO_TIMER[i] || IO_TIMER[i+1] !=
Pending_IO_TIMER[i+1]) {
    FLASH_CR2 = 0x40;
    FLASH_NCR2 = 0xBF;
    memcpy(&IO_TIMER[i], &Pending_IO_TIMER[i], 4);
}
}
lock_flash();

```

**In this application (Browser Only build):**

Flash Program memory is from 0x8080 to 0xffff  
The upper 256 bytes could be reserved for IO Names  
The next upper 32 bytes are reserved for IO Timers  
An additional 32 bytes are reserved for future use  
So, a total of 320 bytes are reserved in Flash for the user values.

There is no protection against code being written to the "reserved" area, so care needs to be taken that code size doesn't grow too large and over-lap the "reserved" area.

The specification states that there is 32K of Flash (32768 bytes). But the first 128 bytes (starting at 0x8000) is used for interrupt vectors. So if we use 320 bytes for user data the maximum code size is  $32768 - 128 - 320 = 32320$ .

The real problem with using Flash for user data is that it has very limited write life. So frequent changes should be avoided. Caution the user to set IO names and IO timers only a few times during the life of the device. NEVER use an automated mechanism that might inadvertently change the names or timer values a lot of times.

The 16 IO Names are limited to 16 characters each (including the terminator).  
The 16 IO Timers are limited to 2 bytes each.

Note that single byte writes should be avoided. A single byte write actually results in a 4 byte write of the targeted byte plus the 3 other bytes in the 4 byte "word". So if you want to write all 4 bytes in a word and you do that one byte at a time, you will actually write every byte of the word 4 times. This creates a lot of wear on the Flash, so in this application data that will be written to the Flash is first accumulated in RAM, then written to Flash as a series of 4 byte "word" writes.

Note that program execution is suspended by hardware for the 6ms that a Flash write is being performed. From the PM0047 manual:

"Byte programming is done by executing any write instruction (ld, mov...) to a Flash memory address when the memory is unlocked. The write instruction

initiates the erase/programming cycle and any core access to the memory is blocked until the cycle is over. This means that program execution from Flash is stopped until the end of the erase/programming cycle. At the end of the programming the EOP bit in the FLASH\_IAPSR is set and program execution restarts from the instruction following the write/erase instruction."

A write to Flash requires about 6ms regardless of whether it is a 1 byte or 4 byte write. Just for reference if the entire 320 byte reserved area of Flash were written at one time it would take about  $(320 / 4) * 6\text{ms} = 480\text{ms}$ . Since this only occurs when the user makes changes it is not significant to operation of the device.

#### **From CXSTM8\_UsersGuide:**

Referencing Absolute Addresses

References to absolute addresses have the general form @<address>, where <address> is a valid memory location in your environment. For example, to associate an I/O port at address 0x20 with the identifier name MISCR1, write a definition of the form:

```
char MISCR1 @0x20;
```

where @0x20 indicates an absolute address specification and not a data initializer. Since input/output on the STM8 architecture is memory mapped, performing I/O in this way is equivalent to writing in any given location in memory. Such a declaration does not reserve any space in memory. The compiler still creates a label, using an equate definition, in order to reference the C object symbolically. This symbol is made public to allow external usage from any other file.

#### **Flash Unlock/Lock**

Unlock: Write 56h then AEh in FLASH\_PUKR (00 5062h)

Lock: Reset bit 1 (PUL) in FLASH\_IAPSR (00 505Fh)

#### **Flashing Browser Only Firmware**

When programming a new code load program address range 0x8000 to 0xfebf. This will retain prior user entered IO Names and Timers. Otherwise there will be a program compare error and the user entered IO Names and Timers will be over-written with zero.

RM0016

#### 4.6.2 Byte programming

The main program memory and the DATA area can be programmed at byte level. To program one byte, the application writes directly to the target address.

- In the main program memory:  
The application stops for the duration of the byte program operation.

RM0016

#### 4.6.3 Word programming

A word write operation allows an entire 4-byte word to be programmed in one shot, thus minimizing the programming time.

As for byte programming, word operation is available both for the main program memory and data EEPROM. On some devices, the read-while-write (RWW) capability is also available when a word programming operation is performed on the data EEPROM. Refer to the datasheets for additional information.

- In the main program memory:  
The application stops for the duration of the byte program operation.

PM0051

### 4.4 Byte programming

Both main program memory and data EEPROM can be programmed and erased at byte level.

Byte programming is performed by executing a write instruction (ld, mov...) to an address in main program memory when the memory is unlocked. The write instruction initiates the erase/program cycle and any core access to the memory is blocked until the cycle has completed. This means that program execution from the Flash program memory is stopped until the end of the erase/program cycle.

When a new byte program operation starts, EOP and WR\_PG\_DIS bits of FLASH\_IAPSR register are automatically cleared. At the end of the program operation, the EOP bit in the FLASH\_IAPSR register is set and the program execution restarts from the instruction following the write/erase instruction.

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### 4.3 Word programming

Both main program memory and data EEPROM can be programmed and erased at word level. Word operations are performed in the same way as block operations. They can be executed either from program memory or from RAM.

When a new word program operation starts, EOP and WR\_PG\_DIS bits of FLASH\_IAPSR register are automatically cleared.

Contrary to word programming of the Flash program memory, the word programming of data EEPROM with RWW feature (when available) does not stop program execution. The EOP bit can then be used to know if the previous operation has completed. This bit is automatically reset when reading FLASH\_IAPSR.

The following sequence is required to perform a word program operation:

1. Unlock the memory if not already done.  
The UBC option byte can be read to check if the word you want to program is not in the UBC area. If necessary, reprogram it to allow programming the targeted word.
2. Write 0x40 in FLASH\_CR2 (WP bit active), and 0xBF in FLASH\_NCR2 (NWP bit active).
3. Write the 4 data bytes to the memory starting with the very first address of the word to be programmed.  
The programming cycle starts automatically when the 4 bytes have been written.
4. Check the WR\_PG\_DIS bit in FLASH\_IAPSR to verify if the word you attempted to program was not write-protected (optional).
5. To check if the program operation is complete, poll the EOP bit in FLASH\_IAPSR register for the end of operations. EOP is set to '1' when the word program operation has completed. To avoid polling the EOP bit, an interrupt can be generated when EOP is set.

**Caution:** FLASH\_CR2 and FLASH\_NCR2 must be written consecutively to be taken into account. If only one register is set, both are forced to their reset values, causing the program operation to be performed at byte level.

**Caution:** EOP and WR\_PG\_DIS bits are cleared by reading the FLASH\_IAPSR register. It is consequently strongly recommended to perform one single read operation to the FLASH\_IAPSR register to check the values of these bits.

# Developers: Flash and EEPROM Wear Notes

NOTE: This information is only needed if you plan to set up your own development environment to modify and compile code.

Notes for Developers regarding Flash and EEPROM wear:

- Make sure anything stored in Flash is very infrequently written. The Flash spec is 100 cycles, whereas the EEPROM spec is 100,000 cycles.
- Having said that, from a practical perspective the Flash and EEPROM write/erase cycles are far greater than those numbers.
  - The spec assumes write/erase at an ambient temperature of 85C, followed by 20 years retention at 55C.
  - I think it is safe to say that most applications will not experience anything close to those temperatures for extended time frames.
- As a point of reference: During development and test of this application I've written Flash at least 1000 times on a single device and have experienced no trouble. Does this mean my test devices will retain the program for 20 years? Probably not, but since my temperatures are much lower than the spec the degradation is likely not severe. Still, this anecdotal evidence suggests that regular users should have no concerns about Flash degradation as long as they don't implement some automated method that causes a very high number of Flash writes. For example, don't implement automation to write the user entered IO Name and IO Timer values. Those values are stored in Flash and should only be entered manually by a user.
- With regard to EEPROM I know that as a result of a few development tests some EEPROM locations were unintentionally written well in excess of 300,000 cycles. Again, those devices are still operating normally. But I have marked them as potentially unreliable for long term data retention. Again it suggests that regular users likely have no concerns about EEPROM wear out as long as no automated methods are used that would cause a very high number of EEPROM writes. For example, users should avoid the use of the "Retain" setting for relay states if automation is changing relay states more than a few times a day.

Here is the pertinent device specification for the STM8S005C6 from data sheet DS8638 Rev 5 dated September 2018.

**Table 35. Flash program memory and data EEPROM**

Symbol	Parameter	Conditions	Min <sup>(1)</sup>	Typ	Max	Unit
$V_{DD}$	Operating voltage (all modes, execution/write/erase)	$f_{CPU} \leq 16$ MHz	2.95	-	5.5	V
$t_{prog}$	Standard programming time (including erase) for byte/word/block (1 byte/4 bytes/128 bytes)	-	-	6.0	6.6	ms
	Fast programming time for 1 block (128 bytes)	-	-	3.0	3.3	ms
$t_{erase}$	Erase time for 1 block (128 bytes)	-	-	3.0	3.3	ms
$N_{RW}$	Erase/write cycles <sup>(2)</sup> (program memory)	$T_A = 85$ °C	100	-	-	cycles
	Erase/write cycles <sup>(2)</sup> (data memory)		100 k	-	-	
$t_{RET}$	Data retention (program memory) after 100 erase/write cycles at $T_A = 85$ °C	$T_{RET} = 55$ °C	20	-	-	years
	Data retention (data memory) after 10 k erase/write cycles at $T_A = 85$ °C		20	-	-	
	Data retention (data memory) after 100 k erase/write cycles at $T_A = 85$ °C	$T_{RET} = 85$ °C	1.0	-	-	
$I_{DD}$	Supply current (Flash programming or erasing for 1 to 128 bytes)	-	-	2.0	-	mA

- Guaranteed by characterization results.
- The physical granularity of the memory is 4 bytes, so cycling is performed on 4 bytes even when a write/erase operation addresses a single byte.

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