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Innovation Through Technology

Bluetooth FTP

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Recently I wanted to use my Raspberry PI as a wireless ftp server. There are a number of options including WiFi and Bluetooth. However I was particularly keen to try out Bluetooth. After a little bit of research I came accross <u>OBEX (http://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/OBject_EXchange)</u>.

OBEX

OBEX stands for Object Exchange. It is a communications protocol which enables the transfer of binary objects.

A number of protocols run over OBEX including:

- OBEX Push
- o OBEX File Transfer
- Etc...

So at this stage I knew which protocol to use. The next step was the search for an open source implementation, or a stack upon which I could create my own. Again the search was short but sweet.

Linux distributions such as Ubuntu and Raspbian already contain the necessary packages.

- 1. obexpushed (https://www.gitorious.org/obexpushed/pages/Home)
- This provides support for both push and ftp services. It can be run as a service on the Raspberry PI.
- sudo apt-get install obexpushd

Starting the server, use the below command line.

obexpushd -B device:channel -t

Testing the server from another Linux machine can be done using obexftp.

For example to list files on the ftp server.

obexftp -b device -B channel -list folder name

To upload a file you can use obexftp.

Installation of obexftp is achieved using the below command line.

Sudo apt-get install obexftp

obexftp -b device -B channel -get file name

Security

There is no real security, so anyone can access the server. Pairing is an option, which can be enabled, however apparently this does not meet the obexftp specifications.

Enabling pairing is achieved using the below command line.

obexpushd -A ...

Service Discovery

You can scan for the obexpush and obexftp services using the sdptool.

Installation is simple.

sudo apt-get install sdptool

On command line:

sdptool browse

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