

Journal 5

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1 Progress Log

Thoroughly read the Android Bluetooth Connectivity docs to better understand the way Bluetooth Intents are handled.

Discovered that the Bluetooth module is not in fact a Bluetooth module, but a Bluetooth Low Energy (BLE) module.

Armed with this knowledge, I learned about the difference between Bluetooth and BLE. Quite simply, BLE modules are more effective at transmitting small amounts of data at an extremely low power cost.

2 Next Steps

Having found out that the complications with the Bluetooth module likely arise from it actually being a BLE module, my next objective will be to try and implement a BLE device scan in the application. I also intend to upgrade my Samsung Galaxy S6 to an S7, in hopes of having an Android OS that supports BLE.

3 Reflection

The Android developer docs say that BLE is supported in Android version 4.3 and beyond, but my Samsung Galaxy S6 supports up to Android version 4.0. This, on top of the speculation of the low data transfer rates associated with BLE devices is casting doubt on the viability of the BLE module. Unfortunately, because I broke my hand this weekend I was unable to try and implement a BLE scanning application. Today in class that will be my focus.