

# HACKING MEANINGFUL CONNECTIONS WITH HUMANS BY TALKING TO (TOY) RODENTS



STEPHANIE NEMETH

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# STEPHANIE NEMETH

## SOFTWARE ENGINEER @ GITHUB

SHE/HER

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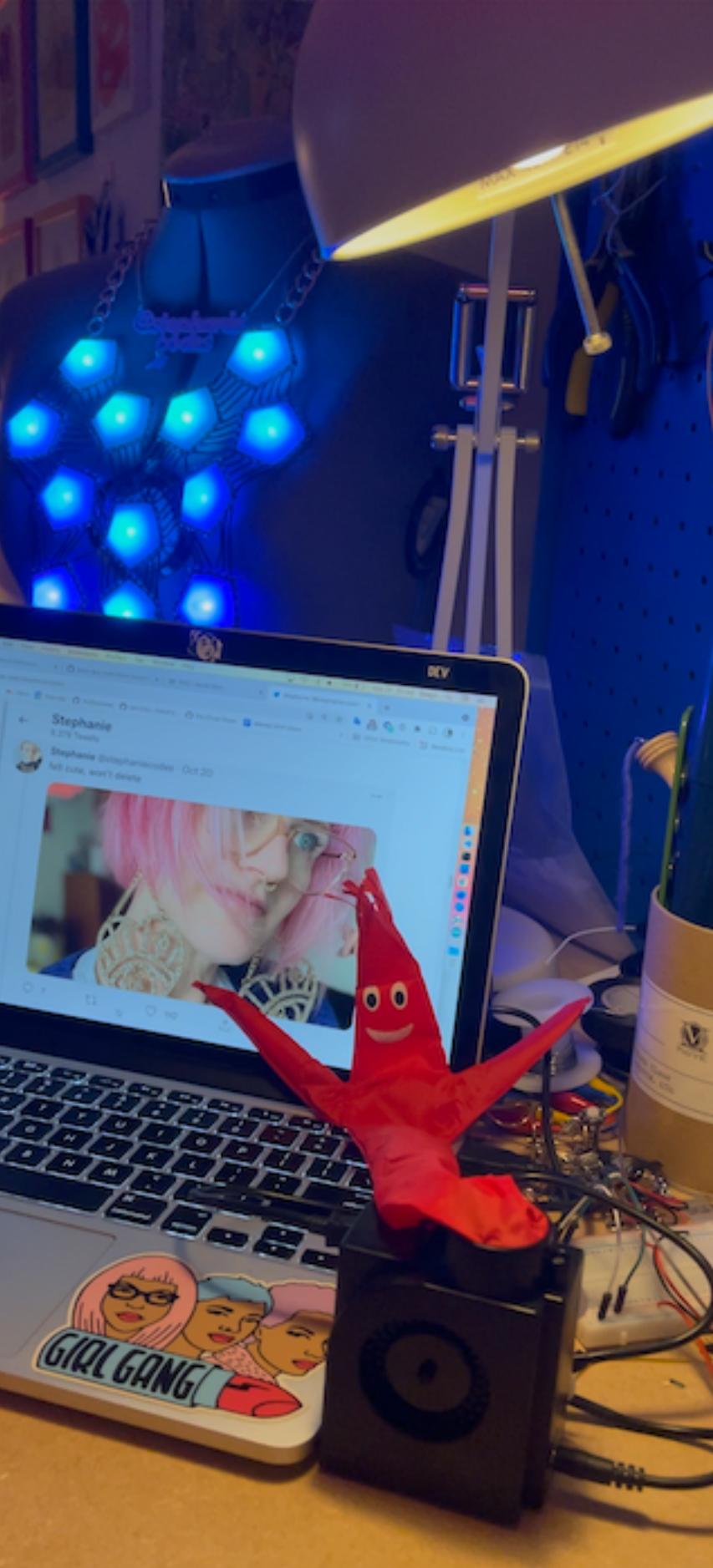
@steph@mastodon.social  
@stephaniecodes

...

I ordered my first #raspberrypi today! And it has a rainbow case! (swoons) 😍😍🌈 I'm gonna use it to build my #CS50 final project.



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**Perfectionism  
Low self-worth  
Anxiety  
Rejection  
sensitivity**

@DR. LIZLISTENS  
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**Adult ADHD**

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# SOFT ELECTRONICS



# NEW TEXT!



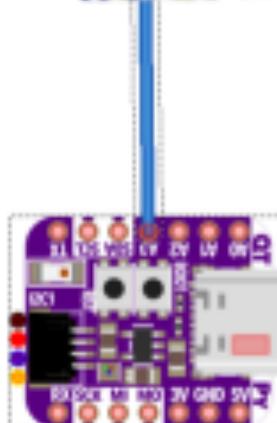
adhd.com

# GIANT POM POM THAT MAKES ART

My dear mushroom friend,  
Despite life's ups and downs,  
You can still cling to hope,  
Hail the almighty cow.

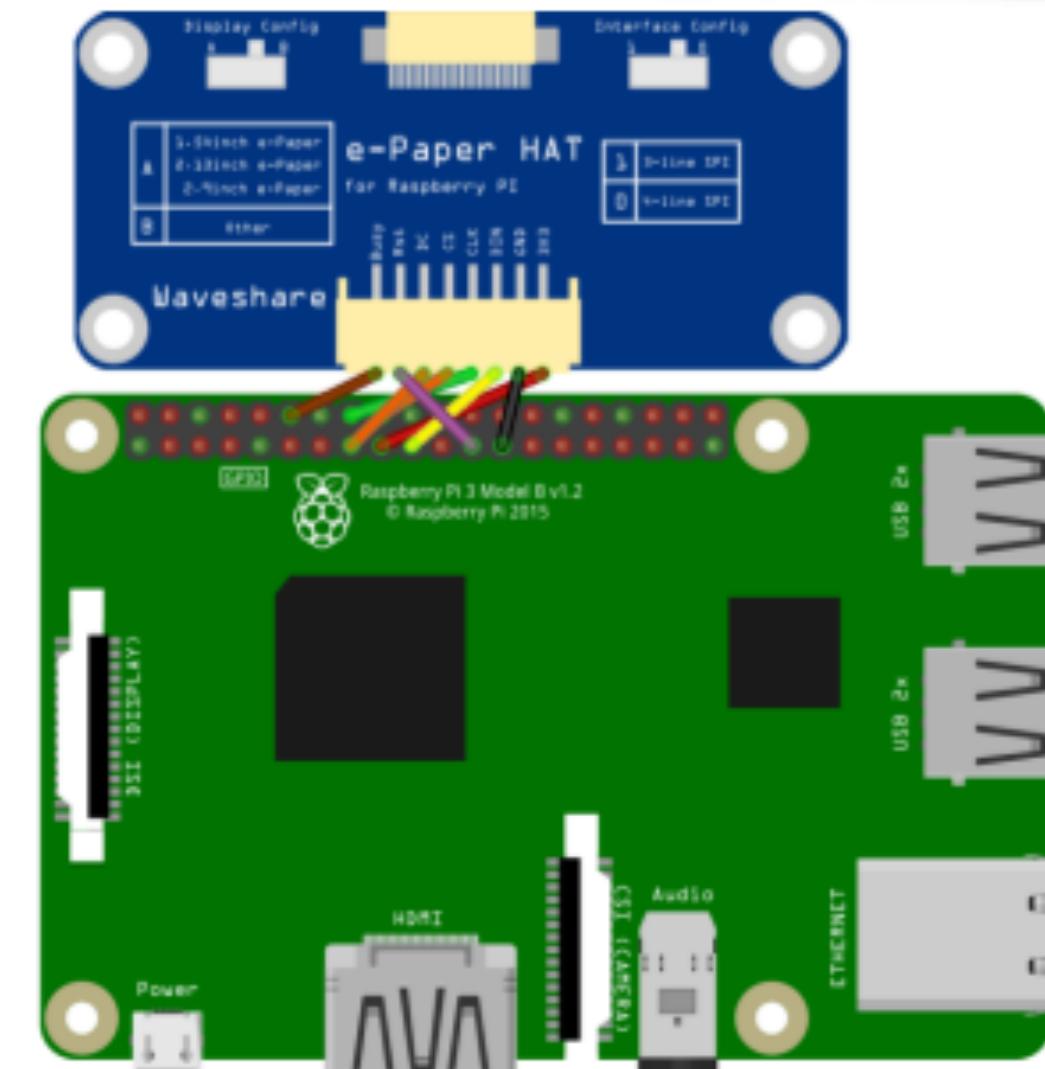
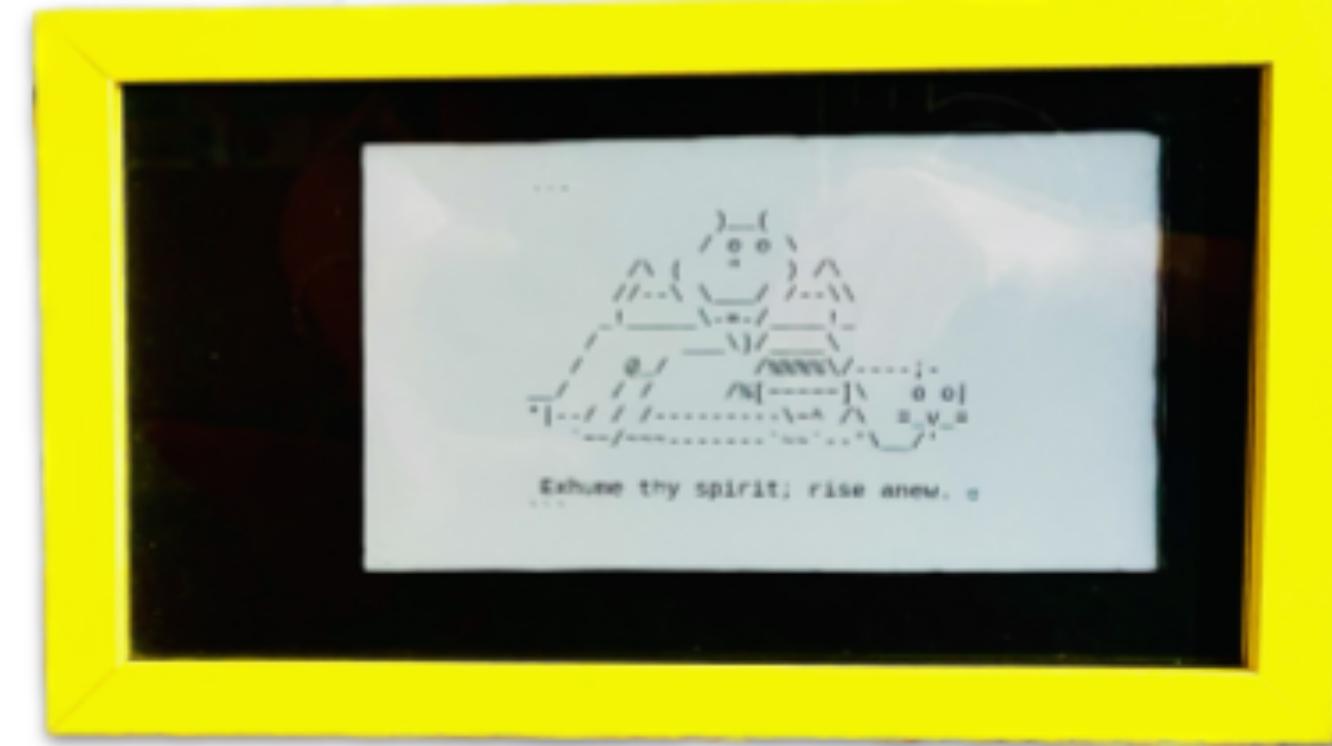


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send message  
to e-ink display

Adafruit QT PY ESP32-S2



Raspberry Pi 3B fritzing

Displays new art



Makes  
request to  
ChatGPT API



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# MQTT

- lightweight publish/subscribe messaging protocol
- easy to setup in JS, circuitpython, arduino, etc
- consists of clients & a broker
- can build your own MQTT broker or use the cloud (eg HiveMQ)

## Pom Pom - Circuitpython:

```
# Connect to wifi
network_connect()

# Connect to MQTT broker
client = MQTT.MQTT(
    broker=os.getenv('broker'),
    port=os.getenv('port'),
    username=os.getenv('user'),
    password=os.getenv('pw'),
    client_id=os.getenv("client_id"),
    socket_pool=pool,
    is_ssl=True,
    ssl_context=ssl.create_default_context(),
)

client.connect()

if alarm.wake_alarm:
    client.publish("touch", "")

# Create an alarm that will trigger if pin is touched.
touch_alarm = alarm.touch.TouchAlarm(pin=board.A3)

# Disconnect from MQTT broker, go to sleep again z
client.disconnect()
alarm.exit_and_deep_sleep_until_alarms(touch_alarm)
```

```
const client = mqtt.connect(process.env.MQTT_HOST, {
  username: process.env.MQTT_USER,
  password: process.env.MQTT_PASSWORD,
  clientId: process.env.CLIENT_ID,
  clean: false,
  reconnectPeriod: 1,
})

client.subscribe('touch')
client.subscribe('update')

async function handleTouch() {
  const generatedArt = await getCompletionFromOpenAI()
  client.publish('update', JSON.stringify(generatedArt))
}

client.on('message', function (topic, payload) {
  if (topic === 'update') {
    msg = JSON.parse(payload.toString())
    refreshDisplay()
  } else if (topic === 'touch') {
    handleTouch()
  }
})
```

```
let msg = ''  
  
const configuration = new Configuration({ apiKey: process.env.OPENAI_API_KEY })  
const openai = new OpenAI(openai)  
  
async function getCompletionFromOpenAI() {  
  try {  
    const completion = await openai.createChatCompletion({  
      model: 'gpt-3.5-turbo',  
      temperature: 1.2,  
      messages: [  
        {  
          role: 'user',  
          content: process.env.OPENAI_CONTENT,  
        },  
      ],  
    })  
    return completion.data.choices[0].message.content  
  } catch (error) {  
    if (error.response) {  
      console.log(error.response.data)  
    } else {  
      console.log(error.message)  
    }  
  }  
}  
}
```

```
async function refreshDisplay() {
  const displayDevice = getDisplay()
  displayDevice.connect()

  const browserPage = await getPageRpi(
    displayDevice.width,
    displayDevice.height
  )

  const url = 'http://localhost:3000'
  const imgOfUrl = await browserPage.screenshot({ delay: 2000 })
  displayDevice.wake()
  await displayDevice.displayPng(imgOfUrl)
  displayDevice.sleep()
}

const __filename = fileURLToPath(import.meta.url)
const __dirname = path.dirname(__filename)
const dir = path.join(__dirname, '/ui')
const port = 3000

const app = express()

app.set('view engine', 'ejs', { async: true })

app.get('/', async (req, res) => {
  res.render(path.join(dir, 'index'), {
    chatbot_msg: msg,
  })
})
```

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# HAMSTER WALKIE TALKIES

# Teddy/Percy und sein Hamster



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touch hamster to record audio



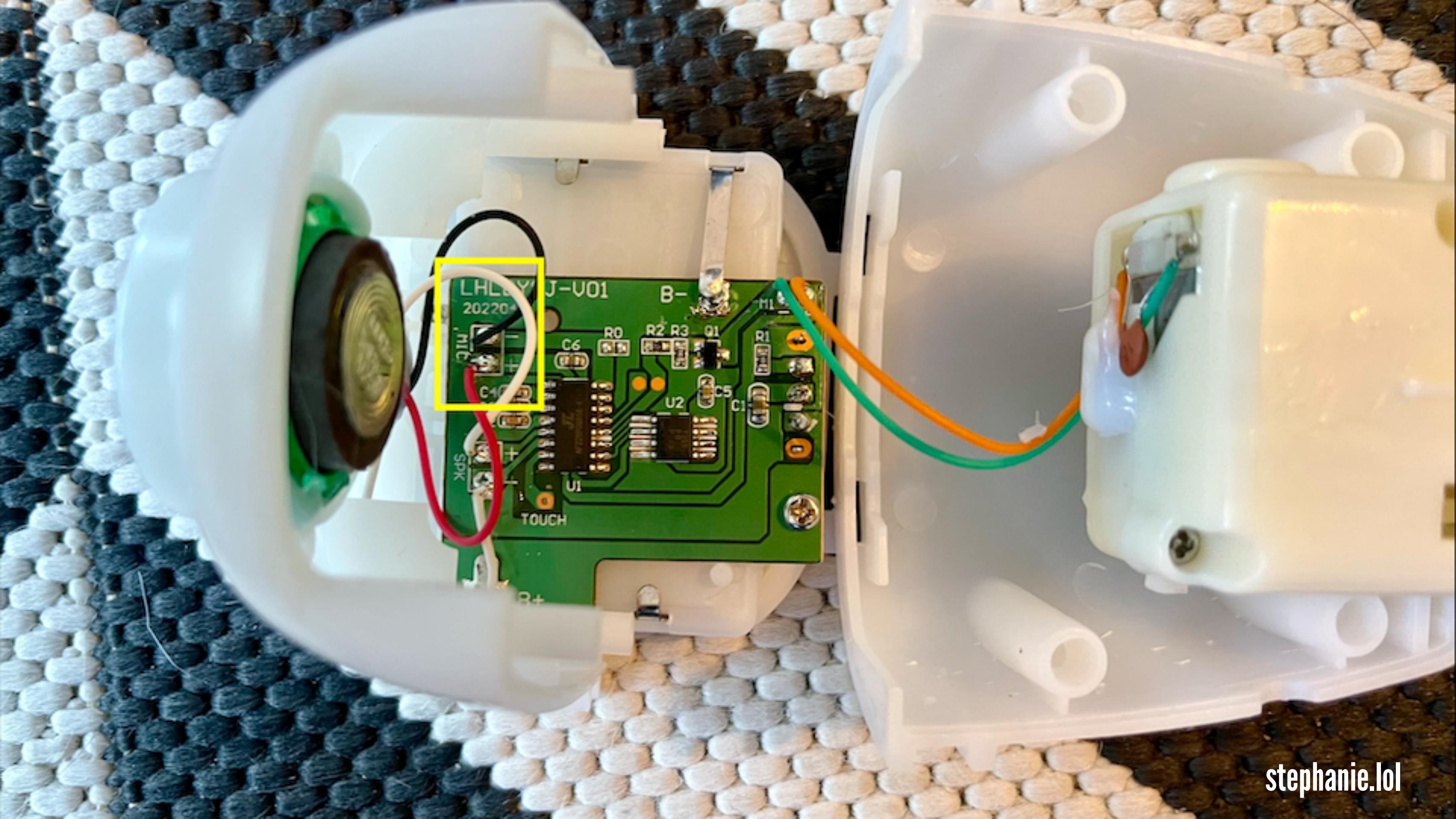
play audio

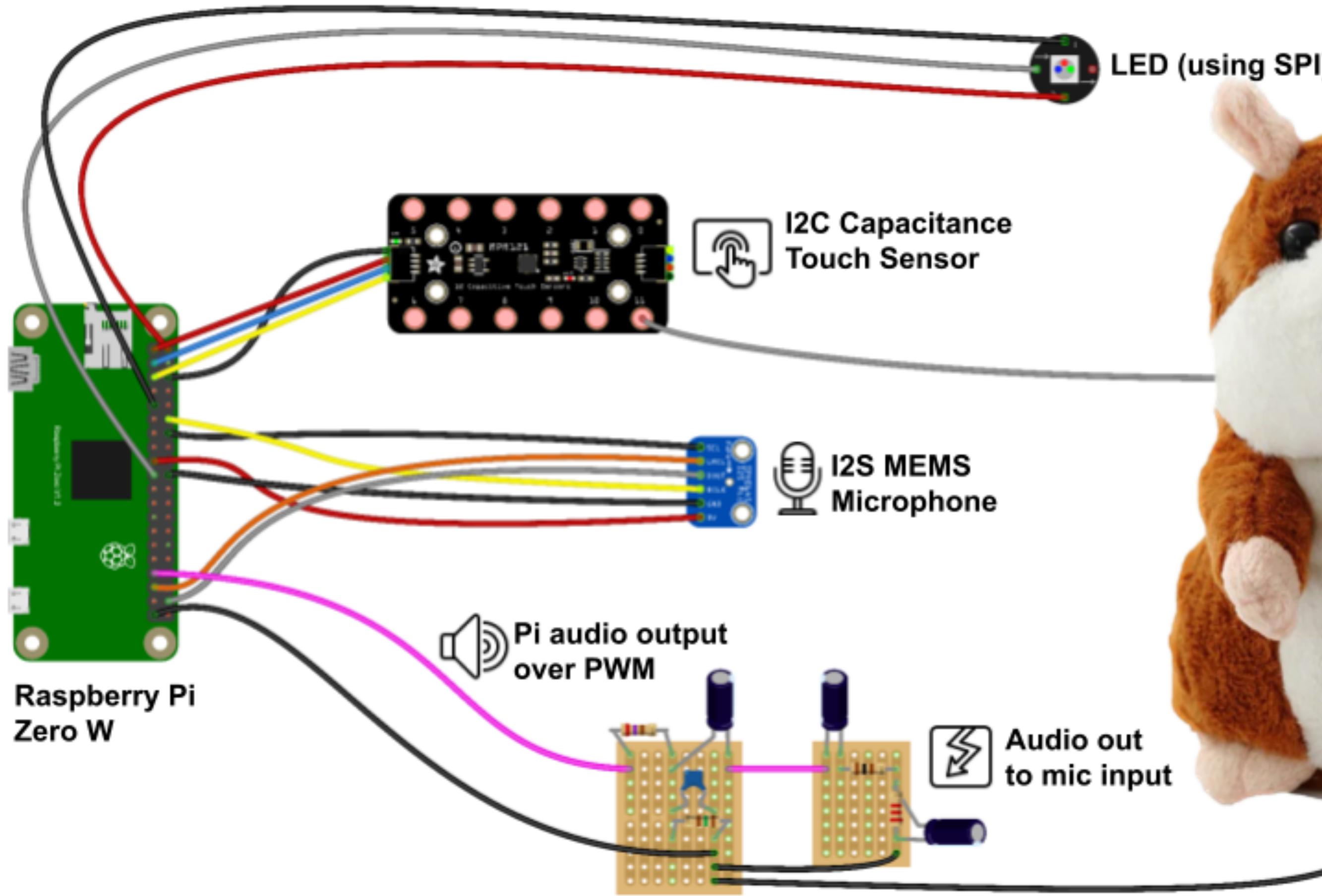


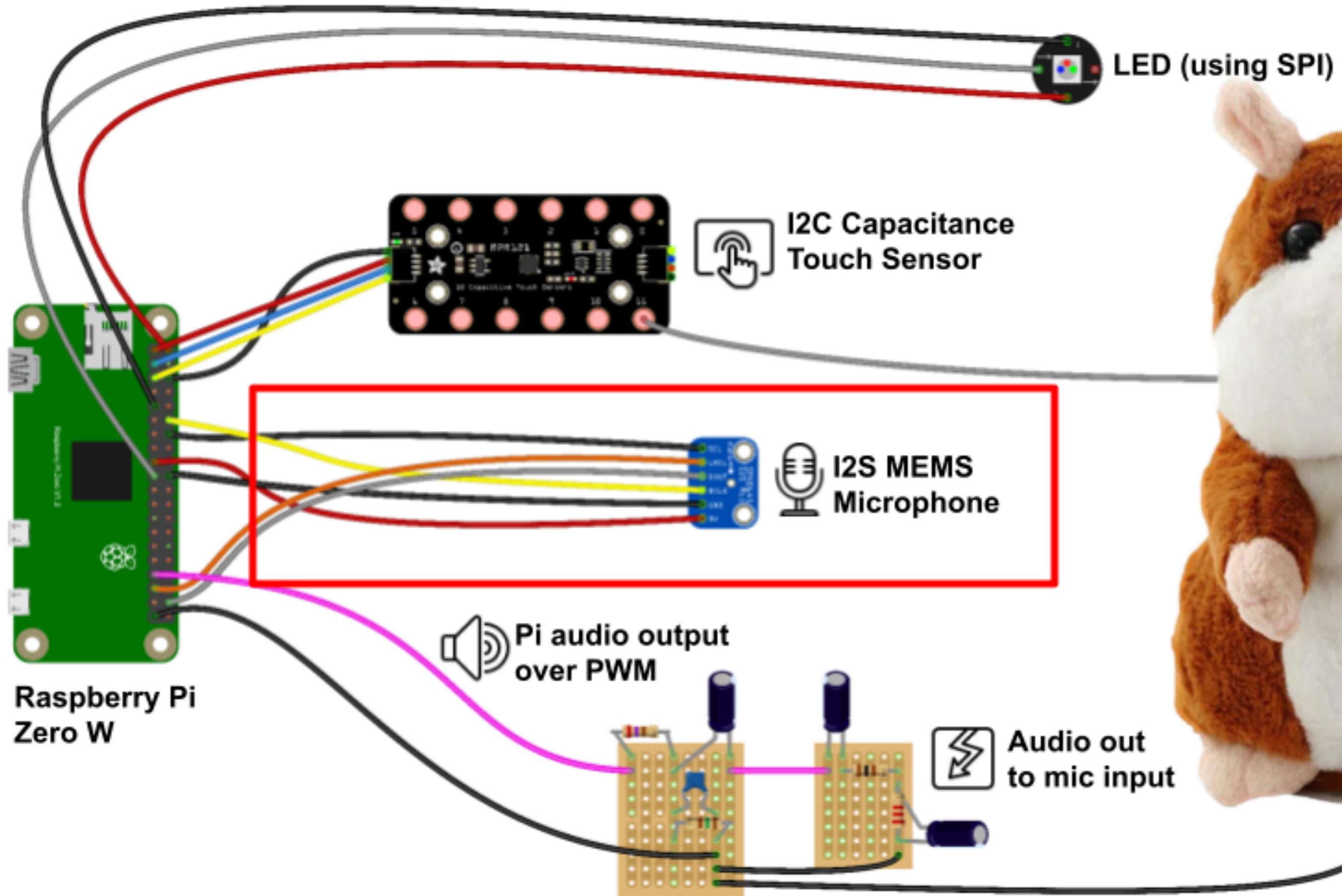
send audio



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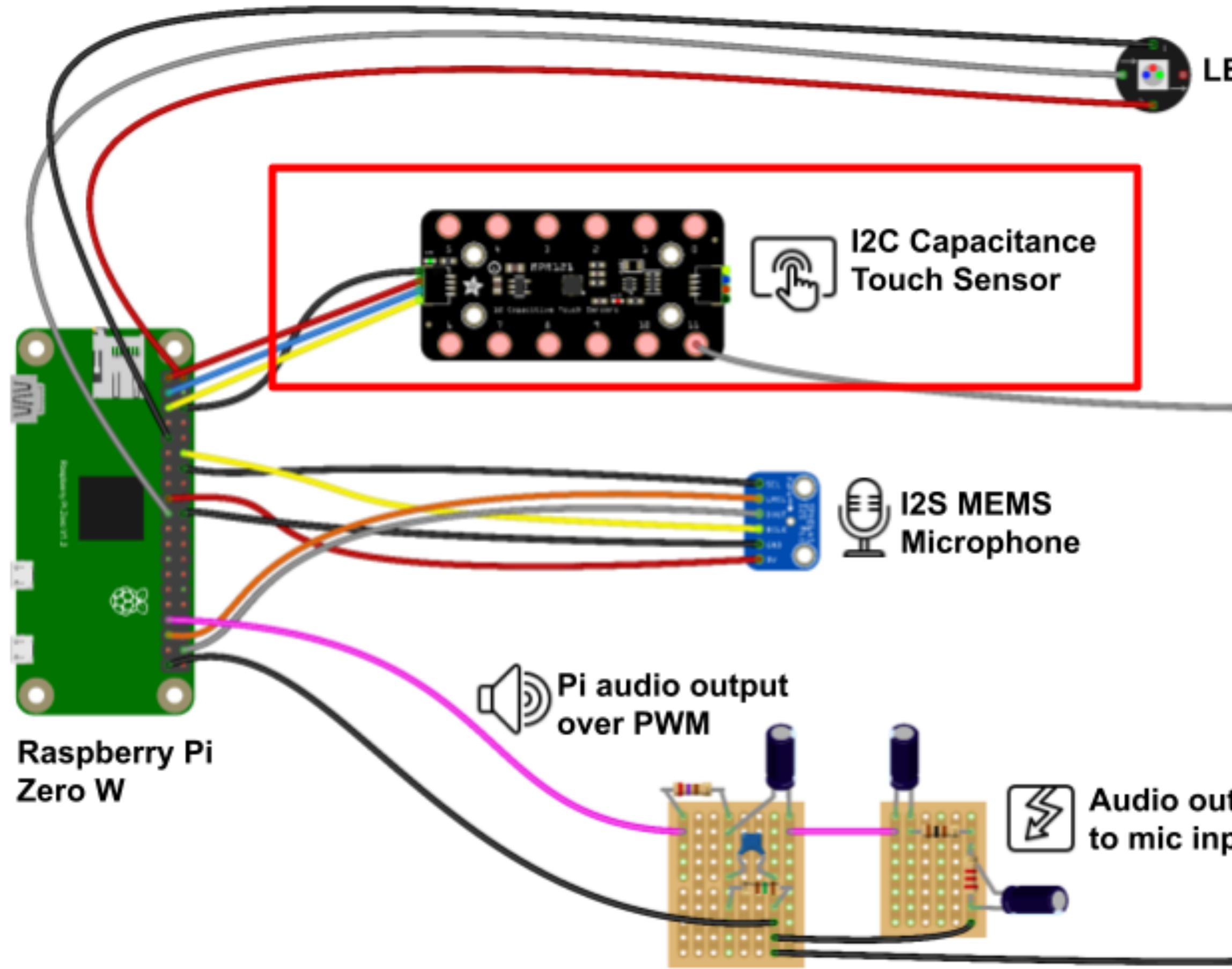
```
let childRecord;

const startRecording = () => {
  const voiceFile = `${new Date().getTime()}.wav`;

  childRecord = spawn("arecord", [
    "-D",
    "plughw:1",
    "-c1",
    "-r",
    "48000",
    "-f",
    "S32_LE",
    "-t",
    "wav",
    "-V",
    "mono",
    "-v",
    `${voiceFile}`,
  ]);
}

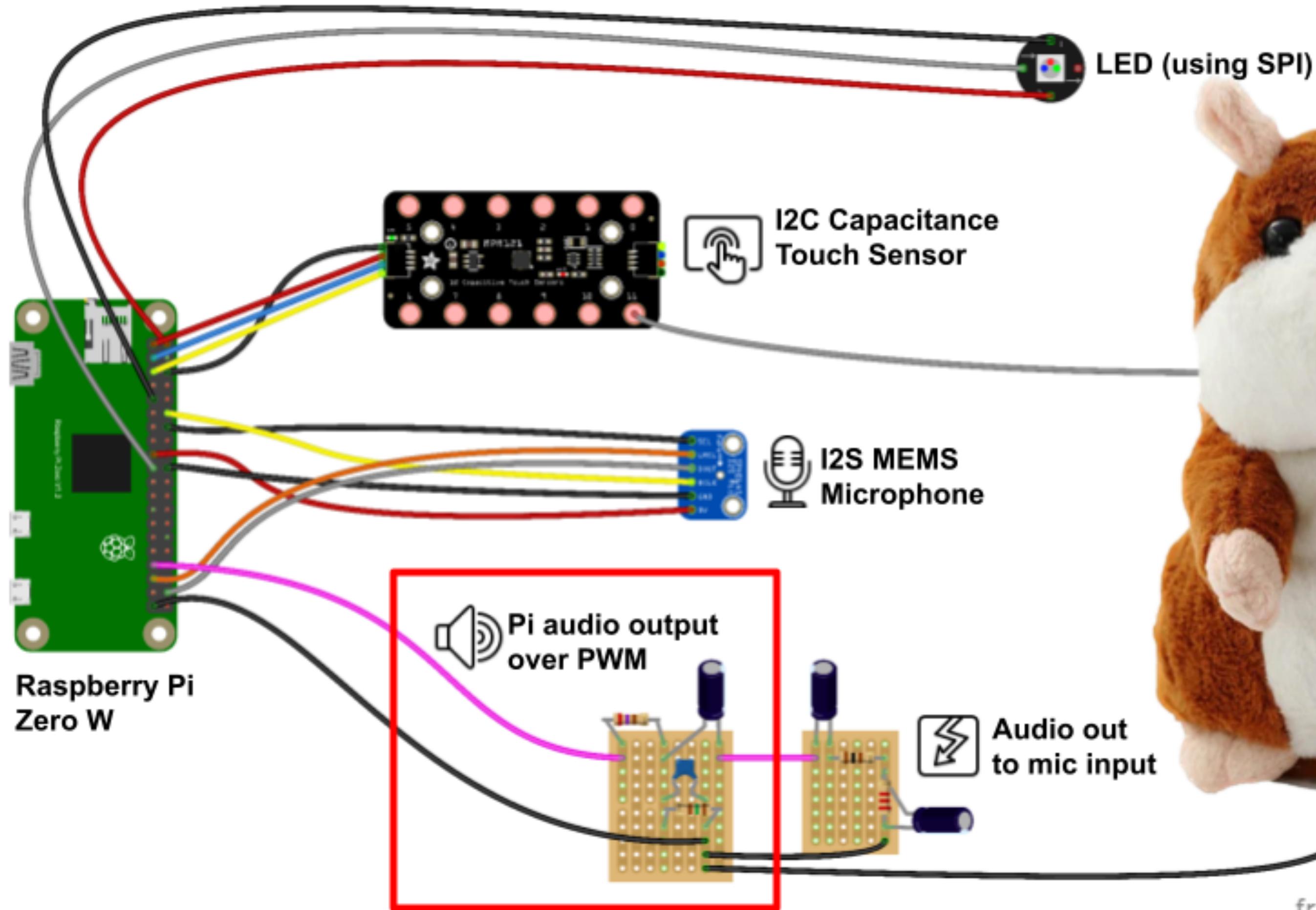
childRecord.on("exit", function (code, sig) {
  if (code !== null && sig === null) {
    console.log("done recording");
  }
});
childRecord.stderr.on("data", function (data) {
  console.log("music record stderr :" + data);
});
childRecord.stdout.on("data", function (data) {
  console.log("music record stdout data: " + data);
});
};

const stopRecording = () => {
  childRecord.kill("SIGTERM");
};
```

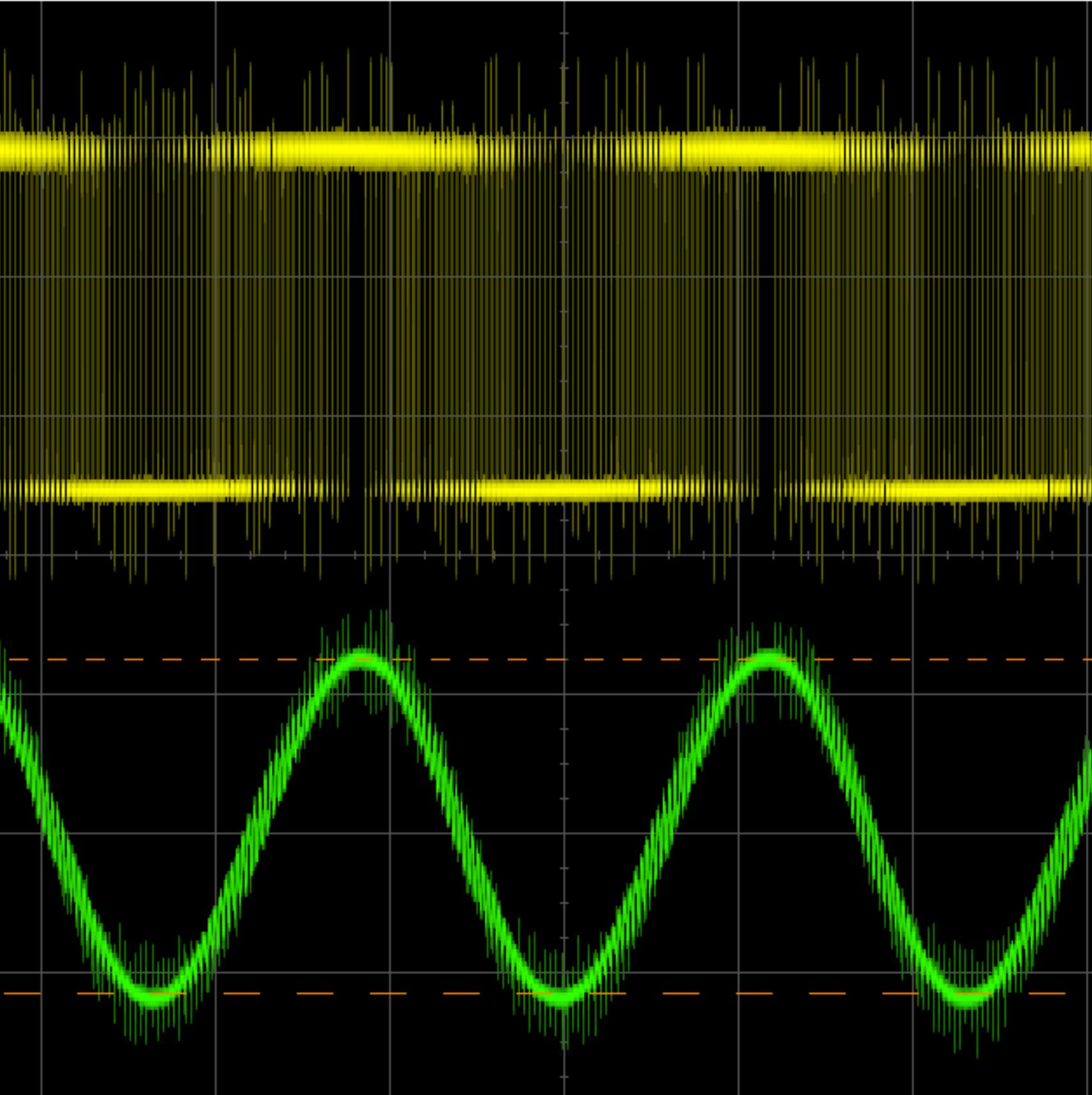


# ADAFRUIT MPR121 CAPACITIVE TOUCH SENSOR

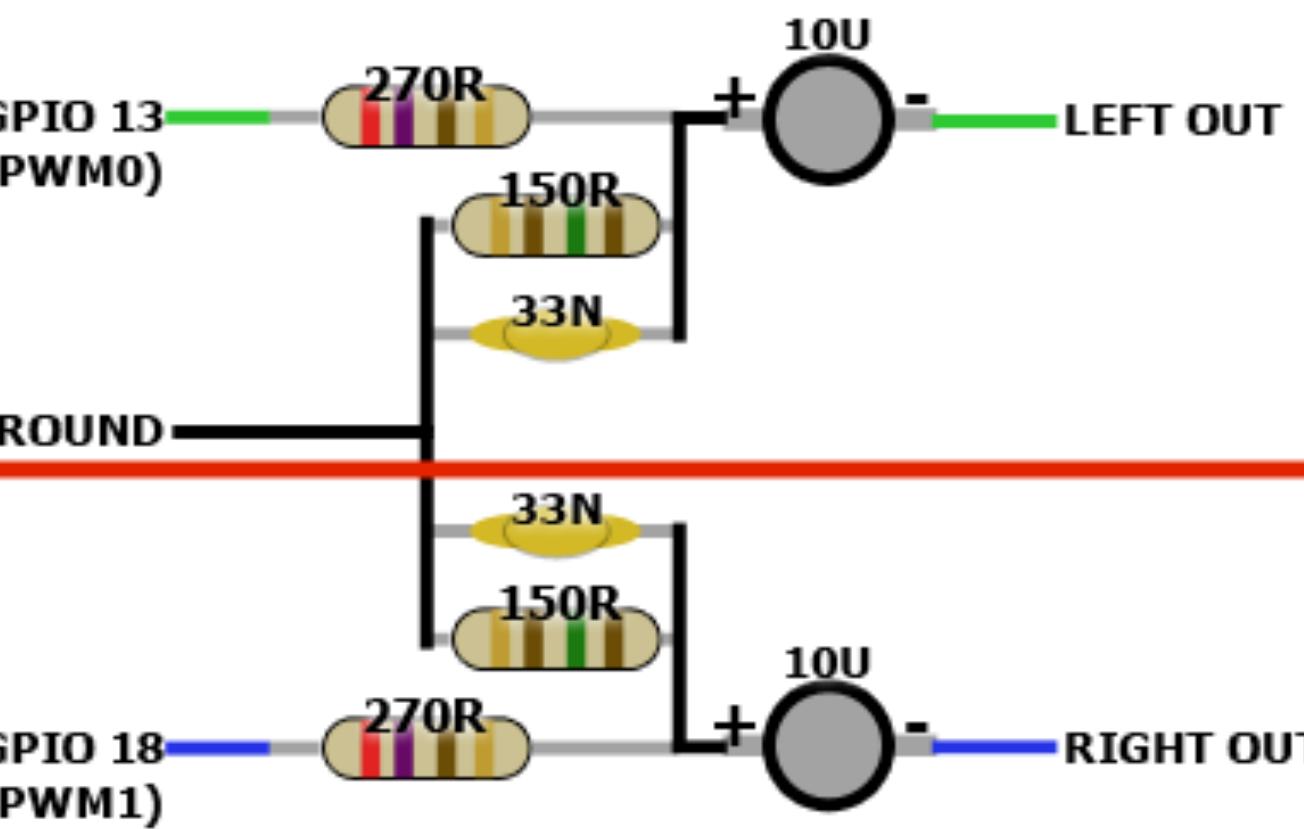
```
mpr121.on(11, (state) => {
  if (state) {
    startRecording();
  } else if (!state) {
    stopRecording();
  }
});
```



0V/ 0.0s 1.000s/ Stop



## RASPBERRY PI ZERO PWM AUDIO SIMPLIFIED



= 270 OHM RESISTOR



= 150 OHM RESISTOR



= 0.033UF CERAMIC CAPACITOR

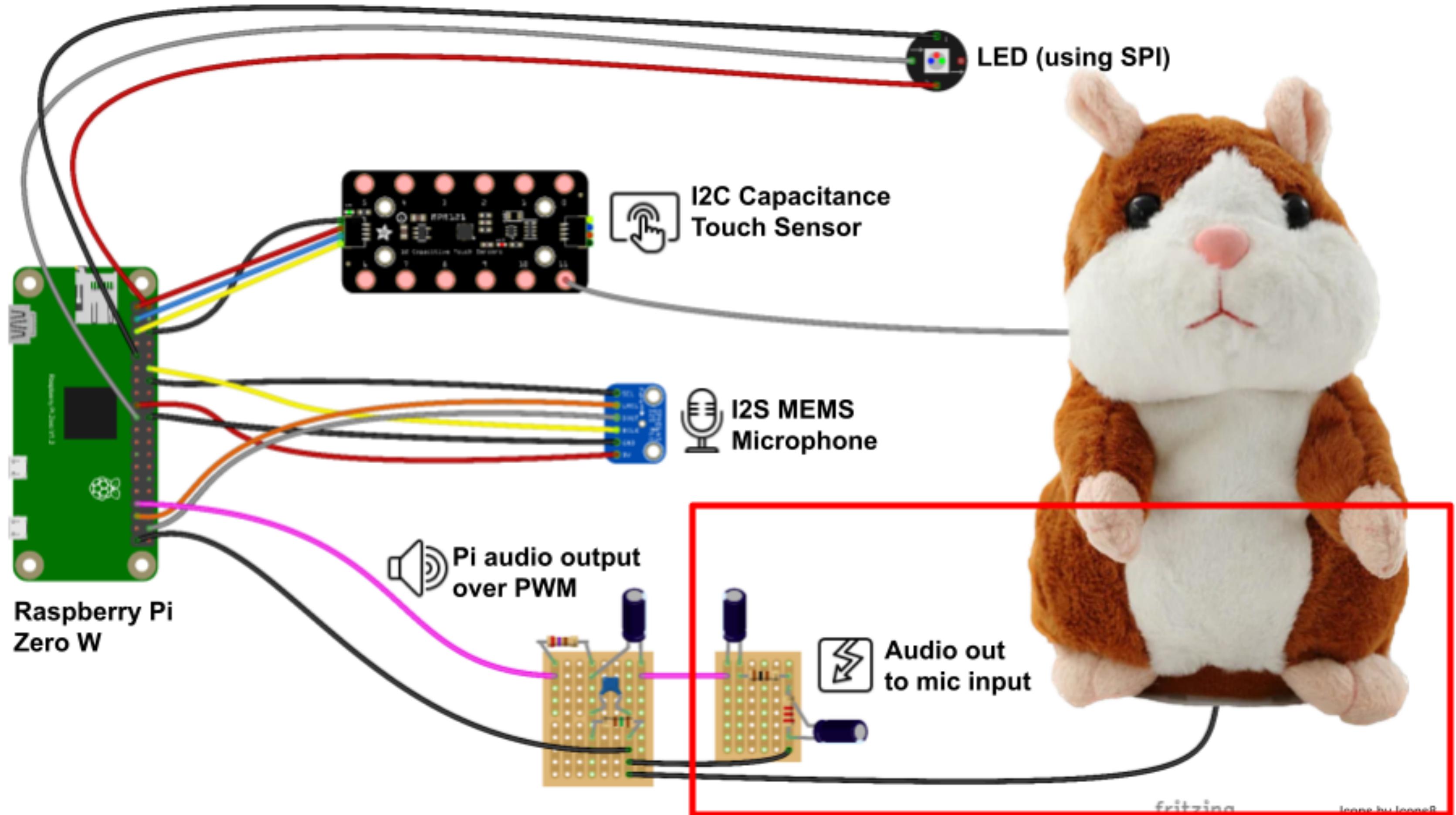


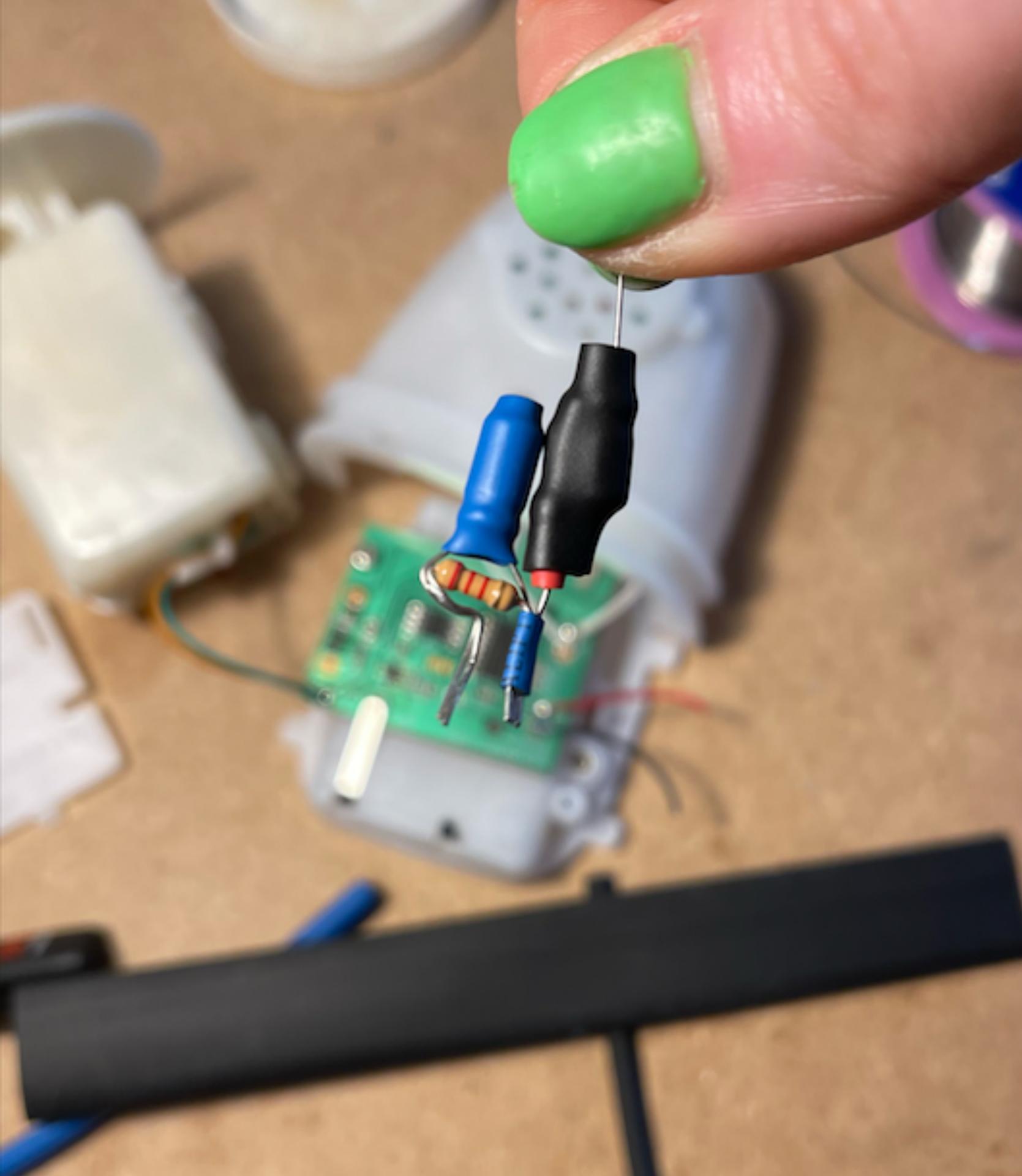
= 10UF ELECTROLYTIC CAPACITOR

Freq(2): 431Hz

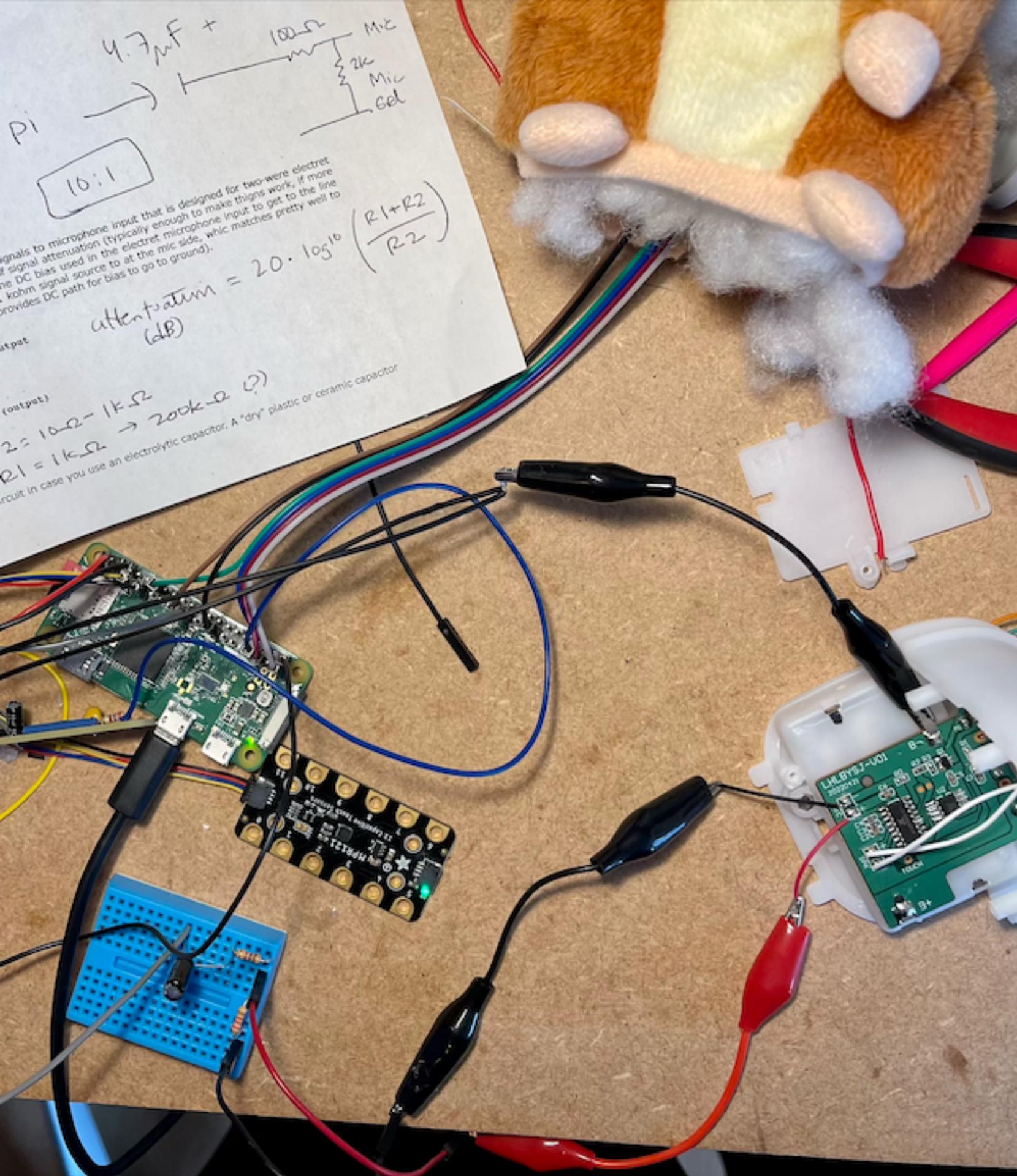
Ampl(1): 4.88V

Ampl





- Audio output from pi = line level (0.5V - 2V)
- Mic level = around 10 millivolts
- Create a voltage divider to reduce the voltage of the output to match the mic input
- Lots of trial & error



```
const playFile = (payload) => {
  const file = payload;
  childPlay = spawn("aplay", [`"${file}"`]);
  childPlay.on("exit", function (code, sig) {
    if (code !== null && sig === null) {
      console.log("done playing");
    }
  });
  childPlay.stderr.on("data", function (data) {
    console.log("music record stderr :" + data);
  });
};
```



# HIVEMQ

Publishes topic: "audio" message



1. Touch hamster
2. Records audio
3. Send audio

Receives topic: "audio" message

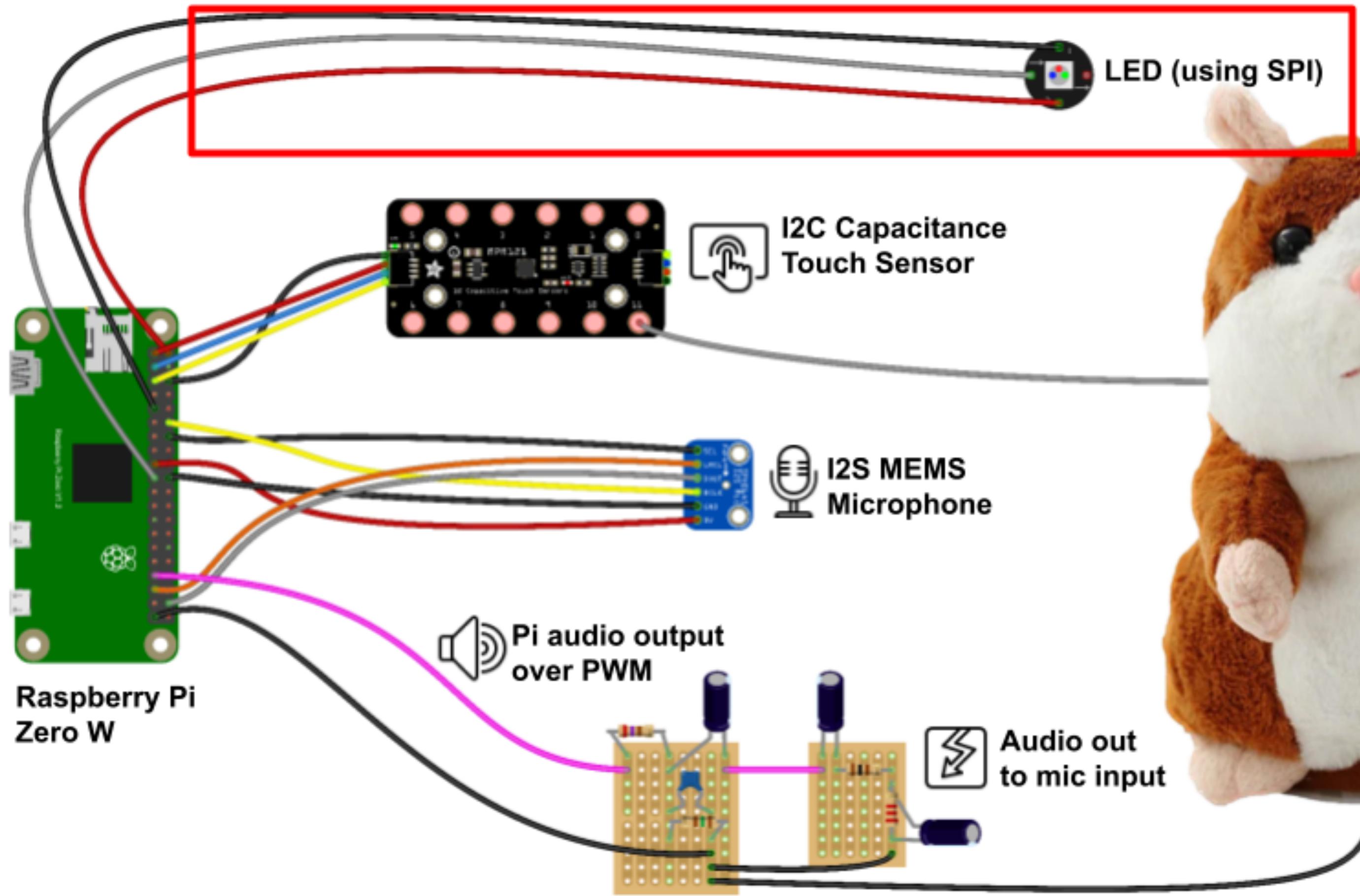


4. Receives audio
5. Plays audio

# TRANSFORMING AUDIO FOR SENDING & RECEIVING MESSAGES

```
// recorded audio → other hamster
const sendFile = (voiceFile) => {
  const recordedBuffer = new WaveFile(fs.readFileSync(voiceFile)).toBuffer();
  client.publish(process.env.TOPIC, recordedBuffer);
};

// received audio → play
const createWavFile = async (bufferMsg) => {
  let receivedFile = `receivedFile-${new Date().getTime()}.wav`;
  await fs.promises.writeFile(receivedFile, bufferMsg);
  return receivedFile;
};
```





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# THANKS! ✨

- [github.com/traumverloren](https://github.com/traumverloren)
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