

ELC Europe 2016

Arturo Rinaldi

LininoOS, LininoIO and ArduinoOS : a suitable ecosystem for Linux and MCUs





Quick Bio

Who am I ?

Senior Software Engineer, working for Arduino Srl since 2014

My main tasks :

- Linino distro (embedded linux distro) maintaining
- Plain Toolchains and cross-platform ones (mips, mingw-w64, arm etc.)
- Kernel Drivers backporting
- Shell scripting
- QA
- Support

LininoOS - What is LininoOS ?



Linino is the combination of two well known words around the world :

Linux + Arduino

LininoOS (rings a bell to you or not ?!?) is in an embedded linux distro relying its core on **OpenWRT** which is a well known embedded linux distro, unleashing to their limits the capabilities of the most popular SOHO market routers.

Its repositories provide the most common unix productivity packages and programming languages such as :

- Python
- Ruby
- Erlang
- PHP
- many more counting...

LininoOS - An ecosystem, why not ?



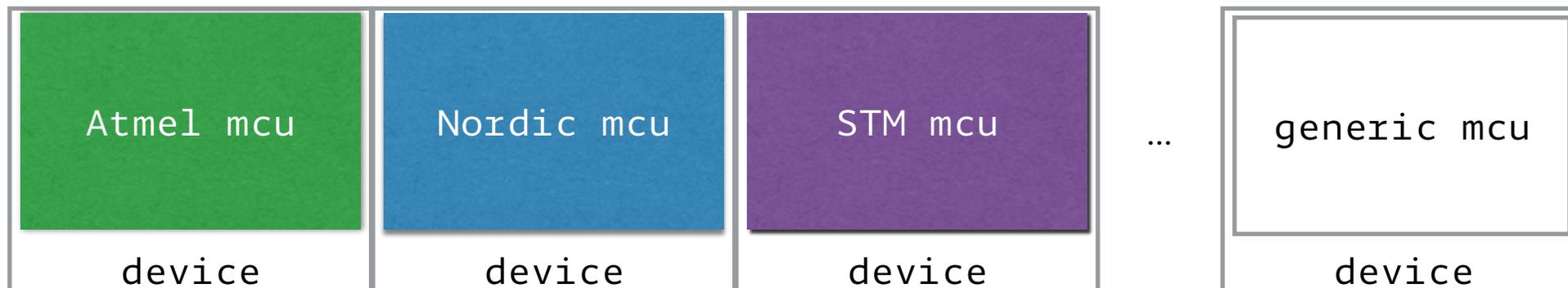
But...we'd like to think about it as more an **ecosystem** composed of:

- a set of wi-fi enabled **open hardware** modules to easily make things;
- an **open software** layer to easily put intelligence on the things;
- an **embedded** development environment;
- an **open cloud** based set of services that make things easily interconnected;
- **people** of course! evangelizers, enthusiasts, makers, hackers, ... the ecosystem is for them.

LininoOS - MCU agnostic approach

At the very same time, the Linux CPU and the on-board MCU are two separate entities but able to interact with each other as well in a seamless way.

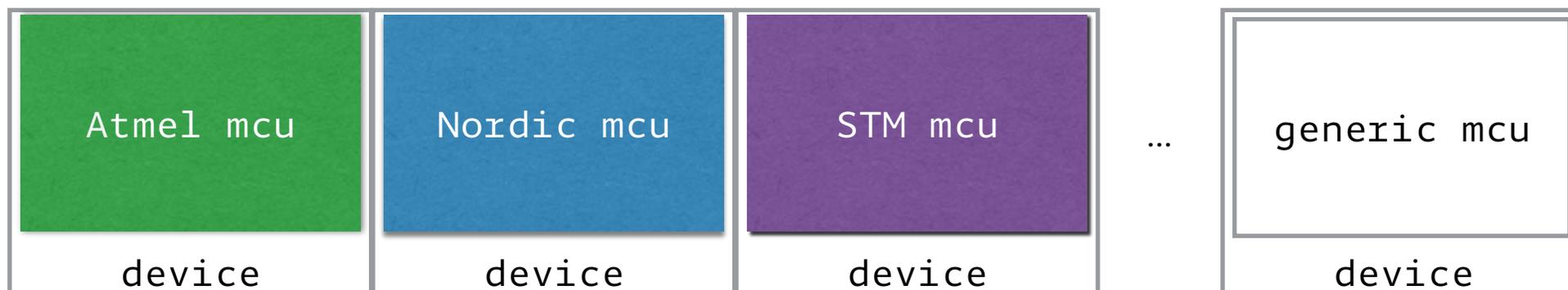
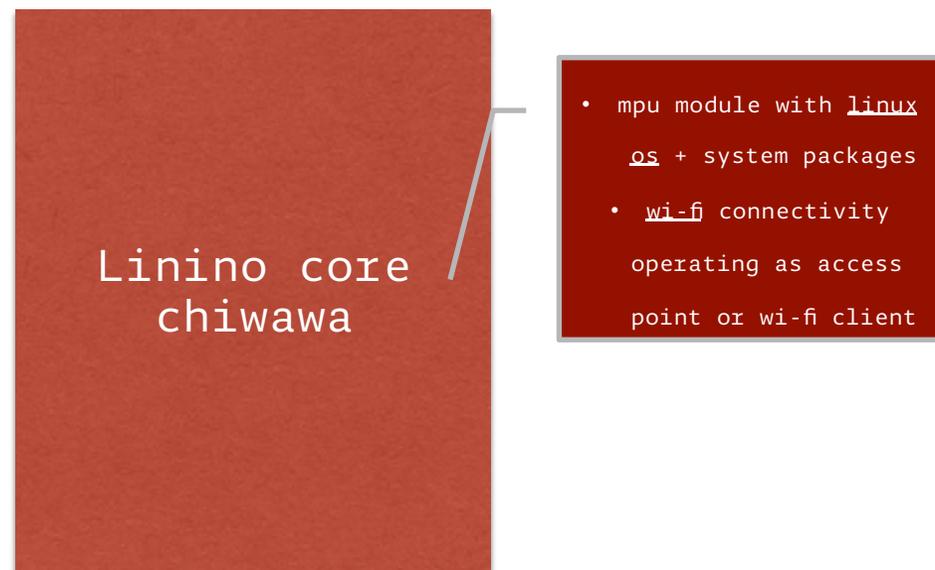
And it does not depend on the given MCU !



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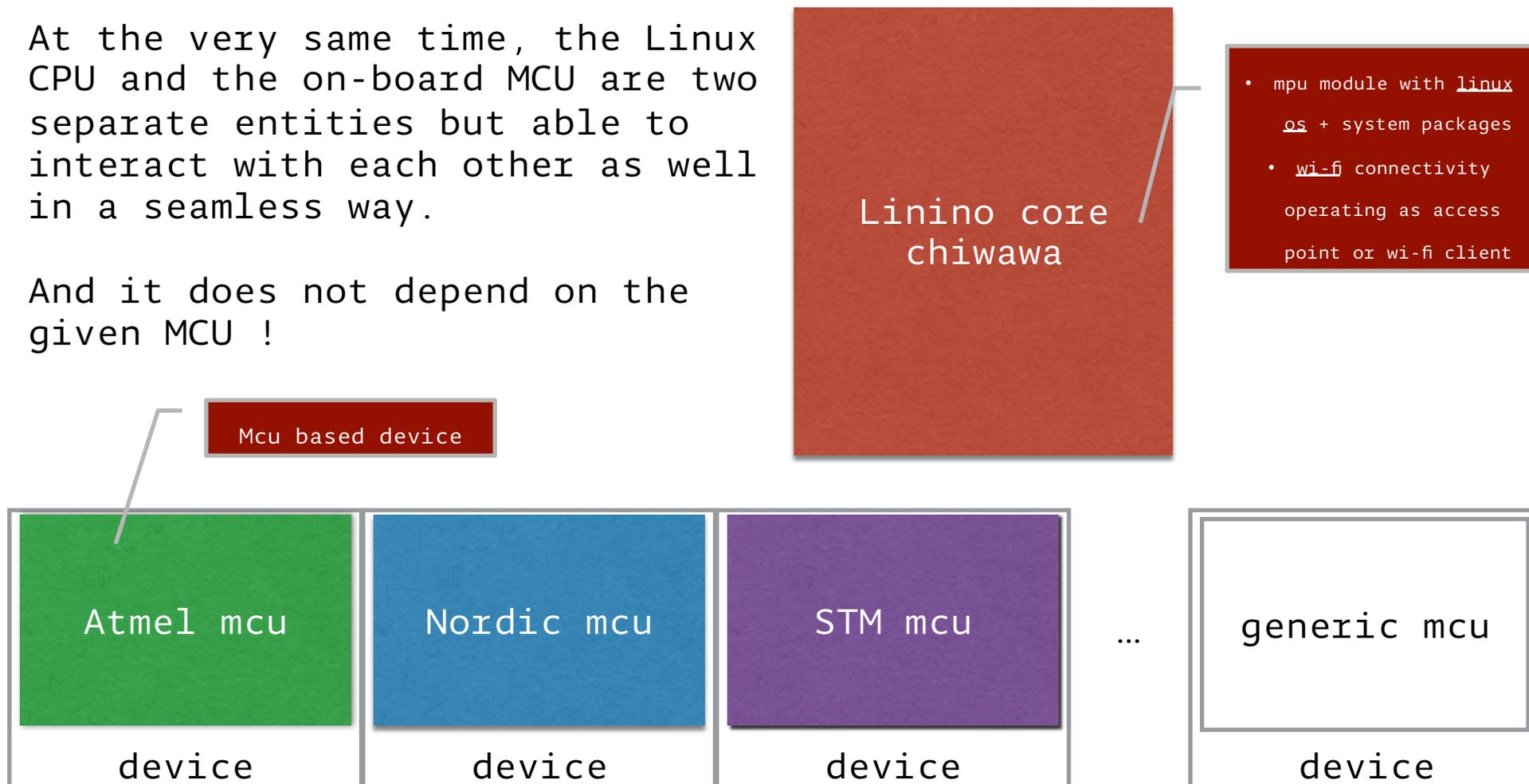
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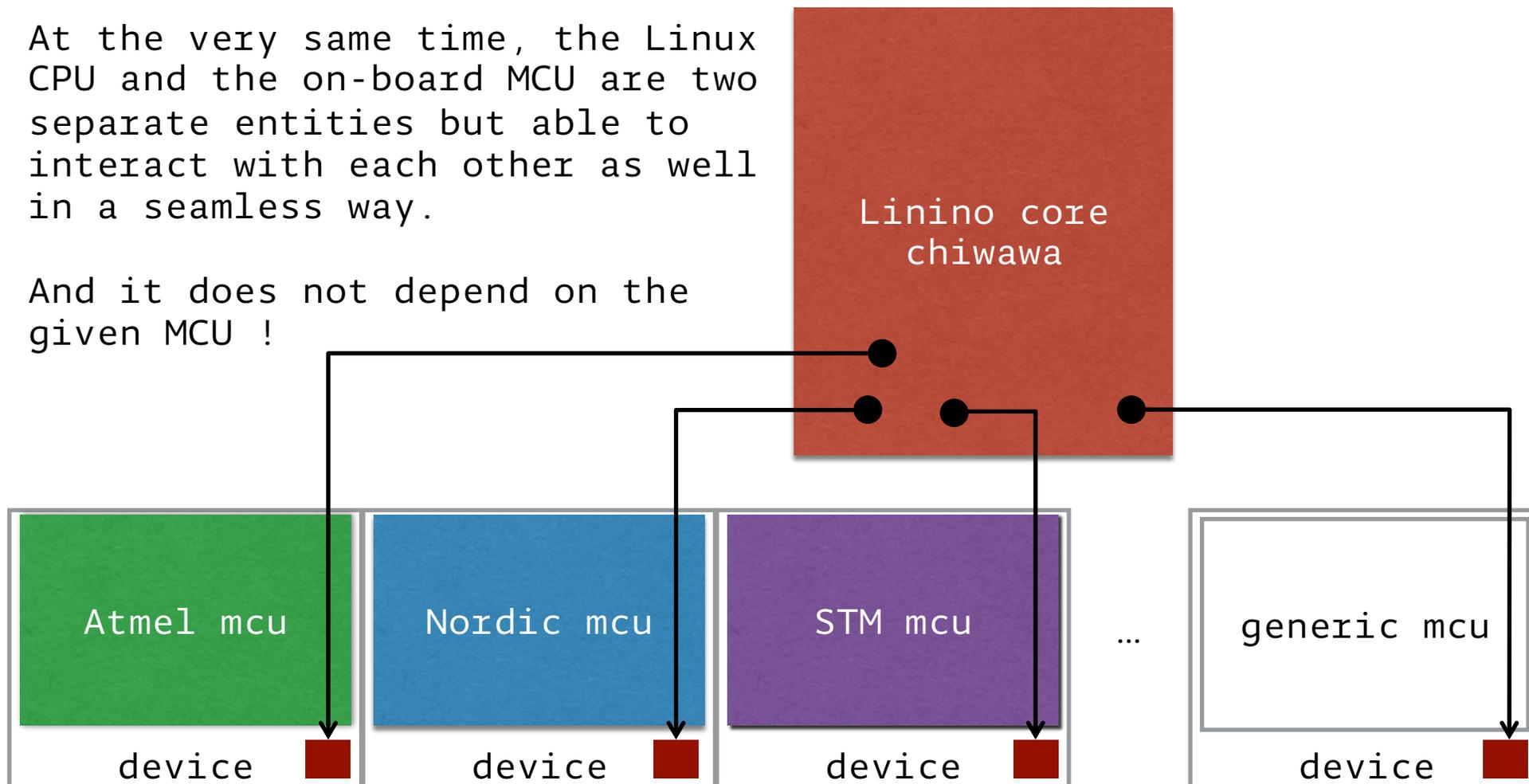
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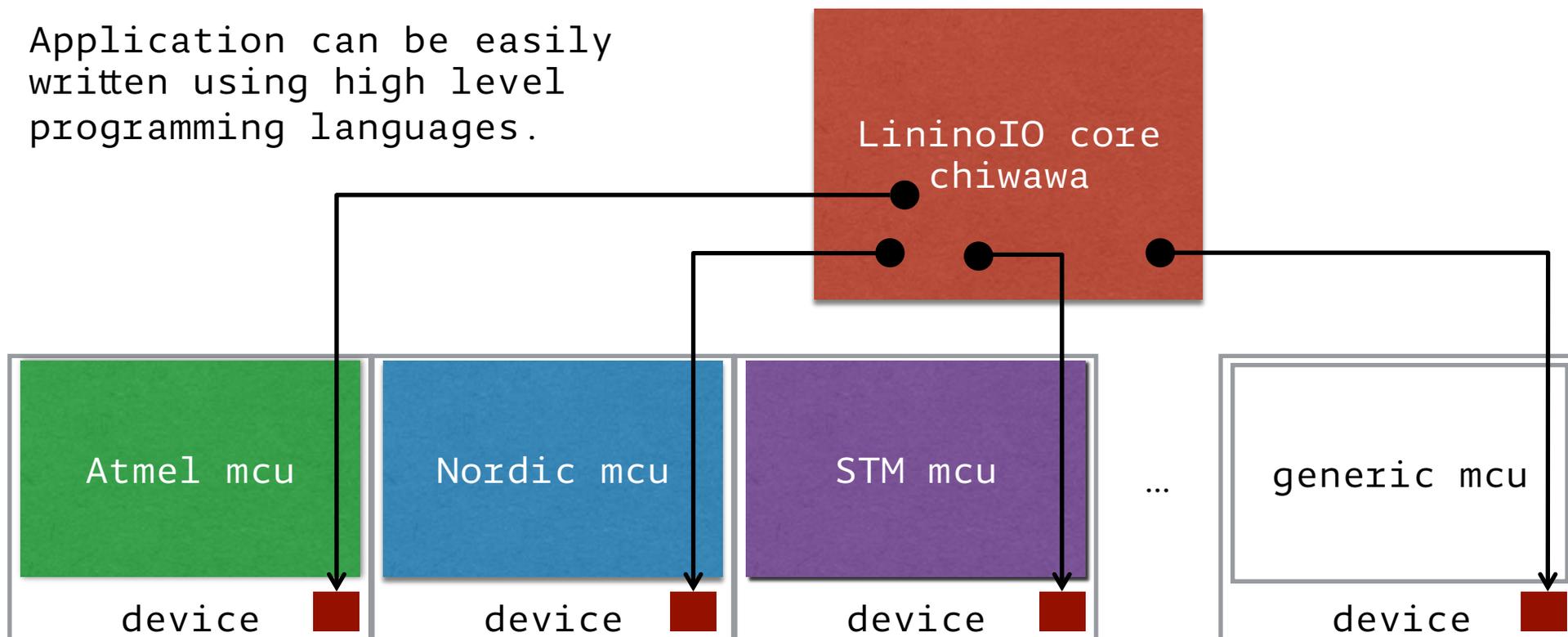
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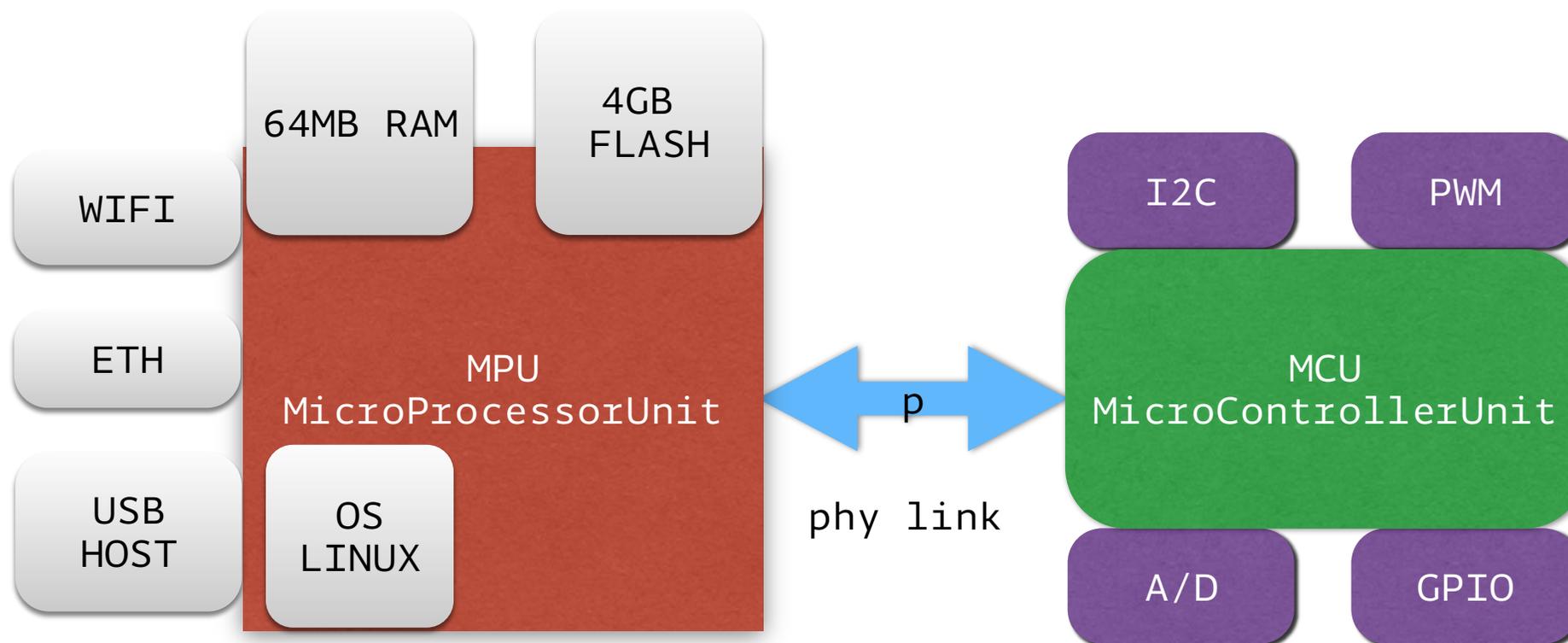
LininoOS – MCUIO approach

LininoIO is a software framework able to expose microcontroller features (such as GPIO, Analog Converters, PWM, I2C, SPI) inside the microprocessor environment in a typical UNIX fashion.

Application can be easily written using high level programming languages.

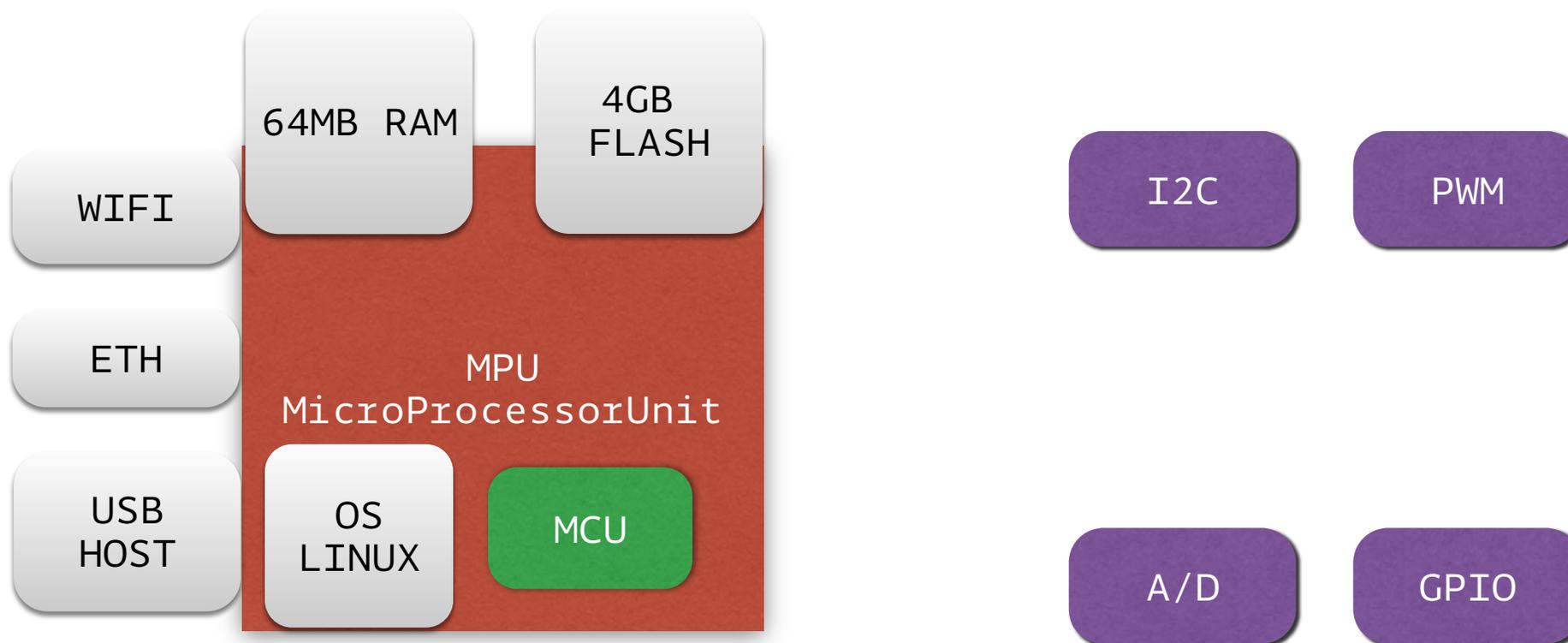


LininoIO - Overview



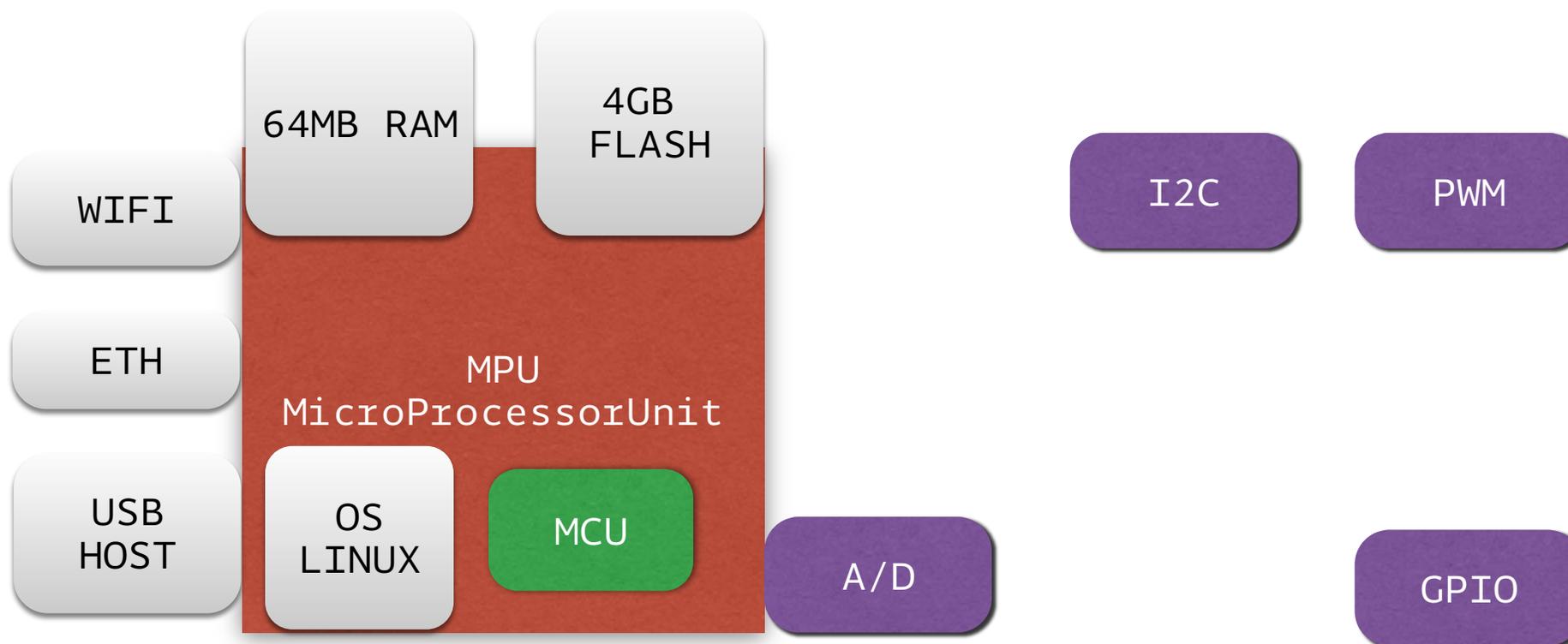
- **MPU:** possibly SMP, large memory, few peripherals, full featured OS.
- **MCU:** single CPU, small memory, many peripherals, special purpose OS.
- **phy link:** any possible on spi, uart, ethernet, wifi, ...

LininoIO - Overview



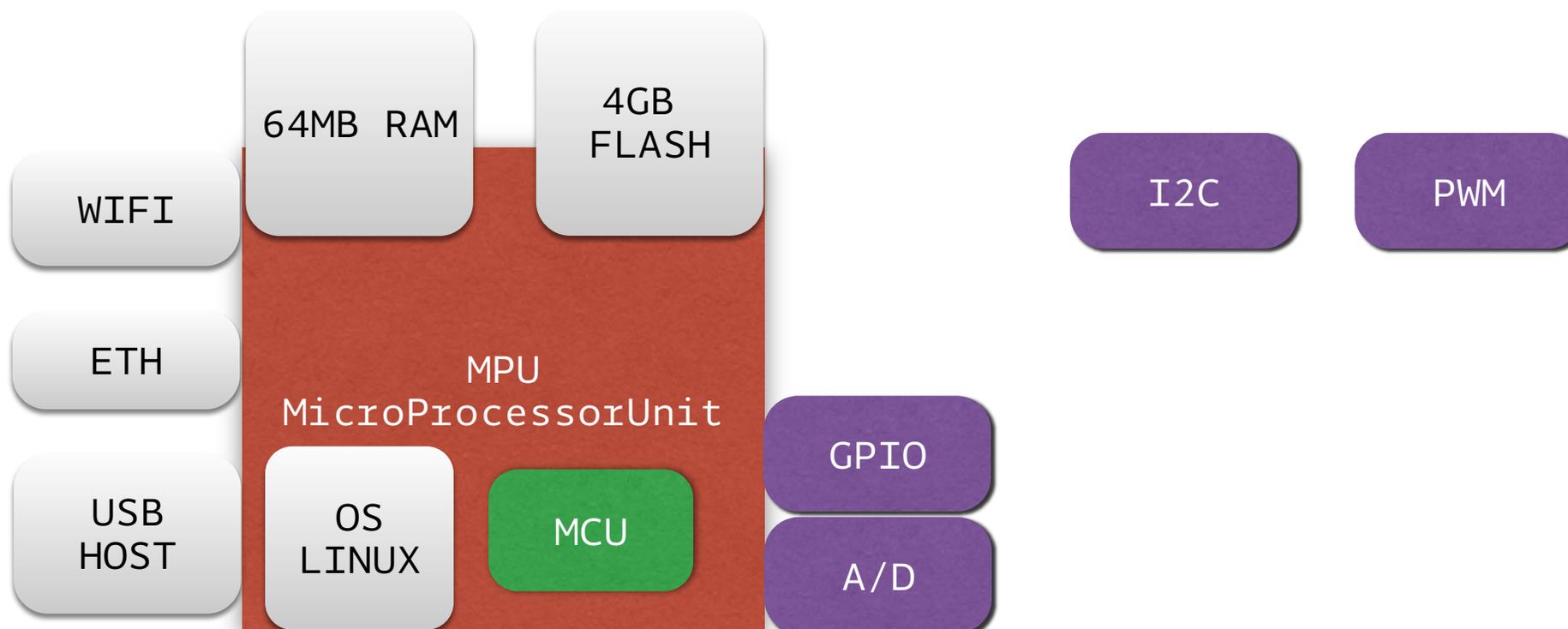
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LininoIO - Overview



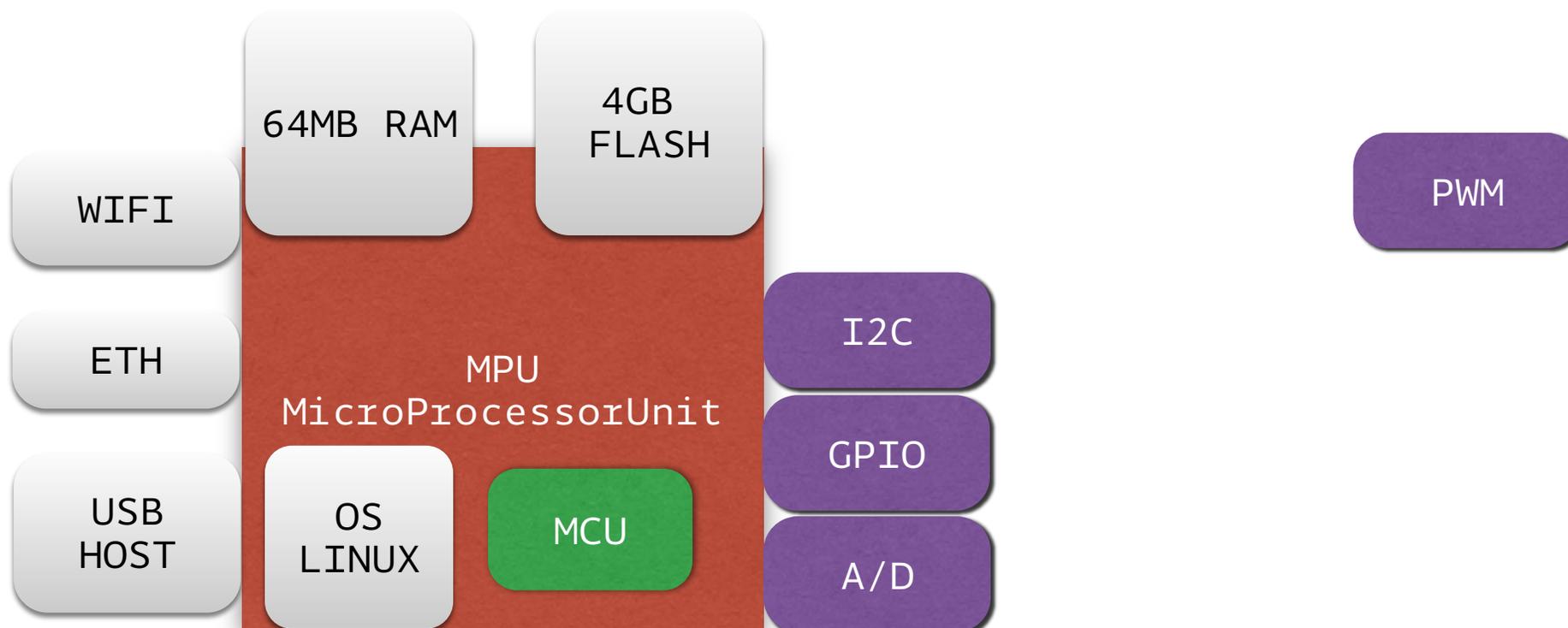
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LininoIO - Overview



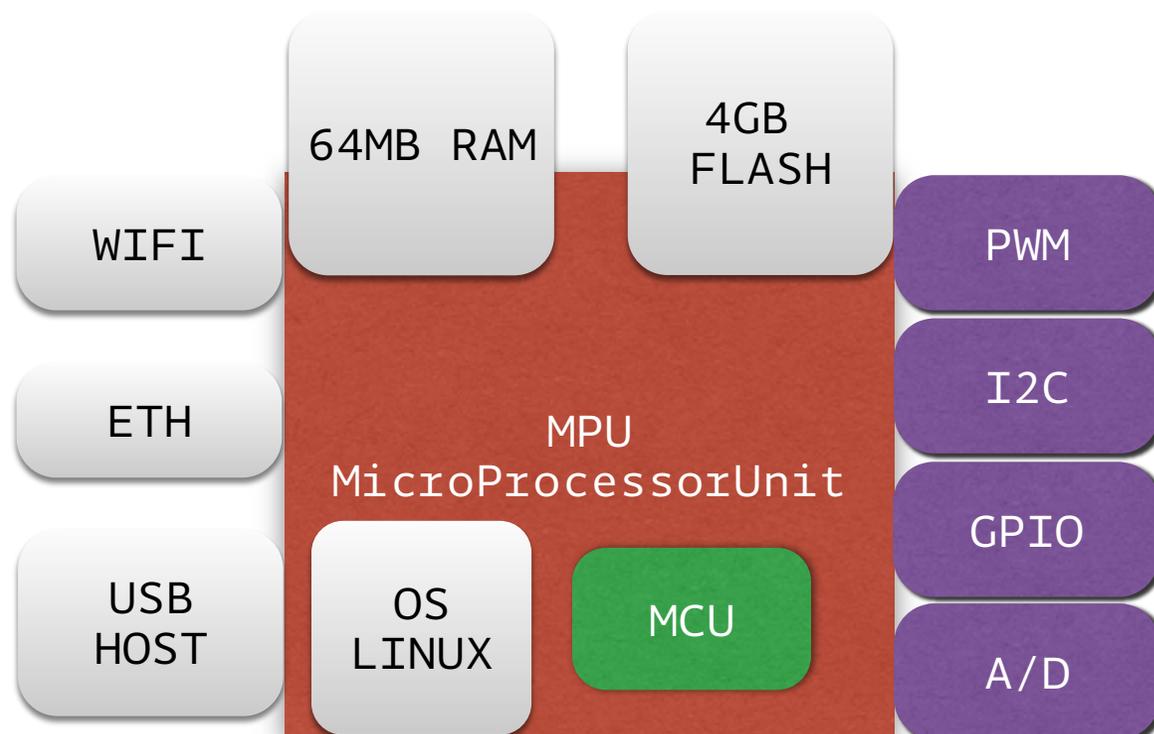
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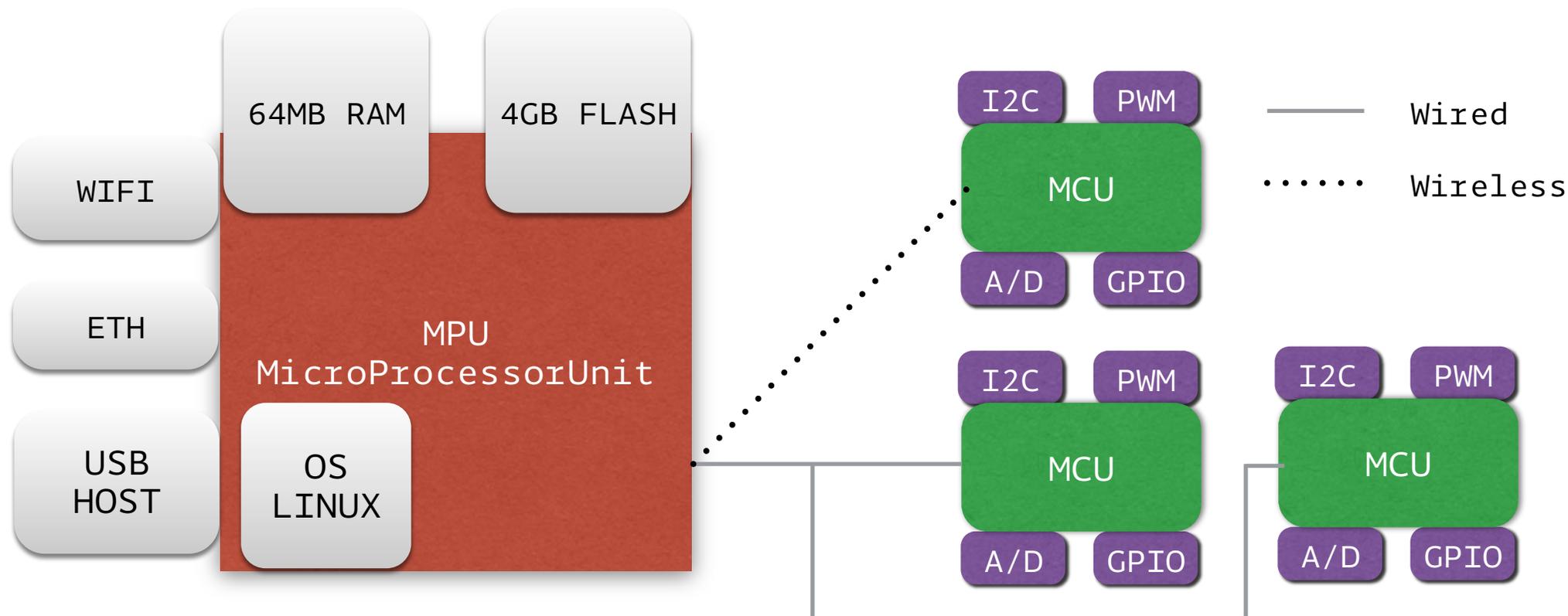
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- **phy link**: any possible on spi, uart, ethernet, wifi, ...

LininoIO - Overview



- **MPU**: designed for best average performance (cache levels, virtual memory, etc): real-time is difficult
- **MCU**: much simpler: no cache, no VM: real time is guaranteed.
- *Keep high level applications on MPU and real-time stuff on MCU*

LininoIO - Overview



- Each of the MCU devices is discovered as a local lininoIO service
- They can be controlled directly by Linux side through : Shell, Python, Node.js and any other high-level programming language

LininoIO – Overview



Please note that :

- **lininoio** (mcuio driver) devices are regular linux kernel devices, so they don't necessarily have to be controlled via user space (some kernel module-subsystem can use them). The most important thing about lininoio is that mcu peripherals become standard linux devices, so that the mpu cannot really tell where they are and how they're implemented (actually some devices such as the interrupt controller are just virtual).
- **mcu devices** have interrupt capability (so you can see gpio interrupts on edge/level from user space or kernel, for instance).

For further reading, please point your browsers [here](#) :

Davide Ciminaghi : “Virtualizing MCU Peripherals”

LininoIO - Example 1

Turn on the L13 led with just a couple of shell commands :

```
root@tiannfc /root [#]# ls -l /sys/class/gpio/
--w----- 1 root root      4096 Sep  2 19:33 export
lrwxrwxrwx 1 root root          0 Jan  1 1970 gpio15 -> ../../devices/virtual/gpio/gpio15
lrwxrwxrwx 1 root root          0 Jan  1 1970 gpiochip0 -> ../../devices/virtual/gpio/gpiochip0
lrwxrwxrwx 1 root root          0 Sep  2 19:30 gpiochip100 -> ../../devices/mcuio/0:0.0/0:1.1/gpio/gpiochip100
--w----- 1 root root      4096 Sep  2 19:33 unexport
root@tiannfc /root [#]#
```

After running :

\$ lininoio start

and rebooting, the presence of the :

/sys/class/gpio/gpiochip100

folder tells us that lininoIO is up and running as a background service.



LininoIO – Example 1

```
root@tiannfc /root [#]# ls -l /sys/class/gpio/
lrwxrwxrwx 1 root root 0 Sep 2 19:34 A0 -> ../../devices/mcuio/0:0:0/1.1/gpio/A0
lrwxrwxrwx 1 root root 0 Sep 2 19:34 A1 -> ../../devices/mcuio/0:0:0/1.1/gpio/A1
lrwxrwxrwx 1 root root 0 Sep 2 19:34 A2 -> ../../devices/mcuio/0:0:0/1.1/gpio/A2
lrwxrwxrwx 1 root root 0 Sep 2 19:34 A3 -> ../../devices/mcuio/0:0:0/1.1/gpio/A3
lrwxrwxrwx 1 root root 0 Sep 2 19:34 A4 -> ../../devices/mcuio/0:0:0/1.1/gpio/A4
lrwxrwxrwx 1 root root 0 Sep 2 19:34 A5 -> ../../devices/mcuio/0:0:0/1.1/gpio/A5
lrwxrwxrwx 1 root root 0 Sep 2 19:34 D10 -> ../../devices/mcuio/0:0:0/1.1/gpio/D10
lrwxrwxrwx 1 root root 0 Sep 2 19:34 D11 -> ../../devices/mcuio/0:0:0/1.1/gpio/D11
lrwxrwxrwx 1 root root 0 Sep 2 19:34 D12 -> ../../devices/mcuio/0:0:0/1.1/gpio/D12
lrwxrwxrwx 1 root root 0 Sep 2 19:34 D2 -> ../../devices/mcuio/0:0:0/1.1/gpio/D2
lrwxrwxrwx 1 root root 0 Sep 2 19:34 D3 -> ../../devices/mcuio/0:0:0/1.1/gpio/D3
lrwxrwxrwx 1 root root 0 Sep 2 19:34 D4 -> ../../devices/mcuio/0:0:0/1.1/gpio/D4
lrwxrwxrwx 1 root root 0 Sep 2 19:34 D5 -> ../../devices/mcuio/0:0:0/1.1/gpio/D5
lrwxrwxrwx 1 root root 0 Sep 2 19:34 D6 -> ../../devices/mcuio/0:0:0/1.1/gpio/D6
lrwxrwxrwx 1 root root 0 Sep 2 19:34 D7 -> ../../devices/mcuio/0:0:0/1.1/gpio/D7
lrwxrwxrwx 1 root root 0 Sep 2 19:34 D8 -> ../../devices/mcuio/0:0:0/1.1/gpio/D8
lrwxrwxrwx 1 root root 0 Sep 2 19:34 D9 -> ../../devices/mcuio/0:0:0/1.1/gpio/D9
lrwxrwxrwx 1 root root 0 Sep 2 19:34 SCK -> ../../devices/mcuio/0:0:0/1.1/gpio/SCK
--w----- 1 root root 4096 Sep 2 19:34 export
lrwxrwxrwx 1 root root 0 Jan 1 1970 gpio15 -> ../../devices/virtual/gpio/gpio15
lrwxrwxrwx 1 root root 0 Jan 1 1970 gpiochip0 -> ../../devices/virtual/gpio/gpiochip0
lrwxrwxrwx 1 root root 0 Sep 2 19:30 gpiochip100 -> ../../devices/mcuio/0:0:0/1.1/gpio/gpiochip100
--w----- 1 root root 4096 Sep 2 19:33 unexport
root@tiannfc /root [#]#
```

So now we run :

\$ lingpio export

To enumerate all the available devices to use.

We are now ready to play around !



LininoIO – Example 1



```
root@tiannfc /root [#]# ls -l /sys/class/gpio/
lrwxrwxrwx 1 root root 0 Sep 2 19:44 A0 -> ../../devices/mcuio/0:0:0/1.1/gpio/A0
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lrwxrwxrwx 1 root root 0 Sep 2 19:44 D11 -> ../../devices/mcuio/0:0:0/1.1/gpio/D11
lrwxrwxrwx 1 root root 0 Sep 2 19:44 D12 -> ../../devices/mcuio/0:0:0/1.1/gpio/D12
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lrwxrwxrwx 1 root root 0 Sep 2 19:31 gpiochip100 -> ../../devices/mcuio/0:0:0/1.1/gpio/gpiochip100
--w----- 1 root root 4096 Jan 1 1970 unexport
root@tiannfc /root [#]# echo out > /sys/class/gpio/D13/direction
```

We want to turn on/off the L13 led of the board.

We have to start with exporting its 'direction' to **out** :

```
$ echo out > /sys/class/gpio/D13/direction
```

You have to do that according to your needs for a given pin.

You might also considering the **in** direction for some use cases.



LininoIO – Example 1



```
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lrwxrwxrwx 1 root root 0 Sep 2 19:44 A2 -> ../../devices/mcuio/0:0:0:1.1/gpio/A2
lrwxrwxrwx 1 root root 0 Sep 2 19:44 A3 -> ../../devices/mcuio/0:0:0:1.1/gpio/A3
lrwxrwxrwx 1 root root 0 Sep 2 19:44 A4 -> ../../devices/mcuio/0:0:0:1.1/gpio/A4
lrwxrwxrwx 1 root root 0 Sep 2 19:44 A5 -> ../../devices/mcuio/0:0:0:1.1/gpio/A5
lrwxrwxrwx 1 root root 0 Sep 2 19:44 D10 -> ../../devices/mcuio/0:0:0:1.1/gpio/D10
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lrwxrwxrwx 1 root root 0 Sep 2 19:44 D12 -> ../../devices/mcuio/0:0:0:1.1/gpio/D12
lrwxrwxrwx 1 root root 0 Sep 2 19:44 D13 -> ../../devices/mcuio/0:0:0:1.1/gpio/D13
lrwxrwxrwx 1 root root 0 Sep 2 19:44 D2 -> ../../devices/mcuio/0:0:0:1.1/gpio/D2
lrwxrwxrwx 1 root root 0 Sep 2 19:44 D3 -> ../../devices/mcuio/0:0:0:1.1/gpio/D3
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lrwxrwxrwx 1 root root 0 Sep 2 19:31 gpiochip100 -> ../../devices/mcuio/0:0:0:1.1/gpio/gpiochip100
--w----- 1 root root 4096 Jan 1 1970 unexport
root@tiannfc /root [#]# echo 1 > /sys/class/gpio/D13/value
root@tiannfc /root [#]# echo 0 > /sys/class/gpio/D13/value
root@tiannfc /root [#]#
```

So we'll just use :

```
$ echo 1 > /sys/class/gpio/D13/value
```

to turn on the L13 led while using :

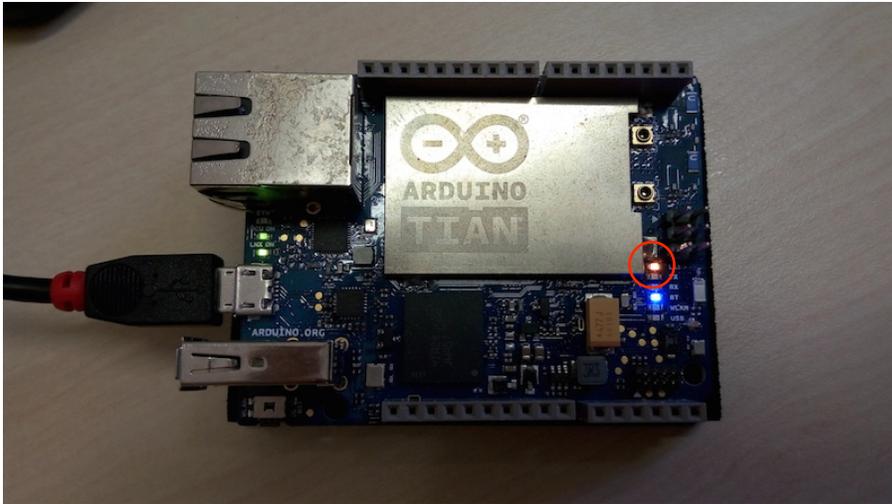
```
$ echo 0 > /sys/class/gpio/D13/value
```

to revert it to its original state.

That's a simple way to run the "Hello World" of microcontroller units.

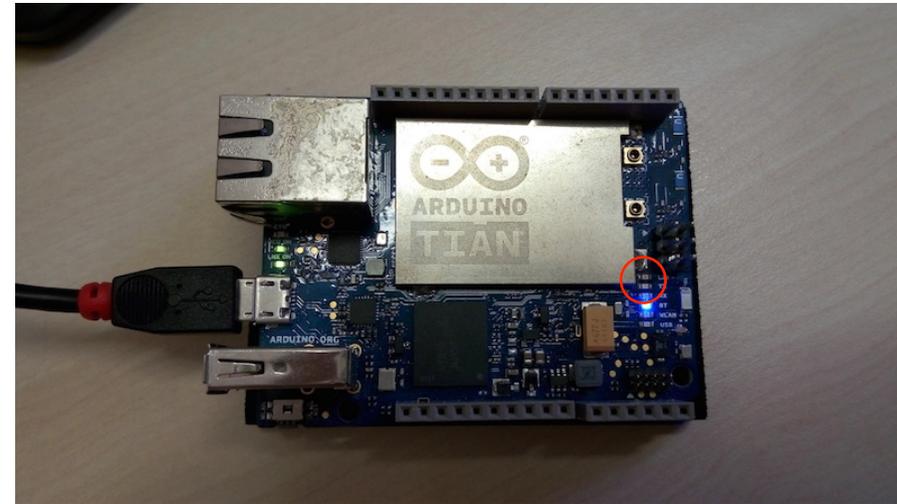


LininoIO - Example 1



```
$ echo 1 > /sys/class/gpio/D13/value
```

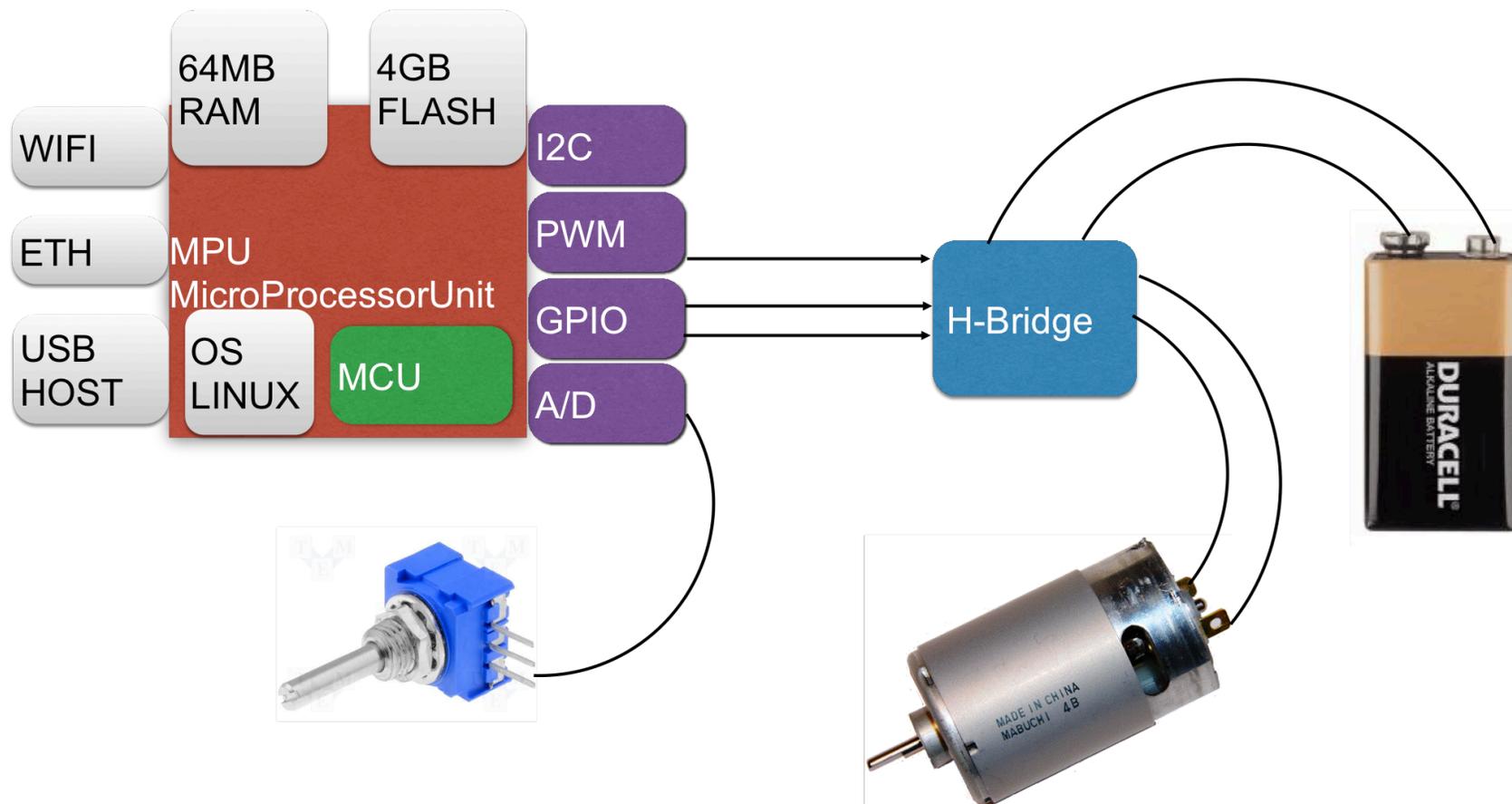
To turn on the L13 led



```
$ echo 0 > /sys/class/gpio/D13/value
```

To turn off the L13 led

LininoIO - Example 2



Motor with variable speed regulated from a potentiometer and modulated by PWM signal.



LininoIO – Example 2 (shell code)

```
#!/bin/bash
```

```
#Change the PWM value to change the motor speed:
```

```
echo 125 > /sys/class/mcuio_pwm/D11/value
```

```
#Read the value measured from ADC:
```

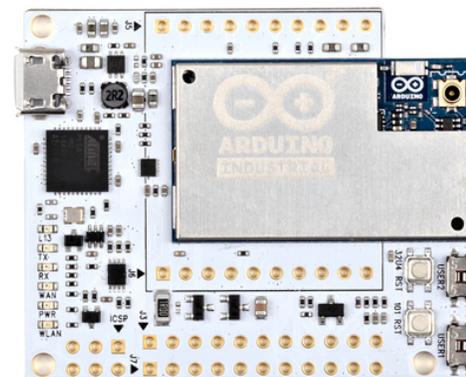
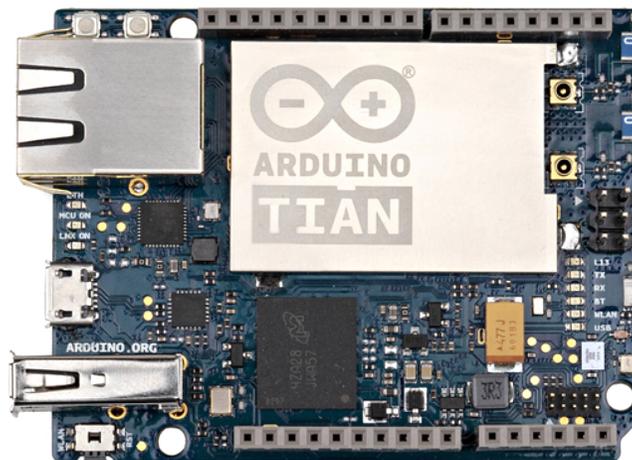
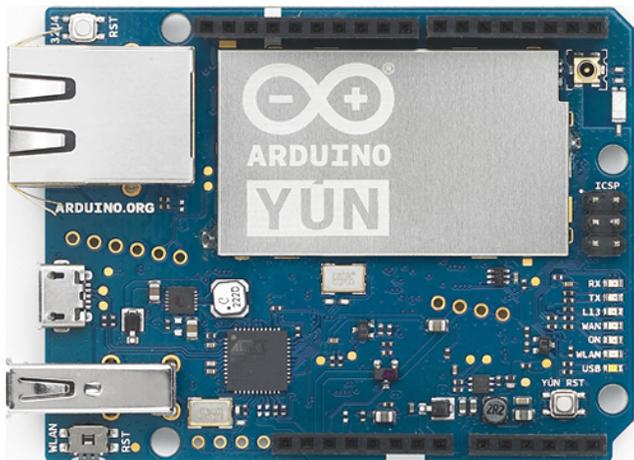
```
cat /sys/class/mcuio_adc/A1/value
```

```
#Change the motor direction using GPIOs:
```

```
echo 1 > /sys/class/gpio/D1/value
```

```
echo 0 > /sys/class/gpio/D2/value
```

Linino "Open Stack"



- open hardware platform such as Arduino etc.
- DIY and maker's projects
- mcu agnostic (atmel, freescale, stm, etc.)
- professional projects
- mass production
- and of course all linino devices

mcu based device
lininoIO operating system

Linino "Open Stack"



chiwawa module
mips mpu + wi-fi

mcu based device
lininoIO operating system

- QCA 9331/9342
- mpu 400/540mhz mips BE based module
- 64mb ram
- uSDcard slot or 4gb flash memory on-board
- usb 2.0 host/device
- wi-fi 802.11b/g/n connectivity, BLE
- 2 lan ports
- 23 x gpio

Linino "Open Stack"

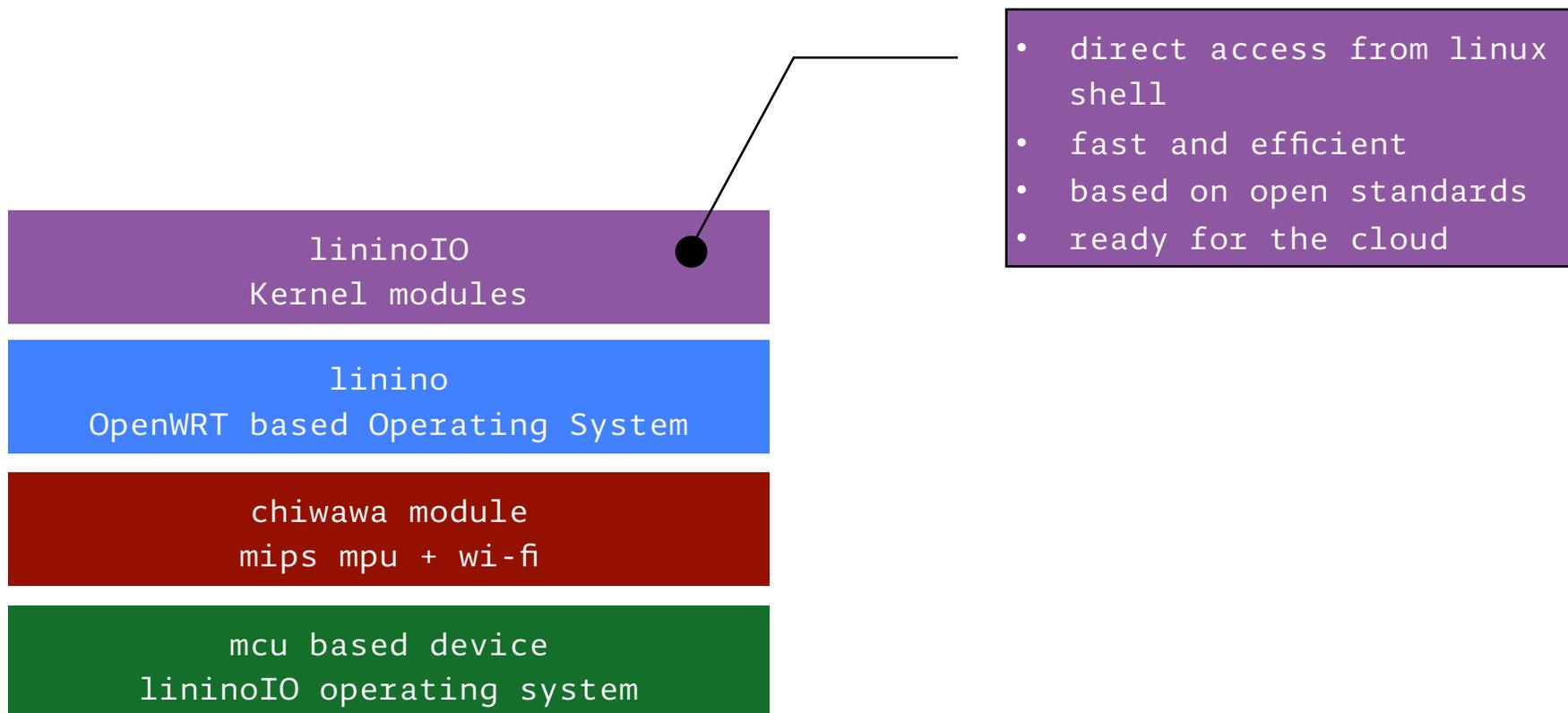
linino
OpenWRT based Operating System

chiwawa module
mips mpu + wi-fi

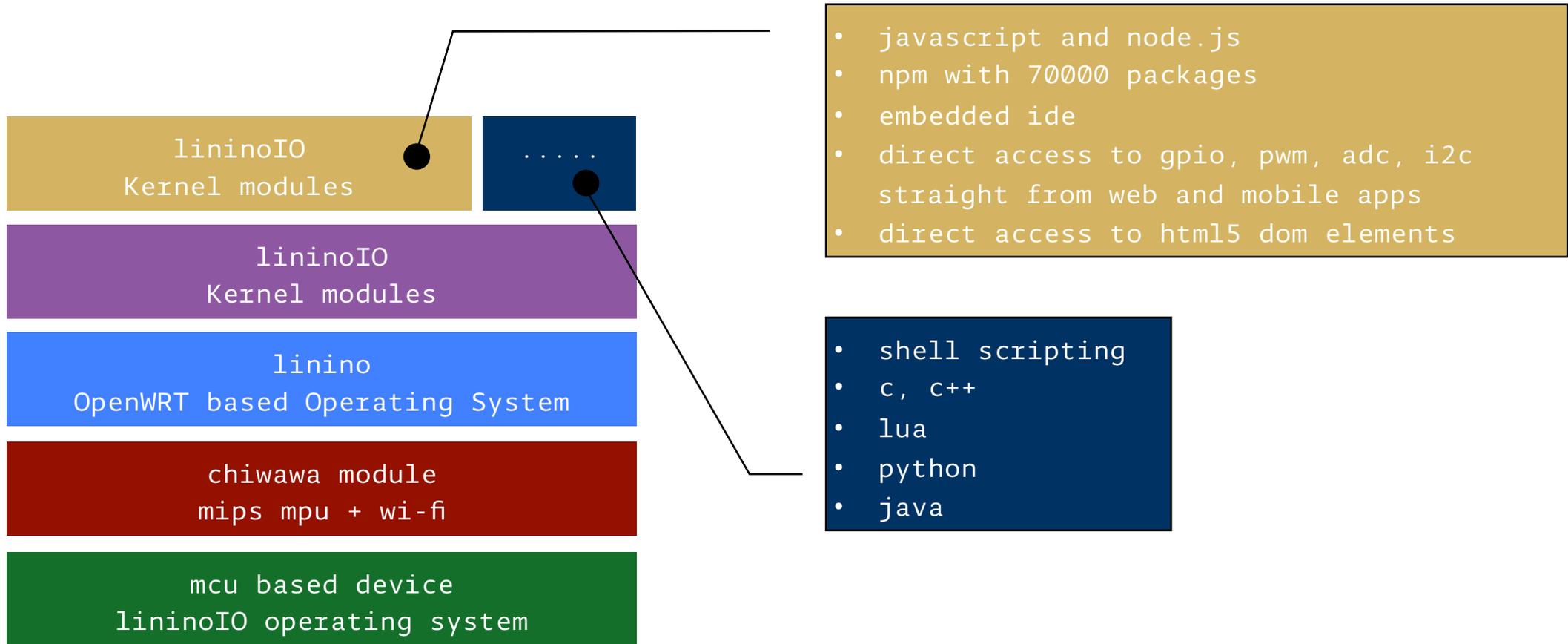
mcu based device
lininoIO operating system

- linux open source operating system
- easy package management system
- more than 2000 packages
- robust, widely adopted

Linino "Open Stack"

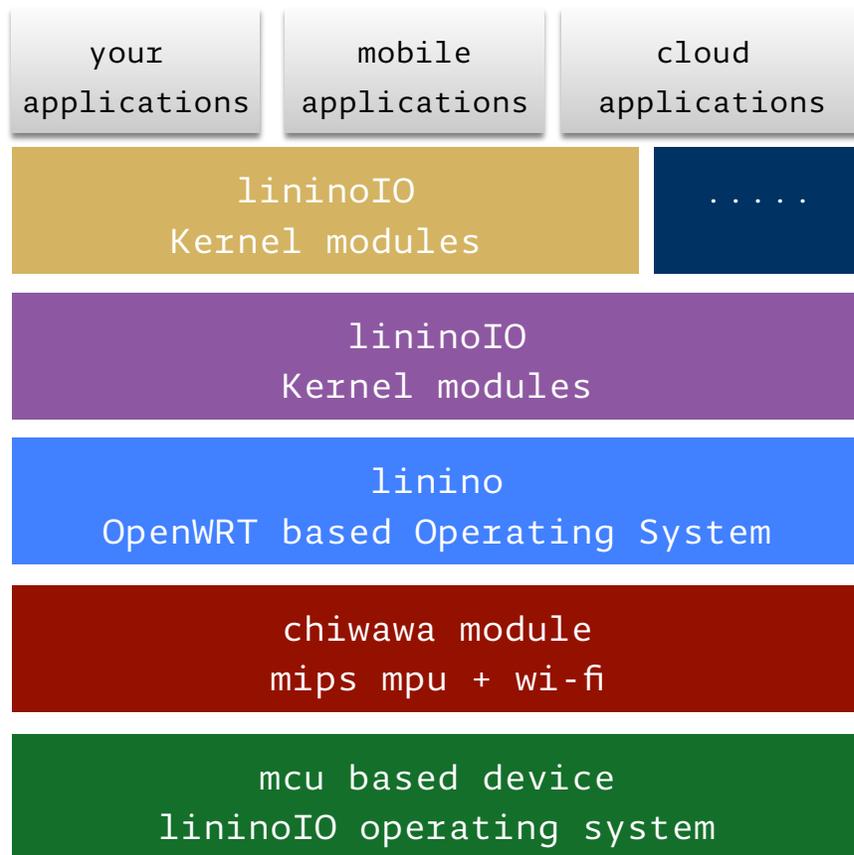


Linino "Open Stack"





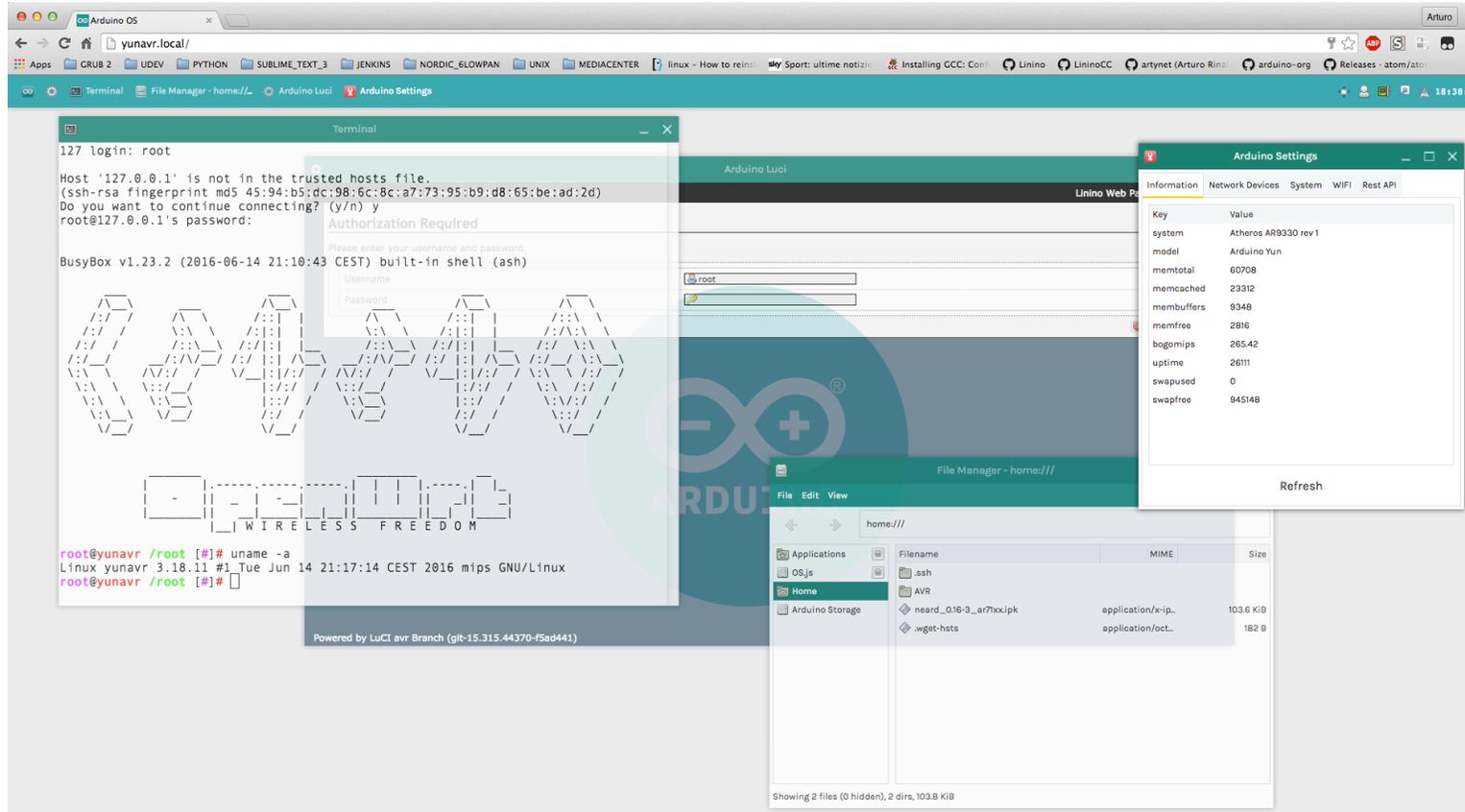
Linino "Open Stack"



monitoring robotics
remote control
home automation
vehicle automation
drones control
energy management
...



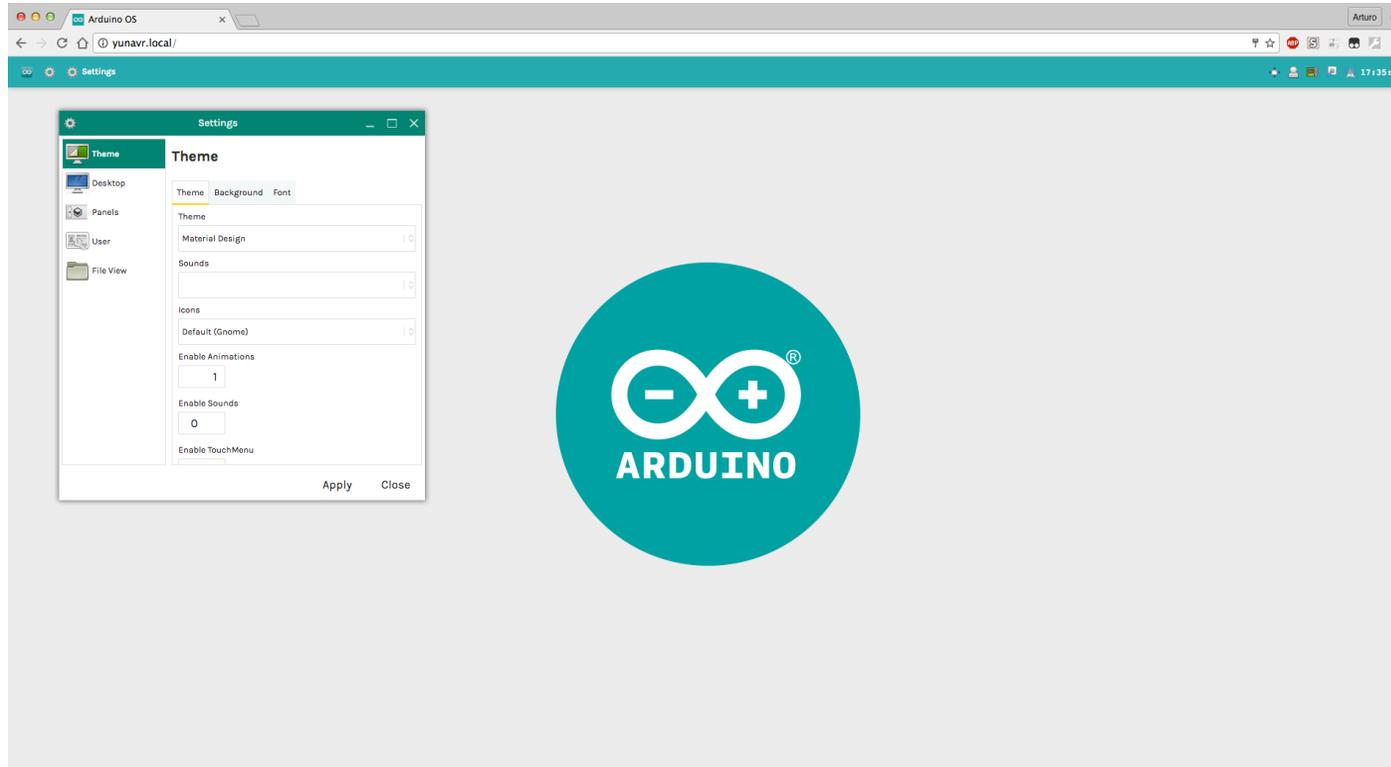
ArduinoOS



Features at a glance :

- SSH web terminal based on **shellinabox**
- File Manager
- Quick settings panel
- Web **LuCI** configurator as standalone application
- Basic desktop utilities

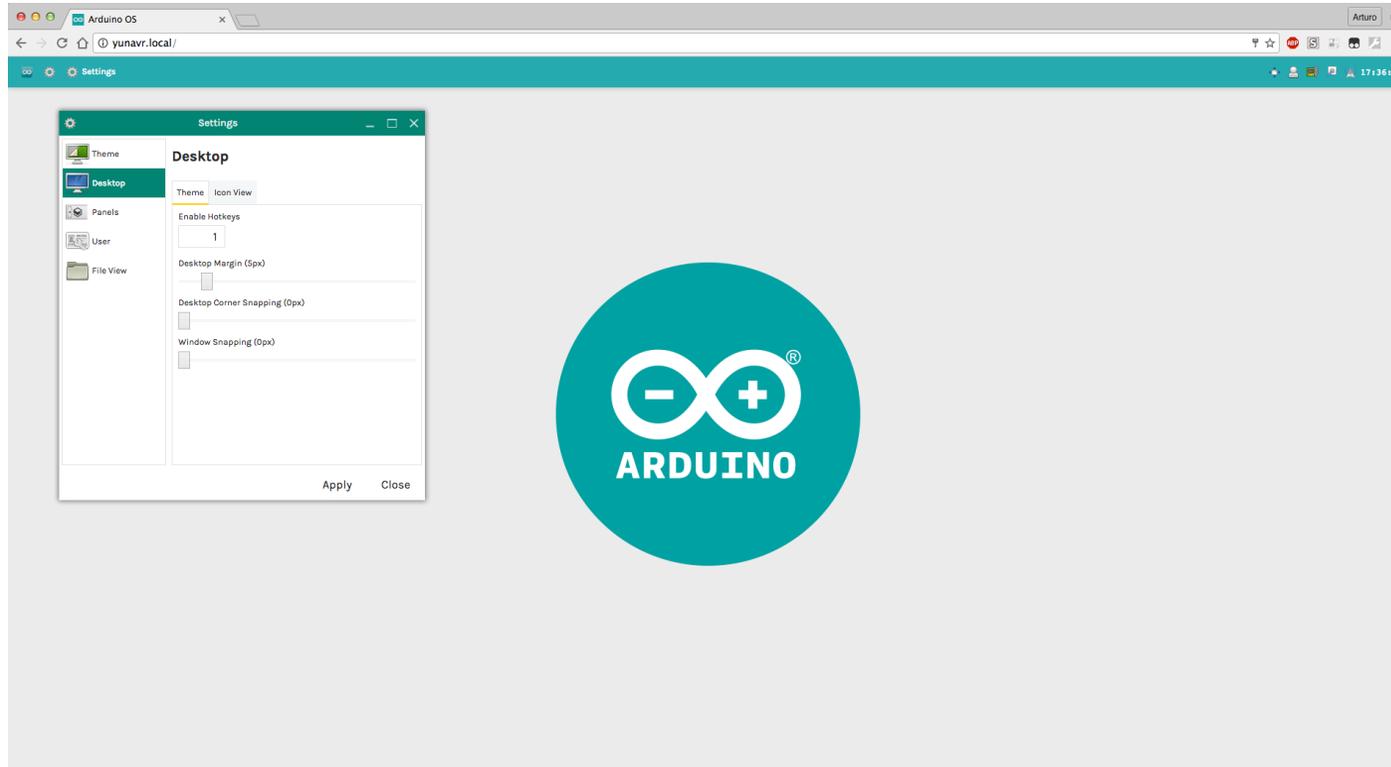
ArduinoOS - Settings Panel



This panel grants you a quick access to customize your desktop experience with the following entries :

- Theme
- Desktop
- Panels
- User
- File View

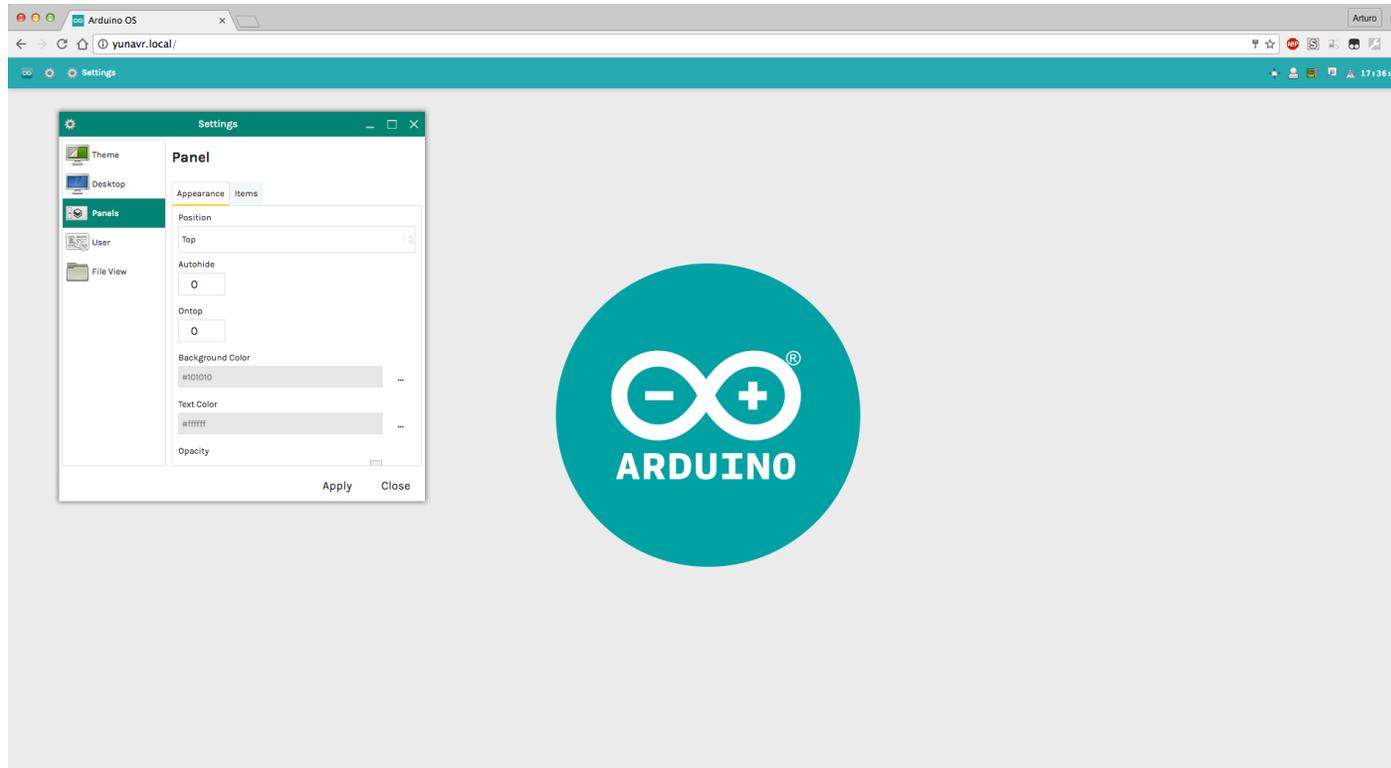
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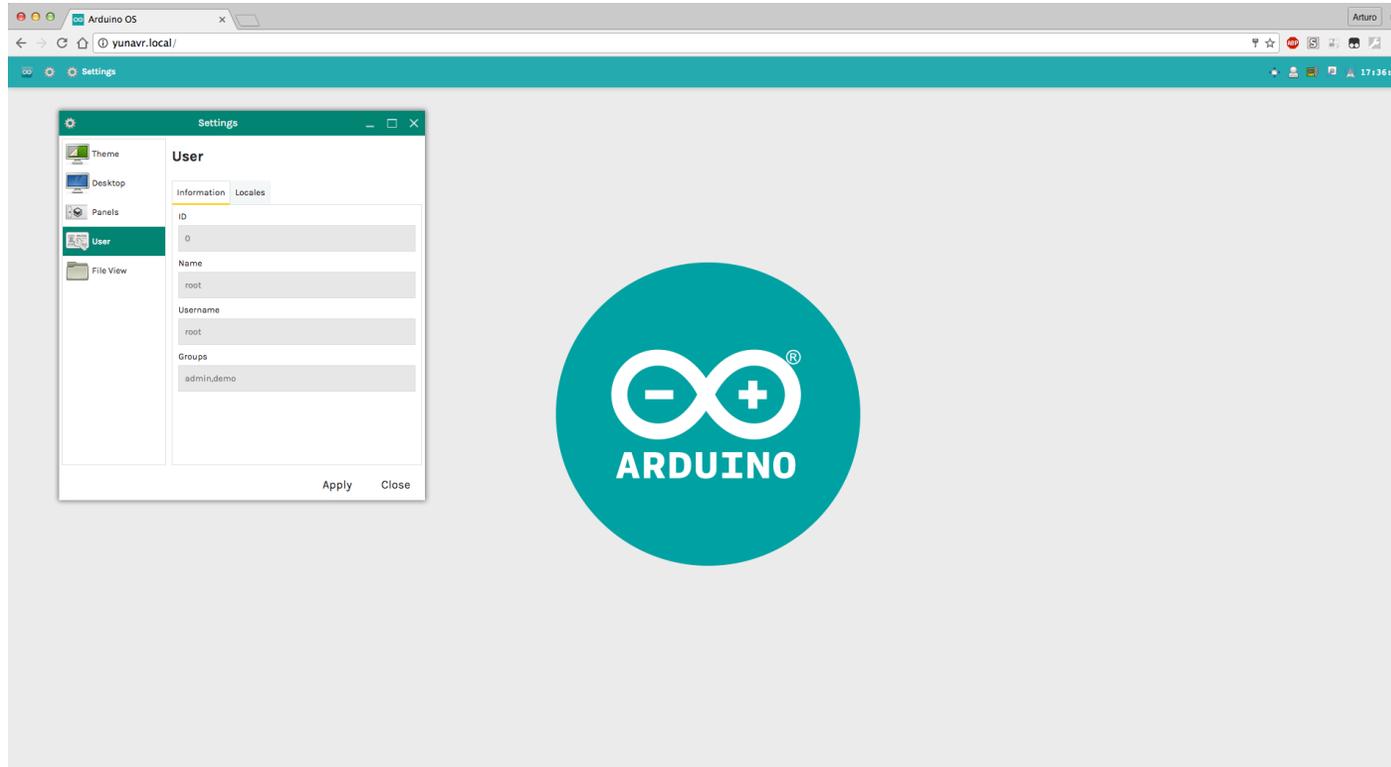
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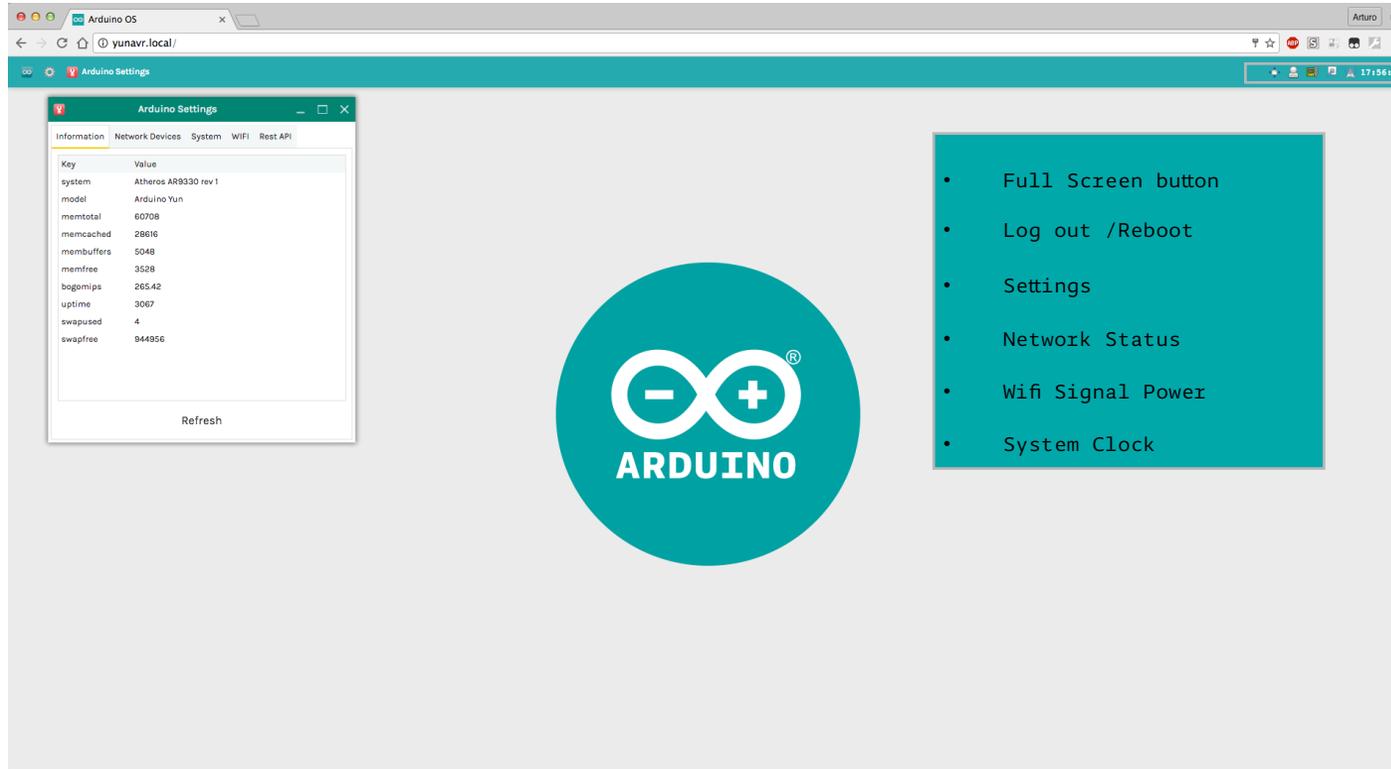
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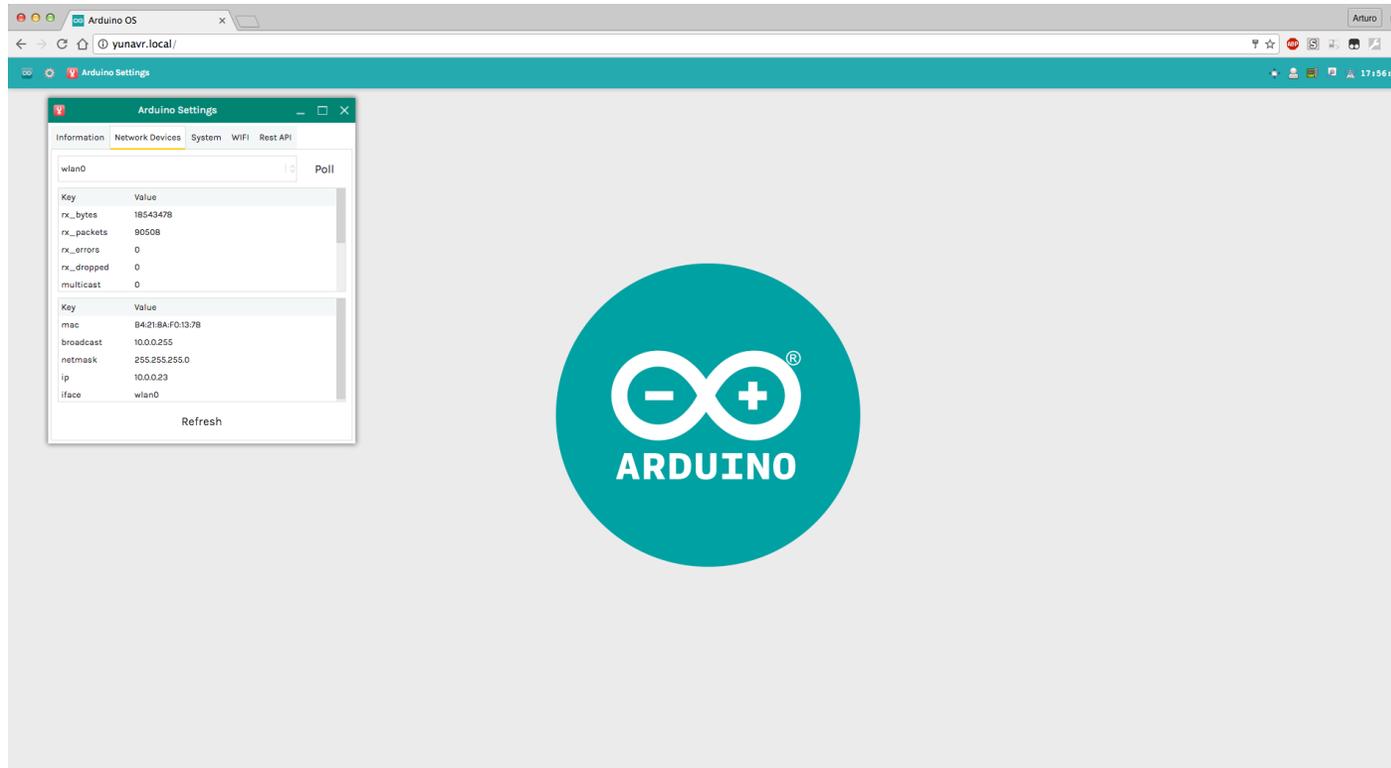
ArduinoOS – Arduino Settings



This panel grants you a quick access to the Arduino specific settings :

- General System information
- Network Devices
- System
- WiFi
- Rest API

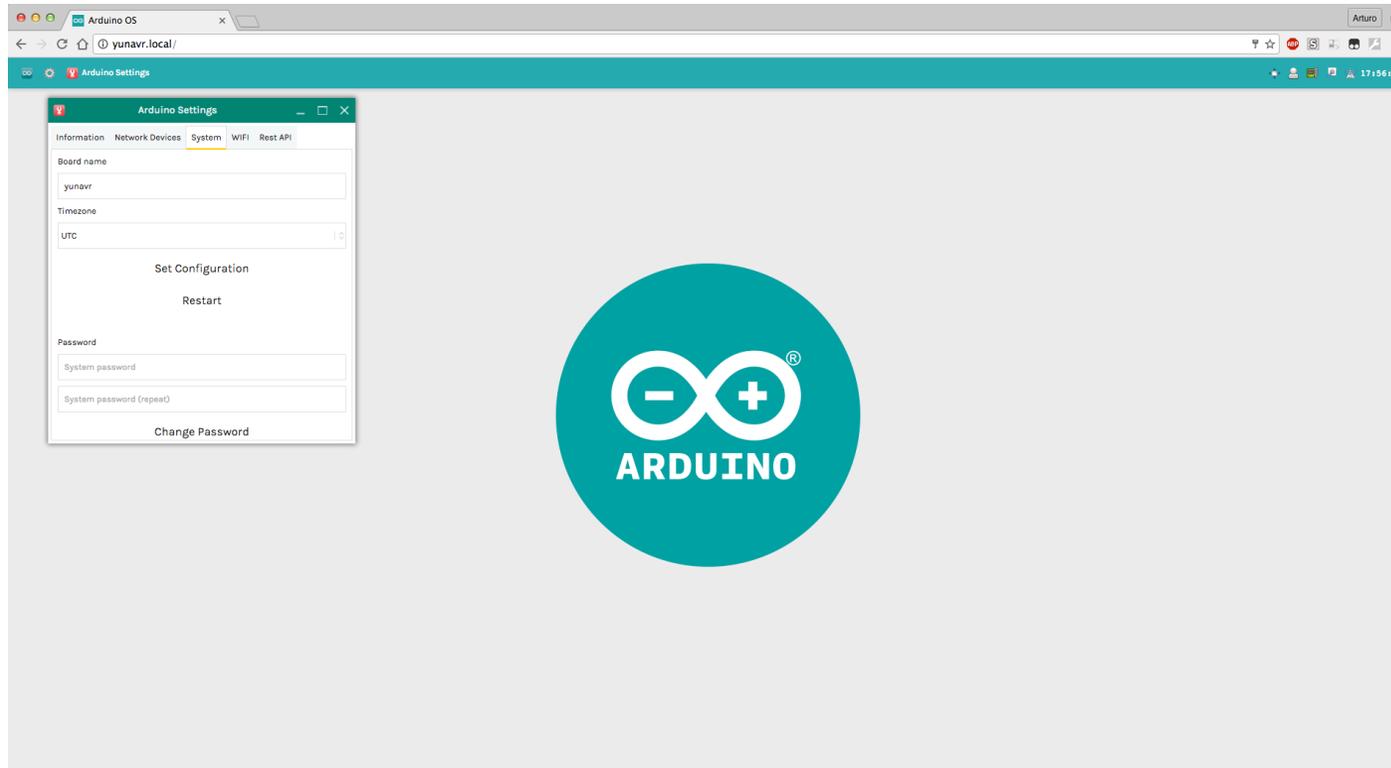
ArduinoOS – Arduino Settings



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- General System information
- Network Devices
- System
- WiFi
- Rest API

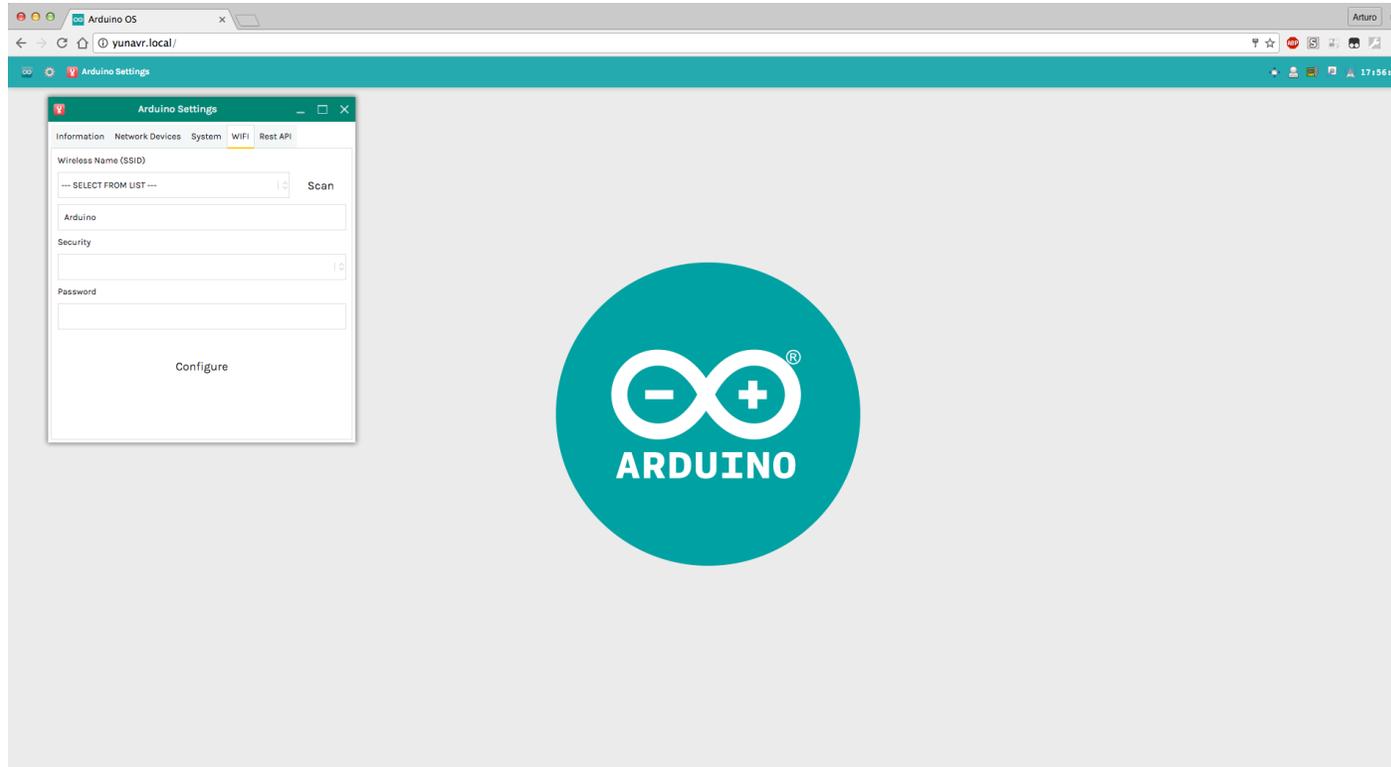
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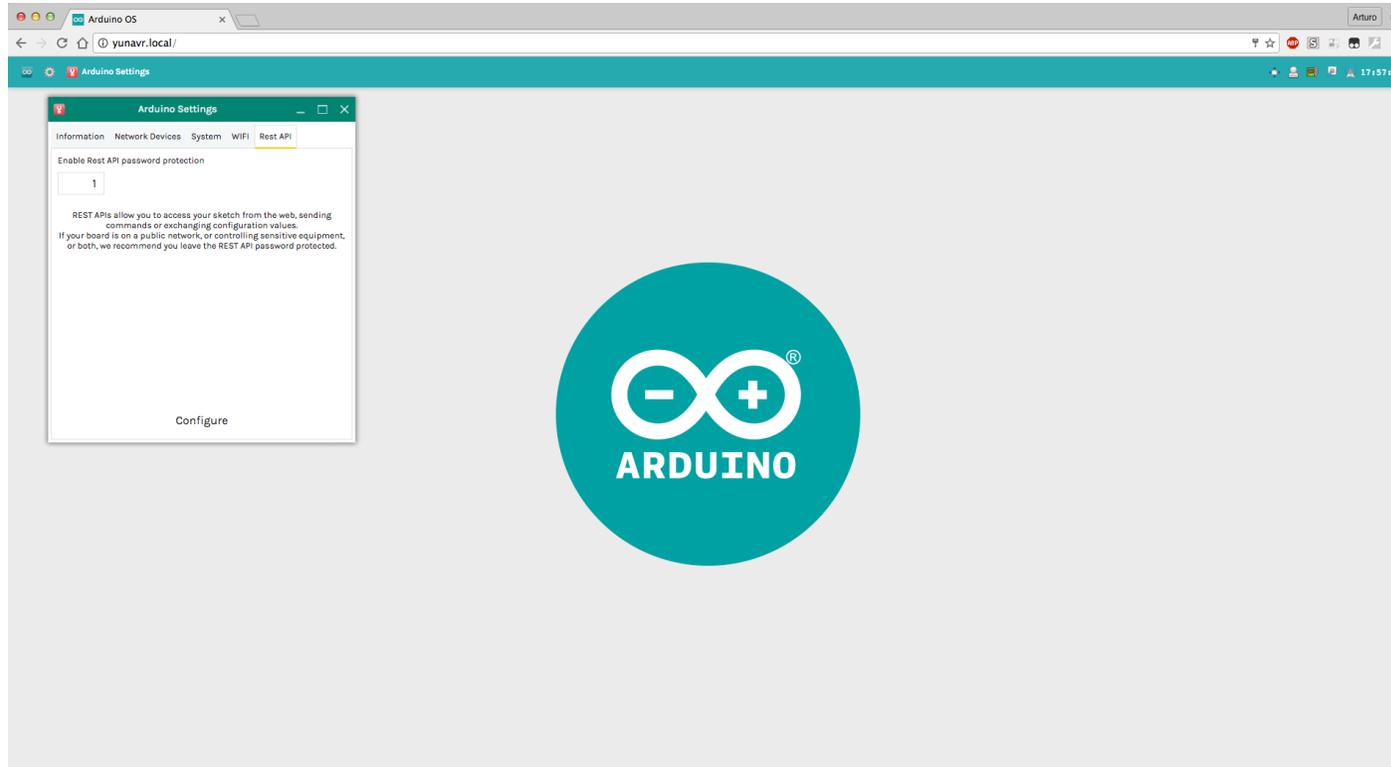
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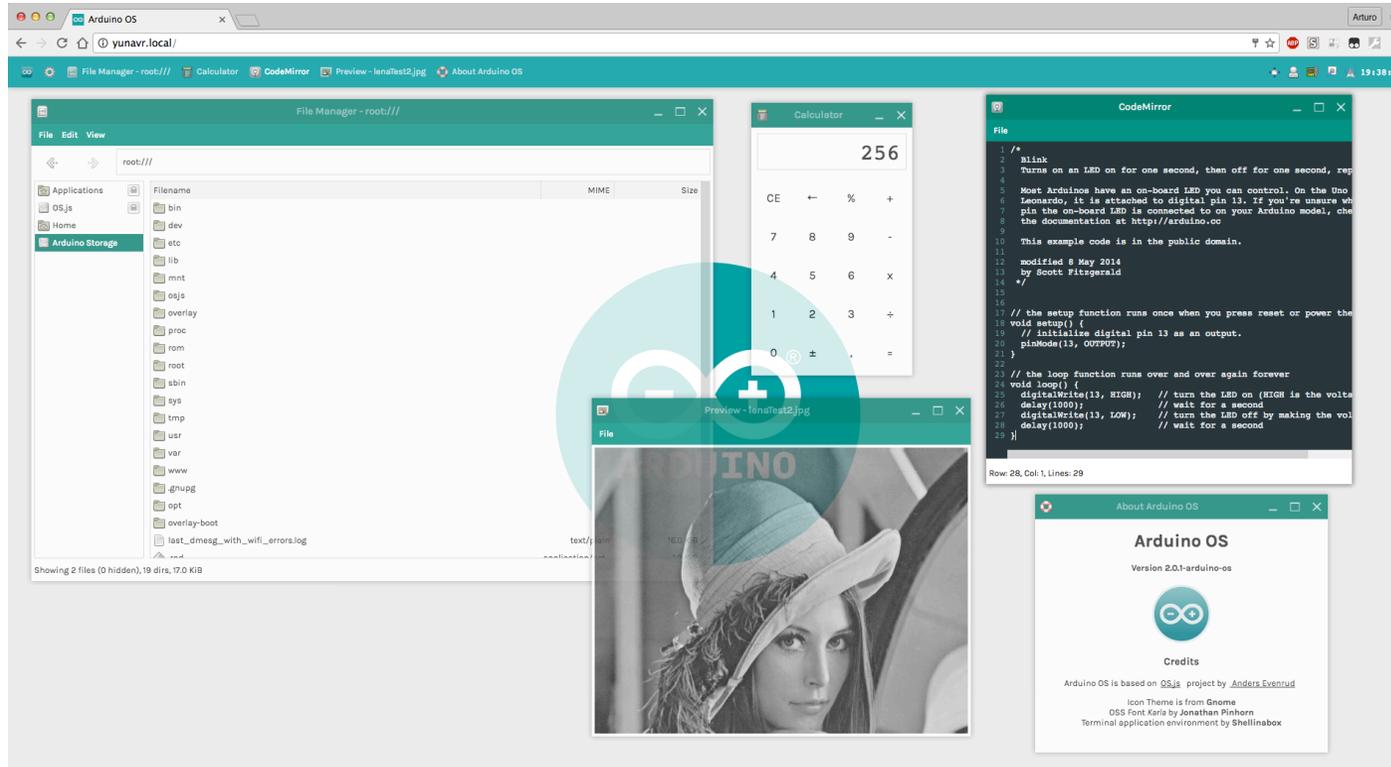
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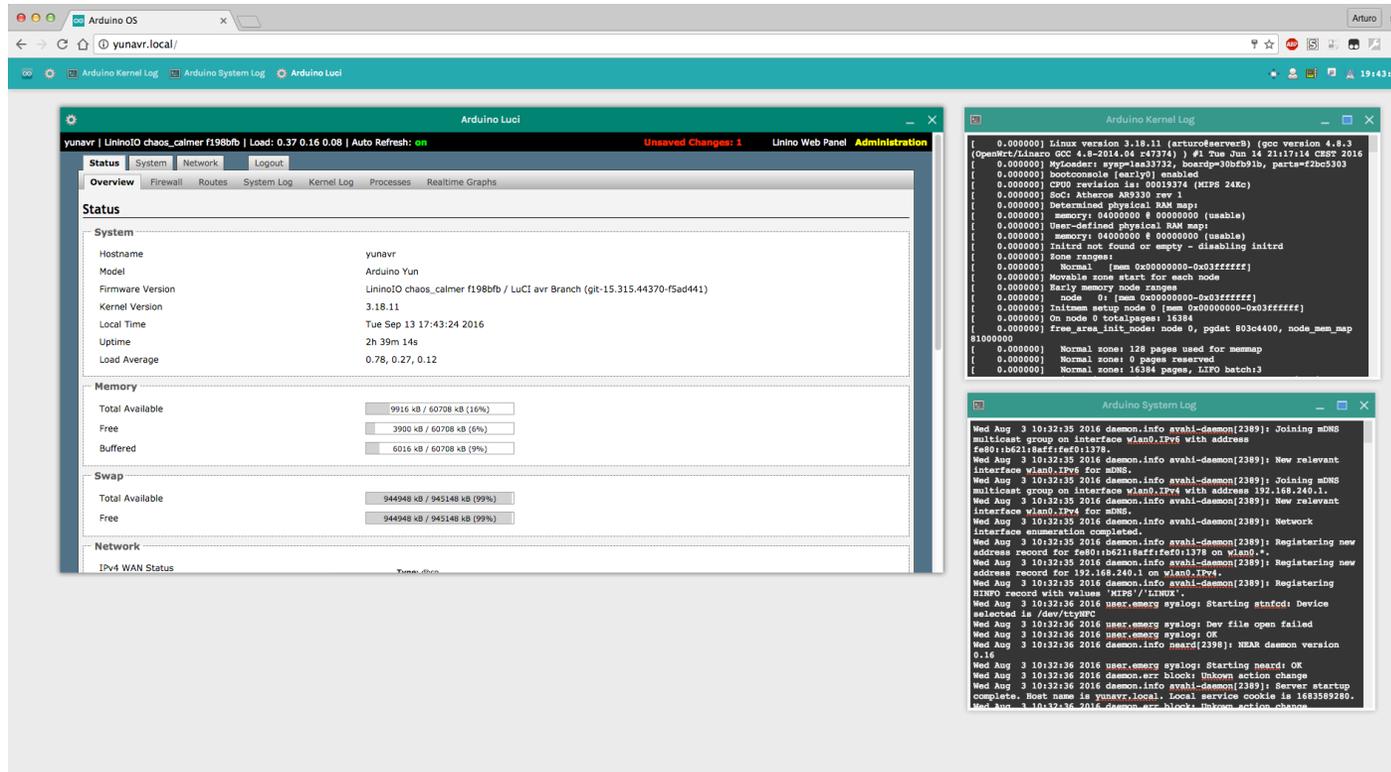
ArduinoOS – Desktop Utilities



The main desktop utilities are shown here:

- Complete and handy file manager supporting *drag'n'drop* functionality
- Calculator
- Text Editor
- Photo Viewer
- Many more coming...

ArduinoOS – Luci Panel



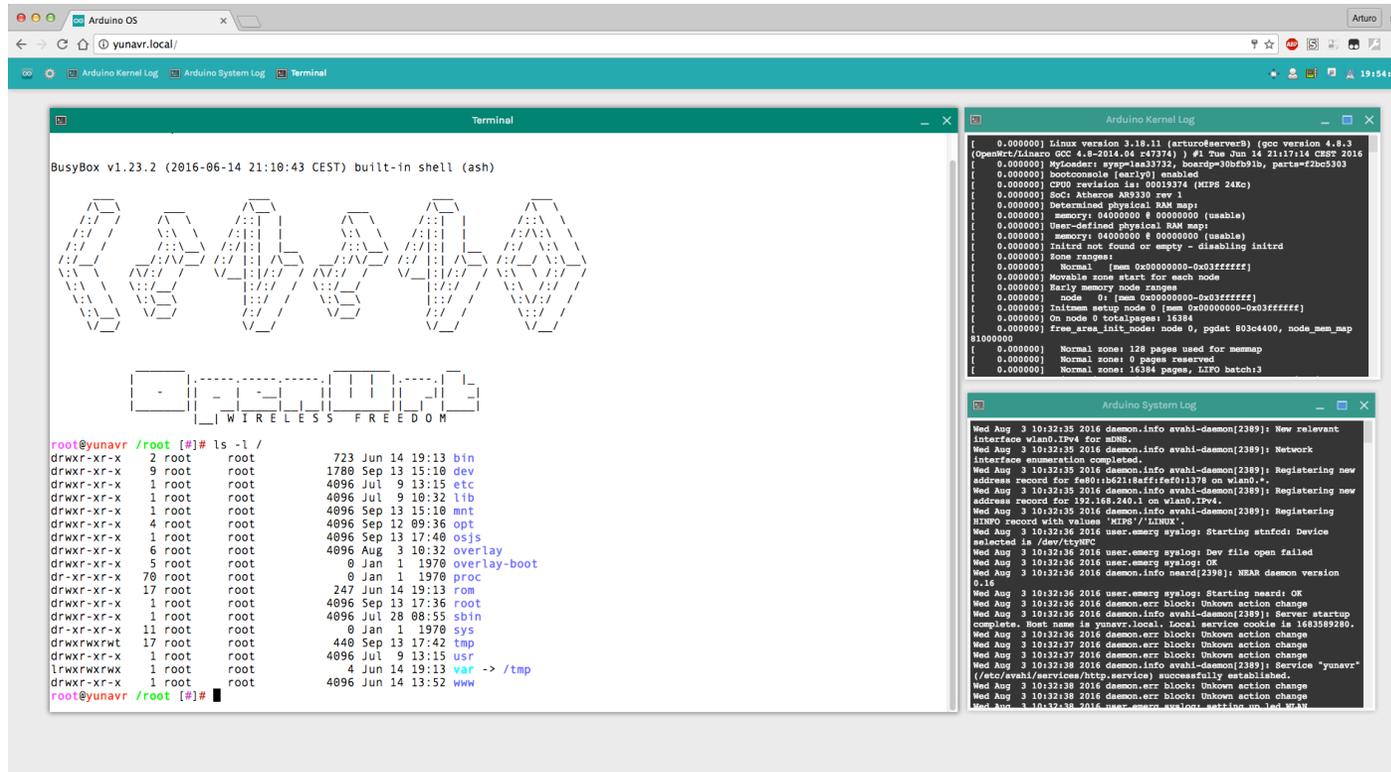
The original Luci panel has not been lost at all !

It is provided as a separate web frame and launched from the main program menu as you're used to in your home desktop.

Two additional frames for displaying the kernel and system log are provided as well.



ArduinoOS - Shell Terminal



A fully-fledged terminal based on shellinabox residing in a pop-up web frame.

You can access all the linux functionalities from the very same web page.

It relies on SSH of course for basic login.

Possibility to open the terminal in a new browser tab as well.



The “GCC family” – the “plain” GCC

```
root@yuntest /root [#]# gcc -v
Using built-in specs.
COLLECT_GCC=gcc
COLLECT_LTO_WRAPPER=/usr/lib/gcc/mips-openwrt-linux-uclibc/4.8.3/lto-wrapper
Target: mips-openwrt-linux-uclibc
Configured with: /home/arturo/temp/lininoCC-samd/build_dir/target-mips_34kc_uClibc-0.9.33.2/gcc-4.8.3/configure --target=mips-openwrt-linux --host=mips-openwrt-linux --build=x86_64-linux-gnu --program-prefix= --program-suffix= --prefix=/usr --exec-prefix=/usr --bindir=/usr/bin --sbindir=/usr/sbin --libexecdir=/usr/lib --sysconfdir=/etc --datadir=/usr/share --localstatedir=/var --mandir=/usr/man --infodir=/usr/info --disable-nls --build=x86_64-linux-gnu --host=mips-openwrt-linux-uclibc --target=mips-openwrt-linux-uclibc --enable-languages=c,c++ --with-bugurl=https://dev.openwrt.org/ --with-pkgversion='OpenWrt GCC 4.8.3' --enable-shared --disable-__cxa_atexit --enable-target-optspace --with-gnu-ld --disable-nls --disable-libmudflap --disable-multilib --disable-libgomp --disable-libquadmath --disable-libssp --disable-decimal-float --disable-libstdcxx-pch --with-host-libstdcxx=lstc++ --prefix=/usr --libexecdir=/usr/lib --with-float=soft
Thread model: posix
gcc version 4.8.3 (OpenWrt GCC 4.8.3)
root@yuntest /root [#]#
```

The GCC is officially residing in the OpenWRT repositories since the latest stable release of the distro : Chaos Calmer 15.05

But...we were also able to provide GCC v4.6.3 for our old distro based on Attitude Adjustment 12.09 leveraging the work made for Chaos Calmer 15.05

Please keep in mind the limitations of the current C library (uClibc) when building an executable, or provide patches to enhance its overall functionalities.

That means rebuilding the whole linux image of course...

To install it just type from shell:

```
$ opkg update
$ opkg install gcc
```

The “GCC family” – AVR toolchain

```
gcc version 4.8.1 (GCC)
root@yuntest /root [#]# avr-gcc -v
Using built-in specs.
COLLECT_GCC=avr-gcc
COLLECT_LTO_WRAPPER=/usr/avr/bin/./lib/gcc/avr/4.8.1/lto-wrapper
Target: avr
Configured with: ../gcc-4.8.1/configure --enable-fixed-point --enable-languages=c,c++ --prefix=/home/arturo/Scaricati/AVR_MIPS_343/avr-343-mips --enable-long-long --disable-nls --libexecdir=/home/arturo/Scaricati/AVR_MIPS_343/avr-343-mips/lib --disable-checking --disable-libssp --disable-libada --disable-shared --with-avr-libc=yes --with-dwarf2 --disable-werror --disable-doc --host=mips-openwrt-linux --target=avr --with-gnu-ld --disable-libmudflap --disable-libgomp --disable-libquadmath --disable-decimal-float --disable-libstdcxx-pch --disable-__cxa_atexit --enable-target-optspace --with-host-libstdcxx=-lstdc++
Thread model: single
gcc version 4.8.1 (GCC)
root@yuntest /root [#]#
```

Follow our guide here :

<http://goo.gl/PiLCFV>

The AVR toolchain has been built with the **Canadian-Cross** compilation :

- is a well known technique for building cross-compilers for other machines especially if the given target is a particular architecture such as **AVR**, **ARM** or **xtensa**.
- It implies the existence of a native ‘target’ compiler in your search **PATH**.

To build the firmware on our board we need :

- the arduino libraries (ipk provided)
- An Arduino *.ino sketch
- The **make** command
- A prebuilt makefile to set the necessary paths

The “GCC family” – ARM toolchain

```
root@tiannfc /root [#]# /opt/gcc-arm-none-eabi-4.8-2016q3/bin/arm-none-eabi-gcc
-v
Using built-in specs.
COLLECT_GCC=/opt/gcc-arm-none-eabi-4.8-2016q3/bin/arm-none-eabi-gcc
COLLECT_LTO_WRAPPER=/opt/gcc-arm-none-eabi-4.8-2016q3/bin/./lib/gcc/arm-none-eabi/4.8.3/lto-wrapper
Target: arm-none-eabi
Configured with: /home/arturo/Scaricati/ARM_WORK/gcc-arm-none-eabi-4.8-2014q1-20140314-MIPS/src/gcc/configure --target=arm-n
one-eabi --prefix=/home/arturo/Scaricati/ARM_WORK/gcc-arm-none-eabi-4.8-2014q1-20140314-MIPS/install-native --libexecdir=/ho
me/arturo/Scaricati/ARM_WORK/gcc-arm-none-eabi-4.8-2014q1-20140314-MIPS/install-native/lib --infodir=/home/arturo/Scaricati/
ARM_WORK/gcc-arm-none-eabi-4.8-2014q1-20140314-MIPS/install-native/share/doc/gcc-arm-none-eabi/info --mandir=/home/arturo/Sc
aricati/ARM_WORK/gcc-arm-none-eabi-4.8-2014q1-20140314-MIPS/install-native/share/doc/gcc-arm-none-eabi/man --htmldir=/home/a
rturo/Scaricati/ARM_WORK/gcc-arm-none-eabi-4.8-2014q1-20140314-MIPS/install-native/share/doc/gcc-arm-none-eabi/html --pdfdir
=/home/arturo/Scaricati/ARM_WORK/gcc-arm-none-eabi-4.8-2014q1-20140314-MIPS/install-native/share/doc/gcc-arm-none-eabi/pdf -
-enable-languages=c,c++ --enable-plugins --disable-decimal-float --disable-libffi --disable-libgomp --disable-libmudflap --d
isable-libquadmath --disable-libssp --disable-libstdc++-pch --disable-nls --disable-threads --disable-tls --with-gnu-as --wi
th-gnu-ld --with-newlib --with-headers=yes --enable-shared --with-float-soft --disable___cxa_atexit --enable-target-optspace
--with-python-dir=share/gcc-arm-none-eabi --with-sysroot=/home/arturo/Scaricati/ARM_WORK/gcc-arm-none-eabi-4.8-2014q1-20140
314-MIPS/install-native/arm-none-eabi --build=i686-linux-gnu --host=mips-openwrt-linux-uclibc --with-gmp=/home/arturo/Scaric
ati/ARM_WORK/gcc-arm-none-eabi-4.8-2014q1-20140314-MIPS/build-native/host-libs/usr --with-mpfr=/home/arturo/Scaricati/ARM_WO
RK/gcc-arm-none-eabi-4.8-2014q1-20140314-MIPS/build-native/host-libs/usr --with-mpc=/home/arturo/Scaricati/ARM_WORK/gcc-arm-
none-eabi-4.8-2014q1-20140314-MIPS/build-native/host-libs/usr --with-isl=/home/arturo/Scaricati/ARM_WORK/gcc-arm-none-eabi-4
.8-2014q1-20140314-MIPS/build-native/host-libs/usr --with-cloog=/home/arturo/Scaricati/ARM_WORK/gcc-arm-none-eabi-4.8-2014q1
-20140314-MIPS/build-native/host-libs/usr --with-libelf=/home/arturo/Scaricati/ARM_WORK/gcc-arm-none-eabi-4.8-2014q1-2014031
4-MIPS/build-native/host-libs/usr --with-host-libstdc++=1-Wl,-Bstatic,-Bdynamic,-lm --with-pkgversion='GNU Tools fo
r ARM Embedded Processors' --with-multilib-list=armv6-m,armv7-m,armv7e-m,armv7-r
Thread model: single
gcc version 4.8.3 20140228 (release) [ARM/embedded-4.8-branch revision 208322] (GNU Tools for ARM Embedded Processors)
root@tiannfc /root [#]#
```

Then it's just a matter to replace the original entries with the cross ones in the prebuilt bash scripts shipped with the original sources.

The ARM toolchain has been built with the **Canadian-Cross** technique.

We need to leverage the well-known **Crosstools-NG suite** to generate a sysroot-ed cross-toolchain for building the actual one.

To build the firmware we need, as the **AVR** platform :

- the arduino libraries
- An Arduino *.ino sketch
- The **make** command
- A prebuilt makefile to set the necessary paths for the **ARM** architecture



The “GCC family” – Demonstration

The toolchains have also been built for a testbed **x86** machine for running as VM on VirtualBox.

It has been proven a reliable system to test the software before deploying it on our boards.

To build the firmware for **AVR** or **ARM** platform we again need :

- the arduino libraries
- An Arduino.ino sketch
- The **make** command
- A prebuilt makefile to set the necessary paths for the architecture

So....let's run the demo !

THANK YOU

For further information please get in touch with me at :

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