

Getting started with ESP8266 and IOT

From a beginner Hobbyist
to a beginner Hobbyist.

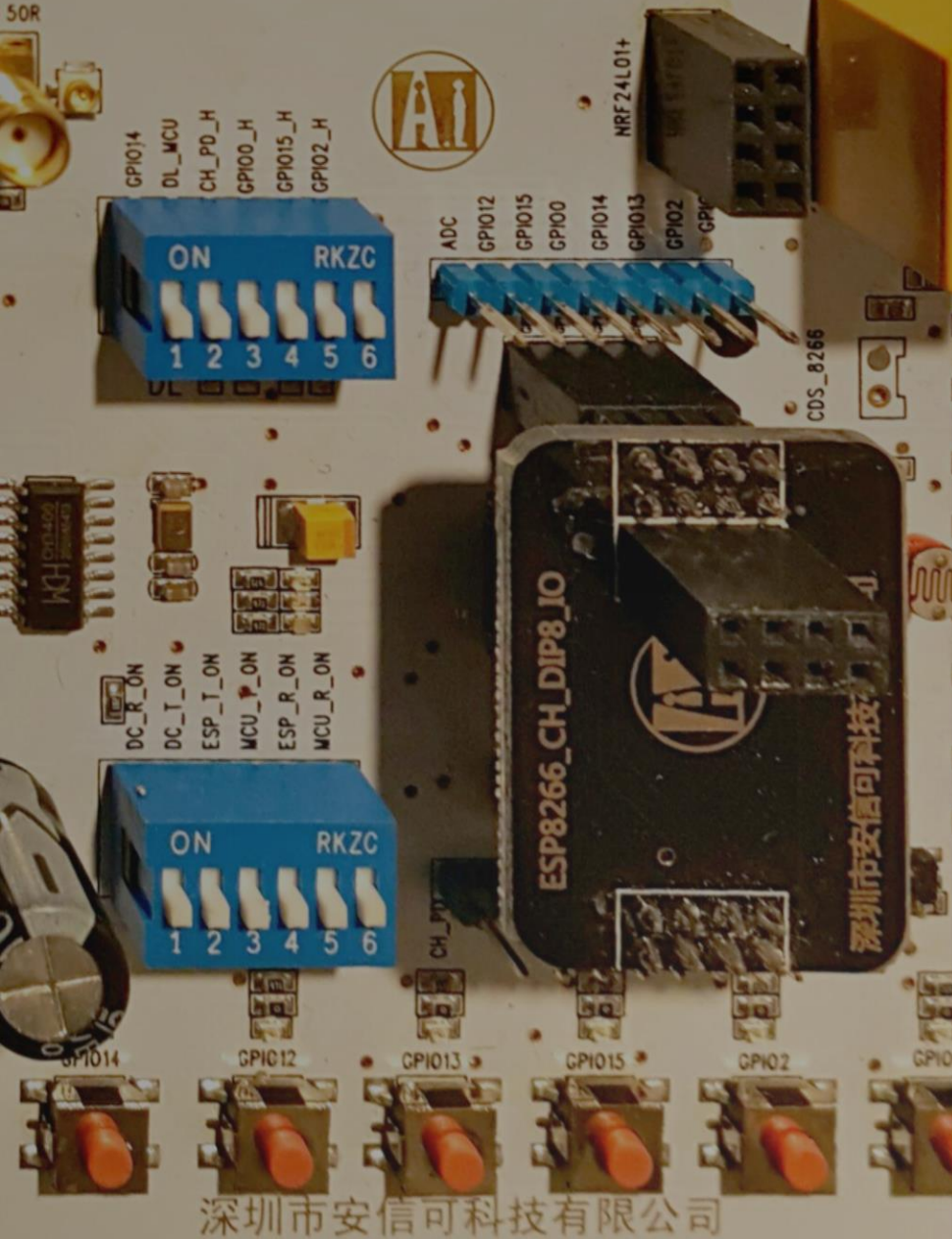
Ahmed Maklad

A close-up photograph of a printed circuit board (PCB) is shown on the left side of the slide. The image is rotated 90 degrees counter-clockwise. It features various electronic components, including a gold-plated connector, and printed text such as '00 10', 'VER', 'FC', and '502 503 504 505 506 507 508 509 510'.

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ESP8266全功能测试板



Objectives

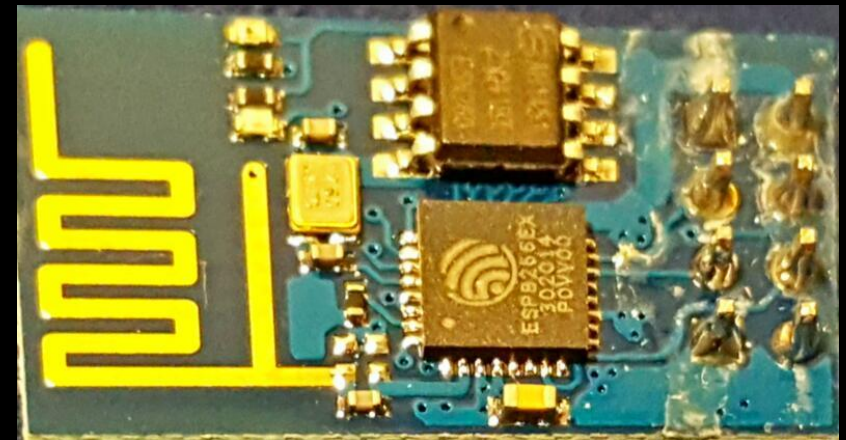
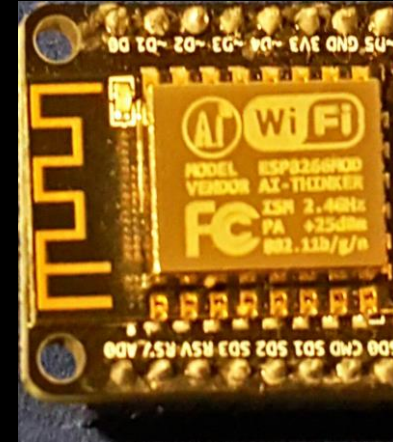
- From a beginner hobbyist to a beginner hobbyist.
- Quick start guide for programming ESP8266 and using it your Hobby projects.
- Share the ESP8266 experience.
- Focused on programming ESP8266 by Arduino IDE with Examples but also tell about other usage scenarios.
- What you need to start ? where to start ?
- Introduce terminology of Cloud and IOT.
- ESP8266 alternatives for Hobbyists.

Agenda

- How hobbyists use the ESP8266 ?
 - As an Arduino WIFI Modem (original factory Firmware)
 - As a programmable interpreter (Lua, Basic, Python ..etc)
 - As an Arduino IDE programmable MCU.
- Hardware
 - What is it ?
 - Form Factors and NodeMCU
- Software
 - Cloud Products (thingspeak , OpenHAB, ...etc)
 - Arduino IDE Examples:
 - Wifi Station
 - Wifi AP
 - Web Client for NTP service.
 - WifiConfig library
- Other Options (competition)
- Other Web Resources.

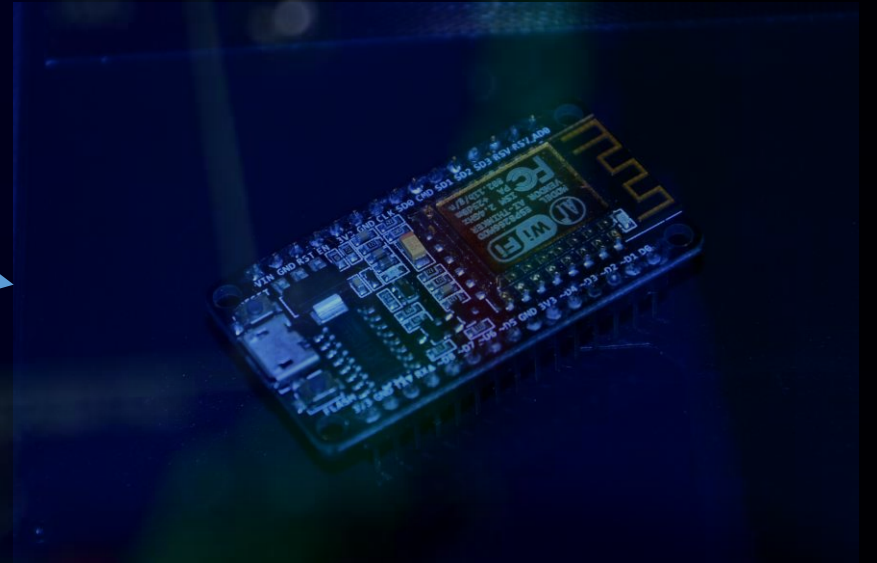
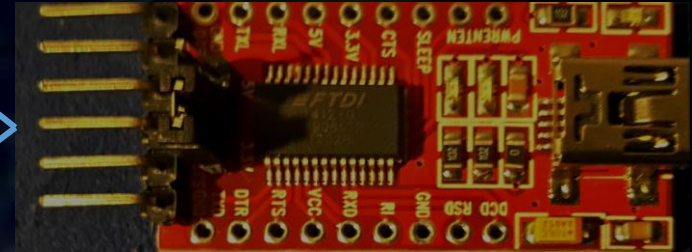
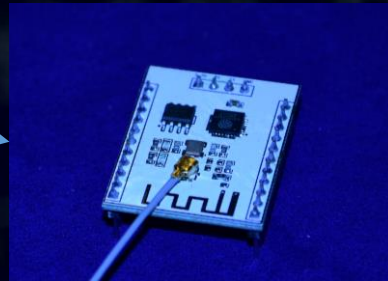
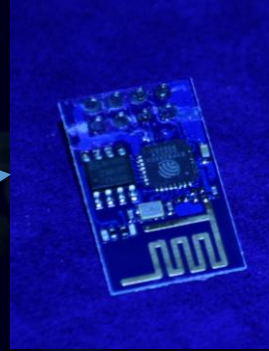
What is an ESP8266 ?

- A low cost WIFI chip with full TCP/IP stack and MCU.
- Produced by Shanghai-based Chinese manufacturer Espressif Systems.
- <http://hackaday.com>
- AI Thinker Modules
- NodeMCU developer board.
- WiMos
- ...



Form Factors

- ESP8266-01
- ESP8266-XX
- ESP8266-12
- ESP8266-12E
- NodeMCU
- Sonoff (commercial product)
 - A/C ~10Amps Relay
 - Programmable pins (almost) exposed



How to use the ESP8266 ? (use cases)



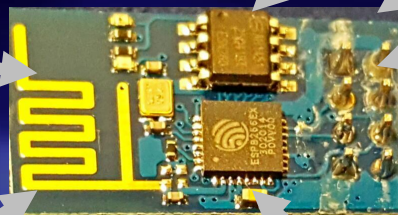
**Arduino WIFI
Modem
Factory Firmware
(AT Commands.)**

Lua Programming

**Basic
Programming**

**JavaScript
Programming**

**MicroPython
Programming**



Arduino IDE

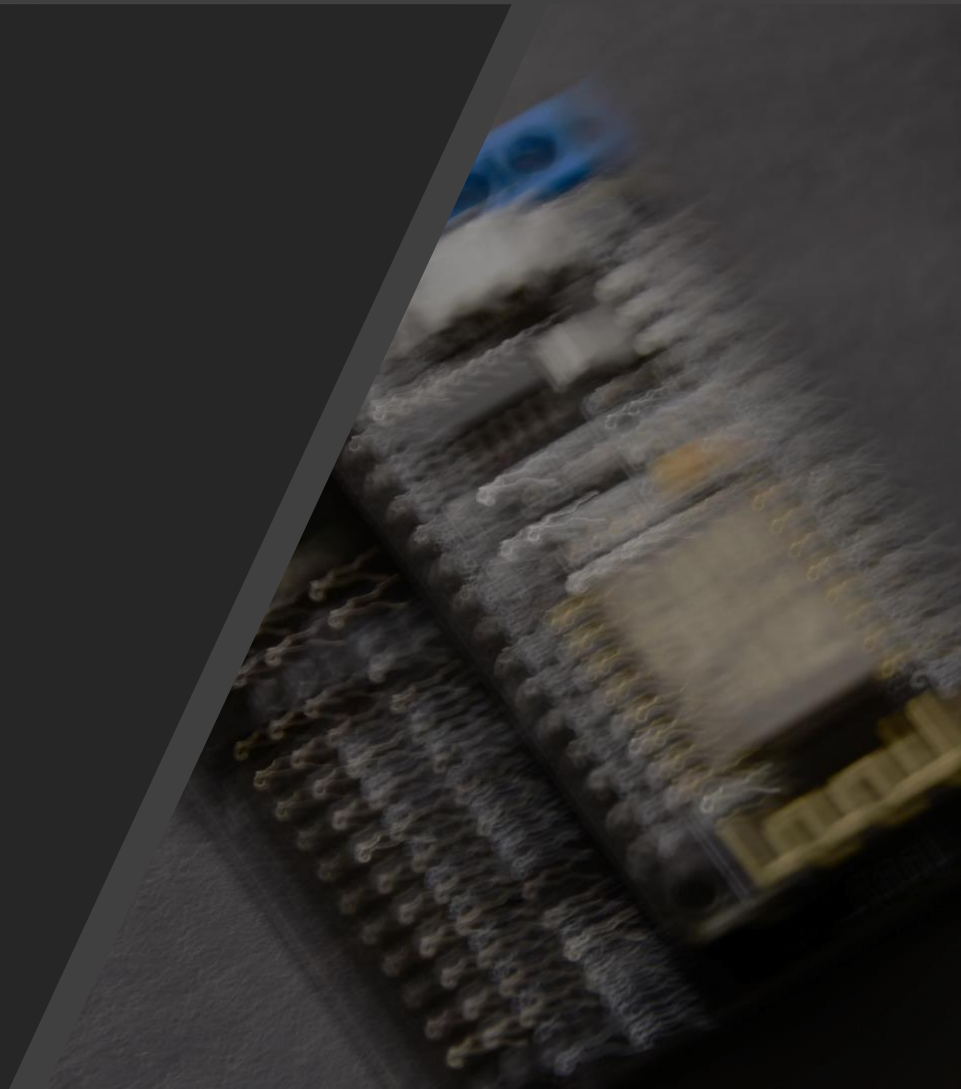
```
#include <ESP8266WiFi.h>
```

Arduino Libraries & Eco System

**EasyESP
Firmware
(no
programming)**

Flashing the ESP8266 (The Firmware)

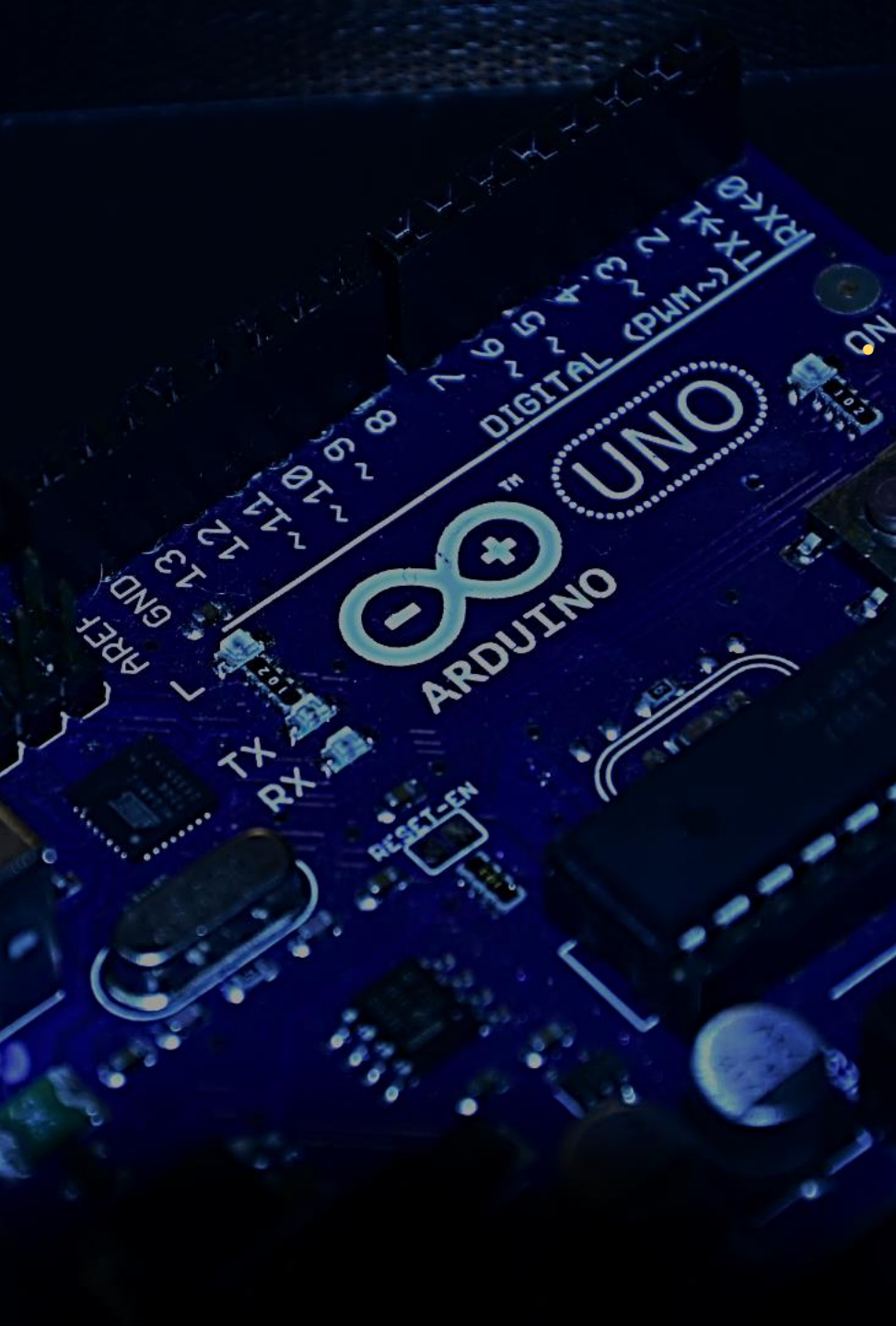
- The Firmware flashing tools:
 - [ESP8266Flasher.exe](https://github.com/nodemcu/nodemcu-flasher), you could upload multiple Firmwares:
<https://github.com/nodemcu/nodemcu-flasher>
 - Espressif Flash download tool:
<http://bbs.espressif.com/viewtopic.php?f=57&t=433>
 - Esptool.py
<https://github.com/espressif/esptool>
- The available Firmwares:
 - Flash the Lua Firmware <https://github.com/nodemcu/nodemcu-firmware>
 - Basic programming Firmare <https://www.esp8266basic.com/>
 - The microPython firmware
<https://docs.micropython.org/en/latest/esp8266/esp8266/tutorial/intro.html>
 - The original Espressif Firmware :
<http://bbs.espressif.com/download/file.php?id=991>



Uses of the ESP8266 (1)

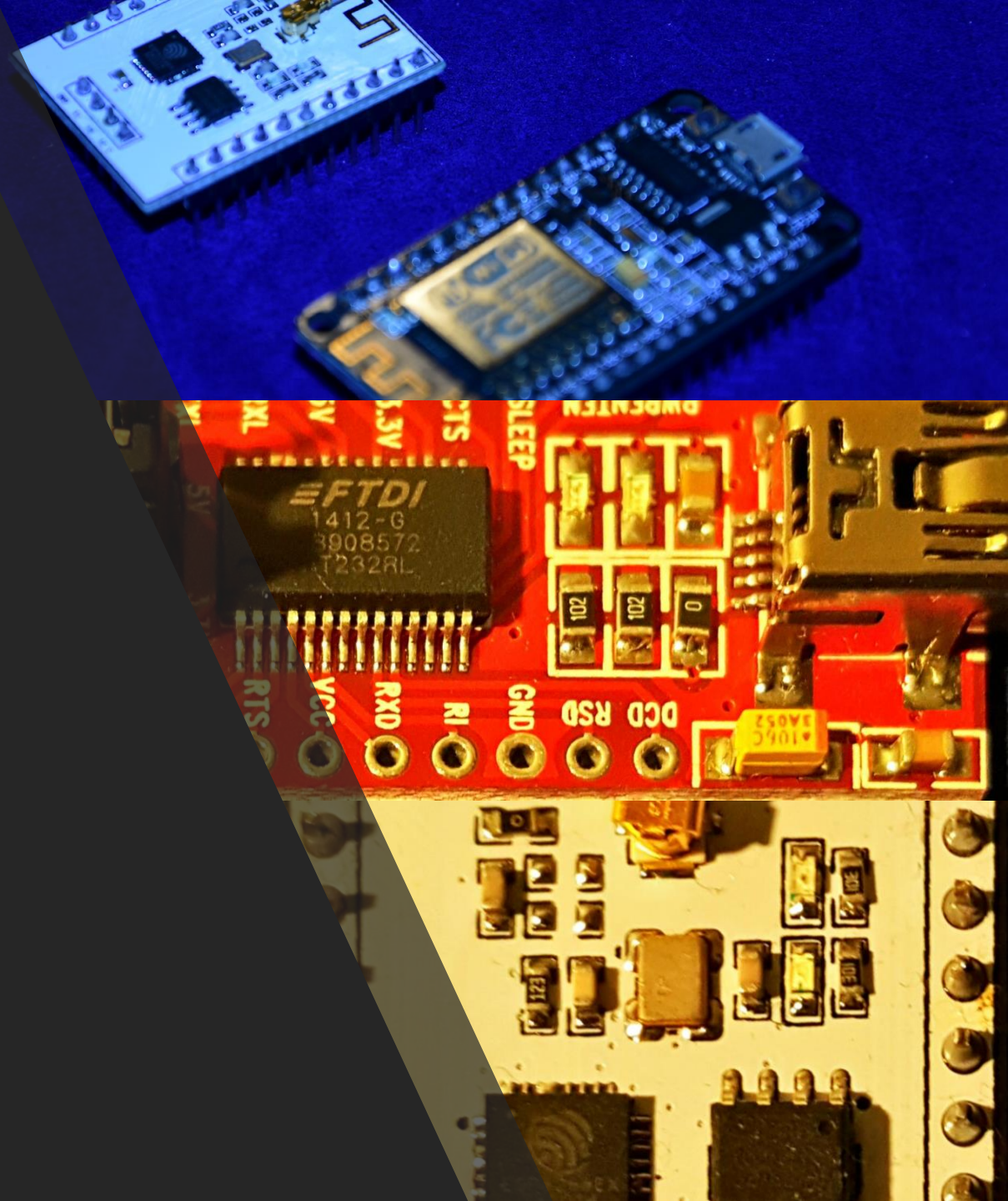
As a WIFI modem for Arduino

- Connect the ESP8266 RX and TX to the Arduino TX and RX Serial pins respectively , GND and VCC to 3.3v
- Send AT Commands and respond to them via the serial port.
- Original Firmware on the ESP8266-01
- Other "AT" enabled Firmware available to add more features like NTP (time Query)
- Some projects use the Esp8266 as replacement for RTC (by NTP).
- A perfect Cheap WIFI shield for Arduino.
- ESP8266 Adafruit Library.
- Example AT command:
 - `AT+CWMODE=2` sets the ESP8266 in Access Point Mode
 - `AT+CWMODE` queries the device which mode is it in now
`STA=1,AP=2,both=3`



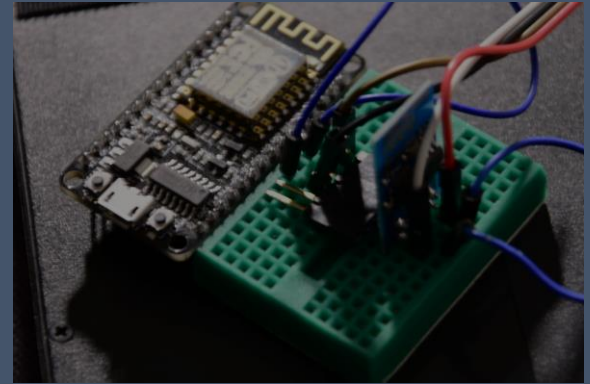
Uses of the ESP8266 (2)

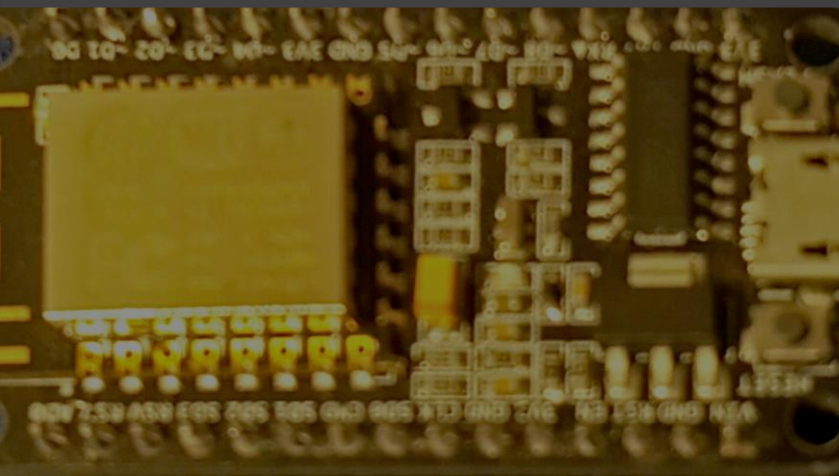
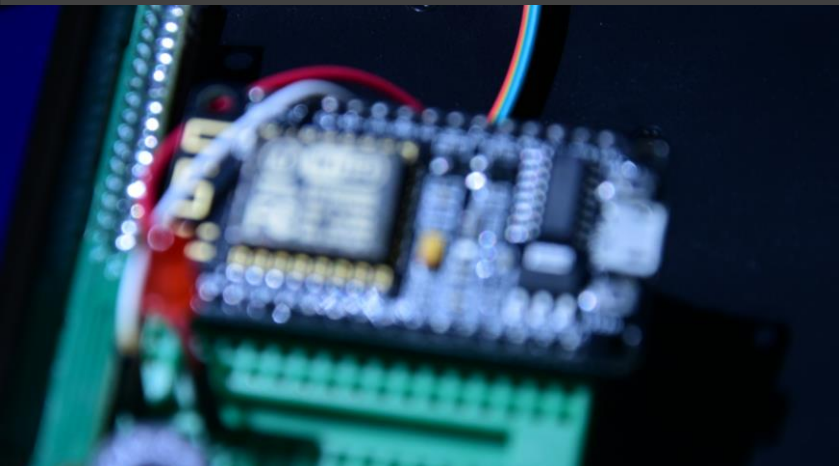
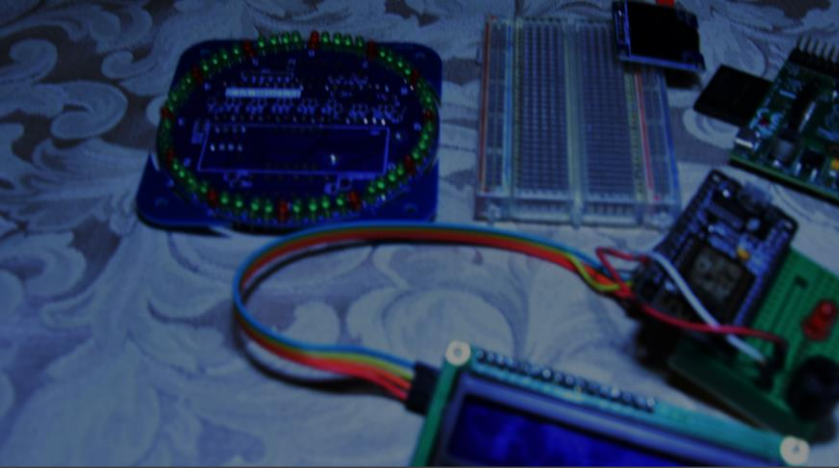
- Using the Basic , Lua or MicroPython firmware
- "Explorer" and "Lua Uploader" tools to upload the LUA code
- Each implementation has its own eco-system of libraries.
- You Burn the Firmware which is some kind of an Embedded interpreter and the text source code is uploaded using the tools mentioned above.



Uses of the ESP8266 (3)

- Programming by Arduino IDE & NodeMCU
 - Install CH340 driver
 - Install the Arduino IDE 1.6.8+
 - Add the ESP8266 repository (<https://github.com/esp8266/Arduino>)
 - Tools --> Board menu -> Board Manager
 - Library Manager
 - Explore the Library Examples





Best Setup for beginners (Your first shopping list)

- NodeMCU (including the USB interface) 12E with 4MB+ RAM (critical later for OTA) .
- Arduino IDE (use most the already existing Arduino Libraries).
- Breadboard and some M-F, F-F, M-M jumper wires.
- Some LED's and a buzzer .
- A couple of Sensors Like DHT11 or the more accurate DHT22. (best when they are I2C or SPI interfaced)
- An LCD 2004 or 1602 with I2C or SPI interface for saving PINs
- If you insist on having the ESP-01 , remember that you will need an FTDI USB-Serial port module also.
- Spoil yourself with NodeMCU motor shield if you want to build your own WiFi car later.

The <ESP8266WiFi.h> library

- `#include <ESP8266WiFi.h>`
- The following object is instantiated:
 - **WiFi (multiple Inheritance)**
 - `.begin(ssid, password,...);`
 - `.status()`
 - `.localIP()`
 - `config(localIP,gateway,subnet,dns1,dns2)`
 - `isConnected()`
 - `RSSI()`
 - `beginWPSconfig();`
 - ..

Has the following Classes:

WiFiServer

```
server(80)
```

```
.begin();
```

```
WiFiClient client = server.available()
```

```
.available()
```

```
.flush()
```

```
.readStringUntil('\r')
```

```
.println/print(String)
```

WiFiClient (connect to a web server)

```
.connect(server,80)
```

```
.print(String)
```

```
.stop()
```

```
.remoteIP() .remotePort()
```

Connect as a WiFi Station

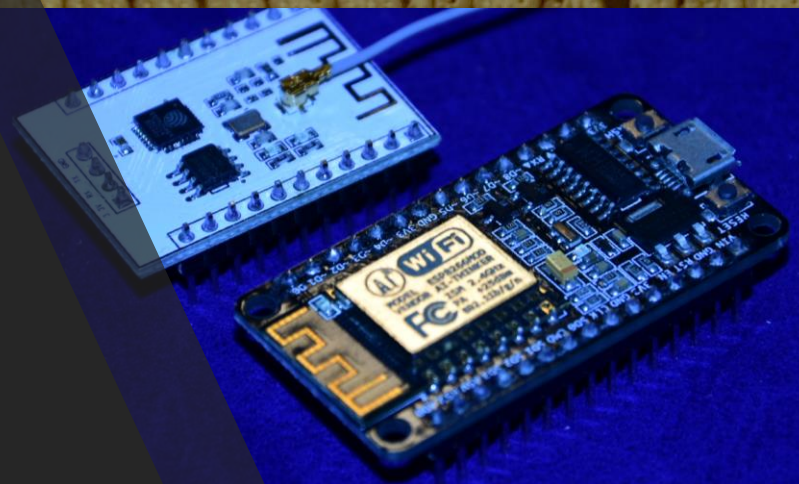
```
#include <ESP8266WiFi.h>
```

```
/*you could define "ssid" and "password" in .h file  
in your ArduinoIDE/libraires folder to avoid having  
to write them every time in your programs*/
```

```
WiFi.begin(ssid, password);
```

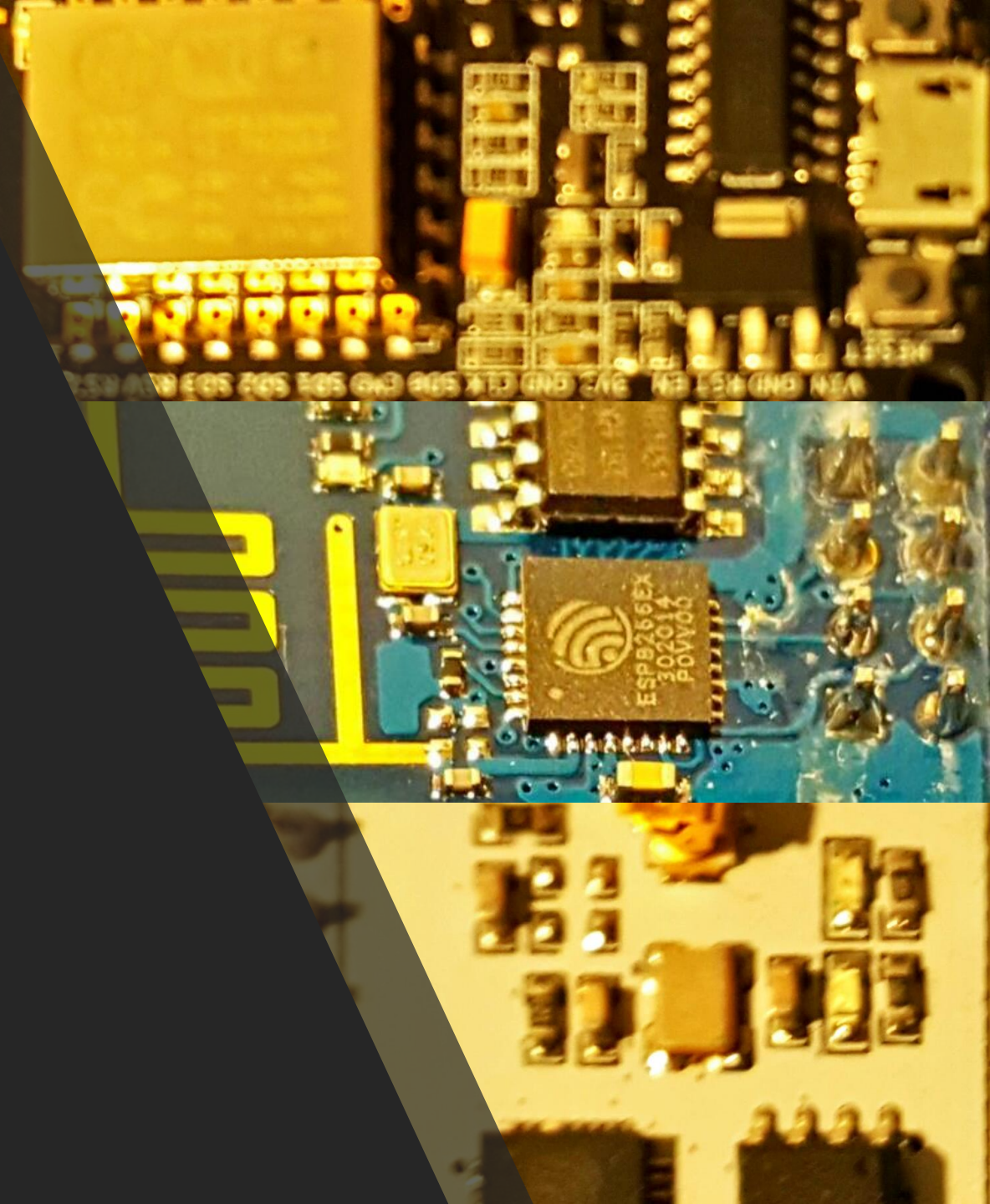
```
while (WiFi.status() != WL_CONNECTED) {  
    delay(500);  
    Serial.print(".");  
}
```

```
Serial.println(WiFi.localIP());
```



As an HTTP server

- `setup()`
`server.begin();`
- `Loop()`
`// Check is some client connected`
`WiFiClient client = server.available();`
`if (!client) {`
`return;`
`}`
`// wait till client sends in some data`
`Serial.println("new client");`
`while(!client.available()){`
`delay(1);`
`}`
`// Read the GET/ POST request`
`String request = client.readStringUntil('\r');`
`Serial.println(request);`
`client.flush();`



Create an Access Point (AP)

```
#include <ESP8266WiFi.h>
```

```
void setup()
```

```
WiFi.mode(WIFI_AP);
```

```
WiFi.softAP(ap_name,psk_key);
```

```
server.begin();
```

```
void loop()
```

```
// Check if a client has connected
```

```
WiFiClient client = server.available();
```

```
if (!client) { return; }
```

```
// Read the first line of the request
```

```
String req = client.readStringUntil('\r');
```

```
Serial.println(req);
```

```
client.flush();
```

```
// process the "req" string
```

```
// Send the response to the client
```

```
client.print(response_str);
```


Connect to the web

```
/*
https://github.com/esp8266/Arduino/blob/master/libraries/ESP8266WiFi/examples/NTPClient/NTPClient.ino
sketch -> examples --> ESP8266/NTPClient/NTPClient.ino
*/
#include <ESP8266WiFi.h>
#include <WiFiUdp.h>
unsigned int localPort = 2390; // local port to listen for UDP packets
//IPAddress timeServer(129, 6, 15, 28); // time.nist.gov NTP server
IPAddress timeServerIP; // time.nist.gov NTP server address
const char* ntpServerName = "time.nist.gov";
// A UDP instance to let us send and receive packets over UDP
WiFiUDP udp;
setup()
{
    wifi.begin and status checking loop
    //Starting UDP
    udp.begin(localPort);

```

```
void loop()

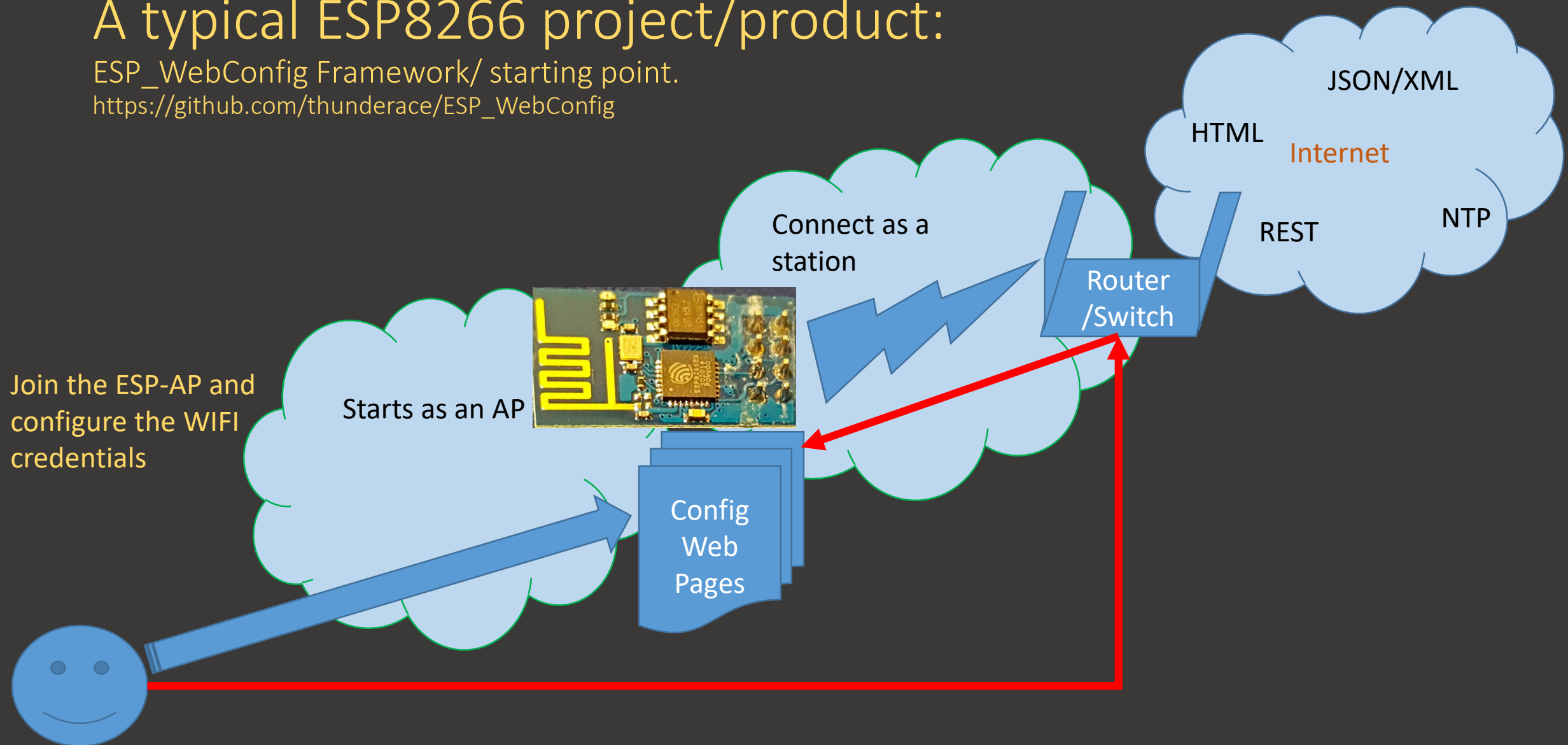
WiFi.hostByName("time.nist.gov", timeServerIP);
sendNTPpacket(timeServerIP); {
    udp.beginPacket(address, 123); //NTP requests are to
port 123
    udp.write(packetBuffer, NTP_PACKET_SIZE);
    udp.endPacket();
int cb = udp.parsePacket();
if (cb!=null)
    udp.read(packetBuffer, NTP_PACKET_SIZE); // read the packet
into the buffer
    // calculations for epoc and UTC time

```

A typical ESP8266 project/product:

ESP_WebConfig Framework/ starting point.

https://github.com/thunderace/ESP_WebConfig



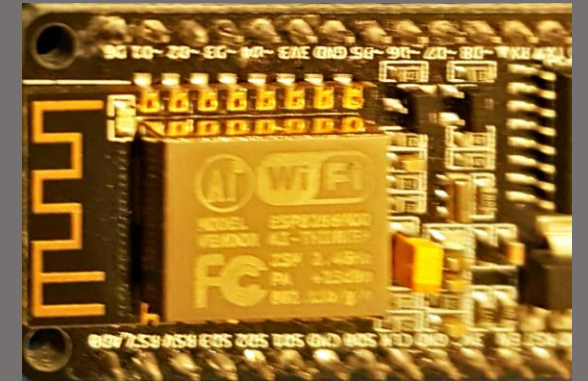
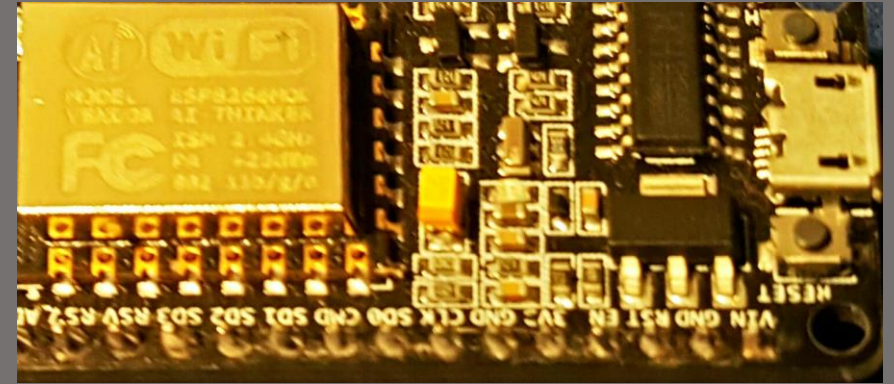
A peek into IOT

Just an introduction



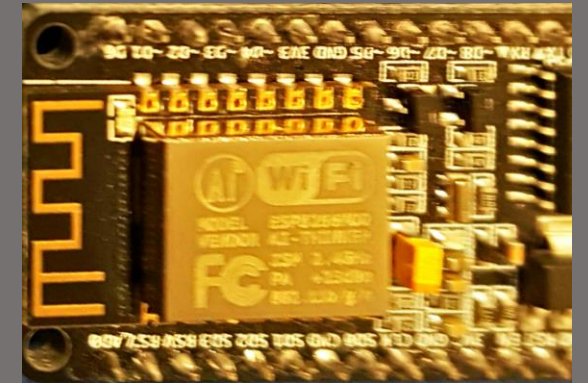
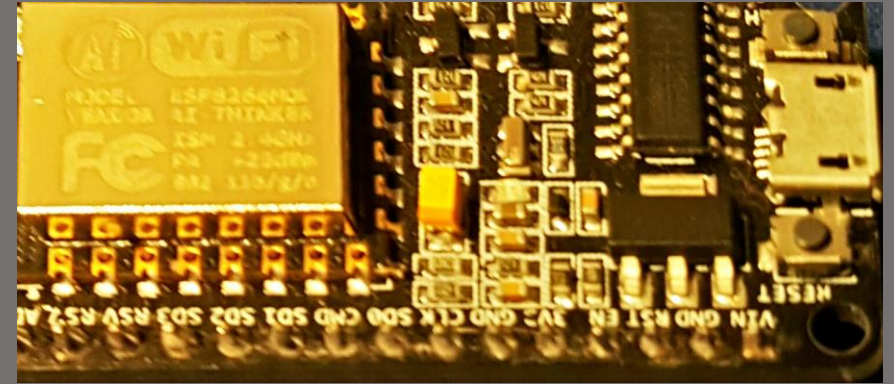
IOT

- Internet of Things
- Things network through protocols (Arduino eco system).
 - Wifi (esp8266)
 - BT (hc-05, hc-06)
 - RF 2.4 GHz (nRF24L01)
 - ..etc
- Machine-Human
- Machine-Machine M2M
- Society 4.0
- Industry 4.0
- 4th Industrial Revolution (steam –Electric-
Electronic- IOT)



Eclipse Three stacks of IOT

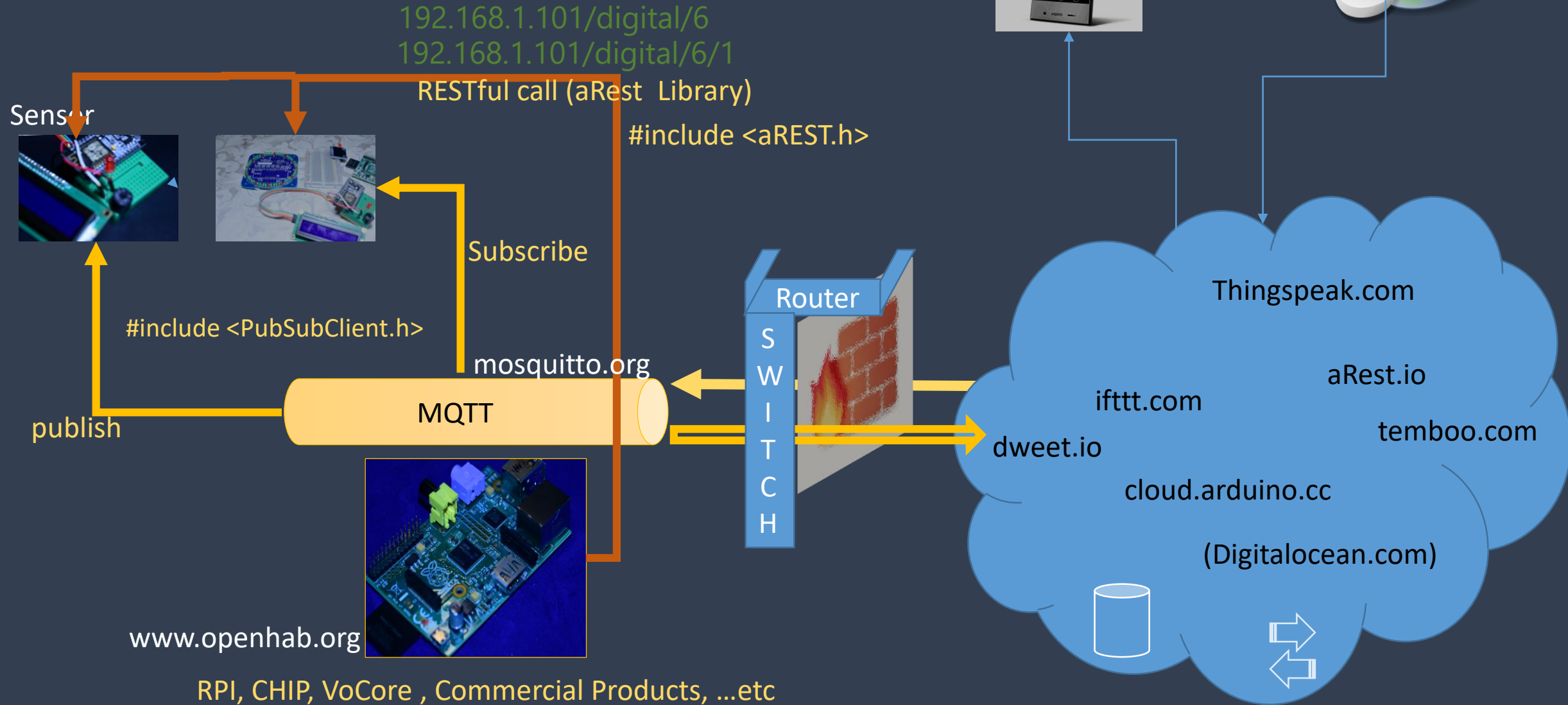
- <https://iot.eclipse.org/resources/white-papers/Eclipse%20IoT%20White%20Paper%20-%20The%20Three%20Software%20Stacks%20Required%20for%20IoT%20Architectures.pdf>
- Constrained Device
 - MCU / CPU
 - Sensors
 - Focused devices
 - Limited Memory, Processing, communication ..etc
 - OS /RTOS
- Gateway
 - Aggregation of Sensors.
 - OS
 - Data management
 - Messaging
- IOT Cloud Platform
 - Data Management (DB)
 - Event management / Analytics
 - Security /device Registry
 - UI



Why do we need the Cloud with IOT ?

- Heavy Lifting Processing
 - Image Processing
 - Speech Recognition
 - Knowledge database (example: FarmBot.org).
 - Machine Learning
 - Prediction , projection.
 - Large JSON/XML/Response parsing and reduction
- More Connectivity channels (M-M , M-H) like email, SMS, twitter, facebook, Encryption, app-notification ..etc
- Distributed (example: Car approaching, house automation, Garage door ..etc)

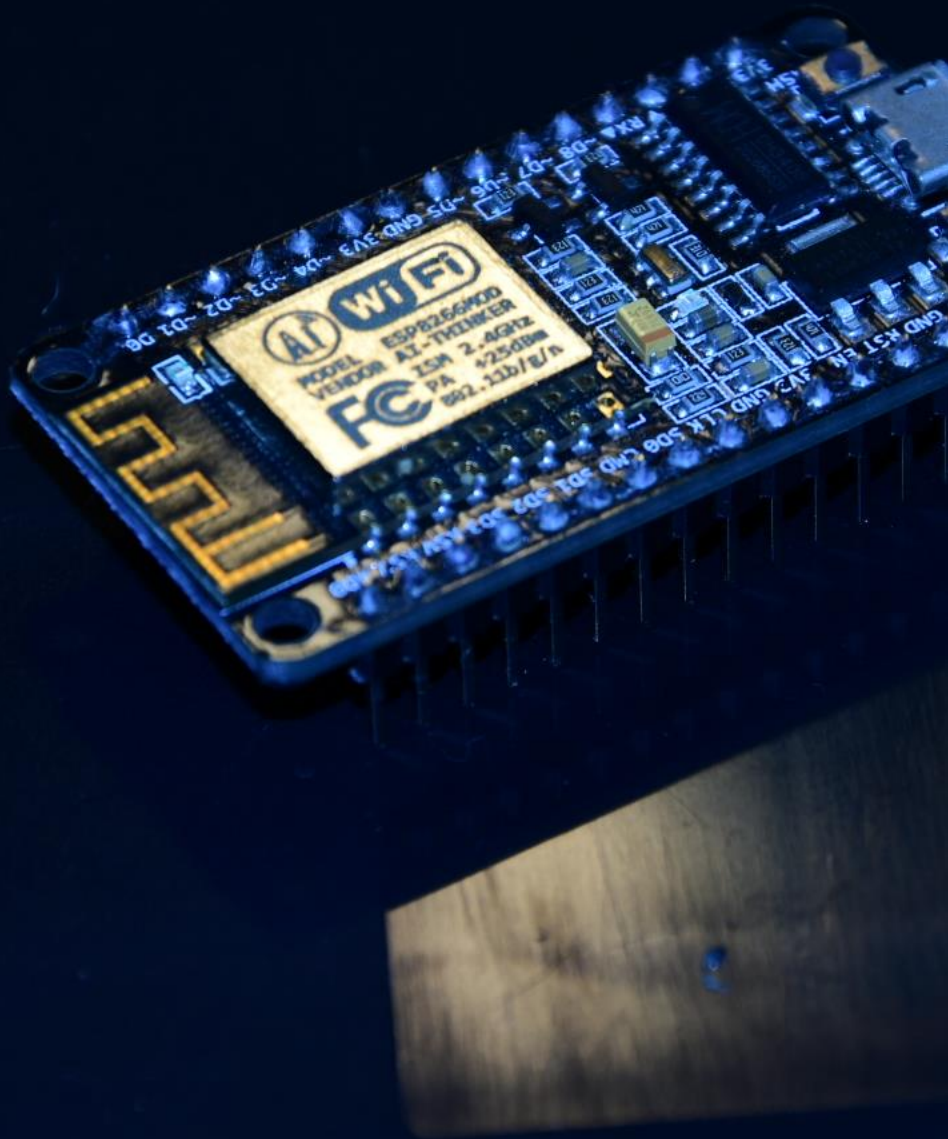
Example IOT Scenario:





Other WIFI options

- ESP8285 / ESP8255
- ESP32
- Realtek RTL8710
- VoCore
- Arduino Yun
- Chip



References and tools

- [Andreas Spiess Youtube channel](#)
- Internet of Things with ESP8266 by Marco Schwartz.
- ESP8266 Weather station by Daniel Eichhorn.
- NodeMCU dev kit using Arduino IDE by Magesh Jayakumar.
- <http://www.arduinesp.com/> is a good place to look for examples.
- Office lens App@Android and Nikon DSLR to create the Background pictures.