

CANSAT BELGIUM

Hardware kit discovery





Presentation themes

- About the wiki @ cansat.mchobby.be
- Arduino Uno → Feather M0 Express
- Review the kit content
- Feather M0 Express and goodies
- LiPo batteries
- Radio transmission



cansat.mchobby.be

- Getting started guide

Hardware discovery



Discover the various items included within the kit.

[Cliquez ici](#)

Arduino IDE



Prepare your Arduino IDE environment

[Cliquez ici](#)

Feather User Guide



The **Feather M0 Express** user guide for Arduino IDE.

[Cliquez ici](#)

Forcing Flash Mode



Useful tip to know.

[Cliquez ici](#)

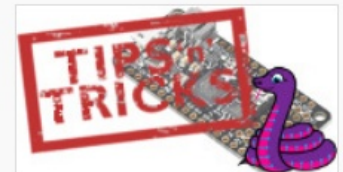
M0 Sketch tips



Tips and tricks to write sketch for the M0.

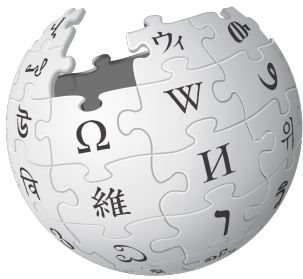
[Cliquez ici](#)

Using SPI Flash



Programming advice to work with integrated SPI Flash.

[Cliquez ici](#)



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- Getting started guide
- Testing the devices
- Mission 1
Radio telemetry transmission.
Capturing data.

Mission 1: Emitter



Wiring sensors, capturing datas and sending over radio.

Mission 1: Receiver



Receiving the transmitted data.

[Cliquez ici](#)

Mission 1: Going autonomous



Receiving the transmitted data.

[Cliquez ici](#)

```
/dev/ttyACM0 (Arduino/Genuino Uno)
[DATA] (len=39,RSSI=-48): 23182|37619675|25.84|97850.22|23.94;
[DATA] (len=39,RSSI=-47): 23183|37620079|25.52|97846.78|23.94;
[DATA] (len=39,RSSI=-47): 23184|37620483|25.84|97848.91|23.95;
[DATA] (len=39,RSSI=-46): 23185|37620886|25.84|97850.06|23.96;
[DATA] (len=39,RSSI=-47): 23186|37621290|25.52|97848.25|23.96;
[DATA] (len=39,RSSI=-48): 23187|37621693|25.84|97850.05|23.95;
[DATA] (len=39,RSSI=-48): 23188|37622097|25.84|97850.37|23.95;
[DATA] (len=39,RSSI=-48): 23189|37622501|26.16|97850.39|23.96;
[DATA] (len=39,RSSI=-48): 23190|37622904|25.84|97851.85|23.95;
[DATA] (len=39,RSSI=-48): 23191|37623308|25.84|97852.17|23.95;
[DATA] (len=39,RSSI=-48): 23192|37623712|25.84|97849.89|23.94;
[DATA] (len=39,RSSI=-47): 23193|37624115|25.84|97851.19|23.95;
[DATA] (len=39,RSSI=-47): 23194|37624519|26.16|97849.06|23.95;
[DATA] (len=39,RSSI=-47): 23195|37624922|26.16|97851.52|23.95;
[DATA] (len=39,RSSI=-47): 23196|37625326|25.84|97851.87|23.96;
[DATA] (len=39,RSSI=-47): 23197|37625730|25.84|97851.70|23.96;
```

Défilement automatique Les deux, NL et C

- 7 Capturing data to file
 - 7.1 Putty
 - 7.2 Linux command
 - 7.3 With Python
 - 7.4 Other options



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- Getting started guide
- Testing the devices
- Mission 1
Radio telemetry transmission.
Capturing data.
- Resources

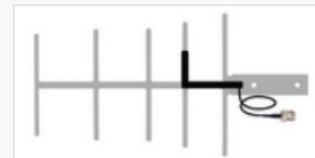
CanSat 3D



CanSat 3D models to print your own one

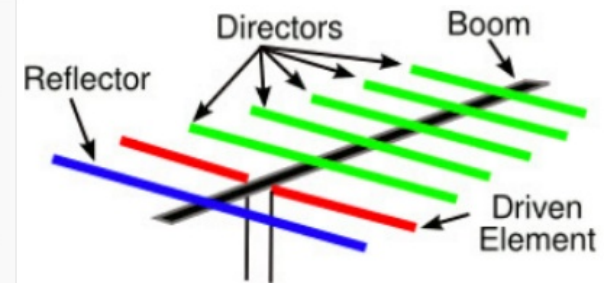
[Cliquez ici](#)

Radio Antenna



A well designed Antenna can increase the communication distance.

[Cliquez ici](#)



Parachute



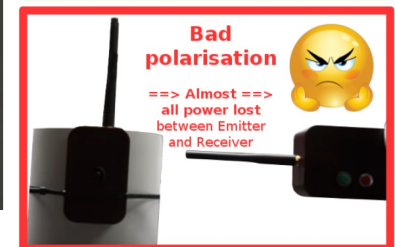
Some reference to design the parachute

[Cliquez ici](#)

Antenna Tutorial

Including a Cheap DIY Antenna Tester

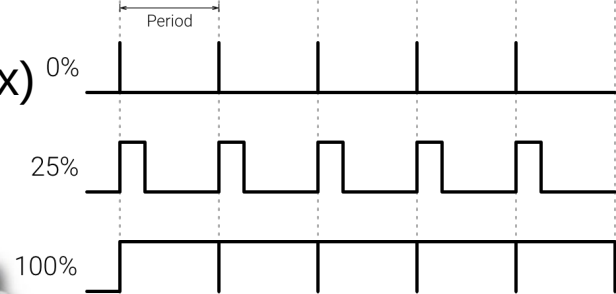
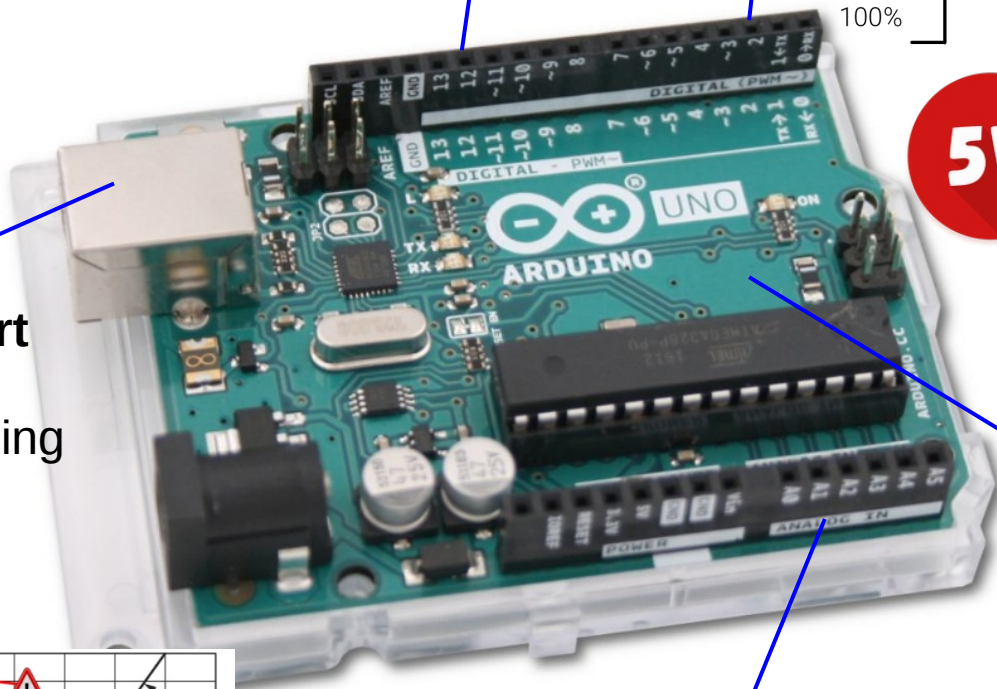
(What you always wanted to know but nobody told you)





Arduino Uno → Feather M0

Arduino UNO



- Microcontroller ATmega328
- 32K Flash
- **2K SRam** 2048 char.

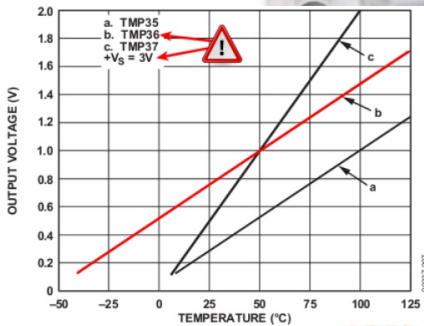
USB Port
easy programming

Digital I/O (13x)

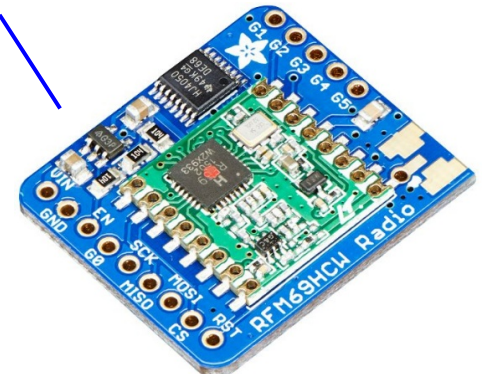
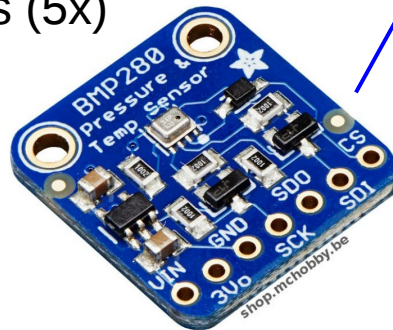
5V

SPI & I2C buses
Easy connection for sensors and circuitry

Analog inputs (5x)



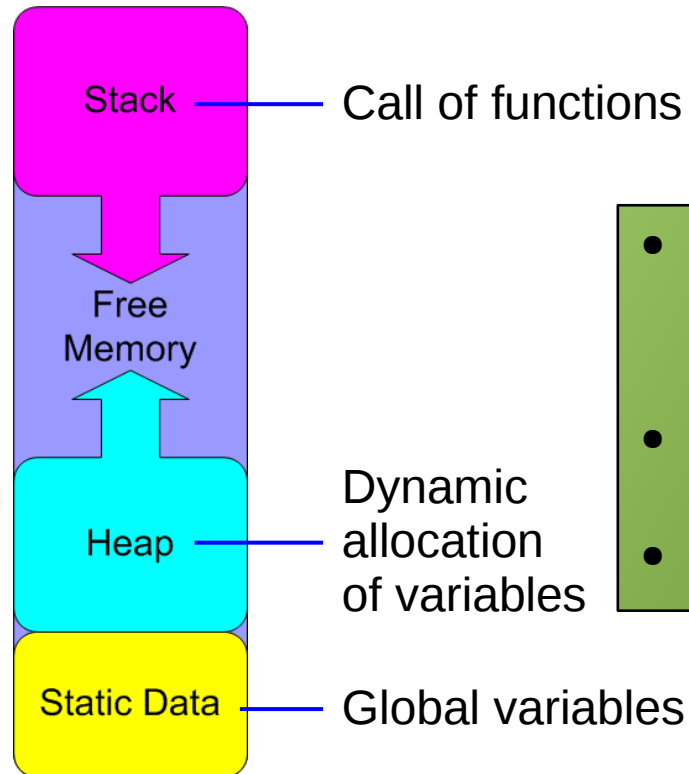
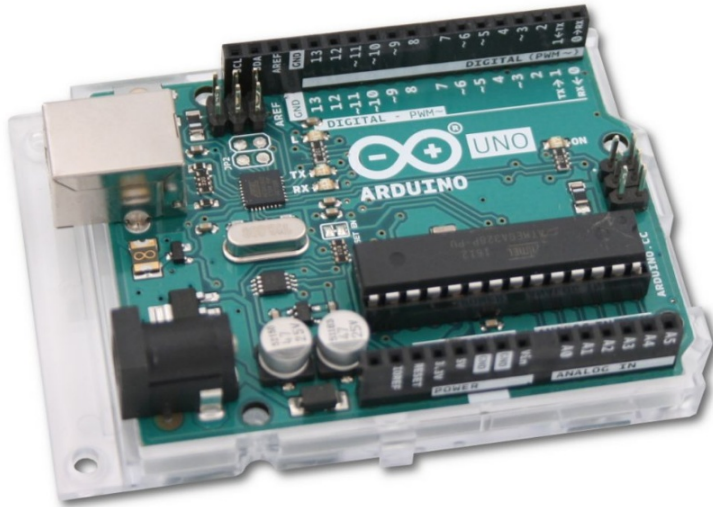
2.7-5.5v alim. (in)
tension de sortie analogique
Masse GND





Arduino Uno → Feather M0

Arduino UNO



- Microcontroller ATmega328
- 32K Flash
- **2K SRam** 2048 char.

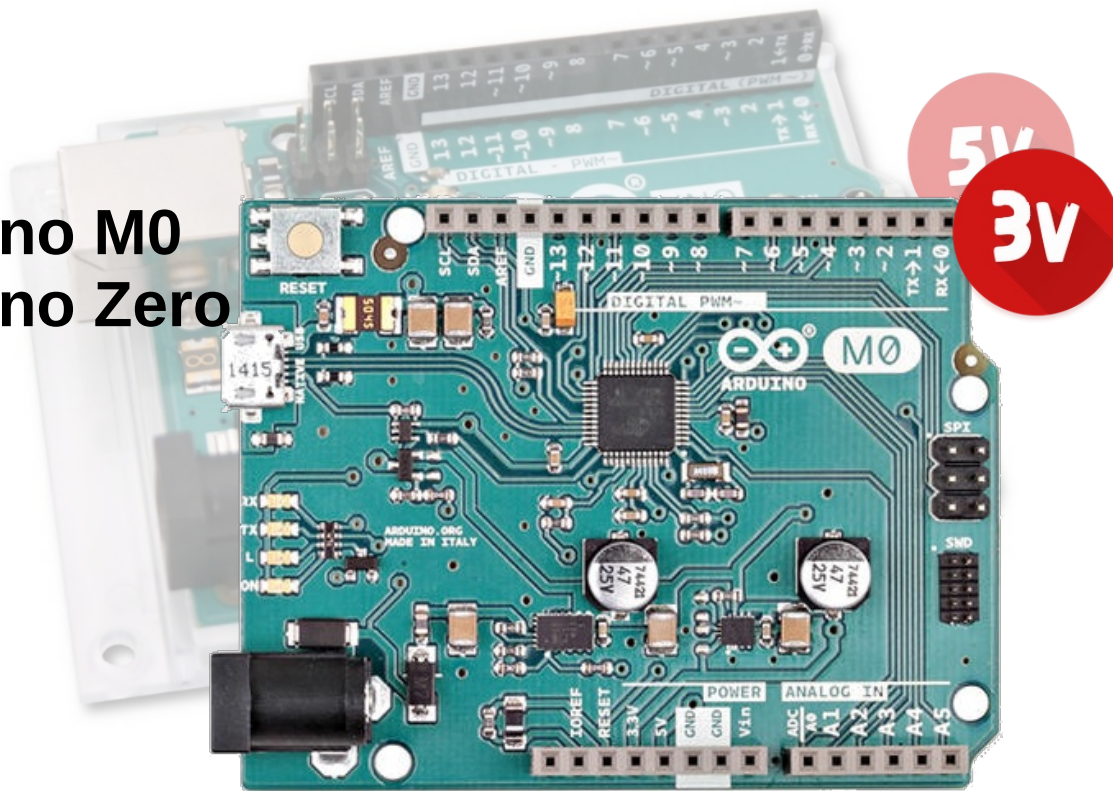
Sketch uses 21,316 bytes (66%) of program storage space. Maximum is 32,256 bytes.
Global variables use 1,629 bytes (79%) of dynamic memory, leaving 419 bytes for local variables. Maximum is 2,048 bytes.
Low memory available, stability problems may occur.



Arduino Uno → Feather M0

Arduino UNO

Arduino M0
Arduino Zero



- Microcontroller ATmega328
- 32K Flash
- **2K SRam** 2048 char.

- Microcontroller ATSAM21G18 (ARM Cortex M0+)
- 256K Flash
- **32K SRam** 32768 char.

M0



6x analog input
1x **analog output**
16 Mhz → **48 Mhz**

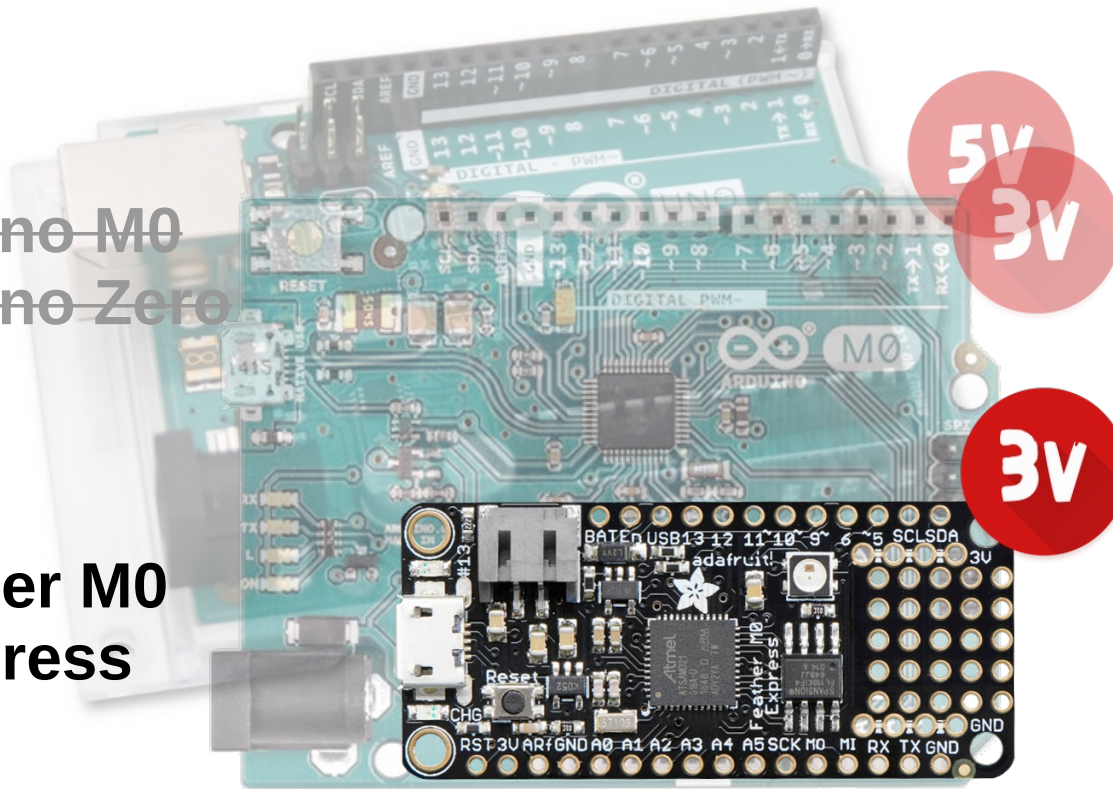


Arduino Uno → Feather M0

Arduino UNO

Arduino M0
Arduino Zero

Feather M0
Express



- Microcontroller ATmega328
- 32K Flash
- **2K SRam** 2048 char.

- Microcontroller ATSAM21G18 (ARM Cortex M0+)
- 256K Flash

- Microcontroller ATSAM21 (ARM Cortex M0+)
- 256K Flash
- **32K SRam** 32768 char.

Feather  1x Lipo charger
1x **SPI Flash**
1x NeoPixel LED



Arduino Uno → Feather M0

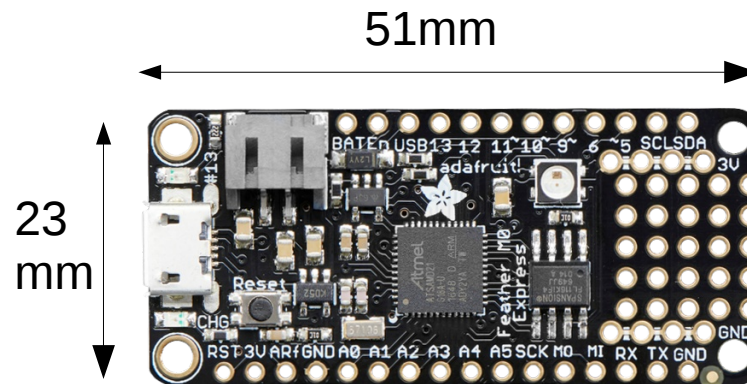
Feather M0 Express

Feathers are :

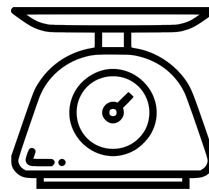
- ✓ Small (5 x 2cm)
- ✓ Light (4,7 gr)
- ✓ Powerful
- ✓ Versatile
- ✓ Polyvalent
- ✓ Provided with complete ecosystem
shop.mchobby.be/87-feather

Feather M0 features :

- 20 GPIOs
- 6 Analog inputs - 12 bits
- 1 Analog output - 10 bits
- PWM outputs on all pins
- Hardware I2C, SPI buses
- UART



4.7 Gr



Feather



- 1x Lipo charger
- 1x SPI Flash
- 1x NeoPixel

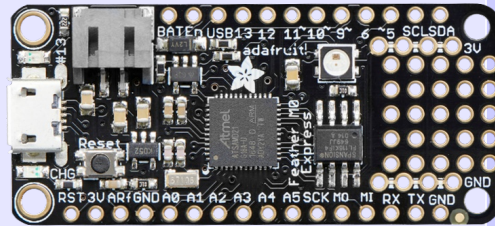
- Microcontroller
ATSAMD21
(ARM Cortex M0+)
- 48 MHz
- 256K Flash
- **32K SRam** 32768 char.



CanSat kit content

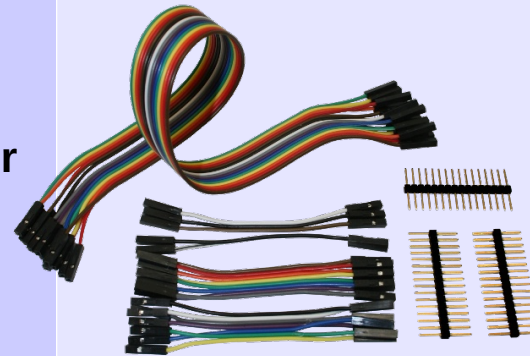


CanSat kit content



Feather M0 Express
New Arduino M0
compatible on a
**standard platform for
embedded project.**

Compatible with Arduino IDE
and CircuitPython



**Multi-functional
breadboard wires**

Set of wires with plug
that can be modified
from female to male.

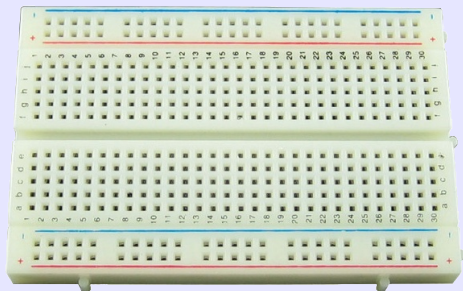
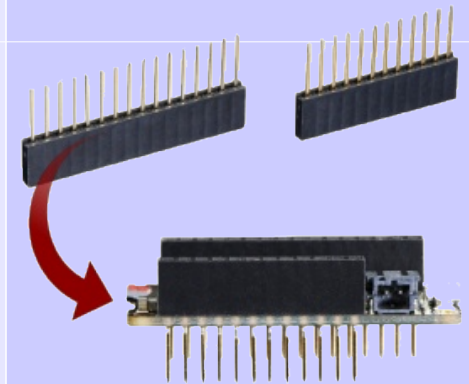
**USB A/microB 1m
cable.**

Used to plug your
feather on a computer
to program it or to
recharge the battery.



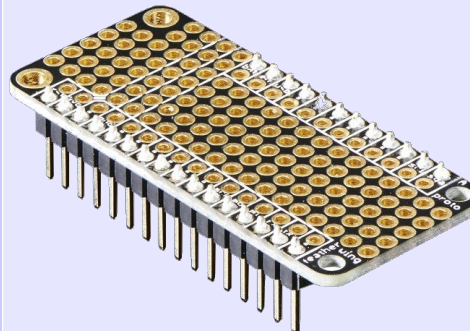
**Feather Stacking
Headers**

Plug your feather or
prototype wing on
breadboard and still
having a female con-
nector under the hand.



Half Size Breadboard

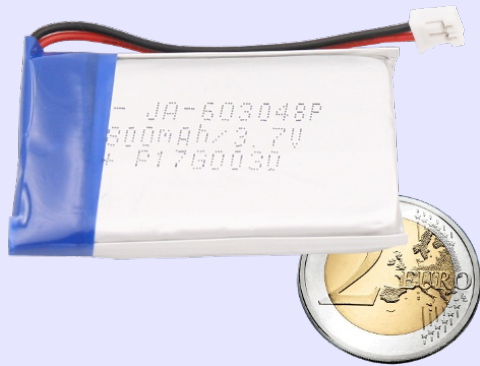
Solderless breadboard
are used for fast
prototyping.



**Feather Prototyping
Wing**

Prototyping board for
Feather platform.
Create your own
extension board.

CanSat kit content

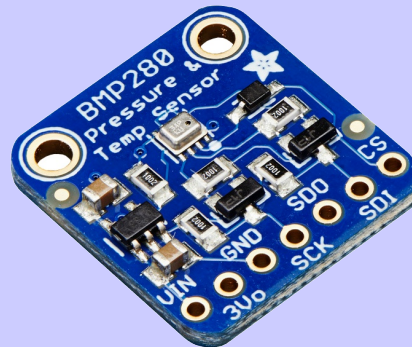


Lithium Polymer Battery

Transform the Feather into an autonomous platform with this 800mAh Lipo.

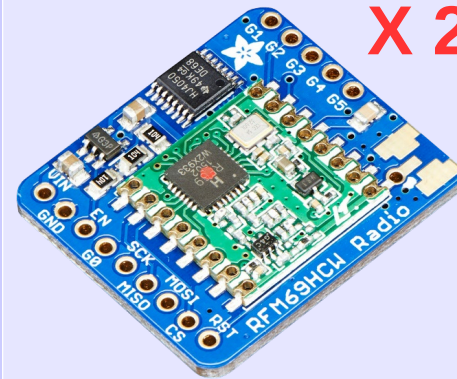
BMP280 Barometric pressure sensor

Easily evaluate pressure, altitude and temperature.



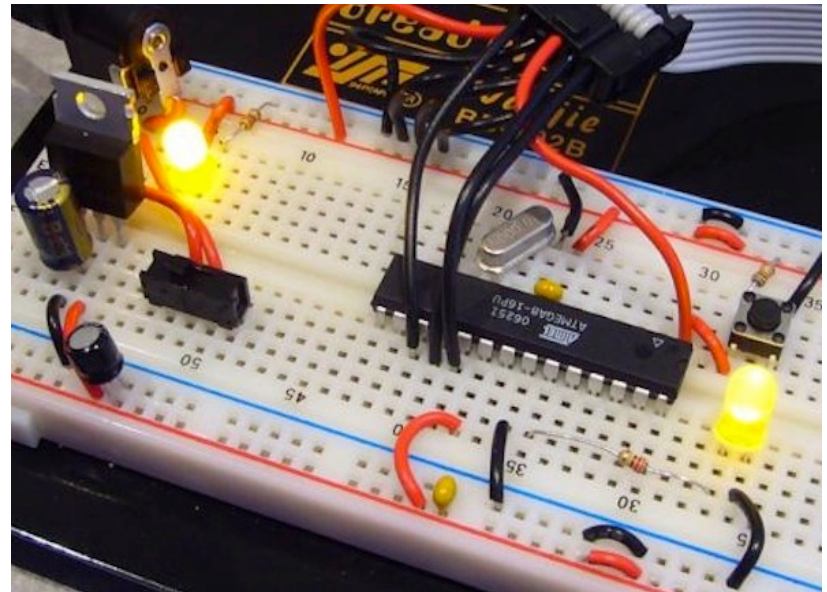
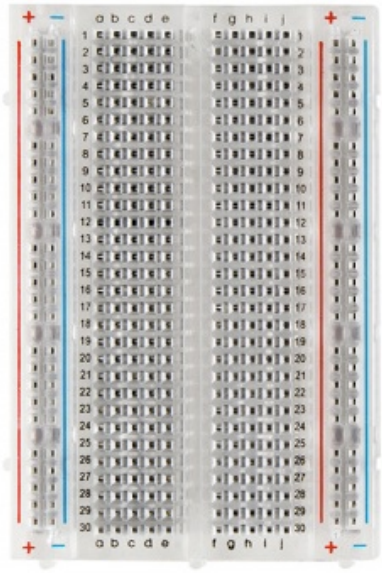
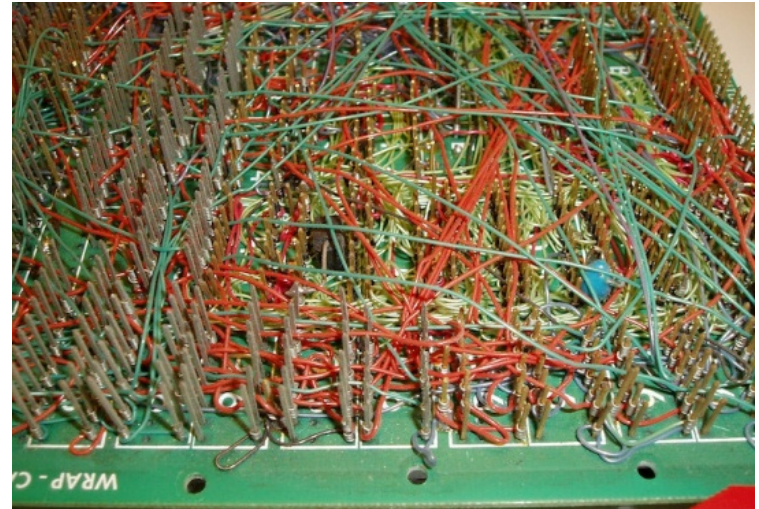
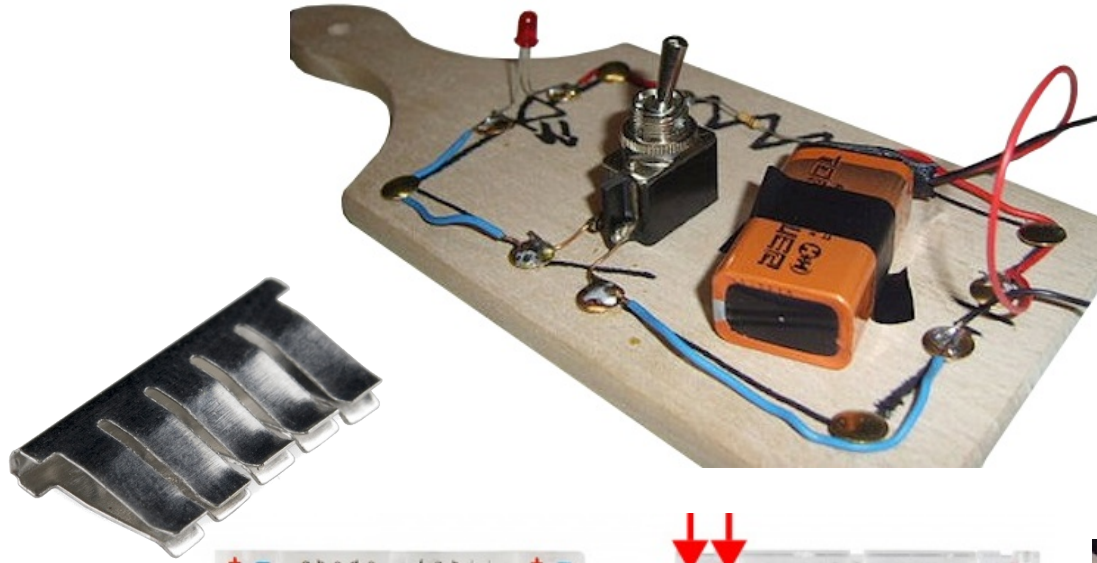
TMP36 – analog temperature sensor

Transform the sensor voltage read to an easy-to-read temperature.



RFM69HCW Transceiver Radio
Transport data over long distance with packet radio. One breakout act as emitter, the second one as receiver.

CanSat kit content - breadboard





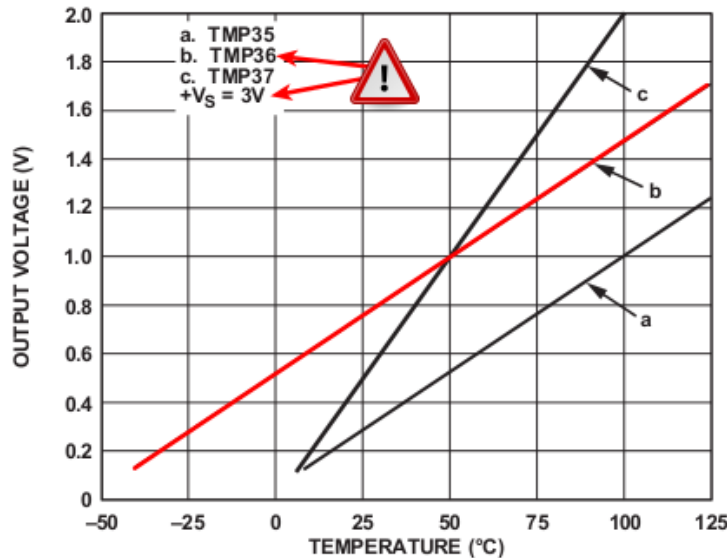
CanSat kit content - TMP36

Here is the formula to use with a TMP36 powered at 3.3v:

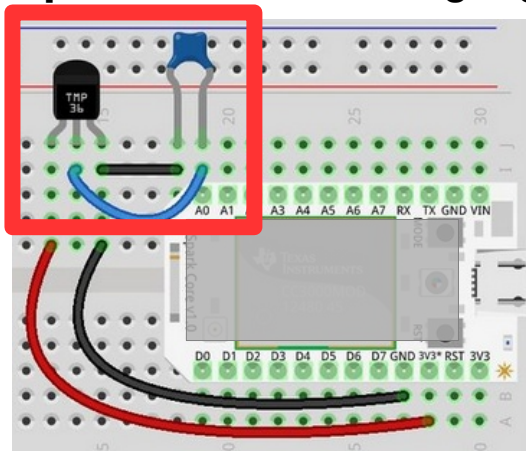
$$\text{Temp in } ^\circ\text{C} = (\text{output_voltage_in_mV} - 500) / 10$$



0V to 1.75V
 -50°C to 125°C



Tip & Trick – Filtering signal for greater stability



Depending on the other device you may add to your experiment, some electrical parasite may be rejected on the power supply stage.

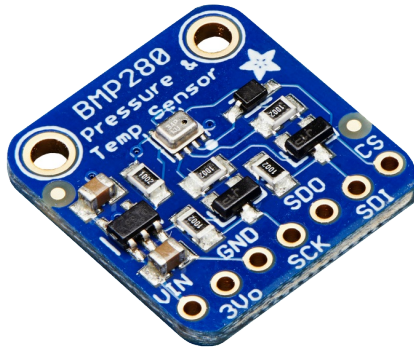
In such case, you will notice inconsistencies when reading analog devices.

Adding a 0.01µF (10nF) ceramic capacity between ground and the microcontroller analog input can filter those parasites (seen as high frequency spikes).



CanSat kit content - BMP280

Tip & Trick – Measure the altitude

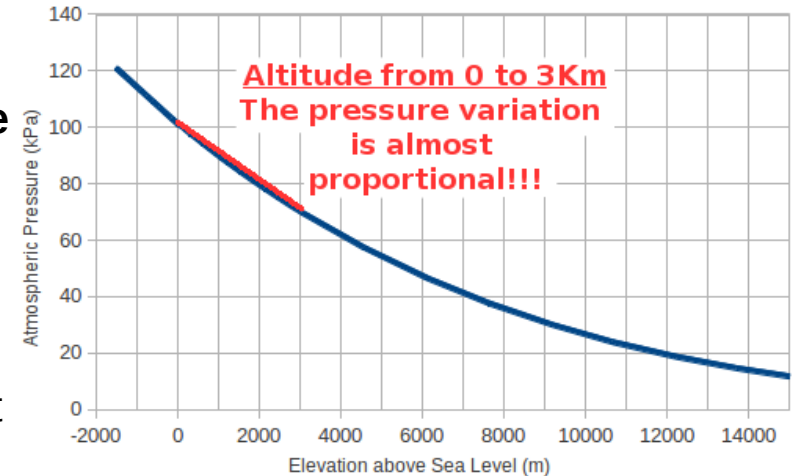


As the pressure also change with the altitude, whenever the **pressure decrease from 1hPa the altitude increase of 8.3 meters.**

The pressure sensor accuracy allows you to use the BMP280 to make an altimeter (accuracy of $\pm 1\text{m}$ at worste, about 0.25m in best conditions)

- Can use **I2C** or SPI bus
- Accuracy ± 1 hPa (= 100 Pa = 1 millibar)
- Pressure range: 300...1100 hPa
- Temperature range: -40...85°C

Elevation and Atmospheric Pressure



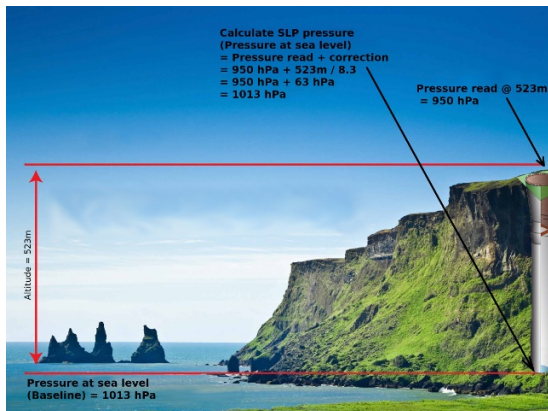
Interesting Learning – Measure your absolute altitude

By using the today's pressure at sea-level, it is possible to calculate the absolute altitude of school / house. Compare it to one of the reference weather station near of your location.

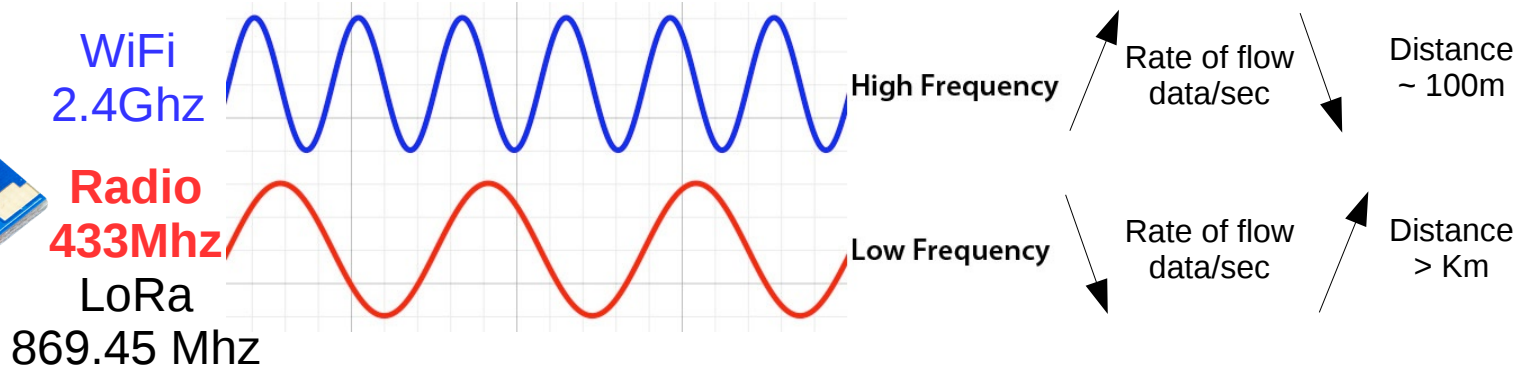
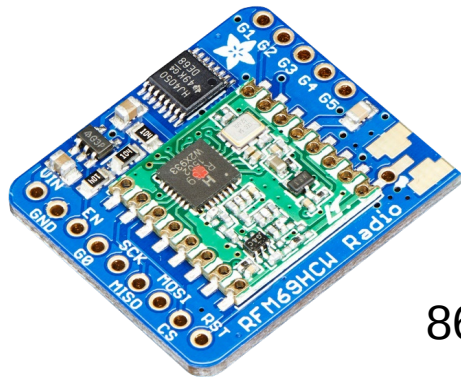
Interesting Learning – Calculate SLP (Sea Pressure Level)

Normalising your local pressure at the Sea Level (like reference wheater station does), you can compare your data with other reference station to make more accurate weather forecast.

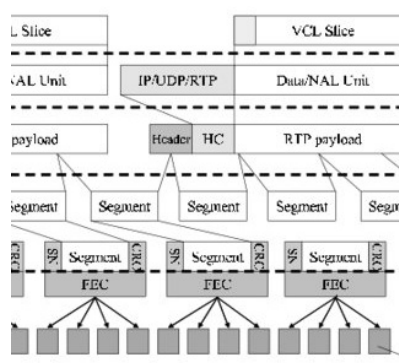
This is explained in wiki page related to BMP280 with detailed calculation. See the picture with the well !



CanSat kit content - RFM69HCW



- Use the SPI bus
- Around 433 Mhz
- 50mA @ +13 dBm
150mA @ +20 dBm
- Distance :
500m to 2 Km (5 Km).



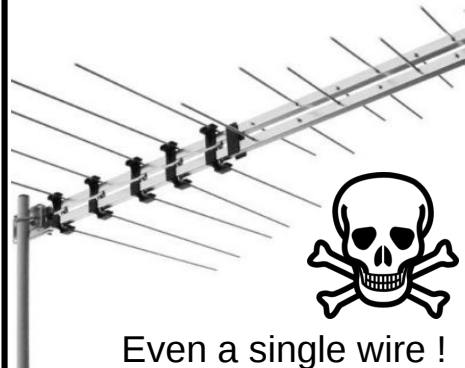
RFM69HCW - Packet Radio

This means that the module takes care of data coding, transmission, checksum, send retries, etc over the radio waves.

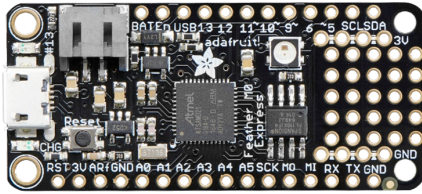
RFM69HCW – Frequency and encryption key

The RFM69HCW frequency can be adjusted (around 433Mhz) and data is AES encrypted with a key. Both are defined in the software and are the only parameters you really have to take care about.

Antenna required !



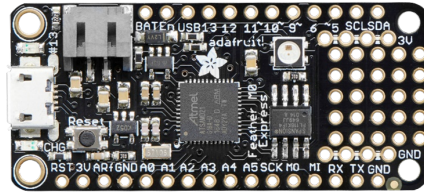
The Sender and Receiver module must have :
The same frequency and
The same encryption key.



Feather M0 Express



A bunch of power and goodies
to launch your project



Feather M0 Express



400mA max

6 Analog inputs

12 bits resolution.
Value 0 – 4096

Note :

Arduino IDE use 10 bit resolution by default (0 – 1024) but this could be changed with `analogReadResolution(12)`

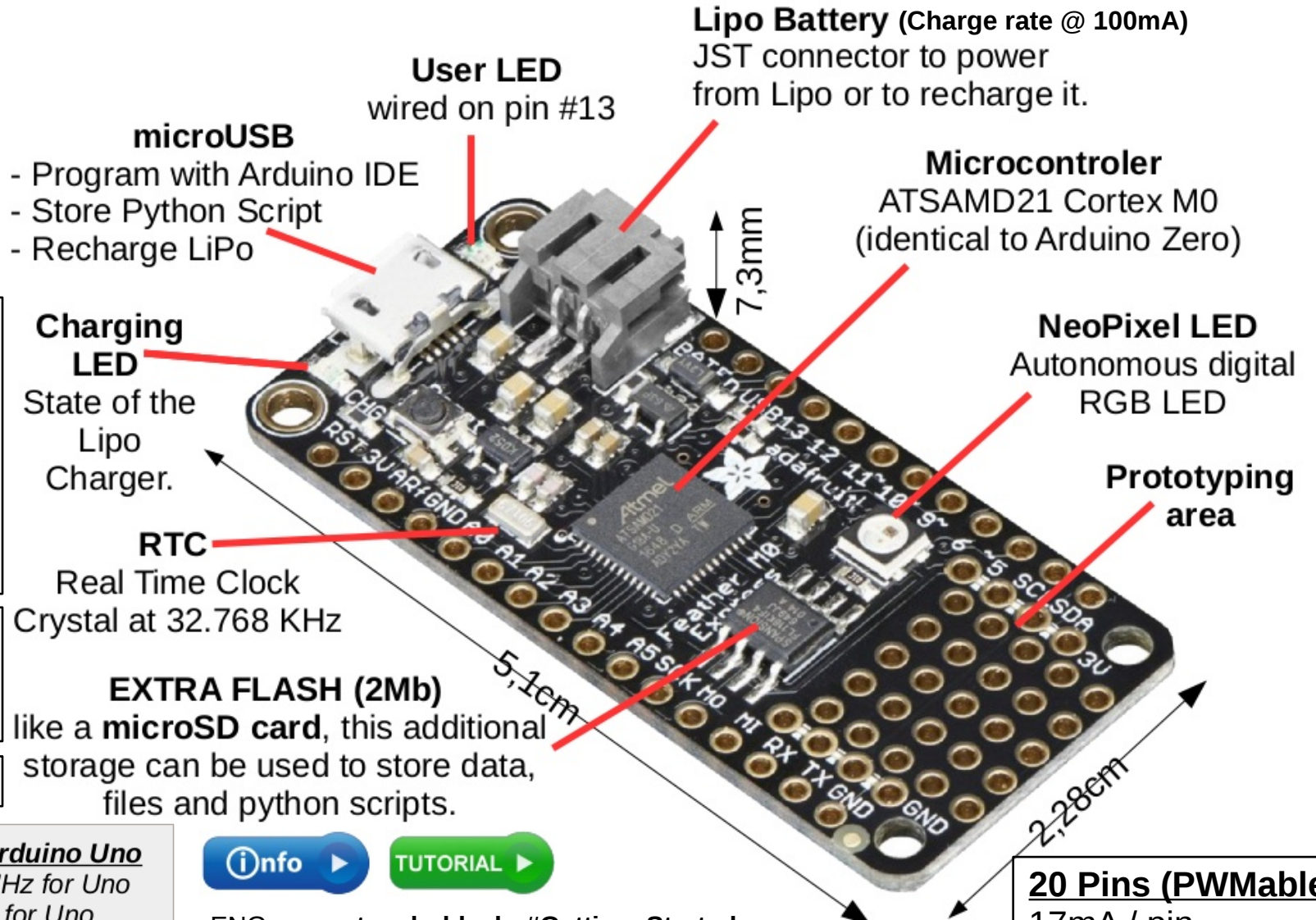
1 Analog output

10 bits resolution.
Value 0 – 1024

Serial still available !

Feather M0 Power vs Arduino Uno

Clock : 48 MHz vs 16 MHz for Uno
RAM : 32 Kb vs 2Kb for Uno
Flash : 256 Kb vs 32Kb for Uno
Real Time Clock : **Yes** vs none for Uno



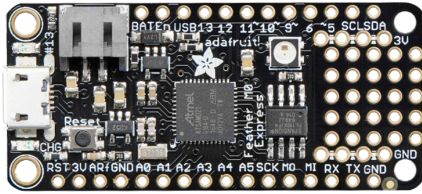
ENG: [cansat.mchobby.be#Getting_Started](https://cansat.mchobby.be/Getting_Started)

ENG: www.adafruit.com/product/3403

FR : shop.mchobby.be/product.php?id_product=1119

20 Pins (PWMable)

17mA / pin.
130MA max on chip

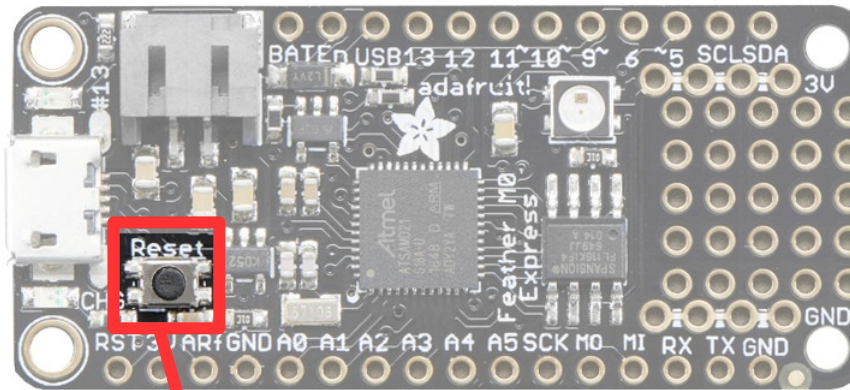


Feather M0 Express

Forcing bootloader

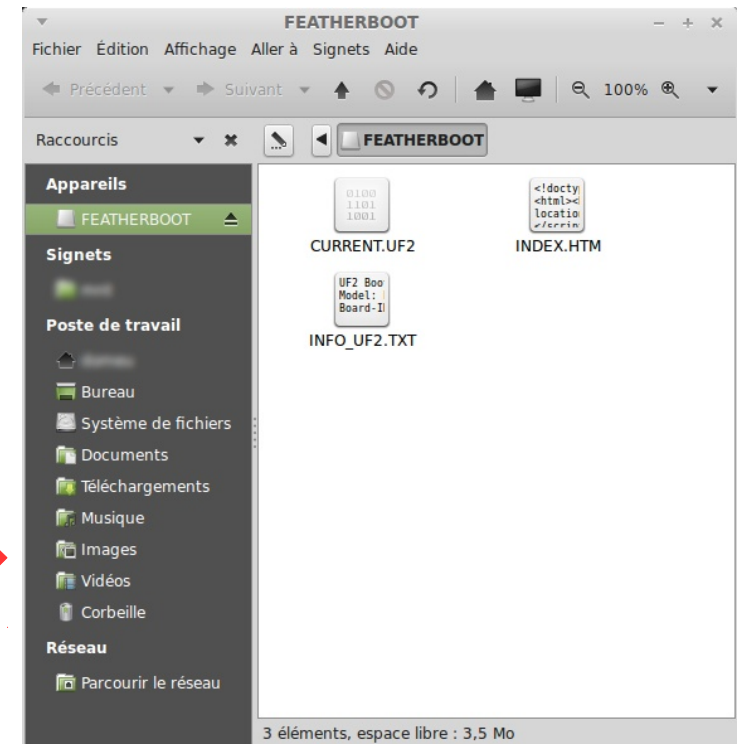
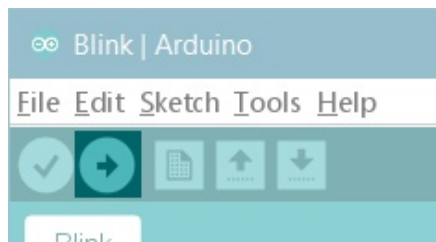
Sometime, it happens that compilation phase get complete successfully but the binary can't get uploaded to the board.

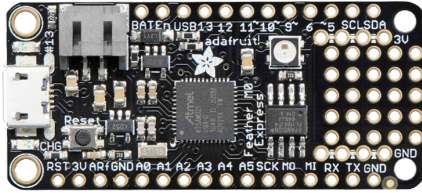
It is time for **Manual activation of the bootloader**



Press twice the reset button

Then, **press the upload button** in Arduino IDE
This time the new UF2 file will be uploaded successfully.





Feather M0 Express

Serial Monitor

The Feather M0 use the native USB support of ATSAM21 chipset (Serial is in fact SerialUSB).

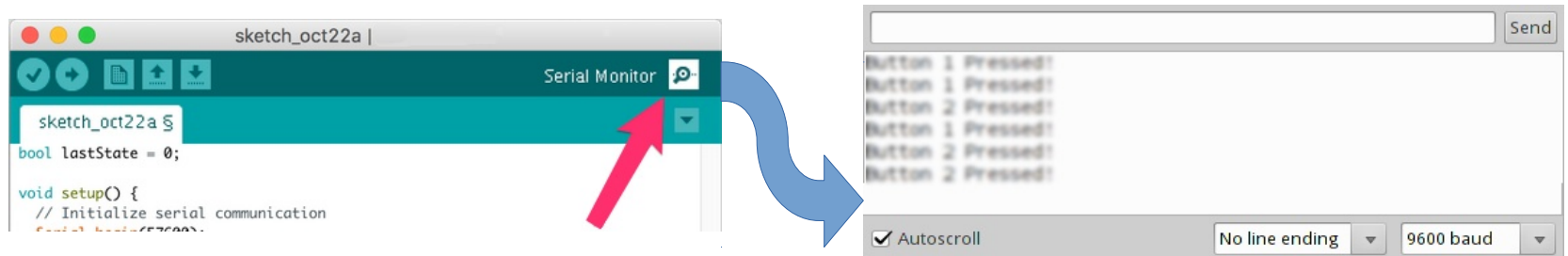
To wait for serial connexion (serial debug) at startup :

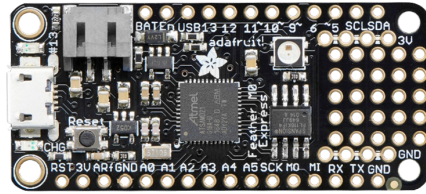
Add the following line in the begining of your sketch to wait for USB serial connection.

```
void setup() {  
  Serial.begin(9600);  
  
  // wait until serial console is open  
  while (!Serial) { delay(1); }  
  
  ...  
}
```

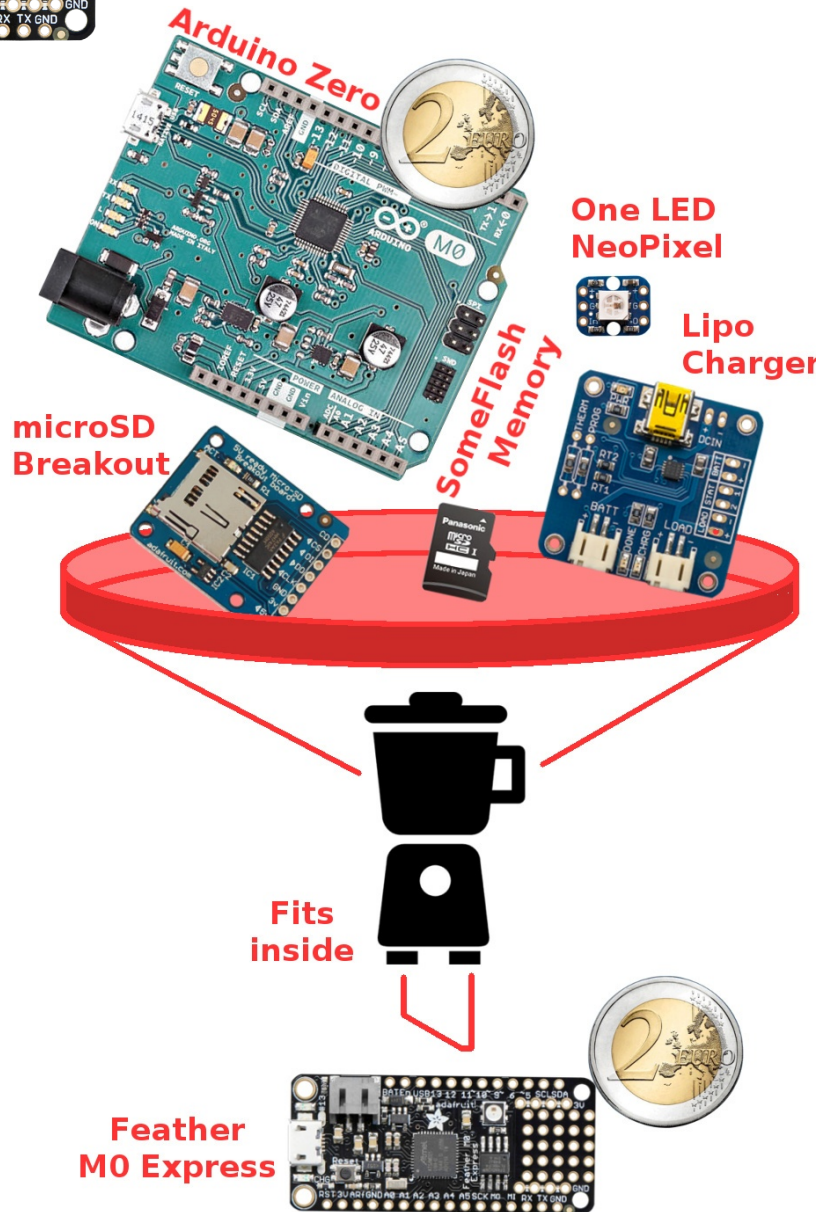
The `setup()` function would wait for « Serial Monitor » to effectively starts the sketch.

Then, **press the Serial Monitor button** in Arduino IDE





Feather M0 Express



This is the reason why the « Feather » becomes the new standard for microcontroller embedded projects.



LiPo batteries

LiPo offers the best ratio Power/Weight.

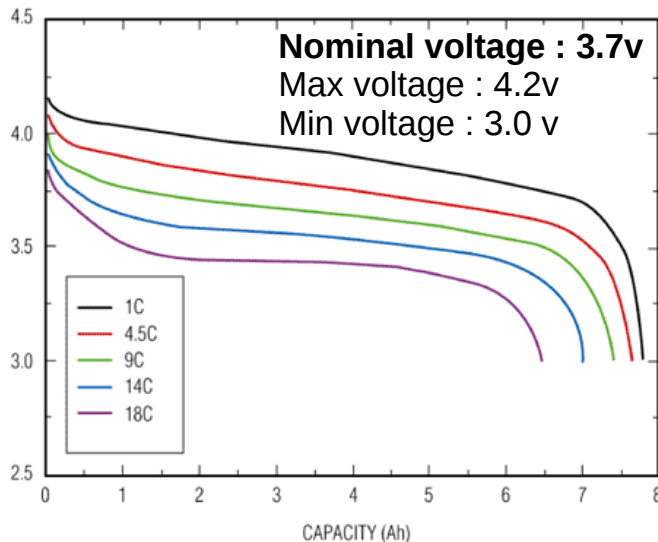
Q (mAh) is the quantity of power.

C is discharge rate.

Charging is usually limited to half of discharge rate.

For battery with Q = 800mAh :

- 1C means that it can be discharged continuously at 800mA.
- 1/2C means that it can be discharged at 400mA.
- 3C means that it can be discharged at 2400mA.



Lipo for electronic

- Usually rated for 1C max.
- Use protection circuitry (over-current or under-voltage).
- Finer wires.
- Lighter.
- Power cycle the Lipo when security get activated.

Lipo for portable radio and electric vehicles.

- Can deliver several C (40C or more).
- No protection circuitry.
- Thick wires.
- More heavy (more cells).
- Must be charged with special device & under surveillance.



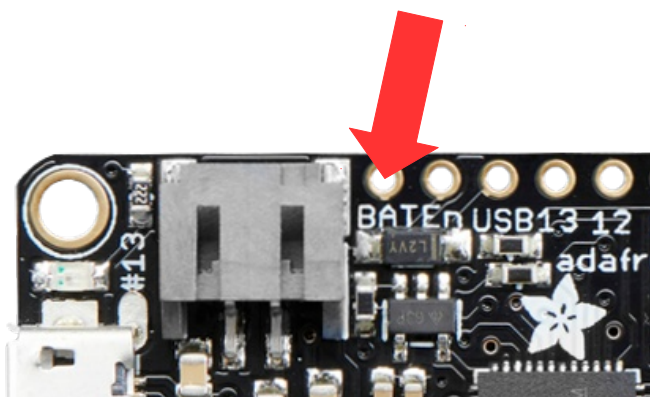
LiPo batteries

Estimate discharge time :

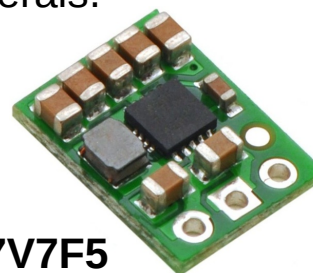
If your project sink a current of 150mA then a 800 mAh Lipo will last after
 $800 \text{ mAh} / 150 \text{ mA} = 5.3 \text{ Hours}$

Getting higher voltage :

Direct acces to the battery.



LiPo can be used with step-up regulator to creates higher voltage for peripherals.



Reg. **S7V7F5**

2.7 ... 11.8V => 5V 500mA

How it works :

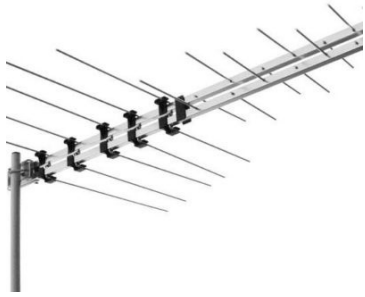
Step-Up regulator pump current at the input to create higher voltage at the output.

So care about max current available at LiPo.

Do not abuse LiPo :

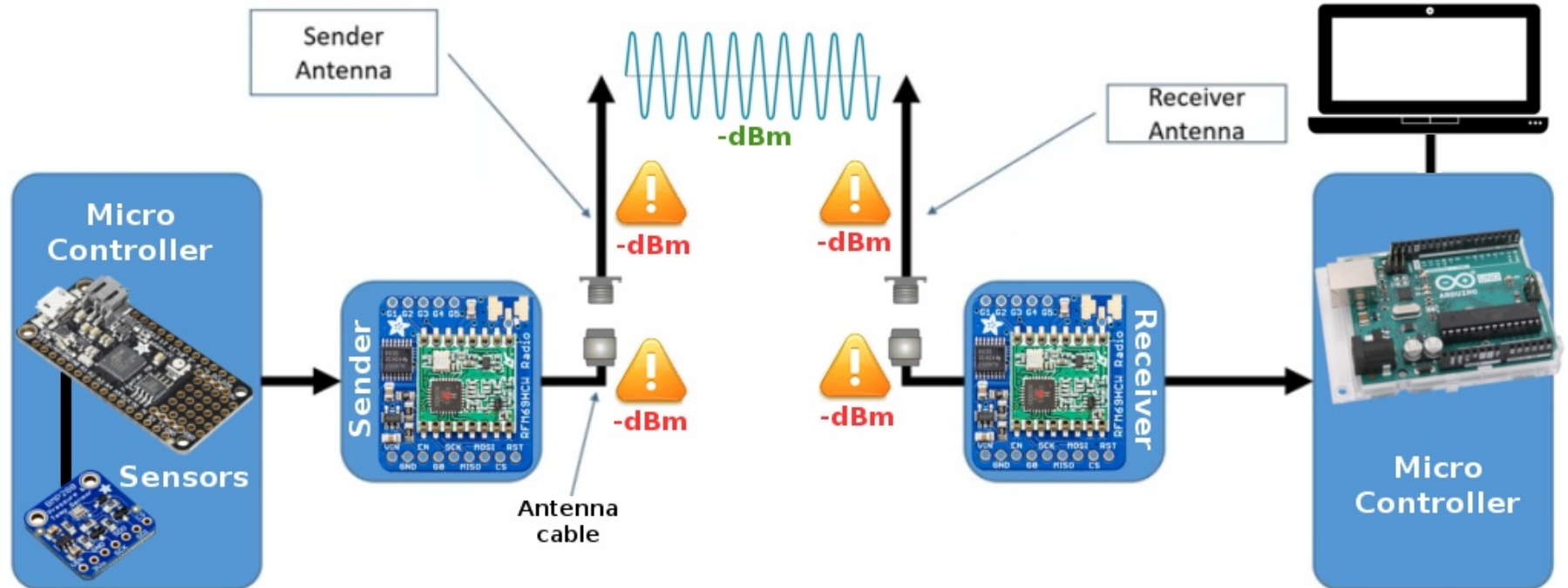
- Do not twist, bend.
- Do not drill.
- Do not fire.
- Do not over-charge/
over-discharge.
- Do not use when deformed or inflated.
- ALWAYS CHARGE UNDER SURVEILLANCE



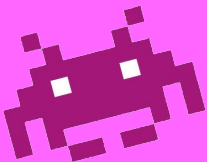


About Radio

The antenna is the key



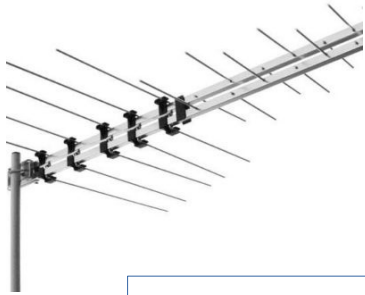
$\text{dBm} = \text{dB} / \text{measured mW} = \text{efficient way to measure absolute power.}$



GAME

Radio Transmission is a game where the goal is to lose as little power as possible !

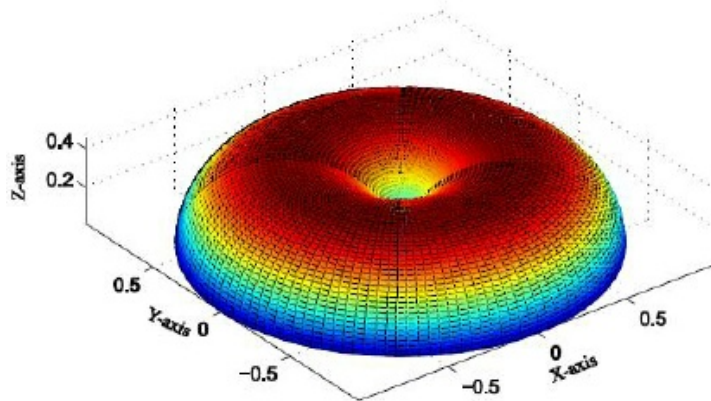
It is even possible to win power.



About Radio

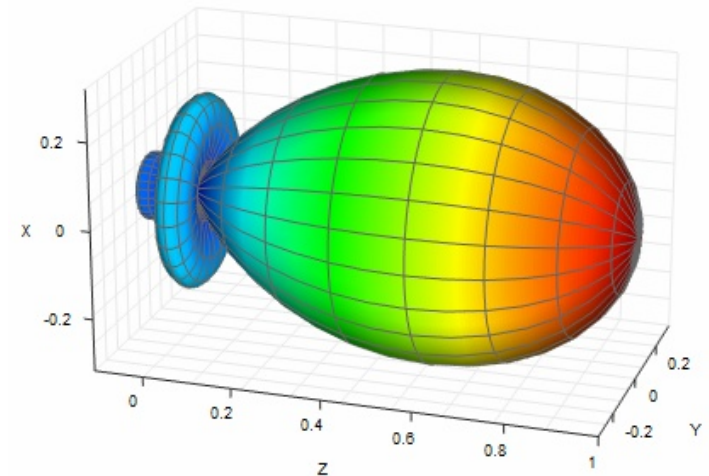
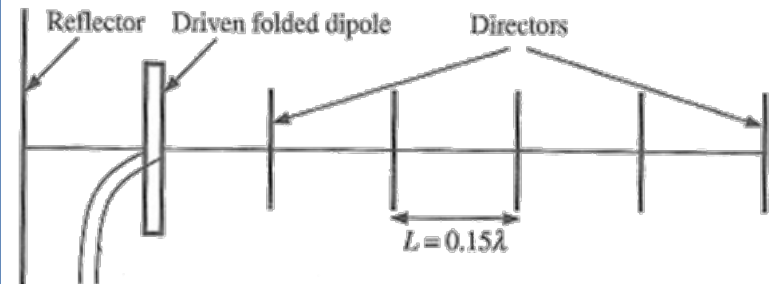
The antenna is the key

Unipole Antenna



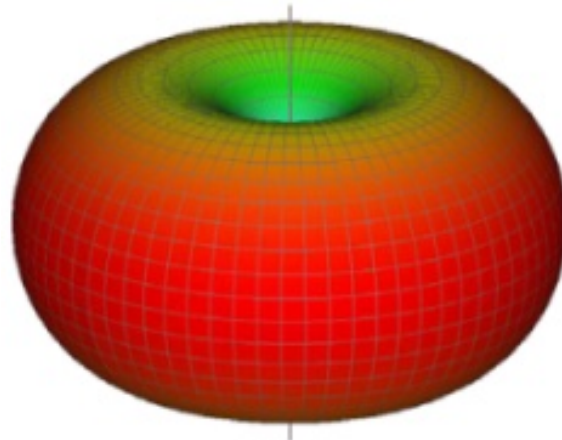
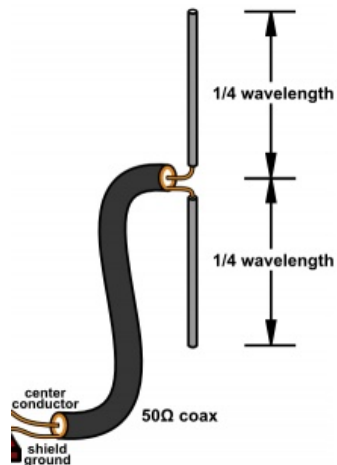
Yagi Antenna

direction of maximum radiation ---->

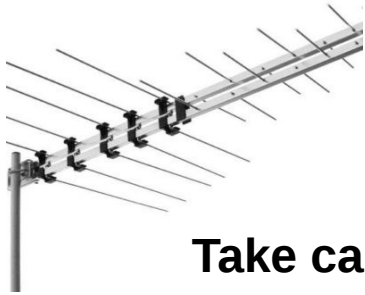


**A 6 elements Yagi can offer a gain up to 11.2 dBi.
A 11 elements Yagi can double that gain !!!**

Dipole Antenna

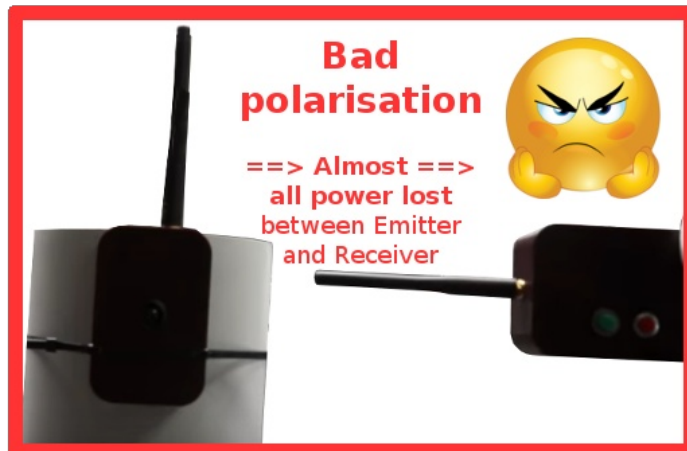


See the wiki for a Yagi Antenna with build dimensions for 433Mhz antenna.



About Radio

Take care about the polarisation



Take care about antenna length

The frequency that the antenna resonates at (operates at) is determined by the length of the antenna.

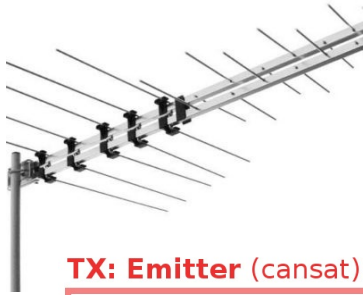
For unipole (and dipole) antenna, the maximum gain of the antenna is fixed and dependent on the operating frequency (the frequency the antenna should resonate).

Quarter wavelength ($1/4 \lambda$) antenna length

$$L = \frac{c}{4 \times f}$$

What should be the length of $1/4 \lambda$ antenna for the frequency of 433Mhz ?

$$L = \frac{3 \times 10^8}{4 \times 433 \times 10^6} = 0.1732 \text{m}$$

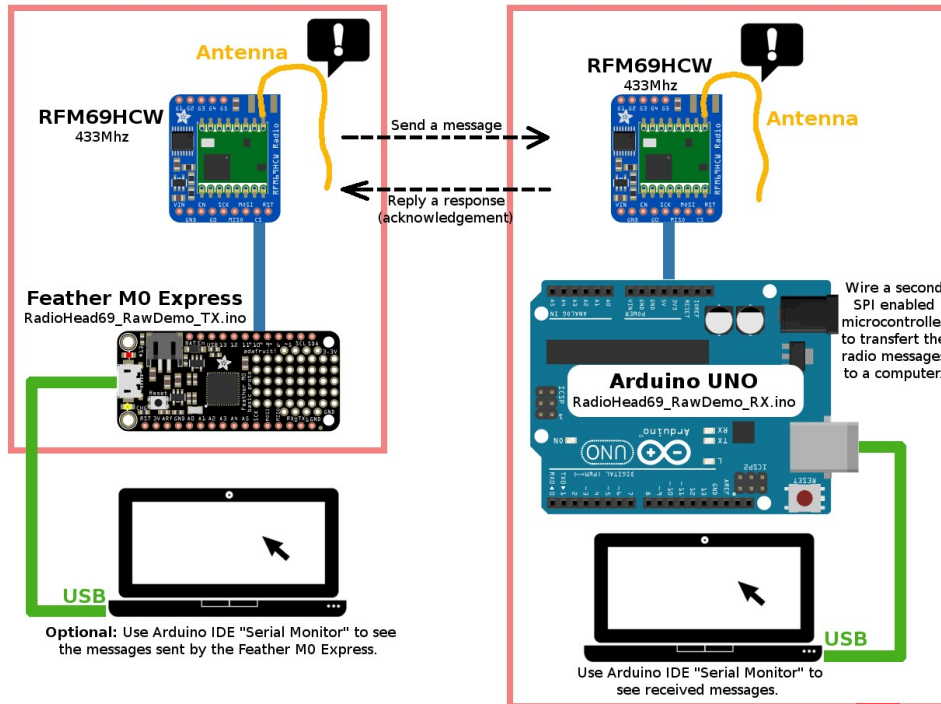


About Radio

RSSI : Evaluate quality of radio setup !

TX: Emitter (cansat)

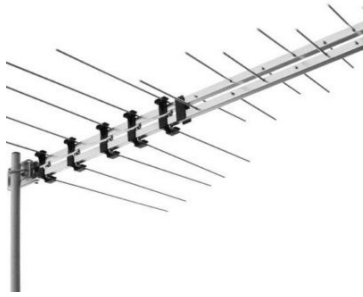
RX: Receiver (on the ground)



When testing the « Mission 1 » setup available on the wiki, the receiver display the telemetric data with an additional information named RSSI.

```
/dev/ttyACM0 (Arduino/G...  
[DATA] (len=39, RSSI=-48): 23182| 37619675| 25.84| 97850.22| 23.94;  
[DATA] (len=39, RSSI=-47): 23183| 37620079| 25.52| 97846.78| 23.94;  
[DATA] (len=39, RSSI=-47): 23184| 37620483| 25.84| 97848.91| 23.95;  
[DATA] (len=39, RSSI=-46): 23185| 37620886| 25.84| 97850.06| 23.96;  
[DATA] (len=39, RSSI=-47): 23186| 37621290| 25.52| 97848.25| 23.96;  
[DATA] (len=39, RSSI=-48): 23187| 37621693| 25.84| 97850.05| 23.95;  
[DATA] (len=39, RSSI=-48): 23188| 37622097| 25.84| 97850.37| 23.95;  
[DATA] (len=39, RSSI=-48): 23189| 37622501| 26.16| 97850.39| 23.96;  
[DATA] (len=39, RSSI=-48): 23190| 37622904| 25.84| 97851.85| 23.95;  
[DATA] (len=39, RSSI=-48): 23191| 37623308| 25.84| 97852.17| 23.95;  
[DATA] (len=39, RSSI=-48): 23192| 37623712| 25.84| 97849.89| 23.94;  
[DATA] (len=39, RSSI=-47): 23193| 37624115| 25.84| 97851.19| 23.95;  
[DATA] (len=39, RSSI=-47): 23194| 37624519| 26.16| 97849.06| 23.95;  
[DATA] (len=39, RSSI=-47): 23195| 37624922| 26.16| 97851.52| 23.95;  
[DATA] (len=39, RSSI=-47): 23196| 37625326| 25.84| 97851.87| 23.96;  
[DATA] (len=39, RSSI=-47): 23197| 37625730| 25.84| 97851.70| 23.96;
```

RSSI: Received Signal Strength Indication - indicated the strength of the radio signal received on the transceiver. (-15 at best, -90 at worst).



About Radio

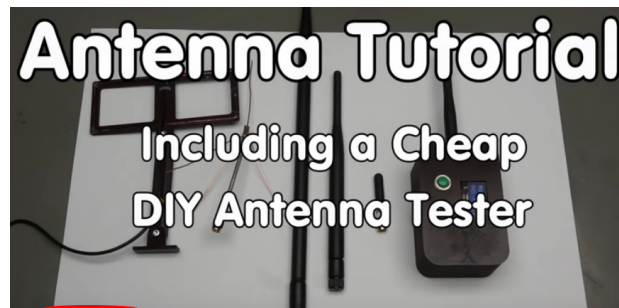
Getting Help with radio stuff !

7 RADIO Rules of Life

- **Rule #1:** Use short, high quality and thick antenna cables.
- **Rule #2:** An SWR below 2 is acceptable (less than 11% of power is reflected so we have much of the power available for transmission).
- **Rule #3:** Always connect an antenna to the sender (otherwise 100% of signal is reflected, which may kill the sender)
- **Rule #4:** Keep the polarization of your antennas the same way.
- **Rule #5:** The more dBi, the more power in one direction.
- **Rule #6:** With a proper antenna setup, the distance in air is not an issue if we have a line of sight.
- **Rule #7:** Longer is not always better for antennas. Smarter is better.



Andreas Spiess – Video tutorial



<https://youtu.be/J3PBL9oLPX8>

Finding Radio Amateur Club



<http://map.mchobby.be>