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DRONE TEAM

2015-1-ES01-KA202-015925

Remote Control – the second part

Meeting no. 8 Ibi(Spain)

Prepared by Tomasz Kądziołka
ZS10 Poland

Our team

-Aleksandra Pawłowska

sources, media documentation

-Tomasz Kądziołka

Software development (android, arduino), idea, coordination

-Paweł Modzelewski

Documentation, electronic consultation, prsentation

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Remote control part two

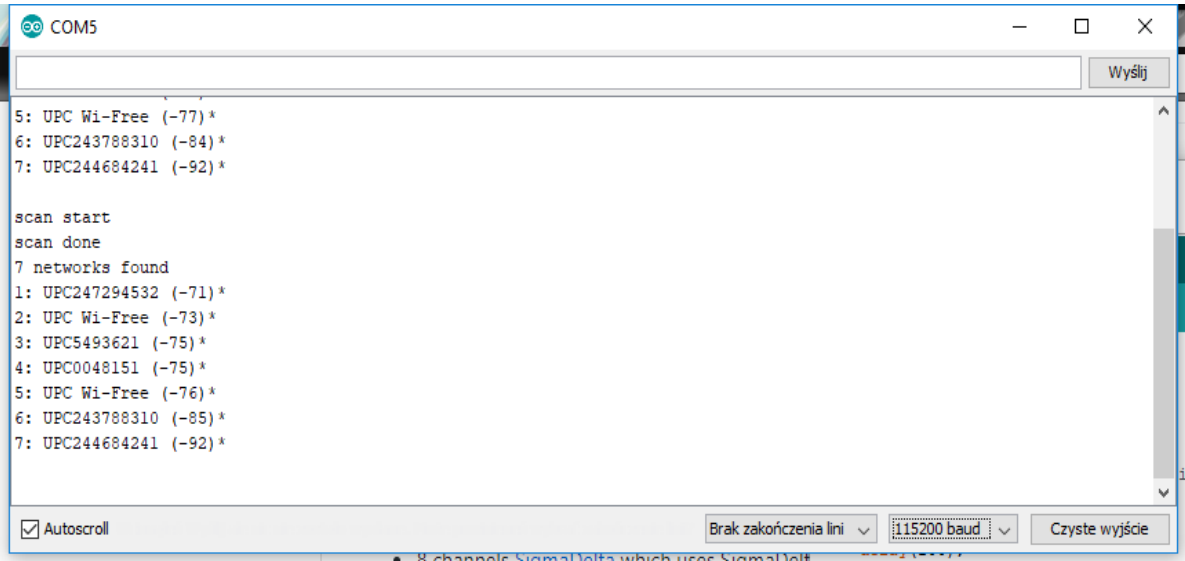
In march 2018 we announced a new extra activity with our first drone.

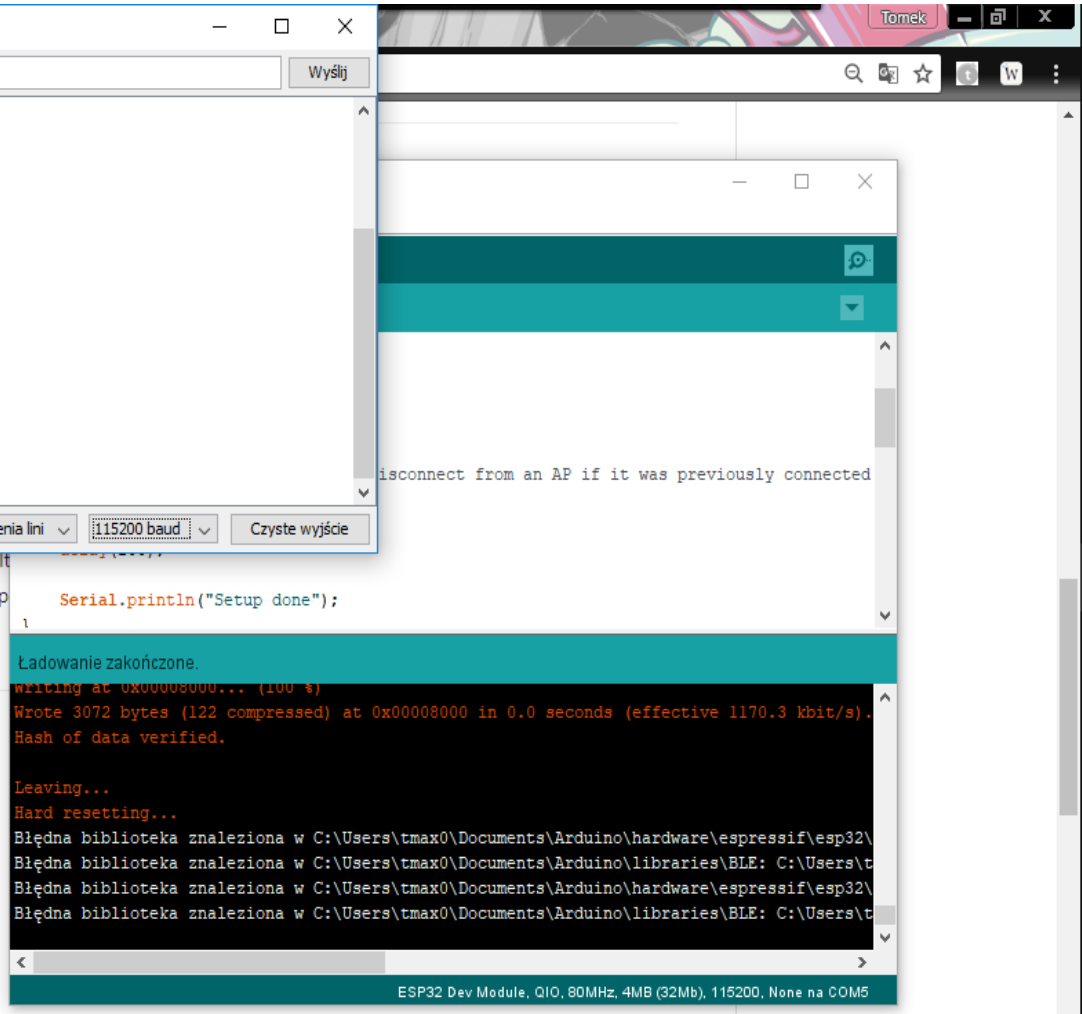
During second meeting in the Poland you could see elements and a software needed to achieve that connection.

ESP32

To create a connection between a drone and a phone we had to establish a wireless connection via wi-fi.

The first step was to turn an esp32 into access point mode. This mode is available from the public esp32 library.





- 8 channels SigmaDelta which uses SigmaDelt
- 2 channels DAC which gives real analog outp

Installation Instructions

- Using Arduino IDE
  - Instructions for Windows
  - Instructions for Mac
  - Instructions for Debian/Ubuntu Linux
  - Instructions for Fedora
  - Instructions for openSUSE
- Using PlatformIO
- Building with make
- Using as ESP-IDF component

Decoding exceptions

You can use EspExceptionDecoder to get meaningful call trace.

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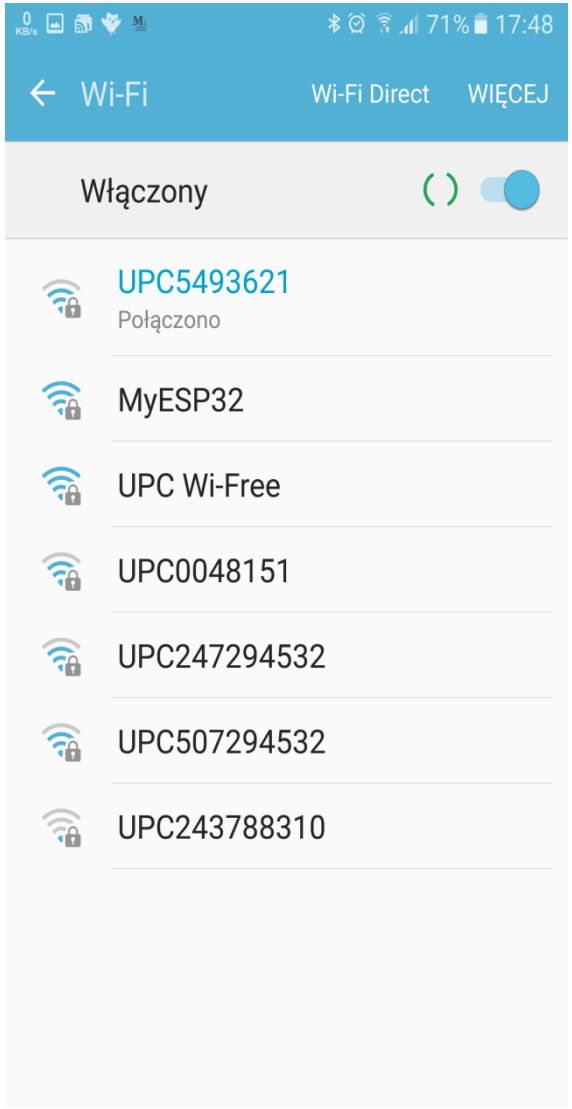
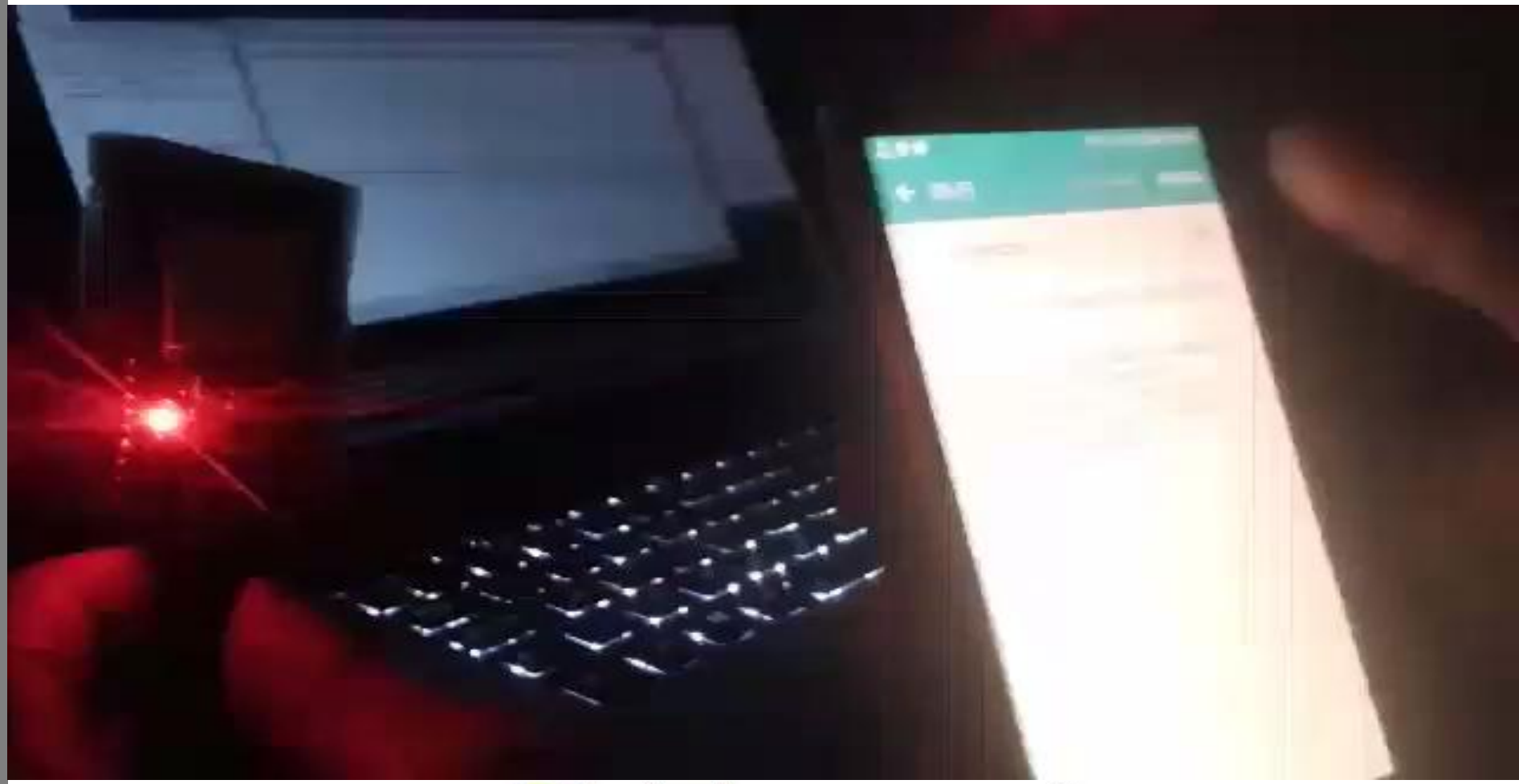
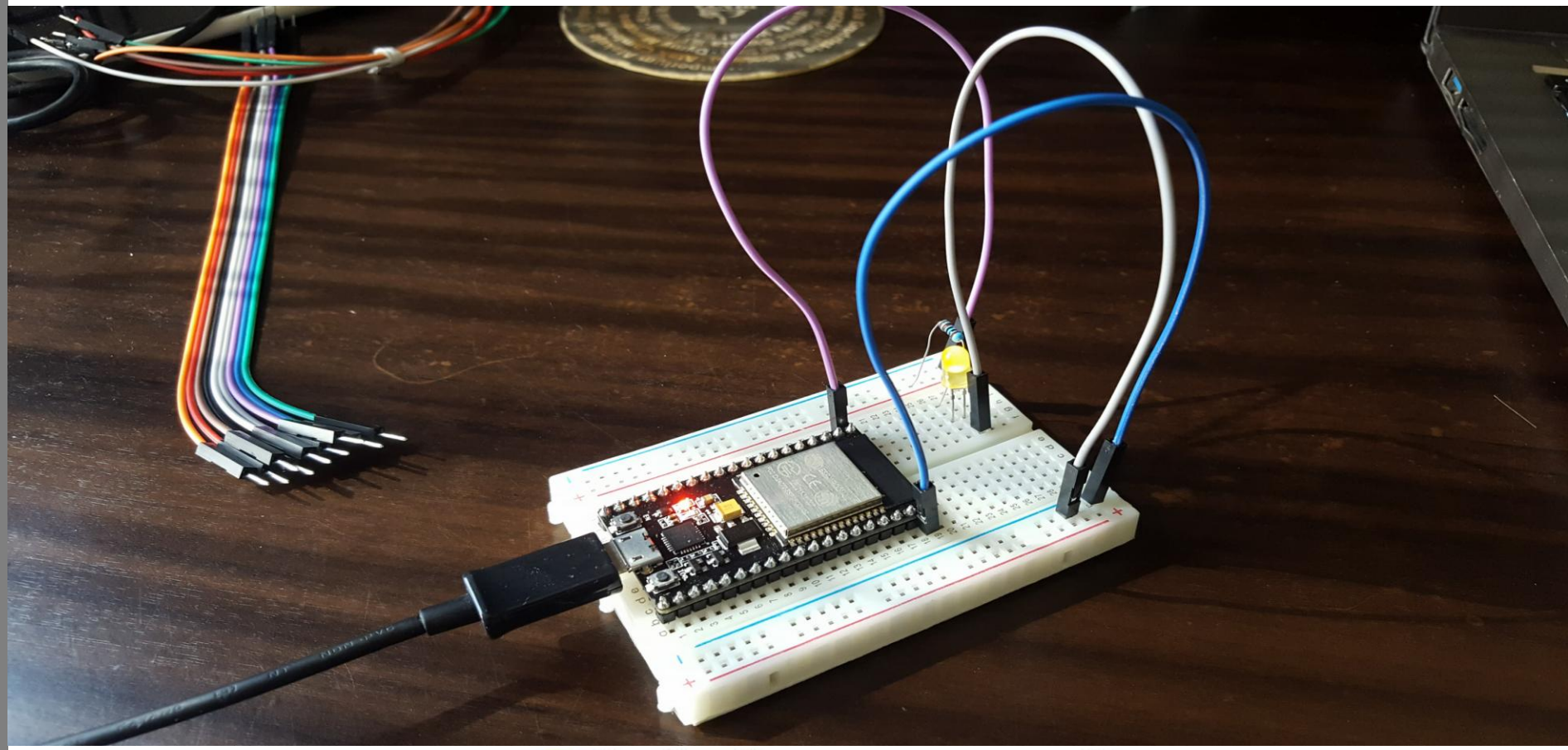


Indication of a wireless connection



Basis for the soft AP server



Explanation

We have put an esp32 on a Arduino breadboard and connected one resistor and yellow LED to indicate a connection to the AP server.

AP server

The soft AP server is a wireless serial alternative for native Arduino (UART).

This communication has a support for the multiple (RX,TX) pins.

It also contains packed of the common commands like begin(), available(), read().

HardwareSerial

Implicity Arduino uses **softwareSerial** library to estabilish an UART connection.

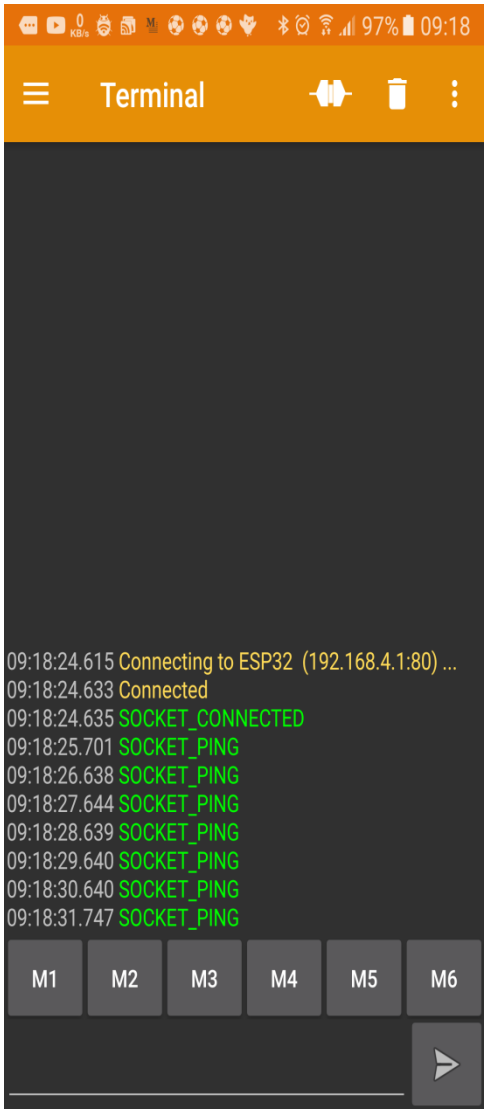
Esp constructors decided to implement faster and more flexible **hardwareSerial.**

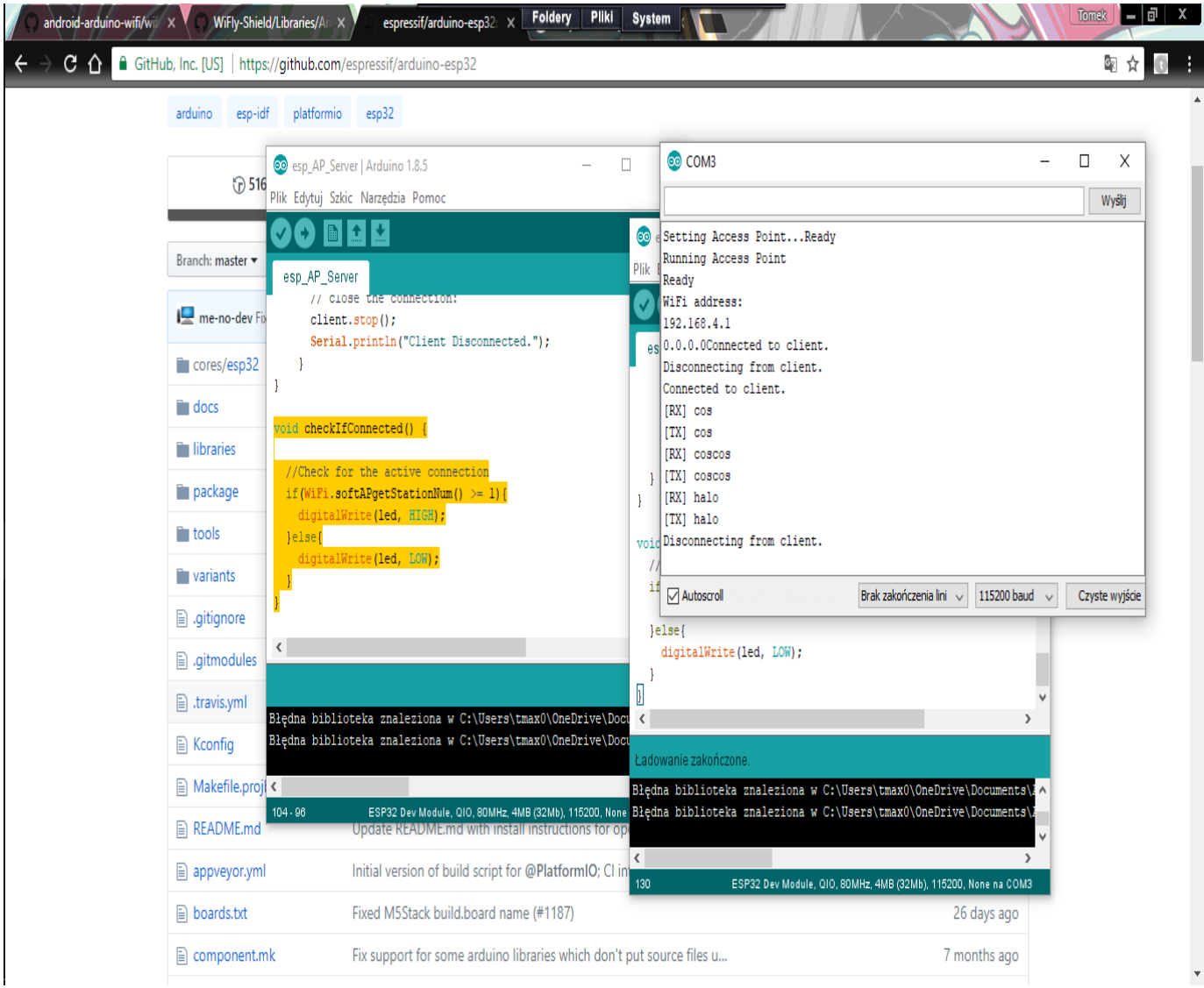
Serial data transfer

Every action that is passed through serial ports is a simple text command.

As a first step we had to check our connection and return results.

A good way to do that was to write a simple ping interval.

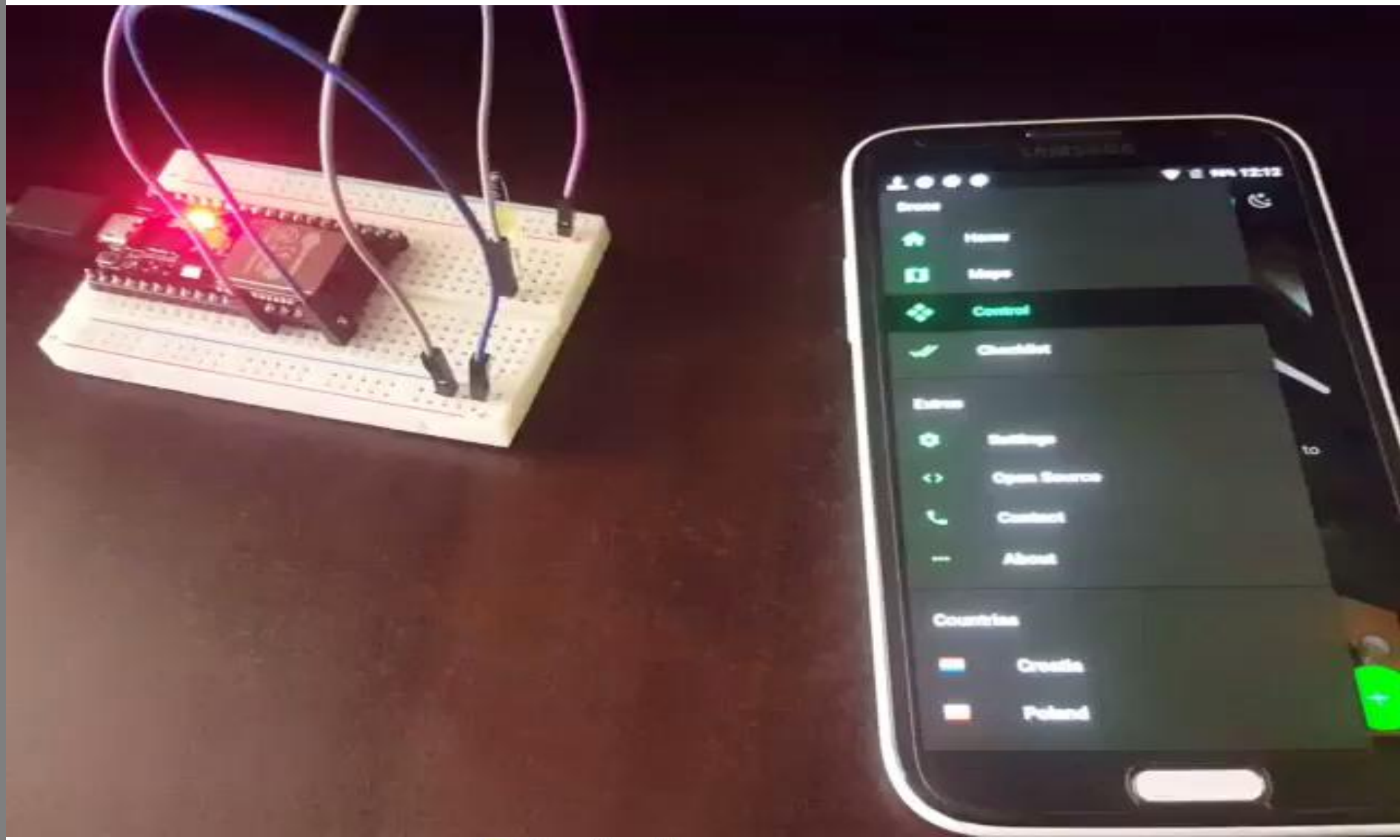

Terminal
09:18:24.615 Connecting to ESP32 (192.168.4.1:80) ...
09:18:24.633 Connected
09:18:24.635 SOCKET_CONNECTED
09:18:25.701 SOCKET_PING
09:18:26.638 SOCKET_PING
09:18:27.644 SOCKET_PING
09:18:28.639 SOCKET_PING
09:18:29.640 SOCKET_PING
09:18:30.640 SOCKET_PING
09:18:31.747 SOCKET_PING
M1
M2
M3
M4
M5
M6


GitHub, Inc. [US] https://github.com/espressif/arduino-esp32
arduino
esp-idf
platformio
esp32
esp_AP_Server | Arduino 1.8.5
Plik Edytuj Szkic Narzędzia Pomoc
esp_AP_Server
COM3
Wyślij
Setting Access Point...Ready
Running Access Point
Ready
WiFi address:
192.168.4.1
0.0.0.0Connected to client.
Disconnecting from client.
Connected to client.
[RX] cos
[TX] cos
[RX] coscos
[TX] coscos
[RX] halo
[TX] halo
Disconnecting from client.
Autoscroll
Brak zakończenia lini
115200 baud
Czyste wyjście
Ładowanie zakończone.
Błędna biblioteka znaleziona w C:\Users\tmax0\OneDrive\Documents\
ESP32 Dev Module, QIO, 80MHz, 4MB (32Mb), 115200, None na COM3
Branch: master
cores/esp32
docs
libraries
package
tools
variants
.gitignore
.gitmodules
.travis.yml
Kconfig
Makefile.proj
README.md
appveyor.yml
boards.txt
component.mk
Initial version of build script for @PlatformIO; CI in
Fixed M5Stack build.board name (#1187)
26 days ago
Fix support for some arduino libraries which don't put source files u...
7 months ago

Implementation in a drone app

We had to rewrite all the interfaces to the app's side code.

In the first approach aplication has automatically found esp server and connected to it.

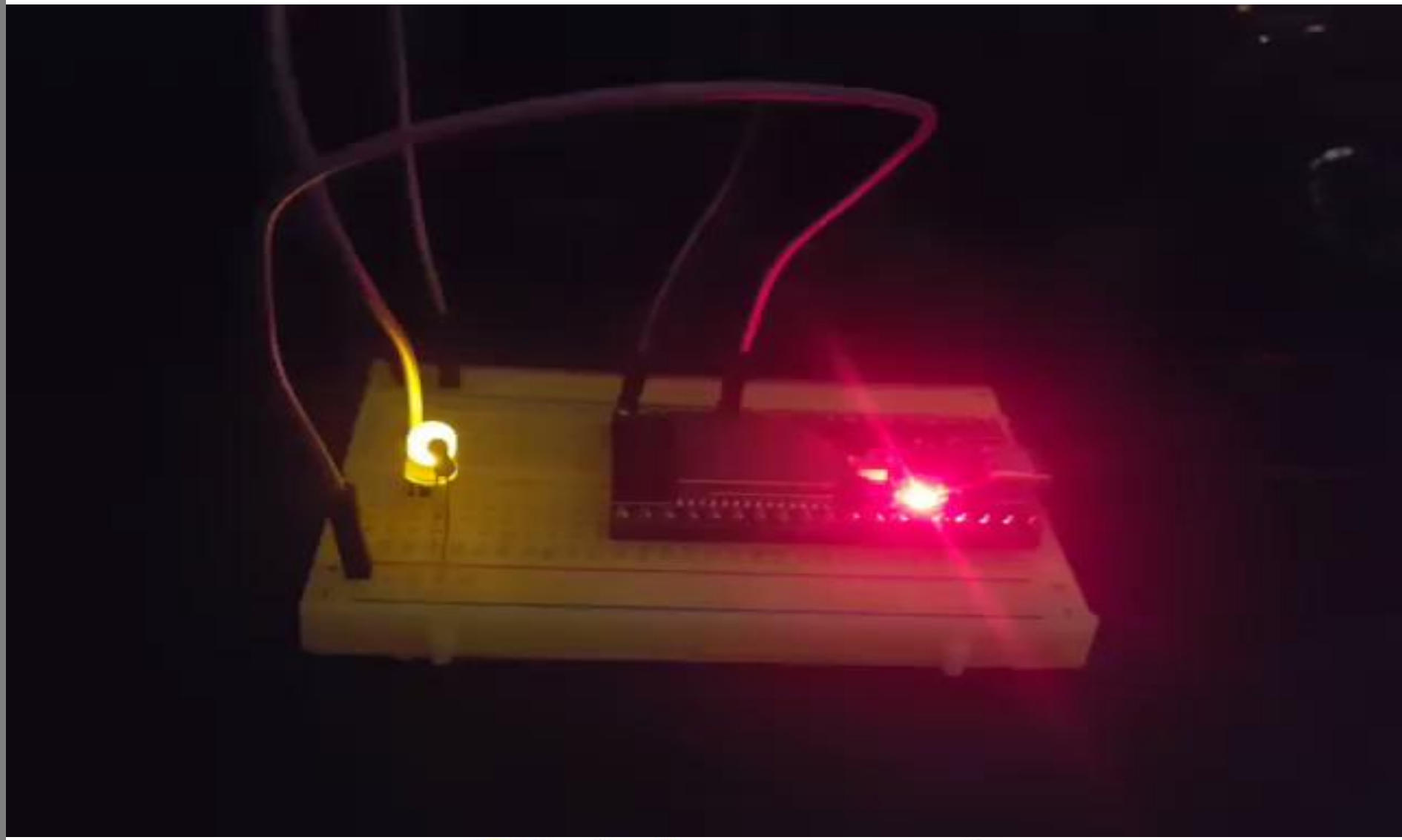

Home
Maps
Control
Checklist
Extras
Settings
Open Source
Contact
About
Countries
Croatia
Poland

Testing a PWM ports

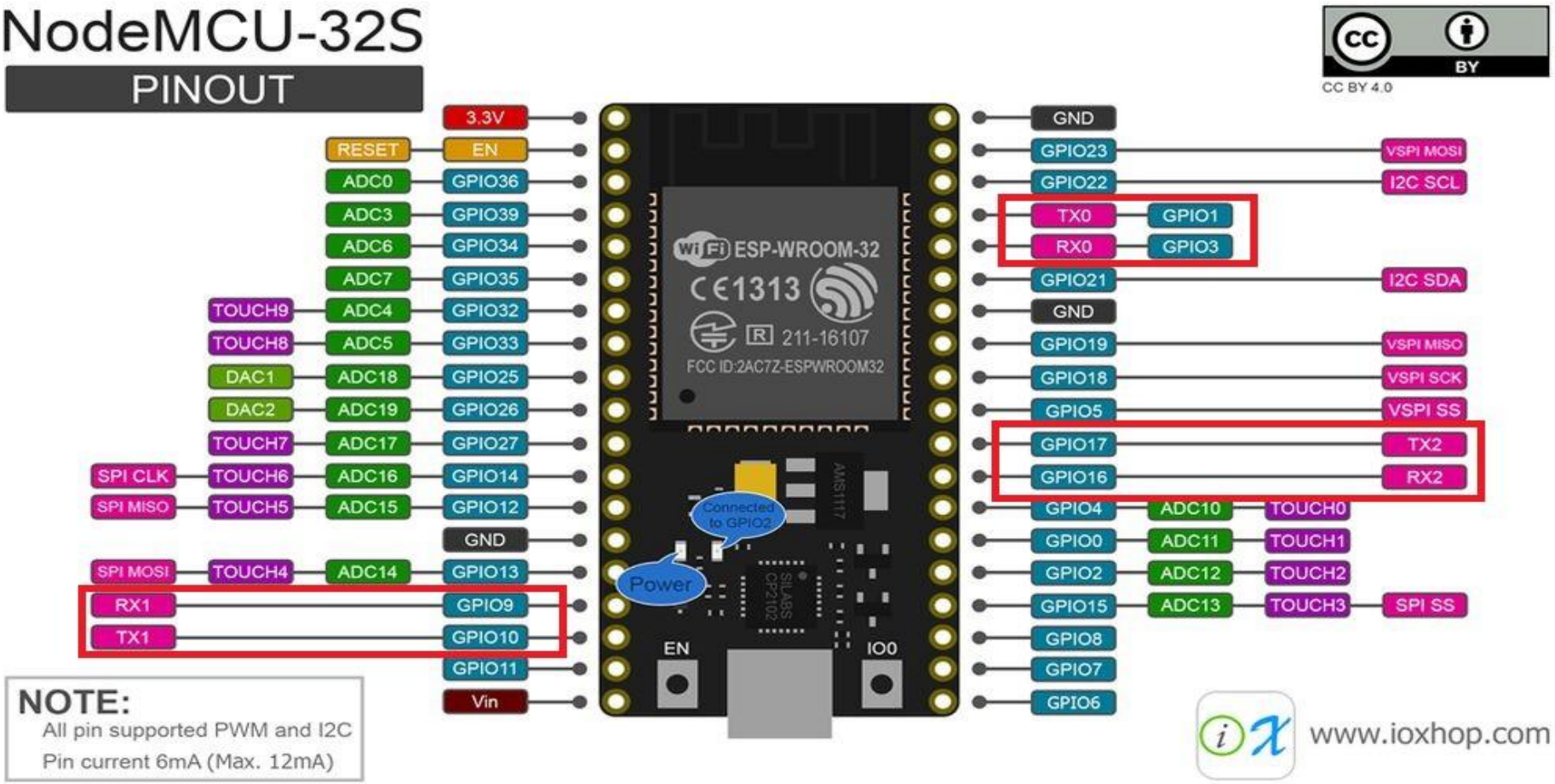
PWM (Pulse Width Modulation) allows to move out modulated signal of value between 0-255.

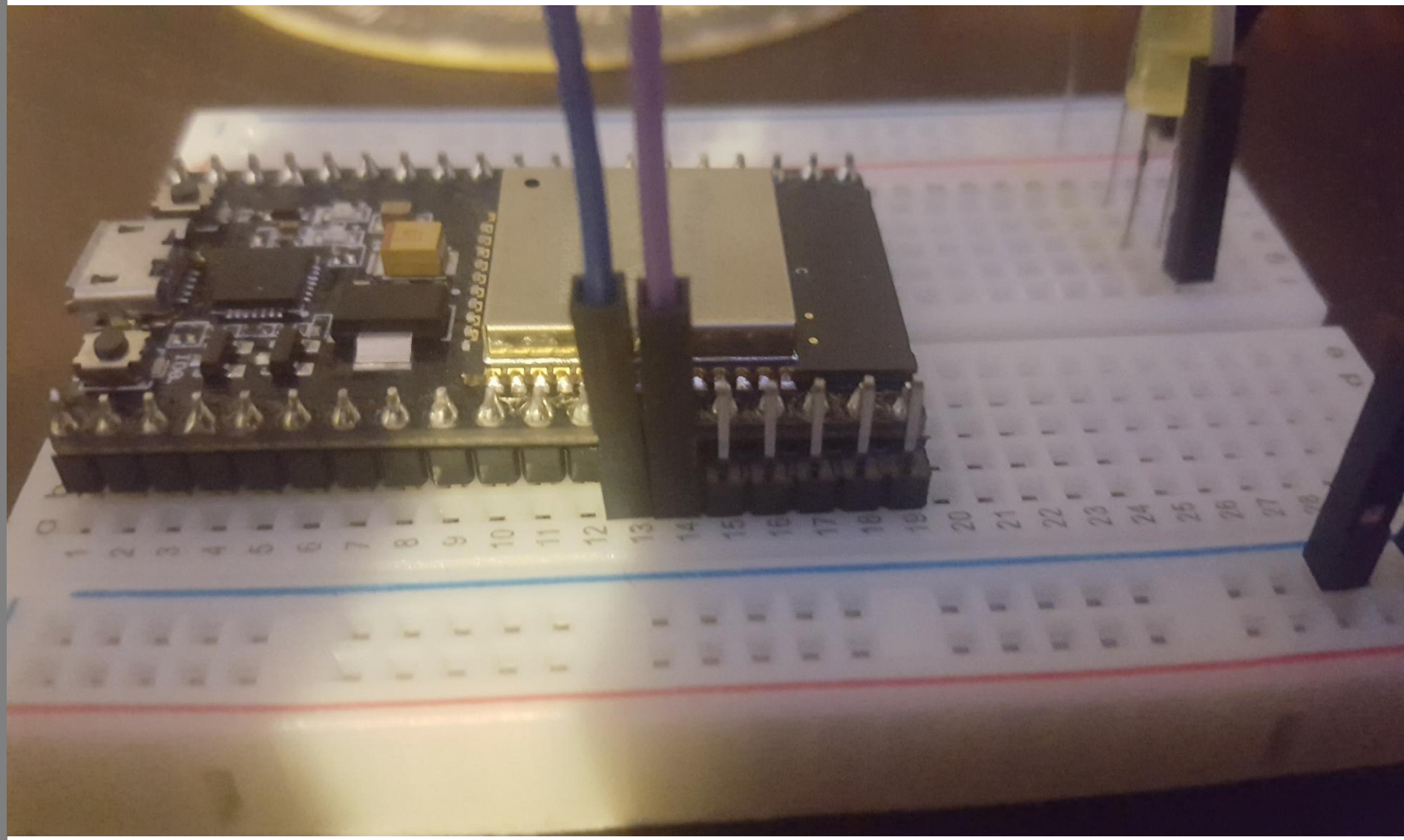
Good way to learn how the PWM works, was to make a common LED example.

PWM modulation is widely used in motor regulation.



Locate RX and TX pins





Different GPIO's

GPIO1, GPIO3 support serial connection but block other serial ports like usb so it's quite problematic using them.

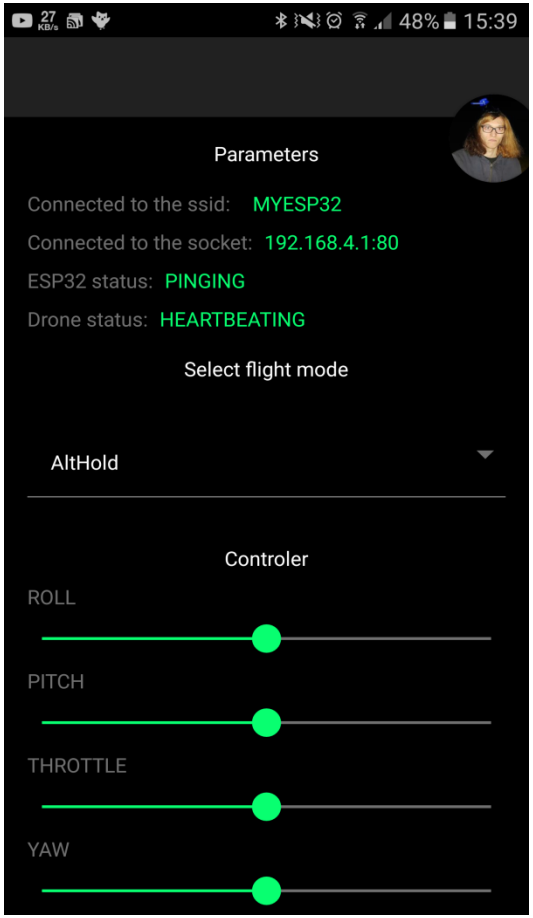
In a next step we decided to change ports to the GPIO16, GPIO17.

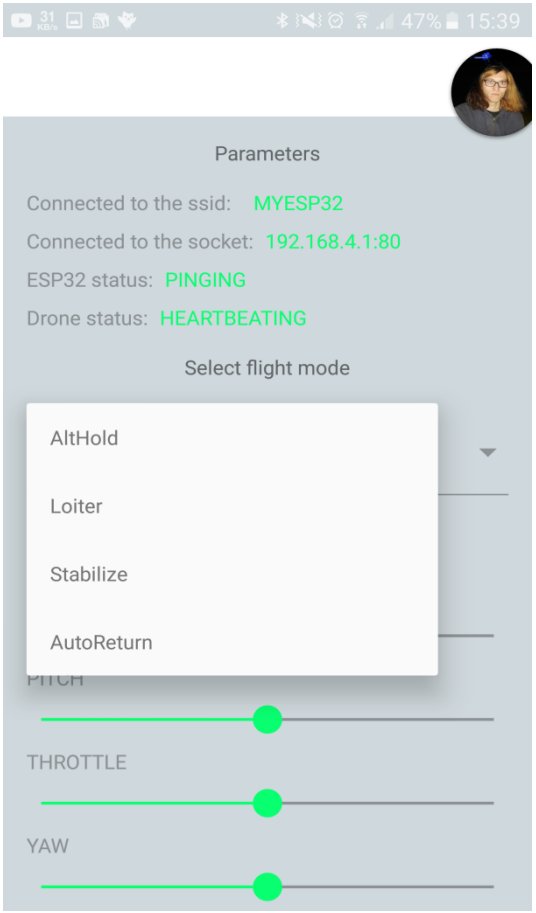
Esp32 serial tricks

HardwareSerial supports baudrate from 9600 to 115200, where 115200 is the fault value.

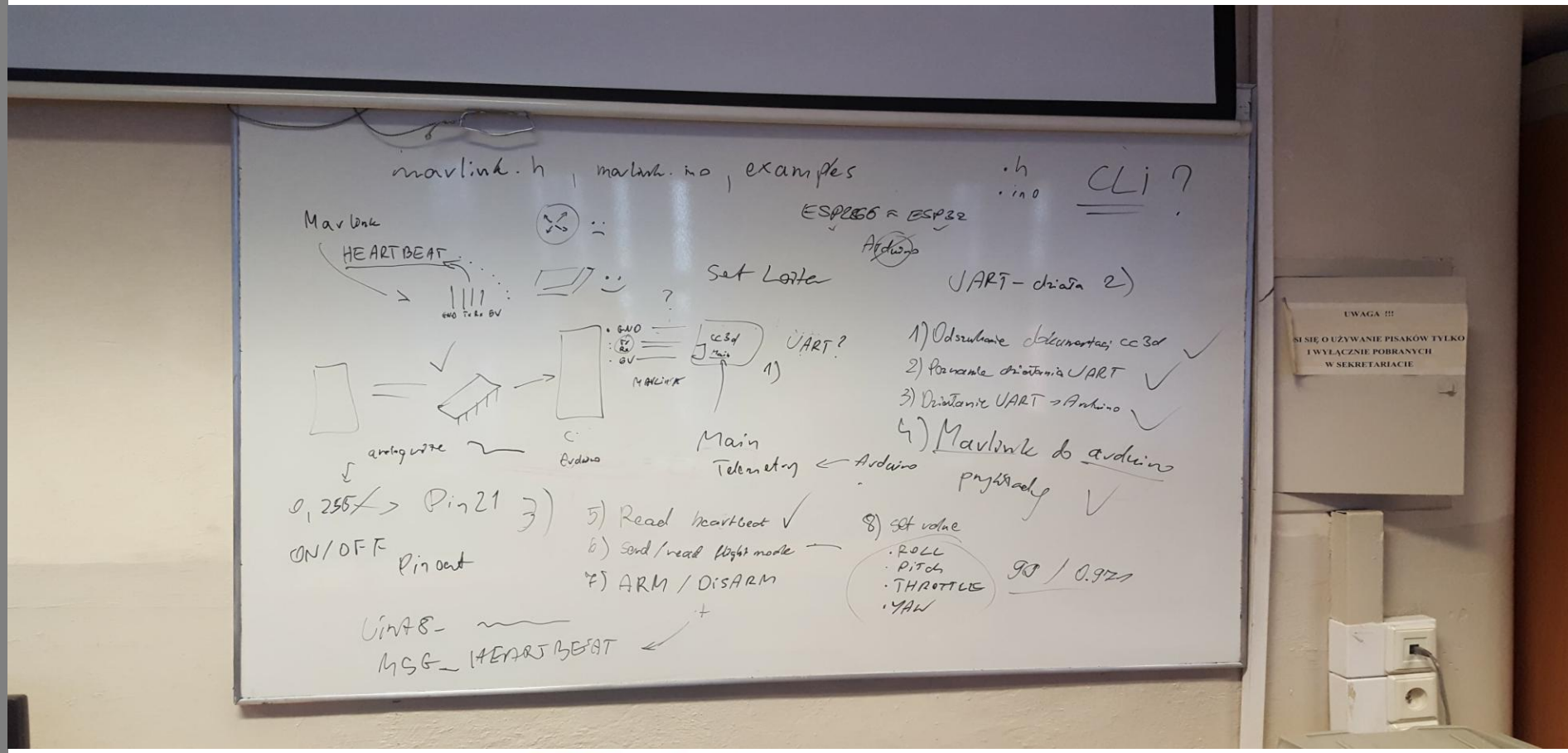
It is possible to run synchronized 57600 **hardwareSerial** for apm telemetry and a Serial 115200 for a app commands.

Creating an GUI in app





Discussing a proper development



Looking for a good way

Ola and Paweł have spent many, many hours looking for a mavlink documentation and Arduino code.

These sources are crucial in a code development because mavlink is well documented but for experts.

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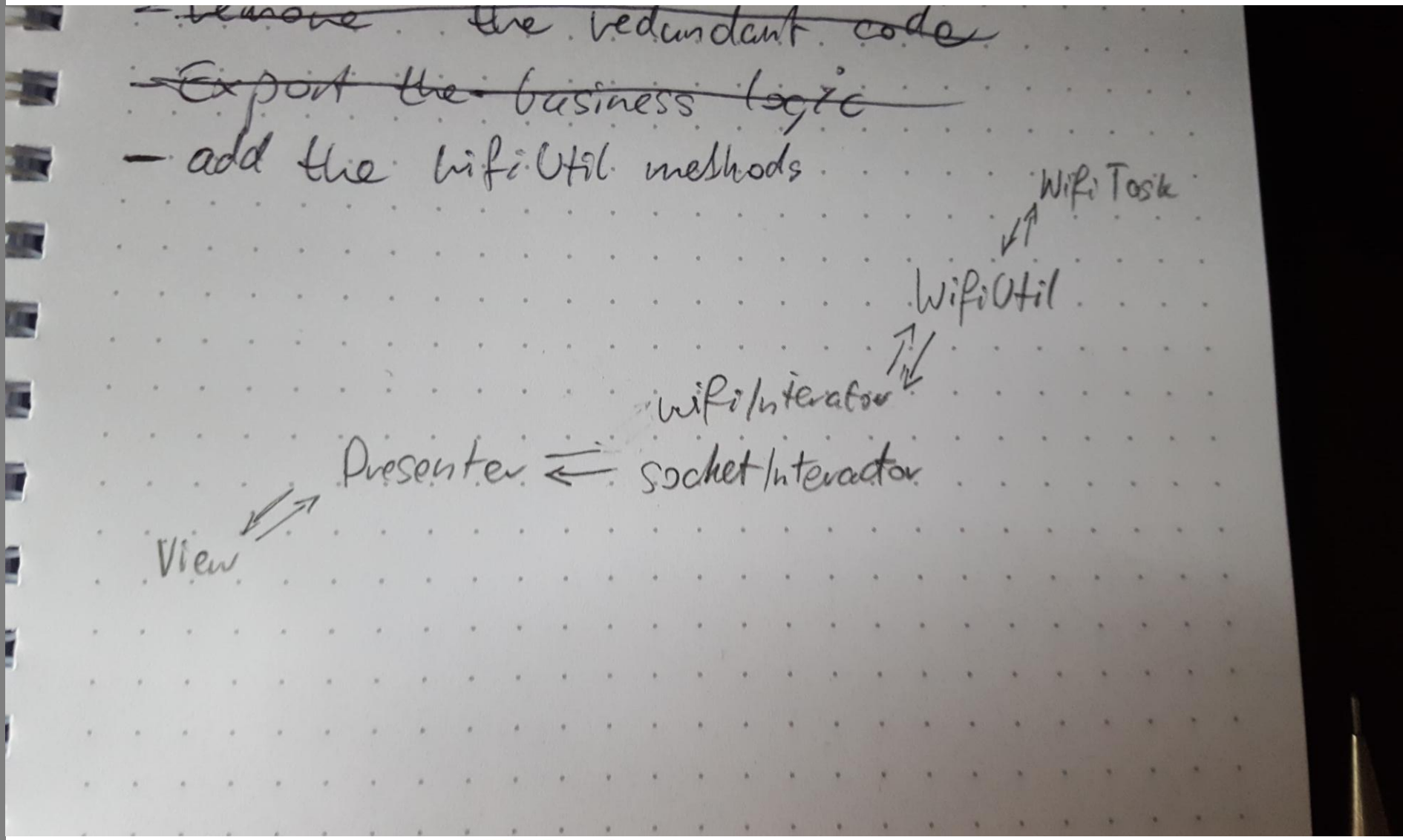
Changing app architecture

I spent a lot of time changing the previous code layout on the M (model) V (view) P (presenter) approuch.

The big amount of code and high complication forced me to separated code sections.

Thus now app is more flexible and easier to testing.

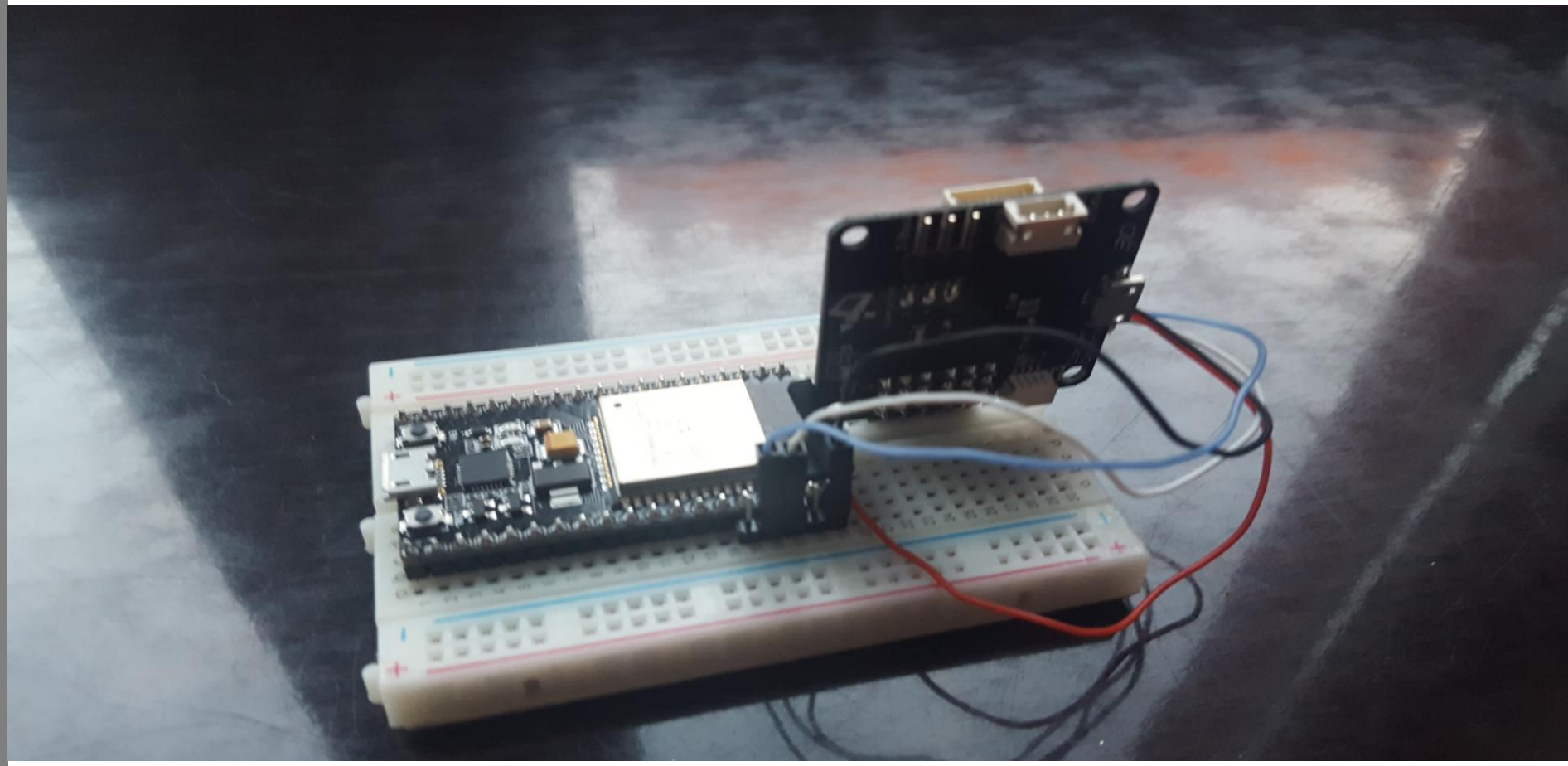

remove the redundant code
Export the basiness logic
- add the WifiUtil methods
WifiTask
WifiUtil
WifiInterator
Presenter
SocketInteractor
View

CC3D

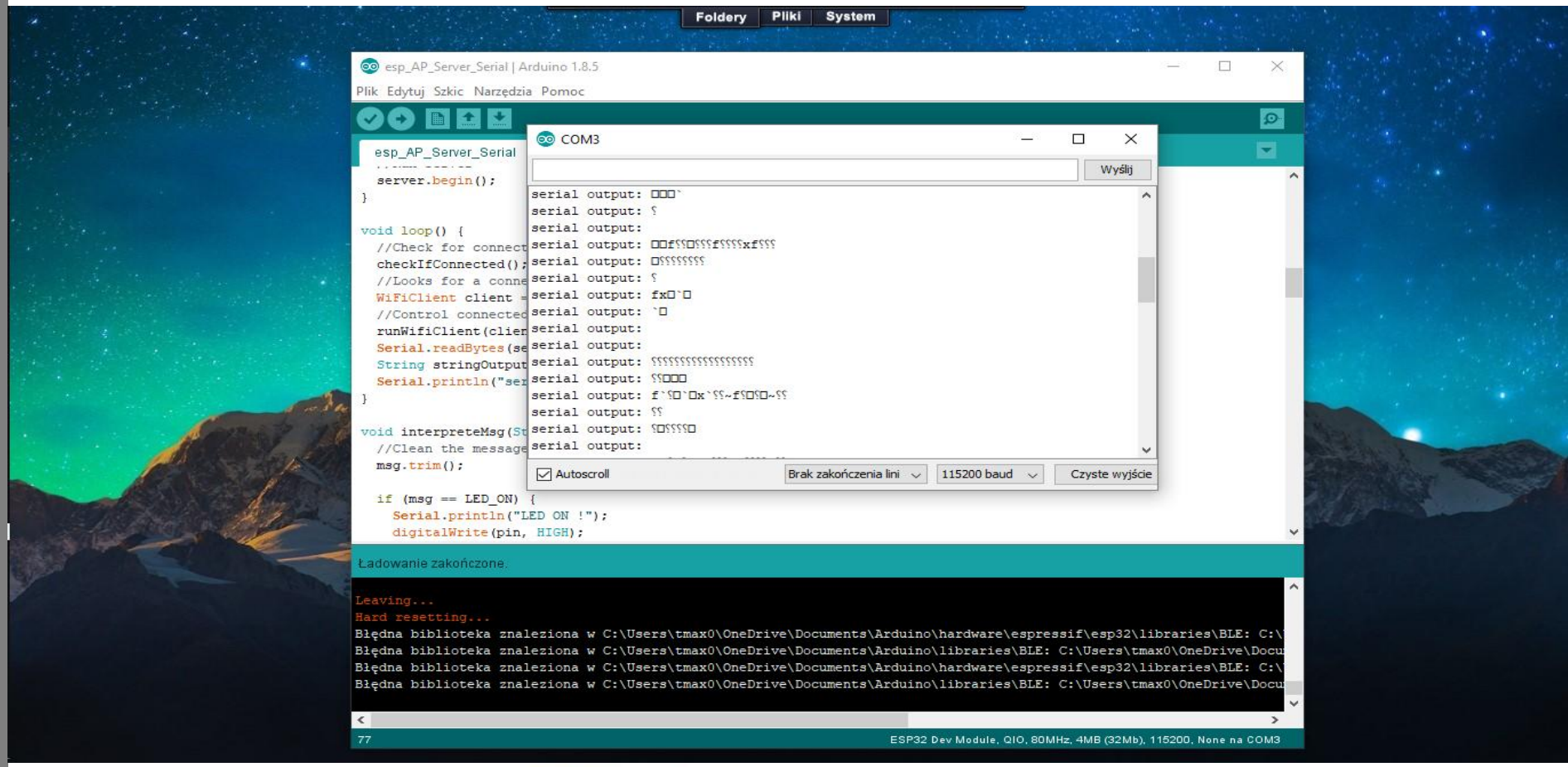
In our class we had a free cc3d board so we decided to start work with it.

The next slides will show you first steps with drone telemetry and mavlink.

Connection



Initiating serial outputs



Problems with CC3D

After many, many tries and receiving raw bit frames.

It turned out that cc3d doesen't use mavlink interface and requires software serial.

These obstacles stopped our work. This was something that we couldn't bypass.

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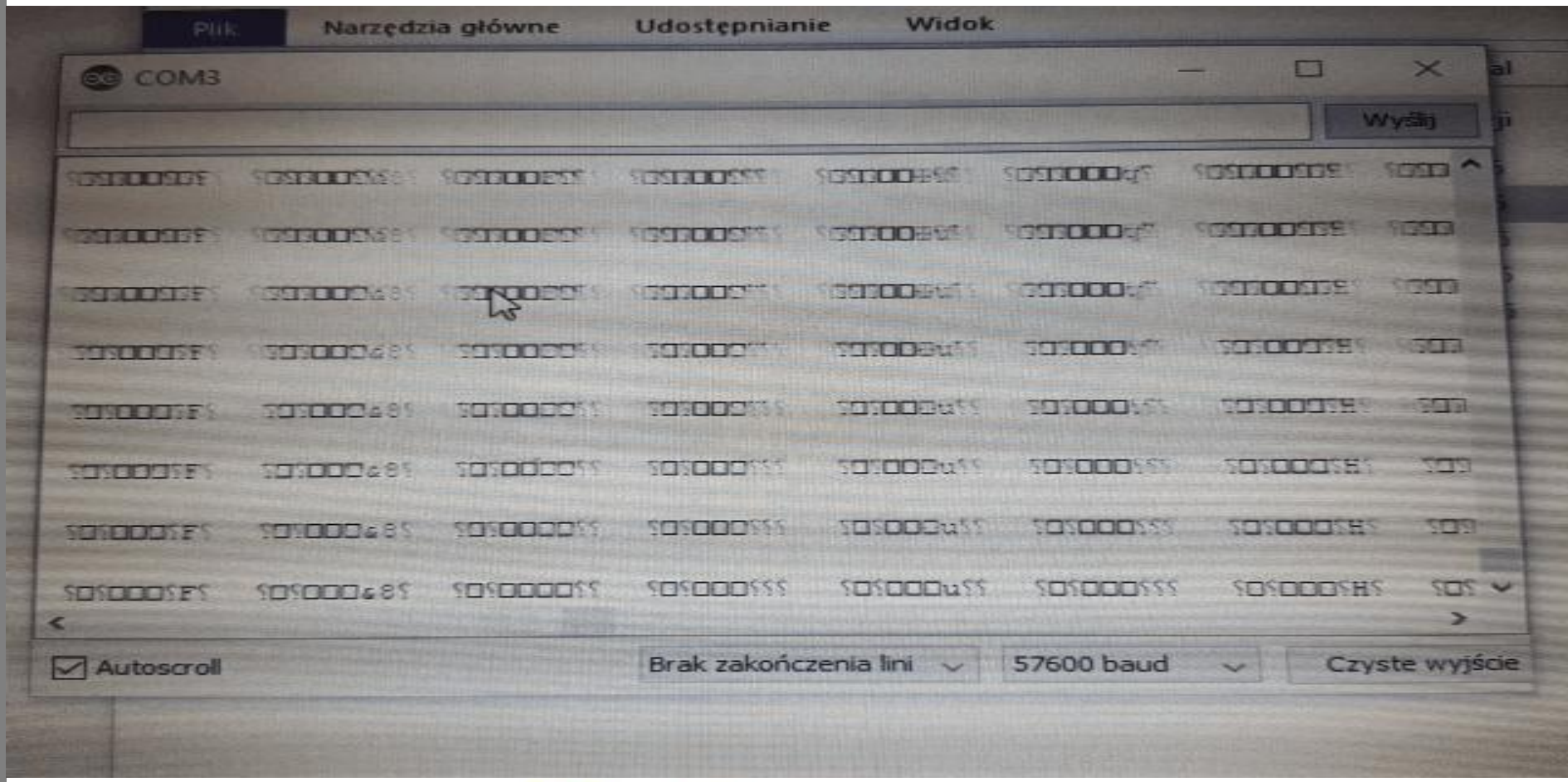
Raw bitframes



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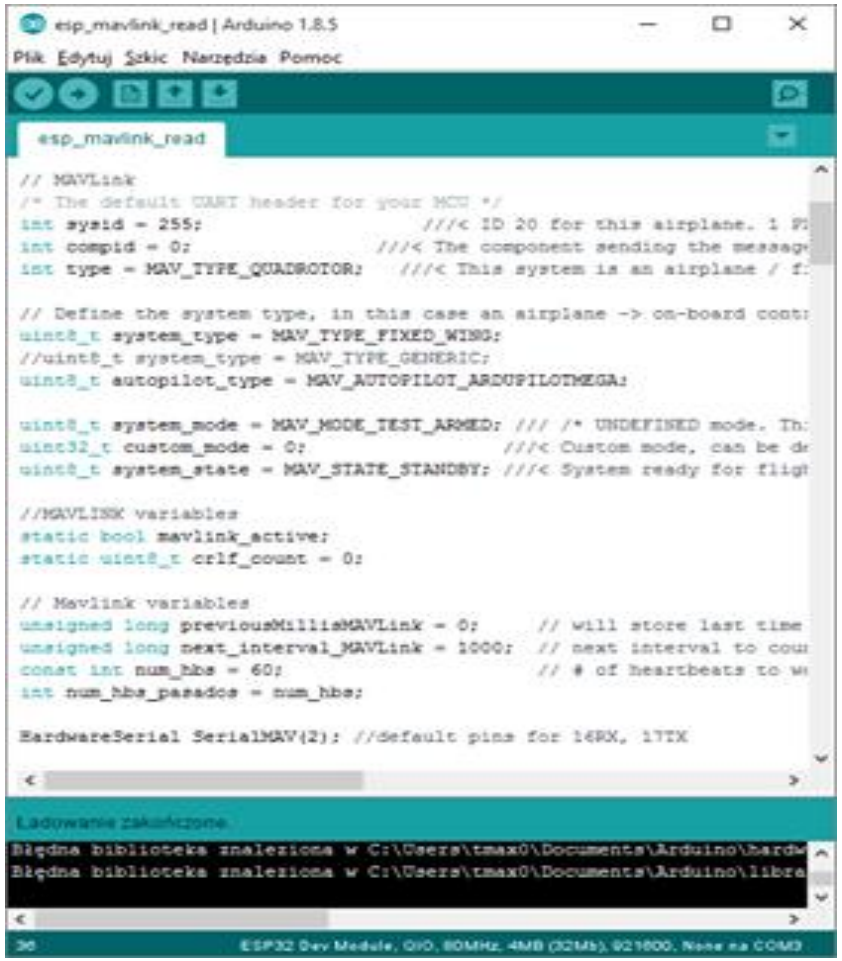
Mavlink code



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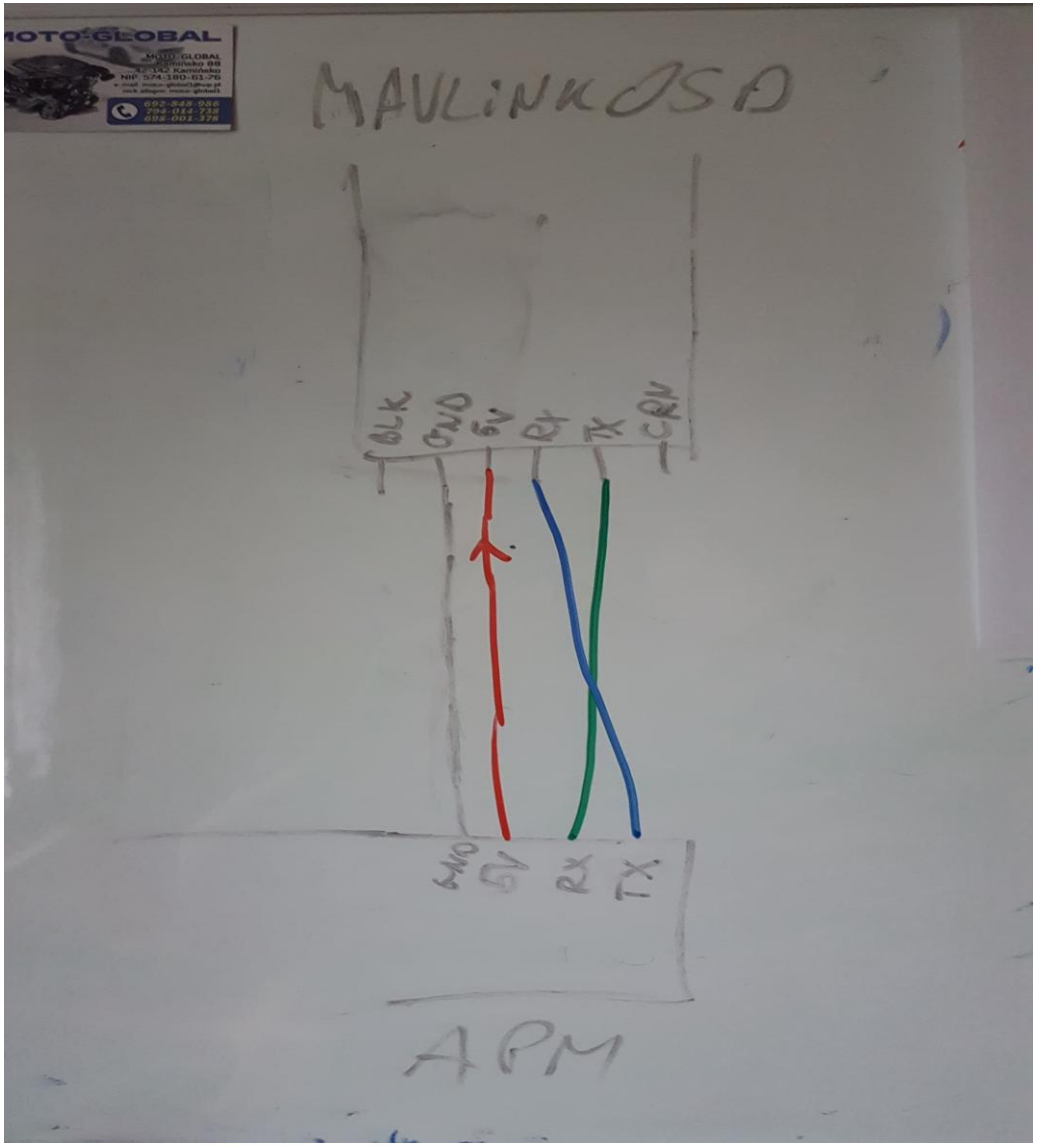
Exchange from CC3D to APM

Dissasembly propellers

For safety reasons I had to dissasembly the propellers in case of arming.

Another things to do was reconnect telemetry cables from OSD (On Screen Display) to esp32.

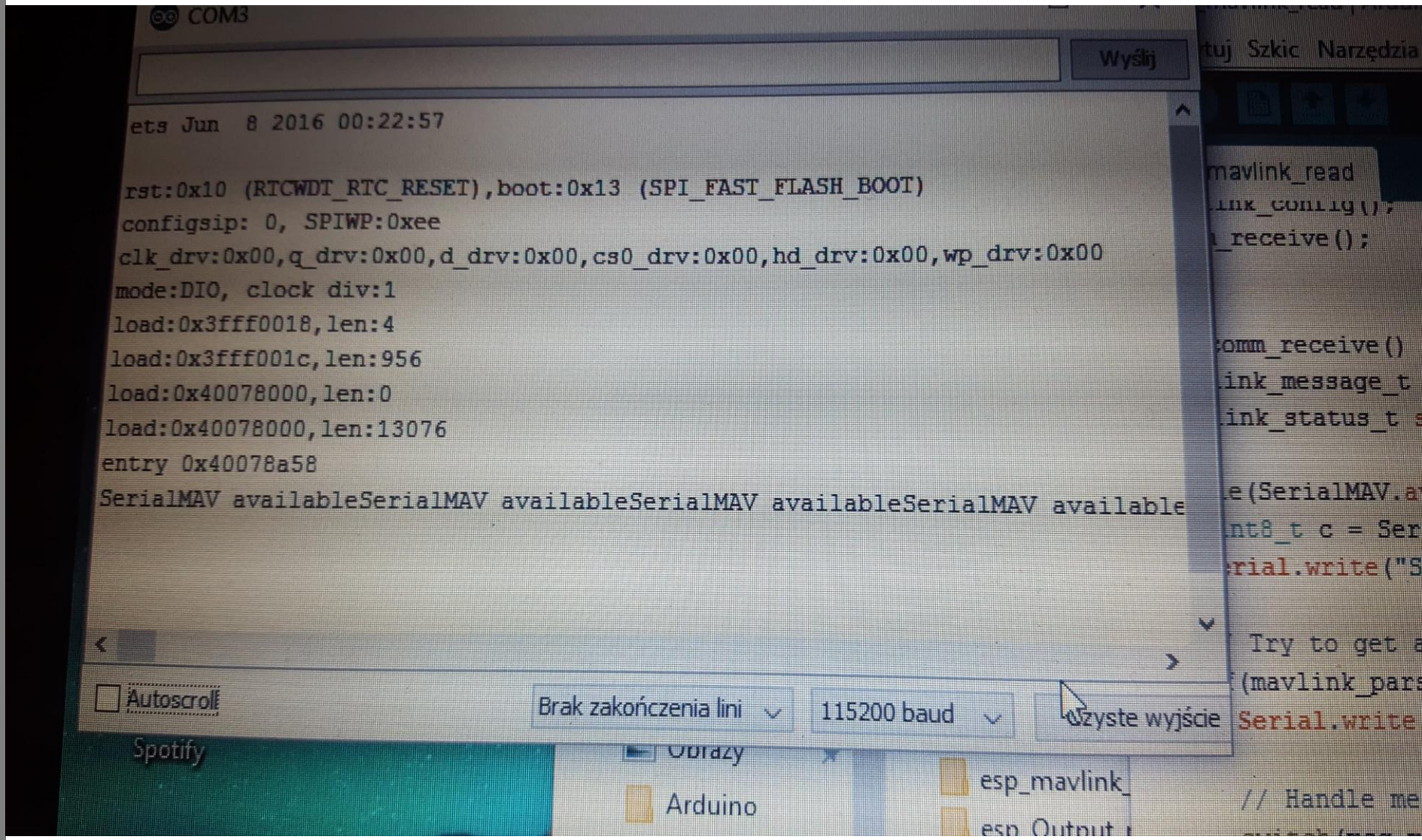

MAVLINK OSD
BLK
GND
5V
RX
TX
CRV
GND
5V
RX
TX
APM

Mavlink and APM

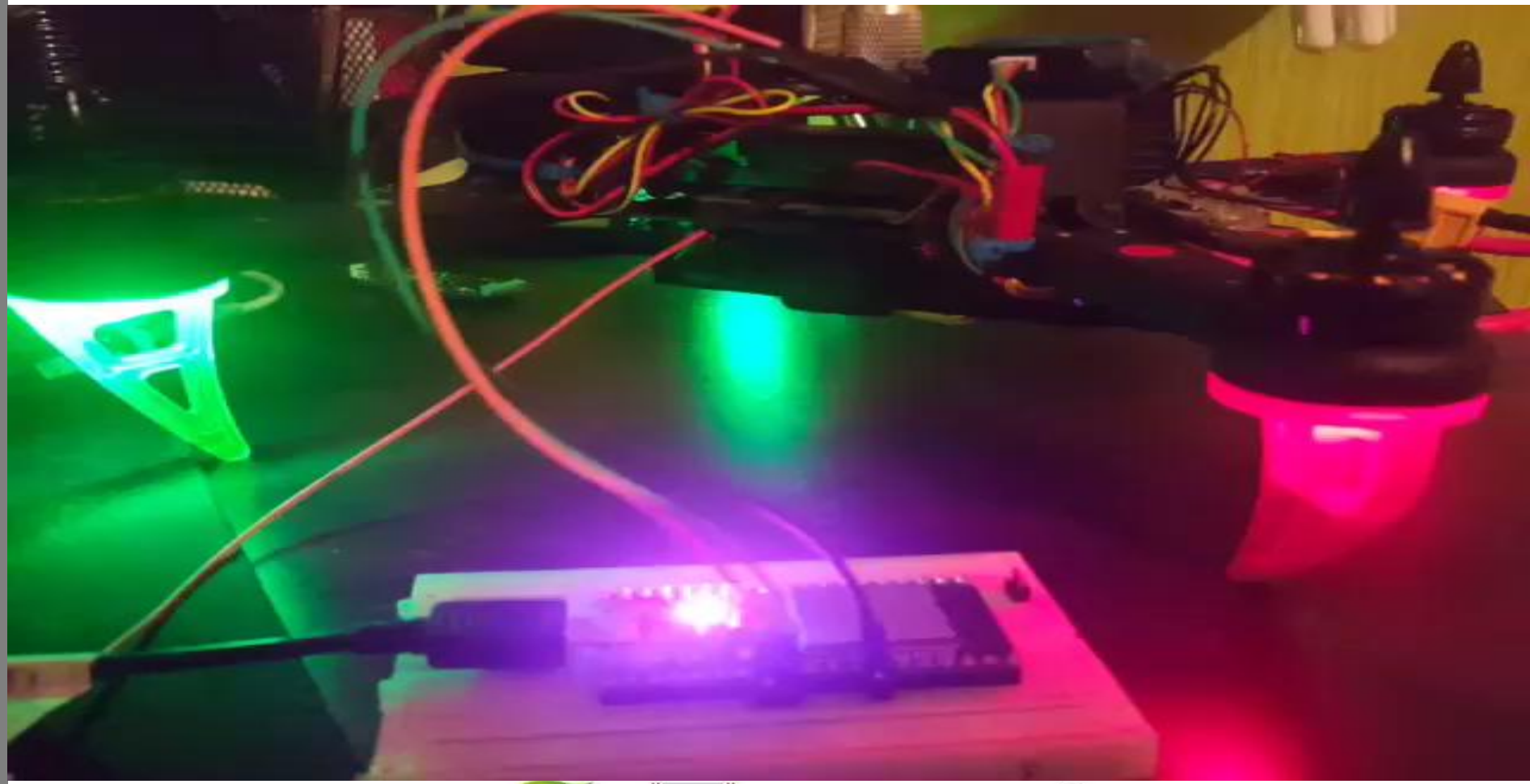
With apm the things had gone match better.

Apm supports **hardwareSerial** and mavlink commands.

We were able to use already written mavlink code and check bits transfer.


COM3
Wyślij
ets Jun 8 2016 00:22:57
rst:0x10 (RTCWDT_RTC_RESET),boot:0x13 (SPI_FAST_FLASH_BOOT)
configsip: 0, SPIWP:0xee
clk_drv:0x00,q_drv:0x00,d_drv:0x00,cs0_drv:0x00,hd_drv:0x00,wp_drv:0x00
mode:DIO, clock div:1
load:0x3fff0018,len:4
load:0x3fff001c,len:956
load:0x40078000,len:0
load:0x40078000,len:13076
entry 0x40078a58
SerialMAV availableSerialMAV availableSerialMAV availableSerialMAV available
Autoscroll
Brak zakończenia lini
115200 baud
Czyste wyjście
Spotify
Arduino
esp_mavlink
mavlink_read
receive();
Try to get
Serial.write
// Handle me

Indicating serial read

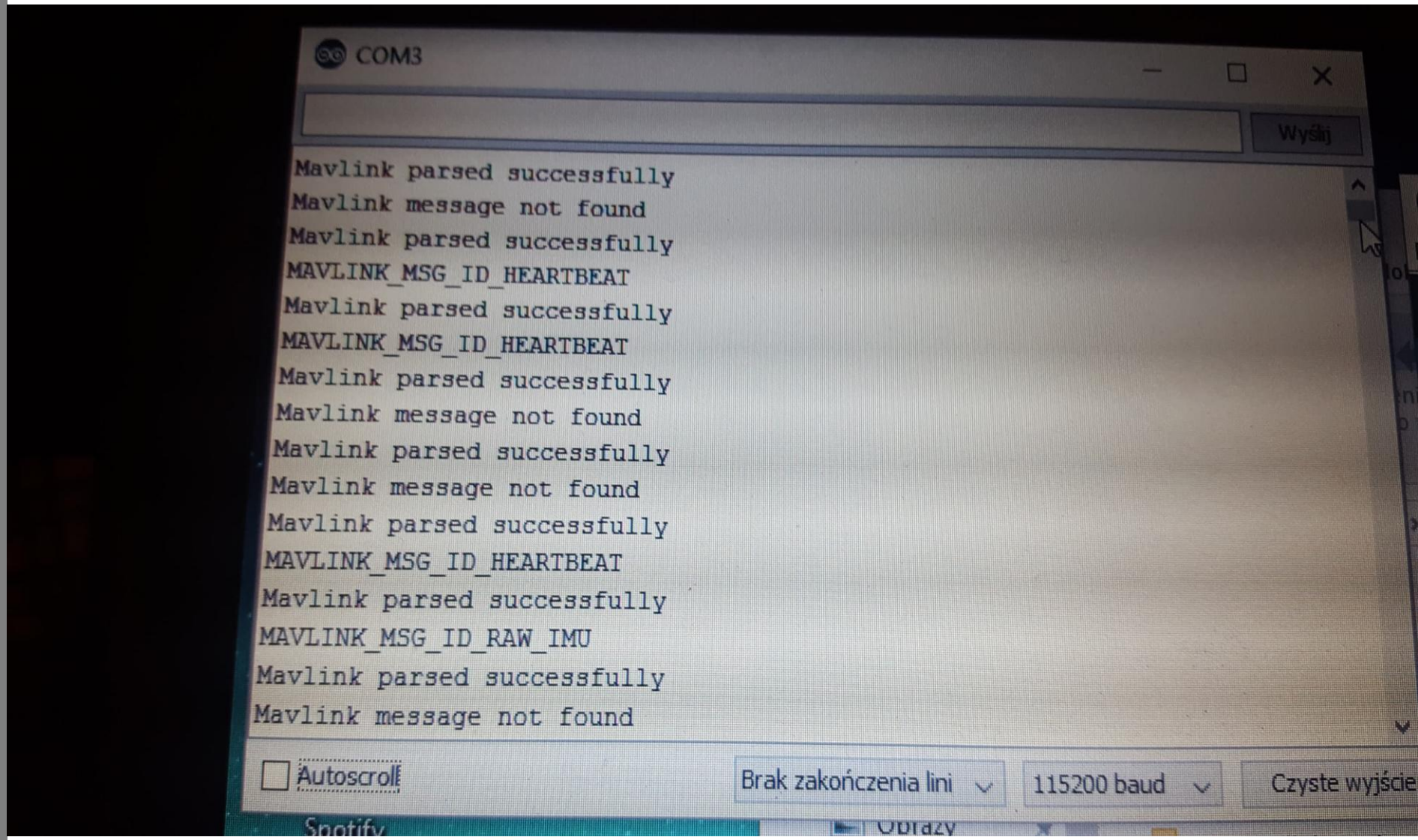


Mavlink explanation

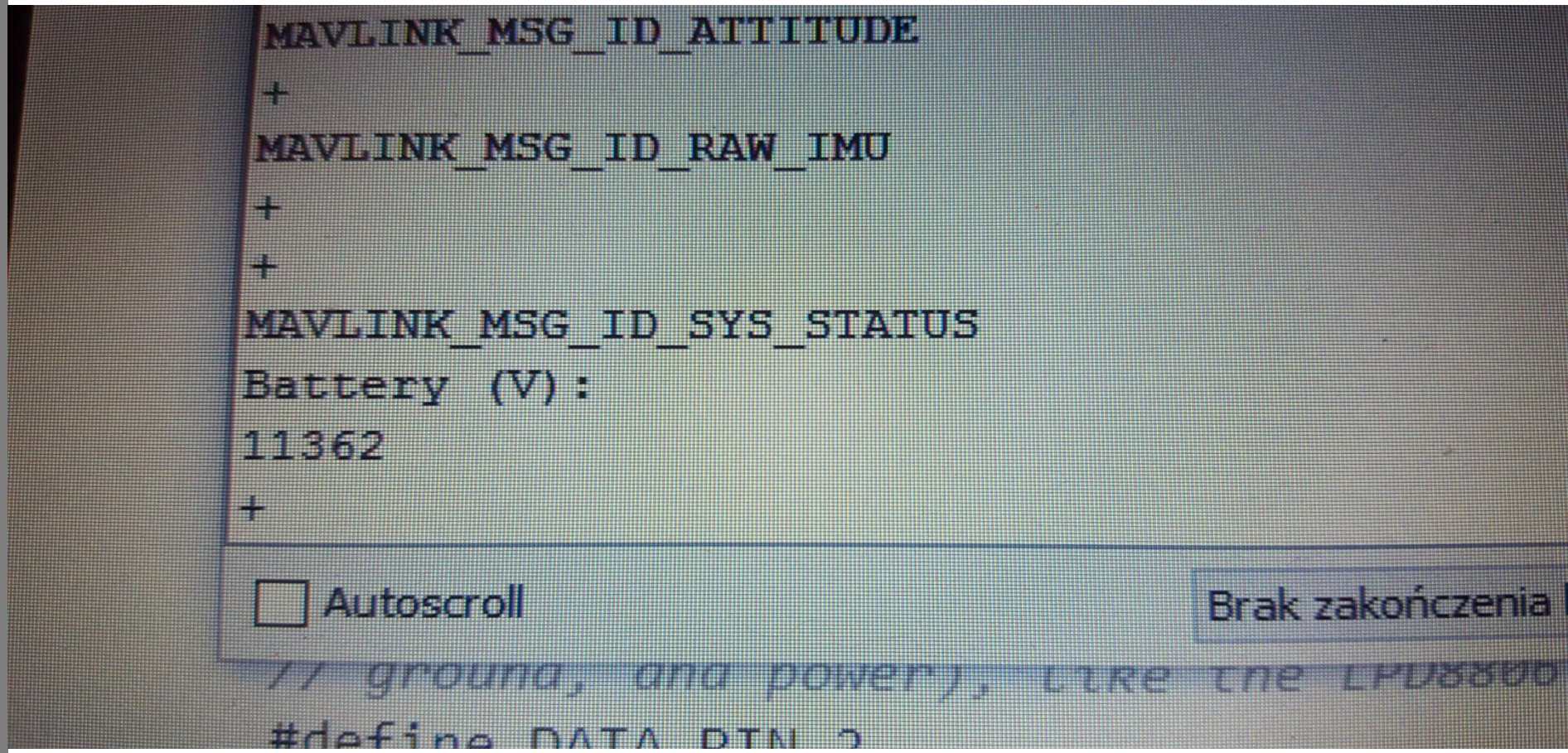
Drones are using heartbeat to confirm a connection.

Receiving heartbeat packets is first and most important thing.

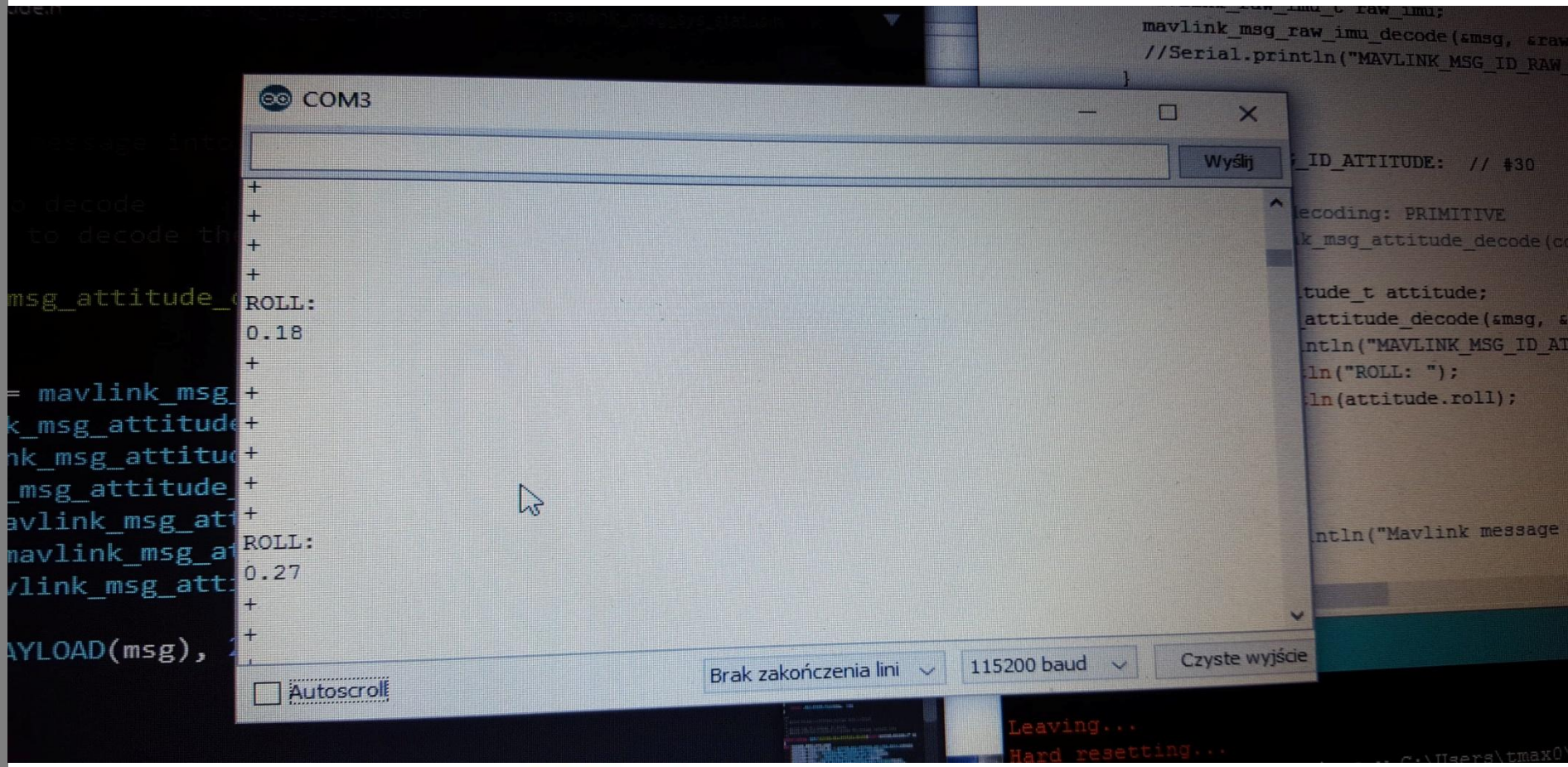
After that we can decode other drone's parameters.


COM3
Wyślij
Mavlink parsed successfully
Mavlink message not found
Mavlink parsed successfully
MAVLINK_MSG_ID_HEARTBEAT
Mavlink parsed successfully
MAVLINK_MSG_ID_HEARTBEAT
Mavlink parsed successfully
Mavlink message not found
Mavlink parsed successfully
Mavlink message not found
Mavlink parsed successfully
MAVLINK_MSG_ID_HEARTBEAT
Mavlink parsed successfully
MAVLINK_MSG_ID_RAW_IMU
Mavlink parsed successfully
Mavlink message not found
Autoscroll
Brak zakończenia lini
115200 baud
Czyste wyjście

Battery status



Position values



Sending mavlink requests

After we have learned how to receive mavlink's data we are able to send our commands.

As always the initial thing is to arm the drone.

We have discovered that:

- Base mode= 81 (drone disarmed)
- Base mode=209 (drone armed)

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Drone disarmed

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Drone armed

Recognition RC channels

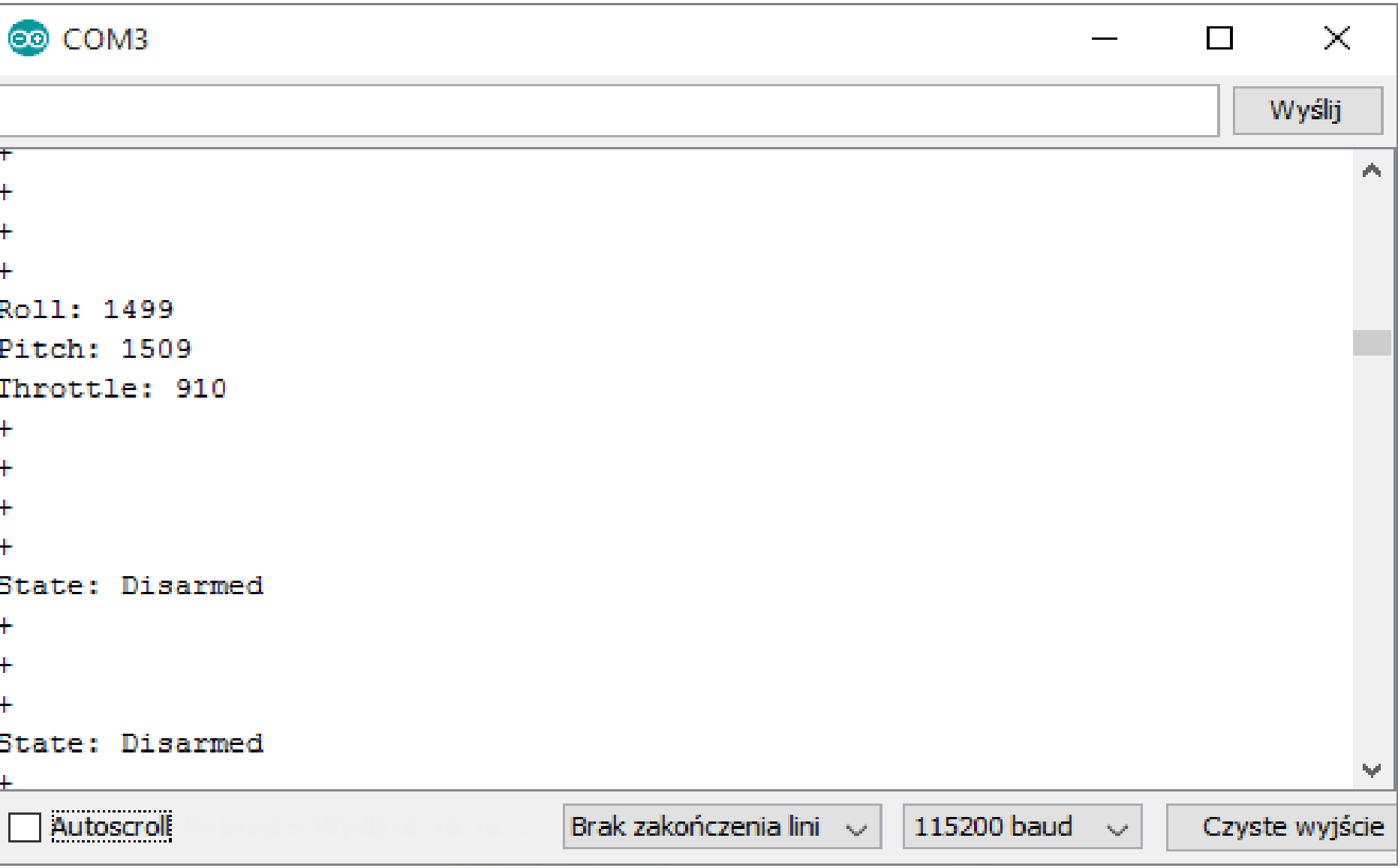
RC (Radio Controler- every equivalent of telemetry).

RC channels correspond to actions that are called on the telemetry e.g flight mode, pitch, rtl.

We had to check witch channels were for pitch, roll, throttle, yaw.

Channels

- 1- roll
- 2- pitch
- 3- throttle
- 4- yaw
- CH5- free
- -
- CH8 - free


COM3
Wyślij
+
+
+
+
Roll: 1499
Pitch: 1509
Throttle: 910
+
+
+
+
State: Disarmed
+
+
+
State: Disarmed
+
Autoscroll
Brak zakończenia lini
115200 baud
Czyste wyjście

What command is for motors?

Command DO_SET_SERVO is only used for extra servos like triggers arms.

For setting speed of a motor we have to use

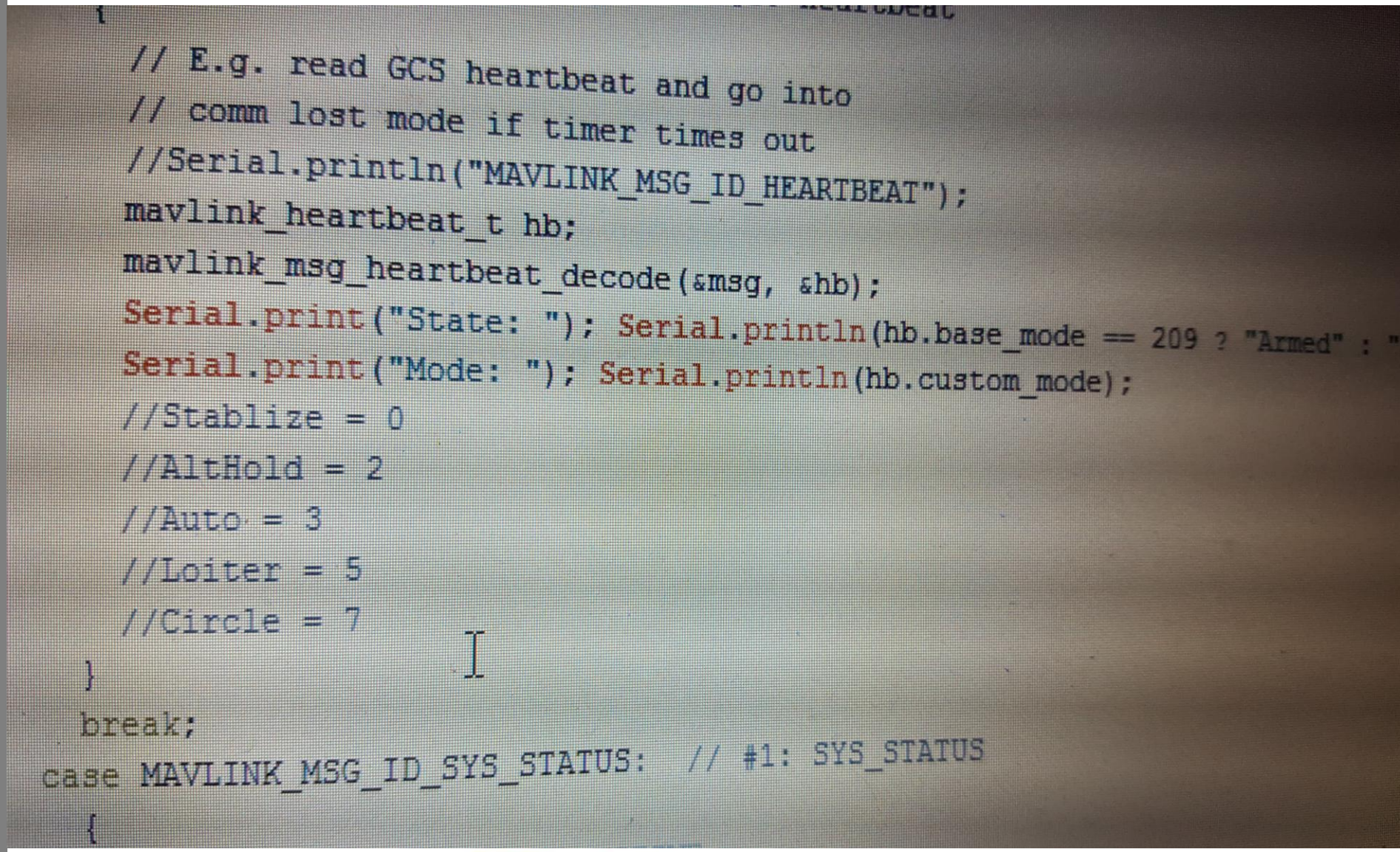
Mavlink_msg_rc_channels_override.

Reading flight modes

In order to check and change current flight mode in Arduino I read custom_mode parameter.

Custom_mode returns number representation of current mode.

A value that stands for a number can be checked in file common.xml



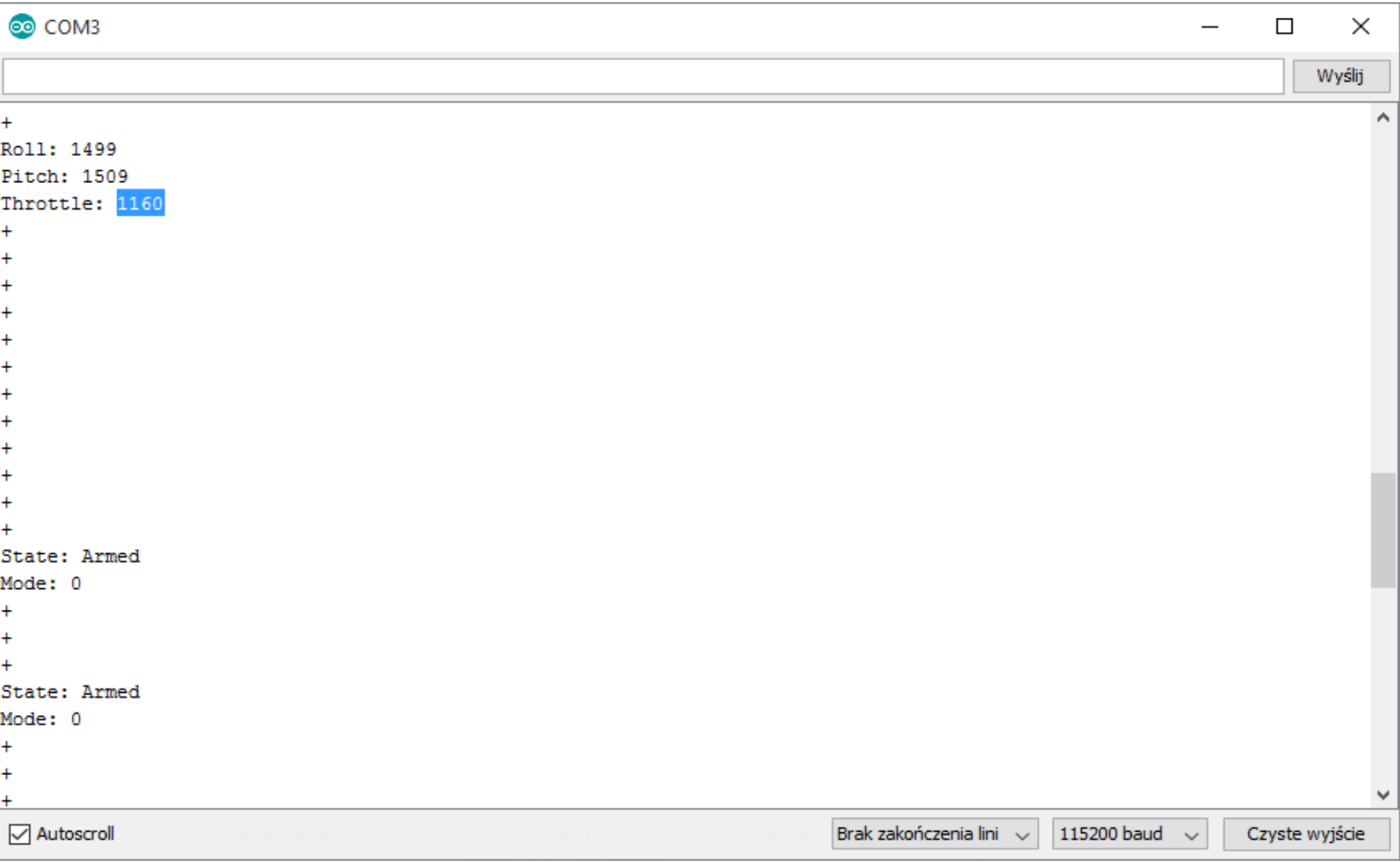
```
    // E.g. read GCS heartbeat and go into
    // comm lost mode if timer times out
    //Serial.println("MAVLINK_MSG_ID_HEARTBEAT");
    mavlink_heartbeat_t hb;
    mavlink_msg_heartbeat_decode(&msg, &hb);
    Serial.print("State: "); Serial.println(hb.base_mode == 209 ? "Armed" : "
    Serial.print("Mode: "); Serial.println(hb.custom_mode);
    //Stablize = 0
    //AltHold = 2
    //Auto = 3
    //Loiter = 5
    //Circle = 7
  }
  break;
case MAVLINK_MSG_ID_SYS_STATUS:  // #1: SYS_STATUS
  {
```

The biggest breakpoint

After many, many weeks I have run the propellers without using mission planer or telemetry.

Our drone starts running above 1150 value over throttle.

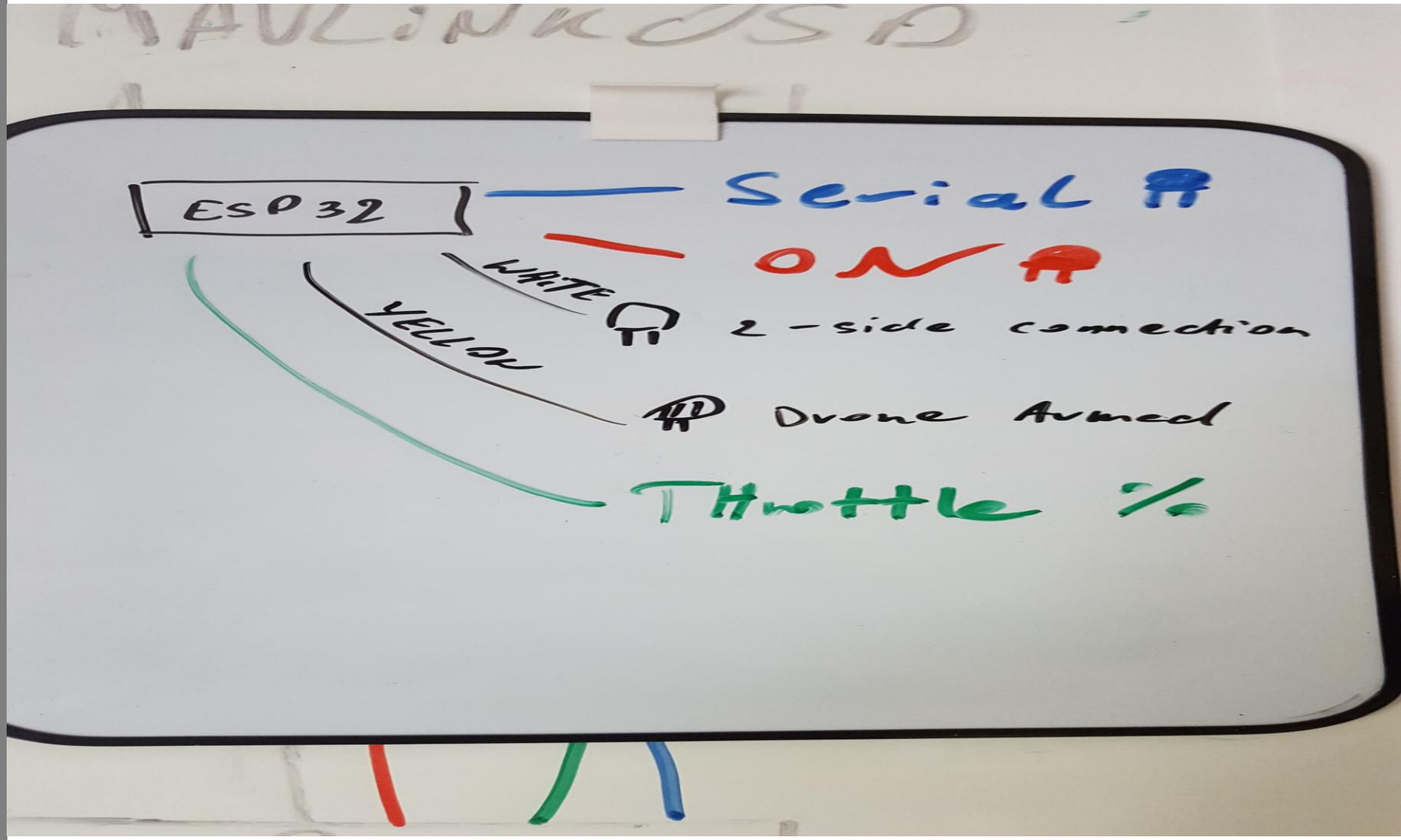
Before that the drone had to be armed.

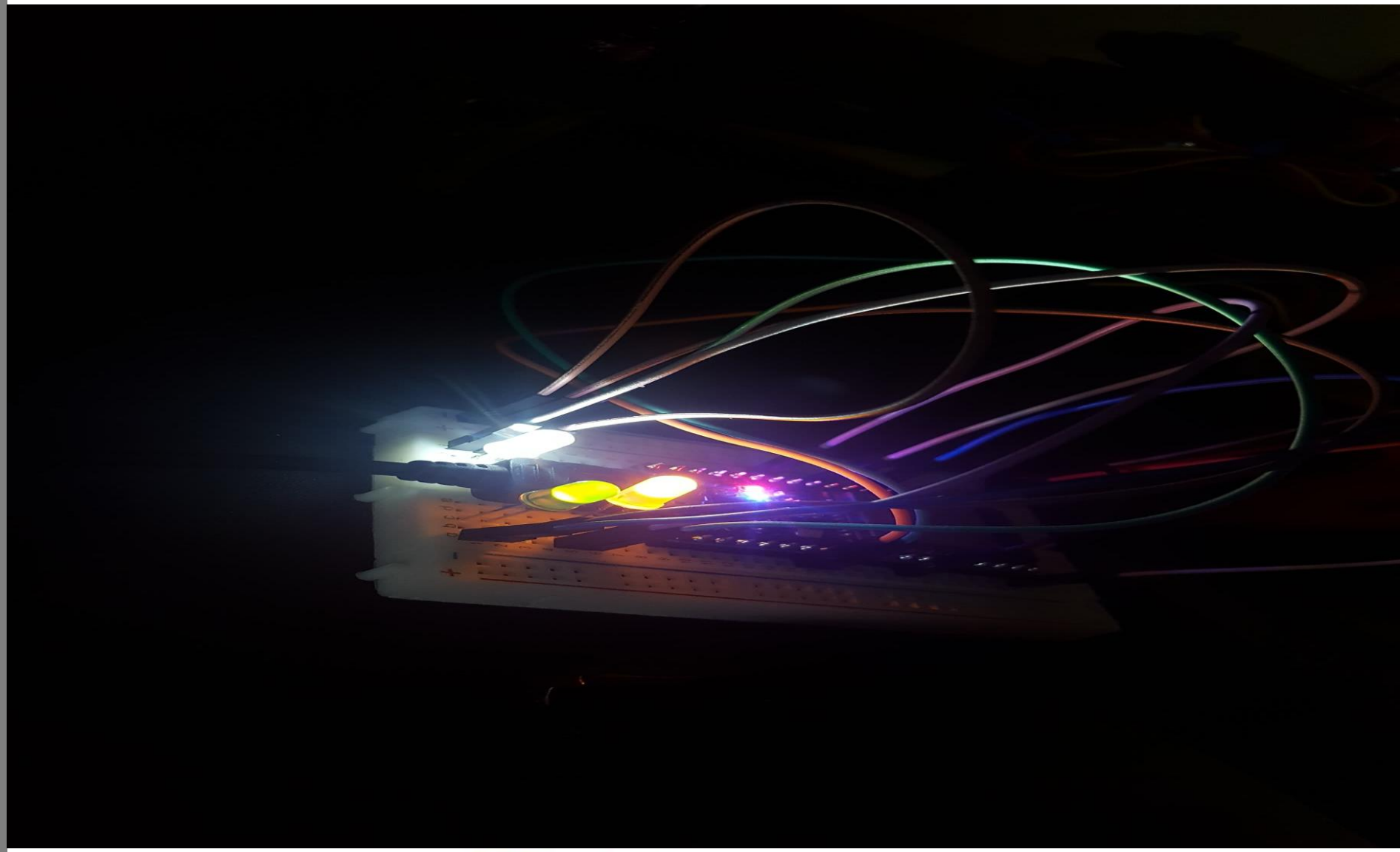

COM3
Wyślij
+
Roll: 1499
Pitch: 1509
Throttle: 1160
+
+
+
+
+
+
+
+
+
+
+
+
State: Armed
Mode: 0
+
+
+
State: Armed
Mode: 0
+
+
+
Autoscroll
Brak zakończenia lini
115200 baud
Czyste wyjście

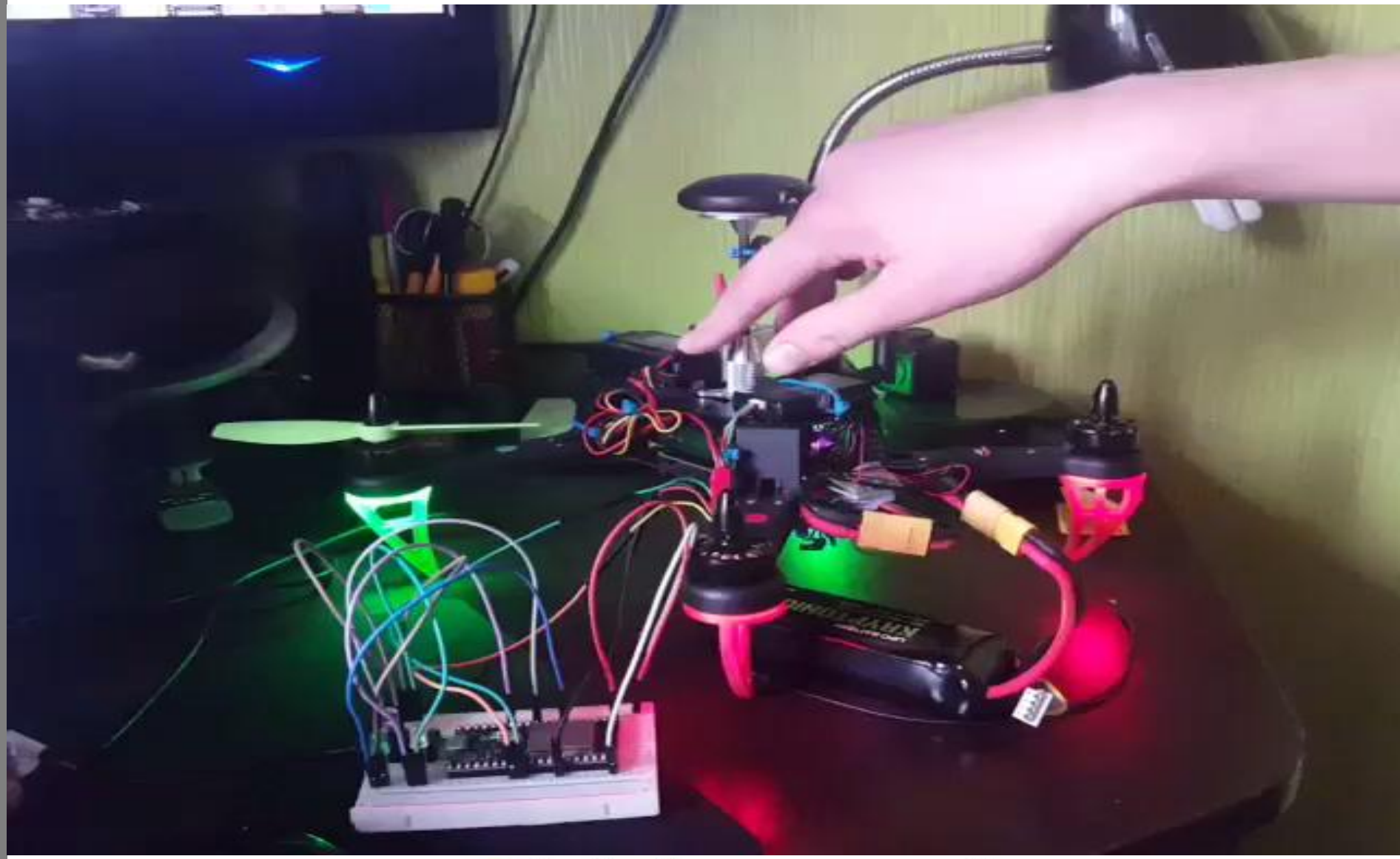
Designing indication system

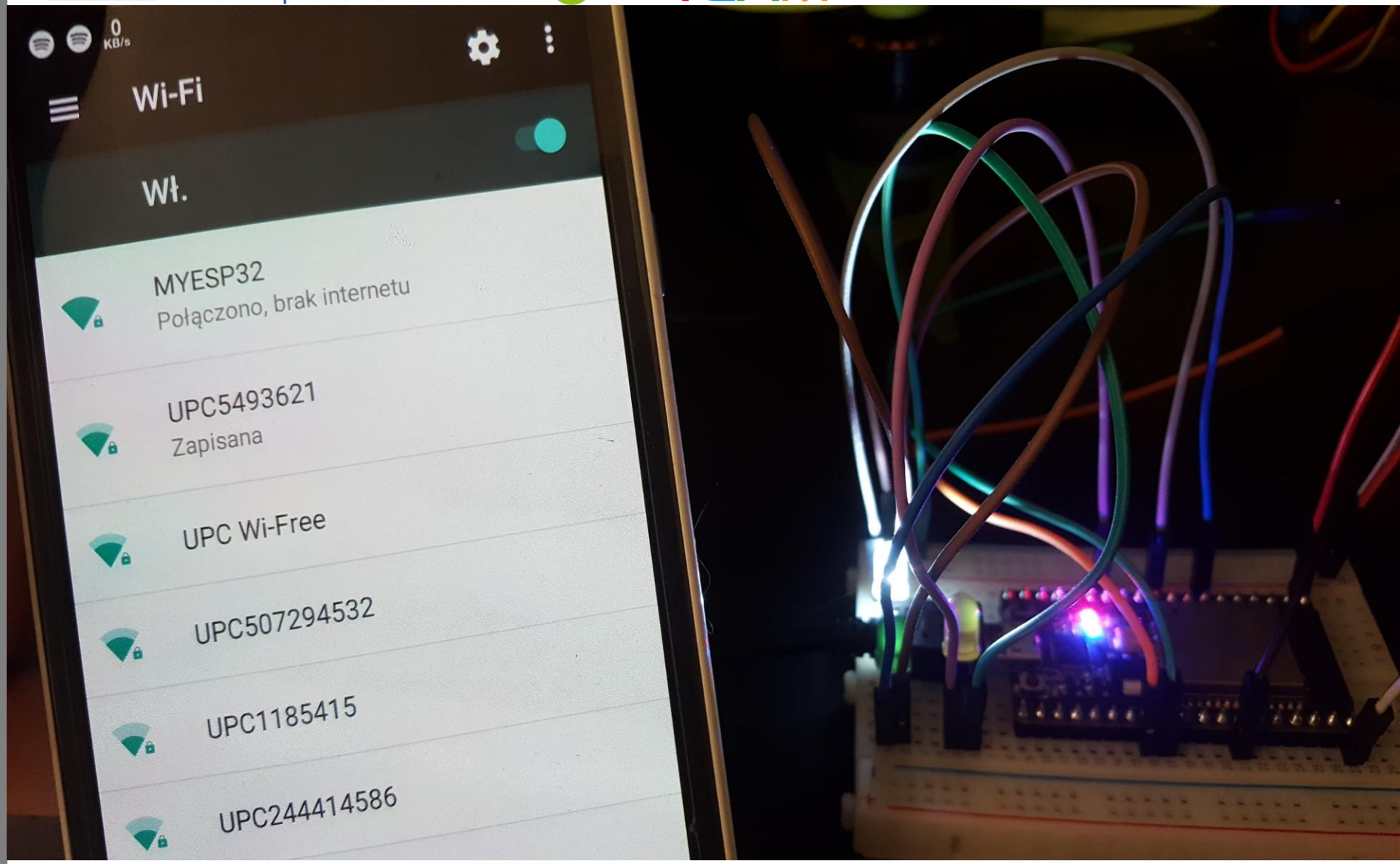
For pointing present state (arm, stabilize, throttle) we use builtin and outers leds.

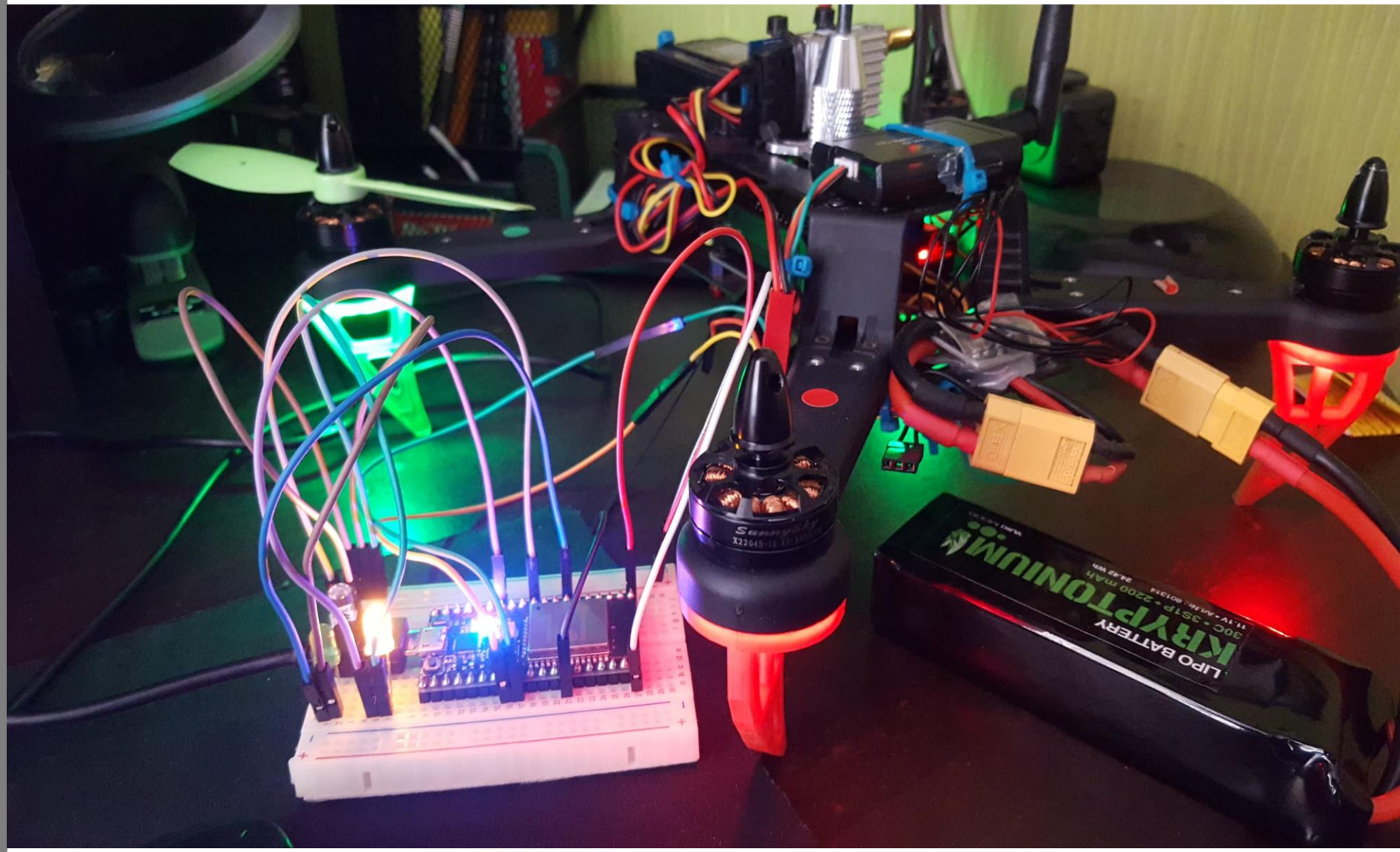
- Blue- serial data read
- Red- state of esp32
- White- connection with a phone
- Yellow- arming state
- Green- throttle in percent


ESP32
Serial R
ON R
WHITE
2-side comection
YELLOW
Drone Armed
Thottle %

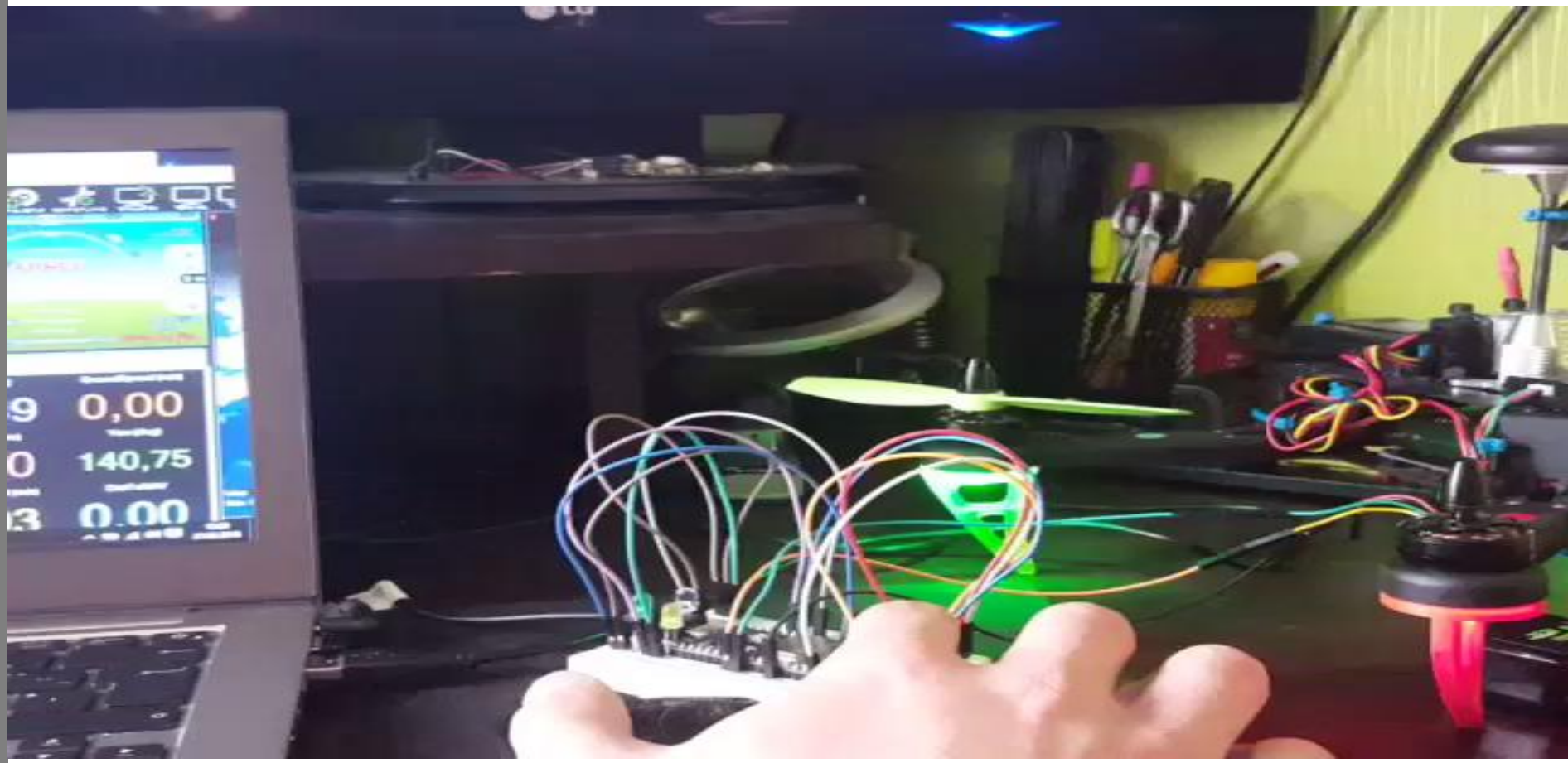




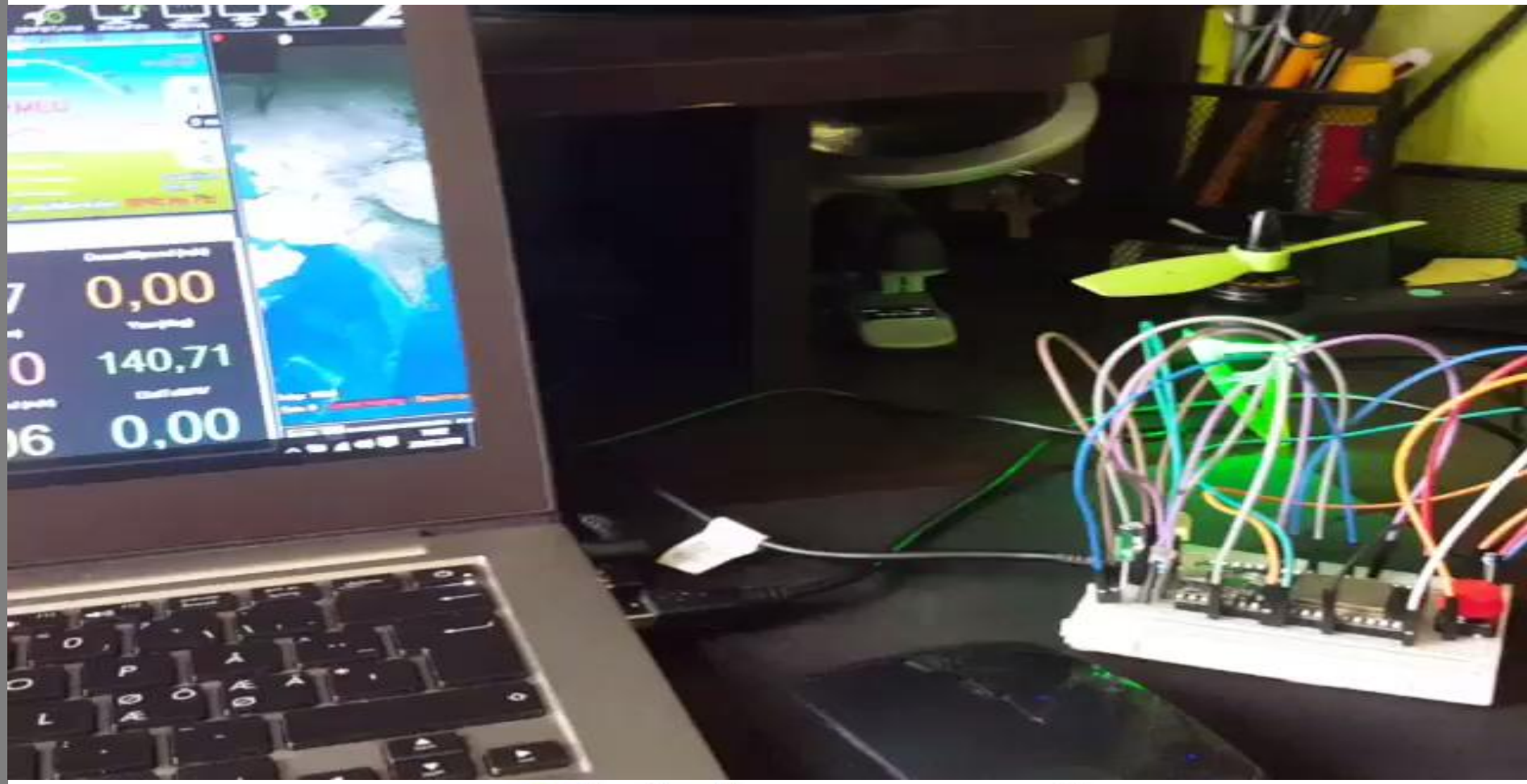

0
KB/s
Wi-Fi
Wł.
MYESP32
Połączono, brak internetu
UPC5493621
Zapisana
UPC Wi-Free
UPC507294532
UPC1185415
UPC244414586


KRYPTONIUM
LiPo BATTERY

Arming with a button



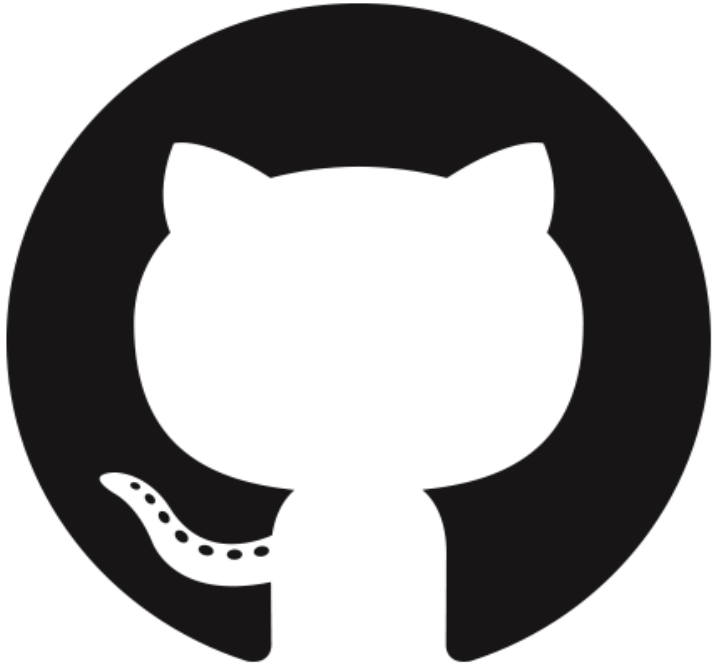
Final esp32 control



Code summary

Arduino	Android
•Created files: 15 •Libraries: 34 •Lines of code: 645	•Created files: 43 •Libraries: 26 •Lines of code: 19 087 (with libraries)

Full code uploaded



Tutorials on my site

After this meeting I'm going to publish code and tutorials on github and my blog:
tkadziolka.pl/blog.html

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Thank YOU!