
Ad Hoc and Sensor Networks Exercise 4

Sensor Network programming



TinyOS exercise

- Sensor network programming in a nutshell
 - Read a tutorial
 - Solve two (simple) tasks on real hardware
 - **Lab-style** exercise
 - Teams of two to three students are ideal
 - Two parallel lab working places are available
 - Reservation system on the course website
 - Expected time needed for all tasks:
3-4 hours
 - Mandatory to get the testat without taking the exam



Tutorial

- **Carefully** read the tutorial on the TinyOS website
 - <http://www.tinyos.net/tinyos-1.x/doc/tutorial/index.html>
 - Ignore instructions about setting up the system, flashing applications, simulation, and data ROM access
- The tutorial contains several exercise tasks:
Think about them but **do not write code**
- We use an **Eclipse plug-in** to develop the applications which is not mentioned in the tutorial



Exercise 1

- **Exchange of a sensor reading**

- Two sensor nodes are used
- One node periodically samples the light sensor and broadcasts the reading over its radio
- The other node listens for radio messages and signals if it is getting brighter or darker
 - Brighter -> The green LED of the receiver is set
 - Darker -> The red LED of the receiver is set
 - No significant change -> The yellow LED is set

What exactly do we get from the sensor?



Exercise 2

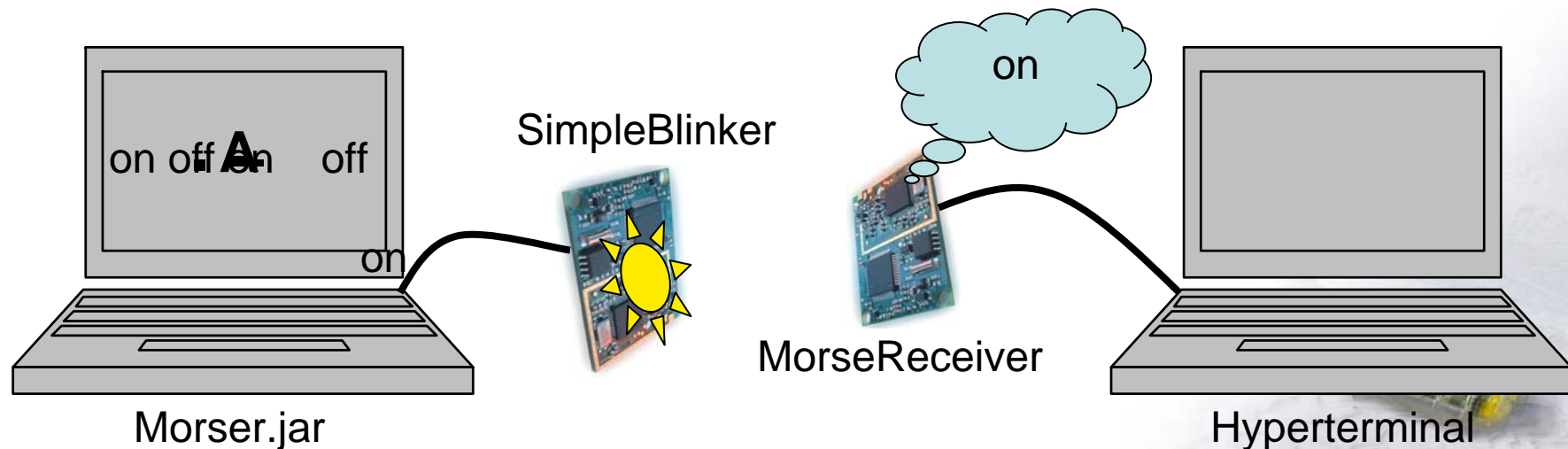
- **Optical Communication using Morse Codes**

- Sender

- Sensor node connected to the pc over a serial connection
 - Controlled by a (provided) java application
 - LEDs are toggled on/off to transmit Morse signals

- Receiver

- Sensor node sampling its light sensor. Detects and decodes Morse signals
 - Connected to a pc over a serial connection. On the pc the Hyperterminal is used for output



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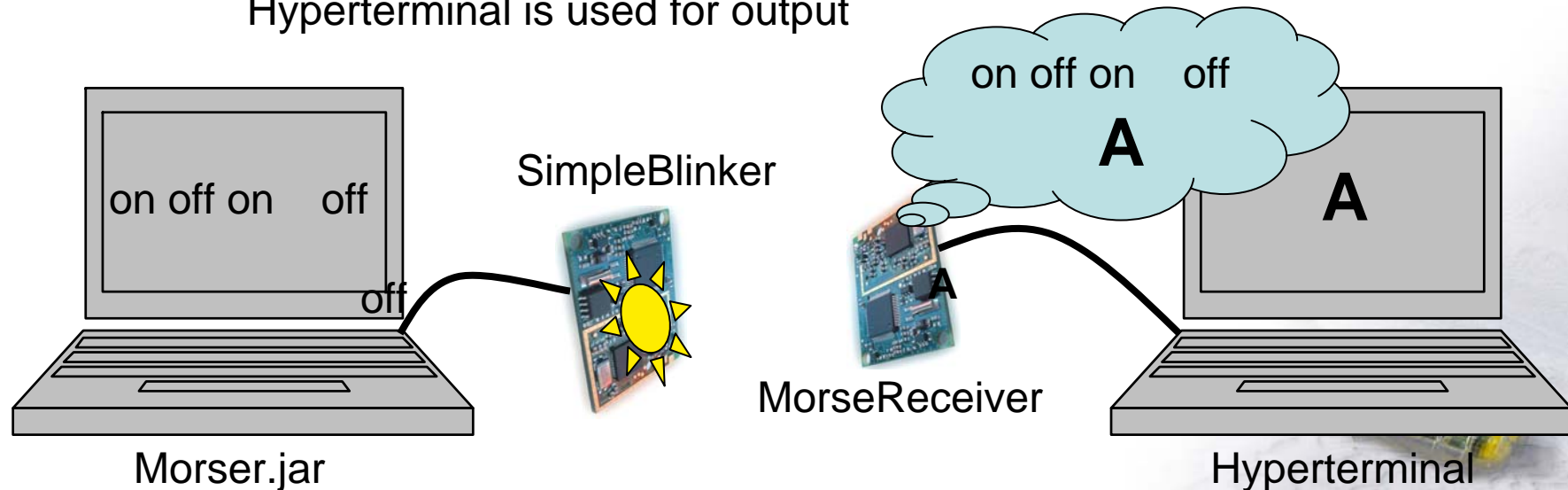
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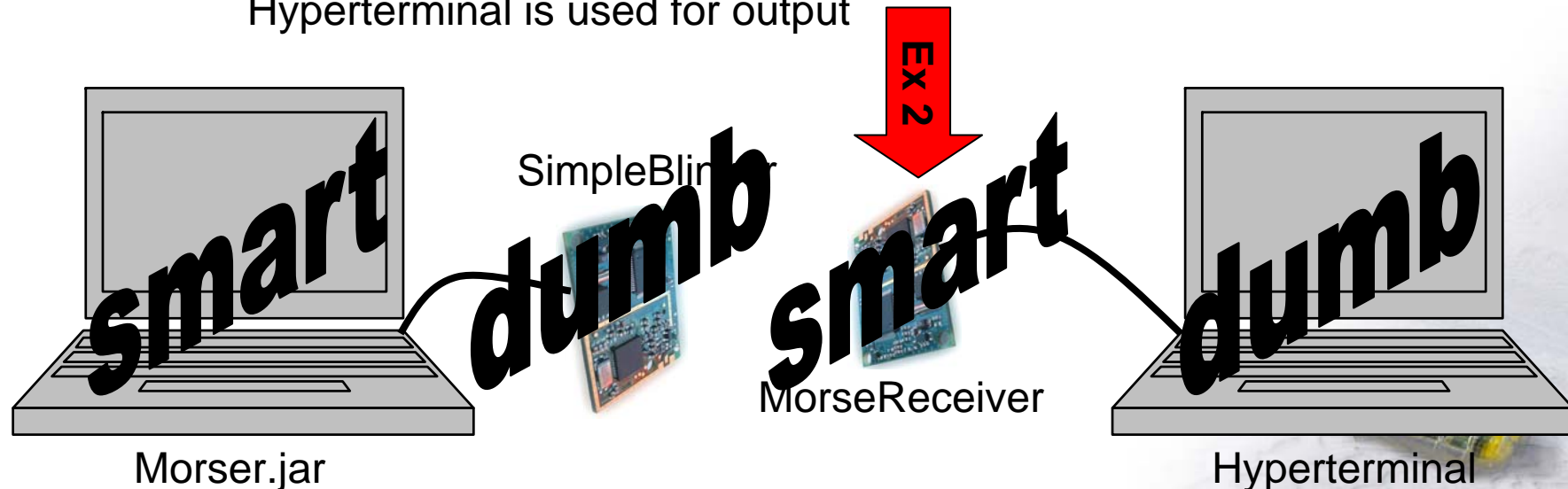
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General Information

- Code Skeletons for both applications are provided
 - Exercise 1 only needs very little additional programming and **should be solved by all groups**
 - Exercise 2 is more challenging but is also more fun

Hint: Exercise 1 may contain helpful code fragments



Setup

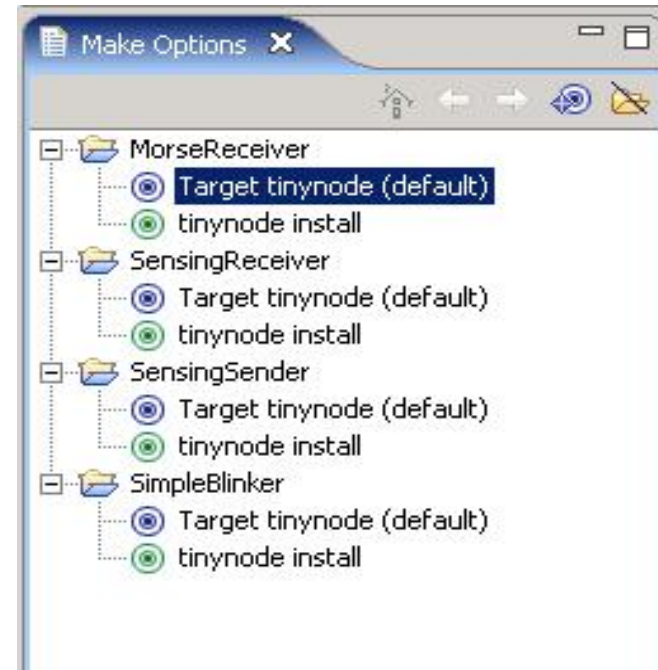
- The lab computers are preinstalled with all necessary tools and the exercise skeletons
- An Eclipse plug-in for TinyOS development is installed and configured. Check the following website for a quick start on how to use it:
http://dgc.ethz.ch/projects/tos_ide/



Compiling

- For all Exercise applications two compile commands are defined.

- Target `tinynode` is used to compile the application. The compiler output is directed to the Eclipse console
- `tinynode install` is used to compile and flash the application to a sensor node



- A popup asks for a **bsl** number. This is the identifier of the serial port the sensor node is attached to. The identifier count starts at 0. Therefore $COM1 == 0$, $COM2 == 1$, $COM3 == 2$



Final Remarks

- The lab is in the ETL building. Hardware and keys must be fetched in our office ETZ G64.1
- If you get stuck come back to ETZ G64.1 and ask for help
- A FAQ page will be linked from the course website and updated regularly

