ANR004 PROTEUS

HOW TO USE THE PERIPHERAL ONLY MODE

VERSION 2.3

JANUARY 3, 2020
### Revision history

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Manual version</th>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>• Initial version</td>
<td>February 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>• Updated MTU size to 247 bytes</td>
<td>July 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>• New corporate design</td>
<td>June 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>• Updated product name from AMB2621 to Proteus-I</td>
<td>November 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>• Updated file name to new AppNote name structure. Updated important notes, legal notice &amp; license terms chapters.</td>
<td>June 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>• Added Proteus-II and Proteus-III description</td>
<td>January 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Updated address of Division Wireless Connectivity &amp; Sensors location</td>
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## Abbreviations and abstract

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<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>BTMAC</td>
<td>Bluetooth conform MAC address of the module used on the RF-interface.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CS</td>
<td>Checksum</td>
<td>Byte wise XOR combination of the preceding fields.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DTM</td>
<td>Direct test mode</td>
<td>Mode to test Bluetooth® specific RF settings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GAP</td>
<td>Generic Access Profile</td>
<td>The GAP provides a basic level of functionality that all Bluetooth® devices must implement.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I/O</td>
<td>Input/output</td>
<td>Pinout description.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LPM</td>
<td>Low power mode</td>
<td>Mode for efficient power consumption.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LSB</td>
<td>Least significant bit</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAC</td>
<td>MAC address of the module.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSB</td>
<td>Most significant bit</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MTU</td>
<td>Maximum transmission unit</td>
<td>Maximum packet size of the Bluetooth® connection.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payload</td>
<td></td>
<td>The intended message in a frame / package.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RF</td>
<td>Radio frequency</td>
<td>Describes wireless transmission.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RSSI</td>
<td>Receive Signal Strength Indicator</td>
<td>The RSSI indicates the strength of the RF signal. Its value is always printed in two’s complement notation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soft device</td>
<td></td>
<td>Operating system used by the nRF52 chip.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UART</td>
<td>Universal Asynchronous Receiver Transmitter</td>
<td>Allows the serial communication with the module.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[HEX] 0xhh</td>
<td>Hexadecimal</td>
<td>All numbers beginning with 0x are hexadecimal numbers. All other numbers are decimal, unless stated otherwise.</td>
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1 Introduction

The Proteus is a Bluetooth® module based on the nRF52 Nordic Semiconductors SoC which presents various Bluetooth® LE and low power features.

In addition to the standard command mode, that uses commands to run and configure the module, Würth Elektronik eiSos launches the "peripheral only mode" on the Proteus to use the module as Bluetooth® LE bridge in a simple way.

In this mode, a Bluetooth® LE interface using the static passkey authentication method (with bonding) and a transparent UART interface is provided, such that no configuration of the module is required to equip a custom application with it. In case the user needs a non-standard configuration, it can be configured in advance using the command mode, or upon request Würth Elektronik eiSos can apply customer specific configuration(s) during the production process.

The following chapters describe how to set the module into peripheral only mode and which steps have to be applied to establish a connection to the module. These steps are described with help of the nRF Connect App which is an open source App providing standard Bluetooth® LE functions for iOS as well as for Android devices.
2 Prerequisites

• A Proteus evaluation board in factory state, for example
  – the Proteus-I evaluation board with firmware version 3.0.0 or newer.
  – the Proteus-II evaluation board.
  – the Proteus-III evaluation board.

• Smart phone with Bluetooth® LE function and the Nordic Semiconductor nRF Connect App

![Proteus-I evaluation board with USB cable](image-url)

Figure 1: Proteus-I evaluation board with USB cable
3 Peripheral only mode

For a better understanding of the content of this chapter, basic knowledge of the Bluetooth® standard as well as that of the SPP-like profile (see Proteus advanced developer guide) is of advantage.

3.1 How to set the Proteus radio module to peripheral only mode?

The Proteus starts in peripheral only mode, when a HIGH level is applied at the OPERATION_MODE pin and a reset is done via the /RESET pin. If the OPERATION_MODE pin is LOW during the reset the module starts in normal operation mode with command interface.

- A pull-down is applied to the OPERATION_MODE pin during start-up. Thus increased currents can occur for a period if less than 1ms.

- After start-up the OPERATION_MODE pin and thus the applied signal level has no function.

- For Proteus-III, the OPERATION_MODE pin has been renamed to MODE_1.

In case of the evaluation board for Proteus, simply connect the OPERATION_MODE pin to VCC by setting the respective jumper (see figure 2 and 3). Then press the reset button to start the module in peripheral only mode.
Figure 2: On Proteus-I and Proteus-II evaluation board, set these jumpers to start the peripheral only mode after reset.

Figure 3: On Proteus-III evaluation board, set these jumpers to start the peripheral only mode after reset.
### 3.2 Connection setup information

In factory state the peripheral only mode uses the static passkey pairing authentication method, which requests a static passkey from the connecting device. Figure 4 shows the steps that have to be performed successively during connection setup using the static passkey pairing method:

1. **Physical connection establishment**
   A physical connection has to be established first. Therefore, a central device (usually smart phone) has to connect to the Proteus which runs as peripheral.

2. **Pairing process**
   The authentication and exchange of encryption information is part of the pairing process. The central device must request at least the same security level to access the characteristics of the Proteus. The peripheral only mode uses static passkey bonding by default. The Proteus waits for the bonding request of the central device to perform this step.

   If the security level of the central device is lower than the security mode of the peripheral, the central cannot access the peripheral's characteristics. In this case, the central sends the notification enable message, which is ignored by the peripheral. Thus, the central signalizes an open connection, although it does not have access to the peripheral and thus data cannot be transmitted!

3. **Exchange of the maximum transmission unit (MTU)**
   The maximum transmission unit can be increased to allow the transmission of larger data packets. The Proteus allows an MTU of up to 247 bytes, which results in a payload of up to 243 bytes. This step is optional. Not selecting a higher MTU will use the Bluetooth® 4.0 default MTU which results in 19 bytes payload for the user but will be compatible to pre Bluetooth® 4.2 devices.

4. **Discover the characteristics of the Proteus SPP-like profile**
   The characteristics offered by the Proteus have to be discovered by the central.

5. **Notification enable**
   The peripheral must let the central know, when there is new data. Therefore, notifications have to be enabled. After this step, the channel is open and data transmission can start.

For the description, we assume that a smart phone is the initiator of the connection. Thus, it acts as central and the Proteus acts as peripheral in figure 4.
Figure 4: Steps for the connection setup in static passkey mode (default)
3.3 Connection setup example using the nRF Connect App

This chapter describes how to setup a connection to the Proteus in peripheral mode (factory state), when a smart phone and the nRF Connect App are used. Please perform the following steps:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Android</th>
<th>iOS</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Connect the module to a PC and open a terminal program using the Proteus default UART settings (115200 Baud, 8n1).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Set the module into peripheral only mode as described in chapter 3.1. Initially, the module is advertising. Thus the Proteus LED_1 is blinking.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Start your smart phone, enable the Bluetooth® LE feature and start the nRF Connect App.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Press &quot;SCAN&quot; to find the module on the radio.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• When the module A-xxxxxx appears, press connect. (Note: the part after &quot;A-&quot; is the 3 LSB as ASCII hex of the BTMAC, the fixed part &quot;0x0018DA&quot; is not part of the device descriptor).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
As soon as the module has received the connection request the module *LED_1* (*LED_3* on the Proteus-EV) will constantly light up.

Then the Proteus request for the static passkey. In default, the passkey is "123123".

The Bluetooth® coupling requirement popup is shown in your smartphone.

When the bonding feature is enabled in the authentication settings and the bonding information already exists, a re-entering of the passkey is not required when reconnecting.

<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• As soon as the module has received the connection request the module <em>LED_1</em> (<em>LED_3</em> on the Proteus-EV) will constantly light up.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Then the Proteus request for the static passkey. In default, the passkey is &quot;123123&quot;.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• The Bluetooth® coupling requirement popup is shown in your smartphone.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• When the bonding feature is enabled in the authentication settings and the bonding information already exists, a re-entering of the passkey is not required when reconnecting.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Now you are authenticated.

Please click on the menu bullets on the right and press "Request MTU" to request for a larger MTU.

Now you are authenticated.

Please click on the "Unknown Service" to start the service discovery and the MTU request.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Android</th>
<th>iOS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• The Proteus allows an MTU of up to 247 bytes, which results in a payload size of 243 bytes.</td>
<td>• The iOS App runs this step simultaneously in the background, a user-defined MTU is not possible.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Android</td>
<td>iOS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Again click on the menu bullets on the right and press “Enable services” to enable the notifications.

- Press the arrows on the RX-characteristic 6E400003-C352-11E5-953D-0002A5D5C51B to enable the notifications. Press it until a cross appears (see below, it has to be pressed at least once). If a cross is already shown press it twice so the cross disappears and then reappears.

- As soon as the module has received the notification enable request the Proteus LED_2 (LED_2 on the Proteus-EV) is turned on.
• Now you are fully connected and you can access the characteristics. The maximum size of payload depends on the chosen MTU size. Here we chose 247 bytes, which allows us to send 243 bytes of payload via the channel.

• To send data to the Proteus, press the arrow next to the TX-characteristic 6E4000002-C352-11E5-953D-0002A5D5C51B.

• Then enter 0x01 as header byte followed by your payload (for example 0x11 0x22 0x33 0x44) and press "SEND". The payload size is dependent on the MTU that was selected in the connection process. The smallest supported MTU for all Bluetooth® 4.0 (or newer) devices results in a max payload (after the 0x01 header) of 19 bytes. So unless you know for sure you have a higher MTU do not use a payload longer than 19 bytes.
• The payload that has been sent is output by the Proteus via UART. In peripheral only mode, a transparent UART interface is used. This means, that only payload data is transmitted, without any packet header or footer. Thus the transmitted bytes 0x11 0x22 0x33 0x44 are displayed on the connected terminal program.
• To send back data simply enter your payload (here we choose 0xDE 0xAD 0xBE 0xEF) in the respective terminal program field and press enter. The header 0x01 will be automatically applied by the module and is not to be transmitted by the host.

• The smallest supported MTU for all Bluetooth® 4.0 (or newer) devices result in a max payload of 19 bytes. So unless you know for sure you have a higher MTU do not use a payload longer than 19 bytes. All payload bytes outside the current supported channel payload are be discarded without notification to the host.
• The received data can be found in the RX-characteristic 6E400003-C352-11E5-953D-0002A5D5C51B. It contains the header byte 0x01 and the payload 0xDE 0xAD 0xBE 0xEF.
4 Preconfiguring of the module

In case user settings (such as UART baud rate or static passkey) have to be modified, please start the module in normal mode (apply a low signal at the OPERATION MODE pin during start-up). Then use the commands like CMD_SET_REQ to update these user settings and switch back to peripheral only mode (apply a high signal to the OPERATION MODE pin during start-up).

STOP

For security reasons it is strongly recommended to change the default RF_StaticPasskey to a customer specific passkey.

⚠️

It is not recommended to change any other user-setting parameter than the two mentioned above.

⚠️

Upon request Würth Elektronik eiSos can apply customer specific configuration(s) during the production process.
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5.2 Customer responsibility related to specific, in particular safety-relevant applications

It has to be clearly pointed out that the possibility of a malfunction of electronic components or failure before the end of the usual lifetime cannot be completely eliminated in the current state of the art, even if the products are operated within the range of the specifications. The same statement is valid for all software sourcecode and firmware parts contained in or used with or for products in the wireless connectivity and sensor product range of Würth Elektronik eiSos GmbH & Co. KG. In certain customer applications requiring a high level of safety and especially in customer applications in which the malfunction or failure of an electronic component could endanger human life or health, it must be ensured by most advanced technological aid of suitable design of the customer application that no injury or damage is caused to third parties in the event of malfunction or failure of an electronic component.

5.3 Best care and attention

Any product-specific data sheets, manuals, application notes, PCN’s, warnings and cautions must be strictly observed in the most recent versions and matching to the products firmware revisions. This documents can be downloaded from the product specific sections on the wireless connectivity homepage.

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7.3 Ownership

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Applicable law to this license terms shall be the laws of the Federal Republic of Germany. Any dispute, claim or controversy arising out of or relating to this license terms shall be resolved and finally settled by the court competent for the location of Würth Elektronik eiSos’ registered office.

7.8 Severability clause

If a provision of this license terms is or becomes invalid, unenforceable or null and void, this shall not affect the remaining provisions of the terms. The parties shall replace any such provisions with new valid provisions that most closely approximate the purpose of the terms.

7.9 Miscellaneous

Würth Elektronik eiSos reserves the right at any time to change this terms at its own discretion. It is your responsibility to check at Würth Elektronik eiSos homepage for any updates. Your continued usage of the products will be deemed as the acceptance of the change. We recommend you to be updated about the status of new firmware and software, which is available on our website or in our data sheet and manual, and to implement new software in your device where appropriate. By ordering a wireless connectivity product, you accept this license terms in all terms.
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