

Remote I/O Protocol Client Library Alire Crate for GNAT Ada

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Remote I/O Protocol

The **Remote I/O Protocol** is a lightweight message protocol for performing remote I/O operations. The protocol is implemented using a request/reply pattern, where the master device (e.g. a Linux computer) transmits an I/O request in a 64-byte message to the slave device (e.g. a single chip microcontroller). The slave device performs the requested I/O operation and returns an I/O response in a 64-byte message back to the master device.

The protocol is kept as simple as possible (exactly one 64-byte request message and one 64-byte response message) to allow using low end single chip microcontrollers such as the **PIC16F1455** for the slave device. Although particularly suited for USB raw HID devices, this protocol can use any transport mechanism that can reliably transmit and receive 64-byte messages.

See the **Remote I/O Protocol Specification** document for more details.

About this Crate

This crate contains a subset of the **Linux Simple I/O Library** Ada packages that are relevant for building **Remote I/O Protocol** client programs.

This crate can be built directly or indirectly (as a dependency) on Linux and Microsoft Windows 10 64-bit.

This crate includes a project for building four test programs that display the capabilities of the connected **Remote I/O Protocol** server, each using one of:

- raw HID (Human Interface Device) via **HIDAPI**,
- raw HID via **libusb**
- the **Stream Framing Protocol** over an asynchronous serial port
- UDP (User Datagram Protocol) over a TCP/IP network

You can study these four test programs to learn how to write client programs (in **src/programs/** in the library crate project directory) using each of the four transport methods.

Cross-Compiling

You can cross-compile this crate or a program using this crate for a Linux target computer by just copying the target configuration project file (**.cgpr**) from the cross-toolchain to **default.cgpr** in the Alire project directory. For example, to cross-compile for a Raspberry Pi 1 microcomputer running **MuntsOS Embedded Linux**, using the MuntsOS cross-toolchain for the Raspberry Pi 1, just copy **RaspberryPi1.cgpr** to **default.cgpr**.

Web Links

Remote I/O Protocol Specification:

<http://git.munts.com/libsimpleio/doc/RemoteIOProtocol.pdf>

Remote I/O Protocol Ada example programs:

<http://git.munts.com/libsimpleio/ada/programs/remoteio>

Linux Simple I/O Library:

<https://github.com/pmunts/libsimpleio>

Stream Framing Protocol Specification:

<http://git.munts.com/libsimpleio/doc/StreamFramingProtocol.pdf>

MuntsOS Embedded Linux:

<https://github.com/pmunts/muntsos>

MuntsOS Embedded Linux Thin Servers (the GPIO servers include Remote I/O protocol):

<http://repo.munts.com/muntsos/thinservers>

Buy a dedicated Remote I/O Server:

<https://www.tindie.com/products/pmunts/usb-flexible-io-adapter>

<https://www.tindie.com/products/pmunts/usb-grove-adapter>

HIDAPI library for HID (Human Interface Device) device access:

<https://github.com/libusb/hidapi>

libusb library for USB device access:

<https://github.com/libusb/libusb>