

Yocto-Relay

User's guide

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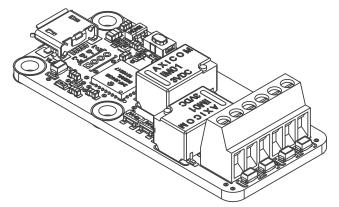
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# 1. Introduction

The Yocto-Relay module is a small 45x20mm module which allows you to control small relays by USB. These relays can commute up to 60V DC and 2A, max. 60W, which allows you to pilot small low-voltage equipments by acting directly on their power supply, or by emulating a switch button. The module small dimensions enable it to be slipped almost anywhere, including inside the piloted equipment.



The Yocto-Relay module

The Yocto-Relay is not in itself a complete product. It is a component intended to be integrated into a solution used in laboratory equipments, or in industrial process-control equipments, or for similar applications in domestic and commercial environments. In order to use it, you must at least install it in a protective enclosure and connect it to a host computer.

Yoctopuce thanks you for buying this Yocto-Relay and sincerely hopes that you will be satisfied with it. The Yoctopuce engineers have put a large amount of effort to ensure that your Yocto-Relay is easy to install anywhere and easy to drive from a maximum of programming languages. If you are nevertheless disappointed with this module, or if you need additional information, do not hesitate to contact Yoctopuce support:

E-mail address:	support@yoctopuce.com
Web site:	www.yoctopuce.com
Postal address:	Chemin des Journaliers, 1
ZIP code, city:	1236 Cartigny
Country:	Switzerland

## 1.1. Safety Information

The Yocto-Relay is designed to meet the requirements of IEC 61010-1:2010 safety standard. It does not create any serious hazards to the operator and surrounding area, even in single fault condition, as long as it is integrated and used according to the instructions contained in this documentation, and in this section in particular.

#### **Protective enclosure**

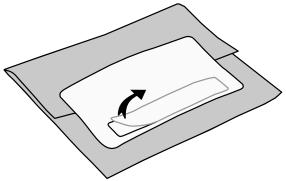
The Yocto-Relay should not be used without a protective enclosure, because of the accessible bare electronic components. For optimal safety, it should be put into a non-metallic, non-inflammable enclosure, resistant to a mechanical stress level of 5 J. For instance, use a polycarbonate (e.g. LEXAN) enclosure rated IK08 with a IEC 60695-11-10 flammability rating of V-1 or better. Using a lower quality enclosure may require specific warnings for the operator and/or compromise conformity with the safety standard.

#### **Maintenance**

If a damage is observed on the electronic board or on the enclosure, it should be replaced in order to ensure continued safety of the equipment, and to prevent damaging other parts of the system due to overload that a short circuit could cause.

#### Identification

In order to ease the maintenance and the identification of risks during maintenance, you should affixate the water-resistant identification label provided together with the electronic board as close as possible to the device. If the device is put in a dedicated enclosure, the identification label should be affixated on the outside of the enclosure. This label is resistant to humidity, and can hand rubbing with a piece of cloth soaked with water.



Identification label is integrated in the package label.

## **Application**

The safety standard applied is intended to cover laboratory equipment, industrial process-control equipment and similar applications in residential or commercial environment. If you intend to use the Yocto-Relay for another kind of application, you should check the safety regulations according to the standard applicable to your application.

In particular, the Yocto-Relay is *not* certified for use in medical environments or for life-support applications.

#### **Environment**

The Yocto-Relay is *not* certified for use in hazardous locations, explosive environments, or life-threatening applications. Environmental ratings are provided below.

#### **IEC 61140 Protection Class III**



The Yocto-Relay has been designed to work with safety extra-low voltages only. Do not exceed voltages indicated in this manual, and never connect to the Yocto-Relay terminal blocks any wire that could be connected to the mains.

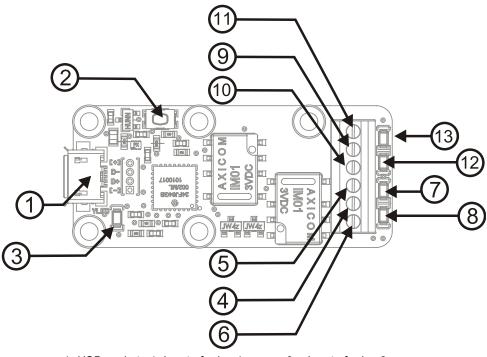
## 1.2. Environmental conditions

Yoctopuce devices have been designed for indoor use in a standard office or laboratory environment (IEC 60664 *pollution degree 2*): air pollution is expected to be limited and mainly non-conductive. Relative humidity is expected to be between 10% and 90% RH, non condensing. Use in environments with significant solid pollution or conductive pollution requires a protection from such pollution using an IP67 or IP68 enclosure. The products are designed for use up to altitude 2000m.

All Yoctopuce devices are warranted to perform according to their documentation and technical specifications under normal temperature conditions according to IEC61010-1, i.e. 5°C to 40°C. In addition, most devices can also be used on an extended temperature range, where some limitations may apply from case to case.

The extended operating temperature range for the Yocto-Relay is -30...85°C. This temperature range has been determined based on components manufacturer recommendations, and on controlled environment tests performed during a limited duration (1h). If you plan to use the Yocto-Relay in harsh environments for a long period of time, we strongly advise you to run extensive tests before going to production.

# 2. Presentation



1: USB socket 4: Input of relay 1

9: Input of relay 2

2: Yocto-button 5: Output A of relay 1

10: Output A of relay 2

3: Yocto-led

6: Output B of relay 1

11: Output B of relay 2

7: Output A led of relay1 12: Output A led of relay 2

8: Output B led of relay 1 13: Output B led of relay 2

## 2.1. Common elements

All Yocto-modules share a number of common functionalities.

#### **USB** connector

Yoctopuce modules all come with a USB 2.0 micro-B socket. Warning: the USB connector is simply soldered in surface and can be pulled out if the USB plug acts as a lever. In this case, if the tracks stayed in position, the connector can be soldered back with a good iron and using flux to avoid

bridges. Alternatively, you can solder a USB cable directly in the 1.27mm-spaced holes near the connector.

If you plan to use a power source other then a standard USB host port to power the device through the USB connector, that power source must respect the assigned values of USB 2.0 specifications:

Voltage min.: 4.75 V DCVoltage max.: 5.25 V DC

• Over-current protection: 5.0 A max.

A higher voltage is likely to destroy the device. THe behaviour with a lower voltage is not specified, but it can result firmware corruption.

#### Yocto-button

The Yocto-button has two functionalities. First, it can activate the Yocto-beacon mode (see below under Yocto-led). Second, if you plug in a Yocto-module while keeping this button pressed, you can then reprogram its firmware with a new version. Note that there is a simpler UI-based method to update the firmware, but this one works even in case of severely damaged firmware.

#### Yocto-led

Normally, the Yocto-led is used to indicate that the module is working smoothly. The Yocto-led then emits a low blue light which varies slowly, mimicking breathing. The Yocto-led stops breathing when the module is not communicating any more, as for instance when powered by a USB hub which is disconnected from any active computer.

When you press the Yocto-button, the Yocto-led switches to Yocto-beacon mode. It starts flashing faster with a stronger light, in order to facilitate the localization of a module when you have several identical ones. It is indeed possible to trigger off the Yocto-beacon by software, as it is possible to detect by software that a Yocto-beacon is on.

The Yocto-led has a third functionality, which is less pleasant: when the internal software which controls the module encounters a fatal error, the Yocto-led starts emitting an SOS in morse <sup>1</sup>. If this happens, unplug and re-plug the module. If it happens again, check that the module contains the latest version of the firmware, and, if it is the case, contact Yoctopuce support<sup>2</sup>.

## **Current sensor**

Each Yocto-module is able to measure its own current consumption on the USB bus. Current supply on a USB bus being quite critical, this functionality can be of great help. You can only view the current consumption of a module by software.

#### Serial number

Each Yocto-module has a unique serial number assigned to it at the factory. For Yocto-Relay modules, this number starts with RELAYLO1. The module can be software driven using this serial number. The serial number cannot be modified.

## Logical name

The logical name is similar to the serial number: it is a supposedly unique character string which allows you to reference your module by software. However, in the opposite of the serial number, the logical name can be modified at will. The benefit is to enable you to build several copies of the same project without needing to modify the driving software. You only need to program the same logical name in each copy. Warning: the behavior of a project becomes unpredictable when it contains several modules with the same logical name and when the driving software tries to access one of these modules through its logical name. When leaving the factory, modules do not have an assigned logical name. It is yours to define.

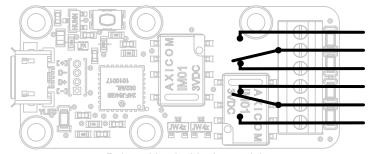
<sup>1</sup> short-short-short long-long short-short-short

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> support@yoctopuce.com

# 2.2. Specific elements

#### **Screw terminal**

The two relays embedded in the Yocto-Relay module are commutators, which means that they can commute their input current onto one of two outputs. This is why the terminal has six poles. When the module is powered off, the outputs A are active. Be aware: the outputs A and B are wired in mirror for relay 1 and 2.



Relay wiring inside the module.

The Yocto-Relay is only intended to be connected to safety extra low voltage (SELV) circuits. It should not be presented with voltages exceeding 60V, nor connected to mains circuits. The Yocto-Relay endurance to surge and lightning transiants has not been tested. If you intend to use the Yocto-Relay with wires longer than 30m or running outside, you should perform this testing yourself (see IEC 61000-4-5).

In some cases, the magnets included in the enclosure base might interfere with the Yocto-Relay working. If that happens, just remove the magnets from the base, as described in the enclosure documentation

## Leds indicating the active outputs

On the front of the terminal, there are four green leds which indicate which module outputs are active. By default, the light of these leds is rather strong, but you can modify the luminosity.

## 2.3. Functional isolation

The Yocto-Relay is designed as two distinct electrical circuits, separated by a functional isolation. This isolation plays no role for the operator safety, since both circuits of the Yocto-Relay work with safety extra low voltages (SELV) and are accessible without risk at any time. You must be aware that this isolation is not sufficient to permit a safe use of the product in case it would be connected to the mains, or to a similar source where transiant overvoltages can be expected. Make sure not to exceed the specified voltage limit in any circumstance.

The specifications of the USB bus isolation are as follows:

Withholding voltage<sup>3</sup>: 0.25kV
 Clearance distance: 0.25mm
 Creepage distance: 0.25mm
 Material group: Cat Illa (FR4)

# 2.4. Optional accessories

The accessories below are not necessary to use the Yocto-Relay module but might be useful depending on your project. These are mostly common products that you can buy from your favorite hacking store. To save you the tedious job of looking for them, most of them are also available on the Yoctopuce shop.

www.yoctopuce.com

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Nominal value, not tested

## Screws and spacers

In order to mount the Yocto-Relay module, you can put small screws in the 2.5mm assembly holes, with a screw head no larger than 4.5mm. The best way is to use threaded spacers, which you can then mount wherever you want. You can find more details on this topic in the chapter about assembly and connections.

#### Micro-USB hub

If you intend to put several Yoctopuce modules in a very small space, you can connect them directly to a micro-USB hub. Yoctopuce builds a USB hub particularly small for this purpose (down to 20mmx36mm), on which you can directly solder a USB cable instead of using a USB plug. For more details, see the micro-USB hub information sheet.

## YoctoHub-Ethernet, YoctoHub-Wireless and YoctoHub-GSM

You can add network connectivity to your Yocto-Relay, thanks to the YoctoHub-Ethernet, the YoctoHub-Wireless and the YoctoHub-GSM which provides repectiveley Ethernet, WiFi and GSM connectivity. All of them can drive up to three devices and behave exactly like a regular computer running a *VirtualHub*.

## 1.27mm (or 1.25mm) connectors

In case you wish to connect your Yocto-Relay to a Micro-hub USB or a YoctoHub without using a bulky USB connector, you can use the four 1.27mm pads just behind the USB connector. There are two options.

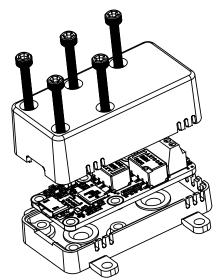
You can mount the Yocto-Relay directly on the hub using screw and spacers, and connect it using 1.27mm board-to-board connectors. To prevent shortcuts, it is best to solder the female connector on the hub and the male connector on the Yocto-Relay.

You can also use a small 4-wires cable with a 1.27mm connector. 1.25mm works as well, it does not make a difference for 4 pins. This makes it possible to move the device a few inches away. Don't put it too far away if you use that type of cable, because as the cable is not shielded, it may cause undesirable electromagnetic emissions.

## **Enclosure**

Your Yocto-Relay has been designed to be installed as is in your project. Nevertheless, Yoctopuce sells enclosures specifically designed for Yoctopuce devices. These enclosures have removable mounting brackets and magnets allowing them to stick on ferromagnetic surfaces. More details are available on the Yoctopuce web site <sup>4</sup>. The suggested enclosure model for your Yocto-Relay is the YoctoBox-Short-Thick-Black.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> http://www.yoctopuce.com/EN/products/category/enclosures



You can install your Yocto-Relay in an optional enclosure

# 3. First steps

By design, all Yoctopuce modules are driven the same way. Therefore, user's guides for all the modules of the range are very similar. If you have already carefully read through the user's guide of another Yoctopuce module, you can jump directly to the description of the module functions.

## 3.1. Prerequisites

In order to use your Yocto-Relay module, you should have the following items at hand.

## A computer

Yoctopuce modules are intended to be driven by a computer (or possibly an embedded microprocessor). You will write the control software yourself, according to your needs, using the information provided in this manual.

Yoctopuce provides software libraries to drive its modules for the following operating systems: Windows, macOS X, Linux, and Android. Yoctopuce modules do not require installing any specific system driver, as they leverage the standard HID driver<sup>1</sup> provided with every operating system.

Windows versions currently supported are: Windows XP, Windows 2003, Windows Vista, Windows 7, Windows 8 and Windows 10. Both 32 bit and 64 bit versions are supported. The programming library is also available for the Universal Windows Platform (UWP), which is supported by all flavors of Windows 10, including Windows 10 IoT. Yoctopuce is frequently testing its modules on Windows 7 and Windows 10.

MacOS versions currently supported are: Mac OS X 10.9 (Maverick), 10.10 (Yosemite), 10.11 (El Capitan), macOS 10.12 (Sierra), macOS 10.13 (High Sierra) and macOS 10.14 (Mojave). Yoctopuce is frequently testing its modules on macOS 10.14.

Linux kernels currently supported are the 2.6 branch, the 3.x branch and the 4.x branch. Other versions of the Linux kernel, and even other UNIX variants, are very likely to work as well, as Linux support is implemented through the standard **libusb** API. Yoctopuce is frequently testing its modules on Linux kernel 4.15 (Ubuntu 18.04 LTS).

Android versions currently supported are: Android 3.1 and later. Moreover, it is necessary for the tablet or phone to support the *Host* USB mode. Yoctopuce is frequently testing its modules on Android 7.x on a Samsung Galaxy A6 with the Java for Android library.

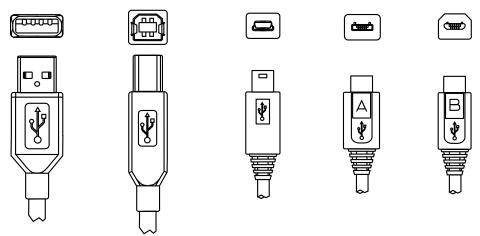
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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The HID driver is the one that takes care of the mouse, the keyboard, etc.

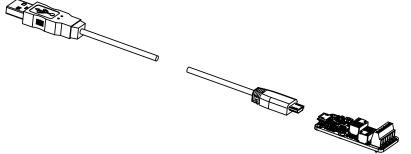
## A USB 2.0 cable, type A-micro B

USB 2.0 connectors exist in three sizes: the "standard" size that you probably use to connect your printer, the very common mini size to connect small devices, and finally the micro size often used to connect mobile phones, as long as they do not exhibit an apple logo. All USB modules manufactured by Yoctopuce use micro size connectors.



The most common USB 2.0 connectors: A, B, Mini B, Micro A, Micro B<sup>2</sup>

To connect your Yocto-Relay module to a computer, you need a USB 2.0 cable of type A-micro B. The price of this cable may vary a lot depending on the source, look for it under the name *USB 2.0 A to micro B Data cable*. Make sure not to buy a simple USB charging cable without data connectivity. The correct type of cable is available on the Yoctopuce shop.



You must plug in your Yocto-Relay module with a USB 2.0 cable of type A - micro B

If you insert a USB hub between the computer and the Yocto-Relay module, make sure to take into account the USB current limits. If you do not, be prepared to face unstable behaviors and unpredictable failures. You can find more details on this topic in the chapter about assembly and connections.

# 3.2. Testing USB connectivity

At this point, your Yocto-Relay should be connected to your computer, which should have recognized it. It is time to make it work.

Go to the Yoctopuce web site and download the *Virtual Hub* software<sup>3</sup>. It is available for Windows, Linux, and Mac OS X. Normally, the Virtual Hub software serves as an abstraction layer for languages which cannot access the hardware layers of your computer. However, it also offers a succinct interface to configure your modules and to test their basic functions. You access this interface with a simple web browser<sup>4</sup>. Start the *Virtual Hub* software in a command line, open your

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Although they existed for some time, Mini A connectors are not available anymore http://www.usb.org/developers/ Deprecation\_Announcement\_052507.pdf <sup>3</sup> www.yoctopuce.com/EN/virtualhub.php

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The interface is tested on Chrome, FireFox, Safari, Edge et IE 11.

preferred web browser and enter the URL http://127.0.0.1:4444. The list of the Yoctopuce modules connected to your computer is displayed.



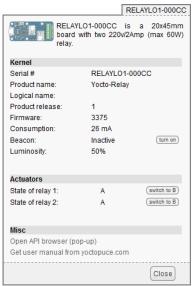
Module list as displayed in your web bowser

## 3.3. Localization

You can then physically localize each of the displayed modules by clicking on the **beacon** button. This puts the Yocto-led of the corresponding module in Yocto-beacon mode. It starts flashing, which allows you to easily localize it. The second effect is to display a little blue circle on the screen. You obtain the same behavior when pressing the Yocto-button of the module.

## 3.4. Test of the module

The first item to check is that your module is working well: click on the serial number corresponding to your module. This displays a window summarizing the properties of your Yocto-Relay.

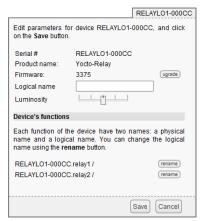


Properties of the Yocto-Relay module

This window allows you, among other things, to test the module relays with the **switch to A / switch to B** buttons. There is a characteristic clicking when the relays are working. Moreover, the leds indicating the active outputs light up. Notice that the module consumption varies according to the activated outputs.

# 3.5. Configuration

When, in the module list, you click on the **configure** button corresponding to your module, the configuration window is displayed.



Yocto-Relay module configuration.

#### **Firmware**

The module firmware can easily be updated with the help of the interface. Firmware destined for Yoctopuce modules are available as .byn files and can be downloaded from the Yoctopuce web site.

To update a firmware, simply click on the **upgrade** button on the configuration window and follow the instructions. If the update fails for one reason or another, unplug and re-plug the module and start the update process again. This solves the issue in most cases. If the module was unplugged while it was being reprogrammed, it does probably not work anymore and is not listed in the interface. However, it is always possible to reprogram the module correctly by using the *Virtual Hub* software <sup>5</sup> in command line <sup>6</sup>.

## Logical name of the module

The logical name is a name that you choose, which allows you to access your module, in the same way a file name allows you to access its content. A logical name has a maximum length of 19 characters. Authorized characters are A...Z, a...z, 0...9, \_\_, and \_. If you assign the same logical name to two modules connected to the same computer and you try to access one of them through this logical name, behavior is undetermined: you have no way of knowing which of the two modules answers.

## Luminosity

This parameter allows you to act on the maximal intensity of the leds of the module. This enables you, if necessary, to make it a little more discreet, while limiting its power consumption. Note that this parameter acts on all the signposting leds of the module, including the Yocto-led. If you connect a module and no led turns on, it may mean that its luminosity was set to zero.

### Logical names of functions

Each Yoctopuce module has a serial number and a logical name. In the same way, each function on each Yoctopuce module has a hardware name and a logical name, the latter can be freely chosen by the user. Using logical names for functions provides a greater flexibility when programming modules.

The only functions of the Yocto-Relay module correspond to the embedded relays and have the hardware names "relay1" and "relay2".

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> www.yoctopuce.com/EN/virtualhub.php

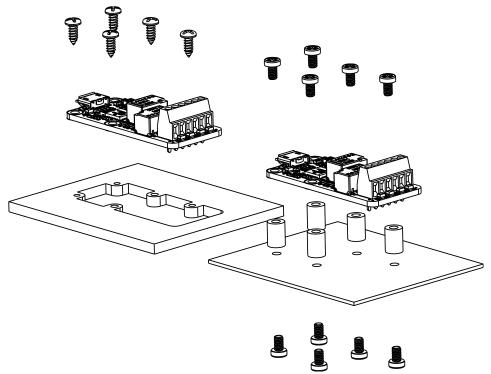
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> More information available in the virtual hub documentation

# 4. Assembly and connections

This chapter provides important information regarding the use of the Yocto-Relay module in real-world situations. Make sure to read it carefully before going too far into your project if you want to avoid pitfalls.

## 4.1. Fixing

While developing your project, you can simply let the module hang at the end of its cable. Check only that it does not come in contact with any conducting material (such as your tools). When your project is almost at an end, you need to find a way for your modules to stop moving around.



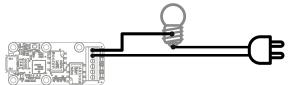
Examples of assembly on supports

The Yocto-Relay module contains 2.5mm assembly holes. You can use these holes for screws. The screw head diameter must not be larger than 4.5mm or they will damage the module circuits. Make sure that the lower surface of the module is not in contact with the support. We recommend using

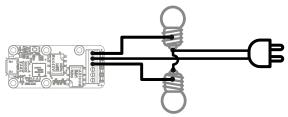
spacers, but other methods are possible. Nothing prevents you from fixing the module with a glue gun; it will not be good-looking, but it will hold.

# 4.2. Assembly examples

If you obtained this Yocto-Relay module, it is probably because you know exactly what you intend to do with it. You can nevertheless find below a few wiring examples, among the simplest.



Pilot a light bulb with your Yocto-Relay module.



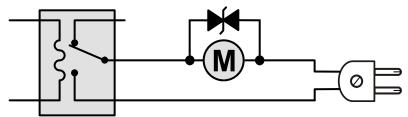
Pilot two light bulbs in alternation with your Yocto-Relay module.

# 4.3. Electro-magnetic relays and coils

Some devices that you may wish to control with your Yocto-Relay module contain large coils. It is in particular the case for electric motors and transformers. This may cause trouble because of the auto-induction generated when current goes through a coil. A very high voltage briefly appears at the ends of a coil when when one brutally cuts the current passing through it. This high voltage can create an electric arc where the circuit was cut, in our case inside the relay soldered on the module. This electric arc can eat away the relay connections, leading to premature aging.

Therefore, we advise against controlling electric motors or transformers with an electro-magnetic relay, be it a Yocto-Relay module, or any other command system based on this technology.

It is possible to limit this phenomenon by inserting a TVS diode in parallel with the device containing the coil. These diodes are blocking below a specified voltage, and conductive beyond. So if you clamp one of theses diode on your inductive load, this will short cut voltage peaks. You only have to choose a diode with the right clamping voltage for your application. If you wish to know more, Tyco published an application note about this <sup>1</sup>.



Controlling an electric motor with a relay, using a protecting diode.

# 4.4. USB power distribution

Although USB means *Universal Serial BUS*, USB devices are not physically organized as a flat bus but as a tree, using point-to-point connections. This has consequences on power distribution: to make it simple, every USB port must supply power to all devices directly or indirectly connected to it. And USB puts some limits.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Relay contact life, Application note, Tyco electronics, http://relays.te.com/appnotes/app\_pdfs/13c3236.pdf

In theory, a USB port provides 100mA, and may provide up to 500mA if available and requested by the device. In the case of a hub without external power supply, 100mA are available for the hub itself, and the hub should distribute no more than 100mA to each of its ports. This is it, and this is not much. In particular, it means that in theory, it is not possible to connect USB devices through two cascaded hubs without external power supply. In order to cascade hubs, it is necessary to use self-powered USB hubs, that provide a full 500mA to each subport.

In practice, USB would not have been as successful if it was really so picky about power distribution. As it happens, most USB hub manufacturers have been doing savings by not implementing current limitation on ports: they simply connect the computer power supply to every port, and declare themselves as *self-powered hub* even when they are taking all their power from the USB bus (in order to prevent any power consumption check in the operating system). This looks a bit dirty, but given the fact that computer USB ports are usually well protected by a hardware current limitation around 2000mA, it actually works in every day life, and seldom makes hardware damage.

What you should remember: if you connect Yoctopuce modules through one, or more, USB hub without external power supply, you have no safe-guard and you depend entirely on your computer manufacturer attention to provide as much current as possible on the USB ports, and to detect overloads before they lead to problems or to hardware damages. When modules are not provided enough current, they may work erratically and create unpredictable bugs. If you want to prevent any risk, do not cascade hubs without external power supply, and do not connect peripherals requiring more than 100mA behind a bus-powered hub.

In order to help you controlling and planning overall power consumption for your project, all Yoctopuce modules include a built-in current sensor that indicates (with 5mA precision) the consumption of the module on the USB bus.

Note also that the USB cable itself may also cause power supply issues, in particular when the wires are too thin or when the cable is too long <sup>2</sup>. Good cables are usually made using AWG 26 or AWG 28 wires for data lines and AWG 24 wires for power.

# 4.5. Electromagnetic compatibility (EMI)

Connection methods to integrate the Yocto-Relay obviously have an impact on the system overall electromagnetic emissions, and therefore also impact the conformity with international standards.

When we perform reference measurements to validate the conformity of our products with IEC CISPR 11, we do not use any enclosure but connect the devices using a shielded USB cable, compliant with USB 2.0 specifications: the cable shield is connected to both connector shells, and the total resistance from shell to shell is under  $0.6\Omega$ . The USB cable length is 3m, in order to expose one meter horizontally, one meter vertically and keep the last meter close to the host computer within a ferrite bead.

If you use a non-shielded USB cable, or an improperly shielded cable, your system will work perfectly well but you may not remain in conformity with the emission standard. If you are building a system made of multiple devices connected using 1.27mm pitch connectors, or with a sensor moved away from the device CPU, you can generally recover the conformity by using a metallic enclosure acting as an external shield.

Still on the topic of electromagnetic compatibility, the maximum supported length of the USB cable is 3m. In addition to the voltage drop issue mentionned above, using longer wires would require to run extra tests to assert compatibility with the electromagnetic immunity standards.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> www.yoctopuce.com/EN/article/usb-cables-size-matters

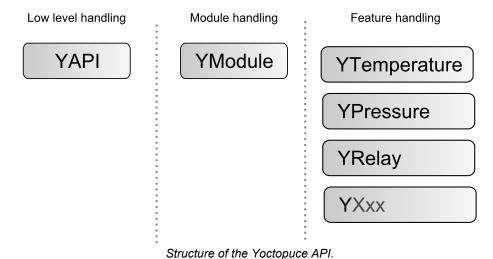
# 5. Programming, general concepts

The Yoctopuce API was designed to be at the same time simple to use and sufficiently generic for the concepts used to be valid for all the modules in the Yoctopuce range, and this in all the available programming languages. Therefore, when you have understood how to drive your Yocto-Relay with your favorite programming language, learning to use another module, even with a different language, will most likely take you only a minimum of time.

## 5.1. Programming paradigm

The Yoctopuce API is object oriented. However, for simplicity's sake, only the basics of object programming were used. Even if you are not familiar with object programming, it is unlikely that this will be a hinderance for using Yoctopuce products. Note that you will never need to allocate or deallocate an object linked to the Yoctopuce API: it is automatically managed.

There is one class per Yoctopuce function type. The name of these classes always starts with a Y followed by the name of the function, for example *YTemperature*, *YRelay*, *YPressure*, etc.. There is also a *YModule* class, dedicated to managing the modules themselves, and finally there is the static YAPI class, that supervises the global workings of the API and manages low level communications.



#### The YSensor class

Each Yoctopuce sensor function has its dedicated class: YTemperature to measure the temperature, YVoltage to measure a voltage, YRelay to drive a relay, etc. However there is a special class that can do more: YSensor.

The YSensor class is the parent class for all Yoctopuce sensors, and can provide access to any sensor, regardless of its type. It includes methods to access all common functions. This makes it easier to create applications that use many different sensors. Moreover, if you create an application based on YSensor, it will work with all Yoctopuce sensors, even those which do no yet exist.

## **Programmation**

In the Yoctopuce API, priority was put on the ease of access to the module functions by offering the possibility to make abstractions of the modules implementing them. Therefore, it is quite possible to work with a set of functions without ever knowing exactly which module are hosting them at the hardware level. This tremendously simplifies programming projects with a large number of modules.

From the programming stand point, your Yocto-Relay is viewed as a module hosting a given number of functions. In the API, these functions are objects which can be found independently, in several ways.

#### Access to the functions of a module

#### Access by logical name

Each function can be assigned an arbitrary and persistent logical name: this logical name is stored in the flash memory of the module, even if this module is disconnected. An object corresponding to an *Xxx* function to which a logical name has been assigned can then be directly found with this logical name and the *YXxx.FindXxx* method. Note however that a logical name must be unique among all the connected modules.

#### Access by enumeration

You can enumerate all the functions of the same type on all the connected modules with the help of the classic enumeration functions *FirstXxx* and *nextXxxx* available for each *YXxx* class.

#### Access by hardware name

Each module function has a hardware name, assigned at the factory and which cannot be modified. The functions of a module can also be found directly with this hardware name and the *YXxx.FindXxx* function of the corresponding class.

#### Difference between Find and First

The YXxx.FindXxxx and YXxx.FirstXxxx methods do not work exactly the same way. If there is no available module, YXxx.FirstXxxx returns a null value. On the opposite, even if there is no corresponding module, YXxx.FindXxxx returns a valid object, which is not online but which could become so if the corresponding module is later connected.

#### **Function handling**

When the object corresponding to a function is found, its methods are available in a classic way. Note that most of these subfunctions require the module hosting the function to be connected in order to be handled. This is generally not guaranteed, as a USB module can be disconnected after the control software has started. The *isOnline* method, available in all the classes, is then very helpful.

#### Access to the modules

Even if it is perfectly possible to build a complete project while making a total abstraction of which function is hosted on which module, the modules themselves are also accessible from the API. In fact, they can be handled in a way quite similar to the functions. They are assigned a serial number at the factory which allows you to find the corresponding object with <code>YModule.Find()</code>. You can also assign arbitrary logical names to the modules to make finding them easier. Finally, the <code>YModule</code> class contains the <code>YModule.FirstModule()</code> and <code>nextModule()</code> enumeration methods allowing you to list the connected modules.

#### **Functions/Module interaction**

From the API standpoint, the modules and their functions are strongly uncorrelated by design. Nevertheless, the API provides the possibility to go from one to the other. Thus, the <code>get\_module()</code> method, available for each function class, allows you to find the object corresponding to the module hosting this function. Inversely, the <code>YModule</code> class provides several methods allowing you to enumerate the functions available on a module.

# 5.2. The Yocto-Relay module

The Yocto-Relay module provides two instances of Relay function, corresponding to the two relays of the module.

#### module: Module

attribute	type	modifiable?
productName	String	read-only
serialNumber	String	read-only
logicalName	String	modifiable
productId	Hexadecimal number	read-only
productRelease	Hexadecimal number	read-only
firmwareRelease	String	read-only
persistentSettings	Enumerated	modifiable
luminosity	0100%	modifiable
beacon	On/Off	modifiable
upTime	Time	read-only
usbCurrent	Used current (mA)	read-only
rebootCountdown	Integer	modifiable
userVar	Integer	modifiable

relay1 : Relay relay2 : Relay

attribute	type	modifiable?
logicalName	String	modifiable
advertisedValue	String	modifiable
state	A/B	modifiable
stateAtPowerOn	Enumerated	modifiable
maxTimeOnStateA	Time	modifiable
maxTimeOnStateB	Time	modifiable
output	On/Off	modifiable
pulseTimer	Time	modifiable
delayedPulseTimer	Aggregate	modifiable
countdown	Time	read-only

## 5.3. Module

Global parameters control interface for all Yoctopuce devices

The YModule class can be used with all Yoctopuce USB devices. It can be used to control the module global parameters, and to enumerate the functions provided by each module.

#### productName

Character string containing the commercial name of the module, as set by the factory.

#### serialNumber

Character string containing the serial number, unique and programmed at the factory. For a Yocto-Relay module, this serial number always starts with RELAYLO1. You can use the serial number to access a given module by software.

## **logicalName**

Character string containing the logical name of the module, initially empty. This attribute can be modified at will by the user. Once initialized to an non-empty value, it can be used to access a given module. If two modules with the same logical name are in the same project, there is no way to determine which one answers when one tries accessing by logical name. The logical name is limited to 19 characters among A...Z, a...z, 0...9, , and -.

#### productld

USB device identifier of the module, preprogrammed to 12 at the factory.

## productRelease

Release number of the module hardware, preprogrammed at the factory. The original hardware release returns value 1, revision B returns value 2, etc.

#### firmwareRelease

Release version of the embedded firmware, changes each time the embedded software is updated.

## persistentSettings

State of persistent module settings: loaded from flash memory, modified by the user or saved to flash memory.

## **luminosity**

Lighting strength of the informative leds (e.g. the Yocto-Led) contained in the module. It is an integer value which varies between 0 (LEDs turned off) and 100 (maximum led intensity). The default value is 50. To change the strength of the module LEDs, or to turn them off completely, you only need to change this value.

#### beacon

Activity of the localization beacon of the module.

#### upTime

Time elapsed since the last time the module was powered on.

#### usbCurrent

Current consumed by the module on the USB bus, in milli-amps.

#### rebootCountdown

Countdown to use for triggering a reboot of the module.

#### userVar

32bit integer variable available for user storage.

# 5.4. Relay

relay control interface, available for instance in the Yocto-LatchedRelay, the Yocto-MaxiPowerRelay, the Yocto-PowerRelay-V3 or the Yocto-Relay

The YRelay class allows you to drive a Yoctopuce relay or optocoupled output. It can be used to simply switch the output on or off, but also to automatically generate short pulses of determined duration. On devices with two output for each relay (double throw), the two outputs are named A and B, with output A corresponding to the idle position (normally closed) and the output B corresponding to the active state (normally open).

## **logicalName**

Character string containing the logical name of the relay, initially empty. This attribute can be modified at will by the user. Once initialized to an non-empty value, it can be used to access the relay directly. If two relays with the same logical name are used in the same project, there is no way to determine which one answers when one tries accessing by logical name. The logical name is limited to 19 characters among A...Z, a...z, 0...9, , and –.

#### advertisedValue

Short character string summarizing the current state of the relay, that will be automatically advertised up to the parent hub. For a relay, the advertised value is the the relays state (A for the idle position, B for the active position).

#### state

Active output of the relays: A for the idle position, B for the active position.

#### stateAtPowerOn

Active output of the relays at device power on: A for the idle position, B for the active position, UNCHANGED to leave the relay as is.

#### maxTimeOnStateA

Maximum time (ms) allowed for relays to stay in state A before automatically switching back in to B state. Zéro means no maximum time.

#### maxTimeOnStateB

Maximum time (ms) allowed for relays to stay in state B before automatically switching back in to A state. Zéro means no maximum time.

## output

Output state of the relays, when used as a simple switch (single throw).

#### pulseTimer

Time during which the relays should be kept in state B (active) before returning automatically to state A (idle state). Any explicit state change issued afterwards will cancel the automated switch.

#### delayedPulseTimer

Delayed pulse parameters.

#### countdown

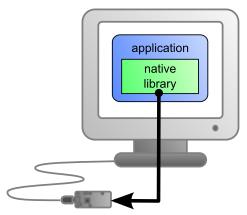
Waiting delay before next pulse (delayed pulse case).

# 5.5. What interface: Native, DLL or Service?

There are several methods to control you Yoctopuce module by software.

#### Native control

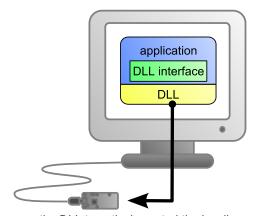
In this case, the software driving your project is compiled directly with a library which provides control of the modules. Objectively, it is the simplest and most elegant solution for the end user. The end user then only needs to plug the USB cable and run your software for everything to work. Unfortunately, this method is not always available or even possible.



The application uses the native library to control the locally connected module

## **Native control by DLL**

Here, the main part of the code controlling the modules is located in a DLL. The software is compiled with a small library which provides control of the DLL. It is the fastest method to code module support in a given language. Indeed, the "useful" part of the control code is located in the DLL which is the same for all languages: the effort to support a new language is limited to coding the small library which controls the DLL. From the end user stand point, there are few differences: one must simply make sure that the DLL is installed on the end user's computer at the same time as the main software.

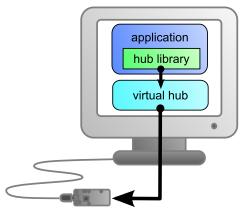


The application uses the DLL to natively control the locally connected module

## Control by service

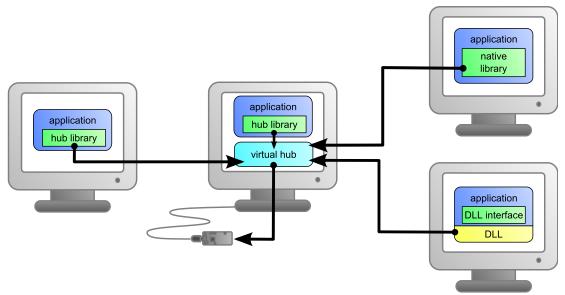
Some languages do simply not allow you to easily gain access to the hardware layers of the machine. It is the case for Javascript, for instance. To deal with this case, Yoctopuce provides a solution in the form of a small piece of software called *VirtualHub*<sup>1</sup>. It can access the modules, and your application only needs to use a library which offers all necessary functions to control the modules via this VirtualHub. The end users will have to start the VirtualHub before running the project control software itself, unless they decide to install the hub as a service/deamon, in which case the VirtualHub starts automatically when the machine starts up.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> www.yoctopuce.com/EN/virtualhub.php



The application connects itself to the VirtualHub to gain access to the module

The service control method comes with a non-negligible advantage: the application does not need to run on the machine on which the modules are connected. The application can very well be located on another machine which connects itself to the service to drive the modules. Moreover, the native libraries and DLL mentioned above are also able to connect themselves remotely to one or several machines running VirtualHub.



When a VirtualHub is used, the control application does not need to reside on the same machine as the module.

Whatever the selected programming language and the control paradigm used, programming itself stays strictly identical. From one language to another, functions bear exactly the same name, and have the same parameters. The only differences are linked to the constraints of the languages themselves.

Language	Native	Native with DLL	VirtualHub
Command line	V	-	~
Python	-	V	V
C++	V	V	V
C# .Net	-	V	V
C# UWP	V	_	V
LabVIEW	-	V	V
Java	-	V	V
Java for Android	V	_	V
TypeScript	-	_	V
JavaScript / ECMAScript	-	_	V
PHP	-	_	V
VisualBasic .Net	-	V	V
Delphi	-	V	V
Objective-C	V	_	V

Support methods for different languages

## **Limitations of the Yoctopuce libraries**

Natives et DLL libraries have a technical limitation. On the same computer, you cannot concurrently run several applications accessing Yoctopuce devices directly. If you want to run several projects on the same computer, make sure your control applications use Yoctopuce devices through a  $\it VirtualHub$  software. The modification is trivial: it is just a matter of parameter change in the yRegisterHub() call.

# 5.6. Programming, where to start?

At this point of the user's guide, you should know the main theoretical points of your Yocto-Relay. It is now time to practice. You must download the Yoctopuce library for your favorite programming language from the Yoctopuce web site<sup>2</sup>. Then skip directly to the chapter corresponding to the chosen programming language.

All the examples described in this guide are available in the programming libraries. For some languages, the libraries also include some complete graphical applications, with their source code.

When you have mastered the basic programming of your module, you can turn to the chapter on advanced programming that describes some techniques that will help you make the most of your Yocto-Relay.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> http://www.yoctopuce.com/EN/libraries.php

# 6. Using the Yocto-Relay in command line

When you want to perform a punctual operation on your Yocto-Relay, such as reading a value, assigning a logical name, and so on, you can obviously use the Virtual Hub, but there is a simpler, faster, and more efficient method: the command line API.

The command line API is a set of executables, one by type of functionality offered by the range of Yoctopuce products. These executables are provided pre-compiled for all the Yoctopuce officially supported platforms/OS. Naturally, the executable sources are also provided<sup>1</sup>.

## 6.1. Installing

Download the command line API<sup>2</sup>. You do not need to run any setup, simply copy the executables corresponding to your platform/OS in a directory of your choice. You may add this directory to your PATH variable to be able to access these executables from anywhere. You are all set, you only need to connect your Yocto-Relay, open a shell, and start working by typing for example:

```
C:\>YRelay any set_state B
```

To use the command API on Linux, you need either have root privileges or to define an *udev* rule for your system. See the *Troubleshooting* chapter for more details.

# 6.2. Use: general description

All the command line API executables work on the same principle. They must be called the following way

```
C:\>Executable [options] [target] command [parameter]
```

[options] manage the global workings of the commands, they allow you, for instance, to pilot a module remotely through the network, or to force the module to save its configuration after executing the command.

[target] is the name of the module or of the function to which the command applies. Some very generic commands do not need a target. You can also use the aliases "any" and "all", or a list of names separated by comas without space.

<sup>2</sup> http://www.yoctopuce.com/EN/libraries.php

 $<sup>\</sup>frac{1}{2}$  If you want to recompile the command line API, you also need the C++ API.

command is the command you want to run. Almost all the functions available in the classic programming APIs are available as commands. You need to respect neither the case nor the underlined characters in the command name.

[parameters] logically are the parameters needed by the command.

At any time, the command line API executables can provide a rather detailed help. Use for instance:

```
C:\>executable /help
```

to know the list of available commands for a given command line API executable, or even:

```
C:\>executable command /help
```

to obtain a detailed description of the parameters of a command.

# 6.3. Control of the Relay function

To control the Relay function of your Yocto-Relay, you need the YRelay executable file.

For instance, you can launch:

```
C:\>YRelay any set_state B
```

This example uses the "any" target to indicate that we want to work on the first Relay function found among all those available on the connected Yoctopuce modules when running. This prevents you from having to know the exact names of your function and of your module.

But you can use logical names as well, as long as you have configured them beforehand. Let us imagine a Yocto-Relay module with the *RELAYLO1-123456* serial number which you have called "*MyModule*", and its relay1 function which you have renamed "*MyFunction*". The five following calls are strictly equivalent (as long as *MyFunction* is defined only once, to avoid any ambiguity).

```
C:\>YRelay RELAYLO1-123456.relay1 describe
C:\>YRelay RELAYLO1-123456.MyFunction describe
C:\>YRelay MyModule.relay1 describe
C:\>YRelay MyModule.MyFunction describe
C:\>YRelay MyFunction describe
```

To work on all the Relay functions at the same time, use the "all" target.

```
C:\>YRelay all describe
```

For more details on the possibilities of the YRelay executable, use:

```
C:\>YRelay /help
```

# 6.4. Control of the module part

Each module can be controlled in a similar way with the help of the YModule executable. For example, to obtain the list of all the connected modules, use:

```
C:\>YModule inventory
```

You can also use the following command to obtain an even more detailed list of the connected modules:

```
C:\>YModule all describe
```

Each xxx property of the module can be obtained thanks to a command of the  $get_xxxx$ () type, and the properties which are not read only can be modified with the  $set_xxx$ () command. For example:

```
C:\>YModule RELAYLO1-12346 set_logicalName MonPremierModule
C:\>YModule RELAYLO1-12346 get_logicalName
```

## Changing the settings of the module

When you want to change the settings of a module, simply use the corresponding  $\mathtt{set}\_\mathtt{xxx}$  command. However, this change happens only in the module RAM: if the module restarts, the changes are lost. To store them permanently, you must tell the module to save its current configuration in its nonvolatile memory. To do so, use the  $\mathtt{saveToFlash}$  command. Inversely, it is possible to force the module to forget its current settings by using the  $\mathtt{revertFromFlash}$  method. For example:

```
C:\>YModule RELAYLO1-12346 set_logicalName MonPremierModule C:\>YModule RELAYLO1-12346 saveToFlash
```

Note that you can do the same thing in a single command with the -s option.

```
C:\>YModule -s RELAYLO1-12346 set_logicalName MonPremierModule
```

Warning: the number of write cycles of the nonvolatile memory of the module is limited. When this limit is reached, nothing guaranties that the saving process is performed correctly. This limit, linked to the technology employed by the module micro-processor, is located at about 100000 cycles. In short, you can use the <code>saveToFlash()</code> function only 100000 times in the life of the module. Make sure you do not call this function within a loop.

## 6.5. Limitations

The command line API has the same limitation than the other APIs: there can be only one application at a given time which can access the modules natively. By default, the command line API works in native mode.

You can easily work around this limitation by using a Virtual Hub: run the VirtualHub<sup>3</sup> on the concerned machine, and use the executables of the command line API with the -r option. For example, if you use:

```
C:\>YModule inventory
```

you obtain a list of the modules connected by USB, using a native access. If another command which accesses the modules natively is already running, this does not work. But if you run a Virtual Hub, and you give your command in the form:

```
C:\>YModule -r 127.0.0.1 inventory
```

it works because the command is not executed natively anymore, but through the Virtual Hub. Note that the Virtual Hub counts as a native application.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> http://www.yoctopuce.com/EN/virtualhub.php

# 7. Using the Yocto-Relay with Python

Python is an interpreted object oriented language developed by Guido van Rossum. Among its advantages is the fact that it is free, and the fact that it is available for most platforms, Windows as well as UNIX. It is an ideal language to write small scripts on a napkin. The Yoctopuce library is compatible with Python 2.6+ and 3+. It works under Windows, Mac OS X, and Linux, Intel as well as ARM. The library was tested with Python 2.6 and Python 3.2. Python interpreters are available on the Python web site<sup>1</sup>.

## 7.1. Source files

The Yoctopuce library classes<sup>2</sup> for Python that you will use are provided as source files. Copy all the content of the *Sources* directory in the directory of your choice and add this directory to the *PYTHONPATH* environment variable. If you use an IDE to program in Python, refer to its documentation to configure it so that it automatically finds the API source files.

# 7.2. Dynamic library

A section of the low-level library is written in C, but you should not need to interact directly with it: it is provided as a DLL under Windows, as a .so files under UNIX, and as a .dylib file under Mac OS X. Everything was done to ensure the simplest possible interaction from Python: the distinct versions of the dynamic library corresponding to the distinct operating systems and architectures are stored in the *cdll* directory. The API automatically loads the correct file during its initialization. You should not have to worry about it.

If you ever need to recompile the dynamic library, its complete source code is located in the Yoctopuce C++ library.

In order to keep them simple, all the examples provided in this documentation are console applications. Naturally, the libraries function in a strictly identical manner if you integrate them in an application with a graphical interface.

# 7.3. Control of the Relay function

A few lines of code are enough to use a Yocto-Relay. Here is the skeleton of a Python code snipplet to use the Relay function.

<sup>1</sup> http://www.python.org/download/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> www.yoctopuce.com/EN/libraries.php

```
[...]
# Enable detection of USB devices
errmsg=YRefParam()
YAPI.RegisterHub("usb",errmsg)
[...]

# Retrieve the object used to interact with the device
relay = YRelay.FindRelay("RELAYLO1-123456.relay1")

# Hot-plug is easy: just check that the device is online
if relay.isOnline():
    # Use relay.set_state()
    [...]

[...]
```

Let's look at these lines in more details.

### YAPI.RegisterHub

The yAPI.RegisterHub function initializes the Yoctopuce API and indicates where the modules should be looked for. When used with the parameter "usb", it will use the modules locally connected to the computer running the library. If the initialization does not succeed, this function returns a value different from YAPI.SUCCESS and errmsq contains the error message.

### YRelay.FindRelay

The YRelay. FindRelay function allows you to find a relay from the serial number of the module on which it resides and from its function name. You can use logical names as well, as long as you have initialized them. Let us imagine a Yocto-Relay module with serial number *RELAYLO1-123456* which you have named "*MyModule*", and for which you have given the *relay1* function the name "*MyFunction*". The following five calls are strictly equivalent, as long as "*MyFunction*" is defined only once.

```
relay = YRelay.FindRelay("RELAYLO1-123456.relay1")
relay = YRelay.FindRelay("RELAYLO1-123456.MyFunction")
relay = YRelay.FindRelay("MyModule.relay1")
relay = YRelay.FindRelay("MyModule.MyFunction")
relay = YRelay.FindRelay("MyFunction")
```

YRelay. FindRelay returns an object which you can then use at will to control the relay.

#### **isOnline**

The isOnline() method of the object returned by YRelay. FindRelay allows you to know if the corresponding module is present and in working order.

#### set\_state

The set\_state() method of the objet returned by YRelay.FindRelay switches the relay position to one of its two outputs. The two possible parameter values are YRelay.STATE\_A for output A, and YRelay.STATE\_B for output B.

## A real example

Launch Python and open the corresponding sample script provided in the directory **Examples/Doc-GettingStarted-Yocto-Relay** of the Yoctopuce library.

In this example, you will recognize the functions explained above, but this time used with all side materials needed to make it work nicely as a small demo.

```
#!/usr/bin/python
# -*- coding: utf-8 -*-
import os, sys

from yocto_api import *
from yocto_relay import *
```

```
def usage():
    scriptname = os.path.basename(sys.argv[0])
   print("Usage:")
   print(scriptname + ' <serial number> <channel> < A | B >')
    print(scriptname + ' <logical name> <channel> < A | B >')
   print(scriptname + ' any <channel> < A | B >')
    print('Example:')
   print(scriptname + ' any 2 B')
    sys.exit()
def die(msg):
    sys.exit(msg + ' (check USB cable)')
if len(sys.argv) < 4:</pre>
    usage()
target = sys.argv[1].upper()
channel = sys.argv[2]
state = sys.argv[3].upper()
# Setup the API to use local USB devices
errmsg = YRefParam()
if YAPI.RegisterHub("usb", errmsg) != YAPI.SUCCESS:
    sys.exit("init error" + errmsg.value)
if target == 'ANY':
    # retreive any Relay then find its serial #
    relay = YRelay.FirstRelay()
if relay is None:
       die('No module connected')
    m = relay.get module()
    target = m.get serialNumber()
print('using ' + target)
relay = YRelay.FindRelay(target + '.relay' + channel)
if not (relay.isOnline()):
    die('device not connected')
if state == 'A':
    relay.set_state(YRelay.STATE A)
    relay.set output(YRelay.STATE B)
YAPI.FreeAPI()
```

# 7.4. Control of the module part

Each module can be controlled in a similar manner, you can find below a simple sample program displaying the main parameters of the module and enabling you to activate the localization beacon.

```
#!/usr/bin/python
# -*- coding: utf-8 -*-
import os, sys

from yocto_api import *

def usage():
    sys.exit("usage: demo <serial or logical name> [ON/OFF]")

errmsg = YRefParam()
if YAPI.RegisterHub("usb", errmsg) != YAPI.SUCCESS:
    sys.exit("RegisterHub error: " + str(errmsg))

if len(sys.argv) < 2:
    usage()

m = YModule.FindModule(sys.argv[1]) # # use serial or logical name</pre>
```

```
if m.isOnline():
     if len(sys.argv) > 2:
         if sys.argv[2].upper() == "ON";
              m.set beacon (YModule.BEACON ON)
          if sys.argv[2].upper() == "OFF":
              m.set_beacon(YModule.BEACON OFF)
                         " + m.get_serialNumber())
    print("serial:
    print("logical name: " + m.get logicalName())
    print("luminosity: " + str(m.get_luminosity()))
if m.get_beacon() == YModule.BEACON_ON:
         print("beacon:
                                 ON")
    print("beacon: OFF")
print("upTime: " + str(m.get_upTime() / 1000) + " sec")
print("USB current: " + str(m.get_usbCurrent()) + " mA")
    print("logs:\n" + m.get lastLogs())
    print(sys.argv[1] + " not connected (check identification and USB cable)")
YAPI.FreeAPI()
```

Each property xxx of the module can be read thanks to a method of type  $YModule.get_xxxx()$ , and properties which are not read-only can be modified with the help of the  $YModule.set_xxx()$  method. For more details regarding the used functions, refer to the API chapters.

## Changing the module settings

When you want to modify the settings of a module, you only need to call the corresponding  $YModule.set\_xxx()$  function. However, this modification is performed only in the random access memory (RAM) of the module: if the module is restarted, the modifications are lost. To memorize them persistently, it is necessary to ask the module to save its current configuration in its permanent memory. To do so, use the YModule.saveToFlash() method. Inversely, it is possible to force the module to forget its current settings by using the YModule.revertFromFlash() method. The short example below allows you to modify the logical name of a module.

```
#!/usr/bin/python
# -*- coding: utf-8 -*-
import os, sys
from yocto api import *
def usage():
   sys.exit("usage: demo <serial or logical name> <new logical name>")
if len(sys.argv) != 3:
   usage()
errmsg = YRefParam()
if YAPI.RegisterHub("usb", errmsg) != YAPI.SUCCESS:
    sys.exit("RegisterHub error: " + str(errmsg))
m = YModule.FindModule(sys.argv[1]) # use serial or logical name
if m.isOnline():
   newname = sys.argv[2]
    if not YAPI.CheckLogicalName(newname):
        sys.exit("Invalid name (" + newname + ")")
    m.set logicalName(newname)
    m.saveToFlash() # do not forget this
print("Module: serial= " + m.get_serialNumber() + " / name= " + m.get_logicalName())
    sys.exit("not connected (check identification and USB cable")
YAPI.FreeAPI()
```

Warning: the number of write cycles of the nonvolatile memory of the module is limited. When this limit is reached, nothing guaranties that the saving process is performed correctly. This limit, linked to the technology employed by the module micro-processor, is located at about 100000 cycles. In short, you can use the YModule.saveToFlash() function only 100000 times in the life of the module. Make sure you do not call this function within a loop.

### Listing the modules

Obtaining the list of the connected modules is performed with the YModule.yFirstModule() function which returns the first module found. Then, you only need to call the nextModule() function of this object to find the following modules, and this as long as the returned value is not null. Below a short example listing the connected modules.

```
#!/usr/bin/python
# -*- coding: utf-8 -*-
import os, sys

from yocto_api import *
errmsg = YRefParam()

# Setup the API to use local USB devices
if YAPI.RegisterHub("usb", errmsg) != YAPI.SUCCESS:
    sys.exit("init error" + str(errmsg))

print('Device list')

module = YModule.FirstModule()
while module is not None:
    print(module.get_serialNumber() + ' (' + module.get_productName() + ')')
    module = module.nextModule()
YAPI.FreeAPI()
```

## 7.5. Error handling

When you implement a program which must interact with USB modules, you cannot disregard error handling. Inevitably, there will be a time when a user will have unplugged the device, either before running the software, or even while the software is running. The Yoctopuce library is designed to help you support this kind of behavior, but your code must nevertheless be conceived to interpret in the best possible way the errors indicated by the library.

The simplest way to work around the problem is the one used in the short examples provided in this chapter: before accessing a module, check that it is online with the <code>isOnline</code> function, and then hope that it will stay so during the fraction of a second necessary for the following code lines to run. This method is not perfect, but it can be sufficient in some cases. You must however be aware that you cannot completely exclude an error which would occur after the call to <code>isOnline</code> and which could crash the software. The only way to prevent this is to implement one of the two error handling techniques described below.

The method recommended by most programming languages for unpredictable error handling is the use of exceptions. By default, it is the behavior of the Yoctopuce library. If an error happens while you try to access a module, the library throws an exception. In this case, there are three possibilities:

- If your code catches the exception and handles it, everything goes well.
- If your program is running in debug mode, you can relatively easily determine where the problem happened and view the explanatory message linked to the exception.
- Otherwise... the exception makes your program crash, bang!

As this latest situation is not the most desirable, the Yoctopuce library offers another possibility for error handling, allowing you to create a robust program without needing to catch exceptions at every line of code. You simply need to call the YAPI.DisableExceptions() function to commute the library to a mode where exceptions for all the functions are systematically replaced by specific return values, which can be tested by the caller when necessary. For each function, the name of each return value in case of error is systematically documented in the library reference. The name always follows the same logic: a get\_state() method returns a ClassName.STATE\_INVALID value, a get\_currentValue method returns a ClassName.CURRENTVALUE\_INVALID value, and so on. In any case, the returned value is of the expected type and is not a null pointer which would risk crashing your program. At worst, if you display the value without testing it, it will be outside the expected bounds for the returned value. In the case of functions which do not normally return

information, the return value is YAPI\_SUCCESS if everything went well, and a different error code in case of failure.

When you work without exceptions, you can obtain an error code and an error message explaining the source of the error. You can request them from the object which returned the error, calling the errType() and errMessage() methods. Their returned values contain the same information as in the exceptions when they are active.

# 8. Using Yocto-Relay with C++

C++ is not the simplest language to master. However, if you take care to limit yourself to its essential functionalities, this language can very well be used for short programs quickly coded, and it has the advantage of being easily ported from one operating system to another. Under Windows, all the examples and the project models are tested with Microsoft Visual Studio 2010 Express, freely available on the Microsoft web site<sup>1</sup>. Under Mac OS X, all the examples and project models are tested with XCode 4, available on the App Store. Moreover, under Max OS X and under Linux, you can compile the examples using a command line with GCC using the provided GNUmakefile. In the same manner under Windows, a Makefile allows you to compile examples using a command line, fully knowing the compilation and linking arguments.

Yoctopuce C++ libraries<sup>2</sup> are integrally provided as source files. A section of the low-level library is written in pure C, but you should not need to interact directly with it: everything was done to ensure the simplest possible interaction from C++. The library is naturally also available as binary files, so that you can link it directly if you prefer.

You will soon notice that the C++ API defines many functions which return objects. You do not need to deallocate these objects yourself, the API does it automatically at the end of the application.

In order to keep them simple, all the examples provided in this documentation are console applications. Naturally, the libraries function in a strictly identical manner if you integrate them in an application with a graphical interface. You will find in the last section of this chapter all the information needed to create a wholly new project linked with the Yoctopuce libraries.

# 8.1. Control of the Relay function

A few lines of code are enough to use a Yocto-Relay. Here is the skeleton of a C++ code snipplet to use the Relay function.

```
#include "yocto_api.h"
#include "yocto_relay.h"

[...]
// Enable detection of USB devices
String errmsg;
YAPI::RegisterHub("usb", errmsg);
[...]

// Retrieve the object used to interact with the device
```

<sup>2</sup> www.yoctopuce.com/EN/libraries.php

<sup>1</sup> http://www.microsoft.com/visualstudio/en-us/products/2010-editions/visual-cpp-express

```
YRelay *relay;
relay = YRelay::FindRelay("RELAYLO1-123456.relay1");

// Hot-plug is easy: just check that the device is online
if(relay->isOnline())
{
    // Use relay->set_state()
    [...]
}
```

Let's look at these lines in more details.

### yocto api.h et yocto relay.h

These two include files provide access to the functions allowing you to manage Yoctopuce modules. yocto\_api.h must always be used, yocto\_relay.h is necessary to manage modules containing a relay, such as Yocto-Relay.

### YAPI::RegisterHub

The YAPI::RegisterHub function initializes the Yoctopuce API and indicates where the modules should be looked for. When used with the parameter "usb", it will use the modules locally connected to the computer running the library. If the initialization does not succeed, this function returns a value different from YAPI SUCCESS and errmsg contains the error message.

### YRelay::FindRelay

The YRelay::FindRelay function allows you to find a relay from the serial number of the module on which it resides and from its function name. You can use logical names as well, as long as you have initialized them. Let us imagine a Yocto-Relay module with serial number *RELAYLO1-123456* which you have named "*MyModule*", and for which you have given the *relay1* function the name "*MyFunction*". The following five calls are strictly equivalent, as long as "*MyFunction*" is defined only once.

```
YRelay *relay = YRelay::FindRelay("RELAYLO1-123456.relay1");
YRelay *relay = YRelay::FindRelay("RELAYLO1-123456.MyFunction");
YRelay *relay = YRelay::FindRelay("MyModule.relay1");
YRelay *relay = YRelay::FindRelay("MyModule.MyFunction");
YRelay *relay = YRelay::FindRelay("MyFunction");
```

YRelay::FindRelay returns an object which you can then use at will to control the relay.

### isOnline

The isOnline() method of the object returned by YRelay::FindRelay allows you to know if the corresponding module is present and in working order.

#### set state

The <code>set\_state()</code> method of the objet returned by <code>yFindRelay</code> switches the relay position to one of its two outputs. The two possible parameter values are <code>Y\_STATE\_A</code> for output A, and <code>Y\_STATE\_B</code> for output B.

#### A real example

Launch your C++ environment and open the corresponding sample project provided in the directory **Examples/Doc-GettingStarted-Yocto-Relay** of the Yoctopuce library. If you prefer to work with your favorite text editor, open the file main.cpp, and type make to build the example when you are done.

In this example, you will recognize the functions explained above, but this time used with all side materials needed to make it work nicely as a small demo.

```
#include "yocto_api.h"
#include "yocto_relay.h"
#include <iostream>
#include <ctype.h>
```

```
#include <stdlib.h>
using namespace std;
static void usage (void)
 u64 now = YAPI::GetTickCount();
 while (YAPI::GetTickCount() - now < 3000) {</pre>
   // wait 3 sec to show the message
 exit(1):
int main(int argc, const char * argv[])
 string errmsg:
 string target;
YRelay *relay;
char state;
  if (argc < 3) {
   usage();
  target = (string) argv[1];
  state = toupper(argv[2][0]);
  // Setup the API to use local USB devices
  if (YAPI::RegisterHub("usb", errmsg) != YAPI::SUCCESS) {
   cerr << "RegisterHub error: " << errmsg << endl;</pre>
    return 1;
 if (target == "any") {
  relay = YRelay::FirstRelay();
   if (relay == NULL) {
  cout << "No module connected (check USB cable)" << endl;</pre>
     return 1;
  } else {
   relay = YRelay::FindRelay(target + ".relay1");
  if (relay->isOnline()) {
   relay->set state(state == 'A' ? Y STATE A : Y STATE B);
  } else {
   cout << "Module not connected (check identification and USB cable)" << endl;</pre>
  YAPI::FreeAPI();
  return 0;
```

# 8.2. Control of the module part

Each module can be controlled in a similar manner, you can find below a simple sample program displaying the main parameters of the module and enabling you to activate the localization beacon.

```
#include <iostream>
#include <stdlib.h>

#include "yocto_api.h"

using namespace std;

static void usage(const char *exe)
{
  cout << "usage: " << exe << " <serial or logical name> [ON/OFF]" << endl;
  exit(1);
}</pre>
```

```
int main(int argc, const char * argv[])
 string
             errmsq;
  // Setup the API to use local USB devices
 if(YAPI::RegisterHub("usb", errmsg) != YAPI::SUCCESS) {
   cerr << "RegisterHub error: " << errmsg << endl;</pre>
   return 1;
 if(argc < 2)
   usage(argv[0]);
 YModule *module = YModule::FindModule(argv[1]); // use serial or logical name
 if (module->isOnline()) {
   if (argc > 2) {
     if (string(argv[2]) == "ON")
       module->set beacon (Y BEACON ON);
       module->set beacon(Y BEACON OFF);
                       " << module->get_serialNumber() << endl;
   cout << "serial:</pre>
   cout << "logical name: " << module->get_logicalName() << endl;
cout << "luminosity: " << module->get_luminosity() << endl;</pre>
   cout << "beacon:</pre>
   if (module->get_beacon() == Y_BEACON ON)
     cout << "ON" << endl;
   else
     cout << "OFF" << endl;</pre>
   cout << "Logs:" << endl << module->get lastLogs() << endl;</pre>
 } else {
   cout << argv[1] << " not connected (check identification and USB cable)"</pre>
        << endl;
 YAPI::FreeAPI();
 return 0;
```

Each property xxx of the module can be read thanks to a method of type  $get_xxxx()$ , and properties which are not read-only can be modified with the help of the  $set_xxx()$  method. For more details regarding the used functions, refer to the API chapters.

## Changing the module settings

When you want to modify the settings of a module, you only need to call the corresponding  $\mathtt{set}\_\mathtt{xxx}()$  function. However, this modification is performed only in the random access memory (RAM) of the module: if the module is restarted, the modifications are lost. To memorize them persistently, it is necessary to ask the module to save its current configuration in its permanent memory. To do so, use the  $\mathtt{saveToFlash}()$  method. Inversely, it is possible to force the module to forget its current settings by using the  $\mathtt{revertFromFlash}()$  method. The short example below allows you to modify the logical name of a module.

```
#include <iostream>
#include "yocto_api.h"

using namespace std;

static void usage(const char *exe)
{
  cerr << "usage: " << exe << " <serial> <newLogicalName>" << endl;
  exit(1);
}

int main(int argc, const char * argv[])
{
  string errmsg;

// Setup the API to use local USB devices</pre>
```

```
if(YAPI::RegisterHub("usb", errmsg) != YAPI::SUCCESS) {
  cerr << "RegisterHub error: " << errmsg << endl;</pre>
  return 1;
if(argc < 2)
 usage(argv[0]);
YModule *module = YModule::FindModule(argv[1]); // use serial or logical name
if (module->isOnline()) {
  if (argc >= 3) {
    string newname = argv[2];
    if (!yCheckLogicalName(newname)) {
      cerr << "Invalid name (" << newname << ")" << endl;</pre>
      usage(argv[0]);
   module->set logicalName(newname);
   module->saveToFlash();
  cout << "Current name: " << module->get_logicalName() << endl;</pre>
} else {
  cout << argv[1] << " not connected (check identification and USB cable)"</pre>
       << endl;
YAPI::FreeAPI();
return 0;
```

Warning: the number of write cycles of the nonvolatile memory of the module is limited. When this limit is reached, nothing guaranties that the saving process is performed correctly. This limit, linked to the technology employed by the module micro-processor, is located at about 100000 cycles. In short, you can use the <code>saveToFlash()</code> function only 100000 times in the life of the module. Make sure you do not call this function within a loop.

## Listing the modules

Obtaining the list of the connected modules is performed with the <code>yFirstModule()</code> function which returns the first module found. Then, you only need to call the <code>nextModule()</code> function of this object to find the following modules, and this as long as the returned value is not <code>NULL</code>. Below a short example listing the connected modules.

```
#include <iostream>
#include "yocto api.h"
using namespace std;
int main(int argc, const char * argv[])
  string
             errmsa;
  // Setup the API to use local USB devices
  if(YAPI::RegisterHub("usb", errmsg) != YAPI::SUCCESS) {
   cerr << "RegisterHub error: " << errmsg << endl;</pre>
    return 1;
  cout << "Device list: " << endl;</pre>
  YModule *module = YModule::FirstModule();
  while (module != NULL) {
   cout << module->get serialNumber() << " ";</pre>
    cout << module->get_productName() << endl;</pre>
    module = module->nextModule();
  YAPI::FreeAPI();
  return 0;
```

# 8.3. Error handling

When you implement a program which must interact with USB modules, you cannot disregard error handling. Inevitably, there will be a time when a user will have unplugged the device, either before running the software, or even while the software is running. The Yoctopuce library is designed to help you support this kind of behavior, but your code must nevertheless be conceived to interpret in the best possible way the errors indicated by the library.

The simplest way to work around the problem is the one used in the short examples provided in this chapter: before accessing a module, check that it is online with the <code>isOnline</code> function, and then hope that it will stay so during the fraction of a second necessary for the following code lines to run. This method is not perfect, but it can be sufficient in some cases. You must however be aware that you cannot completely exclude an error which would occur after the call to <code>isOnline</code> and which could crash the software. The only way to prevent this is to implement one of the two error handling techniques described below.

The method recommended by most programming languages for unpredictable error handling is the use of exceptions. By default, it is the behavior of the Yoctopuce library. If an error happens while you try to access a module, the library throws an exception. In this case, there are three possibilities:

- If your code catches the exception and handles it, everything goes well.
- If your program is running in debug mode, you can relatively easily determine where the problem happened and view the explanatory message linked to the exception.
- Otherwise... the exception makes your program crash, bang!

As this latest situation is not the most desirable, the Yoctopuce library offers another possibility for error handling, allowing you to create a robust program without needing to catch exceptions at every line of code. You simply need to call the YAPI.DisableExceptions() function to commute the library to a mode where exceptions for all the functions are systematically replaced by specific return values, which can be tested by the caller when necessary. For each function, the name of each return value in case of error is systematically documented in the library reference. The name always follows the same logic: a get\_state() method returns a ClassName.STATE\_INVALID value, a get\_currentValue method returns a ClassName.CURRENTVALUE\_INVALID value, and so on. In any case, the returned value is of the expected type and is not a null pointer which would risk crashing your program. At worst, if you display the value without testing it, it will be outside the expected bounds for the returned value. In the case of functions which do not normally return information, the return value is YAPI\_SUCCESS if everything went well, and a different error code in case of failure.

When you work without exceptions, you can obtain an error code and an error message explaining the source of the error. You can request them from the object which returned the error, calling the errType() and errMessage() methods. Their returned values contain the same information as in the exceptions when they are active.

# 8.4. Integration variants for the C++ Yoctopuce library

Depending on your needs and on your preferences, you can integrate the library into your projects in several distinct manners. This section explains how to implement the different options.

#### Integration in source format (recommended)

Integrating all the sources of the library into your projects has several advantages:

- It guaranties the respect of the compilation conventions of your project (32/64 bits, inclusion of debugging symbols, unicode or ASCII characters, etc.);
- It facilitates debugging if you are looking for the cause of a problem linked to the Yoctopuce library;
- It reduces the dependencies on third party components, for example in the case where you
  would need to recompile this project for another architecture in many years;

• It does not require the installation of a dynamic library specific to Yoctopuce on the final system, everything is in the executable.

To integrate the source code, the easiest way is to simply include the Sources directory of your Yoctopuce library into your IncludePath, and to add all the files of this directory (including the subdirectory yapi) to your project.

For your project to build correctly, you need to link with your project the prerequisite system libraries, that is:

- · For Windows: the libraries are added automatically
- For Mac OS X: IOKit.framework and CoreFoundation.framework
- For Linux: libm, libpthread, libusb1.0, and libstdc++

### Integration as a static library

With the integration of the Yoctopuce library as a static library, you do not need to install a dynamic library specific to Yoctopuce, everything is in the executable.

To use the static library, you must first compile it using the shell script build.sh on UNIX, or build.bat on Windows. This script, located in the root directory of the library, detects the OS and recompiles all the corresponding libraries as well as the examples.

Then, to integrate the static Yoctopuce library to your project, you must include the Sources directory of the Yoctopuce library into your IncludePath, and add the sub-directory Binaries/... corresponding to your operating system into your libPath.

Finally, for you project to build correctly, you need to link with your project the Yoctopuce library and the prerequisite system libraries:

- For Windows: yocto-static.lib
- For Mac OS X: libyocto-static.a, IOKit.framework, and CoreFoundation.framework
- For Linux: libyocto-static.a, libm, libpthread, libusb1.0, and libstdc++.

Note, under Linux, if you wish to compile in command line with GCC, it is generally advisable to link system libraries as dynamic libraries, rather than as static ones. To mix static and dynamic libraries on the same command line, you must pass the following arguments:

```
gcc (...) -Wl,-Bstatic -lyocto-static -Wl,-Bdynamic -lm -lpthread -lusb-1.0 -lstdc++
```

## Integration as a dynamic library

Integration of the Yoctopuce library as a dynamic library allows you to produce an executable smaller than with the two previous methods, and to possibly update this library, if a patch reveals itself necessary, without needing to recompile the source code of the application. On the other hand, it is an integration mode which systematically requires you to copy the dynamic library on the target machine where the application will run (yocto.dll for Windows, libyocto.so.1.0.1 for Mac OS X and Linux).

To use the dynamic library, you must first compile it using the shell script build.sh on UNIX, or build.bat on Windows. This script, located in the root directory of the library, detects the OS and recompiles all the corresponding libraries as well as the examples.

Then, To integrate the dynamic Yoctopuce library to your project, you must include the Sources directory of the Yoctopuce library into your IncludePath, and add the sub-directory Binaries/... corresponding to your operating system into your LibPath.

Finally, for you project to build correctly, you need to link with your project the dynamic Yoctopuce library and the prerequisite system libraries:

· For Windows: yocto.lib

- For Mac OS X: libyocto, IOKit.framework, and CoreFoundation.framework
   For Linux: libyocto, libm, libpthread, libusb1.0, and libstdc++.

With GCC, the command line to compile is simply:

```
gcc (...) -lyocto -lm -lpthread -lusb-1.0 -lstdc++
```

# 9. Using Yocto-Relay with C#

C# (pronounced C-Sharp) is an object-oriented programming language promoted by Microsoft, it is somewhat similar to Java. Like Visual-Basic and Delphi, it allows you to create Windows applications quite easily. All the examples and the project models are tested with Microsoft C# 2010 Express, freely available on the Microsoft web site<sup>1</sup>.

Our programming library is also compatible with *Mono*, the open source version of C# that also works on Linux and MacOS. You will find on our web site various articles that describe how to configure Mono to use our library.

## 9.1. Installation

Download the Visual C# Yoctopuce library from the Yoctopuce web site<sup>2</sup>. There is no setup program, simply copy the content of the zip file into the directory of your choice. You mostly need the content of the Sources directory. The other directories contain the documentation and a few sample programs. All sample projects are Visual C# 2010, projects, if you are using a previous version, you may have to recreate the projects structure from scratch.

# 9.2. Using the Yoctopuce API in a Visual C# project

The Visual C#.NET Yoctopuce library is composed of a DLL and of source files in Visual C#. The DLL is not a .NET DLL, but a classic DLL, written in C, which manages the low level communications with the modules<sup>3</sup>. The source files in Visual C# manage the high level part of the API. Therefore, your need both this DLL and the .cs files of the sources directory to create a project managing Yoctopuce modules.

## Configuring a Visual C# project

The following indications are provided for Visual Studio Express 2010, but the process is similar for other versions. Start by creating your project. Then, on the *Solution Explorer* panel, right click on your project, and select "Add" and then "Add an existing item".

A file selection window opens. Select the yocto\_api.cs file and the files corresponding to the functions of the Yoctopuce modules that your project is going to manage. If in doubt, select all the files.

<sup>1</sup> http://www.microsoft.com/visualstudio/en-us/products/2010-editions/visual-csharp-express

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> www.yoctopuce.com/EN/libraries.php

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The sources of this DLL are available in the C++ API

You then have the choice between simply adding these files to your project, or to add them as links (the **Add** button is in fact a scroll-down menu). In the first case, Visual Studio copies the selected files into your project. In the second case, Visual Studio simply keeps a link on the original files. We recommend you to use links, which makes updates of the library much easier.

Then add in the same manner the <code>yapi.dll DLL</code>, located in the <code>Sources/dll directory4</code>. Then, from the **Solution Explorer** window, right click on the DLL, select **Properties** and in the **Properties** panel, set the **Copy to output folder** to **always**. You are now ready to use your Yoctopuce modules from Visual Studio.

In order to keep them simple, all the examples provided in this documentation are console applications. Naturally, the libraries function in a strictly identical manner if you integrate them in an application with a graphical interface.

# 9.3. Control of the Relay function

A few lines of code are enough to use a Yocto-Relay. Here is the skeleton of a C# code snipplet to use the Relay function.

```
[...]
// Enable detection of USB devices
string errmsg ="";
YAPI.RegisterHub("usb", errmsg);
[...]

// Retrieve the object used to interact with the device
YRelay relay = YRelay.FindRelay("RELAYLO1-123456.relay1");

// Hot-plug is easy: just check that the device is online
if (relay.isOnline())
{
    // Use relay.set_state()
    [...]
}
```

Let's look at these lines in more details.

## YAPI.RegisterHub

The YAPI.RegisterHub function initializes the Yoctopuce API and indicates where the modules should be looked for. When used with the parameter "usb", it will use the modules locally connected to the computer running the library. If the initialization does not succeed, this function returns a value different from YAPI.SUCCESS and errmsg contains the error message.

#### YRelay.FindRelay

The YRelay.FindRelay function allows you to find a relay from the serial number of the module on which it resides and from its function name. You can use logical names as well, as long as you have initialized them. Let us imagine a Yocto-Relay module with serial number *RELAYLO1-123456* which you have named "*MyModule*", and for which you have given the *relay1* function the name "*MyFunction*". The following five calls are strictly equivalent, as long as "*MyFunction*" is defined only once.

```
relay = YRelay.FindRelay("RELAYLO1-123456.relay1");
relay = YRelay.FindRelay("RELAYLO1-123456.MyFunction");
relay = YRelay.FindRelay("MyModule.relay1");
relay = YRelay.FindRelay("MyModule.MyFunction");
relay = YRelay.FindRelay("MyFunction");
```

YRelay. FindRelay returns an object which you can then use at will to control the relay.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Remember to change the filter of the selection window, otherwise the DLL will not show.

#### **isOnline**

The isOnline() method of the object returned by YRelay. FindRelay allows you to know if the corresponding module is present and in working order.

#### set state

The set\_state() method of the objet returned by YRelay.FindRelay switches the relay position to one of its two outputs. The two possible parameter values are YRelay.STATE\_A for output A, and YRelay.STATE B for output B.

### A real example

Launch Microsoft Visual C# and open the corresponding sample project provided in the directory **Examples/Doc-GettingStarted-Yocto-Relay** of the Yoctopuce library.

In this example, you will recognize the functions explained above, but this time used with all side materials needed to make it work nicely as a small demo.

```
using System;
using System.Collections.Generic;
using System.Linq;
using System. Text;
namespace ConsoleApplication1
  class Program
    static void usage()
      string execname = System.AppDomain.CurrentDomain.FriendlyName;
      Console.WriteLine("Usage:");
      Console.WriteLine(execname + " <serial_number> < A | B >");
Console.WriteLine(execname + " <logical_name> < A | B >");
Console.WriteLine(execname + " any < A | B >");
       System. Threading. Thread. Sleep (2500);
       Environment.Exit(0);
    static void Main(string[] args)
      string errmsq = "";
       string target;
       YRelay relay;
      string state;
      if (args.Length < 2) usage();</pre>
      target = args[0].ToUpper();
       state = args[1].ToUpper();
       if (YAPI.RegisterHub("usb", ref errmsg) != YAPI.SUCCESS) {
   Console.WriteLine("RegisterHub error: " + errmsg);
         Environment.Exit(0);
       if (target == "ANY") {
         relay = YRelay.FirstRelay();
         if (relay == null) {
           Console.WriteLine("No module connected (check USB cable) ");
           Environment.Exit(0);
       } else relay = YRelay.FindRelay(target + ".relay1");
       if (relay.isOnline()) {
         if (state == "A") relay.set state(YRelay.STATE A);
         else relay.set state(YRelay.STATE B);
       } else {
         Console.WriteLine("Module not connected");
         Console.WriteLine("check identification and USB cable");
       YAPI.FreeAPI();
```

# 9.4. Control of the module part

Each module can be controlled in a similar manner, you can find below a simple sample program displaying the main parameters of the module and enabling you to activate the localization beacon.

```
using System;
using System.Collections.Generic;
using System.Linq;
using System. Text;
namespace ConsoleApplication1
  class Program
    static void usage()
      string execname = System.AppDomain.CurrentDomain.FriendlyName;
      Console.WriteLine("Usage:");
Console.WriteLine(execname + " <serial or logical name> [ON/OFF]");
      System. Threading. Thread. Sleep (2500);
      Environment.Exit(0);
    static void Main(string[] args)
      YModule m;
      string errmsg = "";
      if (YAPI.RegisterHub("usb", ref errmsg) != YAPI.SUCCESS) {
   Console.WriteLine("RegisterHub error: " + errmsg);
        Environment.Exit(0);
      if (args.Length < 1) usage();</pre>
      m = YModule.FindModule(args[0]); // use serial or logical name
      if (m.isOnline()) {
         if (args.Length >= 2) {
          if (args[1].ToUpper() == "ON") {
            m.set_beacon(YModule.BEACON_ON);
           if (args[1].ToUpper() == "OFF") {
            m.set beacon(YModule.BEACON OFF);
         }
                                          " + m.get_serialNumber());
        Console.WriteLine("serial:
        Console.WriteLine("logical name: " + m.get_logicalName());
        " + m.get_luminosity().ToString());
         Console.Write("beacon:
         if (m.get beacon() == YModule.BEACON ON)
          Console.WriteLine("ON");
        else
          Console.WriteLine("OFF");
         Console.WriteLine("upTime:
                                             " + (m.get upTime() / 1000 ).ToString() + " sec");
        Console.WriteLine("USB current: " + m.get_usbCurrent().ToString() + " mA");
Console.WriteLine("Logs:\r\n" + m.get_lastLogs());
        Console.WriteLine(args[0] + " not connected (check identification and USB cable)");
      YAPI.FreeAPI();
  }
```

Each property xxx of the module can be read thanks to a method of type  $YModule.get_xxxx()$ , and properties which are not read-only can be modified with the help of the  $YModule.set_xxx()$  method. For more details regarding the used functions, refer to the API chapters.

## Changing the module settings

When you want to modify the settings of a module, you only need to call the corresponding  $YModule.set\_xxx()$  function. However, this modification is performed only in the random access memory (RAM) of the module: if the module is restarted, the modifications are lost. To memorize them persistently, it is necessary to ask the module to save its current configuration in its permanent memory. To do so, use the YModule.saveToFlash() method. Inversely, it is possible to force the module to forget its current settings by using the YModule.revertFromFlash() method. The short example below allows you to modify the logical name of a module.

```
using System;
using System.Collections.Generic;
using System.Linq;
using System. Text;
namespace ConsoleApplication1
  class Program
    static void usage()
      string execname = System.AppDomain.CurrentDomain.FriendlyName;
      Console.WriteLine("Usage:");
      Console.WriteLine("usage: demo <serial or logical name> <new logical name>");
      System.Threading.Thread.Sleep(2500);
      Environment.Exit(0);
    static void Main(string[] args)
      YModule m;
      string errmsg = "";
      string newname;
      if (args.Length != 2) usage();
      if (YAPI.RegisterHub("usb", ref errmsg) != YAPI.SUCCESS) {
        Console.WriteLine("RegisterHub error: " + errmsg);
        Environment.Exit(0);
      m = YModule.FindModule(args[0]); // use serial or logical name
      if (m.isOnline())
        newname = args[1];
        if (!YAPI.CheckLogicalName(newname)) {
          Console.WriteLine("Invalid name (" + newname + ")");
          Environment.Exit(0);
        m.set logicalName(newname);
        m.saveToFlash(); // do not forget this
        Console.Write("Module: serial= " + m.get serialNumber());
        Console.WriteLine(" / name= " + m.get logicalName());
        Console.Write("not connected (check identification and USB cable");
      YAPI.FreeAPI();
```

Warning: the number of write cycles of the nonvolatile memory of the module is limited. When this limit is reached, nothing guaranties that the saving process is performed correctly. This limit, linked to the technology employed by the module micro-processor, is located at about 100000 cycles. In short, you can use the YModule.saveToFlash() function only 100000 times in the life of the module. Make sure you do not call this function within a loop.

### Listing the modules

Obtaining the list of the connected modules is performed with the YModule.yFirstModule() function which returns the first module found. Then, you only need to call the nextModule() function of this object to find the following modules, and this as long as the returned value is not null. Below a short example listing the connected modules.

```
using System;
using System.Collections.Generic;
using System.Linq;
using System. Text;
namespace ConsoleApplication1
  class Program
    static void Main(string[] args)
      YModule m;
      string errmsg = "";
      if (YAPI.RegisterHub("usb", ref errmsg) != YAPI.SUCCESS) {
       Console.WriteLine("RegisterHub error: " + errmsg);
        Environment.Exit(0);
      Console.WriteLine("Device list");
      m = YModule.FirstModule();
      while (m != null) {
       Console.WriteLine(m.get serialNumber() + " (" + m.get productName() + ")");
       m = m.nextModule();
      YAPI.FreeAPI();
}
```

# 9.5. Error handling

When you implement a program which must interact with USB modules, you cannot disregard error handling. Inevitably, there will be a time when a user will have unplugged the device, either before running the software, or even while the software is running. The Yoctopuce library is designed to help you support this kind of behavior, but your code must nevertheless be conceived to interpret in the best possible way the errors indicated by the library.

The simplest way to work around the problem is the one used in the short examples provided in this chapter: before accessing a module, check that it is online with the <code>isOnline</code> function, and then hope that it will stay so during the fraction of a second necessary for the following code lines to run. This method is not perfect, but it can be sufficient in some cases. You must however be aware that you cannot completely exclude an error which would occur after the call to <code>isOnline</code> and which could crash the software. The only way to prevent this is to implement one of the two error handling techniques described below.

The method recommended by most programming languages for unpredictable error handling is the use of exceptions. By default, it is the behavior of the Yoctopuce library. If an error happens while you try to access a module, the library throws an exception. In this case, there are three possibilities:

- If your code catches the exception and handles it, everything goes well.
- If your program is running in debug mode, you can relatively easily determine where the problem happened and view the explanatory message linked to the exception.
- Otherwise... the exception makes your program crash, bang!

As this latest situation is not the most desirable, the Yoctopuce library offers another possibility for error handling, allowing you to create a robust program without needing to catch exceptions at every line of code. You simply need to call the YAPI.DisableExceptions() function to commute the library to a mode where exceptions for all the functions are systematically replaced by specific return

values, which can be tested by the caller when necessary. For each function, the name of each return value in case of error is systematically documented in the library reference. The name always follows the same logic: a <code>get\_state()</code> method returns a <code>ClassName.STATE\_INVALID</code> value, a <code>get\_currentValue</code> method returns a <code>ClassName.CURRENTVALUE\_INVALID</code> value, and so on. In any case, the returned value is of the expected type and is not a null pointer which would risk crashing your program. At worst, if you display the value without testing it, it will be outside the expected bounds for the returned value. In the case of functions which do not normally return information, the return value is <code>YAPI\_SUCCESS</code> if everything went well, and a different error code in case of failure.

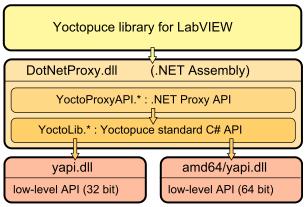
When you work without exceptions, you can obtain an error code and an error message explaining the source of the error. You can request them from the object which returned the error, calling the errType() and errMessage() methods. Their returned values contain the same information as in the exceptions when they are active.

# 10. Using the Yocto-Relay with LabVIEW

LabVIEW is edited by National Instruments since 1986. It is a graphic development environment: rather than writing lines of code, the users draw their programs, somewhat like a flow chart. LabVIEW was designed mostly to interface measuring tools, hence the *Virtual Instruments* name for LabVIEW programs. With visual programming, drawing complex algorithms becomes quickly fastidious. The LabVIEW Yoctopuce library was thus designed to make it as easy to use as possible. In other words, LabVIEW being an environment extremely different from other languages supported by Yoctopuce, there are major differences between the LabVIEW API and the other APIs.

## 10.1. Architecture

The LabVIEW library is based on the Yoctopuce DotNetProxy library contained in the DotNetProxyLibrary.dll DLL. In fact, it is this DotNetProxy library which takes care or most of the work by relying on the C# library which, in turn, uses the low level library coded in yapi.dll (32bits) and amd64\yapi.dll (64bits).



LabVIEW Yoctopuce API architecture

You must therefore imperatively distribute the *DotNetProxyLibrary.dll*, *yapi.dll*, and *amd64\yapi.dll* with your LabVIEW applications using the Yoctopuce API.

If need be, you can find the low level API sources in the C# library and the DotNetProxyLibrary.dll sources in the DotNetProxy library.

# 10.2. Compatibility

#### **Firmware**

For the LabVIEW Yoctopuce library to work correctly with your Yoctopuce modules, these modules need to have firmware 37120, or higher.

#### **LabVIEW for Linux and MacOS**

At the time of writing, the LabVIEW Yoctopuce API has been tested under Windows only. It is therefore most likely that it simply does not work with the Linux and MacOS versions of LabVIEW.

#### LabVIEW NXG

The LabVIEW Yoctopuce library uses many techniques which are not yet available in the new generation of LabVIEW. The library is therefore absolutely not compatible with LabVIEW NXG.

### About DotNewProxyLibrary.dll

In order to be compatible with as many versions of Windows as possible, including Windows XP, the *DotNetProxyLibrary.dll* library is compiled in .NET 3.5, which is available by default on all the Windows versions since XP.

### 10.3. Installation

Download the LabVIEW library from the Yoctopuce web site<sup>1</sup>. It is a ZIP file in which there is a distinct directory for each version of LabVIEW. Each of these directories contains two subdirectories: the first one contains programming examples for each Yoctopuce product; the second one, called *VIs*, contains all the VIs of the API and the required DLLs.

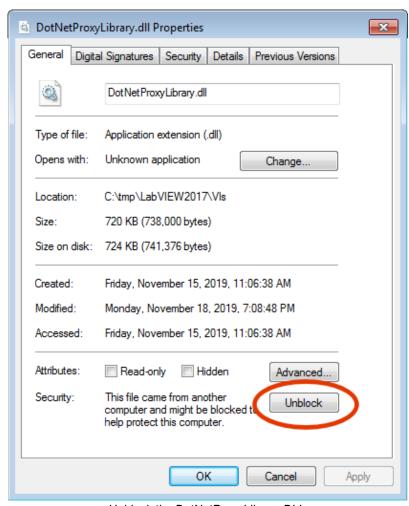
Depending on Windows configuration and the method used to copy the *DotNetProxyLibrary.dll* on your system, Windows may block it because it comes from an other computer. This may happen when the library zip file is uncompressed with Window's file explorer. If the DLL is blocked, LabVIEW will not be able to load it and an error 1386 will occur whenever any of the Yoctopuce VIs is executed.

There are two ways to fix this. The simplest is to unblock the file with the Windows file explorer: *right click / properties* on the *DotNetProxyLibrary.dll* file, and click on the *unblock* button. But this has to be done each time a new version of the DLL is copied on your system.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> http://www.yoctopuce.com/EN/libraries.php



Unblock the DotNetProxyLibrary DLL.

Alternatively, one can modify the LabVIEW configuration by creating, in the same directory as the labview.exe executable, an XML file called *labview.exe.config* containing the following code:

```
<?xml version ="1.0"?>
<configuration>
<runtime>
<loadFromRemoteSources enabled="true" />
</runtime>
</configuration>
```

Make sure to select the correct directory depending on the LabVIEW version you are using (32 bits vs. 64 bits). You can find more information about this file on the National Instruments web site.<sup>2</sup>

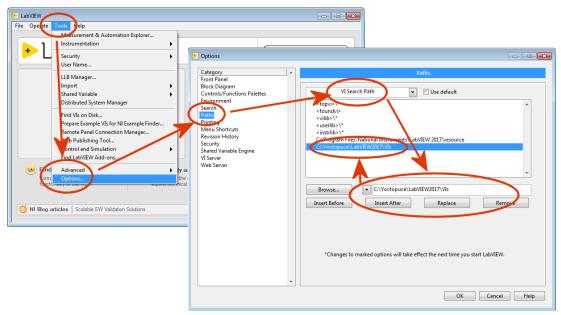
To install the LabVIEW Yoctopuce API, there are several methods.

### Method 1: "Take-out" installation

The simplest way to use the Yoctopuce library is to copy the content of the *VIs* directory wherever you want and to use the VIs in LabVIEW with a simple drag-n-drop operation.

To use the examples provided with the API, it is simpler if you add the directory of Yoctopuce VIs into the list of where LabVIEW must look for VIs that it has not found. You can access this list through the *Tools > Options > Paths > VI Search Path* menu.

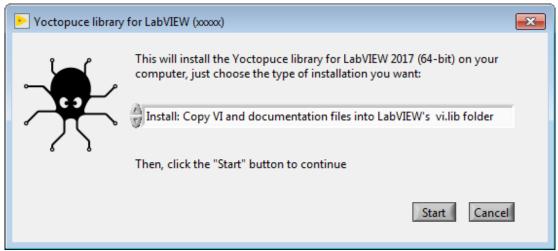
 $<sup>^2\,</sup>https://knowledge.ni.com/KnowledgeArticleDetails?id=kA00Z000000P8XnSAK$ 



Configuring the "VI Search Path"

#### Method 2: Provided installer

In each LabVIEW folder of the Library, you will find a VI named "Install.vi", just open the one matching your LabVIEW version.



The provider installer

This installer provide 3 installation options:

#### Install: Keep VI and documentation files where they are.

With this option, VI files are keep in the place where the library has been unzipped. So you will have to make sure these files are not deleted as long as you need them. Here is what the installer will do if that option is chosen:

- All references to Yoctopuce any library paths will be removed from the *viSearchPath* option in the *labview.ini* file.
- A dir.mnu palette file referring to VIs in the install folder will be created in C:\Program Files xx\National Instruments\LabVIEW 20xx\vi.lib\addons\Yoctopuce
- A reference to the VIs source install path will inserted into the *viSearchPath* option in the *labview.ini* file.

#### Install: Copy VI and documentation files into LabVIEW's vi.lib folder

In that case all required files are copied inside the LabVIEW's installation folder, so you will be able to delete the installation folder once the original installation is complete. Note that programming examples won't be copied. Here is the exact behaviour of the installer in that case:

- · All references to Yoctopuce library paths will be removed from viSearchPath in labview.ini file
- All VIs, DLLs, and documentation files will be copied into:
  - C:\Program Files xx\National Instruments\LabVIEW 20xx\vi.lib\Yoctopuce
- · VIs will be patched with the path to copied documentation files
- A dir.mnu palette file referring to copied VIs will be created in
  - C:\Program Files xx\National Instruments\LabVIEW 20xx\vi.lib\addons\Yoctopuce

#### **Uninstall Yoctopuce Library**

this option is meant to remove the LabVIEW library from your LabVIEW installation, here is how it is done:

- · All references to Yoctopuce library paths will be removed from viSearchPath in labview.ini file
- Following folders, if exists, will be removed:
  - C:\Program Files xx\National Instruments\LabVIEW 20xx\vi.lib\addons\Yoctopuce
  - C:\Program Files xx\National Instruments\LabVIEW 20xx\vi.lib\Yoctopuce

In any case, if the *labview.ini* file needs to be modified, a backup copy will be made beforehand.

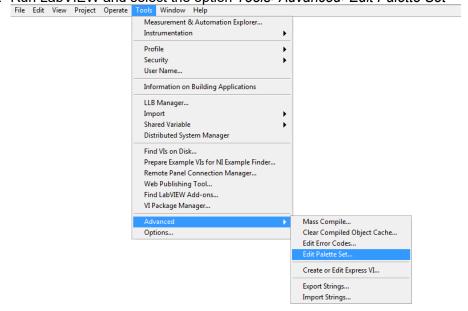
The installer identifies Yoctopuce VIs library folders by checking the presence of the YRegisterHub.vi file in said folders.

Once the installation is complete, a Yoctopuce palette will appear in Functions/Addons menu.

## Method 3: Installation in a LabVIEW palette (ancillary method)

The steps to manually install the VIs directly in the LabVIEW palette are somewhat more complex. You can find the detailed procedure on the National Instruments web site <sup>3</sup>, but here is a summary:

- 1. Create a Yoctopuce/API directory in the C:\Program Files\National Instruments\LabVIEW xxxx \vi.lib directory and copy all the VIs and DLLs of the VIs directory into it.
- 2. Create a Yoctopuce directory in the C:\Program Files\National Instruments\LabVIEW xxxx \menus\Categories directory.
- 3. Run LabVIEW and select the option *Tools>Advanced>Edit Palette* Set



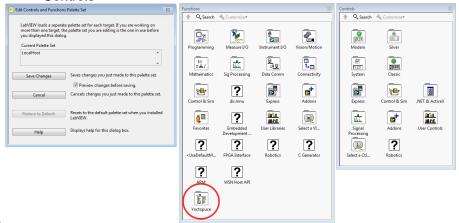
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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> https://forums.ni.com/t5/Developer-Center-Resources/Creating-a-LabVIEW-Palette/ta-p/3520557

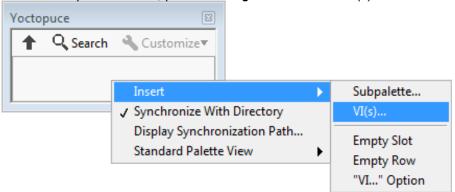
Three windows pop up:

- "Edit Controls and Functions Palette Set"
- "Functions"
- "Controls"

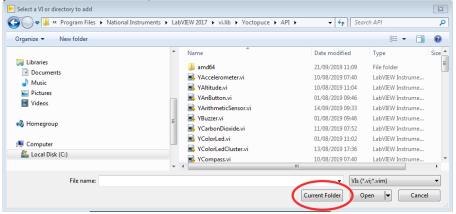


In the *Function* window, there is a *Yoctopuce* icon. Double-click it to create an empty "Yoctopuce" window.

4. In the Yoctopuce window, perform a Right click>Insert>Vi(s)..

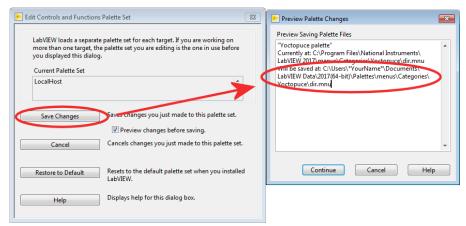


in order to open a file chooser. Put the file chooser in the *vi.lib\Yoctopuce\API* directory that you have created in step 1 and click on *Current Folder* 



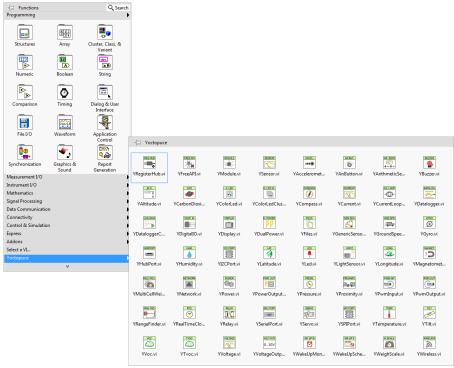
All the Yoctopuce VIs now appear in the Yoctopuce window. By default, they are sorted by alphabetical order, but you can arrange them as you see fit by moving them around with the mouse. For the palette to be easy to use, we recommend to reorganize the icons over 8 columns.

5. In the "Edit Controls and Functions Palette Set" window, click on the "Save Changes" button, the window indicates that it has created a dir.mnu file in your Documents directory.



Copy this file in the "menus\Categories\Yoctopuce" directory that you have created in step 2.

Restart LabVIEW, the LabVIEW palette now contains a Yoctopuce sub-palette with all the VIs of the API.



# 10.4. Presentation of Yoctopuce VIs

The LabVIEW Yoctopuce library contains one VI per class of the Yoctopuce API, as well as a few special VIs. All the VIs have the traditional connectors *Error IN* and *Error Out*.

## YRegisterHub

The YRegisterHub VI is used to initialize the API. You must imperatively call this VI once before you do anything in relation with Yoctopuce modules.



The YRegisterHub VI takes a url parameter which can be:

- The "usb" character string to indicated that you wish to work with local modules, directly connected by USB
- An IP address to indicate that you wish to work with modules which are available through a network connection. This IP address can be that of a YoctoHub<sup>4</sup> or even that of a machine on which the VirtualHub<sup>5</sup> application is running.

In the case of an IP address, the YRegisterHub VI tries to contact this address and generates and error if it does not succeed, unless the *async* parameter is set to TRUE. If *async* is set to TRUE, no error is generated and Yoctopuce modules corresponding to that IP address become automatically available as soon as the said machine can be reached.

If everything went well, the *successful* output contains the value TRUE. In the opposite case, it contains the value FALSE and the *error msg* output contains a string of characters with a description of the error.

You can use several <code>YRegisterHub</code> VIs with distinct URLs if you so wish. However, on the same machine, there can be only one process accessing local Yoctopuce modules directly by USB (*url* set to "usb"). You can easily work around this limitation by running the VirtualHub software on the local machine and using the "127.0.0.1" url.

#### **YFreeAPI**

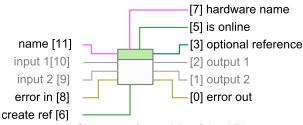
The YFreeAPI VI enables you to free resources allocated by the Yoctopuce API.



You must call the YFreeAPI VI when your code is done with the Yoctopuce API. Otherwise, direct USB access (*url* set to "usb") could stay locked after the execution of your VI, and stay so for as long as LabVIEW is not completely closed.

## Structure of the VIs corresponding to a class

The other VIs correspond to each function/class of the Yoctopuce API, they all have the same structure:



Structure of most VIs of the API.

- Connector [11]: name must contain the hardware name or the logical name of the intended function.
- Connectors [10] and [9]: input parameters depending on the nature of the VI.
- Connectors [8] and [0]: error in and error out.
- Connector [7]: Unique hardware name of the found function.
- Connector [5]: is online contains TRUE if the function is available, FALSE otherwise.
- Connectors [2] and [1]: output values depending on the nature of the VI.
- Connector [6]: If this input is set to TRUE, connector [3] contains a reference to the *Proxy* objects implemented by the VI<sup>6</sup>. This input is initialized to FALSE by default.

<sup>6</sup> see section *Using Proxy objects* 

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www.yoctopuce.com/EN/products/category/extensions-and-networking

<sup>5</sup> http://www.yoctopuce.com/EN/virtualhub.php

• Connector [3]: Reference on the *Proxy* object implemented by the VI if input [6] is TRUE. This object enables you to access additional features.

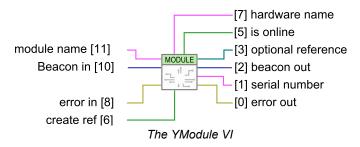
You can find the list of functions available on your Yocto-Relay in chapter *Programming, general concepts*.

If the desired function (parameter *name*) is not available, this does not generate an error, but the *is online* output contains FALSE and all the other outputs contain the value "N/A" whenever possible. If the desired function becomes available later in the life of your program, *is online* switches to TRUE automatically.

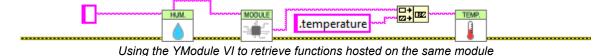
If the *name* parameter contains an empty string, the VI targets the first available function of the same type. If no function is available, *is online* is set to FALSE.

#### The YModule VI

The YModule VI enables you to interface with the "module" section of each Yoctopuce module. It enables you to drive the module led and to know the serial number of the module.

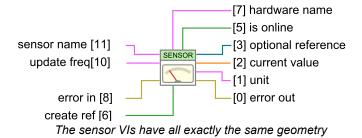


The *name* input works slightly differently from other VIs. If it is called with a *name* parameter corresponding to a function name, the YModule VI finds the *Module* function of the module hosting the function. You can therefore easily find the serial number of the module of any function. This enables you to build the name of other functions which are located on the same module. The following example finds the first available *YHumidity* function and builds the name of the *YTemperature* function located on the same module. The examples provided with the Yoctopuce API make extensive use of this technique.



#### The sensor VIs

All the VIs corresponding to Yoctopuce sensors have exactly the same geometry. Both outputs enable you to retrieve the value measured by the corresponding sensor as well the unit used.

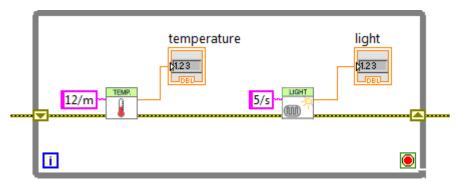


The *update freq* input parameter is a character string enabling you to configure the way in which the output value is updated:

- "auto" : The VI value is updated as soon as the sensor detects a significant modification of the value. It is the default behavior.
- "x/s": The VI value is updated x times per second with the current value of the sensor.

• "x/m","x/h": The VI value is updated x times per minute (resp. hour) with the average value over the latest period. Note, maximum frequencies are (60/m) and (3600/h), for higher frequencies use the (x/s) syntax.

The update frequency of the VI is a parameter managed by the physical Yoctopuce module. If several VIs try to change the frequency of the same sensor, the valid configuration is that of the latest call. It is however possible to set different update frequencies to different sensors on the same Yoctopuce module.



Changing the update frequency of the same module

The update frequency of the VI is completely independent from the sampling frequency of the sensor, which you usually cannot modify. It is useless and counterproductive to define an update frequency higher than the sensor sampling frequency.

# 10.5. Functioning and use of VIs

Here is one of the simplest example of VIs using the Yoctopuce API.

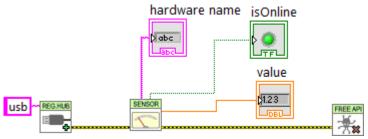


Minimal example of use of the LabVIEW Yoctopuce API

This example is based on the YSensor VI which is a generic VI enabling you to interface any sensor function of a Yoctopuce module. You can replace this VI by any other from the Yoctopuce API, they all have the same geometry and work in the same way. This example is limited to three actions:

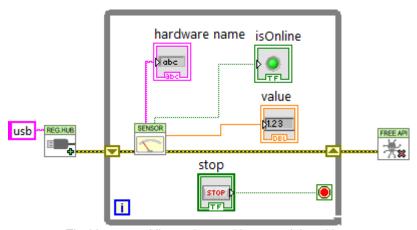
- 1. It initializes the API in native ("usb") mode with the YRegisterHub VI.
- 2. It displays the value of the first Yoctopuce sensor it finds thanks to the YSensor VI.
- 3. It frees the API thanks to the YFreeAPI VI.

This example automatically looks for an available sensor. If there is such a sensor, we can retrieve its name through the *hardware name* output and the *isOnline* output equals TRUE. If there is no available sensor, the VI does not generate an error but emulates a ghost sensor which is "offline". However, if later in the life of the application, a sensor becomes available because it has been connected, *isOnline* switches to TRUE and the *hardware name* contains the name of the sensor. We can therefore easily add a few indicators in the previous example to know how the executions goes.



Use of the hardware name and isOnline outputs

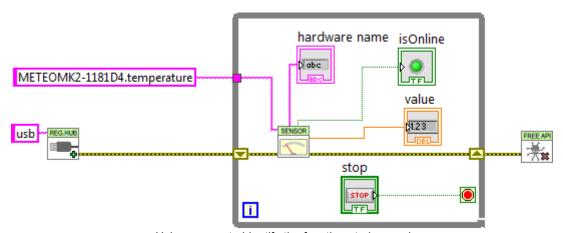
The VIs of the Yoctopuce API are actually an entry door into the library. Internally, this mechanism works independently of the Yoctopuce VIs. Indeed, most communications with electronic modules are managed automatically as background tasks. Therefore, you do not necessarily need to take any specific care to use Yoctopuce VIs, you can for example use them in a non-delayed loop without creating any specific problem for the API.



The Yoctopuce VIs can be used in a non-delayed loop

Note that the YRegisterHub VI is not inside the loop. The YRegisterHub VI is used to initialize the API. Unless you have several URLs that you need to register, it is better to call the YRegisterHub VI only once.

When the *name* parameter is initialized to an empty string, the Yoctopuce VIs automatically look for a function they can work with. This is very handy when you know that there is only one function of the same type available and when you do not want to manage its name. If the *name* parameter contains a hardware name or a logical name, the VI looks for the corresponding function. If it does not find it, it emulates an *offline* function while it waits for the true function to become available.

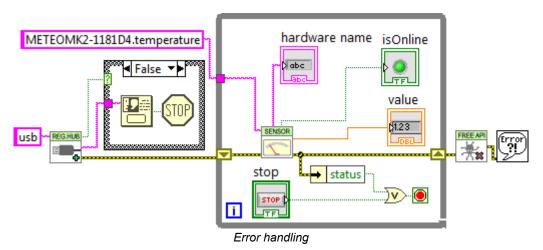


Using names to identify the functions to be used

### **Error handling**

The LabVIEW Yoctopuce API is coded to handle errors as smoothly as possible: for example, if you use a VI to access a function which does not exist, the *isOnline* output is set to FALSE, the other outputs are set to *NaN*, and thus the inputs do not have any impact. Fatal errors are propagated through the traditional *error in*, *error out* channel.

However, the YRegisterHub VI manages connection errors slightly differently. In order to make them easier to manage, connection errors are signaled with *Success* and *error msg* outputs. If there is an issue during a call to the YRegisterHub VI, *Success* contains FALSE and *error msg* contains a description of the error.

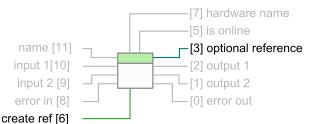


The most common error message is "Another process is already using yAPI". It means that another application, LabVIEW or other, already uses the API in native USB mode. For technical reasons, the native USB API can be used by only one application at the same time on the same machine. You can easily work around this limitation by using the network mode.

# 10.6. Using *Proxy* objects

The Yoctopuce API contains hundreds of methods, functions, and properties. It was not possible, or desirable, to create a VI for each of them. Therefore, there is a VI per class that shows the two properties that Yoctopuce deemed the most useful, but this does not mean that the rest is not available.

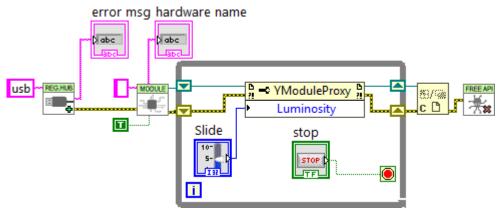
Each VI corresponding to a class has two connectors *create ref* and *optional ref* which enable you to obtain a reference on the *Proxy* object of the .NET Proxy API on which the LabVIEW library is built.



The connectors to obtain a reference on the Proxy object corresponding to the VI

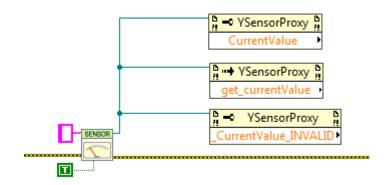
To obtain this reference, you only need to set *optional ref* to TRUE. Note, it is essential to close all references created in this way, otherwise you risk to quickly saturate the computer memory.

Here is an example which uses this technique to change the luminosity of the leds of a Yoctopuce module.



Regulating the luminosity of the leds of a module

Note that each reference allows you to obtain properties (*property* nodes) as well as methods (*invoke* nodes). By convention, properties are optimized to generate a minimum of communication with the modules. Therefore, we recommend to use them rather than the corresponding *get\_xxx* and *set\_xxx* methods which might seem equivalent but which are not optimized. Properties also enable you to retrieve the various constants of the API, prefixed with the "\_" character. For technical reasons, the *get\_xxx* and *set\_xxx* methods are not all available as properties.

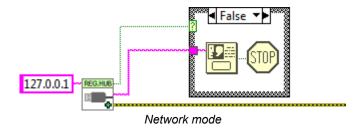


Property and Invoke nodes: Using properties, methods and constants

You can find a description of all the available properties, functions, and methods in the documentation of the .NET Proxy API.

#### **Network mode**

On a given machine, there can be only one process accessing local Yoctopuce modules directly by USB (url set to "usb"). It is however possible that multiple process connect in parallel to YoctoHubs<sup>7</sup> or tp a machine on which *VirtualHub*<sup>8</sup> is running, including the local machine. Therefore, if you use the local address of your machine (127.0.0.1) and if a VirtualHub runs on it, you can work around the limitation which prevents using the native USB API in parallel.



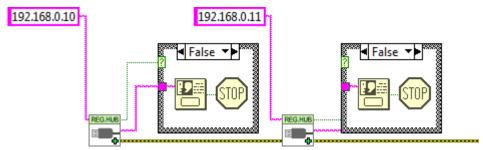
www.yoctopuce.com 65

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 $<sup>\</sup>begin{tabular}{ll} \hline 7 \\ \hline & ttps://www.yoctopuce.com/EN/products/category/extensions-and-networking \\ \hline \\ & \hline$ 

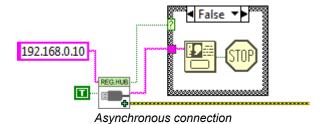
<sup>8</sup> www.yoctopuce.com/EN/virtualhub.php

In the same way, there is no limitation on the number of network interfaces to which the API can connect itself in parallel. This means that it is quite possible to make multiple calls to the YRegisterHub VI. This is the only case where it is useful to call the YRegisterHub VI several times in the life of the application.



You can have multiple network connections

By default, the YRegisterHub VI tries to connect itself on the address given as parameter and generates an error (*success*=FALSE) when it cannot do so because nobody answers. But if the *async* parameter is initialized to TRUE, no error is generated when the connection does not succeed. If the connection becomes possible later in the life of the application, the corresponding modules are automatically made available.

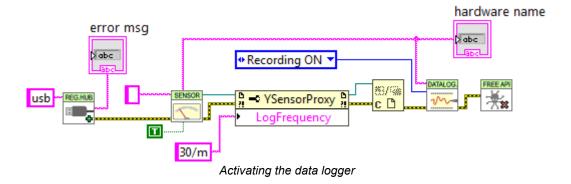


## 10.7. Managing the data logger

Almost all the Yoctopuce sensors have a data logger which enables you to store the measures of the sensors in the non-volatile memory of the module. You can configure the data logger with the VirtualHub, but also with a little bit of LabVIEW code.

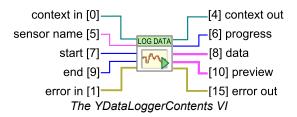
#### Logging

To do so, you must configure the logging frequency by using the "LogFrequency" property which you can reach with a reference on the *Proxy* object of the sensor you are using. Then, you must turn the data logger on thanks to the YDataLogger VI. Note that, like with the YModule VI, you can obtain the YDataLogger VI corresponding to a module with its own name, but also with the name of any of the functions available on the same module.



#### Reading

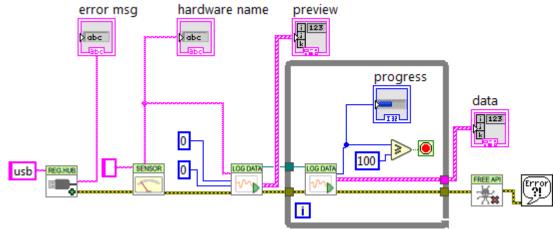
You can retrieve the data in the data logger with the YDataLoggerContents VI.



Retrieving the data from the logger of a Yoctopuce module is a slow process which can take up to several tens of seconds. Therefore, we designed the VI enabling this operation to work iteratively.

As a first step, you must call the VI with a sensor name, a start date, and an end date (UTC UNIX timestamp). The (0,0) pair enables you to obtain the complete content of the data logger. This first call enables you to obtain a summary of the data logger content and a context.

As a second step, you must call the *YDataLoggerContents* VI in a loop with the context parameter, until the *progress* output reaches the 100 value. At this time, the data output represents the content of the data logger.



Retrieving the content of the data logger

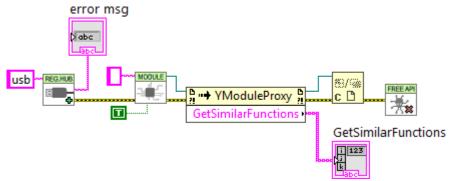
The results and the summary are returned as an array of structures containing the following fields:

- startTime: beginning of the measuring period
- endTime: end of the measuring period
- · average Value: average value for the period
- minValue: minimum value over the period
- maxValue: maximum value over the period

Note that if the logging frequency is superior to 1Hz, the data logger stores only current values. In this case, *averageValue*, *minValue*, and *maxValue* share the same value.

### 10.8. Function list

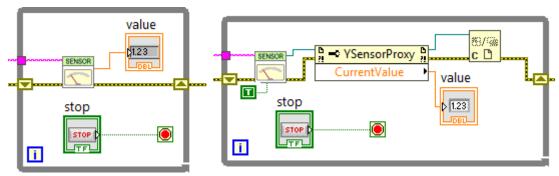
Each VI corresponding to an object of the *Proxy API* enables you to list all the functions of the same class with the *getSimilarfunctions()* method of the corresponding *Proxy* object. Thus, you can easily perform an inventory of all the connected modules, of all the connected sensors, of all the connected relays, and so on.



Retrieving the list of all the modules which are connected

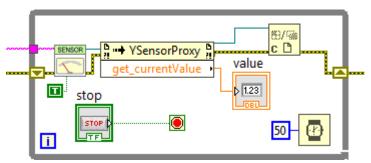
## 10.9. A word on performances

The LabVIEW Yoctopuce API is optimized so that all the VIs and .NET Proxy API object properties generate a minimum of communication with Yoctopuce modules. Thus, you can use them in loops without taking any specific precaution: you do not have to slow down the loops with a timer.



These two loops generate little USB communication and do not need to be slowed down

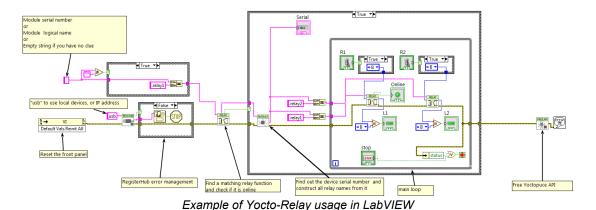
However, almost all the methods of the available Proxy objects initiate a communication with the Yoctopuce modules each time they are called. You should therefore avoid calling them too often without purpose.



This loop, using a method, must be slowed down

## 10.10. A full example of a LabVIEW program

Here is a short example of how to use the Yocto-Relay in LabVIEW. After a call to the *RegisterHub* VI, the *YRelay* VI finds the first relay available, then use the *YModule* VI to find out the device serial number. This number is used to build the name of all relays present on the device. Theses names are used to initialize one VI per relay. This technique avoids ambiguities when several Yocto-Relay are connected at the same time. Once every VI is initialized, the relay state can be displayed and a switch allow the toggle the relay. When the application is about to exit, it frees the Yoctopuce API, thanks to the *YFreeAPI* VI.



If you read this documentation on screen, you can zoom on the image above. You can also find this example in the LabVIEW Yoctopuce library.

## 10.11. Differences from other Yoctopuce APIs

Yoctopuce does everything it can to maintain a strong coherence between its different programming libraries. However, LabVIEW being clearly apart as an environment, there are, as a consequence, important differences from the other libraries.

These differences were introduced to make the use of modules as easy as possible and requiring a minimum of LabVIEW code.

#### **YFreeAPI**

In the opposite to other languages, you must absolutely free the native API by calling the YFreeAPI VI when your code does not need to use the API anymore. If you forget this call, the native API risks to stay locked for the other applications until LabVIEW is completely closed.

#### **Properties**

In the opposite to classes of the other APIs, classes available in LabVIEW implement *properties*. By convention, these properties are optimized to generate a minimum of communication with the modules while automatically refreshing. By contrast, methods of type  $get\_xxx$  and  $set\_xxx$  systematically generate communications with the Yoctopuce modules and must be called sparingly.

### Callback vs. Properties

There is no callback in the LabVIEW Yoctopuce API, the VIs automatically refresh: they are based on the properties of the .NET Proxy API objects.

# 11. Using the Yocto-Relay with Java

Java is an object oriented language created by Sun Microsystem. Beside being free, its main strength is its portability. Unfortunately, this portability has an excruciating price. In Java, hardware abstraction is so high that it is almost impossible to work directly with the hardware. Therefore, the Yoctopuce API does not support native mode in regular Java. The Java API needs a Virtual Hub to communicate with Yoctopuce devices.

## 11.1. Getting ready

Go to the Yoctopuce web site and download the following items:

- The Java programming library<sup>1</sup>
- The VirtualHub software<sup>2</sup> for Windows, Mac OS X or Linux, depending on your OS

The library is available as source files as well as a *jar* file. Decompress the library files in a folder of your choice, connect your modules, run the VirtualHub software, and you are ready to start your first tests. You do not need to install any driver.

In order to keep them simple, all the examples provided in this documentation are console applications. Naturally, the libraries function in a strictly identical manner if you integrate them in an application with a graphical interface.

## 11.2. Control of the Relay function

A few lines of code are enough to use a Yocto-Relay. Here is the skeleton of a Java code snippet to use the Relay function.

```
[...]

// Get access to your device, through the VirtualHub running locally
YAPI.RegisterHub("127.0.0.1");
[...]

// Retrieve the object used to interact with the device
relay = YRelay.FindRelay("RELAYLO1-123456.relay1");

// Hot-plug is easy: just check that the device is online
if (relay.isOnline())
{
```

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> www.yoctopuce.com/EN/libraries.php
<sup>2</sup> www.yoctopuce.com/EN/virtualhub.php

```
// Use relay.set_state()
[...]
}
```

Let us look at these lines in more details.

### YAPI.RegisterHub

The yAPI.RegisterHub function initializes the Yoctopuce API and indicates where the modules should be looked for. The parameter is the address of the Virtual Hub able to see the devices. If the initialization does not succeed, an exception is thrown.

### YRelay.FindRelay

The YRelay.FindRelay function allows you to find a relay from the serial number of the module on which it resides and from its function name. You can use logical names as well, as long as you have initialized them. Let us imagine a Yocto-Relay module with serial number *RELAYLO1-123456* which you have named "*MyModule*", and for which you have given the *relay1* function the name "*MyFunction*". The following five calls are strictly equivalent, as long as "*MyFunction*" is defined only once.

```
relay = YRelay.FindRelay("RELAYLO1-123456.relay1")
relay = YRelay.FindRelay("RELAYLO1-123456.MyFunction")
relay = YRelay.FindRelay("MyModule.relay1")
relay = YRelay.FindRelay("MyModule.MyFunction")
relay = YRelay.FindRelay("MyFunction")
```

YRelay. FindRelay returns an object which you can then use at will to control the relay.

### isOnline

The isOnline() method of the object returned by YRelay. FindRelay allows you to know if the corresponding module is present and in working order.

#### set\_state

The  $set\_state()$  method of the objet returned by YRelay.FindRelay switches the relay position to one of its two outputs. The two possible parameter values are  $YRelay.STATE\_A$  for output A, and  $YRelay.STATE\_B$  for output B.

### A real example

Launch you Java environment and open the corresponding sample project provided in the directory **Examples/Doc-GettingStarted-Yocto-Relay** of the Yoctopuce library.

In this example, you will recognize the functions explained above, but this time used with all the side materials needed to make it work nicely as a small demo.

```
relay = YRelay.FirstRelay();
    if (relay == null) {
        System.out.println("No module connected (check USB cable)");
        System.exit(1);
    }
}

try {
    System.out.println("Switch relay to B");
    relay.set_state(YRelay.STATE_B);
    YAPI.Sleep(1000);
    System.out.println("Switch relay to A");
    relay.set_state(YRelay.STATE_A);
} catch (YAPI_Exception ex) {
    System.out.println("Module "+relay.describe()+" not connected (check identification and USB cable)");
}

YAPI.FreeAPI();
}
```

## 11.3. Control of the module part

Each module can be controlled in a similar manner, you can find below a simple sample program displaying the main parameters of the module and enabling you to activate the localization beacon.

```
import com.yoctopuce.YoctoAPI.*;
import java.util.logging.Level;
import java.util.logging.Logger;
public class Demo {
   public static void main(String[] args)
            ^{\cdot} // setup the API to use local VirtualHub
           YAPI.RegisterHub("127.0.0.1");
        } catch (YAPI Exception ex) {
           System.out.println("Cannot contact VirtualHub on 127.0.0.1 (" +
ex.getLocalizedMessage() + ")");
            System.out.println("Ensure that the VirtualHub application is running");
            System.exit(1);
        System.out.println("usage: demo [serial or logical name] [ON/OFF]");
        YModule module;
        if (args.length == 0) {
            module = YModule.FirstModule();
            if (module == null)
                System.out.println("No module connected (check USB cable)");
               System.exit(1);
        } else {
           module = YModule.FindModule(args[0]); // use serial or logical name
            if (args.length > 1) {
                if (args[1].equalsIgnoreCase("ON"))
                    module.setBeacon(YModule.BEACON_ON);
                } else {
                    module.setBeacon(YModule.BEACON OFF);
                                              " + module.get_serialNumber());
            System.out.println("serial:
            System.out.println("logical name: " + module.get_logicalName());
            System.out.println("luminosity: " + module.get_luminosity());
            if (module.get beacon() == YModule.BEACON ON) {
                System.out.println("beacon:
                                                  ON");
            } else {
                System.out.println("beacon:
                                                  OFF");
```

Each property xxx of the module can be read thanks to a method of type  $YModule.get_xxxx()$ , and properties which are not read-only can be modified with the help of the  $YModule.set_xxx()$  method. For more details regarding the used functions, refer to the API chapters.

### Changing the module settings

When you want to modify the settings of a module, you only need to call the corresponding  $YModule.set\_xxx()$  function. However, this modification is performed only in the random access memory (RAM) of the module: if the module is restarted, the modifications are lost. To memorize them persistently, it is necessary to ask the module to save its current configuration in its permanent memory. To do so, use the YModule.saveToFlash() method. Inversely, it is possible to force the module to forget its current settings by using the YModule.revertFromFlash() method. The short example below allows you to modify the logical name of a module.

```
import com.yoctopuce.YoctoAPI.*;
public class Demo {
    public static void main(String[] args)
             // setup the API to use local VirtualHub
            YAPI.RegisterHub("127.0.0.1");
        } catch (YAPI Exception ex) {
            System.out.println("Cannot contact VirtualHub on 127.0.0.1 (" +
ex.getLocalizedMessage() + ")");
            System.out.println("Ensure that the VirtualHub application is running");
            System.exit(1);
        if (args.length != 2) {
            System.out.println("usage: demo <serial or logical name> <new logical name>");
            System.exit(1);
        YModule m;
        String newname;
        m = YModule.FindModule(args[0]); // use serial or logical name
        try {
            newname = args[1];
            if (!YAPI.CheckLogicalName(newname))
                    System.out.println("Invalid name (" + newname + ")");
                    System.exit(1);
            m.set logicalName(newname);
            m.saveToFlash(); // do not forget this
            System.out.println("Module: serial= " + m.get serialNumber());
            System.out.println(" / name= " + m.get logicalName());
        } catch (YAPI Exception ex) {
            System.out.println("Module " + args[0] + "not connected (check identification
and USB cable)");
            System.out.println(ex.getMessage());
            System.exit(1);
        YAPI.FreeAPI();
```

}

Warning: the number of write cycles of the nonvolatile memory of the module is limited. When this limit is reached, nothing guaranties that the saving process is performed correctly. This limit, linked to the technology employed by the module micro-processor, is located at about 100000 cycles. In short, you can use the YModule.saveToFlash() function only 100000 times in the life of the module. Make sure you do not call this function within a loop.

### Listing the modules

Obtaining the list of the connected modules is performed with the YModule.yFirstModule() function which returns the first module found. Then, you only need to call the nextModule() function of this object to find the following modules, and this as long as the returned value is not null. Below a short example listing the connected modules.

```
import com.yoctopuce.YoctoAPI.*;
public class Demo {
    public static void main(String[] args)
        t.rv {
             .
// setup the API to use local VirtualHub
            YAPI.RegisterHub("127.0.0.1");
        } catch (YAPI_Exception ex) {
           System.out.println("Cannot contact VirtualHub on 127.0.0.1 (" +
ex.getLocalizedMessage() + ")");
            System.out.println("Ensure that the VirtualHub application is running");
            System.exit(1);
        System.out.println("Device list");
        YModule module = YModule.FirstModule();
        while (module != null) {
            try {
                System.out.println(module.get_serialNumber() + " (" +
module.get_productName() + ")");
            } catch (YAPI Exception ex) {
                break:
            module = module.nextModule();
        YAPI.FreeAPI();
```

## 11.4. Error handling

When you implement a program which must interact with USB modules, you cannot disregard error handling. Inevitably, there will be a time when a user will have unplugged the device, either before running the software, or even while the software is running. The Yoctopuce library is designed to help you support this kind of behavior, but your code must nevertheless be conceived to interpret in the best possible way the errors indicated by the library.

The simplest way to work around the problem is the one used in the short examples provided in this chapter: before accessing a module, check that it is online with the <code>isOnline</code> function, and then hope that it will stay so during the fraction of a second necessary for the following code lines to run. This method is not perfect, but it can be sufficient in some cases. You must however be aware that you cannot completely exclude an error which would occur after the call to <code>isOnline</code> and which could crash the software.

In the Java API, error handling is implemented with exceptions. Therefore you must catch and handle correctly all exceptions that might be thrown by the API if you do not want your software to crash as soon as you unplug a device.

# 12. Using the Yocto-Relay with Android

To tell the truth, Android is not a programming language, it is an operating system developed by Google for mobile appliances such as smart phones and tablets. But it so happens that under Android everything is programmed with the same programming language: Java. Nevertheless, the programming paradigms and the possibilities to access the hardware are slightly different from classical Java, and this justifies a separate chapter on Android programming.

### 12.1. Native access and VirtualHub

In the opposite to the classical Java API, the Java for Android API can access USB modules natively. However, as there is no VirtualHub running under Android, it is not possible to remotely control Yoctopuce modules connected to a machine under Android. Naturally, the Java for Android API remains perfectly able to connect itself to a VirtualHub running on another OS.

## 12.2. Getting ready

Go to the Yoctopuce web site and download the Java for Android programming library<sup>1</sup>. The library is available as source files, and also as a jar file. Connect your modules, decompress the library files in the directory of your choice, and configure your Android programming environment so that it can find them

To keep them simple, all the examples provided in this documentation are snippets of Android applications. You must integrate them in your own Android applications to make them work. However, your can find complete applications in the examples provided with the Java for Android library.

## 12.3. Compatibility

In an ideal world, you would only need to have a smart phone running under Android to be able to make Yoctopuce modules work. Unfortunately, it is not quite so in the real world. A machine running under Android must fulfil to a few requirements to be able to manage Yoctopuce USB modules natively.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> www.yoctopuce.com/EN/libraries.php

#### Android 4.x

Android 4.0 (api 14) and following are officially supported. Theoretically, support of USB *host* functions since Android 3.1. But be aware that the Yoctopuce Java for Android API is regularly tested only from Android 4 onwards.

### **USB** *host* support

Naturally, not only must your machine have a USB port, this port must also be able to run in *host* mode. In *host* mode, the machine literally takes control of the devices which are connected to it. The USB ports of a desktop computer, for example, work in *host* mode. The opposite of the *host* mode is the *device* mode. USB keys, for instance, work in *device* mode: they must be controlled by a *host*. Some USB ports are able to work in both modes, they are *OTG* (*On The Go*) ports. It so happens that many mobile devices can only work in *device* mode: they are designed to be connected to a charger or a desktop computer, and nothing else. It is therefore highly recommended to pay careful attention to the technical specifications of a product working under Android before hoping to make Yoctopuce modules work with it.

Unfortunately, having a correct version of Android and USB ports working in *host* mode is not enough to guaranty that Yoctopuce modules will work well under Android. Indeed, some manufacturers configure their Android image so that devices other than keyboard and mass storage are ignored, and this configuration is hard to detect. As things currently stand, the best way to know if a given Android machine works with Yoctopuce modules consists in trying.

### Supported hardware

The library is tested and validated on the following machines:

- Samsung Galaxy S3
- Samsung Galaxy Note 2
- Google Nexus 5
- · Google Nexus 7
- Acer Iconia Tab A200
- Asus Tranformer Pad TF300T
- Kurio 7

If your Android machine is not able to control Yoctopuce modules natively, you still have the possibility to remotely control modules driven by a VirtualHub on another OS, or a YoctoHub <sup>2</sup>.

## 12.4. Activating the USB port under Android

By default, Android does not allow an application to access the devices connected to the USB port. To enable your application to interact with a Yoctopuce module directly connected on your tablet on a USB port, a few additional steps are required. If you intend to interact only with modules connected on another machine through the network, you can ignore this section.

In your AndroidManifest.xml, you must declare using the "USB Host" functionality by adding the <uses-feature android:name="android.hardware.usb.host" /> tag in the manifest section.

```
<manifest ...>
    ...
    <uses-feature android:name="android.hardware.usb.host" />;
    ...
</manifest>
```

When first accessing a Yoctopuce module, Android opens a window to inform the user that the application is going to access the connected module. The user can deny or authorize access to the device. If the user authorizes the access, the application can access the connected device as long as

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Yoctohubs are a plug and play way to add network connectivity to your Yoctopuce devices. more info on http://www.yoctopuce.com/EN/products/category/extensions-and-networking

it stays connected. To enable the Yoctopuce library to correctly manage these authorizations, your must provide a pointer on the application context by calling the EnableUSBHost method of the YAPI class before the first USB access. This function takes as arguments an object of the android.content.Context class (or of a subclass). As the Activity class is a subclass of Context, it is simpler to call YAPI.EnableUSBHost(this); in the method onCreate of your application. If the object passed as parameter is not of the correct type, a YAPI\_Exception exception is generated.

#### **Autorun**

It is possible to register your application as a default application for a USB module. In this case, as soon as a module is connected to the system, the application is automatically launched. You must add <action android:name="android.hardware.usb.action.USB\_DEVICE\_ATTACHED"/> in the section <internt-filter> of the main activity. The section <activity> must have a pointer to an XML file containing the list of USB modules which can run the application.

The XML file containing the list of modules allowed to run the application must be saved in the res/xml directory. This file contains a list of USB *vendorld* and *deviceID* in decimal. The following example runs the application as soon as a Yocto-Relay or a Yocto-PowerRelay is connected. You can find the vendorID and the deviceID of Yoctopuce modules in the characteristics section of the documentation.

## 12.5. Control of the Relay function

A few lines of code are enough to use a Yocto-Relay. Here is the skeleton of a Java code snippet to use the Relay function.

```
[...]

// Enable detection of USB devices
YAPI.EnableUSBHost(this);
YAPI.RegisterHub("usb");
[...]

// Retrieve the object used to interact with the device
relay = YRelay.FindRelay("RELAYLO1-123456.relay1");

// Hot-plug is easy: just check that the device is online
if (relay.isOnline()) {
    // Use relay.set_state()
    [...]
}

[...]
```

Let us look at these lines in more details.

#### YAPI.EnableUSBHost

The YAPI.EnableUSBHost function initializes the API with the Context of the current application. This function takes as argument an object of the android.content.Context class (or of a subclass). If you intend to connect your application only to other machines through the network, this function is facultative.

### YAPI.RegisterHub

The yAPI.RegisterHub function initializes the Yoctopuce API and indicates where the modules should be looked for. The parameter is the address of the virtual hub able to see the devices. If the string "usb" is passed as parameter, the API works with modules locally connected to the machine. If the initialization does not succeed, an exception is thrown.

#### YRelay.FindRelay

The YRelay.FindRelay function allows you to find a relay from the serial number of the module on which it resides and from its function name. You can use logical names as well, as long as you have initialized them. Let us imagine a Yocto-Relay module with serial number *RELAYLO1-123456* which you have named "*MyModule*", and for which you have given the *relay1* function the name "*MyFunction*". The following five calls are strictly equivalent, as long as "*MyFunction*" is defined only once.

```
relay = YRelay.FindRelay("RELAYLO1-123456.relay1")
relay = YRelay.FindRelay("RELAYLO1-123456.MyFunction")
relay = YRelay.FindRelay("MyModule.relay1")
relay = YRelay.FindRelay("MyModule.MyFunction")
relay = YRelay.FindRelay("MyFunction")
```

YRelay. FindRelay returns an object which you can then use at will to control the relay.

#### isOnline

The isOnline() method of the object returned by YRelay. FindRelay allows you to know if the corresponding module is present and in working order.

#### set state

The set\_state() method of the objet returned by YRelay.FindRelay switches the relay position to one of its two outputs. The two possible parameter values are YRelay.STATE\_A for output A, and YRelay.STATE B for output B.

#### A real example

Launch you Java environment and open the corresponding sample project provided in the directory **Examples//Doc-Examples** of the Yoctopuce library.

In this example, you can recognize the functions explained above, but this time used with all the side materials needed to make it work nicely as a small demo.

```
package com.yoctopuce.doc examples;
import android.app.Activity;
import android.os.Bundle;
import android.view.View;
import android.widget.AdapterView;
import android.widget.AdapterView.OnItemSelectedListener;
import android.widget.ArrayAdapter;
import android.widget.Spinner;
import com.yoctopuce.YoctoAPI.YAPI;
import com.yoctopuce.YoctoAPI.YAPI_Exception;
import com.yoctopuce.YoctoAPI.YRelay;
public class GettingStarted Yocto Relay extends Activity implements OnItemSelectedListener
    private YRelay relay = null;
    private ArrayAdapter<String> aa;
    public void onCreate(Bundle savedInstanceState)
        super.onCreate(savedInstanceState);
        setContentView(R.layout.gettingstarted yocto relay);
        Spinner my_spin = (Spinner) findViewById(R.id.spinner1);
        my_spin.setOnItemSelectedListener(this);
        aa = new ArrayAdapter<String>(this, android.R.layout.simple_spinner_item);
        aa.setDropDownViewResource(android.R.layout.simple_spinner_dropdown_item);
        my spin.setAdapter(aa);
    @Override
    protected void onStart()
        super.onStart();
            aa.clear();
            YAPI.EnableUSBHost(this);
            YAPI.RegisterHub("usb");
            YRelay r = YRelay.FirstRelay();
            while (r != null) {
                String hwid = r.get hardwareId();
                aa.add(hwid);
                r = r.nextRelay();
        } catch (YAPI Exception e) {
            e.printStackTrace();
        // refresh Spinner with detected relay
        aa.notifyDataSetChanged();
    @Override
    protected void onStop()
        super.onStop();
        YAPI.FreeAPI();
    @Override
    public void onItemSelected(AdapterView<?> parent, View view, int pos, long id)
        String hwid = parent.getItemAtPosition(pos).toString();
        relay = YRelay.FindRelay(hwid);
    @Override
    public void onNothingSelected(AdapterView<?> arg0)
    /** Called when the user touches the button State A */
```

```
public void setStateA(View view)
{
    // Do something in response to button click
    if (relay != null)
        try {
            relay.setState(YRelay.STATE_A);
        } catch (YAPI_Exception e) {
                e.printStackTrace();
        }
}

/** Called when the user touches the button State B */
public void setStateB(View view)
{
    // Do something in response to button click
    if (relay != null)
        try {
            relay.setState(YRelay.STATE_B);
        } catch (YAPI_Exception e) {
                e.printStackTrace();
        }
}
```

## 12.6. Control of the module part

Each module can be controlled in a similar manner, you can find below a simple sample program displaying the main parameters of the module and enabling you to activate the localization beacon.

```
package com.yoctopuce.doc examples;
import android.app.Activity;
import android.os.Bundle;
import android.view.View;
import android.widget.AdapterView;
import android.widget.AdapterView.OnItemSelectedListener;
import android.widget.ArrayAdapter;
import android.widget.Spinner;
import android.widget.Switch;
import android.widget.TextView;
import com.yoctopuce.YoctoAPI.YAPI;
import com.yoctopuce.YoctoAPI.YAPI Exception;
import com.yoctopuce.YoctoAPI.YModule;
public class ModuleControl extends Activity implements OnItemSelectedListener
    private ArrayAdapter<String> aa;
    private YModule module = null;
    @Override
    public void onCreate(Bundle savedInstanceState)
        super.onCreate(savedInstanceState);
        setContentView(R.layout.modulecontrol);
        Spinner my_spin = (Spinner) findViewById(R.id.spinner1);
        my spin.setOnItemSelectedListener(this);
        aa = new ArrayAdapter<String>(this, android.R.layout.simple spinner item);
        aa.setDropDownViewResource(android.R.layout.simple spinner dropdown item);
        my_spin.setAdapter(aa);
    @Override
    protected void onStart()
        super.onStart();
        try {
            aa.clear();
            YAPI.EnableUSBHost(this);
            YAPI.RegisterHub("usb");
```

```
YModule r = YModule.FirstModule();
        while (r != null) {
            String hwid = r.get hardwareId();
            aa.add(hwid);
            r = r.nextModule();
    } catch (YAPI_Exception e) {
        e.printStackTrace();
    // refresh Spinner with detected relay
    aa.notifyDataSetChanged();
@Override
protected void onStop()
    super.onStop();
    YAPI.FreeAPI();
private void DisplayModuleInfo()
    TextView field;
    if (module == null)
        return;
    try {
        field = (TextView) findViewById(R.id.serialfield);
        field.setText(module.getSerialNumber());
        field = (TextView) findViewById(R.id.logicalnamefield);
        field.setText(module.getLogicalName());
        field = (TextView) findViewById(R.id.luminosityfield);
field.setText(String.format("%d%%", module.getLuminosity()));
        field = (TextView) findViewById(R.id.uptimefield);
        field.setText(module.getUpTime() / 1000 + " sec");
        field = (TextView) findViewById(R.id.usbcurrentfield);
        field.setText(module.getUsbCurrent() + " mA");
        Switch sw = (Switch) findViewById(R.id.beaconswitch);
        sw.setChecked(module.getBeacon() == YModule.BEACON ON);
        field = (TextView) findViewById(R.id.logs);
        field.setText(module.get lastLogs());
    } catch (YAPI Exception e) {
        e.printStackTrace();
@Override
public void onItemSelected(AdapterView<?> parent, View view, int pos, long id)
    String hwid = parent.getItemAtPosition(pos).toString();
    module = YModule.FindModule(hwid);
    DisplayModuleInfo();
@Override
public void onNothingSelected(AdapterView<?> arg0)
public void refreshInfo(View view)
    DisplayModuleInfo();
public void toggleBeacon(View view)
    if (module == null)
        return;
    boolean on = ((Switch) view).isChecked();
    try {
        if (on) {
            module.setBeacon(YModule.BEACON ON);
        } else {
            module.setBeacon(YModule.BEACON OFF);
    } catch (YAPI Exception e) {
        e.printStackTrace();
```

```
}
```

Each property xxx of the module can be read thanks to a method of type  $YModule.get_xxxx()$ , and properties which are not read-only can be modified with the help of the  $YModule.set_xxx()$  method. For more details regarding the used functions, refer to the API chapters.

### Changing the module settings

When you want to modify the settings of a module, you only need to call the corresponding  $YModule.set\_xxx()$  function. However, this modification is performed only in the random access memory (RAM) of the module: if the module is restarted, the modifications are lost. To memorize them persistently, it is necessary to ask the module to save its current configuration in its permanent memory. To do so, use the YModule.saveToFlash() method. Inversely, it is possible to force the module to forget its current settings by using the YModule.revertFromFlash() method. The short example below allows you to modify the logical name of a module.

```
package com.yoctopuce.doc_examples;
import android.app.Activity;
import android.os.Bundle;
import android.view.View;
import android.widget.AdapterView;
import android.widget.AdapterView.OnItemSelectedListener;
import android.widget.ArrayAdapter;
import android.widget.EditText;
import android.widget.Spinner;
import android.widget.TextView;
import android.widget.Toast;
import com.yoctopuce.YoctoAPI.YAPI;
import com.yoctopuce.YoctoAPI.YAPI_Exception;
import com.yoctopuce.YoctoAPI.YModule;
public class SaveSettings extends Activity implements OnItemSelectedListener
    private ArrayAdapter<String> aa;
    private YModule module = null;
    @Override
    public void onCreate(Bundle savedInstanceState)
        super.onCreate(savedInstanceState);
        setContentView(R.layout.savesettings);
        Spinner my spin = (Spinner) findViewById(R.id.spinner1);
        my spin.setOnItemSelectedListener(this);
        aa = new ArrayAdapter<String>(this, android.R.layout.simple_spinner_item);
        aa.setDropDownViewResource(android.R.layout.simple_spinner_dropdown_item);
        my spin.setAdapter(aa);
    @Override
    protected void onStart()
        super.onStart();
            aa.clear();
            YAPI.EnableUSBHost(this);
            YAPI.RegisterHub("usb");
            YModule r = YModule.FirstModule();
            while (r != null) {
                String hwid = r.get_hardwareId();
                aa.add(hwid);
                r = r.nextModule();
        } catch (YAPI Exception e) {
            e.printStackTrace();
        // refresh Spinner with detected relay
        aa.notifyDataSetChanged();
```

```
@Override
    protected void onStop()
        super.onStop();
        YAPI.FreeAPI();
   private void DisplayModuleInfo()
        TextView field:
        if (module == null)
            return:
            YAPI.UpdateDeviceList();// fixme
            field = (TextView) findViewById(R.id.logicalnamefield);
            field.setText(module.getLogicalName());
        } catch (YAPI Exception e) {
           e.printStackTrace();
    @Override
    public void onItemSelected(AdapterView<?> parent, View view, int pos, long id)
        String hwid = parent.getItemAtPosition(pos).toString();
       module = YModule.FindModule(hwid);
        DisplayModuleInfo();
    @Override
   public void onNothingSelected(AdapterView<?> arg0)
    public void saveName (View view)
        if (module == null)
           return;
       EditText edit = (EditText) findViewById(R.id.newname);
        String newname = edit.getText().toString();
            if (!YAPI.CheckLogicalName(newname)) {
                Toast.makeText(getApplicationContext(), "Invalid name (" + newname + ")",
Toast.LENGTH LONG).show();
               return;
           module.set logicalName(newname);
           module.saveToFlash(); // do not forget this
           edit.setText("");
        } catch (YAPI Exception ex) {
           ex.printStackTrace();
        DisplayModuleInfo();
```

Warning: the number of write cycles of the nonvolatile memory of the module is limited. When this limit is reached, nothing guaranties that the saving process is performed correctly. This limit, linked to the technology employed by the module micro-processor, is located at about 100000 cycles. In short, you can use the YModule.saveToFlash() function only 100000 times in the life of the module. Make sure you do not call this function within a loop.

#### Listing the modules

Obtaining the list of the connected modules is performed with the YModule.yFirstModule() function which returns the first module found. Then, you only need to call the nextModule() function of this object to find the following modules, and this as long as the returned value is not null. Below a short example listing the connected modules.

```
package com.yoctopuce.doc_examples;
```

```
import android.app.Activity;
import android.os.Bundle;
import android.util.TypedValue;
import android.view.View;
import android.widget.LinearLayout;
import android.widget.TextView;
import com.yoctopuce.YoctoAPI.YAPI;
import com.yoctopuce.YoctoAPI.YAPI Exception;
import com.yoctopuce.YoctoAPI.YModule;
public class Inventory extends Activity
    @Override
    public void onCreate(Bundle savedInstanceState)
        super.onCreate(savedInstanceState);
        setContentView(R.layout.inventory);
    public void refreshInventory(View view)
        LinearLayout layout = (LinearLayout) findViewById(R.id.inventoryList);
        layout.removeAllViews();
            YAPI.UpdateDeviceList();
            YModule module = YModule.FirstModule();
            while (module != null) {
                String line = module.get_serialNumber() + " (" + module.get productName() +
") ";
                TextView tx = new TextView(this);
                tx.setText(line);
                tx.setTextSize(TypedValue.COMPLEX UNIT SP, 20);
                layout.addView(tx);
                module = module.nextModule();
        } catch (YAPI Exception e) {
            e.printStackTrace();
    @Override
    protected void onStart()
        super.onStart();
            YAPI.EnableUSBHost(this);
           YAPI.RegisterHub("usb");
        } catch (YAPI Exception e) {
           e.printStackTrace();
        refreshInventory(null);
    @Override
    protected void onStop()
        super.onStop();
        YAPI.FreeAPI();
```

## 12.7. Error handling

When you implement a program which must interact with USB modules, you cannot disregard error handling. Inevitably, there will be a time when a user will have unplugged the device, either before running the software, or even while the software is running. The Yoctopuce library is designed to help you support this kind of behavior, but your code must nevertheless be conceived to interpret in the best possible way the errors indicated by the library.

The simplest way to work around the problem is the one used in the short examples provided in this chapter: before accessing a module, check that it is online with the <code>isOnline</code> function, and then hope that it will stay so during the fraction of a second necessary for the following code lines to run. This method is not perfect, but it can be sufficient in some cases. You must however be aware that you cannot completely exclude an error which would occur after the call to <code>isOnline</code> and which could crash the software.

In the Java API for Android, error handling is implemented with exceptions. Therefore you must catch and handle correctly all exceptions that might be thrown by the API if you do not want your software to crash soon as you unplug a device.

# 13. Using Yocto-Relay with TypeScript

TypeScript is an enhanced version of the JavaScript programming language. It is a syntaxic superset with strong typing, therefore increasing the code reliability, but transpiled - aka compiled - into JavaScript for execution in any standard Web browser or Node.js environment.

This Yoctopuce library therefore makes it possible to implement JavaScript applications using strong typing. Similarly to our EcmaScript library, it uses the new asynchronous features introduced in ECMAScript 2017, which are now available in all modern JavaScript environments. Note however that at the time of writting, Web browsers and Node.JS cannot use TypeScript code directly, so you must first compile your TypeScript into JavaScript before running it.

The library works both in a Web browser and in Node.js. In order to allow for a static resolution of dependencies, and to avoid ambiguities that can arise when using hybrid environments such as Electron, the choice of the runtime environment must be done explicitly upon import of the library, by referencing in the project either yocto api nodejs.js or yocto api html.js.

The library can be integrated in your projects in multiple ways, depending on what best fits your requirements:

- by directly copying the TypeScript library source files into your project, and by adding them to your build script. Only a few files are usually needed to handle most use-cases. You will find TypeScript source files in the src subdirectory of our library.
- by using CommonJS module resolution, natively supported by TypeScript, with a package manager such as npm. You will find a version of the library transpiled according to CommonJS module standard in the dist/cjs subdirectory, including all type definition files (with extension .d.ts) and source maps (with extension .js.map) enabling source-level error reporting and debugging. We have also published these files on npmjs under the name yoctolib-cjs.
- by using ECMAScript standard module resolution, also supported by TypeScript, usually referenced by relative path. You will find a version of the library transpiled as an ECMAScript 2015 module in the dist/esm subdirectory, including all type definition files (with extension .d.ts) and source maps (with extension .js.map) enabling source-level error reporting and debugging. We have also published these files on npmjs under the name yoctolib-esm.

## 13.1. Using the Yoctopuce library for TypeScript

- 1. Start by installing TypeScript on your machine if this is not yet done. In order to do so:
  - Install on your development machine the official version of Node.js (typically version 10 or more recent). You can download it for free from the official web site: http://nodejs.org. Make sure to install it fully, including npm, and add it to the system path.
  - Then install TypeScript on your machine using the command line:

```
npm install -g typescript
```

- 2. Go to the Yoctopuce web site and download the following items:
  - The TypeScript programming library<sup>1</sup>
  - The VirtualHub software<sup>2</sup> for Windows, Mac OS X, or Linux, depending on your OS. TypeScript and JavaScript are part of those languages which do not generally allow you to directly access to USB peripherals. Therefore the library can only be used to access networkenabled devices (connected through a YoctoHub), or USB devices accessible through Yoctopuce TCP/IP to USB gateway, named *VirtualHub*. No extra driver will be needed, though.
- 3. Extract the library files in a folder of your choice, and open a command window in the directory where you have installed it. In order to install the few dependencies which are necessary to start the examples, run this command:

```
npm install
```

When the command has run without error, you are ready to explore the examples. They are available in two different trees, depending on the environment that you need to use: <code>example\_html</code> for running the Yoctopuce library within a Web browser, or <code>example\_nodejs</code> if you plan to use the library in a Node.js environment.

The method to use for launching the examples depends on the environment. You will find more about it below.

## 13.2. Refresher on asynchronous I/O in JavaScript

JavaScript is single-threaded by design. In order to handle time-consuming I/O operations, JavaScript relies on asynchronous operations: the I/O call is only triggered but then the code execution flow is suspended. The JavaScript engine is therefore free to handle other pending tasks, such as user interface. Whenever the pending I/O call is completed, the system invokes a callback function with the result of the I/O call to resume execution of the original execution flow.

When used with plain callback functions, as pervasive in Node.js libraries, asynchronous I/O tend to produce code with poor readability, as the execution flow is broken into many disconnected callback functions. Fortunately, the ECMAScript 2015 standard came in with *Promise* objects and a new async/await syntax to abstract calls to asynchronous calls:

- a function declared async automatically encapsulates its result as a Promise
- within an *async* function, any function call prefixed with by *await* chains the Promise returned by the function with a promise to resume execution of the caller
- any exception during the execution of an *async* function automatically invokes the Promise failure continuation

To make a long story short, async and await make it possible to write TypeScript code with all the benefits of asynchronous I/O, but without breaking the code flow. It is almost like multi-threaded

www.yoctopuce.com/EN/libraries.php

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> www.yoctopuce.com/EN/virtualhub.php

execution, except that control switch between pending tasks only happens at places where the *await* keyword appears.

This TypeScript library uses the *Promise* objects and *async* methods, to allow you to use the *await* syntax. To keep it easy to remember, all public methods of the TypeScript library are *async*, i.e. return a Promise object, except:

- GetTickCount(), because returning a time stamp asynchronously does not make sense...
- FindModule(), FirstModule(), nextModule(),... because device detection and enumeration always works on internal device lists handled in background, and does not require immediate asynchronous I/O.

In most cases, TypeScript strong typing will remind you to use await when calling an asynchronous method.

## 13.3. Control of the Relay function

A few lines of code are enough to use a Yocto-Relay. Here is the skeleton of a TypeScript code snipplet to use the Relay function.

```
// For Node.js, the library is referenced through the NPM package
// For HTML, we would use instead a relative path (depending on the build environment)
import { YAPI, YErrorMsg, YModule } from 'yoctolib-cjs/yocto_api_nodejs.js';
import { YRelay } from 'yoctolib-cjs/yocto_relay.js';

[...]
// Get access to your device, through the VirtualHub running locally
await YAPI.RegisterHub('127.0.0.1');
[...]
// Retrieve the object used to interact with the device
var relay: YRelay = YRelay.FindRelay("RELAYLO1-123456.relay1");

// Check that the module is online to handle hot-plug
if(await relay.isOnline())
{
    // Use relay.set_state()
    [...]
}
```

Let us look at these lines in more details.

#### yocto\_api and yocto\_relay import

These two imports provide access to functions allowing you to manage Yoctopuce modules.  $yocto\_api$  is always needed,  $yocto\_relay$  is necessary to manage modules containing a relay, such as Yocto-Relay. Other imports can be useful in other cases, such as YModule which can let you enumerate any type of Yoctopuce device.

In order to properly bind <code>yocto\_api</code> to the proper network libraries (provided either by Node.js or by the web browser for an HTML application), you must import at least once in your project one of the two variants <code>yocto api nodejs.js</code> or <code>yocto api html.js</code>.

Note that this example imports the Yoctopuce library as a CommonJS module, which is the most frequently used with Node.JS, but if your project is designed around EcmaScript native modules, you can also replace in the import directive the prefix yoctolib-cjs by yoctolib-esm.

### YAPI.RegisterHub

The RegisterHub method allows you to indicate on which machine the Yoctopuce modules are located, more precisely on which machine the VirtualHub software is running. In our case, the 127.0.0.1:4444 address indicates the local machine, port 4444 (the standard port used by Yoctopuce). You can very well modify this address, and enter the address of another machine on which the VirtualHub software is running, or of a YoctoHub. If the host cannot be reached, this function will trigger an exception.

As explained above, using RegisterHub("usb") is not supported in TypeScript, because the JavaScript engine has no direct access to USB devices. It needs to go through the VirtualHub via a localhost connection.

### YRelay.FindRelay

The FindRelay method allows you to find a relay from the serial number of the module on which it resides and from its function name. You can also use logical names, as long as you have initialized them. Let us imagine a Yocto-Relay module with serial number *RELAYLO1-123456* which you have named "*MyModule*", and for which you have given the *relay1* function the name "*MyFunction*". The following five calls are strictly equivalent, as long as "*MyFunction*" is defined only once.

```
relay = YRelay.FindRelay("RELAYLO1-123456.relay1")
relay = YRelay.FindRelay("RELAYLO1-123456.MaFonction")
relay = YRelay.FindRelay("MonModule.relay1")
relay = YRelay.FindRelay("MonModule.MaFonction")
relay = YRelay.FindRelay("MaFonction")
```

YRelay. FindRelay returns an object which you can then use at will to control the relay.

#### **isOnline**

The isOnline() method of the object returned by FindRelay allows you to know if the corresponding module is present and in working order.

#### set\_state

The set\_state() method of the objet returned by YRelay.FindRelay switches the relay position to one of its two outputs. The two possible parameter values are YRelay.STATE\_A for output A, and YRelay.STATE B for output B.

### A real example, for Node.js

Open a command window (a terminal, a shell...) and go into the directory **example\_nodejs/Doc-GettingStarted-Yocto-Relay** within Yoctopuce library for TypeScript. In there, you will find a file named demo.ts with the sample code below, which uses the functions explained above, but this time used with all side materials needed to make it work nicely as a small demo.

If your Yocto-Relay is not connected on the host running the browser, replace in the example the address 127.0.0.1 by the IP address of the host on which the Yocto-Relay is connected and where you run the VirtualHub.

```
import { YAPI, YErrorMsg, YModule } from 'yoctolib-cjs/yocto api nodejs.js';
import { YRelay } from 'yoctolib-cjs/yocto relay.js'
async function startDemo(args: string[]): Promise<void>
    await YAPI.LogUnhandledPromiseRejections();
    // Setup the API to use the VirtualHub on local machine
    let errmsq: YErrorMsg = new YErrorMsg();
    if(await YAPI.RegisterHub('127.0.0.1', errmsg) != YAPI.SUCCESS) {
        console.log('Cannot contact VirtualHub on 127.0.0.1: '+errmsg.msg);
        return;
    // Select the relay to use
    let target: string;
    if(args[0] == "any") {
        let anyrelay = YRelay.FirstRelay();
if (anyrelay == null) {
            console.log("No module connected (check USB cable) \n");
            await YAPI.FreeAPI();
            return;
        let module: YModule = await anyrelay.get module();
        target = await module.get serialNumber();
    } else {
        target = args[0];
```

```
// Switch relay as requested
console.log("Set ouput " + args[1] + " of " + target + " to " + args[2]);
let relay: YRelay = YRelay.FindRelay(target + ".relay" + args[1]);
if(await relay.isOnline()) {
    await relay.set_output(args[2] == "ON" ? YRelay.OUTPUT_ON : YRelay.OUTPUT_OFF);
} else {
    console.log("Module not connected (check identification and USB cable) \n");
}

await YAPI.FreeAPI();
}

if(process.argv.length < 5) {
    console.log("usage: node demo.js <serial_number> <channel> [ ON | OFF ]");
    console.log(" node demo.js <logical_name> <channel> [ ON | OFF ]");
    console.log(" node demo.js any <channel> [ ON | OFF ]");
} else {
    startDemo(process.argv.slice(process.argv.length - 3));
}
```

As explained at the beginning of this chapter, you need to have installed the TypeScript compiler on your machine to test these examples, and to install the typescript library dependencies. If you have done that, you can now type the following two commands in the example directory, to finalize the resolution of the example-specific dependencies:

```
npm install
```

You ar now ready to start the sample code with Node.js. The easiest way to do it is to use the following command, replacing the [...] by the arguments that you want to pass to the demo code:

```
npm run demo [...]
```

This command, defined in package.json, will first start the TypeScript compiler using the simple tsc command, then run the transpiled code in Node.js.

The compilation uses the parameters specified in the file tsconfig.json, and produces

- a JavaScript file named demo.js, that Node.js can run
- a debug file named <code>demo.js.map</code>, that will help Node.js to locate the source of errors in the original TypeScript source file rather than reporting them in the JavaScript compiled file.

Note that the package.json file in our examples uses a relative reference to the local copy of the library, to avoid duplicating the library in each example. But of course, for your application, you can refer to the package directly in npm repository, by adding it to your project using the command:

```
npm install yoctolib-cjs
```

#### Same example, but this time running in a browser

If you want to see how to use the library within a browser rather than with Node.js, switch to the directory **example\_html/Doc-GettingStarted-Yocto-Relay**. You will find there an HTML file named app.html, and a TypeScript file app.ts similar to the code above, but with a few changes since it has to interact through an HTML page rather than through the JavaScript console.

No installation is needed to run this example, as the TypeScript library is referenced using a relative path. However, in order to allow the browser to run the code, the HTML page must be served by a Web server. We therefore provide a simple test server for this purpose, that you can start with the command:

```
npm run app-server
```

This command will compile the TypeScript sample code, make it available via an HTTP server on port 3000 and open a Web browser on this example. If you change the example source code, the TypeScript compiler will automatically be triggered to update the transpiled code and a simple page reload on the browser will make it possible to test the change.

As for the Node.js example, the compilation process will create a source map file which makes it possible to debug the example code in TypeScript source form within the browser debugger. Note that as of the writing of this document, this works on Chromium-based browsers but not yet in Firefox.

## 13.4. Control of the module part

Each module can be controlled in a similar manner, you can find below a simple sample program displaying the main parameters of the module and enabling you to activate the localization beacon.

```
import { YAPI, YErrorMsg, YModule } from 'yoctolib-cjs/yocto api nodejs.js';
async function startDemo(args: string[]): Promise<void>
   await YAPI.LogUnhandledPromiseRejections():
    // Setup the API to use the VirtualHub on local machine
    let errmsg: YErrorMsg = new YErrorMsg();
   if (await YAPI.RegisterHub('127.0.0.1', errmsg) != YAPI.SUCCESS) {
       console.log('Cannot contact VirtualHub on 127.0.0.1: '+errmsg.msg);
       return;
    // Select the device to use
   let module: YModule = YModule.FindModule(args[0]);
    if(await module.isOnline()) {
        if(args.length > 1) {
           if(args[1] == 'ON')
               await module.set_beacon(YModule.BEACON_ON);
           } else {
               await module.set beacon (YModule.BEACON OFF);
                                 '+await module.get_serialNumber());
        console.log('serial:
       console.log('logical name: '+await module.get_logicalName());
           (await module.get_beacon() == YModule.BEACON_ON ? 'ON' : 'OFF'));
        console.log('upTime:
           ((await module.get upTime()/1000)>>0) +' sec');
       console.log('USB current: '+await module.get_usbCurrent()+' mA');
console.log('logs:');
       console.log(await module.get lastLogs());
    } else {
        console.log("Module not connected (check identification and USB cable)\n");
   await YAPI.FreeAPI();
if(process.argv.length < 3) {</pre>
   console.log("usage: npm run demo <serial or logicalname> [ ON | OFF ]");
 else {
   startDemo(process.argv.slice(2));
```

Each property xxx of the module can be read thanks to a method of type  $get_xxxx$ (), and properties which are not read-only can be modified with the help of the  $set_xxx$ () method. For more details regarding the used methods, refer to the API chapters.

#### Changing the module settings

When you want to modify the settings of a module, you only need to call the corresponding  $\mathtt{set}\_\mathtt{xxx}()$  method. However, this modification is performed only in the random access memory (RAM) of the module: if the module is restarted, the modifications are lost. To memorize them persistently, it is necessary to ask the module to save its current configuration in its permanent

memory. To do so, use the saveToFlash() method. Inversely, it is possible to force the module to forget its current settings by using the revertFromFlash() method. The short example below allows you to modify the logical name of a module.

```
import { YAPI, YErrorMsg, YModule } from 'yoctolib-cjs/yocto api nodejs.js';
async function startDemo(args: string[]): Promise<void>
    await YAPI.LogUnhandledPromiseRejections();
    // Setup the API to use the VirtualHub on local machine
    let errmsg: YErrorMsg = new YErrorMsg();
    if (await YAPI.RegisterHub('127.0.0.1', errmsg) != YAPI.SUCCESS) {
        console.log('Cannot contact VirtualHub on 127.0.0.1: '+errmsg.msg);
        return;
    // Select the device to use
    let module: YModule = YModule.FindModule(args[0]);
    if(await module.isOnline()) {
        if(args.length > 1) {
            let newname: string = args[1];
            if (!await YAPI.CheckLogicalName(newname)) {
                console.log("Invalid name (" + newname + ")");
                process.exit(1);
            await module.set_logicalName(newname);
            await module.saveToFlash();
        console.log('Current name: '+await module.get logicalName());
    } else {
        console.log("Module not connected (check identification and USB cable)\n";
    await YAPI.FreeAPI();
if(process.argv.length < 3) {</pre>
    console.log("usage: npm run demo <serial> [newLogicalName]");
} else {
    startDemo(process.argv.slice(2));
```

Warning: the number of write cycles of the nonvolatile memory of the module is limited. When this limit is reached, nothing guaranties that the saving process is performed correctly. This limit, linked to the technology employed by the module micro-processor, is located at about 100000 cycles. In short, you can use the <code>saveToFlash()</code> method only 100000 times in the life of the module. Make sure you do not call this method within a loop.

### Listing the modules

Obtaining the list of the connected modules is performed with the YModule.FirstModule() method which returns the first module found. Then, you only need to call the nextModule() method of this object to find the following modules, and this as long as the returned value is not null. Below a short example listing the connected modules.

```
import { YAPI, YErrorMsg, YModule } from 'yoctolib-cjs/yocto_api_nodejs.js';
async function startDemo(): Promise<void>
{
    await YAPI.LogUnhandledPromiseRejections();

    // Setup the API to use the VirtualHub on local machine
    let errmsg = new YErrorMsg();
    if (await YAPI.RegisterHub('127.0.0.1', errmsg) != YAPI.SUCCESS) {
        console.log('Cannot contact VirtualHub on 127.0.0.1');
        return;
    }
    refresh();
}
async function refresh(): Promise<void>
{
        try {
```

```
let errmsg: YErrorMsg = new YErrorMsg();
    await YAPI.UpdateDeviceList(errmsg);

let module = YModule.FirstModule();
    while(module) {
        let line: string = await module.get_serialNumber();
        line += '(' + (await module.get_productName()) + ')';
        console.log(line);
        module = module.nextModule();
    }
    setTimeout(refresh, 500);
} catch(e) {
    console.log(e);
}
startDemo();
```

## 13.5. Error handling

When you implement a program which must interact with USB modules, you cannot disregard error handling. Inevitably, there will be a time when a user will have unplugged the device, either before running the software, or even while the software is running. The Yoctopuce library is designed to help you support this kind of behavior, but your code must nevertheless be conceived to interpret in the best possible way the errors indicated by the library.

The simplest way to work around the problem is the one used in the short examples provided in this chapter: before accessing a module, check that it is online with the <code>isOnline</code> function, and then hope that it will stay so during the fraction of a second necessary for the following code lines to run. This method is not perfect, but it can be sufficient in some cases. You must however be aware that you cannot completely exclude an error which would occur after the call to <code>isOnline</code> and which could crash the software. The only way to prevent this is to implement one of the two error handling techniques described below.

The method recommended by most programming languages for unpredictable error handling is the use of exceptions. By default, it is the behavior of the Yoctopuce library. If an error happens while you try to access a module, the library throws an exception. In this case, there are three possibilities:

- If your code catches the exception and handles it, everything goes well.
- If your program is running in debug mode, you can relatively easily determine where the problem happened and view the explanatory message linked to the exception.
- Otherwise... the exception makes your program crash, bang!

As this latest situation is not the most desirable, the Yoctopuce library offers another possibility for error handling, allowing you to create a robust program without needing to catch exceptions at every line of code. You simply need to call the YAPI.DisableExceptions() function to commute the library to a mode where exceptions for all the functions are systematically replaced by specific return values, which can be tested by the caller when necessary. For each function, the name of each return value in case of error is systematically documented in the library reference. The name always follows the same logic: a get\_state() method returns a ClassName.STATE\_INVALID value, a get\_currentValue method returns a ClassName.CURRENTVALUE\_INVALID value, and so on. In any case, the returned value is of the expected type and is not a null pointer which would risk crashing your program. At worst, if you display the value without testing it, it will be outside the expected bounds for the returned value. In the case of functions which do not normally return information, the return value is YAPI\_SUCCESS if everything went well, and a different error code in case of failure.

When you work without exceptions, you can obtain an error code and an error message explaining the source of the error. You can request them from the object which returned the error, calling the errType() and errMessage() methods. Their returned values contain the same information as in the exceptions when they are active.

# 14. Using Yocto-Relay with JavaScript / EcmaScript

EcmaScript is the official name of the standardized version of the web-oriented programming language commonly referred to as *JavaScript*. This Yoctopuce library take advantages of advanced features introduced in EcmaScript 2017. It has therefore been named *Library for JavaScript* / *EcmaScript 2017* to differentiate it from the previous *Library for JavaScript*, now deprecated in favor of this new version.

This library provides access to Yoctopuce devices for modern JavaScript engines. It can be used within a browser as well as with Node.js. The library will automatically detect upon initialization whether the runtime environment is a browser or a Node.js virtual machine, and use the most appropriate system libraries accordingly.

Asynchronous communication with the devices is handled across the whole library using Promise objects, leveraging the new EcmaScript 2017 <code>async/await</code> non-blocking syntax for asynchronous I/O (see below). This syntax is now available out-of-the-box in most Javascript engines. No transpilation is needed: no Babel, no jspm, just plain Javascript. Here is your favorite engines minimum version needed to run this code. All of them are officially released at the time we write this document.

- Node.js v7.6 and later
- Firefox 52
- Opera 42 (incl. Android version)
- Chrome 55 (incl. Android version)
- Safari 10.1 (incl. iOS version)
- Android WebView 55
- Google V8 Javascript engine v5.5

If you need backward-compatibility with older releases, you can always run Babel to transpile your code and the library to older standards, as described a few paragraphs below.

We don't suggest using jspm anymore now that async / await are part of the standard.

## 14.1. Blocking I/O versus Asynchronous I/O in JavaScript

JavaScript is single-threaded by design. That means, if a program is actively waiting for the result of a network-based operation such as reading from a sensor, the whole program is blocked. In browser environments, this can even completely freeze the user interface. For this reason, the use of blocking I/O in JavaScript is strongly discouraged nowadays, and blocking network APIs are getting deprecated everywhere.

Instead of using parallel threads, JavaScript relies on asynchronous I/O to handle operations with a possible long timeout: whenever a long I/O call needs to be performed, it is only triggered and but then the code execution flow is terminated. The JavaScript engine is therefore free to handle other pending tasks, such as UI. Whenever the pending I/O call is completed, the system invokes a callback function with the result of the I/O call to resume execution of the original execution flow.

When used with plain callback functions, as pervasive in Node.js libraries, asynchronous I/O tend to produce code with poor readability, as the execution flow is broken into many disconnected callback functions. Fortunately, new methods have emerged recently to improve that situation. In particular, the use of *Promise* objects to abstract and work with asynchronous tasks helps a lot. Any function that makes a long I/O operation can return a *Promise*, which can be used by the caller to chain subsequent operations in the same flow. Promises are part of EcmaScript 2015 standard.

Promise objects are good, but what makes them even better is the new async / await keywords to handle asynchronous I/O:

- a function declared async will automatically encapsulate its result as a Promise
- within an *async* function, any function call prefixed with by *await* will chain the Promise returned by the function with a promise to resume execution of the caller
- any exception during the execution of an *async* function will automatically invoke the Promise failure continuation

Long story made short, async and await make it possible to write EcmaScript code with all benefits of asynchronous I/O, but without breaking the code flow. It is almost like multi-threaded execution, except that control switch between pending tasks only happens at places where the await keyword appears.

We have therefore chosen to write our new EcmaScript library using Promises and *async* functions, so that you can use the friendly *await* syntax. To keep it easy to remember, **all public methods** of the EcmaScript library **are** *async*, i.e. return a Promise object, **except**:

- GetTickCount(), because returning a time stamp asynchronously does not make sense...
- FindModule(), FirstModule(), nextModule(), ... because device detection and enumeration always work on internal device lists handled in background, and does not require immediate asynchronous I/O.

## 14.2. Using Yoctopuce library for JavaScript / EcmaScript 2017

JavaScript is one of those languages which do not generally allow you to directly access the hardware layers of your computer. Therefore the library can only be used to access network-enabled devices (connected through a YoctoHub), or USB devices accessible through Yoctopuce TCP/IP to USB gateway, named *VirtualHub*.

Go to the Yoctopuce web site and download the following items:

- The Javascript / EcmaScript 2017 programming library<sup>1</sup>
- The VirtualHub software for Windows, Mac OS X or Linux, depending on your OS

Extract the library files in a folder of your choice, you will find many of examples in it. Connect your modules and start the VirtualHub software. You do not need to install any driver.

### Using the official Yoctopuce library for node.js

Start by installing the latest Node.js version (v7.6 or later) on your system. It is very easy. You can download it from the official web site: <a href="http://nodejs.org">http://nodejs.org</a>. Make sure to install it fully, including npm, and add it to the system path.

www.yoctopuce.com/EN/libraries.php

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> www.yoctopuce.com/EN/virtualhub.php

To give it a try, go into one of the example directory (for instance example\_nodejs/Doc-Inventory). You will see that it include an application description file (package.json) and a source file (demo.js). To download and setup the libraries needed by this example, just run:

```
npm install
```

Once done, you can start the example file using:

```
node demo.js
```

### Using a local copy of the Yoctopuce library with node.js

If for some reason you need to make changes to the Yoctopuce library, you can easily configure your project to use the local copy in the <code>lib/</code> subdirectory rather than the official npm package. In order to do so, simply type the following command in your project directory:

```
npm link ../../lib
```

### Using the Yoctopuce library within a browser (HTML)

For HTML examples, it is even simpler: there is nothing to install. Each example is a single HTML file that you can open in a browser to try it. In this context, loading the Yoctopuce library is no different from any standard HTML script include tag.

### Using the Yoctoluce library on older JavaScript engines

If you need to run this library on older JavaScript engines, you can use Babel<sup>3</sup> to transpile your code and the library into older JavaScript standards. To install Babel with typical settings, simply use:

```
npm instal -g babel-cli
npm instal babel-preset-env
```

You would typically ask Babel to put the transpiled files in another directory, named compat for instance. Your files and all files of the Yoctopuce library should be transpiled, as follow:

```
babel --presets env demo.js --out-dir compat/
babel --presets env ../../lib --out-dir compat/
```

Although this approach is based on node.js toolchain, it actually works as well for transpiling JavaScript files for use in a browser. The only thing that you cannot do so easily is transpiling JavaScript code embedded directly in an HTML page. You have to use an external script file for using EcmaScript 2017 syntax with Babel.

Babel has many smart features, such as a watch mode that will automatically refresh transpiled files whenever the source file is changed, but this is beyond the scope of this note. You will find more in Babel documentation.

### Backward-compatibility with the old JavaScript library

This new library is not fully backward-compatible with the old JavaScript library, because there is no way to transparently map the old blocking API to the new asynchronous API. The method names however are the same, and old synchronous code can easily be made asynchronous just by adding the proper await keywords before the method calls. For instance, simply replace:

```
beaconState = module.get_beacon();
by
```

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> http://babeljs.io

```
beaconState = await module.get_beacon();
```

Apart from a few exceptions, most XXX\_async redundant methods have been removed as well, as they would have introduced confusion on the proper way of handling asynchronous behaviors. It is however very simple to get an *async* method to invoke a callback upon completion, using the returned Promise object. For instance, you can replace:

```
module.get_beacon_async(callback, myContext);
```

```
module.get_beacon().then(function(res) { callback(myContext, module, res); });
```

In some cases, it might be desirable to get a sensor value using a method identical to the old synchronous methods (without using Promises), even if it returns a slightly outdated cached value since I/O is not possible. For this purpose, the EcmaScript library introduce new classes called *synchronous proxies*. A synchronous proxy is an object that mirrors the most recent state of the connected class, but can be read using regular synchronous function calls. For instance, instead of writing:

```
async function logInfo(module)
{
    console.log('Name: '+await module.get_logicalName());
    console.log('Beacon: '+await module.get_beacon());
}
...
logInfo(myModule);
...
```

you can use:

```
function logInfoProxy(moduleSyncProxy)
{
    console.log('Name: '+moduleProxy.get_logicalName());
    console.log('Beacon: '+moduleProxy.get_beacon());
}
logInfoSync(await myModule.get_syncProxy());
```

You can also rewrite this last asynchronous call as:

```
myModule.get_syncProxy().then(logInfoProxy);
```

## 14.3. Control of the Relay function

A few lines of code are enough to use a Yocto-Relay. Here is the skeleton of a JavaScript code snippet to use the Relay function.

```
// For Node.js, we use function require()
// For HTML, we would use <script src="..."&gt;
require('yoctolib-es2017/yocto_api.js');
require('yoctolib-es2017/yocto_relay.js');

[...]
// Get access to your device, through the VirtualHub running locally
await YAPI.RegisterHub('127.0.0.1');
[...]

// Retrieve the object used to interact with the device
var relay = YRelay.FindRelay("RELAYLO1-123456.relay1");

// Check that the module is online to handle hot-plug
```

```
if(await relay.isOnline())
{
    // Use relay.set_state()
    [...]
}
```

Let us look at these lines in more details.

### yocto\_api and yocto\_relay import

These two import provide access to functions allowing you to manage Yoctopuce modules. yocto\_api is always needed, yocto\_relay is necessary to manage modules containing a relay, such as Yocto-Relay. Other imports can be useful in other cases, such as YModule which can let you enumerate any type of Yoctopuce device.

### YAPI.RegisterHub

The RegisterHub method allows you to indicate on which machine the Yoctopuce modules are located, more precisely on which machine the VirtualHub software is running. In our case, the 127.0.0.1:4444 address indicates the local machine, port 4444 (the standard port used by Yoctopuce). You can very well modify this address, and enter the address of another machine on which the VirtualHub software is running, or of a YoctoHub. If the host cannot be reached, this function will trigger an exception.

### YRelay.FindRelay

The FindRelay method allows you to find a relay from the serial number of the module on which it resides and from its function name. You can also use logical names, as long as you have initialized them. Let us imagine a Yocto-Relay module with serial number *RELAYLO1-123456* which you have named "*MyModule*", and for which you have given the *relay1* function the name "*MyFunction*". The following five calls are strictly equivalent, as long as "*MyFunction*" is defined only once.

```
relay = YRelay.FindRelay("RELAYLO1-123456.relay1")
relay = YRelay.FindRelay("RELAYLO1-123456.MaFonction")
relay = YRelay.FindRelay("MonModule.relay1")
relay = YRelay.FindRelay("MonModule.MaFonction")
relay = YRelay.FindRelay("MaFonction")
```

YRelay. FindRelay returns an object which you can then use at will to control the relay.

#### **isOnline**

The isOnline() method of the object returned by FindRelay allows you to know if the corresponding module is present and in working order.

#### set\_state

The set\_state() method of the objet returned by YRelay.FindRelay switches the relay position to one of its two outputs. The two possible parameter values are YRelay.STATE\_A for output A, and YRelay.STATE B for output B.

#### A real example, for Node.js

Open a command window (a terminal, a shell...) and go into the directory **example\_nodejs/Doc-GettingStarted-Yocto-Relay** within Yoctopuce library for JavaScript / EcmaScript 2017. In there, you will find a file named demo.js with the sample code below, which uses the functions explained above, but this time used with all side materials needed to make it work nicely as a small demo.

If your Yocto-Relay is not connected on the host running the browser, replace in the example the address 127.0.0.1 with the IP address of the host on which the Yocto-Relay is connected and where you run the VirtualHub.

```
"use strict";
require('yoctolib-es2017/yocto_api.js');
require('yoctolib-es2017/yocto_relay.js');
```

```
async function startDemo(args)
   await YAPI.LogUnhandledPromiseRejections();
   await YAPI.DisableExceptions();
    // Setup the API to use the VirtualHub on local machine
    let errmsg = new YErrorMsg();
    if(await YAPI.RegisterHub('127.0.0.1', errmsg) != YAPI.SUCCESS) {
        console.log('Cannot contact VirtualHub on 127.0.0.1: '+errmsg.msg);
        return:
    // Select the relay to use
   let target;
    if(args[0] == "any") {
        let anyrelay = YRelay.FirstRelay();
        if (anyrelay == null) {
            console.log("No module connected (check USB cable) \n");
           process.exit(1);
        let module = await anyrelay.get module();
        target = await module.get_serialNumber();
    } else {
        target = args[0];
   // Switch relay as requested
console.log("Set ouput " + args[1] + " of " + target + " to " + args[2]);
    let relay = YRelay.FindRelay(target + ".relay" + args[1]);
   if(await relay.isOnline()) {
        await relay.set_output(args[2] == "ON" ? YRelay.OUTPUT ON : YRelay.OUTPUT OFF);
    } else {
        console.log("Module not connected (check identification and USB cable)\n");
   await YAPI.FreeAPI();
if(process.argv.length < 5) {</pre>
    console.log("usage: node demo.js <serial_number> <channel> [ ON | OFF ]");
                   node demo.js <logical_name> <channel> [ ON | OFF ]");
    console.log("
    console.log("
                        node demo.js any <channel> [ ON | OFF ]");
} else {
   startDemo(process.argv.slice(process.argv.length - 3));
```

As explained at the beginning of this chapter, you need to have Node.js v7.6 or later installed to try this example. When done, you can type the following two commands to automatically download and install the dependencies for building this example:

```
npm install
```

You can the start the sample code within Node.js using the following command, replacing the [...] by the arguments that you want to pass to the demo code:

```
node demo.js [...]
```

#### Same example, but this time running in a browser

If you want to see how to use the library within a browser rather than with Node.js, switch to the directory **example\_html/Doc-GettingStarted-Yocto-Relay**. You will find there a single HTML file, with a JavaScript section similar to the code above, but with a few changes since it has to interact through an HTML page rather than through the JavaScript console.

```
<script src="../../lib/yocto relay.js"></script>
  <script>
    let relays = [];
    async function startDemo()
      await YAPI.LogUnhandledPromiseRejections();
      await YAPI.DisableExceptions();
      // Setup the API to use the VirtualHub on local machine let errmsg = new YErrorMsg();
      if(await YAPI.RegisterHub('127.0.0.1', errmsg) != YAPI.SUCCESS) {
        alert('Cannot contact VirtualHub on 127.0.0.1: '+errmsg.msg);
      refresh();
    async function refresh()
      let serial = document.getElementById('serial').value;
      if(serial == '') {
        // by default use any connected module suitable for the demo
         let anyRelay = YRelay.FirstRelay();
        if(anyRelay) {
          let module = await anyRelay.module();
           serial = await module.get serialNumber();
          document.getElementById('serial').value = serial;
      for(let i = 1; i \le 2; i++) {
       relays[i] = YRelay.FindRelay(serial+".relay"+i);
     if(await relays[1].isOnline()) {
       document.getElementById('msg').value = '';
      } else {
       document.getElementById('msg').value = 'Module not connected';
     setTimeout(refresh, 500);
   window.sw = function(index,state)
     relays[index].set output(state ? YRelay.OUTPUT ON : YRelay.OUTPUT OFF);
   startDemo();
 </script>
</head>
<body>
 Module to use: <input id='serial'>
 <input id='msg' style='color:red;border:none;' readonly><br>
Relay1 <a href='javascript:sw(1,0);' >OFF</a> / <a href='javascript:sw(1,1);'>ON</a><br>
Relay2 <a href='javascript:sw(2,0);' >OFF</a> / <a href='javascript:sw(2,1);'>ON</a><br>
</body>
</html>
```

No installation is needed to run this example, all you have to do is open the HTML file using a web browser,

# 14.4. Control of the module part

Each module can be controlled in a similar manner, you can find below a simple sample program displaying the main parameters of the module and enabling you to activate the localization beacon.

```
"use strict";
require('yoctolib-es2017/yocto_api.js');
async function startDemo(args)
{
   await YAPI.LogUnhandledPromiseRejections();

   // Setup the API to use the VirtualHub on local machine
   let errmsg = new YErrorMsg();
```

```
if(await YAPI.RegisterHub('127.0.0.1', errmsg) != YAPI.SUCCESS) {
        console.log('Cannot contact VirtualHub on 127.0.0.1: '+errmsg.msg);
        return;
    // Select the relay to use
   let module = YModule.FindModule(args[0]);
   if(await module.isOnline()) {
        if(args.length > 1) {
           if(args[1] == 'ON') {
               await module.set_beacon(YModule.BEACON_ON);
            } else {
               await module.set beacon(YModule.BEACON OFF);
                                   '+await module.get_serialNumber());
        console.log('serial:
       console.log('logical name: '+await module.get_logicalName());
       console.log('luminosity:
                                   '+await module.get_luminosity()+'%');
       console.log('beacon:
                                   '+(await module.get_beacon() == YModule.BEACON_ON
?'ON':'OFF'));
       console.log('upTime:
                                  '+parseInt(await module.get_upTime()/1000)+' sec');
       console.log('USB current: '+await module.get usbCurrent()+' mA');
       console.log('logs:');
       console.log(await module.get lastLogs());
    } else {
       console.log("Module not connected (check identification and USB cable)\n");
   await YAPI.FreeAPI();
if(process.argv.length < 2) {</pre>
   console.log("usage: node demo.js <serial or logicalname> [ ON | OFF ]");
   startDemo(process.argv.slice(2));
```

Each property xxx of the module can be read thanks to a method of type  $get_xxxx()$ , and properties which are not read-only can be modified with the help of the  $set_xxx()$  method. For more details regarding the used functions, refer to the API chapters.

#### Changing the module settings

When you want to modify the settings of a module, you only need to call the corresponding  $\mathtt{set}\_\mathtt{xxx}()$  function. However, this modification is performed only in the random access memory (RAM) of the module: if the module is restarted, the modifications are lost. To memorize them persistently, it is necessary to ask the module to save its current configuration in its permanent memory. To do so, use the  $\mathtt{saveToFlash}()$  method. Inversely, it is possible to force the module to forget its current settings by using the  $\mathtt{revertFromFlash}()$  method. The short example below allows you to modify the logical name of a module.

```
"use strict";
require('yoctolib-es2017/yocto_api.js');
async function startDemo(args)
    await YAPI.LogUnhandledPromiseRejections();
    // Setup the API to use the VirtualHub on local machine
    let errmsg = new YErrorMsg();
    if(await YAPI.RegisterHub('127.0.0.1', errmsg) != YAPI.SUCCESS) {
        console.log('Cannot contact VirtualHub on 127.0.0.1: '+errmsg.msg);
    // Select the relay to use
   let module = YModule.FindModule(args[0]);
    if(await module.isOnline()) {
        if(args.length > 1) {
            let newname = args[1];
            if (!await YAPI.CheckLogicalName(newname)) {
               console.log("Invalid name (" + newname + ")");
                process.exit(1);
            }
```

```
await module.set_logicalName(newname);
    await module.saveToFlash();
}
    console.log('Current name: '+await module.get_logicalName());
} else {
    console.log("Module not connected (check identification and USB cable)\n");
}
await YAPI.FreeAPI();
}

if(process.argv.length < 2) {
    console.log("usage: node demo.js <serial> [newLogicalName]");
} else {
    startDemo(process.argv.slice(2));
}
```

Warning: the number of write cycles of the nonvolatile memory of the module is limited. When this limit is reached, nothing guaranties that the saving process is performed correctly. This limit, linked to the technology employed by the module micro-processor, is located at about 100000 cycles. In short, you can use the <code>saveToFlash()</code> function only 100000 times in the life of the module. Make sure you do not call this function within a loop.

#### Listing the modules

Obtaining the list of the connected modules is performed with the YModule.FirstModule() function which returns the first module found. Then, you only need to call the nextModule() function of this object to find the following modules, and this as long as the returned value is not null. Below a short example listing the connected modules.

```
"use strict";
require('yoctolib-es2017/yocto api.js');
async function startDemo()
    await YAPI.LogUnhandledPromiseRejections();
    await YAPI.DisableExceptions();
    // Setup the API to use the VirtualHub on local machine
    let errmsg = new YErrorMsg();
    if (await YAPI.RegisterHub('127.0.0.1', errmsg) != YAPI.SUCCESS) {
        console.log('Cannot contact VirtualHub on 127.0.0.1');
        return;
    refresh();
async function refresh()
        let errmsg = new YErrorMsg();
        await YAPI.UpdateDeviceList(errmsq);
        let module = YModule.FirstModule();
        while (module) {
            let line = await module.get_serialNumber();
line += '(' + (await module.get_productName()) + ')';
            console.log(line);
            module = module.nextModule();
        setTimeout(refresh, 500);
    } catch(e) {
        console.log(e);
try {
   startDemo();
} catch(e) {
    console.log(e);
```

## 14.5. Error handling

When you implement a program which must interact with USB modules, you cannot disregard error handling. Inevitably, there will be a time when a user will have unplugged the device, either before running the software, or even while the software is running. The Yoctopuce library is designed to help you support this kind of behavior, but your code must nevertheless be conceived to interpret in the best possible way the errors indicated by the library.

The simplest way to work around the problem is the one used in the short examples provided in this chapter: before accessing a module, check that it is online with the <code>isOnline</code> function, and then hope that it will stay so during the fraction of a second necessary for the following code lines to run. This method is not perfect, but it can be sufficient in some cases. You must however be aware that you cannot completely exclude an error which would occur after the call to <code>isOnline</code> and which could crash the software. The only way to prevent this is to implement one of the two error handling techniques described below.

The method recommended by most programming languages for unpredictable error handling is the use of exceptions. By default, it is the behavior of the Yoctopuce library. If an error happens while you try to access a module, the library throws an exception. In this case, there are three possibilities:

- If your code catches the exception and handles it, everything goes well.
- If your program is running in debug mode, you can relatively easily determine where the problem happened and view the explanatory message linked to the exception.
- · Otherwise... the exception makes your program crash, bang!

As this latest situation is not the most desirable, the Yoctopuce library offers another possibility for error handling, allowing you to create a robust program without needing to catch exceptions at every line of code. You simply need to call the YAPI.DisableExceptions() function to commute the library to a mode where exceptions for all the functions are systematically replaced by specific return values, which can be tested by the caller when necessary. For each function, the name of each return value in case of error is systematically documented in the library reference. The name always follows the same logic: a get\_state() method returns a ClassName.STATE\_INVALID value, a get\_currentValue method returns a ClassName.CURRENTVALUE\_INVALID value, and so on. In any case, the returned value is of the expected type and is not a null pointer which would risk crashing your program. At worst, if you display the value without testing it, it will be outside the expected bounds for the returned value. In the case of functions which do not normally return information, the return value is YAPI\_SUCCESS if everything went well, and a different error code in case of failure.

When you work without exceptions, you can obtain an error code and an error message explaining the source of the error. You can request them from the object which returned the error, calling the errType() and errMessage() methods. Their returned values contain the same information as in the exceptions when they are active.

# 15. Using Yocto-Relay with PHP

PHP is, like Javascript, an atypical language when interfacing with hardware is at stakes. Nevertheless, using PHP with Yoctopuce modules provides you with the opportunity to very easily create web sites which are able to interact with their physical environment, and this is not available to every web server. This technique has a direct application in home automation: a few Yoctopuce modules, a PHP server, and you can interact with your home from anywhere on the planet, as long as you have an internet connection.

PHP is one of those languages which do not allow you to directly access the hardware layers of your computer. Therefore you need to run a virtual hub on the machine on which your modules are connected.

To start your tests with PHP, you need a PHP 5.3 (or more) server<sup>1</sup>, preferably locally on you machine. If you wish to use the PHP server of your internet provider, it is possible, but you will probably need to configure your ADSL router for it to accept and forward TCP request on the 4444 port.

# 15.1. Getting ready

Go to the Yoctopuce web site and download the following items:

- The PHP programming library<sup>2</sup>
- The VirtualHub software<sup>3</sup> for Windows, Mac OS X, or Linux, depending on your OS

Decompress the library files in a folder of your choice accessible to your web server, connect your modules, run the VirtualHub software, and you are ready to start your first tests. You do not need to install any driver.

# 15.2. Control of the Relay function

A few lines of code are enough to use a Yocto-Relay. Here is the skeleton of a PHP code snipplet to use the Relay function.

```
include('yocto_api.php');
include('yocto_relay.php');
```

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> A couple of free PHP servers: easyPHP for Windows, MAMP for Mac OS X.

www.yoctopuce.com/EN/libraries.php

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> www.yoctopuce.com/EN/virtualhub.php

```
[...]

// Get access to your device, through the VirtualHub running locally
YAPI::RegisterHub('http://127.0.0.1:4444/',$errmsg);
[...]

// Retrieve the object used to interact with the device
$relay = YRelay::FindRelay("RELAYLO1-123456.relay1");

// Check that the module is online to handle hot-plug
if($relay->isOnline())
{

// Use $relay->set_state()
[...]
}
```

Let's look at these lines in more details.

#### yocto\_api.php and yocto\_relay.php

These two PHP includes provides access to the functions allowing you to manage Yoctopuce modules. yocto\_api.php must always be included, yocto\_relay.php is necessary to manage modules containing a relay, such as Yocto-Relay.

#### YAPI::RegisterHub

The YAPI::RegisterHub function allows you to indicate on which machine the Yoctopuce modules are located, more precisely on which machine the VirtualHub software is running. In our case, the 127.0.0.1:4444 address indicates the local machine, port 4444 (the standard port used by Yoctopuce). You can very well modify this address, and enter the address of another machine on which the VirtualHub software is running.

#### YRelay::FindRelay

The YRelay::FindRelay function allows you to find a relay from the serial number of the module on which it resides and from its function name. You can use logical names as well, as long as you have initialized them. Let us imagine a Yocto-Relay module with serial number *RELAYLO1-123456* which you have named "MyModule", and for which you have given the *relay1* function the name "MyFunction". The following five calls are strictly equivalent, as long as "MyFunction" is defined only once.

```
$relay = YRelay::FindRelay("RELAYLO1-123456.relay1");
$relay = YRelay::FindRelay("RELAYLO1-123456.MyFunction");
$relay = YRelay::FindRelay("MyModule.relay1");
$relay = YRelay::FindRelay("MyModule.MyFunction");
$relay = YRelay::FindRelay("MyFunction");
```

YRelay::FindRelay returns an object which you can then use at will to control the relay.

#### **isOnline**

The isOnline() method of the object returned by YRelay::FindRelay allows you to know if the corresponding module is present and in working order.

#### set state

The  $set\_state()$  method of the objet returned by yFindRelay switches the relay position to one of its two outputs. The two possible parameter values are  $Y\_STATE\_A$  for output A, and  $Y\_STATE\_B$  for output B.

#### A real example

Open your preferred text editor<sup>4</sup>, copy the code sample below, save it with the Yoctopuce library files in a location which is accessible to you web server, then use your preferred web browser to access

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> If you do not have a text editor, use Notepad rather than Microsoft Word.

this page. The code is also provided in the directory **Examples/Doc-GettingStarted-Yocto-Relay** of the Yoctopuce library.

In this example, you will recognize the functions explained above, but this time used with all side materials needed to make it work nicely as a small demo.

```
<HTML>
<HEAD>
<TITLE>Hello World</TITLE>
</HEAD>
<BODY>
<FORM method='get'>
<?php
  include('yocto api.php');
  include('yocto relay.php');
  // Use explicit error handling rather than exceptions
  YAPI::DisableExceptions();
  // Setup the API to use the VirtualHub on local machine
  if(YAPI::RegisterHub('http://127.0.0.1:4444/',$errmsg) != YAPI::SUCCESS) {
      die ("Cannot contact Virtual Hub on 127.0.0.1");
  @$serial = $_GET['serial'];
  if ($serial != '') {
        / Check if a specified module is available online
      $relay1 = YRelay::FindRelay("$serial.relay1");
      $relay2 = YRelay::FindRelay("$serial.relay2");
      if (!$relay1->isOnline()) {
          die ("Module not connected (check serial and USB cable)");
  } else {
      // or use any connected module suitable for the demo
       // (note that the order of enumeration may vary)
      $relay1 = YRelay::FirstRelay();
      if(is null($relay1)) {
          die ("No module connected (check USB cable)");
      } else
          $relay2 = $relay1->nextRelay();
          $serial = $relay1->module()->get serialnumber();
  Print("Module to use: <input name='serial' value='$serial'><br>");
  // Drive the selected module
  if (isset($_GET['state1'])) {
      $state = $ GET['state1'];
      if ($state=='A') $relay1->set state(Y STATE A);
      if ($state=='B') $relay1->set_state(Y_STATE_B);
  if (isset($_GET['state2'])) {
      $state = $ GET['state2'];
      if ($state=='A') $relay2->set_state(Y_STATE_A);
      if ($state=='B') $relay2->set state(Y STATE B);
  YAPI::FreeAPI();
?>
Relay 1: <input type='radio' name='state1' value='A'>Output A
         <input type='radio' name='state1' value='B'>Output B<br>
Relay 2: <input type='radio' name='state2' value='A'>Output A
         <input type='radio' name='state2' value='B'>Output B<br>
<input type='submit'>
</FORM>
</BODY>
</HTML>
```

# 15.3. Control of the module part

Each module can be controlled in a similar manner, you can find below a simple sample program displaying the main parameters of the module and enabling you to activate the localization beacon.

```
<HTML>
<HEAD>
 <TITLE>Module Control</TITLE>
</HEAD>
<BODY>
<FORM method='get'>
<?php
  include('yocto api.php');
  // Use explicit error handling rather than exceptions
  YAPI::DisableExceptions();
  // Setup the API to use the VirtualHub on local machine
  die("Cannot contact VirtualHub on 127.0.0.1 : ".$errmsg);
  @$serial = $ GET['serial'];
  if ($serial != '') {
       / Check if a specified module is available online
      $module = YModule::FindModule("$serial");
      if (!$module->isOnline()) {
         die("Module not connected (check serial and USB cable)");
       // or use any connected module suitable for the demo
      $module = YModule::FirstModule();
      if($module) { // skip VirtualHub
          $module = $module->nextModule();
      if(is null($module)) {
         die ("No module connected (check USB cable)");
      } else {
          $serial = $module->get serialnumber();
  Print("Module to use: <input name='serial' value='$serial'><br>");
  if (isset($ GET['beacon'])) {
      if ($ GET['beacon']=='ON')
         $module->set beacon(Y BEACON ON);
          $module->set beacon(Y BEACON OFF);
  printf('serial: %s<br>',$module->get_serialNumber());
  printf('logical name: %s<br>',$module->get logicalName());
  printf('luminosity: %s<br>',$module->get luminosity());
  print('beacon: ');
  if($module->get beacon() == Y BEACON ON) {
      printf("<input type='radio' name='beacon' value='ON' checked>ON ");
      printf("<input type='radio' name='beacon' value='OFF'>OFF<br>");
  } else {
     printf("<input type='radio' name='beacon' value='ON'>ON ");
      printf("<input type='radio' name='beacon' value='OFF' checked>OFF<br/>br>");
  printf('upTime: %s sec<br>',intVal($module->get upTime()/1000));
  printf('USB current: %smA<br>',$module->get_usbCurrent());
  printf('logs:<br>%s',$module->get_lastLogs());
  YAPI::FreeAPI();
<input type='submit' value='refresh'>
</FORM>
</BODY>
</HTML>
```

Each property xxx of the module can be read thanks to a method of type  $get_xxxx()$ , and properties which are not read-only can be modified with the help of the  $set_xxx()$  method. For more details regarding the used functions, refer to the API chapters.

#### Changing the module settings

When you want to modify the settings of a module, you only need to call the corresponding  $set\_xxx()$  function. However, this modification is performed only in the random access memory (RAM) of the module: if the module is restarted, the modifications are lost. To memorize them

persistently, it is necessary to ask the module to save its current configuration in its permanent memory. To do so, use the <code>saveToFlash()</code> method. Inversely, it is possible to force the module to forget its current settings by using the <code>revertFromFlash()</code> method. The short example below allows you to modify the logical name of a module.

```
<HEAD>
 <TITLE>save settings</TITLE>
<BODY>
<FORM method='get'>
<?php
  include('yocto api.php');
  // Use explicit error handling rather than exceptions
  YAPI::DisableExceptions();
  // Setup the API to use the VirtualHub on local machine
  if(YAPI::RegisterHub('http://127.0.0.1:4444/', $errmsq) != YAPI::SUCCESS) {
      die ("Cannot contact Virtual Hub on 127.0.0.1");
  @$serial = $ GET['serial'];
  if ($serial \(\bar{!}= \bar{''}\) {
        / Check if a specified module is available online
      $module = YModule::FindModule("$serial");
      if (!$module->isOnline()) {
           die("Module not connected (check serial and USB cable)");
  } else {
      // or use any connected module suitable for the demo
      $module = YModule::FirstModule();
      if($module) { // skip VirtualHub
           $module = $module->nextModule();
      if(is null($module)) {
           die ("No module connected (check USB cable)");
        else {
           $serial = $module->get serialnumber();
  Print("Module to use: <input name='serial' value='$serial'><br>");
  if (isset($ GET['newname'])){
      $newname = $ GET['newname'];
      if (!yCheckLogicalName($newname))
           die('Invalid name');
      $module->set_logicalName($newname);
$module->saveToFlash();
  printf("Current name: %s<br/>br>", $module->get_logicalName());
print("New name: <input name='newname' value='' maxlength=19><br/>br>");
  YAPI::FreeAPI();
<input type='submit'>
</FORM>
</BODY>
</HTML>
```

Warning: the number of write cycles of the nonvolatile memory of the module is limited. When this limit is reached, nothing guaranties that the saving process is performed correctly. This limit, linked to the technology employed by the module micro-processor, is located at about 100000 cycles. In short, you can use the <code>saveToFlash()</code> function only 100000 times in the life of the module. Make sure you do not call this function within a loop.

#### Listing the modules

Obtaining the list of the connected modules is performed with the yFirstModule() function which returns the first module found. Then, you only need to call the nextModule() function of this object to find the following modules, and this as long as the returned value is not NULL. Below a short example listing the connected modules.

```
<HTML>
<HEAD>
```

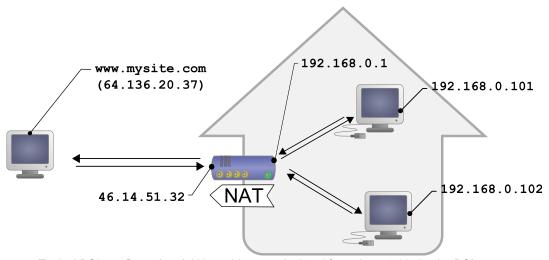
```
<TITLE>inventory</TITLE>
</HEAD>
<BODY>
<H1>Device list</H1>
<?php
    include('yocto_api.php');
    YAPI::RegisterHub("http://127.0.0.1:4444/");
              = YModule::FirstModule();
    $module
    while (!is_null($module)) {
    printf("%s (%s) <br/>br>", $module->get_serialNumber(),
                 $module->get_productName());
         $module=$module->nextModule();
    YAPI::FreeAPI();
?>
</TT>
</BODY>
</HTMT.>
```

#### 15.4. HTTP callback API and NAT filters

The PHP library is able to work in a specific mode called *HTTP callback Yocto-API*. With this mode, you can control Yoctopuce devices installed behind a NAT filter, such as a DSL router for example, and this without needing to open a port. The typical application is to control Yoctopuce devices, located on a private network, from a public web site.

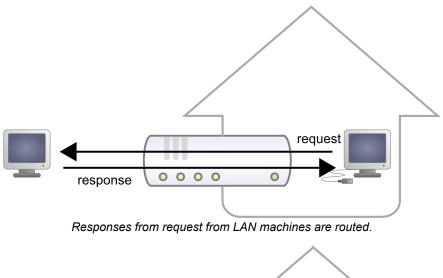
#### The NAT filter: advantages and disadvantages

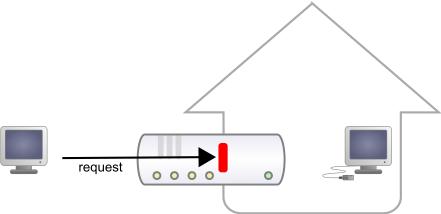
A DSL router which translates network addresses (NAT) works somewhat like a private phone switchboard (a PBX): internal extensions can call each other and call the outside; but seen from the outside, there is only one official phone number, that of the switchboard itself. You cannot reach the internal extensions from the outside.



Typical DSL configuration: LAN machines are isolated from the outside by the DSL router

Transposed to the network, we have the following: appliances connected to your home automation network can communicate with one another using a local IP address (of the 192.168.xxx.yyy type), and contact Internet servers through their public address. However, seen from the outside, you have only one official IP address, assigned to the DSL router only, and you cannot reach your network appliances directly from the outside. It is rather restrictive, but it is a relatively efficient protection against intrusions.

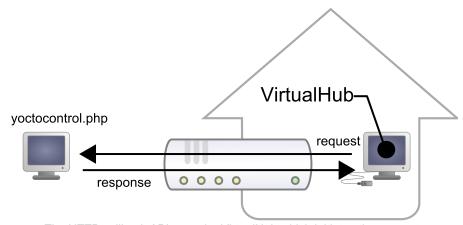




But requests from the outside are blocked.

Seeing Internet without being seen provides an enormous security advantage. However, this signifies that you cannot, a priori, set up your own web server at home to control a home automation installation from the outside. A solution to this problem, advised by numerous home automation system dealers, consists in providing outside visibility to your home automation server itself, by adding a routing rule in the NAT configuration of the DSL router. The issue of this solution is that it exposes the home automation server to external attacks.

The HTTP callback API solves this issue without having to modify the DSL router configuration. The module control script is located on an external site, and it is the *VirtualHub* which is in charge of calling it a regular intervals.



The HTTP callback API uses the VirtualHub which initiates the requests.

#### Configuration

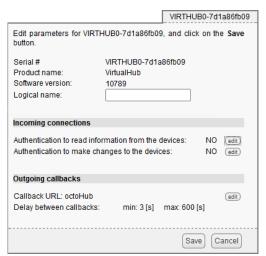
The callback API thus uses the *VirtualHub* as a gateway. All the communications are initiated by the *VirtualHub*. They are thus outgoing communications and therefore perfectly authorized by the DSL router.

You must configure the VirtualHub so that it calls the PHP script on a regular basis. To do so:

- 1. Launch a VirtualHub
- 2. Access its interface, usually 127.0.0.1:4444
- 3. Click on the configure button of the line corresponding to the VirtualHub itself
- 4. Click on the edit button of the Outgoing callbacks section



Click on the "configure" button on the first line



Click on the "edit" button of the "Outgoing callbacks" section

Edit caliback
This VirtualHub can post the advertised values of all devices on a specific URL on a regular basis. If you wish to use this feature, choose the callback type follow the steps below carefully:
1. Specify the Type of callback you want to use Yocto-API callback
Yoctopuce devices can be controlled through remote PHP scripts. That Yocto-API callback protocol is designed so it can pass trough NAT filters without opening ports. See your device user manual, PHP programming section for more details.
2. Specify the URL to use for reporting values. HTTPS protocol is not yet supported.
Callback URL: http://www.mysite.com/yoctotest/yoctocontrol.php
3. If your callback requires authentication, enter credentials here. Digest authentication is recommended, but Basic authentication works as well.
Username: yocto
Password:
4. Setup the desired frequency of notifications:
No less than 3 seconds between two notification
But notify after 600 seconds in any case
5. Press on the Test button to check your parameters.
6. When everything works, press on the OK button.
Test Ok Cancel

And select "Yocto-API callback".

You then only need to define the URL of the PHP script and, if need be, the user name and password to access this URL. Supported authentication methods are *basic* and *digest*. The second method is safer than the first one because it does not allow transfer of the password on the network.

#### Usage

From the programmer standpoint, the only difference is at the level of the *yRegisterHub* function call. Instead of using an IP address, you must use the *callback* string (or *http://callback* which is equivalent).

```
include("yocto_api.php");
yRegisterHub("callback");
```

The remainder of the code stays strictly identical. On the *VirtualHub* interface, at the bottom of the configuration window for the HTTP callback API, there is a button allowing you to test the call to the PHP script.

Be aware that the PHP script controlling the modules remotely through the HTTP callback API can be called only by the *VirtualHub*. Indeed, it requires the information posted by the *VirtualHub* to function. To code a web site which controls Yoctopuce modules interactively, you must create a user interface which stores in a file or in a database the actions to be performed on the Yoctopuce modules. These actions are then read and run by the control script.

#### Common issues

For the HTTP callback API to work, the PHP option *allow\_url\_fopen* must be set. Some web site hosts do not set it by default. The problem then manifests itself with the following error:

```
error: URL file-access is disabled in the server configuration
```

To set this option, you must create, in the repertory where the control PHP script is located, an .htaccess file containing the following line:

```
php flag "allow url fopen" "On"
```

Depending on the security policies of the host, it is sometimes impossible to authorize this option at the root of the web site, or even to install PHP scripts receiving data from a POST HTTP. In this case, place the PHP script in a subdirectory.

#### Limitations

This method that allows you to go through NAT filters cheaply has nevertheless a price. Communications being initiated by the *VirtualHub* at a more or less regular interval, reaction time to an event is clearly longer than if the Yoctopuce modules were driven directly. You can configure the reaction time in the specific window of the *VirtualHub*, but it is at least of a few seconds in the best case.

The HTTP callback Yocto-API mode is currently available in PHP, EcmaScript (Node.JS) and Java only.

# 15.5. Error handling

When you implement a program which must interact with USB modules, you cannot disregard error handling. Inevitably, there will be a time when a user will have unplugged the device, either before running the software, or even while the software is running. The Yoctopuce library is designed to help you support this kind of behavior, but your code must nevertheless be conceived to interpret in the best possible way the errors indicated by the library.

The simplest way to work around the problem is the one used in the short examples provided in this chapter: before accessing a module, check that it is online with the <code>isOnline</code> function, and then hope that it will stay so during the fraction of a second necessary for the following code lines to run. This method is not perfect, but it can be sufficient in some cases. You must however be aware that you cannot completely exclude an error which would occur after the call to <code>isOnline</code> and which could crash the software. The only way to prevent this is to implement one of the two error handling techniques described below.

The method recommended by most programming languages for unpredictable error handling is the use of exceptions. By default, it is the behavior of the Yoctopuce library. If an error happens while you try to access a module, the library throws an exception. In this case, there are three possibilities:

- If your code catches the exception and handles it, everything goes well.
- If your program is running in debug mode, you can relatively easily determine where the problem happened and view the explanatory message linked to the exception.
- Otherwise... the exception makes your program crash, bang!

As this latest situation is not the most desirable, the Yoctopuce library offers another possibility for error handling, allowing you to create a robust program without needing to catch exceptions at every line of code. You simply need to call the YAPI.DisableExceptions() function to commute the library to a mode where exceptions for all the functions are systematically replaced by specific return values, which can be tested by the caller when necessary. For each function, the name of each return value in case of error is systematically documented in the library reference. The name always follows the same logic: a get\_state() method returns a ClassName.STATE\_INVALID value, a get\_currentValue method returns a ClassName.CURRENTVALUE\_INVALID value, and so on. In any case, the returned value is of the expected type and is not a null pointer which would risk crashing your program. At worst, if you display the value without testing it, it will be outside the expected bounds for the returned value. In the case of functions which do not normally return information, the return value is YAPI\_SUCCESS if everything went well, and a different error code in case of failure.

When you work without exceptions, you can obtain an error code and an error message explaining the source of the error. You can request them from the object which returned the error, calling the errType() and errMessage() methods. Their returned values contain the same information as in the exceptions when they are active.

# 16. Using Yocto-Relay with Visual Basic .NET

VisualBasic has long been the most favored entrance path to the Microsoft world. Therefore, we had to provide our library for this language, even if the new trend is shifting to C#. All the examples and the project models are tested with Microsoft VisualBasic 2010 Express, freely available on the Microsoft web site<sup>1</sup>.

### 16.1. Installation

Download the Visual Basic Yoctopuce library from the Yoctopuce web site<sup>2</sup>. There is no setup program, simply copy the content of the zip file into the directory of your choice. You mostly need the content of the Sources directory. The other directories contain the documentation and a few sample programs. All sample projects are Visual Basic 2010, projects, if you are using a previous version, you may have to recreate the projects structure from scratch.

# 16.2. Using the Yoctopuce API in a Visual Basic project

The Visual Basic.NET Yoctopuce library is composed of a DLL and of source files in Visual Basic. The DLL is not a .NET DLL, but a classic DLL, written in C, which manages the low level communications with the modules<sup>3</sup>. The source files in Visual Basic manage the high level part of the API. Therefore, your need both this DLL and the .vb files of the sources directory to create a project managing Yoctopuce modules.

#### Configuring a Visual Basic project

The following indications are provided for Visual Studio Express 2010, but the process is similar for other versions. Start by creating your project. Then, on the *Solution Explorer* panel, right click on your project, and select "Add" and then "Add an existing item".

A file selection window opens. Select the yocto\_api.vb file and the files corresponding to the functions of the Yoctopuce modules that your project is going to manage. If in doubt, select all the files.

You then have the choice between simply adding these files to your project, or to add them as links (the **Add** button is in fact a scroll-down menu). In the first case, Visual Studio copies the selected files into your project. In the second case, Visual Studio simply keeps a link on the original files. We recommend you to use links, which makes updates of the library much easier.

<sup>1</sup> http://www.microsoft.com/visualstudio/en-us/products/2010-editions/visual-basic-express

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> www.yoctopuce.com/EN/libraries.php

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The sources of this DLL are available in the C++ API

Then add in the same manner the <code>yapi.dll DLL</code>, located in the <code>Sources/dll</code> directory<sup>4</sup>. Then, from the **Solution Explorer** window, right click on the DLL, select **Properties** and in the **Properties** panel, set the **Copy to output folder** to **always**. You are now ready to use your Yoctopuce modules from Visual Studio.

In order to keep them simple, all the examples provided in this documentation are console applications. Naturally, the libraries function in a strictly identical manner if you integrate them in an application with a graphical interface.

## 16.3. Control of the Relay function

A few lines of code are enough to use a Yocto-Relay. Here is the skeleton of a Visual Basic code snipplet to use the Relay function.

```
[...]

' Enable detection of USB devices

Dim errmsg As String errmsg
YAPI.RegisterHub("usb", errmsg)
[...]

' Retrieve the object used to interact with the device

Dim relay As YRelay
relay = YRelay.FindRelay("RELAYLO1-123456.relay1")

' Hot-plug is easy: just check that the device is online

If (relay.isOnline()) Then

' Use relay.set_state()
[...]

End If
[...]
```

Let's look at these lines in more details.

#### YAPI.RegisterHub

The YAPI.RegisterHub function initializes the Yoctopuce API and indicates where the modules should be looked for. When used with the parameter "usb", it will use the modules locally connected to the computer running the library. If the initialization does not succeed, this function returns a value different from YAPI\_SUCCESS and errmsg contains the error message.

#### YRelay.FindRelay

The YRelay.FindRelay function allows you to find a relay from the serial number of the module on which it resides and from its function name. You can use logical names as well, as long as you have initialized them. Let us imagine a Yocto-Relay module with serial number *RELAYLO1-123456* which you have named "*MyModule*", and for which you have given the *relay1* function the name "*MyFunction*". The following five calls are strictly equivalent, as long as "*MyFunction*" is defined only once.

```
relay = YRelay.FindRelay("RELAYLO1-123456.relay1")
relay = YRelay.FindRelay("RELAYLO1-123456.MyFunction")
relay = YRelay.FindRelay("MyModule.relay1")
relay = YRelay.FindRelay("MyModule.MyFunction")
relay = YRelay.FindRelay("MyFunction")
```

YRelay. FindRelay returns an object which you can then use at will to control the relay.

#### **isOnline**

The isOnline() method of the object returned by YRelay. FindRelay allows you to know if the corresponding module is present and in working order.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Remember to change the filter of the selection window, otherwise the DLL will not show.

#### set\_state

The <code>set\_state()</code> method of the objet returned by <code>yFindRelay</code> switches the relay position to one of its two outputs. The two possible parameter values are <code>Y\_STATE\_A</code> for output A, and <code>Y\_STATE\_B</code> for output B.

#### A real example

Launch Microsoft VisualBasic and open the corresponding sample project provided in the directory **Examples/Doc-GettingStarted-Yocto-Relay** of the Yoctopuce library.

In this example, you will recognize the functions explained above, but this time used with all side materials needed to make it work nicely as a small demo.

```
Module Module1
  Private Sub Usage()
    Dim execname = System.AppDomain.CurrentDomain.FriendlyName
    Console.WriteLine("Usage:")
    Console.WriteLine(execname + " <serial_number> < A | B >")
Console.WriteLine(execname + " <logical_name> < A | B >")
Console.WriteLine(execname + " any < A | B >")
    System. Threading. Thread. Sleep (2500)
  End Sub
  Sub Main()
    Dim argv() As String = System.Environment.GetCommandLineArgs()
    Dim errmsg As String = ""
    Dim target As String
    Dim relay As YRelay
    Dim state As Char
    If argv.Length < 3 Then Usage()</pre>
    target = argv(1)
    state = CChar(Mid(argv(2), 1, 1).ToUpper())
    REM Setup the API to use local USB devices
    If (YAPI.RegisterHub("usb", errmsg) <> YAPI_SUCCESS) Then
      Console.WriteLine("RegisterHub error: " + errmsg)
      End
    End If
    If target = "any" Then
      relay = YRelay.FirstRelay()
      If relay Is Nothing Then
        Console.WriteLine("No module connected (check USB cable) ")
      End If
      relay = YRelay.FindRelay(target + ".relay1")
    If (relay.isOnline()) Then
      If state = "A" Then relay.set_state(Y_STATE_A) Else relay.set_state(Y_STATE_B)
      Console.WriteLine("Module not connected (check identification and USB cable)")
    End If
    YAPI.FreeAPI()
  End Sub
End Module
```

# 16.4. Control of the module part

Each module can be controlled in a similar manner, you can find below a simple sample program displaying the main parameters of the module and enabling you to activate the localization beacon.

```
Imports System.IO
```

```
Imports System. Environment
Module Module1
  Sub usage()
    Console.WriteLine("usage: demo <serial or logical name> [ON/OFF]")
  End Sub
  Sub Main()
    Dim argv() As String = System.Environment.GetCommandLineArgs()
    Dim errmsg As String = ""
    Dim m As ymodule
    If (YAPI.RegisterHub("usb", errmsg) <> YAPI_SUCCESS) Then
   Console.WriteLine("RegisterHub error:" + errmsg)
    End If
    If argv.Length < 2 Then usage()</pre>
    m = YModule.FindModule(argv(1)) REM use serial or logical name
    If (m.isOnline()) Then
      If argv.Length > 2 Then
         If argv(2) = "ON" Then m.set beacon(Y BEACON ON)
         If argv(2) = "OFF" Then m.set beacon(Y BEACON OFF)
      End If
      Console.WriteLine("serial: " + m.get_serialNumber())
Console.WriteLine("logical name: " + m.get_logicalName())
      Console.WriteLine("luminosity:
                                            " + Str(m.get_luminosity()))
      Console.Write("beacon: ")

If (m.get_beacon() = Y_BEACON_ON) Then
        Console.WriteLine("ON")
      Else
        Console.WriteLine("OFF")
      End If
                                           " + Str(m.get_upTime() / 1000) + " sec")
      Console.WriteLine("upTime:
      Console.WriteLine("USB current: " + Str(m.get_usbCurrent()) + " mA")
      Console.WriteLine("Logs:")
      Console.WriteLine(m.get lastLogs())
    Else
      Console.WriteLine(argv(1) + " not connected (check identification and USB cable)")
    End If
    YAPI.FreeAPI()
  End Sub
End Module
```

Each property xxx of the module can be read thanks to a method of type  $get_xxxx()$ , and properties which are not read-only can be modified with the help of the  $set_xxx()$  method. For more details regarding the used functions, refer to the API chapters.

#### Changing the module settings

When you want to modify the settings of a module, you only need to call the corresponding  $\mathtt{set}\_\mathtt{xxx}()$  function. However, this modification is performed only in the random access memory (RAM) of the module: if the module is restarted, the modifications are lost. To memorize them persistently, it is necessary to ask the module to save its current configuration in its permanent memory. To do so, use the  $\mathtt{saveToFlash}()$  method. Inversely, it is possible to force the module to forget its current settings by using the  $\mathtt{revertFromFlash}()$  method. The short example below allows you to modify the logical name of a module.

```
Module Module1

Sub usage()

Console.WriteLine("usage: demo <serial or logical name> <new logical name>")
    End
    End Sub

Sub Main()
    Dim argv() As String = System.Environment.GetCommandLineArgs()
    Dim errmsg As String = ""
```

```
Dim newname As String
    Dim m As YModule
    If (argv.Length <> 3) Then usage()
   REM Setup the API to use local USB devices
    If YAPI.RegisterHub("usb", errmsg) <> YAPI SUCCESS Then
      Console.WriteLine("RegisterHub error: " + errmsg)
    End If
   m = YModule.FindModule(argv(1)) REM use serial or logical name
    If m.isOnline() Then
      newname = argv(2)
      If (Not YAPI.CheckLogicalName(newname)) Then
        Console.WriteLine("Invalid name (" + newname + ")")
      End If
     m.set logicalName(newname)
      m.saveToFlash() REM do not forget this
      Console.Write("Module: serial= " + m.get_serialNumber)
      Console.Write(" / name= " + m.get logicalName())
    Else
     Console.Write("not connected (check identification and USB cable")
    End If
    YAPI.FreeAPI()
  End Sub
End Module
```

Warning: the number of write cycles of the nonvolatile memory of the module is limited. When this limit is reached, nothing guaranties that the saving process is performed correctly. This limit, linked to the technology employed by the module micro-processor, is located at about 100000 cycles. In short, you can use the <code>saveToFlash()</code> function only 100000 times in the life of the module. Make sure you do not call this function within a loop.

#### Listing the modules

Obtaining the list of the connected modules is performed with the <code>yFirstModule()</code> function which returns the first module found. Then, you only need to call the <code>nextModule()</code> function of this object to find the following modules, and this as long as the returned value is not <code>Nothing</code>. Below a short example listing the connected modules.

```
Module Module1
  Sub Main()
    Dim M As ymodule
    Dim errmsg As String = ""
    REM Setup the API to use local USB devices
    If YAPI.RegisterHub("usb", errmsg) <> YAPI_SUCCESS Then
      Console.WriteLine("RegisterHub error: " + errmsg)
      End
    End If
    Console.WriteLine("Device list")
    M = YModule.FirstModule()
    While M IsNot Nothing
      Console.WriteLine(M.get serialNumber() + " (" + M.get productName() + ")")
      M = M.nextModule()
    End While
    YAPI.FreeAPI()
  End Sub
End Module
```

## 16.5. Error handling

When you implement a program which must interact with USB modules, you cannot disregard error handling. Inevitably, there will be a time when a user will have unplugged the device, either before running the software, or even while the software is running. The Yoctopuce library is designed to help you support this kind of behavior, but your code must nevertheless be conceived to interpret in the best possible way the errors indicated by the library.

The simplest way to work around the problem is the one used in the short examples provided in this chapter: before accessing a module, check that it is online with the <code>isOnline</code> function, and then hope that it will stay so during the fraction of a second necessary for the following code lines to run. This method is not perfect, but it can be sufficient in some cases. You must however be aware that you cannot completely exclude an error which would occur after the call to <code>isOnline</code> and which could crash the software. The only way to prevent this is to implement one of the two error handling techniques described below.

The method recommended by most programming languages for unpredictable error handling is the use of exceptions. By default, it is the behavior of the Yoctopuce library. If an error happens while you try to access a module, the library throws an exception. In this case, there are three possibilities:

- If your code catches the exception and handles it, everything goes well.
- If your program is running in debug mode, you can relatively easily determine where the problem happened and view the explanatory message linked to the exception.
- Otherwise... the exception makes your program crash, bang!

As this latest situation is not the most desirable, the Yoctopuce library offers another possibility for error handling, allowing you to create a robust program without needing to catch exceptions at every line of code. You simply need to call the YAPI.DisableExceptions() function to commute the library to a mode where exceptions for all the functions are systematically replaced by specific return values, which can be tested by the caller when necessary. For each function, the name of each return value in case of error is systematically documented in the library reference. The name always follows the same logic: a get\_state() method returns a ClassName.STATE\_INVALID value, a get\_currentValue method returns a ClassName.CURRENTVALUE\_INVALID value, and so on. In any case, the returned value is of the expected type and is not a null pointer which would risk crashing your program. At worst, if you display the value without testing it, it will be outside the expected bounds for the returned value. In the case of functions which do not normally return information, the return value is YAPI\_SUCCESS if everything went well, and a different error code in case of failure.

When you work without exceptions, you can obtain an error code and an error message explaining the source of the error. You can request them from the object which returned the error, calling the errType() and errMessage() methods. Their returned values contain the same information as in the exceptions when they are active.

# 17. Using Yocto-Relay with Delphi

Delphi is a descendent of Turbo-Pascal. Originally, Delphi was produced by Borland, Embarcadero now edits it. The strength of this language resides in its ease of use, as anyone with some notions of the Pascal language can develop a Windows application in next to no time. Its only disadvantage is to cost something<sup>1</sup>.

Delphi libraries are provided not as VCL components, but directly as source files. These files are compatible with most Delphi versions.<sup>2</sup>

To keep them simple, all the examples provided in this documentation are console applications. Obviously, the libraries work in a strictly identical way with VCL applications.

You will soon notice that the Delphi API defines many functions which return objects. You do not need to deallocate these objects yourself, the API does it automatically at the end of the application.

# 17.1. Preparation

Go to the Yoctopuce web site and download the Yoctopuce Delphi libraries<sup>3</sup>. Uncompress everything in a directory of your choice, add the subdirectory *sources* in the list of directories of Delphi libraries.<sup>4</sup>

By default, the Yoctopuce Delphi library uses the *yapi.dll* DLL, all the applications you will create with Delphi must have access to this DLL. The simplest way to ensure this is to make sure *yapi.dll* is located in the same directory as the executable file of your application.

# 17.2. Control of the Relay function

A few lines of code are enough to use a Yocto-Relay. Here is the skeleton of a Delphi code snipplet to use the Relay function.

```
uses yocto_api, yocto_relay;
var errmsg: string;
   relay: TYRelay;
[...]
```

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Actually, Borland provided free versions (for personal use) of Delphi 2006 and 2007. Look for them on the Internet, you may still be able to download them.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Delphi libraries are regularly tested with Delphi 5 and Delphi XE2.

<sup>3</sup> www.yoctopuce.com/EN/libraries.php

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Use the **Tools / Environment options** menu.

Let's look at these lines in more details.

#### yocto\_api and yocto\_relay

These two units provide access to the functions allowing you to manage Yoctopuce modules. yocto\_api must always be used, yocto\_relay is necessary to manage modules containing a relay, such as Yocto-Relay.

#### yRegisterHub

The <code>yRegisterHub</code> function initializes the Yoctopuce API and specifies where the modules should be looked for. When used with the parameter <code>'usb'</code>, it will use the modules locally connected to the computer running the library. If the initialization does not succeed, this function returns a value different from <code>YAPI SUCCESS</code> and <code>errmsq</code> contains the error message.

#### yFindRelay

The yFindRelay function allows you to find a relay from the serial number of the module on which it resides and from its function name. You can also use logical names, as long as you have initialized them. Let us imagine a Yocto-Relay module with serial number *RELAYLO1-123456* which you have named "*MyModule*", and for which you have given the *relay1* function the name "*MyFunction*". The following five calls are strictly equivalent, as long as "*MyFunction*" is defined only once.

```
relay := yFindRelay("RELAYLO1-123456.relay1");
relay := yFindRelay("RELAYLO1-123456.MyFunction");
relay := yFindRelay("MyModule.relay1");
relay := yFindRelay("MyModule.MyFunction");
relay := yFindRelay("MyFunction");
```

yFindRelay returns an object which you can then use at will to control the relay.

#### **isOnline**

The isOnline() method of the object returned by yFindRelay allows you to know if the corresponding module is present and in working order.

#### set state

The  $set\_state()$  method of the objet returned by yFindRelay switches the relay position to one of its two outputs. The two possible parameter values are  $Y\_STATE\_A$  for output A, and  $Y\_STATE\_B$  for output B.

#### A real example

Launch your Delphi environment, copy the yapi.dll DLL in a directory, create a new console application in the same directory, and copy-paste the piece of code below:

In this example, you will recognize the functions explained above, but this time used with all side materials needed to make it work nicely as a small demo.

```
program helloworld;
{$APPTYPE CONSOLE}
uses
```

```
SysUtils,
  Windows,
  yocto api,
  yocto_relay;
procedure usage();
   execname:string;
  begin
   execname := ExtractFileName(paramstr(0));
    WriteLn('Usage:');
   WriteLn(execname + ' <serial_number> <channel> < A | B >');
   WriteIn(execname + ' <logical_name> <channel> < A | B >');
WriteIn(execname + ' any <channel> < A | B >');
    WriteLn('Example:');
    WriteLn(execname + ' any 2 B');
    sleep(2500);
    halt;
  end:
errmsg, target, state, channel:string;
relay: TYRelay;
m : TYModule;
begin
 if (paramcount<3) then usage();</pre>
  // parse command line
  target := UpperCase(paramstr(1));
 channel := paramstr(2);
state := UpperCase(paramstr(3));
  // Setup the API to use local USB devices
  if (YRegisterHub('usb', errmsg) <> YAPI SUCCESS) then
    begin
      writeln('RegisterHub error: ' + errmsg);
      halt;
    end;
  if (target='ANY') then
    begin
      // try to find the first vavailable relay
      relay := YFirstRelay();
      if (relay =nil) then
         writeln('No module connected (check USB cable)');
         halt:
       end:
       // retreive the hosting device serial
      m := relay.get module();
      target := m. get_serialNumber();
     end:
 Writeln('using ' + target);
// retreive the right channel
  relay := YFindRelay(target + '.relay'+channel);
  // lets switch the relay
  if (relay.isOnline()) then
    begin
      if (state = 'B') then relay.set output(Y OUTPUT ON)
                         else relay.set output(Y OUTPUT OFF);
   else writeln('Module not connected (check identification and USB cable)');
  yFreeAPI();
end.
```

# 17.3. Control of the module part

Each module can be controlled in a similar manner, you can find below a simple sample program displaying the main parameters of the module and enabling you to activate the localization beacon.

```
program modulecontrol;
{SAPPTYPE CONSOLE}
  SysUtils,
  yocto api;
  serial = 'RELAYLO1-123456'; // use serial number or logical name
procedure refresh(module:Tymodule);
  begin
    if (module.isOnline()) then
     begin
       Writeln('');
       Writeln('Serial : ' + module.get_serialNumber());
Writeln('Logical name : ' + module.get_logicalName());
       Writeln('Luminosity : ' + intToStr(module.get luminosity()));
       Write('Beacon
                        : ');
       if (module.get_beacon()=Y_BEACON_ON) then Writeln('on')
                                               else Writeln('off');
                              : ' + intToStr(module.get_upTime() div 1000)+'s');
       Writeln('USB current : ' + intToStr(module.get_usbCurrent())+'mA');
       Writeln('Logs
       Writeln(module.get lastlogs());
       Writeln('');
       Writeln('r : refresh / b:beacon ON / space : beacon off');
     end
    else Writeln ('Module not connected (check identification and USB cable)');
  end;
procedure beacon (module: Tymodule; state:integer);
    module.set beacon(state);
    refresh (module);
  end:
  module : TYModule;
  c : char;
  errmsg : string;
  // Setup the API to use local USB devices
  if yRegisterHub('usb', errmsg)<>YAPI_SUCCESS then
    Write('RegisterHub error: '+errmsg);
    exit:
  end:
  module := yFindModule(serial);
  refresh (module);
  repeat
    read(c);
    case c of
     'r': refresh(module);
     'b': beacon (module, Y_BEACON_ON);
     ' ': beacon (module, Y BEACON OFF);
    end:
  until c = 'x';
  yFreeAPI();
```

Each property xxx of the module can be read thanks to a method of type  $get_xxxx$ (), and properties which are not read-only can be modified with the help of the  $set_xxx$ () method. For more details regarding the used functions, refer to the API chapters.

#### Changing the module settings

When you want to modify the settings of a module, you only need to call the corresponding  $\mathtt{set}\_\mathtt{xxx}()$  function. However, this modification is performed only in the random access memory (RAM) of the module: if the module is restarted, the modifications are lost. To memorize them persistently, it is necessary to ask the module to save its current configuration in its permanent memory. To do so, use the  $\mathtt{save}\mathtt{ToFlash}()$  method. Inversely, it is possible to force the module to

forget its current settings by using the revertFromFlash() method. The short example below allows you to modify the logical name of a module.

```
program savesettings;
{$APPTYPE CONSOLE}
uses
  SysUtils,
  yocto api;
const
  serial = 'RELAYLO1-123456'; // use serial number or logical name
var
 module : TYModule;
  errmsg : string;
  newname : string;
begin
    Setup the API to use local USB devices
  if yRegisterHub('usb', errmsg)<>YAPI SUCCESS then
    Write('RegisterHub error: '+errmsg);
    exit;
  end;
  module := yFindModule(serial);
  if (not(module.isOnline)) then
     writeln('Module not connected (check identification and USB cable)');
     exit;
   end:
  Writeln('Current logical name : '+module.get logicalName());
  Write('Enter new name : ');
  Readln (newname):
  if (not(yCheckLogicalName(newname))) then
     Writeln('invalid logical name');
     exit;
   end:
  module.set logicalName(newname);
  module.saveToFlash();
  vFreeAPI():
  Writeln('logical name is now : '+module.get logicalName());
```

Warning: the number of write cycles of the nonvolatile memory of the module is limited. When this limit is reached, nothing guaranties that the saving process is performed correctly. This limit, linked to the technology employed by the module micro-processor, is located at about 100000 cycles. In short, you can use the <code>saveToFlash()</code> function only 100000 times in the life of the module. Make sure you do not call this function within a loop.

#### Listing the modules

Obtaining the list of the connected modules is performed with the <code>yFirstModule()</code> function which returns the first module found. Then, you only need to call the <code>nextModule()</code> function of this object to find the following modules, and this as long as the returned value is not <code>nil</code>. Below a short example listing the connected modules.

```
program inventory;
{$APPTYPE CONSOLE}
uses
    SysUtils,
    yocto_api;

var
    module : TYModule;
    errmsg : string;

begin
    // Setup the API to use local USB devices
    if yRegisterHub('usb', errmsg)<>yAPI_SUCCESS then
    begin
```

```
Write('RegisterHub error: '+errmsg);
    exit;
end;

Writeln('Device list');

module := yFirstModule();
while module<>nil do
    begin
    Writeln( module.get_serialNumber()+' ('+module.get_productName()+')');
    module := module.nextModule();
    end;
    yFreeAPI();
end.
```

## 17.4. Error handling

When you implement a program which must interact with USB modules, you cannot disregard error handling. Inevitably, there will be a time when a user will have unplugged the device, either before running the software, or even while the software is running. The Yoctopuce library is designed to help you support this kind of behavior, but your code must nevertheless be conceived to interpret in the best possible way the errors indicated by the library.

The simplest way to work around the problem is the one used in the short examples provided in this chapter: before accessing a module, check that it is online with the <code>isOnline</code> function, and then hope that it will stay so during the fraction of a second necessary for the following code lines to run. This method is not perfect, but it can be sufficient in some cases. You must however be aware that you cannot completely exclude an error which would occur after the call to <code>isOnline</code> and which could crash the software. The only way to prevent this is to implement one of the two error handling techniques described below.

The method recommended by most programming languages for unpredictable error handling is the use of exceptions. By default, it is the behavior of the Yoctopuce library. If an error happens while you try to access a module, the library throws an exception. In this case, there are three possibilities:

- If your code catches the exception and handles it, everything goes well.
- If your program is running in debug mode, you can relatively easily determine where the problem happened and view the explanatory message linked to the exception.
- Otherwise... the exception makes your program crash, bang!

As this latest situation is not the most desirable, the Yoctopuce library offers another possibility for error handling, allowing you to create a robust program without needing to catch exceptions at every line of code. You simply need to call the YAPI.DisableExceptions() function to commute the library to a mode where exceptions for all the functions are systematically replaced by specific return values, which can be tested by the caller when necessary. For each function, the name of each return value in case of error is systematically documented in the library reference. The name always follows the same logic: a get\_state() method returns a ClassName.STATE\_INVALID value, a get\_currentValue method returns a ClassName.CURRENTVALUE\_INVALID value, and so on. In any case, the returned value is of the expected type and is not a null pointer which would risk crashing your program. At worst, if you display the value without testing it, it will be outside the expected bounds for the returned value. In the case of functions which do not normally return information, the return value is YAPI\_SUCCESS if everything went well, and a different error code in case of failure.

When you work without exceptions, you can obtain an error code and an error message explaining the source of the error. You can request them from the object which returned the error, calling the errType() and errMessage() methods. Their returned values contain the same information as in the exceptions when they are active.

# 18. Using the Yocto-Relay with Universal Windows Platform

Universal Windows Platform (UWP) is not a language per say, but a software platform created by Microsoft. This platform allows you to run a new type of applications: the universal Windows applications. These applications can work on all machines running under Windows 10. This includes computers, tablets, smart phones, XBox One, and also Windows IoT Core.

The Yoctopuce UWP library allows you to use Yoctopuce modules in a universal Windows application and is written in C# in its entirety. You can add it to a Visual Studio 2017<sup>1</sup> project.

# 18.1. Blocking and asynchronous functions

The Universal Windows Platform does not use the Win32 API but only the Windows Runtime API which is available on all the versions of Windows 10 and for any architecture. Thanks to this library, you can use UWP on all the Windows 10 versions, including Windows 10 IoT Core.

However, using the new UWP API has some consequences: the Windows Runtime API to access the USB ports is asynchronous, and therefore the Yoctopuce library must be asynchronous as well. Concretely, the asynchronous methods do not return a result directly but a Task or Task<> object and the result can be obtained later. Fortunately, the C# language, version 6, supports the async and await keywords, which simplifies using these functions enormously. You can thus use asynchronous functions in the same way as traditional functions as long as you respect the following two rules:

- The method is declared as asynchronous with the async keyword
- The await keyword is added when calling an asynchronous function

#### Example:

```
async Task<int> MyFunction(int val)
{
    // do some long computation
    ...
    return result;
}
int res = await MyFunction(1234);
```

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://www.visualstudio.com/vs/cordova/vs/

Our library follows these two rules and can therefore use the await notation.

For you not to have to wonder wether a function is asynchronous or not, there is the following convention: **all the public methods** of the UWP library **are asynchronous**, that is that you must call them with the await keyword, **except**:

- GetTickCount(), because measuring time in an asynchronous manner does not make a lot of sense...
- FindModule(), FirstModule(), nextModule(),... because detecting and enumerating modules is performed as a background task on internal structures which are managed transparently. It is therefore not necessary to use blocking functions while going though the lists of modules.

#### 18.2. Installation

Download the Yoctopuce library for Universal Windows Platform from the Yoctopuce web site<sup>2</sup>. There is no installation software, simply copy the content of the zip file in a directory of your choice. You essentially need the content of the Sources directory. The other directories contain documentation and a few sample programs. Sample projects are Visual Studio 2017 projects. Visual Studio 2017 is available on the Microsoft web site<sup>3</sup>.

## 18.3. Using the Yoctopuce API in a Visual Studio project

Start by creating your project. Then, from the **Solution Explorer** panel right click on your project and select **Add** then **Existing element**.

A file chooser opens: select all the files in the library Sources directory.

You then have the choice between simply adding the files to your project or adding them as a link (the **Add** button is actually a drop-down menu). In the first case, Visual Studio copies the selected files into your project. In the second case, Visual Studio simply creates a link to the original files. We recommend to use links, as a potential library update is thus much easier.

#### The Package.appxmanifest file

By default a Universal Windows application doesn't have access rights to the USB ports. If you want to access USB devices, you must imperatively declare it in the Package.appxmanifest file.

Unfortunately, the edition window of this file doesn't allow this operation and you must modify the Package.appxmanifest file by hand. In the "Solution Explorer" panel, right click on the Package.appxmanifest and select "View Code".

In this XML file, we must add a DeviceCapability node in the Capabilities node. This node must have a "Name" attribute with a "humaninterfacedevice" value.

Inside this node, you must declare all the modules that can be used. Concretely, for each module, you must add a "Device" node with an "Id" attribute, which has for value a character string "vidpid:USB\_VENDORID USB\_DEVICE\_ID". The Yoctopuce USB\_VENDORID is 24e0 and you can find the USB\_DEVICE\_ID of each Yoctopuce device in the documentation in the "Characteristics" section. Finally, the "Device" node must contain a "Function" node with the "Type" attribute with a value of "usage:ff00 0001".

For the Yocto-Relay, here is what you must add in the "Capabilities" node:

```
<DeviceCapability Name="humaninterfacedevice">
  <!-- Yocto-Relay -->
  <Device Id="vidpid:24e0 000C">
       <Function Type="usage:ff00 0001" />
```

www.yoctopuce.com/EN/libraries.php

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> https://www.visualstudio.com/downloads/

```
</Device>
</DeviceCapability>
```

Unfortunately, it's not possible to write a rule authorizing all Yoctopuce modules. Therefore, you must imperatively add each module that you want to use.

## 18.4. Control of the Relay function

A few lines of code are enough to use a Yocto-Relay. Here is the skeleton of a C# code snippet to use the Relay function.

Let us look at these lines in more details.

#### YAPI.RegisterHub

The YAPI.RegisterHub function initializes the Yoctopuce API and indicates where the modules should be looked for. The parameter is the address of the virtual hub able to see the devices. If the string "usb" is passed as parameter, the API works with modules locally connected to the machine. If the initialization does not succeed, an exception is thrown.

#### YRelay.FindRelay

The YRelay.FindRelay function allows you to find a relay from the serial number of the module on which it resides and from its function name. You can use logical names as well, as long as you have initialized them. Let us imagine a Yocto-Relay module with serial number *RELAYLO1-123456* which you have named "*MyModule*", and for which you have given the *relay1* function the name "*MyFunction*". The following five calls are strictly equivalent, as long as "*MyFunction*" is defined only once.

```
relay = YRelay.FindRelay("RELAYLO1-123456.relay1");
relay = YRelay.FindRelay("RELAYLO1-123456.MaFonction");
relay = YRelay.FindRelay("MonModule.relay1");
relay = YRelay.FindRelay("MonModule.MaFonction");
relay = YRelay.FindRelay("MaFonction");
```

YRelay. FindRelay returns an object which you can then use at will to control the relay.

#### **isOnline**

The isOnline() method of the object returned by YRelay. FindRelay allows you to know if the corresponding module is present and in working order.

#### set state

The set\_state() method of the objet returned by YRelay.FindRelay switches the relay position to one of its two outputs. The two possible parameter values are YRelay.STATE\_A for output A, and YRelay.STATE B for output B.

## 18.5. A real example

Launch Visual Studio and open the corresponding project provided in the directory **Examples/Doc-GettingStarted-Yocto-Relay** of the Yoctopuce library.

Visual Studio projects contain numerous files, and most of them are not linked to the use of the Yoctopuce library. To simplify reading the code, we regrouped all the code that uses the library in the Demo class, located in the demo.cs file. Properties of this class correspond to the different fields displayed on the screen, and the Run () method contains the code which is run when the "Start" button is pushed.

In this example, you can recognize the functions explained above, but this time used with all the side materials needed to make it work nicely as a small demo.

```
using System;
using System. Diagnostics;
using System. Threading. Tasks;
using Windows.UI.Xaml.Controls;
using com.yoctopuce.YoctoAPI;
namespace Demo
  public class Demo : DemoBase
    public string HubURL { get; set; }
    public string Target { get; set;
    public string RequestedState { get; set; }
    public string Channel { get; set; }
    public override async Task<int> Run()
      trv {
        await YAPI.RegisterHub(HubURL);
        YRelay relay;
        if (Target.ToLower() == "any") {
          relay = YRelay.FirstRelay();
          if (relay == null) {
            WriteLine("No module connected (check USB cable) ");
           return -1;
          Target = await (await relay.get module()).get serialNumber();
        WriteLine("using " + Target + ".relay" + Channel);
        relay = YRelay.FindRelay(Target + ".relay" + Channel);
        if (await relay.isOnline()) {
          if (RequestedState.ToUpper() == "B")
            await relay.set state(YRelay.STATE B);
          else
           await relay.set_state(YRelay.STATE A);
        } else {
          WriteLine ("Module not connected (check identification and USB cable)");
      } catch (YAPI Exception ex) {
        WriteLine("error: " + ex.Message);
      YAPI.FreeAPI();
      return 0;
```

# 18.6. Control of the module part

Each module can be controlled in a similar manner, you can find below a simple sample program displaying the main parameters of the module and enabling you to activate the localization beacon.

```
using System;
using System.Diagnostics;
using System. Threading. Tasks;
using Windows.UI.Xaml.Controls;
using com.yoctopuce.YoctoAPI;
namespace Demo
  public class Demo : DemoBase
    public string HubURL { get; set; }
    public string Target { get; set;
    public bool Beacon { get; set; }
    public override async Task<int> Run()
       YModule m;
      string errmsg = "";
      if (await YAPI.RegisterHub(HubURL) != YAPI.SUCCESS) {
        WriteLine("RegisterHub error: " + errmsg);
         return -1;
      m = YModule.FindModule(Target + ".module"); // use serial or logical name
      if (await m.isOnline()) {
        if (Beacon) {
          await m.set_beacon(YModule.BEACON ON);
         } else {
           await m.set beacon(YModule.BEACON OFF);
        WriteLine("serial: " + await m.get_serialNumber());
        WriteLine("logical name: " + await m.get_logicalName());
WriteLine("luminosity: " + await m.get luminosity());
        Write("beacon: ");
if (await m.get_beacon() == YModule.BEACON_ON)
           WriteLine ("ON");
         else
        WriteLine("OFF");
WriteLine("upTime: " + (await m.get_upTime() / 1000) + " sec");
         WriteLine("USB current: " + await m.get usbCurrent() + " mA");
        WriteLine("Logs:\r\n" + await m.get_lastLogs());
       } else {
         WriteLine(Target + " not connected on" + HubURL +
                    "(check identification and USB cable)");
       YAPI.FreeAPI():
      return 0;
```

Each property xxx of the module can be read thanks to a method of type  $YModule.get_xxxx()$ , and properties which are not read-only can be modified with the help of the  $YModule.set_xxx()$  method. For more details regarding the used functions, refer to the API chapters.

#### Changing the module settings

When you want to modify the settings of a module, you only need to call the corresponding  $YModule.set\_xxx()$  function. However, this modification is performed only in the random access memory (RAM) of the module: if the module is restarted, the modifications are lost. To memorize them persistently, it is necessary to ask the module to save its current configuration in its permanent memory. To do so, use the YModule.saveToFlash() method. Inversely, it is possible to force the module to forget its current settings by using the YModule.revertFromFlash() method. The short example below allows you to modify the logical name of a module.

```
using System;
using System.Diagnostics;
using System.Threading.Tasks;
using Windows.UI.Xaml.Controls;
using com.yoctopuce.YoctoAPI;

namespace Demo
{
```

```
public class Demo : DemoBase
   public string HubURL { get; set; }
   public string Target { get; set;
   public string LogicalName { get; set; }
   public override async Task<int> Run()
      trv {
        YModule m:
        await YAPI.RegisterHub(HubURL);
        m = YModule.FindModule(Target); // use serial or logical name
        if (await m.isOnline()) {
          if (!YAPI.CheckLogicalName(LogicalName)) {
            WriteLine("Invalid name (" + LogicalName + ")");
            return -1;
          await m.set logicalName(LogicalName);
          await m.saveToFlash(); // do not forget this
Write("Module: serial= " + await m.get_serialNumber());
          WriteLine(" / name= " + await m.get_logicalName());
        } else {
          Write("not connected (check identification and USB cable");
      } catch (YAPI Exception ex) {
        WriteLine ("RegisterHub error: " + ex.Message);
      YAPI.FreeAPI();
      return 0;
}
```

Warning: the number of write cycles of the nonvolatile memory of the module is limited. When this limit is reached, nothing guaranties that the saving process is performed correctly. This limit, linked to the technology employed by the module micro-processor, is located at about 100000 cycles. In short, you can use the YModule.saveToFlash() function only 100000 times in the life of the module. Make sure you do not call this function within a loop.

#### Listing the modules

Obtaining the list of the connected modules is performed with the YModule.yFirstModule() function which returns the first module found. Then, you only need to call the nextModule() function of this object to find the following modules, and this as long as the returned value is not null. Below a short example listing the connected modules.

```
using System;
using System. Diagnostics;
using System. Threading. Tasks;
using Windows.UI.Xaml.Controls;
using com.yoctopuce.YoctoAPI;
namespace Demo
  public class Demo : DemoBase
    public string HubURL { get; set; }
    public override async Task<int> Run()
      YModule m;
      try {
        await YAPI.RegisterHub(HubURL);
        WriteLine("Device list");
        m = YModule.FirstModule();
        while (m != null) {
         WriteLine(await m.get serialNumber()
                    + " (" + await m.get_productName() + ")");
          m = m.nextModule();
```

```
} catch (YAPI_Exception ex) {
    WriteLine("Error:" + ex.Message);
}
YAPI.FreeAPI();
return 0;
}
}
```

# 18.7. Error handling

When you implement a program which must interact with USB modules, you cannot disregard error handling. Inevitably, there will be a time when a user will have unplugged the device, either before running the software, or even while the software is running. The Yoctopuce library is designed to help you support this kind of behavior, but your code must nevertheless be conceived to interpret in the best possible way the errors indicated by the library.

The simplest way to work around the problem is the one used in the short examples provided in this chapter: before accessing a module, check that it is online with the <code>isOnline</code> function, and then hope that it will stay so during the fraction of a second necessary for the following code lines to run. This method is not perfect, but it can be sufficient in some cases. You must however be aware that you cannot completely exclude an error which would occur after the call to <code>isOnline</code> and which could crash the software.

In the Universal Windows Platform library, error handling is implemented with exceptions. You must therefore intercept and correctly handle these exceptions if you want to have a reliable project which does not crash as soon as you disconnect a module.

Library thrown exceptions are always of the YAPI\_Exception type, so you can easily separate them from other exceptions in a  $try{...}$  catch{...} block.

Example:

```
try {
    ...
} catch (YAPI_Exception ex) {
        Debug.WriteLine("Exception from Yoctopuce lib:" + ex.Message);
} catch (Exception ex) {
        Debug.WriteLine("Other exceptions :" + ex.Message);
}
```

# 19. Using Yocto-Relay with Objective-C

Objective-C is language of choice for programming on Mac OS X, due to its integration with the Cocoa framework. In order to use the Objective-C library, you need XCode version 4.2 (earlier versions will not work), available freely when you run Lion. If you are still under Snow Leopard, you need to be registered as Apple developer to be able to download XCode 4.2. The Yoctopuce library is ARC compatible. You can therefore implement your projects either using the traditional *retain / release* method, or using the *Automatic Reference Counting*.

Yoctopuce Objective-C libraries<sup>1</sup> are integrally provided as source files. A section of the low-level library is written in pure C, but you should not need to interact directly with it: everything was done to ensure the simplest possible interaction from Objective-C.

You will soon notice that the Objective-C API defines many functions which return objects. You do not need to deallocate these objects yourself, the API does it automatically at the end of the application.

In order to keep them simple, all the examples provided in this documentation are console applications. Naturally, the libraries function in a strictly identical manner if you integrate them in an application with a graphical interface. You can find on Yoctopuce blog a detailed example<sup>2</sup> with video shots showing how to integrate the library into your projects.

# 19.1. Control of the Relay function

A few lines of code are enough to use a Yocto-Relay. Here is the skeleton of a Objective-C code snipplet to use the Relay function.

```
#import "yocto_api.h"
#import "yocto_relay.h"
...
NSError *error;
[YAPI RegisterHub:@"usb": &error]
...
// On récupère l'objet représentant le module (ici connecté en local sur USB)
relay = [YRelay FindRelay:@"RELAYLO1-123456.relay1"];

// Pour gérer le hot-plug, on vérifie que le module est là
if([relay isOnline])
{
```

www.yoctopuce.com/EN/libraries.php

www.yoctopuce.com/EN/article/new-objective-c-library-for-mac-os-x

```
// Utiliser [relay set_state]
...
}
```

Let's look at these lines in more details.

#### yocto\_api.h and yocto\_relay.h

These two import files provide access to the functions allowing you to manage Yoctopuce modules. yocto\_api.h must always be used, yocto\_relay.h is necessary to manage modules containing a relay, such as Yocto-Relay.

#### [YAPI RegisterHub]

The [YAPI RegisterHub] function initializes the Yoctopuce API and indicates where the modules should be looked for. When used with the parameter @"usb", it will use the modules locally connected to the computer running the library. If the initialization does not succeed, this function returns a value different from YAPI SUCCESS and errmsg contains the error message.

#### [Relay FindRelay]

The <code>[Relay FindRelay]</code> function allows you to find a relay from the serial number of the module on which it resides and from its function name. You can use logical names as well, as long as you have initialized them. Let us imagine a Yocto-Relay module with serial number <code>RELAYLO1-123456</code> which you have named <code>"MyModule"</code>, and for which you have given the <code>relay1</code> function the name <code>"MyFunction"</code>. The following five calls are strictly equivalent, as long as <code>"MyFunction"</code> is defined only once.

```
YRelay *relay = [Relay FindRelay:@"RELAYLO1-123456.relay1"];
YRelay *relay = [Relay FindRelay:@"RELAYLO1-123456.MyFunction"];
YRelay *relay = [Relay FindRelay:@"MyModule.relay1"];
YRelay *relay = [Relay FindRelay:@"MyModule.MyFunction"];
YRelay *relay = [Relay FindRelay:@"MyFunction"];
```

[Relay FindRelay] returns an object which you can then use at will to control the relay.

#### isOnline

The isOnline method of the object returned by [Relay FindRelay] allows you to know if the corresponding module is present and in working order.

#### set\_state

The set\_state() method of the objet returned by YRelay.FindRelay switches the relay position to one of its two outputs. The two possible parameter values are YRelay.STATE\_A for output A, and YRelay.STATE B for output B.

#### A real example

Launch Xcode 4.2 and open the corresponding sample project provided in the directory **Examples/ Doc-GettingStarted-Yocto-Relay** of the Yoctopuce library.

In this example, you will recognize the functions explained above, but this time used with all side materials needed to make it work nicely as a small demo.

```
#import <Foundation/Foundation.h>
#import "yocto_api.h"
#import "yocto_relay.h"

static void usage(void)
{
    NSLog(@"usage: demo <serial_number> [ A | B ]");
    NSLog(@" demo <logical_name> [ A | B ]");
    NSLog(@" demo any [ A | B ] (use any discovered device)");
    exit(1);
}
int main(int argc, const char * argv[])
```

```
NSError *error;
if (argc < 3) {
 usage();
@autoreleasepool {
  // Setup the API to use local USB devices
  if([YAPI RegisterHub:@"usb": &error] != YAPI_SUCCESS) {
   NSLog(@"RegisterHub error: %@", [error localizedDescription]);
 NSString *target = [NSString stringWithUTF8String:argv[1]];
  NSString *state = [NSString stringWithUTF8String:argv[2]];
            *relay;
  if ([target isEqualToString:@"any"]) {
    relay = [YRelay FirstRelay];
if (relay == NULL) {
   NSLog(@"No module connected (check USB cable)");
      return 1;
  } else {
    relay = [YRelay FindRelay:[target stringByAppendingString:@".relay1"]];
  if ([relay isOnline]) {
    if ([state isEqualToString:@"A"])
       [relay set_state:Y_STATE_A];
    else
       [relay set state:Y STATE B];
  } else {
    NSLog(@"Module not connected (check identification and USB cable) \n");
  [YAPI FreeAPI];
return 0;
```

# 19.2. Control of the module part

Each module can be controlled in a similar manner, you can find below a simple sample program displaying the main parameters of the module and enabling you to activate the localization beacon.

```
#import <Foundation/Foundation.h>
#import "yocto_api.h"
static void usage (const char *exe)
 NSLog(@"usage: %s <serial or logical name> [ON/OFF]\n", exe);
  exit(1);
int main (int argc, const char * argv[])
  NSError *error;
  @autoreleasepool {
      Setup the API to use local USB devices
    if([YAPI RegisterHub:@"usb": &error] != YAPI_SUCCESS) {
   NSLog(@"RegisterHub error: %@", [error localizedDescription]);
      return 1;
    if(argc < 2)
      usage(argv[0]);
    NSString *serial_or_name = [NSString stringWithUTF8String:argv[1]];
     // use serial or logical name
    YModule *module = [YModule FindModule:serial_or_name];
    if ([module isOnline]) {
      if (argc > 2) {
         if (strcmp(argv[2], "ON") == 0)
           [module setBeacon:Y BEACON ON];
```

Each property xxx of the module can be read thanks to a method of type  $get_xxxx$ , and properties which are not read-only can be modified with the help of the  $set_xxx$ : method. For more details regarding the used functions, refer to the API chapters.

## Changing the module settings

When you want to modify the settings of a module, you only need to call the corresponding  $\mathtt{set\_xxx}$ : function. However, this modification is performed only in the random access memory (RAM) of the module: if the module is restarted, the modifications are lost. To memorize them persistently, it is necessary to ask the module to save its current configuration in its permanent memory. To do so, use the  $\mathtt{saveToFlash}$  method. Inversely, it is possible to force the module to forget its current settings by using the  $\mathtt{revertFromFlash}$  method. The short example below allows you to modify the logical name of a module.

```
#import <Foundation/Foundation.h>
#import "yocto api.h"
static void usage (const char *exe)
 NSLog(@"usage: %s <serial> <newLogicalName>\n", exe);
  exit(1);
int main (int argc, const char * argv[])
  NSError *error;
  @autoreleasepool {
   // Setup the API to use local USB devices
    if([YAPI RegisterHub:@"usb" :&error] != YAPI_SUCCESS) {
      NSLog(@"RegisterHub error: %@", [error localizedDescription]);
      return 1;
    if(argc < 2)
      usage(argv[0]);
    NSString *serial_or_name = [NSString stringWithUTF8String:argv[1]];
     // use serial or logical name
    YModule *module = [YModule FindModule:serial or name];
    if (module.isOnline) {
      if (argc >= 3) {
        NSString *newname = [NSString stringWithUTF8String:argv[2]];
if (![YAPI CheckLogicalName:newname]) {
          NSLog(@"Invalid name (%@)\n", newname);
           usage (argv[0]);
        module.logicalName = newname;
         [module saveToFlash];
```

Warning: the number of write cycles of the nonvolatile memory of the module is limited. When this limit is reached, nothing guaranties that the saving process is performed correctly. This limit, linked to the technology employed by the module micro-processor, is located at about 100000 cycles. In short, you can use the <code>saveToFlash</code> function only 100000 times in the life of the module. Make sure you do not call this function within a loop.

## Listing the modules

Obtaining the list of the connected modules is performed with the <code>yFirstModule()</code> function which returns the first module found. Then, you only need to call the <code>nextModule()</code> function of this object to find the following modules, and this as long as the returned value is not <code>NULL</code>. Below a short example listing the connected modules.

```
#import <Foundation/Foundation.h>
#import "yocto api.h"
int main (int argc, const char * argv[])
 NSError *error;
 @autoreleasepool {
      Setup the API to use local USB devices
    if([YAPI RegisterHub:@"usb" :&error] != YAPI_SUCCESS) {
     NSLog(@"RegisterHub error: %@\n", [error localizedDescription]);
     return 1:
   NSLog(@"Device list:\n");
   YModule *module = [YModule FirstModule];
   while (module != nil) {
     {\tt NSLog} \, ({\tt @"\$@ ~\$@", module.serialNumber, module.productName);}
     module = [module nextModule];
    [YAPI FreeAPI];
 return 0:
```

# 19.3. Error handling

When you implement a program which must interact with USB modules, you cannot disregard error handling. Inevitably, there will be a time when a user will have unplugged the device, either before running the software, or even while the software is running. The Yoctopuce library is designed to help you support this kind of behavior, but your code must nevertheless be conceived to interpret in the best possible way the errors indicated by the library.

The simplest way to work around the problem is the one used in the short examples provided in this chapter: before accessing a module, check that it is online with the <code>isOnline</code> function, and then hope that it will stay so during the fraction of a second necessary for the following code lines to run. This method is not perfect, but it can be sufficient in some cases. You must however be aware that you cannot completely exclude an error which would occur after the call to <code>isOnline</code> and which could crash the software. The only way to prevent this is to implement one of the two error handling techniques described below.

The method recommended by most programming languages for unpredictable error handling is the use of exceptions. By default, it is the behavior of the Yoctopuce library. If an error happens while you try to access a module, the library throws an exception. In this case, there are three possibilities:

- If your code catches the exception and handles it, everything goes well.
- If your program is running in debug mode, you can relatively easily determine where the problem happened and view the explanatory message linked to the exception.
- Otherwise... the exception makes your program crash, bang!

As this latest situation is not the most desirable, the Yoctopuce library offers another possibility for error handling, allowing you to create a robust program without needing to catch exceptions at every line of code. You simply need to call the YAPI.DisableExceptions() function to commute the library to a mode where exceptions for all the functions are systematically replaced by specific return values, which can be tested by the caller when necessary. For each function, the name of each return value in case of error is systematically documented in the library reference. The name always follows the same logic: a get\_state() method returns a ClassName.STATE\_INVALID value, a get\_currentValue method returns a ClassName.CURRENTVALUE\_INVALID value, and so on. In any case, the returned value is of the expected type and is not a null pointer which would risk crashing your program. At worst, if you display the value without testing it, it will be outside the expected bounds for the returned value. In the case of functions which do not normally return information, the return value is YAPI\_SUCCESS if everything went well, and a different error code in case of failure.

When you work without exceptions, you can obtain an error code and an error message explaining the source of the error. You can request them from the object which returned the error, calling the errType() and errMessage() methods. Their returned values contain the same information as in the exceptions when they are active.

# 20. Using with unsupported languages

Yoctopuce modules can be driven from most common programming languages. New languages are regularly added, depending on the interest expressed by Yoctopuce product users. Nevertheless, some languages are not, and will never be, supported by Yoctopuce. There can be several reasons for this: compilers which are not available anymore, unadapted environments, etc.

However, there are alternative methods to access Yoctopuce modules from an unsupported programming language.

## 20.1. Command line

The easiest method to drive Yoctopuce modules from an unsupported programming language is to use the command line API through system calls. The command line API is in fact made of a group of small executables which are easy to call. Their output is also easy to analyze. As most programming languages allow you to make system calls, the issue is solved with a few lines of code.

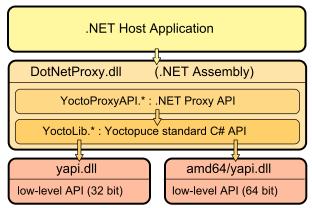
However, if the command line API is the easiest solution, it is neither the fastest nor the most efficient. For each call, the executable must initialize its own API and make an inventory of USB connected modules. This requires about one second per call.

# 20.2. .NET Assembly

A .NET Assembly enables you to share a set of pre-compiled classes to offer a service, by stating entry points which can be used by third-party applications. In our case, it's the whole Yoctopuce library which is available in the .NET Assembly, so that it can be used in any environment which supports .NET Assembly dynamic loading.

The Yoctopuce library as a .NET Assembly does not contain only the standard C# Yoctopuce library, as this wouldn't have allowed an optimal use in all environments. Indeed, we cannot expect host applications to necessarily offer a thread system or a callback system, although they are very useful to manage plug-and-play events and sensors with a high refresh rate. Likewise, we can't expect from external applications a transparent behavior in cases where a function call in Assembly creates a delay because of network communications.

Therefore, we added to it an additional layer, called *.NET Proxy* library. This additional layer offers an interface very similar to the standard library but somewhat simplified, as it internally manages all the callback mechanisms. Instead, this library offers mirror objects, called *Proxys*, which publish through *Properties* the main attributes of the Yoctopuce functions such as the current measure, configuration parameters, the state, and so on.



.NET Assembly Architecture

The callback mechanism automatically updates the properties of the *Proxys* objects, without the host application needing to care for it. The later can thus, at any time and without any risk of latency, display the value of all properties of Yoctopuce Proxy objects.

Pay attention to the fact that the <code>yapi.dll</code> low-level communication library is **not** included in the .NET Assembly. You must therefore keep it together with <code>DotNetProxyLibrary.dll</code>. The 32 bit version must be located in the same directory as <code>DotNetProxyLibrary.dll</code>, while the 64 bit version must be in a subdirectory <code>amd64</code>.

## **Example of use with MATLAB**

Here is how to load our Proxy .NET Assembly in MATLAB and how to read the value of the first sensor connected by USB found on the machine:

```
NET.addAssembly("C:/Yoctopuce/DotNetProxyLibrary.dll");
import YoctoProxyAPI.*
errmsg = YAPIProxy.RegisterHub("usb");
sensor = YSensorProxy.FindSensor("");
measure = sprintf('%.3f %s', sensor.CurrentValue, sensor.Unit);
```

## **Example of use in PowerShell**

PowerShell commands are a little stranger, but we can recognize the same structure:

```
Add-Type -Path "C:/Yoctopuce/DotNetProxyLibrary.dll"

$errmsg = [YoctoProxyAPI.YAPIProxy]::RegisterHub("usb")

$sensor = [YoctoProxyAPI.YSensorProxy]::FindSensor("")

$measure = "{0:n3} {1}" -f $sensor.CurrentValue, $sensor.Unit
```

## Specificities of the .NET Proxy library

With regards to classic Yoctopuce libraries, the following differences in particular should be noted:

#### No FirstModule/nextModule method

To obtain an object referring to the first found module, we call <code>YModuleProxy.FindModule("")</code>. If there is no connected module, this method returns an object with its <code>module.IsOnline</code> property set to <code>False</code>. As soon as a module is connected, the property changes to <code>True</code> and the module hardware identifier is updated.

To list modules, you can call the module. GetSimilarFunctions() method which returns an array of character strings containing the identifiers of all the modules which were found.

#### No callback function

Callback functions are implemented internally and they update the object properties. You can therefore simply poll the properties, without significant performance penalties. Be aware that if you

use one of the function that disables callbacks, the automatic refresh of object properties may not work anymore.

A new method YAPIProxy. GetLog makes it possible to retrieve low-level debug logs without using callbacks.

#### **Enumerated types**

In order to maximize compatibility with host applications, the .NET Proxy library does not use true .NET enumerated types, but simple integers. For each enumerated type, the library includes public constants named according to the possible values. Contrarily to standard Yoctopuce libraries, numeric values always start from 1, as the value 0 is reserved to return an invalid value, for instance when the device is disconnected.

#### Invalid numeric results

For all numeric results, rather than using an arbitrary constant, the invalid value returned in case of error is *NaN*. You should therefore use function *isNaN()* to detect this value.

# **Using .NET Assembly without the Proxy library**

If for a reason or another you don't want to use the Proxy library, and if your environment allows it, you can use the standard C# API as it is located in the Assembly, under the YoctoLib namespace. Beware however not to mix both types of use: either you go through the Proxy library, or you use he YoctoLib version directly, but not both!

# **Compatibilité**

For the LabVIEW Yoctopuce library to work correctly with your Yoctopuce modules, these modules need to have firmware 37120, or higher.

In order to be compatible with as many versions of Windows as possible, including Windows XP, the *DotNetProxyLibrary.dll* library is compiled in .NET 3.5, which is available by default on all the Windows versions since XP. As of today, we have never met any non-Windows environment able to load a .NET Assembly, so we only ship the low-level communication dll for Windows together with the assembly.

# 20.3. VirtualHub and HTTP GET

The *VirtualHub* is available on almost all current platforms. It is generally used as a gateway to provide access to Yoctopuce modules from languages which prevent direct access to hardware layers of a computer (JavaScript, PHP, Java, ...).

In fact, the *VirtualHub* is a small web server able to route HTTP requests to Yoctopuce modules. This means that if you can make an HTTP request from your programming language, you can drive Yoctopuce modules, even if this language is not officially supported.

### **REST interface**

At a low level, the modules are driven through a REST API. Thus, to control a module, you only need to perform appropriate requests on the *VirtualHub*. By default, the *VirtualHub* HTTP port is 4444.

An important advantage of this technique is that preliminary tests are very easy to implement. You only need a *VirtualHub* and a simple web browser. If you copy the following URL in your preferred browser, while the *VirtualHub* is running, you obtain the list of the connected modules.

```
http://127.0.0.1:4444/api/services/whitePages.txt
```

Note that the result is displayed as text, but if you request *whitePages.xml*, you obtain an XML result. Likewise, *whitePages.json* allows you to obtain a JSON result. The *html* extension even allows you to display a rough interface where you can modify values in real time. The whole REST API is available in these different formats.

## Driving a module through the REST interface

Each Yoctopuce module has its own REST interface, available in several variants. Let us imagine a Yocto-Relay with the *RELAYLO1-12345* serial number and the *myModule* logical name. The following URL allows you to know the state of the module.

```
http://127.0.0.1:4444/bySerial/RELAYLO1-12345/api/module.txt
```

You can naturally also use the module logical name rather than its serial number.

```
http://127.0.0.1:4444/byName/myModule/api/module.txt
```

To retrieve the value of a module property, simply add the name of the property below *module*. For example, if you want to know the signposting led luminosity, send the following request:

```
http://127.0.0.1:4444/bySerial/RELAYLO1-12345/api/module/luminosity
```

To change the value of a property, modify the corresponding attribute. Thus, to modify the luminosity, send the following request:

```
http://127.0.0.1:4444/bySerial/RELAYLO1-12345/api/module?luminosity=100
```

# Driving the module functions through the REST interface

The module functions can be manipulated in the same way. To know the state of the relay1 function, build the following URL:

```
http://127.0.0.1:4444/bySerial/RELAYLO1-12345/api/relay1.txt
```

Note that if you can use logical names for the modules instead of their serial number, you cannot use logical names for functions. Only hardware names are authorized to access functions.

You can retrieve a module function attribute in a way rather similar to that used with the modules. For example:

```
http://127.0.0.1:4444/bySerial/RELAYLO1-12345/api/relay1/logicalName
```

Rather logically, attributes can be modified in the same manner.

```
http://127.0.0.1:4444/bySerial/RELAYLO1-12345/api/relay1?logicalName=myFunction
```

You can find the list of available attributes for your Yocto-Relay at the beginning of the *Programming* chapter.

## Accessing Yoctopuce data logger through the REST interface

This section only applies to devices with a built-in data logger.

The preview of all recorded data streams can be retrieved in JSON format using the following URL:

```
http://127.0.0.1:4444/bySerial/RELAYLO1-12345/dataLogger.json
```

Individual measures for any given stream can be obtained by appending the desired function identifier as well as start time of the stream:

```
http://127.0.0.1:4444/bySerial/RELAYLO1-12345/dataLogger.json?id=relay1&utc=1389801080
```

# 20.4. Using dynamic libraries

The low level Yoctopuce API is available under several formats of dynamic libraries written in C. The sources are available with the C++ API. If you use one of these low level libraries, you do not need the *VirtualHub* anymore.

Filename	Platform
libyapi.dylib	Max OS X
libyapi-amd64.so	Linux Intel (64 bits)
libyapi-armel.so	Linux ARM EL (32 bits)
libyapi-armhf.so	Linux ARM HL (32 bits)
libyapi-aarch64.so	Linux ARM (64 bits)
libyapi-i386.so	Linux Intel (32 bits)
yapi64.dll	Windows (64 bits)
yapi.dll	Windows (32 bits)

These dynamic libraries contain all the functions necessary to completely rebuild the whole high level API in any language able to integrate these libraries. This chapter nevertheless restrains itself to describing basic use of the modules.

## Driving a module

The three essential functions of the low level API are the following:

```
int yapiInitAPI(int connection_type, char *errmsg);
int yapiUpdateDeviceList(int forceupdate, char *errmsg);
int yapiHTTPRequest(char *device, char *request, char* buffer,int buffsize,int *fullsize, char *errmsg);
```

The *yapilnitAPI* function initializes the API and must be called once at the beginning of the program. For a USB type connection, the *connection\_type* parameter takes value 1. The *errmsg* parameter must point to a 255 character buffer to retrieve a potential error message. This pointer can also point to *null*. The function returns a negative integer in case of error, zero otherwise.

The *yapiUpdateDeviceList* manages the inventory of connected Yoctopuce modules. It must be called at least once. To manage hot plug and detect potential newly connected modules, this function must be called at regular intervals. The *forceupdate* parameter must take value 1 to force a hardware scan. The *errmsg* parameter must point to a 255 character buffer to retrieve a potential error message. This pointer can also point to *null*. The function returns a negative integer in case of error, zero otherwise.

Finally, the *yapiHTTPRequest* function sends HTTP requests to the module REST API. The *device* parameter contains the serial number or the logical name of the module which you want to reach. The *request* parameter contains the full HTTP request (including terminal line breaks). *buffer* points to a character buffer long enough to contain the answer. *buffsize* is the size of the buffer. *fullsize* is a pointer to an integer to which will be assigned the actual size of the answer. The *errmsg* parameter must point to a 255 character buffer to retrieve a potential error message. This pointer can also point to *null*. The function returns a negative integer in case of error, zero otherwise.

The format of the requests is the same as the one described in the *VirtualHub et HTTP GET* section. All the character strings used by the API are strings made of 8-bit characters: Unicode and UTF8 are not supported.

The resutlt returned in the buffer variable respects the HTTP protocol. It therefore includes an HTTP header. This header ends with two empty lines, that is a sequence of four ASCII characters 13, 10, 13, 10.

Here is a sample program written in pascal using the *yapi.dll* DLL to read and then update the luminosity of a module.

```
external 'yapi.dll' name 'yapiInitAPI';
function yapiHTTPRequest(device:pansichar;url:pansichar; buffer:pansichar;
                      buffsize:integer;var fullsize:integer;
                      errmsg : pansichar):integer;cdecl;
external 'yapi.dll' name 'yapiHTTPRequest';
errmsgBuffer : array [0..256] of ansichar;
               : array [0..1024] of ansichar;
dataBuffer
errmsg,data : pansichar; fullsize,p : integer;
const
              = 'RELAYLO1-12345';
  serial
  getValue = 'GET /api/module/luminosity HTTP/1.1'#13#10#13#10;
  setValue = 'GET /api/module?luminosity=100 HTTP/1.1'#13#10#13#10;
begin
  errmsg := @errmsgBuffer;
  data := @dataBuffer;
// API initialization
  data
  if(yapiInitAPI(1,errmsg)<0) then</pre>
    writeln(errmsq);
   halt;
  end:
  // forces a device inventory
  if( yapiUpdateDeviceList(1,errmsg)<0) then</pre>
   begin
     writeln(errmsg);
    halt;
  end:
  // requests the module luminosity
  if (yapiHTTPRequest(serial,getValue,data,sizeof(dataBuffer),fullsize,errmsg)<0) then
     writeln(errmsg);
    halt;
  // searches for the HTTP header end
  p := pos(#13#10#13#10, data);
  // displays the response minus the HTTP header
  writeln(copy(data,p+4,length(data)-p-3));
  // changes the luminosity
  if (yapiHTTPRequest(serial, setValue, data, sizeof(dataBuffer), fullsize, errmsg) < 0) then
  begin
    writeln(errmsq);
     halt;
   end:
end.
```

#### Module inventory

To perform an inventory of Yoctopuce modules, you need two functions from the dynamic library:

```
int yapiGetAllDevices(int *buffer,int maxsize,int *neededsize,char *errmsg);
int yapiGetDeviceInfo(int devdesc,yDeviceSt *infos, char *errmsg);
```

The *yapiGetAllDevices* function retrieves the list of all connected modules as a list of handles. *buffer* points to a 32-bit integer array which contains the returned handles. *maxsize* is the size in bytes of the buffer. To *neededsize* is assigned the necessary size to store all the handles. From this, you can deduce either the number of connected modules or that the input buffer is too small. The *errmsg* parameter must point to a 255 character buffer to retrieve a potential error message. This pointer can also point to *null*. The function returns a negative integer in case of error, zero otherwise.

The *yapiGetDeviceInfo* function retrieves the information related to a module from its handle. *devdesc* is a 32-bit integer representing the module and which was obtained through *yapiGetAllDevices*. *infos* points to a data structure in which the result is stored. This data structure has the following format:

Name	Туре	Size (bytes)	Description
vendorid	int	4	Yoctopuce USB ID
deviceid	int	4	Module USB ID
devrelease	int	4	Module version
nbinbterfaces	int	4	Number of USB interfaces used by the module
manufacturer	char[]	20	Yoctopuce (null terminated)
productname	char[]	28	Model (null terminated)
serial	char	20	Serial number (null terminated)
logicalname	char[]	20	Logical name (null terminated)
firmware	char[]	22	Firmware version (null terminated)
beacon	byte -	1	Beacon state (0/1)

The *errmsg* parameter must point to a 255 character buffer to retrieve a potential error message.

Here is a sample program written in pascal using the yapi.dll DLL to list the connected modules.

```
// device description structure
type yDeviceSt = packed record
  end:
// Dll function import
function yapiInitAPI (mode:integer;
                         errmsg : pansichar):integer;cdecl;
                         external 'yapi.dll' name 'yapiInitAPI';
function yapiUpdateDeviceList(force:integer;errmsg : pansichar):integer;cdecl;
                          external 'yapi.dll' name 'yapiUpdateDeviceList';
function yapiGetAllDevices( buffer:pointer;
                                  maxsize:integer;
                                  var neededsize:integer;
                                  errmsg : pansichar):integer; cdecl;
external 'yapi.dll' name 'yapiGetAllDevices';
function apiGetDeviceInfo(d:integer; var infos:yDeviceSt;
                                  errmsg : pansichar):integer; cdecl;
external 'yapi.dll' name 'yapiGetDeviceInfo';
dataBuffer : array [0..256] of ansichar;
dataBuffer : array [0..127] of integer; // max of 128 USB devices
errmsg,data : pansichar;
neededsize,i : integer;
devinfos : yDeviceSt;
begin
  errmsg := @errmsgBuffer;
  // API initialization
  if(yapiInitAPI(1,errmsg)<0) then</pre>
    writeln(errmsq);
    halt:
  end:
```

```
// forces a device inventory
  if ( yapiUpdateDeviceList(1,errmsg)<0) then
   begin
    writeln(errmsg);
    halt;
   end:
  // loads all device handles into dataBuffer
  if yapiGetAllDevices(@dataBuffer,sizeof(dataBuffer),neededsize,errmsg)<0 then</pre>
   begin
    writeln(errmsq);
    halt;
   end;
  // gets device info from each handle
  for i:=0 to neededsize div sizeof(integer)-1 do
     if (apiGetDeviceInfo(dataBuffer[i], devinfos, errmsg)<0) then</pre>
      begin
         writeln(errmsg);
        halt;
     writeln(pansichar(@devinfos.serial)+' ('+pansichar(@devinfos.productname)+')');
   end;
end.
```

## VB6 and yapi.dll

Each entry point from the yapi.dll is duplicated. You will find one regular C-decl version and one Visual Basic 6 compatible version, prefixed with *vb6*\_.

# 20.5. Porting the high level library

As all the sources of the Yoctopuce API are fully provided, you can very well port the whole API in the language of your choice. Note, however, that a large portion of the API source code is automatically generated.

Therefore, it is not necessary for you to port the complete API. You only need to port the *yocto\_api* file and one file corresponding to a function, for example *yocto\_relay*. After a little additional work, Yoctopuce is then able to generate all other files. Therefore, we highly recommend that you contact Yoctopuce support before undertaking to port the Yoctopuce library in another language. Collaborative work is advantageous to both parties.

# 21. Advanced programming

The preceding chapters have introduced, in each available language, the basic programming functions which can be used with your Yocto-Relay module. This chapter presents in a more generic manner a more advanced use of your module. Examples are provided in the language which is the most popular among Yoctopuce customers, that is C#. Nevertheless, you can find complete examples illustrating the concepts presented here in the programming libraries of each language.

To remain as concise as possible, examples provided in this chapter do not perform any error handling. Do not copy them "as is" in a production application.

# 21.1. Event programming

The methods to manage Yoctopuce modules which we presented to you in preceding chapters were polling functions, consisting in permanently asking the API if something had changed. While easy to understand, this programming technique is not the most efficient, nor the most reactive. Therefore, the Yoctopuce programming API also provides an event programming model. This technique consists in asking the API to signal by itself the important changes as soon as they are detected. Each time a key parameter is modified, the API calls a callback function which you have defined in advance.

#### **Detecting module arrival and departure**

Hot-plug management is important when you work with USB modules because, sooner or later, you will have to connect or disconnect a module when your application is running. The API is designed to manage module unexpected arrival or departure in a transparent way. But your application must take this into account if it wants to avoid pretending to use a disconnected module.

Event programming is particularly useful to detect module connection/disconnection. Indeed, it is simpler to be told of new connections rather than to have to permanently list the connected modules to deduce which ones just arrived and which ones left. To be warned as soon as a module is connected, you need three pieces of code.

#### The callback

The callback is the function which is called each time a new Yoctopuce module is connected. It takes as parameter the relevant module.

```
static void deviceArrival(YModule m)
{
   Console.WriteLine("New module : " + m.get_serialNumber());
}
```

#### Initialization

You must then tell the API that it must call the callback when a new module is connected.

```
YAPI.RegisterDeviceArrivalCallback(deviceArrival);
```

Note that if modules are already connected when the callback is registered, the callback is called for each of the already connected modules.

#### **Triggering callbacks**

A classis issue of callback programming is that these callbacks can be triggered at any time, including at times when the main program is not ready to receive them. This can have undesired side effects, such as dead-locks and other race conditions. Therefore, in the Yoctopuce API, module arrival/departure callbacks are called only when the <code>UpdateDeviceList()</code> function is running. You only need to call <code>UpdateDeviceList()</code> at regular intervals from a timer or from a specific thread to precisely control when the calls to these callbacks happen:

```
// waiting loop managing callbacks
while (true)
{
    // module arrival / departure callback
    YAPI.UpdateDeviceList(ref errmsg);
    // non active waiting time managing other callbacks
    YAPI.Sleep(500, ref errmsg);
}
```

In a similar way, it is possible to have a callback when a module is disconnected. You can find a complete example implemented in your favorite programming language in the *Examples/Prog-EventBased* directory of the corresponding library.

Be aware that in most programming languages, callbacks must be global procedures, and not methods. If you wish for the callback to call the method of an object, define your callback as a global procedure which then calls your method.

# 22. Firmware Update

There are multiples way to update the firmware of a Yoctopuce module..

# 22.1. The VirtualHub or the YoctoHub

It is possible to update the firmware directly from the web interface of the VirtualHub or the YoctoHub. The configuration panel of the module has an "upgrade" button to start a wizard that will guide you through the firmware update procedure.

In case the firmware update fails for any reason, and the module does no start anymore, simply unplug the module then plug it back while maintaining the *Yocto-button* down. The module will boot in "firmware update" mode and will appear in the VirtualHub interface below the module list.

# 22.2. The command line library

All the command line tools can update Yoctopuce modules thanks to the <code>downloadAndUpdate</code> command. The module selection mechanism works like for a traditional command. The [target] is the name of the module that you want to update. You can also use the "any" or "all" aliases, or even a name list, where the names are separated by commas, without spaces.

```
C:\>Executable [options] [target] command [parameters]
```

The following example updates all the Yoctopuce modules connected by USB.

```
C:\>YModule all downloadAndUpdate
ok: Yocto-PowerRelay RELAYHI1-266C8(rev=15430) is up to date.
ok: 0 / 0 hubs in 0.000000s.
ok: 0 / 0 shields in 0.000000s.
ok: 1 / 1 devices in 0.130000s 0.130000s per device.
ok: All devices are now up to date.
C:\>
```

# 22.3. The Android application Yocto-Firmware

You can update your module firmware from your Android phone or tablet with the Yocto-Firmware application. This application lists all the Yoctopuce modules connected by USB and checks if a more recent firmware is available on www.yoctopuce.com. If a more recent firmware is available, you can

update the module. The application is responsible for downloading and installing the new firmware while preserving the module parameters.

Please note: while the firmware is being updated, the module restarts several times. Android interprets a USB device reboot as a disconnection and reconnection of the USB device and asks the authorization to use the USB port again. The user must click on *OK* for the update process to end successfully.

# 22.4. Updating the firmware with the programming library

If you need to integrate firmware updates in your application, the libraries offer you an API to update your modules.<sup>1</sup>

## Saving and restoring parameters

The <code>get\_allSettings()</code> method returns a binary buffer enabling you to save a module persistent parameters. This function is very useful to save the network configuration of a YoctoHub for example.

```
YWireless wireless = YWireless.FindWireless("reference");
YModule m = wireless.get_module();
byte[] default_config = m.get_allSettings();
saveFile("default.bin", default_config);
...
```

You can then apply these parameters to other modules with the set allSettings() method.

```
byte[] default_config = loadFile("default.bin");
YModule m = YModule.FirstModule();
while (m != null) {
   if (m.get_productName() == "YoctoHub-Wireless") {
      m.set_allSettings(default_config);
   }
   m = m.next();
}
```

## Finding the correct firmware

The first step to update a Yoctopuce module is to find which firmware you must use. The <code>checkFirmware(path, onlynew)</code> method of the YModule object does exactly this. The method checks that the firmware given as argument (path) is compatible with the module. If the <code>onlynew</code> parameter is set, this method checks that the firmware is more recent than the version currently used by the module. When the file is not compatible (or if the file is older than the installed version), this method returns an empty string. In the opposite, if the file is valid, the method returns a file access path.

The following piece of code checks that the c:\tmp\METEOMK1.17328.byn is compatible with the module stored in the m variable.

```
YModule m = YModule.FirstModule();
...
string path = "c:\\tmp\METEOMK1.17328.byn";
string newfirm = m.checkFirmware(path, false);
if (newfirm != "") {
   Console.WriteLine("firmware " + newfirm + " is compatible");
}
...
```

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The JavaScript, Node.js, and PHP libraries do not yet allow you to update the modules. These functions will be available in a next build.

The argument can be a directory (instead of a file). In this case, the method checks all the files of the directory recursively and returns the most recent compatible firmware. The following piece of code checks whether there is a more recent firmware in the c:\tmp\ directory.

```
YModule m = YModule.FirstModule();
...
string path = "c:\\tmp";
string newfirm = m.checkFirmware(path, true);
if (newfirm != "") {
   Console.WriteLine("firmware " + newfirm + " is compatible and newer");
}
...
```

You can also give the "www.yoctopuce.com" string as argument to check whether there is a more recent published firmware on Yoctopuce's web site. In this case, the method returns the firmware URL. You can use this URL to download the firmware on your disk or use this URL when updating the firmware (see below). Obviously, this possibility works only if your machine is connected to Internet.

```
YModule m = YModule.FirstModule();
...
string url = m.checkFirmware("www.yoctopuce.com", true);
if (url != "") {
   Console.WriteLine("new firmware is available at " + url );
}
...
```

## Updating the firmware

A firmware update can take several minutes. That is why the update process is run as a background task and is driven by the user code thanks to the YFirmwareUdpate class.

To update a Yoctopuce module, you must obtain an instance of the YFirmwareUdpate class with the updateFirmware method of a YModule object. The only parameter of this method is the path of the firmware that you want to install. This method does not immediately start the update, but returns a YFirmwareUdpate object configured to update the module.

```
string newfirm = m.checkFirmware("www.yoctopuce.com", true);
.....
YFirmwareUpdate fw_update = m.updateFirmware(newfirm);
```

The startUpdate() method starts the update as a background task. This background task automatically takes care of

- 1. saving the module parameters
- 2. restarting the module in "update" mode
- 3. updating the firmware
- 4. starting the module with the new firmware version
- 5. restoring the parameters

The <code>get\_progress()</code> and <code>get\_progressMessage()</code> methods enable you to follow the progression of the update. <code>get\_progress()</code> returns the progression as a percentage (100 = update complete). <code>get\_progressMessage()</code> returns a character string describing the current operation (deleting, writing, rebooting, ...). If the <code>get\_progress</code> method returns a negative value, the update process failed. In this case, the <code>get\_progressMessage()</code> returns an error message.

The following piece of code starts the update and displays the progress on the standard output.

```
YFirmwareUpdate fw_update = m.updateFirmware(newfirm);
....
int status = fw_update.startUpdate();
while (status < 100 && status >= 0) {
```

#### An Android characteristic

You can update a module firmware using the Android library. However, for modules connected by USB, Android asks the user to authorize the application to access the USB port.

During firmware update, the module restarts several times. Android interprets a USB device reboot as a disconnection and a reconnection to the USB port, and prevents all USB access as long as the user has not closed the pop-up window. The use has to click on OK for the update process to continue correctly. You cannot update a module connected by USB to an Android device without having the user interacting with the device.

# 22.5. The "update" mode

If you want to erase all the parameters of a module or if your module does not start correctly anymore, you can install a firmware from the "update" mode.

To force the module to work in "update" mode, disconnect it, wait a few seconds, and reconnect it while maintaining the *Yocto-button* down. This will restart the module in "update" mode. This update mode is protected against corruptions and is always available.

In this mode, the module is not detected by the YModule objects anymore. To obtain the list of connected modules in "update" mode, you must use the YAPI.GetAllBootLoaders() function. This function returns a character string array with the serial numbers of the modules in "update" mode.

```
List<string> allBootLoader = YAPI.GetAllBootLoaders();
```

The update process is identical to the standard case (see the preceding section), but you must manually instantiate the YFirmwareUpdate object instead of calling module.updateFirmware(). The constructor takes as argument three parameters: the module serial number, the path of the firmware to be installed, and a byte array with the parameters to be restored at the end of the update (or null to restore default parameters).

```
YFirmwareUpdateupdate fw_update;
fw_update = new YFirmwareUpdate(allBootLoader[0], newfirm, null);
int status = fw_update.startUpdate();
.....
```

# 23. High-level API Reference

This chapter summarizes the high-level API functions to drive your Yocto-Relay. Syntax and exact type names may vary from one language to another, but, unless otherwise stated, all the functions are available in every language. For detailed information regarding the types of arguments and return values for a given language, refer to the definition file for this language (yocto\_api.\* as well as the other yocto \* files that define the function interfaces).

For languages which support exceptions, all of these functions throw exceptions in case of error by default, rather than returning the documented error value for each function. This is by design, to facilitate debugging. It is however possible to disable the use of exceptions using the <code>yDisableExceptions()</code> function, in case you prefer to work with functions that return error values

This chapter does not repeat the programming concepts described earlier, in order to stay as concise as possible. In case of doubt, do not hesitate to go back to the chapter describing in details all configurable attributes.

## 23.1. Class YAPI

#### General functions

These general functions should be used to initialize and configure the Yoctopuce library. In most cases, a simple call to function yRegisterHub() should be enough. The module-specific functions yFind...() or yFirst...() should then be used to retrieve an object that provides interaction with the module.

In order to use the functions described here, you should include:

java	import com.yoctopuce.YoctoAPI.YAPI;
dnp	import YoctoProxyAPI.YAPIProxy
ср	#include "yocto_api_proxy.h"
ml	import YoctoProxyAPI.YAPIProxy"
js	<pre><script src="yocto_api.js" type="text/javascript"></script></pre>
срр	#include "yocto_api.h"
m	#import "yocto_api.h"
pas	uses yocto_api;
vb	yocto_api.vb
cs	yocto_api.cs
uwp	import com.yoctopuce.YoctoAPI.YModule;
ру	from yocto_api import *
php	require_once('yocto_api.php');
ts	in HTML: import { YAPI, YErrorMsg, YModule, YSensor } from '//dist/esm/yocto_api_browser.js';
	in Node.js: import { YAPI, YErrorMsg, YModule, YSensor } from 'yoctolib-cjs/yocto_api_nodejs.js';
es	in HTML: <script src="//lib/yocto_api.js"></script>
	in node.js: require('yoctolib-es2017/yocto_api.js');
vi	YModule.vi

#### **Global functions**

#### YAPI.CheckLogicalName(name)

Checks if a given string is valid as logical name for a module or a function.

### YAPI.ClearHTTPCallbackCacheDir(bool\_removeFiles)

Disables the HTTP callback cache.

## YAPI.DisableExceptions()

Disables the use of exceptions to report runtime errors.

## YAPI.EnableExceptions()

Re-enables the use of exceptions for runtime error handling.

## YAPI.EnableUSBHost(osContext)

This function is used only on Android.

#### YAPI.FreeAPI()

Waits for all pending communications with Yoctopuce devices to be completed then frees dynamically allocated resources used by the Yoctopuce library.

#### YAPI.GetAPIVersion()

Returns the version identifier for the Yoctopuce library in use.

## YAPI.GetCacheValidity()

Returns the validity period of the data loaded by the library.

#### YAPI.GetDeviceListValidity()

Returns the delay between each forced enumeration of the used YoctoHubs.

#### YAPI.GetDIIArchitecture()

Returns the system architecture for the Yoctopuce communication library in use.

#### YAPI.GetDIIPath()

Returns the paths of the DLLs for the Yoctopuce library in use.

#### YAPI.GetLog(lastLogLine)

Retrieves Yoctopuce low-level library diagnostic logs.

#### YAPI.GetNetworkTimeout()

Returns the network connection delay for yRegisterHub() and yUpdateDeviceList().

#### YAPI.GetTickCount()

Returns the current value of a monotone millisecond-based time counter.

#### YAPI.HandleEvents(errmsg)

Maintains the device-to-library communication channel.

#### YAPI.InitAPI(mode, errmsg)

Initializes the Yoctopuce programming library explicitly.

#### YAPI.PreregisterHub(url, errmsg)

Fault-tolerant alternative to yRegisterHub().

#### YAPI.RegisterDeviceArrivalCallback(arrivalCallback)

Register a callback function, to be called each time a device is plugged.

#### YAPI.RegisterDeviceRemovalCallback(removalCallback)

Register a callback function, to be called each time a device is unplugged.

#### YAPI.RegisterHub(url, errmsg)

Setup the Yoctopuce library to use modules connected on a given machine.

#### YAPI.RegisterHubDiscoveryCallback(hubDiscoveryCallback)

Register a callback function, to be called each time an Network Hub send an SSDP message.

#### YAPI.RegisterHubWebsocketCallback(ws, errmsg, authpwd)

Variant to yRegisterHub() used to initialize Yoctopuce API on an existing Websocket session, as happens for incoming WebSocket callbacks.

#### YAPI.RegisterLogFunction(logfun)

Registers a log callback function.

#### YAPI.SelectArchitecture(arch)

Select the architecture or the library to be loaded to access to USB.

#### YAPI.SetCacheValidity(cacheValidityMs)

Change the validity period of the data loaded by the library.

#### YAPI.SetDelegate(object)

(Objective-C only) Register an object that must follow the protocol  ${\tt YDeviceHotPlug}$ .

## ${\bf YAPI. Set DeviceList Validity} ({\bf deviceList Validity})$

Modifies the delay between each forced enumeration of the used YoctoHubs.

## $YAPI. Set HTTP Callback Cache Dir (str\_directory)$

Enables the HTTP callback cache.

# ${\bf YAPI. Set Network Timeout} (network {\bf MsTimeout})$

Modifies the network connection delay for yRegisterHub() and yUpdateDeviceList().

#### YAPI.SetTimeout(callback, ms\_timeout, args)

Invoke the specified callback function after a given timeout.

### YAPI.SetUSBPacketAckMs(pktAckDelay)

Enables the acknowledge of every USB packet received by the Yoctopuce library.

#### YAPI.Sleep(ms\_duration, errmsg)

Pauses the execution flow for a specified duration.

## YAPI.TestHub(url, mstimeout, errmsg)

Test if the hub is reachable.

#### YAPI.TriggerHubDiscovery(errmsg)

Force a hub discovery, if a callback as been registered with yRegisterHubDiscoveryCallback it will be called for each net work hub that will respond to the discovery.

## YAPI.UnregisterHub(url)

Setup the Yoctopuce library to no more use modules connected on a previously registered machine with RegisterHub.

#### YAPI.UpdateDeviceList(errmsg)

Triggers a (re)detection of connected Yoctopuce modules.

## YAPI.UpdateDeviceList\_async(callback, context)

Triggers a (re)detection of connected Yoctopuce modules.

# YAPI.CheckLogicalName() YAPI.CheckLogicalName()

**YAPI** 

Checks if a given string is valid as logical name for a module or a function.



A valid logical name has a maximum of 19 characters, all among A..Z, a..z, 0..9, \_, and -. If you try to configure a logical name with an incorrect string, the invalid characters are ignored.

#### Parameters:

name a string containing the name to check.

#### Returns:

true if the name is valid, false otherwise.

# YAPI.ClearHTTPCallbackCacheDir() YAPI.ClearHTTPCallbackCacheDir()

YAPI

Disables the HTTP callback cache.

php function ClearHTTPCallbackCacheDir( \$bool\_removeFiles)

This method disables the HTTP callback cache, and can additionally cleanup the cache directory.

#### Parameters:

bool\_removeFiles True to clear the content of the cache.

## Returns:

nothing.

# YAPI.DisableExceptions() YAPI.DisableExceptions()

**YAPI** 

Disables the use of exceptions to report runtime errors.

```
function yDisableExceptions()
js
     void DisableExceptions( )
срр
     +(void) DisableExceptions
m
     yDisableExceptions()
pas
     procedure DisableExceptions( )
vb
     static void DisableExceptions()
CS
     void DisableExceptions( )
uwp
     DisableExceptions()
ру
     function DisableExceptions()
     async DisableExceptions(): Promise<void>
ts
     async DisableExceptions()
es
```

When exceptions are disabled, every function returns a specific error value which depends on its type and which is documented in this reference manual.

# YAPI.EnableExceptions() YAPI.EnableExceptions()

YAPI

Re-enables the use of exceptions for runtime error handling.

```
function yEnableExceptions()
js
     void EnableExceptions()
срр
     +(void) EnableExceptions
m
     yEnableExceptions()
pas
     procedure EnableExceptions( )
vb
     static void EnableExceptions()
CS
     void EnableExceptions()
uwp
     EnableExceptions()
ру
     function EnableExceptions()
php
     async EnableExceptions(): Promise<void>
     async EnableExceptions()
es
```

Be aware than when exceptions are enabled, every function that fails triggers an exception. If the exception is not caught by the user code, it either fires the debugger or aborts (i.e. crash) the program. On failure, throws an exception or returns a negative error code.

# YAPI.EnableUSBHost() YAPI.EnableUSBHost()

**YAPI** 

This function is used only on Android.

java void EnableUSBHost( Object osContext)

Before calling yRegisterHub("usb") you need to activate the USB host port of the system. This function takes as argument, an object of class android.content.Context (or any subclass). It is not necessary to call this function to reach modules through the network.

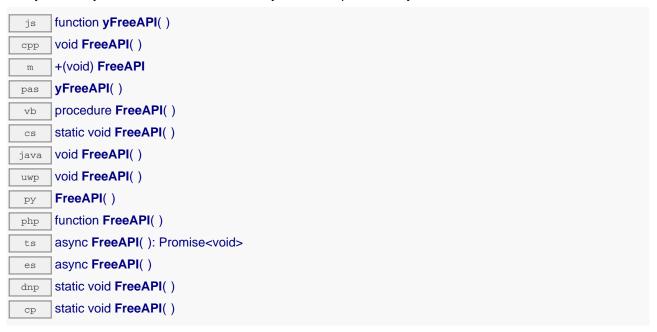
#### Parameters:

osContext an object of class android.content.Context (or any subclass).

YAPI.FreeAPI()
YAPI.FreeAPI()

Waits for all pending communications with Yoctopuce devices to be completed then frees dynamically allocated resources used by the Yoctopuce library.

YAPI



From an operating system standpoint, it is generally not required to call this function since the OS will automatically free allocated resources once your program is completed. However there are two situations when you may really want to use that function: - Free all dynamically allocated memory blocks in order to track a memory leak. - Send commands to devices right before the end of the program. Since commands are sent in an asynchronous way the program could exit before all commands are effectively sent. You should not call any other library function after calling yFreeAPI(), or your program will crash.

# YAPI.GetAPIVersion() YAPI.GetAPIVersion()

**YAPI** 

Returns the version identifier for the Yoctopuce library in use.



The version is a string in the form "Major.Minor.Build", for instance "1.01.5535". For languages using an external DLL (for instance C#, VisualBasic or Delphi), the character string includes as well the DLL version, for instance "1.01.5535" (1.01.5439)".

If you want to verify in your code that the library version is compatible with the version that you have used during development, verify that the major number is strictly equal and that the minor number is greater or equal. The build number is not relevant with respect to the library compatibility.

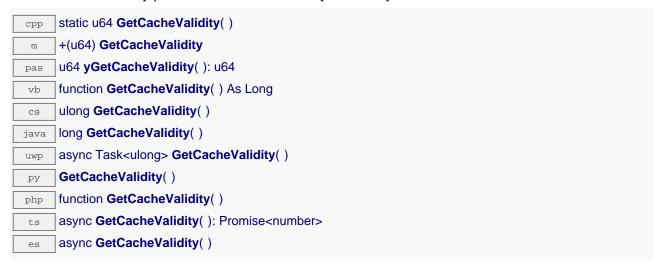
#### Returns:

a character string describing the library version.

# YAPI.GetCacheValidity() YAPI.GetCacheValidity()

**YAPI** 

Returns the validity period of the data loaded by the library.



This method returns the cache validity of all attributes module functions. Note: This function must be called after yInitAPI.

#### Returns:

an integer corresponding to the validity attributed to the loaded function parameters, in milliseconds

# YAPI.GetDeviceListValidity() YAPI.GetDeviceListValidity()

YAPI

Returns the delay between each forced enumeration of the used YoctoHubs.



Note: you must call this function after yInitAPI.

#### Returns:

the number of seconds between each enumeration.

# YAPI.GetDIIArchitecture() YAPI.GetDIIArchitecture()

**YAPI** 

Returns the system architecture for the Yoctopuce communication library in use.

dnp static string GetDIIArchitecture()

On Windows, the architecture can be "Win32" or "Win64". On ARM machines, the architecture is "Armhf32" or "Aarch64". On other Linux machines, the architecture is "Linux32" or "Linux64". On MacOS, the architecture is "MacOs32" or "MacOs64".

#### Returns:

a character string describing the system architecture of the low-level communication library.

# YAPI.GetDIIPath() YAPI.GetDIIPath()

**YAPI** 

Returns the paths of the DLLs for the Yoctopuce library in use.

dnp static string GetDIIPath()

For architectures that require multiple DLLs, in particular when using a .NET assembly DLL, the returned string takes the form "DotNetProxy=/...; yapi=/...;", where the first path corresponds to the .NET assembly DLL and the second path corresponds to the low-level communication library.

#### Returns:

a character string describing the DLL path.

YAPI.GetLog()
YAPI.GetLog()

Retrieves Yoctopuce low-level library diagnostic logs.



This method allows to progessively retrieve API logs. The interface is line-based: it must called it within a loop until the returned value is an empty string. Make sure to exit the loop when an empty string is returned, as feeding an empty string into the lastLogLine parameter for the next call would restart enumerating logs from the oldest message available.

#### Parameters:

lastLogLine On first call, provide an empty string. On subsequent calls, provide the last log line returned by GetLog().

#### Returns:

a string with the log line immediately following the one given in argument, if such line exist. Returns an empty string otherwise, when completed.

# YAPI.GetNetworkTimeout() YAPI.GetNetworkTimeout()

**YAPI** 

Returns the network connection delay for yRegisterHub() and yUpdateDeviceList().



This delay impacts only the YoctoHubs and VirtualHub which are accessible through the network. By default, this delay is of 20000 milliseconds, but depending or you network you may want to change this delay, for example if your network infrastructure is based on a GSM connection.

#### Returns:

the network connection delay in milliseconds.

# YAPI.GetTickCount() YAPI.GetTickCount()

YAPI

Returns the current value of a monotone millisecond-based time counter.

js	function yGetTickCount( )
cpp	u64 GetTickCount( )
m	+(u64) GetTickCount
pas	u64 yGetTickCount( ): u64
vb	function GetTickCount( ) As Long
cs	static ulong GetTickCount( )
java	static long GetTickCount( )
uwp	static ulong GetTickCount( )
ру	GetTickCount( )
php	function GetTickCount( )
ts	GetTickCount( ): number
es	GetTickCount( )

This counter can be used to compute delays in relation with Yoctopuce devices, which also uses the millisecond as timebase.

## Returns:

a long integer corresponding to the millisecond counter.

# YAPI.HandleEvents() YAPI.HandleEvents()

**YAPI** 

Maintains the device-to-library communication channel.



If your program includes significant loops, you may want to include a call to this function to make sure that the library takes care of the information pushed by the modules on the communication channels. This is not strictly necessary, but it may improve the reactivity of the library for the following commands.

This function may signal an error in case there is a communication problem while contacting a module.

#### Parameters:

errmsg a string passed by reference to receive any error message.

#### Returns:

YAPI.SUCCESS when the call succeeds.

On failure, throws an exception or returns a negative error code.

YAPI.InitAPI()
YAPI.InitAPI()

Initializes the Yoctopuce programming library explicitly.

```
function ylnitAPI( mode, errmsg)
js
      YRETCODE InitAPI( int mode, string errmsg)
срр
      +(YRETCODE) InitAPI :(int) mode :(NSError**) errmsg
 m
     integer ylnitAPI( mode: integer, var errmsg: string): integer
pas
     function InitAPI( ByVal mode As Integer, ByRef errmsg As String) As Integer
vb
     static int InitAPI( int mode, ref string errmsg)
CS
     int InitAPI( int mode)
java
     async Task<int> InitAPI( int mode)
uwp
     InitAPI( mode, errmsg=None)
ру
     function InitAPI( $mode, &$errmsg)
     async InitAPI( mode: number, errmsg: YErrorMsg): Promise<number>
ts
     async InitAPI( mode, errmsg)
es
```

It is not strictly needed to call yInitAPI(), as the library is automatically initialized when calling yRegisterHub() for the first time.

When YAPI.DETECT\_NONE is used as detection mode, you must explicitly use yRegisterHub() to point the API to the VirtualHub on which your devices are connected before trying to access them.

#### Parameters:

mode an integer corresponding to the type of automatic device detection to use. Possible values are YAPI.DETECT\_NONE, YAPI.DETECT\_USB, YAPI.DETECT\_NET, and YAPI.DETECT\_ALL.

errmsg a string passed by reference to receive any error message.

#### Returns:

YAPI, SUCCESS when the call succeeds.

On failure, throws an exception or returns a negative error code.

# YAPI.PreregisterHub() YAPI.PreregisterHub()

YAPI

Fault-tolerant alternative to yRegisterHub().



This function has the same purpose and same arguments as yRegisterHub(), but does not trigger an error when the selected hub is not available at the time of the function call. This makes it possible to register a network hub independently of the current connectivity, and to try to contact it only when a device is actively needed.

### Parameters:

url a string containing either "usb", "callback" or the root URL of the hub to monitor errmsg a string passed by reference to receive any error message.

#### Returns:

YAPI.SUCCESS when the call succeeds.

On failure, throws an exception or returns a negative error code.

# YAPI.RegisterDeviceArrivalCallback() YAPI.RegisterDeviceArrivalCallback()

**YAPI** 

Register a callback function, to be called each time a device is plugged.

js	function yRegisterDeviceArrivalCallback( arrivalCallback)
срр	void RegisterDeviceArrivalCallback( yDeviceUpdateCallback arrivalCallback)
m	+(void) RegisterDeviceArrivalCallback :(yDeviceUpdateCallback) arrivalCallback
pas	yRegisterDeviceArrivalCallback( arrivalCallback: yDeviceUpdateFunc)
vb	procedure RegisterDeviceArrivalCallback( ByVal arrivalCallback As yDeviceUpdateFunc)
CS	static void RegisterDeviceArrivalCallback( yDeviceUpdateFunc arrivalCallback)
java	void RegisterDeviceArrivalCallback( DeviceArrivalCallback arrivalCallback)
uwp	void RegisterDeviceArrivalCallback( DeviceUpdateHandler arrivalCallback)
ру	RegisterDeviceArrivalCallback( arrivalCallback)
php	function RegisterDeviceArrivalCallback( \$arrivalCallback)
ts	async RegisterDeviceArrivalCallback( arrivalCallback: YDeviceUpdateCallback  null): Promise <void></void>
es	async RegisterDeviceArrivalCallback( arrivalCallback)

This callback will be invoked while yUpdateDeviceList is running. You will have to call this function on a regular basis.

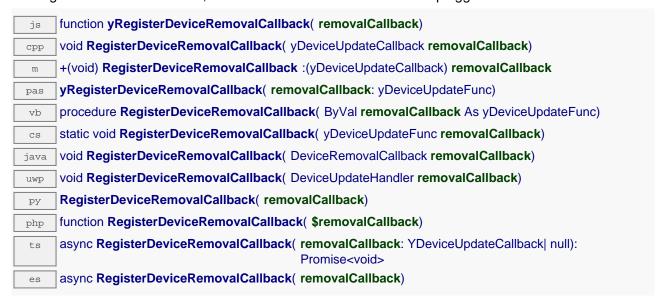
## Parameters:

arrivalCallback a procedure taking a YModule parameter, or null

# YAPI.RegisterDeviceRemovalCallback() YAPI.RegisterDeviceRemovalCallback()

**YAPI** 

Register a callback function, to be called each time a device is unplugged.



This callback will be invoked while yUpdateDeviceList is running. You will have to call this function on a regular basis.

#### Parameters:

removalCallback a procedure taking a YModule parameter, or null

YAPI.RegisterHub()
YAPI.RegisterHub()

YAPI

Setup the Yoctopuce library to use modules connected on a given machine.

```
function yRegisterHub( url, errmsg)
js
      YRETCODE RegisterHub( string url, string errmsg)
срр
      +(YRETCODE) RegisterHub:(NSString*) url:(NSError**) errmsg
 m
     integer yRegisterHub( url: string, var errmsg: string): integer
pas
     function RegisterHub( ByVal url As String,
vb
                            ByRef errmsg As String) As Integer
     static int RegisterHub( string url, ref string errmsg)
CS
     int RegisterHub( String url)
java
      async Task<int> RegisterHub( string url)
uwp
      RegisterHub( url, errmsg=None)
ру
      function RegisterHub( $url, &$errmsg)
php
      async RegisterHub( url: string, errmsg: YErrorMsg): Promise<number>
ts
      async RegisterHub( url, errmsg)
     static string RegisterHub( string url)
dnp
     static string RegisterHub( string url)
```

The parameter will determine how the API will work. Use the following values:

**usb**: When the **usb** keyword is used, the API will work with devices connected directly to the USB bus. Some programming languages such a JavaScript, PHP, and Java don't provide direct access to USB hardware, so **usb** will not work with these. In this case, use a VirtualHub or a networked YoctoHub (see below).

**x.x.x.x** or **hostname**: The API will use the devices connected to the host with the given IP address or hostname. That host can be a regular computer running a VirtualHub, or a networked YoctoHub such as YoctoHub-Ethernet or YoctoHub-Wireless. If you want to use the VirtualHub running on you local computer, use the IP address 127.0.0.1.

**callback**: that keyword make the API run in "HTTP Callback" mode. This a special mode allowing to take control of Yoctopuce devices through a NAT filter when using a VirtualHub or a networked YoctoHub. You only need to configure your hub to call your server script on a regular basis. This mode is currently available for PHP and Node.JS only.

Be aware that only one application can use direct USB access at a given time on a machine. Multiple access would cause conflicts while trying to access the USB modules. In particular, this means that you must stop the VirtualHub software before starting an application that uses direct USB access. The workaround for this limitation is to setup the library to use the VirtualHub rather than direct USB access.

If access control has been activated on the hub, virtual or not, you want to reach, the URL parameter should look like:

http://username:password@address:port

You can call RegisterHub several times to connect to several machines.

#### Parameters:

url a string containing either "usb", "callback" or the root URL of the hub to monitor

errmsg a string passed by reference to receive any error message.

#### Returns:

YAPI.SUCCESS when the call succeeds.

On failure, throws an exception or returns a negative error code.

# YAPI.RegisterHubDiscoveryCallback() YAPI.RegisterHubDiscoveryCallback()

YAPI

Register a callback function, to be called each time an Network Hub send an SSDP message.



The callback has two string parameter, the first one contain the serial number of the hub and the second contain the URL of the network hub (this URL can be passed to RegisterHub). This callback will be invoked while yUpdateDeviceList is running. You will have to call this function on a regular basis.

#### Parameters:

hubDiscoveryCallback a procedure taking two string parameter, the serial

# YAPI.RegisterHubWebsocketCallback() YAPI.RegisterHubWebsocketCallback()

**YAPI** 

Variant to yRegisterHub() used to initialize Yoctopuce API on an existing Websocket session, as happens for incoming WebSocket callbacks.

## Parameters:

ws node WebSocket object for the incoming WebSocket callback connection

errmsg a string passed by reference to receive any error message.

**authpwd** the optional authentication password, required only authentication is configured on the calling hub.

### Returns:

YAPI.SUCCESS when the call succeeds.

On failure, throws an exception or returns a negative error code.

# YAPI.RegisterLogFunction() YAPI.RegisterLogFunction()

**YAPI** 

Registers a log callback function.

срр	void RegisterLogFunction( yLogFunction logfun)
m	+(void) RegisterLogFunction :(yLogCallback) logfun
pas	yRegisterLogFunction( logfun: yLogFunc)
vb	procedure RegisterLogFunction( ByVal logfun As yLogFunc)
cs	static void RegisterLogFunction( yLogFunc logfun)
java	void <b>RegisterLogFunction</b> ( LogCallback <b>logfun</b> )
uwp	void <b>RegisterLogFunction</b> ( LogHandler <b>logfun</b> )
ру	RegisterLogFunction( logfun)
ts	async RegisterLogFunction( logfun: YLogCallback): Promise <number></number>
es	async RegisterLogFunction( logfun)

This callback will be called each time the API have something to say. Quite useful to debug the API.

## Parameters:

logfun a procedure taking a string parameter, or null

# YAPI.SelectArchitecture() YAPI.SelectArchitecture()

**YAPI** 

Select the architecture or the library to be loaded to access to USB.

py SelectArchitecture( arch)

By default, the Python library automatically detects the appropriate library to use. However, for Linux ARM, it not possible to reliably distinguish between a Hard Float (armhf) and a Soft Float (armel) install. For in this case, it is therefore recommended to manually select the proper architecture by calling SelectArchitecture() before any other call to the library.

#### Parameters:

#### Returns:

nothing.

On failure, throws an exception.

# YAPI.SetCacheValidity() YAPI.SetCacheValidity()

YAPI

Change the validity period of the data loaded by the library.



By default, when accessing a module, all the attributes of the module functions are automatically kept in cache for the standard duration (5 ms). This method can be used to change this standard duration, for example in order to reduce network or USB traffic. This parameter does not affect value change callbacks Note: This function must be called after yInitAPI.

#### Parameters:

cacheValidityMs an integer corresponding to the validity attributed to the loaded function parameters, in milliseconds.

# YAPI.SetDelegate() YAPI.SetDelegate()

**YAPI** 

(Objective-C only) Register an object that must follow the protocol YDeviceHotPlug.

m +(void) SetDelegate :(id) object

The methods <code>yDeviceArrival</code> and <code>yDeviceRemoval</code> will be invoked while <code>yUpdateDeviceList</code> is running. You will have to call this function on a regular basis.

## Parameters:

object an object that must follow the protocol YAPIDelegate, or nil

# YAPI.SetDeviceListValidity() YAPI.SetDeviceListValidity()

YAPI

Modifies the delay between each forced enumeration of the used YoctoHubs.



By default, the library performs a full enumeration every 10 seconds. To reduce network traffic, you can increase this delay. It's particularly useful when a YoctoHub is connected to the GSM network where traffic is billed. This parameter doesn't impact modules connected by USB, nor the working of module arrival/removal callbacks. Note: you must call this function after yInitAPI.

#### Parameters:

deviceListValidity nubmer of seconds between each enumeration.

# YAPI.SetHTTPCallbackCacheDir() YAPI.SetHTTPCallbackCacheDir()

**YAPI** 

Enables the HTTP callback cache.

php function SetHTTPCallbackCacheDir( \$str\_directory)

When enabled, this cache reduces the quantity of data sent to the PHP script by 50% to 70%. To enable this cache, the method ySetHTTPCallbackCacheDir() must be called before any call to yRegisterHub(). This method takes in parameter the path of the directory used for saving data between each callback. This folder must exist and the PHP script needs to have write access to it. It is recommended to use a folder that is not published on the Web server since the library will save some data of Yoctopuce devices into this folder.

Note: This feature is supported by YoctoHub and VirtualHub since version 27750.

#### Parameters:

**str\_directory** the path of the folder that will be used as cache.

#### Returns:

nothing.

On failure, throws an exception.

# YAPI.SetNetworkTimeout() YAPI.SetNetworkTimeout()

YAPI

Modifies the network connection delay for yRegisterHub() and yUpdateDeviceList().

cpp	static void SetNetworkTimeout( int networkMsTimeout)
m	+(void) SetNetworkTimeout : (int) networkMsTimeout
pas	ySetNetworkTimeout( networkMsTimeout: LongInt)
vb	procedure SetNetworkTimeout( ByVal networkMsTimeout As Integer)
CS	void SetNetworkTimeout( int networkMsTimeout)
java	void SetNetworkTimeout( int networkMsTimeout)
uwp	async Task SetNetworkTimeout( int networkMsTimeout)
ру	SetNetworkTimeout( networkMsTimeout)
php	function SetNetworkTimeout( \$networkMsTimeout)
ts	async SetNetworkTimeout( networkMsTimeout: number): Promise <void></void>
es	async SetNetworkTimeout( networkMsTimeout)
dnp	static void SetNetworkTimeout( int networkMsTimeout)
ср	static void SetNetworkTimeout( int networkMsTimeout)

This delay impacts only the YoctoHubs and VirtualHub which are accessible through the network. By default, this delay is of 20000 milliseconds, but depending or you network you may want to change this delay, gor example if your network infrastructure is based on a GSM connection.

#### Parameters:

**networkMsTimeout** the network connection delay in milliseconds.

# YAPI.SetTimeout() YAPI.SetTimeout()

**YAPI** 

Invoke the specified callback function after a given timeout.

function ySetTimeout( callback, ms\_timeout, args)

SetTimeout( callback: Function, ms\_timeout: number): number

SetTimeout( callback, ms\_timeout, args)

This function behaves more or less like Javascript setTimeout, but during the waiting time, it will call yHandleEvents and yUpdateDeviceList periodically, in order to keep the API up-to-date with current devices.

#### Parameters:

callback the function to call after the timeout occurs. On Microsoft Internet Explorer, the callback must

be provided as a string to be evaluated.

ms\_timeout an integer corresponding to the duration of the timeout, in milliseconds.

args additional arguments to be passed to the callback function can be provided, if needed (not

supported on Microsoft Internet Explorer).

#### Returns:

YAPI.SUCCESS when the call succeeds.

On failure, throws an exception or returns a negative error code.

# YAPI.SetUSBPacketAckMs() YAPI.SetUSBPacketAckMs()

YAPI

Enables the acknowledge of every USB packet received by the Yoctopuce library.

java void SetUSBPacketAckMs( int pktAckDelay)

This function allows the library to run on Android phones that tend to loose USB packets. By default, this feature is disabled because it doubles the number of packets sent and slows down the API considerably. Therefore, the acknowledge of incoming USB packets should only be enabled on phones or tablets that loose USB packets. A delay of 50 milliseconds is generally enough. In case of doubt, contact Yoctopuce support. To disable USB packets acknowledge, call this function with the value 0. Note: this feature is only available on Android.

#### Parameters:

pktAckDelay then number of milliseconds before the module

YAPI.Sleep()
YAPI.Sleep()

Pauses the execution flow for a specified duration.

```
function ySleep( ms_duration, errmsg)
 js
      YRETCODE Sleep( unsigned ms_duration, string errmsg)
срр
      +(YRETCODE) Sleep :(unsigned) ms_duration :(NSError **) errmsg
     integer ySleep( ms_duration: integer, var errmsg: string): integer
pas
      function Sleep( ByVal ms duration As Integer,
vb
                     ByRef errmsg As String) As Integer
      static int Sleep( int ms_duration, ref string errmsg)
CS
      int Sleep( long ms_duration)
java
      async Task<int> Sleep( ulong ms_duration)
uwp
      Sleep( ms_duration, errmsg=None)
ру
      function Sleep( $ms_duration, &$errmsg)
php
      async Sleep( ms_duration: number, errmsg: YErrorMsg | null): Promise<number>
      async Sleep( ms_duration, errmsg)
```

This function implements a passive waiting loop, meaning that it does not consume CPU cycles significantly. The processor is left available for other threads and processes. During the pause, the library nevertheless reads from time to time information from the Yoctopuce modules by calling yHandleEvents(), in order to stay up-to-date.

This function may signal an error in case there is a communication problem while contacting a module.

#### Parameters:

ms\_duration an integer corresponding to the duration of the pause, in milliseconds.

errmsg a string passed by reference to receive any error message.

#### Returns:

YAPI.SUCCESS when the call succeeds.

On failure, throws an exception or returns a negative error code.

YAPI.TestHub()
YAPI.TestHub()

YAPI

Trip YRETCODE TestHub( string url, int mstimeout, string errmsg)

+(YRETCODE) **TestHub** : (NSString\*) **url** 

: (int) mstimeout : (NSError\*\*) errmsg

pas integer yTestHub( url: string,

Test if the hub is reachable.

mstimeout: integer,

var errmsg: string): integer

vb function **TestHub**( ByVal **url** As String,

ByVal mstimeout As Integer,

ByRef errmsg As String) As Integer

static int TestHub( string url, int mstimeout, ref string errmsg)

java int TestHub( String url, int mstimeout)

async Task<int> TestHub( string url, uint mstimeout)

TestHub( url, mstimeout, errmsg=None)

php function TestHub( \$url, \$mstimeout, &\$errmsg)

async TestHub( url: string, mstimeout: number, errmsg: YErrorMsg): Promise<number>

es async TestHub( url, mstimeout, errmsg)

static string TestHub( string url, int mstimeout)

static string TestHub( string url, int mstimeout)

This method do not register the hub, it only test if the hub is usable. The url parameter follow the same convention as the yRegisterHub method. This method is useful to verify the authentication parameters for a hub. It is possible to force this method to return after method to method.

#### Parameters:

uwp

ру

url a string containing either "usb", "callback" or the root URL of the hub to monitor

mstimeout the number of millisecond available to test the connection.

**errmsg** a string passed by reference to receive any error message.

#### Returns:

YAPI.SUCCESS when the call succeeds.

On failure returns a negative error code.

# YAPI.TriggerHubDiscovery() YAPI.TriggerHubDiscovery()

**YAPI** 

Force a hub discovery, if a callback as been registered with yRegisterHubDiscoveryCallback it will be called for each net work hub that will respond to the discovery.



#### Parameters:

errmsg a string passed by reference to receive any error message.

#### Returns:

YAPI.SUCCESS when the call succeeds. On failure, throws an exception or returns a negative error code.

# YAPI.UnregisterHub() YAPI.UnregisterHub()

**YAPI** 

Setup the Yoctopuce library to no more use modules connected on a previously registered machine with RegisterHub.

js	function yUnregisterHub( url)
срр	void UnregisterHub( string url)
m	+(void) UnregisterHub :(NSString *) url
pas	yUnregisterHub( url: string)
vb	procedure UnregisterHub( ByVal url As String)
cs	static void <b>UnregisterHub</b> ( string <b>url</b> )
java	void UnregisterHub( String url)
uwp	async Task UnregisterHub( string url)
ру	UnregisterHub( url)
php	function UnregisterHub( \$url)
ts	async UnregisterHub( url: string): Promise <void></void>
es	async UnregisterHub( url)

## Parameters:

url a string containing either "usb" or the

# YAPI.UpdateDeviceList() YAPI.UpdateDeviceList()

YAPI

Triggers a (re)detection of connected Yoctopuce modules.



The library searches the machines or USB ports previously registered using yRegisterHub(), and invokes any user-defined callback function in case a change in the list of connected devices is detected.

This function can be called as frequently as desired to refresh the device list and to make the application aware of hot-plug events. However, since device detection is quite a heavy process, UpdateDeviceList shouldn't be called more than once every two seconds.

#### Parameters:

errmsg a string passed by reference to receive any error message.

#### Returns:

YAPI.SUCCESS when the call succeeds.

On failure, throws an exception or returns a negative error code.

# YAPI.UpdateDeviceList\_async() YAPI.UpdateDeviceList\_async()

YAPI

Triggers a (re)detection of connected Yoctopuce modules.

js function yUpdateDeviceList\_async( callback, context)

The library searches the machines or USB ports previously registered using yRegisterHub(), and invokes any user-defined callback function in case a change in the list of connected devices is detected.

This function can be called as frequently as desired to refresh the device list and to make the application aware of hot-plug events.

This asynchronous version exists only in JavaScript. It uses a callback instead of a return value in order to avoid blocking Firefox JavaScript VM that does not implement context switching during blocking I/O calls.

#### Parameters:

callback callback function that is invoked when the result is known. The callback function receives three arguments: the caller-specific context object, the result code (YAPI.SUCCESS if the operation completes successfully) and the error message.

context caller-specific object that is passed as-is to the callback function

#### Returns:

nothing: the result is provided to the callback.

## 23.2. Class YModule

Global parameters control interface for all Yoctopuce devices

The YModule class can be used with all Yoctopuce USB devices. It can be used to control the module global parameters, and to enumerate the functions provided by each module.

In order to use the functions described here, you should include: <script type='text/javascript' src='yocto\_api.js'></script> #include "yocto\_api.h" срр #import "yocto\_api.h" uses yocto\_api; yocto\_api.vb yocto\_api.cs CS import com.yoctopuce.YoctoAPI.YModule; java import com.yoctopuce.YoctoAPI.YModule; from yocto\_api import \* ру require\_once('yocto\_api.php'); in HTML: import { YAPI, YErrorMsg, YModule, YSensor } from '../../dist/esm/yocto\_api\_browser.js'; in Node.js: import { YAPI, YErrorMsg, YModule, YSensor } from 'yoctolib-cjs/yocto\_api\_nodejs.js'; in HTML: <script src="../../lib/yocto\_api.js"></script> in node.js: require('yoctolib-es2017/yocto\_api.js'); import YoctoProxyAPI.YModuleProxy dnp #include "yocto\_module\_proxy.h" YModule.vi import YoctoProxyAPI.YModuleProxy" m1

### **Global functions**

#### YModule.FindModule(func)

Allows you to find a module from its serial number or from its logical name.

#### YModule.FindModuleInContext(yctx, func)

Retrieves a module for a given identifier in a YAPI context.

#### YModule.FirstModule()

Starts the enumeration of modules currently accessible.

### YModule properties

#### module→Beacon [writable]

State of the localization beacon.

#### module→FirmwareRelease [read-only]

Version of the firmware embedded in the module.

#### module→FunctionId [read-only]

Retrieves the hardware identifier of the *n*th function on the module.

#### module→Hardwareld [read-only]

Unique hardware identifier of the module.

### module→IsOnline [read-only]

Checks if the module is currently reachable.

#### module→LogicalName [writable]

Logical name of the module.

#### module→Luminosity [writable]

Luminosity of the module informative LEDs (from 0 to 100).

#### module→ProductId [read-only]

USB device identifier of the module.

### module -> ProductName [read-only]

Commercial name of the module, as set by the factory.

#### module→ProductRelease [read-only]

Release number of the module hardware, preprogrammed at the factory.

#### module→SerialNumber [read-only]

Serial number of the module, as set by the factory.

#### YModule methods

#### module-checkFirmware(path, onlynew)

Tests whether the byn file is valid for this module.

#### module→clearCache()

Invalidates the cache.

#### module→describe()

Returns a descriptive text that identifies the module.

#### module→download(pathname)

Downloads the specified built-in file and returns a binary buffer with its content.

#### module→functionBaseType(functionIndex)

Retrieves the base type of the *n*th function on the module.

#### module→functionCount()

Returns the number of functions (beside the "module" interface) available on the module.

#### module -> functionId(functionIndex)

Retrieves the hardware identifier of the *n*th function on the module.

## module→functionName(functionIndex)

Retrieves the logical name of the *n*th function on the module.

#### module -> functionType(functionIndex)

Retrieves the type of the *n*th function on the module.

#### module -> function Value (functionIndex)

Retrieves the advertised value of the *n*th function on the module.

#### module→get\_allSettings()

Returns all the settings and uploaded files of the module.

#### module→get\_beacon()

Returns the state of the localization beacon.

#### module→get\_errorMessage()

Returns the error message of the latest error with this module object.

## $module {\rightarrow} get\_errorType()$

Returns the numerical error code of the latest error with this module object.

## $module {\rightarrow} get\_firmwareRelease()$

Returns the version of the firmware embedded in the module.

## $module{\rightarrow} get\_functionIds(funType)$

Retrieve all hardware identifier that match the type passed in argument.

#### module→get hardwareld()

Returns the unique hardware identifier of the module.

#### module-get\_icon2d()

Returns the icon of the module.

#### module→get\_lastLogs()

Returns a string with last logs of the module.

#### module→get\_logicalName()

Returns the logical name of the module.

#### module→get\_luminosity()

Returns the luminosity of the module informative LEDs (from 0 to 100).

#### module→get\_parentHub()

Returns the serial number of the YoctoHub on which this module is connected.

#### module→get\_persistentSettings()

Returns the current state of persistent module settings.

#### module→get\_productId()

Returns the USB device identifier of the module.

#### module→get\_productName()

Returns the commercial name of the module, as set by the factory.

#### module->get\_productRelease()

Returns the release number of the module hardware, preprogrammed at the factory.

### $module \rightarrow get\_rebootCountdown()$

Returns the remaining number of seconds before the module restarts, or zero when no reboot has been scheduled.

#### module -> get\_serialNumber()

Returns the serial number of the module, as set by the factory.

#### module→get\_subDevices()

Returns a list of all the modules that are plugged into the current module.

#### module→get\_upTime()

Returns the number of milliseconds spent since the module was powered on.

#### module→get\_url()

Returns the URL used to access the module.

#### module→get\_usbCurrent()

Returns the current consumed by the module on the USB bus, in milli-amps.

#### module→get\_userData()

Returns the value of the userData attribute, as previously stored using method set\_userData.

### $module \rightarrow get\_userVar()$

Returns the value previously stored in this attribute.

## $\textbf{module} {\rightarrow} \textbf{hasFunction}(\textbf{funcld})$

Tests if the device includes a specific function.

#### module→isOnline()

Checks if the module is currently reachable, without raising any error.

## module→isOnline\_async(callback, context)

Checks if the module is currently reachable, without raising any error.

#### module→load(msValidity)

Preloads the module cache with a specified validity duration.

#### module→load\_async(msValidity, callback, context)

Preloads the module cache with a specified validity duration (asynchronous version).

#### module→log(text)

Adds a text message to the device logs.

#### module→nextModule()

Continues the module enumeration started using yFirstModule().

#### module→reboot(secBeforeReboot)

Schedules a simple module reboot after the given number of seconds.

#### module-registerBeaconCallback(callback)

Register a callback function, to be called when the localization beacon of the module has been changed.

#### module-registerConfigChangeCallback(callback)

Register a callback function, to be called when a persistent settings in a device configuration has been changed (e.g.

#### module→registerLogCallback(callback)

Registers a device log callback function.

#### module-revertFromFlash()

Reloads the settings stored in the nonvolatile memory, as when the module is powered on.

#### module→saveToFlash()

Saves current settings in the nonvolatile memory of the module.

#### module→set\_allSettings(settings)

Restores all the settings of the device.

#### module-set\_allSettingsAndFiles(settings)

Restores all the settings and uploaded files to the module.

#### module→set\_beacon(newval)

Turns on or off the module localization beacon.

#### module→set\_logicalName(newval)

Changes the logical name of the module.

#### module -> set\_luminosity(newval)

Changes the luminosity of the module informative leds.

#### module→set\_userData(data)

Stores a user context provided as argument in the userData attribute of the function.

#### module→set\_userVar(newval)

Stores a 32 bit value in the device RAM.

### $module \rightarrow triggerConfigChangeCallback()$

Triggers a configuration change callback, to check if they are supported or not.

### module-triggerFirmwareUpdate(secBeforeReboot)

Schedules a module reboot into special firmware update mode.

## $module {\rightarrow} updateFirmware(path)$

Prepares a firmware update of the module.

#### module→updateFirmwareEx(path, force)

Prepares a firmware update of the module.

#### module→wait\_async(callback, context)

Waits for all pending asynchronous commands on the module to complete, and invoke the user-provided callback function.

# YModule.FindModule() YModule.FindModule()

**YModule** 

Allows you to find a module from its serial number or from its logical name.



This function does not require that the module is online at the time it is invoked. The returned object is nevertheless valid. Use the method YModule.isOnline() to test if the module is indeed online at a given time. In case of ambiguity when looking for a module by logical name, no error is notified: the first instance found is returned. The search is performed first by hardware name, then by logical name.

If a call to this object's is\_online() method returns FALSE although you are certain that the device is plugged, make sure that you did call registerHub() at application initialization time.

#### Parameters:

func a string containing either the serial number or the logical name of the desired module

#### Returns:

a YModule object allowing you to drive the module or get additional information on the module.

# YModule.FindModuleInContext() YModule.FindModuleInContext()

**YModule** 

Retrieves a module for a given identifier in a YAPI context.

java	static YModule FindModuleInContext( YAPIContext yctx, String func)
uwp	static YModule FindModuleInContext( YAPIContext yctx, string func)
ts	static FindModuleInContext( yctx: YAPIContext, func: string): YModule
es	static FindModuleInContext( yctx, func)

The identifier can be specified using several formats:

- FunctionLogicalName
- ModuleSerialNumber.FunctionIdentifier
- ModuleSerialNumber.FunctionLogicalName
- ModuleLogicalName.FunctionIdentifier
- ModuleLogicalName.FunctionLogicalName

This function does not require that the module is online at the time it is invoked. The returned object is nevertheless valid. Use the method YModule.isOnline() to test if the module is indeed online at a given time. In case of ambiguity when looking for a module by logical name, no error is notified: the first instance found is returned. The search is performed first by hardware name, then by logical name.

#### Parameters:

yctx a YAPI context

func a string that uniquely characterizes the module, for instance MyDevice.module.

#### Returns:

a YModule object allowing you to drive the module.

# YModule.FirstModule() YModule.FirstModule()

**YModule** 

Starts the enumeration of modules currently accessible.

```
function yFirstModule()
 js
      YModule * FirstModule()
срр
      +(YModule*) FirstModule
     TYModule yFirstModule(): TYModule
pas
     function FirstModule() As YModule
vb
     static YModule FirstModule()
CS
     static YModule FirstModule()
java
     static YModule FirstModule()
uwp
      FirstModule()
ру
     function FirstModule()
      static FirstModule(): YModule | null
ts
     static FirstModule( )
es
```

Use the method YModule.nextModule() to iterate on the next modules.

#### Returns:

a pointer to a YModule object, corresponding to the first module currently online, or a null pointer if there are none.

module→Beacon YModule

State of the localization beacon.



Writable. Turns on or off the module localization beacon.

# 

**YModule** 

Version of the firmware embedded in the module.

dnp string FirmwareRelease

module -> FunctionId YModule

Retrieves the hardware identifier of the *n*th function on the module.



@param functionIndex : the index of the function for which the information is desired, starting at 0 for the first function.

## module -> Hardwareld

**YModule** 

Unique hardware identifier of the module.

dnp string Hardwareld

The unique hardware identifier is made of the device serial number followed by string ".module".

module→IsOnline YModule

Checks if the module is currently reachable.



If there are valid cached values for the module, that have not yet expired, the device is considered reachable. No exception is raised if there is an error while trying to contact the requested module.

## module -> Logical Name

**YModule** 

Logical name of the module.

dnp string LogicalName

**Writable**. You can use yCheckLogicalName() prior to this call to make sure that your parameter is valid. Remember to call the saveToFlash() method of the module if the modification must be kept.

## $module {\rightarrow} Luminosity$

**YModule** 

Luminosity of the module informative LEDs (from 0 to 100).



**Writable**. Changes the luminosity of the module informative leds. The parameter is a value between 0 and 100. Remember to call the <code>saveToFlash()</code> method of the module if the modification must be kept.

## module→ProductId YModule

USB device identifier of the module.



## $module {\rightarrow} Product Name$

**YModule** 

Commercial name of the module, as set by the factory.

dnp string ProductName

## $module \rightarrow ProductRelease$

**YModule** 

Release number of the module hardware, preprogrammed at the factory.

dnp int ProductRelease

The original hardware release returns value 1, revision B returns value 2, etc.

## $module {\rightarrow} Serial Number$

**YModule** 

Serial number of the module, as set by the factory.

dnp string SerialNumber

### module→checkFirmware()

**YModule** 

Tests whether the byn file is valid for this module.



This method is useful to test if the module needs to be updated. It is possible to pass a directory as argument instead of a file. In this case, this method returns the path of the most recent appropriate .byn file. If the parameter onlynew is true, the function discards firmwares that are older or equal to the installed firmware.

#### Parameters:

path the path of a byn file or a directory that contains byn filesonlynew returns only files that are strictly newer

#### Returns:

the path of the byn file to use or a empty string if no byn files matches the requirement

On failure, throws an exception or returns a string that start with "error:".

## module→clearCache()

**YModule** 

Invalidates the cache. function clearCache() void clearCache( ) срр -(void) clearCache m clearCache( ) pas procedure clearCache( ) void clearCache( ) void clearCache() java clearCache() ру function clearCache() php async clearCache(): Promise<void> ts async clearCache() es

Invalidates the cache of the module attributes. Forces the next call to get\_xxx() or loadxxx() to use values that come from the device.

## module→describe()

**YModule** 

Returns a descriptive text that identifies the module.



The text may include either the logical name or the serial number of the module.

### Returns:

a string that describes the module

## module→download()

**YModule** 

Downloads the specified built-in file and returns a binary buffer with its content.

js	function download( pathname)
срр	string download( string pathname)
m	-(NSMutableData*) download : (NSString*) pathname
pas	TByteArray download( pathname: string): TByteArray
vb	function download( ByVal pathname As String) As Byte
CS	byte[] download( string pathname)
java	byte[] download( String pathname)
uwp	async Task byte[]> download( string pathname)
ру	download( pathname)
php	function download( \$pathname)
ts	async download( pathname: string): Promise <uint8array></uint8array>
es	async download( pathname)
dnp	byte[] download( string pathname)
ср	string download( string pathname)
cmd	YModule target download pathname

## Parameters:

pathname name of the new file to load

## Returns:

a binary buffer with the file content

On failure, throws an exception or returns  ${\tt YAPI\_INVALID\_STRING}.$ 

## module→functionBaseType()

**YModule** 

Retrieves the base type of the *n*th function on the module.

js	function functionBaseType( functionIndex)
cpp	string functionBaseType( int functionIndex)
pas	string functionBaseType( functionIndex: integer): string
vb	function functionBaseType( ByVal functionIndex As Integer) As String
CS	string functionBaseType( int functionIndex)
java	String functionBaseType( int functionIndex)
ру	functionBaseType( functionIndex)
php	function functionBaseType( \$functionIndex)
ts	async functionBaseType( functionIndex: number): Promise <string></string>
es	async functionBaseType( functionIndex)

For instance, the base type of all measuring functions is "Sensor".

### Parameters:

**functionIndex** the index of the function for which the information is desired, starting at 0 for the first function.

#### Returns:

a string corresponding to the base type of the function

On failure, throws an exception or returns an empty string.

## module→functionCount()

**YModule** 

Returns the number of functions (beside the "module" interface) available on the module.

js	function functionCount()
cpp	int functionCount( )
m	-(int) functionCount
pas	integer functionCount(): integer
vb	function functionCount( ) As Integer
cs	int functionCount( )
java	int functionCount( )
ру	functionCount( )
php	function functionCount( )
ts	async functionCount( ): Promise <number></number>
es	async functionCount( )

## Returns:

the number of functions on the module

On failure, throws an exception or returns a negative error code.

# $module {\rightarrow} functionId()$

**YModule** 

Retrieves the hardware identifier of the *n*th function on the module.

js	function functionId( functionIndex)
срр	string functionId( int functionIndex)
m	-(NSString*) functionId : (int) functionIndex
pas	string functionId( functionIndex: integer): string
vb	function functionId( ByVal functionIndex As Integer) As String
cs	string functionId( int functionIndex)
java	String functionId( int functionIndex)
ру	functionId( functionIndex)
php	function functionId( \$functionIndex)
ts	async functionId( functionIndex: number): Promise <string></string>
es	async functionId( functionIndex)

### Parameters:

**functionIndex** the index of the function for which the information is desired, starting at 0 for the first function.

### Returns:

a string corresponding to the unambiguous hardware identifier of the requested module function

On failure, throws an exception or returns an empty string.

## module→functionName()

**YModule** 

Retrieves the logical name of the *n*th function on the module.

js	function functionName( functionIndex)
cpp	string functionName( int functionIndex)
m	-(NSString*) functionName : (int) functionIndex
pas	string functionName( functionIndex: integer): string
vb	function functionName( ByVal functionIndex As Integer) As String
CS	string functionName( int functionIndex)
java	String functionName( int functionIndex)
ру	functionName( functionIndex)
php	function functionName( \$functionIndex)
ts	async functionName( functionIndex: number): Promise <string></string>
es	async functionName( functionIndex)

### Parameters:

**functionIndex** the index of the function for which the information is desired, starting at 0 for the first function.

### Returns:

a string corresponding to the logical name of the requested module function

On failure, throws an exception or returns an empty string.

## module→functionType()

**YModule** 

Retrieves the type of the *n*th function on the module.

js	function functionType( functionIndex)
cpp	string functionType( int functionIndex)
pas	string functionType( functionIndex: integer): string
vb	function functionType( ByVal functionIndex As Integer) As String
CS	string functionType( int functionIndex)
java	String functionType( int functionIndex)
ру	functionType( functionIndex)
php	function functionType( \$functionIndex)
ts	async functionType( functionIndex: number): Promise <string></string>
es	async functionType( functionIndex)

### Parameters:

**functionIndex** the index of the function for which the information is desired, starting at 0 for the first function.

### Returns:

a string corresponding to the type of the function

On failure, throws an exception or returns an empty string.

## module→functionValue()

**YModule** 

Retrieves the advertised value of the *n*th function on the module.

js	function functionValue( functionIndex)
cpp	string functionValue( int functionIndex)
m	-(NSString*) functionValue : (int) functionIndex
pas	string functionValue( functionIndex: integer): string
vb	function functionValue( ByVal functionIndex As Integer) As String
cs	string functionValue( int functionIndex)
java	String functionValue( int functionIndex)
ру	functionValue( functionIndex)
php	function functionValue( \$functionIndex)
ts	async functionValue( functionIndex: number): Promise <string></string>
es	async functionValue( functionIndex)

### Parameters:

**functionIndex** the index of the function for which the information is desired, starting at 0 for the first function.

### Returns:

a short string (up to 6 characters) corresponding to the advertised value of the requested module function

On failure, throws an exception or returns an empty string.

# module→get\_allSettings() module→allSettings()

**YModule** 

Returns all the settings and uploaded files of the module.

```
function get_allSettings()
 js
      string get_allSettings( )
срр
      -(NSMutableData*) allSettings
      TByteArray get_allSettings(): TByteArray
pas
      function get_allSettings() As Byte
vb
      byte[] get_allSettings( )
CS
      byte[] get_allSettings( )
iava
      async Task<br/>byte[]> get_allSettings()
uwp
      get_allSettings()
ру
      function get_allSettings()
      async get_allSettings(): Promise<Uint8Array>
      async get_allSettings()
es
      byte[] get_allSettings( )
dnp
      string get_allSettings( )
ср
      YModule target get_allSettings
cmd
```

Useful to backup all the logical names, calibrations parameters, and uploaded files of a device.

#### Returns:

a binary buffer with all the settings.

On failure, throws an exception or returns an binary object of size 0.

# module→get\_beacon() module→beacon()

**YModule** 

Returns the state of the localization beacon.

```
function get_beacon()
js
     Y_BEACON_enum get_beacon()
срр
     -(Y_BEACON_enum) beacon
     Integer get_beacon(): Integer
pas
     function get_beacon() As Integer
vb
     int get_beacon()
CS
     int get_beacon()
java
     async Task<int> get_beacon()
uwp
     get_beacon( )
ру
     function get_beacon()
php
     async get_beacon(): Promise<YModule_Beacon>
ts
     async get_beacon( )
es
     int get_beacon()
dnp
     int get_beacon()
ср
     YModule target get_beacon
cmd
```

#### Returns:

 $either\ YModule\ .\ BEACON\_OFF\ or\ YModule\ .\ BEACON\_ON,\ according\ to\ the\ state\ of\ the\ localization\ beacon$ 

On failure, throws an exception or returns YModule.BEACON\_INVALID.

# module→get\_errorMessage() module→errorMessage()

**YModule** 

Returns the error message of the latest error with this module object.

```
function get_errorMessage()
 js
      string get_errorMessage()
срр
      -(NSString*) errorMessage
      string get_errorMessage(): string
pas
     function get_errorMessage() As String
vb
      string get_errorMessage()
CS
      String get_errorMessage()
java
      get_errorMessage( )
ру
      function get_errorMessage()
php
      get_errorMessage(): string
      get_errorMessage( )
```

This method is mostly useful when using the Yoctopuce library with exceptions disabled.

#### Returns:

a string corresponding to the latest error message that occurred while using this module object

# module→get\_errorType() module→errorType()

**YModule** 

Returns the numerical error code of the latest error with this module object.

```
function get_errorType( )
js
     YRETCODE get_errorType()
срр
     -(YRETCODE) errorType
 m
     YRETCODE get_errorType(): YRETCODE
pas
     function get_errorType() As YRETCODE
vb
     YRETCODE get_errorType()
CS
java
     int get_errorType()
     get_errorType( )
ру
     function get_errorType( )
php
     get_errorType( ): number
     get_errorType( )
```

This method is mostly useful when using the Yoctopuce library with exceptions disabled.

#### Returns:

a number corresponding to the code of the latest error that occurred while using this module object

# module→get\_firmwareRelease() module→firmwareRelease()

**YModule** 

Returns the version of the firmware embedded in the module.

```
function get_firmwareRelease()
js
     string get_firmwareRelease()
срр
     -(NSString*) firmwareRelease
     string get_firmwareRelease(): string
pas
     function get_firmwareRelease() As String
vb
     string get_firmwareRelease( )
CS
     String get_firmwareRelease()
iava
     async Task<string> get_firmwareRelease()
uwp
     get_firmwareRelease( )
ру
     function get_firmwareRelease()
     async get_firmwareRelease(): Promise<string>
     async get_firmwareRelease()
es
dnp
     string get_firmwareRelease()
     string get_firmwareRelease( )
ср
     YModule target get_firmwareRelease
cmd
```

#### Returns:

a string corresponding to the version of the firmware embedded in the module

On failure, throws an exception or returns YModule.FIRMWARERELEASE\_INVALID.

# $$\label{eq:module} \begin{split} & module {\rightarrow} get\_functionIds \textit{()} \\ & module {\rightarrow} functionIds \textit{()} \end{split}$$

**YModule** 

Retrieve all hardware identifier that match the type passed in argument.

js	function get_functionIds( funType)
срр	vector <string> get_functionIds( string funType)</string>
m	-(NSMutableArray*) functionIds : (NSString*) funType
pas	TStringArray get_functionIds( funType: string): TStringArray
vb	function get_functionIds( ByVal funType As String) As List
CS	List <string> get_functionIds( string funType)</string>
java	ArrayList <string> get_functionIds( String funType)</string>
uwp	async Task <list<string>&gt; get_functionIds( string funType)</list<string>
ру	get_functionIds( funType)
php	function get_functionlds( \$funType)
ts	async get_functionIds( funType: string): Promise <string[]< th=""></string[]<>
es	async get_functionIds( funType)
dnp	string[] get_functionIds( string funType)
ср	vector <string> get_functionIds( string funType)</string>
cmd	YModule target get_functionIds funType

## Parameters:

funType The type of function (Relay, LightSensor, Voltage,...)

### Returns:

an array of strings.

# module→get\_hardwareId() module→hardwareId()

**YModule** 

Returns the unique hardware identifier of the module.

```
function get_hardwareld()
 js
      string get_hardwareld()
срр
      -(NSString*) hardwareId
 m
     function get_hardwareld() As String
vb
      string get_hardwareld()
CS
      String get_hardwareld()
java
      get_hardwareId( )
ру
      function get_hardwareld()
php
      async get_hardwareId(): Promise<string>
      async get_hardwareld()
      string get_hardwareld()
dnp
      string get_hardwareld()
      string get_hardwareld(): string
pas
     async Task<string> get_hardwareld()
uwp
     YModule target get_hardwareld
cmd
```

The unique hardware identifier is made of the device serial number followed by string ".module".

#### Returns:

a string that uniquely identifies the module

# module→get\_icon2d() module→icon2d()

**YModule** 

Returns the icon of the module.

```
function get_icon2d()
js
     string get_icon2d()
срр
     -(NSMutableData*) icon2d
 m
     TByteArray get_icon2d(): TByteArray
pas
     function get_icon2d() As Byte
vb
     byte[] get_icon2d( )
CS
     byte[] get_icon2d( )
java
     async Task<br/>byte[]> get_icon2d()
uwp
     get_icon2d( )
ру
     function get_icon2d()
php
     async get_icon2d(): Promise<Uint8Array>
ts
     async get_icon2d()
es
     byte[] get_icon2d()
dnp
     string get_icon2d()
ср
     YModule target get_icon2d
cmd
```

The icon is a PNG image and does not exceeds 1536 bytes.

#### Returns:

a binary buffer with module icon, in png format. On failure, throws an exception or returns YAPI\_INVALID\_STRING.

# module→get\_lastLogs() module→lastLogs()

**YModule** 

Returns a string with last logs of the module.

```
function get_lastLogs()
js
     string get_lastLogs()
     -(NSString*) lastLogs
     string get_lastLogs(): string
pas
     function get_lastLogs() As String
vb
      string get_lastLogs()
CS
      String get_lastLogs()
java
      async Task<string> get_lastLogs()
uwp
      get_lastLogs( )
ру
      function get_lastLogs()
      async get_lastLogs(): Promise<string>
      async get_lastLogs()
es
     string get_lastLogs()
dnp
     string get_lastLogs()
ср
     YModule target get_lastLogs
cmd
```

This method return only logs that are still in the module.

#### Returns:

a string with last logs of the module. On failure, throws an exception or returns YAPI INVALID STRING.

# module→get\_logicalName() module→logicalName()

**YModule** 

Returns the logical name of the module.

js	function get_logicalName( )
срр	string get_logicalName( )
m	-(NSString*) logicalName
pas	string get_logicalName( ): string
vb	function get_logicalName( ) As String
cs	string get_logicalName( )
java	String get_logicalName( )
uwp	async Task <string> get_logicalName( )</string>
ру	get_logicalName( )
php	function get_logicalName( )
ts	async get_logicalName( ): Promise <string></string>
es	async get_logicalName( )
dnp	string get_logicalName( )
ср	string get_logicalName( )
cmd	YModule target get_logicalName

#### Returns:

a string corresponding to the logical name of the module

On failure, throws an exception or returns YModule.LOGICALNAME\_INVALID.

# module→get\_luminosity() module→luminosity()

**YModule** 

Returns the luminosity of the module informative LEDs (from 0 to 100).

```
function get_luminosity()
 js
      int get_luminosity( )
срр
      -(int) luminosity
      LongInt get_luminosity(): LongInt
pas
      function get_luminosity() As Integer
vb
      int get_luminosity( )
CS
      int get_luminosity( )
java
      async Task<int> get_luminosity()
uwp
      get_luminosity( )
ру
      function get_luminosity()
      async get_luminosity(): Promise<number>
      async get_luminosity()
      int get_luminosity( )
dnp
      int get_luminosity( )
ср
      YModule target get_luminosity
cmd
```

#### Returns:

an integer corresponding to the luminosity of the module informative LEDs (from 0 to 100)

On failure, throws an exception or returns YModule.LUMINOSITY\_INVALID.

# module→get\_parentHub() module→parentHub()

**YModule** 

Returns the serial number of the YoctoHub on which this module is connected.

```
function get_parentHub()
js
     string get_parentHub( )
срр
     -(NSString*) parentHub
 m
     string get_parentHub(): string
pas
     function get_parentHub() As String
vb
     string get_parentHub( )
CS
     String get_parentHub()
java
      async Task<string> get_parentHub()
uwp
      get_parentHub( )
ру
     function get_parentHub()
php
     async get_parentHub(): Promise<string>
ts
     async get_parentHub()
es
     string get_parentHub( )
dnp
     string get_parentHub( )
ср
     YModule target get_parentHub
cmd
```

If the module is connected by USB, or if the module is the root YoctoHub, an empty string is returned.

#### Returns:

a string with the serial number of the YoctoHub or an empty string

# module→get\_persistentSettings() module→persistentSettings()

**YModule** 

Returns the current state of persistent module settings.

```
function get_persistentSettings()
js
     Y_PERSISTENTSETTINGS_enum get_persistentSettings()
     -(Y_PERSISTENTSETTINGS_enum) persistentSettings
     Integer get_persistentSettings(): Integer
pas
     function get_persistentSettings() As Integer
vb
     int get_persistentSettings()
CS
     int get_persistentSettings()
iava
     async Task<int> get_persistentSettings()
uwp
     get_persistentSettings()
ру
     function get_persistentSettings()
     async get_persistentSettings(): Promise<YModule_PersistentSettings>
     async get_persistentSettings()
es
dnp
     int get_persistentSettings()
     int get_persistentSettings()
ср
     YModule target get_persistentSettings
cmd
```

#### Returns:

a value among  $YModule.PERSISTENTSETTINGS\_LOADED$ ,  $YModule.PERSISTENTSETTINGS\_SAVED$  and  $YModule.PERSISTENTSETTINGS\_MODIFIED$  corresponding to the current state of persistent module settings

On failure, throws an exception or returns  ${\tt YModule.PERSISTENTSETTINGS\_INVALID}.$ 

# $\begin{array}{l} module \rightarrow get\_productId() \\ module \rightarrow productId() \end{array}$

**YModule** 

Returns the USB device identifier of the module.

js	function get_productId()
cpp	int get_productId( )
m	-(int) productId
pas	LongInt get_productId( ): LongInt
vb	function get_productId() As Integer
cs	int get_productId( )
java	int get_productId( )
uwp	async Task <int> get_productId( )</int>
ру	get_productId( )
php	function get_productId( )
ts	async get_productId( ): Promise <number></number>
es	async get_productId( )
dnp	int get_productId( )
cp	int get_productId( )
cmd	YModule target get_productId

#### Returns:

an integer corresponding to the USB device identifier of the module

On failure, throws an exception or returns YModule.PRODUCTID\_INVALID.

# module→get\_productName() module→productName()

**YModule** 

Returns the commercial name of the module, as set by the factory.

```
function get_productName()
js
     string get_productName()
срр
     -(NSString*) productName
     string get_productName(): string
pas
     function get_productName() As String
vb
     string get_productName()
CS
     String get_productName()
java
     async Task<string> get_productName( )
uwp
     get_productName( )
ру
     function get_productName()
     async get_productName(): Promise<string>
     async get_productName()
es
dnp
     string get_productName( )
     string get_productName( )
ср
     YModule target get_productName
cmd
```

#### Returns:

a string corresponding to the commercial name of the module, as set by the factory

On failure, throws an exception or returns YModule.PRODUCTNAME\_INVALID.

# module→get\_productRelease() module→productRelease()

**YModule** 

Returns the release number of the module hardware, preprogrammed at the factory.

```
function get_productRelease()
js
     int get_productRelease()
срр
     -(int) productRelease
m
     LongInt get_productRelease(): LongInt
pas
     function get_productRelease() As Integer
vb
     int get_productRelease()
CS
     int get_productRelease()
iava
     async Task<int> get_productRelease()
uwp
     get_productRelease( )
ру
     function get_productRelease()
php
     async get_productRelease( ): Promise<number>
ts
     async get_productRelease()
es
     int get_productRelease()
dnp
     int get_productRelease()
ср
     YModule target get_productRelease
cmd
```

The original hardware release returns value 1, revision B returns value 2, etc.

#### Returns:

an integer corresponding to the release number of the module hardware, preprogrammed at the factory

On failure, throws an exception or returns YModule.PRODUCTRELEASE\_INVALID.

# module→get\_rebootCountdown() module→rebootCountdown()

**YModule** 

Returns the remaining number of seconds before the module restarts, or zero when no reboot has been scheduled.

```
function get_rebootCountdown()
     int get_rebootCountdown()
     -(int) rebootCountdown
     LongInt get_rebootCountdown(): LongInt
pas
     function get_rebootCountdown() As Integer
vb
     int get_rebootCountdown()
CS
     int get_rebootCountdown()
java
     async Task<int> get_rebootCountdown()
uwp
     get_rebootCountdown( )
ру
     function get_rebootCountdown( )
     async get_rebootCountdown(): Promise<number>
ts
     async get_rebootCountdown()
es
     int get_rebootCountdown()
dnp
     int get_rebootCountdown()
ср
cmd
     YModule target get_rebootCountdown
```

#### Returns:

an integer corresponding to the remaining number of seconds before the module restarts, or zero when no reboot has been scheduled

On failure, throws an exception or returns YModule.REBOOTCOUNTDOWN\_INVALID.

# module→get\_serialNumber() module→serialNumber()

**YModule** 

Returns the serial number of the module, as set by the factory.

js	function get_serialNumber( )
срр	string get_serialNumber()
m	-(NSString*) serialNumber
pas	string get_serialNumber( ): string
vb	function get_serialNumber( ) As String
CS	string get_serialNumber( )
java	String get_serialNumber()
uwp	async Task <string> get_serialNumber( )</string>
ру	get_serialNumber( )
php	function get_serialNumber( )
ts	async get_serialNumber( ): Promise <string></string>
es	async get_serialNumber( )
dnp	string get_serialNumber( )
ср	string get_serialNumber( )
cmd	YModule target get_serialNumber

#### Returns:

a string corresponding to the serial number of the module, as set by the factory

On failure, throws an exception or returns YModule.SERIALNUMBER\_INVALID.

# module→get\_subDevices() module→subDevices()

**YModule** 

Returns a list of all the modules that are plugged into the current module.

```
function get_subDevices()
js
     vector<string> get_subDevices()
срр
     -(NSMutableArray*) subDevices
     TStringArray get_subDevices(): TStringArray
pas
     function get_subDevices() As List
vb
     List<string> get_subDevices()
CS
     ArrayList<String> get_subDevices()
iava
     async Task<List<string>> get_subDevices()
uwp
     get_subDevices()
ру
     function get_subDevices()
     async get_subDevices(): Promise<string[]
     async get_subDevices()
es
     string[] get_subDevices( )
dnp
     vector<string> get_subDevices( )
ср
     YModule target get_subDevices
cmd
```

This method only makes sense when called for a YoctoHub/VirtualHub. Otherwise, an empty array will be returned.

#### Returns:

an array of strings containing the sub modules.

# module→get\_upTime() module→upTime()

**YModule** 

Returns the number of milliseconds spent since the module was powered on.

```
function get_upTime()
js
     s64 get_upTime()
срр
     -(s64) upTime
 m
     int64 get_upTime(): int64
pas
     function get_upTime() As Long
vb
     long get_upTime( )
CS
     long get_upTime()
java
     async Task<long> get_upTime()
uwp
     get_upTime( )
ру
     function get_upTime( )
php
     async get_upTime(): Promise<number>
ts
     async get_upTime()
es
     long get_upTime()
dnp
     s64 get_upTime()
ср
     YModule target get_upTime
cmd
```

#### Returns:

an integer corresponding to the number of milliseconds spent since the module was powered on

On failure, throws an exception or returns YModule.UPTIME\_INVALID.

# module→get\_url() YModule module→url()

Returns the URL used to access the module.

```
function get_url( )
js
      string get_url( )
срр
      -(NSString*) url
 m
      string get_url(): string
pas
      function get_url() As String
vb
      string get_url( )
CS
      String get_url()
java
      async Task<string> get_url()
uwp
      get_url()
ру
      function get_url()
      async get_url(): Promise<string>
ts
      async get_url( )
es
      string get_url( )
dnp
      string get_url()
ср
      YModule target get_url
cmd
```

If the module is connected by USB, the string 'usb' is returned.

# Returns:

a string with the URL of the module.

# module→get\_usbCurrent() module→usbCurrent()

**YModule** 

Returns the current consumed by the module on the USB bus, in milli-amps.

js	function get_usbCurrent( )
срр	int get_usbCurrent( )
m	-(int) usbCurrent
pas	LongInt get_usbCurrent( ): LongInt
vb	function get_usbCurrent() As Integer
CS	int get_usbCurrent( )
java	int get_usbCurrent( )
uwp	async Task <int> get_usbCurrent( )</int>
ру	get_usbCurrent( )
php	function get_usbCurrent( )
ts	async get_usbCurrent( ): Promise <number></number>
es	async get_usbCurrent( )
dnp	int get_usbCurrent( )
cp	int get_usbCurrent( )
cmd	YModule target get_usbCurrent

# Returns:

an integer corresponding to the current consumed by the module on the USB bus, in milli-amps

On failure, throws an exception or returns YModule.USBCURRENT\_INVALID.

# module→get\_userData() module→userData()

**YModule** 

Returns the value of the userData attribute, as previously stored using method set\_userData.

```
function get_userData()
js
      void * get_userData( )
срр
     -(id) userData
 m
     Tobject get_userData(): Tobject
     function get_userData( ) As Object
vb
      object get_userData()
CS
     Object get_userData()
java
      get_userData()
ру
      function get_userData()
      async get_userData(): Promise<object|null>
      async get_userData()
```

This attribute is never touched directly by the API, and is at disposal of the caller to store a context.

# Returns:

the object stored previously by the caller.

# module→get\_userVar() module→userVar()

**YModule** 

Returns the value previously stored in this attribute.

```
function get_userVar()
js
     int get_userVar()
срр
     -(int) userVar
 m
     LongInt get_userVar(): LongInt
pas
     function get_userVar( ) As Integer
vb
     int get_userVar( )
CS
     int get_userVar()
java
     async Task<int> get_userVar()
uwp
      get_userVar( )
ру
     function get_userVar( )
php
     async get_userVar(): Promise<number>
ts
     async get_userVar()
es
     int get_userVar()
dnp
     int get_userVar()
ср
     YModule target get_userVar
cmd
```

On startup and after a device reboot, the value is always reset to zero.

# Returns:

an integer corresponding to the value previously stored in this attribute

On failure, throws an exception or returns YModule.USERVAR\_INVALID.

# module→hasFunction()

**YModule** 

Tests if the device includes a specific function.

js	function hasFunction( funcId)
срр	bool hasFunction( string funcid)
m	-(bool) hasFunction : (NSString*) funcId
pas	boolean hasFunction( funcId: string): boolean
vb	function hasFunction( ByVal funcId As String) As Boolean
CS	bool hasFunction( string funcId)
java	boolean hasFunction( String funcId)
uwp	async Task <bool> hasFunction( string funcId)</bool>
ру	hasFunction( funcId)
php	function hasFunction( \$funcId)
ts	async hasFunction( funcId: string): Promise <boolean></boolean>
es	async hasFunction( funcId)
dnp	bool hasFunction( string funcId)
СБ	bool hasFunction( string funcId)
cmd	YModule target hasFunction funcId

This method takes a function identifier and returns a boolean.

# Parameters:

funcid the requested function identifier

# Returns:

true if the device has the function identifier

module→isOnline() YModule

Checks if the module is currently reachable, without raising any error.

js	function isOnline()
срр	bool isOnline( )
m	-(BOOL) isOnline
pas	boolean isOnline( ): boolean
vb	function isOnline( ) As Boolean
CS	bool isOnline( )
java	boolean isOnline( )
ру	isOnline( )
php	function isOnline()
ts	async isOnline( ): Promise <boolean></boolean>
es	async isOnline( )
dnp	bool isOnline( )
ср	bool isOnline( )

If there are valid cached values for the module, that have not yet expired, the device is considered reachable. No exception is raised if there is an error while trying to contact the requested module.

# Returns:

true if the module can be reached, and false otherwise

# module→isOnline\_async()

**YModule** 

Checks if the module is currently reachable, without raising any error.

js function isOnline\_async( callback, context)

If there are valid cached values for the module, that have not yet expired, the device is considered reachable. No exception is raised if there is an error while trying to contact the requested module.

This asynchronous version exists only in JavaScript. It uses a callback instead of a return value in order to avoid blocking Firefox JavaScript VM that does not implement context switching during blocking I/O calls.

#### Parameters:

callback callback function that is invoked when the result is known. The callback function receives three arguments: the caller-specific context object, the receiving module object and the boolean result
 context caller-specific object that is passed as-is to the callback function

# Returns:

nothing: the result is provided to the callback.

module→load() YModule

Preloads the module cache with a specified validity duration.



By default, whenever accessing a device, all module attributes are kept in cache for the standard duration (5 ms). This method can be used to temporarily mark the cache as valid for a longer period, in order to reduce network traffic for instance.

# Parameters:

msValidity an integer corresponding to the validity attributed to the loaded module parameters, in milliseconds

# Returns:

YAPI.SUCCESS when the call succeeds.

On failure, throws an exception or returns a negative error code.

# module→load\_async()

**YModule** 

Preloads the module cache with a specified validity duration (asynchronous version).

js function load\_async( msValidity, callback, context)

By default, whenever accessing a device, all module attributes are kept in cache for the standard duration (5 ms). This method can be used to temporarily mark the cache as valid for a longer period, in order to reduce network traffic for instance.

This asynchronous version exists only in JavaScript. It uses a callback instead of a return value in order to avoid blocking Firefox JavaScript VM that does not implement context switching during blocking I/O calls. See the documentation section on asynchronous JavaScript calls for more details.

# Parameters:

msValidity an integer corresponding to the validity of the loaded module parameters, in milliseconds

callback callback function that is invoked when the result is known. The callback function receives three

arguments: the caller-specific context object, the receiving module object and the error code (or

YAPI.SUCCESS)

**context** caller-specific object that is passed as-is to the callback function

# Returns:

nothing: the result is provided to the callback.

module→log() YModule

Adds a text message to the device logs.



This function is useful in particular to trace the execution of HTTP callbacks. If a newline is desired after the message, it must be included in the string.

# Parameters:

text the string to append to the logs.

# Returns:

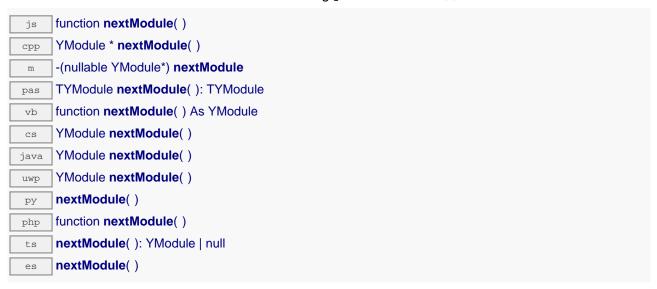
YAPI.SUCCESS if the call succeeds.

On failure, throws an exception or returns a negative error code.

# module→nextModule()

**YModule** 

Continues the module enumeration started using yFirstModule().



Caution: You can't make any assumption about the returned modules order. If you want to find a specific module, use Module.findModule() and a hardwareID or a logical name.

# Returns:

a pointer to a YModule object, corresponding to the next module found, or a null pointer if there are no more modules to enumerate.

module→reboot() YModule

Schedules a simple module reboot after the given number of seconds.

js	function reboot( secBeforeReboot)
срр	int reboot( int secBeforeReboot)
m	-(int) reboot : (int) secBeforeReboot
pas	LongInt reboot( secBeforeReboot: LongInt): LongInt
vb	function reboot( ByVal secBeforeReboot As Integer) As Integer
CS	int reboot( int secBeforeReboot)
java	int reboot( int secBeforeReboot)
uwp	async Task <int> reboot( int secBeforeReboot)</int>
ру	reboot( secBeforeReboot)
php	function reboot( \$secBeforeReboot)
ts	async reboot( secBeforeReboot: number): Promise <number></number>
es	async reboot( secBeforeReboot)
dnp	int reboot( int secBeforeReboot)
ср	int reboot( int secBeforeReboot)
cmd	YModule target reboot secBeforeReboot

# Parameters:

secBeforeReboot number of seconds before rebooting

# Returns:

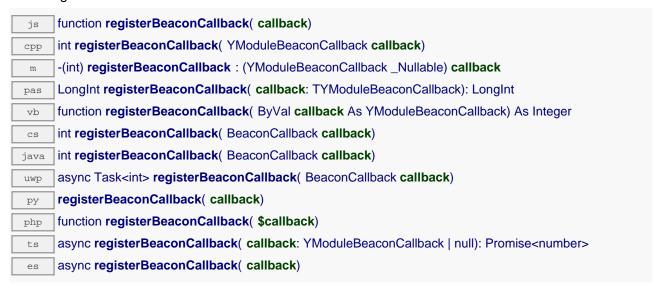
YAPI.SUCCESS when the call succeeds.

On failure, throws an exception or returns a negative error code.

# module→registerBeaconCallback()

**YModule** 

Register a callback function, to be called when the localization beacon of the module has been changed.



The callback function should take two arguments: the YModule object of which the beacon has changed, and an integer describing the new beacon state.

# Parameters:

callback The callback function to call, or null to unregister a

# $module {\rightarrow} register Config Change Callback ()$

**YModule** 

Register a callback function, to be called when a persistent settings in a device configuration has been changed (e.g.

js	function registerConfigChangeCallback( callback)
cpp	int registerConfigChangeCallback( YModuleConfigChangeCallback callback)
m	-(int) registerConfigChangeCallback : (YModuleConfigChangeCallback _Nullable) callback
pas	LongInt registerConfigChangeCallback( callback: TYModuleConfigChangeCallback): LongInt
vb	function registerConfigChangeCallback( ByVal callback As YModuleConfigChangeCallback) As Integer
CS	int registerConfigChangeCallback( ConfigChangeCallback callback)
java	int registerConfigChangeCallback( ConfigChangeCallback callback)
uwp	async Task <int> registerConfigChangeCallback( ConfigChangeCallback callback)</int>
ру	registerConfigChangeCallback( callback)
php	function registerConfigChangeCallback( \$callback)
ts	async registerConfigChangeCallback( callback: YModuleConfigChangeCallback   null):  Promise <number></number>
es	async registerConfigChangeCallback( callback)

change of unit, etc).

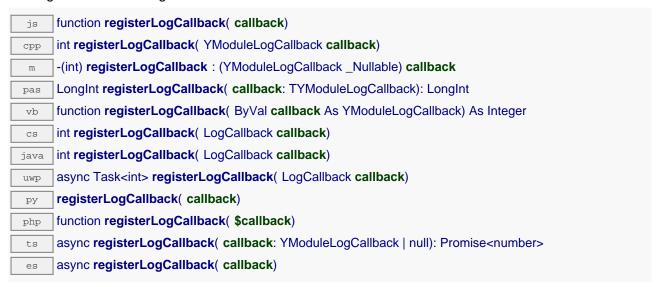
# Parameters:

callback a procedure taking a YModule parameter, or null

# module→registerLogCallback()

**YModule** 

Registers a device log callback function.



This callback will be called each time that a module sends a new log message. Mostly useful to debug a Yoctopuce module.

# Parameters:

**callback** the callback function to call, or a null pointer. The callback function should take two arguments: the module object that emitted the log message, and the character string containing the log.

# module→revertFromFlash()

**YModule** 

Reloads the settings stored in the nonvolatile memory, as when the module is powered on.

js	function revertFromFlash( )
срр	int revertFromFlash( )
m	-(int) revertFromFlash
pas	LongInt revertFromFlash( ): LongInt
vb	function revertFromFlash( ) As Integer
cs	int revertFromFlash( )
java	int revertFromFlash( )
uwp	async Task <int> revertFromFlash( )</int>
ру	revertFromFlash( )
php	function revertFromFlash( )
ts	async revertFromFlash( ): Promise <number></number>
es	async revertFromFlash( )
dnp	int revertFromFlash( )
ср	int revertFromFlash( )
cmd	YModule target revertFromFlash

# Returns:

YAPI.SUCCESS when the call succeeds.

On failure, throws an exception or returns a negative error code.

# module→saveToFlash()

**YModule** 

Saves current settings in the nonvolatile memory of the module.



Warning: the number of allowed save operations during a module life is limited (about 100000 cycles). Do not call this function within a loop.

#### Returns:

YAPI.SUCCESS when the call succeeds.

On failure, throws an exception or returns a negative error code.

# module→set\_allSettings() module→setAllSettings()

**YModule** 

Restores all the settings of the device.

js	function set_allSettings( settings)
cpp	int set_allSettings( string settings)
m	-(int) setAllSettings : (NSData*) settings
pas	LongInt set_allSettings( settings: TByteArray): LongInt
vb	procedure set_allSettings( ByVal settings As Byte()
cs	int set_allSettings( byte[] settings)
java	int set_allSettings( byte[] settings)
uwp	async Task <int> set_allSettings( byte[] settings)</int>
ру	set_allSettings( settings)
php	function set_allSettings( \$settings)
ts	async set_allSettings( settings: Uint8Array): Promise <number></number>
es	async set_allSettings( settings)
dnp	int set_allSettings( byte[] settings)
ср	int set_allSettings( string settings)
cmd	YModule target set_allSettings settings

Useful to restore all the logical names and calibrations parameters of a module from a backup. Remember to call the saveToFlash() method of the module if the modifications must be kept.

# Parameters:

settings a binary buffer with all the settings.

# Returns:

YAPI.SUCCESS when the call succeeds.

On failure, throws an exception or returns a negative error code.

# module→set\_allSettingsAndFiles() module→setAllSettingsAndFiles()

**YModule** 

Restores all the settings and uploaded files to the module.



This method is useful to restore all the logical names and calibrations parameters, uploaded files etc. of a device from a backup. Remember to call the <code>saveToFlash()</code> method of the module if the modifications must be kept.

# Parameters:

settings a binary buffer with all the settings.

# Returns:

YAPI.SUCCESS when the call succeeds.

On failure, throws an exception or returns a negative error code.

# module→set\_beacon() module→setBeacon()

**YModule** 

Turns on or off the module localization beacon.

js	function set_beacon( newval)
срр	int set_beacon( Y_BEACON_enum newval)
m	-(int) setBeacon : (Y_BEACON_enum) newval
pas	integer set_beacon( newval: Integer): integer
vb	function set_beacon( ByVal newval As Integer) As Integer
CS	int set_beacon( int newval)
java	int set_beacon( int newval)
uwp	async Task <int> set_beacon( int newval)</int>
ру	set_beacon( newval)
php	function set_beacon( \$newval)
ts	async set_beacon( newval: YModule_Beacon): Promise <number></number>
es	async set_beacon( newval)
dnp	int set_beacon( int newval)
ср	int set_beacon( int newval)
cmd	YModule target set_beacon newval

# Parameters:

 $\textbf{newval} \ \ \textbf{either} \ \ \textbf{YModule.BEACON\_OFF} \ \ \textbf{or} \ \ \textbf{YModule.BEACON\_ON}$ 

# Returns:

YAPI.SUCCESS if the call succeeds.

On failure, throws an exception or returns a negative error code.

# module→set\_logicalName() module→setLogicalName()

**YModule** 

Changes the logical name of the module.



You can use yCheckLogicalName() prior to this call to make sure that your parameter is valid. Remember to call the saveToFlash() method of the module if the modification must be kept.

# Parameters:

newval a string corresponding to the logical name of the module

# Returns:

YAPI.SUCCESS if the call succeeds.

On failure, throws an exception or returns a negative error code.

# module→set\_luminosity() module→setLuminosity()

**YModule** 

Changes the luminosity of the module informative leds.

```
function set_luminosity( newval)
js
     int set_luminosity( int newval)
срр
     -(int) setLuminosity: (int) newval
 m
     integer set_luminosity( newval: LongInt): integer
pas
     function set_luminosity( ByVal newval As Integer) As Integer
vb
     int set_luminosity( int newval)
CS
     int set_luminosity( int newval)
iava
     async Task<int> set_luminosity( int newval)
uwp
      set_luminosity( newval)
ру
     function set_luminosity( $newval)
php
     async set_luminosity( newval: number): Promise<number>
ts
     async set_luminosity( newval)
es
     int set_luminosity( int newval)
dnp
     int set_luminosity( int newval)
ср
     YModule target set_luminosity newval
cmd
```

The parameter is a value between 0 and 100. Remember to call the <code>saveToFlash()</code> method of the module if the modification must be kept.

# Parameters:

newval an integer corresponding to the luminosity of the module informative leds

# Returns:

YAPI.SUCCESS if the call succeeds.

On failure, throws an exception or returns a negative error code.

# module→set\_userData() module→setUserData()

# **YModule**

Stores a user context provided as argument in the userData attribute of the function.

```
function set_userData( data)
 js
      void set_userData( void * data)
срр
      -(void) setUserData : (id) data
      set_userData( data: Tobject)
pas
      procedure set_userData( ByVal data As Object)
vb
      void set_userData( object data)
CS
      void set_userData( Object data)
java
      set_userData( data)
ру
      function set_userData( $data)
php
      async set_userData( data: object|null): Promise<void>
      async set_userData( data)
```

This attribute is never touched by the API, and is at disposal of the caller to store a context.

# Parameters:

data any kind of object to be stored

# module→set\_userVar() module→setUserVar()

**YModule** 

Stores a 32 bit value in the device RAM.

```
function set_userVar( newval)
js
     int set_userVar( int newval)
срр
     -(int) setUserVar : (int) newval
 m
     integer set_userVar( newval: LongInt): integer
pas
     function set_userVar( ByVal newval As Integer) As Integer
vb
     int set_userVar( int newval)
CS
     int set_userVar( int newval)
iava
     async Task<int> set_userVar( int newval)
uwp
     set_userVar( newval)
ру
     function set_userVar( $newval)
php
     async set_userVar( newval: number): Promise<number>
ts
     async set_userVar( newval)
es
dnp
     int set_userVar( int newval)
     int set_userVar( int newval)
ср
     YModule target set_userVar newval
cmd
```

This attribute is at programmer disposal, should he need to store a state variable. On startup and after a device reboot, the value is always reset to zero.

# Parameters:

newval an integer

#### Returns:

YAPI.SUCCESS if the call succeeds.

On failure, throws an exception or returns a negative error code.

# $module {\to} triggerConfigChangeCallback \textbf{()}$

**YModule** 

Triggers a configuration change callback, to check if they are supported or not.

js	function triggerConfigChangeCallback( )
срр	int triggerConfigChangeCallback( )
m	-(int) triggerConfigChangeCallback
pas	LongInt triggerConfigChangeCallback(): LongInt
vb	function triggerConfigChangeCallback( ) As Integer
CS	int triggerConfigChangeCallback( )
java	int triggerConfigChangeCallback( )
uwp	async Task <int> triggerConfigChangeCallback( )</int>
ру	triggerConfigChangeCallback( )
php	function triggerConfigChangeCallback( )
ts	async triggerConfigChangeCallback( ): Promise <number></number>
es	async triggerConfigChangeCallback( )
dnp	int triggerConfigChangeCallback( )
ср	int triggerConfigChangeCallback( )
cmd	YModule target triggerConfigChangeCallback

# $module {\rightarrow} trigger Firmware Update \textbf{()}$

**YModule** 

Schedules a module reboot into special firmware update mode.

js	function triggerFirmwareUpdate( secBeforeReboot)
срр	int triggerFirmwareUpdate( int secBeforeReboot)
m	-(int) triggerFirmwareUpdate : (int) secBeforeReboot
pas	LongInt triggerFirmwareUpdate( secBeforeReboot: LongInt): LongInt
vb	function triggerFirmwareUpdate( ByVal secBeforeReboot As Integer) As Integer
CS	int triggerFirmwareUpdate( int secBeforeReboot)
java	int triggerFirmwareUpdate( int secBeforeReboot)
uwp	async Task <int> triggerFirmwareUpdate( int secBeforeReboot)</int>
ру	triggerFirmwareUpdate( secBeforeReboot)
php	function triggerFirmwareUpdate( \$secBeforeReboot)
ts	async triggerFirmwareUpdate( secBeforeReboot: number): Promise <number></number>
es	async triggerFirmwareUpdate( secBeforeReboot)
dnp	int triggerFirmwareUpdate( int secBeforeReboot)
ср	int triggerFirmwareUpdate( int secBeforeReboot)
cmd	YModule target triggerFirmwareUpdate secBeforeReboot

# Parameters:

secBeforeReboot number of seconds before rebooting

# Returns:

YAPI.SUCCESS when the call succeeds.

On failure, throws an exception or returns a negative error code.

# module-updateFirmware()

**YModule** 

Prepares a firmware update of the module.

js	function updateFirmware( path)
cpp	YFirmwareUpdate updateFirmware( string path)
m	-(YFirmwareUpdate*) updateFirmware: (NSString*) path
pas	TYFirmwareUpdate updateFirmware( path: string): TYFirmwareUpdate
vb	function updateFirmware( ByVal path As String) As YFirmwareUpdate
CS	YFirmwareUpdate updateFirmware( string path)
java	YFirmwareUpdate updateFirmware( String path)
uwp	async Task <yfirmwareupdate> updateFirmware( string path)</yfirmwareupdate>
ру	updateFirmware( path)
php	function updateFirmware( \$path)
ts	async updateFirmware( path: string): Promise <yfirmwareupdate></yfirmwareupdate>
es	async updateFirmware( path)
dnp	YFirmwareUpdateProxy updateFirmware( string path)
ср	YFirmwareUpdateProxy* updateFirmware( string path)
cmd	YModule target updateFirmware path

This method returns a YFirmwareUpdate object which handles the firmware update process.

# Parameters:

 $\boldsymbol{path}$  the path of the .byn file to use.

# Returns:

a YFirmwareUpdate object or NULL on error.

# module-updateFirmwareEx()

**YModule** 

Prepares a firmware update of the module.

js function updateFirmwareEx( path, force)
YFirmwareUpdate updateFirmwareEx( string path, bool force)
-(YFirmwareUpdate*) updateFirmwareEx : (NSString*) path
: (bool) force
TYFirmwareUpdate updateFirmwareEx( path: string, force: boolean): TYFirmwareUpdate
vb function updateFirmwareEx( ByVal path As String,
ByVal <b>force</b> As Boolean) As YFirmwareUpdate
YFirmwareUpdate updateFirmwareEx( string path, bool force)
java YFirmwareUpdate updateFirmwareEx( String path, boolean force)
async Task <yfirmwareupdate> updateFirmwareEx( string path, bool force)</yfirmwareupdate>
updateFirmwareEx( path, force)
php function updateFirmwareEx( \$path, \$force)
async updateFirmwareEx( path: string, force: boolean): Promise <yfirmwareupdate></yfirmwareupdate>
async updateFirmwareEx( path, force)
TFirmwareUpdateProxy updateFirmwareEx( string path, bool force)
YFirmwareUpdateProxy* updateFirmwareEx( string path,
bool force)
YModule target updateFirmwareEx path force

This method returns a YFirmwareUpdate object which handles the firmware update process.

# Parameters:

path the path of the .byn file to use.

force true to force the firmware update even if some prerequisites appear not to be met

# Returns:

a YFirmwareUpdate object or NULL on error.

# module→wait\_async()

**YModule** 

Waits for all pending asynchronous commands on the module to complete, and invoke the user-provided callback function.



The callback function can therefore freely issue synchronous or asynchronous commands, without risking to block the JavaScript VM.

# Parameters:

**callback** callback function that is invoked when all pending commands on the module are completed. The callback function receives two arguments: the caller-specific context object and the receiving function object.

context caller-specific object that is passed as-is to the callback function

# Returns:

nothing.

# 23.3. Class YRelay

Relay control interface, available for instance in the Yocto-LatchedRelay, the Yocto-MaxiPowerRelay, the Yocto-PowerRelay-V3 or the Yocto-Relay

The YRelay class allows you to drive a Yoctopuce relay or optocoupled output. It can be used to simply switch the output on or off, but also to automatically generate short pulses of determined duration. On devices with two output for each relay (double throw), the two outputs are named A and B, with output A corresponding to the idle position (normally closed) and the output B corresponding to the active state (normally open).

In order to use the functions described here, you should include: in HTML: <script src="../../lib/yocto\_relay.js"></script> in node.js: require('yoctolib-es2017/yocto\_relay.js'); <script type='text/javascript' src='yocto\_relay.js'></script> is #include "yocto\_relay.h" ago #import "yocto\_relay.h" m uses yocto\_relay; pas vb yocto\_relay.vb yocto\_relay.cs import com.yoctopuce.YoctoAPI.YRelay; iava import com.yoctopuce.YoctoAPI.YRelay; uwp from yocto\_relay import \* ру require\_once('yocto\_relay.php'); php in HTML: import { YRelay } from '../../dist/esm/yocto\_relay.js'; in Node.js: import { YRelay } from 'yoctolib-cjs/yocto\_relay.js'; import YoctoProxyAPI.YRelayProxy dnp #include "yocto\_relay\_proxy.h" cp YRelay.vi vi import YoctoProxyAPI.YRelayProxy m1

# **Global functions**

# YRelay.FindRelay(func)

Retrieves a relay for a given identifier.

# YRelay.FindRelayInContext(yctx, func)

Retrieves a relay for a given identifier in a YAPI context.

#### YRelay.FirstRelay()

Starts the enumeration of relays currently accessible.

#### YRelay.FirstRelayInContext(yctx)

Starts the enumeration of relays currently accessible.

# YRelay.GetSimilarFunctions()

Enumerates all functions of type Relay available on the devices currently reachable by the library, and returns their unique hardware ID.

# YRelay properties

#### relay -> Advertised Value [read-only]

Short string representing the current state of the function.

#### relay→FriendlyName [read-only]

Global identifier of the function in the format MODULE NAME.FUNCTION NAME.

# relay -> FunctionId [read-only]

Hardware identifier of the relay, without reference to the module.

#### relay→Hardwareld [read-only]

Unique hardware identifier of the function in the form SERIAL.FUNCTIONID.

# relay→IsOnline [read-only]

Checks if the function is currently reachable.

#### relay→LogicalName [writable]

Logical name of the function.

#### relay - MaxTimeOnStateA [writable]

Maximum time (ms) allowed for the relay to stay in state A before automatically switching back in to B state.

# relay -> MaxTimeOnStateB [writable]

The maximum time (ms) allowed for the relay to stay in state B before automatically switching back in to A state.

#### relay→SerialNumber [read-only]

Serial number of the module, as set by the factory.

#### relay→State [writable]

State of the relays (A for the idle position, B for the active position).

#### relay-StateAtPowerOn [writable]

State of the relays at device startup (A for the idle position, B for the active position, UNCHANGED to leave the relay state as is).

# YRelay methods

#### relay→clearCache()

Invalidates the cache.

# relay→delayedPulse(ms\_delay, ms\_duration)

Schedules a pulse.

#### relay→describe()

Returns a short text that describes unambiguously the instance of the relay in the form TYPE(NAME)=SERIAL.FUNCTIONID.

# relay→get\_advertisedValue()

Returns the current value of the relay (no more than 6 characters).

# relay→get\_countdown()

Returns the number of milliseconds remaining before a pulse (delayedPulse() call) When there is no scheduled pulse, returns zero.

# relay→get\_errorMessage()

Returns the error message of the latest error with the relay.

# relay→get\_errorType()

Returns the numerical error code of the latest error with the relay.

# relay-get\_friendlyName()

Returns a global identifier of the relay in the format MODULE\_NAME.FUNCTION\_NAME.

# relay-get\_functionDescriptor()

Returns a unique identifier of type YFUN\_DESCR corresponding to the function.

#### relay→get\_functionId()

Returns the hardware identifier of the relay, without reference to the module.

## relay→get\_hardwareld()

Returns the unique hardware identifier of the relay in the form SERIAL.FUNCTIONID.

# $relay{\rightarrow} get\_logicalName()$

Returns the logical name of the relay.

# relay-get\_maxTimeOnStateA()

Returns the maximum time (ms) allowed for the relay to stay in state A before automatically switching back in to B state.

# relay→get\_maxTimeOnStateB()

Retourne the maximum time (ms) allowed for the relay to stay in state B before automatically switching back in to A state.

#### relay→get\_module()

Gets the YModule object for the device on which the function is located.

#### relay→get\_module\_async(callback, context)

Gets the YModule object for the device on which the function is located (asynchronous version).

#### relay→get\_output()

Returns the output state of the relays, when used as a simple switch (single throw).

#### relay→get\_pulseTimer()

Returns the number of milliseconds remaining before the relays is returned to idle position (state A), during a measured pulse generation.

#### relay→get\_serialNumber()

Returns the serial number of the module, as set by the factory.

#### relay→get\_state()

Returns the state of the relays (A for the idle position, B for the active position).

#### relay→get\_stateAtPowerOn()

Returns the state of the relays at device startup (A for the idle position, B for the active position, UNCHANGED to leave the relay state as is).

#### relay-get\_userData()

Returns the value of the userData attribute, as previously stored using method set userData.

# relay→isOnline()

Checks if the relay is currently reachable, without raising any error.

# relay→isOnline\_async(callback, context)

Checks if the relay is currently reachable, without raising any error (asynchronous version).

# relay→isReadOnly()

Test if the function is readOnly.

# relay→load(msValidity)

Preloads the relay cache with a specified validity duration.

# relay-loadAttribute(attrName)

Returns the current value of a single function attribute, as a text string, as quickly as possible but without using the cached value.

# relay-load\_async(msValidity, callback, context)

Preloads the relay cache with a specified validity duration (asynchronous version).

# relay→muteValueCallbacks()

Disables the propagation of every new advertised value to the parent hub.

# relay→nextRelay()

Continues the enumeration of relays started using yFirstRelay().

# relay-pulse(ms\_duration)

Sets the relay to output B (active) for a specified duration, then brings it automatically back to output A (idle state).

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# $\textbf{relay} {\rightarrow} \textbf{registerValueCallback} (\textbf{callback})$

Registers the callback function that is invoked on every change of advertised value.

# relay-set\_logicalName(newval)

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Changes the logical name of the relay.

# relay-set\_maxTimeOnStateA(newval)

Changes the maximum time (ms) allowed for the relay to stay in state A before automatically switching back in to B state.

# relay-set\_maxTimeOnStateB(newval)

Changes the maximum time (ms) allowed for the relay to stay in state B before automatically switching back in to A state.

# relay-set\_output(newval)

Changes the output state of the relays, when used as a simple switch (single throw).

# relay→set\_state(newval)

Changes the state of the relays (A for the idle position, B for the active position).

# relay-set\_stateAtPowerOn(newval)

Changes the state of the relays at device startup (A for the idle position, B for the active position, UNCHANGED to leave the relay state as is).

# relay→set\_userData(data)

Stores a user context provided as argument in the userData attribute of the function.

# relay→toggle()

Switch the relay to the opposite state.

# relay-unmuteValueCallbacks()

Re-enables the propagation of every new advertised value to the parent hub.

# relay-wait\_async(callback, context)

Waits for all pending asynchronous commands on the module to complete, and invoke the user-provided callback function.

# YRelay.FindRelay() YRelay.FindRelay()

**YRelay** 

Retrieves a relay for a given identifier.



The identifier can be specified using several formats:

- FunctionLogicalName
- ModuleSerialNumber.FunctionIdentifier
- ModuleSerialNumber.FunctionLogicalName
- ModuleLogicalName.FunctionIdentifier
- ModuleLogicalName.FunctionLogicalName

This function does not require that the relay is online at the time it is invoked. The returned object is nevertheless valid. Use the method <code>YRelay.isOnline()</code> to test if the relay is indeed online at a given time. In case of ambiguity when looking for a relay by logical name, no error is notified: the first instance found is returned. The search is performed first by hardware name, then by logical name.

If a call to this object's is\_online() method returns FALSE although you are certain that the matching device is plugged, make sure that you did call registerHub() at application initialization time.

# Parameters:

func a string that uniquely characterizes the relay, for instance YLTCHRL1.relay1.

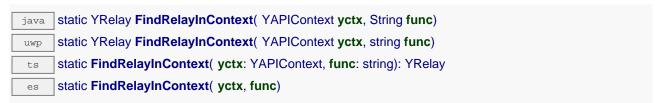
# Returns:

a YRelay object allowing you to drive the relay.

# YRelay.FindRelayInContext() YRelay.FindRelayInContext()

**YRelay** 

Retrieves a relay for a given identifier in a YAPI context.



The identifier can be specified using several formats:

- FunctionLogicalName
- ModuleSerialNumber.FunctionIdentifier
- ModuleSerialNumber.FunctionLogicalName
- ModuleLogicalName.FunctionIdentifier
- ModuleLogicalName.FunctionLogicalName

This function does not require that the relay is online at the time it is invoked. The returned object is nevertheless valid. Use the method YRelay.isOnline() to test if the relay is indeed online at a given time. In case of ambiguity when looking for a relay by logical name, no error is notified: the first instance found is returned. The search is performed first by hardware name, then by logical name.

# Parameters:

yctx a YAPI context

func a string that uniquely characterizes the relay, for instance YLTCHRL1.relay1.

# Returns:

a YRelay object allowing you to drive the relay.

# YRelay.FirstRelay() YRelay.FirstRelay()

**YRelay** 

Starts the enumeration of relays currently accessible.

```
function yFirstRelay()
js
      YRelay * FirstRelay()
срр
      +(YRelay*) FirstRelay
 m
     TYRelay yFirstRelay(): TYRelay
pas
     function FirstRelay() As YRelay
vb
      static YRelay FirstRelay( )
CS
      static YRelay FirstRelay( )
java
      static YRelay FirstRelay()
uwp
      FirstRelay()
ру
     function FirstRelay()
php
      static FirstRelay(): YRelay | null
ts
     static FirstRelay()
es
```

Use the method YRelay.nextRelay() to iterate on next relays.

# Returns:

a pointer to a YRelay object, corresponding to the first relay currently online, or a null pointer if there are none.

### YRelay.FirstRelayInContext() YRelay.FirstRelayInContext()

**YRelay** 

Starts the enumeration of relays currently accessible.

static YRelay FirstRelayInContext( YAPIContext yctx)

uwp static YRelay FirstRelayInContext( YAPIContext yctx)

ts static FirstRelayInContext( yctx: YAPIContext): YRelay | null

es static FirstRelayInContext( yctx)

Use the method YRelay.nextRelay() to iterate on next relays.

#### Parameters:

yctx a YAPI context.

#### Returns:

a pointer to a YRelay object, corresponding to the first relay currently online, or a null pointer if there are none.

### YRelay.GetSimilarFunctions() YRelay.GetSimilarFunctions()

**YRelay** 

Enumerates all functions of type Relay available on the devices currently reachable by the library, and returns their unique hardware ID.



Each of these IDs can be provided as argument to the method YRelay.FindRelay to obtain an object that can control the corresponding device.

#### Returns:

an array of strings, each string containing the unique hardwareld of a device function currently connected.

## $\textbf{relay} {\rightarrow} \textbf{AdvertisedValue}$

**YRelay** 

Short string representing the current state of the function.

dnp string AdvertisedValue

### relay->FriendlyName

**YRelay** 

Global identifier of the function in the format MODULE\_NAME.FUNCTION\_NAME.

dnp string FriendlyName

The returned string uses the logical names of the module and of the function if they are defined, otherwise the serial number of the module and the hardware identifier of the function (for example: MyCustomName.relay1)

relay→FunctionId YRelay

Hardware identifier of the relay, without reference to the module.

dnp string FunctionId

For example relay1

relay→Hardwareld YRelay

Unique hardware identifier of the function in the form SERIAL.FUNCTIONID.



The unique hardware identifier is composed of the device serial number and of the hardware identifier of the function (for example RELAYLO1-123456.relay1).

relay→IsOnline YRelay

Checks if the function is currently reachable.



If there is a cached value for the function in cache, that has not yet expired, the device is considered reachable. No exception is raised if there is an error while trying to contact the device hosting the function.

### relay→LogicalName

**YRelay** 

Logical name of the function.



**Writable**. You can use yCheckLogicalName() prior to this call to make sure that your parameter is valid. Remember to call the saveToFlash() method of the module if the modification must be kept.

### $relay \rightarrow MaxTimeOnStateA$

**YRelay** 

Maximum time (ms) allowed for the relay to stay in state A before automatically switching back in to B state.



Zero means no time limit.

**Writable**. Use zero for no time limit. Remember to call the saveToFlash() method of the module if the modification must be kept.

### $\textbf{relay} {\rightarrow} \textbf{MaxTimeOnStateB}$

**YRelay** 

The maximum time (ms) allowed for the relay to stay in state B before automatically switching back in to A state.

dnp long MaxTimeOnStateB

Zero means no time limit.

Writable. Use zero for no time limit. Remember to call the saveToFlash() method of the module if the modification must be kept.

## $\textbf{relay} {\rightarrow} \textbf{SerialNumber}$

**YRelay** 

Serial number of the module, as set by the factory.

dnp string SerialNumber

relay→State YRelay

State of the relays (A for the idle position, B for the active position).

dnp int State

Writable.

### $relay \rightarrow StateAtPowerOn$

**YRelay** 

State of the relays at device startup (A for the idle position, B for the active position, UNCHANGED to leave the relay state as is).



Writable. Remember to call the matching module saveToFlash() method, otherwise this call will have no effect.

relay→clearCache()

**YRelay** 

Invalidates the cache. function clearCache() void clearCache() срр -(void) clearCache m clearCache( ) pas procedure clearCache( ) void clearCache( ) void clearCache() java clearCache() ру function clearCache() php async clearCache(): Promise<void> ts async clearCache() es

Invalidates the cache of the relay attributes. Forces the next call to get\_xxx() or loadxxx() to use values that come from the device.

### relay→delayedPulse()

**YRelay** 

Schedules a pulse.



#### Parameters:

ms\_delay waiting time before the pulse, in millisecondsms\_duration pulse duration, in milliseconds

#### Returns:

YAPI.SUCCESS if the call succeeds.

On failure, throws an exception or returns a negative error code.

relay→describe() YRelay

Returns a short text that describes unambiguously the instance of the relay in the form TYPE(NAME)=SERIAL.FUNCTIONID.

```
function describe()
js
     string describe()
срр
      -(NSString*) describe
 m
     string describe(): string
pas
     function describe() As String
vb
     string describe()
CS
     String describe()
java
     describe()
ру
     function describe()
php
     async describe(): Promise<string>
ts
      async describe()
es
```

More precisely, TYPE is the type of the function, NAME it the name used for the first access to the function, SERIAL is the serial number of the module if the module is connected or "unresolved", and FUNCTIONID is the hardware identifier of the function if the module is connected. For example, this method returns Relay(MyCustomName.relay1)=RELAYLO1-123456.relay1 if the module is already connected or Relay(BadCustomeName.relay1)=unresolved if the module has not yet been connected. This method does not trigger any USB or TCP transaction and can therefore be used in a debugger.

```
Returns:

a string that describes the relay (ex: Relay(MyCustomName.relay1)=RELAYLO1-123456.relay1)
```

## relay→get\_advertisedValue() relay→advertisedValue()

**YRelay** 

Returns the current value of the relay (no more than 6 characters).

```
function get_advertisedValue()
js
      string get_advertisedValue()
срр
      -(NSString*) advertisedValue
      string get_advertisedValue(): string
pas
      function get_advertisedValue() As String
vb
      string get_advertisedValue()
CS
      String get_advertisedValue()
iava
      async Task<string> get_advertisedValue( )
uwp
      get_advertisedValue()
ру
      function get_advertisedValue()
      async get_advertisedValue(): Promise<string>
      async get_advertisedValue()
es
dnp
      string get_advertisedValue()
     string get_advertisedValue( )
ср
     YRelay target get_advertisedValue
cmd
```

#### Returns:

a string corresponding to the current value of the relay (no more than 6 characters).

On failure, throws an exception or returns YRelay. ADVERTISEDVALUE\_INVALID.

## relay→get\_countdown() relay→countdown()

**YRelay** 

Returns the number of milliseconds remaining before a pulse (delayedPulse() call) When there is no scheduled pulse, returns zero.

```
function get_countdown()
     s64 get_countdown()
срр
     -(s64) countdown
     int64 get_countdown(): int64
pas
     function get_countdown() As Long
vb
     long get_countdown()
CS
     long get_countdown()
java
     async Task<long> get_countdown( )
uwp
     get_countdown( )
ру
     function get_countdown()
php
     async get_countdown(): Promise<number>
     async get_countdown()
es
     long get_countdown()
dnp
     s64 get_countdown()
ср
     YRelay target get_countdown
```

#### Returns:

an integer corresponding to the number of milliseconds remaining before a pulse (delayedPulse() call) When there is no scheduled pulse, returns zero

On failure, throws an exception or returns YRelay. COUNTDOWN\_INVALID.

## relay→get\_errorMessage() relay→errorMessage()

**YRelay** 

Returns the error message of the latest error with the relay.

```
function get_errorMessage()
js
      string get_errorMessage()
срр
     -(NSString*) errorMessage
      string get_errorMessage(): string
pas
     function get_errorMessage() As String
vb
      string get_errorMessage()
CS
      String get_errorMessage()
java
      get_errorMessage( )
ру
      function get_errorMessage()
php
      get_errorMessage(): string
      get_errorMessage( )
```

This method is mostly useful when using the Yoctopuce library with exceptions disabled.

#### Returns:

a string corresponding to the latest error message that occured while using the relay object

## relay→get\_errorType() relay→errorType()

**YRelay** 

Returns the numerical error code of the latest error with the relay.

```
function get_errorType( )
js
     YRETCODE get_errorType()
срр
     -(YRETCODE) errorType
 m
     YRETCODE get_errorType(): YRETCODE
pas
     function get_errorType() As YRETCODE
vb
     YRETCODE get_errorType()
CS
java
     int get_errorType()
     get_errorType( )
ру
     function get_errorType( )
php
     get_errorType( ): number
     get_errorType( )
```

This method is mostly useful when using the Yoctopuce library with exceptions disabled.

#### Returns:

a number corresponding to the code of the latest error that occurred while using the relay object

## relay→get\_friendlyName() relay→friendlyName()

**YRelay** 

Returns a global identifier of the relay in the format MODULE\_NAME.FUNCTION\_NAME.

```
function get_friendlyName()
js
      string get_friendlyName()
срр
      -(NSString*) friendlyName
 m
      string get_friendlyName()
CS
      String get_friendlyName()
java
      get_friendlyName( )
ру
      function get_friendlyName()
php
      async get_friendlyName(): Promise<string>
ts
      async get_friendlyName()
es
      string get_friendlyName()
      string get_friendlyName()
```

The returned string uses the logical names of the module and of the relay if they are defined, otherwise the serial number of the module and the hardware identifier of the relay (for example: MyCustomName.relay1)

#### Returns:

a string that uniquely identifies the relay using logical names (ex: MyCustomName.relay1)

On failure, throws an exception or returns YRelay.FRIENDLYNAME\_INVALID.

## relay→get\_functionDescriptor() relay→functionDescriptor()

**YRelay** 

Returns a unique identifier of type YFUN\_DESCR corresponding to the function.

```
function get_functionDescriptor( )
js
     YFUN_DESCR get_functionDescriptor()
срр
     -(YFUN_DESCR) functionDescriptor
 m
     YFUN_DESCR get_functionDescriptor(): YFUN_DESCR
pas
     function get_functionDescriptor() As YFUN_DESCR
vb
     YFUN_DESCR get_functionDescriptor()
CS
     String get_functionDescriptor()
java
     get_functionDescriptor()
ру
     function get_functionDescriptor( )
php
     async get_functionDescriptor(): Promise<string>
     async get_functionDescriptor( )
```

This identifier can be used to test if two instances of YFunction reference the same physical function on the same physical device.

#### Returns:

an identifier of type YFUN\_DESCR.

If the function has never been contacted, the returned value is Y\$CLASSNAME\$.FUNCTIONDESCRIPTOR\_INVALID.

## relay→get\_functionId() relay→functionId()

**YRelay** 

Returns the hardware identifier of the relay, without reference to the module.

```
function get_functionId( )
js
      string get_functionId( )
срр
      -(NSString*) functionId
      function get_functionId() As String
vb
      string get_functionId( )
CS
      String get_functionId()
java
      get_functionId( )
ру
      function get_functionId()
php
      async get_functionId(): Promise<string>
      async get_functionId()
      string get_functionId( )
dnp
      string get_functionId( )
```

For example relay1

#### Returns:

a string that identifies the relay (ex: relay1)

On failure, throws an exception or returns YRelay.FUNCTIONID\_INVALID.

### relay→get\_hardwareld() relay→hardwareld()

**YRelay** 

Returns the unique hardware identifier of the relay in the form SERIAL.FUNCTIONID.

```
function get_hardwareld()
js
     string get_hardwareld()
срр
     -(NSString*) hardwareld
 m
     function get_hardwareld() As String
     string get_hardwareld()
CS
     String get_hardwareld()
java
     get_hardwareld()
ру
     function get_hardwareld()
php
     async get_hardwareId(): Promise<string>
ts
     async get_hardwareld()
es
     string get_hardwareld()
     string get_hardwareld()
```

The unique hardware identifier is composed of the device serial number and of the hardware identifier of the relay (for example RELAYLO1-123456.relay1).

#### Returns:

a string that uniquely identifies the relay (ex: RELAYLO1-123456.relay1)

On failure, throws an exception or returns YRelay. HARDWAREID\_INVALID.

## relay→get\_logicalName() relay→logicalName()

**YRelay** 

Returns the logical name of the relay.

```
function get_logicalName()
js
      string get_logicalName()
срр
      -(NSString*) logicalName
      string get_logicalName(): string
pas
     function get_logicalName() As String
vb
      string get_logicalName()
CS
      String get_logicalName()
java
      async Task<string> get_logicalName( )
uwp
      get_logicalName( )
ру
      function get_logicalName()
      async get_logicalName(): Promise<string>
      async get_logicalName()
es
      string get_logicalName()
dnp
     string get_logicalName()
ср
     YRelay target get_logicalName
cmd
```

#### Returns:

a string corresponding to the logical name of the relay.

On failure, throws an exception or returns YRelay.LOGICALNAME\_INVALID.

## relay→get\_maxTimeOnStateA() relay→maxTimeOnStateA()

**YRelay** 

Returns the maximum time (ms) allowed for the relay to stay in state A before automatically switching back in to B state.

```
function get_maxTimeOnStateA( )
     s64 get_maxTimeOnStateA()
срр
     -(s64) maxTimeOnStateA
     int64 get_maxTimeOnStateA(): int64
pas
     function get_maxTimeOnStateA( ) As Long
vb
     long get_maxTimeOnStateA()
CS
     long get_maxTimeOnStateA( )
java
     async Task<long> get_maxTimeOnStateA( )
uwp
     get_maxTimeOnStateA( )
ру
     function get_maxTimeOnStateA( )
php
     async get_maxTimeOnStateA(): Promise<number>
ts
     async get_maxTimeOnStateA()
es
     long get_maxTimeOnStateA()
dnp
     s64 get_maxTimeOnStateA()
ср
     YRelay target get_maxTimeOnStateA
```

Zero means no time limit.

#### Returns:

an integer corresponding to the maximum time (ms) allowed for the relay to stay in state A before automatically switching back in to B state

On failure, throws an exception or returns YRelay.MAXTIMEONSTATEA\_INVALID.

### relay→get\_maxTimeOnStateB() relay→maxTimeOnStateB()

**YRelay** 

Retourne the maximum time (ms) allowed for the relay to stay in state B before automatically switching back in to A state.

```
function get_maxTimeOnStateB()
     s64 get_maxTimeOnStateB()
     -(s64) maxTimeOnStateB
     int64 get_maxTimeOnStateB(): int64
pas
     function get_maxTimeOnStateB() As Long
vb
     long get_maxTimeOnStateB()
CS
     long get_maxTimeOnStateB()
java
     async Task<long> get_maxTimeOnStateB( )
uwp
     get_maxTimeOnStateB( )
ру
     function get_maxTimeOnStateB( )
     async get_maxTimeOnStateB(): Promise<number>
ts
     async get_maxTimeOnStateB( )
es
     long get_maxTimeOnStateB()
dnp
     s64 get_maxTimeOnStateB()
    YRelay target get_maxTimeOnStateB
```

Zero means no time limit.

#### Returns:

an integer

On failure, throws an exception or returns YRelay. MAXTIMEONSTATEB\_INVALID.

## relay→get\_module() relay→module()

**YRelay** 

Gets the YModule object for the device on which the function is located.

```
function get_module()
js
     YModule * get_module()
срр
     -(YModule*) module
 m
     TYModule get_module(): TYModule
pas
     function get_module() As YModule
vb
     YModule get_module()
CS
     YModule get_module()
java
     get_module( )
ру
     function get_module()
php
     async get_module( ): Promise<YModule>
ts
     async get_module()
     YModuleProxy get_module()
dnp
     YModuleProxy * get_module()
ср
```

If the function cannot be located on any module, the returned instance of YModule is not shown as online.

#### Returns:

an instance of YModule

## relay→get\_module\_async() relay→module\_async()

**YRelay** 

Gets the YModule object for the device on which the function is located (asynchronous version).

js function get\_module\_async( callback, context)

If the function cannot be located on any module, the returned YModule object does not show as online.

This asynchronous version exists only in JavaScript. It uses a callback instead of a return value in order to avoid blocking Firefox JavaScript VM that does not implement context switching during blocking I/O calls. See the documentation section on asynchronous JavasSript calls for more details.

#### Parameters:

callback callback function that is invoked when the result is known. The callback function receives three arguments: the caller-specific context object, the receiving function object and the requested YModule object

context caller-specific object that is passed as-is to the callback function

#### Returns:

nothing: the result is provided to the callback.

## relay→get\_output() relay→output()

Returns the output state of the relays, when used as a simple switch (single throw).

```
function get_output()
js
     Y_OUTPUT_enum get_output()
срр
     -(Y_OUTPUT_enum) output
     Integer get_output(): Integer
pas
     function get_output() As Integer
vb
     int get_output( )
CS
     int get_output()
java
     async Task<int> get_output()
uwp
     get_output()
ру
     function get_output()
php
     async get_output(): Promise<YRelay_Output>
ts
     async get_output()
es
     int get_output()
dnp
     int get_output()
ср
     YRelay target get_output
cmd
```

**YRelay** 

#### Returns:

either YRelay.OUTPUT\_OFF or YRelay.OUTPUT\_ON, according to the output state of the relays, when used as a simple switch (single throw)

On failure, throws an exception or returns YRelay.OUTPUT\_INVALID.

## relay→get\_pulseTimer() relay→pulseTimer()

**YRelay** 

Returns the number of milliseconds remaining before the relays is returned to idle position (state A), during a measured pulse generation.



When there is no ongoing pulse, returns zero.

#### Returns:

an integer corresponding to the number of milliseconds remaining before the relays is returned to idle position (state A), during a measured pulse generation

On failure, throws an exception or returns YRelay.PULSETIMER\_INVALID.

## relay→get\_serialNumber() relay→serialNumber()

**YRelay** 

Returns the serial number of the module, as set by the factory.

```
function get_serialNumber()
js
     string get_serialNumber( )
срр
     -(NSString*) serialNumber
 m
     string get_serialNumber(): string
pas
     function get_serialNumber() As String
vb
     string get_serialNumber( )
CS
     String get_serialNumber()
java
      async Task<string> get_serialNumber()
uwp
      get_serialNumber( )
ру
     function get_serialNumber()
php
     async get_serialNumber(): Promise<string>
ts
     async get_serialNumber( )
es
     string get_serialNumber( )
dnp
     string get_serialNumber( )
ср
     YRelay target get_serialNumber
cmd
```

#### Returns:

a string corresponding to the serial number of the module, as set by the factory.

On failure, throws an exception or returns YFunction.SERIALNUMBER\_INVALID.

# relay→get\_state() YRelay relay→state()

Returns the state of the relays (A for the idle position, B for the active position).

```
function get_state( )
js
      Y_STATE_enum get_state()
      -(Y_STATE_enum) state
     Integer get_state(): Integer
pas
     function get_state() As Integer
vb
      int get_state( )
CS
     int get_state()
java
      async Task<int> get_state()
uwp
      get_state( )
ру
      function get_state()
      async get_state(): Promise<YRelay_State>
      async get_state( )
     int get_state()
dnp
     int get_state()
ср
     YRelay target get_state
cmd
```

#### Returns:

either YRelay.STATE\_A or YRelay.STATE\_B, according to the state of the relays (A for the idle position, B for the active position)

On failure, throws an exception or returns YRelay.STATE\_INVALID.

## relay→get\_stateAtPowerOn() relay→stateAtPowerOn()

**YRelay** 

Returns the state of the relays at device startup (A for the idle position, B for the active position, UNCHANGED to leave the relay state as is).



#### Returns:

a value among YRelay.STATEATPOWERON\_UNCHANGED, YRelay.STATEATPOWERON\_A and YRelay.STATEATPOWERON\_B corresponding to the state of the relays at device startup (A for the idle position, B for the active position, UNCHANGED to leave the relay state as is)

On failure, throws an exception or returns YRelay.STATEATPOWERON\_INVALID.

## relay→get\_userData() relay→userData()

**YRelay** 

Returns the value of the userData attribute, as previously stored using method set\_userData.

```
function get_userData()
js
      void * get_userData( )
срр
     -(id) userData
 m
     Tobject get_userData(): Tobject
     function get_userData( ) As Object
vb
      object get_userData()
CS
     Object get_userData()
java
      get_userData()
ру
      function get_userData()
      async get_userData(): Promise<object|null>
      async get_userData()
```

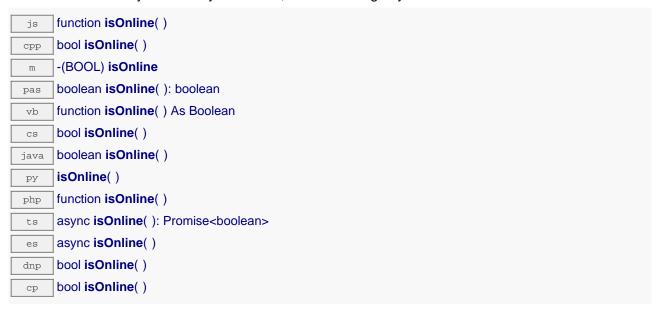
This attribute is never touched directly by the API, and is at disposal of the caller to store a context.

#### Returns:

the object stored previously by the caller.

relay→isOnline() YRelay

Checks if the relay is currently reachable, without raising any error.



If there is a cached value for the relay in cache, that has not yet expired, the device is considered reachable. No exception is raised if there is an error while trying to contact the device hosting the relay.

#### Returns:

true if the relay can be reached, and false otherwise

## relay→isOnline\_async()

**YRelay** 

Checks if the relay is currently reachable, without raising any error (asynchronous version).

js function isOnline\_async( callback, context)

If there is a cached value for the relay in cache, that has not yet expired, the device is considered reachable. No exception is raised if there is an error while trying to contact the device hosting the requested function.

This asynchronous version exists only in Javascript. It uses a callback instead of a return value in order to avoid blocking the Javascript virtual machine.

#### Parameters:

callback callback function that is invoked when the result is known. The callback function receives three arguments: the caller-specific context object, the receiving function object and the boolean result
 context caller-specific object that is passed as-is to the callback function

#### Returns:

nothing: the result is provided to the callback.

# $relay{\rightarrow} is Read Only \textbf{()}$

**YRelay** 

Test if the function is readOnly.

срр	bool isReadOnly( )
m	-(bool) isReadOnly
pas	boolean isReadOnly( ): boolean
vb	function isReadOnly() As Boolean
cs	bool isReadOnly( )
java	boolean isReadOnly( )
uwp	async Task <bool> isReadOnly( )</bool>
ру	isReadOnly( )
php	function isReadOnly()
ts	async isReadOnly( ): Promise <boolean></boolean>
es	async isReadOnly( )
dnp	bool isReadOnly( )
ср	bool isReadOnly( )
cmd	YRelay target isReadOnly

Return true if the function is write protected or that the function is not available.

### Returns:

true if the function is readOnly or not online.

relay→load() YRelay

Preloads the relay cache with a specified validity duration.



By default, whenever accessing a device, all function attributes are kept in cache for the standard duration (5 ms). This method can be used to temporarily mark the cache as valid for a longer period, in order to reduce network traffic for instance.

#### Parameters:

msValidity an integer corresponding to the validity attributed to the loaded function parameters, in milliseconds

#### Returns:

YAPI.SUCCESS when the call succeeds.

On failure, throws an exception or returns a negative error code.

# $relay{\rightarrow} loadAttribute()$

**YRelay** 

Returns the current value of a single function attribute, as a text string, as quickly as possible but without using the cached value.

js	function loadAttribute( attrName)
срр	string loadAttribute( string attrName)
m	-(NSString*) loadAttribute : (NSString*) attrName
pas	string loadAttribute( attrName: string): string
vb	function loadAttribute( ByVal attrName As String) As String
CS	string loadAttribute( string attrName)
java	String loadAttribute( String attrName)
uwp	async Task <string> loadAttribute( string attrName)</string>
ру	loadAttribute( attrName)
php	function loadAttribute( \$attrName)
ts	async loadAttribute( attrName: string): Promise <string></string>
es	async loadAttribute( attrName)
dnp	string loadAttribute( string attrName)
ср	string loadAttribute( string attrName)

#### Parameters:

attrName the name of the requested attribute

### Returns:

a string with the value of the the attribute

On failure, throws an exception or returns an empty string.

## relay→load\_async() YRelay

Preloads the relay cache with a specified validity duration (asynchronous version).

js function load\_async( msValidity, callback, context)

By default, whenever accessing a device, all function attributes are kept in cache for the standard duration (5 ms). This method can be used to temporarily mark the cache as valid for a longer period, in order to reduce network traffic for instance.

This asynchronous version exists only in JavaScript. It uses a callback instead of a return value in order to avoid blocking the JavaScript virtual machine.

#### Parameters:

msValidity an integer corresponding to the validity of the loaded function parameters, in milliseconds

callback callback function that is invoked when the result is known. The callback function receives three

arguments: the caller-specific context object, the receiving function object and the error code

(or YAPI.SUCCESS)

context caller-specific object that is passed as-is to the callback function

#### Returns:

nothing: the result is provided to the callback.

## relay-muteValueCallbacks()

**YRelay** 

Disables the propagation of every new advertised value to the parent hub.

js	function muteValueCallbacks()
срр	int muteValueCallbacks( )
m	-(int) muteValueCallbacks
pas	LongInt muteValueCallbacks( ): LongInt
vb	function muteValueCallbacks() As Integer
cs	int muteValueCallbacks( )
java	int muteValueCallbacks( )
uwp	async Task <int> muteValueCallbacks( )</int>
ру	muteValueCallbacks( )
php	function muteValueCallbacks( )
ts	async muteValueCallbacks(): Promise <number></number>
es	async muteValueCallbacks( )
dnp	int muteValueCallbacks( )
ср	int muteValueCallbacks( )
cmd	YRelay target muteValueCallbacks

You can use this function to save bandwidth and CPU on computers with limited resources, or to prevent unwanted invocations of the HTTP callback. Remember to call the <code>saveToFlash()</code> method of the module if the modification must be kept.

#### Returns:

YAPI.SUCCESS when the call succeeds.

On failure, throws an exception or returns a negative error code.

relay→nextRelay() YRelay

Continues the enumeration of relays started using yFirstRelay().

```
function nextRelay()
js
     YRelay * nextRelay()
срр
     -(nullable YRelay*) nextRelay
m
     TYRelay nextRelay(): TYRelay
pas
     function nextRelay() As YRelay
     YRelay nextRelay()
     YRelay nextRelay()
     YRelay nextRelay()
uwp
     nextRelay()
     function nextRelay()
php
ts
     nextRelay(): YRelay | null
     nextRelay()
es
```

Caution: You can't make any assumption about the returned relays order. If you want to find a specific a relay, use Relay.findRelay() and a hardwareID or a logical name.

#### Returns:

a pointer to a YRelay object, corresponding to a relay currently online, or a null pointer if there are no more relays to enumerate.

relay→pulse() YRelay

Sets the relay to output B (active) for a specified duration, then brings it automatically back to output A (idle state).

js	function pulse( ms_duration)
cpp	int pulse( int ms_duration)
m	-(int) pulse : (int) ms_duration
pas	integer pulse( ms_duration: LongInt): integer
vb	function <b>pulse</b> (ByVal <b>ms_duration</b> As Integer) As Integer
cs	int pulse( int ms_duration)
java	int pulse( int ms_duration)
uwp	async Task <int> pulse( int ms_duration)</int>
ру	pulse( ms_duration)
php	function pulse( \$ms_duration)
ts	async pulse( ms_duration: number): Promise <number></number>
es	async pulse( ms_duration)
dnp	int pulse( int ms_duration)
ср	int pulse( int ms_duration)
cmd	YRelay target pulse ms_duration

#### Parameters:

ms\_duration pulse duration, in milliseconds

#### Returns:

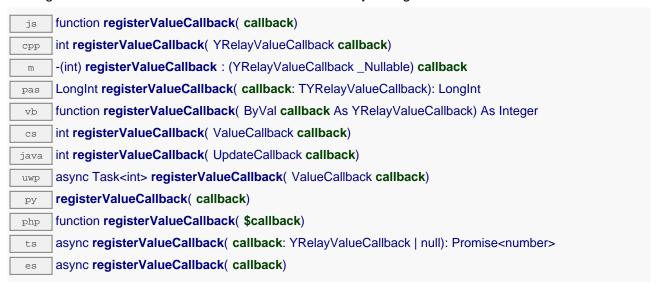
YAPI.SUCCESS if the call succeeds.

On failure, throws an exception or returns a negative error code.

#### relay-registerValueCallback()

**YRelay** 

Registers the callback function that is invoked on every change of advertised value.



The callback is invoked only during the execution of ySleep or yHandleEvents. This provides control over the time when the callback is triggered. For good responsiveness, remember to call one of these two functions periodically. To unregister a callback, pass a null pointer as argument.

#### Parameters:

**callback** the callback function to call, or a null pointer. The callback function should take two arguments: the function object of which the value has changed, and the character string describing the new advertised value.

# relay→set\_logicalName() relay→setLogicalName()

**YRelay** 

Changes the logical name of the relay.

js	function set_logicalName( newval)
срр	int set_logicalName( string newval)
m	-(int) setLogicalName : (NSString*) newval
pas	integer set_logicalName( newval: string): integer
vb	function set_logicalName( ByVal newval As String) As Integer
CS	int set_logicalName( string newval)
java	int set_logicalName( String newval)
uwp	async Task <int> set_logicalName( string newval)</int>
ру	set_logicalName( newval)
php	function set_logicalName( \$newval)
ts	async set_logicalName( newval: string): Promise <number></number>
es	async set_logicalName( newval)
dnp	int set_logicalName( string newval)
ср	int set_logicalName( string newval)
cmd	YRelay target set_logicalName newval

You can use yCheckLogicalName() prior to this call to make sure that your parameter is valid. Remember to call the saveToFlash() method of the module if the modification must be kept.

### Parameters:

**newval** a string corresponding to the logical name of the relay.

#### Returns:

YAPI.SUCCESS if the call succeeds.

On failure, throws an exception or returns a negative error code.

# relay→set\_maxTimeOnStateA() relay→setMaxTimeOnStateA()

## **YRelay**

Changes the maximum time (ms) allowed for the relay to stay in state A before automatically switching back in to B state.



Use zero for no time limit. Remember to call the saveToFlash() method of the module if the modification must be kept.

#### Parameters:

**newval** an integer corresponding to the maximum time (ms) allowed for the relay to stay in state A before automatically switching back in to B state

#### Returns:

YAPI.SUCCESS if the call succeeds.

On failure, throws an exception or returns a negative error code.

# relay→set\_maxTimeOnStateB() relay→setMaxTimeOnStateB()

**YRelay** 

Changes the maximum time (ms) allowed for the relay to stay in state B before automatically switching back in to A state.



Use zero for no time limit. Remember to call the saveToFlash() method of the module if the modification must be kept.

#### Parameters:

**newval** an integer corresponding to the maximum time (ms) allowed for the relay to stay in state B before automatically switching back in to A state

#### Returns:

YAPI.SUCCESS if the call succeeds.

On failure, throws an exception or returns a negative error code.

# relay→set\_output() relay→setOutput()

**YRelay** 

Changes the output state of the relays, when used as a simple switch (single throw).

```
function set_output( newval)
js
     int set_output( Y_OUTPUT_enum newval)
      -(int) setOutput : (Y_OUTPUT_enum) newval
     integer set_output( newval: Integer): integer
pas
     function set_output( ByVal newval As Integer) As Integer
vb
     int set_output( int newval)
CS
     int set_output( int newval)
iava
      async Task<int> set_output( int newval)
uwp
      set_output( newval)
ру
      function set_output( $newval)
      async set_output( newval: YRelay_Output): Promise<number>
      async set_output( newval)
es
     int set_output( int newval)
dnp
     int set_output( int newval)
ср
     YRelay target set_output newval
cmd
```

#### Parameters:

**newval** either YRelay.OUTPUT\_OFF or YRelay.OUTPUT\_ON, according to the output state of the relays, when used as a simple switch (single throw)

#### Returns:

YAPI.SUCCESS if the call succeeds.

On failure, throws an exception or returns a negative error code.

relay→set\_state() YRelay relay→setState()

Changes the state of the relays (A for the idle position, B for the active position).



#### Parameters:

newval either YRelay.STATE\_A or YRelay.STATE\_B, according to the state of the relays (A for the idle position, B for the active position)

#### Returns:

YAPI.SUCCESS if the call succeeds.

On failure, throws an exception or returns a negative error code.

# relay→set\_stateAtPowerOn() relay→setStateAtPowerOn()

**YRelay** 

Changes the state of the relays at device startup (A for the idle position, B for the active position, UNCHANGED to leave the relay state as is).

```
function set_stateAtPowerOn( newval)
     int set_stateAtPowerOn( Y_STATEATPOWERON_enum newval)
     -(int) setStateAtPowerOn : (Y_STATEATPOWERON_enum) newval
     integer set_stateAtPowerOn( newval: Integer): integer
pas
     function set_stateAtPowerOn( ByVal newval As Integer) As Integer
vb
     int set_stateAtPowerOn( int newval)
CS
     int set_stateAtPowerOn( int newval)
java
     async Task<int> set_stateAtPowerOn( int newval)
uwp
     set_stateAtPowerOn( newval)
ру
     function set_stateAtPowerOn( $newval)
ts
     async set_stateAtPowerOn( newval: YRelay_StateAtPowerOn): Promise<number>
     async set_stateAtPowerOn( newval)
es
     int set_stateAtPowerOn( int newval)
dnp
     int set_stateAtPowerOn( int newval)
cp
     YRelay target set_stateAtPowerOn newval
```

Remember to call the matching module <code>saveToFlash()</code> method, otherwise this call will have no effect.

#### Parameters:

newval a value among YRelay.STATEATPOWERON\_UNCHANGED, YRelay.STATEATPOWERON\_A and YRelay.STATEATPOWERON\_B corresponding to the state of the relays at device startup (A for the idle position, B for the active position, UNCHANGED to leave the relay state as is)

#### Returns:

YAPI.SUCCESS if the call succeeds.

On failure, throws an exception or returns a negative error code.

# relay→set\_userData() relay→setUserData()

**YRelay** 

Stores a user context provided as argument in the userData attribute of the function.

```
function set_userData( data)
js
      void set_userData( void * data)
срр
      -(void) setUserData : (id) data
 m
      set_userData( data: Tobject)
pas
      procedure set_userData( ByVal data As Object)
vb
      void set_userData( object data)
CS
      void set_userData( Object data)
java
      set_userData( data)
ру
      function set_userData( $data)
php
      async set_userData( data: object|null): Promise<void>
      async set_userData( data)
```

This attribute is never touched by the API, and is at disposal of the caller to store a context.

#### Parameters:

data any kind of object to be stored

relay→toggle() YRelay

Switch the relay to the opposite state.



#### Returns:

YAPI.SUCCESS if the call succeeds.

On failure, throws an exception or returns a negative error code.

## relay-unmuteValueCallbacks()

**YRelay** 

Re-enables the propagation of every new advertised value to the parent hub.

js	function unmuteValueCallbacks( )
срр	int unmuteValueCallbacks( )
m	-(int) unmuteValueCallbacks
pas	LongInt unmuteValueCallbacks(): LongInt
vb	function unmuteValueCallbacks() As Integer
cs	int unmuteValueCallbacks( )
java	int unmuteValueCallbacks( )
uwp	async Task <int> unmuteValueCallbacks( )</int>
ру	unmuteValueCallbacks( )
php	function unmuteValueCallbacks( )
ts	async unmuteValueCallbacks( ): Promise <number></number>
es	async unmuteValueCallbacks( )
dnp	int unmuteValueCallbacks( )
ср	int unmuteValueCallbacks( )
cmd	YRelay target unmuteValueCallbacks

This function reverts the effect of a previous call to muteValueCallbacks(). Remember to call the saveToFlash() method of the module if the modification must be kept.

#### Returns:

YAPI.SUCCESS when the call succeeds.

On failure, throws an exception or returns a negative error code.

## relay→wait\_async() YRelay

Waits for all pending asynchronous commands on the module to complete, and invoke the user-provided callback function.



The callback function can therefore freely issue synchronous or asynchronous commands, without risking to block the JavaScript VM.

#### Parameters:

**callback** callback function that is invoked when all pending commands on the module are completed. The callback function receives two arguments: the caller-specific context object and the receiving function object.

context caller-specific object that is passed as-is to the callback function

#### Returns:

nothing.

# 24. Troubleshooting

### 24.1. Where to start?

If it is the first time that you use a Yoctopuce module and you do not really know where to start, have a look at the Yoctopuce blog. There is a section dedicated to beginners <sup>1</sup>.

# 24.2. Programming examples don't seem to work

Most of Yoctopuce API programming examples are command line programs and require some parameters to work properly. You have to start them from your operating system command prompt, or configure your IDE to run them with the proper parameters. <sup>2</sup>.

#### 24.3. Linux and USB

To work correctly under Linux, the the library needs to have write access to all the Yoctopuce USB peripherals. However, by default under Linux, USB privileges of the non-root users are limited to read access. To avoid having to run the *VirtualHub* as root, you need to create a new *udev* rule to authorize one or several users to have write access to the Yoctopuce peripherals.

To add a new *udev* rule to your installation, you must add a file with a name following the "##-arbitraryName.rules" format, in the "/etc/udev/rules.d" directory. When the system is starting, *udev* reads all the files with a ".rules" extension in this directory, respecting the alphabetical order (for example, the "51-custom.rules" file is interpreted AFTER the "50-udev-default.rules" file).

The "50-udev-default" file contains the system default *udev* rules. To modify the default behavior, you therefore need to create a file with a name that starts with a number larger than 50, that will override the system default rules. Note that to add a rule, you need a root access on the system.

In the udev\_conf directory of the *VirtualHub* for Linux<sup>3</sup> archive, there are two rule examples which you can use as a basis.

<sup>3</sup> http://www.yoctopuce.com/FR/virtualhub.php

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> see: http://www.yoctopuce.com/EN/blog\_by\_categories/for-the-beginners

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> see: http://www.yoctopuce.com/EN/article/about-programming-examples

#### Example 1: 51-yoctopuce.rules

This rule provides all the users with read and write access to the Yoctopuce USB peripherals. Access rights for all other peripherals are not modified. If this scenario suits you, you only need to copy the "51-yoctopuce\_all.rules" file into the "/etc/udev/rules.d" directory and to restart your system.

```
# udev rules to allow write access to all users
# for Yoctopuce USB devices
SUBSYSTEM=="usb", ATTR{idVendor}=="24e0", MODE="0666"
```

## Example 2: 51-yoctopuce group.rules

This rule authorizes the "yoctogroup" group to have read and write access to Yoctopuce USB peripherals. Access rights for all other peripherals are not modified. If this scenario suits you, you only need to copy the "51-yoctopuce\_group.rules" file into the "/etc/udev/rules.d" directory and restart your system.

```
# udev rules to allow write access to all users of "yoctogroup"
# for Yoctopuce USB devices
SUBSYSTEM=="usb", ATTR{idVendor}=="24e0", MODE="0664", GROUP="yoctogroup"
```

## 24.4. ARM Platforms: HF and EL

There are two main flavors of executable on ARM: HF (Hard Float) binaries, and EL (EABI Little Endian) binaries. These two families are not compatible at all. The compatibility of a given ARM platform with of one of these two families depends on the hardware and on the OS build. ArmHL and ArmEL compatibility problems are quite difficult to detect. Most of the time, the OS itself is unable to make a difference between an HF and an EL executable and will return meaningless messages when you try to use the wrong type of binary.

All pre-compiled Yoctopuce binaries are provided in both formats, as two separate ArmHF et ArmEL executables. If you do not know what family your ARM platform belongs to, just try one executable from each family.

## 24.5. Powered module but invisible for the OS

If your Yocto-Relay is connected by USB, if its blue led is on, but if the operating system cannot see the module, check that you are using a true USB cable with data wires, and not a charging cable. Charging cables have only power wires.

# 24.6. Another process named xxx is already using yAPI

If when initializing the Yoctopuce API, you obtain the "*Another process named xxx is already using yAPI*" error message, it means that another application is already using Yoctopuce USB modules. On a single machine only one process can access Yoctopuce modules by USB at a time. You can easily work around this limitation by using a VirtualHub and the network mode <sup>4</sup>.

# 24.7. Disconnections, erratic behavior

If you Yocto-Relay behaves erratically and/or disconnects itself from the USB bus without apparent reason, check that it is correctly powered. Avoid cables with a length above 2 meters. If needed, insert a powered USB hub <sup>5 6</sup>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>/<sub>-</sub> see: http://www.yoctopuce.com/EN/article/error-message-another-process-is-already-using-yapi

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> see: http://www.yoctopuce.com/EN/article/usb-cables-size-matters

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> see: http://www.yoctopuce.com/EN/article/how-many-usb-devices-can-you-connect

## 24.8. Registering a VirtualHub disconnect an other one

If, when performing a call to RegisterHub() with an VirtualHub address, an other previously registered VirtualHub disconnects, make sure the machine running theses VirtualHubs don't have the same *Hostname*. Same *Hostname* can happen very easily when the operating system is installed from a monolithic image, Raspberry-PI are the best example. The Yoctopuce API uses serial numbers to communicate with devices and VirtualHub serial number are created on the fly based the *hostname* of the machine running the VirtualHub.

# 24.9. Dropped commands

If, after sending a bunch of commands to a Yoctopuce device, you are under the impression that the last ones have been ignored, typical example is a quick and dirty program meant to configure a device, make sure you used a YAPI.FreeAPI() at the end of the program. Commands are sent to Yoctopuce modules asynchronously thanks to a background thread. When the main program terminates, that thread is killed no matter if some command are left to be sent. However API.FreeAPI () will wait until there is no more commands to send before freeing the API resources and returning.

# 24.10. Damaged device

Yoctopuce strives to reduce the production of electronic waste. If you believe that your Yocto-Relay is not working anymore, start by contacting Yoctopuce support by e-mail to diagnose the failure. Even if you know that the device was damaged by mistake, Yoctopuce engineers might be able to repair it, and thus avoid creating electronic waste.



**Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE)** If you really want to get rid of your Yocto-Relay, do not throw it away in a trash bin but bring it to your local WEEE recycling point. In this way, it will be disposed properly by a specialized WEEE recycling center.

# 25. Characteristics

You can find below a summary of the main technical characteristics of your Yocto-Relay module.

Product ID	RELAYLO1
Hardware release <sup>†</sup>	Rev. B
USB connector	micro-B
Width	20 mm
Length	45 mm
Weight	7 g
Channels	2
Max switching power	60 W
Operate time	5 ms (max)
Release time	7 ms (max)
Max working voltage	60 V DC
Max working voltage (AC)	50 V r.m.s.
Protection class, according to IEC 61140	class III
USB isolation, dielectric strength (1 min.)	0.25 kV
Normal operating temperature	540 °C
Extended operating temperature <sup>‡</sup>	-3085 °C
RoHS compliance	RoHS III (2011/65/UE+2015/863)
USB Vendor ID	0x24E0
USB Device ID	0x000C
Suggested enclosure	YoctoBox-Short-Thick-Black
Harmonized tariff code	9032.9000
Made in	Switzerland

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>†</sup> These specifications are for the current hardware revision. Specifications for earlier revisions may differ.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>‡</sup> The extended temperature range is defined based on components specifications and has been tested during a limited duration (1h). When using the device in harsh environments for a long period of time, we strongly advise to run extensive tests before going to production.

