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# Bluetooth

## **ECE 476 Advanced Embedded Systems**

### **Jake Glower - Lecture #30**

Please visit [Bison Academy](#) for corresponding lecture notes, homework sets, and solutions



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## Introduction:

Bluetooth is a way for your Pico board to send and receive data from your cell phone (as well as other devices). With bluetooth, you can

- Send sensor data to you cell phone, such as temperature, pressure, or acceleration readings, or
- Receive data from your cell phone, allowing you to turn on or off lights, set the speed of a motor, and so on.

This lecture presents methods for connecting your Pi-Pico to your cell phone to send and receive data.

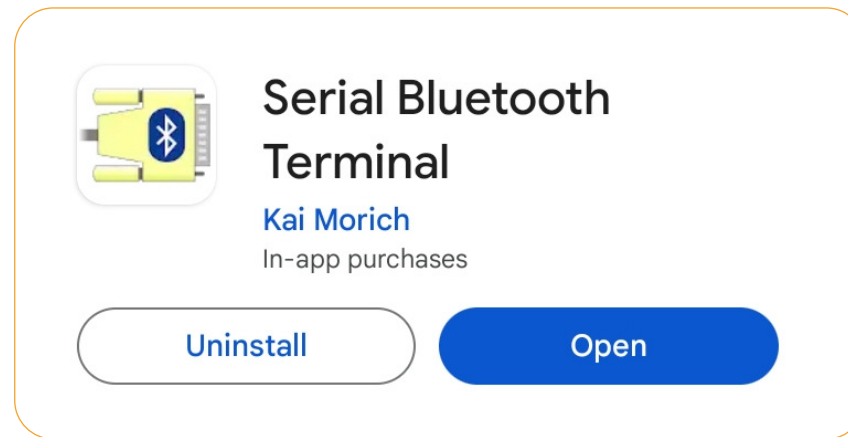
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## Cell Phone App

Before sending and receiving data, you need to install a serial bluetooth terminal app on your cell phone.

- Several exist.
- Serial Bluetooth Terminal by Kai Morich
  - What's used with the following code



Serial Bluetooth Terminal app by Kau Morich

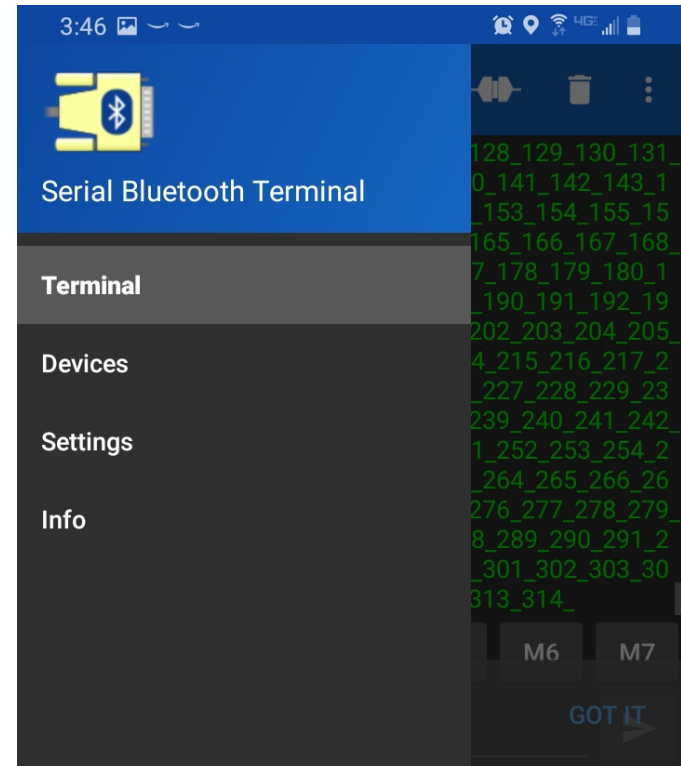
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## Serial Bluetooth Terminal (app)

Once you install this app and open it, you will get several options.

- Terminal allows you to send and receive serial data to your Pico board
- Devices lets you connect (pair) with your Pico board
- Settings allow you to adjust the display
- Info tells you the version you're using and other information



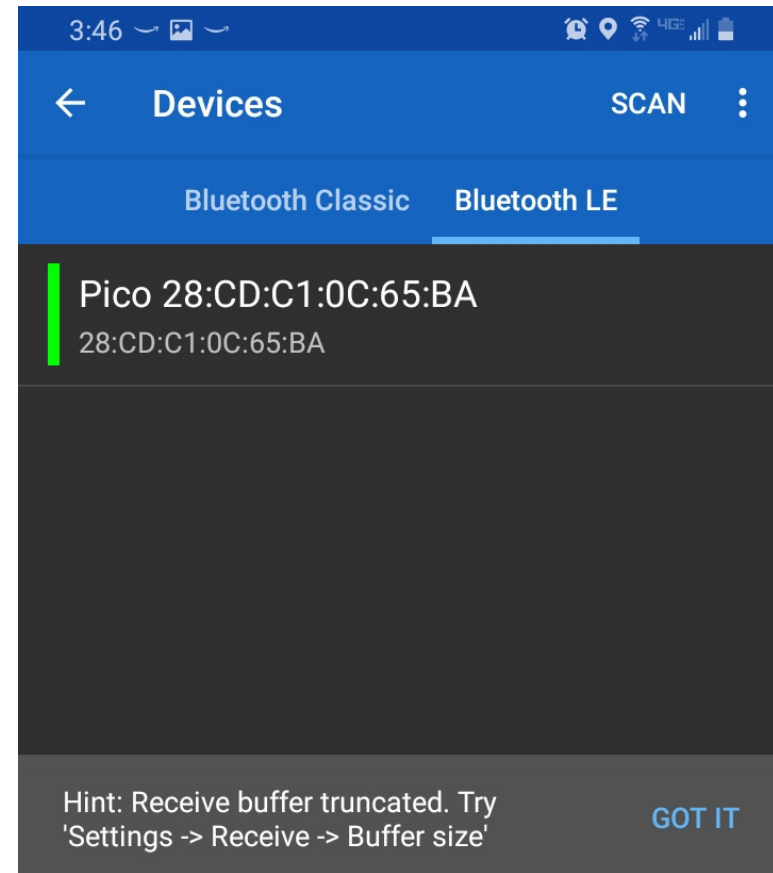
GOT IT

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## Pairing with your Cell Phone

Once you run the following programs, you first need to connect to your Pico board.

- Selecting Devices
- Select your Pico board



Hint: Receive buffer truncated. Try  
'Settings -> Receive -> Buffer size'

GOT IT

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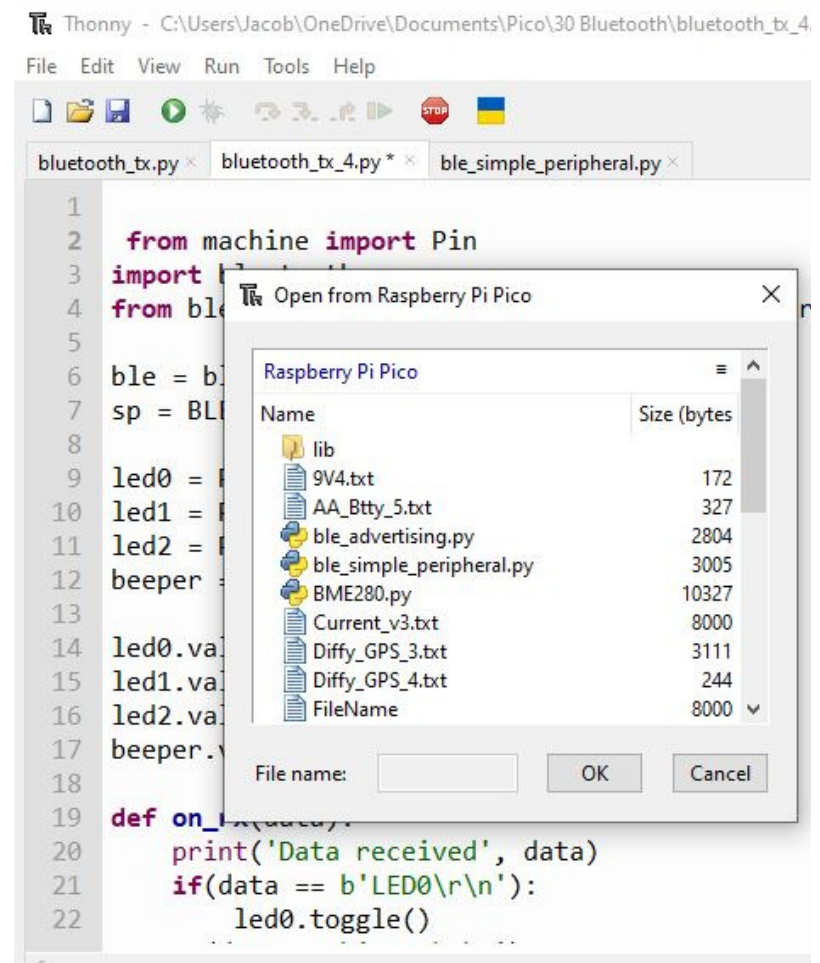
# Driver Files for your Pico Board

In order to use BlueTooth on your Pico board, two files need to be in the root directory.

- *ble\_advertising.py*
- *ble\_simple\_peripheral.py*

Open these files and save them to your Pico board using Thonny.

Once these files are on your Pico board, you're ready to send and receive serial data.



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# Bluetooth Transmit

The following program

- Sets up a bluetooth connection to your cell phone
- Once connected
  - `p.is_connected() == true`
  - a count is sent
  - along with a carriage return and linefeed
  - once per second.

Note that the data is an ascii string

- Strings are easier to understand
- Binary data is OK if you select HEX when receiving data

```
import bluetooth
from time import sleep
from ble_advertising import advertising_payload
from ble_simple_peripheral import BLESimplePeripheral

ble = bluetooth.BLE()
p = BLESimplePeripheral(ble)

i = 0
while(1):
    if p.is_connected():
        i += 1
        data = str(i)
        p.send(data + "\r\n")
        print("tx ", data)
        sleep(1)
```

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shell

```
tx 1
tx 2
tx 3
```

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## Receiving the Data as Text

From the terminal emulator, go to

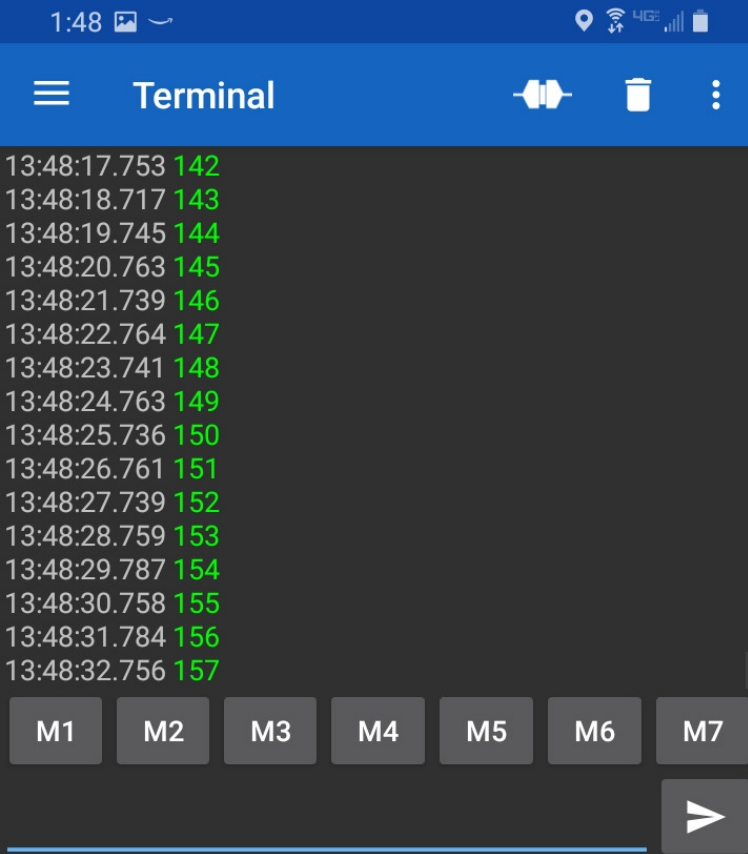
- Settings
- Display mode
- Text

The ascii data is displayed

- (numbers here)

This doesn't work well if the data is binary

- Many non-printable ascii characters



The screenshot shows a terminal emulator window with a blue header bar. The header bar contains the time '1:48' on the left and icons for location, Wi-Fi, 4G LTE, and battery on the right. Below the header bar, the word 'Terminal' is centered. To the right of 'Terminal' are icons for a terminal, a trash can, and a vertical ellipsis. The main area of the terminal is dark and contains a list of lines, each with a timestamp and a number: '13:48:17.753 142', '13:48:18.717 143', '13:48:19.745 144', '13:48:20.763 145', '13:48:21.739 146', '13:48:22.764 147', '13:48:23.741 148', '13:48:24.763 149', '13:48:25.736 150', '13:48:26.761 151', '13:48:27.739 152', '13:48:28.759 153', '13:48:29.787 154', '13:48:30.758 155', '13:48:31.784 156', and '13:48:32.756 157'. At the bottom of the terminal, there are seven buttons labeled 'M1' through 'M7' and a right-pointing arrow button.



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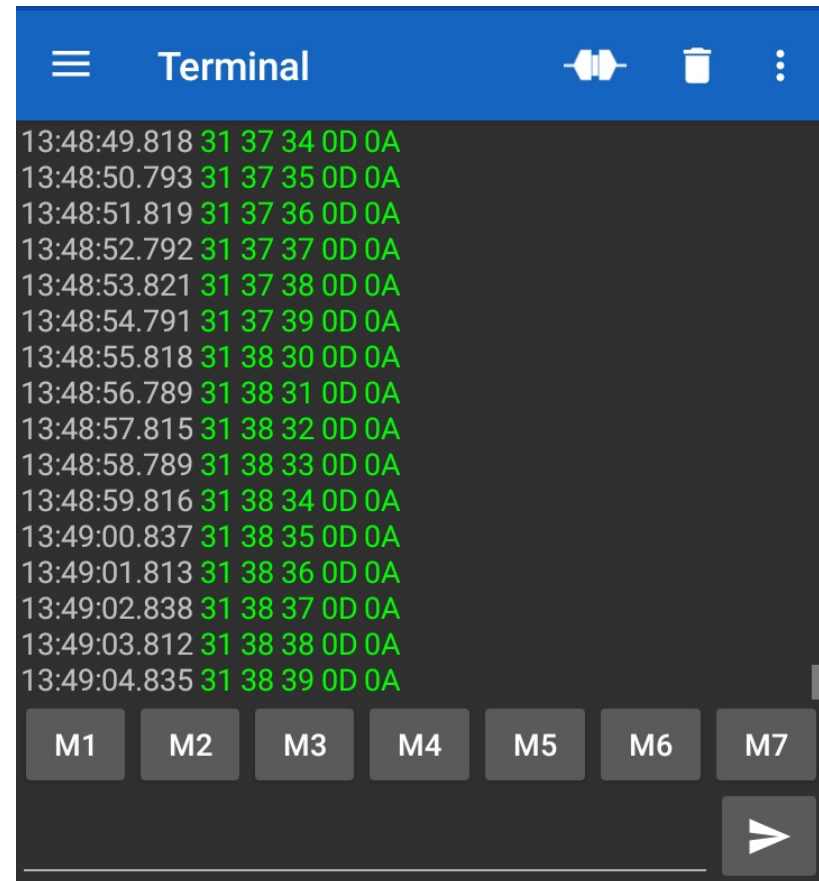
# Receiving Binary Data

Select

- Settings
- Display mode
- Hex

and you see each byte in hex format

Useful if receiving binary data



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## What you can do with bluetooth transmit

Once you are transmitting data from the Pico and receiving it from your cell phone, you can monitor...

- Temperature in the room
- Acceleration of the Pi-Pico (has it been moved?)
- Door open or closed (button pressed, not pressed),
- etc.

Kind of only limited by your creativity

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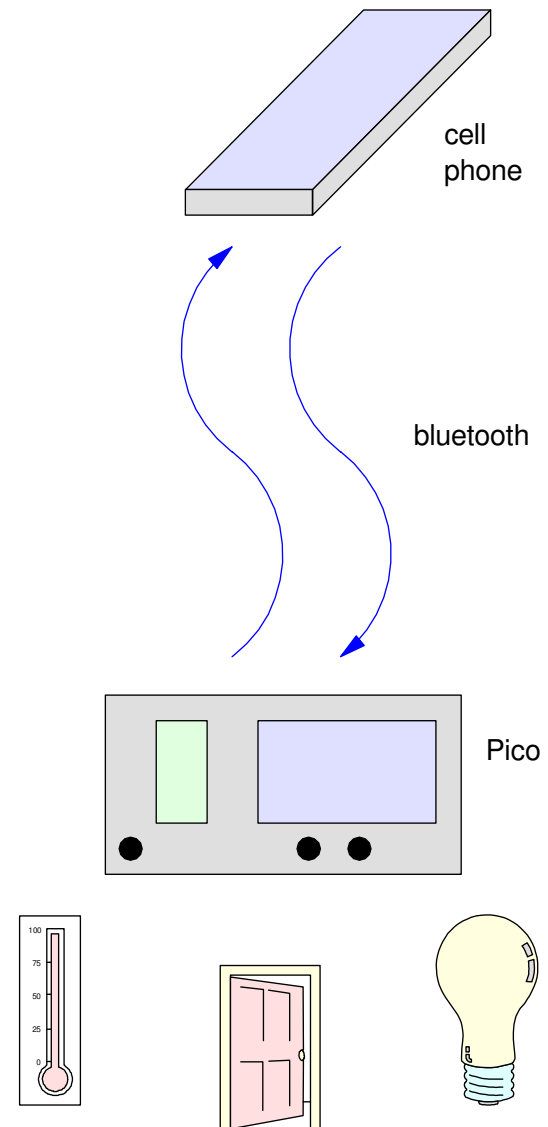
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## BlueTooth Receive

The Pico can also receive data from your cell phone.

With this, you can

- Turn on and off an LED
- Set the color of a NeoPixel
- Turn off an alarm, etc.



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# Bluetooth Receive Example

## Receive serial messages

- Display each message received

## Look for a message

- b'toggle\r\n'

## If found

- toggle the LED on GP16

```
from machine import Pin
import bluetooth
from ble_simple_peripheral import BLESimplePeripheral

ble = bluetooth.BLE()
sp = BLESimplePeripheral(ble)

led = Pin(16, Pin.OUT)
led.value(0)

def on_rx(data):
    print("Data received: ", data)
    if data == b'toggle\r\n':
        led.toggle()

while True:
    if sp.is_connected():
        sp.on_write(on_rx)
```

shell

```
Data received: 1234\r\n
Data received: toggle\r\n
```

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# Turning On/Off Lights from your Cell Phone

From your cell phone

- Running Serial Bluetooth Terminal

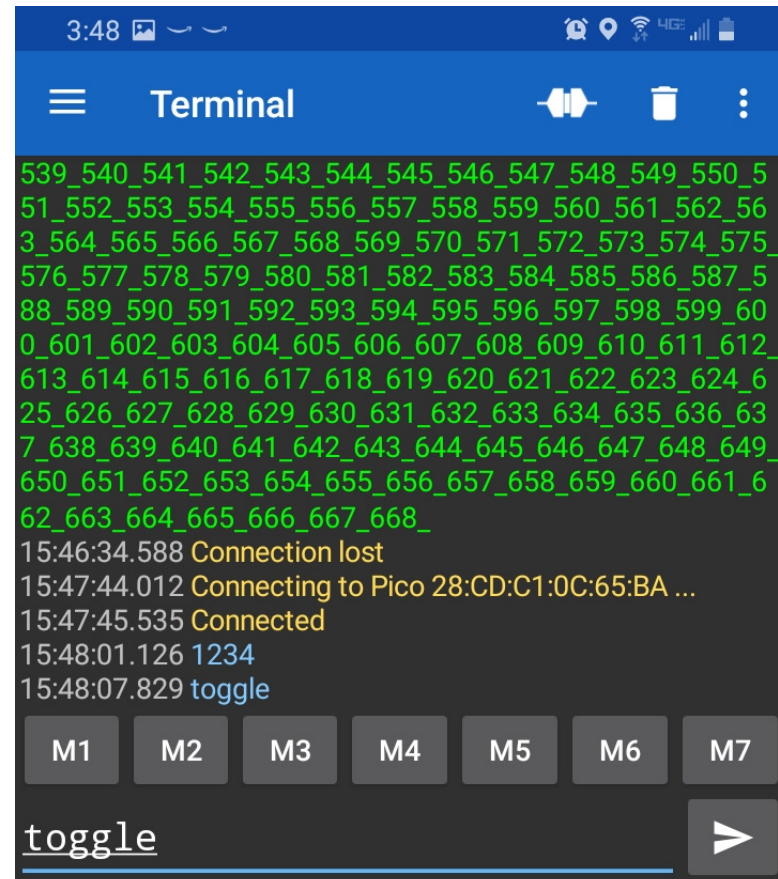
Type in your message

- Hit send (arrow on lower right)

This sends your message to your Pico

- messages terminated with carriage return and linefeed (`\r\n`)

When you send 'toggle', the LED should toggle on and off



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## Short-Cuts

M1 through M7 allow you to store messages

- Press and hold M1.
- Type in the message
- Click the check mark (upper right corner)
- Ditto for M2 .. M7

Each time you press

- M1 message is sent out along with a carriage return and line feed.
- M2 message is sent out along with a carriage return and line feed

This allows you to output seven messages at the push of a button

- toggle seven devices
- turn some on, turn some off, etc

The screenshot shows the 'Edit Macro' interface with the following fields and options:

- Name:** M1
- Value:** LED0
- Edit mode:** Text (selected), HEX, Multiline Text
- Action:** Send (selected), Insert
- Repeat:**  Repeat

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# Toggle 4 Devices

## Pico LED

- LED0

## GP16 LED

- LED1

## GP17 LED

- LED2

## Beeper

- Beep

## Note:

- These are binary strings
- Terminated with cr/lf
- Case sensitive

```
from machine import Pin
import bluetooth
from ble_simple_peripheral import BLESimplePeripheral

ble = bluetooth.BLE()
sp = BLESimplePeripheral(ble)

led0 = Pin("LED", Pin.OUT)
led1 = Pin(16, Pin.OUT)
led2 = Pin(17, Pin.OUT)
beeper = Pin(13, Pin.OUT)

def on_rx(data):
    print("Data received: ", data)
    if data == b'LED0\r\n':
        led0.toggle()
    if data == b'LED1\r\n':
        led1.toggle()
    if data == b'LED2\r\n':
        led2.toggle()
    if data == b'Beep\r\n':
        beeper.toggle()

while True:
    if sp.is_connected():
        sp.on_write(on_rx)
```

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## Summary

In order to connect your Pico board to your cell phone using a bluetooth connection, two files need to be added to the Pico board:

- *ble\_advertising.py*
- *ble\_simple\_peripheral.py*

Once added, you can send and receive serial data to your cell phone. This allows you to monitor and control a device through your cell phone.

## References

- <https://electrocredible.com/raspberry-pi-pico-w-bluetooth-ble-micropython>