ProCAT Flash and Plover

Steak Electronics

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1   Overview

I want to use a ProCAT flash with Plover.

2   Work Log

2.1   Not All ProCAT Flash's will work with Plover

Some of the plover docs mention that a ProCAT flash will work with a RJ11 to DB9 cable, and that the protocol can be set to Baron. My device must be an older firmware as there is no option to change the protocol, and in fact the RJ11 appears to be only for outbound calling... There is a modem option, and it allows you to call a number. It appears to be for actually calling a phone line.

Instead, there is an arduino sketch of someone who has previously tapped into the serial out of the IO Expander (essentially the board that reads the keys), and helpfully outlined the process. By cutting the motherboard out of the picture, and driving the IO board directly from a 5V Arduino, one can use the ProCAT without the need for its built in modem. Neat.

2.2   Reading from a ProCAT Flash with an Arduino

There is a six pin ribbon cable that must be cut in half, and then the arduino connected to it. This is a minimally invasive hack. I can always put the cable back. Let's begin.