

# A 01 - MQTT & IoT protocol stack

## Conventional internet protocol suite

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Application	HTTP	Application-level access to information, client/server
Transport	TCP/UDP	Communication channels with guarantees (TCP); just an interface to IP (UDP)
Network	IP	Addressing & routing; best-effort

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- |application | HTTP | client/server (or public/subscribe paradigm in MQTT)
- |transport | TCP/UDP: tcp as extra feature of IP, provide reliability (retransmission, may fail if network is congested), udp: interface to IP|
- |network|IP|best effort: the way IP provides addressing/routing (ok or accept it)

## IoT and internet

- things must be connected to the internet to become IoT devices
- so they must adopt TCP/IP + some application layer (e.g.: HTTP)
- IoT constraints: low power, memory, lossy, with constrained resources, expected to remain alive for years

## IoT requirements

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## IoT requirements

IoT requirements	
Network requirements	Impact on networking
Scalability / redundancy	Multi-hop, mesh networking
Security	Configurable, with different security levels for different devices capabilities
Addressing	Scalable address space, low-overhead network protocols
Device requirements	Impact on application-level
Low power / battery powered	Low duty-cycle communications
Limited capacity (memory/processor)	Small footprint, low complexity protocols
Low cost	Reliability of the device and further constraints...

- several IoT requirements that impact solved by IPV6 → scalable address space (addressing network requirement)
- mesh networking: solution for large networks of sensors to provide communication each other
- scalability: in term of big # of device in device and distributed computation
- limited capacity → solution: embedding programming language for IoT and algo with low complexity

## MQTT

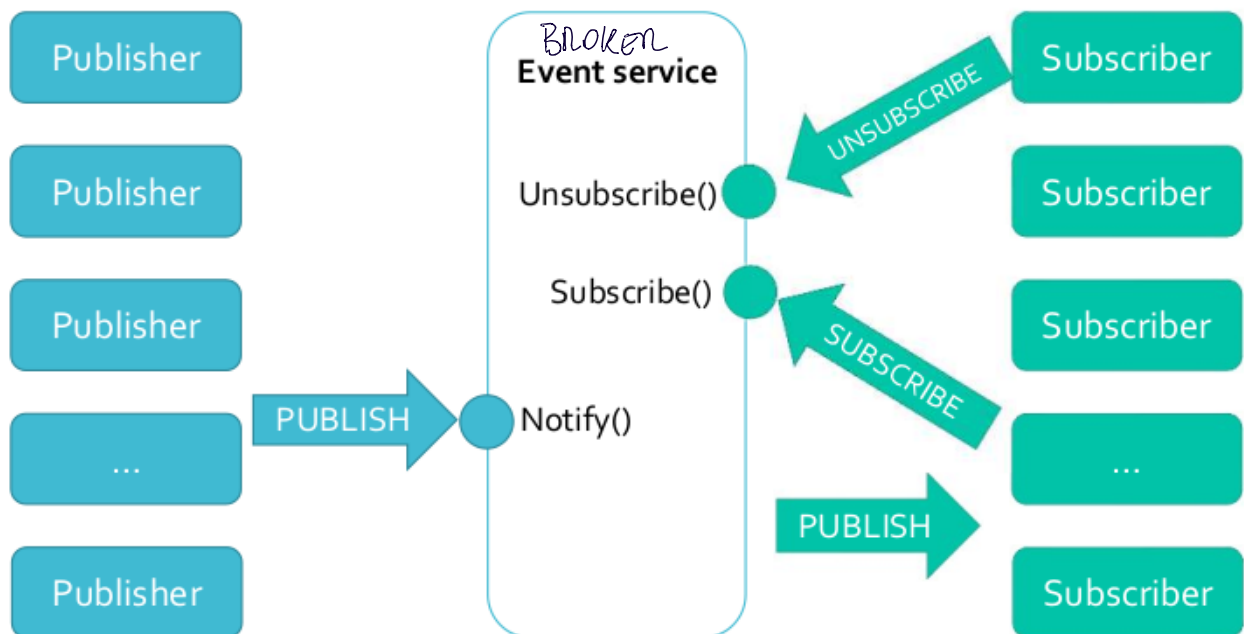
- Messages Queuing Telemetry Transport
- an application level protocol for IoT (TCP/IP stack) || on iso/osi cares on session and presentation layer
- lightweight public/subscribe messaging transport protocol
- lightweight:
  - low network bandwidth
  - minimal packet overhead (better performance than http)
- widely used
- it is build upon TCP/IP:
  - port 1883 (without security)
  - port 8883 (MQTT over SSL → adds significant overhead → not really much used)

- problems:
  1. TCP is not the cheapest protocol → UDP is more suitable
  2. big problem: TCP window to deal retransmission/congestion → large window for IoT → can shrink TCP window
- implements public/subscribe paradigm to user but internally implements client/server architecture
- simple to implement on client side
  - complexity (most of) is on server-side
- provides QoS data delivery
- it is data agnostic: can transfer any bunch of data → just a sequence of bytes
- it is suitable for Machine to Machine and IoT applications
- widely used to:
  - sensor to satellite
  - home automation
  - e-health
  - supported by big player that provides platforms for IoT

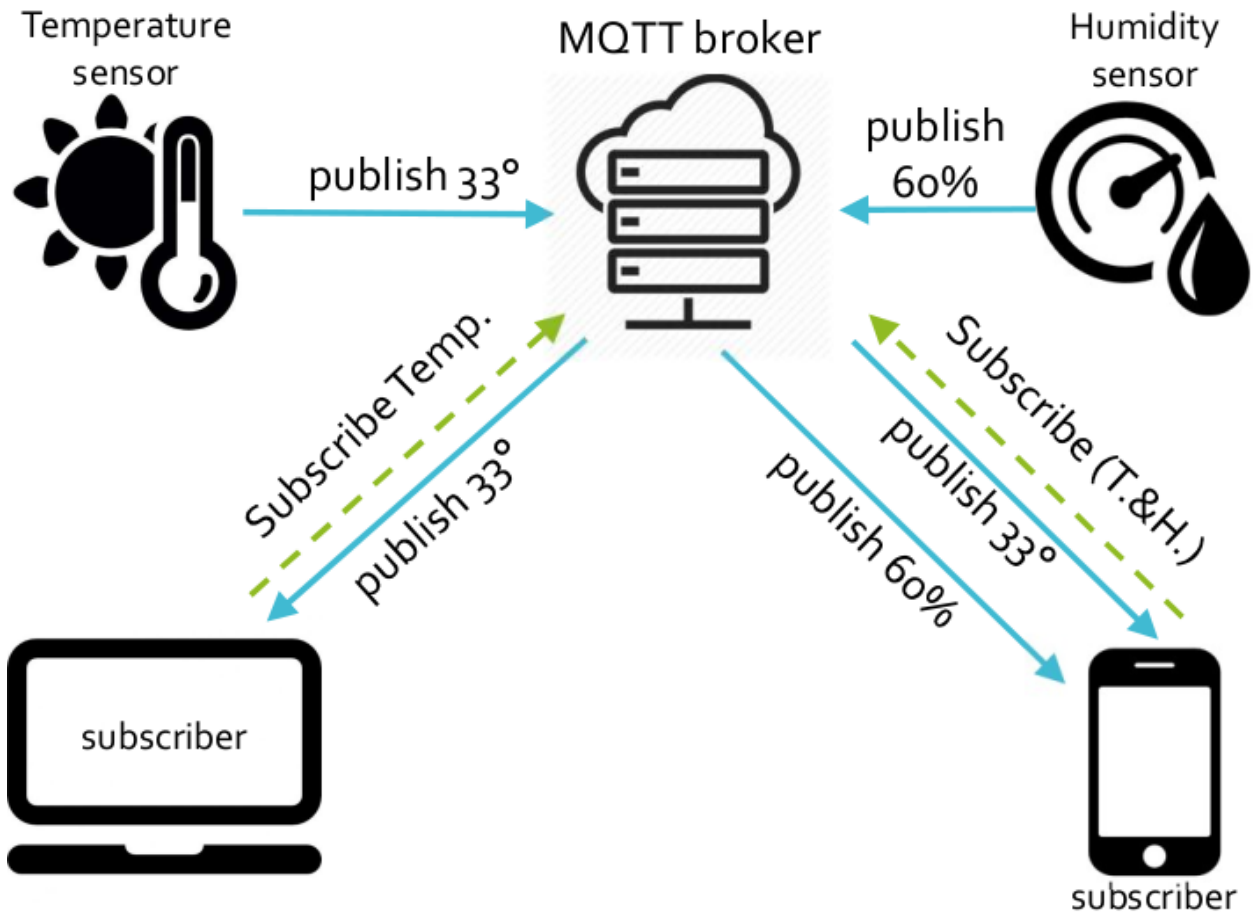
## Public/subscribe paradigm

- actors: publishers, subscribers, service broker
- publishers and subscribers are both clients
- they don't know each other
- **publishers**
  - produce events (e.g.: sensors)
  - interact only with broker
- **subscribers**
  - express interest for an event (a type of data)
  - receive notifications when the event is generated
  - interact only with the broker
- publishers and subscribers are fully decoupled (respect client/server architecture) in time, space, synchronization
  - don't share routing

- **event service** (aka broker):
  - it's the server
  - known both by publishers and subscribers
  - keep TCP channel to receive all incoming messages from subscribers (allowing decryption)
  - manages the requests of subscription/unsubscription
- pub/sub paradigm interaction can be implemented in many different ways:
  - in basic interaction schema:
    - the event service (broker) is an independent agent
    - operations supported by broker:
      1. publish
      2. subscribe
      3. notify
      4. unsubscribe



- **Event service** (AKA broker): storage and management of subscriptions
- one publisher - - publish (communication) - - > a notify - - publish (forwarded to) - - > one subscriber
- example:



- when temperature sensor publish 33° to MQTT broker and humidity sensor done it with 60%
- PC gets only subscribe temperature from publisher (33°)
- Smartphone gets both (temperature and humidity)

## Publishers/subscribers features:

- 1) • **space decoupling** (same, no buffer between pub/sub):
  - pub and sub
    - don't need to know each other and don't share anything
      - don't know IP address and port of each other
      - don't know how many peers they have
- 2) • **time decoupling:**
  - pub/sub don't need to run at the same time
  - pub can disappear and reconnect later
- 3) • **synchronization decoupling:**

- operations on both pub/sub are not halted during publish or receiving (don't wait for each other)

4)

#### • scalability:

- better than client/server (decoupled)
- all up to broker
- operation on broker can be parallelised and are event-driven
- scalability to a very large number of devices may require parallelization of the broker:
  - manage subset of pub/sub → scale good with MQTT

5)

#### • filtering:

- messages can be filtered at the broker (3 string cases), based on:
  1. **subject topic:** part of the message, client subscribe for specific topic (topics are strings)
  2. **content:** client subscribe for a specific query (e.g.: temperature > 30°); data cannot be encrypted (it may → need keys → need introduce third part)
  3. **type:** filtering events based on both *content* and *structure*, type refers to the type/class of data;