

CHAPTER 9 MQTT



Message Queueing Telemetry Transport (MQTT) is a publish-subscribe network protocol, that includes communication between ESP32 microcontrollers on different Wi-Fi networks. MQTT was developed in 1999 by Andy Stanford-Clark and Arlen Nipper for connecting oil pipeline telemetry systems. The MQTT broker enables data transfer between devices on different Wi-Fi networks without breaching firewall safeguards. When a device on one Wi-Fi network requests information from a second device on another network, the information is allowed through the network firewall, as the request came from the Wi-Fi network. Provision of information by a MQTT client to a MQTT broker is termed *publish* and *subscribe* is the term to access information through the MQTT broker. There are several MQTT brokers with the Blynk (blynk.io/developers) and Arduino IoT Cloud (cloud.arduino.cc) MQTT brokers used in the Chapter. The ESP32 microcontroller is a MQTT client communicating with a MQTT broker. A MQTT dashboard is accessible from anywhere in the world to provide remote access to information from sensors or for remote control of devices connected to an ESP32 module. MQTT is illustrated with the ESP32 microcontroller transmitting air quality measures or energy usage readings, provided by a smart meter, to a MQTT broker for display on the MQTT broker dashboard.

CO₂ and TVOC



Carbon dioxide and total volatile organic compounds are indicators of air quality. Equivalent carbon dioxide (eCO₂) and equivalent total volatile organic compounds (eTVOC) are measured by the CCS811 module. The measurable eCO₂ and eTVOC ranges are 400 to 33kppm and 0 to 29kppb, respectively. Suggested normal values for eCO₂ and eTVOC levels are <500ppm and <50ppb, respectively, with >1500ppm and >1000ppb for poor air ventilation. The Adafruit CCS811 module (not shown) measures eCO₂ and eTVOC from 400 to 8192ppm and from 0 to 1187ppb, respectively. The *Adafruit CCS811* library is for the Adafruit CCS811 module. The CCS811 HDC1080 module measures eCO₂, eTVOC, temperature and relative humidity, as the module includes an HDC1080 sensor in addition to

the CCS811 sensor. The *CCS811* library by Maarten Pennings is recommended and is downloaded from github.com/maarten-pennings/CCS811.

The CSS811 module requires a voltage of 1.8 to 3.6V and communicates with I2C (Inter-Integrated Circuit). The default I2C address of *0x5A* is changed to *0x5B* by setting the *ADD* pin to *HIGH*. The CSS811 module is reset by setting the *RST* pin to *LOW*. Connections between a CCS811 module and an ESP32 DEVKIT DOIT module are given in Table 9-1.

The CSS811 module operates in constant power mode with sampling every second or in low-power mode with sampling at 10s or 60s intervals. Constant power mode is initiated with the `start(CCS811_MODE_1SEC)` instruction and the *WAK* pin is connected to GND. The instruction `start(CCS811_MODE_10SEC)` or `start(CCS811_MODE_60SEC)` initiates low-power mode and the *WAK* pin is connected to a GPIO pin, such as GPIO 19 (see Figure 9-1). The CSS811 `css811(19)` instruction identifies GPIO 19 as attached to the module *WAK* pin. If the *WAK* pin is connected to GND, then the instruction is `css811(-1)`. The interval between start-up and the first reading is 4, 33 or 200s for a sampling interval of 1, 10 or 60s, respectively.

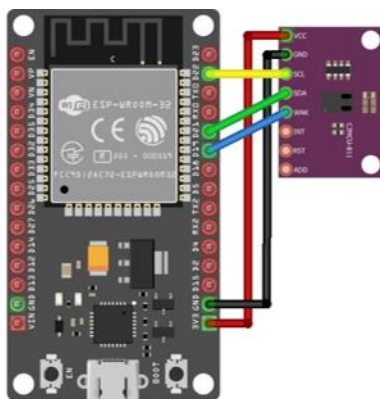


Figure 9-1 TVOC and CO₂ measurement

Table 9-1 TVOC and CO₂ measurement

| CCS811 module | ESP32 |
|---------------|---------|
| VCC | 3V3 |
| GND | GND |
| SCL | GPIO 22 |
| SDA | GPIO 21 |
| WAK | GPIO 19 |

Equivalent carbon dioxide (eCO₂) and total volatile organic compounds (eTVOC) are measured at 10s intervals in Listing 9-1. Given a valid data reading, *eCO₂* and *eTVOC* values and the interval between readings are displayed on the Serial Monitor and the state of an activity indicator LED, which is the built-in LED on GPIO 2, is alternated. Each second between readings, the no data error status triggers the display, on the Serial Monitor, of a dot as a state indicator. With the *CCS811* library, if an error is detected, an error message consisting of a letter series indicates the error source. Details of the *errstat* letter series are included in the *ccs811.cpp* file of the *CCS811* library. The *CC2811* library references the *Wire* library, so the `#include <Wire.h>` instruction is not required.

Listing 9-1 TVOC and CO₂ measurement

```
#include <ccs811.h>                                // include CCS811 and
#include <Wire.h>                                    // Wire libraries
CCS811 ccs811(19);                                  // nWAKE connected to GPIO 19
uint16_t CO2, TVOC, errstat, rawdata;
unsigned long last, diff;
int LEDpin = 2, LED = 0;                            // LED as activity indicator

void setup()
{
    Serial.begin(115200);                            // Serial Monitor baud rate
    pinMode(LEDpin, OUTPUT);
    digitalWrite(LEDpin, LED);                        // turn off LED
    Wire.begin();                                     // initialise I2C
    ccs811.begin();                                   // initialise CCS811
    ccs811.start(CCS811_MODE_10SEC);                  // set reading interval at 10s
}

void loop()
{
    ccs811.read(&CO2, &TVOC, &errstat, &rawdata); // read CCS811 sensor data
    if(errstat == CCS811_ERRSTAT_OK)                 // given valid readings
    {
        diff = millis() - last;                      // interval since last reading
        last = millis();                             // turn on or off indicator LED
        LED = 1-LED;
        digitalWrite(LEDpin, LED);                   // display readings
        Serial.printf("\n int %d CO2 %dppm TVOC %dppb \n", diff, CO2, TVOC);
    }                                                  // print dot between readings
    else if(errstat == CCS811_ERRSTAT_OK_NODATA) Serial.print(".");
    else if(errstat & CCS811_ERRSTAT_I2CFAIL) Serial.println("I2C error");
    else
    {
        // display error message
        Serial.print("errstat = "); Serial.print(errstat, HEX);
        Serial.print(" = "); Serial.println(ccs811.errstat_str(errstat));
    }
    delay(1000);                                     //arbitrary delay of 1s to display
}                                                     // dot between readings
```

MQTT, CO2 and TVOC

Equivalent carbon dioxide (eCO₂) and total volatile organic compounds (eTVOC) readings are forwarded by the ESP32 microcontroller to a MQTT broker for display on the MQTT broker dashboard (see Figure 9-2). The eCo₂ and eTVOC readings, which are taken every 60s, and a countdown indicator, which is updated every 5s, are displayed on the MQTT broker dashboard. An LED, connected to the ESP32 module, is controlled through the MQTT broker dashboard.

Both Blynk and Arduino IoT Cloud provide a dashboard to display information from devices connected to an ESP32 microcontroller. Information from sensors is displayed numerically, or as a dial or graphically, with binary variables displayed as *ON/OFF*. A device, such as a relay, is turned on or off from the MQTT broker dashboard, which provides both local and remote access to a device. Listing 9-1 is extended to display information on a MQTT broker dashboard, for both the Blynk (see Listing 9-2) and Arduino IoT Cloud (see Listings 9-4 and 9-5) MQTT brokers.

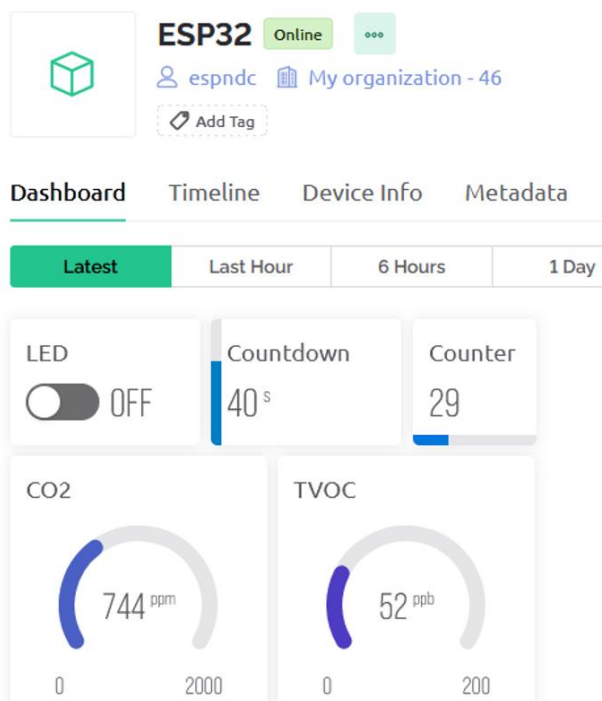


Figure 9-2 TVOC and CO₂ measurement and Blynk MQTT broker

Blynk MQTT Broker



Details, documentation and examples sketches of the Blynk MQTT broker are available at blynk.io/developers, docs.blynk.io/en and examples.blynk.cc, respectively. The *Blynk* library is available in the Arduino IDE or from github.com/blynkcc/blynk-library.

Communication between the ESP32 microcontroller and Blynk MQTT broker is through virtual pins, which are numbered *V0*, *V1*, *V2* etc. Data is received from the Blynk MQTT broker with the `BLYNK_WRITE` function. For example, when a switch, connected to virtual pin 0 on the Blynk dashboard, is turned on or off, an LED connected to the ESP32 microcontroller is automatically turned on or off with the instructions:

```
BLYNK_WRITE(V0)                                // function called when virtual pin 0 state changed
{
    LEDstate = param.asInt();                    // set pin state to a variable
    digitalWrite(LEDpin, LEDstate);             // turn on or off the LED immediately
}
```

Integer, real or string variables are received from the MQTT broker with the `param.asInt()`, `param.asFloat()` or `param.asStr()` instructions.

Data is sent to the MQTT broker for display on the Blynk dashboard with the `Blynk.virtualWrite(virtual pin, variable)` instruction. For example, the `Blynk.virtualWrite(V3, light)` instruction transmits the *light* variable on virtual pin *V3*. The `Blynk.virtualWrite()` instructions should be limited to no more than 60 per minute. The timing of sending information to the MQTT broker is managed by a Blynk timer function, rather than by including delays in the sketch, as delays will block the ESP32 microcontroller from receiving data from the MQTT broker. For example, the *timerEvent* function is triggered every 2s to update a variable on the Blynk dashboard with the instructions:

```
BlynkTimer timer;                             // define Blynk timer and
timer.setInterval(2000, timerEvent);           // call timer function every 2s
timer.run();                                   // include in loop function
void timerEvent()
{
    light = analogRead(LDRpin);                 // update light variable
    Blynk.virtualWrite(V3, light);              // and send to MQTT broker
}
```

The Blynk dashboard is accessed from blynk.io/developers and click *Start Free* to create a Blynk account or from blynk.cloud/dashboard/login. From the left-side menu, select the *Quickstart* option by clicking on the "lifebelt" logo. In the hardware and connectivity type

options, select *ESP32* and *WiFi*, select the *Arduino* IDE option and copy the displayed test sketch into the Arduino IDE.

In the test sketch, update the instructions:

```
char ssid[] = "";  
char pass[] = "";
```

to the name and password for your router. Replace the contents of the *BLYNK_CONNECTED* function to `Serial.println("ESP32 connected to Blynk")`. Comment out the `Blynk.begin(BLYNK_AUTH_TOKEN, ssid, pass)` instruction and uncomment the `Blynk.begin(BLYNK_AUTH_TOKEN, ssid, pass, "blynk.cloud", 80)` instruction. Compile and load the test sketch to the ESP32 microcontroller.

Return to the Blynk console and click the *Go To Device* button. Blynk creates a *Quickstart Device* mapped to the *Quickstart Template*, which includes a *Datastream* of three virtual pins and a *Web Dashboard* of three widgets: a button control, a switch label and an uptime value, which are mapped to the virtual pins. The virtual pins are mapped to variables in the sketch with the `Blynk.virtualWrite(virtual pin, variable)` instruction.

Blynk generates templates (see Figure 9-3), for allocation of *Datastreams* and *Web Dashboard* layouts to more than one device, such as an ESP32 microcontroller, rather than each device being allocated a specific datastream and dashboard. Blynk templates are accessed by clicking the "keypad" logo. Blynk devices are accessed by clicking the "magnifying glass" logo, with details of the device template available in the *Device Info* option.

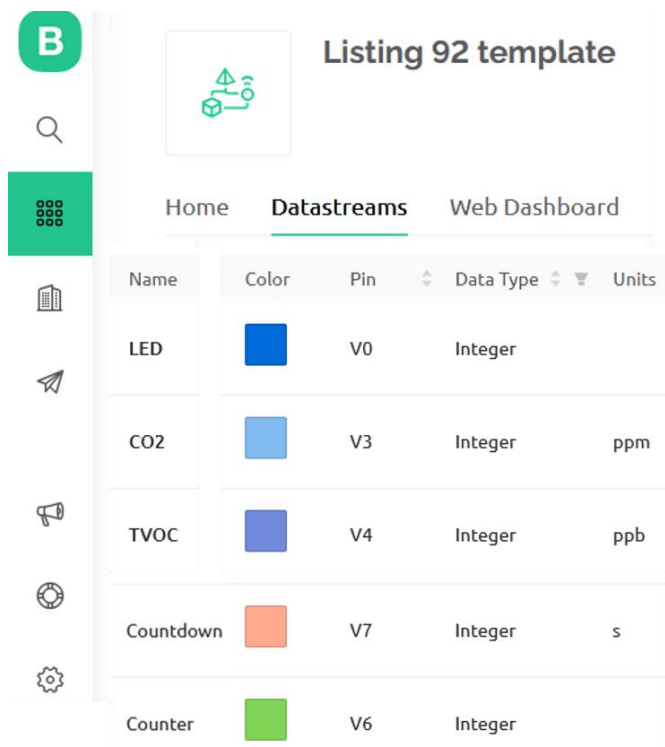


Figure 9-3 Blynk template

A new template is created by copying the *Quickstart Template*. With the *Quickstart Template* open, click the "three dots", next to the *Edit* button at the top right of the screen, click the *Duplicate* option, click the *Configure template* option, rename the template to "test sketch template" and click the *Save* button. Click the *Add first Device* option and enter a device name, such as *ESP32* and click the *Create* button. Copy the updated *BLYNK_TEMPLATE_ID*, *BLYNK_TEMPLATE_NAME*. and *BLYNK_AUTH_TOKEN*. Paste the updated template information into the test sketch.

To turn on and off the built-in LED on the ESP32 module, when the button is clicked on the Blynk dashboard, the following instructions are included in test sketch:

```
int LEDpin = 2;
pinMode(LEDpin, OUTPUT); // included in the void setup function
```

In the *BLYNK_WRITE(V0)* function, include the `digitalWrite(LEDpin, value)` instruction and then compile and load the test sketch to the ESP32 microcontroller. When the button on the Blynk dashboard is clicked, the built-in LED on the ESP32 module is turned on or off and the switch label value is updated. The uptime value is incremented every second.

A widget is added to a template by clicking the "keypad" logo, clicking on the required template, clicking the *Edit* button, at the top right of the screen and selecting the *Web Dashboard* option. Drag a widget from the Widget box onto the dashboard and move the

cursor over the widget to display the "cog" icon, which is the *Settings* option. Click the *Save* button after defining the settings and click the *Save and Apply* button at the top right of the screen. Click the "magnifying glass" logo and the device to display the updated dashboard.

Details of the virtual pins are listed and edited on the template *Datastreams* option. Click the *Edit* button at the top right of the screen and click on the required *Virtual Pin Datastream* to define the virtual pin, the data type and the unit of measurement from drop-down lists, and the minimum and maximum values. Click the *Save* button and then the *Save and Apply* button at the top right of the screen.

The *Blynk IoT* app is downloaded from the *Google Play Store* and after logging on to your account, the *ESP32* device is displayed. Dashboard widgets, such as buttons and charts, are added to the dashboard by clicking on the "spanner" logo, clicking on the "plus" logo and selecting the required widget. A widget is positioned on the dashboard and sized by pressing on the widget, with the *Design* option selected to format with the widget.

The sketch in Listing 9-2 is based on Listing 9-1 and only the additional instructions are commented. When the LED state is changed by the MQTT broker, the ESP32 microcontroller receives the updated state, on Blynk virtual pin 0, with the `BLYNK_WRITE(V0)` and `param.asInt()` instructions. Values are sent to the Blynk MQTT broker with the `Blynk.virtualWrite` instruction with the virtual pin and variable as parameters. The Blynk timer calls the *timerEvent* function at one second intervals, as defined with the `timer.setInterval(1000, timerEvent)` instruction. The instructions to periodically read the CCS811 sensor and send data to the Blynk MQTT broker are included in the *timerEvent* function, rather than in the *loop* function. A `delay` instruction is not included in the sketch, as a delay would block the ESP32 microcontroller from receiving input by the MQTT broker. The `BLYNK_CONNECTED` function is called when the ESP32 microcontroller connects to the Blynk MQTT broker. The *WiFi* and *WiFiClient* libraries are referenced by the *BlynkSimpleEsp32* and *WiFi* libraries, respectively, and are not explicitly referenced in the sketch.

Listing 9-2 TVOC and CO2 measurement and Blynk MQTT broker

```
#define BLYNK_TEMPLATE_ID    "xxxx"           // change xxxx to Template details
#define BLYNK_TEMPLATE_NAME "Listing 92 template"
#define BLYNK_AUTH_TOKEN    "xxxx"           // change xxxx to Authentication token
#define BLYNK_PRINT Serial                  // avoids Serial print noise
#include <Wire.h>
#include <ccs811.h>;
#include <BlynkSimpleEsp32.h>                // Blynk MQTT library
```



```

#include <ssid_password.h>                                // file with logon details

CCS811 ccs811(19);
uint16_t CO2, TVOC, errstat, rawdata;
int LEDpin = 2;

int LEDMQTTpin = 4;                                     // LED controlled with MQTT
int count = 0, countDown = 200;
unsigned long LEDtime = 0, countTime;

BlynkTimer timer;                                       // declare Blynk timer
void timerEvent()                                       // function called by Blynk timer
{
  ccs811.read(&CO2, &TVOC, &errstat, &rawdata);
  if(errstat == CCS811_ERRSTAT_OK)
  {
    count++;                                             //increment reading counter
    countDown = 60;
    countTime = millis();                               // set countdown time
    Blynk.virtualWrite(V3, CO2);                       // send data to MQTT broker
    Blynk.virtualWrite(V4, TVOC);
    Blynk.virtualWrite(V6, count);
    Blynk.virtualWrite(V7, countDown);
    Serial.printf("count %d \n", count);
    LEDtime = millis();
    digitalWrite(LEDpin, HIGH);                         // turn on indicator LED
  }                                                     // turn off LED after 100ms
  if(millis() - LEDtime > 100) digitalWrite(LEDpin, LOW);
  if(millis() - countTime > 5000)                       // countdown interval 5s
  {
    countTime = millis();                               // update countdown time
    countDown = countDown - 5;                         // update countdown
    Blynk.virtualWrite(V7, countDown);                 // send to Blynk MQTT broker
  }
}

BLYNK_WRITE(V0)                                         // Blynk virtual pin 0
{
  digitalWrite(LEDpin, param.asInt());                 // turn on or off LED
}

BLYNK_CONNECTED()                                       // function called when ESP32 connected
{
  Serial.println("ESP32 connected to Blynk");
}

void setup()
{
  Serial.begin(115200);                                  // initiate Blynk MQTT broker
  Blynk.begin(BLYNK_AUTH_TOKEN, ssid, password, "blynk.cloud", 80);
  timer.setInterval(1000, timerEvent);                 // timer event called every second
  pinMode(LEDpin, OUTPUT);
  digitalWrite(LEDpin, LOW);
  pinMode(LEDpin, OUTPUT);                             // define LED pin as output
  digitalWrite(LEDpin, LOW);                           // turn off LED
  Wire.begin();
  ccs811.begin();
}

```

```

    ccs811.start(CCS811_MODE_60SEC);           // set reading interval at 60s
}

void loop()
{
    Blynk.run();                               // maintains connection to Blynk
    timer.run();                               // Blynk timer
}

```

Email with Blynk MQTT broker

An email and a notification to the *Blynk IoT* app are sent by a Blynk event, such as when a sensor variable exceeds a threshold (see Figure 9-4). The instruction to initiate a Blynk event called *event* is `Blynk.logEvent("event", "text")`, where *text* is the text to be included in the email. For example, the text *"CO2 above 1500: 1603"* is included in the email text with the `Blynk.logEvent("alert", "CO2 above 1500: " + String(CO2))` instruction for a CO2 value of 1603ppm and an event called *alert*.

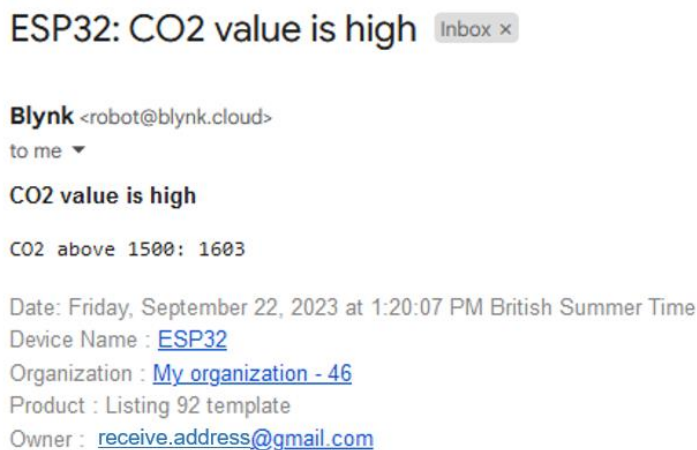


Figure 9-4 Blynk email


A Blynk event is defined in a template *Events* option (see Figure 9-5). Click the "keypad" logo to select the required template, click the *Events* option and the *Add New Event* button. In the *General* tab, enter the text for the email header in the *EVENT NAME* box and enter the event name in the *EVENT CODE* box. For example, if the *alert* event is defined in the `Blynk.logEvent("alert", "text")` instruction, then the *EVENT CODE* box is set to *alert*. Set the *TYPE* level to *Warning* and in the *Event will be sent to user only once per box*, select *1 minute* from the drop-down list. Check the *Send event to Timeline* option. In the *Notifications* tab, check *Enable notifications* and in the *E_MAIL TO* box, select *Device Owner* from the drop-down list. Click the *Create* and the *Save And Apply* buttons. Return to

the Blynk dashboard, by clicking on the "*magnifying glass*" logo and select the required device.

CO2 value is high

General
Notifications

EVENT NAME


CO2 value is high

EVENT CODE

alert

TYPE

Info

Warning

Critical

Content

Limit

Every

1

message will trigger the event

Event will be sent to user only once per

1 minute

☐
Show event in Notifications section of mobile app

☒
Send event to Timeline

Figure 9-5 Blynk event

Listing 9-3 includes the additional instructions to trigger a Blynk event, called *alert*, when the *CO2* value exceeds a threshold of 1500ppm. Every second, the *CO2* variable is compared to the threshold and when the threshold is exceeded, the Blynk event is triggered to send an email. To avoid emails being repeatedly sent, the Blynk event is only triggered when the *CO2* value exceeds the threshold and the *flag* value is zero, with the *flag* variable set to one when the *CO2* value initially exceeds the threshold. The *flag* variable is reset to zero only when the *CO2* value is below the threshold. The *flag* and *lag* variables are defined as an integer equal to zero and as an unsigned long at the start of the sketch.

Listing 9-3 Event triggered by high *CO2*

```

if(millis() - lag > 1000)                                // at one second intervals
{
  if(CO2 > 1500 && flag == 0)                             // when CO2 level > threshold
  {                                                        // and email not sent already
    digitalWrite(LEDQMOTtpin, HIGH);                    // turn on LED and virtual LED
    Blynk.virtualWrite(V0, 1);                           // call Blynk event called alert
    Blynk.logEvent("alert", "CO2 above 1500: " + String(CO2));
    flag = 1;                                             // flag indicates event triggered
  }
  else if(CO2 < 1500 && flag == 1)                         // when CO2 < threshold

```

```

{
    flag = 0;
}
lag = millis();
}

```

// after sending email
 // reset event flag
 // update time counter

Arduino IoT Cloud



Details, documentation and examples sketches of the Arduino IoT (Internet of Things) Cloud MQTT broker are available at cloud.arduino.cc and docs.arduino.cc/arduino-cloud, respectively. The *ArduinoIoTCloud* library is available in the Arduino IDE. When the *ArduinoIoTCloud* library is installed, there is the option to install several other libraries,

but with an ESP32 microcontroller the required libraries are: *ArduinoIoTCloud*, *Arduino_ConnectionHandler*, *ArduinoMqttClient*, *Arduino_ESP32_OTA* and *Arduino_DebugUtils*.

The Arduino IoT Cloud maps sketch variables to the dashboard with the *addProperty* instruction, which defines the read/write status of a variable and the timing of variable updates. For example, the `addProperty(sensor, READ, 5*SECONDS, NULL)` instruction updates the Arduino IoT Cloud dashboard with the sketch *sensor* value at 5s intervals, while the `addProperty(LEDstate, READWRITE, ON_CHANGE, LEDchange)` instruction calls the *LEDchange* function in the sketch when the dashboard *LEDstate* variable is changed. Variables passed between the Arduino IoT Cloud dashboard and the sketch are defined in the sketch. Variables specific to the Arduino IoT Cloud dashboard and associated devices, such as an ESP32 microcontroller, are defined in the Arduino IoT Cloud (see Figure 9-6).

The screenshot shows the Arduino IoT Cloud dashboard for an 'ESP32 sensor'. The top navigation bar includes 'Things', 'Dashboards', 'Devices', 'Integrations', 'Templates', 'UPGRADE PLAN', and 'My Cloud'. The main content area is divided into two sections: 'Cloud Variables' and 'Associated Device'.

Cloud Variables:

| Name ↓ | Last Value | Last Update |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|------------|----------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> LED <code>bool LED;</code> | true | 26 Sep 2023 14:18:07 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> varCO2 <code>int varCO2;</code> | 1014 | 26 Sep 2023 14:19:55 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> varTVOC <code>int varTVOC;</code> | 93 | 26 Sep 2023 14:19:55 |

Associated Device:

ESP32

ID: b53
Type: ESP32 Dev Module
Status: Online

Buttons: Change, Detach

Figure 9-6 Arduino IoT Cloud Thing

From cloud.arduino.cc, click the "keypad" logo at the top right of the screen. select *IoT Cloud* and create an account or login to your account. After logging on, click *CREATE THING* button and change *Untitled* to the name of the project, such as *ESP32 CO2 sensor*. To add variables specific to the Arduino IoT Cloud dashboard, click the *ADD VARIABLE* button, add a variable name and select the variable type from *Basic types* option, consisting of *Boolean*, *Character String*, *Float Point Number* and *Integer Number*.(see Figure 9-7). NOTE: ensure that the variable *Name* and *Declaration* name are identical. For *Variable Permission*, select *Read & Write* for *OUTPUT* variable, such as an LED state, or select *Read Only* for an *INPUT* variable, such as a sensor reading. For *Variable Update Policy*, select *On change* to update the variable on Arduino IoT Cloud dashboard when the variable changes state or value, such as when a dashboard button is clicked. In contrast, when a variable is uploaded to the Arduino IoT Cloud dashboard at set intervals, select *Periodically* and then enter the number of seconds between updates, such as with a sensor reading. Finally, select *ADD VARIABLE*. The properties of a variable are edited, by clicking the three dots to the right of the variable name (see Figure 9-6).

Edit variable

Name
varCO2

↻ Sync with other Things ⓘ

Integer Number eg. 1 ▼

Declaration
int varCO2 ; ⓘ

Variable Permission ⓘ
☐ Read & Write ☒ Read Only

Variable Update Policy ⓘ
☐ On change ☒ Periodically

Every
10 s

SAVE
CANCEL

Figure 9-7 Arduino IoT Cloud variable

A device, such as an ESP32 microcontroller, is associated with an Arduino IoT Cloud dashboard after clicking the *Select Device* button under the *Associated Device* option. Select

SET UP NEW DEVICE, click the *Third party device* button, click the *ESP32* button and select the model, such as *ESP32 Dev Module*. Click the *CONTINUE* button and give the device a name, such as *ESP32*, and click the *Next* button. A Device ID and a Secret Key for the ESP32 microcontroller are generated. Click on the text *download the PDF* to save a PDF document with the Device ID and a Secret Key or copy the details. Tick the box beside *I saved my device ID and Secret Key* and click *CONTINUE*

The Arduino IoT Cloud dashboard (see Figure 9-8) is built by selecting the *Dashboards* option, at the top of the screen, and clicking the *BUILD DASHBOARD* button. Change the *Untitled* name of dashboard, such as *CO2 and TVOC sensor*, and click the *ADD* button. From the left-side menu, click the *Switch* icon and update the name of the switch. The switch is linked to a variable by clicking the *Link variable* button, choosing from the displayed variables, such as *LED Boolean*, and click the *LINK VARIABLE* and *DONE* buttons. To display a variable value, select a *Value* or a *Gauge* widget and add minimum and maximum values in the *Min* and *Max* boxes. The position and size of widgets on the Arduino IoT Cloud dashboard, for the Desktop or the Mobile layout are changed by clicking the "pencil on paper" logo, the *Desktop* or *Mobile* logos and then the "cross arrow" logo at the top of the screen. After updating the layout, click the *DONE* button.

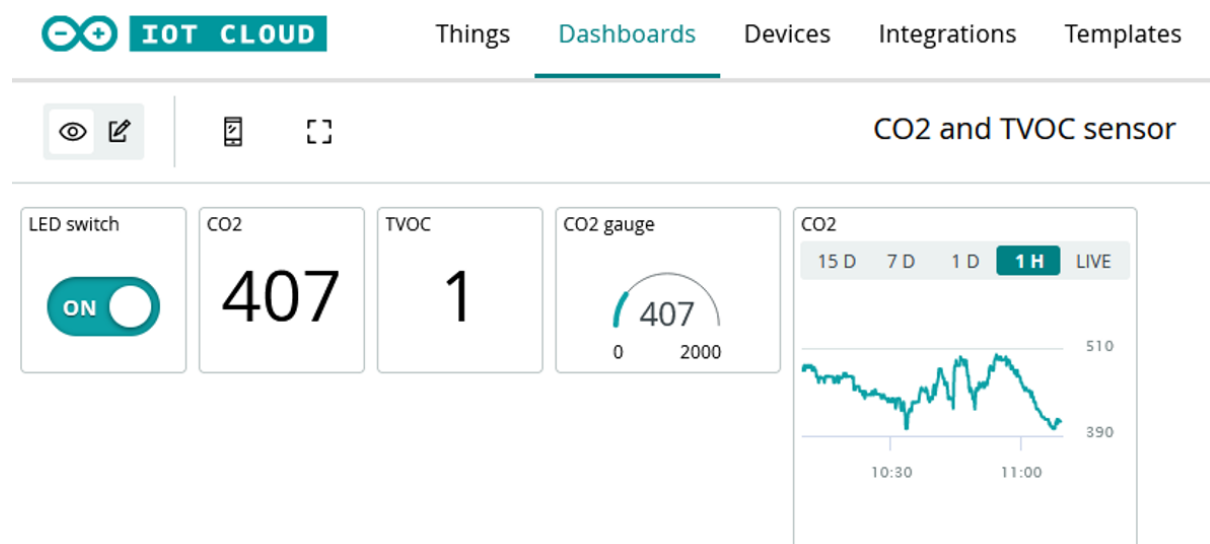


Figure 9-8 *Arduino IoT dashboard*

The *Arduino IoT Cloud Remote* app is downloaded from the *Google Play Store* and after logging on to your account, the dashboard is displayed. Dashboard widgets, such as buttons and charts, are added to the dashboard by clicking on the "spanner" logo, clicking on the "plus" logo and selecting the required widget. A widget is positioned on the dashboard

and sized by pressing on the widget, with the *Design* option selected to format with the widget.

Listing 9-4 defines the device associated with the Arduino IoT Cloud dashboard and the *initProperties* function defines the Arduino IoT Cloud dashboard variables, the read/write status of each variable and the timing of variable updates. The `WiFiConnectionHandler` instruction connects the ESP32 microcontroller to the WLAN. Instructions in Listing 9-4 are included in the *properties.h* tab with the main sketch shown in Listing 9-5.

Listing 9-4 *Arduino IoT Cloud MQTT broker details*

```
#include <ArduinoIoTCloud.h> // Arduino IoT Cloud libraries
#include <Arduino_ConnectionHandler.h> // ESP32 device name and key
const char DEVICE_LOGIN_NAME[] = "xxxx"; // change xxxx to Device login
const char DEVICE_KEY[] = "xxxx"; // change xxxx to Device Key
#include <ssid_password.h> // file with logon details

void LEDchange(); // forward declaration of function

bool LED = 0; // Arduino dashboard variables
int varCO2, varTVOC;

void initProperties() // details of device name & key
{ // and dashboard variable
    ArduinoCloud.setBoardId(DEVICE_LOGIN_NAME);
    ArduinoCloud.setSecretDeviceKey(DEVICE_KEY);
    ArduinoCloud.addProperty(LED, READWRITE, ON_CHANGE, LEDchange);
    ArduinoCloud.addProperty(varCO2, READ, 10 * SECONDS, NULL);
    ArduinoCloud.addProperty(varTVOC, READ, 10 * SECONDS, NULL);
}

// connection to your Wi-Fi router
WiFiConnectionHandler connHandl(ssid, password);
```

Listing 9-5 is broadly similar to Listing 9-1 with the additional instructions to Listing 9-1 commented. When the LED state is changed on the Arduino IoT Cloud dashboard, the ESP32 microcontroller receives the updated state and the *LEDchange* function is called by the `addProperty(LED, READWRITE, ON_CHANGE, LEDchange)` instruction. The *CO2* and *TVOC* values are sent to the Arduino IoT Cloud dashboard with the `addProperty(CO2, READ, 10*SECONDS, NULL)` instruction, with the time interval included as a parameter. Note that the *DEVICE_LOGIN_NAME* and *DEVICE_KEY* are equal to the *Device ID* and *Secret Key*, as generated by the Arduino IoT Cloud. The `printDebugInfo(N)` instruction displays information on the state of network, IoT Cloud connection and errors, with a default level of 0 (only errors) and maximum of 4.

The *CO2change* function detects when the *CO2* value initially exceeds the threshold and turns on the LED to alert that the *CO2* value is high. The LED is turned off remotely through the Arduino IoT Cloud dashboard. When the *CO2* value decreases to below the threshold, the *flag* variable is reset to enable detection of a subsequent high *CO2* value. Without the *flag* variable, turning the LED off through the Arduino IoT Cloud dashboard would not be possible, while the *CO2* value exceeds the threshold.

Listing 9-5 TOC and CO2 measurement and Arduino IoT Cloud MQTT broker

```
#include "properties.h" // device and dashboard details
#include <Wire.h>
#include <ccs811.h>;
CCS811 ccs811(19);
uint16_t CO2, TVOC, errstat, rawdata;
int LEDMQTTpin = 4; // LED controlled with MQTT
int flag = 0; // flag to indicate high CO2

void setup()
{
  Serial.begin(115200);
  initProperties(); // Arduino IoT Cloud properties
  ArduinoCloud.begin(connHandl); // connect to Arduino IoT Cloud
  pinMode(L EDMQTTpin, OUTPUT); // define LED pin as output
  digitalWrite(L EDMQTTpin, LOW); // turn off LED
  Wire.begin();
  ccs811.begin();
  ccs811.start(CCS811_MODE_10SEC);
  setDebugMessageLevel(4); // status of Arduino IoT Cloud
  ArduinoCloud.printDebugInfo(); // connection
}

void loop()
{
  ArduinoCloud.update(); // Arduino IoT Cloud update
  ccs811.read(&CO2, &TVOC, &errstat, &rawdata);
  if(errstat == CCS811_ERRSTAT_OK)
  {
    varCO2 = CO2;
    varTVOC = TVOC;
    Serial.printf("CO2 %d TVOC %d \n", varCO2, varTVOC);
    CO2change(); // call CO2change function
  }
}

void CO2change() // function to set LED state
{
  if(CO2 > 1000 && flag == 0) // CO2 initially exceeds threshold
  {
    flag = 1;
    Serial.println("trigger = 1");
    LED = 1; // only changes switch state on dashboard
    LEDchange(); // required to change LED state
  }
}
```



```

    }
    else if(CO2 < 1000 && flag == 1)           // CO2 now less than threshold
    {
        flag = 0;
        Serial.println("trigger = 0");
    }
}

void LEDchange()                               // function to turn on or off LED
{                                               // LED state set by MQTT broker
    digitalWrite(LEDmqttpin, LED);
    if(LED == 1) Serial.println("LED ON");
    else Serial.println("LED OFF");
}

```

Email and Arduino IoT Cloud

One option to link the Arduino IoT cloud with an email function is to utilise the IFTTT (If this, then that) internet service to initiate a web request when an event occurs, such as when an Arduino IoT Cloud dashboard variable exceeds a threshold. The IFTTT service is linked to the Webhooks function (ifttt.com/maker_webhooks), which receives and actions the web request to transmit an email. However, the IFTTT service is triggered to make a web request when any Arduino IoT Cloud dashboard variable is updated, such as when the

`ArduinoCloud.update()` instruction occurs, rather than when a specific variable is updated.

Arduino IoT Cloud and Blynk MQTT brokers

In the Arduino IoT Cloud, the webpage and the *Arduino IoT Cloud Remote* app dashboards are generated simultaneously, with the position and size of widgets on the *Arduino IoT Cloud Remote* app dashboard managed through the Arduino IoT Cloud website. In contrast, the Blynk web dashboard and the *Blynk IoT* app dashboard are built separately in the Blynk webpage and in *Blynk IoT* app, respectively. Widget colour is selectable in the *Blynk IoT* app. Blynk enables transmission of an email and a notification to the *Blynk IoT* app when a specific Blynk dashboard variable exceeds a threshold. Historic data is downloadable in the *Arduino IoT Cloud Remote* app.

MQTT and smart meter

An ESP32 module is connected to a smart meter and provides energy usage readings to a MQTT broker for display on the MQTT broker dashboard. The ESP32 module is battery powered and the battery voltage is also transmitted to the MQTT broker to alert the user when to replace or charge the battery. Power consumption is measured at one minute

intervals, with the ESP32 microcontroller in deep sleep mode between readings, to save battery power. The deep sleep function enables the ESP32 microcontroller to wake up, measure and transmit energy usage, power consumption and battery voltage to the MQTT broker and then return to deep sleep.

Figure 9-9 illustrates power consumption measured every minute over a 90 minute period. A central heating boiler operated until 7:45AM, a 2kW kettle was switched on at 7:40AM and again at 8:15AM with an 8kW shower used from 8:05AM. The baseline power usage was 200W.

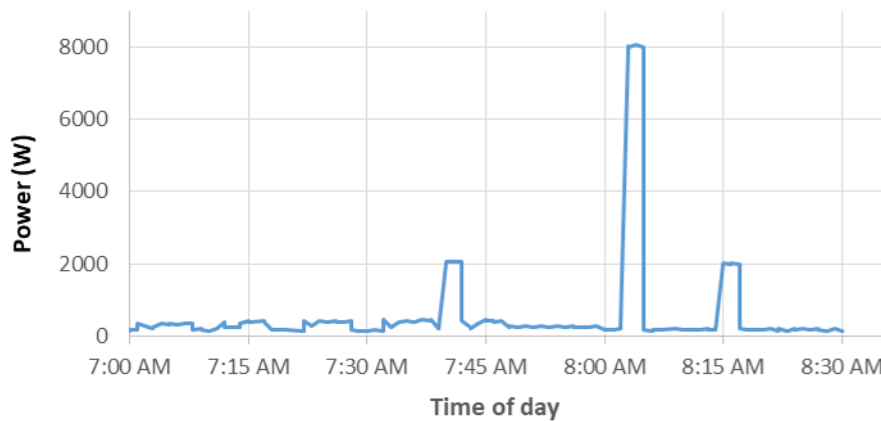


Figure 9-9 MQTT dashboard of power consumption

Energy usage measurement



Current usage is measured with the SCT013 current transformer, which is a current clamp meter. When a conductor (cable) supplying a load is clamped, the conductor is effectively the primary winding of a current transformer. The wire coil around the SCT013 current transformer core is the secondary winding. The alternating current in the conductor produces an alternating magnetic field in the SCT013 core, that induces an alternating current in the secondary winding, which is converted to a voltage and quantified by the ESP32 microcontroller analog to digital converter (ADC).

The SCT013 current transformer outputs a maximum current of 50mA given a load maximum current usage of 100A, as the SCT013 current transformer includes 2000 coil turns. The current in the secondary winding is the current in the primary winding divided by the number of coil turns on the secondary winding. The SCT013 output current, I_{OUT} , is determined from the measured voltage across a burden resistor of known value (see Figure 9-

10). The SCT013 current transformer output signal is combined with an offset voltage, as explained in the next paragraphs, equal to half of the voltage divider supply voltage, V_{sply} . A burden resistor of $\frac{V_{sply}/2}{\sqrt{2} \times I_{OUT}} \Omega = \frac{1.65}{\sqrt{2} \times 0.05} \Omega$ or 23.3Ω is required and a 22Ω burden resistor is sufficient. The scalar of $\sqrt{2}$ converts the RMS (Root Mean Square) SCT013 current transformer output, I_{OUT} , to the peak current of an AC (Alternating Current) signal. Further details on measuring current and apparent power with the SCT013 current transformer are available at learn.openenergymonitor.org/electricity-monitoring/ct-sensors/introduction.

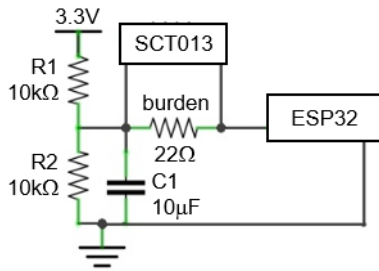


Figure 9-10 SCT013 current transformer connections

The SCT013 output current, I_{OUT} , is alternating current (AC) and the measured voltage across the burden resistor follows a sinusoidal wave or sine curve (see Figure 9-11). The SCT013 output current corresponding to a load current of L amps is $L \times \sqrt{2} \times 0.05 / 100$ A, given the SCT013 maximum current of 50mA with a load maximum current of 100A. When measured with an oscilloscope, the peak-to-peak voltage across the burden resistor, R , is $2 \times I_{OUT} \times R$ volts, with the factor of two reflecting the positive and negative AC signal of the SCT013 current transformer. For example, a load current of 20A RMS corresponds to an SCT013 output current of $14.1 \text{ mA} = 20 \times \sqrt{2} \times 0.05 / 100$ A and a peak-to-peak voltage, measured with an oscilloscope, across the 22Ω burden resistor of $622 \text{ mV} = 2 \times 14.1 \text{ mA} \times 22 \Omega$.

The peak-to-peak voltage is measured with the analog to digital convertor (ADC) of the ESP32 microcontroller. The ADC only measures positive voltages and a direct current (DC) offset voltage is combined with the SCT013 AC output, which is centred on zero. The offset voltage is provided by a voltage divider, formed by resistors $R1$ and $R2$ (see Figure 9-10). The combined AC and DC signal has minimum and maximum voltages of $V_{sply}/2 \pm I_{OUT} \times R$ volts. For example, a load current of 20A RMS corresponds to minimum and maximum voltages of 1339 and 1961mV $= 3.3 \text{ V} / 2 \pm 311 \text{ mV}$ and a peak-to-peak voltage of 622mV. Without the offset voltage, the maximum and minimum voltages of the sinusoidal signal, as measured by the ESP32 microcontroller ADC, are 311 and 0, respectively (see

Figure 9-11). If an offset DC voltage is not added to the sinusoidal AC voltage and the ADC measured voltage is just doubled, then clipping of the AC signal will result in an underestimate of the peak to peak voltage.

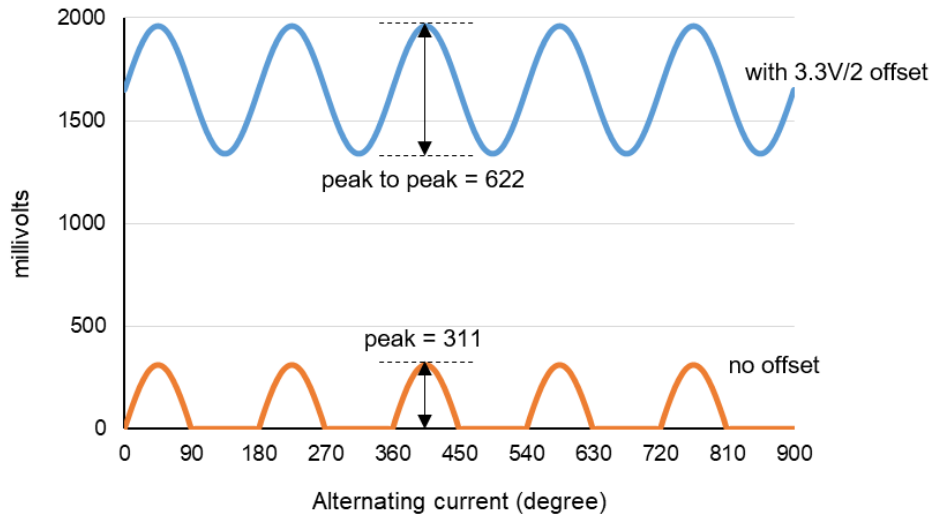


Figure 9-11 SCT013 current transformer sensor readings

The load usage current simplifies to $P2P/\sqrt{2}R$ RMS amps, given the peak-to-peak voltage, $P2P$ volts, of the combined AC and DC signal across the burden resistor, R . From the earlier example, a peak-to-peak voltage of 622mV and a 22Ω burden resistor correspond to a load usage of 20A RMS.

For the Chapter, the current usage of a hairdryer at the high setting was estimated with the SCT013 current transformer. The peak-to-peak voltage, measured with the ESP32 microcontroller ADC, of 280mV equated to a current of 9.0A RMS, which was consistent with the current of 8.52A RMS, when measured with a multimeter. At low current loads, the voltage measured, on an oscilloscope, across the SCT013 burden resistor formed a clipped sinusoidal wave, which negatively biased the estimated current usage.

Wi-Fi, MQTT and smart meter

Monitoring energy usage with the data forwarded to a MQTT broker, to display on the MQTT broker dashboard, requires an ESP32 microcontroller with a low current requirement, when the ESP32 microcontroller is battery powered. An ESP32 DEVKIT DOIT module requires 51mA when active, between 58 and 130mA when accessing a Wi-Fi network and 12mA in deep sleep mode. The corresponding current requirements of a TTGO T-Display

V1.1 module are 38mA, 45 to 113mA and 325µA. A battery will power a TTGO T-Display V1.1 module longer than a ESP32 DEVKIT DOIT module, primarily due to the lower deep sleep current requirement of the TTGO T-Display V1.1 module.

Connections between a TTGO T-Display V1.1 module, a SCT013 current transformer, a burden resistor and a voltage divider are shown in Figure 9-12 and listed in Table 9-2.

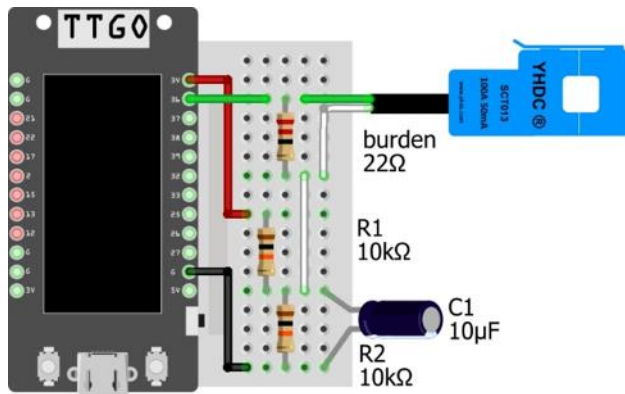


Figure 9-12 ESP32 with SCT013 current transformer sensor

Table 9-2 SCT013 connections

| Component | Connect to | SCT103 wire colour |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| SCT013 signal | ESP32 GPIO 36 | Red, but green in Figure 9-12 |
| SCT013 signal | 22Ω burden resistor | |
| SCT013 | 22Ω burden resistor | White |
| SCT013 | Voltage divider mid-point | |
| Voltage divider 10kΩ resistors | ESP32 3V3 and GND | |
| 10µF capacitor positive | Voltage divider mid-point | |
| 10µF capacitor negative | GND | |

The sketch for an SCT013 current transformer, acting as a smart meter, connected to an ESP32 module with energy usage information sent to Arduino IoT Cloud, which is the MQTT broker, for display of information on the Arduino IoT Cloud dashboard, is given in Listing 9-6. Power consumption, battery voltage, ESP32 microcontroller re-connection time to the Arduino IoT Cloud and a counter are transmitted to the MQTT broker at one minute intervals. Connection to the Arduino IoT Cloud with the `WiFiConnectionHandler` `connHandle` instruction fails on the first attempt and a four second delay is automatically implemented prior to a further connection attempt. Inclusion of the `WiFi` library connection

instructions prior to the `WiFiConnectionHandler connHandle` instruction reduces connection time to the MQTT broker.

After the ESP32 microcontroller connects to the Arduino IoT Cloud, the `ArduinoCloud.connected()` parameter changes from zero to one and the `ArduinoCloud.addCallback(ArduinoIoTCloudEvent::CONNECT, onConnect)` instruction calls the *onConnect* function. In Listing 9-6, the *onConnect* function determines the elapsed time for re-connection to the Arduino IoT Cloud and when the *connected* parameter changes from zero to one, energy usage variables are determined and transmitted to the Arduino IoT Cloud, then the ESP32 microcontroller is moved to deep sleep mode. The 5s delay, prior to `esp_deep_sleep_start()` instruction, allows time for data transmission to the MQTT broker, as without a sufficient time delay, the Arduino IoT Cloud dashboard is not updated. The `ArduinoCloud.printDebugInfo()` instruction provides confirmation of data transmission with the *TimeServiceClass::setTimeZoneData offset: 3600 dst_uni Unix epoch time* message. In practice, a value of $45000 = 45E6$, equating to 45s, for the `esp_sleep_enable_timer_wakeup(N)` instruction enabled an update to the Arduino IoT Cloud at one minute intervals.

Espressif notes that the *esp_deep_sleep* function does not thoroughly shut down connections with the Wi-Fi and Bluetooth communication protocols (see docs.espressif.com/projects/esp-idf/en/latest/esp32/api-reference/system/sleep_modes.html). Wi-Fi or Bluetooth connections are closed with the `WiFi.disconnect(true)` and `WiFi.mode(WIFI_OFF)` instructions or the `btStop()` instruction before implementing the `esp_deep_sleep_start()` instruction.

The ESP32 microcontroller RTC (Real Time Clock) is active in deep-sleep mode and an incrementing counter is stored in the RTC memory at each energy reading. A counter to be stored in RTC memory is defined with the `RTC_DATA_ATTR int counter` instruction.

In Listing 9-6, the *taskFunction* obtains the SCT013 current transformer voltage across the burden resistor and also the battery voltage. When the TTGO T-Display V1.1 is battery powered, the ADC enable port on GPIO 14 must be set *HIGH* to activate the ADC on GPIO 34. In the *getCurrent* function, the initial readings from the SCT013 current transformer, which may be noisy, are discarded. A total of 500 voltage readings took 51.6ms to complete, ensuring that the minimum and maximum voltages were detected as readings were taken over 2.5 cycles, given the 50Hz frequency of the AC signal and cycle length of 20ms.

Listing 9-6 Smart meter and MQTT

```
#include "properties.h" // device and dashboard details
int battPin = 34, enabPin = 14, SCTpin = 37;
float RMS, mA, current;
int mV, volt, minVolt, maxVolt;
int Nread = 500; // number of current readings
unsigned long lag, micro = 45E6; // shorthand 45×106 for 45secs
RTC_DATA_ATTR int count = 0; // store count in RTC memory
int flag = 0;

void setup()
{
  Serial.begin(115200);
  pinMode(enabPin, OUTPUT);
  digitalWrite(enabPin, HIGH); // pin set HIGH to active ADC
  lag = millis();
  initProperties(); // Arduino IoT Cloud properties
  WiFi.mode(WIFI_AP_STA); // access point and station mode
  WiFi.begin(ssid, password); // initialize and connect to Wi-Fi
  while (WiFi.status() != WL_CONNECTED) delay(500);
  ArduinoCloud.begin(connHandle); // connect to Arduino IoT Cloud
  ArduinoCloud.addCallback(ArduinoIoTCloudEvent::CONNECT, onConnect);
  setDebugMessageLevel(4); // status of Arduino IoT Cloud
  ArduinoCloud.printDebugInfo(); // connection
  esp_sleep_enable_timer_wakeup(micro);
} // delay of 45s → restart at 60s

void onConnect()
{
  cnectTime = millis() - lag; // connect time to MQTT broker
  Serial.print("connect status "); Serial.println(ArduinoCloud.connected());
}

void taskFunction()
{
  battery = analogReadMilliVolts(battPin)*2.0/1000.0; // battery voltage
  count++;
  countN = count;
  getCurrent(); // call function to measure current
}

void getCurrent() // function to calculate current usage
{
  maxVolt = 0;
  minVolt = 5000;
  for (int i=0; i<100; i++) analogRead(SCTpin); // ignore initial readings
  for (int i=0; i<Nread; i++)
  {
    volt = analogReadMilliVolts(SCTpin); // SCT013 output voltage
    if(volt > maxVolt) maxVolt = volt; // update maximum and
    if(volt < minVolt) minVolt = volt; // minimum voltages
  }
  mV = maxVolt - minVolt; // peak to peak mV
  mA = 0.5*mV/22.0; // mV with burden resistor to mA
}
```

```

    current = mA*100.0/50.0;           // mA to current usage in amps
    RMS = current/sqrt(2.0);           // RMS current usage
    power = 230.0 * RMS;               // convert current to power
}

void loop()
{
    ArduinoCloud.update();             // Arduino IoT Cloud update
    if(ArduinoCloud.connected() == 1 && flag == 0)
    {
        taskFunction();               // call taskFunction once connected
        flag = 1;                     // flag to only set lag value once
        lag = millis();
    }
    if((millis() - lag) > 5000 && flag == 1) // time to pass data to Arduino IoT Cloud
    {
        WiFi.disconnect();            // disconnect Wi-Fi
        WiFi.mode(WIFI_OFF);
        esp_deep_sleep_start();        // ESP32 in deep sleep mode
    }
}

```

Listing 9-7 defines the ESP32 device associated with the Arduino IoT Cloud dashboard and the *initProperties* function defines the Arduino IoT Cloud dashboard variables and that variables are updated `ON_CHANGE`, rather than after a set time, as in Listing 9-4.

Listing 9-7 Arduino IoT Cloud MQTT broker details with ON_CHANGE variables

```

#include <ArduinoIoTCloud.h>           // Arduino IoT Cloud libraries
#include <Arduino_ConnectionHandler.h> // ESP32 device name and key
const char DEVICE_LOGIN_NAME[] = "xxxx"; // change xxxx to Device login
const char DEVICE_KEY[] = "xxxx";      // change xxxx to Device Key
#include <ssid_password.h>             // file with logon details

void onConnect();                     // forward declaration of function

float battery;                        // Arduino dashboard variables
int power, cnectTime, countN;

void initProperties()                  // details of device name & key
{                                     // and dashboard variables
    ArduinoCloud.setBoardId(DEVICE_LOGIN_NAME);
    ArduinoCloud.setSecretDeviceKey(DEVICE_KEY);
    ArduinoCloud.addProperty(battery, READ, ON_CHANGE, NULL);
    ArduinoCloud.addProperty(power, READ, ON_CHANGE, NULL);
    ArduinoCloud.addProperty(cnectTime, READ, ON_CHANGE, NULL);
    ArduinoCloud.addProperty(countN, READ, ON_CHANGE, NULL);
}

// connection to your Wi-Fi router
WiFiConnectionHandler connHandle(ssid, password);

```

A TTGO T-Display V1.1 module was powered by an 18650 Li-Ion battery mounted in an 18650 battery V3 micro USB charging shield. After 5199 wake-measure-transmit-deep

sleep cycles, each lasting 68s, the battery voltage dropped to 2.4V and the battery stopped powering the microcontroller. There was a gradual decrease in battery voltage over 90 hours, followed by a rapid decline (see Figure 9-13).

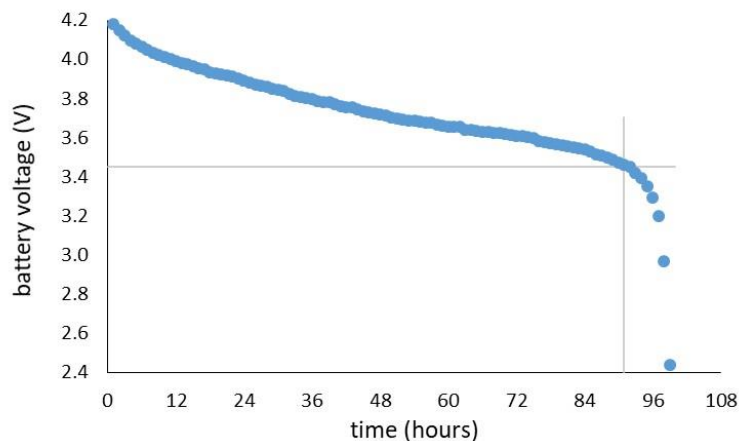


Figure 9-13 18650 battery discharge curve

A practical smart meter must be powered on a single battery for longer than four days. Extending the one minute interval between SCT013 current transformer readings will increase the time powered by the battery, but will decrease the resolution of daily cumulative energy usage. Several high capacity 18650 batteries combined in a 18650 battery V3 micro USB charging shield or in an 18650 battery case is one solution.

ESP-NOW, MQTT and smart meter

In Listing 9-6, a battery powered ESP32 microcontroller transmits SCT013 current transformer data to a MQTT broker with Wi-Fi communication (see Figure 9-14a). Connection to a MQTT broker and data transmission required 2210ms and 5ms, respectively (see Table 9-3). In an alternative arrangement, a battery powered ESP32 microcontroller transmits data, with the ESP-NOW protocol, to a second ESP32 microcontroller, which is not battery powered and has a permanent connection to a MQTT broker (see Figure 9-14b). The second ESP32 microcontroller forwards the data to a MQTT broker. ESP-NOW requires only 364 μ s to establish communication with the recipient ESP32 microcontroller and just 227 μ s to transmit data (see Table 9-3), which is faster than transmitting data directly to a MQTT broker. The advantage of two ESP32 microcontrollers and the combination of ESP-NOW and Wi-Fi communication is the lower connection and data transmission times with the ESP-

NOW protocol, which should enable the battery powered ESP32 microcontroller to operate for a longer period.



Figure 9-14 ESP-NOW, smart meter and MQTT

For ESP-NOW communication between two ESP32 microcontrollers, when one microcontroller is connected to a router for Wi-Fi communication, the ESP-NOW communication channel must be the same as the Wi-Fi communication channel. Wi-Fi routers automatically switch to the least congested channel and the available networks must be scanned to identify the communication channel of the specified router. Figure 9-15 illustrates a router switching between communication channels over a 30 hour time period.

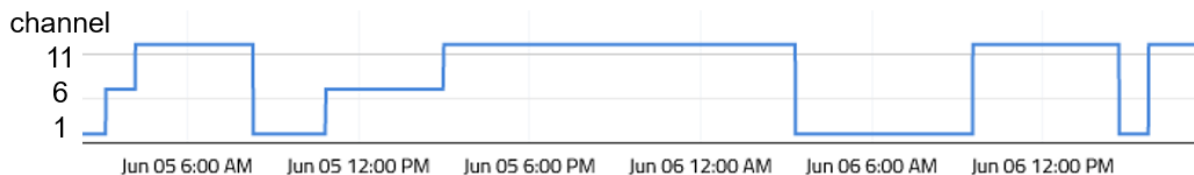


Figure 9-15 Router switching communication channels

The sketch for a battery-powered ESP32 microcontroller, transmitting data with the ESP-NOW protocol to a second ESP32 microcontroller, is based on Listing 9-6. The *WiFi* and *esp-wifi* libraries are required to scan available networks and to both define the communication channel and manage deep sleep mode of the ESP32 microcontroller. The sketch scans available networks to determine the router communication channel, as used by the second ESP32 microcontroller, which is defined as the ESP-NOW receiver, with MAC (Media Access Control) address defined in the *receiveMAC* array. The MAC address of a microcontroller is obtained with the *WiFi* library `WiFi.macAddress()` instruction and is also displayed by the Arduino IDE when a sketch is compiled and loaded. The ESP32 microcontroller MAC address in Listing 9-8 must be replaced by the MAC address of your

ESP32 microcontroller. The `esp_now_peer_info_t receiver = {}` instruction is required to prevent the "*E (66) ESPNOW: Peer interface is invalid*" error message.

The router SSID is compared to available network SSIDs with the C++ `strcmp` function. The function compares two strings character by character, and returns the index of the first character that differs, with a zero return indicating that strings are identical.

Alternatively, the router SSID and a network SSID are compared with the `if (SSIDstr == WiFi.SSID(i).c_str())` instruction, with the router SSID, `SSIDstr`, defined as a string rather than a character array.

In Listing 9-8, the instructions for ESP-NOW communication replace the instructions in Listing 9-6 to connect with and transmit data to a MQTT broker. The `taskFunction` is called to obtain the SCT013 current transformer data, the battery voltage and router communication channel, which is contained in a structure, `payload`, for transmission. Following data transmission, there is a 500ms delay for receipt of the transmission callback, before the ESP32 microcontroller is moved to deep sleep mode with the instructions:

`esp_sleep_enable_timer_wakeup(micro)` and `esp_deep_sleep_start()`.

Listing 9-8 *ESP-NOW transmitting ESP32*

```
#include <WiFi.h>                                // include ESP-NOW and Wi-Fi
#include <esp_wifi.h>                             // libraries
#include <esp_now.h>                             // receiving ESP32 MAC address
uint8_t receiveMAC[] = {0x94, 0xB9, 0x7E, 0xD2, 0x20, 0xEC};
char ssid[] = "XXXX";                          // replace with your router SSID
typedef struct                                   // structure for data
{
    int mV;                                     // SCT013 voltage
    float battery;                             // battery voltage
    int channelPL;                             // router Wi-Fi channel
    int countPL;                               // data counter
    int rep;                                   // repeated transmissions
} dataStruct;
dataStruct payload;
int battPin = 34, enabPin = 14, SCTpin = 37;    // battery pin when USB powered
int chk, scan, channel = 0;
int Nread = 500, volt, minVolt, maxVolt;       // number of current readings
RTC_DATA_ATTR int count = 0;                  // store count in RTC memory
unsigned long micro = 60E6;                   // shorthand 60×106 for 60secs

void setup()
{
    pinMode(enabPin, OUTPUT);
    digitalWrite(enabPin, HIGH);               // pin set HIGH to active ADC
    WiFi.mode(WIFI_STA);                      // ESP32 in station mode
    scan = WiFi.scanNetworks();               // number of found Wi-Fi devices
```

```

for (int i=0; i<scan; i++)
{
    if(!strcmp(ssid, WiFi.SSID(i).c_str()))    // compare to router SSID
    {
        channel = WiFi.channel(i);            // router Wi-Fi channel
        i = scan;                              // exit the "for" loop
    }
}
esp_wifi_set_channel(channel, WIFI_SECOND_CHAN_NONE);
esp_now_init();                               // initialise ESP-NOW
esp_now_peer_info_t receiver = {};            // establish ESP-NOW receiver
memcpy(receiver.peer_addr, receiveMAC, 6);
receiver.channel = channel;                   // ESP-NOW receiver channel
receiver.encrypt = false;
esp_now_add_peer(&receiver);                  // add ESP-NOW receiver
esp_now_register_send_cb(sendData);           // sending data callback function
esp_sleep_enable_timer_wakeup(micro);         // restart after fixed time
taskFunction();                               // call task function
esp_now_send(receiveMAC, (uint8_t *) &payload, sizeof(payload));
delay(500);                                  // interval for callback before deep sleep
esp_deep_sleep_start();                       // ESP32 in deep sleep mode
}

void taskFunction()                           // manage data collection
{
    getCurrent();                             // call function to measure current
    payload.battery = analogReadMilliVolts(battPin)*2.0/1000.0;
    payload.channelPL = channel;               // router Wi-Fi channel
    payload.countPL = count++;                 // incremented counter
    payload.rep = 0;                           // transmission repeats
}

void getCurrent()                             // function to calculate current usage
{
    maxVolt = 0;                              // minimum and maximum values
    minVolt = 5000;                           // ignore initial readings
    for (int i=0; i<100; i++) analogReadMilliVolts(SCTpin);
    for (int i=0; i<Nread; i++)
    {
        volt = analogReadMilliVolts(SCTpin); // SCT013 output voltage
        if(volt > maxVolt) maxVolt = volt;    // update maximum and
        if(volt < minVolt) minVolt = volt;    // minimum voltages
    }
    payload.mV = maxVolt - minVolt;            // peak to peak mV
}

void sendData(const uint8_t * mac, esp_now_send_status_t chkS)
{
    // function to count transmissions
    if(chkS != 0)                             // transmission not received
    {
        payload.rep++;                         // increment transmission number
        esp_now_send(receiveMAC, (uint8_t *) & payload, sizeof(payload));
    }
    // re-transmit data
}

```

```
void loop() // nothing in loop function
{ }
```

A TTGO T-Display V1.1 module is powered through the USB connector of an 18650 battery V3 micro USB charging shield (see Figure 9-16). The 18650 Li-Ion battery is directly connected to GPIO 34 and to GND for measurement of the battery voltage.

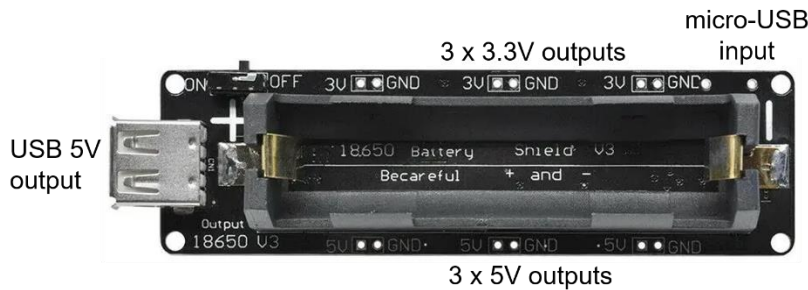


Figure 9-16 18650 battery V3 micro USB charging shield

The sketch for the ESP32 microcontroller, which receives data transmitted with the ESP-NOW protocol and then transmits, with Wi-Fi communication, data to a MQTT broker is given in Listing 9-9. Data is received in a structure, defined in Listing 9-8 for the transmitting ESP32 microcontroller, with the processed data then transmitted to a MQTT broker in the *receiveData* function.

Information is displayed on a TTGO T-Display V1.1 module LCD screen by the *display* function, with text colours defined in the *TFT_eSPI.h* file of the *TFT_eSPI* library (see Chapter 15 *Libraries*). For consistency of letter and digit sizes, numbers are converted to strings and displayed with the *drawString* instruction rather than with the *drawNumber* instruction. Labels are displayed once on a TTGO T-Display V1.1 module LCD screen by the *layout* function, rather than re-displaying the labels when data values are updated.

In Wi-Fi station mode, defined by the `WiFi.mode(WIFI_AP_STA)` or `WiFi.mode(WIFI_STA)` instructions, the ESP32 microcontroller periodically enters power saving mode and sets Wi-Fi communication to standby. Consequently, data transmissions are not received by the ESP32 microcontroller, when the microcontroller is in power saving mode. Power saving is prevented with the `WiFi.setSleep(WIFI_PS_NONE)` instruction, which increases the ESP32 microcontroller power requirement, but Wi-Fi communication by the ESP32 microcontroller is not interrupted.

The *time* library is required to determine daily power usage, based on the time of data reception. Methods to obtain the current time are described in Chapter 15 *Libraries*. Daily

power usage, determined from the SCT013 current transformer data, is constantly incremented until the time, *hhmm*, of data receipt is less than the previous time, *hhmmOld*, indicating the start of a new day. For example, if data is received every five minutes, then reception times of 23:58 and 00:03, which equate to *hhmmOld* and *hhmm* values of 1438 and 3, respectively, identify the start of a new day.

Listing 9-9 ESP-NOW receiving ESP32

```
#include "properties.h" // device and dashboard details
#include <TFT_eSPI.h> // include TFT_eSPI library
TFT_eSPI tft = TFT_eSPI(); // associate tft with library
#include <WiFi.h> // include Wi-Fi and ESP-NOW
#include <esp_now.h> // libraries
typedef struct // structure for data
{
    int mV; // SCT013 voltage
    float battery; // battery voltage
    int channelPL; // router Wi-Fi channel
    int countPL; // data counter
    int rep; // repeated transmissions
} dataStruct;
dataStruct payload;
float mA, current, RMS, lag;
unsigned long last = 0;
#include <time.h> // include time library
int GMT = 0, daylight = 3600; // GMT and daylight saving offset
int hh, mm, ss, hhmm, hhmmOld; // in seconds
struct tm timeData;

void setup()
{
    WiFi.setSleep(WIFI_PS_NONE); // prevent Wi-Fi sleep mode
    WiFi.mode(WIFI_AP_STA); // access point and station mode
    WiFi.begin(ssid, password); // initialize and connect to Wi-Fi
    while (WiFi.status() != WL_CONNECTED) delay(500);
    esp_now_init(); // initialise ESP-NOW
    esp_now_register_recv_cb(receiveData); // receiving data callback function
    initProperties();
    ArduinoCloud.begin(connHandle); // connect to Arduino IoT Cloud
    setDebugMessageLevel(4); // status of Arduino IoT Cloud connection
    ArduinoCloud.printDebugInfo();
    configTime(GMT, daylight, "uk.pool.ntp.org"); // NTP pool
    while (!getLocalTime(&timeData)) delay(500); // wait for connection to NTP
    hhmmOld = 60*timeData.tm_hour + timeData.tm_min; // set current hhmm value
    layout(); // function for LCD display labels
}

// function to receive data
void receiveData(const uint8_t * mac, const uint8_t * data, int len)
{
    memcpy(&payload, data, sizeof(payload)); // copy data to payload structure
}
```

```

mA = 0.5*payload.mV/22.0; // convert SCT013 voltage
current = mA*100.0/50.0; // to current
RMS = current/sqrt(2.0); // convert to RMS current
power = 230.0 * RMS; // convert to power (Watt)
lag = (millis() - last)/1000.0; // interval between receiving
last = millis(); // ESP-NOW transmissions
getLocalTime(&timeData); // update current time
hh = timeData.tm_hour;
mm = timeData.tm_min;
ss = timeData.tm_sec;
hhmm = 60*hh + mm; // update hhmm value
if(hhmm < hhmmOld) kWh = power/(3600.0*1000); // reset power for new day
else kWh = kWh + power*lag/(3600.0*1000); // increment power
hhmmOld = hhmm;
display(); // function to display data on LCD screen
}

void layout() // function for LCD display labels
{
  tft.init(); // initialise LCD screen
  tft.setRotation(3); // landscape with USB on left
  tft.setTextSize(1);
  tft.fillScreen(TFT_BLACK); // colours from TFT_eSPI.h
  tft.setTextColor(TFT_GREEN,TFT_BLACK);
  tft.drawString("power", 0, 0, 4); // labels for power and kWh
  tft.drawString("kWh", 0, 35, 4);
  tft.setTextColor(TFT_YELLOW,TFT_BLACK);
  tft.drawString("battery", 0, 70, 4); // labels for battery and count
  tft.drawString("count", 0, 105, 4);
}

void display() // function to display data on LCD screen
{
  tft.fillRect(100, 0, 140, 135, TFT_BLACK);
  tft.setTextColor(TFT_GREEN,TFT_BLACK);
  String txt = String(power); // convert variable to string
  tft.drawString(txt, 100, 0, 4); // display current and
  txt = String(kWh); // cumulative power
  tft.drawString(txt, 100, 35, 4);
  tft.setTextColor(TFT_YELLOW,TFT_BLACK);
  txt = String(payload.battery); // display battery voltage
  tft.drawString(txt, 100, 70, 4);
  txt = String(payload.countPL); // display data counter
  tft.drawString(txt, 100, 105, 4);
  tft.setTextColor(TFT_RED,TFT_BLACK);
  tft.drawString("time", 190, 0, 4); // display data reception time
  if(hh > 9) txt = String(hh); else txt = "0"+String(hh);
  tft.drawString(txt, 200, 35, 4);
  if(mm > 9) txt = String(mm); else txt = "0"+String(mm);
  tft.drawString(txt, 200, 70, 4);
  if(ss > 9) txt = String(ss); else txt = "0"+String(ss);
  tft.drawString(txt, 200, 105, 4);
}

void loop()

```

```
{
    ArduinoCloud.update(); // Arduino IoT Cloud update
}
```

Listing 9-10 defines the ESP32 device associated with the Arduino IoT Cloud dashboard and the *initProperties* function defines the Arduino IoT Cloud dashboard variables. Listing 9-10 is included in the *properties.h* tab.

Listing 9-10 *Arduino IoT Cloud MQTT broker details for smart meter*

```
#include <ArduinoIoTCloud.h> // Arduino IoT Cloud libraries
#include <Arduino_ConnectionHandler.h> // ESP32 device name and key
const char DEVICE_LOGIN_NAME[] = "xxxx"; // change xxxx to Device login
const char DEVICE_KEY[] = "xxxx"; // change xxxx to Device Key
#include <ssid_password.h> // file with logon details

float kWh = 0, varBattery; // Arduino dashboard variables
int power, countN, channel;

void initProperties() // details of device name & key
{ // and dashboard variables
    ArduinoCloud.setBoardId(DEVICE_LOGIN_NAME);
    ArduinoCloud.setSecretDeviceKey(DEVICE_KEY);
    ArduinoCloud.addProperty(varBattery, READ, ON_CHANGE, NULL);
    ArduinoCloud.addProperty(power, READ, ON_CHANGE, NULL);
    ArduinoCloud.addProperty(countN, READ, ON_CHANGE, NULL);
    ArduinoCloud.addProperty(kWh, READ, ON_CHANGE, NULL);
    ArduinoCloud.addProperty(channel, READ, ON_CHANGE, NULL);
}

// connection to your Wi-Fi router
WiFiConnectionHandler connHandle(ssid, password);
```

Wi-Fi or Wi-Fi and ESP-NOW

The cycle times of two scenarios to transmit energy usage data to the MQTT broker are shown in Table 9-3, with the Arduino IoT Cloud as the MQTT broker. The first scenario consists of a battery-powered ESP32 microcontroller transmitting data, by Wi-Fi communication through a router, to the MQTT broker. The second scenario consists of a battery-powered ESP32 microcontroller transmitting data, with the ESP-NOW protocol, to a non-battery powered ESP32 microcontroller, which forwards the data, by Wi-Fi communication through a router, to a MQTT broker (see Figure 9-14). The main difference in transmission cycle times of the two scenarios was the time required to connect to the Wi-Fi router and to the MQTT broker, which resulted in a fourfold increase in the cycle time.

Table 9-3 *Transmission cycle times*

| Task | One ESP32 Wi-Fi only | Two ESP32s ESP-NOW and Wi-Fi |
|------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| Scan available Wi-Fi or ESP-NOW networks | 2079 ms | 2823 ms |
| Connect to Wi-Fi | 4566 ms | |
| Configure device for Arduino IoT Cloud | 706 ms | |
| Connect to Arduino IoT Cloud | 3323 ms | |
| Connect to receiving ESP32 with ESP-NOW | | 1 ms |
| Collect data | 56 ms | 52 ms |
| Arduino IoT Cloud updates | 2047 ms | |
| Transmit data | | <1 ms |
| Time to receive callback | | 500 ms |
| Total time | 12.8 s | 3.4 s |

The current requirements during the transmission cycle, for a battery-powered transmitting ESP32 microcontroller, in the two scenarios are shown in Figure 9-17. The ESP32 microcontroller communicating directly with the MQTT broker is shown in Figure 9-14a with the ESP32 microcontroller transmitting data by ESP-NOW to a second ESP32 microcontroller is shown in Figure 9-14b. In the first scenario, after scanning available Wi-Fi networks and connecting to the required network, a connection is made with the MQTT broker with updated sensor data transmitted to the MQTT broker over a period of 13s. In contrast, scanning available ESP-NOW devices and connecting to the required device requires less than 3s. The area under the current graph, measured in milliamp-seconds (mAs), is inversely related to the length of time that a battery, of capacity N mAh, can supply power to a transmitting ESP32 microcontroller. The ESP32 microcontroller, which transmitted data directly to a MQTT broker, required four times the charge of the ESP32 microcontroller that scanned available networks to determine the router communication channel before transmitting data with the ESP-NOW protocol to a second ESP32 microcontroller. In the scenario of two ESP32 microcontrollers, the ESP32 microcontroller receiving data by ESP-NOW communication and transmitting data to the MQTT broker required a constant current of 160mA.

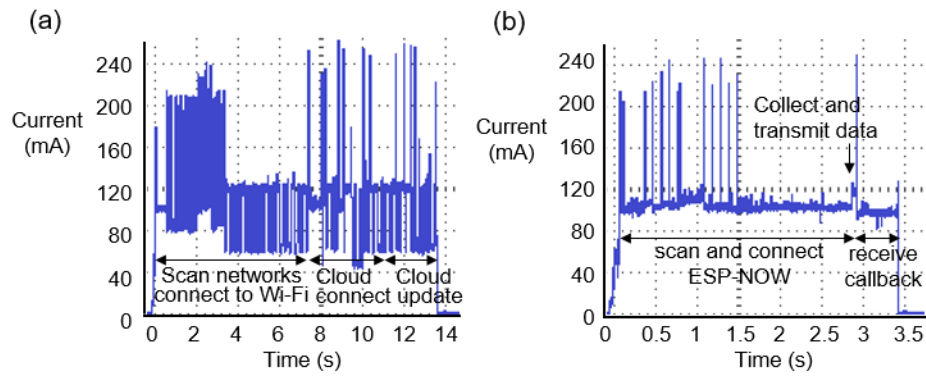


Figure 9-17 Current requirements with Wi-Fi or with ESP-NOW and Wi-Fi