BLE device and BLE gateway for IoT

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1. Introduction

1.1 Purpose

To develop a small bluetooth device to monitoring environment sensing: Sound loudness, temperature, humidity, pressure, air quality... After that, Rasperry pi 4B was used as a BLE gateway to receive data from the device and using MQTT to publish and vizualize the data using Node-Red.

1.2 Scope

- Create a small and low power comsumption device.
- Able to collect and transmitting sensor data.
- Buzzer to alarm when detect smoke or bad air quality.
- Dashboard to manage data of the device and Rpi.
- Send alert email when detect loudness.
- Send alert email when device position been moved.

1.3 Definitions, Acronyms and Abbreviation

- **BLE** Bluetooth Low Energy.
- **GATT** Generic Attribute Profile.
- **IoT** Internet of Things.
- **Gateway** serves as the forwarding host (router) to other networks.
- **MQTT** Message Queuing Telemetry Transport.
- SSH Secure Socket Shell
- **UUID** Universally unique identifier
- **RPi** Raspberry Pi

1.4 Technologies to be used

Operating System - Window 10, Raspberry Pi OS.

Protocal - BLE GATT, MQTT.

Testing Application - nRF's connect for mobile.

Development tool - Arduino IDE, Thonny Python IDE.

Dashboard development - Node-RED, Mosquitto MQTT.

PCB Designing tool - EasyEDA.

1.5 Overview

The bluetooth device made to monitor sound loudness and measuring environment sensings. It is useful to have a device to monitor for example in your rental apartment or airbnb. The device is small and low power consumption, works wired or wireless with rechargeable battery. Email alert and siren with security feature.

2. Overall setup description

2.1 Project overview

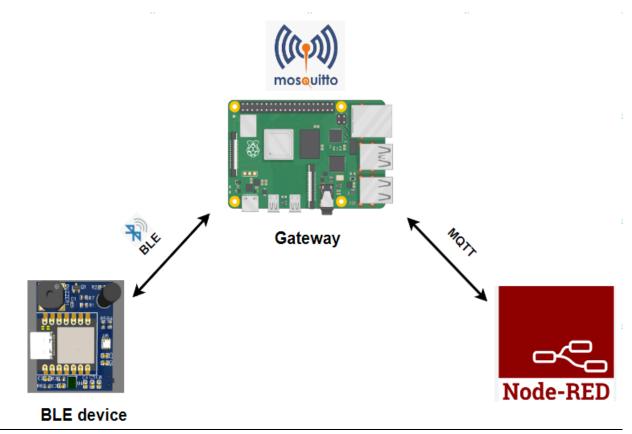


Figure 1

1. BLE device:

• Responsible for collecting and transmitting sensors data over BLE.

2. Raspberry Pi as Gateway:

- Responsible for retrieving/converting the data from BLE device and transmit data to the Cloud over Wi-fi or Ethernet.
- Serve as MQTT broker using Mosquitto MQTT broker.

3. Node-RED:

- Responsible for retrieving the data from Rpi through the MQTT protocal.
- Vizualize the data in chart, graph also option to activate email alarms.

2.2 BLE device setup:

• List of components



Seeed Studio XIAO MCU:

- · Nordic nrf52840 chip.
- Supports BLE 5.0 with onboard antenna.



Analog Microphone (MEMS):

- · Low-noise, good sensitivity.
- Measure sound loudness.



Adafruit BME680:

 Temperature, humidity, barometric pressure, and VOC gas sensing.



SW-520D Tilt sensor:

Detect orientation or inclination of the device.



Buzzer:

 Buzz when detected gas or temperature to high.



Lithium ion battery:

· Power the device.

Figure 2

• Bill of material

1	ID	Component	Amount	Unit Cost	Total	Manufacturer ID
2	1	BME680 SENSOR BOARD	1	€23.72120	€23.72120	3660
3	2	Re-battery: Li-Po; 3.7V; 850mAh; cables,JST SYR-02T socket	1	€4.68	€4.68	ACCU- LP294862/CL
4	3	Xiao nRF52840	1	€9,90	€9,90	4062
5	4	Grove analog microphone	1	€7.6	€7.6	101020852
6	5	Grove buzzer	1	€1.5	€1.5	107020000

Figure 3

Connections

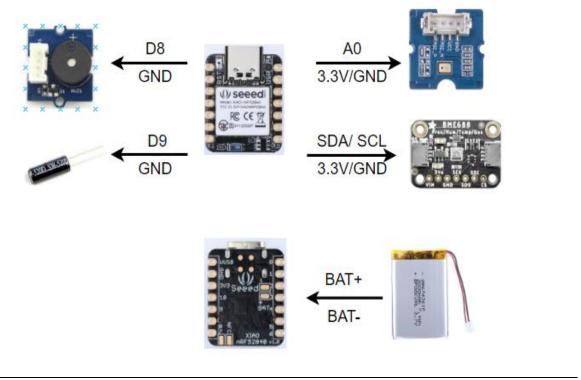


Figure 4

- Grove analog microphone to Xiao using analog Pin A0, VCC to 3.3V and GND to GND.
- BME680 to Xiao using I2C, SDA pin SDI, SCL to SCK, Vin to 3.3V and GND to GND.
- Grove buzzer to Xiao using digital pin D8 and the other pin to GND.
- SW 520D tilt sensor to digital pin D9 and the other pin to GND.
- Lithium battery soldered in bottom side of the Xiao to pin BAT +/ BAT -.

Breadboard setup

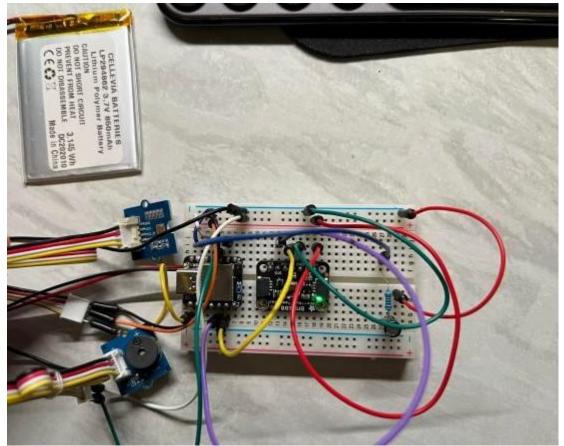


Figure 5

2.3 BLE Gateway setup

In this project, we will use a Raspberry pi model 4B to serve as a gateway. This Rpi model features a Quad-Core Cortex-A72 (ARM v8) 64-bit SoC @ 1.5GHz, 4GB LPDDR4-2400 SDRAM, 2.4 GHz + 5.0 GHz IEEE 802.11ac wireless, Bluetooth 5.0, BLE, Gigabit Ethernet.

The BLE device will transmit IoT sensor telemetry, over BLE, to the Raspberry Pi. The Raspberry Pi, using Wi-Fi or Ethernet, is then able to securely transmit the sensor telemetry data to the Cloud. In Bluetooth terminology, the Bluetooth Peripheral device (aka GATT Server), which is the BLE device, will transmit data to the Bluetooth Central device (aka GATT Client), which is the Raspberry Pi.

2.4 Arduino sketch

For this post, the sketch, 'main.ino', contains all the code necessary to collect environmental sensor telemetry, including temperature, relative humidity, barometric pressure, and sound loudness.

```
#include <ArduinoBLE.h>
#include "Adafruit BME680.h"
#define HICHG 22
#define BATR P0 14
\#define buzzer 9
#define tiltpin 8
#define Gas UUID "1be9c3a1-d3da-471b-8424-449a919af977"
#define Sound UUID "782dcb14-2059-4e04-9baa-156188530999"
#define Tilt UUID "ac5e30ce-ab84-42dd-ab0e-ed5c3903d0ee"
Adafruit BME680 bme; // I2C
int previousTemperature = 0;
unsigned int previousHumidity = 0;
unsigned int previousPressure = 0;
unsigned int previousGas = 0;
unsigned int previousSound = 0;
const double vRef = 3.3; // Assumes 3.3V regulator output is ADC reference
voltage
const unsigned int numReadings = 1024; // 10-bit ADC readings 0-1023, so the
factor is 1024
long previousMillis = 0; // last time readings were checked, in ms
BLEService environmentService ("181A"); // Standard Environmental Sensing
service
BLEService batteryService ("180F"); // Battery servivce
BLEUnsignedCharCharacteristic batteryLevelChar("2A19", BLERead | BLENotify);
BLEIntCharacteristic tempCharacteristic("2A6E",BLERead | BLENotify);
BLEUnsignedIntCharacteristic humidCharacteristic ("2A6F", BLERead | BLENotify);
BLEUnsignedIntCharacteristic pressureCharacteristic("2A6D",BLERead |
BLENotify);
BLEUnsignedIntCharacteristic gasCharacteristic(Gas UUID, BLERead | BLENotify);
BLEUnsignedIntCharacteristic soundCharacteristic(Sound UUID, BLERead |
BLENotify);
BLEIntCharacteristic tiltCharacteristic(Tilt UUID, BLERead | BLENotify);
void init sensor (Adafruit_BME680& bme) {
 bme.setTemperatureOversampling (BME680 OS 8X);
```

```
bme.setHumidityOversampling (BME680 OS 2X);
 bme.setPressureOversampling (BME680 OS 4X);
 bme.setIIRFilterSize (BME680 FILTER SIZE 3);
 bme.setGasHeater ( 320 , 150 ); // 320 \times C for 150 milliseconds
void setup() {
 Serial.begin(115200);
 if (!bme.begin()) {
   while (1);
 1
 init sensor (bme);
 pinMode(LED BUILTIN, OUTPUT);
 pinMode (HICHG, OUTPUT); digitalWrite(HICHG, LOW); // HIGH Charging mode
 if (!BLE.begin()) {
   while (1);
 BLE.setLocalName("nrf52840"); // Set name for connection
 BLE.setAdvertisedService(environmentService); // Advertise environment
service
// BLE.setAdvertisedService(batteryService);
 batteryService.addCharacteristic(batteryLevelChar);
 temperature characteristic
 humidity characteristic
 environmentService.addCharacteristic(pressureCharacteristic); // Add
pressure characteristic
 environmentService.addCharacteristic(gasCharacteristic);
                                                        // Add gas
characteristic
 environmentService.addCharacteristic(soundCharacteristic);
                                                         // Add sound
characteristic
 characteristic
 BLE.addService(batteryService);
 BLE.addService(environmentService); // Add environment service
 pressureCharacteristic.setValue(0); // Set initial pressure value
 gasCharacteristic.setValue(0);
soundCharacteristic.setValue(0);
tiltCharacteristic.setValue(0);
// Set initial gas value
tiltCharacteristic.setValue(0);
// Set initial tilt value
 batteryLevelChar.writeValue(0);
 BLE.advertise(); // Start advertising
 Serial.println("Bluetooth® device active, waiting for connections...");
void loop() {
```

```
BLEDevice central = BLE.central();
   if (central) {
       Serial.print("Connected to central MAC: ");
       Serial.println(central.address()); // Central's BT address:
       digitalWrite(LED BUILTIN, HIGH); // Turn on the LED to indicate the
connection
       while (central.connected()) {
           long currentMillis = millis();
           // After UPDATE FREQUENCY ms have passed, check temperature &
humidity
           if (currentMillis - previousMillis >= UPDATE FREQUENCY) {
               previousMillis = currentMillis;
               updateReadings();
               updateBatteryLevel();
               alarm();
           }
       digitalWrite(LED BUILTIN, LOW); // When the central disconnects, turn
off the LED
       Serial.print("Disconnected from central MAC: ");
       Serial.println(central.address());
   }
}
void updateReadings() {
   int temperature = bme.readTemperature() * 100;
   unsigned int humidity = bme.readHumidity() * 100;
   unsigned int pressure = bme.readPressure();
   unsigned int gas = bme.readGas();
   unsigned int sound = (analogRead(A0) + 83.2073) /3.503;
   int tilt = digitalRead(tiltpin);
   if (temperature != previousTemperature) { // If reading has changed
       Serial.print("Temperature: ");
       Serial.println(temperature);
       tempCharacteristic.writeValue(temperature); // Update characteristic
       }
    if (humidity != previousHumidity) { // If reading has changed
       Serial.print("Humidity: ");
       Serial.println(humidity);
       humidCharacteristic.writeValue(humidity);
       previousHumidity = humidity;
    }
    if (pressure != previousPressure) { // If reading has changed
       Serial.print("Pressure: ");
       Serial.println(pressure);
       pressureCharacteristic.writeValue(pressure);
       previousPressure = pressure;
    }
```

```
if (gas != previousGas) { // If reading has changed
        Serial.print("Gas: ");
       Serial.println(gas);
       gasCharacteristic.writeValue(gas);
       previousGas = gas;
    if (sound != previousSound) { // If reading has changed
       Serial.print("Sound(dB): ");
       Serial.println(sound);
       soundCharacteristic.writeValue(sound);
       previousSound = sound;
    }
    tiltCharacteristic.writeValue(tilt);
    delay(50);
void updateBatteryLevel() {
 unsigned int adcCount = analogRead(PIN VBAT);
 double adcVoltage = (adcCount * vRef) / numReadings;
 double vBat =(adcVoltage*1550.0/510.0) *100; // Voltage divider from Vbat
to ADC
 unsigned int BatteryLevel;
 if( 4 <= vBat) {</pre>
   BatteryLevel= 100;
   batteryLevelChar.writeValue(BatteryLevel);
   Serial.print("Battery Level % is now: "); // print it
   Serial.println(BatteryLevel);
 else if( 3.93<= vBat <= 4){
   BatteryLevel= 90;
   batteryLevelChar.writeValue(BatteryLevel);
 else if( 3.89<= vBat <= 3.93){</pre>
   BatteryLevel= 80;
   batteryLevelChar.writeValue(BatteryLevel);
 else if( 3.85<= vBat <= 3.89){</pre>
   BatteryLevel= 70;
   batteryLevelChar.writeValue(BatteryLevel);
 else if( 3.82<= vBat <= 3.85){</pre>
   BatteryLevel= 60;
   batteryLevelChar.writeValue(BatteryLevel);
 else if( 3.79<= vBat <= 3.82){</pre>
   BatteryLevel= 50;
   batteryLevelChar.writeValue(BatteryLevel);
 else if( 3.75<= vBat <= 3.79){
   BatteryLevel= 40;
   batteryLevelChar.writeValue(BatteryLevel);
 else if( 3.72<= vBat <= 3.75){
```

```
BattervLevel= 30;
   batteryLevelChar.writeValue(BatteryLevel);
 else if ( 3.7<= vBat <= 3.72) {
   BatteryLevel= 20;
   batteryLevelChar.writeValue(BatteryLevel);
 else if ( 3.65<= vBat <= 3.7) {
   BatteryLevel= 10;
   batteryLevelChar.writeValue(BatteryLevel);
 else if(vBat <= 3.65){</pre>
   BatteryLevel= 0;
   batteryLevelChar.writeValue(BatteryLevel);
void alarm() {
 int temp = bme.readTemperature();
 unsigned int humid = bme.readHumidity();
 unsigned int Gas = bme.readGas();
 if(temp >60 && humid <10 || Gas < 5000){</pre>
   tone (buzzer, 400, 500); //the buzzer emit sound at 400 MHz for 500 millis
   delay(500); //wait 500 millis
   tone (buzzer, 650, 500); //the buzzer emit sound at 650 MHz for 500 millis
   delay(500); //wait 500 millis
```

The sensor telemetry will be advertised by the device, over BLE, as a GATT Environmental Sensing Service (GATT Assigned Number 0x181A) with multiple GATT Characteristics. Each Characteristic represents a sensor reading and contains the most current sensor value(s), for example, Temperature (0x2A6E) or Humidity (0x2A6F).

Each GATT Characteristic defines how the data should be represented. To represent the data accurately, the sensor readings need to be modified. For example, using Adafruit-BME680 library, the temperature is captured with two decimal points of precision (e.g., 22.21 °C). However, the Temperature GATT Characteristic (0x2A6E) requires a signed 16-bit value (-32,768–32,767). To maintain precision, the captured value (e.g., 22.21 °C) is multiplied by 100 to convert it to an integer (e.g., 2221). The Raspberry Pi will then handle converting the value back to the original value with the correct precision.

The GATT specification has no current predefined Characteristic representing the sound, gas so we have created a custom Characteristic for these values and assigned it a universally unique identifier (UUID).

```
BLEService environmentService("181A"); // Standard Environmental Sensing service

BLEService batteryService("180F"); // Battery servivce

BLEUnsignedCharCharacteristic batteryLevelChar("2A19", BLERead | BLENotify);

BLEIntCharacteristic tempCharacteristic("2A6E", BLERead | BLENotify);

BLEUnsignedIntCharacteristic humidCharacteristic("2A6F", BLERead | BLENotify);

BLEUnsignedIntCharacteristic pressureCharacteristic("2A6D", BLERead | BLENotify);

BLEUnsignedIntCharacteristic gasCharacteristic(Gas_UUID, BLERead | BLENotify);

BLEUnsignedIntCharacteristic soundCharacteristic(Sound_UUID, BLERead | BLENotify);

Figure 6
```

• Data retrieved in Arduino Serial Monitor

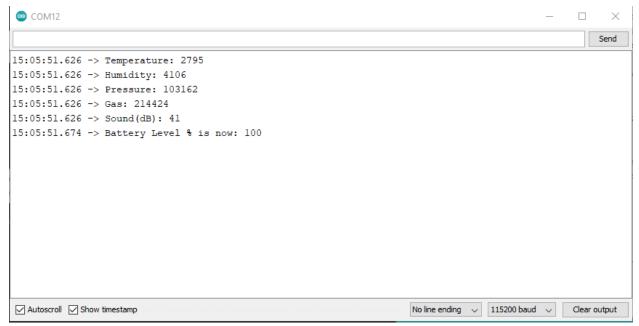
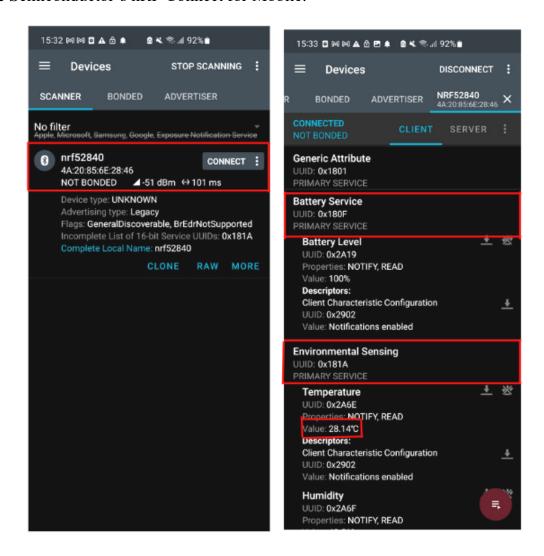


Figure 7

2.5 Previewing BLE Device Services

Before looking at the code running on the Raspberry Pi, we can use any number of mobile applications to preview and debug the Environmental Sensing, Battery service running on the deviceand being advertised over BLE. A commonly recommended application is Nordic Semiconductor's nRF Connect for Mobile.



These results indicate everything is working as expected.

2.6 BLE gateway python script

To act as the BLE Client (aka central device), the Raspberry Pi runs a Python script. The script uses the bluepy Python module for interfacing with BLE devices through Bluez, on Rpi OS.

```
import sys
import time
import paho.mqtt.client as mqtt
from argparse import ArgumentParser
from bluepy import btle
#4A:20:85:6E:28:46
mgttBroker ="192.168.0.103"
client = mgtt.Client("Gateway")
client.connect(mqttBroker, 1883)
def main():
    # get args
   args = get args()
   print("Connecting...")
   ble gateway = btle.Peripheral(args.mac address)
   print("Discovering Services...")
   _ = ble_gateway.services
   environmental_sensing_service = ble gateway.getServiceByUUID("181A")
   battery service = ble gateway.getServiceByUUID("180F")
   print("Discovering Characteristics...")
    _ = environmental_sensing service.getCharacteristics()
    = battery_service.getCharacteristics()
   while True:
       print("\n")
        read temperature (environmental sensing service)
        read humidity(environmental sensing service)
        read pressure(environmental sensing service)
        read gas(environmental sensing service)
        read sound (environmental sensing service)
        read tilt(environmental sensing service)
        read BAT (battery service)
        time.sleep(2)
def byte array to int(value):
   value = bytearray(value)
   value = int.from bytes(value, byteorder="little")
   return value
def decimal exponent two (value):
    return value / 100
```

```
def decimal exponent one(value):
    return value / 10
def read pressure(service):
   pressure char = service.getCharacteristics("2A6D")[0]
   pressure = pressure char.read()
   pressure = byte array to int(pressure)
   pressure = decimal exponent one(pressure)
   client.publish("gateway/pressure", pressure)
   print(f"Barometric Pressure: {round(pressure, 2)} Pa")
def read humidity(service):
   humidity char = service.getCharacteristics("2A6F")[0]
   humidity = humidity char.read()
   humidity = byte array to int(humidity)
   humidity = decimal exponent two(humidity)
    client.publish("gateway/humidity", humidity)
   print(f"Humidity: {round(humidity, 2)}%")
def read temperature(service):
    temperature char = service.getCharacteristics("2A6E")[0]
   temperature = temperature char.read()
   temperature = byte array to int(temperature)
    temperature = decimal_exponent_two(temperature)
    client.publish("gateway/temperature", temperature)
   print(f"Temperature: {round(temperature, 2)}°C")
def read gas(service):
   gas char = service.getCharacteristics("1be9c3a1-d3da-471b-8424-
449a919af977")[0]
   gas = gas char.read()
   gas = byte array to int(gas)
   client.publish("gateway/gas", gas)
   print(f"Gas: {round(gas)} R")
def read sound(service):
    sound char = service.getCharacteristics("782dcb14-2059-4e04-9baa-
156188530<u>9</u>99")[0]
   sound = sound char.read()
   sound = byte array to int(sound)
   client.publish("gateway/sound", sound)
   print(f"Sound: {round(sound)}dB")
def read tilt(service):
   previousTilt = 0
   tilt char = service.getCharacteristics("ac5e30ce-ab84-42dd-ab0e-
ed5c3903d0ee")[0]
   tilt = tilt char.read()
   tilt = byte array to int(tilt)
   client.publish("gateway/tilt", tilt)
    if tilt != previousTilt:
        print("Position changed")
```

```
def read_BAT(service):
    bat_char = service.getCharacteristics("2A19")[0]
    bat = bat_char.read()
    bat = byte_array_to_int(bat)
    client.publish("gateway/battery", bat)
    print(f"Battery: {round(bat)}%")

def get_args():
    arg_parser = ArgumentParser(description="Gateway")
    arg_parser.add_argument('mac_address', help="MAC address of device to connect")
    args = arg_parser.parse_args()
    return args

if __name__ == "__main__":
    main()
```

To run the Python script, execute the following command:

Python3 gateway.py 4A:20:85:6E:28:46

The script takes the raw, incoming hexadecimal text from the Arduino and coerces it to the correct values. For example, a temperature reading must be transformed from bytes, b'\xb8\x08\x00\x00', to a byte array, bytearray(b'\xb8\x08\x00\x00'), then to an integer, 2232, then to a decimal, 22.32. Sensor readings are retrieved from the BLE device every two seconds.

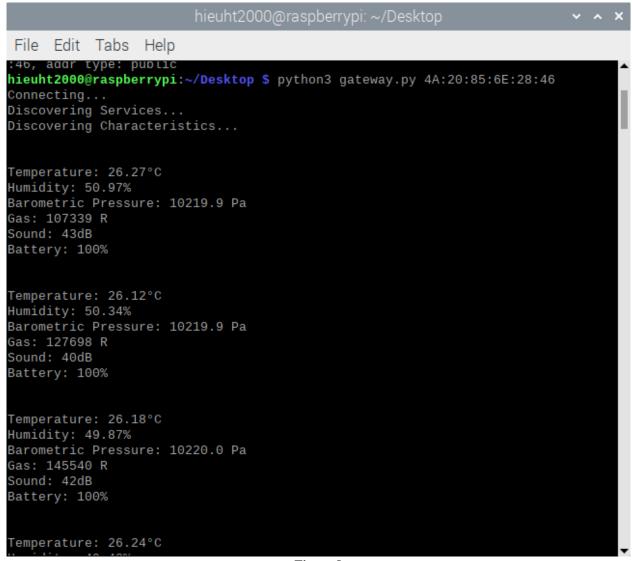


Figure 8

2.7 MQTT Protocal

Install Mosquitto MQTT broker on RPI

- You should have the Raspberry Pi OS installed in your Raspberry Pi Install Raspberry Pi OS, Set Up Wi-Fi, Enable and Connect with SSH;
- You also need the following hardware:
 - o Raspberry Pi board read Best Raspberry Pi Starter Kits.
 - o MicroSD Card 16GB Class10.
 - o Raspberry Pi Power Supply (5V 2.5A).

• To install the Mosquitto Broker enter these next commands:

sudo apt install -y mosquitto mosquitto-clients

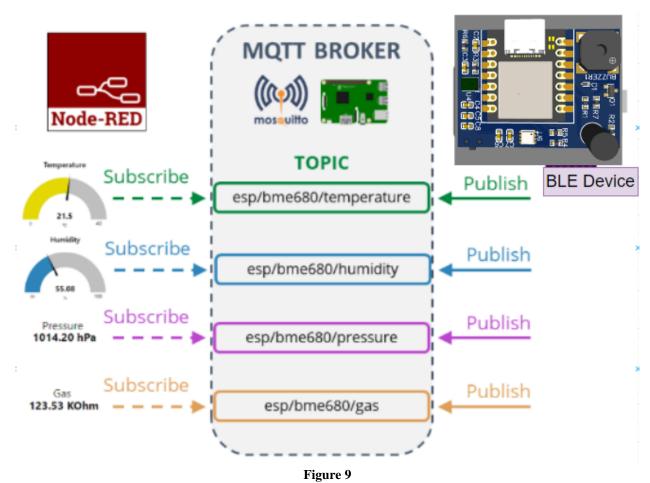
• To make Mosquitto auto start when the Raspberry Pi boots, you need to run the following command (this means that the Mosquitto broker will automatically start when the Raspberry Pi starts):

sudo systemctl enable mosquitto.service

• Now, test the installation by running the following command:

mosquitto -v

This returns the Mosquitto version that is currently running in your Raspberry Pi. It will be 2.0.11 or above.



The Python script published sensor data to Mosquitto MQTT Broker and Node-RED retrieved and vizualize the data.

3. Node-RED Dashboard features

3.1 Dashboard Flow-chart

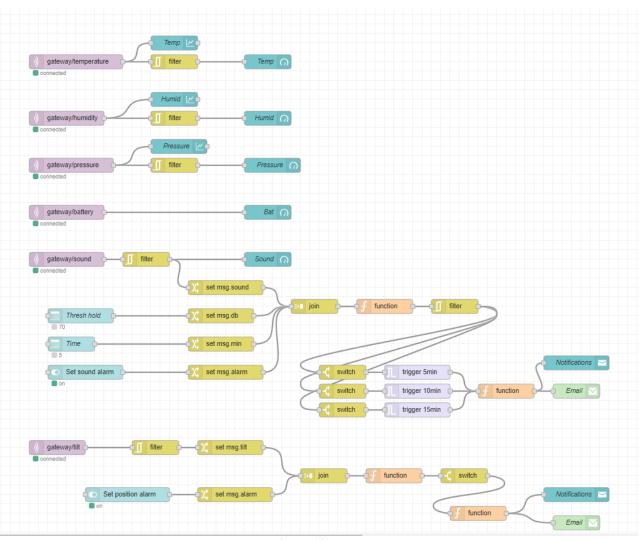


Figure 10

• We used MQTT nodes to retrived the data and used dashboard node to vizualize data.

3.2 Dashboard features

• Overall Dashboard



Figure 11

• Email alarm features

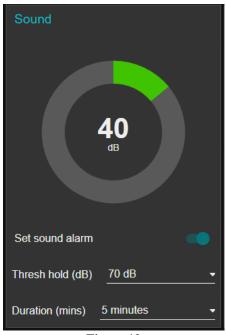
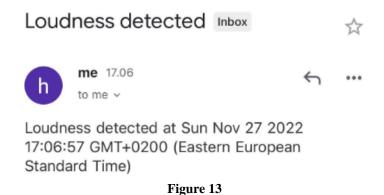


Figure 12

You can turn on /off the alarm, set the value for thresh hold and duration.

For example, if sound is over 70dB for 5 minutes it will send you an email.



Position alarm: will send you an email if device been moved.

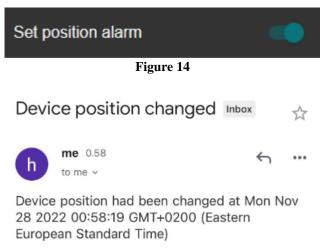


Figure 15

• Dashboard to monitor Rpi

You can manage the data of your Rpi: CPU temperature, RAM, Disk memory.

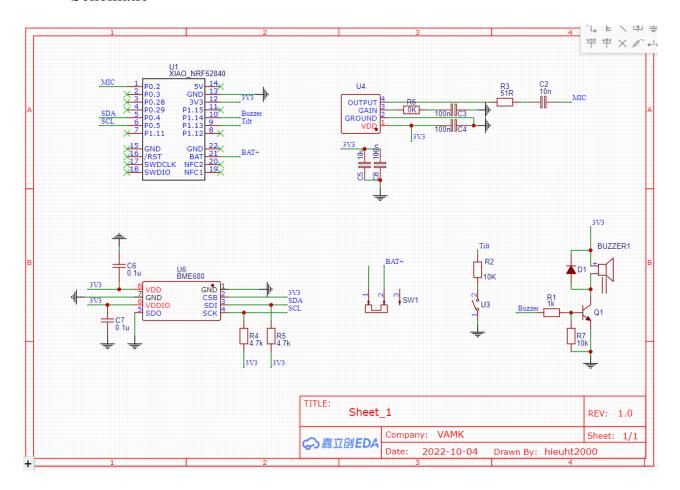
Button to Reboot, Shutdown, get Internet Speed.



Figure 16

4. PCB design

• Schematic



Footprint:

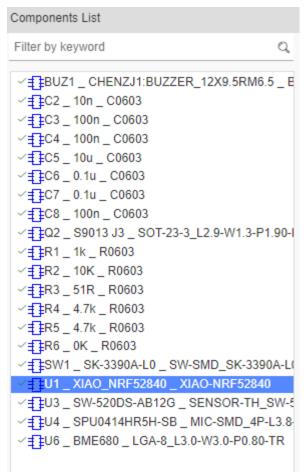
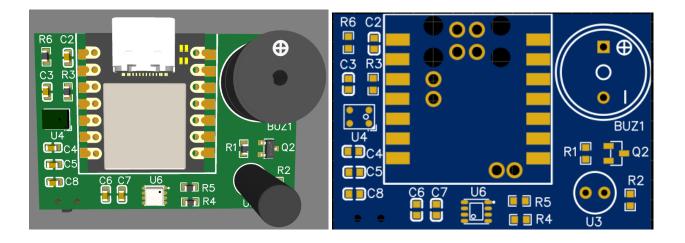


Figure 17

• PCB



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