

openLuup

@akboorer, February 2018

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Overview

openLuup is an environment which supports the running of some MiOS (Vera) plugins on generic Unix systems (or, indeed, Windows systems.) Processors such as Raspberry Pi and BeagleBone Black are ideal for running this environment, although it can also run on Apple Mac, Microsoft Windows PCs, anything, in fact, which can run Lua code (most things can - even an Arduino Yún board.) The intention is to offload processing (cpu and memory use) from a running Vera to a remote machine to increase system reliability.

Running on non-specific hardware means that there is no native support for Z-wave, although plugins to handle Z-wave USB sticks may support this (the latest openLuup versions include a prototype ZWay plugin for [Z-Wave.me](http://www.z-wave.me) Razberry boards or UZB slicks.) The full range of MySensors (<http://www.mysensors.org/>) Arduino devices are supported though the Ethernet Bridge plugin available on that site. A plugin to provide a bi-directional 'bridge' (monitoring / control, including scenes) to remote MiOS (Vera) systems is provided in the openLuup installation.

openLuup is extremely fast to start (a few seconds before it starts running any created devices startup code) has very low cpu load, and has a very compact memory footprint. Whereas each plugin on a Vera system might take ~4 Mbytes, it's far less than this under openLuup, in fact, the whole system can fit into that sort of space. Since the hardware on which it runs is anyway likely to have much more physical memory than current Vera systems, memory is not really an issue.

There is no built-in user interface, but we have, courtesy of @amg0, the most excellent AltUI: Alternate UI to UI7 (see the Vera forum board <http://forum.micasaverde.com/index.php/board,78.0.html>) An automated way of installing and updating the AltUI environment is now built-in to openLuup. There's actually no requirement for any user interface if all that's needed is an environment to run plugins.

Devices, scenes, rooms and attributes are persisted across restarts. The startup initialisation process supports both the option of starting with a 'factory-reset' system, or any saved image, or continuing seamlessly with the previously saved environment. A separate utility is provided to transfer a complete set of uncompressed device files and icons from any Vera on your network to the openLuup target machine.

For compatibility with Vera systems, openLuup has been written in Lua version 5.1 and requires the appropriate installation to be loaded on your target machine. Installation is not trivial, but it's not hard either. **I would urge you to read this document carefully and then follow the installation steps.**

2018, Release x.xx (v18.xx.xx)

This release is a comprehensive (but not totally complete) implementation of Luup, and includes a set of features which are generally sufficient to run a number of third-party plugins.

What openLuup does:

- runs on any Unix machine - I often run it within my development environment on a Mac
- also runs under Windows. However, plugins which spawn commands using the `Lua os.execute()` function may not operate correctly
- runs the AltUI plugin to give a great UI experience
- runs the MySensors Arduino plugin (ethernet connection to gateway only) which is really the main goal - to have a Vera-like machine built entirely from third-party bits (open source)
- runs the ZWay plugin to provide basic control of Wave devices through the Z-Wave.me Razberry board or UZB stick
- includes a bridge app to link to remote Veras (which can be running UI5 or UI7 and require no additional software.)
- runs many plugins unmodified – particularly those which just create virtual devices (eg. DataYours, iPhoneLocator, Netatmo, Sonos, ...)
- provide, via AltUI, access to the AltAppStore where other plugins tested under openLuup by their authors are available for download
- uses a tiny amount of memory and boots up very quickly (a few seconds)
- supports scenes with timers and AltUI-style variable watch triggers
- has its own port 3480 HTTP server supporting multiple asynchronous client requests
- has a fairly complete implementation of the Luup API and the HTTP requests
- has a simple to understand log structure - written to `LuaUPnP.log` in the current directory - most events generate just one entry each in the log.
- writes variables to a separate log file for AltUI to display variable and scene changes.

What it doesn't do:

- Some less-used HTML requests are not yet implemented, eg. `lu_invoke`.
- Doesn't support the `<incoming>` or `<timeout>` action tags in service files, but does support the device-level `<incoming>` tag.
- Doesn't directly support local serial I/O hardware (there are work-arounds: `ser2net`)
- Won't run encrypted, or licensed, plugins.
- Doesn't use lots of memory.
- Doesn't use lots of cpu.
- Doesn't constantly reload (like Vera often does, for no apparent reason.)
- Doesn't do UPnP (and never will.)

See the relevant appendix for more discussion of Vera / openLuup differences.

If you like openLuup, do please consider donating something to [Cancer Research UK](http://www.justgiving.com/DataYours/) at <http://www.justgiving.com/DataYours/>

Installation

There are just a few basic installation steps to set up an openLuup system running the AltUI interface and bridging to a remote Vera:

1. install Lua and some of its packages on your target machine
2. install openLuup itself using the `openLuup_install.lua` file
3. install and run the VeraBridge plugin from the AltUI Plugins page

That's all that's needed!

1. Lua installation

For compatibility with Vera systems, openLuup has been written in Lua version 5.1 and requires the appropriate installation to be loaded on your target machine. You will also need the LuaSocket library, LuaFileSystem, and, for secure (SSL) network connections, the LuaSec library. It's not difficult, but the guide assumes some familiarity with Linux-type systems (although much is also applicable to Windows.)

The installation process is target machine dependent (other machines may require source code compilation of the libraries, but that is beyond the scope of this document) but a few of the simpler cases are:

RASPBIAN (RASPBERRY PI)

(Lua 5.1 is pre-installed)

```
# sudo apt-get update
# sudo apt-get install lua-socket
# sudo apt-get install lua-filessystem
# sudo apt-get install lua-sec
```

DEBIAN (BEAGLEBONE BLACK)

```
# apt-get update
# apt-get install lua5.1
# apt-get install lua-socket
# apt-get install lua-filessystem
# apt-get install lua-sec
```

OPEN-WRT (ARDUINO YUN)

(Lua 5.1 is pre-installed)

```
# opkg update
# opkg install luasocket
# opkg install luafilesystem
# opkg install luasec
```

2. openLuup Installation

This is *very* straight-forward: create a directory **cmh-ludl/** for the openLuup installation on your machine (in your home directory is a good place, or for compatibility with Vera use **/etc/cmh-ludl/** but be careful with permissions) **cd** to it, and retrieve the file **openLuup_install.lua** from the GitHub repository using:

```
wget https://github.com/akbooyer/openLuup/raw/master/Utilities/openLuup_install.lua
```

The link below may also be used to retrieve the file:

https://github.com/akbooyer/openLuup/raw/master/Utilities/openLuup_install.lua

Run the file using the command line:

```
# lua5.1 openLuup_install.lua
```

If successful, the script produces console output like this:

```
# lua5.1 install.lua
openLuup_install 2016.06.08 @akbooyer
getting latest openLuup version tar file from GitHub...
un-zipping download files...
getting dkjson.lua...
creating required files and folders
initialising...
downloading and installing AltUI...
Tue Nov 8 11:08:32 2016 device 2 ' openLuup' requesting reload
openLuup downloaded, installed, and running...
visit http://172.16.42.131:3480 to start using the system
#
```

and browsing the reported URL will take you to the AltUI interface and show two devices: openLuup and AltUI. From here on, the interface can be used to configure the system.

3. Making openLuup run on system boot

This initial running instance of openLuup will not persist between system reboots. To do that, some system-specific file editing is required.

from @CudaNet's guide: <http://forum.micasaverde.com/index.php/topic,34480.msg256123.html#msg256123>

> Adjust startup(server) script for openLuup persistence....

```
/etc/cmh-ludl$ sudo nano /etc/rc.local
```

> You will see the following:

```
#!/bin/sh -e
#
# rc.local
#
# This script is executed at the end of each multiuser runlevel.
# Make sure that the script will "exit 0" on success or any other
# value on error.
#
# In order to enable or disable this script just change the
# execution bits.
#
# By default this script does nothing.
```

> Add these lines...

```
sleep 20
cd /etc/cmh-ludl
./openLuup_reload

exit 0
```

> IMPORTANT : 'exit 0' must NOT be removed.

> If using nano, press cntrl-o, press [enter], press cntrl-x to exit editor.

ALTERNATIVELY, see this thread to run openLuup as a service (Linux)...

[openLuup: init.d script](#)

OR see this thread...

[openLuup Start on Bootup using Systemctl on Raspberry Pi](#)

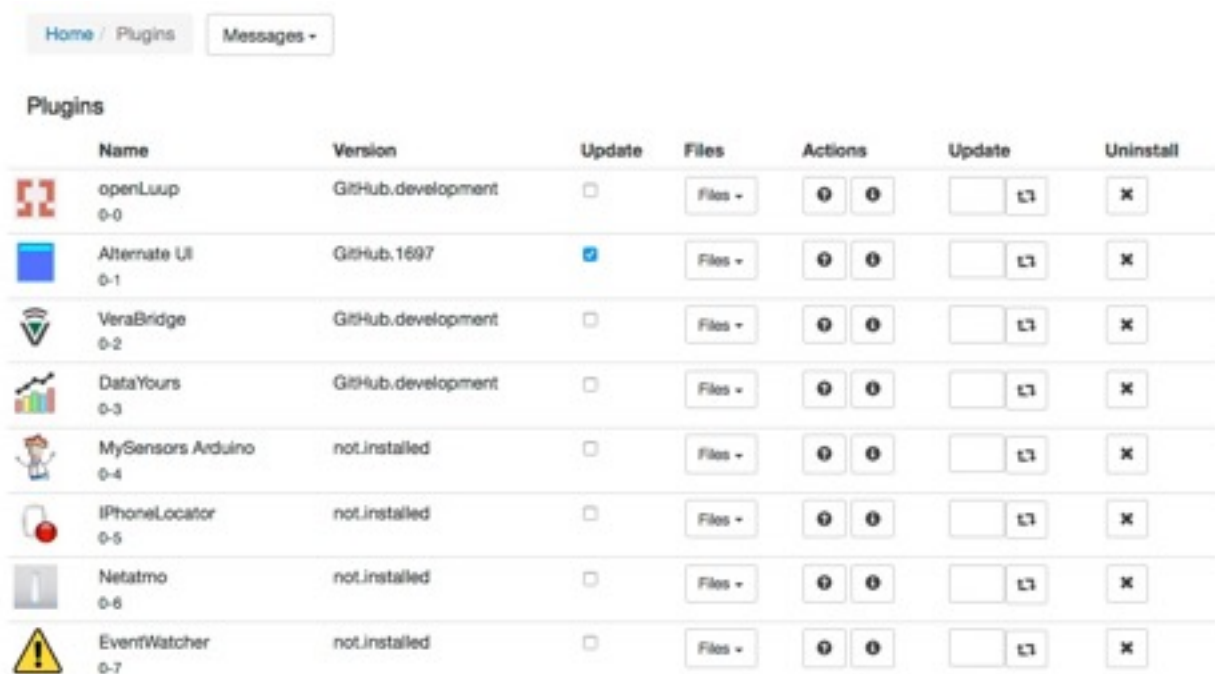







































4. Linking to Vera

Using the AltUI menus to navigate More > Plugins takes you to the plugin page:

Home / Plugins

Messages ▾

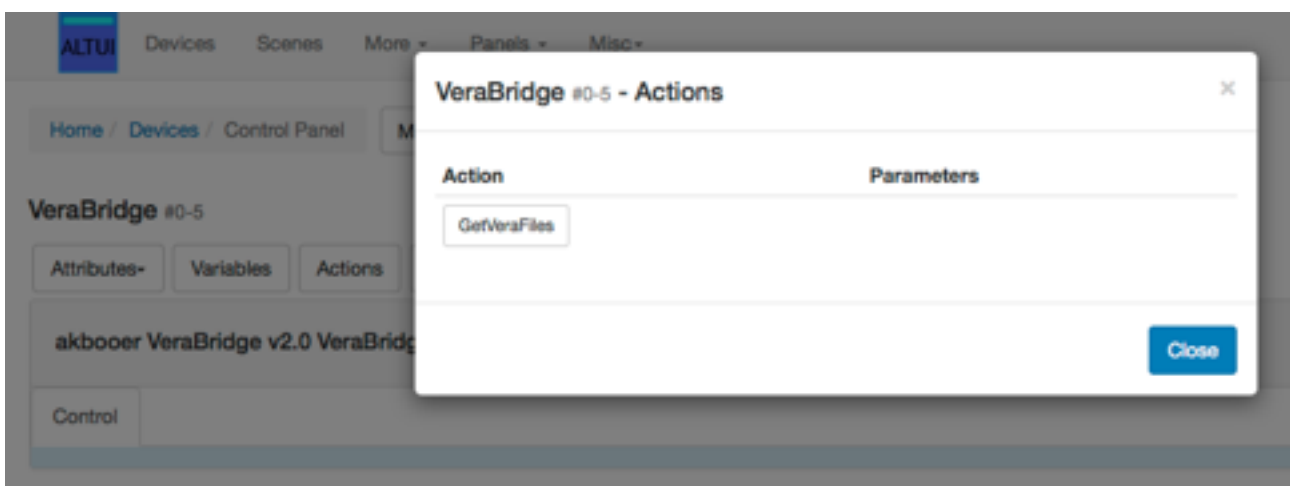
Plugins

| | Name | Version | Update | Files | Actions | Update | Uninstall |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------|---------|--|--|---|
|  | openLuup 0-0 | GitHub.development | <input type="checkbox"/> | Files ▾ |   | <input type="checkbox"/>  |  |
|  | Alternate UI 0-1 | GitHub.1697 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Files ▾ |   | <input type="checkbox"/>  |  |
|  | VeraBridge 0-2 | GitHub.development | <input type="checkbox"/> | Files ▾ |   | <input type="checkbox"/>  |  |
|  | DataYours 0-3 | GitHub.development | <input type="checkbox"/> | Files ▾ |   | <input type="checkbox"/>  |  |
|  | MySensors Arduino 0-4 | not installed | <input type="checkbox"/> | Files ▾ |   | <input type="checkbox"/>  |  |
|  | IPhoneLocator 0-5 | not installed | <input type="checkbox"/> | Files ▾ |   | <input type="checkbox"/>  |  |
|  | Netatmo 0-6 | not installed | <input type="checkbox"/> | Files ▾ |   | <input type="checkbox"/>  |  |
|  | EventWatcher 0-7 | not installed | <input type="checkbox"/> | Files ▾ |   | <input type="checkbox"/>  |  |

Simply clicking on the Update button (located between Actions and Uninstall, NOT the Update checkbox which you may safely ignore) for VeraBridge will install that plugin.

You have to go to the Devices page and the Attributes tab of the new VeraBridge in order to enter the IP address of your Vera. Moving to the Misc > Reload Luup Engine menu will reload and the bridge should now have connected to that Vera and display its devices and scenes as 'clones' on openLuup.

There is just a little further configuration to do for bridged devices.



None of the device files or icons have yet been downloaded to openLuup, so the icons will be missing and also devices will not have their full functionality. The bridge allows an easy way to retrieve these files: simply go to the **Action** tag of the bridge's control panel and press the **GetVeraFiles** button.

This will copy all device files (D_xxx.xml, D_xxx.json, I_xxx.xml, S_xxx.xml, J_xxx.js, etc...) into **/etc/cmh-ludl/files/** and the icons (xxx.png) in **/etc/cmh-ludl/icons/** and reload the system. After a possibly required browser refresh, the device icons and full functionality should be in place.

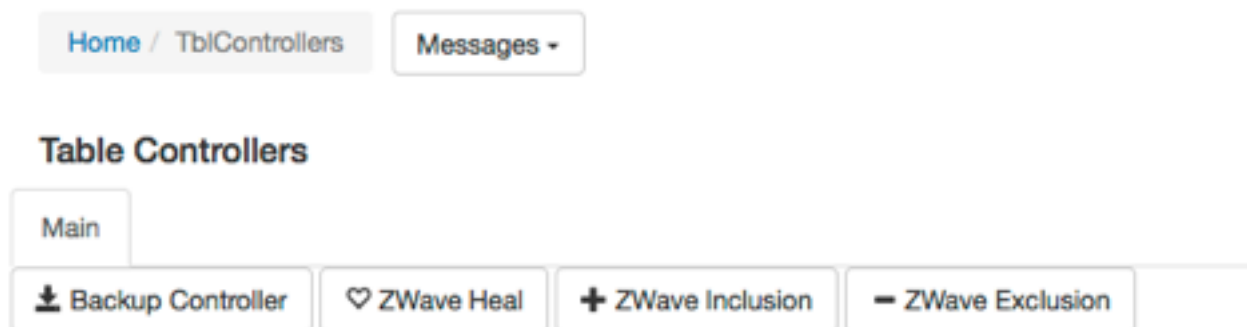
Read more about VeraBridge capabilities in a later section of this guide.

Backing up the system

AltUI makes it very easy to create a backup of your system configuration – all of which is defined in one (large) JSON-encoded file: **/etc/cmh-ludl/user_data.json**.

The More > Controllers page provides a button to save a copy to **/etc/cmh-ludl/backup/** in a file named something like **backup.openLuup-88800000-2016-05-01.lzap**. Repeated backups on the same day overwrite one another. Different days have unique names and are not automatically purged.

This file is a binary compressed version of the user_data.json file, and typically 5 to 6 times smaller. It may be used as a parameter to the openLuup_reload script and the initialisation process will uncompress it automatically.



More about VeraBridge

The VeraBridge plugin is an openLuup plugin which links to remote Veras. Unlike the built-in Vera 'bridge' capability (which, I think, uses UPnP discovery) this has no limitation as to the Vera firmware version that it links to and you can quite happily run multiple copies of this linking to UI5 and UI7 remote machines (which, themselves, require no special software installation.)

VeraBridge provides local clones of devices and scenes from a remote Vera:

- reflects the status of the remote devices (ie. device variables)
- provides, through AltUI, a display panel and controls
- allows control of the remote devices (eg. on/off, dimming, ...) through the usual luup.call_action mechanism (or the control panel)
- makes remote scenes visible locally, allowing timers and triggers to be added
- maintains a local variable to reflect the remote machine's House Mode
- maintains a local variable showing the time of last contact with remote machine
- capability to lock the openLuup House Mode to the bridged machine or *vice-versa*.
- 'reverse bridging' or 'mirroring' of specified device variables: openLuup variables may be written to devices on the bridged Vera so that plugins and scenes there can be influenced by plugins and scene logic running under openLuup.
- the ability to download all device files and icons from the bridged Vera.

The device numbering is different from that on the remote machine, being incremented by multiples of 10000 for each different bridge, and one of VeraBridge's main functions is to intercept actions on the local devices and pass them to the remote ones. What does NOT work is to set a variable on a local device and expect that variable on the corresponding remote device to change.

Since it is possible (but fairly unlikely) that the VeraBridge will miss an update to a Vera device variable, every so often (actually, about every minute) it scans the whole lot and updates all the cloned devices on openLuup. This means that WHATEVER changes you make to cloned device variables will get overwritten frequently. The motto is this... do NOT write variables to cloned devices.

Running under openLuup, VeraBridge supports *any* serviceId/action command request (ie. those *not* returning device status parameters) This covers most device control scenarios.

The bridge device also has a variable which reflects the remote House Mode (if the remote system is UI7 or greater) and which may therefore be used as a device variable watch trigger for scenes. Additionally, the bridge can 'mirror' the house mode in either direction, synchronising the mode of both (or more) machines.

1. Bridging to multiple Veras

Multiple bridges may be installed (through the Create button on the devices page.)

The first Vera linked to is special, for a number of reasons:

TBD...

2. Mirroring individual device variables from openLuup to Vera

Any openLuup device variable may be 'mirrored' to any bridged Vera. That is, a variable on a remote Vera device can actively track the value of a local variable.

Each instance of the VeraBridge plugin registers itself with AltUI as a Data Storage Provider with a name of the form **Vera@xxx.xx.xx.xx** where the 'x's represent the IP address of the remote Vera.

Simply going to AltUI's Device > Variables pane you can select to watch any variable by clicking on the 'graph' button, selecting the appropriate Vera to push the data to and enter the device number (on the remote machine) where you want that variable to be mirrored.

A device number on its own means that the current variable's serviceld and name will be used on the remote machine. Alternatively the following syntax may be used to force a specific serviceld / name:

device.serviceld.variable (eg. 42.urn:something:serviceld:newservice.NewName)
device.*.variable (eg. 42.*.NewName to retain existing serviceld)

3. Synchronising House Mode

The bridge has a device variable HouseModeMirror, which you can set to one of three values:

- "0" : no mirroring,
- "1" : local mirrors remote machine,
- "2" : remote mirrors local machine.

You have to reload to make this change effective. Because of Vera's built-in delay in changing HouseMode, mode 2 can take a while (typically 30 seconds or more) to kick in, but they should synchronise in the end.

Note that it's not easily possible to have this synchronisation work in both directions simultaneously because of a race condition that arises from the latency of Vera changing modes. You can, however, have openLuup mirror one bridged Vera's mode and have other bridged Veras which mirror that.

Also note that the openLuup plugin itself has a HouseMode variable which may be used as a variable watch trigger to kick off scenes when the house mode is changed (no need for a separate HouseMode plugin.)

The user_data.json file

Configuration changes to the system happen in different ways in the three major phases of normal running, startup and shutdown:

STARTUP

- the default behaviour is to look for a JSON file called `user_data.json` in the current directory (`/etc/cmh-ludl/`) loading the device/room/scene configuration from that.
- an optional startup parameter is one of:
 - the word `reset`, which forces a 'factory reset', or
 - a `user_data` JSON formatted filename, or
 - a `.lzap` compressed backup file, or
 - a Lua filename to be run in the context of a factory-reset system (with no rooms or scenes, and only devices 1 (Gateway) and 2 (Z-wave controller) defined)

RUNNING

- every so often, the system configuration is check-pointed to the file `user_data.json`. This will capture device variable and attribute changes, scene creation/deletions, etc.
- logged events are written to the log files as they happen and not cached.

SHUTDOWN

- on `luup.reload`, or full exit, the configuration will be written to the file `user_data.json` in the current directory
- on `luup.reload`, or any other configuration change requiring a reload (eg. new child devices created) the process will exit with status 42
- on exit (from the HTTP request `id=exit`) will exit with status of 0 (successful exit)

This means that it is easy to save and restore arbitrary configurations, or start from scratch. Since any reload will cause the process to exit, it's necessary to launch `openLuup` from within a script, in order to restart automatically. A Unix shell script to do this, `openLuup_reload`, is included in the distribution (in the `openLuup - Utilities` directory) and shown here. For Windows, see the relevant Appendix.

```
#!/bin/sh
#
# reload loop for openLuup
# @akboer, Aug 2015
# you may need to change 'lua' to 'lua5.1' depending on your install

lua openLuup/init.lua $1

while [ $? -eq 42 ]
do
    lua openLuup/init.lua
done
```

Whatever else you do, backup your functional user_data.json file.

Even after a system reboot, the only thing required to get `openLuup` restored to its previous state is to start the `openLuup_reload` script (with no parameters) since this just picks up the latest `user_data.json` file and runs with it.

More about the port 3480 web server

As well as supporting Luup HTML requests, the openLuup server on port 3480 has some of the functionality of any normal server, but also some special features:

1. File Access

The root directory for the port 3480 server is `cmh-ludl/` (or wherever the openLuup process is started.) However, in addition, the server will search in `../cmh-lu/` if it fails to find the requested file. This mimics Vera's use of that directory. It means that you can put `.xml`, `.json`, and other files there for convenience.

Note, however, that a plugin which expects to find a file in `/etc/cmh-ludl/` using `io.open()` will NOT automatically find it if it resides in `../cmh-lu/`.

The Lua package path has also been modified to search `../cmh-lu/` so that required Lua modules may also be located there. Note also that any files here are not in compressed form (`.lzo`) as they are in Vera.

Additionally, file-based icon references in `.json` files are redirected during loading to access the `cmh-ludl/icons/` directory through the port 3480 server. This means that the requests do not go from AltUI to port 80, but to port 3480, which in turn means that device icons work over a secure connection to port 3480 only. It also means that the icon directories under `/www/cmh/skins/default/...` are not required. Existing HTTP icon references are untouched.

2. index.html Files

The server looks for an `index.html` file if the request is for a directory (ends with `'/'`). This means that an `index.html` file may be used to present any web page you like, but in particular it may be used to redirect the request. For example:

With the following text in `cmh-ludl/index.html`

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
  <head>
    <!-- HTML meta refresh URL redirection -->
    <meta http-equiv="refresh"
      content="0; url=/data_request?id=lr_AltUI_Handler&command=home#">
  </head>
</html>
```

then `http://openLuupIP:3480/` redirects to AltUI.

Once again, this is useful functionality for access over a secure connection.

3. CGI processing

The openLuup HTTP server has a Lua Web Server API (WSAPI) connector for openLuup to allow it to run Lua applications as CGIs.

This means that arbitrary web server functionality can be added to openLuup simply by writing a short, stand-alone, Lua module. The first time a CGI URL is accessed, the module is compiled and loaded. Thereafter, it runs just as quickly as any built-in server code. The implementation adheres exactly to the (brief) documentation here: <http://keplerproject.github.io/wsapi/manual.html>.

The connector supports CGI code in the `cgi/`, `cgi-bin/`, and `upnp/` directories in `cmh-ludl/`. So, for example, taking *exactly* the code from the simple example in the above documentation:

```
#!/usr/bin/env wsapi.cgi

module(..., package.seeall)

function run(wsapi_env)
    local headers = { ["Content-type"] = "text/html" }

    local function hello_text()
        coroutine.yield("<html><body>")
        coroutine.yield("<p>Hello Wsapi!</p>")
        coroutine.yield("<p>PATH_INFO: " .. wsapi_env.PATH_INFO .. "</p>")
        coroutine.yield("<p>SCRIPT_NAME: " .. wsapi_env.SCRIPT_NAME .. "</p>")
        coroutine.yield("</body></html>")
    end

    return 200, headers, coroutine.wrap(hello_text)
end
```

...and putting it into `cmh-ludl/cgi/hello.lua`, allows you to invoke it with

```
http://openLuupIP:3480/cgi/hello.lua
```

...and get the returned page:

Hello Wsapi!

PATH_INFO: /

SCRIPT_NAME: /cgi/hello.lua

Any other CGI action can be implemented in the same way.

Note that shell scripts and other CGI implementations are not yet supported by the port 3480 server, but this mechanism does enable some of the key CGIs used by Vera to be emulated through a small amount of effort.

Something about openLuup log files

On startup, openLuup writes its log data initially to `cmh-lud1/logs/Startup_LuaUPnP.log` until the initial devices and scenes are loaded and the Startup Lua has been run. This file is retained for the last 5 versions.

By default, openLuup write its main log file to `cmh-lud1/log/LuaUPnP.log`. This location, and other logging parameters may be changed by defining openLuup attributes in the Startup Lua.

```
-- openLuup configuration options:
luup.attr_set ("openLuup.Logfile.Name", "logs/LuaUPnP.log") -- path to log file
luup.attr_set ("openLuup.Logfile.Lines", 2000)
luup.attr_set ("openLuup.Logfile.Versions", 5)
```

To keep file sizes manageable, it rotates the log from time to time (by default, after about 2,000 lines, which makes the file size about 250 Kb.) The five most recent log files are versioned with the suffix `.1 / .2 / ...etc.`, so you can go back and see what happened just before a reload. The reason for the reload should be one of the last lines in the log. Unlike Vera, this doesn't just happen randomly, but in response to either a user request or a device doing something which requires a reload (adding a new child device, for example.)

openLuup also maintains another log, which is a subset of the main one, and contains only device variable changes and scene invocations. Those entries are written to a log file, if the `/var/cmh/` directory exists, in `/var/cmh/LuaUPnP.log`, with colour-highlighted variable names, as in Vera's log. The OS command that comes as standard in AltUI tails this log, and it's an easy way just to see the major changes happening in the system, without being cluttered by other activities which write to the log file. IT is also used by AltUI to provide a history of device variable changes. This log file is not versioned, and reset after 5000 lines, so it is possible to come to it sometimes and find it almost empty. This file is also essential for the variable history function of AltUI to operate – the file is scanned for the relevant variable changes which are presented as the change history under that button of the device variable.

openLuup doesn't, internally, use the same log level numbering system as Vera, trying to keep things simple. Log entries created by devices always carry their device ID. Here's a log entry made by device #7

```
luup_log:7: Arduino: urn:micasaverde-com:serviceId:HaDevice1,LastUpdateHR, 09:42, 42
```

If you're trying to troubleshoot a single plugin, then I always recommend that you do it in a system which only has that plugin. That way, almost all of the log entries are relevant. Of course, if it's complex multi-device logic, then you can't do that.

The log file name, path, length, and number of retained versions may be altered at startup. See **Appendix: Configuring key openLuup parameters at Startup**.

More about Scenes

Scene timers and actions can be defined with the AltUI interface in exactly the same way as on Vera. Triggers, however, are treated differently, because the Vera approach, itself based on UPnP definitions in various files, is deeply flawed and inflexible. Instead, the AltUI-supported mechanism of device variable triggers are used.

Using the appropriate button under the scene / trigger definition menu, you may select any device and variable as a trigger. The trigger will fire whenever the variable changes value, and using a small amount of Lua code, or the blocky graphical interface, you can construct arbitrary logic expressions combining, times, old and new variable values, other device variables, in fact almost anything you want, to determine whether or not the scene should actually execute.

openLuup also provides the capability to run a specified Lua function after the termination of an individual scene (scene finalisers), and, in addition, the ability to run shared, globally-defined functions at the start and end of all scenes (scene prolog and epilog code.)

Scenes on remote Veras may be bridged to openLuup, or copied and saved to assist in the migration of automation logic.

1. VeraBridge and Remote Scenes

A scene that has been created by VeraBridge is simply a perfectly normal openLuup scene (hence totally isolated from any scene code on your actual Vera) with one-line in the Lua code section (which you're able to view and edit) which fires off the remote scene.

This means you can add local triggers, timers, even other Lua code (before the the statement that runs the remote scene!) without any code impact on your actual Vera... very comforting when developing!

So, really, these types of scenes are not clones of the Vera scenes, but merely ways to trigger them remotely.

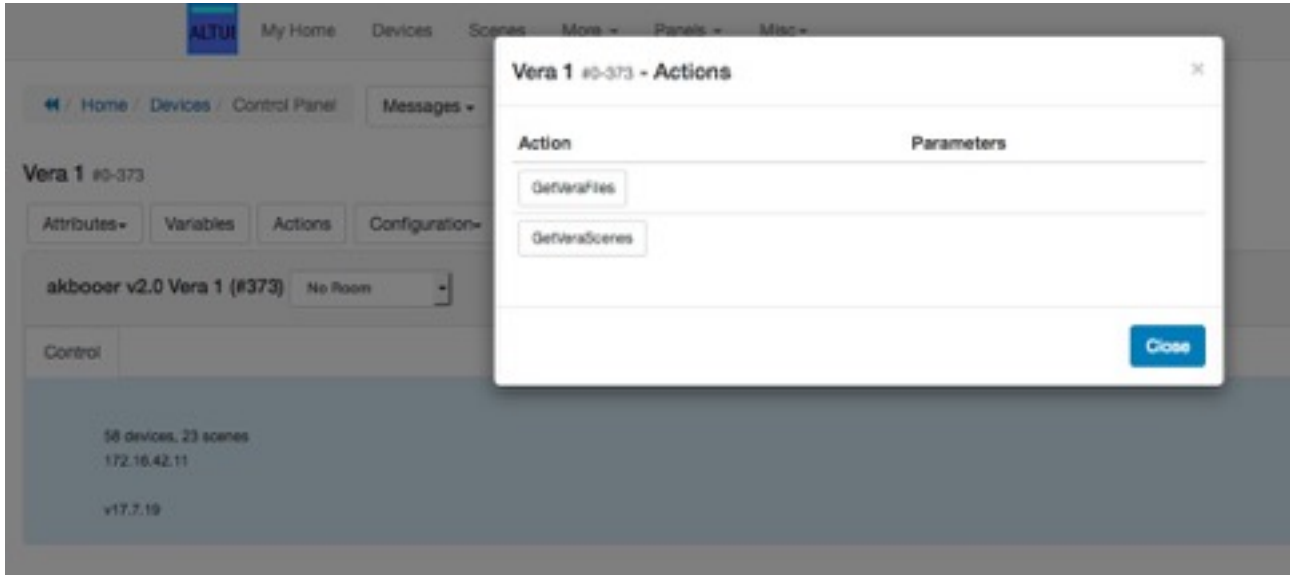
No aspect of the remote scenes can be changed – it is not an editor for remote scenes. You can't edit scenes from a remote Vera on openLuup if they are bridged by the VeraBridge plugin – you have to edit them on the original Vera.

They are really there as a basis for re-writing them to operate entirely locally in the openLuup environment as you migrate plugins and scene logic from Vera to openLuup. The bridge's capability to mirror openLuup variables to actual device variables on Vera makes this transition easier in some cases.

VeraBridge now has a BridgeScenes variable. Set to **true** or **1** to enable linking to remote scenes, or anything else (including **false** or **0**) to disable this on startup.

2. Porting Vera scenes to openLuup

VeraBridge also has an action GetVeraScenes which creates **temporary** local copies of Vera scenes as an aid in migrating automation to openLuup.



Things to note:

- new scene numbering has 100,000 added to the local scene numbering
- scenes are placed into the appropriate openLuup Vera room
- these scenes don't survive a reload (unless you explicitly renumber them)
- because of the above you can play to your heart's content and not damage anything
- all event triggers are redirected to local devices, but disabled
- any scenes with triggers have an extra one added, warning that they're unused!
- all device actions are redirected to local devices
- scene Lua is unchanged

All you have to do is go to the Actions tab for the VeraBridge you're interested in and press GetVeraScenes which runs a job (very quickly.) Switch immediately to the Scenes page and you should find them there.

To make a scene permanent, use the 'Copy' button on the Scene and it will create a new scene, with a low scene number, called 'Clone of XXX'. Don't forget to delete the original scene on Vera when you're ready to use the new openLuup one.

3. Scene Finalisers – Running Lua Code after Individual Scene Execution

Normal Lua scene code runs BEFORE any action in the scene. Scene finalisers allow you to run Lua code AFTER all the actions of a scene have executed.

In each scene that you want to do something, you return a SECOND parameter which is a function to be run when the scene 'finishes'. The default is 30 seconds after the START of the LAST delayed action (which may take an indeterminate time to run, depending on what it does.) There is an additional optional THIRD return parameter which overrides this default delay time in seconds.

So your scene Lua looks something like this:

```
local function finish() -- you can call it what you want
    -- things to do at the end go here
end

-- usual Lua code goes here

return status, finish, optional_delay
```

Be careful that EVERY return from the scene code looks like this last line. As usual, if 'status' is false then the scene (and the finaliser) will not run, if it's anything else then it will run. The simplest way to ensure this is to make the final return the ONLY return from the scene. If you can't do that you'll need to write things like this:

```
if something_special then
    return true, final
else
    return false
end

-- other things here perhaps

return true, final
```

Obviously, if you return false anywhere, the second parameter is not needed anyway.

4. Scene Prolog and Epilog Lua code – Global Functions

Thanks to constant pestering by forum member @DesT ;-) openLuup now has the ability to run global code as a pre/post for all scenes without having to edit them individually.

There are two parts to enabling these calls which can both be done in Startup Lua:

1) set the openLuup parameters which reference the calls

In Lua Startup define the global names for one or both of the procedures you want to call. For example:

```
luup.attr_set ("openLuup.Scenes.Prolog", "SCENE_Prolog")
luup.attr_set ("openLuup.Scenes.Epilog", "SCENE_Epilog")
```

The globals are shared in the scenes, Lua Startup, and Lua Test code environment.

2) define the global functions

```
function SCENE_Prolog (id)
    luup.log ("SCENE_Prolog: " .. id)
    -- any actions to run before all scenes go here
    return true -- or false to cancel
end

function SCENE_Epilog (id)
    luup.log ("SCENE_Epilog: " .. id)
    -- any actions to run after all scenes go here
end
```

The Prolog function is called before ANY scene code is executed. It's called with the scene id as a parameter. If it returns false then the scene will be aborted (as with normal Lua scene code.) Note that after this function is called (if it doesn't return false,) the regular scene Lua will be executed and that too may abort further scene execution.

The Epilog function is only called after a successful scene execution. It also receives the scene id as a parameter.

Appendix: Configuring key openLuup parameters at Startup

There is a special top-level system attribute called “openLuup” (created at startup and not saved in the user_data.json file) which contains a table with some key system parameters some of which are user-configurable in the Lua Startup code.

The default structure is:

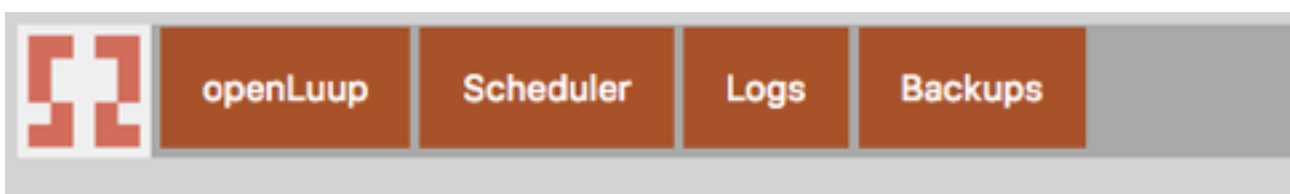
```
{
  Backup = {
    Compress = "LZAP",
    Directory = "backup/"
  },
  Logfile = {
    Incoming = "true",
    Lines = 2000,
    Name = "logs/LuaUPnP.log",
    Versions = 5
  },
  Scenes = {
    Epilog = "",
    Prolog = ""
  },
  Status = {
    CpuLoad = "0.3%",
    Memory = "2.9 Mbyte",
    StartTime = "2018-01-27T11:32:53",
    Uptime = "0 days"
  },
  UserData = {
    Checkpoint = 60,
    Name = "user_data.json"
  },
  Version = "v18.1.18"
}
```

The key parts which can be changed include:

- openLuup.Backup.Directory — location of the backup files (path must exist already)
- openLuup.Logfile.Name — full path to log file
- ditto Lines and Versions — number of lines before log rotation, number of versions saved
- openLuup.UserData.Checkpoint — number of minutes between each user_data.json save.

Actually, the user_data.json file is saved after the first 6 minutes of the running system, and thereafter, every specified interval.

Some system internals may be inspected using the new console viewer UI (<http://openLuupIP:3480/console>.)



Appendix: Directory Structure and Additional Files

The installations steps 1, 2, 3, give you a functioning system, linked to a remote Vera. But to allow as many plugins as possible to run on openLuup, you may need additional files and directories.

1. openLuup directory structure and ancillary files

Some of this structure is already created by the install process, other parts are totally optional, some are required by particular plugins.

- /etc
 - /cmh
 - ui
 - /cmh-lu
 - /cmh-ludl
- /usr
 - /bin
 - GetNetworkState.sh

2. /usr/bin/GetNetworkState.sh and /etc/cmh/ui

Some plugins (eg. Sonos) use a shell command `/etc/bin/GetNetworkState.sh` to determine the machine's IP address. I used to provide this (actually for AltUI, but it doesn't need it now.) So you need to create that file with the contents shown in the Appendix.

On a Windows machine you may need to use the simpler hard-coded address version of the script shown there. I'm not actually sure that this works.

At least one plugin (IOSPush) requires the file `/etc/cmh/ui` with the single line (the digit seven):
7

3. openLuup_reload.bat for Windows

For Windows, you will need an alternative shell file to run the basin openLuup reload loop. I'm indebted to @vosmont for the following information which I've copied directly from the post here <http://forum.micasaverde.com/index.php/topic,34480.msg259829.html#msg259829>

For the moment, I use openLuup on Windows.

Install <http://luadist.org/> (contains Lua 5.1 and all the needed libraries)

Copy this file "openLuup_reload.bat" in "openLuup\etc\cmh-ludl", and change "LUA_DEV" according to LuaDist folder.

```
@ECHO OFF
SETLOCAL
```

```

SET LUA_DEV=D:\devhome\app\LuaDist\bin
SET CURRENT_PATH=%~dp0
ECHO Start openLuup from "%CURRENT_PATH%"
ECHO.
CD %CURRENT_PATH%
"%LUA_DEV%\lua" openLuup\init.lua %1

:loop
IF NOT %ERRORLEVEL% == 42 GOTO exit
"%LUA_DEV%\lua" openLuup\init.lua
GOTO loop

:exit

```

4. code for /usr/bin/GetNetworkState.sh

Some plugins (eg. Sonos, DLNA, Squeezebox, ...) require an external shell script (part of a standard Vera installation) to define the host machine IP address.

There's two basic ways to implement this.

This file can either be VERY simple:

```
echo -n 172.16.42.88
```

...with the IP address appropriately set (manually)

...or a more sophisticated approach using a Lua script to return the result (automatic) which is described here:

<http://forums.coronalabs.com/topic/21105-found-undocumented-way-to-get-your-devices-ip-address-from-lua-socket/>

```

#! /usr/bin/env lua
-----
-- discover main IP address of machine and write to standard output
-- http://forums.coronalabs.com/topic/21105-found-undocumented-way-to-get-your-
-- devices-ip-address-from-lua-socket/
-----
local socket = require "socket"
function myIP ()
    local mySocket = socket.udp ()
    mySocket:setpeername ("42.42.42.42", "424242") -- arbitrary IP/PORT
    local ip = mySocket:getsockname ()
    mySocket:close()
    return ip or "127.0.0.1"
end
io.write (myIP())
-----

```

Appendix: Undocumented features of Luup

The documentation for Luup is poor: out of date, misleading, incomplete, unclear, and sometimes just plain wrong. During the implementation of openLuup a number of undocumented 'features' have come to light. In some cases, these features are used by various plugins, either deliberately or unknowingly, through sins of commission or omission. As a result, I've had to include them in the openLuup implementation.

If you're a developer, please try NOT to rely on these things in your plugin code.

Here's what I've found - if you know more, let me know.

- **lul_device** – this variable is often included in callback function parameter lists to indicate the target device, and that's fine. However, it ALSO turns out to be in scope in the whole body of a plugin's Lua code. Some plugins rely (possibly inadvertently) on this feature.
- **nil device parameter in luup.variable_watch** – whilst the use of a nil variable parameter to watch ALL service variables is documented, the use of a nil DEVICE is not, but works as expected: the callback occurs a change in ANY device with an update to the given serviceId and variable (thanks for @vosmont for that information.)
- **nil device parameter in luup.variable_set/get** – it appears that when called from device code, a missing device parameter gets the current luup.device variable value substituted.
- **urn:micasaverde-com:serviceId:HaDevice1, HideDeleteButton** – according to @reneboer: *"If you set that to 1 on UI7 it will not show the delete button at the bottom of the device Control Panel. I now use this to hide that on the child devices that are under full control of the parent device, including proper deletion."*
- **the ordering of the <files> tag and the <functions> tag matters** – in implementation files, they are concatenated in that order and it matters to the scope of local variables defined there (thanks to @logread and @cybrimage for that nugget.)
- **only devices with a device file appear in the status request response** – what this means is that if you create a 'dummy' device on Vera, just to hang variables off, or as a holder for VeraBridge mirrored variables, those device variable values won't appear on a bridged openLuup system *unless* you create the dummy device with a valid device file (just a device type will not do.) I usually use D_ComboDevice1.xml for this.
- **luup.inet.wget()** – returns a third parameter, which is the *actual* http.request status code.
- **luup.io.intercept()** – returns a boolean with complex meaning. See post by @a-lurker here: <http://forum.micasaverde.com/index.php/topic,48814.0.html>
- ...

Appendix: Unimplemented features of openLuup

openLuup is, as of this time, an unfinished work. The following features are known to be unimplemented, poorly implemented, or non-functional at this time, for a variety of reasons.

1. unimplemented luup API calls

- **luup.devices_by_service** – the definition of the functionality here [Luup Lua Extensions](#) is not adequate to make an implementation.
- **luup.job_watch** – not yet implemented.
- **luup.require** – undocumented.
- **luup.xj** – undocumented.

2. unimplemented HTTP requests

- **id=scene** – only create, delete, list, and rename are implemented (ie. no interactive creation of scenes.) Also note that scene triggers (or notifications) are stored, but not used. Any scene with a defined trigger will have one additional trigger added with a warning that these triggers are un-implemented.
- **id=action** – the virtual category 999 is not implemented. Actions on groups of devices defined by category is not implemented.
- **id=finddevice** – not implemented.
- **id=resync** – not implemented.
- **id=archive_video** – not implemented.
- **id=jobstatus** – not implemented.
- **id=invoke** – not implemented.
- **id=relay** – not implemented.

Appendix: Differences between openLuup and Vera / MiOS

Features of Vera / MiOS not in openLuup

Hard to give an exhaustive list, but notable omissions include:

- UPnP triggers as defined in service files are not implemented.
- openLuup does not support events as published in the json files.
- openLuup does NOT use the system HTTP port 80 server, but implements its own port 3480
- the default user_data.json checkpoint time every 60 minutes, not 6.
- ...

Features of openLuup not in Vera / MiOS

The original goal for the development of openLuup was to have a system which was to be as indistinguishable as possible from a real Vera, aside, of course, for performance and reliability.

However, there are some blatantly obvious omissions from Vera's Luup which are very much 'nice to have' and don't break forward compatibility when moving from Vera to openLuup.

lul_scene:

In device implementation code, there is a variable **lul_device** which defines the current device number to the code. This may be used to index the **luup.devices** table for more information. However, there is no equivalent when executing scene code.

The variable **lul_scene** is now available to fill that gap, indicating the active scene number which may, in turn, be used to index the **luup.scenes** table to extract other information such as the name (description) of the current scene.

luup.call_timer():

In Vera, this call is one-shot and if you want repeating timers you have to call it again within the callback. In openLuup, there is an extra boolean parameter which, if true, reschedules the callback automatically. Important, if using this, NOT to call it again in the callback handler!

scene finalisers, prolog and epilog code:

See the relevant section above on these topics.

ShutdownCode:

There is an additional global attribute in the user_data called ShutdownCode. This may be set at startup, or other times, with `luup.attr_set ("ShutdownCode", "-- Lua code goes here")` and defines Lua code which is run prior to system shutdown (or restart.) This has been used to tidy up connections to external devices and servers prior to disconnection.