



University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka

Faculty of Engineering

Department of Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering
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EN3251 - Internet of Things

Information transfer with MQTT and HTTP using
JSON

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1 Step 3: MQTT Publisher and Subscriber with JSON

In **Step 3A**, the MQTT publisher reads a JSON object from a file and publishes it to a broker on a specific topic (JACK1234). The file is read using the `json.load()` function, and the data is serialized into a JSON string using `json.dumps()`. This encoded JSON object is then published to the MQTT broker. The network traffic can be captured using Wireshark to observe the MQTT publish operation.

Key Observations

- **JSON Serialization:** The JSON object is serialized (converted to a string) before it is sent over MQTT. This step is crucial since MQTT messages require payloads to be transmitted in a binary format.
- **Wireshark Analysis:** In Wireshark, the MQTT publish packet contains the serialized JSON object. By expanding the packet, one can observe the actual message payload containing the human-readable JSON object.

```
1 from paho.mqtt import client as mqtt_client
2 import paho.mqtt.client as mqtt
3 import time
4 import json
5
6 def objectToJson():
7     read_file_name = "C:\\Users\\HP\\Desktop\\_Sem 5\\5_Internet of
8     Things\\3_LAB\\LabExercise_2\\code\\sensor.json"
9
10    with open(read_file_name) as json_file:
11        sensor_out= json.load(json_file)
12
13    #At sender (Encoding)
14    data_out=json.dumps(sensor_out) #encode object to JSON
15
16    return data_out
17
18 # Callback when the client connects to the MQTT broker
19 def on_connect(client, userdata, flags, rc):
20     if rc == 0:
21         print("Connected to MQTT broker\n")
22     else:
23         print("Connection failed with code {rc}")
24
25
26 # Create an MQTT client instance
27 client = mqtt.Client(mqtt_client.CallbackAPIVersion.VERSION1, "PythonPub
28 ")
29
30 # Set the callback function
31 client.on_connect = on_connect
32
33 broker_address = "mqtt.eclipseprojects.io" # broker's address
34 broker_port = 1883
35 keepalive = 5
36 qos = 0
```

```

36 publish_topic = "JACK1234"
37
38 # Connect to the MQTT broker
39 client.connect(broker_address, broker_port, keepalive)
40
41 # Start the MQTT loop to handle network traffic
42 client.loop_start()
43
44 # Publish loop
45 n=0
46 try:
47     while True:
48         # Publish a message to the send topic
49
50         #value = input('Enter the message: ')
51         #value = "Hello" + str(n)
52         data_out = objectToJson()
53         value = data_out
54         client.publish(publish_topic, value)
55         print(f"Published message '{value}' to topic '{publish_topic}'\n"
56               n")
57
58         # Wait for a moment to simulate some client activity
59         time.sleep(2)
60         n+=1
61 except KeyboardInterrupt:
62     # Disconnect from the MQTT broker
63     pass
64 client.loop_stop()
65 client.disconnect()
66
67 print("Disconnected from the MQTT broker")

```

Listing 1: Publisher.py

The screenshot shows a code editor with a file explorer on the left and a terminal at the bottom. The file explorer lists several files: `_pycache_`, `jsonintro.py`, `jsonintro.py`, `openWeather.py`, `publisher.py`, `publisherOpenWeather.py`, `sensor_received.json`, `sensor.json`, and `subscriber.py`. The `publisher.py` file is open in the editor, showing the following code:

```

1 from paho.mqtt import client as mqtt_client
2 import paho.mqtt.client as mqtt
3 import time
4 import json
5
6 def objectToJson():
7     read_file_name = "C:\\Users\\WP\\Desktop\\Sem 5\\5 Internet of Things\\LAB\\LabExercise_2\\code\\sensor.json"
8
9     with open(read_file_name) as json_file:
10         sensor_out= json.load(json_file)
11
12     #At sender (Encoding)
13     data_out=json.dumps(sensor_out) #encode object to JSON
14
15     return data_out
16
17
18 # Callback when the client connects to the MQTT broker
19 def on_connect(client, userdata, flags, rc):
20     if rc == 0:
21         print("Connected to MQTT broker\n")
22     else:
23         print("Connection failed with code (rc)")
24
25

```

The terminal at the bottom shows the output of the program:

```

Published message '{"Temperature": 22.5, "Humidity": 60, "Age": 22, "Sex": 0, "No of girls": 100, "Year of Birth": 2002, "Gravity Const": 9.81}' to topic 'JACK1234'
Published message '{"Temperature": 22.5, "Humidity": 60, "Age": 22, "Sex": 0, "No of girls": 100, "Year of Birth": 2002, "Gravity Const": 9.81}' to topic 'JACK1234'
Published message '{"Temperature": 22.5, "Humidity": 60, "Age": 22, "Sex": 0, "No of girls": 100, "Year of Birth": 2002, "Gravity Const": 9.81}' to topic 'JACK1234'

```

Figure 1: Python code and the output for publisher

[illegible]

Figure 2: Wireshark capture for the publisher

In **Step 3B**, the MQTT subscriber subscribes to the same topic (**JACK1234**) and receives the JSON object published in part A. Upon receiving the message, the payload is decoded using `json.loads()` to convert the JSON string back into a Python dictionary. The deserialized data is then written to a file using `json.dump()`.

Key Observations

- **Deserialization:** The received JSON object is deserialized (converted back to a dictionary) to allow the subscriber to utilize the structured data.
- **Wireshark Observation:** Wireshark captures the MQTT subscribe packet and displays the received message containing the JSON object.

```
1 # Need to send the json object through the mqtt and receive it at the
   other end
2
3 from paho.mqtt import client as mqtt_client
4 import paho.mqtt.client as mqtt
5 import time
6 import json
7
8 sensor_out = {}
9
10 write_file_name = "C:\\Users\\HP\\Desktop\\_Sem 5\\5_Internet of Things
   \\3_LAB\\LabExercise_2\\code\\sensor_received.json"
11
12 # Callback when the client connects to the MQTT broker
13 def on_connect(client, userdata, flags, rc):
14     if rc == 0:
15         print("Connected to MQTT broker")
16         client.subscribe("JACK1234") # Subscribe to the receive topic
17     else:
18         print("Connection failed with code {rc}")
19
20 # Callback when a message is received from the subscribed topic
21 def on_message(client, userdata, msg):
22     print("Message received on JACK1234" + str(msg))
```

```

23     global sensor_out
24     sensor_out = json.loads(msg.payload.decode("utf-8"))
25
26 # Create an MQTT client instance
27 client = mqtt.Client(mqtt_client.CallbackAPIVersion.VERSION1, "PythonSub
    ")
28
29 # Set the callback functions
30 client.on_connect = on_connect
31 client.on_message = on_message
32
33 # Connect to the MQTT broker
34 broker_address = "mqtt.eclipseprojects.io" # broker's address
35 broker_port = 1883
36 keepalive = 5
37 qos = 0
38
39 # subscribe_topic = input ('Enter the topic to subscribe to: ')
40 client.connect(broker_address, broker_port, keepalive)
41
42 # Start the MQTT loop to handle network traffic
43 client.loop_start()
44
45 # Subscribe loop
46
47 try:
48     while True:
49         time.sleep(1)
50         print(sensor_out)
51         sensor_in=json.loads(str(sensor_out).replace("'", "\'"))
52         with open(write_file_name, 'w') as json_file:
53             json.dump(sensor_in, json_file, indent=4) # The 'indent'
54             parameter adds pretty formatting
55             print("Data has been written to", write_file_name)
56 except KeyboardInterrupt:
57     # Disconnect from the MQTT broker
58     pass
59 client.loop_stop()
60 client.disconnect()
61
62 print("Disconnected from the MQTT broker")

```

Listing 2: Subscriber.py

```

1 # Need to send the json object through the mqtt and receive it at the other end
2
3 from paho.mqtt import client as mqtt_client
4 import paho.mqtt.client as mqtt
5 import time
6 import json
7
8 sensor_out = {}
9
10 write_file_name = "C:\\Users\\VP\\Desktop\\_Sem 5\\5_Internet of Things\\3_LAB\\LabExercise_2\\code\\sensor_received.json"
11
12 # Call back when the client connects to the MQTT broker
13 def on_connect(client, userdata, flags, rc):
14     if rc == 0:
15         print("Connected to MQTT broker")
16         client.subscribe("JACK1234") # Subscribe to the receive topic
17     else:
18         print("Connection failed with code (rc)")
19
20 # Call back when a message is received from the subscribed topic
21 def on_message(client, userdata, msg):
22     print("Message received on JACK1234" + str(msg))
23     global sensor_out
24     sensor_out = json.loads(msg.payload.decode("utf-8"))
25
26
27 ({"Temperature": 22.5, "Humidity": 60, "Age": 22, "Sex": 0, "No of girls": 100, "Year of Birth": 2002, "Gravity Const": 9.81})
28 data has been written to C:\\Users\\VP\\Desktop\\_Sem 5\\5_Internet of Things\\3_LAB\\LabExercise_2\\code\\sensor_received.json
29 Message received on JACK1234paho.mqtt.client.MQTTMessage object at 0x0000021C99920209
30 ({"Temperature": 22.5, "Humidity": 60, "Age": 22, "Sex": 0, "No of girls": 100, "Year of Birth": 2002, "Gravity Const": 9.81})
31 data has been written to C:\\Users\\VP\\Desktop\\_Sem 5\\5_Internet of Things\\3_LAB\\LabExercise_2\\code\\sensor_received.json
32 ({"Temperature": 22.5, "Humidity": 60, "Age": 22, "Sex": 0, "No of girls": 100, "Year of Birth": 2002, "Gravity Const": 9.81})
33 data has been written to C:\\Users\\VP\\Desktop\\_Sem 5\\5_Internet of Things\\3_LAB\\LabExercise_2\\code\\sensor_received.json
34 Message received on JACK1234paho.mqtt.client.MQTTMessage object at 0x0000021C99920209
35 ({"Temperature": 22.5, "Humidity": 60, "Age": 22, "Sex": 0, "No of girls": 100, "Year of Birth": 2002, "Gravity Const": 9.81})
36 data has been written to C:\\Users\\VP\\Desktop\\_Sem 5\\5_Internet of Things\\3_LAB\\LabExercise_2\\code\\sensor_received.json

```

Figure 3: Python code and the output for subscriber

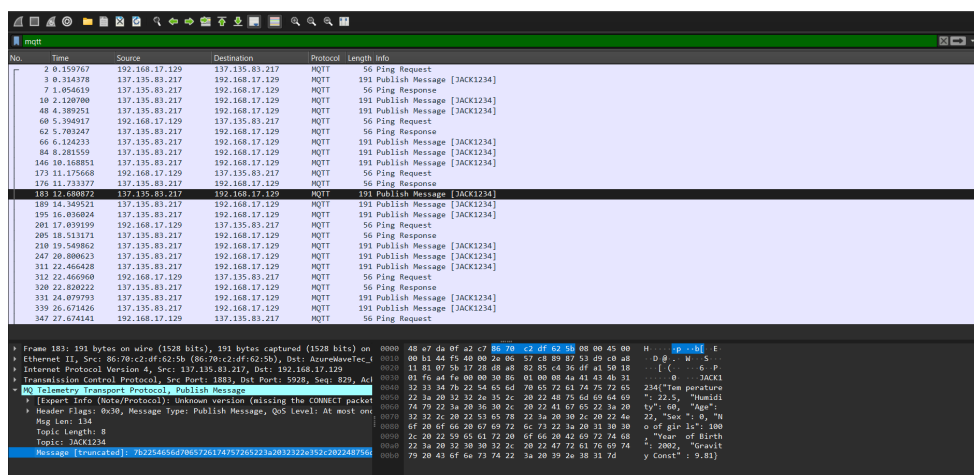


Figure 4: Wireshark capture for the subscriber

2 Step 4: HTTP Request to OpenWeather API

In **Step 4**, we retrieve real-time weather data from the OpenWeather API using an HTTP request. The city and country are provided by the user, and a request is made using the `requests` library. The response is received in JSON format, which contains information such as temperature, humidity, and weather description.

Key Points of Interest

- **API Request:** The request to the OpenWeather API is made using the city and country as input parameters, and the response is returned in JSON format. The data is then parsed and displayed.

- **JSON Response:** The response from the API contains key-value pairs with details such as temperature, humidity, pressure, and general weather conditions.
- **MQTT Publishing:** Once the weather data is retrieved, it is serialized into a JSON string and published to the MQTT broker on topic JACK1234. This allows for easy dissemination of weather data across multiple MQTT clients.

```

1 from paho.mqtt import client as mqtt_client
2 import paho.mqtt.client as mqtt
3 import time
4 import json
5
6 import requests
7
8 # Callback when the client connects to the MQTT broker
9 def on_connect(client, userdata, flags, rc):
10     if rc == 0:
11         print("Connected to MQTT broker\n")
12     else:
13         print("Connection failed with code {rc}")
14
15
16 # Replace 'your_api_key' with the API key you obtained
17 api_key = '708e2a65bc02731d8b033cb105a5382c'
18 base_url = 'http://api.openweathermap.org/data/2.5/weather'
19
20 # User input
21 city = "Gampaha"
22 country = "Sri Lanka"
23
24 # Construct the full URL
25 url = f"{base_url}?q={city},{country}&appid={api_key}&units=metric"
26
27 # Make the HTTP request
28 response = requests.get(url)
29 data_out = response.json()
30 data_out = json.dumps(data_out)
31 print(data_out)
32 print(type(data_out))
33
34 # Create an MQTT client instance
35 client = mqtt.Client(mqtt_client.CallbackAPIVersion.VERSION1, "PythonPub
    ")
36
37 # Set the callback function
38 client.on_connect = on_connect
39
40 broker_address = "mqtt.eclipseprojects.io" # broker's address
41 broker_port = 1883
42 keepalive = 5
43 qos = 0
44 publish_topic = "JACK1234"
45
46 # Connect to the MQTT broker
47 client.connect(broker_address, broker_port, keepalive)
48
49 # Start the MQTT loop to handle network traffic

```

```

50 client.loop_start()
51
52 # Publish loop
53 n=0
54 try:
55     while True:
56         # Publish a message to the send topic
57
58         #value = input('Enter the message: ')
59         #value = "Hello" + str(n)
60         value = data_out
61         client.publish(publish_topic,value)
62         print(f"Published message '{value}' to topic '{publish_topic}'\n"
63               n")
64
65         # Wait for a moment to simulate some client activity
66         time.sleep(2)
67         n+=1
68 except KeyboardInterrupt:
69     # Disconnect from the MQTT broker
70     pass
71 client.loop_stop()
72 client.disconnect()
73
74 print("Disconnected from the MQTT broker")

```

Listing 3: publisherOpenWeather.py

```

1 from paho.mqtt import client as mqtt_client
2 import paho.mqtt.client as mqtt
3 import time
4 import json
5
6 import requests
7
8 # Callback when the client connects to the MQTT broker
9 def on_connect(client, userdata, flags, rc):
10     if rc == 0:
11         print("connected to MQTT broker\n")
12     else:
13         print("connection failed with code {rc}")
14
15 # Replace 'your_api_key' with the API key from openweathermap.org
16 api_key = '708e2a65bc0271d0b033c4 Follow link (ctrl + click)'
17 base_url = 'http://api.openweathermap.org/data/2.5/weather'
18
19 # User input
20 city = "Gampaha"
21 country = "Sri Lanka"
22
23 # Construct the full URL
24 url = f'{base_url}?q={city},{country}&appid={api_key}&units=metric'
25
26 Published message '{"coord":{"lon":79.9925,"lat":7.0897},"weather":[{"id":801,"main":"Clouds","description":"few clouds","icon":"02d"}],"base":{"stations":{"temp":29.96,"feels_like":36.96,"temp_min":29.96,"temp_max":29.96,"pressure":1010,"humidity":79,"sea_level":1010,"grnd_level":1000},"visibility":10000,"wind":{"speed":2.57,"deg":130},"clouds":{"all":20},"dt":1727494535,"sys":{"type":1,"id":9098,"country":"LK","sunrise":1727483298,"sunset":1727526775},"timezone":19800,"id":1246007,"name":"Gampaha","cod":200}}' to topic 'JACK1234'
27
28 Published message '{"coord":{"lon":79.9925,"lat":7.0897},"weather":[{"id":801,"main":"Clouds","description":"few clouds","icon":"02d"}],"base":{"stations":{"temp":29.96,"feels_like":36.96,"temp_min":29.96,"temp_max":29.96,"pressure":1010,"humidity":79,"sea_level":1010,"grnd_level":1000},"visibility":10000,"wind":{"speed":2.57,"deg":130},"clouds":{"all":20},"dt":1727494535,"sys":{"type":1,"id":9098,"country":"LK","sunrise":1727483298,"sunset":1727526775},"timezone":19800,"id":1246007,"name":"Gampaha","cod":200}}' to topic 'JACK1234'

```

Figure 5: Python code and the output for openWeatherPublisher


```

1 # Need to send the json object through the mqtt and receive it at the other end
2
3 from paho.mqtt import client as mqtt_client
4 import paho.mqtt.client as mqtt
5 import time
6 import json
7
8 sensor_out = {}
9
10 write_file_name = "C:\\Users\\VP\\Desktop\\_Sem 5\\Internet of Things\\3_LAB\\LabExercise_2\\code\\sensor_received.json"
11
12 # Callback when the client connects to the MQTT broker
13 def on_connect(client, userdata, flags, rc):
14     if rc == 0:
15         print("connected to MQTT broker")
16         client.subscribe("JACK1234") # subscribe to the receive topic
17     else:
18         print("connection failed with code (rc)")
19
20 # Callback when a message is received from the subscribed topic
21 def on_message(client, userdata, msg):
22     print("Message received on JACK1234" + str(msg))
23     global sensor_out
24     sensor_out = json.loads(msg.payload.decode("utf-8"))
25
26
27 535: 'sys': {'type': 1, 'id': 8098, 'country': 'UK', 'sunrise': 1727483298, 'sunset': 1727526775, 'timezone': 19800, 'id': 1246007, 'name': 'Gumpaha', 'cod': 200}
28 Data has been written to C:\\Users\\VP\\Desktop\\_Sem 5\\Internet of Things\\3_LAB\\LabExercise_2\\code\\sensor_received.json
29 Message received on JACK1234:paho.mqtt.client.MQTTMessage object at 0x00000021c9999200:
30 {'coord': {'lon': 79.9925, 'lat': 7.0897}, 'weather': [{'id': 801, 'main': 'Clouds', 'description': 'few clouds', 'icon': '02d'}], 'base': 'stations', 'main': {'temp': 29.96, 'feels_like': 36.96, 'temp_min': 29.96, 'temp_max': 29.96, 'pressure': 1010, 'humidity': 79, 'sea_level': 1010, 'grnd_level': 1008}, 'visibility': 10000, 'wind': {'speed': 2.57, 'deg': 130}, 'clouds': {'all': 20}, 'dt': 1727484535, 'sys': {'type': 1, 'id': 8098, 'country': 'UK', 'sunrise': 1727483298, 'sunset': 1727526775, 'timezone': 19800, 'id': 1246007, 'name': 'Gumpaha', 'cod': 200}}
31 Data has been written to C:\\Users\\VP\\Desktop\\_Sem 5\\Internet of Things\\3_LAB\\LabExercise_2\\code\\sensor_received.json
32 {'coord': {'lon': 79.9925, 'lat': 7.0897}, 'weather': [{'id': 801, 'main': 'Clouds', 'description': 'few clouds', 'icon': '02d'}], 'base': 'stations', 'main': {'temp': 29.96, 'feels_like': 36.96, 'temp_min': 29.96, 'temp_max': 29.96, 'pressure': 1010, 'humidity': 79, 'sea_level': 1010, 'grnd_level': 1008}, 'visibility': 10000, 'wind': {'speed': 2.57, 'deg': 130}, 'clouds': {'all': 20}, 'dt': 1727484535, 'sys': {'type': 1, 'id': 8098, 'country': 'UK', 'sunrise': 1727483298, 'sunset': 1727526775, 'timezone': 19800, 'id': 1246007, 'name': 'Gumpaha', 'cod': 200}}
33 Data has been written to C:\\Users\\VP\\Desktop\\_Sem 5\\Internet of Things\\3_LAB\\LabExercise_2\\code\\sensor_received.json

```

Figure 6: Python code and the output for subscriber(Use same Subscriber.py code)

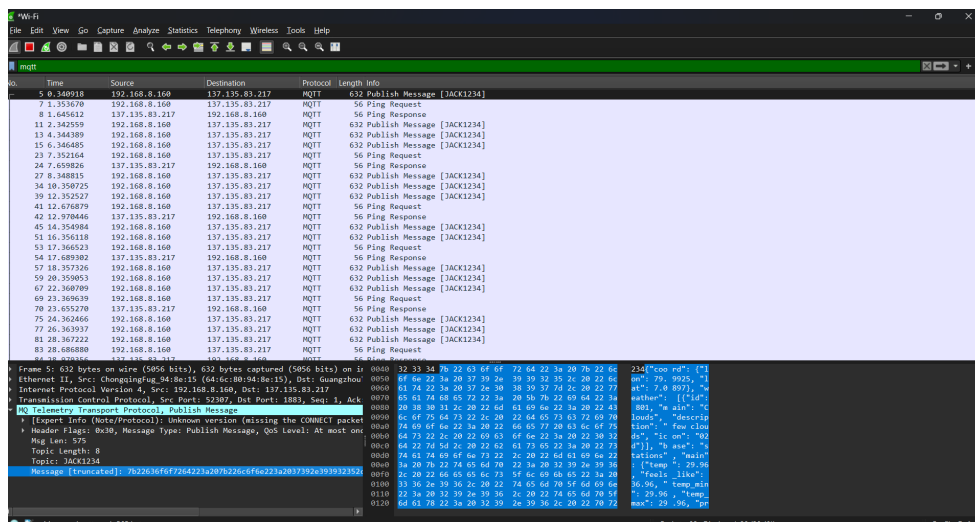


Figure 7: Wireshark capture for the openWeatherPublisher

3 Node-Red flow

3.1 Using MQTT Broker

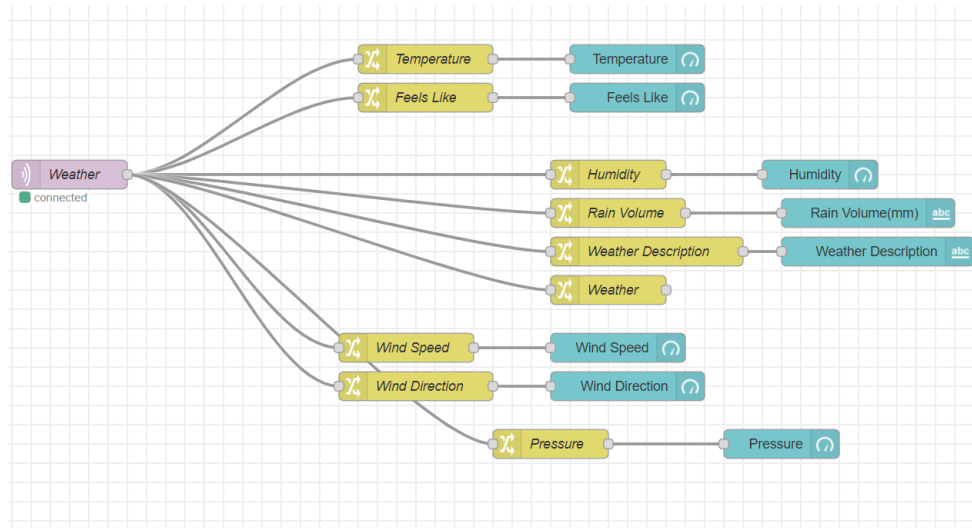


Figure 8: Node-Red flow

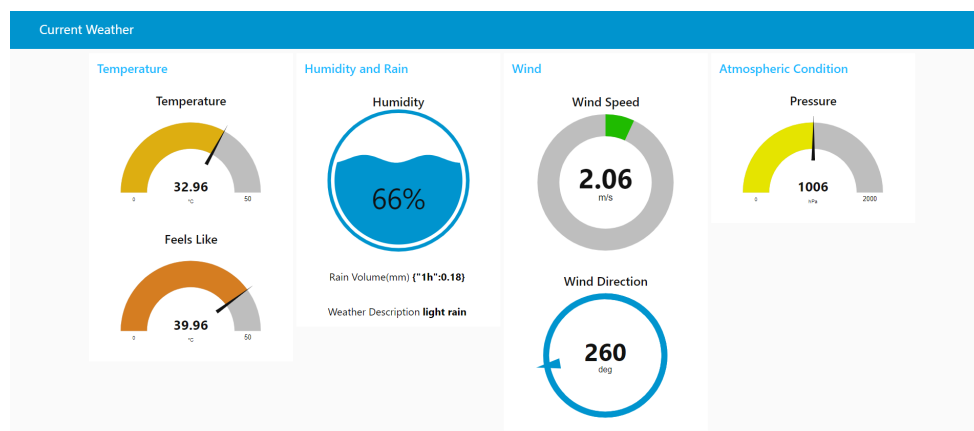


Figure 9: Node-Red dashboard

3.2 Simply Using OpenWeather

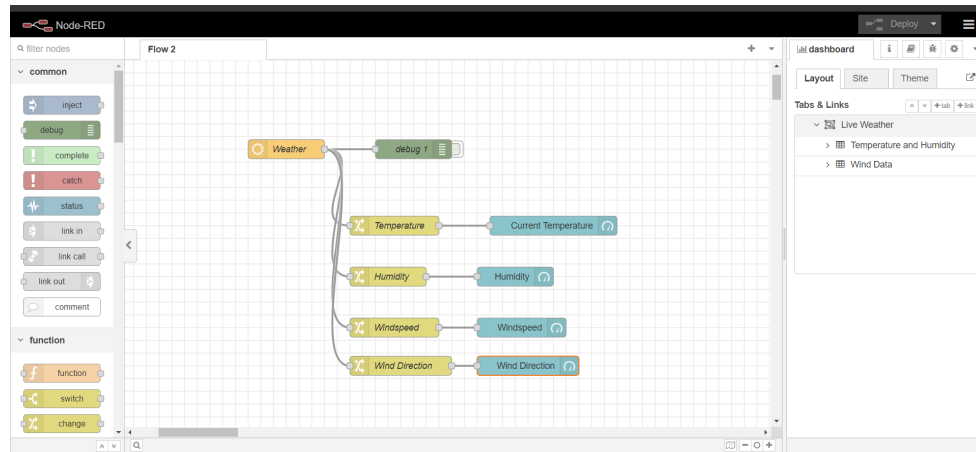


Figure 10: Node-Red flow

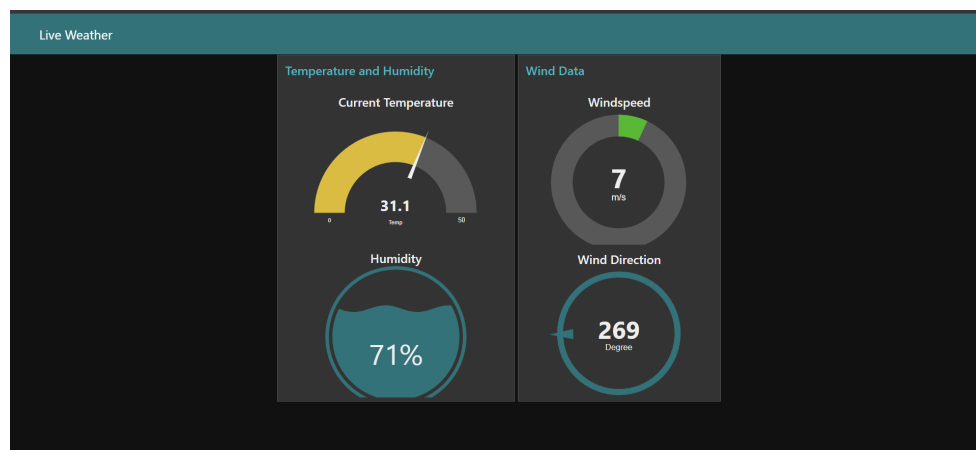


Figure 11: Node-Red dashboard