

SECURE IOT SOLUTION FOR OFFICE  
BUILDING MONITORING



## PURPOSE OF THE THESIS

Designing a low-powered IoT solution which enforces entity attestation and securely transmits data into the cloud, performing edge Machine Learning and issuing blockchain transactions.



Introduction



Architecture Overview



Design of the IoT Node



Cloud-Hosted Microservices



Securing the Solution – Attestation Service



Securing the Solution – Protecting Secrets

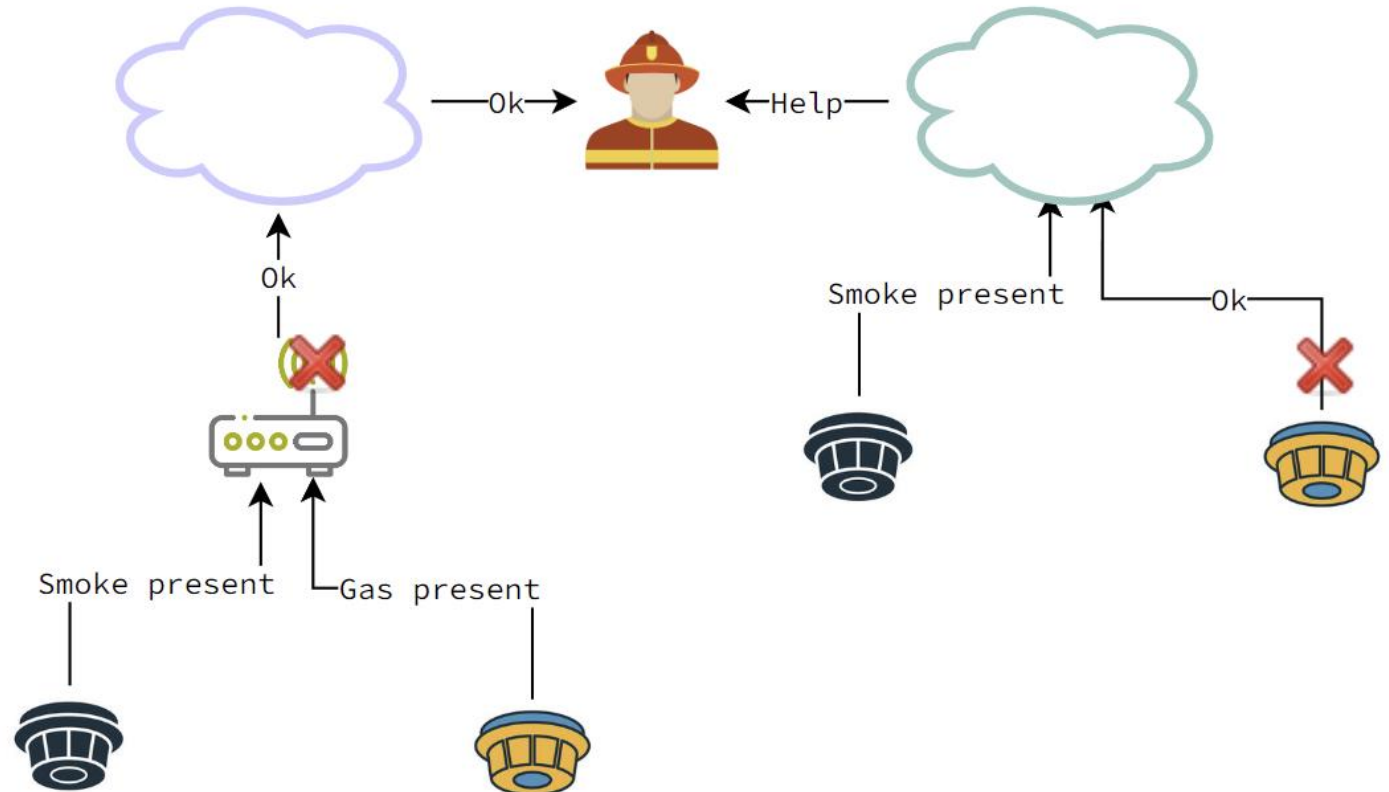


Conclusion

# CONTENTS

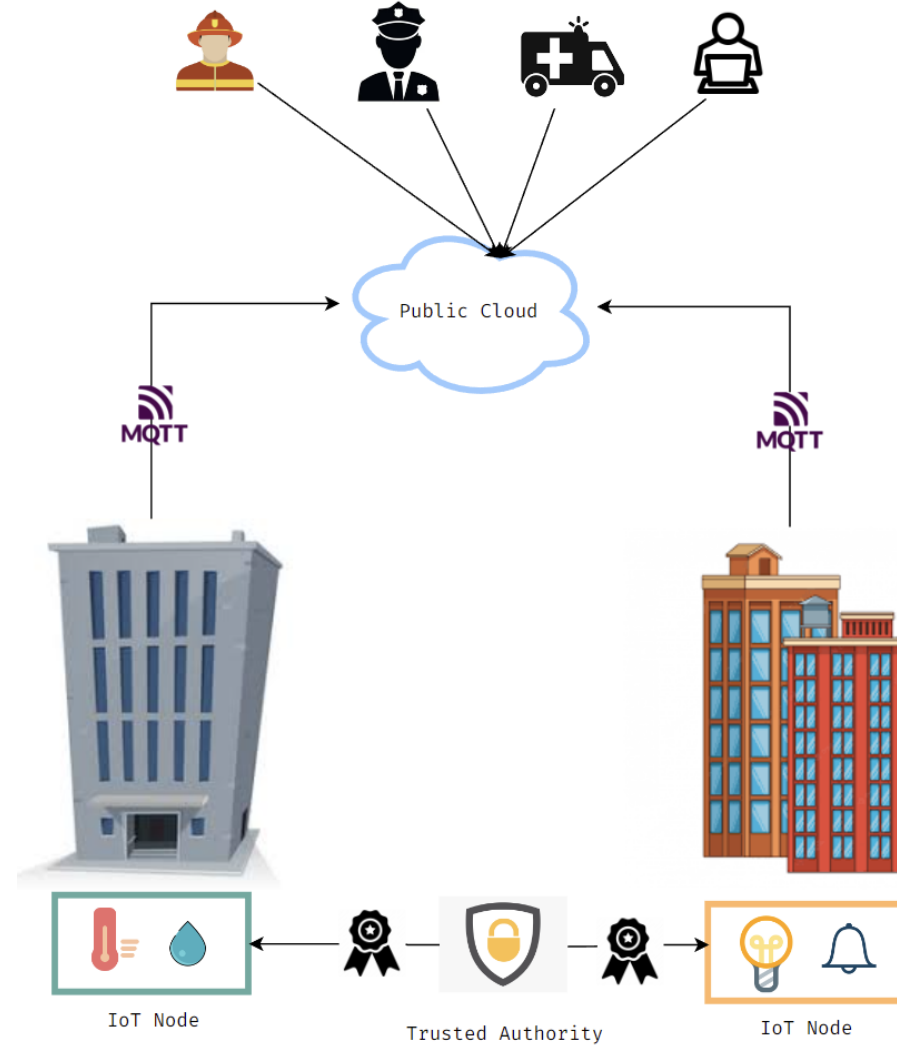
# INTRODUCTION

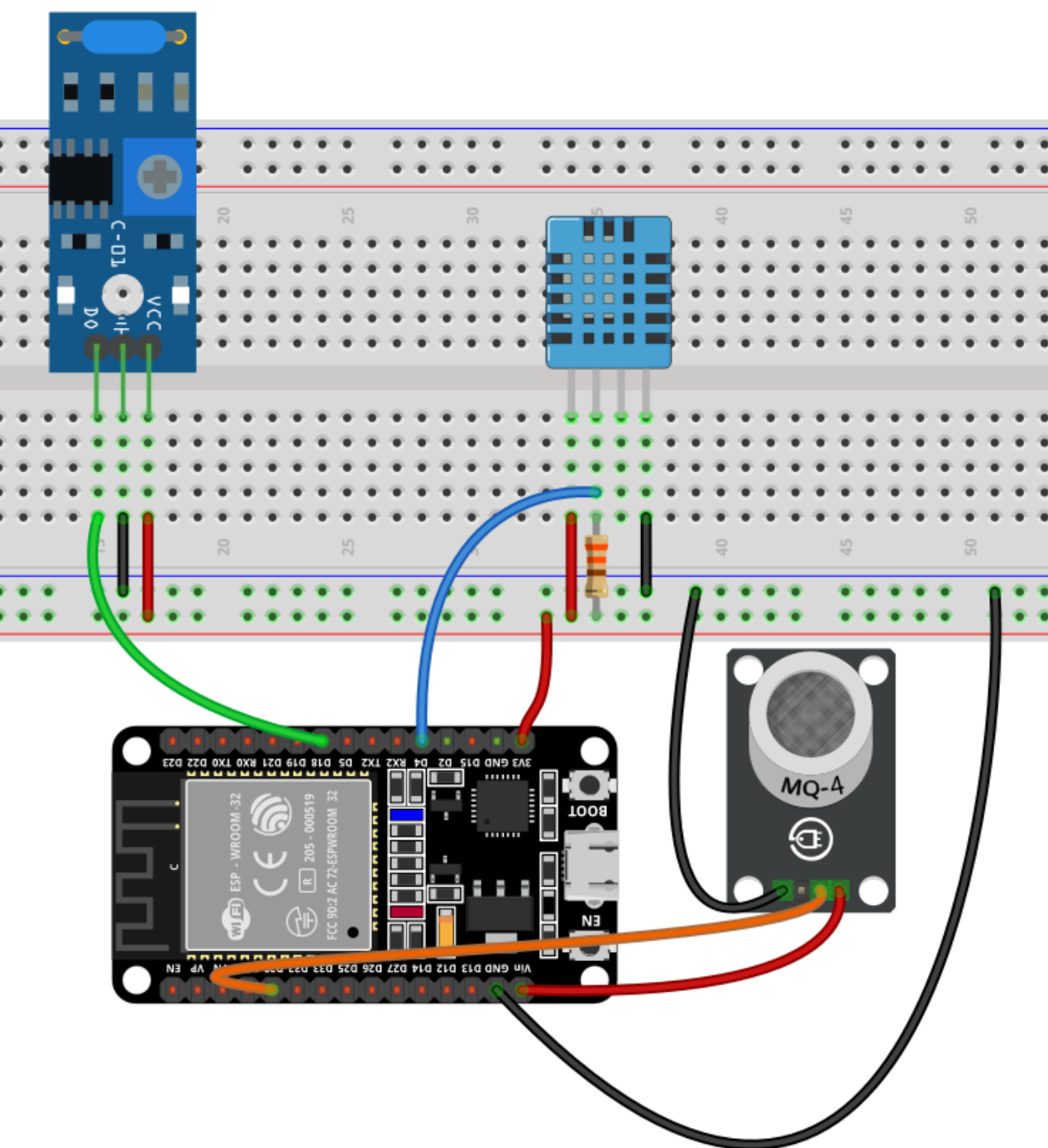
- Current IoT fog computing solutions pose a severe security risk by introducing single points of failure
- Creating an architecture that is more resilient is imperative in mission-critical applications



# ARCHITECTURE OVERVIEW

- Wi-Fi enabled IoT nodes are pushing sensitive data into the cloud
- Fast dispatch and reaction is achieved through encoding of the payload to reduce size
- Complete confidentiality is achieved through End-to-End encryption
- Each entity is attested



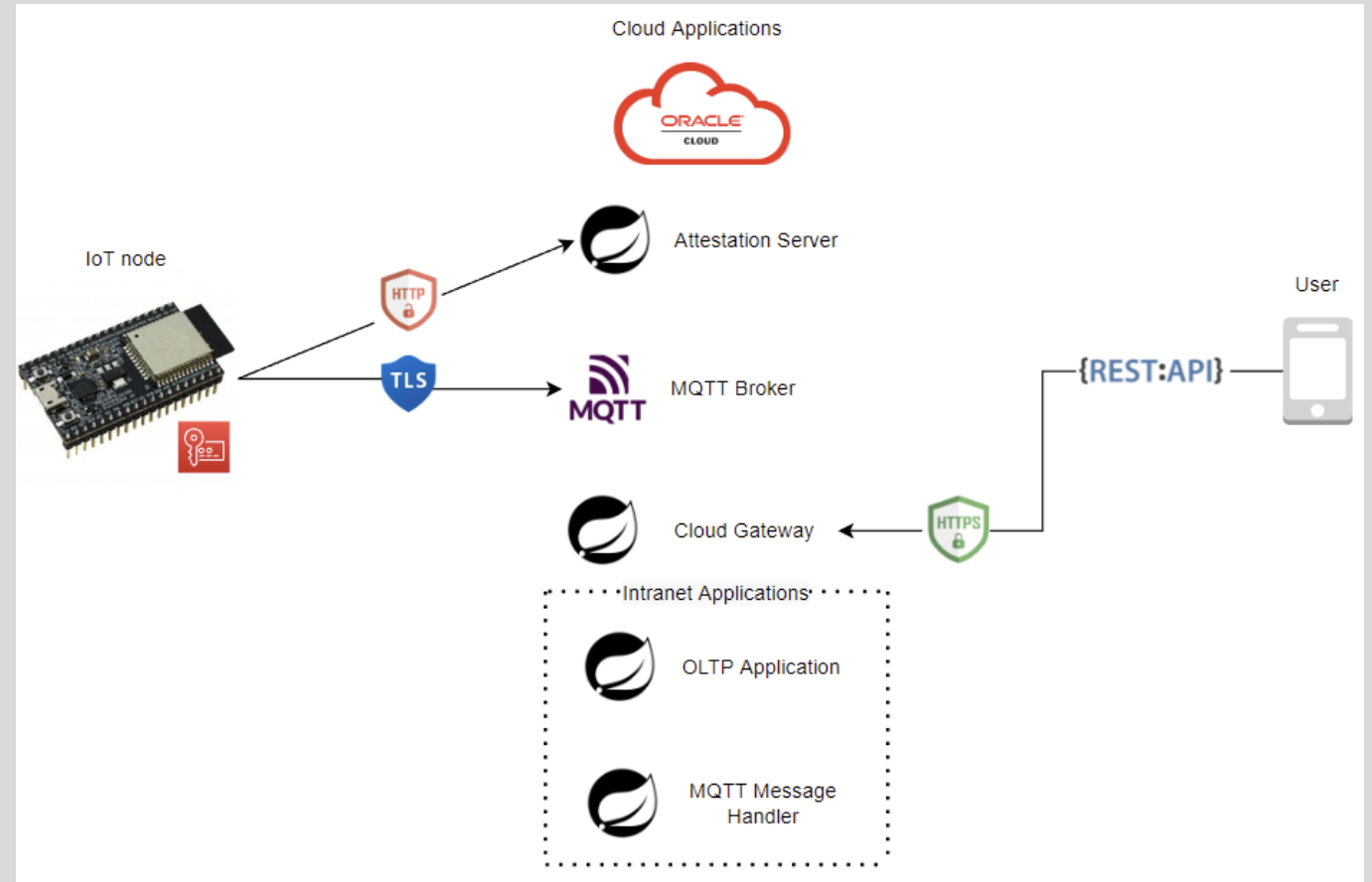


## DESIGN OF THE IOT NODE

- Built using off the shelf components:
  - Espressif ESP32
  - DHT11 Temperature and Humidity Sensor
  - SW-420 Vibration Sensor
  - MQ-2 Gas Sensor
- Performs Edge Machine Learning
- Issues blockchain transactions
- Runs ESP-IDF and uses a CMake derived build system
- Has two Xtensa LX6 CPU cores and supports FreeRTOS
- Baked-in support for mbedTLS, which offers a plethora of cryptographic operations
- Sensor data is sent CBOR encoded and formatted according to the IPSO guidelines

# CLOUD-HOSTED MICROSERVICES

- Hosted on an Oracle Cloud Instance with 4 ARM cores and 24 GB of RAM
- Developed in Spring Boot
- Conforms to the microservice architecture: exposes all available endpoints through a web-facing gateway
- Runtime serving of configuration files using Spring Cloud Configuration Server
- Service Discovery through Netflix Eureka Server
- Transport layer security through HTTPS
- All requests are authenticated using JWT
- Deployed using Docker Compose



## SECURING THE SOLUTION ATTESTATION SERVICE

### 01 Mutual Authentication

Through signed X.509  
certificates

### 02 Session Key Establishment

Through EC Ephemeral  
Diffie-Hellman

### 03 Instance ID allocation

By calling the DB  
microservice

### 04 MQTT Connection

Using the established  
key for TLS-PSK



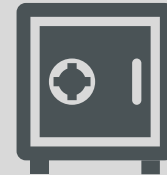
# SECURING THE SOLUTION PROTECTING SECRETS



**Credentials and other sensitive information are served to the microservices using HashiCorp Vault over HTTPS**



**The chosen strategy to prevent the secret zero problem is cubbyhole response wrapping**



**The flash storage of the IoT node is encrypted, saving the key in eFUSE**

# CONCLUSION



## **Resilient and secure solution**

- End-to-End encryption
- Resiliency is improved by removing gateways
- Entity attestation is enforced

# CONCLUSION



## **Feature rich and easily expandable**

- Handles sensor data transparently which allows facile extensions
- Performs edge Machine Learning supporting a large number of models
- Able to issue blockchain transaction
  - Persisting records into Ethereum Smart Contracts

# CONCLUSION



## Interoperable

- Industry standards such as IPSO formatting guide and CBOR have been used
- Transport over IP

**THANK YOU!**