

Project report - Internet of things

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I. INTRODUCTION

I implemented an IoT system that monitors the temperature of an house, to prevent useless HVAC consumption, detecting it by rapid temperature changes. Reducing energy usage has good environmental reasons and, in this way, you can also save money on the bills.

In this report I show the components and the structure of the system that I've realized. Then I show the experimental setup and the consequent results that I've obtained; at the end, I present some thoughts on them.

II. PROJECT'S ARCHITECTURE

The system is composed by an ESP-WROOM-32 board linked to two DHT22 sensors (one placed inside the house and one outside) and to a LED.

The board periodically collects indoor and outdoor temperature values. They are constantly analysed: if the indoor temperature values rapidly change (going towards the values of outdoor ones) the LED is temporarily turned on, thus showing an alarm signal to the user. In this way, if the temperature change is caused by, e.g., an open window, you can save unnecessary HVAC waste. Furthermore, based on all past data, the system makes a prediction of some future temperature values.

The temperature data collected are continuously sent to a gateway, that stores them, together with the alarm triggers and the forecasted values, on a local time-series database. All data are interactively visualized by a local web application, that shows them by means of charts.

III. PROJECT'S IMPLEMENTATION

A. Data acquisition

I made the `data_acquisition.ino` file to program the ESP32 board. I use the `Thing.CoAP` library to make the board act as a CoAP server and the `PubSubClient` library to make it act as a MQTT subscriber.

Through the CoAP protocol, the ESP32 is able to send the last indoor and the last outdoor temperature value collected, when asked.

Through the MQTT protocol, the board can receive some commands: to start or stop the sensors reading (at the beginning they are off), to change the interval between consecutive sensors readings (in both cases you can decide for just one of the two sensors) and to turn on or off the LED. My laptop acts as a MQTT broker, through Mosquitto.

B. Data proxy

I made the `data_proxy.py` file to create a Python application. I use the `aiocoap` library to make the script act as a CoAP client, the `paho-mqtt` library to make it act as a MQTT publisher and the `influxdb-client` library to store data.

Through the CoAP protocol, the application periodically requests, to the ESP32, the last indoor and the last outdoor temperature value collected.

Through the MQTT protocol, it gives commands to the board: initially it starts the sensors reading and sets their sampling rate and, when needed, it turns on (or off) the LED.

The script continuously stores the data on a local InfluxDB instance.

The network latency, between the temperature value request (to the ESP32) and its reception, is continuously monitored. After a while, the application evaluates the mean latency of the process.

C. Data analytics

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IV. RESULTS

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