

MQTT with Paho in Python

Install Paho MQTT

To install Paho MQTT, open a terminal and type `pip3 install paho-mqtt`

A dark-themed terminal window with a title bar labeled "Terminal" and three window control buttons (orange, yellow, green) on the right. The terminal contains the command `pip3 install paho-mqtt==1.6.1` in a light-colored monospace font.

```
Terminal

pip3 install paho-mqtt==1.6.1
```

NOTE: Install `paho-mqtt` version 1.6.1 or lower

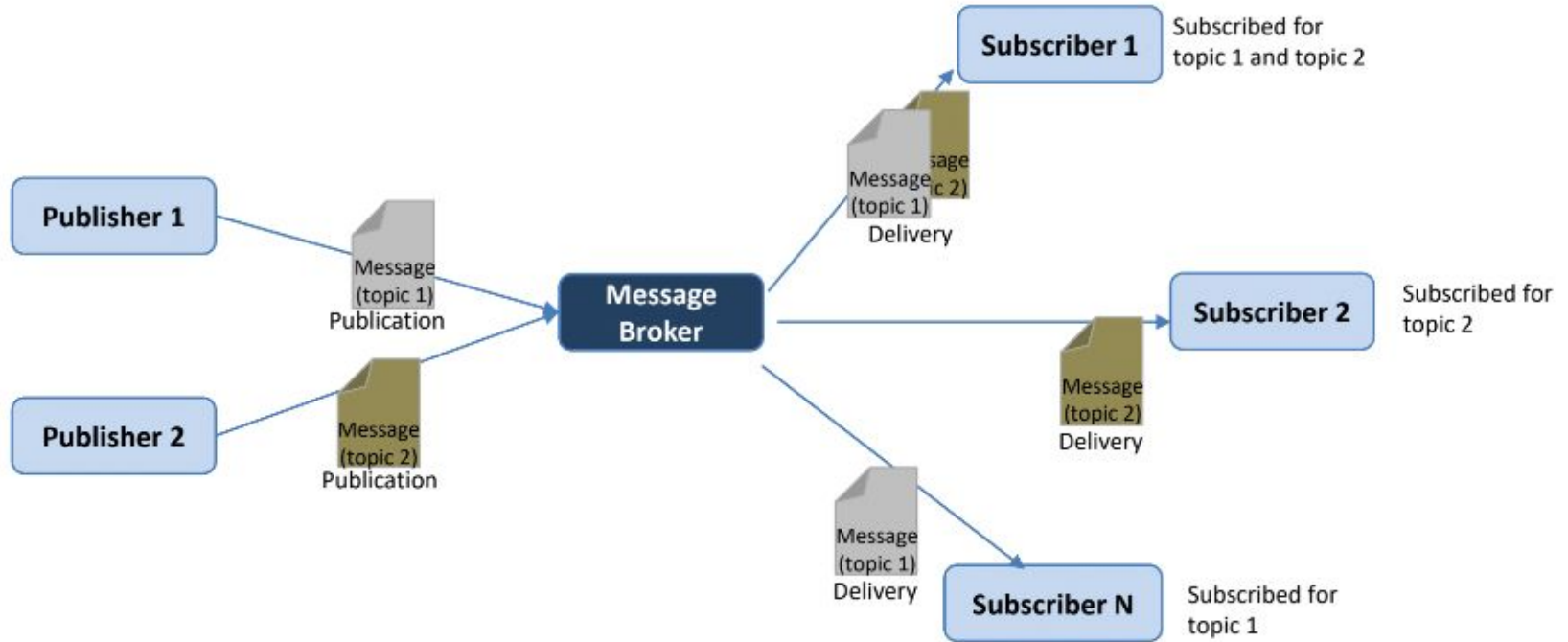
Polito giveth and Polito taketh

For all this exercises you will need to use a free MQTT broker. Unfortunately, if you are connected to the Polito WIFI you may **NOT** be able to reach every broker. A working one should be

mqtt.eclipseprojects.io

In case a broker stops working (whether you're here or at home) you can choose another one from this [website](#) (use the one that does not require any authentication or apikey)

Intro - MQTT



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We could briefly resume the structure of the MQTT communication paradigm with 3 main actors:

Publisher, Subscriber, Broker

- The *Publisher* is the actor that wants to send messages tagged by a *topic*
- The *Subscriber* is the actor that wants to receive messages that belong to variable number of *topics*.
- The *Broker* is the actor in the middle: it **receives** the messages from all the **publishers** and **forwards** each of them to the **subscriber** according to the *topic*.

In the next slides you can find the examples for the implementation of a publisher and a subscriber

MyPublisher

```
import paho.mqtt.client as PahoMQTT

class MyPublisher:
    def __init__(self, clientID, broker):
        self.clientID = clientID
        # create an instance of paho.mqtt.client
        self._paho_mqtt = PahoMQTT.Client(self.clientID, True)
        # register the callback
        self._paho_mqtt.on_connect = self.myOnConnect
        self.messageBroker = broker

    def start(self):
        #manage connection to broker
        self._paho_mqtt.connect(self.messageBroker, 1883)
        self._paho_mqtt.loop_start()

    def stop(self):
        self._paho_mqtt.loop_stop()
        self._paho_mqtt.disconnect()

    def myOnConnect(self, paho_mqtt, userdata, flags, rc):
        print("Connected to %s with result code: %d" % (self.messageBroker, rc))

    def myPublish(self, topic, message):
        # publish a message with a certain topic
        self._paho_mqtt.publish(topic, message, 2)
```

MySubscriber

```
class MySubscriber:
    def __init__(self, clientID, topic, broker):
        self.clientID = clientID
        # create an instance of paho.mqtt.client
        self._paho_mqtt = PahoMQTT.Client(clientID, True)
        # register the callback
        self._paho_mqtt.on_connect = self.myOnConnect
        self._paho_mqtt.on_message = self.myOnMessageReceived
        self.topic = topic
        self.messageBroker = broker

    def start(self):
        #manage connection to broker
        self._paho_mqtt.connect(self.messageBroker, 1883)
        self._paho_mqtt.loop_start()
        # subscribe for a topic
        self._paho_mqtt.subscribe(self.topic, 2)

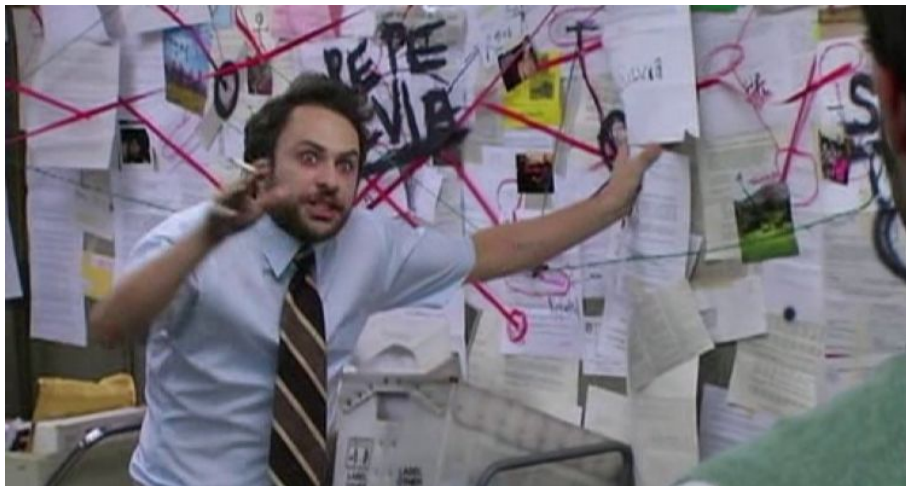
    def stop(self):
        self._paho_mqtt.unsubscribe(self.topic)
        self._paho_mqtt.loop_stop()
        self._paho_mqtt.disconnect()

    def myOnConnect(self, paho_mqtt, userdata, flags, rc):
        print("Connected to %s with result code: %d" % (self.messageBroker, rc))

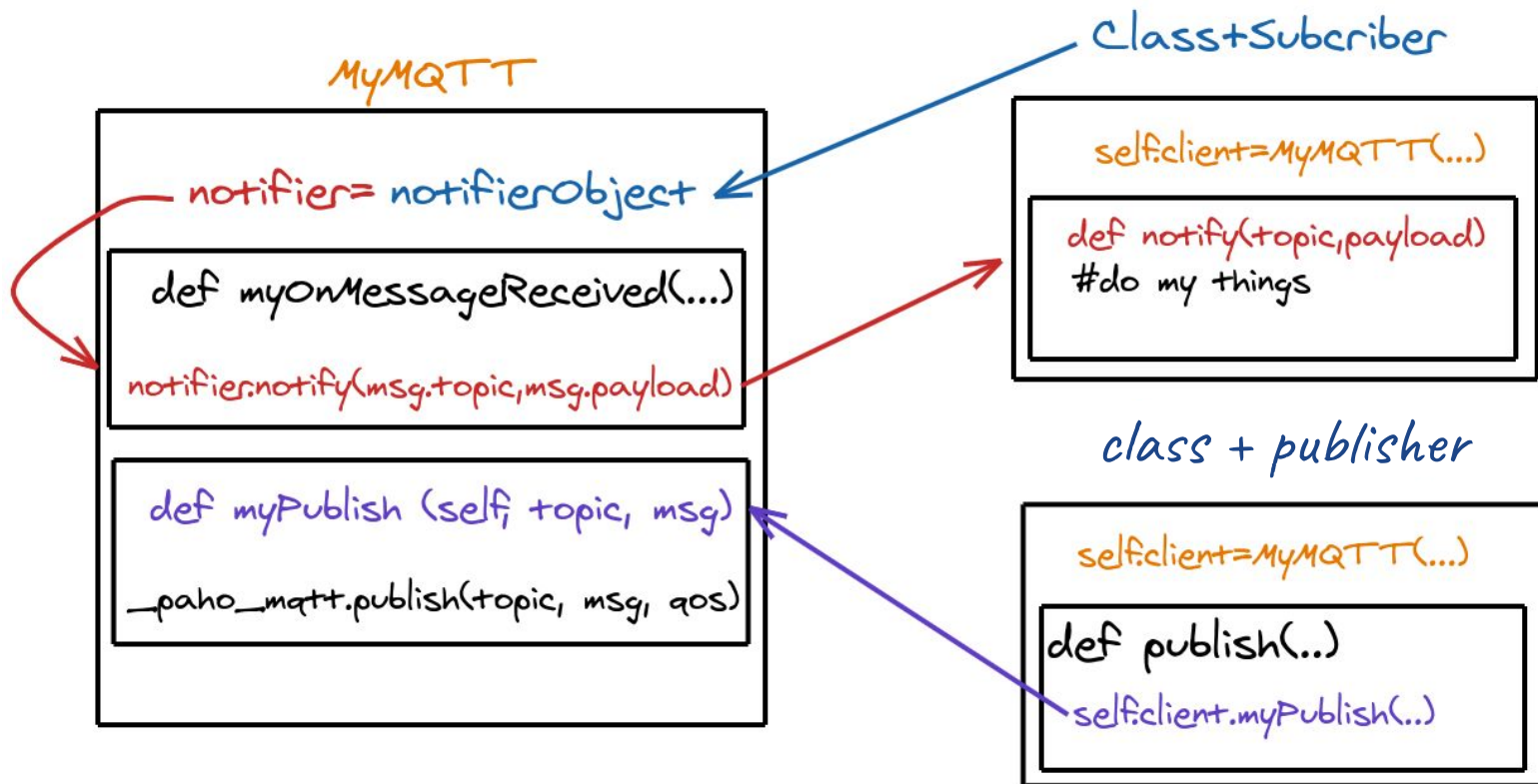
    def myOnMessageReceived(self, paho_mqtt, userdata, msg):
        # A new message is received
        print("Topic:" + msg.topic + ", QoS: '" + str(msg.qos) + "' Message: '" + str(msg.payload) + "'")
```

General MQTT Client: Why?

Considering the implementations above, everytime we want to add **MQTT capabilities** to a class, we need to write the same code to define all the functions that an MQTT client needs. We would like to have a **smarter** way to do that: we would like to have a **General purpose MQTT** client that we can always reuse without the need to copy-paste code.



General MQTT client: the idea



General MQTT Client: Code MyMQTT

```
import paho.mqtt.client as PahoMQTT

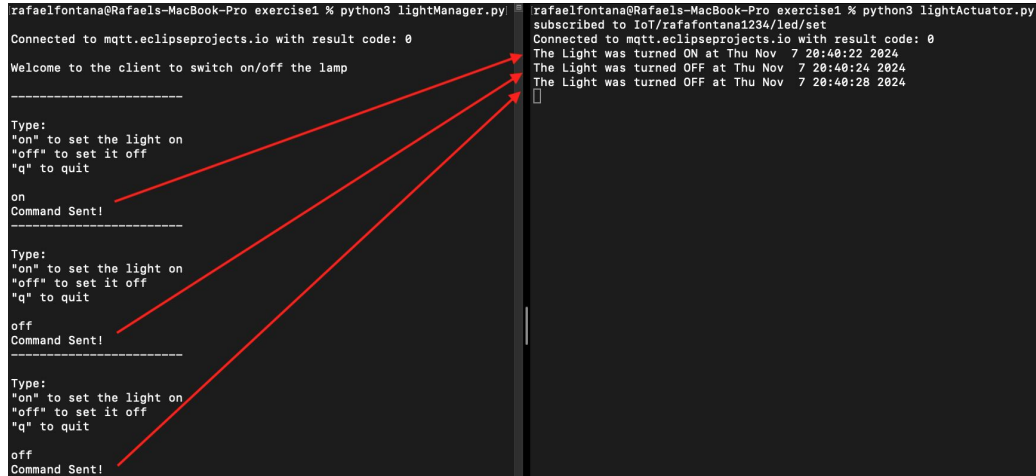
class MyMQTT:
    def __init__(self, clientID, broker, port, notifier=None):
        self.broker = broker
        self.port = port
        self.notifier = notifier
        self.clientID = clientID
        self._topic = ""
        self._isSubscriber = False
        # create an instance of paho.mqtt.client
        self._paho_mqtt = PahoMQTT.Client(clientID, False)
        # register the callback
        self._paho_mqtt.on_connect = self.myOnConnect
        self._paho_mqtt.on_message = self.myOnMessageReceived
    def myOnConnect (self, paho_mqtt, userdata, flags, rc):
        print ("Connected to %s with result code: %d" % (self.broker, rc))
    def myOnMessageReceived (self, paho_mqtt, userdata, msg):
        # A new message is received
        self.notifier.notify (msg.topic, msg.payload)
```

```
    def myPublish (self, topic, msg):
        # if needed, you can do some computation or error-check before publishing
        print ("publishing '%s' with topic '%s'" % (msg, topic))
        # publish a message with a certain topic
        self._paho_mqtt.publish(topic, json.dumps(msg), 2)
    def mySubscribe (self, topic):
        # if needed, you can do some computation or error-check before subscribing
        print ("subscribing to %s" % (topic))
        # subscribe for a topic
        self._paho_mqtt.subscribe(topic, 2)
        # just to remember that it works also as a subscriber
        self._isSubscriber = True
        self._topic = topic
    def start(self):
        #manage connection to broker
        self._paho_mqtt.connect(self.broker, self.port)
        self._paho_mqtt.loop_start()
    def stop (self):
        if (self._isSubscriber):
            # remember to unsubscribe if it is working also as subscriber
            self._paho_mqtt.unsubscribe(self._topic)
            self._paho_mqtt.loop_stop()
            self._paho_mqtt.disconnect()
```

Exercise 1

Create a script (`lightActuator.py`) that mimics a light which is an MQTT subscriber for the topic `IoT/<your-name>/led/set`. The light status can be **on/off**. Then, create a client (`lightManager.py`) that uses MQTT to set the status of the light from the terminal. Use the SenML format for the MQTT payload.

In this case you will need to run both the script to make it work properly. In case you're connected to the Polito's network you need to run in on the same pc, otherwise this restriction does not apply.



The image shows two terminal windows side-by-side. The left window is titled 'rafaelfontana@Rafaels-MacBook-Pro exercise1 % python3 lightManager.py'. It shows the client connecting to 'mqtt.eclipseprojects.io' and displaying a menu with options: 'on' to set the light on, 'off' to set it off, and 'q' to quit. The user enters 'on', and the terminal shows 'Command Sent!'. The user then enters 'off', and the terminal shows 'Command Sent!'. The right window is titled 'rafaelfontana@Rafaels-MacBook-Pro exercise1 % python3 lightActuator.py'. It shows the actuator subscribing to the topic 'IoT/rafaelfontana1234/led/set' and receiving two messages: 'The Light was turned ON at Thu Nov 7 20:40:22 2024' and 'The Light was turned OFF at Thu Nov 7 20:40:28 2024'. Three red arrows point from the 'on' and 'off' commands in the left terminal to the corresponding status change messages in the right terminal.

```
rafaelfontana@Rafaels-MacBook-Pro exercise1 % python3 lightManager.py
Connected to mqtt.eclipseprojects.io with result code: 0
Welcome to the client to switch on/off the lamp
-----
Type:
"on" to set the light on
"off" to set it off
"q" to quit
on
Command Sent!
-----
Type:
"on" to set the light on
"off" to set it off
"q" to quit
off
Command Sent!
-----
Type:
"on" to set the light on
"off" to set it off
"q" to quit
off
Command Sent!
```

```
rafaelfontana@Rafaels-MacBook-Pro exercise1 % python3 lightActuator.py
subscribed to IoT/rafaelfontana1234/led/set
Connected to mqtt.eclipseprojects.io with result code: 0
The Light was turned ON at Thu Nov 7 20:40:22 2024
The Light was turned OFF at Thu Nov 7 20:40:28 2024
█
```

Exercise 2

Extend Exercise 1 in such a way that `lightActuator` MUST check and compare the status of the light and the received MQTT command. If the status of the light and the received command are the same (e.g. command to set light ON, but light was already ON), the `lightActuator` will send an MQTT alert under the topic `IoT/<your-name>/led/alert` to the `lightManager`. The `lightManager` must be able to receive this alert (MQTT subscriber) and print it.

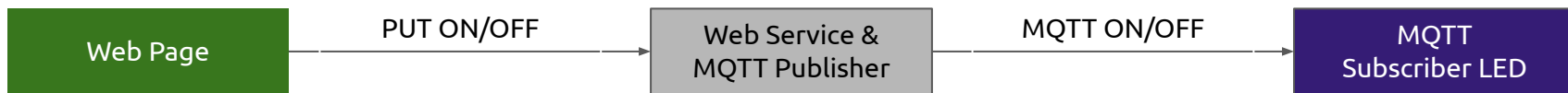
Therefore, both `lightActuator` and `lightManager` will work both as MQTT publishers and subscribers.

Exercise 3

Try to improve the previous exercise by creating a REST client to set the status of the light. You can use the file `index.html` as page for the **GET** request. When you will click on the button the page will execute a **PUT** request where the uri indicates the status we want to set (i.e. <http://localhost:8080/on>).

So, we need to create a web service able to handle a GET request and a PUT request:

- **GET** should return the `index.html`
- **PUT** should **send an MQTT message** to the proper topic with the status indicated in the URI of the request



Exercise 4

Create a client that collects the data coming from a group of temperature and humidity sensors that are on a building **“IoT Project”**. The simulated data is published using the script `sensors.py`. The building has 5 floors (from 0 to 4), with 3 rooms on each floor and one sensor in each room (5 x 3 -> 15 sensors in total). Each sensor publishes data using a topic as follows:

```
<yourName>/buildingID/floorID/roomID/sensorID
```

For example, the sensor on room 2 in the 4th floor will publish on the following topic:

```
rfontana/IoT_project/4/2/DH_311
```

We want to create a client that give the possibility to choose how to retrieve data according to three options:

- Data from all the sensors of the building
- Data from all the sensors on a single floor
- Data from a sensor in a particular room

If you feel confident enough, you can try to give the user the possibility to change his idea and change what he wants to monitor *on the fly*.

It may be needed to reduce the number of simulated floors and rooms since the broker could prevent too many clients connecting from the same PC.