



Time-to-Market with Zephyr, Pigweed, and Firebase

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## Timelines are everything

- In both big and small companies (even personal projects) time is expensive
- Making a great product is hard, iterating on it is harder
- Firebase is great for user facing projects, I wouldn't start a new project without it:
  - remote configs
  - feature flags
  - analytics (user engagement)
  - crashlytics
- Pigweed bridges the gap for embedded applications wanting to get going quickly
- Can we have both?



## Let's build a product

- What's our product?
- Getting set up
- Configuring logging
- Application logic
- Tracking events
- Remote config (A/B testing or feature rollout)
- Crash reporting



# What's our product?

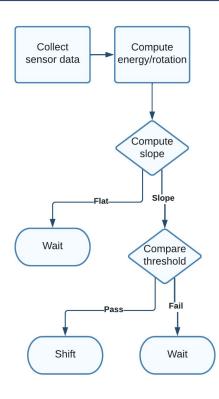




## Automatic gear shifter for cycling

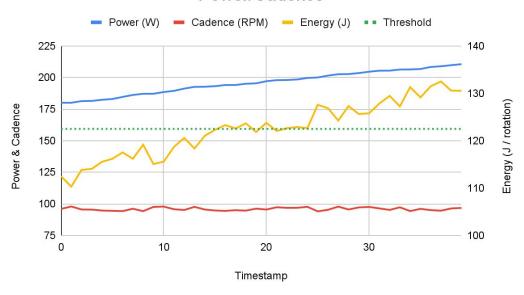
- Inputs:
  - Cadence (RPMs)
  - Power (Watts)
  - Speed (m/s)
  - Gravity vector (climb gradient)
  - Manual gear override (up/down gear shifts)
- Output:
  - Gear selection (rear and front cassette)





## A simple decision graph







# Getting set up





## Create a west.yml

```
manifest:
  remotes:
    - name: zephyr
      url-base: https://github.com/zephyrproject-rtos
    - name: pigweed
      url-base: https://pigweed.googlesource.com/pigweed
  projects:
    - name: zephyr
      remote: zephyr
      revision: main
      import: true
    - name: pigweed
      remote: pigweed
      revision: main
```



## Select kConfig values

```
# Enable C++
CONFIG_CPP=y
CONFIG_STD_CPP17=y
CONFIG_CPP_MAIN=y
```



#### main.cc

```
#include <zephyr/logging/log.h>
int main() {
  LOG_INF("Hello Zephyr logs");
  return 0;
}
```



### Building

- Environment setup:
  - On every run of west update:
    - \$ . ./pigweed/bootstrap.sh
  - When you start working:
    - \$ . ./pigweed/activate.sh
- Build:
  - \$ west build -p -b \${BOARD} app



# Configuring logging





## Select kConfig values

```
# Enable C++
CONFIG_CPP=y
CONFIG_STD_CPP17=y
CONFIG_CPP_MAIN=y
```

```
# Enable tokenized RPC logging
CONFIG_PIGWEED_LOG_TOKENIZED_RPC=y
```



#### What just happened?

- CONFIG\_PIGWEED\_LOG\_TOKENIZED\_RPC enables by default tokenized logging.
- Pigweed logging is intercepting the Zephyr logs too
- Pigweed generated a hash based token database for logs
- All logs are put into a proto <u>message LogEntry</u>
- Log messages are sent via a service stream to the host on a common HDLC server
- Messages can be decoded via python or webconsole
  - Python: \$ python3 -m pw\_system.console --device
    /dev/ttyUSB1 --token-database build/database.csv
  - Webconsole...



## Decoding (python)

\$ python3 -m pw\_system.console \
 --device /dev/ttyUSB0 \
 --token-database build/database.csv



## Decoding (Webconsole)

- \$ cd pigweed/pw\_web/webconsole
- \$ npm install --force
- \$ npm run dev





## Decoding (anywhere else)

- The generated database can be shared
- Decoding can be done in:
  - Python
  - O C++
  - TypeScript / JavaScript
  - Java (Android)



# Application logic





### After sensor processing

- Energy data will be placed in a buffer of q31\_t values
  - Range is [-1,1]
  - Requires an int8\_t shift value for scaling
- Get the currently configured threshold (using RemoteConfig RPC)
- Iterate through the buffer & compare against threshold
- On gear shift, register event



# Tracking events





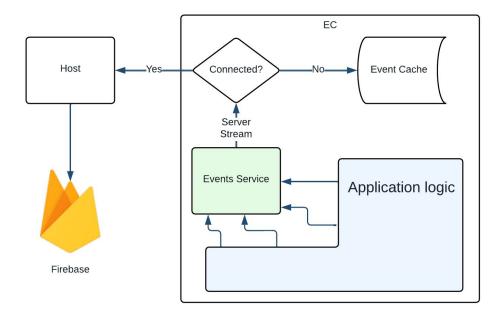
### Event logging data path

Application logic passes event data to the FirebaseEventsService

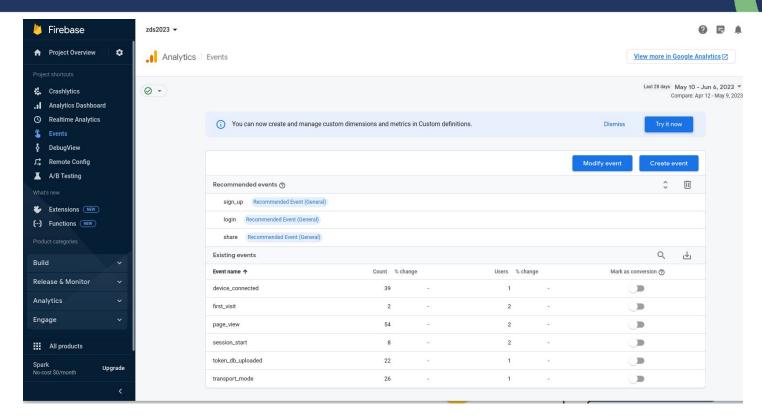
```
message FirebaseEventParam {
   string key = 1;
   oneof value {
     int64 int_value = 2;
     bool bool_value = 3;
     string string_value = 4;
   };
};

message FirebaseEvent {
   string name = 1;
   repeated FirebaseEventParam params = 2;
};

service FirebaseEventService {
   rpc Listen(FirebaseEventRequest)
        returns (stream FirebaseEvent);
}
```

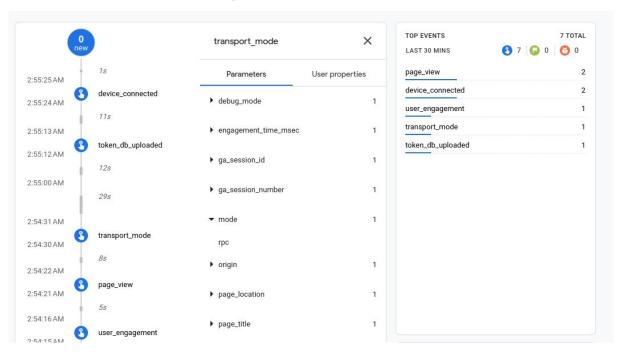








## Sample of events in DebugView





# Remote config & A/B testing

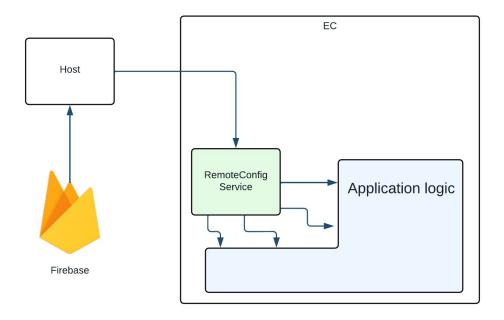




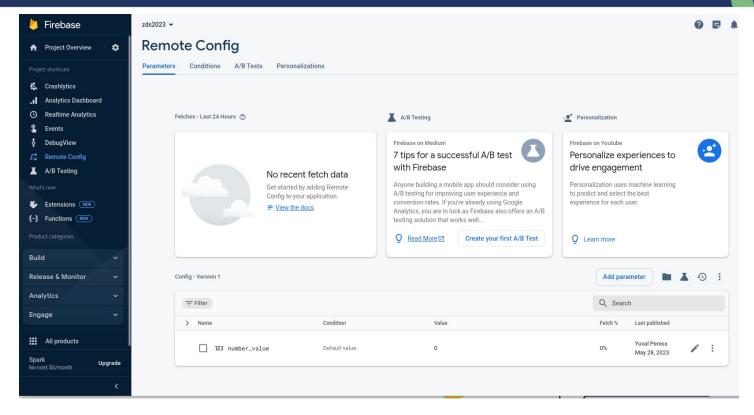
#### Remote config data path

## Host passes config data to the FirebaseRemoteConfigService

```
message FirebaseRemoteConfig {
   string key = 1;
   oneof value {
     int64 int_value = 2;
     bool bool_value = 3;
     string string_value = 4;
   };
};
message FirebaseRemoteConfigResponse {};
service FirebaseRemoteConfigService {
   rpc Set(stream FirebaseRemoteConfig)
        returns
(FirebaseRemoteConfigResponse);
}
```









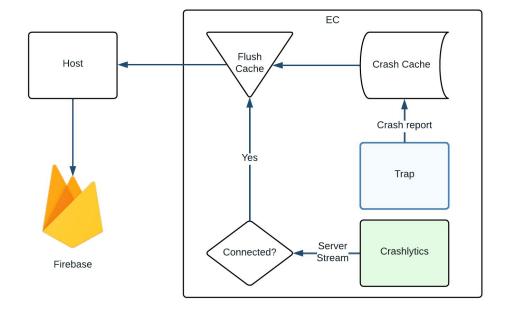
# Crash reporting





#### Crash reporting concepts

- It should work like the events service
- On crash, stack information is saved to persistent memory
- On host connection, flush the last crash event to the host





# Putting it all together





- Use RemoteConfig:
  - to parameterize the algorithms
  - when introducing new features
  - with A/B testing to check if a new configuration is better
- Use events:
  - to see common user journeys in the field
  - to reproduce crashes
  - to help inform your application logic and focus future investment
- Use crashlytics:
  - to understand when users are running into issues
  - to provide improved and more reliable user experience



#### In our example

- Add event logging for manual gear override
- Gear switching algorithm will have a RemoteConfig downshift and upshift energy/rotation threshold
- When we improve the algorithm (to include the gradient in the equation) we can put the new calculation behind a bool RemoteConfig for a slower rollout



# Questions?

