IBM Bluemix Node-RED Watson Starter

Cognitive Solutions Application Development

IBM Global Business Partners

Duration: 45 minutes Updated: Nov 28, 2018 Klaus-Peter Schlotter kps@de.ibm.com



Overview

The IBM Watson Developer Cloud (WDC) offers a variety of services for developing cognitive applications. Each Watson service provides a Representational State Transfer (REST) Application Programming Interface (API) for interacting with the service. Some services, such as the Speech to Text service, provide additional interfaces.

The Node-Red Watson Starter will use the Visual Recognition service to show the integration into Watson Cloud services.

Node-RED is a visual tool for wiring the Internet of Things. It is easy to connect devices, data and api's (services). It can also be used for other types of applications to quickly assemble flows of services. Node-RED is available as open source and has been implemented by the IBM Emerging Technology organization. Node-RED provides a browser-based flow editor that makes it easy to wire together flows using the wide range of nodes in the palette. Flows can be then deployed to the runtime in a single-click. While Node-Red is based on Node.js, JavaScript functions can be created within the editor using a rich text editor. A built-in library allows you to save useful functions, templates or flows for re-use.



Node-RED is included in the Node-RED starter application in IBM Cloud but you can also deploy it as a stand alone Node.js application. Node-RED can not only be used for IoT applications, but it is a generic event-processing engine. For example you can use it to listen to events from http, websockets, tcp, Twitter and more and store this data in databases without having to program much if at all. You can also use it for example to implement simple REST APIs. You can find many other sample flows on the Node-RED website.

This app in this lab will be created and run on your IBM Cloud Account...

- In a first step, a IBM Cloud Node-RED environment will be created and setup. This will then host your Node-RED flows.
- Next you will create a simple Node-RED flow that allows you to past an Image URL from the Web and pass it to the IBM Watson Visual Recognition service you have created in an earlier lab.

Objectives

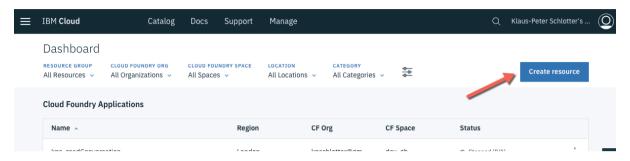
- Learn how to use the Node-Red environment on IBM Cloud
- Learn how to implement the Image-Analysis application using Node-Red

Prerequisites

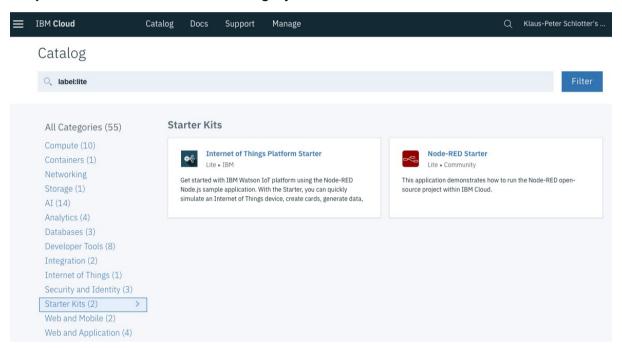
The prerequisite for this lab is an IBM Cloud account and a Watson Visual Recognition service created in an earlier lab (**Lab 1**), or create a Visual Recognition Service in the IBM Cloud console and retrieve the key from there (Service Credentials).

Section 1: Creating a Node-RED Visual Recognition Flow on IBM Cloud

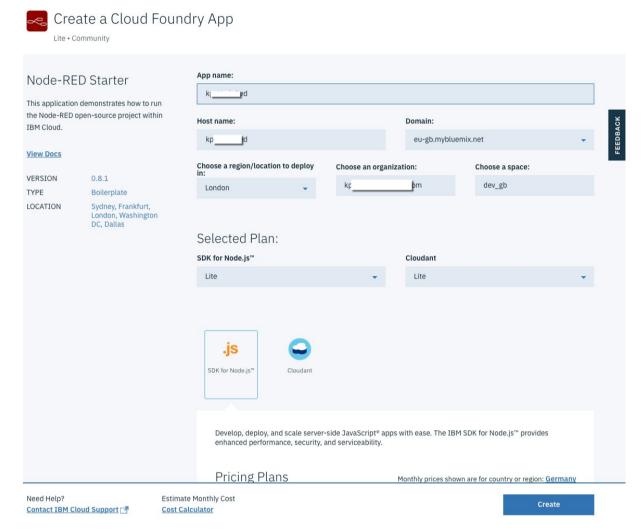
Step 1 Log in to your IBM Cloud console and click Create resource



Step 2 Under the Starter Kits category click the Node-RED Starter



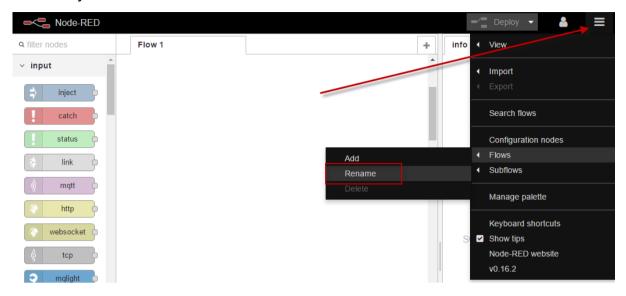
Step 3 Give your App a unique name and click the **Create** button.



It may take a while until a Node-RED environment is instantiated and started in your IBM Cloud environment

- **Step 4** In your App dashboard click the link for the running Node-RED application. You will first see the Welcome screen that lists some configuration steps. Click **Next**.
- **Step 5** You can secure your Node-RED editor by specifying a user id and password. Select the options that best suit your needs and click **Next**.
- **Step 6** On the *Finish the Install* screen click **Finish**. Your Node-RED environment will be started.
- Step 7 On the Node-RED on IBM Bluemix screen just click Go to your Node-RED flow editor.
- **Step 8** Eventually enter the username and password created in Step 5 and click **Login**.
- **Step 9** A Node-RED Flow editor opens with an empty panel named *Flow 1*.

Step 10 Rename your Flow via the menu f.e. IBM Node-RED Lab.

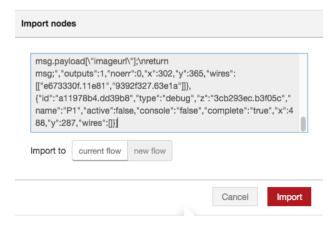


Step 11 Click Done.

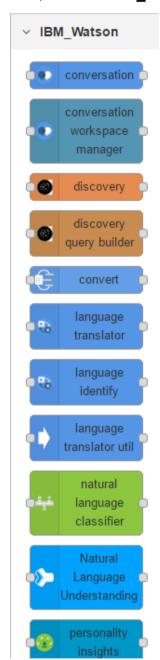


Step 12 (Optional:) If you have problems creating the flow described in the following steps, you can also import the flow from here.

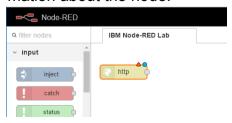
- a) Open the file in a text editor.
- b) Copy all content to the clipboard
- c) From the Node-Red editor menu select Import → Clipboard, paste the code, select import to current flow and click Import.



Step 13 In the left side bar of the Editor you see a lot of standard Node-RED nodes. At the end of the list there are certain categories already customized by IBM, such as **IBM_Watson**.



Step 14 From the input category of nodes drag the on the editor pane. The Info pane on the right side bar give you some information about the node.

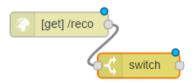


Step 15 Double click the **http** input node and specify the http **GET** request and an url of **/reco** and click **Done**.

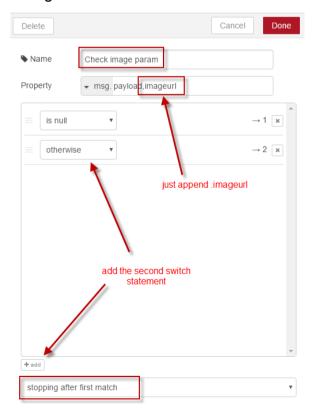


This is the URL appended to your Bluemix Node-RED application to initialize the new flow **IBM Node-RED lab**.

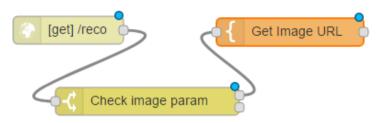
- **Step 16** In the nodes function section drag a switch node and drop it on the editor pane.
- **Step 17** Select the *output* of the /reco node and drop it on the *input* of the **switch** node.



Step 18 Double click the **switch** node and enter the info shown on the following image and click **Done**.



Step 19 From the *function* section of nodes drag a template node and drop it on the editor pane and connect the "is null" **output** of the switch to the **input** of the template.



Step 20 Double click the **template** and specify the following information:

a) Name: Get Image URL

b) Leave property as msg.payload

c) Syntax Highlight: HTML

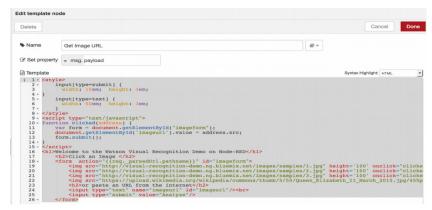
d) Format: Moustache template

e) Template:

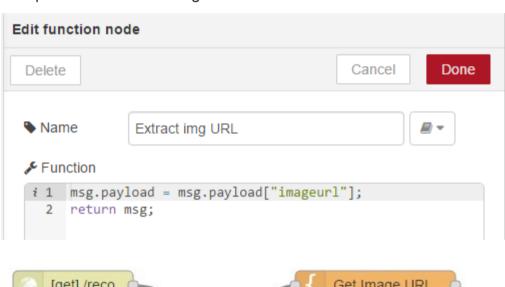
```
<style>
input[type=submit]{
   background-color: rgb(85,150,230);
   border: none;
   color: white;
   padding: 16px 32px;
   text-decoration: none;
   margin: 4px 2px;
   cursor: pointer;
    font-size: 15px;
   border-radius: 10px;
input[type=text] {
   width: 50em; height: 3em;
</style>
<script type="text/javascript">
function clicked(address) {
var form = document.getElementById("imageform");
document.getElementById('imageurl').value = address.src;
form.submit();
</script>
<div align="center">
<h1>Welcome to the Watson Visual Recognition Demo on Node-RED</h1>
 <h2>Click an Image </h2>
<form action="{{req. parsedUrl.pathname}}" id="imageform">
<img src="http://visual-recognition-demo.ng.bluemix.net/images/samples/1.jpg" height='100'</pre>
onclick="clicked(this)"/>
<img src="http://visual-recognition-demo.ng.bluemix.net/images/samples/2.jpg" height='100'</pre>
onclick="clicked(this)"/>
<img src="http://visual-recognition-demo.ng.bluemix.net/images/samples/3.jpg" height='100'</pre>
onclick="clicked(this)"/>
<img src="https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/5/50/</pre>
Queen_Elizabeth_II_March_2015.jpg/455px-Queen_Elizabeth_II_March_2015.jpg" height='100'
onclick="clicked(this)"/>
<h2>or paste an URL from the internet</h2>
<input type="text" name="imageurl" id="imageurl"/><br>
<input type="submit" value="Analyze"/>
</form>
</div>
```

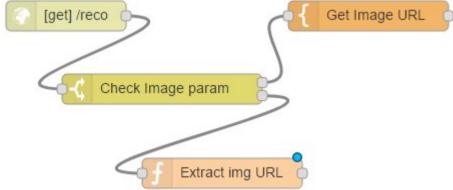
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f) Click Done.

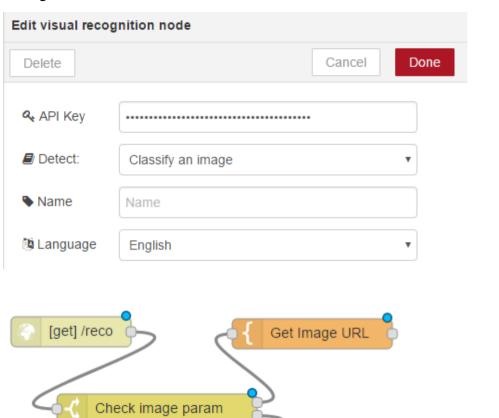


Step 21 Add a function node (named *Extract img URL* here) to convert the *imageurl* JSON object to a string and assign it to the payload to be provided as input to the Visual Recognition node:





Step 22 From the IBM_Watson category select the visual recognition node and drop it behind the change node from previous step. Double click the Visual Recognition node and enter your api key you have created for the Visual Recognition service in Lab 01. Click Done.



Extract img URL

visual recognition

Step 23 Add another template behind the Visual Recognition node. Click Done.

a) Name: Report

b) property: message.payload

c) Syntax Highlight: mustache

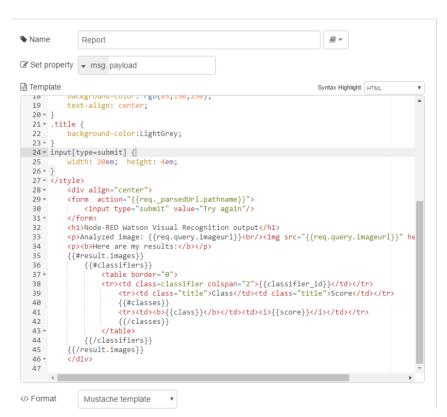
d) Format: Mustache template

e) Template

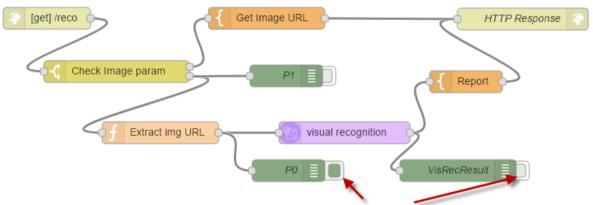
```
<div align="center">
   <form action="{{req. parsedUrl.pathname}}">
     <input type="submit" value="Try again"/>
   </form>
   <h1>Node-RED Watson Visual Recognition output</h1>
   Analyzed image: {{req.query.imageurl}}<br/>><img src="{{req.query.imageurl}}" height='200'/>
   <b>Here are my results:</b>
   {{#result.images}}
      {{#classifiers}}
         {{classifier id}}
           ClassScore
            {{#classes}}
            <b>{{class}}</b><i>{{score}}</i>
            {{/classes}}
         {{/classifiers}}
   {{/result.images}}
</div>
```

f) Optional Styling at the top of the template

```
<style>
h4 {
    text-align: center;
    margin: 10px;
table {
    width: 480px;
    margin-top: 10px;
th, td {
    padding: 8px;
    text-align: left;
    border-bottom: 1px solid #ddd;
    background-color: #FFFFFF;
    width: 50%;
.classifier {
    background-color: rgb(85,150,230);
    text-align: center;
    background-color:LightGrey;
input[type=submit]{
    background-color: rgb(85,150,230);
    border: none;
    color: white;
    padding: 16px 32px;
    text-decoration: none;
    margin: 4px 2px;
    cursor: pointer;
    font-size: 15px;
    border-radius: 10px;
</style>
```



Step 24 As the final node add a http response, name it HTTP Response, and connect it as shown in the following picture. Optional hebug tab.



Optional Debug nodes enabled/disabled by click on the button

- Step 25 Click the button at the top of the Node-RED application to deploy the flow in your environment.
- **Step 26** Test the flow by calling the url http://<yourNode-REDHost>.mybluemix.net/reco



Welcome to the Watson Visual Recognition Demo on Node-RED

Click an Image



or paste an URL from the internet



Step 27 Click on of the images or **Copy and Paste** any image URL from the internet and click **Analyze**



Node-RED Watson Visual Recognition output

 $Analyzed\ image: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/5/50/Queen_Elizabeth_II_March_2015.jpg/455px-Queen_Eli$



Here are my results:

default	
Class	Score
queen	0.908
person	0.976
Queen of England	0.706
queen mother	0.5
Tyrian purple color	0.81
fuschia color	0.788

This completes Lab 02 of the IBM Watson Services Workshop.