

Building a Better Thermostat

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<https://github.com/mtreinish/building-a-better-thermostat/tree/linuxcon-china>

June 19, 2017

Poughkeepsie, NY



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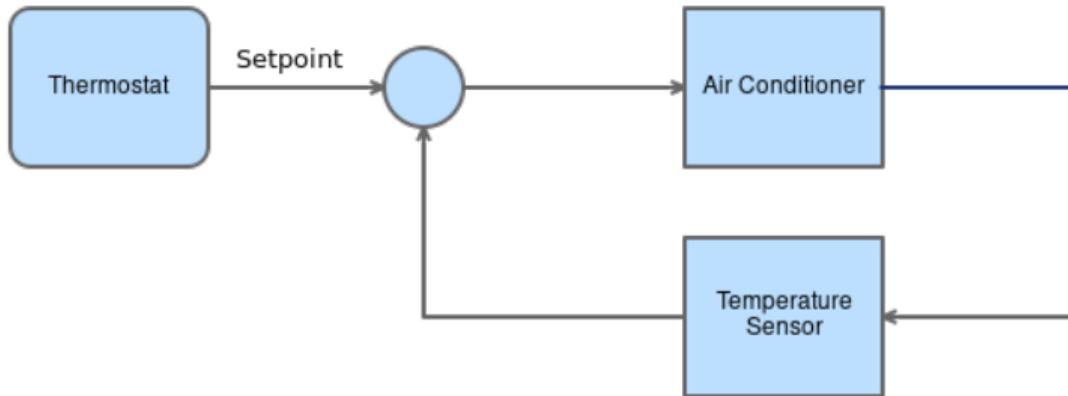
Room Layout



Air Conditioner Units



Thermostat



- ▶ Closed Loop control device
- ▶ 1 input temperature sensor
- ▶ 1 output for controlling heating and/or cooling system

Controlling the AC

- ▶ Can't take apart the Air Conditioner (I don't own it)
- ▶ No identifying information for the AC
- ▶ Control via power (use a relay to turn on and off)
- ▶ Wireless control ideal

Using Z-Wave

- ▶ Setup a Z-Wave network with Aeotec Z-Stick and OpenZWave
- ▶ Used Z-Wave outlet switch to control power to AC Units
- ▶ The same Z-Wave network can be used to add additional sensors and control devices



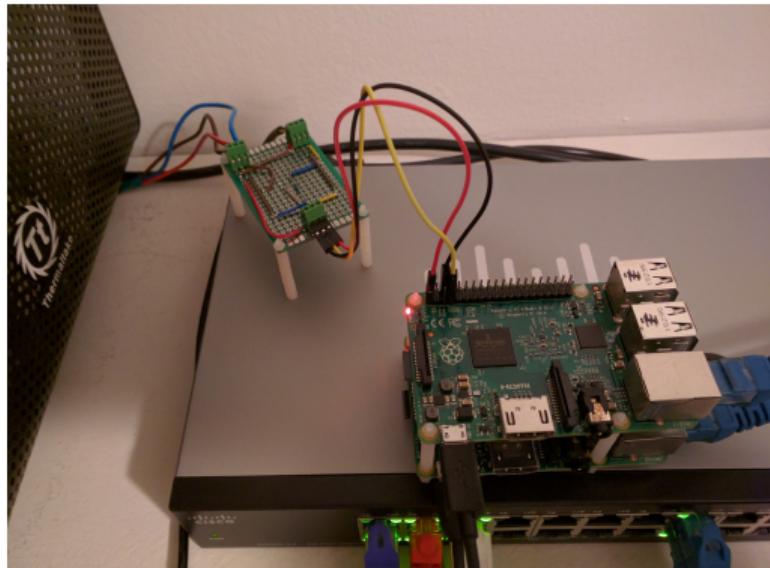
Sensing the Living Room Temperature

- ▶ Wireless sensor
- ▶ Leverage Z-Wave network
- ▶ Purchased a Z-Wave multi sensor which included temperature



Bedroom Temperature Sensing

- ▶ Track both bedroom and “data” closet temperatures
- ▶ Leverage spare raspberry pi sitting in “data” closet
- ▶ DS18B20 Dallas 1 wire temperature sensors used



Home Assistant

- ▶ Open Source Home Automation Platform
- ▶ Written in Python 3
- ▶ Has support for over 600 different components
- ▶ Runs locally (with all data locally)

Setting up thermostat in Home Assistant

<https://home-assistant.io/components/#climate>

 EQ3 Bluetooth Smart Thermostats Climate	 ecobee Thermostat Climate	 Generic Thermostat Climate	 heatmiser Thermostat Climate
HomeMatic Homematic Thermostats Climate	Honeywell Honeywell Thermostat Climate	 MySensors HVAC Climate	 Nest Thermostat Climate
 Netatmo Thermostat Climate	Oem OpenEnergyMonitor WiFi Thermostat Climate	 Proliphix Thermostat Climate	 Radio Thermostat (3M Filtrete) Thermostat Climate
 Vera Thermostat Climate	wink Wink Thermostat Climate	 Z-Wave Climate Climate	

- ▶ Many thermostat modules depending on hardware
- ▶ My use case requires the generic thermostat component to run it in software
- ▶ In Home Assistant config define generic thermostat devices with a temperature sensor and switch pair

Home Assistant Web Dashboard

The screenshot displays a Home Assistant dashboard with four main sections: Living Room, Bedroom, Data Closet, and Automation.

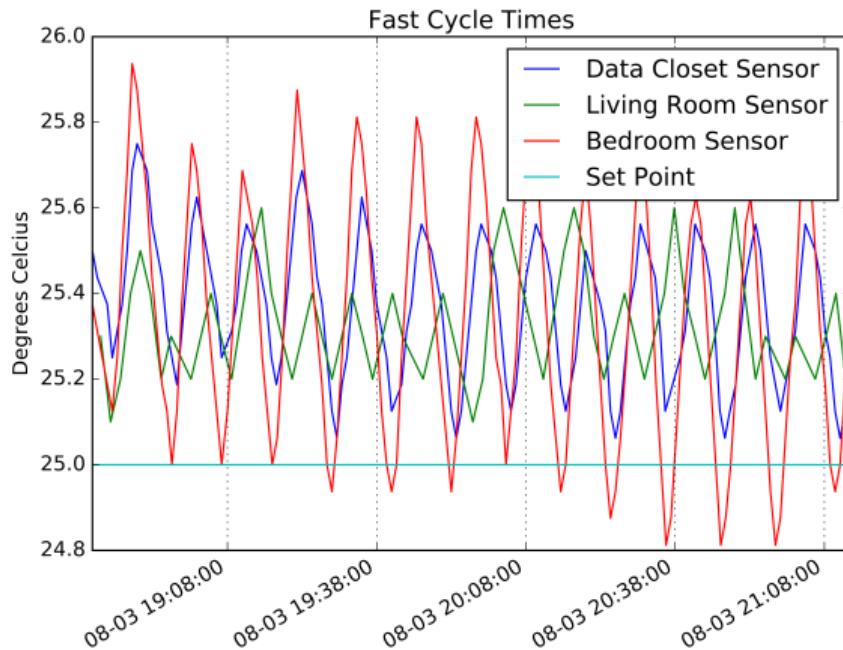
- Living Room:** Shows sensor values for Aeotec ZW096 Smart Switches, Aeotec ZW100 MultiSensors, and a Living Room entity.
- Bedroom:** Shows sensor values for Aeotec ZW096 Smart Switches, Aeotec ZW100 MultiSensors, and a Bedroom entity. A detailed graph for the Bedroom entity shows temperature fluctuations over the last 16 minutes, starting at 21.2°C and ending at 21.2°C.
- Data Closet:** Shows sensor values for Data Closet Temperature, UPS Battery, and UPS Input.
- Automation:** Lists seven automation rules for setting AC temperatures based on sensor values or specific events like leaving Starbucks.

At the top center, there is a circular icon bar containing icons for Sun, Moon, Rain, and various Aeotec and Z-Wave sensors.

DallasMQTT

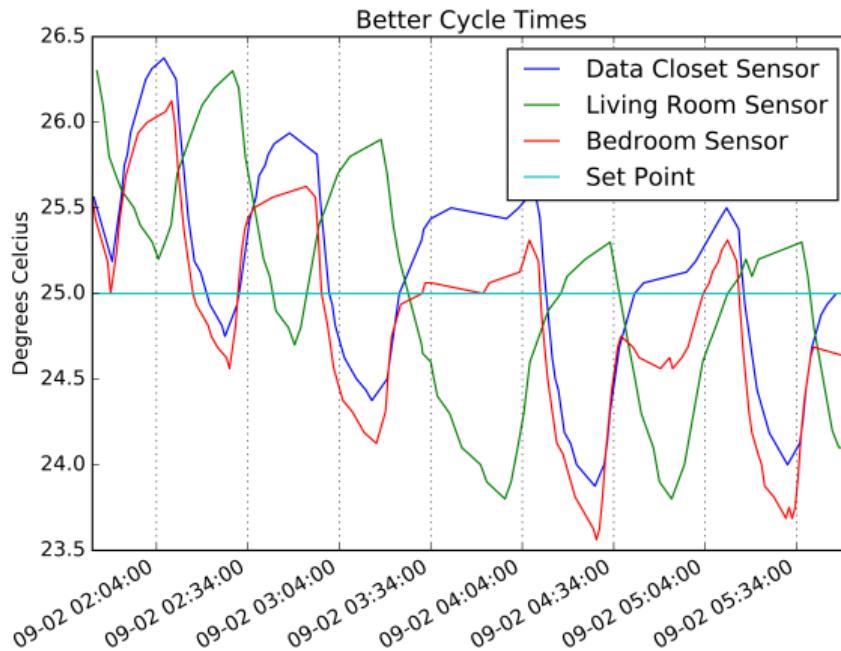
- ▶ Framework for polling sensors and pushing results on MQTT
- ▶ Handles an arbitrary number of sensors
- ▶ Currently only supports Dallas 1 wire temperature sensors from w1_therm linux driver
- ▶ Written in python

Short Cycle Time



- ▶ Bedroom on for 8 min. and off for 4 min.
- ▶ Living Room on for 4 min. off for 2 min.

Corrected Cycle Time



- ▶ Bedroom on for 20 min. and off for 21 min.
- ▶ Living Room on for 17 min. off for 29 min.

Starting to Automate

```
1 alias: Set Living Room AC to 30 C when asleep
2 trigger:
3     platform: time
4     after: '12:30:00'
5 condition:
6     - condition: time
7     before: '09:30:00'
8 action:
9     service: thermostat.set_temperature
10    entity_id: thermostat.living_room
11    data:
12        temperature: 30
```

Location Tracking

- ▶ Start writing rules based on my location
- ▶ Set temperature higher when I'm not home
- ▶ Pre-cool apartment when I'm heading home

Owntracks

- ▶ Open Source iOS and Android app for reporting location over MQTT
- ▶ Enables you to use either a private MQTT broker or public service
- ▶ Home assistant component available



Location Based Automation Rules

```
1 alias: Set Living Room AC to 26 C when leaving starbucks route 9
2 trigger:
3     platform: state
4     entity_id: device_tracker.myphone
5     from: 'Starbucks Route 9'
6 action:
7     - delay:
8         minutes: 5
9     - service: climate.set_temperature
10    entity_id: climate.living_room
11    data:
12        temperature: 26
```

Future Work

- ▶ More Sensors
- ▶ More automation
- ▶ Fix power usage collection

Where to get more information

- ▶ Blog Post <http://blog.kortar.org/?p=319>
- ▶ <https://home-assistant.io/>
- ▶ <https://github.com/mtreinish/dallasMQTT>
- ▶ <http://owntracks.org/>
- ▶ <https://github.com/openzwave/>
- ▶ W.J. Mulroy, "The Effect of Short Cycling and Fan Delay on the Efficiency of a Modified Residential Heat Pump", *ASHRAE Transactions*, Vol. 92, No. Part 1, pp. 813-816, January 1986