

Modern IoT Stack M1 Computer Science

Docker, MQTT, InfluxDB, Grafana & Node-RED
Complete Architecture for Professional IoT Applications



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The Problem: Traditional IoT Setup

✗ Naive Approach (System Installation)

1. Manually install Mosquitto
2. Manually install InfluxDB
3. Manually install Grafana
4. Configure each service individually
5. Manage dependencies
6. Resolve port conflicts

Scenario: Direct installation on the system

-  "It works on my machine" syndrome
-  Different configurations per OS
-  Incompatible dependencies
-  Setup takes hours

Problems: •  Difficult to clean up

✓ Modern Solution: Docker

Scenario: Docker Compose

```
# One single command
docker-compose up

# Everything starts:
# ✓ Mosquitto
# ✓ InfluxDB
# ✓ Grafana
# ✓ Node-RED
```





- ⚡ Setup in 30 seconds
- 🔄 Reproducible everywhere
- 🧹 Easy cleanup
- 🔒 Service isolation
- 📦 Precise versioning
- 🌐 Automatic networking

Benefits:

What is Docker?

Simple Definition: Docker = "Magic boxes" for your applications

Analogy: Shipping Containers

-  **Standardized:** Same format everywhere
-  **Portable:** Ship, train, truck
-  **Isolated:** Protected content
-  **Inventoried:** Know what's inside

```
# Image = "recipe" of container
```

```
FROM node:18
```

```
# What's inside the container
```





```
WORKDIR /app
```

```
COPY . .
```

```
RUN npm install
```

```
# How to start it
```

```
CMD ["node", "app.js"]
```

-  **Image:** The "blueprint" of the container
-  **Container:** Running instance
-  **Isolated:** Own filesystem
-  **Lightweight:** Shares OS kernel




Docker vs Virtual Machines

Feature	Virtual Machine (VM)	Docker Container
OS	Full OS (Windows, Linux...)	Uses host OS kernel (no full OS)
Size	🐘 Several GB (2-10 GB)	🐭 Few MB (10-500 MB)
Startup	🐌 Minutes (1-5 min)	⚡ Seconds (< 5s)
Isolation	🔒 Complete (virtual hardware)	🔒 Process-level (namespaces)
Performance	🐢 Significant overhead	🚀 Near native
Use Case	Different OS, max security	Microservices, CI/CD, dev

💡 **For IoT:** Docker is perfect - lightweight, fast to deploy, and easily orchestrates multiple services

VM vs Docker: Architecture Explained

 **Key Difference:** VM = Entire computer simulated | Docker = Just the application + libraries

Virtual Machine:

App A	App B
Guest OS (Linux) (2-10 GB)	
Hypervisor	
Host OS	

Docker Container:

App A	App B
Libraries only (10-500 MB)	
Docker Engine	
Host OS (kernel)	

← Shared!

Virtual Machine:

- Includes entire Guest OS
- Duplicates OS for each VM
- Heavy (GBs per VM)
- Slow boot (minutes)





Docker Container:

- Shares host OS kernel
- Only app + dependencies
- Lightweight (MBs per container)
- Fast boot (seconds)

Images vs Containers

Class Analogy: Image = Class, Container = Instance

Docker Image





-  **Template** - read-only
-  **Layers** - stacked
-  **Immutable** - never changes
-  **Build** once, run anywhere

```
# List images
docker images

# Download an image
docker pull nginx:latest

# Build an image
docker build -t myapp:1.0 .
```

Docker Container

-  **Instance** - running
-  **Writable** - can be modified
-  **Ephemeral** - can be destroyed
-  **State** - running, stopped, paused

```
# List active containers
docker ps

# Create and run container
docker run -d -p 80:80 nginx:latest

# Stop a container
docker stop my_container
```



Image vs Container Example



- One **image** can spawn multiple **containers**
- Containers are **isolated** from each other
- Each container has its own **writable layer**

Key Points: • Image remains **unchanged** when containers run



Docker Volumes: Data Persistence

⚠ Problem: When you delete a container, ALL its data is lost!

❌ Without Volume

```
# Launch InfluxDB
docker run influxdb:1.8

# Create data
# ... write to DB

# Delete the container
docker rm -f container_id

# 🤖 All data is gone!
```





Docker Volumes: Solution



With Volume

```
# Launch with volume
docker run -v influxdb_data:/var/lib/influxdb influxdb:1.8




# Create data
# ... write to DB

# Delete the container
docker rm -f container_id

# ✅ Data still there!
# Relaunch with same volume
docker run -v influxdb_data:/var/lib/influxdb influxdb:1.8
```

Result: Persistent data survives container restarts!

Types of Docker Volumes

Type	Syntax	Location	Use Case
Named Volume	<code>volumeName:/path</code>	Managed by Docker	 Persistent data (DB)
Bind Mount	<code>./host/path:/container/path</code>	Absolute path on host	 Config, source code
tmpfs	<code>--tmpfs /path</code>	RAM memory	 Temporary data

Concrete Examples

```
# docker-compose.yml
services:
  influxdb:
    volumes:
      - influxdb_data:/var/lib/influxdb  # Named volume

  mosquitto:
    volumes:
      - ./mosquitto.conf:/mosquitto/config/mosquitto.conf  # Bind mount


volumes:
  influxdb_data:  # Volume declaration
```

What Happens When You Delete?

- When you delete a container:**
-  **Container:** Deleted with its internal data
 -  **Volume:** Remains intact and can be reused
 -  **Image:** Still there, unchanged

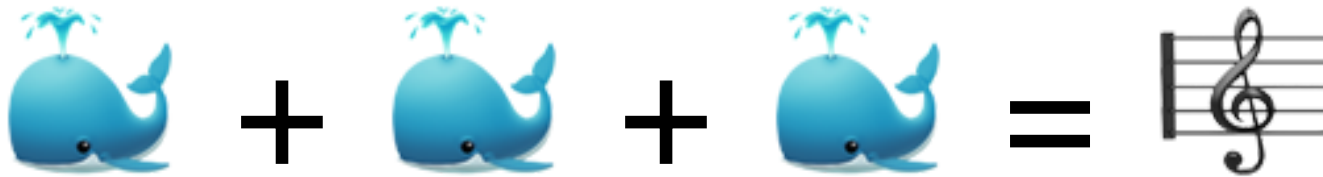
```
# Example workflow
docker run -v mydata:/data myapp      # Create container with volume
# ... work with data ...
docker rm -f myapp_container          # Delete container

# Volume "mydata" still exists!
docker volume ls                      # See all volumes
docker run -v mydata:/data myapp      # Reattach to same data
```

 **Best Practice:** Always use volumes for important data (databases, configs, logs)

Docker Compose

Orchestrating Multiple Containers Made Easy



What is Docker Compose?

Definition: Tool to define and run multi-container applications with a YAML file

Without Docker Compose

```
docker network create iot-network
docker run -d --name mosquitto --network iot-network -p 1883:1883 \
  -v ./mosquitto.conf:/mosquitto/config/mosquitto.conf eclipse-mosquitto
docker run -d --name influxdb --network iot-network -p 8086:8086 \
  -v influxdb_data:/var/lib/influxdb influxdb:1.8
docker run -d --name grafana --network iot-network -p 3000:3000 \
  -v grafana_data:/var/lib/grafana grafana/grafana
docker run -d --name nodered --network iot-network -p 1880:1880 \
  -v nodered_data:/data nodered/node-red
```

Problems: Complex, repetitive, error-prone

✓ With Docker Compose

```
# docker-compose.yml
services:
  mosquitto:
    image: eclipse-mosquitto
    ports:
      - "1883:1883"
    volumes:
      - ./mosquitto.conf:/mosquitto/config/mosquitto.conf

  influxdb:
    image: influxdb:1.8
    ports:
      - "8086:8086"
    volumes:
      - influxdb_data:/var/lib/influxdb

  grafana:
    image: grafana/grafana
    ports:
      - "3000:3000"
    volumes:
      - grafana_data:/var/lib/grafana

  nodered:
    image: nodered/node-red
    ports:
      - "1880:1880"
    volumes:
      - nodered_data:/data

volumes:
  influxdb_data:
```









```
grafana_data:  
nodered_data:
```

```
# One command!  
docker-compose up -d
```





Essential Docker Compose Commands

Command	Description	Use Case
<code>docker-compose up</code>	Create and start all services	 First time or after changes
<code>docker-compose up -d</code>	Start in background (detached)	 Free up terminal
<code>docker-compose down</code>	Stop and remove containers	 Cleanup (keeps volumes)
<code>docker-compose down -v</code>	Stop and remove volumes too	 Complete reset
<code>docker-compose ps</code>	List active containers	 Monitoring
<code>docker-compose logs</code>	View logs of all services	 Debugging
<code>docker-compose build</code>	Rebuild images	 After Dockerfile change
<code>docker-compose restart</code>	Restart services	 After config change

Docker Compose: Automatic Networking

Magic: Docker Compose automatically creates a private network for your services!

```
services:
  mosquitto:
    image: eclipse-mosquitto
    # Accessible via "mosquitto:1883"

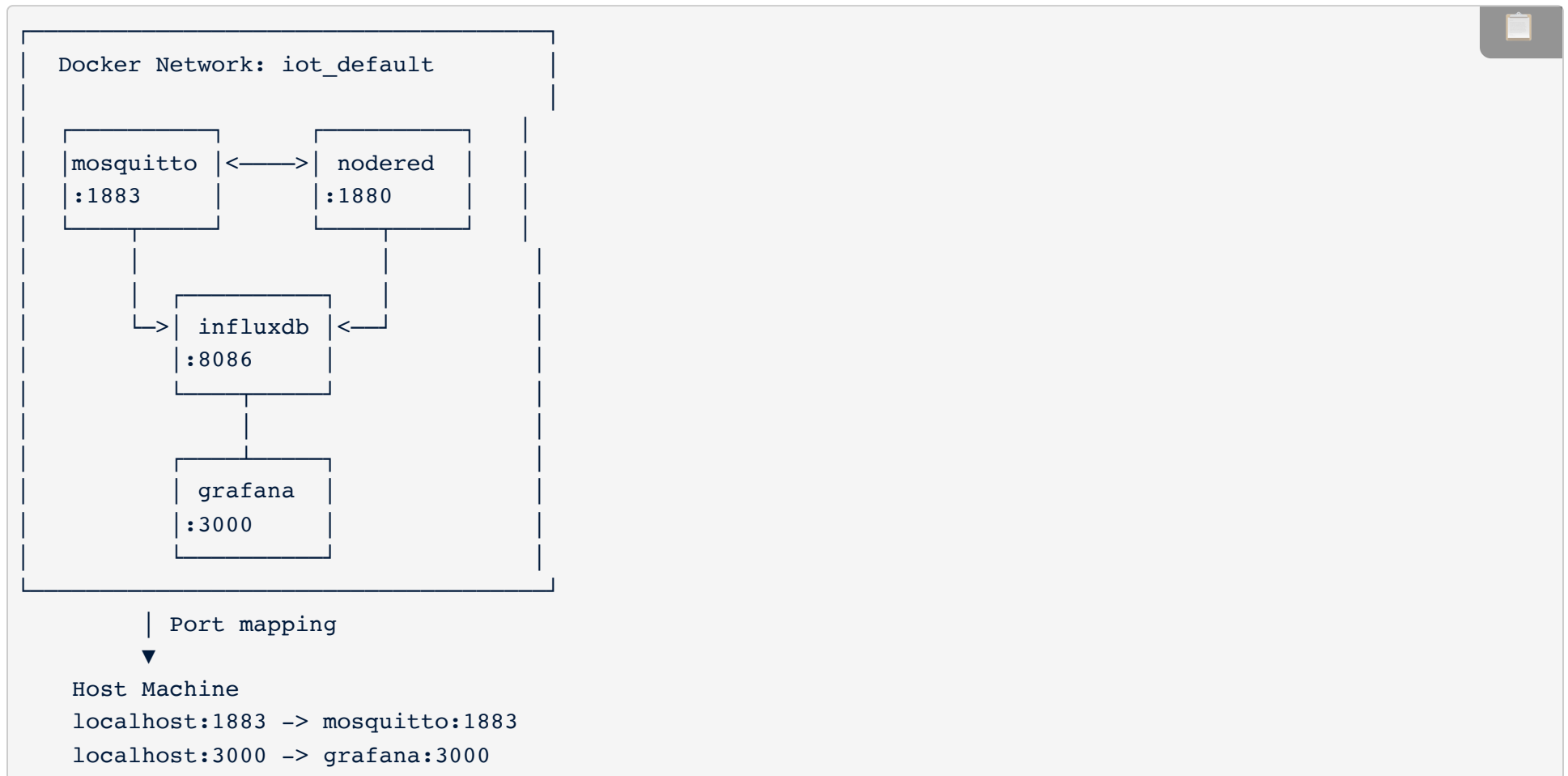
  nodered:
    image: nodered/node-red
    depends_on:
      - mosquitto
    # Node-RED can connect via: mqtt://mosquitto:1883
```

- 🏠 Service name = hostname
- 🔒 Isolated from outside world
- ⚡ Fast internal communication
- 📡 Built-in DNS



Benefits:

Network Diagram



```
// In Node.js code running inside Docker Compose
const mqtt = require('mqtt');

// ✅ CORRECT - use service name
const client = mqtt.connect('mqtt://mosquitto:1883');
```

Docker Cleanup: Prune Commands

⚠ Problem: Docker accumulates data (images, containers, volumes) that takes up space

Command	What it cleans	⚠ Warning
<code>docker container prune</code>	Stopped containers	✅ Safe, only stopped ones
<code>docker image prune</code>	Unused images (dangling)	✅ Safe, keeps tagged images
<code>docker image prune -a</code>	ALL unused images	⚠ Removes tagged images too
<code>docker volume prune</code>	Unattached volumes	🔴 DATA LOSS possible!
<code>docker system prune</code>	Containers, networks, images	⚠ Removes many things
<code>docker system prune -a --volumes</code>	EVERYTHING unused	🔴 COMPLETE RESET - Danger!

```
# Check disk space used by Docker
docker system df
```





MQTT: IoT Protocol

Messaging for the Internet of Things





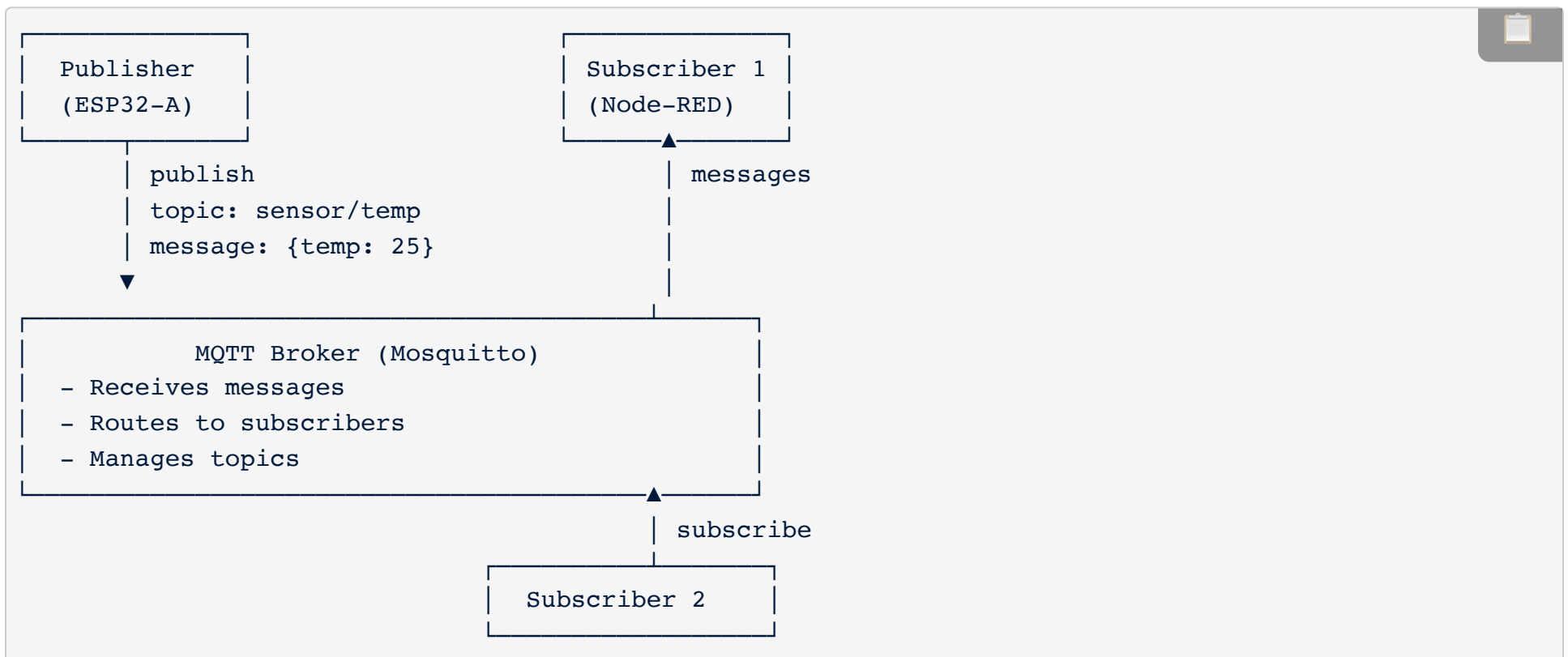
What is MQTT?

MQTT = Message Queuing Telemetry Transport




- 📧 Lightweight **messaging** protocol
- 🌐 Designed for **IoT** and unstable networks
- 📡 **Publish/Subscribe** pattern
- ⚡ Very low power consumption (battery friendly)



MQTT Architecture



MQTT Roles

- 💡 **Three Main Roles:**
-  **Publisher:** Sends messages to a topic
 -  **Subscriber:** Receives messages from a topic
 -  **Broker:** Central server that routes messages




Topic Structure

```
home/livingroom/temperature
home/livingroom/humidity
home/bedroom/temperature
sensor/esp32/a
sensor/esp32/b
sensor/esp32/led
```

Wildcards:

```
home/+/temperature    # + = one level
sensor/#               # # = all levels
```

Publish/Subscribe Pattern

-  **Decoupling:** Publisher and Subscriber don't know each other
-  **Topics:** Communication channels
-  **Many-to-Many:** 1 publisher → N subscribers

Key Principles: •  **Asynchronous:** Non-blocking

Example: Temperature Sensor

```
// Publisher (ESP32 - sensor)
const mqtt = require('mqtt');
const client = mqtt.connect('mqtt://mosquitto:1883');

client.on('connect', () => {
  setInterval(() => {
    const temp = Math.random() * 30 + 20;
    const payload = JSON.stringify({
      temperature: temp.toFixed(2),
      humidity: 65,
      timestamp: Date.now()
    });
    client.publish('sensor/esp32/a', payload);
    console.log('Published:', payload);
  }, 10000); // Every 10s
});
```




MQTT Subscriber Example

```
// Subscriber (Dashboard)
const mqtt = require('mqtt');
const client = mqtt.connect('mqtt://mosquitto:1883');

client.on('connect', () => {
  // Subscribe to topic
  client.subscribe('sensor/esp32/a', (err) => {
    if (!err) {
      console.log('Subscribed to sensor/esp32/a');
    }
  });
});

client.on('message', (topic, message) => {
  const data = JSON.parse(message.toString());
  console.log('Received:', data);
  // Display on dashboard, save to DB...
});
```

- ESP32 doesn't need to know who's listening
- Multiple subscribers can receive the same message



Benefits: • New subscribers can join anytime







MQTT vs HTTP: Fundamental Differences

Feature	HTTP (Request/Response)	MQTT (Pub/Sub)
Pattern	Client-Server (1:1)	Publish-Subscribe (M:N)
Connection	Short, per request	Persistent (WebSocket)
Overhead	🐘 Large headers (~200 bytes)	🐇 Very light (~2 bytes)
Real-time	❌ Polling needed	✅ Instant push
Bandwidth	🔴 High	🟢 Minimal
Battery	🔴 Drains quickly	🟢 Very efficient
Unstable Network	❌ Frequent timeouts	✅ QoS, auto-reconnect

Scenario 1: Temperature Monitoring - HTTP

HTTP Approach (Polling)

```
// Dashboard must poll every 5 seconds
setInterval(async () => {
  const response = await fetch('http://esp32/temp');
  const data = await response.json();
  updateUI(data);
}, 5000);
```

-  **17,280 requests / day**
 - 12 requests/minute × 60 min × 24h
 - Constant network traffic
-  **Latency (up to 5s before update)**
 - Temperature changes at 10:00:01
 - Dashboard updates at 10:00:05 (next poll)
 - Not real-time!
-  **ESP32 battery drained**
 - HTTP server always listening
 - Processing 17K+ requests daily
 - No sleep mode possible
-  **Bandwidth wasted**
 - Most polls return same data
 - HTTP headers overhead (~200 bytes each)
 - ~3.5 MB/day just for headers

Problems with HTTP Polling:

Scenario 1: Temperature Monitoring - MQTT





MQTT Approach (Push)

```
// Publisher (ESP32) - sends only when temperature changes
client.on('connect', () => {
  const currentTemp = readSensor();

  // Only publish if change > 0.5°C
  if (Math.abs(currentTemp - lastTemp) > 0.5) {
    client.publish('sensor/temp',
      JSON.stringify({temp: currentTemp}));
    lastTemp = currentTemp;
  }
});

// Subscriber (Dashboard) - receives instantly
client.on('message', (topic, message) => {
  const data = JSON.parse(message);
  updateUI(data); // Updates in < 100ms
});
```





Benefits with MQTT Push:

-  **Few messages/day:** ~10-50 messages (vs 17,280 HTTP) = 99.7% reduction
-  **Real-time:** Updates in < 100ms (vs up to 5s latency with polling)
-  **Battery preserved:** ESP32 sleeps between readings, months vs days
-  **Optimal bandwidth:** ~100 bytes/day (vs 3.5 MB) = 35,000x efficient

Scenario 2: LED Control - HTTP Approach

HTTP Approach

```
// ESP32 must be an HTTP server
app.post('/led/on', (req, res) => {
  digitalWrite(LED_PIN, HIGH);
  res.json({status: 'on'});
});
```

-  **ESP32 needs fixed IP address**
 - Dashboard must know exact IP
 - Difficult with DHCP networks
-  **Firewall / NAT complications**
 - ESP32 behind router not accessible
 - Need port forwarding configuration
-  **No auto-reconnect**
 - Lost connection = manual restart
 - No built-in recovery mechanism
-  **Heavy server code on ESP32**
 - HTTP server library = large memory footprint
 - Complex request parsing

Problems with HTTP:

Scenario 2: LED Control - MQTT Approach

MQTT Approach





```
// ESP32 is just a subscriber
const mqtt = require('mqtt');
const client = mqtt.connect('mqtt://mosquitto:1883');

client.subscribe('sensor/esp32/led');

client.on('message', (topic, message) => {
  const state = message.toString() === 'true';
  digitalWrite(LED_PIN, state ? HIGH : LOW);
  console.log(`LED turned ${state ? 'ON' : 'OFF'}`);
});

// Dashboard publishes (from anywhere)
client.publish('sensor/esp32/led', 'true');
```



-  **No server on ESP32**
 - ESP32 is a client (subscriber)
 - Minimal memory footprint
-  **Works behind NAT**
 - ESP32 connects OUT to broker
 - No firewall/port issues
-  **Auto-reconnect**
 - Built-in reconnection logic
 - Resilient to network issues
-  **Minimal code**
 - Simple subscribe + callback
 - Lightweight MQTT library

Benefits with MQTT:

🤔 Why MQTT for IoT?

✅ Key Advantages for IoT

1. 🔋 **Power Efficiency**

- Persistent connection (no repeated handshake)
- Ultra-light messages (2 bytes header vs 200+ HTTP)
- Intelligent keep-alive
- ➡ **Batteries last months/years**

2. 📶 **Unstable Networks**



- QoS (Quality of Service): 0, 1, 2
- Messages persisted if client disconnected
- Automatic reconnection
- ➡ **Works even with unstable 3G/4G**

MQTT Scalability

- 1 broker can handle millions of clients
- Hierarchical topics with wildcards
- No direct coupling publisher-subscriber

3. Scalability • **Add sensors without modifying code**

Concrete Numbers

Metric	HTTP	MQTT
Minimum message size	~200 bytes	~2 bytes
Connection setup	Every request	Once at startup
Notification latency	Polling dependent (5-60s)	< 100ms (real-time)
Battery consumption	 High	 Minimal
Bandwidth (1000 msg/h)	~200 KB	~2 KB



Mosquitto: The MQTT Broker

Mosquitto = Open-source MQTT broker, lightweight and performant (Eclipse Foundation)



Basic Configuration

```
# mosquitto.conf
listener 1883
allow_anonymous true

# For production:
# listener 1883
# allow_anonymous false
# password_file /mosquitto/config/passwd
```



In Docker Compose

```
services:
  mosquitto:
    image: eclipse-mosquitto
    container_name: mosquitto
    ports:
      - "1883:1883" # MQTT
    volumes:
      - ./mosquitto.conf:/mosquitto/config/mosquitto.conf
```



Testing Mosquitto

```
# Start the stack
docker-compose up -d

# Subscriber in one terminal
docker exec -it mosquitto \
  mosquitto_sub -h localhost -t "test/#"

# Publisher in another terminal
docker exec -it mosquitto \
  mosquitto_pub -h localhost \
    -t "test/hello" \
    -m "Hello MQTT!"

# The subscriber receives:
# Hello MQTT!
```

Monitoring

```
# View all messages (debug)
docker exec -it mosquitto \
  mosquitto_sub -h localhost -t "#" -v

# System topics (stats)
docker exec -it mosquitto \
  mosquitto_sub -h localhost -t "\$SYS/#"
```





Node-RED

Visual Programming for IoT








What is Node-RED?

Node-RED = Flow-based visual programming tool for IoT

-  **Drag & Drop:** No coding needed (or almost!)
-  **Nodes:** Reusable blocks (MQTT, HTTP, DB...)
-  **Web Interface:** Browser accessible
-  **Node.js:** Built on Node.js (extensible)

Use Cases

-  **MQTT Routing:** sensor → database
-  **Transformation:** JSON → InfluxDB format
-  **Logic:** If temp > 30, send alert
-  **Dashboard:** Real-time visualization
-  **Integration:** APIs, webhooks, services

Node Types

Input	MQTT in, HTTP in, Inject
Output	MQTT out, HTTP, Debug
Function	Function, Switch, Change
Storage	InfluxDB, MySQL, File
Dashboard	Chart, Gauge, Text, Button



Node-RED in Docker Compose

```
services:
  nodered:
    image: nodered/node-red
    container_name: nodered
    ports:
      - "1880:1880"
    volumes:
      - nodered_data:/data # Persist flows
    depends_on:
      - mosquitto
    environment:
      - TZ=Europe/Paris

volumes:
  nodered_data:
```

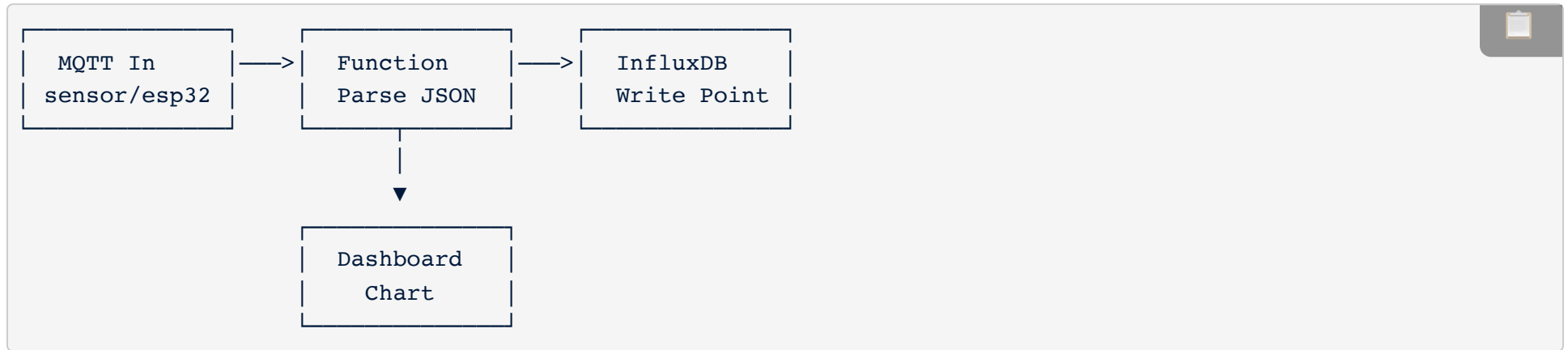


Interface: <http://localhost:1880> after `docker-compose up`

Node-RED Flow Example

Goal: Receive MQTT data → Save to InfluxDB → Display on dashboard

Visual Flow



Function Node Code

```
// Parse received JSON
const data = JSON.parse(msg.payload);

// Format for InfluxDB
msg.payload = {
  measurement: 'temperature',
  fields: {
    value: parseFloat(data.temperature),
    humidity: parseFloat(data.humidity)
  },
  tags: { sensor: 'esp32_a' },
  timestamp: new Date()
```

```
};  
return msg;
```




Time Series Database



What is InfluxDB?





InfluxDB = Database specialized for **time series** (temporal data)

What is a Time Series?

Time Series = Data with timestamp

Timestamp	Value
2024-01-15 10:00:00	22.5
2024-01-15 10:01:00	22.7
2024-01-15 10:02:00	22.6
2024-01-15 10:03:00	23.1

Examples:

-  Sensor temperature
-  Stock prices
-  Network traffic
-  Server metrics

Why InfluxDB and not SQL/MongoDB?

SQL (MySQL, Postgres)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✗ Not optimized for time series✗ Slow on temporal aggregations✗ Inefficient storage✗ No native downsampling
NoSQL (MongoDB)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✗ No temporal compression✗ Verbose temporal queries✗ No retention policies⚠ Good but not specialized
InfluxDB	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ 100x compression (time series)✓ Ultra-fast aggregations✓ Auto retention policies✓ Continuous queries✓ InfluxQL language (SQL-like)

InfluxDB Concepts

Database: `iot_data`

```
|
| └─ Measurement: temperature
|   |
|   | └─ Tags (indexed)
|   |   |
|   |   | └─ sensor = "esp32_a"
|   |   |   └─ location = "livingroom"
|   |
|   | └─ Fields (values)
|   |   |
|   |   | └─ value = 22.5
|   |   |   └─ humidity = 65
|   |
|   └─ Timestamp: 2024-01-15T10:00:00Z
```

SQL Analogy:

- Database = Database
- Measurement = Table
- Tags = Indexed columns
- Fields = Columns
- Timestamp = Primary key



Writing Data to InfluxDB

Line Protocol Format

```
measurement,tag1=value1,tag2=value2 field1=value1,field2=value2 timestamp
```

Example

```
temperature,sensor=esp32_a,room=living value=22.5,humidity=65 1610712000000000000
```

Node.js Example

```
const Influx = require('influx');
const client = new Influx.InfluxDB({
  host: 'influxdb',
  database: 'iot_data'
});

client.writePoints([
  {
    measurement: 'temperature',
    tags: {
      sensor: 'esp32_a',
      location: 'livingroom'
    },
    fields: {
      value: 22.5,
      humidity: 65
    },
    timestamp: new Date()
  }
]);
```

InfluxQL Queries

```
-- Last 24 hours
SELECT * FROM temperature
WHERE time > now() - 24h

-- Average per hour
SELECT MEAN(value) FROM temperature
WHERE time > now() - 7d
GROUP BY time(1h), sensor

-- With tags
SELECT * FROM temperature
WHERE sensor = 'esp32_a'
AND time > now() - 1h
```



Why InfluxDB for IoT?

IoT-Specific Advantages

1. **Temporal Compression**

- Specialized algorithms (Gorilla, etc.)
- 100x compression vs classic SQL
- Example: 1 year of data/minute = 5 MB instead of 500 MB

2. **Aggregation Performance**

- Ultra-fast mean/min/max/percentile calculations
- Continuous Queries: automatic pre-calculation
- Example: "Average temp per hour over 1 year" in < 100ms



Retention Policies (Auto-cleanup)

- Define data lifetime
- Automatic downsampling (1min → 1h → 1d)
- Example: Raw data 7d, aggregated 1 year

```
-- Create retention policy
CREATE RETENTION POLICY "one_week" ON "iot_data"
  DURATION 7d
  REPLICATION 1
  DEFAULT;

-- Continuous Query for downsampling
CREATE CONTINUOUS QUERY "cq_30m" ON "iot_data"
BEGIN
  SELECT MEAN(value) AS mean_value
  INTO "iot_data"."one_year"."temperature_30m"
  FROM "temperature"
  GROUP BY time(30m), sensor
END;

-- Result:
-- Raw data: 7 days (auto-deleted)
-- 30min averages: 1 year (for charts)
```



InfluxDB with Docker

```
services:
  influxdb:
    image: influxdb:1.8
    container_name: influxdb-server
    ports:
      - "8086:8086"
    volumes:
      - influxdb_data:/var/lib/influxdb
    environment:
      - INFLUXDB_DB=iot_data
      - INFLUXDB_ADMIN_USER=admin
      - INFLUXDB_ADMIN_PASSWORD=supersecret

volumes:
  influxdb_data:
```

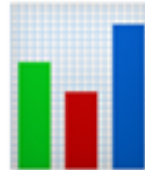
Test via CLI

```
# Enter container
docker exec -it influxdb-server influx

# Inside InfluxDB CLI
> USE iot_data
> SELECT * FROM temperature ORDER BY time DESC LIMIT 5
```







Visualization and Monitoring







What is Grafana?

Grafana = Open-source visualization and monitoring platform

-  **Dashboards:** Charts, gauges, tables...
-  **Data Sources:** InfluxDB, Prometheus, MySQL, etc.
-  **Alerting:** Automatic notifications
-  **Customizable:** Themes, plugins, panels

Use Cases

-  **IoT Dashboards:** Real-time sensors
-  **Infrastructure:** CPU, RAM, network
-  **Business Metrics:** KPIs, analytics
-  **Industrial:** Production, quality

Visualization Types

- Time Series (line, area)
- Gauge, progress bar
- Stat (single value)
- Table
- Heatmap
- Pie Chart, donut
- Geomap

Grafana with Docker

```
services:
  grafana:
    image: grafana/grafana
    container_name: grafana
    ports:
      - "3000:3000"
    volumes:
      - grafana_data:/var/lib/grafana
    environment:
      - GF_SECURITY_ADMIN_PASSWORD=admin

volumes:
  grafana_data:
```



Interface:

http://localhost:3000

Default: admin / admin

Creating a Grafana Dashboard

Steps: Data Source → Dashboard → Panel → Query → Visualization

1 Configure Data Source

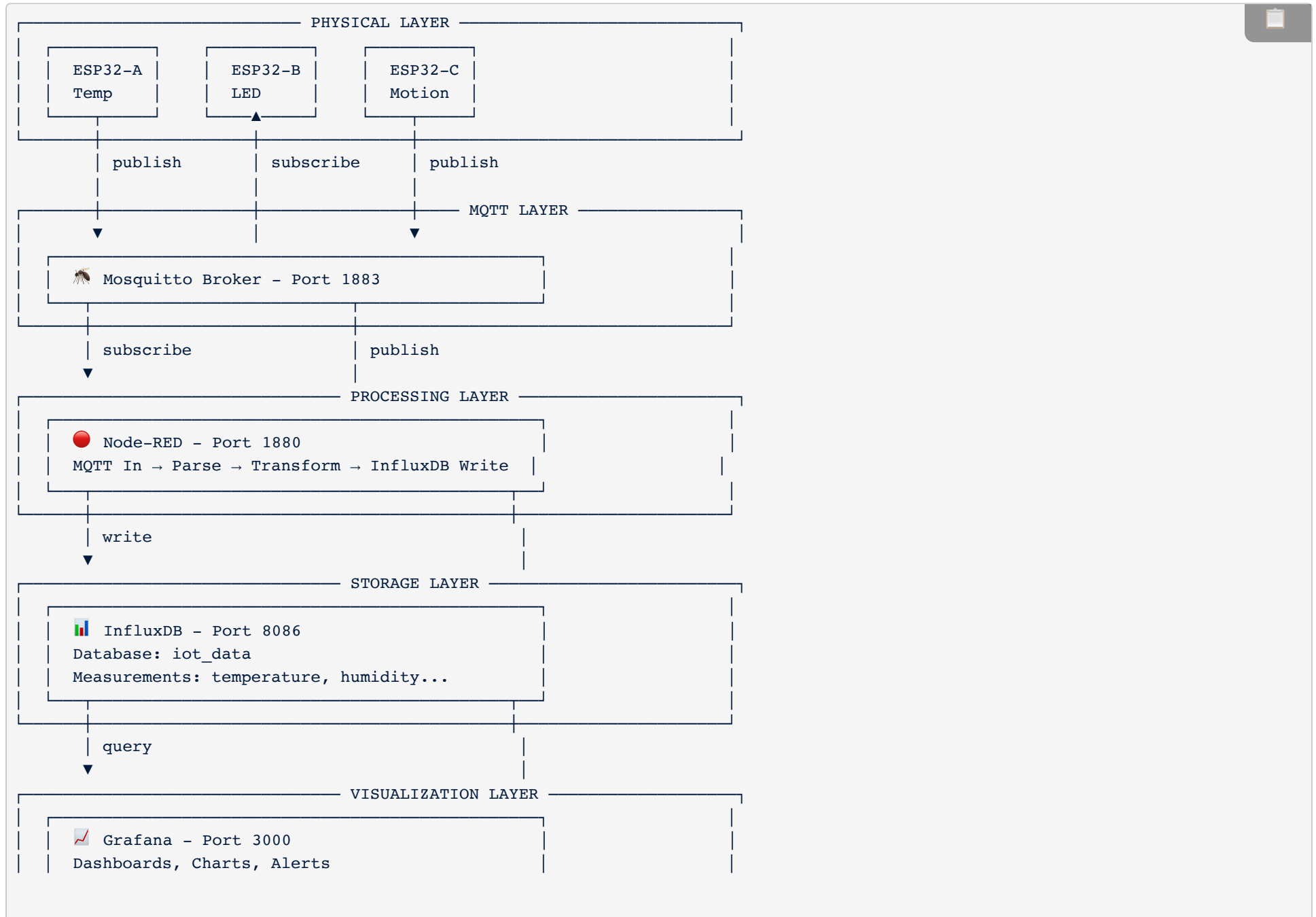
```
Configuration → Data Sources → Add data source
Type: InfluxDB
URL: http://influxdb:8086
Database: iot_data
Min time interval: 10s
```

2 Create Panel with Query

```
-- Real-time temperature
SELECT mean("value")
FROM "temperature"
WHERE $timeFilter
      AND "sensor" = 'esp32_a'
GROUP BY time($__interval) fill(null)

-- Grafana variables:
-- $timeFilter : automatic time filter
-- $__interval : adaptive interval
```

Complete IoT Stack Architecture





Our docker-compose.yml Explained



services:

🦋 Mosquitto: MQTT Broker

mosquitto:

```
image: eclipse-mosquitto          # Official image
container_name: mosquitto         # Fixed container name
ports:
  - "1883:1883"                  # MQTT port (host:container)
volumes:
  - ./mosquitto.conf:/mosquitto/config/mosquitto.conf # Config (bind mount)
```

🟡 Node-RED: Flow processing

nodered:

```
image: nodered/node-red
container_name: nodered
ports:
  - "1880:1880"                  # Web interface
volumes:
  - nodered_data:/data          # Flows persisted (named volume)
depends_on:
  - mosquitto                   # Wait for mosquitto to be up
```

🇮🇹 InfluxDB: Time series database

influxdb:

```
image: influxdb:1.8             # Version 1.8 (InfluxQL)
container_name: influxdb-server
ports:
  - "8086:8086"                 # HTTP API
volumes:
  - influxdb_data:/var/lib/influxdb # Data persisted
```

📊 Grafana: Visualization


grafana:


```
image: grafana/grafana
```

```
container_name: grafana
ports:
  - "3000:3000"                # Web interface
volumes:
  - grafana_data:/var/lib/grafana # Dashboards persisted


# 📁 Named volumes (managed by Docker)
volumes:
  nodered_data:
  influxdb_data:
  grafana_data:
```


Key Points

 **Automatic Network:** All services can communicate via their names

 **Named Volumes:** Data survives `docker-compose down`

 **Bind Mount:** `mosquitto.conf` mounted from host

 **depends_on:** Startup order (Node-RED after Mosquitto)

Hands-On: Launch Complete Stack

1 Start the stack

```
cd /path/to/week_1
docker-compose up -d

# Verify everything is running
docker-compose ps
```

2 Test MQTT with simulated ESP32

```
# Terminal 1 - Launch publisher (ESP32-A)
node esp32_a.js

# Terminal 2 - Launch subscriber (ESP32-B)
node esp32_b_subscriber.js

# Terminal 3 - Monitor all MQTT messages
docker exec -it mosquitto mosquitto_sub -h localhost -t "#" -v
```

Access Web Interfaces

Service	URL	Credentials
Node-RED	http://localhost:1880	None (default)
Grafana	http://localhost:3000	admin / admin
InfluxDB API	http://localhost:8086	-

Cleanup and Management

Basic commands

```
# Stop services
docker-compose stop

# Restart services
docker-compose start

# Restart specific service
docker-compose restart mosquito

# View logs
docker-compose logs
docker-compose logs -f mosquito
```

Cleanup

```
# Stop and remove containers
docker-compose down

# Remove containers + volumes
# ⚠️ LOSES ALL DATA
docker-compose down -v

# Rebuild images
docker-compose build
docker-compose up -d --build

# Check disk space
docker system df
```

⚠️ Attention:

- `docker-compose down`: Removes containers, KEEPS volumes
- `docker-compose down -v`: Removes EVERYTHING (containers + volumes)



Summary



Docker

- ✓ Application containerization
- ✓ Images vs Containers
- ✓ Volumes for persistence
- ✓ Docker Compose multi-service
- ✓ Automatic networking
- ✓ Essential commands



MQTT

- ✓ Pub/Sub pattern
- ✓ Mosquitto broker
- ✓ Topics and wildcards
- ✓ MQTT vs HTTP
- ✓ Why for IoT



Node-RED

- ✓ Visual programming
- ✓ Flows and nodes
- ✓ MQTT/InfluxDB integration
- ✓ Real-time dashboard



InfluxDB & Grafana

- ✓ Time Series Database
- ✓ Why vs SQL/Mongo
- ✓ InfluxQL queries
- ✓ Visualization
- ✓ Dashboards and alerts



You now master a professional IoT stack!






Docker + MQTT + Node-RED + InfluxDB + Grafana = 🚀

Resources and Documentation

Official Documentation

-  **Docker:** docs.docker.com
-  **MQTT:** mqtt.org
-  **Mosquitto:** mosquitto.org
-  **Node-RED:** nodered.org
-  **InfluxDB:** docs.influxdata.com
-  **Grafana:** grafana.com/docs

Training Projects

1.  **Smart Home:** Multi-sensors + dashboard
2.  **Plant Monitor:** Soil, light, temp
3.  **Energy Monitor:** Real-time consumption
4.  **GPS Tracker:** Location + history
5.  **Industrial:** Production monitoring

? Questions?

Feel free to ask your questions!



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