

INTERNALS OF APPLICATION SERVER

PROJECT DESIGN FOR IoT PLATFORM

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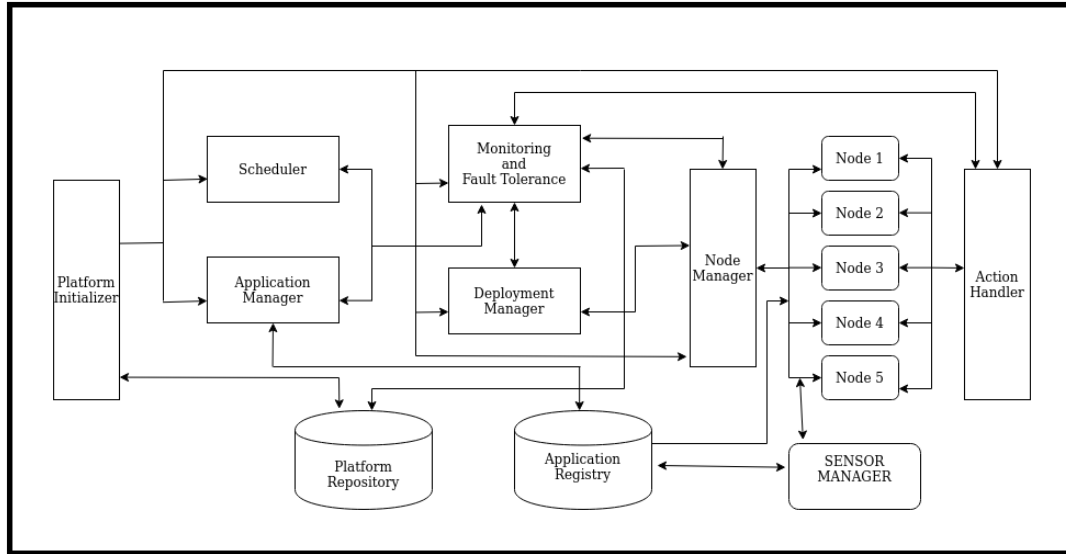
1 Introduction

1.1 Project Introduction

With growing IoT Application respective device data is also growing with similar rate. Each sensor have potential data which can be used to make important decision. Difficulty arises for a developer to keep track of this sensor data and use this data as input in its application. Managing algorithm, binding data and analysing the output are some big task developer has to take care. Aim of this platform is to provide the user with an environment which allows them to create application which can connect to / use location sensitive IoT devices with ease. In addition to this, it also provides the capability to dynamically run user defined algorithms which make use of such devices. This IoT Application platform directly integrates with the IoT devices and is capable of performing remote actions on these devices

1. Providing client with interface where one can upload their application, connect it to suitable IoT devices and run them on required sensor data.
2. Client will be provided with:
 - UI based dashboard, where user can upload and run application.
 - Provide user with set of APIs
 - Algorithm scheduler service to run the application
3. Upon running the application, platform provide user with the following capabilities
 - Binding Service: Binding the sensor with the algorithm.
 - Deployment Service: Running an executable in response to an event generated by algorithm during its course of execution.
 - Notification Service: Generating notification and pushing it to registered users of the platform.
 - Event Service: In addition to control services over IoT devices the platform provides ability for the app to generate template actions over event generated by algorithm.
 - Scheduling Service: Platform also provides scheduling service which allows the user to periodically run their application.

1.2 Functional Overview:



Platform Initiator

- Responsible to initialize all the available platform modules like Repository, Scheduler, Deployment manager, Sensor Manager etc.

Application Manager

- Dashboard : User Interface to upload/deploy user application
- API: Set of APIs provided to user for deployment
 - This module will serve all request initially given by application developer. Comprises of Login, storing and retrieving algorithms and meta file in .zip format, validating meta file and forwarding the same to scheduler

Scheduler

- This module will be responsible to ask developer the scheduling information for algorithms provided.
- Will be responsible to start and kill scheduled algorithms on user specified time.

Deployment Manager

- Responsible for deploying algorithm instances stored in repository to run. Repository contain various configuration files which locate what packages to be deployed. It also take care of system where the algorithm need to be run.

- This module is responsible for initializing the algorithm with configuration data provided using algorithm configuration file.
- Algorithm and Config file : This module fetches the raw algorithm from a repository. Reads the algorithm sensor parameter such as ;distance,Geolocation,SensorType;.
- It then queries sensor manager which has information about all the sensor suggested with the platform.

Node Manager

- Responsible for initiating node instances as requested by deployment manager.
- Also responsible to run init.py: Responsible for communication with scheduler, deployment manager and sensor manager

Sensor Manager

- This module is responsible for binding correct sensor data stream with corresponding algorithm.
- Sensor Manager, Add sensor are the services provided by communication module
- Will identify IoT devices from the sensor database based upon the parameters.

Monitoring and Fault Tolerance / Heartbeat Manager

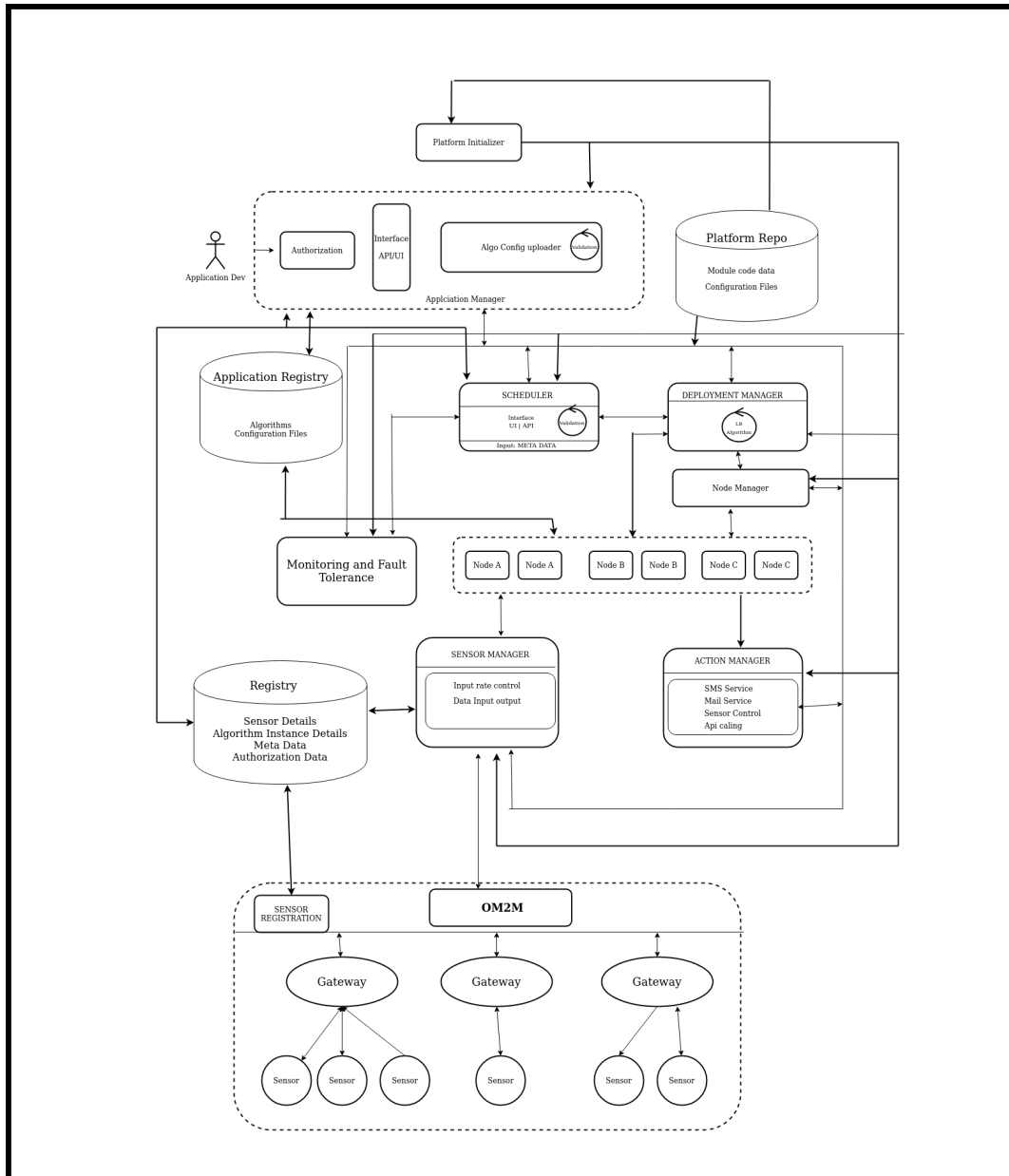
- Each module will run a HM.py script responsible to share current state of machine and running process.
- This information will be stored in Heartbeat Manager, and actions will be taken in case machines get down

Action Handler

- During the course of execution, output generated from algorithm can be used to initiate an action defined in the action template, this action can be
 - Notification
 - Callback to an event
 - Command execution

2 System Design

2.1 Design Big Picture



2.2 Technologies/Environment to be used

OneM2M

OneM2M is a standard that provides a common M2M service layer that can be embedded within various hardware and software to connect IoT devices. The layered model of oneM2M comprises 3 layers: Application Layer, Common Services Layer and the underlying Network Services Layer.

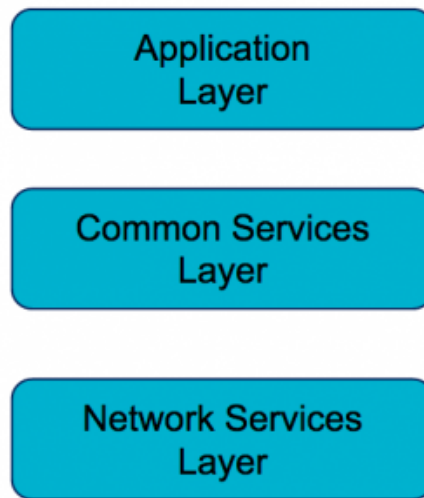


Figure 1: OneM2M layers

KAFKA

Kafka is used for real-time streams of data, to collect big data, or to do real time analysis (or both). Kafka is used with in-memory microservices to provide durability and it can be used to feed events to CEP (complex event streaming systems) and IoT automation systems. Kafka is often used in real-time streaming data architectures to provide real-time analytics. Since Kafka is a fast, scalable, durable, and fault-tolerant publish-subscribe messaging system.

Vagrant

Vagrant is a tool for building and managing virtual machine environments in a single workflow. With an easy-to-use workflow and focus on automation, Vagrant lowers development environment setup time, increases production parity, and makes the "works on my machine" excuse a relic of the past. Vagrant provides easy to configure, reproducible, and portable work environments built on top of industry-standard technology and controlled by a single consistent workflow to help maximize the productivity and flexibility of team.

MongoDB

MongoDB is a cross-platform document-oriented database program. Classified as a NoSQL database program, MongoDB uses JSON-like documents with schema. MongoDB is developed by MongoDB Inc. and licensed under the Server Side Public License (SSPL).

Fluentd

Fluentd is an open source data collector for unified logging layer. Fluentd allows you to unify data collection and consumption for a better use and understanding of data. Fluentd treats logs as JSON, a popular machine-readable format.

Flask

Flask is a micro web framework written in Python. It is classified as a microframework because it does not require particular tools or libraries.[3] It has no database abstraction layer, form validation, or any other components where pre-existing third-party libraries provide common functions. However, Flask supports extensions that can add application features as if they were implemented in Flask itself. Extensions exist for object-relational mappers, form validation, upload handling, various open authentication technologies and several common framework related tools. Extensions are updated far more frequently than the core Flask program.

Bootstrap

Bootstrap is a free and open-source CSS framework directed at responsive, mobile-first front-end web development. It contains CSS- and (optionally) JavaScript-based design templates for typography, forms, buttons, navigation, and other interface components.

2.3 Overall system flow and interactions

1. Starting platform initializer.
2. Platform initializer will get information about various modules from config files once it is up and running.
3. Using the information from config file, it will initialize all the modules.
4. User will be authenticated using GUI or API to execute his algorithm on the platform.
5. Once the user is authenticated, he will be redirected for various data like
 - Algorithm file
 - Start time of algo
 - End time of algo
 - Message tab(displays the error)
 - Download format(Gives format in which data has to be given to system)
6. Once user enter this data, there will be a validation module which will check if given input is in correct format.
7. After validation the given algorithm will be deployed on scheduler which will assign this job to any of the node/VM.
8. Once the algorithm is executed on any node/VM, it's result will be sent to action module.
9. Action Module will be communicating with various output sensors and depending on output from the algorithm, it will take the action.
10. When all these modules are communicating with each other, heartbeat monitoring module will check continuously if every module is up and running or not. If any of the node is down or algorithm on any particular node has stopped, heartbeat manager will make sure that the algorithm is either restarted or the algorithm is running on some different node.

2.4 Interaction between modules

Platform Initializer and All Other Components

Platform initializer communicates with the nodes and deploys code of Scheduler , Deployment manager , Sensor Manager , Monitoring and Fault tolerance module and Action manager on different nodes. The code for all the modules will be stores in the Platform Repository.

Application Manager and Scheduler

Application Manager interacts with the application developer either through UI or API for the scheduling of algorithms and hence behaves like the interface between scheduler and application developer. Application Manager retrieves the zip file from the developer which contains the algorithms and configuration file , later for scheduling will retrieve meta data file which contains scheduling information and passes it to the scheduler.

Scheduler and Deployment Manager

Scheduler passes the information to the Deployment manager for the execution of the algorithm at the scheduled time and Deployment manager will in return pass the unique id related to the running instance of the algorithm so as to stop the instance in future. As it is responsibility of the scheduler to start and kill the process and hence stores all the id's of the running instance.

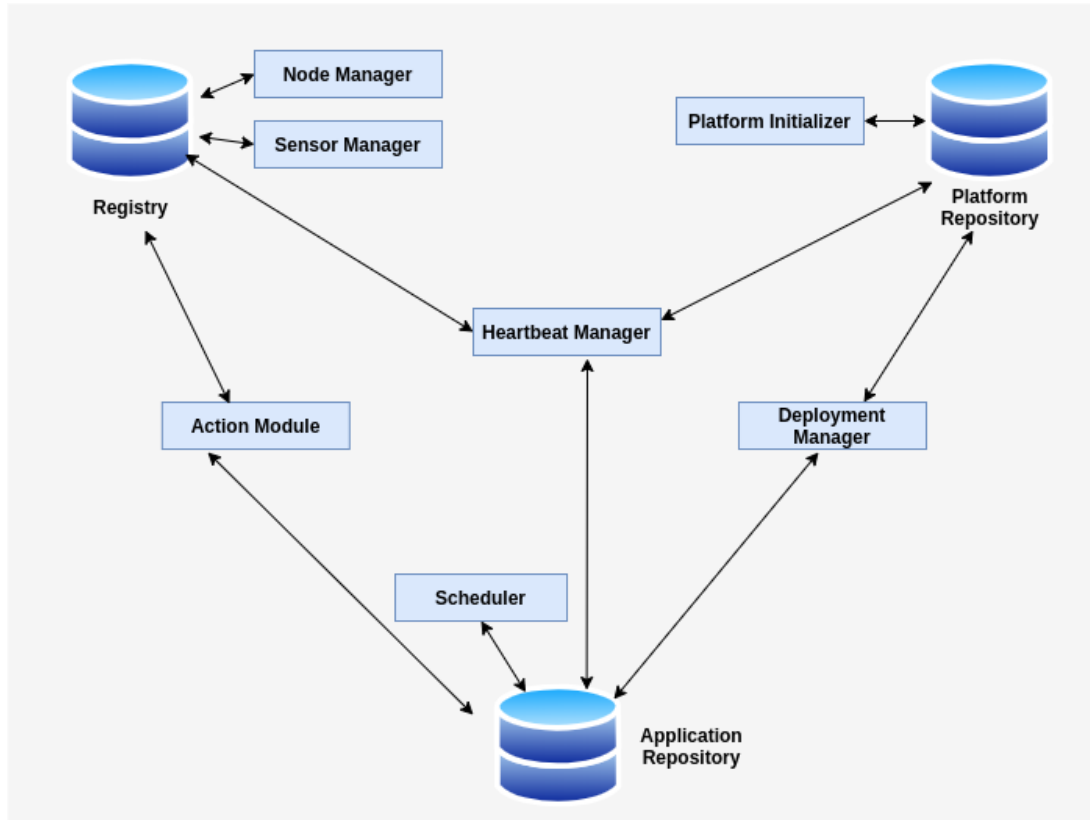
Node and Sensor Manager

For the data binding between algorithm and the sensor data ,node which is responsible to run the instance of algorithm will request for the data (query) to the sensor manager .The sensor manager fetches the queries ,creates a topic for communication and dispatches thread which is responsible to control the incoming rate of data input for the algorithm and the thread is also responsible to write the data to the topic at its defined(in query) rate.Hence the sensor manager passes the topic name to the nodes for communication.

Monitoring and Fault Tolerance and All Modules

Monitoring and fault tolerance modules keeps track of all the modules , if it finds any modules is not working , it requests the other node to run that particular module and hence reflects the addresses of the new node in the whole system

2.5 Registry and Repository



Registry

1. Registry will be used to store several run-time related information for applications and platform modules. Mongodb will be used to store such highly unstructured data. In specific mongodb will store following in formations:
 - Login Details
 - Algorithm config. files
 - Scheduling config. Files
 - IP and Ports for each of the available nodes
 - Present node at which the application is running
 - Url to uniquely identify an algorithm on a node
 - Sensor metadata

2. Major modules interacting with this are:

- Node Manager
- Sensor Manager
- Action Module
- Heartbeat Manager

Application Repository

Application repository will store all the static files of applications deployed by all the users with the help of Network file system. This will act as a backing store for all the application codes.

Major modules interacting with this are:

- Scheduler
- Action Module
- Heartbeat Manager
- Deployment Manager

Platform Repository

Platform repository will store all the static files of all the modules of our application server platform via Network file system.

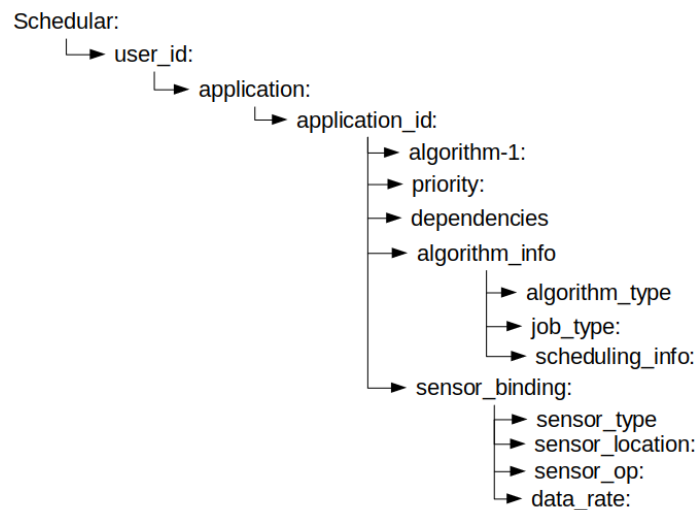
Major modules interacting with this are:

- Platform Initializer
- Deployment Manager
- Heartbeat Manager

2.6 Meta formats

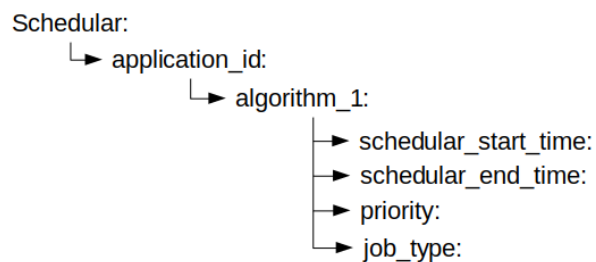
1. Application Manager

- Config file (Initial .zip file will consist of algorithms and config.json file)



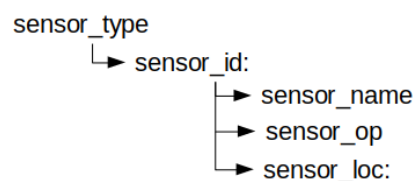
2. Scheduler Manager:

- User can upload meta file containing scheduling information



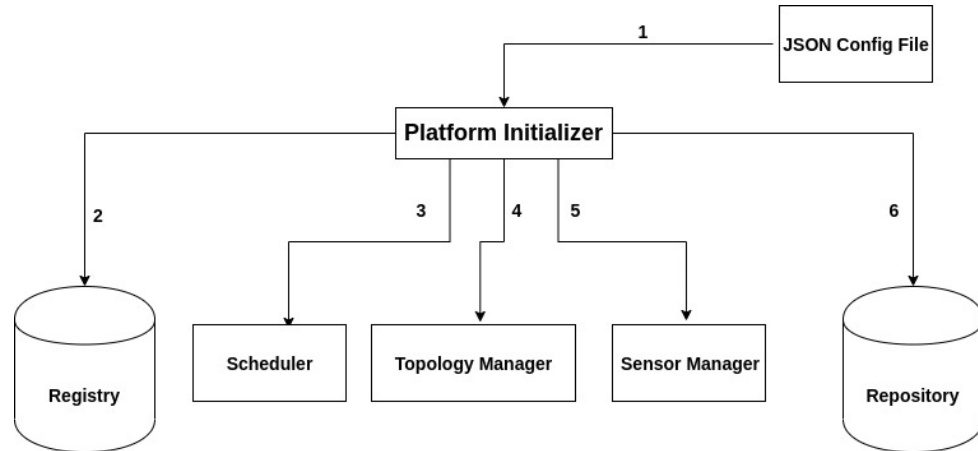
3. Sensor Registration:

- Admin can upload meta file consisting of initial sensor details required during registration



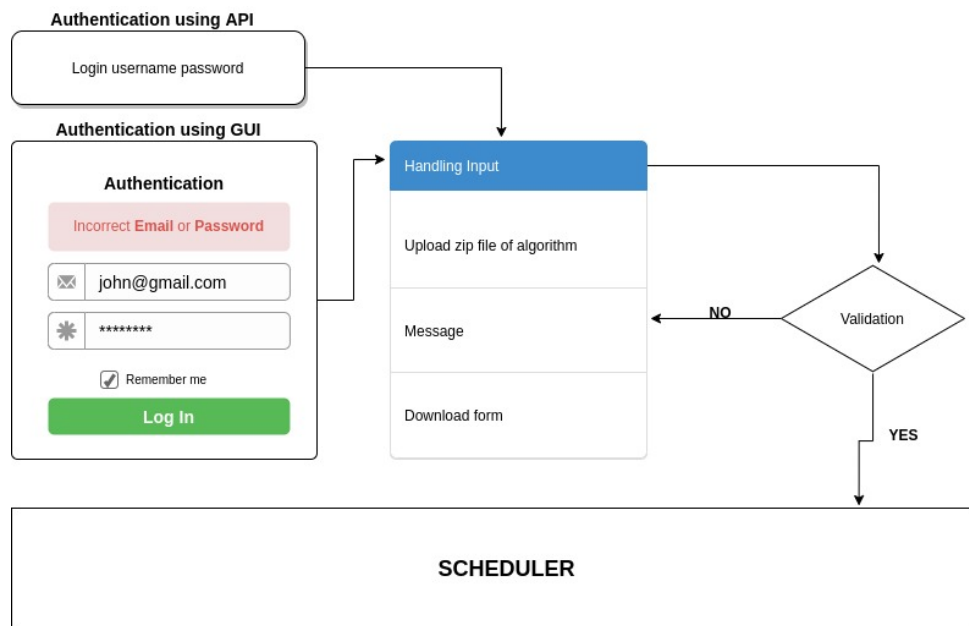
3 Low level design of each module

3.1 Platform Initializer



- It reads the configuration file when it is up and running and gets the information of all modules.
- It initializes all the modules using the gathered information after which the algorithm can be executed.

3.2 Application Manager

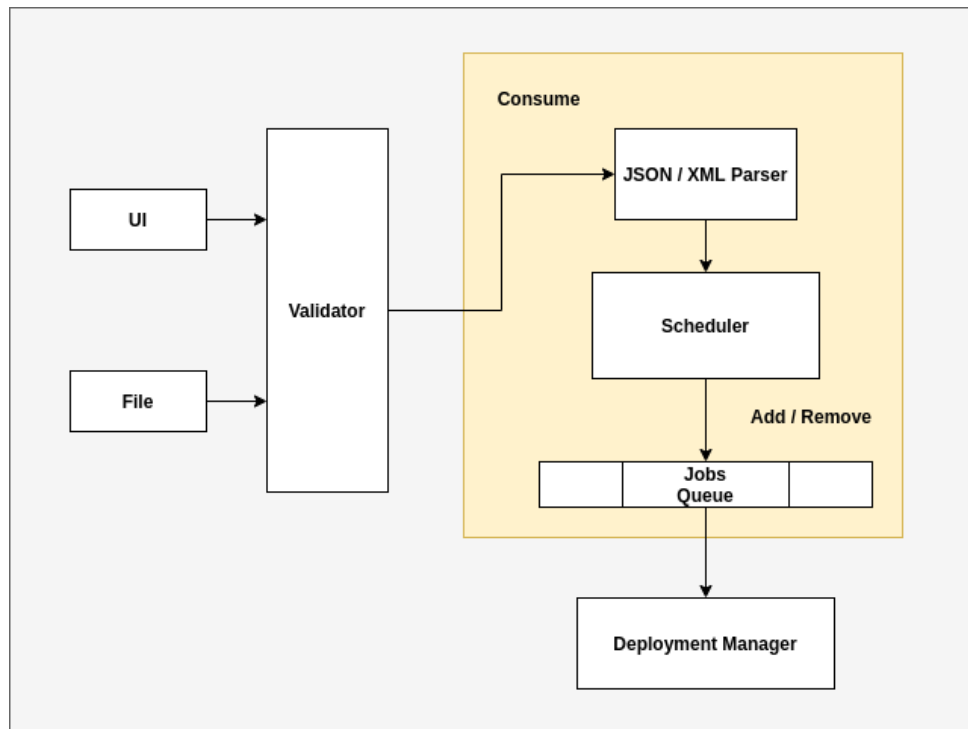


- Sign up : Application developer can use this module for sign up
- Login : Application developer can login through the login module.

- **Dashboard :** Application developer can upload algorithms and meta files in zip file by dashboard. He can download the format of meta file for the algorithm from Dashboard.
- **Validator :** The format of meta file uploaded by developer will be verified by Validator if format is not proper error message will be displayed in Dashboard. Else algorithms and meta files will be stored in Repository.

3.3 Scheduler

Job Scheduler module is responsible to run/send jobs to deployment manager periodically at predetermined intervals. The scheduler will receive the scheduling information in json/xml format to get scheduling related metadata after the application is being accepted by Application Manager. For our platform user can specify this through both UI or upload configuration file.



Configuration file should contain following meta-information:

- **Userid:** unique user id for the user.
- **Applicationid:** unique id of the application of that user.

Scheduler UI

@

@

Priority

Job Type

Dependencies

Days
 ✓
 ✓

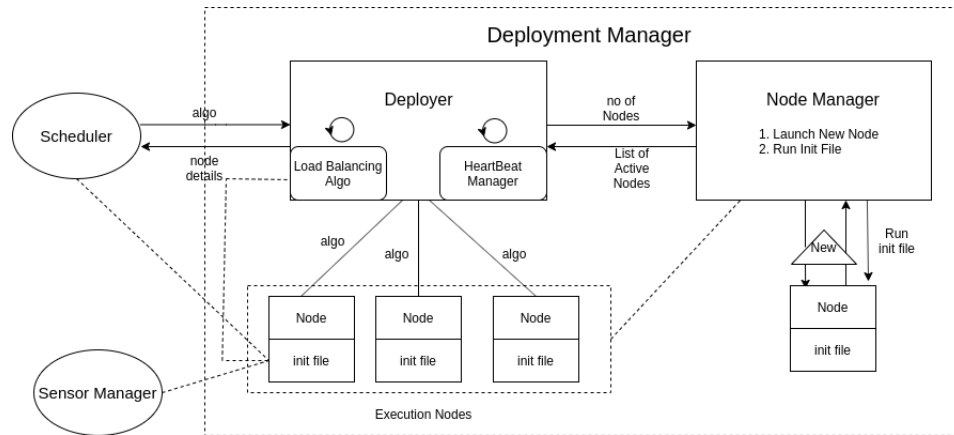
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- Priority: This will specify if the algorithm is computation intensive or requires a high amount of resources.
 - If specified “high” the algorithm will run on a single node.
 - If specified “low”(default) the algorithm will run on shared nodes.
- Dependencies: Will specify the dependencies that must be run before running the algorithm strictly in the order they are required in. Scheduler will schedule the dependencies in the same order specified then will schedule the algorithm.

- Jobtype: This will be used by the scheduler to understand how to schedule the algorithm. Two choices are cron single:
 - If specified as a cron job scheduler will schedule it at periodic intervals.
 - * Application Deployer can specify day/days at which the algorithm will be scheduled.
 - * Also start time(in 24 hours format) and duration for which it should run(in minutes) will be specified.
 - If specified as immediate instance user have two choices:
 - * If no start time given the scheduler will immediately schedule it to execution for the time duration specified.
 - * If given a start time scheduler will schedule it at the given time for the time duration specified.

3.4 Deployment Manager

- List the sub modules
 1. Deployer 2. HeartBeat Manager 3. Node Manager
- Overview of each sub module and their interaction



Deployer will get an algorithm execution request from the scheduler. Deployer will apply a load balancing algorithm, if a node is available the algorithm will be executed on that node. Otherwise, the Deployer will request for a new node to Node manager and then run the algorithm on the newly allocated node. Deployer may ask for one or more nodes to Node Manager.

Heartbeat Manager is one service of Deployer which keeps checking whether all

nodes are alive or not and whether the algorithm inside node is running or not. If the algorithm inside the node is not working, the Deployer will re-execute the algorithm in that node. And if node is not working, the Deployer will run the algorithm at another node.

Load balancing algorithm :

It will store this in a map data structure mapping IP address to the cpu usage and RAM usage of node.

Load of node = $1 / ((1 / \text{cpu usage}) + (1 / \text{RAM usage}))$

Deployer will calculate the load of each active node and execute the algorithm with minimum load.

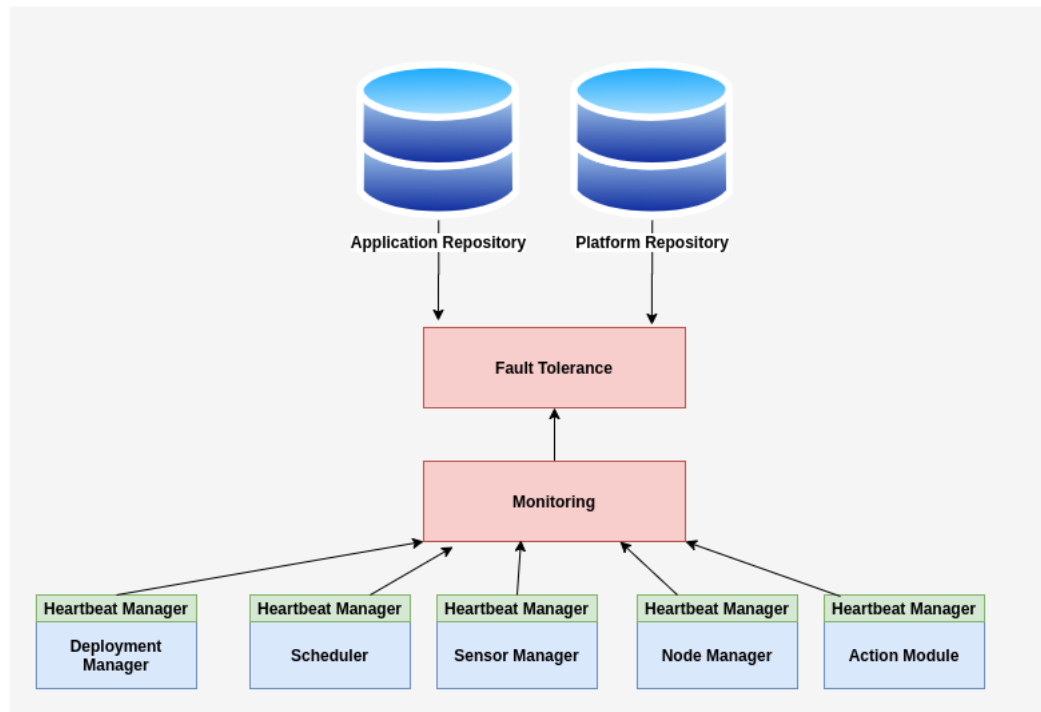
Load balancer will request for nodes to Node Manager. Node Manager allocates new nodes to Load balancer for execution of an algorithm and sends a list of active nodes to load balancer. It will start the new node and load the init file to node. Init file is responsible for communication between node and load balancer. It can allocate one or more nodes based on requirements of load balancer.

3.5 Monitoring and Fault Tolerance Module

The Monitoring and Fault Tolerance Module is responsible to continuously monitor status of all the modules viz scheduler, deployment manager, sensor manager, application manager, action manager and their corresponding nodes on which they are running.

If monitoring system detects abnormal behaviour of any module, it finds out whether the nodes on which module is running is not working or the instance of module itself is not working.

For the first case it will request fault tolerant manager to run same module on different node and reflect changes if needed everywhere and for the second case it will request the fault tolerant manager to run the instance of the module on the same node.



For every node running module, there will be a background service which will continuously write on the communication topic (node and Monitoring Module) which lets the monitoring module know whether the node is live or not and also will write the state of the process(module) whether running or not.

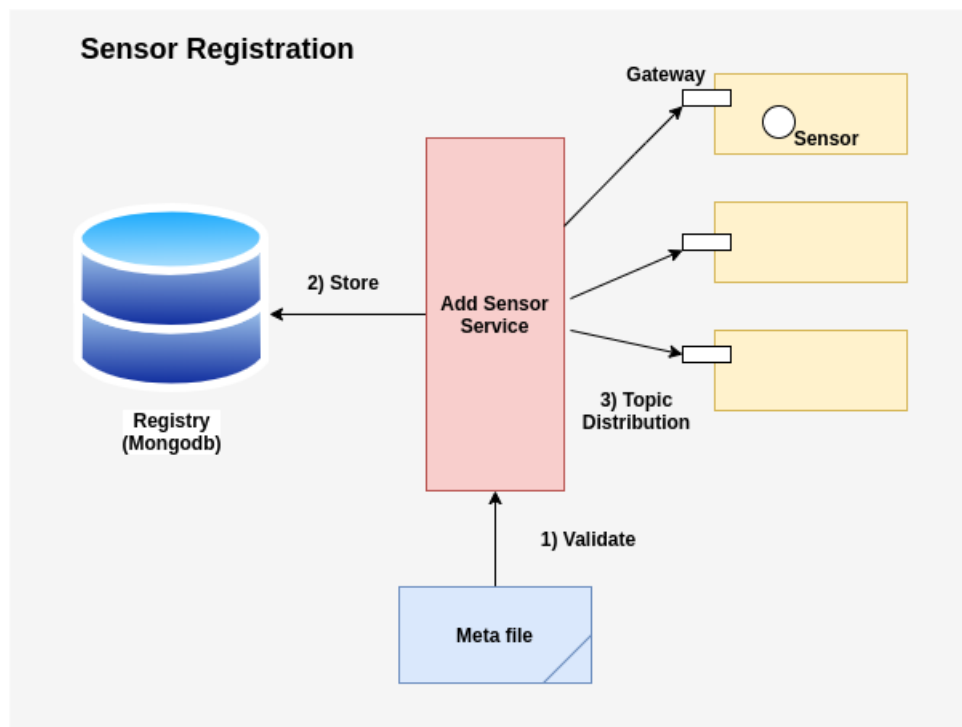
If there is abnormality and the node is still writing on the topic it simply implies the node is fine but the module has stopped working and hence requests fault tolerant manager to run module on same node.

If the topic is not getting new message, which implies node is not working hence will request fault tolerant manager to run module on different node and reflect all the changes in the system.

3.6 Sensor Manager

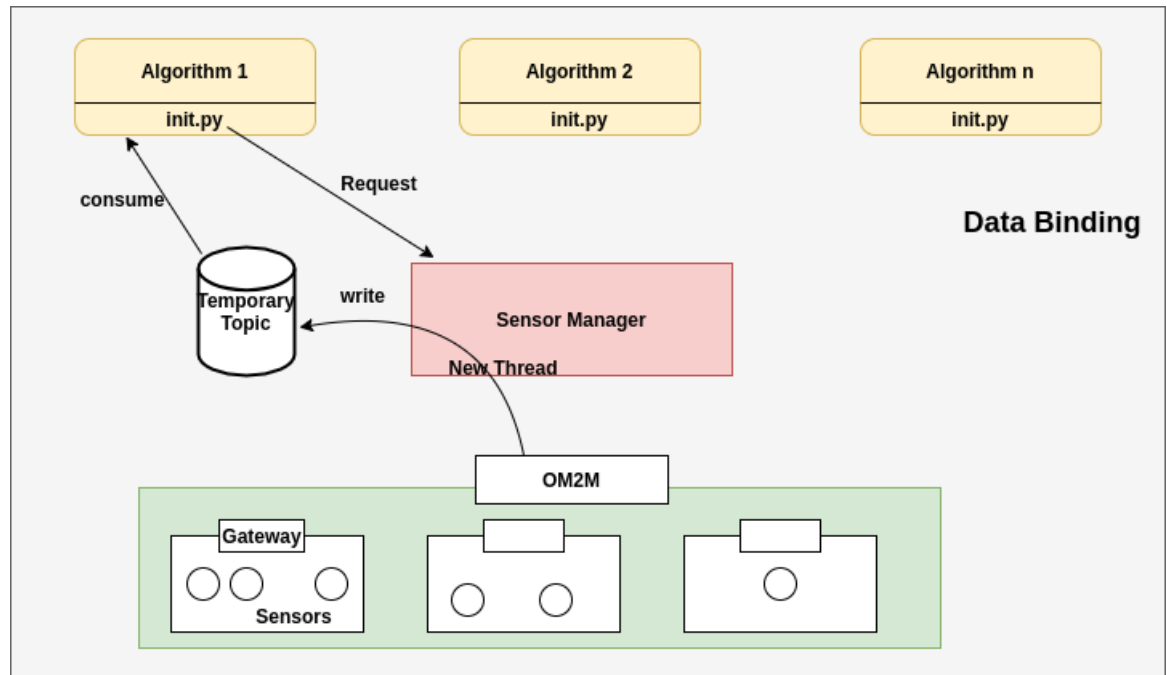
Sensor Registration Service

1. Admin will upload a .json file containing information/mapping of sensor gateway with kafka topic and other sensor details.
2. Module will be responsible to parse the meta file provided by the admin containing sensor information. This service will help register the sensor details and will create a unique topic for data to be dumped for each sensor. Each sensor gateway will receive a topic for data dumping.



Sensor Manager

1. Responsible for validating whether requested sensor details are available in system or not.
2. If available it will get its details from the registry.
3. From the repository it will read the sensor topic over which sensor is dumping the data.
4. Further SM will send this data and appropriately will send the data to Algorithm.



4 Use Cases

4.1 Types of Applications that can be built

This platform can be used to build an IOT application which performs some action based on collected sensor data. The application will have the following characteristics:-

1. The app directly integrates with the IOT devices and is capable of performing remote actions on these devices.
2. In order to achieve this the platform allows the app to specify a config file which contains details about the location of the sensor where the app is to be deployed as well as their number and type.

4.2 List what the users can do with the solution.

1. Control sensor based on the data generated and result analysis
2. Smart decision based during algorithm execution
3. Can generate Callbacks/Over Events based on sensor data.

4.3 Usage scenarios

- Mess Overcrowding Management

- AC Controlling System:
- Smart Parking Solution
- Automated Street Light :
- Classroom Lighting based on Occupancy:

4.4 Test application

The objective of the application is to detect overcrowding in mess in real time during scheduled mess timings and update on common mess portal

Assumption : Admin had already done setup for all the sensors along with their properties viz. geo location , sensor type etc.

System Implementation:

- **Algorithm**
 1. Users of the platform provide the code to be run for mess crowd management. This artefact has the business logic for the use case and is provided to the platform via UI/API. In addition to this a configuration file is supplied along with the algorithm which contains the dependencies and the system environment requirement.
- **Binding Algorithm with Sensors**
 2. Algorithms take into input the number and type of sensors along with their geo-code. The platform then determines the sensors registered with the it within the vicinity of the location. In this case, the sensors are cameras located in the respective mess on which the surveillance is to be done.
- **Determining sensors from their geo location**
 3. Once the cameras are identified, the platform creates a topic for each of them. These act as a channel for the algorithms to access the sensor.
 4. After the topics are created, the platform generates a properties file which has information about the kafka topics created for each camera. The algorithm artefact reads this file to gain metadata required to establish connection with these sensors.
 5. Now, that the sensors have been uniquely identified in the system and bound with their respective application, the platform proceeds with running and deploying the code.
- **Deploying the Application**
 6. The Deployment Module passes the request to run the code to a load balancer, which determines the node on which to run the program or fires up a new instance

to serve the request. Running the Application

7. The Runner Module checks for the environment required by the application as specified in its configuration file. It reads this file and makes sure that the system is ready before running the program.

8. The application is then run on the node.

- **Scheduler**

9. The platform provides the user with a module to schedule the crowd management application at various time intervals. This comes in handy when the application needs to be run everyday, thrice a day.

10. Once the application is scheduled to run, this module invokes the deployment and runner module in order to deploy and run the application.

- **Output and Action Templates**

11. As the mess crowd management application runs it generates certain callback actions once it identifies/infers that the mess has been crowded.

12. Platform provides the user application with a predefined template of actions that it can take depending upon the crowd. These include notifying the registered mess users of a crowded mess and suggesting a congestion-free time.

5 Existing systems

	Aws IOT platform	Azure iot platform	Oracle IOT dashboard	Bosch	Salesforce IOT Cloud	Our Project
Sensor discovery	√	X	√	√	√	√
Repository management	X	√	√	X	X	√
Notification Generator	√	√	√	Not mentioned	√	√
Events and Callback	Not mentioned	X	Not mentioned	√	√	√
Scheduler	√	√	X	X	Not mentioned	√
Application deployment	√	√	√	√	√	√

- **AWS IOT Platform :** AWS IoT provides secure, bi-directional communication between Internet-connected devices such as sensors, actuators, embedded micro-controllers, or smart appliances and the AWS Cloud.
- **Azure iot platform :** Azure IoT is built on decades of Microsoft enterprise experience and is designed to be accessible for all organizations.
- **Oracle IOT dashboard :** Oracle Internet of Things Cloud Service enables secure and reliable bidirectional communication between IoT devices and the cloud.
- **Bosch :** The Bosch IoT Suite is a flexible IoT platform that comprises an array of cloud-enabled services and software packages and addresses the typical requirements of IoT projects.

- **Salesforce IOT Cloud:** Salesforce IoT Cloud turns the big data coming from customers' connected things into meaningful insights helping to optimize products.