Node-RED

This document will contain the steps required for the installation, and the configuration of Node-RED. Node-RED will be used as backend allowing to do data processing of the packets received by The Things Network (TTN), the purposed idea is having devices communicating through LoRa with a gateway. This gateway will forward the packet to TTN, TTN will then communicate by MQTT to Node-RED. Node-RED will communicate also by MQTT to the Carelink platform, the reverse path is also possible. Node-RED is also used to process the "statusWifiAPs" messages (that are published in the MQTT broker, with a field containing the Wi-Fi access points that are near the device), which will make use of 3 Wi-Fi location API's to determine an "assisted" location, complementary to the GPS. This will enable the Pycom devices to have one more alternative to the GPS, in case it fails. Additionally, a third localization technique is also available when using the LoRa protocol.

1. Installation

SSH connection:

```
₽ubuntu@ip-172-31-38-217: ~
Authenticating with public key "imported-openssh-key"
Welcome to Ubuntu 18.04.3 LTS (GNU/Linux 4.15.0-1054-aws x86_64)
 * Documentation: https://help.ubuntu.com
 * Management:
* Support:
                      https://landscape.canonical.com
                     https://ubuntu.com/advantage
  System information as of Tue Nov 26 14:32:41 UTC 2019
  System load: 0.41
                                       Processes:
                                                                92
  Usage of /: 33.2% of 7.69GB
                                      Users logged in: 0
IP address for eth0: 172.31.38.217
  Memory usage: 24%
  Swap usage: 0%
 * Overheard at KubeCon: "microk8s.status just blew my mind".
     https://microk8s.io/docs/commands#microk8s.status
 * Canonical Livepatch is available for installation.
     Reduce system reboots and improve kernel security. Activate at: https://ubuntu.com/livepatch
O packages can be updated.
0 updates are security updates.
Last login: Tue Nov 26 14:21:22 2019 from 85.241.84.108
ubuntu@ip-172-31-38-217:~$
```

Figure 1 Ubuntu initial screen

2. Setup and Install Node-RED in the Cloud machine

Install node.js and Node-Red in the machine by running the following commands:

```
curl -sL https://deb.nodesource.com/setup 10.x | sudo -E bash -
sudo apt-get install -y nodejs build-essential
sudo npm install -g node-red
```

To test the instance run <code>node-red</code> start after this an editor will be available at <a href="http://<instance-ip>:1880/">http://<instance-ip>:1880/

replace instance-ip by the server ip.

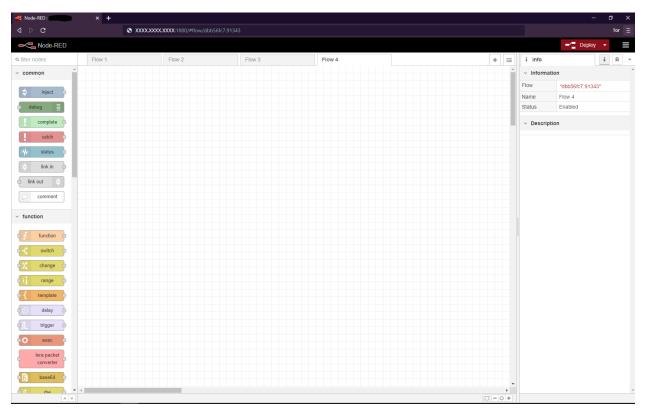


Figure 2 Node-RED Initial screen

Secure Node-RED, enabling user authentication, by running these commands:

```
sudo npm install -g node-red-admin
cd ~/.node-red
node-red-admin hash-pw
```

Fill in the password and copy the hash, open the settings file:

```
sudo nano settings.js
```

Locate the area present in figure3, uncomment and replace the password.

Figure 3 Edit settings.js

To enable a user and an admin change settings.js to

Figure 4 Settings.js user and admin

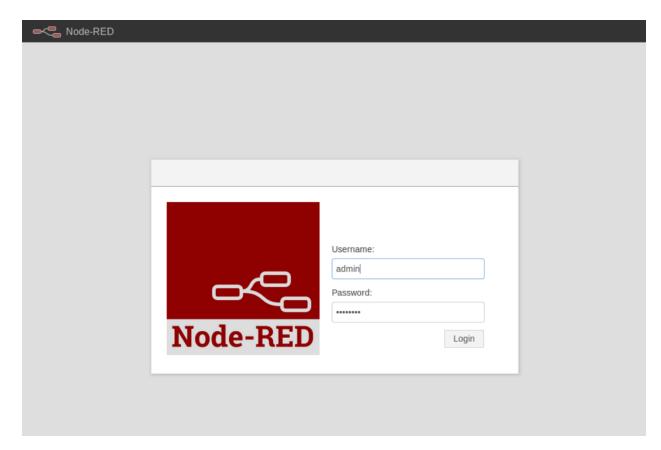


Figure 5 login page

For Node-RED start automatically whenever the instance is restarted run,

```
sudo npm install -g pm2
pm2 start `which node-red` -- -v
pm2 save
pm2 startup
```

To install a node run the next command:

```
sudo npm i node-red-node-
```

this task can be done later in a graphic way.

More nodes are available in the following repository https://flows.nodered.org/

3. Use Node-RED

Node-RED is built on Node.js, and is Low-code programming for event-driven applications, taking full advantage of its event-driven, non-blocking model. This makes it ideal to run at the edge of the network on low-cost hardware such as the Raspberry Pi as well as in the cloud.

3.1 Initial Test

For an initial test go to the left menu and simply drag and drop the "inject" and "debug" nodes, in the top right the "Deploy" button will appear red and the nodes will have a blue circle in the right corner. This means the changes are not running yet.

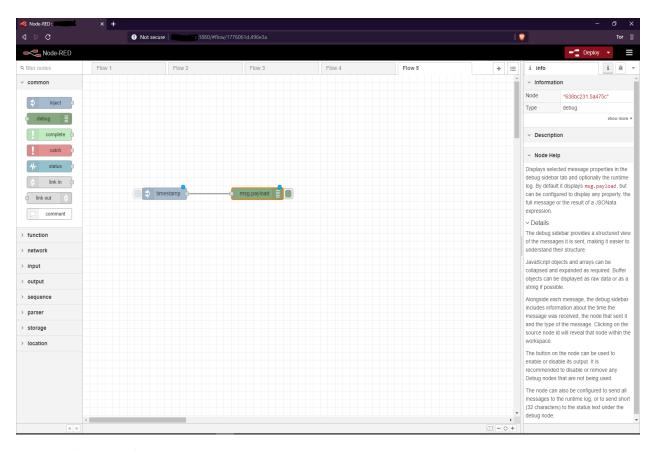


Figure 6 Node-RED simple test

After pressing the "Deploy" button, a message will appear and the blue circles will disappear the "Deploy" button should turn black, the nodes are now running.

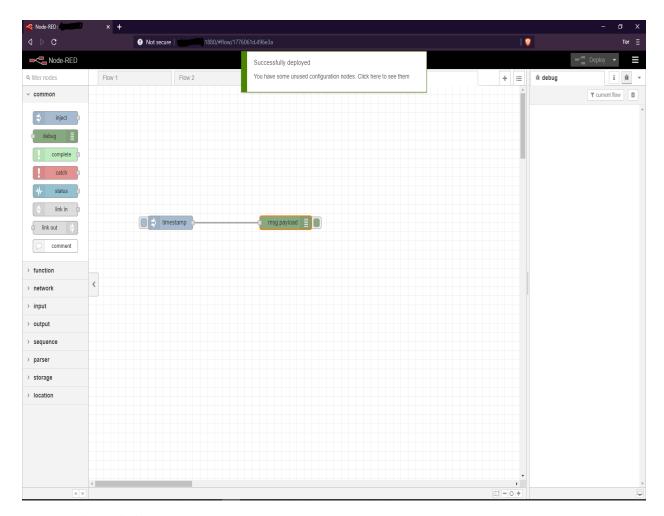


Figure 7 Node-RED deploy success

To get the output, go to the right menu and select the icon with a bug. It's also a good idea to select current flow in the filter icon. After pressing the blue square in the first node, a timestamp will appear in the window to the right.

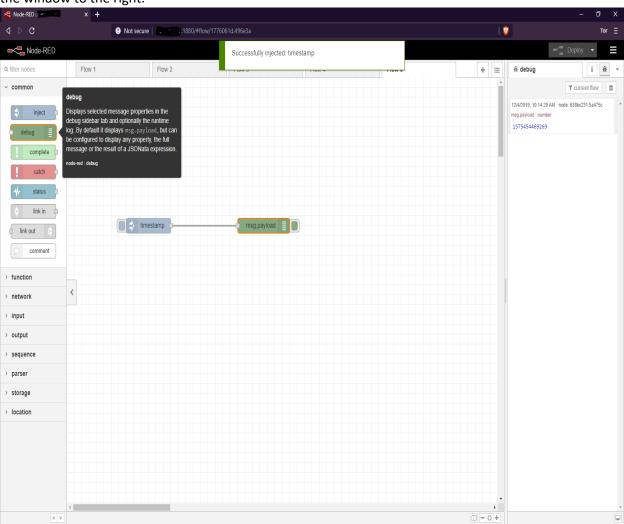
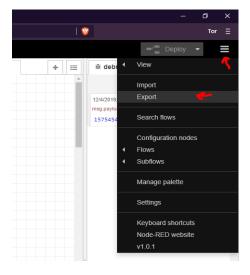


Figure 8 Node-RED debug window

Now the basic operation has been explained the only thing missing is how to export the work for future use and importing it again. To export please select top right menu and choose "Export", a menu will appear simple press "Download", a JSON file will be downloaded, this file is used as a backup or to run the flows in another machine.



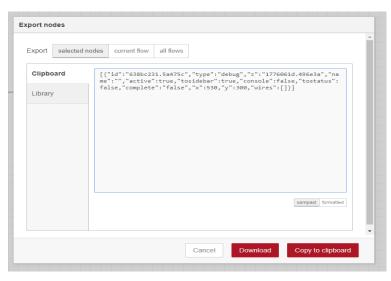


Figure 9 Node-RED export

Figure 10Node-RED export nodes

In the same menu select "Import", and a similar option will pop up, is possible to copy and paste a JSON or select one that is stored locally.

The place where these nodes are going to be added is chosen in the "Import to", by the default Nodered will import the nodes to the current flow.

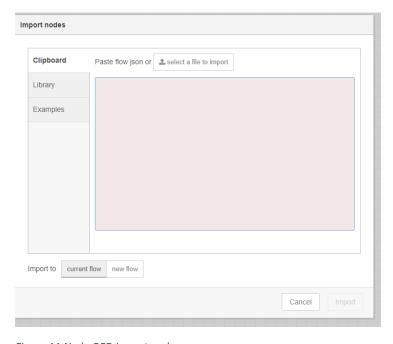


Figure 11 Node-RED import nodes

After importing the nodes, it may happen that some are missing (shown traced in Fig. 9). In order to install them, it is necessary to select "Manage palette" on the menu of figure 6. Another menu will appear. Select install, and search for the missing node. An example is shown below

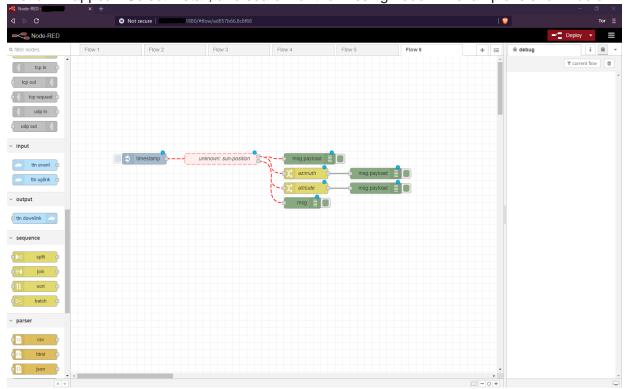


Figure 12 unknown node after import

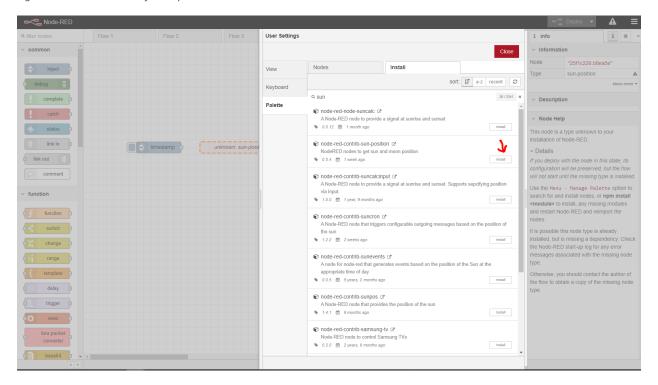


Figure 13 Node-RED install node

Select "Install" in the confirmation pop-up window. If the correct node is installed it will be automatically placed on the current flow, as shown in Fig. 12

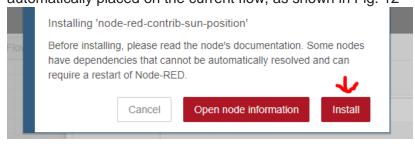


Figure 14 Node-RED confirm install

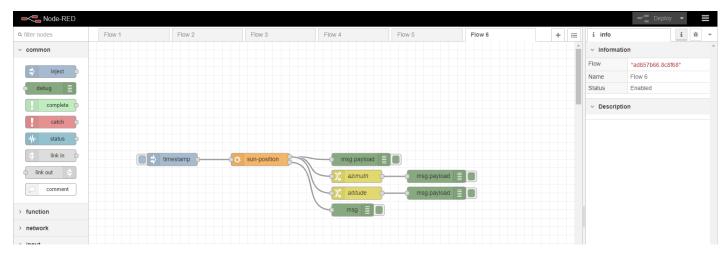


Figure 15 Node-RED success install

For chapter 4, the following nodes will need to be installed:

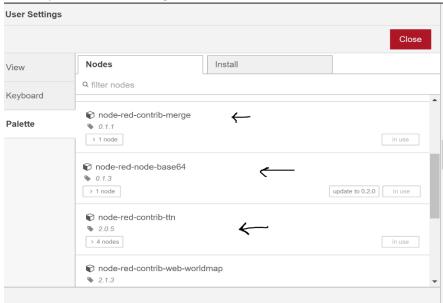


Figure 16 Node-RED installed nodes and versions

4. Importing the Carelink flows

In order to replicate the work done for connecting TTN to the Carelink platform import the provided JSON. For security reasons some nodes need passwords. These passwords will be in a separate file.

After importing the JSON file, five different flows will be placed in the Node-Red as in the figures 17-22,

The first flow is the one responsible for receiving the uplink messages from TTN, and check if there's a location in the status message If the location from the GPS is valid, it is kept. If the location is none, the field is replaced by the location provided by the LoRa Cloud API. After this, the message is published to the "status" topic in the Carelink platform MQTT broker

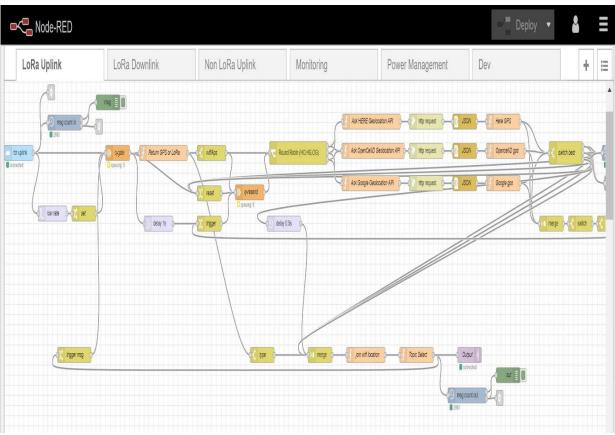


Figure 17 Node-RED flow wifi Assisted location for LoRa communication, TTN Uplink Status MQTT Downlink

The second flow is responsible for the LoRa downlink messages from the subscription of the different MQTT topics. The subscribed messages are converted to the right format so that they can be sent as a downlink for TTN.

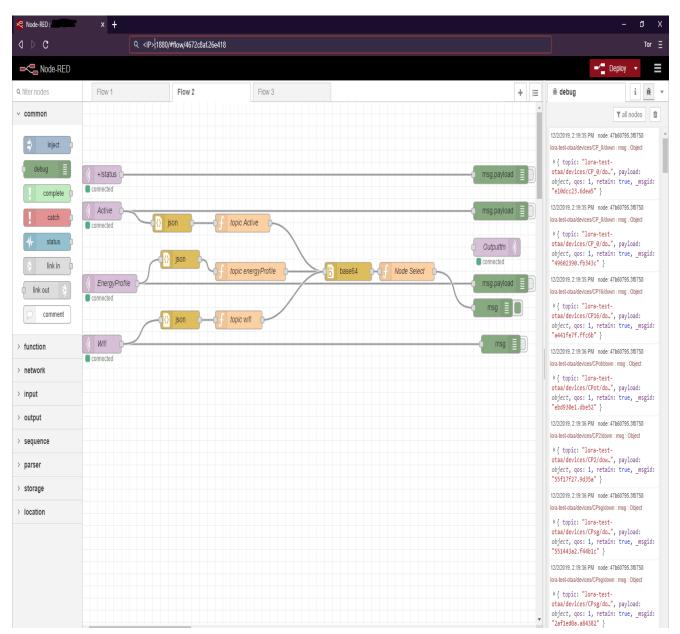


Figure 18 Node-RED flow Subscribe MQTT to Downlink TTN

The third flow is responsible for the processing of the assisted location using the WiFi information provided by in the "statusWifiAPs" MQTT topic, by the devices, when not using LoRa.

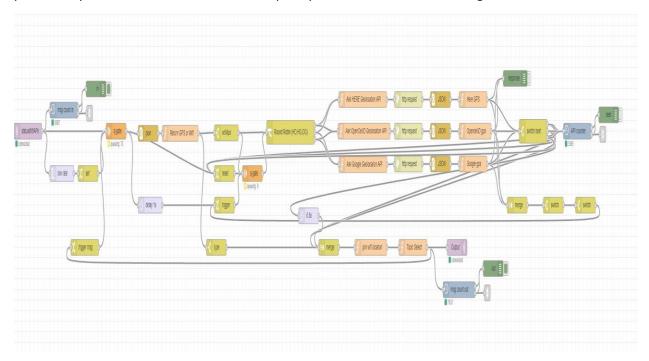


Figure 19 Node-RED flow wifi Assisted location for non-LoRa communication

The fourth flow is responsible for the monitoring and ensuring the correct function of the other flows. This flow uses several counters in different check points, and combines this information to create a report. This report is then sent daily by e-mail. This flow also analyses the different counters, and when a defined threshold is crossed, sends an alert SMS.

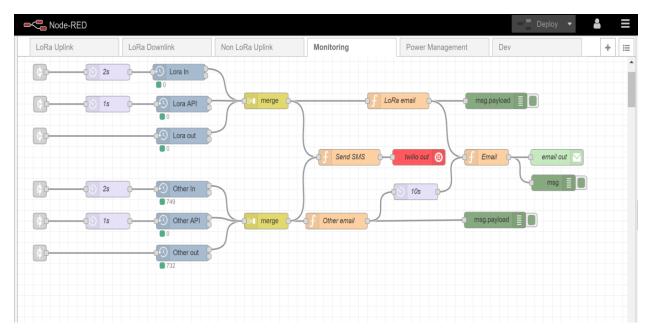


Figure 20 Flow Monitoring e-mail and SMS notification

The last flow is in charge for the power management of the devices. The working principle is the following first on the left side of the figure, the status topic is subscribed. Then the message is converted to JSON, and is filtered only the messages from Pycom devices. The message is analysed and the battery level is checked. If the battery level is valid, the remaining battery is calculated, using a polynomial function, as well as, the percentage of the total capacity, for example, "CP20" 10 hours 90%. Then based on this information the active components and the sample rate of them are adjusted.

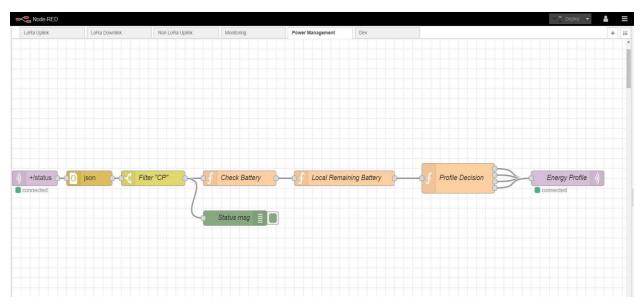


Figure 21 Flow Power Management

The Dev flow exists but is not represented in this document, since it is not used in a production environment. The development flow aims, to provide a sandbox, where the 3 features can be tested, alongside with the other flows that are in a production environment, but without being in production. The Debugging feature this function is used in case something goes wrong. It is possible to replicate, to find the error. The Updates Testing feature is used when the error is found, to be possible to develop and test an update. After some iterations, the update is finished and ready for production. The Map visualization feature is used to have a place for data visualization in a real world map, to have an idea of what is going to be shown next, in the platform, and for easy interpretation of the data.

5. API's

For the flows represented by the figures 17 and 19, three different API's are used. These API's have the functionality to read the data from the "wifiAPs" field in the JSON, and returning a location based in the mac addresses and RSSI values.

For using the "here" API it is required an "appid" and "appcode", for the "OpenCelliD" API it is required a token and for the "google" API it is required a key.

The next step is testing API. This task is done through postman as shown in the next figures.

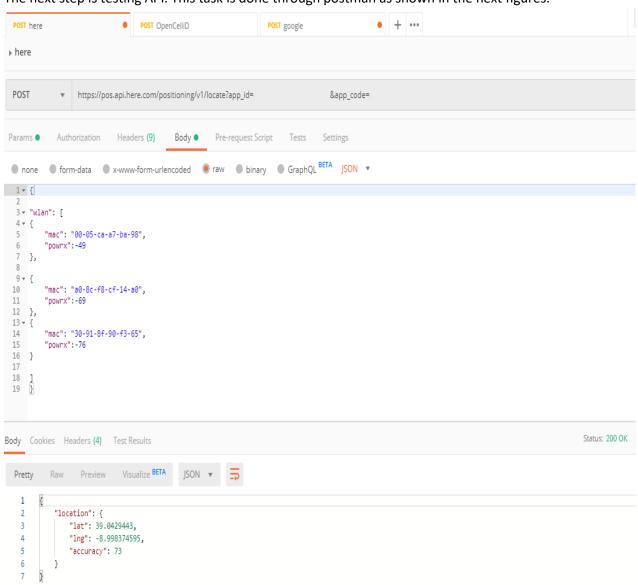


Figure 23 Postman here API test

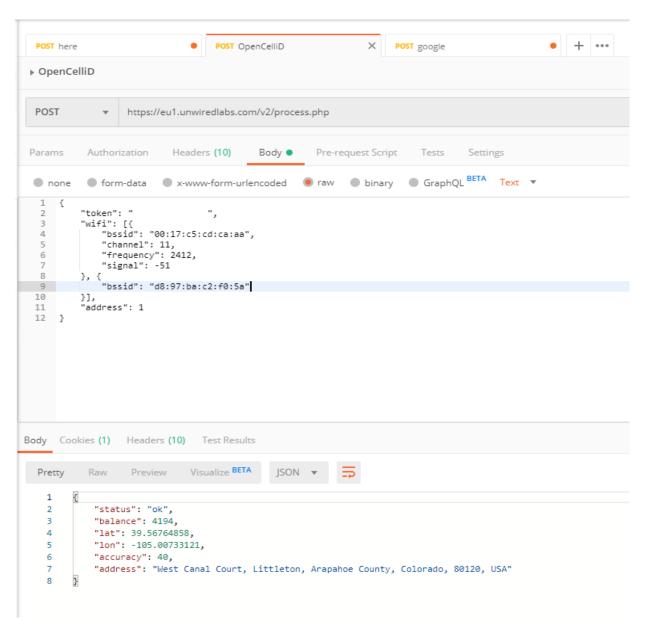


Figure 24 Postman OpenCelliD API test

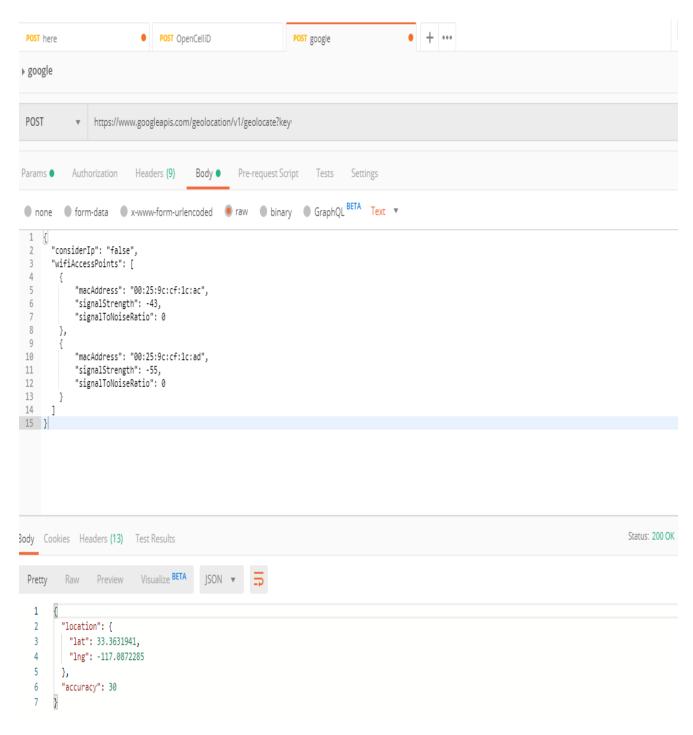


Figure 25 Postman Google Geolocation API test

The three APIs receive the same information but with different names, that's why in figures17,19 exists an "ask" function. The output is also different, thus the function "API_name gps" returns the same format regardless of the used API.

All of the three got limitations as shown in the next figures.

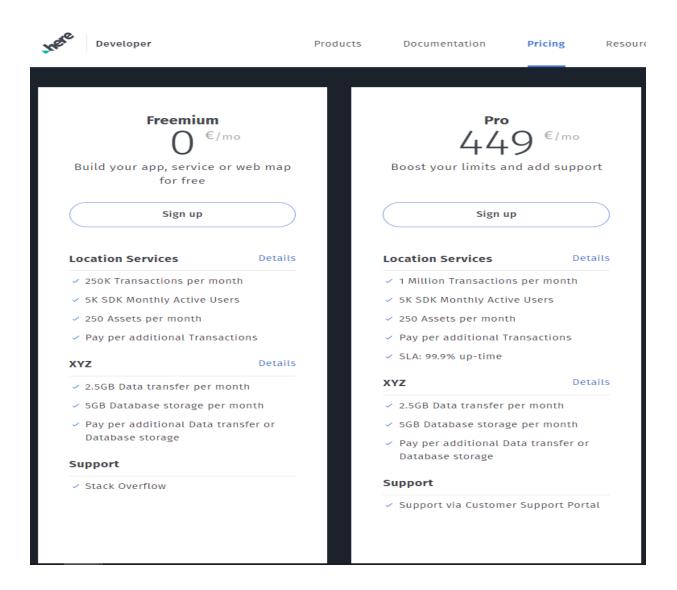


Figure 26 here API info

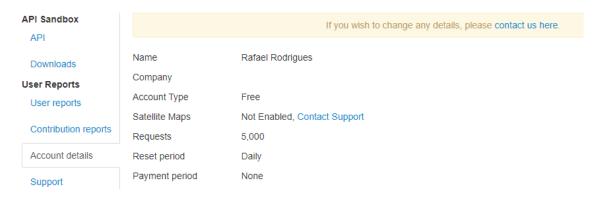
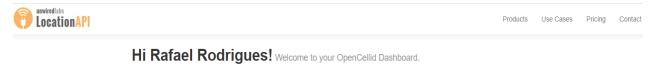


Figure 227 OpenCelliD API plan



The dashboard allows you to check activity levels of your account. If you need any help, we're just an email away.

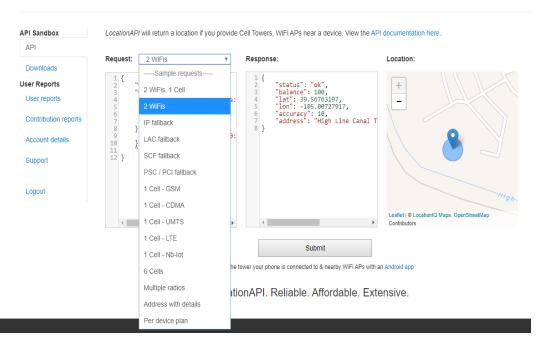


Figure 238 OpenCelliD API functions

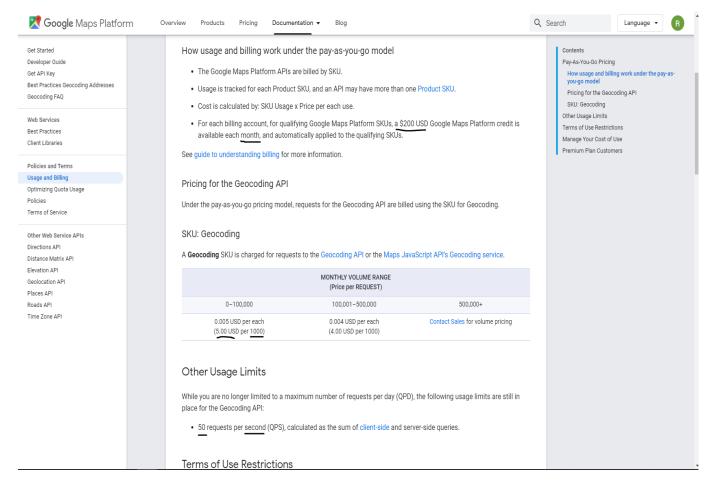
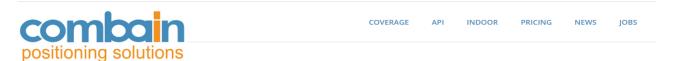


Figure 249 Google API info

Beside this three, other options were tried such as Mozilla location service, and combain, the first one is not distributing keys at this moment the second the free limit is 100 request per month as shown below.



It's fast and free to get started.

Within short you will have an API key to test our service in our online demo or from your own code. More than 10. signed up – we are flattered!

Portugal		-
Email Password		
Company Name	Full Name	

Figure 30 combain API free tier

COVERAGE API INDOOR PRICING NEWS JOBS FREE SIGN UP LOGIN

Credits and Pricing

By purchasing credits here, you will have access to world largest cell-id and wifi database. One request to our API is equal to one credit. A request can include just one cell, or several cells and/or wifis. If we receive multiple cells and/or wifis, we do a computation and returns the most likely position. If you need access to our premium support and customization services, please contact us for a separate quotation.

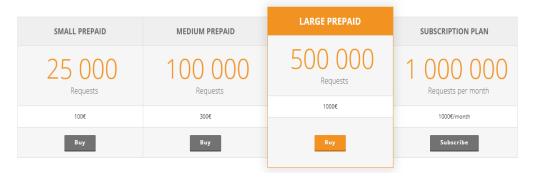


Figure 31 combain API plans

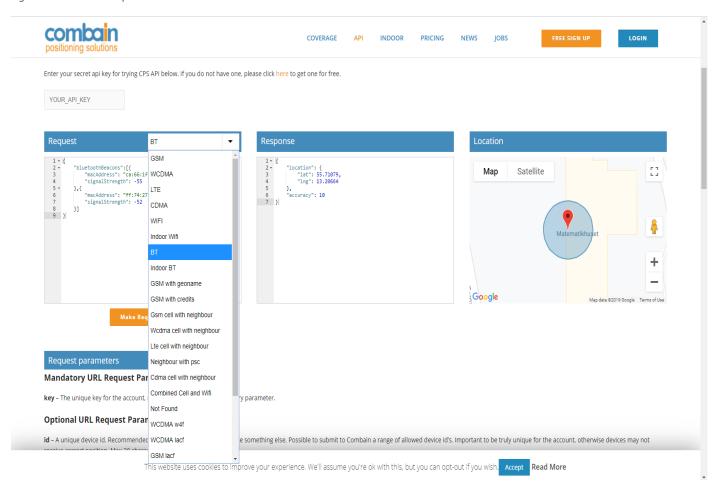
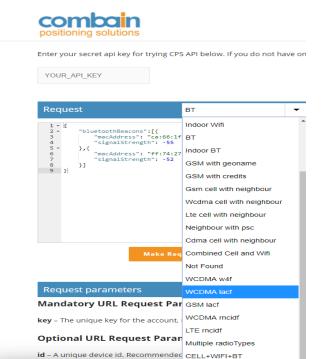


Figure 25 combain API functions



Building API

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Figure 263 combain API functions

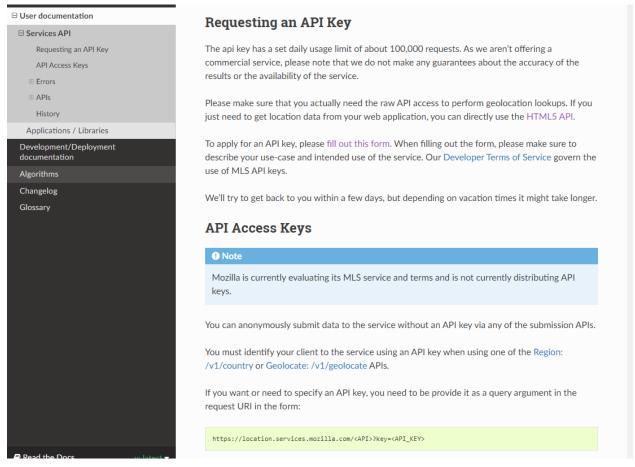


Figure 34 Mozilla API info

References

https://nodered.org/docs/getting-started/aws#running-on-aws-ec2-with-ubuntu

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eF5QeC-DZ2Q&t=116s

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yqapqKijVQ4

https://developer.here.com/

https://opencellid.org/

https://developers.google.com/maps/documentation/geolocation/get-api-key

https://location.services.mozilla.com/

https://combain.com/