

Ubiquitous Computing - Lab 2: Node-RED

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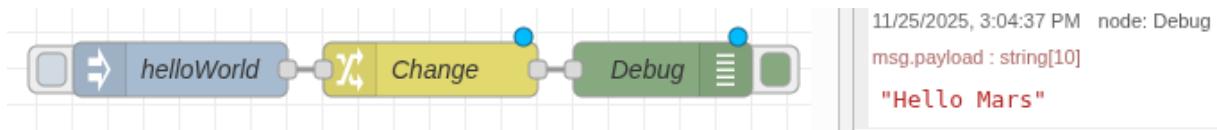
All the work done here (along with the flows as JSON) is available on my GitHub¹.

1. Exercise 1



This flow contains two nodes: *helloWorld* and *Debug*. *helloWorld* is an inject node that has a string payload of value **Hello World**. *Debug* is a debug node that has an output set to `msg.payload` in order to output the payload received from *helloWorld*.

2. Exercise 2



This flow contains an additional *Change* node to the ones of the Exercise 1. *Change* is a change node which has a Change rule with `msg.payload` as input, searches for **World** and replaces with **Mars**.

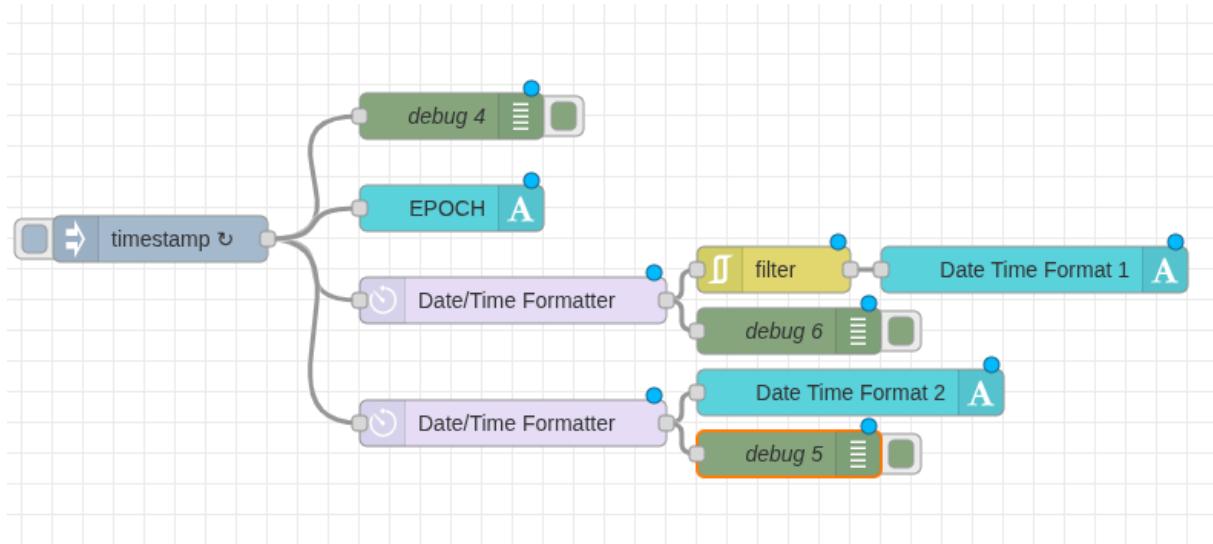
3. Exercise 3



This flow is made with the `>= 6` rule in the *Switch* node. The top debug node outputs the earthquake data (line per line) at every injection. The bottom debug node outputs **PANIC!** for every earthquake that has a mag(nitude) superior or equal to 6.

¹<https://github.com/sully-vian/HTWG/tree/main/ubiquitous-computing/lab-2>

4. Exercise 4



This flow uses two “Date/Time Formatter” to format the raw epoch of the inject node. To get the short format of “Date Time Format 1”, we should specify DD/MM/YY HH:mm:ss as output format. To get the longer format of “Date Time Format 2”, we shoud specify dddd, MMMM Do YYYY, h:mm:ss a as output format.

I’m not sure I get what the “filter” node is used for in this flow, so I just used the default configuration.

Inputting the dates into “text” nodes of the @flowfuse/node-red-dashboard collection allows to us to display the results in the following dashboard:

Group 1	
EPOCH	1764091900956
Date Time Format 1 25/11/25 18:31:40	
Date Time Format 2 Tuesday, November 25th 2025, 6:31:40 pm	

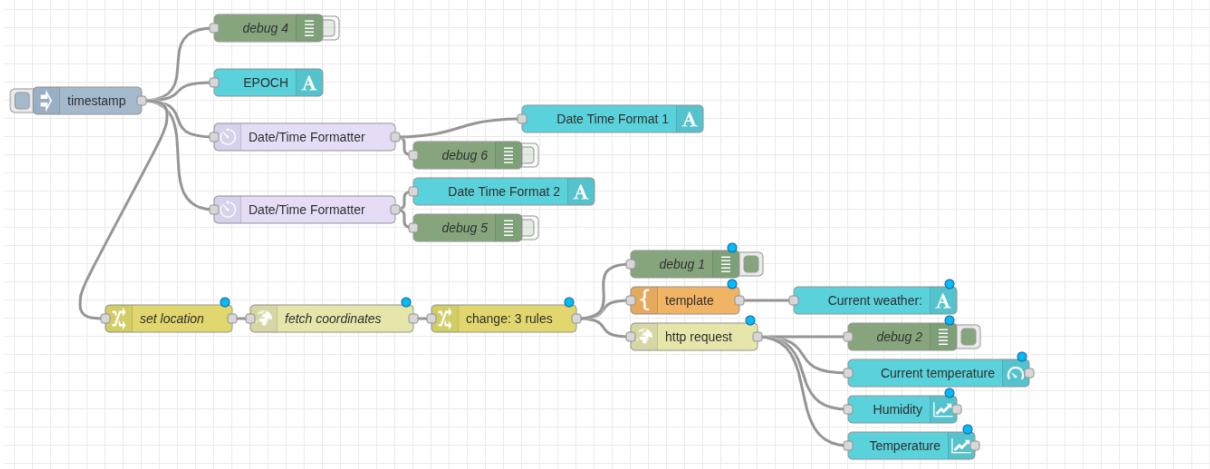
Of course, the debug nodes also print the displayed content in the debug window:

```
msg.payload : string[17]
"25/11/25 18:48:22"

11/25/2025, 6:48:22 PM  node: debug 5
msg.payload : string[39]
"Tuesday, November 25th 2025, 6:48:22 pm"

11/25/2025, 6:48:23 PM  node: debug 4
msg.payload : number
1764092903019
```

5. Exercise 5



This flow is sensibly more complex as the displayed information comes from two different sources: the timestamp and the Open-Meteo weather API².

The weather flow goes as such:

- **Change node:** Set `msg.payload` to “Konstanz” (or the city of your choice)
- **HTTP request node:** Fetch the city GPS coordinates with the following url: <https://geocoding-api.open-meteo.com/v1/search?name={{payload}}&count=1>
- **Change node:** Pick up the fetched values and bring them to the message’s payload’s root for easier access.
- **HTTP request node:** Fetch the weather data with the acquired GPS coordinates: https://api.open-meteo.com/v1/forecast?latitude={{payload.latitude}}&longitude={{payload.longitude}}¤t=temperature_2m,relative_humidity_2m
- **Dashboard nodes:** Dispatch the fetched information to the different dashboard nodes.

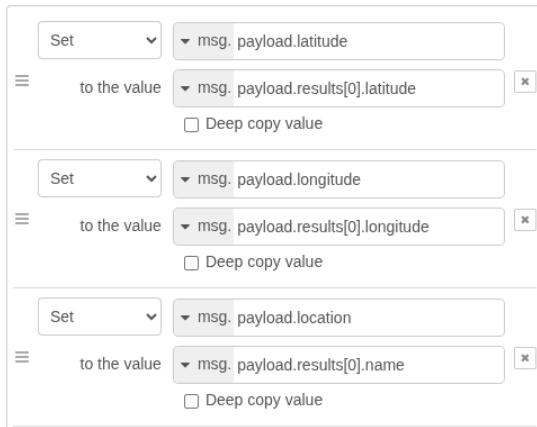


Figure 1: Configuration of the second change node

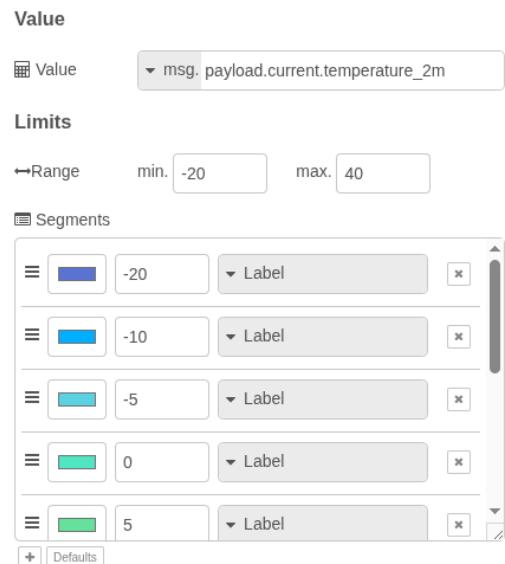


Figure 2: Configuration of the gauge node

Concerning the “The weather in ...” sentence, I used a template node with the following template which I then plugged into a regular dashboard text node.

²<https://github.com/sully-vian/HTWG/tree/main/ubiquitous-computing/lab-2>

... Property ▼ msg. payload

Template

```
1 The weather in {{payload.location}} at coordinates: {{payload.latitude}}, {{payload.longitude}} is ...
```

I didn't manage to find a service that provides textual information such as the "cloudiness" shown in the subject example.

The resulting dashboard after a few hours of gathering data (weather API kicked me out and hid the temperature gauge value):

