

FIWARE
**Global
Summit**

Introduction to IoT Agent integration with NGSI-LD

Jason Fox, Technical Evangelist, FIWARE Foundation

Vienna, Austria
12-13 June, 2023
#FIWARESummit

**From Data
to Value**

OPEN SOURCE
OPEN STANDARDS
OPEN COMMUNITY



Learning Goals

- Review: What is an IoT Agent:
 - Why do you need them?
 - How do they work with NGSI?
- **NGSI-LD Measures**
- **NGSI-LD Actuations + Lazy Attributes:**
 - Registrations
 - Subscriptions
- Provisioning **NGSI-LD** Devices:
 - Data Models and **NGSI-LD @context**
 - The role of metadata
 - GeoJSON and GPS device provisioning
- Combining **NGSI-v2** Devices with an **NGSI-LD** Context Broker

What is an IoT Agent?

- **IoT Agents** overcome common problems in the IoT domain:
 - How can I translate my received measurements into a common standard regardless of the device used?
 - How can I abstract my communications so the users are able to remain unaware of the device specific protocols?
 - How can I map data received in a meaningful manner?
- An **IoT Agent** translates an IoT specific protocol into **NSGI (v2 or LD)**
- Any class of devices with an existing IoT Agent can be considered as **FIWARE-Ready** device
- For unsupported protocols you can build your own agent.
- You only need an IoT Agent if your devices can't support **NGSI** interfaces directly

NGSI-LD - Why Linked Data?

My data is useful to me, but is more powerful shared with others

... but what about Conway's law?

Any organization that designs a system (defined broadly) will produce a design whose structure is a copy of the organization's communication structure.

— Melvin E. Conway

... how can I share data and benefit from other organizations if their organization “*communicates*” differently?

Illustrative NGSI-LD Use Cases

Car Parking



NGSI Linked Data use cases typically involve context data exchange between disparate organizations

Cross-border Tourism



Configuring an NGSI-LD IoT Agent

Environment Variables

- **IOTA_CB_NGSI_VERSION = "LD"**
- **IOTA_TIMESTAMP = "true"**
- **IOTA_FALLBACK_TENANT**
equivalent to fiware-service
- **IOTA_FALLBACK_PATH**
equivalent to fiware-service-path
- **IOTA_JSON_LD_CONTEXT**
path to **@context** file (either a single file or an array of files)

config.js

```
contextBroker: {  
  host: '192.168.1.1',  
  port: '1026',  
  ngsiVersion: 'ld',  
  jsonLdContext: 'http://context.json-ld',  
  fallbackTenant: 'openiot',  
  fallbackPath: '/',  
}
```

NGSI-LD @context

```
{  
  "@context": [  
    "https://example.com/data-models/context.jsonld",  
    "https://uri.etsi.org/ngsi-ld/v1/ngsi-ld-core-context.jsonld"  
  ]  
}
```

A linked data **@context** is mandatory for NGSI-LD, and should be made available publicly.

NGSI-LD Core @context

```
"ngsi-ld": "https://uri.etsi.org/ngsi-ld/",
"geojson": "https://purl.org/geojson/vocab#",
"id": "@id",
"type": "@type",

>Date": "ngsi-ld:Date",
>DateTime": "ngsi-ld:DateTime",
>LineString": "geojson:LineString",

>Point": "geojson:Point",
>Polygon": "geojson:Polygon",
>GeoProperty": "ngsi-ld:GeoProperty",
>Property": "ngsi-ld:Property",
>Relationship": "ngsi-ld:Relationship",

>ContextSourceNotification": "ngsi-ld:ContextSourceNotification",
>ContextSourceRegistration": "ngsi-ld:ContextSourceRegistration",
>Notification": "ngsi-ld:Notification",
>Subscription": "ngsi-ld:Subscription",
```

... etc

```
"coordinates": {
  "@container": "@list",
  "@id": "geojson:coordinates"
},
"location": "ngsi-ld:location",
"observedAt": {
  "@id": "ngsi-ld:observedAt",
  "@type": "DateTime"
},
"unitCode": "ngsi-ld:unitCode",
"value": "ngsi-ld:hasValue",
```

... etc

```
"@vocab": "https://uri.etsi.org/ngsi-ld/default-context/"
```

- Common NGSI-LD terms in the core @context for metadata - **unitCode**, **observedAt**
- Common NGSI-LD terms for geoproperties - **Point**, **LineString**, **location**, **coordinates**, etc.

Device measures should always reuse the **predefined** terms

Implementation Specific @context

```
"fiware": "https://uri.fiware.org/ns/data-models#",  
"schema": "https://schema.org/",  
"example": "https://example.com/datamodels.html/",  
"Building": "fiware:Building",  
"Device": "fiware:Device",  
"FillingLevelSensor": "example:FillingLevelSensor",  
"SoilSensor": "example:SoilSensor",  
"TemperatureSensor": "example:TemperatureSensor",  
"Tractor": "example:Tractor",  
"Water": "example:Water",
```

... etc

```
"accuracy": "fiware:accuracy",  
"batteryLevel": "fiware:batteryLevel",  
"category": "fiware:category",  
"controlledAsset": "fiware:controlledAsset",  
"controlledProperty": "fiware:controlledProperty",  
"deviceState": "fiware:deviceState",  
"ipAddress": "fiware:ipAddress",  
"macAddress": "fiware:macAddress",  
"mcc": "fiware:mcc",  
"osVersion": "fiware:osVersion",
```

- Reuse common data models and ontologies
- Add use-case specific mappings where necessary
- Remember to map all entities types, attributes and metadata attributes

Undefined terms will fallback to the default context

<https://uri.etsi.org/ngsi-ld/default-context>

```
"actuator": "https://w3id.org/saref#actuator",  
"filling": "https://w3id.org/saref#fillingLevel",  
"temperature": "https://w3id.org/saref#temperature",  
"sensor": "https://w3id.org/saref#sensor",  
"status": "https://saref.etsi.org/core/status",  
"state": "https://saref.etsi.org/core/hasState",
```

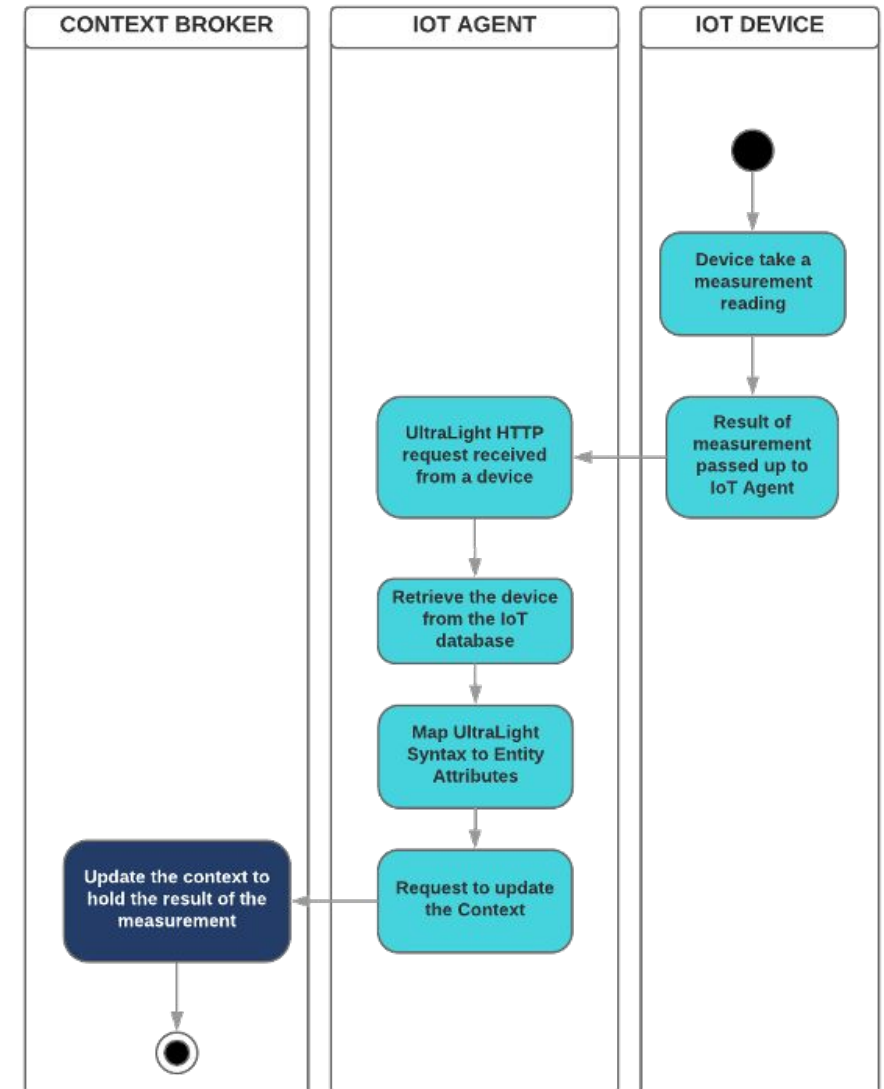
```
"heartRate":  
  "https://purl.bioontology.org/ontology/MESH/D006339",
```

... etc

```
"myCustomAttr": "example:mycustomAttr",  
"secondCustomAttr": "example:2ndCustomAttr"
```


NGSI-LD Measures

- The **IoT Device** is using a known payload syntax
 - Ultralight, JSON, SigFox, OPC-UA etc.
- The **IoT Device** sends a reading using the agreed protocol
 - HTTP, MQTT, AMPQ, LoRaWAN etc.
- The **IoT Agent** interprets the payload and transforms the measure into NGSI-LD
- The only interface to the **Context Broker** is a simple structured upsert of entities
 - potentially including linked entities



Measure: “*Device X in Building Y has registered 25°C*”

NGSI-LD Context Broker receives upsert

```
curl -L -X POST
'http://localhost:1026/ngsi-ld/v1/entityOperations/upsert' \
-H 'Content-Type: application/ld+json' \
-d '[
{
  "@context": "http://example.com/context.json-ld",
  "id": "urn:ngsi-ld:Device:thermometer1",
  "type": "Device"
  "temperature": {
    "type": "Property",
    "value": 25,
    "observedAt": "2015-08-05T07:35:01.468Z",
    "unitCode": "CEL",
    "accuracy": {
      "type": "Property", "value": 1
    }
  },
  "controlledAsset": {
    "type": "Relationship",
    "object": "urn:ngsi-ld:Building:building1"
  }
}
]'
```

NGSI v2 Context Broker equivalent

```
curl -iX POST
'http://localhost:1026/v2/entities/
urn:ngsi-ld:Device:thermometer1/attrs' \
-H 'Content-Type: application/json' \
-d '{
  "temperature": {
    "type": "Number",
    "value": "25",
    "metadata": {
      "TimeInstant": {
        "type": "DateTime",
        "value": "2015-08-05T07:35:01.468Z"
      },
      "unitCode": {
        "type": "String", "value": "CEL"
      },
      "accuracy": {
        "type": "Number", "value": 1
      }
    }
  },
  "controlledAsset": {
    "type": "Relationship"
    "value": "urn:ngsi-ld:Building:building1"
  }
}'
```

Provisioning an NGSI-LD Service Group

/iot/services endpoint defines common elements across groups of devices

- **entity_type**, **attributes** and **static_attributes** correspond to a data model found within the @context file
- **attributes** and **static_attributes** may have associated metadata.
- types should be defined as:
 - **Property**
 - **Relationship**
 - A native JSON type
 - A GeoJSON type

```
curl -s -o /dev/null -X POST \  
  'http://iot-agent:4041/iot/services' \  
  -H 'Content-Type: application/json' -H 'fiware-service: openiot' \  
  -d '{  
    "services": [  
      {  
        "apikey": "321701236",  
        "cbroker": "http://orion:1026",  
        "entity_type": "Device",  
        "resource": "/iot/d",  
        "protocol": "PDI-IoTA-UltraLight",  
        "transport": "HTTP",  
        "timezone": "Europe/Berlin",  
        "attributes": [  
          { "object_id": "t", "name": "temperature", "type": "Float",  
            "metadata": { "unitCode": { "type": "Property", "value": "CEL" } }  
          }  
        ],  
        "static_attributes": [  
          { "name": "description",  
            "type": "Property", "value": "Thermometer" },  
          { "name": "category", "type": "Property", "value": ["sensor"] },  
          { "name": "controlledProperty",  
            "type": "Property", "value": "temperature" },  
          { "name": "supportedProtocol",  
            "type": "Property", "value": ["u120"] }  
        ]  
      }  
    ]  
  }'  
'
```

Provisioning NGSI-LD device

/iot/devices endpoint defines additional data for an individual device

- **attributes** and **static_attributes** can also be defined at the device level
 - the standard rules about types apply
- Use **link** on a **static_attribute** to update a linked Entity

```
curl -s -o /dev/null -X POST \  
  'http://iot-agent:4041/iot/devices' \  
  -H 'Content-Type: application/json' \  
  -H 'fiware-service: openiot' \  
  -H 'fiware-servicepath: /' \  
  -d '{  
    "devices": [  
      {  
        "device_id": "txhme001xxe",  
        "entity_name": "urn:ngsi-ld:Device:temperature001",  
        "entity_type": "Device",  
        "static_attributes": [  
          {  
            "name": "controlledAsset",  
            "type": "Relationship",  
            "value": "urn:ngsi-ld:Building:001",  
            "link": {  
              "attributes": ["temperature"],  
              "name": "providedBy",  
              "type": "Building"  
            }  
          }  
        ]  
      }  
    ]  
  }  
}
```

GPS Measure: “GPS X has moved to location x,y”

With location payloads such as:

- **As Ultralight String**
`gps|13.3501,52.5143`
- **As Ultralight Multiple attributes**
`lng|13.3501|lat|52.5143`
- **JSON as string value:**
`{"gps": "13.3501,52.5143"}`
- **JSON as array value:**
`{"gps": [13.3501, 52.5143]}`
- **JSON as GeoJSON:**

```
{
  "gps": {
    "type": "Point",
    "coordinates": [13.3501, 52.5143]
  }
}
```
- etc...

Context Broker receives an NGSI-LD upsert

```
curl -L -X POST
'http://localhost:1026/ngsi-ld/v1/entityOperations/upsert' \
-H 'Content-Type: application/ld+json' \
-d '[
  {
    "@context": "http://example.com/context.json-ld",
    "id": "urn:ngsi-ld:Device:gps1",
    "type": "Device",
    "location": {
      "type": "GeoProperty",
      "value": :{
        "type": "Point",
        "coordinates": [13.3501, 52.5143]
      },
      "observedAt": "2015-08-05T07:35:01.468Z"
    },
    "controlledAsset": {
      "type": "Relationship",
      "object": "urn:ngsi-ld:Tractor:tractor1"
    }
  }
]
```

Provisioning GPS Devices

GPS Provisioning from a single input

- Use **location** as the **name** of a geolocation attribute
- Set **type=GeoProperty** or any GeoJSON type
- Map an attribute **object_id** to NGSI-LD attribute **name**

Aliasing Latitude and Longitude as separate inputs

- Use **location** as the **name** of a geolocation attribute
- Set **type=GeoProperty** or any GeoJSON type
- Use **expression** aliasing to map multiple inputs to a String
- Remember GeoJSON uses Lng/Lan format
- Will only fire if both latitude and longitude are present in the payload

All **GeoProperty** input values are automatically converted into GeoJSON in the NGSI-LD upsert

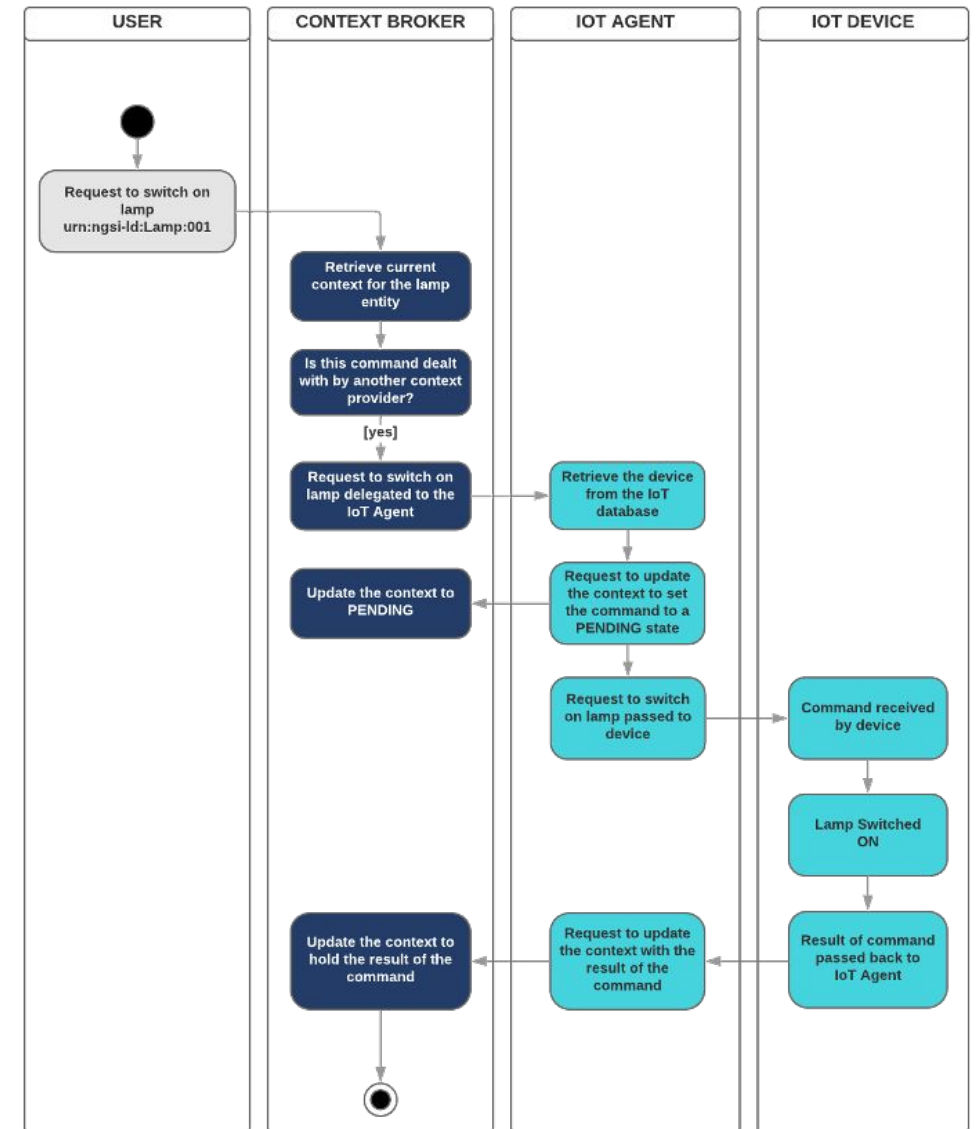
IoT Agent Device Provisioning

```
{
  "object_id": "gps",
  "name": "location",
  "type": "geo:point"
}
```

```
{
  "name": "location",
  "type": "geo:json",
  "expression": "${@lng}, ${@lat}"
}
```


NGSI-LD Actuations

- NGSI-LD actuation code is currently based on the existing NGSI-v2 IoT Agent paradigm.
- Uses **registrations** and **request forwarding**
- Some details of the ETSI specification around the final actuation interface still being discussed:
 - Federation?
 - Subscription based?
 - Full Actuation Interface?
- The listening mechanism is internal to the IoT Agent library and will be updated once the proposed interface is finalized.



Command provisioning actuation **registration** (with Multi-tenancy): *"I am responsible for Attribute X"*

IoT Agent Device Provisioning

```
curl -L -X POST 'http://localhost:4041/iot/devices' \
  -H 'fiware-service: openiot' \
  -H 'Content-Type: application/json' \
  --data-raw '{
    "devices": [
      {
        "device_id": "water001",
        "protocol": "PDI-IoTA-UltraLight",
        "transport": "HTTP",
        "endpoint": "http://device:3001/iot/water001",
        "entity_name": "urn:ngsi-ld:Device:water001",
        "entity_type": "Device",
        "commands": [
          {
            "name": "on",
            "type": "command"
          },
          {
            "name": "off",
            "type": "command"
          }
        ]
      }
    ]
  }'
```

Context Broker receives a Registration

```
curl -L -X POST 'http://localhost:1026/ngsi-ld/v1/csourceRegistrations' \
  -H 'NGSILD-Tenant: openiot' \
  -H 'Content-Type: application/ld+json' \
  -d '{
    "@context": "http://context.json-ld",
    "endpoint": "http://iotagent.com",
    "information": [
      {
        "entities": [
          {
            "id": "urn:ngsi-ld:Device:water001",
            "type": "Device"
          }
        ],
        "properties": [
          "on",
          "off"
        ]
      }
    ],
    "type": "ContextSourceRegistration"
  }'
```

Actuation Request Forwarding (with Multi-tenancy)

Context Broker receives an Actuation

```
curl -L -X PATCH 'http://localhost:1026/ngsi-ld/v1/entities/urn:ngsi-ld:Device:water001/attrs/on' \
  -H 'NGSILD-Tenant: openiot' -H 'Content-Type: application/json' \
  -H 'Link: <http://context-provider:3000/data-models/ngsi-context.jsonld>; rel="http://www.w3.org/ns/json-ld#context";
  type="application/ld+json"' \
  --data-raw '{ "type": "Property", "value": " " }'
```

IoT Agent receives a forwarded Actuation

```
curl -L -X PATCH 'http://localhost:4041/ngsi-ld/v1/entities/urn:ngsi-ld:Device:water001/attrs/on' \
  -H 'NGSILD-Tenant: openiot' -H 'Content-Type: application/json' \
  -H 'Link: <http://context-provider:3000/data-models/ngsi-context.jsonld>; rel="http://www.w3.org/ns/json-ld#context";
  type="application/ld+json"' \
  --data-raw '{ "type": "Property", "value": " " }'
```

Multitenancy uses **NGSILD-Tenant** header if found, or the **fiware-service** header for backwards compatibility. And uses **IOTA_FALLBACK_TENANT** as a final backstop.

Combining NGSI-v2 and LD

- Mapping NGSI-v2 to NGSI-LD is simple - just re-use mapping code from within the IoT Agent library
- Use a one-shot **subscription** to duplicate existing entities
- Ongoing **subscription** for shadowing device measures and creating linked data entities with **providedBy** and **observedAt** metadata attributes
- Sample code:

<https://github.com/FIWARE/tutorials.Step-by-Step/blob/master/context-provider/controllers/ngsi-ld/device-convert.js>

```
function duplicateDevices(req, res) {  
  async function copyEntityData(device, index) {  
    await upsertDeviceEntityAsLD(device);  
  }  
  req.body.data.forEach(copyEntityData);  
  res.status(204).send();  
}
```

```
function shadowDeviceMeasures(req, res) {  
  const attrib = req.params.attrib;  
  async function copyAttributeData(device, index) {  
    await upsertDeviceEntityAsLD(device);  
    if (device[attrib]) {  
      await upsertLinkedAttributeDataAsLD(device,  
        'controlledAsset', attrib);  
    }  
  }  
  req.body.data.forEach(copyAttributeData);  
  res.status(204).send();  
}
```

Summary

- The IoT Agent Library now supports basic **NGSI-LD** operation
 - Already ported to most IoT Agents. Just upgrade to the latest version of the library
 - Some internal actuation mechanisms are still subject to change.
- IoT Device provisioning has barely changed from **NGSI-v2**
 - **Property**, **GeoProperty** and **Relationship** are reserved keywords
 - Use native JSON types and GeoJSON types whilst provisioning
 - Use metadata and avoid meaningless **type** attributes
 - More info: <https://iotagent-node-lib.readthedocs.io/>
- **JSON-LD @context** makes your data interoperable.
 - Ensure your JSON-LD **@context** is maintained and **publicly available**
 - JSON-LD specification: <https://json-ld.org/>
 - More info: <https://github.com/FIWARE/tutorials.Understanding-At-Context>
- Fallback to using subscriptions and mapping when combining **NGSI-v2** Devices with an **NGSI-LD** Context Broker



Find Us On



Stay up to date

JOIN OUR NEWSLETTER

Be certified and featured



Hosting Partner



Keystone Sponsors



Media Partners



FIWARE
**Global
Summit**

Thanks!

Vienna, Austria
12-13 June, 2023
#FIWARESummit

