

Generic and Extensible Web of Things Manager Using JSON Schema & AI



Andreas Eberhart
dashjoin.com

SIEMENS

Ege Korkan
siemens.com



Internet of Things

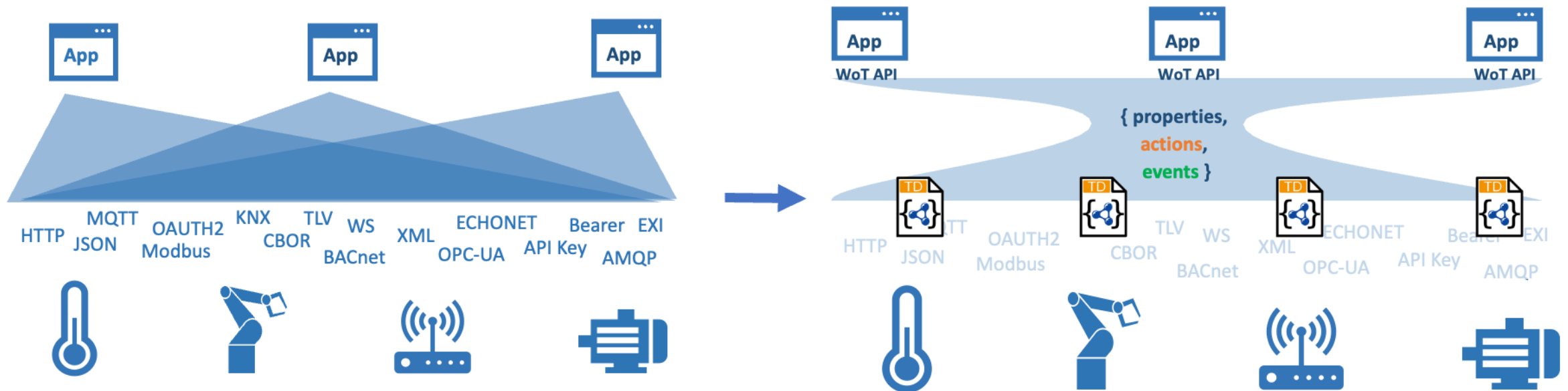
- Estimated 18 Billion devices connected
- 390 Billion market, expected to double by 2030
- (statista.com)



<https://websites.fraunhofer.de/Lab-IoT/?p=676>

W3C Web of Things (WoT)

- Counter the fragmentation of IoT
 - Use standardized Web technologies
 - Provide device metadata



Thing Description

- Example: Coffee Machine
 - <http://plugfest.thingweb.io/http-advanced-coffee-machine>
- JSON-LD Context
 - Describes the device using agreed-upon terminology
- Security Metadata
 - OpenAPI & more
 - Basic auth, OpenID, ...

```
"@context": [  
  "https://www.w3.org/2019/wot/td/v1",  
  "https://www.w3.org/2022/wot/td/v1.1",  
  {  
    "@language": "en"  
  }  
],  
"@type": "Thing",  
"securityDefinitions": {  
  "nosec": {  
    "scheme": "nosec"  
  }  
},  
"security": [  
  "nosec"  
],  
...
```

Thing Description

- Data of devices
 - Represented with JSON Schema
- Properties
 - Device configuration & sensors
- Actions
 - Device operations to call
- Events
 - Async device events

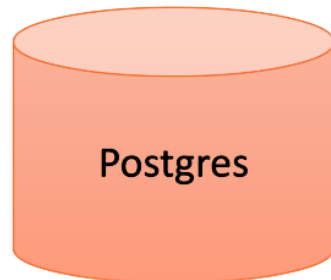
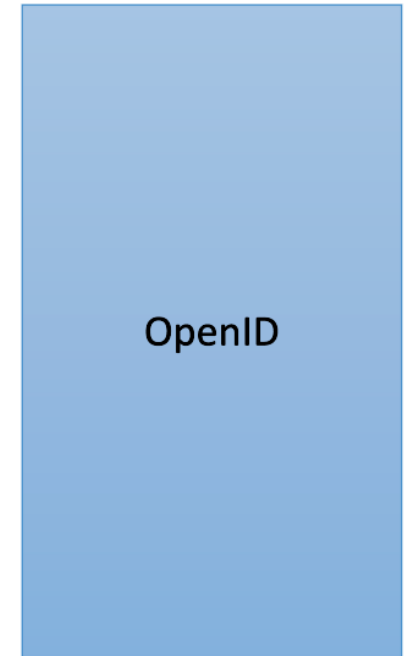
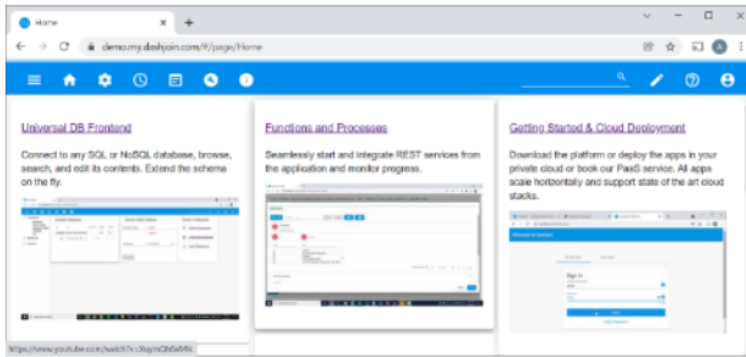
```
"properties": {  
  "allAvailableResources": {  
    "type": "object",  
    "description": "Current level of all available",  
    "readOnly": true,  
    "properties": {  
      "water": {  
        "type": "integer",  
        "minimum": 0,  
        "maximum": 100  
      },  
    },  
  },  
}
```

```
"forms": [  
  {  
    "href": "http://plugfest.thingweb.io:80/http-advanced-coffee-machine/action",  
    "contentType": "application/json",  
    "op": [  
      "invokeaction"  
    ],  
    "htv:methodName": "POST"  
  },  
]
```

WoT Manager

- Design Goals
 - Generic: Manage any device
 - Extensible: Allow apps for specific use cases
- Value Add
 - Manage: securely connect devices
 - Control: call device actions
 - Automate: react to device events
 - Analyze: provide overview & dashboards

Architecture



{ **REST:API** }



Discovery & Role Based Access Control

Identity Management

Device credentials



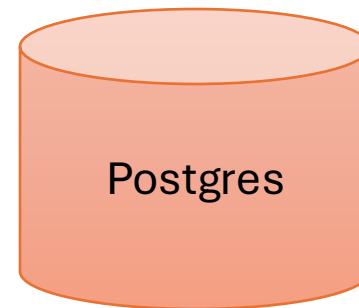
Access devices using credentials on behalf of the user



Associate device to OpenID claim and device credentials



Row-Level Security



Discover & Save to DB



Generic Properties & Actions

- On every device page
 - Gather the sensors
 - Display a JSON Schema driven form

→ water
92

→ milk
97

→ chocolate
100

```
$c := $read("wot", "thing", value.thing).credentials;  
$curl("GET", value.href, {}, $c ? {"Authorization": $c} : {})
```

The image shows a user interface for two actions: **makeDrink** and **setSchedule**.

makeDrink form fields:

- size (dropdown menu)
- drinkId (text input)
- quantity (text input)
- RUN button

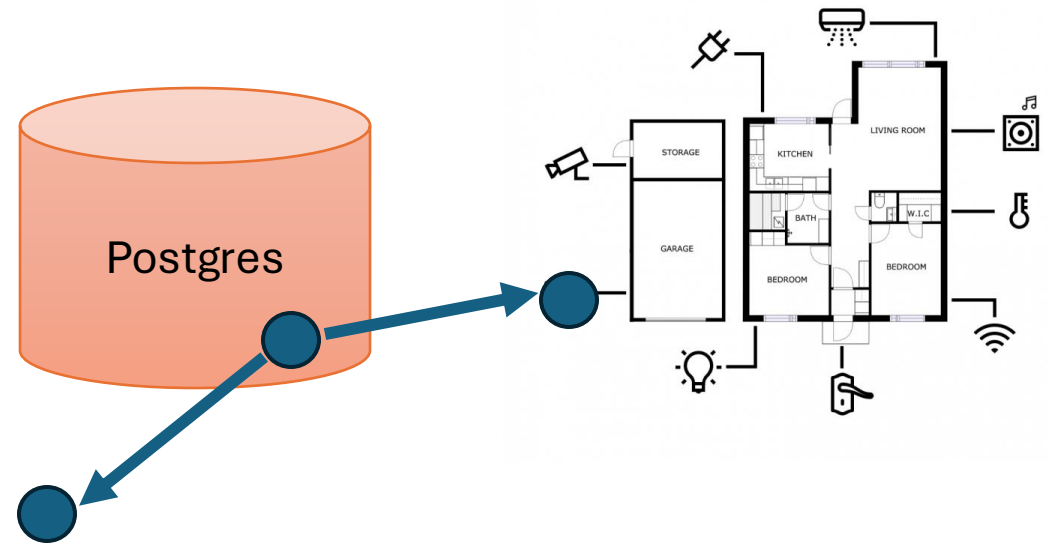
setSchedule form fields:

- mode* (dropdown menu)
- size (dropdown menu with a list of options: s, m, l)
- quantity (text input)
- RUN button

A tooltip on the right side of the **size** dropdown in the **setSchedule** form reads: "Defines the size of a drink, s = small, m = medium, l = large."

Background Knowledge

- Integrate additional information to be able to answer more questions
- Asset DB
 - Where is the device installed?
- Datasheets
 - Additional information about the device



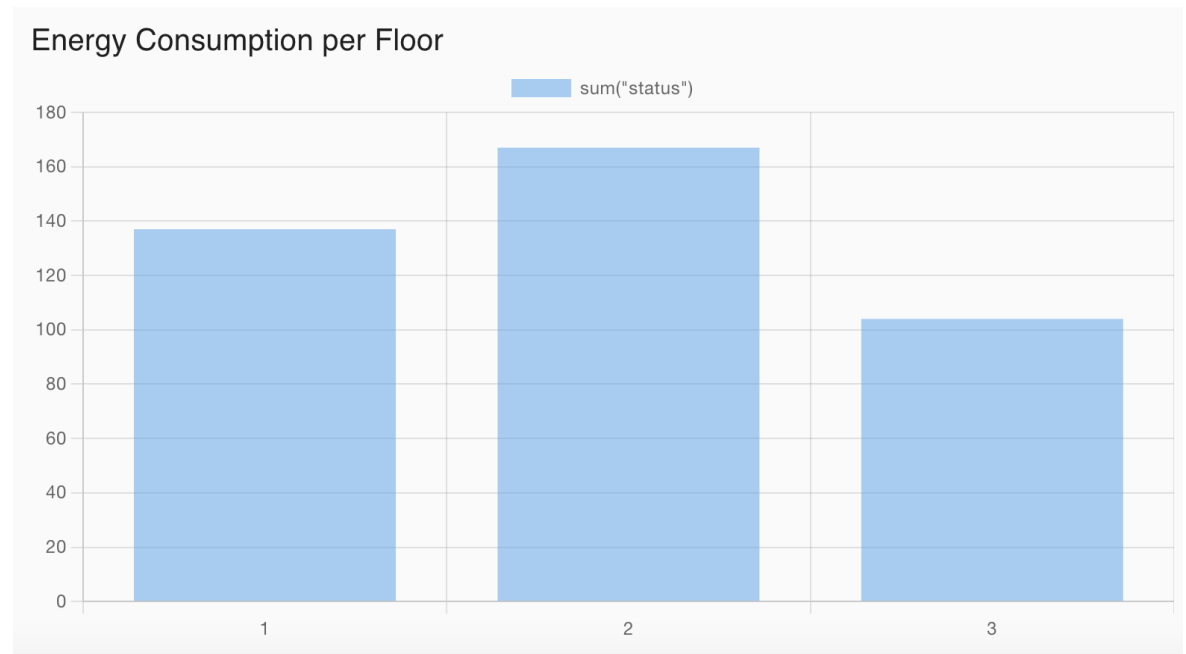
Specifications

Supported Systems	Single phase, 2-wire systems; Single-split phase, 3-wire systems; 3-phase, 4-wire Wye systems with earthed (TN or TT) neutral (no-Delta)
CT Current Sensors	Up to 3 x 200A mains and up to 16 x 50A branch circuits
Max Voltage Sensing	264VAC L-N per channel
Wi-Fi	2.4 GHz, IEEE 802.11b/g/n
Ethernet	10/100Base-T, IEEE 802.3
Operating Conditions	-40° - 122° F (-40° - 50° C) 0-80% RH 3,000 meters above sea level Indoor Dry

Semantic Data Harmonization

- JSON LD allows grouping similar devices
- Not all things within the group might report data in the same format
- Leverage JSONata to translate into a common format
- Allows dashboarding via SQL

```
{ "watt": 45 }      "power": {  
                        "unit": "W",  
                        "amount": 45  
                    }  
  
watt ? watt : power.amount *  
(power.unit = 'kW' ? 1000 : 1)
```



Natural Language Commands

- Information extraction from text using LLMs and JSON Schema

What kind of drink would you like?
One huge coffee

BREW

```
"drinkId": {
  "type": "string",
  "description": "Defines what drink to
},
"size": {
  "type": "string",
  "description": "Defines the size of a
  "enum": [
    "s",
    "m",
    "l"
  ]
},
"quantity": {
  "type": "integer",
  "description": "Defines how many drink
  "minimum": 1,
  "maximum": 5
}
```

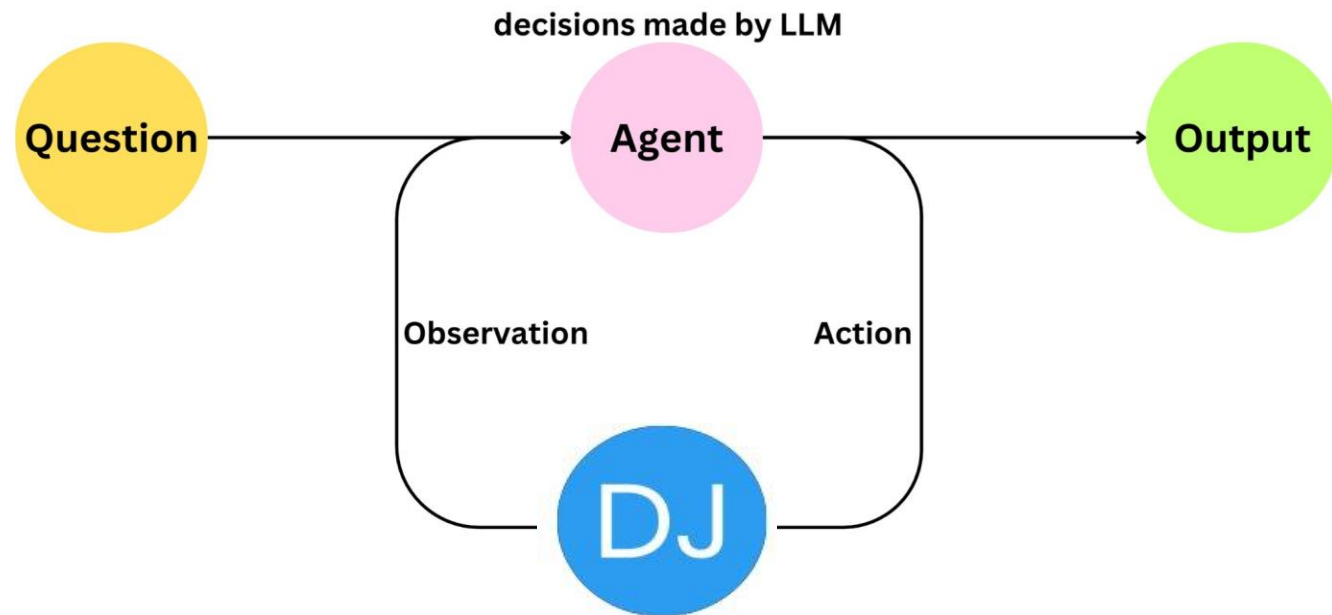


shutterstock.com · 2428104521

```
{
  "drinkId": "coffee",
  "size": "l",
  "quantity": 1
}
```

WoT Agents

- Expose device actions to the LLM via tools
- User can formulate a higher-level question or goal
- LLM tries to solve the request by leveraging its background knowledge and the provided WoT tools



Example: Turn off all lights in unused office spaces

Wot Agent Log

```
Locking system: get a list of persons in the building
Directory service: get LDAP information about persons
Asset DB: get devices by room
Light action: turn lights off/on
```



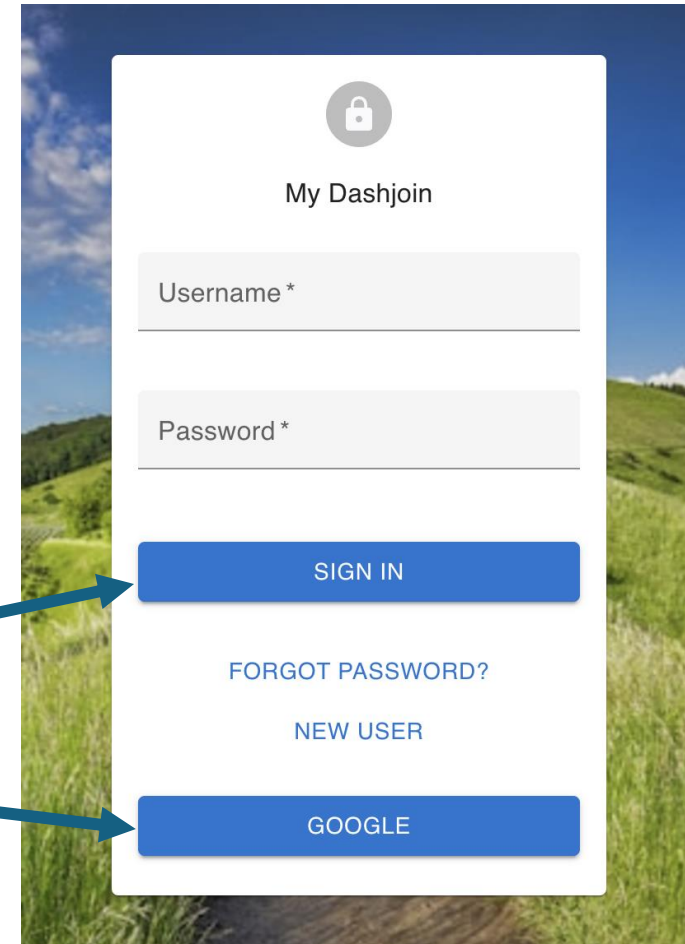
Here is a sample trace:

```
> Running step 336b4b45-06c4-499f-8bf8-fbf59d943708. Step input: turn off lights in offices where people have gone home
Thought: The current language of the user is English. I need to use a tool to help me identify which offices have people in them.
Action: lockingSystem
Action Input: {}
Observation: ['joe@example.org', 'mike@example.org']
> Running step 637db939-be6e-491a-9a7e-0b80a1498dcf. Step input: None
Thought: I have the list of people currently in the office building. I need to get directory information to determine which offices they are in.
Action: ldap
Action Input: {}
Observation: [{'email': 'joe@example.org', 'office': '12b'}, {'email': 'mike@example.org', 'office': '15'}, {'email': 'sarah@example.org', 'office': '4a'}]
> Running step 8608270f-5f1c-4b84-a74c-5a4946ee739d. Step input: None
Thought: I have the office information for each person. Joe is in office 12b, Mike is in office 15, and Sarah is in office 4a.
Action: assets
Action Input: {'office': '4a'}
Observation: [{'id': '35313-2426', 'type': 'light-switch'}, {'id': 'af425-f352', 'type': 'energy sensor'}]
> Running step f95c73ed-50a8-42e7-a5a5-aa2303b21cd2. Step input: None
Thought: I have identified the light switch asset in Sarah's office (4a) with the ID '35313-2426'. I will now proceed to turn it off.
Action: light
Action Input: {'id': '35313-2426', 'state': False}
Observation: None
> Running step c8d309f5-0a2b-4598-b153-a5dc6d81bfbc. Step input: None
Thought: I have successfully turned off the lights in Sarah's office (4a) as she has gone home. I can now provide the user with the answer.
Answer: The lights in office 4a have been turned off as the occupant has gone home.
```



Demo

- Code
 - <https://github.com/dashjoin/djapp-wot>
- Live Demo
 - <https://wot.run.dashjoin.com/>
- Login
 - Create Account using any email
 - Google User



Summary

- Standardization is important
 - WoT thing description (TD) represents any device in a uniform way
 - JSON Schema + TD describes how to interact with devices
 - JSON-LD allows categorizing devices
- Allows developing generic software
 - Works with any kind of device
- Lightweight Low Code Approach
 - Minimal code required
 - Easy to extend (custom actions, dashboards)