

# MQTT

A practical protocol for the **Internet of Things**

TV Sets

Pacemakers

Ovens

Vehicles

Cows

Smartphones

# The Internet is (in) **everything**

- **vehicles**
- **children**
- **cows**
- **smartphones**
- **ovens**
- **pacemakers**

By the year 2020...

**57,000** /sec  
new objects connecting


**212** BILLION  
Total number of available  
sensor enabled objects

**30** BILLION  
sensor enabled objects  
**connected to networks**


Data source: IDC

# The world is getting **smarter**


## **Smarter Vehicles**

-  - realtime telemetry
- predictive maintenance
- look-ahead alerting
- pay-as-you-drive


## **Smarter Logistics**

-  - end-to-end tracking
- theft prevention
- real-time updates
- fleet monitoring

## **Smarter Homes**

-  - energy tracking
- automation
- remote monitoring
- smart appliances

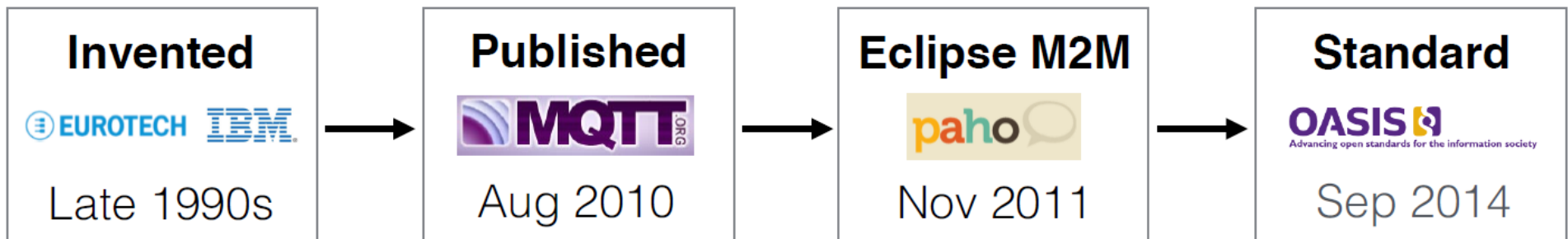
## **Smarter Healthcare**

-  - smart scales
- in-home monitoring
- assisted living
- physician messaging

# MQTT

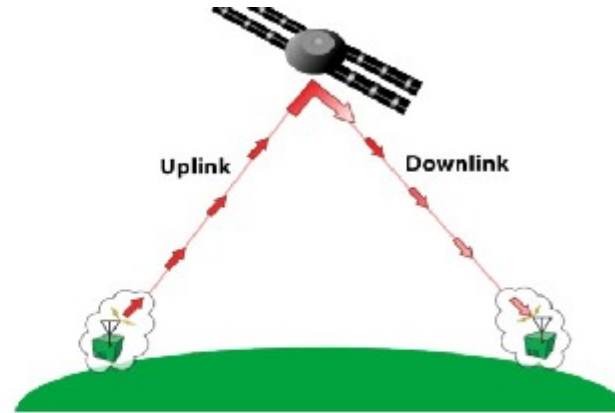
a lightweight protocol for IoT **messaging**

- **open** open spec, standard 40+ client implementations
- **lightweight** minimal overhead efficient format tiny clients (kb)
- **reliable** QoS for reliability on unreliable networks
- **simple** 43-page spec connect + publish + subscribe



# MQTT – message queuing telemetry transport

- 1999: Andy Stanford-Clark (IBM) and Arlen Nipper (Cirrus Link)



Pipelines in Desert. Low Bandwidth- Satellite Communication Links

“MQTT is a Client Server publish/subscribe messaging transport protocol. It is light weight, open, simple, and designed so as to be easy to implement. These characteristics make it ideal for use in many situations, including constrained environments such as for communication in Machine to Machine (M2M) and Internet of Things (IoT) contexts where a small code footprint is required and/or network bandwidth is at a premium.”

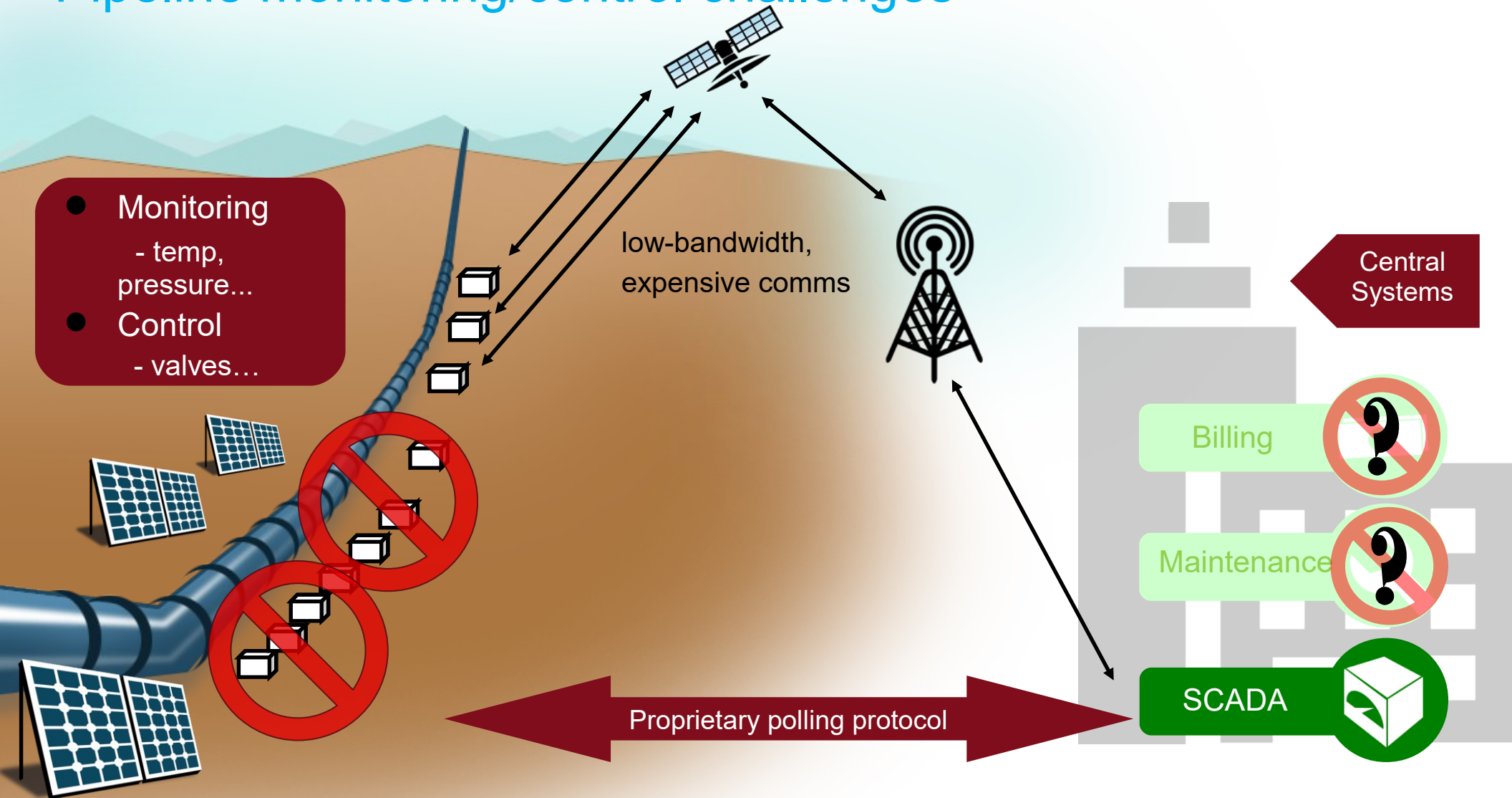
Citation from the official MQTT 3.1.1 specification







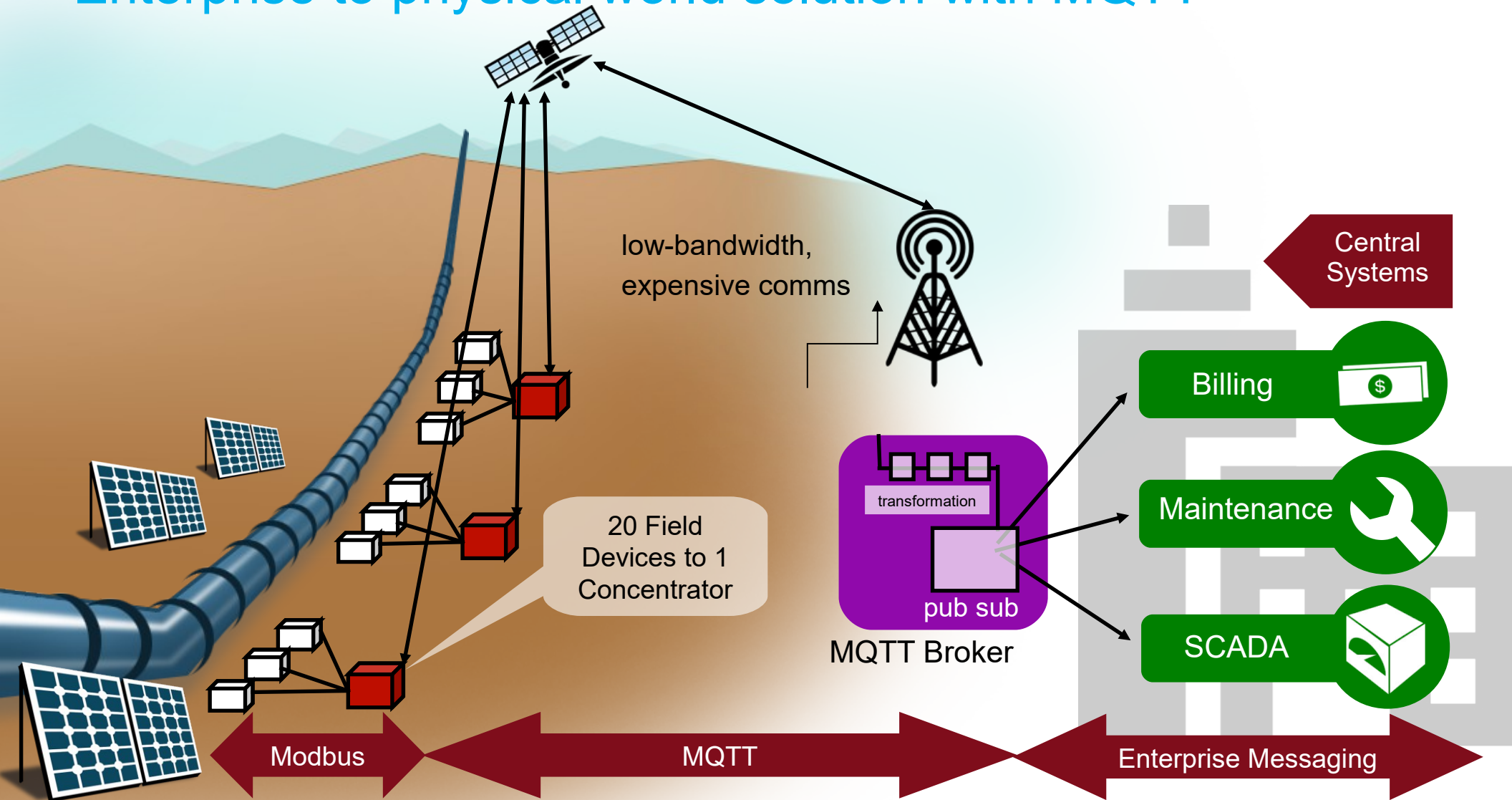
# Pipeline monitoring/control challenges



**4000 devices integrated, need to add 8000 more BUT:**  
Satellite network saturated due to polling of device  
VALMET system CPU at 100%  
Other applications needed access to data ("SCADA prison")



# Enterprise to physical world solution with MQTT



Scalability for whole pipeline

Network traffic much lower - events pushed to/from devices and report by exception

Network cost reduced

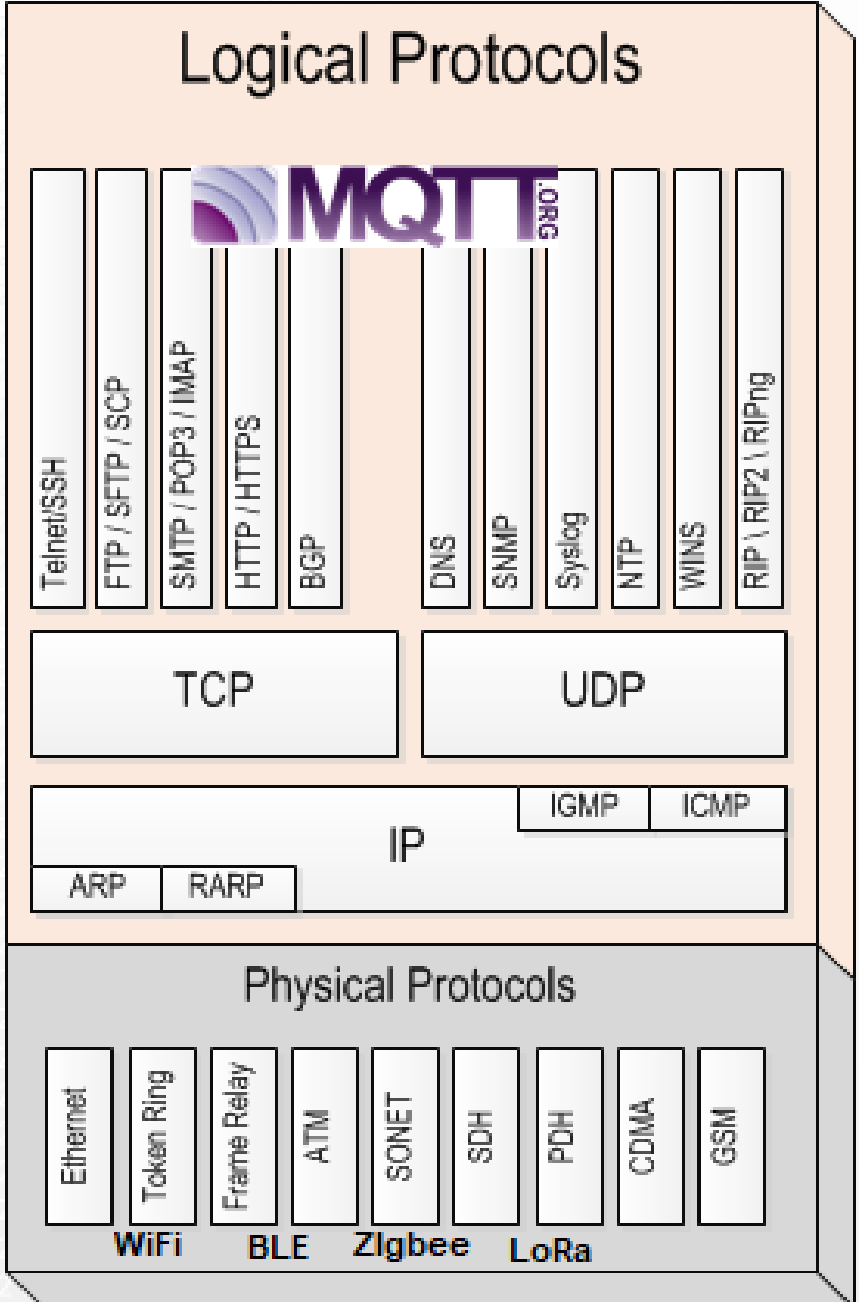
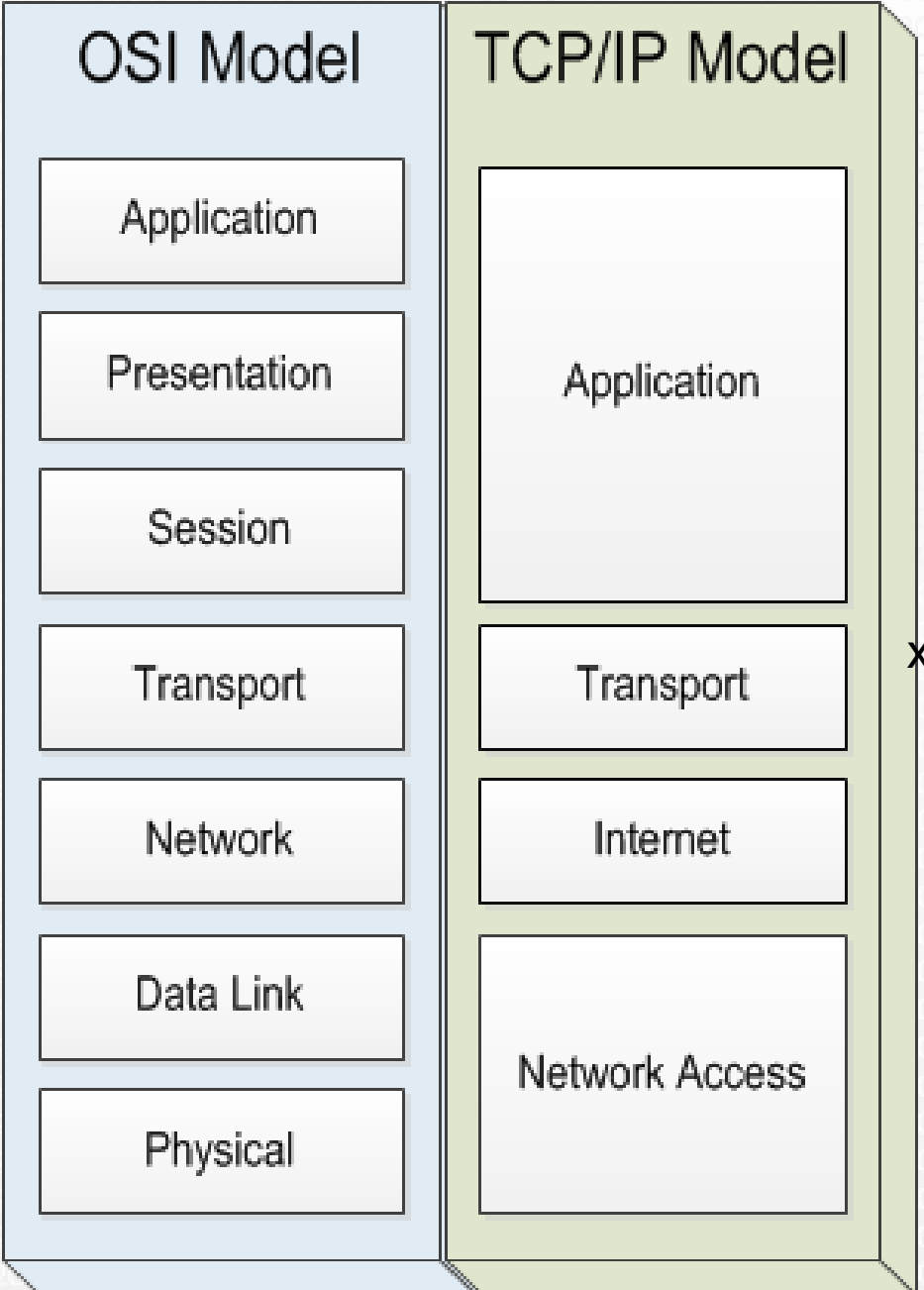
Lower CPU utilization

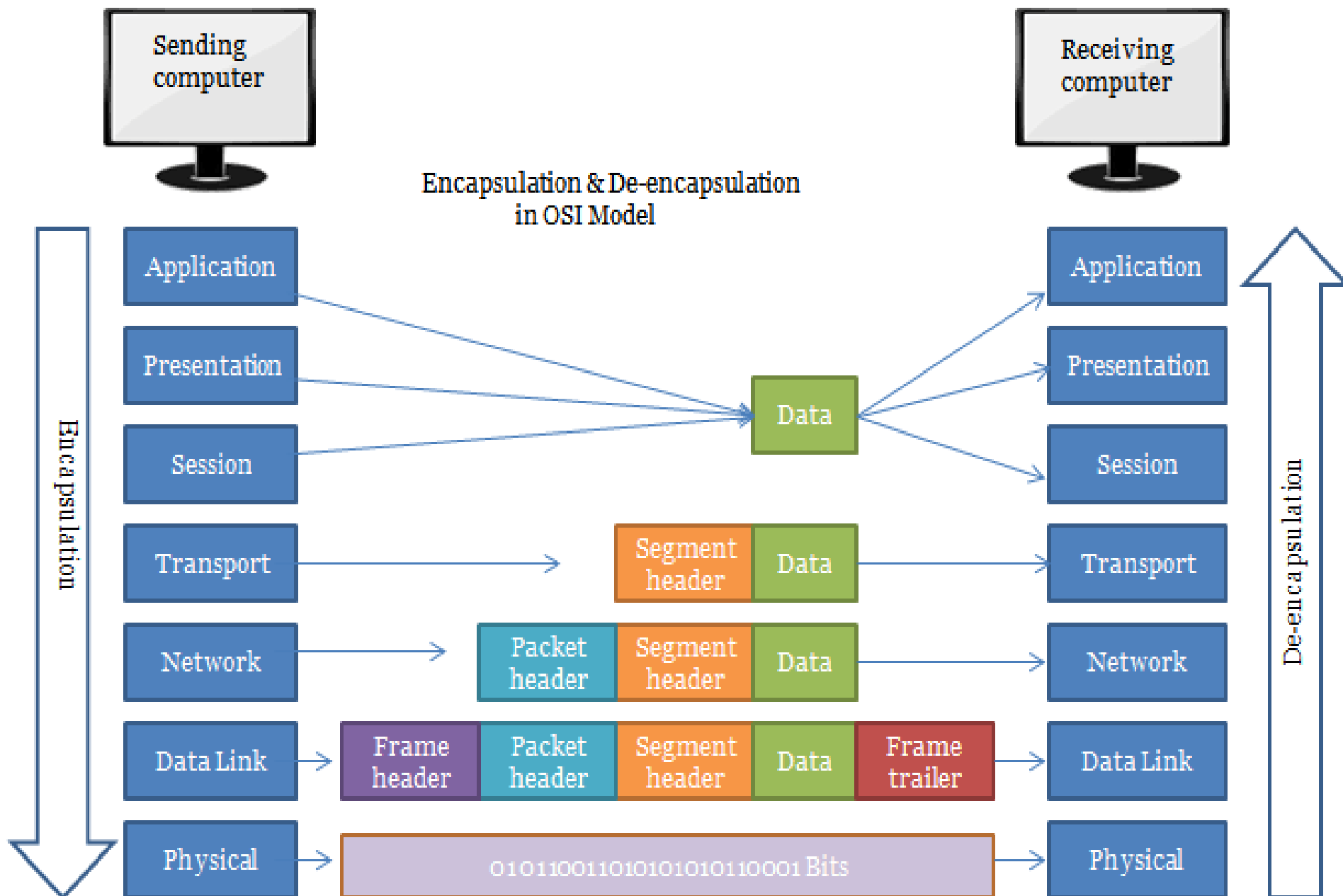
Broken out of the SCADA prison – data accessible to other applications

# MQTT – message queuing telemetry transport

## Requirements:

- Simple implementation
- Quality of Service data delivery
- Lightweight and bandwidth efficient
- Data agnostic
- Continuous session awareness

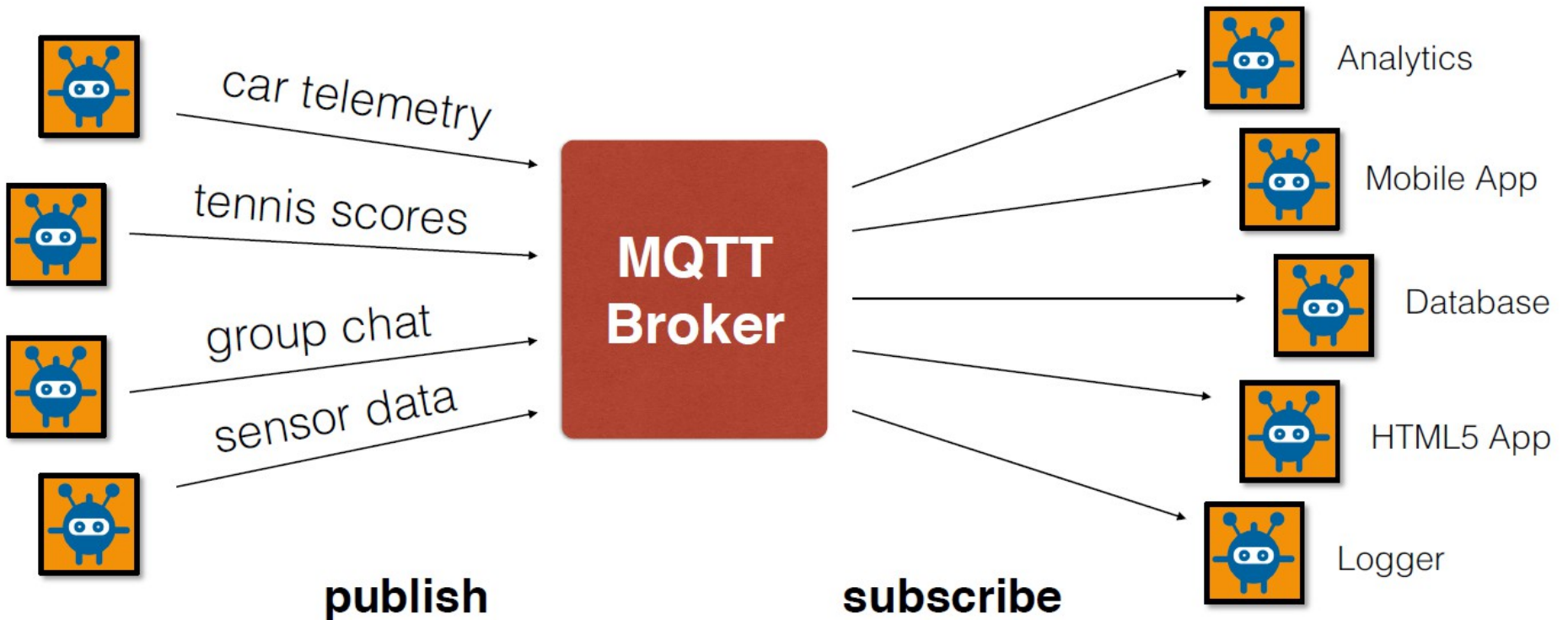


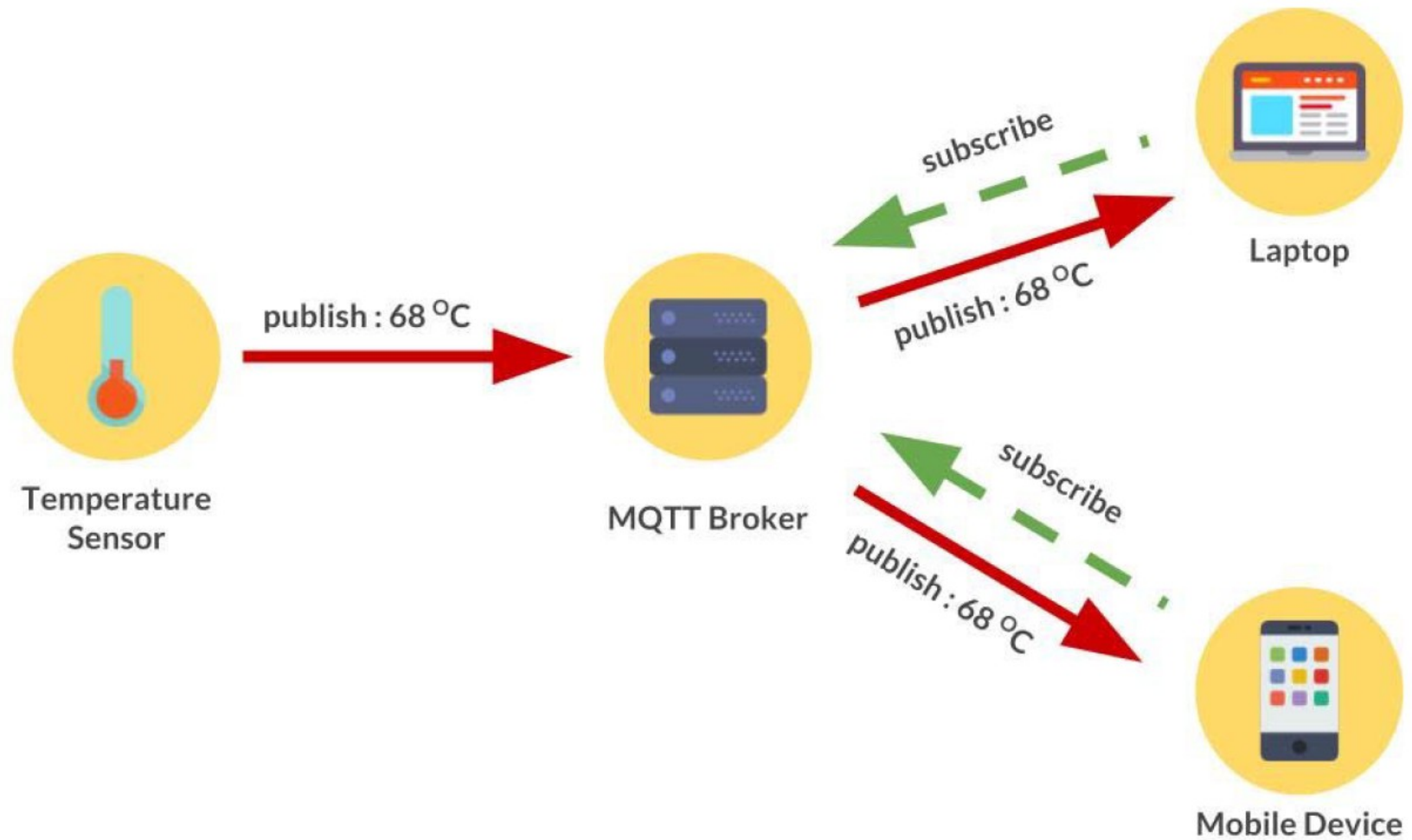




# MQTT

pub/sub decouples **senders** from **receivers**

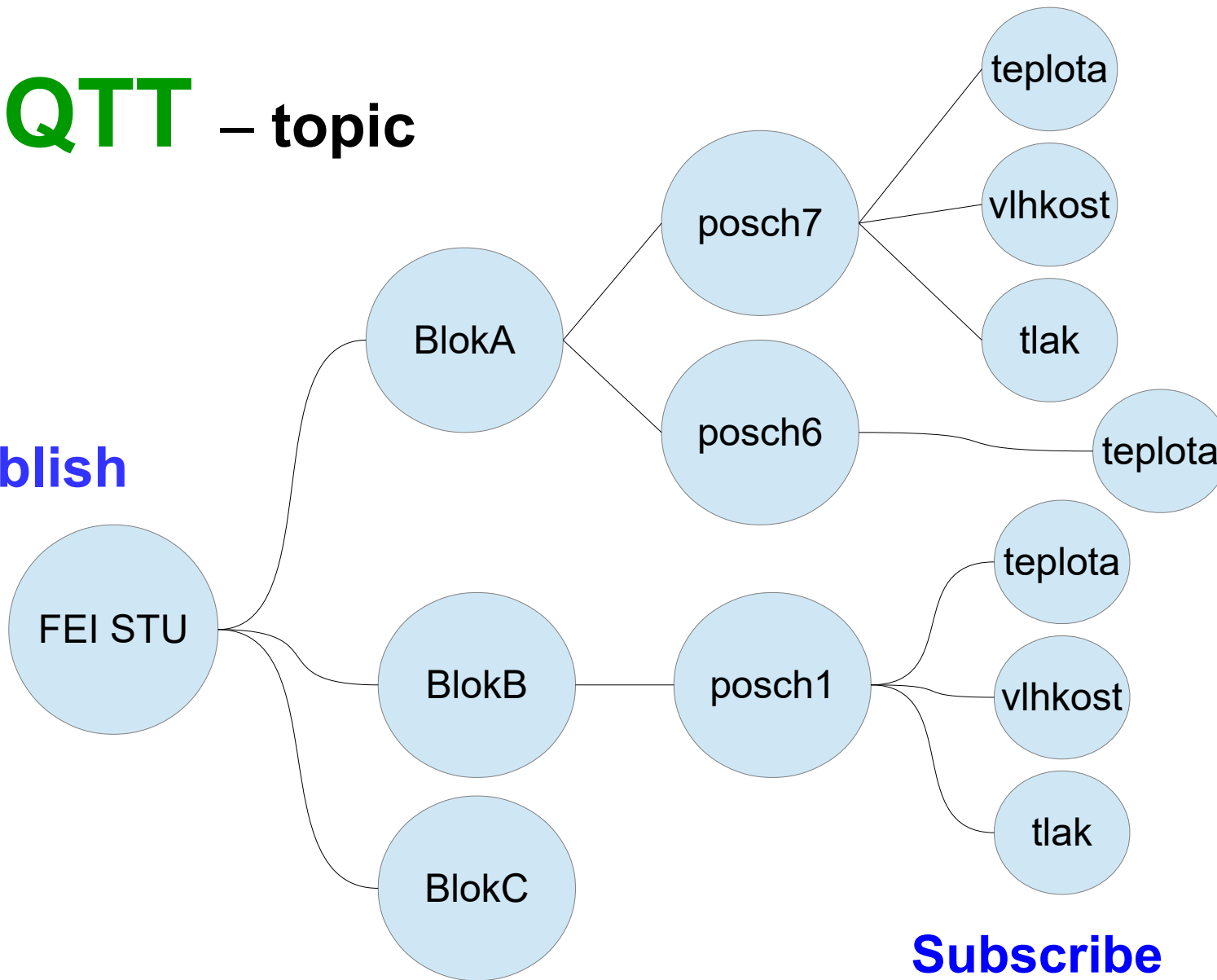




Hermanudin, Aldwin & Ekadiyanto, Fransiskus & Sari, Riri. (2019). Performance Evaluation of CoAP Broker and Access Gateway Implementation on Wireless Sensor Network. 10.1109/TENCONSpring.2018.8692050.

# MQTT – topic

Publish



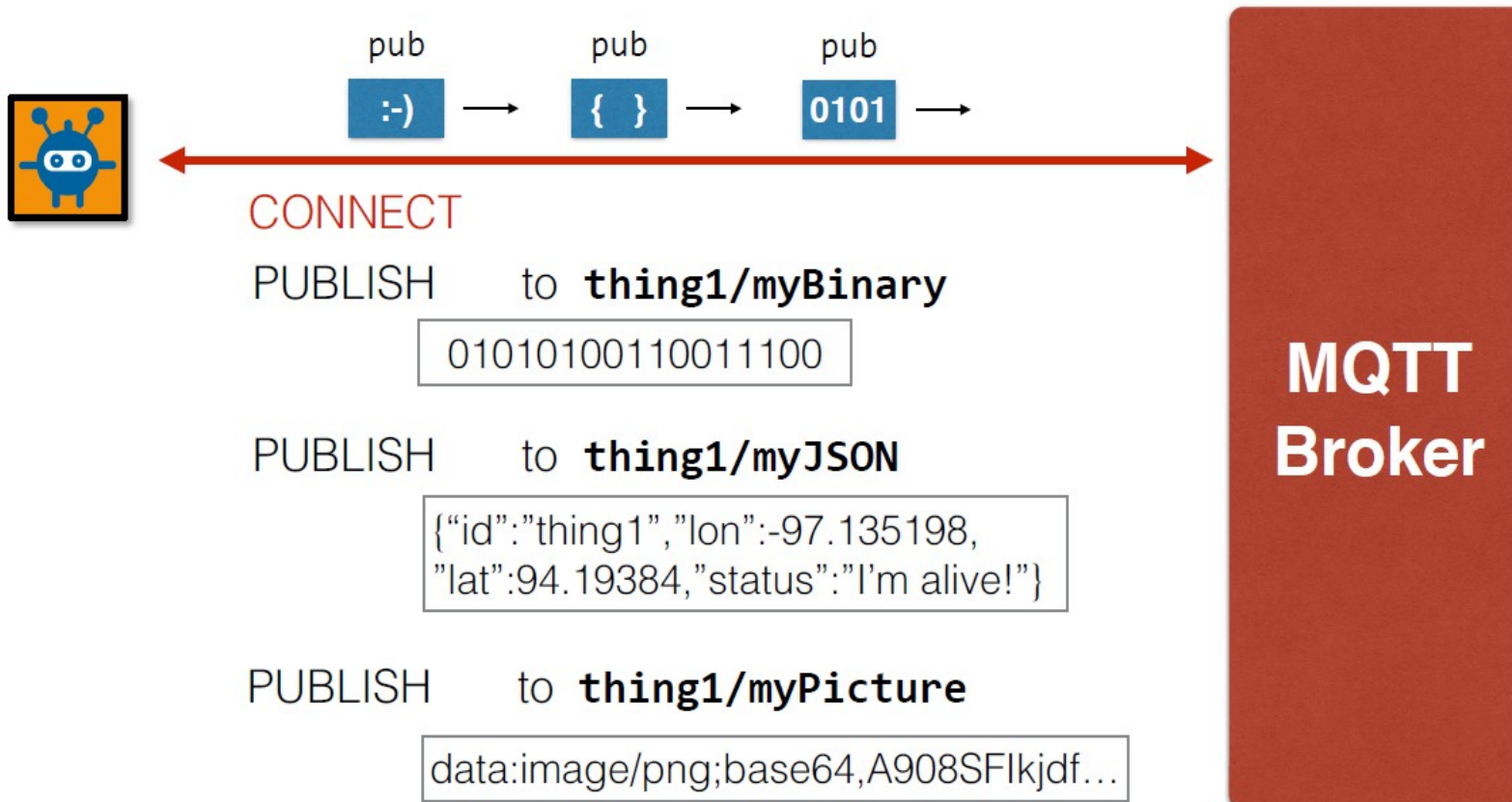
Subscribe

topic level separator  
↓  
myhome / groundfloor / livingroom / temperature  
└───┬───┬───┬───  
topic level topic level

FEISTU / BlokA / posch7 / teplota  
FEISTU / BlokA / posch7 / #  
FEISTU / BlokA / + / teplota  
FEISTU / #

# MQTT

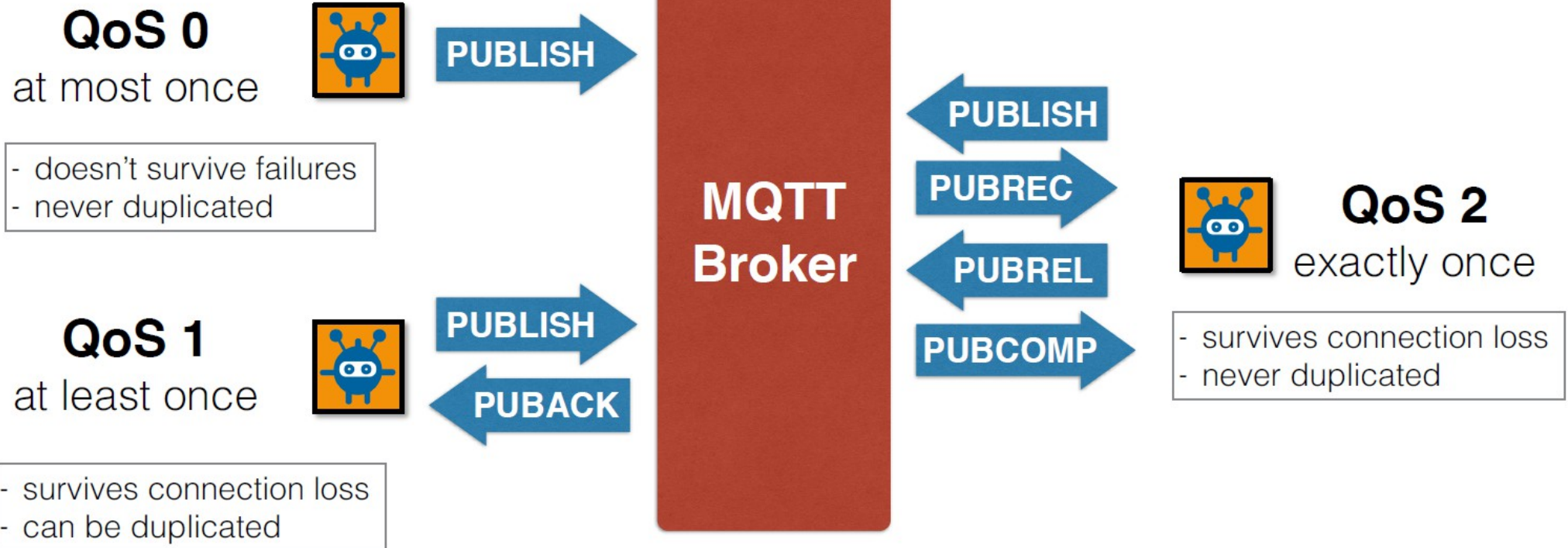
agnostic payload for flexible delivery





# MQTT

Quality of Service for **reliable messaging**



# MQTT

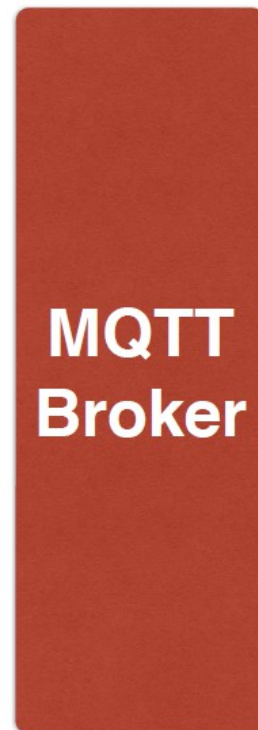
retained messages for last value caching



CONNECT ID=thing1 →  
PUBLISH thing1/battery {"value":95} RETAIN →  
PUBLISH thing1/battery {"value":94} RETAIN →  
PUBLISH thing1/battery {"value":93} RETAIN →  
DISCONNECT →

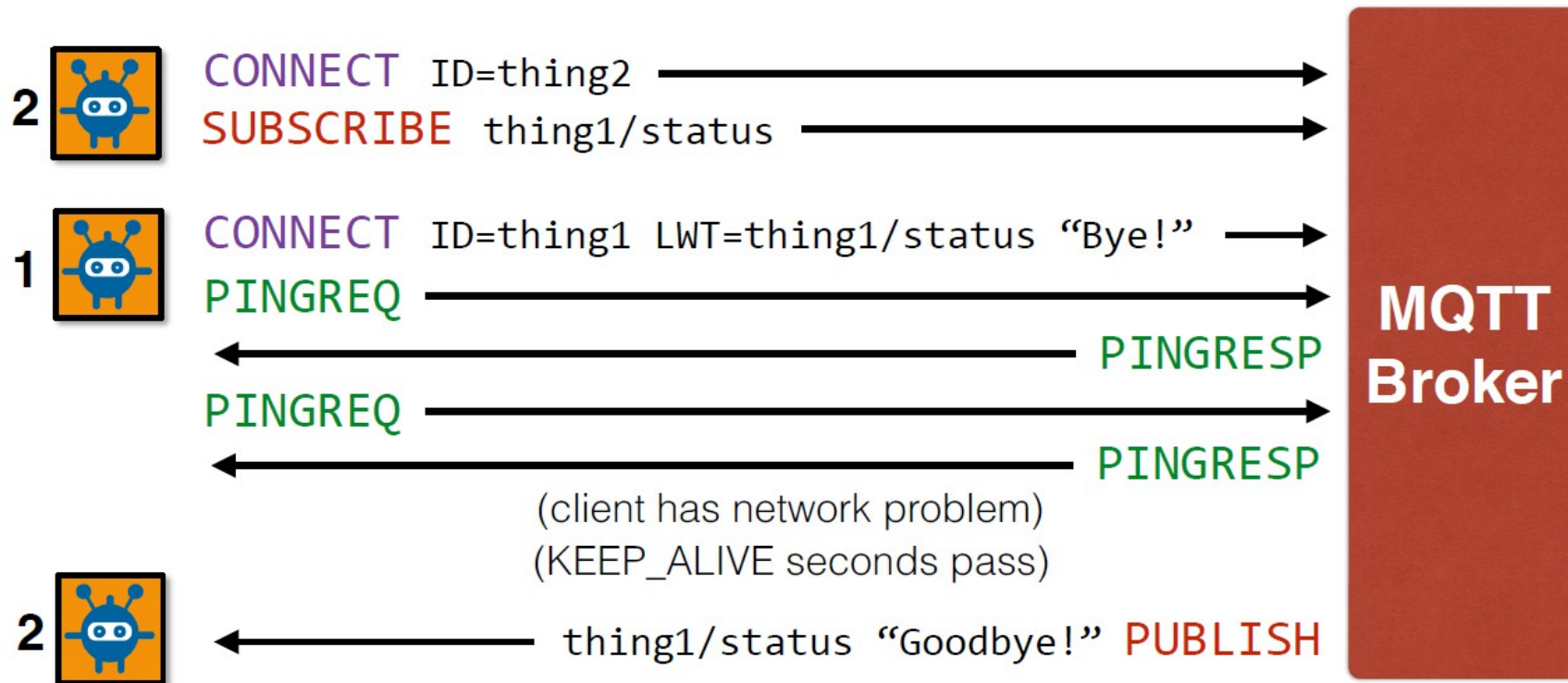


CONNECT ID=thing2 →  
SUBSCRIBE thing1/battery →  
← RETAIN thing1/battery {"value":93} PUBLISH

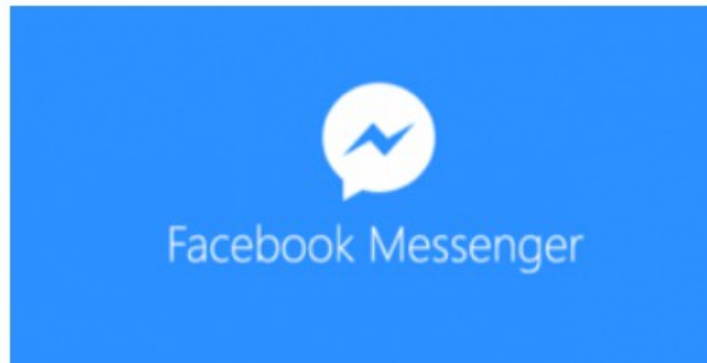


# MQTT

last will and testament for presence

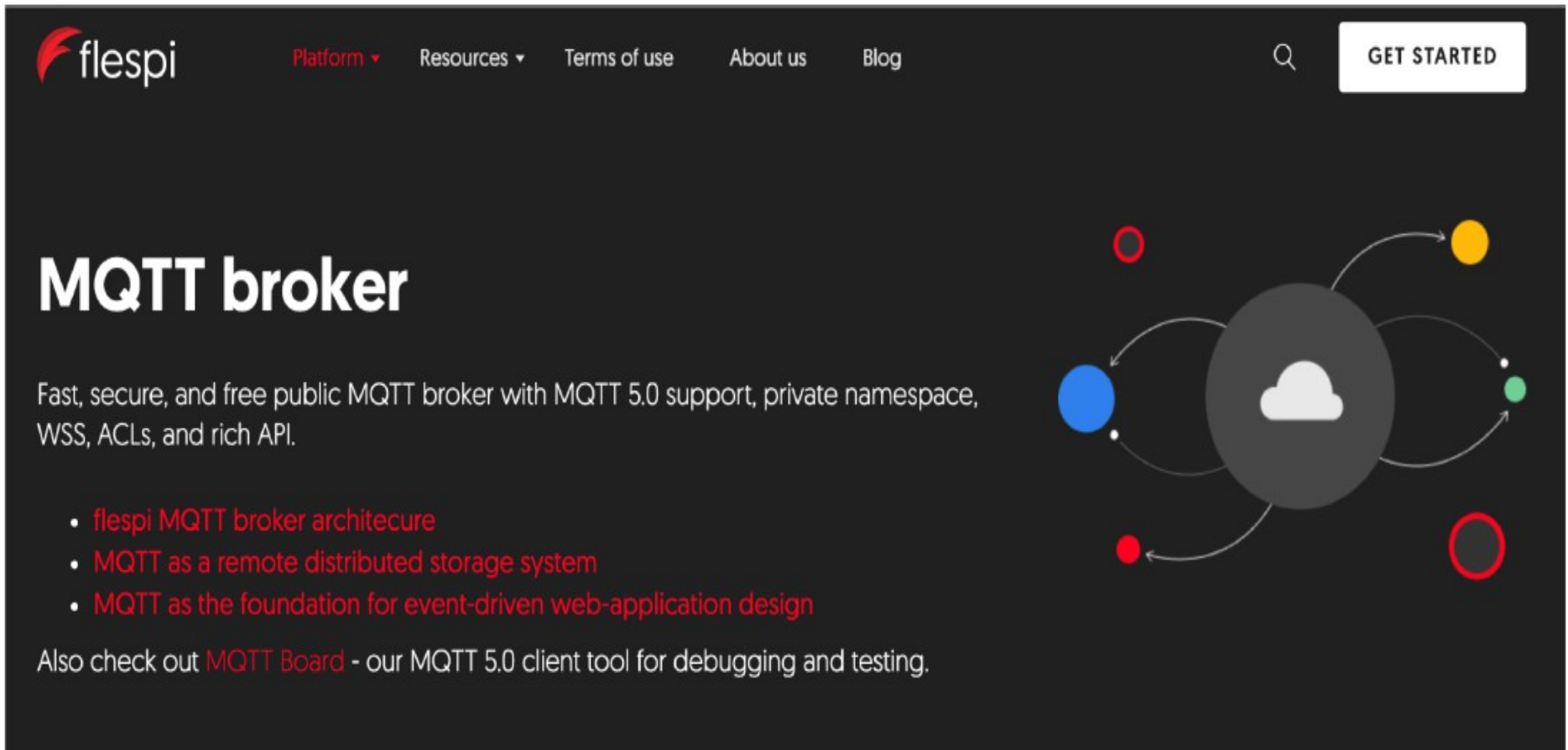


# Popular Users





<https://flespi.com/mqtt-broker>



The screenshot shows the website for flespi MQTT broker. The navigation bar includes the flespi logo, a search icon, and links for Platform, Resources, Terms of use, About us, and Blog. A 'GET STARTED' button is located in the top right corner. The main heading is 'MQTT broker', followed by a description: 'Fast, secure, and free public MQTT broker with MQTT 5.0 support, private namespace, WSS, ACLs, and rich API.' Below this is a list of three bullet points: 'flespi MQTT broker architecture', 'MQTT as a remote distributed storage system', and 'MQTT as the foundation for event-driven web-application design'. At the bottom, it says 'Also check out MQTT Board - our MQTT 5.0 client tool for debugging and testing.' To the right of the text is a diagram showing a central cloud icon with arrows pointing to six surrounding colored circles (blue, red, yellow, green, red, red).

flespi Platform Resources Terms of use About us Blog  GET STARTED

## MQTT broker

Fast, secure, and free public MQTT broker with MQTT 5.0 support, private namespace, WSS, ACLs, and rich API.

- [flespi MQTT broker architecture](#)
- [MQTT as a remote distributed storage system](#)
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MQTT Dash (IoT, Smart Home)  
Routix software

★★★★★



MyMQTT  
instant:solutions OG

★★★★★



IoT MQTT Panel  
Rahul Kundu

★★★★★



IoT MQTT Dashboard  
Nghia TH

★★★★★



MQTT Client  
Webneurons

★★★★★



MQTT Snooper  
Maxime Carrier

★★★★★



MQTIZER - Free MQTT Client  
Sanyam Arya

★★★★★



Linear MQTT Dashboard  
ravendmaster

★★★★★



Virtuino MQTT  
Ilias Lamprou

★★★★★



Mqtt Client  
Darlei Kroth

★★★★★

# MQTT – disadvantages

## ▶ If the broker fails...

▶ Does not define a standard client API, so application developers have to select the best fit.

▶ Does not include many features that are common in Enterprise Messaging Systems like:

- expiration, timestamp, priority, custom message headers, ...

▶ Does not have a **point-to-point** (aka queues) messaging pattern

- Point to Point or One to One means that there can be more than one consumer listening on a queue but only one of them will be get the message

▶ Maximum message size 256MB

# MQTT – příklad v Processingu

```
import mqtt.*;

MQTTClient client;

void setup() {
    client = new MQTTClient(this);
    client.connect("mqtt://try:try@broker.shiftr.io", "userName");
}

void draw() { /* draw nothing */}

void keyPressed() {
    client.publish("/FEISTU", "myMessage");
}
```



# MQTT – příklad v Processingu

```
void clientConnected() {  
    println("client connected");  
    client.subscribe("/hello");  
}
```

```
void messageReceived(String topic, byte[] payload) {  
    println("new message: " + topic + " - " + new String(payload));  
}
```

```
void connectionLost() {  
    println("connection lost");  
}
```

# JSON – JavaScript Object Notation

Developed by Douglas Crockford

Standard ISO/IEC 21778:2017

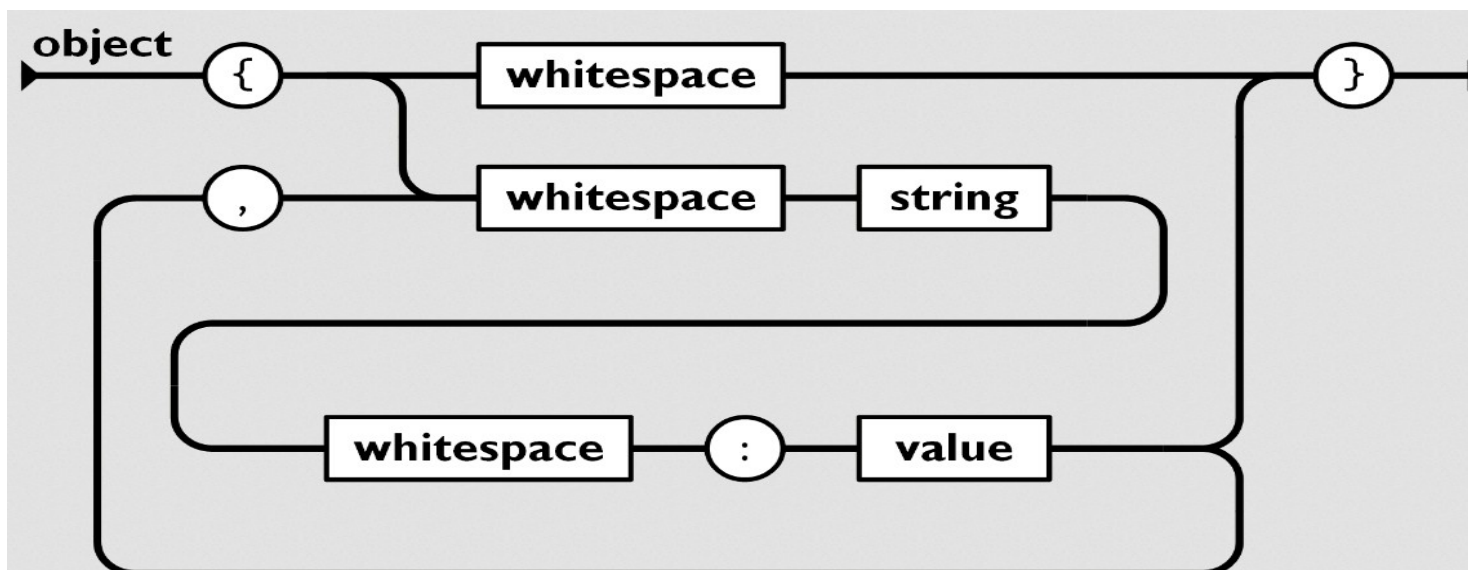
The simplest supported data formats are:

```
{"key1":"value1", "key2":"value2"}
```



*Douglas Crockford*

```
{"stringKey":"value1", "booleanKey":true, "doubleKey":42.0, "longKey":73}
```





# JSON – príklad v Processingu

```
JSONObject message;  
  
void setup()  
{  
  message = new JSONObject();  
  message.setFloat("temperature", 10.0);  
  message.setInt("state", 2);  
  message.setString("name", "Lion");  
  
  saveJSONObject(message, "data/new.json");  
  
  int aktualnyStav = message.getInt("state");  
  float aktualnaTeplota = message.getFloat("temperature");  
  String realName = message.getString("name");  
  
  println("Stav: " + aktualnyStav  
+ ", Teplota: " + aktualnaTeplota + ", Meno: " + realName);  
}
```

# JSON – príklad v Processingu - pokračovanie

```
void draw() { /* nic nekreslime */ }
```

```
void keyPressed() {
```

```
    temperature = random(-10, 32.5);
```

```
    message.setFloat("temperature", temperature);
```

```
    println(message.toString());
```

```
}
```



# Úloha – zadanie

Vyskúšajte si posielanie protokolom MQTT. Pošlite jednoduchú správu

MQTT server `mqtt://try:try@broker.shiftr.io`

topic `/feistu/misa/2020/XXX`

a potom na

MQTT server `mqtt://9RYd7rPhakMm9CCwPBJG@demo.thingsboard.io`

topic `v1/devices/me/telemetry`

Správa vo formáte JSON má vyzerat' takto:

```
{"XXX-Lat": 49.1634, "XXX-Lon": 20.1349, "XXX-Temp": 18.2}
```

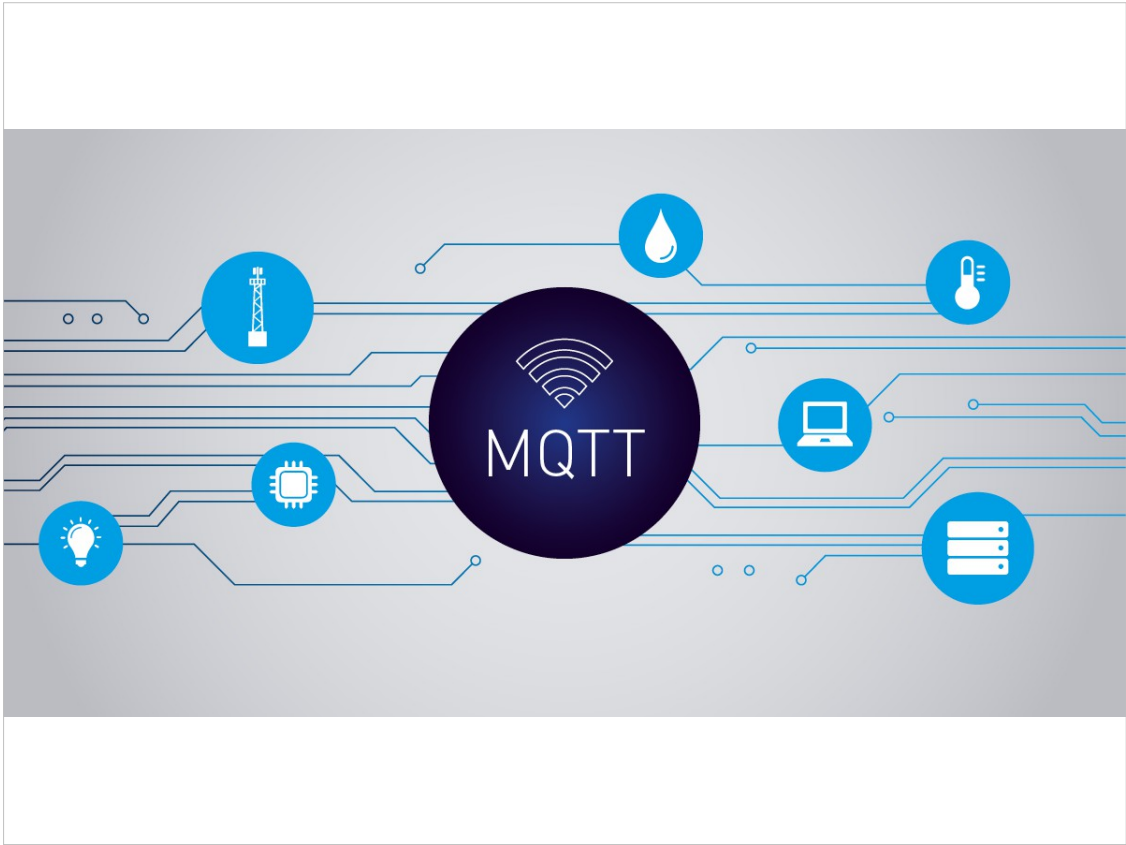
kde

**XXX** sú prvé tri písmená vášho priezviska

**Lat** je zemepisná šírka na štyri desatinné miesta

**Lon** je zemepisná dĺžka na štyri desatinné miesta

**Temp** aktuálna vonkajšia teplota



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**Things**

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## Smarter Healthcare

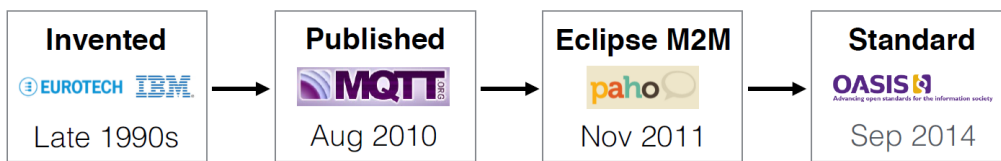
-  - smart scales
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# MQTT

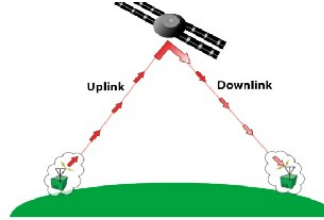
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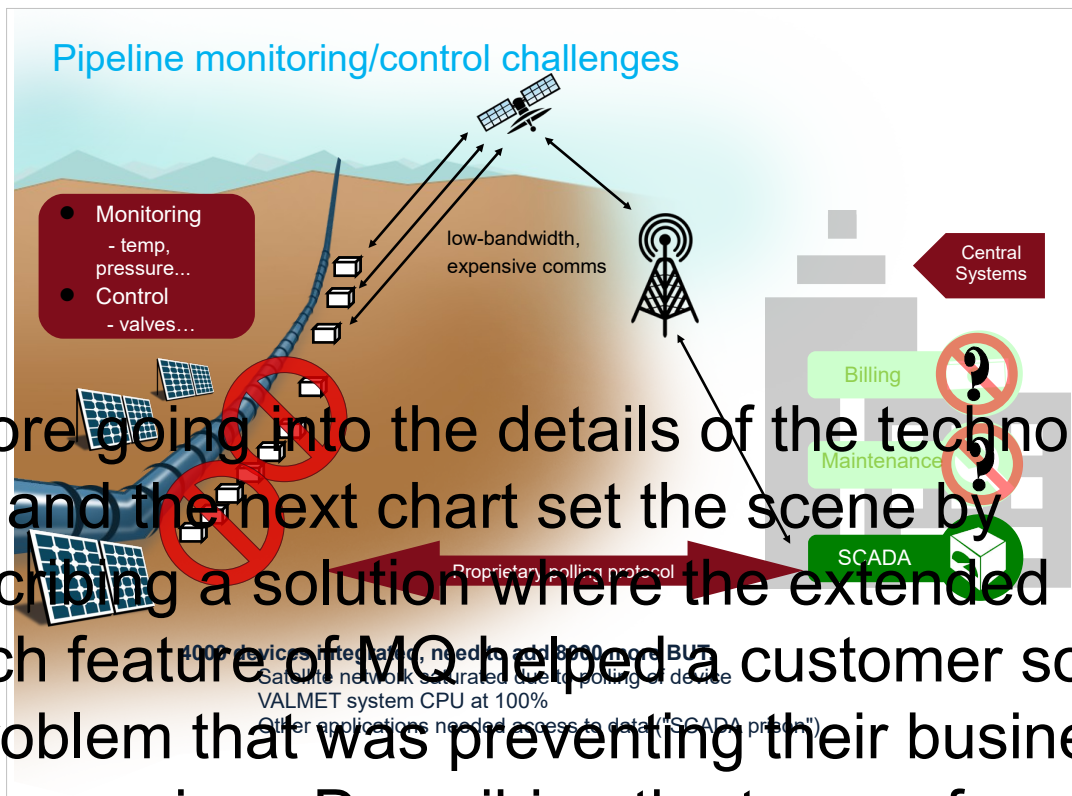
“MQTT is a Client Server publish/subscribe messaging transport protocol. It is light weight, open, simple, and designed so as to be easy to implement. These characteristics make it ideal for use in many situations, including constrained environments such as for communication in Machine to Machine (M2M) and Internet of Things (IoT) contexts where a small code footprint is required and/or network bandwidth is at a premium.”

Citation from the official MQTT 3.1.1 specification



Copyright U.S. Geological Survey. Licensed under <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.0/>

Photo credit: Dave Houseknecht, USGS



Before going into the details of the technology this and the next chart set the scene by describing a solution where the extended reach feature of MQ helped a customer solve a problem that was preventing their business from growing. Describing the types of problems that it is designed to help with.

The problem:

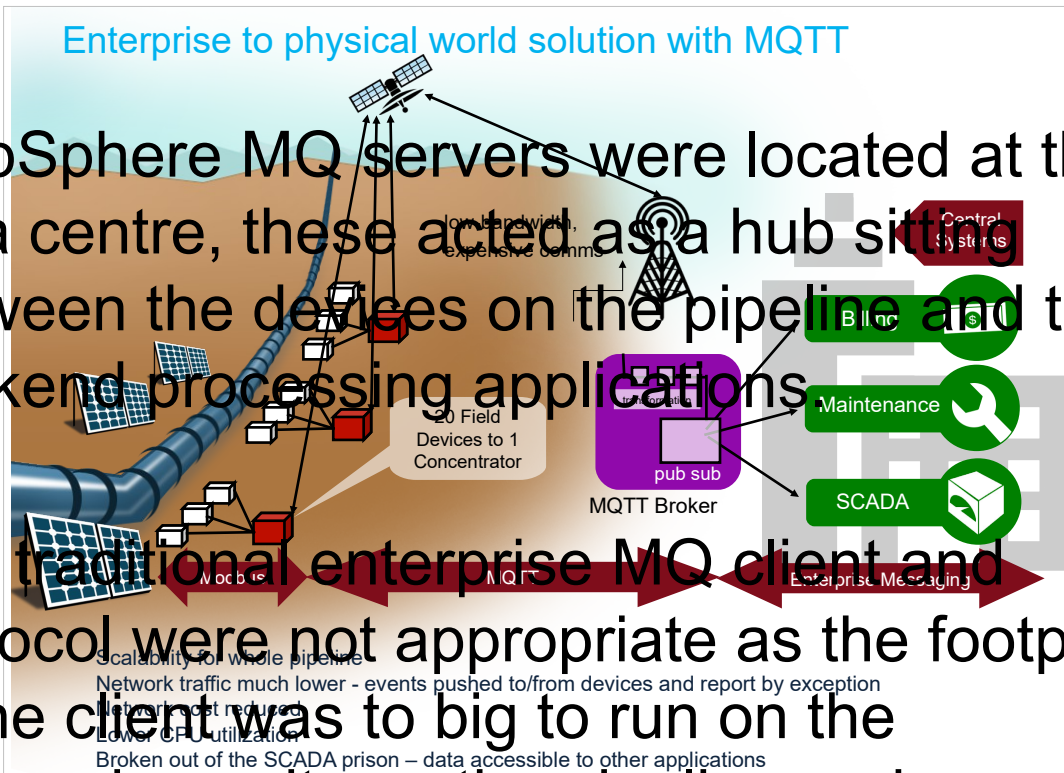
A pipeline running thousands of kilometres through inhospitable regions. The existing solution monitored and controlled 4000 devices along the pipeline BUT the system needed to scale to a total of 12,000 devices. This type of system is referred to as a SCADA system or supervisory control and data acquisition.

The incumbent system could not scale for a couple of reasons

- 1) the network was saturated
- 2) The monitoring and control application running on the central system was running at a

system to use an asynchronous messaging approach.

WebSphere MQ servers were located at the data centre, these acted as a hub sitting between the devices on the pipeline and the backend processing applications.



The traditional enterprise MQ client and protocol were not appropriate as the footprint of the client was too big to run on the processing units on the pipeline and more importantly the protocol was far too heavy for the network that was charged by the volume of data sent.

Instead the MQ Telemetry Transport or MQTT for short was chosen to provide the comms between the pipeline and the MQ server. The use of MQTT together with MQ solved the customers problems because:

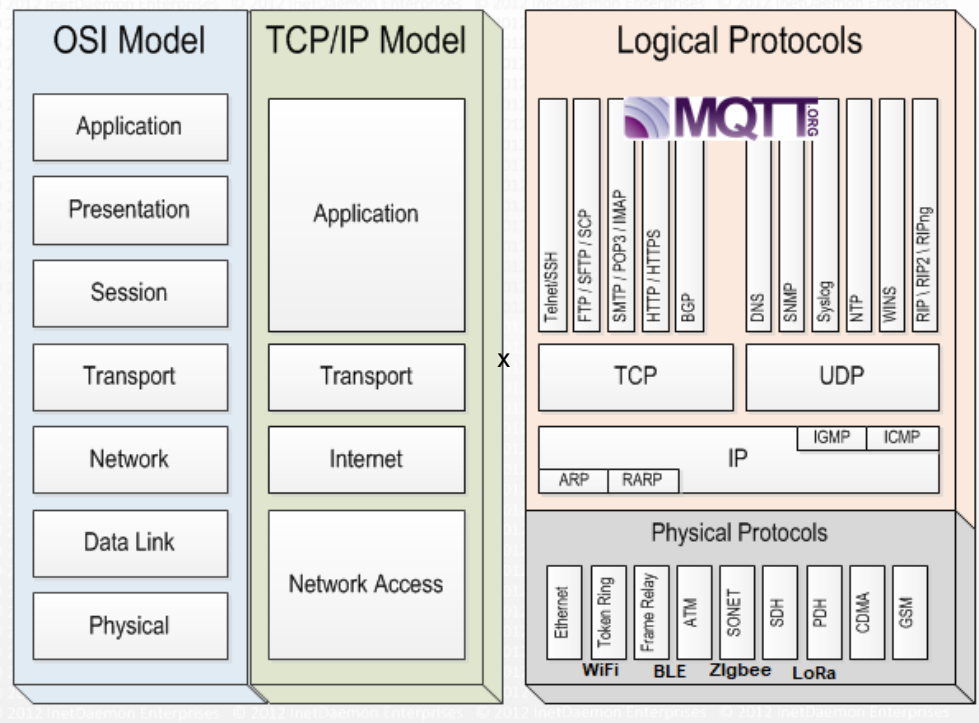
- 1)MQTT is a bidirectional/duplex messaging protocol enabling messages and events to be pushed from the client to the server and the server to the client. Pushing messages is inherently more efficient than polling. Rather than the server continuously polling the device to find out when a state has changed now a state change event is generated and pushed to the server only when the state change occurs. This change alone dramatically reduced the network usage enabling the 8000 additional devices to be added to the system.
- 2)The MQTT protocol has a tiny footprint on the wire, this combined with only sending data when needed meant that network costs were reduced (for the equivalent no of devices)
- 3)MQTT is a publish subscribe protocol. When a message is published (sent) to the MQ server multiple applications can access the message by subscribing to it. The Valmet monitoring and control application subscribed for all messages as before but

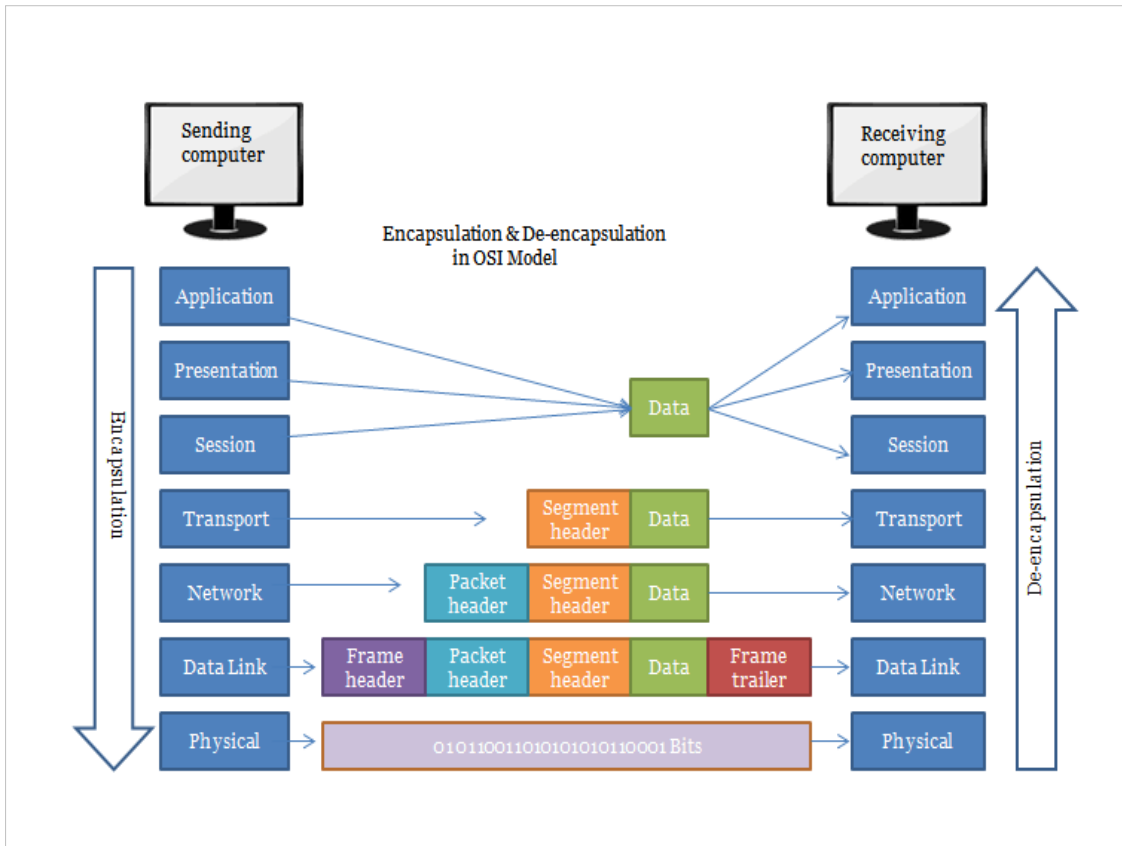


## **MQTT** – message queuing telemetry transport

### Requirements:

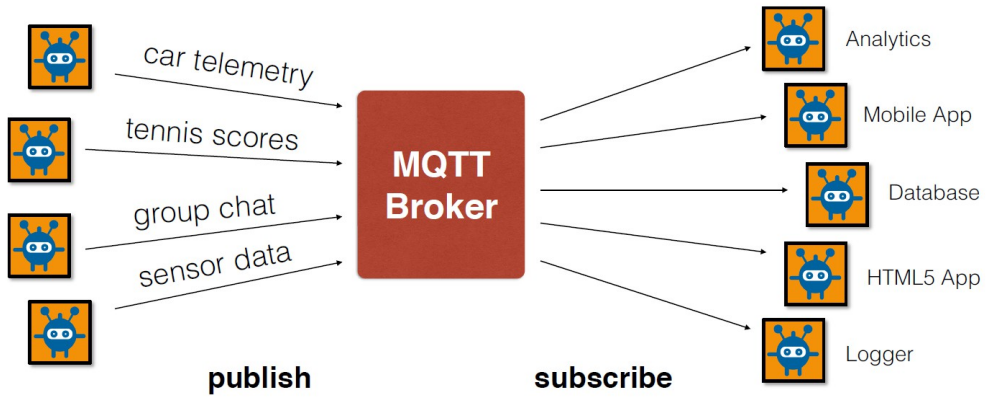
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- Quality of Service data delivery
- Lightweight and bandwidth efficient
- Data agnostic
- Continuous session awareness

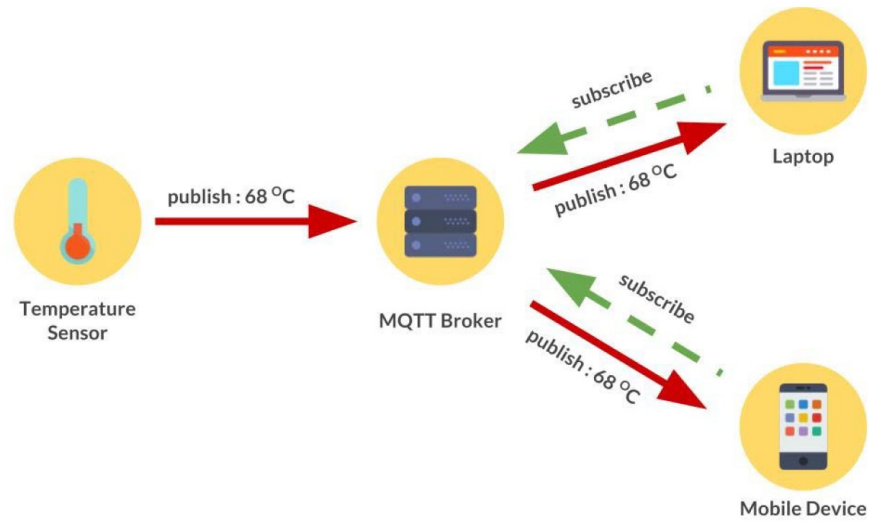




# MQTT

pub/sub decouples **senders** from **receivers**



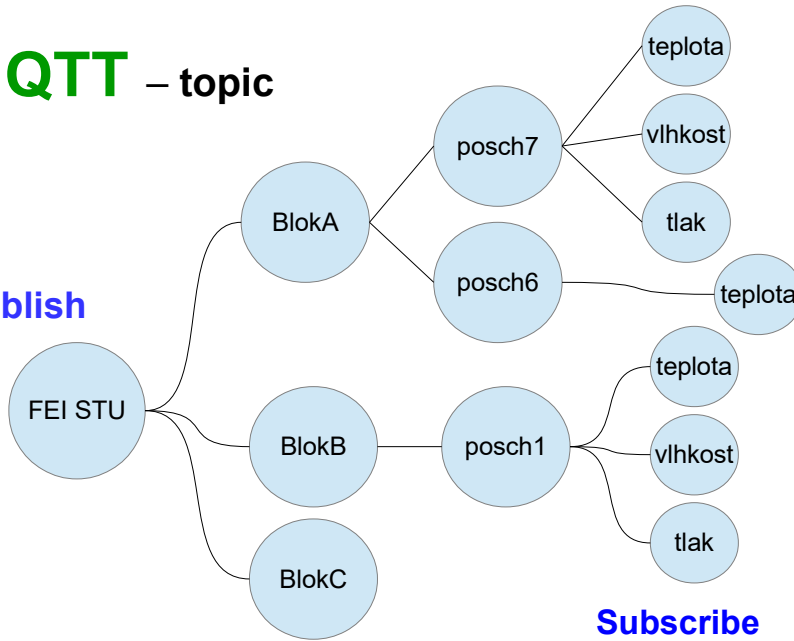


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# MQTT – topic

**Publish**



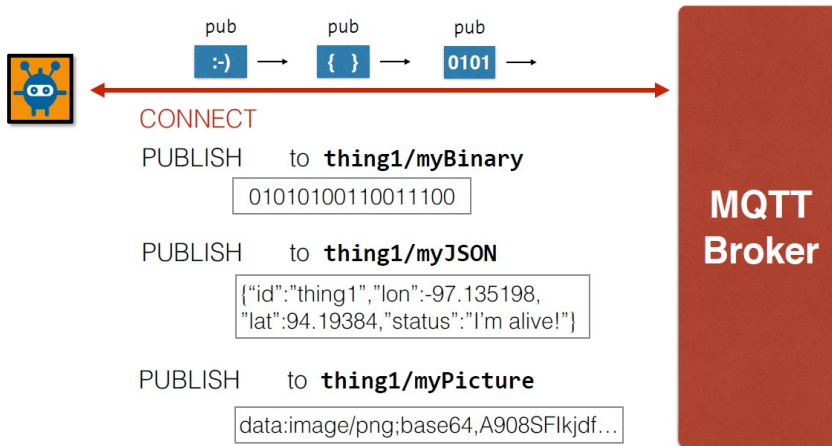
**Subscribe**

topic level separator  
↓  
myhome / groundfloor / livingroom / temperature  
topic level      topic level

FEISTU / BlokA / posch7 / teplota  
FEISTU / BlokA / posch7 / #  
FEISTU / BlokA / + / teplota  
FEISTU / #

# MQTT

agnostic payload for flexible delivery



# MQTT

Quality of Service for **reliable messaging**

**QoS 0**  
at most once



PUBLISH →

- doesn't survive failures
- never duplicated

**QoS 1**  
at least once



PUBLISH →

← PUBACK

- survives connection loss
- can be duplicated



← PUBLISH

PUBREC →

← PUBREL

PUBCOMP →

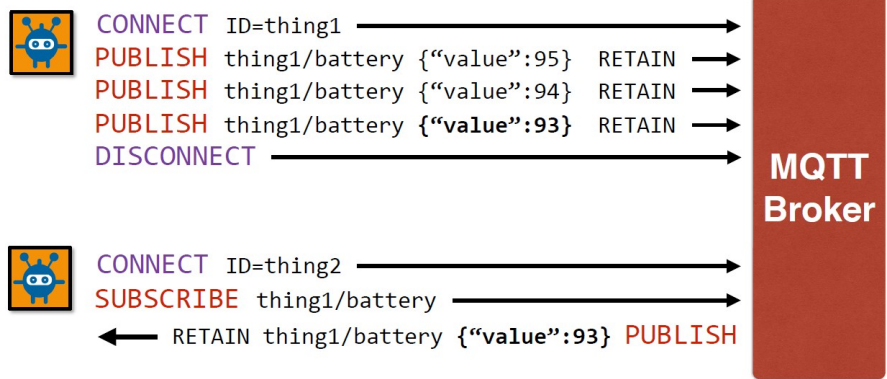


**QoS 2**  
exactly once

- survives connection loss
- never duplicated

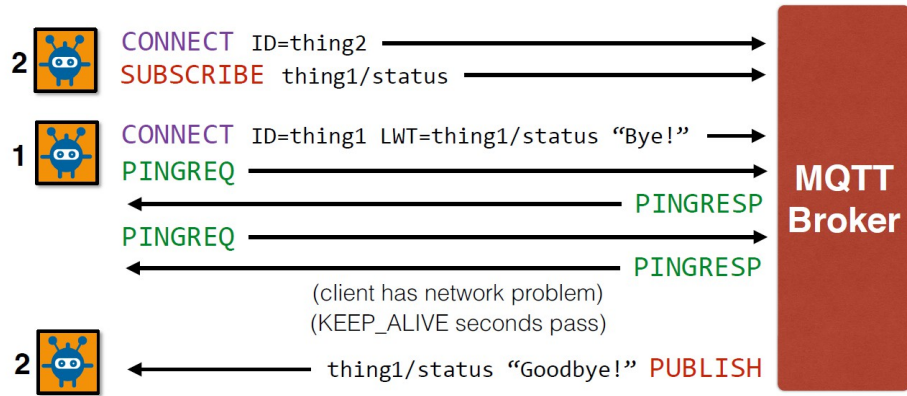
# MQTT

retained messages for last value caching

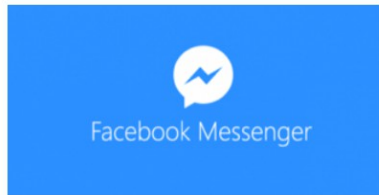


# MQTT

last will and testament for presence

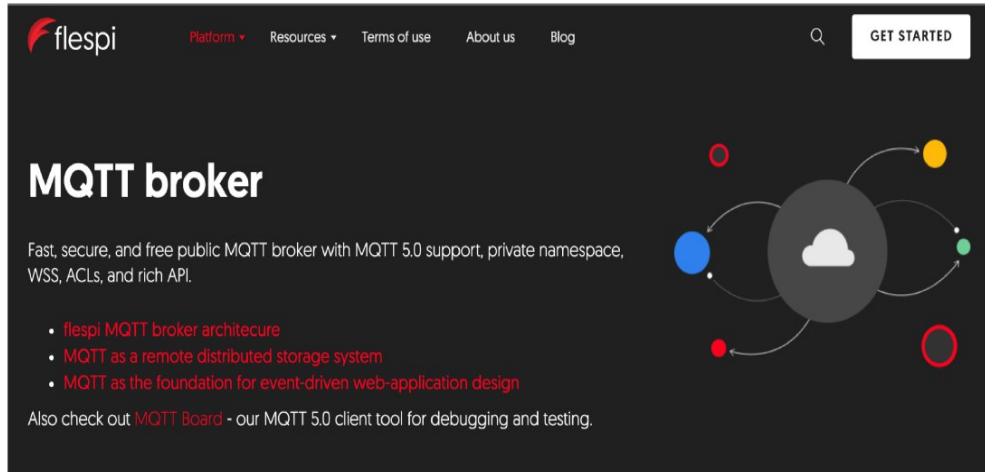


# Popular Users





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## MQTT clients: Android

 <p>MQTT Dash (IoT, S) Routix software</p> <p>★★★★★</p>	 <p>MyMQTT instant.solutions OG</p> <p>★★★★★</p>	 <p>IoT MQTT Panel Rahul Kundu</p> <p>★★★★★</p>	 <p>IoT MQTT Dashboard Nghia TH</p> <p>★★★★★</p>	 <p>MQTT CLIENT Webneurons</p> <p>★★★★★</p>
 <p>MQTT Snooper Maxime Carrier</p> <p>★★★★★</p>	 <p>MQTIZER - Free MQ Sanyam Arya</p> <p>★★★★★</p>	 <p>Linear MQTT Dashboard ravendmaster</p> <p>★★★★★</p>	 <p>Virtuino MQTT Ilias Lamprou</p> <p>★★★★★</p>	 <p>Mqtt Client Darlei Kroth</p> <p>★★★★★</p>

## MQTT – disadvantages

- ▶ **If the broker fails...**
- ▶ Does not define a standard client API, so application developers have to select the best fit.
- ▶ Does not include many features that are common in Enterprise Messaging Systems like:
  - expiration, timestamp, priority, custom message headers, ...
- ▶ Does not have a **point-to-point** (aka queues) messaging pattern
  - Point to Point or One to One means that there can be more than one consumer listening on a queue but only one of them will be get the message
- ▶ Maximum message size 256MB

## MQTT – příklad v Processingu

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import mqtt.*;
MQTTClient client;

void setup() {
  client = new MQTTClient(this);
  client.connect("mqtt://try:try@broker.shiftr.io", "userName");
}

void draw() { /* draw nothing */}

void keyPressed() {
  client.publish("/FEISTU", "myMessage");
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```

## MQTT – příklad v Processingu

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void clientConnected() {  
    println("client connected");  
    client.subscribe("/hello");  
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void messageReceived(String topic, byte[] payload) {  
    println("new message: " + topic + " - " + new String(payload));  
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```

```
void connectionLost() {  
    println("connection lost");  
}
```

# JSON – JavaScript Object Notation

Developed by Douglas Crockford

Standard ISO/IEC 21778:2017

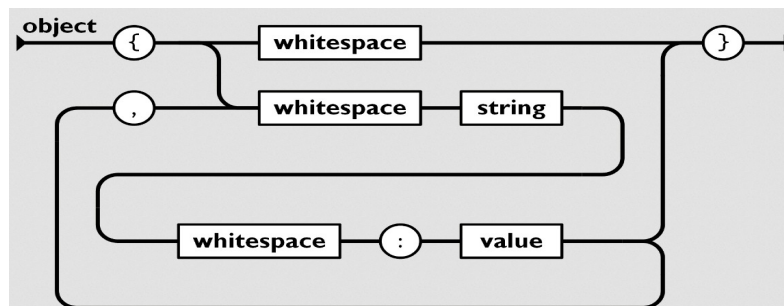
The simplest supported data formats are:

```
{"key1": "value1", "key2": "value2"}
```



*Douglas Crockford*

```
{"stringKey": "value1", "booleanKey": true, "doubleKey": 42.0, "longKey": 73}
```





# JSON – příklad v Processingu

```
JSONObject message;  
void setup()  
{  
  message = new JSONObject();  
  message.setFloat("temperature", 10.0);  
  message.setInt("state",2);  
  message.setString("name", "Lion");  
  
  saveJSONObject(message, "data/new.json");  
  
  int aktualnyStav = message.getInt("state");  
  float aktualnaTeplota = message.getFloat("temperature");  
  String realName = message.getString("name");  
  println("Stav: " + aktualnyStav  
+ ", Teplota: " + aktualnaTeplota + ", Meno: " + realName);  
}
```



## JSON – príklad v Processingu - pokračovanie

```
void draw() { /* nic nekreslime */ }

void keyPressed() {

    temperature = random(-10, 32.5);
    message.setFloat("temperature", temperature);
    println(message.toString());
}
```

## Úloha – zadanie

Vyskúšajte si posielanie protokolom MQTT. Pošlite jednoduchú správu

MQTT server `mqtt://try:try@broker.shiftr.io`

topic `/feistu/misa/2020/XXX`

a potom na

MQTT server `mqtt://9RYd7rPhakMm9CCwPBJG@demo.thingsboard.io`

topic `v1/devices/me/telemetry`

Správa vo formáte JSON má vyzerat' takto:

```
{"XXX-Lat": 49.1634, "XXX-Lon": 20.1349, "XXX-Temp": 18.2}
```

kde

**XXX** sú prvé tri písmená vášho priezviska

**Lat** je zemepisná šírka na štyri desatinné miesta

**Lon** je zemepisná dĺžka na štyri desatinné miesta

**Temp** aktuálna vonkajšia teplota