

ESIB IoT Challenge

Welcome to the ESIB IoT Challenge. In this challenge, you will be designing and prototyping the first IoT services based on a LoRaWAN network.

-. What is a LoRaWAN Platform?

During this challenge, you will benefit from the first experimental platform implementing an end-to-end LoRaWAN solution in Lebanon. The platform consists of the following elements:

- Devices that communicate to one or more gateways via a wireless interface using single hop LoRa and implementing the LoRaWAN protocol. These devices are physically connected to sensors that generate data.
- Gateways or base stations that forward frames between the devices and the network server. Gateways are connected to the network server via IP interfaces.
- A LoRaWAN backend that implements the network server functions and provides frame control and security.
- Applications that enable to visualize and store the sensor data obtained from the devices.



Figure 1. Architecture of the LoRaWAN Platform



- Where is the LoRa modulation implemented on the platform?
- What are the advantages of the LoRa modulation?
- How LoRa is compatible with LPWAN requirements and constraints?
- What is LoRaWAN? What is the difference between LoRaWAN and LoRa?
- Where is LoRaWAN implemented in the platform?
- Where does the IP layer start in the platform? Comment your answer considering the trends in IoT.
- Illustrate the protocol stacks on the LoRaWAN platform.

-. Devices

In order to program the LoRaWAN devices, you should verify the installation on your PC of the following software:

- Arduino IDE
- LMIC Library

Devices in the LoRaWAN platform are implemented on Arduino boards with Dragino shields. The combined module as well as the basic configuration steps are presented in [Simple Prototype of LoRa Communications](#). You can download the following sketch

[test-loraserver-comb-loraserver-dragino.zip](#)

and modify it according to your preferences. Below you can find some commented extracts of the sketch.

The pin mapping corresponds to the Dragino electronic schematic:

```
const lmic_pinmap lmic_pins = {  
  .nss = 10,  
  .rxtx = LMIC_UNUSED_PIN,  
  .rst = 9,  
  .dio = {2, 6, 7},  
};
```

The send function is rescheduled TX_INTERVAL seconds after each transmission complete event:

```
case EV_TXCOMPLETE:  
  Serial.println(F("EV_TXCOMPLETE (includes waiting for RX  
windows)"));  
  if(LMIC.dataLen) {  
    // data received in rx slot after tx  
    Serial.print(F("Data Received: "));  
    Serial.write(LMIC.frame+LMIC.dataBeg, LMIC.dataLen);  
    Serial.println();  
  }  
  // Schedule next transmission  
  os_setTimedCallback(&sendjob,  
os_getTime()+sec2osticks(TX_INTERVAL), do_send);  
  break;
```

The send function is initially scheduled here:

```
do_send(&sendjob);
```

The message containing the sensor values is transmitted on one of the radio channels:

```
LMIC_setTxData2(1, (uint8_t*) buffer, message.length(), 0);
```

-. Triggered Message Sending

You can also find another example of sketch to download:

`test-loraserver-moisture-on-move.ino.zip`

. Here the message sending is not periodic but related to an event. For example, an infrared sensor detects a movement and triggers a signal for the device to send a LoRaWAN message. Note also that the join method used in this second sketch is Activation by Personalisation (ABP): the device address, the network session key, and the application session key are directly configured on the device.



- OTAA
- ID
- Security

-. Backend

The Loraserver has a web interface for configuring the applications and devices on the platform. Full details for installing the software are provided on <https://www.loraserver.io>.



Figure 5. Loraserver web interface

Start by creating an application as in Figure 5. Then create a node in this application and provide the following information:

- A unique node name
- The node description
- A unique device EUID on 64 bits: Random identifiers can be generated on <https://www.random.org/bytes/>
- The application EUID on 64 bits: this can be a common identifier for all nodes using the same application.
- A unique application key on 128 bits

In order to enable OTAA join method, you have to make sure that the ABP activation button is unchecked.

-. Applications

-. mqtt-spy

mqtt-spy is an open source utility intended to help you with monitoring activity on MQTT topics. It has been designed to deal with high volumes of messages, as well as occasional publications. mqtt-spy is a JavaFX application, so it should work on any operating system with an appropriate version of Java 8 installed. A very useful tutorial is available on <https://github.com/eclipse/paho.mqtt-spy/wiki>. You can

use mqtt-spy to debug the messages received from the LoRaWAN devices. For this, you should download the software tool from <https://github.com/eclipse/paho.mqtt-spy/wiki>. After starting the application, configure a new connection to the MQTT broker by simply adding the IP address of the broker in the Server URI field. Now you can subscribe to any MQTT topic. If you want to receive all messages arriving at the backend, you can use the generic topic #. You can also limit to the topic including the messages of any specific device:

application/APPLICATION_ID/node/DEVICE_EUI/rx.

-. Emoncms

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