

IntelliHAUS

Intelligent Home AUTomation System

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Description

A smart home framework that allows devices within a user's house to communicate with a central server. Communication involves uploading data from sensors and receiving commands to perform actions.

Users can also define rules to automate behavior of their devices, using data from their sensors, time of day, or day of the week.

The home is manageable from a web portal that is available globally, allowing the user to view data from their sensors, send commands to actuators, and create rules.

Actors

- User (owner of home)
- Device within home

Server

Interfaces

The server communicates via a REST API with the hub and the website. The API is listed below.

Modules

The server is arranged these modules:

- Models - Database models for Sequelize, a node.js ORM
- Rule Evaluation - Standalone module that can evaluate rules
- Routes - Separates the portions of the server dedicated to handling different requests and responses
- API routes - Routes related to API calls
- HTML routes - Routes related to serving the website
- Public routes - Routes accessible without authentication

Design Decisions

Our server is written in node.js, since it needs to handle many simultaneous connections at a time, including long-poll requests, which require the server to handle connections in an asynchronous fashion.

Since the rules will take a significant amount of the total processing time for the server, as they need to be re-evaluated often, separate worker processes are created to handle all the rule evaluation, which communicate with the main process via IPC.

REST API

Route	Type	Description	Request Content-Type	Request Body	Return Content-Type	Return Data	Public
api/homepage	GET	Homepage			application/json	node text	Yes
api/datastream	POST	Push new data from a node	application/json	nodeid: <int> data: <nodeDataBinary> <obj>	application/json	success: <boolean>	No
api/datastream	POST	Create a new datastream	application/json	name: <string> type: <string> <enum> public: <boolean>	application/json	id: <int>	No
api/datastream	PUT	Update a datastream	application/json	name: <string> type: <string> <enum> public: <boolean>	application/json	success: <boolean>	No
api/datastream/delete	DELETE	Delete a datastream	application/json	id: <int>	application/json	success: <boolean>	No
api/datastream/get-data/numbers	GET	Get the most recent data of a datastream			application/json	datapoints: array<DataPoint>	No
api/datastream/get-info	GET	Get a datastream's info			application/json	datastream: <Datastream>	No
api/home	POST	Create a new home	application/json	name: <string> latitude: <float> longitude: <float>	application/json	id: <int>	No
api/node	GET	Get all of a user's nodes		homeid: <int> <reqd>	application/json	nodes: <array>	No
api/node	POST	Create a new node	application/json	name: <string> requestType: <string> outputType: <string> datastreamId: <int>	application/json	id: <int>	No
api/rule	POST	Create a new rule	application/json	name: <string> public: <boolean> rule: <json>	application/json	success: <boolean> id: <int>	No
api/rule	PUT	Update a rule	application/json	name: <string> public: <boolean> rule: <json>	application/json	success: <boolean> id: <int>	No
api/rule	GET	Get all rules for a user		homeid: <int> <reqd>	application/json	rules: <array>	No
api/rule/info	GET	Get information about a rule		ruleId: <int> <reqd>	application/json	rule: <Rule>	No
api/rule/delete	DELETE	Delete a rule		ruleId: <int> <reqd>	application/json	success: <boolean>	No
api/rule/eval	GET	Create a longpolling request	application/json	homeid: <int> <reqd> if not in header or query param	application/json	data: <DatastreamDataPoint>	No
api/rule/eval	GET	Get all updates for a home's nodes	application/json	homeid: <int> <reqd> if not in header or query param	application/json	success: <boolean> updates: array<Update>	No
authenticate	POST	Get OAuth Web Token	application/json	username: <string> <reqd> password: <string> <reqd>	application/json	token: <string>	Yes
authenticate/logout	GET	Log out the user			application/json	success: <boolean>	Yes
authenticate/logout	GET	Check the cookies headers to homepage			application/json	success: <boolean>	Yes
signup	POST	Signup request	application/x-www-form-urlencoded	username: <string> <reqd> password: <string> <reqd> firstName: <string>	application/json	success: <boolean>	Yes
login	POST	Get a user by id	application/json	username: <string> <reqd>	application/json	home: <Home>	Yes
login/verify	GET	Search for a user	application/json	username: <string>	application/json	home: <Home>	Yes

Hub

Interfaces

The hub uses these interfaces:

- HTTP to communicate to the server
- Binary protocol over TCP to communicate with the nodes

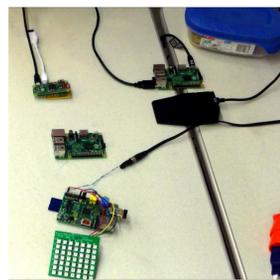
Modules

The hub is arranged into these modules:

- Server communicator
 - HTTP class
 - GET/POST
 - Request pipelining
 - Automatic reconnecting
 - Server class
 - Uses HTTP class to communicate with server
 - Maintains state information (e.g. current authentication token)
- Node Server class
 - TCP acceptor for arbitrary number of nodes
 - Separate thread for each TCP connection

Design Decisions

The hub is written in C++ with the boost::asio library for networking so that it can efficiently handle a large number of connections on a low-power computer. Each TCP connection has its own thread, which allows for fast and efficient communication even with many devices connected.

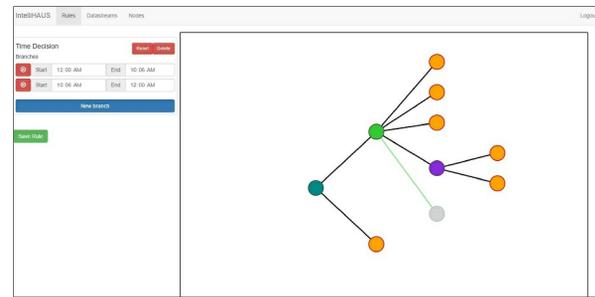


Four of our demonstration nodes: connected outlet, voice recognition, smart light, and temperature sensor.

User Interfaces

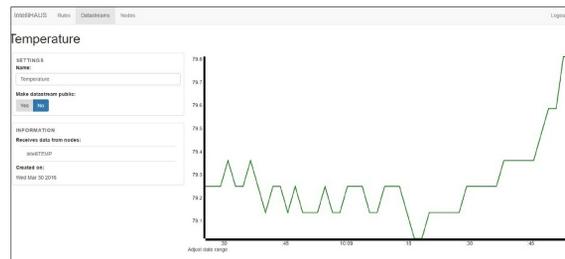
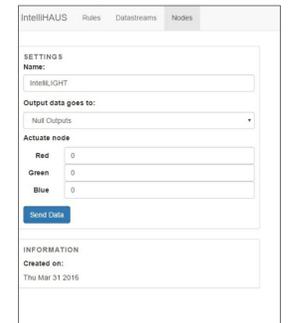
Rule Editor

- Sidebar (add/edit branches)
- Tree Interface (visualize tree)



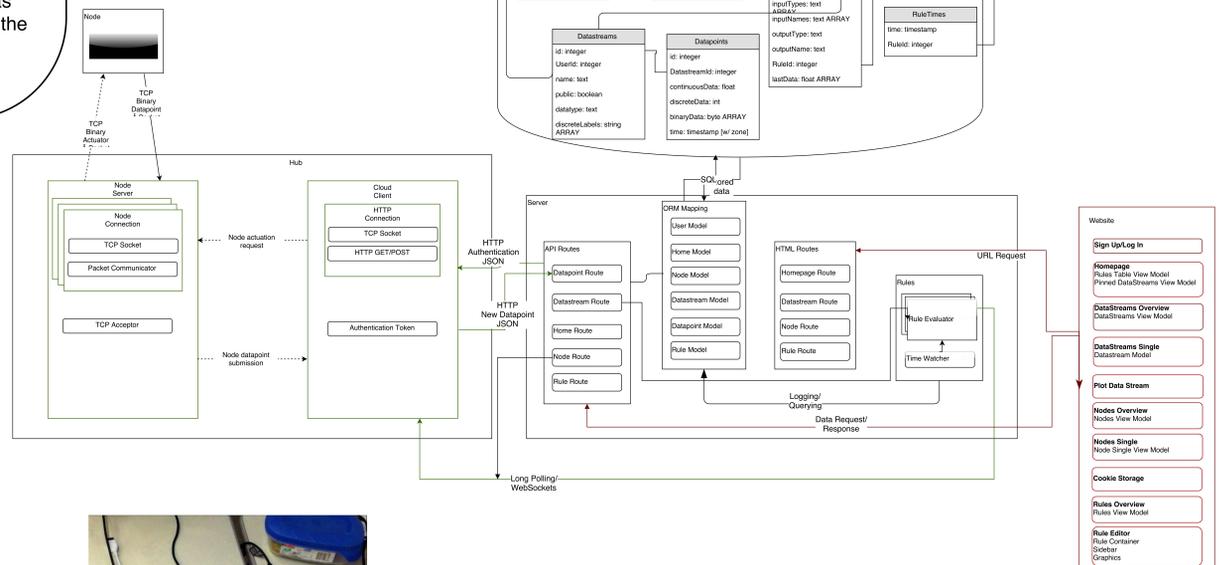
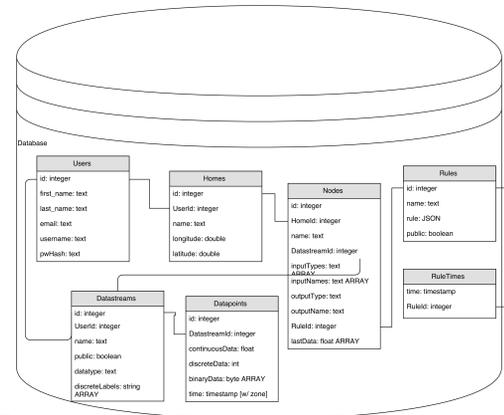
Node

- View specific node information
- Manually actuate nodes



Datastreams

- View specific datastream graph
- Make datastream public/private



Team

Members

- Sam Oswald - CprE Senior
- Eric Middleton - CprE/EE Senior
- David Wehr - CprE Junior

Problems

- Reliability was the most difficult issue we had, since there are a lot of systems that need to connect with each other.
- We also had some difficulty getting all of the different threads in the hub to work together well.
- Team member dropped course, so we had to adjust our goals midway through the semester