

# Chapter 4

## IoT System Management with NETCONF-YANG

# INTERNET OF THINGS

## A Hands-On Approach



# Outline

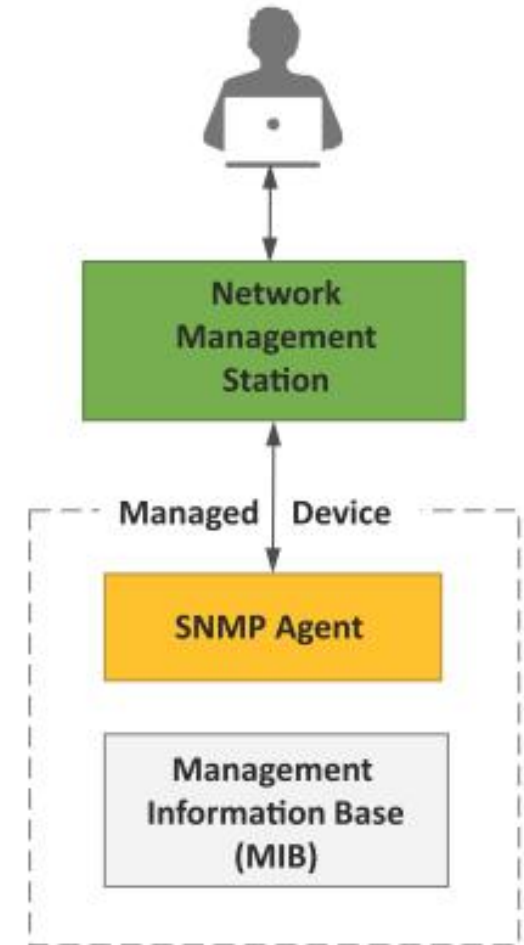
- Need for IoT Systems Management
- SNMP
- Network Operator Requirements
- NETCONF
- YANG
- IoT Systems Management with NETCONF-YANG

# Need for IoT Systems Management

- Automating Configuration
- Monitoring Operational & Statistical Data
- Improved Reliability
- System Wide Configurations
- Multiple System Configurations
- Retrieving & Reusing Configurations

# Simple Network Management Protocol (SNMP)

- SNMP is a well-known and widely used network management protocol that allows monitoring and configuring network devices such as routers, switches, servers, printers, etc.
- SNMP components include
  - Network Management Station (NMS)
  - Managed Device
  - Management Information Base (MIB)
  - SNMP Agent that runs on the device



# Limitations of SNMP

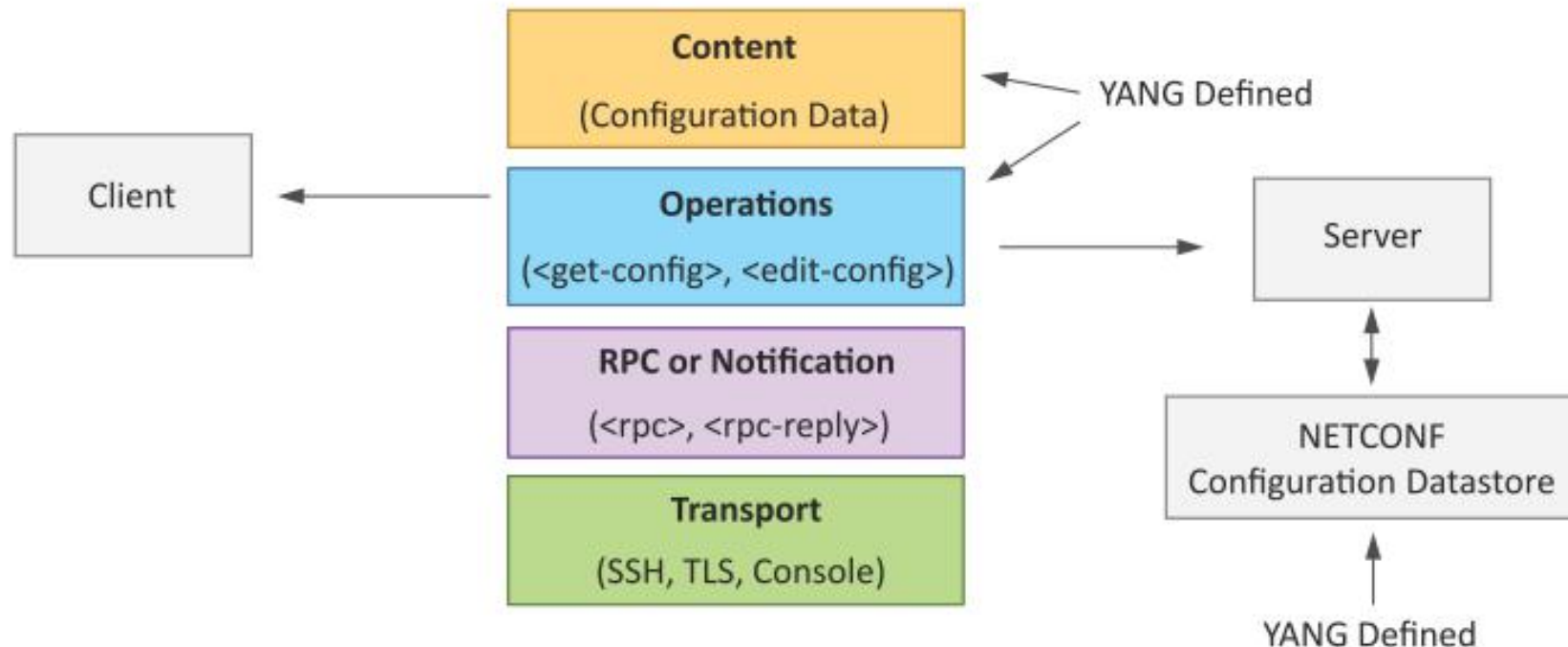
- SNMP is stateless in nature and each SNMP request contains all the information to process the request. The application needs to be intelligent to manage the device.
- SNMP is a connectionless protocol which uses UDP as the transport protocol, making it unreliable as there was no support for acknowledgement of requests.
- MIBs often lack writable objects without which device configuration is not possible using SNMP.
- It is difficult to differentiate between configuration and state data in MIBs.
- Retrieving the current configuration from a device can be difficult with SNMP.
- Earlier versions of SNMP did not have strong security features.

# Network Operator Requirements

- Ease of use
- Distinction between configuration and state data
- Fetch configuration and state data separately
- Configuration of the network as a whole
- Configuration transactions across devices
- Configuration deltas
- Dump and restore configurations
- Configuration validation
- Configuration database schemas
- Comparing configurations
- Role-based access control
- Consistency of access control lists:
- Multiple configuration sets
- Support for both data-oriented and task-oriented access control

# NETCONF

- Network Configuration Protocol (NETCONF) is a session-based network management protocol. NETCONF allows retrieving state or configuration data and manipulating configuration data on network devices



# NETCONF

- NETCONF works on SSH transport protocol.
- Transport layer provides end-to-end connectivity and ensure reliable delivery of messages.
- NETCONF uses XML-encoded Remote Procedure Calls (RPCs) for framing request and response messages.
- The RPC layer provides mechanism for encoding of RPC calls and notifications.
- NETCONF provides various operations to retrieve and edit configuration data from network devices.
- The Content Layer consists of configuration and state data which is XML-encoded.
- The schema of the configuration and state data is defined in a data modeling language called YANG.
- NETCONF provides a clear separation of the configuration and state data.
- The configuration data resides within a NETCONF configuration datastore on the server.

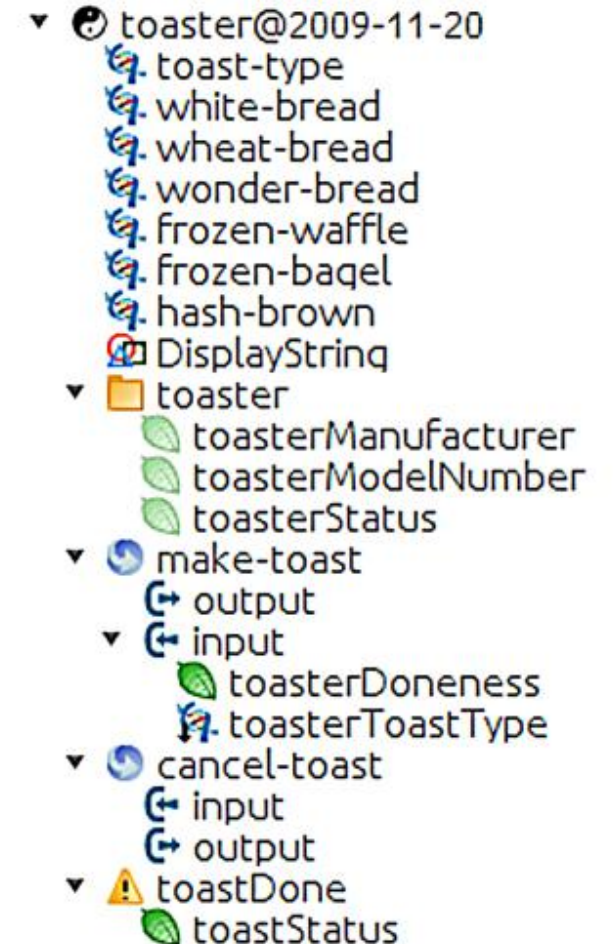


# YANG

- YANG is a data modeling language used to model configuration and state data manipulated by the NETCONF protocol
- YANG modules contain the definitions of the configuration data, state data, RPC calls that can be issued and the format of the notifications.
- YANG modules defines the data exchanged between the NETCONF client and server.
- A module comprises of a number of 'leaf' nodes which are organized into a hierarchical tree structure.
- The 'leaf' nodes are specified using the 'leaf' or 'leaf-list' constructs.
- Leaf nodes are organized using 'container' or 'list' constructs.
- A YANG module can import definitions from other modules.
- Constraints can be defined on the data nodes, e.g. allowed values.
- YANG can model both configuration data and state data using the 'config' statement.

# YANG Module Example

- This YANG module is a YANG version of the toaster MIB
- The toaster YANG module begins with the header information followed by identity declarations which define various bread types.
- The leaf nodes ('toasterManufacturer', 'toasterModelNumber' and toasterStatus') are defined in the 'toaster' container.
- Each leaf node definition has a type and optionally a description and default value.
- The module has two RPC definitions ('make-toast' and 'cancel-toast').



# IoT Systems Management with NETCONF-YANG

- Management System
- Management API
- Transaction Manager
- Rollback Manager
- Data Model Manager
- Configuration Validator
- Configuration Database
- Configuration API
- Data Provider API

