A Software Library Model for the Internet of Things

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Primary Goal

A library system for ultra-large-scale IoT systems

- that uses minimal storage,
- is compatible with dataflow,
- and supports concurrent, disjoint versions.

What should be considered?

The IoT is aimed at ultra-large scale networks [1] that include devices with storage capacities ranging from terabytes to as little 100 kb! [2]

Scale, heterogeneity, and constraints increase opportunities for breaking changes.

Mutable state requires **expensive synchronization** [3] in parallel environments.

Existing library systems (PiP and NPM) are **monolithic**, and **poorly support disjoint versions** of the same library [4-5].

How should users interact?

Library solutions must be **storage efficient and immutable**, but also must address the issues of IoT developers.

Library Users:

 Updates might be functional but exceed resource limits.

Library Maintainers:

 There is less incentive to support specific deployment scenarios.

Users should be able to **mix and match disjointly versioned components** to adapt to breaking changes by balancing compability with updated functionality.

System Design Principles

A library is a versioned collection of imports, exports, and global constants. These limits prevent mutable state from being hidden.

Library definitions are stored as a **set of data dependence graphs** [6-7], where each node contains an identifier, its code snippet, and a set of parent nodes.

Library functions are **imported individually at specific versions** in a program. This queries a repository where the graph is stored. The graph is traversed and code snippets are recorded and sent back.

```
library test@1.0;

const int a = 50;
const int b = 5*a;
const int c = 4*a + 3*b;
const int d = 3*a + 2*b;

export funcA() { return c };
export funcB() { return c * d };
```

A sample library definition and its graph.

This representation **increases storage** efficiency by allowing individual functions to be extracted from a library via traversal.

Library components can be mixed and matched at multiple versions by performing traversals on different versions of the graph.

References

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