

Introduction to AsyncAPI for Apache Kafka

Lorna Mitchell, Aiven

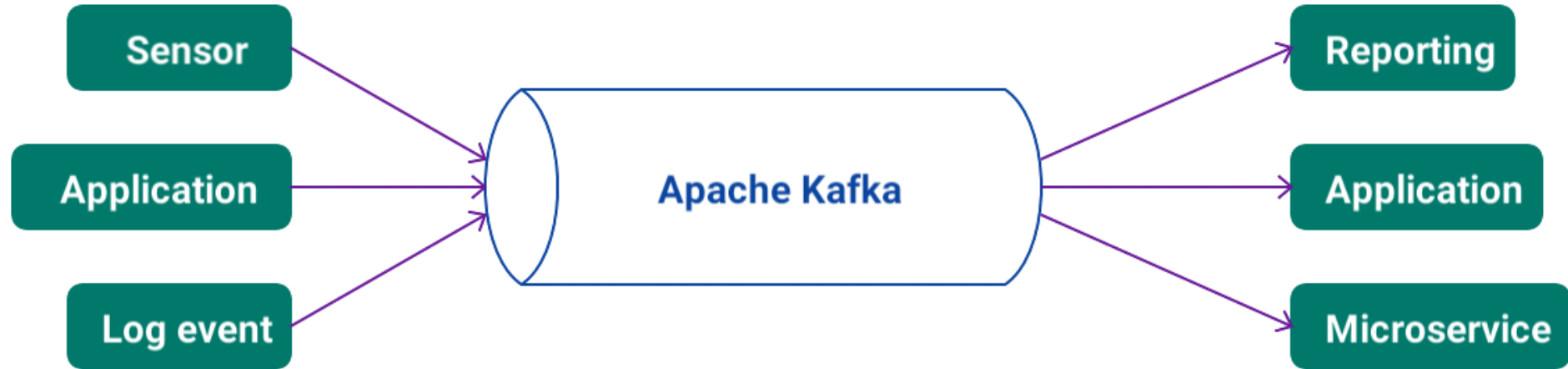
Meet Apache Kafka

"Apache Kafka is an open-source distributed event streaming platform" - <https://kafka.apache.org>

- Designed for data streaming
- Real-time data for finance and industry
- Very scalable to handle large datasets
- Distributed log platform, each channel is a "topic" and has "partitions"



Kafka Architectures



Producers send data, Consumers receive it.

AsyncAPI

Open standard for describing event-driven and data streaming systems.

AsyncAPI

- Website: <https://asynccapi.com>
- Open YAML/JSON standard describes message-based systems
- Supports Apache Kafka, MQTT, AMQP, WS
- Tools to generate docs, code and more



Why use AsyncAPI?

Describe your event-driven systems in a clear and reusable way

- Design-first and clear contracts between systems
- Clearly track changes in a text-based description
- Seamless integrations with other systems
- Enclose existing payload descriptions (CloudEvents, Avro) within AsyncAPI



Generated Docs

SUB door-sensor

Door sensors (external and internal)

Open/closed state information from the doors.

Accepts the following message:

Door Sensor Reading `door-sensor-data`

Door sensor data

Payload ▼ **Object**

location	String
state	Enum: <code>"open"</code> <code>"closed"</code>

Additional properties are allowed.

`sensor`

Examples

`door-sensor-data`

Payload ▼

Example #1

```
{
  "location": "Car park",
  "state": "open"
}
```

Example #2

```
{
  "location": "Roof-level fire exit",
  "state": "closed"
}
```

AsyncAPI Descriptions

AsyncAPI Structure

Top-level elements:

- `asyncapi` and `id`
- `info`
- `servers`
- `channels`
- `tags`
- `components`



Info Section

Valuable metadata is held in `info`.

```
info:  
  title: Thingum Industries Sensors  
  description: Keeping the factory and all the machines running nicely  
  version: 1.0.0  
  contact:  
    name: Lorna  
    email: lornajane@aiven.io  
    url: https://github.com/aiven/thingum-industries  
  license:  
    name: Apache 2.0  
    url: http://www.apache.org/licenses/LICENSE-2.0.html
```



Channels Section

Main operations are described here

```
channels:  
  door-sensor:  
    description: Door sensors (external and internal)  
    subscribe:  
      operationId: DoorSensor  
      description: Open/closed state information from the doors.  
      tags:  
        - name: sensor  
    bindings:  
      kafka:  
        clientId:  
          type: string  
    message:  
      $ref: '#/components/messages/DoorData'
```

\$ref Reusable Content

Refer to content in the components section

```
message:  
  $ref: '#/components/messages/DoorData'
```

Useful for reuse and readability.

We can also refer to other files:

```
message:  
  $ref: 'doors-publish.yaml#/components/messages/DoorData'
```

Components Section

A collection of reusable components

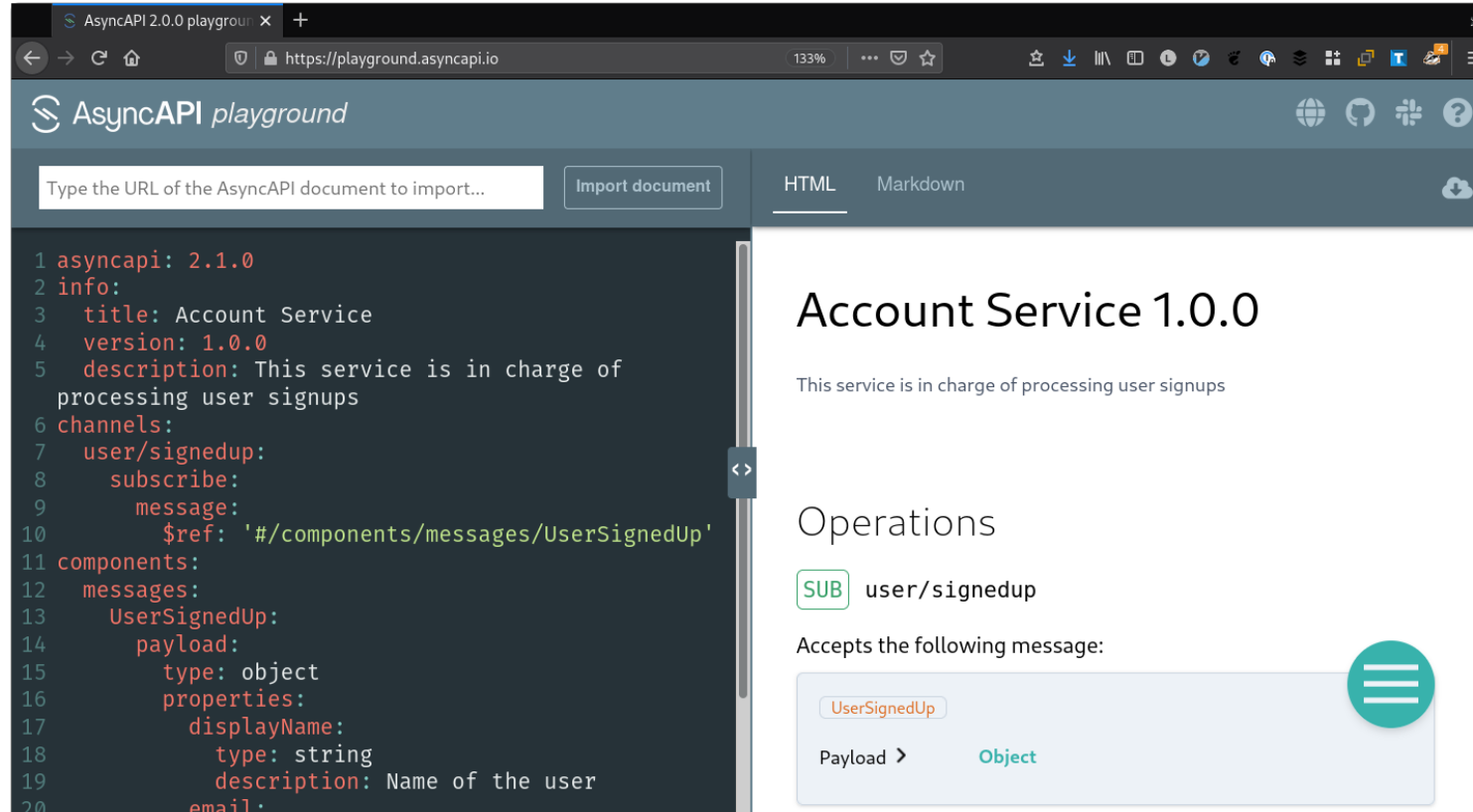
```
components:  
  messages:  
    DoorData:  
      name: door-sensor-data  
      title: Door Sensor Reading  
      description: Door sensor data  
      payload:  
        type: object  
        properties:  
          location:  
            type: string  
          state:  
            enum: ["open", "closed"]
```



AsyncAPI Tools

AsyncAPI Playground

Playground: <https://playground.asyncapi.io/>



The screenshot shows the AsyncAPI Playground interface in a browser. The browser address bar displays `https://playground.asyncapi.io`. The page title is "AsyncAPI playground".

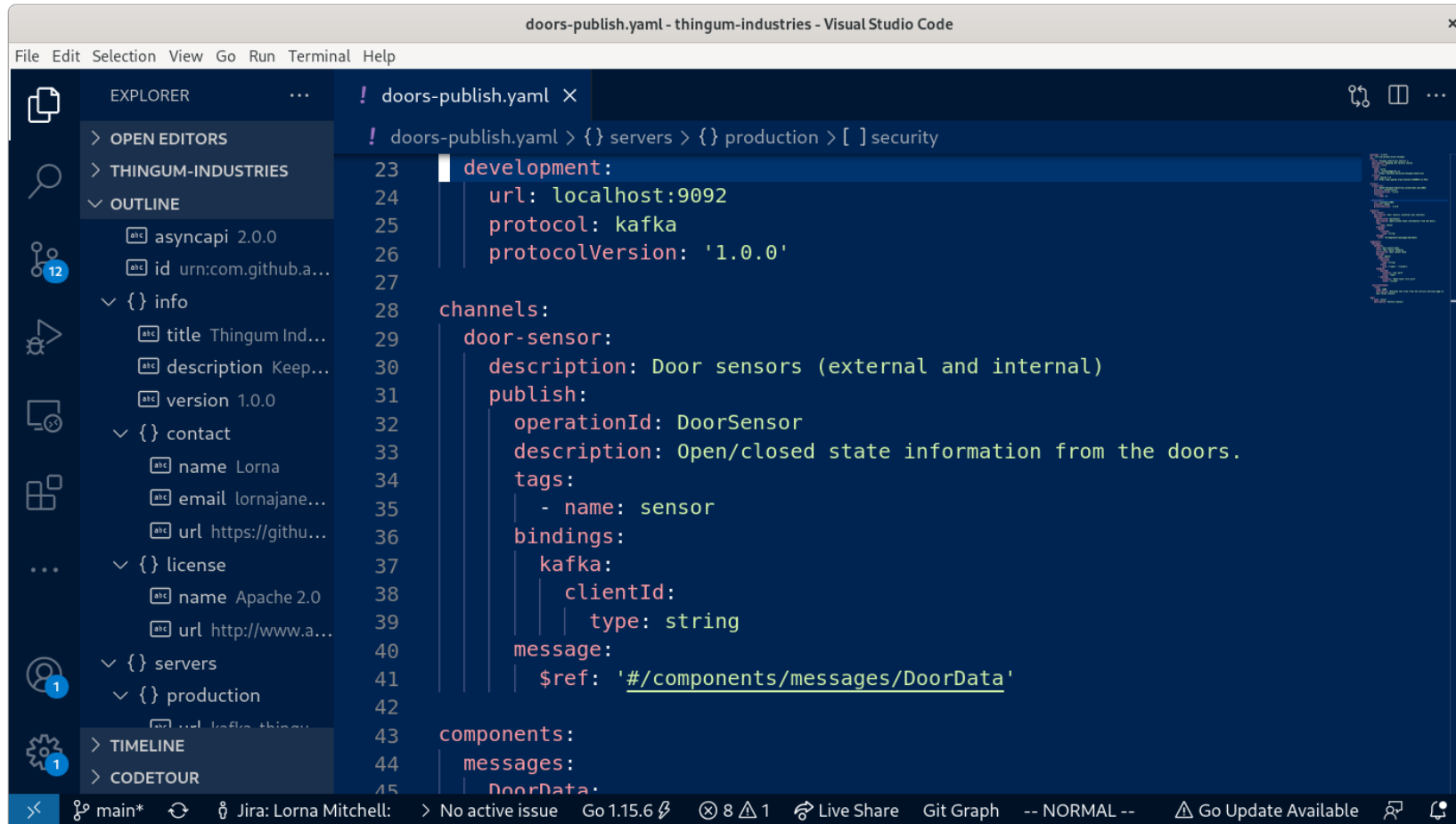
At the top, there is a search bar with the placeholder text "Type the URL of the AsyncAPI document to import..." and an "Import document" button. To the right of the search bar are tabs for "HTML" and "Markdown", with "HTML" selected.

The main content area is split into two panels. The left panel shows the AsyncAPI document in JSON format:

```
1 asyncapi: 2.1.0
2 info:
3   title: Account Service
4   version: 1.0.0
5   description: This service is in charge of
  processing user signups
6 channels:
7   user/signedup:
8     subscribe:
9       message:
10        $ref: '#/components/messages/UserSignedUp'
11 components:
12   messages:
13     UserSignedUp:
14       payload:
15         type: object
16         properties:
17           displayName:
18             type: string
19             description: Name of the user
20           email:
```

The right panel shows the rendered HTML view of the document. It features a large heading "Account Service 1.0.0" and a description: "This service is in charge of processing user signups". Below this, there is a section titled "Operations" with a sub-section for "user/signedup" (indicated by a "SUB" tag). It states "Accepts the following message:" and shows a message object labeled "UserSignedUp" with a "Payload" field of type "Object". A teal circular menu icon is visible in the bottom right corner of the rendered view.

Use Your Editor



```
doors-publish.yaml - thingum-industries - Visual Studio Code
File Edit Selection View Go Run Terminal Help

EXPLORER
  OPEN EDITORS
  THINGUM-INDUSTRIES
  OUTLINE
    asyncapi 2.0.0
    id urn:com.github.a...
    {} info
      title Thingum Ind...
      description Keep...
      version 1.0.0
    {} contact
      name Lorna
      email lornajane...
      url https://githu...
    {} license
      name Apache 2.0
      url http://www.a...
    {} servers
    {} production
      url kafka: thingu...

TIMELINE
CODETOUR

! doors-publish.yaml X
! doors-publish.yaml > {} servers > {} production > [ ] security
23 development:
24   url: localhost:9092
25   protocol: kafka
26   protocolVersion: '1.0.0'
27
28 channels:
29   door-sensor:
30     description: Door sensors (external and internal)
31     publish:
32       operationId: DoorSensor
33       description: Open/closed state information from the doors.
34       tags:
35         - name: sensor
36       bindings:
37         kafka:
38           clientId:
39             type: string
40       message:
41         $ref: '#/components/messages/DoorData'
42
43 components:
44   messages:
45     DoorData:
```

main* Jira: Lorna Mitchell: > No active issue Go 1.15.6 8 1 Live Share Git Graph -- NORMAL -- Go Update Available

Generate Documentation

Generator: <https://www.asyncapi.com/generator>

SUB door-sensor

Door sensors (external and internal)

Open/closed state information from the doors.

Accepts the following message:

Door Sensor Reading `door-sensor-data`

Door sensor data

Payload **Object**

location	String
state	Enum: <code>"open"</code> <code>"closed"</code>

Additional properties are allowed.

`sensor`

Examples

`door-sensor-data`

Payload **▼**

Example #1

```
{
  "location": "Car park",
  "state": "open"
}
```

Example #2

```
{
  "location": "Roof-level fire exit",
  "state": "closed"
}
```



Generate Code

The same generator can do more than HTML output.

Generate code in Java, Python or NodeJS - or add your own template.

```
ag asyncapi.yaml @asyncapi/nodejs-template \  
  -o nodejs -p server=production
```

```
npm install
```

```
NODE_ENV=production npm start
```



Tools Landscape

- Playground: <https://playground.asyncapi.io>
- Generator: <https://www.asyncapi.com/generator>
- Microcks: <https://microcks.io/>
- Spectral: <https://stoplight.io/open-source/spectral/>
- VSCode:
<https://github.com/asyncapi/vs-asyncapi-preview>



AsyncAPI and You

Open standards, seamless integrations

Resources

Apache Kafka: <https://kafka.apache.com>

AsyncAPI: <https://asynccapi.com>

Aiven: <https://aiven.io> - try the free trial

Examples: <https://github.com/aiven/thingum-industries>

Microcks: <https://microcks.io/>

API Specifications Conference (Sep 28-29)

AsyncAPI Hackathon (Oct 1-31) Conference (Nov 16-18)

<https://conference.asynccapi.com>