![METER ENVIRONMENT logo]

DATA LOGGING: WHY IOT CHANGED EVERYTHING

TECHNOLOGY—IT'S EVOLVING

Researchers sometimes want to use their own sim cards in METER cellular data loggers in an effort to stretch their research budgets. Historically, this was a sound practice and a practical way to cut telemetry costs. However, due to advances in technology and a more competitive marketplace, circumventing the communication piece no longer reduces the cost for the end user. While it's true that in the past, communication was the most expensive piece of data collection, this is no longer the case. With the advent of IoT, radio technologies such as SigFox, LoRa, NB-IoT, and LTE-M now crowd the marketplace, commoditizing communication. This makes it easy and inexpensive to run a data collection network, especially because transferring research data doesn't require high bandwidth. And, switching from one to another of these radio technologies doesn't offer the end user any cost reduction as they are all similar to cell communication in both benefit and price, though METER continues to evaluate new technologies as they evolve.
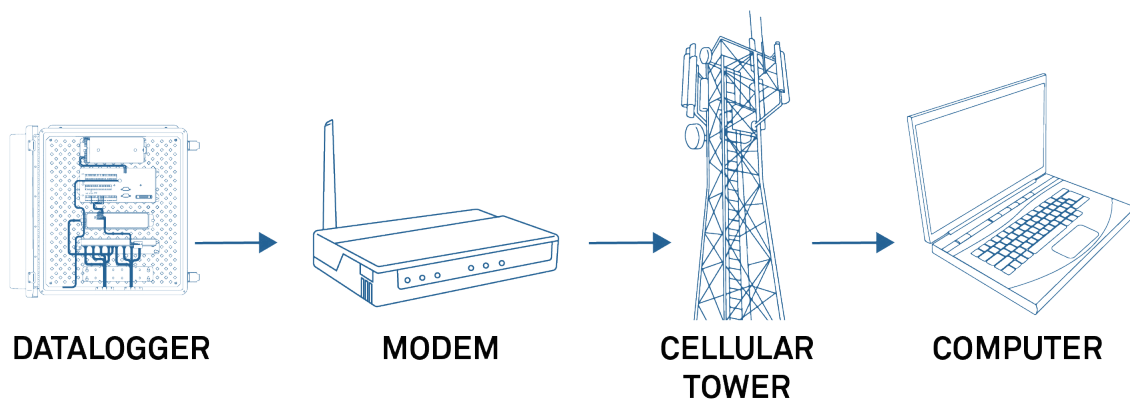

Figure 1. Traditional telemetry approach

IOT MEANS BETTER USER EXPERIENCE

The IoT revolution represents a complete shift in the traditional approach to telemetry, and it means big benefits for researchers. Now that the communication

piece is less expensive, it is possible to create a more sophisticated data collection experience, still at an affordable price. Today the cost of telemetry comes from the development, improvement, and upkeep of an advanced software database and front-end that makes data collection fast, easy, and intuitive, enabling the researcher to spend more time on what matters most. METER's cloud-based data management software ZENTRA Cloud works with the ZL6 data logger to make the data collection and management process so simple, you can almost forget about your data logger completely. Below is a visual representation of how telemetry has changed with the advent of IoT.
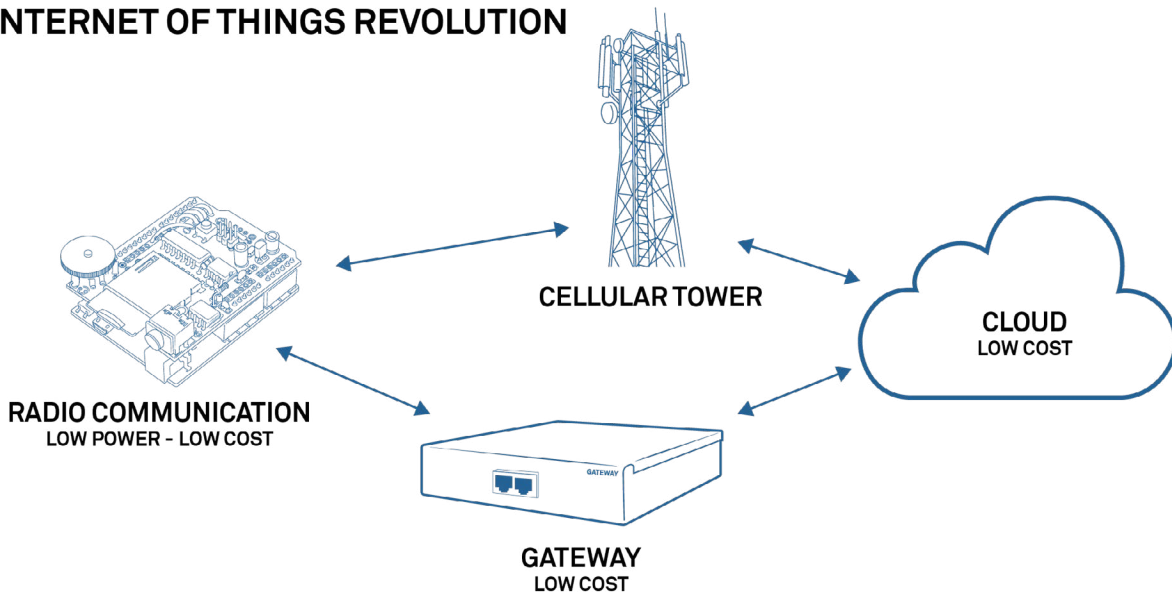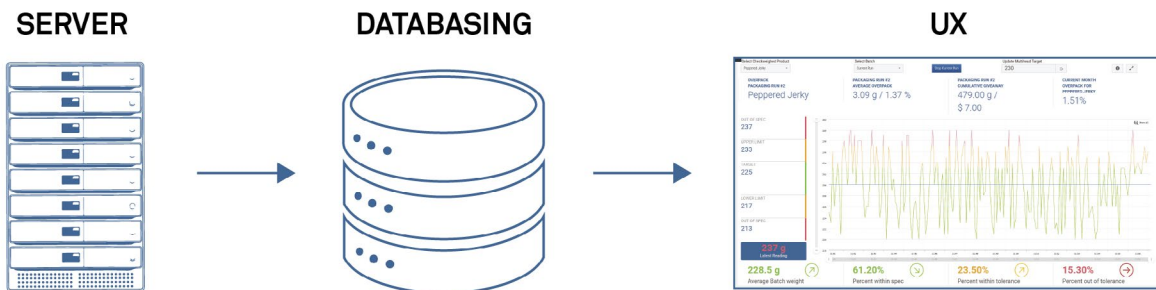
INTERNET OF THINGS REVOLUTION

CELLULAR TOWER

CLOUD
LOW COST

RADIO COMMUNICATION
LOW POWER - LOW COST

GATEWAY
LOW COST

Figure 2. The IoT revolution: Getting data to the cloud is no longer the costly, labor-intensive exercise it once was. Users don't have to worry about this part in today's world. We've done it all for you.

SERVER　　　　**DATABASING**　　　　**UX**

Now, the value comes in the continuous access to information to draw conclusions and make decisions.

Figure 3. Today's telemetry value comes from a sophisticated user experience

SEE HOW ZENTRA CLOUD WORKS

In the video here, Dr. Colin Campbell discusses how ZENTRA Cloud simplifies the research process and why researchers can't afford to live without it. He then gives a tour of ZENTRA Cloud features.

TRY ZENTRA CLOUD NOW

Want to see how ZENTRA Cloud revolutionizes data collection and management for hundreds of researchers? Request access to our live test account, take a virtual tour, or use the ROI calculator to see how ZENTRA Cloud pays for itself and more.

REQUEST A QUOTE   CONTACT US