



Air Quality Monitoring System

Trived Sai Gurram, Hemsaketh Gowreddy,
Manikanteswar Reddy Gunnam, Vivekananda Konderu and
Hiren Raithatha

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GURRAM TRIVED SAI

Computer Science Engineering (CSE),
Parul University, Gujarat, India
trivedsaigurram93@gmail.com

GOWREDDY HEMSAKETH

Computer Science Engineering (CSE),
Parul University, Gujarat, India
hemsakethgowreddy@gmail.com

GUNNAM MANIKANTESWAR REDDY

Computer Science Engineering (CSE),
Parul University, Gujarat, India
gunnammani7@gmail.com

KONDERU VIVEKANANDA

Computer Science Engineering (CSE),
Parul University, Gujarat, India
vivekanandakonderu@gmail.com

HIREN RAITHATHA, Assistant Professor

Dept. Of Computer Science Engineering

Parul University, Gujarat, India

hiren.raithatha19387@paruluniversity.ac.in

Abstract—Pollution poses one of the most significant threats to our environment, with various types of pollution impacting the Earth's well-being. In the context of our project, we primarily address air pollution, which is a major concern. Air pollution is responsible for causing numerous health issues in both humans and animals, including respiratory problems. Polluted air contains a mixture of harmful gases such as CO₂, CO, SO₂, smoke, and benzene. To mitigate the effects of these pollutants, we must take measures like avoiding areas with high levels of polluted air. To implement these measures effectively, we require instruments to measure air quality. As a technical solution, we have chosen to develop an Air Quality Index (AQI) system based on the Internet of Things (IoT). This approach is cost-effective, decentralized, efficient, and portable, providing a significant improvement over the traditional method of using complex laboratory equipment, which is both costly and lacks portability.

Our project focuses on implementing an AQI system using IoT technology, aiming to transfer data from sensors to an application or web server via the internet. This technological advancement allows individuals to check air quality in their surroundings easily, offering valuable information for making decisions about their safety. For instance,

while traveling in a car, users can quickly assess the air quality index, and if the particulate matter concentration exceeds 1000 ppm, they can identify the air as harmful. We plan to use an Arduino Uno microcontroller for this purpose, as it offers a suitable platform for programming in C and C++ and is supported by a thriving community and libraries. By utilizing this technology, we hope to empower individuals with the knowledge needed to make informed choices regarding their environment and well-being, ultimately contributing to a cleaner and healthier world.

Furthermore, the importance of this project extends beyond individual awareness to contribute to broader environmental initiatives. In response to the severe air quality issues in regions like Delhi, the Indian government has taken significant steps, including bans on two-stroke and four-stroke engine vehicles and stringent regulations on high-pollution industries. Our AQI system aligns with these efforts by providing real-time data that can guide individuals and authorities in making informed decisions about outdoor activities and policies to combat air pollution. By leveraging IoT technology and the power of data, we aim to create a more environmentally conscious society leading to improved air quality and better public health outcomes.

I. INTRODUCTION

Within our IoT-based Air Quality Monitoring project, we've integrated the MQ135 and LM35 sensors, each responsible for detecting harmful gases and providing voltage outputs corresponding to their concentrations. The Arduino UNO microcontroller acts as the central processing unit, translating these readings into PPM (Parts Per Million) units for comprehensive air quality assessment, which is conveniently displayed on an LCD screen.

Moreover, we've harnessed the power of a Wi-Fi chip, enabling data access through Wi-Fi or the internet. This innovative feature facilitates remote monitoring, where real-time air quality data is accessible via a dedicated webserver. As an extension of our project, we also plan to develop an Android application, enhancing user accessibility by providing an intuitive platform for viewing and interpreting the air quality information. This holistic approach combines hardware and software components to offer a versatile, comprehensive air quality monitoring system.

A. PROBLEM STATEMENT

Air pollution stands as a pressing global environmental concern, posing substantial implications for public health on a worldwide scale. The exposure to noxious elements, including carbon monoxide, nitrogen dioxide, and particulate matter, manifests in adverse health outcomes, notably encompassing respiratory and cardiovascular ailments. Nevertheless, the scarcity of real-time air quality data imposes impediments on the implementation of preemptive mitigation strategies to curtail pollutant exposure. Consequently, there arises a demand for a cost-effective, precise, and readily accessible air quality monitoring system, capable of quantifying and conducting in-depth analysis of air quality parameters

B. SCOPE OF THE PROJECT

Air pollution stands as a pressing global environmental concern, posing substantial implications for public health on a worldwide scale. The exposure to noxious elements, including carbon monoxide, nitrogen dioxide, and particulate matter, manifests in adverse health outcomes, notably encompassing respiratory and cardiovascular

ailments. Nevertheless, the scarcity of real-time air quality data imposes impediments on the implementation of preemptive mitigation strategies to curtail pollutant exposure. Consequently, there arises a demand for a cost-effective, precise, and readily accessible air quality monitoring system, capable of quantifying and conducting in-depth analysis of air quality parameters

C. OBJECTIVE OF THE PROJECT

The IoT-based air quality monitoring system's core mission is to provide real-time and precise data on key air quality parameters, including particulate matter, carbon monoxide, nitrogen dioxide, ozone, and sulfur dioxide. Its objectives encompass monitoring and reporting air quality data to relevant stakeholders while swiftly identifying sources of air pollution and alerting individuals and authorities to potential health risks associated with suboptimal air quality. This system also offers insights into the environmental impact of air pollution, serving as a crucial resource for understanding the interplay between air quality and ecosystem health. Additionally, the inclusion of an Android application bolsters user accessibility, enabling individuals to check real-time air quality data and make informed decisions regarding their well-being.

II. MOTIVATION

A. Background and Related Work

The background and related work of our IoT-based Air Quality Monitoring project encompass an extensive review of existing air quality monitoring systems, highlighting their limitations in terms of accuracy, real-time data accessibility, and cost-effectiveness. Previous research and technologies have laid the foundation for our project, emphasizing the need for innovative solutions that integrate advanced sensors, microcontrollers, and connectivity options to deliver precise and timely air quality information. By building upon this foundation and leveraging IoT capabilities, we aim to overcome existing challenges and provide a comprehensive solution that empowers individuals, authorities, and industries to mitigate the adverse effects of air pollution and promote environmental sustainability.

III. LITERATURE REVIEW

Recent advancements in air quality monitoring systems have sparked interest in leveraging web-based applications for enhanced accessibility and functionality. While mobile apps have been prevalent, there's a growing focus on utilizing websites to provide a comprehensive air quality monitoring experience for users. This shift aims to cater to a wider audience, including those without smartphones or mobile data access, by offering a platform that can be accessed from any device with internet connectivity. The emphasis on user-friendly design is crucial, as studies suggest that well-designed websites with intuitive layouts contribute to user satisfaction and engagement. Moreover, the importance of robust security measures cannot be overstated, with researchers highlighting the need for websites to prioritize data protection and user privacy in the context of air quality monitoring. Collaborative efforts between these web-based systems and relevant authorities or organizations can streamline communication, data sharing, and management of air quality data, ultimately enhancing the overall effectiveness of air quality monitoring initiatives. While ongoing research continues to explore the impact of web-based air quality monitoring systems, early indications suggest that these platforms empower users with greater control over environmental health insights, offering valuable support and management tools. The development of our Air Quality Monitoring System aligns with this evolving landscape, providing users with personalized monitoring and guidance to navigate air quality challenges effectively. The adoption of web-based air quality monitoring systems represents a paradigm shift in environmental monitoring, with a focus on accessibility and user-centric design. By providing real-time air quality data through user-friendly interfaces, web-based platforms empower users to make informed decisions about their health and daily activities. Additionally, the integration of advanced features such as data visualization, alerts, and personalized recommendations enhances the overall user experience, fostering greater engagement and participation in air quality management efforts.

IV. IMPLEMENTATION OF AIR QUALITY MONITORING SYSTEM

The implementation of an Air Quality Monitoring System involves a systematic approach starting with assembling the necessary components like sensors (e.g., MQ135, DHT11), a microcontroller (such as NodeMCU), a breadboard, and a display module (LED or LCD). Calibration of the sensors is crucial to ensure accurate readings, followed by programming the microcontroller using an IDE like Arduino IDE to read data from sensors, process it, and calculate air quality metrics. Developing the display interface to visualize air quality data in real-time, establishing connectivity for data transmission, and integrating with IoT platforms for data storage and analysis are essential steps. Thorough testing, validation, deployment, and maintenance procedures ensure the system's reliability, accuracy, and functionality, making it an effective tool for monitoring and managing air quality parameters.

A. System Architecture and Working

- **Step 1:** Gather Essential Components: Ensure you have all the necessary components, including the MQ135 gas sensor, DHT11 sensor, NodeMCU ESP8266 development board, breadboard, and LED display.
- **Step 2:** Wiring Connections: Connect the MQ135 gas sensor's VCC and GND to the breadboard's power and ground rails. Link the MQ135's analog output (AO) to an analog pin on the NodeMCU. Connect the DHT11 sensor's VCC and GND to the respective power and ground rails on the breadboard. Connect the DHT11's data pin to a digital pin on the NodeMCU for data transmission. Follow specific wiring instructions for the LED display to visualize air quality, temperature, and humidity data accurately.
- **Step 3:** Power Supply: Connect the NodeMCU's 3.3V output to the breadboard's power rail. Ensure proper grounding and power supply for all components.
- **Step 4:** Code Development: Develop code for the NodeMCU in an integrated development environment (IDE) to read sensor

data. Process data from the MQ135 sensor to determine air quality parameters and from the DHT11 sensor for temperature and humidity values.

- **Step 5: LED Display Configuration:** Configure the LED display to represent air quality and environmental data dynamically. Establish communication between the NodeMCU and LED display for seamless data transmission.
- **Step 6: Testing and Validation:** Test the entire setup rigorously to validate sensor accuracy and LED display functionality. Ensure consistent and precise data readings and accurate representation on the LED display.
- **Step 7: Application Development:** The application development process for air quality monitoring involves planning and analysis, followed by conceptualization, design, development setup, data integration, security implementation, rigorous testing, deployment, and ongoing maintenance. This systematic approach ensures the creation of a user-friendly and efficient application that provides real-time air quality data, fosters environmental awareness, and contributes to positive health outcomes.

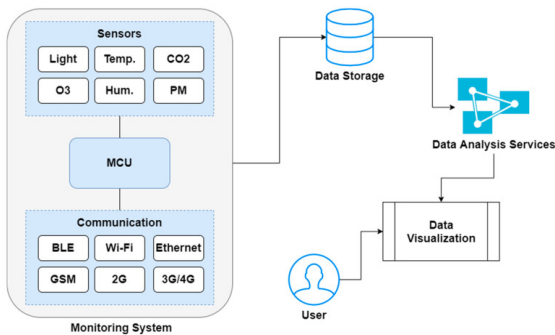


Fig. 1. System Architecture

B. TECHNOLOGIES USED

- **Sensor Integration:** Incorporate sensors like MQ135 and DHT11 to measure air quality parameters such as gas concentrations, temperature, and humidity.
- **Microcontroller Platform:** Utilize platforms like NodeMCU ESP8266 for processing sen-

sor data and controlling system functionalities.

- **Internet Connectivity:** Enable Wi-Fi connectivity for data access and remote monitoring via web servers or applications.
- **Data Processing and Visualization:** Develop algorithms in languages like C and C++ for data processing and visualize air quality data through a user-friendly web interface using HTML, CSS, and JavaScript.
- **Database Management:** Implement database systems such as MySQL or MongoDB for secure storage and management of sensor data.
- **Security Measures:** Employ encryption protocols like HTTPS and authentication mechanisms to ensure secure data transmission and protect user privacy.

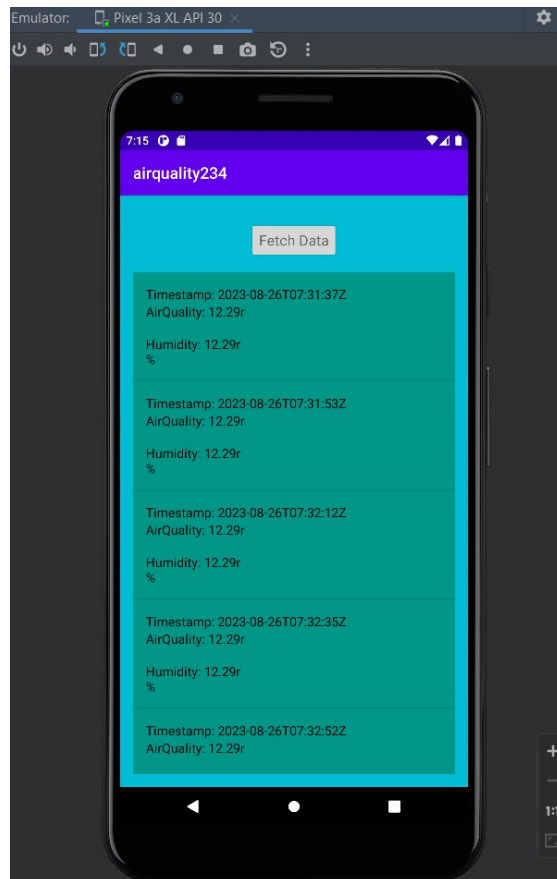


Fig. 2. Android Application

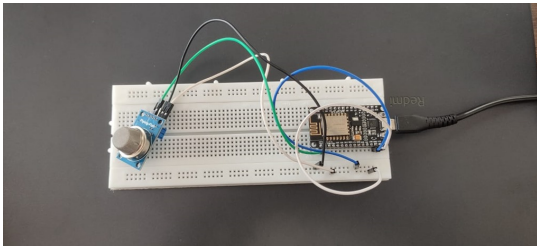


Fig. 3. HARDWARE SETUP

C. RESULT

The result of the air quality monitoring project demonstrates a robust application-based system capable of accurately measuring and analyzing key air quality parameters. Through the integration of sensors like MQ135 and DHT11 with the NodeMCU ESP8266 microcontroller, the system efficiently captures data on gas concentrations, temperature, and humidity. This data is processed using algorithms written in C and C++, providing real-time insights into air quality conditions. The application's user interface, developed using appropriate frameworks and technologies, offers users a user-friendly platform to view and interpret air quality data conveniently on their mobile devices. The system's database management ensures secure storage and retrieval of sensor data, while encryption protocols and authentication mechanisms protect user privacy during data transmission. Overall, the successful implementation of the application-based air quality monitoring system empowers users to make informed decisions regarding their health and well-being.

V. CONCLUSION AND FUTURE WORK

Conclusion In conclusion the development of air quality prediction systems utilizing IoT technologies has proven to be a valuable solution for monitoring indoor air quality. These systems seamlessly integrate various sensors and sophisticated data analytics techniques to detect and analyze air quality parameters in real-time, including temperature, humidity, and pollutant levels. Scholarly investigations underscore the significance of air quality monitoring, highlighting its manifold

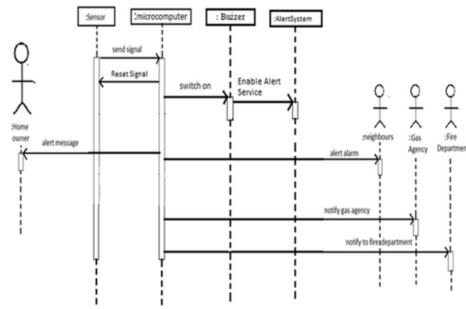


Fig. 4. Sequence of the AIR QUALITY MONITORING SYSTEM

advantages in enhancing indoor air quality and improving health outcomes. The promise of further research and development in this field is evident, given the mounting concerns about indoor air quality and its implications for human health. In conclusion, IoT-based air quality prediction systems represent a compelling avenue for future exploration, offering a timely solution to address concerns about indoor air quality and its impact on human well-being.

A. The Significance of Air Quality

Understanding the significance of air quality is paramount in addressing the growing concerns related to indoor environments. The air we breathe indoors has a direct impact on our health and overall well-being. Poor indoor air quality can lead to various health issues, including respiratory problems, allergies, and even more severe conditions. Recognizing this, the development of IoT-based air quality prediction systems becomes a crucial step in proactively managing and improving indoor air quality. With these systems, we can continuously monitor and assess air quality, enabling timely responses to any issues that may arise. Thus, IoT technologies play a pivotal role in ensuring that the air we breathe in enclosed spaces is safe and conducive to a healthy lifestyle.

IoT-based air quality monitoring systems represent a groundbreaking approach to ensuring indoor environments are conducive to well-being. These systems are designed to seamlessly integrate various sensors and cutting-edge data analytics techniques. The integration of sensors capable of measuring parameters such as temperature, hu-

midity, and pollutant levels in real-time provides a comprehensive and continuous view of indoor air quality. Furthermore, these systems enable the swift detection of any deviations from optimal air quality standards, facilitating immediate corrective actions. The result is a dynamic and responsive approach to maintaining clean, healthy air indoors, making it possible to prevent issues before they become serious health concerns.

B. Advantages and Implications

The advantages of implementing IoT-based air quality monitoring systems are multifaceted. First and foremost, these systems significantly enhance indoor air quality, mitigating the risks associated with poor air quality and thereby fostering better health outcomes for individuals. Improved air quality can reduce the occurrence of respiratory illnesses, allergies, and other health problems. Beyond individual health, better air quality in indoor spaces can enhance overall productivity, comfort, and well-being. Additionally, the implications of these systems extend to broader environmental benefits by reducing energy consumption and waste. In sum, the utilization of IoT technologies in air quality monitoring creates a win-win scenario for individuals and the environment.

C. 4.4 Promising Future Developments

Looking ahead, the future of IoT-based air quality prediction systems holds great promise. As concerns about indoor air quality continue to grow, so too does the need for more efficient and precise monitoring solutions. Future developments in this field may include even more advanced sensor technology, increased automation, and integration with smart building systems. Additionally, data analytics and artificial intelligence will likely play an increasingly important role in the interpretation of air quality data. These advancements will empower individuals and organizations to make data-driven decisions to improve indoor air quality, resulting in healthier, more comfortable, and environmentally responsible indoor environments. The ongoing research and development in this domain will continue to shape the way we manage the air we breathe indoors

D. Enhancing Sensor Capabilities

In the upcoming phase of our system's development, we have an exciting opportunity to substantially elevate its capabilities by integrating an extended range of advanced sensors. This strategic move encompasses the inclusion of sensors that can effectively detect a wider spectrum of air pollutants, including the monitoring of particulate matter (PM_{2.5} and PM₁₀), the assessment of volatile organic compounds (VOCs), and the measurement of specific gases such as nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) and sulfur dioxide (SO₂). This expansion signifies a crucial stride toward attaining a more comprehensive and nuanced understanding of indoor air quality. This expansion into a more comprehensive sensor suite promises to not only furnish users with more comprehensive and detailed air quality data but also to provide valuable insights into the potential health consequences associated with diverse pollutants. As we progress in our endeavors, our overarching aim is to equip individuals and communities with the knowledge needed to make informed decisions regarding their indoor environments, ultimately fostering healthier and safer living spaces for all

E. Integration and Collaboration

To create a comprehensive air quality monitoring ecosystem, focus on integration and collaboration. Incorporate geospatial data and mapping capabilities into your application, enabling users to access location-specific air quality information. This feature allows users to make decisions based on their current or planned locations, adding a practical dimension to your system. Additionally, explore compatibility with smart home systems like Amazon Alexa or Google Home, facilitating control of air quality improvement devices in response to real-time air quality data. Extend your system's reach to outdoor air quality monitoring by deploying sensors in public spaces, contributing to a holistic understanding of air quality in the surrounding area. Optimize energy efficiency to ensure prolonged system operation without excessive power consumption. Furthermore, staying informed about and compliant with air quality regulations ensures that your system remains a valuable tool for regulatory compliance reporting. Lastly, consider collaborative research initiatives,

partnering with environmental agencies, research institutions, or other organizations to leverage your data for broader environmental research and policy development. Collaboration extends the impact of your system beyond individual users, benefiting communities and the environment as a whole

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