

Senior Design Project

An Open-Source Framework for Managing Low-Cost Sensors

Ali Irmak Ozdagli, PhD²

Assistant Professor of Civil Engineering

US Infrastructure

- American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) publishes reports periodically.
- The infrastructure is poor and at risk
- Approaching the end of their service life
 - Significant deterioration
 - Condition and capacity issues
- Additional pressure due to emerging natural and man-made hazards
- Required funding by 2029 for US: \$5,937 billion
- If funding not met by 2039: \$10 trillion in losses to GDP



I-35W Mississippi River Bridge



I-40 Mississippi River Bridge



Fern Hollow Bridge



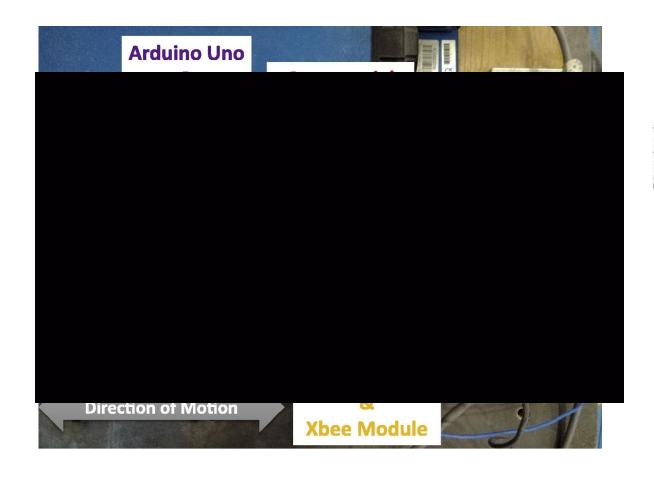
Decision Making through Structural Health Monitoring

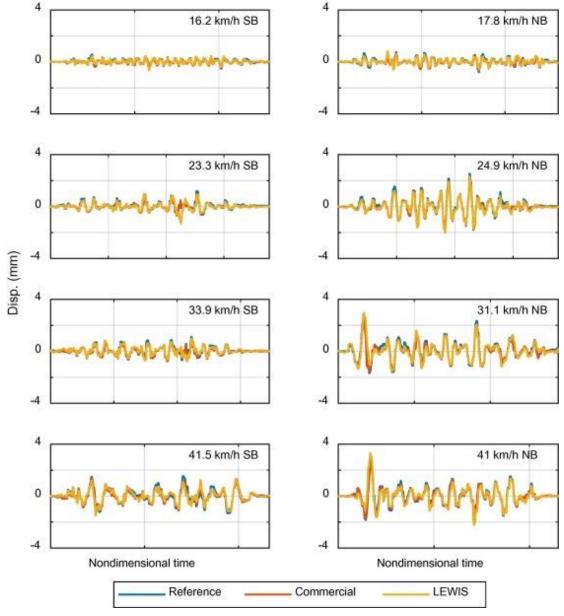
- Prioritization of operations of maintenance, repair, and replacement (MRR)
- Qualitative (inspection) and quantitative (sensing) assessment
- SHM: Process of damage detection and characterization of structures





Prior Work



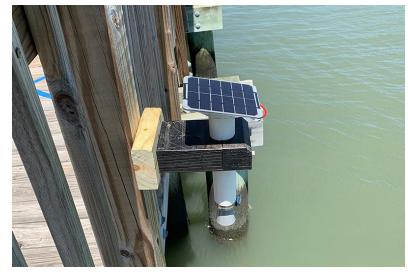


Low-Cost Sensing in other industries





Wind Turbine Monitoring



Flood Warning Monitoring

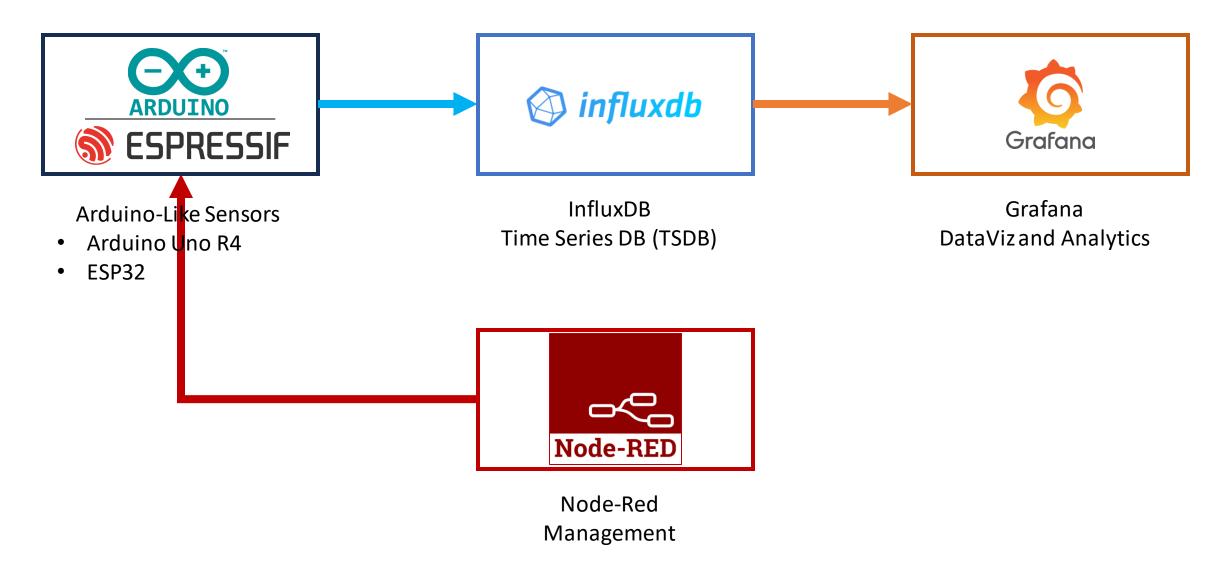


Air Quality Monitoring

Project Overview and Goals – A Modest Proposal

- A need for managing more than one sensor
 - Hardware: Low-cost Sensor
 - Backend: Data storage
 - Frontend: Data visualization
 - Sensor Management
 - Open-Source: FGCU's Visibility

 Develop an open-source framework for managing low-cost sensors using Arduino, InfluxDB, Grafana, Node-RED



- Arduino: Open-source hardware and software
- ESP32: Low-cost, low-power SoC microcontroller







- Integrated 802.11b/g/n
- Classic BT and BLE
- 8 MB Flash
- Deep sleep: 70 uA

- InfluxDB (influxdb)
 - Open-source time series database
 - NoSQL-like
 - Built specifically for handling time-stamped measurements
 - Timestamps can be second, millisecond, microsecond, or nanosecond precision
- Grafana



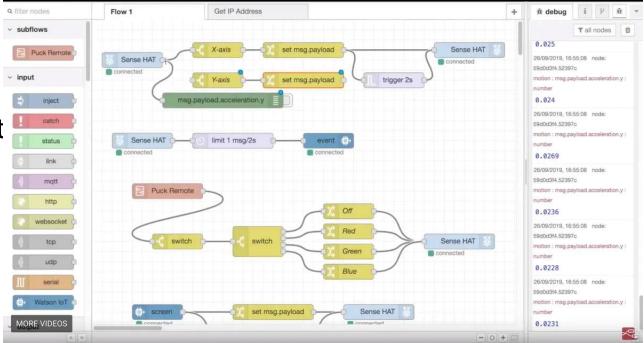
- Open-source analytics and interactive visualization
- Web browser-based



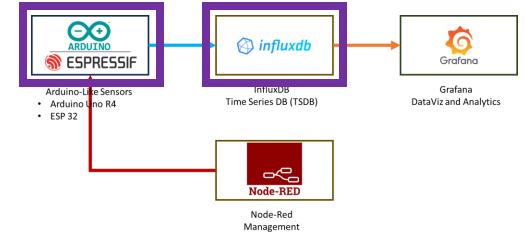
• Node-RED



- Open-source
- Flow-based, low-code visual development tool
- Web browser-based
- Developed for wiring IOT devices
- Utilizes MQTT (Message Queue Telemetry Transport



Project Objectives



1) Program ESP32 (Hardware)

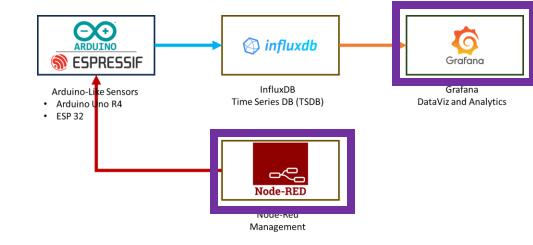
- a. Generate Slow-rate data (humidity, temperature)
- b. Generate Fast-rate data (wind speed, acceleration)
- c. Connect to Internet over WiFi using ESP32
- d. Persistent location
- e. Timestamp precisely using GPS

2) Set up InfluxDB (Backend)

- a. AWS or local server
- b. Send slow-rate sensor data to DB
- c. Store sensor data persistently
- d. Send fast-rate sensor data to DB

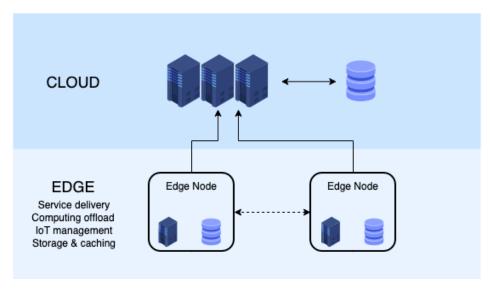
Project Objectives

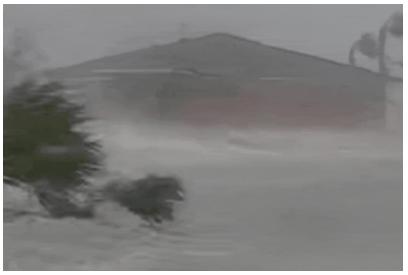
- 3) Set up Grafana (Frontend)
 - a. AWS or local server
 - b. Connect Grafana to InfluxDB
 - c. Slow-rate data viz
 - d. Fast-rate data viz
 - e. Research on real-time data visualization
- 4) Set up Node-Red (Management)
 - a. AWS or local server
 - b. Understand MQTT model
 - c. Remote start/stop, sensor quality monitoring



Additional Components

- Edge Computing
 - Running ML model on the microcontroller by Andy Holm
 - Analyze data on edge real-time
 - Advantage of sending only essential data to reduce bandwidth usage
 - Compress and optimize data transmission
- Potential Implementation
 - Hurricane/Storm Probe (idea by Andy Holm)
 - Collect real-time data (wind, acceleration, humidity)
 - Early and accurate storm data collection for improved prediction and preparedness
- Power Management





Challenges

- 1) Hardware Integration Complexity
- 2) Data Transmission and Connectivity
- 3) Data Storage and Management Optimization
- 4) Data Visualization Responsiveness
- 5) Power Management

Project Timeline

| Phase 1 Preparation and Setup 1 Research and choose appropriate sensors for data generation. Phase 2 Sensor Development and Preliminary Data Generation Preliminary Data Generation Phase 3 Phase 3 Phase 3 Phase 3 Phase 3 Phase 3 Phase 4 Program ESP32 devices for basic functionality. Research and choose appropriate sensors for data generation. Continue programming ESP32 devices for slow-rate data (humidity, temperature) Research and choose appropriate sensors for data generation. Develop code for precise timestamping using GPS. Program ESP32 devices for fast-rate data (wind speed, acceleration) generation. Ensure data is transmitted to the internet over WiFi. Set up InfluxDB on the chosen platform (AWS or local server). Implement the database schema for storing slow-rate and fast-rate sensor data. Configure ESP32 devices to send data to InfluxDB. Set up Grafana on the chosen platform (AWS or local server). Connect Grafana to InfluxDB. Set up Grafana to InfluxDB. Create initial slow-rate and fast-rate data visualizations. | | | | | 2023 | | | | 2024 | | | |
|---|---|-----------|---|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|
| Phase 1 Preparation and Setup Begin programming ESP32 devices for basic functionality. Research and choose appropriate sensors for data generation. Continue programming ESP32 devices for slow-rate data (humidity, temperature) generation. Develop code for precise timestamping using GPS. Program ESP32 devices for fast-rate data (wind speed, acceleration) generation. Ensure data is transmitted to the internet over WiFi. Set up InfluxDB on the chosen platform (AWS or local server). Implement the database schema for storing slow-rate and fast-rate sensor data. Configure ESP32 devices to send data to InfluxDB. Set up Grafana on the chosen platform (AWS or local server). Connect Grafana to InfluxDB. | Phase | Milestone | Task | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May |
| Phase 1 Preparation and Setup 2 Begin programming ESP32 devices for basic functionality. Research and choose appropriate sensors for data generation. Continue programming ESP32 devices for slow-rate data (humidity, temperature) 3 generation. Develop code for precise timestamping using GPS. Program ESP32 devices for fast-rate data (wind speed, acceleration) generation. Ensure data is transmitted to the internet over WiFi. Set up InfluxDB on the chosen platform (AWS or local server). Implement the database schema for storing slow-rate and fast-rate sensor data. Configure ESP32 devices to send data to InfluxDB. Set up Grafana on the chosen platform (AWS or local server). Connect Grafana to InfluxDB. | | 1 | Acquire necessary hardware, including ESP32 devices. | | | | | | | | | |
| Phase 2 Sensor Development and Preliminary Data Generation Phase 3 Phase 3 Phase 3 Research and choose appropriate sensors for data generation. Continue programming ESP32 devices for slow-rate data (humidity, temperature) generation. Develop code for precise timestamping using GPS. Program ESP32 devices for fast-rate data (wind speed, acceleration) generation. Ensure data is transmitted to the internet over WiFi. Set up InfluxDB on the chosen platform (AWS or local server). Implement the database schema for storing slow-rate and fast-rate sensor data. Configure ESP32 devices to send data to InfluxDB. Set up Grafana on the chosen platform (AWS or local server). Connect Grafana to InfluxDB. | | | Establish a development environment for ESP32 programming. | | | | | | | | | |
| Research and choose appropriate sensors for data generation. Continue programming ESP32 devices for slow-rate data (humidity, temperature) generation. Develop code for precise timestamping using GPS. Program ESP32 devices for fast-rate data (wind speed, acceleration) generation. Ensure data is transmitted to the internet over WiFi. Set up InfluxDB on the chosen platform (AWS or local server). Implement the database schema for storing slow-rate and fast-rate sensor data. Configure ESP32 devices to send data to InfluxDB. Set up Grafana on the chosen platform (AWS or local server). Connect Grafana to InfluxDB. | | 2 | Begin programming ESP32 devices for basic functionality. | | | | | | | | | |
| Phase 2 Sensor Development and Preliminary Data Generation Phase 3 generation. Develop code for precise timestamping using GPS. Program ESP32 devices for fast-rate data (wind speed, acceleration) generation. Ensure data is transmitted to the internet over WiFi. Set up InfluxDB on the chosen platform (AWS or local server). Implement the database schema for storing slow-rate and fast-rate sensor data. Configure ESP32 devices to send data to InfluxDB. Set up Grafana on the chosen platform (AWS or local server). Connect Grafana to InfluxDB. | | | Research and choose appropriate sensors for data generation. | | | | | | | | | |
| Phase 2 Sensor Development and Preliminary Data Generation Preliminary Data Generation Preliminary Data Generation Preliminary Data Generation Develop code for precise timestamping using GPS. Program ESP32 devices for fast-rate data (wind speed, acceleration) generation. Ensure data is transmitted to the internet over WiFi. Set up InfluxDB on the chosen platform (AWS or local server). Implement the database schema for storing slow-rate and fast-rate sensor data. Configure ESP32 devices to send data to InfluxDB. Set up Grafana on the chosen platform (AWS or local server). Connect Grafana to InfluxDB. | Sensor Development and | 3 | Continue programming ESP32 devices for slow-rate data (humidity, temperature) | | | | | | | | | |
| Sensor Development and Program ESP32 devices for fast-rate data (wind speed, acceleration) generation. Preliminary Data Generation 4 Program ESP32 devices for fast-rate data (wind speed, acceleration) generation. Ensure data is transmitted to the internet over WiFi. Set up InfluxDB on the chosen platform (AWS or local server). Implement the database schema for storing slow-rate and fast-rate sensor data. Configure ESP32 devices to send data to InfluxDB. Set up Grafana on the chosen platform (AWS or local server). Connect Grafana to InfluxDB. | | | generation. | | | | | | | | | |
| Sensor Development and Preliminary Data Generation 4 Program ESP32 devices for fast-rate data (wind speed, acceleration) generation. Ensure data is transmitted to the internet over WiFi. Set up InfluxDB on the chosen platform (AWS or local server). Implement the database schema for storing slow-rate and fast-rate sensor data. Configure ESP32 devices to send data to InfluxDB. Set up Grafana on the chosen platform (AWS or local server). Set up Grafana to InfluxDB. | | | Develop code for precise timestamping using GPS. | | | | | | | | | |
| Preliminary Data Generation Ensure data is transmitted to the internet over WiFi. | | 4 | Program ESP32 devices for fast-rate data (wind speed, acceleration) generation. | | | | | | | | | |
| Set up InfluxDB on the chosen platform (AWS or local server). Implement the database schema for storing slow-rate and fast-rate sensor data. Configure ESP32 devices to send data to InfluxDB. Set up Grafana on the chosen platform (AWS or local server). Phase 3 6 Connect Grafana to InfluxDB. | | | Ensure data is transmitted to the internet over WiFi. | | | | | | | | | |
| Configure ESP32 devices to send data to InfluxDB. Set up Grafana on the chosen platform (AWS or local server). Phase 3 6 Connect Grafana to InfluxDB. | | 5 | Set up InfluxDB on the chosen platform (AWS or local server). | | | | | | | | | |
| Set up Grafana on the chosen platform (AWS or local server). Phase 3 6 Connect Grafana to InfluxDB. | | | Implement the database schema for storing slow-rate and fast-rate sensor data. | | | | | | | | | |
| Phase 3 6 Connect Grafana to InfluxDB. | | | Configure ESP32 devices to send data to InfluxDB. | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | Set up Grafana on the chosen platform (AWS or local server). | | | | | | | | | |
| Data Visualization Create initial slow-rate and fast-rate data visualizations | Phase 3 | 6 | Connect Grafana to InfluxDB. | | | | | | | | | |
| Create initial slow rate and rast rate data visualizations. | Phase 4 System Optimization and Feature Development | | Create initial slow-rate and fast-rate data visualizations. | | | | | | | | | |
| Research and Implementation Research and experiment with real-time data visualization techniques and tools. | | 7 | Research and experiment with real-time data visualization techniques and tools. | | | | | | | | | |
| Begin implementing data visualization features in Grafana. | | | Begin implementing data visualization features in Grafana. | | | | | | | | | |
| Set up Node-RED on the chosen platform (AWS or local server). | | 8 | Set up Node-RED on the chosen platform (AWS or local server). | | | | | | | | | |
| Gain a deep understanding of the MQTT model for sensor communication. | | | Gain a deep understanding of the MQTT model for sensor communication. | | | | | | | | | |
| Phase 4 Implement remote start/stop functionality for ESP32 devices via Node-RED. | | 9 | Implement remote start/stop functionality for ESP32 devices via Node-RED. | | | | | | | | | |
| System Optimization and Feature Development Develop sensor quality monitoring features within Node-RED. | | | Develop sensor quality monitoring features within Node-RED. | | | | | | | | | |
| Refine and optimize all components of the system. | | 10 | Refine and optimize all components of the system. | | | | | | | | | |
| Conduct thorough testing and debugging. | | | Conduct thorough testing and debugging. | | | | | | | | | |
| Phase 5 Deliver the final presentation. | Phase 5 | | Deliver the final presentation. | | | | | | | | | |
| Final Presentation and 11 Demonstrate the system's functionality and capabilities. | Final Presentation and | 11 | Demonstrate the system's functionality and capabilities. | | | | | | | | | |
| Project Closure Discuss the project's outcomes, challenges, and lessons learned. | Project Closure | | Discuss the project's outcomes, challenges, and lessons learned. | | | | | | | | | |