

**MQ-07** is a high-sensitivity sensor commonly used in electronics projects to detect **Carbon Monoxide (CO)**. The **MQ-07** is a metal oxide semiconductor (MOS) type sensor. It is specifically calibrated to detect **CO** concentrations in the air, typically ranging from 10 to 10,000 ppm.

**MQ-07** requires a "high/low" heating cycle to function accurately. It usually switches between a high voltage (5V) to clean the sensor and a lower voltage.

When **carbon monoxide** is present, the conductivity of the sensor increases. The higher the gas concentration, the lower the electrical resistance.

**MQ-07** has 4 pins:

- **VCC**: Connects to 5V.
- **GND**: Connects to Ground.
- **Digital Out (DO)**: Provides a HIGH/LOW signal based on a threshold (set by the onboard potentiometer).
- **Analog Out (AO)**: Provides a variable voltage (0-5V) representing the gas concentration. **I used this for calibration.**

**NB:**

## **Problem That I faced with my Arduino and its Solution:**

If you face the problem where your device can't recognize the specific driver for the **FT232R USB UART** chip that is required for your specific "**Arduino Uno**" Then,

**Please do this:**

Manually install the **FTDI VCP (Virtual COM port)** drivers from this website :

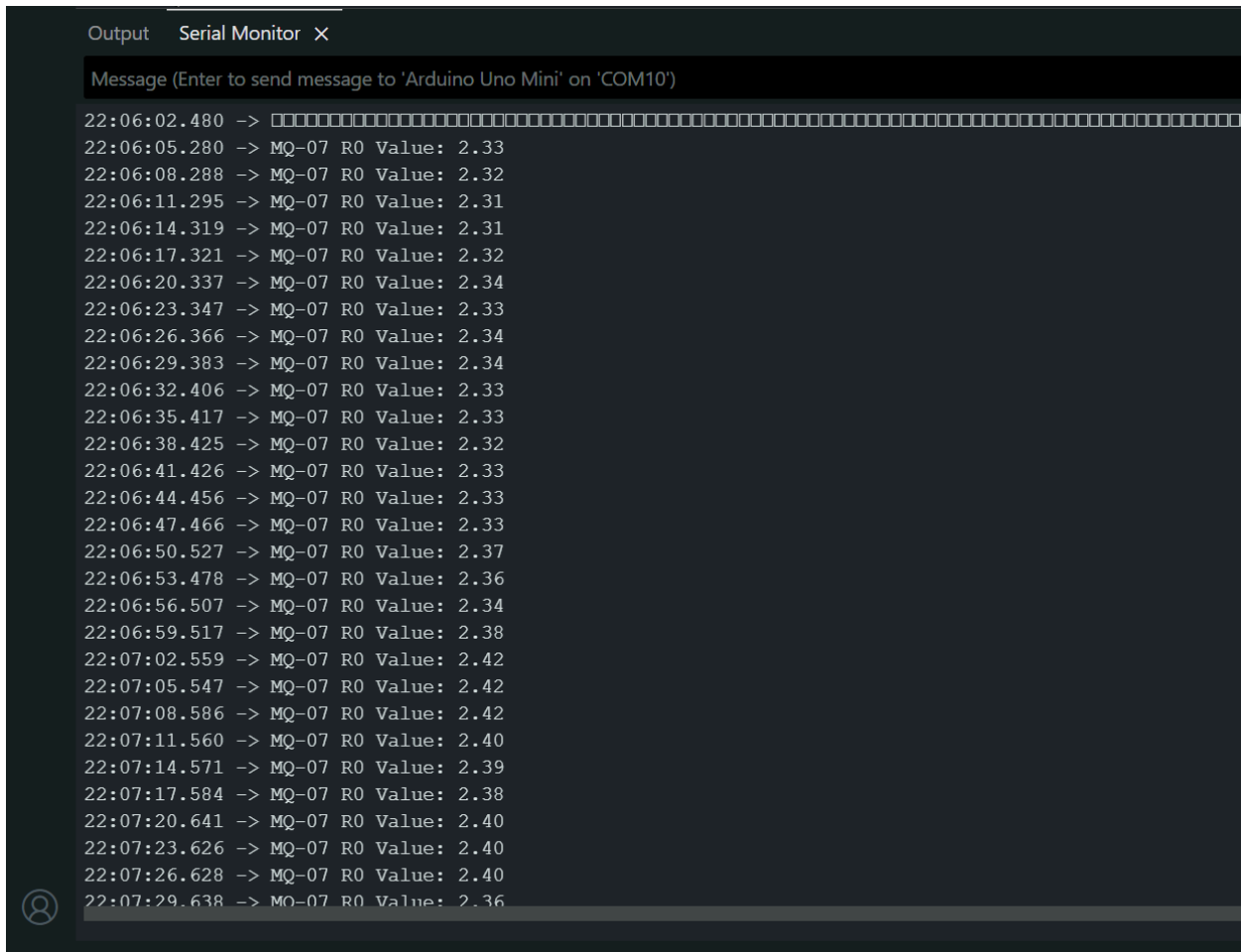
<https://ftdichip.com/drivers/vcp-drivers/>

After installing it, now you will be able to see the **Port** connection in your Arduino IDE which was not seen before.

## Working Steps:

The MQ-07 is designed to work on a **cycle** (High voltage for 60s, then Low voltage for 90s) to get the most accurate results.

- 1) At first I let the gas sensor's VCC port connected to the 5V pin of Arduino Uno for about 5-10 minutes so that the gas sensor gets heated up and show accurate results.
- 2) After that, I connected the A0 (Analogue Pin) of MQ-07 to Arduino's A0 pin and GND pin to Arduino's GND pin
- 3) After that I uploaded the code for the Calibration Phase. Here's the code link of the phase: [CODE](#)
- 4) Then I opened the Serial Monitor to see its readings. Here's what I saw:



The screenshot shows the Serial Monitor window in the Arduino IDE. The title bar indicates 'Output Serial Monitor X'. The message box says 'Message (Enter to send message to 'Arduino Uno Mini' on 'COM10')'. The output area displays a series of timestamped readings for the MQ-07 sensor. The first line shows a long string of empty boxes, likely representing a calibration phase. Subsequent lines show the sensor's output in the format 'MQ-07 R0 Value: [value]'. The values fluctuate slightly, starting around 2.33 and ending around 2.36.

```
22:06:02.480 -> [Empty boxes representing calibration phase]
22:06:05.280 -> MQ-07 R0 Value: 2.33
22:06:08.288 -> MQ-07 R0 Value: 2.32
22:06:11.295 -> MQ-07 R0 Value: 2.31
22:06:14.319 -> MQ-07 R0 Value: 2.31
22:06:17.321 -> MQ-07 R0 Value: 2.32
22:06:20.337 -> MQ-07 R0 Value: 2.34
22:06:23.347 -> MQ-07 R0 Value: 2.33
22:06:26.366 -> MQ-07 R0 Value: 2.34
22:06:29.383 -> MQ-07 R0 Value: 2.34
22:06:32.406 -> MQ-07 R0 Value: 2.33
22:06:35.417 -> MQ-07 R0 Value: 2.33
22:06:38.425 -> MQ-07 R0 Value: 2.32
22:06:41.426 -> MQ-07 R0 Value: 2.33
22:06:44.456 -> MQ-07 R0 Value: 2.33
22:06:47.466 -> MQ-07 R0 Value: 2.33
22:06:50.527 -> MQ-07 R0 Value: 2.37
22:06:53.478 -> MQ-07 R0 Value: 2.36
22:06:56.507 -> MQ-07 R0 Value: 2.34
22:06:59.517 -> MQ-07 R0 Value: 2.38
22:07:02.559 -> MQ-07 R0 Value: 2.42
22:07:05.547 -> MQ-07 R0 Value: 2.42
22:07:08.586 -> MQ-07 R0 Value: 2.42
22:07:11.560 -> MQ-07 R0 Value: 2.40
22:07:14.571 -> MQ-07 R0 Value: 2.39
22:07:17.584 -> MQ-07 R0 Value: 2.38
22:07:20.641 -> MQ-07 R0 Value: 2.40
22:07:23.626 -> MQ-07 R0 Value: 2.40
22:07:26.628 -> MQ-07 R0 Value: 2.40
22:07:29.638 -> MQ-07 R0 Value: 2.36
```

I set the band to 9600. You can see MQ-07's R0 value printing every few seconds. At first, the number will change quickly. Then I performed a 15-minute stabilization period until the number stays almost the same.

Then I implemented a power-law regression formula ( $PPM = 100 \times (R_s/R_0)^{-1.53}$ ) to convert analog voltage into PPM values.

As a result, I found the value: 2.65 for the R0 value.

- 5) Then I opened another sketch file where I uploaded the "**Detection**" code.
- 6) After uploading the code I reopened the serial monitor to see the reading.

### **Problem Faced:**

But unfortunately I found that my **Raw value (13-14)** is extremely low. For an Arduino, the raw analog range is 0 to 1023. A value of 14 means the sensor is sending almost 0 volts.

As the Raw value was so low, my **Ratio (27.20)** is very high, which is why I see that **PPM (0.64,0.65,0.67,.....)**.

### **Solution:**

Later, I still could see that "Clean Air" Raw value stays at 14,13,12.... So I tried to recalculate the Rs using my current data:

$$V_{out} = 14 \times (5.0 / 1023.0) = \text{approximately } 0.068V$$

$$R_s = (5.0 - 0.068) / 0.068 = \text{approximately } 72.5 \text{ ohm}$$

- 7) Then I replaced the value of R0 with Rs so that there will be accurate readings.
- 8) Then I uploaded the code and reopened the Serial Monitor. This is what I saw:

```
Output  Serial Monitor X
Message (Enter to send message to 'Arduino Uno Mini' on 'COM10')
22:32:42.353 -> 
22:32:44.190 -> Raw: 14 | Ratio: 0.99 | CO: 100.91 PPM
22:32:46.142 -> Raw: 14 | Ratio: 0.99 | CO: 100.91 PPM
22:32:48.148 -> Raw: 14 | Ratio: 0.99 | CO: 100.91 PPM
22:32:50.147 -> Raw: 14 | Ratio: 0.99 | CO: 100.91 PPM
22:32:52.154 -> Raw: 13 | Ratio: 1.07 | CO: 89.96 PPM
22:32:54.148 -> Raw: 14 | Ratio: 0.99 | CO: 100.91 PPM
22:32:56.148 -> Raw: 13 | Ratio: 1.07 | CO: 89.96 PPM
22:32:58.175 -> Raw: 13 | Ratio: 1.07 | CO: 89.96 PPM
22:33:00.151 -> Raw: 13 | Ratio: 1.07 | CO: 89.96 PPM
22:33:02.162 -> Raw: 13 | Ratio: 1.07 | CO: 89.96 PPM
22:33:04.176 -> Raw: 13 | Ratio: 1.07 | CO: 89.96 PPM
22:33:06.166 -> Raw: 13 | Ratio: 1.07 | CO: 89.96 PPM
22:33:08.189 -> Raw: 13 | Ratio: 1.07 | CO: 89.96 PPM
22:33:10.158 -> Raw: 13 | Ratio: 1.07 | CO: 89.96 PPM
```

As a result, the **ratio** is hovering around **1.0**, and the **PPM** is sitting at roughly **100**.

**Now the Lighting up Part to see if it works well enough:**

```
01:47:29.773 -> Raw: 13 | Ratio: 1.07 | CO: 89.96 PPM
01:47:31.797 -> Raw: 13 | Ratio: 1.07 | CO: 89.96 PPM
01:47:33.794 -> Raw: 14 | Ratio: 0.99 | CO: 100.91 PPM
01:47:35.802 -> Raw: 139 | Ratio: 0.09 | CO: 4140.55 PPM
01:47:35.834 -> !!! WARNING: HIGH CO LEVELS !!!
01:47:37.818 -> Raw: 95 | Ratio: 0.13 | CO: 2147.27 PPM
01:47:37.842 -> !!! WARNING: HIGH CO LEVELS !!!
01:47:39.825 -> Raw: 55 | Ratio: 0.24 | CO: 872.33 PPM
01:47:39.857 -> !!! WARNING: HIGH CO LEVELS !!!
01:47:41.818 -> Raw: 42 | Ratio: 0.32 | CO: 565.76 PPM
01:47:41.852 -> !!! WARNING: HIGH CO LEVELS !!!
01:47:43.846 -> Raw: 36 | Ratio: 0.38 | CO: 442.75 PPM
01:47:43.878 -> !!! WARNING: HIGH CO LEVELS !!!
01:47:45.839 -> Raw: 29 | Ratio: 0.47 | CO: 314.62 PPM
01:47:45.880 -> !!! WARNING: HIGH CO LEVELS !!!
01:47:47.865 -> Raw: 27 | Ratio: 0.51 | CO: 281.17 PPM
01:47:47.889 -> !!! WARNING: HIGH CO LEVELS !!!
01:47:49.855 -> Raw: 33 | Ratio: 0.41 | CO: 385.76 PPM
01:47:49.888 -> !!! WARNING: HIGH CO LEVELS !!!
01:47:51.853 -> Raw: 407 | Ratio: 0.02 | CO: 37233.85 PPM
01:47:51.917 -> !!! WARNING: HIGH CO LEVELS !!!
01:47:53.898 -> Raw: 413 | Ratio: 0.02 | CO: 38651.47 PPM
01:47:53.921 -> !!! WARNING: HIGH CO LEVELS !!!
01:47:55.881 -> Raw: 211 | Ratio: 0.05 | CO: 8929.94 PPM
01:47:55.944 -> !!! WARNING: HIGH CO LEVELS !!!
01:47:57.887 -> Raw: 108 | Ratio: 0.12 | CO: 2669.82 PPM
01:47:57.951 -> !!! WARNING: HIGH CO LEVELS !!!
01:47:59.907 -> Raw: 71 | Ratio: 0.18 | CO: 1322.60 PPM
01:47:59.940 -> !!! WARNING: HIGH CO LEVELS !!!
01:48:01.908 -> Raw: 51 | Ratio: 0.26 | CO: 772.27 PPM
01:48:01.972 -> !!! WARNING: HIGH CO LEVELS !!!
01:48:03.948 -> Raw: 42 | Ratio: 0.32 | CO: 565.76 PPM
01:48:03.980 -> !!! WARNING: HIGH CO LEVELS !!!
01:48:05.930 -> Raw: 37 | Ratio: 0.37 | CO: 462.42 PPM
01:48:05.993 -> !!! WARNING: HIGH CO LEVELS !!!
01:48:07.956 -> Raw: 35 | Ratio: 0.39 | CO: 423.41 PPM
01:48:07.988 -> !!! WARNING: HIGH CO LEVELS !!!
01:48:09.965 -> Raw: 32 | Ratio: 0.43 | CO: 367.45 PPM
01:48:09.996 -> !!! WARNING: HIGH CO LEVELS !!!
01:48:11.972 -> Raw: 30 | Ratio: 0.46 | CO: 331.88 PPM
```

## Analysis of My Test Results:

1. **Detection:** At 01:47:35.802, my sensor detected the smoke immediately. The **Raw** value jumped from **14** to **139**, proving the sensor is physically active and highly sensitive to Carbon Monoxide.
2. **Accuracy:** The PPM spiked to **4140.55**, which is exactly what is usually expected from a concentrated source of smoke like a blown-out match.
3. **Safety Alert:** Triggered the "**!!! WARNING: HIGH CO LEVELS !!!**" message the moment the value crossed your 250 PPM threshold.
4. **Recovery:** You can see the values beginning to drop (from 4140 down to 281), showing that the sensor is "cleaning" itself and returning to its baseline as the smoke clears.