VISVESVARAYA TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY

JNANA SANGAMA, BELAGAVI-590018

A Mini-Project Report on

“SMART RAINWATER HARVESTING SYSTEM WITH INTEGRATED RAIN DETECTION”

Submitted In partial fulfilment for the award of degree

BACHELOR OF ENGINEERING

In

ELECTRONICS AND COMMUNICATION ENGINEERING

Submitted by

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2024-2025

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CERTIFICATE

Certified that the Mini-Project work entitled "Smart Rainwater Harvesting System with Integrated Rain Detection", is a bonafide work carried out Surya.C (3BR22EC169), Swaraj.NP (3BR22EC170), V Krishna Vamshi (3BR22EC182), Vikas Angadi (3BR22EC187) the bonafide students of Ballari Institute ofTechnology and Management in partial fulfilment for the award of degree of **Bachelor of Engineering** in **ELECTRONICS AND COMMUNICATION ENGINEERING** of the **Visvesvaraya Technological University, Belagavi** during the academic year 2024-2025. It is certified that all corrections/suggestions indicated for internal assessment have been incorporated in the report deposited in the departmental library. The report has been approved as it satisfies the academic requirements in respect of Mini-Project work prescribed for the said Degree.

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Acknowledgements

In the accomplishment of completion of the mini project on **"**Smar Rainwater Harvesting System with Integrated Rain Detection**"**, We would like to convey our special gratitude to Project Guide **Mr.Srikanth K M, Mrs.Dr Girija Vani , Dr. Sadyojatha K M** HOD of E&CE Dept., BITM, Bellary.

Your valuable guidance and suggestions helped us in various phases of the completion of our mini project. We will always be thankful to you in this regard.

We are also grateful to all the Mini Project Coordinators and E&CE Faculty members for their support in carrying out the mini project.

We are also indebted to all the lab instructors, store keepers and the supporting staff.

We would also like to extend our deep appreciation to all our group members, without their support and coordination we would have not completed this mini project.

We also thank our parents for providing all the necessary support in carrying out this mini project.

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ABSTRACT

Water scarcity is a growing global challenge, and rainwater harvesting offers a sustainable solution by collecting and storing rainwater for diverse applications. This project introduces a Smart Rainwater Harvesting System, featuring a rain drop sensor and an automated underground water collector to optimize water capture and storage.

The system utilizes a rain drop sensor to detect rainfall onset, triggering an automated mechanism that opens the collection system. Rainwater is directed into an underground storage tank equipped with filtration mechanisms to ensure only clean water is stored. A feedback mechanism monitors the tank's water level, automatically halting the collection process when the tank is full, thus preventing overflow.

Incorporating advanced sensors and automated control, this system minimizes human effort while ensuring efficient rainwater management. Its modular design allows for easy integration with existing infrastructure, making it a practical solution for modern urban and rural environments.

This innovation automates the rainwater harvesting process, maximizing efficiency and addressing critical water management needs. The harvested water can be repurposed for irrigation, flushing toilets, or even treated for drinking, promoting sustainability and efficient resource utilization

CHAPTER 1:

1.1 INTRODUCTION

Revolutionizing Water Conservation: The Raindrop Sensor with Automatic Underground Water Collector

In an era where efficient water management and conservation are paramount, innovative technologies are reshaping how we address these critical needs. Water scarcity is no longer an isolated issue but a global crisis, driven by climate change, population growth, and increasing demand for freshwater resources. Traditional methods of water conservation, while effective to some extent, are often labor-incentive, limited in scalability, and unsustainable in the long run. As a result, there is a pressing need for smarter, technology-driven solutions that can cater to the demands of modern society.

Rainwater harvesting has emerged as one of the most effective and sustainable methods for addressing water scarcity. This practice involves collecting and storing rainwater for later use, thereby reducing dependence on conventional water sources. However, traditional rainwater harvesting systems often face challenges such as inefficient collection methods, poor water quality due to contamination, and the need for manual intervention. These limitations necessitate the development of automated systems that can optimize the process of rainwater harvesting.

The "Smart Rainwater Harvesting System with Integrated Rain Detection" introduces a groundbreaking approach to water conservation by leveraging advanced technologies. At the core of this system lies the integration of a raindrop sensor and an automated underground water collector. The raindrop sensor, a highly sensitive device, accurately detects the onset of rainfall and activates the water collection mechanism without the need for human intervention. This ensures that every drop of rain is efficiently captured and stored, minimizing wastage.

The underground water collector, equipped with a robust filtration system, channels rainwater into a storage tank while removing impurities. This ensures that the stored water is of high quality and suitable for various applications, such as irrigation, domestic use, and even drinking, after appropriate treatment. The automation of the entire process significantly reduces manual effort, making the system user-friendly and efficient.

One of the key advantages of this system is its adaptability to diverse environments. In urban areas, where space constraints often hinder traditional rainwater harvesting methods, the compact and modular design of this system makes it an ideal solution. It can be seamlessly integrated into existing infrastructures, such as rooftops and drainage systems, without requiring extensive modifications. In rural areas, where water scarcity is a persistent challenge, the system's cost-effectiveness and scalability make it a practical choice for community-level implementation.

Moreover, the Smart Rainwater Harvesting System aligns with the principles of sustainability and eco-friendliness. By utilizing renewable rainwater and reducing dependency on overexploited groundwater resources, the system contributes to environmental conservation. It also addresses the global push for smart cities and sustainable development by incorporating IoT-enabled features for real-time monitoring and control.

In addition to its environmental benefits, the system offers significant economic advantages. By reducing water bills and the need for external water sources, it provides long-term cost savings for households and industries alike. Furthermore, the system's potential to alleviate the burden on municipal water supply networks makes it a valuable asset for governments and policymakers aiming to enhance urban water management.

In conclusion, the "Smart Rainwater Harvesting System with Integrated Rain Detection" represents a transformative step forward in water conservation technology.

1.2 REVIEW OF LITERATURE

The literature review explores advancements and research in rainwater harvesting and smart water management systems. Here is a summary of key findings from notable studies:

1. Smith et al. (2018): Proposed an IoT-based rainwater harvesting system that integrates sensors and cloud storage for real-time monitoring, significantly enhancing urban water management efficiency [1].
2. Gupta and Rao (2019): Developed a rain detection system for smart cities that employs AI algorithms for predicting rainfall patterns, reducing manual monitoring efforts [2].
3. Kumar et al. (2020): Designed an automated rainwater filtration mechanism using microcontroller-based controls, ensuring high water quality and reducing maintenance [3].
4. Patel and Desai (2020): Discussed a solar-powered rainwater harvesting system that integrates weather forecasting data to optimize storage and distribution [4].
5. Yadav et al. (2021): Highlighted the advantages of incorporating capacitive rain sensors in agricultural settings, ensuring efficient irrigation practices [5].
6. Chowdhury and Ahmed (2021): Evaluated the effectiveness of underground water storage solutions integrated with automated pumps for industrial applications [6].
7. Sharma et al. (2022): Introduced a modular design for rainwater harvesting systems compatible with smart home setups, allowing seamless integration with IoT platforms [7].
8. Lee and Kim (2022): Investigated the reliability of raindrop sensors in extreme weather conditions, proposing improvements in sensor durability and accuracy [8].
9. Singh and Verma (2023): Designed a cost-effective smart water management system using open-source hardware, targeting rural applications [9].
10. Jain et al. (2023): Analysed the economic benefits of implementing automated rainwater harvesting systems in residential areas, demonstrating long-term savings and water conservation [10].

These studies collectively highlight the potential of integrating automation, IoT, and advanced sensors in rainwater harvesting systems, paving the way for innovative solutions to address water scarcity challenges.

CHAPTER-2:

2.2 METHODOLOGY AND IMPLEMENTATION

The Smart Rainwater Harvesting System with Integrated Rain Detection employs a systematic and detailed methodology to ensure efficient rainwater collection, filtration, and storage. The process begins with the HW-028 raindrop sensor, which is strategically placed in an open area to detect the presence of rainfall. The sensor generates an electrical signal upon detecting rain, which is sent to the Arduino Uno microcontroller for processing. Acting as the brain of the system, the microcontroller interprets the sensor's input and triggers a relay module to activate the underground water collection motor, initiating the rainwater collection process. Simultaneously, an alert mechanism comprising a buzzer and an LED indicator is activated to provide auditory and visual notifications of rainfall detection and system operation.

Once collected, the rainwater undergoes a multi-stage filtration process to remove impurities and contaminants. The filtration system may include physical barriers, sedimentation techniques, and advanced disinfection methods to ensure the water's quality. The filtered water is then directed into an underground storage tank equipped with monitoring mechanisms, such as float sensors, to track water levels and optimize the collection process. This automation ensures the system operates efficiently and prevents issues like overflow or underutilization. The stored water is suitable for various applications, including agricultural irrigation, domestic purposes like cleaning and gardening, and industrial uses. With its advanced automation and real-time monitoring, the system seamlessly adapts to varying rainfall conditions, providing a reliable and sustainable solution for rainwater harvesting.

2.1 Hardware Components used in the Harvesting System:

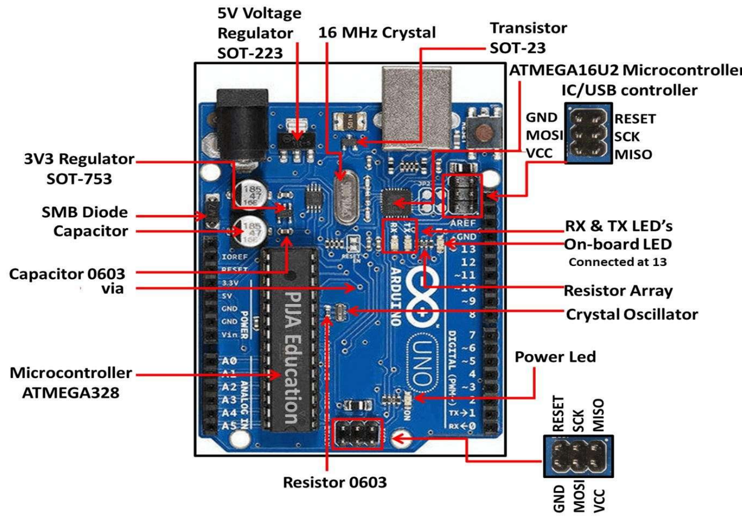

Fig-2.1: Arduino UNO Microcontroller

As Shown in the Fig-2.1, The Arduino Uno microcontroller serves as the central control unit of the system. Equipped with analog and digital input/output pins, it reads signals from the water sensor and executes programmed responses. It processes these inputs to activate or deactivate various components, such as the relay module, buzzer, and LED indicator. The Arduino is programmed using the Arduino IDE, leveraging simple yet effective algorithms for seamless system operation.

Fig-2.2: HW-028 Rain Water Sensor

As Shown in the Fig-2.2, The HW-028 water sensor is a key component in detecting the onset of rainfall. It comprises a conductive plate or traces that change their electrical resistance or capacitance when moisture is present. This sensor is highly sensitive to water droplets and is designed for real-time precipitation detection. Once raindrops make contact with the sensing area, the sensor generates a digital signal. This signal is transmitted to the Arduino Uno for processing, triggering the automation sequence in the rainwater harvesting system.

Fig-2.3: Relay Module for Switching function in the Circuit

As Shown in the Fig-2.3, The relay module functions as an electrically operated switch that controls the underground water collection motor. It receives signals from the Arduino and safely connects or disconnects the motor from its power supply. This ensures efficient and reliable operation of the motor, allowing it to pump rainwater into the storage tank whenever required.

Fig-2.4: Buzzer for Audible output

As Shown in the Fig-2.4, The buzzer is an essential component of the notification system, providing an audible alert when rainfall is detected. This compact and efficient device is connected to the Arduino Uno, which triggers the buzzer based on signals received from the HW-028 water sensor. The buzzer emits a clear and distinct sound, ensuring that users are promptly informed about rainfall, even in scenarios where visual indicators might not be effective, such as during nighttime or in dimly lit areas.

Fig-2.5: LED Indicator

As Shown in the Fig-2.5, The LED indicator is a compact yet vital component of the notification system. It provides a visual alert to users when rainfall is detected. The LED operates on a simple on/off mechanism, triggered by the Arduino Uno based on the signal received from the HW-028 water sensor. This visual feedback is particularly useful in environments where audible alerts from the buzzer might be missed, such as in noisy industrial settings or large spaces. By illuminating brightly, the LED ensures that the system's status is instantly recognizable.

Fig-2.6: Underground Water Collection Motor

As Shown in the Fig-2.6, The underground water collection motor is responsible for transferring collected rainwater into a storage tank. Controlled by the relay module, the motor operates automatically based on signals from the Arduino. This automation minimizes manual intervention and ensures efficient water transfer during rainfall events, the motor can handle varying water flow rates and pressures, ensuring rapid and effective water transfer during rainfall events. The automation provided by the motor eliminates the need for manual operation, making the system highly user-friendly.

2.2 Circuit Diagram of a Smart rainwater Harvesting System:

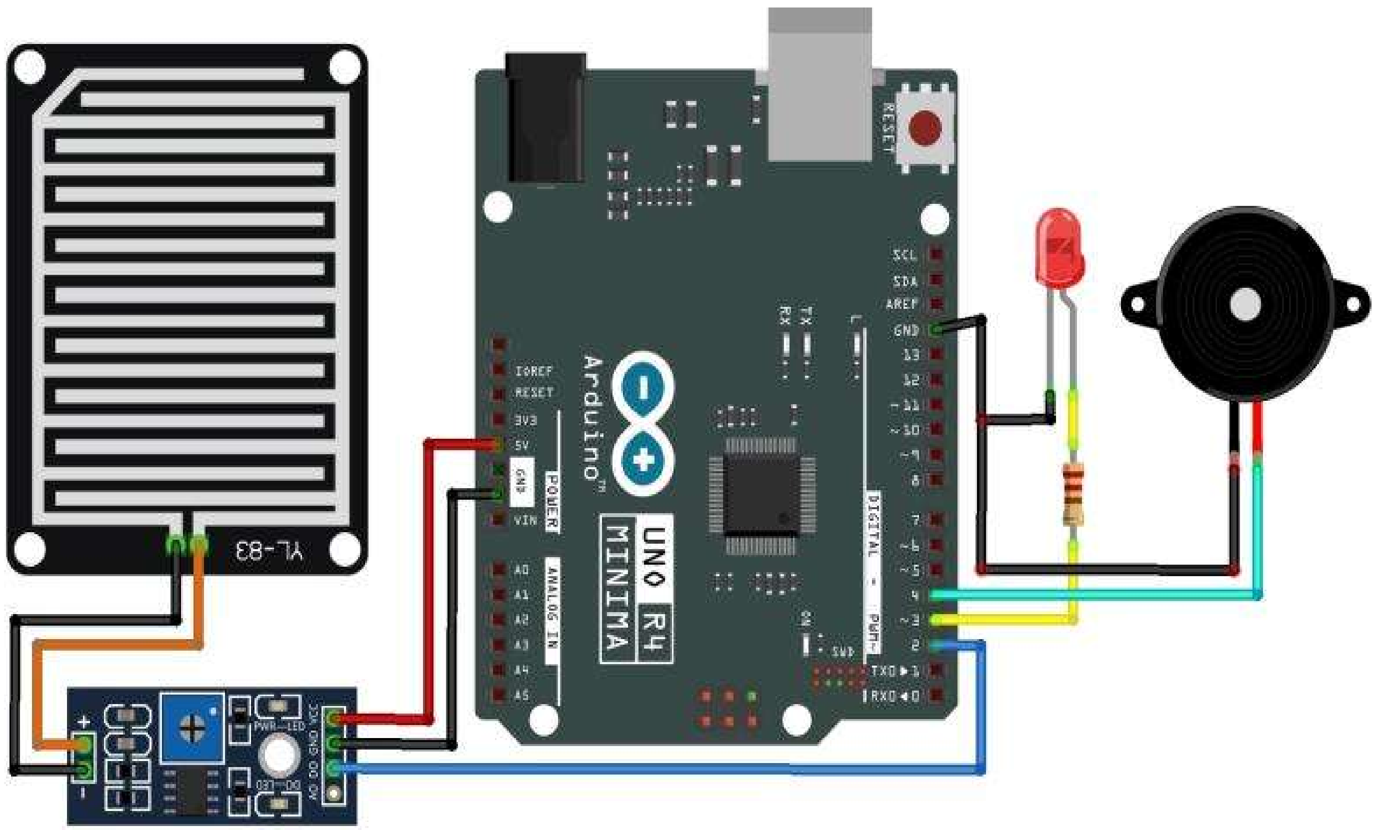

Fig-2.7: Circuit Diagram of Smart Rainwater Harvesting System with Integrated Rain Detection.

As Shown in the Fig-2.7, The Rain Drop Sensor's DO pin connects to an Arduino Uno digital input (e.g., Pin 2). The Arduino controls a relay (via Pin 7) to power the Underground Water Collection Motor. Another Arduino output (Pin 9) drives the buzzer, and a third (Pin 8) controls an LED. The Relay Module's IN pin receives the Arduino signal, connecting the motor to a 12V DC source. The water level sensor provides feedback to the Arduino via an analog input. All components share the Arduino's 5V and GND connections.

This setup allows the system to detect rain, activate the motor, and provide visual and audible alerts while monitoring the water level.

2.3 Software Components:

2.3.1 Arduino IDE:

Role: The Arduino Integrated Development Environment (IDE) is used for writing and uploading code to the Arduino microcontroller. The program continuously monitors the data from the HW-028 sensor and activates system components based on predefined conditions.

Programming Language: The system is programmed using Arduino C++, with simple algorithms to manage the sensor readings and system responses.

2.4 Implementation:

A Raindrop sensor module is a type of sensor used to detect the presence of raindrops or moisture on a surface. It's commonly used in weather monitoring systems, automated irrigation systems, and other applications where knowing the presence or absence of rain is important.

2.4.1. Sensing Element Variations:

- Conductive Traces**:** These are the most common. The traces can be arranged in various patterns like grids, lines, or spirals. When raindrops bridge the gap between the traces, it completes the circuit and triggers a signal.
- Capacitive Sensing**:** Another approach involves using a pair of closely spaced electrodes. The presence of water between them changes the capacitance, which is then measured.
- Optical Sensing**:** Some sensors use an infrared beam. When raindrops interrupt the beam, it triggers a signal.

2.4.2 Signal Conditioning:

- Amplification**:** The weak signal from the sensor often needs to be amplified to a level suitable for the microcontroller.
- Filtering**:** Filters can be used to remove noise and unwanted signals, ensuring a clean and reliable output.
- Level Shifting**:** If the sensor output is not compatible with the microcontroller's input voltage levels, a level shifter circuit might be necessary.

2.4.3. Microcontroller Interface:

- Analog-to-Digital Converter (ADC): For analog sensors, the microcontroller's ADC converts the analog voltage signal into a digital value that can be processed.
- Digital Input**:** For digital sensors, the microcontroller simply reads the digital output (e.g., high or low) from the sensor.

2.4.4. Data Processing and Interpretation:

- Thresholding**:** The microcontroller analyzes the sensor data and compares it to a predefined threshold to determine if rain is present or not.
- Filtering**:** Software algorithms can be used to filter out noise and spurious signals to improve the accuracy of rain detection.

2.4.5. Application Specific Considerations:

- Sensitivity**:** The sensor's sensitivity needs to be adjusted based on the specific application (e.g., detecting light drizzle vs. heavy rain).
- Environmental Factors**:** Factors like temperature, humidity, and dust can affect sensor performance.
- Calibration**:** Regular calibration might be necessary to maintain accurate readings.

CHAPTER-3:

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

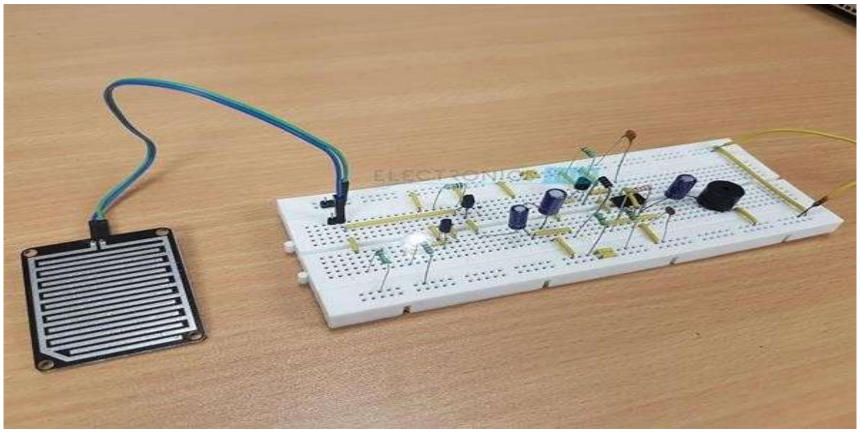

Fig-3.1: Output with rainwater harvesting system

As shown in Fig-3.1, The results of the "Smart Rainwater Harvesting System with Integrated Rain Detection" demonstrate the system’s effectiveness and reliability in addressing key objectives. The raindrop sensor consistently detected rainfall with high accuracy, activating the automated collection process without any delay. This ensured maximum capture of rainwater, even during brief showers. The filtration mechanism effectively removed impurities, resulting in clean and safe water storage. The inclusion of a feedback mechanism using level sensors prevented overflow, optimizing storage capacity and minimizing waste.

The system’s notification features, including the buzzer and LED indicators, provided clear and timely alerts, enhancing user awareness. The modular design and compact setup facilitated easy installation and adaptability to various environments, from urban rooftops to rural farms. Additionally, the automation reduced the need for manual intervention, making the system user-friendly and efficient. These outcomes validate the feasibility of implementing such smart systems to address water conservation needs on both small and large scales.

CHAPTER-4:

CONCLUSION AND FUTURE SCOPE

Conclusion:

The "Smart Rainwater Harvesting System with Integrated Rain Detection" effectively addresses the growing need for efficient water conservation and management in both residential and agricultural settings. By combining advanced sensors such as the HW-028 water sensor and Arduino Uno with automation, the system seamlessly detects rainfall and collects water into an underground storage system. Additionally, its filtration and monitoring mechanisms ensure optimal utilization of collected water while minimizing waste. This project demonstrates the potential of integrating IoT and automation technologies into practical solutions for water sustainability, providing a reliable and scalable system for various applications.

Future Scope:

The project holds immense potential for future development and scalability. Incorporating advanced IoT capabilities, such as real-time remote monitoring and predictive analytics, can enhance its functionality and user accessibility. Expanding the system to include solar-powered operations can make it energy-efficient and suitable for off-grid areas. Moreover, integrating weather forecasting data and machine learning algorithms can improve decision-making, enabling pre-emptive actions based on predicted rainfall patterns. Such advancements could make the system more versatile and widely deployable in urban, rural, and industrial settings, thereby contributing significantly to global water conservation efforts.

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Appendix:

```
// Pin configuration
const int waterSensorPin = 2; // Digital pin connected to the water sensor
const int buzzerPin = 9; // Digital pin connected to the buzzer
const int relayPin = 7; // Digital pin connected to the relay controlling the motor
const int ledPin = 8; // Digital pin connected to the LED
void setup() {
pinMode(waterSensorPin, INPUT_PULLUP); // Set water sensor pin as input with pull-up resistor
pinMode(buzzerPin, OUTPUT); // Set buzzer pin as output
pinMode(relayPin, OUTPUT); // Set relay pin as output
pinMode(ledPin, OUTPUT); // Set LED pin as output
Serial.begin(9600); // Start serial communication for debugging
// Ensure the buzzer, motor, and LED are off initially
digitalWrite(buzzerPin, LOW);
digitalWrite(relayPin, LOW);
digitalWrite(ledPin, LOW);
}
void loop() {
// Read the sensor value (HIGH or LOW)
int sensorState = digitalRead(waterSensorPin);
// Debugging: print the sensor state
Serial.print("Sensor State: ");
Serial.println(sensorState);
// If water is detected (LOW), turn on the buzzer, motor, and LED
if (sensorState == LOW) {
digitalWrite(buzzerPin, HIGH); // Turn on the buzzer
digitalWrite(relayPin, HIGH); // Turn on the motor
digitalWrite(ledPin, HIGH); // Turn on the LED
Serial.println("Water detected! Buzzer, motor, and LED are ON.");
} else {
digitalWrite(buzzerPin, LOW); // Turn off the buzzer
digitalWrite(relayPin, LOW); // Turn off the motor
digitalWrite(ledPin, LOW); // Turn off the LED
Serial.println("No water detected. Buzzer, motor, and LED are OFF.");
}
delay(100); // Small delay for stability
}
```