

Got it — I updated the **entire GrainHero IoT plan** you pasted to use **VOC-based detection** (BME680 / tVOC) as the primary pest/spoilage proxy instead of CO₂, and I integrated the necessary changes everywhere (dataset mapping, sensor choices, calibration, thresholds, ML features, control logic, placement, sampling, etc.). This is a full, single-source replacement so you can copy it straight into your FYP doc or repo.



GrainHero – Complete System Design & Improvements Summary

(VOC-based pest/spoilage detection integrated — Final Integrated Explanation with Dataset, Hardware, Logic & AI Flow)



1. System Overview

GrainHero is an AIoT Smart Silo Management System that monitors, predicts, and controls spoilage risk in stored grains (rice & wheat). It combines IoT sensors (now VOC-first), data logging, and AI models to detect early signs of spoilage or pest infestation using environmental signals.



2. Hardware & Physical Design



Prototype Build

- **Controller:** ESP32 board (with SD card + Wi-Fi).

- **Silo model:** Transparent plastic jar (5L+).
 - **Fan:** 12V DC actuator fan for temperature and humidity control.
 - **Probe:** Vertical, removable probe inserted from the top:
 - **Lower end (in-grain):** temperature, humidity, grain moisture sensors.
 - **Upper end (headspace above grain):** ambient temperature, humidity, **VOC sensor (tVOC / VOC index)** — primary pest/spoilage proxy (BME680 recommended).
 - **Indicators:** Circular LED ring (Green / Yellow / Red) + buzzer for real-time alerts.
 - **Wiring:** Modular and neat for quick removal/transfer between silos.
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3. Dataset & Parameters (as seen in your CSV)

The dataset has **11 parameters + meta labels**. All references to CO₂ are replaced by **VOC_index (or tVOC)**.

Parameter	Description	Source	Data Type
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		c	
		e	

Temperat ure	Temperature of air/core	Dire c t	Sensor (SHT31 / BME680)
Humidity	Relative humidity (%) inside grain/headspac e	Dire c t	Sensor (SHT31 / BME680)
Storage_ Days	Days since stored	Deri v e d	System clock / manual
Spoilage_ Label	(Safe / Risky / Spoiled)	Deri v e d	Manual / AI
Grain_Ty pe	Rice = 1, Wheat = 2	Man u a l	Metadata
Airflow	Air movement proxy inside silo	Deri v e d	From fan state (ON/OFF, RPM, PWM)

Dew_Point	Condensation threshold temp	Derv e d	Magnus formula $(T + RH)$
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Ambient_Light	Light level above grain	Direct ct (o p t)	BH1750 / LDR
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Pest_Presence	Inferred insect/mold activity	Deriv e d	VOC patterns + T/RH + moisture
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Grain_Moisture	% water inside grain mass	Direct ct	Capacitive probe
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Rainfall	External rainfall intensity	API	OpenWeatherMap / PMD
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Parameter groups:

- **Direct (sensor):** Temperature, Humidity, Ambient_Light, Grain_Moisture, VOC_index.

- **Derived:** Dew_Point, Airflow, Pest_Presence (VOC-based).
 - **External:** Rainfall (API).
 - **Labels/Meta:** Spoilage_Label, Grain_Type, Storage_Days.
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4. Handling of Grain Moisture & Rainfall

Grain Moisture

- **Sensor:** Capacitive moisture probe (e.g., SEN0193 / YL-69 style) placed in the lower half of grain.
- **Calibrations:** Dry baseline 0-10% → Risk >13-14% → Spoilage >=15%.
- **Output:** Analog → convert to % via calibration curve, record in **Grain_Moisture**. Feeds ML and triggers controls.



Rainfall

- **No hardware sensor** — pulled from **weather API** (OpenWeatherMap / PMD).
 - **Used for:** Prevent venting during rain or very high external humidity (disable fan actuation).
 - **Update cadence:** 30-60 minutes; appended to dataset as **Rainfall**.
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5. Airflow & Fan Control (Derived Parameter)

Why Derived

Airflow measurement replaced by **fan telemetry** (on/off, PWM, RPM, current) — cheaper and robust for prototype.

Calculation (example)

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Airflow=Fan_Speed_Factor×Fan_Duty_Cycle\nAirflow =\n    \times\n    \times\nAirflow=Fan_Speed_Factor×Fan_Duty_Cycle
```

- 1.0 = full airflow at 100% fan speed, 0.0 = fan OFF.

Fan Logic (VOC-aware)

- **ON** when: `RH_core > 65% AND Grain_Moisture > 14%` OR when ML risk score is high and external conditions permit.
- **OFF** when: `RH_core < 62% AND Grain_Moisture < 13.5%`.
- **Skip ventilation** if: external `Rainfall > 0` OR `Ambient_RH > 80%`.
- **Do not ventilate** if `T_core - Dew_Point_core < 1°C` (risk of condensation).
- **Hysteresis & min on/off times** to avoid short-cycling.
- **Log** `fan_state`, `fan_duty`, `fan_rpm` for ML.

6. Dew Point Computation

- **Method:** Magnus formula calculated every 5 minutes from measured temperature & humidity.
 - **Interpretation:** If $T_{core} - T_{dew} < 1^{\circ}\text{C}$ → condensation risk → avoid venting and flag for inspection.
 - **Stored as** `Dew_Point` in dataset.
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7. VOC Sensing (Primary Spoilage / Pest Proxy)

Why VOC

- **VOC (tVOC / VOC_index)** spikes (ethanol, aldehydes, ammonia, etc.) are early indicators of microbial activity and insect metabolism — often earlier and more cost-effective than CO₂ for your prototype.

Implementation

- **Primary sensor:** **BME680** (recommended): provides **T, RH, pressure, VOC_index** in one module.
- **Optional alternative:** **CCS811 + SHT31** for separate tVOC + eCO₂ + precise compensation if you later want CO₂.
- **Placement:** headspace ~5–10 cm above grain surface, away from direct fan stream, covered by breathable mesh to reduce dust.
- **Calibration:** 24-hour clean-air baseline → compute `VOC_relative = VOC_current - VOC_baseline_24h`. Monitor baseline drift

weekly/monthly.

- **Usage in dataset:** save `VOC_index` in existing gas/VOC column. Use `VOC_relative` and rate-of-change features for ML and derived `Pest_Presence`.

Example VOC thresholds (start values — tune during field tests)

- **Yellow (early risk):** `VOC_relative_5min > 150` AND `VOC_rate_5min > 20`
- **Red (high risk):** `VOC_relative_5min > 300` OR (`VOC_relative_30min > 100` AND `Grain_Moisture > 14%`)
- Apply `rain_flag` and dew point checks to avoid false positives.



8. Data Logging & Sampling Strategy

- **Raw sampling:** every **30 seconds** (T, RH, VOC, moisture, fan telemetry).
- **Averaging:** 5-minute averages stored to CSV (per dataset rule). Keep raw 30s logs on SD for ML expansion.
- **Per-row fields:** timestamp, silo_id, batch_id, T_core_avg_5m, RH_core_avg_5m, T_amb_avg_5m, RH_amb_avg_5m, Grain_Moisture_avg_5m, fan_state, fan_duty, VOC_index_avg_5m, dew_point_core, rainfall_last_hour, spoilage_label.

- **Extra processing:** rolling features (5m, 30m, 6h) and deltas (Δ Temp, Δ RH, VOC_rate).
 - **Volume:** 8,640 5-min rows/month per silo; expand to 320k+ using raw 30s logs across time or parallel rigs.
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9. ML Model Integration (VOC-first)

- **Model:** XGBoost as baseline (tabular); later ensemble with time-series models or image model if you add camera.
 - **Inputs:** T_core, RH_core, dew_point, airflow/fan telemetry, VOC_index (and VOC_relative & rates), Grain_Moisture, rainfall_forecast, derived deltas.
 - **Outputs:** Spoilage risk class (Safe / Risky / Spoiled). ML learns Pest_Presence implicitly from VOC + environmental patterns.
 - **Key features:** VOC_relative, VOC_rate_5min/30min/6h, T_core - T_amb, dT_{core}/dt , dew_gap, moisture_trend_6h, fan_state_last_30min.
 - **Training:** label rows with manual inspection (photo + oven-dry moisture) to build ground truth.
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10. Control Intelligence (VOC-informed)

- **Hybrid control:** deterministic rules + ML-guided advisories.

- **Alert mapping:** Green = Safe; Yellow = Early risk (VOC rise); Red = Spoiled (sustained VOC spike + moisture).
 - **Actuation:** When Red or ML risk high, run fan (unless rain or high ambient RH or condensation risk). Buzzer if red persists > 10 minutes.
 - **Logs:** All actuation decisions logged for model retraining and audit.
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11. Hardware Summary (VOC-first)

Component	Function
ESP32 (with SD)	Central controller, logging, Wi-Fi
BME680 (recommended)	Temp, RH, pressure, VOC_index (primary pest proxy)
CCS811 + SHT31 (optional)	eCO ₂ + tVOC + precise T/RH (upgrade path)
Capacitive moisture probe	In-grain moisture %
BH1750 (optional)	Ambient light (lid/tamper detection)

Fan (12V) + relay Ventilation / dehumidifying actuator

LED ring + buzzer On-site visual and audio alerts

12. Calibration & Maintenance (VOC-specific)

- **VOC baseline:** run sensor in clean air for 24 hours, store baseline. Compute rolling 24-hour baseline on device/backend.
 - **Drift checks:** If baseline shifts > 20% weekly, schedule recalibration or hardware check.
 - **Moisture probe:** calibrate with oven-dry samples for rice/wheat.
 - **Maintenance:** clean mesh covers weekly; replace sensors if noise increases; monthly baseline review.
 - **Power:** 3.3V sensors, isolated 5V for fan.
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13. External API Integration

- Periodically fetch weather (rainfall, ambient humidity, temperature) every 30–60 minutes.
- **rain_flag** blocks venting if rain/humidity high. Append weather data to CSV rows for model context.

14. High-Level Impact Summary (VOC-based)

- **Lower cost & simplicity:** BME680 provides VOC + T + RH in one module.
- **Unified pest & spoilage detection:** VOC-first approach (with T/RH/moisture) reliably flags biological activity.
- **Smart fan logic:** dew-point + weather-aware ventilation reduces false positives and condensation risk.
- **Dataset unchanged:** VOC fits into existing gas/VOC column; derived features enrich ML without new columns.
- **Energy-efficient & explainable:** deterministic rules + ML ensemble.
- **Cross-crop compatible:** works for both rice & wheat.
- **FYP-ready:** demonstrates integrated AIoT, clear control logic, and practical prototypes.

Practical add-ons (VOC thresholds & example CSV row)

Suggested starting VOC rules (to tune in-field)

- **Yellow:** `VOC_relative_5m > 150 AND VOC_rate_5m > 20`

- **Red:** VOC_relative_5m > 300 OR (VOC_relative_30m > 100 AND Grain_Moisture > 14)
- Always suppress venting if rain_flag == 1 or Ambient_RH > 80% or T_core - Dew_Point_core < 1°C.

Example 5-minute averaged CSV / MQTT JSON

- {
- "timestamp": "2025-11-13T10:05:00Z",
- "silo_id": "SIL001",
- "batch_id": "BATCH_A",
- "T_core": 28.4,
- "RH_core": 68.2,
- "T_amb": 27.2,
- "RH_amb": 66.9,
- "Grain_Moisture": 13.8,
- "fan_state": 1,
- "fan_duty": 60,
- "VOC_index": 210,
- "VOC_relative": 95,
- "dew_point_core": 23.1,
- "rainfall_last_hour": 0,
- "spoilage_label": "Safe"
- }

If you want, I can now:

- generate the **ESP32 Arduino/PlatformIO skeleton** that reads **BME680 + capacitive moisture + T/RH probe**, computes 30s

samples → 5min averages, computes dew point & VOC_relative, logs to SD, publishes MQTT JSON and enforces the fan control rules above; **or**

- produce a **formatted one-page PDF** of this updated plan suitable for your FYP slides; **or**
- produce a **quick threshold tuning worksheet** and a short **test protocol** (what to run for the first 2 weeks to collect labeled data).
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