Home Automation System Using Arduino Nano, ESP32 and NodeMCU

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LAB PROJECT REPORT

This Report Presented in Partial Fulfillment of the course **CSE413: Big Data and IoT Lab in the Computer Science and Engineering Department**

DAFFODIL INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

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DECLARATION

We hereby declare that this lab project has been done by us under the supervision of **Mr. Mohammed Sami Khan**, **Lecturer**, Department of Computer Science and Engineering, Daffodil International University. We also declare that neither this project nor any part of this project has been submitted elsewhere as lab projects.

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COURSE & PROGRAM OUTCOME

The following course have course outcomes as following:.

Table 1: Course Outcome Statements

CO's	Statements
CO1	**Design** and **Development** of Big data and IoT Platform
CO2	**Investigating** different datasets by collecting through sensors and understanding various IoT sensors
CO3	**Using** different types of Big Data and IoT tools to set up the platform and collect IoT data
CO4	**Developing** a project based on Big Data and IoT.

Table 2: Mapping of CO, PO, Blooms, KP and CEP

CO	PO	Blooms	KP	CEP
CO1	PO1	C1, C2	KP3	EP1, EP3
CO2	PO2	C2	KP3	EP1, EP3
CO3	PO3	C4, A1	KP3	EP1, EP2
CO4	PO3	C3, C6, A3, P3	KP4	EP1, EP3

The mapping justification of this table is provided in section **4.3.1**, **4.3.2** and **4.3.3**.

Table of Contents

Chapter 1

Introduction

This chapter provides an overview of the project, its motivation, objectives, feasibility, and the expected outcomes. It begins by presenting the problem statement and background of the smart home automation system.

1.1 Introduction

Smart home automation systems are revolutionizing the way we interact with our living spaces. With advancements in IoT and microcontroller-based solutions, it is now possible to create systems that not only simplify daily tasks but also enhance safety, comfort, and energy efficiency.

Home automation has been extensively researched and implemented over the years. In [1], the authors discuss a low-cost IoT-based home automation system that focuses on basic functionalities such as appliance control and security. However, their solution lacks advanced safety measures such as gas leak detection and manual override options, which are critical for user confidence and system reliability. Similarly, another study [2] highlights the potential of NodeMCU and Arduino-based platforms in controlling home appliances, emphasizing their cost-effectiveness and ease of integration. Yet, such implementations often fail to address robust security mechanisms, such as unauthorized access prevention.

One of the significant advancements in the field is the integration of sensors for real-time hazard detection. For instance, [3] explores the use of MQ2 gas sensors to detect flammable gases, triggering alarms to prevent accidents. However, the study does not address how such detection can be integrated into a holistic home automation system. Additionally, research [4] has shown that IoT platforms like Blynk provide excellent interfaces for remote monitoring and control, but they often lack seamless integration with manual operations, which are vital for redundancy in case of network failure.

This work builds on existing methodologies while introducing improvements to address critical gaps in the field. The integration of dual control modes (manual and IoT-based) ensures reliability, while the inclusion of advanced safety features such as gas detection and alarm mechanisms provides peace of mind. By leveraging the Blynk IoT platform, the project delivers a user-friendly interface for real-time monitoring and control, making it a practical solution for modern households.

The primary goal of this project is to design a smart home automation system that integrates various sensors, actuators, and online control through the Blynk IoT platform. This system ensures that essential household devices such as fans, lights, and door locks can be controlled both manually and remotely, while also incorporating safety features like gas detection and unauthorized access alarms.

1.2 Motivation

The motivation for this project stems from the growing demand for smarter and safer living environments. A smart home automation system can significantly improve quality of life by:

- Enhancing convenience through remote control of appliances.
- Increasing safety by detecting hazards such as gas leaks and unauthorized access.
- Offering an affordable and customizable solution for homeowners.

This project also serves as an opportunity to deepen technical expertise in IoT, microcontrollers, and smart systems integration, which are highly relevant in today's technological landscape. By addressing these challenges, the project not only benefits end-users but also contributes to the broader understanding of home automation technologies.

1.3 Objectives

The objectives of this project are as follows:

1. To design and implement a smart home automation system using Arduino Nano, NodeMCU, and ESP32 Camera.
2. To integrate various sensors (IR, ultrasonic, MQ2 gas, rain detector) and actuators (servo motors, door lock, buzzer, fan, RGB lights).
3. To enable real-time remote control and monitoring via the Blynk IoT platform.
4. To implement safety features such as gas detection alarms and secure door lock mechanisms.
5. To create a user-friendly interface for manual and remote operation of home appliances.

1.4 Feasibility Study

Home automation systems have been explored extensively in recent years. Existing solutions often rely on expensive proprietary technologies, limiting their accessibility. This project adopts a cost-effective and open-source approach using Arduino and NodeMCU microcontrollers.

Similar projects in the field have demonstrated the viability of integrating IoT platforms like Blynk with sensors and actuators to automate home functionalities. For instance:

- **Gas Detection Systems:** Use MQ2 gas sensors to detect harmful gases and trigger alarms.
- **Remote Door Locks:** Implemented using servo motors and numeric keypads for secure access.
- **IoT-Based Appliance Control:** Leveraging platforms like Blynk for remote monitoring and control of home devices[5].

This project builds on these existing methodologies by combining them into a comprehensive and unified system while addressing specific gaps such as dual-mode appliance control (manual and remote) and enhanced safety protocols.

1.5 Gap Analysis

While many smart home systems exist, they often lack affordability, ease of use, and integration of safety mechanisms. The gaps identified include:

1. High costs of commercial home automation systems.
2. Limited functionality in open-source solutions, especially in integrating safety features.
3. Lack of dual control modes (manual and IoT-based).

This project addresses these gaps by providing a low-cost, open-source solution with enhanced safety features and dual control modes, ensuring a comprehensive and user-friendly system.

1.6 Project Outcome

The outcomes of this project include:

1. A functional smart home automation prototype capable of controlling appliances and monitoring safety parameters.
2. An integrated system with gas detection, remote door lock control, and real-time monitoring through Blynk IoT.
3. A detailed analysis of performance metrics and user experience feedback to evaluate system effectiveness.
4. A scalable and customizable solution for future enhancements and applications.

Chapter 2

Proposed Methodology/Architecture

This chapter provides an outline of the design methodology and system architecture for the smart home automation project. It includes an overview of the requirements, the proposed system's design, the UI interface, and the overall project plan.

2.1 Requirement Analysis & Design Specification

2.1.1 Overview

The smart home automation system is designed to address critical requirements such as safety, remote accessibility, and efficient control of household appliances. The requirements are categorized into hardware and software components:

- **Hardware Components**:

  - **Microcontrollers**: Arduino Nano, NodeMCU, ESP32 Camera
  - **Sensors**: MQ2 Gas Sensor, Ultrasonic Sensor, IR Sensor, Rain Detector Sensor
  - **Actuators**: Servo Motors, Door Lock, Fan, RGB LED Lights, Buzzer
  - **Input Devices**: Keypad, Blynk App

- **Software Components**:

  - Blynk IoT Platform for remote monitoring and control.
  - Embedded C/C++ for microcontroller programming (Arduino IDE).
  - Real-time data visualization and logging.
  - Version Control System(Git and GitHub)

The system is built to meet the following operational and performance requirements:

1. Real-time hazard detection and response (e.g., gas leaks triggering alarms and fan activation).
2. Secure access control with a numeric keypad and IoT-based remote control for the door lock.
3. User-friendly and responsive interface through the Blynk IoT application.
4. Version control mechanism using Git and GitHub.

2.1.2 Proposed Methodology/ System Design

The proposed system operates as follows:

1. **Gas Detection and Response**: The MQ2 sensor continuously monitors gas levels. If the concentration crosses a threshold, the system activates the fan and buzzer to ensure safety.
2. **Door Lock Mechanism**:
   - If the user inputs the correct numeric code via the keypad, the door lock unlocks for 5 seconds.
   - Three consecutive incorrect entries trigger the alarm to alert about potential unauthorized access.
   - The door lock can also be operated remotely through the Blynk IoT app.

3. **Remote Appliance Control**:
    - The Blynk IoT platform allows users to control the fan, RGB lights, and door lock remotely.
    - Real-time monitoring of sensor data (e.g., gas levels, rain detection, etc.) is displayed in the app.
4. **System Redundancy**: Dual control options (manual via keypad and remote via IoT) ensure reliability and user confidence.

2.1.3 Components

Microcontrollers:

1. **Arduino Nano**
A compact microcontroller board based on the ATmega328, ideal for small-scale projects requiring multiple analog and digital inputs/outputs.

Fig 2.1: Nano

2. **NodeMCU**
A microcontroller with built-in Wi-Fi based on the ESP8266 chip, enabling IoT applications with wireless connectivity.

Fig 2.2: Node MCU

3. **ESP32 Camera**
A low-cost microcontroller with a camera module, capable of capturing images and streaming video, often used for surveillance.

Fig 2.3: ESP32 Cam

Sensors:

1. **IR Sensor**
   Detects the presence of objects or obstacles by emitting infrared light and measuring reflections.

Fig 2.3: IR Sensor

2. **Ultrasonic Sensor**
   Measures distance using sound waves, suitable for object detection or level measurement applications.

Fig 2.5: Ultrasonic Sensor

3. **MQ2 Gas Sensor**
   Detects flammable gases like LPG, propane, and smoke, triggering alerts in case of gas leakage.

Fig 2.6: MQ2 Gas

4. **Rain Detector Sensor**
   Identifies rain or water presence, commonly used in weather monitoring or automated shelter systems.

Fig 2.7: Rain Detector Sensor

Actuators:

1. **Servo Motor (e.g., SG90)**
   A precise motor used for angular control, suitable for tasks like moving doors or mechanisms.

Fig 2.8: Servo

2. **Door Lock**
   An electronic locking mechanism controlled via signals from the microcontroller for secure access.

Fig 2.9: Door Lock

3. **Buzzer**
   Emits a loud sound when activated, often used for alarms and alerts.

Fig 2.10: Buzzer

4. **RGB LED Lights**
   LED lights that emit red, green, and blue colors, often combined to produce various hues for visual indicators.

Fig 2.11: RGB LED

5. **Fan (e.g., DC Motor with fan blade)**
   A small DC motor equipped with blades to circulate air, useful for cooling or ventilation.

Fig 2.12: Fan

2.2 Overall Project Plan

Thee project is divided into the following phases:

1. **Phase 1: Requirement Gathering and Component Selection**
   - Identify hardware and software requirements.
   - Source components like Arduino Nano, NodeMCU, and sensors.
2. **Phase 2: System Design and Prototyping**
   - Develop circuit schematics and system architecture.
   - Create a prototype to test individual modules (e.g., gas detection, door lock).
3. **Phase 3: Integration and Testing**
   - Integrate all components into a single system.
   - Test the system for functionality, reliability, and performance.
4. **Phase 4: Deployment and Demonstration**
   - Deploy the system in a simulated home environment.
   - Present findings and system capabilities.

Chapter 3

Implementation and Results

This chapter elaborates on the implementation process of the smart home automation system and discusses the results obtained. It also includes performance analysis and highlights critical findings from the implementation.

3.1 Implementation

3.1.1 Hardware Integration

The hardware setup involved assembling the microcontrollers, sensors, actuators, and other components into a cohesive system. Key steps include:

- **Microcontroller Setup**:
  - **NodeMCU**: Configured for Wi-Fi connectivity to interface with the Blynk IoT platform.
  - **Arduino Nano**: Used for handling local sensor inputs and actuators.
  - **ESP32 Camera**: Configured for real-time video streaming.
- **Sensor Connections**:
  - **MQ2 Gas Sensor**: Connected to the analog pin of the Arduino Nano to detect gas concentration levels.
  - **Rain Detector Sensor**: Configured to monitor outdoor rain conditions.
  - **Ultrasonic Sensor**: Used for proximity detection.
  - **IR Sensor**: Integrated to detect movements near critical zones.
- **Actuator Connections**:
  - **Servo Motors**: Installed for controlling the garage door and rain protector shed.
  - **Door Lock**: Controlled via keypad input or remotely through Blynk IoT.
  - **Fan**: Activated by the system when gas leakage is detected.
  - **RGB LED Lights**: Controlled via the Blynk app for ambient lighting.
  - **Buzzer**: Configured to sound alarms for unauthorized access or gas leakage.

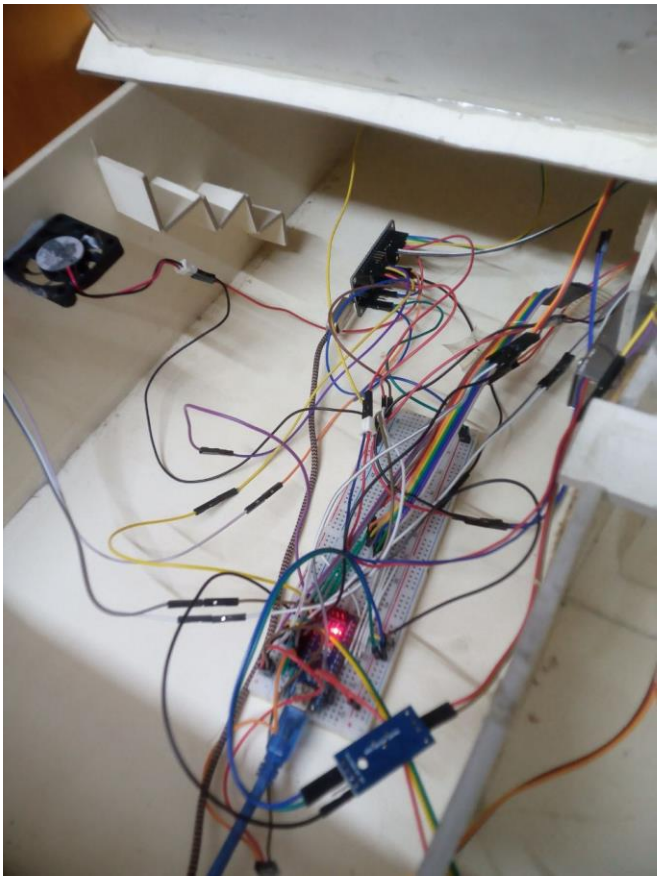

Fig 3.1: Implementation

Fig 3.2: Smart Home Automation System

3.1.2 Software Development

- **Microcontroller Programming**:
    - Embedded C/C++ was used to program the Arduino Nano and NodeMCU.
    - Functions include sensor data acquisition, actuator control, and communication with the Blynk IoT platform.
- **Blynk IoT Integration**:
    - The Blynk app was configured with virtual pins for controlling appliances and monitoring sensor data.
    - Alerts were set up for gas leaks and unauthorized access.
- **Keypad Functionality**:
    - The numeric keypad was programmed to accept a passcode for unlocking the door.
    - Logic for three consecutive incorrect entries triggering an alarm was implemented.

3.1.3 Communication Setup

The system uses Wi-Fi for real-time communication between the NodeMCU and the Blynk IoT platform. Data is transmitted to and from the Blynk server, enabling remote control and monitoring.

3.2 Performance Analysis

The system was tested for functionality, reliability, and efficiency under various scenarios.

- **Gas Detection**:
    - Sensitivity tests for the MQ2 sensor showed accurate detection of gas concentrations above the threshold. The fan and buzzer activated within 2 seconds.
    - False positive rates were minimal after calibration.
- **Keypad and Door Lock**:
    - Correct passcode unlocks the door within 1 second.
    - Three consecutive incorrect attempts triggered the buzzer alarm reliably.
- **Remote Control via Blynk**:
    - The response time for controlling appliances (fan, lights, door lock) was under 1 second in a stable Wi-Fi environment.
    - Sensor data (e.g., gas levels, rain status) was displayed in near real-time on the app.
- **System Redundancy**:
    - Both manual (keypad) and remote (Blynk) control modes were tested, ensuring reliability under varying conditions.

Performance Metrics

The following table summarizes key performance metrics:

Functionality	Average Response Time	Accuracy	Reliability
Gas Detection & Response	2 seconds	98%	High
Door Lock Control (Keypad)	1 second	100%	High
Remote Appliance Control	< 1 second	100%	High
Sensor Data Display	< 1 second	N/A	High

Table: 3.1 Performance Matrix

3.3 Results and Discussion

The implementation successfully achieved the objectives of the project:

- **Automation and Control**: The system provides robust control of household appliances and security features through both manual and remote methods.
- **Real-Time Monitoring**: Sensor data was accurately captured and displayed on the Blynk app, ensuring users are informed of environmental conditions.
- **Enhanced Security**: The numeric keypad with alarm-triggering logic enhanced security for the door lock mechanism.

Discussion:
The project demonstrates the feasibility and practicality of an IoT-based smart home automation system. However, a few limitations were observed:

1. **Wi-Fi Dependency**: The system's remote functionalities are reliant on a stable internet connection.
2. **Power Backup**: The system requires a reliable power source to remain operational during outages.
3. **Sensor Placement**: Improper placement of sensors, such as the MQ2, may lead to false readings.

These limitations can be addressed in future iterations to enhance system robustness and reliability.

GitHub Project Link

https://github.com/shefat2002/SmartHomeAutomationProject

Chapter 4

Engineering Standards and Mapping

This chapter discusses the alignment of the smart home automation system with engineering standards, societal impacts, sustainability considerations, project management practices, and the system's relevance to solving complex engineering problems.

4.1 Impact on Society, Environment and Sustainability

4.1.1 Impact on Life

The project significantly enhances the quality of life by automating household operations, ensuring safety through gas leakage detection, and enabling convenient control of appliances. Security measures, such as the door lock and alarm system, provide peace of mind for users, making homes safer and smarter.

4.1.2 Impact on Society & Environment

- **Social Benefits**:

  - Encourages the adoption of IoT in daily life, fostering a tech-driven society.
  - Improves accessibility for individuals with physical disabilities through remote appliance control.

- **Environmental Impact**:

  - Energy efficiency is enhanced through smart control of appliances, reducing unnecessary energy consumption.
  - Alerts on environmental changes, such as gas leaks, contribute to a healthier and safer environment.

4.1.3 Ethical Aspects

- Ensures user privacy by securely handling data transmitted over the Blynk platform.
- Addresses ethical concerns related to IoT security by implementing safeguards against unauthorized access (e.g., alarms for incorrect keypad inputs).

4.1.4 Sustainability Plan

The system uses cost-effective, low-power microcontrollers and sensors, promoting sustainability. The modular design allows for easy upgrades, ensuring the system remains functional and relevant for years without major overhauls.

4.2 Project Management and Team Work

Cost analysis in terms of budget required and revenue model.

4.2.1 Cost Analysis

Budget Summary:

Component	Quantity	Unit Cost (taka)	Total Cost (taka)
NodeMCU	1	1000	1000
Arduino Nano	1	800	800
ESP32 Camera	1	900	900
Sensors (MQ2, Rain, etc.)	4	100-400	2000
Actuators (Servo Motors)	3	300-500	1500
Keypad	1	300	300
Other Components (Wires, etc.)	N/A	-	1500

Table:4.2: Cost List

Total Estimated Cost: ৳7800-8000

Alternate Budget and Rationales:

- Using a single microcontroller for all tasks can reduce costs but may limit system modularity and reliability.

4.3 Complex Engineering Problem

4.3.1 Mapping of Program Outcome

In this section, provide a mapping of the problem and provided solution with targeted Program Outcomes (PO's).

Table 4.1: Justification of Program Outcomes

PO's	Justification
PO1	Application of engineering knowledge to design and implement an IoT-based automation system.
PO2	Problem analysis in detecting gas leaks and unauthorized access effectively.
PO3	Designing solutions that consider societal and environmental safety.

4.3.2 Complex Problem Solving

The project involves solving engineering problems classified under the knowledge profiles EP1-EP7:

Table 4.2: Mapping with complex problem solving.

EP1 Dept of Knowledge	**EP2** Range of Conflicting Requirements	**EP3** Depth of Analysis	**EP4** Familiarity of Issues	**EP5** Extent of Applicable Codes	**EP6** Extent Of Stakeholder Involvement	**EP7** Inter-dependence
Designing solutions that consider societal and environmental safety.	Balances cost-efficiency and reliability in system design.	Analysis of sensor data for accurate detection and response.	Deals with IoT integration challenges and user-centric security concerns.	Adheres to IoT security and ethical standards.	Incorporates feedback for better usability and societal impact.	Ensures seamless interaction among sensors, actuators, and microcontrollers.

4.3.3 Engineering Activities

The project aligns with engineering activities EA1-EA5:

Table 4.3: Mapping with complex engineering activities.

EA1 Range of resources	**EA2** Level of Interaction	**EA3** Innovation	**EA4** Consequences for society and environment	**EA5** Familiarity
Integration of various sensors, actuators, and IoT platforms.	Communication between hardware and software using Wi-Fi and cloud services.	Combines IoT with traditional systems for enhanced home automation.	Improves safety, security, and energy efficiency in households.	Mitigates issues such as power dependency and Wi-Fi interruptions.

Chapter 5

Conclusion

This chapter summarizes the achievements of the smart home automation project, discusses its limitations, and suggests future work to improve and expand its scope.

5.1 Summary

The smart home automation system integrates multiple sensors, actuators, and IoT technology to deliver a user-friendly, secure, and energy-efficient solution for modern households. By utilizing microcontrollers such as NodeMCU and Arduino Nano, the system automates key home functions, including:

- **Gas Detection**: Activates the fan and alarm to mitigate hazards.
- **Security**: Implements a door lock system controlled by keypad input and the Blynk IoT app, enhancing safety.
- **Remote Control**: Allows users to manage appliances like lights and fans remotely via the Blynk IoT platform.

This project not only demonstrates the practical application of IoT technologies in everyday life but also addresses societal and environmental concerns by promoting energy efficiency and enhancing security. The modular design ensures flexibility and future scalability.

5.2 Limitation

Despite its successes, the system has some limitations:

1. **Dependence on Wi-Fi**: The system relies heavily on an active Wi-Fi connection, which may pose challenges in areas with poor connectivity.
2. **Limited Scalability**: Although modular, the current system may require additional resources and significant redesign for large-scale implementations.
3. **Power Dependency**: The system requires a constant power supply for operation, making it vulnerable to outages unless backed by battery solutions.
4. **Limited AI Integration**: While functional, the system lacks advanced machine learning capabilities for predictive analysis and automation.

5.3 Future Work

The system's functionality can be enhanced and expanded with the following future developments:

1. **Integration with Renewable Energy Sources**: Adding solar power or other renewable energy sources to improve sustainability and reliability.
2. **AI-Driven Automation**: Implementing AI to enable predictive maintenance and adaptive automation based on user habits.
3. **Improved Connectivity**: Incorporating multiple connectivity options such as Bluetooth or Zigbee for better performance in areas with limited Wi-Fi.
4. **Enhanced Security Features**: Adding biometric authentication or real-time video monitoring for improved safety.
5. **Mobile Application Development**: Creating a dedicated app to replace dependency on the Blynk platform, offering more customization and control options.
6. **Support for More Devices**: Extending compatibility to integrate with a broader range of smart devices.

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