Abstract

This project will develop an Air Pollution Monitoring System that leverages Artificial Intelligence (AI) and the Internet of Things (IoT) to address the growing concerns of air quality management. IoT-enabled sensorswill be deployed to collect real-time data on pollutants such as CO₂, NOx and DHT11from multiple locations. This data will be transmitted to a centralized cloud platform for storage and processing. Advanced AI algorithms will be utilized to analyse the data, identify pollution trends, predict future air quality levels, and detect anomalies, enabling more informed and timely decision-making.

The system will also incorporate machine learning models to establish correlations between air pollution levelsand external factors like weather conditions, traffic patterns, and industrial activity. A user-friendly mobile andweb application interface will be designed to allow users to monitor air quality, receive real-time alerts, and access predictive insights. By deploying this system, the project will aim to enhance public awareness, support policymaking, and empower communities to take proactive measures against air pollution.

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Introduction

Air pollution is one of the most pressing environmental challenges of the 21st century, posing significant threats to public health, ecosystems, and the climate. Rapid urbanization, industrial activities, and increased vehicular emissions have exacerbated air quality issues in many regions. Monitoring and managing air pollution effectively require advanced systems capable of providing accurate, real-time data and actionable insights. Traditional air monitoring methods often fall short in terms of scalability, efficiency, and predictivecapabilities.

This project introduces an innovative Air Pollution Monitoring System that integrates Artificial Intelligence (AI) and the Internet of Things (IoT) to overcome these limitations. IoT-enabled sensors will capture real-timedata on critical air pollutants, while AI algorithms will analyse the data to identify patterns, predict trends, and provide alerts. By combining real-time monitoring with intelligent analytics, this system aims to empower individuals, communities, and policymakers to make informed decisions to mitigate air pollution, demonstrating how AIoT technologies can play a transformative role in addressing environmental challenges.

2.1 Objective

The objective of this project is to design an intelligent air pollution monitoring system that utilizes AI and IoTtechnologies to provide real-time data on air quality. The system aims to analyze pollution trends, predict future air quality levels, and detect anomalies for timely interventions. By delivering actionable insights and enhancing public awareness, it seeks to support informed decision-making and promote proactive measures to mitigate air pollution.

2.2 Problem Statements

Real-Time Air Quality Monitoring:

In urban areas with increasing pollution levels, residents and local authorities lack real-time, accurate data on air quality. This limits the ability to take proactive measures to reduce health risks and implement timely interventions.

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Data Accuracy and Calibration of Sensors:

Commercially available air pollution sensors are often inaccurate or require frequent calibration. This leads to unreliable readings that can undermine public trust in air quality data and hinder effective decision-making.

Long-Term Air Quality Monitoring for Urban Planning:

Urban planners and policymakers often lack historical air quality data, hindering long-term strategies for mitigating pollution and improving public health. Current data collection methods are either too sparse or not continuous enough.

> Air Pollution and Public Health Correlation:

While air pollution is known to negatively impact public health, the specific effects of varying pollution levels on different demographic groups (e.g., children, elderly, or people with pre-existing conditions) are poorly understood due to a lack of data and analytics.

> Smart City Integration of Pollution Monitoring:

In many smart cities, air quality monitoring is not fully integrated into the broader IoT ecosystem, making it difficult for authorities to correlate pollution data with traffic, weather, and other urban factors that impact air quality.

Low-Cost, Scalable Air Pollution Monitoring for Rural Areas:

Rural areas often lack access to affordable and reliable air pollution monitoring systems, leading to a lack of awareness about local pollution levels and limited ability to address environmental hazards.

➤ Air Pollution Forecasting System:

In many regions, air quality forecasting is either unavailable or inaccurate, leaving residents and governments unprepared for pollution spikes, which can be harmful to public health.

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Application

3.1 Public Health Monitoring

Air pollution significantly affects public health, contributing to respiratory diseases, cardiovascular problems, and premature deaths. A real-time air pollution monitoring system can help track pollutant levels and provide early warnings to at-risk populations (e.g., people with asthma, children, elderly).

3.2 Smart Cities and Urban Planning

Integrating air pollution monitoring into a smart city infrastructure enables real-time tracking and analysis of pollution across urban areas. It can be tied with other smart city elements like traffic management, waste management, and emergency services.

3.3 Environmental Impact Assessment

Environmentalists, researchers, and government agencies can use air pollution monitoring systems to assess the environmental impact of new developments, industrial zones, construction projects, and transportation systems.

3.4 Traffic Management and Optimization

Air pollution monitoring systems can be integrated with traffic management systems to identify high-pollution areas caused by traffic congestion. This allows cities to optimize traffic flow and implement measures like congestion pricing or alternative transport routes during high-pollution times.

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3.5 Indoor Air Quality Monitoring

Indoor air quality sensors can track pollution levels caused by indoor sources such as cooking, smoking, heating, and cleaning products. Such systems can be integrated into homes, schools, and workplaces.

3.6 Regulatory Compliance and Enforcement

Government agencies can use air pollution monitoring systems to enforce environmental regulations. Continuous monitoring ensures that industries, factories, and power plants stay within prescribed emission limits.

3.7 Pollution Forecasting and Early Warning Systems

A pollution forecasting system uses meteorological data, historical trends, and machine learning models to predict future air quality. This can be especially useful for cities prone to seasonal pollution spikes (e.g., smog in winter).

3.8 Climate Change Research

Long-term air pollution data is crucial for climate change research, particularly in understanding the effects of pollutants like carbon dioxide, methane, and particulate matter on the atmosphere and global warming.

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Components

4.1 DHT11 Sensor

The DHT11 is a low-cost, digital temperature and humidity sensor used in various electronics projects, especially in hobbyist and IoT applications. It is widely used in systems where environmental parameters like temperature and humidity need to be measured, such as weather stations, home automation systems, and greenhouse monitoring.

- ➤ The DHT11 can measure temperatures from 0°C to 50°C (32°F to 122°F).
- The accuracy of the temperature measurement is ±2°C, which is suitable for basic temperature monitoring but not for highly precise applications.
- ➤ The DHT11 measures relative humidity from 20% to 90% RH (Relative Humidity).
- The accuracy of the humidity measurement is $\pm 5\%$ RH, meaning there can be a deviation of 5% from the actual humidity.
- The DHT11 outputs digital signals that can be read directly by a microcontroller (e.g., Arduino, Raspberry Pi).
- > It uses a single-wire communication protocol, meaning it only requires one data line to transmit information.

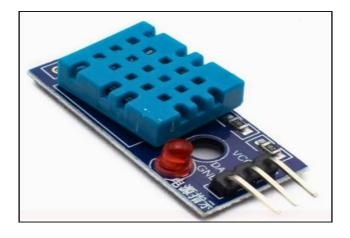


Figure 4.1: DHT 11 Sensor

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4.2 Gas Sensor

A gas sensor is a device that detects the presence and concentration of gases in the air. Gas sensors are essential components in many industries and applications, ranging from environmental monitoring to industrial safety and home automation. They can detect various gases, including toxic gases (like carbon monoxide), combustible gases (like methane), and environmental gases (like oxygen and carbon dioxide). Gas sensors typically generate an electrical signal that corresponds to the concentration of the gas, which can then be processed by a microcontroller, such as an Arduino, or sent to a monitoring system.

- ➤ Gas sensors are used in both indoor and outdoor air quality monitoring systems to detect pollutants like carbon dioxide (CO₂), carbon monoxide (CO), nitrogen dioxide (NO₂), ozone (O₃), and volatile organic compounds (VOCs). The data collected from these sensors can be used for environmental protection, urban planning, and ensuring air safety.
- ➤ In industries such as mining, oil & gas, and manufacturing, gas sensors are crucial for detecting dangerous gases like methane (CH₄), hydrogen sulfide (H₂S), carbon monoxide (CO), and ammonia (NH₃). These sensors help prevent explosions, poisoning, and other hazardous situations.
- ➤ Gas sensors are used in home safety systems for detecting gases like carbon monoxide (CO) from faulty heating systems or appliances. Similarly, LPG sensors are used to detect gas leaks in homes or kitchens.

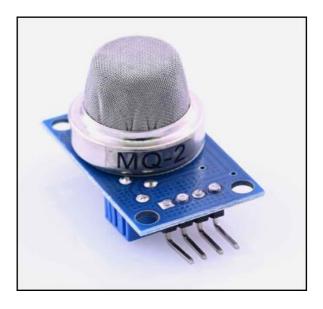


Figure 4.2: Gas Sensor

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4.3 Raspberry Pi

The **Raspberry Pi** is a series of small, affordable single-board computers developed by the Raspberry Pi Foundation. Initially launched in 2012, the primary goal was to promote computer science education and foster a hands-on approach to learning programming and electronics. Over the years, the Raspberry Pi has become popular for a variety of projects, from DIY home automation and robotics to media centers and educational tools.

- Raspberry Pi boards are small (roughly the size of a credit card), making them ideal for embedded systems or projects where space is limited.
- ➤ Most Raspberry Pi models use ARM-based processors and have varying amounts of RAM. For example, the Raspberry Pi 4 comes with options for 2GB, 4GB, or 8GB of RAM.
- ➤ General Purpose Input/Output (GPIO) pins allow users to interact with the physical world by connecting sensors, motors, and other electronic components.
- Many models come with built-in Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, USB ports, HDMI, and Ethernet. Some models also include camera modules, touchscreens, and other add-ons.
- Most Raspberry Pi models run a Linux-based OS, such as **Raspberry Pi OS** (formerly Raspbian), though you can also install other operating systems, including Windows 10 IoT Core, Ubuntu, and even specialized operating systems like RetroPie for emulation.



Figure 4.3: Raspberry Pi

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4.4 ThingSpeak Cloud Platform

ThingSpeak is an open-source Internet of Things (IoT) platform that allows users to collect, store, analyze, and visualize data from connected devices and sensors. It is particularly popular among hobbyists, researchers, and developers looking to create IoT applications quickly without having to deal with complex infrastructure.

- ➤ ThingSpeak allows you to send data from devices like microcontrollers (e.g., Arduino, Raspberry Pi, ESP8266, ESP32) to the cloud. Data can come from sensors such as temperature, humidity, motion, or even images. Devices can send data to ThingSpeak via HTTP or MQTT protocols.
- ThingSpeak provides a cloud-based database where you can store time-series data (data points indexed by time). Each "channel" in ThingSpeak can store up to 8 fields of data, and these channels are organized by a unique channel ID.
- ➤ ThingSpeak offers built-in tools for data analysis, including basic mathematical operations, filtering, and statistical calculations. For more complex analytics, users can integrate with MATLAB (via the MathWorks API) to perform advanced data analysis or machine learning on the data.
- ➤ ThingSpeak includes various built-in widgets and tools for creating dashboards that display live data in real-time. These include Graphs and charts, Gauges and dials, Maps.



Figure 4.4: ThingSpeak Cloud

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4.5 LCD Display

The 16x2 LCD display is a widely used type of alphanumeric liquid crystal display (LCD) that can show up to 2 lines of text, with 16 characters per line. It's a popular component in electronics projects due to its simplicity, versatility, and low cost. These displays are often used in DIY electronics projects, particularly with microcontrollers like Arduino and Raspberry Pi, to display text or simple data such as sensor readings, messages, or status indicators.

- ➤ 16x2 refers to the fact that the display consists of 2 rows (lines), each with 16 characters. Each character is made up of a 5x8 matrix of pixels, which means that each character is displayed using a grid of 5 columns and 8 rows of dots (pixels).
- ➤ Characters are typically displayed in ASCII format, though the LCD can also display special characters (like arrows or custom characters) using user-defined mappings.
- ➤ Most 16x2 LCDs have a backlight, which can be either LED (light-emitting diode) or electroluminescent. The backlight makes the display readable in low-light environments and can often be adjusted in brightness.
- ➤ The most common type of interface for these displays is a parallel interface, which involves connecting multiple data and control pins between the microcontroller and the display.
- ➤ Many 16x2 LCDs come with an optional I2C module, which simplifies the wiring by reducing the number of pins required for communication. With I2C, you only need two data lines (SCL for clock and SDA for data) plus power and ground, making it easier to use in projects with limited pins or where you need to save space.
- ➤ Most 16x2 LCDs operate on 5V (standard), but some models can operate at 3.3V for compatibility with lower voltage microcontrollers like the Raspberry Pi or some Arduino models.



Figure 4.5: 16x2 LCD Display

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4.6 Buzzer

A buzzer is a simple electronic device used to produce sound, typically used in various electronic projects for alerting, signaling, or giving audible feedback. Buzzers are often found in alarms, notification systems, toys, and many other devices that sound output.

- ➤ Buzzers usually work with 3V, 5V, or sometimes 12V, depending on the type of buzzer.
- ➤ The current required depends on the size and type of the buzzer. Small buzzers (like the ones commonly used in Arduino projects) typically draw around 20mA to 100mA.
- Active buzzers have a fixed tone or frequency, while passive buzzers can produce a wide range of tones (depending on the external signal).
- ➤ The loudness of a buzzer is typically measured in decibels (dB). Larger buzzers can generate higher sound levels, while smaller buzzers are quieter

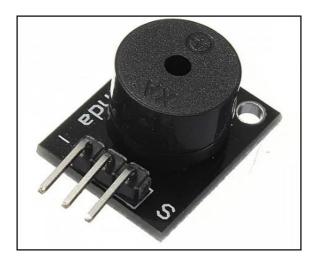
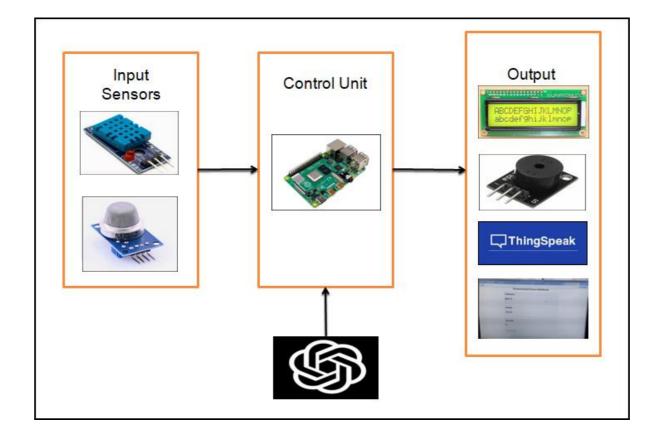


Figure 4.6: Buzzer

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Flow Chart



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Conclusion

An Air Pollution Monitoring System is an essential tool for addressing the growing concerns about air quality and its impact on public health, the environment, and the economy. By continuously monitoring the concentration of pollutants such as particulate matter (PM), nitrogen dioxide (NO₂), sulfur dioxide (SO₂), carbon monoxide (CO), and ozone (O₃), these systems provide critical data for decision-making, policy development, and immediate action.

The implementation of an air pollution monitoring system allows authorities to track air quality in real-time, identify pollution hotspots, and assess the effectiveness of environmental policies. It empowers governments, researchers, and citizens to take proactive measures to improve air quality, such as regulating industrial emissions, promoting cleaner transportation options, and implementing urban planning strategies that reduce pollution.

Moreover, advancements in sensor technology, the Internet of Things (IoT), and data analytics have made air pollution monitoring systems more affordable, accurate, and scalable. These systems can be deployed in diverse environments, from urban cities to remote areas, providing valuable insights into pollution sources, trends, and the impacts on human health and ecosystems.

In conclusion, air pollution monitoring systems are indispensable for mitigating the effects of air pollution and promoting sustainable urban development. By integrating real-time data collection, advanced analytics, and public awareness initiatives, these systems play a critical role in ensuring a healthier, safer, and more sustainable future for communities worldwide.

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Future Work

The future of air pollution monitoring systems is poised for significant advancements, driven by innovations in sensor technology, data analytics, and connectivity. As the global focus on environmental sustainability and public health intensifies, the development of more efficient, scalable, and accessible air pollution monitoring solutions will become increasingly important. Below are several key areas for future work in this domain:

> Improved Sensor Technology and Sensitivity:

- Miniaturization and Cost Reduction
- Multi-pollutant Detection
- Enhanced Sensitivity and Selectivity

➤ Integration with Internet of Things (IoT) and Smart Cities:

- Real-time Data Sharing
- Smart City Integration
- Crowdsourced Data

Data Analytics and Artificial Intelligence (AI):

- Predictive Modeling
- Advanced Data Analytics
- Personalized Health Alerts

Deployment in Remote and Under-monitored Areas:

- Global Coverage
- Portable Air Quality Monitors

> Regulatory and Policy Integration:

- Policy-making Support
- Global Standards and Collaboration

Public Awareness and Community Engagement:

- Real-time Public Access
- Community-driven Solutions

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> Integration with Climate Change Monitoring:

- Carbon Footprint Monitoring
- Impact Assessment

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Appendix

8.1 List of Sensors Used

- Gas Sensor
- Temperature and Humidity Sensor (DHT11)

8.2 Microcontroller and Connectivity

- Microcontroller: Raspberry Pi 4 / Arduino Uno / ESP32
- Connectivity Modules: Wi-Fi (ESP8266), GSM (SIM800L), LoRa, Bluetooth

8.3 Cloud Platforms Used

> Thingspeak

8.4 AI & Machine Learning Models

- Supervised Learning Algorithms: Random Forest, Support Vector Machine (SVM), and DecisionTrees for classification and prediction.
- ➤ Unsupervised Learning Algorithms: K-means Clustering for anomaly detection.
- Time-Series Forecasting: ARIMA or Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM) networks for predicting future pollution levels.

8.5 Data Visualization Tools

- Dashboards: Grafana, Power BI, or custom web dashboards using React or Angular.
- Mobile Application: Flutter or React Native for cross-platform mobile applications.

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8.6 Power Supply Details

- ➤ Battery: Li-ion or Li-polymer rechargeable battery.
- Solar Panel: 5V or 12V solar panel for continuous operation in remote areas.

8.7 Alerting System

- SMS and Email Notifications: Twilio API for SMS, SendGrid A for email alerts
- ➤ Push Notifications: Firebase Cloud Messaging (FCM) for mobile app alerts

8.8 Security and Privacy Protocols

- Encryption: AES or TLS encryption for secure data transmission.
- Authentication: OAuth 2.0 and JWT (JSON Web Token) for secure API access.

8.9 Maintenance and Calibration Tools

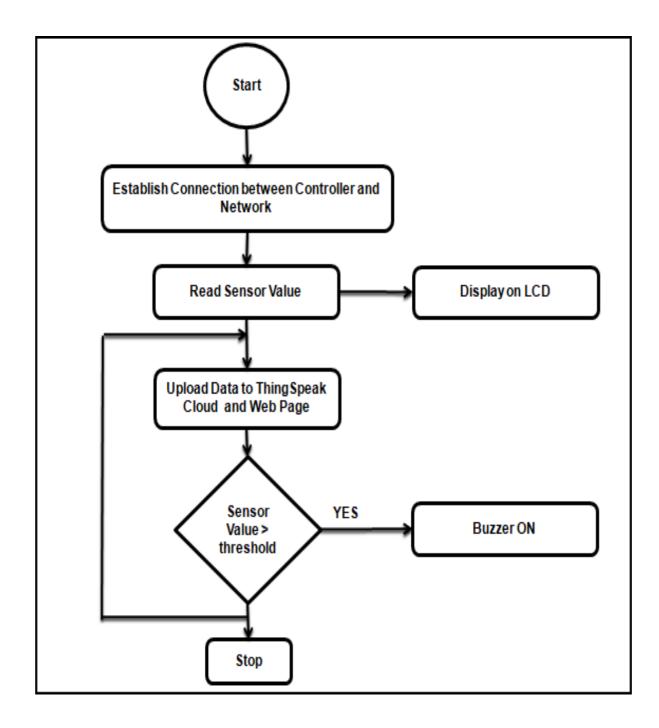
- ➤ Calibration Equipment: Reference gas mixtures, calibration kits for sensors.
- Software Tools: Sensor calibration software and diagnostic tools for troubleshooting.

8.10 References

- List of research papers
- > Articles
- Books on air pollution monitoring
- FoI ≺
- ➤ AI & ML

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Pseudo Code



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```
BEGIN
```

Configuration

SET LCD pins (LCD_RS, LCD_E, LCD_D4, LCD_D5, LCD_D6,

LCD_D7)

SET BUZZER_PIN

SET GAS_THRESHOLD

SET SPI_PORT, SPI_DEVICE

INITIALIZE MCP3008 for SPI communication

SET DHT_SENSOR type and pin

SET ThingSpeak API Key and URL

Flask App Initialization

CREATE Flask app instance

Function: read_sensors

DEFINE read_sensors()

READ gas_value from MCP3008 ADC channel 0

READ temperature, humidity from DHT11 sensor

IF temperature and humidity are valid:

RETURN temperature, humidity, gas_value

ELSE:

RETURN None for temperature and humidity, gas_value

Function: send_to_thingspeak

DEFINE send_to_thingspeak(temperature, humidity, gas_value

CREATE data dictionary with temperature, humidity, gas_value

TRY:

SEND data to ThingSpeak via HTTP POST

IF successful:

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PRINT success message

ELSE:

PRINT error message with HTTP code

CATCH exceptions:

PRINT exception details

Route: /

DEFINE route '/'

CALL read_sensors to get temperature, humidity, gas_value

IF temperature or humidity are invalid:

SET temperature and humidity to "N/A"

CALL send_to_thingspeak with sensor data

RETURN webpage rendering with temperature, humidity,

gas_value

Route: /Api/data

DEFINE route '/Api/data'

CALL read_sensors to get temperature, humidity, gas_value

IF temperature or humidity are invalid:

SET temperature and humidity to "N/A"

RETURN data as JSON with temperature, humidity, gas_value

Run Flask App

IF script is run as main:

START Flask app with debug mode enabled

END

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