

Internet based Smart Poultry Farm using LabVIEW

Sneha. M¹, T. N. Raghavendra², Dr. H. Prasanna Kumar³

PG Scholar (C&I), Dept. of EE, UVCE, Bangalore, Karnataka, India¹ Assistant Professor, Dept. of EE, UVCE, Bangalore, Karnataka, India² Assistant Professor, Dept. of EE, UVCE, Bangalore, Karnataka, India³ _____ _____ _____

Abstract - Contemporary agriculture must incorporate automation to improve production efficiency; hence automation is crucial in poultry farming industry too. This paper deals with the integration of wireless sensors and mobile system network to control and monitor following environmental parameters: temperature, relative humidity, air impurity levels in a poultry farm. DHT22 sensor module is used for temperature and relative humidity measurements. MQ135 sensor module is used for air pollution level measurement. Temperature and relative humidity are remotely monitored through internet. Remote monitoring is achieved by means of a computer system that acquires values sensed by sensor and communicates the same to a smart phone connected to the internet. Values of measured variables can be monitored in any smart phone that has the app DATA DASHBOARD FOR LABVIEW installed in it. Only temperature control is dealt with in this paper since temperature is the most crucial factor in the environment of a poultry farm.

Key Words: Contemporary Agriculture, automation, DHT22, MQ135, Data Dashboard FOR LabVIEW.

1. INTRODUCTION

In the past few decades, there has been an increase in awareness regarding the safety factor of foodstuffs and high demand has become evident for quality in food. The demand for food supply has steeply increased as a result of the increase in the world's population. Hence researchers have been putting considerable effort into methodologies to make food production more efficient and economic. The environmental conditions in poultry houses have major influence on the well being and health of production staff and also that of the birds. When the environmental standards are inadequate, respiratory, digestive and behavioral disorders are highly prevalent. Unhealthy birds cannot be expected to perform optimally.

A hatched chick cannot maintain a proper body temperature without help. In the first three weeks of life, a chick should not be exposed to cool temperatures. Exposing the young bird to cool temperatures(20°C or 70°F) for a day or two on the farm can cause the bird to die from heart problems later. Hence heated premises are a must for brooding. Temperature should be reduced by 3°C (5°F) per week, until the room temperature of 20°C (70°F) is reached. After six weeks of age, desirable temperature range is 18 to 21°C (65 to 70°F). The most widely used source of heat is a heat lamp for small flocks of birds.

Relative humidity of over 70% is undesirable and should be contained through use of ventilation in buildings and if below 50%, it can result in large production of dust and air borne microbes. During the summer season, birds experience discomfort due to high humidity combined with high temperatures. High CO₂ levels result in lethargic chicks with reduced weight gains, while high NH₃ levels result in poor feed conversion, reduced weight gain and increased susceptibility to disease. Ammonia levels of around 25 ppm can depress growth and decrease feed conversion efficiency in broilers, and levels of 50-75 ppm have been found to increase mortality rates. Ammonia levels should not exceed 20 ppm over any 8-hour period or 35 ppm over any 10 minute period during the poultry production cycle. The general accepted level of CO_2 in poultry production houses is 3000 ppm over a long period of time (8 hour) and 5000 ppm over a shorter period (10 minute).

Focus of this paper is on the integration of sensors and mobile network for monitoring and control of the environment in a poultry farm. An Internet based Smart Sensing Platform is used to monitor temperature and humidity. By means of a heating bulb and a cooling fan, temperature control is implemented in the farm. Air pollution level in the farm is also monitored. This is intended to make work much easier and efficient in poultry farm management. A poultry monitoring system has the potential to play an integral part in poultry production going forward.

2. SYSTEM MODEL

MONITORING SUBSYSTEM

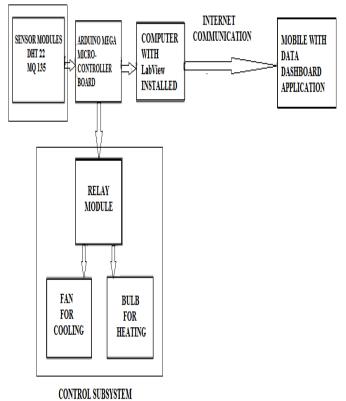


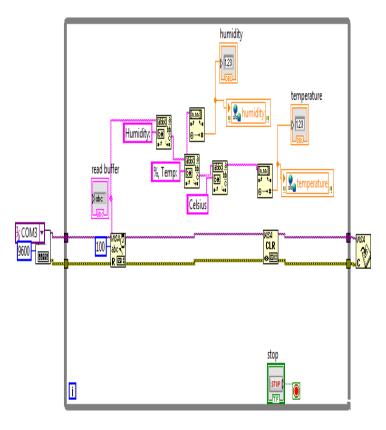
Fig. 1: Block Diagram of the system model built

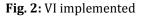
The system model has been built for remotely monitoring temperature and humidity in a poultry farm through Internet and maintaining temperature at desired set point by implementing temperature control. Air pollution level is also monitored by means of a gas sensor. The designed system comprises of control and monitoring subsystems as shown in figure 1. Monitoring module comprises of digital temperature and humidity sensor (dht22) module and MQ-135 air quality sensor module while control module comprises of Arduino MEGA 2560 micro controller board. The above mentioned parameters are continuously monitored. Remote monitoring of data is made possible by the software application **Data Dashboard for LabVIEW** that is supported in android and iOS phones.

When temperature in the farm exceeds the set point (set in prior), fan is automatically switched ON. On the contrary, when the temperature falls below the set point, bulb is switched ON for heating. DHT22 sensor measures values of temperature and relative humidity inside the farm. MQ135 sensor measures level of air pollution in the farm detecting the gases NH_3 and CO_2 . These two sensors are interfaced to microcontroller. Microcontroller controls on/off of relay thus controlling on/off of fan/bulb.

Remote monitoring of LabVIEW-based systems from a mobile platform is an important aspect to a flexible and efficient system. Data Dashboard for LabVIEW is a mobile application which enables the creation of custom user interfaces to monitor and control LabVIEW applications remotely. Here this software is used to monitor values of temperature and humidity.

3. IMPLEMENTATION





The VI shown in figure 2 is built for remote monitoring of temperature and relative humidity values from a mobile system installed with Data dashboard for LabVIEW application. This VI has to be built and run on a computer sytem which has LabVIEW software installed in it. When the VI is run, values of the shared variables will be displayed on the dashboard screen. The VI built using NI-



VISA is supported by code written in Arduino IDE. Flowchart of this code is shown in figure 3.

Values of measured variables displayed in serial monitor of Arduino IDE up until temperature reaches 27°Cis shown in table 1.

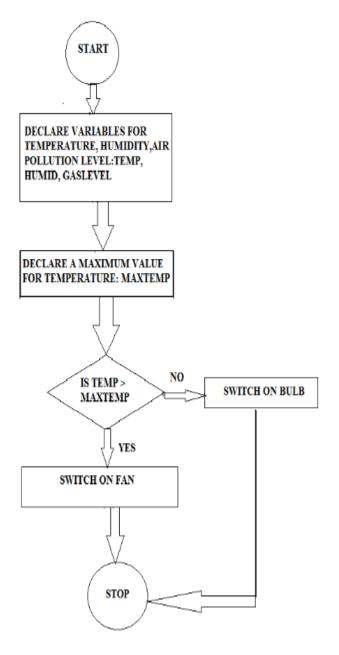


Fig. 3: Flowchart of code written in Arduino IDE

4. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

When the VI is run, Temperature and Relative Humidity(RH) readings are displayed in numeric indicators and simultaneously displayed in charts. In chart indicator, measured variable is displayed as a function of time. For illustration of working of model, **set point** is set at 27°C When temperature is beyond 27°C fan is ON.

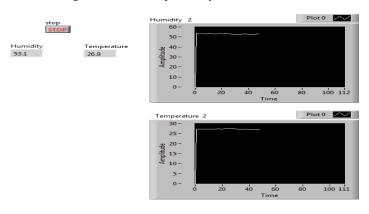
Temperature in	Relative	Air pollution
°C	humidity in %	level in ppm
27.3	52.50	48
27.3	52.50	48
27.3	52.30	47
27.3	52.30	47
27.2	52.90	47
27.2	52.70	47
27.2	52.90	46
27.2	52.70	46
27.1	52.70	46
27.1	52.50	46
27.1	52.60	46
27.1	52.80	46
27.1	52.90	46

Table 1: Readings displayed in serial monitor of ArduinoIDEwhen the FAN is ON

Once value of temperature reaches 27°C, BULB is turned ON. Temperature drops to 26.9°Cand due to heating action of bulb, temperature crosses set point again and FAN is ON again. Temperature and RH readings recorded till 26.9°Cis shown in figure 4. Temperature and RH readings taken after crossing set point due to heating action of BULB is shown in figure 5.

By entering IP address of the computer system to be connected to, connecting to shared variable becomes possible. After connecting to the shared variable, the type of indicator can be chosen. On choosing numerical indicator, shared values of measured variables will be displayed as shown below:

Snapshots of RH and Temperature values displayed in the mobile system on which data dashboard app is run are shown in figure 6 and 7 respectively.



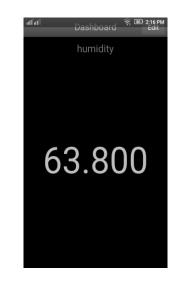


Fig 6: Snapshot of humidity reading displayed in dashboard



Fig 7: Snapshot of temperature reading displayed in dashboard

5. CONCLUSION

There is increasing concern in the poultry industry with regard to high ambient temperatures; this concern may be attributed to rapid development of the industry in countries with warm climates and also to reduced performance and increased mortality of poultry during summer months in countries with temperate climates. As poultry do not sweat, they cool themselves using mainly their lungs via evaporation. They resort to panting as temperatures increase which increased metabolic rate and

Fig. 4: Temperature(°Q and RH(%) readings recorded in front panel of VI when BULB is turned ON

Humidity

60 -

stop STOP 50 -Humidit 40 Amplitude 54.9 27.1 30 -20 -10-0-100 112 6 20 40 60 80 Temperature 2 Plot 0 📈 30 -25 -20 -Amplitude 15-10-5-0-100 111

Fig. 5: Temperature(°O and RH(%) readings after the BULB is turned OFF

Plot 0 📈

evaporative cooling. Body temperatures must remain close to 41 degree centigrade; an increase beyond the regulated range (more than 4 degree centigrade) will result in an irreversible chain of thermoregulatory events. At these higher temperatures, the birds consume less food, and convert the feed less efficiently.

If ventilation is not sufficient, heat stress can occur at a variety of temperatures. In cooler climates, birds are susceptible to cold stress. Cold temperatures during the initial stages of the broiler cycle could result in impaired immune and digestive systems, which will result in reduced growth and an increased probability of contracting diseases. When birds lose heat at an uncontrolled rate, cold stress occurs. If bird feed is converted to heat energy for warmth, bird daily growth rate is reduced.

Since temperature is the most critical factor in the environment of the poultry farm, efficient control of temperature is implemented in the system model built in this project. Temperature and relative humidity levels can be monitored remotely by means of a mobile system.

FUTURE ENHANCEMENT

The concept of smart farming is quickly catching on in the agricultural business. Offering useful data collection and automated control techniques, there are certainly many advantages a networked farm has to offer over a regular farm. The system model built in this project is an example of networked farm. The developed system only monitors the parameters of poultry farm through internet, controlling of parameters is not implemented through internet. However, in future it may be possible to monitor and control the environmental parameters through the internet of things (IOT).

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