

Significant Contribution in Healthcare by using IoT



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Abstract: Nowadays, the heart-related disease is rapidly rising. Most patients, in some cases, may not identify their health condition. Even in rural areas, doctors are not available 24x7. Due to the advancement of modern technology, these diseases can be detected early and can be treated on time. So, the developed device can continuously track the patient's heartbeat and temperature, and the recorded data can be sent to the concerned doctor so that treatment can be provided to the patient. Here the IoT (Internet of Things) is being used for monitoring the patient's health status and send wirelessly to the IoT server. This device can also be monitored from remote places. This device is mainly helpful for aged and disabled people who find it difficult to go to doctors daily or for patients who need continuous monitoring of their health status. The designed hardware will capture the real-time heartrate and temperature value and send the data to the concern IoT server using any mobile or Wi-Fi network having with internet facility. Before sending the data the preprocessing is being done by the attached microcontroller in the respective sensors module. The value sent in the IoT server will be used for generating the online graph through the Application Program Interface (API) that are used in developing the web and mobile application. In this system the authenticated user can view the output trough developed mobile application web application.

Keywords : Internet of Things (IoT), Human Heart Rate, Body Temperature, ThingSpeak, Mobile Application.

I. INTRODUCTION

Every year 17.1 million lives are taken away due to an unhealthy diet and physical inactivity, factors which lead to cardiovascular diseases, the world's largest killer. Cardiovascular diseases affect all ages and gender. A heart

attack is the leading cardiovascular disease [1].

Heart rate is a critical parameter in the functioning of the heart. Therefore, to maintain the heart's health, it is essential to study the heart and health monitoring is required [2]. Even it is essential to continuously monitor the health status of a patient having heart-related diseases. Nevertheless, there arise many problems such as in remote places, doctors' availability is the main setback, in hospitals, the doctor may not be available anytime, and in some cases, people may not identify their condition, which leads to the death of the patient. In modern era Internet of Things (IoT) redefines Healthcare, allowing us to innovate new designs and take them to a new level. It is a giant network that connects things and people. The advantage of IoT in Healthcare is endless. Few advantages of IoT in Healthcare include reducing errors, decreased costs, providing better patient experience, homecare etc. [3]. In this paper, we proposed a system using specialized sensors such as temperature sensors (LM35 Temperature sensor) and ECG sensor (ECG module AD8232) to monitor the patient's body temperature and heart rate. These two physiological parameters can easily be monitored and are essential to detect the disease [4]. This will enable the doctors to view patients' health status remotely without being physically present near the patient and necessary treatment. This system will help especially the elders ill patients who are not in the hospital, patients in the remote area, and patients residing in the hospitals to monitor their health conditions [5]. People need not have to travel long distances for a check-up, which saves a lot of time and can help during emergencies. This patient health monitoring device enables the sensors to track the parameters and upload the data collected to the server so that the doctor can quickly check, and necessary treatment can be done at the earliest preventing death rates [6]. The uploaded data can also be stored and this can be used by doctor for future investigations. Our project includes various software and hardware components. The software consists of an IoT platform which is ThingSpeak. The hardware consists of an Arduino Uno microcontroller, ECG Module AD8232, Temperature sensor LM35, LCD Display, and WiFi module ESP8266. Arduino Uno is a microcontroller used to collect data through the sensors and upload the data to the IoT platform through WiFi and display the data in an LCD display. In this project, we measure heart rate form ECG. Electrocardiography (ECG) is a diagnostic technique used to record the electrical activity of the heart [7]. In this technique, the heart's electrical potential is recorded from the body

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surface using a suitable electronic instrument. This instrument is known as an electrocardiograph, and the record taken on the graph paper is called an electrocardiogram [8]. From an electrocardiogram, we can easily calculate the heart rate in the unit of beat/minute [9].

We calculate the value of each ECG graph's time duration or pick to pick the time duration of two ECG graphs then divide by 60 [10]. We also measure the body temperature using the LM35 temperature sensor, which gives us an output value of 10mV per °C [11]. After that, we convert the temperature value from °C to °F. After calculating heart rate values and temperature, both the values are displayed on the 16x2 LCD display module and the values are sent together to the IoT server after every 17 seconds time duration. The data uploaded into ThingSpeak can be shown in a mobile app, so we develop a mobile application and create a webpage [12].

II. METHODOLOGY

A. Working Principle of the proposed system

The IoT project developed is built with Arduino Uno, NodeMCU ESP8266 WiFi Module, AD8232 ECG Module, LM35 Temperature Sensor, 16x2 LCD Display, and other components. The Arduino Uno is interfaced with an AD8232 ECG Module and an LM35 Temperature Sensor so that both the sensors can ECG and temperature data. The AD8232 ECG Module has a 3.5mm jack socket to connect with a 3.5mm jack plug of a single lead cable with a three-electrode connector[13]. This three-electrode connector is connected with 3 Ag-AgCl electrodes by placing them in the patient's limb as lead-I configuration to take ECG data [14]. Then the heart rate value is calculated from the ECG [5]. Calculation of heart rate is done by using the following formula-

Heart rate = (60/Time duration of a single ECG graph in second) beats per minute

The LM35 Temperature Sensor gives the analog Output as 19mV per °C. For converting °C to °F, the following formula is used-

Body temperature = $\{[(\text{Output voltage of LM35 in mV range}/10) \times (9/5)] + 32\}$ °F

The Arduino Uno is also interfaced with a 16x2 LCD to display the recorded heart rate and body temperature. Moreover, a NodeMCU ESP8266 WiFi Module is interfaced with the Arduino Uno to send those data values to the IoT server ThingSpeak. With this simple yet effective device, the health status of a patient can be monitored. The health-related data, i.e., heart rate and body temperature, are periodically updated to the ThingSpeak platform after every 17 seconds time duration. This data can be further utilized to keep the medical history of the patient. The NodeMCU ESP8266 WiFi module access internet from a local hotspot connection to send data to an IoT server. All the processes are done automatically by the Arduino Uno programmed with a suitable algorithm. After uploading the recorded data to ThingSpeak, it can be shown in the mobile application. The mobile application has been developed using the MIT app inventor. It is an application that allows us to build apps using programming illustrations. It is an open-source web application that uses a graphical interface and block-based

coding programs, allowing users to create applications that can be used on smartphones [15]. The main need for app development is to lift the IoT, which results in the MIT inventor, which helps connect devices [16].

B. Electrode placement

In this project, we calculate heart rate from ECG, measuring from three limbs (LA, RA, RL) surface by placing Ag-AgCl electrodes and EG lead cable as lead-I configuration [17]. The color codes for ECG lead cable are as shown in figure 1.

- Green-Left Arm (LA)
- Red-Right Arm (RA)
- Yellow-right Leg (RL)

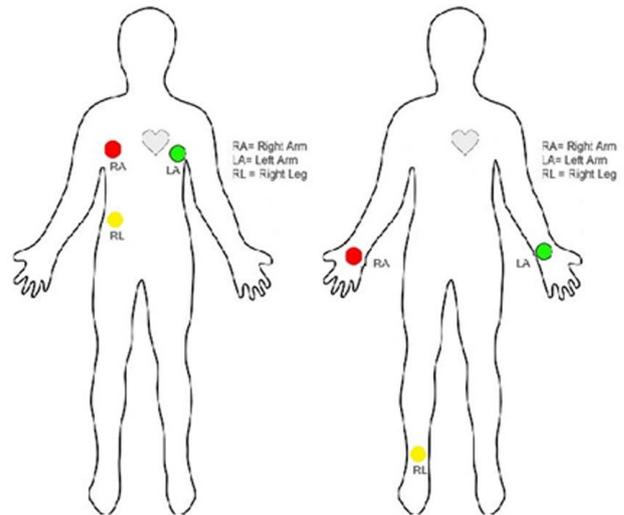


Fig. 1. Electrode placement positions

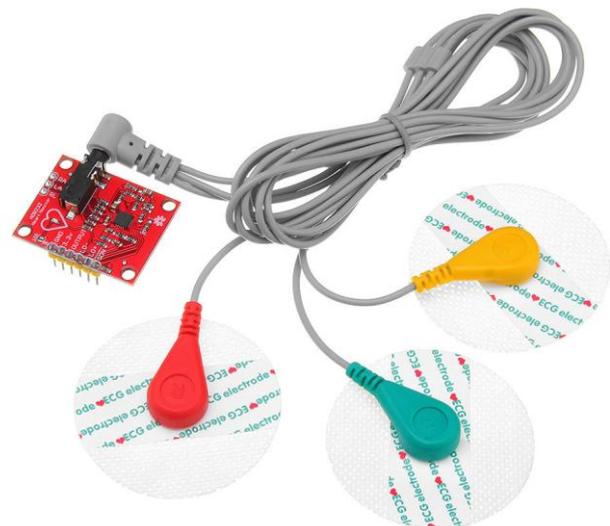


Fig. 2. ECG module AD8232, Electrodes and Cable

III. THEORETICAL DISCUSSION



In the block diagram shown in figure 3, the power supply is a 9 volt DC battery, which provides power to the Arduino Uno through the ON/OFF switch. The Output of the AD8232 ECG module and LM35 temperature sensors are connected to the Arduino Uno analog inputs to provide an analog input signal to the Arduino Uno.

These output signals are processed by Arduino Uno using a suitable algorithm. Then the final outputs are displayed on 16x2 LCD as heart rate and temperature. Arduino Uno is also connected with an ESP8266 WiFi module, which accesses the internet from a hotspot connection to send the heart rate and temperature data to an IoT server. A LED is also connected with a digital output port and ground port of the Arduino Uno to blink for each heartbeat during measurement.

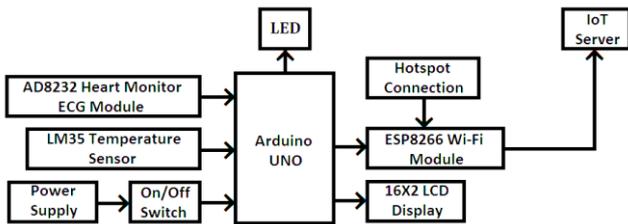


Fig. 3. Block diagram of IoT based heart rate and temperature measurement system

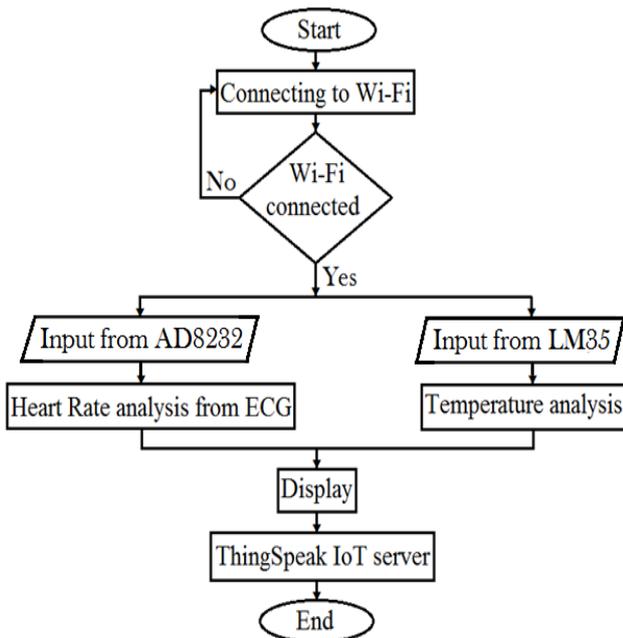


Fig. 4. Flowchart of the complete mechanism

IV. DESCRIPTION OF DESIGNED HARDWARE

The circuit connection as shown in figure 5, shows all the components connected to the Arduino Uno. The Arduino Uno is a microcontroller board based on the microchip ATmega328P microcontroller [18]. It has 14 digital pins (of which six can be used as PWM outputs), six analog outputs, a 16 MHz ceramic resonator, a USB connection, and a power jack. It contains everything to support the microcontroller [19]. For measuring the heartbeat, we are using the AD8232 ECG module to measure ECG. We connect the AD8232 ECG module to Arduino Uno by using only three ports of the ECG module. The three ports are- GND, Output, and Vcc. The ECG module's output pin is connected to the analog input port of A0 of the Arduino Uno. The Vcc is connected to 3.3V DC

power port of Arduino Uno. Moreover, the ground is connected to the common ground. For measuring the body temperature, we are using the LM35 temperature sensor. LM35 has three pins- Vcc (pin 1), Output (pin 2), and GND (pin 3). The Vcc and GND pins are connected to Vcc and ground, respectively. The LM35 can be operated by a supplied voltage of 4V to 20V, so a 5V supply is used from the Arduino Uno board from the 5V power port. The Output of the LM35 is connected to the A1 port of the Arduino Uno since the Output from LM35 is analog. Two 10KΩ potentiometers are used in the circuit, of which one is for adjusting contrast, and another is for adjusting brightness. For adjusting contrast, all three terminals are used. One side terminal of the potentiometer is connected with 5V of the Arduino Uno, another side is connected to the ground, and the middle terminal is connected to Vo of LCD to display the values of Heart rate and temperature. For adjusting brightness, only two terminals are used, one terminal is connected with 5V, and another is connected with the LCD's anode terminal. A 16x2 LCD is connected to the Arduino Uno board by connecting its data pins 2 to 5 with the Arduino Uno board. The Rs and E pin of the LCD is connected to digital port 11 and 12 of the Arduino Uno board. The RW pin of the LCD module is grounded. The Vcc pin of the LCD module is connected to 5V DC from the Arduino Uno. The V0 pin of the LCD module is connected to the middle terminal of the 10KΩ potentiometer. Pin A of the LCD module is connected to 5V of Arduino Uno via another 10KΩ potentiometer and pin K of the LCD module to the ground. The ESP8266 WiFi module is connected to the Arduino Uno board to send data to the IoT server. The Vin of the WiFi module is connected to the 5V DC from the Arduino Uno while the ground pin is connected to the common ground. The Tx (Transmitter port) and Rx (Receiver port) of the WiFi module is connected to the digital port 9 and 10 of the Arduino Uno board. The +ve terminal of a 9V battery is connected with the Arduino via an ON/OFF switch. Moreover the -ve terminal is connected to the ground. An LED is also connected. The +ve terminal of LED is connected to the digital port 7 of the Arduino Uno. Furthermore, the -ve terminal is connected to the ground.

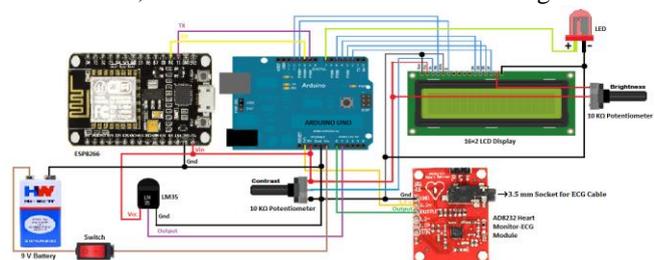


Fig. 5. Circuit diagram of IoT based heart rate and temperature measurement system

V. MATHEMATICAL CALCULATION

A. Heart rate calculation

To calculate the heartrate we measure the time duration of a single ECG graph as shown in figure 6 & figure 7 and calculate



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the heart rate from this time duration using the algorithm. The basic formula applied in this project for calculating heart rate is as follows:- Heart rate= (60/Time duration of a single ECG graph in second) Beats per minute

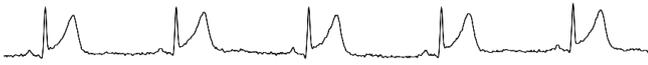


Fig. 6. ECG graph acquisition by AD8232 during an experiment

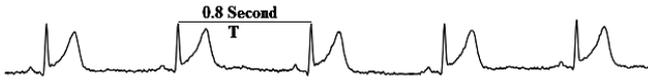


Fig. 7. Time duration measuring from the ECG graph

B. Temperature Calculation

Basic formula of temperature calculation is as follows-

Temperature= $\{[(\text{output voltage of LM35 in mV range}/10) \cdot (9/5)] + 32\} ^\circ\text{F}$

VI. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The developed IoT based heart rate and temperature measurement device. This device enables to measure heart rate and body temperature. We calculate heart rate from ECG (Electrocardiogram), and the temperature value is converted from Centigrade to Fahrenheit. The result is displayed on the 16x2 LCD and uploaded to the ThingSpeak IoT server. The heart rate value is shown in table 1 where the date and time stamp is coming with heart rate value. The designed hardware setup is shown in figure 8. The LED indicator will blink as per the heartbeat. The sensor output is being transferred to the ThingSpeak and that can be displayed through the ThingsSpeak website by using proper credentials as shown in figure 9. Through this web site we can also view the graphical plot of the different variance of the heart rate and temperature value. This will help to identify the patient's physiological behavior throughout the time. The server value can also be displayed to any customized website by using proper Application Programming Interface (API). This API will help to integrate the IoT servers features into users developed website or mobile application. In this project we also incorporate this IoT output in our customized designed website and also in the developed mobile app using MIT app inventor as shown in figure 10 and 11.



Fig. 8. Result displayed on a 16x2 LCD showing the temperature and heart rate

Table I: Heart Rate value on the IoT server

Measuring Date and Time		Heart Rate (BPM)
Date	Time (As per India GMT is +0530)	
29 th September, 2020	22:40:59	105
29 th September, 2020	22:41:16	87
29 th September, 2020	22:41:33	87
29 th September, 2020	22:41:50	90
29 th September, 2020	22:42:07	116
29 th September, 2020	22:42:24	122
29 th September, 2020	22:42:41	122
29 th September, 2020	22:42:58	79
29 th September, 2020	22:43:15	79
29 th September, 2020	22:43:32	108
29 th September, 2020	22:46:26	97
29 th September, 2020	22:46:43	95
29 th September, 2020	22:47:00	113
29 th September, 2020	22:47:17	72
29 th September, 2020	22:47:34	107
29 th September, 2020	22:47:51	98
29 th September, 2020	22:48:08	74
29 th September, 2020	23:10:13	67
29 th September, 2020	23:10:30	79
29 th September, 2020	23:10:47	78
29 th September, 2020	23:10:04	77
29 th September, 2020	23:11:21	74
29 th September, 2020	23:20:30	84
29 th September, 2020	23:20:47	85
29 th September, 2020	23:21:04	69
29 th September, 2020	23:21:21	71
29 th September, 2020	23:21:38	80
29 th September, 2020	23:24:39	74
29 th September, 2020	23:24:56	75

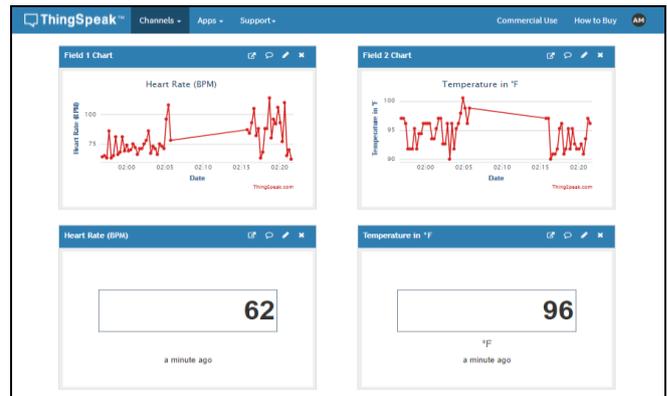


Fig. 9. Result on ThingSpeak website

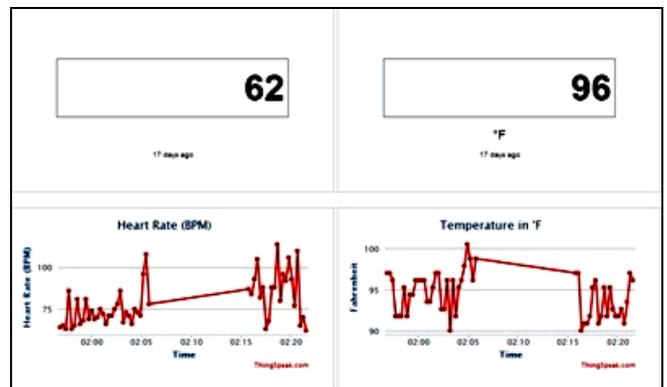


Fig. 10. Final result on our webpage



Fig. 11. Screenshot of heartrate displayed in design mobile application

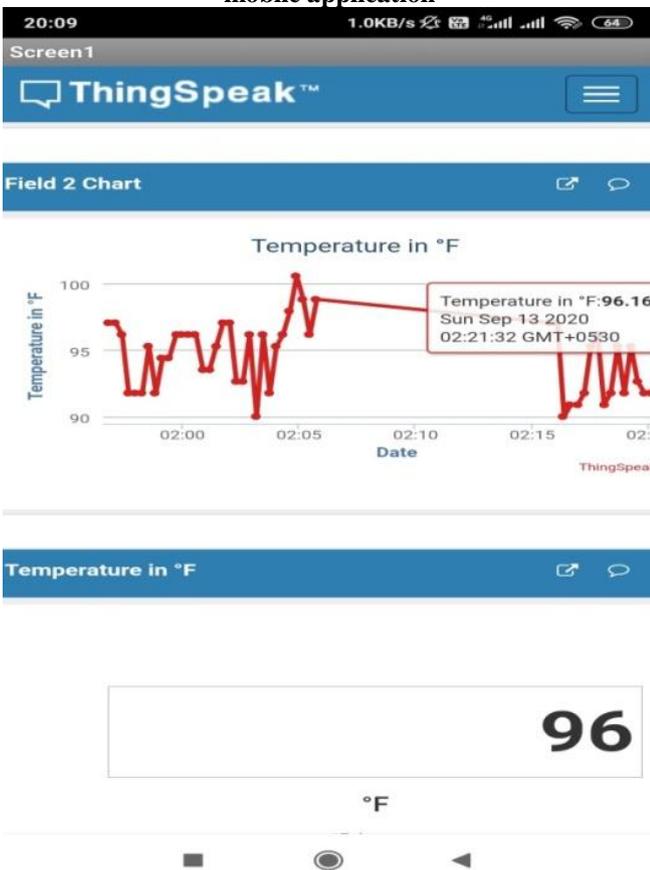


Fig. 12. Screenshot of temperature displayed in design mobile application

VII. CONCLUSION

A simple patient health monitoring device is developed using sensors and IoT technology, which measures the heart rate and temperature. The proposed system of the patient health monitoring can be highly helpful for old patients, ill patients in remote areas, and emergencies as it can be monitored continuously, recorded, and stored for future purposes. It will be an easy task in emergencies to give first aid to the patients. The graphical view of the considered parameters will help the medical practitioners to get the overview of the patients conditions throughout the time. This variance monitoring is a very essential task to understand the disease behavior. Through this technology we can add more parameters to make this system much effective and supportive for the healthcare practitioners. Further few abnormalities detection mechanism can also be incorporated to get the automatic emergency call by the system in critical condition with the help of Artificial Intelligence with IoT

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