



Automatic Detection of Carbon Dioxide Concentration using IoT

Boby Siswanto, Johan M. Kerta, Ranny, Devwanto D. Nugroho

Abstract: Inside a classroom inhabited by students, carbon dioxide (CO₂) will be produced. Number of students and inhabiting time will affect the carbon dioxide concentration. This research implementing Internet of Things (IoT) devices to measure carbon dioxide level inside a classroom. Measurements taken are comparing carbon dioxide level of student activity between exam class and regular learning class. On 100 minutes of measurement found that carbon dioxide concentration inside exam class 5% higher than carbon dioxide concentration inside regular learning class with the same number of inhabitants.

Keywords : Carbon dioxide measurement, Internet of Things, Automatic Comparison, Classroom.

I. INTRODUCTION

Temperature and humidity are considered things to determine the comfort level of room [1]. Currently almost all rooms, including classrooms are equipped with Air Conditioners (AC). Temperature settings of the room can be controlled using the AC's remote. The humidity level is a variable that cannot directly controlled, it will be automatically adjusted to the specified temperature value compared to the heat value inside the room.

Classroom will be inhabited by a teacher and students. Teacher and students will breathe together inside the room and will produce carbon dioxide (CO₂). If the CO₂ concentration inside the classroom reaches certain values, it can cause drowsiness or even adverse health effects [2]. The recommended CO₂ value according to some previous studies is around 450 ppm-1000 ppm[3][4]. Table- I shows the CO₂ values and their categories based on the results of previous studies [5].

Table- I: CO₂ Categories.

Categories	Values
Normal Outdoor	350 - 450 ppm
Acceptable Level	450 - 1000 ppm
General Drowsiness	1000 - 2500 ppm
Adverse Health Effects	2500 - 5000 ppm

Previous research investigating carbon dioxide concentration at examination hall. Candidate of the exam

should be wait at that hall for some time before entering the exam room. Carbon dioxide measured every 10 minutes. Found that carbon dioxide will be increased as the time period is increased [6]. Another research has done some implementation of controlling CO₂ concentration inside a classroom to improve Indoor Air Quality by placing plants inside the classroom. Placing the plants inside a room able to reduce the carbon dioxide concentration [7].

Adjusting ventilation rates to control CO₂ concentration inside a classroom also able to maintain the carbon dioxide level inside a classroom. It already done by other researcher [8]. This research will use IoT to measure the value of temperature, humidity and CO₂ inside a classroom where all data will be recorded into a database. Internet of Things (IoT) is a technique that combines hardware, software, databases and computer networks to gain some purposes [9].

II. OBJECTIVES

This study aims to make a comparison of measurement of carbon dioxide concentration between exam class and regular lecture situation at the same classroom.

III. RESEARCH METHODS

Method of the research is done by designing tools using IoT microcontroller and sensors to obtain some data [10]. Microcontroller and sensors will be placed inside a classroom. Temperature, humidity and CO₂ concentration will be obtained along with the current time and day values [11]. All of the IoT devices are connected to the internet via a Mikrotik router. Data will be recorder every 10 seconds on a database. Database will be installed at the web server located on the internet. There will be some software installed at the web server which are MySQL DB, PHP and Apache web server. All software operated on the Ubuntu Operating System. Temperature and humidity data will be obtained from DHT22 sensor and CO₂ concentration data obtained from MHZ-19B sensor [12]. Analysis will be done by analysing obtained data of carbon dioxide against the 100 minutes of elapsed times. There will be two dataset to be compared which are dataset of regular lecture class and dataset of exam class. Both dataset will be compared on carbon dioxide concentration increments.

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Automatic Detection of Carbon Dioxide Concentration using IoT

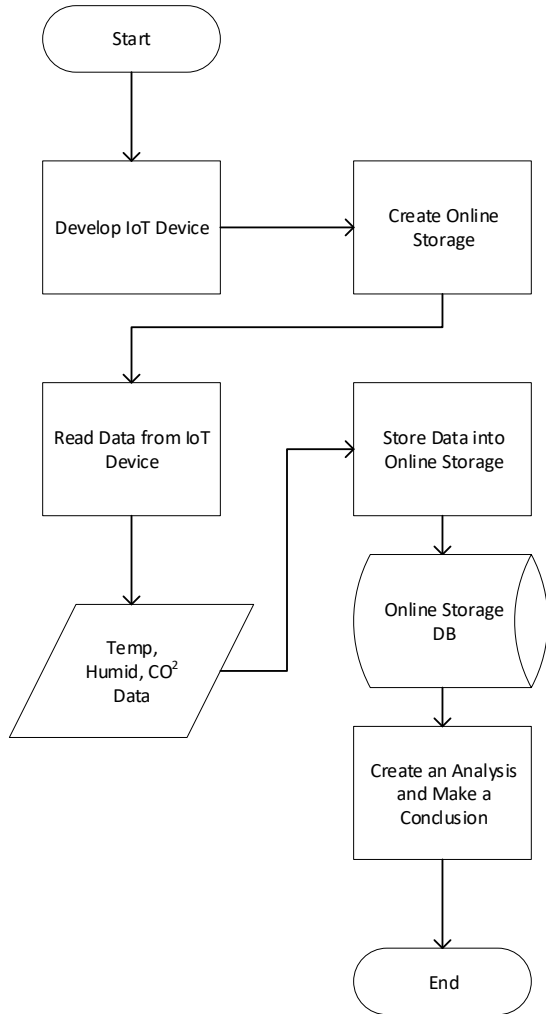


Fig. 1. Research Methods Flow Diagram

IV. IOT DESIGN

Design will split into 2 parts, which are microcontroller program part and server program part. Parts of the microcontroller program located inside the classroom and the server program part located at the VPS (Virtual Private Server) webserver. Internet of Things devices list seen on Table- II. The IoT design illustration seen at the Figure 3.

Table- II: Internet of Things Devices List.

Name	Function
NodeMCU ESP8266	Micro Controller
DHT-22	Temperature & Humidity Sensor
GY-30	Light illumination Sensor
MHZ-19B	Infrared CO2 Sensor
Mikrotik	WiFi Router
MySQL Database	Data Storage
VPS Webserver	(Ubuntu OS + Apache + PHP)
Putty	Interface to the VPS

The microcontroller program created using Arduino IDE, ESP8266 microcontroller will be used. Script of the Arduino program seen on Figure 3.

```

SensorPrograms()
1 : initialize DHT22 //Temperature & Humidity sensor
2 : initialize MHZ19b //CO2 sensor
3 : initialize GY-30 //Luminance sensor
4 : while True
5 :   read Temperature
6 :   read Humidity
  
```

```

7 : read Luminance
8 : read CO2
9 : sendToServer(Temperature, Humidity, Luminance, CO2)
  
```

Fig. 2. Arduini Microcontroller Program

Classroom usage is limited by a lecture session. Each session lasts for 100 minutes start from 7.20 until 17.00 (20 minutes break for each session transition).

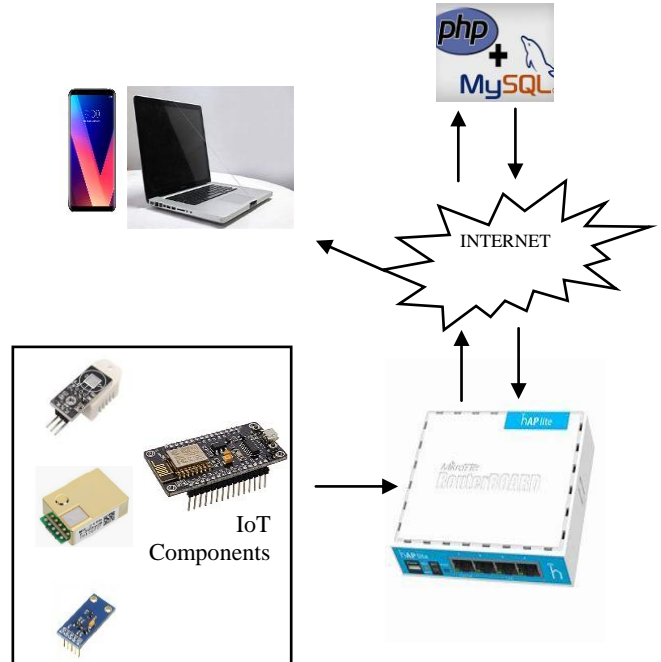


Fig. 3. IoT Microcontroller Program

V. EXPERIMENTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Classroom usage is limited by a lecture session. Each session lasts for 100 minutes start from 7.20 until 17.00 (20 minutes break for each session transition).

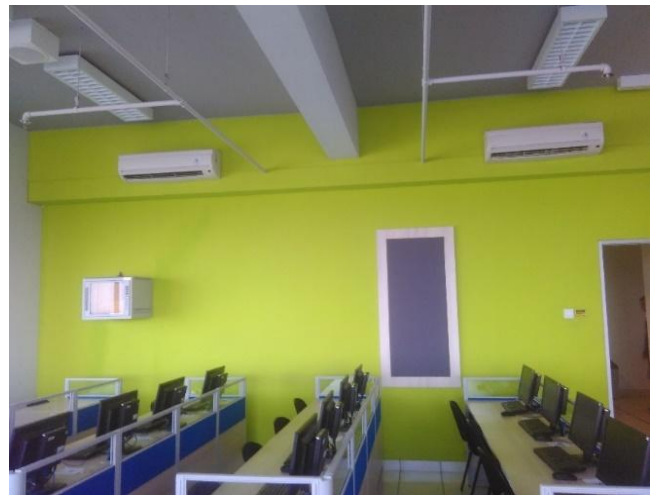


Fig. 4. Classroom Environment

Table- III: Example of Data Obtained from IoT Sensors

Temo	Humid	CO ₂	Lux	Rdate
26.8	31.9	1245	312	11/11/2019 08:59
26.8	31.9	1240	310	11/11/2019 08:59
26.9	31.9	1230	311	11/11/2019 08:59
26.9	31.8	1230	311	11/11/2019 08:58
26.9	31.9	1220	311	11/11/2019 08:58

This research is done by obtain data from 2 lecture sessions at 9.20-11.00 at the same classroom. First session is at regular lecture class and the second one is at the exam class. Example of obtained data at the database is shown at Table- III.

Experiments is done by comparing the two obtained dataset based on the student activity inside the classroom (general lecture and exam). Carbon dioxide concentration in the classroom is produced by the many occupants of the room and their activities.

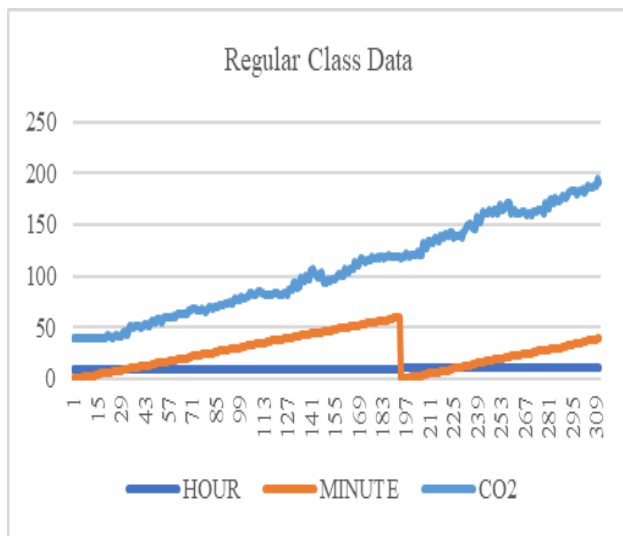


Fig. 5. CO₂ concentration graph at regular class

Obtained data drawn into two graph. Figure 5 shows obtained regular learning class data and figure 6 shows obtained exam class data. Both data have same duration of time which is 100 minutes.

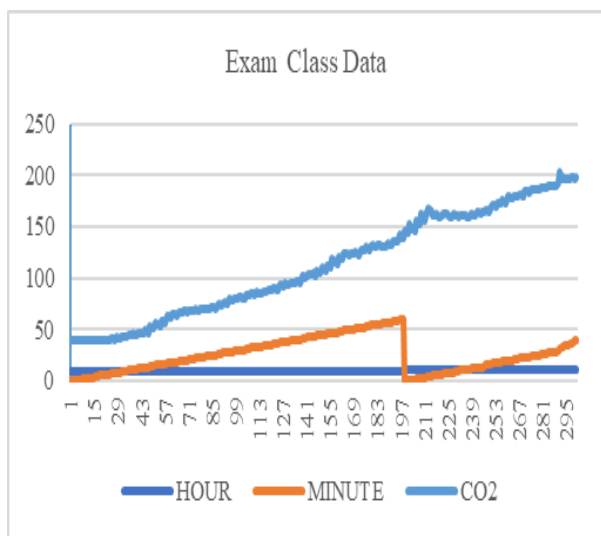


Fig. 6. CO₂ concentration graph at exam class

Based on both graphs, found that exam class dataset has higher values on carbon dioxide concentration value than regular learning class dataset, shown on Table- IV.

Table- IV: Data Obtained Comparison

No	Minutes	Regular	Exam
1	10	50,5	45,5
2	30	76,5	79,5
3	60	118,5	139,5
4	90	171,5	189
5	100	191,5	197,5

Based on comparison graph on figure 7, found that carbon dioxide concentration on exam class has higher value than the regular learning class after 30 minutes of elapsed time.

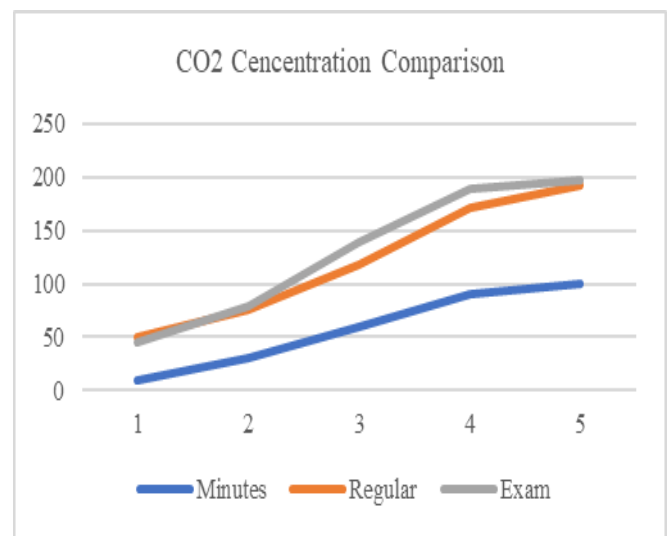


Fig. 7. Comparison graph between regular learning class and exam class

VI. CONCLUSION

Based on the results on table- IV and comparison graph on figure 7, the conclusion is carbon dioxide concentration on exam situation is higher than the regular class situation. The differences found after 30 minutes of elapsed time. It has 5% higher on the average value. It indicates that inhabitants or students that resides inside the classroom will breath much heavier due to the exam pressure.

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