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IOT BASED SMART SOLAR STREET LIGHT BATTERY/PANEL FAULT DETECTION

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Abstract - The internet of things (IoT) is able to implement transparently a very large amount of heterogeneous end systems, while digital service provides an open access to subset of data. The focus of this paper is to design & analyze a technologically advanced, cost effective smart solar street light which will detect the faults in the street light's battery/panel with the use of PHP (Hypertext Preprocessor) & the microcontroller ESP32. Now a days, Street lights have become a vital aspect including road safety. But the major problem of today in street lights is that the solar street light with sensors need to be equipped with solar cells and solar panels, this has become the target of the theft or criminals. Apart from this, battery theft or fault is also a major challenge facing the operation of installed power infrastructure. It has caused many of such system to be non-functional. This paper presents a theft or fault detection system for protecting solar street lighting infrastructure. To solve this problem, continuous monitoring of the solar and battery voltage needs to be done. This data can be fetched over the server using server scripting language i.e. PHP. When someone tries to remove the battery or solar panel, it will be displayed on the website. The monitored data with date and time can be retrieved as a tabular data for future analysis. With the implementation of this work, precautionary alerts can be given to the service department on the designed website. Arduino Uno module is employed as the main controller of the system. A relay is employed to switch ON and OFF the LED. The prototype is designed and found excellent results.

Keywords:--Arduino Uno Controller, Wifi Module i.e. Node MCU, ESP32 microcontroller.

I. INTRODUCTION

Street lights are the elemental part of any city since it facilitates better night visions, secure

roads, and exposure to public areas but it consumes a quite large proportion of electricity. Also now a days, there is a risk that the battery or solar panel may get damaged or stolen. Due to this, the street light remains OFF for particular time period till the maintenance team comes and repair or restores the fault. Also, in manual streetlight system lights are powered from sunset to sunrise with maximum intensity even when there is sufficient light available. This energy wastage can be avoided by switching off lights automatically [1,2]. The saved energy can be efficiently utilized for other purposes like residential, commercial, transportation etc. In case of battery or solar panel fault, the service department is unable to recognize the fault or steal due to lack of information and unawareness, so the particular street light remains off for very long time [5]. Because of this, due to darkness accidents may occur [1]. IoT is the network of physical devices that allows the devices to communicate with each other. These systems allow greater transparency, control and good performance.

Automation simplifies various problems in the world economy as well as in daily life. It uses the latest technology in LED as the light source to restore conventional street lamps. The LED lights are adapted because of its various advantages over existing technologies like power saving due to increased current luminous efficiency, reduced maintenance cost, high colour rendering index, and durability [8]. Nowadays flexibility of street lights system is being highly challenged. Handling remote area location is the greatest dilemma. Here, relay is used as the automatic switch and reduce almost 100% of manual work [2,6]. The main issue of existing electric system is the connectivity problem as most of the connections handled by different contractors are done manually. It supports client server mechanism where a single user can control the overall system [5]. Arduino is an open source microcontroller which is used with other communication technologies [3].

ESP32 is a low cost Wi-Fi modules with an AT commands library. It allows the arduino to connect to the internet through Wi-Fi connection [7]. Arduino collects all the data uploaded from sensors and transmits it to the cloud server by using Wi-Fi module ESP32, which is mounted on arduino through on board serial port.

The data on the cloud server will be displayed location wise. The designed website will be hosted on the same cloud using PHP programming language. Website will contain the separate dashboards and news, surveys related to the solar and battery voltage [1]. The website link will be provided on the college website. In this paper, we will present a system for monitoring the battery/solar voltage or if in case, it get removed, then an SMS will be generated and sent to the provided mobile number [4]. The outline of the paper is as follows.

PROPOSED ALGORITHM:

II. MATERIALS & METHODS

The objective of this paper is to design and implement a system for detecting the fault in the battery or solar panel & provide theft detection using Internet of Things (IoT) as well as conservation of energy by reducing electricity wastage. The model initiates sensor devices that can sense, compute & communicate data in a network. Monitored data is wirelessly transmitted via Wi-Fi module to the server.

The block diagram of the system is shown below:

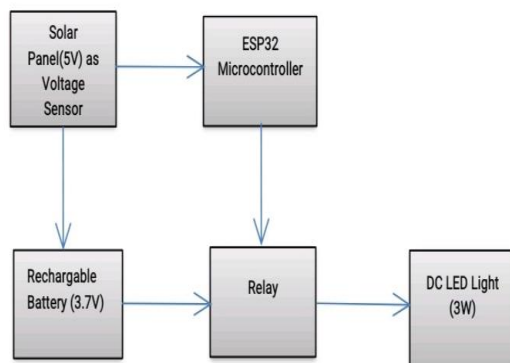


Fig.1 Block Diagram

Flow chart of the system is shown below:

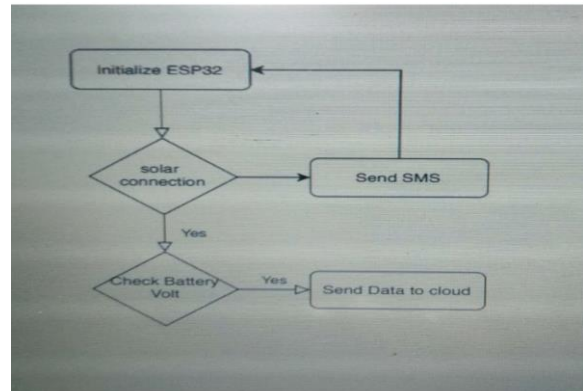


Fig.2 Flow Chart

Schematic diagram of the system is shown below:

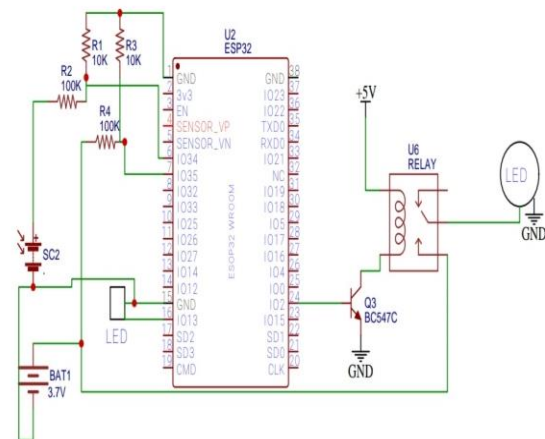


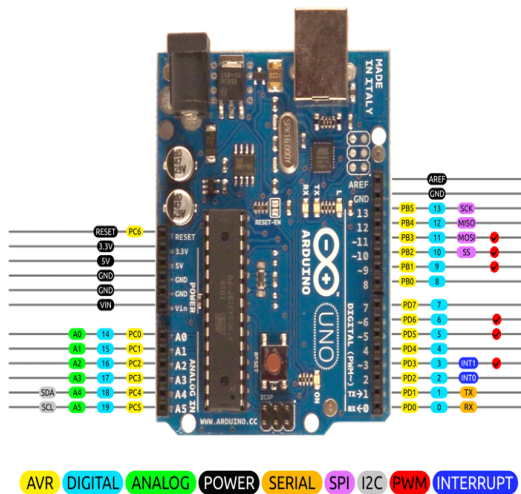
Fig.3 Schematic Diagram

The hardware requirement is presented in the next Section.

III. HARDWARE EQUIPMENT

1. Arduino:

Arduino software is used in this project. This software makes it easy to write code and upload it to the board. It runs on Linux Mac, Windows, Os and X. The software is written in Java and is based on processing and other open source software. It can be used with any Arduino board.

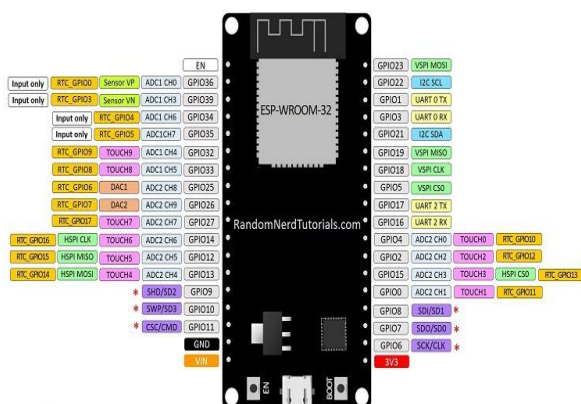


The Arduino board is able to read the inputs such as finger on a button, output such as activating motor or turning on an LED, etc. We can tell the board what to do by sending a set of instructions to the microcontroller on the board. Arduino boards are inexpensive as compared to other microcontroller platforms. The program in this software is written in embedded C language.

2. ESP32 Microcontroller:

The ESP32 is a series of low cost, low power system on chip microcontrollers with integrated Wi-Fi and dual mode Bluetooth capabilities. The ESP32 series employs a Tensilica Xtensa LX6 microprocessor in both dual core and single core variations. Processor, operating at 160 or 240 MHz and performing at up to 600 DMIPS.

ESP32 DEVKIT V1 - DOIT version with 36 GPIOs



* Pins SCK/CLK, SDO/S00, SDI/S01, SHD/SD2, SWP/SD3 and SCS/CMD, namely, GPIO6 to GPIO11 are connected to the integrated SPI flash integrated on ESP-WROOM-32 and are not recommended for other uses.

It is mounted on the Arduino board to get connected to the internet using WiFi connection.

3. Node MCU:

Node Mcu is an open source development board. It allows to program the WiFi module with Arduino IDE. Writing just a few lines of code, we can establish a WiFi connection and input/output pins can be defined according to our need like arduino, turning WiFi module into a web server, etc.



It can be programmed with the Lua programming language or Arduino IDE. WiFi networking, connectivity to the internet or fetching or uploading the data can be done here.

4. Solar Panel:

Solar panels are made up of solar cells which converts the sunlight into electricity. They are also known as photo voltaic solar module. Solar cells are made from silicon. There are several types of solar panel. They are,

- Polycrystalline Solar Panel
- Monocrystalline Solar Panel
- Thin Film Solar Panel

Out of these three only polycrystalline and monocrystalline solar panel are widely used for home solar system and commercial solar system.



Solar Panels are widely used in street lights now a days. These makes the street lights advance and reduces the electricity wastage. In this project, solar panel is connected in the circuit and programmed in such a way that if light is obtained on the panel, the status of the solar becomes '0' and hence LED remains OFF. In the same way, if we keep hand on the panel i.e. if we cover the panel, light will not be obtained on the panel which seems the night time and hence the LED will glow sending the solar status as '1' on the system.

4. Relay:

Relays are switches that open and close circuits electromechanically or electronically. Relays control one electrical circuit by opening and closing contacts in another circuit. When a relay contact is normally open, there is an open contact when the relay is not energized.

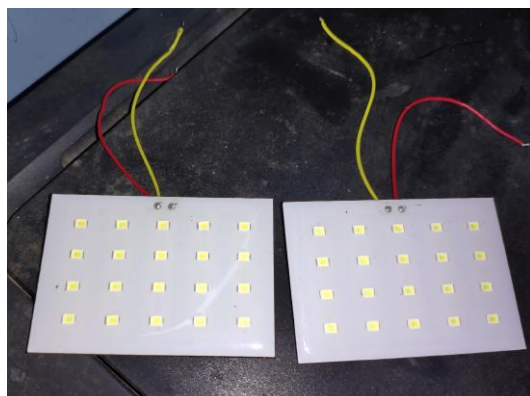


When a relay contact is Normally Closed, there is a closed contact when the relay is not energized. In either case, applying electrical current to the contacts will change their state.

5. Light Emitting Diode (LED):

LED i.e. light emitting diode is a semiconductor device which emits light when an electric current is passed through it. The semiconductor material used to manufacture LED are:

- Indium Gallium nitride (InGaN)
- Aluminum gallium indium phosphide (AlGaInP)
- Aluminum gallium arsenide (AlGaAs)
- Gallium phosphide (GaP)



LEDs used in this project are programmed with the arduino software. These will glow according to the solar status.

The software requirement is presented in next section.

IV. SOFTWARE REQUIREMENT

1. PHP (Hypertext Preprocessor):

PHP is a popular general purpose scripting language used for developing web applications. It is a server-side scripting language. It edits the information and pull it from the database which is written in SQL.

Server-Side Script Features:

- Open Source
- Interpreted
- Real Time Access Monitoring
- Case Sensitive
- Platform Independent

The PHP code will run as a web server module. To run the PHP code, we need to install Web Server like MYSQL. There are many such web servers for running programs in PHP like XAMPP and WAMP. XAMPP server is supported in Windows and Linux whereas WAMP server is supported in Windows only. In this project, we have used XAMPP server for running the PHP program on the web server.

2. Xampp:

Xampp is a software which provides the MYSQL database, Apache web server, PHP and Perl all in one package. XAMPP stands for Cross-Platform (X), Apache (A), MariaDB (M), PHP (P) and Perl (P). It allows us to work on a local server and test the local copies of the websites using PHP code and MYSQL databases. Once the XAMPP is active, we can access our local copy with a browser using an url like "http://localhost/" or "http://127.0.0.1/".

3. MYSQL:

MYSQL is the combination of "My", the name of co-founder Michael' Widenius's daughter, and "SQL", i.e. Structured Query Language. It is an open-source software which is used by many database-driven web applications.



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