

DEVELOPMENT OF REAL TIME CARBON EMISSIONS AND ENERGY
MONITORING SYSTEM FOR INDUSTRIAL ENVIRONMENT USING
OPC ARCHITECTURE

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ARCHITECTURE

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To my beloved mother, wife and family..

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ABSTRACT

Global warming is referred to the rise in average surface temperatures on earth primarily due to the Greenhouse Gases (GHG) emissions, such as Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) which trapped the heat within the atmosphere that will affect the ecosystems. Monitoring the emissions, either direct emissions from industrial processes or indirect with electrical energy consumptions is important to control or to minimize their impact to the environment. Electricity generation is normally using the steam turbine that burning fossil fuel as the source of energy, thus releases CO₂ in the process. Most of the existing environment monitoring system is being designed and developed for non-industrial environment monitoring. Hence, the aim of this project is to develop industrial CO₂ emissions monitoring system that can monitor real-time emissions in the industrial plant as well as energy usage which can be translated to its CO₂ equivalent. Developed using real-time development methodologies, the system implement Object Linking and Embedding for Process Control (OPC) communication protocol that widely used in process and control applications in the industry today. The protocol is successfully being interfaced to a low power Arduino microcontroller, hence it able to provide the sensor data to any of existing industrial OPC compliant Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system, for real-time emissions monitoring. The system has been successfully tested in Vehicle Engine Testing Lab in MJIT, UTM which providing the suitable environment for real-time CO₂ emissions measurement. The measurement data has been showed in an industrial SCADA application developed for the project. The system should benefits the industries in monitoring and managing their real-time carbon emissions which can be interfaced to their existing process monitoring system.

ABSTRAK

Pemanasan global adalah berpunca daripada kenaikan suhu permukaan purata di bumi terutamanya disebabkan oleh Gas Rumah Hijau (*Green House Gases*, GHG), seperti karbon dioksida (CO₂) yang telah memerangkap haba dalam atmosfera yang akan memberi kesan kepada ekosistem. Pemantauan sama ada pengeluaran langsung daripada proses industri atau tidak langsung dengan penggunaan tenaga elektrik adalah penting untuk mengawal atau mengurangkan kesannya kepada alam sekitar. Penjanaan elektrik biasanya menggunakan turbin stim yang membakar bahan api fosil sebagai sumber tenaga, dengan itu akan mengeluarkan CO₂ dalam proses penghasilannya. Kebanyakan sistem pemantauan alam sekitar yang sedia ada direka dan dibangunkan untuk pemantauan alam sekitar bukan perindustrian. Oleh itu, tujuan projek ini adalah untuk membangunkan sistem pemantauan yang boleh memantau pelepasan karbon secara masa nyata di dalam loji perindustrian serta penggunaan tenaga yang boleh diterjemahkan kepada jumlah pelepasan karbon. Dibangunkan menggunakan metodologi pembangunan masa nyata, sistem menggunakan protokol komunikasi *Object Linking and Embedding for Process Control* (OPC) yang digunakan secara meluas dalam aplikasi proses dan kawalan di industri hari ini. Protokol berjaya di antaramuka dengan mikropengawal Arduino kuasa yang rendah, yang dapat menyalurkan data kepada mana-mana sistem kawalan industri seperti *Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition System* (SCADA), untuk memantau pelepasan karbon secara masa nyata. Sistem ini telah berjaya diuji di dalam makmal ujian enjin kenderaan di MJIIT, UTM yang menyediakan persekitaran yang sesuai untuk pengukuran pelepasan CO₂. Data pengukuran telah ditunjukkan pada antaramuka sistem yang dibangunkan khas untuk projek tersebut. Sistem ini memberi manfaat kepada industri memantau dan menguruskan pengeluaran karbon yang boleh di antaramuka kepada sistem pemantauan proses sedia ada.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

APN	Asia Pacific Network for Global Change Research
ARM	Advanced Risc Machine
CO ₂	Carbon Dioxide
COM/DCOM	Component Object Model/Distributed
DSSS	Direct Sequence Spread Spectrum
EEPROM	Electrically Erasable Programmable Read Only Memory
GHG	Green House Gases
GPRS	Global Packet Radio Service
GSM	Global System for Mobile Communications
HMI	Human Machine Interface
HVAC	Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning System
I ² C	Inter Integrated Circuit
IOT	Internet of Things
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
ISM	Industrial, Scientific and Medical Band
LCI	Low Carbon Initiative
MJIIT	Malaysia-Japan International Institute of Technology
NDIR	Non Dispersive Infra-Red
OPC	Object Linking and Embedding for Process Control
OPC A&E	OPC Alarm and Events
OPC DA/HDA	OPC Data Access/Historical Data Access
OPC UA	OPC Unified Arichitecture
RAM	Random Access Memory
RF	Radio Frequency
RISC	Reduced Instruction Set Computing

SCADA	Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition
SDLC	System Development Life Cycle
SDRAM	Synchronous Dynamic RAM
SMS	Short Message Service
SPI	Serial Peripheral Interface
USB	Universal Serial Bus
UTM	Universiti Teknologi Malaysia
WSN	Wireless Sensor Network

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

The earth climate system is continuously evolving; with part of it is caused by human activities that resulting in emissions of Greenhouse Gases (GHG) such as carbon dioxide, methane and many other gases which leading to global warming. According to the Inter-Government on Climate Change (IPCC), global warming is the increase of Earth's average surface temperature due to effect of GHG from burning fossil fuels or from deforestation, which trap the heat that would otherwise escape from earth. One of the GHG emissions that contributing the most to global warming is Carbon Dioxide (CO₂). Carbon dioxide has contributed 65% of total emissions by gases as showed in the following Figure 1.0. Hence, monitoring and managing carbon emissions are important to reduce its impact on the environment.

Industrial processes and electricity production has contributed 21% and 25% globally as shown in Figure 1.0. Industrial and manufacturing processes with the use of heavy industrial equipment's are known to generate carbon emissions and electrical energy (which indirectly contribute to carbon emissions) usage is normally huge. Control of these emissions, by monitoring of carbon level and energy use of

the equipment's is equally important. Current concerns regarding the manufacturing processes are not limited to the production quality concern, but also considering the ecological footprint. As a result, new systems aimed at measuring the eco-efficiency and environmental impact of each manufacturing process in a production system (Victor and Federico, 2014).

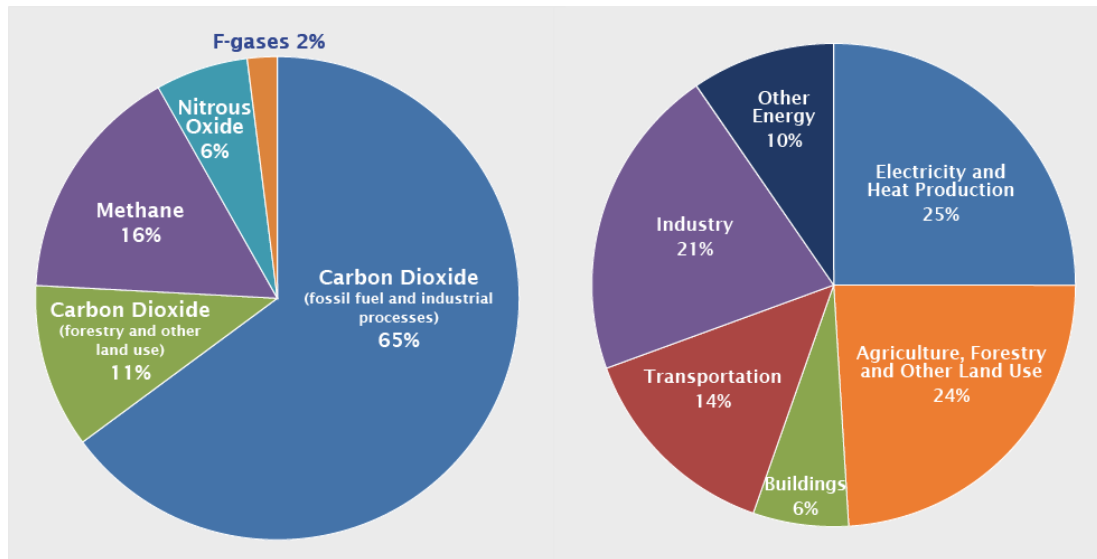


Figure 1.1: World Total GHG Emissions by Gases and Industry (Source: IPCC (2014))

A real-time system that could monitor the releases of carbon is needed in order to achieve a low carbon emissions target. There is a lot of study on monitoring carbon and other gases emissions, which using a different implementation. Among all, Mihajlovic et al. (2012) studies the landfill gases emissions particularly CO₂ and Methane, but for monitoring purposes only. While Garcia et al. (2012), present a conditioning system for low cost non-dispersive infrared gas sensors used to measure the CO₂ concentration in the open environment. Victor and Federico (2014), study the wireless sensor network to monitor the carbon emission level. They have used standard communication protocol, as an integration tool to interface to another generic system. They are focusing on the wireless sensor network topologies and power efficiency requirement of the wireless node.

The current project is focusing on real-time monitoring of carbon level in an industrial area, release by the manufacturing processes or from another source of emissions. Besides that, the level of electrical energy usage is high due to industrial process equipment's high power consumption. It is important to have a good idea of the carbon emission level capture by the sensor in the manufacturing area as well as energy consumption of the equipment's. The data can be brought to the plant control system for monitoring and analysis purposes. The system will open the way for future device control by utilising the standard industrial communication protocol widely used today, such as the Industrial Ethernet and the Object Linking and Embedding for Process Control (OPC). In industrial plant area, the sensors placement and their interconnection cannot be resolved using cables and wiring due to physical restriction in the area. As such, this project proposed a Wireless Sensor Network (WSN) solution to solve the problem installing the system in the industrial areas.

1.2 Background of Problem

Global warming is a renowned environmental problem and it certainly requires tools to monitor the phenomena which cause the increase of GHG concentration in the atmosphere. Human activities that are resulting in emissions of GHG contribute to these problems. These gases will trap the heat in the atmosphere that causes the rising of earth temperature. The GHG that causes the rising of earth temperature is highly contributing by the Carbon Dioxide (CO₂). Therefore, the detection and quantitative measurement of GHG emissions are necessary as a means of monitoring the releases of GHG emissions, which bring bad impact such as dangerous weather patterns leading to natural disasters these days (Abdullah et al., 2012). Besides emissions from direct sources, fugitive emissions are emissions of gases or vapors from pressurized equipment due to leaks and other unintended or irregular releases of gases, mostly from industrial activities (IPCC, 2014). Carbon emissions need to be controlled because its effect on the environment requires

special attention. In industry, especially in manufacturing processes and the huge electrical energy used, the emissions are inevitable. The sources of emission need to be identified; hence, proper action can be taken. This normally requires real-time processes data, which give a clue how the emissions are generated from the certain processes, and appropriate action to reduce it. It can be done with or without human intervention by a real-time system, hence, perform the required action based on the emissions data.

Industrial and Energy sectors contribute to massive GHG emission sources. This is due to the increment of industrial activities and energy demands of the sector and dependency on fossil fuel for electricity generation (Kuri and Li, 2009). Malaysian total CO₂ emissions come from energy consumption has increased dramatically over the past decade as can be seen in Figure 1.1 below. Hence, monitoring and measuring of energy consumption and release of GHG emissions are important to ensure that carbon emissions are monitored closely. The data can be analysed to find the root cause and historical trending of emissions thus facilitates the decision making in controlling the GHG parameters (Oh and Chua, 2010).

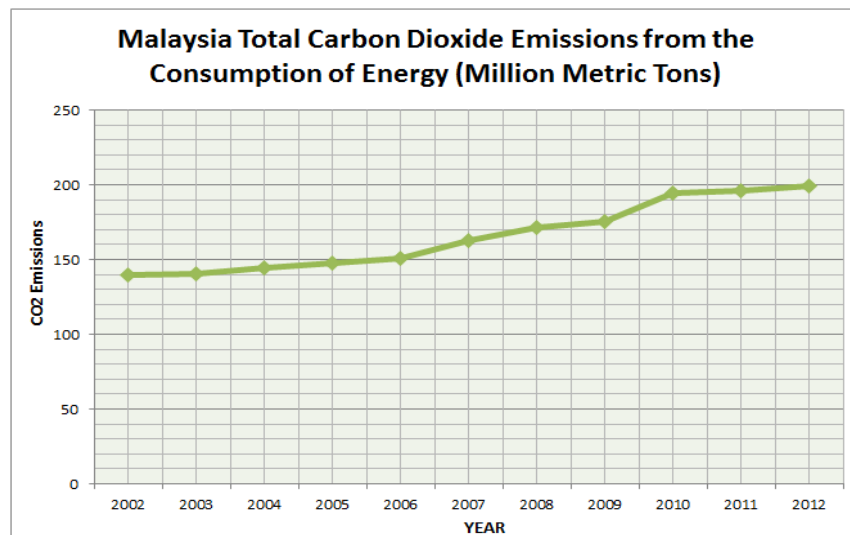


Figure 1.2: Malaysia Total Carbon Dioxide Emissions from Consumption of Energy

1.3 Problem Statement

Most of the related research monitoring system is not primarily being designed for the environment such as in the industrial area, and sensor networks are hard to be expanding. Furthermore, the lack of energy efficiency of the system could shorten sensor nodes operationality in the remote area. This project solved the problem highlighted above with a suitable low power consumption embedded system, and a scalable wireless sensor network for environmental parameters, especially CO₂. With the industrial area as target environment, the system will be deployed using a wireless technology such as ZigBee that has good performance in harsh and potentially damaging conditions including extreme temperatures and temperature cycles, ingress of particulates, electrostatic discharge (ESD), electromagnetic interference (EMI), vibrations, and physical impact.

The system has the capability to read real-time environment carbon emissions and interface the data to a multi-range of systems such as building control system through the use of Object Linking and Embedding for Process Control (OPC) protocol. This will allow the data such as energy consumption will be able to be extracted from the systems for the purpose of monitoring the energy usage and its carbon emissions equivalent. Monitoring the energy consumptions is equally as important as monitoring the real-time emissions because of the total carbon emissions from the said source has increased dramatically through its dependency on fossil fuel on electricity generation (Kuri and Li, 2009; Oh and Chua, 2010).

1.4 Project Aim

This project aims to develop and interface an embedded microcontroller system with wireless sensor network for CO₂, methane, propane (GHG gases) to

existing industrial monitoring system. This will allow easy development using available system in-place, such as a Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition System (SCADA) for monitoring purposes. The project will measure real-time GHG emissions level and machinery energy power consumptions, especially CO₂ at the area under study.

1.5 Project Objective

The project has the following objectives:

- i) To develop an embedded system for wireless CO₂ and energy consumption monitoring system.
- ii) To integrate the system with industrial systems and application using Object Linking and Embedding for Process Control (OPC) protocol and architecture
- iii) To test the system using a Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition System (SCADA) application to display the real-time and historical data analysis of carbon emissions and energy consumptions.

1.6 Research Question

- i) What approach are available for embedded system for carbon emissions and energy consumptions monitoring ?

- ii) What are the suitable hardware (sensors, wireless model and controller) and software architecture suitable for data gathering and sending in the sensor network?
- iii) How to test the CO₂ emissions level and energy consumptions monitoring system in a real environment?

1.7 Project Scope

The main deliverable for the project is a carbon emission monitoring system. Therefore, the scope of this project is focused on:

- i) Using Arduino based controller and ZigBee wireless protocol for wireless sensor networks.
- ii) Real-time monitoring application for carbon emissions and electrical energy consumption, hence its equivalent carbon emissions.
- iii) Using OPC integration between Arduino controller and SCADA industrial application.

1.8 Significance of Project

The project will provide another solution for carbon emissions and energy consumptions monitoring for the industrial environment. By having a controller that can be integrated into the existing SCADA industrial process monitoring system, it will much easier to implement the carbon monitoring in the plant floor. Minimal

changes are needed for the SCADA system, and carbon emissions monitoring data can be right away being displayed at a low implementation cost.

1.9 Summary

This chapter provides a general outline of the project which is real-time carbon emissions and energy monitoring system brief introduction. The project background and problem statement has been identified, as well as the project aim and scope being figured out. In the next chapter, the literature review of the project and previous project approaches will be studied. The methodologies and techniques will be discussed in the next chapter for investigating the accurate approach for the carbon emissions and energy monitoring system in the real environment.

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