

## Automated irrigation system based on soil moisture using arduino board

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### Article Info

#### Article history:

Received Aug 24, 2019

Revised Nov 12, 2019

Accepted Feb 27, 2020

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#### Keywords:

Arduino  
Automatic control system  
DC water pump  
Moisture sensor  
Solar irrigation

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### ABSTRACT

In recent years, the best system of irrigation is studied by reducing the wasted amount of water and electricity. Automatic irrigation is the use of a device to operate irrigation structures so the change of flow of water from one bay, or set of bays, to another can occur in the absence of the irrigator. In this work, automatic control system of solar irrigation implemented practically using arduino board. This photovoltaic (PV) system is applied in the garden of Engineering Technical College-Mosul (city in Iraq). PV system can be adjusted by many regions in Iraq where it planned to connect on small part of land. Irrigation process is controlled depending on moisture sensor that connected to sense the soil moisture and giving data to arduino read pin. According to the program that uploaded to arduino, DC pump can be controlled as ON-state or OFF-state as respect to the soil moisture percentage ratio. Finally, the practical results are approximately similar to that obtained from proteus arduino simulator.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Recently, the best method of irrigation is studied by reducing the wasted amount of water and electricity. Automated spray irrigation sort can be achieved depending on moisture sensor, this moisture sensor is connected to the controller in order to measure soil moisture content in the root zone. In order to avoid the high moisture regions, sensor must be placed at least five feet from the down pouts. This type of irrigation helps electrical power by degrading utilization from the power network and storing water by degrading the losses in water [1-7]. PV water pumping system is suitable for far location where no grid electricity is found; therefore, solar system must be installed and operating on solar energy. Solar pump is supplied by PV cells and streaming rate is calculated depending on sun ray light intensity [7-12]. For agricultural purposes an 85% of freshwater inflows we used. Due to population increases the percentage of water will be run on to be specialized in water consumption, so that it is necessary to design technical strategies depending on technology and science for persistent use of water [13-18]. The arduino controller dispose as the focal for the robotic process after it was released the soil moisture by a sensor [19].

Farmers are always control the electric motors by observation the soil condition this method may be give correct or not correct indication therefore, the amount of water for true irrigation and for optimal growth of grass cannot be determined, moisture sensor is used to solve this problem [20]. In [21] a variable ascites system that apply to minimize the depending on rain and in general, the systems of irrigation are manually operates based ON/OFF scheduling control. In [22], the electric motors controlled by farmers to observe weather condition, grads by visiting the soil sites. In [23], the design of self-automatic system for irrigation

is implemented by confirming the proper water level in order to grow up the plants through the four seasons, these automatic ascites plants usually confirm the suitable level of water in the locations when the grower are away. In [24], 8051 microcontroller is used for irrigation projects. The disadvantages of this microcontroller have signal processing and operating speed not good as arduino controller.

## 2. METHODOLOGY

### 2.1. Problem definition

Many systems that used for garden irrigation are located on the fare ways of cities and difficult to monitor therefore, manual operation will cause many problems [25].

### 2.2. Proposed model

In this following work, solar irrigation plant is proposed with automated controlled system. The data about the proper level of water in engineering technical college-Mosul garden are collected by moisture sensor and update the farmer as well as the arduino kit. In the past, the DC pump can be switch ON or OFF by the farmers depending on the water level, but now, when the water arrives until lethality level, DC pump will start automatically to confirm the best level of water in the garden [8]. A proposed irrigation system is illustrated in Figure 1.

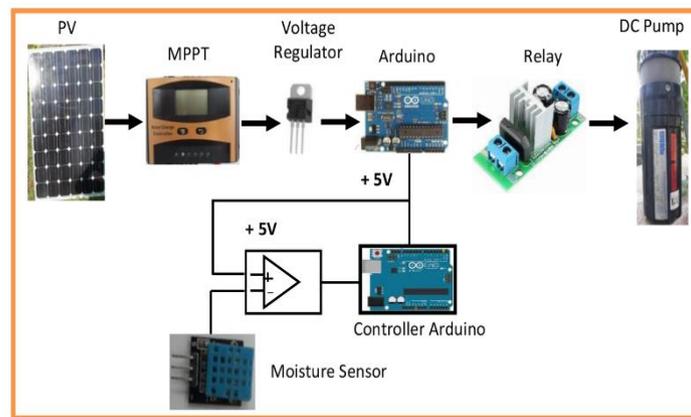


Figure 1. Block diagram of irrigation system

### 2.3. Components & materials

The irrigation process is achieved practically depending on solar energy with the following materials and components as shown in Figure 2. The practical automatic plant watering system that used in this work is designed based on hardware and software.



Figure 2. Components of the irrigation plant

### 2.3.1. Hardware

The hardware elements that used in the garden watering system of engineering technical college-are given in table 1.

Name	Shapes	Rating
PV cell		Rated max power (120 W), Open-circuit voltage (31.4 V), short-circuit current (5.05 A), Voltage at $P_{max}$ (26 V), Current at $P_{max}$ (4.62 A).
MPPT		Model (LD2420C), Rated voltage (12/24 V) and Rated current (20 A).
Voltage regulator (LM78xx)		12 V-to-5 V.
Arduino UNO		Operating voltage (5 V), Digital I/O pin 14, Clock speed 16 MHz.
Relay		$V_{CC}=5$ V, Rated current (10 A).
DC pump (SHURflo/model No. 9325=083-101)		Power max (0.128 HP), Voltage (24 V), Current max (4 A). Strong construction with light weight (2.7 kg, 6 lbs). Corrosion-proof with stainless-steel fasteners. Dry running capacity. Internal by pass for protection.
Soil moisture sensor		Accuracy humidity ( $\pm 5\%$ RH), Stability ( $\pm 1\%$ RH/year). Supply voltage (3.3-5.5 V DC), Resolution humidity ( $\pm 1\%$ RH), Temperature (0-50°C).

### 2.3.2. Software

Arduino IDE: The watering system (Irrigation system) code is written on arduino window and uploads it to the I/O board.

## 3. RESULTS

### 3.1. Soil moisture

The international table of soil moisture ration among two seasons for one year is given in Table 2 [12]. Advantages of moisture sensor. The advantages of moisture sensor are [15]:

- Improving the growth
- Save time & water
- Adaptable
- Discourages weeds
- Prevent or eliminate manual operation
- Helps to control on fungal diseases

Table 2. Soil humidity ratio for two seasons in one year

Water depth in Cans (inch)	1/8	3/16	1/4	5/16	3/8	1/2	5/8	3/4	1
Time of watering (min)									
Summer water every 4-7 days (-1.0) inch	15	20	25	30	40	50	60	80	120
Spring water every 5- 8 days (-0.5) inch	8	10	12	15	20	25	30	40	60
Fall water every 5-8 days (-0.75) inch	12	15	18	23	30	38	45	60	90

**3.2. Plant optimization algorithm**

The irrigation procedure is achieved step by step to get an economic valuation of time and water resources in agriculture as shown in Figure 3.

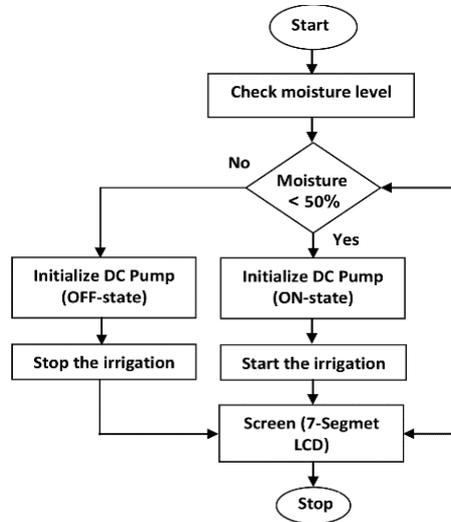


Figure 3. Irrigation procedures flowchart

**3.3. Advantages of automatic irrigation control**

The advantages of automatic control on grass irrigation are gardening flexibility, conserves water and time, preserves soil structure prevents weeds and prevents disease [16].

**4. PROTEUS ARDUINO SIMULATOR**

The materials which used in the garden irrigation are simulated by proteus arduino simulator, shown in Figure 4, where each device and element is connected and the moisture sensor represented as a resistive divider. The divider output voltage is applied to the arduino input which in turn read this voltage which express on a soil moisture percentage ratio display on LCD screen. After uploaded irrigation program on the arduino chip DC pump will be operate (irrigation) or will be stop (no irrigation) depending on moisture ratio limit in the program. The percentage ratio limit of soil moisture for permitting to DC pump to irrigate garden grass with water or stopping DC pump is (50%).

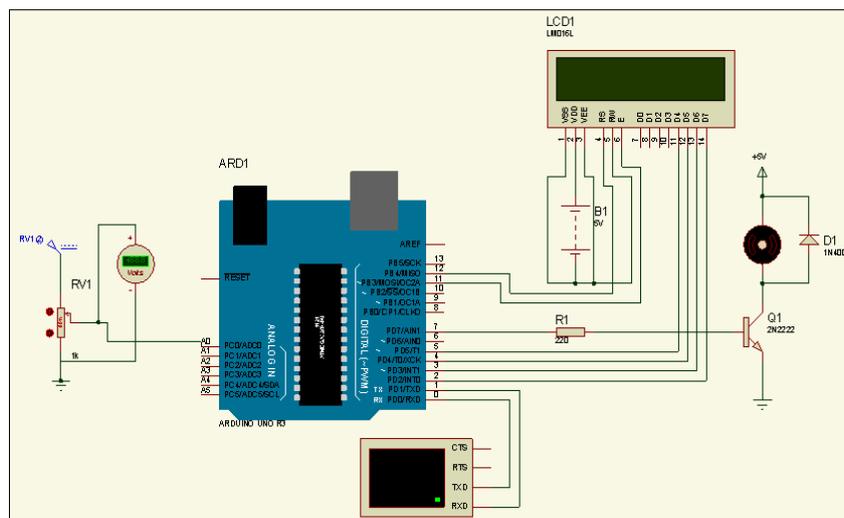


Figure 4. Proteus arduino hardware

From the practical measurements that carried out on the soil of engineering technical college-Mosul, the relationship between sensor output voltage (0 V-4.2 V) and the percentage ratio of soil moisture that measured by the same sensor is illustrated in Table 3. The relationship between sensor voltage and soil moisture can be represented by a linear variation curve as depicted in Figure 5. From the proteus modeling (see Figures 6 and 7), when the soil moisture percentage ratio become 20% and 40% (<50) the DC pump had been ran. From proteus modeling (see Figures 8 and 9), when the soil moisture percentage ratio become 60% and 80% DC pump had been stopped.

In agricultural aspect the application of greenhouse observing is immense. Monitoring system for automated garden irrigation will help to reduce the workloads and efforts of human. It is ability to control demand depending on moisture sensor that connected to arduino read pin.

Table 3. Sensor voltage V soil moisture (%)

Sensor voltage (V)	0.42	0.84	1.26	1.68	2.10	2.52	2.94	3.36	3.78	4.20
Soil moisture (%)	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100

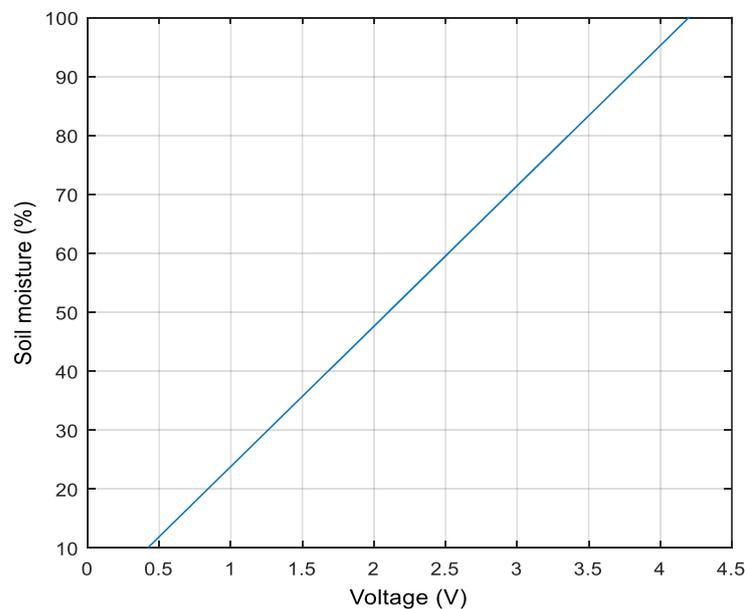


Figure 5. Voltage sensor V soil (%) moisture

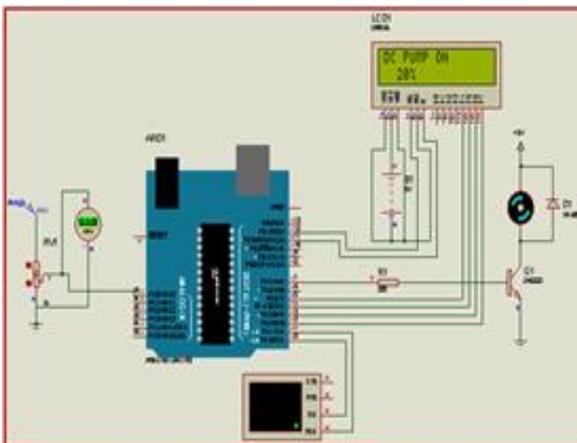


Figure 6. Circuit modeling at voltage 0.84 with soil moisture 20%

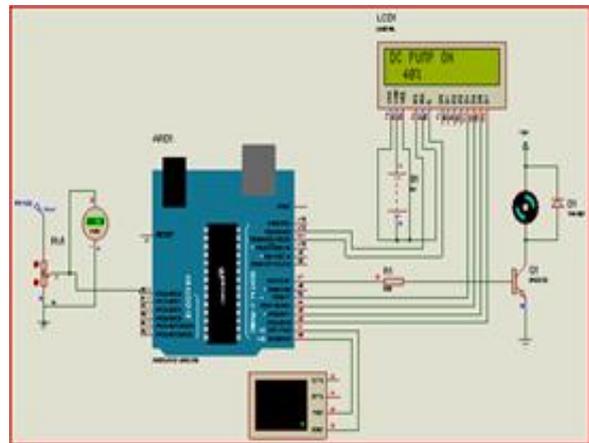


Figure 7. Circuit modeling at voltage 1.68 with soil moisture 40%

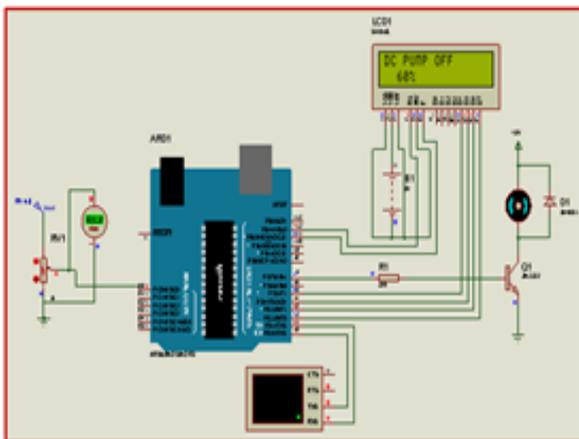


Figure 8. Circuit modeling at voltage 2.52 with soil moisture 60%

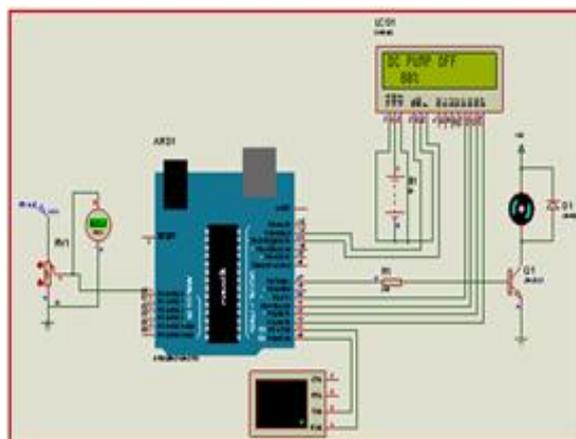


Figure 9. Circuit modeling at voltage 3.36 with soil moisture 80%

## 5. CONCLUSION

PV system can be adjusted by many regions in Iraq where it planned to connected on small part of land. It is also this system concentrated as eco-friendly. The proposed work has been existent to be verifying for optimizing water sources for is feasible for all type of grass. No battery storage system needed because at sunshine PV system will able to irrigate the garden and at rain weather the soil moisture enough to feed the roots of grass. Little maintains required, because only PV cell cleaning must be done. No inverter is required, because DC pump is used for irrigation process.

## DATA TYBE

The data used to sustain the discoveries of this study are currently under prohibition while the enquiry findings are commercialized. Requests for data, [6/12 months] after publication of this article, will be considered by the corresponding author.

## CONFLICT OF INTERESTED FUNDED

The employer here represents the promotor division in my university Northern Technical University which gives us the approval and the decision to publish our academic paper in your journal. The academic history of DC pump is the elementary electromagnetic principles were finding in the early 1800 by Oersted, Ganss, and Faraday. By 1820, Hans Christian Oersted and Andre Marie Ampere hand finding that an electric current produces a magnetic field. The authors declare that there is no conflict of interest regarding the publication of this paper (our paper can be useful for academic studies).

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We offer our special thanks to our Northern Technical University/Engineering Technical College-Mosul that gives us the occasion to do this wonder full project on the topic.

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