

SMART AI DUSTBIN WITH AUTOMATIC SORTING

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Abstract— The Smart AI Dustbin with Automatic Sorting is an intelligent waste management system designed to improve efficiency and hygiene in waste disposal. This system utilizes sensors and AI-based classification techniques to automatically segregate waste into categories such as metal and dry waste. Infrared and proximity sensors enable touchless operation by allowing the lid to open automatically when a user approaches, ensuring better sanitation. The dustbin is equipped with level detection sensors to monitor the fill status in real time. The collected data is integrated with a mobile application, which displays the bin's fill percentage and provides alerts when it reaches a predefined threshold, such as 90% capacity. This feature helps in timely waste collection and prevents overflow. By combining automation, sensor technology, and IoT connectivity, the proposed system enhances waste management practices, reduces human effort, and promotes environmental sustainability. It is particularly useful in smart cities, public spaces, and institutions where efficient waste handling is critical

Keywords— Smart Dustbin, Automatic Waste Segregation, IoT, Waste Management, Sensor-Based System, AI-Based Classification, Metal Detection, Mobile Application,

I. INTRODUCTION

With the rapid growth of urbanization and population, effective waste management has become a major challenge in modern society. Improper disposal and lack of segregation of waste lead to environmental pollution, health hazards, and inefficient recycling processes. Traditional dustbins require manual handling and do not provide any mechanism for sorting or monitoring waste levels, resulting in overflow and unhygienic conditions. To address these issues, the concept of a Smart Dustbin has emerged as a part of smart city initiatives. The proposed Smart AI Dustbin with Automatic Sorting system aims to improve waste management by integrating sensor technology, automation, and IoT. The

system is designed to automatically detect and segregate different types of waste, such as metal and dry waste, using appropriate sensors and intelligent algorithms.

Additionally, the dustbin is equipped with sensors to monitor the fill level in real time and communicate this data to a mobile application. Users or authorities can track the status of the bin remotely and receive alerts when it reaches a critical level, such as 90% capacity. The inclusion of an automatic lid mechanism ensures contactless operation, promoting better hygiene. This project not only reduces human effort but also enhances cleanliness, supports recycling processes, and contributes to sustainable waste management practices. It plays a significant role in developing smarter and cleaner urban environments.

The system also incorporates an automatic lid opening mechanism using proximity sensors, ensuring touchless operation and improving hygiene. Furthermore, fill level sensors continuously monitor the amount of waste inside the bin and transmit this data to a connected mobile application. This allows users or municipal authorities to track the bin status in real time and receive alerts when the bin reaches a threshold level, such as 90% capacity, enabling timely waste collection. This project aligns with the goals of smart city development by promoting cleaner environments, reducing manual labor, and improving operational efficiency in waste management systems. It also encourages responsible waste disposal practices among users and supports sustainable development by facilitating better recycling and resource utilization. Overall, the Smart Dustbin system represents a step toward modernizing traditional waste management methods by incorporating automation, intelligence, and connectivity into everyday infrastructure

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

Developing a Smart Dustbin with automatic waste segregation and monitoring involves multiple research areas, including IoT-based waste management, sensor-based classification, and automation systems. Research in smart waste management, such as that by Longhi et al. (2012), explored the use of IoT-enabled smart bins for real-time

monitoring of waste levels. Their system demonstrated improved efficiency in waste collection but lacked mechanisms for automatic waste segregation. Similarly, Folianto et al. (2015) proposed a smart waste management system using ultrasonic sensors to monitor garbage levels and optimize collection schedules. While their approach reduced operational costs and overflow issues, it focused primarily on monitoring rather than classification of waste types. In the area of waste segregation, Sharma et al. (2017) developed a system using metal detection and moisture sensors to distinguish between metallic, dry, and wet waste. Although effective, their model faced limitations in handling mixed waste and required further improvements in accuracy and automation. Additionally, some researchers have explored machine learning approaches for waste classification, where image-based techniques are used to identify different types of waste, but these methods often require high computational resources.

For automation and hygiene, studies have incorporated infrared (IR) and proximity sensors to design touchless dustbins. For instance, Patel et al. (2019) demonstrated an automatic lid-opening mechanism that improves user convenience and reduces contamination risks in public environments. Recent advancements integrate IoT with mobile applications to provide real-time monitoring and alerts. Systems developed by Suryawanshi et al. (2020) enable users to track bin status remotely and receive notifications when bins reach maximum capacity. However, many of these systems operate independently and do not provide a unified solution combining segregation, monitoring, and user interaction. The proposed Smart AI Dustbin addresses these gaps by integrating automatic waste segregation using sensors, real-time fill level monitoring, and mobile-based alerts into a single system. This combination enhances efficiency, promotes hygiene, and supports sustainable waste management practices in smart environments. The proposed Smart AI Dustbin aims to bridge these gaps by combining automatic waste segregation using sensors, real-time fill level monitoring, touchless operation, and mobile-based alerts into a unified system. This integrated approach improves efficiency, reduces human effort, enhances hygiene, and supports sustainable.

III. EXISTING SYSTEM

1. Manual Waste Collection and Dependence on Human Labor

Traditional waste management systems rely heavily on manual labor for collecting, transporting, and segregating waste. This process is labor-intensive, time-consuming, and often inconsistent due to human limitations. Workers are exposed to hazardous materials, increasing health risks. In many cases, inefficient coordination leads to delays in waste collection, causing garbage accumulation in residential and public areas.

2. Absence of Proper Waste Segregation Mechanisms

Conventional dustbins do not provide any automated way to separate different types of waste such as metal, plastic, and biodegradable materials. As a result, all waste is mixed together at the source, making downstream segregation more complex and less effective. This not only reduces recycling efficiency but also increases processing costs and environmental impact. Improper segregation can also contaminate recyclable materials, rendering them unusable.

3. No Real-Time Monitoring or Intelligent Alert System

Existing systems operate on fixed schedules rather than real-time data. There is no mechanism to monitor how full a bin is at any given moment. This leads to two major issues: either bins overflow before collection or collection happens unnecessarily when bins are not full. Both scenarios result in inefficient resource utilization, increased operational costs, and poor waste management practices. The lack of alerts prevents timely intervention.

4. Unhygienic Operation and Limited User Interaction

Traditional dustbins require direct human contact for opening and disposing of waste, which can spread bacteria and viruses, especially in crowded public places. There is no touchless or automated mechanism to improve hygiene. Additionally, these systems lack any form of user interaction or feedback, such as status indicators or smart notifications, making them outdated compared to modern technological standards.

The existing waste management systems, while functional, suffer from several limitations that reduce their overall efficiency and effectiveness. The heavy dependence on manual labor, lack of proper waste segregation, absence of real-time monitoring, and unhygienic operation highlight the need for improvement in current practices. These shortcomings not only lead to environmental issues such as pollution and poor recycling rates but also increase operational costs and health risks. Furthermore, the absence of smart technologies and automation in traditional systems makes them unsuitable for modern urban environments, where efficient and scalable solutions are required. automation, intelligent monitoring, and user-friendly features.

IV. METHODOLOGY

The methodology of the proposed Smart AI Dustbin system focuses on the systematic integration of sensor-based detection, automated control mechanisms, and IoT-enabled monitoring to achieve efficient waste management. The overall process is designed to ensure smooth interaction between hardware components such as sensors, microcontrollers, and actuators, along with software components including data processing and mobile application support.

1. Waste Detection and Input Acquisition

The system initiates its operation by detecting the presence of waste using infrared (IR) or proximity sensors placed near the opening of the dustbin. When a user approaches or places waste close to the bin, the sensor detects the change in distance or motion and sends a signal to the microcontroller (such as Arduino or Raspberry Pi). This ensures that the system only activates when required, reducing unnecessary power consumption and improving efficiency.

Input: Physical waste object, motion data from sensors

Output: Trigger signal to microcontroller for system activation

```
int sensorPin = 2;
int val = 0;
void loop() {
  val = digitalRead(sensorPin);
  if (val == HIGH) {
    Serial.println("Waste Detected");
  }
}
```

2. Automatic Lid Opening Mechanism

Once the signal is received, the microcontroller processes it and activates a motor driver connected to a servo or DC motor. This motor controls the opening of the dustbin lid. The lid remains open for a predefined time interval to allow the user to dispose of waste and then closes automatically. This touchless mechanism enhances hygiene, reduces the spread of germs, and provides a user-friendly experience.

Input: Activation signal from microcontroller

Output: Mechanical movement of lid

```
#include <Servo.h>
Servo lid;
void setup() {
  lid.attach(9);
}
void loop() {
  lid.write(90); // open
  delay(3000);
  lid.write(0); // close
}
```

3. Waste Classification Using Sensors

After the waste is dropped into the bin, it passes through a sensing area where classification takes place. A metal detection sensor identifies metallic objects based on electromagnetic properties. Additional sensors can be used to improve classification accuracy. The sensor data is processed by the microcontroller to determine the type of waste. This step is crucial for enabling automated segregation without human intervention.

Input: Sensor readings (metal detection signals, material properties)

Output: Classified waste category

```
int metalSensor = 3;
void loop() {
  if (digitalRead(metalSensor) == HIGH) {
    Serial.println("Metal Detected");
  } else {
    Serial.println("Dry Waste");
  }
}
```

4. Automatic Waste Segregation Mechanism

Based on the classification result, the microcontroller sends control signals to actuators such as servo motors or flaps inside the dustbin. These mechanisms guide the waste into the appropriate compartment (metal or dry waste section). The system ensures accurate placement of waste, reducing mixing and improving recycling efficiency. This automation minimizes manual sorting efforts and enhances overall system reliability.

Input: Waste classification signal from controller

Output: Directional movement of waste into correct compartment.

```
if (digitalRead(metalSensor) == HIGH) {
  lid.write(45); // metal side
} else {
```

```
lid.write(135); // dry side
}
```

5. Fill Level Monitoring and IoT Notification

Each compartment is equipped with ultrasonic sensors that continuously measure the distance between the waste level and the top of the bin. This data is processed to calculate the fill percentage. The information is transmitted to a mobile application using IoT modules such as Wi-Fi or Bluetooth. When the fill level reaches a threshold (e.g., 90%), the system generates an alert notification, enabling timely waste collection and preventing overflow.

Input: Distance data from ultrasonic sensors

Output: Fill level percentage, mobile app update, alert notification

```
int trig = 6, echo = 7;
long duration;
int distance;
void loop() {
  digitalWrite(trig, LOW);
  delayMicroseconds(2);
  digitalWrite(trig, HIGH);
  delayMicroseconds(10);
  digitalWrite(trig, LOW);

  duration = pulseIn(echo, HIGH);
  distance = duration * 0.034 / 2;

  if (distance < 10) {
    Serial.println("Bin 90% Full");
  }
}
```

V. PROPOSED SYSTEM

The proposed Smart AI Dustbin with Automatic Sorting is designed to overcome the limitations of traditional waste management systems by integrating automation, sensor technology, and IoT. The system provides an intelligent and efficient solution for waste disposal by enabling automatic detection, segregation, and monitoring of waste in real time. The system begins with a waste detection mechanism using infrared (IR) or proximity sensors, which identify the presence of a user or waste object near the dustbin. Once detected, a microcontroller activates a servo motor to automatically open the lid, allowing users to dispose of waste without physical contact. After a predefined time interval, the lid closes automatically, ensuring hygienic operation.

1. Smart Waste Detection System

The proposed system uses infrared (IR) or proximity sensors to detect the presence of a user or waste object near the dustbin. This ensures that the system activates only when required, reducing unnecessary energy consumption. The detection mechanism improves user convenience by enabling seamless interaction without physical contact. It also enhances system efficiency by avoiding continuous operation and extending the lifespan of electronic components.

2. Automatic Lid Opening and Closing Mechanism

The dustbin is equipped with a servo motor-controlled lid that opens automatically when waste is detected and closes after a specific time delay. This touchless operation enhances hygiene, reduces the spread of germs, and provides a modern user-friendly experience, especially in public environments.

The timing mechanism can be adjusted based on usage conditions, making the system adaptable for different environments.

3.Sensor-Based Waste Classification

The system incorporates metal detection sensors to identify metallic waste. Based on sensor readings, the waste is categorized into metal or dry waste. This automated classification reduces human effort and ensures proper segregation at the source, which is essential for efficient recycling. The classification process is quick and accurate, allowing smooth operation without delay.

4.Automated Waste Segregation Mechanism

Once the waste is classified, actuators such as servo motors or flaps are used to direct the waste into the appropriate compartment inside the dustbin. This mechanism ensures accurate separation of waste types, minimizing mixing and improving the effectiveness of waste processing systems. It also reduces dependency on manual sorting, which is often inefficient and inconsistent

5. Real-Time Fill Level Monitoring

Ultrasonic sensors are installed in each compartment to continuously monitor the level of waste. The system calculates the fill percentage based on the distance measured and updates the status in real time. This prevents overflow and ensures better management of waste collection. It also helps in optimizing collection schedules, reducing unnecessary trips and saving resources.

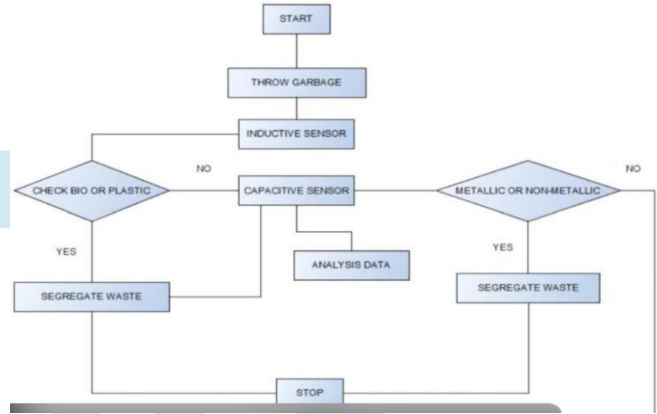
6.IoT-Based Mobile Application Integration

The system is connected to a mobile application through IoT modules such as Wi-Fi or Bluetooth. Users or authorities can monitor the bin status remotely, view fill levels, and receive notifications. This feature improves accessibility and enables data-driven waste management. Historical data can also be stored and analyzed to understand waste generation patterns.

7.Scalability and Smart City Integration

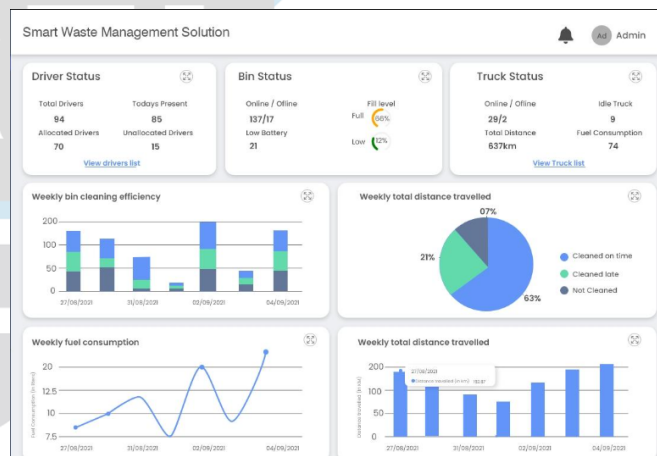
The system is designed to be scalable and can be deployed across multiple locations in a city. Multiple smart bins can be connected to a central monitoring system, enabling authorities to manage waste collection more efficiently. This integration supports smart city initiatives and promotes sustainable urban development.

1. Efficient Waste Segregation



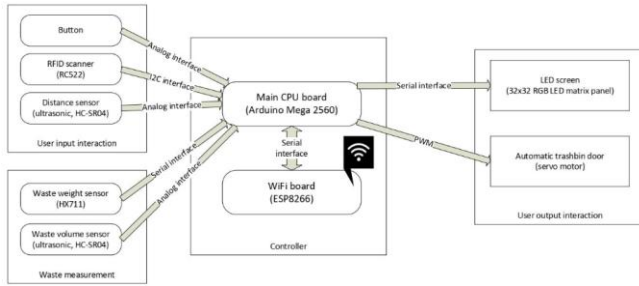
The system successfully performs automatic segregation of waste into metal and dry categories using sensor-based detection techniques. A metal detection sensor identifies metallic objects based on electromagnetic properties, while non-metallic items are classified as dry waste. This classification process occurs instantly as the waste passes through the sensing zone, ensuring smooth and continuous operation without delay. The integration of actuators such as servo motors or directional flaps enables the system to physically separate the waste into designated compartments داخل the dustbin. This minimizes the mixing of different waste types, which is a common issue in traditional systems.

2. Real-Time Monitoring and Alerts



The system incorporates ultrasonic sensors to continuously monitor the fill level of waste inside each compartment of the dustbin. These sensors measure the distance between the top of the bin and the waste surface, allowing the system to calculate the percentage of space filled in real time. This data is processed by the microcontroller and updated dynamically to reflect the current status of the bin. The collected information is transmitted to a mobile application using IoT technology such as Wi-Fi or Bluetooth modules. Users or authorities can remotely monitor the fill levels of the bin, enabling better planning and management of waste collection activities. This eliminates the need for manual inspection and reduces unnecessary collection trips.

3. Improved Hygiene and User Convenience



The system incorporates an automatic lid mechanism that enables completely touchless operation using infrared (IR) or proximity sensors. When a user approaches the dustbin, the sensor detects the presence and triggers the lid to open automatically, eliminating the need for physical contact. This significantly reduces the spread of germs and bacteria, especially in public places such as hospitals, offices, and residential areas. The lid remains open for a predefined duration, allowing convenient disposal of waste, and then closes automatically to prevent exposure to odors and external contaminants. This controlled operation enhances cleanliness and maintains a hygienic environment around the dustbin.

4. Output:



Fig: Smart Dustbin



Fig: Sorting

The Smart AI Dustbin system generates multiple outputs through its integrated sensors and automation mechanisms. The primary output is the **automatic segregation of waste**, where materials are accurately classified into metal and dry waste categories and directed into separate compartments. This improves recycling efficiency and reduces the need for manual sorting. The system also provides **touchless lid operation**, where the dustbin opens and closes automatically based on user detection. This enhances hygiene and ensures a safe, user-friendly interaction. Another important output is the **real-time monitoring of bin fill levels**. Using ultrasonic sensors, the system continuously measures the waste level and updates the data to a connected mobile application. This allows users or authorities to track bin status remotely. Additionally, the system generates **alert notifications** when the bin reaches a predefined threshold (such as 90% capacity). These alerts ensure timely waste collection, prevent overflow, and maintain cleanliness in the surrounding environment.

VII. CONCLUSION

The Smart AI Dustbin with Automatic Sorting provides an effective and modern solution to the challenges faced in traditional waste management systems. By integrating sensor-based detection, automated segregation, and IoT-enabled monitoring, the system ensures efficient handling of waste with minimal human intervention. The implementation of automatic lid operation improves hygiene by reducing physical contact, while the segregation mechanism enhances recycling efficiency by separating metal and dry waste at the source. Real-time monitoring and alert notifications further optimize waste collection processes, preventing overflow and maintaining cleanliness in the environment.

Key Contributions

Design and Implementation of Automated Waste Segregation

The project successfully introduces a sensor-based waste segregation system capable of distinguishing between metal and dry waste. By integrating metal detection sensors with a microcontroller, the system ensures accurate and real-time classification of waste. This reduces dependency on manual sorting, minimizes errors, and improves the overall efficiency of recycling processes.

Development of Touchless and Hygienic Operation

A fully automated lid mechanism has been implemented using IR or proximity sensors and servo motors. This enables hands-free operation, significantly reducing human contact with contaminated surfaces. The feature is especially beneficial in public and high-traffic areas, enhancing hygiene and preventing the spread of germs

• Real-Time Fill Level Monitoring System

The system incorporates ultrasonic sensors to continuously measure the level of waste inside the bin. The collected data is processed to calculate the fill percentage accurately. This real-time monitoring ensures better visibility of bin status and eliminates guesswork in waste management.

A. Future Work

Advanced Waste Classification Using AI

The system can be enhanced by integrating machine learning or deep learning algorithms for more accurate waste classification, including plastic, organic, and hazardous

waste, instead of limiting it to metal and dry waste
Integration of Camera-Based Recognition Future versions can include camera modules for image-based waste detection, enabling more precise identification of different waste types in real time. **Solar-Powered System** The dustbin can be equipped with solar panels to make the system energy-efficient and suitable for outdoor Environments

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