*IOSR Journal of Electronics and Communication Engineering (IOSR-JECE)*
*e-ISSN: 2278-2834, p- ISSN: 2278-8735.Volume 20, Issue 3, Ser. 1 (May. – June. 2025), PP 35-40*
*www.iosrjournals.org*

# Leveraging IOT Technology For Smart Classroom Automation And Real-Time Environmental Monitoring

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***Abstract:***
*The planning and operation of classrooms are being revolutionised by the Internet of Things (IoT). This technology enhances instructional efficiency and environmental management by regulating temperature, illumination, and attendance through platforms like Thonny IDE, MicroPython, and ThingSpeak. This approach enhances the learning environment by enhancing the classroom's responsiveness and dynamic nature. The accuracy of environmental sensors is guaranteed by real-time monitoring, while biometric fingerprint authentication ensures secure access and attendance tracking. School administrators and educators can remotely monitor and improve learning environments with the help of ThingSpeak, a cloud-based visualisation and analysis application. This system is appropriate for schools that desire to integrate IoT into their curricula due to its energy efficiency, expense, and scalability. This technological innovation benefits all individuals in the classroom, including students and instructors, thereby creating a more personalised, efficient, and environmentally friendly learning environment.*

***Keywords:*** *Smart Classroom, Internet of Things, MicroPython, Thonny IDE, ThingSpeak, Automation, Environmental Monitoring, Attendance Tracking*

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Date of Submission: 01-05-2025 Date of Acceptance: 10-05-2025

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## I. Introduction

IoT technologies' explosive development has affected several sectors, including education. Traditional classrooms' incapacity to quickly monitor and change environmental conditions leads to less than ideal classroom management, energy consumption, and student participation. Smart classrooms supported by the Internet of Things have become a reasonable solution to the growing need for individualised learning and environmentally friendly substitutes.

In a smart classroom, Internet of Things (IoT) sensors and gadgets offer monitoring of numerous environmental factors, including temperature, humidity, light intensity, and classroom occupation. These devices can independently change temperature, lighting, and other elements to create the best learning environment. IoT-based devices give teachers real-time feedback and useful data analytics, therefore enabling them to make well-informed decisions and enhance the learning environment.

This paper describes using ThingSpeak, MicroPython, and the Thonny Integrated Development Environment (IDE) an Internet of Things (IoT) smart classroom system design and implementation. Essential part of this system is the Raspberry Pi Pico W, a microcontroller supporting MicroPython, a condensed form of Python. Providing an easy interface for debugging, writing, and coding, the Thonny IDE is fit for both teachers and students. Real-time data visualisation made possible by ThingSpeak's cloud technology lets one monitor the surrounds of a school remotely.

Combining many sensors to identify environmental conditions, the system detects safe user access and attendance tracking by means of biometric fingerprint validation. Data submitted to the ThingSpeak cloud platform is gathered by the system, visualised, then trend and patternalysed.

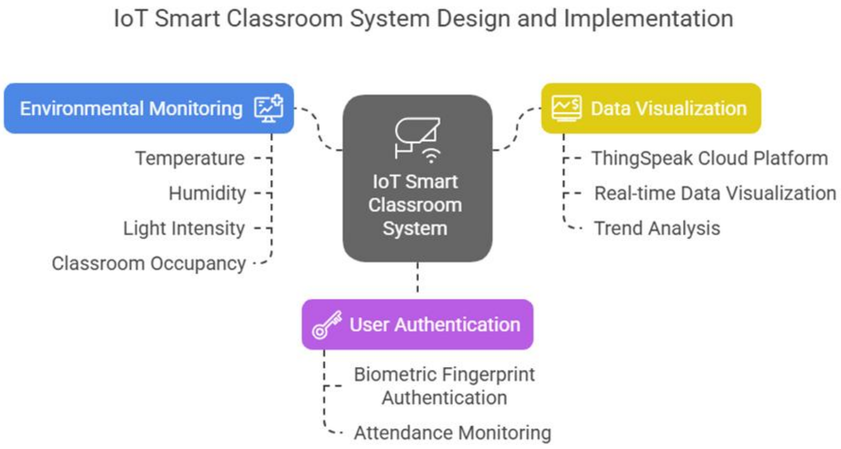


**Figure. 1** IoT Smart Classroom System

## II. Literature Survey

Although the idea of smart classrooms has been extensively investigated, numerous strategies have been suggested for including IoT technology to improve the learning surroundings. To increase classroom automation, energy economy, and real-time monitoring, the literature has examined a range of sensor networks, cloud-based platforms, and user interfaces.

**IoT-Based Classroom Solutions:** Several research have suggested IoT-based solutions for classroom control. Using Arduino Uno and Google Firebase, the authors in [1] created a cloud-integrated smart classroom that automates attendance using facial recognition and control classroom appliances. Although efficient, this system's reliance on conventional programming languages (C/C++) and restricted cloud platforms hampered scaling.

**Raspberry Pi-Based Smart Classrooms:** [2] a smart classroom concept proposed in [2] for controlling environmental factors like temperature and lighting using Node-RED and Raspberry Pi. Though the system showed good automation, it was hardware-intensive and not ideal for low-cost implementations in resource-limited surroundings.

**Cloud-Edge Computing Systems:** To handle heterogeneous sensor data, a research by Dai et al. [3] offered a smart classroom design grounded on cloud-edge computing. Smaller educational institutions would find the system less accessible even if it displayed strong data handling and real-time analytics as it demanded complicated infrastructure and high computer capability.

**Energy-Efficient Smart Classrooms:** Noor et al. [4] concentrated on how sensor networks may be utilised to conserve classroom energy. The system lacked real-time data visualisation and user-friendly interfaces for teachers, therefore restricting its utility even if it tracked classroom occupancy and environmental conditions. The increasing interest in IoT-based smart classrooms as well as the possible advantages of automation and real-time monitoring are underlined in this research. This study aims to solve many current solutions, however, which suffer from high prices, complexity, or restricted scalability by means of a more reasonably priced, low-power, and user-friendly system.

## III. Existing System

For data collecting and control, current smart classroom systems mostly depend on microcontroller-based solutions such NodeMCU, Arduino, or Raspberry Pi. To run classroom settings automatically, these systems include environmental sensors like temperature, humidity, light, $CO_2$ sensors. Concerning scalability, simplicity of integration, and adaptability, conventional systems do, however, have shortcomings.

Many current smart classrooms gather data and run devices like lights and fans using Arduino or Raspberry Pi. Usually programming these systems C/C++ or Python, cloud platforms like Google Firebase or Blynk are utilised for real-time data monitoring. Although some fixes work well, they sometimes call for certain skills to create and preserve.

Voice Assistants and Automation: To hand-free device control some smart classrooms include voice assistants like Google Assistant or Amazon Alexa. Voice instructions from these systems allow other classroom equipment, temperature control, and lighting to be automated. These remedies could not, however, offer enough security or tailored access control for classroom settings.

Cloud platforms like Google Firebase, Blynk, and ThingSpeak are used for real-time environmental data monitoring, but they lack flexibility and sophisticated analytics tools. A low-cost, scalable, and safe classroom automation system is proposed to overcome these limitations. Biometric fingerprint authentication, allowing only authorized individuals to use classroom equipment, provides additional protection. This IoT-based solution aims to provide a more secure and efficient learning environment.

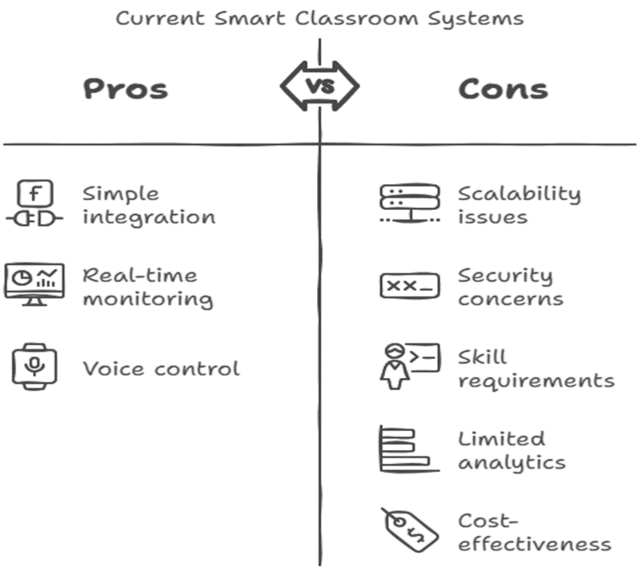


**Figure. 2** Existing System

## IV. Proposed System

The suggested IoT-based smart classroom system utilises the Raspberry Pi Pico W, MicroPython, Thonny IDE, and ThingSpeak for efficient environmental monitoring and automation. The R307 fingerprint identification system enhances security by ensuring that only registered users may interact with classroom IoT devices. This section delineates the system architecture, characteristics, and advantages of the proposed solution.

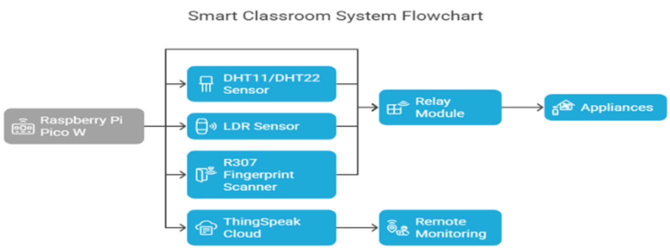


**Figure. 3** Flow Diagram – Smart Classroom System

System Architectural Design

The suggested smart classroom system's architecture comprises of several important parts:

- Raspberry Pi Pico W: Designed primarily for sensor data reading, main control unit linking all components, handling cloud platform connection. It allows real-time data transfer by wireless communication via Wi-Fi.
- Monitors classroom temperature and humidity using DHT11/DHT22 Sensor, therefore offering real-time environmental data for automated systems.
- Measuring ambient light levels, LDR (Light Dependent Resistor) triggers lighting changes depending on predefined thresholds.

- R307 Fingerprint Scanner: Provides biometric authentication, so guaranteeing only authorised users may turn on lights or fans, thus activating system operations.
- Relay Module: Based on sensor input and user identification, interfaces appliances—fans, lights—to automate their running.
- ThingSpeak Cloud: gathers classroom data and visualises it such that remote monitoring and analysis may be conducted.

System Attributes

- Students are verified using the R307 fingerprint scanner before they are allowed to use classroom equipment. This system ensures that only approved individuals are able to activate machines.
- Data about humidity, light intensity, and temperature is provided in real-time via the DHT11/DHT22 and LDR sensors. Such information can activate automated processes; for instance, if the room's temperature is more over thirty degrees Celsius, the fan will turn on, or lights will turn on even when it's completely dark outside.
- The system uses fingerprint verification and data from sensors to control appliances according to certain simple rules. For example, once the temperature in the room reaches 30°C, the fan will begin to run.
- When a fingerprint scan is successful, if the ambient light falls below a certain level, lights will turn on.
- Information is sent to ThingSpeak to be stored and shown in the cloud. Users are able to remotely access prior data and see patterns as they happen thanks to this technology.

Positive Features of the Suggested System

- Improved Security: By means of the fingerprint authentication, only authorised users may interact with classroom equipment, therefore preventing illegal access.
- Low Power, Low Cost: The Raspberry Pi Pico W presents an inexpensive, energy-efficient platform that helps educational institutions with tight budgets to finance the system.
- Modular and Scalable: Adding more sensors or devices to fit bigger campuses or classes will readily extend the system.
- ThingSpeak offers real-time data visualisation so that managers may remotely monitor classroom conditions and make informed decisions.

## V. Methodology

The design, development, and implementation of the suggested IoT-based smart classroom system are described in depth in this part, which also covers hardware configuration, programming, biometric identification, cloud integration, and automation logic.

**Hardware Setup**

The hardware components, including the Raspberry Pi Pico W, sensors, fingerprint scanner, and relay modules, were connected to the Pico W's GPIO pins. The fingerprint scanner communicates with the Pico W via UART, while the sensors and relay module use digital and analog pins.

**MicroPython Programming**

MicroPython was used to write the system logic, including sensor data collection, fingerprint authentication, relay control, and cloud communication. Thonny IDE was employed for code development and debugging.

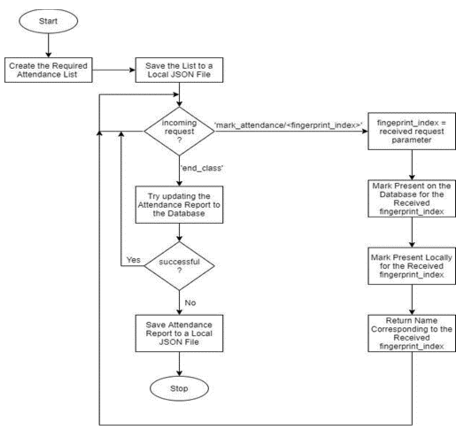


**Figure. 4** fingerprint authentication process within the smart classroom system

**Biometric Authentication with R307**

The R307 fingerprint scanner was used to enroll and verify authorized users. The system logic ensures that only verified users can trigger automation functions.

**Cloud Integration with ThingSpeak**

The system connects to ThingSpeak via Wi-Fi, sending data periodically for real-time visualization and analysis. The data is displayed using line charts for temperature, humidity, and light levels.

**Automation Logic**

Automation is triggered based on sensor input and fingerprint verification. If a user is authenticated and environmental conditions meet certain thresholds, appliances like fans and lights are automatically controlled.

## VI. Results And Discussion

The system was successfully developed and tested. The fingerprint authentication system was accurate, with verification times around 1 second. Environmental monitoring was reliable, and automation triggered the correct actions based on sensor data.

**System Output**

- **Fingerprint Authentication:** The system correctly identified enrolled users with 100% accuracy.
- **Environmental Monitoring:** The sensors provided accurate readings, with temperature and humidity values within expected ranges.
- **Automation Behavior:** Appliances were successfully controlled based on sensor readings and fingerprint verification.

**ThingSpeak Visualization**

Data was displayed on ThingSpeak in real-time, with line charts for temperature, humidity, and light intensity. This allowed administrators to monitor classroom conditions remotely.

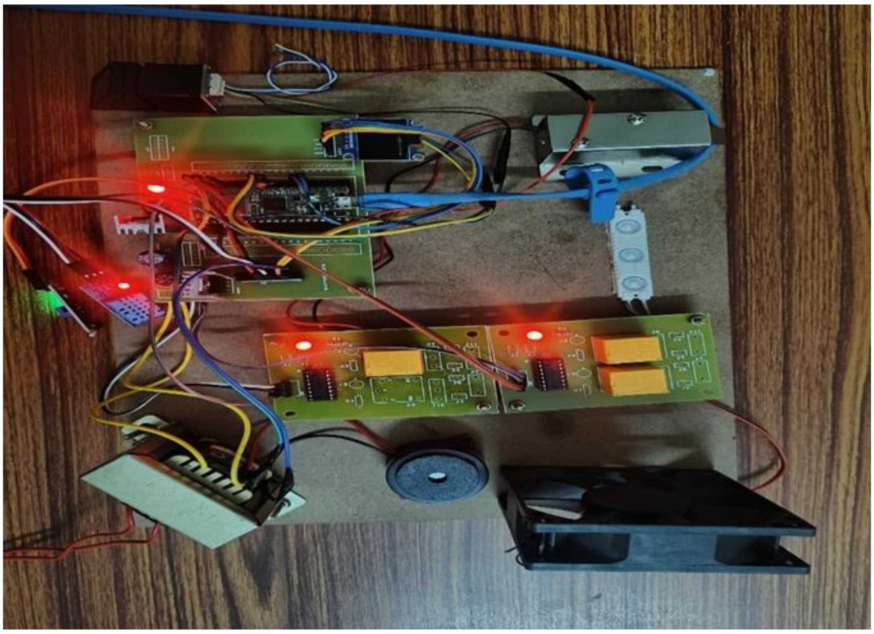

**Figure. 5** Result and Future Scope

## VII. Conclusion

This work aims to present a scalable and reasonably priced smart classroom system based on the Internet of Things. It calls for environmental monitoring, biometric identification, and cloud connectivity. MicroPython, Thonny IDE, Raspberry Pi Pico W, and ThingSpeak help this system to be enabled. These parts offer data automation, classroom automation, security enhancement, and real-time data visualisation. Because it is scalable, developer-friendly, and reasonably priced, the system is perfect for educational institutions trying to include Internet of Things technologies into their syllabus. Advanced sensors, facial recognition technology, and expansion to incorporate more colleges or courses might improve the system going forward.

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