Journal of Engineering and Technology for Industrial Applications

ITEGAM-JETIA

Manaus, v.11 n.53, p. 50-56. May/June., 2025.
DOI: https://doi.org/10.5935/jetia. v11i53.1517

ISSN ONLINE: 2447-0228

RESEARCH ARTICLE OPEN ACCESS

PRACTICAL IMPLEMENTATION OF A SMART HOME MODEL USING ARDUINO AND SENSORS

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ARTICLE INFO

Article History
Received: December 31, 2024
Revised: January 20, 2025
Accepted: May 15, 2025
Published: May 31, 2025

Keywords:
Practical Implementation,
Smart Home Model,
Arduino,
Sensors,

ABSTRACT

This paper focuses on the design and implementation of a physical model of a smart home with automated control systems to enhance resource management, energy efficiency, and user comfort. The model, built using wood and cardboard as primary materials, integrates multiple sensors connected to an Arduino microcontroller for autonomous operation. The smart home functions include:Regulating fan speed based on ambient temperature using a temperature sensor. Managing the water tank via a water level sensor to ensure optimal filling. Controlling outdoor lighting based on ambient light intensity detected by a light sensor. Activating a security alarm by touch detection using a touch sensor. Dynamic solar panel orientation based on time to maximize solar energy capture. This work demonstrates a practical and feasible approach to exploring smart home technologies, with a focus on integrating automation and renewable energy into real-world scenarios. The proposed system serves as a scalable and sustainable model for future applications, bridging the gap between theoretical research and practical application.

I. INTRODUCTION

Smart homes have emerged as a transformative solution to meet the growing demand for sustainable, energy-efficient, and user-friendly living environments. By leveraging technologies such as the Internet of Things (IoT), renewable energy, and automation, these systems improve resource management and enhance daily convenience [1],[2]. The increasing accessibility of microcontrollers such as Arduino has greatly contributed to the scalability and practicality of smart home applications [3],[4].

This research focuses on the practical construction of a smart home prototype using a physical model made of wood and cardboard, integrating multiple sensors and systems controlled by an Arduino microcontroller. The proposed system automates basic household functions, in line with contemporary trends in energy efficiency and automation [5],[6].

Key features of the system include : Temperature-based fan speed regulation: A temperature sensor dynamically adjusts fan speed to maintain indoor comfort while conserving energy [7],[8].

Water tank management : A water level sensor ensures optimal refilling to prevent flooding and conserve water resources [9],[10].

Automated outdoor lighting: A light sensor adjusts lighting based on ambient light intensity, reducing unnecessary energy consumption [5],[11].

Security enhancement: A touch sensor triggers a security alarm system in response to unauthorized interactions, addressing growing concerns about home safety [12],[13].

Solar panel orientation : A time-based sun tracking system maximizes solar energy harvest, demonstrating the integration of renewable energy into smart home designs [14],[15].

The integration of these features demonstrates a practical application of smart technologies to create a sustainable and smart home environment. By using IoT and automation technologies, this project not only explores innovative solutions but also provides a practical basis for the development of smart home systems [1-10]. Furthermore, it addresses key challenges such as energy optimization, resource conservation, and safety, contributing to the growing field of smart home research [2-8].

II. GENERAL MODEL OF THE SYSTEM USED

The diagram in (Figure 1) shows the general model that was used in this paper. As a basic point, we created a manual system and an automatic system for each element.

To understand the diagram, you must know the following : A 9-volt battery is used to power the Arduino.

A 12-volt battery to power the alarm, servo motor and external lighting.

A 3-12 Vcc switching block to power the DC motor and fan as needed with a variable voltage.

As for the sensors, they are connected to the Arduino to provide it with the physical quantities related to the environment surrounding the house through which it decides the outputs.

As for using a relay, it is very necessary because the Arduino voltage in the outputs is 5 v, which closes the relay to allow a higher voltage to pass to the element that needs to be operated.

As for the manual and automatic mode, we use a three-way switch that we will discuss later.

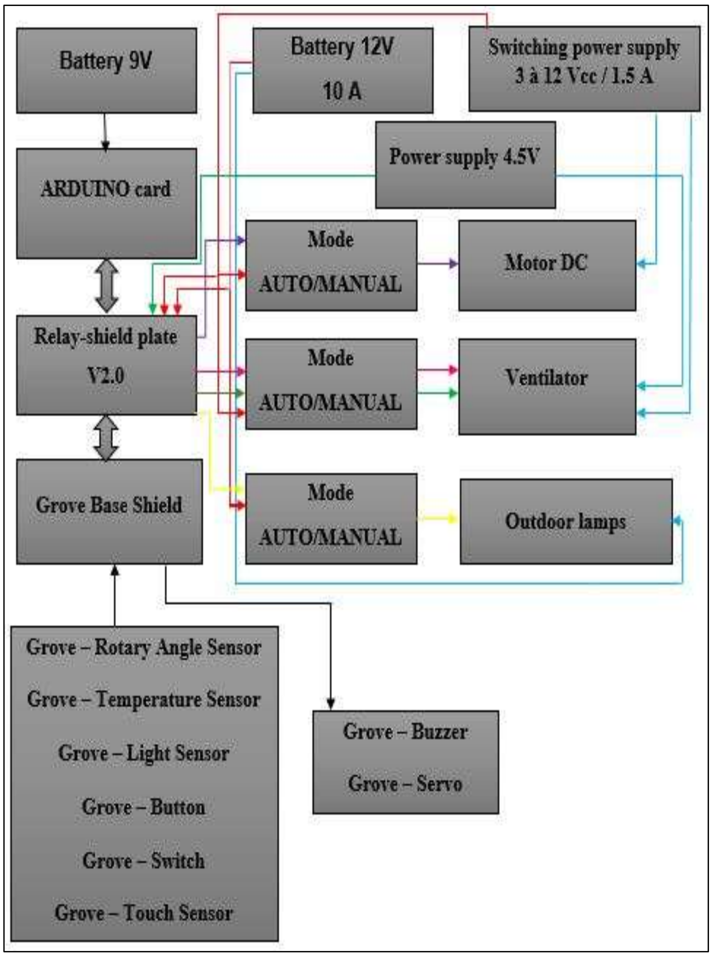

Figure 1: General model of the system used.
Source: Authors (2025)

III. CREATION OF THE MODEL

We created a wooden model (Figure 2) with a base (80 x 80) cm^2, the width of the house is 40 cm, the length is 70 cm and the height is 70 cm. Then we cover the model with white paper.

Figure 2: View of the model.
Source: Authors (2025)

IV. WIRING

Generally speaking, all actuators are supplied with a voltage of 12 V and they are wired as follows (Figure 3).

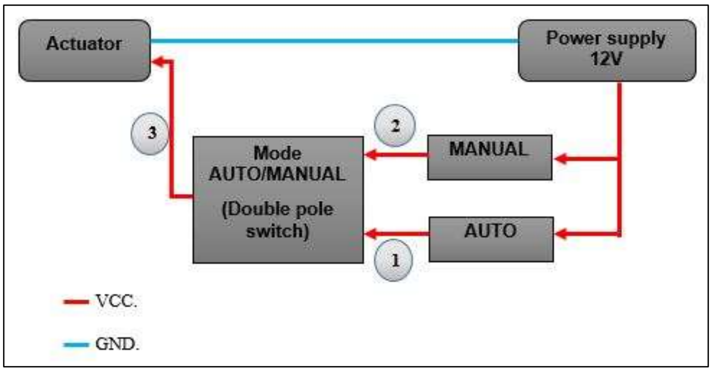

Figure 3: Wiring an actuator in a general way.
Source: Authors (2025)

V. DOUBLE POLE SWITCH

witch that allows you to choose a direction for the current (Figure 4).

Figure 4: Wiring the double pole switch.
Source: Authors (2025).

VI. MODE MANUAL WIRING

This mode is very simple and known (Figure 5).

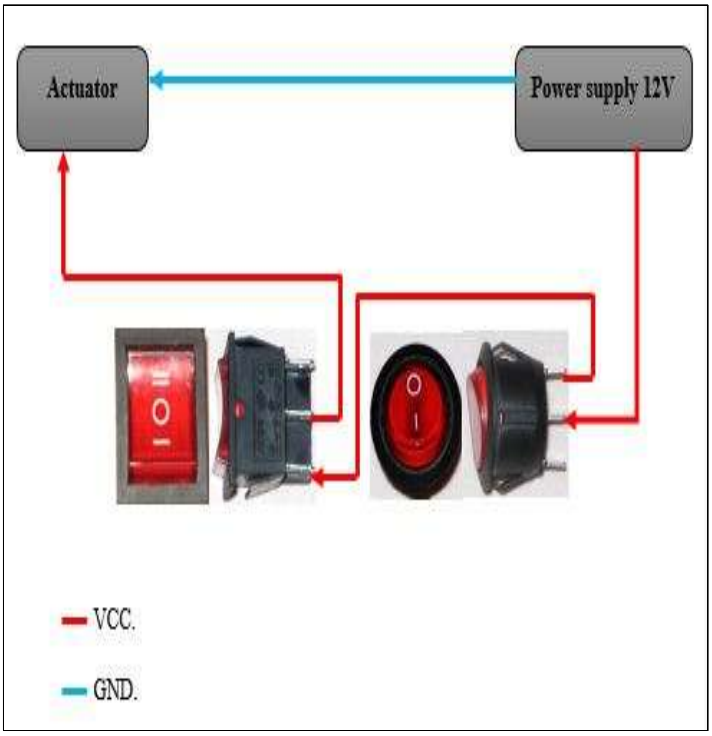

Figure 5: Wiring an actuator to manual mode.
Source: Authors (2025).

VII. FUN WIRING

All actuators are wired as the previous figure except that the fan is wired as follows since (Figure 6) it contains three speeds each one has its voltage.

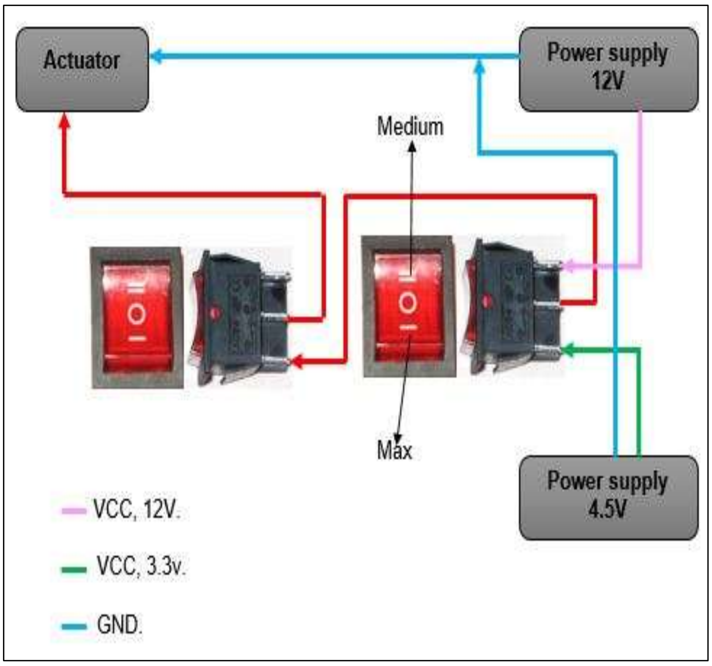

Figure 6 : Manual fun wiring.
Sourace: Authors (2025).

VIII. THE 9V BATTERY

We used a rechargeable 9V battery (Figure 7) to power the ARDUINO board.

Figure 7: 9V rechargeable battery.
Source: Authors (2025).

IX. AUTO MODE

To talk about wiring you have to see the connection of all the shields with the ARDUINO card (Figure 8).

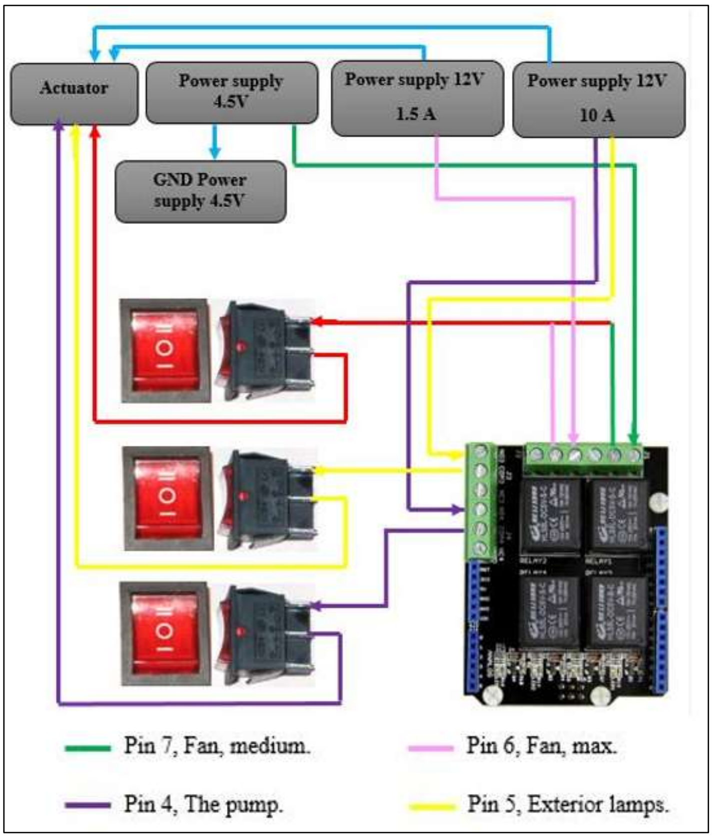

Figure 8: ARDUINO system AUTO-Mode wiring.
Source: Authors (2025).

X. AIR CONTROL

We want to control the fan speed according to the temperature. From 25°C to 40°C, the fan runs at medium speed, and with a temperature above 40°C, the fan runs at maximum speed, and if it is below 25°C, the fan is turned off.

The following two flowcharts (Figure 9a), (Figure 9b) represent the operation of the air control system AUTO and MANUAL respectively.

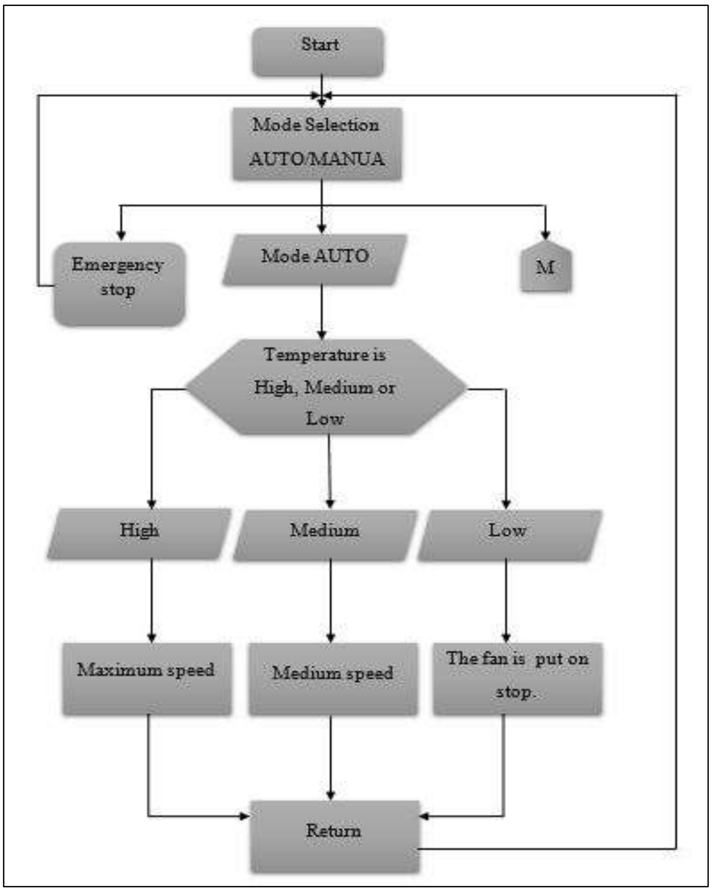

Figure 9.a: Air control "AUTO-Mode"
Source: Authors (2025)

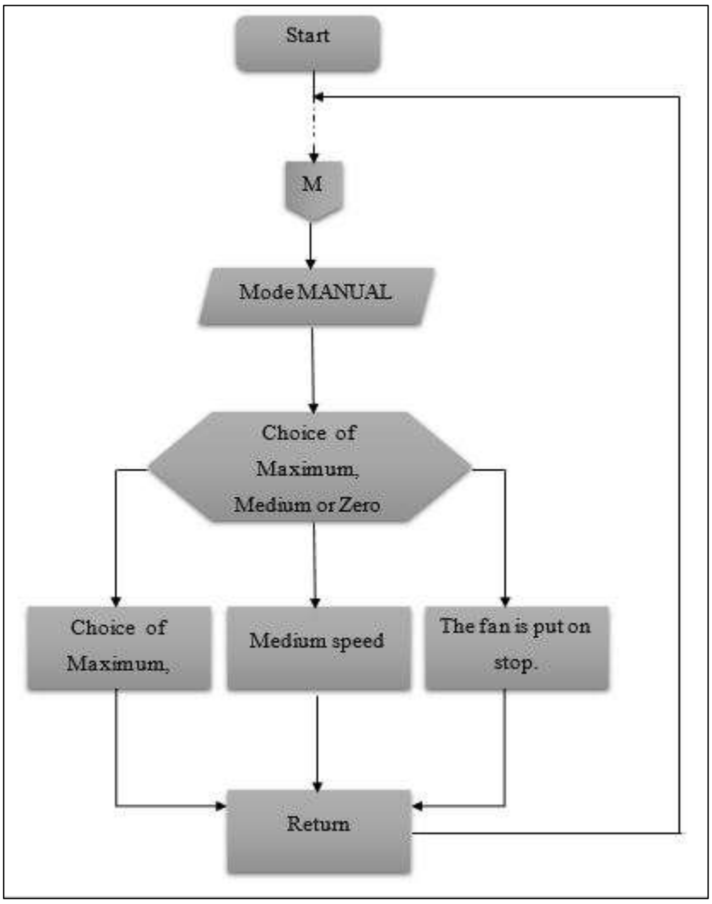

Figure 9.b : Air control « MANUAL-Mode ».
Source: Authors, (2025).

XI. TANK FILLING SYSTEM

We want to control the pump according to the following rules:

If the water level is below the minimum => turn on the pump.

After operation, if the water level reaches the maximum => turn off the pump.

The following two flowcharts (Figure10a) (Figure10b) represent the operation of the AUTO and MANUAL tank filling system respectively.

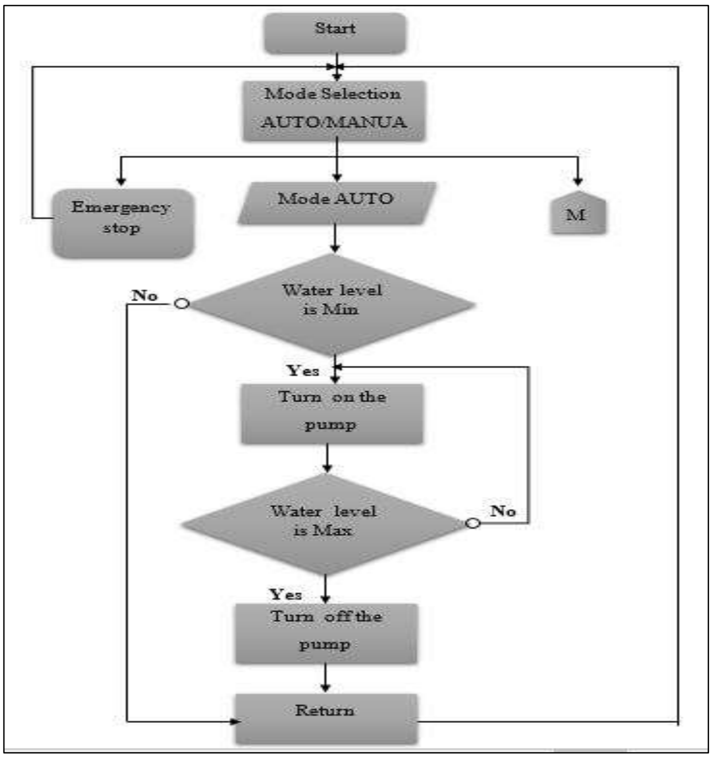

Figure 10.a: Tank filling system "AUTO-Mode"
Source: Authors (2025)

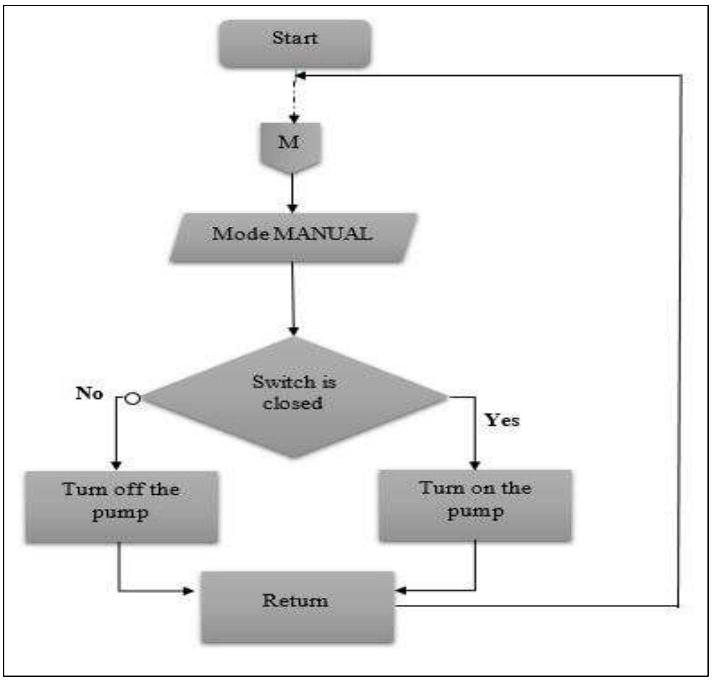

Figure 10.b: Tank filling system "MANUAL-Mode".
Source: Authors (2025).

XII. OUTDOOR LIGHTING

The role of this system and the outdoor lighting of the house; for this we use an LDR light sensor which has the same principle of the temperature sensor but here the sensor affected by the light and gives us a voltage value which depends on the lighting power.

We choose the value 300 (dusk) as a reference for the following rule: If the luminescent < =300 => turn on the lamp.

If not => turn off the lamp.

The following flowcharts represent the operation of this system (Figure 11b), (Figure 11a) MANUAL and AUTO mode respectively.

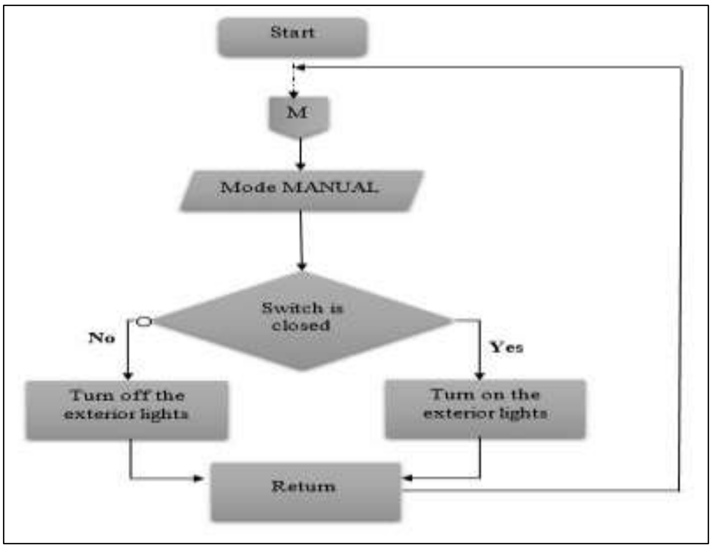

Figure 11.b : Exterior lighting system “MANUAL-Mode”
Source: Authors (2025

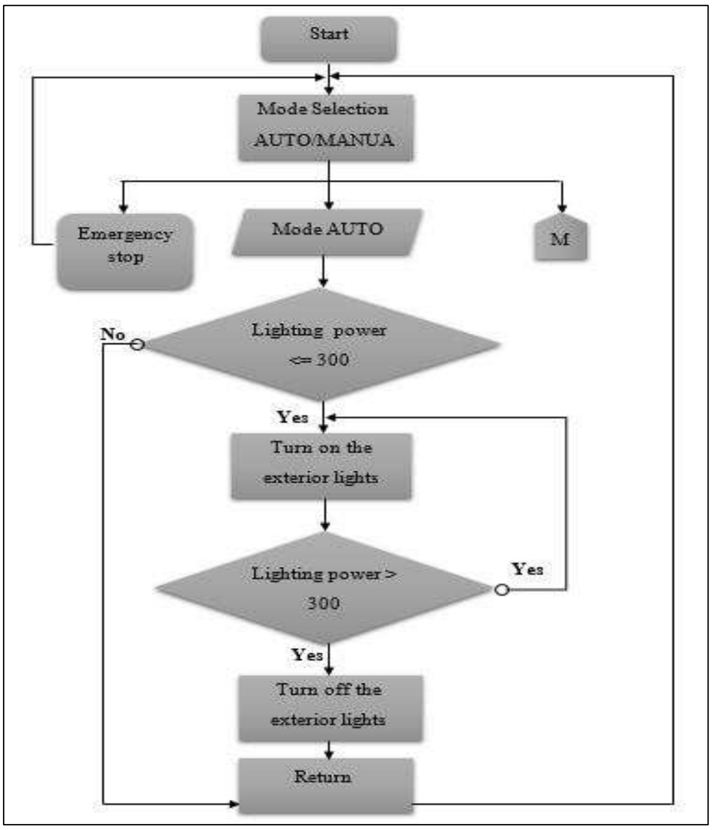

Figure 11.a: Exterior lighting system “AUTO-Mode”
Source: Authors (2025)

XIII. THE ALARM

The purpose of the alarm is security and ringing for the house. The switch connected to pin 11 decides one or the other; we use the same simulation rules.

The following flowchart represents the operation of this system (Figure12).

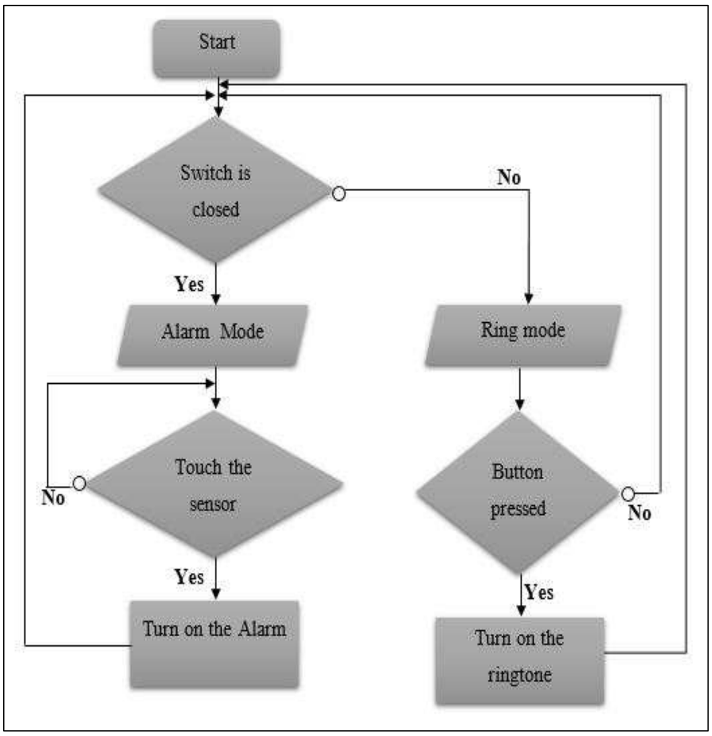

Figure 12: Alarm and bell system.
Source: Authors (2025).

XIV. RESULTS AND DISCUTIONS

We executed the ARDUINO program and we obtained the following results (Figure 13) (Figure 14).

Figure 13: ARDUINO system results
Source: Authors (2025)

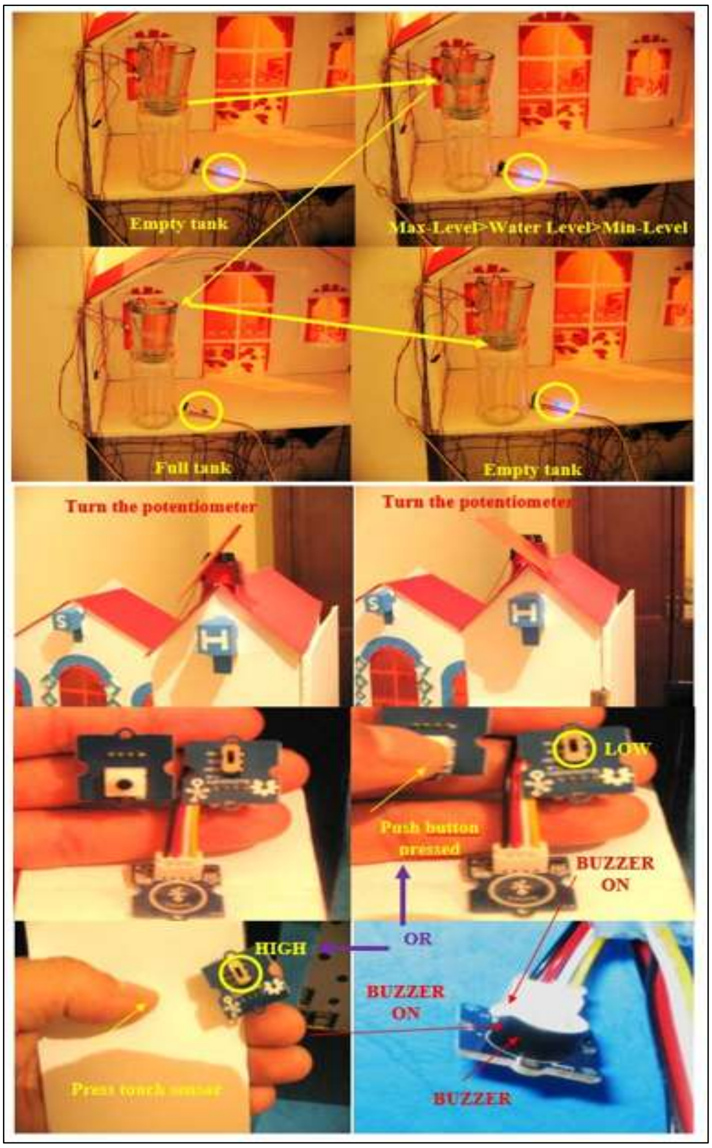

Figure 14: ARDUINO system results (folloing)
Source : Authors (2025)

The results obtained from the smart home prototype demonstrate the successful implementation and functionality of all the designed systems. Each component performed as expected, validating the effectiveness of the proposed approach. The temperature sensor effectively regulated the fan speed, ensuring optimal indoor comfort while conserving energy. Similarly, the water level sensor reliably monitored and maintained the water tank level, automating the refilling process and preventing overflows.

The outdoor lighting system, controlled by the light sensor, responded accurately to changes in ambient light, significantly reducing unnecessary energy consumption. The security alarm, activated by the tactile sensor, operated seamlessly, enhancing the safety features of the smart home prototype. Finally, the solar panel tracking system achieved precise orientation adjustments based on time, optimizing solar energy harvesting and demonstrating the potential for renewable energy integration in smart homes.

These results highlight the robustness and reliability of the Arduino-based design, confirming its suitability for real-world applications. The successful operation of the prototype underscores the effectiveness of sensor-based automation in addressing key aspects of energy efficiency, resource management, and home security. This success also provides a solid foundation for future enhancements.

XV. CONCLUSIONS

The implementation of the smart home prototype has been entirely successful, with all integrated systems functioning as intended. The automation of fan speed, water tank management, outdoor lighting, security alarm, and solar panel tracking has demonstrated the effectiveness and reliability of the proposed model. This success highlights the potential for Arduino-based systems to provide cost-effective and efficient solutions for smart home automation.

Looking ahead, we aim to expand the functionality of this model by incorporating voice control technologies. Future developments will focus on enabling voice-based control of additional home systems, such as air conditioning, television, and indoor lighting. This advancement will further enhance user convenience and the overall adaptability of the smart home system.

By building on the current achievements, this project sets a strong foundation for exploring advanced automation technologies and integrating them seamlessly into smart home applications.

XVI. AUTHOR’S CONTRIBUTION

Conceptualization: Soufiane Hachani and Okba Benelmir.
Methodology: Soufiane Hachani and Okba Benelmir.
Investigation: Soufiane Hachani and Okba Benelmir.
Discussion of results: Soufiane Hachani and Okba Benelmir.
Writing – Original Draft: Soufiane Hachani.
Writing – Review and Editing: Soufiane Hachani and Okba Benelmir.
Resources: Okba Benelmir..
Supervision: Okba Benelmir.
Approval of the final text: Soufiane Hachani and Okba Benelmir.

XVII. DISCLAIMER

The authors declare that they received no financial support or grants from any public, commercial, or non-profit entities for this research. All the views expressed in this work are solely those of the authors.

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