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Air Pollution Assessment of Samarinda Using the C4.5 Algorithm

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*Abstract***—** The degradation of air quality in numerous Indonesian cities is attributed to the swift proliferation of motorised vehicles, rapid population growth, and inadequate green spaces. Samarinda, the capital of East Kalimantan province, is plagued by high levels of pollution resulting from heavy vehicle exhaust emissions. The provision of accurate air quality information can mitigate respiratory issues. However, the public does not have access to air quality information due to the high cost of air quality measuring devices. Therefore, an Internet of Things (IoT)-based air pollution monitoring system using ESP32 is needed to provide interactive and real-time information. This study tested the C4.5 algorithm to classify air quality data based on six measurement parameters: PM10, PM2.5, CO, O3, and NO2. PM10 and PM2.5 particles are the primary pollutants that significantly impact human health. The World Health Organization (WHO) has set an annual quality standard value of 20μg/m3 for PM10 and 10μg/m3 for PM2.5. Carbon Monoxide (CO) can reduce the blood's ability to carry oxygen, which can affect the function of vital organs such as the heart and brain. Ozone (O3) on the Earth's surface is a harmful pollutant that can damage the lungs and other respiratory systems. Nitrogen dioxide (NO2) can cause lung inflammation and lower immunity to infections, such as influenza and pneumonia. This study uses the C4.5 algorithm to classify air quality data based on these parameters, which are important for determining air quality. The results show that air quality is divided into two types: good and moderate, with different proportions each day. The C4.5 algorithm achieved a success rate of 99.5074% and a failure rate of 0.4926% when processing air quality data. It was effective in classifying air quality and processing data. An Internet of Things (IoT)-based air pollution monitoring system using ESP32 is needed to provide interactive and real-time information to the public.

*Keywords***—**ESP32, Air quality, C4.5 Algorithm, Internet of Things, Classifying air quality.

I. INTRODUCTION

Air pollution occurs when substances, energy, and other components enter the air as a result of human activities, causing air quality to drop to an unhealthy level that can harm human health (Decree of the Indonesian Minister of Health Number 1407/MENKES/SK/XI/2002). Clean air quality must be prioritised, as low air quality can directly impact the health of living organisms on the Earth, particularly humans (Rahmawati & Khairina, 2021). Some of the health consequences resulting from exposure to air pollution are headaches, dizziness, nausea, irritation of the nose, throat, eyes and skin, acute respiratory infections (ARI), asthma, and the deadliest disease, pneumonia (Sari & Mayasari, 2020).

The high level of human activity and population density in urban areas has resulted in significantly higher levels of air pollutants compared to other areas (Rahmawati & Khairina, 2021). The degradation of air quality in multiple cities in the Indonesian region persists in its escalation (Greenstone & Fan, 2019). This phenomenon has multiple causes. One of them is the swift progress of motorised transportation, which is directly linked to the increase in population, but not correlated with the expansion of green open spaces and the conservation of green zones, particularly in urban regions.

Samarinda, the capital city of East Kalimantan province in Indonesia, is the largest city on the island of Kalimantan with a population of 858,080 residents, consisting of 443,379 males and 414,701 females (Central Bureau of Statistics, 2019). The city spans an area of 718 km², possessing hilly terrain with altitudes ranging from 10 to 200 metres above sea level. Excessive amounts of exhaust emissions from motorised vehicles contribute to the high levels of pollution experienced in the city. Every year, there has been a noticeable increase in the use of motorised vehicles in Samarinda City, as stated by the Central Bureau of Statistics (BPS) of East Kalimantan Province (Hidayat & Noor, 2020).

Following the various challenges outlined above, a proposal was put forward to establish an air pollution monitoring system aimed at categorising air quality in a city through the application of ISPU using the C4.5 algorithm. The algorithm in question was created by Ross Quinlan in 1993 and represents a modification of the ID3 algorithm. In light of its distinct features, the C4.5 algorithm is considered to offer significant advantages over similar decision tree algorithms, particularly in its ability to develop classification models that deliver high levels of accuracy, even when dealing with complex data. The C4.5 algorithm creates a classification model that is straightforward to interpret, enabling comprehension of the relationship between input variables and output variables. Moreover, the C4.5 algorithm is relatively efficient in terms of computation time, making it suitable for larger datasets (Feng & Zhang, 2023).

In addition to the C4.5 algorithm, other algorithms are available to classify air quality based on ISPU. These include the Naive Bayes, K-Nearest Neighbors, and Support Vector Machine algorithms, each with its own set of strengths and weaknesses. Although the Naive Bayes algorithm computes quickly, its resulting accuracy is relatively subpar. The K-Nearest Neighbors algorithm offers higher accuracy, but it presents interpretational challenges. On the other hand, the Support Vector Machine algorithm provides accuracy and interpretation advantages, but its computation speed is relatively slow (Damayunita et al., 2022).

The ISPU data utilized in this study resulted from monitoring using an ESP32 device that has an array of sensitive gas sensors. This device has demonstrated its usefulness in air quality monitoring since it can measure a variety of pertinent gas parameters. The gas sensors measure carbon monoxide (CO), nitrogen dioxide (NO2), sulfur dioxide (SO2), ozone (O3), and various particulates. To incorporate the data from the sensors, the ESP32 device is connected to Thinger.io's IoT platform (Dobrzyniewski et al., 2022).

Thinger.io is an Internet of Things platform that facilitates the connection of physical devices to the internet and the transmission of data to the platform. The platform enables the seamless integration of various sensors and devices with Thinger.io, which is particularly advantageous in the context of this research, where integration and processing of data from different gas sensors is necessary (Yuan et al., 2023). Moreover, the platform allows for real-time transmission of sensor data and provides features for further data analysis.

The information gathered from ESP32 devices and transmitted to Thinger.io is subsequently exported in a data analysis software-compatible format. For this research project, the data was exported in Excel format, which is commonly used in data analysis. Excel provides researchers with a convenient way to handle and arrange data in preparation for further analysis.

The data were analyzed using the widely used opensource Weka software for data modeling and analysis. Weka offers various classification algorithms, including the C4.5 algorithm employed in this research. Weka's flexibility in data processing and analysis enables researchers to conduct diverse experiments to assess the performance of different classification algorithms.

Utilizing ESP32 hardware, Thinger.io IoT platform, and Weka analysis software, this study seeks to gain a comprehensive comprehension of air quality based on ISPU. The ESP32 data encapsulates numerous pertinent factors, and diligent scrutiny of this data can unveil correlations between various air pollution agents. The research findings offer insights into improving air quality monitoring and efforts towards maintaining clean and healthy air. Additionally, they can be used to create more effective policies aimed at achieving these objectives.

II. METHODS

A. *Air Quality Based on Air Pollutant Standard Index (ISPU)*

Air pollution causes changes in the air environment by introducing pollutants, including gases and small particles or aerosols. These pollutants enter the air through natural means, such as forest fire smoke, volcanic ash, meteorite dust, and salt emissions from the sea, as well as through human activities such as transportation and industrial waste disposal (Syihabuddin Azmil Umri, 2021). The high concentration of air pollution in various major cities and industrial regions in Indonesia leads to respiratory problems, eye and ear irritation, the development of specific diseases, and impaired visibility (Abidin & Artauli Hasibuan, 2019). Judging by physical characteristics, air pollutants can be:

- a. Particles (dust, aerosols, lead)
- b. Gas (CO, NO2, SO2, H2S, and HC)
- c. Energy (temperature and noise)

On the basis of their occurrence, pollutants are formed by:

- a. Primary pollutants (which are emitted directly from the source)
- b. Secondary pollutants (which are formed as a result of reactions in the air between various substances)

Air quality standards are measures of the permissible levels of air pollutants that can exist in the atmosphere. Ambient air refers to the free air in the troposphere that is essential for human health, living organisms, and the environment. To prevent air pollution, the maximum limit of air quality in ambient air is established as the national ambient air quality standard, as detailed in PP No. 41 of 1999.

The quality standard value unit in Indonesia employs mass units per volume represented as μg/Nm3. In the United States, in addition to using mass per unit of volume, the ratio of volume per unit of volume is also utilised, denoted as ppm (parts per million), which indicates the amount of pollutants in cm3 per m3 of air, as well as ppb (parts per billion). The standard value for each pollutant parameter varies between different countries. This is adjusted to fit the environmental conditions within each respective country. The lower the standard value, the greater the harm to environmental health. Tables 1, 2, and 3 demonstrate that air pollution

can be measured in parts per million (ppm), representing the amount of pollutant in cubic centimetres per cubic meter of air, or in micrograms per cubic meter.

Table 2. Basic Parameters For Air Pollutant Standard Index (ISPU) And Measurement Time Period

1 year

24 hours 10.000 ug/Nm³

monoxide)

		$\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{2}$ and inclus around the Terror				
No.	Parameter	Average Measurement Time				
1.	Particulate matter	24 hours				
	(PM10)					
2.	Sulphur	Dioxide 24 hours				
	(SO2)					
3.	Carbon monoxide	8 hours				
	(CO)					
4.	Ozone (O3)	1 hour				
5.	Nitrogen Dioxide	1 hour				
	(NO2)					

Table 3. Air Pollutant Standard Index Limit (In Units Of Si

The air quality index value is calculated using the following equation (United States Environmental Protection Agency, 2018):

$$
I = \frac{(Ia - Ib)}{(xa - xb)} (Xx - Xb) + Ib
$$
 (1)

Information : (1) I : calculated ISPU Ia: ISPU upper limit Ib : ISPU lower limit $Xa:$ ambient level (μ g/m3) Xb : lower limit ambient level (μ g/m3) Xx : real ambient level of measurement result $(\mu g/m3)$

The known ambient air concentration for the parameter type SO2 is: 322 μg/m3. The concentration if converted into the air pollutant standard index number is as follows:

Xx : Real ambient levels of measurement results: 322 μg/m3 Ia : ISPU upper limit: 100 (line 2) Ib : ISPU lower limit: 50 (line 3) Xa : Ambient upper limit: 365 (line 4)

Xb : Ambient lower limit: 80 (line 5)

So these numbers are entered into formula (*) to become:

$$
I = \frac{(Ia - Ib)}{(Xa - Xb)} (Xx - Xb) + Ib
$$

$$
I = \frac{(100 - 50)}{(365 - 80)} (322 - 80) + 50
$$

The SO2 concentration of 322 mg/m3 in the ambient air is converted to the Air Pollution Standard Index (ISPU), resulting in a value of 92. The SO2 concentration of 322 mg/m3 in the ambient air is converted to the Air Pollution Standard Index (ISPU), resulting in a value of 92. This value is utilised to classify air quality in a location. Based on the five ISPU categories, each is represented by a colour symbol. The good category is green, the moderate category is blue, the unhealthy category is yellow, the very unhealthy category is red, and the dangerous category is black.

Each pollutant used as an ISPU parameter, as determined by the Decree of the Head of the Environmental Impact Control Agency, has an assigned impact level ranging from good to dangerous. Table 4 provides a summary of the effects of ISPU for each parameter (Agista et al., 2020).

Table 4. Effect of air pollutant standard index for each pollutant parameter

Category	Range	CO	SO2				
Good	$0 - 50$	No effect	Wounding οf				
			plant certain				
			when species				
			combined with				
			O3 exposure for a				
			duration of 4				
			hours.				
Medium	$51 - 100$	changes No in	Injury to some				
		blood chemistry	plant species				
		were detected					
Unhealthy	$101 - 199$	Cardiovascular	Plant Increased				
		improvement in	from Damage				
		smokers with	Odor				
		heart disease					
Very	200-299	Cardiovascular	Increased				
Unhealthy		improvement in	sensitivity in				
		non-smokers	patients with				
		with heart	asthma and				
		disease, and	bronchitis				
		will there he					
		some noticeable					
		weaknesses					
Harmful	300 - more	Levels harmful to all populations					
		when exposed					

B. Algorithm C4.5

The C4.5 algorithm is commonly used to classify segmentation or predictive grouping through the use of decision trees to aid decision making. Its notable advantages include processing continuous and discrete

numeric data, the ability to handle missing attribute values, the production of easily interpretable rules, and being one of the fastest algorithms available (Marlina & Bakri, 2021). Prediction accuracy refers to the ability of the model to perform well in predicting class labels for new or previously unknown data. In terms of the computational speed or efficiency necessary to build and employ the model (Febriani & Sulistiani, 2021), as well as the model's capability to make accurate predictions even in the presence of missing attribute values.

C. Hardware Design

Block diagram depicting the circuitry and indicating the pins that are connected, along with a detailed description of the communication protocol utilized for this study.

Figure. 1. Circuit Block Diagram

1) Arduino Nano

The Arduino Nano serves as the central hardware component of the air quality and weather monitoring system. It receives data from multiple sensors and LoRa modules, which can then be transmitted to the Gateway for analysis.

2) PM 2.5

The PM 2.5 sensor detects particles in the air with a diameter of less than 2.5 micrometres. Such small particles can reduce air quality and pose health risks.

3) PM 2.5

The MICS 4514 gas sensor detects exhaust emissions, including CO, NO2, and SO2, which have significant negative impacts on air quality. The MICS 4514 gas sensor detects exhaust emissions, including CO, NO2, and SO2, which have significant negative impacts on air quality. This objective statement and its concise structure avoid biased language while maintaining a precise and logical flow of information.

4) MQ-131

The MQ-131 gas sensor detects concentrations of ozone gas, which can irritate the eyes and respiratory system. The MQ-131 gas sensor detects concentrations of ozone gas, which can irritate the eyes and respiratory system. The MQ-131 gas sensor detects concentrations of ozone gas, which can irritate the eyes and respiratory system. Its measurement of ozone concentration is vital to determining exposure levels.

An IoT platform connected to an integrated air quality monitoring system enables quick and easy access to information on air conditions by users. This can help the public and associated organisations make more informed decisions when addressing the negative consequences of inadequate air quality.

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

A. Application/Data Processing

In this study, the focus is on monitoring air quality using a set of prototype devices, with subsequent processing of data obtained from IoT instruments. The aim is to determine the level of air quality.

1) Data Preparation/Pre-Processing

Sensor data used in this research were obtained from the Antares website in CSV format. The Antares website serves as a storage platform for the sensor data of this device. The dataset comprises multiple individual files for each month from March to August 2023. An explanation of the variables or parameters contained in the data set is as follows:

- a. Date: time of air quality measurement.
- b. PM10: air particles smaller than 10 micrometres (micrometres).
- c. PM2.5: airborne particles smaller than 2.5 micrometres (micrometres).
- d. CO: Carbon monoxide.
- e. O3: a radical inorganic molecule consisting of three oxygen atoms that is a strong oxidiser. Ozone is naturally produced from oxygen (O2) molecules in the atmosphere of the Earth that interact with ultraviolet light or electrical activity in the atmosphere.
- f. NO2: Nitrogen dioxide.
- g. Max: The highest measured value of all the parameters measured at the same time.
- h. Critical: the parameter with the highest measurement result.
- i. Category: obtained from the average calculation of PM10. PM25, SO2, CO, O3, and NO2, then classified according to ISPU (Air Pollution Standard Index).

Table 5 displays the National Ambient Air Quality Standards, explaining the categories, corresponding colors, and air quality values to enhance the public's comprehension.

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Overall, the dataset comprises 8,760 entries with 10 variables and one class. The variables of the dataset include date, time, PM10, PM2.5, SO2, CO, O3, NO2, Max, Critical Component, and Category as classes.

After the data has been cleaned, it is now ready for processing. Table 7 displays the processed data available for classification through the C4.5 Algorithm using the Weka tool.

Table 6. Processed Sample Data

Date	Time	0 IMd	PM2.5	8	CO	NO2	Max	Component Critical	Category
	02:00:00	25	56	7	θ	6	56		Moderate
	03:00:00	25	56	7	θ	6	56		Moderate
	04:00:00	25	56	7	θ	6	56		Moderate
	05:00:00	25	56	7	θ	6	56		Moderate
	06:00:00	26	57	7	θ	6	57		Moderate
	07:00:00	26	57	7	θ	6	57		Moderate
05/03/2023	08:00:00	27	58	7	θ	6	58		Moderate
	09:00:00	28	59	8	θ	6	59	PM2.5	Moderate
	10:00:00	28	59	8	θ	6	59		Moderate
	11:00:00	29	60	8	θ	7	60		Moderate
	12:00:00	29	60	8	θ	7	60		Moderate
	13:00:00	29	60	8	θ	7	60		Moderate
	14:00:00	30	61	9	θ	7	61		Moderate
	15:00:00	30	61	9	θ	7	61		Moderate
	16:00:00	30	61	9	θ	7	61		Moderate

B. Application/Data Processing

The C4.5 algorithm implements a decision tree by initially choosing an attribute as the root. From there, a branch is generated for every value in the root. The following step is to divide the cases into branches. This process is repeated for each branch until all cases in the branch are of the same class. During root attribute selection, the highest gain value of the available attributes is used as a basis. To compute the gain value, we apply the following formula (IBM, n.d.):

Gain
$$
(S, A)
$$
 = Entropy $(S) - \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{|S_i|}{|S|} * Entropy(S)$ (2)

Information : (2) S : The set of cases A : Attributes N : Number of partitions of attribute A |Si| : Number of cases in the i-th partition |S| : Number of cases in S-Meanwhile, the calculation of the entropy value can be seen in the equation :

$$
Entropy(S) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} -pi * log2 pi
$$

Figures 2 and 3 the outcomes of Weka tool's classification and decision tree calculations.

Classifier output										
Number of Leaves :		45								
89 Size of the tree :										
Time taken to build model: 0.06 seconds										
=== Stratified cross-validation ===										
$==$ Summary $==$										
Correctly Classified Instances			8485 99.5074 %							
Incorrectly Classified Instances 42				0.4926 \$						
Kappa statistic			0.9886							
Mean absolute error Root mean squared error			0.0064 0.0681							
			1.4749 \$							
Relative absolute error Root relative squared error			14.6567 \$							
Total Number of Instances			8527							
=== Detailed Accuracy By Class ===										
		0.996 0.007	TP Rate FP Rate Precision Recall 0.997	0.996	F-Measure MCC 0.996	0.989	0.997	ROC Area PRC Area Class 0.998	Good	
			0.993 0.004 0.992 0.993		0.992	0.989	0.997	0.994	Moderate	
Weighted Avg. 0.995 0.006 0.995				0.995	0.995	0.989	0.997	0.997		
$==$ Confusion Matrix $==$										
b a.	<-- classified as									
	5813 $22 \mid a = Good$									
$20\ 2672$ b = Moderate										

Figure. 2. Classification output

Prafanto, A., Astuti, I. F., Salamah, U., Agus, F., Kridalaksana, A. H., & Kamila, V. Z. . (2024). Air Pollution Assessment of Samarinda Haina the $C4.5$ Algorithm. Buletin Doltaneon, $24(2)$ PM2.5 co $= 23 \rightarrow 23$ Moderate (740.0) $s02$ \Leftarrow 50 \rightarrow 50 $= 50$ ັນເດ $\epsilon = E$ ۰. . Moderate (579.0) PM10 Moderate (175.0) **PM10** Moderate (31.0) $MD2$ \Leftarrow 42 > 42 $\epsilon = 5$.
> 5 $\leftarrow 20$ > 20 Good (5517.0) PM10 Good (20.0) Moderate (18.0) Moderate (202.0/3.0) $\Leftarrow 50 \rightarrow 50$ Good (26.0) Moderate (3.0) $_{03}$ $SO₂$ \Leftarrow 17 \rightarrow 17 Moderate (325.0) $PM2.5$ **PM10** $$02$ co N₀₂ $= 10 \rightarrow 10$ $\leftarrow 4$ $\frac{1}{2}$ $= 16 \rightarrow 16$ Moderate (63.0) PM10 Good (34.0) Moderate (2.0) Good (17.0) Moderate (15.0) $\leftarrow 24$ > 24 $= 17 \rightarrow 17$ $= 16$ 16 $= 18$ -
> 19 $\Leftarrow 13$.
> 13 Moderate (22.0) Moderate (32.0/2 Good (80.0) Moderate (78) Good (3.0/1.0) Moderate (11.0) Good (13.0) co \overline{c} $SO₂$ $SO₂$ 03 PM10 N_{D2} $= 16 \rightarrow 16$ $= 17 \rightarrow 17$ $= 13 \rightarrow 13$ $\overline{5}$ = 27 \rightarrow 27 45 \leftarrow 31 > 31 55 Good (4.0 Moderate (6.0/1.0) Good (44.0) Moderate (3.0) Good (11.0) PM2.5 Moderate (Moderate (271.0/1.0) 03 Moderate (41.0) Moderate (2.0) $SO₂$ N₀₂ co $\Leftarrow 20 \rightarrow 20$ $\Leftarrow 60 \rightarrow 60$ \Leftrightarrow 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ \Leftarrow 25 $= 12$.
> 12 Good (12.0) Moderate (2.0) Moderate (11.0) Good (8.0) Moderate (2.0) Good (8.0) Moderate (21.0) Good (2.0) $03[°]$ $$02$.
> 19 $\Leftarrow 13 \rightarrow 13$ \Leftarrow 19 Good (22.0/1.0) Good (3.0/1.(Moderate (19.0) $_{03}$ $= 17 \rightarrow 17$ Good (B.(Moderate (11.0/1.0)

Figure. 3. Tree-shaped classification output

The study produced ten decisions with a success rate of 99.5074% and a failure rate of 0.4926%. The decision tree based on the C4.5 algorithm and presented in Figures 2 and 3 provides the following results. If the PM2.5 value of PM2.5 is above 50 and the amount of CO is higher than 23, then it will be placed in the moderate classification. Lastly, if the PM2.5 value is higher than 50, but the amount of CO is less than or equal to 23, the SO2 level is greater than 5, and the PM10 level is not more than 20, it is also categorized as moderate. If the PM2.5 value is greater than 50, but the amount of CO is less than or equal to 23, and the level of SO2 is not greater than 5, it also falls under the moderate classification. Lastly, if the PM2.5 value is higher than 50, but the amount of CO is less than or equal to 23, the SO2 level is greater than 5, and the PM10 level is not more than 20, it is also categorized as moderate. Lastly, if the PM2.5 value is higher than 50, but the amount of CO is less than or equal to 23, the SO2 level is greater than 5, and the PM10 level is not more than 20, it is also categorized as moderate. If the PM2.5 value is 50 or below and the O3 value exceeds 50, air quality falls into the moderate category.

If the PM2.5 value is 50 or less and the O3 value is 50 or less, while the NO2 value exceeds 5, the air quality falls under the moderate category. If the PM2.5 value is equal to or less than 50 and O3 is equal to or less than 46, and SO2 exceeds 50, it falls into the moderate category. If the PM2.5 value is equal to or less than 50, O3 is equal to or less than 46, SO2 is equal to or less than 50, and PM10 is equal to or less than 42, it falls into the good

category. If PM2.5 has a value that is less than or equal to 50 and O3 has a value that is less than or equal to 46 and SO2 has a value that is less than or equal to 50 and PM10 has a value greater than 42 but less than or equal to 50, then it falls into the good category. If PM2.5 has a value that is less than or equal to 50 and O3 has a value that is less than or equal to 46 and SO2 has a value that is less than or equal to 50 and PM10 has a value greater than 42 and greater than 50, then it falls into the moderate category.

IV. CONCLUSION

After data analysis and discussion, the C4.5 algorithm was tested to classify air quality data based on five air quality measurement parameters: PM10, PM25, CO, O3, NO2 and category. The results demonstrate a clear classification of air quality using the C4.5 data mining algorithm. The analysis categorises air quality into two types: good and moderate, with varying proportions each day. It is concluded that the air quality between March and August 2023 is quite good and not harmful to living organisms.

The C4.5 algorithm was applied to process air quality data, resulting in a 99.5074% accuracy rate for successful classification and 0.4926% for failed classification. These results demonstrate the effectiveness of the C4.5 algorithm in data processing.

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