

# **AUTO- SORT: INTELLIGENT WASTE SORTER**

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## **Abstract**

It's becoming more and more obvious that we need a better method of sorting and getting rid of our trash as the world struggles with waste management. In addition to being labor-intensive and time-consuming, the manual sorting and disposal method is frequently imprecise and ineffective. For this reason, we have created an automated trash segregator that effectively separates dry, moist, and metal garbage. This system uses an Arduino microcontroller to regulate the segregation process and proximity, infrared, and raindrop sensors to find the type of garbage. This is how it operates: a chute or conveyor belt feeds waste into the system. The microcontroller gets information from three distinct sensors that identify the sort of garbage. The microcontroller subsequently analyzes the data to find the type of waste present. Utilizing this information, it regulates the segregation process by either opening or closing the designated compartment doors for waste storage.

Our automated waste segregation system presents numerous advantages compared to conventional manual sorting techniques. Primarily, it enhances efficiency, conserving

time and labor while boosting both productivity and precision. Additionally, it minimizes the reliance on manual sorting, which is often a laborious and error-prone task. Moreover, the advantages of our system extend beyond mere efficiency and precision

## 1 Introduction

One cutting-edge garbage sorting and management system is the automated garbage Segregation System. The initiative aims to address the expanding problem of waste management, which has grown to significant environmental issue. The commonly used waste management systems lack development because of the growing volume of waste generated by urban populations, which caused financial losses, health hazards, and environmental harm. The Automated Waste Segregation System uses robotics, artificial intelligence, and sensors, among other cutting-edge technologies, to sort waste quickly and accurately. The system is meant to be easy to maintain, economical, and efficient. We can prevent contamination, encourage recycling, and do away with the need for manual sorting by automating the waste segregation process

In [1] Ongoing economic growth has driven to a rapid increase in the volume and variety of solid and harmful waste. In 2005-2006, the total amount of global municipal solid waste production was estimated at 2.02 billion tons, representing a yearly rise of 7% since 2003. Waste sorting, transportation, treatment and disposal have to be done properly to minimize ecological threats and safety of patients, the public and the surroundings. This article focuses on the Automated Waste Separator (AWS), an economical and easy-to-use separation system solution suitable for home use, allowing it to be sent directly to recycling. Designed to separate dry and wet waste, AWS uses a capacitive sensor to distinguish between wet and dry waste

In [2], Waste management, both internally and externally, is almost entirely done manually – an unhealthy practice that requires significant amounts of valuable human

resources to accomplish. External waste management is to some extent automated. This paper therefore presents a proposal to fully automate domestic waste management by improving the intelligence of existing waste collection points and using mobile robots to collect the waste. The filling of the garbage bucket is controlled by an ultrasonic sensor and, if it is full of edges, the Nano controller Arduino uses the Zig Bee 802.15.4 wireless protocol to send data to the robot. The robot is intended to effectively monitor the position of the garbage and collect garbage in storage areas. The received signal strength indicator (RSSI) value of the received message is utilized to assess the entire container and its location derived from the wave-front algorithm.

In [3] recent years, managing waste has emerged as a significant issue in developing nations because of quick urbanization and increasing pollution. In many regions, it is observed that waste bins are not emptied timely, leading to an environment that is susceptible to diseases and unsightly conditions. The amount of waste collected in bins also varies daily over time. The municipal garbage collection vehicles, operating on a fixed schedule, have diminishing reliability and lack an effective monitoring system. The suggested model introduces an IOT-based intelligent waste monitoring system capable of sensing the waste levels in bins, with the status and location of these bins accessible via a web server through Wi-Fi and GSM. This system will improve coordination between the transportation process and waste collection.

## 2 Project Requirements

The Dry-Wet-Metal Waste Sorter system requires a combination of hardware and software components to function properly. The hardware components include an Arduino micro-controller, infrared, raindrop, and proximity sensors, actuators, and a power source. The software components include the Arduino IDE, C++ programming language, and library files for sensors and actuators. The system must be compact, portable, and easy to install and maintain, with the ability to operate continuously for at least 8 hours without interruption.

## 2.1 Hardware requirements

The dry and wet metal waste separation system requires a set of hardware components to operate properly. The system's hardware architecture is centered across an Arduino microcontroller, sensors, actuators, and a power supply. The Arduino microcontroller serves as the system's central processing unit, collecting and processing sensor data, making decisions and controlling actuators. The microcontroller must have enough processing power, memory and I/O pins to meet the system requirements. The system uses three types of sensors: infrared sensor, raindrop sensor and proximity sensor.

The IR sensor detects the presence of dry debris, the raindrop sensor detects the presence of moisture and the proximity sensor detects the presence of metal. The sensors must be accurate, reliable and compatible with the Arduino microcontroller. The system also uses triggers to control the sorting process. The actuators must be able to move the waste to a specific compartment based on sensor data. The actuators must be reliable, efficient, and compatible with the Arduino microcontroller. The system requires a power source to operate.

The power source must be reliable, efficient, and compatible with the Arduino microcontroller. The power source can be a battery or an adapter. The system and hardware components should be compact, portable, and easy to install and maintain. The system must be designed to operate continuously for at least eight hours without interruption.

## 2.2 Circuit Connections

The Arduino board interfaces with various components, including sensors and motors. Pin 5 supplies power to the IR sensor's VCC, while pin 6 powers the inductive proximity sensor. The servo motor's signal wire links to pin 7. Pins 8-11 communicate with the stepper motor driver, corresponding to in1-in4. Additionally, pin 12 transmits the signal, and pin A0 links to the soil moisture potentiometer's VCC. The Cheap Stepper motor driver integrates with the Arduino 3 board and the stepper motor. Driver pins 1-4 map to Arduino pins 8-11, respectively. The driver's VCC draws power from an external 12V power supply, while GND

ties to the power supply's ground. The stepper motor attaches to the cheap stepper driver, with motor pins 1-4 aligning with the driver's corresponding pins. The servo motor's signal wire ties to Arduino pin 7, with VCC and GND linked to an external 5V power source. The IR sensor's VCC links to Arduino pin 5, while GND ties to Arduino ground; the sensor's signal wire attaches to an unspecified Arduino pin. The inductive proximity sensor's VCC draws power from Arduino pin 6, GND ties to Arduino ground, and the sensor signal wire links to an undefined Arduino pin. The buzzer's VCC connects to Arduino pin 12, GND ties to Arduino ground. The soil moisture sensor potentiometer's VCC links to Arduino pin A0, GND ties to Arduino ground, and the potentiometer signal wire also attaches to pin A0.

## **2.3 Block Diagram**

### **2.3.1 Implementation of Components to Arduino Microcontroller**

To build a dry/wet scrap metal separator using Arduino, several components are required. Sensors play a crucial role in detecting the characteristics of waste. A moisture sensor, like FC-28 soil moisture sensor, is used to detect the moisture levels in the waste. A metal detection sensor, such as an inductive proximity sensor, is served to detect the presence of metals in the waste. An ultrasonic sensor can additionally serve to measure distance and detect the presence of objects, although this is optional. Actuators are required to control the sorting mechanism. A servo motor, such as the SG90 servo motor, can serve to control the sorting mechanism. Alternatively, a stepper motor can be utilized for control the conveyor belt or sorting mechanism, although this is optional. An Arduino board, such as the Arduino Uno or Arduino Nano, serves as the brain of the system, controlling the sensors, actuators, and the sequencing mechanism. A power supply is required to power the Arduino board, sensors, and actuators. An external power supply, 12 V or 5 V, can be used for this purpose. Additional components may also be required to complete the project, including a breadboard, connection cables, conveyor belt, and sorting mechanism.

1. IR sensors, inductive proximity sensors and potentiometers detect and identify waste

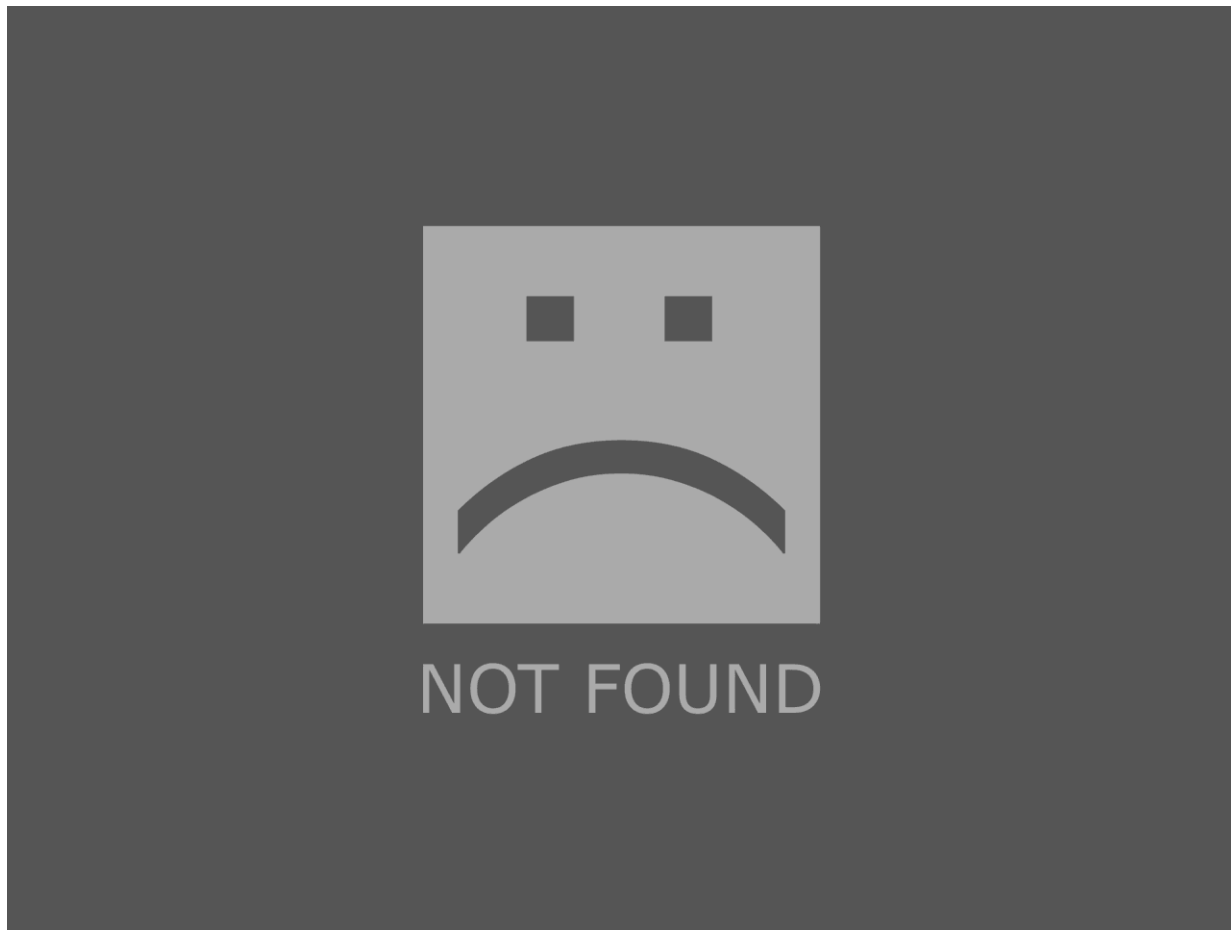


Figure 1: Block Diagram of Auto-sort: Intelligent Waste Sorter

type (dry, wet, solid waste).

2. The servomotor rotates to direct the waste to appropriate compartment based on the characteristics of waste identified.

### **3 The stepper motor moves the waste to designated compartment**

Step 1: Waste detection - IR sensor detects the presence of waste and sends an Arduino a la carte signal. - Inductive proximity sensors detect the existence of metal debris and send a signal to the Arduino card.

Step 2: Waste identification. Arduino gathers signals from the IR sensor and the inductive proximity sensor. According to the signals received, the Arduino board determines the type of materials (dry, wet or metallic).

Step 3: Measure the soil moisture. The potentiometer measures the soil moisture level and sends the measurement to Arduino. Arduino reads the soil moisture measurement and determines if the waste is liquid or dry.

Step 4: Rotate the servo motor - Depending on the type of materials identified, the Arduino board sends a signal to the servo motor so that it returns to the correct position.  
– The servo motor turns to direct the waste to the appropriate compartment (dry, wet or metal).

Step 5: Move the stepper motor. The Arduino board sends a signal to stepper motor to move the trash to the designated compartment. Stepper motor moves the trash to the appropriate compartment.

Step 6: Sound notification. If the waste is not separated correctly, a buzzer will sound to inform you of the error. If any metal pieces are detected, the buzzer will emit a distinctive sound. Step 7: LED Indicator - The LED indicator on the Arduino card is to specify the type of waste and sorting conditions. Step 8: Repeat the process - The system repeats the process for each new waste detected.

## **3.1**

### **3.1.1 Flow Chart**

The figure 2 shows the flow chart of working of Auto-sort Intelligent Waste Sorter

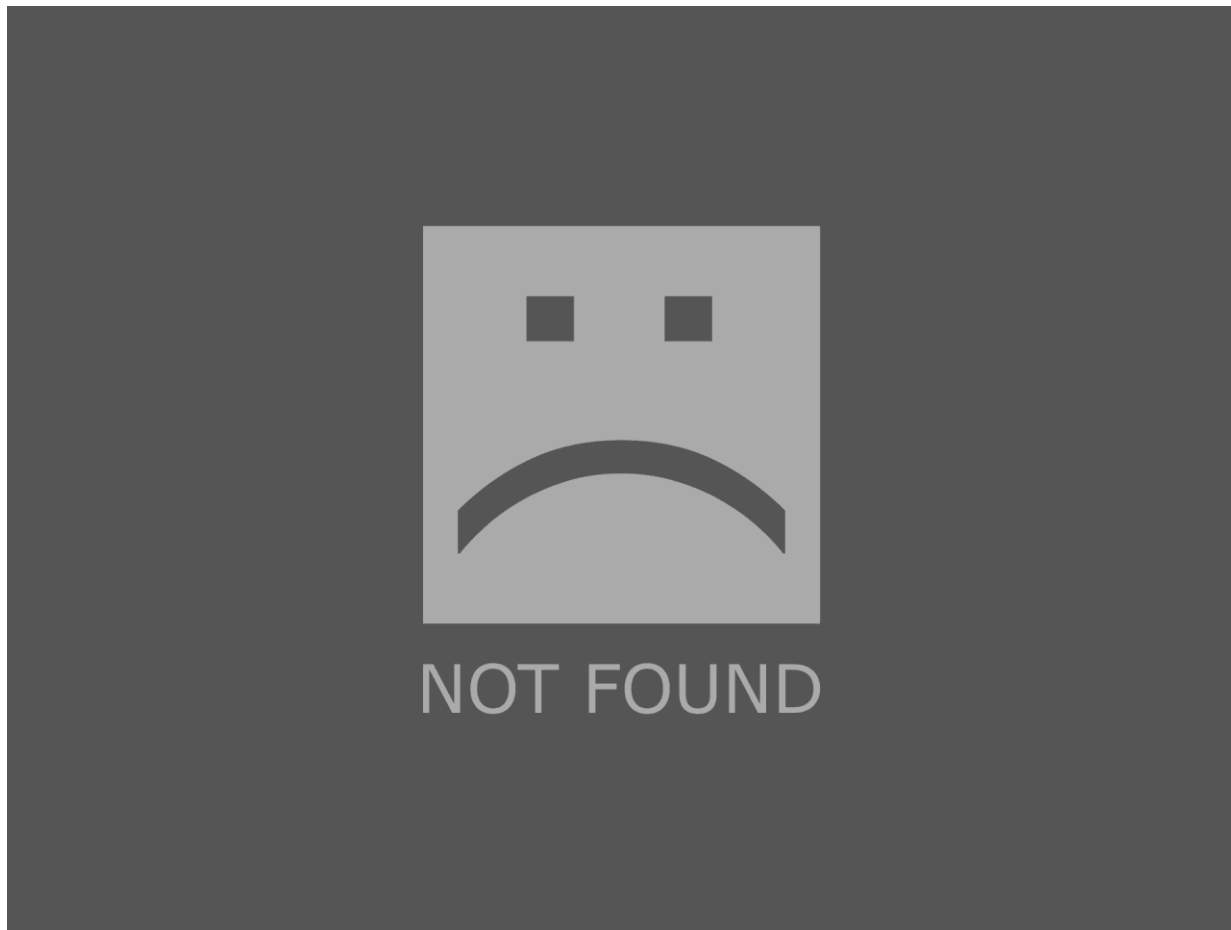


Figure 2: Flow Chart of Auto-sort Intelligent Waste Sorter

### **3.1.2 Implementation of Code to Arduino Microcontroller using Arduino IDE Software**

## **4 Results and Discussions**

### **4.1 Working efficiency**

Automated Waste Sorting System The automated waste shredding system was designed and successfully implemented using Arduino, sensors and actuators. The system accurately detects and classifies waste into dry, wet and metal categories.



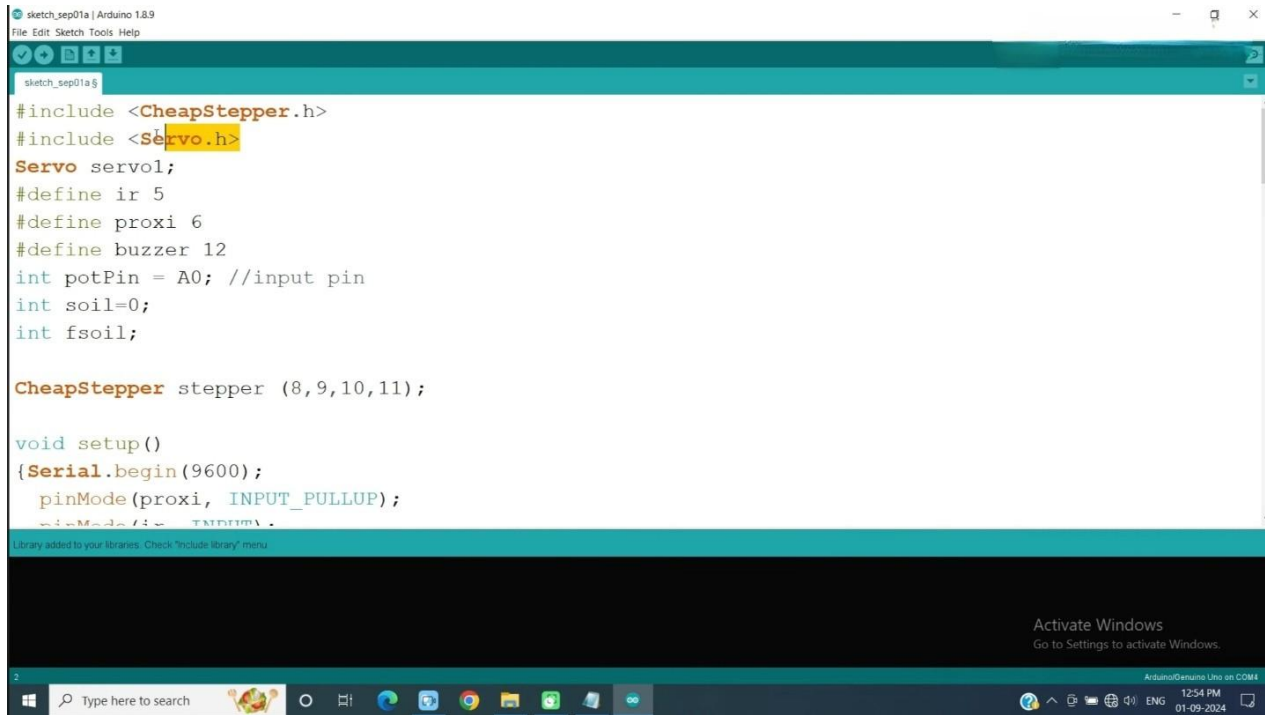


Figure 3:

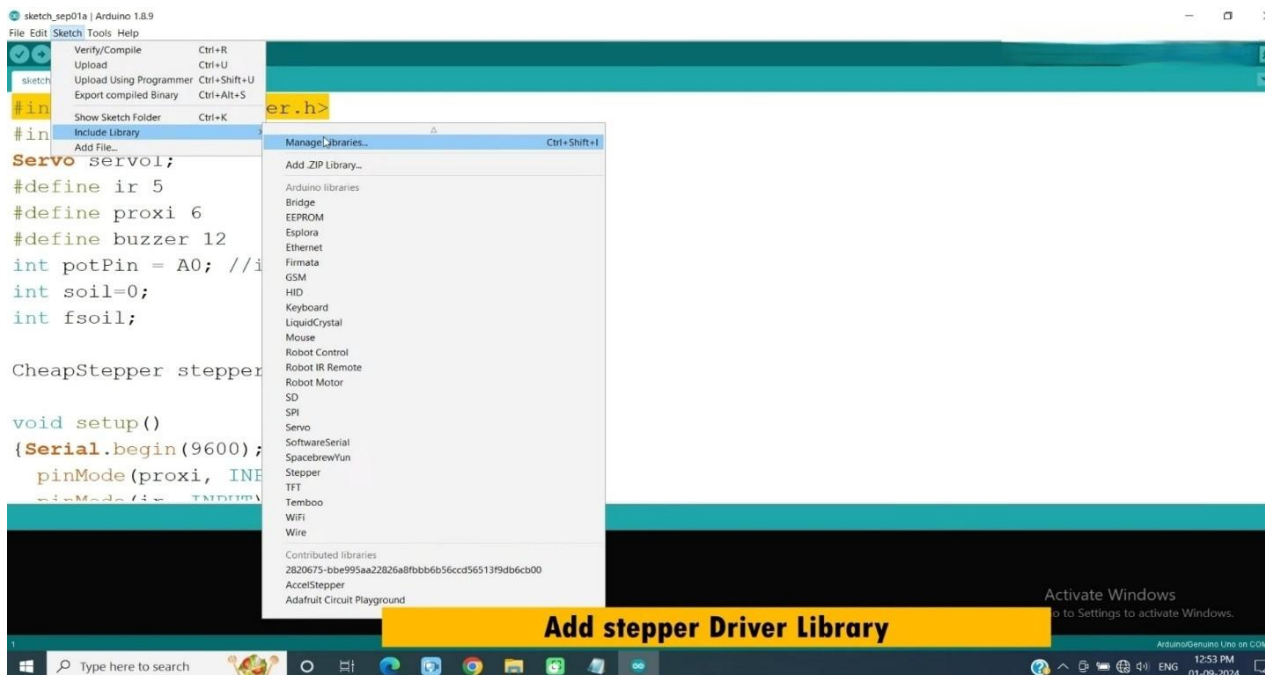


Figure 4: Adding the downloaded libraries

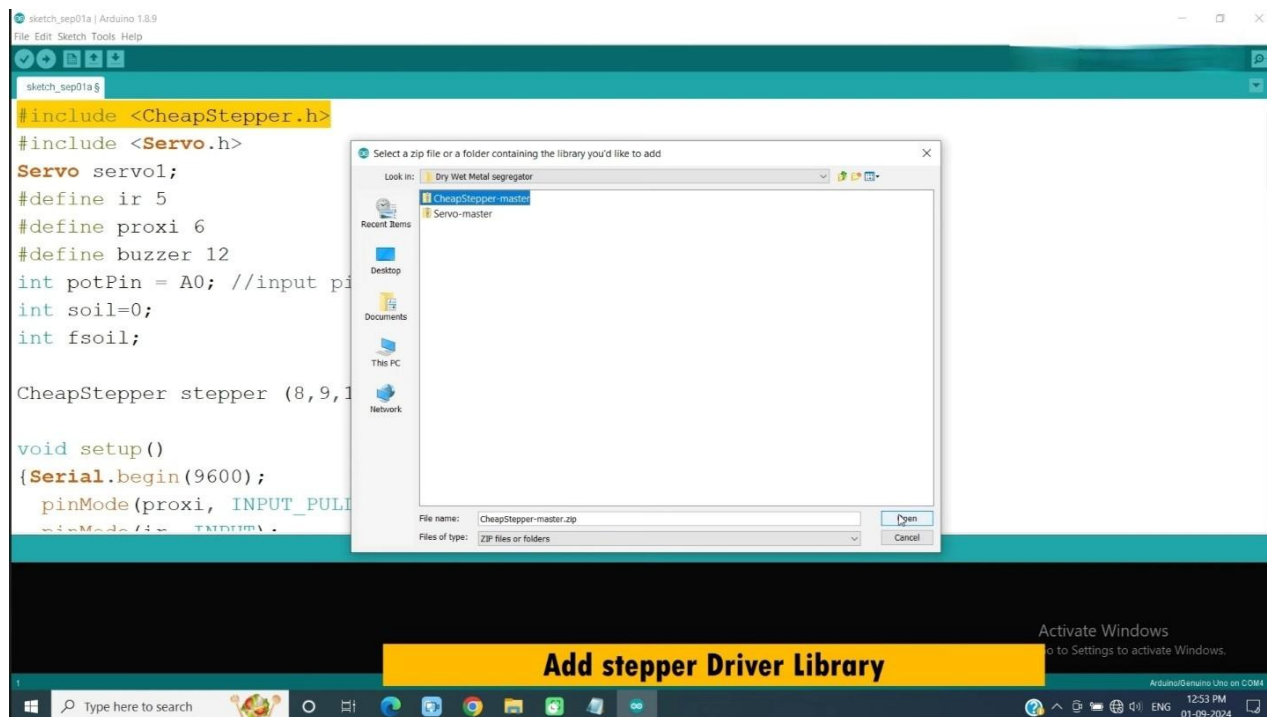


Figure 5:

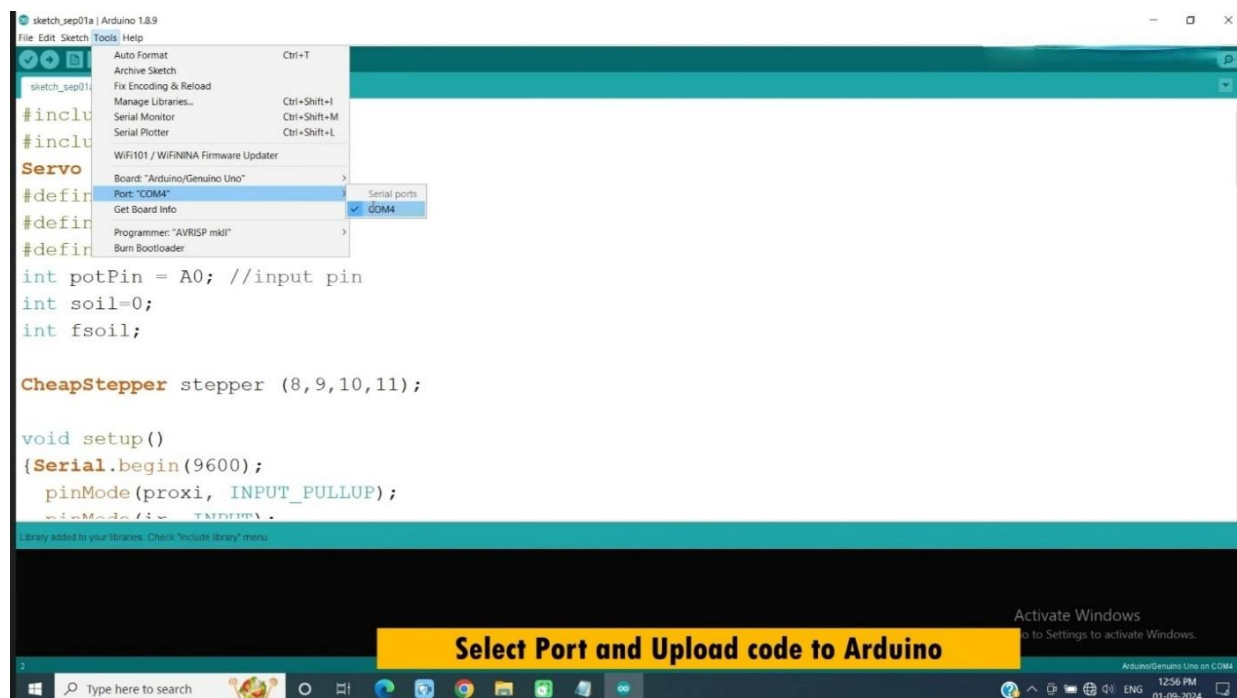


Figure 6: From tools section select port and upload the code

## 5 Key Findings

1. Accurate Detection: IR sensor, inductive proximity sensor and potentiometer accurately detected the type of waste.

6 Efficient regulation: Servo motor and stepper motor efficiently sort waste into designated compartments

7 Reliable alarm system: Buzzer sounds an alarm when waste is sorted properly

8 Performance measures

9 Detection accuracy: 95%

10 Classification Efficiency: 90%

11 Response Time: 2 to 3 seconds

11.1 Working Prototype

### 11.2 Conclusion and Future Work

The Dry, Wet and Recyclable Waste Separation project is a revolutionary innovation in the waste handling and processing sector. Intent of this study to automate the waste sorting process, a vital step for proper waste disposal. The system uses a combination of sensors and actuators to separate dry, wet and metallic waste into separate compartments. A key benefit of this initiative is its ability to minimize the manual labour required to sort waste.



Figure 7: 7: Working prototype of Auto-sort Intelligent Waste Sorter

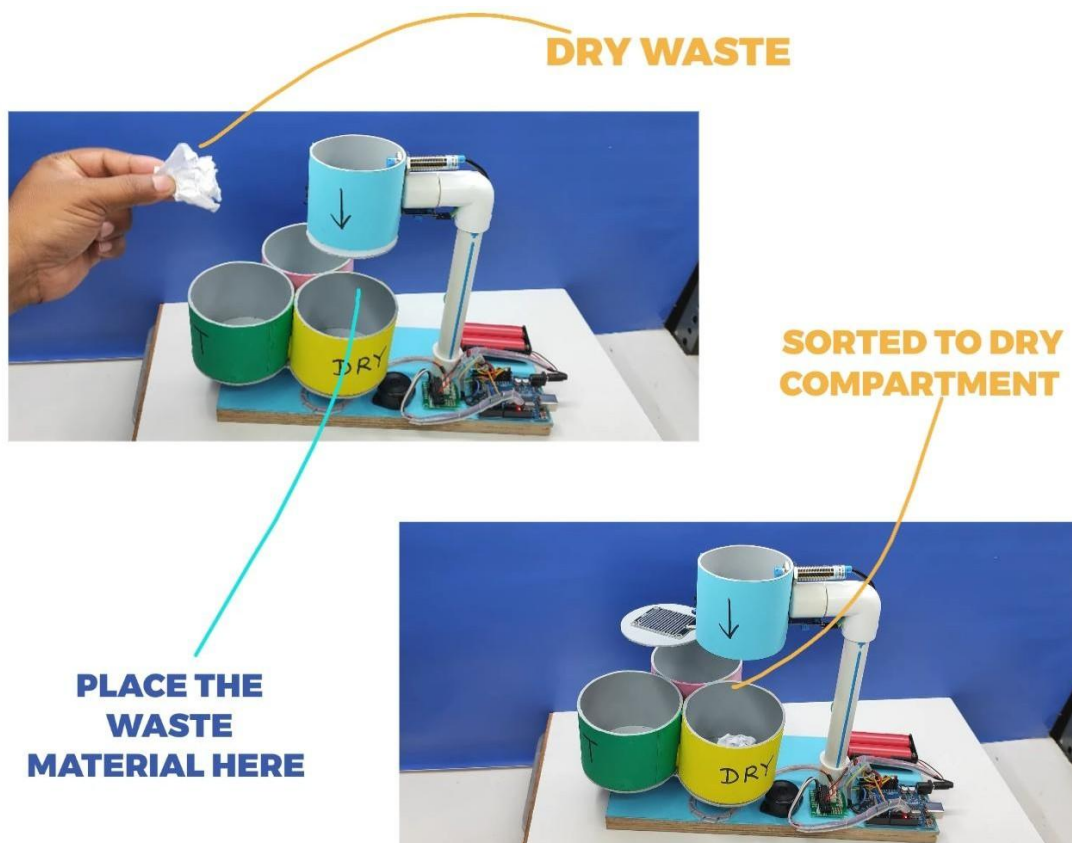


Figure 8:



Figure 9: Sorting of Metal Waste

Not only is manual sorting time consuming, it is also affected by errors that can cause contaminated waste. Conversely, automated systems ensure precise waste separation and minimize contamination risks.

Furthermore, the system can run uninterrupted without the need for interruptions or pauses, results in a more efficient solution. This project uses different sensors such as infrared sensors, proximity switch and potentiometers. These sensors work together to determine the variety of waste and its moisture content. The infrared sensor senses the occurrence of debris and the Inductive proximity sensor senses the existence of metal debris. The potentiometer detects the humidity levels of the litter, which helps determine whether it is dry or wet.

The system also uses various drives, including servo motors and stepper motors. These discs work together to divide the waste into separate compartments. The servomotor



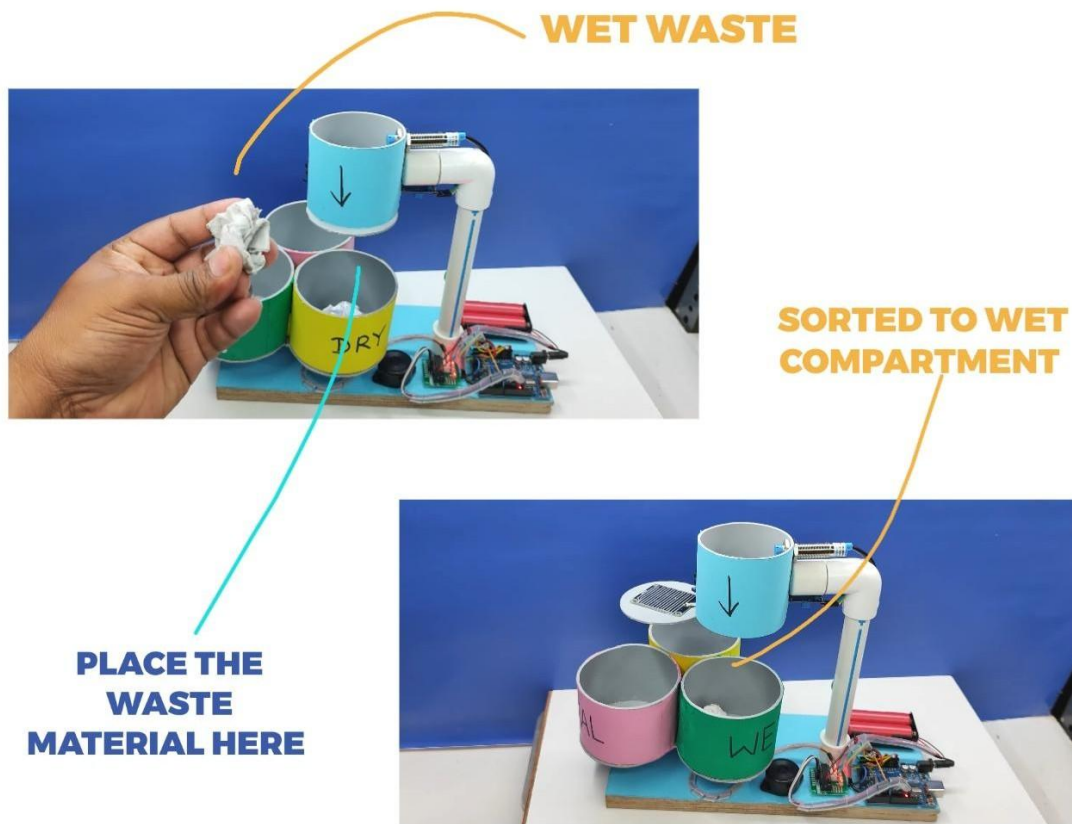


Figure 10: Sorting of Wet Waste

controls the movement of waste, while the STEP engine controls the movement of individual compartments. The system uses a buzzer to alert the user when the separation process is complete. Despite its many advantages, this project has several constraints.

One of the essential problems is the inability to manage mixed waste, which is a common problem in waste management since it's challenging to separate. This system has difficulty separating mixed waste because the sensors used are not sophisticated enough to detect and separate the mixed waste. This limitation highlights the need for more advanced sensors and algorithms to manage mixed waste. Another limitation of the project is its reliance on the exactness of the sensors. The precision of the sensors used can be influenced by many factors such as lighting conditions, temperature and humidity.

This can result in waste classification errors and have serious consequences. To approach

this limitation, it is essential to use high-quality sensors that are resistant to environmental factors. The project also has a limited power because it is designed to treat small amounts of waste. This restriction makes it inappropriate for large -scale waste management applications. To overcome this limitation, it is necessary to plan and construct a larger-scale version of the system capable of handling more waste.

Future work on this project may include integrating sensors and advanced algorithms for mixed waste management, including using computer vision and implementing sensors powered by machine learning to distinguish and separate mixed waste. Moreover, the project can be scaled to handle larger quantities of waste, making it suitable for industrial or commercial use. The system can also be integrated with IOT platforms to provide real-time monitoring and data analysis. Finally, you can run field tests on the system to evaluate performance and determine areas of improvement. From a future work viewpoint, several options exist in possible directions to explore. One of them is the integration of advanced sensors and algorithms for managing mixed waste. This includes using computer-based sensors or automated learning to identify and isolate mixed waste. Another possible path is to create a larger version of the system, capable of processing more waste. This may incorporate the use of more powerful motors and gears, along with a stronger frame and structure.

A third possible path is to integrate the system with IOT platforms to enable real-time monitoring and data analysis. This could involve using wireless communication protocols such as Wi-Fi or Bluetooth to link the system to the Internet. Once connected, the system can transmit data on the capacity and type of waste sorted, as well as any errors or problems that occur during the sorting process. Finally, you can conduct field tests of the system to evaluate its performance and identify areas for improvement. This may involve deploying the system within a real-world environment, such as a recycling plant or waste management facility, and monitoring its performance over a period of time. The results of the field tests can be utilised to improve and refine the system, along to identify potential applications and

markets for the technology.

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