

# Fault Detection System and Short circuit warning for public

*Ensuring safety, prevent damage and alert public*

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**Abstract**—Fault detection system and short circuit warning system is an innovative solution designed to enhance electrical safety in public spaces. It continuously monitors electrical networks to identify irregularities such as overcurrents, short circuits, or insulation failures. Upon detection, the system instantly provides warnings through alarms, displays, or notifications, enabling rapid response to prevent accidents, equipment damage, and power outages. This system is particularly beneficial in densely populated areas, ensuring reliability and safeguarding lives by mitigating electrical hazards effectively.

## I. INTRODUCTION

Electrical power systems are prone to faults such as short circuits, overcurrent, and voltage irregularities, which can lead to equipment damage, power outages, or even hazardous situations for the public. A fault detection system is designed to monitor electrical parameters like current and voltage to identify these anomalies in real-time. By promptly detecting faults, the system ensures safety, reliability, and efficient operation of the electrical network.

Short circuits, a common and dangerous fault, occur when unintended connections allow excessive current to flow, potentially causing fires or equipment failure. To mitigate such risks, a fault detection system employs sensors, controllers, and actuators. Current and voltage sensors continuously monitor the circuit, while control units analyze the data to detect faults. When an anomaly is identified, the system triggers a warning through audible and visual alerts, such as buzzers and LEDs, to notify both the public and maintenance personnel.

In addition, advanced systems integrate IoT technology to communicate fault details, including location and time, to linemen or cloud-based storage. This enhances response time, facilitates remote

monitoring, and minimizes disruptions.

By combining real-time fault detection and public warning mechanisms, these systems play a critical role in maintaining the safety and reliability of electrical infrastructure, automation reduces labor costs and enhances cost efficiency while contributing to improved crop yields and sustainability. Alerts and recommendations provided through intuitive dashboards or mobile apps empower users to make timely and informed decisions.

## II. RELATED WORK

Fault detection and short circuit warning systems aim to identify electrical faults in real-time to prevent hazards like fires and electrocution. Previous work includes developing IoT-based monitoring systems, current and voltage sensors for anomaly detection, and AI-driven predictive algorithms. Smart meters and circuit breakers with embedded fault identification are widely studied. These systems are critical in enhancing public safety, reducing property damage, and ensuring efficient power distribution in residential and industrial setups.

Disadvantage: Highly expensive, and inaccurate

Despite its benefits, fault detection and short circuit warning systems can face challenges. High implementation costs, especially with advanced sensors and IoT infrastructure, may be a barrier. Maintenance and calibration of sensors can be complex and time-consuming. False positives or missed detections may occur if the system is not fine-tuned.

Additionally, dependence on continuous power supply and internet connectivity can limit reliability in remote or underserved areas, hindering effectiveness.

For instance, Mahalakshmi et al. (2022) proposed an

Automatic Pole Line Fault Detection System using Microcontroller, where sensors detect anomalies in voltage and current, triggering a relay to isolate faults. Similarly, Dr. Devika et al. (2021) introduced a L that incorporates authentication and fault isolation mechanisms to ensure worker and public safety. These projects emphasize real-time monitoring, fault isolation, and alert mechanisms, aligning closely with the objectives of our project to detect faults and provide short-circuit warnings for public safety

### III. BACKGROUND

**Importance of Fault Detection:** Electrical faults, especially short circuits, are major causes of accidents, fires, and equipment damage. Detecting faults in real-time can prevent these risks, ensuring public safety. With the increasing reliance on electrical systems in homes and industries, it has become critical to develop efficient fault detection systems to avoid catastrophic failures and minimize loss.

**Advancements in IoT Technology:** The integration of IoT (Internet of Things) technology has revolutionized fault detection systems. By embedding sensors and microcontrollers, these systems can continuously monitor electrical circuits, sending real-time alerts and data to centralized systems for analysis. This technology enhances system accuracy, efficiency, and reliability, making it suitable for both industrial and residential applications.

**Sensor Technology:** Sensors, such as current and voltage sensors, play a crucial role in fault detection. They measure variations in electrical parameters, allowing early identification of short circuits, overloads, and other faults. The continuous monitoring of electrical systems ensures prompt detection and action, preventing potential hazards and improving overall system safety.

**AI and Machine Learning Integration:** AI and machine learning algorithms are increasingly being used to predict and detect faults. These algorithms analyze historical data, identify patterns, and predict potential failures before they occur. Such predictive capabilities enhance the system's proactive nature, reducing downtime and preventing damage to electrical infrastructure and appliances.

**Wireless Communication:** Modern fault detection systems often employ wireless communication for real-time alerts and system monitoring. This

eliminates the need for extensive wiring, making the system more flexible and easier to install in both existing and new electrical networks. Wireless communication enhances scalability and reduces installation and maintenance costs for large networks. **Smart Circuit Breakers:** Smart circuit breakers equipped with fault detection capabilities are a significant advancement in electrical safety. These devices can automatically disconnect faulty circuits to prevent further damage, reducing the risk of fires and electrical hazards. Their integration with home automation systems ensures faster response times, protecting both users and property from potential harm.

**Public Safety Concerns:** Short circuits and electrical faults

continue to be leading causes of fire accidents globally. The need for an efficient detection and warning system has become urgent, especially in densely populated urban area

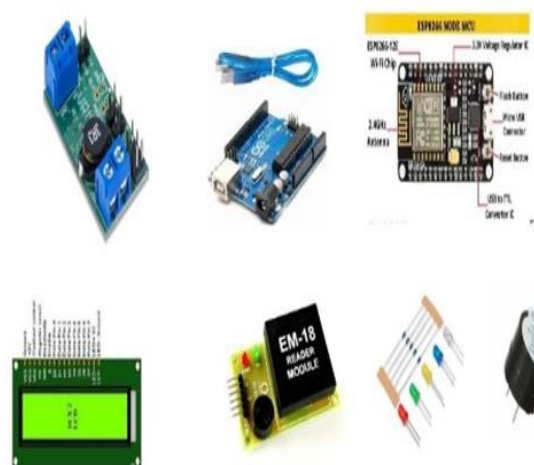


Fig-1: Hardware components

### IV. METHODOLOGY

**1. Central Processing and Control:** The Arduino Uno serves as the core processing unit, interfacing with sensors, actuators, and the Node MCU for fault detection, notification, and control of system components.

**2. IoT Connectivity:** The Node MCU 8266 enables wireless communication, transmitting fault details (location, time, type) to the lineman or cloud storage

via Wi-Fi, interfaced with the Arduino for seamless data exchange.

3. Fault Detection and Isolation: Current and voltage sensors detect short circuits and voltage irregularities, while a relay module isolates the faulty phase line by tripping the circuit breaker automatically.

4. Authentication and Alerts: Linemen use the EM-18 RFID module to authenticate their presence, disable the buzzer, and initiate maintenance. The buzzer and LED provide audible and visual fault alerts.

5. System Monitoring: An LCD displays real-time fault data, maintenance status, and authentication status, offering clear and immediate feedback.

6. Power and Software Management: A voltage regulator ensures a stable power supply, and the Arduino IDE is used for programming the system's sensors, actuators, and communication protocols.

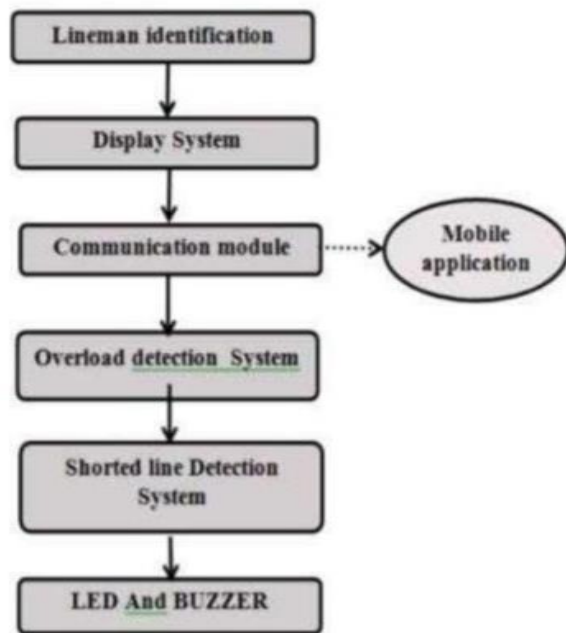


Fig. 2. Flow chart of algorithm

Mathematical Explanation:

1. Overcurrent Detection:

The current sensor measures the current  $I(t)$  flowing through the circuit, which is compared against a predefined threshold  $I_{\text{max}}$ .

Condition for Fault Detection:

$I(t) > I_{\text{max}} \Rightarrow \text{Fault Detected (Short Circuit)}$

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2. Voltage Irregularity Detection:

The voltage sensor measures the circuit voltage  $V(t)$  and compares it with normal operating limits  $V_{\text{min}}$  and  $V_{\text{max}}$ .

Condition for Voltage Fault:

$V(t) < V_{\text{min}} \vee V(t) > V_{\text{max}} \Rightarrow \text{Voltage Fault Detected}$

$V(t) < V_{\text{min}} \vee V(t) > V_{\text{max}} \Rightarrow \text{Voltage Fault Detected}$

3. Relay-Based Fault Isolation:

When a fault is detected, the relay module isolates the faulty line by opening the circuit. Mathematically, the relay switch state  $S$  can be represented as:

$S = \{1, \text{Circuit Closed (No Fault)}; 0, \text{Circuit Open (Fault Detected)}\}$

$S = 1, (\text{Circuit Closed (No Fault)}) \vee 0,$

$\& (\text{Circuit Open (Fault Detected)})$

$S = \{1, 0\}, \text{Circuit Closed (No Fault)}$

$\text{Circuit Open (Fault Detected)}$

4. Public Warning System:

The buzzer and LED are activated when a fault is detected. Their activation is represented as a logical condition:  $\text{Alert} = \{1, I(t) > I_{\text{max}} \vee V(t) \notin [V_{\text{min}}, V_{\text{max}}]; 0, \text{No Fault Detected}\}$

$\text{Alert} = \begin{cases} 1, & I(t) > I_{\text{max}} \vee V(t) \notin [V_{\text{min}}, V_{\text{max}}] \\ 0, & \text{No Fault Detected} \end{cases}$

$\text{Alert} = \{1, 0, I(t) > I_{\text{max}} \vee V(t) \in [V_{\text{min}}, V_{\text{max}}]; \text{No Fault Detected}\}$

5. Data Communication and Monitoring:

The NodeMCU transmits fault data (current, voltage, and fault type) to the cloud. Fault information includes:

Time of Fault  $T_{\text{FT}}$ : Recorded using real-time clocks.

Location LLL: Determined by predefined identifiers for the circuit segment.  $\frac{V_{\text{out}}}{V_{\text{max}}} \times 100$

: Sensor output voltage.

: Maximum sensor voltage (e.g., 5V).

Example: If and:

$\frac{\text{Water Level (\%)}}{100} = \frac{3.0}{5.0} \times 100 = 60\%$

## V. RESULTS

TABLE I. SENSOR RANGE

SPECIFICATIONS	Range
Supply voltage	5vdc
Measurement range	b/w -5A to +5A
Chip	ACS712ELC-05A

The following presents the results and discusses the effectiveness and potential challenges of the system.

### 1. Sensor Performance:

**Voltage Sensor:** Maintains a constant output voltage despite fluctuations in input voltage or load current, ensuring stability for electronic devices.

**Current Sensor:** Measures electrical current using a Hall effect-based design with 2.1kV RMS voltage isolation and a low-resistance conductor, aiding in electricity theft detection.

**Buzzer:** Produces audible alerts or notifications, commonly used in alarms and signaling applications.

**Voltage Regulator:** Ensures stable output voltage despite input fluctuations, essential for reliable operation of electronic devices.

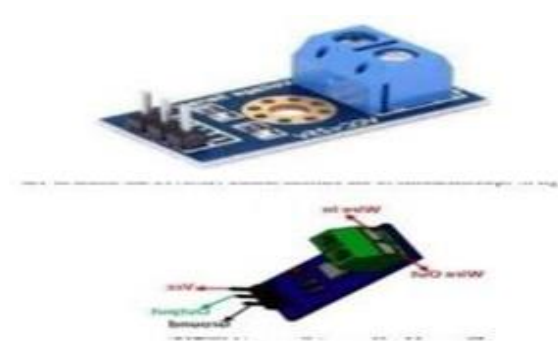


Fig.3.Voltage and Current sensors



Fig.4. Code

### 2. System Performance and Data Communication:

The smart safety and short circuit warning system ensures real-time fault detection using sensors and Arduino. It isolates faults via relays, alerts the public with buzzers and LEDs, and communicates data wirelessly through NodeMCU. IoT integration enables fault visualization, quick resolution, and enhanced safety through efficient alerts and secured lineman authentication.

### 3. Safety System Automation: The smart safety and short

circuit

warning system ensures real-time fault detection using sensors and Arduino. It isolates faults via relays, alerts the public with buzzers and LEDs, and communicates data wirelessly through NodeMCU. IoT integration enables fault visualization, quick resolution, and enhanced safety through efficient alerts and secured lineman authentication.

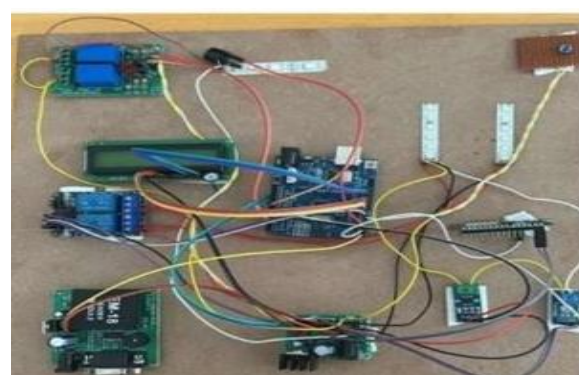


Fig.5 Working model

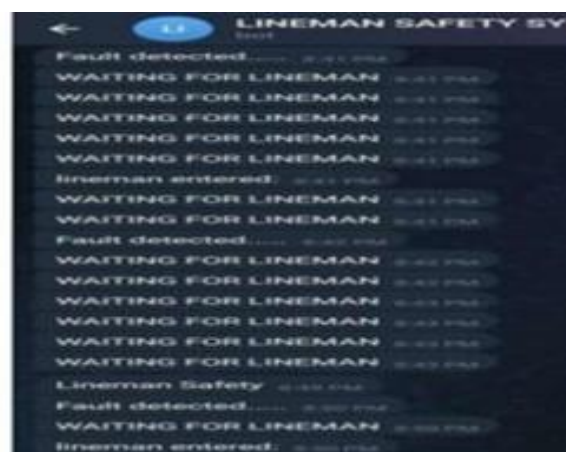


Fig.6. Result on app





Fig.7. Output

The fault detection and short circuit warning system integrates hardware like Arduino Uno, current and voltage sensors, RFID module, buzzer, LED, LCD display, relay circuit breaker, and NodeMCU for IoT connectivity. The system monitors electrical parameters, detects faults, and alerts the public through visual and auditory signals while notifying linemen for quick resolution.

Developed using the Arduino IDE, the system ensures secure lineman authentication and automated fault management.

It is cost-effective, scalable, and enhances public safety by combining real-time monitoring with IoT communication.

## VI. CONCLUSION

The fault detection and short circuit warning system effectively enhances public safety and maintenance efficiency by integrating real-time fault monitoring, IoT communication, and secure lineman authentication.

Using Arduino Uno and Node MCU, the system provides quick fault detection and automated alerts, offering a scalable and cost-effective solution for electrical grid management and implementation of an IoT-based plant nutrition detection system represents a significant advancement in precision agriculture, enabling real-time monitoring of soil and environmental conditions. By integrating various sensors (such as soil moisture, NPK, and light sensors) with microcontrollers, communication modules, and cloud platforms, this system provides valuable insights into plant health and nutrient requirements. Through automation, it optimizes water and fertilizer usage, improving crop yields while reducing environmental impact and resource wastage. Additionally, the use of machine learning algorithms for predictive analysis

further enhances the efficiency of these systems, enabling smarter, data-driven decisions in agricultural management

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