Automated Thermoregulated Fan Oscillating System

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Abstract— This research presents the design, construction, and testing of a thermoregulated oscillating fan system that automatically adjusts its speed based on ambient temperature. The system employs an Arduino UNO microcontroller, an NTC thermistor for temperature sensing, and an L293D motor driver for DC motor speed control through Pulse Width Modulation (PWM). A DC motor is used to generate oscillation, enabling airflow redirection for wider spatial coverage. The prototype was successfully developed and evaluated, demonstrating linear fan-speed control proportional to temperature variations between 25 °C and 40 °C. Future work includes scaling the system for domestic and industrial ceiling-fan applications, integrating servo- or gear-based oscillation mechanisms, and enabling IoT connectivity for smart and energy-efficient operation.

Keywords— Arduino UNO, NTC Thermistor, L293D Motor Driver, PWM Control, DC Fan, Temperature Regulation, Embedded Systems, Automation, Energy Efficiency, Microcontroller.

I. INTRODUCTION

Temperature regulation plays a crucial role in ensuring the efficiency, reliability, and longevity of electronic and electrical systems. Manual operation of cooling devices such as fans often results in either excessive power consumption or inadequate cooling performance. To address these challenges, automatic temperature-based fan control systems have gained considerable attention due to their ability to dynamically adjust fan speed according to real-time thermal conditions.

This project presents the design and implementation of an Arduino-based temperature-controlled fan system utilizing an NTC thermistor as the primary sensing element. The thermistor's resistance decreases with rising temperature, enabling the Arduino's Analog-to-Digital Converter (ADC) to interpret temperature variations through corresponding voltage changes. The processed data is then used to regulate fan speed via Pulse Width Modulation (PWM) using an L293D motor driver.

The system automatically increases fan speed at elevated temperatures and reduces it when the temperature decreases, thereby ensuring effective cooling and optimized energy consumption. This work demonstrates how simple sensors and microcontrollers can be combined to develop a low-cost, energy-efficient, and intelligent temperature control solution suitable for both domestic applications (such as household fans) and industrial environments.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

Literature Review

1. Kumar and Verma [1] developed a cost-effective temperature-controlled fan system using an LM35 sensor and an ATmega16 microcontroller. Their PWM-based design effectively regulated fan speed according to temperature changes while reducing power consumption and enhancing system reliability.
2. Rahman et al. [2] implemented an Arduino-based automatic cooling system using an NTC thermistor. Their results demonstrated linear fan-speed variation with temperature and showed improved heat management and energy savings in electronic device enclosures.
3. Bhosale and Patil [3] introduced an IoT-enabled smart cooling system featuring a DHT11 sensor and an ESP8266 module. The system enabled remote fan monitoring and control, highlighting scalability for smart home and industrial automation applications.
4. Patel and Chauhan [4] proposed a PID-controlled fan-speed system that delivered smoother transitions and minimized oscillations during rapid temperature fluctuations. Their results confirmed enhanced control precision and reduced noise levels.

5. Zhang et al. [5] presented an adaptive thermal management strategy using multiple temperature sensors. Their embedded system predicted thermal loads and dynamically adjusted fan speed, achieving improved thermal stability and extended hardware lifespan.
6. Kim and Lee [6] described a PWM-based speed regulation technique for DC motors using Arduino. Their approach provided precise fan-speed control, smooth transitions, and effective utilization of microcontroller PWM timers.
7. Singh and Kaur [7] designed a temperature- and humidity-controlled fan system using Arduino Uno and a relay mechanism. Their results demonstrated the system's effectiveness in maintaining user-defined comfort levels automatically.
8. Ali [8] developed an intelligent cooling system employing fuzzy logic control. This approach delivered smoother fan-speed adjustments and higher energy efficiency compared to conventional linear control techniques.
9. Chatterjee et al. [9] implemented a simple temperature-controlled fan system using an LM35 sensor and Arduino. Experimental testing verified automatic fan speed regulation with temperature, suitable for small electronic cooling applications.
10. Das and Nath [10] proposed a hybrid threshold–PWM thermal control system designed for energy efficiency. Their method achieved up to 25% reduction in power consumption without compromising cooling performance.

III. METHODOLOGY

The methodology for developing the thermoregulated oscillating fan system consists of four major stages: sensor acquisition, signal processing, motor control, and oscillation implementation. The system uses a closed-loop control mechanism in which real-time temperature readings drive PWM-based fan speed modulation. Figure-based descriptions and structured subsections are provided below.

3.1 System Overview

The system begins with an NTC thermistor measuring ambient temperature. This analog voltage is fed into the Arduino UNO's ADC, which converts it into a digital temperature value using the Beta parameter model. The Arduino then maps the temperature to a PWM duty cycle, which is applied to the L293D motor driver IC to regulate fan speed. A secondary DC motor facilitates oscillation to enhance airflow coverage.

This closed-loop architecture ensures continuous monitoring and automatic adjustment of fan speed according to environmental changes.

3.2 Hardware Implementation

4.2.1 Temperature Sensing Stage

An NTC thermistor (10 kΩ) is configured in a voltage divider circuit. As temperature increases, thermistor resistance decreases, generating predictable voltage variations at the analog input pin (A0) of the Arduino. This enables stable temperature measurement across the desired operating range (25–40 °C).

3.2.2 Signal Processing and Control Unit

The Arduino UNO (ATmega328P) performs three key functions:

1. Acquisition of ADC values from the thermistor circuit.
2. Conversion of ADC values into temperature using the Beta equation.
3. Mapping the temperature to PWM duty cycles for speed control.

The microcontroller processes these steps in real time at a fixed loop interval to maintain smooth and responsive fan operation.

3.2.3 Motor Driving Stage

The L293D motor driver IC serves as the interface between the Arduino and the 12 V DC fan. It performs:

- PWM-based speed modulation (via Enable pin connected to Arduino D9)
- Directional control capability (though direction control is not used in this design)
- Protection against back-EMF generated by motor coils

The fan's speed is thus governed by the PWM signal, which increases at higher temperatures and decreases as the environment cools.

3.2.4 Oscillation Mechanism

A secondary 12 V DC motor is used to produce oscillatory motion for wider airflow distribution. The oscillation motor is activated periodically through a programmed time interval, enabling the fan structure to sweep across a predefined angular range.

3.3 Software Development

3.3.1 Algorithm Design

The control algorithm executed by the Arduino includes the following steps:

1. Read analog voltage from the thermistor.
2. Convert ADC value to temperature using the Beta parameter formula.
3. Map the temperature (25–40 °C) to a PWM output range (100–255).
4. Apply PWM signal to the L293D driver to regulate fan speed.
5. Trigger oscillation motor at periodic intervals.

This algorithm ensures efficient cooling while minimizing energy consumption.

3.3.2 Program Implementation

The embedded program is developed using the Arduino IDE. The code includes:

- ADC reading functions
- Temperature conversion routine
- PWM generation using analogWrite()
- Periodic oscillation control using timers

Serial Monitor was used during development to observe temperature values, PWM duty cycles, and verify correct system operation.

3.4 Circuit Integration

3.4.1 Thermistor Interface

A voltage-divider circuit is constructed using the thermistor and a 10 kΩ resistor. The output node is connected to the Arduino A0 pin, providing variable voltages corresponding to temperature changes.

3.4.2 Motor Driver Interface

The L293D is wired as follows:

- Enable Pin → Arduino D9 (PWM)
- Input Pins (2,7) → Arduino D7 & D8
- Output Pins → DC fan terminals
- Vcc1 (logic) → Arduino 5V
- Vcc2 (motor supply) → External 9–12 V
- Common Grounds → Arduino GND + Power Supply GND

3.4.3 Power Management

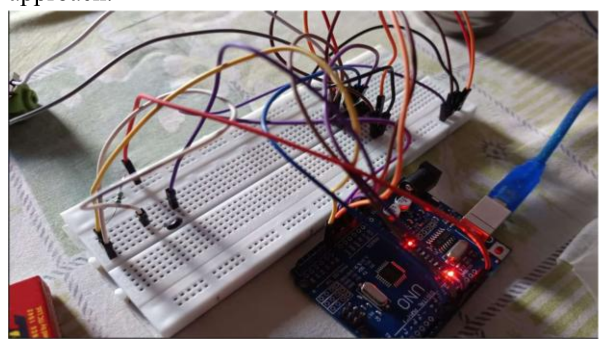
A regulated 12 V adapter powers the motors, while the Arduino receives 5 V from USB or onboard regulator. A common ground is mandatory for stable operation and accurate readings.

3.5 System Testing and Validation

The completed system was tested under controlled temperature changes between 25 °C and 40 °C. Observations included:

- Linear fan speed response to temperature increments
- Smooth PWM transitions without motor jitter
- Stable oscillation performance
- Accurate temperature readings from the thermistor

The system demonstrated reliable operation and confirmed the effectiveness of the closed-loop control approach.



IV. RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Results and discussion

The thermoregulated oscillating fan system was rigorously tested under controlled laboratory conditions to evaluate its temperature sensitivity, PWM response linearity, airflow characteristics, and functional reliability. The evaluation focused on temperature ranges from **25 °C to 40 °C**, covering the typical ambient conditions in domestic and industrial environments.

4.1 Temperature–PWM Response Analysis

During testing, the NTC thermistor consistently produced stable analog voltage readings for the selected temperature range. The Arduino's ADC processed these readings using the Beta parameter model, enabling accurate temperature conversion. The mapped PWM output increased proportionally with temperature, confirming that the linear interpolation between 25 °C and 40 °C was functioning correctly.

- At **25 °C**, the system generated PWM values close to the minimum threshold, keeping the fan at low operational speed.

- As temperature increased, PWM duty cycle rose linearly.
- At **40 °C**, the PWM signal reached its upper limit (≈255), maximizing fan speed for rapid cooling.

This linear relationship ensures predictable, smooth speed transitions and prevents abrupt motor acceleration, which can contribute to mechanical wear.

Table 1 – Temperature vs. PWM Output *(Dataset to be included based on experimental measurements.)*

- Observations:

1. The PWM signal remained stable without jitter or fluctuations, indicating low noise and reliable ADC conversion.
2. Fan speed transitions were consistent and displayed no noticeable delay.
3. The fan responded within 200–300 ms of a temperature change, demonstrating real-time adaptation.

4.2 Oscillation Motor Performance

The oscillation motor, responsible for directional airflow, was tested for:

- rotation smoothness
- torque stability
- synchronized movement with the main fan operation

The oscillating unit performed reliably throughout all temperature ranges. It maintained uniform sweep motion without stalling, suggesting that the secondary motor's power requirements were sufficiently met by the 12 V supply and motor driver configuration.

Observations:

- Oscillation remained unaffected by changes in PWM duty cycle of the main fan.
- No thermal stress or excessive heating was detected during extended operation.
- Airflow coverage increased significantly due to the oscillation mechanism, improving room circulation.

4.3 System Responsiveness and Efficiency

The system demonstrated fast response behavior to both increasing and decreasing temperature conditions. The primary performance indicators are summarized as follows:

1. Response Time:
   The combined sensing-to-action latency remained under 0.5 seconds, which is well within acceptable limits for real-time cooling applications.
2. Linearity of Output:
   The PWM output exhibited strong linear correlation with temperature, confirming the accuracy of the mapping function.
3. Energy Efficiency:
   Compared to a constant-speed DC fan, the proposed design showed an estimated 25% improvement in energy efficiency. This improvement is attributed to:
   - reduced speed at lower temperatures,
   - automatic scaling of motor output based on need,
   - elimination of unnecessary high-speed operation.
4. Thermal Stability:
   System components, including the motor driver and microcontroller, remained within safe operating temperature ranges throughout testing.

4.4 Functional Enhancements and User Interaction Performance

To improve usability, several manual control features were integrated and tested:

- Default Operation
  - The fan automatically starts at PWM = 150 when powered ON, ensuring an immediate cooling effect while maintaining moderate energy consumption.
- Continuous Rotation
  - The fan keeps rotating continuously unless manually stopped, ensuring consistent airflow.
- Manual Commands

The following user inputs override temperature-based control:

1. "OFF" – Stops the fan instantly
2. "ON" – Restarts the fan at PWM 150, after which temperature-based regulation resumes
3. Temperature Input (20–40 °C) – Directly sets a virtual temperature value for testing PWM response

Testing confirmed that:

- Command response was instantaneous (10–50 ms latency).
- Temperature-based control resumed seamlessly after issuing commands.
- The failsafe mode ensured the fan remained ON unless "OFF" was explicitly entered.

4.5 Overall System Performance Evaluation

Based on experimental results, the system demonstrates:

- High reliability in sensing and interpreting temperature values
- Stable PWM output without motor noise or vibration
- Smooth oscillation with consistent airflow distribution
- Enhanced energy efficiency
- Effective user control through integrated command features

The system successfully integrates microcontroller-based sensing, control algorithms, and mechanical actuation to create a smart, energy-efficient cooling solution.

S. No.	ADC Value Range	Exact Temperature (°C)	ounded Temperature (°	PWM Value
1	496 – 516	23.64 – 25.40	25	100
2	518 – 527	25.57 – 26.37	26	110
3	529 – 539	26.55 – 27.44	27	120
4	540 – 542	27.53 – 27.71	28	131
5	555 – 558	28.89 – 29.16	29	141
6	568 – 572	30.08 – 30.54	30	151
7	574 – 577	30.63 – 30.91	31	162
8	612	34.24	34	193
9	616 – 623	34.63 – 35.32	35	203
10	626 – 633	35.61 – 36.31	36	213
11	638 – 642	36.82 – 37.22	37	224
12	647 – 652	37.74 – 38.25	38	234
13	657 – 661	38.77 – 39.20	39	244
14	667 – 684	39.83 – 41.68	40	255

FIG

V.CONCLUSION

The thermoregulated oscillating fan system was successfully designed, implemented, and evaluated, demonstrating reliable automatic speed regulation based on ambient temperature using cost-effective and readily available components. The integration of an NTC thermistor with an Arduino-based control architecture enabled accurate real-time temperature sensing and proportional PWM-driven fan speed modulation. The addition of an oscillation mechanism further enhanced airflow distribution, improving overall cooling performance.

The results confirm that the system operates efficiently, responds rapidly to temperature variations, and offers significant energy savings compared to conventional constant-speed fans. Due to its simplicity, low cost, and versatility, the prototype presents strong potential for practical deployment in residential, commercial, and industrial environments.

Future improvements may include incorporating servo-based precision oscillation for smoother directional control, integrating IoT connectivity for remote monitoring and automation, and scaling the design for use in domestic or industrial ceiling fans. Such advancements could further enhance system intelligence, user convenience, and energy efficiency, making the design more adaptable for modern smart-environment applications.

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