

PAPER • OPEN ACCESS

A new Android Application Framework (AAF) for API PM_{2.5} data management system

To cite this article: A S Sadun *et al* 2022 *IOP Conf. Ser.: Earth Environ. Sci.* **1013** 012001

View the [article online](#) for updates and enhancements.

You may also like

- [Integrable theories and generalized graded Maillet algebras](#)
A Melikyan and G Weber
- [Broadband controllable acoustic focusing and asymmetric focusing by acoustic metamaterials](#)
Guangxin Liao, Zhenwei Wang, Congcong Luan *et al.*
- [Molecular Dynamics Investigation on Thermal Conductivity and Phonon Transmission of Folded Graphene](#)
Jian Gao, Chao Si, Yan-Ru Yang *et al.*



Free the Science Week 2023 April 2–9

Accelerating discovery through
open access!

 www.ecsdl.org [Discover more!](#)

The banner features a dark blue background with a futuristic, glowing interface. A hand is shown interacting with a circular control element that has a padlock icon, symbolizing access or discovery. The text is in white and light blue, providing clear information about the event and where to find more content.

A new Android Application Framework (AAF) for API PM_{2.5} data management system

A S Sadun¹, M A Rosli^{2*}, N H Hashim², J A Sukor¹, N Othman³, N K Cheng⁴, T C Si² and C Y Ning²

¹ Department of Electrical Engineering Technology, Faculty of Engineering Technology, University Tun Hussein Onn Malaysia, Pagoh High Education Hub, KM 1, Jalan Panchor, Muar, Johor, Malaysia

² Department of Civil Engineering Technology, Faculty of Engineering Technology, University Tun Hussein Onn Malaysia, Pagoh High Hub, KM 1, Jalan Panchor, Muar, Johor, Malaysia

³ Faculty of Civil Engineering and Built Environment, University Tun Hussien Onn Malaysia, 86400 Parit Raja, Batu Pahat, Johor, Malaysia

⁴ Mybotic, No.8 and 8A, Jalan Universiti 3, Taman Universiti, 86400 Parit Raja, Batu Pahat. Johor, Malaysia

* Correspondence: mohdarif@uthm.edu.my

Abstract. Air Pollution Index (API) is used in Malaysia to measure the ambient air quality and PM_{2.5} is one of its parameters for ambient air quality monitoring. However, most of the PM_{2.5} samplers available for research and monitoring by universities and monitoring providers are in manual mode in which the data was logged into the equipment data logger and was manually extracted to the personal computer before analysis. Therefore, this project is aimed to propose an Android Application Framework (AAF) containing IoT devices to monitor the real-time ambient air quality and disseminate computed API information through the social media platform. In this study, mobile apps which are Blynk was used and enabled the user to control remotely desirable outcomes at any time. E-sampler IoT interface, mobile application, data management, data management system, API judgment and information dissemination are proposed to make AAF succeed. As a result, the proposed AAF has been fully utilized in obtaining real-time pollutants data and finally analyzing PM_{2.5} to obtain real-time API information. IoT device has successfully interface with E-Sampler, to obtain raw data and be able to be downloaded for further analysis. In conclusion, AAF has functioned great and information was disseminated to the public through social media.

1. Introduction

Rapid urbanization and industrialization, aggressive economic activities and excessive exploitation are shifting the natural beauty environment towards degradation. As a developing country, Malaysia is currently facing a series of challenges from environmental issues. Climate change, global warming, depletion of the ozone layer, various environmental pollution, ecosystem degradation, and excretion of harmful waste are a few anthropogenic catastrophes [1]. The Rakyat Post (TRP) online news reported that according to the World Air Quality Index (WAQI), Malaysia has an average API reading of 266 declared as the most polluted country in the world in 2019 due to the occurrence of haze [2]. In Malaysia, Air Pollution Index (API) is used as the ambient air quality measurement. The World Health Organization (WHO) new Malaysia ambient air quality guidelines (AQG) in Table 1 are designed to offer guidance in reducing the health impacts of air pollution[3]. API calculation in Table 2 is based on



Air Quality Index (AQI) that has been accepted at the international level by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) [4]. The air pollutants concentration limit has been strengthened in stages until 2020 with three interim targets were set for all API parameters as a guideline [5].

Table 1. New Malaysia Ambient Air Quality Standard [5].

Pollutants	Averaging Time	Ambient Air Quality Standard ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)		
		IT-1 (2015)	IT-2 (2018)	Standard (2020)
Particulate Matter with the size of less than 10 microns (PM_{10})	1 Year	50	45	40
	24 Hour	150	120	100
Particulate Matter with the size of less than 10 microns ($\text{PM}_{2.5}$)	1 Year	35	25	15
	24 Hour	75	50	35
Sulfur Dioxide (SO_2)	1 Hour	350	300	250
	24 Hour	105	90	80
Nitrogen Dioxide (NO_2)	1 Hour	320	300	280
	24 Hour	75	75	70
Ground Level Ozone (O_3)	1 Hour	200	200	180
	8 Hour	120	120	100
*Carbon Monoxide	1 Hour	35	35	30
	8 Hour	10	10	10

* mg/m^3

API is developed in a way easily understood ranges of values as a means of reporting the quality of air instead of the actual concentration of air pollutants. A sub-index formula for $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ will be implemented to the raw data. The ranges also reflect its effects on human health ranging from good to hazardous. The API ranges can be classified into five ranges, which are good (0-50), moderate (51-100), unhealthy (101-200), very unhealthy (201-300), and hazardous (greater than 300) [6]. The color indication in Table 3 will be used in this project to show the real-time API status at any time.

Table 2. Sub-index formula for $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ [6].

API	Breakpoint of concentration $X = \text{PM}_{2.5}$ concentration (24h average, unit; $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)	Equation for API
0-50	$0 \leq X \leq 12.0$	$\text{API} = 4.1667 \times X$
51-100	$12.1 \leq X \leq 75.5$	$\text{API} = 0.7741 \times (X - 12.1) + 51$
101-200	$75.5 \leq X \leq 150.4$	$\text{API} = 1.3218 \times (X - 75.5) + 101$
201-300	$150.5 \leq X \leq 250.4$	$\text{API} = 0.9909 \times (X - 150.5) + 201$
301-400	$250.4 \leq X \leq 350.4$	$\text{API} = 0.9909 \times (X - 250.5) + 301$
401-500	$350.4 \leq X \leq 500.4$	$\text{API} = 0.6604 \times (X - 350.5) + 401$

Table 3. Reading for API.

Reading for API	
0-50	Good
51-100	Moderate
101-200	Unhealthy
201-300	Very Unhealthy
Above 300	Hazardous

Met-One E-Sampler instrument is used currently in UTHM Parit Raja to measure particulate. Several sensors were used to obtain raw data. This included Wind Speed and Wind Direction sensor, Ambient Relative Humidity (RH) sensor, Internal Relative Humidity (RH) sensor, Ambient, Temperature (AT) sensor, Pressure sensor, and Flow sensor [7]. In the conventional framework shown in Figure 1, the E-Sampler instrument is set up to collect data manually from the equipment data logger and send it to the laptop or PC with the installed software. Then, the raw data is downloaded in Excel acceptable format, imported to Excel, and proceeded with further analysis.

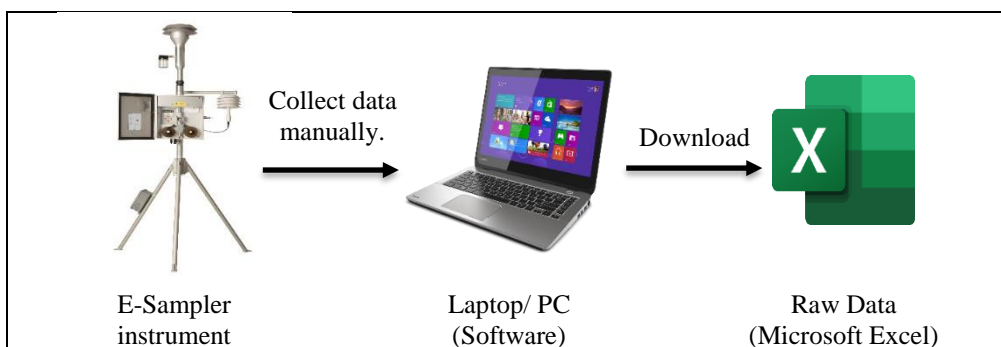


Figure 1. Conventional framework.

UTHM Parit Raja campus has encountered this challenge where lacking an appropriate and advanced framework to monitor the real-time ambient air quality. The current collecting data process is using the conventional framework that required more labor effort and consumed time. PM2.5 sampler available for research and monitoring by university and monitoring provider is in manual mode in which the data was logged into the equipment data logger and it was manually extracted from the data logger to personal computer to analyze. The problem become worst during the Movement Control Order (MCO) 2020 as well as during the haze event or rainy season as the access to the site for data extraction was limited. Real-time data collection becomes impractical and impossible. This is then delayed the data analysis process as well as incapable to provide real-time API information to the public. To accomplish advanced real-time monitoring on ambient air, an appropriate android application framework (AAF) in Figure 2 is required with the integration of hardware, IoT device, software, and application. This framework included six stages: The E-Sampler, Mobile Apps, Data Management, Data Management System, API Judgement, and Information Dissemination. This makes the process from collecting data to distributing information will become simpler, faster, and easier.

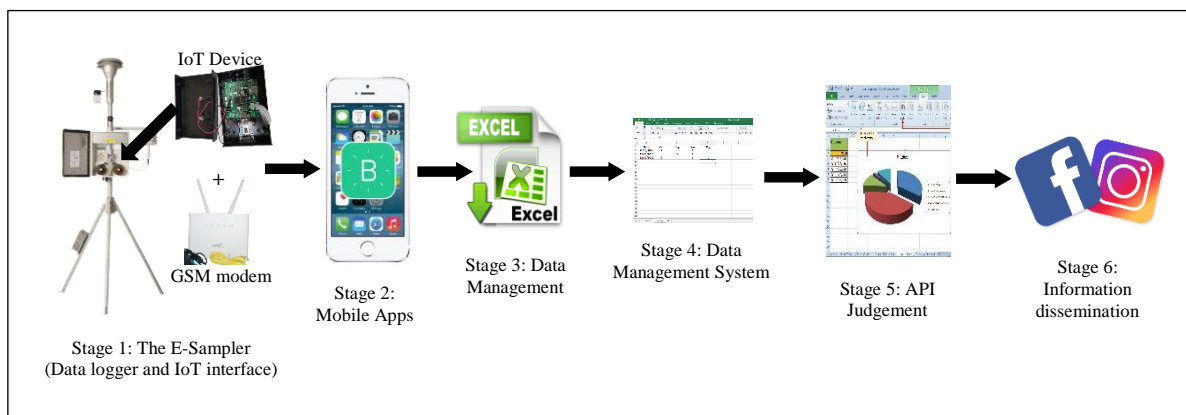


Figure 2: Android Application Framework (AAF).

1.1. Objectives

This study aims to propose a framework containing an IoT device to monitor the real-time ambient air quality and disseminate computed API information through the social media platform. The objectives of this study are:

1. To compute the Air Pollution Index (API) of previous PM_{2.5} collected data for March, April, June, and July 2020 using a data management system.
2. To establish a medium for computed information dissemination through social media Facebook and Instagram.
3. To propose a new android application framework containing IoT devices to monitor real-time ambient air quality for a selected model of E-sampler.

1.2. Project Scope and Limitation

The scope of this study centers on the ability of an android application framework to monitor the real-time ambient air quality in the UTHM Parit Raja campus area with the aids of calculation of API and distribute ambient air information to the public. The study will revolve around workability and functionality on the new proposed android application framework (AAF) toward data collection and data analyses to obtain real-time API information. Some limitations of the study are:

1. The study will be conducted outdoor only, indoor air quality is not examined. Due to the MCO period during the COVID-19 pandemic, the data management system was computed using the previously collected PM_{2.5} data.
2. The study is focusing on API parameter PM_{2.5} only.
3. The social media platform users are limited to Facebook and Instagram.
4. Stage 1 to stage 3 of the proposed AAF is at a preliminary stage. There is no existing framework able to collect data continuously.

2. Methodology

To monitor real-time ambient air quality in the UTHM Parit Raja campus area, an advance proposed android application framework (AAF) that included an E-Sampler instrument, IoT, mobile apps, data management system and social media platform was proposed. A selected outdoor location in the UTHM Parit Raja campus is fixed for placing the E-Sampler instrument as well as the IoT device and GSM modem. Previous real-time PM_{2.5} data were collected and used for analysis purposes in the formulated Microsoft Excel, which is named as a data management system. In this project, Excel is fully used for the calculation of API and analysis of ambient air quality status. Lastly, the analyzed API result and API-related information are scattered and disseminated through social media platforms, Facebook, and Instagram.

The methods applied in this chapter are based on the study objectives as mentioned, which are then to be achieved. This study focuses on the proposed android application framework which included six stages. The methodology flow chart of this study is shown in Figure 3.

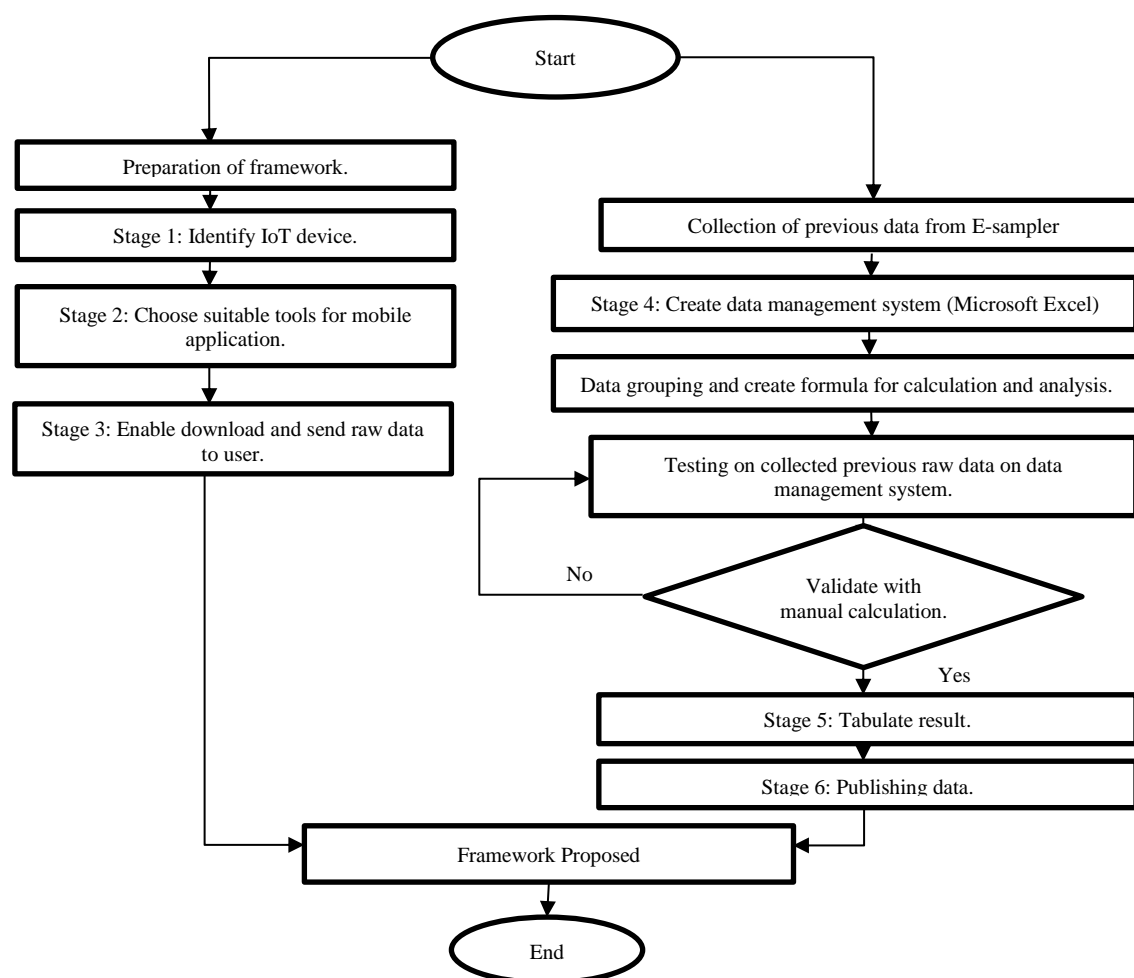


Figure 3. Methodology flow chart of this study.

2.1. Stage 1 – The E-Sampler (Data Logger and IoT Interface)

Met-One E-Sampler instrument was selected for the usage of this project. It was ensured that it has the memory of 4,369 internal data loggers that record data overtime for 182 days or 1 record/hour in 3 days or 1 record/min, and in relation to having built-in sensors and external sensors. A suitable IoT device was proposed to make the connection between E-Sampler the mobile apps.

2.2. Stage 2- Mobile application

A suitable tool (Blynk app) was selected in this stage. The Blynk app in Figure 4 was downloaded and was set up by creating a new Blynk account as well as creating a new project. Blynk was connected to the hardware through supported cellular, and the initial empty project was then modified by adding widgets. Blynk app was designed with buttons to control E-Sampler remotely, display sensors data, stored data, and display plotted graphs. Blynk app was designed to present periodic data, which included live or real-time, 15 minutes, 30 minutes, an hour, a day, a week, or a month. The displayed data was designed, color was used to differentiate data and improve visual satisfaction.

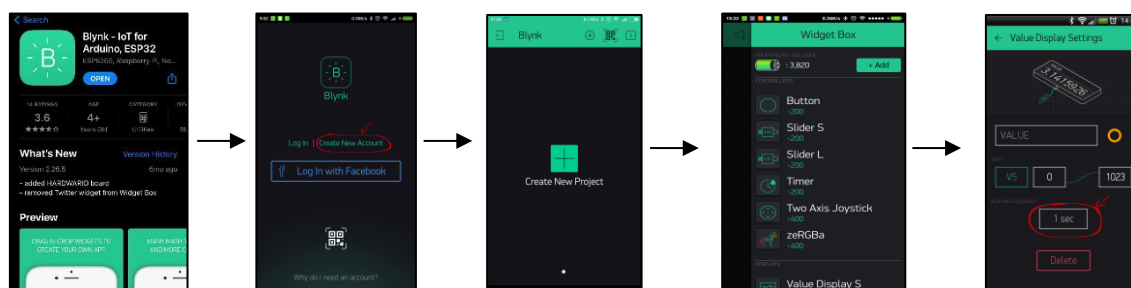


Figure 4. Blynk app setting up process.

2.3. Stage 3- Data management

As mentioned previously, the designed Blynk app with buttons and settings was able to control E-Sampler remotely, display sensors data, stored data, and display plotted graphs. Generated and stored data was requested to download and export. The exported data file format was supported by Microsoft Excel.

2.4. Stage 4- Data management system

At this stage, Microsoft Excel was used for the data management system. Appropriate formulas and equations were designed for the overall process of obtaining the final API information based on the USEPA standard. Moreover, the detailed conditioned formula was constructed to obtain secondary data that will be used for analyzing purposes. That included the formula for obtaining PM_{2.5} concentration tier, API, API tier, and API color. The raw data were then grouped and organized according to time, week, year, month, day and tabulated raw data into breakdown data.

2.5. Stage 5- API Judgment

The coloring method is used to determine API status for a certain period. The color indicates ambient air status according to USEPA standard, either good (blue), moderate (green), unhealthy (yellow), very unhealthy (orange), hazardous (red), or emergency (red). A conditioned formula has been set to generate a tabulated result of API with the color. Another method used was plotted graph method. The daily plot graph visualizes better with the changes of ambient air quality based on hourly measurement. Instead of that, the daily graph of API was also plotted monthly as well.

2.6. Stage 6- Information dissemination

There are several approaches available for data dissemination on API-related information. From the choices of website, short message service (SMS), e-mail, social media, radio, and television, in this project, the proposed approach is via social media platforms, Facebook, and Instagram. API information will be updated on these social media from time to time. At this stage, a poster template was designed using Canva apps. In the poster template, several API-related information was designed. This included the university and faculty logo and the sources of posted API information by FTK UTHM were inserted. Besides, API status with its color indication as well as the color description was designed in the poster.

3. Result and discussion

The proposed android application framework (AAF) in this project involved the usage of hardware and software. E-Sampler instrument is connected to IoT device and Blynk app through a cellular connection.

The data management system has been designed to perform calculations and analyses on previously collected raw data. Social media platform had successfully created and finally, API information is updated to the platform, Facebook and Instagram periodically.

3.1. Location of data collection

UTHM Parit Raja campus is located at Batu Pahat, Johor. It was selected to collect $PM_{2.5}$ from ambient air to be analyzed to obtain API-related information on the location. Through observation from Google Map as Figure 5, the UTHM Parit Raja campus was surrounded by plenty of plantation and pervious surface, compared to buildings and houses. The northern part of the campus is a huge lawn, the southern part has rows of houses along the road, shop lot and buildings were built compactly along the main road from east to west direction.

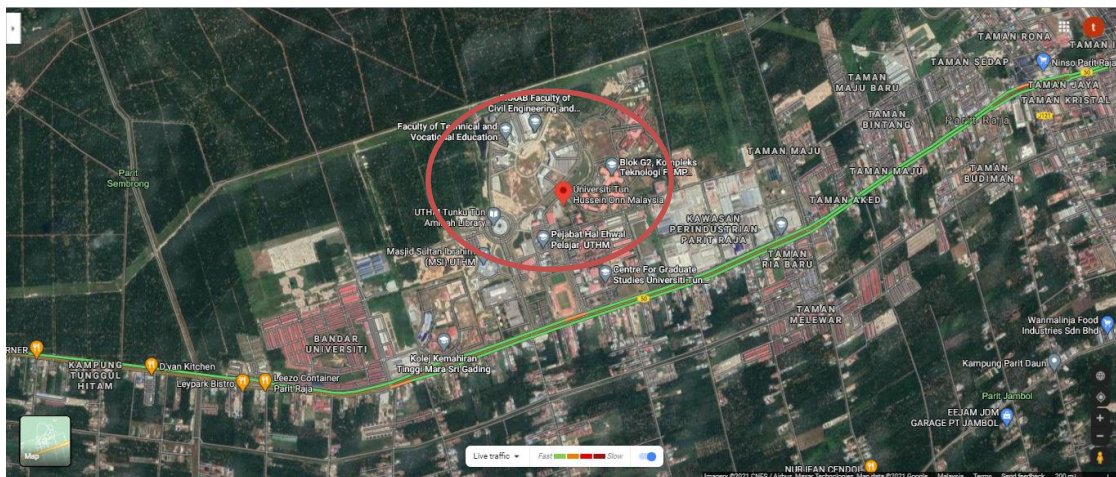


Figure 5. UTHM-Parit Raja Campus (Google Map).

3.2. Stage 1- The E-Sampler (Data Logger and IoT Interface)

IoT device and E-Sampler data logger were connected physically in a laboratory to test the functionality of the IoT device. Global System for Mobile Communication (GSM) modem is a wireless modem that communicates with the GSM network, to generate, transmit and decode data from IoT devices to Blynk apps. A block diagram is shown in Figure 6 on the connection between the E-Sampler instrument, IoT device and GSM modem. The proposed system at this stage is still undergoing development and improvement and is yet to be fully established and validated.

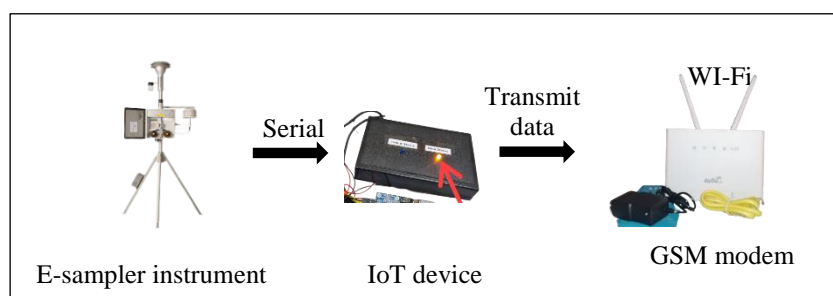


Figure 6. Block diagram of hardware.

The proposed IoT device was tested out in the laboratory together with an E-Sampler data logger as shown in Figure 7 below. Figure 8 shows on the IoT device, data status is lighted indicate that data is successfully transmitted from E-Sampler data logger to Blynk apps.



Figure 7. Testing on the functionality of the IoT device.



Figure 8. Data transmitting.

3.3. Stage 2- Mobile Application

As a preliminary result, the Blynk app is currently able to achieve all the functions smoothly. Data were collected, stored, and displayed as a graph. Referring to Figure 9, sensors data and plotted graph was displayed with desirable time frame.

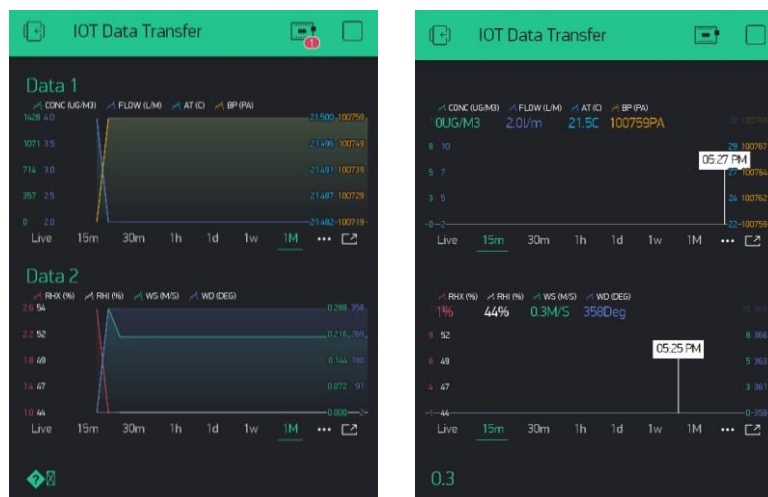


Figure 9. Displayed data information on the Blynk app.

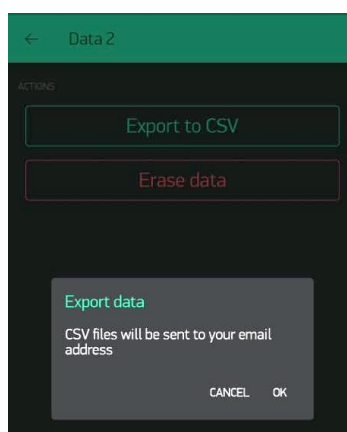
In the plotted graph, the color presented indicates specific raw data. These eight raw data were prescribed with their specific color and this shows in Table 4.

Table 4. Color indication on raw data.

Data	Colour	Abbreviation	Raw Data
1	Green	CONC (UG/M3)	PM _{2.5} concentration ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)
	Purple	FLOW (L/M)	Volumetric flow rate (l/m)
	Blue	AT (C)	Ambient temperature ($^{\circ}\text{C}$)
	Orange	BP (PA)	Barometric pressure (pa)
	Red	RHX (%)	External relative humidity (%)
2	White	RHI (%)	Internal relative humidity (%)
	Blue	WS (M/S)	Wind speed (m/s)
	Purple	WD (DEG)	Wind direction ($^{\circ}$)

3.4. Stage 3 - Data Management

As a preliminary result, the download function in Blynk apps works successfully. Data were successfully downloaded as shown in Figure 10 in CSV file format that was supported by Microsoft Excel. Besides, selected raw data are also currently able to send to the user through an email address. Nevertheless, continuous observation of the function of the Blynk app guarantees the accuracy of the data collected.

**Figure 10.** Download display in Blynk app.

3.5. Stage 4 - Data Management System

The raw data used in this system is collected manually in previous. There is two excel file in total to generate API information for the month of March ~ April and the month of June ~ July. In each Excel, there are six sheets to store raw data, group and break down data, perform calculations, tabulate data and finally, generate complete API information. In “Raw Data” sheets, raw data has successfully been imported into the system without amendment and editing on it. This is shown in Figure 11. The formula needed for API calculation is pasted into the raw data sheet and acts as the guideline for designing the formula in the following steps.

Raw Data Set 1					Calculation Formula Set 1				
4	Time	Conc (µg)	Flow (l/m)	WS (M/S)	WD (Deg)	API	BREAKPOINT OF CONCENTRATION	EQUATION FOR API	
5	3/4/2020 11:00	5	1.8	0.9	112		X=PM2.5 concentration(24h average, unit:µg/m3)		
6	3/4/2020 12:00	5	2	1.1	132	GOOD	0-50	0x≤12.0	API=4.1667 x X
7	3/4/2020 13:00	5	2	1	121	MODERATE	51-100	12.15x≤75.5	API=0.7741 x (X-12.1) + 51
8	3/4/2020 14:00	5	2	1.2	198	UNHEALTHY	101-200	75.5x≤150.4	API=1.3218 x (X-75.5) + 101
9	3/4/2020 15:00	7	2	0.8	120	VERY UNHEALTHY	201-300	150.5x≤250.4	API=0.9909 x (X-150.5) + 201
10	3/4/2020 16:00	8	2	1.6	304	VERY UNHEALTHY	301-400	250.4x≤350.4	API=0.9909 x (X-250.5) + 301
11	3/4/2020 17:00	11	2	1.4	353	HAZARDOUS	401-500	350.4x≤500.4	API=0.6604 x (X-350.5) + 401
12	3/4/2020 18:00	16	2	1.5	126				
13	3/4/2020 19:00	22	2	0.8	31				
14	3/4/2020 20:00	24	2	0.3	115				
15	3/4/2020 21:00	26	2	0.4	122				
16	3/4/2020 22:00	35	2	0.3	117				
17	3/4/2020 23:00	35	2	0.3	124				
18	3/5/2020 0:00	17	2	0.3	125				
19	3/5/2020 1:00	20	2	0.3	125				
20	3/5/2020 2:00	20	2	0.3	123				
21	3/5/2020 3:00	15	2	0.3	118				
22	3/5/2020 4:00	15	2	0.3	117				
23	3/5/2020 5:00	13	2	0.3	119				
24	3/5/2020 6:00	14	2	0.3	127				
25	3/5/2020 7:00	14	2	0.3	119				
26	3/5/2020 8:00	13	2	0.3	115				
27	3/5/2020 9:00	11	1.9	0.3	115				
28	3/5/2020 10:00	10	2	0.6	106				
29	3/5/2020 11:00	10	2	0.7	104				
30	3/5/2020 12:00	9	2	0.6	107				
31	3/5/2020 13:00	11	2	0.5	122				
32	3/5/2020 14:00	10	2	0.7	123				
33	3/5/2020 15:00	11	2	0.6	121				

Figure 11. Raw data set.

Pivot table of computed data from raw data shown in Figure 12 when raw data was successfully organized and grouped into time, week, month, day, and hour.

Copy & Paste Data Set					Breakdown Date & Timestamp Details										
4	Time	Conc (µg/M3)	Flow (l/m)	WS (M/S)	WD (Deg)	Time	week	year	month	day	hour	Conc	Flow (l/m)	WS (M/S)	WD (Deg)
5	3/4/2020 11:00	5	1.8	0.9	112	3/4/2020 11:00	10	2020	3	4	11	5	1.8	0.9	112
6	3/4/2020 12:00	5	2	1.1	132	3/4/2020 12:00	10	2020	3	4	12	5	2	1.1	132
7	3/4/2020 13:00	5	2	1	121	3/4/2020 13:00	10	2020	3	4	13	5	2	1	121
8	3/4/2020 14:00	5	2	1.2	198	3/4/2020 14:00	10	2020	3	4	14	5	2	1.2	198
9	3/4/2020 15:00	7	2	0.8	120	3/4/2020 15:00	10	2020	3	4	15	7	2	0.8	120
10	3/4/2020 16:00	8	2	1.6	304	3/4/2020 16:00	10	2020	3	4	16	8	2	1.6	304
11	3/4/2020 17:00	11	2	1.4	353	3/4/2020 17:00	10	2020	3	4	17	11	2	1.4	353
12	3/4/2020 18:00	16	2	1.5	126	3/4/2020 18:00	10	2020	3	4	18	16	2	1.5	126
13	3/4/2020 19:00	22	2	0.8	31	3/4/2020 19:00	10	2020	3	4	19	22	2	0.8	31
14	3/4/2020 20:00	24	2	0.3	115	3/4/2020 20:00	10	2020	3	4	20	24	2	0.3	115
15	3/4/2020 21:00	26	2	0.4	122	3/4/2020 21:00	10	2020	3	4	21	26	2	0.4	122
16	3/4/2020 22:00	35	2	0.3	117	3/4/2020 22:00	10	2020	3	4	22	35	2	0.3	117
17	3/4/2020 23:00	35	2	0.3	124	3/4/2020 23:00	10	2020	3	4	23	35	2	0.3	124
18	3/5/2020 0:00	17	2	0.3	125	3/5/2020 0:00	10	2020	3	5	0	17	2	0.3	125
19	3/5/2020 1:00	20	2	0.3	125	3/5/2020 1:00	10	2020	3	5	1	20	2	0.3	125
20	3/5/2020 2:00	20	2	0.3	123	3/5/2020 2:00	10	2020	3	5	2	20	2	0.3	123
21	3/5/2020 3:00	15	2	0.3	118	3/5/2020 3:00	10	2020	3	5	3	15	2	0.3	118
22	3/5/2020 4:00	15	2	0.3	117	3/5/2020 4:00	10	2020	3	5	4	15	2	0.3	117
23	3/5/2020 5:00	13	2	0.3	119	3/5/2020 5:00	10	2020	3	5	5	13	2	0.3	119
24	3/5/2020 6:00	14	2	0.3	127	3/5/2020 6:00	10	2020	3	5	6	14	2	0.3	127
25	3/5/2020 7:00	14	2	0.3	119	3/5/2020 7:00	10	2020	3	5	7	14	2	0.3	119
26	3/5/2020 8:00	13	2	0.3	115	3/5/2020 8:00	10	2020	3	5	8	13	2	0.3	115
27	3/5/2020 9:00	11	1.9	0.3	115	3/5/2020 9:00	10	2020	3	5	9	11	1.9	0.3	115

Figure 12. Computed data from raw data.

Secondary data were obtained when detailed conditioned formulas and equations were designed in the “Helper” sheet. Secondary data included concentration tier, API, API tier, and API color information. This is shown in Figure 13 below. Lastly, the calculated API results are successfully tabulated in the “Statistic” sheet that shows in Figure 14 below.

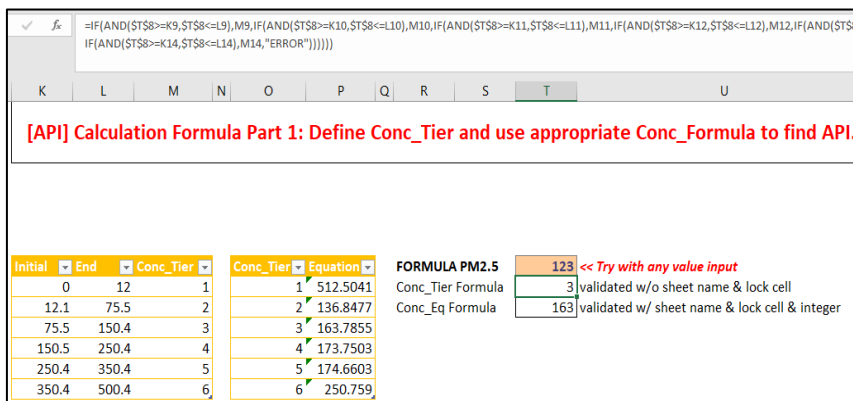


Figure 13. Secondary data generated from formula and equation.

Time	Wind	Temp	Humid	Dir	Pres	Conc (µg/m³)	Avrg. C	API	API_T	Status	Col.
3/4/2020 11:00	10	2020	3	4	11	5				ERROR	ERROR
3/4/2020 12:00	10	2020	3	4	12	5				ERROR	ERROR
3/4/2020 13:00	10	2020	3	4	13	5				ERROR	ERROR
3/4/2020 14:00	10	2020	3	4	14	5				ERROR	ERROR
3/4/2020 15:00	10	2020	3	4	15	7				ERROR	ERROR
3/4/2020 16:00	10	2020	3	4	16	8				ERROR	ERROR
3/4/2020 17:00	10	2020	3	4	17	11				ERROR	ERROR
3/4/2020 18:00	10	2020	3	4	18	16				ERROR	ERROR
3/4/2020 19:00	10	2020	3	4	19	22				ERROR	ERROR
3/4/2020 20:00	10	2020	3	4	20	24				ERROR	ERROR
3/4/2020 21:00	10	2020	3	4	21	26				ERROR	ERROR
3/4/2020 22:00	10	2020	3	4	22	35				ERROR	ERROR
3/4/2020 23:00	10	2020	3	4	23	35				ERROR	ERROR
3/5/2020 0:00	10	2020	3	5	0	17				ERROR	ERROR
3/5/2020 1:00	10	2020	3	5	1	20				ERROR	ERROR
3/5/2020 2:00	10	2020	3	5	2	20				ERROR	ERROR
3/5/2020 3:00	10	2020	3	5	3	15				ERROR	ERROR
3/5/2020 4:00	10	2020	3	5	4	15				ERROR	ERROR
3/5/2020 5:00	10	2020	3	5	5	10				ERROR	ERROR
3/5/2020 6:00	10	2020	3	5	6	14				ERROR	ERROR
3/5/2020 7:00	10	2020	3	5	7	14				ERROR	ERROR
3/5/2020 8:00	10	2020	3	5	8	13				ERROR	ERROR
3/5/2020 9:00	10	2020	3	5	9	11				ERROR	ERROR
3/5/2020 10:00	10	2020	3	5	10	10				ERROR	ERROR
3/5/2020 11:00	10	2020	3	5	11	10	7.5	31	1	GOOD	BLUE
3/5/2020 12:00	10	2020	3	5	12	9	11	29	1	GOOD	BLUE
3/5/2020 13:00	10	2020	3	5	13	11	8	33	1	GOOD	BLUE
3/5/2020 14:00	10	2020	3	5	14	10	7.5	31	1	GOOD	BLUE
3/5/2020 15:00	10	2020	3	5	15	11	9	37	1	GOOD	BLUE
3/5/2020 16:00	10	2020	3	5	16	10	9	37	1	GOOD	BLUE
3/5/2020 17:00	10	2020	3	5	17	11	11	45	1	GOOD	BLUE
3/5/2020 18:00	10	2020	3	5	18	17	16.5	54	2	MODERATE	GREEN
3/5/2020 19:00	10	2020	3	5	19	23	22.5	59	2	MODERATE	GREEN
3/5/2020 20:00	10	2020	3	5	20	23	26.5	62	2	MODERATE	GREEN
3/5/2020 21:00	10	2020	3	5	21	28	27	62	2	MODERATE	GREEN
3/5/2020 22:00	10	2020	3	5	22	28	31.5	66	2	MODERATE	GREEN
3/5/2020 23:00	10	2020	3	5	23	26	30.5	65	2	MODERATE	GREEN
3/6/2020 0:00	10	2020	3	6	0	22	19.5	56	2	MODERATE	GREEN
3/6/2020 1:00	10	2020	3	6	1	21	20.5	57	2	MODERATE	GREEN
3/6/2020 2:00	10	2020	3	6	2	23	20	57	2	MODERATE	GREEN
3/6/2020 3:00	10	2020	3	6	3	35	25	60	2	MODERATE	GREEN
3/6/2020 4:00	10	2020	3	6	4	57	36	69	2	MODERATE	GREEN
3/6/2020 5:00	10	2020	3	6	5	8	10.5	43	1	GOOD	BLUE
3/6/2020 6:00	10	2020	3	6	6	10	12	50	1	GOOD	BLUE

Figure 14. Tabulated result.

3.6. Stage 5 - API Judgement

Figure 15 shows the generated March and April API information is tabulated according to time and was highlighted with color. From the results obtained in Figure15(a), there are 8 slots highlighted yellow, which indicated the ambient air was at an unhealthy state. Exception of 10th March, 11th March and 12th March having moderate status, majority results show that from early 10 am to evening 6 pm, the ambient air status was good. In general, from 6 pm onward until the next morning at 10 am, the ambient air is at a moderate state. On the other hand, the ambient air has exceeded the 2020 ambient air quality limit standard even though the result shows it was at a moderate state. According to Figure 15(b), from 8 pm to 10 am, there is a random day when ambient air exceeded the limit standard. However, on 10th March, at 2 am ambient air quality had achieved the highest API value (110.5µg/m³).

Date	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
4-Mar																									
5-Mar																									
6-Mar																									
7-Mar																									
8-Mar																									
9-Mar																									
10-Mar																									
11-Mar																									
12-Mar																									
13-Mar																									
14-Mar																									
15-Mar																									
16-Mar																									
17-Mar																									
18-Mar																									
19-Mar																									
20-Mar																									
21-Mar																									
22-Mar																									
23-Mar																									
24-Mar																									
25-Mar																									
26-Mar																									
27-Mar																									
28-Mar																									
29-Mar																									
30-Mar																									
31-Mar																									
1-Apr																									
2-Apr																									
3-Apr																									
4-Apr																									
5-Apr																									
6-Apr																									
7-Apr																									
8-Apr																									
9-Apr																									
10-Apr																									
11-Apr																									
12-Apr																									
13-Apr																									
14-Apr																									
15-Apr																									
16-Apr																									
17-Apr																									
18-Apr																									
19-Apr																									

(a)

Date	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
4-Mar																									
5-Mar																									
6-Mar																									
7-Mar																									
8-Mar																									
9-Mar																									
10-Mar																									
11-Mar																									
12-Mar																									
13-Mar																									
14-Mar																									
15-Mar																									
16-Mar																									
17-Mar																									
18-Mar																									
19-Mar																									
20-Mar																									
21-Mar																									
22-Mar																									
23-Mar																									
24-Mar																									
25-Mar																									
26-Mar																									
27-Mar																									
28-Mar																									
29-Mar																									
30-Mar																									
31-Mar																									
1-Apr																									
2-Apr																									
3-Apr																									
4-Apr																									
5-Apr																									
6-Apr																									
7-Apr																									
8-Apr																									
9-Apr																									
10-Apr																									
11-Apr																									
12-Apr																									
13-Apr																									
14-Apr																									
15-Apr																									
16-Apr																									
17-Apr																									
18-Apr																									
19-Apr																									

(b)

Figure 15. (a) API color indication result from 04th March 2020 until 19th April 2020; (b) API from 04th March 2020 until 19th April 2020.

Figure 16 shows the generated June and July API information that is tabulated according to time and was highlighted with color. The result obtained in Figure 16(a) shows that the majority of API results from 10 am to 8 pm were highlighted blue which represents ambient air was in a good state. However, minor results show highlighted green from 8 pm to 10 am, this represents the ambient air was at a moderate state during this period. Besides, the ambient air has exceeded the 2020 ambient air quality limit standard even though the result shows it was at a moderate state. According to Figure 16(b), there are 6 slots highlighted red that indicate the over-limit time and concentration value. Nevertheless, they were exceeding only 1 and 2 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ on the random day mostly in the morning.

Pivot Table shown results for X = 2.5

Sum of API_Tier	Column Labels	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Jun	1-Jun	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jun	2-Jun	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1
Jun	3-Jun	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2
Jun	4-Jun	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2
Jun	5-Jun	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Jun	6-Jun	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Jun	7-Jun	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2
Jun	8-Jun	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2
Jun	9-Jun	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2
Jun	10-Jun	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2
Jun	11-Jun	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2
Jun	12-Jun	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1
Jun	13-Jun	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1
Jun	14-Jun	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2
Jun	15-Jun	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2
Jun	16-Jun	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1
Jun	17-Jun	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Jun	18-Jun	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Jun	19-Jun	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Jun	20-Jun	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Jun	21-Jun	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1
Jun	22-Jun	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2
Jun	23-Jun	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Jun	24-Jun	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Jun	25-Jun	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Jun	26-Jun	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Jun	27-Jun	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2
Jun	28-Jun	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2
Jun	29-Jun	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2
Jun	30-Jun	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2
Jul	1-Jul	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2
Jul	2-Jul	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2
Jul	3-Jul	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2
Jul	4-Jul	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	2
Jul	5-Jul	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Jul	6-Jul	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Jul	7-Jul	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	2
Jul	8-Jul	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	2
Jul	9-Jul	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Jul	10-Jul	2	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Jul	11-Jul	2	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2
Jul	12-Jul	2																							

(a)

Sum of Avg. Coac	Column Labels	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Jun	1-Jun	11.5	20	35	24	19	11	15	12	11	11	3.5	4.5	1	1	0.5	1	1	1	1	3	6.5	14	15	12
Jun	2-Jun	14	25	36	25	20	19	18	18	16	20	10	4	2	1	2.5	7	2	2	1	4	8	11	14	12
Jun	3-Jun	11.5	14	14	16	17	17	20	22	24	13	5.5	2.5	1	1	2.5	7	2	2	1.5	4.5	7	9	16	12
Jun	4-Jun	8.5	10	10	12	10	11	12	12	13	4.5	1.5	0.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.5	2	4	5	10	4
Jun	5-Jun	3	3	2.5	2.5	1	1.5	2	1	1	3	2	1.5	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2.5	4	5.5	5	7
Jun	6-Jun	7.5	8	11	14	13	12	10	3.5	11	16	11	5.5	4	3	4	4	4	4	4.5	6.5	12	15	18	24
Jun	7-Jun	20.5	21	24	27	27	26	24	23	24	26	14	7	4	4	4	4	5	6	6.5	8.5	21	28	29	28
Jun	8-Jun	23.5	25	29	30	32	32	31	29	30	28	12	6	4	4	4.5	5	6	7	7	9.5	20	25	26	19
Jun	9-Jun	19.5	21	25	28	29	31	29	27	28	27	6	7	6	6.5	5.5	1	6	5	8.5	16	17	16	16	
Jun	10-Jun	16.5	19	19	20	20	23	21	20	20	29	18	7	6	6	5.5	6	6	7	6.5	12	18	16	13	12
Jun	11-Jun	13	15	15	15	16	17	18	19	20	30	19	8	6	5	4	4	3	5	6	10	18	15	9.5	9.5
Jun	12-Jun	10.5	10	7	6.5	9	9	10	12	13	16	14	3.5	1	5	3.5	3	2	3	3.5	6.5	10	12	9	11
Jun	13-Jun	11	11	3	3	8.5	8.5	7.5	8.5	9.5	13	10	5	5	4	4	5	5	6	8.5	21	16	15	11	11
Jun	14-Jun	16.5	17	19	20	19	18	18	22	25	25	12	8	5	5	4	6	9	10	9	12	20	22	21	21
Jun	15-Jun	21	23	25	27	28	24	24	27	29	30	15	8	6	8	5	7	8	8	6	7.5	9	13	13	12
Jun	16-Jun	12.5	21	24	23	20	19	19	21	30	22	9.5	6	8	5	5	9	7	4.5	3	5	6	7	6.5	6.5
Jun	17-Jun	6.5	13	14	13	15	14	15	17	19	19	15	6.5	4	3	2	1	7	7	4.5	4.5	6	6.5	7.5	8
Jun	18-Jun	8	8	8	9	12	12	12	13	13	12	4.5	2	1	1	0.5	1	1	2	2	4	8	8.5	11	10
Jun	19-Jun	9	11	12	8.5	8	8.5	5.5	4.5	4.5	3	3.5	1.5	1	1	0.5	2	4	4	3.5	4	8	8.5	12	9.5
Jun	20-Jun	9	11	12	8	11	12	11.5	9	9.5	6	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	4	4.5	6	16	13	9
Jun	21-Jun	10	11	11	10	11	8	11	8.5	9	9.5	6	2	1	2	2	3	3	2	2	4.5	6.5	18	14	11
Jun	22-Jun	11.5	11	11	12	13	6.5	6.5	0.5	2.5	4	2.5	3	3	3	2	2	1	1	1.5	3.5	6	8	8	9.5
Jun	23-Jun	8.5	8	8	8.5	11	16	11	4.5	3.5	3	3	4	3	2	2	2	2	2	3	5	11	6.5	7	11
Jun	24-Jun	8	11	8.5	8	10	15	9.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	6.5	5	4	3	3	3	3	4	2.5	2.5	5.5	7	6.5	6.5
Jun	25-Jun	8.5	12	11	11	12	13	13	15	18	20	14	7	5	5.5	5	5	9	7.5	5.5	7	8.5	10	7.5	10
Jun	26-Jun	7.5	8	8.5	11	13	15	18	22	22	24	18	9.5	8	8	7.5	6	6	10	14	17	21	25	23	20
Jun	27-Jun	20	21	20	21	20	19																		

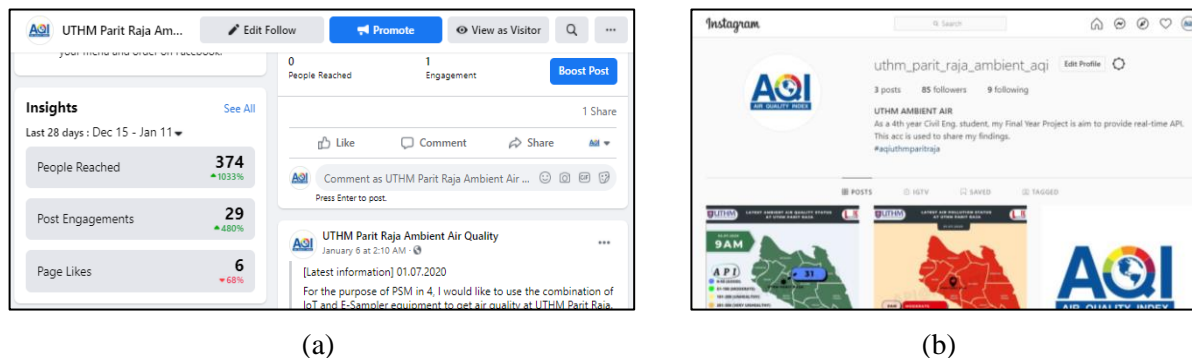


Figure 17. (a) Facebook platform engagement; (b) Instagram platform engagement.

The designed poster shown in Figure 18 has been posted on both Facebook and Instagram platforms. In the poster, API-related information such as API status and description, API range, and real-time API were published.

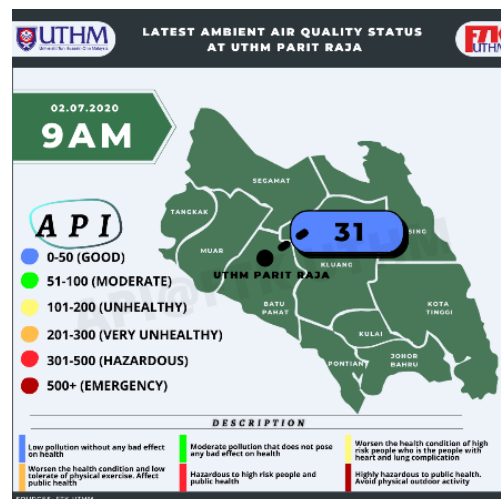


Figure 18. Poster API.

4. Conclusion

The android application framework has functioned great in this whole project. Although stage 1 to stage 3 is still under development, however, the operator can obtain real-time information from AAF developing process. The implementation of IoT devices into the framework has made the whole process from collecting data until obtaining raw data fast and simple. This also illustrates the importance of AAF in making life easier, mainly when the covid-19 pandemic hits Malaysia. With the aid of AAF, operators can obtain raw data downloaded from the Blynk app and be able to monitor the ambient air quality anytime at anywhere.

According to the results from the previous chapter, it can be observed that in the month of March and April 2020, ambient air quality is poorer compared with the month of June and July 2020. The amount of concentration exceeding the standard limit in June and July is 6, with the highest concentration of $37 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$. This shows the ambient air in UTHM Parit Raja in these two months has improved. Instead, the highest concentration from the month of March and April is $110.5 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ (ambient air condition: unhealthy). This will worsen the health condition of high-risk people who is with heart and lung complications. The ambient air condition also increases aggravation of heart and lung disease and

premature mortality in persons with cardiopulmonary disease and the elderly. Sensitive groups are encouraged to avoid prolonged exertion and stay indoors. The changes in ambient air may closely relate to the activities held on campus during the period. As several standard operating procedures (SOP) were implemented at the UTHM Parit Raja campus from April 2020, attendance of workers, lecturers and students were decreased. Hence, transportation and laboratory work on campus was greatly reduced. Therefore, this is believing that ambient air quality is greater in June and July.

Three objectives of the project were achieved throughout the whole process of study. At the end of this study, API for the month of March, April, June, and July 2020 were calculated and computed. The proposed new data management system is fully utilized in getting API in UTHM Parit Raja in this project. Besides, Facebook page and Instagram account were established to disseminate API-related information. By spreading the project account to the public, the response from people is good. Friends and strangers started to follow and get engaged with the Facebook and Instagram platforms to get API information. This is good to increase public awareness on the importance of air quality, as it will largely affect human daily activities. Lastly, a new android application framework is proposed to monitor real-time ambient air quality in the UTHM Parit Raja campus area. This new framework is useful, especially since the user can control remotely on the E-Sampler to collect desired data.

4.1. Recommendations

This study had served to improve in collecting data from manually collecting data to using IoT devices and software to collect real-time data and shorten the analysis process by using a data management system. However, further improvement and modification can still be made for future studies of similar nature. A few recommendations are given as such:

1. Improve the functionality and efficiency of the data management system. The current system is designed just for PM_{2.5}. This limits the usage of the system to calculate and analyze other API parameters. The system is operated manually, this may consume time when a large amount of database is imported into the system.
2. Study on the extent, the impact of the new framework to the university and public. This framework may lead UTHM Parit Raja to become an API hotspot to provide real-time API to the public.
3. Social media platforms should be shared with more friends and relatives, to continuously increase the engagement of the platform with the public.

5. References

- [1] Mei N S, Wai C W, and Ahamad R, 2016, "Environmental Awareness and Behaviour Index for Malaysia," *Procedia - Soc. Behav. Sci.*, vol. 222, no. 07, pp. 668–675,
- [2] Nazari T, 2019, "Haze : M ' sia declared # 1 most air polluted country in the world According to the World Air Quality Index (WAQI), Malaysia recorded an average API reading of 266 on," *TRP*, Sep. 19.
- [3] World Health Organization (WHO), 2005, "WHO Air Quality Guidelines for particulate matter, ozone, nitrogen dioxide, and sulfur dioxide," *Summ. risk Assess.*, vol. 51, no. 6, pp. 565–573.
- [4] Ministry of E. Department of Environment, "Official Portal of Department of Environment - Air Pollutant Index (API)," 2020. <https://www.doe.gov.my/portalv1/en/info-umum/english-air-pollutant-index-api/100>.
- [5] M. A. A. Q. DOE, "New Malaysia Ambient Air Quality Standard," p. 1989, 2020, [Online]. Available: <http://www.doe.gov.my/portalv1/wp-content/uploads/2013/01/Air-Quality-Standard-BI.pdf>.
- [6] Department of Environmental, 2019, "API Calculation".
- [7] Met One Instrument, 2011, "E-SAMPLER-9800 MANUAL Rev M".
- [8] New Straits Times, 2019, "Haze crisis : Still no breather for much of Malaysia," no. 108, Kuala Lumpur, pp. 1–5, Sep. 22.

Acknowledgments

The authors would like to thank the special work by Farrah Nuramanina binti Mohd Anuar from the Faculty of Civil Engineering and Built Environment, for her data collection and support.