iJRASET
International Journal For Research in
Applied Science and Engineering Technology

INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL FOR RESEARCH
IN APPLIED SCIENCE & ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY

Volume: 14 Issue: VI Month of publication: June 2026

DOI: https://doi.org/10.22214/ijraset.2026.83612

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International Journal for Research in Applied Science & Engineering Technology (IJRASET)
ISSN: 2321-9653; IC Value: 45.98; SJ Impact Factor: 7.538
Volume 14 Issue VI June 2026- Available at www.ijraset.com

Smart Irrigation System for Precision Farming

Akshata[1], Anish[2], Jaggesh[3], Nikita[4], Dr. Anoop Kolsur[5]
Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering, Sharnbasava University, Kalaburagi

Abstract: The Smart Irrigation System for Precision Farming is an IoT-based solution designed to optimize water usage in agriculture. The system continuously monitors soil moisture levels using sensors and automatically controls irrigation based on the moisture content of the soil.

A microcontroller processes the sensor data and activates the water pump only when required, reducing water wastage and improving crop health. The system can also monitor environmental parameters such as temperature and humidity to support efficient farming practices. By automating irrigation and providing real-time monitoring, the proposed system helps farmers increase productivity, conserve water resources, and reduce manual effort. This approach contributes to sustainable and cost-effective agricultural management.

Precision farming requires efficient water management to improve agricultural productivity and conserve natural resources. This project presents a Smart Irrigation System that uses soil moisture sensors to monitor soil conditions and automate the irrigation process. The system supplies water only when the moisture level falls below a predefined threshold, ensuring optimal water usage. The proposed solution reduces manual intervention, minimizes water wastage, and supports healthy crop growth. By integrating sensor technology and automation, the system provides a reliable and sustainable approach to modern agriculture.

Keywords: Smart Irrigation, Precision Farming, IoT, Soil Moisture Sensor, Arduino, Water Management, Automated Irrigation, Temperature Sensor, Humidity Monitoring, Sustainable Agriculture.

I. INTRODUCTION

Agriculture plays a vital role in meeting the food requirements of the growing global population. One of the major challenges faced by the agricultural sector is the efficient utilization of water resources. Traditional irrigation methods often result in excessive water consumption, uneven distribution of water, and increased labor costs.

In many cases, crops are irrigated according to fixed schedules rather than actual field requirements, leading to water wastage and reduced agricultural productivity. Therefore, the adoption of smart and automated irrigation techniques has become essential for sustainable farming practices.

The Smart Irrigation System for Precision Farming is an IoT-based solution designed to monitor environmental and field conditions in real time and automate the irrigation process. The system is built around the ESP32 microcontroller, which acts as the central processing unit and coordinates the operation of various sensors and actuators. Multiple sensors, including Soil Moisture Sensor, DHT11 Temperature and Humidity Sensor, Rain Sensor, Water Level Sensor, LDR Sensor, and PIR Motion Sensor, are integrated into the system to continuously collect data from the agricultural field.

The Soil Moisture Sensor measures the moisture content of the soil and helps determine whether irrigation is required. The DHT11 sensor monitors atmospheric temperature and humidity, while the Rain Sensor detects rainfall conditions to prevent unnecessary watering. The Water Level Sensor checks the availability of water in the storage tank, ensuring reliable irrigation operation. Additionally, the LDR Sensor measures light intensity, and the PIR Sensor provides motion detection capabilities for field security monitoring. The collected sensor data is processed by the ESP32 microcontroller, which makes intelligent decisions based on predefined threshold values. When the soil moisture level falls below the specified limit and sufficient water is available, the system automatically activates the irrigation pump through a relay module. Once the desired moisture level is achieved or rainfall is detected, the pump is switched off automatically. This process helps conserve water while maintaining optimal soil conditions for crop growth.

II. LITERATURE SURVEY

Smart irrigation system that enables real-time monitoring and data analytics for agricultural fields. The system collected data from multiple sensors, including soil moisture, temperature, and rainfall sensors, and stored the information on a cloud server. The research focused on using data analytics to provide recommendations for irrigation management. Farmers could access detailed reports about soil conditions and crop water requirements through a mobile application.

The study concluded that cloud-based smart irrigation systems can improve decision-making, increase crop yield, and ensure efficient use of water resources in modern agriculture.

The system used solar panels to power sensors, microcontrollers, and irrigation pumps, making it suitable for rural areas where electricity supply is limited. The study demonstrated that integrating renewable energy with automated irrigation technology can provide a cost-effective solution for farmers.

The solar-powered system reduced operational costs and ensured continuous monitoring of soil moisture and environmental conditions. The research also highlighted that sustainable irrigation systems are essential for conserving water resources and promoting environmentally friendly farming practices.

The system analyzed historical weather data, soil moisture information, and crop requirements to predict the optimal irrigation schedule. The research showed that combining machine learning with IoT sensors can improve irrigation accuracy and efficiency. The predictive model allowed farmers to anticipate water needs rather than simply reacting to soil moisture changes. As a result, the system helped optimize water distribution and reduced energy consumption used for irrigation pumps.

smart irrigation model that combines soil moisture sensors, temperature sensors, and humidity sensors to determine the water requirements of crops. The system collected environmental data and used it to automatically activate irrigation pumps when soil moisture dropped below a predefined threshold. The study emphasized the role of Internet of Things (IoT) technology in modern agriculture. By connecting sensors to cloud platforms, farmers could access data through smartphones and make better decisions about irrigation scheduling. The research demonstrated that the system could reduce water usage by up to 30–40% compared to traditional irrigation methods while maintaining healthy crop growth.

The study focused on developing an automated irrigation system that monitors soil moisture levels in real time and supplies water only when necessary. The system used a microcontroller to collect data from sensors and send it to a cloud platform for analysis. The research showed that automated irrigation systems can significantly reduce water wastage and improve crop productivity. By using real-time monitoring and control, farmers were able to maintain optimal soil moisture levels for plant growth. The study also highlighted the importance of integrating mobile applications so that farmers can remotely monitor irrigation conditions and manage water supply efficiently.

III. PROPOSED METHODOLOGY / SYSTEM DESIGN

The Smart Irrigation System for Precision Farming is an IoT-based agricultural monitoring and automation system developed using an ESP32 microcontroller.

The system continuously collects real-time data from multiple sensors, including temperature and humidity, soil moisture, rainfall, water level, light intensity, and motion detection. These sensors help monitor environmental and field conditions, enabling efficient irrigation management and improved crop productivity.

The DHT11 sensor measures the temperature and humidity of the surrounding environment. This information helps farmers understand weather conditions that may affect crop growth. The LDR (Light Dependent Resistor) sensor detects the intensity of sunlight available in the field, while the PIR sensor monitors motion and can be The soil moisture sensor plays a major role in irrigation control. It continuously checks the moisture content present in the soil. When the moisture level falls below a predefined threshold, the ESP32 determines that the soil is dry and automatically activates the irrigation pump through the relay module. Once sufficient moisture is detected, the pump is turned off, preventing water wastage and ensuring optimal irrigation.

The rain sensor detects rainfall conditions. If rain is detected, the ESP32 immediately stops the irrigation process, even if the soil moisture is low. This avoids unnecessary watering and conserves water resources. Similarly, the water level sensor monitors the availability of water in the storage tank. If the water level becomes too low, the system can generate alerts and prevent the pump from operating to avoid damage.

An OLED display is connected through the I2C communication interface to show real-time sensor readings such as temperature, humidity, soil moisture percentage, water level status, light intensity, rainfall condition, and motion detection status. This allows users to monitor the complete system locally without requiring additional devices.

Workflow Diagram

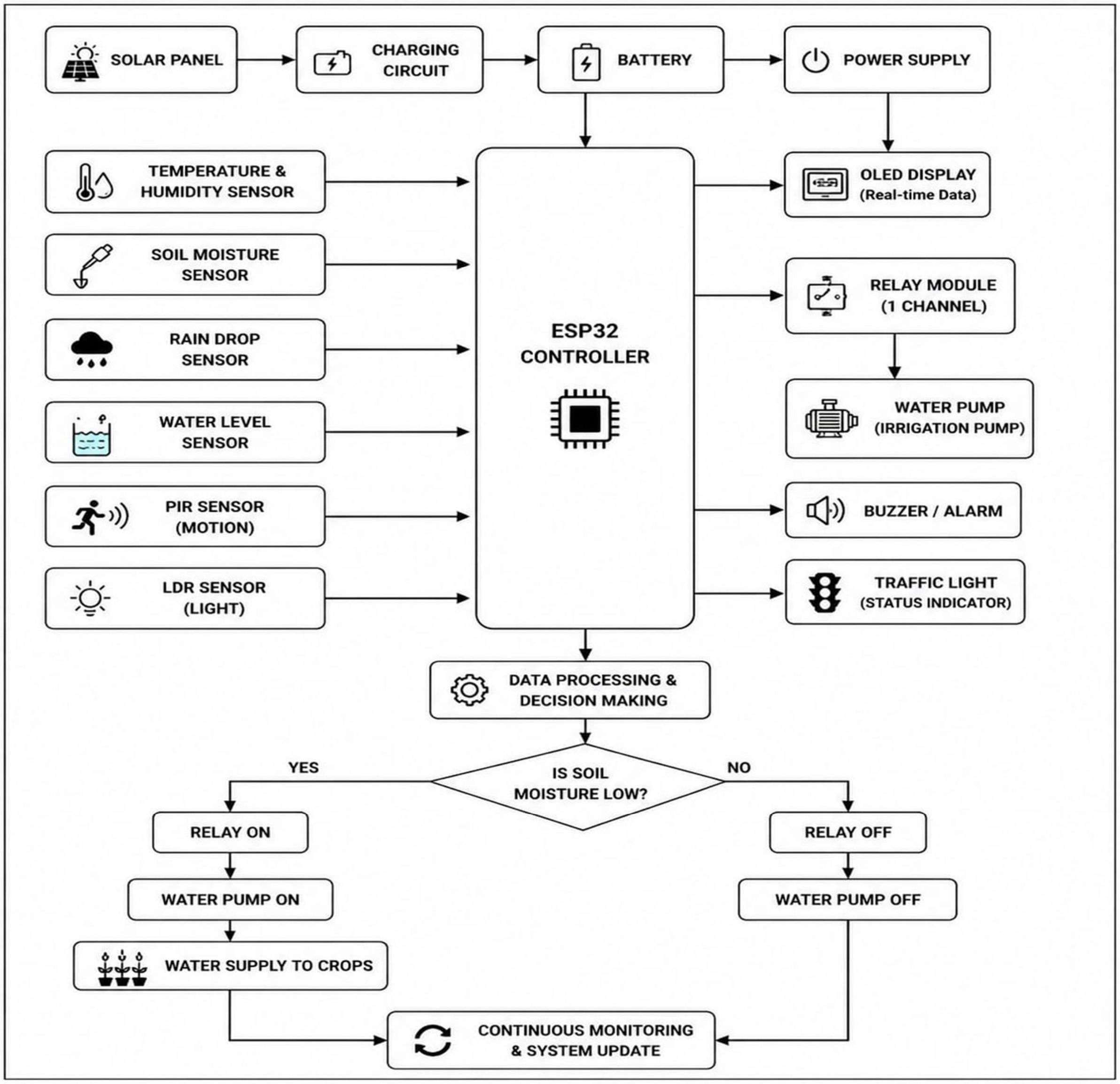

Fig.1. Workflow Diagram

IV. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROPOSED SYSTEM

The proposed Smart Irrigation System for Precision Farming is implemented using IoT-based sensors, an ESP32 microcontroller, and automated irrigation control. The system is designed to monitor soil and environmental conditions in real time and provide water to crops based on their requirements.

The hardware components include a solar panel, charging circuit, rechargeable battery, ESP32 controller, soil moisture sensor, temperature and humidity sensor, rain sensor, water level sensor, relay module, water pump, and OLED display. The solar panel charges the battery, which supplies power to the complete system.

The ESP32 acts as the main control unit. It collects data from different sensors and processes the information to make irrigation decisions. When the soil moisture level becomes low and water is required, the ESP32 activates the relay module to turn ON the water pump. The pump supplies water to the crops through the irrigation system.

If sufficient moisture is detected or rainfall occurs, the controller automatically turns OFF the pump to avoid water wastage. The OLED display shows real-time sensor values and system status. The system helps in reducing manual effort, saving water, and improving crop productivity through automated irrigation.

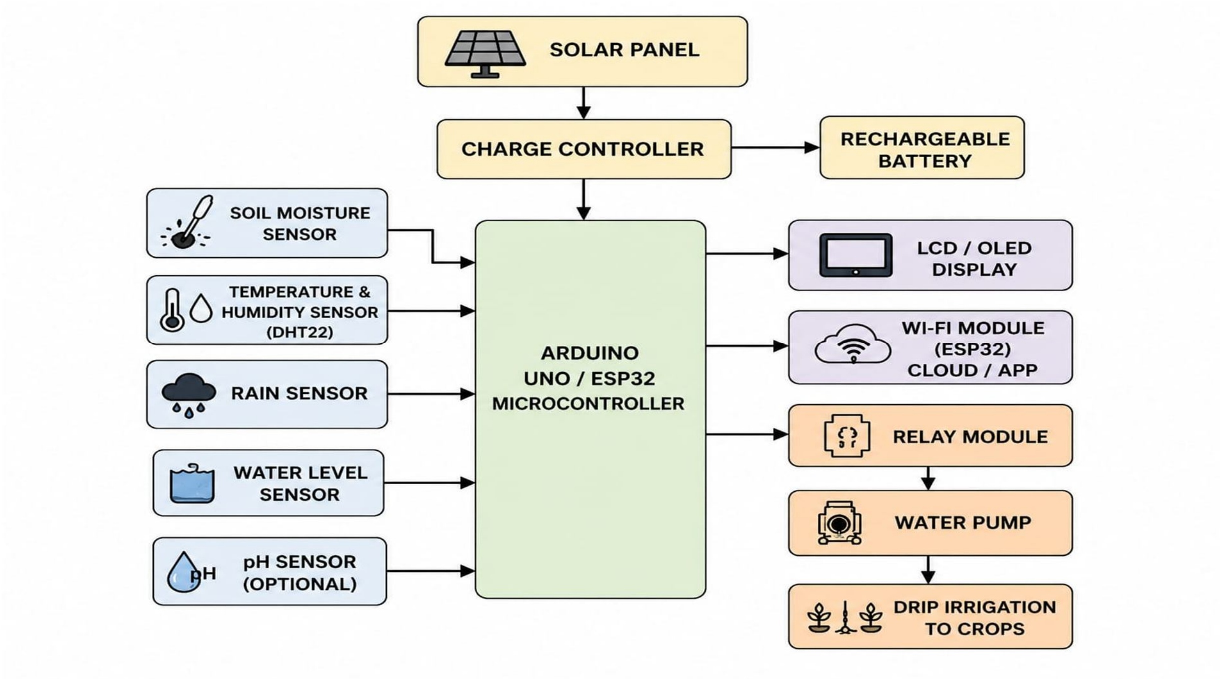

Fig.2. Implementation Diagram

V. SYSTEM PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS AND TESTING

The performance of the proposed Smart Irrigation System for Precision Farming was evaluated through various testing conditions to analyze the accuracy, reliability, response time, and efficiency of the automated irrigation system.

The system was tested by monitoring different environmental parameters such as soil moisture level, temperature, humidity, rainfall condition, and water level status. During operation, the sensors continuously collected real-time data and transmitted it to the ESP32 microcontroller for processing. Based on the sensor readings, the controller automatically controlled the relay module and water pump to provide water according to crop requirements.

Several performance parameters were considered during evaluation, including sensor accuracy, irrigation response time, water usage efficiency, pump operation, and system reliability. The results showed that the system successfully detected soil conditions and automatically activated or deactivated irrigation, reducing water wastage and manual effort.

The testing results confirmed that the proposed smart irrigation system provides efficient water management, improves crop productivity, and supports precision farming through real-time monitoring and automated control.

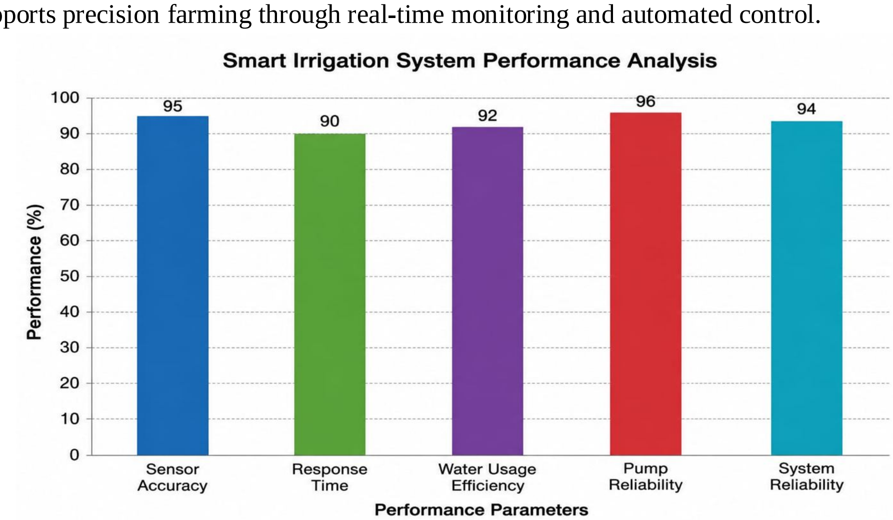

Fig.3.Performance Analysis of Smart Irrigation System for Precision Farming

VI. RESULTS

The experimental setup consists of different hardware components connected together to develop an automated irrigation system. The complete setup is designed to monitor crop conditions and provide water automatically based on soil requirements.

Solar Panel and Battery: The solar panel acts as the renewable power source. It converts solar energy into electrical energy, which is stored in the battery through the charging circuit. The battery supplies continuous power to the system.

ESP32 Microcontroller: ESP32 is the main control unit of the system. It collects data from all sensors, processes the information, and makes decisions for irrigation control.

Relay Module and Water Pump: The relay module works as a switching device controlled by ESP32. When soil moisture is low, the relay activates the water pump, which supplies water from the tank to the crops through the irrigation pipe.

OLED Display: The OLED display shows real-time sensor readings such as soil moisture, temperature, humidity, water level status, and pump condition.

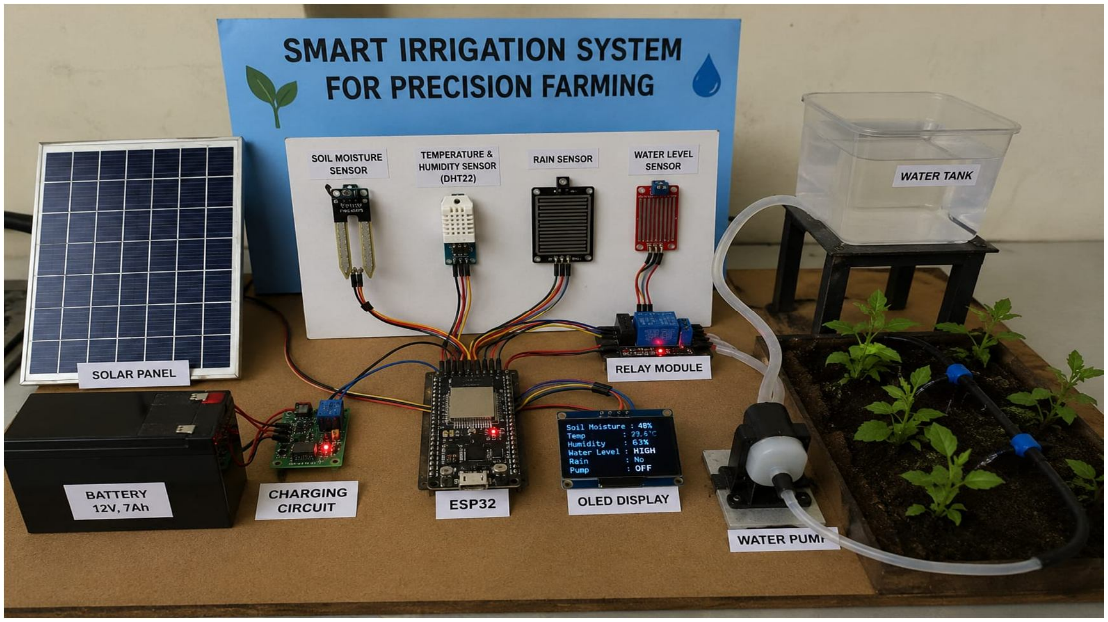

Fig.4.Experimental setup of Smart Irrigation System for Precision Farming

A. Working Procedure

During the experiment, sensor data is continuously collected and sent to the ESP32 controller. The controller analyzes the data and automatically turns the water pump ON or OFF based on soil moisture conditions. This setup reduces water wastage, minimizes manual effort, and provides efficient irrigation for precision farming.Components Visible in the Figure (Fig . 4)

- Solar Panel – Supplies renewable energy to the system.
- Sorting Bins – Collect separated waste materials.
- Sensor Module – Detects the type of waste material.
- Servo Motor Mechanism – Controls waste diversion.
- Microcontroller Unit (Arduino) – Processes sensor data and controls operations.
- Laptop Interface – Displays monitoring and system status information.
- Sample Waste Objects – Demonstrate sorting of metal and plastic materials

VII. CONCLUSION

The Smart Irrigation System for Precision Farming provides an efficient and automated solution for modern agriculture. By continuously monitoring soil moisture, environmental conditions, rainfall, and water availability, the system ensures that crops receive the required amount of water at the right time. The use of ESP32, multiple sensors, relay-controlled irrigation, and solar power contributes to water conservation, reduced labor costs, and improved crop productivity. The system demonstrates the effective application of IoT and automation technologies in sustainable agriculture.

VIII. FUTURE SCOPE

The proposed system can be further enhanced by integrating advanced IoT and Artificial Intelligence technologies. Cloud-based monitoring and mobile applications can be developed to allow farmers to monitor and control the system remotely. Machine learning algorithms can be implemented to predict irrigation requirements based on weather forecasts and crop conditions. Additional sensors for nutrient monitoring, pH measurement, and disease detection can be incorporated to provide comprehensive farm management. Integration with smart analytics and automated decision-making systems can further improve agricultural efficiency and support the development of fully autonomous precision farming solutions.

The system can be integrated with Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML) to predict irrigation requirements based on weather conditions and crop data. A mobile application and cloud-based monitoring system can be developed to allow farmers to remotely monitor and control irrigation activities. Additional sensors such as soil pH, nutrient sensors, and advanced weather monitoring sensors can be added to improve crop health analysis.

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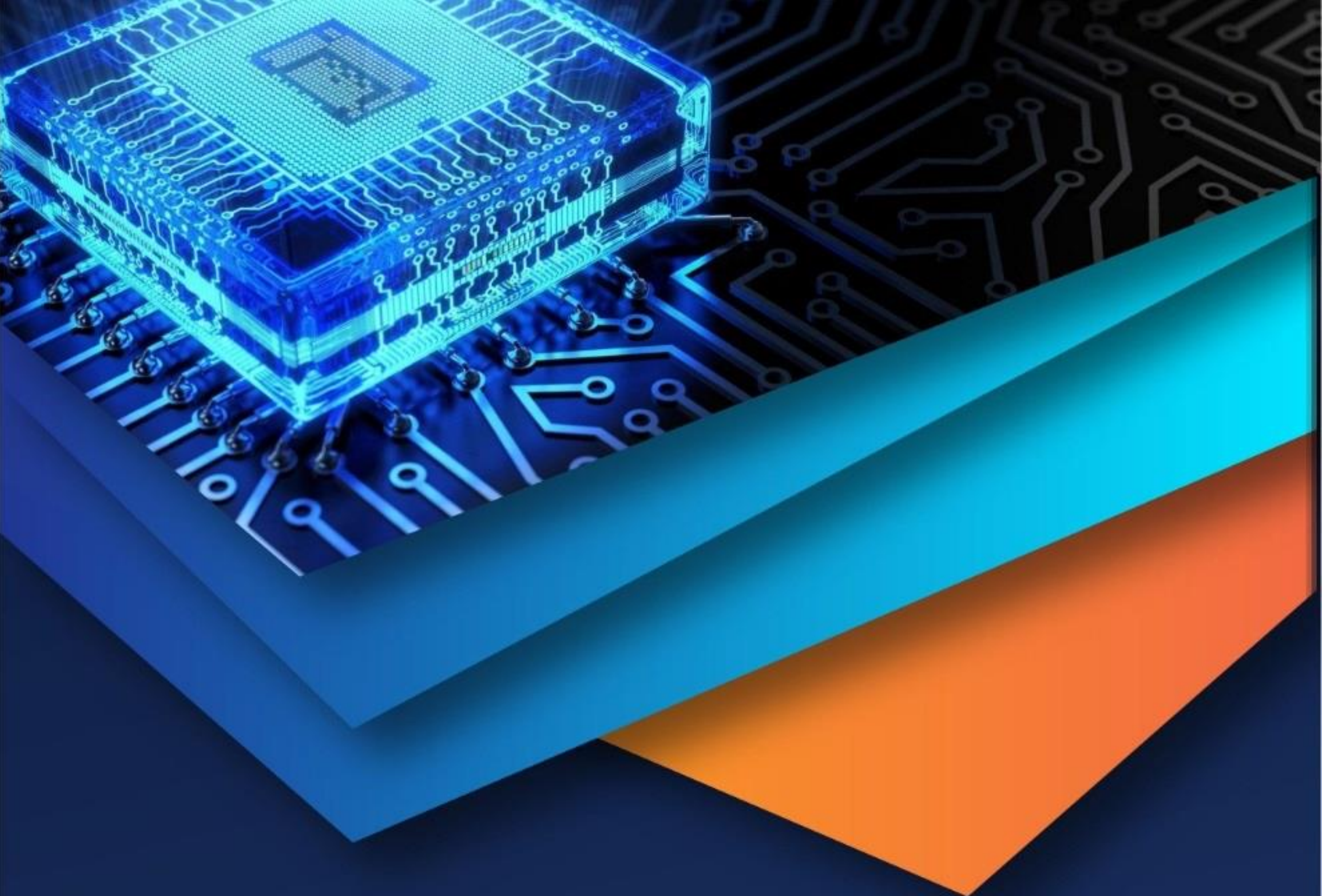

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