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Internet of Things (IoT): A Gateway to Smarter Systems and Future Innovation



Abstract: - The Internet of Things (IoT) represents a transformative technology that revolutionizes traditional operations by integrating smart, digital solutions. IoT encompasses a broad range of applications, including smart homes, intelligent transportation systems, urban development, and healthcare. It simplifies and optimizes processes for both individuals and organizations, bridging the gap between the physical and digital worlds. While IoT offers substantial benefits such as enhanced efficiency, convenience, and resource optimization, it also presents challenges, particularly in terms of data security, privacy, and implementation costs. This paper delves into the advancements in IoT, its diverse applications, potential challenges, and the future prospects of this rapidly evolving field, providing a comprehensive exploration of its societal and industrial impact.

Keywords: - Internet of Things, LPWAN, 5G Communication, Blockchain, RFID.

I. INTRODUCTION

The term "Internet of Things" encompasses a wide range of concepts. Ideas are brought to life in a variety of ways, which may add value to a wide range of goods, services, processes, and end-user applications. IoT is one of the fastest developing technological disciplines, affecting practically every sector of the global economy, and represents a significant investment for business, government, and academia [1]. As well as work directly with physical and virtual resources across the internet to deliver data and functions to end users and apps. The Internet of Things (IoT) has played a key role in improving human lives by allowing apps to be used in the real world. In business perspective, IOT plays a vital role in promoting company's objectives by simplifying daily operations.

Different sectors include agriculture, health and logistic. The benefits also include time saving and efficiency improvement. Over the next several years, the number of applications based on IoT and cloud computing is expected to skyrocket. IoT-based services must fulfill certain quality standards to ensure that the quality of service (QoS) meets the needs of the users [2].

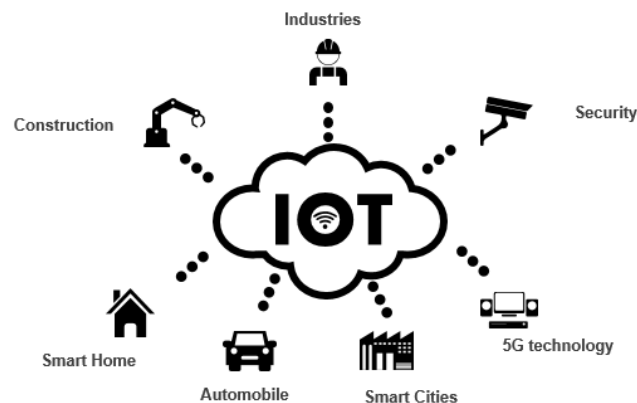


Fig. 1. IoT Different Applications

II. HISTORY AND FUTURE

The Internet of Things (IoT) represents a ground breaking advancement in device interconnectivity, allowing seamless communication and data exchange via the internet. The roots of IoT can be traced to the early 1980s, a period that saw the emergence of the first internet-linked devices and the foundational networking technology, ARPANET. The term "Internet of Things," however, was officially coined in 1999 by Kevin Ashton during his tenure at Procter & Gamble. Ashton's work focused on leveraging Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) technology to improve supply chain operations. This concept highlighted the transformative potential of everyday

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objects independently gathering and sharing data, thereby enabling more informed and efficient decision-making processes. [3,4].

The early 2000s witnessed significant advancements in sensor technology, wireless communication, and data analytics, which were instrumental in the proliferation of IoT. The introduction of IPv6 in 2010 expanded the address space available for devices, allowing for an unprecedented number of connections and enabling the widespread adoption of smart devices across various sectors, including healthcare, agriculture, and smart cities.

As IoT gained traction in the mid-2010s, major technology companies began investing heavily in IoT platforms and solutions. The convergence of cloud computing and big data analytics allowed for the processing and analysis of vast amounts of data generated by IoT devices, leading to improved insights and operational efficiencies. The emergence of standards and protocols such as MQTT and CoAP further streamlined communication between devices, promoting interoperability [3,4,5].

In the present day, IoT continues to evolve, driven by advancements in artificial intelligence, machine learning, and edge computing, which enhance the capabilities of IoT systems. These technologies facilitate real-time data processing and decision-making at the edge of the network, while the rollout of 5G networks is poised to revolutionize IoT by providing the high-speed connectivity essential for more complex applications, including autonomous vehicles and smart industrial automation [6].

The historical development of IoT illustrates its transformation from early networking concepts to a sophisticated ecosystem of interconnected devices, paving the way for innovative applications that enhance efficiency, productivity, and quality of life across multiple domains [5,6,7].

The concept of the "Internet of Things" took center stage at Europe's largest internet conference, LeWeb, the following year. At that time, prominent technology outlets like Forbes, Fast Company, and Wired began using the term to describe the emerging trend. A report from IDC, published in October 2013, projected that the Internet of Things industry would reach a value of \$8.9 trillion by 2020. The term gained even more prominence when Google announced in January 2014 its acquisition of Nest for \$3.2 billion. Around the same period, the Consumer Electronics Show (CES) in Las Vegas also focused on IoT. [8]. When it comes to the future of IoT, the Internet of Things (IoT) has grown in popularity across several industries, a slew of new technologies has emerged to aid this endeavor. Wireless systems, for example, allowed for the employment of various communication protocols in order to achieve the objective of sending data consistently, more cost effectively, and over larger distances. IoT has become a need in everyday life, ranging from a single house with only a few IoT devices linked to the network, such as a smart light bulb or a smart thermostat, to a complicated system that can regulate power grids across.

The Internet of Things (IoT) is projected to transform the way the world runs in the future, more than any other developing technology. It will link all gadgets through massive networks that will be able to communicate, analyze, and make intelligent choices with minimum human intervention. IoT, along with other AI and Blockchain technologies, will revolutionize business, leisure, health, and society [9]. We are now confronting the next breakthrough that will revolutionize our everyday life, a decade after the launch of this technology. Our capacity to communicate will not be limited to only mobile devices with the emergence of the Internet of Things (IoT). Rather, it will encompass all of the objects with which we share space. IoT-related services and platforms have been the subject of several research [10].

III. 5G IMPACT ON IOT

The advent of 5G technology marks a significant milestone in the evolution of the Internet of Things (IoT). With ultra-fast speeds, lower latency, and enhanced connectivity, 5G has the potential to revolutionize IoT applications across various industries. It enables the seamless transfer of massive amounts of data in real time, allowing IoT devices to function more efficiently and effectively. Critical applications, such as autonomous vehicles, smart cities, and advanced healthcare systems, stand to benefit immensely from the reliability and scalability of 5G networks. For instance, driverless cars equipped with sensors and cameras can leverage 5G for real-time communication with GPS and other vehicles, enhancing safety and efficiency. Additionally, the telecommunications sector is expected to witness exponential growth as 5G enables widespread deployment of IoT-enabled devices, contributing to greater innovation and smarter ecosystems. By addressing existing limitations in connectivity and data handling, 5G serves as a foundational enabler for the next wave of IoT advancements. [11].

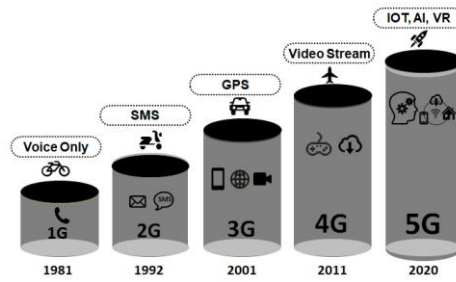


Fig. 2. 5G Development

The evolution of mobile communication technologies from 1G to 5G represents a significant transformation in the capabilities and functionalities of wireless networks. Each generation has introduced substantial advancements in terms of speed, capacity, latency, and services offered. Table 1 show a comprehensive overview of the key characteristics of each generation:

Table 1: 5g Services

Generation	Year Introduced	Key Features	Data Rate	Applications
1G	1980s	Analog voice communication, limited capacity, no data services.	Up to 2.4 kbps	Voice calls only.
2G	Early 1990s	Digital voice, SMS, and basic data services (GPRS).	Up to 64 kbps	SMS, basic internet access.
3G	Early 2000s	Enhanced data rates, mobile internet access, multimedia services (UMTS).	Up to 2 Mbps	Mobile web browsing, video calling.
4G	Late 2000s	High-speed broadband, IP-based services, low latency (LTE).	Up to 1 Gbps	HD video streaming, online gaming.
5G	2020s	Ultra-high speed, massive device connectivity, low latency, support for IoT.	Up to 10 Gbps	Smart cities, autonomous vehicles, advanced IoT applications.

IV. ADVANTAGES AND BENEFITS

Internet of things has many benefits. The usage of the Internet enables virtual contact throughout the globe. The Internet of Things aims to enable communication between any sort of physical equipment, wherever it uses any networking protocol [7]. In the present period, a Blockchain system that is particularly important in the supply chain sector, maintains both intact privacy and efficiency in particular, because of its streamlined nature.

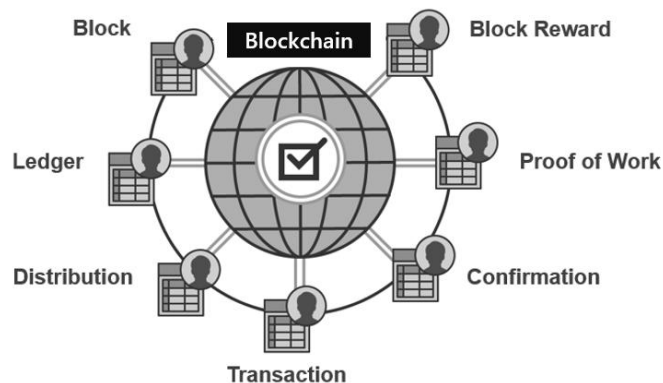


Fig. 3. Blockchain Process

Blockchain is often regarded as a revolutionary technology with the capacity to reshape how society conducts transactions and communicates. Its appeal lies in enabling entities that lack mutual trust to exchange value and share information securely, without relying on a centralized authority. Moreover, Blockchain ensures data integrity and transparency in processes, making it a valuable tool for various applications.

The role of Blockchain in enhancing security within the Internet of Things (IoT) ecosystem is particularly noteworthy. This paper explores the core mechanisms linking Blockchain to IoT security, highlighting how decentralized solutions can address vulnerabilities inherent in traditional IoT frameworks that primarily depend on centralized cloud servers. Real-world applications demonstrate that Blockchain's decentralized architecture reduces risks of tampering and manipulation by malicious actors.

Special focus is placed on Blockchain-based systems for identity and access management as a means to mitigate key IoT security challenges. Additionally, Blockchain, when integrated with IoT frameworks, offers a promising solution to the inefficiencies and complexities faced by modern supply chains. This integration enhances the overall performance of supply networks by facilitating seamless connections between various supply chain components, improving transparency, and reducing instances of misconduct across the network.

By addressing these challenges, Blockchain and IoT integration has the potential to optimize supply chain efficiency and security, offering transformative benefits across sectors [12].

Moreover, a trend towards smart farming is driven by the rise in the worldwide population. Increased climatic conditions, along with depleting natural resources and a limited supply of arable soil, make food security a key worry for most countries. In order to improve operations and production in the agriculture industry, usage of IoT and data analysis is implemented. A paradigm shift from using WIFI as a key driver of clever farming to using IoT and DA is under way. IoT incorporates a range of current technologies, including WSN, radio frequency identification, cloud, middleware and end-user applications [13].

Furthermore, a sales channel has two main functions: providing clients with information and items. Retail Omni channel facilitates the disconnection of both tasks, since customers can learn about items via channels which differ from those used to buy them. In order to

meet the rapidly evolving demand and supply, this division calls for sophisticated inventory and supply chain management, and integrating all customer touchpoints. The Internet of Things (IoT), which allows organizations to reconcile supply and demand, can play an essential role in channel integration [14].

Additionally, it might be useful to both an individual and a community to integrate IoT into the health sector. Hospitals may monitor signals requiring immediate care from anywhere. Individuals might also have a permanent inspection to prevent unwanted situations. Patients are given the knowledge they need and require from different bodies on how best to safeguard and treat them hygienically; this enhances personal hygiene in everyone. The use of IoT will assist increase the safety

of life (personnel security) at home, schools as well as offices, and all across the world. The owner may monitor homes and other properties, such as automobiles from anywhere. Even children can be tracked at work or elsewhere at school by parents. The movement of vehicles may be monitored and emergency calls made to rescue the situation in the event of disaster or accidents. Banks can also have their rooms guarded with IoT in financial institutions or bullion vehicles. Lastly, in business, adoption of IoT will certainly boost the interest rate, and the consumer of a product may be readily tracked. The asses and inventory control might be also beneficial [15].

V. CHALLENGES OF IOT

While the Internet of Things (IoT) offers numerous benefits, it also presents several challenges and risks. A key concern is the potential for hackers to breach the system and steal data, creating privacy issues. Cybercriminals can gain access to sensitive information on IoT devices without needing to physically tamper with the device's casing. They can instead exploit security vulnerabilities found in many IoT systems. Common issues include default passwords that haven't been changed, outdated software, and other significant security gaps. In 2017, hackers accessed a casino's network through an IoT thermostat located in a fish tank, compromising its data. In more alarming cases, parents have reported incidents where outsiders used IoT baby monitors to interact with their children remotely over the internet. [16].

As people become more reliant on click-based activities, they are increasingly resistant to physical exercise or the application of science in their daily lives. Low-wage workers, particularly those in unskilled jobs, are at a higher risk of losing employment. Government regulations often struggle to keep pace with technological advancements, and this gap is widening as the Internet of Things (IoT) continues to evolve rapidly. As a result, businesses frequently lack the essential data needed to make informed decisions. One of the major issues contributing to the

IoT's security risks is the lack of comprehensive regulations, and the situation is expected to worsen as the number of connected devices grows, encompassing more critical infrastructure. The potential for catastrophic scenarios increases as everyday items like medical devices, cars, and children's toys become interconnected [17].

The IoT landscape is also characterized by intense competition among various technologies, which can be both beneficial for consumers, providing more choices, and challenging due to compatibility issues. For example, Bluetooth has long been the standard for ensuring interoperability between IoT devices. Named after the Viking king Harald Bluetooth, who united tribes, Bluetooth is now facing its own challenges as the IoT market grows. It could take years for a single, unified standard for home IoT networks to emerge.

Furthermore, IoT faces significant connectivity issues. Analysts are concerned that as the industry expands, bandwidth-heavy applications like video streaming may overwhelm the existing server-client framework. This system relies on centralized servers to authenticate and direct traffic across networks. However, as the number of connected devices continues to increase, these servers are often overloaded, potentially hindering the growth and efficiency of the IoT ecosystem [18].

The Internet of Things (IoT) is a broad field that includes a wide range of innovations, each distinct and varied in nature. Since the concept is still evolving, defining its exact boundaries and determining which technologies belong to it can be difficult, if not impossible. For simplicity, if we consider IoT as a collection of "interconnected smart devices," we can direct our focus toward communication technologies, which enhance how these devices connect with each other. Alternatively, we can explore the "smart device" aspect, which covers advancements in energy harvesting and efficiency, as well as the miniaturization of printed circuits, among other developments. [17,18].

VI. APPLICATIONS AND USES OF IOT

In recent years, numerous industrial applications of the Internet of Things (IoT) have been designed and implemented. The evolution began with technologies like RFID, which use microchips to wirelessly transmit identifying information to a reader. RFID scanners enable the quick identification, tracking, and monitoring of objects equipped with RFID tags. Similarly, wireless sensor networks (WSNs) utilize interconnected smart sensors to gather and analyze data. These networks are widely used for purposes such as environmental monitoring, industrial processes, and traffic management. Both RFID and WSN are foundational technologies driving the advancement of IoT. The integration of IoT with Artificial Intelligence represents another major development, leading to applications in diverse fields such as smart transportation, urban development, healthcare, education, and even gaming. In the past, interactive response systems relied on infrared or radio frequency (RF) wireless communication to capture student responses and relay them to teacher management platforms. However, these systems were costly, cumbersome, and challenging to implement. With advancements in IoT, improving the quality of higher education has become a prominent topic in academic research [19,20].

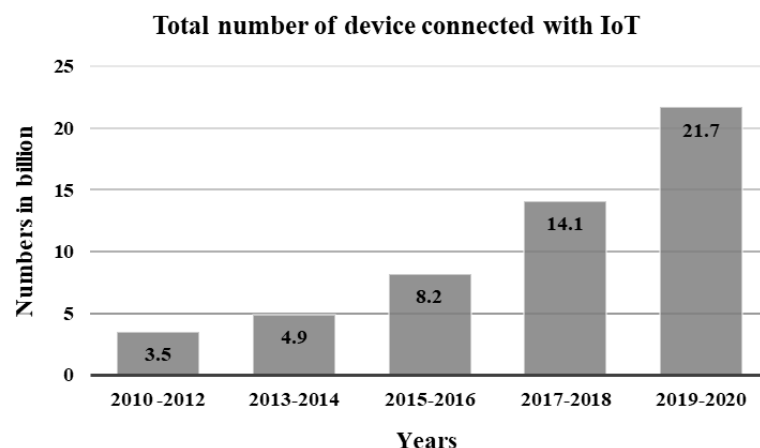


Fig. 4. Total number of device connected with IoT

The above graph shows that the number of IoT-connected devices is increasing, With more than 2 billion devices in the past five years. The number of linked devices in 2010 did not surpass one billion. After ten years, the number had more than tenfold increased. Despite the current Covid-19 epidemic, the Internet of Things business is still growing. More than 30 billion devices are connected to IoT are projected by 2025, with nearly four IoT devices per person on average.

When discussing IoT systems, one of the most impactful and widely embraced applications is the Smart Home. It consistently stands out as a leading IoT innovation across various sectors. Interest in smart homes continues to grow significantly, with an estimated 60,000 new searches each month. Additionally, the IoT Analytics database includes 256 companies and startups focused on smart home solutions, reflecting its prominence. More businesses are actively pursuing smart home technologies compared to other IoT-related applications [21].

The concept of a Smart City, as its name suggests, represents a transformative innovation encompassing diverse areas such as water management, traffic regulation, waste disposal, environmental protection, and urban safety. Its appeal lies in addressing the everyday challenges faced by urban residents. IoT solutions for smart cities are designed to mitigate issues like traffic congestion, reduce pollution levels, and enhance overall safety. By tackling these urban challenges, smart city initiatives create a more sustainable and efficient urban environment.

The Industrial Internet focuses on connecting devices and systems in industries such as power generation, oil and gas, and healthcare. It plays a critical role in preventing unexpected downtimes and system failures, which could have severe consequences, including risks to human lives.

IoT-enabled devices such as fitness trackers or smart appliances offer users convenience and functionality. However, they can be less dependable in critical scenarios where system malfunctions may occur. In healthcare, IoT applications include remote monitoring systems, advanced sensors, and seamless equipment integration. These innovations are revolutionizing medical care by enabling enhanced communication between patients and doctors, improving patient engagement, and ensuring safety. From wearable fitness trackers to surgical robotics, IoT empowers healthcare providers with cutting-edge tools to deliver better care. Ultimately, IoT in healthcare fosters more cost-efficient solutions, benefiting both patients and professionals [22].

VII. IMPACT OF IOT

The Internet of Things (IoT) is poised to bring substantial benefits to individuals, businesses, and economies. Its influence extends from helping governments reduce healthcare expenses and enhancing living standards to minimizing carbon emissions, expanding access to education in remote areas, and elevating transportation systems. However, like any technological advancement, IoT is not without challenges. It presents certain risks that, if left unaddressed, could have far-reaching consequences on a global scale [23].

7.1 Impact of IoT on Environment:

The Internet of Things (IoT) plays a crucial role in improving environmental management by facilitating more efficient monitoring and control of natural resources. IoT sensors, installed across various ecosystems, gather real-time data on environmental factors such as air and water quality, soil moisture, and energy usage. This information helps cities and organizations streamline resource consumption, minimize waste, and adopt environmentally friendly policies. For example, smart grids leverage IoT technology to track energy usage patterns and enhance electricity distribution, reducing energy waste and cutting down greenhouse gas emissions. In agriculture, IoT devices can track crop health and soil conditions, enabling farmers to optimize irrigation and fertilizer use, thereby reducing runoff and conserving resources. Furthermore, IoT-powered waste management systems monitor waste levels in containers, improving collection routes and schedules, which leads to less fuel consumption and lower emissions from waste collection activities. However, the proliferation of IoT devices raises environmental concerns, particularly related to battery disposal and electronic waste. The increasing number of devices necessitates a significant volume of batteries, which can contribute to landfill waste if not managed properly. Therefore, while IoT offers substantial environmental benefits, it also presents challenges that require sustainable practices to mitigate its ecological footprint. [18,19].

7.2 Impact of IoT on Economy:

IoT has a profound economic impact, contributing to increased productivity and efficiency across various industries. By streamlining operations and enabling data-driven decision-making, IoT technologies can enhance productivity by approximately 0.2 percent of GDP, with the manufacturing sector being one of the primary beneficiaries. IoT applications in manufacturing, such as predictive maintenance and real-time monitoring, help companies reduce downtime, optimize supply chains, and lower operational costs.

Moreover, IoT fosters innovation by enabling the development of new business models and services. Companies can leverage IoT data to create value-added services, such as smart logistics and personalized customer experiences, driving revenue growth. However, the economic impact of IoT is not without challenges. The automation and efficiency gains associated with IoT may lead to job displacement in certain sectors, raising concerns about employment losses. For instance, studies indicate that the adoption of IoT technologies could result

in significant job reductions in specific industries, necessitating workforce retraining and adaptation strategies. [19,20,21].

7.3 Impact of IoT on Society:

The Internet of Things (IoT) has brought significant changes to various aspects of society, enhancing daily life and promoting safety. In smart homes, IoT technology enables automated management of systems such as lighting, heating, and security. This not only provides convenience for residents but also reduces energy usage by aligning consumption with occupancy patterns. By learning user preferences, these systems further optimize energy efficiency [20,22,23].

In the healthcare sector, IoT devices play a pivotal role in remote monitoring, allowing healthcare providers to track patient health metrics and manage chronic illnesses effectively. These advancements improve patient care while easing the workload on healthcare facilities, enabling better allocation of resources and more efficient service delivery [23,24].

IoT also contributes to public safety through its integration in smart city projects. Connected systems, like intelligent traffic lights and surveillance networks, enhance urban management by improving traffic flow and emergency response times. For instance, real-time traffic data can be analyzed to adjust signal timings, reducing congestion and improving safety for both drivers and pedestrians.

In summary, IoT has a profound impact on the environment, economy, and society, offering significant benefits such as sustainability, economic growth, and improved living standards. However, the challenges of ensuring data security and privacy must be carefully managed to fully realize its potential.

VIII. CONCLUSION

The Internet of Things (IoT) has emerged as a pivotal technology driving the digital transformation of various industries. By enabling seamless connectivity and automation, IoT enhances efficiency and improves daily operations for individuals, businesses, and governments. Its applications span multiple sectors, including healthcare, urban development, and smart infrastructure, contributing to a smarter and more connected society. However, along with its benefits, IoT also poses significant challenges, particularly regarding data security and privacy, which must be addressed to ensure sustainable and secure adoption. Looking ahead, IoT is expected to evolve further, integrating with advanced technologies such as artificial intelligence and blockchain, paving the way for more innovative solutions and expanding its role in shaping the future of technology and connectivity.

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