Development of Fire Detection Technologies

Magda I. El Afifi

1Assistant Professor - ECE department - Nile Higher Institute for Engineering and Technology

2ECE department - Nile Higher Institute for Engineering and Technology

3Teaching Assistant - ECE department - Nile Higher Institute for Engineering and Technology

Abstract

Advancements in data technology, identifiers, and microelectronics, coupled with a deeper understanding of fire physical science, have significantly contributed to significant growth in the fire identification technology over the past decade. In practice, fire identification technology encounters obstacles such as mitigating deceptive issues, increasing responsiveness through dynamic response, and enabling extremely expensive and complex structures to more easily protect the public and comply with evolving regulations. Provision of shields. The purpose of this article is to examine the fluctuations in innovative endeavours within the field of fire identification, such as advancements in sensor architectures, fire data management, and screen technology that incorporate fire recognition frameworks. Our article examines the recent developments in fire identification technology, including emerging sensor, sign, and observation technologies, also unified fire recognition frameworks. A number of the issues that exist in the contemporary fire detection systems are examined, along with the prospective avenues for this research.

Index terms - Fire Detection, Technology, sensors, Artificial intelligence.

I. Introduction

Recently, several novel fire identification approaches and concepts have been developed as a result of advancements in identification technology, microelectronics, various correspondence developments, and a deeper understanding of fire physical science. Presently, strategies are available for observation with all intents and purposes.

For example, any stable vaporous species produced prior to or during consumption. Distributed fiber optical temperature sensors were developed to provide fire protection in locations with challenging environmental conditions, such as subways, stations, and passageways [1]–[3]. In order to discern fire from non-threatening or deceptive occurrences, an intelligent system has the capability of concurrently analysing multiple fire attributes, including flame, heat, and CO signals [4], [5]. Frequently, fire detection apparatus is integrated with other building systems to facilitate firefighting, eliminate false alarms, and accelerate building evacuation. As a result of developments in fire detection technologies, property and live losses attributable to fire have decreased substantially [6], [7]. Based on data from the National Fire Protection Association, there was a 45.3% reduction in serious house fires in the United States over a span of twenty-one years, from 723,500 in 1977 to 395,500.00 in 1997. This decline can be attributed, at least in part, to the implementation of more affordable fire detectors in residential properties [8]–[11]. Insulating and building materials, along with furnishings and furniture, have shifted away from natural materials such as cotton and wood over the past decade. As a result, there has been a substantial escalation in the peril to life and property, due to the fact that synthetic materials not only release highly lethal compounds and noxious smoke, but also monoxide at concentrations considerably greater than those of natural materials, which substantially reduces the time available for evacuating [5], [12]. An increasing number of critical infrastructures, including telecommunications apparatus, are situated in remote and unattended locations. Furthermore, fires are causing an increasing cost of service interruption [4], [13]. Costing millions of dollars, electrical hazards at a Bell Canada switchboard in Toronto in 1999 and the
CDNX's operation centre in Montreal in 2000, for example, disrupted nationwide communications, halted stock trading activities, and also partially halted federal agencies, merchants, police, and businesses. [14]–[19].

In recent years, the prevalence of bogus fire alarms aboard aircraft has also increased dramatically. Indirect losses included a heightened likelihood of arriving at an unfamiliar or unsuitable airport for take-off, augmented dangers for passengers or crew members during the evacuation process, and a diminished confidence in fire alarm systems. Frequently, fires are not identified until they have advanced to the extent that they resulted in substantial property destruction or fatalities. The 1998 Swissair disaster in Peggy's Cove, Nova Scotia, resulted in the loss of life of all 229 crew members and passengers. The fire was triggered by malfunctioning electrical equipment, which occurred in an inaccessible area and was not promptly identified and retrieved [20]–[22].

A. Emerging Sensor Technology

1) Heat sensors

For fire protection applications, diffused fiber optic temperature detectors are among the most recent and most promising thermal detection devices. Altering these physical parameters influences the refractive indices and geometric properties of optical fibers, which in turn impact the phases, polarization, and concentration of light waves as they propagate through the fiber optic cable. Furthermore, these parameters can be utilized to regulate temperature and detect strain. A tensile force is additionally exerted on the fiber optic cable. In contrast to conventional heat detectors, the distributed optical fibre sensor utilizes the complete length of the optical fibre as its sensing medium. Temperature can be assessed at each location along the length of the fiber cable. The sole constraint pertains to the endurance of the fiber, specifically its primary coating, which varies between -160.00 and 800°C. Compared to conventional thermal detectors, optical fiber sensor wire responds to temperature changes more rapidly due to its diminutive size. Due to its durability, adaptability, and resistance to a diverse array of geometries, fiber cable can be immediately installed in close proximity to or within fortified structures. Additionally, it resists every form of interference. The adaptability of the irregular measuring site and the high spatial temperature monitoring resolution could be advantageous for fire detection, sizing, and other applications. Networked fiber optic temperature sensors for detecting Whitley and Raman light refracting flames were developed in the late 1980s. Tunnels, stations (including underground trains), conveyor lines, steelworks, and petroleum factories, all of which are exposed to severe environmental conditions, have been protected with them [23]. The identification of spread optic filaments on Rayleigh dissipating involves distinguishing fluctuations in the amount of reflected light by estimating the temperature at which the fiber becomes finely twisted due to heating. Ericsson, a Swedish company, has developed a sensor link in consideration of Rayleigh dissipation. A protective cover garment, an optical fiber, and a tube filled with wax are the three essential components. The optical fiber is linked to a conduit filled with wax through a string that traverses in a corresponding manner. The amount of reflected light is influenced by the dissolution and expansion of the wax in the cylinder when the link gathering is heated. The framework's most extreme detection range is two kilometres. When the heated wire is approximately 0.20 meters in length, it possesses the capability to locate the location of the fire with a precision of approximately 1 meter. The sensor wire can withstand temperatures between -20.00 and 120.00 °C. The fundamental issue with the framework is that it fails to provide data on temperature increase over time and has only one temperature range of 40 °C to 90 °C for alarm initiation, resulting in insufficient fire response capability. Furthermore, the detecting wire is deformed due to the wax-filled tube's rigidity. Rayleigh dissipating optics find widespread applicability in underground construction and street passageways, among others [24-30].

Heat detectors come in many varieties. Some just set off at a certain degree of heat. Once it gets to a certain temperature most heat detectors have a heat sensitive element that "pops" when the temperature is reached. Here we feature heat detectors that trip when the temperature reaches 135 degrees or 194 degrees. There are other heat detectors which not only sense a certain temperature when it's reached but also can sense when the temperature rises at a certain rate of speed. These heat detectors contain two elements referred to as thermocouples. One thermocouple monitors heat transferred by convection or radiation while the other responds to ambient temperature. The detector responds when the first sensing element's temperature increases relative to the other. You can get this type of heat detector in 135 degrees or 194 degrees models as well.
2) Smoke Detectors

In contrast to alternative fire signals, smoke is generated considerably more rapidly throughout the inception and advancement of a fire. Proximity in detecting smoke at extremely low concentrations could potentially enhance options for firefighting, evasion, and endurance. By means of particle communication, such as light emission or electromagnetic radiation, smoke can be distinguished. The mass thickness, volume division, and size distribution of smoke are critical attributes in the process of smoke identification. Due to the substantial disparity in architecture and composition between the flares’ discharges, a smoke alarm ought to possess the capability to differentiate between explosive and exploding ignition. Smoke produced by fire ignition contains smaller particles of ignition components than smoke generated by a smoldering fire [31-40].

Sucked with smoke, the identifier may be positioned in close proximity to the detecting site or far from the differentiating zone. Compartment of Ionization Upon the arrival of smoke particles at the electron firearm, the ICSD alters the current to retard the particle stream in response to a detected discharge. Climate moisture, temperature, and pressure all exert an impact on the formation of particles. To accomplish identification responsiveness, one type of ICSD with split ionization chambers has been developed, in which one compartment remains stationary and unaffected by external factors, while the other is exposed to test encompassing air. ICSD is frequently implemented in private residences due to its potential to offer enhanced security measures at a reduced expense. Conversely, the radioactive source may encounter dust particles, water droplets, and other objects that accumulate a portion of the supplied particles and impede the electric ebb and flow. This would lead to the issuance of fraudulent warnings by ICSD. Due to the fact that it distinguishes smoke particles between 0.010 and 1.00 microns in diameter, ICSD is susceptible to misinterpretation issues resulting from toast, bacon, and fundamental cooking. A few dissatisfied property owners have removed the batteries from their smoke detectors in an effort to avoid being duped. An additional aspect to consider when utilizing ICSD is that it comprises radioactive substances [41-45]. It could potentially cause environmental issues during removal. A replacement for the ionization smoke alarm continues to be sought. One of these initiatives is investigating the viability of creating a smoke detector that operates according to the ionization guideline rather than a radioactive source. The University of Duisburg in Germany devised an electrostatic smoke alarm due to the electric charge possessed by specific smoke particles generated during fires. In order to distinguish charged smoke particles, the electrostatic identifier can position the detecting terminal between two reference frames that are identical. Due to the significant reduction in charged smoke particles emitted by seething flames as the smoke produced by the rapidly cooling hot ignite diminished, the identifier was capable of distinguishing open exploding flames but not seething flames.

3) Flame Detector

A flame detector is a type of sensor that can detect and respond to the presence of a flame. These detectors have the ability to identify smokeless liquid and smoke that can create open fire. For example, in boiler furnaces flame detectors are widely used, as a flame detector can detect heat, smoke, and fire. These devices can also detect fire according to the air temperature and air movement. The flame detectors use Ultraviolet (UV) or Infra-Red (IR) technology to identify flames meaning they can alert to flames in less than a second. The flame detector would respond to the detection of a flame according to its installation, it could for example sound an alarm, deactivate the fuel line, or even activate a fire suppression system [46].

The major component of a flame detector system is the detector itself. It comprises of photoelectric detective circuits, signal conditioning circuits, microprocessor systems, I/O circuits, and wind cooling systems. The sensors in the flame detector will detect the radiation that is sent by the flame, the photoelectric converts the radiant intensity signal of the flame to a relevant voltage signal and this signal would be processed in a single chip microcomputer and converted into a desired output.

There are 3 different types of flame detector: Ultra-Violet, Infra-Red and a combination of them both Ultra-Violet-Infra-Red
A. Ultra-Violet (UV)

This type of flame detector works by detecting the UV radiation at the point of ignition. Almost entirely all fires emit UV radiations, so in case of the flame, the sensor would become aware of it and produce a series of the pulses that are converted by detector electronics into an alarm output \[47\]. There are advantages and disadvantages of a UV detector. Advantages of UV detector include High-speed response, the ability to respond to hydrocarbon, hydrogen, and metal fires. On the other hand, the disadvantages of UV detectors include responding to welding at long range, and they may also respond to lightning, sparks, etc.

B. Infra-Red (IR)

The infra-red flame detector works by checking the infrared spectral band for certain ornamentation that hot gases release. However, this type of device requires a flickering motion of the flame. The IR radiation may not only be emitted by flames, but may also be radiated from ovens, lamps, etc. Therefore, there is a higher risk for a false alarm.

C. UV-IR

This type of detector is capable to detect both the UV and IR radiations, so it possesses both the UV and IR sensor. The two sensors individually operate the same as those described, but supplementary both circuitry processes signals are present due to there being both sensors. Consequently, the combined detector has better false alarm rejection capability than the individual UV or IR detector \[48\]-\[50\].

Although there are advantages and disadvantages of UV/IR flame detector. Advantages include High-speed response and are immune to the false alarm. On the other hand, the disadvantages of UV/IR flame detector include the issue that it cannot be used for non-carbon fires as well as only being able to detect fires that emits both the UV/IR radiation not individually.

4) Gas Sensors

Due to the production of gases at each stage of combustion, fires can be distinguished with precision by analyzing their distinct gas signature. Open cellulosic flames sustaining pyrolysis (cellulosic) and cotton fires, open plastics fires (polyurethane), and liquid n-heptane and methyl spirits fires generated byproducts such as \(H_2\), CO, \(CO_2\), \(O_2\), and haze density. Oxygen concentrations varied significantly among seven distinct types of flames, with variations in oxygen level being negligible in the case of soldering fires but profound in the case of liquid fuel fires, which burned at a faster rate. They believe that, dependent on test results, gas sensors could be utilized to distinguish between blazing, soldering, and intermediate fires.

It is now possible to measure virtually every stable gaseous species produced prior to or during combustion using current technology. Chemical species can be discerned through optical, mechanical, electrical, and catalytic interactions, among others. Conversely, a significant proportion of the gases released during combustion originate naturally or are generated through benign combustion mechanisms. In addition, the sensor's high power consumption for differentiating specific gas signatures restricts its applicability as an inexpensive fire alarm system.

B. Technology for Signal Processing and Monitoring

The implementation of computerized reasoning technology has substantially elevated the reliability and effectiveness of fire detection hardware. The sensor receives a fire signal, which is evaluated by means of central processing technology. The result is then compared to a database of non-exclusive fire indicators and past information before generating a conclusion based on all available data. An astute program possesses the capability to concurrently analyse several fire indicators, including smoke, temperature, and CO signals, acquired from multiple sensors. Fire identification involves the use of complex calculations such as comparator, algorithmic examination, brain organizations, and airy thinking. At this time, there exist two distinct types of intelligent fire recognition systems: one that integrates fire signal information and autonomous guidance into the identifier, and the other that integrates fire distinguishing evidence and navigation into the board. In the context of medium to large-scale fire identification systems, investing in board knowledge is a prudent financial decision. Identifiers that do not require a microchip or other associated hardware are more direct and reliable. Due to the powerful focal processor that may be integrated into the control board, the framework is capable of performing complex computations and concentrating signal.
processing in order to identify fire signatures. A number of distinct addressable sensors will have the capability to exchange information and provide the panels with sensitivity levels that differ, in order to facilitate processing and decision-making [50-53]. Due to its alternative design, the sensor potentially possesses critical information that could be utilized for early fire detection, thereby augmenting the capabilities of fire detection while reducing the overall cost of the system. Elevated CO2 concentrations, for instance, may indicate an absence of ventilation within a given area; however, they may also be indicative of a fire.

C. Integrated Fire Finding Systems

The establishment of communication among building systems can be accomplished through the integration of a fire alarm system onto a unified backbone with other building systems. In addition to fire alarms and other building components, a variety of sources will emit fire signals. They will invariably be given precedence in the network. The integrated system's decision-making components will assess the situation and determine the required courses of action based on sensor inputs. The pertinent instructions will be conveyed to the sensors and other control apparatus within the system. In the event of a building fire, various fire protection systems, such as suppression systems, elevator recall, door release, and flashing evacuation signals, may be activated in response to fire detection and alarm systems. Integrated solutions may aid firefighters by accelerating building evacuees, decreasing false alarms, and reducing false alarms. The implementation of these modifications will increase the market for fire detection, alarm, and sprinkler systems while also ensuring the safety of individuals and property. There may be modifications to construction procedures as these technologies progress.

II. Discussion

Over the past decade, numerous innovative fire detection systems have been developed with the capacity to reduce false alarms, increase fire response sensitivity and dynamic nature, and ultimately enhance fire safety. Based on Brillion scattering, distributed fiber optic sensors have an extensive detection range, respond rapidly to temperature changes, and are impervious to all forms of interference emission. In addition to areas with restricted access or severe environmental conditions, it potentially possesses the capability to identify minor fires in such locations. However, additional research is necessary to enhance the system's spatial resolution and establish a dependable and economically viable distributed fiber optic fire alarm system. Video fire detection systems have demonstrated considerable advantages in relation to fire detection and monitoring, in addition to their versatility in handling multiple functions. With the progression of artificial intelligence algorithms and microelectronics technology, fire detectors are exhibiting an increasing level of sophistication in discerning fire from non-threatening or deceptive situations. By superseding the limitations of a single sensor, multiple sensors, such as heat and smoke sensors or a CO sensor, may aid in the improvement of fire detection by identifying a multitude of nuisance sources and enhancing detection capabilities for a broad spectrum of fire sources. Incorporating advanced fire signal processing capabilities and a sensor-driven fire model into contemporary switchboards has the potential to eradicate false alarms and provide more precise data regarding the spread of fire and pollution within the edifice. This will empower building operators and firefighters to evaluate fire-related incidents in the structure with greater precision and promptness, while also overseeing the evacuation of the house and managing flames. Using a mobile router or the Internet, fire prevention apparatus located outside the structure can be remotely controlled and monitored in real time.

III. Conclusion

At any time and from any location, the condition of the fire insurance framework and other structure frameworks can be assessed via the Internet or a remote organization. The management of fire protection systems in multiple buildings will be the responsibility of a single office. This will enhance operational efficiency and reduce costs associated with building management activities, facilitate the differentiation between fire and non-fire hazards, and increase the amount of time available for safeguarding personnel and property. However, in order to prevent the dissemination of fraudulent fire information to building owners and local fire departments, technology companies that utilize the Internet and building management systems administrators must carry security insurance.
Elevating the fire protection of the structure could be achieved through the integration of fire detection and warning systems with other building systems. The fire identification system should ideally operate in conjunction with other building systems, accurately identify fire and non-fire hazards, precisely locate the location of a fire within the structure, and provide continuous assessments of smoke and fire distribution throughout the building. However, reconciliation innovation may introduce novel hazards. For instance, sensor technology must be sufficiently dependable to prevent deceptive issues and safeguard critical data such as the location of passengers from being lost due to information overload in the event of a fire. In addition to prioritizing fire safety over other structure operations, integrated building systems will also be responsible for ensuring that fire emergencies do not disrupt the building administration system.

REFERENCES


