

Physics Research and Technology

Breakthrough Research and Technologies in Physics for a Sustainable Future



Koyel Ganguly
Soumyadipta Pal
Kamakhya Prasad Ghatak
Editors

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Contents

Preface	 ix
Chapter 1	The Challenge in the Third World Is Unseen Toxicology, Which Hinders Awareness About Hidden Health Threats.....1 Abhijit Kargupta, Goutam Ghoshal and Kakoli Dutta
Chapter 2	Simulation of Energy Loss in Proton Beam Therapy for Lung Cancer Treatment.....13 Arkabrata Gupta and Priya Chakraborty
Chapter 3	Unveiling the Novelty of Plasmon-Exciton Coupling in Hollow Gold Triangular Platelets and Cyanine Dye J-Aggregates Nanocomposites.....23 Arpan Maiti, Biswarup Gour and Spandan Aich
Chapter 4	Lung Pneumonia Detection: A U-Net Mobile Net-Based Sustainable Approach.....33 Arunima Patra, Krishnangshu Paul and Prithwineel Paul
Chapter 5	Solar Auto Drive: A Renewable Energy-Powered Electric Vehicle with Automated Mode Switching47 Asmita Dey, Anushka Pandit, Antara Mondal, Swapnonil Samui, Sulagna Jana and Arunava Mukhopadhyay
Chapter 6	Renewable Energy Solutions: Advances in Solar Cell Technology Using Graphene-Based Nanostructures61 Chandan Adhikari

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Chapter 7	DFT-Based Analysis of Toxic VOCs to Evaluate Their Structural Stability and Sustainability	81
	Indranil Maity, Aman Kumar Jha and Yash Shaw	
Chapter 8	Data Storage and Energy Harvesting with Low Energy Consumption: Utilising Nonvolatile Spintronic Devices	95
	Madhurima Sen, Koyel Ganguly and Saswati Barman	
Chapter 9	A Motion-Triggered Intelligent Lighting System for Sustainable Energy Usage on Airport Runways	113
	Mandakinee Bandyopadhyay, Priyanshu Paul and Alakananda Bandyopadhyay	
Chapter 10	Exploring Satellite Image Segmentation Techniques: A Sustainability Study	123
	Monalisa Dey, Chandril Adhikary and Soubik Ghosh	
Chapter 11	Enhancing the Sustainability of Electronic Systems: Reliability Assessment at Low Temperatures	137
	Abir Chatterjee, Nilanjan Chatterjee and Subhajit Das	
Chapter 12	A Sustainable Machine Learning Approach for Detecting CAD (Coronary Artery Disease) from Clinical ECG Features	147
	Prakash Banerjee, Soumyadeep Bala, Sarnava Dey and Abir Chattopadhyay	
Chapter 13	Ocean Energy: A Sustainable Frontier in the Indian Ocean.....	161
	Rahul Basu	
Chapter 14	Performance Analysis of a Bio-Fuel-Based Stove Using the Response Surface Method.....	177
	Rhythm Mukherjee, Rishita Das, Sougata Banerjee and Preeti Sharma	

Chapter 15	VHF Radar and Radiosonde Observations of the Tropical Tropopause	191
	Rina Dutta	
Chapter 16	Application of the Collaborative Method of Infrastructure Management System Using BIM for AEC Projects	203
	Rishita Das, Rhythm Mukherjee, Sougata Banerjee and Preeti Sharma	
Chapter 17	Competitive Removal of Heavy Metals from Leachate Using Plastic Pyrolysed Char	215
	A. Safa Jabeen, V. Meera and Vinod P. Raphael	
Chapter 18	Investigation of Unconventional Magnetism in Iridates	233
	Shreemoyee Ganguly	
Chapter 19	Assessing Seasonal Vegetation Dynamics for Sustainable Ecosystem Management: A Comparative Analysis of NDVI, NDMI, NDWI, and AMMI Indices on Henry Island.....	243
	Shreyashi Das and Anindita Das Bhattacharjee	
Chapter 20	A Comprehensive Review of Nanocomposites as a Potential Candidate for Biosensors	261
	Subarna Datta and Soumyadipta Pal	
Chapter 21	An Overview of Nuclear Energy, Along with Its Sustainability, Damage-Control Techniques, and Applications.....	299
	Subhajit Samaddar, Debiprasad Jana and Malay Purkait	
Chapter 22	Nanotechnology for Environmental Remediation	313
	Sujeet Kumar Pandey	

Chapter 23	Integrative Research in Microbiology, Molecular Biology, and Nanotechnology: A Multidisciplinary Approach to Cancer Biology, Biofilm Management, and Diagnostic Sustainability	331
	Arnab Sengupta, Saikat Mazumder, Moupriya Nag and Dibyajit Lahiri	
About the Editors.....		349
Index		351

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Chapter 7

DFT-Based Analysis of Toxic VOCs to Evaluate Their Structural Stability and Sustainability

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Abstract

This study describes the electronic properties of two industrially important VOCs, categorised as toxic pollutants, namely ethane and toluene. Density Functional Theory (DFT) calculations were performed on both compounds using Gaussian 09W and GaussView 6.0, with an emphasis on key electronic parameters. It covered the molecular orbitals (MOs), molecular electrostatic potential (MEP), band structure, infrared (IR) spectra and electron localisation function (ELF). From IR spectra analysis, it was found that the symmetry was much higher in ethane than in toluene. The energy gap for molecular orbitals was obtained as +0.452 Hartree for ethane and +0.241 Hartree for toluene. Ethane was chosen here due to its widespread presence in industrial processes and natural gas, making it a relevant baseline for comparative analysis. Toluene, on the other hand, is a more toxic aromatic compound commonly found in solvents and fuel emissions, necessitating closer investigation of its electronic properties. It presents an essential study on the identification and detailed characterisation of these toxic VOCs, which is crucial for

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