



Grove - Gas Sensor (MQ3)

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Wiki: [http://www.seeedstudio.com/wiki/Grove - Gas Sensor\(MQ3\)](http://www.seeedstudio.com/wiki/Grove_-_Gas_Sensor(MQ3))

Bazaar: <http://www.seeedstudio.com/depot/Grove-Gas-SensorMQ3-p-1418.html>

Document Revision History

Revision	Date	Author	Description
1.0	Sep 21, 2015	Victor.He	Create file

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Under the supervision of Seeed Technology Inc., this manual has been compiled and published which covered the latest product description and specification. The content of this manual is subject to change without notice.

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1. Introduction

The Grove - Gas Sensor (MQ3) module is useful for gas leakage detecting (in home and industry). It can detect Alcohol, Benzine, CH₄, Hexane, LPG, CO. Based on its fast response time. Measurements can be taken as soon as possible. Also the sensitivity can be adjusted by the potentiometer.



2. Features

- High sensitivity to alcohol and small sensitivity to Benzine
- Stable and long life
- Fast response and High sensitivity

3. Application Ideas

- They are suitable for alcohol checker, Breathalyser.
- Toys

4. Mechanic Dimensions

Electronic Characteristics

Items	Parameter name	Min	Type	Max	Unit
System Characteristics					
VCC	Working Voltage	4.9	5	5.1	V
PH	Heating consumption	0.5	-	750	mW
RL	Load resistance		can adjust		
RH	Heater resistance	-	33	-	Ω
Rs	Sensing Resistance	1	-	8	M Ω
Scope	Detecting Concentration	0.05	-	10	mg/L

5. Usage

5.1 Suggest Reading for Starter

[Download Arduino and install Arduino driver](#)

[Getting Started with Seeeduino](#)

[How to choose a Gas Sensor](#)

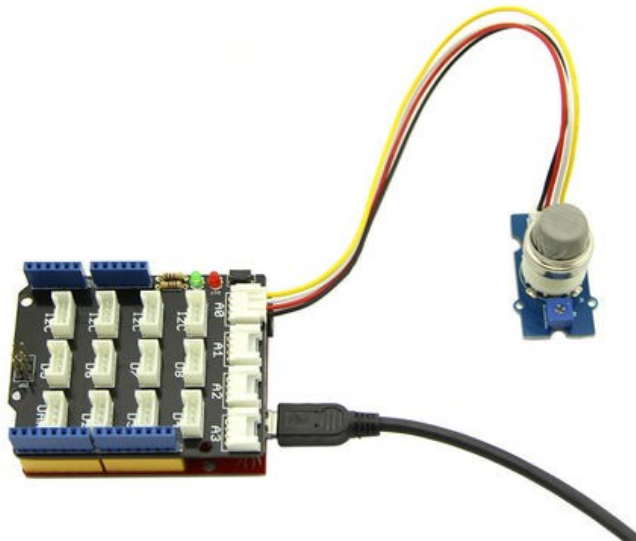
[What's LEL](#)

5.2 Hardware Installation

Grove products have a eco system and all have a same connector which can plug onto the [Base Shield](#). Connect this module to the A0 port of Base Shield, however, you can also connect Gas sensor to Arduino without Base Shield by jumper wires.

Arduino UNO	Gas Sensor
5V	VCC
GND	GND
NC	NC
Analog A0	SIG

You can gain the present voltage through the SIG pin of sensor. The higher the concentration of the gas, the bigger the output voltage of the SIG pin. Sensitivity can be regulated by rotating the potentiometer. **Please note the best preheat time of the sensor is above 24 hours.** For the detailed information about the MQ-3 sensor please refer to the datasheet.



5.3 How to use

There're two steps you need to do before getting the concentration of gas.

First, connect the module with Grove Shield using A0 like the picture above. And put the sensor in a clear air and use the program below.

```
void setup() {
  Serial.begin(9600);
}

void loop() {
  float sensor_volt;
  float RS_air; // Get the value of RS via in a clear air
  float R0; // Get the value of R0 via in Alcohol
  float sensorValue;

  /*--- Get a average data by testing 100 times ---*/
  for(int x = 0 ; x < 100 ; x++)
  {
    sensorValue = sensorValue + analogRead(A0);
  }
  sensorValue = sensorValue/100.0;
  /*-----*/

  sensor_volt = sensorValue/1024*5.0;
  RS_air = (5.0-sensor_volt)/sensor_volt; // omit *RL
  R0 = RS_air/70.0; // The ratio of RS/R0 is 70 in a clear air

  Serial.print("sensor_volt = ");
  Serial.print(sensor_volt);
  Serial.println("V");

  Serial.print("R0 = ");
  Serial.println(R0);
  delay(1000);
}
```

Then, open the monitor of Arduino IDE, you can see some data are printed, write down the value of R0 and you need to use it in the following program. During this step, you may pay a while time to test the value of R0.

Second, put the sensor in one gas where the environment you want to test in. However, don't forget to replace the R0 below with value of R0 tested above

```

void setup() {
  Serial.begin(9600);
}

void loop() {

  float sensor_volt;
  float RS_gas; // Get value of RS in a GAS
  float ratio; // Get ratio RS_GAS/RS_air
  int sensorValue = analogRead(A0);
  sensor_volt=(float)sensorValue/1024*5.0;
  RS_gas = (5.0-sensor_volt)/sensor_volt; // omit *RL

  /*-Replace the name "R0" with the value of R0 in the demo of First
Test -*/
  ratio = RS_gas/R0; // ratio = RS/R0
  /*-----*
-----*/

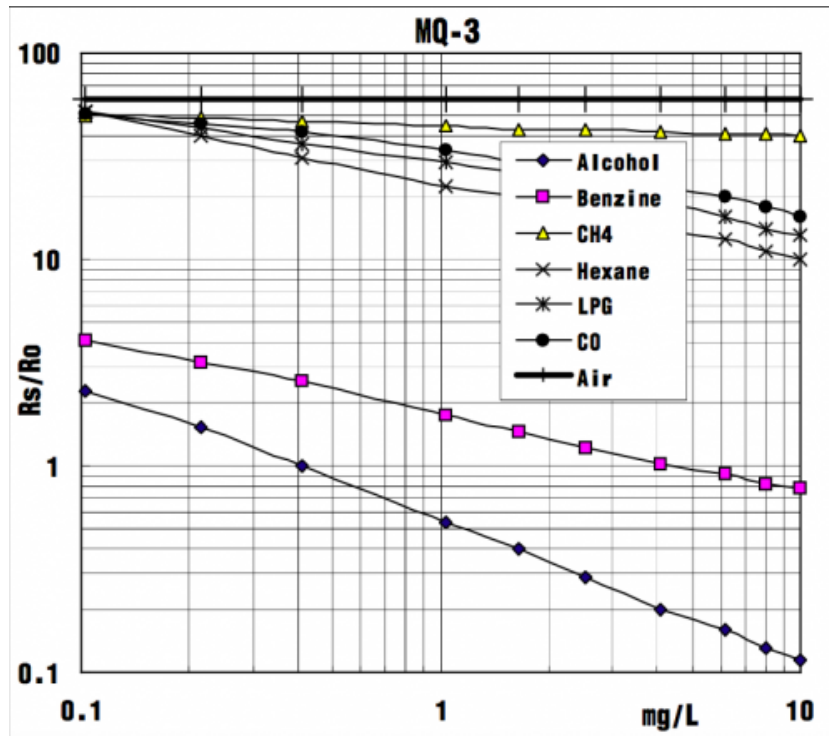
  Serial.print("sensor_volt = ");
  Serial.println(sensor_volt);
  Serial.print("RS_ratio = ");
  Serial.println(RS_gas);
  Serial.print("Rs/R0 = ");
  Serial.println(ratio);

  Serial.print("\n\n");

  delay(1000);
}

```

Now, we can get the concentration of gas from the below figure



According to the figure, we can see that the minimum concentration we can test is 0.1mg/L and the maximum is 10mg/L. However, we can't provide a formula because the relation between ratio and concentration is nonlinear.

But also, we can convert mg/L to ppm, it may be convenient for us to watch the value.

6. Support

[Ask questions on Seeed forum.](#)

7. Version Tracker

Revision	Descriptions	Release
v0.9b	Initial public release	16, Aug, 2011
v1.4	Replace some components	27, Aug, 2014

8. Resources

[File:Gas Sensor Eagle files.zip](#)

[File:Gas Sensor Schematic.pdf](#)

[File:MQ-3.pdf](#)