



An Interactive Bus Alert & Convenient Communication System for Blind People Using RF

T.Sathees Kumar, Mathumitha P, Maria Swetlena D, Mohamed Anas P S,

Department of ECE, M.AM School of Engineering, Siruganur, Trichy, Tamil Nadu, India

M.AM School of Engineering, Siruganur, Trichy, Tamil Nadu, India

M.AM School of Engineering, Siruganur, Trichy, Tamil Nadu, India

M.AM School of Engineering, Siruganur, Trichy, Tamil Nadu, India

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ABSTRACT: This paper presents a modified Wireless Bus Identification System for Visually Impaired Persons that enables visually impaired individuals to independently identify and board buses while enhancing their personal safety. The system comprises a Bus Unit and an updated Blind Unit. The Bus Unit includes a signal switch, NodeMCU ESP8266, and RF transmitter, which uniquely transmits the bus identification code when the bus is ready for boarding. The Blind Unit has been enhanced by Arduino Uno and integrating an ultrasonic sensor to detect obstacles in real-time. The Arduino Uno processes incoming RF signals, activates audio notifications for the desired bus, monitors the ultrasonic sensor for hazards, and responds to emergency inputs via a buzzer and GPS-enabled location alert system. This integration ensures seamless navigation, safety, and independent mobility for visually impaired users in public transportation environments. The system reliably identifies buses, detects nearby obstacles, and promptly communicates emergency situations, thereby improving accessibility and user confidence.

KEYWORDS: Data preprocessing techniques, CNN architectures for feature extraction, and user-friendly interfaces.

I. INTRODUCTION

- Public transportation plays a crucial role in daily mobility, yet visually impaired individuals often face significant challenges in independently identifying the correct bus, boarding safely, and avoiding obstacles. Conventional solutions frequently depend on assistance from others, limiting autonomy and confidence. To address these challenges, wireless bus identification systems have been developed, enabling buses to communicate their unique identity to a personal device carried by the user. These systems enhance accessibility, promote independence, and provide a safer commuting experience for visually impaired passengers.
- Wireless Bus Identification System for Visually Impaired Persons that integrates bus identification, obstacle detection, and emergency response. The Blind Unit features an Arduino Uno for signal processing, audio feedback, and emergency communication, along with an ultrasonic sensor to detect obstacles in real-time. The system uses RF communication to identify buses, audio alerts to notify users, and GPS-based emergency alerts to inform caregivers or authorities when necessary.

II. PROBLEM STATEMENT

- Public transportation poses significant challenges for visually impaired individuals, who often struggle to identify the correct bus and board safely without external assistance. Existing bus identification systems often lack features for real-time obstacle detection and emergency response, leaving users vulnerable to accidents, delays, or disorientation. The absence of a comprehensive solution that integrates bus recognition, navigation assistance, and safety measures restricts mobility and confidence among visually impaired passengers.



- Therefore, there is a pressing need for an advanced system that not only identifies buses accurately but also provides immediate audio feedback, detects obstacles in the user's path, and enables emergency alerts with precise GPS location information. By integrating RF communication, audio notifications, ultrasonic sensing, and GPS-based emergency alerts, the proposed system aims to enhance accessibility, autonomy, and safety, ensuring a reliable and user-friendly commuting experience for visually impaired passengers.

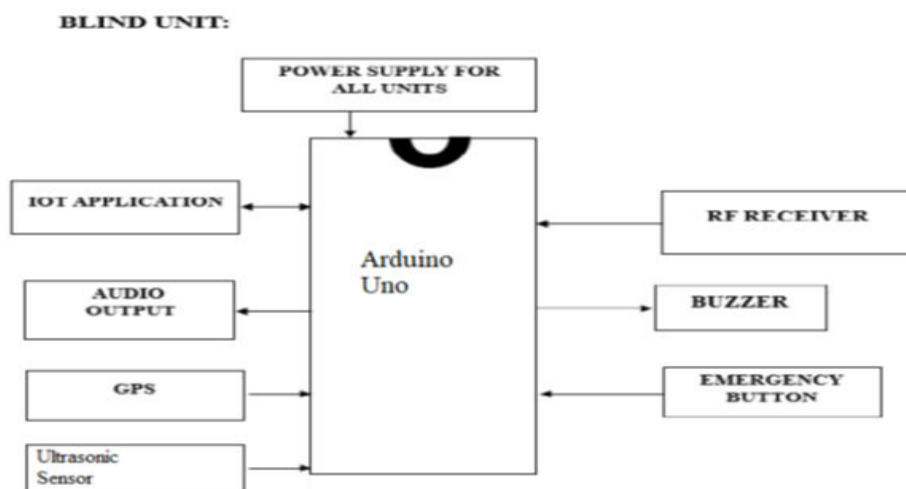
III. EXISTING SYSTEM

- RFID-Based Identification: Most existing systems use RFID tags on buses and handheld RFID readers for visually impaired users to identify the correct bus.
- Bus Arrival Notification: The system alerts the user via audio or vibration when the desired bus is nearby, allowing boarding assistance.
- Limited Navigation Support: These systems provide basic guidance to locate the bus but often lack real-time obstacle detection during approach.
- Dependency on External Assistance: Users may still require help in crowded areas or in case of emergencies due to limited safety features.
- Short-Range Communication: RFID or basic RF-based systems work only within a limited range, sometimes failing in complex or large transit environments.

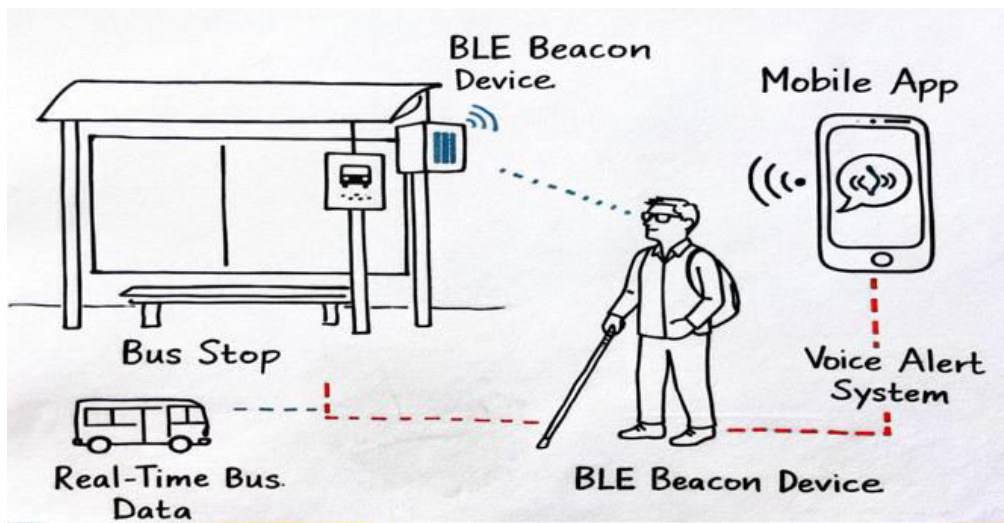
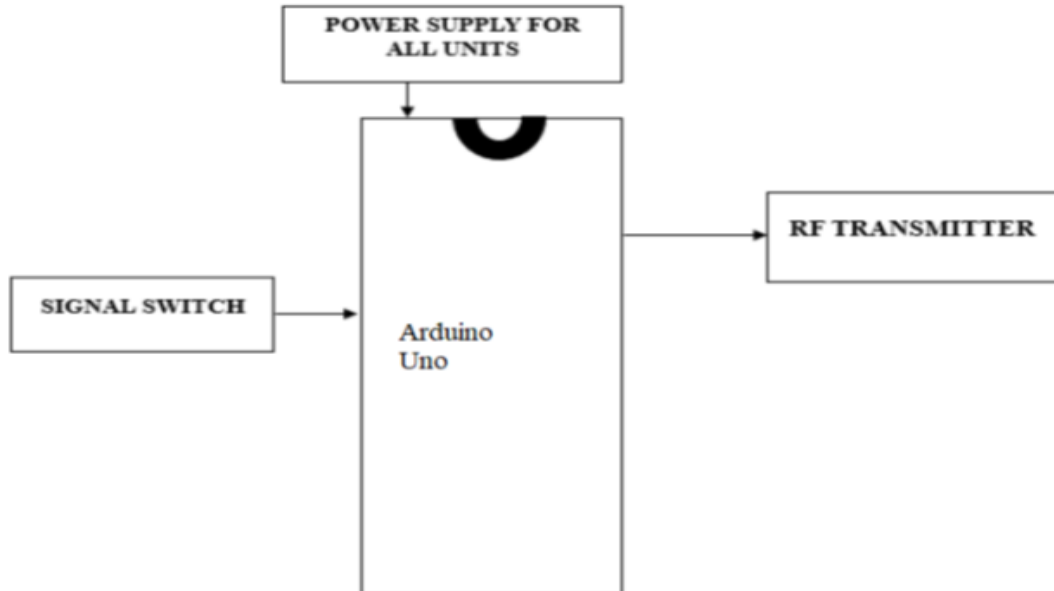
IV. PROPOSED SYSTEM

- RF-Based Bus Identification: The system uses RF communication to transmit a unique bus ID from the Bus Unit to the Blind Unit, allowing visually impaired users to identify the correct bus in real-time.
- Audio Feedback Notification: When the desired bus is in range, the Blind Unit provides audio alerts to notify the user, ensuring timely and accurate boarding.
- Obstacle Detection Using Ultrasonic Sensor: An ultrasonic sensor in the Blind Unit continuously scans for obstacles, providing real-time alerts to prevent accidents and enhance user safety.
- Emergency Alert System with GPS: Users can trigger an emergency alert using a switch, which activates a buzzer and sends the GPS location to caregivers or authorities for immediate assistance.
- Arduino-Based Processing: The Blind Unit is powered by an Arduino Uno, which handles RF signal processing, obstacle detection, audio output, and emergency communication in a compact and reliable setup.

V. BLOCK DIAGRAM



BUS UNIT:



VI. DESIGN AND SELECTION OF COMPONENTS

A. Arduino Uno (ATmega328)

Arduino Uno is the main controller used in the project and is based on the ATmega328 microcontroller. It acts as the brain of the system by controlling all input and output operations. It consists of digital and analog pins, which are used to interface with various sensors and modules. The Arduino Uno processes the data received from components such as sensors and RF modules and performs the required operations accordingly.

B. GPS Module

The GPS module is used to determine the real-time location of the system. It receives signals from satellites and provides information such as latitude and longitude coordinates. This data can be used for tracking and monitoring purposes in the project.



C. Ultrasonic Sensor

The ultrasonic sensor is used to measure distance by emitting ultrasonic waves and calculating the time taken for the echo to return. It is mainly used for obstacle detection and distance measurement in the system.

D. RF Transmitter and Receiver

The RF transmitter and receiver are used for wireless communication between devices. The transmitter sends data in the form of radio signals, and the receiver receives and decodes the signals. This enables communication without physical connections.

E. LCD Display

The LCD is used to display important information such as system status, sensor readings, or messages. It provides a simple and effective way for users to interact with the system.

F. Speaker

The speaker is used to produce audio output in the system. It can be used for alerts, warnings, or voice playback depending on the application.

G. APR Voice IC

The APR Voice IC is used for recording and playing back voice messages. It enables the system to provide voice-based alerts or instructions, enhancing user interaction.

H. Power Supply Unit

The power supply unit provides the required electrical energy for all components in the system. It ensures stable and reliable operation of the circuit by supplying appropriate voltage and current

VII. SOFTWARE INSTALLATION

Arduino IDE and embedded c program are used as software tools.

A. ARDUINO IDE

A program for Arduino hardware can be written in any programming language supported by compilers capable of producing binary machine code for the target processor. Atmel offers a development environment for their 8-bit AVR and 32-bit ARM Cortex-M based microcontrollers, such as AVR Studio (older) and Atmel Studio (newer). Overall, the Arduino IDE provides a comprehensive development environment for programming Arduino boards, enabling users to quickly prototype and develop projects for various applications. The IDE includes a code editor with features such as syntax highlighting, automatic indentation, and code completion, making it easier to write and navigate code. Arduino IDE comes with a set of built-in libraries that provide functions for interfacing with various sensors, actuators, and other hardware components. These libraries simplify the process of programming by abstracting complex functionality into simple function calls. The IDE allows users to compile their code with just a click of a button. It also provides a simple interface for uploading compiled code to Arduino boards via USB or other communication interfaces.

The binary code of Arduino is illustrated in Figure A



Fig A. Binary code of Arduino



Integrated Development Environment (IDE)

The Arduino Integrated Development Environment (IDE) is a cross-platform application compatible with Windows, macOS, and Linux. It is primarily written in the Java programming language and originated from the IDE for languages such as Processing and Wiring. The IDE features a comprehensive code editor equipped with various functionalities including text cutting and pasting, text search and replace, automatic indentation, brace matching, and syntax highlighting. Additionally, it offers convenient one-click mechanisms for compiling and uploading programs to an Arduino board.

Furthermore, the Arduino IDE comprises a message area, a text console, a toolbar with common function buttons, and a hierarchical menu structure. The source code for the IDE is released under the General Public License GNU.

The Arduino IDE supports programming languages C and C++, utilizing specific code structuring rules. It also provides a software library from the Wiring project, offering numerous common input and output procedures. User-written code typically necessitates only two fundamental functions: one for initializing the sketch and another for the main program loop. These functions are compiled and linked with a program stub `main()` into an executable cyclic executive program using the GNU tool chain, which is included in the IDE distribution.

Moreover, the Arduino IDE employs a program argument to convert the executable code into a text file encoded in hexadecimal format. This file is subsequently loaded into the Arduino board by a loader program embedded in the board's firmware.

B.Embedded C

Embedded C is an extension of the C programming language, developed by the C Standards committee, specifically tailored to address common challenges encountered in embedded systems development. These systems often require nonstandard extensions to C to support advanced microprocessor features such as fixed-point arithmetic, multiple memory banks, and basic I/O operations. The C Standards committee introduced enhancements to the language in 2008 to provide a unified standard for embedded systems development, including support for fixed-point arithmetic, named address spaces, and low-level hardware access.

Embedded C retains most of the syntax and semantics of standard C, including `main()` function, variable declarations, data types, conditional statements (if, switch case), loops (while, for), functions, arrays, strings, structures, unions, bit operations, macros, and more. Embedded software refers to computer software designed to control non-computer devices, known as embedded systems. It is optimized for the specific hardware it runs on and is subject to constraints such as time and memory limitations. Embedded software is often referred to interchangeably with firmware.

A defining characteristic of embedded software is that it may not be directly initiated or controlled via a human interface, relying instead on machine interfaces. Manufacturers integrate embedded software into various devices, including cars, telephones, modems, robots, appliances, toys, security systems, pacemakers, televisions, set-top boxes, and digital watches. The complexity of embedded software can vary greatly, from simple lighting controls on a microcontroller with limited memory to sophisticated applications requiring advanced computation frameworks.

VIII. RESULT AND ANALYSIS

Independent Navigation: Enables visually impaired individuals to identify and board buses without external assistance.

Enhanced Safety: Ultrasonic sensor detects obstacles in real-time, preventing accidents during navigation.

Emergency Response: GPS-enabled alert system sends real-time location to caregivers or authorities for immediate action.

Timely Notifications: Audio feedback alerts users when the desired bus is nearby, ensuring accurate boarding.

Cost-Effective and Reliable: Arduino-based system provides a simple, compact, and low-cost solution with easy maintenance..

IX. CONCLUSION

Development of a wireless bus identification system that allows visually impaired individuals to independently identify and board the correct bus. And integrate an ultrasonic sensor for real-time obstacle detection, enhancing user safety that provide audio feedback when the desired bus is detected, ensuring timely and accurate boarding. And to implement an emergency alert system that sends GPS-based location information to caregivers or authorities.



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