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HOME SYNC
IoT-Powered System for Seamless Home Automation

Prachi Gupta
Assistant Professor
Moradabad Institute of Technology
Moradabad, India
prachi.g19@gmail.com

Prince Saxena
Computer Science and Engineering
Moradabad Institute of Technology
Moradabad, India
prince40saxena@gmail.com

Raghav Garg
Computer Science and Engineering
Moradabad Institute of Technology
Moradabad, India
raghavgarg393@gmail.com

Sakshi Chauhan
Computer Science and Engineering
Moradabad Institute of Technology
Moradabad, India
sakshi4685chauhan@gmail.com

Shashank Johri
Computer Science and Engineering
Moradabad Institute of Technology
Moradabad, India
shashankjohri07@gmail.com

Abstract - This project introduces the overall framework of an economical wireless home automation system (HAS). Its primary emphasis lies in establishing an Internet of Things (IoT)-centered home automation setup, capable of automatic configuration based on environmental conditions and capable of overseeing multiple devices remotely via the internet. The objective is to design firmware for intelligent control, ensuring automated functionality with minimal human intervention to uphold the well-being of all electrical appliances in the household. Node MCU, a widely recognized open-source IoT platform, has been employed for the automation process.

Various transmission modes are implemented across distinct system components to relay user commands from Node MCU to the actual device. The central control system utilizes wireless technology, enabling remote accessibility via a smartphone. The incorporation of a cloud server-based communication system enhances project practicality, providing users unrestricted access to appliances, regardless of their spatial proximity.

To fortify automation, a data transmission network has been established. The user-friendly interface, cost-effective construction, and straightforward installation make it an ideal solution for managing household electrical appliances and devices. Both control and appliance status can be monitored through an Android platform. The system's objective is to enhance the living conditions of elderly and disabled individuals by offering necessary support and assistance, ultimately elevating the overall home living experience with the concept of a smart home.

Additionally, future advancements in this system can integrate artificial intelligence to analyze user behavior and optimize energy consumption. AI-driven voice recognition can enhance hands-free control, while smart sensors can predict potential electrical failures, ensuring proactive maintenance. Security measures such as facial recognition, motion detection, and remote surveillance can be incorporated to improve safety. Expanding compatibility with more IoT devices will make the system more scalable and adaptable for different environments.

Keywords — Low cost HAS, Internet control.

I. Introduction

The acceleration and enhancement of the household's living standards have been propelled by the utilization of advanced technologies today. Home Automation Systems, although present for decades, have historically remained exclusive to high-end consumers due to project costs and budget constraints. While the concept of smart home automation has existed for an extended period, it is only recently that a tangible smart home has emerged. In 1893, the invention and patenting of home appliances, such as a television with a remote control, marked the inception of simple home automation systems. Since then, numerous home appliances have been created. The early 2000s witnessed a surge in the popularity of smart home automation as new technologies made it more cost-effective and accessible to a broader consumer base. This shift in affordability led to the proliferation of smart home products on store shelves, including home networking and domestic technology gadgets. Today's smart home automation prioritizes intelligent living, sustainability, and security. Our environmentally friendly smart home contributes to energy conservation. Moreover, it can deter intruders by triggering alarms or sending alerts via smartphone applications. The current trajectory of smart home automation encompasses features such as automated lighting, remote mobile control, video monitoring, and the reception of mobile, email, and text notifications.

II. Literature Review

[1] The project seeks to accomplish automation through the popular mobile operating system Node MCU, specifically the Android Operating system. This allows for the control of electrical and home appliances

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using Android mobile phones, providing the convenience of remotely managing appliances even when outside the house, eliminating concerns about accidentally leaving them on. Implementing a Home Automation System (HAS) tailored for the elderly and disabled can significantly enhance the quality of life for individuals who might otherwise depend on caregivers or institutional care. [2] The consumption of energy in electronic devices, particularly in Air Conditioners (ACs), is considerable. The primary goal of the intelligent AC control system is to reduce electricity wastage. Our system achieves this by implementing control over the AC temperature, which is influenced by people's traffic patterns, utilizing a GSM module. [3] The suggested design employs the EmonCMS platform for the aggregation and visualization of monitored data, as well as for remotely controlling home appliances and devices. The process involves collecting, processing, and uploading or downloading data to and from the cloud server.

[4] The application of wireless technologies in the smart home is addressed by highlighting the advantages and limitations of existing approaches to tackle diverse and concurrent issues associated with the distributed control of household systems. Special attention is devoted to addressing the user localization problem, aiming to minimize the intrusiveness of monitoring systems. The review and discussion encompass wireless architectures, presenting them as flexible and seamless tools that contribute to achieving a change in thinking towards a fully automatic and autonomous environment. [5] Introducing the uIDCoAP architecture, our innovative framework is specifically crafted to accommodate IoT services on everyday embedded systems, such as conventional consumer appliances. The software framework, tailored for embedded appliance nodes, aims to simplify the process for producers by delivering a user-friendly, standardized, and intuitive Application Programming Language (APL). With this concept in mind, our framework not only includes a low-level communication API but also offers functionalities to construct RESTful services, enhancing the overall accessibility and usability of embedded systems in the IoT domain. [6] This study introduces an approach to establish a cost-effective Wireless Fidelity (Wi-Fi) based Home Automation System (HAS), embodying the concept of smart device internetworking. The primary aim of the Wi-Fi-based Wireless Sensor Network (WSN) is to oversee and regulate various aspects of a smart home, encompassing electrical, safety, and environmental parameters.

III. Methods and Materials

The increasing demand for smart home solutions has driven advancements in home automation technologies. IoT-based automation systems provide seamless control over household appliances, ensuring energy efficiency and convenience. This paper presents a cost-effective and scalable model designed to enhance remote accessibility and automation reliability.

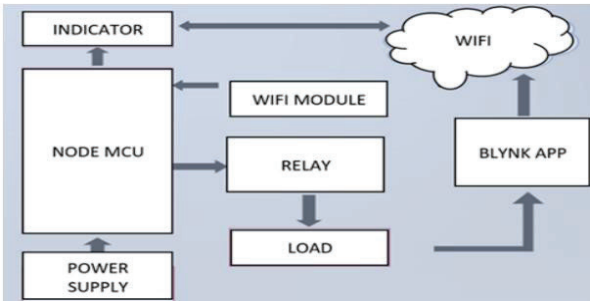

Figure 1 Block Diagram

III.1 Working

a. Mechanism

The NodeMCU microcontroller serves as the central control unit in the system. Users can operate home appliances through a mobile application that communicates with the system over Wi-Fi. The BLYNK application is used to establish a wireless network and interpret user commands, which are transmitted as signals to the NodeMCU for processing. To facilitate Wi-Fi communication and command reception, the NodeMCU integrates an embedded Wi-Fi module within its architecture. Upon receiving a command, the NodeMCU triggers the relay module, which then toggles the connected appliance ON or OFF. The relay, appliances, and NodeMCU are physically interconnected, forming a functional prototype of a wireless remote switching system for home appliances. This model leverages Wi-Fi for wireless control, offering an indoor operational range of up to 45 meters. Users can control appliances using radio buttons on the smartphone app. Any device with Wi-Fi capabilities can be used to control the system, making it highly accessible.

b. Project Flow

Four Channel Relay Module: The module includes four individual relays physically connected between the Node MCU and household appliances. These relays receive signals from GPIO pins of the Node MCU, allowing the connection or disconnection of home appliances from the power supply.

Node MCU: Serving as the microcontroller unit in the prototype, the Node MCU is equipped with an integrated Wi-Fi module (ESP8266 0.9). This module enables the wireless remote switching of home appliances.

Blynk Application: Tailored for the Internet of Things (IoT), the Blynk application assumes a pivotal role in the prototype. It possesses the capability to remotely

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control hardware, showcase sensor data, store and visualize data, etc. Its primary role in this context is to interpret user commands and transmit them to the hardware over a wireless network

IV. Embedded System Setup

The hardware assembly primarily involves linking the supply, ground pins, and digital pins of the NodeMCU to the four relays on the relay module. The essential setup of this prototype is straightforward. Connect any desired device for control to the remaining four relays. While assembling the hardware, it's crucial to keep track of which digital pin corresponds to each relay. This alignment follows the settings in the Blynk application. Configure the radio buttons on the Blynk application to toggle a specific Node MCU digital pin and ensure that the physical relay connections match this configuration. Figure 2 For instance, if D3 is assigned to operate with the radio button on the Blynk application corresponding to relay 1, physically connect relay 1 to Node MCU.

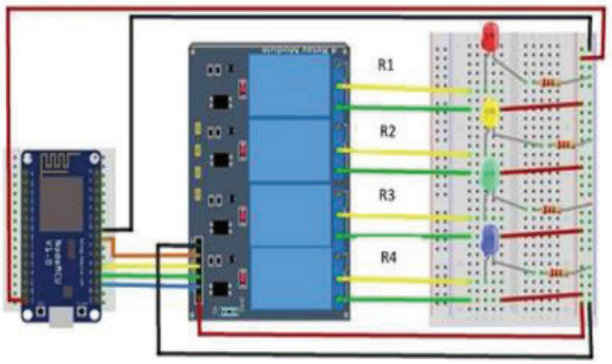

Figure 2 Hardware Design

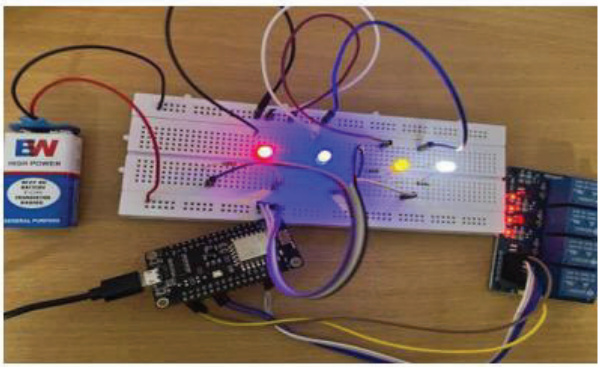

Figure 3 Prototype

V. Result

This project demonstrates the feasibility of creating an individual home automation system using cost-effective, easily available components. The system efficiently manages various home appliances such as fans, lights, and security systems. The required components are minimal and compact, making integration into small spaces seamless. The designed home automation system underwent rigorous testing and successfully controlled multiple household appliances. The results align with expectations, as the experimental model strictly adhered to the proposed circuit diagram. The incorporation of Wi-Fi networks enables remote control of appliances, ensuring convenience and flexibility. Additionally, the Blynk application effectively displays the real-time status of each connected appliance, enhancing monitoring and user interaction. The system's adaptability and scalability make it suitable for diverse home automation needs.

VI. Future Scope

Given the current circumstances, there is an opportunity to create a solution that works across different platforms, including Windows and iOS, ensuring compatibility with a broader range of devices. Expanding the automation system to cover all household appliances eliminates the limitation of controlling only a specific set of gadgets. The prototype can be further enhanced by incorporating advanced sensors such as a PIR for motion detection and security alerts, a DHT11 sensor for monitoring ambient temperature and humidity, adjusting the fan or air conditioner accordingly, and an LDR for sensing daylight and controlling the lamp. By extending the project's reach beyond homes and small offices, it can cater to a wide array of locations.

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