



ISSN: 2350-0328

**International Journal of Advanced Research in Science,
Engineering and Technology**

Vol. 4, Issue 6 , June 2017

Design and Development of Advanced Multi-Tasking Android Based Agrobot

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ABSTRACT: Developed agriculture needs to find new ways to improve efficiency. One approach is to utilize available information technologies in the form of more intelligent machines to reduce and target energy inputs in more effective ways than in the past. Precision Farming has shown benefits of this approach but we can now move towards a new generation of equipment. The advent of autonomous system architectures gives us the opportunity to develop a complete new range of agricultural equipment based on small smart machines that can do the right thing, in the right place, at the right time in the right way. Automatic soil dry and wet detection and water pumping, medicine spraying.

KEY WORDS: Bluetooth, Microcontroller AT89S52, Android operating system, Smart phone.

I.INTRODUCTION

The discovery of agriculture was the first big step toward a civilized life. "Is a famous quote by Arthur Keith. This emphasizes that the agriculture plays a vital role in the economy of every nation. Since the dawn of history agriculture has been one of the significant earnings of producing food for human utilization. Today more and more lands are being developed for the production of a large variety of crops. The field of agriculture involves various operations that require handling of heavy materials. For example, in manual ploughing, farmers make use of heavy ploughing machines. Additionally, while watering the crops farmers still follow the traditional approach of carrying heavy water pipes. These operations are dull, repetitive, or require strength and skill for the workers. In the 1980's many agricultural robots were started for research and development. Kawamura and co-workers developed the fruit harvesting robot. Grand and co-workers developed the apple harvesting robot. They have been followed by many other works. Over history, agriculture has evolved from a manual occupation to a highly industrialized business, utilizing a wide variety of tools and machines. Researchers are now looking towards the realization of autonomous agricultural vehicles. The first stage of development, automatic vehicle guidance, has been studied for many years, with a number of innovations explored as early as the 1920s. The concept of fully autonomous agricultural vehicles is far from new; examples of early driverless tractor prototypes using leader cable guidance systems date back to the 1950s and 1960s.

The potential benefits of automated agricultural vehicles include increased productivity, increased application accuracy, and enhanced operational safety. Additionally, the rapid advancements in electronics, computers, and computing technologies have inspired renewed interest in the development of vehicle guidance systems. Various guidance technologies, including mechanical guidance, optical guidance, radio navigation, and ultrasonic guidance, have been investigated. A robot is a machine that can be programmed and reprogrammed to do certain tasks and usually consists of a manipulator such as a claw, hand, or tool attached to a mobile body or a stationary platform.

Autonomous robots work completely under the control of a computer program. They often use sensors to gather data about their surroundings in order to navigate. Tele-controlled robots work under the control of humans and/or computer programs. Remote-controlled robots are controlled by humans with a controller such as a joystick or other hand-held device. The word "Robot" came from the Czech Word Robot, which means forced labor or work.

II. OBJECTIVE

Improve the efficiency and accuracy in the agricultural field and also conservation of the fuel and reduce labor work.

III. COMPONENTS REQUIRED

A. Software components

- Operating System: This application works well with android 4.0 and all versions above this.
- Backend: Java will be used for developing backend of the robot application. Embedded C is used to program the agricultural robot.
- Front End: It is developed using ADT Bundle toolkit and the language used is XML.
- The cross compiler used is **Keil Micro Vision 3**.
- **Flash Magic** software is used for dumping code into microcontroller.
- **Blue Control**: A android application for control the robot operation

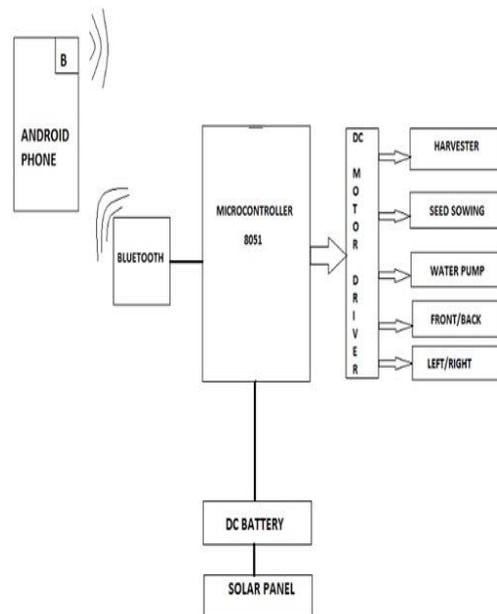


Fig. 1 Block diagram of proposed model.

B. Hardware components

- An android smart phone having Bluetooth facility that acts as a controller of the robot.
- An agricultural robot having the following components:
- A microcontroller 8051 development board which acts as the heart of the robot and controls the entire device.
- The IC used is 89S52.
- Motor driver circuit L293 to increase the current rating.
- Bluetooth HC05 module.
- 5 DC motors for performing the activities.
- Solar panel
- Battery
- **Microcontroller**: AT89S528K bytes of flash, 256 bytes of RAM, 32 I/O lines, Watchdog timer, two data pointers, three 16-bit timer/counters, a six-vector two-level interrupt architecture, a full duplex serial port, on-chip oscillator, and clock circuitry.
- **Solar Cells**: A solar cell is an electric device that converts light (photons) from the sun into electricity.

- **Regulator:** fixed (typically 5, 12 and 15V) or variable output voltages.
- **Relay:** Relay is used for switching purpose.

IV. METHODOLOGY

This model uses solar energy as an input source. The output of the solar panel is connected to the battery and the energy is stored in the battery (12v,1.2Ah). The battery is then connected to a micro-controller through the IC7805 to regulate voltage from 12V to 5V. This 5V is connected to pin number 40 and 31 of the microcontroller. The pin no. 10(RXD) of the microcontroller is connected to the TXD of the Bluetooth module and pin no.11(TXD) of the microcontroller is connected to RXD of the Bluetooth module.

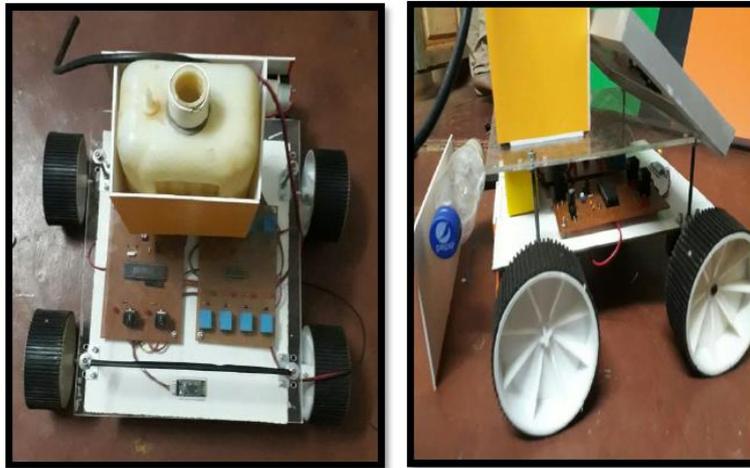


Fig. 2 Prototype model of proposed robot

The out port2 of microcontroller is then connected to the ULN2003 which regulates the 5V to 12V for the relay operation and it is used for the purpose of driving the stepper motor. The output of ULN2003 is connected to relays as switches to operate the motor for the required application. Two relays are connected to one motor. The terminal of the relay is connected to ground and another one is connected to the motor terminal. The pin no. 25 and pin no.26 of the microcontroller is connected to the L293 which interfaces the two motors with one IC and can be controlled in both clockwise and counter clockwise direction of the motors.



Fig. 3 Blue control application view



ISSN: 2350-0328

International Journal of Advanced Research in Science, Engineering and Technology

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V. ADVANTAGES&DISADVANTAGES

A. ADVANTAGES

- It can move in all directions.
- Saves man power.
- Easy to operate
- Consumes less power, so back up is good
- Reliable.
- It useful to the farmer.
- Environmentally friendly

B. DISADVANTAGES

- In case of any repair work required good embedded knowledge.
- High initial cost.

C. APPLICATIONS

- It can be used for sowing seeds.
- It is used for digging of soil.
- It will spray medicine to plants.
- Automatic irrigation.
- Irrigation in garden, parks, green house.
- Android based operation.

VI.CONCLUSION AND FUTURE WORK

A. CONCLUSION

- This project introduces wireless technology in the field of agriculture.
- Exploits features of Android platform to help Farmers Significantly.
- Provides a flexible user interface to farmer to control the machine effectively.
- It reduces manual labor requirement which is a boon to the farmers as finding laborers is a very difficult job today.
- The robot can work in any sort of climatic condition as well as can work nonstop unlike humans.
- The time required to carry out the five functionalities reduces considerably in comparison with carrying out the same activities manually.
- It is a onetime investment which reduces the overall farming cost considerably.
- This robot acts as a gateway to automated smart farming.

B. FUTURE ENHANCEMENT

- As far as future enhancements are concerned, this project has ample scope.
- As an extension to this initial prototype many sensors can be added to detect obstacles and make the robot smarter.
- Sensors to detect the depth of the land to appropriately sow seeds can be added.
- A camera can be installed on the robot and the application can be modified in order to display the field with a 360-degree view on the app as the robot moves.
- New technologies like ZigBee, Wi-Fi, IOT, Wi-Fi Smart can be used to have a large connectivity range.
- Sensors to detect temperature and moisture content and take actions of sprinkling water can be added.
- A pesticide sprinkler can be added along with a sensor that detects the quantity of pesticide required.



ISSN: 2350-0328

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Engineering and Technology**

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