

MAZE SOLVING ROBOT:

Navigating with ArduinoUNO and the Left Hand Rule Algorithm

SECTION : 2241031

BRANCH : CSE

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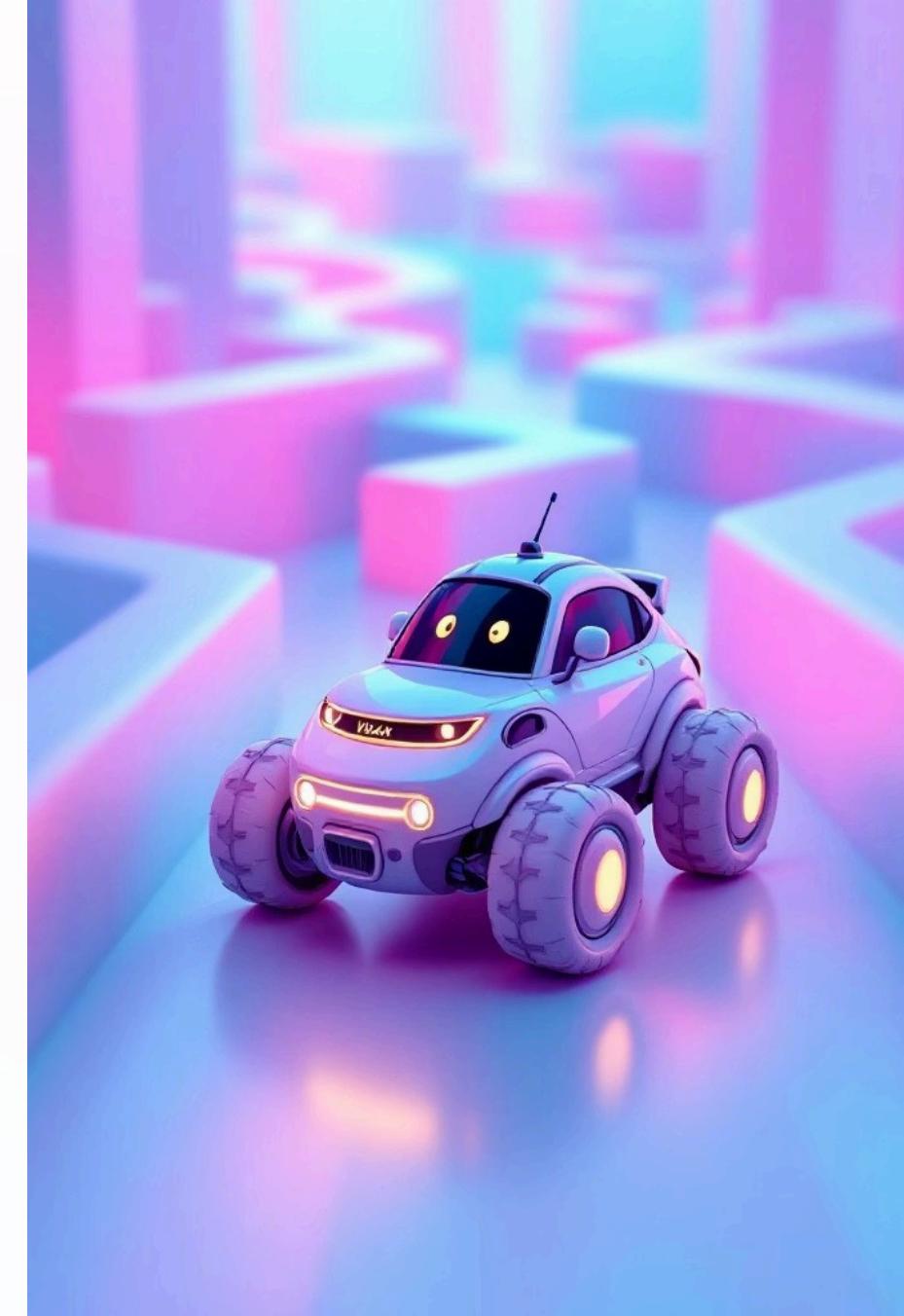
Introduction: Navigating the Labyrinth

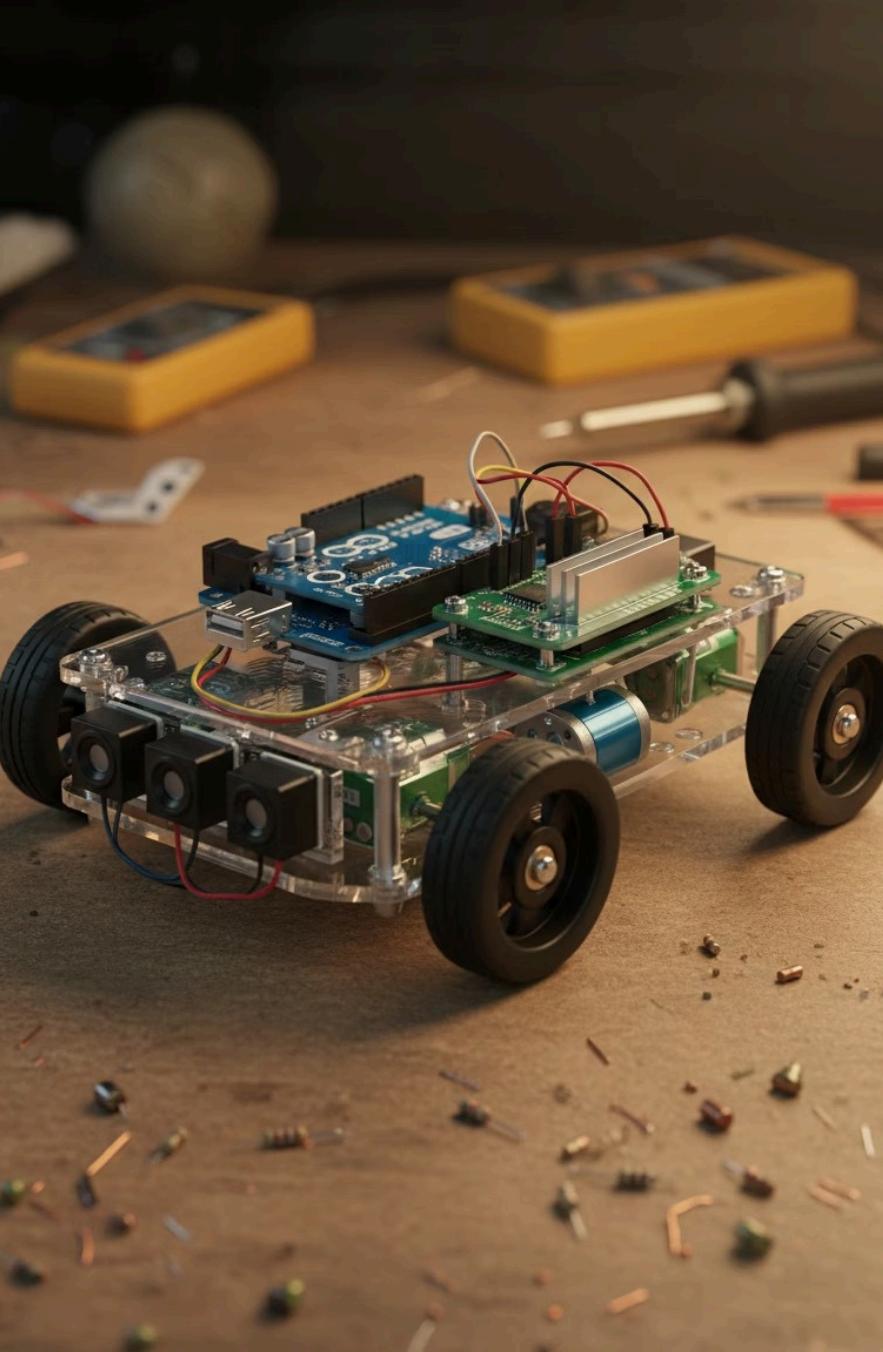
This project presents an autonomous robot designed to navigate and solve mazes. It works independently, finding the correct path without any human intervention or pre-loaded map of the maze.

The robot uses a set of sensors and a microcontroller to detect its surroundings and make decisions about which way to turn.

Its key components include an [Arduino UNO](#) as the main controller, [three Infrared \(IR\) sensors](#) to detect paths, an [L293D motor driver](#) to control the motors, and [two DC motors](#) for movement. The robot's decision-making is guided by the **Left-Hand Rule algorithm**, a simple strategy for consistently following the left wall to navigate the maze.

Based on the inputs from its sensors, the robot determines whether to move forward, turn left, or turn right, successfully solving the labyrinth.





Objective :



Cost-Effective Design

To construct a reliable and economical robot capable of efficient maze navigation.



Algorithm Implementation

To accurately implement the Left Hand Rule algorithm for intelligent decision-making at maze intersections.



Hardware Integration

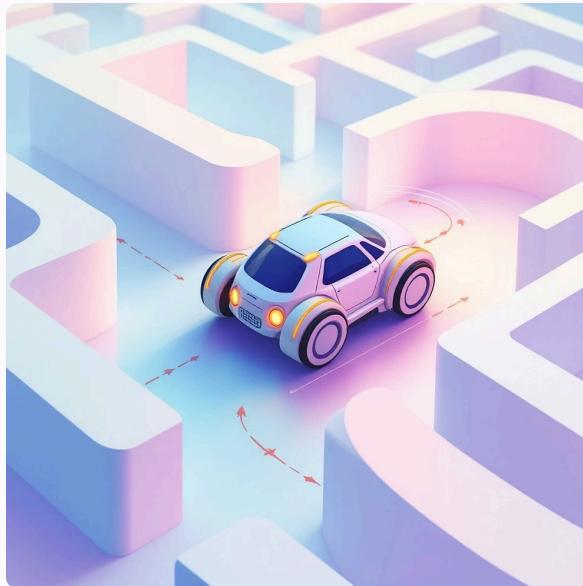
To demonstrate the practical and seamless integration of various components, including sensors, motor drivers, and the microcontroller.

Motivation:



Knowledge Enhancement

Deepen understanding of robotics principles, sensor technology, and embedded programming techniques.



Real-World Application

Apply complex algorithmic logic to solve practical autonomous navigation challenges.



Inspire Innovation

Foster creativity in robotics using readily available components and a DIY project approach.

Essential Components: The Robot's Building Blocks



Arduino UNO Microcontroller

The brain of our robot, processing sensor data and executing navigation logic.



3 Infrared (IR) Sensors

Used for detecting walls or lines, crucial for environmental awareness.



L293D Motor Driver Board

A dual H-bridge that controls the speed and direction of the DC motors.



2 DC Geared Motors with Wheels

Provide the robot's mobility and propulsion through the maze.



Power Supply

An 8V battery pack with regulators for consistent power delivery.



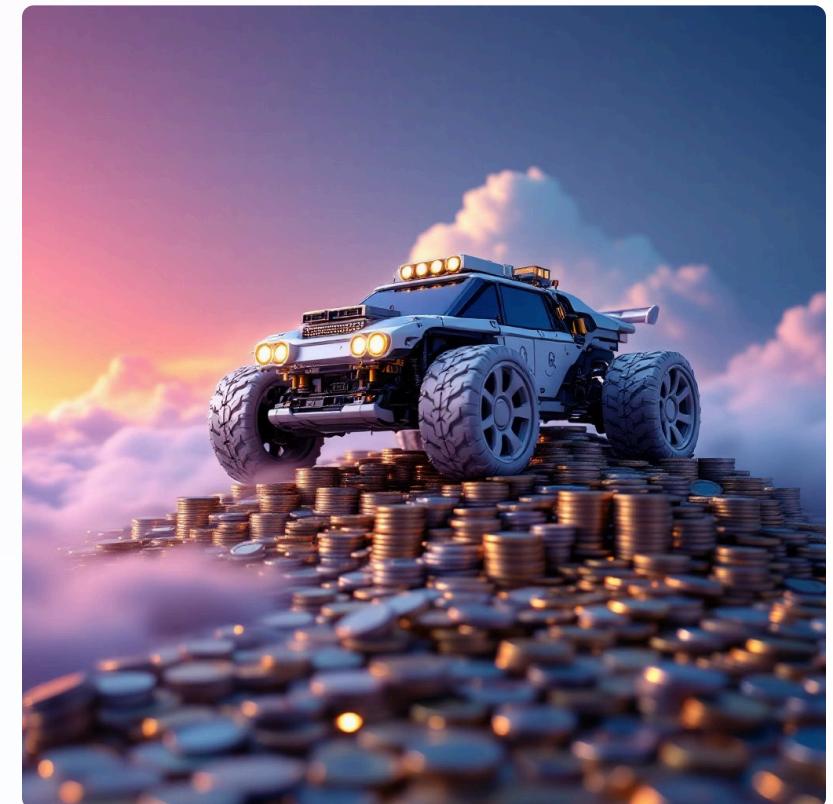
Chassis & Wiring

The structural frame and necessary electrical connections for assembly.

Project Cost Analysis: An Affordable Endeavor

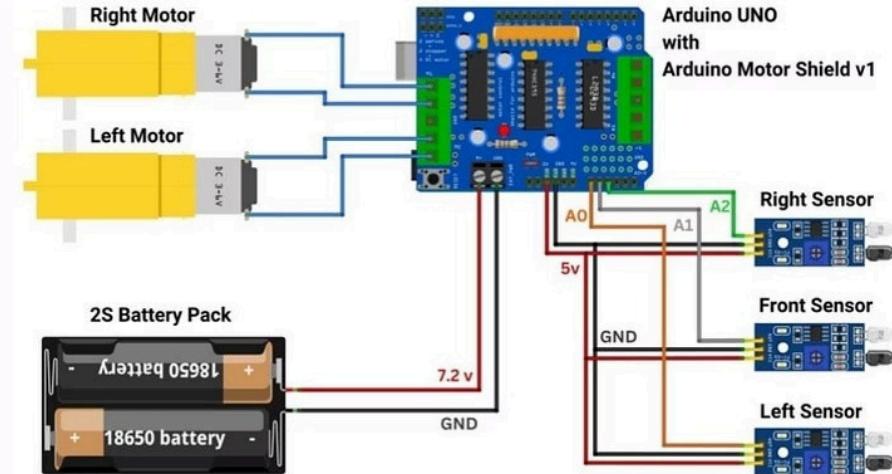
Component	Cost (Rs)
Arduino UNO	460/-
IR Sensors (3 units)	30 X 3 = 90/-
L293D Motor Driver Module	190/-
DC Motors (2 units)	170/-
Battery pack & regulators	200/-
Chassis & wheels	180/-
Miscellaneous	380/-
Total Estimated Cost	1670/-

The total estimated cost for this maze-solving robot project is remarkably affordable, making it an excellent choice for educational purposes and hobbyists alike. The selection of readily available and cost-effective components ensures that the barrier to entry for building such a robot remains low, while still delivering a robust and functional device.



Circuit Diagram: The Robot's Nervous System

- The Arduino UNO acts as the central processing unit, receiving inputs from the **three IR sensors** connected to its analog pins A0, A1, and A2.
- These sensors are strategically positioned to detect walls on the left, front, and right of the robot, providing crucial navigational data.
- The **L293D motor driver** serves as the interface between the Arduino and the **two DC motors**.
Digital pins on the Arduino are used to send control signals to the L293D, dictating the speed and direction of each motor.
- This setup ensures that the robot can execute precise movements, including turning and moving forward.
- A regulated power supply is critical; 5V powers the Arduino and sensors, while 12V drives the more power-hungry motors.
- This careful power distribution, along with clear wiring paths, guarantees stable operation and smooth control throughout the maze-solving process.



Working Procedure: The Left-Hand Rule in Action

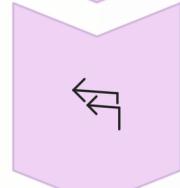
The robot's navigation hinges on real-time data from its IR sensors and the deterministic logic of the Left-Hand Rule algorithm.



Sensor Data Acquisition



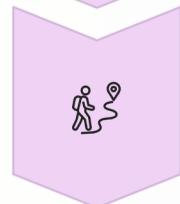
The **IR sensors continuously scan the surroundings** to detect the presence or absence of maze lines. This information is processed by the Arduino to determine available paths.



Apply Left-Hand Rule



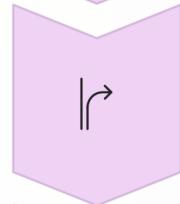
The algorithm dictates the next move: if a left path is detected, the robot **prioritizes turning left** to maintain contact with the left line.



Go Straight



If no left path is available but the forward path is clear, the robot **moves straight ahead**.



Turn Right



Should both left and forward paths be blocked, the robot **attempts a right turn** to find an open route.



U-Turn at Dead End



If all paths (left, forward, right) are obstructed, it signifies a **dead end**, prompting the robot to execute a **U-turn** to backtrack and explore other options.

Diverse Applications: Beyond the Maze



Educational Tool

An excellent platform for teaching robotics, programming, and algorithmic thinking in schools and workshops.



Autonomous Navigation

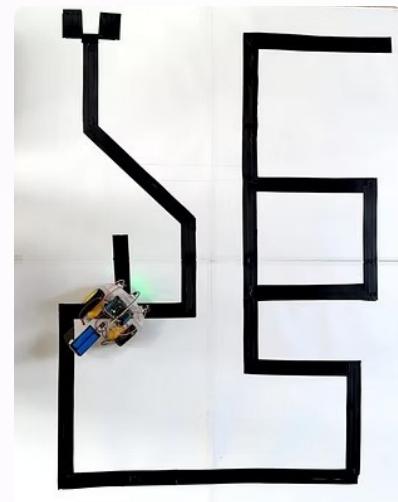
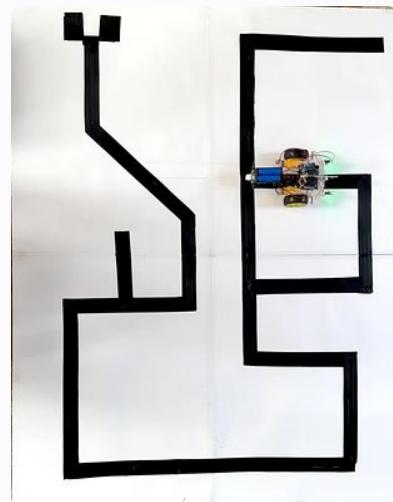
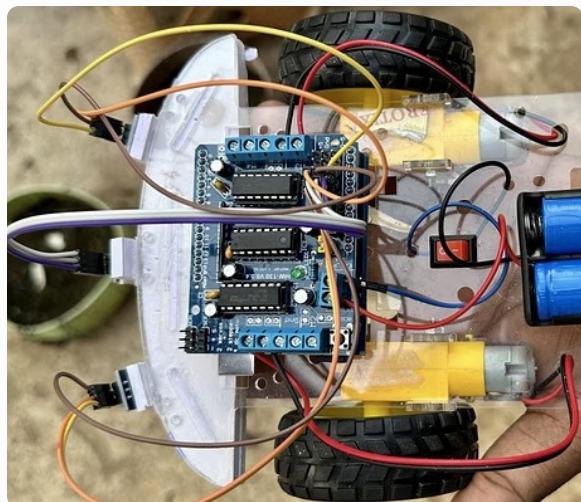
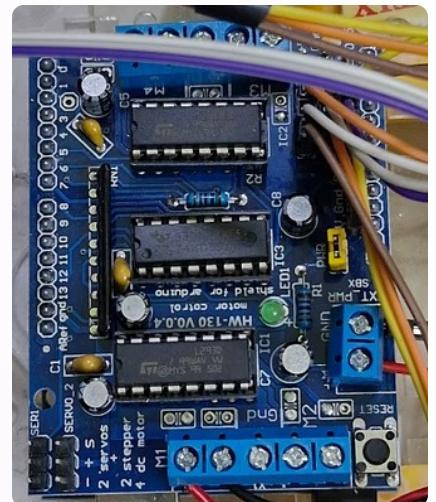
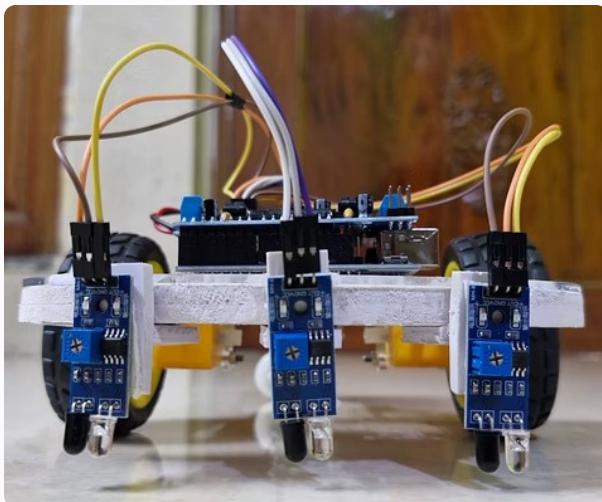
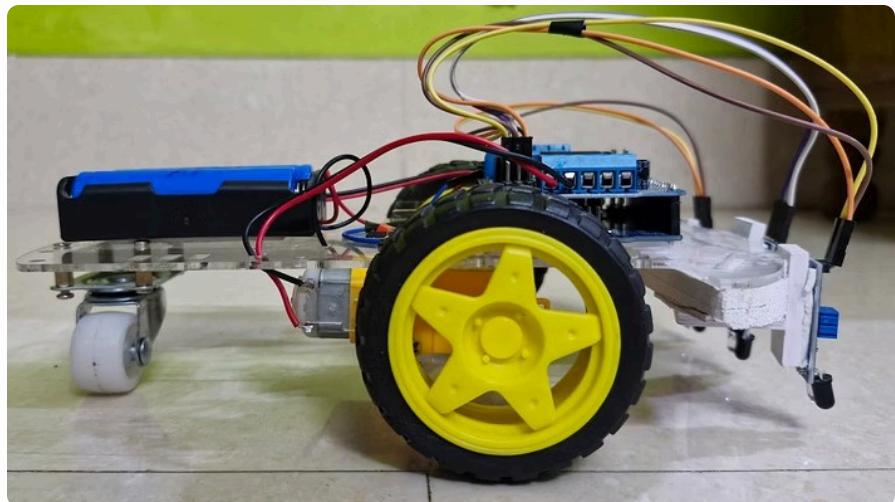
Serves as a foundational prototype for larger autonomous systems in logistics, exploration, and smart environments.



Search & Rescue

Adaptable for scenarios requiring exploration of hazardous or inaccessible areas to locate survivors or assess damage.

Project in Action: Visual Evidence



1. These images provide a step-by-step look at the robot's construction and operation. The 1st photo showcases the **sturdy chassis** with integrated motors, forming the mechanical base.
2. The 2nd highlights the **precise placement of the IR sensors** (one on each side and one in front) crucial for accurate maze detection.
3. The 3rd, 4th and 5th image offers a clear view of the **electronic heart of the robot**, detailing the connections between the Arduino UNO, L293D motor driver, and the IR sensors, emphasizing the meticulous wiring.
4. Finally, the 6th photo captures the robot actively **navigating a test maze**, demonstrating the Left-Hand Rule algorithm in practice as it gracefully follows the left wall towards the exit.

Project Video :



Yo uTu b e

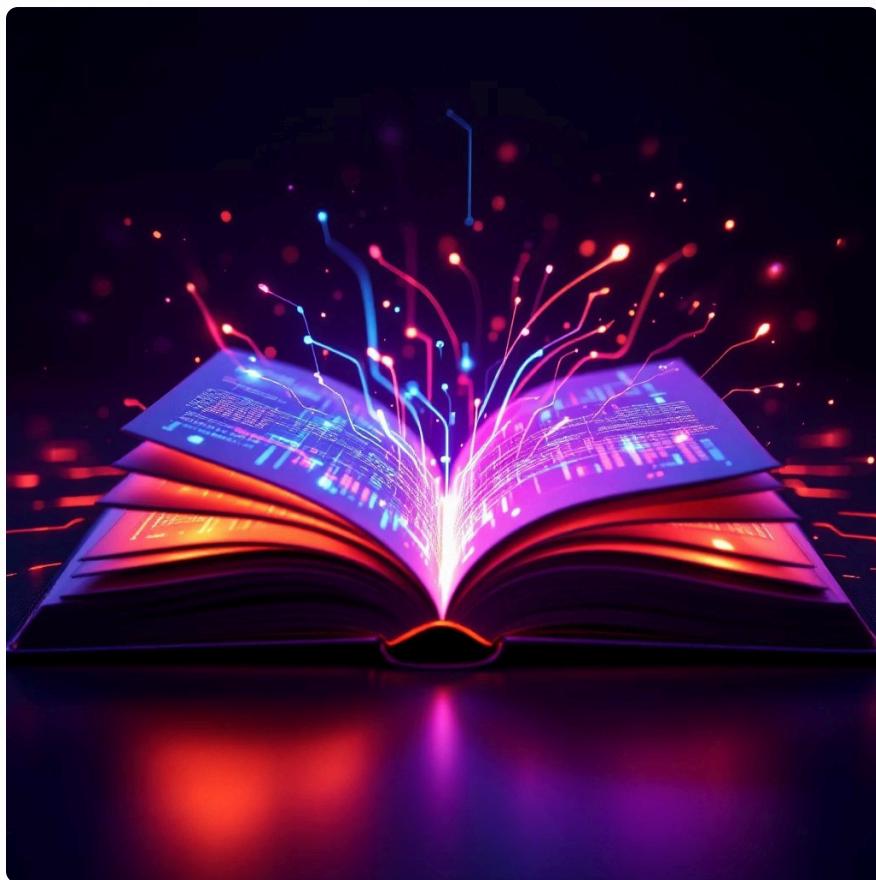
MAZE SOLVER ROBOT

In this video, we present our Maze Solving Robot built using Arduino Uno. The robot uses IR sensors to detect the path and automatically find the correct route through the maze without&

Conclusion & References

Key Takeaways

- Successfully developed a cost-effective maze-solving robot.
- Achieved autonomous navigation using the Left-Hand Rule algorithm.
- Gained practical experience in embedded systems, sensor integration, and motor control.
- The project demonstrates the potential for basic robotics to solve practical problems.
- Enhanced problem-solving abilities through iterative design and debugging of robot behavior. Demonstrated practical application of sensor integration for environmental perception.



References for Further Reading

For those interested in exploring similar projects or diving deeper into the technical details, the following resources proved invaluable during the development of this robot:

- <https://projecthub.arduino.cc/me%20rk/arduino-maze-solving-robot-e69923>
- <https://www.arduino.cc/>
- <https://www.hackster.io/Varun2905/maze-solving-robot-3-ir-sensors-9ada3b>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kDwNHIAzxfM&t=9s>



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Thank You!

Your attention is greatly appreciated. Please feel free to ask any questions.

