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Smart Home

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Day Month Year

Abstract

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Acknowledgements

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Chapter 1

Introduction

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Chapter 2

Background

2.1 Microcontroller

2.1.1 Theory

Microcontroller Unit (MCU) is a small size, special purpose computer. It is small enough in order to be integrated on a small circuit in which will do specified tasks or applications. MCU itself comes with memory, input, output peripherals and processor. Program to run the MCU is stored in Read-only Memory (ROM) and usually not change in production. A microcontroller is usually designed to run in small size and at low cost, which is compatible to be embedded in other system in order to control actions of the system automatically.

Few advantages of MCU over a microprocessor can be listed as following:

- A MCU is already a standalone microcomputer.
- Because it can be considered as an independent computer, most needed components are integrated on a small size board.
- The above reason leads to the benefit that using MCU can make the system compact, highly mobile and cost efficiency.
- Time reduction because it is programed to run specified set of commands only.
- It is also easy to use and maintain.
- MCU nowadays usually designed to be used with low power in order to last longer under energy-limited condition.

2.1.2 Microcontroller structure

Figure 2.1 demonstrates the basic structure of a microcontroller. It is easily to see the basic design of a microcontroller and its components.

- CPU: is the central unit which is assembled with Arithmetic Logic Unit (ALU) and a Control Unit (CU). Its functions are connect parts of the MCU into a single system by doing fetch, decode and execution.

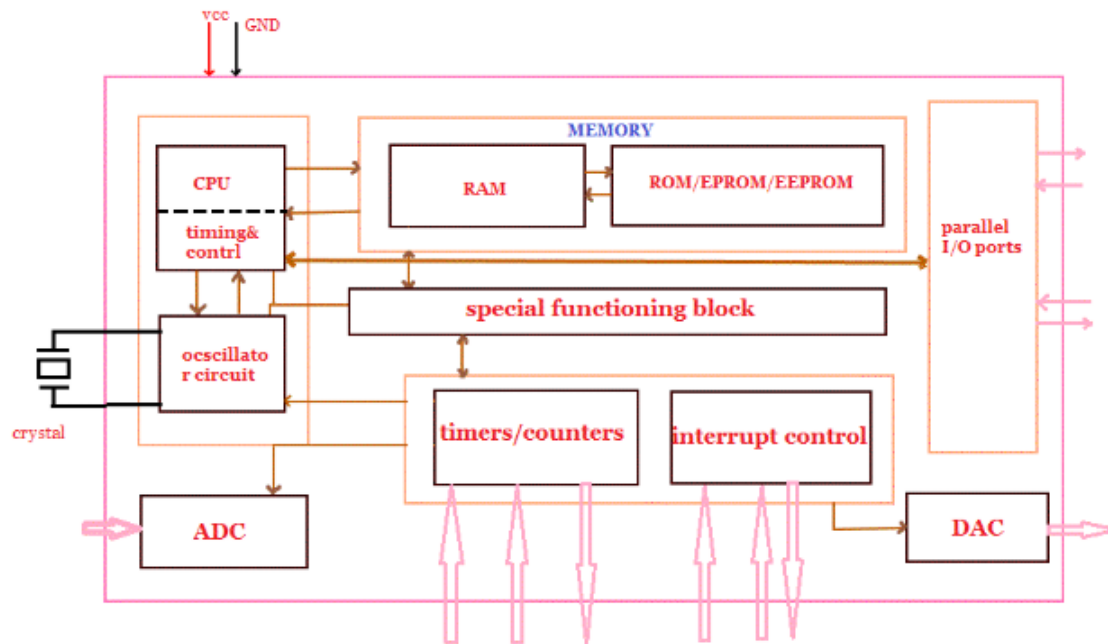


Figure 2.1: Structure of Microcontroller

- **Memory:** there are two types of Memory that are required, namely ROM and Random Access Memory (RAM). Each type has its own functions, in which ROM will handle the program and the written instructions and RAM can only store temporary data while the program is executing.
- **Input/Output:** the single board system needs input to execute the program as well as outputs to deliver the information for further handling. The I/O peripherals are the interface of the MCU to communicate with or to control other devices.
- **Bus:** bus is the system of wires that used to connect the Central Processing Unit (CPU) with other peripherals, which means it plays an important role but rarely discussed.
- **Timers/Counters:** they are built-in components for microcontroller, which is used to count in order to handle external events.
- **Interrupts:** is used to interrupt that can be an external or internal one, which helps to execute an instruction(s) while the main program is executing.
- **ADC:** Analog to Digital Converter (ADC), its name says it all, which is a circuit use to convert analogs signal to digital signals. The reason to use ADC is most sensors available on the market can read only analog signal but CPU of the MCU can read digital signal only, so a ADC is necessary for them to communicate.
- **DAC:** Digital to Analog Converter (DAC) similar to ADC, DAC is also a circuit which convert digital signals into analog signals for further processing.

2.1.3 Microcontroller market

There exists many microcontrollers on the market which come in various sizes and capacities. The list is only containing very few popular MCU that the author knows of.

- Intel 8051
- STMicroelectronics STM8S (8-bit), ST10 (16-bit) and STM32 (32-bit)
- Atmel AVR (8-bit), AVR32 (32-bit), and AT91SAM (32-bit)
- Freescale ColdFire (32-bit) and S08 (8-bit)
- PIC (8-bit PIC16, PIC18, 16-bit dsPIC33 / PIC24)
- Renesas Electronics: RL78 16-bit MCU; RX 32-bit MCU; SuperH; V850 32-bit MCU; H8; R8C 16-bit MCU
- PSoC (Programmable System-on-Chip)
- Texas Instruments Microcontrollers MSP430 (16-bit), C2000 (32-bit), and Stellaris (32-bit)

2.2 Communication

2.2.1 Introduction

Nowadays, there are various communication protocols can be used for the thesis, namely I2C, ISP, RS232, RS-485, Bluetooth or Wi-Fi. Each protocol is designed to be suitable for specified purpose with different advantages or disadvantages, which means a perfect protocol does not exist. When making a decision to choose suitable protocols for the thesis, the trade-off between the stabilization and the speed of the communication protocol has been considered carefully.

In this thesis, RS-485 is chosen as the main way for components in the system to communicate with each other. RS-485 is defined in 1983 not as a protocol but an electrical interface standard and only specifies the drivers and receivers' characteristics. It is developed in order to make data rate and transmitting distance are inversely proportional. For instance, the data transmitting speed can reach 10 Mbps within distance of 16 meters or if the distance is extended to 1220 meters, the data rate is lower to 100 kbps. The advantage of RS-485 over RS232, which is developed in 1960, is multiple nodes can be parallel connected to a bus. Additionally, the network can be extended in length and number of nodes easily by using simple connectors. Besides, Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, GSM and MQTT are also implemented in the thesis in order to take the advantages of different communication protocols in different circumstances.

2.2.2 Universal asynchronous receiver-transmitter (UART)

2.2.3 RS-485

Table 2.1 shows the remarkable specifications of RS-485. With these characteristics, RS-485 was a robust interface standard and was able to meet the requirements in industries, in which implemented applications that need a stable, fast and reliable connection.

Figure 2.2 demonstrates two ways to implement the connection with RS-485, which are full-duplex and half-duplex. Full-duplex implementations require four-wire (two signal pairs) instead of two-wire in half-duplex implementations; But despite the downside of two-wire implementation is it is limited to half-duplex and needs attention to turn-around delay, in practical applications, half-duplex is most chosen. The reason is full-duplex solution depends on master-slave model, which means the slaves cannot communicate with each other. In modern designs of transceiver, the allowed number of nodes can connect to the bus is up to hundreds.

Name	Detail
Differential	Yes
Number of supported devices	32 transmitters/32 receivers
Operation mode	Half-duplex
Longest supported distance	at 100kbps: 1200 meters
Highest supported transmitting speed	at 10Mbps: 16 meters
Mark (data = 1) condition	1.5V to 5V (A negative towards B)
Space (data = 0) condition	1.5V to 5V (A positive towards B)
Output current capacity	250mA
Receiver input sensitivity	± 200 mV
Receiver input range	-7V to 12V

Table 2.1: RS-485 Remarkable Specifications

Working principle of RS-485 is different in comparison to other standard; Instead of using a zero ground as the voltage reference, which will cause noise over the communication length, it uses floating voltage between two wires of the signal pairs, A and B or (+) and (-). After transmitting, the receiver compares the different of voltage between two wires and achieved the correct data with the lowest noise may cause. Figure 2.3 illustrates an example of the RS-485 waveforms transmitting one byte which has Mark, Space, and Idle phases. In most network, there will be one node acting as the master and the rest work as the slaves. At this point, the master sends command frame over the connection, and all slaves receive the data, then each slave with different functionality will work as programmed with different received data and also response to the master as programmed. The best practical result is obtained with the use of twisted pair of wires because some of the noise current will flow in the opposite direction with the current in the cable. In case using the straight cable, the noise current flows straightly along the cable in the same direction which will cause a loop current. Combined with the twisted pairs of wires, the cable also comes with shield, which is an accepted approach to restrain the noise, is used in applications that need higher noise resistance.

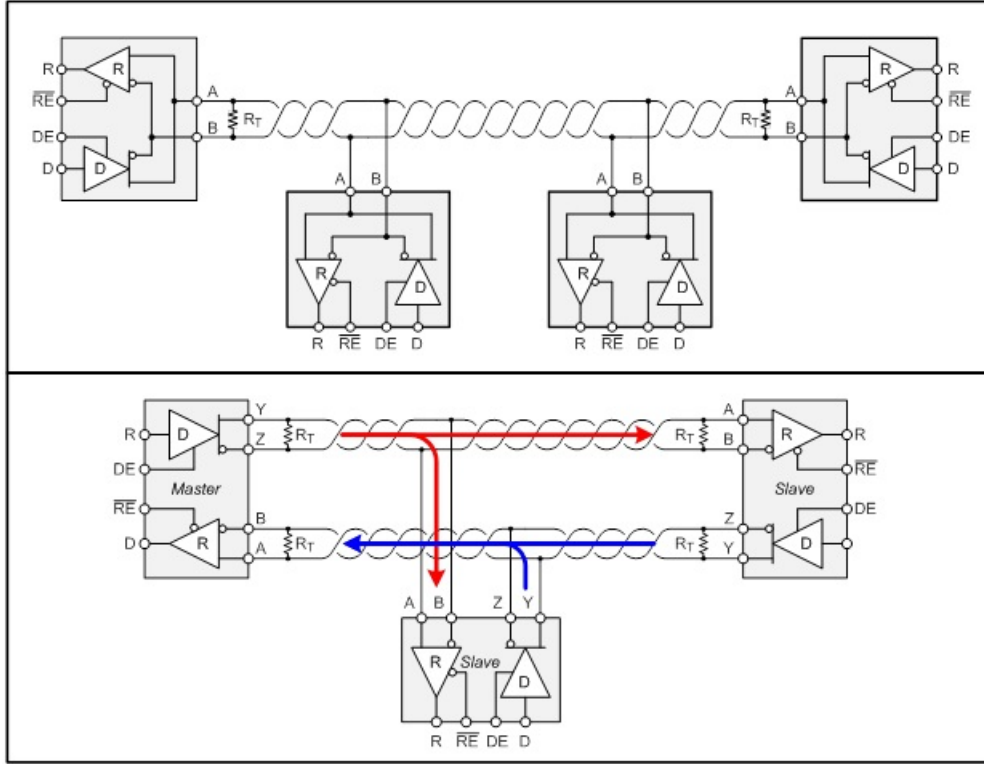


Figure 2.2: Half-duplex and Full-duplex implementations

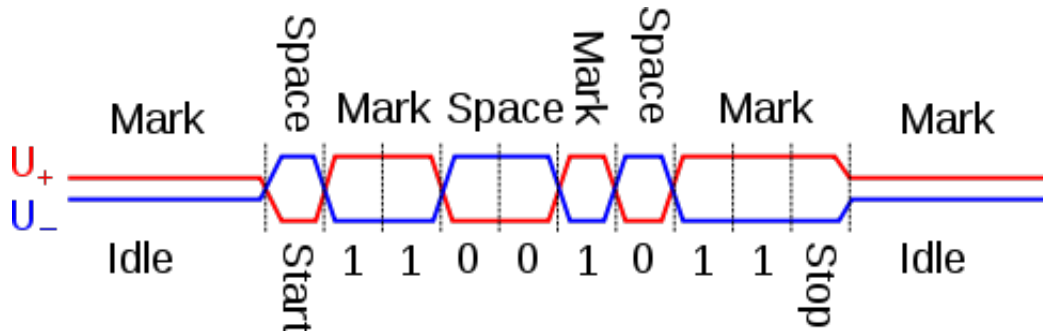


Figure 2.3: RS-485 waveform

As written in the introduction, RS-485 can connect with multiple transmitters and receivers in the same network. For instance, using input resistance around $12k\Omega$, the numbers of devices can connect to the system is up to 32. Besides, with the connectors, this number can increase significantly to the number of thousands and the transmitting distance can be also extended to kilometers. In addition, the network implemented with RS-485 needs termination, usually with a 120Ω resistance at the end of two wires. This is applied to terminate or minimize the reflection in order to avoid the fraud of sending data. Furthermore, it usually included pull up and pull down resistors for fail-safe bias in each wire in case that any wire is not controlled by any device. When input voltage ranging from $-200mV$ to $+200mV$, receiver understands as “undefined” state, which caused by several reasons such as system is shutdown, connection from receiver to network is lost, or cable has an

open or short part. In this case, fail-safe biasing is applied in order to confirm that the receivers receive defined states only.

2.2.4 MQTT

MQTT is abbreviation of Message Queuing Telemetry Transport, which is a protocol laid in Application layer of OSI model. It is designed as a machine-to-machine and remarkably lightweight protocol that helps communication between constrained devices becomes effortless in comparison to other wireless protocols. In detail, its working principle based on publish and subscribe methodology in order to reduce the amount of transmitting data which leads to the reduction of used bandwidth, latency and power consumption.

A Message Queue Telemetry Transport (MQTT) system is the combination of a server, but usually named broker, and the clients, in which can acts as either a publisher, subscriber or both. One broker can have numerous clients connect to and each client can subscribe to any topic it is programmed. These subscribers are following and watching for the changes of data of the subscribed topics, once other clients which are defined as the publisher publishes message to the topics, then the broker distributed the payload of message to other clients who had subscribed to those topics. In this scenario, the publisher and subscribers do not need to know the information of each other, the only needed are the topics for publishing and subscribing. Figure 2.4 refers a simple example of a MQTT system consists of one broker and four clients, in which three clients are the publishers and one is the subscriber that subscribes to three topics the publishers publish to. To be specific, three publishers are the sensor nodes publish to three topics, temp1, temp2 and temp3; the last client named Sensor Data Gatherer acts as the subscriber that follows three topics mentioned previously. At once, the subscriber will receive the message whenever a publisher broadcasts the message to any of those topics. Implemented MQTT system will be described in details in later part of the thesis.

2.2.5 WebSocket

WebSocket was introduced in 2011 in term of a communication protocol, implementing full-duplex channels over one TCP connection. The protocol is laid in Application layer of OSI model but distinguished from HTTP. Distinct to HTTP, in WebSocket applications, a server can send the data to client without waiting for requests from client. All data are being sent between server and client will be sent to a settled connection which helps accelerate the data rate and keep the connection opened when necessary. Similar to MQTT, it is designed to reduce the transmitting data, which leads to the reduction of bandwidth and consumed power. Although it is designed for web applications, still, it can be implemented in any applications that need such a lightweight protocol. Figure 2.5 illustrates how WebSocket works. There are two parts of the protocol, handshaking and transmitting data. At first, client sends a request to server to initialize the websocket connection, the server then send an acceptance to connect. After this point, the data are being sent as WS frame with numbering as in the Figure 2.5.

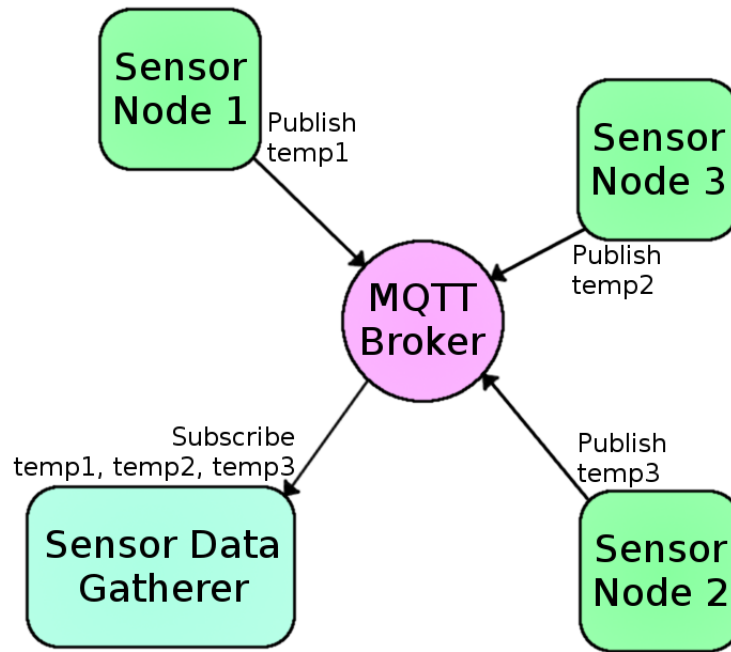


Figure 2.4: Simple example of a MQTT system

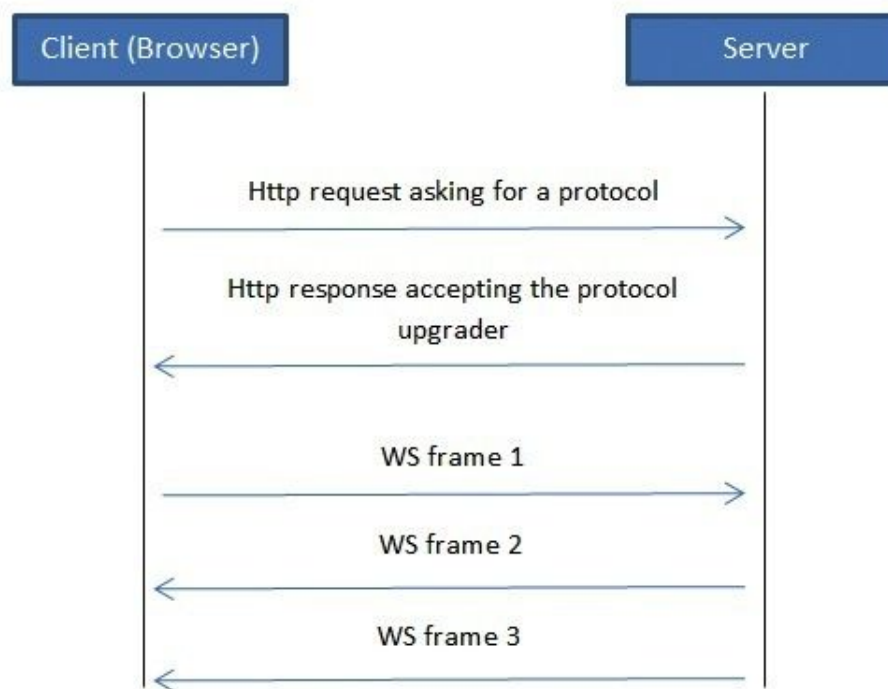


Figure 2.5: WebSocket working principle

2.3 Facial Recognition

2.4 Application Server

Chapter 3

Hardware Design of The System

3.1 Expected System Diagram

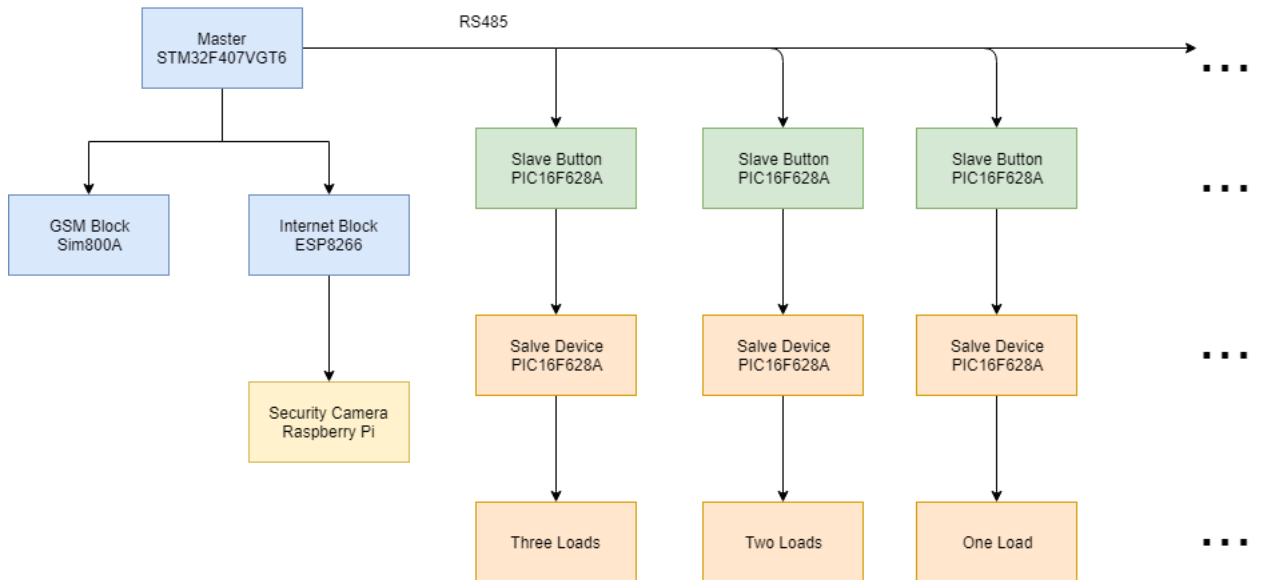


Figure 3.1: Expected hardware blocks

Attributes	Detail	Notes
Maximum number of devices	99	Can be extended by extending command frame
Longest distance supported	1200 meters	
Communication method	Mainly RS-485	
Wi-Fi connection	Wi-fi 2.4GHz	

Table 3.1: System ideal characteristics

In Figure 3.1, there are blocks named Master, Slave Buttons, Slave Devices, GSM block, Internet block and Security Camera. Each block is indicated with implemented hardware and how they connect to each other. As in the figure 3.1, Master is connecting with number of Slaves by UART over RS-485; Also, Master

is implemented with GSM and Internet blocks in order to help end user controlling devices and receiving alerts over GSM or Wi-Fi. Each slave connects to the system has the same working principle but different names. In this thesis, there are two slave-2-devices and one slave-3-devices alongside with two slave-2-buttons and one slave-3-buttons to control the loads, respectively. Besides, the author designed one slave-2-buttons and one slave-1-button to control three out of seven existed devices. Three slave-devices are implemented with relays switch state for devices in the house, last device (Device 3) of slave-3-devices is assigned as the Main Door trigger to demonstrate the Security Camera System with Facial Recognition later on.

Internet Block is the middle man for communicating between Application Server and the System. With this block implemented, end-user can control devices without pushing the physical buttons, which may causes difficulties for users because the owners can control their house whenever and wherever they want. Besides, with the help of the Application Server, end-users can collect and monitor data in the house in order to diagnostic and maintain precisely. GSM block should be installed in order to help in the event that Internet block is having unexpected problems.

Security Camera block is the block that monitors the main door and inside the house. The camera installed outdoor is responsible for outdoor security in which it will track people entering the house with a facial recognition system. Additionally, indoor camera should handle the motion detection system while the owner is not at home in order to find strange motion which maybe a burglar breaking in the house. These two system will track and alert by emails, mobile application and text message over GSM network in the case that they detect something. Furthermore, the three-dots indicates that the system can be extended with number of slaves over RS-485, but only up to 99 dues to the limitation of command frame.

3.2 Master

3.2.1 Microcontroller Requirements

There are few requirements for the Microcontroller that the author decided to build the system for the thesis, listed as following.

- Support UART in order to communicate with other modules, namely RS-485, ESP8266 and SIM800A.
- Has widely support community.
- Easy to learn to program.
- Extendable with installed components.
- Price and ability for effortless replacement.

Based on the requirements, the chosen MCU is STM32F407VGT6 with STM32F4 Discovery Kit from STMicroelectronics. Figure 3.2 refers the real kit in the market. It is considered as a suitable MCU because of the following reasons.

- The board has large support community.
- Programmed with C language with countless documents.



Figure 3.2: STM32F4 Discovery Kit

- MCU used is STM32F407VGT6, with core ARM Cortex 32bit M4, clock up to 168Mhz.
- Support up to 140 I/O.
- Flash memory 1MB.
- Easy to flash even with end-user.
- Cheap price and easy to find replacement parts.

In this thesis, to ensure the effortless replacement of the system parts, the author designed with modules attached on PCB by using headers. With this method, whenever an error occurs to any part of the system, end-user can replace the broken part easily without replacing the whole system. Figure 3.3 shows the headers on Master board for STM32F4 Discovery Kit which is chosen for the thesis. In addition, it shows the connection pin of the MCU with other modules over UART. To be

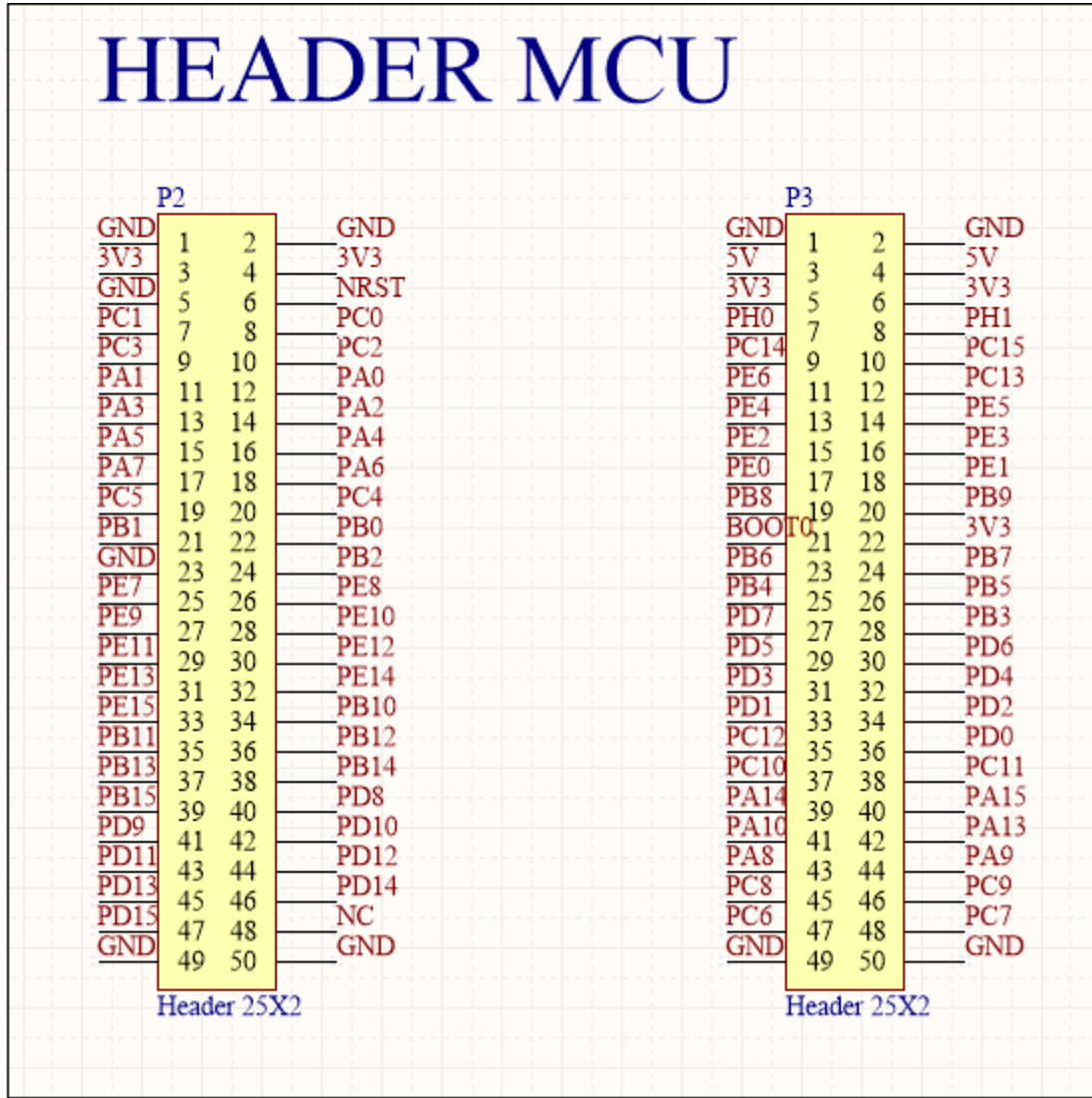


Figure 3.3: Header for STM32F4 Discovery Kit

more specific, MCU connects with RS-485 module over UART1 via pin PB6-PB7, with module ESP8266 over UART2 via pin PD5-PD6, with module SIM800A over UART3 via pin PD8-PD9.

3.2.2 Module RS-485

Figure 3.5 refers the cheap version of module TTL to RS-485 on the market. It integrated IC MAX485 as the main component and other sub-components included termination resistor. This module is stable enough for the system and easy to replace due to its cheap price but does has a weakness which is if it is broken, end-user cannot know unless further tests on the module is processed. The table 3.2 indicates the pin out guideline to connect with the MCU. According to datasheet of IC MAX485, RE and DE must be connected for the MCU to control the module based on logic level, in which the module is transmitting if the pins are pull up to 1, otherwise it is receiving.

Figure 3.4 shows the headers which are used on Master board for RS-485 module

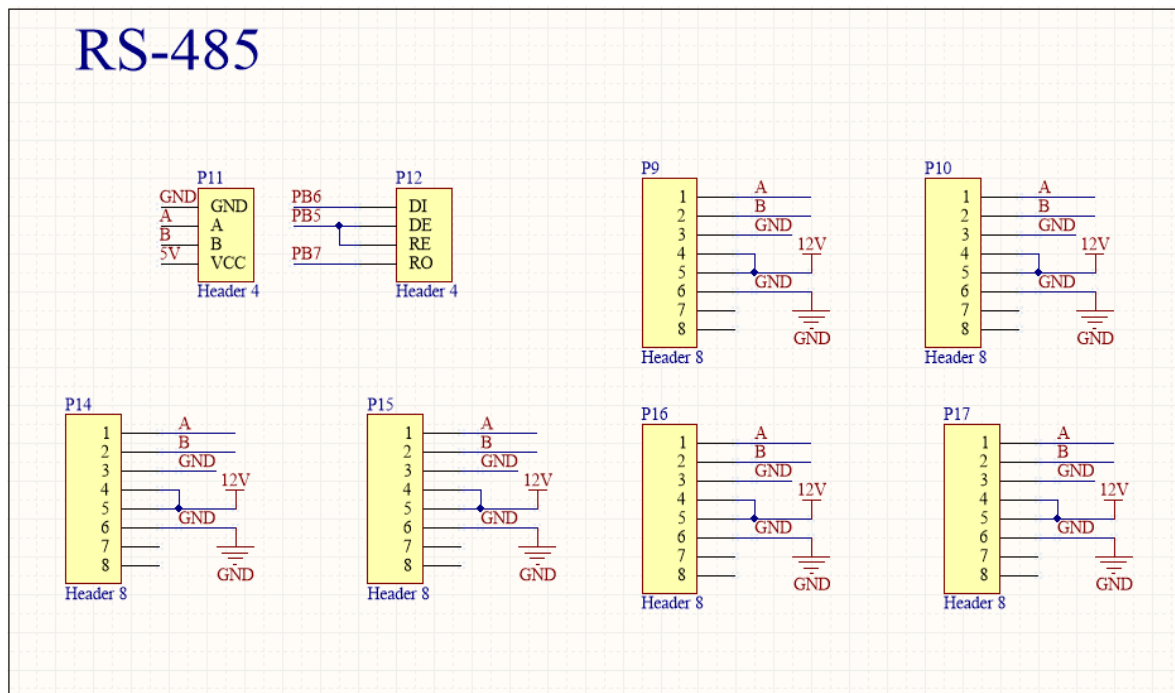


Figure 3.4: Header for module RS-485



Figure 3.5: Module RS-485

Pin	Detail
VCC	5V
A	Non-inverting Receiver Input and Non-inverting Driver Output
B	.Inverting Receiver Input and Inverting Driver Output
GND	GND, should be 0V
RO	Receiver Output (to Rx pin of microcontroller)
RE	Receiver Output Enable (Low to enable)
DE	Driver Output Enable (high to enable)
DI	Driver Input (to Tx pin of microcontroller)

Table 3.2: Module UART TTL to RS-485 pin out

in figure 3.5 and the headers of RJ-11 female jack for RS-485 output of the Master. The reason for choosing RJ-11 jack and its compatible cable is the cable suits for the project which needs four wires, in which two are the signal wires (A and B of RS-485 standard) and the other two are the pair providing power for other slaves

(12V and GND). With this method, a four-wire twisted cable with shield is used in order to keep the noise as low as possible and still, provides the power along the whole system with only one cable connected.

3.2.3 Module ESP-8266

This module is implemented to establish the connection between the Application Server and the System. End-users can control and monitor their system with a website or an android application over Wi-Fi connection with module ESP-8266. There are various versions of module using ESP-8266 on the market, but the full name of the chosen module is ESP-8266 NodeMCU lua CP2102. It is a small size kit that integrated with ESP8266 SoC, other components and it is also compatible with Arduino IDE which makes it become the easiest to use ESP-8266 module in comparison to other versions.

Attribute	Detail
SoC	ESP8266 Wifi SoC
Firmware	NodeMCU Lua
Flash chip	CP2102
GPIO	compatible with firmware of Node MCU
Power supply	5V DC with Micro USB or Vin
GPIO logic level	3.3V
Integrated LED	Reset, Flash and Status indicator
Dimension	25mm x 50mm
Others	Compatible with Arduino IDE

Table 3.3: Module ESP-8266 NodeMCU lua CP2102 remarkable characteristics



Figure 3.6: Module ESP-8266 NodeMCU lua CP2102

3.2.4 Module SIM800A

3.2.5 Power for Master

Chapter 4

Algorithm and Software Design of The System

Chapter 5

Experimental Results

Chapter 6

Conclusion