Revival of the IoT Thermostat

ECE558 - Final Project
Meshal Albaiz and Tristan Cunderla

Project Overview

Revival of ECE-544 Final Project

- Used Nexys 4 DDR board paired with PMOD modules (temperature sensor, OLED display and keypad)
- Utilized a NodeMCU
- DC motor to simulate thermostat fan
- Python GUI for control interface
- Website to pass information between Python GUI and NodeMCU/Nexys 4 DDR board

Updated Project Components:

- Android application that controls and monitors the thermostat
- Raspberry Pi running Android Things "simulates" a thermostat
- Google Firebase to hold thermostat information and to sync
- DC motor to simulate thermostat fan
- LEDs to indicate the current state of the thermostat (heating, cooling or stable)

Deliverables

ANDROID APPLICATION

Base Deliverables:

- Ability to adjust temperature
- Ability to set fan mode (manual or automatic)
- Display current temperature from Raspberry Pi temperature sensor
- Multiple phone integration (when one person changes the settings other phones using the app will be notified)
- Implementation of sound
- Ability to read and write data to Firebase

Stretch Deliverables:

- Add speech recognition so the user can set the temperature with their voice
- Add a real time graph
- What-if scenarios (example: if I have my system on for this long then it will cost X amount of money)
- The ability to schedule the thermostat to operate during a certain time block
- Has the ability to access current weather conditions
- Notifications to all phones when thermostat settings change

RASPBERRY PI APPLICATION

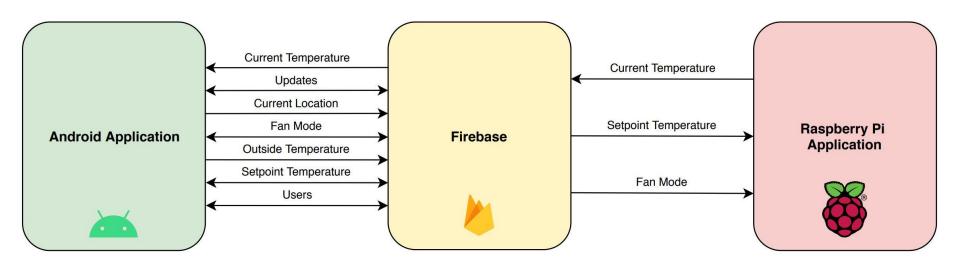
Base Deliverables:

- Utilize Android Things
- Uses LED to indicate whether the system is heating, cooling or stable
- Motor direction indicates whether system is heating or cooling
- Ability to read and write data to Firebase

Stretch Deliverables:

- Add a screen to Raspberry Pi
- Add text to speech to Pi app to verbally indicate that the temperature has been changed

Project Data Flow



Android Application

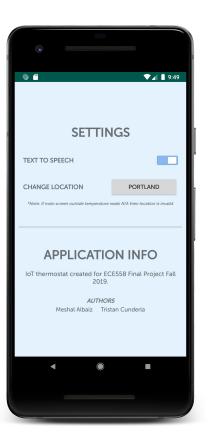
- Composed of four main activities:
 - Main Activity
 - Allows user to set thermostat setpoint
 - Allows user to set thermostat fan mode.
 - Dashboard indicating the current thermostat statistics (current temperature reading, current setpoint, current temperature outside and fan mode)
 - Provides buttons to launch other activities
 - Graph Activity
 - Displays a real time graph that updates every second
 - Ability to show/hide setpoint and temperature reading on graph
 - Updates Activity
 - Always the user to review previous changes to the thermostat system
 - Always user to sort updates from newest to oldest or vice versa
 - Always user to clear the updates history
 - Settings Activity
 - Allows user to turn on/off text-to-speech
 - Allows user to "change the location" of the thermostat
- All activities are able to handle configuration changes except the main activity, which is locked in portrait
- User must use back button to return to main activity from other activities
- Ability to read and write to Google Firebase
- Ability to support multiple users

Android Application Screenshots









Main Activity

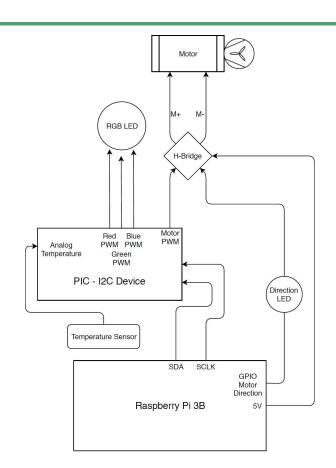
Graph Activity

Updates Activity

Settings Activity

Raspberry Pi Application

- Pi application reads ambient temperature from the temperature sensor
- Application updates temperature value on Firebase every second using a thread
- RGB LED and motor speed & direction are updated if the temperature, setpoint, power status, or fanmode have changed



Google Firebase

- Both Android application and Raspberry Pi application read and write to Firebase
- Aids in synching thermostat settings between mobile devices
- Helps with communication between Android application and Raspberry Pi application



Challenges

- Using the PMOD HB3 with Raspberry Pi
- Using custom seekbars and graph
 Java modules
- Data handling and syncing between multiple mobile devices



Demo

Questions?