

Commuter Tracking Sensor Network

Weekly Report - August 31st, 2014

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Project Website:

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Updated Milestone Chart

Milestone / Task	Team Member in Charge	Modified Completion Date	Original Completion Date	Comments
5.1 Install software (Django, Apache, etc.)	Seth	6/21/2014	6/17/2014	Apache, Django, MariaDB are installed and ready to go.
6.1 Disable root login test	Seth	6/21/2014	6/16/2014	Done automatically when Raspbian was updated
6.2 Set the SSH port to a non-standard port test	Seth	6/21/2014	6/17/2014	SSH Port is set to 1315, not the default port of 22
7.1 Begin playing with Pixy Cam in USB tethered mode	Jared, Alex, Seth	7/11/2014	5/1/2014	Completed. We've all experimented and interfaced with the PixyCam now, and familiarized ourselves with its basic operation.
5.3 Install fail2ban	Seth	9/1/2014	6/21/2014	Fail2ban is installed, but not configured as of yet
3.1 Breadboard prototyping	Alex	9/5/2014	6/1/2014	Started with half-wave rectifier circuit, and building up to the power amplification and conditioning
6.3 Disable password login test - must log in with SSH key	Alex, Jared, Seth	9/5/2014	6/21/2014	Not done yet. Alex and Jared still need to generate keys.
6.5 Ping disabled test	Seth, Security Majors	9/5/2014	6/21/2014	The current router being used does not support disabling ping. Either a new router is needed, or the firmware needs to be updated.
12.1 Create status webpage, hosted somewhere else	Seth	9/5/2014	9/5/2014	Status webpage that pings the gateway is functional. Its currently hosted on one of Seth's pis, located at http://people.rit.edu/~srh7240/ctsn_status . Although, there are improvements that can be made to it.
3.2 PCB design	Alex	9/12/2014	6/10/2014	Boost converter library for Eagle complete, schematic started. Nick Conn has agreed to be a point of contact for us if we have difficulty.

6.4 White Hat Hacker Test	Seth	9/18/2014	6/21/2014	Waiting for keys to be generated. Seth will talk with some people this week to see if anyone is willing to attempt to hack the server.
8.1 Use CAD tools to design sensor enclosure	Jared	9/19/2014	7/1/2014	
10.1 Train camera for identifying walkers, bikers, and horses	Seth	9/19/2014	8/1/2014	
11. Database Creation		9/23/2014	9/14/2014	
11.1 Create mysql or mariadb database so data from trail can be saved to it	Jared	9/23/2014	9/5/2014	MariaDB is installed on the server, and is ready to go
12.3 Link to database	Jared, Alex	9/23/2014	9/21/2014	Database library is readily available and easily linkable through Django framework
8.2 Use 3D printer to print the enclosures	Jared	9/26/2014	7/15/2014	
12. Website Creation		9/26/2014	9/28/2014	
12.2 Create front end	Jared, Alex	9/26/2014	9/14/2014	Stub Django project is installed on the server and ready to be modified
16.2 Activate website	Team	9/29/2014	11/9/2014	
13. Website Testing (See Gantt Chart)	Team	9/30/2014	10/4/2014	
10. Sensor Software - Identify targets		10/1/2014	9/1/2014	
10.2 Train camera to figure out what direction the target is going	Seth	10/1/2014	9/1/2014	
3. Windbelt power module design		10/2/2014	6/18/2014	
3.3 Ship design for stamping	Alex	10/2/2014	6/18/2014	

4.1 Solder on components	Alex	10/3/2014	6/29/2014	
4. Windbelt power module construction and testing		10/6/2014	6/30/2014	
4.2 Continuity tests	Alex	10/6/2014	6/30/2014	
5. Server/Gateway setup	Seth	10/6/2014	7/1/2014	The server is a Raspberry Pi located at ctsn.student.rit.edu.
5.2 Interface XBee with Pi	Seth	10/6/2014	7/1/2014	The XBee did not arrive on time, so this slipped
6. Server/Gateway testing		10/6/2014	7/1/2014	
2.1 Configure XBees for DigiMesh and have them communicating in close proximity	Seth, Jared	10/7/2014	6/1/2014	
8. Sensor Enclosure Design / Testing		10/8/2014	8/7/2014	
8.3 Test (See Gantt Chart)	Jared	10/8/2014	8/7/2014	
2.2 Range Test	Seth, Jared	10/9/2014	6/9/2014	
2. Networking Architecture Configuration and Testing		10/13/2014	6/15/2014	The XBees did not come in on time, so this had to be pushed back. All Raspberry Pis have software on them so they can use uart to communicate with the XBees when needed for testing purposes.
2.3 Small-scale trail deployment	Seth, Jared	10/13/2014	6/15/2014	
15. Computer Vision Testing (See Gantt Chart)	Alex, Seth	10/13/2014	10/28/2014	
14.1 Sensors communicate target data with each other	Seth	10/14/2014	10/4/2014	
7.2 Interface Pixy Cam with an XBee	Jared	10/22/2014	6/22/2014	

1. Contact Monroe County Discuss deployment options for sensor nodes.	Jared	10/28/2014	10/27/2014	Not a priority until we complete more of the technical requirements.
14. Target Data Communication		10/28/2014	10/5/2014	
14.2 Sensors can communicate and write target data to database	Seth	10/28/2014	10/5/2014	
9. Windbelt Testing (See Gantt Chart)	Alex	10/29/2014	5/27/2014	Currently on iteration 3 of the Windbelt test fixture prototyping. Once complete, will be able to continue with testing. Very minimal tests have concluded that it is possible to run a diode in forward mode and get 150mV of DC current out of it with a 150 ohm load. This will be continued with a newer prototype that positions the magnet so that its poles are in line with the core of the coil, more effectively applying Faraday's Principle.
7. Sensor hardware testing and integration		10/31/2014	7/11/2014	
7.3 Integrate with existing power module	Jared, Alex	10/31/2014	7/11/2014	Will be done upon completion of the power module.
17.1 Advanced II integration testing with focus on single node in controlled environment	Team	11/5/2014		
17.2 Advanced II integration testing with focus on single node in an outdoor environment	Team	11/10/2014		

17.Integration Testing		11/13/2014		
17.3 Advanced II testing with focus on operation in outdoor environment for multiple nodes	Team	11/13/2014		
16. Deployment		11/17/2014	11/9/2014	
16.1 Deploy nodes on trail	Team	11/17/2014	11/5/2014	

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Status

Difficulties

Currently we are addressing two major difficulties. First is to optimise the configuration of the windbelt. There are a number of parametrics and variables that need to be tuned to our specific requirements. While we have good guidelines for finding these values much experimentation is needed to validate the theoretical optimal values. Specifically, we need to find an optimum orientation for the coil to the plane of movement of the magnet.

The second major difficulty that we are working on is the integration of CV algorithms into the existing PixyCam firmware. This is probably the greatest hurdle that we need to overcome the entirety of the system. The documentation for the firmware is somewhat limited so a code review will be required to familiarise ourselves with the code base.

Surprises

Alex was surprised at the drastic change in operation that was achieved by changing the alignment of the magnet to the coil on the windbelt. He was able to greatly improve magnitude of the output with a slight movement of the coil, and consistency of output by placing the coil and magnet closer to the end of the belt.

Successes

Alex was successful in the construction of a second version of the windbelt, which gave good power outputs. The results are as follows: 150mV of DC voltage and positive current values coming out of the diode with only 1.5mA of AC current and about 620mV of AC voltage being generated by the coil for a 150 ohm load and 10pF of capacitance. The IN5817 was used for the diode.

Seth was also successful with his tests sending SMS messages with web server commands. We can utilize sending http requests to a web server to send SMS messages. This will allow us to be aware of the network and receive important messages about its status.

Open Questions & Problems

Some question is arising as to whether the Windbelt will provide a viable source of renewable energy for this project's purposes. Version 3 of the testing prototype will most likely answer this question for good. Backup renewable energy sources have been considered, and solar energy seems to be the most suitable alternative due to its simplicity in implementation and access to existing application notes.

It is expected that future iterations of the design will generate larger amounts of current from the coil. The field emitted by the coil may cause EMI issues with adjacent components, and may also be a safety concern. Further investigation on these potential issues is underway.

OpenCV had many OS dependencies, as such it may not be optimal for the embedded platform that we are utilizing. There seems to be two options moving forward. The first is to investigate loading a full Unix-like OS on to the PixyCam; like [ROS](#) (Robot Operating System). This is probably non-optimal due to the somewhat limited computational power of the ARM Cortex-M. An ARM Cortex-A would probably be required to run such a "heavy" system.

The second option is to investigate other libraries that are lighter and don't have the OS dependencies that OpenCV currently has. Alternatives include: [VXL](#) (Vision-something-Library), [VIGRA](#) (Vision with Generic Algorithms) and [IVT](#) (Integrated Vision Toolkit). All of these option offer a C or C++ library with CV functions. The lightest and simplest toolchain, with the fewest dependencies is desired.

Gantt Chart

