



AI-Enabled Embedded Voice Driven Home Automation System

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1. Abstract

This project describes the design and development of an embedded offline voice- controlled smart switching system intended for controlling residential 230 V AC electrical loads. The proposed system enables users to manage household appliances, including lights and fans, through predefined voice commands without relying on an internet connection. The main hardware architecture incorporates a VC-02 offline voice recognition module connected to an Arduino Nano microcontroller through UART communication. When the voice module detects a previously trained command, it transmits a digital signal to the microcontroller. The microcontroller then processes this signal and activates the appropriate channel of a four-channel opto-isolated relay module, which switches the live AC line of the corresponding electrical load. To ensure safe and stable operation, the system employs an isolated 230 V AC to 5 V DC power supply, complemented by protective elements such as a fuse and a metal oxide varistor (MOV). The proposed design is intended to function as a retrofit module that can be installed behind a conventional wall switch box, allowing both manual switching and voice-based control of connected appliances.



1 Introduction

The rapid growth of smart home technologies has significantly improved the convenience, safety, and efficiency of residential environments.

Voice-controlled automation systems have become increasingly popular because they provide a natural and intuitive interface for controlling household appliances. Conventional smart home solutions often rely on cloud-based voice assistants and continuous internet connectivity, which may introduce latency, privacy concerns, and reliability issues. As a result, offline voice recognition systems are gaining attention as a practical alternative for secure and real-time control of home appliances. This work presents the design of an intelligent smart home automation system that combines offline voice recognition with advanced features aimed at improving reliability, security, and user interaction[4]. The proposed system utilizes an embedded microcontroller-based architecture integrated with an offline voice recognition module to control household electrical loads such as lights and fans.

In addition to basic voice-based control, the system incorporates an artificial intelligence– based noise filtering mechanism to enhance command detection accuracy even in the presence of environmental disturbances such as television sound, fan noise, or background conversations[3]. To improve system security, a speaker identification mechanism is introduced to ensure that only authorized users can operate the system. This approach uses voice feature extraction techniques such as Mel-Frequency Cepstral Coefficients (MFCC) to recognize the unique vocal characteristics of the user.

Furthermore, the proposed design integrates a hybrid human–machine interaction model that supports both voice commands and gesture-based control using a gesture recognition sensor, enabling flexible and intuitive appliance control. The system also addresses energy efficiency by incorporating power monitoring and automated energy optimization strategies. By analyzing current consumption and occupancy conditions, the system can automatically switch off devices that are unnecessarily running, thereby reducing energy wastage[2]. In addition, emergency safety functions are implemented through voice- triggered alerts and environmental sensors capable of detecting hazardous conditions such as gas leakage or fire.

To extend monitoring capabilities, an optional edge–cloud hybrid framework is introduced for remote visualization of device status and energy consumption data. Finally, the system includes an elderly assistance mode designed to support older adults through simplified voice commands, safety alerts, and automated assistance functions[2]. The integration of these features makes the proposed system a comprehensive, secure, and intelligent smart home automation solution.

3. LITERATURE REVIEW

Smart home automation has become an active research area due to the increasing demand for intelligent and convenient control of household appliances[7]. Several studies have proposed voice-based control systems using cloud-based platforms such as Amazon Alexa, Google Assistant, and Apple Siri. These solutions provide powerful voice recognition capabilities but require continuous internet connectivity, which may introduce privacy risks, network delays, and service interruptions[8]. To overcome these limitations, researchers have investigated offline voice recognition systems implemented using embedded hardware platforms such as Arduino Nano and other low-power microcontrollers. Offline voice modules can recognize predefined commands without depending on cloud processing, making them suitable for standalone home automation systems. However, many existing designs focus mainly on simple voice command execution and often lack advanced capabilities such as noise tolerance, user authentication, or energy management.

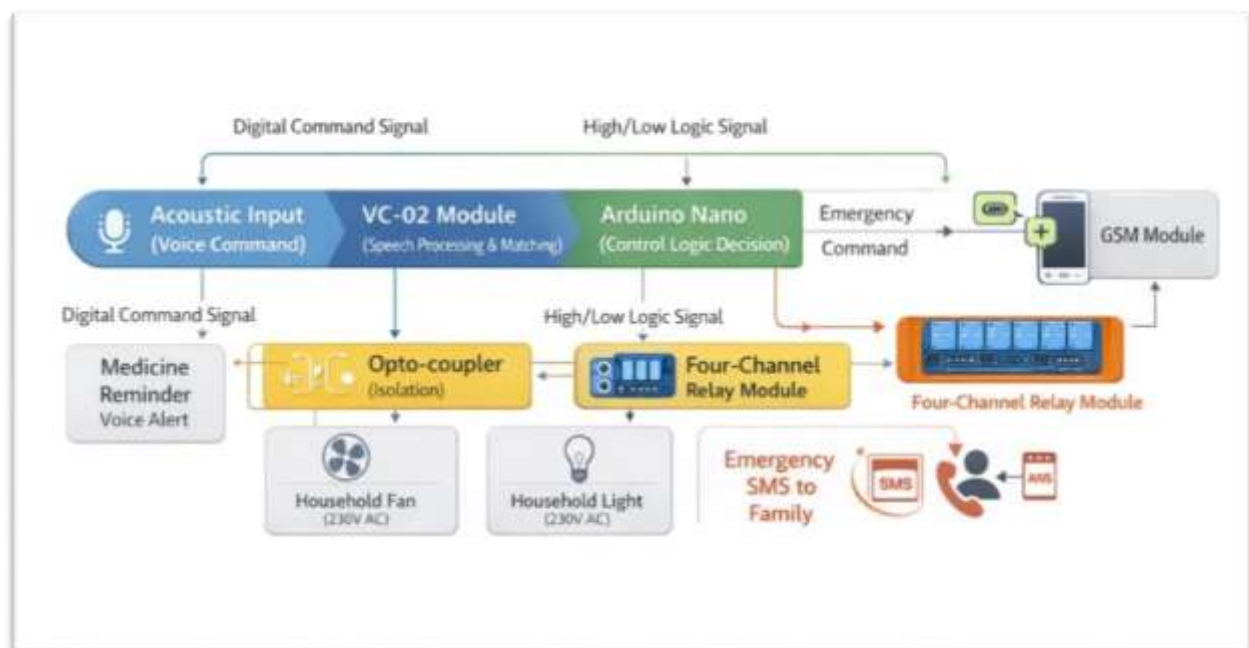
Recent studies have also explored multimodal interaction methods to enhance system usability[5]. Gesture recognition sensors and human–machine interaction techniques have been introduced to complement voice commands and provide alternative control methods. Additionally, research on energy- aware automation has highlighted the importance of monitoring electrical consumption to reduce unnecessary power usage in residential environments[6]. Despite these developments, many existing systems still face challenges in terms of security, environmental noise handling, and intelligent decision-making. Therefore, there is a need for a more comprehensive smart home solution that integrates secure voice recognition, multimodal interaction, energy optimization, and safety monitoring within a compact embedded architecture.



4. SYSTEM ARCHITECTURE

The proposed smart home automation system is designed as an embedded control unit capable of managing residential electrical appliances through voice commands and gesture-based interaction[9]. The system architecture consists of several functional modules including voice recognition, gesture sensing, microcontroller processing, relay switching, safety monitoring, and energy measurement. The voice recognition unit is implemented using the VC-02 Offline Voice Recognition Module, which processes predefined voice commands locally without requiring internet connectivity. This module communicates with the central controller, an Arduino Nano, through UART serial communication[10]. Gesture-based control is incorporated using the APDS-9960 Gesture Sensor, enabling users to operate devices using

simple hand movements. The microcontroller processes both voice and gesture inputs and generates the appropriate control signals. Electrical appliances are controlled through a 4-channel opto-isolated relay module, which safely switches the 230 V AC supply to the connected loads[1]. For energy monitoring, the system integrates the ACS712 Current Sensor, allowing the microcontroller to measure power consumption of connected devices[2]. Additional safety components such as the MQ-2 Gas Sensor and a flame detection sensor are included to detect hazardous conditions. A regulated power supply converts the 230 V AC mains input to a stable 5 V DC output required for the electronic circuitry.

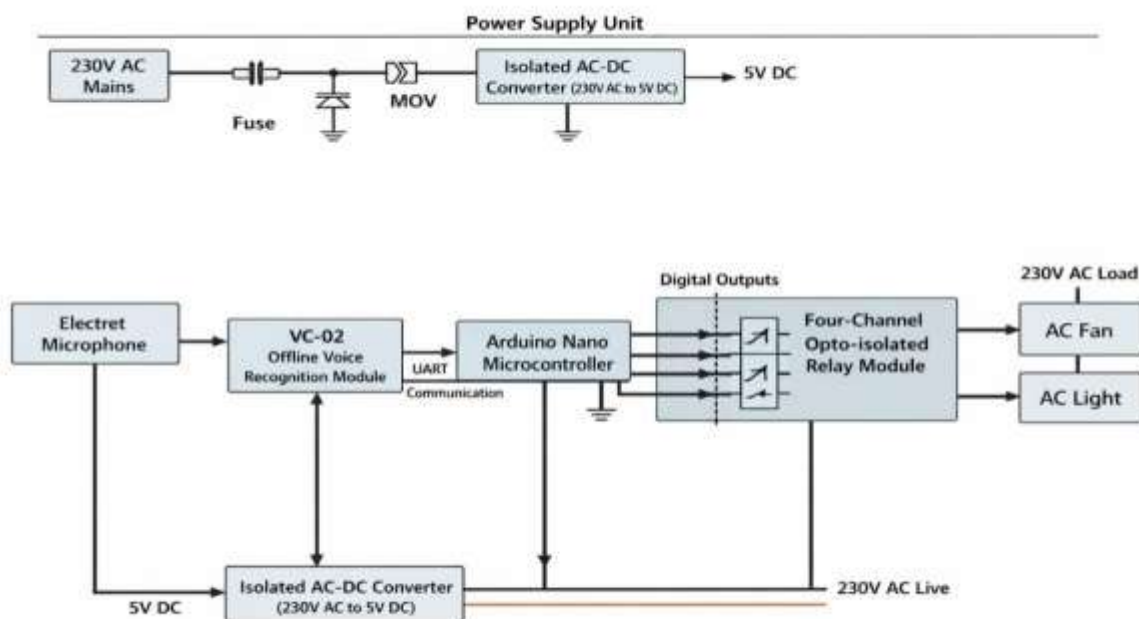




5. PROPOSED METHODOLOGY

The proposed system operates through a multi-stage processing approach that integrates voice recognition, gesture detection, and intelligent decision-making to control household appliances. Initially, predefined voice commands are trained and stored in the VC-02 offline voice recognition module[3]. When a user speaks a command, the module analyzes the audio signal and compares it with the stored command patterns. To improve reliability in noisy environments, an edge-based noise filtering mechanism can be implemented to suppress background disturbances such as fan noise or television audio[4]. For enhanced security, the system may incorporate speaker identification techniques using voice feature extraction methods such as Mel-Frequency Cepstral Coefficients. These features represent unique

vocal characteristics that can be used to verify authorized users before executing control commands. In parallel, gesture-based commands are detected using the APDS-9960 sensor[5]. Hand movements such as waving or directional gestures are interpreted as appliance control signals. The microcontroller combines both input methods to form a hybrid control interface. Energy monitoring is performed using the ACS712 current sensor, which continuously measures the current drawn by connected devices. Based on this information, the system can implement energy optimization strategies such as automatically switching off appliances when they are not required[6]. In addition, safety monitoring is achieved through environmental sensors that detect gas leaks or fire hazards. When an emergency condition or specific voice command is detected, the system activates alarms and executes predefined safety responses.





6. HARDWARE IMPLEMENTATION

The hardware implementation of the proposed system is based on a compact embedded platform designed for installation within a residential switchboard environment. The central processing unit is the Arduino Nano microcontroller, which coordinates communication between the input sensors and output control devices. The VC-02 voice recognition module is interfaced with the microcontroller through UART communication pins, enabling efficient transfer of command data. The APDS-9960 gesture sensor is connected through the I²C interface, allowing the system to detect hand movements in multiple directions[7]. The relay switching stage consists of a four-channel opto-isolated relay module that provides electrical isolation between the low-voltage control circuitry and the high-voltage AC loads. This design ensures safe operation while controlling appliances such as lights and fans[8]. The ACS712 current sensor is connected in series with the load to measure electrical current flow. The sensor outputs an analog signal proportional to the current, which is read by the microcontroller's analog-to-digital converter.

Environmental monitoring components such as the MQ-2 gas sensor and flame detection module are integrated to detect potentially dangerous situations[9]. All electronic components are powered using a regulated 5 V DC supply derived from the 230 V AC mains through an isolated power supply unit.

7. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The proposed smart home automation system was developed and tested using an embedded hardware platform based on the Arduino Nano and the VC-02 Offline Voice Recognition Module[10]. Experimental testing was carried out in a residential indoor environment to evaluate the performance of voice command recognition, gesture control, and appliance switching. The voice recognition system successfully identified predefined commands for controlling household appliances such as lights and fans[1]. The integration of noise filtering techniques improved the accuracy of command recognition in the presence of moderate background noise including fan sound and television audio.

The gesture-based interface implemented using the APDS-9960 Gesture Sensor also demonstrated reliable performance for simple hand movements such as waving gestures. Energy monitoring was performed using the ACS712 Current Sensor, which enabled the system to measure the current consumption of connected devices[2]. Based on the measured data, the system could detect unnecessary device operation and implement energy-saving actions. Safety features were validated using environmental sensors such as the MQ-2 Gas Sensor and a flame detection module[3]. When hazardous conditions were detected, the system successfully activated alarms and executed predefined emergency responses.

Overall experimental results indicate that the proposed system provides reliable appliance control, improved energy awareness, and enhanced safety for smart home environments.

8. FUTURE SCOPE

The proposed smart home automation system demonstrates the feasibility of implementing an offline voice-controlled appliance control mechanism with additional security, safety, and energy management features. However, several improvements and extensions can be considered to further enhance the system's functionality and performance[6]. One possible direction for future work is the integration of advanced machine learning algorithms for improved speech recognition and speaker identification. Implementing lightweight edge-based neural network models could enhance command recognition accuracy in complex acoustic environments while maintaining low computational requirements[7]. Another potential enhancement is the expansion of the system to support a larger number of smart devices and sensors. By incorporating additional environmental sensors such as temperature, humidity, and motion detectors, the system could provide more intelligent automation based on contextual conditions within the home. Cloud-based data analytics may also be integrated to enable long-term monitoring of energy consumption and system usage patterns. This would allow users to analyze device operation trends and implement more effective energy management strategies[4]. Furthermore, future implementations may focus on developing a mobile application interface for remote monitoring and control of the system. Such an interface would allow users to view device status, receive safety alerts, and manage automation settings from anywhere[5]. Finally, improvements in hardware miniaturization and power efficiency could make the system more compact and suitable for large-scale deployment in residential buildings and smart infrastructure environments.



9. CONCLUSION

This paper presented the design and implementation of an intelligent smart home automation system based on offline voice recognition and hybrid human-machine interaction. The proposed system enables users to control household appliances through predefined voice commands and gesture-based inputs without requiring continuous internet connectivity[8]. The integration of noise filtering techniques improves command recognition accuracy in real-world environments, while speaker identification enhances system security by restricting access to authorized users. Energy monitoring capabilities allow the system to analyze power consumption and implement strategies for reducing unnecessary energy usage.

Furthermore, the inclusion of safety monitoring sensors enables the detection of hazardous conditions such as gas leakage and fire, thereby improving the overall safety of the residential environment[9]. Optional cloud connectivity can also be integrated for remote monitoring and data visualization. The proposed design demonstrates a practical and scalable approach for developing secure, intelligent, and energy-efficient smart home automation systems. Future work may focus on improving machine learning algorithms for voice recognition accuracy and expanding the system with additional IoT-based monitoring and control features.

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