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Smart Glasses for Visually Impaired People Using IoT

Mrs. K. Swathi[1], P. Gayathri[2], D. Manasa[3], G. Pavani[4], B. Likhitha[5]
[1]Assistant Professor, G. Narayanamma Institute of Technology and Science, Hyderabad, Telangana, India.
[2,3,4,5]Students, G. Narayanamma Institute of Technology and Science, Hyderabad, Telangana 500104, India.
Email Id: *swathi.gbr@gmail.com[1], poollagayathri@gmail.com[2], manasa.d.20031@gmail.com[3] govindpavani14@gmail.com[4], bollamlikitha181@gmail.com[5]*

Abstract
The visually handicapped have a difficult time getting by in a world that is mostly intended for sighted people. Even seemingly simple things like locating obstacles, traversing new places, and keeping spatial awareness can be difficult for them and frequently impede their freedom and movement. Their sense of dependence and loneliness are exacerbated by the absence of real-time support and systems catered to their individual needs, which exacerbates these challenges. Smart glasses are made especially for those who are blind or visually impaired to address these issues. These smart glasses use technologies to improve the wearer's movement and independence while offering real-time help. It seeks to remove the obstacles that visually impaired people encounter when attempting to safely and successfully navigate their environment by utilizing modern sensor technology and creative IoT solutions. [3] Its primary goal is to create a wearable assistive technology with features including proximity alarms, object detection, distance measuring, and location mapping. It seeks to provide a complete and user-friendly system that caters to the unique needs of visually impaired people by integrating a variety of sensors, communication modules, and cloud-based platforms. The goal of the glasses is to let people to live more independently and confidently by removing the limits imposed by visual impairment, which will ultimately improve their overall quality of life.

Keywords: *Raspberry Pi 4; Pi Camera; GPS module; Ultrasonic Sensor; Battery; Buzzer; RF Transmitter and RF Receiver.*

1. Introduction

In a time when technology is constantly changing and redefining our everyday lives, it is imperative in order to make sure that everyone in society is included and has access to resources. People with visual impairments are among those who face specific challenges because their condition is capable of having a major impact on their navigation and spatial awareness. An innovative project has been devised to produce a specialized device that will help individuals navigate their surroundings with greater confidence and independence. Using modern technologies, the device delivers individuals real-time guidance and assistance, enabling them to securely navigate their surroundings and overcome difficulties. These assistive technologies, which incorporate functions like object detection, position mapping, and distance sensing, provide practical solutions to the problems that visually impaired people encounter on a daily basis. The potential of this innovative technology to detect and alert users to objects in their immediate surroundings is essential to its functioning. The gadget is able to detect and notify users in real-time when barriers or possible threats are present due to the employment of advanced algorithms and sensor technology. By taking an active step towards environmental awareness, individuals can lessen the difficulties that come with being visually impaired by making more informed decisions and navigating their environment with ease and confidence. Users can increase their total independence and mobility by using location mapping technologies to improve their spatial awareness and make accurate movement decisions. The creation of wearable technology designed to meet the needs of individuals with visual

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impairments is an important step towards increasing accessibility and inclusivity as the area of assistive technology develops.

2. Problem Definition

The lack of useful assistive technology designed especially to meet the needs of individuals with visual impairments is a significant problem that limits their freedom, safety, and mobility. Individuals who are visually impaired may find it difficult to navigate barriers, dangers, and strange places, which can result in mishaps and a decreased standard of life. [3] The usefulness of current assistive gadgets in tackling the dynamic and complex barriers experienced by visually impaired individuals is limited due to their frequent lack of real-time input and comprehensive operations. Furthermore, visually challenged individuals may find standard navigation systems unfeasible or inaccessible, which exacerbates their feelings of dependence and loneliness. The issue involves the fact that visually impaired people do not receive enough support and help, which makes it difficult for them to safely and freely navigate their surroundings.

3. Formulation of Objectives

The proposed project has several objectives that aim to improve the independence and safety of a visually impaired person:

- To enhance the mobility of visually impaired individuals by providing real-time distance sensing capabilities.
- To improve situational awareness by enabling the detection and alerting of obstacles and hazards in the wearer's surroundings.
- To enable accurate location tracking of the user and monitoring the user's location by care-taker or family members.
- To provide caregivers or family members with remote monitoring and assistance capabilities for enhanced safety and support.
- To provide auditory feedback and alerts to the wearer through earphones for seamless interaction and communication.

4. Literature Survey

These three research papers that focus on different approaches to implement smart glasses for visually impaired using IoT. M. A. Cielo conducted research work on "Enhancing Visual Perception for the Visually Impaired Using IoT- Enabled Smart Glasses", 2018, IEEE Transactions on Human-Machine Systems. This paper explores the integration of IoT technologies in smart glasses for the visually impaired, focusing on real-time object distance measurement and location mapping. [1] C. H. Kim et al worked on "Smart Glasses-Based Object Detection and Recognition for the Visually Impaired", 2019, Journal of Ambient Intelligence and Humanized Computing (Springer). This paper delves into the specific aspect of object detection and recognition using smart glasses, highlighting the integration of IoT technologies. [3] J. S. Park et al worked on "IoT-Based Smart Glasses for Visually Impaired People: A Survey", 2020, Sensors (MDPI). [5]

5. Existing System

The present system that is in place for helping people with visual impairments usually combines assistive technologies with more conventional mobility aids. White canes and guide dogs are examples of traditional aids that offer both physical support and navigational guidance. Handheld electronics with GPS for tracking one's whereabouts and smartphone apps that provide audio feedback and help with navigation are examples of assistive technologies. However, the lack of comprehensive capabilities and real-time feedback in these present-day systems limits their efficacy in addressing the dynamic and complicated challenges faced by visually impaired people. Furthermore, mobility and independence may be further complicated by the fact that some people may find standard navigation systems unfeasible or inaccessible.

6. Proposed System

The objective of the proposed system is to improve the existing assistive technologies available to people with visual impairments by including cutting-edge features like location monitoring, distance sensing, and real-time object detection. The proposed system expands on the features of existing assistive technology by providing a comprehensive

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solution that targets particular difficulties visually impaired people encounter when navigating their environment safely and on their own. The proposed system seeks to improve users' mobility and situational awareness by utilizing modern technology and innovative algorithms, ultimately leading to an improvement in their overall quality of life.

7. Block Diagram

The objective of the "Smart Glasses for Visually Impaired People Using IoT" system that has recently been proposed is to help visually impaired people navigate their environment safely and independently by offering vital support and assistance. The Raspberry Pi 4, which acts as the system's central processing unit and integrates and controls all of the other components, is at its core. A Pi Camera, that captures live video or still photos of the wearer's surroundings, is connected to a Raspberry Pi 4. The wearer's situational awareness is improved by the real- time object and obstacle detection provided by this processing of the visual input. Furthermore, the smart glasses include a GPS module built in to provide precise position tracking, enabling family members or carers to keep an eye on the wearer's locations from a distance. The smart glasses frame has ultrasonic sensors positioned strategically to help with obstacle detection and distance measurement. The Raspberry Pi receives exact distance information from these sensors by measuring the time it takes for ultrasonic pulses to return from close objects. Through earphones, the wearer receives an audible relay of this information, allowing them to be aware of any hazards and obstructions in their way in real time. The system also has an RF transmitter that is linked to a battery and an RF receiver so that the user can activate a buzzer to find the smart glasses system. The entire system is made to be remotely readily available and simple to use. A real VNC viewer enables remote access and control of the smart glasses system, while a Pi adaptor helps the Raspberry Pi receive a consistent power supply. With the help of an all-inclusive system, visually impaired people will be able to live more independently, safely, and with greater mobility. As a show in Figure 1.

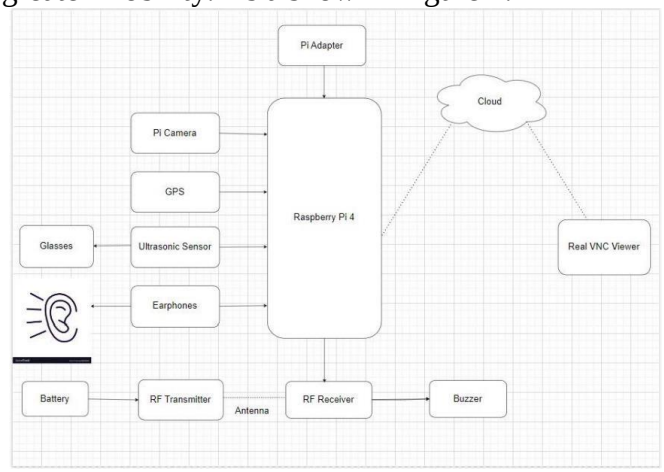

Figure 1 Block Diagram of Proposed System

8. Working and Methodology

The working and methodology are centred on a systematic approach designed to integrate different hardware and software components in order to offer essential support and assistance. The methodology starts with an examination of the difficulties visually impaired people encounter when navigating their environment. This analysis helps choose and incorporate the right technology that will assist to overcome the challenges. This comprises the Raspberry Pi 4 acting as the central processing unit, the Pi Camera, GPS module, ultrasonic sensors, RF transmitter and receiver, and earphones. In order to give the wearer real-time support and assistance, these integrated components must function effectively together as part of the smart glasses system. The Pi Camera captures live video or still photos of the wearer's environment, which are then analysed with computer vision algorithms to enable real-time obstacle and object detection. In addition, the GPS module gives precise location mapping, which lets family members or caretaker keep an eye on the wearer's location from a distance.[4] Through earphones, the wearer can hear the distances that have been identified, providing real-time awareness. The ultrasonic sensors make distance measurement and obstacle detection easier. The software also makes it possible to communicate with external devices, including RF transmitter and receiver, which allows for the localization of smart glasses system in the wearer's immediate proximity.[1] The

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process encompasses software development employing programming languages like Python to construct algorithms for proximity alerts, object detection, location tracking, and distance measuring. The system is then improved and optimised based on input from user testing to make sure it satisfies the requirements and preferences of the intended users. [5]

9. Results

The deployment of the smart glasses system has produced a variety of benefits that significantly improve the safety and mobility of people with visual impairments. With real-time input from the distance measuring feature, the user is able to safely navigate their surroundings by properly estimating the distance to items and hazards in their immediate vicinity. By rapidly alerting users to potential hazards, this feature helps them adjust their path and prevent collisions is Figure 2.

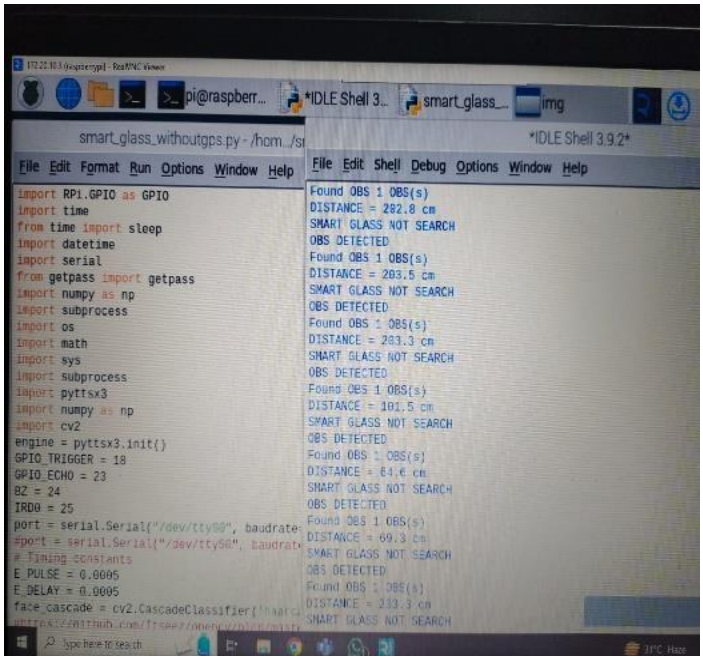

Figure 2 Distance Measurement Output Window

Furthermore, the incorporation of GPS location mapping via a ThingSpeak account provides enormous advantages concerning remote tracking and monitoring. This feature improves visually impaired people's safety and security, especially in new or changing situations is show in Figure 3. [5]

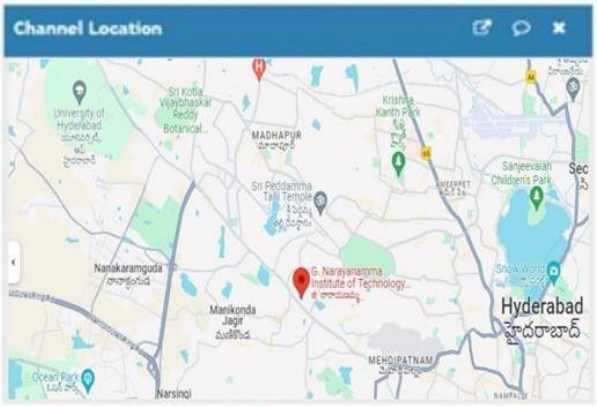

Figure 3 Thing speak Output Window

Through the implementation of an RF transmitter, the wearer may activate a reaction from the smart glasses' RF receiver, which will assist to localize the smart glasses system by means of buzzer-based aural warnings. This adds even more ease and usefulness by allowing the wearer to find the system nearby in Figure 4. [6]

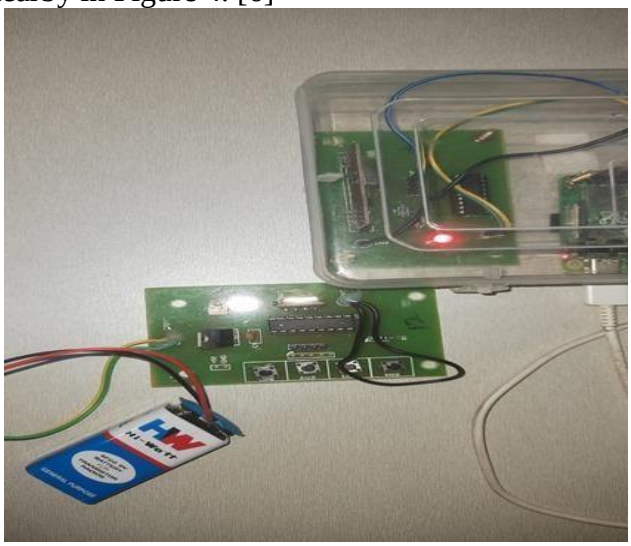

Figure 4 RF Receiver and RF Transmitter

For visually challenged people, the smart glasses system's object detection feature adds another level of situational awareness. By successfully alerting users to the existence of impediments in their immediate environment, it increases their sense of confidence and safety while navigating. The smart glasses system provides a comprehensive solution that greatly improves the mobility, safety, and freedom of visually impaired people in their daily lives by combining these many features is

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show in Figure 5. [2]

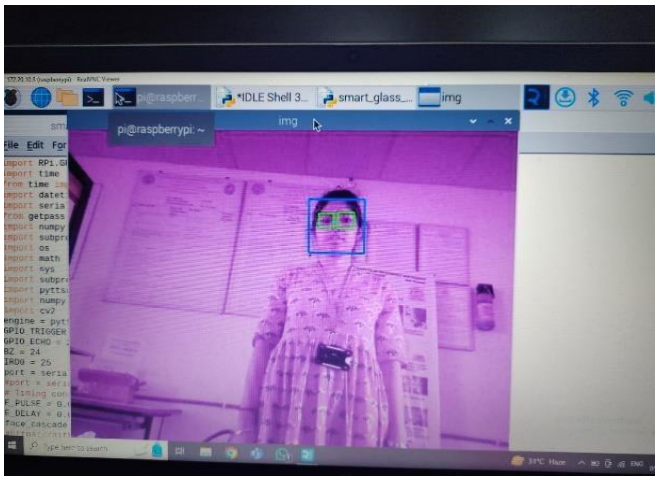

Figure 5 Pi Camera Output

Conclusion

With a comprehensive solution to solve the specific problems encountered by those with visual impairments, the smart glasses system for visually impaired people marks a significant leap in assistive technology. By including features like object identification, receiver and transmitter mechanisms, GPS location mapping, and distance measurement, the system gives users greater mobility, safety, and independence while navigating their surroundings. The results of the system show that utilizing modern technology and creative algorithms can improve the quality of life for those who are visually impaired by empowering them to navigate with greater confidence and independence. As the field of assistive technology advances while accessibility and inclusivity for all are improved, further enhancements and optimizations can be made to improve the system's usability and functionality.

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