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Smart Glasses for the Blind Based on Ultrasonic Sensor

[1]Prof. Jayshree Gorakh, [2]Rajat Bansod, [3]Tohid Sheikh, [4]Ninad Shende, [5]Monish Gurnule

Abstract— Visually impaired people often need assistance in day-to-day life for navigating through their residence and outside. Human assistance is not always possible, so a solution to this problem has been researched for a long time. Well, here we develop a smart solution to this problem using ultrasonic glasses. Also, the glasses are fitted with a vibrator rather than a buzzer as a constant buzzing sound would be more of a nuisance rather than help. The Smart Glasses would offer the following Advantages: Light Weight System The system makes use of 2 x Ultrasonic sensors, an Amiga microcontroller, a battery, transparent glasses, basic electronics components, and a PCB to develop this system. The glasses can now detect obstacles and transmit this to the blind person. The ultrasonic sensors are mounted on glasses on 2 sides to act as eyes. The sensors constantly transmit and receive ultrasonic waves to receive obstacle data. The Microcontroller is constantly getting this data from the sensors. Based on this data the microcontroller operates a vibrator motor mounted on the respective side of the glasses. The microcontroller scans the sensor data and operates the vibrator.

Keywords— Ultrasonic glasses, Smart glasses, microcontroller

I. Introduction

According to the World Health Organization, there are approximately 285 million visually impaired individuals worldwide, with 39 million of them being completely blind. Navigation for the visually impaired can be challenging, and traditional aids such as canes and guide dogs have limitations. Technology advancements have led to the development of new assistive devices, one of which is ultrasonic glass. Ultrasonic glass utilizes ultrasonic waves to detect obstacles and provides audio feedback to the user. The development of ultrasonic glass has been ongoing for several years, and this paper aims to review its progress and potential applications.

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Prof. Jayshree Gorakh, Rajat Bansod, Tohid Sheikh, Ninad Shende, Monish Gurnule, Department of Computer Engineering Suryodaya College of Engineering and Technology, Nagpur, Maharashtra, India.

Mail Id: *jayuborker.coet@gmail.com, rajatbansod13@gmail.com, tohidsheikh621@gmail.com, ninadsewakshende358@gmail.com, monishgurnule80077@gmail.com*

II. Background

Ultrasonic sensors were first introduced in the 1940s and have since been used in various applications such as sonar systems, distance measuring, and object detection. In the 1970s, ultrasonic sensors were first used in assistive devices for the visually impaired. The first ultrasonic aid for the visually impaired was the Sonic Pathfinder, which used ultrasonic sensors mounted on a headband to detect obstacles in the user's path.

Since then, advancements in technology have led to the development of more sophisticated devices, including ultrasonic glasses. Ultrasonic glasses consist of a pair of glasses with ultrasonic sensors mounted on the frame. The sensors emit ultrasonic waves, which bounce off of obstacles and return to the glasses. The device then processes the signals and provides audio feedback to the user, alerting them to any obstacles in their path.

III. Application

Ultrasonic glasses have potential applications beyond navigation for the visually impaired. For example, they could be used in manufacturing settings to aid workers in navigating hazardous environments or in autonomous vehicles to detect obstacles.

Ultrasonic technology has been in use since the early 20th century, primarily in medical imaging applications. In the 1960s, ultrasonic sensors were developed for use in automotive parking systems. These sensors utilized ultrasonic waves to detect objects in the environment, providing an audible warning to the driver. This technology was later adapted for use in robotics and automation, where it is used for object detection and distance measurement.

In the 1980s, ultrasonic sensors were first used in a device designed to help visually impaired individuals. The device, known as the "Sonic Guide," utilized ultrasonic waves to detect obstacles in the environment, providing audio feedback to the user. While this device was an important development, it was limited by its size and complexity, making it impractical for everyday use.

IV. Current Applications Of Ultrasonic Glass Technology

Ultrasonic glass technology has been adapted for use in a variety of applications, including assistive technology for visually impaired individuals, as well as industrial and

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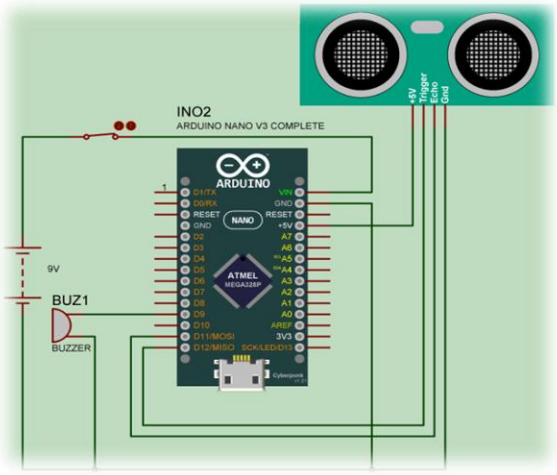
automation applications. In the field of assistive technology, ultrasonic glass technology is used to create glasses or goggles that can detect objects in the environment and provide audio feedback to the user. These devices are typically lightweight and compact, making them easy to wear and use on a daily basis.

In industrial and automation applications, ultrasonic sensors are used for object detection, distance measurement, and level sensing.



V. Benefits And Challenges Of Ultrasonic Glass Technology

There are many benefits associated with the use of ultrasonic glass technology. For visually impaired individuals, this technology can provide greater independence and safety when navigating their environment. Ultrasonic glasses can detect objects that may be missed by other assistive technologies, such as canes or guide dogs.

Additionally, ultrasonic glasses can provide real-time feedback, allowing the user to adjust their movements and avoid obstacles quickly and easily.

However, there are also challenges associated with ultrasonic glass technology. One of the main challenges is accuracy. Ultrasonic sensors can be affected by factors such as temperature, humidity, and wind, which can impact their performance.

Additionally, ultrasonic sensors may struggle to detect certain materials, such as transparent or highly reflective surfaces.

VI. Conclusion

Ultrasonic glass has come a long way since its inception in the 1970s. Advancements in technology have led to smaller, more lightweight devices with improved functionality. Ultrasonic glasses have the potential to aid the visually impaired population in navigating unfamiliar environments and could have applications beyond assisting the visually impaired. Further research and development of ultrasonic glasses could lead to even more innovative and useful assistive devices for the visually impaired.

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