Situation-Aware Stop Signal

Final Presentation

Group 3

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Motivation

- Protecting the lives of the drivers that cross our roads our families, our friends, and our neighbors
- "1/3 of all intersection crashes in the United States, and more than 40% of the fatal ones, occur at intersections controlled by stop signs." (Insurance Institute for Highway Safety)

We believe that **advances in technology**, now made more affordable through manufacturing improvements, present **an opportunity to revolutionize the way we advise, warn, and alert drivers** on the small roads of our community.

Rethinking traffic control at small intersections



Project Description





Influenced by technology found in existing traffic lights and autonomous cars

Focused towards small intersections that are currently controlled by stop signs

Concept of Operation

- Uses LiDAR and RADAR to detect cars
- Detects when it is safe for a car to cross an intersection
- Schedules right-of-way
- Recognizes possible threats



Objectives



Marketing Objectives

Accurate

Self-sustaining

Efficient

Low cost



Technical Objectives

Prevent

Protect

Schedule

Key Requirements Overview

| Design Requirements | Operational Requirements | Power Requirements | Safety Requirements |
|----------------------------------|--|---|--|
| One centralized unit | Responsive in real-time operation | Solar panel shall output greater than 12V and 40W | Abide by road sign laws specified in the Manual for Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) |
| Visible during the day and night | Maintain operability between 0°C and 60°C | Battery shall hold enough power for minimum of 1 day of operation | Detect vehicles that are traveling up to 13 m/s |
| Shall be operable 24/7 | Detect an oncoming vehicle within 25 meters | | |

Engineering Requirement Targets

| Target | Verification | Units (if applicable) |
|--|--|-----------------------|
| Obedience to Traffic Law | Complies with USDOT MUTCD rules and regulations | |
| Power Consumption | < 20 | Watts |
| Self-Sustained Solar Power (generated) | 0.48 | kWh/day |
| Sensor Accuracy | 90 | % within 25 meters |
| Cost | < 1800 | \$US |
| Modular Structure (installation) | < 30 | minutes |

Block Diagram

| Кеу |
|----------|
| Power |
| Lighting |
| Sensors |
| MCU |
| |



Team Distribution

| Name | Primary Function | Secondary Function |
|-------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| Jonathan Ling | Power, Mechanical Design | PCB |
| Annabelle Phinney | PCB | Mechanical Design |
| Trent Sellers | SASS Software | Sensor Software |
| Joseph Walters | Sensor Software | SASS Software |

Power Design

Solar Panel



- Low cost
- Monocrystalline High efficiency
- Over 80W power supply
- 25 solar cells at 0.6V each
- 6A current supply
- 28 x 28 in.
- Mounted on a hinge to adjust to the optimum angle

Battery



- Lithium Ion
- High energy density
- High charge efficiency
- Fast charge time
- High thermal threshold
- Long discharge cycles
- Long lifespan
- 12V
- 20Ah

Charge Controller



- MPPT Maximum Power Point Tracking
- Highest efficiency ~ 99%
- Extends battery life
- Converts excessive voltage into additional current
- More expensive
- More parts than a 1-stage controller or PWM charge controller

Hardware Design

PCB Layout

- Two layer PCB used to lower cost
- All components were mounted on the top layer while bottom layer was used as a ground plane
- Used larger components for quick prototyping
- Large space between components
- Connectors placed on sides for easy access and secure connection







12V to 5V Switching Regulator

5V to 3.3V Linear Regulator



Transistors and LEDs

Light Selection

- Standard 01 from Section 4D.07 of the MUTCD states that there shall be two nominal diameter sizes for vehicular signal indications: 8 inches and 12 inches
- According to Section 4.1 of the ITE, the minimum lumen requirement for 8 inch bulbs is 10 lumens for a red LED and 45 lumens for a yellow LED
- Red and yellow are easily understood by drivers
- Device does not include a green light





Sensors and Gathering Data (RADAR)

- IWR1642 mmWave EVM by TI
- Frequency Modulated Continuous-wave Doppler Radar
- Wide field-of-view
- Configurable
- High Accuracy (< cm)
- Can detect multiple objects



Sensors and Data Gathering (LiDAR)

- LiDAR-Lite v3HP by Garmin
- "Time-of-Flight" sensor.
- Near infrared light
- Narrow field of view (<cm)
- High accuracy (cm)



MSP432

- Low Power : High Performance
- 48MHz allows for fast processing of real-time data
- Granular control over microcontroller
- More memory compared to ATMega2560
- Supports **TI-RTOS**
- Supports C/C++
- Supports POSIX threading

Software Design

Stop Signal Software

- Written in C++
- Uses Texas Instruments SimpleLink SDK
- Managed by **TI-RTOS** (multithreaded)
- 4 manageable components:
 - Low-level Hardware Abstraction (LLHA)
 - Object Detection (OD)
 - Object Classification (OC)
 - Traffic and Light Control (TLC)



Deployment Diagram



System Component Diagram

Low-Level Hardware Abstraction (LLHA)

- Utilizes the built-in SimpleLink SDK and TI-RTOS libraries
- Abstracts hardware specific implementations away from the heart of the software in a consistent manner
- This ultimately simplifies our job as the project grows in complexity
- Custom API Calls:
 - I²C (LIDAR-Lite v3HP)
 - GPIO HWI (mmWave)
 - GPIO (Light Controls)
 - Back-Channel UART (Debug & Logging)

Object Detection (OD)

- RADAR detects:
 - Distance to object (up to 30m)
 - Velocity of object (up to 13m/s)
- LiDAR detects:
 - If object is detected near or on the stop bar
 - If object leaves the stop bar



Object Classification (OC)

- Using gathered sensor data, the system can:
 - Track up to 1 vehicle per side
 - Determine if vehicle is able to stop in a timely manner
- Vehicles are tracked from the moment they are detected until the moment they stop (or otherwise exit the intersection)
- Classifying:
 - Vehicles moving too fast at too close distance
 - Vehicles moving at safe speed at safe distance



• Stopped vehicles



System State Transition Diagram



Object Classification Class Diagram

Traffic and Light Control (TLC)

- Designed around a scheduler that utilizes the OC and LLHA components of the system
- Once a vehicle enters the intersection and stops, it is entered into a queue
- The queue ensures fair scheduling and no deadlocks in the intersection





Traffic and Light Control Class Diagram

mmWave Sensor Software

- Written in C
- Uses Texas Instruments mmWave SDK
- Managed by **TI-RTOS** (multithreaded)
- Two ARM processors utilized:
 - DSS Controls DSP and Pre-Processing
 - MSS Controls filtering, data analytics, and communication





- Utilized TI's implementation of:
 - DSP Processing
 - Inter-processor communication
- Filtered data from point cloud down to a single usable object
- Smoothed resulting data to eliminate noise
- Unsafe velocity determined with:

 $v_{unsafe} > \sqrt{2 * range * \mu_f} * g$

Mechanical Design

Design Decisions

- Modular design helps achieve low cost
- Modeled after traditional traffic lights
- Prototype designed for quick replication and assembly
- Prototyped for a 2-way stop
- Modeled for testing back sides open for easy sensor and PCB access







Initial Testing

- Testing LiDAR with Arduino UNO and breadboard
- Used MSP432P401R Evaluation Board to test most software components
- Tested, lights, and sensors with MSP432P401R before testing with PCB







Prototype Testing

- Integrated PCB into design and tested power using both a function generator, then our battery
- Supplied the appropriate amount of power to both LiDAR and RADAR sensors to run sample code
- Tested MCU by loading a code to flash on board LED

Integration Testing

- After fully assembling the device, it was tested with people and bikers acting as both threats and safe drivers
- We then tested with cars going both safe (~4.5m/s) and unsafe speeds(~8.9m/s).
- Both LiDAR and RADAR sensor angles were found through trial and error by adjusting the sensor bracket



Data Analytics & Visualization



Budget

| Product | Subsystem | Quantity | Unit Cost | Total Cost |
|------------------------------|------------|----------|-----------|------------|
| Solar Cell | Power | 28 | \$4.13 | \$115.64 |
| Lithium Ion Battery | Power | 1 | \$87.00 | \$87.00 |
| MPPT Solar Charge Controller | Power | 1 | \$69.45 | \$69.45 |
| LED Traffic Light | Hardware | 4 | \$42.75 | \$171.00 |
| TI mmWave Evaluation Board | Hardware | 2 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 |
| Garmin LIDAR-Lite V3HP | Hardware | 2 | \$149.99 | \$299.98 |
| TI MSP432P401R | Hardware | 1 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 |
| РСВ | Hardware | 2 | \$20.00 | \$40.00 |
| Minor Components | Hardware | 1 | \$90.00 | \$90.00 |
| Physical Building Material | Mechanical | 1 | \$100.00 | \$100.00 |
| Misc. | Misc. | 1 | \$50.00 | \$50.00 |
| Total | | | | \$1033.07 |

Resolved Issues

| Issue | Resolution | |
|--|--|--|
| Difficulty communicating via I ² C | Created custom drivers for the Lidar-Lite v3HP | |
| Complexity and difficulty in programming mmWave RADAR (cutting-edge technology) | Dedicated extra time to find documentation on the sensor and the technologies used | |
| Heat dissipation from the PCB | A switching regulator was used instead of a large linear regulator | |
| Access violations encountered in multithreading | Scheduler and Classifier threads were refactored to eliminate concurrent use of Lidar objects | |
| Critical placement and orientation of mmWave RADAR | Sensor angle was tested manually to see max range; optimum of 15 degrees tilt downward was found | |

Questions

Demonstration

References

"Drivers Often Stop but Don't See." *IIHS*, 2002, *www.iihs.org/iihs/sr/statusreport/article/37/9/4*.