DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT OF INTELLIGENT HOME AUTOMATION SYSTEM (IHAS) FOR ENHANCED ENERGY PERFORMANCE

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Thesis submitted in fulfilment of the requirements for the degree Master of Science in Mechanical Engineering

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May 2019

DECLARATION

I declare that this is my own work and this thesis does not incorporate without acknowledgement any material previously submitted for a Degree or Diploma in any other University or institute of higher learning and to the best of my knowledge and belief it does not contain any material previously published or written by another person except where the acknowledgement is made in the text.

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ABSTRACT

With the growing distresses on carbon emission and sustainable energy concepts, the whole world

appreciates the movements towards sustainable energy consumption. Statistics point out that over 50%

of total electricity generation is consumed by three sectors, namely residential, commercial and public

services. Among them, the residential sector alone consumes over 25% of total energy consumption

which can possibly be attributed to heating, ventilation, air-conditioning (HVAC) and lighting used for

occupants' comfort. However, over 65% of global electricity generation is based on fossil fuel and

natural gases, residential electricity consumption is accountable for a substantial extent of global carbon

emission, consequently the present climate calamity.

Researchers across the globe have figured out that the theories on sustainable energy consumption

should start with our own home. It is required to focus on reducing the energy consumption by home

HVAC systems, lighting systems and other appliances while keeping residential comfort level

untouched. Home automation systems have shown their success towards the goal amidst several

drawbacks.

This research, proposes an intelligent home automation system (IHAS) with a real-time sensor network.

The system has the ability to perform user preference based automation on the premises based on user

comfort, safety and energy efficiency. The proposed system consists of a wireless sensor network,

intelligent controller and device control interface. The sensory system monitors the environment and

the identified information transferred to the intelligent central controller, which makes the accurate

decision on most efficient configurations for the home appliances. It includes HVAC system, lighting

systems and multimedia systems thus optimizing power consumption and improving user comfort.

Finally, the device control interface delivers the obtained control decisions to the appliances through

the default control interface.

The developed non-interactive user identification system will recognize individual users within the

premises and track their activities to obtained individual user preferences related to the comfort and

multimedia devices. Based on those preferences and real-time ambient conditions measured through

climatic sensor systems, the central controller will decide the configurations for the home appliances.

The entire work includes the design and fabrication of different hardware systems and firmware

implementations based on 8-bit and 16-bit microcontrollers. The central controller was developed on a

single board computer which is powered by 32 Bit ARM Cortex A11 CPU. Fuzzy inference systems

were used to implement the intelligent control algorithms of different control application of the

proposed system.

Key Words:

Home Automation, Intelligent Control, Sensor Systems, Mechatronics

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DEDICATION

I dedicate my dissertation work to my family and my teachers. A special feeling of gratitude to my loving parents, Mr. Alfred Basnayake and Mrs. Malani Basnayake and my siblings Mr. Christie Fernando and Mrs. Dyamini Basnayake, whose words of encouragement and push for tenacity ring in my ears.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I am deeply grateful to Head of Department of Mechanical Engineering Prof. Ruwan

Gopura and all the academic and non-academic staff of the department for their

constant encouragement in the period of research. Especially my research supervisors,

Prof. R.A. Attalage, Dr. Y.W.R. Amarasighe, Dr. A.G.B.P. Jayasekara and gave me

the best support and attention towards my work. Without their keen supervision none

of this would have been possible for myself alone. I consider myself very fortunate for

being able to work with such resourceful individuals.

Furthermore, I would like to express my gratitude to Mr. Isuru Udayanga, Mr. Dumith

Jayathilaka, Mr. Uditha Roshan, Mr. Peshan Sampath and Mr. Eranga De Silva for

their assistance given me throughout my research.

Moreover, I'm particularly grateful to the research coordinator of Mechanical

Engineering Department Dr. Damith Chathuranga and the members of the progress

review panel Prof. Ruwan Gopura and Eng. Rukmal Jayasinghe for their valuable

comments and advices given to me throughout this research.

Last but not the least, I owe my thankfulness to Mr. Salith Ranasinghe, Mr. Chathura

Jeewantha and M.N.M. Musammil of the Mechatronics and MEMS/NEMS laboratory

for providing me the facilities required for conducting my research works whenever

required.

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