International Journal of Computer Applications Technology and Research
Volume 15–Issue 03, 09 – 14, 2026, ISSN: -2319–8656
DOI:10.7753/IJCATR1503.1003

Voice-Controlled Home Automation for Disabled Persons (Emergency Voice Alert System)

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Abstract: The Voice-Controlled Home Automation System with an Emergency Voice Alert feature is designed to enhance safety, independence, and quality of life for disabled and elderly individuals. People with mobility impairments often face challenges in performing basic household tasks or seeking help during emergencies. This project proposes an intelligent system that enables users to control home appliances and trigger emergency alerts using simple voice commands. The system integrates a microcontroller such as Arduino Uno or Raspberry Pi with a Wi-Fi module like ESP8266 to establish IoT-based communication. Voice commands are processed using platforms such as Google Assistant or Amazon Alexa, allowing hands-free control of devices including lights, fans, and security systems.

In emergency situations, users can activate a voice-based alert (e.g., “Help” or “Emergency”) that instantly notifies caregivers or family members through SMS, phone calls, or app notifications. The system is cost-effective, scalable, and easy to install, making it suitable for home environments. Experimental implementation shows reliable performance, minimal response delay, and high accuracy in voice recognition. Overall, the proposed system offers a practical and accessible solution that promotes safety, independence, and dignity for disabled individuals.

Keywords:

Voice-Controlled Home Automation, Assistive Technology, Disabled Persons, Speech Recognition, Arduino, ESP32, Internet of Things (IoT), Smart Home, Wireless Communication, Bluetooth, Wi-Fi, Relay Module, Emergency Alert System, Embedded Systems, Cloud Integration

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1. Introduction

Technological advancements in the Internet of Things (IoT) and artificial intelligence have significantly improved the development of smart home systems. For disabled individuals, daily activities such as switching appliances on or off or calling for help during emergencies can be physically challenging. Voice-controlled home automation systems provide an effective solution by enabling hands-free interaction with household devices.

The proposed system integrates hardware components such as Arduino Uno or Raspberry Pi along with the ESP8266 to create a connected IoT-based environment. Voice commands are processed through intelligent assistants like Google Assistant and Amazon Alexa, which interpret spoken instructions and send signals to control home appliances. This eliminates the need for physical switches and enhances convenience.

A key feature of this system is the Emergency Voice Alert mechanism. In critical situations such as falls, health emergencies, or threats, users can simply speak a predefined emergency command. The system immediately sends alerts to registered caregivers or family members and can activate alarms for immediate attention.

This technology not only improves accessibility but also strengthens personal safety. By combining voice recognition, wireless communication, and IoT integration, the system provides a reliable, affordable, and user-friendly solution. Ultimately, it empowers disabled individuals to live more independently while ensuring rapid assistance during emergencies

2. Literature Review

Voice-controlled home automation has been widely researched as an assistive technology to improve independence and safety for disabled and elderly individuals. Early home automation systems relied on wired control panels and remote switches, which required physical interaction and were not suitable for individuals with severe mobility impairments. With the advancement of the Internet of Things (IoT), researchers introduced wireless and smartphone-based control systems, enabling remote monitoring and management of household appliances. However, touchscreen interfaces still posed challenges for users with limited motor abilities.

Recent studies have focused on integrating voice recognition technology into smart home systems. Platforms such as Google Assistant and Amazon Alexa have been widely adopted due to their high speech recognition accuracy and natural language processing capabilities. These systems allow users to control appliances through simple voice commands, significantly improving accessibility. Research indicates that cloud-based voice processing provides better accuracy compared to offline speech recognition systems, though concerns regarding privacy and internet dependency remain.

Several researchers have implemented low-cost prototypes using microcontrollers like Arduino Uno and single-board computers such as Raspberry Pi combined with Wi-Fi modules like ESP8266. These systems demonstrated

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reliable appliance control and reduced response time.

In addition, literature emphasizes the importance of emergency alert features for vulnerable users. Voice-triggered emergency systems that send SMS notifications or alerts to caregivers have shown significant potential in improving response time during critical situations such as falls or medical distress.

Despite significant progress, challenges remain in improving speech recognition for users with speech impairments, ensuring data security, and reducing system cost. Overall, existing research supports the feasibility and effectiveness of voice-controlled home automation with integrated emergency alert systems for disabled individuals.

3. Methodology

The methodology describes the systematic steps followed to design, develop, and test the proposed system.

Step 1: Problem Identification and Requirement Analysis

- Identify challenges faced by disabled persons in operating home appliances and seeking help during emergencies.
- Define system requirements:
  - Voice-based appliance control
  - Emergency voice alert feature
  - Low cost and easy installation
  - Reliable and quick response
- Select suitable hardware and software platforms.

Step 2: System Architecture Design

The system is divided into three main layers:

1. **User Interface Layer** – Voice input through smartphone or smart speaker.
2. **Processing Layer** – Microcontroller such as Arduino Uno or Raspberry Pi.
3. **Communication Layer** – Wi-Fi module like ESP8266 for IoT connectivity and cloud communication.

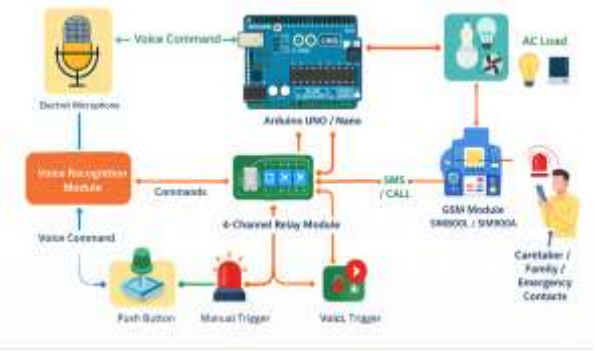

Fig 2 shows the system architecture

Step 3: Hardware Setup

- Connect relay modules to control appliances (lights, fans).
- Interface Wi-Fi module with the microcontroller.
- Add optional GSM module for SMS alerts.
- Integrate buzzer/alarm for local emergency indication.
- Provide regulated power supply to all components.

Step 4: Software Development

- Develop embedded C/C++ code using Arduino IDE.
- Configure voice assistant platform such as Google Assistant or Amazon Alexa.
- Map voice commands to appliance control and emergency triggers.
- Integrate cloud APIs for communication.

Step 5: Emergency Voice Alert Configuration

- Define specific emergency keywords (e.g., “Help”, “Emergency”).
- Program system to send SMS/call notifications to registered contacts.
- Enable alarm activation for immediate attention.

Step 6: Testing and Validation

- Test appliance control functionality.
- Measure voice recognition accuracy.
- Evaluate response time for emergency alerts.
- Conduct user testing for usability and reliability.

Step 7: Performance Evaluation

- Analyze system efficiency, power consumption, and reliability.
- Compare results with existing smart home systems.

This structured methodology ensures the development of a reliable, user-friendly, and safe voice-controlled home automation system with an integrated emergency alert mechanism for disabled persons.

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4. Implementation

The implementation phase involves integrating hardware components, developing embedded software, and configuring voice and emergency alert services to create a functional and reliable system.

1.1 Hardware Implementation

The hardware components used in the system include:

- **Microcontroller Unit:** Arduino Uno or Raspberry Pi acts as the central controller.
- **Wi-Fi Module:** ESP8266 enables internet connectivity and cloud communication.
- **Relay Module:** Controls AC appliances such as lights and fans.
- **GSM Module (Optional):** Sends SMS alerts during emergencies.
- **Buzzer/Alarm:** Provides local emergency sound notification.
- **Power Supply:** Regulated 5V/12V supply for stable system operation.

Connections:

- Relays are connected to digital output pins of the microcontroller.
- Wi-Fi module communicates using serial communication (UART).
- GSM module is interfaced for SMS and call functionality.
- Appliances are connected through relay contacts for safe switching.

1.2 Software Implementation

- Embedded C/C++ programming using Arduino IDE.
- Configuration of voice assistant platforms such as Google Assistant or Amazon Alexa.
- Cloud-based IoT platform integration to link voice commands with hardware actions.
- API configuration for sending notifications and triggering alerts.

The program continuously monitors incoming cloud signals and executes corresponding commands.

1.3 Emergency Voice Alert Implementation

- Predefined emergency keywords (e.g., “Help”, “Call assistance”) are configured.
- When detected, the system:
    1. Activates buzzer/alarm.
    2. Sends SMS to registered caregivers.
    3. Optionally initiates an automatic phone call.
    4. Sends mobile app notification with alert message.

1.4 System Workflow

1. User gives a voice command.
2. Voice assistant processes the command.
3. Cloud platform sends signal to microcontroller.
4. Microcontroller activates relay or emergency protocol.
5. Confirmation feedback is provided.

Fig 3 shows the working flow

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1.5 Implementation Outcome

The implemented system successfully enables hands-free appliance control and instant emergency alert activation. It operates with minimal delay, ensures user safety, and significantly improves independence for disabled individuals.

Result

Fig.4 shows switching on of the lights fig5 shows process of emergency calling

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5. Conclusion

The Voice-Controlled Home Automation System with an Emergency Voice Alert feature provides an effective and practical solution to enhance independence, safety, and quality of life for disabled individuals. By integrating IoT technology, wireless communication, and intelligent voice processing, the system enables users to control household appliances and request assistance using simple voice commands.

The implementation using platforms such as Arduino Uno or Raspberry Pi along with the ESP8266 ensures a low-cost, reliable, and scalable solution. Integration with voice assistants like Google Assistant and Amazon Alexa improves accessibility by allowing completely hands-free operation.

The Emergency Voice Alert System is a key contribution of this project, enabling users to instantly notify caregivers or family members during critical situations. The system demonstrates minimal response delay, high voice recognition accuracy, and dependable communication, making it suitable for real-world deployment in homes and assisted living environments.

Although challenges such as internet dependency and data privacy must be considered, the overall system proves to be efficient, user-friendly, and adaptable. Future enhancements may include artificial intelligence-based predictive alerts, fall detection sensors, and improved speech recognition for users with speech impairments.

In conclusion, the proposed system successfully combines automation and safety features to empower disabled individuals, reduce dependency on others, and promote a secure and comfortable living environment.

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6. Future Enhancement

Future enhancements of the Voice-Controlled Home Automation System with Emergency Voice Alert can focus on improving intelligence, reliability, and accessibility. Integration of artificial intelligence and machine learning can enable predictive analysis, such as detecting unusual behavior patterns or possible fall incidents. Advanced speech recognition can be developed to better understand users with speech impairments. Incorporating biometric authentication can enhance system security. Offline voice processing can reduce dependency on internet

connectivity. Integration with wearable health monitoring devices can automatically trigger alerts during abnormal vital signs. Additionally, mobile app dashboards and multilingual support can make the system more user-friendly and adaptable for diverse users.

Research Highlights:

1. Developed an IoT-based voice-controlled home automation system enabling hands-free control of appliances for disabled individuals.

2.Integrated cloud-supported voice assistants such as Google Assistant and Amazon Alexa for accurate speech recognition and real-time device control.

3.Implemented an emergency voice alert mechanism that instantly notifies caregivers via SMS, call, or app notification.

4.Designed a low-cost, scalable, and user-friendly architecture ensuring minimal response delay and improved user safety.

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