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RESEARCH ARTICLE

DESIGNING MULTISENSOR EMBEDDED SYSTEM USING PSoC

Priyanka D. Patil* and R. D. Patil

Department of Electronics Engineering, Padmabhooshan Vasantraodada Patil Institute of Technology,
Budhgaon, Sangli, India

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ABSTRACT

This research paper presents for embedded sensor design with PSoC controller for measuring the temperature, humidity and light intensity. The PSoC family consists of many Programmable System-on-Chip devices. These devices are design to replace multiple traditional MCU-based system components with one, low cost single chip programmable device. With the help of microcontroller it is difficult to implement multiple sensors on single chip. But PSoC family provides this flexibility and ease of design.

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INTRODUCTION

Modern embedded control systems incorporate a microcontroller as the principal component - a self contained computer-on-a-chip consisting of a central processing unit, RAM memory for data storage, a variety of input/output functions and non-volatile program memory to hold the software written to implement the specific application. The new generation of re-configurable PSoC (Programmable System-on-Chip) controllers, which integrates all the above components, will become the dominant system architecture for the majority of micro-based designs, by employing advanced lithography and FLASH-based programming technology.

The PSoC family consists of many Programmable System-on-Chip Controller devices. These devices are designed to replace multiple traditional MCU-based system components with one, low cost single-chip programmable device. PSoC based data logger measuring temperature and humidity levels. With the help of microcontroller it is difficult to implement multiple sensors on single chip. But PSoC family provides this flexibility and ease of designing. [1]

Related Work

Bo Chang, Xinrong Zhang has designed environmental information monitoring, an indoor temperature and humidity monitoring system based on fuzzy-PID strategy. The system uses CC2430 as the core to develop wireless sensor nodes which follow the ZigBee communication protocol, uses the data collection terminal with high-precision temperature and humidity sensor to collect temperature and humidity data of the environment, uses ZigBee technology to achieve networking of wireless sensors and the automatic aggregation of monitoring data, and uses the fuzzy PID control algorithm to improve the accuracy of test data. The indoor temperature

and humidity regulation is achieved based on fuzzy PID control technology. The management function of various sensor nodes and a large number of environmental data is achieved based on embedded database. The monitoring results for temperature and humidity have shown that this system is stable, high reliable in data transmission and easy to use, and can be widely used in various areas of automatic monitoring of environmental parameters [6].

Temperature sensors are one of the fastest growing fields in the sensors market because of the abundance of applications where temperature must be monitored and controlled, including personal computers, mobile phones, automobiles, medical equipments, process industries, nuclear plants, within different sensors and many others. Temperature sensors are also necessary in other sensors, such as flow sensors, pressure sensors IR detectors, humidity sensors etc. [4].

Data loggers are electronic devices capable of recording data from sensors at a certain location over time. The recorded values can be printed using a compact thermal printer or can be saved in files on an USB flash drive using an USB host controller board [3].

Home power consumption makes up the major part of energy consumption. In particular, the power consumption of lamps in a typical home is a factor which can't be ignored. The typical user needs different light intensities in different places. Sometimes the light intensity from outside is sufficient, and thus we don't need to turn on any light. But sometimes the user leaves but forgets to turn off the light. These factors cause energy waste. Therefore some power management of light control in a home is necessary in order to save energy. In some designs one must install specific hardware and software to control the lights, resulting in unacceptable costs. Furthermore this type of system cannot detect either the temperature of the human body or the room light intensity [5].

electrode; the film acts as a humidity sensing film due to the existence of movable ions. Change in impedance occurs due to the change in the number of movable ions.

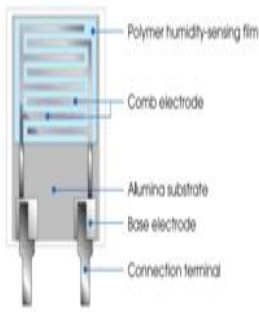


Figure 3 SYH-2R

LDR

- In this system for light intensity is sensed by LDR.
- Light Dependent Resistor (LDR) is made from a piece of exposed semiconductor material such as cadmium sulphide that changes its electrical resistance from several thousand Ohms in the dark to only a few hundred Ohms when light falls upon it by creating hole-electron pairs in the material.

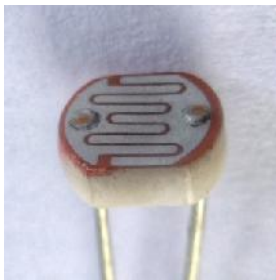


Figure 4 LDR

Characteristics of LDR

LDR's are light dependent devices whose resistance decreases when light falls on them and increases in the dark. When a light dependent resistor is kept in dark, its resistance is very high. This resistance is called as dark resistance. And if the device is allowed to absorb light its resistance will decrease drastically. If a constant voltage is applied to it and intensity of light is increased the current starts increasing. Figure 5 below shows resistance vs. illumination curve for a particular LDR.

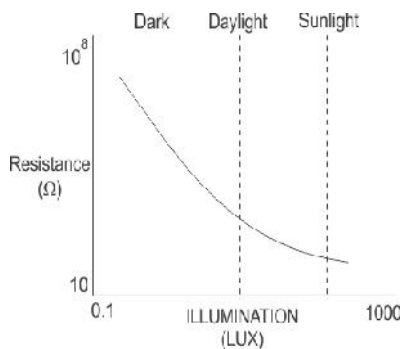


Figure 5 curve for a particular LDR

the system, using LDR one application is made to control power consumption.

PsoC module

PsoC 4 module is used for this project and the chip is CY8C4245AXI by Cypress Semiconductors. This chip belongs to 4200 family. PsoC 4 is a scalable and reconfigurable platform architecture for a family of mixed-signal programmable embedded system controllers with an ARM Cortex-M0 CPU. It combines programmable and reconfigurable analog and digital blocks with flexible automatic routing. The PSoC 4200 product family, based on this platform, is a combination of a microcontroller with digital programmable logic, high-performance analog-to-digital conversion, opamps with Comparator mode, and standard communication and timing peripherals. The PSoC 4200 products will be fully upward compatible with members of the PSoC 4 platform for new applications and design needs. The programmable analog and digital sub-systems allow flexibility and in-field tuning of the design. Provides up to 32 kB of flash with Read Accelerator up to 4 kB of SRAM. 32-bit MCU subsystem, programmable digital, programmable analog low power operation, capacitive sensing, segment LCD drive, serial communication, timing and pulse width modulation, upto 36 programmable GPIOs, PsoC creator design environment are some of the special features. Below figure6 shows PSoC development board.



Figure 6 PSoC4 development board

Working of System Architecture

- Temperature and light intensity is sensed through respective sensor.
- Measured values are displayed on LCD.
- After some time interval, data will be stored in EEPROM.
- In the mean time values are displayed on LCD.
- Using these measured values we control the operation of systems.
- Figure7 Shows hardware setup.



Figure 7 Hardware setup

Software Description

PSoC Creator

PSoC Creator is a free Windows-based Integrated Design

Environment (IDE). It enables concurrent hardware and firmware design of PSoC 3, PSoC 4, and PSoC 5LP based systems. Create designs using classic, familiar schematic capture supported by over 100 pre-verified, production-ready PSoC Components; we can see the list of component datasheets. Figure 8 shows the system design with PSoC creator.

PSoC4 creator Design Flow

- Determine system requirements
- Choose User Modules
- Place User Modules
- Set global and User Module parameters
- Define the pin-out for the device
- Generate the application
- Review generated code
- Demonstrate working configuration

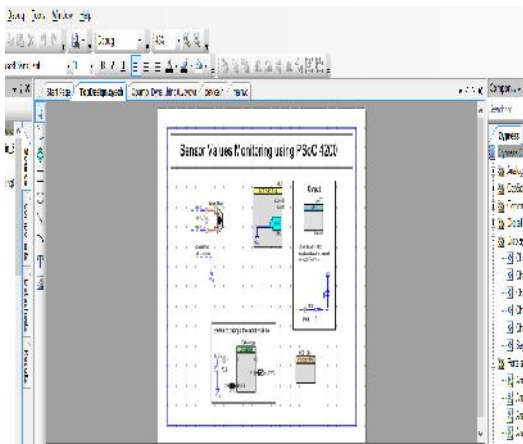


Figure 8 Final design with PSoC Creator

Experimental Results

A PSoC implementation of multisensor system is given here, which presents a new methodology to approach sensor solutions.

The system is more reliable because use of multisensors. Experimental results show sensing functions about the temperature, humidity and light intensity by using resistive changes of the sensor. And values of room temperature, humidity and light intensity are displayed on LCD as shown in figure 9.



Figure 9 Experimental Results

CONCLUSION

Using PSoC we can sense temperature, humidity and light intensity simultaneously and displayed values on LCD. We can use this system to control the power consumption. The PSoC implementation of dual sensor system presents a new methodology to approach sensor solutions using silicon based transducer. The implementation takes the advantage of dynamically configuration changing for measuring different physical parameters. It's simplicity and effectiveness makes it suitable for fast prototyping and low cost solutions.[1]

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