

Switchxpert Based Efficient Smart Home Automation using Lora Communication

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Abstract— The demand for effective, dependable, and affordable automation systems has grown due to the quick development of smart home technology. Nevertheless, a lot of the current smart home solutions are highly dependent on Wi-Fi or internet connectivity, which restricts their use in remote locations and may cause communication problems during network outages. This study examines SwitchXpert, a smart home automation system that combines long-range and short-range wireless communication technologies, as a solution to these problems. A transmitter and receiver architecture is used in the design of the suggested system. A PIR sensor, an HC-05 Bluetooth module, a buzzer, a 16x2 LCD, and a LoRa 433 MHz transmitter module are all connected to an Arduino Uno, which serves as the primary controller in the transmitter section. When a human is detected, the PIR sensor alerts the user with a buzzer. By enabling short-range appliance control via a mobile application, the Bluetooth module makes it easy for users to operate appliances like lights. The system uses LoRa technology, which allows low-power long-distance wireless data transmission, to increase the communication range. The ESP8266 Node MCU, which processes the signals received and manages the linked appliances, including LED lighting, is connected to the LoRa receiver module on the receiver

side. Because of this design, users can operate electrical devices in far-off rooms without needing internet access. The suggested system offers a scalable solution for smart home environments, increases dependability, and lessens reliance on internet infrastructure. The system provides an effective and adaptable method for contemporary home automation and remote appliance management by fusing motion detection, Bluetooth control, and long-range LoRa communication.

Keywords— Home Automation, Internet of Things, LoRa Communication, Motion Detection, Wireless Communication.

I. INTRODUCTION

The creation of intelligent and networked smart home environments has been made possible by the Internet of Things' (IoT) quick development, greatly improving automation, monitoring, and control capabilities. In order to offer smooth remote access and real-time device management, contemporary IoT-based smart home systems make use of embedded platforms, wireless communication, and cloud integration.

The adoption of smart technologies in residential applications is accelerated by these systems because they enhance user convenience, energy efficiency, and

operational flexibility [18]. Additionally, the integration of intelligent frameworks that facilitate scalable and adaptive automation for next-generation smart living systems is emphasized by recent developments [25].

Despite these developments, current smart home automation systems have serious drawbacks, mostly because of their heavy reliance on constant internet connectivity. In the absence of dependable internet infrastructure, such dependence results in increased latency, performance degradation under network instability, and total system failure. In remote and rural areas, where connectivity is frequently scarce or non-existent, these difficulties are especially important. Furthermore, system applicability is limited by traditional short-range communication technologies' inability to offer sufficient coverage and scalability for large-area deployments. Strong communication architectures that can function effectively with little dependence on internet infrastructure while guaranteeing dependability and scalability are required, according to recent studies [23].

Long-range low-power communication technologies, like LoRa, have surfaced as a viable substitute for smart home automation in order to address these issues. LoRa is appropriate for large-scale and dispersed environments without constant reliance on the internet because it allows dependable communication over long distances with low energy consumption [19]. Furthermore, by cutting down on needless power consumption, intelligent automation techniques like occupancy-based control with PIR sensors greatly improve energy efficiency [24]. In order to achieve energy-efficient operation, the suggested system additionally integrates motion-based automation, providing a scalable, affordable, and dependable solution for contemporary smart home applications.

II. LITERATURE SURVEY

The development of affordable and user-friendly systems utilizing microcontroller platforms has been the focus of recent developments in IoT-based smart home automation. A next-generation smart home system with an emphasis on scalability and intelligent control was proposed by Johnson and Miller [1]. An ESP8266-based automation system that allows remote appliance control via mobile applications was demonstrated by Sharma and Gupta [2]. A wireless sensor network-based system that improves distributed communication between devices was created by Patel and Shah [3]. A Bluetooth-based automation system that is appropriate for short-range control but has limited scalability was presented

by Reddy and Kumar [4]. An energy-efficient Internet of Things system that maximizes power consumption through intelligent monitoring techniques was proposed by Ahmed and Ali [5].

IoT platforms that combine mobile and cloud technologies for improved accessibility have been the subject of additional research. For real-time monitoring, Gupta and Mehta [6] created an ESP8266-based system that was connected to cloud services. An Android-based smart home control system that enhances user interaction was introduced by Chen and Zhang [7]. A cloud-based IoT automation framework that allows for centralized device management was presented by Iyappan and Ravi [8]. A motion sensor-based lighting system that increases energy efficiency through occupancy detection was created by Nair and Joseph [9]. A WSN-based automation system that improves scalability and communication effectiveness in smart homes was proposed by Wang and Li [10].

Advanced IoT integration and mobile-based automation systems have been highlighted in recent studies. To increase user accessibility, Kumar and Sharma [11] created an Arduino-based system with mobile application control. A general IoT gateway-based home automation system for effective device communication was proposed by Das and Banerjee [12]. A smart automation system that combines sensors and actuators for improved functionality was presented by Kadiyan et al. [13]. A LoRa-based smart home system that allows for low-power, long-range communication was created by Lee and Park [14]. In order to increase system flexibility and dependability, Brown and Clark [15] suggested a hybrid system that combines Bluetooth and Wi-Fi.

Recent studies have also focused a lot of attention on intelligent automation and energy efficiency. For effective control, Khan and Rahman [16] created a security and automation system based on motion sensors. An energy-efficient Internet of Things system that uses optimization techniques to lower power consumption was proposed by Verma and Kulkarni [17]. An advanced IoT-based automation system with an emphasis on intelligent device interaction was presented by Garcia and Torres [18]. A LoRa-enabled system that facilitates long-range communication in smart home settings was created by Chen and Liu [19]. An AI-assisted automation system that improves predictive decision-making capabilities was proposed by Patel and Shah [20].

For increased performance and scalability, recent advancements emphasize cloud-integrated systems and hybrid architectures. A wireless IoT monitoring system that facilitates real-time data communication was proposed by Wilson and Harris [21]. A mobile-based automation platform that allows remote device control was created by Suzuki and Tanaka [22]. A cloud-integrated smart home system that enhances data accessibility and control was presented by Gupta and Sharma [23]. An intelligent lighting system for energy-efficient automation was proposed by Lopez and Fernandez [24]. Lastly, Johnson and Miller [25] introduced a sophisticated smart home system that combined scalable architecture with intelligent control. The development of the suggested LoRa and Bluetooth-based system is motivated by issues that still exist despite these developments, such as restricted communication range, reliance on the internet, and the absence of unified hybrid frameworks.

III. PROBLEM STATEMENT

The quick development of smart home automation systems has greatly improved remote accessibility, energy efficiency, and user convenience. However, there are still significant issues with current systems that prevent their widespread use and dependability. The strong reliance on constant internet connectivity, especially Wi-Fi-based communication, is a significant drawback that leaves these systems susceptible to latency, network instability, and failures during internet outages. In remote or rural locations without dependable internet access, this problem is particularly noticeable. Furthermore, despite being straightforward and energy-efficient, short-range communication technologies like Bluetooth have poor coverage, which limits their use in larger residential settings.

Additionally, a lot of current solutions lack a cohesive strategy that combines long-range and short-range communication while preserving dependability and efficiency. Another significant issue is energy inefficiency, which results in needless power consumption because most systems lack intelligent automation mechanisms like occupancy-based control. Adoption is also hampered for many users by the high cost and complexity of implementation. As a result, there is a need for an affordable, scalable, and dependable smart home automation system that incorporates intelligent automation features, reduces reliance on the internet, and increases communication range. By utilizing a hybrid communication framework that combines motion-based automation with Bluetooth and

LoRa technology, the suggested system overcomes these difficulties.

IV. SYSTEM ARCHITECTURE

In order to provide dependable and effective appliance control, the suggested SwitchXpert system is built as a hybrid wireless home automation framework that combines short-range and long-range communication technologies. The transmitter unit and the receiver unit, which are the two main components of the system, communicate via LoRa technology and enable Bluetooth local control.

A. System Overview

The proposed system's overall architecture consists of a receiver section that processes received data and controls appliances, and a transmitter section that handles sensing, user interaction, and data transmission. The system's ability to function without constant internet connectivity enhances dependability in settings with limited network capacity.

The transmitter unit uses a microcontroller to process the data it receives from sensors and user commands before sending control signals via a LoRa module. After receiving these signals, the receiver unit uses a NodeMCU controller to carry out the appropriate actions on connected appliances.

A. Transmitter Unit

The architecture of the transmitter unit is shown in Fig. 1.



Fig. 1. Transmitter Block Diagram

An Arduino Uno microcontroller serves as the central control unit in the transmitter section, as shown in Fig. 1. A PIR sensor, HC-05 Bluetooth module, LoRa transmitter module, LCD display, buzzer, and indication unit are among the various parts with which it interfaces.

The purpose of the PIR sensor is to identify the presence of people in a specific area. The sensor notifies the Arduino when motion is detected, allowing for automated system reactions like setting off alarms or turning on appliances. This feature makes occupancy-

based control possible, which improves energy efficiency.

Short-range wireless communication between the system and a mobile device is made possible by the HC-05 Bluetooth module. Within a certain range, users can manually operate appliances by sending control commands via a mobile application.

A LoRa 433 MHz transmitter module is used for long-distance communication. After processing incoming commands and sensor data, the Arduino sends the appropriate signals via the LoRa module. This makes it possible to communicate over long distances without using the internet.

The buzzer acts as an alert mechanism to signal events like motion detection or system activation, and a 16x2 LCD display gives the user real-time system status and feedback. In order to graphically depict system states, an indication unit (LED indicators) is also included.

B. Receiver Unit

The architecture of the Receiver unit is shown in Fig. 2.

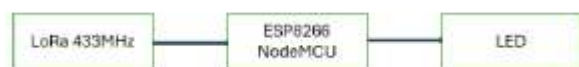


Fig. 2. Receiver Block Diagram

The receiver section, depicted in Fig. 2, is made to pick up long-range wireless signals and adjust connected appliances accordingly. It is made up of an ESP8266 NodeMCU microcontroller interfaced with a LoRa 433 MHz receiver module.

The transmitter unit's transmitted signals are captured by the LoRa receiver module, which then sends them to the NodeMCU for processing. On the receiver side, the ESP8266 serves as the primary controller, decoding the data it receives and carrying out the necessary control actions.

The connected appliance, which in the prototype system is represented by an LED, is controlled by the NodeMCU based on the commands it receives. Relay modules can be used to extend this output in real-world applications to control a variety of household appliances, including lights and fans.

C. Communication and Operation

A hybrid communication strategy is used by the suggested system. Bluetooth communication enables users to interact directly with the system via a mobile device for short-range control. LoRa communication

overcomes the limitations of traditional wireless technologies to provide dependable data transmission over long distances for long-range control.

Both manual and automatic modes of operation are supported by the system. Bluetooth commands are used by users to operate appliances in manual mode. The PIR sensor's automatic mode allows for intelligent and energy-efficient operation by detecting occupancy and initiating the necessary system responses. The suggested system offers a versatile, scalable, and dependable solution for smart home environments by fusing several communication technologies with sensor-based automation.

V. METHODOLOGY

To achieve dependable and effective smart home automation, the suggested SwitchXpert system integrates sensing, communication, data transmission, and device control using an organized methodology. The methodology supports both manual and automatic modes of operation and is intended to guarantee smooth communication between the transmitter and receiver units.

User interaction or environmental sensing at the transmitter unit initiates system operation. In manual mode, the user uses Bluetooth communication to send control commands via a mobile device. The HC-05 Bluetooth module receives these commands and transmits them to the Arduino Uno microcontroller for processing. The PIR sensor continuously scans the surroundings in automatic mode in order to identify human presence. When motion is detected, the sensor produces a signal that the microcontroller processes to start predetermined actions, like turning on alerts or managing appliances.

The Arduino Uno analyzes the data and chooses the proper control action after receiving the input signals. The LoRa 433 MHz module transmits the processed command in accordance with the system logic. Long-distance data transmission with low power consumption is made possible by LoRa communication, guaranteeing dependable connectivity even in the absence of internet infrastructure

The transmitted data is received by the LoRa module at the receiver unit and sent to the ESP8266 NodeMCU. After decoding the received signals, the NodeMCU carries out the appropriate control operations. The NodeMCU either activates or deactivates the connected appliance based on the command. Relay modules can be used in real-world applications to control multiple

electrical devices, but in the prototype implementation, the appliance is represented by an LED.

The methodology uses a hybrid approach to make sure that system parts can always talk to each other. Bluetooth is used for short-range, user-driven control, while LoRa is used for long-range, reliable communication between the transmitter and receiver units. This dual-mode operation makes the system more flexible and makes sure it works well in all kinds of environments. The suggested method makes it easy for sensing, communication, and control processes to work together, which leads to a strong and flexible smart home automation system.

VI. HARDWARE IMPLEMENTATION

The Arduino Uno microcontroller is the main control unit for the transmitter unit. We chose the Arduino Uno because it is simple to use, has enough input/output pins, and works with a lot of different peripheral modules. It handles communication with both Bluetooth and LoRa modules while quickly processing sensor inputs and user commands.

The transmitter unit incorporates a Passive Infrared (PIR) sensor to identify human presence. When motion is detected, the PIR sensor generates a digital output signal based on variations in infrared radiation. This lowers needless energy consumption by allowing the system to support occupancy-based automation. Real-time detection and response are ensured by the sensor's digital input pin interface with the Arduino.

The HC-05 Bluetooth module is used for short-range communication. Users can control appliances locally thanks to this module, which enables wireless communication between the system and a mobile device. Because the HC-05 uses serial communication (UART), integrating it with the Arduino is simple. Within a constrained range, it provides dependable performance and low power consumption.

A LoRa 433 MHz transmitter module is used to accomplish long-range communication. The selection of LoRa technology is based on its capacity to offer long-distance, low-power communication without the need for internet connectivity. Effective data transmission is made possible by the module's SPI protocol communication with the Arduino. This overcomes the limitations of traditional wireless technologies and enables the system to control appliances located in remote locations.

A 16x2 LCD display is integrated to give the user feedback in real time. It improves user interaction and system transparency by displaying sensor outputs,

operation modes, and system status. A buzzer is also incorporated as an alert system to signal things like motion detection or system activation. System states are also visually represented by LED indicators.

The ESP8266 NodeMCU microcontroller, which is in charge of receiving transmitted data and managing the linked appliances, is the focal point of the receiver unit. The ESP8266 was chosen because of its processing power, integrated Wi-Fi support (optional for future expansion), and effective communication protocol handling. On the receiver side, it serves as the primary processing unit.

To receive long-range wireless signals sent from the transmitter unit, a LoRa 433 MHz receiver module is interfaced with the NodeMCU. The NodeMCU decodes the received data and converts it into control actions. The output device, which in the prototype system is an LED, is driven by the NodeMCU based on the commands it receives. Relay modules can be used in real-world applications to extend this output and control high-power appliances.

Sensing, communication, and control components are seamlessly integrated thanks to the overall hardware design. The system strikes a balance between performance, cost, and scalability by combining ESP8266-based processing at the receiver side, Arduino-based control at the transmitter side, and LoRa and Bluetooth communication. The modular design of the hardware architecture makes it simple to expand and modify it for a variety of smart home applications.

VII. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Both transmitter and receiver units were used in the successful implementation and testing of the suggested SwitchXpert wireless home automation system. The experimental setup verifies the operation of motion-based automation with a PIR sensor and hybrid communication with Bluetooth and LoRa technology.

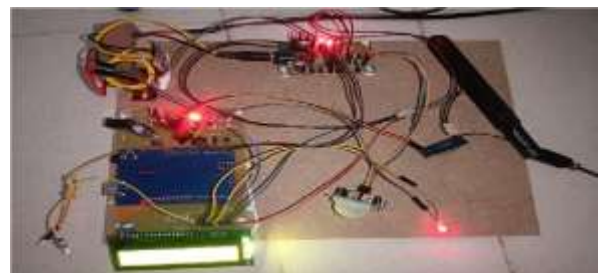


Fig. 3. Full transmitter setup

Fig. 3 provides additional illustrations of the transmitter hardware configuration, demonstrating the full integration of all parts, such as the power supply, communication modules, and sensors. The system's

steady operation attests to the correct component synchronization and interface.



Fig. 4. Receiver hardware (LED ON)

The ESP8266 NodeMCU is interfaced with a LoRa receiver module and output devices in the receiver unit, which is shown in Fig. 4. The NodeMCU processes the signals it receives and uses an LED to control the connected appliance. The LED's glow indicates that the commands were successfully received and carried out.



Fig. 5. Person detected image

As seen in Fig. 5, the system also exhibits efficient motion detection. The LCD shows the message "Person Detected" when the PIR sensor detects a human, signifying that the system has accurately identified human presence.

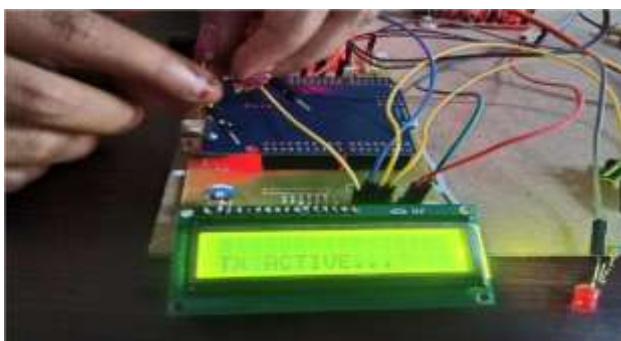


Fig. 6. TX ACTIVE LCD image

Fig. 6. depicts the transmitter unit's hardware implementation. The PIR sensor, Bluetooth module, LCD display, buzzer, and LoRa transmitter module are all integrated into the Arduino Uno-based transmitter. As seen in Fig. 3, the LCD display shows the system status in real time. The message "TX ACTIVE" indicates that the transmitter is operational and prepared to send data. This shows that the system was successfully initialised and prepared for communication.



Fig. 7. LED ON



Fig. 8. LED OFF

Figures 7 and 8 also show the appliance's ON and OFF states. When the appliance is turned on, the LED glows; when the command is turned off, it turns off. This confirms the dependability of long-range communication (using LoRa) and manual control (using Bluetooth).

The results of the experiment verify that the suggested system can accomplish dependable wireless communication over long distances without the need for internet connectivity. When compared to conventional Bluetooth-based systems, the incorporation of LoRa technology greatly increases communication range while preserving low power consumption.

Additionally, the system responds quickly and operates steadily in a variety of scenarios. The system is appropriate for real-world smart home applications since motion detection and hybrid communication improve automation and user control. Overall, the findings show that the suggested SwitchXpert system addresses the shortcomings of current systems with regard to communication range and internet dependence and offers an effective, dependable, and scalable solution for smart home automation.

In terms of communication range, energy efficiency, and dependability, the comparison results show that the suggested SwitchXpert system performs noticeably better than conventional smart home automation systems. The suggested hybrid architecture, which uses Bluetooth and LoRa, allows for both short-range and long-range communication with low power consumption. Additionally, the incorporation of motion-based automation improves energy efficiency, which qualifies the system for large-scale and network-constrained settings.

Table I Comparison Table

FEATURE	EXISTING METHOD	PROPOSED METHOD
Communication Method	Primarily wired or Wi-Fi based	Hybrid communication (Bluetooth + LoRa + optional Wi-Fi)
Long-Range Communication	Not supported	Enabled using LoRa (433 MHz)
Internet Requirement	Requires continuous internet connectivity	Internet not mandatory (LoRa based offline capability)
Power Consumption	Moderate to high due to continuous connectivity	Optimized low power consumption using LoRa
Device Control Range	Limited (short range communication only)	Extended long-range control (up to several kilometres with LoRa)

The performance comparison between the suggested SwitchXpert system and the current smart home systems is shown in the bar graph. Long-distance control is made possible by the suggested system's notable increase in communication range thanks to LoRa technology. Furthermore, there is less reliance on constant internet connectivity and less power consumption. Additionally, the system achieves greater scalability and reliability, which makes it more appropriate for remote and large-scale smart home deployments.

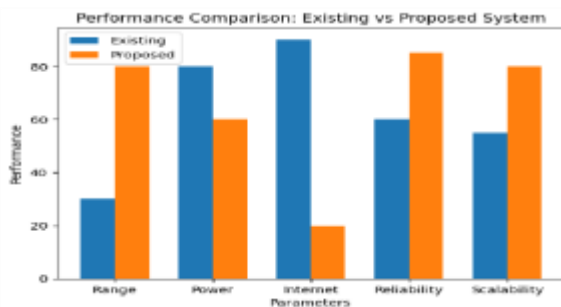


Fig. 9. Performance comparison between existing smart home systems and the proposed SwitchXpert system

VIII. CONCLUSION AND FUTURE SCOP

A. Conclusion:

The suggested SwitchXpert wireless home automation system uses a hybrid communication framework to control household appliances in an effective and dependable manner. The system effectively gets around the drawbacks of traditional IoT-based solutions that rely on constant internet connectivity by combining Bluetooth for short-range control and LoRa technology for long-range communication. By enabling occupancy-based control, PIR-based motion detection further improves automation and energy efficiency. The system's performance is validated by experimental results, which demonstrate stable operation across both transmitter and receiver units, accurate appliance control, and successful data transmission. The system turns out to be an affordable and scalable option appropriate for contemporary smart home settings, especially in places with inadequate network infrastructure.

B. Future Scope:

Future research can concentrate on improving the system by incorporating cutting-edge communication protocols like MQTT and putting encryption methods in place for safe data transfer. Mobile apps and cloud-based monitoring can be added to increase user control and accessibility. Additionally, intelligent automation based on user behaviour can be made possible by integrating machine learning algorithms.

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