

INVESTIGATION ON AUTONOMOUS PESTICIDE SPRAYING ROBOTIC VEHICLE IN AGRICULTURE FIELD

¹Mr.Manikandan Ganesan, ²Mrs.Ishwarya K. R, ³Mr. Demoz Lisanework,

⁴Mr.Ayenachew Hailu Mengiste

^{1,2,4} Lecturer, Department of Electromechanical Engineering, Hawassa University, Hawassa,
Ethiopia

³ Head of the Department, Department of Electromechanical Engineering,
Hawassa University, Hawassa, Ethiopia

E-mail-id: mani301090@hu.edu.et, ishwarya.raghav@gmail.com, demoz0504@gmail.com,
ayenachewhl@gmail.com,

Abstract:

As we all aware that the Agriculture is an extremely important in our developing countries like India. In earlier times crops got infected with insects and other factors in less amount. but today crops are affecting with several diseases and insects, so pesticides are sprayed by manpower to crops. The time required to spray is long and it is not possible to cover a full field with human power. Here we found a solution to spray the crops with less time and efficiently at low cost. This proposed work is to bring an autonomous robot that can spray the pesticides to the crops without any side effects on farmers. In this work an autonomous robot is developed to save the crops and pesticides.

Keywords: Robot, autonomous robot, agriculture robot, spraying robot, pesticide sprayer

INTRODUCTION

Agriculture is the backbone of India 18% of Gross domestic products come from agriculture. India is the largest producer of pulse, grain, wheat, spices & spice products. There are used in various medical applications [1,3]. The main role in agriculture is preventing the crops without affecting by insects and diseases. To prevent the crops from infecting, pesticides are used. It is not possible to spray a large amount of area in a short period in the routine by a man. Here the Autonomous robot can do this in less time and repeatedly [2]. Autonomous Robotic vehicles are the next form of Automation robots.it is a small type of Rover. Rovers are often used in the field of space and research.it can easily travel from one place to another place. This autonomous robot has the ability to guide itself or control it on its own [4]. This robot is customizable according to our purpose. it is a combination of electronic and mechanical components [6-11]. This robot travel by using the global positioning system (GPS) to spray the crops. The main difficulty involved in spraying pesticides is poison used to kill the insect will affect the health of farmers. sometimes it leads to death when high toxic pesticides are inhaled by the farmer while spraying. And another difficulty is routinely spraying, some crops need pesticide regularly in a period [12-16]. if those crops are not sprayed regularly, they get affected by the disease and lead to failure in the cultivation of crops. our proposed work helps to solve these problems by implementing an autonomous robotic vehicle for spraying pesticides to crops [17-19]. The proposed work was carried out by the concept of rover and autopilot system. This Autonomous robot is controlled by a PX4 Autopilot system. To operate the robot a mission is planned, and waypoints are fixed in the GCS software and uploaded to the robot via the telemetry system. When the mission is uploaded, Robot starts executing the waypoints and starts spraying the pesticides to the crops [20-25].

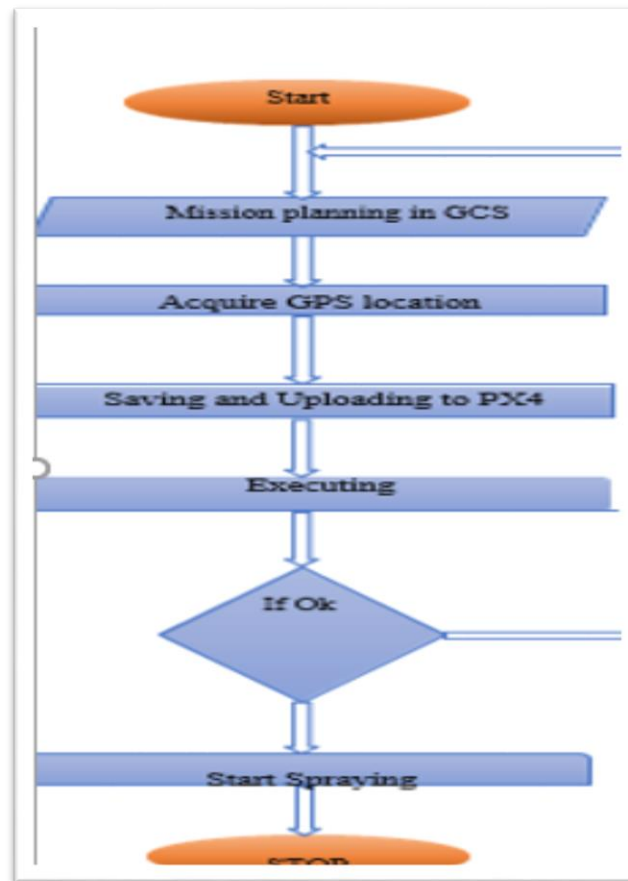


Figure 1: Flowchart diagram

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED SYSTEM

PX4 System:

PX4 system consists of 32-bit ARM CORTEX M4 core with FPU processor and 32-bit failsafe co-processor. The whole system of this robot is controlled by this unit it acts as a brain of the robot. It consists of the following sensors. A Telemetry system is a communication device that is used to communicate with the robot and the Ground control station. It consists of two modules namely RX & TX Module. RX module is fixed in the robot and the TX module is plugged in the computer or laptop used in the ground station Global Positioning System (GPS), is a popular device with a ceramic patch antenna that provides high performance also inbuilt with onboard memory chip. Power module delivers the power to the PX4 system (5v). it consists of BEC (battery elimination circuit) to prevent short circuits and over- voltage and regulates the power to the system. A geared motor is a dc motor attached with an external gearbox to control the speed of the motor also to increase the torque. Here 12v rated gear motor is used to drive the vehicle with the rpm of Sprinkler motor Sprinkler motor is nothing but it is just a motor used to spray the pesticides. This sprinkler is attached in the robot vehicles with pesticide containers when the mission starts it automatically starts the sprinkler. This is controlled by the PX4 system through the Auxiliary output [5]. This software is otherwise called a ground control station (GCS) which is used to configure and planning the mission of the robot. For every mission, this software will be used for monitoring purposes each data of the robot is displayed in this software via the telemetrysystem.

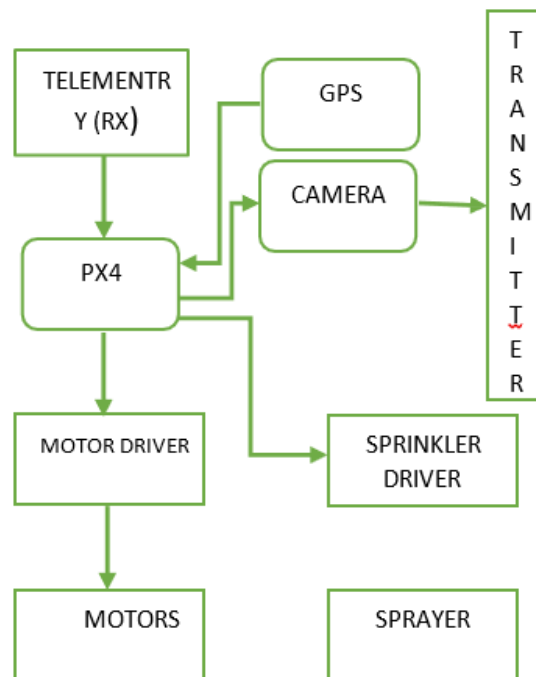


FIGURE 2: SYSTEM BLOCK DIAGRAM



GCS BLOCK DIAGRAM

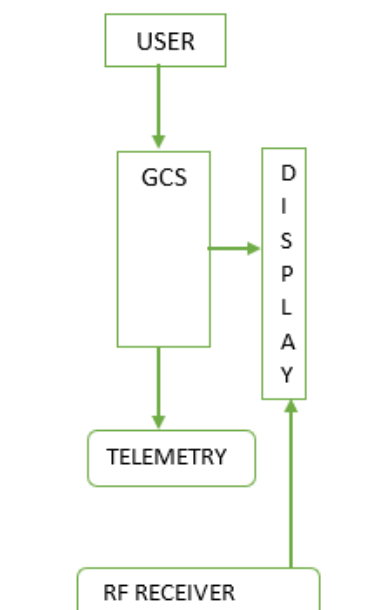


Fig.5 GCS block diagram

CONCLUSION

The experiment showed that the Robotic vehicle can complete the autonomous mission and sprayer requirements in the field. The PX4 system performed with perfect stability and great processing speed while doing the mission. The height of the spraying mechanism can be adjusted according to the corresponding crops in the field. This spraying mechanism is fully automated.

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