



e-ISSN: 2319-8753 | p-ISSN: 2347-6710

IJRSET

International Journal of Innovative Research in
SCIENCE | ENGINEERING | TECHNOLOGY



INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF INNOVATIVE RESEARCH

IN SCIENCE | ENGINEERING | TECHNOLOGY

Volume 13, Issue 6, June 2024

ISSN INTERNATIONAL
STANDARD
SERIAL
NUMBER
INDIA

Impact Factor: 8.423

9940 572 462

6381 907 438

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IoT Web Controlled Smart Notice Board with ESP8266

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ABSTRACT: A smart notice board is a digital display system that enhances traditional notice boards by integrating modern technology for improved functionality and user interaction. Typically utilizing LCD or LED screens, these boards can display a variety of information such as announcements, schedules, news updates, weather forecasts, and other relevant messages in real-time.

I. INTRODUCTION

1.1 PREAMBLE

Traditional notice boards have struggled to keep up in an era marked by rapid technological breakthroughs and an ever-growing need for effective communication. The real-time and dynamic information needs of today's businesses and institutions are not well served by these static information dissemination systems, which frequently need manual changes. The "IoT-Based Notice Board" project is a ground-breaking approach that uses the Internet of Things (IoT) to reinvent the way information is shared in response to these constraints. This creative idea, which goes by the name "IoT-Based Notice Board," provides a dynamic, remotely controlled notice board system that works well in a variety of settings, such as public spaces, workplaces, and educational institutions. The project is mostly dependent on two elements: the NodeMCU, an open-source.

1.2 PROBLEM DESCRIPTION

A Smart Notice Board using IoT (Internet of Things) is a modern and efficient way to display information in real-time. It typically involves integrating a physical notice board with electronic components and connectivity to the internet to enable remote management and updates. Below is a general problem description for creating a Smart Notice Board using IoT.

1.3 OBJECTIVE

The objective of implementing a Smart Notice Board using IoT is to leverage modern technology to enhance communication, efficiency, and convenience in displaying and managing information. The key objectives of a Smart Notice Board using IoT include:

Real-Time Information Updates:

Enable real-time updates and announcements on the notice board, ensuring that information is current and relevant.

Remote Management:

Facilitate remote management of the notice board system, allowing administrators to update content, monitor status, and troubleshoot issues without physical access.

1.4 SCOPE

The scope of a Smart Notice Board using IoT is broad and can be applied in various domains to improve communication and information dissemination. The scope encompasses multiple aspects, including technology, functionality, and application areas. Here are key elements of the scope for a Smart Notice Board using IoT:

Educational Institutions:

- **Classroom Communication:** Facilitate communication between teachers and students by displaying class schedules, announcements, and important information.

- **Event Management:** Provide a platform for displaying information about upcoming events, seminars, and extracurricular activities.
- **Exam Schedules:** Display exam schedules, venue details, and important instructions.

Corporate Environments:

- **Employee Notifications:** Disseminate important announcements, policy updates, and other information relevant to employees.
- **Meeting Schedules:** Display real-time meeting schedules, room availability, and conference room bookings.
- **Company News and Updates:** Showcase company news, achievements, and updates to enhance internal communication.

II. SYSTEM SPECIFICATION

2.1 HARDWARE REQUIRMENTS

Microcontroller	ESP8266E
Operating Voltage	3.3V
Digital I/O Pins	11 (D0 - D10)
Analog Input Pins	1 (A0)
Clock Speed	80 MHz
Flash Memory	4 MB
Wi-Fi	802.11 b/g/n (2.4 GHz)
Wireless Range	indoor 100 meter Outdoor 400 meter
Operating Temperature Range	-40°C to +125°C
Input Voltage	5V (via USB or VIN pin)
Output Voltage	3.3V
Current Consumption	~80 mA (average), ~170 mA (peak)
USB-to-Serial Chip	CH340G
Programming Interface	Micro USB
GPIO Pins	PWM, I2C, SPI, and 1-Wire
Onboard Antenna	Yes
Dimensions	49.3mm x 25.5mm
Compatible IDEs	Arduino IDE, PlatformIO, NodeMCULua
CPU	Tensilica L106 32-bit

2.2 SOFTWARE REQUIRMENTS

- Object system - Windows 10
- IDE - Arduino

III. SYSTEM ANALYSIS

3.1 EXISTING SYSTEM

In the existing IoT-based notice board system, Bluetooth technology is utilized to establish wireless connections between the notice board and users' mobile devices. This setup allows users to remotely control and update the content on the notice board using dedicated mobile applications. It provides a convenient and cordless way to manage dynamic information displays.

Limitations:

Limited Range: Bluetooth's short-range nature restricts interactions to within approximately 10 meters, making it unsuitable for larger spaces.

Pairing Complexities: Users may experience difficulties when pairing their devices with the notice board, leading to potential usability issues.

Interference Vulnerability: Bluetooth connections are susceptible to interference from other devices or obstructions, which may disrupt communication.

Security Risks: Inadequately secured Bluetooth connections could be vulnerable to unauthorized access, posing potential privacy concerns.

Device Dependency: Users must possess compatible smartphones with the requisite mobile app, excluding those without access to such devices.

Scalability Challenges: Expanding the system to multiple notice boards can become intricate as each board demands its own Bluetooth connection.

Battery Drain: Continuous Bluetooth usage may deplete the battery of connected mobile devices, reducing energy efficiency.

Increased Costs: Incorporating Bluetooth adds to the overall system cost, potentially making it less economical for certain projects.

Latency: Bluetooth connections might introduce latency, impacting the real-time display of information.

User Limitations: Users need a certain level of technical proficiency to establish and maintain Bluetooth connections, which could be a barrier for some.

3.2 PROPOSED SYSTEM

The proposed system for an IoT-based notice board aims to address the limitations of the existing system by introducing a Wi-Fi-based solution, providing extended connectivity, ease of use, and enhanced flexibility. This new system consists of the following components:

Wi-Fi Module: Instead of Bluetooth, the system incorporates a Wi-Fi module for wireless communication, allowing users to connect to the notice board using standard Wi-Fi networks.

Web-Based Interface: Users can control and update the notice board through a user-friendly web-based interface, accessible from any device with internet connectivity and a web browser.

Remote Accessibility: With Wi-Fi connectivity, users can update and manage the notice board from virtually anywhere, removing the range limitations of Bluetooth.

Advantages:

Extended Range: The use of Wi-Fi provides a broader range, allowing users to control the notice board from greater distances within the Wi-Fi network coverage.

Simplified Connectivity: Wi-Fi connections are typically easier to establish and maintain, reducing potential pairing and connectivity issues.

Enhanced Reliability: Wi-Fi connections are generally more reliable and less susceptible to interference, ensuring a consistent user experience.

Robust Security: Wi-Fi connections can be secured using encryption and authentication, minimizing security risks and unauthorized access.

Device Flexibility: Users can access the notice board from various devices, including smartphones, tablets, laptops, and desktop computers, without the need for a dedicated mobile application.

Scalability: The system can easily scale to accommodate multiple notice boards, all connected to the same Wi-Fi network, simplifying management.

Energy Efficiency: Wi-Fi connections typically have lower power consumption than continuous Bluetooth connectivity, preserving the battery life of user devices.

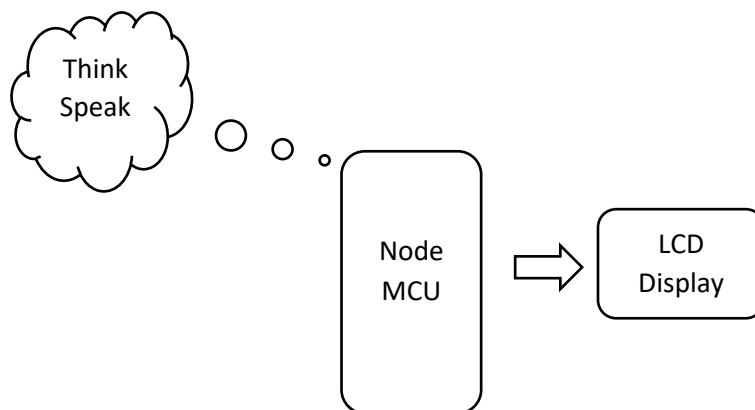
Cost-Effectiveness: Wi-Fi is a cost-effective solution, as it utilizes existing network infrastructure without requiring additional hardware components.

Reduced Latency: Wi-Fi connections offer low-latency communication, ensuring real-time updates and minimal delays.

User-Friendly: The web-based interface is accessible to users with varying levels of technical expertise, making it a more inclusive and user-friendly solution for managing the notice board.

IV. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

4.1 BLOCK DIAGRAM



BLOCK EXPLANATION

Node MCU

Node MCU is an open-source firmware and development kit based on the ESP8266 Wi Fi module. The ESP8266 is a low-cost, highly-integrated wireless microcontroller that gained significant popularity for its ability to provide Wi Fi connectivity to various electronics projects. The Node MCU project aims to make it easier for developers and hobbyists to work with the ESP8266 module by providing an easy-to-use firmware and development environment.

Lua Scripting: Node MCU originally provided a Lua-based scripting environment, allowing developers to write code directly on the module using the Lua programming language. This made it accessible to those who were not familiar with embedded programming.

WiFi Connectivity: The main purpose of the Node MCU firmware is to enable WiFi connectivity for IoT (Internet of Things) applications. The module can connect to local WiFi networks and communicate with other devices over the internet.

Arduino Compatibility: While the original Node MCU firmware was based on Lua, there are also Arduino-compatible firmware options available for the ESP8266. This allows developers to program the module using the Arduino IDE, which is a popular platform for creating embedded projects.

GPIO Pins: The ESP8266 module has a set of General Purpose Input/Output (GPIO) pins that allow you to interface with external components such as sensors, actuators, LEDs, and more.

Integrated Development Environment (IDE): Node MCU development can be done using various IDEs, such as the Arduino IDE or the Node MCU-specific IDE. These IDEs provide tools for writing, compiling, and uploading code to the module.

Community and Documentation: Node MCU has a vibrant and active community that provides tutorials, documentation, and support for users. This makes it easier for beginners to get started with the technology.

Prototyping and Rapid Development: Node MCU and the ESP8266 are popular choices for rapid prototyping and development of IoT projects due to their low cost and ease of use.

Pin Description

3V3 (3.3V): Supplies a regulated 3.3V power source for external components. Many components on the board operate at this voltage level.

RST (Reset): Allows you to trigger a reset of the ESP8266, restarting your program or resetting the module.

GND (Ground): Provides the common ground reference for the circuit. Connect components' ground connections here.

D0 (GPIO16): General-purpose digital I/O pin, usable for input or output tasks. Can also wake the ESP8266 from deep sleep.

D1 (GPIO5, SCL): Serves as the clock (SCL) pin for I2C communication, a two-wire serial communication protocol used to connect sensors and devices.

D2 (GPIO4, SDA): Acts as the data (SDA) pin for I2C communication, facilitating the exchange of data between devices.

D3 (GPIO0): General-purpose digital I/O pin. During boot-up, it influences the boot mode of the ESP8266.

D4 (GPIO2): General-purpose digital I/O pin. Also affects boot mode during the boot-up process.

D5 (GPIO14, SCLK): Clock (SCLK) pin used in SPI communication for synchronizing data transfer between devices. It also supports PWM.

D6 (GPIO12, MISO): Master In Slave Out (MISO) pin used in SPI communication for data transmission from the slave to the master. It also supports PWM.

D7 (GPIO13, MOSI): Master Out Slave In (MOSI) pin used in SPI communication for data transmission from the master to the slave.

D8 (GPIO15): General-purpose digital I/O pin. It supports PWM and can be used as an input or output.

TX (GPIO1): Transmit pin for UART serial communication, allowing data to be sent from the board to other devices.

RX (GPIO3): Receive pin for UART serial communication, receiving data from other devices.

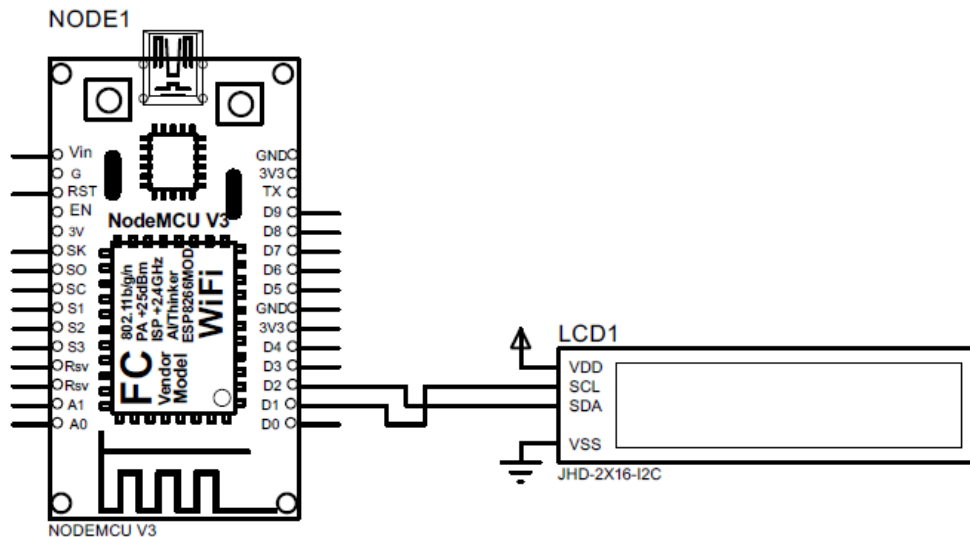
A0 (ADC): Analog input pin for reading analog voltages using the ADC (Analog to Digital Converter). Useful for reading sensors that provide analog output.

Vin: Input voltage pin for external power supply. Typically 5V, used to power the board externally.

EN (Enable): Used to enable or disable the ESP8266 module.

On the Node MCU v1.0 board, several pins offer Pulse Width Modulation (PWM) capabilities, providing a means to finely control the intensity and behavior of various components in your projects. Pin D1 (GPIO5), D2 (GPIO4), D3 (GPIO0), D5 (GPIO14), D6 (GPIO12), and D7 (GPIO13) all support PWM. This feature allows you to adjust the duty cycle of the output signal, enabling precise control over devices such as LEDs, motors, and servos. By varying the on-off ratio of the PWM signal, you can effectively regulate brightness, speed, and position, making these pins essential for crafting dynamic and responsive projects that require varying levels of output. Remember to consult the documentation and appropriate programming libraries to utilize these pins effectively for PWM-based applications.

4.2 CIRCUIT DIAGRAM



Components Used:

Software: Arduino IDE, Chrome (Think Speak).

Hardware: Node MCU ESP8266, I2C LCD.

4.3 PROJECT EXPLANATION

ARDUINO IDE

Arduino is a computer hardware and software company, project, and user community that designs and manufactures microcontroller kits for building digital devices and interactive objects that can sense and control objects in the physical world. The project's products are distributed as open-source hardware and software, which are licensed under the GNU Lesser General Public License (LGPL) or the GNU General Public License (GPL), permitting the manufacture of Arduino boards and software distribution by anyone. Arduino boards are available commercially in preassembled form or as do-it-yourself kits.

The project's board designs use a variety of microprocessors and controllers. These systems provide sets of digital and analog input/output (I/O) pins that may be interfaced to various expansion boards ("shields") and other circuits. The boards feature serial communications interfaces, including Universal Serial Bus (USB) on some models, for loading programs from personal computers. The microcontrollers are mainly programmed using a dialect of features from the programming languages C and C++. In addition to using traditional compiler tool chains, the Arduino project provides an integrated development environment (IDE) based on the Processing language project.

The Arduino project started in 2005 as a program for students at the Interaction Design Institute Ivrea in Ivrea, Italy, aiming to provide a low-cost and easy way for novices and professionals to create devices that interact with their environment using sensors and actuators. Common examples of such devices intended for beginner hobbyists include simple robots, thermostats, and motion detectors.

V. LITERATURE SURVEY

A literature survey on smart notice boards reveals a range of technological advancements, applications, and research trends. Here are some key areas typically covered in such surveys:

1. Technological Frameworks and Components:

Hardware: Exploration of different hardware components used in smart notice boards such as displays (e.g., LCD, LED), microcontrollers (Arduino, Raspberry Pi), sensors (motion, touch), and connectivity modules (Wi-Fi, Bluetooth).

Software: Overview of software platforms and frameworks used for development, including embedded systems programming, web development (HTML, CSS, JavaScript), and mobile app development (Android, iOS).

2. Applications and Use Cases

Educational Institutions: Implementation of smart notice boards in schools and universities for announcements, timetables, event updates, and emergency notifications.

Corporate Settings: Utilization in offices for displaying meeting schedules, employee notices, company updates, and real-time data visualization.

- Public Spaces: Deployment in public areas like transport hubs (airports, train stations) for travel information, advertisements, and public announcements.

3. Communication Protocols and IoT Integration:

- Examination of communication protocols (MQTT, HTTP) for IoT integration, enabling connectivity with cloud platforms and mobile devices.

- Use of IoT frameworks for remote monitoring, management, and updating of content on smart notice boards.

VI. CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the IoT-Based Notice Board project signifies a significant leap towards the modernization of information dissemination. Through the seamless integration of hardware components, cloud-based data management, and custom-coded functionality, it propels traditional notice boards into the digital era. This project not only facilitates the creation of dynamic, real-time information hubs but also provides users with the ability to tailor these hubs to their specific needs. The promise of instant updates, personalization, and enhanced accessibility positions it as a versatile tool applicable in diverse settings such as education, organizations, and public spaces. As technology continues to advance, this project stands as a testament to the limitless potential of IoT, extending an invitation for users to embark on a journey of innovation and creative implementation.

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