NORTHERN ARIZONA UNIVERSITY

College of Engineering, Informatics, and Applied Sciences

Cave Climate Monitor

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CAVE GURUS

UGRADs Presentation

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Client: GTA: USGS - Astrogeology Branch under Dr. Tim Titus Demetria Shepherd



Overview

- Client's Interest
- Purpose of Project
- Conceptual Design
- Device Module Implementation
- Cave Climate Monitor's Product
- Conclusion
- Q&A

Client's Interest

Dr. Tim Titus - Doctor of Astrophysics

- Discovered the first caves on Mars
- Interested in terrestrial/extraterrestrial cave climates
- Cave might provide a protected niche for past or current life, or shelter for human in the future on Mars.
- Interested in wireless climate logging system to aid in extraterrestrial cave monitoring





Seven Sisters

Yang Du



Purpose of Project

- Develop system to collect climate data (time, temperature, pressure, humidity)
- Prove that cave climate data can be recorded at multiple locations and wirelessly transmitted to the entrance of a cave for retrieval
- Ensure that the data logging system can withstand harsh weather in a cave climate
- Provide a basis for the selection of cave research bases and cave resource planning, development and construction
- Provide the basis for the exploration of caves on Mars



Original Cave Climate Monitor Mindmap



Taylor Begay

Conceptual Design

- Convert Client's Vision to Concrete Modules
 - Research various modules to best fit
 - Climate Measurements
 - Keeping track of time
 - Storing measurements and time to memory
 - Sending our measurements wirelessly
 - Managing all of our individual subsystems
 - Powering the system for extended periods of time
- Explore ideas to ensure user friendly
 - Research additional features
 - Toggle Button to Safely End Program to Extract microSD Card
 - Weatherproof Enclosure for element protection
 - 3 pole DIP switch for node assignment





Climate Measurements

- BME/BMP280 I2C temperature, pressure, humidity module
- Records all necessary weather data
- Driven by I2C for ease of integration with other modules





Clock

- D\$3231 Real-time clock module
- Allows for a time-stamp on recorded data
- Can control power mode of microcontroller for decreased power consumption





Data Storage

- MicroSD SPI Module
- Ability to record and store data
- Hard copy of recorded weather data for retrieval by used
- Can insert varying size of SD cards for varied amounts of data storage



Cheng Wang



Communications

- HC-12 Wireless Communication Module
- Easy to use serial communication
- Send/pass data from node to node
- Receive data before preparing to send it out



Jason Damp



Microcontroller

- Arduino Nano
- More than enough useable pins for our application
- Low power consumption
- Easy to use IDE and programming interface
- Ability to implement both I2C and SPI communication protocols



Jason Damp







Jason Damp



Final Product

- Soldered perf-board
- All modules integrated and wired to the Arduino Nano
- Long-life 12000 mAh battery
- Switch for selecting module placement
- Included stop switch
- Watertight enclosure
- Powered by 5V USB
- Ambient mounted temperature sensor



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Conclusion

- We have successfully completed a model system
- All subsystem are working together to carry out their desired tasks
- Communication between 2 nodes = perfect, 3+ nodes = could use improvement
- We believe that our work is a great stepping stone for further advancement in wireless climate logging in caves





Q&A

Questions.

Comments.

Product Feedback/Discussion.