#### ECE 445 Spring 2021

# **Smart Dumpster**

Group 24

JooYong Chung (jdchung2) Yisi Liu (yisi2) BonHyun Ku (TA)

## Introduction

## **Challenges in Regular Dumpsters**

- Usage of Dumpsters by Non-Residents
- Garbage Overflow from the Dumpsters
  - Often makes it dirtier than it should be
- Heavy Plastic Lid
  - Anywhere from 5 15 lb Lid



### **Features**

- Automatic Locking System
- Automatic Lid Opening System
- Fullness Detection
- Solar-Powered Battery



## **System Overview**

## **Block Diagram**



## **Power Group**



## **Power Group**



Idle



Active

## **Control Group**



## **RFID Card/Reader**





Picture of Serial Monitor

Start Your Scan UID Number :36dabbf8 1 UID Number :36dabbf8 2 UID Number :36dabbf8 3 UID Number :36dabbf8 4 UID Number :36dabbf8 5

## Solenoid Lock

- Input Voltage of 12V
- Default locked; Unlocked when provided with voltage
- Iron material strong enough to not break with human force



## **Linear Actuator**

- 6 inch extension possible
- Retracted Length of 10.4 inch
- Extended Length of 15.9 inch

- Positive 12V to extend
- Negative 12V to retract



## **Processing Unit**

- Microcontroller (ATMega328 Chip)
- Reprogrammable FTDI Chip (FT232RL)
- Inputs: RFID Sensor, Ultrasonic Sensors
- Outputs: Linear Actuator, Solenoid Lock, LEDs





## **Software**

- SPI Library
  - Library to communicate with a peripheral devices quickly
    - In this case it would be RFID Reader
- MFRC522 Library
  - Library that helps read/write of RFID card/tag
- Pre-registered Cards
  - Master card
  - Admin card

String director\_card = "36dabbf8";
String admin\_card = "477868b3";



## **Purposes of Each Card**

- Master Card
  - Aimed for the owner of the Apartments
  - Registers, De-registers, or Resets the whole system
- Administrator Card
  - Aimed for the Maintenance people who cleans the dumpster
  - Open and Close regardless of the fullness
- User Key
  - Aimed for the residents
  - Only open when the dumpster isn't full

## **Overfill Protection**

- Three sensors to detect length, height, and depth of the garbage in the box
- Sends 40000 HZ sonic burst from Trig and receives on Echo pin
- Detection Distance from 2cm to 500cm





## **Overfill Protection**

- Input: 8 cycle sonic burst (Trig Pin)
- Output: Time in microseconds the sound wave traveled (Echo Pin)
  - Divide by 2 as it travels forward and bounce backward
- Calculation
  - Velocity of sound =  $340 \text{ m/s} = .034 \text{ cm/}\mu\text{s}$
  - Time = Distance / Speed => Distance = Speed \* Time
  - D = .034 cm/ $\mu$  \* t / 2

## **Overfill Protection**

- Serial Monitor outputs distance measured by three ultrasonic sensors
- Check whether the actual dumpster closes when it's full
  - Green LED flashes but doesn't open the dumpster

Distance	=	29.70	сm
Distance	=	30.27	сm
Distance	=	30.13	сm
Distance	=	29.70	сm
Distance	=	29.70	сm
Distance	=	29.76	сm
Distance	=	30.27	сm
D 1 1			

Picture of Serial Monitor

#### **RFID Connectors**

**PCB Design** 

#### **5V Voltage Input**

**FTDI Connectors** 



**Ultrasonic Sensor Connectors** 

- Fullness (Ultrasonic) Sensors
- Power Unit (Solar Powered Battery)
- Solenoid Lock (Locking System)
- Lid Opener (Linear Actuator)
- Control Unit (PCB)



- Power Unit (Solar Panel)
- **RFID Sensor (Input)**
- LEDs (Output)







### **Short Demo**





## Challenge

- HC-SR04 Ultrasonic Sensors
  - Works Well only on Hard surface with
     0 degree angle
  - On soft surface, it is prone to many deceptive readings
  - Oftentimes, it would read 20 cm for distance of 5 cm at a steep angle



Practical test of Performance

## **Solution**

- Finding a median of 11 output reading
  - Use quicksort to sort the array
  - Find the median value and use that output
  - Led to more accurate results
  - Temporary Solution
- Better solution
  - Laser Sensor (TOF10120)
    - More accurate at small distances
    - Less prone to get off by angle
    - Higher Cost (10 times)





### **Further Work**

• More accurate sensors

• Protective shield for components

• Default open state when battery is low

