Line Following Humanoid Robot for Restaurant Applications

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Abstract:--
This research paper presents the design and construction of a line following humanoid robot that can serve as a waiter in a restaurant. The robot utilizes an Arduino Mega microcontroller for control and integration of various components. The humanoid design incorporates a human dummy with articulated limbs, allowing it to mimic human movements while carrying out waiter tasks. The robot employs RFID technology, consisting of RFID tags and an RFID sender, for efficient item tracking and identification. Additionally, the robot incorporates an ultrasonic sensor and an infrared sensor to detect obstacles and ensure safe navigation along the designated path.

The robot is equipped with DC gear motors, controlled by an L-298-N motor driver, enabling precise movement and positioning. A speaker is integrated into the robot for audio feedback and communication with customers. The micro SD card module is employed for storing and retrieving data, facilitating the robot’s ability to remember customer preferences and orders. The ESP-32 (NodeMCU) module enables wireless communication via Bluetooth or Wi-Fi, allowing remote control and data exchange with the robot.

To ensure extended operational time, the robot utilizes a Li-ion rechargeable battery as its power source. An O-LED display is integrated into the robot's design, providing a user-friendly interface for displaying information and status updates. The HC-12 module is employed for long-range wireless communication, extending the control range of the robot.

Introduction:—
This research introduces a line following humanoid robot for restaurant applications. Designed with an Arduino Mega microcontroller, the robot utilizes RFID technology, ultrasonic and infrared sensors, DC gear motors, and an L-298-N motor driver. Integrated features include a human dummy, speaker, micro SD card module, ESP-32 (NodeMCU), Li-ion rechargeable battery, O-LED display, and HC-12 module for wireless communication. This innovative
robot presents significant advancements in restaurant robotics, aiming to enhance efficiency and customer experience.

This research paper presents a comprehensive overview of the design and integration of these components, highlighting their individual roles and collective contribution to the functionality of the line following humanoid robot. The developed robot represents a significant advancement in the field of restaurant robotics, showcasing its potential to enhance operational efficiency and customer experience. Future research can explore additional features and technologies to further improve the performance and capabilities of the humanoid robot in restaurant environments.

**Design & Components:**

The line following humanoid robot for restaurant applications is designed with careful consideration of various components to ensure its functionality and efficiency. The following sections outline the key design elements and components utilized in the robot’s construction:

**Arduino Mega:** The robot is controlled by an Arduino Mega microcontroller, which serves as the central processing unit. It provides the necessary computational power and interfaces to integrate and control the robot’s components.

**Human Dummy:** The humanoid robot incorporates a human dummy, mimicking human-like features and movements. This design choice aims to create a more relatable and natural interaction between the robot and customers in a restaurant setting.

**RFID Technology:** The robot employs RFID (Radio Frequency Identification) technology for efficient item tracking and identification. It consists of RFID tags attached to objects and an RFID sender to read and transmit the tag information. This technology allows the robot to accurately handle and deliver items to customers.

**Ultrasonic Sensor:** An ultrasonic sensor is utilized to detect obstacles in the robot’s path. It emits ultrasonic waves and measures the time taken for the waves to bounce back, allowing the robot to determine the presence and distance of obstacles.

**Infrared Sensor:** The robot incorporates an infrared sensor to detect and follow the designated line on the floor. The sensor emits infrared light and measures the reflection to maintain accurate line following capabilities.

**DC Gear Motor:** The robot’s locomotion is achieved through DC gear motors. These motors provide precise control over the robot’s movement, enabling it to navigate the restaurant environment smoothly and efficiently.

**L-298-N Motor Driver:** The L-298-N motor driver is responsible for controlling and managing the DC gear motors. It ensures accurate motor control and facilitates coordinated movements of the robot’s limbs.

**Speaker:** A speaker is integrated into the robot’s design to enable audio feedback and
communication with customers. It can be used to provide instructions, play recorded messages, or respond to customer queries.

**Micro SD Card Module:** The robot incorporates a micro SD card module to store and retrieve data. This feature enables the robot to remember customer preferences, orders, and other relevant information, enhancing its personalized service capabilities.

**ESP-32 (NodeMCU):** The ESP-32 module provides wireless communication capabilities, allowing remote control and data exchange with the robot. It can utilize Bluetooth or Wi-Fi protocols to establish connections with external devices.

**Li-ion Rechargeable Battery:** To ensure prolonged operational time, the robot is powered by a Li-ion rechargeable battery. This battery provides a reliable power source, enabling the robot to carry out its duties for extended periods.

**O-LED Display:** An O-LED display is integrated into the robot’s design, serving as a user-friendly interface. It can display relevant information, status updates, or even interact with customers through visual prompts.

**HC-12 Module:** The HC-12 module is employed to facilitate long-range wireless communication. It extends the control range of the robot, allowing operators to interact with the robot from a considerable distance.

The combination of these carefully selected components forms the foundation of the line following humanoid robot for restaurant applications. Their integration and coordination result in a versatile and efficient robot capable of providing enhanced service and customer experience in restaurant settings.

**Line Following System:**

The line following system is a critical component of the humanoid robot designed for restaurant applications. It incorporates two infrared sensors positioned underneath the robot to detect and follow a designated line on the floor. The sensors emit infrared light and analyze its reflection to determine the line’s position. The microcontroller, equipped with a line detection algorithm, processes the sensor data and adjusts the robot’s movements to stay aligned with the line. A PID control algorithm ensures precise line following by continuously adjusting the motor speeds based on the error between the robot’s position and the desired line position. The line following system can handle straight lines, curves, intersections, and gaps in the line, thanks to its adaptable trajectory adjustments. Calibration and sensitivity settings allow the robot to account for different floor surfaces and lighting conditions, ensuring optimal performance. With this line following system, the humanoid robot can navigate the restaurant environment effectively and provide efficient service to customers.

**Obstacle Detection System:**

The obstacle detection system is an essential feature incorporated into the line following humanoid robot designed for restaurant applications. It utilizes an ultrasonic sensor and an infrared sensor to
detect obstacles in the robot's path and ensure safe navigation. The ultrasonic sensor emits ultrasonic waves and measures the time taken for the waves to bounce back, enabling the robot to determine the presence and distance of obstacles. The infrared sensor complements this by detecting obstacles in the immediate vicinity of the robot. When an obstacle is detected, the robot halts its movement and waits for the obstacle to be cleared before resuming its operation. This obstacle detection system enhances the safety and reliability of the robot, preventing collisions and potential damage. It allows the robot to autonomously navigate through the restaurant environment and effectively serve customers while maintaining a high level of operational efficiency.

**Wireless Control:**

The line following humanoid robot for restaurant applications offers versatile wireless control options, enabling seamless operation and interaction. It can be controlled remotely using a wireless RF remote, Bluetooth, or Wi-Fi connectivity. The wireless RF remote provides a convenient method for operators to send commands to the robot, controlling its movements and functionalities from a distance of up to 50 meters. Bluetooth or Wi-Fi connectivity expands the control capabilities, allowing operators to interact with the robot using smartphones, tablets, or other compatible devices. The microcontroller in the robot receives the wireless signals and translates them into appropriate actions, enabling efficient remote control functionality. This wireless control feature enhances the flexibility and usability of the robot, allowing for easy integration into existing restaurant systems and providing operators with a convenient means to manage the robot's operations.

**Conclusion:**

In conclusion, the line following humanoid robot designed for restaurant applications represents a significant advancement in the field of robotics. It incorporates a comprehensive set of components and functionalities, including a line following system, obstacle detection system, wireless control capabilities, and various integrated technologies. The line following system, with infrared sensors and a line detection algorithm, enables accurate tracking of a designated path on the restaurant floor. The obstacle detection system, comprising an ultrasonic sensor and an infrared sensor, ensures safe navigation by detecting and avoiding obstacles. Wireless control options, including a wireless RF remote, Bluetooth, and Wi-Fi connectivity, facilitate remote operation and interaction with the robot.

By combining these features, the robot offers an efficient and reliable solution for restaurant automation, particularly as a waiter. It presents benefits such as increased operational efficiency, improved customer experience, and potential cost savings. The integration of a humanoid design with human-like movements and the utilization of technologies such as RFID, speakers, micro SD card module, and an
O-LED display further enhance its functionality and adaptability in a restaurant environment.

As future developments continue to advance, this line following humanoid robot holds great potential for further enhancements, such as voice recognition, facial recognition, and advanced obstacle detection systems. Through continuous research and refinement, this robot can revolutionize the restaurant industry by providing an innovative and efficient approach to serving customers.

References:


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