

AUTONOMOUS MAP FOLLOWER

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Sponsored by Chrysler

Overview

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Introduction

- To design a system that allows a vehicle to drive autonomously from one destination to another
- By replacing the human driver with a system that can autonomously drive the vehicle, it is likely that driving can be made safer for both commuters and pedestrians.
- Aim was to deliver a scaled version of the prototype mirroring full functionality of the design

Problem Formulation

- Calculate and drive a route in a controlled environment
- Stop within 3 meters of destination
- Alert the user upon arrival at destination
- Allow the user to abort on-going destination navigation
- Change desired destination during on-going navigation
- Automatically calculate and return to departure location
- Turn off remotely

Design Requirements

- Calculate destination route within 30 seconds
- Automate vehicle to travel at 10mph for the duration of the journey
- Arrive within 3m of intended destination
- Abort on-going navigation if need be within 30 seconds
- Send arrival notification within 10 seconds of arriving at destination
- Adhere to relevant IEEE standards and regulations

Design Selection

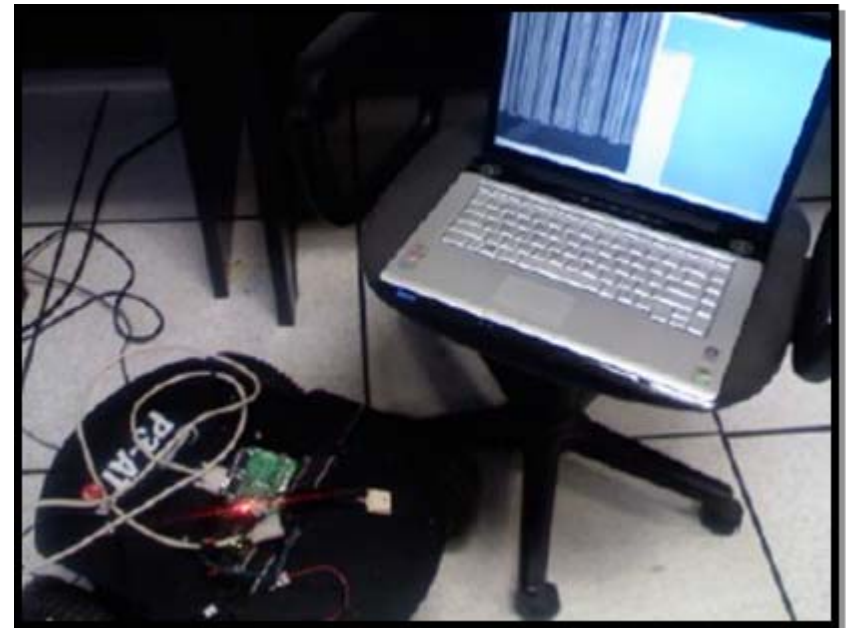
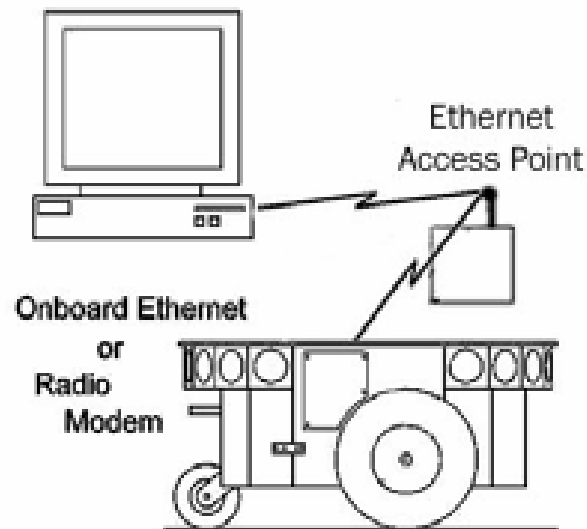
		DECISION MATRIX					
		Solution 1 GPS Guided System		Solution 2 Triangulation System		Solution 3 Electric Compass System	
Selection Criteria	Weight	Rating	Weighted Score	Rating	Weighted Score	Rating	Weighted Score
Ease of Use	35	7	2.04	6	1.75	4	1.17
Accuracy	35	8	2.33	6	1.75	5	1.46
Safety	30	8	2.00	6	1.50	6	1.50
Price	20	8	1.33	7	1.17	7	1.17
Total Score			7.7		6.2		5.3
Rank			1		2		3

Final Solution

- Contains computer, and one microcontroller.
- Microcontroller in charge of receiving, interpreting GPS signal.
- Microcontroller will also be in charge of the motors and will move the vehicle.
- The computer will be the core part of the system that will interpret, plan, translate given instructions.

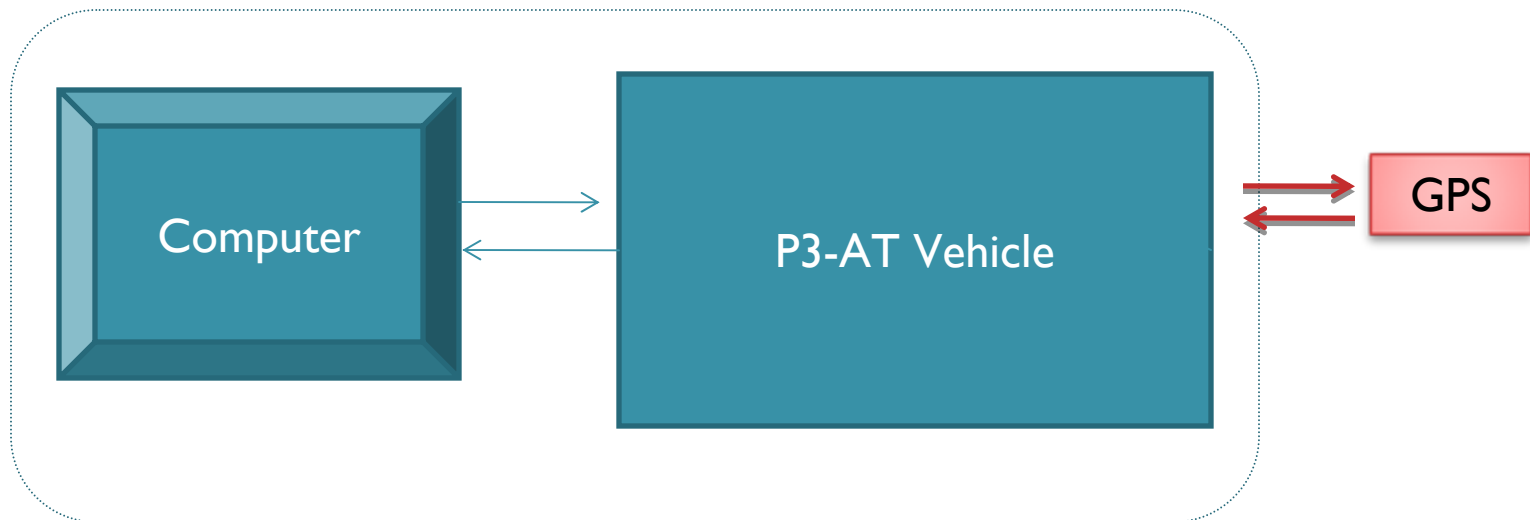
Prototype Product

- Design Solution uses GPS to help vehicle navigate autonomously
- Prototype design selected will utilize the P3-AT robot as a vehicle



Implementation

- Use ARIA API , an object-oriented, robot control applications-programming interface
- Program microprocessor to receive and translate the GPS signal for the vehicle
- Code subroutines to allow vehicle navigate autonomously



Prototype Specifications

P3-AT Vehicle

- Translational velocity can be varied to a maximum of 0.7mph

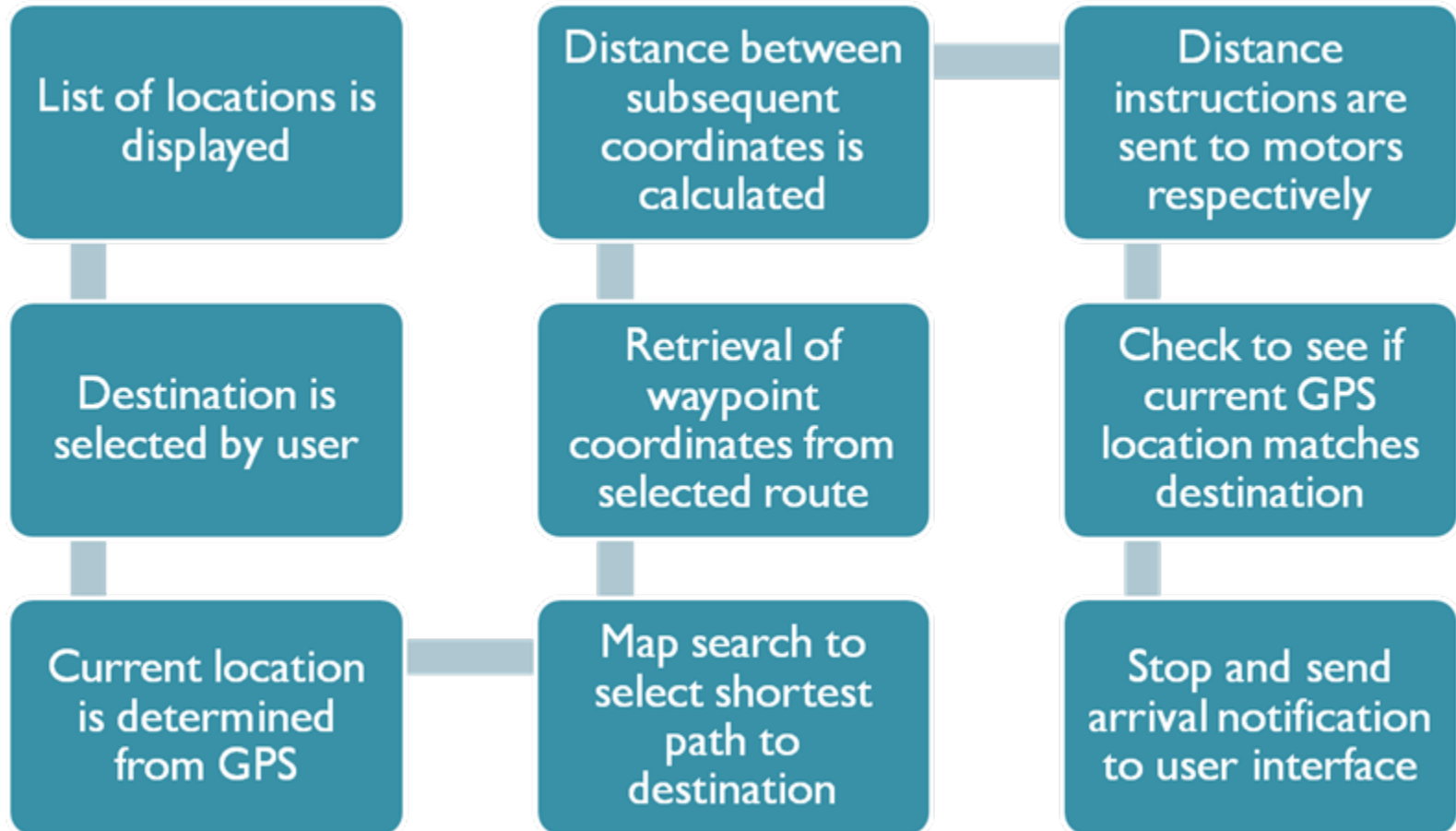
GPS

- Operating temperature between -30 ~ +80 °C
- Start-up time ranging from 1 second to 41 seconds
- Baud rate of 38400 bps (default)
4800/9600/38400/57600/115200 bps are adjustable
- Position accuracy of 3.3 m CEP (circular error probability)
- Compliant with ITU 992.1, 992.5 and IEEE 802.11 standards for IT telecommunications

Vehicle Subroutines

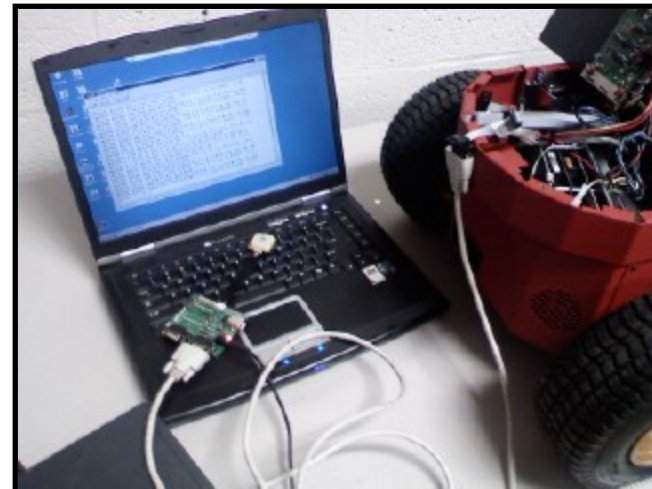
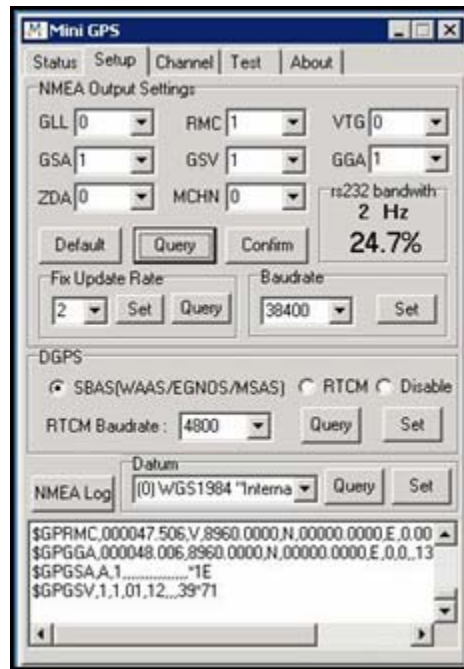
- Top Level Code – Links all of the functions for a successful trip from start to finish
- Route Selection – Algorithm that selects the best route
- Distance Calculation – Calculates the distance from the start to end
- Navigation Route - Keeps track of the vehicle progress (via Waypoints)
- Notification Arrival – Alerts the user of arrival at final destination
- GPS - Retrieves location information from GPS unit

Autonomous Vehicle Algorithm



GPS SYSTEM

- Decoded NMEA GPS protocols to extract required GPS information strings relevant to project (GGA, RMC, GSA, GSV)
- Configured GPS and P3-AT link to eliminate delays (2Hz was satisfactory update rate)
- Implemented DGPS to reduce CEP error of GPS from 3.3m to 2.5m (WAAS satellite)



Virtual Map I

Mall		Grocer
School		
	Park	Home

User Interface I

```

H is Home
G is Grocery store
M is Mall
P is Park
S is School
Your current possition is H
Enter the destination you would like to go to.
s
Going to next goal at 4000 0
Going to next goal at 4000 8000
GPS: Warning: Skipping message with incorrect checksum.
GPS: Pos: 38.921548,-77.021560 Spd:0.1132m/s (<0.2532mi/h) Alt:61.30m (<201.12
ft) Head:- NSats: 6 ErrEst:- HDOP:1.41 Fix:GPS (<4897>)

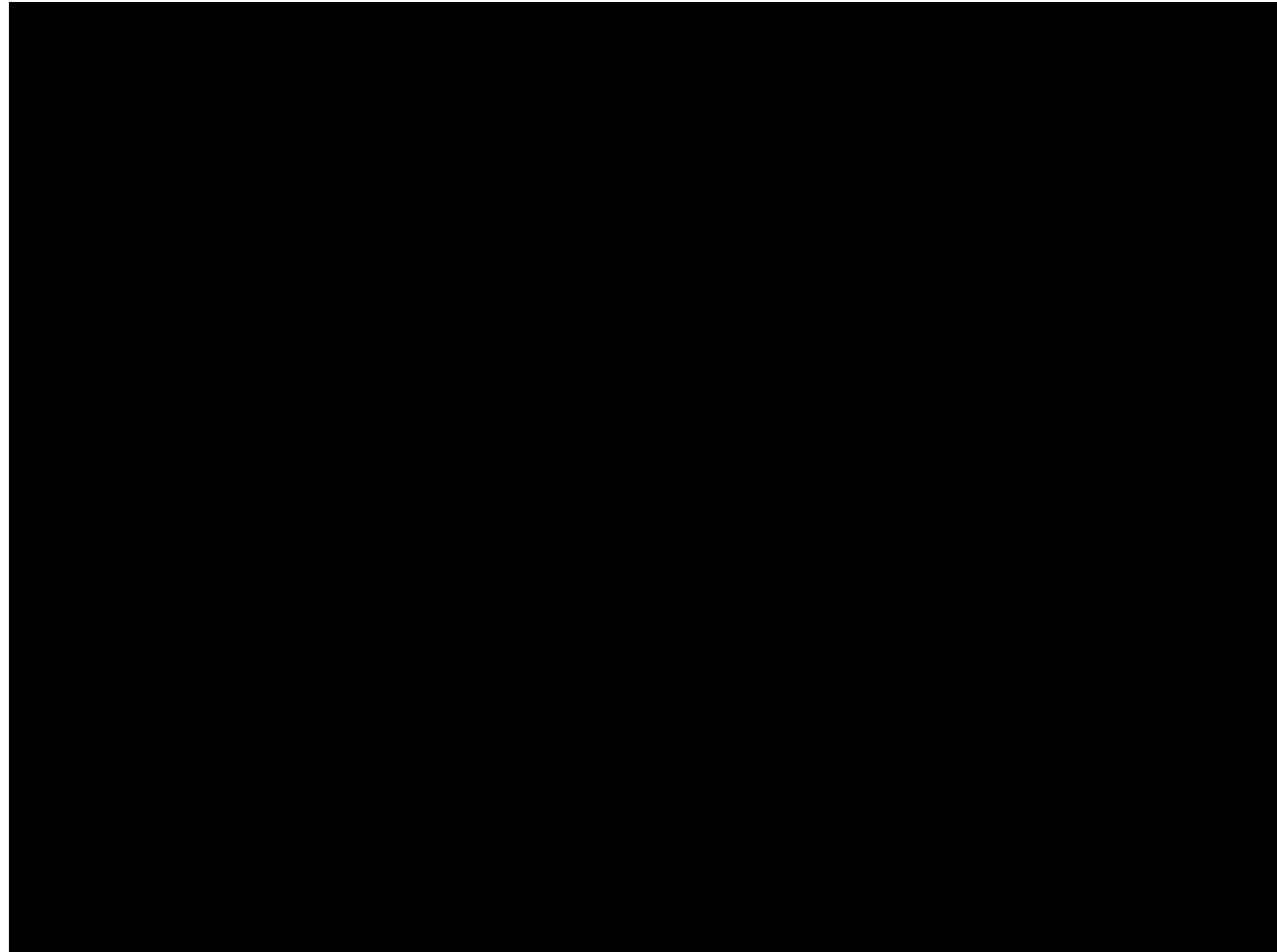
H is Home
G is Grocery store
M is Mall
P is Park
S is School
Your current possition is s
Enter the destination you would like to go to.
p
Going to next goal at 4000 4000
Going to next goal at 0 4000
GPS: Pos: 38.921533,-77.021548 Spd:0.1183m/s (<0.2647mi/h) Alt:61.40m (<201.44
ft) Head:- NSats: 6 ErrEst:- HDOP:1.41 Fix:GPS (<4912>)

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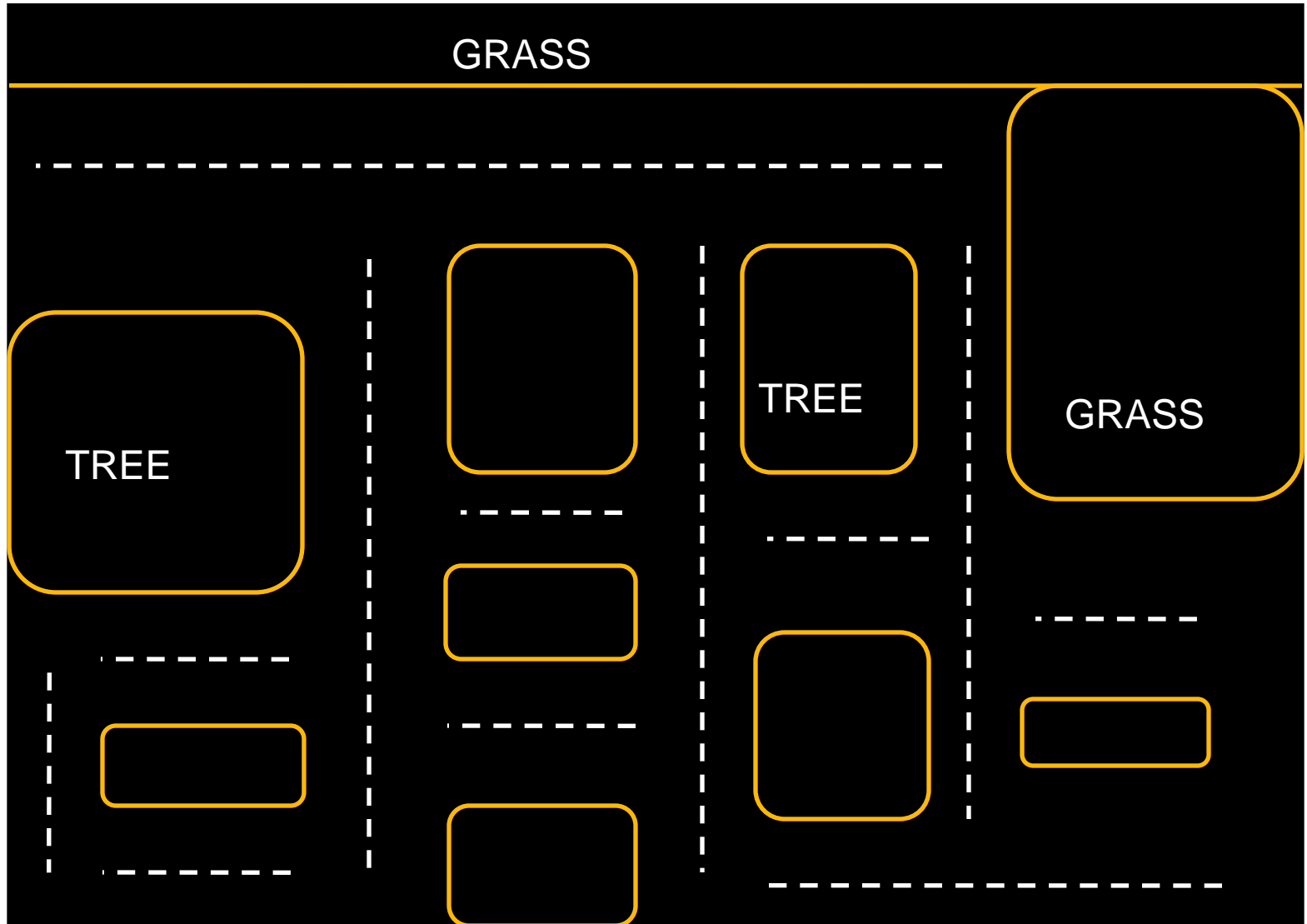


INSPIRATION COMES STANDARD

Demo Run



Virtual Map 2



Evaluation Results

- System could calculate route under 30 seconds
- System could recalculate optimal route and navigate autonomously to destination
- User received notification of arrival within 10 seconds of arrival at destination
- Limited memory capacity of P3-AT processor resulting in smaller map area
- Vehicle was unable to maintain straight line course over a long distance due to lane drift
- GPS system was unreliable due to periodic loss of satellite signals

Challenges

- Developing and implementing search algorithm to work with P3-AT vehicle
- GPS to P3-AT interface complications resulting in frequent communication loss
- Use of HCS12X board as an external processor for the GPS receiver
- Unavailability of maps of test area with latitude and longitude information

Suggested Future Work

- Implementation of lane departure warning system to enable vehicle remain within lane
- Addition of obstacle detection system to enable vehicle operate outside controlled environment
- Addition of Assisted GPS system to ensure better location accuracy

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- Questions?

