

## Electrical Appliances Control Prototype by Using GSM Module and Arduino

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**Abstract**—The development of remote control technology has grown rapidly along with the development of communication technology nowadays. The simplest communication technology available is by using GSM protocol. In this paper, a prototype of electric appliance control tool via SMS by using GSM is proposed. GSM protocol was chosen because it does not depend on mobile devices' platform. GSM SIM 900 and Arduino for controlling a relay module were utilized here. Relay module worked in accordance with orders given through SMS and the mobile device then received the feedback of the command. For testing purpose, ten (10) different types of input string as a command control was proceed. Relay worked according to orders sent from the input string submitted and feedback messages from the command given previously was provided.

**Keywords**—*Arduino; GSM module; electrical appliances control; SMS*

### I. INTRODUCTION

Communication technology involving mobile devices and machines is growing rapidly in both industrialized and globalized world [1], [2]. The communication technology is typically used for controlling and monitoring. The communications protocols used in current technology includes internet protocol, GSM, and small-sized digital radio with low power protocols. [3], [4]. Selection of the protocol depends on the tools that we want to monitor or control, cost, effectiveness, as well as the distance of communication. In this paper a prototypes of electric appliance control with via SMS using GSM protocol was proposed.

The control of electrical appliance by using mobile devices is the basic concept of a Smart Home because it can connect a variety of devices just by using heterogeneous communication protocols [1], [3]. In the previous researches, there were few studies regarding the control of cordless power tools. There was a research on the remotely control system to the home electric appliances by using voice recognition [5]. Communication was done in these studies by using multiple Programmable Micro Remote Controller (PMRC). There were also studies that controlled some equipment in hospitals by using Infrared Remote (IR) Controller [6]. In addition, there are some studies that use computer networks to conduct controlling and monitoring [7]-[9].

GSM protocols control has also been applied to control and monitoring system with multiple devices. The previous research used the GSM protocol for motor drive circuits and LCD (Liquid Crystal Display) [10]. Research was carried out by using the modules SM5100B. Beside using a GSM module there was also a research by using Arduino to read the electric meter [11] and also applied for control and monitoring of water systems [12], [13]. There is also research to monitor electrical distribution transformers [14]. The using of GSM module is also applied in some applications the Internet of Things (IOT) [15]-[19].

In contrast to previous studies, here we designed a prototype to control electrical appliance via SMS using GSM SIM module 900 and Arduino. Controlling is done by a relay module via SMS controller. In addition, the controller also sends status messages from the relays. Electrical equipment settings via SMS was design in order to make the setting does not depend on spesific platform of mobile devices.

### II. MATERIALS AND METHOD

#### A. Arduino UNO

In the design of prototypes we use Arduino UNO. Arduino UNO is one of popular Arduino that uses ATmega328 [20]. Arduino UNO has 14 input / output digital pin (6 of which can be used as PWM outputs), 6 analog inputs, an oscillator crystal 16 MHz, a USB connection, a power jack, an ICSP header, and a reset button [21]. It can be seen in Fig. 1. The characteristics of the Arduino UNO can be seen in Table I.

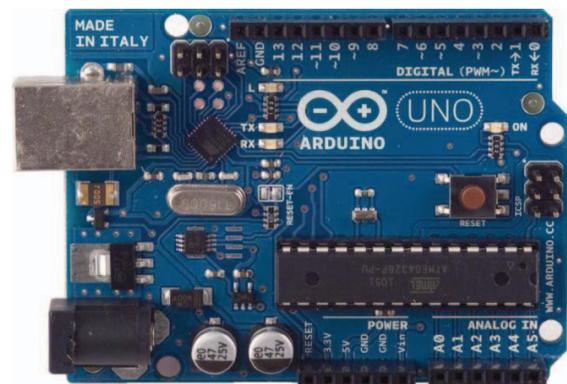


Figure 1. Arduino Uno

TABLE I. ARDUINO UNO CHARACTERISTICS

Mikrokontroler	ATMega328
Operation Voltage	5 V
Input Voltage	7 – 12 V (recommended)
Input Voltage	6 – 20 (limit)
I/O	14 pin digital input / output (6 pin for PWM) dan 6 pin only for analog input
Current	50 mA
Flash Memory	32 KB
EEPROM	1 KB
Speed	16 Hz

B. SIM900 GPRS/GSM Module

SIM900 widely used in GSM protocol communication [22, 23]. SIM900 is a complete Quad-band GSM / GPRS module in a SMT type and designed with a very powerful single-chip processor integrating AMR926EJ-S core [24]. A GSM module SIM900 has been interfaced with the 32-bit ARM processor-based LPC2148 microcontroller. It is connected to LPC2148 through a USB to RS232 driver. The module contains a SIM card holder, RS232-based serial port for connection, an antenna for sending / receiving signals to the SIM and an LED as a status for power, signal and incoming call. Featuring an industry-standard interface, the SIM900 delivers GSM / GPRS 850/900/1800 / 1900MHz performance for voice, SMS, Data, and Fax in a small form factor and with low power consumption [23]. It can be seen in Fig. 2.

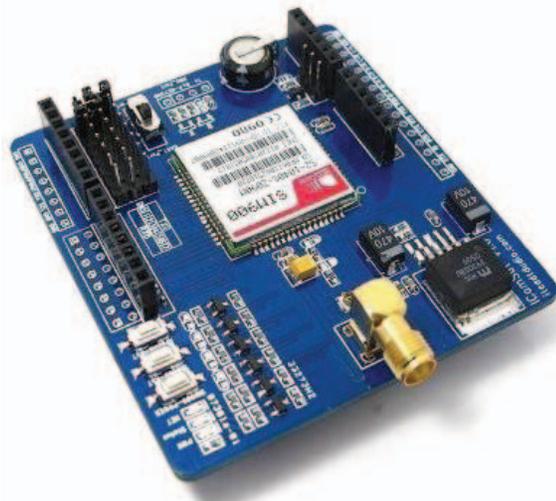


Figure 2. SIM 900 GPRS/GSM module

C. RM540C Relay Module

Relay Module is a module that is very practical for use as a main switch relay for 4 channels project with microcontroller based electronic circuits. This module turns on / off other electronic devices that are powered by 240 VAC electrical AC or DC high-voltage devices (up to 28 VDC), such as High Power DC motors. It has a maximum current of 7 Ampere for each channel in [25]. The figure of RM540C Relay Module can be seen in Fig. 3.

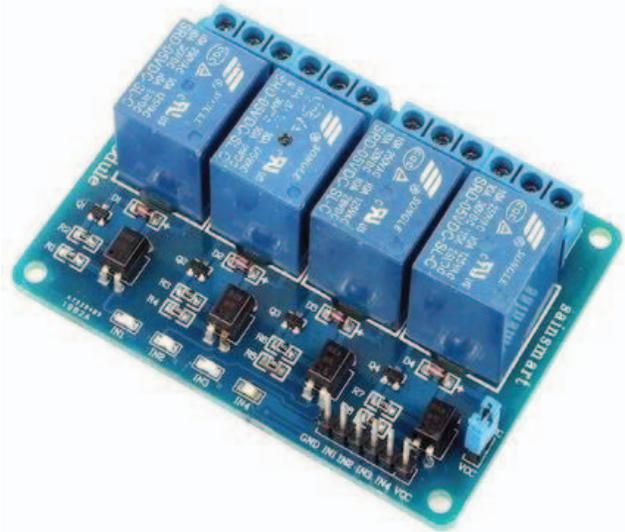


Figure 3. RM540C relay module

D. Prototype Design

The design of the prototype consists of two stages: the design and programming of SMS controller circuit and microcontroller. The block diagram of system can be seen in Fig. 4. SIM900 GPRS / GSM Module will be connected to pin Rx/Tx of ATmega328 that contained in Arduino. SIM900 GPRS / GSM Module is used to receive and send text messages to mobile devices. RM540C Relay Module will be connected to the I/O Arduino pin. RM540C Relay Module will receive the orders from the Arduino to turn on or off. Schematic SMS controller circuit can be seen in Fig. 5.

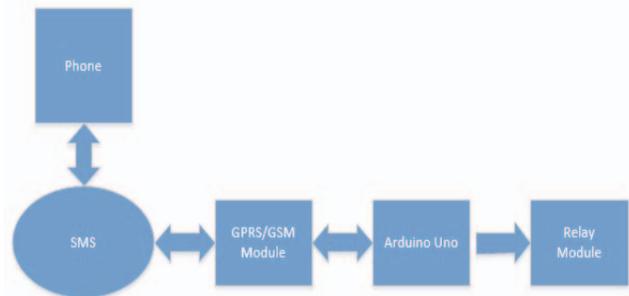


Figure 4. Block diagram of system

Microcontroller programming is used to write the programming code to translate input string obtained from SIM900 GPRS / GSM Module to turn on or turn off the relay. Beside that it is also used for writing code to send AT commands to SIM900 GPRS / GSM module that will send SMS to mobile devices in response to commands sent. Previous predetermined input string that is used to control relays as well as feedback from Arduino message informing that the control has been carried out.

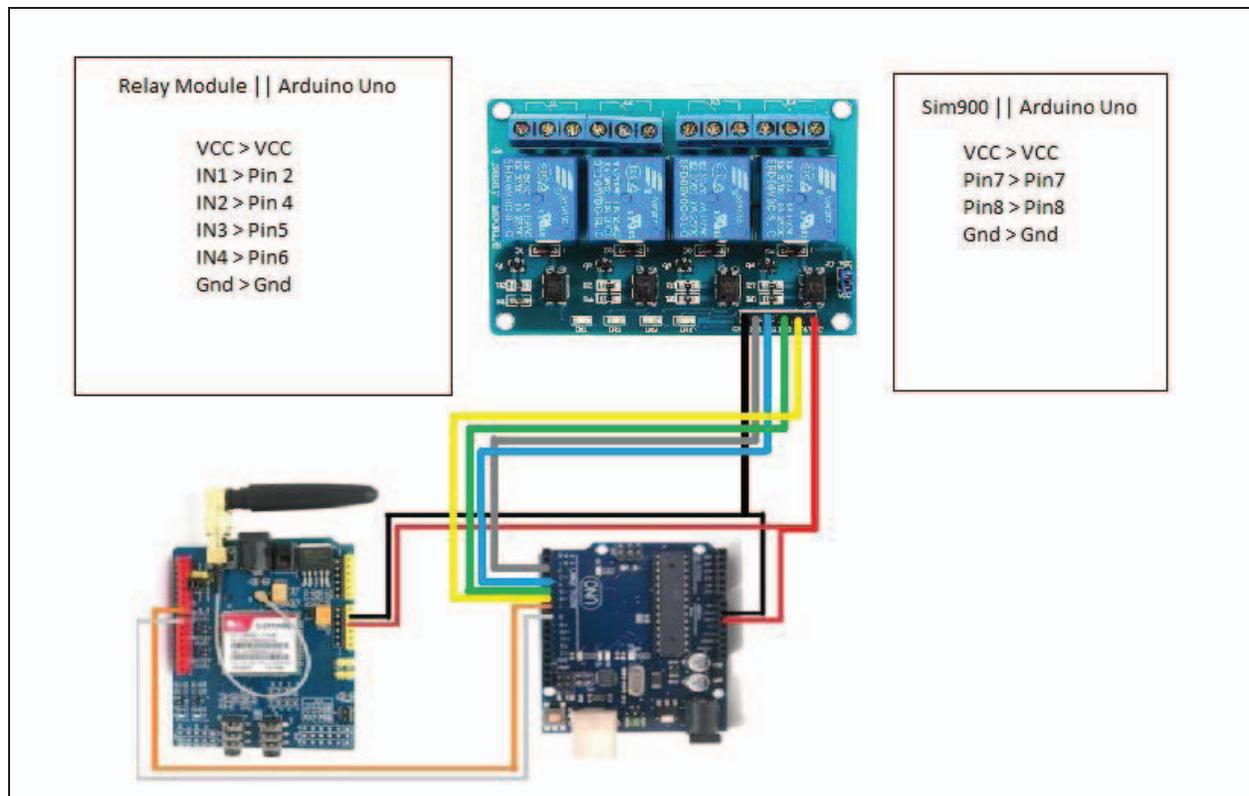


Figure 5. The design of the prototype

### III. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The system consists of an Arduino microcontroller as a control, SIM900 as SMS gateway, Relays as outputs and phones as input. The working principle is Arduino will receive input in the form of a string of data from mobile phones via SMS gateway. Then Arduino will process the data and control relay in accordance with the data. If the relay is ON, the electrical equipment such as lights, fans, and others will be ON as well and also if the relay off the electrical equipment will be off as well. Previous predetermined input string that is used to control the relay. There are 10 types of input string is used for the control and feedback messages obtained. This can be seen in Table II.

Testing was done by sending a SMS to each input string listed in Table II below. An analysis whether the relay works in accordance with the order of the input string was done. Another review was proceed on the mobile devices to check whether there was a message given as the feedback of earlier command. As the result, it was found that the relay worked normally according to the orders from the submitted input string and it was able to provide the feedback messages from the previously given command.

### IV. CONCLUSIONS

From the conducted prototype design, it can be seen that the prototype worked as expected. By using SIM900 GPRS / GSM Module and Arduino, a relay module controlled by SMS can be designed. Prototypes can also provide feedback

messages from the command given previously. Furthermore, these prototypes can be applied to control the actual electrical equipment.

TABLE II. SMS FEEDBACK FROM ARDUINO

No	String Data Input	Relay Output	SMS feedback from Arduino
1	"rl1on"	Relay 1 <i>On</i>	"Relay 1 On Boss"
2	"rl2on"	Relay 2 <i>On</i>	"Relay 2 On Boss"
3	"rl3on"	Relay 3 <i>On</i>	"Relay 3 On Boss"
4	"rl4on"	Relay 4 <i>On</i>	"Relay 1 On Boss"
5	"rlallon"	All Relay <i>On</i>	"Relay all on Boss"
6	"rl1off"	Relay 1 <i>Off</i>	"Relay 1 Off Boss"
7	"rl2off"	Relay 2 <i>Off</i>	"Relay 2 Off Boss"
8	"rl3off"	Relay 3 <i>Off</i>	"Relay 3 Off Boss"
9	"rl4off"	Relay 4 <i>Off</i>	"Relay 4 Off Boss"
10	"rlalloff"	All Relay <i>Off</i>	"Relay all off Boss"

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