

Career Final Project

PROGRAM AN EMBEDDED SYSTEM WITH INDUCTIVE PROXIMITY SENSOR AND RFID READER

Author:

Angel Maria Fàbregas López

Supervisor of project:

Lukas Vojtech

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Chapter 1

Introduction

The aim of this project is to get a machine which can control and track movements of goods in a factory or store. So, the main idea is to have some of these machines strategically placed in the building and managed all from a comfortable distance.

To control and track movements are used two parameters, RFID tags and proximity of goods. These would be possible with help of RFID reader and an inductive proximity sensor, which with an ALIX board are three devices with which this project begins.

This project consists on interaction of these devices and programming their software, as well as choice of Operating System and configuration of a wireless connection.

On the other hand, goals of this project are also;

- Achieve a robust and simple program that works with RFID reader and proximity sensor.
- Improve programming skills, especially in c language.
- Working in something similar a business project
- Knowledge and use of different devices such as RFID reader and proximity sensor.
- Use of ALIX board, and improve my knowledge about this board.

This paper is organized starting with some unrelated chapters that finally are related on chapter 8:

1. **Introduction**, chapter which we are. In this chapter there are the presentation of the project, marked goals and organization of paper.
2. **Board**, this chapter explain the board used, as well as its features and characteristics.
3. **Choice of O.S.**, in this chapter there is a discussion about which could be the best O.S. for this project, how to install it and some packages that would be necessary in next tasks. Therefore, after this chapter ALIX board is prepared to other tasks.
4. **RFID reader**, in this chapter there is an explanation of how RFID reader works, its specifications and features of RFID reader used and software which controls it.

5. **Wireless communication**, in this chapter there are an explanation of wireless connection used, their features and configuration.
 6. **Inductive proximity sensor**, in this chapter there is an explanation of used proximity device features and how it works. Just as, software programmed to control the device.
 7. **Access to results**, in this chapter there is an explanation of web page and ftp server, and about format of databases.
 8. **Program made**, in this chapter there is an explanation of high level code.
 9. **Conclusions**, in this chapter there is a global view of whole project, as well as problems and solutions found and possible future improvements.
- A. **Manuals**. A precise explanation of how to use and configure the program.
 - B. **Summary of figures and tables**.
 - C. **Passwords**, where there are all passwords used.
 - D. **References**.

Chapter 2

Board

2.1 Introduction

The brain of this project is this device; the board. The board is the union point of all devices and the interface which all software and programs run. To run programs is necessary an Operating System, task explained in chapter 3.

2.1.1 Basic hardware

Hardware is the term given to the components such as circuits, electronics and anything that you could touch on the board.

Hardware can be broken up into four parts:

- Processor
- Memory
- Input and Output
- Storage

2.1.1.1 Processor

The processor is the most important piece of hardware. It is the brain, the very intellect of this electronic machine.

The processor decodes and executes instructions that are sent to in via the many lanes within the board.

2.1.1.2 Memory

The most common memory is known as the random access memory (RAM) because of it is a static memory.

Static memories are memories that do not store data always, as soon as the board is switched off, the memory becomes empty or resets itself.

RAM chips provide the communication link between the central processing unit and the storage device. All software used is loaded on to the memory. The CPU or processor then reads the RAM for the instructions and then does the calculation and executes them by writing back on to the RAM.

Another memory is dynamic memory or volatile memory which stores data that is fixed and does not go off even if the computer is switch off. This is read only memory (ROM) which stores critical boot up information of the computer. This chip allows the computer to start up and provides information on its hardware devices.

2.1.1.3 Input and Output devices

Input and Output devices purpose is to provide either input into the board system or to provide an output from the board system.

These are devices used when interacting with the board such as a keyboard or serial wire to connect with the computer.

2.1.1.4 Storage devices

Storage device is the disk drive or the hard disk.

The disk is broken up into many sectors and these sectors house the data such as programs inside the board. They act as a cabinet or a filing system where all the data is stored in its raw form.

2.1.2 Board used

The board used in this project is ALIX 2D3. This board is optimized for wireless routing and network security applications. And its size is small.

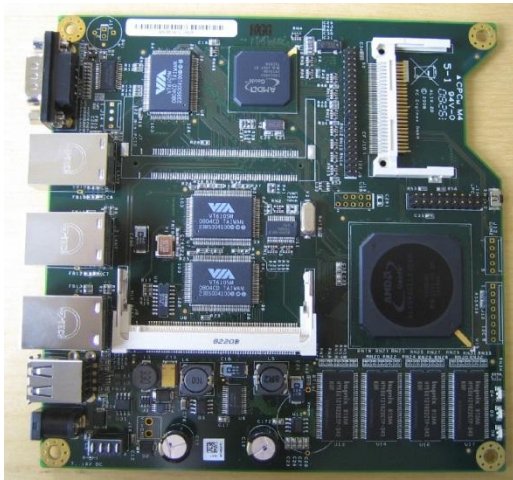


Figure 2.1: front of ALIX 2D3 board



Figure 2.2: behind of ALIX 2D3 board

2.2 Features and characteristics

Here are some highlighted features of ALIX 2D3:

CPU: 500 MHz AMD Geode LX800

DRAM: 256 MB DDR DRAM

Storage: CompactFlash socket, 44 pin IDE

Power: DC jack or passive POE, min. 7V to max. 20V.

Expansion: 1 miniPCI slot, LPC bus

Connectivity: 3 Ethernet channels (Via VT6015M 10/100)

I/O: DB9 serial port, dual USB port

Board size: 6x6" (152.4 x 152.4 mm) – same as WRAP.1E

Firmware: tinyBIOS

Others: Three front panel LEDs, push button.

2.3 Additional components

The ALIX board has all connections but need two more components: CompactFlash card as a storage device and wifi card as Input and Output device.

2.3.1 CompactFlash card

The CompactFlash card used in this project is CompactFlash Kingston 4 GB standard card.



Figure 2.3 – CompactFlash Kingston 4GB standard card

This card is designed for basic storage without speed requirements. It stores the Operating system and all programs made.

2.3.2 Wifi miniPCI card

This board doesn't have hardware to connect by wifi so it is necessary to use an external hardware. To get a wifi connection is plugged in miniPCI connector a wifi miniPCI card [5]. At same time, this card is connected with an antenna, as is shown in Figure 2.5.



Figure 2.4 – Wifi miniPCI card



Figure 2.5– Wifi antenna, Wifi miniPCI card and board

Chapter 3

Choice of Operating System

3.1 What is an Operating System?

An operating system (OS) is a set of software that manages computer hardware resources and provides common services for computer programs. The operating system is a vital component of the system software in a computer system. Application programs require an operating system to function.

For hardware function such as input and output and memory allocation, the operating system acts as an intermediary between programs and the computer hardware.

Operating systems can be found on almost any device that contains a computer, from cellular phones and video game consoles to supercomputers and web servers.

3.2 Features of our Operating System

Nowadays, there are a lot of Operating Systems. To choose one of them for this project is essential to decide some features that project need. These features are;

- Free Operating System, which has no monetary cost.
- Small size.

As Manual made by PC Engines ALIX proposes, there are some OS options;

- FreeBSD
- Linux
- NetBSD
- OpenBSD
- Others
- Commercial

Each above category is composed by more than one possibility. But commercial category could be removed of the list because don't fulfil with rule of no-cost OS.

About other categories, there is no subjective reason to choose one of them, but the OS choose is in Linux category, because is one of the most used OS with Windows and MAC OS, but the other two are commercial and have a big size.

To be one of the most used OS is important because it would mean that there are a lot of documentation and Forums which can help during development of the project.

So, the last step is chose one of the Linux OS. Like is made before, the choice will be in ALIX provider's list;

- Alix Rescue (rescue)
- AstLinux (asterix -> VoIP)
- CentOS (small community)
- Debian for Alix (small community)
- gOS 3 Gadgets (no information)
- fli4l
- IPCop (firewall)
- IPFire (firewall)
- LEAF Linux Embedded Appliance Firewall (firewall)
- Meshlium (no information)
- OpenWRT (small community)
- Ubuntu Linux (big size)
- Voyage Linux
- Xubuntu Linux (big size)
- Zeroshell (servers)

In the previous Linux can be organized in some groups. Those with small community (CentOS, Debian for Alix, OpenWRT), those with big size (Ubuntu Linux, Xubuntu Linux), those with specific use such as firewall (Alix Rescue, AstLinux, IPCop, IPFire, LEAF, Zeroshell) and those without enough information (gOS 3 Gadgets, fli4l, Meshlium).

After this classification, the only one which satisfies all features is Voyage Linux, and this is the OS used in this project.

Finally, features that have been used to choose OS are larger than which was thought at beginning;

- Free Operating System, which has no monetary cost.
- Small size.
- Big community.
- Not specific utility.
- Good papers and FAQs (frequent answered questions).

3.3 Voyage Linux

3.3.1 Voyage Linux

Voyage Linux [3] is Debian derived distribution that is best run on an x86 embedded platforms such as PC Engines ALIX.

Typical installation requires 128 MB disk space, although larger storage allows more packages to be installed.

Currently, Voyage Linux has the following editions:

- **Voyage Linux** – the basic version
- **Voyage MPD** – Music Player Daemon
- **Voyage ONE** – VoIP software

The edition that is used in this project is Voyage Linux., which has six releases:

- **i386 0.8.0**
- **i386 live cd**
- **i386 sdk**
- **amd64 0.8.0**
- **amd64 live cd**

3.3.2 Features

Here are some highlighted features of Voyage Linux:

- **Basic features**
 - Based on Debian Sarge r3.1/Etch r4.0/Lenny 5.0/Squeeze r6.0 – stripped down only 128MB disk space required
 - Highly extensible through apt package management
- **The kernel**
 - Linux 3.0/2.6 kernel – always latest
 - Full PC Engines ALIX/WRAP board support – watchdog, gpio, temperature reading and LED patch
- **WiFi support**
 - Built in ath9k, ath5k/madwifi(-ng), hostap, prism54, optional ndiswrapper drivers and tonnes of wireless drivers
 - Wireless access point support in NAT or bridge mode.
 - WPA/WPA2 support via hostapd and wpa_supplicant
 - WDS support via nl80211, hostap or madwifi drivers
 - Hostap txpower and non-volatile firmware download support
 - Captive Portal: built-in nocat splash support, optional nocatauth package available.

3.3.3 How to install

The installation [2] is done on the CompactFlash card using a USB card reader of a computer which has installed Linux Mint OS. Could be necessary that execute all commands as a root, so *sudo* command was used.

Firstly, is important to know the path of CompactFlash card. Once it is known, in this project is */dev/sdc*, must be empty.

After, a primary partition has to be done and formatted with *ext3*.

Secondly, Voyage Linux image has to be downloaded and mounted in hosted computer.

Finally, installation script has to be executed. Following all indications, Voyage Linux will be installed correctly.

Following scheme shows the installation step by step:

1. Prepare the card.

- Delete everything on the card.
- Create a primary partition using *cdisk* and mark it as bootable.

```
>> sudo cfdisk /dev/sdc
```

- Format primary partition as *ext3*.

```
>> sudo mkfs.ext3 /dev/sdc1
```

- Delete *checking every X seconds*.

```
>> sudo tune2fs -c 0 /dev/sdc1
```

2. Prepare the installation

- Make a directory which mount OS image.

```
>> sudo mkdir /mnt/voyage
```

- Download OS installation file, this project use Voyage Linux i386 0.8.0.
- Unpack file

```
>> sudo tar -numeric-owner -jxf voyage_0-8-0.tar.bz2
```

- Enter the unpacked folder

```
>> cd voyage_0-8-0
```

3. Installation

- Execute script and follow steps.

```
>> sudo ./usr/local/sbin/voyage.update
```

- i. Create New Voyage disk
- ii. Select Target disk

```
- /dev/sdc  
  
- 1 // partition 1  
  
- /mnt/voyage // directory to mount OS image
```


iii. Select Target Bootstrap Loader

```
- grub  
- 1
```

iv. Configure Target Console

```
- 1 (serial terminal)  
- 5 (38400)
```

v. Partition & Create file system

```
- 1 (Partition flash media & create Filesystem)
```

vi. Copy Distribution to target

```
- Yes
```

vii. Exit

Once Voyage Linux is installed correctly, only has to connect CompactFlash card on PCI socket, and boot ALIX board.

3.3.4 First steps

Once Voyage Linux is installed and ALIX board booted. How to access? There are some possibilities, in this project is used a serial communication. Our Computer doesn't have serial connector so it is necessary to use a serial-USB adapter. When host computer and ALIX board are connected, is easy to access to ALIX board using *minicom* communication[1]. First time, is necessary to configure *minicom* command with:

```
>> sudo minicom -s
```

And modify default values to:

Address: /dev/ttyUSB0

Speed: 38400

After configuration, connection is done with:

```
>> sudo minicom
```

Now, terminal will show Voyage Linux access screen, as Figure 3.1.



```
Terminal
File Edit View Search Terminal Help

Welcome to minicom 2.5

OPCIONES: I18n
Compilado en May 2 2011, 10:05:24.
Port /dev/ttyUSB0

Presione CTRL-A Z para obtener ayuda sobre teclas especiales

Last login: Mon Jul 24 15:05:44 GMT 2023 from 10.1.10.165 on pts/0
Linux voyage 3.0.0-voyage #1 SMP PREEMPT Mon Oct 24 01:49:56 HKT 2011 i586

The programs included with the Debian GNU/Linux system are free software;
the exact distribution terms for each program are described in the
individual files in /usr/share/doc/*/copyright.

Debian GNU/Linux comes with ABSOLUTELY NO WARRANTY, to the extent
permitted by applicable law.

      _/_/_/
     /_/_/_/
    /_/_/_/
   /_/_/_/
  /_/_/_/
 /_/_/_/
/_/_/_/
{ V o y a g e } - L i n u x
 < http://linux.voyage.hk >

Useful Commands:
remountrw - mount disk as read-write
remountro - mount disk as read-only
remove.docs - remove all docs and manpages

Version: 0.8 (Build Date 20111030)

AT S7=45 S0=0 L1 V1 X4 &c1 E1 Q0
root@voyage:~# AT S7=45 S0=0 L1 V1 X4 &c1 E1 Q0
[1] 1830
-bash: AT: command not found
-bash: c1: command not found
[1]+  Exit 127          AT S7=45 S0=0 L1 V1 X4
root@voyage:~#
```

Figure 3.1 – minicom response

Voyage Linux access screen needs to introduce a username and password. Default values are:

```
username: root
password: voyage
```

For default Voyage Linux is mounted as a read-only OS, if you want to modify something, is important to know how to mount it as a read-write OS. It is done with:

```
>> remountrw // read-write OS
>> remountro //read only OS
```

3.4 Additional packages

As is a small and concentrate Operating System, there are some applications that are not installed. Basically there are two; *build-essential* and *emacs*.

Build-essential is necessary to compile programs [4].

Emacs is not essential, but is a good text editor and which was used in this project.

Chapter 4

RFID reader

4.1 RFID technology

4.1.1 Definition

RFID, acronym of Radio-Frequency IDentification, is the use of a wireless non-contact system that uses radio-frequency electromagnetic fields to transfer data from a tag attached to an object, for the purposes of automatic identification and tracking.

The tag contains electronically stored information which can be read from up to several metres away. Unlike a bar code, the tag does not need to be within line of sight of the reader and may be embedded in the tracked object.



Figure 4.1 – RFID Reader

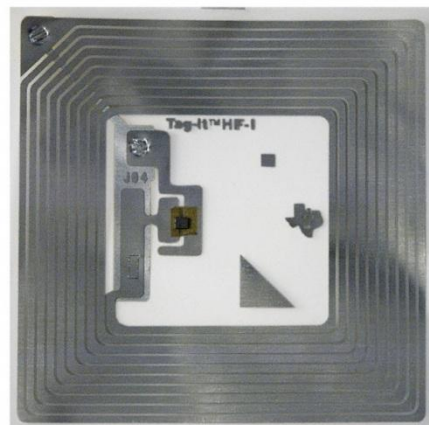


Figure 4.2 – RFID tag

4.1.2 Operation

A radio-frequency identification system uses tags, or labels attached to the objects to be identified. Two-way radio transmitter-receivers called interrogators or readers send a signal to the tag and read its response. The readers generally transmit their observation to a computer system running RFID software or RFID middleware.

The tag's information is stored electronically in a non-volatile memory. The RFID tag includes a small RF transmitter and receiver. An RFID reader transmits an encoded radio signal to interrogate the tag. The tag receives the message and responds with its identification information. This may be only a unique tag serial number, or may be product-related information such as a stock number, lot or batch number, production date, or other specific information.

RFID tags can be either passive, active or battery assisted passive. An active tag has an on-board battery and periodically transmits its ID signal. A battery assisted passive (BAP) has a small battery on board and is activated when in the presence of a RFID reader. A passive tag is cheaper and smaller because it has no battery. Instead, the tag uses the radio energy transmitted by the reader as its energy source. The interrogator must be close for RF field to be strong enough to transfer sufficient power to the tag. Since tags have individual serial numbers, the RFID system design can discriminate several tags that might be within the range of the RFID reader and read them simultaneously.

Tags may either be read-only, having a factory-assigned serial number that is used as a key into a database, or may be read/write, where object-specific data can be written into the tag by the system user. Field programmable tags may be write-once, read-multiple, "blank" tags may be written with an electronic product code by the user.

RFID tags contain at least two parts: an integrated circuit for storing and processing information, modulating and demodulating a radio-frequency signal, collecting DC power from the incident reader signal, and other specialized functions; and an antenna for receiving and transmitting the signal.

4.1.3 RFID frequency bands

Band	Regulations	Range	Data speed	Remarks
120-150 kHz (LF)	Unregulated	10 cm	Low	Animal identification, factory data collection
13.56 MHz (HF)	ISM band worldwide	1 m	Low to moderate	Smart cards
433 MHz (UHF)	Short Range Devices	1-100 m	Moderate	Defence applications, with active tags
868-870 MHz (Europe) 902.928 MHz (North America) UHF	ISM band	1-2 m	Moderate to high	EAN, various standards
2450-5800 MHz (microwave)	ISM band	1-2 m	High	802.11 WLAN, Bluetooth standards
3.1-10 GHz	Ultra wide	To 200 m	High	Requires

(microwave)	band			semi-active or active tags
-------------	------	--	--	----------------------------

Table 4.1 – RFID frequency bands

4.2 Our RFID equipment

4.2.1 General Description

The aim of this task is to get identification numbers of RFID tags. To do this we have an RFI21.1 Development Kit of *Metra Blansko a.s.* company.



Figure 4.3 – RFI21.1 Development Kit

RFI21.1 Development Kit includes all necessary components for read tag identifiers which are in the field of an antenna. It also allows reading and writing the user data when this property is supported by tags. This project is only interested in read tag identifiers.

The content of this Development Kit is:

- RFA01 UHF RFID Antenna
- RFI21.1EU UHF RFID Reader
- Power supply Sunny SYS1421-0605-W
- Galvanically isolated converter UART-RS-232 (LGA-KN232)
- Galvanically isolated converter UART-RS-485 (LGA-KN2)
- Interface cable RFC21
- Interface cable USB
- Antenna cable RFC01 (2m)
- CD with documentation and software
- Tags UPM ShortDipole

In this project are used RFID Antenna, RFID Reader, Power supply, cable USB and Antenna cable. Also, tags UPM is used to check that program works correctly.

4.2.2 RFID Antenna

RFA01 RFID antenna is made of ABS plastic. This antenna is designed for indoor use in industry, logistics, trade or other similar applications.

The antenna is fed through concentric cable with an impedance of 50Ω connected by the hole on the side housing to the antenna SMA connector.

It is a circularly polarized fixed reader antenna. Read range, which is designed to work in a band from 865 to 870 MHz, is increased by high gain (typ. 8 dBi) and low VSWR (1.2:1) minimizes wasted power in the reader.



Figure 4.4 – RFA01 RFID antenna

4.2.3 RFID Reader

RFI21.1EU UHF RFID Reader cover is made from the stainless Steel finished by varnishing and has aluminous cooling plates. It is constructed for the use inside in the industry, logistics, stores and other similar applications.

The reader requires a direct current 5V power supply.

The antenna is connected by the coaxial cable with 50Ω impedance and the standard SMA connector. The cable should have a low attenuation with respect to a reading distance in the required RFID application. The antenna together with a cable must have $SWR < 1.5$ at the reader antenna connector in entire working frequency range. It is not allowed to operate the reader with a disconnected or unmatched antenna, which could cause reader damage.

To connect the reader with a computer is used an USB 2.0 interface with the USB micro type B connector. The reader could not be powered through the USB interface.

The reader has two signal LED's. Green one signals power voltage presence and the yellow one signals a reader status.

The RFI21.1 is compact multiregional multiprotocol RFID reader intended for data reading and writing from/to passive transponders (tags) and offering them to a computer. The reader works with the protocols EPC Class 1 generation 2, iP-X, ISO 18000-6B and ISO 18000-6A. It provides wide range of configuration, utilization of transfer speed up to 640 kb/s and easy installation including integration to the system.

Reader status is indicated by the yellow LED as follows:

Yellow LED	Status
No light	If the green LED lights simultaneously, the reader is prepared to communicate with a computer, the reader neither transmits nor looks for tags.
Permanent light	Boot loader active.
Blinking 4 Hz	The reader transmits and looks for tags according to settings, tags are detected.
Blinking 1.5 Hz Alternate 5%	The reader transmits and looks for tags according to settings, no tags are detected.
Blinking 1 Hz Alternate 50%	Error status (power supply or temperature or SWR antenna are out of operation range).
Blinking 10 Hz	Error status (service action is required, contact the reader supplier).

Table 4.2 – RFID reader LEDs status

4.2.3.1 Protocols – iP-X

iP-X, acronym of Internetwork Packet eXchange, is an implementation of Internet Datagram Protocol (IDP) protocol of Xerox. Is a fast and connection orientated datagram protocol and it sends data using the network, each packet has to include destination address.

It belongs to the network layer (level 3 of OSI model) and is similar with IP protocol, but iP-X is simpler and less trust. An iP-X packet consists of eleven fields; Checksum, packet length, Transport control, packet type, destination network, destination node, destination socket, source network, source node, source socket, upper-layer data.

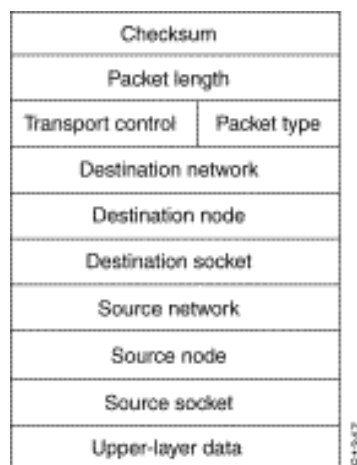


Figure 4.5 – iP-X packet structure

4.2.3.2 Protocols - ISO 18000-6 type A

ISO 18000-6 A protocol is based on the concept of “interrogator talks first”. This means that the tag shall wait to receive a correctly decoded command from the interrogator before transmitting.

So the protocol is based on an exchange of; a command from the interrogator to the tag, and a response from the tag(s) to the interrogator.

Each command and each response are contained in a frame. Each command consists of the following fields; SoF, RFU field (reserved for protocol extension), command code, parameters (or RFU), CRC-5, Optional parameter fields (depending on the command), application data fields, CRC-16 and EoF. And each response consists of the following fields; SoF, flags, mandatory and optional parameters fields (depending on the command), application data fields, CRC-16 and EoF.

This protocol is bit-oriented. A single field is transmitted most significant bit first.

There are two forms of commands, short commands of 16 bits, Figure 4.6, and longer, Figure 4.7.

SOF	RFU	Command code	Parameters/Flags	CRC-5	EoF
	1 bit	6 bits	4 bits	5 bits	

Figure 4.6 – Short command format

SOF	RFU	Command code	Parameters or flags	CRC-5	SUID (optional)	Data	Data (optional)	CRC-16	EoF
	1 bit	6 bits	4 bits	5 bits	40 bits	8 bits	8 to n	16 bits	

Figure 4.7 – Long command format

The response from the tag, as explained before, has the structure of Figure 4.8.

Preamble	Flags	Parameters	Data	CRC-16

Figure 4.8- General response format

4.2.3.3 Protocols - ISO 18000-6 type B

ISO 18000-6 B protocol is based on the concept of “interrogator talks first”, like ISO 18000-6 A. In this protocol data is encoded and presented in slightly different ways in the constituent fields. For interrogator-to-tag communication, data is sent using an on-off key format. For tag-to-interrogator communication, data is sent using backscatter techniques. This requires that the interrogator provide steady power to the tag during the return link (tag-to-interrogator). This protocol is bit-oriented.

Each command and each response are contained in a frame. Each command are divided with the following fields; Preamble Detect (no modulation of the RF carrier), preamble, delimiter, command code, parameter fields (depending on the command), application data fields (depending on the command) and CRC-16.

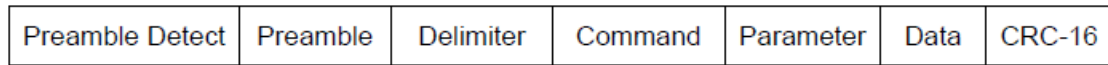


Figure 4.9 – General command format

Each response consists of the following fields; quiet (no modulation of the RF carrier), return preamble, application data fields and CRC-16.

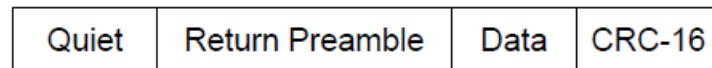


Figure 4.10 – General response format

4.2.3.4 Protocols - EPC Class 1 generation 2

EPC Class 1 generation 2 protocol is similar with ISO 18000-6 A and B protocols. The main difference is that ISO 18000 protocols only defines air interface, while EPC protocol defines structure of data, physical reader implementation, networks, etc.

This specification has some main points:

- RFID tags can use any frequency between 860-960 MHz.
- RFID tags are able to work with three different modulation schemes; DB-ASK (Double Sideband-Amplitude Shift Keying), SS-ASK (Single Sideband-Amplitude Shift Keying) and PR-ASK (Phase-Reversal Amplitude Shift Keying). RFID readers choose which scheme is used.
- RFID tags can transmit with four different speeds; 80 Kbps, 160 Kbps, 320 Kbps or 640 Kbps (What it means that RFID reader can read more than 600 tags/sec). RFID readers choose which speed is used.
- This protocol include one method for support multiple readers and reduce their interference.

For above main points, this protocol is known as multiprotocol protocol.

Each command has a specific structure. All starts with a preamble and a command or response fields. The following fields depend of command used. For example, *query command* has the structure of Figure 4.11.

	Preamble	Command	Sel	ID	T	Mode	Rate	X	Parity
# of bits	6	2	1	1	1	1	2	4	1
Description		00	0: ~S 1: S			0: FM0 1: Subc	00: x1 01: x2 10: x4 11: RFU	0-15	Odd parity on X

Figure 4.11 – query command structure

The ID and T field choose which tag population shall respond to the *query*, according to next table:

ID	T	Tags that participate in interrogation round		Tag flags after successful singulation	
		IDS	IDL	IDS	IDL
0	0	0	don't care	1	unchanged
0	1	1	don't care	0	unchanged
1	0	don't care	0	unchanged	1
1	1	don't care	1	unchanged	0

Table 4.2 – ID and T fields

IDS and IDL are identified flags of tags.

4.2.3.5 Choice of protocol

Finally, chosen protocol is EPC Class 1 generation 2 because it was designed to work internationally and has other enhancements that are significant, but the real benefit of Gen 2 is that it works anywhere in the world and major manufacturers of chips and tags have lined up behind it.

And because EPC Class 1 generation 2 protocol can be seen as an update of ISO 18000-6 A and B protocols, since it was approved as ISO 18000-6 type C.

4.3 Communication with RFID reader

4.3.1 General description of data packet

Communication between computer and reader takes place through a virtual serial port. Every packet consists of three parts; header, data and footer.

```
typedef struct{
```

```
    uint8_t SoF; // start of frame, every time 0x02
```

```

uint8_t Len; // length of the data section

uint16_t Seq; // sequence number, 1..65535 (0 reserved)

uint16_t Time; // timestamp of packet, free running, in milliseconds

uint16_t Cmd; // code
} CDC_PACKET_HEADER;

... data part ...

typedef struct{

    uint8_t CRC; // control checksum CRC

    uint8_t EoF; // end of frame, every time 0x03

} CDC_PACKET_FOOTERS;

```

The reader is managed by a computer. Every packet from the computer is confirmed or the reader sends some response. The response has the same sequence number as the command from the computer. This means that the computer have to generate a sequence number which has to be in range 1-65535.

The reader can send packets without request, e.g. information about the tag ID, when inventory mode is turned on. In this case the reader generates a sequence number by an internal counter. These packets are not confirmed by the computer. Loss of a packet is recognized by the missing sequence number.

Every packet from the reader has timestamp in the header from the free running counter with resolution to milliseconds. Packets from the computer can have this part zero.

CRC is computed like simply 8-bit XOR from SoF to last data byte (without CRC and EoF). The multibyte numbers format is little-endian that means LSB first.

0x02								0x03
SoF	Len	Seq	Time	Cmd	Data	CRC	EoF	

Figure 4.12 – example of packet

4.3.2 libusb-1.0.8

Communication between computer and reader takes place through a virtual serial port, using USB connection. To get this communication is used an open source library which let to write and read to USB port.

After check some libraries such as JSR-80, JUSB, javax-usb and JcommUSB. Finally, libusb library was the choice.

The main reason to choose this library is because it has a clear and simple explanation and examples.

Libusb is a library for USB device access from Linux userspace. It is written in C and licensed under the LGPL-2.1, and was programmed for Daniel Drake, Johannes Erdfelt and Nathan Hjelm.

4.3.2.1 How to install

It is necessary to install this library to configure the package for our system. It is easy and fast to install and only has to follow few commands.

First of all, you have a zipped file with a .tar.bz2 format. First step consists of unzipped the file and enter to the unzipped folder. Once it has done, *configure* script has to be executed, which configure the package for our system. Running *configure* might take a while. When *configure* script finishes, it is time to compile the package using *make* command. Optionally, can use *make check* to run any self-tests that come with the package. Finally, to install the programs and any data files and documentation using *make install*. Optionally, can be removed the program binaries and objects files from the source code directory using *make clean*.

Above explanation can be summarized with following points:

1. Download libusb library from <http://libusb.sourceforge.net>

2. Unzipped downloaded file.

```
>> sudo tar -xvf libusb.tar.bz2
```

3. Enter to unzipped folder

```
>> sudo cd libusb
```

4. Execute *configure* script

```
>> sudo ./configure
```

5. Execute *make* command

```
>> sudo make
```

6. Execute *make install* command

```
>> sudo make install
```

Optional:

7. Execute *make clean* command

```
>> sudo make clean
```

8. Execute *make distclean* command

```
>> sudo make distclean
```

In this project this library has been modified, removing not necessary files for trying to minimize size of file. Also, a program which can read RFID tags has programmed.

When *./configure* is executed, an error could be produced:

```
>> ./configure
```

```
Check in for a BSD-compatible install ... /usr/bin install -c checking whether  
build environment is sane... configure: error: newly created file is older than  
distributed files!
```

This error is caused because operating system's date is out of date. In this project the date was *Thu Mar 15 09:14:15 GMT 2001*. So, date has to be update:

```
>> date -set="YYYY-mm-DD HH:MM::SS"
```

4.3.2.2 Basic Operations

A communication between computer and RFID reader has some mandatory operations, which has to be executed every time reader has to read:

- Initialize library and session
- Look for RFID reader
- Open RFID reader port and start communication
- Liberalize RFID reader port, necessary to claim interface correctly.
- Claim interface
- Required I/O instruction
- Release interface
- Close RFID reader port
- Close session.

I/O instructions are read or write. Both of them use bulk transfer type, instead of interrupt transfer type. Because communication reader-computer always use bulk type, but computer-reader communication can be interrupt or bulk type. To make it simple, only bulk transfer type is used.

4.3.2.3 Functions and structure of program

One part of program made is the RFID tag reading, so it is interesting to comment about this part.

Basically, the goal of this part is to implement all basic operations, seen in 4.3.2.2 section, and understand how they work.

Libusb-1.0.8 has implemented some useful functions, some of them have been used in program such as `libusb_init`, `libusb_get_device_list`, `libusb_open_device_with_id_pid`, `libusb_free_device_list`, `libusb_reset_device`, `libusb_kernel_driver_active`, `libusb_detach_kernel_driver`, `libusb_set_configuration`, `libusb_close`, `libusb_exit`, `libusb_claim_interface`, `libusb_bulk_transfer` and `libusb_release_interface`.

With these functions is possible to implement all basic operations above described, only is necessary to implement one more function, control checksum (CRC) calculation.

The program is organized as follows; firstly there is a part to open session and connect with RFID reader which consists of eight functions, followed for a part of reader configuration. Third, there is a function called `start_rfid` which has two parts, one that sends needed commands to ask for Identification Number of RFID tags and another which reads tags response. Once all responses are read, `stop_rfid` function sends a command to stop the reader. Finally, two functions which close session and close handle for the reader.

To obtain RFID reader handle is used the `libusb_open_device_with_vid_pid()` function, what it means that is necessary to know the IDVendor and IDProduct of reader used. In this project's device, the IDVendor is 0xa600 and IDProduct is 0xe130. They have to be changed in case of use another reader.

4.3.2.4 Bulk command

The most important function of this program is `libusb_bulk_transfer`. It has been used 4 times:

- RFID reader configuration
- Send command to tags
- Read response of tags
- Stop reading of the RFID reader.

This command has following structure:

```
int libusb_bulk_transfer ( struct libusb_device_handle * dev_handle,
                          unsigned char endpoint,
                          unsigned char * data,
                          int length,
                          int * transferred,
```

unsigned int

timeout

)

The direction of the transfer is inferred from the direction bits of the endpoint address.

For bulk reads, the length field indicates the maximum length of data you are expecting to receive. If less data arrives than expected, this function will return that data, so be sure to check the transferred output parameter.

If `libusb_bulk_transfer` returns a 0, it indicates that the function worked correctly, if returns another value it means that an error was done.

Two of these six areas need more attention, endpoint and data. Endpoint indicates if computer send commands or read data. If computer wants to send some command to reader, the endpoint used is 0x04, on the other hand, if computer wants to read some data from reader, the endpoint used is 0x83.

About data, there are two opposite behaviours, when computer read some data from the reader; in this case the most important part is value of length, or computer send some command to reader. In the second case, data has to be structured like Figure 4.11.

An example of sent data to reader is when computer sets the reader.

In this case, data is defined as:



data[13] to data[16] = 0x00	Password (8 bytes)	}	data
data[17] = 0x01	maskBank		
data[18] = 0x00	maskAddr		
data[19] = 0x00	maskLen		
data[20] to data[51] = 0x00	selectMask		
data[52] = 0x0A	tryNo		
data[53] = crc(data,53)	CRC	}	footer
data[54] = 0x03	EoF (end of frame)		

Above example shows:

Command send is 0x4002, which means cmd_ids2_config, or that this command configures parameters of the Gen2 protocol. These parameters are stored in the RAM. After reboot the reader there is necessary to set it again.

LinkSpeed = 0x04, which means a 160 kbps

LinkCoding = 0x01, which means a miller 2 codification

Tari = 0x02, which means 25 μ s

Session = 0x00, which means that us S0

PilotTone, Password, maskAddr, maskLen, selectMask are 0x00, which are not used for this communication

maskBank = 0x01, which means EPC

tryNo = 0x0A, which means it has 10 times before connection fails.

After send this data, computer wait for a confirmation USB_ACK to know that this frame was receive correctly (USB_ACK command is 0x00).

Chapter 5

Wireless communication

5.1 Why needs wireless connection

A wireless connection is a system that transmits and receives radio signals over the air.

It is interesting for this project because it lets to access to the mini-pc without any wire, making it more simple and easier. Also, this kind of connection lets to access to the device more than one person at same time.

So, goals of this wireless connection are:

- Access to minipc from medium distance without wire.
- More than one device can access to minipc at same time.
- If there are more than one minipc, be able to know which one is each.
- Limit coverage area of connection inside building.

5.2 Kinds of wireless connection

Wireless connections are organized according its coverage. So, they can be divided as Wireless PAN, wireless LAN, wireless MAN and wireless WAN.

Wireless PAN, acronym of personal area network, is a small coverage network, generally a room. Typical technologies of WPAN are Bluetooth and Infrared Data Association.

Wireless LAN, acronym of local area network, is a medium coverage network, generally a building. Typical technology of WLAN is IEEE 802.11 standards, marketed under the WiFi (Wireless Fidelity) brand name.

Wireless MAN, acronym of metropolitan area network, is a big coverage network, generally a city. Typical technologies of WMAN are IEEE 802.16 standards; the most famous of these standards is WiMAX.

Wireless WAN, acronym of wide area network, is a huge coverage network, generally a country or continent.

For this project, the most interesting wireless network is LAN because the goal of this wireless connection is to access to the minipc from anywhere in the factory, since it is necessary more coverage than PAN and less than MAN.

5.3 IEEE 802.11 standards

IEEE 802.11 standards or WiFi is a set of standards for implementing wireless LAN computer communication in the 2.4, 3.6 and 5 GHz frequency bands.

The 802.11 family consists of a series of half-duplex over-the-air modulation techniques that use the same basic protocol. The most popular are those defined by the 802.11b and 802.11g protocols, which are amendments to the original standard.

802.11b has a maximum raw data rate of 11 Mbps using 2.4 GHz band, and uses the same CSMA/CD media access method defined in the original standard. This protocol is used in a point-to-multipoint configuration, wherein an access point communicates via an omnidirectional antenna with one or more nomadic or mobile clients that are located in a coverage area around the access point.

802.11g is the third modulation standard of wireless LANs. It works in the 2.4 GHz band but operates at a maximum raw data rate of 54 Mbps, or about 19 Mbps net throughput. The modulation scheme used in 802.11g is orthogonal frequency-division multiplexing (OFDM).

5.4 Hardware

5.5 Board configuration

5.5.1 Server - client

First of all, it is necessary to know if minipc will be the server or a client, because behaviour and configuration will be very different.

If the minipc is a server it would be that it is always generating a network and everyone who want to connect only needs to know user and password of wifi network. This situation has the limitation that only can be connected one minipc at same time for the same device.

If the minipc is a client it means that is connected only when the server is on and in minipc coverage. This situation has the limitation that only can be connected to the minipc one computer or device at same time. But, if there are some minipcs in the industry all of them could be connected at same time.

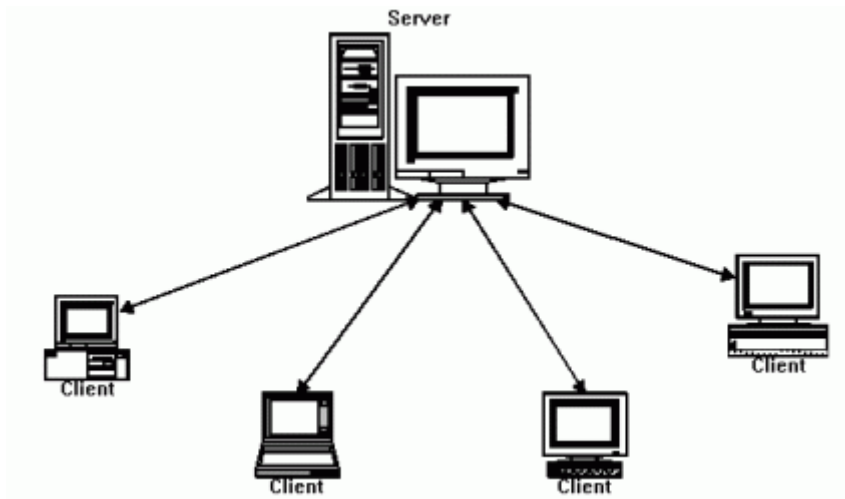


Figure 5.1 – client-server behavior

To simplify access of a new device to the minipc the best situation is when minipc acts as server and devices as clients.

5.5.2 Board files configuration

To configure the minipc as a server, only has to modify or create 3 files; *hostapd.conf*, *hostap* and *interfaces*.

Likely, Voyage Linux has installed hostapd [10][11][12] and wireless pci card drivers, so it is no necessary to install anything before modify files.

/etc/network/interfaces

interface file contains the configuration of how its system is connected to the network. Wifi network uses wlan0 interface.

So, the file has the following content:

```
mac80211_based drivers
auto wlan0
iface wlan0 inet static
    address 10.1.10.1
    network 10.1.10.0
    netmask 255.255.255.0
```

```
broadcast 10.1.10.255
```

/etc/default/hostapd

hostapd file is used to make */etc/hostapd/hostapd.conf* work on boot, so every time that minipc is booted this configuration is load.

To get this behavior only has to add two commands to this file:

```
RUN_DAEMON="yes"  
DAEMON_CONF="/etc/hostapd/hostapd.conf"
```

/etc/hostapd/hostapd.conf

In *hostapd.conf* file is defined the parameters of wifi network generated, in its case wlan0.

```
interface = wlan0  
driver = nl80211  
ssid = Itemlog  
hw_mode = g  
channel = 6  
wpa = 3  
ignore_broadcast_ssid = 0  
wpa_key_mgmt = WPA-PSK  
rsn_pairwise = CCMP  
wpa_passphrase = Itemlog1  
wpa_pairwise = TKIP  
logger_syslog = -1  
logger_syslog_level = 2
```

```
logger_stdout = -1
logger_stdout_level = 2
debug = 4
dump_file = /tmp/hostapd.dump
```

wpa = 3, is used to define wifi security protocol. There are three security protocol, WEP, WPA and WPA2. WEP is a simple and non-secure protocol because is easy to infringe. So, in this project is used WPA. If *wpa* = 1 indicates that WPA protocol is used, if *wpa* = 2 indicates that WPA2 protocol is used and if *wpa* = 3, this situation, indicates that WPA and WPA2 are enable.

Interface = *wlan0* indicates which interface is configured.

Ssid = *Itemlog* indicates the name of network generated.

Hw_mode = *g* indicates which wifi standard is used. *b* or *g* standards can be chosen, but finally *g* standard is the choice because it is able to have fast transmissions.

Ignore_broadcast_ssid = *0* indicates if broadcasting the ssid is enable or disable. In this case is not-allowed.

Wpa_key_mgmt = *WPA-PSK* indicates what key management algorithms a client can authenticate with.

Rsn_pairwise = *CCMP* indicates WPA2's data encryption is CCMP.

Wpa_pairwise = *TKIP* indicates WPA's data encryption is TKIP.

Wpa_passphrase = *Itemlog1*, write a pre-shared key that is used for wpa authentication. To log in you can use two option, use the encrypted key or the no-encrypted key (key written in *wpa_passphrase*), if encrypted key is the choice, to know this key is needed to know the *wpa_passphrase* and the *ssid*. With these two values is possible to know the 64 hexadecimal digits key using an algorithm. For example if *ssid* = *voyage* and *wpa_passphrase* = *voyage*, WPA key is *0x97d8be323ba90a716a5e2b443cdbc731f26855866d0d934faab13c8119f08a92*.

logger_x = *-1*, which *x* could be *syslog* or *stdout*, are two output methods. In this case are equal to *-1*, what it means that all possible modules are logged. The possible modules are; IEEE 802.11, IEEE 802.1X, RADIUS, WPA, driver interface, IAPP and MLME.

logger_X_level = *2*, which *X* could be *syslog* or *stdout*. It means that the minimum value for logged events is informational messages.

dump_file = */tmp/hostapd.dump* make a file which is dumped all state information.

Debug = *4* indicates that the debugging is excessive.

There are more commands that are not used in the configuration, such as *macaddr_acl* which controls mac address filtering, and *auth_algs* which is used in WEP configuration.

5.5.3 Putty

Once wifi network is made, all devices with wifi compatibilities can access to it. To get it, is necessary to use some software.

First of all is basic being connected with minipc wifi network using the correct password.

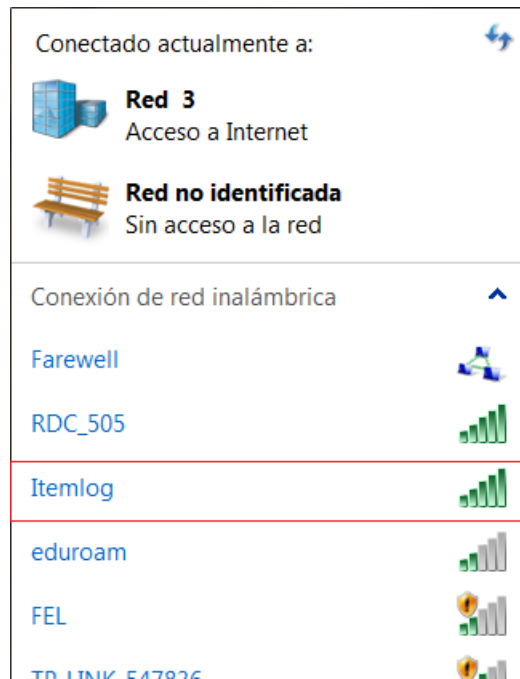


Figure 5.2 – wifi connection

```
C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe
C:\Users\Angel>ipconfig

Configuración IP de Windows

Adaptador de Ethernet Conexión de área local:

    Sufijo DNS específico para la conexión. . . :
    Vínculo: dirección IPv6 local. . . . : fe80::8f2:1e7f:6c97:ddac%12
    Dirección IPv4. . . . . : 192.168.129.157
    Máscara de subred. . . . . : 255.255.255.0
    Puerta de enlace predeterminada. . . . . : 192.168.129.1

Adaptador de LAN inalámbrica Conexión de red inalámbrica:

    Sufijo DNS específico para la conexión. . . :
    Vínculo: dirección IPv6 local. . . . : fe80::9452:bb75:f571:b163%11
    Dirección IPv4. . . . . : 10.1.10.165
    Máscara de subred. . . . . : 255.255.255.0
    Puerta de enlace predeterminada. . . . . : 10.1.10.1

Adaptador de túnel isatap.{42240F47-06F4-4E27-AE06-C64CB7D4FE57}:

    Estado de los medios. . . . . : medios desconectados
    Sufijo DNS específico para la conexión. . . :

Adaptador de túnel isatap.{13B1BE8D-9128-4D1C-B4CB-41B6FFB553E8}:

    Estado de los medios. . . . . : medios desconectados
    Sufijo DNS específico para la conexión. . . :

Adaptador de túnel 6T04 Adapter:

    Sufijo DNS específico para la conexión. . . :
    Puerta de enlace predeterminada. . . . . :

Adaptador de túnel isatap.{D4876C6E-CF3C-441B-90CC-66FCFC6940A1}:

    Estado de los medios. . . . . : medios desconectados
    Sufijo DNS específico para la conexión. . . :

Adaptador de túnel Teredo Tunneling Pseudo-Interface:

    Sufijo DNS específico para la conexión. . . :
    Dirección IPv6. . . . . : 2001:0:5eF5:79Fd:4f0:291:3f57:7e62
    Vínculo: dirección IPv6 local. . . . : fe80::4f0:291:3f57:7e62%15
    Puerta de enlace predeterminada. . . . . :
```

Figure 5.3 – networks configuration of computer

In the Figure 5.3 there is the computer network's configuration, after do an *ipconfig* in windows 7, which shows the configuration of wireless connection. In the red box there are IP direction and default gateway.

- IP direction: 10.1.10.165
- Default gateway: 10.1.10.1

The IP direction has to be in the 10.1.10.X range, and the default gateway is the IP direction of the host, which is configure before in point 5.5.2 in */etc/networks/interfaces* file. It confirms the connection with the minipc.

After, using appropriate access software it is possible to access to the minipc with the IP direction configured in */etc/networks/interfaces*. Finally, only has to put your user and password of Voyage Linux O.S.

Some access software is:

- for Windows O.S.: Putty
- for Linux O.S.: ssh command.
- for mac O.S.: JellyFiSSH
- for Android: ConnectBot

In this project, the computer, which wants to access the minipc, has Windows O.S., so putty software is used.

The configuration of putty is:

- host name (or iP address): 10.1.10.1
- port: 22 (default)
- connection type: SSH

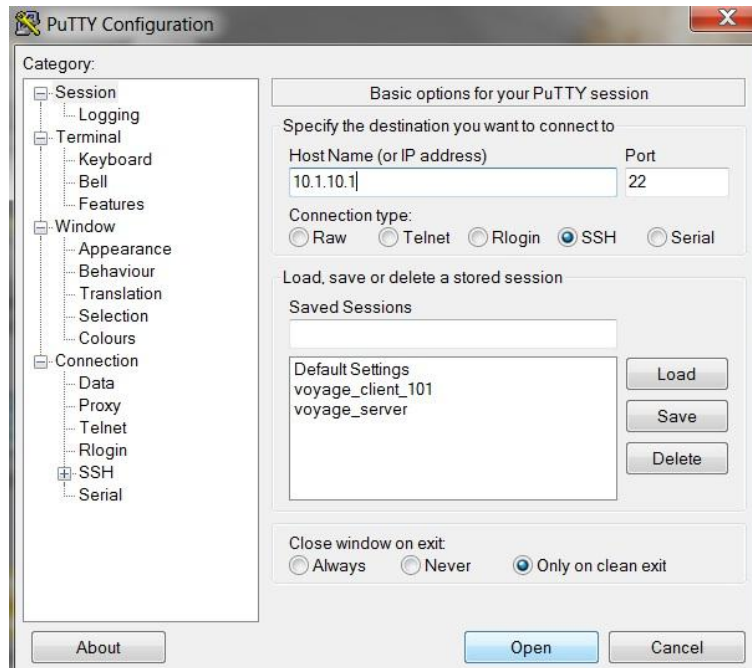


Figure 5.4 – putty configuration

After this configuration, computer has access to minipc.

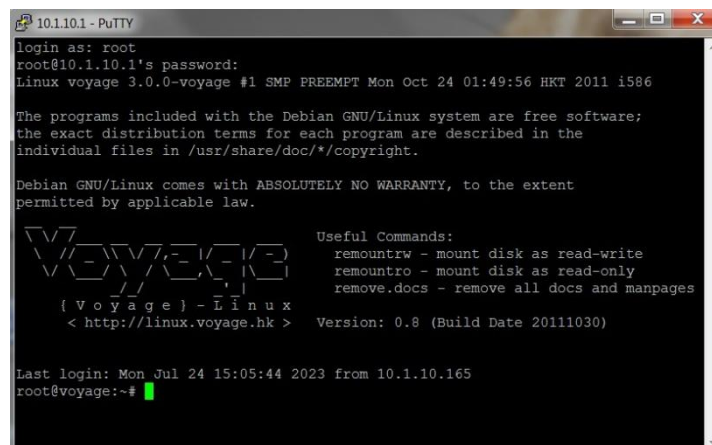


Figure 5.5 – voyage terminal

Chapter 6

Inductive proximity sensor

6.1 What is it?

A sensor is a device designed to receive information of external magnitude and transform it to another magnitude, generally to electricity that can be quantified and manipulated.

Inductive proximity sensors are used for non-contact detection of metallic objects. Their operating principle is based on a coil and oscillator that creates an electromagnetic field in the close surroundings of the sensing surface. The presence of a metallic object (actuator) in the operating area causes a dampening of the oscillation amplitude. The rise or fall of such oscillation is identified by a threshold circuit that changes the output of the sensor.

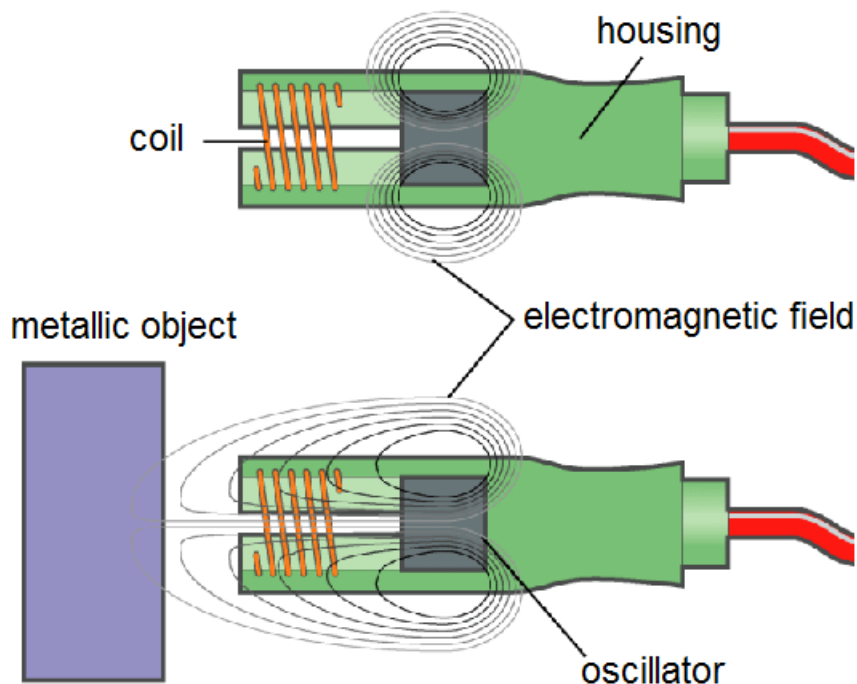


Figure 6.1 – sensor behaviour

Figure 6.1 shows the two possible situations of inductive sensor. If metallic object is in the operating area electromagnetic field is deformed and affect coil. This affection generates an electrical inductive voltage drive by external wire to control system, which acts like it is programmed.

6.2 Features

In this project is used an EI 1204pposs inductive proximity sensor of Carlo Gavazzi.



Figure 6.2 – EI 1204pposs

The sensor has the following features and specifications:

- Stainless steel housing, cylindrical
- Diameter: 12 mm
- Rated operating distance: 4mm
- Output type: transistor PNP, make switching (normally open)
- LED-indication for output ON
- 2m cable
- Rated operational voltage: 10 to 40 VDC
- Rated operational current: 0.2 mA
- Frequency of operating cycles: 500 Hz

6.3 Connection

6.3.1 Diagrams

The connection between ALIX board and the sensor is using serial port, or RS232 db9. To make serial plug on the sensor is essential to know how every wire work. Therefore, the best option is to know the wiring diagram [7].

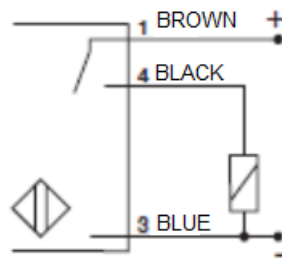


Figure 6.3 – Wiring Diagram PNP (make switching)

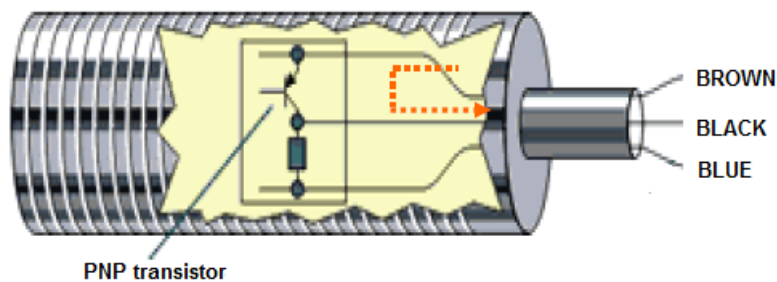


Figure 6.4 – Wiring Diagram with transistor

So, with these two diagrams, Figure 6.3 and Figure 6.4, it can be concluded that:

- Blue wire: minus (input)
- Brown wire: plus (input)
- Black wire: output or signal

6.3.2 rs232

To connect the inductive proximity sensor with the board is used serial connection. The ALIX board has an rs232 db9 plug, so it is necessary to adapt three output sensor wires with an rs232 db9 connection [6].

First of all is essential to know the rs232 pins. It is achieve with Figure 6.5 and Table 6.1.

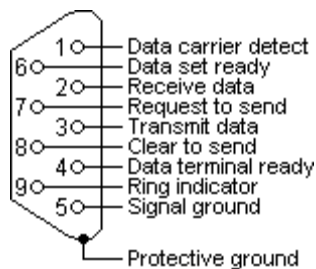


Figure 6.5 – rs232

Pin	Signal	IN/OUT behavior
1	Carrier Detect	INPUT
2	Receive data	INPUT
3	Transmit data	OUTPUT
4	Data terminal ready	OUTPUT
5	Signal ground	-
6	Data set ready	INPUT
7	Request to send	OUTPUT
8	Clear to send	INPUT
9	Ring indicator	INPUT

Table 6.1 – relation between pin-signal and its behavior

So, it is necessary to choose three pins. The first time, one input, one output and signal ground pins had been chosen:

Data terminal ready (4) as plus (brown wire)

Carrier detect (1) as output or signal (black wire)

Signal Ground (5) as minus (blue wire)

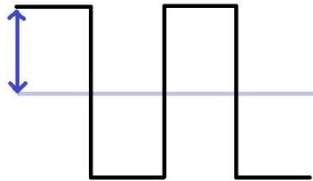


Figure 6.6 – Voltage sensors output, first option

But this choice had one problem, the received signal from Data terminal ready pin was instable, what it means that when sensor detects something its output was pulses, it was caused because the threshold was so close to the maximum and minimum values.

This problem made more complex programming and it didn't work like it has to work. To solve this problem, pins-rs232 connections were changed:

Data terminal ready (4) as plus (brown wire)

Carrier detect (1) as output or signal (black wire)

Request to send (7) as minus (blue wire)

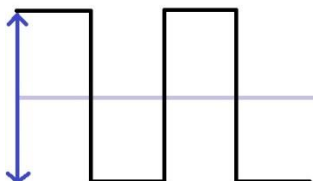


Figure 6.7 – Voltage sensor output, second option

With these new connections there is more difference between maximum and minimum values, and instability disappears.

6.3.3 Serial-USB adapter

Initially inductive proximity sensor has to be plugged using serial port, but ALIX board has a limitation, only RXD and TXD are available for control, handshake signals cannot be observed or controlled. So, a serial-usb adapter is necessary to connect the sensor with board.

6.4 Basic operations

To observe and control proximity sensor is used *ioctl* function. To use this function is necessary to include some libraries:

- asm/ioctls.h
- sys/ioctl.h [9]
- termios.h

This function is composed for three fields;

`ioctl(int fd, int request, &argument)`

fd is the file descriptor of device, so it is necessary open and acquire this file descriptor with `open()` function.

request describes the operation to realize. There are four possible operations:

TIOCMGET: in *argument* it is save the pattern of bits showing input and output status of device.

TIOCMBIS: activate (put value to one) outputs indicated in *argument* without modifying others.

TIOCBIS: deactivate (put value to zero) outputs indicated in *argument* without modifying others.

TIOCMSET: activate outputs indicated in *argument* and deactivate others.

argument indicates the pattern of bits which would be modified with the request. This field is an integer, but there are some variables defined:

Pin	String variable	Integer value
DTR	TIOCM_DTR	0x002

RTS	TIOCM_RTS	0x004
CTS	TIOCM_CTS	0x020
DCD	TIOCM_CAR	0x040
DCD	TIOCM_CD	0x040
RI	TIOCM_RNG	0x080
RI	TIOCM_RI	0x080
DSR	TIOCM_DSR	0x100

Table 6.2 – relation between pin, string variable and integer value

So, in this project only two operations are used; TIOCMGET and TIOCMSET. The first one is used to check pins status to know if sensor detects something, and the second one is used to configure the sensor, that how was seen before, DTR pin has to be one or true, and RTS has to be zero or false.

Chapter 7

Access to results

7.1 How to access to results

For this project there are three possibilities to access and see the results:

- web page
- ftp
- access to the Operating system (explained in section 5.5.3)

It is important to have a simple, easy and secure way to obtain results. For these reasons, the expectation is that web page and ftp would be two most used ways, because you only need a web browser or an ftp client.

In each option, only is necessary to be in the minipc's network to access, obviously it is necessary also a browser or an ftp client.

7.2 Results format

Before to explain two access methods implemented is important to know how its information is saved.

For this project is necessary to save some information; ID tag, date of the first reading, date of the last reading, number of times read in total and number of times read today.

ID TAG	Date [first time]	Date [last time]	Total count	Today count
--------	-------------------	------------------	-------------	-------------

Figure 7.1 – information structure

On the other hand, every day it is generated two files, one of them with total results since the first day that minipc is booted, and another which only has information about one day.

These files are called; ITEMLOG and ITEMLOG_ddmmyy, which ddmmyy will be day (dd), month (mm) and year (yy) of the information saved in.

Once is known the information and the number of files that is needed, is time to choose the best format of these. Firstly xml format was choose, because is a standard format and easy to understand. But, finally, csv format is the final choice because it is as simple as xml to implement and it can be directly interpreted using EXCEL software.

CSV format consists on write information separated by an element. In this project is used semicolon (;).

So, every day will be generated one file (ITEMLOG_ddmmyy.csv) and modified another one (ITEMLOG.csv).

Obviously, ITEMLOG_ddmmyy.csv count fields would have the same value.

7.3 Web page

The web page is the simplest and faster method to see the information of the ITEMLOG.csv file or the file with all information. Once you are in the minipc's network only has to start a web browser and go to 10.1.10.1 direction.

To connect to the web page, minipc has to be a web server. There are different web server distributions, apache2 distribution is the choice because is free and it has a big community.

So, there are some package that have to be installed; apache2, mysql and php.

Commands used to install its packages are:

```
>> apt-get install apache2
>> apt-get install mysql-common mysql-client mysql-server
>> apt-get install php5
>> apt-get install php5-gd
```

During installation of mysql package is necessary to configure the root user. In this project was used the following configuration:

```
User: root
Password: voyage
```

This web page has to have some characteristics:

- Privacy, only allowed users can enter.
- See information of ITEMLOG.csv (red square on Figure 7.2).
- Delete one by one tags of the file (blue square on Figure 7.2).
- Delete all tags of the file (orange square on Figure 7.2).



ITEMLOG DEMO

ID TAG	date [first time]	date [last time]	total count	today count	delete TAG
00 00 00 00 ac 1f 36 81 ec 88 04 68	15/06/12 13:08:09	15/06/12 13:08:24	003	003	DELETE
30 05 fb 63 ac 1f 36 81 ec 88 04 68	15/06/12 13:08:12	15/06/12 13:08:25	007	007	DELETE
58 58 20 58 58 20 58 58 20 58 58 20	15/06/12 13:08:32	15/06/12 13:08:32	001	001	DELETE
30 08 33 b2 dd d9 04 80 35 05 00 00	15/06/12 13:08:46	15/06/12 13:09:30	004	004	DELETE
00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 11 22	15/06/12 13:09:06	15/06/12 13:09:19	003	003	DELETE

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Figure 7.2 – final web page structure

7.3.1 Privacy

It is essential to manage the access of the web page because users can see and modify the information file.

To get privacy a login and password access is implemented. Firstly was done using databases, form and php language. This was good to identify and allow or not the access from a user and login. But the problem was that an unauthorized user can access to the final web page writing the direction. So it was an unsecure method.

To get more security and as apache server is used, it is possible to use htaccess and htpasswd method [14].

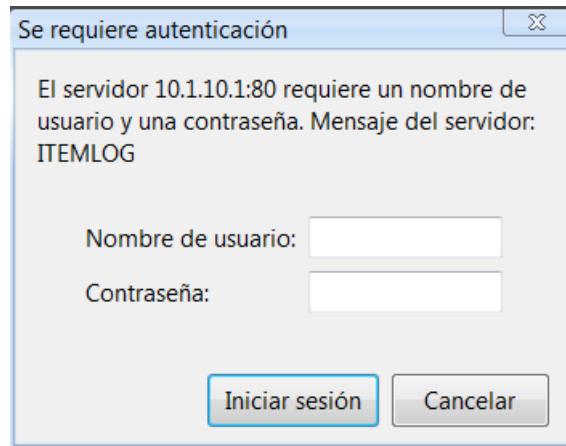


Figure 7.3 – authentication popup

htaccess is a configuration file for use on web servers running the Apache Web Server software. When a htaccess file is placed in a directory which is in turn “loaded via the Apache Web Server”, the htaccess file is detected and executed by the Apache Server software enabling/disabling additional functionality and features that Apache offers.

So, there are two files that have to be modified. First of them is in */etc/apache2/sites-enabled*. In this project case it is called *000-default*. In this file is necessary to comment two commands and add four more.

First of all is necessary to look for the directory that has to be protected. In this projects case is */var/www*. If your directory doesn't appear you can add with the same structure that other ones. Once directory is found, inside it will be some commands, as only chosen users are allowed to open the webpage is necessary to comment or delete the following commands:

```
#      order allow, deny
#      allow from all
```

Once this commands or lines are commented, is necessary to add next commands inside *<Directory /var/www>* and *</Directory>* tags.

```
AuthType Basic
AuthName ""
AuthFile /etc/apache2/.htpasswd
Require valid-user
```

The first and last commands indicate that it is used a basic authorization and that only valid users can enter. The second one is the route of the htpasswd file.

The other essential file is `htpasswd`, which has all users and passwords information. This file has to have the same route defined on the last file. In this project has been create this file with a dot at the beginning because to hide it.

There is a basic command to add users:

```
>> htpasswd [-c] /etc/apache2/.htpasswd <user>
```

The first time that this command is used is necessary to use `-c` option, which indicates that it is necessary to create it, so `<user>` would be the unique user, all other would be removed. Once this command is executed, would be answered for password twice.

```
root@voyage:/etc/apache2# htpasswd /etc/apache2/.htpasswd user
New password:
Re-type new password:
Adding password for user user
root@voyage:/etc/apache2# █
```

Figure 7.4 – example `htpasswd` command

If only has to add one user, the command is the same above but without `-c` option, with same behaviour.

Once you add a user, if you open `.htpasswd`, you will see something like Figure 7.5:

```
root@voyage:/etc/apache2# cat .htpasswd
angel:kp4vV562QTyTQ
Itemlog:phQJeCygUH7kI
user:pOrds48b8kgbk
root@voyage:/etc/apache2# █
```

Figure 7.5 – example `htpasswd` file

What it means that the password is encrypted, because the password introduced was 1234.

If it is necessary to delete some user and password, only has to remove it from `.htpasswd` file.

7.3.2 See information

To see information is used two program languages; HTML and php.

With HTML is structured the web page, using a table to show information. This table is composed of six fields, each one for an information field saved in csv file and another more to choose if you want to delete the tag.

On the other hand, there is a mechanism to refresh website every five seconds, to have the table updated. This is possible using the next command:

```
<meta http-equiv="refresh" content="5">
```

These five seconds is a parameter that can be change.

Php language is used to fill in the table. It is a good language to manage csv files because has the *fgetcsv* command, which can get a full csv field at same time.

7.3.3 Delete tag by tag

For this project is necessary the option to delete some tags. To get this is used a link programmed with php. This link links to a php script that with the number of file passed as a variable can open the file and write all tags less which one has to be deleted. After write all tags, only has to save this new table in the file.

All this process is made without user's perception.

To get this method, is necessary that the file has read-write privileges, if not an error message will be send.

The unique row that is impossible to delete is the first one, that is not a tag but it is the definition of all fields.

7.3.4 Delete all

For this project is necessary the option to delete all tags, so to have an empty csv file. Unlike the previous sections, to get this method is used Javascript. The main reason to use Javascript is because a confirmation message is implemented, so it is necessary an interaction with the host and php is a program language oriented to server.

This method is composed for two things; one button with *delete all* text and a confirmation message that ask if you are sure to delete all tags.

When button is pushed a popup window appears. This window asks if you are sure to delete all tags, and there are two optional buttons; one to confirm and another to cancel. If confirms button is pushed a php script starts, if cancels button is pushed you are sent to the previous web page.

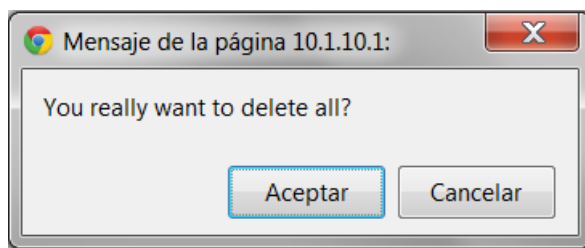


Figure 7.6 – delete all popup

The php script consists of open the file with the command *fopen* and *w+* flag, which would create or reset the file. After this command, only needs to close the file descriptor and redirect to the previous web page.

7.4 ftp server

The second way to access to results is using ftp connection.

FTP, acronym of file transfer protocol, is a standard network protocol used to transfer files from one host to another host over a TCP-based network. It is often used to upload web pages and other documents from a private development machine to a public web-hosting server.

With ftp would be possible to get all csv files generated, not only ITEMLOG.csv file, but all ITEMLOG_ddmmyy.csv files and ITEMLOG_ERROR.csv.

To connect via ftp minipc needs to be an ftp server [16].

The ftp server used is vsftpd because it has a simple configuration and is considered one of the most secure.

To install it only needs to execute the following command:

```
>> apt-get install vsftpd
```

Once it has been installed, it is necessary to configure it. To configure vsftpd has to edit */etc/vsftpd.conf* file.

All has been commented less next lines:

```
listen=YES  
local_enable=YES  
dirmmessage_enable=YES  
use_localtime=YES
```

```
xferlog_enable=YES
connect_from_port_20=YES
chroot_list_enable=YES
chroot_list_file=/etc/vsftpd.chroot_list
secure_chroot_dir=/var/run/vsftpd/empty
pam_service_name=vsftpd
rsa_cert_file=/etc/ssl/private/vsftpd.pem
```

The explanation of all this lines is in the same */etc/vsftpd.conf* file, but highlights are:

- it is running when start-up Operating System
- only local users who are part in the file list (*/etc/vsftpd.chroot_list*) are allow to log in
- Port transfer connections originate from port 20.

Once ftp server is configured is necessary to add some users. To add users is used *useradd* command with some options.

```
>> useradd -s /bin/false -d /var/itemlog <user>
>> passwd <user>
```

First of all */etc/shells* file has to be modified, adding the following line:

```
/bin/false
```

This line will avoid that ftp users can use the console, making the server be more secure.

After, *useradd* command can be used. This command is used with two options; the first one, *-s*, is to avoid that ftp users can use the console, and the second, *-d*, is to define the user's folder.

All users have the same user's folder, the folder where there are all csv files. In this project is used */var/itemlog*.

After, to configure the user's password is done with the second command, *passwd* which would ask for a password twice.

Finally, the last thing to configure a new ftp user is add it to the ftp list. This list is in */etc/vsftpd.chroot_list*. Only has to write user's name.

Once ftp server is configured, only needs to be connected in the minipc's network and an ftp client. Using 10.1.10.1 as host direction and correct user and password you would be able to see and download all csv files.

Chapter 8

Program made

8.1 Goals

The main of this program is that inductive proximity sensor and RFID reader work together to get ID tags information.

This program has to be simple and robust, and it has to work well in extreme situation, warning when problems appear.

It has to start without human interaction and try to fix for itself its problems.

Finally, all information provided has to be correct.

8.2 Flowchart diagram

One way to make clearer the program's structure is to draw a flowchart diagram.

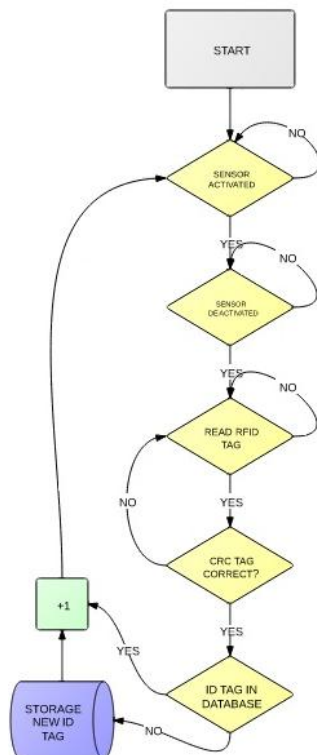


Figure 8.1 – programs flowchart

In Figure 8.1 can be distinct five situations; when program is waiting proximity sensor activation, program is waiting proximity sensor deactivation, RFID id tag detection, CRC checkout and update databases.

8.2.1 Proximity sensor activation

This situation of the program has two parts, first of all configure the proximity sensor and, after, detect proximity sensor activation. The sensor will be activated when detects some metallic object in its working space.

To configure the proximity sensor has implemented one function:

```
void mcs (int fd)
```

This function, *mcs (int fd)*, configures output pins. As seen in section 6.3, it is necessary to have Data Terminal Ready pin with true value (on) and Request to Send pin with false value (off). To get this is used TIOCMSET operation and TIOCM_DTR flag.

Once the device is configured, it is known that status is 2, only has activated DTR pin (in the program is called *status_off*). So to know if sensor detects something only needs to check its status (in the program is called *status_on*). So, using TIOCMGET operation, *status_on* is continuously updated until *status_on* and *status_off* are different, what it means that Carrier Detect pin is on or, in other words, sensor detects something. When it happens, *status_on* value changes from 2 to 66.

8.2.2 Proximity sensor deactivation

When sensor activation is detected, there is a while loop. To exit of this while loop *status_off* and *status_on* have to be equal, so when Carrier Detect pin is off.

It is important not forget to update *status_on* inside while loop, using TIOCMGET, because if it is not done, it will be an infinite loop.

8.2.3 RFID ID tag detection

ID tag detection is implemented in two functions:

```
int reader()
```

```
static int start_rfid(libusb_device_handle *rfid_handle)
```

These are the two essential functions to detect some ID tag.

int reader() function has to implement basic operations described in section 4.3.2.2, to open, configure, start and stop RFID reader, because it works correctly. So every time that is necessary to read a tag, all this operations have to be done.

*static int start_rfid(libusb_device_handle *rfid_handle)* function is which read the ID tag. It is divided in two parts; the first one which send a message to tag and the second one which read the response.

So, first is necessary to send 0x4001 command to indicate that reader has to look for tags. This command has to be sent with some configuration, such as *slo_No*, which sets the default number of slots for reading, and *emptyTriesStopNo*, which indicates how many attempts, where you hear no tags, is closed the repetition. A deep explanation of these parameters can be seen in *Binary Protocol Specification RFI21.1* of Metra Blansko [17].

Once 0x4001's command is sent, it is reading moment. To read RFID reader response is used bulk function. It works like when it writes but using correct endpoint. Now in vector would be the reader response. It is necessary to read more than twice because two first responses are acknowledge of writings of configuration and 0x4001 commands. Number of times of reading is managed with a parameter called *REINTENTS*. So, the maximum number of responses read would be *REINTENTS - 2* (because there are two responses of acknowledges). This is the maximum because if one correct response is read before, it stops reading.

A correct response has the following structure:

0x02					0xF0	0x40		• • •		0x03
SoF	Len	Seq	Time	Cmd	response length	response (other fields)	CRC	EoF		

Figure 8.2 - response structure

So, elements seven and eight have to be 0x40f0, which it means that is the response of 0x4001's command with a structure with ID tag. Also is needed to check if ID tag is empty or not, it is done checking element nine, ID tag length of the response.

8.2.5 Update databases

There are three two functions to update database and it has updated also in main:

```
int main()

int reader()

void check_and_send(char *sortida)
```

Function *int main()* update date and today count when a new detection is made and there are some tags detected some day before. So it has to put a zero the today counter and indicate that a new day has been started.

On the other hand, *int reader()* update every time that a tag is read, the header of the csv file, so it writes the next sentence:

```
ID tag;date [first time]; date[last time];total count;today count\n
```

It is important to have always this header and exactly how it is wrote above.

Finally, the main updates function is *void check_and_send(char *sortida)*, which has to update or add new RFID tags on databases. So, there are two possibilities; the tag belongs to the database, so just has to update *date [last time]* field and each counters fields, or if the tag doesn't belong to the database, so it is necessary to add all fields.

8.3 functions

In this section all functions made would be explained, what they do and why they are implemented like this.

First of all, all functions implemented are:

```
static unsigned char crc(unsigned char data[], int length)
static char *temps()
char *prep(char *num)
void check_and_send(char *sortida)
static int conf_reader(libusb_device_handle *rfid_handle)
static int stop_rfid(libusb_device_handle *rfid_handle)
static int start_rfid(libusb_device_handle *rfid_handle)
int reader()
void mcs(int fd)
char *format_time()
int main()
```

8.3.1 static unsigned char crc(unsigned char data[], int length)

This function calculates CRC of the *length* first elements of one *unsigned char* vector, and returns calculated value.

CRC is computed like simply 8-bit XOR.

It is essential to send correct frames to the RFID reader, because is a mandatory field. Also it works to check if a received frame is correct or no, because CRC value received can be compared with CRC calculated with all frame (less CRC and EoF fields).

8.3.2 static char *temps()

This function returns a string with following format: dd/mm/yy HH:MM::SS. Where d is day, m is month, y is year, H is hour, M is minute and S is seconds.

The time returned is local and actual machine time, so is the time of minipc.

To get it is necessary to use *time.h* library.

8.3.3 char *prep(char *num)

This function is used to manage counter field numbers. It is important because it prepares counts numbers before to be updated. So, it receives a string of integers, it has to convert to integer, add one and convert to string again. To convert to string format is important to know the number of digits because string has to be three digits, not more or less is allowed.

So, this is a limitation of this program, the maximum number of tags read is 999.

This function returns a string with the integer value updated.

8.3.4 void check_and_send(char *sortida)

This function update database, csv file.

It receives a file route and uses a global variable which has the read RFID tag.

The main part is a do-while loop, which would check all tag saved on database with the read tag. This loop would finish when tag is found or if it is not on the database.

Before to loop, database is opened. It is important to put the pointer in the correct place. To do this is used an fseek operation and the knowledge of databases structure. So is necessary to avoid header (which would have the description of all fields), so how it is described in section 8.2.5, only need to move the pointer 66 positions. So it is very important no modify the header because if it is modified the program will no work.

Within this loop, there is an if condition which compare all tag of database with the read tag, if they are equal, a variable is modify to one and update *date [last time]*, *total count* and *today count* fields using functions *temps()* and *prep()*, described above.

Once do-while loop finishes, there is an if condition to know if the read tag was found on the database, if it was not found, the database is update with this new tag.

Finally a system message is sent. This message is composed of the tag ID, time of last reading (twice) and number of times that this tag has been read. And it is in users' syslog [13].

8.3.5 static int conf_reader(libusb_device_handle *rfid_handle)

This function configures the RFID reader. It is necessary to configure every time before the start function.

There are some parameters:

LinkSpeed	0x04
LinkCoding	0x01
Tari	0x02
Session	0x00
PilotTone	0x00
Password[4]	0x00
maskBank	0x01
maskAddr	0x00
maskLen	0x00
selectMask[32]	0x00
TryNo	0x0A

Table 8.1 – configuration reader parameters

A deep explanation of these parameters can be seen in *Binary Protocol Specification RF121.1* of Metra Blansko [17].

The frame has the following structure:

0x02	0x2d				0x02	0x40	· · ·		0x03
SoF	Len	Seq	Time	Cmd	Data	CRC	EoF		

Figure 8.3 – reader's configuration frame

The fields SoF, Len, Cmd and EoF have to be these values. Data is all above parameters, so 45 bytes.

CRC field has to be computed with *crc()* function.

If it is received correctly for reader it will response with an acknowledge frame.

To configure the RFID reader is used three libusb functions; *libusb_claim_interface*, *libusb_release_interface* and *libusb_bulk_transfer*. These three functions are essential for every frame sent to the reader.

8.3.6 static int stop_rfid(libusb_device_handle *rfid_handle)

This function stops reading. It doesn't use parameters, so the frame sent has the following structure:

0x02	0x00				0x00	0x40		0x03
SoF	Len	Seq	Time	Cmd	CRC	EoF		

Figure 8.4 – reader's stop frame

If it is received correctly for reader it will response with an acknowledge frame.

To stop the RFID reader is used three libusb functions; *libusb_claim_interface*, *libusb_release_interface* and *libusb_bulk_transfer*.

8.3.7 static int start_rfid(libusb_device_handle *rfid_handle)

This function sends an order to read RFID tags and read readers response.

About sent frame, it has the following parameters:

sloNo	0x02
adjustSlotNo	0x00
emptyTriesStopNo	0x02
oneLoop	0x00
selectCmd	0x00
targetCmd	0x00
firstInitOnly	0x00

Table 8.2 – start reader parameters

A deep explanation of these parameters can be seen in *Binary Protocol Specification RF121.1* of Metra Blansko [17].

The frame has the structure of Figure 8.5.

0x02	0x07				0x01	0x40	- - -	0x03
SoF	Len	Seq	Time	Cmd	Data	CRC	EoF	

Figure 8.5 – reader's start frame

The fields SoF, Len, Cmd and EoF have to be these values. Data is all above parameters, so 7 bytes.

CRC field has to be computed with *crc()* function.

If it is received correctly for reader it will response with an acknowledge frame and a *cmd_ids2_epc* frame.

To read correctly the response, is essential to know the structure of this. A *cmd_ids2_epc* frame has the structure of Figure 8.6.

0x02				0xF0	0x40										0x03
SoF	Len	Seq	Time	Cmd	EPC Len	Reserved	EPC[Len]	RSSI	AGCstatus	Try	Source	CRC	EoF		

Figure 8.6 – reader's response frame

Where first eight fields are the header, following seven fields are data and last two are footer. ID tag is *EPC [Len]* field.

So to read an ID tag, after send starting frame, is necessary to save *cmd_ids2_epc* frame to a vector of *unsigned char*. The length of this vector is dependent of *EPC Len*, because is the unique variable field.

A correct RFID tag has 12 bytes, so at least this vector has to have 28 elements.

To read correctly the tag has implemented one security method which works with two parameters; *REINTENTS* and *NUMBER_CHECKS* and a global variable *crc_ok*.

Before to enter to the while loop, *crc_ok* is equal to zero.

Within loop there is another while loop. Within this second while loop is where response is read. To exit the second while loop is checked if the response has the correct structure, so is mandatory that it have 0xF0 in element 7, 0x40 in element 8 and cannot have 0x00 in element 9. So, if some response satisfies these conditions, it exits the loop. To avoid an infinite loop, parameter *REINTENTS* is implemented, which is the maximum number of times that this loop is swept.

Once second while loop is swept, there are two possibility situations; it has read a correct response or a wrong response. If it has read a correct response it enter to an if condition which copy this vector to a global variable and check if this frame is correct, using *crc* method. To check if this frame is correct it is done a comparison between *crc* field and *crc* computed with *crc()* function. If *crc* comparison is correct, *crc_ok* variable is modify to one, if not nothing is done.

To exit of the first loop there are two possibilities; if *crc_ok* is one or, to avoid infinite loop, a second parameter is implemented: *NUMBER OF CHECKS*, which controls the maximum times that a response has read.

Finally, if no correct response has read after two loops, it is notified with an update of the *ITEMLOG_ERROR.csv* file, which registers that is a wrong tag error and the moment of this error.

To send a frame or read the response is used three libusb functions; *libusb_claim_interface*, *libusb_release_interface* and *libusb_bulk_transfer*.

8.3.8 int reader()

This function prepares and executes all needed functions to use correctly a RFID reader.

So it is necessary to:

- initialize libusb library
- get all usb devices plugged in the ALIX board
- get RFID reader handle
- reset RFID reader
- activate driver, if it is not possible, detach it.
- set configuration
- configure RFID reader connection.
- start read RFID tag
- stop read RFID tag

Once ID tag is saved in a global variable, it is time to write databases. Each day would be three possible databases; the total database called ITEMLOG.csv, the day's database called ITEMLOG_ddmmyy.csv and, optionally, can be ITEMLOG_ERROR.csv. This last one is not used or modified in this function.

To avoid possible errors of *segmentation fault*, every time is created or opened databases.

Also, every time the header of each database is overwritten.

Once databases are ready to update, with the correct format to avoid pointers errors, *check_and_send* function is called twice, once for each database.

Finally, RFID handle is close and libusb library closed.

8.3.9 void mcs(int fd)

This function set to on or set to off output pins of inductive proximity sensor.

Specifically set to on pin four or *data terminal ready* signal and set off pin seven or *request to send* signal.

8.3.10 char *format_time()

This function is similar to *temps()*, but the returned string has the following format; ddmmyy, where d is day, m is month and y is year.

8.3.11 int main()

This function has two parts; the initialization and the infinite while loop.

The initialization part consists on:

- Create databases if it doesn't exist (it is used ITEMLOG.csv database)
- Write header of databases
- Get file descriptor and open inductive proximity sensor
- Configure output pins of inductive proximity sensor
- Check if output pins have been configured correctly
- Initialize all variables that would be used.

The infinite while loop part consists on:

- Update status of output pins of sensor
- If this status is different that initial one, it means that something has been detected.
- Once something has been detected enter to a while loop. Within this loop, size of ITEMLOG.csv database is checked, if it is more than 70 it means that there is almost a tag saved, if it is less than 70 it means that there is not any tag saved. If there is almost one tag saved in, actual date is compared with *date [last time]* field. If they are different, *date [last time]* field and *today count* are updated. On contrast, if two dates are equal, doesn't do anything.
- The condition to exit from this while loop is that the sensor doesn't detect anything, so to change again the output pin status to the initial one.
- Once it is out of while loop, it enter to another while loop. This one consists on correct communication with RFID reader. *reader()* function is started and if all libusb functions work good, it exits the while loop and go back to update status of output pins of sensor and wait until it changes. On the other hand, libusb functions doesn't work, it enters inside while loop. This while loop creates if it doesn't exists or update the ITEMLOG_ERROR.csv database with this error and executes again *reader()* function. To avoid an infinite while loop there is a maximum number of errors in a row of 5.

8.4 Start-up

This program has to work since board is booted, because it has to work without human interaction [15].

This is achieved with a script in */etc/init.d*. The script done is the following one:

```
#!/bin/bash

### BEGIN INIT INFO

# Provides: Angel

# Required-Start: $syslog

# Required-Stop: $syslog

# Default-Start: 2 3 4 5

# Default-Stop: 0 1 6

# Short-Description:

#Description:

#

### END INIT INFO

echo "start lsrfid..."

/home/lsrfid/src/lsrfid &
```

Above script has two parts, lines with # that are needed to execute *update-rc.d* command, and the script part, which has two lines, first one to write that lsrfid program starts and the second one which executes the program. It is very important to add & symbol after execution line because this program has an infinite while loop, so this program has to be executed on background, but the Operating System never would be loaded. This script is called *startup_itemlog*.

After script is written, three commands have to be executed:

```
>> update-rc.d startup_itemlog defaults
>> ln -s /etc/init.d/startup_itemlog /etc/rc2d/startup_itemlog
>> chmod 775 /etc/rc2d/startup_itemlog
```

Which update start-up of all services, create a virtual link with */etc/rc2d/* and give it permissions.

If it is necessary to stop the program, one way is using command *kill*.

To use it, first of all it is necessary to know the PID of the program, so *ps -e* command is used with a pipe and *grep lsrfid* to obtain only the program with this name or *lt-lsrfid* that is the same. It is necessary to use *grep* command because *ps -e* shows a lot of process.

An example can be seen in the Figure 8.7.

```
root@voyage:~# ps -e | grep lsrfid
1768 ?          00:17:04 lt-lsrfid
root@voyage:~# kill -9 1768
root@voyage:~# ps -e | grep lsrfid
root@voyage:~#
```

Figure 8.7 – example to close the program

Chapter 9

Conclusions

9.1 Projects development

This project has been done in four months, since March to June of 2012. It has been divided in some tasks, each one independent that at the end had been joined. These tasks had been:

- Make a program that read a tag from a RFID reader
- Install Operating system to ALIX board
- Execute RFID reader program on ALIX board
- Configure a remote connection between computer and ALIX board
- Weld inductive proximity sensor with rs232 connector.
- Make a program that manages inductive proximity sensor
- Make a program that manages RFID read and sensor at same time
- Write csv output files of results
- Programing of a web page that shows results
- Install a web server on ALIX board
- Install a FTP server on ALIX board
- Configure start-up to add program made

During this project some problems had to be fixed:

Working with RFID reader, at beginning it doesn't work. After reboot it, it works once correctly but following times bad. It was like this until I found that after every read, when *stop_rfid* command is send, the RFID reader has to be reset.

Working with libusb library, when ALIX board is not connected to the Internet by Ethernet, it didn't compile c file. It said that the last compilation had been in a later date, and in that moment I saw that the date was bad. To fix it only I had to change the date to actual hour. In my opinion, the date is always rebooted because battery is over.

The weld of inductive proximity sensor with RFID reader had been done twice. First time was used one pin to connect GND, but it did that the input signal had pulses, so it was instable. After change this output pin from GND to another one, the input signal was stable, easier to work with it.

At the moment when inductive proximity sensor has to be connected by serial port, it didn't work. It was because ALIX board blocks the configuration of serial port. To fix it an USB adapter is used.

Some memory problems had been found. For example, after a RFID reader error, the program had a *segmentation fault*. It was because the variable that has name of the ITEMLOG.csv file was removed and when it was tried to open, it sends an error. It was fixed updating this variable every time.

Another problem was with day change and *today count* field has to be reset. Firstly, it works correctly less when ITEMLOG.csv file was empty because it writes the actual date and 000 counter to the *ID tags* field. To fix it one new function was used, *ftell*, to know the size of the file.

Web authentication can be broken. If you write the correct password and add some letters behind, it allows you to enter. It has not been fixed. So, it is important to use longer passwords to avoid this problem.

9.2 Project conclusions

With this project we achieve an embedded machine with two devices that can control some kind of goods, without any commercial software. So it shows the big potential that free software has.

Also, that easy is modifying Voyage Linux configuration to adapt for your personal project.

On the other hand, the program made works correctly and has some security methods to avoid possible uncontrollable errors. Also it can be personalized its performance modifying some parameters.

Finally, this method to identify and control goods is much better than bar codes, because with bar codes you need a direct sight, and with RFID tag you don't. Also, the wifi connection makes it more comfortable, because you can check it without being close to it.

9.3 Future work

There are some features that can be improved or made:

- Program the low level port serial and use it instead of an USB adapter.
- Improve web security changing method used, to fix the problem above described.
- Implement a more robust data access, to avoid possible problems with pointers.

A. Manual

This manual would be divided in two sections; configuration manual and user manual.

A.1 Configuration Manual

With this manual you will be able to add or delete users, modify some parameters of the program and web page, and configure minipc's network.

A.1.1 Add/delete users

There are two kinds of users, FTP users and web page users. These two groups are independent, so one user can be able to access to web page but not by ftp.

FTP Add user

To add a new user you have to use following command (don't care in which directory is executed):

```
>> useradd [-s] [-d] <user>
```

```
root@voyage:/home/lsrcfid/src# useradd -s /bin/false -d /var/itemlog user_demo
root@voyage:/home/lsrcfid/src# passwd user_demo
Enter new UNIX password:
Retype new UNIX password:
passwd: password updated successfully
root@voyage:/home/lsrcfid/src# █
```

Figure A.1 – useradd example

Once user is successfully created, is time to allow him to access to the ftp server. Using your favourite text editor, in this case *emacs*, modify */etc/vsftpd.chroot_list* (this file is specified in */etc/vsftpd.conf*)

```
root@voyage:/home/lsrcfid/src# emacs /etc/vsftpd.chroot_list █
```

Figure A.2 – open *vsftpd.chroot_list* example

And when the file is opened, only has to write the new user like Figure A.3.

```
#FTP access List of valid users
Itemlog
user_demo
```

Figure A.3 – *vsftpd.chroot_list* document example

In the Figure A.3 there are two users who are allowed to access to the ftp server; *Itemlog* and *user_demo*.

FTP Delete user

There are two options to deny access to ftp server for a user:

- delete or comment its name from the */etc/vsftpd.chroot_list*

```
#FTP access List of valid users
Itemlog
# user_demo
```

Figure A.4 – delete FTP user example

- delete user from Operating system and */etc/vsftpd.chroot_list*

```
>> userdel <user>
```

```
root@voyage:/home/lsrcfid/src# userdel user_demo
root@voyage:/home/lsrcfid/src#
```

Figure A.5 – delete FTP user example 2

About the second method is important don't use `-r` , because this option would delete user's home directory, and this directory is the same for all users.

To verify is one user has been added or deleted there is the following command, which shows you all users of the Operating System. An example could be Figure A.6.

```

root@voyage:/home/lsrcfid/src# cat /etc/passwd
root:x:0:0:root:/root:/bin/bash
daemon:x:1:1:daemon:/usr/sbin:/bin/sh
bin:x:2:2:bin:/bin:/bin/sh
sys:x:3:3:sys:/dev:/bin/sh
sync:x:4:65534:sync:/bin:/bin/sync
games:x:5:60:games:/usr/games:/bin/sh
man:x:6:12:man:/var/cache/man:/bin/sh
lp:x:7:7:lp:/var/spool/lpd:/bin/sh
mail:x:8:8:mail:/var/mail:/bin/sh
news:x:9:9:news:/var/spool/news:/bin/sh
uucp:x:10:10:uucp:/var/spool/uucp:/bin/sh
proxy:x:13:13:proxy:/bin:/bin/sh
www-data:x:33:33:www-data:/var/www:/bin/sh
backup:x:34:34:backup:/var/backups:/bin/sh
list:x:38:38:Mailing List Manager:/var/list:/bin/sh
irc:x:39:39:ircd:/var/run/ircd:/bin/sh
gnats:x:41:41:Gnats Bug-Reporting System (admin):/var/lib/gnats:/bin/sh
nobody:x:65534:65534:nobody:/nonexistent:/bin/sh
libuuid:x:100:101::/var/lib/libuuid:/bin/sh
dnsmasq:x:101:65534:dnsmasq,,,:/var/lib/misc:/bin/false
sshd:x:102:65534::/var/run/sshd:/usr/sbin/nologin
messagebus:x:103:105::/var/run/dbus:/bin/false
mysql:x:104:106:MySQL Server,,,:/var/lib/mysql:/bin/false
ftp:x:105:107:ftp daemon,,,:/srv/ftp:/bin/false
Itemlog:x:1002:1002::/var/itemlog:/bin/false
root@voyage:/home/lsrcfid/src# █

```

Figure A.6 – list of system users

It is easy to see that *user_demo* user doesn't exist after *userdel* command.

Web page Add user

There is a basic command to add users:

```
>> htpasswd [-c] /etc/apache2/.htpasswd <user>
```

The first time that this command is used is necessary to use *-c* option, which indicates that it is necessary to create it, so *<user>* would be the unique user, all other would be removed. Once this command is executed, would be answered for password twice.

```

root@voyage:/home/lsrcfid/src# htpasswd /etc/apache2/.htpasswd user_demo
New password:
Re-type new password:
Adding password for user user_demo

```

Figure A.7 – add new web page user example

If only has to add one user, the command is the same above but without `-c` option, with same behaviour.

Once you add a user, if you open `.htpasswd`, you will see something like Figure A.8.

```
root@voyage:/home/lsrcfid/src# cat /etc/apache2/.htpasswd
# list of web page users
Itemlog:phQJeCygUH7kI
user_demo:dIzubiY2DK6.c
root@voyage:/home/lsrcfid/src#
```

Figure A.8 – example `htpasswd` file

What it means that the password is encrypted, because the password introduced was `demo`.

Web page Delete user

If it is necessary to delete some user, only has to remove or comment it from `.htpasswd` file, using your text editor.

```
root@voyage:/home/lsrcfid/src# emacs /etc/apache2/.htpasswd
```

Figure A.9 – open `.htpasswd` file

```
# list of web page users
Itemlog:phQJeCygUH7kI
# user_demo:dIzubiY2DK6.c
```

Figure A.10 – delete a web page user

A.1.2 Program parameters

There are two kinds of parameters; parameters of RFID reader and parameters of program made.

About parameters of RFID reader they are explained in *Binary Protocol Specification RF121.1* of Metra Blansko [17], and can be modified in following functions:

```
static int conf_reader(libusb_device_handle *rfid_handle)
```

```
static int start_rfid(libusb_device_handle *rfid_handle)
```

On the other hand, parameters of program made are:

IDVENDOR
IDPRODUCT
IN_READ
IN_WRITE
ENDPOINT_READ
ENDPOINT_WRITE
REINTENTS
NUMBER_CHECKS
LOG
DEVICE

IDVENDOR and IDPRODUCT are parameters to connect with RFID reader, because are its Vendor and Product identification.

Following 4 parameters, IN_READ, IN_WRITE, ENDPOINT_READ and ENDPOINT_WRITE are to configure input/output configuration, so *libusb.h* library defines that if you want to use *libusb_bulk_transfer* you need to know endpoints. And each time that you want to claim or release an interface a port has to be use.

REINTENTS is a parameter to define maximum times that the reader reads or waits for a correct tag.

NUMBER_CHECKS is a parameter to define maximum times that the reader reads a tag when it has a wrong CRC.

LOG is a parameter to define where databases are and which names they have databases.

DEVICE is a parameter to define the direction of inductive proximity sensor.

A.1.3 Wifi network configuration

To modify ssid or password of the wifi network you have to modify */etc/hostapd/hostapd.conf* with text editor.

```
root@voyage:/home/lsrcfid/src# emacs /etc/hostapd/hostapd.conf
```

Figure A.11 – open *hostapd.conf* file

```
interface=wlan0
driver=nl80211
ssid=Itemlog
hw_mode=g
channel=6
wpa=3
ignore_broadcast_ssid=0
wpa_key_mgmt=WPA-PSK
rsn_pairwise=CCMP
wpa_passphrase=Itemlog1
wpa_pairwise=TKIP
logger_syslog=-1
logger_syslog_level=2
logger_stdout=-1
logger_stdout_level=2
debug=4
dump_file=/tmp/hostapd.dump
```

Figure A.12 – ssid and password fields of wifi network

In the picture above the ssid (name of the network) is *Itemlog* and the password is *Itemlog1*.

After change it, is necessary to reboot the board.

```
root@voyage:~# shutdown -r now
```

Figure A.13 – reboot board

On the other hand, if what you want to change is the network's direction you have to modify */etc/network/interfaces* with text editor.

```
root@voyage:~# emacs /etc/network/interfaces
```

Figure A.14 – open *interfaces* file

```
## Used by ifup(8) and ifdown(8). See the interfaces(5) manpage or
# /usr/share/doc/ifupdown/examples for more information.
auto lo
iface lo inet loopback

auto eth0
iface eth0 inet dhcp

#auto eht1
#iface eth1 inet static
#   address 10.1.10.1
#   network 10.1.10.0
#   netmask 255.255.255.0
#   broadcast 10.1.10.255

mac80211-based drivers
auto wlan0
iface wlan0 inet static
    address 10.1.10.1
    network 10.1.10.0
    netmask 255.255.255.0
    broadcast 10.1.10.255
#   hostapd /etc/hostapd/hostapd.wlan0.conf
#   up nat.sh wlan0 eth0 "10.1.10.0/24"
```

Figure A.15 – wifi network configuration

And again the board has to be rebooted.

A.2 user manual

A.2.1 how it works

In this manual would be described all necessary steps to keep the equipment in working order.

- 1- Be sure that all wires are connected.
- 2- Switch on the board (board's led has to be on)
- 3- Wait until sensor is working (when you put something metallic in sensors work area and its LED is switch on), usually is less than 3 minutes.
- 4- Now equipment is ready to work.

Once equipment is ready, to detect a RFID tag;

- 5- Put a metallic object in sensors work area, sensor's LED has to switch on.
- 6- Take the metallic object away from sensors work area.
- 7- Put a RFID correct tag in RFID readers work area.

- 8- RFID reader LED will be blinking. When it stops blinking it means that tag was read.
- 9- Repeat from point 5.

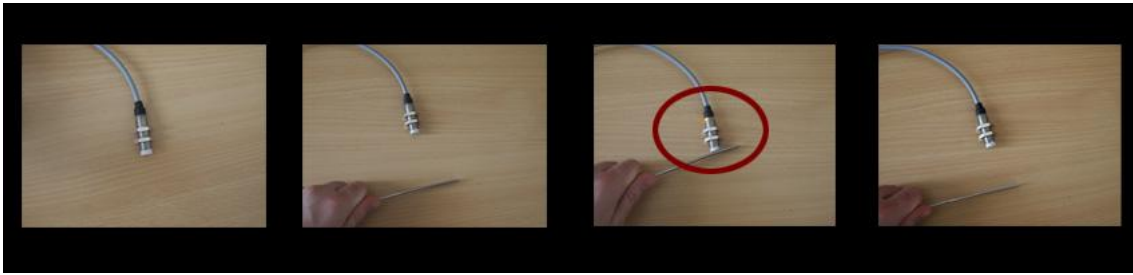


Figure A.16 – example of inductive proximity sensor detection



Figure A.17 – example of RFID tag reading

A.2.2 Interpretation of errors

There are two kinds of errors, which program can fix (non-critic) and which program cannot (critic).

If a non-critical error has happened, final user doesn't know that it happens, but it is saved in a csv file, ITEMLOG_ERROR.csv. A non-critical error could be two situations; the tag is not correct or communication with RFID reader has some problem. This csv file has two columns, the first which indicates of which kind of non-critical error is and the second column which save time when this error has happened.

If a critical error has happened program will stop working. It can be known because last tags are not saved or because sensors LED is not working. To fix it is necessary to enter to the minipc's operating system and restart the program or reboot the minipc. This kind of error is because a program bug that has to be fixed.

A.2.3 How to access to the results

Once some tags are saved, there are two ways to access the information; web page and ftp connection.

- 1- First of all you have to connect to the network. So you have to look for the name of the network generated. In default case *Itemlog* and write the password, in default case *Itemlog1*.
- 2- Once you are in the Itemlog network, if you want to access by web page go to point 12, if you want to use ftp connection go to point 8.
- 3- Open your web browser
- 4- Write servers direction, in default case is *10.1.10.1*
- 5- A popup would appear, write user and password. In default case is user: *Itemlog* and password: *Itemlog1*
- 6- Now you are able to see tags read, delete some of them or all of them.
- 7- Your session will be until you close your web browser.
- 8- If you want to access by ftp connection, open your ftp client.
- 9- Write on server blank the servers direction, in default case is *10.1.10.1*.
- 10- Write ftp user and password, in default case is user: *Itemlog* and password: *Itemlog1*.
- 11- Download csv file that you want to see or modify.
- 12- Open csv file with a text editor or spreadsheet program.

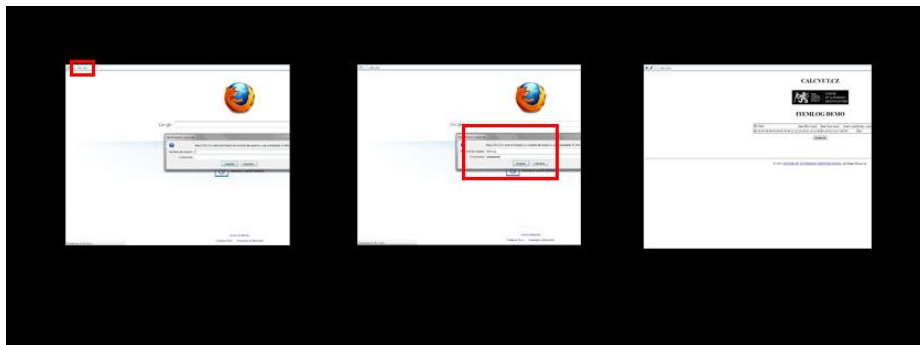


Figure A.18 – example of web access

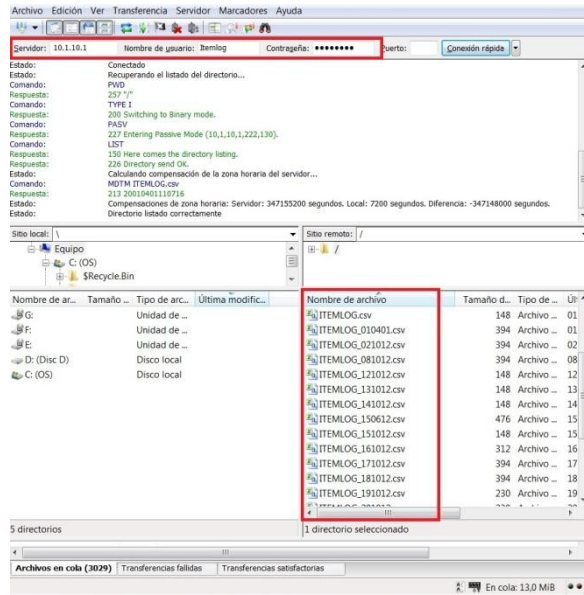


Figure A.19 – example of FTP access

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C. Passwords

Voyage Linux

User: root

Password: voyage

Wifi network

Ssid: Itemlog

Password: Itemlog1

Mysql

User: root

Password: voyage

Phpmyadmin

User: root

Password: voyage

Mysql application for phpmyadmin

Password: voyage

Default access web page

User: Itemlog

Password: Itemlog1

Default access FTP server

User: Itemlog

Password: Itemlog1

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