



## RESEARCH ARTICLE

### DEVELOPMENT OF TELEMETRY SYSTEM FOR ELECTRIC POWERED VEHICLE

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#### ARTICLE INFO

##### Article History:

Received 22<sup>nd</sup> June, 2016  
Received in revised form  
25<sup>th</sup> July, 2016  
Accepted 17<sup>th</sup> August, 2016  
Published online 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2016

##### Key words:

Electric vehicle,  
Communication,  
Telemetry system,  
Agriculture

#### ABSTRACT

Wireless electronic telemetry system is designed for prototype electric powered agricultural vehicle. Telemetry system is crucial for electric vehicles to monitor its data, remotely. It is important to measure electrical parameters in real time for safe operation. Designed telemetry system consists of hardware and software which can broadcast information by using wireless connection over serial communication protocol. Wireless connection range is up to 3 km which is sufficient for using at orchards. The designed data acquisition and telemetry system is based on RF modem. Graphical user interface is also written by using C# and Visual Basic programming languages for monitoring device features easily from ground station. Vehicle speed, voltage levels and temperature of battery packs, drawing current, total power usage and remained battery power can be monitored by this system.

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Citation: Eray ÖNLER, Soner ÇELEN, Aytaç MORALAR and İlker H. ÇELEN, 2016. "Development of telemetry system for electric powered vehicle", *International Journal of Current Research*, 8, (09), 38715-38719.

## INTRODUCTION

Telemetry is an automated communications process by which measurements and other data are collected at remote or inaccessible points and transmitted to receiver for monitoring (Zhang et al., 2009). Most activities in agriculture is need to monitor continuously. Quality of the yields and health of the crops is depends on how can you reach to available data. It has become a major challenge to control the growth of energy consumption with the acceleration of agricultural mechanization in Turkey, which causing the increasing dependency on energy sources such as fossil fuels. Fossil fuels are environmentally polluted and expensive (Hammad 1996). Clean and renewable energy solutions are started to use in transporting industry (Carrol, 2003). In agriculture during last years, farmers have passed from the use of big tractors to the use of small and efficient vehicles. Electrical vehicles are used in agriculture for different purposes like farms, nurseries, greenhouses and vineyards. They are giving advantage to farmers by their compact dimensions and efficient power usage (Fantuzzi et al, 2006).

Electric vehicles are using electric batteries as an energy source. For safe operation and effective usage of the batteries it is important to monitor the voltage, current, vehicle speed and the battery capacity (Lobardi et al, 2006; Touti et al, 2009; Zhihong et al, 2009).

### Material and methods

This system is designed for using in agricultural vehicles. It is communicating via serial communication protocol. Purpose of the system is making data transfer between the remote station and vehicle. Measured data by the data-acquisition system are sending to remote station in real time. Graphical user interface at remote station is making mathematical calculations on data for determining the current, voltage, cruise speed, temperature of the battery bank, remained battery power, consumed energy. These results are saving into a database (Figure 1). After transferring the data which is measured by the electrical system on the vehicle, this data is transferred to the remote station for making safety and drive strategy calculations. Motor power, instantaneous current draw, battery voltage, power usage per unit, current draw per unit, remaining battery power, max. and min. battery temperature, max. and mean cruise speed can transferred to the remote station (Figure 2).

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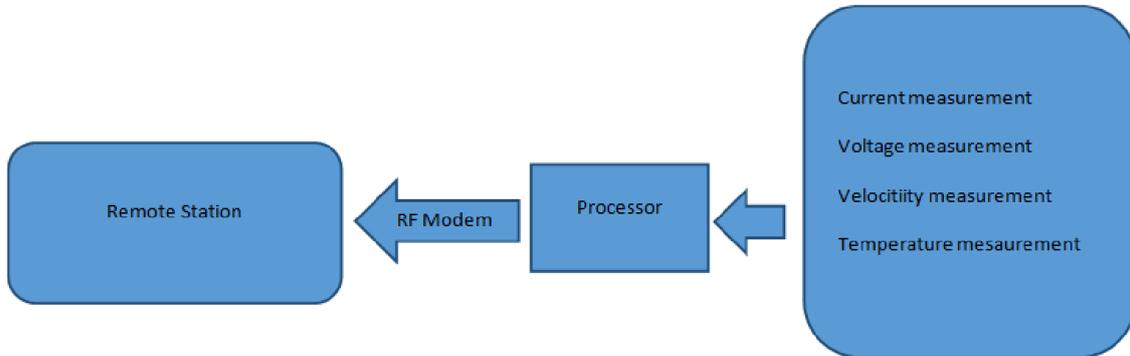
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**Circuit Design**

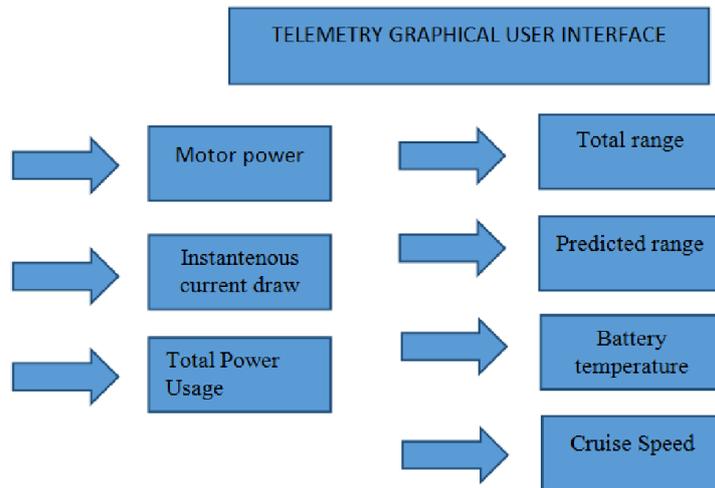
Schematic draws, creating PCB (printed circuit board) and analysis of this circuit is done by using Proteus 8.1 circuit design software. Serial communication is accomplished by MAX232 integrated circuit and microprocessor on the main board. RF modem transmitter and an antenna are installed in the vehicle for transmitting the serial data. Schematic draw of the circuit can be seen at the Figure 3.

**Communication protocols**

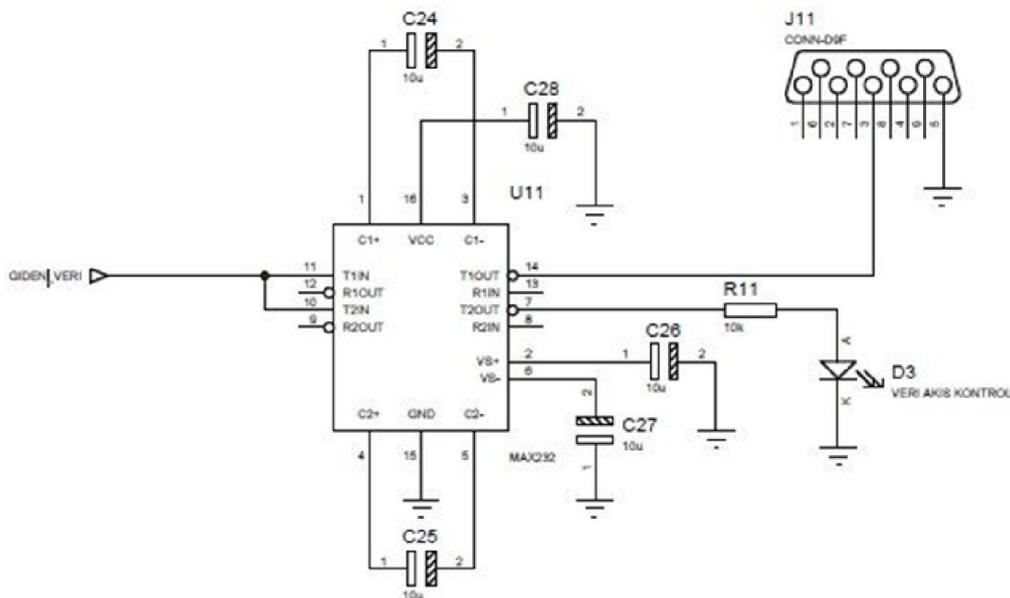
Serial port protocols were used in the telemetry system. Serial communication is one the methods for electronic communication systems. It is also known as UART communication (Stone, 1999). UART is chip type which is using at serial port connections. Serial port communication is done by 8 bit. For example letter “a” can represent as 01000001 in 8 bit system.



**Figure 1. Telemetry system diagram**



**Figure 2. Telemetry system graphical user interface**



**Figure 3. Serial communication circuit**



	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
1	V1	V2	V3	V4	V5	V6	V7	V8	V9	V10
2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3615
3	3615	3616	3616	3618	3616	3616	3616	3616	3618	3615
4	3615	3616	3616	3618	3616	3616	3616	3616	3618	3613
5	3615	3616	3616	3618	3616	3616	3616	3616	3616	3613
6	3615	3616	3616	3618	3616	3616	3616	3616	3618	3615
7	3615	3616	3616	3618	3616	3616	3616	3616	3616	3613
8	3615	3616	3616	3618	3616	3616	3616	3616	3618	3613
9	3615	3616	3616	3618	3616	3616	3616	3616	3616	3613
10	3615	3616	3616	3618	3616	3616	3616	3616	3618	3613
11	3615	3616	3616	3618	3616	3616	3616	3616	3618	3613
12	3615	3616	3616	3618	3616	3616	3616	3616	3618	3613
13	3615	3616	3616	3618	3616	3616	3616	3616	3618	3615

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	Hiz	Gerilim	Akim	Durum		Saat
2	0	0	0	0		14:18:05
3	0	0	0	0		14:18:06
4	0	0	0	0		14:18:07
5	0	0	0	0		14:18:08
6	0	0	0	0		14:18:09
7	0	0	0	0		14:18:09
8	0	0	0	0		14:18:10
9	0	0	0	0		14:18:11
10	19	0	0	0		14:18:12
11	6	0	0	0		14:18:13
12	0	0	0	0		14:18:13
13	6	0	0	0		14:18:14
14	0	0	0	0		14:18:15
15	25	0	0	0		14:18:16
16	0	0	0	0		14:19:21
17	0	0	0	0		14:19:21
18	0	0	0	0		14:19:22
19	0	0	0	0		14:19:23
20	13	0	0	0		14:19:24
21	13	0	0	0		14:19:24
22	19	0	0	0		14:19:25
23	50	0	0	0		14:19:26
24	32	0	0	0		14:19:27

Figure 7. System Records telometri

User can follow the most important parameters of the electric vehicle. It is also possible to record this informations into excel files. Some measurements which are recorded by the system to an excel file is showed below. As shown in the Figure 7 it is possible to inspect voltage of all battery packs, speed of the vehicle, current draw, battery usage.

### Conclusion

In agriculture during last years, farmers have passed from the use of big tractors to the use of small and efficient vehicles. Electrical vehicles are used in agriculture for different purposes like farms, nurseries, greenhouses and vineyards.

They are giving advantage to farmers by their compact dimensions and efficient power usage. Electric vehicles are using electric batteries as an energy source. For safe operation and effective usage of the batteries it is important to monitor the voltage, current, vehicle speed and the battery capacity. Wireless electronic telemetry system is designed for prototype electric powered agricultural vehicle. Telemetry system is crucial for electric vehicles to monitor its data, remotely. It is important to measure electrical parameters in real time for safe operation. Designed telemetry system consists of hardware and software which can broadcast information by using wireless connection over serial communication protocol. Wireless

connection range is up to 3 km which is sufficient for using at orchards.

### Acknowledgements

This study has been conducted within the scope of Namik Kemal University "NKUBAP.00.24.KR.14.01". Thanks for their contributions.

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