

CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2009 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)

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Project Number

J0916

Project Title

Radio Data Link

Abstract

Objectives/Goals

My Goal is to construct a reliable radio data link operating in the 70cm Amateur Radio band to be used to send commands and telemetry for a range up to 50m. The data link will allow the transmission of fixed-length messages of up to 32 bytes with error detection but no error correction (other than retransmission). Primary use will be to control a future robot project. Messages will be displayed on a 32-character LCD.

Methods/Materials

- 1. Construct transmitter and receiver.
- 2. Test ability to turn TX on/off and detect carrier at the RX.
- 3. Transmit and detect a fixed bit-stream.
- 4. Transmit and detect a multi-character message.
- 5. Test framing..
- 6. Test checksum algorithm.
- 7. Transmit arbitrary messages.
- 8. Demonstrate simple robot control.

Materials:

- 1. One Boe-Bot with a propeller chip on it
- 2. One small 3"x2" LCD display
- 3. One eight pin receiver
- 4. One six pin transmitter
- 5. 11 small 3" wires
- 6. One display cable

Results

Demonstrated the ability to send messages reliably for a range of 50m (the limits of my test area # more range is likely possible). Verified all functions including error-detection.

Conclusions/Discussion

The radio data link was successful and met the design goals.

Summary Statement

My Goal is to construct a reliable radio data link operating in the 70cm Amateur Radio band to be used to send commands and telemetry for a range up to 50m.

Help Received

Brian Lloyd, my science teacher, helped me learn the programming language and introduced the concepts of packet radio systems.