

Concept

- "Black Box" for vehicles to assist in crash reconstruction
- Records data from various sensors
 - Accelerometers
 - GPS
 - Pressure sensors
 - Proximity sensors
 - Water sensors
 - Light sensors
 - Other existing sensors via OBD

Concept

- Available both as an aftermarket device or pre-installed in new cars
- Expandable to support additional types of sensors and data sources
- Potentially provide collision warning alerts or other additional features

Competitive Analysis

- Event data recorders (EDR)
 - Modern cars record some sensor data in the event of a crash
 - Usually only record data from standard vehicle sensors (speed, brakes, etc...)
 - See IEEE 1616-2004 Standard for Motor Vehicle Event Data Recorders

Competitive Analysis

- "Vehicle Black Box System"
 - Similar to our project
 - Records data from various sensors
 - Installable in any vehicle
 - Mostly just a research experiment
 - Not available as a commercial product

Requirements

- Read NMEA sentences from GPS at 5Hz
- Read data from accelerometer, pressure, and proximity sensors at a rate of at least 100Hz
- Continuously save at least the last 20 seconds of sensor data in memory

Requirements

- If a crash event is detected, the data are frozen and not overwritten
- Automatically switches to battery backup if external supply is interrupted
- Backup supply can power system for at least 10 minutes
- Physically small and robust enclosure

Technical Specifications

- Atmel microcontroller provides core functionality
- Powered from vehicle supply (7V~I4V)
- Sensors connected via respective interfaces (I²C, SPI, serial, analog, etc...)
- Development tools include avr-gcc, avrdude, and vim

References

- A. Kassem, R. Jabr, G. Salamouni, "Vehicle Black Box System", SysCon IEEE International Systems Conference, April, 2008.
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