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# Drive Sentinel: A System that Watches Over and Protects Drivers

**Prof. Vaishalee Pande[1], Shruti Jadhav[2], Sanket Patil[3], Rohit Nikam[4]**

*[1]Faculty of Zeal College of Engineering and Research, Narhe, Pune, India*
*[2,3,4]Students of Zeal College of Engineering and Research, Narhe, Pune, India*

## Abstract

**With the rapid increase in automobile usage, road accidents have also risen, highlighting the need for an effective accident prevention and detection system. This system detects driver drowsiness and yawning using facial analysis and alerts the user to prevent accidents. Additionally, a microcontroller continuously monitors vehicle parameters. The system doesn't solely record the vehicle parameters data of the automobile periodically, but also actively monitors for any sudden vehicle accident detection. This system aims to alert the nearby medical center about the accident to provide immediate medical aid. The attached accelerometer in the vehicle senses the tilt of the vehicle to understand the seriousness of the accident. Upon detection, it sends real-time alerts via GSM and GPS to emergency contacts and the nearest medical center.**

***Key Words*:** Raspberry Pi, Drowsiness alert, Accident Detection alert, GPS, GSM, Accelerometer.

## I. INTRODUCTION

Driving is an integral part of modern transportation, providing convenience and mobility for millions of people worldwide. However, driver fatigue is a critical safety concern that significantly increases the likelihood of road accidents. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), drowsy driving is responsible for approximately 20-30% of all road accidents globally.

Fatigue impairs a driver's reaction time, attention, and decision-making ability, making them more prone to collisions. Additionally, in cases where accidents do occur, the time taken for emergency responders to arrive at the scene plays a crucial role in determining the survival rate of victims. Delayed medical assistance can lead to severe injuries or fatalities, making real-time accident detection and rapid emergency response critical aspects of road safety.

To address these pressing issues, this paper proposes the development of a real-time, embedded driver monitoring system designed to enhance road safety by detecting driver drowsiness, identifying accidents, and ensuring a prompt emergency response. The system utilizes an integrated approach that combines computer vision, sensor-based motion detection, IoT-based communication, and real-time embedded processing to provide a comprehensive and scalable safety solution.

The key functionalities of the system include:

- Detecting drowsiness using computer vision.
- Detecting accidents using an accelerometer and gyroscope.
- Sending emergency alerts via GSM.
- Providing real-time GPS tracking for emergency responders.

The system integrates machine learning-based image processing, IoT-based communication, and real-time embedded processing to create a smart, responsive, and scalable driver safety solution.

## II. LITERATURE SURVEY

The paper [1] **"A systematic review on detection and prediction of driver drowsiness"** This study analyzes the numerous measurements made by researchers, which were classified as physiological, vehicle-based, subjective, and behavioral measures was done. This article presents a study of the fundamental problems with various sleepiness detection systems and how they are used to detect fatigue while driving. In order to warn a driver before a collision, this analysis concentrates, on what happens while driving and the advancement of technological methods that are intended to detect and, ideally, forecast driver drowsiness.

The paper [2] **"Drowsiness detection in real-time via convolutional neural networks and transfer learning"** This research paper presents a comprehensive investigation into drowsiness detection methods, with a specific focus on utilizing convolutional neural networks (CNN) and transfer learning. Diverse datasets were integrated to systematically evaluate the implemented model, and the results showcase its remarkable effectiveness. For both multi-class and binary classification scenarios, their drowsiness detection system achieves accuracy rates ranging from 90 to 99.86%.

The paper [3] **"Real-Time Deep Learning-Based Drowsiness Detection: Leveraging Computer-Vision and Eye-Blink Analyses for Enhanced Road Safety"** In this study, custom data was used for model training and experimental results were obtained for different candidates. The overall performance of the drowsiness detection model was 95.8% accuracy for drowsy-eye detection and 97% for open-eye detection.

The paper [4] **"Intelligent Safety Warning and Alert System for Car Driving"** This project presents a system was developed to provide the prior to accident information to the vehicle control unit so that it enables the vehicle to

prevent the happening of accident. During the vehicle movements the system will continuously record the vehicle's moving status and conditions so that the record will provide the decision basis in the accident investigation if it unfortunately happens the fatal accident.

The paper [5] **"Accident Detection and Alert System"** This paper proposes a mobile application that uses smartphone sensors like GPS and an accelerometer to detect collisions via a Sensor Fusion-Based Algorithm. If a sudden disturbance is detected, the user receives an alert and can cancel it within 10 seconds. If unattended or if the "Call Help" button is pressed, an emergency request is sent to emergency services and designated contacts.

The paper [6] **"Accident Alert System using face Recognition"** states that due to lack of attention, Drowsiness, and drunk driving are the major causes of road accidents, this paper proposes preparing a system to prevent these circumstances. The proposed system herein aims at preventing and controlling accidents by using a Night Vision Camera. Automatic driving and braking systems are also combined with a controlling system using python programming.

The paper [7] **"An Automatic Vehicle Accident Detection and Rescue System"** This paper introduces a robust automatic vehicle accident detection and alert system, which uses an accelerometer to detect the tilting and the crashing of the vehicle, sends the Global Positioning System (GPS) location of the accident scene to intended security, medical and family contacts. The proposed design achieved a turnaround response, which is faster than conventional rescue system without these features.

The paper [8] **"Driver Drowsiness Detection and Alert System"** This project proposed an interface that automatically detects driver's drowsiness and detects in the event of an accident using tools and technologies like Eye extraction, Dlib, Facial Extraction, Drowsiness, Machine Learning, EAR, Python.

## III. BLOCK DIAGRAM

Fig.1 shows a block diagram of our system by using Raspberry Pi and other components. The main controlling operation is carried out by Raspberry Pi which is interfaced with different input and output components which is briefly explained below:

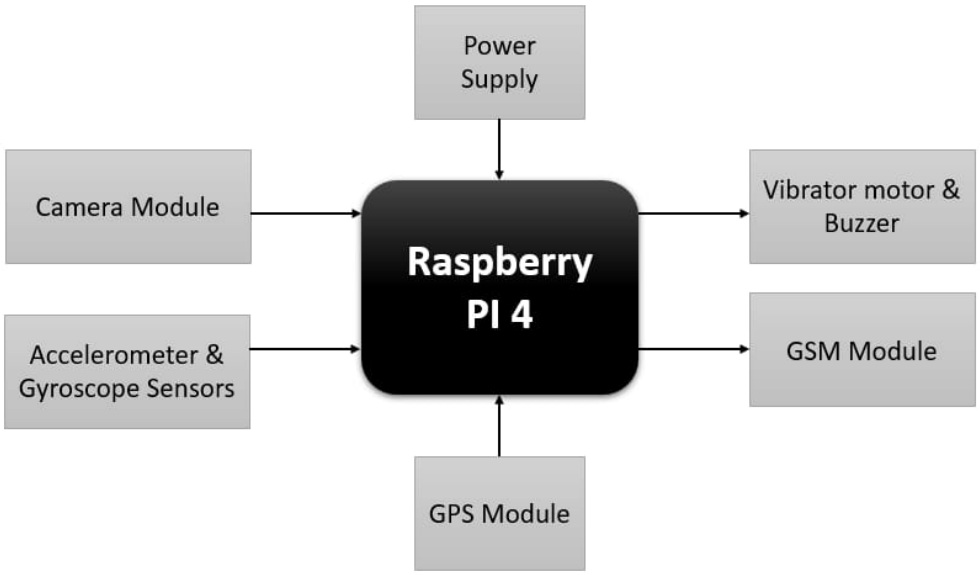


*Figure:1- Block diagram of System*

This block diagram represents the Drive Sentinel system centered around the Raspberry Pi 4 as the main control unit. The Raspberry Pi serves as the processing hub, receiving data from various sensors and controlling connected devices like buzzer and vibrator motor. The system integrates multiple sensors and modules to monitor driver behavior, detect accidents, and send alerts.

The **Raspberry Pi 4** is the core of the system, responsible for processing data from all connected sensors and modules. It runs machine learning algorithms to detect drowsiness, analyzes sensor data to identify accidents, and manages communication between different components.

A camera module is used to **monitor the driver's face** and detect signs of drowsiness. It captures real-time images and tracks facial features such as eye closure and yawning. If drowsiness is detected, the system triggers alerts to wake up the driver.

The accelerometer and gyroscope sensor is used to detect **sudden changes in motion, speed, and orientation** of the vehicle. The accelerometer measures rapid acceleration or deceleration, while the gyroscope detects angular velocity

changes. If an **impact or unusual motion** is detected (such as a crash), the system recognizes it as an accident and initiates emergency procedures.

The **GPS module** continuously tracks the vehicle's real-time location. In the event of an accident, it sends the **exact coordinates** of the incident to emergency contacts and responders. This ensures that help reaches the driver as quickly as possible.

When the system detects driver drowsiness or an abnormal driving pattern, it activates the **buzzer and vibration motor** to alert the driver. The buzzer produces a loud sound, while the vibration motor provides a physical stimulus to wake the driver and prevent potential accidents.

The **GSM module** is responsible for sending SMS alerts to **emergency services, family members, or pre-configured contacts** in case of an accident. The message includes accident details and **GPS coordinates** for precise location tracking.

The system is powered by an external power source, ensuring that all components operate efficiently. The power supply unit provides **stable voltage and current** to support the Raspberry Pi and connected sensors/modules.

## IV. FLOW CHART

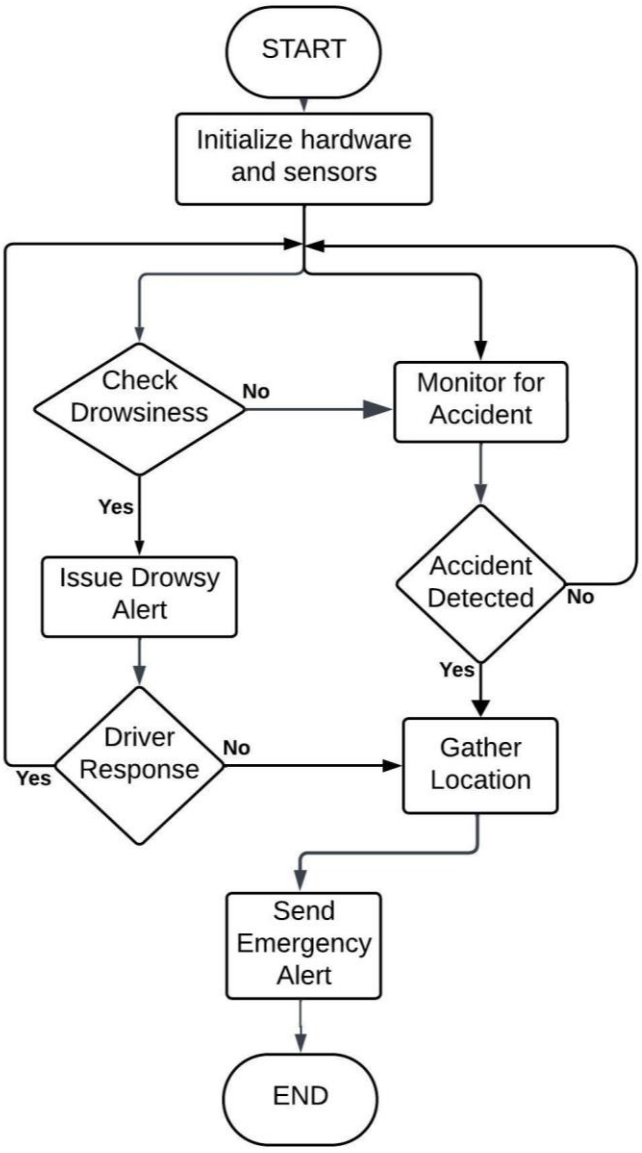


*Figure:2- Flow chart of the system*

The above flowchart outlines the step-by-step process that the Drive Sentinel system follows to monitor the driver's alertness, detect accidents, and send emergency alerts when necessary. Below is a detailed explanation of each step:

The system begins by initializing all necessary hardware components, including Raspberry Pi 4, camera module, accelerometer and gyroscope sensor, GPS module and GSM module. The system continuously monitors the driver's face using the camera module and applies computer vision algorithms to detect signs of drowsiness, such as eye closure and yawning. If drowsiness is detected then a drowsy alert is made by triggering a buzzer and vibrator to wake the driver.

Then driver response is checked. If the driver responds (acknowledging the alert), the system resets and continues monitoring but if the driver does not respond, an emergency alert is sent to pre-configured contacts.

The system simultaneously monitors vehicle movements using accelerometer & gyroscope sensors to detect any sudden impacts or abnormal motion patterns. If accident is detected then the system collects GPS coordinates of the vehicle's location and sends an SOS message with the location details to emergency services and pre-configured contacts.

This automated process ensures timely intervention, reducing the risk of accidents caused by driver fatigue and enabling quick emergency response in case of crashes.

## V. RESULTS


*Figure: 3- Alert for drowsiness detection*


*Figure: 4- Alert for yawning detection*

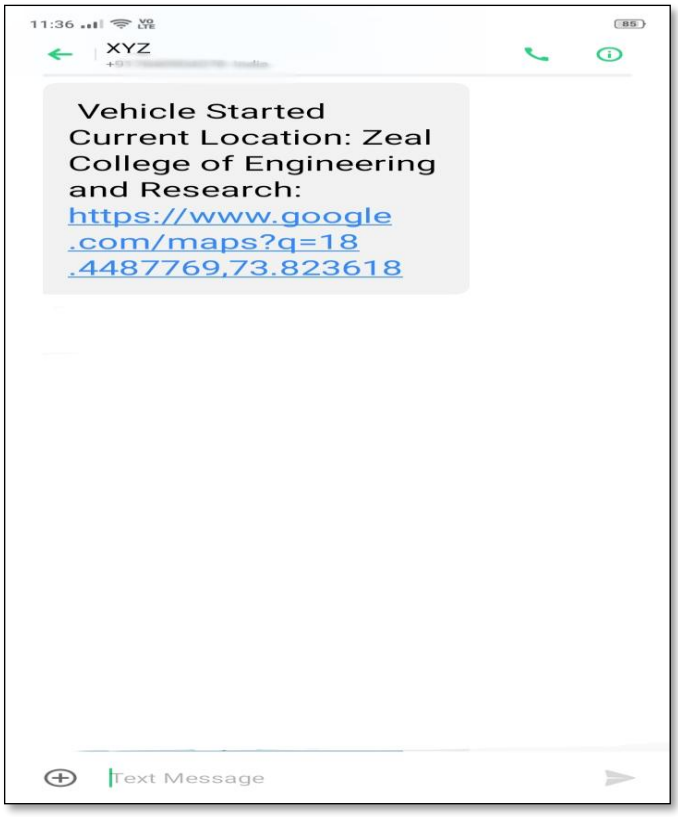


*Figure: 5- SMS and GPS location to emergency contacts when vehicle is started.*

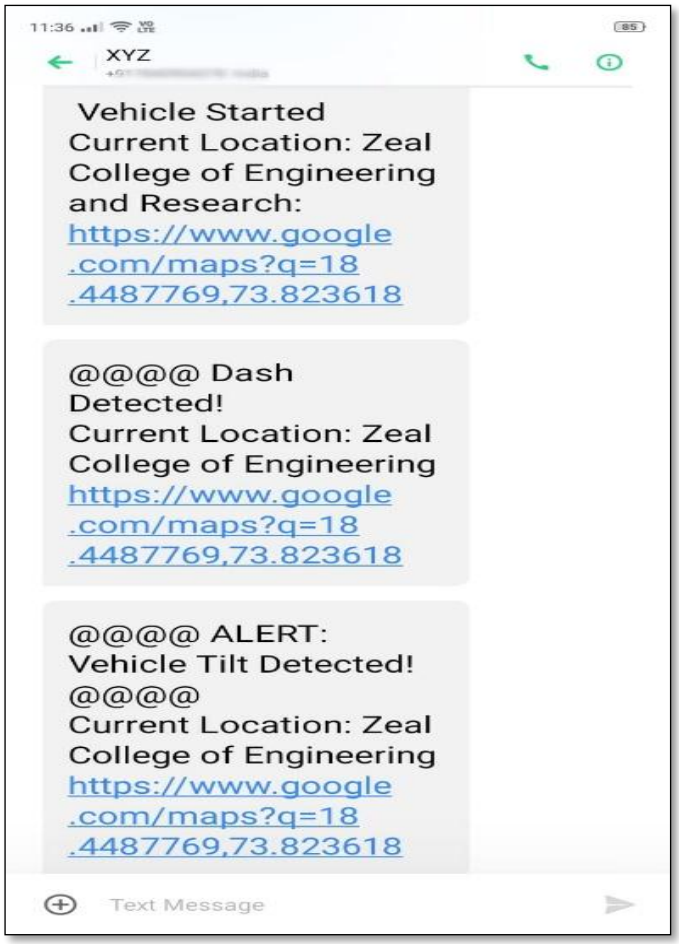


*Figure: 6- SMS alert and GPS location to emergency contacts when dash and tilt of vehicle is detected.*

## VI. FUTURE SCOPE

1. **Integration with Vehicle ECUs:** Connecting the system with Electronic Control Units (ECUs) to enable automatic braking or lane correction when drowsiness or an accident is detected.
2. **5G and Edge Computing for Faster Alerts:** Utilizing 5G networks and edge computing to reduce latency in accident detection and alert transmission, ensuring quicker emergency response.
3. **Voice-Based Emergency Assistance:** Instead of SMS alerts, implementing a voice-controlled system that can automatically call emergency services in case of an accident.
4. **Cloud-Based Data Analytics:** Storing accident and drowsiness data on the cloud for predictive analytics, helping authorities identify accident-prone zones and improve road safety regulations.
5. **IoT-Based Vehicle-to-Everything (V2X) Communication:** Enabling communication between vehicles, roadside units, and emergency services to automate crash prevention and faster rescue coordination.

## VII. CONCLUSIONS

In this paper we proposed a method for the Drive Sentinel system that watches over and protects drivers. It reduces the risk of accidents due to dizziness of driver by giving warnings to the driver. Also, in case of an accident, the system sends alert message to the near-by medical center and other registered emergency contacts. Overall, this approach is a powerful advancement in risk identification and management in road accidents that will provide a efficient solution to the increasing number of casualties due to delayed emergency response.

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