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# Designing of an Arduino Nano Cloud Vehicle Based Anti-kidnapping Device for Tracking Kidnappers in Nigeria

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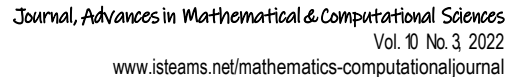
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## ABSTRACT

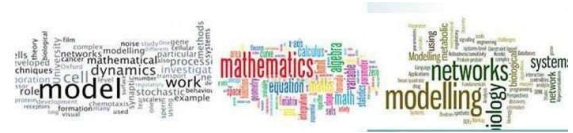
Nigeria has been facing challenges in recent time. These include: security, political and others. While that of political and others seem to be gradually addressed, that of security is increasing daily. This security challenge includes kidnapping, robbery, raping and others. Currently, kidnapping tops the list of these security challenges based on the literature. To address this kidnapping challenge, the Federal Government has introduced several strategies. These include the use Joint Task Force, political solution and religious approach. In addition, some states government has introduced the “Amotekun” groups. However, these strategies have not yielded positive result. One reason attributed to this is the lack of good technology to capture the scene of the event to identify the kidnappers. Currently, the use of wearable equipment through the use of Aundo Uno Microcontroller Technology is ongoing. However, issues like Cost of the equipment, lack of good cloud storage facility, Loss or forceful hijack of the equipment by kidnappers, hazardous effect on health and Security of life of those wearing the device are major challenges. In addition, the issues size, compatibility, flexibility and the friendly nature of this Technology. This paper presents a Cloud vehicle Based Anti-Kidnapping Device (CVBAD) using the Arduino Nano based Technology that captures all the events in the car in the context of kidnapping in Nigeria. This is aimed at detecting, gathering information, sharing and monitoring the entire scenario that occurred within the domain of the event. The experiment is conducted based on three levels. These are the physical, logical and the circuitry level. The prototype road demonstration of this work was carried out in Adekunle Ajasin University campus. A comparative study was made between the result obtained with that of Arduino Uno Technology using cost, audio-video and face detection images as our metrics. The radius coverage of 30-meter was recorded. The cost ratio of the proposed system is about 1:5 in a car and about 1:12 in a bus.

**Keywords-** Microcontroller, Internet of Things, Arduino Uno, Arduino Nano



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However, chip misplacement, hazard to life and cost are major challenges of this work. In addition, is that of the size of the hardware proposed that is not fully compact? For example, the chip that is meant to capture video, audio and picture in the course of a kidnap can be misplaced .Because, it's either attached to the human hair or a broach-type model (attached to the cloth or button) and even wrist misplacement can occur as a result of panic.

Design and Implementation of a Rescue System for the Safety of Women was carried out in [18] using the Arduino Uno microcontroller. The research focuses on the development of a wearable arm band for safety and protection for women and girls. It was achieved through the analysis of the physiological signal in conjunction with the body position which are the pulse rate sensor, vibration sensor, fault detection sensor. The Arduino Uno microcontroller was able to function through the raw data acquired by activating the GPS to send alert messages through the GSM. Likewise, images and videos were captured through the wireless camera. This Arduino Nano microcontroller technology gives alert both to Police and the family. The use of this technology in allowing video calls has been a great contribution. However, the issue of information storage was not discussed. In addition, the issue of compatibility and costs of this equipment are challenges. The authors in [22] developed a fog-FISVER system that helps to improve public safety as a result of prompt responses from police personnel after detecting real time crimes. It was accomplished by the use of in-vehicle and fog infrastructures that support autonomous and real-time crime detection on public bus services.

The major improvement of this work is in the area of assisting the police authorities in finding prompt location of a crime and also to respond promptly. However, one major shortcoming observed from this work is the security of the information as they are received by the police system analyst and also the crime information may be delayed, deleted and manipulated.

The works of these preceding authors presented the us the opportunity to make our contribution in this paper. For example, the argument for using the Arduino Nano is based on foundation laid in the work of [21] and [22]. Also, the work of [19] [20] are the forerunners of the idea of proposing other technology as our solution approach. However, most of these technologies are wearable gargets. These gargets are costly and cannot be afforded by common man. In addition, they are hazardous to our health, subject to misplacement and not compatible to be working with. Another is the lack of good storage system that keeps the recorded audio, video and face detection of events for police and forensic expert's investigation. To address some these issues, this paper proposes an Arduino Nano cloud vehicle Based Anti-kidnapping Device.

### 3. ARCHITECTURE OF THE PROPOSED WORK

The architecture of the proposed work is into three levels. The first is the physical level, the second is the logic level and the third is the circuitry level. The physical layer consists of the cloud based anti-kidnapping device (CBAD) that has the Wi-Fi camera mounted on the car in hidden places. This is depicted in Figure 1. The information about the car (e.g. Video, Audio, Camera and Car location) are transmitted to the central processors that are connected to servers providing the mobile network services through a base stations (e.g., base transceiver station, access point, or satellite). This establishes and control the connections (wireless links) and functional interfaces between the



networks and the car.

After that, the subscribers' requests are delivered to a cloud through the Internet. In the cloud, the cloud controllers process the requests that provide car users with the corresponding kidnapping service. An online message is then sent to the security unit. For example, Police Authority for proper monitoring of events.

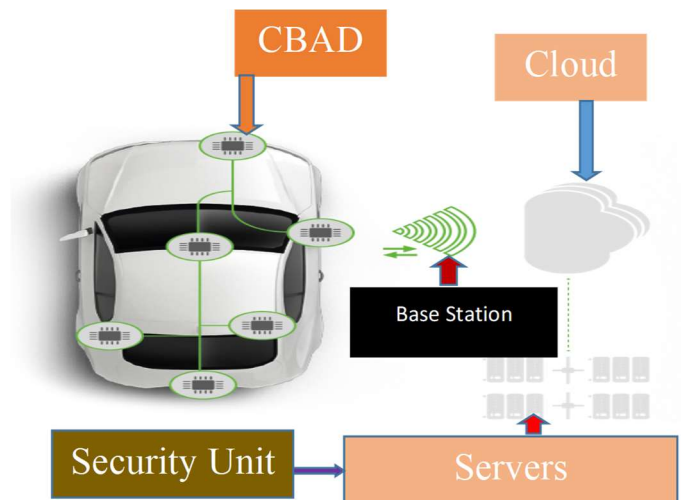


Figure 1: Prototype Diagram, of CBAD

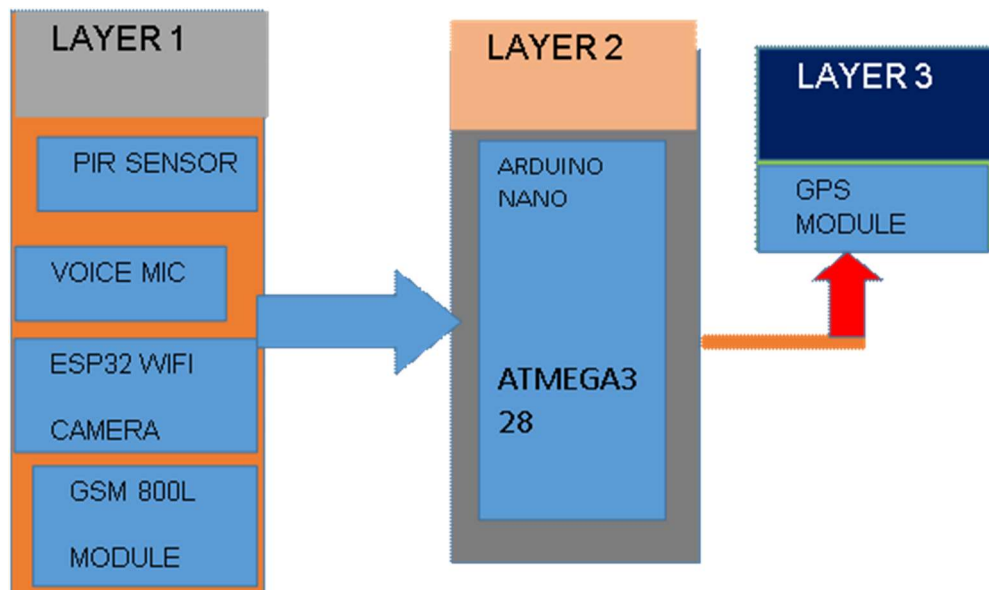


Figure 2: Block Diagram Of The Cloud-Based Anti- Kidnaping Device (CBAD)

The logical level consist of the various logical design needed to make the physical level functional. This level has three layers with sub units as shown in the architecture of Figure 2. These are layer 1, 2 and 3 respectively. Under the first layer, there are four units. These are PIR sensor, Voice Microphone, ESP32 WIFI CAMERA and SIM 800 L Module. The second layer is the Arduino Nano Microcontroller while the last layer is the GPS Module. The first layer is connected to the ATMGAS3 microcontroller and is in turn connected to the GSM module. The PIR sensor in the first layer detects the movement of people. This is a low power with low cost device, pretty and rugged with wide lens range and easy to interface. The Voice Microphone is the transducer that is used for the conversion of sound into an electrical signal. In this work, the dynamic microphone proposed and is connected to a preamplifier for the signal to be recorded or reproduced.

The WiFi Camera has various types but for the purpose of this research, the ESP32-CAM-UFL that is coined from the ESP32-CAM family is used. The justification for this is that it has a low cost development board with the WiFi camera, in addition, it has an inbuilt PCB antenna and suitable for creating IP camera projects for video streaming with different resolutions. Furthermore, it has the advantages of allowing connection of an external antenna and that of giving the ESP module to be used. These features make it useful in wireless Networking and capable of being connected to a cloud based system. The SIM/GPRS 800L Module is built with Dual Band GSM/GPRS engine that has an on-board Regulated Power supply. This allows users to connect wide range unregulated power supply. The Module RS232 interface in it allows connection with the Arduino Nano microcontroller. The GSM/GPRS Modem has an internal TCP/IP stack that enables it to be connected with internet via GPRS. We use this for our SMS, Voice as well as data transfer.

All these blocks are depicted in Figure 3 and further studies on the functions of these units can be found in [16][23][24]. On the second layer is the Arduino Nano Microcontroller proposed for this research. This is a small, compactible, flexible and a friendly circuit microcontroller board that is developed by Arduino.cc in Italy. It is based on ATmega328p (Arduino Nano V3.x) / Atmega168 (Arduino Nano V3.x) and also designed for programming and prototyping. It comes with exactly the same functionality as in Arduino UNO but quite in small size. Another justification for proposing this processor is that it has an open source design that does not require extra hardware to burn programs onto the board. Also, it comes with an operating voltage of 5V; however, the input voltage can vary from 7 to 12V. **The Pin out** contains 14 digital pins, 8 analog Pins, 2 Reset Pins with 6 Power pins.

This allows each of these Digital & Analog Pins to be configured as input or output and at the same time allows them to act as input pins when they are interfaced with sensors. Function Pins like pinMode() and digitalWrite() were used to control the operations of digital pins while analogRead() was used to control analog pins. External power is supplied by connecting it to the LM 2596 DC Bulk converter module **which helps to power all the peripherals that are used in the proposed architecture as shown in Figure 2 and 3. In addition, it regulates the supplied voltage and current against any surge or spike that may arise due to electrical malfunction in the vehicle.** Arduino IDE circuit board shown in Figure 3 uses a simplified version of C++.

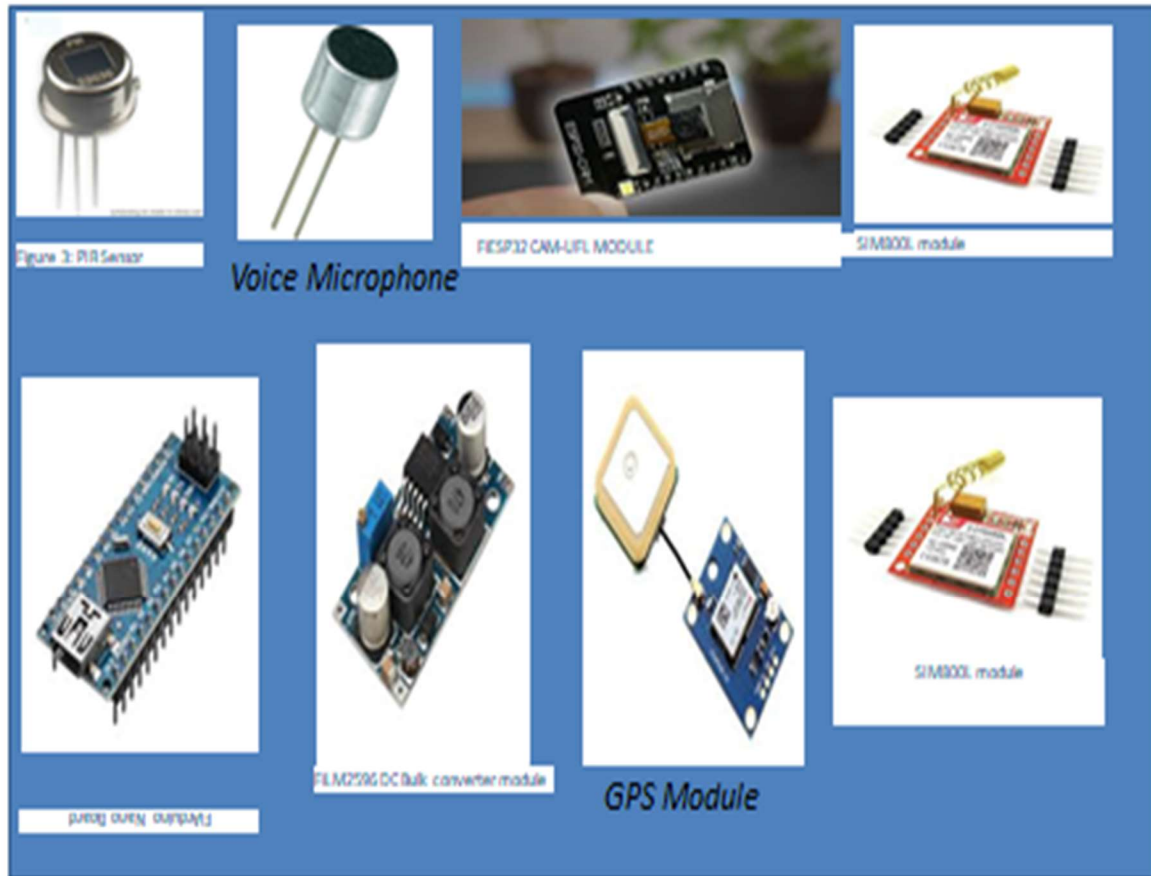


Figure 3: Building layers of our proposed CVBAD

The circuitry level is broken down into three layers as depicted in Figure 4. These are: power layer, the processor and other attached peripherals. The power layer which is the LM 2596 earlier explained. It has a 5 volt regulator. This is used to provide the required voltage that drives the processor and all the attached peripherals. The basic function in this context is to convert 12 volt to 5volt required by the processor and other attached peripherals. The processor is the Arduino Nano micro-controller. This is the heart of the whole system. It co-ordinate and process all various activities taking place in the system. For example, it co-ordinate the information received from ESP camera, GPS Module etc. It has multiple I/O pins that enable it to communicate in bi-direction mode. The other peripherals include ESP Camera, SIM 800 GSM Module, GPS, PIR sensor and others.



These are interfaced to the processor (Arduino Nano) that co-ordinate their operations by capturing all the activities. The operation is such that users trigger the switch bottom immediately kidnapping activities is suspected. This puts the 5 volts battery into operation to power the processor (Arduino Nano). This then switches on the attached ESP Camera. The image (Picture) observed by this camera is immediately sent to the processor for processing. This is then streamed to the embedded server via the GSM Module which is already connected through a GSM operator. The location of the whole scene is immediately recorded by the GPS Module and sent to the processor for record purpose. An Attached card reader capable of holding storage of 64 Gigabyte is activated to record the audio and video of the event. This Location and other information are sent to the security or the family of the victim(s).

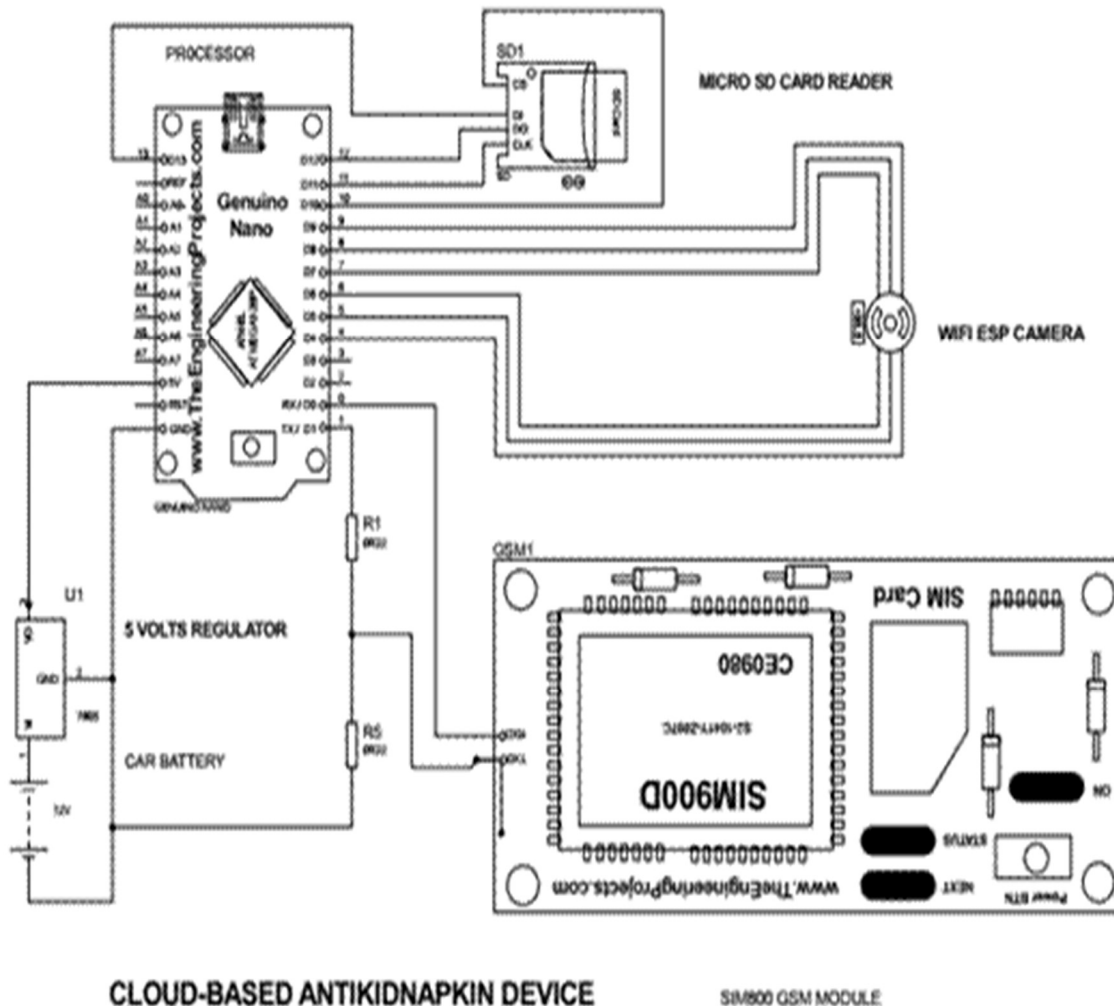


Figure 4: Circuitry Design of the Proposed CVBTAD

#### 4. EXPERIMENTAL SETUP

The prototype demonstration of this work was carried out thrice in Adekunle Ajasin University that provided the internet facilities. A car with registration number LSD329FV and a University bus containing 36 passengers were used with the installed CVBAD. On the first case two passengers left the gate with the car including the driver to the permanent site (Senate Building). On the second case fifteen students were used. On each case, along the road, these vehicles were stopped by students that acted as kidnappers. Immediately the drivers noticed this, they trigger the alarm buttons for record purposes which set alerts to the security unit for rescue operation. The results are discussed under the results and discussion section.

#### 5. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The results of the prototyped demonstrations were carried out using three scenes of events: these are: i. Captured event during the day time operation ii. Un-captured event during day time operation and the third is the Captured event during the night time operation. This is due to the fact that most kidnapping activities do occur during the day and these kidnappers do escape. This may be attributed to late communication, inadequate security agents etc. On each of these scenes, the video and audio of the kidnapped operations were recorded immediately the alarm switch is on from the hidden place in the car and the bus by the driver. For example, on the first scene that occurred during the day time, the kidnappers were captured by the cameral and the police was alerted and the dislodge them. The video and audio of the scene were recorded in the cloud as depicted in Figure 5. On the second scene which also occurred during the day, the kidnappers escaped and the recorded facts (Audio, Video) were sent to the cloud for forensic investigation. The recorded video and audio are shown in Figure 6 and 7 respectively.



Figure 5: Event activity of scene when kidnapper were met during day time operation



Figure 6: event activity when kidnapping escaped during the Day time

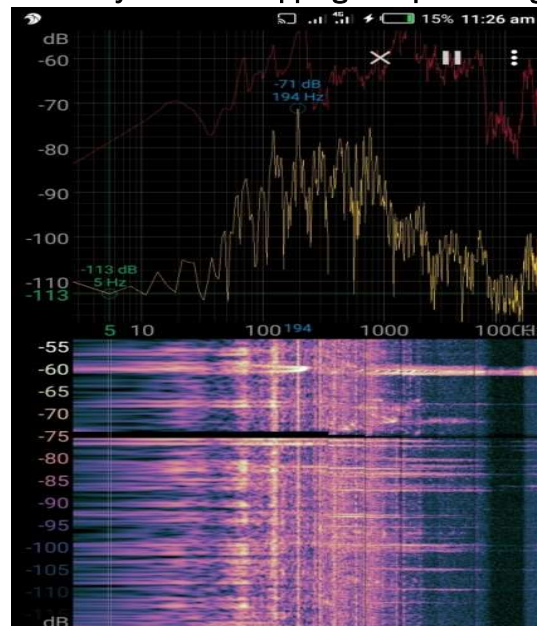


Figure 7: Recorded tape at the kidnapping scene of operation when they escaped

On the third scene, it was recorded at night this is because it is one of the greatest security threats and difficult operation. This may be attributed to inadequate security targets. The results captured all scenes of events within 30-meter radius of kidnapping operation. In Figure 8, one kidnapper was captured on the video and in Figure 9, the tape event of operation was recorded for forensic investigation because the kidnappers escaped before the arrival of the security men.



Figure 8: Event activity of scene when kidnapper were met during night operation

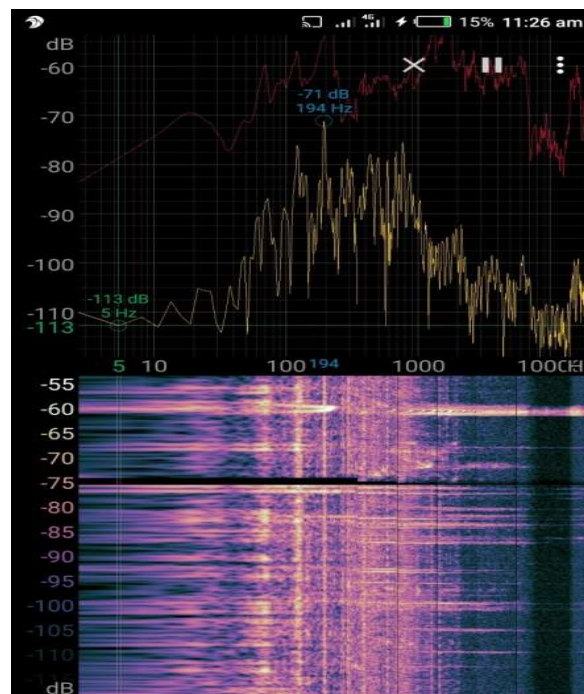


Figure 9: Event activity when kidnappers escaped at night.





## 6.1. Discussion and Analysis of Results

### Image Analysis

In order to analyze our results, we re-performed this experiment with the Arduino Uno microcontroller as against our proposed Arduino Nano Microcontroller . Our metrics of analyses were based on images (video and audio) of the scene of operation and cost of producing these devices. On the issue of images, the audio and video events of operation were compared between the Arduino Uno microcontroller and the Arduino Nano Microcontroller. The comparison table is depicted in Figure 10. We carried out image possessing operations on them by subjecting them to the same condition in our laboratory. The calculation of an element-wise (pixel-by-pixel) difference is done. In other to get the color difference, the vector per point is recorded.

The norm difference was taken. The laboratory results show that the pixel produced by Arduino Nano Microcontroller is better than that of Arduino Uno microcontroller. Also the vector per point of Arduino Nano Microcontroller is better than that of Arduino Uno microcontroller. That implies that there is no clearer view of videos, images and a well detailed audio recording under the Arduino Uno. This needs to be further subjected to rigorous analysis before getting a better output which will invariably involve additional cost. However, our proposed Arduino Nano technology used had **a well recorded audio, 3D video and images both in day and night operation as depicted in Figure 10.**

| Arduino Uno microcontroller   | Arduino Nano Microcontroller   |
|---|--|
| <p>Captured Event</p>  | <p>Captured Event</p>  |



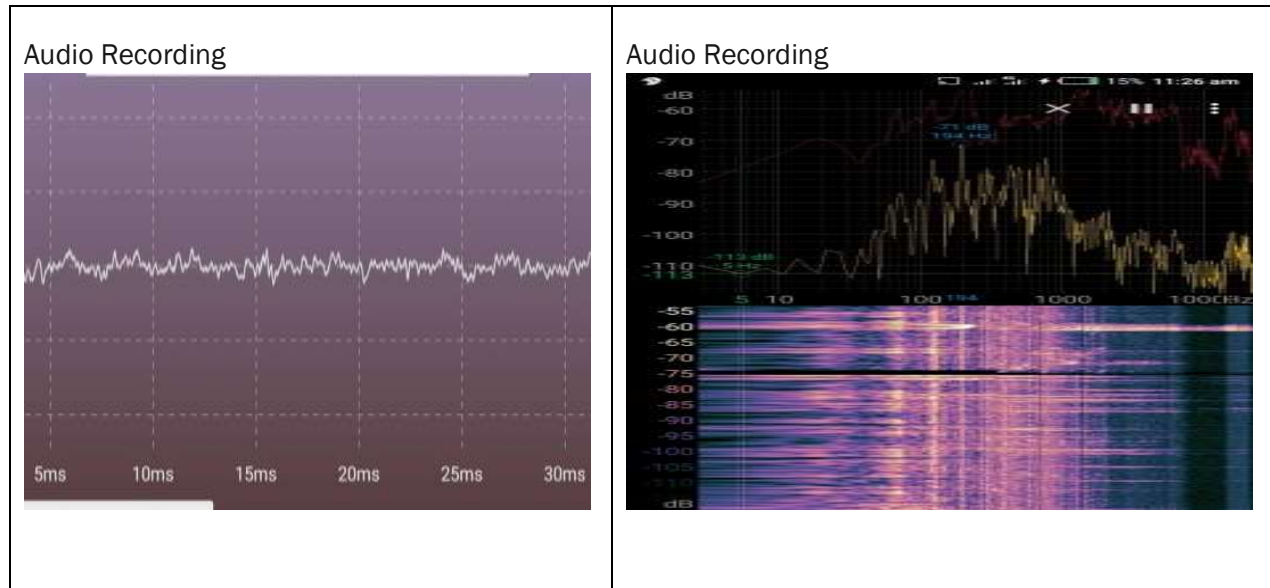


Figure 10: Arduino Uno microcontroller and Arduino Nano Microcontroller images

### Cost Analysis

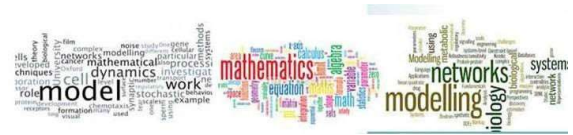
The cost comparison of the Arduino Uno microcontroller used in previous researches and the Arduino Nano microcontroller table proposed in this research as of February 2021 is depicted in Table 1. It is noted that the total cost of the new device (Arduino Nano) is #104,000 which is slightly higher than the cost of Arduino Uno (#98,500) used by the past scholars. However, the advantage of this technology is that it is installed on the car as against the Arduino Uno that is wearable. For example, in Table 4.3, two types of motors were considered, A car and a luxurious bus. The car has 5 passengers while the bus has 50 passengers. In the car, only one Arduino Nano was used to capture event at the cost of #104,000 as against the five used by Arduino Uno at the cost of #492,500. The bus used only four Arduino Nano at the cost of four hundred and sixteen thousand naira (#416,000.00). However, in the wearable scene, 50 Arduino Uno microcontroller were used to capture 50 passengers at the cost of #4,925,000 with a deference of #4,509,000 as depicted in Table 3. That implies that the cost ratio of the proposed system is about 1:5 in a car and about 1:12 in a bus.

**Table 1: Cost Analysis Based on a car and a fifty Setter Bus Arduino Uno and Arduino Nano Microcontroller**

| ARDUINO UNO       | (Cost) | ARDUINO NANO      | (Cost)  |
|-------------------|--------|-------------------|---------|
| Power Pack        | 15,000 | Power Pack        | 15000   |
| ESP32 Wifi Camera | 0      | ESP32 Wifi Camera | 10500   |
| WIFI Module       | 10,000 | Wifi Module       | 10000   |
| Wi-Fi Socket      | 2000   | Wifi Socket       | 2000    |
| LM2596            | 5,000  | LM2596            | 5,000   |
| GPS Module        | 12,500 | GPS Module        | 12,500  |
| SD Card Module    | 6,000  | SD Card module    | 6000    |
| RTC Timer         | 5,000  | RTC Timer         | 5000    |
| SIM800L Module    | 8,000  | SIM800L Module    | 0       |
| Level Shifter     | 0      | Level Shifter     | 8000    |
| Mic Unit          | 3,000  | Mic Unit          | 3000    |
| Arduino Uno       | 20,000 | Arduino nano      | 15,000  |
| Accessories       | 12,000 | Accessories       | 12,000  |
|                   | 98,500 |                   | 104,000 |

**Table 2: Cost Analysis Based on a car and a fifty Setter Bus**

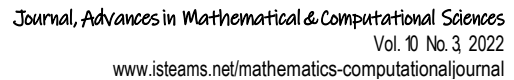
| Technology      | Car<br>No of<br>passenger | No<br>used | Cost per<br>Microcontr<br>oller | Total Cost | Bus<br>(no of<br>passe<br>nger) | No<br>used | Total Cost |
|-----------------|---------------------------|------------|---------------------------------|------------|---------------------------------|------------|------------|
| Arduino<br>Uno  | 5                         | 5          | ₦98,500                         | ₦492,500   | 50                              | 50         | ₦4,925,000 |
| Arduino<br>Nano | 5                         | 1          | ₦104,000                        | ₦104,000   | 50                              | 4          | ₦416,000   |
| Difference      |                           |            | ₦6500                           | ₦338500    |                                 |            | ₦4,509,000 |

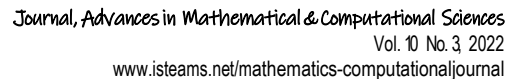


## 6. CONCLUSION AND FUTURE WORK

Nigeria has been facing diverse challenges in recent time, ranging from security, political and others. The political and some other form of these challenges seem to have been gradually addressed but efforts have proven to be abortive when it comes to that of security due to persistent rise in crime rate in Nigeria. The reasons may be attributed to unemployment, poverty, religious and political crises and others. This security challenge includes robbery, raping, kidnapping and others. Currently, kidnapping in Nigeria which tops the list has now become a major problem today. Several approaches have been used to address the kidnapping challenge; one is the inclusion of the use Joint Task Force, political solution, and religious approach by the Federal Government. In addition, Scholars have come up with several vital ideas; for example the use of wearable devices.

However, these ideas have not yielded significant result. Some reasons attributed to this include lack of good technology to capture the scene of event to identify the kidnappers and fetch out these culprits. Others are due to cost and negative effects on health by these wearable devices and unavailability of good Cloud Infrastructure. To resolve this issue, a cloud based anti-kidnapping device is proposed in this research. This device is based on Arduino Nano Microcontroller and other peripherals as the building blocks which help in **gathering, sharing and monitoring in the context of kidnapping in Nigeria**. The prototype demonstration of this work was carried out in Adekunle Ajasin University that provided the internet facilities. The technology was able to capture all scenes of events within 30-meter radius of kidnapping operation. These results were evaluated with the known current technology using Image and cost. The captured events produced a better audio-video and face detection images during the day and night than the current technology. The audio, video and the face detection were recorded in the cloud for forensic investigation. In addition cost analysis shows that the proposed technology is better than that of the wearable technology with cost ratio of 1:5 and 1:12 in car and a bus respectively. It must be stated that issue like energy sustainability, internet availability, forensic investigation, and user awareness were left for future discussions.





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