

TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY
INSTITUTE OF ENGINEERING
KATHMANDU ENGINEERING COLLEGE
KALIMATI, KATHMANDU



MAJOR PROJECT PROPOSAL REPORT ON

Your Project

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TO

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List of Abbreviation

AI Artificial Intelligence

GPIO General Purpose Input Output

IoT Internet of Things

ML Machine Learning

RAM Random Access Memory

OS Operating System

BRNN Bidirectional Recurrent Neural Networks

GRU Gated Recurrent Units

MIMO Multiple Input Multiple Output

SoC System-on-Chip

USB Universal Serial Bus

Wi-Fi Wireless Fidelity

NLP Natural Language Processing

TTS Text-To-Speech

API Application Programming Interface

ARM Advanced RISC Machine

RISC Reduced Instruction Set Computer

IP Internet Protocol

MCU Micro-Controller Unit

Chapter 1: Introduction

1.1 Background Theory

In recent years, computer technology has evolved rapidly, becoming an integral and ever-present part of human life. Modern systems are increasingly ubiquitous, blending seamlessly into our surroundings and enabling more natural and intuitive interactions between humans and machines. Traditional interfaces like keyboards and mice are being replaced with Natural User Interfaces (NUI), which allow people to interact with systems using natural human behaviors such as speech, movement, and gestures. This aligns with the Embodied Interaction Theory, which emphasizes interaction through physical engagement and bodily movement.

A notable example of gesture-based input is the data glove, a wearable device equipped with sensors that capture precise hand and finger movements. This project explores the use of a data glove for gesture recognition and its integration into interactive systems. By translating physical hand movements into digital commands, the data glove offers a more natural, immersive, and responsive way to control applications from controlling devices to navigating virtual environments.

This project focuses on the development of a data glove using Arduino, designed to recognize hand gestures and translate them into control signals for digital systems. The glove integrates flex sensors to detect finger bending, an MPU-6050 sensor (Inertial Measurement Unit) to measure orientation and motion, and an ESP8266 Wi-Fi module for wireless communication with other devices or systems. The glove structure is built using PLA (Polylactic Acid), a biodegradable 3D printing material, making the design both lightweight and customizable.

1.1.1 Applications

The data glove system finds applications in various fields including:

- Virtual and Augmented Reality (VAR)
- Assistive Technology
- Gaming
- Robotics Control
- Smart Environments / IoT Applications
- Educational Tools

1.1.2 Scope

The project encompasses several key areas for development and future expansion:

- Integration with machine learning models to improve gesture recognition accuracy
- Addition of haptic feedback for more immersive interaction
- Expansion to full-body motion capture using additional wearable sensors
- Development of a mobile or desktop interface for visualizing and mapping gestures
- Incorporating voice + gesture multimodal control systems

Chapter 2: Literature Review

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Chapter 3: Related Theory

3.1 Hardware

MPU6050 Sensor: The MPU6050 is a widely used 6-axis MEMS-based Inertial Measurement Unit (IMU) that integrates a 3-axis accelerometer and a 3-axis gyroscope within a single chip. It is capable of detecting linear acceleration in the range of $\pm 2g$ to $\pm 16g$ and angular velocity from $\pm 250^\circ/s$ to $\pm 2000^\circ/s$, making it highly suitable for motion tracking and gesture recognition applications. A notable feature of the MPU6050 is its onboard Digital Motion Processor (DMP), which performs real-time sensor fusion using algorithms such as Kalman or complementary filtering. This significantly reduces noise and drift in gyroscopic data, enabling stable orientation tracking through the calculation of quaternions or Euler angles (roll, pitch, and yaw). The sensor communicates with microcontrollers through the I²C interface, supporting clock speeds between 100 kHz and 400 kHz for efficient data exchange. Its compact design, reliability, and real-time capabilities make it ideal for wearable systems. It enables precise and responsive motion capture for interactive systems in gesture-based applications.

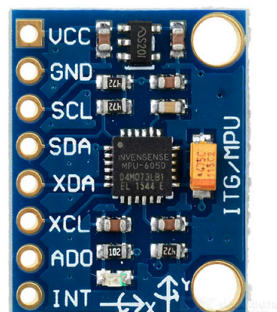


Figure 3.1: MPU6050 Sensor

Arduino Mega: The Arduino Mega is an open-source microcontroller board based on the ATmega2560, designed for projects requiring extensive input/output operations and greater memory capacity. It features 54 digital I/O pins, 16 analog inputs, and four UARTs for serial communication, making it suitable for complex hardware interfacing. With 256 KB of flash memory and a 16 MHz clock speed, it can handle multiple sensors and real-time data processing efficiently. In this project, the Arduino Mega serves as the central controller, managing input from multiple MPU6050 sensors and switches to ensure accurate and synchronized gesture-

based interactions within the game environment.



Figure 3.2: Arduino Uno Board

ESP8266: The ESP8266 is a low-cost, high-performance Wi-Fi microcontroller based on a 32-bit RISC CPU core (Tensilica L106), operating at 80–160 MHz. It integrates TCP/IP protocol stack and supports IEEE 802.11 b/g/n standards, enabling wireless connectivity with low power consumption (80 mA active mode). It enables devices to connect to wireless networks and communicate over the internet or within local networks. The ESP8266 supports multiple modes such as station, access point, and both simultaneously, making it highly versatile for wireless communication. It can be programmed using the Arduino IDE and is capable of handling HTTP requests, data transfer, and remote control functionalities. The ESP8266 is used to explore wireless communication possibilities between the hardware controller and the game system, potentially allowing untethered interaction.



Figure 3.3: ESP8266 Wi-Fi Module

Flex Sensors: Flex sensors are passive resistive devices that change their resistance based on the amount of bend applied to them. Typically constructed using a flexible substrate coated

with conductive ink, their resistance increases as the sensor is bent. This property allows them to detect the degree of bending or curvature, making them suitable for applications involving motion capture, wearable electronics, and gesture recognition. When integrated with microcontrollers, the analog resistance change can be converted into meaningful input data. In this project, flex sensors are considered for detecting finger movements by measuring the degree of bend in each finger.

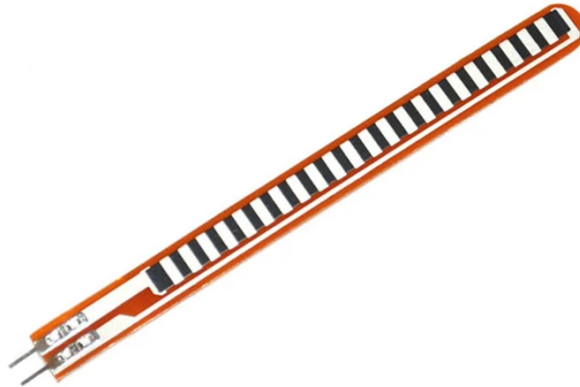


Figure 3.4: **Flex Sensor**

3.2 Software

Arduino IDE: The Arduino Integrated Development Environment (IDE) is the core programming tool for the Arduino Uno microcontroller in this project. Using C/C++, it configures the microcontroller to process digital signals from switches and analog data from MPU6050 sensors. Essential libraries like Wire.h and MPU650.h manage I²C communication, while serial protocols handle data transmission to the rendering engine. The IDE's debugging tools, including serial monitors, are crucial for verifying signal integrity and latency. Firmware algorithms integrate sensor fusion and debouncing logic for accurate gesture detection. This open-source platform significantly aids rapid prototyping and hardware-software integration for real-time interactive systems.

Rendering Engine: The Rendering Engine is a fundamental software component that generates real-time visual output based on physical hand gestures captured by the hardware. Initially considering Unreal Engine, this prototype utilizes Blender's integrated Eevee and Cycles engines for rendering and simulation. The engine displays a first-person perspective with visible virtual hands, mirroring gestures like finger bends and wrist rotations instantly. This real-time visual feedback is vital for player immersion and interaction. The engine processes data from the microcontroller, supplied through middleware, to dynamically adjust hand poses and object interactions. Its capability to reflect hardware input with minimal latency ensures intuitive and

responsive gameplay, serving as the core of the gesture-controlled gaming experience. Optimized for low latency with GPU acceleration, it manages environmental elements and physics simulations via Blender's Python API.

Blender: Blender is an open-source 3D creation suite which is utilized for designing and developing game assets. This includes 3D modeling, UV mapping, texturing, and rigging, crucial for creating realistic hand models and interactive objects. Blender's EEVEE and Cycles engines provide real-time previews and high-fidelity final renders, respectively. Its Python scripting capabilities facilitate customization and workflow automation. Blender functions as both a design tool and a visual integration layer, ensuring in-game visuals accurately reflect physical gestures captured by the hardware with minimal latency through automated workflows linking it to the Arduino's output.

Python: Python serves as the middleware layer, connecting hardware data with the rendering engine. Custom scripts, utilizing libraries like PySerial, parse serial data from the Arduino, converting raw sensor values into actionable game inputs. Python's integration with Blender via the bpy module maps gestures to in-game animations and automates tasks. It can also be used externally to interpret sensor data and relay it to the rendering engine via custom protocols. Python's versatility and extensive library support are crucial for efficient data translation and seamless interaction between the wearable hardware and the virtual environment, enabling real-time mapping of physical movements to game commands.

Chapter 4: Feasibility Study

4.1 Technical Feasibility

The project demonstrates strong technical feasibility by combining electronics, communication, and information processing in a practical and achievable manner. The Arduino Mega microcontroller acts as the brain of the system, providing sufficient processing power and I/O pins to accommodate multiple sensor inputs, including MPU6050 sensors, tactile push buttons, and optional flex sensors. These electronic components assist in accurately detecting hand gestures and finger movements. For communication, the ESP8266 module is considered for wireless data transfer between the hardware system and the game engine, facilitating real-time interaction with low delay. Serial communication protocols (either wired or wireless) will be utilized to ensure smooth and continuous data exchange from the Arduino to the computer running the game.

The information processing aspect involves translating raw sensor inputs into meaningful commands for the game. This includes gesture detection using both switch activations and motion readings from the MPU. All of this will be managed using standard Arduino programming, with open-source libraries that expedite development. The modular hardware setup allows for flexible testing, updates, and part replacement if necessary. Our design supports iterative development, meaning we can test and improve as we build. Key strengths of the project include its adaptability, cost-effective components, and future scalability, making it a reliable and feasible system to implement with the tools and skills available to our team.

4.2 Economic Feasibility

The proposed system demonstrates strong economic feasibility with a cost-effective approach to hardware development and implementation. Most of the required electronic components and sensors are readily available in the local market and within our college resources. The primary components, like Arduino Mega, ESP8266, MPU sensors, and connecting wires, are economically accessible, with relatively low procurement costs compared to specialized gaming interface systems. The use of PLA filament provides a budget-friendly prototyping solution, allowing multiple design iterations without significant financial investment. Open-source software platforms like Arduino IDE and Unreal rendering Engine further reduce development expenses by eliminating expensive proprietary software licensing costs.

The project's modular design enables incremental development, meaning team members can progressively invest in components as needed, spreading out potential expenses. Potential cost

savings are achieved through utilizing existing college laboratory equipment and leveraging team members' existing technical skills, which minimizes additional training or external consultation expenses. The overall economic viability is enhanced by the project's scalable nature, potential for future refinement, and the use of widely available, low-cost technological components. The minimal financial requirements make this project an economically attractive research and development initiative within the current institutional infrastructure.

Chapter 5: Methodology

5.1 System Block Diagram

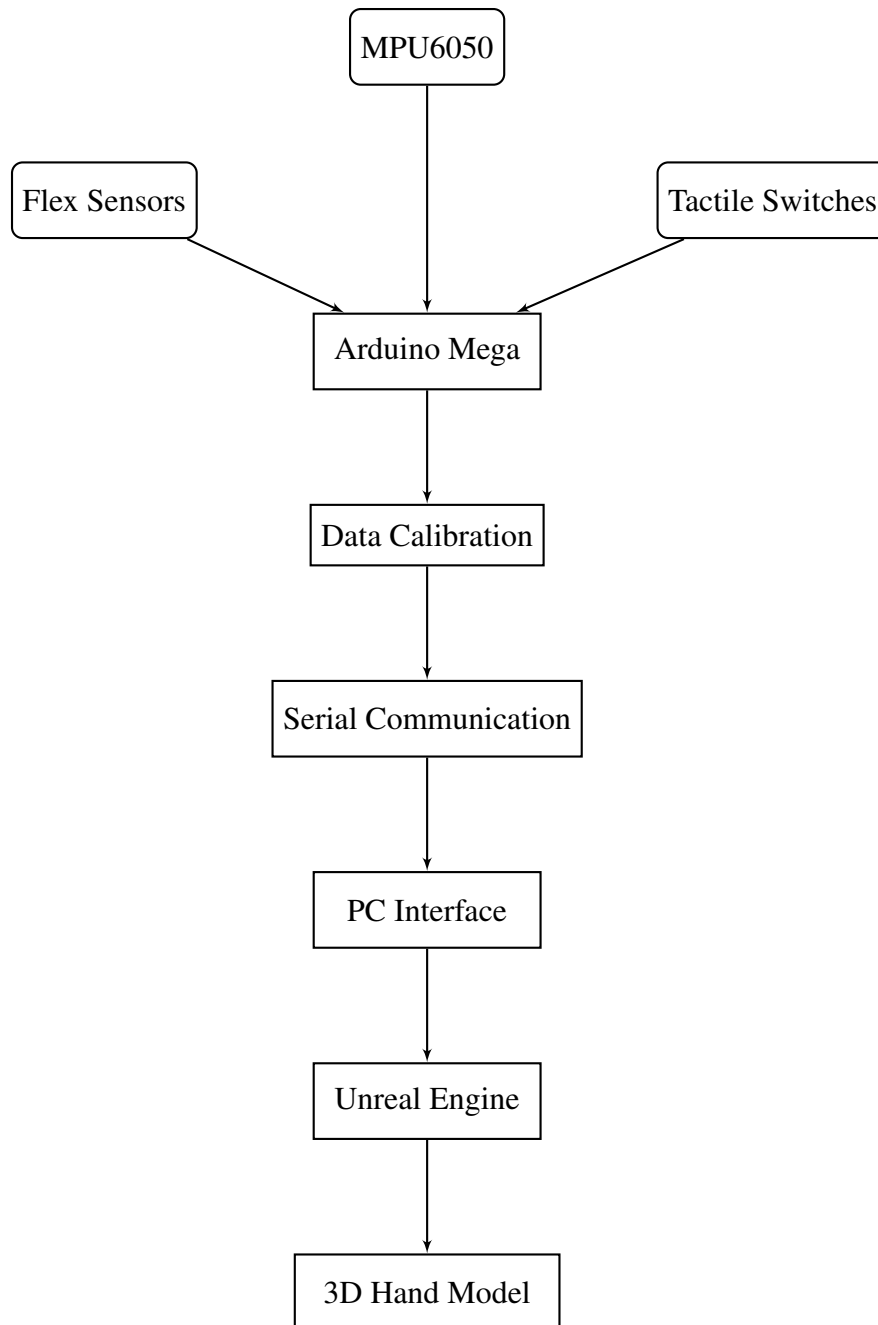


Figure 5.1: Detailed Block Diagram of Hand Motion Replicator System

5.2 Algorithm

1. System Initialization

- Configure MPU6050 for 6-DoF motion tracking
- Initialize analog inputs for flex sensors
- Set up digital inputs for tactile switches
- Configure serial communication parameters

2. Sensor Data Acquisition

- Read accelerometer and gyroscope data from MPU6050
- Measure resistance values from flex sensors
- Monitor state of tactile switches
- Apply calibration offsets

3. Data Processing

- Filter sensor noise using moving average
- Calculate hand orientation from IMU data
- Convert flex sensor values to finger angles
- Detect finger press events

4. Data Transmission

- Package processed data into structured format
- Implement error checking
- Transmit data packets via serial communication

5. Virtual Model Update

- Parse received data packets
- Update hand skeleton parameters
- Apply inverse kinematics for finger movements
- Render updated hand model

Chapter 6: Expected Output

- **Real-time Hand Motion Tracking:**

The system will accurately track and measure hand movements using the MPU6050 sensor for orientation ($\pm 2^\circ$ accuracy), flex sensors for finger bending (0° to 90° range), and tactile switches for touch detection. The combined sensor data will provide comprehensive hand position and gesture information with minimal latency ($\leq 100\text{ms}$).

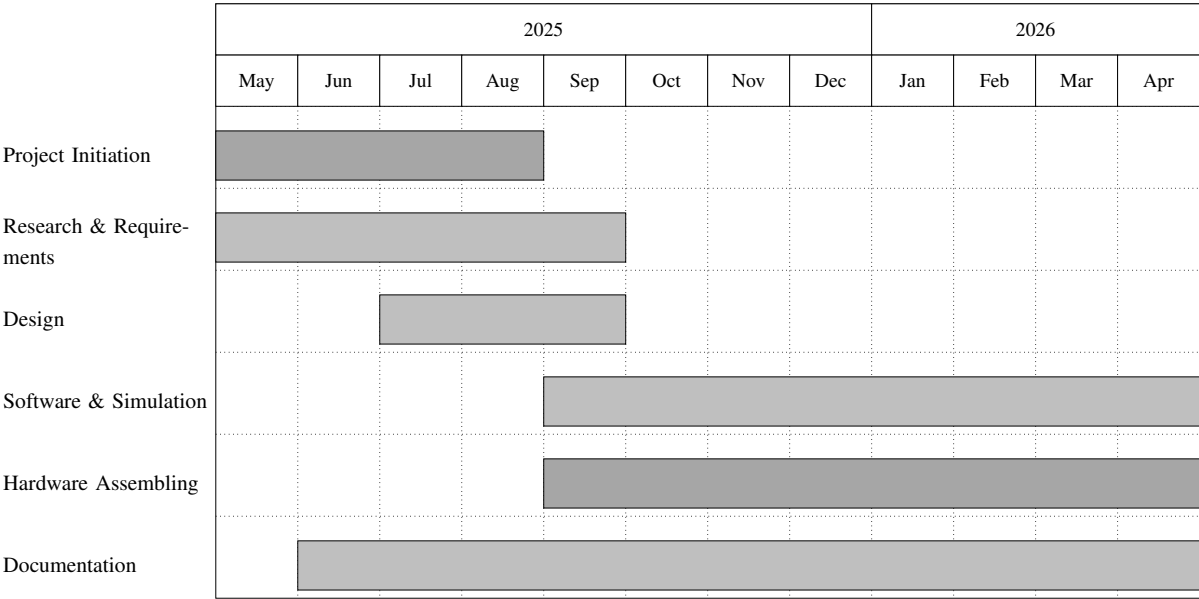
- **Virtual Hand Replication:**

The tracked hand movements will be replicated in real-time on a 3D hand model in Unreal Engine. The virtual hand will accurately mirror all finger movements, hand rotations, and touch interactions with smooth articulation and natural movement visualization. The system will maintain a consistent frame rate above 30 FPS to ensure fluid motion reproduction.

- **Interactive Response System:**

The system will provide immediate feedback through the virtual hand model, responding to user inputs with less than 50ms latency. This includes accurate finger bend representation ($\pm 5^\circ$ accuracy), precise hand orientation tracking, and immediate response to touch inputs with over 95% reliability. The communication system will maintain a stable 60 Hz update rate to ensure seamless interaction between the physical and virtual hands.

Gantt Chart



Cost Estimation

Components and Cost Distribution

S.N	Components	Quantity	Price	Availability
1	Momentary tactile push button	25	1000	Daraz Nepal
2	MPU 6050	5	2500	Daraz Nepal
3	ESP 8266	1	900	Daraz Nepal
4	Arduino with usb cable	1	1700	Daraz Nepal
5	Wire diameter 0.4mm ballpoint spring	10	700	Daraz Nepal
6	Flex sensor	10	7000	Daraz Nepal
7	PLA(1kg)	1	3000	Daraz Nepal
8	Gloves	2	800	Daraz Nepal
9	Superglue(vega)	3	330	Daraz Nepal
10	Enamel wire(50m)	1	1300	Daraz Nepal
11	Connecting wire	40	900	Daraz Nepal
12	Joystick controller with cable	1	1700	Daraz Nepal
13	Li-ion battery(3.7v) with charger	4	4000	Daraz Nepal
Total Cost			NRs. 25,830	

Table 6.1: Components and Cost Distribution

References

Bibliography