MCTX3420 Team 4: Progress Report #11

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Work Done:

- 1. GUI Design
 - a. Started implementation of graph page in new GUI with selectable axes
 - i. Can plot sensors against actuator values (or other sensors), not just time.
 - ii. Can select the time ranges to plot.
 - b. Designed/Implemented data download page and help page
 - c. Begun Merging GUI into a unified design
- 2. Refactor Sensors/Actuators code
 - a. Previously sensors/actuators were controlled through a single function using a switch statement
 - b. This has been redesigned (modularised) to simplify the design and addition of sensors/actuators
 - i. A sub folder each for all sensors/actuators.
 - ii. Each type of sensor/actuator is implemented in a .h and .c file
 - iii. 1 function (sensor: Read, actuator: Set) must be implemented
 - iv. 3 functions (Initialisation, Cleanup, Sanity Checks) are optional
 - v. Sensor Add or Actuator Add called at initialisation to add the device to the software
 - c. Sensors/Actuators can now be selected by name in the API not just their id (although this is slower)
 - d. The sampling rate of Sensors can be set using the server API
 - e. Actuators can now be controlled with a piecewise step function (not just setting a single value).
 - i. Specify the start value, time to wait on each step, amount to change the value each step, and total number of steps.
- 3. Failed to resolve problem with ADC reading occasionally failing
 - a. Wrote single threaded test program to determine if the problem is related to multithreading
 - i. Problem still occurs. This appears to be an issue with the BeagleBone linux kernel driver.
 - b. Storing timestamps in software and designing algorithms to deal with a non constant sample rate is the only solution (doesn't require modifications to software, as we already store the timestamp).
- 4. Got the C170 webcam and the USB Microscope to work in OpenCV
 - a. Both suffer from the same issues with the driver. Need to use a reduced resolution (352x288).
 - b. Improved dilatometer test algorithm including modelling can expansion (with noise)
- 5. Login and Authentication
 - a. UWA has yet to respond about permission to guery the LDAP server (pheme)
 - b. Explored use of PHP for creating and maintaining a unix style authentication file (plain text)
 - i. No modifications to the server API needed. Some amount of boilerplate PHP required.
 - c. Explored use of django for creating and maintaining a database of users
 - Infeasible modifications to the server needed; python function needs to be called from within our C server program to access the database.

Work Todo:

- 1. GUI Design
 - a. Fix issues with new Graph page
 - i. Issue with clearing the JavaScript timeout when the axes are changed graph crashes
 - ii. Variables do not maintain the same colour when the axes are changed
 - iii. Graph needs labelling. Add a second Y axis to plot variables with different units.
 - b. Continue development of Control page (set pressure, specify sampling rates, etc)
 - c. Continue development of Data Download page
 - d. Merge all code into a unified web system
- 2. Login and Authentication
 - a. Server program needs modification to keep track of who owns an experiment and user permission level.
- 3. Microscope and dilatometer
 - a. Continue to improve dilatometer algorithm
 - b. Add dilatometer to the software as a Sensor
 - c. If possible, take a higher resolution image using external software and pass to OpenCV
- 4. Sensors: Add pressure sensors to software and collaborate over calibration