

Performing Arts and IOT

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1 Introduction

Dance is an art. It is the form of expressing ones feelings symbolically using mental and physical aspects. Technically portraying an art like Dance is the recent ideas which has evolved out to be a challenging tasks from the past decade. On the other hand, technologies like IOT(Internet of Things) is in a huge demand, wherein the world is looking to integrate IOT with everything. The bridge between Art and technology is IOT. The Dance IOT is a project where the dance arm movements are analysed and mapped onto several functional platforms(may be control of the auditorium's lighting system, volume system etc..), so that the performance is enhanced and makes the audiences awestruck. This is more constrained to bring up new era in the performing arts like dance, theatre plays, magic shows and circus as well. The whole idea is the please the audiences with the innovative technologies that lead to great performances.

2 State of the art

2.1 Why this Project?

Performing Arts in an aspect of entertainment is growing in all the dimensions. As per the survey conducted by Quentin Fottrell, a US based surveyor, it is observed that people spend most of their time in getting entertained, both through live performances and through internet and still want for entertainment. People now a days expect entertainment in new manners, totally updated to the interest of current generation and surely expect a WOW factor in it. Creating such thing in an innovative manner requires the proper usage of technology.

Collaborating technologies like IOT with Performing Arts is both challenging as well as interesting. So, we using technology to further add up to the growth of already growing performing arts is the task .

2.2 Initiation

Before going to the existing methods and stuff like that, the project must be initiated and analysed. This project is a collaboration of art and technology. The main motto lies in using IOT as the combining tool. There would be possibly four main domains in this project, categorised on the basis of modular functionality in achieving it. The following are the functionaries:

1. Pattern Acquisition
2. Pattern Analysis
3. Functional Mapping
4. Performance analysis

Pattern Acquisition:

Pattern acquisition is the process of reading data in the form of samples. There are various methods in doing so. Taking data in the forms of samples manually, or even computerised data acquisition. We are doing it as combination of both Manual-computerised data acquisition. The result of using this method would be discussed later in the Performance section.

Pattern Analysis:

Pattern Analysis is the process of understanding the read data. Here in our project there is not only a need for understanding data but also the need for differentiating data. Differentiating here refers to the process of the micro-controller understanding which sample is required for the task and which is not.

The usage of Hidden Markov Models(HMM) ¹ found to be the most accurate models in this kind of usages and applications. This should also be determined only when the performance is fully studied.

¹Detection of eating and drinking arm gestures using inertial body-worn sensors by Oliver Amft, Holger Junker, Gerhard Troster Wearable Computing Lab, ETH Zurich, Switzerland
amft, junker, troester@ife.ee.ethz.ch

Figuring all the possible ways, the main goal of this project would be to find out a mathematical mapping relation between the sensed data and the assigned specific task .The process of designing such a system requires the perfect understanding of the components and their outcomes.

For better understanding and also to uphold the terms of modularity, I have divided the project into three phases,they are:

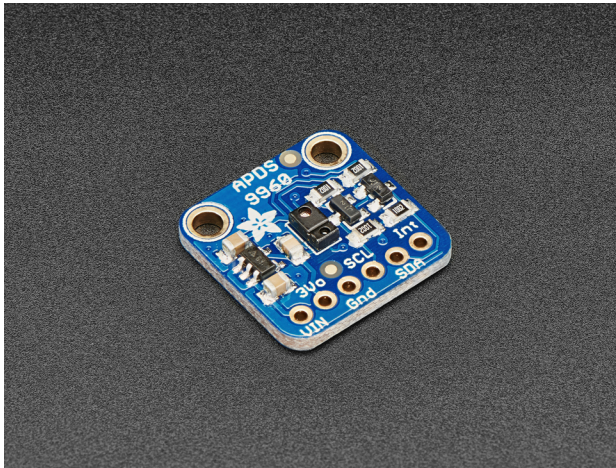
1. Phase 1 - Pattern Acquisition, Pattern Analysis
2. Phase 2 - Functional Mapping
3. Phase 3 - Performance Analysis

3 Hardware and Software

3.1 Sensors

Generally , there are sensors which can sense motion and detect its path of movement as well.Out from various available sensors we are using APDS9960 and LMS9DS1. They are the two most common sensing devices used in motion detection.They bring out a great user-friendly environment with standard accuracy.

1. APDS9960 :

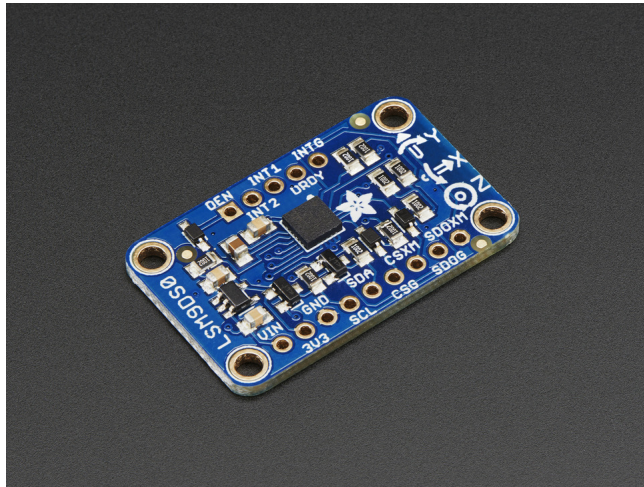


APDS9960² is a multi-functional sensor that mainly senses proximity,RGB, light and gesture of an object. It is the most popular sensor used in gesture detection.It is to be connected to a micro-controller for the action and control process of it.It generally returns the gesture detected(right,left,up,down) and even complex gestures such as zigzag,near,far,etc..

²(for specifications: <https://cdn-learn.adafruit.com/downloads/pdf/adafruit-apds9960-breakout.pdf>)

It also returns the values in Red, Green, Blue attributes of the object that it detects. When coming to the terms of proximity it returns the distance of the object detected with up to 8 bit resolution. As mentioned above it is a multi-functional sensor. It has six pins where VIN is for the input voltage, 3Vo is to power up the sensor, Gnd to ground the sensor so as the unwanted voltages are grounded, SCL is the serial clock, SDA is serial Data and, INT is the interrupt.

2. LMS9DS1:

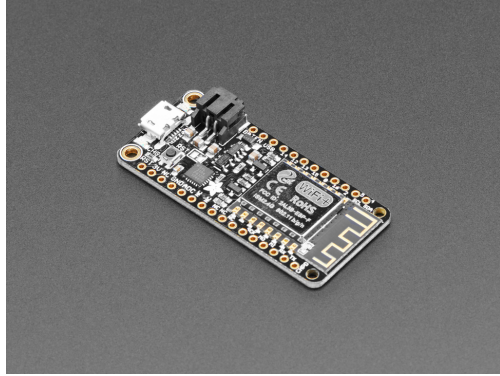


LMS9DS1³ is a motion sensing sensor. It is a combination of accelerometer, gyroscope and magnetometer. In depth it has a 3-axes accelerometer, 3-axes gyroscope and 3-axes magnetometer. So collectively it's good for all the possible 9 degrees of freedom (DOF). It supports both I2C and SPI. It measures angular velocity, acceleration and magnetic heading and returns them to the micro-controller. It measures the above mentioned parameters in a three-dimensional field resulting in 9 outcomes i.e. angular velocity in x,y,z, and acceleration in x,y,z, and magnetic heading in x,y,z. Thus, this sensor outcome is more reliable and best to analyse.

3.2 Micro-controller

A micro-controller is a user-friendly electronic device which is generally used to perform a specific task. Here, task may be either one time or an infinite number of times, it is user-controllable. User will have to code the required task in the form of an assembly language (or language with effective to the micro-controller, mostly a high-level language). The micro-controller converts the code written into its understandable language and performs the task as per the code written by the user.

³(for details: <https://www.adafruit.com/product/2021>)



In our project we are using ESP8266 as a micro-controller. An ESP8266 is a versatile micro-controller, it has an on-chip wifi module which gives the option to the user to connect to a cloud or server based on his need. This is similar to an arduino micro-controller but has more performance stability and advanced features than an arduino has. This is the main reasons for the usage of it in complex projects. Projects filled with real time robotics, real time analysis prefer ESP8266 over other micro-controllers that are available in the market.

3.3 Sloeber Eclipse IDE

Sloeber Eclipse IDE is an open source user-interface, generally a tool that is used to code and manage the micro-controllers. Sloeber is used in our project to manage the code that is used to perform our project. It has code files that are in cpp format and as well as python format. It is multi-disciplinary tool, since it can manage code of different formats. We also use sloeber to set a connection for the module and the server precisely speaking, setting a wifi connection.

4 Phase 1

4.1 Pattern Acquisition

Pattern acquisition is the process of collecting a large number of data sets relevant to the task to be performed. Pattern Acquisition is a result obtained by the sensors through control by the micro-controller. When the code is uploaded onto the module (combined micro-controller connected with the servers), the program runs and the results are obtained on successful compilation. The results are sent to a server using MQTT protocol. Once the server starts storing data, we can retrieve it back. This set of data received is called a pattern. Depending on the action or movement of the wearable module, the values change. So, in case of waving a hand, the action must be performed so that the server stores the action and the user can then successfully retrieve data. This action is one sample of a pattern. With varied acceleration and speed we need to record as many as samples as required for a single pattern. The pattern is obtained in a JSON format. Java Script Object Notation popularly known as JSON is a flexible text

format that can store data and communicate it with other devices. So, anything related to a cloud or server based data system a JSON format must be used and hence we are using it. Finally my Pattern is acquired in the form of JSON.

4.2 MQTT Protocol

As mentioned above, we have to use a platform for sending data, storing it onto the server(may be cloud also) and retrieve the data from the server, function it.This so called platform works on some set of rules called protocol. The protocol used here is MQTT.

Message Queuing Telemetry Transport, shortly known as MQTT ⁴ is an International Standard Organisation(ISO) publish-subscribe based messaging protocol.It works on top TCP/IP protocol i.e. apparently works in the application layer of the TCP/IP protocol.It is a publish-subscribe messaging pattern,and thus requires a messaging broker.It contains no.of clients communicating with the server, often called a "broker". A client can be either a publisher of message or a subscriber who generally expects and accepts data or messages from the server. All clients can connect to the server through proper subscription.

In order to have a connection,the publisher need not have any information on the number of subscribers or location info about the subscribers. Similarly the subscriber also need not have to be configured with any data of the publisher.This turns out to be an advantage for the usage of this protocol.

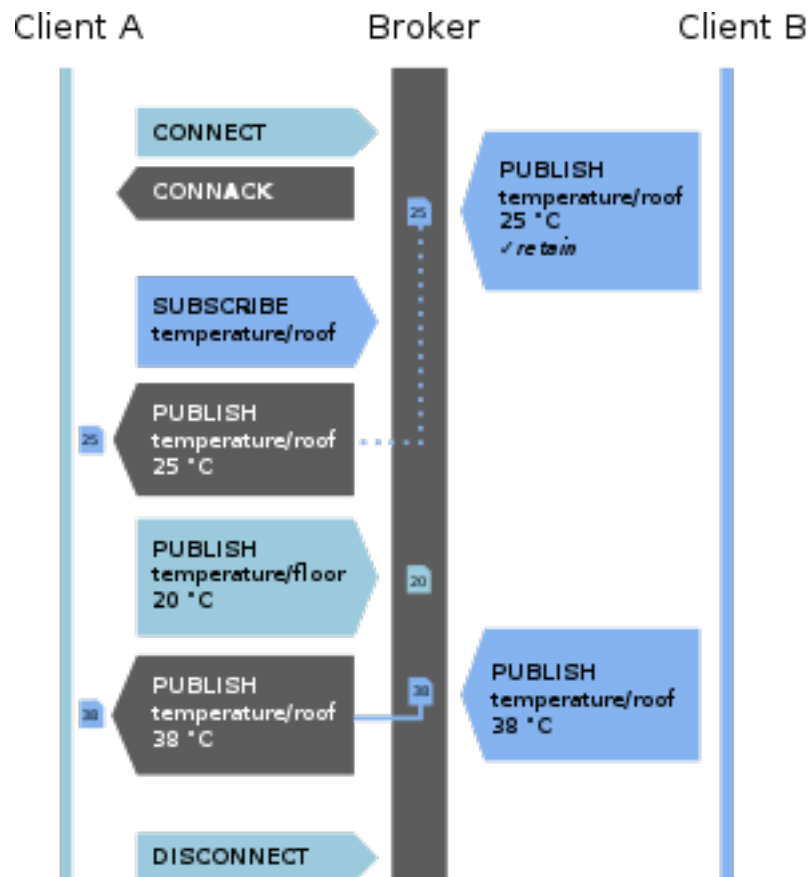
MQTT relies on TCP/IP for data transmission. In case of UDP or Bluetooth MQTT-SN is used. For transmission of data, there must be a connection between the two entities i.e the client and server.There is a separate set of data that controls the action of connection and other stuff related to it called as "Message Type". This is generally a control message.The minimal size of a control message would be 2 Bytes which can be maximum extended upto 256 Mega-bytes. There are 14 pre-defined Message Types. A few of them include commands to connect and disconnect a client from a broker, to publish data, to acknowledge receipt of data, and to supervise the connection between client and server.

Connect: Waits for a connection to be established with the server and creates a link between the nodes.

Disconnect: Waits for the MQTT client to finish any work it must do, and for the TCP/IP session to disconnect.

Publish Returns immediately to the application thread after passing the request to the MQTT client.

⁴(<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/MQTT>)



MQTT just sends connection credentials in text format, there is no measure of security or authentication involved in it. TCP is the most reliable protocol used in today's world. As we are using TCP, it is responsible for the security and measure to protect integrity of the transferred information from interception and duplication. The connection alone is not sufficient, for a better communication one must know the Quality-of-Service(QOS) of the connection formed. The QOS is a measure of wellness i.e how good a connection is established and the how good the bandwidth is utilised. The quality of service measures are as follows: At most once - the message is sent only once and the client and broker take no additional steps to acknowledge delivery (fire and forget). At least once - the message is re-tried by the sender multiple times until acknowledgement is received (acknowledged delivery). Exactly once - the sender and receiver engage in a two-level handshake to ensure only one copy of the message is received (assured delivery).

5 References

1. Gesture spotting with body-worn inertial sensors to detect user activities by Holger Junker, Oliver Amft, Paul Lukowicz, Gerhard Tröster
2. Detection of eating and drinking arm gestures using inertial body-worn sensors by Oliver Amft, Holger Junker, Gerhard Tröster Wearable Computing Lab, ETH Zurich, Switzerland
3. <https://www.adafruit.com/product/3595>
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5. <https://www.adafruit.com/product/2821>