

# Prototype for a virtual keyboard based on IMUs and machine learning

- welcome the audience
- introduce ourselves
- explain this is our bachelor's thesis defense

Paul Bienkowski & Carolin Konietzny

TAMS, Fachbereich Informatik, Universität Hamburg

2017-05-16

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1 Introduction

2 System design

3 Machine Learning

4 Experiments

5 Demo

6 Conclusion

- 1, 2 Paul
- 3, 4 Caro
- Demo & Conclusion together

# Introduction

## 1 Introduction

- Motivation
- Vision
- Related Work
- Project Goal

## 2 System design

## 3 Machine Learning

## 4 Experiments

## 5 Demo

## 6 Conclusion

## Motivation

## Traditional Keyboards

## Pros

- easy to learn
  - precise
  - universal
  - cheap

- present pros and cons
  - it's still the most common choice
  - phones get smaller → deviceless
  - **voice**: inaccurate, only nat. language, environment dependent
  - **handwriting**: slow, touch screen, surface, inaccurate
  - **visual methods**: very slow, good for handicapped users

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## Alternatives

- voice recognition
- handwriting recognition
- visual methods (eye tracking)



# Vision

1 record finger movements and input while typing

- simple to generate learning data
- complex movement we don't fully predict: (example with B key)
- **BUT FIRST!** let's see who did this already

# Vision

- 1 record finger movements and input while typing
- 2 use machine learning for input prediction

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## Vision

- 1 record finger movements and input while typing
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## Vision

- 1 record finger movements and input while typing
  - 2 use machine learning for input prediction
  - 3 remove keyboard
  - 4 type everywhere

- simple to generate learning data
  - complex movement we don't fully predict: (example with B key)
  - **BUT FIRST!** let's see who did this already

# Related Work

## Sensor Gloves

- gesture detection [5] [19] [8]
  - sign language detection [8] [13]
  - music generation [14]
  - medical applications [3]
- overview at [1]

- flex sensor gloves started 1987

# Related Work

## Alternative Keyboard Inputs

- buttons on glove [12]
- braille gloves [4]
- “The Learning Keyboard” [7] → Kinect



**Figure 1:** The Keyglove - a wearable, wireless, open-source input device

# Related Work

## Commercial Products

- **Gest** [9] (\$ 199, 988 on Kickstarter)
- **Project Virtual Keyboard** [16]
- **Hi5 VR Glove** [10] → VR Gaming



<https://gest.co/>

Figure 2: Gest general purpose interaction wearable



<http://hi5vrglove.com/>

Figure 3: Noitom Hi5 VR Glove

- **gest**
- raised ~200k USD on kickstarter in Oct 2015
- out of business within half a year, no funding
- **senseboard**
- weird project, no information available, no images
- same idea as we did
- **hi5vrglove**
- intended for VR gaming
- very new
- no typing software
- same hardware specs
- **gest at least advertised with keyboard functionality**

# Related Work

## In Research

no research project combines

sensor + keyboard data → machine learning

# Project Goal

Of course we won't build a fully working keyboard in 2 bachelor theses.

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## Goal

Design a system for recording characteristic hand movements of typing and the corresponding input.

Define an approach for utilizing machine learning to map the recorded data back to the keyboard input.

Evaluate the quality of such mapping and discuss whether this principle could be turned into a working keyboard alternative.

# System design

1 Introduction

2 System design

- Desired System Properties
- Sensors
- Microprocessor
- Architecture

3 Machine Learning

4 Experiments

5 Demo

6 Conclusion

# Desired System Properties

- utilizes machine learning
- detects characteristic values
  - fast (goal 100Hz)
  - accurate
  - independent of pose
- non-obstructive
  - flexible
  - wireless
  - light
- software suitable for fast prototyping
- cheap

# Sensors

Possible Choices

## Flex sensors



<https://www.flickr.com/photos/indiamos/3060497602>

- flex sensors
  - only 1 dimensional
  - not suited for horizontal movement
  - only relative data
- Visual system
  - hard to extract characteristic data
  - often inaccurate
  - no freedom gain
- IMUs
  - small, cheap, robust
  - easy to use and understand
  - provide good accuracy high dimensional data
  - capture characteristic movement (ie. yaw AND pitch)
- **6 IMUS, 5 fingers, 1 for reference at back of hand**

Figure 4: Possible types of sensors; *left* resistive flex sensors

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Figure 4: Possible types of sensors; left resistive flex sensors, center Kinect for Xbox 360

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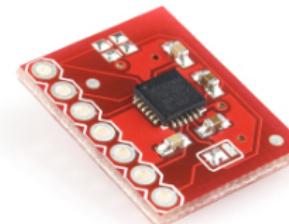
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## IMUs



<https://organicmonkeymotion.wordpress.com/category/propeller/>

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# Sensors

## Inertial Measurement Units (IMUs)

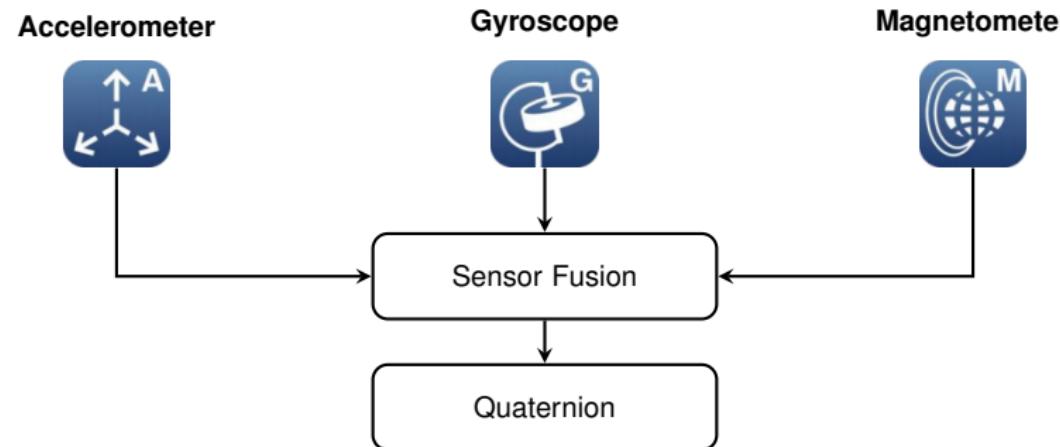
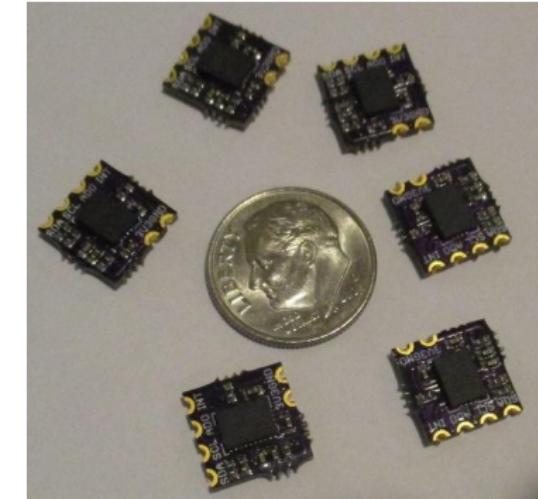


Figure 5: Sensor Fusion Overview

# Sensors

## Wearable BNO055 Nano Board



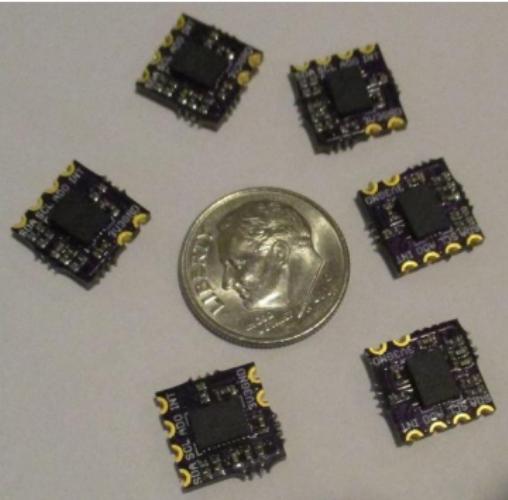
[https://www.tindie.com/products/onehorse/  
wearable-bno055-nano-board/](https://www.tindie.com/products/onehorse/wearable-bno055-nano-board/)

**Figure 6:** Wearable BNO055 Nano  
Board

- we had to choose between MPU-9150 and BNO-055
- both seemed fit
- BNO easier to use
- very small board available
- but more expensive

# Sensors

## Wearable BNO055 Nano Board



- 32 bit System-in-Package
- tiny (10 mm × 10 mm)
- easy to use
- good performance (~100 Hz)

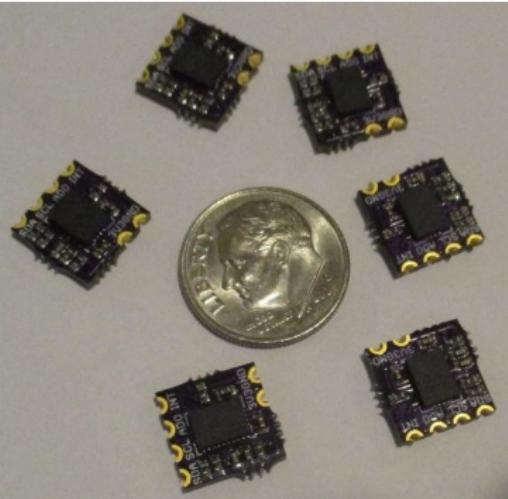
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# Sensors

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however...

- ca. 24€ each
- ships from USA
- gyro clipping problems

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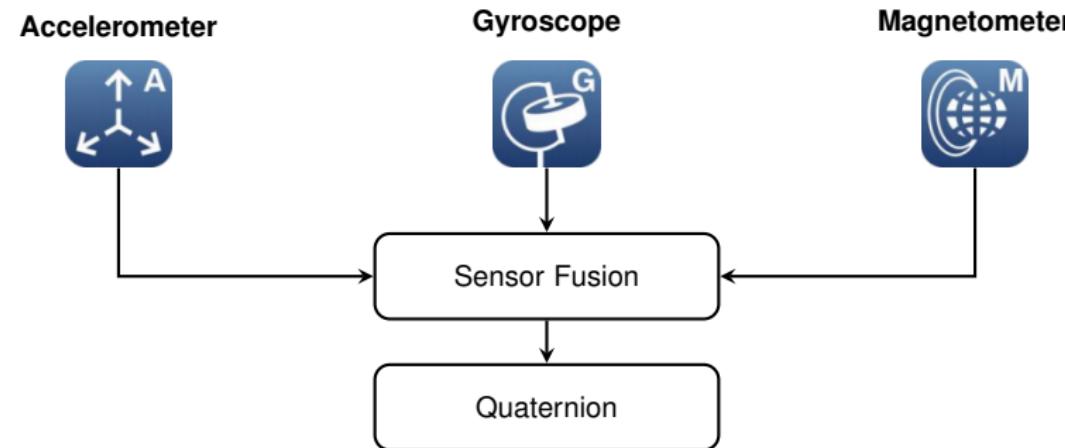


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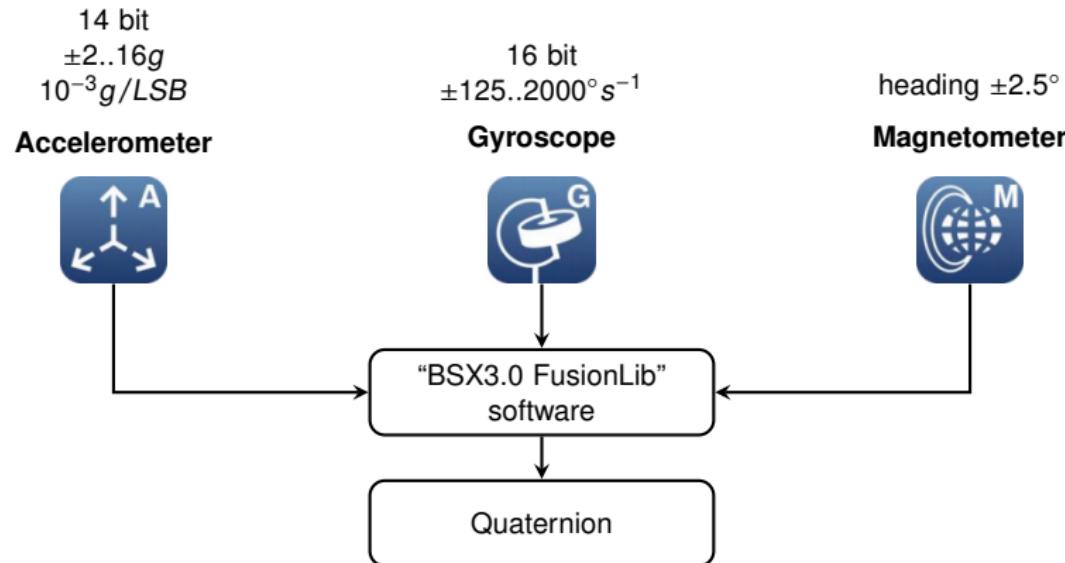
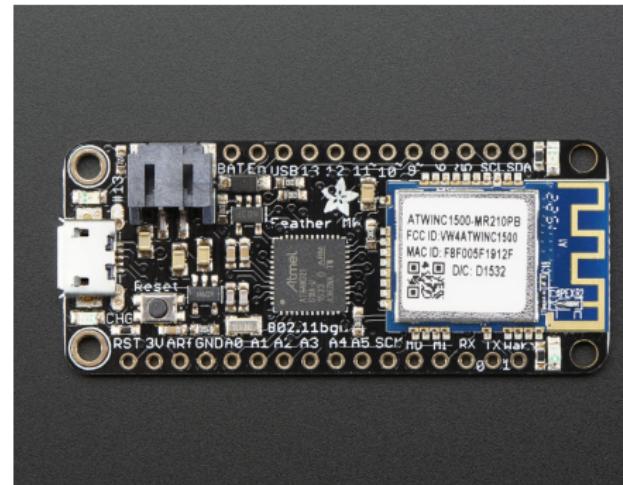


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# Microprocessor

Adafruit Feather M0 WiFi



<https://www.adafruit.com/product/3010>

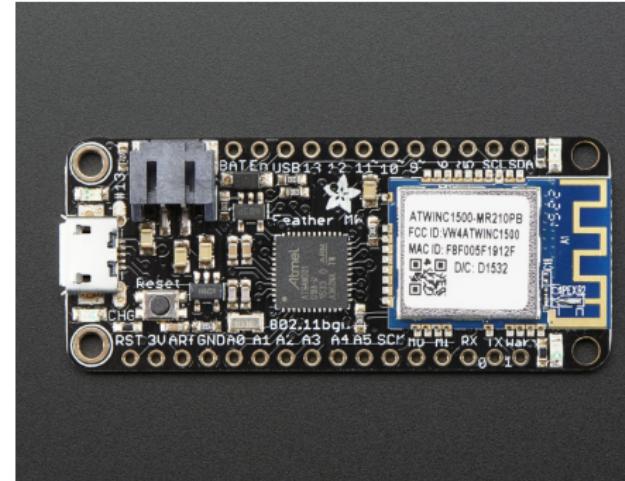
**Figure 7:** Adafruit Feather M0 WiFi - ATSAMD21 + ATWINC1500 product image

- we chose this microprocessor
- alternative was Teensy 3.2, but that had some disadvantages
- small & light → required for hand-attached device
- WiFi → no cable that impedes movement
- enough SERCOMs
- LiPo charger is useful
- we need EEPROM for WiFi credentials → so we attached one ourselves
- more expensive than Teensy

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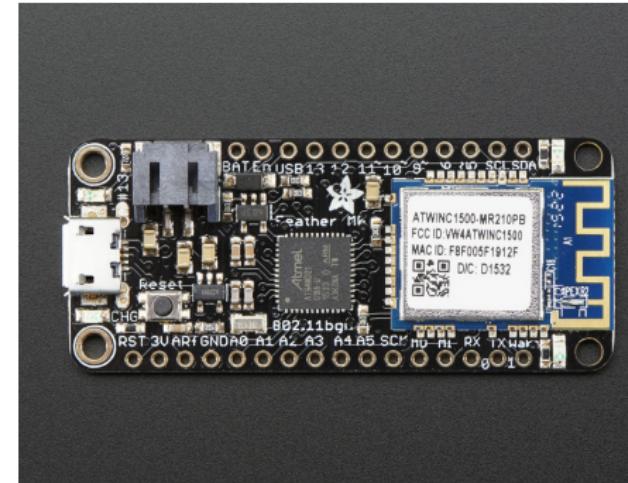
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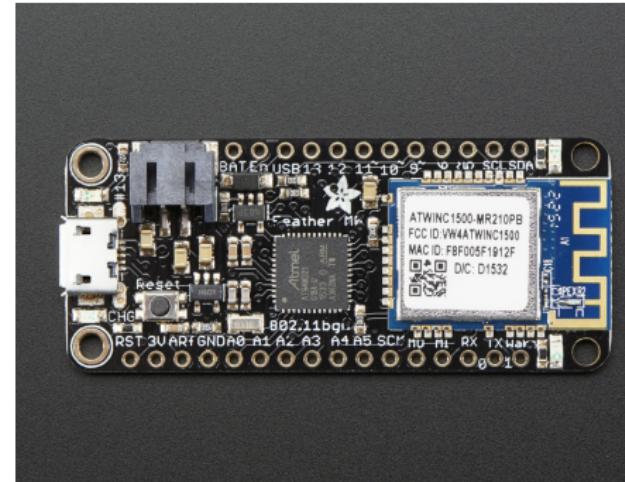
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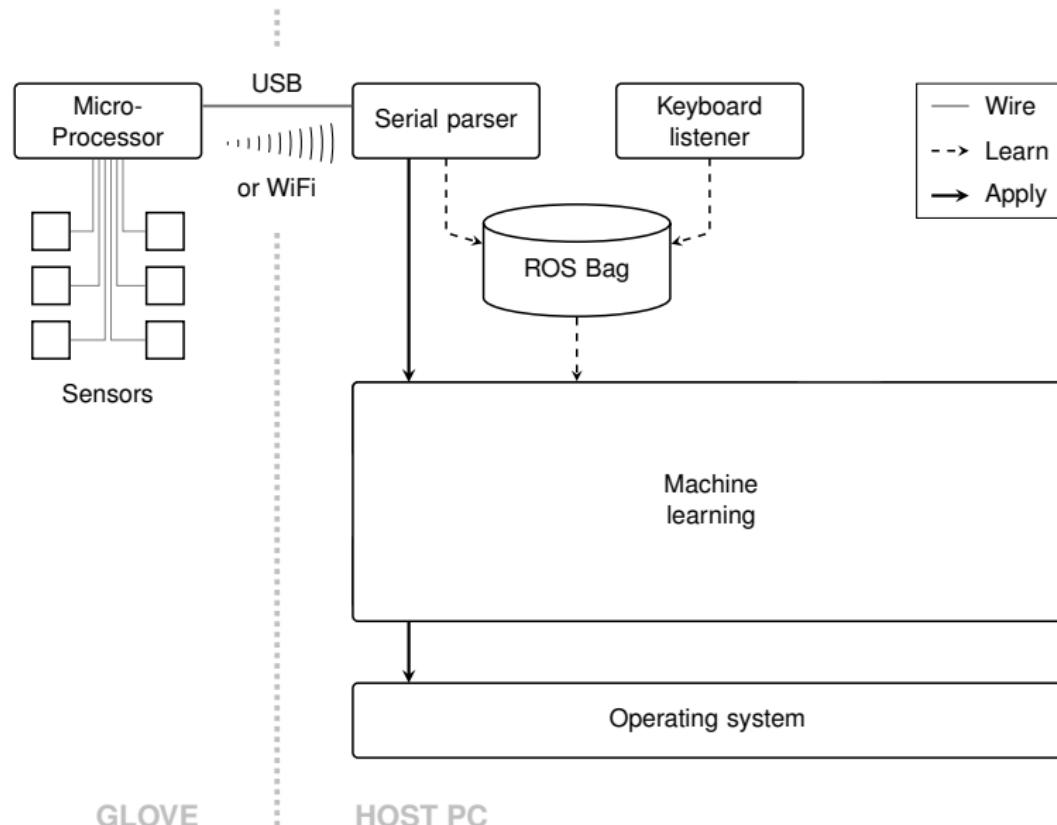


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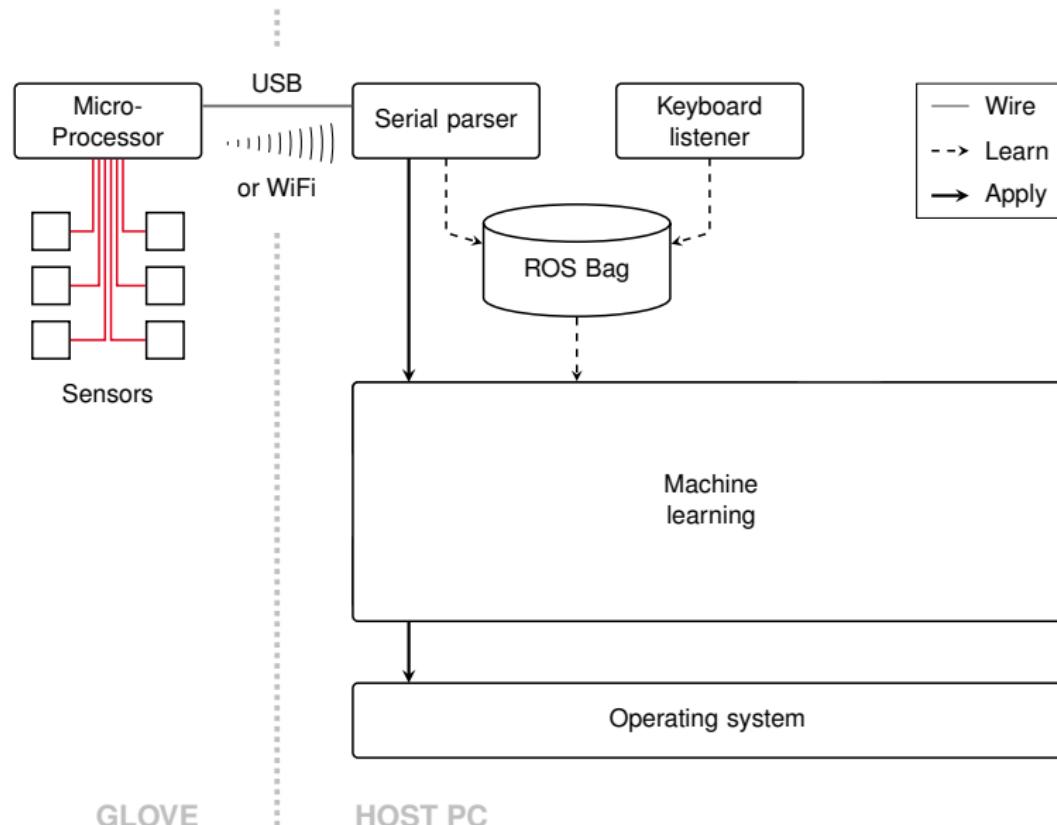
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# Architecture



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# I2C Bus

## Requirements

$$\frac{6 \text{ IMUs}}{2 \frac{\text{addresses}}{\text{IMU}}} = 3 \text{ buses}$$

- these are the available pins for the different SERCOMs on the Feather M0
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0	4	3	1	0	A3	A4	8	9	Serial1
1	11	13	10	12					
2	22		2	5	4	3	1	0	
3	20	21	6*	7*	11	13	10	12	Default I2C
4	22		23*	24*	A1	A2	2	5	SPI
5	A5*		6	7	20	21			Debug Port

\* need to be configured as SERCOM alt

**Table 1:** Available SERCOM pin pads on Adafruit Feather M0 WiFi

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# I2C Bus

## Arduino Setup

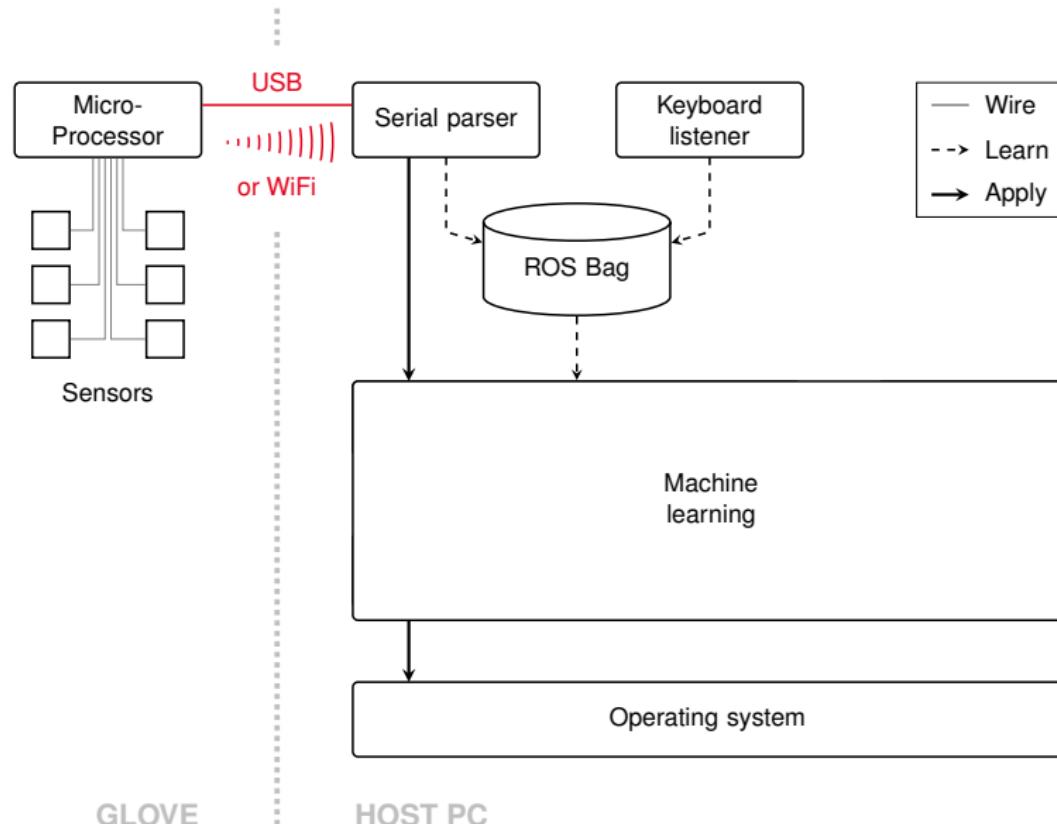
```
#include <Wire.h>
#include <wiring_private.h>

TwoWire wire0(&sercom0, A3, A4);
TwoWire wire1(&sercom3, 11, 13);
TwoWire wire2(&sercom5, 20, 21);

void setup() {
    wire0.begin(); wire0.setClock(400000L);
    wire1.begin(); wire1.setClock(400000L);
    wire2.begin(); wire2.setClock(400000L);
    delay(100);

    pinPeripheral(A3, PIO_SERCOM_ALT); // SERCOM0.0 (alt)
    pinPeripheral(A4, PIO_SERCOM_ALT); // SERCOM0.1 (alt)
    pinPeripheral(11, PIO_SERCOM_ALT); // SERCOM3.0 (alt)
    pinPeripheral(13, PIO_SERCOM_ALT); // SERCOM3.1 (alt)
    pinPeripheral(20, PIO_SERCOM_ALT); // SERCOM5.0 (alt)
    pinPeripheral(21, PIO_SERCOM_ALT); // SERCOM5.1 (alt)
}
```

# Glove $\leftrightarrow$ PC connection



# Glove ↔ PC Connection

## WiFi

### Capabilities

- WEP & WPA2
- Scan networks
- UDP, TCP, SSL
- HTTP Client
- HTTP Server

```
// Setup
WiFi.setPins(8, 7, 4, 2);
WiFi.begin();

// Scan for networks (optional)
uint8_t ssidCount = WiFi.scanNetworks();
for (uint8_t i = 0; i < ssidCount; i++) {
    printf("- %s\n", WiFi.SSID(i));
}

// Connect to WPA2 network
uint8_t status = WiFi.begin(MY_SSID, MY_PASSWORD);
while (status != WL_CONNECTED) {
    delay(500);
    status = WiFi.status();
}

// Send data via UDP
WiFiUDP wifiUdp;
wifiUdp.begin(8080);
wifiUdp.beginPacket(TARGET_IP, TARGET_PORT);
wifiUdp.write(buffer, length);
wifiUdp.endPacket();
```

# System design

## Other Considerations

- serial protocol for data transmission
- attachment to the hand
- use ROS for recording & data analysis

# Machine Learning

1 Introduction

2 System design

**3 Machine Learning**

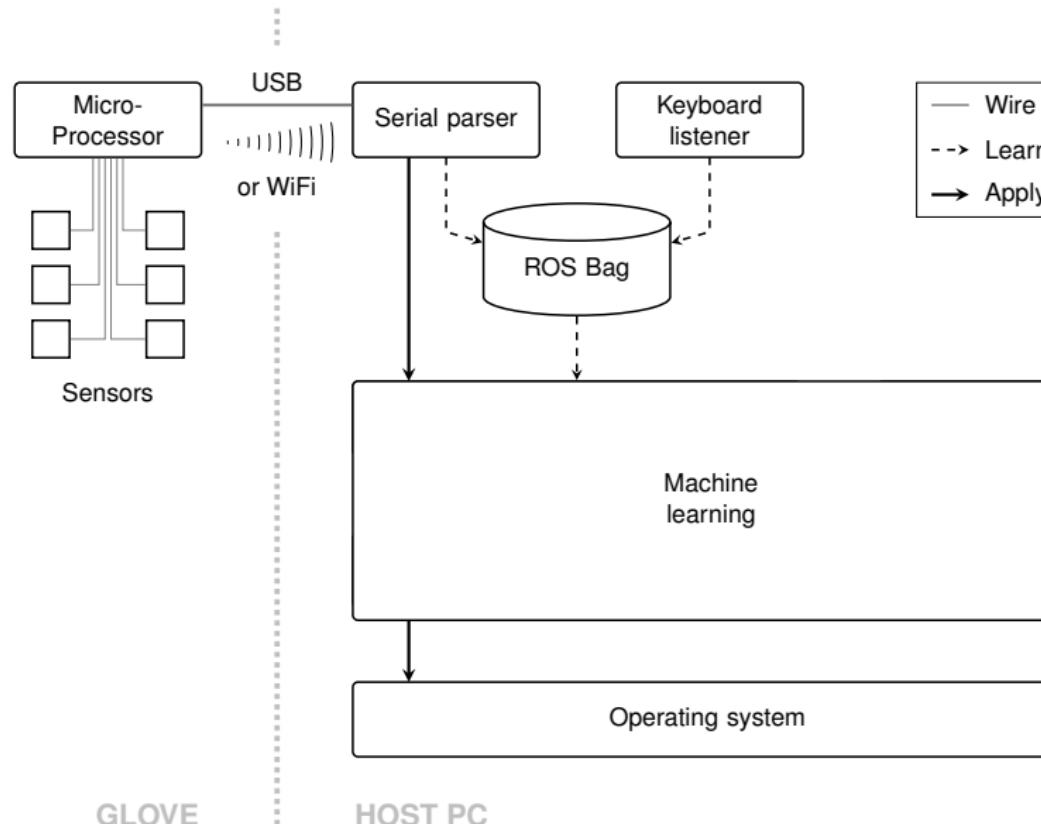
- Introduction
- Neural Networks
- Recurrent Neural Networks
- Problems
- Convolutional Neural Networks
- Evaluating Predictions

4 Experiments

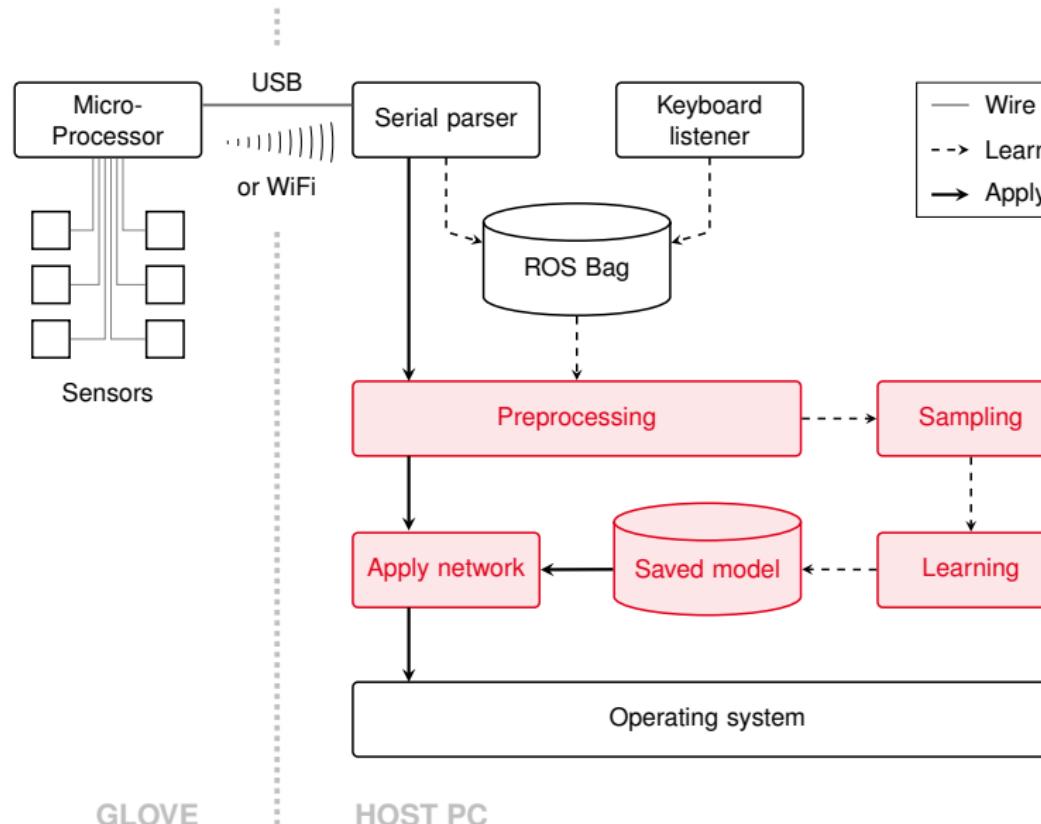
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# Machine Learning



# Machine Learning



# Introduction

## Supervised and Unsupervised learning

	Supervised	Unsupervised
Learning Data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• input X</li><li>• target values Y</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• input X</li></ul>
What is learned	mapping function $Y \approx f(X)$	model of data structure
Examples	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• classification</li><li>• regression</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• clustering</li><li>• association</li></ul>

- warum machine learning (und nicht vorgegebene gesten erkennen)
- supervised unsupervised
- vorteile/ nachteile
- warum supervised

# Neural Networks

Strengths and Weaknesses [18]

## Pros

- general-purpose
- many variations
- fast to apply once learned
- able to detect complex relationships

## Cons

- requires large dataset
- blackbox<sup>1</sup>, difficult to “understand”
- slow to learn
- can overfit

- ARE general-purpose
- easily generate data
- not important how (we dont know movement of fingers)
- tradeoff: complex calculation <-> data needed to learn
- bridge: NN we were interested in

---

<sup>1</sup>there are some rule-extraction algorithms [17]

# Recurrent Neural Networks

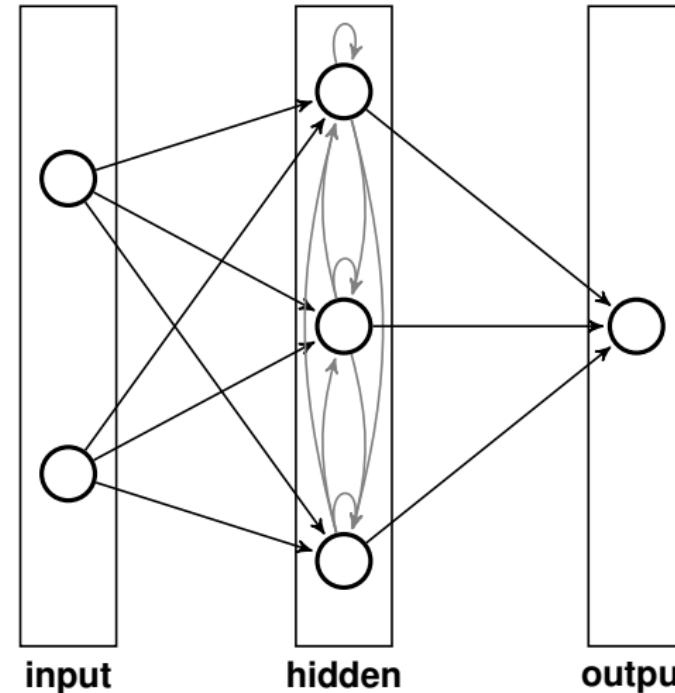


Figure 8: Simplified Recurrent Network

- sequences of data, not necessarily same length
- dependencies between data
- ie handwriting, language recognition, driverless cars, accident prediction
- forecast
- Aufbau
- Vanishing Gradient Problem

# Problems

Vanishing Gradient Problem (Hochreiter [11])

## Problem

Deep networks require a lot of training

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Vanishing Gradient Problem (Hochreiter [11])

## Problem

Deep networks require a lot of training

- during backpropagation, error is lost with each layer
- first layers receive slowest updates
- unrolled RNNs are very deep

# Problems

Imbalanced Data

## Problem

Only 2% of our samples are keystrokes (positive class)

- fast!
- Problems with RNN!
- oversampling, undersampling
- penalize choosing neg class wrongly
- for theoretical math problems
- SOLUTION: not RNN
- **Look at actual data**

# Problems

Imbalanced Data

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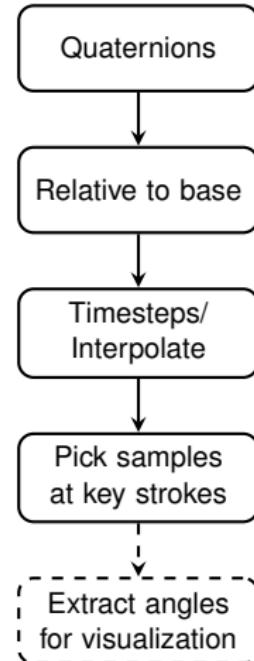
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## Possible solutions [2]

- gather lots of data and train a lot
- resampling
- penalize
- generate synthetic data

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- penalize choosing neg class wrongly
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- SOLUTION: not RNN
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# Preprocessing and Sampling



## 1. Quat:

- absolute orientation (heading north)
- goal: independent of direction
- solution: use relative quaternions (handbase)
- hand relative to moving average
- 

$$q_{rel} = q_{abs} \cdot \text{inv}(q_{abs.parent})$$

## 2. interpolate

- fixed timesteps
- need all imu data

## 3. sampling

- time 0 : keystroke
- 8 timesteps before + after
- visualization: many keystrokes, angles **yaw, pitch**
- acceleration (linear acceleration)
- gyroscope (angular velocity (rotate speed))
- (spherical) linear interpolation → see next slide

# Preprocessing and Sampling

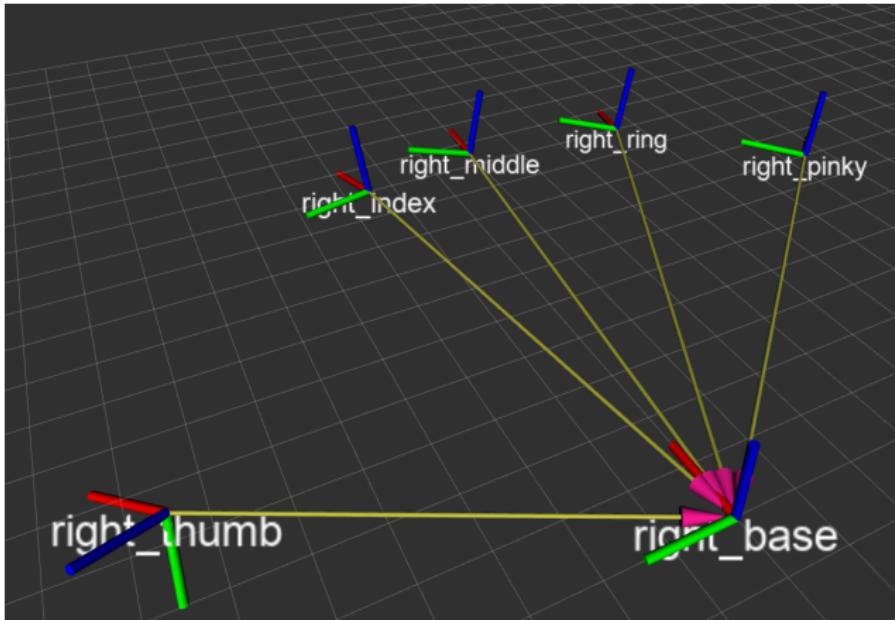
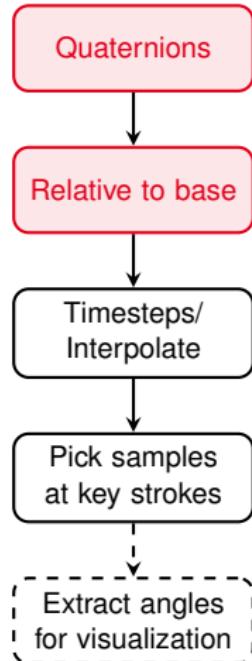


Figure 9: Visualization of relative quaternion rotations, idle pose

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# Preprocessing and Sampling

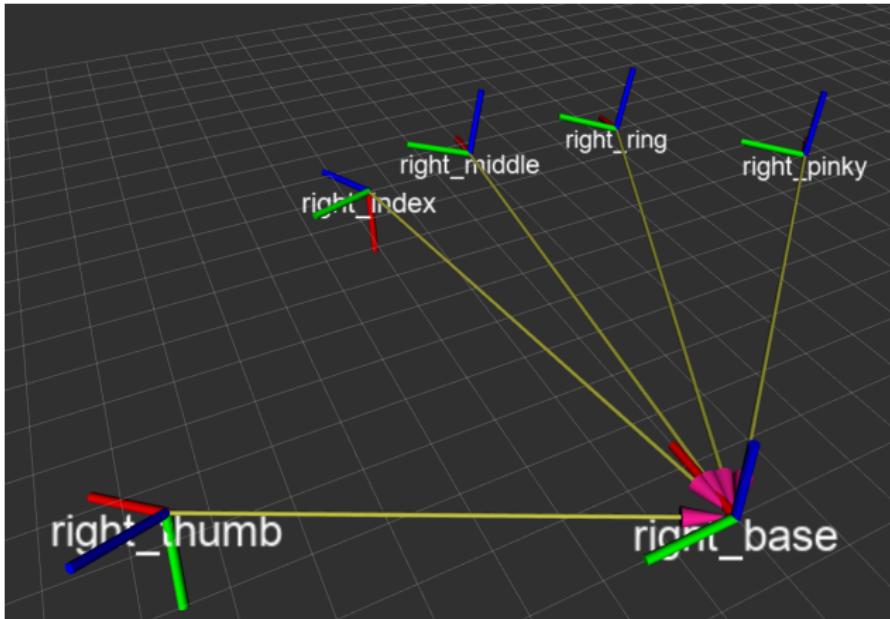
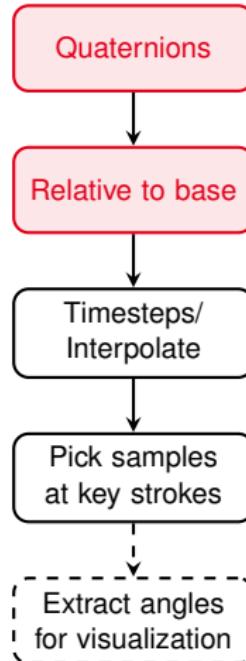


Figure 10: Visualization of relative quaternion rotations, index finger bent

## 1. Quat:

- absolute orientation (heading north)
- goal: independent of direction
- solution: use relative quaternions (handbase)
- hand relative to moving average
- 

$$q_{rel} = q_{abs} \cdot \text{inv}(q_{abs.parent})$$

## 2. interpolate

- fixed timesteps
- need all imu data

## 3. sampling

- time 0 : keystroke
- 8 timesteps before + after
- visualization: many keystrokes, angles **yaw**, **pitch**
- acceleration (linear acceleration)
- gyroscope (angular velocity (rotate speed))
- (spherical) linear interpolation → see next slide

# Preprocessing and Sampling

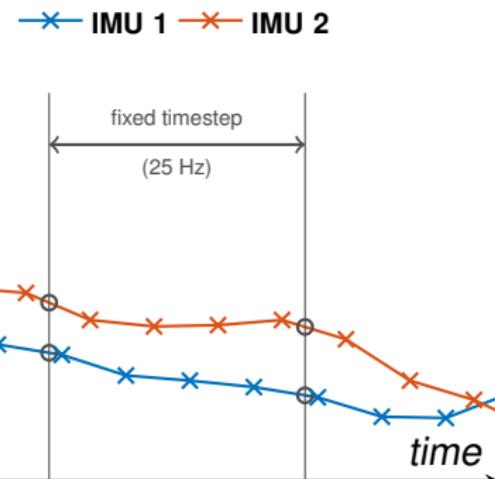
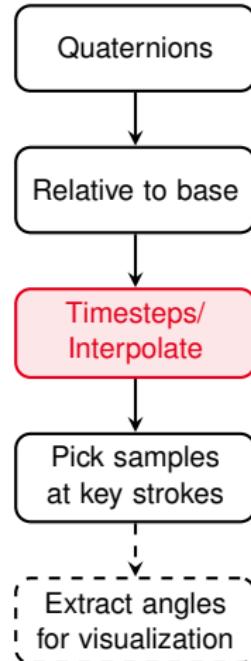


Figure 11: Interpolation of the IMU data (simplified)

## 1. Quat:

- absolute orientation (heading north)
- goal: independent of direction
- solution: use relative quaternions (handbase)
- hand relative to moving average
- 

$$q_{rel} = q_{abs} \cdot \text{inv}(q_{abs.parent})$$

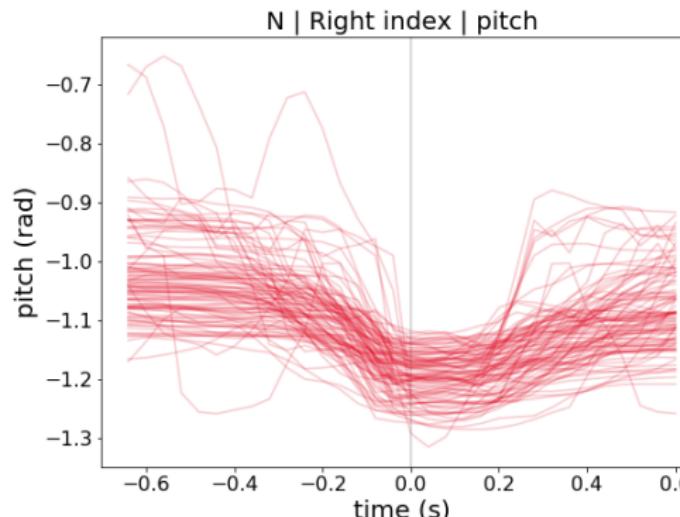
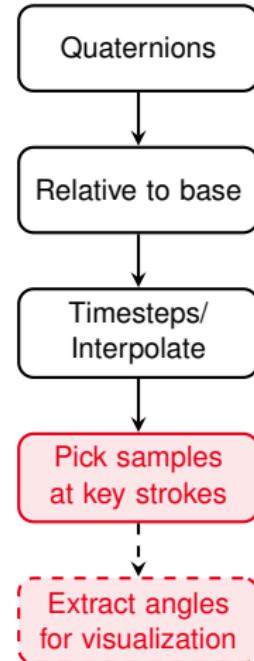
## 2. interpolate

- fixed timesteps
- need all imu data

## 3. sampling

- time 0 : keystroke
- 8 timesteps before + after
- visualization: many keystrokes, angles **yaw**, **pitch**
- acceleration (linear acceleration)
- gyroscope (angular velocity (rotate speed))
- (spherical) linear interpolation → see next slide

# Preprocessing and Sampling



**Figure 12:** Multiple repetitions of the N key stroke, overlaid at the moment of pressing the key (center line); value plotted is extracted relative pitch angle of right index finger.

## 1. Quat:

- absolute orientation (heading north)
- goal: independent of direction
- solution: use relative quaternions (handbase)
- hand relative to moving average
- 

$$q_{rel} = q_{abs} \cdot \text{inv}(q_{abs.parent})$$

## 2. interpolate

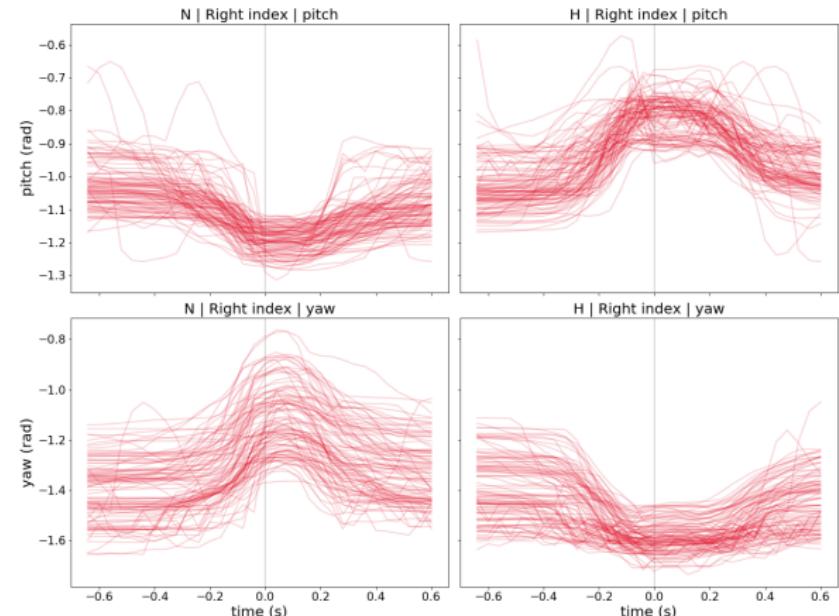
- fixed timesteps
- need all imu data

## 3. sampling

- time 0 : keystroke
- 8 timesteps before + after
- visualization: many keystrokes, angles **yaw**, **pitch**
- acceleration (linear acceleration)
- gyroscope (angular velocity (rotate speed))
- (spherical) linear interpolation → see next slide

# Preprocessing and Sampling

## Real Preprocessed Data



**Figure 14:** Multiple repetitions of N (left) and H (right) key strokes, overlaid at the moment of pressing the key (center line); value plotted is extracted relative pitch (top)/yaw (bottom) angles of right index finger.

- we tried to visualize what we got
- 1 finger, left: N, right: H
- Quaternion: yaw, pitch
  - quat is enough, acc and gyro data can be used additionally → requires more training
  - finger cant roll relative to hand → no roll necessary (only hand)
- actual moment of keystroke!
- hill, valley!
- visibly different → detectable!!

# Convolutional Neural Networks

## Convolution and Pooling

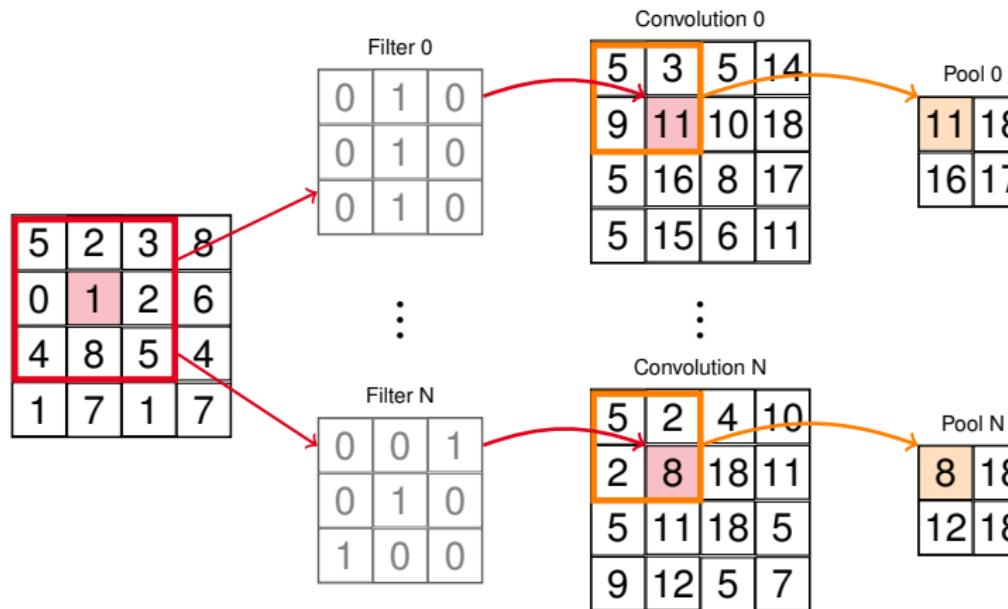


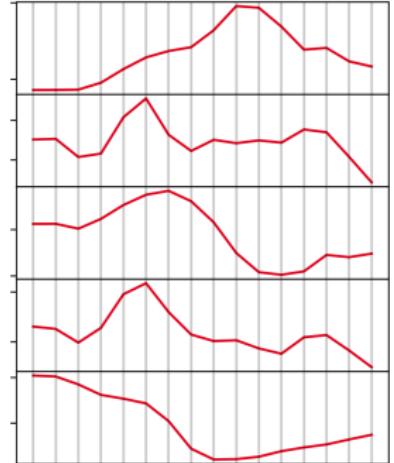
Figure 15: Feature Extraction with CNN

- convolute (element wise multiplication)
- pool (max)
- filters (50)
- 3 x 3 x 50
- convolute, pool..
- fully connected layer as classifier

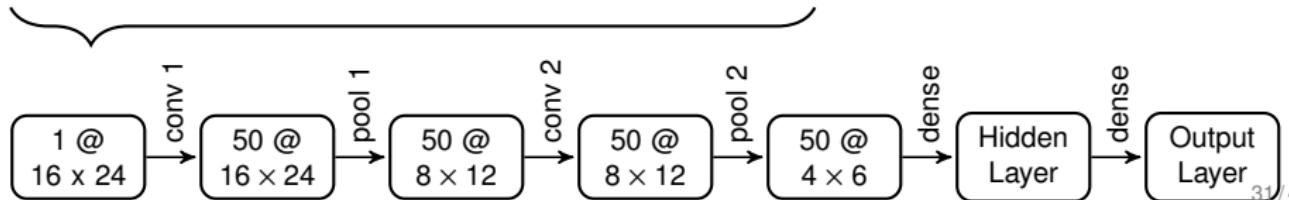
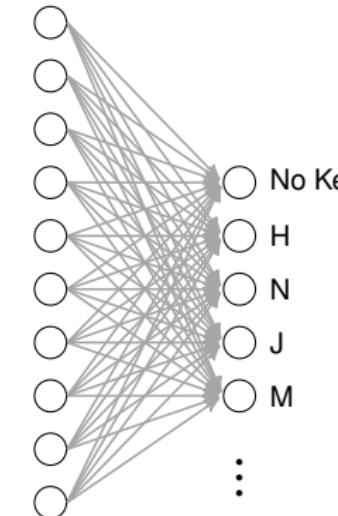
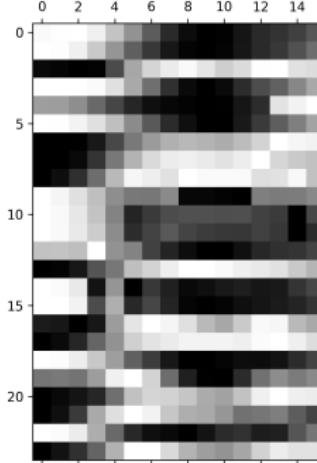
# Convolutional Neural Networks

## Our Implementation

16 timesteps



6 IMUs, 4 values each



- each key has same amount of samples
- one sample = one keystroke
- filter randomly initialized
- filter are learned!
- matrix with numbers instead of color scheme
- 2 x convolute and pooling
- MSE:  $(1/n) * \sum_{n=0}^N (pred - act)^2$

# Experiments

1 Introduction

2 System design

3 Machine Learning

## 4 Experiments

- Phase 0 – Pipeline Setup
- Phase 1 – Slow Single Finger
- Phase 2 – Slow Multiple Fingers
- Phase 3 – Fast Typing

5 Demo

6 Conclusion

# Phase 0 – Pipeline Setup

```
imu_ids: [0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5]
key_codes: [21, 22, 23, 34, ...]
sequence_length: 16
```

```
epochs: 0 //infinite
learning_rate: 0.002
batch_size: 100
sampling_rate: 25
```

```
network_type: cnn2d
cost_function: mse
```

```
convolution_n_filters: 50
convolution_filter_size: [3, 3]
convolution_n_pairs: 2
convolution_arr_dense: [10]
```

- easily adjustable
- repeatable experiments

- Theano is a scientific mathematical library
  - large scale calculations
  - often numpy arrays
- Lasagne is a ML-Framework based on Theano
  - focused on Neural Networks

Figure 16: Example of a configuration file (truncated)

# Phase 1 – Slow Single Finger

## Overview

1 finger, 2 keys

- index finger moving between N, H
- pauses
- mostly detect pressed N
- always ignore H

# Phase 1 – Slow Single Finger

## Overview

1 finger, 2 keys

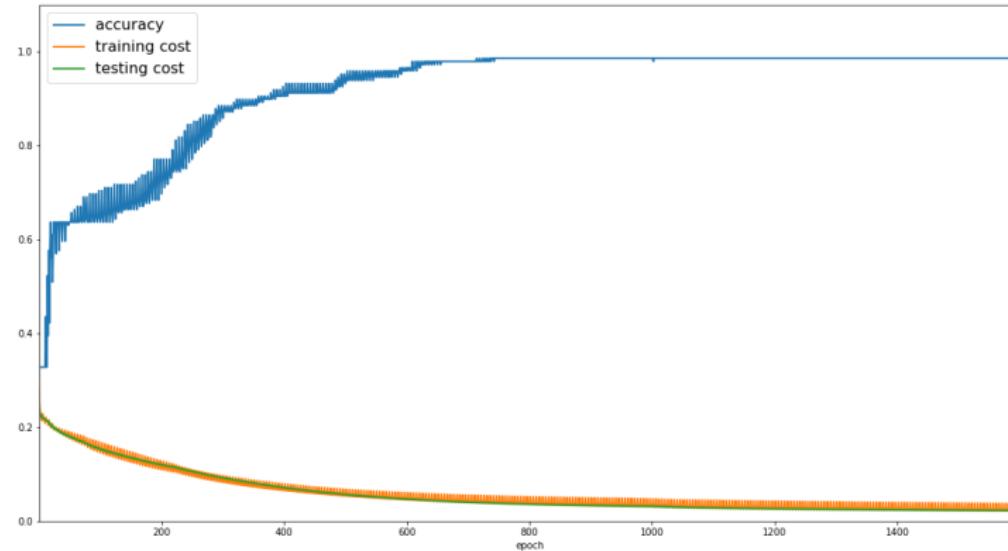
- index finger moving between N, H
- pauses
- mostly detect pressed N
- always ignore H

## Goals:

- detect keystrokes, ignore idle pose
- distinguish between close keys
- evaluate the configuration of the CNN

# Phase 1 – Slow Single Finger

## Accuracy and Cost Function



- 1600 epochs
- accuracy: amount of correctly classified samples
- 1 epoch: 1 batch
- 1 batch: 100 samples
- 1 sample: 1 keystroke or nokey: 16 timesteps

Figure 17: Test results in the first 1600 epochs of learning phase 2

# Phase 2 – Slow Multiple Finger

## Overview

3 fingers, 10 keys

# Phase 2 – Slow Multiple Finger

## Overview

3 fingers, 10 keys

Goals:

- distinguish between fingers
- handle hand movement

# Phase 2 – Slow Multiple Fingers

## Accuracy and Cost Function

- over 160000 epochs → much more epochs necessary
- accuracy only near 70%

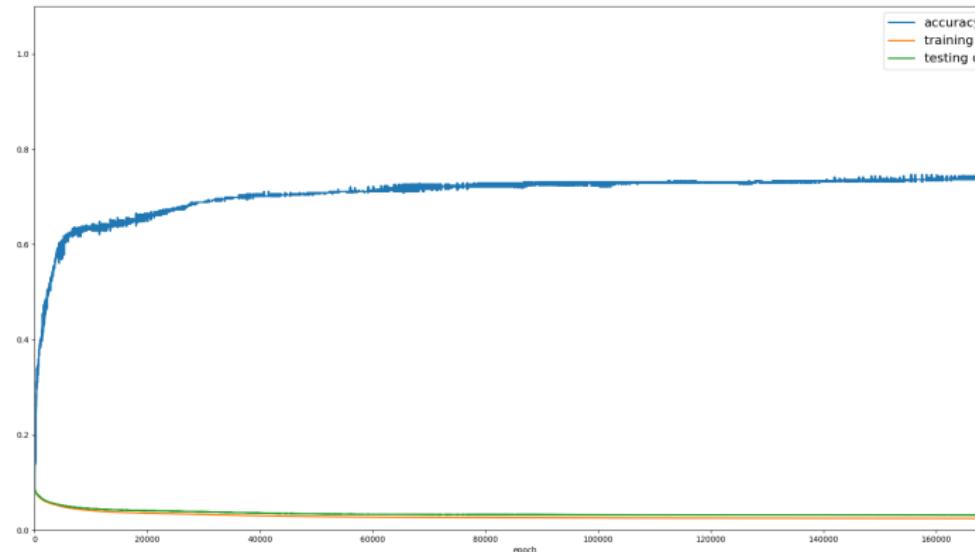


Figure 18: Test results in the first 160000 epochs of learning phase 2

# Phase 2 – Slow Multiple Fingers

## Evaluation of Predictions

		Predicted									
		no key	U	I	G	H	J	B	N	M	SPC
Actual	no key	0	13	5	9	5	121	2	6	3	0
	U	0	175	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	I	0	1	167	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	G	0	0	0	181	0	0	0	0	0	0
	H	0	1	5	0	1	169	0	0	0	0
	J	0	0	1	0	1	215	0	3	0	0
	B	0	0	0	0	0	0	167	0	0	0
	N	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	180	0	0
	M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	190	0
	SPC	0	0	0	0	4	178	1	0	0	0

- left : actual, right: predicted
- wrong classified:
  - no key as j
  - h as j
  - space as j
- apple keyboard doesn't need much finger movement to press key
- → mechanical keyboard??!
- additional stuff:
  - recall precision needs to be balanced (→ imbalanced data!!)
  - recall: RECALL :D avoid FN!
  - precision: avoid FP
  - accuracy: TP / ALL
  - recall: TP/ TP + FN how many relevant items (TP + FN) are selected
  - precision: TP/ TP + FP how many selected items are relevant

Figure 19: Confusion matrix[15]. From this we calculate the accuracy and per key recall & precision [6]

# Phase 3 – Fast Typing

Overview

5 fingers, 27 keys

- future (we did not do this yet)
- next step: online learning
- modification of movements

# Phase 3 – Fast Typing

Overview

5 fingers, 27 keys

Goals:

- recognizing every righthand key stroke
- achieve high accuracy
- learn a robust model
- fluent typing

- future (we did not do this yet)
- next step: online learning
- modification of movements

# Demo

- 1 Introduction
- 2 System design
- 3 Machine Learning
- 4 Experiments
- 5 Demo
- 6 Conclusion

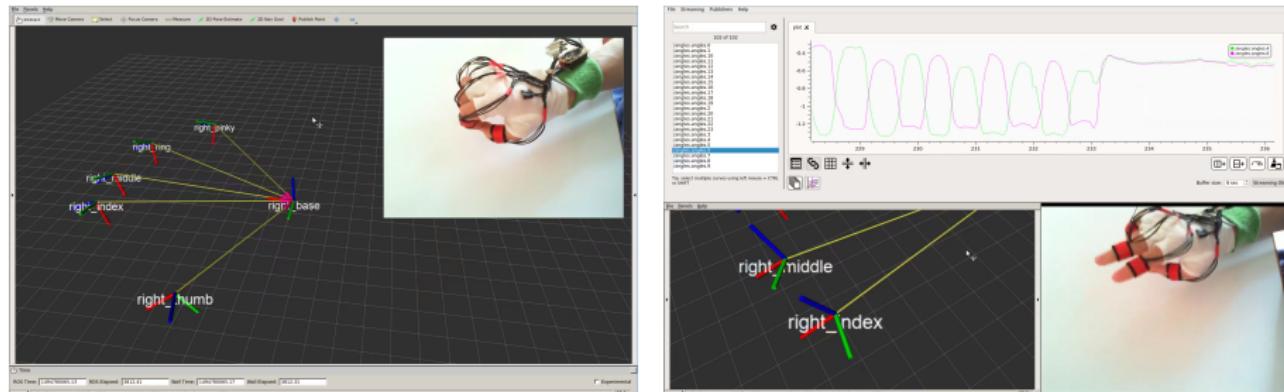
# Demo

## The Glove



# Demo

Backup Videos



# Conclusion

1 Introduction

2 System design

3 Machine Learning

4 Experiments

5 Demo

6 Conclusion

- Results
- Outlook

# Results System Design

## Goal (Reminder)

Design a system for recording characteristic hand movements of typing and the corresponding input.

# Results System Design

## Goal (Reminder)

Design a system for recording characteristic hand movements of typing and the corresponding input.

### Successes

- the architecture proved suitable
- the glove is non-obstructive
- performance is good enough for a prototype

### Improvements

- gyro clipping
- single robust glove
- generalization to different hand types

# Results Machine Learning

## Goal (Reminder)

Define an approach for utilizing machine learning to map the recorded data back to the keyboard input.

- fscore, recall, precision
- delay
  - keystroke in middle
  - 8 timesteps before and after
- learn on more data (accel, gyro..)
  - learn more about hand position not only orientation

# Results Machine Learning

## Goal (Reminder)

Define an approach for utilizing machine learning to map the recorded data back to the keyboard input.

- fscore, recall, precision
- delay
  - keystroke in middle
  - 8 timesteps before and after
- learn on more data (accel, gyro..)
  - learn more about hand position not only orientation

## Successes

- slow typing can be distinguished
- preprocessing helps the learning progress
- CNNs can distinguish between different keys

## Improvements

- better accuracy
- reduce delay
- detect holding a key
- detect different modes  
→(non-)writing position

# Outlook

## Goal (Reminder)

Evaluate the quality of such mapping and discuss whether this principle could be turned into a working keyboard alternative.

# Outlook

## Goal (Reminder)

Evaluate the quality of such mapping and discuss whether this principle could be turned into a working keyboard alternative.

- reduce delay, remove lookaheads
- increase prediction quality
- two hands
- generalize glove & model
- implement online learning
- better hand pose reconstruction for more use cases

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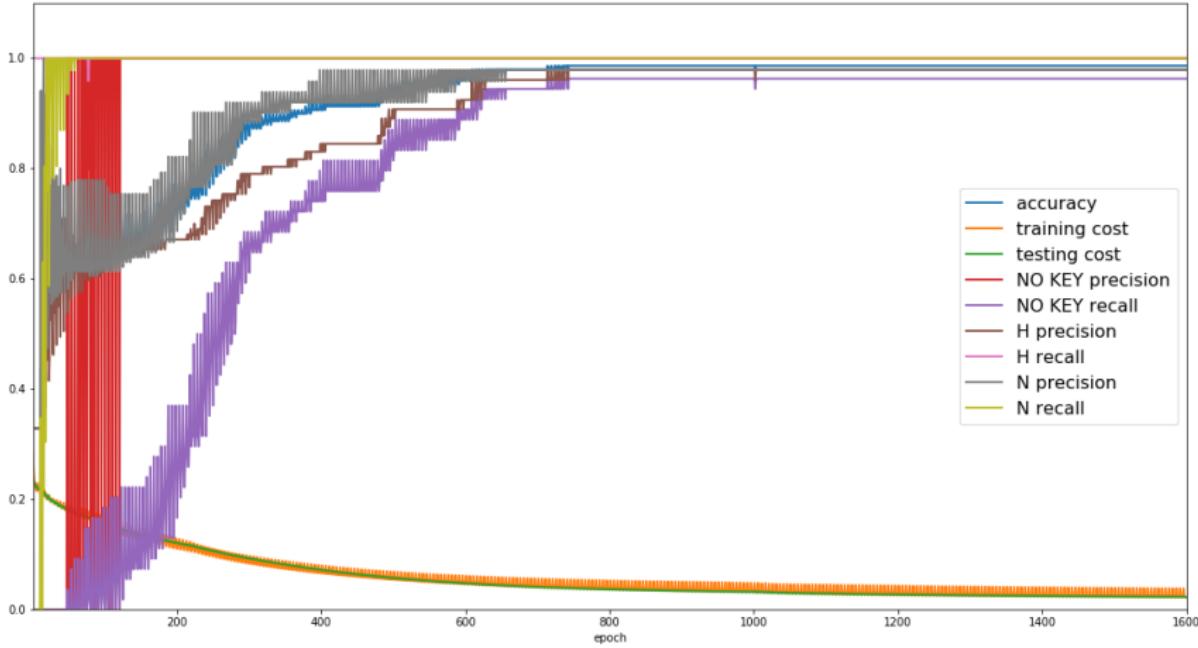
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**Figure 20:** Performance metrics of phase 1, including per key precision and recall