

PROJECT REPORT

Hand Gesture Switch Control

1. Introduction

TinyML (Tiny Machine Learning) refers to running lightweight machine learning or intelligent algorithms on low-power edge devices such as microcontrollers and embedded systems.

In this project, we developed a **real-time hand gesture recognition system** using pure OpenCV techniques without heavy deep learning models. The system detects hand gestures through contour detection and convex hull analysis.

The system can be deployed on:

- Raspberry Pi
 - Edge AI devices
 - Low-power embedded systems
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2. Problem Statement

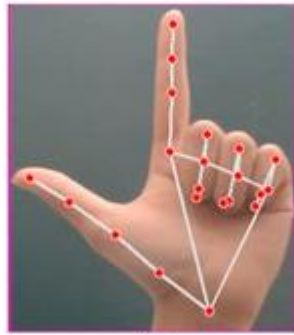
To design a lightweight, real-time gesture recognition system that:

- Works without cloud processing
 - Requires minimal computational resources
 - Can be deployed on edge devices
 - Controls virtual outputs (Light ON / OFF)
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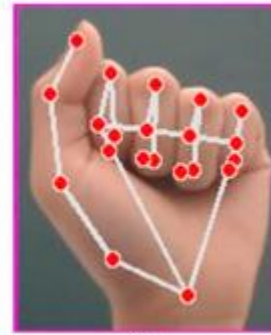
3. System Architecture



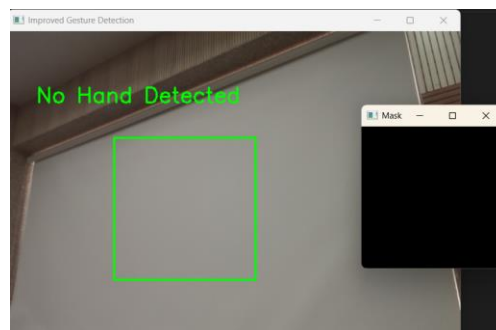
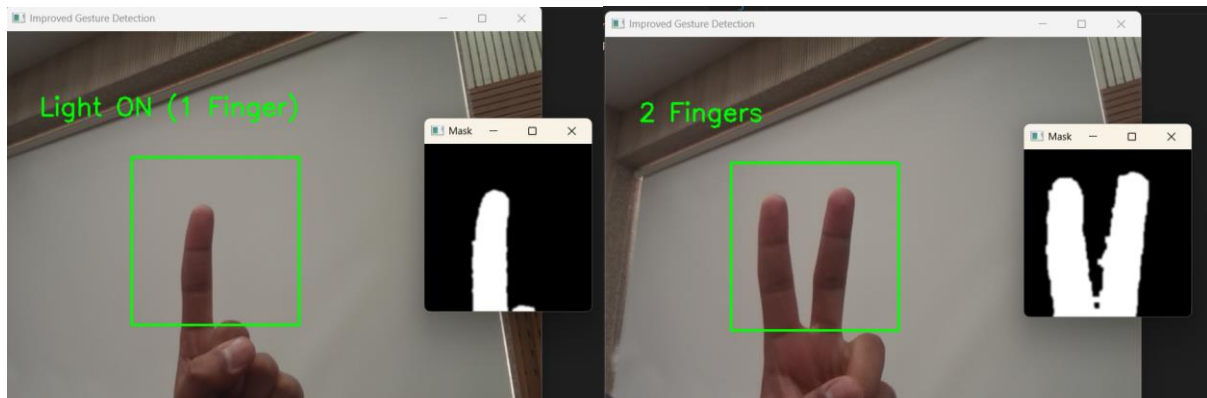
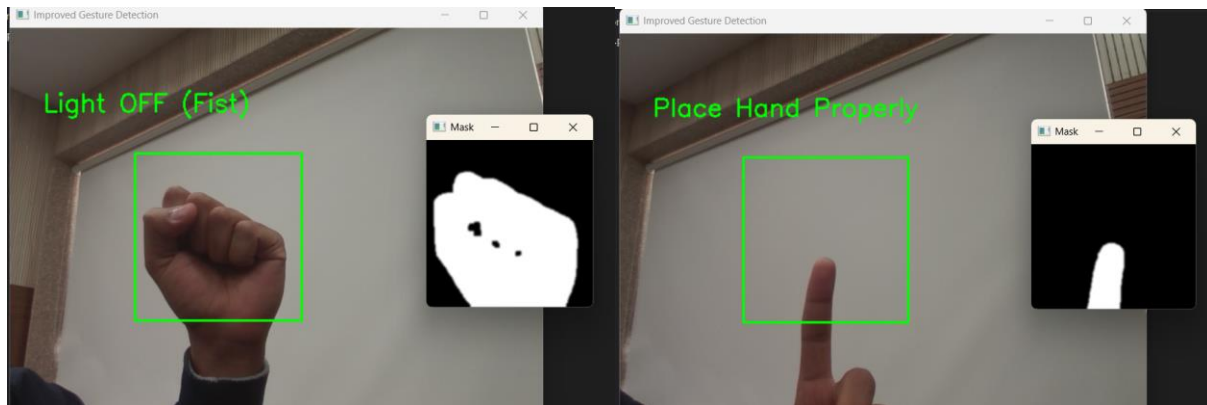
(a)



(b)



(c)



4. System Flow:

1. Capture live video
 2. Define Region of Interest (ROI)
 3. Convert to YCrCb color space
 4. Skin detection
 5. Noise filtering
 6. Contour detection
 7. Convex hull & defect analysis
 8. Finger counting
 9. Output decision
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5. Methodology

◆ Step 1: ROI Selection

A smaller green box is defined to reduce background noise and improve detection accuracy.

◆ Step 2: Skin Detection

The image is converted to **YCrCb color space**, which provides better skin segmentation than HSV.

◆ Step 3: Noise Removal

Morphological operations:

- Closing
- Opening
- Gaussian Blur

are applied to remove small noise particles.

◆ Step 4: Contour Detection

The largest contour inside ROI is assumed to be the hand.

◆ Step 5: Convex Hull & Defects

Convex hull is calculated.

Convexity defects between fingers are used to count finger gaps.

◆ Step 6: Special Case Handling




Single finger detection is handled using bounding rectangle height/width ratio.

6. Algorithm

1. Capture frame
 2. Extract ROI
 3. Convert ROI to YCrCb
 4. Apply skin threshold
 5. Apply morphology operations
 6. Detect contours
 7. If area > threshold
 - Compute convex hull
 - Compute defects
 - Count fingers
 8. Display result
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7. Results

Observed Outputs:

Gesture	Output
 Fist	Light OFF
 One Finger	Light ON
 Two Fingers	2 Fingers
 Open Hand	5 Fingers

System works accurately under proper lighting and simple background conditions.

8. Advantages

- Lightweight (No Deep Learning required)
 - Real-time performance
 - Edge deployable
 - Low computational cost
 - Python 3.12 compatible
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9. Limitations

- Sensitive to lighting conditions
 - Skin tone variation may affect detection
 - Background should be plain
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10. Applications

- Smart home control
 - Touchless interfaces
 - Robotics control
 - Assistive technology
 - Industrial automation
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11. Future Scope

- Convert to TensorFlow Lite model
- Deploy on ESP32-S3

- Add gesture classification using ML
 - Add adaptive skin calibration
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