

Hazard Analysis Mechatronics

Team #20, OpenASL
Robert Zhu zhul49
Zifan Meng mengz17
Jiahui Chen chenj194
Kelvin Huynh huynhk12
Runze Zhu zhur25
Mirza Nafi Hasan hasanm21

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Contents

1	Introduction	4
2	Scope and Purpose	4
3	System Boundaries	4
4	Definition of Hazard	4
5	Critical Assumptions	4
6	Failure Modes and Effects Analysis	4
6.1	Hazards Out of Scope	4
6.2	Failure Modes and Effects Analysis Table	5
7	Requirements	7
7.1	Hardware Requirement	7
7.2	Environment Requirement	7
7.3	Machine Learning Requirement	7
7.4	Script Requirement	8
8	Roadmap	8

Revision History

Table 1: Revision History

Date	Developer(s)	Change
Oct 19, 2022	Everyone	Initial version
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1 Introduction

This document is a hazard analysis of Group 20's ASL Translator. The ASL Translator is a real-time sign language translation device intended to aid individuals who are hard of hearing in day to day communication tasks. This device may also be used for the purpose of facilitating the learning of sign language in an educational setting.

2 Scope and Purpose

The purpose of this document is to identify hazards that may occur when using the ASL Translator specifically in the components, their causes and consequences on user operation, hazard mitigation, and their respective requirements.

3 System Boundaries

The device being referred to in the hazard analysis consists of the following components:

1. A Raspberry Pi
2. A camera
3. A machine learning model for ASL
4. A hand tracking script

The system boundaries include the raspberry pi, its machine learning model and hand tracking script, and the camera. Despite the choice of raspberry pi model and camera model being influenced by the user and out of control of the developers, it is important to include these components as they are core to the system's operation. Therefore, a hazard analysis on these components will still be included.

4 Definition of Hazard

The definition of a hazard is based on the definition from Nancy Leveson's work. A hazard is a property or condition in the system along with a condition in the environment that results in a loss. A hazard is anything that can cause our system to function incorrectly, or not function at all. In the ASL Translator, there exists only hazards that affect the proper and intended operation of the device.

5 Critical Assumptions

At this time, there are no critical assumptions to be made.

6 Failure Modes and Effects Analysis

The hazard analysis tool being used is the Failure Modes and Effects Analysis (FMEA). This will enable hazard identification and analysis such that additional safety requirements can be created and considered in the implementation of the project.

6.1 Hazards Out of Scope

The out of scope hazards for our project is primarily based on the user's decision. This is because we do not have control over the following:

- The camera that is to be used in conjunction with the system
- The Raspberry Pi model and microSD card capacity being used

Both components listed above are essential to the functionality of the system. However, there is no enforcement on these aspects as the user may prefer something less costly or more costly. The user's decision towards these components may vary and can affect the overall performance of the system. Steps will be taken to minimize the impact of the user's choice in these categories such as ensuring backwards compatibility is possible with our implementation of code on the Raspberry Pi and camera calibration methods.

6.2 Failure Modes and Effects Analysis Table

Below is the FMEA table for the project.

Component	Failure Modes	Effects of Failure	Causes of Failure	Recommended Action	Req.	Ref.
Raspberry Pi	Fail to output translated results	The output is not properly displayed	a. Code execution failure due to improper flashing to board	a. Reboot the board and ensure that the correct software and dependencies are loaded	a. SR2	H1-1
	Hardware failure (board)	Raspberry Pi cannot function	a. The board is not powered due to faulty power supply	a. Ensure that the board is properly plugged in. Use another power cable to verify that the board itself is not faulty. The raspberry pi is equipped with a polyfuse to prevent over-current. If the board does not power on after 24 hours, the fuse should be replaced.	a. HR1	H1-2
			b. The software is corrupted	b. Remove the microSD card and ensure that the card is not corrupted using a computer. If it is corrupted, attempt to reformat the microSD card and write the software onto it again.	b. HR1	
			c. The board is faulty or defective	c. Attempt to run the software on an identical model using the same cables, microSD card, and peripherals. If the software works, then the existing board is faulty and should be replaced. Otherwise, test using the newer components until the problem is isolated.	c. HR1	

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Component	Failure Modes	Effects of Failure	Causes of Failure	Recommended Action	Req.	Ref.
Raspberry Pi	Hardware failure (board)	Raspberry Pi cannot function	d. The microSD card cannot be read	d. Same as H1-2b	d. HR1	H1-2
Camera	Failing to detect motion	Device is unable to detect or translate sign language	a. Poor lighting conditions	a. Ensure the lighting condition in the working environment is sufficient. This will enable the camera to get sufficient light exposure to recognize hand motions.	a. ER1	H2-1
			b. Unclear hand gestures by the user	b. The user should make a slightly bigger hand gesture to ensure that the camera is picking the motion. If the problem persists, refer to H2-2a		
	Hardware failure		a. Issues with the lenses	a. Ensure that the camera lenses are not clouded by debris and recalibrate the camera. If the problem persists, replace the lenses.	a. HR2	H2-2
			b. Electrical power issues	b. Make sure that the camera is properly plugged into the system. Test the camera on another device such as a PC, and if the camera is functional. Test the power supply of the board. Refer to H1-2a for power supply testing.	b. HR2	
The machine learning model for ASL	ML model is not accurate	The device will produce incorrect or unexpected outputs	a. Incorrect data set is being used	a. Double check to see if the input data is correct when training the model	a. MLR1	H3-1
			b. ML model is misusing data and turning it into meaningless input	b. Pass irrelevant input through to see if the error is consistent with input that is correct. This indicates that there is an error with how the model is programmed	b. MLR1	

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Component	Failure Modes	Effects of Failure	Causes of Failure	Recommended Action	Req.	Ref.
The machine learning model for ASL	ML model is not accurate	The device will produce incorrect or unexpected outputs	c. The training dataset is not randomized enough resulting in the model anticipating specific orders of input	c. Shuffle the data during training to introduce variance into the model to boost output accuracy	c. MLR1	H3-1
			d. Model is underfit or overfit resulting in poor generalization outside of the training dataset	d. Same as H3-1c	d. MLR2	
Hand tracking script	Script is not running	The device will not be able to translate sign language	a. Code execution error	a. Ensure script is error-free and has error handling for foreseeable cases of error	a. SR1	H4-1
			b. Code was not flashed onto the board correctly	b. Same as H1-1a	b. SR2	

7 Requirements

7.1 Hardware Requirement

HR1: The Raspberry Pi board should be checked and tested before using it in the project.

HR2: The camera should be checked before each use to ensure the lenses are clean and working properly.

7.2 Environment Requirement

ER1: Ensure there is adequate lighting so the camera can detect and translate the hand motions.

7.3 Machine Learning Requirement

MLR1: Dataset should be properly chosen and verified, sufficient amount of data should be included in the dataset. Preprocessing should be done on the dataset for standardization and normalization.

MLR2: ML model should be properly chosen and tested, parameters optimization should be done for balanced results and optimized performance.

7.4 Script Requirement

SR1: Various software testing (Black box testing, White box testing, etc) should be performed on the script before it is flashed onto the board.

SR2: Complete functionality testing should be performed after the code is flashed onto the board.

8 Roadmap

The hazard analysis has resulted in new safety requirements that were not considered in the initial revision of the System Requirements Specification (SRS). Given the current time and budget constraints, while some hazards will be accounted for and removed, some hazards might still remain in the final revision of the project. These hazards that may not be addressed may include model inaccuracy and Raspberry Pi hardware failure/failure to display results. This is primarily due to the intensive training needed for an accurate machine learning model and due to the hardware limitations of a Raspberry Pi as the project develops. In these cases, notices will be provided to the user to ensure safety and proper regulation. Throughout the next steps of the project, the hazard analysis will continuously be consulted to determine risks that have already been considered in the implementation and risks that will be removed in future updates.