Mirametrix Research

Application Programming Interface

Version 1.1 DRAFT

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1 Introduction

The Mirametrix eye-trackers conform to the Open Eye-gaze Interface, providing developers with the ability to add eye-gaze to custom applications. The Open Eye-gaze Interface provides a standardized method for performing calibration and acquiring eye-gaze information.

2 Operation

The Open Eye-gaze Interface is based on a web services model for data transmission. Communication is performed using a client / server architecture, passing XML strings over a TCP/IP connection.

2.1 Client / Server

The eye-gaze tracker operates as the server, responding to queries from a connected client. The server responds with an acknowledge once for each client command with the exception of calibration and free-running data transmission. When calibrating the server will transmit the results of the calibration procedure at each point as it takes place, while a continuous stream of eye-gaze information is transmit when free-running data transmission is enabled.

$2.2 \quad TCP/IP$

Communication takes place over a TCP/IP connection. Using TCP/IP allows the eye-tracker to easily operate on a second computer with commands and data transmission taking place over a network connection.

2.3 XML

All data structures take the form of XML string fragments. Using strings prevents the need for proprietary data structures, while the XML format provides an open and easily extensible method for managing and parsing the formatted data.

Client commands are either GET or SET operations where the XML tag is GET or SET.

2.4 Coordinates

All reported coordinates are in percentages of the tracking window (unless otherwise specified), which itself is in percentages of the screen size. By default the tracking window is 100% of the screen-size and therefore only the screen size is required to convert from the reported X,Y coordinates to pixels. For X coordinates, 0 is the right most position and 1 is the left most position and for the Y coordinate 0 is the top most position and 1 is the bottom most position.

For the pupil image coordinates the X,Y values are percentages of the camera image size.

3 Commands

The eye-tracker is controlled using GET and SET commands in the form of XML fragments. A GET or SET command is always replied to with a successful (ACK) or unsuccessful response (NACK). The command may have any number of additional parameters and takes the form:

```
SEND: <CMD ID="DATA_ID" PARAM1="VALUE" ... /> REPLY: <ACK ID="DATA ID" REPLYPARAM1="VALUE" ... />
```

3.1 SET

Description

The SET command is used to set variables within the eye-tracker and to initiate or cancel operations.

Example Usage

3.2 GET

Description

The GET command is used to get variables from the eye-tracker and to check on the state of an operation.

Example Usage

4 Calibration

4.1 CALIBRATE START

Description

Start or stop the calibration procedure.

DATA_ID	Read/Write	Parameters	Туре	Description
CALIBRATE_START	R/W	STATE	$\operatorname{Boolean}$	Start or stop calibration procedure

Example Usage

SEND: <GET ID="CALIBRATE_START" />
REPLY: <ACK ID="CALIBRATE_START" STATE="0" />
SEND: <SET ID="CALIBRATE START" STATE="1" />

REPLY: <ACK ID="CALIBRATE START" STATE="1" />

4.2 CALIBRATE SHOW

Description

Show or hide the calibration window.

$\mathrm{DATA}_{-}\mathrm{ID}$	Read/Write	Parameters	Туре	Description
CALIBRATE SHOW	R/W	STATE	$\operatorname{Boolean}$	Show or hide the default calibration window

Example Usage

SEND: <GET ID="CALIBRATE SHOW" />

REPLY: <ACK ID="CALIBRATE_SHOW" STATE="0" /> SEND: <SET ID="CALIBRATE_SHOW" STATE="1" /> REPLY: <ACK ID="CALIBRATE SHOW" STATE="1" />

4.3 CALIBRATE DELAY

Description

Set the delay before a calibration point in started seconds, which provides time for calibration point animation.

DATA_ID	Read/Write	Parameters	Type	Description
CALIBRATE_DELAY	R/W	VALUE	float	Calibration point delay

Example Usage

 $SEND: < GET ID = "CALIBRATE_DELAY" />$

REPLY: <ACK ID="CALIBRATE_DELAY" VALUE="0.50" /> SEND: <SET ID="CALIBRATE_DELAY" VALUE="1" /> REPLY: <ACK ID="CALIBRATE DELAY" VALUE="1.00" />

4.4 CALIBRATE TIMEOUT

Description

Set the maximum duration of a calibration point in seconds after the calibration delay.

Ī	$\mathrm{DATA}_{-}\mathrm{ID}$	Read/Write	Parameters	Туре	Description
	CALIBRATE_TIMEOUT	R/W	VALUE	float	Maximum duration of calibration point

4.5 CALIBRATE FAST

Description

If enabled the calibration will jump to the next point as soon as sufficient data has been collected at the current calibration point, rather than waiting until the completion of the CALI-BRATE TIMEOUT value.

DATA_ID	Read/Write	Parameters	Type	Description
CALIBRATE_FAST	R/W	STATE	$_{ m int}$	Enable fast calibration

Example Usage

```
SEND: <GET ID="CALIBRATE_FAST" />
REPLY: <ACK ID="CALIBRATE_FAST" STATE="1" />
SEND: <SET ID="CALIBRATE_FAST" STATE="0" />
REPLY: <ACK ID="CALIBRATE FAST" STATE="0" />
```

4.6 CALIB START PT and CALIB RESULT PT

While calibrating, information about the status of each calibration point is transmit. At the start of each calibration point, the CALIB_START_PT record is sent along with the X and Y coordinates of the target point. After the completion the calibration point the CALIB_RESULT_PT record is sent, immediately followed by the subsequent CALIB_START_PT record for the next calibration point.

Data ID	Param	Type	Description
CALIB_START_PT	PT	int	Calibration point started
CALIB_START_PT	CALX	float	Calibration X coordinate for PT
CALIB_START_PT	CALY	float	Calibration Y coordinate for PT
CALIB_RESULT_PT	PT	int	Calibration point completed
CALIB_RESULT_PT	CALX	float	Calibration X coordinate for PT
CALIB_RESULT_PT	CALY	float	Calibration Y coordinate for PT

Example Result

```
< CAL ID="CALIB_START_PT" PT="1" CALX="0.10000" CALY="0.08000" /> < CAL ID="CALIB_RESULT_PT" PT="1" CALX="0.10000" CALY="0.08000" /> <
```

4.7 CALIB RESULT

When the calibration procedure completes, the results for each point are collected in an XML string and transmit. An example of the calibration return data is shown below for a single point.

Data ID	Param	Type	Description
CALIB_RESULT	CALX?	float	Calibration X coordinate for point?
CALIB_RESULT	CALY?	float	Calibration X coordinate for point?
CALIB_RESULT	LX?	float	Left eye point-of-gaze X for point?
CALIB_RESULT	LY?	float	Left eye point-of-gaze Y for point?
CALIB_RESULT	LV?	int	Left eye valid flag for point?
CALIB_RESULT	RX?	float	Right eye point-of-gaze X for point?
CALIB_RESULT	RY?	float	Right eye point-of-gaze Y for point?
CALIB_RESULT	RV?	int	Right eye valid flag for point?

Example Result

4.8 CALIB RESULT SUMMARY

When the calibration procedure completes, a summary of the results can be queried using the CALIB_RESULT_SUMMARY identifier.

Data ID	Param	Type	Description
CALIB_RESULT_SUMMARY	AVE_ERROR	float	Average error in pixels over all calibration points
CALIB_RESULT_SUMMARY	VALID_POINTS	$_{ m int}$	Number of calibration points with valid data

Example Result

```
<\!\! GET ID="CALIBRATE_RESULT_SUMMARY" /> <\!\! CACK ID="CALIBRATE_RESULT_SUMMARY" AVE_ERROR="26.44" VALID_POINTS="9" />
```

5 Tracker Program Control

Options for the control of the Tracker program through the API.

5.1 TRACKER EXIT

Description

Command the Tracker program to exit.

DATA_ID	Read/Write	Parameters	Type	Description
TRACKER_EXIT	R/W	STATE	Boolean	Exit the Tracker program

Example Usage

5.2 TRACKER DISPLAY

Description

Set the Tracker program to show or hide the user display image.

DATA_ID	Read/Write	Parameters	Type	Description
TRACKER DISPLAY	R/W	STATE	Boolean	Show/Hide the Tracker display image

Example Usage

```
SEND: <GET ID="TRACKER_DISPLAY" />
REPLY: <ACK ID="TRACKER_DISPLAY" STATE="0" />
SEND: <SET ID="TRACKER_DISPLAY" STATE="1" />
REPLY: <ACK ID="TRACKER_DISPLAY" STATE="1" />
```

6 Remote Data

The GET and SET commands operate on the remote data specified by the DATA_ID identifier, along with optional parameters.

6.1 ENABLE SEND DATA

Description

Enable or disable the sending of the eye-gaze data records. Enabling this variable begins the continuous sending of the eye-gaze data records.

DATA_ID	Read/Write	Parameters	Type	Description
ENABLE_SEND_DATA	R/W	STATE	Boolean	Start or stop data streaming

```
SEND: <GET ID="ENABLE_SEND_DATA" />
REPLY: <ACK ID="ENABLE_SEND_DATA" STATE="0" />
SEND: <SET ID="ENABLE_SEND_DATA" STATE="1" />
REPLY: <ACK ID="ENABLE_SEND_DATA" STATE="1" />
```

Data Record

If enabled the data record will be continuously transmit. If no other parameters are enabled the result will look like:

```
<REC /> <REC />
```

6.2 ENABLE SEND COUNTER

Description

Enable or disable the sending of the packet counter. The packet counter is incremented each time a packet is sent from the server. The packet counter provides a means for determining if packets are being lost.

DATA_ID	Read/Write	Parameters	Type	Description
ENABLE_SEND_COUNTER	R/W	STATE	Boolean	Enable counter data

Data Record

The counter is identified in the data record as follows:

Param	Type	Description
CNT	integer	Sequence counter for data packets

Example Data Record

```
<REC CNT="1"/>
<REC CNT="2"/>
```

6.3 ENABLE SEND TIME

Description

Enable or disable the elapsed time variable. The elapsed time variable identifies the elapsed time since the last calibration.

DATA_ID	Read/Write	Parameters	Туре	Description
ENABLE SEND TIME	R/W	STATE	$\operatorname{Boolean}$	Enable time stamp data

Data Record

The elapsed time is identified in the data record as follows:

Param	Type	Description
TIME	float	Elapsed time in seconds since last system initialization or calibration

. . .

6.4 ENABLE SEND TIME TICK

Description

Enable or disable the high resolution timer tick. The high resolution timer tick returns the output of the QueryPerformanceCounter (Win32 API) function and can be used to synchronize eye-gaze with other data recorded on the same computer. To convert to seconds divide this value by the output of the TIME TICK FREQUENCY variable.

DATA_ID	Read/Write	Parameters	Туре	Description
ENABLE_SEND_TIME_TICK	$\mathrm{R/W}$	STATE	Boolean	Enable high resolution timer tick

Data Record

The elapsed time is identified in the data record as follows:

Param Type		Description			
TIME_TICK	LONGLONG	Tick count (signed 64-bit integer)			

Example Data Record

. . .

6.5 TIME TICK FREQUENCY

Description

Get the timer tick frequency for high resolution timing. This returns the output of QueryPerformanceFrequency in the Win32 API.

$\mathrm{DATA}_{-}\mathrm{ID}$	Read/Write	Parameters	Type	Description
TIME_TICK_FREQUENCY	R	FREQ	LONGLONG	Tick frequency (signed 64-bit integer)

Example Usage

6.6 ENABLE SEND POG LEFT

Description

Enable or disable the sending of the point-of-gaze data from the left eye.

DATA_ID	Read/Write	Parameters	Type	Description
ENABLE SEND POG LEFT	R/W	STATE	Boolean	Enable left eye point-of-gaze data

Data Record

The left eye point of gaze is identified in the data record as follows:

Param	Type	Description
LPOGX	float	Left point-of-gaze X
LPOGY	float	Left point-of-gaze Y
LPOGV	$_{ m int}$	Left point-of-gaze valid flag

Example Data Record

6.7 ENABLE SEND POG RIGHT

Description

Enable or disable the sending of the point-of-gaze data from the right eye.

DATA_ID	Read/Write	Parameters	Type	Description
ENABLE_SEND_POG_RIGHT	R/W	STATE	Boolean	Enable right eye point-of-gaze data

Data Record

The right eye point of gaze is identified in the data record as follows:

Param	Type	Description
RPOGX	float	Right point-of-gaze X
RPOGY	float	Right point-of-gaze Y
RPOGV	$_{ m int}$	Right point-of-gaze valid flag

Example Data Record

6.8 ENABLE SEND POG BEST

Description

Enable or disable the sending of the "best" point-of-gaze data. The "best" POG is simply the average of the left and right POG estimates if both the left and right estimates are valid. If either the left or right POG is invalid, then the "best" POG is equal to the remaining valid POG.

DATA_ID	Read/Write	Parameters	Type	Description
ENABLE_SEND_POG_BEST	R/W	STATE	Boolean	Enable best eye point-of-gaze data

Data Record

The best point of gaze is identified in the data record as follows:

Param	Type	Description
BPOGX	float	Best point-of-gaze X
BPOGY	float	Best point-of-gaze Y
BPOGV	int	Best point-of-gaze valid flag

6.9 ENABLE SEND POG FIX

Description

Enable or disable the sending of the fixation point-of-gaze data.

DATA_ID	Read/Write	Parameters	Type	Description
ENABLE_SEND_POG_FIX	R/W	STATE	Boolean	Enable fixation point-of-gaze data

Data Record

The fixation point of gaze is identified in the data record as follows:

Param	Type	Description
FPOGX	float	Fixation point-of-gaze X
FPOGY	float	Fixation point-of-gaze Y
FPOGS	float	Fixation start (seconds)
FPOGD	float	Fixation duration (elapsed time since fixation start (seconds))
FPOGID	int	Fixation number ID
FPOGV	int	Fixation point-of-gaze valid flag

Example Data Record

6.10 ENABLE SEND PUPIL LEFT

Description

Enable or disable the sending of the left pupil image data.

DATA_ID	Read/Write	Parameters	Type	Description
ENABLE_SEND_PUPIL_LEFT	R/W	STATE	Boolean	Enable left eye image data

Data Record

The pupil image data is identified in the data record as follows:

Param	Type	Description
LPCX	float	Left eye pupil center X
LPCY	float	Left eye pupil center Y
LPD	float	Left eye pupil diameter (pixels)
LPS	float	Left eye pupil distance (unit less, from calibration position)
LPV	int	Left eye pupil image valid

6.11 ENABLE SEND PUPIL RIGHT

Description

Enable or disable the sending of the right pupil image data.

DATA_ID	Read/Write	Parameters	Type	Description
ENABLE_SEND_PUPIL_RIGHT	R/W	STATE	Boolean	Enable right eye image data

Data Record

The pupil image data is identified in the data record as follows:

Param	Type	Description
RPCX	float	Right eye pupil center X
RPCY	float	Right eye pupil center Y
RPD	float	Right eye pupil diameter (pixels)
RPS	float	Right eye pupil distance (unit less, from calibration position)
RPV	int	Right eye pupil image valid

Example Data Record

6.12 ENABLE SEND EYE LEFT

Description

Enable or disable the sending of the left eye data.

DATA_ID	Read/Write	Parameters	Type	Description
ENABLE_SEND_EYE_LEFT	m R/W	STATE	Boolean	Enable left eye data

Data Record

The eye data is identified in the data record as follows:

Param	Type	Description
LEYEX	float	Left eye position in X -left/+right (cm)
LEYEY	float	Left eye position in Y -down/+up (cm)
LEYEZ	float	Left eye position in Z -away/+toward (cm)
LEYEV	$_{ m int}$	Left eye data valid
LPUPILD	float	Left eye pupil diameter (mm)
LPUPILV	$_{ m int}$	Left pupil data valid
		0 - Invalid pupil data
		1 - Valid pupil data
		2 - Valid pupil data, but old position data

6.13 ENABLE SEND EYE RIGHT

Description

Enable or disable the sending of the right eye data.

DATA_ID	Read/Write	Parameters	Type	Description
ENABLE_SEND_EYE_RIGHT	R/W	STATE	Boolean	Enable right eye data

Data Record

The eye data is identified in the data record as follows:

Param	Type	Description
REYEX	float	Right eye position in X -left/+right (cm)
REYEY	float	Right eye position in Y -down/+up (cm)
REYEZ	float	Right eye position in Z -away/+toward (cm)
REYEV	int	Right eye data valid
RPUPILD	float	Right eye pupil diameter (mm)
RPUPILV	int	Right pupil data valid
		0 - Invalid pupil data
		1 - Valid pupil data
		2 - Valid pupil data, but old position data

Example Data Record

6.14 ENABLE SEND CURSOR

Description

Enable or disable the sending of the right mouse cursor position.

DATA_ID	Read/Write	Parameters	Туре	Description
ENABLE SEND CURSOR	R/W	STATE	Boolean	Enable mouse cursor data

Data Record

The mouse cursor data is identified in the data record as follows:

Param	Туре	Description
CX	float	Cursor X position
CY	float	Cursor Y position
CS	int	Cursor button state
		0 - No press
		1 - Left button down
		2 - Left button up
		3 - Left double click
		4 - Right button down
		5 - Right button up
		6 - Right double click

6.15 ENABLE SEND GPI

Description

Enable or disable the sending of up to 10 general purpose input data values which can be used to set user defined values in the eye-gaze data stream. For example, if various stimulus are being displayed, the stimulus ID could be saved into one of the GPI values.

$\mathrm{DATA}_{-}\mathrm{ID}$	Read/Write	Parameters	Type	Description
ENABLE_SEND_GPI	R/W	STATE	Boolean	Enable general purpose input data

The number of general purpose input data values is set with the GPI NUMBER parameter.

DATA_ID	Read/Write	Parameters	Туре	Description
GPI_NUMBER	R/W	VALUE	int	Set the number of general input data variables (0 to 10)

Data Record

The general purpose input data is identified in the data record as follows:

Param	Type	Description
GPI?	String	GPI? value (where? is 1 to 10)

Example Data Record

. . .

6.16 SCREEN_SIZE

Description

Get the size of the screen in pixels.

DATA_ID	Read/Write	Parameters	Type	Description
SCREEN SIZE	R/W	WIDTH	int	Screen width (pixels)
SCREEN_SIZE	R/W	HEIGHT	$_{ m int}$	Screen height (pixels)

SEND: <GET ID="SCREEN SIZE" />

REPLY: <ACK ID="SCREEN SIZE" WIDTH="1680" HEIGHT="1050" />

6.17 CAMERA SIZE

Description

Get the size of the camera image in pixels.

DATA_ID	Read/Write	Parameters	Type	Description
CAMERA SIZE	R	WIDTH	int	Camera image width (pixels)
CAMERA_SIZE	${ m R}$	HEIGHT	$_{ m int}$	Camera image height (pixels)

Example Usage

SEND: <GET ID="CAMERA SIZE" />

6.18 TRACK RECT

Description

Get the size of the position and size of the tracking rectangle.

DATA_ID	${ m Read/Write}$	Parameters	Type	Description
	R	X	float	X coordinate of tracking rectangle
TRACK RECT	${ m R}$	Y	float	Y coordinate of tracking rectangle
I TRACK_RECT	${ m R}$	WIDTH	float	Width of tracking rectangle
	${ m R}$	HEIGHT	float	Height of tracking rectangle

Example Usage

 $SEND: \ \, <\!\! GET \ \, ID \! = \!\!\! "TRACK \ \, RECT" \ \, /\!\! >$

6.19 PRODUCT ID

Description

Product identifier.

DATA_ID	Read/Write	Parameters	Type	Description
PRODUCT ID	R	VALUE	string	Product identifier

Example Usage

SEND: $\langle GET ID = "PRODUCT ID" / >$

REPLY: <ACK ID="PRODUCT ID" VALUE="S1" />

6.20 SERIAL ID

Description

Product serial number.

DATA_ID	Read/Write	Parameters	Type	Description
SERIAL_ID	R	VALUE	string	Device serial number

SEND: <GET ID="SERIAL ID" />

REPLY: <ACK ID="SERIAL ID" VALUE="570631454" />

6.21 COMPANY ID

Description

Manufacturer identifier.

_	Read/Write	Parameters	Type	Description
MFG_ID	R	VALUE	string	Manufacturer identity

Example Usage

SEND: <GET ID="COMPANY ID" />

REPLY: <ACK ID="COMPANY ID" VALUE="Mirametrix Research Inc." />

6.22 API ID

Description

API identity.

DATA_ID	Read/Write	Parameters	Туре	Description
API ID	ъ	MFG_ID	string	API vendor identity
A1 1-1D	11	VER_ID	string	API version number

Example Usage

 $SEND: <\!\!GET\ ID = "API\ ID" /\!\!>$

REPLY: <ACK ID="API ID" MFG ID="Mirametrix" VER ID="1.0" />

6.23 API SELECT

Description

Select the API to use for further communication.

DATA_ID	Read/Write	Parameters	Type	Description
API_SELECT	R	MFG_ID?	string	List of vendors supported
	R	VER_ID?	string	List of versions supported
	W	STATE	int	API selected

Example Usage

SEND: <GET ID="API SELECT" />

REPLY: <ACK ID="API SELECT" MFG ID0="generic" VER ID0="1.0"

MFG ID1="Mirametrix" VER ID1="1.0" />

SEND: <SET ID="API SELECT" STATE="1" />

REPLY: <ACK ID="API SELECT" STATE="1" />

7 Updates from V1.0 to V1.1

7.1 March 26, 2010

• Modified SCREEN_SIZE from READ ONLY to Read and Writable which allows for remote operation with different screen sizes.

• Added ENABLE_SEND_POG_BEST, which is equivalent to the average of the left and right POG if both are available, or equal to the left or right POG if only one is available.

7.2 April 16, 2010

• Added ENABLE_SEND_EYE_RIGHT, and ENABLE_SEND_EYE_LEFT which provides the position of the eyes in 3D space. This allows the pupil to be determined in units of millimeters for use in pupillometry.

7.3 May 18, 2010

- Added TRACKER EXIT command to allow the API to cause the tracker program terminate.
- Added TRACKER_DISPLAY command to allow the API to control the diagnostic display window.
- Added ENABLE_SEND_GPI, GPI_NUMBER and GPI? to allow user defined entries into the eye-gaze data stream.
- Added CALIBRATE_TIMEOUT, CALIBRATE_DELAY, CALIBRATE_FAST, to allow basic customization of the calibration routine.

7.4 June 7, 2010

• Added CALIBRATE_RESULT_SUMMARY command to determine the quality of the last calibration.