

# MAHIR MAHOTA

linkedin.com/in/mahir-mahota   
github.com/mahir-mahota   
mmahota@uwaterloo.ca   
+1 226-899-6987 

## EDUCATION

**University of Waterloo** – Candidate for BSc in Mechatronics Engineering Sept. 2022 – Present  
GPA: 4.0 (95.27%) – Term Dean's Honours List

## SKILLS

**Languages:** C, C++, Python

**Tools and Technologies:** Git, GitHub, Arduino, STM32, Jupyter Notebook, TensorFlow, OpenCV, Pandas, NumPy, Visual Studio, SolidWorks, AutoCAD

## PROJECTS

🔗 **Movie Reviews Discord Bot** Dec. 2022 – Jan. 2023

- Designed, trained, and tested a neural network for **NLP** with **TensorFlow**, using text vectorisation to do sentiment analysis of movie reviews with **98%** accuracy
- Graphed the loss and accuracy of the model over time using **Matplotlib** to detect any discrepancies
- Created a **Python** web-scraper to search a query on Google and extract text from the top ten results
- Developed a bot using the Python **Discord API** to interact with the user, taking in a movie name and passing the content of articles into the model to predict whether reviews are positive or not

🔗 **OpenCV Robotic Arm** Aug. 2022 – Dec. 2022

- Detected hand gestures with 21 landmarks generated using **OpenCV** and Google's MediaPipe library
- Programmed **C++** drivers for **UART** communication with the arm through an HC-05 Bluetooth module
- Wired and soldered the **Arduino** with an external power supply to six **servo motors**

🔗 **Guitar Playing Robot** Sept. 2022 – Nov. 2022

- Built a robot that plays a string on a guitar, reading in notes from a coloured strip and playing them using fretting and strumming mechanisms
- Wrote functions in **C** to take input from a colour and ultrasonic **sensor** for tracking task completion
- Processed output from onboard **motor encoders** to play songs with up to five frets

## EXPERIENCE

**Embedded Flight Software Sub-Team Member** Sept. 2022 – Present  
Waterloo Aerial Robotics Group

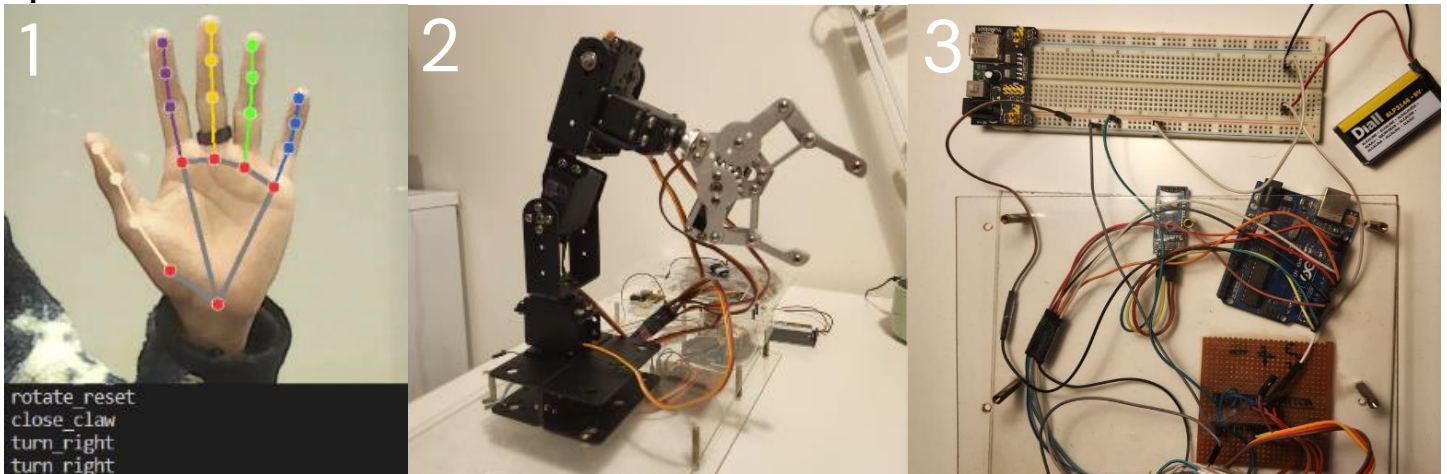
- Programmed a motor tester in **C** with an **STM32** Nucleo for driving a servo at various speeds defined by a potentiometer value received through an ADC
- Configured the onboard timer for PWM and implemented **SPI** communication
- Generated a **PWM** duty cycle according to the digital data received using the STM32 HAL

**Creative Design Team Lead Designer** Sept. 2021 – Sept. 2022  
Student Government

- Collaborated with **20+** other members to produce graphics made in **Adobe Photoshop** and **Illustrator**
- Balanced academics and created timelines to successfully **meet strict deadlines** for events
- **Communicated** with five other team leads to ensure designs passed all required criteria

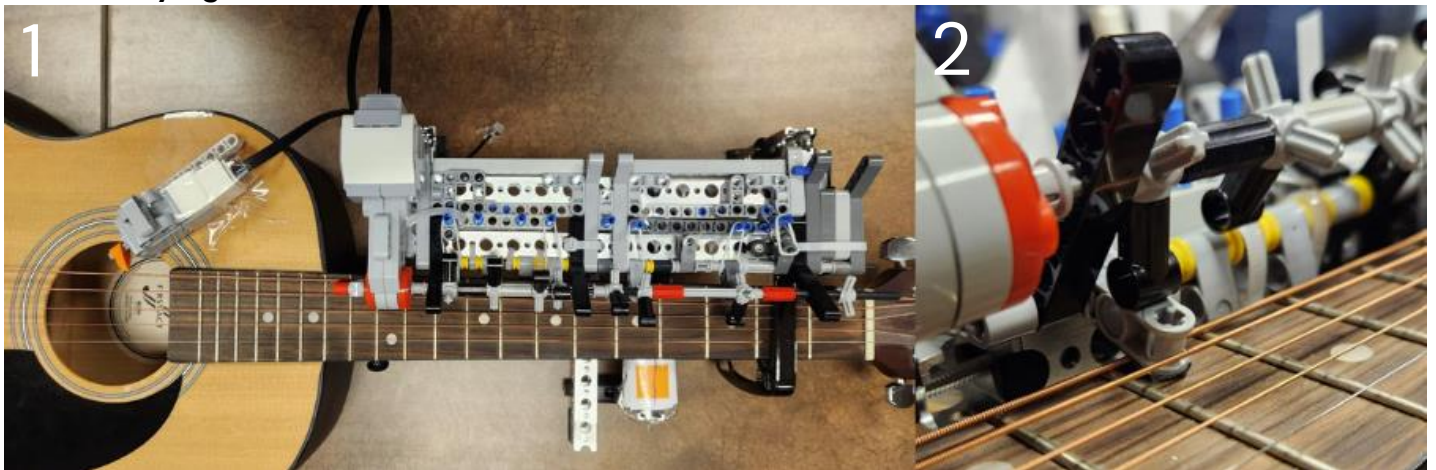
# PORTFOLIO

## OpenCV Robotic Arm



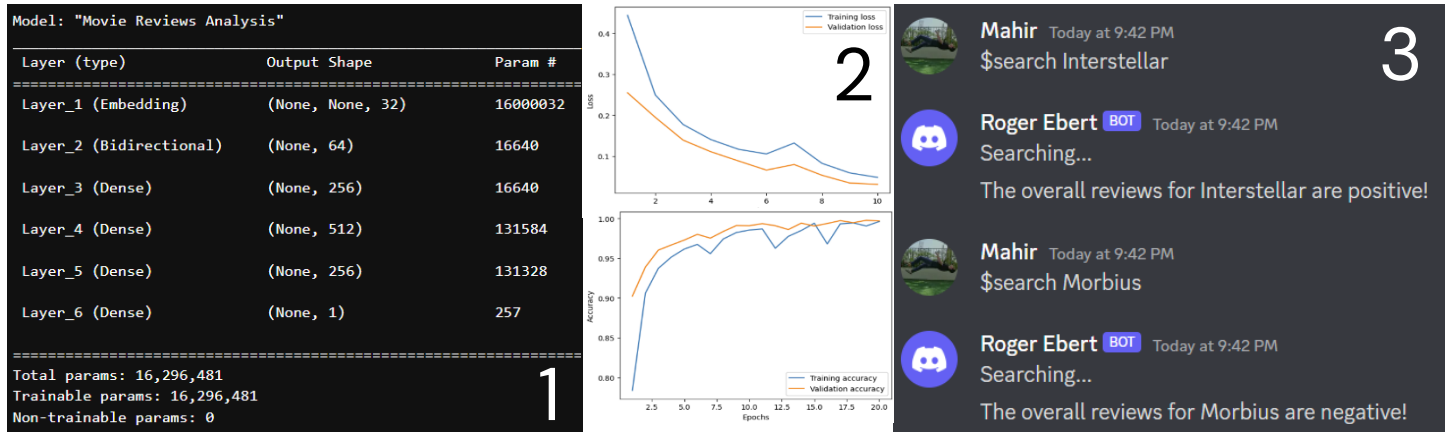
1. Transferred the hand landmark co-ordinates into an array and used those to detect when finger or hand positioning changed. Used these changes to define commands (printed in the terminal) that could be sent to the Arduino through the Bluetooth module, affecting the position of the servo motors.
2. Built the robotic arm with six degrees of freedom. Cut the acrylic base using a vertical bandsaw and drilled holes to insert screws around the border.
3. Wired the six servo motors to two external power supplies on a breadboard to properly support their stall current. Soldered the ground wires of the motors and the power supplies together with the ground on the Arduino. Connected the servo control wires and the Bluetooth module to ports on the Arduino, enabling serial communication with the Python program.

## Guitar Playing Robot



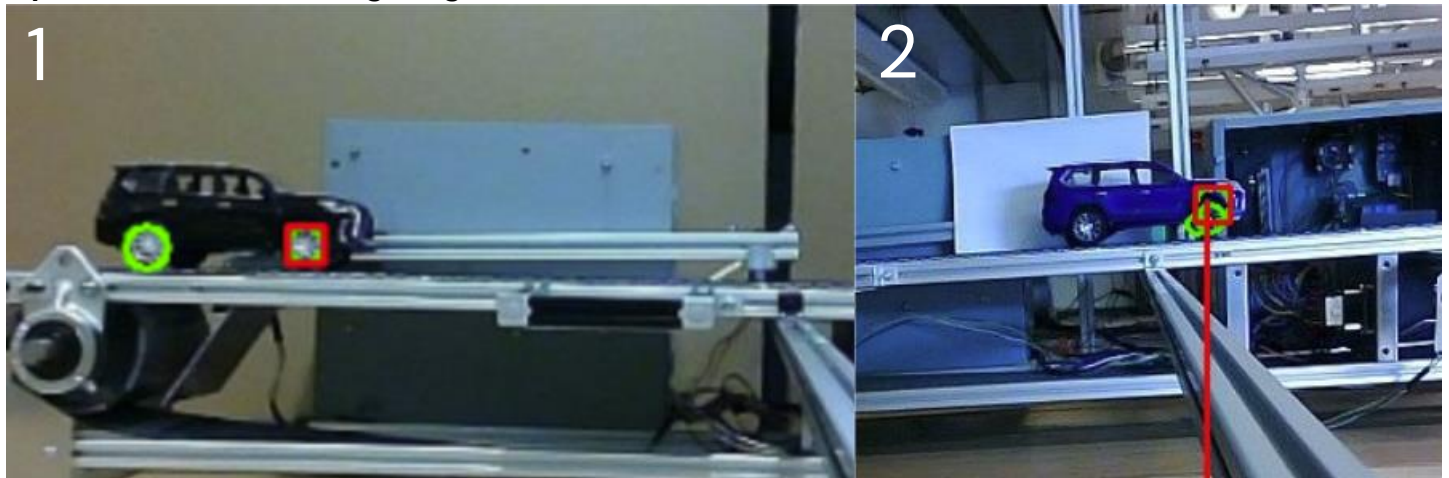
1. Designed mechanisms for colour reading, fretting, and strumming to mount onto the guitar. Used colour and ultrasonic sensors to detect the progress of tasks. Collaborated with three peers to create the robot as our first term final project.
2. Built a camshaft system that can press on the string at different frets depending on the angle a motor is rotated. The current position of the motor was tracked using an onboard motor encoder.
3. Programmed (in RobotC) and created flowcharts (in Microsoft Visio) for nine functions that ran the mechanisms and ensured that they were all in sync to play the songs properly.

## Movie Reviews Discord Bot



1. Created an NLP model with TensorFlow using a dataset of 50K IMDb reviews. Pre-processed the data by vectorising it and creating an input pipeline, separating training, validation, and testing sets. Installed CUDA and cuDNN to enable the model to train using the computer GPU. Saved the trained neural network to be reused in the Python program for the bot.
2. Adjusted the neural network to account for any unexpected trends in the data after reviewing loss and accuracy graphs at various stages of training.
3. Interacted with the Discord API to get access to user messages, letting the bot communicate in real time. Used asynchronous programming to allow the bot to recognise commands while processing previous tasks in the background.
4. Programmed a web-scraping script using Python libraries that collects URLs from a Google query search and then extracts text from the main body of the websites. This enables the bot to search for and pass the content of reviews through the model.

## OpenCV Wheel Tracking Program



1. Participated in the Toyota Innovation Challenge Hackathon to program a solution for taking images of cars at the right time on a conveyor belt, for quality analysis. The aim was to use wheel detection instead of the current standard of mechanical triggers, to improve accuracy.
2. Developed a successful program in under 12 hours using OpenCV code snippets, such as Hough transform and contour detection functions, working in a group of four. Both wheels are detected, and the front one is bounded using a red square. When the front wheel passes a certain point (denoted by the vertical red line), an image is taken and saved. The code was tested on a scaled down model of the factory system.