

# Soft Magnetic Elastomers for Continuous Force and Location Estimation in Real-time

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## 1 Repository content details

### script

- *calibrate5X1Board.py*: script collect data from figure 8 motion and calculate scales, offsets, and affine transforms.
- *sampleXYZ-Continuous.py*: script that controls uArm Swift Pro and Arduino Zero to collect magnetic signals over continuous surface.
- *preprocess5X1-XYZTF.py*: script that takes raw data from txt file and outputs filtered data into pickle file.
- *nn\_regression\_F*: script evaluating final NN model for F estimation on collected data.
- *nn\_regression\_F\_gridsearch.py*: script evaluating sweep across parameters to determine best parameters for force on collected data.
- *nn\_regression\_XYZ*: script evaluating final NN model for XYZ estimation on collected data.
- *nn\_regression\_XYZ\_gridsearch.py*: script evaluating sweep across parameters to determine best parameters for XYZ on collected data.
- *collectContinuousData.py*: script for collect hand written data from magnetometer.
- *mag.class.py*: script for preprocessing data and training SVMs.
- *run\_demo.py*: script for running trained SVM in a real-time demo.

### data

- *[SampleName].txt*: raw data for that [SampleName] collected over the surface.

- *[SampleName] SVD.pkl*: filtered data for that [SampleName] collected over the surface.
- *[SampleName] 5X1 Board Calibration.npz*: holds raw data from calibration, affine transforms, offsets, and scales for the reference board to the main board.
- *base\_data\_batch*: all data batches of baselines, which were averaged to get average baseline signal.
- *collect\_data\_batch{#}*: data batch on each digit 0 – 9. *batch(n – 1)* correlates to digit *n* (ex: *batch1* contains data for digit 0).
- *digits\_idx\_final.pkl*: pickle contains index for each digit signal series from *collect\_data\_batch* files.
- *digits\_signals\_final.pkl*: pickle contains the corresponding signal series for each digit sample.
- *best\_est.joblib*: best svm estimator saved.

## 2 Details on preprocessing and SVMs

We demonstrate a simple task of classifying digits through the soft skin, which illustrates the ability of identifying meaningful change through temporal space. We first collect a set of digits data from the magnetometer by drawing the numbers 0 through 9. The data was collected at 50 Hz. In order to extract the signals correlated with the digit, we performed a number of preprocessing steps. For the following steps, we assumed our raw magnetometer signal to be  $S_i^d$  for digit  $d \in \{0, \dots, 9\}$  and time  $i \in \{1, \dots, t\}$ . We denoted the raw magnetometer signal without any interference as  $S^b$ , defined by averaging signals of resting states over a set of 5 experiments.

1) We defined a positive signal  $S_j^d = S_i^d$  if  $\delta(S_i^d, S^b) > .2S^b$ . Note that due to filtering, time  $j$  was no longer consecutive after this step. 2) For each  $S_j^d$ , if  $\delta(j, j \pm 1) > 3$  time steps away, we deemed element  $S_j^d$  to be noise and was removed. 3) We clustered the neighboring time data points together, where a bucket  $B$  consists of a series of non-consecutive  $S_{j:j+n}^d$ . A bucket was determined if  $\delta(j + n, j + n + 1) > 7$ . 4) Different digits required different amount of time to write. In order to compensate for this variable, we select a fixed time length  $l$ . Based on the median and 80th percentile time lengths for all buckets  $B$ , we set  $l = 19$ , since the maximum median is 19 and maximum 80th percentile is 21.8, close to our median. 5) For each unique bucket  $S_{j:j+n}^d$  and  $l = 20$ , we set an anchor  $a = \text{midpoint}(j, j + n)$ . To make a consecutive series, all time points  $i$  from  $a - l/2$  to  $a + l/2$  were selected as the final time points, such that the final data point for digit  $d$  is  $X^d = S_{a-l/2:a+l/2}^d$ .

The final data  $X^d$  for all  $d$  digits were utilized to train, cross validate and test a classification model. Each  $X^d$  was flattened into a one dimensional vector. We

performed grid search over parameters ( $l1$  or  $l2$  penalty,  $C = \log_{10} n$  with  $n \in (0, 10)$ ) for a linear SVM, with five fold cross validation on training and testing splits and an additional five fold cross validation on training and validation split. Our final model was chosen with a squared hinge loss,  $l2$  penalty, and  $C = 0.02636$ . Our final accuracy is 92.86% on our held-out test set.