

# HAND GESTURE RECOGNITION USING NEURAL NETWORK

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## ABSTRACT

*In the area of image processing hand gesture recognition system having great attention in the recent few years for general life applications. Hand gesture recognition is a growing field of research among various human to machine interactions. This research area is full of innovative approaches. Hand gesture recognition has the potential to be a natural tool supporting interaction between human and the computer. In this paper two method of hand gesture recognition system is presented. These methods are motion based and skin color based hand gesture recognition. The hand gesture image is gone through three stages, pre-processing, feature extraction, and classification. In pre-processing stage some operations are applied to subtract the hand gesture from its background and create the hand gesture image for the feature extraction stage. For the classification of hand gesture back propagation algorithm of artificial neural network is used. After the classification result will be displayed on the screen.*

**Keywords**—Artificial neural network, Hand Gesture, Human Computer Interaction (HCI), Hand Gesture recognition, image processing.

## I. INTRODUCTION

Development of information technology needs new type of human to machine interaction that is easy to use. User's generally use hand gestures for expression of their feelings and thoughts. Hand gesture recognition system is used to create interaction between human and computer. Recognized gestures can also be used for handling a robot or transfer meaningful information.

Human to computer interaction also known Man-Machine Interaction (MMI) [2]. It is based on the relation between the human and the computer or machine. HCI system is designed with the consideration of its functionality and usability [2]. System functionality defined as the set of functions or services that the system offers to the users, while system usability defined as the level and scope that the system can operate and perform specific user purposes efficiently [2]. The system that maintains a suitable balance between functionality and usability known as influential performance and powerful system.

Gestures used as a communication medium. Gestures used for communicating between human as well as machines also between people using sign language. There are two types of gestures performed by human static and dynamic gestures [4][5]. Static gestures are easy to understand, while dynamic gestures are more complex. For real time application dynamic gestures are more suitable. A dynamic gesture indicates to change over a certain amount of time whereas a static gesture is observed at the moment. A waving hand means goodbye is an example of dynamic gesture and the thumbs up sign is an example of static gesture. To

understand a complete message, it is necessary to interpret all the static along with dynamic gestures over a period of time. This complex process is called gesture recognition. The aim of gesture recognition is to create a system which can analyze specific human gestures and use them to convey information or use for device control. A gesture may be defined as a physical movement of hands, face, arms and body. Gesture recognition consists the tracking of human movement along with the interpretation of that movement as meaningful commands.

## II. PROBLEM STATEMENT

Development of information technology needs new type of human to machine interaction that is easy to use. User's generally use hand gestures for expression of their feelings and thoughts. Hand gesture recognition system is needed to create easy interaction between human and computer. Robot control is difficult using a remote. Speech impaired persons suffers difficulty to communicate with normal one. So these mute people are isolated from the non-impaired people's community. Sign language is only way for communicating the mute with others. But sign language not serves an effective way for communicating the mute with normal persons. So the only way for enhance the communication between mute people and normal people is recognition of sign language and converting it to the corresponding voice.

## III. PROPOSED SYSTEM

In this section, we propose the method to recognize hand gestures. Block diagram of hand gesture recognition is shown below. We use artificial neural network because of its power and flexibility. Hand gesture recognition is mainly divided into four steps that are image acquisition, image preprocessing, feature extraction and classification. For hand gesture recognition this proposed system having two methods for the image acquisition and preprocessing motion based and skin color based.

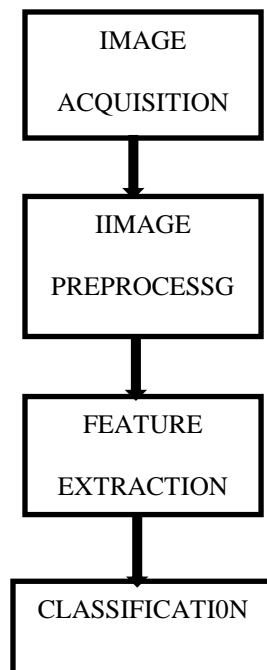


Fig. 3.1 Block diagram of hand gesture recognition

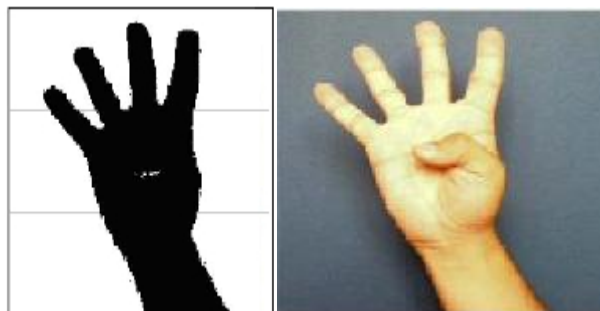
### 3.1 Motion based

#### 3.1.1 Image Acquisition

For hand gesture recognition first image acquisition is required. In this system it is done by using Webcam. The system uses the camera present in the pc for continuous video capturing and a simultaneous display on the screen. Here first we capture background image by pressing a key. This image should not contain any motion based object. After that continuous video capturing is done, according to the motion object is detected. And video is transferred into the frame. Both Images are showed in the GUI.

#### 3.1.2 Image Preprocessing

Here we take difference of both the images then color RGB image is converted to gray scale image using matlab inbuilt command When converting an RGB image to grayscale, we have to consider the RGB values for each pixel and made as output a single value reflecting the brightness of that pixel. Segmentation process is the process for analyzing hand gestures. It is the process of dividing the input image into regions separated by boundaries [10]. For dynamic gesture hand gesture need to be located and tracked [10]. The hand should be located firstly depending on the motion. The video is divided into frames and each frame have to be processed alone, in this case the hand frame is treated as a posture and segmented [10], using tracking information such as motion However there are some factors that obstacle the segmentation process which is [10]; complex background, illumination changes, low video quality. [4][12] Some preprocessing operations are applied such as subtraction, edge detection, and normalization to enhance the segmented hand image [6][12].



**Figure 3.2 Motion based Segmentation**

### 3.2 Skin Color Based

#### 3.2.1 Image Acquisition

Here first we capture background image by pressing a key. This image should not contain any skin color based object. After that continuous video capturing is done, according to the skin color object is detected. And video is converted into the frame. Then both Images are showed in the GUI.

#### 3.2.2 Image Preprocessing

Here the color RGB image is converted to gray scale image using matlab inbuilt command When converting an RGB image to grayscale, we have to consider the RGB values for each pixel and make as output a single value reflecting the brightness of that pixel. Segmentation process is the process for recognizing hand gestures. It is the process of dividing the input image (in this case hand gesture image) into regions separated by boundaries [10]. The hand should be located firstly, generally a bounding box is used to specify the depending on the skin color [11], or using some tracking information such as shape, skin color. The common helpful cue used

for segmenting the hand is the skin color[10], since it is easy and invariant to scale, translation, and rotation changes. [4][12] applied HSV color model which concentrates on the pigments of the pixel, B[11] used YCbCr color space.



**Figure 3.3 Skin color filter result**

### **3.3.1 Features Extraction**

After segmentation process features extraction is done and the play an important role in a successful recognition process [4]. Various methods have been applied for representing the features can be extracted. Some methods used the shape, position of the hands such as hand contour and silhouette [4] while others utilized fingertips position, palm center, etc. [4] These extracted features are stored for the classification as database.

### **3.3.2 Gestures Classification**

After feature extraction and analysis of the input hand image, gesture classification method is used to recognize gesture. In this work a standard backpropagation neural network is used to classify gestures. The network consists of three layers input, hidden and output layer; the first layer consists of neurons that are for inputting a hand gesture to ANN. The second layer is a hidden layer. This layer allows neural network to perform the error reduction necessary to successfully achieve the desired output. The final is the output layer.

## **IV. CONCLUSION**

This paper proposes a method of recognizing hand gestures using hand image. Using motion based provide good results. The major aim of this system is to develop a system that will provide the interaction between human and computer through the use of hand gestures as a control commands as communication medium to mute people.

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