

An eye-controlled system

An eye control system using OpenCV

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DECLARATION

I hereby declare that this thesis is based on the results found by myself. Materials ofwork found by other researcher are mentioned by reference. This Thesis, neither inwhole nor in part, has been previously submitted for any degree.

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Abstract

An eye controlled system is a system which can be controlled by just looking at the system's GUI (Graphical User Interface) which figures out the position of our Iris respect to eye using webcam via image processing. A robot expected to connect with this program via serial communication and moves with our moving eyeball in the way we want to move it by hovering our eye ball over the GUI.

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ABSTRACT

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Introduction:

An eye controlled system is supposed to be controlled by looking at the system's monitor at its GUI. We divided the screen in six grids which is given below:

1	2	3
4	5	6
7	8	9

The quadrant we will look at it will be highlighted and the robot would perform certain tasks according to that i.e. if we look at second quadrant it will be highlighted and the robot will move forward and if we look at the eighth quadrant it will just move backward.

System Overview:

We have integrated three parts in this project. First one is the software part which consists of Artificial intelligence, OpenCV and webcam and serial port API along with a .NET GUI and then comes the electronics part where we used microcontroller after programming it with C and we interfaced a car along with it.

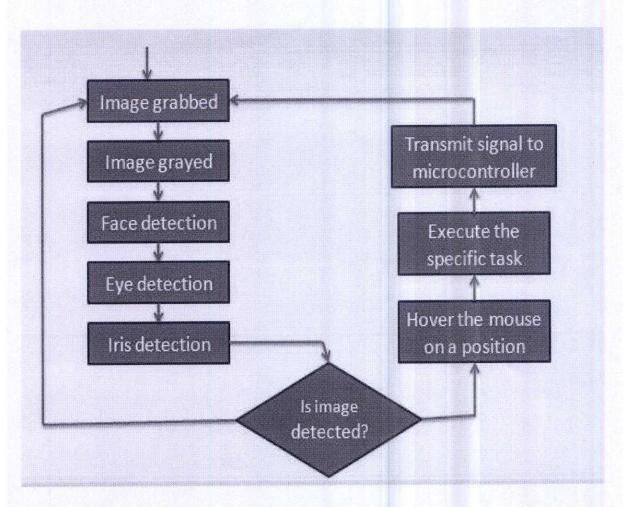


Figure 1: Work-flow through the project

First approach with neural network:

We used Java Neural Network Framework Neuroph to detect where we are looking at.

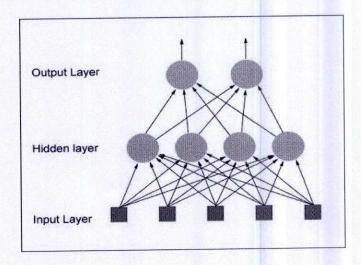


Figure 2: Sample Neural Network

Block diagram:

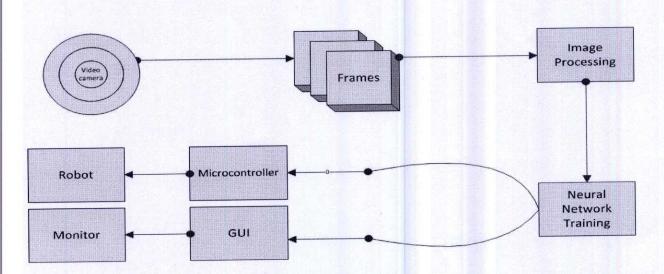


Figure3: Block diagram of eye detection process using neural network

We used webcam as our input media and we took the frames of the video stream for further processing where we used image processing and neural network. We used a Java Framework named Neuroph to train and test our Neural system. We used its built in class of image recognition with the efficient architecture "Multi Perceptron" and "Back propagation" learning algorithm with a sigmoid function.

Sigmoid function:

$$output = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-\alpha/p}}$$

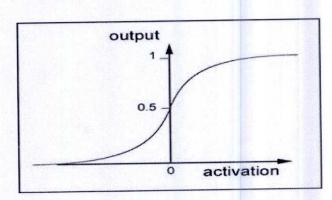


Figure 4: graph of sigmoid function

It will look for eyes first in the frames using either OpenCV eye detection classifier or a Neuroph trained system. After the recognition of eye it is trained to figure out the Irish's position to determine the quadrant the user is looking at.

Neuroph Training:



Figure5: Sample Irish image

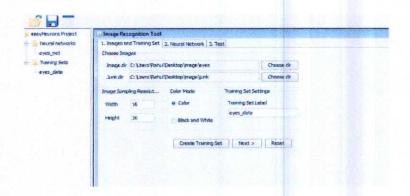


Figure6: Neuroph image tranning set

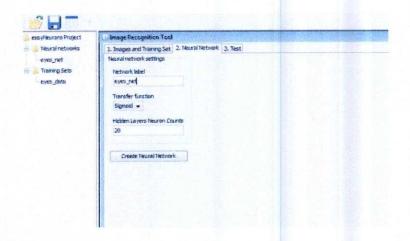


Figure7: Neuroph Neural network configaretion

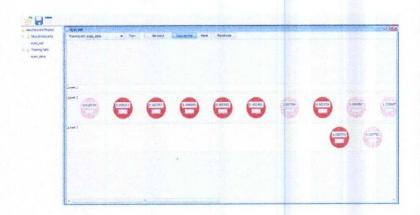


Figure8: Neuron training set

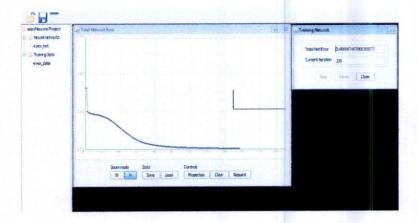


Figure9: Error detection graph

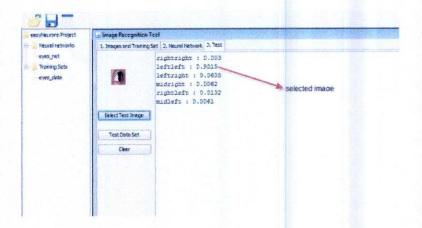


Figure 10: Image detection with highest configuration

Input vector:

To represent some image in a RGB system we can use three two-dimensional arrays, one for each color component, where every element corresponds to one image pixel.

```
int[][] redValues
int[][] greenValues
int[][] blueValues
```

For example, if pixel at location [20, 10] has color RGB[33, 66, 181] we have

```
redValues[10][20] = 33;
greenValues[10][20] = 66;
blueValues[10][20] = 181;
```

The dimensions of each of these arrays are [imageHeight][imageWidth]

We can merge these three arrays into a single one-dimensional array so it contains all red values, then all green and at the end all blue values. That's how we create **flattenedRgbValues**[]

The dimension of this array is [imageHeight * imageWidth * 3]

Now we can use this one-dimensional array as input for neural network, and to train neural network to recognize or classify them. Multi-layer perceptions are type of neural networks suitable for these tasks.

Search for Eyes:

First we tried to detect eyes searching through the whole image. The computer cannot process this in real time. Then we made two windows where the user can put his/her eyes and then the system will detect whether there is an eye or not. If there is an eye, the system will detect in which grid the user is looking at. We used about five hundred of images to train the neural network for an eye and almost two hundred of images for each grid detection.

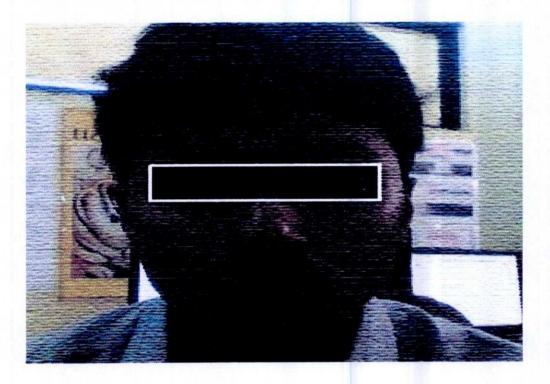


Figure 11: Window procedure

Result of Neuroph:

It lacks in precision and has a very poor performance in real time. But the precision can be improved by building an enriched database of eyes and a well-trained neural network.

Second approach with OpenCV:

OpenCV can detect eyes and face in real time with 80% precision with its Voila-Jones object detection algorithm which uses haar-cascade classifier. We were able to detect eyes in real time with good precision using openCV java wrapper JavaCV. We tried to train our own haar-cascade classifier for iris detection. But it did not work that well.



Figure 12: Face and Eye detection

Eye detection:

First we detected the face, and then we detected the eyes setting the region of interest's value where the upper left corner isabscissa, ordinate + face height / 5 and the width and height is the width of face and height of face/3 respectively.

Iris detection:

Then we detected the iris selecting the ROI of the eyes. At first we converted the image into gray scale, then we filtered it with Gaussian blur and then we applied Canny-edge detection algorithm. At last, we used openCV's Hough circle detection to detect the iris. It works very well in real time with good precision.

Steps:

Image



· RGB to gray scale conversion



· Filtering with Gaussian filter



· Canny-edge detection



Circle detection



Implementation:

We used two ways to control our robot. The first one uses eye detection to hover the mouse cursor and the second one uses iris to hove the mouse cursor.

Driving with eye:

The camera we used gives an image of 640x480 px. We made an interface with C# of form size 640x480 px where we have 9 grids to drive the car forward, backward, left, right, left-forward, right-forward, left-backward, right-backward and stop. In which position the eye would be detected, the cursor will move on that grid. In this manner, we can drive our robotic car robustly with any eyes.

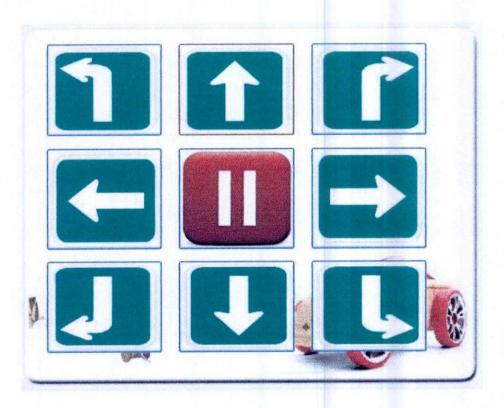


Figure 13: Interface

Electronics:

The heart of our circuit is a micro-controller. We used a micro-controller of microchip brand (PIC16F877A). A crystal is required to drive the micro-controller. In our case, we used a crystal of 8 MHz. Then we used some NMOS's for switching (IRF3205). We used a circuit of RFIC communication and we controller our car via this. When we set the output high of micro-controller, it will short the drain and source of NMOS and will drive the car.

Serial port:

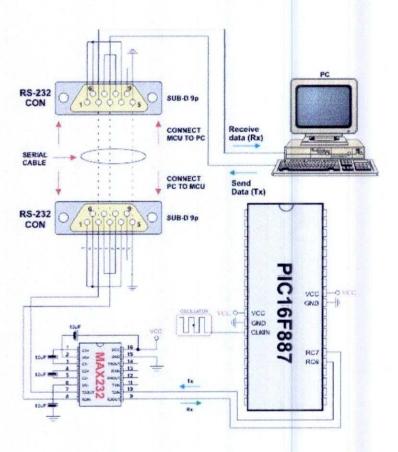


Figure 14: serial port diagram

We used C# library to interface between our computer and micro-controller.

Mechanical:

We have bought a car and interfaced it with our circuit.

Future Proposal:

- Iris detection using other methodology
- Getting precision for any environment usage
- Eye blink detection for clicking
- Implementing it in full length for full screen

Discussions:

At the very beginning of the project our primary goal was to detect eye which we accomplished by neural network but for more precision we moved on to OpenCV. We got satisfying output on detecting our Iris's position. This system can be used anywhere i.e. we can use it like a mouse, in other robotic project.

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