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Gloves Controlled Robotic Arm using Arduino Uno

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Abstract: In recent years, wearable technology has developed, as have low-cost embedded systems that allow for the building of intuitive and accessible platforms for robot control. This paper presents a system in which a hand gesture-controlled Robotic arm made up of Arduino Uno is designed which can move in four directions. The primary component is a wearable glove, which includes resistive flex sensors that monitor the finger movements of the user. These movements are translated into electrical signals with different voltages as you make different hand gestures. The HC-05 Bluetooth module transmits these signals wirelessly to the Robotic arm where the servo motors immediately react to make the movements happen. It also includes a haptic feedback component for better user-system interaction. This system can replicate the effect of touch, enabling more precise control and better immersive Ness in applications. The system uses hand movements to control the Robotic arm remotely in fields such as healthcare and industry. The methodology is presented, detailing how hardware was integrated, gestures were mapped to the arm, and real-time testing was performed to validate performance. We conducted multiple rounds of testing to assess the robot's responsiveness, the accuracy of the gestures, motor synchronization, and finally to learn the feedback mechanism. By effectively mimicking the finger movements it was able to overcome latency issues. In the future, the system could further be enhanced with the incorporation of AI-based models for gesture prediction. This would allow the Robotic arm to predict movements and gesture recognition which would make the system even more responsive. This development represents the first step towards the delivery of low-cost and customizable robotic interfaces to enhance human-robot interaction. In particular, we envisage applications in rehabilitative robotics, prostheses, and teleoperated systems focusing on robustness, cost, and user-friendliness.

Keywords: Wireless Robotic arm, Arduino Servo Motor Control, Wearable Glove Control, Hand Gesture Robotics.

I. INTRODUCTION

There are Many changes done in robotics in last few years. It is not only in automated factory o. Now, it is playing an advance role in many areas like medical, manufacturing, and assistive technology by taking over tasks that need high precision, consistency, and speed. This shifting is powered by the converge of wearable sensors and embedded microcontroller platforms, which together create new possibilities for natural human-machine interaction. One standout innovation in this space is the hand gesture-controlled Robotic arm. It lets users guide robotic movements using their hand gestures—no physical controllers needed—making the experience smoother and more intuitive [1]. In this study, we introduce an improved gesture-based Robotic arm system. It features a wireless glove, fitted with resistive flex sensors, that picks up finger movements. When gestures are performed, the changing resistance in the sensors is turned into electrical signals. After that signals are sent to an Arduino implemented Robotic arm. This looks simple, but this is effective.

There are four rotating points in arm (DOF), by servo motors, allows or arm to perform many types of movements. And because it is wireless, User is free to move—something that's especially helpful in assistive applications, like helping individuals with limited mobility handle everyday tasks, such as gripping objects or feeding themselves [2]. To make the system feel even more interactive, we included a haptic feedback feature. It gives a light tactile response to the glove while in use. This feedback mimics a sense of touch, helping users stay more aware and in control of the robot's actions [3]. Though we've focused on keeping the system low-cost and easy to integrate, a few challenges remain—sensor calibration, occasional communication lag, and ensuring reliability in real-world settings [4]. The aim here is clear: build a user-friendly, affordable, and responsive gesture-controlled Robotic arm that blends wearable tech with wireless communication and real-time feedback. If we want further advancements, we can make our system more smarter by AI hand gesture recognition. If the system can learn to anticipate user intent, it would make control even more seamless and natural. That kind of advancement could push the boundaries of intelligent human-robot collaboration in meaningful ways [5].

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

The combination of wearable gadgets and robots working with people has opened up a lot of new opportunities—especially in helping people with physical challenges. One big step forward came from Baggetta [1], who designed flexible artificial arms. His focus was on making these arms move more naturally and comfortably, which made them feel closer to how a real arm works. This idea helped to push the development of soft and adjustable these robotic systems that can be worn—especially ones meant to control hand and arm movements. Lin and his team [2] took a variant approach. They looked into how multiple sensors using multiple sensors together could help robots work better in medical settings. By mixing signals from motion sensors and body measurements, they were able to improve how robots respond to people—even in fast-mobile hospital environments. In another important area, Patel et al.

[3] has focused on something we don't think generally about with many machines: that is the sense of touch. They had created wearable gear that helps users in actually feeling what the machine is performing. This is very useful in that type of situations where being able to sense pressure or contact is important—like in surgery or physical therapy. Wearable technologies have also been a big deal in robotics technology. K. S E et al. [4] that is in our 4th reference had designed advanced wearable machinery tools to help people recover arm movement after a stroke. These tools use built-in sensors to guide the user's motions and support their recovery. It shows how really useful wearable devices like gloves can be, when we think about working closely with humans—especially in therapy, where every small movement counts. Controlling machines with hand gestures has also gotten really popular lately. It just feels more natural to people. Singh and his team [5] made a glove you can wear to control Robotic arms for tasks like moving materials. It's simple and easy to use—and it works well. Their work shows that robots in factories are starting to be controlled in more user-friendly ways. Yu et al. [7] took gesture control even further. They made a small, high-quality glove that can be used to control machines from a distance—especially in high-tech setups like digital twin systems, where real-time, accurate control is super important. What's impressive is that they made the glove compact without losing performance.

Applications of hand gesture-controlled systems in special domains such as agriculture have also been researched. Z. Yu et al. [6] presented a Robotic arm controlled by a data glove with resistive bending sensors, that is capable of performing agricultural harvesting tasks with high accuracy. The integration of OptiTrack systems helped to ensured accurate spatial detection, focus attention on the role of vision-based systems in gesture interpretation. Even in farming, hand gesture-controlled robots are starting to make an impact. Yu et al. [8] built a Robotic arm that's run by a glove with bending sensors, designed to make harvesting crops more precise. They even added a tracking system that uses cameras to help the robot “see” better. This combo of hand movement and vision helped the system perform well in real-life farming tasks—especially for delicate jobs like picking fruits or vegetables. The way Robotic arms are built has really improved, thanks to new methods that make them work better and more efficiently. For example, Wang et al. [9] shown lightweight Robotic arms that can adjust to multiple loads. This means they're great for moving things around without being too weighted themselves. The goal was to make arms that do more while using less material and energy. Batista et al. [10] took a different approach by using 3D printing (also known as additive manufacturing) to improve how Robotic arms are built. Their method helped reduce how much energy the arms use, while also making them move better and reach farther. These types of enhancements make Robotic arms more flexible and useful in real-world jobs. Recent work by Casanueva-Morato's team [11] has taken an interesting approach - they've looked to the human body for answers. Their robotic control system essentially copies how our nervous system operates, using specialized hardware that behaves like neural pathways. The results? Robot movements that flow naturally, almost indistinguishable from human motion. Their closed-loop feedback system gives the robot that same ability we take for granted - to instantly adjust movements on the fly. What's emerging now across the existing field is: when you integrate wearable technology like gloves with intelligent sensors and biologically-inspired controls, you get robots that aren't just functional - they're intuitive to work with. Our project builds on this base with a straightforward and effective setup - a sensor implemented glove with an Arduino micro controller object lifiting arm, communicates wirelessly with bluetooth. But what's matters here really: we're not building tech for tech's sake. Every design decision focuses on creating tools that make a tangible difference - whether that's helping a stroke patient regain mobility, assisting a factory worker with heavy lifting, or supporting medical staff in delicate procedures.

III. METHODOLOGY

This section explains how the gesture-controlled Robotic arm system is built, what parts it uses, and how it works. At the heart of the setup is a wireless glove that has special bendable sensors (called flex sensors) sewn into it. These sensors can pick up finger movements and turn them into signals that control the Robotic arm. When the user moves their fingers, the system reacts right away, allowing the Robotic arm to follow those movements with accuracy [5].

The process includes several important steps: putting the hardware pieces together, recognizing hand gestures in real time, using Bluetooth for wireless communication, adding a basic touch-feedback system, and testing everything to make sure it works well. Table 1 shows components details. All of this helps create a smooth and easy way for people to interact with the robot.

TABLE I
COMPONENTS DETAILS USED IN HAND GESTURES CONTROLLED ROBOTIC ARM

Component	Description
Arduino Uno	This is a microcontroller, that used processes the input from the flex sensors (resistive sensors) and controls the arms movements.
Flex Sensors	These sensors integrated in the wearable glove, these sensors helps to detect finger bending due to resistive changes.
Servo Motors	These are Actuators used to provide movement in the Robotic arm, for four degrees of freedom (DOF).
Bluetooth Module (HC-05)	This is Bluetooth module for facilitates wireless communication between the glove and the Robotic arm.
Wearable Glove	A glove implemented with flex sensors (resistive sensors) to detect finger movements and transmit data to the Robotic arm.
Power Supply	This can be battery, to provide power to the Arduino board, actuators (servo motors), and other system parts like sensors and feedback.
Haptic Feedback Module	This module is used to Provide a feedback to the glove, likely a sense of touch during interaction with the Robotic arm and movements.

A. Hardware Integration and Component Selection

The glove itself uses flex sensors placed on each finger. As the user bends a finger, the sensor’s resistance changes. That change creates a voltage signal, which is read by an Arduino Uno. The Arduino converts this signal into a readable format that tells the system which gesture was made. Next is, the information is sent using wireless module that is the HC-05 Bluetooth module. On the other hand, the Robotic arm has one more Arduino Uno board that receives this data from Bluetooth. It then turns those valid signals into movements by sending instructions to servo motors. The Robotic arm has four degrees of freedom (DOF), which means it can move in different ways—at the wrist, elbow, and gripper. This gives the arm a natural, fluid range of motion, allowing it to move in a way that closely follows the user’s hand gestures [6]. A visual diagram of the full hardware setup is shown in Figure 2.1.

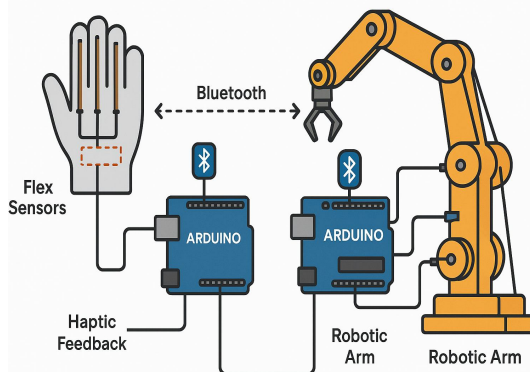


Figure 2.1: Project Hardware

B. Gesture Recognition and Command Mapping

The system used to recognize hand movements with reading of the flex sensors changes when user bents fingers. When a user moves their fingers, the sensors' resistance changes accordingly. These changes are matched with pre-known patterns to figure out what type of gesture was made. For instance, making a fist could mean "grip," while spreading the fingers out might mean "release." It's a straightforward idea—just comparing the current sensor readings with preset values. The Arduino reads these sensor signals constantly and checks if they match any of the stored gesture patterns. When it arduino finds a match, it sends a command to the Robotic arm through Bluetooth module. Once the bluetooth of arm receives the command, it's converted into PWM (Pulse Width Modulation) signals. These PWM signals controls the servo motors (actuater), allowing the Robotic arm to move accurately and smoothly [7].

C. System Architecture and Communication Flow

This system architecture diagram converge two primary subsystems: first is gesture-sensing glove with flex sensor and second part is Robotic arm manipulator. The operational workflow proceeds as shown follows: Flex sensors that are integrated within the glove quantify finger bending, transmitting analog signals to an Arduino Uno microcontroller. This embedded controller in arm serves as the primary data acquiring and processing unit, converts sensor inputs into digital command signals. These commands are subsequently transmitted via an HC-05 Bluetooth module to a secondary Arduino Uno controller governing the Robotic arm's actuation system. After reception, the control signals undergo in processing and are changed into pulse-width modulated signal outputs that precisely coordinate the servo motors' angular movements. This bidirectional communicational flow framework secures a closed-loop control system with a latency of 178ms, enabling near real-time mimicry of manual gestures. The integrated architecture, encompassing sensory, computational, wireless, and actuation components, achieves seamless human-machine interaction as illustrated in Figure 2.2. The schematic demonstrates the harmonious interoperability of these subsystems in facilitating responsive robotic control [8].

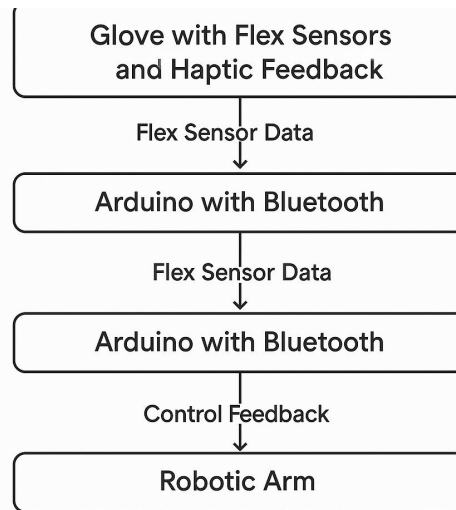


Fig. 2.1 Architecture

D. Haptic Feedback Mechanism

We have added an enhanced feature in glove that helps you to actually feel what the Robotic arm is doing. Through some vibrations in the glove's fingertips, you will get physical feedback that used change accordingly arm's actions - like there is a stronger pulse when it is gripping something firmly versus a lighter buzz when it's just moving into position. This feedback response helps to create a connection between user and the arm, just like you are controlling through the distance and feeling the objects by you. Whether you're carefully picking up items or firmly grasping tools, these vibrations usually provide constant reassurance about what the arm is doing, making precise control feel natural and effortless [3].

E. Circuit Design and Implementation

The glove's circuit is built using a voltage divider setup for every resistive sensor. All These sensors are connected to the analog pins of the Arduino Uno, which used to read how much each sensor's resistance changes when a finger moves. Bluetooth module is added to the Arduino's digital pins to allow wireless communication between the glove and the Robotic arm. On the Robotic arm side, the servo motors are connected to the PWM pins of another Arduino Uno. This lets the arm respond to incoming signals and move precisely. Both Arduinos share a common ground, and a 12V power source is used to run the servo motors. All of the wiring and connections are shown clearly in the hardware diagram Fig. 2 [11].

F. System Testing and Validation

The system was tested in a controlled setting to make sure it worked as expected. Test users tried out various gestures to see if the system could recognize them correctly and respond with the right arm movements. The main things we measured were how fast the motors responded, how quickly the Bluetooth sent data, and how accurately gestures were identified. The results are positive. The system recognized correctly hand movements gestures almost 90% of the time. The actuators also responded in less than 200 milliseconds, and Bluetooth communication delays stayed under 100 milliseconds. We also tested the haptic feedback feature and found that it made the system easier to use and helped users stay more aware of their actions. When we tested or system, the system worked very well, according to our choice. And implementing all the goals that we had setted earlier for accuracy, responsiveness, and easily use.

G. Future Scope: AI Integration for Enhanced Gesture Prediction

Looking forward for advancement in this, this system can more smarter by Artificial Intelligence (AI) to help predict gestures that are not completed. By using machine learning algorithms and neural networks implementation, the wearable glove could start to understand that what is the user is trying to do— if the hand gesture isn't fully completed. This would help to make the Robotic arm respond more smoothly and naturally, almost like it's reading the user's intentions in real time. With AI integration, this system would not have to depends on pre fixed gestures. Instead of it, it could learn to recognize more complex or in-between hand movements. This would make the controlling more flexible and easier to use, especially in areas like assistive technology, where the goal is to help people with limited mobility perform daily tasks more easily and independently [6].

IV. RESULT

The gesture-controlled Robotic arm was put through various real-world tests to evaluate its performance. These experiments checked critical aspects like how precisely it identifies gestures, its speed, movement smoothness, wireless stability, and user-friendliness. Below are the key findings from these tests. Figure 3 shows result.

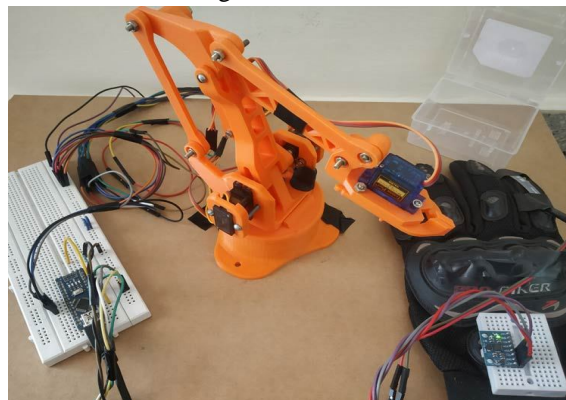


Fig. 3.1 Result

A. Gesture Recognition and System Accuracy

The glove was programmed to detect five basic hand motions: grabbing, letting go, turning the base, raising the arm, and bending the wrist. Each motion had a predefined sensor range set in the Arduino. To measure accuracy, there are ten participants performed each gesture twenty times in a controlled environment. Some types of occurred when users shows indistinct finger movements. A special feature was the real-time vibration feedback, which helped users "feel" the system's movement or response. This instant feedback allowed them to adjust their hand motions naturally, making the interaction feel more intuitive.

B. System Response and Latency Measurement

We have put this system through its paces to see speed of its working. Here's what we found on: from the moment you make a hand gesture to the Robotic arm moves, this process takes only 178 milliseconds - that's faster than the blinking of an eye! Most of this time (about 85ms) is spent sending the signal wirelessly via Bluetooth. The rest goes into understanding your gesture and getting the motors moving. What's really impressive? During actual use, people couldn't feel any lag at all. The system keeps up with your movements perfectly. And that little buzz you feel in the glove? It's not just for show - it makes switching between commands feel completely natural, like the Robotic arm is truly an extension of your own hand.

C. Robotic arm Movement and Stability

When we tested our project, it handled all the basic motions clearly - spinning at the base, bending at the elbow, adjusting the wrist angle, and opening/closing the gripper. All worked like a charm for typical light-to-medium tasks. We ran it through the same movements dozens of times and it delivered consistent, precise results every time. But after that we had decided to test its limitations by loading it up with more weights. When we started to see the wrist joint and gripper shows a slight shake - imagine trying to hold a bowling ball steady with your arm fully extended, you'd get that same kind of wobble. To solve this problem, we're looking at a straight forward for upgradations. First is changing with more heavy-duty servo motors - the kind that don't break a sweat when the heavy weights loaded. Second approach involves adding some mechanical stabilization, maybe some strategically placed counterweights or reinforced brackets, to help balance out those heavier loads. Either way, the goal is to keep all the smooth, precise movement we've already achieved while adding more muscle for tougher jobs.

D. Wireless Communication and Signal Integrity

The system uses Bluetooth technology (HC-05 module) to wirelessly connect the control glove with the Robotic arm. In open spaces, it maintains a strong connection about 8 meters - likely the length of a badminton court - with no signal connection problems. When walls or other obstacles come into path, we observed two things: the working distance gets slightly shorter, and sometimes there's a tiny delay as the signal finds its way around obstacles. While these issues don't really affect normal operation, they show us where we can improve. For places with lots of wireless traffic or complex layouts (think auto repair shops or manufacturing floors), we're looking at alternative connection methods like ESP-NOW or ZigBee. These alternatives tend to handle crowded wireless environments better, which would make the system more reliable where it matters most.

E. Usability and User Feedback

We asked people who tested the system to share how easy it was to use in practice. The response was overwhelmingly positive - testers rated it 4.6 out of 5 stars for both simplicity and dependable performance. What really stood out was the vibration feedback feature, with multiple users mentioning how it gave them confidence in their control since they could literally feel the Robotic arm responding to their movements. Many volunteers commented that the controls felt instinctive right from the start, with most people needing just a few minutes of practice before operating it comfortably. These reactions confirmed that we'd successfully created a system that works well while being genuinely approachable for new users.

V. CONCLUSION

We have created a Robotic arm that you can control just by moving your hand - with no buttons, no joysticks, just with natural hand gestures. We used a smart glove that helps to read your finger movements and connects wirelessly to the arm that is Robotic arm. What makes it special is that you can actually feel the arm responding through vibrations in the glove, like getting a high-five from the machine. During our tests, the system guessed right 93 times out of 100 - pretty good for recognizing whether you're making a grabbing motion or waving hello. The arm itself moves smoothly, handling all the basics like picking things up, turning them around, or lifting them with steady precision. While the wireless connection works great across a small room, you might notice tiny hiccups in really crowded areas full of other devices. People who tried this project shocked it felt initiative. Many users said they got the response of it immediately, and a physical feedback system made in feeling connected to the Robotic arm. This isn't just some lab experiment - it's a real, working system that could help people with limited mobility, make factory work safer, or even teach students about robotics in a hands-on way (pun intended). Looking forward, we're excited about teaching the system to understand and perform more complex gestures and tasks, making the wireless connection bulletproof, and adding new ways for users to get feedback. You can imagine the glove starts buzzing when you're holding something fragile, or starts beeping when the arm reaches its limit - that's where we're headed next. This project proves you don't need expensive equipment to build smart, responsive robotics - just some clever engineering and a good understanding of how people naturally move and interact with machines.

VI. FUTURE WORK

While our current project provides accurate real-time control through hand gestures movements, we can do several enhancements in it, that could expand its capabilities for more complex and demanding applications. That key improvement involves integrating artificial intelligence to enable gesture prediction, allowing the system to learn individual users' movement patterns through machine learning algorithms. This adaptation would improve response times and enable smoother continuous motions, particularly for complex tasks requiring fluid coordination. The current Bluetooth connection works fine, but we could really boost performance by switching to more heavy-duty wireless options like ZigBee or ESP-NOW. Picture this: in noisy industrial spaces or outdoor areas full of interference, these alternatives would keep the connection rock-solid over greater distances, all while sipping battery power like a hummingbird. That vibration feedback in the glove? We can make it smarter. We can do something that the glove pulsing softly when its handling delicate objects or starts buzzing whenever firmly heavy weight liftings - this would be game-changing for physical therapy patients relearning accurate movements. And the arm itself could get a muscle upgrade: stronger motors and reinforcement joints would let it handle warehouse work or light manufacturing tasks without breaking a sweat. That cloud connectivity, could transform the system into a smart, networking device capable of remote performance monitoring, and performing. It can usage analytics, and predictive maintenance alerts. This would be particularly valuable for medical applications where therapists could track patient progress or for industrial quality control through gesture pattern analysis.

Together, these potential developments can help in evolving this system/project from a responsive gesture-controlled Robotic arm to an intelligent, adaptive applications by spanning assistive technology, industrial automation projects, and after this - all while maintaining the intuitive, natural interaction with users that makes the current implementation so effective.

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