CERTIFICATION OF APPROVAL

MICROCONTROLLER BASED SIGN LANGUAGE TRANSLATOR

By

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CERTIFICATION OF ORIGINALITY

This is to certify that I am responsible for the work submitted in this project, that the original work is my own except as specified in the references and acknowledgements, and that the original work contained herein has not been undertaken or performed by unspecified sources or persons.

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ABSTRACT

The communities of vocal impaired and deaf people who use sign language face great communication difficulties with people who use vocal languages. This project, aims to contribute towards bringing the gap closer by offering a tool which translates sign languages to written messages on an LCD display. This report discusses the different development and implementation issues including gesture modeling, sensor interfacing, sign recognition and translation. American Sign Language is widely used in different part of the world including Malaysia; therefore it is considered in this project. The proposed method utilizes five potentiometers to emulate sensor output, a microcontroller to acquire, convert, recognize, translate and display the hand gesture on the LCD unit. The translator can recognize all 26 letters, 10 numbers, and some phrases and words. The presented work is believed to be an entry to more promising and rewarding sign language translation-applications in the future.

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CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION

This chapter discusses the background of the study, the problem statement, project objectives and scope.

1.1 Background of Study

A sign language is widely used by people who suffer from vocal impairment or hearing problems in which the communicators use visually transmitted signs to convey meanings. The deaf community which utilizes sign language is estimated to be 0.1% of total population, which means millions of people worldwide [1]. This large community faces great difficulties in communicating with normal people. Several attempts have been made to break this gap between sign language users and conventional vocal language communicators by introducing tools that can interpret the meaning for both sides. This project aims to deliver a prototype which interprets the signal made by a sign language communicator into a displayed message on LCD. This project is believed to be a base for future work in this area.

1.2 Problem Statement

Sign language generally utilizes manual movement to convey meanings. This language is not understood by average people. The majority of people understand visually written letters, while sign language users can only use manual signs. In order to break the gap, a set of sensors can be used on the signer to efficiently convert the signs made to electrical signals which in return can be understood by a personal computer (PC) and interpreted accordingly. However, the use of PC does not make the solution mobile and easy to carry. Therefore, a simple IC based circuitry interface (i.e. microcontroller) is required to replace the job of PC. In general, such replacement involves several challenges due to the limited resources which are normally found in conventional ICs (i.e. microcontrollers).

1.3 Project Objectives and Scope

The aim of this project is to construct a prototype which interprets basic signs into a readable text on an LCD. In order to realize such prototype, the ASL language is chosen for the implementation and the following objectives are considered:

- 1. Obtaining a numerical representation all gestures used in the sign language
- 2. Constructing a sign language dictionary
- 3. Prototyping a translation system using set of potentiometers, a microcontroller and LCD modules.

The project is envisaged to deliver a prototype which makes use of a set of **potentiometers to model the actual sign gestures** which can be later replaced to an accurate data glove. A microcontroller with different communication modules is to be used to acquire, manipulate and display the signs being detected by the sensors. A display unit which is as simple as a 2 line-LCD is to be used to display detected messages.

Throughout the implementation of the proposed translation system, only **motionless** signs (i.e. static signs which do not involve any movement of hands, arms, fingers, head or body to convey the meaning) are considered. The motions are essential for several sign vocabulary, however they require complex detection and processing system to detect and interpret them.

1.4 Limitations

The implementation of such project involves several challenges throughout the different development phases. This project ultimately requires a microprocessor system to interface with a sensor unit and to process the reading of the sensor to deliver the final written message on a display unit. The processing of data requires some noise filtering, data acquisition and recognition algorithms in order to robustly deliver the final output. These processes, in addition to sign dictionary data, require significant memory capacity which is not available on most of the commonly used

microcontroller systems.

Additionally, low power consumption for portable devices is a major concern. This is to ensure convenience of usage without compromising the performance of the proposed design. This makes an advantage of using optimized integrated components versus separated ones. For example, a microcontroller with embedded USB peripheral (PIC18F4550) consumes lower power than two separate units comprising a microcontroller and USB interface modules.

1.5 Organization of Report

This report contains five chapters including Chapter 1 which consists of introductory parts for the work and the rest is organized as follows; Chapter 2 lists some preliminaries on sign language and the most recent translation systems developed by researchers. The methodology adopted in this work throughout the development stages is described in Chapter 3. The methodology discusses the components used to develop the system, the software and tools used in the key milestones of the development, and the algorithms used. The results and discussion are reported in Chapter 4. Concluding remarks are reported in Chapter 5.

CHAPTER 2 LITERATURE REVIEW

In this chapter, the previous work which is relevant to this project is presented.

2.1 Preliminaries

Sign language which is based on visual manipulation of hands and body is the language of deaf and vocally impaired people. It is interesting to know that sign language is not universal. Despite the fact that most vocabulary and grammar of sign languages worldwide are quite similar, they are not typically identical [1]. For example the particular word "women" have different sign representation in Auslan, Israeli and DSL sign languages [1]. However, studies indicate that most of world's sign languages have a great portion of identical vocabulary.



Figure 1: Letter "A" in American Sign Language [2]

On the other side, sign language does not follow the same rules of grammar as for vocal languages [1]. The surrounding vocal language has a significant impact in shaping a particular sign language. This explains the difference in sign languages globally. In this project, we will consider the American Sign Language (ASL) [2] as it shares major similarity with Malaysian Sign Language (or in Malay: Bahasa Isyarat Malaysia : BIM) and is well documented. The letters and the first ten numbers will be tentatively considered in the proposed system. Figure 1 shows example of letter "A" in ASL.

2.2 Related Work

Several attempts have been made to translate sign language to vocal languages and vice versa. J.M. Allen *et al.* in [3] presented a system which translates spoken English to sign language. In this work, the authors discussed an algorithm implemented in personal computer which can automate the translation of spoken and written English language and displays the equivalent via an avatar animated sign interpreter.

P. Mekala et al. and R. Akmeliawati et al. in [4], [5] discussed an algorithm which utilizes neural network to capture the sign from a camera and process it accordingly to give the English translation. This method requires less expensive hardware but more complicated algorithm to interpret the signs. In order to translate a sign, the image is captured and tracked, then the hand posture is extracted and the corresponding meaning is matched using a learned neural network.

Implementing a recognition system on an ARM processor is discussed in [6]. In this work, the practical aspects of real time blabbering recognition and translation are discussed. The system shows different practical aspects of the implementation of language recognition in embedded systems.

Another interesting work is discussed by R.M. McGuire *et al.* in [7]. In this work, a mobile sign translator based on one hand data glove and a Hidden Markov Model are used. The proposed system shows 94% accuracy for a particular scenario whereby a signer is seeking an apartment.

N. El-Bendary et al. attempted to implement arSLAT which recognizes sign representation of Arabic letters and gives the written equivalence [8]. The system processes a video which contains series of image representations for the letters. The

best captured image from the video undergoes several phases including categorization, feature extraction and classification before the Arabic letter is finally recognized. Experimental results show 91% of recognition accuracy.

In summary, this short listing for some of the most relevant work all around the world, show the global potentiality of the problem. It also highlights different areas of focus for the implementation of sign language translators. This includes: sensing devices, processing platform (PC, embedded processors, etc.), recognition algorithms, and output forms. In this project, the focus will be in implementing the translation system in microcontroller processing environment.

2.3 Recognition and Translation Algorithm: Fuzzy Logic

Fuzzy logic is a form of many-valued logics; it conceptually deals with reasoning that is approximate rather than fixed and exact. In contrast with the traditional logic theory, where binary variables have two logic values: true or false, fuzzy logic variables may have a truth value that ranges in degree between 0 and 1. Fuzzy logic has been extended to handle the concept of partial truth. In partial truth, the truth value may range between completely true and completely false. Furthermore, when linguistic variables are used, these degrees may be managed by specific functions.

The fuzzy logic is similar to some extent with the human reasoning. It allows for approximate values and inferences as well as incomplete or ambiguous data (fuzzy data) as opposed to only relying on crisp data (binary yes/no choices). Fuzzy logic is able to process incomplete data and provide approximate solutions to problems other methods find difficult to solve. The terminology used in fuzzy logic but not used in other methods is: very high, increasing, somewhat decreased, reasonable and very low.

It is relevant to note that fuzzy logic and probabilistic logic are similar in a mathematical point of view, but conceptually distinct. Fuzzy logic corresponds to "degrees of truth", while probabilistic logic corresponds to "probability, likelihood"; as these differ, fuzzy logic and probabilistic logic yield different models of the same real-world situations [9].

CHAPTER 3 METHODOLOGY

In this part, the methodology used to realize the project is discussed.

3.1 Project Development Flow Chart

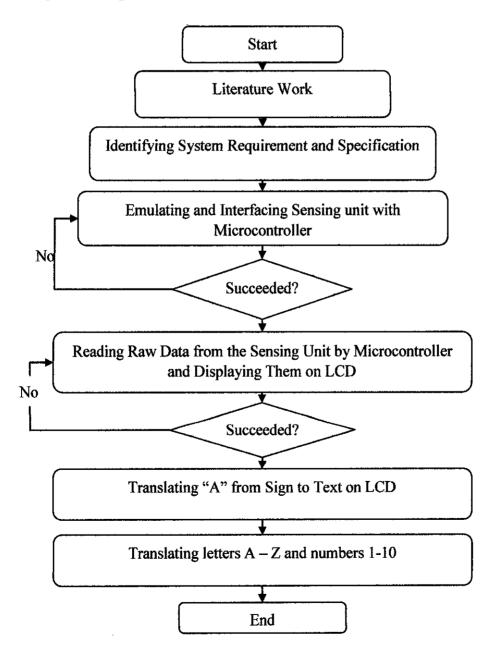


Figure 2: General Flow Chart of Project Work

The overall flow of the project can be divided into further detailed steps which are shown in Gantt chart in Appendix A)

3.2 System Identification and Tools

Throughout the development stage of the prototype of the project, several tools are potentially considered as shown in Figure 3.

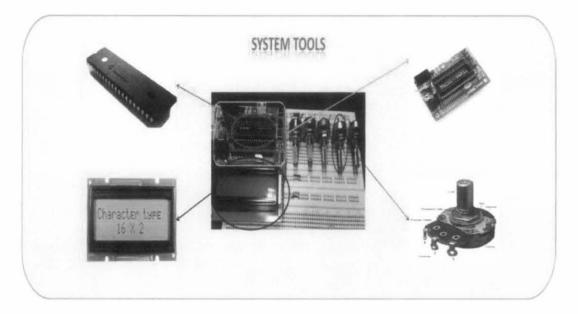


Figure 3: System Tools (PIC, Board, LCD and Potentiometers)

The tools used for the implementation of the translation system and the respective functional and technical details are discussed in the following sections.

3.2.1 Potentiometer

A potentiometer is a simple three terminals variable resistor. It comes in different values for the resistance across its ends. A third terminal in the middle is connected via a moving knob to adjust the resistance at this terminal from 0 to full value in relation to either ends. Figure 4 shows the isometric view, internal configuration and schematic of the potentiometer.

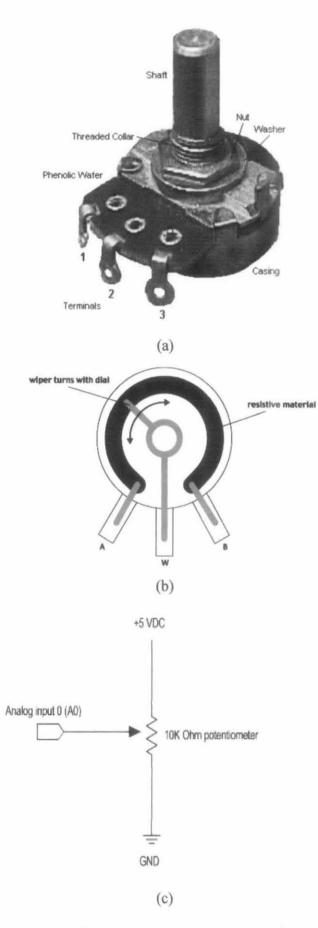


Figure 4: Potentiometer a) Isometric View b) Internal onfiguration c) schematic

The potentiometer is used to emulate and produce 0-5 V analog output. It has generally similar output range of a possible gesture sensor; this allows it to be used as a simplified model for gesture sensor. Therefore it can be used to emulate a fingers gesture sensing unit.

3.2.2 PIC microcontroller

A mid range microcontroller from Microchip is to be used. This selection enables the developers to deal with the prototype with more flexibility and efficiency.

The PIC18F4550 [11] is among the most commonly used Microchip microcontrollers barely because of its USB communication support capabilities. The PIC18F4550 is a 40-pin high performance microcontroller which is equipped with several built-in peripherals (Figure 5). The proposed system may require the USB support for advanced used, therefore, the selection is made to enable future development and flexibility of functionality expansion.

Along with the USB support, the microcontroller is featured with different processing modes, configurable internal oscillators, extendable instruction set which makes it a high performance yet power efficient microcontroller. The most important specifications to consider are reported in Table 1. The 32KB flash memory allows long programs (more than 16 thousands assembly code lines) to be executed. The data used along the execution of the program (i.e. variables' data) are saved in SRAM memory which is 2KB in size for the PIC18F4550 microcontroller.

Some of the peripherals of the microcontroller are not considered as the proposed system does not require them, however, it is likely that normal I/O operation are to be used instead to allow access to other direct digital transmission based devices such as LCD.

Program Memory		1	Data Memory			CCP/		MS	MSSP		tors	v
Bytes	Instructions	SRAM	EEPROM	УO	/O A/D	A/D ECCP PWM	SPP	SPI	I2C	EAUSA	Comparators	Timers
32K	16384	2048	256	35	13	1/1	Yes	Yes	Yes	1	2	1/3

Table 1: PIC18F4550 Specification

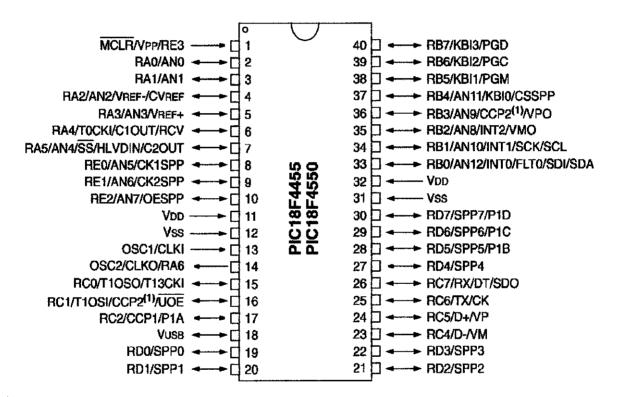


Figure 5: PIC18F4550 Pin Diagram

3.2.3 CCS C compiler

In order to program the microcontroller, a compiler is to be utilized. In this project, the PIC C compiler from CCS is to be used.

The CCS C compiler is easy to use, and almost immediate to get started due to the project wizard feature and the different startup codes which it offers.

Among the features of CCS C compiler:

- Automatic fuses configuration
- Extensive built-in functions providing direct access to PIC hardware
- Extensive source code driver library
- Arithmetic library
- Integrated development environment

3.2.4 PIC development kit and programmer

To speed up the development phase, a startup kit [12] is used as the platform of the microcontroller circuit. The use of this tool provides easier and more robust circuit to be built. The board in Figure 6 provides several functionalities and circuitry support. The kit is a robust development platform which offers:

- Voltage regulation circuitry (9 V input voltage to 5 V output voltage)
- Reset button
- USB port
- Connector to programmer
- Optional connection to LCD and UART
- 2 switches and 2 LEDs connected to Port B



Figure 6: SK40C PIC Start-up Kit

In order to transfer the C codes to the program memory of the microcontroller, USB ICSB programmer (UIC00B) [13] is considered (see Figure 7). This programmer is a cheap programming solution and is highly compatible with the SK40C startup kit.



Figure 7: UIC00B USB ICSP PIC Programmer

The programming software (PIC kit 2) takes the hex file which is produced by CCS compiler and loads it to the microcontroller memory via the UIC00B programmer. The interface between the PIC board and the programmer is shown in Figure 8.

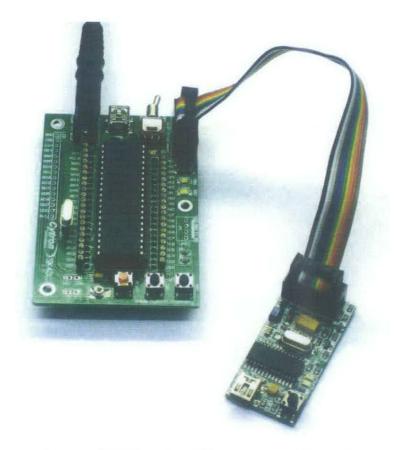


Figure 8: PIC Board and Programmer Connection

3.3 PIC Programming Methodology

The several steps required to implement and realize the developed C codes on the target board are discussed in this part. The steps are illustrated in the flow chart shown in Figure 9. The steps involve the following:

• **Project Creation using project wizard**: (see Figure 10) In CCS C compiler the best way to develop code is to start by project wizard. The project wizard provides a good utility which automatically generates startup codes with the proper fuses (configuration) setting, #include files, peripheral setups and main function. This is very useful for beginners and produces very robust codes.

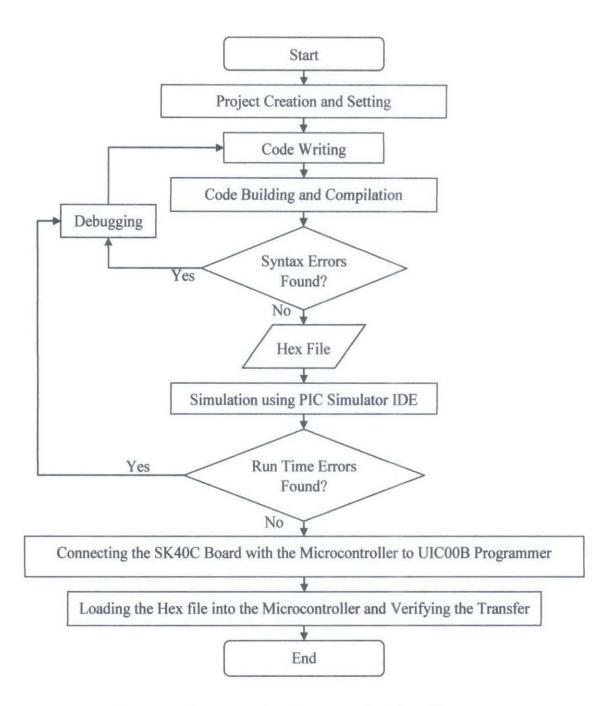


Figure 9: Microcontroller Programming Flow Chart

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nacion na		Detection Protection No brow auf water Git Concert Holp	

Figure 10: Programming Step #1: PICC Project Wizard

• C Code edition: This is where the developer writes the actual code by editing the main function and adding more functions according to the needs of the application (see Figure 11). The CCS C syntax follows the syntax of the standard ANSI C to a good extent.

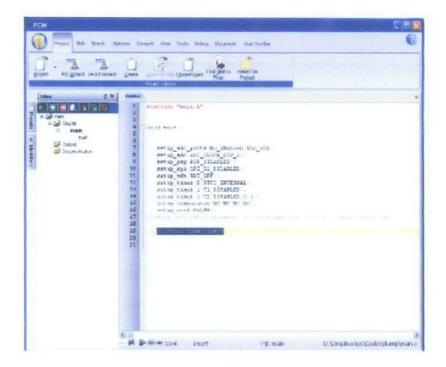


Figure 11: Programming Step #2: Code Edition

 Building and Compilation: The C codes remain as C codes until they are built and compiled by the compiler to produce the machine codes and hex file specifically. In this step, the compiler checks the codes for syntax errors and report to the programmer if any exists.

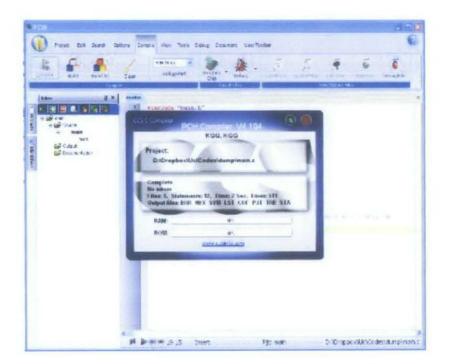


Figure 12: Programming Step #3: Building/Compilation

Simulation (optional): Before loading the produced machine code (by the C compiler), it is worthy to see how the PIC would work when the code is to be loaded to the microcontroller. PIC simulator IDE offers realistic simulation interface whereby all the inputs and outputs can be monitored. Input pins can be easily stimulated and several configurable output devices are available.

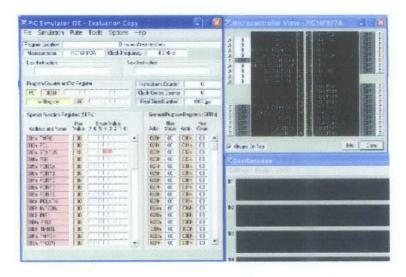


Figure 13: Programming Step #4: Simulation (Optional)

• **Debugging (optional)**: This is where the errors are rechecked and corrected by the programmer.

Prior Tell T		6	-
2 Select communitations port	Partent Los 4mm	inal Lag - 105 and 19 9 Bulakt - Bank - 9	
	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 A	- Renne Lears Lea	
The following dial st of the available SDR ports on the PC. Sevent appendix disk (C).		147	
	The part of the R		
(ALCE	And Address of the other states		
⊖a.#	The second	1.12	
0.000	Distance and		
Oare	a average		
	Provide Trade Later Destroya		
M Max Delv Schut willing Of Canad Relay	the second second		
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A Dewerty Inst	State and	and the second	Sector Market

Figure 14: Programming Step #5: In Circuit Debugging (Optional)

- Preparing the system for program loading: The microcontroller has to be connected to the programmer (UIC00B) via certain pins as shown in the respective datasheet. In our case, fortunately the pins are accessible to the programmer via dedicated connection port and cable as shown in Figure 8. The programmer has to be known for the PC hosting the PICkit software by proper installation as described in the respective installation manual. The UIC00B programmer is USB device.
- Loading the Hex file to the microcontroller: The PICkit is used to load the hex file to the microcontroller. After this step the system is ready to run and the programmer can be disconnected from the board as the microcontroller does not require the connection anymore and in fact it may cause some malfunction to the circuit.

3.4 Sign Language Translation Procedure

The translation procedure involves several issues, tasks and algorithms. The following part discusses these challenges and explains the methodologies adopted in this work. The flow chart of the translation system is shown in Figure 15.

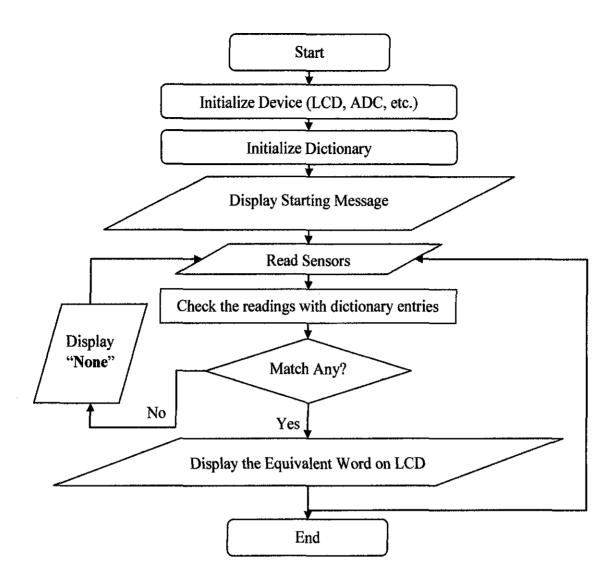


Figure 15: Translation Flow Chart

The translation is basically a closed loop in which the sensors are read, compared and if recognized, the results are displayed on the LCD unit. The reading of the sensors is compared to a dictionary which is created according to the ASL dictionary. The dictionary consists of a set of numerical representation to the gestures of the five fingers (thumb, index, middle, ring and little). The modeling and the numerical representation of the gesture are described in the following part.

3.4.1 Sensor reading and display

The first step on the hardware development of the system is to realize the interface between the PIC and the sensing unit. Initially the sensing unit is assumed to be simple potentiometers and therefore, the PIC is required to establish a communication with the potentiometers. The ADC peripheral in the PIC is used to implement this function. Five pins are devoted for this purposes which are: A0, A1, A2, A3, and A5. The first step in implementation is to set the proper configuration using the project wizard in CCS C compiler as follows:

- Selecting PIC18F4550 (as it is the target PIC)
- Oscillator frequency: 20,000,000 Hz (as used in the development board)
- For the oscillator fuses, choose the configuration: High speed Osc (> 4mhz, for PCM/PCH) (>10mhz for PCD)
- <u>Unselect</u> option : "PORTB pins are configured as analog input channels"
- For the analog configuration, the following is used:
 - o A0, A1, A2, A3, A5
 - o Range 0-Vdd
 - o Units: 0-255
 - Internal 2-6µs for the clock

A startup code is generated upon making the above settings. An LCD is used to display the data. The full source code is listed in Appendix B.

3.4.2 Signs gesture representation

It is known that each letter or word in sign language is composed of gestures made by the five fingers of the hand. In order to obtain a numerical representation for each gesture, 16 gestures per finger are identified to be the basic building block for each sign as shown in Table 2.

Gesture Code	Gesture Description	Gesture Code	Gesture Description
G0000	Inflexed finger	G0032	Lower joint half bent
G1000	Upper Joint flexed	G1032	Upper+ Lower joint half bent
G0200	Middle joint flexed	G0232	Middle+ Lower joint half bent
G1200	Middle + Upper joint flexed	G1232	Upper+ Middle+ Lower joint half ben
G0031	Lower joint tilts aside	G0033	Lower joint fully bent
G1031	Upper+ Lower joint tilts aside	G1033	Upper+ Lower joint fully bent
G0231	Middle+ Lower joint tilts aside	G0233	Middle+ Lower joint fully bent
G1231	Upper +Middle +Lower joint tilts aside	G1233	Upper +Middle +Lower joint fully ben

Table 2: Basic Gesture Meaning

For each sign entry in the dictionary, the gesture represented by each finger is identified according to the table above and numerical values are assigned according to Table 3.

Each gesture is assigned to an arbitrary number from (0-255) with a 16 digits step. The gaps between the gestures are later exploited to identify fuzzy limits between the gestures.

Gesture	Numerical Equivalent	Gesture	Numerical Equivalent	
Code	Numerical Equivalent	Code	Tumorear Equivation	
G0000	0	G0032	128	
G1000	16	G1032	144	
G0200	32	G0232	160	
G1200	48	G1232	176	
G0031	64	G0033	192	
G1031	80	G1033	208	
G0231	96	G0233	224	
G1231	112	G1233	240	

Table 3: Numerical Representation of Gestures

3.4.3 Letter matching algorithm

The signals resembling letters and numbers do not have a strict set of Boolean values. This would suggest the use of Fuzzy logic based algorithm. The signs by nature are not exact and identical to all users. When detecting such signs, the detected signal for the same sign but from different users will vary but should still be close. This consequently leads us to select a fuzzy algorithm to store and match the sign language dictionary.

In fuzzy algorithm, the values of its variable are not in simple TRUE (1) and FALSE (0) patterns, however discrete values representing wide range of trueness and falseness ranging from extremely true to extremely false are typically considered.

In the case of sign language translator, the variables are the reading of sensors and the exact number of sensors depends on the type of sensor system. Each sensor is described by 8 bits value ranging from totally flexed to totally inflexed; however for more general case, the size of the variable (number of bits) depends on the accuracy of the sensor.

The reading of the sensor is to be later compared to find the similar letter which the gesture resembles. The letters, on the other hand, are to be represented by a set of values for each sensor. The fuzzy part comes here, whereby; the values representing each letter describe the upper limit and lower limit for each sensor value. This means, a typical letter or word, is represented by several variables describing the upper limit for the sensors and another set of variables describing the lower limit for the sensors. In addition to that another variable is required to store the equivalent word itself.

The data structure comprising of the lower limit for the sign from each sensor, the upper limit for the sign from each sensor and the equivalent word represents a single entry in the proposed sign dictionary. A look-up table is then to be made consisting of all data structures holding the entries for each sign and the corresponding meaning. The entries in the look up table are to be derived empirically.

A simplified version of the translation system is implemented using three words based on the reading of five sensors. The code is listed in Appendix C and the results are shown and discussed in next chapter.

3.4.4 Dictionary construction

As explained previously, in order to enable the translation, a dictionary holding the gesture and the equivalent word has to be constructed. The construction of the dictionary is shown in Figure 16.

The flow shows the steps adopted in realizing the dictionary. In C programming a **struct** data type is used to represent each dictionary entry. The dictionary is simply an array of "**struct**" data types. The maximum number of entries depends on the size of the data memory (RAM). In the future, a separate memory chip is required to store larger number of entries.

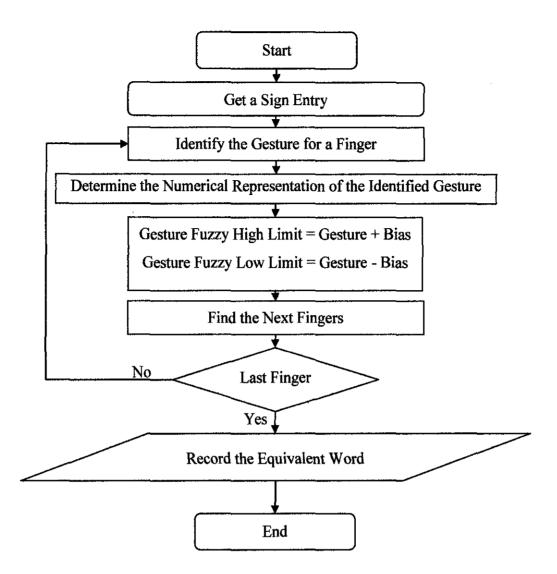


Figure 16: Dictionary Construction Flow Chart, Bias value is 7

The methodology shown in Figure 16 is used to obtain and construct the sign dictionary. The sign versions of the letters from A to Z and numbers from 1 to 10 and the "I love you" phrase are considered from [2] and consequently the sign dictionary is constructed in Table 4.

The entries of the table actually show the range of the five sensor values and the equivalent word. As example the sign which gives a value in the range of (G1031L to G1031) for the thumb sensor, (G0233L to G0233) for the index sensor, (G1031L to G1031) for the middle sensor, (G1233L to G1233) for the ring sensor and (G1233L to G1233) for the little sensor represents the letter A.

		Equivalent				
Fuzzy Range	Thumb	Index	Middle	Ring	Little	Word
Lower Fuzzy Limit	G1031L	G0233L	G0233L	G1233L	G1233L	А
Upper Fuzzy Limit	G1031H	G0233H	G0233H	G1233H	G1233H	А
Lower Fuzzy Limit	G0031L	G0000L	G0000L	G0000L	G0000L	В
Upper Fuzzy Limit	G0031H	G0000H	G0000H	G0000H	G0000H	D
Lower Fuzzy Limit	G0000L	G0200L	G0200L	G0200L	G0200L	С
Upper Fuzzy Limit	G0000H	G0200H	G0200H	G0200H	G0200H	C
Lower Fuzzy Limit	G1200L	G0000L	G1232L	G1232L	G1232L	D
Upper Fuzzy Limit	G1200H	G0000H	G1232H	G1232H	G1232H	Ъ
Lower Fuzzy Limit	G1231L	G1200L	G1200L	G1200L	G1200L	Е
Upper Fuzzy Limit	G1231H	G1200H	G1200H	G1200H	G1200H	Ľ
Lower Fuzzy Limit	G1032L	G0232L	G0000L	G0031L	G0031L	F
Upper Fuzzy Limit	G1032H	G0232H	G0000H	G0031H	G0031H	1
Lower Fuzzy Limit	G0032L	G0032L	G1233L	G1233L	G1233L	G
Upper Fuzzy Limit	G0032H	G0032H	G1233H	G1233H	G1233H	U
Lower Fuzzy Limit	G1232L	G0032L	G0032L	G0233L	G0233L	Н
Upper Fuzzy Limit	G1232H	G0032H	G0032H	G0233H	G0233H	11
Lower Fuzzy Limit	G1200L	G0233L	G0233L	G0233L	G0000L	I
Upper Fuzzy Limit	G1200H	G0233H	G0233H	G0233H	G0000H	
Lower Fuzzy Limit	G1200L	G0233L	G0233L	G0233L	G0000L	J
Upper Fuzzy Limit	G1200H	G0233H	G0233H	G0233H	G0000H	
Lower Fuzzy Limit	G0232L	G0000L	G0033L	G0233L	G0233L	K
Upper Fuzzy Limit	G0232H	G0000H	G0033H	G0233H	G0233H	
Lower Fuzzy Limit	G0000L	G0000L	G0233L	G0233L	G0233L	L
Upper Fuzzy Limit	G0000H	G0000H	G0233H	G0233H	G0233H	
Lower Fuzzy Limit	G0232L	G0033L	G0033L	G0033L	G1233L	М
Upper Fuzzy Limit	G0232H	G0033H	G0033H	G0033H	G1233H	
Lower Fuzzy Limit	G1232L	G0232L	G0232L	G0233L	G0233L	N
Upper Fuzzy Limit	G1232H	G0232H	G0232H	G0233H	G0233H	
Lower Fuzzy Limit	G1200L	G1232L	G1232L	G1232L	G1232L	0

Table 4: Dictionary Table (A-Z, 1-10 and I love you)

Upper Fuzzy Limit	G1200H	G1232H	G1232H	G1232H	G1232H	
Lower Fuzzy Limit	G0032L	G0000L	G0033L	G0233L	G0233L	
Upper Fuzzy Limit	G0032H	G0000H	G0033H	G0233H	G0233H	Р
Lower Fuzzy Limit	G0032L	G0033L	G1233L	G1233L	G1233L	
Upper Fuzzy Limit	G0032H	G0033H	G1233H	G1233H	G1233H	Q
Lower Fuzzy Limit	G0232L	G0000L	G0031L	G0232L	G0233L	D
Upper Fuzzy Limit	G0232H	G0000H	G0031H	G0232H	G0233H	R
Lower Fuzzy Limit	G0232L	G1233L	G1233L	G1233L	G1233L	S
Upper Fuzzy Limit	G0232H	G1233H	G1233H	G1233H	G1233H	5
Lower Fuzzy Limit	G0232L	G0232L	G0233L	G0233L	G0233L	Т
Upper Fuzzy Limit	G0232H	G0232H	G0233H	G0233H	G0233H	1
Lower Fuzzy Limit	G0200L	G0000L	G0000L	G0232L	G0232L	U
Upper Fuzzy Limit	G0200H	G0000H	G0000H	G0232H	G0232H	0
Lower Fuzzy Limit	G0200L	G0031L	G0000L	G0233L	G0233L	v
Upper Fuzzy Limit	G0200H	G0031H	G0000H	G0233H	G0233H	v
Lower Fuzzy Limit	G0233L	G0031L	G0000L	G0031L	G0232L	w
Upper Fuzzy Limit	G0233H	G0031H	G0000H	G0031H	G0232H	٧V
Lower Fuzzy Limit	G1232L	G1200L	G1233L	G1233L	G1233L	x
Upper Fuzzy Limit	G1232H	G1200H	G1233H	G1233H	G1233H	л
Lower Fuzzy Limit	G0000L	G1233L	G1233L	G1233L	G0000L	Y
Upper Fuzzy Limit	G0000H	G1233H	G1233H	G1233H	G0000H	1
Lower Fuzzy Limit	G1232L	G0000L	G1233L	G1233L	G1233L	Z
Upper Fuzzy Limit	G1232H	G0000H	G1233H	G1233H	G1233H	IJ
Lower Fuzzy Limit	G1233L	G0000L	G1233L	G1233L	G1233L	1
Upper Fuzzy Limit	G1233H	G0000H	G1233H	G1233H	G1233H	L
Lower Fuzzy Limit	G1232L	G0031L	G0000L	G1233L	G1233L	2
Upper Fuzzy Limit	G1232H	G0031H	G0000H	G1233H	G1233H	2
Lower Fuzzy Limit	G0000L	G0031L	G0000L	G1233L	G1233L	3
Upper Fuzzy Limit	G0000H	G0031H	G0000H	G1233H	G1233H	
Lower Fuzzy Limit	G0233L	G0031L	G0000L	G0031L	G0031L	4
Upper Fuzzy Limit	G0233H	G0031H	G0000H	G0031H	G0031H	
Lower Fuzzy Limit	G0000L	G0031L	G0000L	G0031L	G0031L	5
Upper Fuzzy Limit	G0000H	G0031H	G0000H	G0031H	G0031H	

I arrian Ereman I insit	CODDOT	G0031L	COOOT	C0021T	CODDOT	
Lower Fuzzy Limit	G0232L	GUUSIL	G0000L	G0031L	G0232L	6
Upper Fuzzy Limit	G0232H	G0031H	G0000H	G0031H	G0232H	Ĩ
Lower Fuzzy Limit	G0232L	G0031L	G0000L	G1232L	G0031L	7
Upper Fuzzy Limit	G0232H	G0031H	G0000H	G1232H	G0031H	1
Lower Fuzzy Limit	G0200L	G0031L	G1232L	G0031L	G0031L	8
Upper Fuzzy Limit	G0200H	G0031H	G1232H	G0031H	G0031H	0
Lower Fuzzy Limit	G0200L	G1233L	G0000L	G0031L	G0031L	9
Upper Fuzzy Limit	G0200H	G1233H	G0000H	G0031H	G0031H	7
Lower Fuzzy Limit	G0031L	G1233L	G1233L	G1233L	G1233L	10
Upper Fuzzy Limit	G0031H	G1233H	G1233H	G1233H	G1233H	10
Lower Fuzzy Limit	G0000L	G0000L	G0233L	G0233L	G0000L	I Love You
Upper Fuzzy Limit	G0000H	G0000H	G0233H	G0233H	G0000H	

3.4.5 Translation of letters and numbers from sign language to written language

Upon the construction of the sign dictionary, the recognition phase for the full entries would be developed. Since the aim of the project is to prove the capability of the system to translate, this level of implementation, by considering letters and ten numbers, is considered sufficient.

The translation is done by getting the values of the sensors and comparing with the corresponding lower and upper fuzzy limits for each entry in the dictionary table. Once the reading of the five sensors fall within all the corresponding lower and upper limits of a particular entry, the associated word is recognized as the equivalent word for the sign input.

The maximum size of entries which can be recognized is potentially governed by the memory size of the microcontroller. The complete source code implemented is listed and fully commented in Appendix D, Appendix E and Appendix F.

A full translation example is explained and shown in Figure 17.

	TRAN	SLATIO		ROCEDURE
Code	G	enutas	Code	Gesture
G0000	infiex	ed finger	G0032	Lower joint half bent
G1000	Upper.	loint flexed	G1032	Upper+ Lower Joint haif bent
G0200	Middle	joint flexed	G0232	Middle+ Lower joint haif bent
G1200	Middle + U	oper joint flewed	G1232	Upper+ Middle+ Lower joint half bent
G0031	Lower jo	int tilts aside	G0033	Lower Joint fully bent
G1031	Upper+ Low	er joint tilts aside	G1033	Upper+ Lower jointfully bent
G8231	Middle+ Low	ər jointtilts asidə	G0233	Middle+ Lower jointfully bent
G1231	Upper +Midle +	Lower joint tits aste	G1233	Upper +Middle +Lower jointfully bent
Т		, Index:G0000,		:G0000, Ring:G0000 and
Cot	le Sensi	or Reading	Code	Sensor Reading
GUD	DD	0 +7	G0032	128 +1-7
G10	00 1	5 +-7	G1032	144 +5-7
G02	00 3	2 +1-7	G8232	168 +-7

Thumb: 64 +/- 7, Index: 0, Middle: 0, Ring: 0 and Little: 0

G1232

G0033

G1033

G0233

G1233

176 +-7

192 +1-7

208 +1-7

240 +-7

224

++-7

48 ++-7

64 +1-7

80 +1-7

96 +1-7

112 +-7

G1200

G0031

G1031

G0231

G1231



Figure 17: Full Translation Procedure Example

3.5 Summary

The methodology in implementing the translation system including the hardware, software and algorithm aspects is thoroughly discussed in this chapter. The results of some experimental work are reported in the next chapter.

CHAPTER 4 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This chapter reports part of the results of the work followed by a section for discussion.

4.1 Sensor Reading and Display

In this experiment five potentiometers are used to emulate real sensor readings. The potentiometers have three terminals (see Figure 18); when connecting the first and the third terminals to VDD and GND, the output voltage will be in the range of 0-5 V depending on the position of the wiper. This range of voltages are converted using the built-in ADC in the PIC. The converted values are shown in the range of 0 to 255, whereby 0 is 0 V and 255 is 5 V.

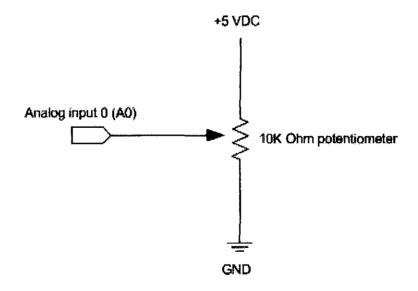


Figure 18: Potentiometer Connected to Analog input

A 2x16 LCD is used to display the values of sensors (potentiometers) readings. The working circuit with instantaneous conversion and display is shown in Figure 19. This figure shows the five potentiometers connected to the PIC to pins: A0, A1, A2, A3, and A5. The ADC unit converts the values and the PIC displays the values via the LCD.

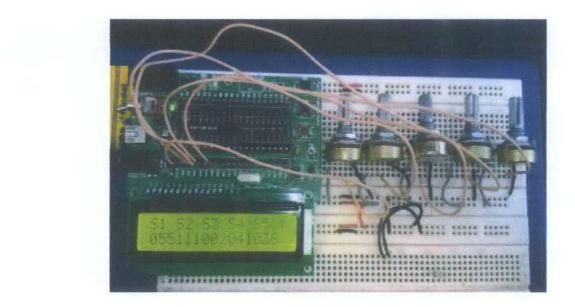
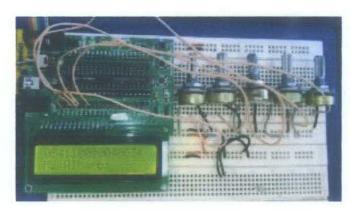


Figure 19: 5 Potentiometer, LCD and PIC interfacing circuitry

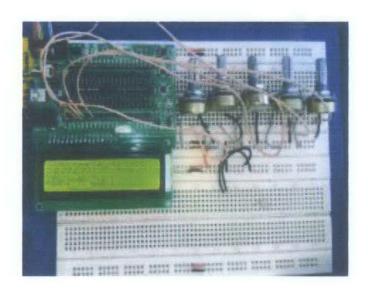
4.2 Basic Translation Based on Sensors Reading

In this experiment the readings from sensors are compared to different arbitrary values to show different messages accordingly. This experiment is an important start towards the full translation system. This is because; the translation likely comprises a lookup table and a set of comparisons with sensor readings to show a particular word.

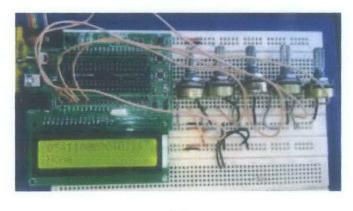
Three messages were used in this experiment: "M. Alharbi", "Dr. Zuki" and "None" - when the sensors are all under 125, above 125, and otherwise, respectively. Figure 20 shows the three cases, whereby the LCD displays the reading of the sensors on the first line while displaying the equivalent message on the second line.



(a)



(b)



(c)

Figure 20: Basic Translation Based on Sensors Reading (a) Displaying "M. Alharbi" (b) Displaying "Dr. M Zuki" (c) Displaying "None"

4.3 Translation System Using a Set of Potentiometers

In this experiment, a translation system based on a set of potentiometers is considered. The system is implemented based on the codes listed in Appendix D, Appendix E and Appendix F. The system with the five potentiometers, LCD and mother board is shown in Figure 21. Figure 22 shows the system starting message.



Figure 21: Translation System Components: 5 Potentiomenters, Main Board (SK40C board), and LCD



Figure 22: Translation System Startup, LCD is displaying the "Strarting"

message

The gestures for the letters, numbers and some words were obtained and implemented on the code listing. The reading of the sensors and the recognized gestures are configured to be displayed on the first and second lines of the LCD, respectively. Two modes of sensors reading display were shown on the LCD successfully. The two modes of display are the digitized (0-255) and in Volts (0-5 V) and are shown in Figure 23 and Figure 24, respectively.

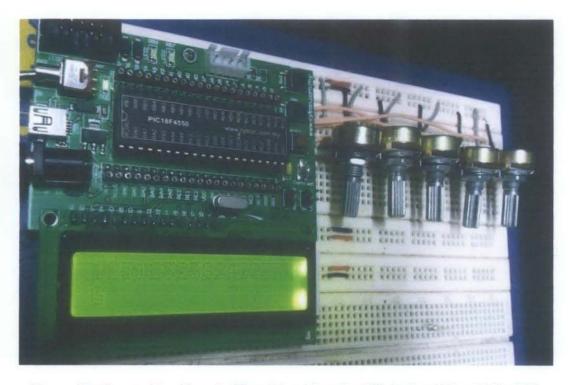


Figure 23: Sensor Readings in First Line (thumb: 123, index:123, middle:238, ring:242, and little:237), Second Line Displaying the Translated Sign

Several experiments had been conducted to test the ability of the system to recognize gestures. The experimental results for system show that it is able to recognize the whole 26 alphabetical letters.

Capital letters are used in coding as well as in display. This is to say that the LCD displays "B" instead of "b" to indicate the second alphabet. All the 26 letters did not involve motion except "Z". Since it is assumed that only hand shapes are considered therefore the hand shape component of the letter is only considered in modeling.

Figure 23, Figure 24 and Figure 25 show some of the recognized letters.



Figure 24: Sensor Readings in Volts (thumb: 2.4V, index:2.4V, middle:4.6V, ring:4.7V and little:4.6V)



Figure 25: Translation System Recognizing the Sign for B Equivalent to (thumb: 64+/-7, index: 0, middle: 0, ring: 0 and little: 0)

Additionally numbers (0-10) are added and recognized successfully. Moreover, the system is able to recognize some phrases e.g. "I love you". Figure 26 and Figure 27 show some of the obtained results.

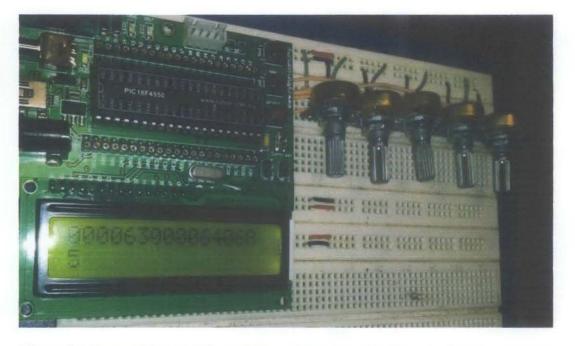


Figure 26: Recognition and Translation of the Sign of 5 (thumb: 0, index: 64+/-7, middle: 0, ring: 64+/-7, little: 64+/-7)



Figure 27: Recognition of Phrases e.g. "I Love You" (thumb: 0, index: 0, middle: 224+/-7, ring: 224+/-7, little: 0)

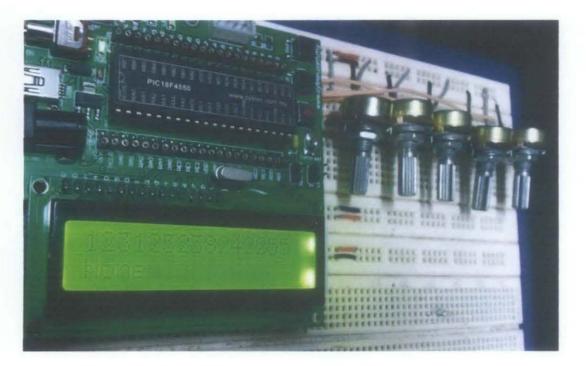


Figure 28: "None" Message for Any Other Unrecognized Signs

For unrecognized signs, the system displays by default "None" message as shown in Figure 28. This is later replaced in the coding by the message "Not recognized!"

CHAPTER 5 CONCLUSION AND FUTURE DIRECTIONS

In this chapter some conclusive statements on the progress of the proposed project and the expected future work are discussed.

5.1 Conclusion

A prototype incorporating five potentiometers – to simulate a realistic sensor reading, PIC microcontroller and LCD modules is proposed to aid sign language users to convey their messages in a more explicit way. The proposed prototype is based on ASL language and can support up to 75 signs and the equivalent words as a proof-ofconcept. The project is envisaged to be an entry work for educational yet practical solutions which can potentially be extended for more functionality and portability.

5.2 Future Directions

Currently the system supports the translation of up to 75 signs/words. The size of the dictionary can be potentially extended considering the addition of memory chip to the system. To enable the portability of the design, a 9v battery module is to be added. Even though the system is tested without a realistic data glove, it is believed that the systematical methodology adopted in the project will ease the realization of the addition. A potential future work is to replace the five potentiometers by a data glove. An investigation for such interface is carried out as a part of this project and preliminary results are obtained and reported in Appendix G, to be exploited by future developers.

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APPENDIX A PROJECT GANTT CHART

_								FY	P 1	L												FY	(P)	2					
No.	Phase	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1	SELECTION OF PROJECT TOPIC																										\square	\square	
	- Project Objectives/Problem formulation				Γ_						1			[[\square
2	LITERATURE WORK													I															\square
	- Study about related work	Γ																				Γ			- Sector		\square		\square
	- Study about microcontrollers/compilers				Γ			Γ						l,													\square		
	- Extended Proposal				—		•				 																		
3	Methodology	\square												uç en c													$\left - \right $		
	System identification/ Tools to be used		<u>.</u>																								\Box		
	-Interim report														•							I					\square		
4	Hardware development		Бэ×.																		Γ				a.c		\square		
	- Circuit Interfacing / Testing																										\square		
	- Progress report													Γ	Γ								•				Π		\square
5	Software development	Ι	di s					Γ		Γ	Ι																\square		
	C code developing													Γ													\square		\square
	Programming/ Testing	\Box																											
7	Prototype testing and troubleshooting						<u> </u>																						
8	Prototype finalization						<u> </u>			-	╞																		
9	Poster presentation/ Draft report			-			<u>†</u>							╞												 	•		
10	Final Report/Viva	\vdash					+			┢	┢─			$\frac{1}{1}$		┢──					-	┢─					$\left - \right $		•



Reports Submissions



Process

APPENDIX B

FIVE SENSORS READING DISPLAY (CODE)

#include "LCD.h" void main() ſ setup_adc_ports(AN0_TO_AN5|VSS_VDD);
setup_adc(ADC_CLOCK_INTERNAL); setup_psp(PSP_DISABLED); setup_pop(st__st__st__; setup_spi(SPI_SS_DISABLED); setup_wdt(WDT_OFF); setup_timer_0(RTCC_INTERNAL); setup_timer_1(T1_DISABLED);
setup_timer_2(T2_DISABLED,0,1); setup_comparator(NC_NC_NC_NC); setup vref(FALSE); //Setup_Oscillator parameter not selected from Intr Oscillator Config tab char message1[] = "S1 S2 S3 S4 S5 :";
char message2[] = " "; int8 \$1,\$2,\$3,\$4,\$5; lcd_init(); lcd_display_str(0,message1); while (TRUE) { set_adc_channel(0); delay_us(60); S1=read_adc(); set_adc_channel(1); delay_us(60); S2=read_adc(); set_adc_channel(2); delay_us(60); S3=read_adc(); set_adc_channel(3); delay_us(60); S4=read_adc(); set adc channel(4); delay_us(60); S5=read_adc(); sprintf(message2, "%03u%03u%03u%03u%03u ", S1, S2, S3, S4, S5); lcd_display_str(1,message2); } }

#include "main.h"

APPENDIX C

FIVE SENSOR INTERFACE AND BASIC TRANSLATION SYSTEM (CODE)

void main()

```
£
   setup_adc_ports(AN0_TO_AN5|VSS_VDD);
setup_adc(ADC_CLOCK_INTERNAL);
   setup psp(PSP DISABLED);
   setup_spi(SPI_SS_DISABLED);
setup_wdt(WDT_OFF);
   setup_timer_0(RTCC_INTERNAL);
   setup_timer_1(T1_DISABLED);
setup_timer_2(T2_DISABLED,0,1);
   setup_comparator(NC_NC_NC_NC);
   setup_vref(FALSE);
//Setup_Oscillator parameter not selected from Intr Oscillator Config tab
   char message1[] = "S1 S2 S3 S4 S5 :";
   char message2[] = "
                                          п,
   int8 $1,$2,$3,$4,$5;
   lcd init();
   while (TRUE) {
   set_adc_channel(0);
   delay_us(60);
   S1=read_adc();
   set adc channel(1);
   delay_us(60);
   S2=read_adc();
   set adc channel(2);
   delay_us(60);
   S3=read_adc();
   set adc channel(3);
   delay_us(60);
   S4=read_adc();
   set adc_channel(4);
   delay us(60);
   S5=read_adc();
  sprintf(message1, "%03u%03u%03u%03u%03u ", S1, S2, S3, S4, S5);
   lcd display str(0,message1 );
   if ( (S1 < 128) && (S2 < 128) && (S3 < 128) && (S4 < 128) && (S5 < 128) )
   {
   message2="M. Alharbi
                                ";
   lcd display str(1,message2 );
   3
   else if ( (S1 > 128) & (S2 > 128) & (S3 > 128) & (S4 > 128) & (S5 > 128) )
   ſ
                                ";
   message2="Dr. M Zuki
   lcd_display_str(1,message2 );
   ł
   else
   ſ
                                ";
   message2="None
   lcd_display_str(1,message2 );
   1
   }
}
```

APPENDIX D

TRANSLATION SYSTEM WITH SIGN DICTIONARY (MAIN.C)

#include "main.h"
#include "LCD.h" //Setting of fuses are there //Nonstandard made file to communicate with the LCD #include <string.h> //To enable the use of string comparison=>strcmp() //Definition area #define PB1 PIN B0 //Push button connected to PIN B0 #define PRESSED 0 //The value when PB is pressed #define MAX DICT ENTRIES 50 //The maximum reserved number of dictionary entries //Description: //Function prototype: //initialize the peripherals of the PIC void init_device(); void read_sensors(); //Acquiring the readings from sensors at Port A void dict init(); //Filling in all dictionary entries void welcome msg(); //Display a welcoming message at system starting void translate(); //Compare the reading and recognize the word //Variables char message[16]; //a variable for the use with LCD //a variable to contain the translated word char translated[16]; //sensors reading of thumb, index, middle, ring and little int8 tmb,idx,mdl,rng,ltl; float tmb_V,idx_V,mdl_V,rng_V,lt1_V; //sensors reading in voltage int8 PB state; //a dummy variable to store the last state of the PB //The main function void main() ł init device(); //initialize device //initialize the dictionary dict init(); //display welcoming message welcome msg(); PB state=0; //reset the state of the PB while (TRUE) ł read sensors(); //read the values of sensors //Toggle the state of PB when pressed if (input (PB1) == PRESSED) //if PB pressed 1 while(input(PB1)==PRESSED) delay ms(50); //Keep looping while PB is pressed //Toggle the state of the PB PB state=!PB state; //Display the sensors in 0-255 or 0-5v ranges //0-255 range if(PB_state==0) sprintf(message, "%03u%03u%03u%03u%03u ",tmb,idx,mdl,rng,ltl); //0-5v range sprintf(message, if(PB state==1) "%01.1f%01.1f%01.1f%01.1f%01.1f",tmb_V,idx_V,mdl_V,rng_V,ltl_V); lcd_display_str(0,message); //Translate the reading translate(); lcd_display_str(1,translated); } } //Initialize the device according to project wizard setting void init device () ł setup adc ports(ANO TO AN5(VSS_VDD); setup_adc(ADC_CLOCK_DIV_2); setup_psp(PSP_DISABLED); setup_spi(SPI_SS_DISABLED); setup spi2(SPI SS DISABLED); setup_wdt(WDT_OFF); setup_timer_0(RTCC INTERNAL); setup_timer_1(T1_DISABLED); setup_timer_2(T2_DISABLED,0,1); setup_timer_3(T3_DISABLED|T3_DIV_BY_1);

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setup comparator (NC NC NC NC);
   setup vref(FALSE);
   set_tris_b(0x03); //PIN_B0-2: INPUTS, PIN B3-7: OUTPUTS
   lcd init();
3
//read sensors as follows:
//AO: thumb, Al: index, A2: middle, A3: ring, A4: little
void read_sensors()
ł
   set adc_channel(0);
   delay_us(60);
   tmb=read_adc();
   set adc channel(1);
   delay us(60);
   idx=read adc();
   set_adc_channel(2);
   delay_us(60);
   mdl=read adc();
   set_adc channel(3);
   delay_us(60);
   rng=read_adc();
   set_adc_channel(4);
   delay_us(60);
   ltl=read_adc();
   //convert to voltage
   tmb V=(float)5/255*tmb;
   idx_V=(float)5/255*idx;
   mdl_V=(float)5/255*mdl;
   rng V=(float)5/255*rng;
   lt1_V=(float)5/255*1t1;
ł
// Display the welcoming messages
void welcome_msg()
ł
   sprintf(message, "Trans, Sys.");
   lcd_display_str(0,message );
sprintf(message, "Starting .");
   lcd_display str(1,message);
   delay_ms(100);
   sprintf(message, "Starting ...");
   lcd_display_str(1,message);
   delay ms (100);
   sprintf(message, "Starting ...");
   lcd display str(1,message);
   delay_ms(100);
   sprintf(message, "Starting ....");
lcd_display_str(1,message);
   delay ms(100);
   sprintf(message, "Starting .....");
   lcd_display_str(1,message);
   delay_ms(100);
   sprintf(message, "Starting .....");
   lcd display str(1,message);
   delay_ms(100);
ł
//Defining the data structure of ONE single sign word and the equivalent:
//Sign representation:
   //dictionary_enty.tmbFZL: the fuzzy low limit for thumb gesture
   //dictionary_enty.tmbFZH: the fuzzy high limit for thumb gesture
   //dictionary_enty.idxF2L: the fuzzy low limit for index gesture
   //dictionary_enty.idxFZH: the fuzzy high limit for index gesture
   //dictionary_enty.mdlFZL: the fuzzy low limit for middle gesture
   //dictionary_enty.mdlFZH: the fuzzy high limit for middle gesture
   //dictionary_enty.rngFZL: the fuzzy low limit for ring gesture
   //dictionary enty.rngFZH: the fuzzy high limit for ring gesture
   //dictionary_enty.ltlFZL: the fuzzy low limit for little gesture
   //dictionary_enty.ltlFZH: the fuzzy high limit for little gesture
//the Equivalent in writen English:
   //dictionary_enty.word: the equivalent word (max size is 16 characters)
typedef struct{
int8 tmbFZL;
int8 tmbFZH;
int8 idxFZL;
int8 idxFZH;
int8 mdlFZL;
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int8 mdlF2H; int8 rngF2L; int8 rngF2H; int8 ltlF2L; int8 ltlF2H; char word[16]; } dictionary_enty; //a dictionary containing 50 words

dictionary_enty dict[MAX_DICT_ENTRIES]; //Declare a array of dictionry enty data structure

//Gesture lists and equivalent representation #define BS
#define G0000 7 0 #define G0000L G0000 #define G0000H #define G1000 #define G1000L G0000+BS 16 G1000-BS #define G1000H
#define G0200 G1000+BS 32 #define G0200L #define G0200H #define G1200 G0200-BS G0200+BS 48 #define G1200L #define G1200H #define G0031 G1200-BS G1200+BS 64

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#define		G0031-BS		
#define		G0031+BS		
#define	G1031	80		
#define		G1031-BS		
#define	G1031H	G1031+BS		
#define		96		
#define		G0231-BS		
#define		G0231+BS		
#define	G1231	112		
#define		G1231-BS		
#define		G1231+BS		
#define		128		
#define		G0032-BS		
#define		G0032+BS		
#define		144		
#define		G1032-BS		
#define		G1032+BS		
#define		160		
#define		G0232-BS		
#define		G0232+BS		
#define		176		
#define		G1232-BS		
#define		G1232+BS		
#define		192		
#define		G0033-BS		
#define		G0033+BS		
#define		208		
#define		G1033-BS		
#define		G1033+BS		
#define		224		
#define		G0233-BS		
#define		G0233+BS		
#define		240		
#define		G1233-BS		
#define	G1233H	G1233+BS		
#define		MAX_DICT_ENTRIES-1		
//m		in af optimal distinguing		
		ion of actual dictionary		
void die	c_inic()			
{		_		
	.word="A"		0].idxFZL=G0233L;dict[0].mdlFZL=G0233L;dict[
dict[-	nbF2L=G1031L;dict[0],10XF26-602335;01001	0].1M11211-G02551/01000
-		dict[0].ltlFZL=G1233L;	0].idxFZH=G0233H;dict[0].mdlFZH=G0233H;dict[
dict[-	nbFZH=G1031H; dict[0],IUXE2n-G0255h,uict[0].1011211-002331,0100[
0].10912	n-Gizson;	dict[0].1t1FZH=G1233H;		
diat[1]	.word="B",			
dict[, nbFZL=G0031L;dict[1].idxFZL=G0000L;dict[1].mdlFZL=G0000L;dict[
-		dict[1].1t1FZL=G0000L;	*).10A12H 00000B/0100[-] martin coccontarce[
dict{		nbFZH=G0031H;dict[1].idxFZH=G0000H;dict[1].mdlFZH=G0000H;dict[
uigel	11.4		Tl'tave Su-Googan, droct	11. marran-20000m/0100[

1].rngFZH=G0000H;dict[1].ltlFZH=G0000H;

dict[2].tmbFZL=G0032L;dict[2].idxFZL=G1200L;dict[2].mdlFZL=G1200L;dict[2].rngFZL=G1200L;dict[2].ltlFZL=G1200L; 2].tmbFZH=G0032H;dict[dict[21.idxFZH=G1200H.dict1 2].mdlFZH=G1200H;dict[2].rngF2H=G1200H;dict[2].ltlF2H=G1200H; dict[3].word="D"; 3].tmbFZL=G1232L;dict[dict[3].idxFZL=G0000L;dict[31.mdlFZL=G1232L:dict{ 3].rngFZL=G1232L;dict[3].lt1FZL=G1232L; dict 3].tmbFZH=G1232H;dict[3].idxFZH=G0000H;dict[3].mdlFZH=G1232H;dict[3].rngF2H=G1232H;dict[3].ltlFZH=G1232H; dict[4].word="E"; dict[4].tmbFZL=G1231L;dict[4].idxFZL=G1200L;dict[4].mdlFZL=G1200L;dict[4].rngFZL=G1200L;dict[4].ltlFZL=G1200L; 4].tmbFZH=G1231H;dict[dict 4].idxFZH=G1200H;dict[4].mdlFZH=G1200H;dict[4].rngFZH=G1200H;dict[4].ltlFZH=G1200H; dict[5].word="F"; 5].tmbFZL=G1032L;dict[dict[51.idxFZL=G0232L;dict[51_mdlFZL=G0000L:dict[5].rngFZL=G0031L;dict[5].lt1FZL=G0031L; dict[5].tmbFZH=G1032H;dict[5].idxFZH=G0232H;dict[5].mdlFZH=G0000H;dict[5].rngFZH=G0031H;dict[5].ltlFZH=G0031H; dict[6].word="G"; dict[6].tmbFZL=G0032L;dict[6].idxFZL=G0032L;dict[6].mdlFZL=G1233L;dict[6].rngFZL=G1233L;dict[6].1t1FZL=G1233L; dict[6].tmbFZH=G0032H;dict[6].idxFZH=G0032H;dict[6].mdlFZH=G1233H;dict[6].rngFZH=G1233H;dict[6].ltlFZH=G1233H; dict[7].word="H"; dict[7].tmbFZL=G1232L;dict[7].idxFZL=G0032L;dict[71.mdlFZL=G0032L;dict[7].rngFZL=G0233L;dict[7].lt1FZL=G0233L; 7].tmbFZH=G1232H;dict[7].idxFZH=G0032H;dict[dict[71.md]FZH=G0032H:dict[7].rngFZH=G0233H;dict[7].ltlFZH=G0233H; dict[8].word="I"; 8].tmbFZL=G1200L;dict{ dictí 8].idxFZL=G0233L;dict{ 8].mdlFZL=G0233L;dict[8].rngFZL=G0233L;dict[8].1t1FZL=G0000L; 8].tmbFZH=G1200H;dict[dict 8].idxFZH=G0233H;dict[8].mdlFZH=G0233H;dict[8].rngFZH=G0233H;dict[8].ltlFZH=G0000H; dict[9].word="J"; dict[9].tmbFZL=G0200L;dict[9].idxFZL=G0233L;dict[9].mdlFZL=G0233L;dict[9].rngFZL=G0233L;dict[9].1t1FZL=G0000L; dict[9].tmbFZH=G0200H;dict[9].idxFZH=G0233H;dict[9].mdlFZH=G0233H;dict[9].rngFZH=G0233H;dict[9].ltlFZH=G0000H; dict[10].word="K"; dict[10].tmbFZL=G0232L;dict[10].idxFZL=G0000L;dict[10].mdlFZL=G0032L;dict[10].rngFZL=G0233L;di ct[10].ltlFZL=G0233L; dict[10].tmbFZH=G0232H;dict[10].idxFZH=G0000H;dict[10].mdlFZH=G0032H;dict[10].rngFZH=G0233H;di ct[10].ltlFZH=G0233H; dict[11].word="L"; dict[11].tmbFZL=G0000L;dict[11].idxFZL=G0000L;dict[11].mdlFZL=G0233L;dict[11].rngFZL=G0233L;di ct[11].lt1FZL=G0233L: dict[11].tmbFZH=G0000H;dict[11].idxFZH=G0000H;dict[11].mdlFZH=G0233H;dict[11].rngFZH=G0233H;di ct[11].ltlFZH=G0233H; dict[12].word="M"; dict[12].tmbFZL=G1233L;dict[12].idxFZL=G1232L;dict[12].mdlFZL=G1232L;dict[12].rngFZL=G1232L;di ct[12].ltlFZL=G0233L; dict[12].tmbFZH=G1233H;dict[12].idxFZH=G1232H;dict[12].mdlFZH=G1232H;dict[12].rngFZH=G1232H;di ct[12].ltlFZH=G0233H; dict[13].word="N"; dict[13].tmbFZL=G1232L;dict[13].idxFZL=G0232L;dict[13].mdlFZL=G0232L;dict[13].rngFZL=G0233L;di ct[13].1t1FZL=G0233L; dict[13].tmbFZH=G1232H;dict[13].idxFZH=G0232H;dict[13].mdlFZH=G0232H;dict[13].rngFZH=G0233H;di ct[13].ltlFZH=G0233H; dict[14].word="0"; dict[14].tmbFZL=G1232L;dict[14].idxFZL=G1232L;dict[14].mdlFZL=G1232L;dict[14].rngFZL=G1232L;di ct[14].ltlFZL=G1232L; dict[14].tmbFZH=G1232H;dict[14].idxFZH=G1232H;dict[14].mdlFZH=G1232H;dict[14].rngFZH=G1232H;di ct[14].ltlFZH=G1232H; dict[15].word="P";

dict[15].tmbFZL=G0032L;dict[15].idxFZL=G0000L;dict[15].mdlFZL=G0033L;dict[15].rngFZL=G0233L;di ct[15].ltlFZL=G0233L; dict[15].tmbFZH=G0032H;dict[15].idxFZH=G0000H;dict[15].mdlFZH=G0033H;dict[15].rngFZH=G0233H;di ct[15].lt1FZH=G0233H; dict[16].word="0"; dict[16].tmbFZL=G0032L;dict[16].idxFZL=G0033L;dict[16].mdlFZL=G1233L;dict[16].rngFZL=G1233L;di ct[16].1t1F2L=G1233L: dict[16].tmbFZH=G0032H;dict[16].idxFZH=G0033H;dict[16].mdlFZH=G1233H;dict[16].rngFZH=G1233H;di ct[16].ltlFZH=G1233H; dict[17].word="R"; dict[17].tmbFZL=G0232L;dict[17].idxFZL=G0031L;dict[17].mdlFZL=G0000L;dict[17].rngFZL=G0232L;di ct[17].ltlFZL=G0233L; dict[17].tmbFZH=G0232H;dict[17].idxFZH=G0031H;dict[17].mdlFZH=G0000H;dict[17].rngFZH=G0232H;di ct[17].lt1FZH=G0233H; dict[18].word="S"; dict[18].tmbFZL=G0232L;dict[18].idxFZL=G1233L;dict[18].mdlFZL=G1233L;dict[18].rngFZL=G1233L;di ct[18].ltlFZL=G1233L; dict[18].tmbFZH=G0232H;dict[18].idxFZH=G1233H;dict[18].mdlFZH=G1233H;dict[18].rngFZH=G1233H;di ct[18].lt1FZH=G1233H; dict[19].word="T"; dict[19].tmbFZL=G0232L;dict[19].idxFZL=G0232L;dict[19].md1FZL=G0233L;dict[19].rngFZL=G0233L;di ct[19].1t1FZL=G0233L; dict[19].tmbFZH=G0232H;dict[19].idxFZH=G0232H;dict[19].mdlFZH=G0233H;dict[19].rngFZH=G0233H;di ct[19].lt1FZH=G0233H; dict[20].word="U"; dict[20].tmbF2L=G0232L;dict[20].idxF2L=G0000L;dict[20].mdlF2L=G0000L;dict[20].rngF2L=G0232L;di ct[20].1t1FZL=G0232L: dict[20].tmbFZH=G0232H;dict[20].idxFZH=G0000H;dict[20].mdlFZH=G0000H;dict[20].rngFZH=G0232H;di ct[20].ltlFZH=G0232H; dict[21].word="V"; dict[21].tmbFzL=G0232L;dict[21].idxFzL=G0031L;dict[21].mdlFzL=G0031L;dict[21].rngFzL=G0233L;di ct[21].lt1FZL=G0233L; dict[21].tmbFZH=G0232H;dict[21].idxFZH=G0031H;dict[21].mdlFZH=G0031H;dict[21].rngFZH=G0233H;di ct[21].lt1FZH=G0233H; dict[22].word="W"; dict[22].tmbFZL=G0233L;dict[22].idxFZL=G0031L;dict[22].mdlFZL=G0000L;dict[22].rngFZL=G0031L;di ct[22].ltlFZL=G0232L; dict[22].tmbFZH=G0233H;dict[22].idxFZH=G0031H;dict[22].mdlFZH=G0000H;dict[22].rngFZH=G0031H;di ct[22].ltlFZH=G0232H; dict[23].word="X"; dict[23].tmbFZL=G1232L;dict[23].idxFZL=G1200L;dict[23].mdlFZL=G1233L;dict[23].rngFZL=G1233L;di ct[23].ltlFZL=G1233L; dict[23].tmbFZH=G1232H;dict[23].idxFZH=G1200H;dict[23].mdlFZH=G1233H;dict[23].rngFZH=G1233H;di ct[23].lt1FZH=G1233H; dict[24].word="Y"; dict[24].tmbFzL=G0000L;dict[24].idxFzL=G1233L;dict[24].mdlFzL=G1233L;dict[24].rngFzL=G1233L;di ct[24].1t1FZL=G0000L; dict[24].tmbFZH=G0000H;dict[24].idxFZH=G1233H;dict[24].mdlFZH=G1233H;dict[24].rngFZH=G1233H;di ct[24].ltlFZH=G0000H; dict[25].word="Z"; //motionless Z dict[25].tmbFZL=G1232L;dict[25].idxFZL=G0000L;dict[25].mdlFZL=G1233L;dict[25].rngFZL=G1233L;di ct[25].lt1FZL=G1233L; dict[25].tmbFZH=G1232H;dict[25].idxFZH=G0000H;dict[25].mdlFZH=G1233H;dict[25].rngFZH=G1233H;di ct[25].ltlFZH=G1233H; dict[26].word="1"; dict[26].tmbF2L=G1233L;dict[26].idxF2L=G0000L;dict[26].mdlF2L=G1233L;dict[26].rngF2L=G1233L;di ct[26].ltlFZL=G1233L; dict[26].tmbFZH=G1233H;dict[26].idxFZH=G0000H;dict[26].mdlFZH=G1233H;dict[26].rngFZH=G1233H;di ct[26].ltlFZH=G1233H; dict[27].word="2"; dict[27].tmbFZL=G1232L;dict[27].idxFZL=G0031L;dict[27].mdlFZL=G0000L;dict[27].rngFZL=G1233L;di ct[27].lt1FZL=G1233L;

dict[27].tmbFZH=G1232H;dict[27].idxFZH=G0031H;dict[27].mdlFZH=G0000H;dict[27].rngFZH=G1233H;dict[27].ltlFZH=G1233H;

dict[28].word="3"; dict[28].tmbFZL=G0000L;dict[28].idxFZL=G0031L;dict[28].md1FZL=G0000L;dict[28].rngFZL=G1233L;di ct[28].1t]F7L=G1233Ldict[28].tmbFZH=G0000H;dict[28].idxFZH=G0031H;dict[28].mdlFZH=G0000H;dict[28].rngFZH=G1233H;di ct[28].ltlFZH=G1233H; dict[29].word="4"; dict[29].tmbFZL=G0233L;dict[29].idxFZL=G0031L;dict[29].md1FZL=G0000L;dict[29].rngFZL=G0031L;di ct[29].1t1FZL=G0031L; dict[29].tmbFZH=G0233H;dict[29].idxFZH=G0031H;dict[29].mdlFZH=G0000H;dict[29].rngFZH=G0031H;di ct[29].ltlFZH=G0031H; dict[30].word="5": dict[30].tmbF2L=G0000L;dict[30].idxF2L=G0031L;dict[30].mdlF2L=G0000L;dict[30].rngF2L=G0031L;di ct[30].1t1FZL=G0031L; dict[30].tmbFZH=G0000H;dict[30].idxFZH=G0031H;dict[30].mdlFZH=G0000H;dict[30].rngFZH=G0031H;di ct[30].ltlFZH=G0031H; dict[31].word="6"; dict[31].tmbFZL=G0232L;dict[31].idxFZL=G0031L;dict[31].mdlFZL=G0000L;dict[31].rngFZL=G0031L;di ct[31].ltlFZL=G0232L; dict[31].tmbFZH=G0032H;dict[31].idxFZH=G0031H;dict[31].mdlFZH=G0000H;dict[31].rngFZH=G0031H;di ct[31].ltlFZH=G0232H; dict[32].word="7"; dict{32}.tmbFZL=G0232L;dict[32].idxFZL=G0031L;dict[32].mdlFZL=G0000L;dict[32].rngFZL=G1232L;di ct[32].1t1FZL=G0031L; dict[32].tmbFZH=G0232H;dict[32].idxFZH=G0031H;dict[32].mdlFZH=G0000H;dict[32].rngFZH=G1232H;di ct[32].1t1FZH=G0031H; dict[331.word="8"; dict[33].tmbFZL=G0200L;dict[33].idxFZL=G0031L;dict[33].mdlFZL=G1232L;dict[33].rngFZL=G0031L;di ct[33].ltlFZL=G0031L; dict[33].tmbFZH=G0200H;dict[33].idxFZH=G0031H;dict[33].mdlFZH=G1232H;dict[33].rngFZH=G0031H;di ct[33].ltlFZH=G0031H; dict[34].word="9"; dict[34].tmbFZL=G0200L;dict[34].idxFZL=G1233L;dict[34].mdlFZL=G0000L;dict[34].rngFZL=G0031L;di ct[34].lt1FZL=G0031L; dict[34].tmbFZH=G0200H;dict[34].idxFZH=G1233H;dict[34].mdlFZH=G0000H;dict[34].rngFZH=G0031H;di ct[34].ltlFZH=G0031H; dict[35].word="10"; dict[35].tmbFZL=G0031L;dict[35].idxFZL=G1233L;dict[35].mdlFZL=G1233L;dict[35].rngFZL=G1233L;di ct[35].ltlFZL=G1233L; dict[35].tmbF2H=G0031H;dict[35].idxFZH=G1233H;dict[35].mdlFZH=G1233H;dict[35].rngFZH=G1233H;di ct[35].ltlFZH=G1233H; dict[36].word="I Love You"; dict[36].tmbFZL=G0000L;dict[36].idxFZL=G0000L;dict[36].mdlFZL=G0233L;dict[36].rngFZL=G0233L;di ct[36].ltlFZL=G0000L; dict[36].tmbFZH=G0000H;dict[36].idxFZH=G0000H;dict[36].mdlFZH=G0233H;dict[36].rngFZH=G0233H;di ct[36].ltlFZH=G0000H; dict[__].word=""; dict[__].tmbFZL=G0000L;dict[__].idxFZL=G0000L;dict[__].mdlFZL=G0000L;dict[__].rngF2L=G0000L;di].lt1FZL=G0000L; ctſ].tmbFZH=G0000H;dict[].idxFZH=G0000H;dict[_].mdlFZH=G0000H;dict[_].rngFZH=G0000H;di dict[ct[_].ltlFZH=G0000H; } //Make the translation by comparing and fuzzy high and fuzzy low limit for each gesture void translate() int8 i; for(i=0;i<MAX_DICT_ENTRIES;i++)</pre> if ((tmb >= dict[i].tmbFZL) £& (tmb <= dict[i].tmbFZH) \ >= dict[i].idxFZL 88 (idx <= dict[i].idxFZH) 1 88 idx) && (mdl <= dict[i].mdlFZH) mdl >= dict[i].mdlFZL \ 88) 1 && (rng && (ltl <= dict[i].rngFZH) ١ >= dict[i].rngFZL 22 rnq 1 <= dict[i].ltlFZH >= dict{i].ltlFZL))) 66 ltl strcpy(translated,dict[i].word); break;} { else strcpy(translated, "*Not Recognized!"); //If nothing recognized display "*Not Recognized!" ł

52

APPENDIX E

TRANSLATION SYSTEM WITH SIGN DICTIONARY (MAIN.H)

#include <18F4550.h>
#device adc=8

#FUSES NOWDT	//No Watch Dog Timer
#FUSES WDT128	//Watch Dog Timer uses 1:128 Postscale
#FUSES HS	//High speed Osc (> 4mhz for PCM/PCH) (>10mhz for PCD)
#FUSES NOPROTECT	
#FUSES NOBROWNOUT	//No brownout reset
#FUSES BORV20	//Brownout reset at 2.0V
#FUSES NOPUT	//No Power Up Timer
#FUSES NOCPD	//No EE protection
#FUSES STVREN	//Stack full/underflow will cause reset
#FUSES NODEBUG	//No Debug mode for ICD
#FUSES NOLVP	//No low voltage prgming, B3(PIC16) or B5(PIC18) used for I/O
#FUSES NOWRT	//Program memory not write protected
#FUSES NOWRTD	//Data EEPROM not write protected
#FUSES IESO	//Internal External Switch Over mode enabled
#FUSES FCMEN	//Fail-safe clock monitor enabled
#FUSES PBADEN	//PORTB pins are configured as analog input channels on RESET
#FUSES NOWRTC	<pre>//configuration not registers write protected</pre>
#FUSES NOWRTB	//Boot block not write protected
#FUSES NOEBTR	<pre>//Memory not protected from table reads</pre>
#FUSES NOEBTRB	//Boot block not protected from table reads
#FUSES NOCPB	//No Boot Block code protection
#FUSES MCLR	//Master Clear pin enabled
#FUSES LPT1OSC	<pre>//Timer1 configured for low-power operation</pre>
#FUSES NOXINST	<pre>//Extended set extension and Indexed Addressing mode disabled</pre>
(Legacy mode)	
#FUSES PLL12	<pre>//Divide By 12(48MHz oscillator input)</pre>
#FUSES CPUDIV4	//System Clock by 4
#FUSES USBDIV	//USB clock source comes from PLL divide by 2
#FUSES VREGEN	//USB voltage regulator enabled
#FUSES ICPRT	//ICPRT enabled

#use delay(clock=20000000)
#use rs232(baud=9600,parity=N,xmit=PIN_C6,rcv=PIN_C7,bits=8)

APPENDIX F

TRANSLATION SYSTEM WITH SIGN DICTIONARY (LCD.H)

1+----

```
8-BIT LCD DRIVER FOR PIC18F4550 CCSC
                  ----*/
// CCS C Compiler
// LCD 16x2
11
// by Nisar Ahmed
// 2009/03/27
// lately edited by Alharbi
// 2011/11/30
#define NCHAR PER LINE
                         16
                                      // max char numbers per line
#define LCD RS
                         PIN B4
#define LCD_RW
                         PIN B3
#define LCD E
                         PIN B5
#define LCD DAT
                         PORT D
#define PORT A
                         0
                                      // define for function output()
#define PORT B
                         1
#define PORT C
                         2
#define PORT D
                         3
#define PORT E
                         4
//lcd data bus output
void output(int8 port, int8 dat)
ł
      switch(port)
            {
            case PORT_A: output_a(dat);
                                       break;
            case PORT B: output b(dat);
                                       break;
            case PORT_C: output_c(dat);
case PORT_D: output_d(dat);
                                       break;
                                       break;
            case PORT E: output e(dat);
                                       break;
                         //??? port maybe error!
            default :
                   break;
}//end output()
11
void lcd_write_cmd(int8 cmd)
ſ
      delay_us(400);
      output_low(LCD_RS);
output_low(LCD_RW);
      output (LCD DAT, cmd);
      output_high(LCD_E);
      delay_us(400);
      output_low(LCD_E);
}//end lcd_write_cmd()
11
void lcd_write_dat(int8 dat)
ł
      delay_us(400);
      output_high(LCD_RS);
output_low(LCD_RW);
      output(LCD_DAT, dat);
      output high(LCD_E);
      delay_us(400);
      output_low(LCD_E);
}//end lcd write dat()
11
```

```
void lcd init (void)
ł
      output_low(LCD_E);
                                  // Let LCD E line low
      lcd_write_cmd(0x38);
                                  // LCD 16x2, 5x7, 8bits data
      delay_ms(15);
      lcd write cmd(0x01);
                                  // Clear LCD display
      delay_ms(10);
      lcd_write_cmd(0x0f);
                                  // Open display & current
      delay_ms(10);
      lcd write cmd(0x06);
                                  // Window fixed
      delay_ms(10);
}//end lcd init()
11
void lcd_display_char(int8 line, int8 pos, int8 ch)
{
      int8 tmp;
      line = (line==0) ? 0 : 1;
      pos = (pos >NCHAR_PER_LINE) ? NCHAR_PER_LINE : pos;
       tmp = 0x80 + 0x40*line + pos;
      lcd write cmd(tmp);
      lcd_write_dat(ch);
}//end lcd_display_char()
11
void lcd_display_str(int8 line, char str[])
£
    int8 i;
       for(i=0; i<NCHAR_PER_LINE; i++)</pre>
              {
              if(str[i] == '\0') break;
              lcd_display_char(line, i, str[i]);
              1
             ; i<NCHAR PER LINE; i++)
       for(
             lcd_display_char(line, i, (char) ' ');
}//end lcd_display_str()
11
void clear 1cd line(int8 line)
{
    int8 i; char str[]="
                                    ";
       for(i=0; i<NCHAR_PER_LINE; i++)</pre>
              if(str[i] == '\0') break;
              lcd_display_char(line, i, str[i]);
}//end clear_lcd_display_line()
```

APPENDIX G INVESTIGATING THE INTERFACE WITH 5DT DATA GLOVE: A POTENTIAL FUTURE WORK

G.1 5DT Data Glove

A data glove is a device which detects the motions made by hand and converts it into electrical signals transmitted via a USB interface. The device incorporates 14 sensors mapped in different locations to detect realistic movements made by hand. (see Figure 30).

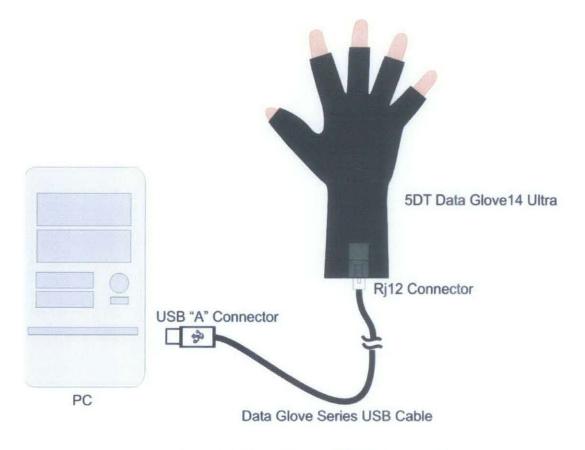


Figure 29: Data Glove with USB connection



Figure 30: Data Gloves Sensor Mapping

Figure 30 and Table 5 illustrate the sensor mapping of the 5DT data glove.

Sensor	Driver Sensor Index	Description
0	0	Thumb flexure (lower joint)
1	1	Thumb flexure (second joint)
2	2	Thumb-index finger abduction
3	3	Index finger flexure (at knuckle)
4	4	Index finger flexure (second joint)
5	5	Index-middle finger abduction
6	6	Middle finger flexure (at knuckle)
7	7	Middle finger flexure (second joint)
8	8	Middle-ring finger abduction
9	9	Ring finger flexure (at knuckle)
10	10	Ring finger flexure (second joint)
11	11	Ring-little finger abduction
12	12	Little finger flexure (at knuckle)
13	13	Little finger flexure (second joint)

Table 5: Sensor Mappings for the 5DT Data Glove 14 Ultra

G.1.1 Getting started with USB interface

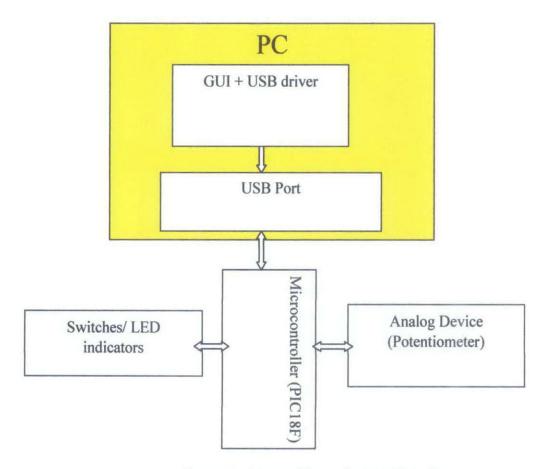


Figure 31: Startup Circuit for USB interface

In order to realize the interface between the microcontroller and the data glove, a prior step which is the familiarization with USB interface is required. Since USB communication is much complex compared to other serial protocols, the aim at this stage is to acquire the basic configuration for the USB interface to work. To get started with the USB interface, a previous project [10] which used the same microcontroller (PIC18F4550) is implemented in this work.

Figure 31 shows the block diagram for the proposed system. The SK40C board has a built-in USB port directly connected to the appropriate pins at the PIC18F4550 microcontroller. A USB cable is to be used to make the interface. However, having the connection while not defining the microcontroller to the PC would not allow any transmission of data from or to the microcontroller.

A visual C# project and dll files are used at the PC side to install required drivers and GUI interface. The microcontroller acts as a slave in this configuration, allowing responses when being acquired by the PC. A simple program reading analog values from AD conversion units and switches and LEDs are used in the program. The source codes are available in [10] and the results are shown in the following sections.

G.1.2 PIC18F4550 as a USB CDC device

USB devices can communicate differently according to the way they are defined to the host. In the previous section the PIC is defined as HID (Human Interface Device); however, it is more relevant to use it as a serial port to eliminate the need of using user defined application (like C# program). Therefore, an example file provided in the CCS compiler titled "ex_USBCDC.c" is used to realize this scenario. The code is used as is, but important modification is to set the right clocking options. This is essential because the USB peripheral and CPU of the PIC use the same oscillator but their clocking requirements are different. The schematic diagram for the clocking circuitry of the CPU and the USB is shown in the following figure.

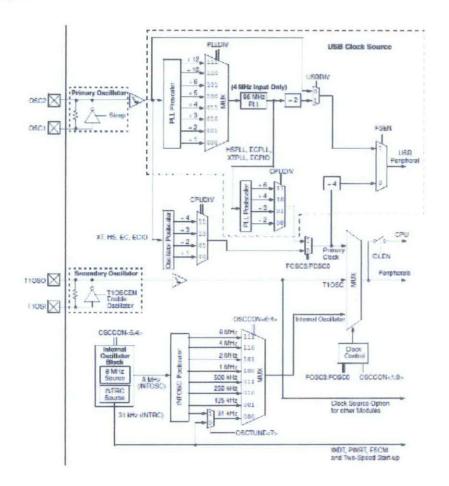


Figure 32: PIC18F4550 oscillator and clock diagram for the CPU and USB peripheral

As far as coding is concerned, some configuration bits have to be set to match the USB requirements. In the following figure, a code snippet describing the setting of some configuration/fuses bits is shown.

```
uses HSPLL,NOWDT,NOPROTECT,NOLVP,NODEBUG,USBDIV,PLL5,CPUDIV1,VREGEN,NOBROWNOUT,MCLR
The 20 mhz external crystal is pre scalled by div 5 (PLL5) to 4mhz
PLL multiplies by 16 to 96Mhz USBDIV post scales with div by 2 to 48MHZ
CPU clock is post scaled with CPUDIV1 by with div by 2 for 48 MHZ
se delay(clock=48000000)
```

Figure 33: Code snippet for setting USB Clock

The modified codes based on USB CDC example is attached in Appendix I.



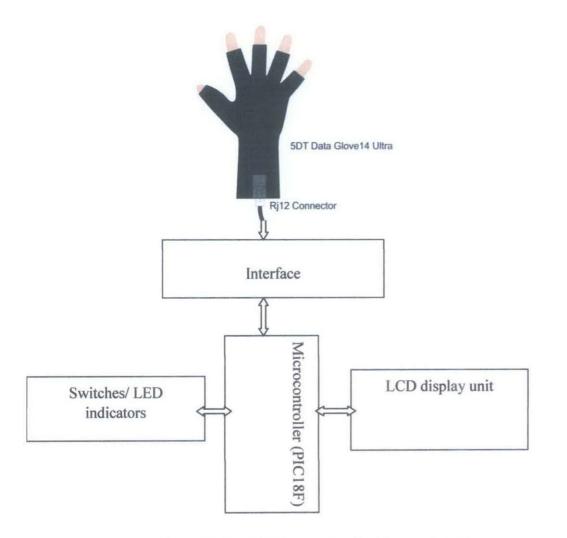


Figure 34: Block Diagram for the Proposed System

When the PIC is configured successfully to utilize the USB peripheral, then the possibility of interfacing the data glove can be verified. In order to do that, the PIC is configured to continuously read data from the attached device and display them on an LCD. This enables the monitoring of data transmission between the two devices. The code used to do that is provided in Appendix J. After loading the code into the PIC, a direct connection using USB cables is used between the PIC and the data glove. The result of the interface is shown and discussed in the next sections.

G.2 Getting Started with USB

In this experiment a USB communication between the PIC and the PC is to be established. This is because the ultimate goal of the work on USB is to establish a communication between the PIC and data glove. Since the data glove is designed to communicate via USB, the ability to use USB by PIC could help in establishing a connection with the data glove. The components used are shown in Figure 35 and Figure 36.



Figure 35: Circuit Components

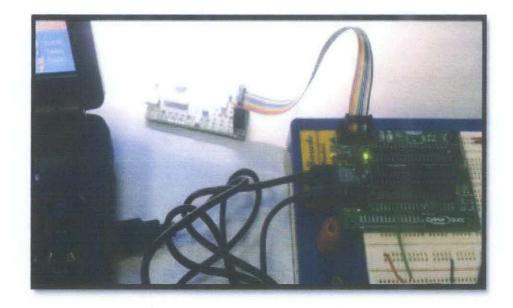


Figure 36: PC to Microcontroller Interface via USB Port

The PIC is programmed to communicate as HID (Human Interface Device) class. A GUI windows application is used to read the ADC values and switch status from the microcontroller and to toggle the status of LED as shown in Figure 37.

NC1B USB Interfac	e		
Logo			~
CI8 USB Examp	ls. By Rafiq	us4m@gmail.	com
ADC	Chernel	Samples	Veks
Read	n 💠	1	u
Switches and LEDs			
Check	SI-OFF SI	-OFF LEDJ	LEXE

Figure 37: GUI Interface to Read a Value from an Analog Device and Toggle the State of LEDs Attached to Microcontroller

G.3 PIC as Serial Port via USB

The previous experiment requires some installation of USB drivers, whereas in the case of data glove, there is no room for installing any driver, so we need to rely on a supported

configuration without the need for installing additional drivers. In this experiment, the PIC is to be configured to work as a serial port which is more familiar to work which requires the use of hyper-terminal-like programs.

USB CDC example provided by CCS is used to make the configuration. The clocking setting for USB and CPU are made as explained in previous section.



Figure 38: PIC Showing USB Is Successfully Attached (Observe the small LED light indicator)



Figure 39: PIC Showing USB Is Successfully Enumerated (Observe the small 2 LED light indicator)

The proper setup was made and the PIC was successfully recognized/attached and enumerated by the PC as shown in Figure 38 and Figure 39 respectively. In order to send and receive data to and from the PC to the PIC, hyper terminal or any similar tool which communicates with serial port can be used; however the right setting has to be made. A window showing the COM port options is shown in Figure 40.

	Com Part Options		
	Confect Decretors Other Confect Other Confect O	Evy Share OHan Odd OSaan Otom Color 01 Of 02 OS Sector Sector Charles Char	
DSR B DCD B CTS B Files B Error B	Strudience Seetings Structure Part mainted		

Figure 40: Setting up the Serial Communication to the Microcontroller Using Serial Monitor on CCS C Compiler

After making the setting, the communication is successfully established and the user can send data and receive it on LCD attached to the PIC as the PIC has been programmed to work. Figure 41 shows the working circuitry.



Figure 41: Display of Received Data from PC via USB Connection

As the figure shows, the PIC continuously read data from the USB bus and continuously displaying in on the LCD screen. This setting is made to assist in reading data from the data glove, regardless what it represents.

G.4 USB Interface between PIC and Data Glove

After doing the previous experiment, we feel confident to try the interfacing via USB cable. As PIC board is using mini USB female board and the data glove uses normal male USB cable, a converter cable was acquired and used in the experiment.

The PIC and glove are connected via the converter cable and the circuit is powered and the status of the connection is monitored on the LCD and the LED indicators. As shown in Figure 42 and Figure 43, the LED indicators are OFF which implies that the devices were not able to establish connection.

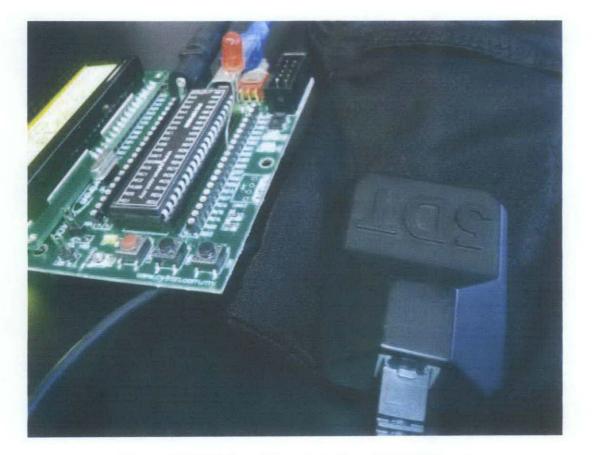


Figure 42: 5DT Data Glove Interface with PIC Board



Figure 43: Interfacing the PIC and Data Glove (note all LED indicators are OFF)

G.5 Discussion

As far as interfacing the data glove is concerned, after conducting the pre-mentioned set of experiments, we realized that there is a great distinction between USB as serial communication and conventional RS232 protocol. The concept of slave and master in USB protocol and the required hardware support makes it significantly different than RS232 protocol which does not have this concept.

The USB communication has a special protocol which primarily enables up to 127 devices to be connected to the same bus. However it is important to note that the communication via USB is Host controlled (requires host device not like the normal RS232 protocol) and its topology can typically have: Host, Hub, and device. Therefore, the hardware and software specifications of the Host and device are different. Interestingly, to enable USB devices to communicate to other USB devices the USB On-The-Go devices were developed with some

limitations, but anyway they have different hardware specifications.

The PIC18F4550 is a slave device in a USB protocol, and it is technically impossible to initiate and control data communication to other slave devices like the 5DT data gloves. Additionally, if another microcontroller is used to take the role of a master in the proposed project (PIC24F series), some function and drivers have to be defined to the microcontroller in the form of hex, assembly or C files which is not provided by the 5DT company.

These reasons make it impossible to realize the interface using a USB connection. As a solution, a serial interface kit provided by the same company has to be acquired. The serial interface kit utilizes the conventional RS232 protocol with clearly defined packet data as specified the sheet of in data the product (see Table 6). Figure 44 shows the proposed modification of the system with the addition of the serial interface kit in the design.

Byte No.	Byte	Byte No.	Byte
1	Start	17	9LI 10HI
2	Type Byte	18	10Lu 10LI
3	Version	19	11HI 11Lu
4	1HI 1Lh	20	11LI 12HI
5	1LI 2HI	21	12Lu 12Ll
6	2Lu 2LI	22	13HI 13Lu
7	3HI 3Lu	23	13LI 14HI
8	3LI 4HI	24	14Lu 14Ll
9	4Lu 4Ll	25	15HI 15Lu
10	5HI 5Lu	26	15LI 16HI
11	5LI 6HI	27	16Lu 16Ll
12	6Lu 6Ll	28	Checksum
13	7HI 7Lu	29	Footer
14	7LI 8HI		
15	8Lu 8LI	1	
16	9HI 9Lu		

Table 6: Data Packet Sent by the Glove

Interfacing the 5DT data glove with the PIC is essential to realize the sign language trainer. However, the USB communication is not a viable option and requires the use of serial interface kit. Instead, a prototype incorporating five potentiometers – to simulate a data glove, PIC microcontroller and LCD modules is considered for implementation.

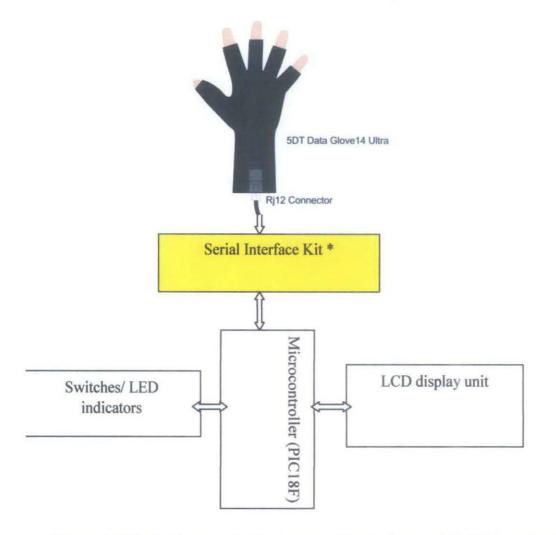


Figure 44: Block Diagram for the System with the Proposed Serial Interface Kit

The implementation of a translation system is applicable to other sign languages as long as the gestures in that language are sensible by the sensing device. The system is also extendable to accommodate the use of data glove as long as the proper interfacing devices are used.

The limitation of the current implementation of the system is that it does not support or make iny consideration to the motion of the hand and gesture of the face during conversation. Since nost of the signs involve many motions, this will severely limit the performance of the system. However, it is believed that with the proper wearable sensing technology, the motions can be interpreted, modeled and translated using similar concepts described in the project.

APPENDIX H DATA GLOVE SENSOR MAP











4) Ring finger point Si Ring-Index finger point

(i) inder

7) Trivee finger point (or not little finger point)



3) Two frigar point



10) Little middle finger

7) Middle Trager point



5) Ring-middle

11) Nothing Ringer point





5) Little Ringer point

12) Little ring finger poert



le finger

13) Not middle finger port

14) Not index finger point 15 Flat hand

Gesture Flexure (0=flexed, =unflexed) **Gesture Description** Fig. Number Fist Index finger point Middle finger point Two finger point Ring finger point Ring index point Ring middle point Three finger point Little finger point Index and little finger point Little middle point Not ring finger point Little ring point Not middle finger point Not index finger point Flat hand

APPENDIX I

GETTING STARTED WITH USB (USB CDC CODE)

```
#include "main.h"
#include <usb_cdc.h>
#DEFINE LED1
                             PIN B7
#define LED2
                             PIN_B6
#define LED3
                             PIN B5
#define LED_ON(x)
                             output_high(x)
#define LED OFF(x)
                             output_low(x)
                             !input (PIN B0)
#define BUTTON PRESSED()
#include "LCD.h"
#include <string.h>
//#define USB CON SENSE PIN PIN B2
void usb_debug_task(void)
ł
   static int8 last_connected;
   static int8 last_enumerated;
   int8 new connected;
   int8 new enumerated;
   static int8 last_cdc;
   int8 new_cdc;
   new_connected=usb_attached();
   new enumerated=usb_enumerated();
   new cdc=usb cdc connected();
   if (new enumerated)
      LED_ON(LED1);
   else
      LED OFF(LED1);
   if (new cdc)
      LED_ON(LED2);
   else
      LED OFF(LED2);
   if (usb cdc carrier.dte present)
      LED_ON(LED3);
   else
      LED OFF(LED3);
   if (new connected && !last_connected)
      printf("USB connected, waiting for enumaration...\r\n\n");
   if (!new connected && last connected)
      printf("USB disconnected, waiting for connection...\r\n\n");
   if (new_enumerated && !last_enumerated)
      printf("USB enumerated by PC/HOST\r\n\n");
   if (!new enumerated && last enumerated)
      printf("USB unenumerated by PC/HOST, waiting for enumeration...\r\n\n");
   if (new cdc && !last cdc)
      printf("Serial program initiated on USB<->UART COM Port\r\n\n");
   last_connected=new connected;
   last_enumerated=new_enumerated;
   last_cdc=new_cdc;
١
void main(void)
   setup_adc_ports(AN0_TO_AN4(VSS_VDD);
   setup_adc(ADC_CLOCK_INTERNAL);
setup_psp(PSP_DISABLED);
   setup_spi(SPI_SS_DISABLED);
   setup_wdt(WDT_OFF);
   setup_timer_0(RTCC_INTERNAL);
   setup_timer_1(T1_DISABLED);
   setup_timer_2(T2_DISABLED,0,1);
setup_comparator(NC_NC_NC_NC);
   setup_vref(FALSE);
   lcd_init();
   char c:
```

```
LED OFF(LED1);
   LED_OFF(LED2);
   LED_OFF(LED3);
   printf("\r\n\nCCS CDC (Virtual RS232) Example\r\n");
  printf("\r\nPCH: v");
printf(__PCH__);
printf("\r\n");
   usb init cs();
   char message1[16], message2[16];
strcpy(message1,"Hello World");
   lcd_display_str(0,message1 );
   strcpy(message2, "Line2");
   lcd_display_str(1,message2 );
   char poll command[16];
   while (TRUE)
   ł
      usb_task();
      usb_debug_task();
      if (usb_cdc_kbhit())
      £
      c=usb_cdc_getc();
if (c=='d') printf(usb_cdc_putc,"\r\nportd is a digital output port\r\n");
      else
      if (c=='a') printf(usb cdc putc,"\r\nporta is an analog input port\r\n");
      else
      if (c=='b') printf(usb_cdc_putc,"\r\nportb is a digital output port\r\n");
      else
      if (c=='c') printf(usb_cdc_putc,"\r\nportc is unavailable\n");
      else
           (c=='!')
                        printf(usb_cdc putc,"\r\nHELLO-WORLD-HELLO-WORLD-HELLO-WORLD-HELLO-WORLD-
      if
HELLO-WORLD\r\n");
      else
      printf(usb_cdc_putc,c);
      }
   }
```

}

APPENDIX J

5DT DATA GLOVE AND PIC INTERFACE VIA USB (CODE)

```
#include "main.h"
#include <usb cdc.h>
#DEFINE LED1
                            PIN B7
#define LED2
                            PIN B6
#define LED3
                            PIN B5
#define LED_ON(x)
                            output_high(x)
#define LED OFF(x)
                            output low (x)
                            !input(PIN B0)
#define BUTTON PRESSED()
#include "LCD.H"
#include <string.h>
void usb_debug task(void)
ł
   static int8 last_connected;
   static int8 last enumerated;
   int8 new_connected;
   int8 new_enumerated;
   static int8 last_cdc;
   int8 new cdc;
   new connected=usb attached();
   new_enumerated=usb_enumerated();
   new_cdc=usb_cdc_connected();
   if (new enumerated)
      LED ON (LED1);
   else
      LED_OFF(LED1);
   if (new cdc)
      LED_ON(LED2);
   else
      LED OFF(LED2);
   if (usb_cdc_carrier.dte_present)
      LED ON (LED3);
   else
      LED OFF(LED3);
   if (new connected && !last connected)
      printf("USB connected, waiting for enumaration...\r\n\n");
   if (!new connected && last_connected)
      printf("USB disconnected, waiting for connection...\r\n\n");
   if (new_enumerated && !last_enumerated)
      printf("USB enumerated by PC/HOST\r\n\n");
   if (!new enumerated && last enumerated)
      printf("USB unenumerated by PC/HOST, waiting for enumeration...\r\n\n");
   if (new cdc && !last cdc)
      printf("Serial program initiated on USB<->UART COM Port\r\n\n");
   last_connected=new_connected;
   last_enumerated=new enumerated;
   last_cdc=new cdc;
ł
void main(void)
ſ
   setup_adc_ports(AN0_TO_AN4|VSS_VDD);
   setup_adc(ADC_CLOCK_INTERNAL);
setup_psp(PSP_DISABLED);
   setup_spi(SPI_SS_DISABLED);
   setup_wdt(WDT_OFF);
   setup_timer_0(RTCC_INTERNAL);
   setup_timer_1(T1_DISABLED);
   setup_timer_2(T2_DISABLED,0,1);
   setup_comparator(NC_NC_NC_NC);
   setup_vref(FALSE);
   lcd init();
   char c:
```

```
LED OFF(LED1);
LED OFF (LED2) ;
LED_OFF(LED3);
printf("\r\n\nCCS CDC (Virtual RS232) Example\r\n");
printf("\r\nPCH: v");
printf(__PCH__);
printf("\r\n");
usb_init_cs();
char message1[16], message2[16];
strcpy(message1, "Hello World");
lcd_display_str(0,message1 );
strcpy(message2,"USB CDC Comm.!");
lcd_display_str(1,message2 );
unsigned char recieved_packet[29];
int8 i;
for(i=0;i<29;i++)</pre>
{
   recieved_packet[i]='\0';
}
i=0;
while (TRUE)
{
    usb_task();
   usb_debug_task();
   if (usb_cdc_kbhit())
    £
       recieved_packet[i]=usb_cdc_getc();
lcd_display_char((int8) (i/15),(int8) (i%15), recieved_packet[i]);
       i++;
       if( i>=29) {lcd_display_char( 1,14,' '); i=0;}
   }
}
```

}

Microcontroller Based Sign Language Translator

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ACT

unities of vocal impaired and deaf people who use uage face great communication difficulties with ho use vocal languages. This project, aims to towards bringing the gap closer by offering a tool nslates sign languages to written messages on an lay. This report discusses the different development ementation issues including gesture modeling, nterfacing, sign recognition and translation. Sign Language is widely used in different part of including Malaysia; therefore it is considered in The proposed method utilizes five viect. eters to emulate sensor output, a microcontroller e, convert, recognize, translate and display the ure on the LCD unit. The translator can recognize ers, 10 numbers, and some phrases and words. The work is believed to be an entry to more promising rding sign language translation-applications in the

ORDS

uage, ASL, Microcontroller, Gesture detection, y.

DUCTION

nguage is widely used by people who suffer from pairment or hearing problems in which the eators use visually transmitted signs to convey . The deaf community which utilizes sign language ted to be 0.1% of total population, which means of people worldwide [1]. This large community eat difficulties in communicating with normal everal attempts have been made to break this gap sign language users and conventional vocal communicators by introducing tools that can the meaning for both sides. This project aims to prototype which interprets the signal made by a sign language communicator into a displayed message on LCD. This project is believed to be a base for future work in this area.

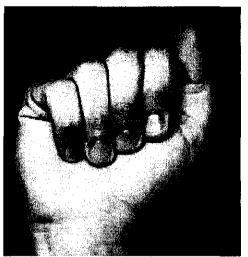
Sign language generally utilizes manual movement to convey meanings. This language is not understood by average people. The majority of people understand visually written letters, while sign language users can only use manual signs. In order to break the gap, a set of sensors can be used on the signer to efficiently convert the signs made to electrical signals which in return can be understood by a personal computer (PC) and interpreted accordingly. However, the use of PC does not make the solution mobile and easy to carry. Therefore, a simple IC based circuitry interface (i.e. microcontroller) is required to replace the job of PC. In general, such replacement involves several challenges due to the limited resources which are normally found in conventional ICs (i.e. microcontrollers).

Therefore, the aim of this project is to construct a prototype which interprets basic signs into a readable text on an LCD. In order to realize such prototype, the ASL language is chosen for the implementation and the following objectives are considered: obtaining a numerical representation all gestures used in the sign language, constructing a sign language dictionary, and prototyping a translation system using set of potentiometers, a microcontroller and LCD modules.

The project is envisaged to deliver a prototype which makes use of a set of potentiometers to model the actual sign gestures which can be later replaced to an accurate data glove. A microcontroller with different communication modules is to be used to acquire, manipulate and display the signs being detected by the sensors. A display unit which is as simple as a 2 line-LCD is to be used to display detected messages.

PRELIMINARIES

Sign language which is based on visual manipulation of hands and body is the language of deaf and vocally impaired people. It is interesting to know that sign language is not universal. Despite the fact that most vocabulary and grammar of sign languages worldwide are quite similar, they vpically identical [1]. For example the particular men" have different sign representation in Auslan, id DSL sign languages [1]. However, studies hat most of world's sign languages have a great 'identical vocabulary.



1: Letter "A" in American Sign Language [2]

ther side, sign language does not follow the same grammar as for vocal languages [1]. The ng vocal language has a significant impact in a particular sign language. This explains the in sign languages globally. In this project, we will the American Sign Language (ASL) [2] as it shares milarity with Malaysian Sign Language (or in Bahasa Isyarat Malaysia : BIM) and is well ted. The letters and the first ten numbers will be y considered in the proposed system. Figure 1 ample of letter "A" in ASL.

[ED WORK

ttempts have been made to translate sign language languages and vice versa. J.M. Allen *et al.* in [3] a system which translates spoken English to sign. In this work, the authors discussed an algorithm ited in personal computer which can automate the n of spoken and written English language and the equivalent via an avatar animated sign T.

Ia et al. and R. Akmeliawati et al. in [4], [5] an algorithm which utilizes neural network to re sign from a camera and process it accordingly to

English translation. This method requires less e hardware but more complicated algorithm to the signs. In order to translate a sign, the image is and tracked, then the hand posture is extracted and sponding meaning is matched using a learned neural Implementing a recognition system on an ARM processor is discussed in [6]. In this work, the practical aspects of real time blabbering recognition and translation are discussed. The system shows different practical aspects of the implementation of language recognition in embedded systems.

Another interesting work is discussed by R.M. McGuire *et al.* in [7]. In this work, a mobile sign translator based on one hand data glove and a Hidden Markov Model are used. The proposed system shows 94% accuracy for a particular scenario whereby a signer is seeking an apartment.

N. El-Bendary et al. attempted to implement arSLAT which recognizes sign representation of Arabic letters and gives the written equivalence [8]. The system processes a video which contains series of image representations for the letters. The best captured image from the video undergoes several phases including categorization, feature extraction and classification before the Arabic letter is finally recognized. Experimental results show 91% of recognition accuracy.

In summary, this short listing for some of the most relevant work all around the world, show the global potentiality of the problem. It also highlights different areas of focus for the implementation of sign language translators. This includes: sensing devices, processing platform (PC, embedded processors, etc.), recognition algorithms, and output forms. In this project, the focus will be in implementing the translation system in microcontroller processing environment.

An essential component of the translation system is the recognition algorithm. Several recognition algorithms have been used in previous studies. In this work fuzzy logic based algorithm is considered for implementation.

Fuzzy logic is a form of many-valued logics; it conceptually deals with reasoning that is approximate rather than fixed and exact [9]. In contrast with the traditional logic theory, where binary variables have two logic values: true or false, fuzzy logic variables may have a truth value that ranges in degree between 0 and 1. Fuzzy logic has been extended to handle the concept of partial truth. In partial truth, the truth value may range between completely true and completely false. Furthermore, when linguistic variables are used, these degrees may be managed by specific functions [9].

METHODOLOGY

1. System Identification and Tools

Throughout the development stage of the prototype of the project, several tools are potentially considered. The tools used for the implementation of the translation system and the respective functional and technical details are discussed as follows.

`otentiometer

ometer is a simple three terminals variable resistor. n different values for the resistance across its ends. rminal in the middle is connected via a moving djust the resistance at this terminal from 0 to full elation to either ends. The potentiometer is used to nd produce 0-5 V analog output. It has generally tput range of a possible gesture sensor; this allows used as a simplified model for gesture sensor. it can be used to emulate a fingers gesture sensing

nicrocontroller

ige microcontroller from Microchip is to be used, ction enables the developers to deal with the with more flexibility and efficiency.

8F4550 [11] is among the most commonly used microcontrollers barely because of its USB ration support capabilities. The PIC18F4550 is a gh performance microcontroller which is equipped ral built-in peripherals. The proposed system may the USB support for advanced used, therefore, the is made to enable future development and of functionality expansion.

th the USB support, the microcontroller is featured lerent processing modes, configurable internal s, extendable instruction set which makes it a high ice yet power efficient microcontroller. The 32KB mory allows long programs (more than 16 assembly code lines) to be executed. The data g the execution of the program (i.e. variables' data) in SRAM memory which is 2KB in size for the 50 microcontroller.

the peripherals of the microcontroller are not d as the proposed system does not require them, it is likely that normal I/O operation are to be used allow access to other direct digital transmission ices such as LCD.

C compiler

o program the microcontroller, a compiler is to be n this project, the PIC C compiler from CCS is to

C compiler is easy to use, and almost immediate to 1 due to the project wizard feature and the different des which it offers.

ie features of CCS C compiler:

Automatic fuses configuration

Extensive built-in functions providing direct access o PIC hardware

Extensive source code driver library

Arithmetic library

Integrated development environment

development kit and programmer

up the development phase, a startup kit [12] is used tform of the microcontroller circuit. The use of this tool provides easier and more robust circuit to be built. The board provides several functionalities and circuitry support. The kit is a robust development platform which offers:

- Voltage regulation circuitry (9 V input voltage to 5 V output voltage)
- Reset button
- USB port
- Connector to programmer
- Optional connection to LCD and UART
- 2 switches and 2 LEDs connected to Port B

In order to transfer the C codes to the program memory of the microcontroller, USB ICSB programmer (UIC00B) [13] is considered. This programmer is a cheap programming solution and is highly compatible with the SK40C startup kit.

The programming software (PIC kit 2) takes the hex file which is produced by CCS compiler and loads it to the microcontroller memory via the UIC00B programmer.

2. Sign Language Translation Procedure

The translation procedure involves several issues, tasks and algorithms. The following part discusses these challenges and explains the methodologies adopted in this work. The flow chart of the translation system is shown in Figure 2.

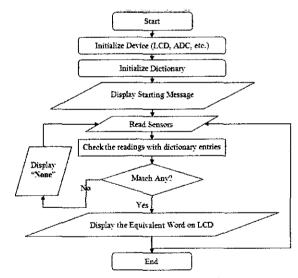


Figure 2: Translation Flow Chart

The translation is basically a closed loop in which the sensors are read, compared and if recognized, the results are displayed on the LCD unit. The reading of the sensors is compared to a dictionary which is created according to the ASL dictionary. The dictionary consists of a set of numerical representation to the gestures of the five fingers (thumb, index, middle, ring and little). The modeling and the numerical representation of the gesture are described in the following part.

lensor reading and display

step on the hardware development of the system is the interface between the PIC and the sensing unit. the sensing unit is assumed to be simple eters and therefore, the PIC is required to establish mication with the potentiometers. The ADC in the PIC is used to implement this function. Five levoted for this purposes which are: A0, A1, A2, A5. The first step in implementation is to set the nfiguration using the project wizard in CCS C is follows:

electing PIC18F4550 (as it is the target PIC)

scillator frequency: 20,000,000 Hz (as used in the evelopment board)

or the oscillator fuses, choose the configuration: ligh speed Osc (> 4mhz, for PCM/PCH) (>10mhz or PCD)

<u>Inselect</u> the option : "PORTB pins are configured s analog input channels"

or the analog configuration, the following is used:

- o A0, A1, A2, A3, A5
- o Range 0-Vdd
- o Units: 0-255
- Internal 2-6u for the clock

code is generated upon making the above settings. s used to display the data.

igns Gesture Representation

wn that each letter or word in sign language is of gestures made by the five fingers of the hand. to obtain a numerical representation for each 6 gestures per finger are identified to be the basic lock for each sign as shown in Table 1.

Code	Gesture Description
June	
	Inflexed finger
	Upper Joint flexed
	Middle joint flexed
	Middle + Upper joint flexed
	Lower joint tilts aside
	Upper+ Lower joint tilts aside
	Middle+ Lower joint tilts aside
	Upper +Middle +Lower joint tilts aside
	Lower joint half bent
	Upper+ Lower joint half bent
	Middle+ Lower joint half bent
	Upper+ Middle+ Lower joint half bent
	Lower joint fully bent
	Upper+ Lower joint fully bent
	Middle+ Lower joint fully bent
	Upper +Middle +Lower joint fully bent

Table	1:	Basic	Gesture	Meaning
-------	----	--------------	---------	---------

sign entry in the dictionary, the gesture represented nger is identified according to the table above and values are assigned according to Table 2. Each gesture is assigned to an arbitrary number from (0-255) with a 16 digits step. The gaps between the gestures are later exploited to identify fuzzy limits between the gestures.

Table 2: Numerical	Representation of	of Gestures
--------------------	-------------------	-------------

Gesture Code	Numerical Equivalent
G0000	0
G1000	16
G0200	32
G1200	48
G0031	64
G1031	80
G0231	96
G1231	112
G0032	128
G1032	144
G0232	160
G1232	176
G0033	192
G1033	208
G0233	224
G1233	240

C. Letter Matching Algorithm

The signals resembling letters and numbers do not have a strict set of Boolean values. This would suggest the use of Fuzzy logic based algorithm. The signs by nature are not exact and identical to all users. When detecting such signs, the detected signal for the same sign but from different users will vary but should still be close. This consequently leads us to select a fuzzy algorithm to store and match the sign language dictionary.

In fuzzy algorithm, the values of its variable are not in simple TRUE (1) and FALSE (0) patterns, however discrete values representing wide range of trueness and falseness ranging from extremely true to extremely false are typically considered.

In the case of sign language translator, the variables are the reading of sensors and the exact number of sensors depends on the type of sensor system. Each sensor is described by 8 bits value ranging from totally flexed to totally inflexed; however for more general case, the size of the variable (number of bits) depends on the accuracy of the sensor.

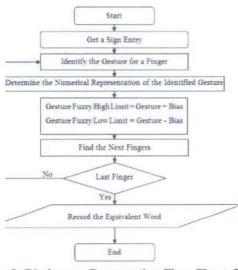
The reading of the sensor is to be later compared to find the similar letter which the gesture resembles. The letters, on the other hand, are to be represented by a set of values for each sensor. The fuzzy part comes here, whereby; the values representing each letter describe the upper limit and lower limit for each sensor value. This means, a typical letter or word, is represented by several variables describing the upper limit for the sensors and another set of variables describing the lower limit for the sensors. In addition to that another variable is required to store the equivalent word itself. structure comprising of the lower limit for the sign 1 sensor, the upper limit for the sign from each d the equivalent word represents a single entry in sed sign dictionary. A look-up table is then to be sisting of all data structures holding the entries for and the corresponding meaning. The entries in the ble are to be derived empirically.

ified version of the translation system is ted using three words based on the reading of five he code is developed and the results are shown and in next sections.

Dictionary Construction

ned previously, in order to enable the translation, a holding the gesture and the equivalent word has to acted. The construction of the dictionary is shown 3.

shows the steps adopted in realizing the dictionary. gramming a **struct** data type is used to represent onary entry. The dictionary is simply an array of data types. The maximum number of entries on the size of the data memory (RAM). In the separate memory chip is required to store larger f entries.



3: Dictionary Construction Flow Chart, Bias value is 7

odology shown in **Figure 3** is used to obtain and the sign dictionary. The sign versions of the letters > Z and numbers from 1 to 10 and the "I love you" e considered from [2] and consequently the sign / is constructed.

es of the table actually show the range of the five lues and the equivalent word. As example the sign /es a value in the range of (G1031L to G1031) for the thumb sensor, (G0233L to G0233) for the index sensor, (G1031L to G1031) for the middle sensor, (G1233L to G1233) for the ring sensor and (G1233L to G1233) for the little sensor represents the letter A.

RESULTS

The translation system based on a set of potentiometers is constructed. The system is implemented by developing C codes based on the methodology explained previously. The system with the five potentiometers, LCD and mother board is shown in Figure 4. Figure 5 shows the system starting message.



Figure 4: Translation System Components: 5 Potentiomenters, Main Board (SK40C board), and LCD

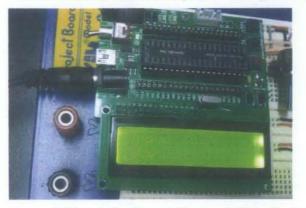
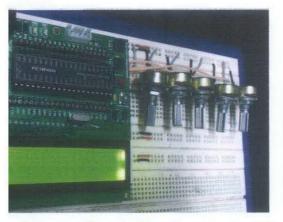


Figure 5: Translation System Startup, LCD is displaying the "Strarting" message

The gestures for the letters, numbers and some words were obtained and implemented on the code listing. The reading of the sensors and the recognized gestures are configured to be displayed on the first and second lines of the LCD, respectively. Two modes of sensors reading display were shown on the LCD successfully. The two modes of display are the digitized (0-255) and in Volts (0-5 V) and are shown in Figure 6 and Figure 7, respectively.



: Sensor readings in first line (thumb: 123, b, middle:238, ring:242, and little:237), Second aying the translated sign

tperiments had been conducted to test the ability of n to recognize gestures. The experimental results n show that it is able to recognize the whole 26 al letters.

tters are used in coding as well as in display. This hat the LCD displays "B" instead of "b" to indicate 1 alphabet. All the 26 letters did not involve motion ". Since it is assumed that only hand shapes are d therefore the hand shape component of the letter nsidered in modeling.

Figure 7 and Figure 8 show some of the recognized



re 7: Sensor readings in Volts (thumb: 2.4V, :2.4V, middle:4.6V, ring:4.7V and little:4.6V)



Figure 8: Translation system recognizing the sign for B equivalent to (thumb: 64+/-7, index: 0, middle: 0, ring: 0 and little: 0)

Additionally numbers (0-10) are added and recognized successfully. Moreover, the system is able to recognize some phrases e.g. "I love you". Figure 9 and Figure 10 show some of the obtained results.

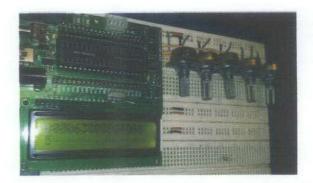
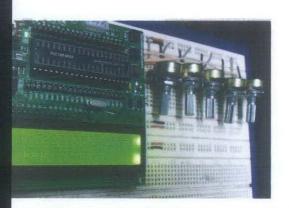


Figure 9: Recognition and translation of the sign for 5 (thumb: 0, index: 64+/-7, middle: 0, ring: 64+/-7, little: 64+/-7)



Figure 10: Recognition of phrases e.g. "I Love You" (thumb: 0, index: 0, middle: 224+/-7, ring: 224+/-7, little: 0)



ure 11: "None" message for any other unrecognized signs

unrecognized signs, the system displays by default e" message as shown in Figure 11. This is later ced in the coding by the message "Not recognized!".

NCLUSION

totype incorporating five potentiometers – to simulate a tic sensor reading, PIC microcontroller and LCD les is proposed to aid sign language users to convey messages in a more explicit way. The proposed type is based on ASL language and can support up to gns and the equivalent words as a proof-of-concept. The ct is envisaged to be an entry work for educational yet ical solutions which can potentially be extended for functionality and portability.

FURE DIRECTIONS

ently the system supports the translation of up to 75 words. The size of the dictionary can be potentially ded considering the addition of memory chip to the m. To enable the portability of the design, a 9v battery le is to be added. Even though the system is tested but a realistic data glove, it is believed that the matical methodology adopted in the project will ease calization of the addition. A potential future work is to ce the five potentiometers by a data glove.

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