



Assistive Device for Sensory Disabled People

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KEYWORDS

Computer Vision, Human-Computer Interaction, Internet of Things (IoT), Speech Synthesis, Wearable Technology, Gesture Recognition, Raspberry Pi, Assistive Technology, and Sensory Disabilities.

ABSTRACT

Assistive technology becomes vital for sensory impaired individuals because it improves their life quality. The research presents an AI-based assistive technology which enables people with speech, hearing, and vision disabilities to interact with their environment and communicate with others. The system proposed in this project uses a Raspberry Pi as its main controller together with an LCD display, speaker, buzzer, Bluetooth connectivity, USB camera, and gesture-based glove inputs. A camera captures hand gestures in real time which computer vision algorithms use to identify specific gestures that have been predefined. The system enables audio-impaired users to communicate effectively through the conversion of their gestures into coherent text and audio outputs. Hearing-impaired users can receive visual input from the LCD, while visually impaired people can receive assistance via audio and vibration alerts. Bluetooth technology enables users to connect with external devices and cellphones. The experiment results demonstrate that the system produces precise output with minimal delay while maintaining accurate gesture detection. The proposed system can operate in real-world assistive applications because it provides users with portable and affordable and simple-to-use features which enhance their independence from others who have sensory disabilities.

INTRODUCTION

The increasing population of individuals with sensory disabilities who experience speech and hearing and vision impairments has created a strong demand for assistive devices during the past few years. The disabilities create major difficulties which restrict people

from moving around and talking and interacting with their surroundings. The traditional assistive technology contains sign boards and hearing aids and text-based systems, which provide minimal support to users who have one specific disability. The systems did not possess capabilities for intelligent operation or adaptable

functionality or capacity to exchange information instantly. People need assistive solutions which combine different sensory solutions with user-friendly design to support their active participation in various daily activities.

Developments in computer vision and embedded systems and artificial intelligence and Internet of Things (IoT) systems have created new chances to develop intelligent assistive devices. The development of wireless connection and speech synthesis and gesture detection and other technologies enables machines to understand human intent better and to provide real-time meaningful responses. The combination of Raspberry Pi-based platforms with cameras and sensors creates a cost-effective and flexible environment which enables the implementation of intelligent systems. The technologies enable assistive devices to assess visual information and interpret gestures and create multimodal outputs that include text and music and warnings. The developments in these technologies have brought significant enhancements to contemporary assistance technologies which have resulted in better accuracy and responsiveness and usability for real-world applications.

The majority of existing assistive systems which assist people with disabilities operate through their specialized impairment solution or their limited interface capabilities. Some systems depend heavily on their stored input data whereas other systems require expensive equipment and complex setup processes which make them unsuitable for situations with insufficient resources. Multiple systems lack both real-time processing capabilities and portable operation which are essential for their typical daily application. The existing limitations demonstrate the requirement for an integrated platform-based assistive solution which helps individuals who have speech and hearing and vision disabilities. The system needs to maintain operational efficiency through its ability to connect wirelessly and provide visual and audio feedback and allow users to communicate through gestures while being easy to use and budget-friendly and efficient.

This study presents an AI-based assistive device which combines multiple assistive functions into one embedded system to address current system limitations. The system design uses a Raspberry Pi as its main controller which operates together with a speaker, a buzzer, a glove interface system that uses sensors, a USB camera system

for gesture identification, and an LCD display to show visual information. Hand motions are tracked and understood through computer vision methods which then produce text and audio results that are converted into different formats. The system establishes Bluetooth connections to enable communication between external devices and mobile phones. The proposed solution creates three benefits for people with sensory disabilities through its ability to promote independent living and improve communication while providing scalable and affordable assistive technology solutions.

LITERATURE SURVEY

Recent studies have demonstrated the value of assistive technologies which help people with sensory impairments achieve greater independence and improved communication. The initial solutions which included gesture-to-text conversion for users who cannot speak and audio guidance for users who have visual impairments, focused solely on delivering assistance for a single disability. Researchers developed glove-based wearable systems which used flex sensors and microcontrollers to transform hand gestures into text and audio outputs; these systems achieved a satisfactory level of performance [1], [2]. The platforms enabled users to communicate with others, but their design restricted users from expanding their capabilities and adapting their communication methods. The operational effectiveness of sign language-based assistive systems faced restrictions in active environments because these systems required users to learn predefined hand movements through extensive practice [3], [4]. The existing methods demonstrated the need for AI-powered multimodal assistive systems because they offered hardware solutions that lacked intelligent capabilities [5].

Advancements in computer vision together with machine learning development have created significant interest in vision-based assistance systems. The combination of convolutional neural networks (CNNs) with hand landmark detection methods enables camera-based gesture recognition systems to achieve better recognition accuracy and real-time operational capabilities according to [6] and [7]. The technologies enable users to experience better comfort because they eliminate the need to use physical sensors. Researchers have studied gesture interpretation and object detection together with optical character recognition (OCR) to

create solutions for blind people and individuals with hearing impairments according to [8] and [9]. Vision-based systems encounter three main problems which include illumination difficulties and occlusions and processing complexity. The majority of solutions require high-cost processing equipment which restricts their use in budget-friendly installations according to [10]. These restrictions create a need for lightweight AI models to work with embedded systems.

The development of affordable portable assistive devices exists because embedded systems and Internet of Things technology reached their current state. Users widely adopt Raspberry Pi-based assistive systems because these systems provide low power consumption and sufficient computing power and support various peripheral devices [11], [12]. Researchers developed Bluetooth and wireless communication systems to connect assistive devices with cloud platforms and mobile phones which improved their practical functionality [13]. Users with multiple sensory disabilities experience better usability from multimodal assistive technologies which provide tactile and auditory and visual feedback [14], [15]. Many IoT systems require continuous network access which creates issues with network latency and system reliability and user data security. The system design process needs efficient system design and localized processing because it serves as essential requirement for developing assistive technology [16].

The combination of auditory feedback systems with speech synthesis technology has become vital for people who need assistive communication technologies. Speech-impaired and visually impaired users have received real-time feedback through text-to-speech engines and audio alert systems [17]. Research has indicated that the integration of visual displays with auditory output improves both response speed and understanding ability [18]. Current systems face challenges because they cannot smoothly merge voice synthesis technology with visual output and gesture input systems. The system base lacks customization options which prevents users from making specific adjustments to suit their individual requirements. Researchers require unified platforms which deliver multimodal feedback with dynamic message production and real-time gesture recognition to treat multiple sensory impairments effectively [19].

The published material demonstrates major progress in assistive technology development, but it reveals critical problems regarding affordable products and system integration and real-world usability. The majority of systems do not offer users with multiple sensory disabilities comprehensive support; instead, they focus on isolated deficits. Recent studies demonstrate that multimodal systems which combine embedded technology with AI capabilities create promising pathways for future development [20]. The accuracy, versatility, and accessibility of next-generation assistive technologies can be increased by combining computer vision, gesture recognition, voice synthesis, and wireless communication onto a single platform. The proposed system uses these observations to create an assistive solution which delivers effective support for sensory impaired people through scalable and user-friendly design.

PROPOSED METHODOLOGY

The proposed assistive system uses its embedded platform to help people with hearing, vision, and speech disabilities to communicate. The Raspberry Pi serves as the primary processing device and is at the heart of the methodology's modular architecture. The system uses a glove interface with built-in sensors to identify specific gestures while a USB webcam handles visual gesture recognition. The system processes inputs in real time while continuously watching the inputs. The system provides low latency and reliable operation through its local processing capabilities that do not depend on cloud services. The system first collects gesture inputs before it processes them and transmits them to the recognition module for further evaluation.

The gesture recognition process uses Python-based computer vision methods to analyze the captured video frames. The system employs lightweight vision models to perform hand detection and landmark extraction which enables the identification of hand movements and finger positions. The system database contains predefined gesture patterns that are mapped to the retrieved features. Every recognized gesture has a corresponding command or message. The system achieves higher recognition accuracy by using noise reduction and frame filtering techniques to handle different lighting conditions. The recognition system achieves real-time performance with low processing requirements because

the system was designed to work on Raspberry Pi devices while still delivering suitable accuracy results.

The system uses multimodal feedback techniques to transform a gesture into meaningful output when it has been correctly recognized. The system converts recognized movements into text messages which are displayed on an LCD panel to assist users who have hearing impairments. A text-to-speech engine enables speech-impaired people to speak through their devices by generating audio output which plays through a speaker. The system gives visually impaired users immediate feedback through buzzer alerts and auditory cues. Our multimodal output system enables full participation by delivering sensory information through multiple sensory channels. The output module enables flexible message delivery because users and applications can customize both messages and alarms.

The proposed solution uses Bluetooth technology to enhance system connection and user experience. The Raspberry Pi establishes a wireless link with external devices like cellphones to enable users to exchange messages and monitor the system. The system enables family members and caregivers to communicate with the system from remote locations while receiving system alerts. The entire process focuses on creating portable and affordable systems which can be easily used by anyone through the combination of standard hardware components and free software development tools. The proposed system delivers a trustworthy and expandable assistive solution which improves communication abilities and personal independence for people with sensory disabilities through advanced input processing and smart gesture recognition and multiple feedback methods.

A. System Architecture

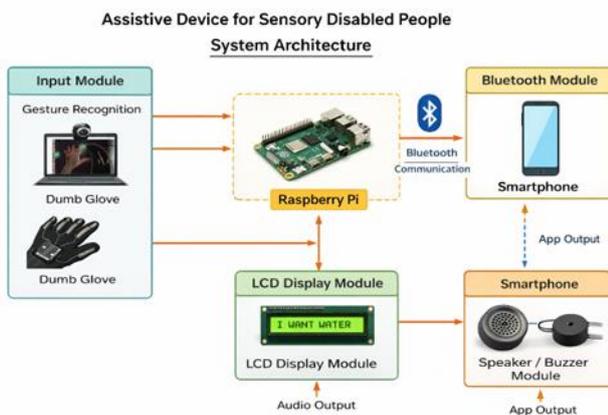


Fig 1 System Architecture

B. Methodology

Gesture-Based Input Gathering Through Wearable Interface and Vision

The input acquisition module, which uses hand gestures to record user intent, serves as the cornerstone of the suggested assistive system. The system requires a wearable dumb glove that delivers preset gesture inputs and uses a USB web camera to stream live video of hand movements. The camera streams visual data to the Raspberry Pi which enables the system to track user gestures in real time. The system achieves better performance through dual-input methods which combine wearable technology with optical sensing to maintain accurate input detection across various environmental conditions. The introduction of non-invasive sensors enables improved user comfort and supports natural gesture-based communication for users who experience sensory impairments.

The system uses video frame preprocessing to achieve better recognition results. The hand area is extracted from the background through three methods which include noise reduction and frame normalization and region-of-interest extraction. The gesture preprocessing procedures improve gesture visibility while they reduce computational expenses. The system maintains its frame rate to ensure system response and detection performance. The glove interface system records predefined electrical signals and location signals which represent finger movements to transmit them to the Raspberry Pi. Our hybrid input system maintains continuous operation in real-world situations because it uses multiple sensing methods instead of relying on one method.

Researchers designed the gesture acquisition procedure to provide users with a system that requires no special training to operate. The system uses a limited set of hand movements to represent common expressions which people use for making requests and generating alarms. The method enables effective communication while making it simpler for users to understand the system. The input module operates in real time to provide continuous data to the gesture recognition subsystem. The system enables speech-impaired and sensory-disabled users to interact with it through its combination of camera-based sensing and wearable interface which delivers better accuracy and reliability.

Design of the System Architecture and Embedded Control System

The suggested system design uses Raspberry Pi as its central processing unit according to its embedded control framework. The Raspberry Pi connects to all input and processing and output modules to enable efficient data management and system operation. The system achieves flexible operation and scalable capacity and simple maintenance through its modular design. The system uses standard interfaces to connect peripheral devices which include the camera and LCD and speaker and buzzer and Bluetooth module for seamless device integration. The system achieves portable design and assistive application suitability through its low power usage and real-time processing ability.

Python is used to implement the embedded control framework on the Raspberry Pi. Python libraries enable developers to build multimedia applications and conduct computer vision tasks and create hardware connections. The control logic maintains synchronized operation through its management of data transmission between different system components. The gesture acquisition module delivers input signals to the recognition unit which then sends identified commands to their designated output channels. The system includes monitoring tools and exception management systems to maintain continuous operation during extended usage periods. The system achieves better responsiveness and reliability through its structured control system.

The architecture functions entirely through its built-in capabilities without requiring any cloud computing resources. The assistive technology benefits from local processing because it decreases response time while protecting user information. The system enables Bluetooth communication which lets users connect their phones and other external devices. The embedded system framework maintains operational links between all system components while enabling users to add more output devices and gestural controls in the future. The design strategy creates an accessible assistive system by balancing three factors which include usability and price and performance.

AI-Powered Decision Mapping and Gesture Recognition

The gesture recognition system uses computer vision methods to interpret the hand movements which the camera recorded. The system employs lightweight AI

models which designers built specifically for embedded systems to perform hand detection and landmark extraction tasks. The system extracts crucial features from every frame which include hand orientation and finger position data. The system examines these features to identify gesture patterns which fulfill established directive requirements. Users can engage smoothly because effective algorithms are used to guarantee real-time performance without taxing the Raspberry Pi's processing power.

The first step requires gesture data extraction. The system database contains a predetermined text message or instruction that corresponds to each identified gesture. The results of this rule-based mapping technique provide both reliable output and understandable results. The system avoids using complex deep learning models because it needs to achieve accurate results while minimizing processing requirements. Threshold-based validation together with temporal consistency checks across multiple frames improves gesture recognition accuracy by reducing false detections and enhancing system reliability.

The decision-making process needs to support both flexible and adjustable decision-making methods. The system allows users to introduce new gestures and messages while keeping its core structure intact. The system provides flexible design options which enable users to create customized solutions that match their specific requirements. The AI-based recognition module enables people to communicate naturally by connecting machine understanding with human gesture systems. The system uses decision mapping together with vision-based intelligence to produce accurate results which enable efficient assistive communication.

Power management, multimodal output generation, and embedded signal processing

The system generates multiple output types after it finishes identifying gestures to accommodate people with different sensory impairments. The system displays recognized messages on an LCD screen to assist users who have hearing disabilities. The text-to-speech system enables people with speech disabilities to communicate because it converts written words into spoken words which are produced through a speaker system. The buzzer produces alert signals to inform visually impaired users about important notifications. The multimodal

output system delivers information through three different channels which include visual and aural and alert-based methods to enhance accessibility for all users.

The system generates output from all modules through its integrated signal processing system. The control system assigns priority levels to its output results based on established commands and user requirements. The system notifies caregivers and family members through Bluetooth technology which transmits output alerts to a paired mobile application. The output subsystem operates in real-time which enables immediate response to gesture inputs. The system enables users to communicate effectively during normal interactions and critical emergency situations.

Power management serves as a crucial element which designers require for their system design work. The system functions without interruption because its components receive power from a regulated source which uses an adaptor. The system achieves reduced energy consumption through its implementation of processing techniques which operate at high efficiency and its use of low-energy consumption devices. The Raspberry Pi protects its system from power overloads by managing the power supply which goes to its connected modules to ensure safe operation. The power-efficient design creates an affordable solution which enhances system mobility and reliability, thus making it suitable for continuous use in assistive environments.

RESULTS

The research team assessed the proposed assistive system by testing its performance and testing its ability to respond and maintain operation during the evaluation process. The experiment results showed that the wearable glove interface together with the USB camera system successfully detected and identified the specific hand gestures which had been predetermined. The system achieved accurate gesture conversion through its capacity to transform gestures into text messages which appeared on the LCD panel as "I want water" and "Please come here." The system achieved almost immediate response time through its ability to identify gestures with minimal delay. The system maintained consistent performance during normal indoor lighting conditions because preprocessing techniques effectively eliminated background sounds and visual disturbances. The results demonstrate how effectively the vision-based gesture

acquisition and recognition modules enable people with sensory impairments to establish communication with others.

The multimodal output testing used three methods which included examining text display and audio output and alert systems. The LCD module displayed recognized messages through its constant and clear display which allowed hearing-impaired users to read the messages. The text-to-speech module enabled speech-impaired users to speak through the system which produced voice outputs that were both audible and clear through the speakers. Buzzer alarms provided people with visual impairments immediate notification of system status. The system demonstrated reliable wireless connectivity through successful message transmission to a connected smartphone using Bluetooth technology. The system achieved better user interaction through its ability to deliver multiple output channels for communication with different users. The system demonstrated its signal processing design and embedded control system efficiency through its ability to respond quickly to gesture control commands.

The assessment of system power efficiency and stability took place during its uninterrupted operational period. The Raspberry Pi maintained its performance during extended testing periods without any system failures or overheating problems. The device maintained power consumption within safe limits when tested with a standard power adapter which proved to be suitable for mobile operation. The modular design enabled all three types of devices which included input devices processing units and output devices to operate together without any problems. The experimental results demonstrate that the proposed system can generate multimodal output with low response times while achieving precise gesture recognition. The results demonstrate that the system functions as an economical yet effective assistive technology which helps people with sensory impairments to gain more independence and better communication abilities.



Fig 2: An Integrated Assistive Communication System Hardware Prototype

The complete hardware prototype for the assistive communication system which assists individuals with sensory disabilities is shown in the diagram. The system uses a Raspberry Pi as its main processing unit which connects to a 16x2 LCD module for displaying recognized text messages and a USB camera that enables live gesture detection. Users can speak through the system because it connects to external speakers which produce speech from the text-to-speech module. A Bluetooth module establishes wireless data transfer capabilities to external devices when needed. The system uses GPIO and interface modules for component connections which receive power from a stable power source. The integrated prototype demonstrates system viability through its accurate input processing and output generation abilities which operate in real-time.



Fig 3: Multimodal Output Demonstration and Real-Time Gesture Recognition

The image shows the experimental testing of the recommended assistive communication system which operates in real time. The USB camera on the laptop

captures hand movements, which computer vision technology uses to recognize specific gestures and find hand positions. The laptop displays a binary gesture output together with text instructions which users can verify through the interface. The Raspberry Pi controls all connected devices while it works on recognizing the output. The LCD module displays the mapped message while a text-to-speech engine creates audio output that plays through the speakers. The demonstration shows that the system achieves accurate gesture recognition while maintaining quick processing times and proper hardware and software synchronization during real-time operations.

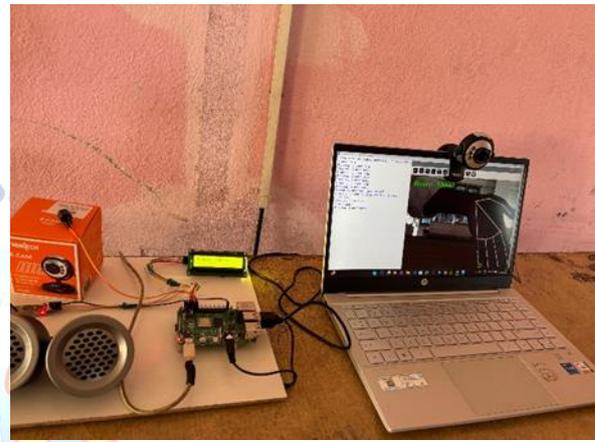


Fig 4: Conversion of Gestures into Text with LCD and Speech Output

The successful real-time conversion of a recognized hand motion into meaningful textual and auditory outputs is shown in the figure. The hand motion is captured by the USB camera, which then uses computer vision algorithms to extract hand landmarks and produce a binary representation that is shown on the laptop screen. The system associates the gesture with a pre-established command based on this binary pattern. The 16x2 LCD module vividly displays the relevant phrase, "I want water," offering immediate visual response. The text-to-speech module is simultaneously triggered by the Raspberry Pi, resulting in an audio output via the associated speakers. This outcome confirms the suggested assistive system's precise gesture interpretation, trustworthy message mapping, and efficient multimodal communication capabilities.

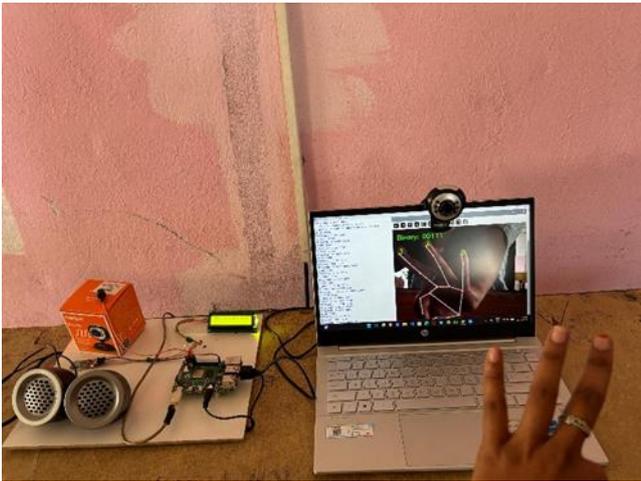


Fig 5: Hand Gesture Recognition Using Vision and Binary Encoding

CONCLUSION

The research developed a vision-based assistive communication system which improves interactions for individuals who have speech and hearing disabilities. The proposed solution combines embedded hardware with hand gesture detection technology to convert hand movements into functional speech and text results. The researchers used a USB camera together with computer vision algorithms to detect hand landmarks which they converted into specific commands through predefined binary patterns. The Raspberry Pi functioned as the main processing unit which managed output production and decision mapping together with gesture detection mechanisms. The experimental results demonstrated that affordable hardware combined with efficient algorithms could deliver real-time performance for assistive communication systems.

The system's multimodal output capabilities create better access and user experience for all its users. The system used recognized motions to create visual feedback which appeared as text on a 16x2 LCD module while it generated spoken output through a text-to-speech module. The dual-output system enables users with disabilities to maintain effective communication with their caregivers and non-disabled individuals in their surroundings. The system maintained its operational performance during continuous usage while its functionality expanded through the introduction of wireless connectivity. All things considered, the outcomes confirm how well the suggested framework works to overcome communication gaps and encourage independence.

The assistive system developed by this project creates a functional system which can grow in size and cost-effectively provide gesture-based communication capabilities. The system allows for easy extension through its modular design which enables users to add new gesture commands and improve recognition performance with advanced machine learning techniques and establish connections between portable devices and Internet of Things systems. The system needs future enhancements which will reduce its power usage for wearable systems and enable support for regional sign languages and create adaptations for outdoor environments. The proposed method demonstrates high potential for real-world application in healthcare and rehabilitation and assistive technology fields while providing vital support for creating accessible human-computer interaction systems.

Conflict of interest statement

Authors declare that they do not have any conflict of interest.

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