Ubiquitous Computing (CS60055) Sensing And Actuation

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Source: "Sensor" Online: https://ielm.ust.hk/dfaculty/ajay/courses/alp/ieem110/lecs/sensors/sensors.html

Transducer (Contd.)

> Transducer:

- > Converts a signal from one physical form to another physical form
- > Physical form: thermal, electric, mechanical, magnetic, chemical, and optical
- Energy converter
- > Example:
 - Microphone : Converts sound to electrical signal
 - > Speaker : Converts electrical signal to sound
 - > Antenna : Converts electromagnetic energy into electricity and vice versa
 - Strain gauge : Converts strain to electrical

Definition of Sensor

- The characteristic of any device or material to detect the presence of a particular physical quantity
- > The output of sensor is signal, which is converted to human readable form

Sensor

- Performs some function of input by sensing or feeling the physical changes in the characteristic of a system in response to <u>stimuli</u>
- > Input: Physical parameter or stimuli
 - > Example: Temperature, light, gas, pressure, and sound
- > Output: Response to stimuli

Sensor (Contd.)



Sensor Characteristics

- Static characteristics
 - After steady state condition, how the output of a sensor change in response to an input change
- Dynamic characteristics
 - > The properties of the system's transient response to an input

Static characteristics

- > Accuracy
 - Represents the <u>correctness</u> of the output compared to a superior system
 - > The different between the standard and the measured value
- Range
 - Gives the <u>highest and the lowest value</u> of the physical quantity within which the sensor can actually sense
 - > Beyond this value there is no sensing or no kind of response

Static Characteristics (Contd.)

Resolution

- > Provides the <u>smallest change</u> in the input that a sensor is capable of sensing
- > Resolution is an important specification towards selection of sensors.
- > Higher the resolution better the precision

Errors

> The difference between the standard value and the value produced by sensor

Static Characteristics (Contd.)

Sensitivity

- Sensitivity indicates ratio of <u>incremental change in the response of the system with</u> <u>respect to incremental change in input parameter</u>.
- > It can be found from slope of output characteristic curve of a sensor
- Linearity
 - > The deviation of sensor value curve from a particular straight line

Sensor Characteristics (Contd.)

Drift

- The difference in the measurements of sensor from a specific reading when kept at that value for a long period of time
- Repeatability
 - > The deviation between measurements in a sequence under same conditions

Source : "Sensor", Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, online: https://ielm.ust.hk/dfaculty/ajay/courses/alp/ieem110/lecs/sensors/sensors.html Source: "Repeatability", MIT, Online: https://ocw.mit.edu/courses/mechanical-engineering/2-693-principles-of-oceanographicinstrument-systems-sensors-and-measurements-13-998-spring-2004/

Dynamic Characteristics

How well a sensor responds to changes in its input

- Zero order system
 - > Output shows a response to the input signal with <u>no delay</u>
 - > <u>Does not include energy-storing</u> elements
 - > Example: Potentiometer measures linear and rotary displacements

Dynamic Characteristics (Contd.)

- First order system
 - > When the output approaches its final value gradually
 - > Consists of an energy storage and dissipation element
- Second order system
 - Complex output response
 - > The output response of sensor oscillates before steady state

Sensor Classification



Passive Sensor

- Cannot independently sense the input
- **Example: Accelerometer, soil moisture, water-level, and temperature sensors**

Active Sensor

- Independently sense the input
- **Example: Radar, sounder, and laser altimeter sensors**

Analog Sensor

The response or output of the sensor is some <u>continuous</u> function of its input parameter

- Example: Temperature sensor, LDR, analog pressure sensor, and Analog Hall effect/Magnetic Sensor
 - A LDR shows continuous variation in its resistance as a function of intensity of light falling on it

Digital Sensor

- Responses in <u>binary</u> nature
- Designs to overcome the disadvantages of analog sensors
- Along with the analog sensor it also comprises of extra electronics for bit conversion
- **Example:** Passive infrared (PIR) sensor and digital temperature sensor (DS1620)

Scalar Sensor

- Detects the input parameter only based on its <u>magnitude</u>
- The response of the sensor is a function of magnitude of the input parameter
- Not affected by the direction of the input parameter
- **Example: Temperature, gas, strain, color, and smoke sensors**

Vector Sensor

- The response of the sensor depends on the <u>magnitude</u> of the <u>direction</u> and <u>orientation</u> of input parameter
- **Example : Accelerometer, gyroscope, magnetic field, and motion detector sensors**

Actuator



- An actuator is part of the system that deals with the <u>control action</u> required (mechanical action)
- Mechanical or electro-mechanical devices

Actuator (Contd.)

- A <u>control signal</u> is input to an actuator and an <u>energy source</u> is necessary for its operation
- Available in both micro and macro scales
- Example: Electric motor, solenoid, hard drive stepper motor, comb drive, hydraulic cylinder, piezoelectric actuator, and pneumatic actuator



DC Motor



Relay

Classification of Actuators



Electric Linear Actuator

- Powered by electrical signal
- Mechanical device containing linear guides, motors, and drive mechanisms
- Converts <u>electrical energy</u> into <u>linear displacement</u>
- Used in automation applications including electrical bell, opening and closing dampers, locking doors, and braking machine motions



Source: "Electric bell", ЮК/ Wikimedia Commons/, Published date: 18 February 2008, Online: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Electric_Bell_animation.gif

Electric Rotary Actuator

- Powered by electrical signal
- Converts <u>electrical energy</u> into <u>rotational motion</u>
- Applications including quarter-turn valves, windows, and robotics



Source: "Electric motor", Abnormaal / Wikimedia Commons / CC-BY-SA-3.0 Unported/ GFDL. Published date: 21 May 2008, Online: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Electric_motor.gif

Fluid Power Linear Actuator

- Powered by <u>hydraulic fluid</u>, gas, or differential air pressure
- Mechanical devices have cylinder and piston mechanisms
- Produces <u>linear displacement</u>
- Primarily used in automation applications including clamping and welding

Fluid Power Rotary Actuator

- Powered by <u>fluid</u>, gas, or differential air pressure
- Consisting of gearing, and cylinder and piston mechanisms
- Converts hydraulic fluid, gas, or differential air pressure into rotational motion
- Primarily applications of this actuator are opening and closing dampers, doors, and clamping



Source: "Axial piston pump", MichaelFrey / Wikimedia Commons / CC-BY-SA-4.0 International/. Published date: 11 August 2017, Online: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Axialkolbenpumpe_-_einfache_Animation.gif

Linear Chain Actuator

- Mechanical devices containing <u>sprockets and sections of</u> <u>chain</u>
- Provides <u>linear motion</u> by the free ends of the specially designed chains
- Primarily used in motion control applications



Source: "Rigid chain actuator", Catsquisher/ Wikimedia Commons/, Published date: 11 January 2011, Online: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Rigid_Chain_Actuator.gif

Manual Linear Actuator

- Provides <u>linear displacement</u> through the translation of <u>manually rotated</u> screws or gears
- Consists of gearboxes, and hand operated knobs or wheels
- Primarily used for manipulating tools and workpieces

Manual Rotary Actuator

- Provides <u>rotary output</u> through the translation of <u>manually rotated</u> screws, levers, or gears
- Consists of hand operated knobs, levers, handwheels, and gearboxes
- Primarily used for the operation of valves

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