



Bridging Engineering & Education Tech for Enhanced Training

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Summary – March 2024







 LCs research in my lab: Applications for training and teaching purposes.

2) Technologies for Enhanced Training Experience: XR in engineering education.

- Teaching real-world engineering challenges + Hands-on experience in a controlled environment.
- People learn better *collaboratively*. AR/VR can bring people together in the same environment.
- Physiological real-time data from participants to understand engagement in the VR environment.





 Lead the Engineering Design Research Group at Glasgow University.



 Scotland Chair of the IEEE Education Society.

#iLRN

Chair of UK:iLRN Chapter



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Recently interested in developing interactive technologies that have a measurable impact on the way we learn.



Research Interests





CURRENT RESEARCH THEMES AND PROJECTS:



Energy Harvesting

Energy scavenging from light, motion and RF sources.



Design for Learning

Improving the design and delivery of curricula using technology.



Sensing & Signal Processing

Our work has focussed on hand and eye gesture recognition.

ENGINEERING DESIGN

END

^ Home

^ Projects

Sensing & Signal Processing

Energy Harvesting

Design for Learning

Team

Resources

Publications

Initiatives

Contact

Energy Harvesting





Patent Numbers: US009985147B2, US20160322933, US9437766, US20160322933

Energy Harvesting





Patent Numbers: US009985147B2, US20160322933, US9437766

Energy Harvesting





Gesture Recognition





Gesture Recognition





(2023). Speech Recognition Using Intelligent Piezoresistive Sensor Based on Polystyrene Sphere Microstructures. Advanced Intelligent Systems, 2200427.

Gesture Recognition



Encapsulation



Contact Lens





Eye Recording (c) 1.Participant 2.PC/Webcam



3.Video Recorder 4.Eye Model System Experiment Setup (d)

References:

(2020) <u>Spintronic sensors based on magnetic tunnel junctions for wireless eye movement</u> gesture control. *IEEE Transactions on Biomedical Circuits and Systems*, 14(6), pp. 1299-1310.

(2020) <u>Electronic contact lens: a platform for wireless health monitoring applications.</u> <u>Advanced</u> <u>Intelligent Systems</u>, 2(4), 1900190

LCs for AR/VR





<u>**Pros</u>**: Cost and power consumption <u>**Cons</u>**: Viewing Angle, Screen Door Effect, Slow response time</u></u> <u>**Pros</u>**: high-resolution, contrast and resolution.</u>

<u>**Cons</u>**: More expensive, bulkier and lower brightness.</u>

LC SLMs in holographic displays. <u>Pros</u>: Resolution enhancement, field-ofview widening for AR and VR systems. <u>Cons</u>: Cost, brightness.

Yin, K., Hsiang, EL., Zou, J. *et al.* Advanced liquid crystal devices for augmented reality and virtual reality displays: principles and applications. *Light Sci Appl* 11, 161 (2022). https://doi.org/10.1038/s41377-022-00851-3

Why XR?





statista Source: https://www.statista.com/statistics/1185060/sectors-disrupted-immersive-technology-xr-ar-vr-mr/



XR Worldwide Market





Note(s): Worldwide; 2021 to 2023 **Source(s):** ARtillery Intelligence

ource(s): Aktillery intellig

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XR Worldwide Shipments





AR VR



XR Vendor Shipment Share





Meta was the leading extended reality (XR) headset vendor in terms of shipments in 2023, occupying 49 percent of the market in the third quarter of the year. Meta's device range includes the Quest pro and Quest 3, with the latter released in 2023. Sony ranked second among vendors, accounting for around 32 percent of shipments. Source: Counterpoint Research

statista 🗹

XR Vendor Shipment Share





XR HMD Prices





statista 🖌

Fringing Fields in LC devices





Schematic diagram of LC cell

LC Alignment – What do we mean?





Reconfigurable Devices - Defects





(2021) Reconfigurable surfaces using fringing electric fields from nanostructured electrodes in nematic liquid crystals. Advanced Theory and Simulations, 4(7), 2100058. (doi: 10.1002/adts.202100058)





Reconfigurable Devices - Defects





LC Alignment





Chang, X., Pivnenko, M., Singh, A., Wu, W., Shrestha, P., & Chu, D. (2024). Dielectric Meta-Atoms with Liquid Crystal Alignment Effect for Electrically Tunable Metasurface. Advanced Devices & Instrumentation, 5, 0040.

Ghannam, R., Collings, N., Crossland, W. and Wilkinson, T. (2006) Topological Alignment of NLCS Using Nanoscale Metallic Grooves. In: SPIE Optics and Photonics 2006, San Diego, CA, USA, 13-17 Aug 2006, 63320H. (doi: 10.1117/12.680299)

Fringing Field Effects in LCoS





ESE Density for a constant symmetric voltage of $\pm 5 V$

Fringing Field Effects in LCoS





Dwight W. Berreman (1973) Alignment of Liquid Crystals by Grooved Surfaces, Molecular Crystals and Liquid Crystals, 23:3-4, 215-231, DOI: 10.1080/15421407308083374

Comparison between Berreman and LdG simulations ESE for a constant symmetric voltage of $\pm 5 V$

Fringing Field Effects in LCoS







LC Tunable Antenna





(2023) Reconfigurable wearable antenna for 5G applications using nematic liquid crystals. Nano Select, 4(8), pp. 513-524. (doi: 10.1002/nano.202200209)



Thermal Control AR Lens

VR Mode

Mode







Augmented Reality Mode

"Technology Enhanced Hybrid Learning"





TDPS – Module Design



Task 1 - Involves instructing the rover to follow a meandering path. The rover should detect edges, colours and lines.

Task 2 - Involves finding a bridge and cross it. The bridge consists of a wire mesh.

Task 3- Once the rover has crossed the bridge, it should find an arch, go through it and stop.

Task 4 - In this task, the rover should demonstrate that it can carry and release an item.

Task 5 - The rover should stop and transmit a radio message at 433 MHz to a laptop. The message must include the team number, team member names and time of day (24-hour clock).

	Course Code	Course Name
	1005	Programming
	1008	Microelectronic Systems
	2004	Embedded Processors
	2022	Circuit Analysis & Design
*	3001	Dynamics & Control
	3003	Electronic System Design
~	3018	Comm. Principles & Systems
	3020	Digital Circuit Design
	3022	Power Electronics
+	3029	Communication Circuit Design

TDPS – Current Status





TDPS Module



Team Design Project: A Case Study

Engineering students invited to work in teams to develop an electronic system



TDPS Module





(c)

based hybrid learning approach. Systems Engineering, 26(6), pp. 728-741. (doi:

10.1002/sys.21683)

(d)

Reflections: Students disliked working in Teams – Unfair grading,

- free riding students, lack of communication, poor organization, ..., etc.
- Supervisors found difficulty in assessing individual contributions to group projects properly.
- Students needed to submit a lab notebook.
- Decided to investigate whether Electronic Lab Notebooks (ELNs) can be used to facilitate teamwork and collaboration between students.

(2023) Teaching undergraduate students to think like real-world systems engineers: a technologybased hybrid learning approach. Systems Engineering, 26(6), pp. 728-741. (doi: 10.1002/sys.21683)





Paper Notebooks



DATE April 6th. WEATHER 实验名称 Experiment tite, GY-91 起始页 F Note Atra- Somic Jensor on the 1972 Hard iron error anged by materials fixed to Error the vehicle body that produce static magnetic field "Soft ; ron' orror; caused by materials fixed to the whicle body that distort magnetic fields obtern he mule er Gries item Magnetic field calibration Unizes Sensor S Wetterert Terene Warious This is done by taking a set of samples that are assumed to palote be the product of rotation in earth's magnetic field and fitting n ction pero subones Tsse 6 the in offset ellipsed to then, detarning the porrection to be applied to agast the samples into an origin-contract splar -3 initial plonin Celf test operation. To check the HMCI \$834 for proper operation, a set test former solvõ Nostrum the portion in incorporated in which spisor offset strongs are exclude to creat a nominal field strength (bias faile) to be programed to Is tonce - mensure ventro tell. implement self rist. The last significant bits (Ins) and his) of configuration register A an changed from 60 to 01 (privile bias) the some / Some sensors distince-determinance and measurementive actions or ib (regetive bias) nle Then, by placing the mode tegister into Single-mensarement make stary through done be (0x01), two data aconisition oucles will be made on each magnetic vector. The first adjuisition will be a set more Enchonaline followed shortly by measurement data of the external field, the lort The second admisition will have the offset strap exited about 10 mA1 in the positive bias made for XX, and Z axes to Druging actions, Involving (reale obrit a ± 1,1 gaves self test filled plus the stand field. The first acquisition islues will be subsected loven Oliver l'ellections uning from the second acquisition, and the net measurement poth-fingling, stc. etc 实验者 日期以此車間者 The out-wk Supe Vijne needs the 第48页 to randin device certra object or spere (un ont) 01 -6 measum Fig. 2 Lab work ought to be recorded in a well requied auomiplishmenes tite maintained notebook. (a) An extract from a student's paper notebook. aboye.

Mentorship



Students wanted **quick**, **short** and relatively **frequent** responses or feedback.



(2020) Remote supervision of engineering undergraduates in a transnational programme between Scotland and China. International Journal of Engineering Education, 36(4), pp. 1333-1339.

(2023) Interdisciplinary project-based learning: experiences and reflections from teaching electronic engineering in China. IEEE Transactions on Education, 66(1), pp. 73-82. (doi: 10.1109/TE.2022.3186184)



Mentorship - How?

- Students wanted to "see" their ${}^{\bullet}$ supervisors.
- They wanted to use something ulletsimilar to a social engagement tool.

(2020) Remote supervision of engineering undergraduates in a transnational programme between Scotland and China. International Journal of Engineering Education, 36(4), pp. 1333-1339.

(2023) Interdisciplinary project-based learning: experiences and reflections from teaching electronic engineering in China. IEEE Transactions on Education, 66(1), pp. 73-82. (doi: 10.1109/TE.2022.3186184)





Tools: ELNs







RSpace







ELNs and their accessibility from any location and device. They enable students to exchange information and to collaborate in real time. They also enable instructors to provide feedback and assess student work as it is being performed.

Tools: ELNs



Project Results



(2023) Interdisciplinary project-based learning: experiences and reflections from teaching electronic engineering in China. IEEE Transactions on Education, 66(1), pp. 73-82. (doi: 10.1109/TE.2022.3186184)

Tools: ELNs





Results: ELNs



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PV System Design







Assembled Multichip Module (MCM) with 9 PV Cells CPV System in Zurich

Design and simulation process is complicated and requires expert domain knowledge. It also requires working together in teams













Eliciting Feedback – Surveys vs Sensors



Eliciting Feedback – "Realtime"





Eliciting Feedback – "Realtime"





Results





AR/VR/XR Work







Made with



Extended Reality





	Mean	SD
Satisfied	4.44	0.73
Engaged	4.67	0.50
Excited	3.67	0.71

Some Results







Increased engagement or excitement in 3D environment in comparison with 2D

2024. Solar Energy Systems Design using Immersive Virtual Reality: A Multi-Modal Learning Approach. *Under Review*

REEDA Project - Hackathon





REEDA Project - Hackathon





(2024) Empathy, education and awareness: a VR hackathon's approach to tackling climate change. Sustainability, (Accepted for Publication)







Integrated Systems Design Project - ISDP





Count of Which of these UN SDGs have you chosen to work on?



Integrated Systems Design



%	Deliverable	Time	Contribution
		SEMESTER 1	
10	Initial concept 'pitch'	Week 8	Individual/Group
		SEMESTER 2	
30	Group showcase + Demo	Week 7	Group
30	Final Report	Week 8	Group
30	Self-Reflection Evaluation report	Week 9	Individual
100		TOTAL	



ISDP4





ISDP4 – Student Projects





ISDP4 – Student Projects













CATERPILLAR RIDE



- DISCOVERY OUTPOST



SWAN RIDE



WILD AMERICAS





OCEANIC OUTBACK



ASIAN JUNGLE

ANTARCTIC PASSAGE





EUROPEAN FOREST



AFRICAN ROCKS



Figure 10 -VR screenshot of the underwater environment developed for the MVP.



enshots of the informative areas developed for the MVP

Immersive Learning - Glasgow





iLRN 2024

10th International Conference of the Immersive Learning Research Network

Call for Papers and Proposals

Conference theme: "Tech4Good"

June 3 - 5, 2024 Online & in Virtual Reality

June 10 – 13, 2024 Glasgow, Scotland; University of Glasgow



https://www.immersivelrn.org/iLRN2024



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Thank you!



