

# Taichine— A New Way to Learn Taiji

18-500 ECE Capstone Project, Team B4  
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Picture from: <http://taichisnob.blogspot.com/2013/03/an-introduction-to-24-posture-yang-tai.html>



# Use Case

## The Problem:

- Many people self-learned Taiji, but doing Taiji incorrectly will not achieve the desired health benefits.

## The Solution:

- Provide behavioral analysis through video processing using machine learning to compare against reference gesture.
  - Golden Rule – 24 Gesture from the basic Yang's Taichi exercise
- Provide the flexibility for users to create instructions on their own gesture video



# Use Case Requirement

- Need to provide verbal instruction for gesture adjustment
  - 90% accuracy for error joint detection, 10 degree tolerance for angle difference
  - 90% accuracy for correct posture detection
- Enable users to upload custom reference and provide automatic processing necessary for the app
- Ensure that the latency of software is reasonable for users to get real-time feedback when practicing
  - 10 frames per second, cool down time of 2 seconds for wrong postures
- Easy to use once app installed

# Solution Approach

- **Real-time Instruction Pipeline**
  - Allows user to practice Taichi/Custom Pose in front of camera
  - Real-time user input -> Pose Processing -> Reference Comparison -> Verbal Instruction
- **Customization Pipeline**
  - Allows user to store postures as new reference in the app that could be used in the above instruction pipeline

# System Diagram

**Diagram Key**

- Off the Shelf Library/Framework
- New Design
- Backend Module
- Frontend Module

The diagram illustrates the system architecture and data flow between the User, the Application, and various processing and display modules.

**User:** A vertical light blue bar on the left representing the user interface.

**Application:** A large light blue box containing the system's core logic, divided into two main sections:

- Backend Processing (Dark Blue):**
  - Openpose ML Model (Off the Shelf Library/Framework):** Receives **Real-time Video** and **Custom Image Sequence** from the User. It outputs **User Coordinates** to the **Human Filtering/Selection** module.
  - Human Filtering/Selection (New Design):** Receives **User Coordinates** and outputs a **Selected User** to the **Comparison Algorithm**.
  - Comparison Algorithm (New Design):** Receives **Selected User** and **Reference Coordinates** from **File Storage**. It outputs **Instruction Text** to the **Speech Application**.
  - File Storage (Off the Shelf Library/Framework):** Receives **Custom Reference Coordinates** from the **Openpose ML Model** and provides **Reference Coordinates** to the **Comparison Algorithm**.
  - Speech Application (New Design):** Receives **Instruction Text** and outputs **Verbal Feedback** to the User.
- Frontend Display (Light Green):**
  - App Display (New Design):** Receives **Reference Coordinates** and **User Coordinates / Video** from the **Backend Processing**. It displays two visualizations:
    - User Pose:** A photograph of a person walking.
    - Reference Pose:** A skeletal pose diagram with 14 numbered joints (0-13) and colored lines representing body parts.

# Implementation & Design Choices

- **OpenPose (Open source)**
  - Real-time human posture detection application
  - General Internal Logic
    - CNN based with Python/C++ support
    - Detects body parts from all “human” in the image
    - Compute affinity between parts
    - Delete low-affinity connections between body parts
  - Design Choice
    - Output coordinates that is easy to use for angle computation
    - Potential 3D estimation functionality to better support posture comparison and real-world modeling



# Implementation & Design Choices

- **App Infrastructure**

- Language of Implementation: Python
- Visual Display Package: Python TKinter
- Storage Model:
  - Folder 1: Reference Posture Image
  - Folder 2: Body Part Coordinates as JSON file
    - Purpose: Save Computation
    - Structure:
      - Name of the pose
      - List of pairs of body parts corresponding to their coordinates

# Implementation & Design Choices

- **Comparison Algorithm (Python)**
  - Cosine Similarity Scoring
    - Based on posture instead of absolute position
  - Select correct user when more than one person detected in frame
    - Similarity Threshold: 70%+ (modifiable) to recognize user
- **Text to Speech Translation (Mozilla TTS on Python)**
  - Support multiple languages
  - Support high quality voice offline



# Testing, Verification and Metrics

- **Gesture Comparison and Instruction Testing**
  - Ensure the requirements of accuracy is achieved
    - (80% - error detection, 80% - angle accuracy)
  - Angles – Elbow angle, Knee angle, Calf-Floor angle, Arm-body angle, Thigh-body angle, Head-body angle
- **Pipeline Testing**
  - Ensure the two pipeline are well connected from input to all backends
- **Latency Testing**
  - Ensure that the feedback is given with approximately 1 second latency after the input

# Testing, Verification and Metrics

- **Input**

- Real-time recognition – Taichi Beginner poses with intentional errors
  - Poses come from team members; use videos as tests if time allows
- Customization – Images selected with obvious poses

- **Output & Verification**

- Real-time recognition – Check if intentional errors match instructions
- Customization – Check if the necessary data for real-time pipeline to use exist and can be used in the verification process for above

- **Risk Factor**

- If Test FAIL – recheck the system pipeline and connections, debug comparison algorithm, ensure working solution for most cases
- Log the pipeline to know which part of the application breaks

# Tasks and Division of Labor

- **Hongzhe Cheng**
  - OpenPose Usage, Display setup
- **Sirui Huang**
  - Application Infrastructure on Posture Display, Data collection
- **Shiheng Wu**
  - Gesture comparison/Scoring algorithm, Verbal instruction
- **Jerry Feng**
  - Custom image's pipeline and infrastructure, file storage system infrastructure

## Stretch Goals:

- Dynamic Posture Instruction, 3D Openpose, Multi-Angle Integration, Cloud Storage

**ECE Capstone--Taichine**

0h 16%

**Project Planning**

0h 100%

- Reset Team Idea and New Project Pl... 0 100%
- Project Proposal 0 100%
- Design Planning 0 100%
- Preparation Complete 0 100%

**Headstart Phase**

0h 7%

- Data Collection, Storage, and Pr...** 0h 29%
- Video Data Collection 0 100%
- Reference Posture Storage Structu... 0 0%
- API Implementation (custom data s... 0 0%
- API Storage Prototype Ready 0 0%

**Visual API Implementation**

0h 0%

- Python TKindex Study 0 0%
- Openpose Usage API study 0 0%
- API Implementation (data reading ... 0 0%
- API Visual Prototype Ready 0 0%

**Openpose Configuration and Set...**

0h 0%

- Openpose Setup and Learning on ... 0 0%
- Openpose Data Reading, Processin... 0 0%
- Openpose Ready for Integration 0 0%

**Verbal Instruction Implementati...**

0h 0%

- Mozilla TTS/Pytsx3 Research 0 0%
- Verbal Instruction Ready 0 0%

**Posture Comparison Cost Functi...**

0h 0%

- Cost Function Research and Imple... 0 0%
- Cost Function Ready to take in data 0 0%
- Headstart Complete 0 0%

**Integration Phase**

0h 0%

- Full API Integration 0 0%
- Openpose and API Communication 0 0%
- Full Integration and Modular Testing 0 0%
- Integration Complete 0 0%

**Project Presentation**

0h 0%

- Real-World application and Further R... 0 0%
- Final Presentation Preparation Work 0 0%
- All Complete 0 0%

**Slack Time Slot 1**

0h 0%

- Slack Time Slot 1 0 0%

**Slack Time Slot 2**

0h 0%

- Slack Time Slot 2 0 0%

**Fall Break (Slack Time if necessary)**

0h 0%

- Fall Break 0 0%

**Thanksgiving (Slack Time if necess...)**

0h 0%

- Thanksgiving Week 0 0%

# Schedule

