



**DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION OF A  
VISION BASED  
MOTION CAPTURING APPARATUS FOR  
HUMAN GAIT ANALYSIS**

This dissertation submitted to the  
Department of Electrical Engineering, University of Moratuwa  
in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the  
degree of Master of the Science

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2010

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## Abstract

Walking results from a complicated process involving the brain, spinal cord, peripheral nerves, muscles, bones and joints. Gait analysis is the systematic study of human walking. Gait analysis is often important for clinical gait assessment. Study of biological systems like human walking has paved the way for the development of various biomechanical systems like robot locomotion system.

This research proposes a low cost methodology to capture human gait cycle information. As the first step it was required to identify the important movements of the leg during walking. A study of human anatomy and biomechanics enabled this identification. Secondly, it has to be investigated what methodology to be followed to capture identified important movements of the leg during walking. For the study of human gait a spectrum of methodologies are being used throughout the world ranging from the absence of technological aids, at one extreme, to the use of complicated and expensive equipment at the other.

Through a study on various techniques used to capture motion, and after comparing these methods it was decided that multi-view marker based system is suitable for the requirement. This vision based methodology had the advantage that it can provide accurate motion information with low cost hardware and readily available software. When the two camera model is selected among other alternatives, it had to be studied how the pixel data obtained from motion capture are converted to the 3D spatial coordinates. Through a series of techniques, camera calibration, stereo calibration and triangulation, conversion of pixel data to 3D spatial coordinates was done. Based on this study the motion capture set up was created and motion capture was done.

The results obtained of the two camera model, camera parameters and parameters of the stereo system are presented in this thesis. Validation of the human gait cycle information obtained from this technique was done by comparing this information with gait pattern obtained with more accurate and sophisticated techniques.

## DECLARATION

The work submitted in this dissertation is the result of my own investigation, except where otherwise stated.

It has not already been accepted for any degree, and is also not being concurrently submitted for any other degree.

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Dr Rohan Munasinghe

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# Acknowledgment

My sincere gratitude goes to Dr Rohan Munasinghe, the supervisor of this research, for his guidance and support despite his busy schedules, which helped me carry out research activities effectively. It must be noted with thanks that he was always available for me to guide whenever it was necessary.

My thanks also go to Dr. Ranga Rodrigo for his kind assistance in various aspects to locate required resources and information.

I would like to express my gratitude to Dr J P Karunadasa Head Department of Electrical Engineering, Dr Lanka Udawatta, Dr Chandima Pathirana including other staff members for extending their cooperation in this work.

I also wish to thank my research partner Mr Praminda Manoj for his encouragement and thoughtful ideas in making this research a success.

My heartiest thank goes to my wife Amala for her genuine encouragement and loving care and my two little kids for their sacrifices by allowing me find time to involve in my research work.

**Punsiri Jinadasa**

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