

**EXPLORING AND DESIGNING ACTUATOR FOR NEONATAL BABY'S  
CHEST SIMULATOR**

**AHMAD WITRY QUAYUM BIN MOHD NOR**

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**Tajuk Projek** : **EXPLORING AND DESIGNING ACTUATOR FOR NEONATAL**  
**BABY'S CHEST SIMULATOR**

**Sesi Pengajian** : 

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**SANI IRWAN BIN MD SALIM**  
*Pensyarah Kanan*

Fakulti Kejuruteraan Elektronik & Kejuruteraan Komputer  
 Universiti Teknikal Malaysia Melaka  
 Hang Tuah Jaya  
 76100 Durian Tunggal  
 Melaka

Tarikh: 8 JUN 2015

Tarikh: 8 JUN 2015

## DECLARATION


I hereby, declare that this report EXPLORING AND DESIGNING ACTUATOR FOR NEONATAL BABY'S CHEST SIMULATOR is the result of my own research expect as cited in the references.

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Author : AHMAD WITRY QUAYUM BIN MOHD NOR

Date : 8<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2015

"I / we hereby declare that I have read this in my / our work is sufficient in terms of scope and quality for the award of Bachelor of Electronic Engineering (Industrial Electronics)."

Signature : .....  .....

Name of Supervisor : EN. SANI IRWAN BIN MD SALIM

Date : 8 JUNE 2015

## DEDICATION

*This thesis is dedicated to my beloved family, my friends and my supervisor  
for the support and motivation.*

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## ABSTRACT

Actuators are one of the key components contained in any industrial system. Therefore, well describes and simple briefly about the design, actuators for neonatal baby's chest, movement simulator using actuator are integrated into baby chest. The current implementation of the manikin is huge and the accuracy of movement is far from the real experiences. For that, need actuators which fit into the very small space inside the body. These actuators need to generate the chest movements. For this chest, power consumption, size and so on is major issues. The servo motor is used to "move" in a robot chest. Making the right choice for the actuator and a mechanism that allow the movement required is not a straightforward task. This is because premature baby's are weak in motion. Usually premature baby not doing more movement because they are born too early means that not matured like a normal baby. Micro servo are chosen because of its smaller size compared to the stepper motor in the market. Besides through investigation of the requirement can be theoretically deduced, a good amount of practical experience in mechanical design is needed to bring the task to a good end.

## ABSTRAK

Penggerak adalah salah satu komponen penting yang terkandung dalam mana-mana sistem perindustrian. Oleh itu, projek ini menerangkan secara ringkas dan mudah mengenai reka bentuk penggerak untuk dada robot bayi pramatang. Pergerakan simulator digunakan bagi menggerakkan penggerak dalam dada bayi. Pergerakan bayi normal dengan ketepatan pergerakan bayi pramatang adalah berbeza. Oleh itu, sebuah penggerak yang mampu dimuatkan ke dalam ruang yang sangat kecil di dalam dada robot direka. Penggerak ini perlu menjana pergerakan dada. Untuk dada ini, penggunaan kuasa dan saiz adalah factor utama. „Micro servo“ digunakan sebagai penggerak di dalam robot dada. Dengan membuat pilihan yang tepat untuk penggerak dan mekanisme yang membolehkan pergerakan yang dilakukan bukan merupakan satu tugas yang mudah. Ini kerana bayi pramatang adalah lemah untuk bergerak. Biasanya bayi pramatang tidak melakukan banyak pergerakan kerana minggu kelahirannya terlalu awal dan tidak matang seperti bayi normal. „Micro servo“ dipilih kerana saiz yang lebih kecil berbanding dengan motor stepper dalam pasaran. Melalui penyiasatan, boleh disimpulkan secara teori bahawa, pengalaman praktikal adalah lebih baik dalam mereka bentuk sesuatu mekanikal yang diperlukan untuk mendapatkan hasil yang berkualiti.



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>CHAPTER</b>	<b>CONTENTS</b>	<b>PAGE</b>
	PROJECT TITLE	i
	DECLARATION	ii
	APPROVAL	iii
	DEDICATION	iv
	ABSTRACT	v
	ABSTRAK	vi
	ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	vii
	TABLE OF CONTENTS	viii
	LIST OF TABLE	x
	LIST OF FIGURE	xi
1	<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	1
	1.1 Introduction	1
	1.2 Background	1
	1.3 Objective of project	3
	1.4 Problem statement	3
	1.5 Scope of the project	3
2	<b>LITERATURE REVIEW</b>	4
	2.1 Chapter Overview	4
	2.2 Electro-Pneumatic Pressure Servo-Control for a Miniature Robot with Rubber Actuator	5
	2.3 A Physiological Torso Model for Realistic Breathing Simulation	7
	2.4 Active Variable Stiffness Elastic Actuator: Design and Application for Safe Physical Human-Robot Interaction	8
	2.5 Design of a High Performance Servo Motor for Low	

	Speed High Torque Application	12
2.6	Measurement and Modelling of McKibben Pneumatic Artificial Muscles	15
2.7	Pneumatic Actuator	19
2.8	Micro Servo Motor	21
2.9	Arduino Uno	25
2.10	Analogue Servo Motor	28
2.11	Type of Mechanical Loads	32
3	<b>METHODOLOGY</b>	33
3.1	Introduction	33
3.2	Project Implementation	33
3.3	Project Flowchart	34
3.4	Software Part	36
3.5	Hardware Part	38
3.6	Block Diagram of Project	39
3.7	Electronics construction	40
	3.7.1 Micro Servo Tower Pro SG91R	40
3.8	Software construction	41
3.9	Project Planning	43
4	<b>RESULT AND DISCUSSION</b>	44
4.1	Introduction	44
4.2	Hardware Part of The Neonatal Baby	44
4.3	Electronics Part	46
4.4	Software Programming	46
4.5	Output Voltage of Servo Motor	47
4.6	Discussion	49
5	<b>CONCLUSIONS</b>	
5.1	Conclusions	52
5.2	Recommendation	53

6	<b>REFERENCES</b>	54
	<b>APPENDIX A</b>	55
	<b>APPENDIX B</b>	56

**List of Table**

<b>NO</b>	<b>TITLE</b>	<b>PAGE</b>
Table 2.1	The specifications of AVSEA	9
Table 2.2	Summary of Literature Review	17
Table 2.3	Advantage of Pneumatic Actuator	20
Table 2.4	Comparisons between Arduino UNO, PIC 18F4550 and Raspberry Pi.	24
Table 4.1	The Table of Sine Waves, With An Amplitude of 10	48

## List of Figure

<b>NO</b>	<b>TITLE</b>	<b>PAGE</b>
Figure 1.1	Block diagram of manikin construction of premature baby	2
Figure 2.1	Structure of the robotic pneumatic pressure control system	5
Figure 2.2	Rubber used in an actuator	6
Figure 2.3	Rib-cage from the breathing animation	7
Figure 2.4	Active Variable Stiffness Elastic Actuator (AVSEA)	10
Figure 2.5	Adaptive compliant property for Active Variable Stiffness Elastic Actuator	11
Figure 2.6	Coil inside a motor for 39/12 distributed winding motor	13
Figure 2.7	Isolated coil 36/32 concentrated winding motor	13
Figure 2.8	Block diagram of dynamic testing machine	15
Figure 2.9	A pneumatic system basic component and name of every part	19
Figure 2.10	Micro servo models SG91R with the structure inside it by labeling with number 1, 2, 3 and 4	21
Figure 2.11	Microcontroller (Arduino Uno) used to control movement of micro servo	25

Figure 2.12	Analog Motor Servo with 3 wires	28
Figure 2.13	The duration of the pulse dictates the angle of the output shaft (shown as the green circle with the arrow)	30
Figure 2.14	Typical speed-torque characteristics of mechanical loads	31
Figure 2.15	Typical speed-power characteristics of mechanical loads	31
Figure 3.1	Flowchart for proposal	35
Figure 3.2	Flowchart of software part	36
Figure 3.3	Flowchart of hardware part	38
Figure 3.4	Block Diagram of Project	39
Figure 3.5	The complete image of micro servo with brush	40
Figure 3.6	An arduino IDE software front logo	41
Figure 3.7	Instruction on how to use an Arduino Integrated Development Environment (IDE) software	42
Figure 3.7	Project Planning (Gantt chart)	43
Figure 4.1	Final product of the neonatal baby	45
Figure 4.2	Show the output voltage of the micro servo motor using an oscilloscope	47
Figure 4.3	Graf voltage versus time	49

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Introduction

Chapter one covers the introduction part of this project. It contains of background, objectives, problem statements and scopes of the project.

### 1.2 Background

Prematurity is the term used to describe when a baby is born early. For most women, pregnancy lasts around 40 weeks. Babies that are born between 37 and 42 weeks are considered full-term and babies born before 37 weeks are considered premature. In Australia just over 8% of all babies are born prematurely and

approximately 15% of all babies need admittance into a Newborn Intensive Care Unit or Special Care Nursery.

According to the latest Australia's Mothers and Babies report, of all premature babies born in Australia, approximately:

- 79% were born between 32 and 36 weeks of gestation.
- 10% were born between 28 and 31 weeks of gestation.
- 11% were born at less than 28 weeks of gestation.

Other terms often used for prematurity include „preemie“, „prem“ and „pre-term“. Pre-term birth is associated with a higher risk of neonatal problems.

With the advancement of science and technology, rapid development of robotic has been increasing from year to year. Robot is a re-programmable, multi-functional manipulator (or device) designed to move materials, parts, tools or specialized devices through variable programmed motion of a variety task.

Actuator for neonatal baby's chest simulator is an actuator that capable of movement in chest for robot baby. Micro servo can be used to move the baby chest. The project develops a manikin of premature born baby for medical simulation. For that an actuator is needed which fit into the very small space inside the body. These actuators must be capable generate the chest movement of the baby.

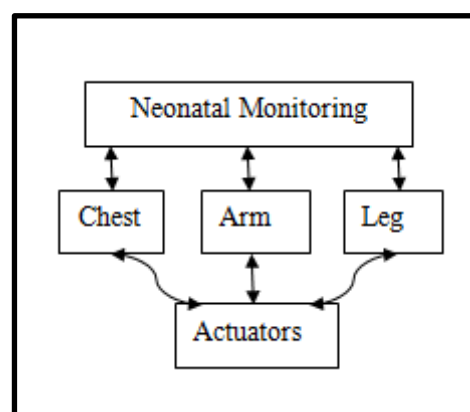


Figure 1.1: Block diagram of manikin construction of premature baby.



Referring to figure above, there are other areas involving manikin construction of premature baby.

### **1.3 Objectives of project**

The main objectives of this study are:

- (a) To investigate the neonate's baby's movement specify in chest movement.
- (b) To analyze manikin baby's chest muscle in term of movement, power consumption and size.
- (c) To construct an actuators for baby's chest's movement simulation.

### **1.4 Problem statement**

Current implementation of premature baby manikin is not accurate and not mimicking the real experience.

### **1.5 Scope of the project**

The scopes of the software are as follows.

- (a) To write and control program is based on the programming language C.

The scope of the hardware is as follows:

- (a) Arduino UNO used in this project as the main medium in driving a micro servo motor and control the pulse with modulation.
- (b) Chest movements involve breathe-in and breathe-out.

## **CHAPTER II**

### **LITERATURE REVIEW**

#### **2.1 Chapter Overview**

This chapter presents an overview on the related topic and the background related to this project. This chapter covers servo motors literature review. Several journals and reports have been analysed carefully in order to improve the effectiveness and quality of this project. By analysing the previous projects, the possibilities that affect the quality in their project can be analysed and review. In previous project, there are some methods or strategies that could be done to improve the project's outcome. Throughout analysis at the beginning of the project, the special feature in this project is determined and the components are used in this project are decided.

## 2.2 Electro-Pneumatic Pressure Servo-Control for a Miniature Robot with Rubber Actuator. [1]

This paper presents a new system of pneumatic system robot using rubber actuator.

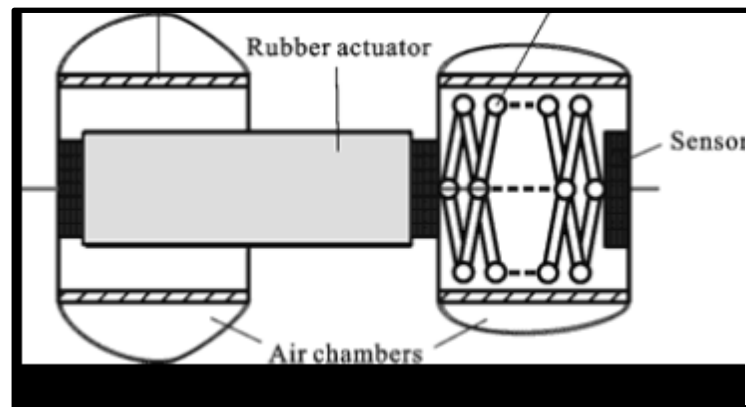


Figure 2.1: Structure of the robotic pneumatic pressure control system.

Figure above shows the structure of a flexible miniature robot system which can move in human cavities. It makes inchworm-like movement driven by a 3-DOF pneumatic rubber actuator and holds its positions by air chambers. The driving characteristic models in axial and bending directions of the actuator were set up, and an electro pneumatic pressure control system for the locomotion of the robot was designed. The nonlinear characteristics of pneumatic pressure-position servo-control system were analyzed; the fluid flow characteristic equation in pipe and the electromagnetic valve on-off characteristic equation were set up. Experiments proved the pressure in all air chambers of robot system can be controlled more accurately by adopting the PWM (Pulse Width Modulation) technique, and the robot could move smoothly through the electro-pneumatic pressure control system. The study is the base of effective control for the locomotion of the miniature pneumatic robot.

Structure of the pneumatic robot is composed of three parts: the front holder, the driving part and the rear holder. In moving state, the holders are used to hold the position of the system body and the driving part is used to change the positions of the holders. The two holders are designed with cylindrical structure and covered with air chambers outside. Each holder has two interconnected air chambers; when charged, the two chambers are kept in the same pressure, and hold tightly against the inner wall. The driving part is a pneumatic rubber actuator made of fiber-reinforced rubber with three degrees of freedom. The actuator rubber tube is divided into three identical sector chambers. When the three chambers of the actuator are charged with the same air pressure, the actuator will stretch in axial direction, and when only one of them is charged, the actuator will bend to the direction opposite to the other chambers. So the actuator can drive in axial and any bending directions.

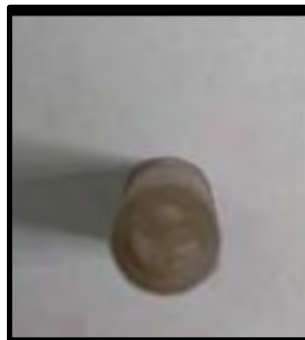


Figure 2.2: Rubber used in an actuator.

Figure above shows the structure of the rubber actuator is shown. The rubber tube is made of copper thread-reinforced rubber and the inner tube is divided into three identical sector chambers. The thread is in spiral shape, and the angle between the spiral and the rubber tube axis is about 80 degree.

### 2.3 A Physiological Torso Model for Realistic Breathing Simulation. [2]

For the convincing modeling of virtual humans, realistic breathing is an important aspect. This paper is about the simulation of breathing, based on anatomical and physiological principles. The paper has built a torso, including a thorax, a deformable belly, and muscles. This results in a model with two independent breathing systems, namely abdominal and chest breathing, which gives a high degree of realism in simulating breathing. The generated spiral grams, diagrams of lung volume changes, are comparable to normal human ones according to a medical expert. The generated image show convincing breathing sequences at various frequencies. The model itself is made available for public use.

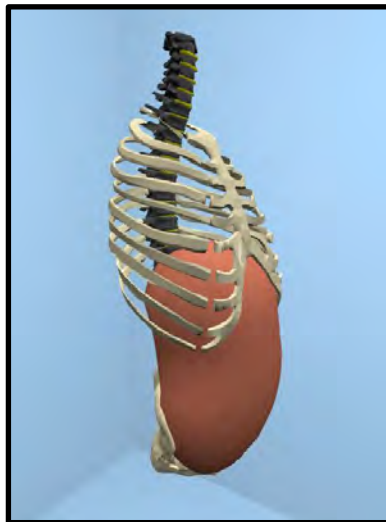


Figure 2.3: Rib-cage from the breathing animation.

From this simulation, it can take as an example of human breathing system. Even though it is only a simulation in other software but it helps to imagine and design the situation of lung. This journal suggested placing a rubber as a lung in this project. And the other will support the rubber to be fit and comfortably in manikin robot baby.

In order to alleviate the shortcomings of previous models, a physiological torso model have designed a new model that better combines the abdominal and chest breathing, resulting in more natural spiral grams and animations. As an initial basis we used a torso from 3D Cafe .This model have divided this polygonal into its constituent parts: ribs, dorsal vertebra, hip, shoulder blade, and collarbone, which are made rigid, so that constraints can be applied.

#### **2.4 Active Variable Stiffness Elastic Actuator: Design and Application for Safe Physical Human-Robot Interaction. [3]**

In classical robotic applications, robotic systems consist of servo motors, high-ratio reduction and rigid links; mechanical designers prefer to design robotic applications as stiff as possible to make robots manipulate with remarkable speed and precise position movements. However, these robotic applications can hardly interact with people and environments under safety constraints. It poses the very fundamental problem of ensuring safety to humans and protecting the robot. This paper presents an Active Variable Stiffness Elastic Actuator (AVSEA) that is designed and application for safe physical human robot interaction. The AVSEA consists of two DC-motors: one is used to control the position of the joint and the other is used to adjust the stiffness of the system. The stiffness is generated by a leaf spring. By changing the effective length of the leaf spring, AVSEA has the ability to minimize large impact forces due to shocks, to safely interact with the user and/or to become as stiff as possible to make precise position movements or trajectory tracking control easier.

In this section, experiments were conducted to evaluate the properties and abilities of the Active Variable Stiffness Elastic Actuator (AVSEA). The picture of the AVSEA which consists of two DC-motors, one ball screw and a leaf spring. The rotation of the axis is measured by an encoder which is fixed on the output link. Dimensions of the AVSEA, design parameters and some detailed specification are listed in the Table below.

Table 2.1: The Specifications of AVSEA

PARAMETERS	Value
Mass (include two motors)	2.2 kg
Length*Width*Height	120*110*90 mm
DC-motor	2
Max. Output Torque	29 Nm
Max. Output Speed	60 rpm
Max. Stiffness	Equivalent to rigid joint stiffness
Min. Stiffness	0.085Nm/deg
Motion Space	$\pm 150^*$
Leaf spring (thickness* width)	3*10 mm
Max. Output Link Deflection	$\pm 40^*$

\* The input motors used in this prototype design are Faulhaber DC-micro motor 3863W024CR with 38/2 gear head of which reduction ration is 1:14.

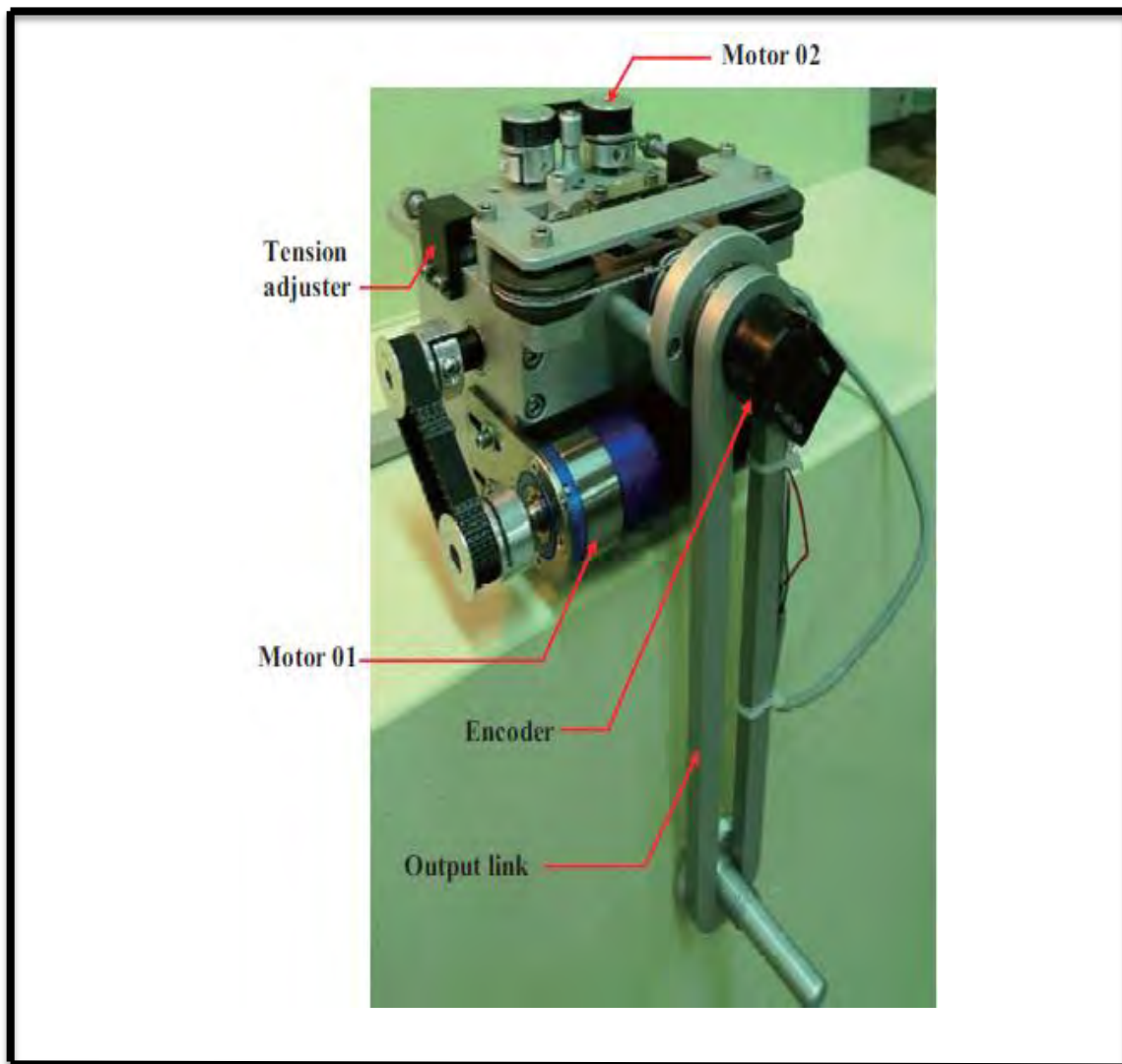


Figure 2.4: Active Variable Stiffness Elastic Actuator (AVSEA).

Adaptive Compliant Property, an experiment was designed to interpret the adaptive compliant property of the AVSEA. The experiment comprises four stages. First, by using a simple PID controller, the output link of the AVSEA was rotated and kept in a vertical direction. Second, the output link of AVSEA was manually deflected in a counterclockwise direction away from the  $0^\circ$  (equilibrium point) with the situation whereby the motor was still working. Third, the output link was deflected in a clockwise direction. Fourth, the link was released. The result is a plot of the angle with time and the photograph shows the beginning and finishing position