Abstract- This paper presents Reconfigurable Virtual Keyboard based on Image Processing technique. As the name suggests the virtual keyboard has no physical appearance. Virtual keyboard is an application which virtualizes hardware keyboard with different layouts hence allowing user to change the layout based on application. E.g. user can select different language for editor or select a specialized layout for gaming applications.

I. INTRODUCTION

As the demand for computing environments evolves, new human-computer interfaces have been implemented to provide multiform interactions between users and machines. Nevertheless, the basis for most human-to-computer interactions remains the binomial keyboard/mouse. We are presenting here a next generation technology, which is the Virtual Keyboard. As the name suggests the virtual keyboard has no physical appearance.

Off late, computing devices are evolved in different shapes like cell phone, PDA, iPod etc. In these devices, it is not possible to afford hardware keyboard because of the limitations in size and weight of devices. To alleviate this problem, application developers propose virtual keyboard. The virtual keyboard is an on screen graphics keyboard and is flexible to compare with its hardware keyboard counterpart. For computing devices like cell phone & iPod, we don’t use extra hardware. We use their built in camera to capture image but we require projection module and sensing module which is available in very compact size as compared to hardware keyboard. The keyboard layout can be changed hence allowing user to change the layout based on application. E.g. user can select different language for editor or select a specialized layout for gaming applications. User also is able to reconfigure the keyboard. This would allow the user to set the keypad layout according to his preferences.

II. DESIGN MODULE

The system is providing different layouts which are required for custom applications. User can create a layout profile according to his preferences and then save them onto a file. These files can be loaded later or shared between users. E.g. one could create a separate profile for gaming and a different profile for text editing purpose. Allow user to use newly designed symbol for e.g. new symbol for Indian currency (rupees).

Blob detection: First the image i.e. character is capture by the webcam through sensor then that image is store temporarily. Now given image converted into black and white colour using Greyscale algorithm. Greyscale digital image is an image in which the value of each pixel is a single sample. Then Thresholding algorithm is apply on the Greyscaled image to differentiate the object from the background. Thresholding is the simplest method of image segmentation. This process is iterative type that means the process repeat on every object entry and the object nothing but input given by the user.

By using Threshold algorithm we can identifies the character given by user. Using this technique we identify our figure tip.

Keystroke detection: The key press coordinate needs to be mapped to a key scan code. This is accomplished by scaling and transforming the coordinates such that the boundaries of the keyboard in image space correspond to the sides of a rectangle equal in size to the 2D array of scan codes. The transformed coordinate is rounded down to the nearest integer to produce the array indices of the corresponding key code. When the user wants to press a key, what he has to do is simply place his finger at the appropriate position in the frame, in other words on the virtual keypad and the desired key will be pressed.
III. ALGORITHM

START

Initialize all system variables and webcam

Present GUI to user

Capture frame from webcam

If frame captured?

YES

Display the frame on GUI

Process the frame (convert into grayscale)

Apply colour filter

Apply Erode

Apply Dilate

Apply Smoothing

Apply Thresholding

Detect Blob

If blob size > limit?

NO

YES

Mark the blob and calculate centroid

Resolve cases for key code

Generate key event in the O.S.

IV. DIVIDING INTO SUBSYSTEMS

Basically image processing is any form of signal processing for which the input is an image, such as a photograph or video frame; the output of image processing may be either an image or, a set of characteristics or parameters related to the image. Image processing usually refers to digital image processing, but optical and analog image processing also are possible.

By using the proposed system, the keyboard layout can be generated using a laser film no hardware or an alphanumeric keypad hardware version. The image being displayed on the keyboard is scanned via a camera connected to the computer. An image processing application will then detect the key press events by user and process them accordingly. User can design his own layout in hardware version. User must be able to reconfigure the keyboard, i.e. the application allow the user to map keys based on his preference. This would allow the user to set the keyboard layout according to his preferences.

There are 3 modules:

- Image Capturing
- Processing
- Display

These modules does the processing when the layout is provided the module does some processing on the image captured by the webcam. After processing this layout is stored temporarily. When the user select character from the keyboard and gives some input, the character is captured by the camera, processing is done on the character, location of the character is checked.

The provided input and the stored character is compared and the desired output is displayed on the screen.

V. CONCLUSION

With the growing popularity of small mobile devices, there is a need for convenient data entry units that are easy to use and considerably flexible to handle with the small mobile devices without affecting the mobility and portability of those devices. Many alternative data input methods and various types of
virtual keyboards are available. However, these methods have the lack of accuracy and the convenience of a normal full size keyboard. In order to address some of the issues raised above, a new projection virtual keyboard called “Reconfigurable Virtual Keyboard”. It provides a simple touch typing style with the use of paper layout keyboard & webcam. The Reconfigurable virtual keyboard is more convenient in gaming application but it take more time in comparison of input character with database character. Due to this its processing is slow. By using this system we can create keyboard layout as per our convenience. So, its cost also less than existing keyboard. This system is very easy to use and in security purpose it better than the existing keyboard.

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