Single-Person and Multi-Party 3D Visualizations for Nonverbal Communication Analysis

Michael Kipp Levin Freiherr von Hollen Michael C. Hrstka Franziska Zamponi

Augsburg University of Applied Sciences Department of Computer Science {firstname.lastname}@hs-augsburg.de www.anvil-software.org

Introduction

ANVIL is a **free** video annotation research tool

Annotation of events (gestures, words, movements ...) on time-aligned tracks

Visualization of human motion recordings (motion capture) with a **3D viewer**

Goals

Increase **readability** of human motion and multi-party relations in 3D

Make coding more **reliable**

Enhance qualitative analysis for

gesture research multimodaliy research sign language research social sciences

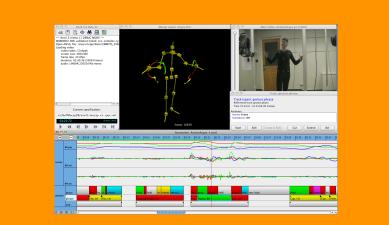
Means

Supportive 3D visualizations

Correspondence with conventional annotations (color coding)

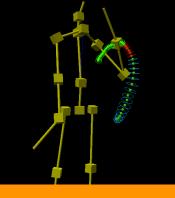
Objective **numerical measures** (e.g. hand-to-hand distance)





Automatic coding





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Single Person

Body Movement

Hip movement

Direction arrow

Speed ~ disc radius

Thresholding / grey = no motion

Hand Movement

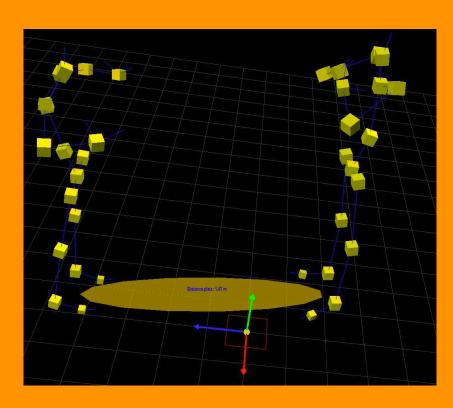


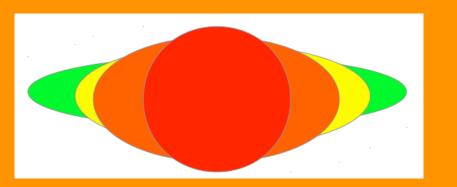
Multi-Party

Distance

Proxemics: Interpersonal space, defined by distance, is meaningful (Hall, 1966)

Configurable zones (intimate, personal, social, public) Depicted with an ellipse ellipse thickness ~ distance zones color-coded





Hand movement (wrist)

Direction arrow

Speed ~ arrow length

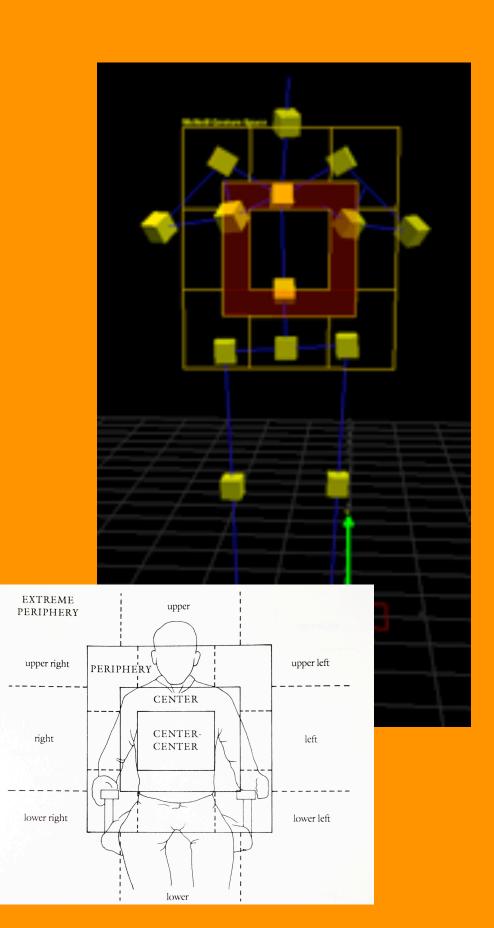
Gesture Space

McNeill's (1992) gesture space (18 sectors in the frontal plane)

Hand(s) in sector => highlighted (RH: yellow, LH: green, 2H: red)

Gesture space follows body

Upper body tilt is ignored



Relative Movement

Is A approaching B, retreating or moving sideways?

Reuse single-person movement visualization (disc & arrow)

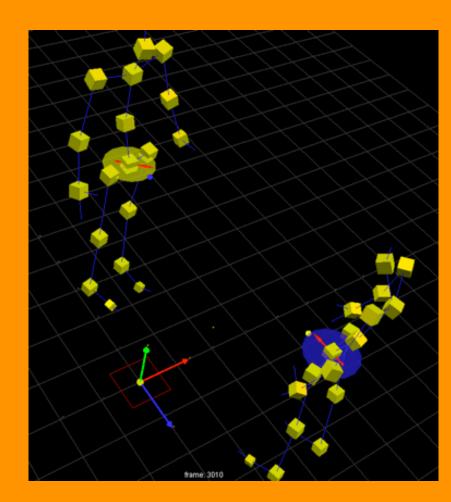
Interlocutor's position shown as small dot on disc (like a radar)

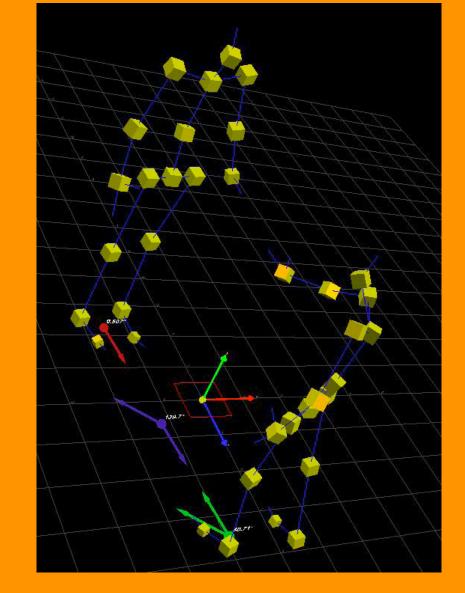
Orientation

People interact in F-formations, defined by orientation (Kendon, 1990)

(1) Individual orientation as divergence from face-to-face direction (at feet)

(2) Common angle between two torso directions (between figures)





Future Work

Evaluation: Do 3D visualizations make coding more reliable?

Versatile video player (VLC, JavaFX) Automatic Annotation Modernize GUI technology (JavaFX, 3D, mobile)

References

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McNeill, D. (1992). *Hand and Mind: What Gestures Reveal about Thoughts*, University of Chicago Press.