Vision Based Interaction



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Schedule

- Vision based interaction background and motivation
- VBI-related projects in the Four Eyes Lab
- The Allosphere
- Late afternoon group project



CVPR4HB Mission Statement

A widely accepted prediction is that computing will move to the background, weaving itself into the fabric of our everyday living spaces and projecting the human user into the foreground. To realize this prediction, next-generation computing will need to develop anticipatory user interfaces that are human-centered, built for humans, and based on naturally occurring multimodal human communication. Emerging interfaces will need to include the capacity to understand and emulate human communicative intentions as expressed through behavioral cues such as affective and social signals.



My background

1982	BS, Virginia Tech
1984	MS, Carnegie Mellon University
1984-87	Martin Marietta Aerospace
1991	PhD, MIT Media Lab
1992	Postdoc, LIFIA (Grenoble, France)
1993-94	Teleos Research
1994-2000	Microsoft Research
2000-pres	UC Santa Barbara









4 I's: Imaging, Interaction, and Innovative Interfaces

Co-directors: Matthew Turk and Tobias Höllerer

Research in computer vision and human-computer interaction

- Vision based and multimodal interfaces
- Augmented reality and virtual environments
- Mobile human-computer interaction
- Multimodal biometrics
- Novel 3D displays and interaction
- Activity recognition and surveillance

-

http://ilab.cs.ucsb.edu





The history of computing



Purposes:

- Counting, manipulating numbers
- Assessing taxes, determining projectiles
- Creating tables of numbers
- Simulation (predicting the weather, the economy, material processes)
- Word processing and spreadsheets
- Email
- Audio + video display
- Mobile, multimedia communication











Form factors:

- Mainframes
- Lab computers
- Desktop
- Handheld
- Cell phone
- Immersive
- Wearable

Environments:

- Building
- Laboratory
- Coffee shop
- Airport
- Everywhere















Computing has changed...

- Form, function, and context have all changed dramatically
- The *central data element* of computing has evolved:
 - Numbers
 - Text
 - Image
 - Audio+video
 - 3D
 - ...
 - All data underlying communication
- What has driven all this?



But there has been no Moore's Law progress for human-computer interaction!



The curse of the delta





The result







What to do?

- Maybe we need to rethink the way we interact with computers
- Question: What's the ultimate user interface?
 - a) A well-designed machine/instrument
 - b) An assistant or butler
 - c) None! UIs are a necessary evil
 - d) All of the above
- UI Goals:
 - Transparency
 - Minimal cognitive load
 - Task-oriented, not technology-oriented
 - Ease of learning, ease of use (adaptive)









2000s	Perceptual UI (PUI)	Natural interaction
1980s	Graphical UI (GUI)	Desktop
1970s	Command-line interface	Typewriter
1950s	Switches, punched cards	None
<u>When</u>	Implementation	<u>Paradigm</u>



Highly interactive, multimodal interfaces modeled/after natural human-to-human interaction

• Goal. For people to be able to interact with computers in a similar fashion to how they interact with each other and with the physical world

Not just passive

Multiple modalities, not just mouse, keyboard, monitor



Natural human interaction





Perceptual and multimodal interaction





Early example

"Put That There" (Bolt 1980)











Other examples...













Control vs. awareness/context

- Almost all current UI requires explicit (foreground) interaction
 - Intentional control or communication w/ computer
 - Often high physical and cognitive engagement
- Very few examples of system <u>awareness</u>
 - Touching or releasing an input device
 - User presence, location, attention, mood, arousal
 - Back channels of communication (e.g., nodding, "hmm")



How can achieve the goals of PUI?

• To develop powerful, adaptive, compelling **multimodal interfaces** that reach well beyond the GUI, researchers need to <u>develop</u> and <u>integrate</u> various relevant sensing, display, and interaction technologies, such as:

Speech recognition Speech synthesis Natural language processing Vision (recognition and tracking) Graphics, animation, visualization Haptic I/O Affective computing Tangible interfaces Sound recognition Sound generation User modeling Conversational interfaces



A strawman PUI architecture



Strawman PUI

- Superset of the GUI
- Adds perceptual <u>events</u>
- Presents a common, unified approach to PUI-based application development
- Platform opens the door to thousands of developers



Some issues

- Is the event-based model appropriate?
- What defines a perceptual event?
- Is there a useful, reliable subset of perceptual events?
- Non-deterministic events
- Future progress (expanding the event set)
- Input/output modalities? (vision, speech, haptic, *taste*, *smell*?)
- Allocation of resources
- Multiple goal management
- Training, calibration
- Quality and control of sensors
- Privacy



Direct Manipulation objection

- Shneiderman (and others): HCI should be characterized by
 - direct manipulation
 - predictable interactions
 - giving responsibility to the users
 - giving users a sense of accomplishment
- Argument against intelligent, adaptive, agent-based, and anthropomorphic interfaces and PUI
- ... But is it really **either/or**? Perhaps not.



PUI/multimodal interface research status

- Young field
- Growing interest
- Resonates with researchers with a wide range of interests (not just HCI researchers, or vision researchers, or ...)
- Mixing up the "gene pool "
- Many existing projects and research efforts
- But ... still asking basic questions
- Still narrow participation (but growing)





ICMI (1996, 1999, 2000, 2002-2010) PUI Workshop (1997, 1998, 2001) MLMI (2004-2008)





Banff 1997





Vision Based Interfaces (VBI)

- Visual cues are important in communication!
- Useful visual cues
 - Presence
 - Location
 - Identity (and age, sex, nationality, etc.)
 - Facial expression
 - Body language
 - Attention (gaze direction)
 - Gestures for control and communication
 - Lip movement
 - Activity



VBI – using computer vision to perceive these cues



Elements of VBI





Some VBI application areas

- Accessibility, hands-free computing
- Entertainment and gaming
- Interactive art
- Social interfaces/agents
- Teleconferencing
- Improved speech recognition (speechreading)
- User-aware applications
- Intelligent environments
- Biometrics
- Movement analysis (medicine, sports)
- Visualization environments



What makes VBI difficult?

- User appearance
 - size, sex, race, hair, skin, make-up, fatigue, clothing color & fit, facial hair, eyeglasses, aging....
- Environment
 - lighting, background, movement, camera
- Multiple people and occlusion
- Intentionality of actions (ambiguity)
- Speed and latency
- Calibration, FOV, camera control, image quality



Some VBI examples





Myron Krueger 1980s









MIT Media Lab 1990s











HMM based ASL recognition















Interaction using hand tracking





Gesture recognition














EYEMATIC FACESTATION



VIDEO IN

ANIMATION OUT

Commercial systems 2000s









Sony EyeToy







Reactrix







Microsoft Kinect (Project Natal)

- RGB camera, depth sensor, and microphone array in one package
 - Xbox add-on
 - RGB: 640x480, 30Hz
 - Depth: 320x240, 16-bit precision, 1.2-3.5m
- Capabilities
 - Full-body 3D motion capture and gesture recognition
 - Two people, 20 joints per person (??)
 - Track up to six people
 - Face recognition
 - Voice recognition, acoustic source localization



Video





Where we are today

- Perceptual interfaces
 - Progress in component technologies (speech, vision, haptics, ...)
 - Some multimodal integration
 - Growing area, but still a small part of HCI
- Vision based interfaces
 - Solid progress towards robust real-time visual tracking, modeling, and recognition of humans and their activities
 - Some first generation commercial systems available
 - Still too brittle
- Big challenges
 - Serious approaches to modeling user and context
 - Interaction among modalities (except AVSP)
 - Compelling applications



Moore's Law progress

Year 1975

0.001 CPU cycles/pixel of video stream





Year 2025

3.7M cycles/pixel (64k x speedup)



Killer app?

- Is there a "killer app" for vision-based interaction?
 - An application that will economically drive and justify extensive research and development in automatic gesture analysis
 - Fills a critical void or creates a need for a new technology
- Maybe not, but there are, however, <u>many</u> practical uses
 - Many that combine modalities, not vision-only
- This is good!!
 - It gives us the opportunity to do the **right thing**
 - The science of interaction
 - Fundamentally multimodal
 - Understanding people, not just computers
 - Involves CS, human factors, human perception,



Some relevant questions about gesture

- What is a gesture?
 - Blinking? Scratching your chin? Jumping up and down? Smiling? Skipping?
- What is the purpose of gesture?
 - Communication? Getting rid of an itch? Expressing feelings?
- What does it mean to do gesture recognition?
 - Just classification? ("Gesture #32 just occurred")
 - Semantic interpretation? ("He is waving goodbye")
- What is the context of gesture?
 - A conversation? Signaling? General feedback? Control?
 - How does context affect the recognition process?



Gestures

• A gesture is the act of expressing communicative intent via one or more modalities



- Hand and arm gestures
 - Hand poses, signs, trajectories...
- Head and face gestures
 - Head nodding or shaking, gaze direction, winking, facial expressions
- Body gestures: involvement of full body motion
 - One or more people



Gestures (cont.)

- Aspects of a gesture which may be important to its meaning:
 - Spatial information: where it occurs
 - Trajectory information: the path it takes
 - Symbolic information: the sign it makes
 - Affective information: its emotional quality
- Some tools for gesture recognition
 - HMMs
 - State estimation via particle filtering
 - Finite state machines
 - Neural networks
 - Manifold embedding
 - Appearance-based vs. (2D/3D) model-based



A gesture taxonomy





Kendon's gesture continuum

- Gesticulation
 - Spontaneous movements of the hands and arms that accompany speech
- Language-like gestures
 - Gesticulation that is integrated into a spoken utterance, replacing a particular spoken word or phrase
- Pantomimes
 - Gestures that depict objects or actions, with or without accompanying speech
- Emblems
 - Familiar gestures such as "V for victory", "thumbs up", and assorted rude gestures (these are often culturally specific)
- Sign languages
 - Well-defined linguistic systems, such as ASL



McNeill's gesture types

- Within the first category spontaneous, speech-associated gesture McNeill defined four gesture types:
 - Iconic representational gestures depicting some feature of the object, action or event being described
 - Metaphoric gestures that represent a common metaphor, rather than the object or event directly
 - Beat small, formless gestures, often associated with word emphasis
 - Deictic pointing gestures that refer to people, objects, or events in space or time.



Gesture and context

- *Context* underlies the relationship between gesture and meaning
- Except in limited special cases, we can't understand gesture (derive meaning) apart from its context
- We need to understand both gesture **production** and gesture **recognition** together (not individually)
- That is, "gesture recognition" research <u>by itself</u> is, in the long run, a dead end
 - It will lead to mostly impractical toy systems!



So... the bottom line

- Gesture recognition is not just a technical problem in Computer Science
- A <u>multidisciplinary</u> approach is vital to truly "solve" gesture recognition to understand it deeply
 - "Thinkers" and "builders" need to work together
- Still, there is low-hanging fruit to be had, where specific gesture-based technologies can be useful before all the Big Problems are solved
 - (Good...!)



Guidelines for gestural interface design

- Inform the user. People use different kinds of gestures for many purposes, from spontaneous gesticulation associated with speech to structured sign languages. Similarly, gesture may play a number of different roles in a virtual environment. To make compelling use of gesture, the types of gestures allowed and what they effect must be clear to the user.
- **Give the user feedback.** Feedback is essential to let the user know when a gesture has been recognized. This could be inferred from the action taken by the system, when that action is obvious, or by more subtle visual or audible confirmation methods.
- **Take advantage of the uniqueness of gesture.** Gesture is not just a substitute for a mouse or keyboard.
- Understand the benefits and limits of the particular technology. For example, precise finger positions are better suited to data gloves than vision-based techniques. Tethers from gloves or body suits may constrain the user's movement.



Guidelines for gestural interface design (cont.)

- **Do usability testing on the system.** Don't just rely on the designer's intuition.
- Avoid temporal segmentation if feasible. At least with the current state of the art, segmentation of gestures can be quite difficult.
- **Don't tire the user.** Gesture is seldom the primary mode of communication. When a user is forced to make frequent, awkward, or precise gestures, the user can become fatigued quickly. For example, holding one's arm in the air to make repeated hand gestures becomes tiring very quickly.
- **Don't make the gestures to be recognized too similar.** For ease of classification and to help the user.
- **Don't use gesture as a gimmick.** If something is better done with a mouse, keyboard, speech, or some other device or mode, use it extraneous use of gesture should be avoided.



Guidelines for gestural interface design (cont.)

- **Don't increase the user's cognitive load.** Having to remember the whats, wheres, and hows of a gestural interface can make it oppressive to the user. The system's gestures should be as intuitive and simple as possible. The learning curve for a gestural interface is more difficult than for a mouse and menu interface, since it requires *recall* rather than just *recognition among a list*.
- **Don't require precise motion.** Especially when motioning in space with no tactile feedback, it is difficult to make highly accurate or repeatable gestures.
- **Don't create new, unnatural gestural languages.** If it is necessary to devise a new gesture language, make it as intuitive as possible.







Some VBI-related research at the UCSB Four Eyes Lab

HandVu: Gestural interface for mobile systems

• Goal: To build highly robust CV methods that allow out-ofthe-box use of hand gestures as an interface modality for mobile computing environments









System components

- Detection
 - Detect the presence of a hand in the expected configuration and image position
- Tracking
 - Robustly track the hand, even when there are significant changes in posture, lighting, background, etc.
- Posture/gesture recognition
 - Recognize a small number of postures/gestures to indicate commands or parameters
- Interface
 - Integrate the system into a useful user experience



HandVu





Robust hand detection

- Detection using a modified version of the Jones-Viola face detector, based on boosted learning
- Performance:
 - Detection rate: 92%
 - False positive (fp) rate:
 - 1.01x10⁻⁸
 - One false positive in 279 VGA-sized image frames
 - With color verification: few false positives per hour of live video!





Hand tracking

- "Flocks of Features"
 - Fast 2D tracking method for non-rigid and highly articulated objects such as hands
 - KLT features + foreground color model









Tracking







HandVu application







Gesture recognition

- Really view-dependent **posture** recognition
 - Recognizes six hand postures





Driving a user interface









An AR application





HandVu software

- A library for hand gesture recognition
 - A toolkit for out-of-the-box interface deployment
- Features:
 - User independent
 - Works with any camera
 - Handles cluttered background
 - Adjusts to lighting changes
 - Scalable with image quality and processing power
 - Fast: 5-150ms per 640x480 frame (on 3GHz)
- Source/binary available, built on OpenCV



Multiview 3D hand pose estimation

- Appearance based approach to hand pose estimation
 - Based on ISOSOM (ISOMAP + SOM) nonlinear mapping
- A MAP framework is used to fuse view information and bypass 3D hand reconstruction






The retrieval results of the MAP framework with two-view images



Isometric self-organizing map (ISOSOM)

- A novel organized structure
 - Kohonen's Self-organizing Map
 - Tenenbaum's ISOMAP
 - To reduce information redundancy and avoid exhaustive search by nonlinear clustering techniques
- Multi-flash camera for the depth edges
 - Less background clutters
 - Internal finger edges



Experimental Results



Pose retrieval results

Number	IR	SOM	ISOSOM
Тор 40	44.25%	62.39%	65.93%
Тор 80	55.75%	72.12%	77.43%
Тор 120	64.60%	78.76%	85.40%
Тор 160	70.80%	80.09%	88.50%
Тор 200	76.99%	81.86%	91.59%
Тор 240	81.42%	85.84%	92.48%
Тор 280	82.30%	87.17%	94.69%

The correct retrieval rates



The performance comparisons



HandyAR: Inspection of objects in AR













Surgeon-computer interface

S. Grange, EPFL







Uses depth data (stereo camera) and video



















Video



Transformed Social Interaction

Studying nonverbal communication by <u>manipulating reality</u> in collaborative virtual environments





Manipulating appearance and behavior

- Visual nonverbal communication is an important aspect of human interaction
- Since behavior is decoupled from its rendering in CVEs, the opportunity arises for new interaction strategies based on manipulating the <u>visual appearance</u> and <u>behavior</u> of the avatars.
- For example:
 - Change identity, gender, age, other physical appearance
 - Selectively filter, amplify, delete, or transform nonverbal behaviors of the interactant
 - Culturally sensitive gestures, edit yawns, redirect eye gaze, ...
 - Could be rendered differently to every other interactant



Transformed Social Interaction (TSI)

• TSI: Strategic filtering of communicative behaviors in order to change the nature of social interaction







A TSI experiment: Non-zero-sum gaze



- Is it possible to increase one's power of <u>persuasion</u> by "augmented non-zero-sum (NZS) gaze"?
 - Presenter gives each participant > 50% of attention
- Experiment: A presenter tries to persuade two listeners by reading passages of text. Gaze direction is manipulated.



Non-zero-sum gaze



• Three levels of gaze of the presenter:





Initial results



GENDER



TSI conclusions

- TSI is an effective paradigm for the study of human-human interaction
- TSI should inform the study and development of multimodal interfaces
- TSI may help overcome deficiencies of remote collaboration and potentially offer advantages over even face-to-face communication
- This is just one study, somewhat preliminary others are in the works....



PeopleSearch: Finding Suspects







PeopleSearch

- Video Security Cameras
 - Airports
 - Train Stations
 - Retail Stores
 - Etc.
- For
 - Eyewitness descriptions
 - Missing people
 - Tracking across cameras
- Large amounts of video data
 - How to effectively search through these archives?











Suspect Description Form

PENNSYLVANIA CAPITOL POLICE SUSPECT DESCRIPTION





Problem definition

- Given a Suspect Description Form, build a system to automatically search for potential suspects that match the specified physical attributes in surveillance video
- Query Example: "Show me all bearded people entering IBM last month, wearing sunglasses, a red jacket and blue pants."



Face Recognition

- Long-term recognition (need to be robust to makeup, clothing, etc.)
- Return the identity of the person
- Not reliable under pose and lighting changes



Our Approach: People Search by Attributes

- Short-term recognition (take advantage of makeup, clothing, etc.)
- Return a set of images that match the search attributes
- Based on reliable object detection technology

Query: Show me all people with moustache and hat





System overview





Human body analysis





Bald



No Glasses



Beard



Hair



Sunglasses



Moustache



Hat



Eyeglasses



No Facial Hair







= (A+B+C+D)+(A)-(A+B)-(A+C)

D = ii(4) + ii(1) - ii(2) - ii(3)





Integral Image

Adaboost learning w/Haar features

Adaboost learning

• Adaboost creates a single strong classifier from many weak classifiers



- Initialize sample weights
- For each cycle:
 - Find a classifier that performs well on the weighted sample
 - Increase weights of misclassified examples
- Return a weighted combination of classifiers



Cascade of Adaboost classifiers





Applying the detector

Search over all possible window positions and scales

Apply the learned Adaboost classifier using the cascade scheme of Viola & Jones for each window position/scale









Multiple detector learning



Beard Detector Moustache Detector "No Facial Hair" Detector Sunglasses Detector Eyeglasses Detector "No Glasses" Detector Bald Detector Hair Detector Hat Detector



Results: Sunglasses Detector



























Results: Eyeglasses Detector





Results: "No Glasses" Detector





Results: Beard Detector



Results: Moustache Detector





Results: "No Facial Hair" Detector




Results: Bald Detector





Results: Hair Detector







Results: Hat Detector





Performance evaluation



Detector Performances



Examples of failure cases

(a) Lower Face Part



Shadow looks like beard

(b) Middle Face Part



Shadow looks like sunglasses

(c) Upper Face Part



Fringe confused with hat



Multispectral/IR





Attribute detection in multispectral images



Media Arts and Technology (MAT)

• *Media Arts and Technology* is an transdisciplinary graduate program at UCSB, founded to pursue emerging opportunities for education and research at the intersection of Art, Science, and Engineering.















Media Arts and Technology Graduate Program



Media Arts and Technology Graduate Program

Devices for interactivity













Interactive art



Sensing/Speaking Space @ SFMOMA





Algorithmic art



Blink @ SBMA





Tracking and recognition











Augmented environments













Interactive displays













Sound synthesis













Scientific visualization and auralization













The Allosphere







What is the Allosphere?

- A three-story anechoic space containing a built-in spherical screen, 10m in diameter, and a walkway through the center
- A large-scale immersive surround-view instrument
- A digital media center in the California Nanosystems Institute
- A cross-disciplinary community around the UCSB Media Arts and Technology Program
- An advanced instrument for scientific research
 - The manipulation, exploration and analysis of large-scale data sets
- ... and for artistic exploration

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