Human – Robot Communication

Paul Fitzpatrick

Human – Robot Communication

Motivation for communication
Human-readable actions
Reading human actions
Conclusions

Motivation

- What is communication for?
 Transferring information
 Coordinating behavior
- What is it built from?
 Commonality
 Perception of action
 Protocols

Communication protocols



Computer – computer protocols

TCP/IP, HTTP, FTP, SMTP, ...

Communication protocols



Human – human protocols Initiating conversation, turn-taking, interrupting, directing attention, ...



Human – computer protocols Shell interaction, drag-and-drop, dialog boxes, ...

Communication protocols



Human – human protocols

Initiating conversation, turn-taking, interrupting, directing attention, ... Human – robot protocols

Human – computer protocols Shell interaction, drag-and-drop, dialog boxes, ...

Requirements on robot



Human-oriented perception

- Person detection, tracking
- Pose estimation
- Identity recognition
- Expression classification
- Speech/prosody recognition
- Objects of human interest



- Human-readable action
 - Clear locus of attention
 - Express engagement
 - Express confusion, surprise
 - Speech/prosody generation

Example: attention protocol



- Expressing attention
- Influencing other's attention
- Reading other's attention



Motivation for communication
Human-readable actions
Reading human actions
Conclusions

Human gaze reflects attention



(Taken from C. Graham, "Vision and Visual Perception")

Types of eye movement



(Based on Kandel & Schwartz, "Principles of Neural Science")

Engineering gaze



Kismet

Collaborative effort

- Cynthia Breazeal
- Brian Scassellati
- And others
- Will describe components I'm responsible for

Engineering gaze



Engineering gaze



Tip-toeing around 3D



Example





Built in biases





- Built in biases
- Behavioral state

- Built in biases
- Behavioral state
- Persistence



Directing attention



Head pose estimation

Motivation for communication
Human-readable actions
Reading human actions
Conclusions

Head pose estimation (rigid)



* Nomenclature varies

Head pose literature

Horprasert, Yacoob, Davis '97 McKenna, Gong '98 Wang, Brandstein '98 Basu, Essa, Pentland '96 Harville, Darrell, et al '99

Head pose: Anthropometrics

Horprasert, Yacoob, Davis McKenna, Gong Wang, Brandstein Basu, Essa, Pentland Harville, Darrell, et al



Head pose: Eigenpose

Horprasert, Yacoob, Davis McKenna, Gong Wang, Brandstein Basu, Essa, Pentland Harville, Darrell, et al





Head pose: Contours

Horprasert, Yacoob, Davis

McKenna, Gong

Wang, Brandstein

Basu, Essa, Pentland

Harville, Darrell, et al



Head pose: mesh model

Horprasert, Yacoob, Davis McKenna, Gong Wang, Brandstein Basu, Essa, Pentland Harville, Darrell, et al



Head pose: Integration

Horprasert, Yacoob, Davis McKenna, Gong Wang, Brandstein Basu, Essa, Pentland Harville, Darrell, et al



My approach

- Integrate changes in pose (after Harville et al)
- Use mesh model (after Basu et al)
- Need automatic initialization
 - Head detection, tracking, segmentation
 - Reference orientation
 - Head shape parameters
- Initialization drives design

Head tracking, segmentation



- Segment by color histogram, grouped motion
 Motob against allines model (M. Bilu at al)
- Match against ellipse model (M. Pilu et al)

Mutual gaze as reference point



Mutual gaze as reference point















Tracking pose changes

- Choose coordinates to suit tracking
- 4 of 6 degrees of freedom measurable from monocular image
- Independent of shape parameters



Remaining coordinates

- 2 degrees of freedom remaining
- Choose as surface coordinate on head
- Specify where image plane is tangent to head
- Isolates effect of errors in parameters



Tangent region shifts when head rotates in depth

Surface coordinates

Establish surface coordinate system with mesh



Initializing a surface mesh



Example



Typical results



Ground truth due to Sclaroff et al.

Merits

- No need for any manual initialization
- Capable of running for long periods
- Tracking accuracy is insensitive to model
- User independent
- Real-time

Problems

- Greater accuracy possible with manual initialization
- Deals poorly with certain classes of head movement (e.g. 360° rotation)
- Can't initialize without occasional mutual regard

Motivation for communication
Human-readable actions
Reading human actions
Conclusions



 Protocol for negotiating interpersonal distance



- Protocol for negotiating interpersonal distance
- Protocol for controlling the presentation of objects



- Protocol for negotiating interpersonal distance
- Protocol for controlling the presentation of objects
- Protocol for conversational turn-taking
- Protocol for introducing vocabulary
- Protocol for communicating processes

Protocols make good modules





- What about robot robot protocol?
- Basically computer computer
- But physical states may be hard to model
- Borrow human robot protocol for these



Current, future work

- Protocols for reference
 - Know how to point to an object
 - How to point to an attribute?
 - Or an action?
- Until a better answer comes along:
 - Communicate task/game that depends on attribute/action
 - Pull out number of classes, positive and negative examples for supervised learning



