

Participant Consent Form

Researchers: Monty Thibault – Undergraduate Student Project

Supervisor: Paul Kry

Title of Project: Center of Mass Awareness for Virtual Character Balance Control

Sponsor(s):

NSERC 214978 - Physically Based Character Animation, Editing, Control, Deformation, and Contact

NSERC USRA – “Center of Mass Awareness for Virtual Character Balance Control”

Purpose of the Study:

We are studying the human ability to estimate the position of center of mass and how it relates to character animation systems used in film and games. Current systems assume that the center of mass is known at all times, however more realistic results can be obtained by giving the character a degree of artificial error. Our study is an attempt to better quantify and implement the exact degree to which this error is found in real humans.

Study Procedures:

We have set up a system of sensors that include ground/wall-mounted force sensors and optionally a motion capture mass-density estimation system. These will be used to measure your true center of mass through the forces exerted by, and position of, your body to the surrounding environment.

You will be asked to perform a variety of tasks that involve shifting your centre of mass to a given position, or doing so in conjunction with actions such as kneeling, leaning, or balancing. The testing session will last no more than an hour.

Voluntary Participation:

Participation in this study is completely voluntary. No compensation or incentive will be given. You have the right to refuse participation in any activity, and may withdraw from the study at any time during the experiment, for any reason. In the event of withdrawal, you also have the right to withdraw the collected data at request to the researchers.

Your personal identity will not be associated with the data captured by the motion systems. By participating in the study, you are giving the researchers permission to use and release the data with any publications or software systems released in the course of the study.

As the study is anonymous, withdrawal is not possible after the session has concluded.

Questions:

Further questions regarding the research project can be directed towards the researchers in person or at the following email addresses:

Mr. Monty Thibault (Principal Investigator, Undergraduate Student) – monty.thibault@mail.mcgill.ca
Prof. Paul Kry (Supervisor, Professor) – kry@cs.mcgill.ca

If you have any ethical concerns or complaints about your participation in this study, and want to speak with someone not on the research team, please contact the McGill Ethics Manager at 514-398-6831 or lynda.mcneil@mcgill.ca

Agreement:

Yes: __ No: __ You consent to physically participating in the experiment outlined above.

Please sign below if you have read the above information and consent to participate in this study. Agreeing to participate in this study does not waive any of your rights or release the researchers from their responsibilities. A copy of this consent form will be given to you and the researcher will keep a copy.

Participant's Name: (please print) _____

Participant's Signature: _____ Date: _____
