

# Investigating the influence of perspectives on a virtual avatar for motor learning

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February 5, 2019

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## 0.1 Abstract

- Overall aim of the Seminar thesis: how to investigate the influence of perspectives on virtual avatars in MR for motor learning
- therefore analysis of motor learning, related work, research questions
- propose study setting



# Chapter 1

## Introduction

### 1.1 Motivation

In recent years, MR devices became more affordable <sup>1</sup>, portable <sup>2</sup> and usable in many conditions. Not only in academic researchers are interested in this technology, commercial companies also found this technology helpful to explore new possibilities to use it profitable. EON <sup>3</sup> for example calls themselves "the world leader in Virtual Reality based knowledge transfer for industry, education, and edutainment". They develop MR programs for several platforms, eg. with the aim to guide workers, reducing mistakes and thus reducing costs.

Since MR learning or guiding programs reached the commercial market, many applications will be created. It is important to build these applications on well founded research.

Developing a system for MR learning can be complex and mistakes can be made. Providing a developer with guidelines to design such a program could help decreasing design faults. But before guidelines can be created, groundwork has to be done and be investigated with sophisticated research methods. This seminar thesis will take a look in the background of motor learning and perspectives to conduct groundwork that maybe later can be used for guidelines for designing a MR motor learning system.

- Overall aim of the Masters theses: provide insights to learning in vr, especially about the perspective on the avatar who is teaching (egocentric vs. exocentric perspective)

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<sup>1</sup>**TODO**

<sup>2</sup>**TODO**

<sup>3</sup>**TODO**

- thus: provide groundwork for motor learning in vr for future HCI related studies

## 1.2 Problem definition and RQ

- Motor learning tasks can be learn in MR (quellen)
- investigations in xyz but not in terms of perspective
- influence of perspective could lead to insights/ recommendations for learning in MR

Overall rq

- How does perspectives on virtual avatars influence motor learning?

## 1.3 Approach

- Design a Study, participants to perform movements
- two groups, ego/exo perspective, 2 movement types
- investigate the performace of the groups

## 1.4 outline

After this introduction, the scope of this thesis is given, where it is explained to what extend motor learning, MR, perspectives and other factors are considered. The following related work part will give an overview about other MR learning systems and also work about perspectives on avatars. From this work the measures, dependent and independent variables and tasks are derived. Taking the related work into consideration a study design is proposed in outlook section.

# Chapter 2

## Theoretical Background

### 2.1 How do we learn movements

### 2.2 Movement types

### 2.3 How to quantify movements

Judging motions and their matching to a given motion is not a trivial task. One approach follows Rudolph von Laban who was a professional dancer. Von Laban developed a broadly used dance notation. His work lead to the *Laban Movement Analysis* with which a human movements could be quantized.<sup>1</sup> There are four main components to systematically describe movements in the *Laban Movement Analysis*: body, effort, shape and space. Each component can describe movements independently or combined. Hachimura et al. **TODO** used the methodology of *Laban Movement Analysis* and adopted it to for digital movements.

Yoshimura et al. **TODO** followed a similar approach from another dance movement description theory called *furi*. *Furi* is also described by four so called *indices*: *kamae*, *jyu-shin*, *koshi*, *uchiwa*. Yoshimura at all could map these indices to concrete markers on the body of a performer. They showed that there was a significant difference between movements by an expert and a beginner. Qian et al. **TODO** developed a gesture recognition system for performing arts. To match the motions ten body parts were defined: head, torso, upper arms, forearms, upper legs and lower legs. For each body part the Mahalanobis distance is calculated to an ideal point. The Mahalanobis

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<sup>1</sup>Brockhaus, Rudolf Laban. <http://www.brockhaus.de/ecs/enzy/article/laband-rudolf> (accessed 2018-10-25)

distance describes the distance between a point  $p$  and a distribution  $D$ .  
Kwon et al. **TODO**

- K. Hachimura, K. Takashina, and M. Yoshimura, “Analysis and Evaluation of Dancing Movement Based on LMA,” Proc. IEEE Int’l Workshop Robots and Human Interactive Comm., pp. 294-299, 2005.
- M. Yoshimura, N. Mine, T. Kai, and L. Yoshimura, “Quantification of Characteristic Features of Japanese Dance for Individuality Recognition,” Proc. IEEE Int’l Workshop Robot and Human Interactive Comm., pp. 193-199, Sept. 2001.
- G. Qian, F. Guo, T. Ingalls, L. Olson, J. James, and T. Rikakis, “A Gesture-Driven Multimodal Interactive Dance System,” Proc. IEEE Int’l Conf. Multimedia and Expo (ICME ’04), pp. 1579-1582, June 2004.
- D.Y. Kwon and M. Cross, “Combining Body Sensors and Visual Sensors for Motion Training,” Proc. ACM SIGCHI, pp. 94-101, 2005.
- vr dance trainer

## 2.4 How to measure movements

- 26: details following: how to measure movements for movements with a discrete target
- 3 types of measurements: measures of error for a single subject, measures of time and speed, measures of movement magnitude.
  - Constant Error: average Error  $CE = \frac{\sum(x_i - T)}{n}$ . i: all values, T: target value, n: number of values. interpretation: in average, the user missed the target by CE
  - Variable Error: inconsistency in movement error:  $VE = \sqrt{\frac{\sum(x_i - M)^2}{n}}$ . M: average movement, actual movement score - average movement score. interpretation: VE reflects the variability, or inconsistency in movements. moves consistently: VE small. user moves absolute consistently: VE is 0. VE does not depend on whether or not the subject was close to the target
  - total variability: the total variability around a target:  $E = \sqrt{VE^2 + CE^2} = \sqrt{\frac{\sum(x_i - T)^2}{n}}$  interpretation: combination of VE



and CE, total amount of spread about the target: overall measure how successful was the subject in achieving the target

- absolute error: measure of overall accuracy in performance.  $AE = \frac{\sum |x_i - T|}{n}$ . interpretation: replace sqrt with abs
  - AE vs. E: **TODO**
  - Absolute Constant Error:  $= |CE|$ . if half pos and half neg could cancel each other out. when mean.
  - these measures can be applied to other movements. like pursuit motor: TOT, Mashburn task, stabilometer, two hand coordination task.
- measures of time and speed: basic to this idea: performer who can accomplish more in a given amount of time or who can accomplish a given amount of behavior is more skillful. time measure:  $\frac{time}{unit}$ . speed:  $\frac{units}{time}$ .
  - reaction time (RT): can also be a performance measure. a measure of time from the arrival of a sudden and unanticipated signal to the beginning of the response. i will only describe it if i will use it
  - movement time (MT): how long does the movement last. sometimes combined with RT: response time =  $RT + MT$
  - 21 details following: discrete/closed skills
  - for simplifying discussion introducing classification of movements and motor tasks.
  - 2 important classification schemes:
    - based on particular movements made: discrete, continuous, serial
    - based on perceptual attributes of the task: open/closed skills
  - discrete movements: movements with recognisable beginning and end. discrete tasks: kicking a ball, shifting gears. end of movement: the time on which a observer ceased examining. dm can be very rapid like blinking or longer like making the signing.
  - continuous movements: dont have recognisable start and end, with behavior continuing till the movement arbitrarily stopped. Continuous tasks: swimming, running, steering a car. Continuous tasks tend to be longer than discrete tasks.

- serial movements: neither discrete nor continuous comprised of a series of individual movements tied together in time to make some "whole". center of continuum. can be rather long but are not stopped arbitrarily. serial tasks: starting a car, preparing and lighting a wood fireplace. Serial tasks can be seen as many discrete tasks strung together and the order (and sometimes timing) is important.
- open skills: environment is constantly, unpredictably changing, so the performer cannot plan his activity effectively in advance. eg. penalty shot in ice hockey. own movement is dependent on the movement of the keeper. Driving on a freeway: depends on the other cars. Success in open skills largely determined by the extent to which a individual can adapt the planned motor behaviour to the changing environment.
- closed skills: other end of continuum, predictable environment because it is stable. eg archery, bowling or signing. movement can be planned in advance. since open skills seems to require rapid adaptations to a changing environment and closed skills require a very stable performances in a predictable environment questions are raised about the method of training, do different individuals perform better in one of these skill classes.
- to overcome these question the focus of this seminar is on discrete movement tasks and closed skills. — > see study

## 2.5 Perspectives

Wang and Milgram **TODO** describe the perspectives on the centricity continuum see 2.1. On the most left hand side of the continuum the egocentric perspective is located. Egocentric means that the anchor of the viewport camera is located inside the object to control - for simplicity, this object in question is referred as avatar. On the left hand side the exocentric perspective is located. This viewport camera is a fixed camera in the scene not to be controllable. The exocentric perspective gives the user the possibility to examine the scene from a bird's-eye view. The movement or angle of the avatar has no influence on the camera's position or angle. So the main difference is the so called tether distance and the degree of freedom of the camera. Milgram and Wang investigated on tethered cameras and define it as the distance between the avatar and the camera which is following the avatar. This describes the middle part of the continuum. Zero-distance camera describes the egocentric perspective. The longer the tether distance

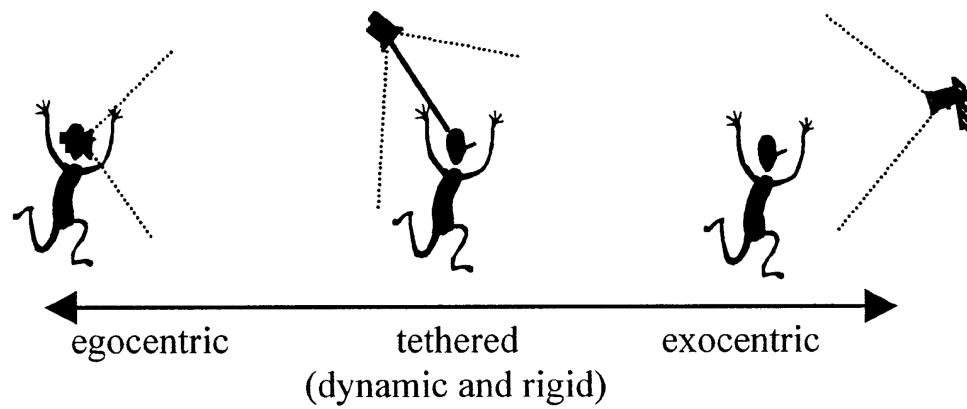


Figure 2.1: Centricity continuum by Wang and Milgram 2001 **TODO**

the more the perspective is located on the right of the scale to the exocentric perspective. They also distinguish between dynamic and rigid tethering relationships. A dynamic tethered camera is controlled by the user in all six dofs (**TODO**) while a rigid stands like a pole and can only be controlled in 3 dofs. Rigid tethered cameras are common in modern 3rd person computer games.



# Chapter 3

## Scope

### 3.1 Motor Learning

- discrete movements
- closed skills
- at least 2 different movement categories
- how to measure movements

### 3.2 Mixed Reality

- Milgram
- AR or VR

### 3.3 Perspective

### 3.4 Misc

- synchron asynchron
- colocated/remote
- perspective
- hardware?
- feedback!

- real world, not abstract avatars
- only visuals - no audio or textual explanation

# Chapter 4

## Related Work

### 4.1 Aggregated overview about paper describing MR learning systems

hier werden einige paper über MR lern systeme vorgestellt. gestaffelt nach:

**Tasks**

**Measures**

**Method**

**Variables**

### 4.2 Detailed description of 6-10 papers incl. Table

hier werden die paper detailliert vorgestellt von denen ich dann meine tasks, measures, methode und variablen ableite. am ende zusammenfassung in einer tabelle

### 4.3 Conclusion (and research questions/hypotheses?)

hier wird zusammengefasst was ich abgeleitet habe und direkt in das studien design einfließt. danach folgen die genauen RQ und hypothesen.





# Chapter 5

## Outlook

### 5.1 Preliminary Study design

#### Aim of the Study

The aim of the study is to investigate the influence of egocentric and exocentric perspectives on a virtual avatar during motor learning tasks.

#### process

There are two groups: one learn only with the egocentric perspective, the other one with the exocentric perspective on the virtual avatar.

To derive conclusions on body regions, every participant learns movements for three different body parts. The body parts are:

- *upper body*(UB)
- *lower body*(LB)
- *full body*(FB)

To derive conclusion on movement types, two different movements per body part is learned. The two movement types are:

- mirrored movements
- independent movements

	UB	LB	FB
Ego	1 mirrored and 1 asynchronous movement	1 mirrored and 1 independent movement	1 mirrored and 1 independent movement
Exo	1 mirrored and 1 independent movement	1 mirrored and 1 independent movement	1 mirrored and 1 independent movement
Ego/Exo	1 mirrored and 1 independent movement	1 mirrored and 1 independent movement	1 mirrored and 1 independent movement

### Independent variables

- perspective on the avatar (Ego/Exo centric)
- body parts (*upper body, lower body, full body*)
- movement types (mirrored/independent movements)

### measures

TBA

## 5.2 Timetable