

Fiducial Marker Tracking Using Machine Vision

Saurabh Ghanekar, Kavi Global

Kazutaka Takahashi, University of Chicago

#AISAI14

Outline

- Motivation & Goals
- Approach
- Results
- Next Steps

Motivation

- Feeding is a highly complex, life-sustaining behavior, essential for survival in all species
- Certain neurological conditions such as Parkinson's disease, ALS, stroke can cause difficulty in chewing and swallowing, known as dysphagia
- Affects quality of life
- Dysphagia can lead to malnutrition, dehydration, and aspiration

End-Goal

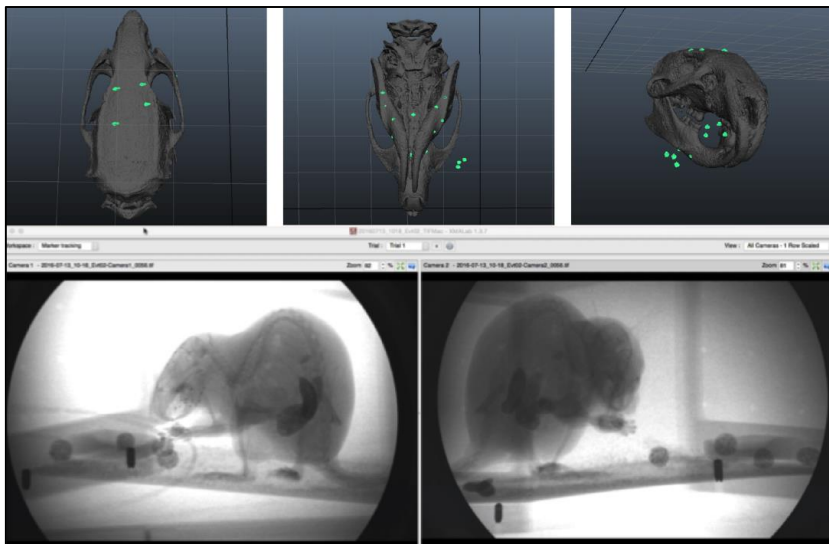
To characterize feeding dynamics and gain insights into feeding behavior changes caused by certain neurological conditions and changes in oral environment.

Current State

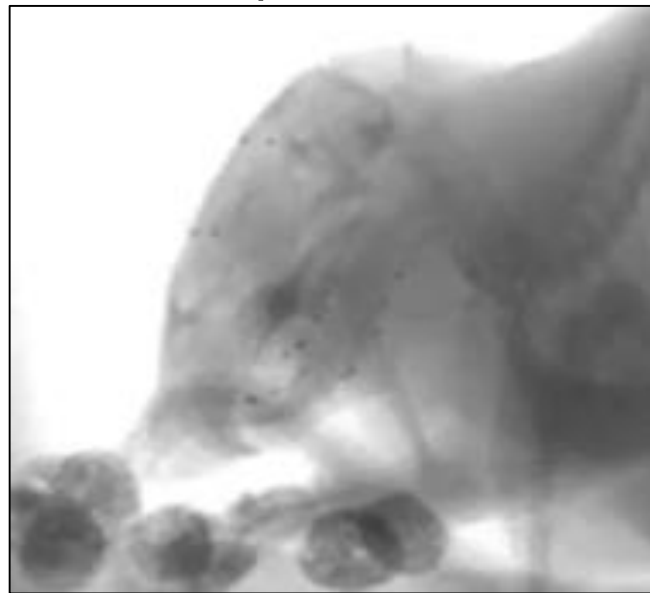
- Study focused on rodents
- X-ROMM videos of rodents feeding on kibble
- Videos recorded from 2 camera angles simultaneously
- Radio-opaque markers implanted in skull, mandible, tongue
- Movement of markers needs to be tracked and quantified
- Marker tracking process is extremely tedious as it is done using manual, frame-by-frame methods ^[1,2]
- Consumes valuable time, thus delaying further research

Immediate Goal

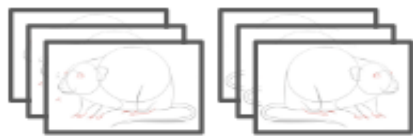
A near-automated, deep learning-based solution for detecting and tracking markers, resulting in a more efficient and robust process



(c) Bunyak et al, 2017



Approach: Key Steps



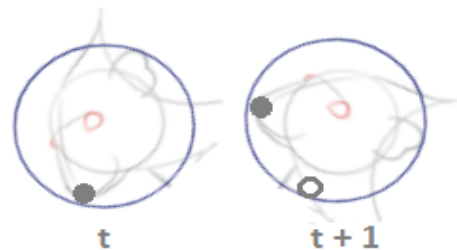
Data In:

Read in videos frame by frame for left and right cameras in 2D (x,y)



Head and Marker Detection:

Utilize neural network to identify bounding box of head and also pinpoint unlabeled markers inside the bounding box.



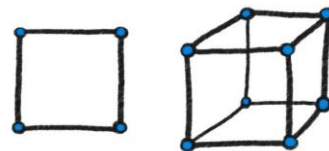
Marker Tracking:

Employ Kalman filters along with Hungarian algorithm to keep track of markers from frame to frame



Sequence Matching:

Match sequence tracks from left and right cameras



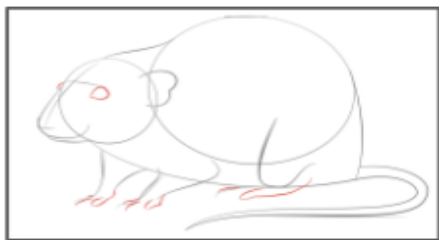
2D to 3D conversion:

Feed 2D left right coordinates along with rotational matrices and translation vector to get final 3D coordinates (x,y,z)

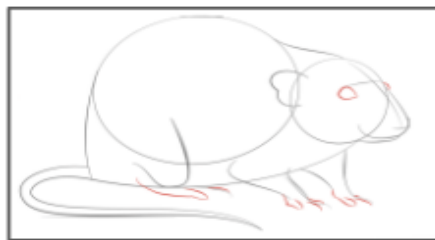
Data Description

- 13 pairs of videos (left & right camera) available for training
- 720px by 1260px videos, recorded at 250 fps, ~10 seconds each
- Head and marker coordinates per frame used for model training & evaluation
- 18-20 markers to be tracked in each video

Camera 1



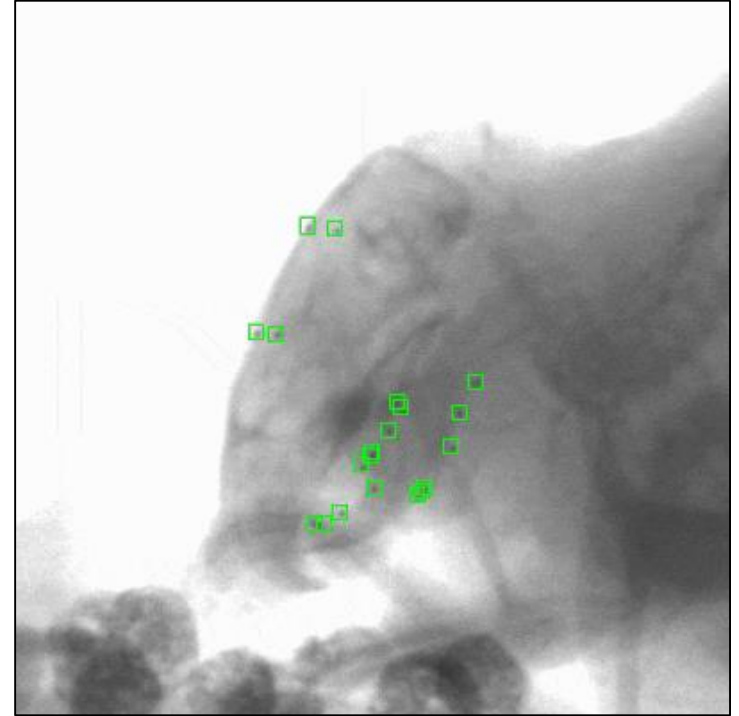
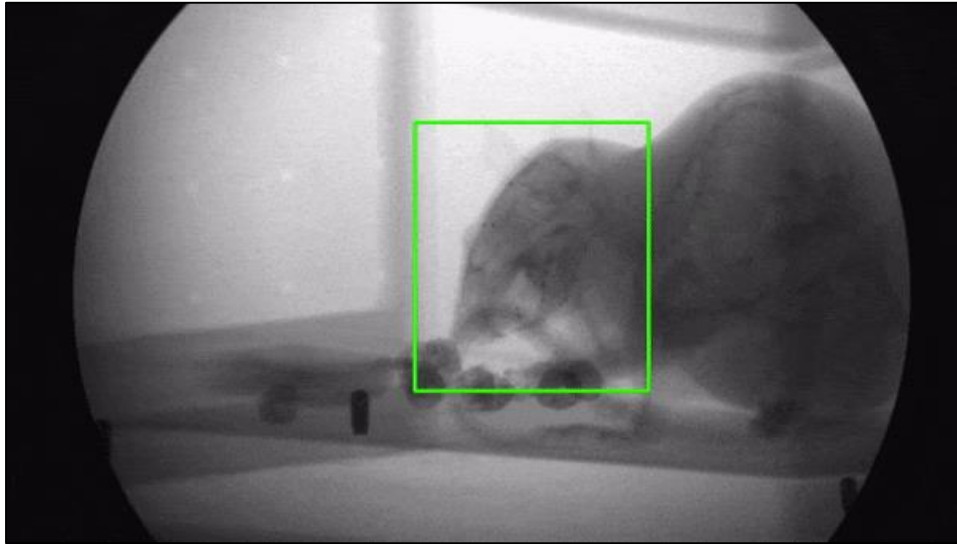
Camera 2



Head and Marker Detection

- TensorFlow's Object Detector API
- Single Shot Multibox Detector (SSD) with MobileNet using transfer learning from the MS COCO dataset
- Key model parameters:
 - Initial Learning Rate: 0.0004
 - Feature Extractor Type: `ssd_mobilenet_v1`
 - Minimum Depth: 16
 - Depth Multiplier: 1.0
 - `conv_hyperparams`: activation: `RELU_6`; regularizer: `l2_regularizer`; weight: 0.00004

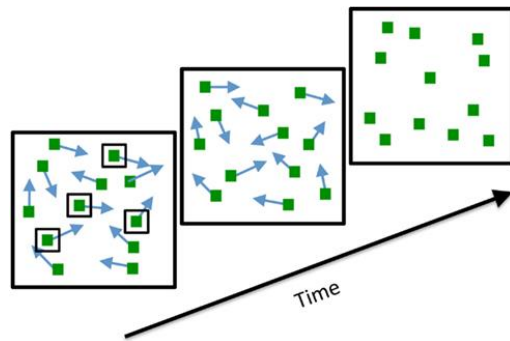
Head and Marker Detection



Marker Tracking

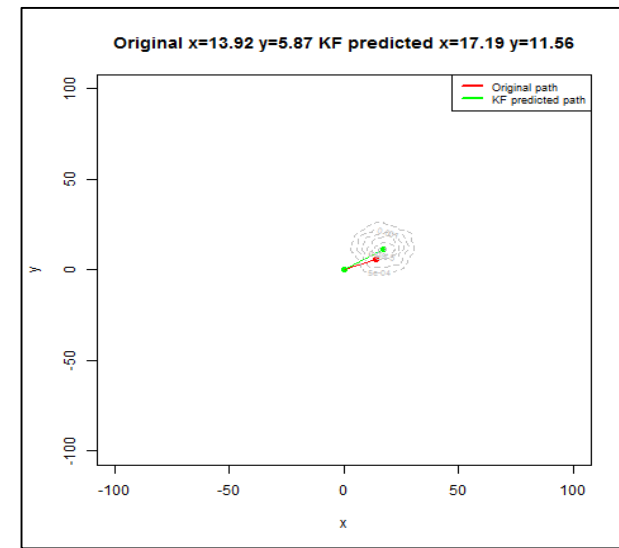
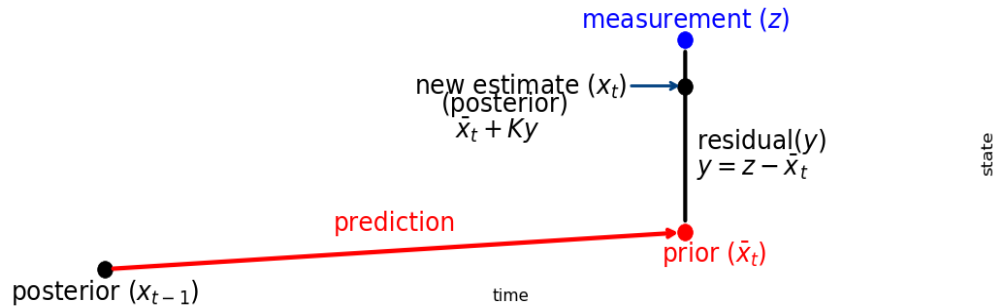
Multi-object tracking involves three key components:

- Predicting the object location in the next frame
- Associating predictions with existing objects
- Track Management



(c) Howe, Holcombe, 2012


Prediction



- Kalman Filter is used to predict marker location in the next frame
- Estimate position recursively in each frame, based on previous frames
- Uses Bayesian learning and estimates a joint probability distribution
- Start with initial velocity estimate & covariance matrix

Association

- After prediction, an assignment cost-matrix is computed from the bounding-box intersection-over-union (IoU)
- Hungarian Algorithm is used to optimally associate markers


$$\text{IoU} = \frac{\text{Area of Overlap}}{\text{Area of Union}}$$

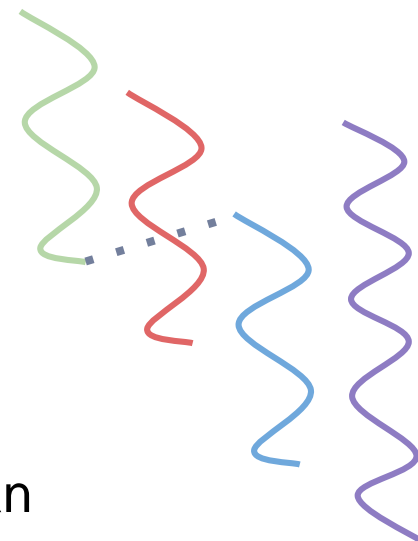
True Marker Positions

	0	1	2	...
0	518	101	312	
1	24	963	225	
2	872	20	220	
...				

Predicted Marker Positions

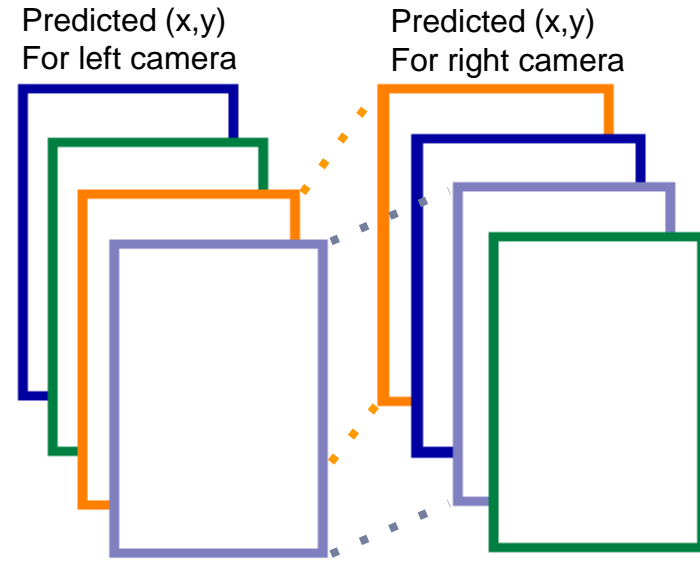
Track Management

- If IoU is below a set threshold, there is no assignment
- Also, not all potential tracks become actual tracks
- As a result, tracks may die and new ones are born
- The output of Kalman filter and Hungarian algorithm can result in a large number of discontinuous tracks
- These are “stitched” together by looking forward and backward a number of frames to find the best match based on closest Euclidean distance
- At the end, we get one track per marker



Sequence Matching

- After generating marker tracks separately for each camera, corresponding tracks from each camera must be matched
- Tried different distinct methodologies such as Time Series Clustering and different correlation measures.
- Spearman correlation on frame-to-frame changes in Y-coordinate values gave the best results (100% accuracy on manually tracked data)



2D to 3D Conversion

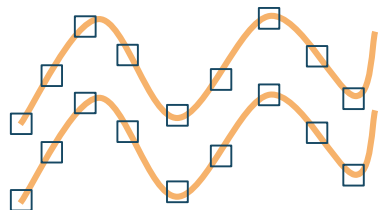
- $P = K * (R | T)$ - Camera Projection Matrix (3x4) for each camera
 - K = Camera Matrix (3x3)
 - R = Rotation Matrix (3x3)
 - T = Translation Vector (3x1)
- Results are a good match with actual 3D coordinates



Evaluation 1: % IoU Difference

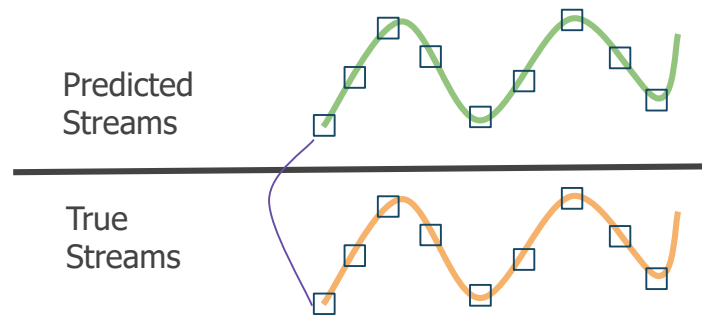
Step 1: Calculate a perfect overlap.
Sum the area of the boxes over each
frame for each true stream

True
Streams



Area Stream: (box area)*(number of frames)

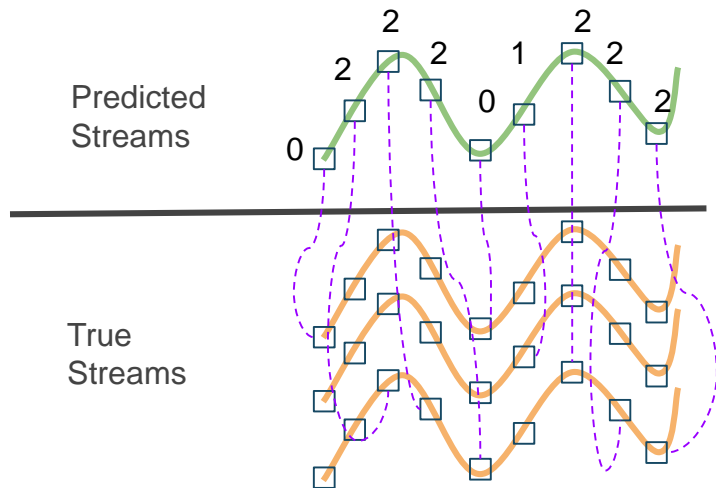
Step 2: Calculate the percent difference
between the perfect area and actual IoU



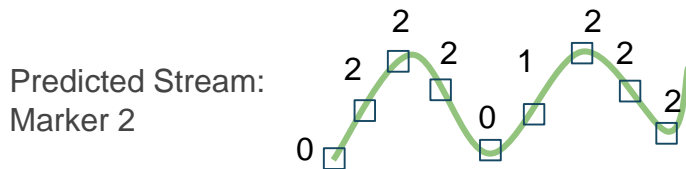
$$\% \text{ IoU Difference} = \frac{\text{Perfect Overlap Area} - \text{Actual IOU}}{\text{Perfect Overlap Area}}$$

Evaluation 2: % Correctly Labeled

Step 1: Determine the best matching marker label for each frame in the predicted streams using the maximum IOU in each frame

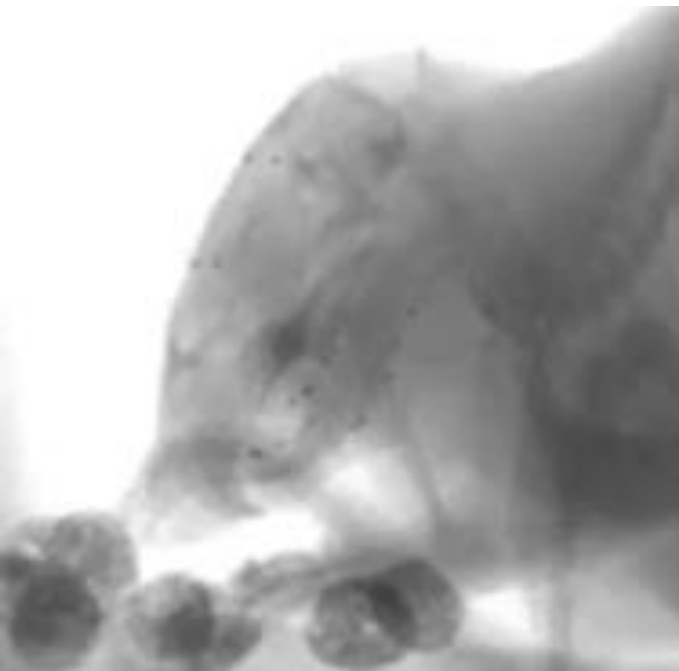


Step 2: Calculate the percent of frames labeled with the same label as the overall label given in the tracking phase

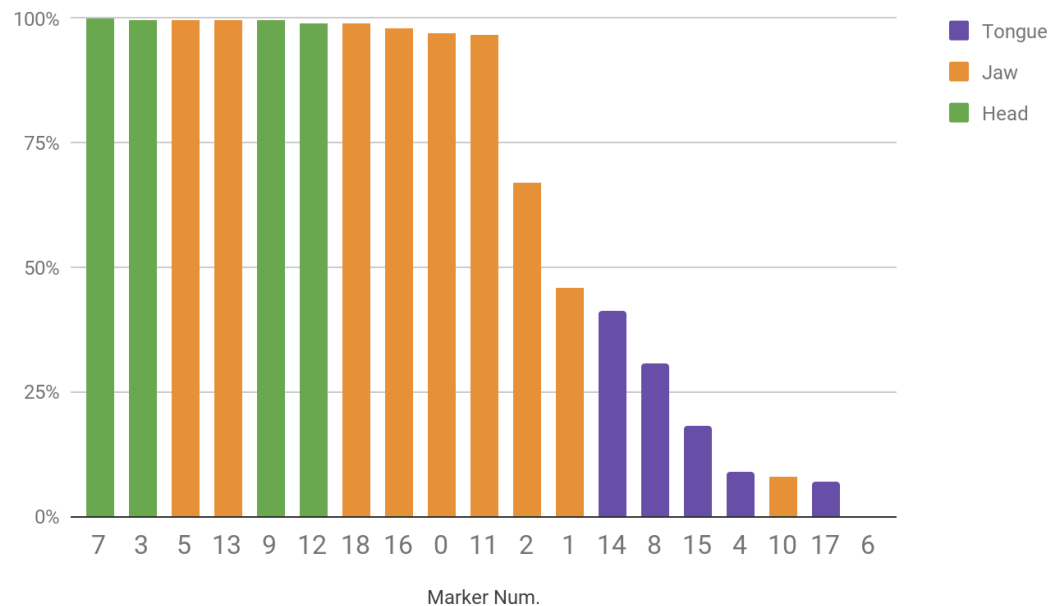


$$\text{Percent Correctly Labeled} = \frac{6}{9} \cdot 100\%$$

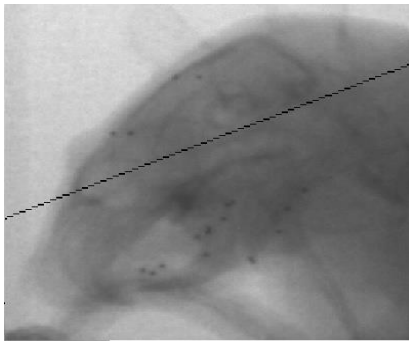
Results



Pct. Frames Accurately Tracked



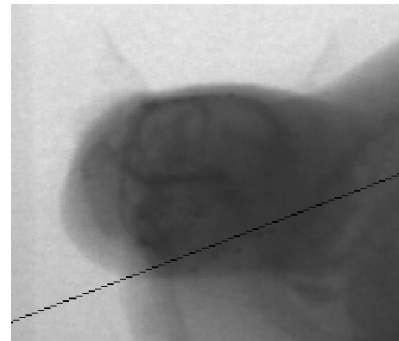
Challenges



Ideal scenario



Off-screen Markers



Occluded Markers

Even if marker detection and tracking models perform well, the above problems may negatively impact results since at some point a marker may be assigned to the incorrect track

Next Steps

- Detection
 - Tune marker detection thresholds, and marker assignment thresholds
- Kalman Filter
 - Tune initialization velocities, and acceleration and covariance matrices
 - Better initialization is known to produce better predictions
 - Non-linear methods (Extended Kalman Filters, particle filters)
- Marker Detection Assignment to Kalman Tracks
 - Currently using Hungarian Assignment. Other options include Probabilistic Assignment, Markov Chain Monte Carlo methods
- Stitching
 - Tune parameters and algorithm to better match together disparate tracks

References

- [1] Bunyak F, Shiraishi N, Palaniappan K, Lever TE, Avivi-Arber L, Takahashi K. Development of semi-automatic procedure for detection and tracking of fiducial markers for orofacial kinematics during natural feeding. Conference proceedings : Annual International Conference of the IEEE Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society IEEE Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society Annual Conference. 2017;2017:580-583. doi:10.1109/EMBC.2017.8036891.
- [2] Best MD, Nakamura Y, Kijak NA, et al. Semiautomatic marker tracking of tongue positions captured by videofluoroscopy during primate feeding. Conference proceedings: . Annual International Conference of the IEEE Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society IEEE Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society Annual Conference. 2015;2015:5347-5350. doi:10.1109/EMBC.2015.7319599.
- [3] Howe PDL and Holcombe AO (2012) The effect of visual distinctiveness on multiple object tracking performance. Front. Psychology 3:307. doi: 10.3389/fpsyg.2012.00307

Thank You!

Saurabh Ghanekar

Principal Consultant

Kavi Global

saurabh@kaviglobal.com

Kazutaka Takahashi, Ph.D.

Research Assistant Professor

Department of Organismal Biology and Anatomy

University of Chicago

kazutaka@uchicago.edu

Funding Information:

- National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences of the National Institutes of Health (UL1 TR000430)
- JSPS The Strategic Young Researcher Overseas Visits Program for Accelerating Brain Circulation (S2504)
- JSPS KAKENHI (JP16K11589)

Acknowledgements:

- Dr. Naru Shiraishi, Niigata University, Japan (for experimental procedure development and data collection)
- Animal Research Center (ARC) staff at the University of Chicago