

Gestural User Interfaces

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A definition in human discourse

"Gesture (...) are **communicative movements** of the hand s and arms which **express** – just as language – speakers' attitudes, ideas, feelings and **intentions**..." (Müller, 1998)



"It [large piece of canvas] can be used to make tents (metaphoric gesture)..."

"... or a tent (iconic gesture)."

"The sixth one (deictic gesture) would be a small axe."

"So shelter is very important (beat gesture) in this cold weather."

Full taxonomy see (McNeill, 1992). Figure (Kelly et al., 2011)

A definition in HCl

"Gesture (...) is any **physical movement** that a digital system can **sense and respond** to **without** the aid of a traditional **pointing devices** such as a mouse or stylus" (Saffer, 2009)



Basic components of any gestural systems (Saffer, 2009)

Do I need gestural user interface?

Gestural UI are **not** suitable:

- Heavy data input (use keyboards instead)
- Absence of visual feedback (e.g., a system without a screen or targeting users with visual impairments)
- Unmet physical demands (e.g., swipe to receive a phone call in winter)
- Context (e.g., privacy, embarrassment)

Do I need gestural user interface?

Gestural UI are good for:

- Natural interactions: interact directly with objects in physical way
- Less cumbersome or visible hardware
- Flexibility in hardware
- Fun

Design principles for gestural systems

- **Discoverable:** provide affordance and guidance on where & how
- Responsive: acknowledge users' action with feedback
- Clear conceptual models: clear association between users' action and consequences

> slide to unlock

See more in (Saffer, 2009) and (Norman, Interactions '10)

Gesture design process

- Stock: generic set used by many applications
 - Recognizers provided by the toolkits
 - Potential reuse; no additional learning
- **Designed** by experts
 - Easy to tune the recognizers
- Elicited from a representative group of users
 - Better match user's needs and expectation
- User-defined: let each end-user create her own gesture set
 - Good for expert users or users with disabilities



Windows Vista Pen Gestures

Gesture elicitation

- Recruit participants from representative users
- Show the results of the action (referent)
- Ask participants to produce a gesture that come to their mind for that referent
- Calculate agreement rate
- Choose the gestures that have high agreement rate

Method proposed in (Wobbrock et al., CHI '05) Example: surface gesture elicitation in (Wobbrock et al., CHI '09) Further refined in (Vatavu & Wobbrock, CHI '15)

Method

Elicitation setting

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Referent:

- State before & after
- Action description

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Increase

Action area

Video: (Grijincu, ITS '14)

Agreement rate

The number of pairs of participants in agreement with each other divided by the total number of pairs of participants that could be in agreement.

$$\mathcal{AR}(r) = \frac{\sum_{P_i \subseteq P} \binom{|P_i|}{2}}{\binom{|P|}{2}} = \frac{\sum_{P_i \subseteq P} \frac{1}{2} |P_i| \left(|P_i| - 1\right)}{\frac{1}{2} |P| \left(|P| - 1\right)}$$

P is set of all proposals for the referent r|P| is the size of the set P P_i are subsets of identical proposals from P

Agreement rate

Example: Responding to one referent, five participants produces two gestures: (A, B). Connected pairs represents how two participants performed the same gesture.



In-class exercise

$$\mathcal{AR}(r) = \frac{\sum_{P_i \subseteq P} \frac{1}{2} |P_i| (|P_i| - 1)}{\frac{1}{2} |P| (|P| - 1)}$$

Calculate agreement rate from the result of a gesture elicitation below Referent: "Enlarge" 20 participants



Agreement



Agreement rating can be used to decide action sets for gestures

Taxonomies of gestures

- Classifications of gestures according to defined dimensions
- Allows designers to
 - Compare gestures
 - Explore design alternatives
 - Analyze common properties
 - Describe gestural system capabilities
- Multiple taxonomies exist for different purposes
- Also known as **design space** (see: DIS2)

A taxonomy of hands-to-arm gesture http://udigesturesdataset.cs.st-andrews.ac.uk/



Comparing gestures

- Global measures
 - Total path length
 - Articulation time
- Relative accuracy measures: compare gesture articulation with task axis as it unfolds

Pependent Variablent

Relative accuracy measures



Relative accuracy measures

- Geometric accuracy: shape, size, and bending
- Kinematic accuracy: time (how fluent)
- Articulation accuracy: consistency
 - Stroke count



Geometric accuracy: shape error

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left\| p_{\sigma(i)} - \overline{p}_i \right\|$$



Higher shape error

Kinematic accuracy: time error

 $|\mathcal{T}(p) - \mathcal{T}(\overline{p})|$



(Vatavu et al., ICMI '13)

Gesture guidance and feedback

- Feedforward: provide information before execution or completion
 - Gesture's shape
 - Associating command
- Feedback: provide low-level information about the recognition process
- Can be combined



OctoPocus: feedforward and feedback for stroke gestures

(Bau & Mackay, UIST '08)



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Send



Adaptive feedback: static guide, removed partway through

























Sensors

- Data sources:
 - Accelerometer & gyroscope
 - Vision
 - Muscle
 - Touch screen
- Data types:
 - Time series
 - Point coordinates

Not covered in the lecture = Not in the exam

A HAR



Video: http://wisee.cs.washington.edu/

WiSee use wifi signals for gesture recognition

(Pu et al., Mobicom '13)

Recognition: template matching

\$P recognizer



Software & online demo: https://depts.washington.edu/aimgroup/proj/dollar/

(Vatavu et al., ICMI '12)

Recognition: machine learning



Ready-to-use Gesture Recognition Toolkit: http://www.nickgillian.com/software/grt

Atra

(Gillian & Paradiso, JNL Machine Learning Research, 2014)



Zensors: hybrid crowd sourcing and machine learning

(Laput et al., CHI '15)

Zensors architecture



TTC?

Figure 1. Zensors architecture. A bartender repurposes a tablet as a sensor host, affixing it to the wall behind the bar (A). Using the live view from the front facing camera, he selects a region of the scene and asks, "how many glasses need a refill?" (B). Periodically, the device takes snapshots, and forwards this data to a dispatcher (C). Initially, the dispatcher uses crowd workers to power the sensor, providing immediate human-level accuracy (D). In the background, answers from the crowd train a computer-vision-based, machine learning classifier (E). As it approaches crowd-level accuracy, the 42system employs a hybrid crowd-ML scheme to power the sensor stream. Sensor output can drive end-user applications, such as a real time visualizer (F, left) or event-based end-user programmable system (F, right). (Laput et al., CHI '15)

Summary

- Design principles for gestural systems
- Gesture elicitation and taxonomy
- Gesture accuracy measures
- Gesture guidance and learning
- Sensor data and gesture recognizers

Reading assignment: Vatavu et al. "Relative accuracy measures for stroke gestures." ICMI '13.

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