Human-Robot Interaction

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Human-Robot Interaction Topics

Awareness of humans

- Person tracking
- Face detection; gaze tracking
- Face recognition
- Human's "perspective" considerations

Gesture recognition

- pointing
- hand motions

Social interaction

- Gaze as indicator of attention
- Facial expressions (e.g., Kismet)
- Sound effects (R2D2, AIBO) vs. speech
- Use of displays (Looking Glass project)

Awareness 1: Person Tracking

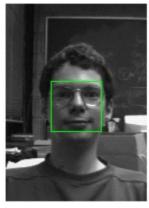
- Be aware of human presence
 - Follow a human (robot assistant)
 - Avoid the humans
 - Interact with humans (museum tour guide robots)
- Use skin color; look for legs (rangefinder); etc.

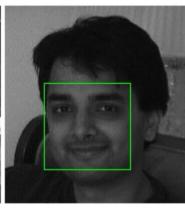


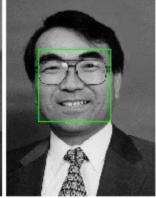


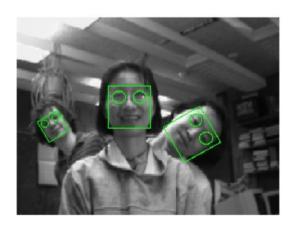
Awareness 2: Face Detection

• Rowley, Baluja, and Kanade (1998) used a neural net:









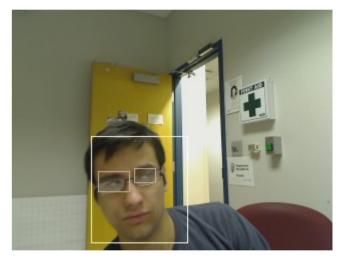
(movie)

OpenCV Face Detector

 Ilya Matiach ported the OpenCV face detector to Tekkotsu in 2009 to run on the Chiara.







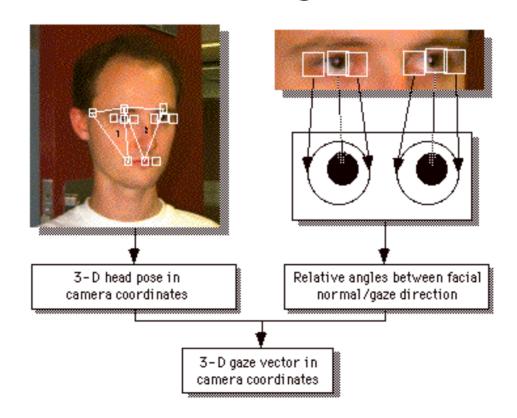
• For more information:

http://opencv.willowgarage.com/wiki/FaceDetection

Digital cameras now do face and smile detection.

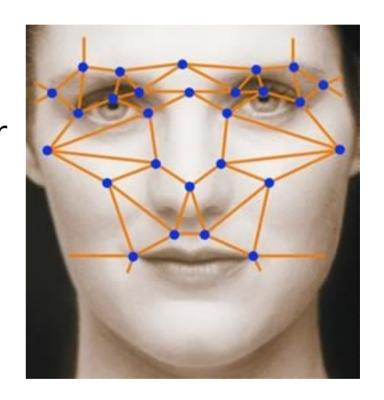
Awareness 3: Gaze Tracking

- What is the human looking at?
- Gaze has high social significance among primates.
- For robots, hard to measure gaze at a distance.



Awareness 4: Face Recognition

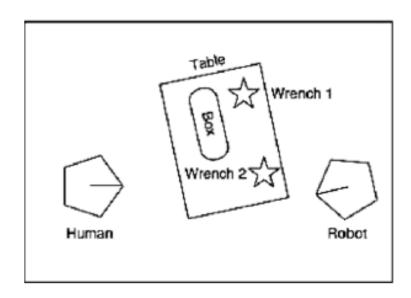
- Which human is this?
- Lots of work in this area now for security applications.
- Sony's AIBO, QRIO robots had face recognition modules.



Awareness 5: The Human's Perspective

- What can the human see from his present location?
- Trafton et al.: "Give me the wrench."
- Robot sees two wrenches, but knows that the human can only see one.





Gesture Recognition

Pointing

- Point at objects to designate them to the robot
- Point in a direction, or towards a goal location

Hand gestures

- "Come here" / "Come closer" / "Back off"
- "Stop"
- "Put that there"

Social Interaction

- Do robots need heads?
- What are heads used for?
 - Indicate focus of attention by gaze direction



DARPA Little Dog

- Gestures such as nodding agreement
- Anthropomorphism makes robots more acceptable to humans
- Headless robots are creepy.

Facial Expressions: Kismet

• Cynthia Breazeal, ca. 1999-2000











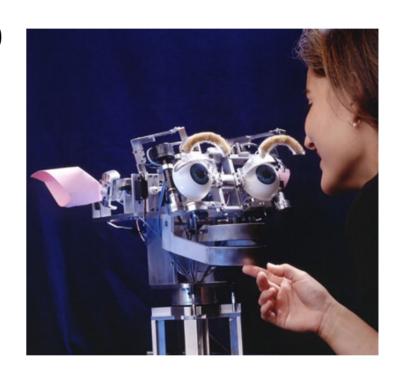


Disgust



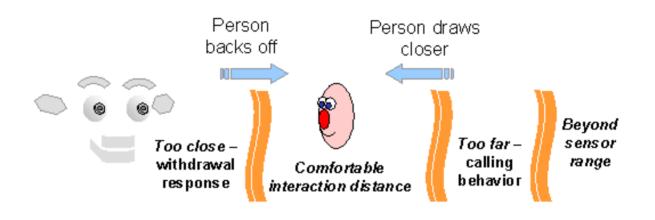


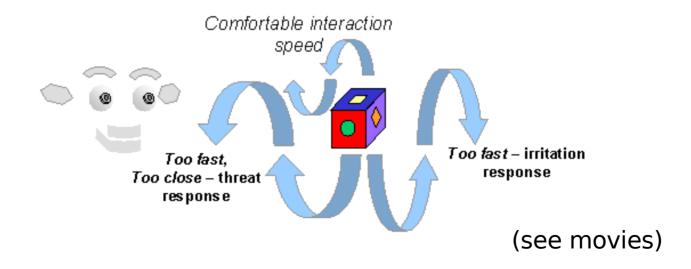
Surprise



http://www.ai.mit.edu/projects/sociable/facial-expression.html

Kismet Social Interactions





Communicating with Humans

- Should robots talk?
 - R2D2 used sound effects to convey emotion
 - AIBO and Kismet do likewise
- Use of canned messages:
 - "Excuse me, you're blocking my path."
 - Roboceptionist: "How may I help you?"
- Will people expect to be able to talk back?
 - Voice recognition gets harder when the robot is noisy.
- Use of lights to communicate status, mood.

Speech in Tekotsu

SpeechNode(\$, "Take me to your leader!")

Speech in Tekotsu

#include "Sound/SoundManager.h"

sndman->speak("Please charge my battery.");

Tekkotsu uses the Mary text-to-speech system:

http://mary.dfki.de

Communication via a Detached Display

- AIBO's Magic Looking Glass (Kirtane & Libby, 2005)
- Question: how can you use a robot-controlled flat-panel display to mediate human-robot interactions?







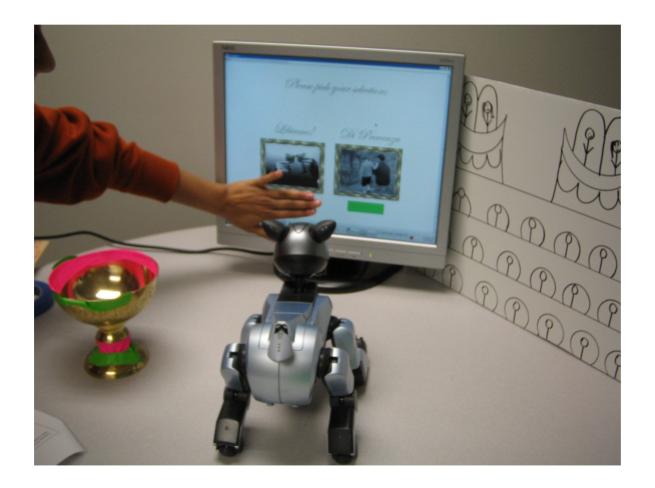


Looking Glass Applications

- Display instructions for a game.
- Keep score.
- Display a landmark the robot can use for navigation.
- Display robot's view of the world.
- Serve as a backdrop for a dramatic presentation:
 - Display background scenery
 - Display objects the robot is talking about
 - Display another agent the robot can interact with

Display as Input Device

User points at display to indicate their choice.



La Traviata



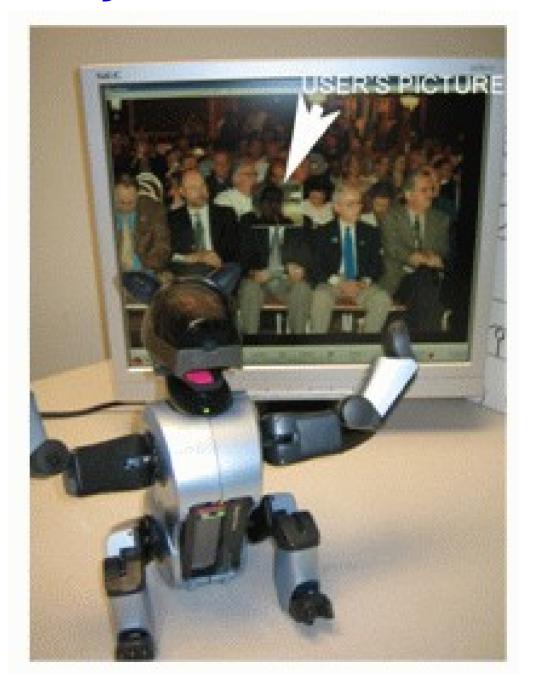
Virtual Violetta



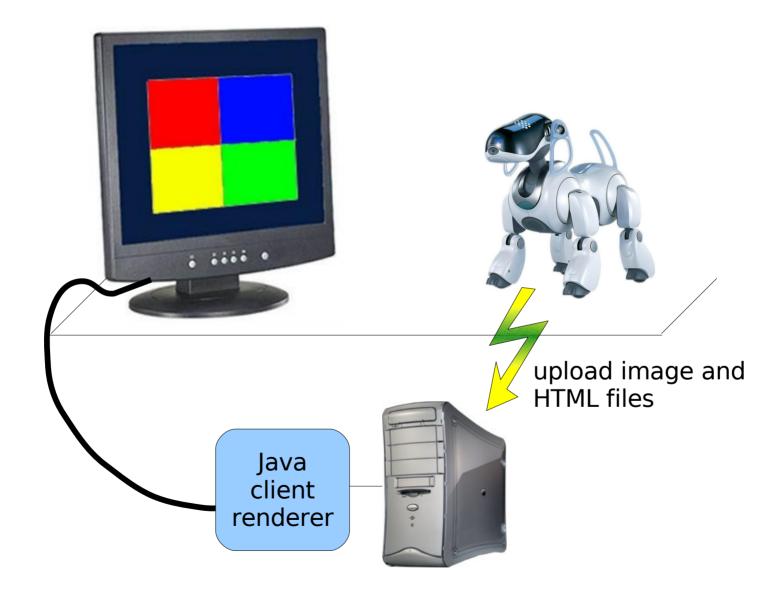
(movie)

A Visual Joke

At the end of the performance, the user's picture is inserted into an audience shot.



How Looking Glass Works



Looking Glass Example

```
#include "Behaviors/StateMachine.h"
$nodeclass LGdemo : StateNode {
    $nodeclass DisplayMessage : LGNode : doStart {
        displayHtmlText("<html><body>Hello world!</body></html>");
    }
    $setupmachine{
        StateNode =B(GreenButOffset)=> DisplayMessage
}
REGISTER_BEHAVIOR(LGdemo);
```

Looking Glass Functions

- uploadFile(string filename)
- displayHtmlFile(string remoteFilename)
- displayImageFile(string remoteFilename)
- displayHtmlText(string text)
- uploadCameralmage(string remoteFilename)
- uploadSketch(Sketch<uchar> sketch, string remoteFilename)