# Semantically Consistent Human Motion Segmentation

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### Presentation Outline

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- Our purpose of motion segmentation
- How our method works
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## 3D Human Motion Capture and Representation

#### • Employment

- Motion simulation and exposition avatar graphics
- Content-based retrieval in motion databases
- Biomechanical analysis detection of gait disorders, rehabilitation



- 3D data capturable via Microsoft Kinect or on-body sensors
- Human motion in the form of a sequence of body poses
- Pose characterised by 3D coordinates of selected body points and time
- Various extractable features
  - Joint angles, angular velocity, acceleration
  - Joint relative distances
  - Relational features

## Key poses

- Not all poses are important for us
- We detect key poses the poses of interest
- Key pose selection according to the purpose



- Purposes
  - Summarization and compression of motion data
  - Motion retrieval
  - Motion sequence segmentation
- Relevant approaches to key-pose detection Assa, Gong, Xiao

#### Assa

Assa - based on curve averaging

- Pose described skeletal joints and their associated aspects: (1) positions, (2) angles, (3) velocity, (4) angular velocity
- $f_t^a$  value of aspect a at time t
- High-dimensional curve  $f^a_t$  (4×#joints) is reduced by RMDS algorithm to a curve C(t) of 5-8 dimensions
- Point t in C(t) is projected onto a predefined average curve  $\overline{C}(t)$
- $r_t = |C(t) \overline{C}(t)|$  distance at time t
- Iterative key-pose detection algorithm:
  - 1. Find pose index t of maximum  $r_t$
  - 2. Mark the *t*-th pose as key pose
  - 3. Modify  $\overline{C}(t)$  to touch C(t)



# Gong

Gong - based on local-motion energy extremes

- Human model consists of 12 limb bones
- Motion features in form of limb bone axis rotations
- $\theta_t^{l,a}$  angle between limb bone l and axis a at time t
- 36-dimensional pose P<sub>t</sub>:

$$[\cos(\theta_t^{1,x}), \cos(\theta_t^{1,y}), \cos(\theta_t^{1,z}), \dots, \cos(\theta_t^{12,x}), \cos(\theta_t^{12,y}), \cos(\theta_t^{12,z})]]$$

• Local-motion energy in pose at time  $\boldsymbol{t}$ 

$$E_t = |P_t - P_{t-1}|^2$$

• Key poses are the poses  $P_t$  of locally extremal  $E_t$ 

### Xiao

Xiao - based on curve simplification

- Human model consists of 8 limb bones
- Motion features in form of limb bone angles
- $\bullet \ \theta_t^l$  angle between limb bone l and central bone at time t
- 8-dimensional pose P<sub>t</sub>:

$$[\theta_t^1,\ldots,\theta_t^8]$$

- Key-pose candidates are the poses where any  $\theta_t^l$  is locally extremal
- Curve is constructed to enclose the key-pose candidates
- LCS (similar to SCS) is applied to this curve to refine key poses

## Our Purpose of Motion Segmentation

Our purpose: motion retrieval

- Pose-level indexing inefficient
- Segment-level indexing
  - Both motion database and query are segmented
  - Segments can be separately analysed, indexed, clustered, or compared
  - Query is searched in the database as a sequence of motion segments
  - Semantic consistency key poses at semantically equivalent phases



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Our - based on changes in body point trajectories

- Database: HDM05 Motion Capture Database University of Bonn
- Two major steps:
  - 1. Feature extraction
  - 2. Pose energy curve construction and analysis
- 1. Feature extraction
  - Relative distances of selected body point pairs:
    - 1. left hand and right hand
    - 2. left hand and left foot
    - 3. right hand and right foot
    - 4. left knee and right knee
    - 5. left foot and right foot
  - Motion sequence of poses  $\mathcal{M} = (\mathcal{P}_1, \dots, \mathcal{P}_n)$
  - ullet Pose configuration of features in time  $\mathcal{P}_t = (f_t^1, \dots, f_t^5)$
  - $f_t^p$  relative distance of *p*-th body point pair at time *t*

### How Our Method Works

- 2. Pose energy curve construction and analysis
  - Energy is determined by pose neighbourhood of radius  $\epsilon$
  - Feature energy of each feature  $f_t^p$  at pose  $P_t$  is calculated as

$$E_{feature}(f_t^p) = \sum_{t'=t-\epsilon}^{t+\epsilon} \left( f_t^p - f_{t'}^p \right)$$



• Pose energy of each pose  $P_t$  is calculated as

$$E_{pose}(P_t) = \sum_{p=1}^{5} |E_{feature}(f_t^p)|$$

## How Our Method Works

• Pose-energy curve is constructed by concatenating the pose-energy values through the processed motion in chronological order



• Local maxima greater than a  $\tau$  threshold of this curve are identified as key poses

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### Results

We have:

- Extracted body point distances as motion features
- Manually defined ground truth over 11 motion sequences
- Implemented and tested all methods our, Assa, Gong, Xiao

Evaluation results:

• Evaluation against ground truth: hit within 10-pose neighbourhood



#### Results

• Evaluation of semantic consistency of all methods



Thank you for attention.

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W. Gong, A.D. Bagdanov, F.X. Roca, J. Gonzàlez, Automatic Key Pose Selection for 3D Human Action Recognition, AMDO 2010.

J. Xiao, Y. Zhuang, T. Yang, and F. Wu, An Efficient Keyframe Extraction from Motion Capture Data, CGI 2006.