

Motion Capture Data

Similarity | Classification

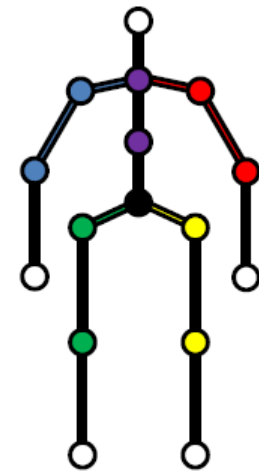
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03/2015

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Introduction

Motion Capture (MOCAP) Data

*Digital approximation of motions carried out by **observed subjects** that are **captured** for further **inspection and applications**.*

- **Digital approximation** - (x, y, z) coordinate for each tracked joint and each frame (<120fps)
- **Motions** such as gait (walking), facial expression, interactions, whole-body actions
- **Observed subjects** are so far commonly individual humans
- **Captured by** devices based on various technologies (Kinect, OptiTrack, xSens, ...)
- **Inspected** for analysis, action detection, action recognition, classification, reconstruction
- **Applications** in medicine, sports, security, entertainment (movies, games), robotics ...

General challenges

- Too much information on input (**complexity**)
 - High cost of processing the original data (**efficiency**)
 - Feature extraction and dimension reduction (**effectivity**)
 - Various scenarios, various lengths of motions, various data sets (**adaptability**)
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- **Applications are highly scenario-dependant**
no general definition of MOCAP data similarity
no accepted universal solution for action recognition or classification

Motion Data Classification

Identifying a category/categories of observed instance on the basis of observations whose category membership is known.

Challenges

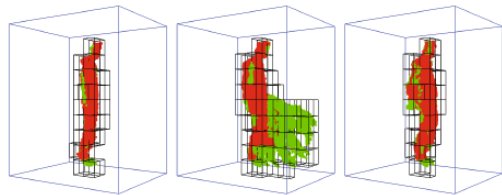


- Different actions are performed differently by different actors
- Scope ranging from microgestures (mimics) to complex exercises (dancing)
- Relative vs absolute moves (jog vs jog on place)
- Rotation of actor (run vs run in circle)
- Various frame rates, body sizes, data quality, number of tracked joints, ...

Classification approaches

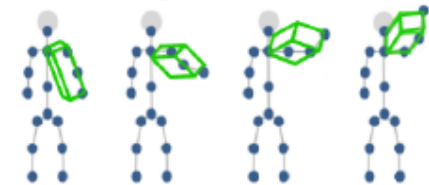
Features (generally simple)

relative distances or angles between joints, most informative joints, velocity changes, absolute coordinates, space-time occupancy, skeletal quads, covariance of 3D Joints, flexible dictionary of action primitives, ...



combined with

Training Skeletal Quads



Classifier (generally complex)

Distance Based: Dynamic Time Warping, k-NN, ... **and Machine learning based:** Support Vector Machines, Neural Networks, Hidden Markov Models, Boltzman machines, ...

Our approach – Main idea

1) Find effective transformation from (dynamic) motion capture data into (static) images.

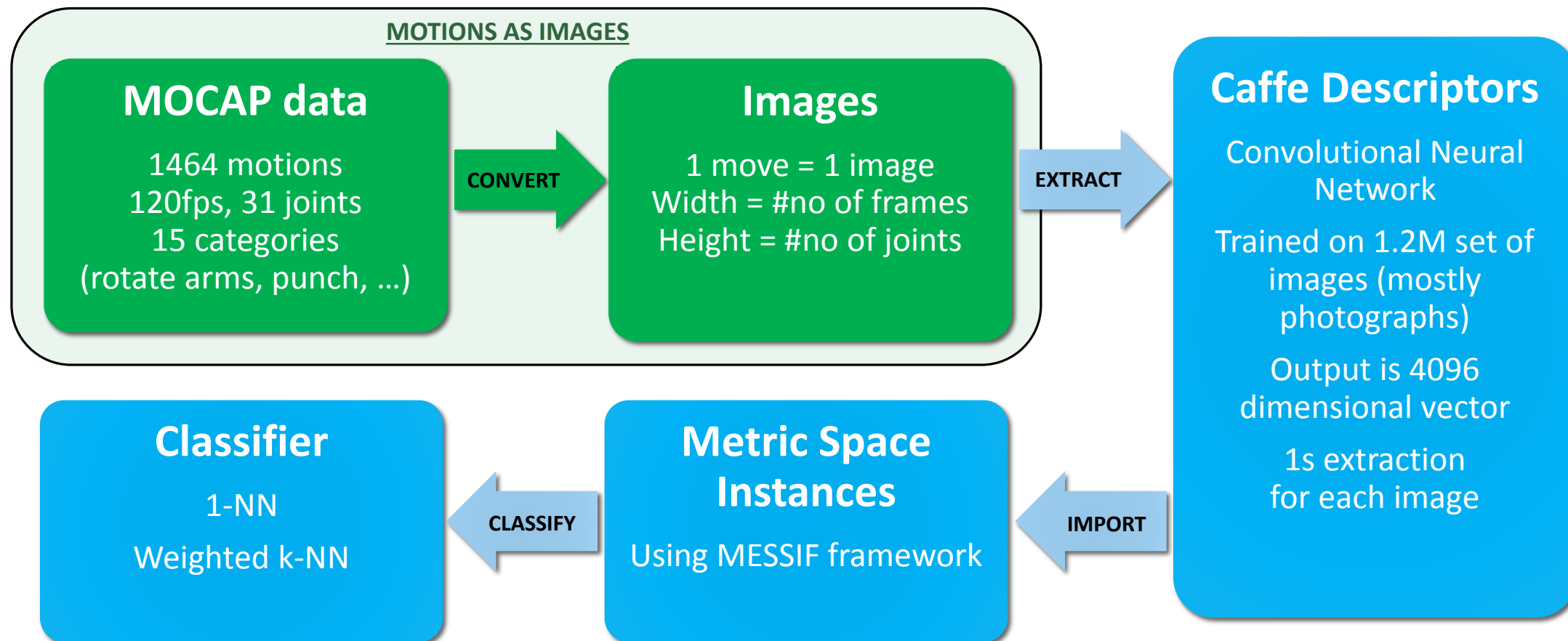


2) Classify image based on their visual similarity to others based on known approaches (k-NN classifier on Caffe descriptors)

Our approach - Motivation

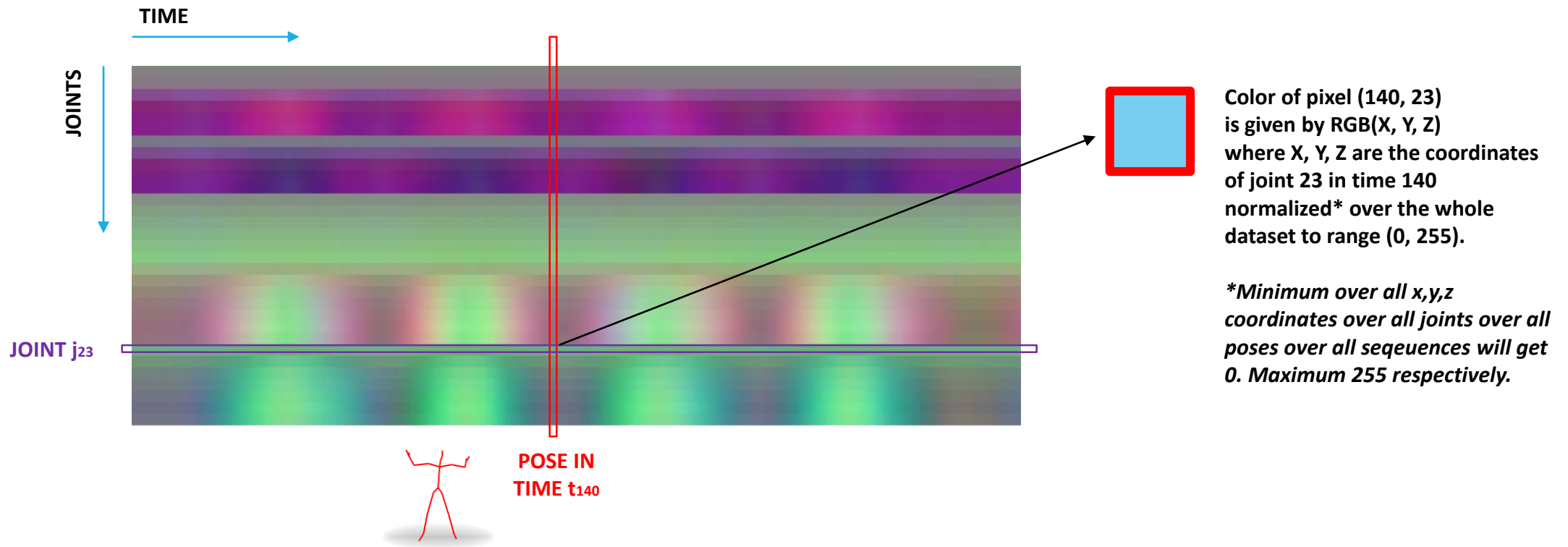
- **Visualization** of motion data provides humans with **better understanding** compared to set of high-dimensional vectors
- **Comparing** visual similarity of **images is a known concept** nowadays - it achieves high precision and many techniques might be employed
- Instead of finding complex solution to a problem sometime it is easier to **reduce the problem** into another problem that **already has known solution**
- **Universality** (scenario independance) of this approach - by selecting a proper transformation function that **visually** differentiates target classification categories

Our approach - Process

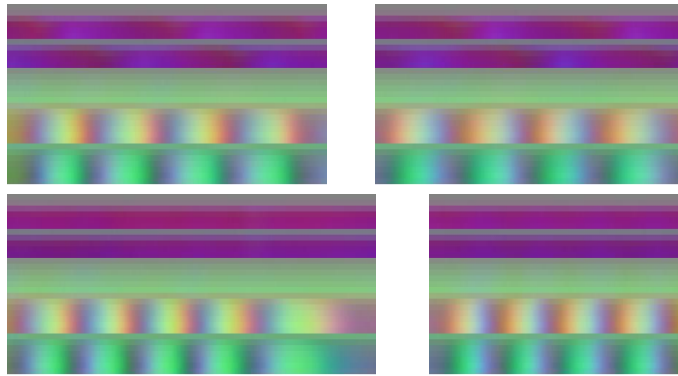


Our approach – Motions as Images

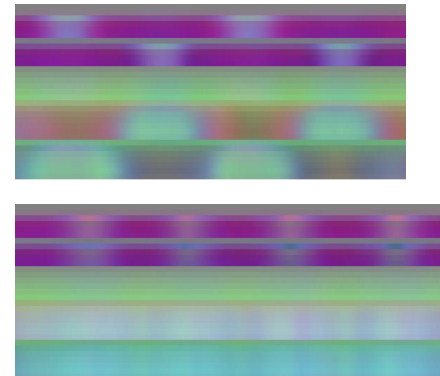
Every motion is a time series of (x, y, z) coordinates of all tracked joints.



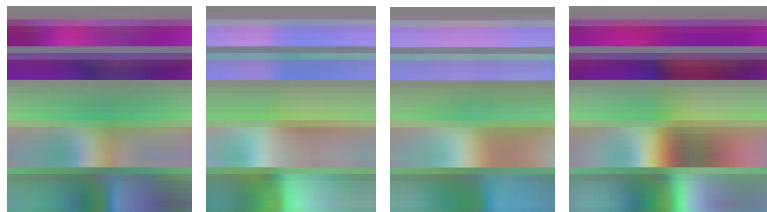
Our approach – Motions as images



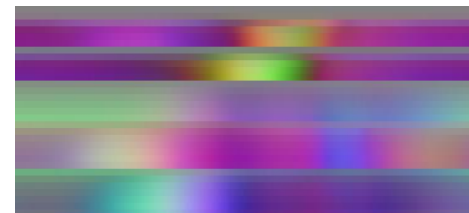
Rotate arms



Exercise



Throw right hand



Cartwheel



Kick

Our approach - Challenges

- Notion of time
 - Various speed of performances
 - Various lengths of actions
- Normalization
 - Initial rotation of subject (rotate by hips, first frame, all frames)
 - Centering in space (put root joint in (0,0,0), first frame, all frames)
 - Human skeleton size (infant vs adult, bones size normalization)
 - Range normalization (into RGB or other target space)
- Segmentation
- Action recognition in longer sequences

Normalization

I. Pose centering

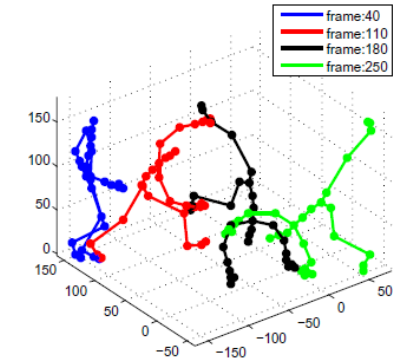
Root joint to (0, 0, 0)

II. Pose rotation by angle φ

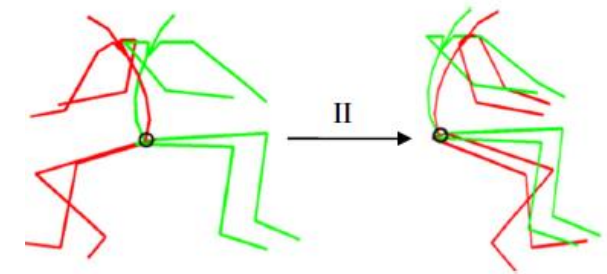
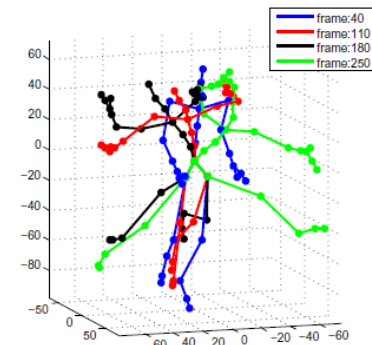
Rotation along y-axis by angle φ is determined as an angle between z-axis and straight line connecting left and right hip in a y-projected 2D space (x,z)

III. Coordinates values normalization

Reduction to desired range such as RGB or (0, 1)



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Results – confusion matrix

hdm05 | 1464 moves | 15 categories | 2-NN based classification | 93.17% precision

ID	MOVE	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	#Ns
1	cartwheel	100															6
2	grabDepR		96		4												105
3	kick			98	2												49
4	move		0,2		93		2				0,5					4	430
5	punch					100											48
6	rotateArms				11		89										46
7	sitLieDown		2		2			95									43
8	standUp				2				95							2	43
9	throwR				4					96							23
10	jump				12						84	4					25
11	hopOneLeg				6							94					18
12	neutral												83	1		16	75
13	tpose								1				2	98			198
14	exercise				11						5				84		19
15	turn		0,3		2								7			91	336

Other approaches comparison

Action	N_s	N_f	pos	pw	cen	key							
rotateArmsLBack	16	1725	93.8	93.8	43.8	100							
rotateArmsRBack	16	1685	100	56.3	43.8	100							
sitDownChair (2)	20	6377	90.0	70.0	100	90							
sitDownFloor (3)	20	8154	95.0	100	80.0	100							
sitDownKnTS(10)	17	10978	100	100	100	100							
sitDownTable	20	5411	85.0	60.0	35.0	85.0							
skierLstart	30	4240	100	100	90.0	100							
squat (8)	13	7619	100	100	100	100							
staircaseDownRS	15	3338	100	100	86.7	100							
standUpKnTS (9)	17	3094	100	100	82.4	100							
standUpSitChair	20	5919	90.0	85.0	100	100							
standUpSitFloor	20	8060	90.0	100	95.0	95.0							
standUpSitTable	20	5000	85.0	65.0	30.0	70.0							
throwBasketball	14	5710	78.6	92.9	0	78.6							
throwSitHighR	14	4192	100	100	78.6	100							
throwStandingLR	14	4957	100	85.7	0	100							
turnLeft	30	5882	76.7	43.3	40.0	80.0							
turnRight	30	5908	93.3	86.7	70.0	86.7							
walkLstart	31	4818	96.8	93.6	83.9	96.8							
walkRightCrossF	16	5369	100	100	93.8	100							
Average			92.7	86.5	66.9	91.1							

Luo, J., Wang, W., & Qi, H. (2014). Spatio-Temporal Feature Extraction and Representation for RGB-D Human Action Recognition. *Pattern Recognition Letters*. doi:10.1016/j.patrec.2014.03.024

Summary

Advantages

- Difference between motions can be observed directly by visual comparison
- Interesting approach combining known technologies to solve challenging problem
- Potential for scenario independent solution
- Sub motion and repetitive action recognition using NN
- Quite robust and tolerant to various lengths (even 50x resized images still obtain similar precision)

Disadvantages

- No solution for segmentation
- Not suitable for online action recognition
- Computationally and time demanding computing of image descriptors (order of minutes)

Future work

- Action recognition based on segmentation
- Motion classification using Convolutional Neural Network trained on subset of motion images or better Convolutional Neural Network trained on MOCAP data
- Comparison with DTW approach (centered, rotated, normalized poses)
- Optimize the speed of feature extraction – Caffe descriptor is a current bottleneck

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