Variable Viewpoint Reality

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The BIG picture: User selected viewing of sporting events.





- show me that play from the viewpoint of the goalie
- •... from the viewpoint of the ball
- •... from a viewpoint along the sideline
- what offensive plays does Brazil run from this formation
- how often has Italy had possession in the offensive zone

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The BIG picture: User selected viewing of sporting events.



- Let me see my son's motion from the following viewpoint
- Let me see what has changed in his motion in the past year
- Show me his swing now and a week ago
- How often does he swing at pitches low and away
- What is his normal sequence of pitches with men on base and less than 2 outs

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A wish list of capabilities



- Construct a system that will allow each/every user to observe any viewpoint of a sporting event.
- Provide high level commentary/statistics

 analyze plays

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A wish list of capabilities



- Search databases for similar events
- Recover human dynamics

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VVR Spectator Environment

- Build an exciting, fun, high-profile system
 - Sports: Soccer, Hockey, Tennis, Basketball, Baseball
 - Drama, Dance, Ballet
- Leverage MIT technology in:
 - Vision/Video Analysis
 - Tracking, Calibration, Action Recognition
 - Image/Video Databases
 - Graphics
- Build a system that provides data available nowhere else...
 - Record/Study Human movements and actions
 - Motion Capture / Motion Generation





Window of Opportunity

- 20-50 cameras in a stadium – Soon there will be many more
- US HDTV is digital
 - Flexible, very high bandwidth digital transmissions
- Future Televisions will be Computers
 - Plenty of extra computation available
 - 3D Graphics hardware will be integrated
- Economics of sports
 - Dollar investments by broadcasters is huge (Billions)
- Computation is getting cheaper

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For example ...



Computed using a single view...

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ViewCube: Reconstructing action & movement



- Twelve cameras, computers, digitizers
- Parallel software for real-time processing

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The View from ViewCube



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MIT AI Lab

Multi-camera Movie

Robust adaptive tracker



Examples of tracking moving objects

• Example of tracking results



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Dynamic calibration







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Multi-camera coordination





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Mapping patterns to groundplane



MIT AI Lab

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Projecting Silhouettes to form 3D Models

Real-time 3D Reconstruction is computed by intersecting silhouettes



3D Reconstruction Movie

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First 3D reconstructions ...



3D Movement Reconstruction Movie

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A more detailed reconstruction...



Model

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Finding an articulate human body



Automatically generated result:



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Analyzing Human Motion

- Key Difficulty: Complex Time Trajectories Complex Inter-dependencies
- Our Approach: Multi-scale statistical models





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Detect Regularities & Anomalies in Events?



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Example track patterns

- Running continuously for almost 3 years
 - during snow, wind, rain, dark of night, ...
 - have processed 1 Billion images
- one can observe patterns over space and over time
- have a machine learning method that detects patterns automatically



Automatic activity classification



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Example categories of patterns

• Video of sorted activities



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Analyzing event sequences



... and this works for other problems

- Sporting events
- Eldercare monitoring
- Disease progression tracking
 - Parkinson's
- ... anything else that involves capturing, archiving, recognizing and reconstructing events!

