# Why do we want to capture the motions?

Does the galloping horse ever lifts all four feet completely off the ground? Eadweard Muybridge



#### What is Mocap?

- Motion capture (mocap) is sampling and recording motion of humans, animals, and inanimate objects as 3D data.
- The data can be used to study motion or to give an illusion of life to 3D computer models.



#### Applications

Entertainment

Arts/ Education

Science/ Engineering

Medicine / Sports

#### Entertainment: Live Action Films

 Computer generated characters in live action films (e.g Star Wars Prequels The Lord of the Rings, King Kong Pirates of Caribbean)



#### Entertainment: 3D computer animations

 Characters in computer animated files (e.g. Polar Express, Monster House)





#### Entertainment: Video Games

 Video games by Electronic Arts, Gremlin, id, RARE, Square, Konami, Namco, and others, (e.g. Enemy Territory, Devil May Cry)



# Arts / Education

#### Dance, music and theatrical performances



# Science / Engineering

Computer Science (e.g., human motion database, indexing, recognitions)

Engineering (e.g., robot developments)



# Medicine / Sports

Medicine (e.g., gait analysis, rehabilitation)
 Sports (e.g. injury prevention, performance analyses, performance enhancement)





What lifting kinematics (techniques) can minimize mechanical stress on the low back?



Pitching can lead to stress injuries of the elbow and shoulder joints. What pitching technique characteristics minimize the mechanical stresses to these joints?





Lateral COM position (cm)



#### Differences between athletes and novice athletes



Momentum builds with each body movement causing the kinetic energy of the ball to increase and reach a peak at the release point. The release point is where the hand reaches maximum velocity.

#### Dynamics of the Shoulder and Elbow Joints of the Throwing Arm During a Baseball Pitch



Figure 9 — (a) Shoulder angular displacements, and (b) angular velocities: internal/external rotation (solid curve); abduction/adduction (dashed curve); horizontal abduction/adduction (dotted curve). The three vertical lines represent instants of stride foot contact (SFC), maximum external rotation (MER), and ball release (REL), respectively. The side view (Y<sub>1</sub> vs Z<sub>1</sub>) stick figures shown at top represent positions of the subject at 0.05 s intervals. The crosses indicate joints on right side of body.

#### A kinematic study of the upper-limb motion of wheelchair basketball shooting in tetraplegic adults





#### Figure 4.

Average (±SD) angular velocity changes for three joints: shoulder abduction/adduction (a), elbow extension/flexion (b) and wrist extension/flexion (c). Two thick lines (solid and broken) synchronized with moment of release (t = 0 ms) show changes of average values for tetraplegic and able-bodied subjects, and "shows significant difference (p < 0.01) between the two groups.



## Kinematic Analysis of Volleyball Spiking Maneuver



Figure 2: Earlier peak pelvic angular velocity was positively correlated with higher ball speed.



Figure 3: Peak shoulder external rotation was positively correlated with higher ball speed.



#### Grasping patients with brain damage



V.K: patient L.K. and B.S: healthy participants

#### Grasping and Brain Grasparatus а Gaze Brace Head coil Arm brace C Precision grip Grasping Whole-hand prehension



Heavy and light balls

• Which one needs a larger grip?

Open eyes and closed eyes?

#### kinematics in autism



# kinematics in autism



# Cognitive perception of the movement



#### Perception of biological motion



# chi è e cosa fa?



# **Functional Neuroanatomy of Biological** Motion Perception in Humans



# VICON components

#### Retro-reflective markers



- MX-F40 cameras
  - high resolution (4 Megapixel)
  - high speed (370Hz)
  - tuned for detecting IR light



- MX Ultranet hardware
  - receives raw point information from cameras



Host computer

#### VICON Nexus workflow



#### Nexus 4-steps working process

1. System preparation

1.1 Where? (capturing volume & cameras) 1.2 How? (relationship between them) 2. Subject preparation 2.1 Where? (placement of markers) 2.2 How? (relationship between them) 3. Performing a capture

4. Checking & output the data

## 1. System preparation

- 1.1 Where? (capturing volume & cameras)
  - Define capturing volume
    - Remove the possible noise (unwanted reflections)
  - Optimize the camera position & settings
  - Cover the capturing volume as much as possible
  - Threshold & intensity of each camera
- **1.2 How?** (relationship between them)
  - Camera calibration
- Dynamic calibration: define where cameras are in space with respect to each other
- Static calibration: set the origin & direction of 3-axes

# 2. Subject preparation

#### 2.1 Where?

- Attachment of markers as needed

#### 2.2 How?

- Set subject model
- Subject capture
  - Label markers & define segments + joints
  - Subject calibration

# 3. Performing a capture

Click "capture"!

#### 4. Checking & output the data

- Gap filling of the capture

- Output the data for analysis

#### Camera calibration

- Dynamic: Cameras need to know where they are in space with respect to each other (for optimal 3D-reconstruction)
  - Rain dance in front of all cameras

Wave the wand making fast 3D figure-eight movements with the wand, covering the whole 3D-volume

**Static:** Definition of origin and direction of x, y and z-axes



# Subject preparation

- Somputer needs information about subject & markers
  - How markers relate to body positions
  - Occlusion

marker not seen by 2 cameras for certain period

Crossover

system confuses markers with one another

#### Attachment of Markers

- To capture the movement of the underlying skeleton
- Markers should be placed at specific and easily identified anatomical locations
- Make sure markers are fixed well and stay in position

#### Subject template & calibration

 Nexus requires a description of the generic relationship between segments-joints-markers (template)

This information identifies which markers to track and how these markers are connected to the underlying segments

Subject stands in neutral T-pose or specific pose as the starting position of the movement to be captured

#### Subject model

Creating a model

1. Display a 3D-perspective and view the unlabeled markers on the subject

2. Labeling markers, creating segments and linking segments

Using the implemented template

#### Label/Edit

Manually labeling

Gap filling
Spline fill
Pattern fill

# Pipeline

- How to process the capturing
- Outputting the data