ACM SIGGRAPH / Eurographics Symposium of Computer Animation 2024

McGill University, Montreal, Canada August 21 to August 23, 2024

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Table of Contents

Gesture and Gaze Animation

Ŭ				
	Learning to Play Guitar with Robotic Hands Chaoyi Luo, Pengbin Tang, Yuqi Ma, and Dongjin Huang	e15166		
	LLAniMAtion: LLAMA Driven Gesture Animation Jonathan Windle, Iain Matthews, and Sarah Taylor	e15167		
	Reactive Gaze during Locomotion in Natural Environments Julia K. Melgaré, Damien Rohmer, Soraia R. Musse, and Marie-Paule Cani	e15168		
C	haracter Animation I: Synthesis and Capture			
	Diffusion-based Human Motion Style Transfer with Semantic Guidance Lei Hu, Zihao Zhang, Yongjing Ye, Yiwen Xu, and Shihong Xia	e15169		
	Pose-to-Motion: Cross-Domain Motion Retargeting with Pose Prior Qingqing Zhao, Peizhuo Li, Wang Yifan, Olga Sorkine-Hornung, and Gordon Wetzstein	e15170		
	Long-term Motion In-betweening via Keyframe Prediction Seokhyeon Hong, Haemin Kim, Kyungmin Cho, and Junyong Noh	e15171		
	ADAPT: AI-Driven Artefact Purging Technique for IMU Based Motion Capture Paul Schreiner, Rasmus Netterstrøm, Hang Yin, Sune Darkner, and Kenny Erleben	e15172		
Character Animation II: Control				
	Learning to Move Like Professional Counter-Strike Players David Durst, Feng Xie, Vishnu Sarukkai, Brennan Shacklett, Iuri Frosio, Chen Tessler, Joohwan Kim, Carly Taylor, Gilbert Bernstein, Sanjiban Choudhury, Pat Hanrahan, and Kayvon Fatahalian	e15173		
	PartwiseMPC: Interactive Control of Contact-Guided Motions Niloofar Khoshsiyar, Ruiyu Gou, Tianhong Zhou, Sheldon Andrews, and Michiel van de Panne	e15174		
	VMP: Versatile Motion Priors for Robustly Tracking Motion on Physical Characters Agon Serifi, Ruben Grandia, Espen Knoop, Markus Gross, and Moritz Bächer	e15175		
Animation and Cinematography				
	SketchAnim: Real-time Sketch Animation Transfer from Videos Gaurav Rai, Shreyas Gupta, and Ojaswa Sharma	e15176		
	Creating a 3D Mesh in A-pose from a Single Image for Character Rigging Seunghwan Lee and C. Karen Liu	e15177		
	Garment Animation NeRF with Color Editing Renke Wang, Meng Zhang, Jun Li, and Jian Yang	e15178		
	Generating Flight Summaries Conforming to Cinematographic Principles Christophe Lino and Marie-Paule Cani	e15179		

Table of Contents

Physics I: Fluids, Shells, and Natural Phenomena

Reconstruction of Implicit Surfaces from Fluid Particles Using Convolutional Neural Networks Chen Zhao, Tamar Shinar, and Craig Schroeder Unerosion: Simulating Terrain Evolution Back in Time Zhanyu Yang, Guillaume Cordonnier, Marie-Paule Cani, Christian Perrenoud, and Bedrich Benes Curved Three-Director Cosserat Shells with Strong Coupling Fabian Löschner, José Antonio Fernández-Fernández, Stefan Rhys Jeske, and Jan Bender Physics II: Cutting and Colliding Generalized eXtended Finite Element Method for Deformable Cutting via Boolean Operations Quoc-Minh Ton-That, Paul G. Kry, and Sheldon Andrews Strongly Coupled Simulation of Magnetic Rigid Bodies Lukas Westhofen, José Antonio Fernández-Fernández, Stefan Rhys Jeske, and Jan Bender		Multiphase Viscoelastic Non-Newtonian Fluid Simulation Yalan Zhang, Shen Long, Yanrui Xu, Xiaokun Wang, Chao Yao, Jiri Kosinka, Steffen Frey, Alexandru Telea, and Xiaojuan Ban	e15180
Unerosion: Simulating Terrain Evolution Back in Time Zhanyu Yang, Guillaume Cordonnier, Marie-Paule Cani, Christian Perrenoud, and Bedrich Benes Curved Three-Director Cosserat Shells with Strong Coupling Fabian Löschner, José Antonio Fernández-Fernández, Stefan Rhys Jeske, and Jan Bender Physics II: Cutting and Colliding Generalized eXtended Finite Element Method for Deformable Cutting via Boolean Operations Quoc-Minh Ton-That, Paul G. Kry, and Sheldon Andrews Strongly Coupled Simulation of Magnetic Rigid Bodies e15185		works	e15181
Zhanyu Yang, Guillaume Cordonnier, Marie-Paule Cani, Christian Perrenoud, and Bedrich Benes **Curved Three-Director Cosserat Shells with Strong Coupling** Fabian Löschner, José Antonio Fernández-Fernández, Stefan Rhys Jeske, and Jan Bender **Physics II: Cutting and Colliding** **Generalized eXtended Finite Element Method for Deformable Cutting via Boolean Operations** Quoc-Minh Ton-That, Paul G. Kry, and Sheldon Andrews **Strongly Coupled Simulation of Magnetic Rigid Bodies** **e15185**		Chen Zhao, Tamar Shinar, and Craig Schroeder	
Fabian Löschner, José Antonio Fernández-Fernández, Stefan Rhys Jeske, and Jan Bender Physics II: Cutting and Colliding Generalized eXtended Finite Element Method for Deformable Cutting via Boolean Operations Quoc-Minh Ton-That, Paul G. Kry, and Sheldon Andrews Strongly Coupled Simulation of Magnetic Rigid Bodies e15185		Zhanyu Yang, Guillaume Cordonnier, Marie-Paule Cani, Christian Perrenoud, and Bedrich	e15182
Generalized eXtended Finite Element Method for Deformable Cutting via Boolean Operations Quoc-Minh Ton-That, Paul G. Kry, and Sheldon Andrews Strongly Coupled Simulation of Magnetic Rigid Bodies e15185			e15183
tions Quoc-Minh Ton-That, Paul G. Kry, and Sheldon Andrews Strongly Coupled Simulation of Magnetic Rigid Bodies e15185	Ph	nysics II: Cutting and Colliding	
Strongly Coupled Simulation of Magnetic Rigid Bodies e15185		tions	e15184
		Quoc-Milli Toll-That, Paul G. Kry, and Sheldon Andrews	
A Multi-layer Solver for XPBD e15186 Alexandre Mercier-Aubin and Paul G. Kry			e15185
Robust and Artefact-Free Deformable Contact with Smooth Surface Representations e15187		Lukas Westhofen, José Antonio Fernández-Fernández, Stefan Rhys Jeske, and Jan Bender A Multi-layer Solver for XPBD	
Yinwei Du, Yue Li, Stelian Coros, and Bernhard Thomaszewski		Lukas Westhofen, José Antonio Fernández-Fernández, Stefan Rhys Jeske, and Jan Bender A Multi-layer Solver for XPBD Alexandre Mercier-Aubin and Paul G. Kry Robust and Artefact-Free Deformable Contact with Smooth Surface Representations	e15186

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Author Index

Andrews, Sheldon	e15174, e15184	Melgaré, Julia K	e15168
Ban, Xiaojuan	e15180	Mercier-Aubin, Alexandre	e15186
Bender, Jan	e15183, e15185	Musse, Soraia R	e15168
Benes, Bedrich	e15182	Netterstrøm, Rasmus	e15172
Bernstein, Gilbert	e15173	Noh, Junyong	e15171
Bächer, Moritz	e15175	Panne, Michiel van de	e15174
Cani, Marie-Paulee1516	68, e15179, e15182	Perrenoud, Christian	e15182
Cho, Kyungmin	e15171	Rai, Gaurav	e15176
Choudhury, Sanjiban	e15173	Rohmer, Damien	e15168
Cordonnier, Guillaume	e15182	Sarukkai, Vishnu	e15173
Coros, Stelian	e15187	Schreiner, Paul	e15172
Darkner, Sune	e15172	Schroeder, Craig	e15181
Du, Yinwei	e15187	Serifi, Agon	e15175
Durst, David	e15173	Shacklett, Brennan	e15173
Erleben, Kenny	e15172	Sharma, Ojaswa	e15176
Fatahalian, Kayvon	e15173	Shinar, Tamar	e15181
Fernández-Fernández, José A	e15183, e15185	Sorkine-Hornung, Olga	e15170
Frey, Steffen	e15180	Tang, Pengbin	e15166
Frosio, Iuri	e15173	Taylor, Carly	e15173
Gou, Ruiyu	e15174	Taylor, Sarah	e15167
Grandia, Ruben	e15175	Telea, Alexandru	e15180
Gross, Markus	e15175	Tessler, Chen	e15173
Gupta, Shreyas	e15176	Thomaszewski, Bernhard	e15187
Hanrahan, Pat	e15173	Ton-That, Quoc-Minh	e15184
Hong, Seokhyeon	e15171	Wang, Renke	e15178
Hu, Lei	e15169	Wang, Xiaokun	e15180
Huang, Dongjin	e15166	Westhofen, Lukas	e15185
Jeske, Stefan Rhys	e15183, e15185	Wetzstein, Gordon	e15170
Khoshsiyar, Niloofar	e15174	Windle, Jonathan	e15167
Kim, Haemin	e15171	Xia, Shihong	e15169
Kim, Joohwan	e15173	Xie, Feng	e15173
Knoop, Espen	e15175	Xu, Yanrui	e15180
Kosinka, Jiri	e15180	Xu, Yiwen	
Kry, Paul G	e15184, e15186	Yang, Jian	e15178
Lee, Seunghwan	e15177	Yang, Zhanyu	e15182
Li, Jun	e15178	Yao, Chao	
Li, Peizhuo	e15170	Ye, Yongjing	
Li, Yue		Yifan, Wang	
Lino, Christophe		Yin, Hang	e15172
Liu, C. Karen	e15177	Zhang, Meng	
Long, Shen	e15180	Zhang, Yalan	
Luo, Chaoyi	e15166	Zhang, Zihao	
Löschner, Fabian		Zhao, Chen	
Ma, Yuqi		Zhao, Qingqing	
Matthews, Iain	e15167	Zhou, Tianhong	e15174

Keynote

Liquid Content: an Exploration of the Future of Culture and Creativity

Matthieu Lorrain

Abstract

Imagine stories that shape-shift with every watch, creating a personal revolution for each viewer. Dive into the world of AI-powered storytelling that's turning culture on its head. In this talk, Matthieu will explore the concept of Liquid Content, where narratives break free from their confines, offering an endless canvas of creativity.

Biographical Note

Matthieu Lorrain is a creative and technology pioneer in the fields of digital experiences & content innovation. He is currently Creative Lead, AI & Creativity Research at Google DeepMind. He is also the co-founder of fAke Artists, a creative collective exploring the future of post-reality experiences. Matthieu Lorrain has a long history working with global brands and tech companies to invent new types of user engagement. He has been exploring creative applications of emerging technologies for the last 20 years: ranging from interactive video to connected objects, augmented reality, and artificial intelligence. His most recent work focuses on how generative AI can supercharge the creative experience. His past projects have received multiple accolades from global organizations including Emmy Awards, Cannes Lions (Gold), Clios (Gold), Webby's, Tribeca Film Festival, '#1 Product Hunt of the Day' and FWA. Matthieu is a guest lecturer at Columbia University, where he delivered the inaugural masterclass on AI & Filmmaking in 2024. He is also frequently invited as featured speaker at major conferences. He has previously spoken at Cannes Lions (3x), SXSW, Spike Asia, 4A's Createtech and the NYC Tech Forum. Born & raised in the French Alps, Matthieu has lived in Rio de Janeiro, Montreal and Paris before moving to New York City in 2011. He holds a Master's degree in Cultural Studies from Institut d'Etudes Politiques and another in Marketing & Communication from ESCP Paris Business School.

Keynote

Is Data the Only Lever for Designing Interactive Simulations?

Maud Marchal

Abstract

The design of interactive simulations has always been struggling on the trade-off between accuracy and computation time performances. These last years, the rise of data-driven approaches has paved the way for new models offering outstanding results for several use cases. Thus, if the use of data is nowadays commonly accepted for some scenarios, it often remains uncertain how, when or where data can outperform more conventional approaches for designing interactive simulations. In this talk, I will illustrate how we can combine data-driven and model-based approaches for designing interactive simulations within the context of robotics and virtual reality applications.

Biographical Note

Maud Marchal is a Full Professor in Computer Science at Univ. Rennes, INSA/IRISA in France. She is also a Junior Member of Institut Universitaire de France since 2018. She works on physics-based simulation since her PhD in 2006 at University Joseph Fourier, Grenoble. Since 2008 and her position at INSA, she has explored and contributed to novel Virtual Reality and robotics applications, gathering her expertise on haptic feedback, 3D interaction techniques and interactive physics-based simulations. She is involved in program committees of major conferences of computer graphics, virtual reality and haptics and Associate Editor of IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics, IEEE Transactions on Haptics, ACM Transactions on Applied Perception and Computers & Graphics. She has notably been Program Chair of IEEE Virtual Reality Conference in 2018, 2020 and 2021, Program Chair of IEEE Symposium on Mixed and Augmented Reality in 2021 and 2023 and General Chair of ACM SIGGRAPH/Eurographics Symposium on Computer Animation in 2018 and Eurohaptics in 2024.

Keynote

Expressive Facial Modeling and Animation

Karan Singh

Abstract

Humans are hard-wired to see and interpret minute facial detail. The rich signals we extract from facial expressions set high expectations for computer-generated facial imagery. This talk focuses on the science and art of expressive facial animation. Specifically, aspects of facial anatomy, biomechanics, linguistics and perceptual psychology will be used to motivate and describe the construction of geometric face rigs, and techniques for the animator-centric creation of emotion, expression and speech animation from input images, audio and video. In some measure the talk will reveal some of the technological innovations that enabled the design and creation of faces in games like Cyberpunk 2077 (Game of the year 2020), and films like Avatar: the way of water (Best VFX Oscar 2023).

Biographical Note

Karan Singh is a Professor of Computer Science at the University of Toronto. His research interests lie at the intersection of art, Computer Graphics (CG) and Human Computer Interaction (HCI): spanning interactive modeling and animation, visual perception, visualization and Augmented/Virtual Reality. Karan has been a research and development lead on the technical Oscar (2003) winning modeling and animation system Maya. He has co-founded multiple companies, most recently JALI Research. He was the R&D Director for the 2005 Oscar winning animated short film Ryan. His recent research in facial animation has been used on characters in AAA games like Cyberpunk 2077 and Call of Duty: Modern Warfare 2, and films like Avatar: the way of water (Best VFX Oscar 2023).