

Summer 2016 Seminar Series

ANALYZING AND MODELING MULTI-LEVEL DYNAMICS OF MULTI-MODAL BEHAVIOR IN AFFECTIVE HUMAN INTERACTIONS

MONDAY, June 13, 2016 • 10:00AM – HEC 450

The fascination of emotions has intrigued research in many diverse areas including neuroscience, engineering, psychology, and behavioral science. Human behavior, such as vocal cues, facial expressions, and body gestures, is an essential component of the intrinsic structure of emotions. Quantitatively understanding and modeling the expressive behavior of emotions can both analytically and computationally benefit the design of socially intelligent multimodal systems in a variety of applications such as healthcare, education, entertainment, and beyond.

In this talk, I will describe our efforts on computationally modeling the multimodal behavioral informatics of emotions from three perspectives: 1) developing a mathematical gesture representation that is interpretable of emotions; 2) uncovering emotional effects on the dynamic interplay across multimodal behavior; 3) predictively generating body language based on interpersonal coordination in human communication. I will conclude with the plans of my future research .

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Zhaojun Yang is a Ph.D. candidate at Signal Analysis and Interpretation Laboratory (SAIL), University of Southern California (USC). Her research lies in the intersection of Affective computing, Machine learning and Human-centered multimodal signal processing, focusing on understanding, modeling, and synthesizing human-centered behavioral informatics that relate to the affective processes underlying human interactions. She received her B.E. Degree from University of Science and Technology of China (USTC) in 2009 and M.Phil. Degree from Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) in 2011. She has been awarded the USC Annenberg Fellowship (2011 - 2015). Her paper (with S. Narayanan) has won the Best Student Paper Award at IEEE International Conference on Acoustics, Speech and Signal Processing, 2016.

Hosted by: Dr. Gary Leavens

