

ViSiCAST Meeting Report: SLN-capturing August 2000

Project Number:	IST-1999-10500
Project Title:	ViSiCAST
	Virtual Signing: Capture, Animation, Storage and Transmission
Document Type:	Meeting Report

Purpose of Meeting:	Capturing SLN for D2-1, Discussing implementation
Dates of Meeting:	August 30-September 1, 2000
Venue of Meeting:	University of East Anglia (Norwich, UK)
Work-Package(s):	WP2 (Multimedia and WWW-applications)
Participants(s):	Nuno Dionisio (UEA) Eva Safar (UEA) Ian Marshall (UEA) Kevin Parsons (UEA) John Glauert (UEA) Ralph Elliott (UEA) Sanja Rankov (Televirtual) Marie Romeijn (via IvD) Tom Uittenbogert (via IvD) Sanne Speidel (via IvD) Margriet Verlinden (IvD)

Summary:

One participant from IvD, together with a deaf student, a deaf teacher and an interpreter visited UEA for three days. During this visit, the SLN-motions corresponding to the 248 concepts of the Dutch weather forecast model were recorded with the motion capture equipment. Where there is regularity in the motions (for example in the numbers), parts of signs were recorded rather than each complete sign individually. On the other hand, some phrases that were described as systematically varying in Dutch had to be fully recorded in SLN. That was in particular the case for wind changing from one direction to another. Furthermore, a number of full example sentences were recorded in order to record certain movements as natural as possible. In total, around 350 motions were recorded.

The recordings took the full three days that the Dutch group visited the University. The first calibration of the avatar (adjusting dimensions and angles of body, arms and hands) took more than half a day. The second and third day, again at least one hour was needed to calibrate after the model had put on the gloves and all body sensors were placed on her. The motions were recorded in sets of 30 to 40 seconds (3 to 5 signs, or 1 example sentence). Recording, checking, possibly re-recording, communication about the sets of signs, decisions on clear names for the motion data files, etc. demanded full attention of the 5 to 7 people present during the recordings. The motions were also recorded on regular video. Copies of the motion data files, the calibration files and video recording will be sent to IvD where editing will take place.

During breaks and after the recordings were finished, the design and functionality of the webpage that will contain the signed weather forecast was (further) discussed. The first version of the webpage was shown and solutions were discussed for the different appearances on PC's with different specifications (such as resolution and screen size). Furthermore, the software needed for post-editing of the recorded signs was explained to

the participant of IvD. The next version of the webpage will be sent to IvD as well as the viewing and editing software for the motion data. IvD will cut and edit the motion data.

Meeting Purpose

Meeting Venue, Meeting Dates