### Quantifying Joint Activities using Cross-Recurrence Block Representation

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### Human beings are social creatures

(Adolph, 2003)



We are capable of employing various behavioral cues, such as gaze, speech, manual action, body posture in everyday communication.

(Vinciarelli, Pantic and Bourlard, 2009)



We exhibit a remarkable ability to coordinate our behaviors and engage in various joint activities with other social partners to achieve common goals.

(Kimmel, 2012; Fusaroli and Tylén, 2015)



# Such mental alignment has to arise from joint activities on low level behavioral cues

(Vinciarelli, 2009)

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  - Multi-agent, multi-modal behavioral channels with real-time feedback loop
  - Evolves through different stages with time
  - Complementary coordinative structures beyond synchrony

- Technological advances in sensing and computing devices allow us to collect high-density and large volume behavioral data. (Dale, Warlaumont and Richardson, 2011; Yu, Yurovsky and Xu, 2012)
- How we can effectively discover novel and reliable patterns to advance our understanding of human interaction and coordinated behaviors?

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A new analysis method to quantify engagement and joint activities in social interaction based on

**Cross Recurrence Plot (CRP)** 

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### Outline

- 1. Explain Cross Recurrence Plot (CRP) with our empirical data set collected from a child-parent toy-play interaction experiment.
- 2. Propose a new underlying data structure for CRP: **Cross Recurrence Block** and a suite of quantitative measures that reveal fine-grained coordinative patterns.
- 3. How this new representation allows CRP to capture shared interactive dynamics with more than two behavioral modules or agents.

#### Cross Recurrence Plot

• Cross-Recurrence Plot (CRP) is an extension of Recurrence Plot as a non-linear data analysis method, which was invented in the field of theoretical physics and recently applied to cognitive science to study interpersonal coordination (Eckmann et al., 1987; Zbilut et al., 1998; Marwan et al., 2007; Fusaroli and Tylén, 2015).

#### Cross Recurrence Plot

- Researchers construct Cross-Recurrence Plot (CRP) between two different time series, identify the possible state space of the two systems and when in time they co-visit similar states.
- CRP visualizes and produces quantitative indexes to describe the underlying shared dynamic trajectory between the two systems. (Coco and Dale, 2014)

### Cross Recurrence Plot

- It has been widely used in many areas
  - pattern and rhythm in sound and music (Cooper and Foote, 2002) gaze coupling between speaker and listener (Richardson & Dale, 2005)
  - linguistic pattern matching between caregivers and children (Dale and Spivey, 2005)
  - visual search scan pattern analysis (Anderson et al., 2012)
  - visual attention through eye-hand coordination during child parent interaction (Yu and Smith, 2013)
  - discourse conceptual structure analysis in doctor patient conversations (Angus et al., 2012)

Apply Cross Recurrence Plot (CRP) analysis method to a multimodal child-parent interaction data set











#### The parent's first person view



Child's eye tracker









Child gaze											
Parent gaze											
Child left hand											
Child right hand											
Parent left hand								Dete sel		es us a la verta :	
Parent right hand								30 data points / second			
	260	270	280	290	300	310	320	330	340	350	

Time (in seconds)





Time (in seconds)





Time (in seconds)





Time (in seconds)



#### Construct Cross Recurrence Plot (CRP) using two gaze streams



Compare the categorical value (cv) at  $i_{th}$  data point of parent's gaze stream with  $j_{th} cv$  of child's gaze stream







A binary matrix with black points indicating that both time series co-visited the same state with certain temporal lag.



# More than just match or not, which state that both systems co-visited over time



# Extend the value space of $\mathbf{R}_{i,j}$ from $\{0, 1\}$ to include different behavioral categories.



#### Use the four Region-Of-Interest (ROI) values as the state space for co-visitation



## CRP is able to unfold the transition of shared interaction dynamics among different states over time.



#### The parent's first person view









The child's first person view


















#### the parent's ROI at 350s



the parent's ROI at 350s = the child's ROI at 355s



#### time of the parent's action < time of the child's action



#### time of the parent's action > time of the child's action



Cross Recurrence Quantification Analysis is mostly calculated based on point and line structures.

- Recurrence Rate
  - Determinism



Time

# Adjacent points with the same categorical value (cv) can be grouped into one block.





Time



Time

# And such block representation intuitively maps back to the sequence of events in the original data streams.



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We define such block representation as

# **Cross Recurrence Block (CRB)**



#### $CRB: < x_{start}, x_{end}, y_{start}, y_{end}, cv >$







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# Cross Recurrence Block (CRB)

- A suite of quantitative measurements can be extracted based on CRB representation to describe coordinative structures in details
  - Width
  - Height
  - Shape
  - Time lag

 $Width = x_{end} - x_{start}$ 

#### Duration of $agent_x$ 's participation



### $Height = y_{end} - y_{start}$

### Duration of $agent_y$ 's participation



#### Shape: horizontal vs vertical CRB



#### *Time lag: leading and following dynamics*



*start time lag* =  $y_{start} - x_{start}$ 



### *start time lag* = $y_{start} - x_{start}$

#### start time lag > 0, child leads; lag < 0, parent leads



#### end time $lag = y_{end} - x_{end}$



### end time $lag = y_{end} - x_{end}$

#### end time lag > 0, child switches target ROI first



#### Time lag: who initiated; who switched first



# **CRB** based Quantitative Analysis



- Width
- Height
- Shape
- Time lag

face

# Every CRP can be economically stored as a list of *CRB*s: $\{CRB_1, CRB_2 \dots CRB_k\}$



# With matrix data structure, CRP can only reflect the interaction dynamics between two time series.



# Construct Cross Recurrence Plot with four holding behavioral data streams



Time (in seconds)












### Three possible state matches



Cross Recurrence Block (CRB) representation allows *multiple state matches* to be assigned at every point in CRP.









It is not restricted to ROI, you can define your own state space: 1 - eye-eye coordination, 2 - hand-hand coordination



• We extended the value range of state matches to include different categorical values (with color coding) in a Cross Recurrence Plot (CRP).



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- Cross Recurrence Block (CRB) representation was introduced as a new underlying data structure of CRP, which allows CRP to capture interaction dynamics with more than two agents or behavioral modules.
- A suite of quantitative measures can be extracted based on CRBQA to reveal fine-grained coordinative patterns and describe complex interactive structures.





























## Thank you!



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### Questions?



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Standard behavioral statistics

VS

Cross Recurrence Block based Quantification Analysis (CRBQA)

- Holding action dataset
- 12 children at 12 month olds, 12 children at 24 month olds
- Each interaction included four 1-1.5 minute long play sessions. And four holding action temporal streams (both hands from the child and the parent) were used for analysis.

Behavioral measure	12 month	24 month	stats
Duration of child holding (seconds)	4.67±0.51	3.42±0.43	t(23)=1.87 p=0.07
Duration of parent holding (seconds)	1.91±0.14	2.40±0.21	t(23)=-1.90 p=0.07
Frequency of child holding (per minute)	15.49±1.98	15.26±1.30	t(23)=0.09 p=0.93
Frequency of parent holding (per minute)	22.42±1.56	22.39±1.90	t(23)=0.01 p=0.99
Duration of joint holding (seconds)	0.82±0.07	10.71±0.05	t(23)=1.23 p=0.23
Joint holding Proportion of time	11.27±1.65	11.24±1.22	t(23)=0.01 p=0.99

Table 1. List of behavioral measures of the child's and parent's holding events between two age groups

CRBQA	12 month	24 month	stats
Width (seconds)	11.89±2.34	7.96±1.45	t(23)=1.43 p=0.17
Height (seconds)	3.25±0.30	7.33±1.43	t(23)=-2.80 p<0.01
Frequency of horizontal CRBs (per minute)	4.51±0.56	3.82±0.33	t(23)=1.05 p=0.30
Frequency of vertical CRBs (per minute)	2.22±0.54	4.57±0.91	t(23)=-2.23 p<0.05
Start time lag (in seconds)	4.55±1.75	-0.01±1.32	t(23)=2.08 p<0.05
End time lag (in seconds)	-4.09±0.93	-0.63±1.26	t(23)=-2.21 p<0.05

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