MILeS 2021
Workshop on Multimodal Immersive Learning Systems

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Preface

Advances in the related fields of wearable sensors, virtual/augmented reality, and artificial intelligence make it possible to connect these technologies into integrated learning solutions. The intersection of these fields of emerging technologies is an area of many opportunities for innovative learning systems, but likewise a field of fuzzy expectations. With this workshop, we contribute to the systematic organisation of the field and to the advancement of solutions.

The MILeS (Multimodal Immersive Learning Systems) 2021 workshop was organised in the context of the German BMBF-funded research project MILKI-PSY (Multimodal Immersive Learning with Artificial Intelligence for Psychomotor Skills), which aims to develop AI-supported, data-intensive, multimodal, immersive learning environments for the independent learning of psychomotor skills. This leads to a cross-domain approach that makes it possible to record the activities of experts in a multimodal manner and to use these recordings as blueprints for learners. With the help of AI-based analysis, learning progress is to be supported by automated error detection and automatically generated, individual feedback. This creates holistic, innovative environments for cultivating psychomotor skills, in which personalized AI support enables individual learning processes based on complex data analyzes.

With the interdisciplinary workshop, we brought together experts and practitioners from technology-enhanced learning and educational application of technologies to collect ideas, requirements, best practices, and example cases in the intersection of Artificial Intelligence, Multimodal Systems, Immersive Systems, and their application into actual education. With this context in mind, in this first edition of the International Workshop on Multimodal Immersive Learning Systems (MILeS 2021), we have compiled eight research studies that go from early stages of development to present empirical studies where novel experimental designs, theoretical contributions, and practical demonstrations. MILeS 2021 took place on September 21st, 2021, and was run virtually in conjunction with the Sixteenth European Conference on Technology Enhanced Learning (EC-TEL 2021). Following are the core topics for this workshop:

– Mobile, wearable, and pervasive technologies
– Sensors, sensor networks, and Internet of Things
– Augmented reality, virtual reality, and mixed reality
– Artificial intelligence

The website of the workshop can be found here [https://milki-psy.de/miles-workshop/](https://milki-psy.de/miles-workshop/)

Contributions

A peer-reviewed process was carried out to select the workshop papers. At least three members of the Program Committee with expertise in the area reviewed each paper. As a result, the following eight submissions were accepted, which discuss ideas and progress on several interesting topics:
– Paaßen et al. sketched a machine learning approach as an early significant step into providing feedback to the learners in the domains of running and human-robotic interaction. The authors evaluated how movements can be compared to highlight the variations between the student and expert movements.

– Cardenas et al. proposed the existing Multimodal Learning Analytics Pipeline to be applied in the domains of running and human-robotic interaction through the process of data collection, storage, annotation, preparation, and exploitation. Suitable sensors that can be potentially applied in the two application cases are also suggested.

– Slupczynski et al. proposed a cloud-based architecture as a basis for an AI-based multimodal training and learning environment. The article discusses some related work on service-based architectures for machine learning, blockchain, and learning analytics.

– Quin et al. introduced a prototype that utilizes holographic technologies to foster natural interactions between teachers and students in an online classroom setting. The paper described the system architecture of the prototype, two different 3D modeling techniques, and students’ experience.

– Keller et al. presented an approach on how to develop a design framework for an augmented reality-based training system for the acquisition of psychomotor skills, more specifically how to teach workers to properly collaborate with a robot (i.e., human-robot interaction) and how to keep them motivated along the way. This is done by exploring the results of three interdisciplinary workshops.

– Dikken et al. proposed a framework for a handwriting learning system that compares a learner trace to an expert trace via dynamic time warping and then performs an error classification based on the remaining deviation compared to the expert.

– Mat Sanusi et al. presented two student prototypes in different application areas related to multimodal learning of psychomotor skills in immersive environments. The prototypes are presented in detail and possible future optimisation processes within the framework of MILKY-PSY are discussed in order to ultimately determine the feasibility and advantages of psychomotor learning with AI-based on both use cases.

– Geisen et al. proposed a study design to enable subjects to optimize their psychomotor training performance with real-time feedback in an immersive training environment. In the context of this paper, a squat exercise was selected. The authors aim to compare different feedback methods that can be given in real-time and identify the most suitable feedback for motion learning and optimization.

Conclusions

MILeS 2021 workshop aimed at gathering new insights around the use of Artificial Intelligence, Multimodal Systems, and Immersive Systems for education and learning leveraging multimodal data sources. With the broad spectrum of
submissions received, the first edition of the MILeS workshop showed an interesting perspective on the field of multimodal immersive learning and highlights the relevance of this emerging multidisciplinary field of research, that connects expertise in computer science, artificial intelligence, human-computer interaction, sensor-based systems, educational science, technology-enhanced learning, and game design. We expect that the first edition of the MILeS workshop sets the foundation for a continued and growing series of workshops and publications in the field.

Acknowledgments

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