

Effects of facing direction of humanoid avatar on the cognitive process of the imagined shift of perspective Kazuya Nagamachi, Sachiyo Ueda, Michiteru Kitazaki

Tovohashi University of Technology

Poster ID : G-107

自在化身体プロジェクト JIZAI Body Project

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Introduction





- Visual Perspective-Taking [Flavell et al. 1981] The basic ability to infer others' mind.
- Level 1 Perspective-Taking Whether an object is visible to another person, or not.
- Level 2 Perspective-Taking How an object appears to another person.



- Purpose
- To investigate whether the presence of the humanoid avatar as the base point of view could facilitate the imagined shift of perspective.
- To test whether the facilitation is simply due to the presence of the avatar or the perspective of the avatar.

Discussion

- The reaction time was the shortest in "Facing", second shortest in "Without" and longest in "Backing", suggesting that taking avatar's perspective facilitates the cognitive process of the imagined shift of perspective.
- The reaction time was longest in <u>"Back"</u> position. This is consistent with the previous studies; For the level 2 perspective-taking, the reaction time increases as the rotation angle between the avatar and the observer increases [surtees, Apperly, & Samson, 2013; Kessler & Thomson, 2010].

Methods

Participants

Twenty naïve participants (5 female, 15 male)

Procedure

Task: To judge the direction of a gap in the ring from an avatar's or chair's position.





Conditions

- 3 Avatar conditions (Without / Facing / Backing)
- 3 Positions of avatar or chair (Left / Back / Right)

• 8 Directions of the gap in the ring **x** 2 repetitions All combinations of these conditions were conducted within the same block.



Conclusion

- The direction of humanoid avatar's head or body is an effective cue for spatial cognition in the imagined shift of perspective.
- Thus, the perspective taking would be critical for it.

Acknowledgements

 This study was supported by JST ERATO Grant Number JPMJER1701 (Inami JIZAI Body Project), Japan.







Positions





Interaction (Avatar x Positions)

No significant.

F(4,76) = 1.0554, p = .3845, η_p = .0526