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Uncertainty aware SSL on multi-dimensional time series for animal behavior

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Video Pose Estimation



Motion Capture Systems







- Missing keypoints in behavior analysis are dropped
- Existing imputation methods for general time series
- But no method developed or tested at large scale on skeleton data

Unsupervised training and testing scheme



Tested algorithms

- Linear interpolation (Baseline)
- 5 different Neural Networks
 - Recurrent neural network (GRU)
 - Temporal Convolutional Network (TCN)
 - Graph Convolutional Networks
 - Spatio-temporal GCN
 - Space-Time-Separable GCN
 - Custom Transformer (DISK)

DISK architecture



Usual projection



"Flattened" projection



time

Zerveas et al. arXiv 2020 **France ROSE**

Datasets

- 7 datasets
- 5 species
- 2D and 3D
- 1 to 2 animals













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O'Shaughnessy et al. bioRxiv 2024. Dunn et al. Nat. Met. 2021, Günel et al. eLife 2019. Ignatowska-Jankoska et al. bioRxiv 2023. Sun et al. NeurIPS 2021, CMU MoCap database.

Performance on the 7 datasets





Comparison with methods used in behavior analysis



Real gaps, no ground truth



Trusting a black box model?

- Estimate the quality of the imputation
- Control the quality of the output dataset

Adding a probabilistic head



Output:
$$(\mu \in \mathbb{R}^3, \sigma \in \mathbb{R}^3)_{\{k,t\}}$$

Negative log-likelihood loss: $\sum_{\{k,t\}} \frac{1}{2} (X_{GT} - \mu) / \sigma^2 - \log(\sigma)$

хN

Hugging face probabilistic transformer for forecasting

Estimated error on the imputed samples



Estimated error on the imputed samples





point + estimated error prediction per sample



Uncertainty aware models

- Other tested approaches:
 - Ensemble
 - Variants of dropout
 - Additional branch to predict the estimated error
- Lower Pearson correlation, uncalibrated estimated error wrt real error
- Probabilistic head works better with transformer than GRU

What does DISK learn?

Imputation = masking task in Self-Supervised Learning

Masked Image Models













U-map of sequence embeddings













Random Forest on latent vectors 4-action class classification

- balanced accuracy: 0.877
- balanced F1-score: 0.846
- balanced precision score: 0.874

What to do with DISK?



An example: Step detection in freely moving mice

Step detection in 3D Motion Capture mouse data





Insight on pharmacological drug effect





Concluding remarks



- DISK is able to impute correctly long gaps for single or multiple missing keypoints.
- An estimated error helps filtering out below-threshold imputed samples.
- Complementary to pose detection, DISK can help analyze fine movements like locomotion.







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Neural methods robust to increasing gap length





Imputing multiple keypoints simultaneously 35 30 RIGHT 25 0.10 -40 20 -30 -20 -10 -5 10 15 0.09 0.08 linear interpolation 0.07 RMSE 0.06 GRU 0.05 0.04 DISK 5 1 2 3 6 7 4 n missing

Estimated error on the imputed samples



- Good correlation between real and estimated error - Red line is x=x: slight overestimate of the real error

- Use it to threshold and keep only good samples

Datasets' properties

Dataset	N kp	Freq	Stride	Size train / val / test	Missing prop [%]
FL2	8	60	30	4,396 / 422 / 413	24
CLB	8	6	30	8,571 / 983 / 918	16
DF3D	38	100	5	2,095 / 652 / 614	0
Human	20	12	30	8,593 / 823 / 869	0
Rat7M	20	30	30	13,463 / 2,840 / 2,713	44
2-Fish	2×3	60	120	99,029 / 13,327 / 15,705	6
MABe	2×7	30	60	6,820 / 986 / 622	0



0.75

0.50

0.25

0.00

RMSE vs length_hole plots)

- Increasing input length is more beneficial to GRU than transformer (Weird!)
- Increased input length + GRU is a better combination (less training time for better performance)



500



Better step detection with imputed data







TCN



(b) Encoder module

(c) Decoder module



Temporal Convolutional Networks for Action Segmentation and Detection, Lea et al. 2016

Spatial Temporal Graph Convolutional Networks for Skeleton-Based Action Recognition



STS-GCN



coding GCN. Bottleneck'ing the space-time cross-talk is realized by factoring the space-time adjacency matrix into the product of separate spatial and temporal adjacency matrices $A^{st} = A^s A^t$. A separable space-time graph convolutional layer *l* is therefore written as follows

$$\mathcal{H}^{(l+1)} = \sigma(A^{s-(l)}A^{t-(l)}\mathcal{H}^{(l)}W^{(l)})$$

(2)

Separable learnable adjacency matrices in time and space



Bigger hidden size performs better (DF3D)





Binary input mask guides the network

	FL2	CLB	DF3D	MoCap	Rat7M
Linear					
interpolation	0.07	0.17	0.20	0.36	0.13
ImputeSkeleton					
With mask	0.04	0.04	0.15	0.04	0.05
Without mask	0.05	0.05	0.16	0.05	0.07

