

Digital tools for sign language research: towards recognition and comparison of lexical signs

Fragkiadakis, M.

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Digital Tools for Sign Language Research:

Towards Recognition and Comparison of Lexical Signs

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Proefschrift

ter verkrijging van de graad van doctor aan de Universiteit Leiden, op gezag van rector magnificus prof.dr.ir. H. Bijl, volgens besluit van het college voor promoties te verdedigen op dinsdag 9 april 2024 klokke 15.00 uur

door

Manolis Fragkiadakis

geboren te Athene, Griekenland op 2 november 1988

Promotor: Prof. Dr. M.P.G.M. Mous

Copromotores: Dr. V.A.S. Nyst

Dr. P.W.H. van der Putten

Promotiecommissie: Prof. Dr. M.R. Spruit

Dr. E. Efthimiou (Athena Research Centre)

Dr. J. Prokic

Prof. Dr. F. Roelofsen (Universiteit van Amsterdam)

These trees don't take comfort in less sky, these rocks don't take comfort under foreigners' footsteps, these faces don't take comfort except in the sun, these hearts don't take comfort except in justice - Yiannis Ritsos

To the dew and freedom.

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List of Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Definition
ANN	Artificial Neural Networks
ASJP	Automated Similarity Judgment Program
ASL	American Sign Language
AUC	Area Under the Receiver Operating Characteristics
AUTSL	Ankara University Turkish Sign Language Dataset
BLSTM	Bidirectional Long-Short-Term Memory
CART	Classification And Regression Tree
CNN	Convolutional Neural Network
CSLR	Continuous Sign Language Recognition
CTC	Connectionist Temporal Classification
CV	Computer Vision
DBSCAN	Density-Based Spatial Clustering of Applications with Noise
$\overline{\mathrm{DGS}}$	German Sign Language
DTW	Dynamic Time Warping
GAN	Generative Adversarial Network
GBM	Gradient Boosting
GRU	Gated Recurrent Unit
GSL	Ghanaian Sign Language
HamNoSys	Hamburg Notation System
HCORF	Hidden Conditional Ordinal Random Fields
HMM	Hidden Markov Model
HOG	Histogram of Oriented Gradient
IPA	International Phonetic Alphabet
LBP	Local Binary Patterns

LR Linear Regression

LSTM Long-Short-Term-Memory

MG Motion Graph

MDDTW Multi-Dimensional Dynamic Time Warping

MDN Mixture Density Network MPI Max Planck Institute

MS Microsoft

NLP Natural Language Processing NMT Neural Machine Translation

NN Neural Network

PCA Principal Component Analysis

RCNN Region Based Convolutional Neural Networks

RDFR Random Forests for Regression

ReLU Rectified Linear Unit RF Random Forest

RNN Recurrent Neural Network

SL Sign Language

SLP Sign Language Processing
SLP Sign Language Production
SLR Sign Language Recognition
SLT Sign Language Translation
SNN Siamese Neural Network
SVM Support Vector Machines
TAG Tree Adjoining Grammar

UMAP Uniform Manifold Approximation and Projection

VAE Variational AutoEncoder VGT Flemish Sign Language

WLASL Word-Level American Sign Language WOCAL World Congress of African Linguistics

WSS Within Cluster Sum of Square XGBoost Extreme Gradient Boosting