Asynchronous Music Production in Life-sized Video Communication System t-Room

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We are developing a video communication system, t-Room, to help users overcome spatial and temporal barriers in conventional video conferencing systems (VCSs). The t-Room consists of eight large-sized LCD panels and eight cameras, which enclose the user space. Remote users’ images are presented at life-size on LCD panels. With this setup, unlike conventional VCSs, users can freely move around within the t-Room as if they were in the same room, and remote and local users can share gaze, gestures, body orientation and spatial cues naturally as in face-to-face communication. Since t-Room allows recording and playback to be iterated as many times as desired, unlike conventional VCSs, users can exchange video messages as conveniently as e-mail.

In this demo, we present asynchronous music production in t-Room, where recorded performances can be replayed at life-size to allow players to join video-mediated jam sessions with previously recorded players. Like conventional multi-track recording, a player can record each instrumental part as a t-Room content one-by-one until completing a full band’s performance. A player can then substitute a new performance for an already recorded one, thus restructuring the entire recorded performance to produce a remix version.