USF Sign Language Dataset Release Agreement

Introduction: The goal of the Sign Language Recognition project at University of South Florida, which was funded by the US National Science Foundation, was to develop new techniques, technology, and algorithms for the automatic recognition of sign language. As part of this project, the University of South Florida (USF) collected video datasets of signers performing signs. The database is meant to aid research efforts in the general area of developing, testing and evaluating sign language recognition algorithms. The University of South Florida (USF) has copyright in the collection of video and serves as Principal Investigator for distribution of the database.

Release of the Database: To advance the state-of-the-art in sign language recognition, the USF Sign Language database is made available to researchers on a case-by-case basis. All requests for this dataset must be submitted in writing to the USF Principal Investigator. To receive copies, the requestor must sign this document and agree to observe the restrictions listed below. In addition to other possible remedies, failure to observe these restrictions may result in access being denied for other future datasets. Current installments of the database may be made available to researchers via an Internet site or on CD or other media. There will be no charge for imagery made available via the Internet.

Consent: The researcher(s) agrees to the following restrictions on the Sign Language data:

1. **Redistribution:** Without prior approval from the USF Principal Investigator, the dataset, in whole or in part, will not be further distributed, published, copied, or disseminated in any way or form whatsoever, whether for profit or not. This includes further distributing, copying or disseminating to a different facility or organizational unit in the requesting university, organization, or company.
2. **Modification and Commercial Use:** The database, in whole or in part, may not be modified or used for commercial purposes.
3. **Requests for the Sign Language Dataset:** All requests for the USF Sign Language dataset will be forwarded to the USF Principal Investigator.
4. **Publication Requirements:** Those seeking to include renderings of more than 10 images from the USF Sign Language dataset in reports, papers, and other documents to be published or released must first obtain approval in writing from USF Principal Investigator. **In no case should the images be used in a way that could cause the original subject embarrassment or mental anguish**.
5. **Citation/Reference:** All documents and papers that report on research that uses the USF Sign Language dataset will acknowledge the use of the database by including citations to:

   - R. Yang, S. Sarkar, B. Loeding, "Handling Movement Epenthesis and Hand Segmentation Ambiguities in Continuous Sign Language Recognition using Nested Dynamic Programming," to appear in *IEEE Transactions on Pattern Analysis and Machine Intelligence*, 2009.
   - R. Yang, S. Sarkar, "Coupled grouping and matching for sign and gesture recognition," to appear in *Computer Vision and Image Understanding*, DOI: 10.1016/j.cviu.2008.09.005.

6. **Publications to USF:** A copy of all reports and papers that are for public or general release that use the USF Sign Language database must be forwarded immediately upon release or publication to the USF Principal Investigator.
7. **Indemnification:** Researcher agrees to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the University of South Florida and its Board of Trustees, officers, employees and agents, individually and collectively, from any and all losses, expenses, damages, demands and/or claims based upon any such injury or damage (real or alleged) and shall pay all damages, claims, judgments or expenses resulting from Researcher's use of the USF Sign Language database.

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NAME (in capitals)   SIGNATURE and DATE

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ORGANIZATION AND ADDRESS (in capitals, please write legibly)

Send to: USF Principal Investigator, Sudeep Sarkar; Computer Science and Engineering; 4202 E Fowler Ave., ENB 118; University of South Florida; Tampa; Florida, 33620-5399, sarkar@csee.usf.edu.

March 23, 2009