In our projects, transcribers have screens with native resolutions of either 1920x1200 or 2560x1440. So except for very rare cases, full HD resolution (1920x1080) is not used for transcription as the movie would occupy a good part of the screen. Depending on what they transcribe, we expect users to work more with 4.5 full HD (640x360), 1.4 (480x270) or even 1.6 (320x180) rather than with 1.2 (960x540). Users can still resize to any-in-between value they prefer. iLex uses the next highest available resolution and scales that down.

Based on the type of discourse to be described as well as personal preferences, we expect most transcribers to work with one or two movies at a time, optionally with thumbnail-size view (160x90) for the other cameras.

Focus on one movie at a time

In this layout, clicking on any (movie or still) thumbnail zooms the video shown so far out into a thumbnail and the thumbnail video in to the current large size. When needed, a context menu allows to switch to a two- or multiple-movies layout.

Focus on primary views for both/third informants

With two or more large-size videos shown, thumbnails are bundled to one of the large videos. A click on a thumbnail then exchanges its movie with the bundled one.

Automatic switching based on tagging

Whenever tagging is available that is a good estimator for what the transcriber will need to focus on, this tagging can be used to switch automatically between different layouts. If for example turns have already been tagged, it makes sense to have the signer in a large view and the addressee in a small view. Good approximations to manual turn tagging can hopefully be in the near future achieved automatically through image processing (→ iLex-Sign poster on Sunday). Another source of information is knowledge about the tasks informants are currently working on, as logged by Session Director.

Of course, thumbnail buttons remain available to either switch to secondary views or to show an overview (birds-eye-view on a single informant) or to the other informant when needed.

Three different multicamera layout examples:

- 1/6 for B1 and A1 cropped, 1/12 for C2, C3 and A1
- 1/6 for B1 and A1 cropped, 1/12 for B2, C1 and A1
- 1/3 for A1 cropped, 1/1 for A1 zoomed to full size

**Vide oServer Infrastructure**

Our video server currently consists of three machines with 16 processors each and 100 10GbE Ethernet cards. Two thirds of the capacity is reserved for the original footage, one third is available for caching resolution parameters and other derived video. However, no cache strategy is in place at this point in time. Instead, cache movies are purged to free up space on the local harddisk in order to work at locations where bandwidth does not allow video server access purging might render local copies useless as iLex would no longer look for them once the database entries are deleted.

Another option for the future is to provide zoom on the server side in real-time. As we currently do this on the client side, we know it can be done in real-time. Implementation on the server side, however, requires much more work, so we still observe how much this feature will actually be used.

**References**


