



Record, Review, Share and Analyze Behavioral Data from 6DoF-XR Experiments with PLUME

Charles JAVERLIAT*, Sophie VILLENAVE*, Pierre RAIMBAUD, Guillaume LAVOUÉ

École Centrale de Lyon, CNRS, LIRIS UMR5025, ENISE



Motivations

Understand user experience using data



- Self-reported data: questionnaires, semi-structured interviews
- Behavioral data: inputs, movements, interactions
- Physiological data: EEG, ECG, EDA, EOG, HR, etc.

Motivations



Self-reported data has intrinsic limitations

- Question framing bias
- Response subjectivity bias
- Memory bias

Motivations

Behavioral and physiological data acquisition is challenging



- Tedious to acquire
- Hard to synchronize
- Performance-intensive
- Heterogeneous format among studies
- Replicability and reproducibility issues due to partial recording.

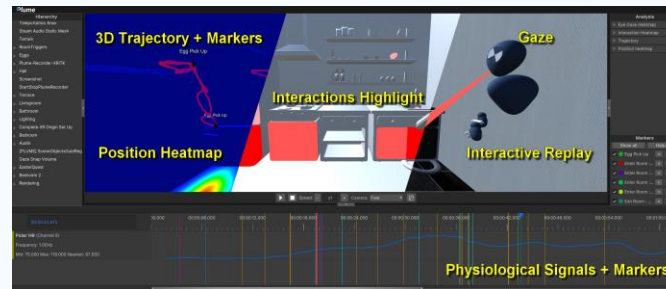
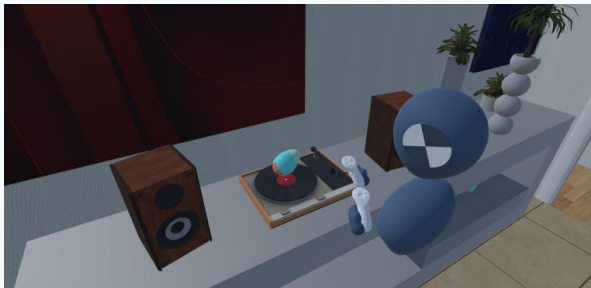
Motivations

Existing tools* fall short of requirements



- Time consuming installation
- Tightly couples the tool with the project
- Limited compatibility with physiological hardware
- Limited compatibility with head mounted displays
- Performance-intensive
- Proprietary license

* VR Scientific Toolkit (VRSTK), Cognitive3D, Tobii Ocumen, Vizard, MIRIA, NVIDIA VCR, ...
(Full comparative table available in the paper)



```
tests > test_frame_parser.py > ...
1 import os.path
2
3 from plume.samples.unity.frame_pb2 import Frame
4 from plume.samples.unity.transform_pb2 import TransformCreate
5
6 def test_parse_samples(samples):
7     unpacked_frames = plume.sample_parser.parse_samples(samples, filter_descriptors=[Frame.DEScriptor])
8
9     for frame in unpacked_frames:
10         unfiltered_data = plume.frame_parser.parse_frame_data(frame)
11         print(unfiltered_data)
12         filtered_data = plume.frame_parser.parse_frame_data(frame, filter_descriptors=[TransformCreate.DEScriptor])
13         print(filtered_data)
14
15 if __name__ == '__main__':
16     current_dir = os.path.dirname(os.path.abspath(__file__))
17     file_path = os.path.join(current_dir, "record_0.ple")
18     samples = plume.sample_reader.read_packed_samples_from_file(file_path)
19     test_parse_samples(samples)
```

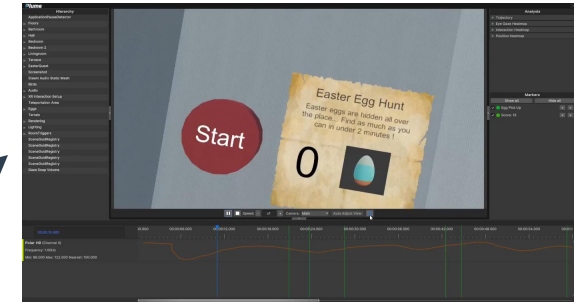
PLUME Overview



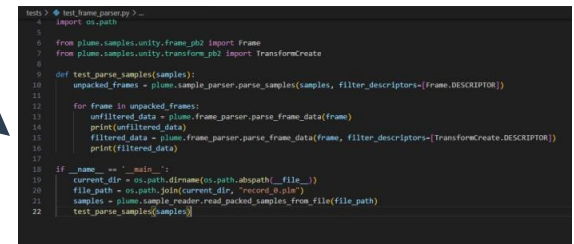
Plugin installed in application



PLM file
Self-contained
record file



In-situ replay and
analysis



Ex-situ analysis

PLUME File Format (.plm)



Self-contained

No dependency on project files, easy to share.

Raw data

RAW

Low-level, timestamped, data (transforms, components properties, physiological signals) for maximum reproducibility and data repurposing.



Easy parsing

Platform-neutral and language-neutral format using Protobuf. Easy data wrangling thanks to PLUME Python.





Plug-and-play Unity Plugin

1min setup.



Record as much as possible by default

Positions, meshes, spatialized audio, eye-gaze, inputs, event markers, physiological signals, ...



Fast and lightweight

Using IL weaving for hooks injection in assemblies and Burst-compiled routines.



No strings attached

No changes required in the project scripts. Uninstalling is as easy as installing.



Cross-platforms (PC-VR and autonomous)

Windows, iOS, Android, PC-VR.



OpenXR compatibility for XR specific data

Eye gaze, controllers inputs, interactions, etc.



Individual or collaborative scenarios



Large compatibility with physiological sensors

Compatibility layer with the LabStreamingLayer.





Standalone desktop 3D Viewer

Doesn't require the Unity project to replay .plm files.



Post-experiment visual inspection

Detect issues, post-experiment debrief with participants.

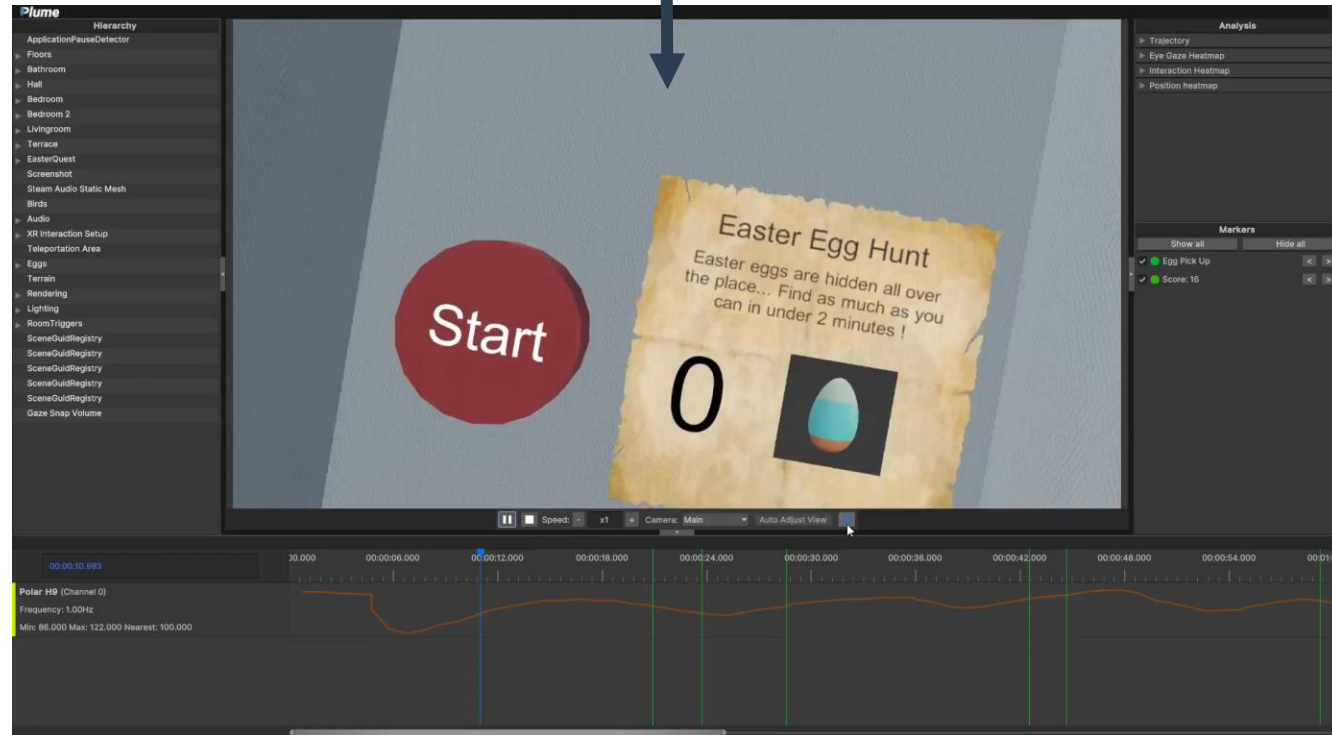


In-situ analysis of synchronized multi-modal data

Run custom analysis modules directly on 3D data, quickly find correlations between scene state and physiological state.

3D interactive
player


PLM file
Self-contained
record file



Analysis
modules

Event
Markers

Timeline with
physiological
tracks

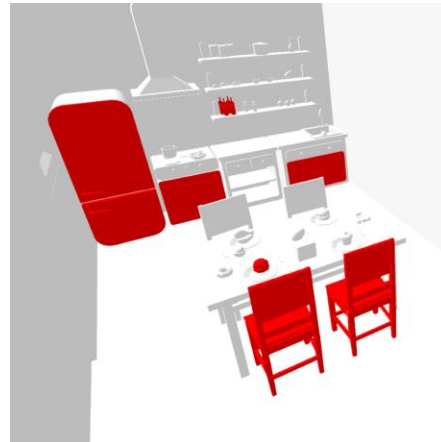


Builtin in-situ analysis modules

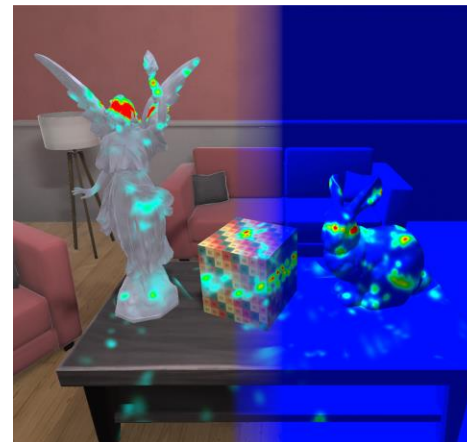
Quickly create trajectories, interaction highlights, position heatmaps for any object, eye gaze heatmaps, etc.



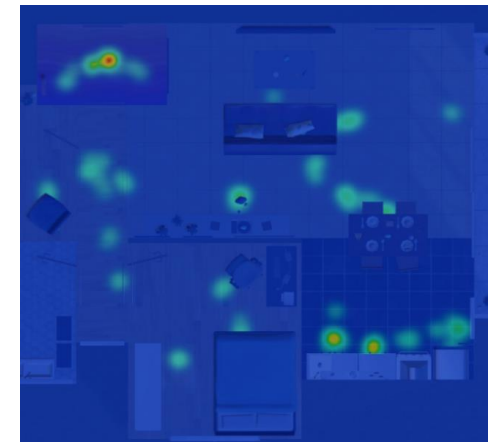
Trajectories
(with markers)



Interaction
highlights



Eye gaze heatmaps

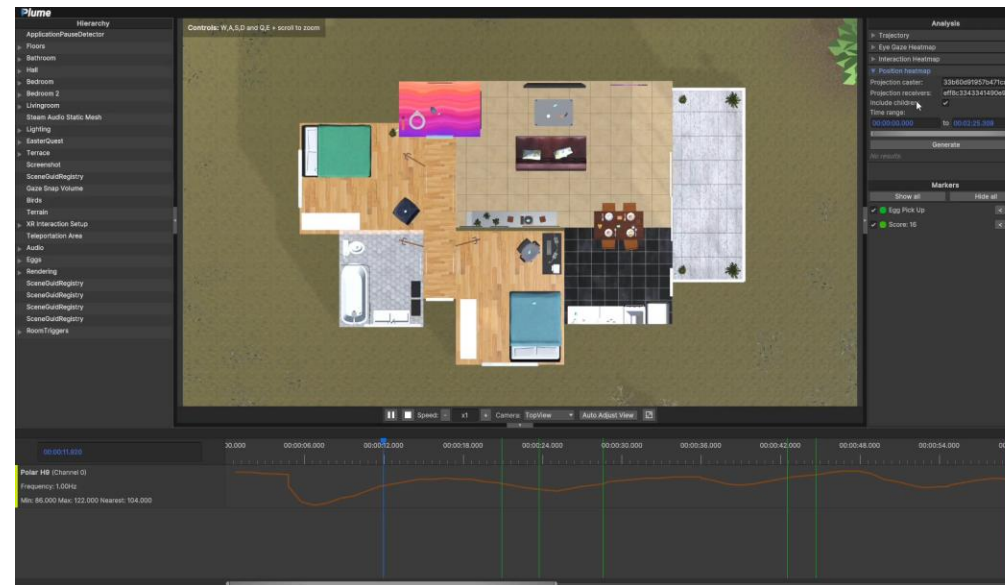


Position heatmaps



Create your own modules

Use the raw data and the 3D context to build insightful spatiotemporal visualizations.







Quick export to other formats

Export your data as CSV and XDF using the Python CLI



Easy data wrangling

Quickly load the .plm file as a dataframe for direct use in traditional analytical pipelines like pandas or R.



PLM file
Self-contained
record file



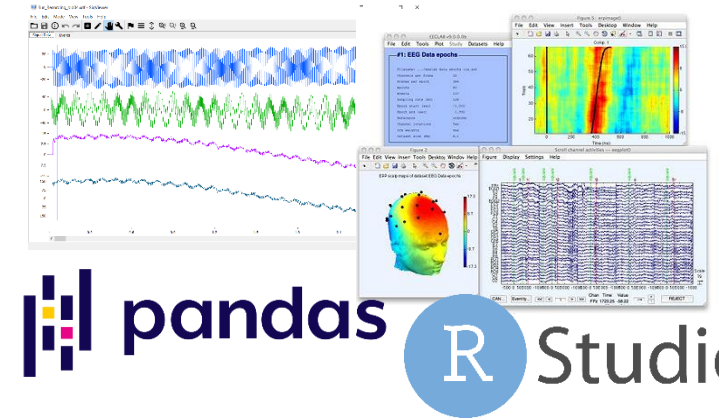
```
# Load a record file
record = plm.parser.parse_record_from_file("path/to/record.plm")

# Get samples in a given time range (in nanoseconds)
record.get_samples_in_time_range(0, 10_000)

# Get samples of a given type in a given time range (in nanoseconds)
record.get_samples_by_type_in_time_range(transform_pb2.TransformUpdate, 0, 10_000)

# Convert samples to a pandas dataframe
transform_updates_df = samples_to_dataframe(transform_updates)
```

API



**Integration in well-
established ecosystems**
(pandas, R, EEGLAB, SigViewer)



PLUME is free and open-source!

GitHub 



<https://github.com/liris-xr/PLUME>

Discord 



<https://discord.gg/QMnKCvhBCf>

Case Study

PLUME to Evaluate Physiological Signal Quality

(Part of the *Renforce* ANR Project)



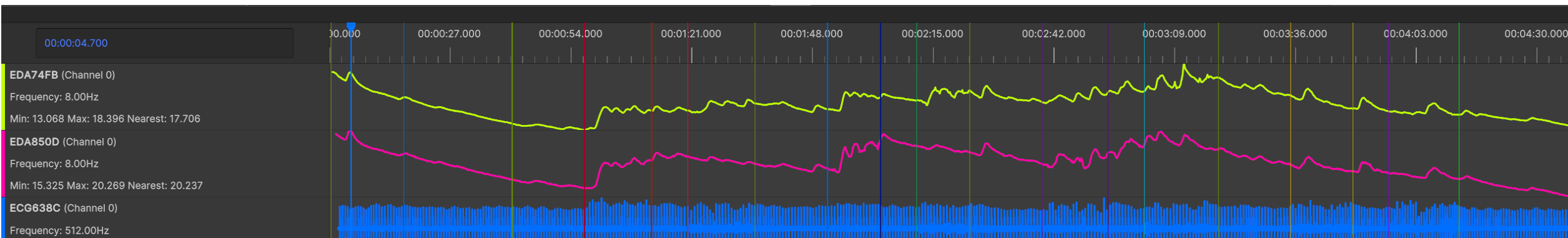
Evaluating bio-signals sensors for VR

Goal: Measuring the impact of typical VR movements on signal quality depending on electrode placement




Recorder - Synchronization of VR tasks and physiological signal using markers (at beginning and end of tasks)

Viewer - Inspect records to understand discrepancies in the data and empirically correlate movements and noise

Python - Compute signals quality using Pearson Correlation for EDA and Template Matching for ECG





- How to ? Install  **Plume** Recorder in a Unity Project
- Hands-on  **Plume** Python to compute ex-situ analysis
- Hands-on  **Plume** Viewer to produce in-situ visualizations



<https://liris-xr.github.io/PLUME/> > Learn > Learn the basics

<https://github.com/liris-xr/PLUME-Tutorial-Basics/releases/> >

Download record1.plm, record2.plm and plume_bundle.zip

