

Automatic Image Tracking in OS X



- The Quest: project video on a dancer as she moves across the stage.

Project Requirements



- (Automatically) ensure that the center of a projected image always lands on a specific section of a dancer.
- Program and adjust in the field
- Budget ~ \$0

Subsystems



- Video Capture
- Image recognition
- Motion Control
- Feedback

Video Capture



- Originally wanted to start from scratch & learn Carbon, but learning curve was steep.
- Nothing fairly similar for Mac on market
- Found videascript.com

VideoScript



- Free(!) program used to manipulate live and recorded video
 - Captures live video via FireWire
 - Supports AppleScript
- Solution - VideoScript to control motion
- VideoScript Demo Programs

Introduction to Motion Control



- Stepper Motor Control - 1.8 deg/
200 steps/revolution.
- 'Little-Step-U' controller \$50 on eBay.
- Controlled by simple serial commands

Talking to the outside world



- VideoScript can't directly control computer's I/O.
- Solution: KeySpan USB->Serial converter (\$40)
- Solution: AppleScriptable terminal program

VideoScript Code



- Code example here:

Demonstration of L/R Panning



- Controller is crude & jumpy
- Tracks brightest object
- Solution: IR pass and IR block filters

Resources



- www.videoscript.com
- <http://kulesh-software.com/Software/PortTerm/>
- http://tla.co.nz/lit_step.html
- eBay: Rotary Table
- eBay: 'Z-Axis'