the Aware Home

Abaris: Evaluating Automated Capture Applied to Structured Autism Interventions

Julie A. Kientz, Sebastian Boring, Gregory Abowd, Gillian Hayes Aware Home Research Initiative @ Georgia Tech

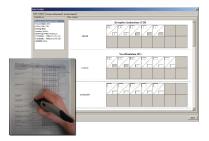
About this Project:

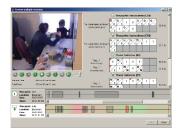
Abaris is a capture and access application designed to support teams of caregivers in a specific type of autism intervention, known as Discrete Trial Training.



Goals: Abaris aims to support therapists in their current practice by:

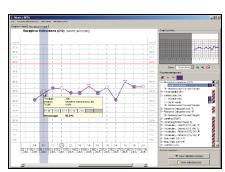
- Allowing teams of therapists to make decisions on a child's progress using real data rather than relying on therapist memory
- Using videos to ensure consistency of therapy amongst team members.
- Reducing the amount of time spent in paperwork





Implementation:

Abaris uses Anoto digital pen and paper technology and Nexidia voice recognition to index specific parts of the therapy to video which can be later accessed during meetings or by therapists remotely. It is implemented using Java and the Java Media Framework.



Next Steps:

We deployed the Abaris system for a pilot study for four months in the home of one child with autism for use by his team of therapists. We are taking the results from the pilot to guide a new deployment at another home and in the school setting. We plan to study the effects of the Abaris system on team meetings and learn about how capture and access applications can support collaborative environments.