



**Séminaire ISIR**  
Vendredi 26 octobre 2018 à  
10H00

**Michael Neff**

Campus Jussieu, 4 place Jussieu, Paris  
**Salle 304**

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## The Role of Gesture in the Perception of Character Personality

**Abstract :** This talk will examine how nonverbal communication, and in particular gesture, conveys personality to observers. Our work is framed using the Five Factor or OCEAN model of personality from social psychology. Drawing both from the psychology literature and primary perceptual research, I'll show how movement changes impact perceived character personality. I'll look at particular movement changes that influence personality traits and also show that in many cases, people may be making two distinct personality judgments, rather than five, as would be expected for the five factor personality model.

**Short bio :** Michael Neff is a professor in Computer Science and Cinema & Digital Media at the University of California, Davis where he leads the Motion Lab, an interdisciplinary research effort in character animation and embodied interaction. He holds a Ph.D. from the University of Toronto and is also a Certified Laban Movement Analyst. His interests include character animation, especially modeling expressive movement, nonverbal communication, gesture and applying performing arts knowledge to animation. He received an NSF CAREER Award, the Alain Fournier Award for his dissertation, two best paper awards and the Isadora Duncan Award for Visual Design. He is past Chair for the Department of Cinema and Digital Media.