REMoS: 3D Motion-Conditioned Reaction Synthesis for Two-Person Interactions

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Abstract. Current approaches for 3D human motion synthesis generate high-quality animations of digital humans performing a wide variety of actions and gestures. However, a notable technological gap exists in addressing the complex dynamics of multi-human interactions within this paradigm. In this work, we present ReMoS, a denoising diffusion-based model that synthesizes full-body reactive motion of a person in a twoperson interaction scenario. Given the motion of one person, we employ a combined spatio-temporal cross-attention mechanism to synthesize the reactive body and hand motion of the second person, thereby completing the interactions between the two. We demonstrate ReMoS across challenging two-person scenarios such as pair-dancing, Ninjutsu, kickboxing, and acrobatics, where one person's movements have complex and diverse influences on the other. We also contribute the ReMoCap dataset for two-person interactions containing full-body and finger motions. We evaluate ReMoS through multiple quantitative metrics, qualitative visualizations, and a user study, and also indicate usability in interactive motion editing applications. More details are available on the project page: https://vcai.mpi-inf.mpg.de/projects/remos.

Keywords: Reactive Motion Synthesis · Denoising Diffusion Model

1 Introduction

Digital 3D character motion synthesis has emerged as the next frontier for animation pipelines [50], particularly through denoising diffusion probabilistic models (DDPMs) [61]. While methods for generating character motion for various tasks such as text or music conditioned motion synthesis [3,4,18,22,23,34,49,80], face and gesture synthesis [5,6,25,47,48,73], human-scene interaction [19,71,82,83] exist, synthesizing interactions between humans is relatively under-explored. Modeling such human-human interactions is essential for designing generative 3D human motion synthesis frameworks supporting the complex physical and social interplay of two interacting persons [66]. It offers new capabilities for character animation tools and software, with applications in commercial and entertainment media [26], interactive mixed and augmented reality [14], and social robotics [76].



Fig. 1: Visualizations of reactive 3D motion sequences synthesized with the proposed ReMoS approach. We synthesize the 3D full-body motion of the reactor (blue) conditioned only on the 3D motion of the actor (red), thereby completing the interactions between the two (Ninjutsu practice on the left and Lindy Hop dancing on the right). The synthesized hand interactions are enlarged and highlighted with circles.

Toward this goal, we focus on the task of modeling reactive motions. We aim to automatically generate realistic, temporally-aligned reactive motions of a responding person given the continuous motion of a guiding person (see Fig. 1). This alleviates a common overhead for animators, enabling them to design an acting character and automatically obtain meaningful motions for a reacting character. However, automating such a process poses two key challenges. First, two-person interaction synthesis increases the dimensionality of the already challenging problem of single-person motion synthesis. In our case, the generated reactive motions must align with the conditional signals provided in the form of 3D motion sequences from the actor. Second, doing so in a generative setting without any cues from text prompts or action labels (to obviate additional supervision and data needs) requires a careful trade-off between generating diverse motions and adhering to the narrow manifold of plausible reactions.

While existing methods for synthesizing interactions [10, 20] and two-person motions [42, 54, 65] are good at generating plausible motions, they rely on additional annotations, such as action labels or text prompts, to specify the motion. Action labels typically depict actions at a high level, such as "high-five" or "salsa", but do not capture the fine-grained synchronization with the actor's motions. Textual descriptions offer nuance for the motions, but collecting accurate textual annotations is considerably cumbersome, particularly for contact-heavy or fast-paced two-person motions, such as dancing and exercising. Further, performing generative tasks through textual prompting remains challenging for nonexperts [79]. Apart from the data, contact-based motion generation also needs to consider hand-based interactions to improve realism. This entails the need for frameworks capable of synthesizing hand movements with higher degrees of freedom, which are challenging to model but crucial for improving motion realism. Balancing focus between the broader full-body reactive movements and the finer hand motions involves addressing motion at two significantly different scales a challenge exacerbated by the high degrees of freedom of the skeletons.

With this objective in mind, we present ReMoS, a novel approach for <u>Re</u>active <u>Mo</u>tion <u>Synthesis</u> with full-body articulations. Inspired by the advancements of DDPMs in 3D human motion synthesis [50,54,65], we develop a DDPM framework (Sec. 3.1) with a cascaded, two-stage generation strategy tailored to our

problem setting (Fig. 2). In the first stage of our diffusion model, we generate the reactive motion for the reactor's body joints conditioned on the actor's body joints. In the second stage, we use the synthesized body motions as an additional parameter to generate masking for appropriate hand motions (Sec. 3.2). We propose a combined spatio-temporal cross-attention (CoST-XA) mapping between the actors' and the reactors' body motion embeddings, that learns the interdependencies in their motions without needing additional annotations. Further, to synthesize hand interactions, we introduce a hand-interaction-aware crossattention (H-XA) mechanism to ensure the relevant hand joints react to the actors' motions, thus allowing the network to distill localized hand interaction features. We ensure accurate coordination between the actor and the reactor by using contact-based reaction loss (Sec. 3.3) and an inference-time guidance function (Sec. 3.4) that improves the plausibility of the body and hand interactions. To explore reaction synthesis in complex and diverse two-person scenarios, we contribute the REMOCAP dataset consisting of full-body and finger motion sequences for fast-paced swing dance of Lindy Hop [63], and the martial art technique of Ninjutsu [12] (Sec. 4). In summary, our technical contributions are:

- **Remos.** A novel method for reactive 3D human motion synthesis using a cascaded diffusion framework to generate full-body and hand motions. Our framework generates fine-grained reactive motions for complex and dynamic contact-based interactions and derives the reactions directly from the actor's motions, without requiring explicit label or text annotations.
- Interaction-Based Attentions. A combined spatio-temporal cross attention (CoST-XA) mechanism to enforce coherence between the body movements of the actor and the reactor, and a hand-interaction-aware cross-attention (H-XA) mechanism to enforce the appropriate hand-based interactions between the two characters.
- REMoCAP. A new dataset for two-person interactions under complex scenarios of Lindy Hop dancing and Ninjutsu. The dataset consists of ~ 275.7K motion frames with multiview RGB videos and 3D full-body motion capture of the two interacting persons. It further includes finger-level articulations.

We evaluate our approach in different scenarios, including Lindy Hop dancing, Ninjutsu, Acrobatics [24] and Kickboxing [55], and report state-of-the-art performance (Sec. 5.3). We also report a user study on comparing the visual quality of ReMoS compared to the ground truth and the baseline methods (Sec. 5.4).

2 Related Work

Multi-Person 3D Motion Synthesis. Synthesizing close interactions between two or multiple persons is a challenging task in animation. Early works in multi-person interaction are based on motion graphs [59], interaction patches [58], momentum-based inverse kinematics and motion blending [37], and topologically-based pose representations [28, 29], to name a few. The increasing availability of interaction datasets [16, 39, 43, 53, 55, 78] has led to a rise in data-driven approaches for synthesizing digital partners or opponents in multi-person inter-

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action settings. Mousas [46] uses a hidden Markov model to control the dance motions of a digital partner in an immersive setup. Ahuja et al. [1] introduce a residual-attention model to generate body pose in a conversation setting conditioned on two audio signals and the opposite person's body pose. Starke et al. [64] propose a phase function-based network that learns asynchronous movements of each bone and its interaction with external objects. Guo et al. [24] propose the Extreme Pose Interaction dataset with a two-stream network with cross-interaction attention modules for forecasting pose sequences of two interacting characters. GAN-based models [20,45] generate motions for an interacting person conditioned on an input character and class labels depicting the type of reaction performed. These methods leverage the daily interaction datasets such as SBU Kinect [78] and 2C [55]. InterFormer [11] uses an interaction transformer with both spatial and temporal attention to generate reactive motions given some initial seed poses of both characters. It can synthesize sparse-level interactions based on the motions of the K3HI [32] and the DuetDance [39] datasets. Concurrent to our work, Duolando [60] uses an off-policy reinforcement learning model to predict tokenized motion for a leader and follower conditioned on music. The aforementioned methods either depend on seed motion as input or require additional conditions to drive the motion. In contrast, ReMoS focuses on synthesizing well-synchronized full-body and hand motions for the reactor conditioned only on the actor's 3D motions, without using any additional labels or prompts.

Diffusion Based 3D Motion Synthesis. Denoising diffusion models [61] have recently demonstrated their high potential in generative human motion modeling, specifically in single-person conditional motion synthesis. Conditional single-person motion generation has been performed using diffusion-based approaches for co-speech gestures [2, 85], audio-driven motion [13, 68, 84], and text-driven motion [54,67,77,81] synthesis. Diffusion-based techniques have also been extensively used for conditional synthesis for human-object interactions [38, 40, 41, 74], hand-object interactions [44, 75], and human-scene interactions [33]. Guided motion diffusion models such as GMD [35] and TraceAndPace [52] incorporate spatial constraints on motion trajectories, to guide the motion towards a goal at inference time. OmniControl [72] proposes spatial and realism guidance to control any joint for diffusion-based human motion generation. For two-person interaction synthesis, RAIG [65] proposes a diffusion-based, roleaware approach for two-person interactions, given separate textual descriptions for each person. BiGraphDiff [10] uses graph transformer denoising diffusion to learn two-person interaction conditioned on action labels. ComMDM [54] uses a communication block between two MDMs [67] to coordinate two-person interaction generation. ContactGen [21] presents a diffusion-based contact prediction module that adaptively estimates potential contact regions between two humans according to the interaction label. Liang et al. [42] propose InterGen, a diffusionbased model to synthesize two-person interactions given text descriptions as input conditions. They also propose the InterHuman dataset that includes diverse two-person interaction scenarios with rich text annotations. Inspired by these recent approaches, we design our proposed method ReMoS as a DDPM-based

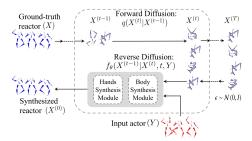


Fig. 2: ReMoS Overview. Given the motion of the actor (bottom-middle, in red), we synthesize a plausible motion for the reactor (bottom-left, in blue). We achieve this using a denoising diffusion-based probabilistic model (center) trained on reactive motion sequences (top-left, in blue).

3D motion-conditioned reaction synthesis method, consisting of a cascaded diffusion model with a combined spatio-temporal cross-attention mechanism. This allows ReMoS to implicitly learn the fine-grained synchronization between two interacting persons from only one of the person's motions, without any need for additional prompts or labels, and synthesize the corresponding motions of the second person. ReMoS further synthesizes plausible hand motions for the reactor to incorporate realistic hand-based interactions.

3 Reactive Motion Synthesis

We consider a digital, two-person interaction setting where the motions of one character, the actor, are known, and we need to synthesize the motions of the other character, the reactor. ReMoS aims to synthesize the synchronized reactive motions of the reactor in such a setting. We denote the reactor's motion as $X = \{X_B, X_H\}$, where $X_B \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times J_B \times 3}$ denotes the 3D full-body joint positions with J_B body joints, $X_H \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times J_H \times 3}$ denotes the 3D finger joint positions with J_H finger joints across both hands, and N denotes the number of frames in the motion sequence. Likewise, we denote the actor's motion as $Y = \{Y_B, Y_H\}$. Our goal is to model the conditional probability distribution P(X|Y) from which we can sample plausible reactive motions. We model this distribution using conditional denoising diffusion probabilistic models (DDPMs), owing to their unique strengths in capturing temporal coherence of motion data and handling complex motion dynamics [13, 67, 68]. We elaborate our methodology below.

3.1 DDPM for Reactive Motion Synthesis

The diffusion process consists of two steps: forward or destructive diffusion, and reverse or denoising diffusion. In the forward process, we progressively corrupt a clean reactive motion sequence X by adding Gaussian noise ϵ to it for T steps. With sufficiently small noise and large T, we can get $X^{(T)} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I)$ following closed-form formulation of Ho et al. [30]:

$$X^{(t)} = \sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_t} X^{(0)} + \sqrt{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t} \epsilon, \qquad \epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I),$$
(1)

where $\bar{\alpha}_t$ controls the rate of diffusion and $t \in [0, T]$. Reversing this diffusion process allows for sampling novel motion sequences from a multivariate Gaussian

distribution $p\left(X^{(T)}\right) \sim \mathcal{N}\left(0, I\right)$ as

$$p(X^{(0)}) = p(X^{(T)}) \prod_{t=1}^{T} p(X^{(t-1)}|X^{(t)}).$$
 (2)

We approximate the computationally intractable term $p\left(X^{(t-1)}|X^{(t)}\right)$ with a learnable function $f_{\theta}\left(X^{(t)},t\right)$, and optimize θ to encode the space of human reactive motions. Our reactive motion X is also conditioned on the actor's motion Y. Therefore, we modify the learnable function as $X^{(t-1)} = f_{\theta}\left(X^{(t)},t,Y\right)$. Following recent works [51,67], we estimate the original motion $X^{(0)} = f_{\theta}\left(X^{(t)},t,Y\right)$ from our diffusion model by iterating through all t denoising steps during inference.

3.2 ReMoS Framework

To generate fine-grained reactions with appropriate hand motions, ReMoS decodes the reactive motion of X in a cascaded fashion (Fig. 3). It first estimates the full-body joints X_B , and then the hand joints X_H as

$$X_B^{(0)} = f_{\theta_B} \left(X_B^{(t)}, t, Y_B \right),$$
 (3)

$$X_H^{(0)} = f_{\theta_H} \left(X_H^{(t)}, t, Y_H, \mathbb{1}_{H_A} (Y_B) \mathbb{1}_{H_R} \left(X_B^{(0)} \right) \right), \text{ and }$$
 (4)

$$X^{(0)} = \left\{ X_B^{(0)}, X_H^{(0)} \right\},\tag{5}$$

where $\mathbb{1}_{H_A}$ and $\mathbb{1}_{H_R}$ are binary, spatio-temporal hand-interaction mask functions that determine which hand joints of the reactor and actor interact at any given frame. Our cascaded framework comes from the observation that full-body articulations occur at significantly different scales than hand articulations. Since the body motions affect the hand articulations, our cascaded framework feeds the generated body motions as an additional condition to the hand generation module (Fig. 3). We also train the body and the hand generation modules separately, with additional hand-interaction-aware attention mapping for the hand joints. Previous work [19] used such disjoint training strategy on conditional motion synthesis for single persons. To better accommodate for two-person interactions in our case, we benefit from using a cascaded diffusion strategy [31].

Body Synthesis Module. In the first stage of our cascaded framework, we diffuse the reactor's body motion, $X_B^{(t)}$, at each diffusion step t, and feed it into a transformer decoder [69] block. To condition the reactor's body motion on the actor's body motion Y_B , we introduce a combined spatio-temporal cross-attention (CoST-XA) mapping. CoST-XA combines the spatial and temporal features of the actor's and the reactor's motions through an attention matrix to simultaneously learn the inter-dependencies between each pair of reactor and actor body joints $(x_{n,j},y_{n,j})$, $x_{n,j} \in X_B^{(t)}$ and $y_{n,j} \in Y_B$, respectively, at each frame. Denoting the query from the reactor's motion features as $Q_B \in \mathbb{R}^{NJ_B \times 3}$

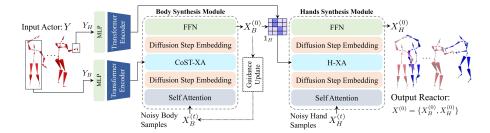


Fig. 3: ReMoS Framework. Given the full-body sequence of the actor (*left*, in *red*), we input noisy body and hand samples (*from below*) in a cascaded fashion. We synthesize the body samples first, and use them for hand-interaction-aware attention masking (*top-center*) to synthesize the denoised hand samples (*top-right*). The full-body reactive motion is a concatenation of the denoised body and hand samples (*right*, in *blue*).

and the key-value pair from the actor's motion features as $K_B \in \mathbb{R}^{NJ_B \times 3}$ and $V_B \in \mathbb{R}^{NJ_B \times 3}$, respectively, we formulate an attention matrix of dimensions $NJ_B \times NJ_B$. In contrast, most previous approaches [42,65] use cross-attention only on the temporal features of the motion using an attention matrix of shape $N \times N$. InterFormer [11] sequentially uses spatial and temporal cross-attention modules instead of combining them, which may result in a partial loss of information on fine-grained, inter-person interactions across time, especially in the absence of additional annotations (prompts or action labels) to condition the reactions. Our proposed cross-attention module, which we define as

CoST-XA = softmax
$$\left(\frac{Q_B K_B^T}{\sqrt{d_{K_B}}}\right) V_B,$$
 (6)

crucially considers combinations of spatial and temporal interaction features between different body segments of the actor and the reactor to efficiently synchronize their motions. We simultaneously project the diffusion timestep t at each denoising step into the transformer block after the attention blocks and use a final layer of fully-connected network with SiLU activations [15] and batch normalization [7] to generate the body motions. The first stage output is a vector $X_B^{(0)} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times J_B \times 3}$ representing the reactor's clean, synthesized body motion.

Hands Synthesis Module. The second stage of our cascaded framework synthesizes the reactor's hand joints. We input noisy samples $X_H^{(t)}$ into a similar transformer decoder block conditioned on the actor's hand motions Y_H . Here, we require the attention weights to be high for the hands used in the hand-based interactions and low for the passive hands. We explicitly enforce this using a spatio-temporal hand-interaction-aware cross-attention mapping (H-XA) to encourage learning localized interaction features. For H-XA to work, we introduce binary hand-interaction masks $\mathbbm{1}_{H_A}$ and $\mathbbm{1}_{H_R} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times J_H}$. Its entries are calculated by thresholding the distances of the actor's and reactor's wrist joints in Y_B and

 $X_B^{(0)}$, respectively, to the nearest body joints of the other person. The active entries of $\mathbb{1}_{H_A}$ and $\mathbb{1}_{H_R}$ determine which of the actor's and reactor's hands are sufficiently close to the body of the other person (and hence interacting). We then project the encoded Y_H features into each decoder layer using H-XA, as

$$\text{H-XA} = \operatorname{softmax} \left(\frac{\left(\mathbb{1}_{H_R} \odot Q_H\right) \left(\mathbb{1}_{H_A} \odot K_H\right)^T}{\sqrt{d_{K_H}}} \right) V_H, \tag{7}$$

where K_H and V_H are the hand motion features from the actor, Q_H are the hand motion features from the reactor with d_{K_H} channels, and \odot denotes element-wise product for masking the query and key values. We project the diffusion timestep t at each denoising step into the transformer block and use fully-connected networks with SiLU activations to generate the clean, synthesized reactor hand motions $X_H^{(0)} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times J_H \times 3}$. At the end, to obtain the full reactive motion $X^{(0)}$, we concatenate $\left\{X_B^{(0)}, X_H^{(0)}\right\}$ as in Eqn. 5.

3.3 Losses and Training Details

We train ReMoS to minimize a weighted sum of three loss terms, the reconstruction loss \mathcal{L}_c , the reaction loss \mathcal{L}_r , and the kinematic loss \mathcal{L}_k , as

$$\mathcal{L} = \lambda_c \mathcal{L}_c + \lambda_r \mathcal{L}_r + \lambda_k \mathcal{L}_k, \tag{8}$$

where λ_c , λ_r and λ_k are scalar weights to balance the individual losses.

Reconstruction Loss \mathcal{L}_c . This is the standard diffusion data term that minimizes the ℓ_2 -distance between the ground truth and the synthesized reactive motion, as $\mathcal{L}_c = \|X - X^{(0)}\|_2$. While the reconstruction loss provides the vital data term to drive the training, it does not enforce interaction synchronization between the actor and the reactor, or any kinematic constraints on the motion.

Reaction loss \mathcal{L}_r . We introduce the reaction loss to ensure accurate timing and spatial positioning of the reactor's motion with respect to the actor's motion. We calculate the ground-truth Euclidean distance $d\left(\cdot,\cdot\right)$ between each joint of the actor and the reactor at each frame and minimize the deviations from these distances for the actor and the synthesized reactor's motions. We note that this distance term also implicitly constrains the reactor's joints in frames that are less relevant for interactions, *i.e.*, where the reactor's joints are far from the actor's joints. Further, the Euclidean distances for their hand joints in frames with no hand-based contact become drastically high. To mitigate these concerns, we use an exponentially decaying distance-aware weight $\exp\left(-d\left(x_{n,j},y_{n,j}\right)\right)$ at each frame n to focus more on the reactor's joints that are closer to the actor, and therefore more relevant for interaction (see Fig. 4). Thus, we get our reaction loss term as

$$\mathcal{L}_{r} = \frac{1}{NJ} \sum_{n=1}^{N} \sum_{j=1}^{J} \exp\left(-d\left(x_{n,j}, y_{n,j}\right)\right) \cdot \left| d\left(x_{n,j}, y_{n,j}\right) - d\left(x_{n,j}^{(0)}, y_{n,j}\right) \right|. \tag{9}$$

Table 1: Dataset Comparisons. Comparing ReMoCap with existing multi-person interaction datasets.

Dataset	Motion	Duration	Multi-view	Finger
(Chronologically)				s Articulation
SBU [78]	$\sim 7 \mathrm{K}$	0.13	Х	Х
NTU-26 [43]	$\sim 22 \mathrm{K}$	0.47	✓	×
2C [55]	$\sim 13 \mathrm{K}$	0.06	×	×
DanceDB [53]	$\sim 1.44 \mathrm{M}$	4.00	X	×
DuetDance [39]	$\sim 196 \mathrm{K}$	1.09	×	×
CHI3D [16]	$\sim 486 \mathrm{K}$	2.70	✓	×
ExPI [24]	$\sim 30 \mathrm{K}$	0.33	✓	×
InterHuman [42]	$\sim 107 \mathrm{M}$	6.56	×	×
DD100 [60]	$\sim 200 \mathrm{K}$	1.92	X	✓
ReMoCap (ours)	$\sim 275.7 \mathrm{K}$	2.04	✓	/

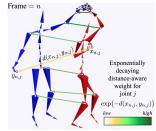


Fig. 4: Visualization of Distance Aware Reaction Loss. We use an exponentially decaying distance-aware reaction loss to focus more on the reactor's joints that are closer to the actor.

Kinematic Loss \mathcal{L}_k . To maintain the kinematic plausibility of the generated motions, we follow existing literature on regularizers for bone length consistency, foot contacts, and temporal consistency [56,57,68]. Our kinematic loss term is a weighted sum of the joint velocity loss \mathcal{L}_{vel} , the joint acceleration loss \mathcal{L}_{acc} , the bone length consistency loss \mathcal{L}_{bone} , and the foot sliding loss \mathcal{L}_{foot} , as

$$\mathcal{L}_k = \lambda_v \mathcal{L}_{vel} + \lambda_a \mathcal{L}_{acc} + \lambda_b \mathcal{L}_{bone} + \lambda_f \mathcal{L}_{foot}, \tag{10}$$

where λ_v , λ_a , λ_b and λ_f are scalar weights (more details in the appendix).

3.4 Inference Time Spatial Guidance

While our method synthesizes plausible reactive motions, it can sometimes spatially misalign the reactor's body to the actor's, espeically at the arm joints, for fast-paced, contact-heavy interactions. This, in turn, affects finger-joint synthesis in the second stage of our cascaded diffusion. To improve spatial alignment, we leverage guidance functions [35, 52] that can provide gradients to nudge the sampling process towards a certain direction. We design a guidance function $G\left(\phi,\hat{\phi}\right)\in\mathbb{R}^{N\times J_A\times 3}$, which minimizes the distance between the J_A arm joints of the actor (ϕ) and the J_A arm joints of the synthesized reactor $(\hat{\phi})$. Specifically, we re-apply our interaction masks $\mathbb{1}_{H_A}$ and $\mathbb{1}_{H_R}$ to determine which of the reactor's hands are more likely to be interacting with the actor, and minimize the distances between the arm joints of the corresponding sides as $G=\arg\min_{\hat{\phi}}\left(\left\|\mathbb{1}_{H_A}\odot\phi-\mathbb{1}_{H_R}\odot\hat{\phi}\right\|\right)$. We then plug G into the denoising pipeline of our body diffusion module, as

$$X_B^{(0)} = X_B^{(0)} - \gamma \nabla_{X_B^{(0)}} G\left(\phi, \hat{\phi}\right), \qquad \gamma = \text{ guidance scale.}$$
 (11)

4 ReMoCap Dataset

We propose the ReMoCap dataset to facilitate research on contact-based two-person interactions with finger-level articulations. It contains complex two-person interactions in two separate scenarios: the fast-paced, swing-style Lindy Hop dancing, and the martial arts of Ninjutsu. We consider these two types of motions for studying physical interactions for two main reasons. First, these motions encompass a significantly *diverse* spectrum of motions in terms of intensity, speed, and style. Second, choreographed motion generation is developing as an active field of research and we envision this dataset to facilitate research in interactive applications such as performing in virtual reality [9] and remote tutoring [53].

Data Collection. We invited 4 trained Lindy Hop dancers and 5 trained Ninjutsu artists to perform diverse interactions in a multi-view capture studio. We tracked their motions using a commercially available markerless, multi-view motion-capture system [8], which tracks 93 degrees-of-freedom driving 69 body joints. Capturing motions in a markerless setting enables the performers to move uninhibited, while also making the data suitable for training monocular or multiview motion capture methods under severe inter-person occlusions. We also capture RGB videos from 120 camera views for each sequence. The dataset includes 3D skeleton poses with full-body and finger annotations, foreground-background segmentation masks, and 3D surface reconstructions of the subjects. We capture sequences of multiple lengths totaling ~ 275.7 K frames (2.04 hours) of motion data from each view at a frame rate of 50 fps for the Lindy Hop and 25 fps for the Ninjutsu. Out of all the frames, around 150K frames have hand-based interactions between the two characters where the closest distance between the finger joints of the actor and the reactor is within 50 mm. We present more dataset statistics in the appendix.

Dataset Comparison. Table 1 shows a comprehensive comparison of ReMo-Cap with existing multi-person interaction datasets. Existing datasets consisting of two-person interactions, such as SBU [78], K3HI [32], NTU-26 [43] and 2C [55], are limited in size and motion capture quality. They typically feature simple actions, such as handshakes, punching, pushing and kicking, with weak interactions, and do not capture hand motions. The recent ExPI [24] dataset captures Lindy Hop aerial sequences to model more complex interactions, and the Inter-Human [42] dataset features both daily motions (e.g., passing objects, greeting, communicating) and professional motions (e.g., Taekwondo, Latin dance, boxing). However, these datasets do not provide finger-level motion capture data, which is a key requirement to intricately model inter-human activities. Two-person dance datasets, such as DuetDance [39] and DanceDB [53], also lack the hand motion data needed for modeling interactions. Only the concurrent work, Duolando [60]* proposes the DD100 dataset with strong interactions between two dancers and provides hand motion data.

^{*}unpublished at the time of our paper submission

5 Experiments and Results

We conduct comprehensive experiments to evaluate ReMoS on multiple twoperson datasets covering a wide range of interaction scenarios. We perform training and evaluation on multiple large-scale datasets, including 2C [55], ExPI [24], and our proposed ReMoCap. We provide the implementation details, report quantitative and qualitative comparisons on standard evaluation metrics and through a user study, report ablations, and show how to apply ReMoS as a motion editing tool. We provide details on the dataset preparation in the appendix.

5.1 Implementation Details

As a pre-processing step, we normalize the two-person body poses by translating the actor's motion Y and the reactor's motion X together, such that the root joint of Y is at the global origin for all N frames. We then compute the relative 3D joint coordinates of X_B and Y_B w.r.t. the root joint of Y_B . For each hand, we compute the relative 3D joint coordinates of X_H and Y_H w.r.t. the corresponding wrist joints of X_H and Y_H . Using normalized inter-person, root-relative joint positions benefits the stability and convergence of our model. ReMoS uses T=500 diffusion steps where $\bar{\alpha}$ changes linearly from 0.0002 to 0.02. We train for about 64K iterations on both sequences of ReMoCap using Adam [36] with a base learning rate of 10^{-5} and a batch size of 64. We decay the learning rate using a Step LR scheduler with a step size of 5 epochs and a decay rate of 0.99. We use d = 256 for our latent embedding representation and use 6 layers in our transformer decoder with 4 heads for calculating the attention. The training takes around 8 and 11 hours on an NVIDIA RTX A4000 GPU for Lindy Hop and Ninjutsu, respectively. The inference time is $\sim 24s$ to generate 50 frames of full-body and finger motions (12.5s for body synthesis and then 11.5s for hand synthesis). We set $\lambda_c, \lambda_r, \lambda_v = 10.0, \lambda_a, \lambda_k, \lambda_b = 1.0$ and $\lambda_f = 20.0$ (only applied after 100 training epochs) as the loss term weights in Eqns. 8 and 10. We set the guidance scale $\gamma = 10^{-3}$ in Eqn. 11.

5.2 Baselines and Ablated Versions

For baselines, we choose the closest motion synthesis methods in a two-person setting, namely, MixNMatch [20], InterFormer [11], ComMDM [54], Role-Aware Interaction Generation (RAIG) [65], and InterGen [42]. InterFormer [11] was originally trained in a reactive motion synthesis setting without additional annotations, such as action labels or text descriptions, and we maintain this setup. For the other methods, we mask out their input text/label embeddings to comply with our annotation-free setting. We re-train these methods on ReMoCap with a thorough hyper-parameter search and report their best performances. We provide more training details in the appendix.

We also compare our proposed ReMoS model with five of its ablated versions:

• w/o diffusion. Training ReMoS using a transformer encoder-decoder network without using DDPM strategy.

Table 2: Quantitative Evaluation on ReMoCap. We compare ReMoS with our baselines and ablated versions (Sec. 5.2) on the ReMoCap dataset. We evaluate these methods on metrics such as MPJPE, MPJVE, FID, and Diversity. ↓: lower is better, ↑: higher is better, →: values closer to GT are better. **Bold** indicates best.

-										
Method	Lindy Hop				Ninjutsu					
11201101	MPJPE	MPJVE	FID ↓	FID ↓	Div	MPJPE	MPJVE	FID ↓	FID ↓	Div
	$(\mathrm{mm})\downarrow$	$(\mathrm{mm})\downarrow$	(body)	(hands)	\rightarrow	$(\mathrm{mm})\downarrow$	(mm) ↓	(body)	(hands)	\rightarrow
GT	_	-	-	-	7.57	-	-	-	-	10.51
InterFormer [11]	66.6	8.26	0.53	0.65	4.54	270.2	3.4	0.57	0.68	6.48
MixNMatch [20]	70.2	10.3	0.77	0.78	2.48	257.2	5.2	0.74	0.72	4.83
ComMDM [54]	59.4	4.41	0.32	0.53	7.48	201.2	4.1	0.34	0.58	9.98
RAIG [65]	71.2	4.32	0.47	0.63	8.45	199.1	5.1	0.21	0.63	10.11
InterGen [42]	62.6	3.92	0.30	0.61	7.21	172.6	3.9	0.32	0.57	9.98
ReMoS (ours)	40.7	2.26	0.12	0.26	7.62	139.2	3.3	0.16	0.35	10.26
w/o diffusion	72.5	4.91	0.58	0.74	4.04	224.5	4.1	0.52	0.64	6.06
w/o cascading	63.9	4.95	0.51	0.55	7.12	223.6	4.2	0.42	0.75	6.62
w/o CoST-XA	44.2	3.62	0.21	0.39	7.45	176.6	3.6	0.27	0.41	8.91
w/o reaction loss	44.6	3.51	0.22	0.38	7.31	144.6	3.7	0.23	0.39	8.99
w/o spatial guidance	41.9	2.34	0.12	0.26	7.62	139.4	3.4	0.16	0.35	10.26

- w/o cascading. Training ReMoS with an integrated transformer for all the joints instead of a cascaded strategy for body and hand generation.
- w/o CoST-XA. Using a spatial followed by a temporal cross-attention mapping instead of the combined spatio-temporal features for body synthesis.
- w/o reaction loss. Removing the reaction loss (Eqn. 9) in training.
- w/o spatial guidance. Removing spatial guidance G_A (Sec. 3.4) in inference.

5.3 Quantitative Evaluation

We evaluate ReMoS on standard evaluation metrics. We measure the temporal consistency deviation from the ground truth 3D pose following [57] to report the mean per-joint positional error (MPJPE) and the mean per-frame, per-joint velocity error (MPJVE), both in mm, on the synthesized motions. We measure the Fréchet Inception Distance (FID) [27] to compare the distribution gap between the embedding spaces of the generated and ground-truth motions. As part of our method focuses on generating hand motions, we measure the FID score of body and hands separately for ReMoCap. We also compute the latent variance of the generated motions (Diversity) [67,81]. Table 2 reports the quantitative evaluation of ReMoS with its baselines and ablations on ReMoCap. ReMoS achieves state-of-the-art performance for both the Lindy Hop pair-dance setting and the Ninjutsu setting. We observe that methods using denoising diffusion have higher Diversity compared to transformer-based [11] or GAN-based [20] methods. This enforces the variability claims of denoising diffusion models. We note at least 20% improvement in the MPJPE and around 40% improvement in the FID score for the reactor's body motion when using the proposed CoST-XA mechanism, confirming its benefit in learning fine-grained, inter-person dependencies across time. We also note an almost 50% improvement in the FID scores of

Table 3: Quantitative Evaluation on the ExPI and 2C datasets. We compare ReMoS with state-of-theart motion synthesis methods on the ExPI [24] and 2C datasets [55]. \downarrow : lower is better, \uparrow : higher is better, \rightarrow : values closer to GT are better. **Bold** indicates best.

Method	ExPI					2C			
	MPJPE	MPJVE	FID ↓	Div	MPJPE	MPJVE	$\mathrm{FID}\downarrow$	Div	
	$(mm) \downarrow$	(mm) ↓	(body)) →	(mm) ↓	(mm) ↓	(body)	\rightarrow	
GT	-	-	-	2.01		-	-	2.22	
InterFormer [11]	99.1	3.56	0.42	1.31	90.7	5.11	0.52	1.45	
MixNMatch [20]	122.4	5.56	0.48	1.18	62.4	6.01	0.47	1.24	
ComMDM [54]	121.4	5.41	0.45	2.48	69.9	3.34	0.49	2.86	
RAIG [65]	131.2	3.96	0.53	2.51	91.6	4.92	0.67	4.45	
InterGen [42]	100.6	3.91	0.43	2.09	67.6	4.01	0.47	2.91	
ReMoS (ours)	97.9	3.52	0.41	1.98	59.1	3.33	0.34	2.07	

Table 4: User Study Results. Mean scores on a five-point Likert scale (scores 1-5).

Method	Motion	Reaction		
Method	Quality	Plausibility		
	1	↑		
GT	4.86 ± 0.54	4.72 ± 0.56		
InterFormer	2.52 ± 0.61	2.28 ± 0.57		
MixNMatch	1.92 ± 0.71	2.18 ± 0.57		
ComMDM	3.02 ± 0.47	3.12 ± 0.52		
RAIG	2.83 ± 0.67	2.48 ± 0.65		
${\rm Inter}{\rm Gen}$	3.18 ± 0.57	3.19 ± 0.53		
ReMoS	$\textbf{3.79} \pm \textbf{0.55}$	3.88 ± 0.54		

the reactor's hand motion when using the cascaded strategy and the reaction loss. Further, the spatial guidance function fine-tuning improves MPJPE and MPJVE. The MPJPE values are overall higher in Ninjutsu than in Lindy Hop as the trajectory of the reactor is more diverse for Ninjutsu. We also report the evaluation of ReMoS with its baselines on the ExPI [24] and the 2C [55] datasets in Table 3. These datasets do not provide hand motions, so we only evaluate the reactor's body motions, and report state-of-the-art performance of ReMoS.

5.4 User Study

We evaluate the visual quality of our captured ground truth data and the generated reactive motions through a user study. We show participants 26 different interaction sequences across the ground truth, our method, and its baselines. For each sequence, we randomly show them three methods side-by-side and ask them to rate the 3D motions they observe in terms of (a) the reactor's motion quality, irrespective of the actor's motion (Motion Quality), and (b) the plausibility of the reaction given the actor's motion (Reaction Plausibility). We ask the participants to rank these motions from '1' (worst score) to '5' (best score) in a five-point Likert scale. Table 4 reports the mean scores from the responses of 40 participants, excluding the responses that did not pass our validation checks. We notice the ground truth motions in ReMoCap achieve the highest score of around 96%, indicating that participants perceive our captured ground truth motions to be natural-looking, with realistic interactions. ReMoS has the second best ranking of around 78%, which is almost 21% higher than the baselines, showing that it is preferred more over the baselines.

5.5 Qualitative Results and Applications

Fig. 1 shows qualitative results of ReMoS on ReMoCap and highlights the synthesized hand interactions. We note that our actor and reactor are *interchange-able*, *i.e.*, depending on the character driving the interaction at a given time,

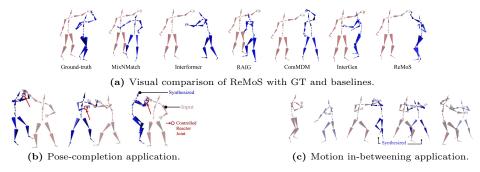


Fig. 5: Qualitative Results and Applications. We show some visual results and the application of ReMoS as a motion editing tool. (a) The reactor (in *blue*) synthesized by ReMoS has the most plausible alignment with the actor (in *red*) compared to the baselines. (b) We manually control the right-hand wrist joint of the reactor and let ReMoS synthesize the remaining body joints conditioned on the actor. (c) ReMoS synthesizes the reactor's motion in-between the start and end frames.

we can swap the actor and the reactor to produce the relevant reactive motions. Fig. 5a shows a visual comparison of ReMoS with the baselines for one frame of Lindy Hop motion. ReMoS synthesizes reaction with the most plausible alignment with the actor's motion. We provide detailed visual results in our supplementary video. Inspired by the applicability of diffusion-based methods for motion editing and controlling, we demonstrate how ReMoS can also be used as an interactive motion editing tool to control the reactor's motion as desired. In Figs. 5b and 5c, we show results from two different motion editing applications, namely, pose completion with controlled joints and motion in-betweening. We discuss more details in the appendix.

6 Conclusion

ReMoS brings 3D motion conditioned reaction synthesis to a qualitatively new level by generating diverse, well-synchronized reactions for complex movements and plausible hand motions for contact-based interactions. It outperforms the existing baselines both quantitatively and in a user study. We also highlight some practical applications of our model, such as pose completion and motion in-betweening, which can lead to the development of useful generative assistants for animators, designers, and creative artists. Even though we utilize joint positions as parameterization due to their ready availability, we can adapt our approach to accommodate mesh-level inter-person contacts by introducing an offset to the contact threshold between the two bodies, thus simulating skinto-skin interactions. We believe there is scope for improvement in the inference speed, where approaches such as Pro-DDPM [17] and DDIM [62] have shown success. Future directions also involve scaling the problem towards multi-person motion prediction [70] and considering scene-aware interactions for the characters, which would further enhance immersive user experiences.

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