Selecting Visual Scene Displays: Personal Relevance of Gender and Age

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Purpose/Rationale

Visual Scene Displays (VSD) are increasingly used to support communication for children and adults with complex communication needs. Current technology (e.g. Google Images) allows anyone to search for hundreds of images. Access to pre-captured images may support ease of developing visual scenes displays.

Search image:

Search Yield: 503 images

The purpose of this study was to investigate the eye tracking patterns of adults with and without disabilities who were cued to identify a VSD that represented activities such as sleeping, eating, drinking, writing, and reading.
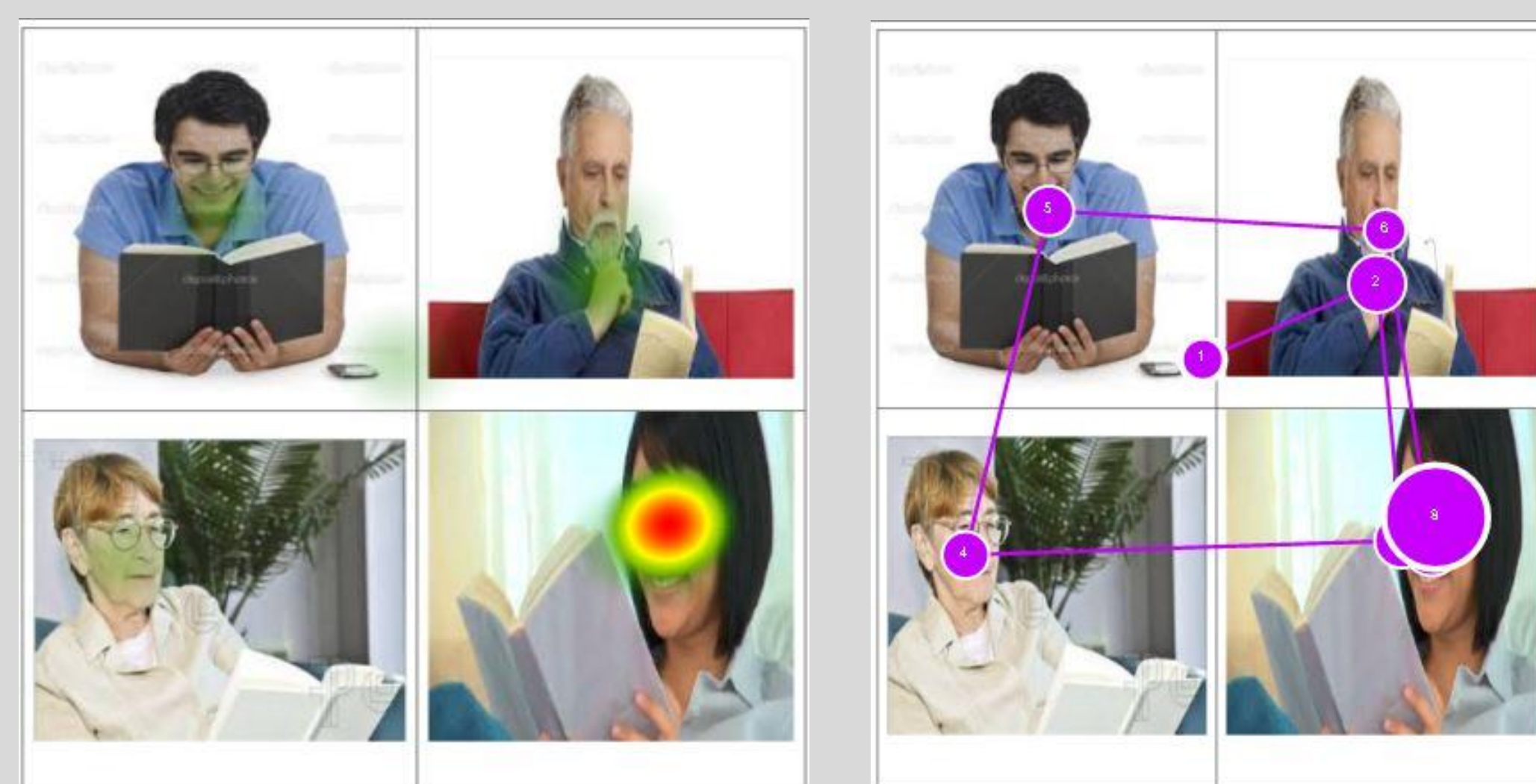
Method

Participants:
- Group 1: Young, middle-aged, & senior males and females without disability
- Group 2: Individuals with stroke/aphasia

Equipment: Eye-tracking analysis with T-60 (Tobii) with Tobii Studio software
Stimuli: Screens containing 4 VSDs with adults of 2 age groups engaged in an activity

Stimulus Screen

Fixation Duration

Results

Female Participants

Women	Female Images	Male Images
Young	90.9%	9.1%
Middle-aged	59.9%	40.1%
Older (Senior)	85.5%	14.5%

Male Participants

	Female Images	Male Images
Young Males	24%	76%
Older Males	Data collection ongoing	

Participants with Stroke

Participants	Female Images	Male Images
Males	0%	100%
Women	80%	20%

Conclusion

- Females and males tend to focus on visual images consistent with their gender, if the gender and age in image are appropriate for them.
- Middle aged females focus less consistently on female visual images, if age is not appropriate for them.
- Females and males with stroke performed similarly to typical participants.

Acknowledgements