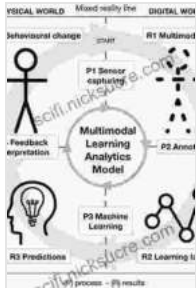


# Communication Gaze and Autism: A Multimodal Interaction Perspective



## Communication, Gaze and Autism: A Multimodal Interaction Perspective by Federico García Lorca

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

Language : English  
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Communication gaze is a fundamental aspect of human interaction. It allows us to convey messages, express emotions, and regulate our social behavior. However, individuals with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) often experience difficulties with communication gaze, which can significantly impact their social interactions.

This article explores the complex relationship between communication gaze and autism from a multimodal interaction perspective. We will first review the literature on communication gaze in individuals with ASD. We will then discuss the multimodal interaction perspective and how it can be applied to understanding communication gaze in ASD. Finally, we will provide some implications for intervention and future research.

## Communication Gaze in Individuals with ASD

Research on communication gaze in individuals with ASD has shown that they exhibit atypical patterns of gaze behavior. For example, individuals with ASD may make less eye contact than typically developing individuals, and they may have difficulty maintaining eye contact for extended periods.

These atypical patterns of gaze behavior can have a number of negative consequences for social interaction. For example, individuals with ASD may be perceived as being disinterested or unengaged in conversation. They may also be seen as being rude or aggressive. As a result, individuals with ASD may experience social isolation and rejection.

### **The Multimodal Interaction Perspective**

The multimodal interaction perspective is a theoretical framework that can be used to understand communication gaze in ASD. This perspective views communication as a multimodal process that involves multiple channels, including gaze, facial expressions, gestures, and speech.

According to the multimodal interaction perspective, communication gaze is not simply a reflection of internal mental states. Rather, it is an active and dynamic process that is influenced by a number of factors, including the social context, the communicative intent of the speaker, and the listener's expectations.

### **Applying the Multimodal Interaction Perspective to Communication Gaze in ASD**

The multimodal interaction perspective can be applied to understanding communication gaze in ASD in a number of ways. First, it can help us to understand why individuals with ASD may exhibit atypical patterns of gaze behavior.

For example, individuals with ASD may have difficulty making eye contact because they are overwhelmed by the social demands of the situation. They may also have difficulty maintaining eye contact because they are focused on other aspects of the environment, such as the speaker's facial expressions or gestures.

Second, the multimodal interaction perspective can help us to develop more effective interventions for addressing communication gaze difficulties in individuals with ASD. For example, interventions that focus on teaching individuals with ASD how to use gaze to regulate their social interactions may be more effective than interventions that focus on simply teaching them to make more eye contact.

### **Implications for Intervention and Future Research**

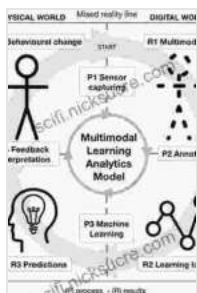
The multimodal interaction perspective has a number of implications for intervention and future research. First, it suggests that interventions for communication gaze difficulties in individuals with ASD should be tailored to the individual's specific needs. For example, an intervention that is effective for an individual who has difficulty making eye contact may not be effective for an individual who has difficulty maintaining eye contact.

Second, the multimodal interaction perspective suggests that future research should focus on examining the relationship between communication gaze and other aspects of social interaction in individuals with ASD. For example, research could examine how communication gaze is related to social reciprocity, joint attention, and language development.

By understanding the multimodal nature of communication gaze, we can develop more effective interventions for addressing communication gaze

difficulties in individuals with ASD. We can also gain a better understanding of the complex relationship between communication gaze and social interaction in this population.

Communication gaze is a fundamental aspect of human interaction. However, individuals with ASD often experience difficulties with communication gaze, which can significantly impact their social interactions. The multimodal interaction perspective provides a framework for understanding communication gaze in ASD and for developing more effective interventions.



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