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Karl H. Schaffer* (karl_schaffer@yahoo.com), 325 Lucinda St., Scotts Valley, CA 95066, and **Joseph Thie** (jathie@utk.edu) and **Kasia Williams** (kwilliams@hw.com). *Quantifying the Center of Attention (CA) for Describing Dance Choreography.*

A center of attention (CA) was defined by Kasia Williams in a paper at the international 2012 Bridges conference as a means for mathematically studying how choreographers and dancers tend to create and manipulate the CA in dance works. In the arts, qualitative usage of the CA has long been successfully employed by painters. For dance it is quantitatively calculated by an interpreter of video frames assigning weights to the dancers based on the choreographer's intent as applied to dancer configurations and locations on stage as the performance proceeds in time. The presenters, using Excel and Mathematica, have been exploring methods of calculating and displaying the CA as a trajectory along with statistical and other quantifiers from analyses of a variety of dance performances. The hope is that the center of attention might emerge as a new useful tool in matters such as understandings, classifications, and improving audience enjoyment. We will present our latest results and also suggest ways how these ideas might be adopted beyond dance performances. These include classroom activities and perhaps related attention-producing technologies dominated by configurations changing in space and time. (Received September 26, 2017)