

Virtual Reality and Multi-Sensory Interaction Master Research in Computer Science (SIF)

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About Myself

Inria Research Scientist (France)

- Habilitation in computer science 2021 (Univ. Rennes 1, France)
- PhD in computer science 2011 (UPC, Spain)
- Member of the Inria's Hybrid team
 - Virtual and Augmented Reality
 - @Hybrid_TeamVR
 - <u>https://team.inria.fr/hybrid</u>





Research @Hybrid









Contents

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> The User in the Loop

- Human perception
 - Distance perception
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- Interaction Tasks: Selection, Manipulation, Navigation, Application Control

Definitions

Human-Computer Interaction (HCI)

Communication process between users and computers

> Design, implementation and evaluation of interactive systems.



User Interface

Medium through which the communication takes place

- Translates user actions (inputs) and computer states (outputs)
- A good UI should balance expressiveness and simplicity



Other Realities – Milgram's Continuum

Reality-Virtuality continuum

- Introduced by Paul Milgram and Fumio Kishino in 1994
- Merging of real and virtual environments
 - Physical an digital objects co-exist and interact in real time
 - Mixed reality is the spectrum between real and purely virtual environments



Reality-Virtuality (RV) Continuum

Skarbez R, Smith M and Whitton MC (2021) Revisiting Milgram and Kishino's Reality-Virtuality Continuum. Front. Virtual Real. 2:647997. doi: 10.3389/frvir.2021.647997

Virtual Reality

"Virtual reality is a scientific domain that use **computer science** and **interaction interfaces** in order to simulate, in a virtual world, the behaviour of 3D entities that are interacting in **real time** with themselves and with one or more users. The user's sensorymotor channels are engaged in a pseudo-natural immersion" Traité de la réalité virtuelle





Augmented Reality

- Computer generated information are added to the perception of a real scene
- Main goal
 - Support the user in real world tasks
 - Increase user's performance
 - Augment user's perception





Ikea

Hyper-Reality, Keiichi Matsuda

The Interaction Loop



A Short History of User Interfaces

User Interface in Real Life







PHOTO: NPH / DIETER MATHIS/PICTURE-ALLIANCE/DPA/AP IMAGES

Command-line User Interface



1981

Current date is Tue 1-01-1980 Enter new date: Current time is 7:48:27.13									
Enter new time:									
The IBM	The IBM Personal Computer DOS								
Version 1.10 (C)Copyright IBM Corp 1981, 1982									
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DEBLIG	COM	LINK	EXE	BASIC	COM	BASICA	COM	ABT	BAS
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https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/IBM_PC_DOS#/media/File:PC_DOS_1.10_screenshot.png

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https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:MS-DOS_install_welcome.gif

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IN CONGRESS, JULY 4, 1776 The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America	
When in the Course of human events it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political hands which have connected the with another and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impe them to the separation.	
We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are creat equal, that they are endowed by their Greater with certain manifemable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness That to secure these rights, Government are instituted among Hen, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed That whenever any forms of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the Peopl to alter or to abelish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seen most likely to effec A:NBEC-IND.TXT Dec 1 Fg 1	ed :s :e :t Ln 1" Pos 1 "
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Graphical User Interfaces



1973



https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/en/1/1d/Xerox_Star_8010_workstations.jpg



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Windows_NT_4.0.png

1984



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Apple_Macintosh_Desktop.png



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mac_OS_X_10.0

The desktop



Engineering by Anton Georgiev

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uGI00HV7Cfw

Post-WIMP User Interfaces



Direct and tangible interfaces



S. Jordà, et al. 2007. The reacTable: exploring the synergy between live music performance and tabletop tangible interfaces. ACM International conference on Tangible and embedded interaction



Follmer, Sean, et al. "inFORM: dynamic physical affordances and constraints through shape and object actuation." *Uist*. Vol. 13. 2013.



S. Pick, B. Weyers, B. Hentschel and T. W. Kuhlen, "Design and Evaluation of Data Annotation Workflows for CAVE-like Virtual Environments," in *IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics*, vol. 22, no. 4, pp. 1452-1461, 2016.

Trends in UI Evolution

- Increased functionality and data management
- User customization and Interface adaptation
- Natural user interfaces and multimodal feedback
- Immersion (increased display size, VR, AR)
- Multi-user collaboration







The origins of Virtual Reality

- 1962: Sensorama (Morton Heilig)
 - Earliest known examples of immersive, multi-sensory system
- > 1965: The Ultimate Display (Ivan Sutherland)
 - Data visualization: "A display connected to a digital computer ... is a looking glass into a mathematical wonderland."
 - Sensors: "The computer can easily sense the positions of almost any of our body muscles."
 - Virtual Environment: "The ultimate display would, of course, be a room within which the computer can control the existence of matter. A chair displayed in such a room would be good enough to sit in."
- > 1968: A Head-Mounted Three Dimensional Display
 - AFIPS Conference Proceedings, Vol. 33, Part I, 1968, pp. 757-764





Long process



Sensorama 1962

Surgical Planning, S. Cotin 1996

Industrial interest for VR / AR

To do things better

- Time-saver
 - Design
 - Prototyping
 - Training
- Project review
 - Limit the use of the physical mock-up
 - Access to digital mock-up
 - Multi-users / multi-competencies
- To be free
 - Of the equipment availability
 - Of the dangerousness of the equipment for the user

> To make differently, to invent

- Access to time and/or space scale and virtual sensors
 - Relativistic physics
 - Geological applications
 - Multiscale Data
- Access to hidden data
 - Scientific Visualization
 - Ex: constraints inside a 3D object
- New functionality
 - New metaphors to explore data
 - Multimodality: Haptics / Sound / Vision

3D User Interfaces



Siggraph 2017 – Unity VR Editor https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DkMfBIn81Xk

The User in the Loop

The Interaction Loop



The Interaction Loop



Human Perception

Towards the Holodeck



Star Trek

The Interaction Loop



Human Perception

The process by which sensory information is actively organized and interpreted by the brain.

- Bottom-up: analysis of information incoming from sense receptors
- Top-down: drawing meanings from experience and expectations
- The combination of the different sensory modalities allows humans to build a percept of their reality
 - Visual, Haptic, Acoustic, Olfactory, Taste
- Covered topics
 - Distance perception
 - Motion perception
 - Haptic perception (later in the course)



Bayesian framework



The perception-action loop, incorporating a Bayesian framework.

Marc O. Ernst, Heinrich H. Bülthoff, Merging the senses into a robust percept, Trends in Cognitive Sciences, Volume 8, Issue 4, 2004, Pages 162-169, ISSN 1364-6613

Distance and Depth Perception

Distance and Depth Perception



- Ability to retrieve distance information
 - Exocentric: Relationship between objects
 - Egocentric: Distance towards objects
- Combination of all depth cues enable an accurate perception



Cue dominance

- In case of ambiguity the stronger cue will be used for disambiguation
- Increase in uncertainty and inaccuracy



Renner, R. S., Velichkovsky, B. M., & Helmert, J. R. (2013). The perception of egocentric distances in virtual environments - A review. ACM Computing Surveys, 46(2), 1–40. https://doi.org/10.1145/2543581.2543590

Pictorical Depth Cues



> Occlusion





> Occlusion

• Achieved using the Z-buffer algorithm in computer graphics





➢ Relative size



SENSATION AND PERCEPTION, Figure 6.7 @ 2006 Sinauer Associates, Inc.



➢ Relative size




Relative size - Perspective deformation



Pietro Perugino [Public domain], via Wikimedia Commons



- Relative size Perspective deformation
 - The ponzo illusion



Relative size - Perspective deformation

• The Ames room



The Ames Room - picture by Tony Marsh



Relative size - Perspective deformation

Achieved through perspective projection





Eye Coordinates

Clip

Coordinates



http://glumpy.readthedocs.io/en/latest/tutorial/cube-ugly.html

> Aerial perspective



SENSATION AND PERCEPTION, Figure 6.14 © 2006 Sinauer Associates, Inc.



> Environment lighting (e.g. global illumination)





Unnumbered 13.7 Light and shadow Myers: Exploring Psychology, Sixth Edition in Modules Capyright © 2005 by Worth Publishers

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Motion Parallax

• Objects at different distances exhibit different horizontal motion speeds.





Motion Parallax

- Objects at different distances exhibit different horizontal motion speeds.
- View dependent 3D rendering





> Convergence





Accommodation and Comfort in Head-Mounted Displays". Koulieris, G. A., Bui, B., Banks, M. S., and Drettakis, G. (2017). ACM Transactions on Graphics https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=52&v=0vMbiu2llQY



Accommodation





Accommodation and Comfort in Head-Mounted Displays". Koulieris, G. A., Bui, B., Banks, M. S., and Drettakis, G. (2017). ACM Transactions on Graphics https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=52&v=0vMbiu2llQY



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Binocular disparity





Stereoscopic Rendering

• One different image for each eye.



Oculus Rift. Tuscany Demo.

Ö

- Stereoscopic Rendering
 - One different image for each eye.
 - Average Inter-Pupillary Distance (IPD) is 64mm



G. Bruder, F. Argelaguet, A. H. Olivier and A. Lécuyer, "Distance estimation in large immersive projection systems, revisited," 2015 IEEE Virtual Reality (VR), Arles, 2015, pp. 27-32.

Distance Perception

Visual Displays

Visual Displays

Stereoscopic Rendering Technology

- Time-multiplexing (Active Stereo)
- Light polarization (Passive Stereo)
- Color separation (Anaglyph Stereo)





Characteristics of Visual Displays

Main specifications

- Field of View
- Field of Regard
- Resolution and refresh rate
- Monoscopic or stereoscopic

> Technologies

- LCD / LED Screens (single / multiple)
- Projection Systems
- Head-Mounted Displays
- Autostereoscopic Displays
- "3D" Displays







Head Mounted Displays



Ivan Sutherland HMD - 1965













Fishtank



Projection Systems



WorkBench



PowerWall



4-Sided CAVE



Tiled Display CAVE

Projection Systems

Asymmetric View Frustum





Hand-Held Displays



Augmented Reality

Hand-Held Displays



See-through HMDs

Mixing real and virtual content



Z800 Pro AR



Microsoft HoloLens



Magic Leap

See-through HMDs



Other Visual Displays



Autoestereoscopic Displays



Mirror-based Displays



Volumetric Displays

Visual Perception in VR and AR



Display

- Display technology can alter human visual perception
 - Miscalibration, accommodation/convergence mismatch
 - Virtual objects look closer than they are.
 - Alter object relationships



- Inconsistent illumination
- Inconsistent visibility



Focus

- J. P. Rolland, et al. Towards quantifying depth and size perception in virtual environments. Presence: Teleoperators & Virtual Environments, 4(1):24–49, 1995.
- J. A. Jones, et al. The effects of virtual reality, augmented reality, and motion parallax on egocentric depth perception. ACM Symposium on Applied Perception in Graphics and Visualization, pages 9–14. 2008
- E. Kruijff, et al. Perceptual issues in augmented reality revisited. IEEE International Symposium on Mixed and Augmented Reality, pages 3–12. 2010.

Perceptual adaptation

- > Can our perceptions change?
- > Example: Looking at the world upside down



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Renner, R. S., Velichkovsky, B. M., & Helmert, J. R. (2013). The perception of egocentric distances in virtual environments - A review. ACM Computing Surveys, 46(2), 1–40. https://doi.org/10.1145/2543581.2543590

Motion Perception

Visual System Vestibular System Motion Sickness

Motion illusions in Stationary Images



http://www.psy.ritsumei.ac.jp/~akitaoka/sakkaku-symposium2015-OFW.html

The Visual System and Optic Flow

- The visual system infers motion from the changing pattern of light in the retinal image
 - The changing pattern can give the illusion of motion
- The optic flow provides information about the observer's heading and the relative distance to each surface in the world
 - Can generate unique an unambiguous interpretation of 3D motion and depth
- Close objects moving slowly can create an identical retinal image over time as a large, distance object when we are moving quickly
 - Enables relative speed/direction and distances estimates.

The Motion Flow Field

> Objects in the world change in predictable ways as we move

- Rotational and translational motions
- Retinal motion in the focus of expansion (FoE) is zero



O^{FOE}

The Motion Flow Field

- Objects in the world change in predictable ways as we move
 - Rotational and translational motions
 - Retinal motion in the focus of expansion (FoE) is zero
- Rotational: all the components in the flow field rotate the same amount around the axis of rotation regardless of distance.
 - E.g. Head rotations

> Translational: objects moves further away the expansion point

- Closer points moves more than further points
- Distance affects both the speed and the direction

Example


Example



Example





Vestibular System

- The inner ear is responsible for balance, equilibrium and orientation
 - The macula sacculi detects vertical acceleration.
 - The macula utriculi is responsible for horizontal acceleration.
- The vestibular system generates information about head movements in space, acceleration and posture.



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Inner_ear

Simulation Sickness Effects

- The effects of Simulator Sickness are polysymptomatic and can vary in form and intensity between individuals
 - Complex problem to describe and define
- It can be evaluated through questionnaires such as the Simulator Sickness Questionnaire (SSQ) or indirect analysis of physiological signals such as blood pressure and heart rate

> The simulation sickness questionnaire considers three main areas

- Nausea
- Oculomotor Problems
- Disorientation

Explaining Simulation Sickness

> Three main theories try to explain the causes

- Sensory Rearrangement Theory
- Postural Instability Theory
- Poison Theory



L. Rebenitsch et al., "Review on cybersickness in applications and visual displays," Virtual Reality, vol. 20, no. 2, pp. 101–125, 2016.

The Sensory Rearrangement Theory

One main premise

- All situations that provoke Motion Sickness are characterized by a sensory rearrangement condition in which signals transmitted by the visual and vestibular systems are in disagreement or dissociation with each other and with what is expected from previous experiences.
- When there is a dissociation between these elements and the sensory expectation is frustrated (based on previous experiences), the effects of Motion Sickness arise.
 - Effects only manifest themselves when there are movements with speed change (acceleration), since the vestibular system only reacts to angular and linear accelerations.

The Postural Instability Theory

One of the primary behavioral goals in humans is to maintain postural stability in the environment.

- Motion Sickness is not caused by all visual-vestibular dissociations but because the individual is unable to maintain appropriate postures, in order to compensate external stimuli.
 - The more unstable the body posture and the longer the duration of postural instability, the more severe the symptoms will be.
- The postural instability theory can be seen as a more restrictive SRT, where the only relevant factor for Motion Sickness is that the vestibular system can not respond to external stimuli.

Gary E. Riccio and Thomas A. Stoffregen. An Ecological Theory of Motion Sickness and Postural Instability. Ecological Psychology, 3(3):195-240, 1991.

The Poison Theory

The poison theory attempts to provide an explanation for why motion sickness and cybersickness occur from an evolutionary standpoint

- The Poison theory proposes that symptoms such as nausea are caused by an incorrect application of the body's defense mechanisms against poisoning
 - The physiological defense is to expel food from the stomach acting as an early warning system which enhances survival
- It lacks predictive power and makes no determination for why people who get sick in virtual environments do not always have an emetic response

Contributing Factors to Cybersickness in VE

Display and Technology Issues

- Position Tracking Error
- Latency
- Flicker

Individual Factors

- User's role
- Gender
- Age
- Illness

Decreasing Simulation Sickness in VE

- User Adaptation
- Rest Frames
- > Well-designed virtual navigation techniques
- Direct vestibular stimulation

Human Perception Other displays

Auditory Displays

- > Technologies
 - Binaural Rendering (Headphones)
 - Wave field synthesis (Speaker Arrays)

➢ Usages

- Localization. (Spatial information)
- Sensory substitution. (Button press)
- Sonification. (Exploration of a dataset)







Haptic Displays

Provide the user with the sense of touch



> Haptic cues

- Kinesthetic Body
- Tactile Skin



Haptic Displays (Kinesthetic)

Classification

- Single point grounded
- Single point mobile
- Multi-finger body-based
- Multi-finger grounded
- Physical Models
 - Point or rigid bodies
 - Rigid hand models
 - Deformable hand models







Motor Control

Human Pointing Models

The Interaction Loop



Muscular System



Question



- Human psychomotor behavior model which has been widely adopted in numerous areas including HCI.
- Estimates the time required to perform an aimed movement considering only the physical properties underlying the acquisition task.



Figure 2.2: Original Fitts' experiments. (a) Reciprocal tapping task. Participants had to hit repeatedly both center plates (stripped), without hitting the error plates surrounding the center plates. (b) Disc transfer task. Participants had to transfer eight washers (one at a time) from the right to the left pin. (c) Pin transfer task. Participants had to transfer each pin from one side to another.

Fitts, Paul M. "The information capacity of the human motor system in controlling the amplitude of movement." *Journal of experimental psychology* 47.6 (1954): 381.

Fitts' law estimates the mean movement time (*MT*) considering the distance to the target (*A*) and the target size (*W*). The regression coefficients *a* and *b* are computed experimentally.

$$MT = a + b \log_2\left(\frac{A+W}{W}\right)$$



Fitts' law estimates the mean movement time (*MT*) considering the distance to the target (*A*) and the target size (*W*). The regression coefficients *a* and *b* are computed experimentally.

$$MT = a + b \log_2\left(\frac{A+W}{W}\right)$$

- The intercept a is sensitive to additive factors like reaction times (e.g. time to locate the target or time to trigger the selection confirmation).
- The inverse of the slope 1/b is the index of performance (IP) expressed in seconds/bit.
 - Dependent on the user and the involved muscle groups.

Question again





Optimized Initial Impulse Model

Acquisition tasks are subdivided in a two-step movement

- Ballistic phase. A fast and inaccurate movement is made towards the target.
- Correction phase. If the target is not acquired, iterative slow correction movements are executed until the target is acquired



Figure 2.7: Following the optimized initial impulse model, after the ballistic movement: (a) the target might be selected, (b) under shooted or (c) over shooted. For situations (b) and (c) subsequent corrective movements are required.

D. E. Meyer, R. A. Abrams, S. Kornblum, C. E. Wright, and J. E. K. Smith. Optimality in Human Motor Performance: Ideal Control of Rapid Aimed Movements. Psychological Review, 95(3):340–370, 1988.

Optimized Initial Impulse Model

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- Ballistic phase. A fast and inaccurate movement is made towards the target.
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Example of a velocity profile for a 3D acquisition task using raycasting selection. Ballistic and corrective phases of the movement are clearly visible.

Fitts' law and beyond...

Extension to 2D motions

$$MT = a + b \log_2\left(\frac{2A}{W}\right) + c \log_2\left(\frac{2A}{H}\right)$$

E. Crossman. The measurement of perceptual load in manual operations. PhD thesis, University of Birmingham, 1956.

 $MT = a + b \log_2\left(\sqrt{\left(\frac{A}{W}\right)^2 + \eta \left(\frac{A}{H}\right)^2 + 1}\right)$

• _____ W ____ H





Johnny Accot and Shumin Zhai. Refining Fitts' law models for bivariate pointing. ACM SIGCHI conference on Human factors in computing systems, pages 193–200., 2003.

Extensions to 3D motions

$$ID_{WtEuc\Theta} = \log_2\left(\sqrt{f_W(\Theta)\left(\frac{A}{W}^2\right) + f_H(\Theta)\left(\frac{A}{W}^2\right) + f_D(\Theta)\left(\frac{A}{D}^2\right)} + 1\right)$$

Tovi Grossman and Ravin Balakrishnan. Pointing at trivariate targets in 3D environments. ACM SIGCHI conference on Human factors in computing systems, pages 447–454. ACM, 2004.

- Fitts' law is so well know because it provides one of the few quantitative measures for HCI research.
- There ISO 9241-9 standard which provides a standardized evaluation scenario for testing 2D interactions (e.g. mouse selection).



Application of Fitts' Law: Input Mapping

- Function that maps the input DoFs to the DoFs of the interaction tool.
 - Isomorphic Mapping: Ensures that there is a direct mapping between the input DoFs and the DoFs of the tool.
 - Anisomorphic Mapping: Applies a linear or nonlinear transformation to the input data. This function is defined by the Control/Display Ratio.



Wrap-up

The Interaction Loop



3D Interaction Tasks

Basic 3D Interaction Tasks

- Selection: The user choses a 3D object from a set of objects
- Manipulation: The user applies spatial rigid transformations
- Navigation: The user modifies its virtual position in the environment
- Application Control: The user issues commands to the application







Selection

Manipulation

Navigation