

Ubiquitous Augmented Reality in AR-ready Environments

Gudrun Klinker

Fachgebiet Augmented Reality,
Technische Universität München, Germany

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Many of the videos shown in this talk can be found in our
YouTube Channel **AugmentedRealityTUM**

Augmented Reality (AR)

Provides users with computer information within their real environment

- Three-dimensional
- Immersive
- Interactive
- In real-time
- Mobile

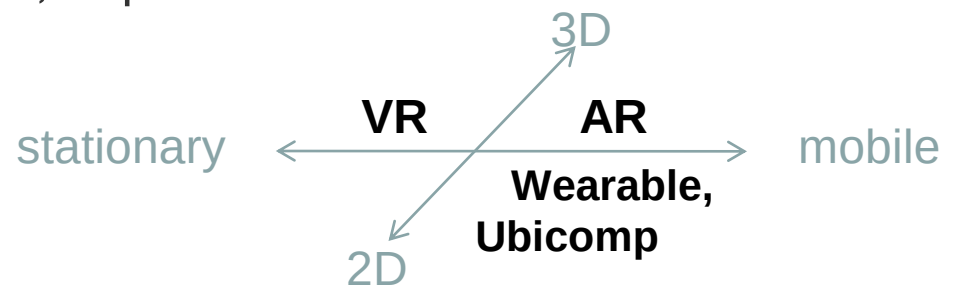
Technology-oriented
Definition



[TU München, ForLog]

Vision

- We are surrounded by information.
 - Information is real, but we cannot always memorize all of it and/or notice it with our limited senses.
 - Information has many dimensions.
 - Information can relate to many aspects of an object.
 - Information has many kinds of reference points.
 - Different people perceive information differently.
 - Information is not static – we need and want to interact with it.
- Computers can help us analyze, explore and understand information.
- Critical technologies:



Ubiquitous Augmented Reality

Our Approach (technology-driven)

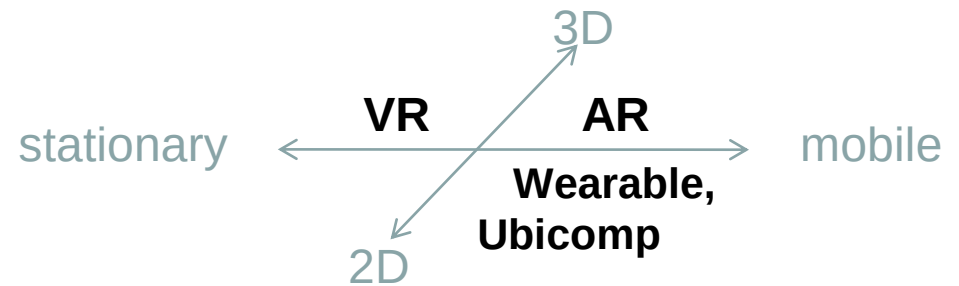
Mobile AR – integrated in stationary, wide-area, multi-media environments
(*ubiquitous / pervasive / ambient computing*)

- Ubiquitous Tracking
 - Mobile: head-mounted camera, gyroscope, ...
 - Stationary: room-based cameras, RFIDs, GPS, ...
- Ubiquitous Information Presentation
 - Mobile: head-mounted displays, portable displays, displays attached to mobile tools, head-mounted projectors...
 - Stationary: wall-sized displays, desktops, projectors, ...
- Ubiquitous Interaction
 - Mobile: tracked persons/objects (tangibles), wearable devices (buttons), gestures
 - Stationary: context (spatial cells, time): “modes”, devices at fixed positions

Requires flexible, standardizing system architecture (middleware)

Ubiquitous Augmented Reality

VR versus AR: the human side



	VR	AR
Properties	Engineered (safe) physical reality	Cluttered (dangerous) physical reality
Goal	Immerse in a secondary reality	Add secondary information to the primary (physical) reality
Problems	Lack of presence - Degree of realism - Simulator sickness	Lack of situation awareness - Perceptual tunnelling, information overload, cognitive capture. - Tracking, occlusion of physical objects
Approach	Exploit human sensing limitations - e.g. Change blindness	Analyze potential distractions - e.g. Eye tracking
Convergence	Use AR to enhance VR	Use VR to evaluate AR

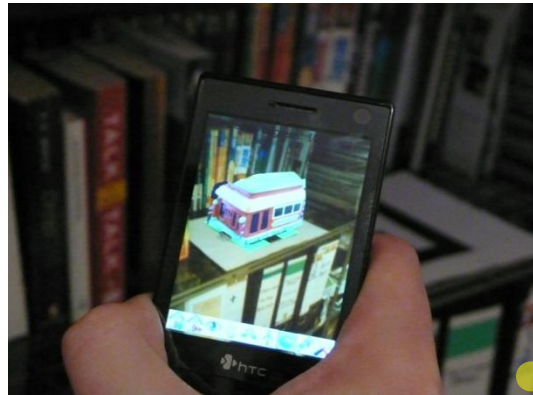
Overview of this talk

-
- Ubiquitous Information Presentation Schemes
 - Usability in Real Life (Dangerous Situations)
 - Ubiquitous Tracking

Ubiquitous Information Presentation Schemes - Various Approaches -



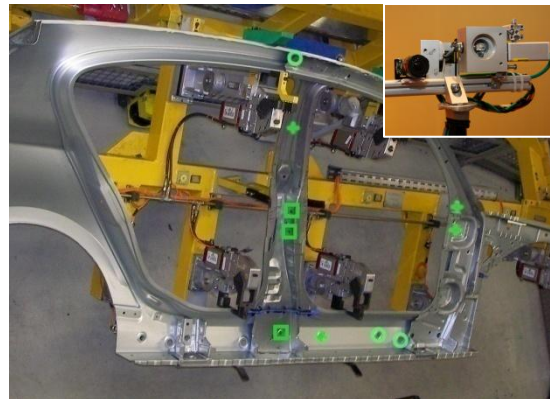
Head-based



Hand-based



Desktop-based



On real surfaces



Hybrid

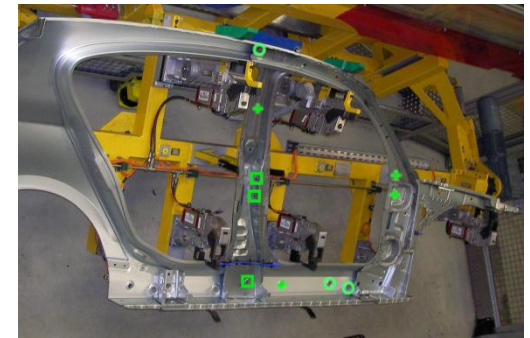
Split Presentation Schemes

- Head-Mounted Laser Projector + Monitor -



Industrial application: quality assurance

- Information “what to do”
- Information “where to do it”



Ubiquitous Information Presentation Schemes

Ego-centric vs. Exocentric Presentation

In ergonomics: compensation vs. pursuit

Six parameters, $2^6 = 64$ variations

X	0	X	0	X	0	X	0	x	...	...	x
Y	0	0	X	X	0	0	x	x	...	...	x
Z	0	0	0	0	X	X	x	x	...	...	x
Rx	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	x	...	x
Ry	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	...	x
Rz	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	...	x

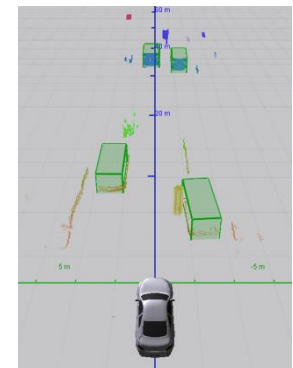
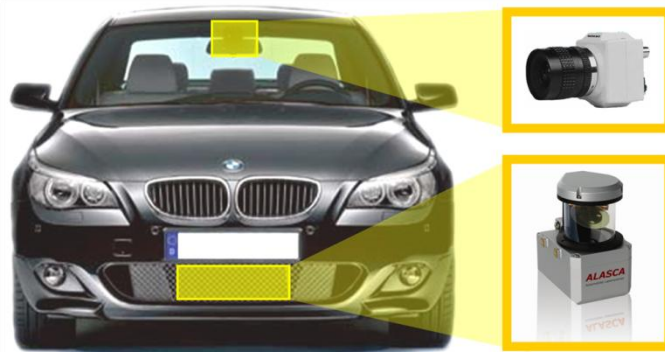
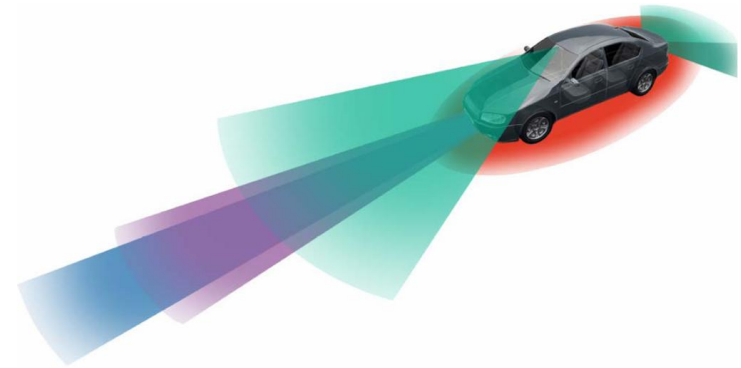
Overview of this talk

- Ubiquitous Information Presentation Schemes
- • Usability in Real Life
- Ubiquitous Tracking

Usability in Real Life (Dangerous Situations) - Car Driving (Sensor Visualization) -

Situation:

- Increasing number of sensors in the car
- What can be recognized? How reliably?
- How can drivers understand the automatic data interpretation process in a car – and the resulting autonomous actions?



Usability in Real Life (Dangerous Situations)

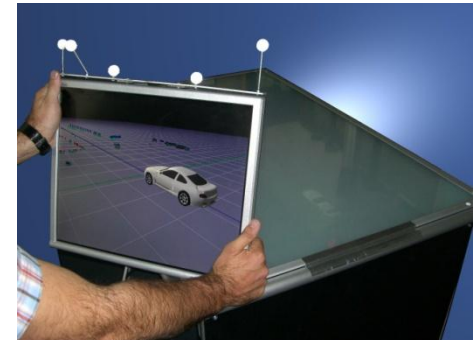
- Car Driving (Sensor Visualization) -

Goals

- Support for sensor research (debugging using live visualizations)
- Support of MMI research (appreciation of live sensor data)

Augmented Reality for Co-Drivers and Service Technicians

- Head-mounted Display
- Portable TFT Display
- Multi-touch Display in the lab



Usability in Real Life (Dangerous Situations)

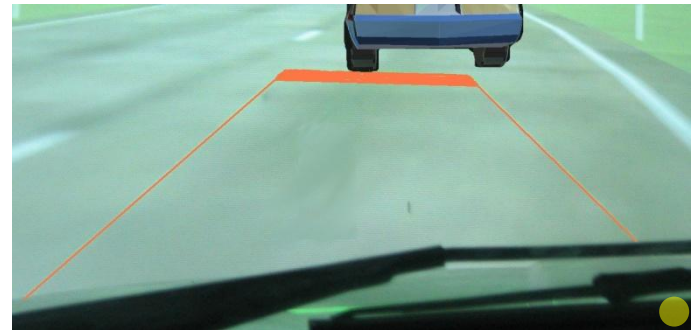
- Car Driving (Danger Ahead) -

Goal:

- Avoidance of rear-end accidents (e.g.: using ACC)

Approach:

- Visualization of the breaking path in the HUD as
 - Bar [Bubb 76]
 - Drive path



Usability in Real Life (Dangerous Situations)

- Car Driving (Danger Ahead) -

Evaluations in a Fixed-Base Driving Simulator:

- Test participants drive faster with a drive-path assistant.
- The drive-path assistant generates higher speed oscillations.
- Steering is improved.
- Test participants preferred the bar.
- Drive path reduced concentration on the driving task.

Usability in Real Life (Dangerous Situations)

- Car Driving (Danger Ahead) -

Important issues

- Information overload
 - Too much information, too rapid changes
 - Perceptual tunneling
 - Focusing on a single stimulus
- ➡ Cognitive capture
 - Absentmindedness, reduced situational awareness
- ➡ Occlusion of real objects

Usability in Real Life (Dangerous Situations)

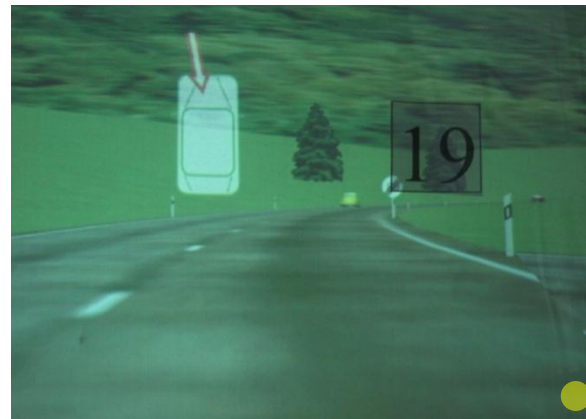
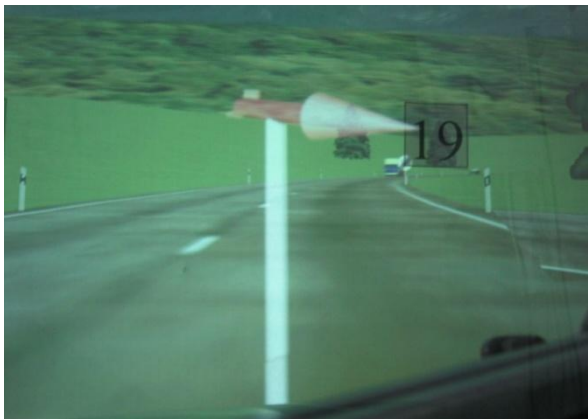
- Car Driving (Danger from Behind) -

Goal:

- Guide a user's attention to danger from behind

Approach:

- Visualization by sound and in the HUD as
 - 2D overview (bird's eye view)
 - 3D arrow



Usability in Real Life (Dangerous Situations)

- Car Driving (Danger from the Side) -

Evaluations in a Fixed-Base Driving Simulator:

- 3D arrow (with or without sound) better than 2D overview.
 - Faster recognition of danger (shorter reaction times).
 - Smaller lane deviations.
- Multi-modal warnings (picture and sound) better than graphical warning alone.
- Important:
 - Use of a real HUD in the driving simulator.
 - Model of the 3D arrow.



Usability in Real Life (Dangerous Situations)

- Car Driving (Simulation Environments) -

Goal:

- Analysis and evaluation of new MMIs in realistic, dynamic scenes

Alternatives:

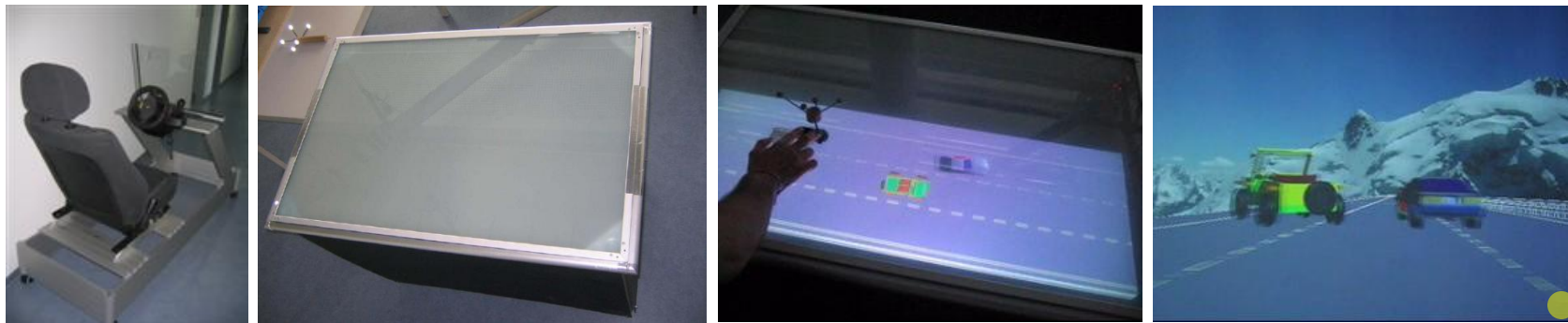
- Experiments using real cars in real traffic
 - Dangerous
 - Situations cannot be selected systematically
- Driving simulators
 - Significant modeling effort
 - Partially insufficient realism (esp. w.r.t. dynamic traffic behavior)

Usability in Real Life (Dangerous Situations) - Car Driving (Simulation Environments) -

- CAR Simulation Environment



- Parent Simulation Environment



Usability in Real Life (Dangerous Situations)

- Professional Diving Operations -

Stress due to environmental and working conditions

- Pressure
- Visibility
- Weightlessness
- Current

Restrictions on divers' sensory input cause

- Diminished spatial position and orientation awareness
- Reduced cognition and memory
- Reduced confidence and safety, increased fear (even panic)

Improve conditions by adding elements in divers' views to increase

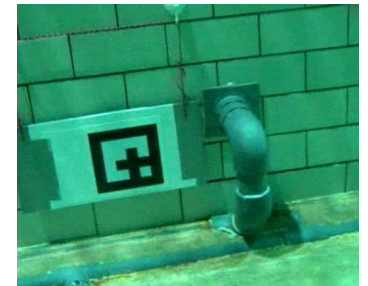
- Awareness
- Safety



Usability in Real Life (Dangerous Situations)

- Professional Diving Operations -

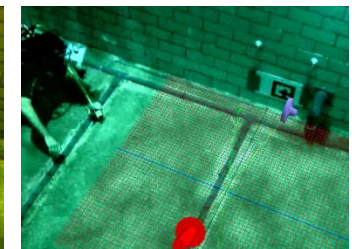
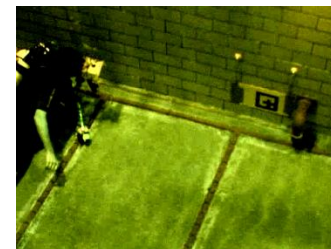
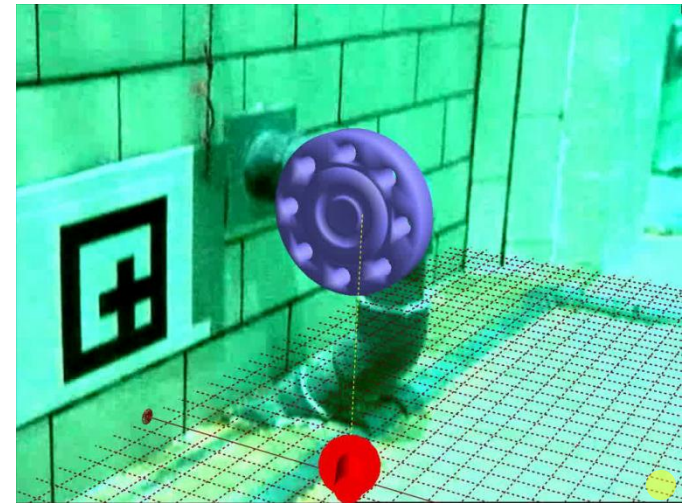
- Hardware
 - Watertight housing for web-camera and HMD (eMagin Z800 3D Visor)
 - Watertight housing for HMD driver and umbilical connections to surface
- Tracking setup (Ubitrack)
 - Underwater camera calibration
 - Underwater HMD calibration (SPAAM)
 - Laminated marker



Usability in Real Life (Dangerous Situations) - Professional Diving Operations -

Underwater maintenance

- Provide information relevant to
 - Orientation and position awareness
 - Artificial horizon (red grid)
 - Navigation aids
 - Red arrow + rubber band
 - Context-dependent memory
 - 3D model (e.g. of an assembling task)

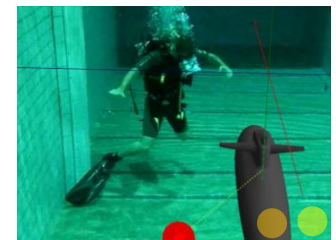
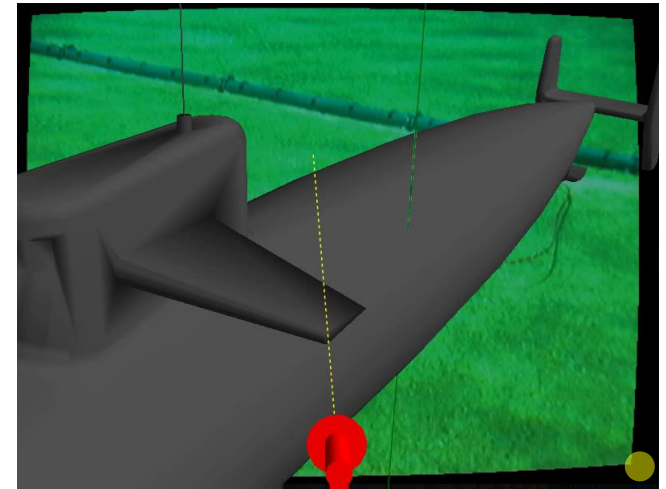


Usability in Real Life (Dangerous Situations)

- Professional Diving Operations -

Underwater vessel inspection

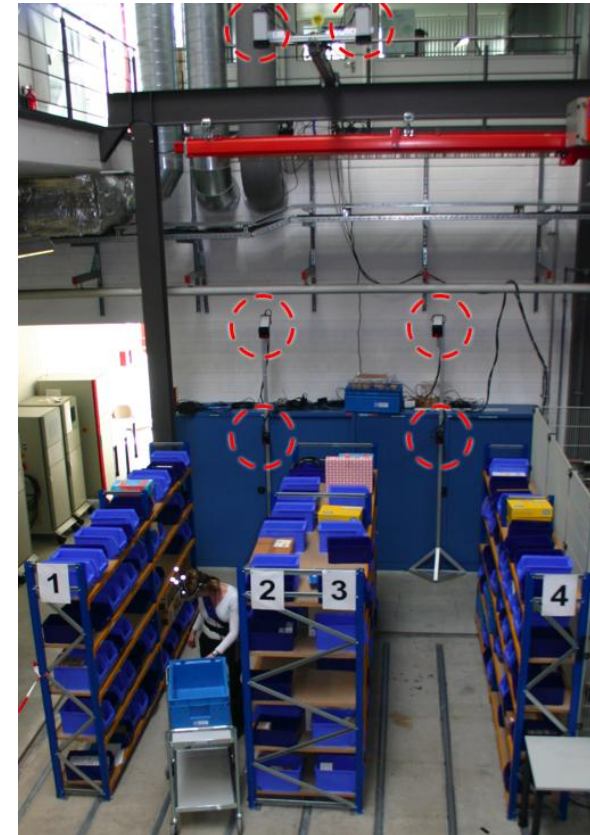
- Provide information relevant to
 - Navigation aids
 - Red arrow + rubber band
 - Context-dependent memory
 - 3D model of vessel



Usability in Real Applications

- Navigation Support in Picking Tasks -

- Collection of large assortments in series production
 - Large storage area, many objects, varying size
 - Flexible arrangement in the storage area
 - Changing staff
- Several phases
 - Course navigation
 - Fine navigation
- Existing systems
 - Mobile data terminal with scanner
 - Pick-by-light
 - Pick-by-voice

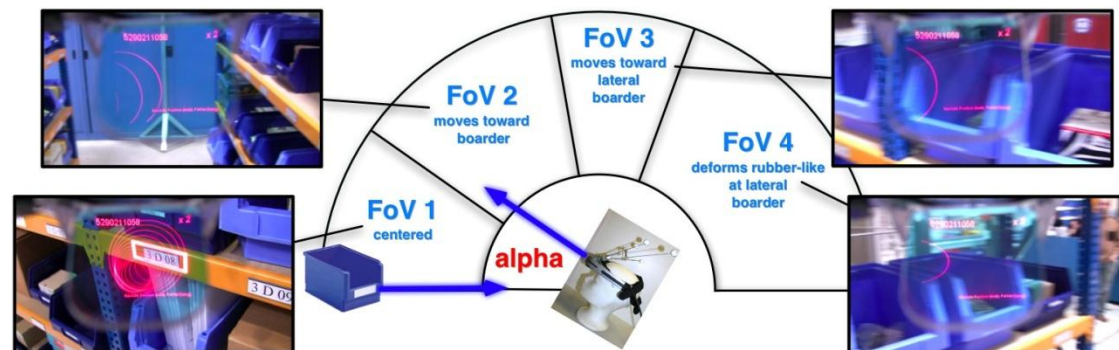
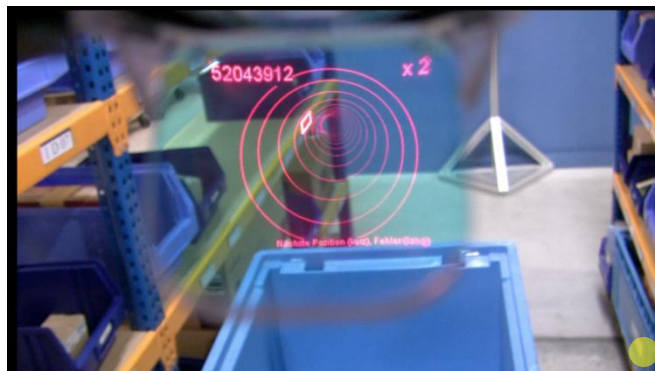


Usability in Real Applications

- Navigation Support in Picking Tasks -

Pick-by-Vision

- Omni-directional support of object selection
- HMD-based
- Visualisations
 - Direct: rectangle
 - Meta: tunnel
- Ubiquitous tracking

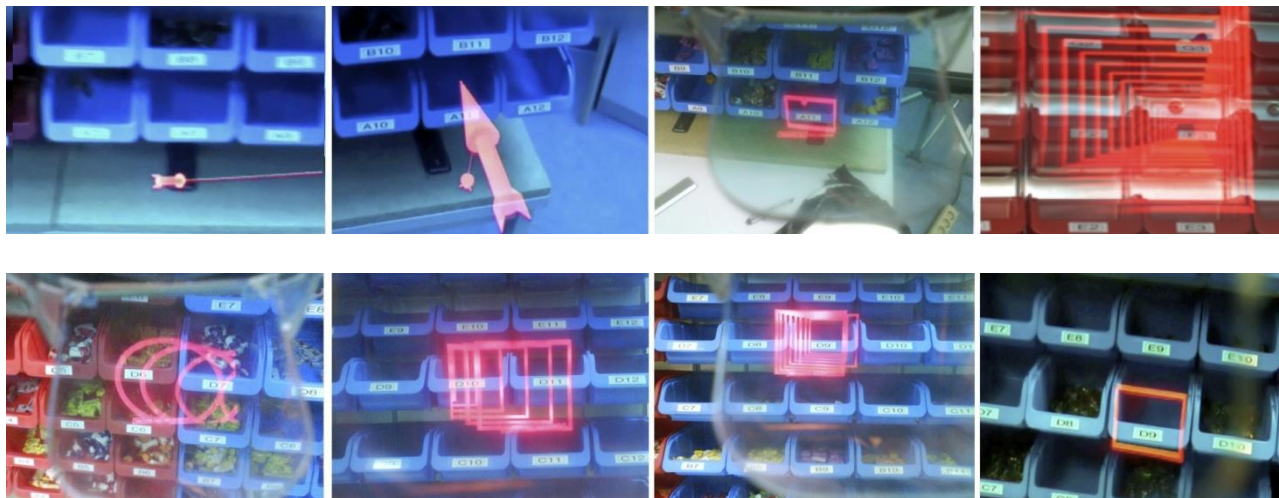


Usability in Real Applications

- Navigation Support in Picking Tasks -

Important issues

- Quality and understandability of the 3D display: uniqueness (Arrow vs. frame)
- Support for estimating appropriate speed of motion (rotation) (Arrow/rubber band vs. tunnel)
- Occlusions



Usability in Real Applications

- Navigation Support in Picking Tasks -

Long series of user tests

- Several evaluations (objective and subjective data, plus informal comments)
- Informal comments from exhibits, fairs, open houses.
- Collaboration with occupational scientists (analysis of heart rate variability)

Experiences

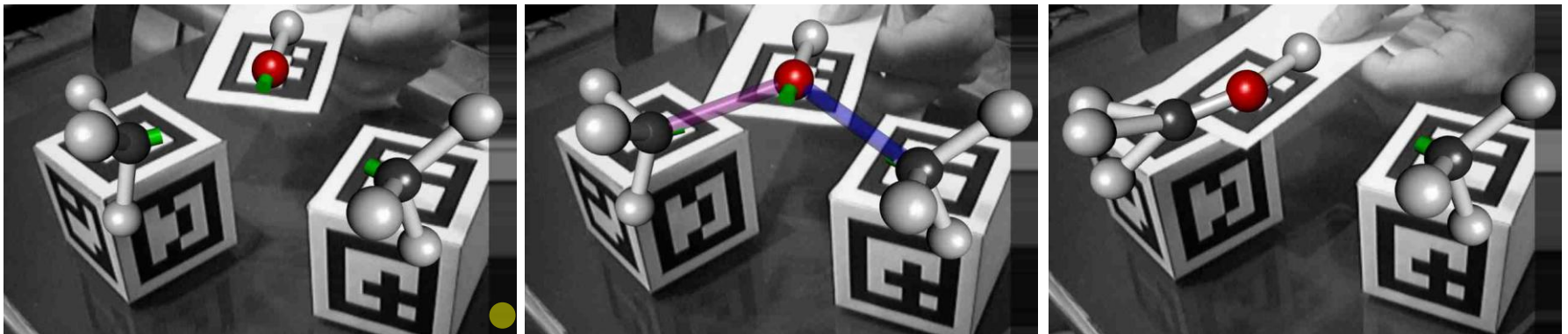
- Special (non-standard) initial learning phase („try-and-ask“)
- Optional interruptions by the supervisor
- Initially many „formative“ tests, expert interrogations with few people

Usability in Real Applications

Intelligence Amplification

Augmented chemical reactions

- Dynamic 3D visualization of potential molecular bonds
 - Investigation of spatial impact (is there enough space?)
 - AR-based interactive exploration of options
- Teaching tool for students:
 - Interactively controlled simulation and visualization of atomic forces

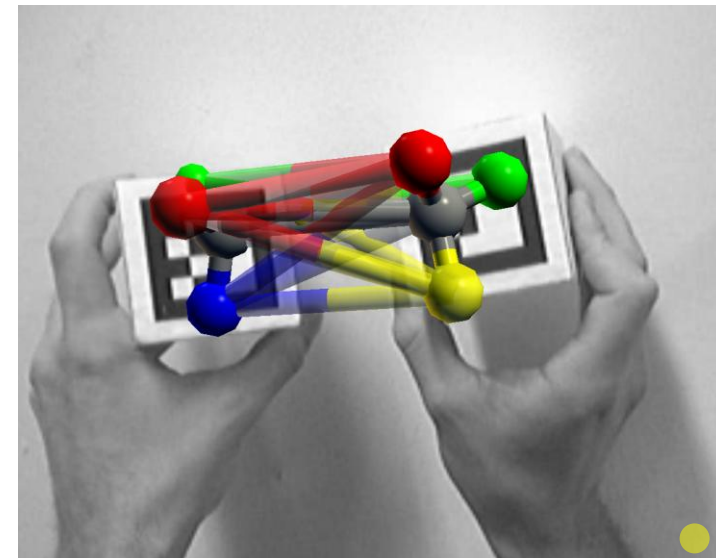
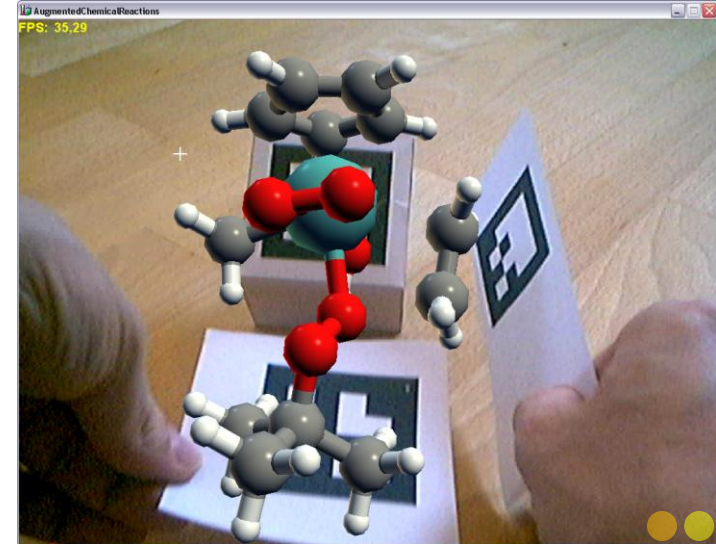


Usability in Real Applications

Intelligence Amplification

Augmented chemical reactions

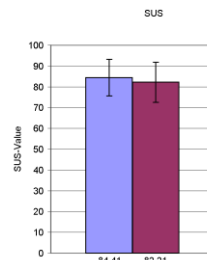
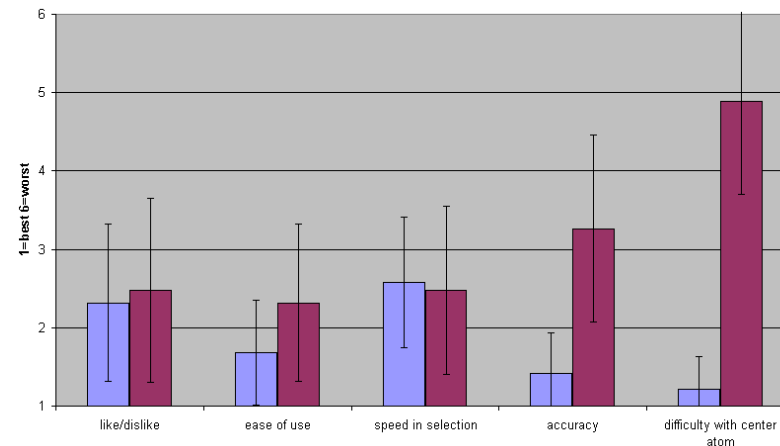
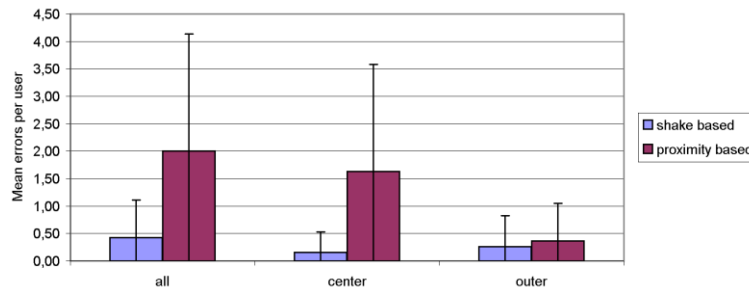
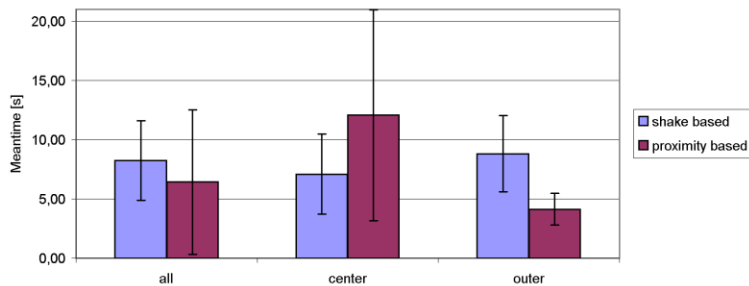
- Example:
 - catalyst design for metal organic reactions
 - Catalyst: organomolybdenum complex
 - Educt 1: peroxide molecule (front), bond with central metal of the catalyst
 - Educt 2: ethen molecule (right)
- Problem:
 - generally more than two hands required
 - Bond selection
 - Distance-based selection
 - Selection by shaking (toggling through a list)
 - Confirmation



Usability in Real Applications Intelligence Amplification

First evaluation

- 19 persons (7f, 12m, 20-51 y)
- Most of the without prior exposure to AR
- Within-subject design
- 2 test phases (24 bonds each, permuted)



Overview of this talk

- Ubiquitous Information Presentation Schemes
- Usability in Real Life (Dangerous Situations)
- • Ubiquitous Tracking

Ubiquitous Tracking

- Goals -

Creation and implementation of a framework independently of specific applications and devices that is capable of providing context-dependent tracking services in heterogeneous, wide areas.

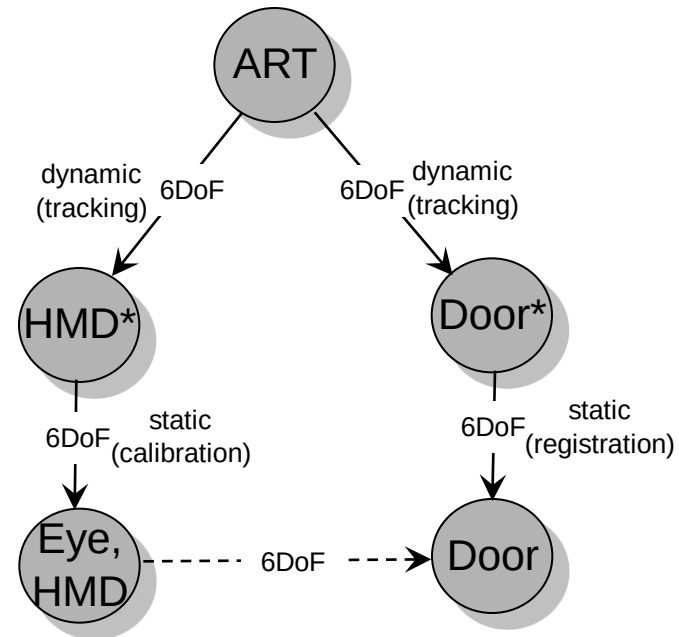
- Trackers partially wearable and partially stationary
- Trackers available across several applications
- Applications independent of tracker installations
- Tracking arrangements configured dynamically, establishing real-time connections between trackers and applications
- Critical aspects:
 - Explicit description of spatial relationships (Spatial Relationship Graph)
 - Automatic compilation of spatial relationships into data flows between sensors, fusion components, and applications (Data Flow Network)
 - Efficient, robust and precise use in real applications

Ubiquitous Tracking - Spatial Relationship Graph (SRG) -

3D World



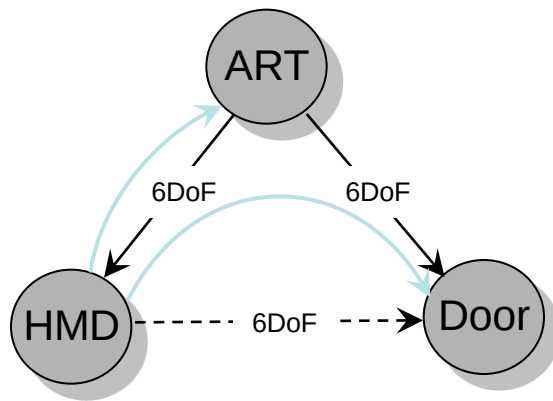
SRG



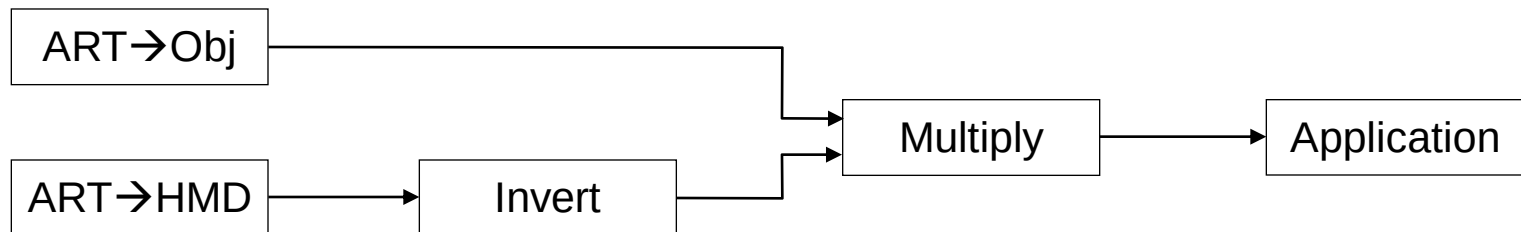
Ubiquitous Tracking

- Automatic Compilation into Data Flow Networks -

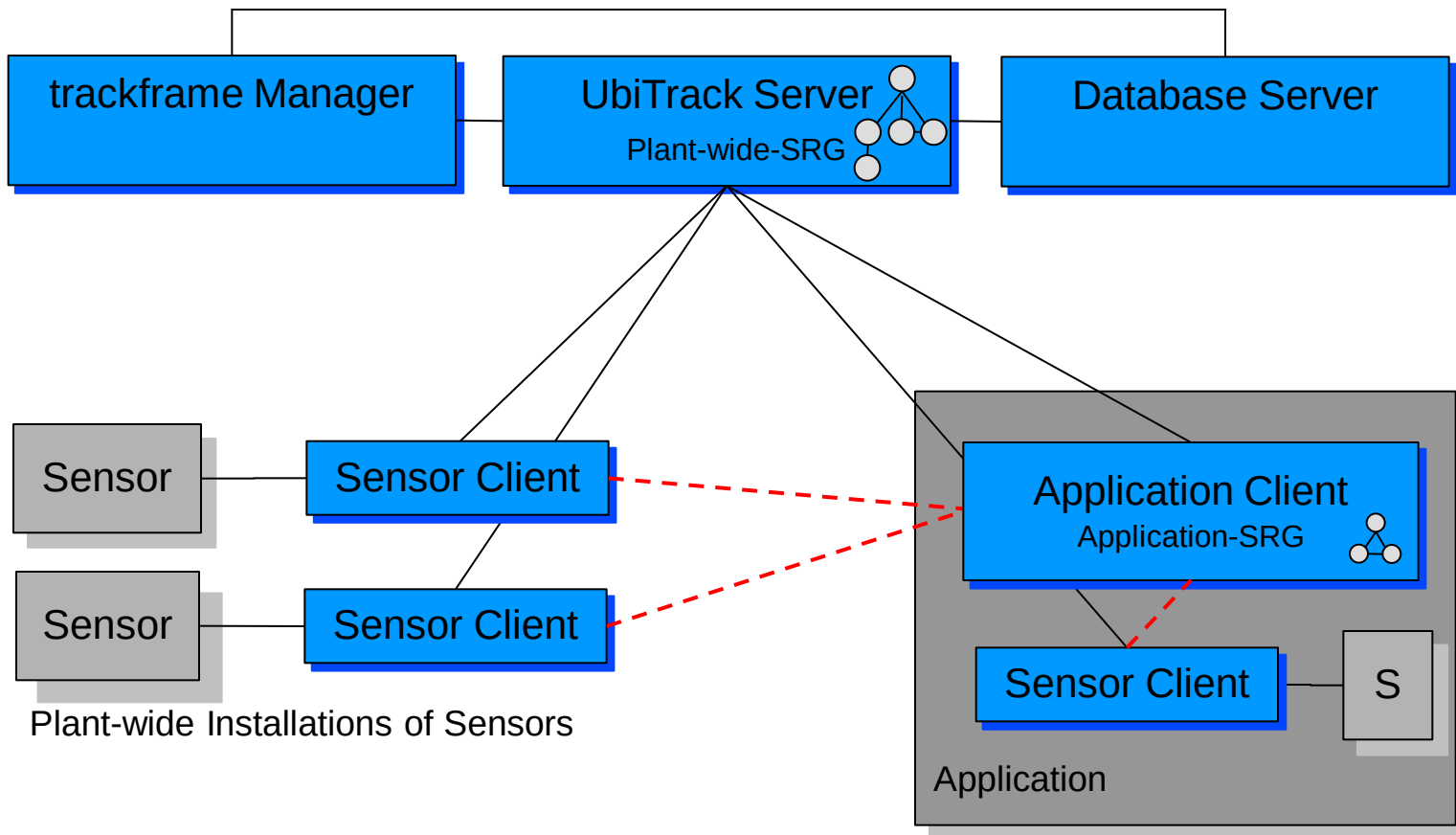
- Spatial Relationship Graph (SRG)



- Data Flow Network (DFN): SRG edges = DFN nodes

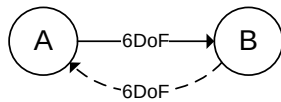


Integration Concept for Applications

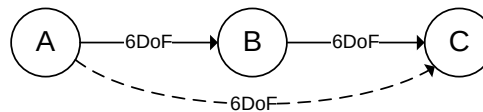


Spatial Relationship Patterns

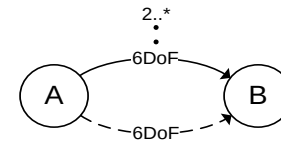
- Inversion



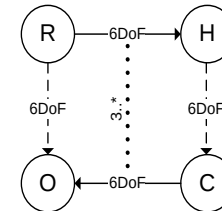
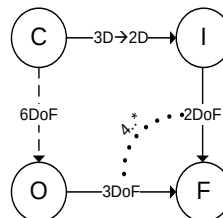
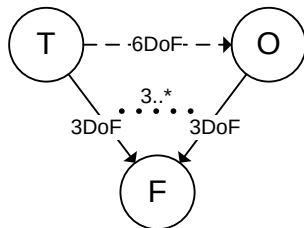
- Concatenation



- Sensor Fusion



- 3D-3D Pose Estimation 2D-3D Pose Estimation Hand-Eye Calibration



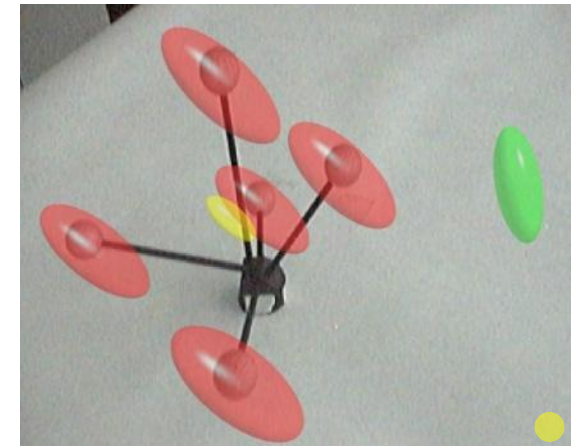
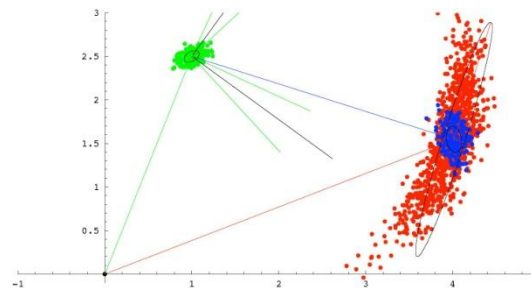
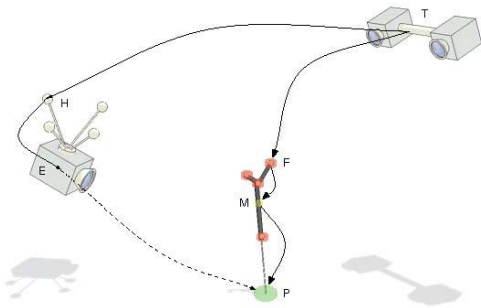
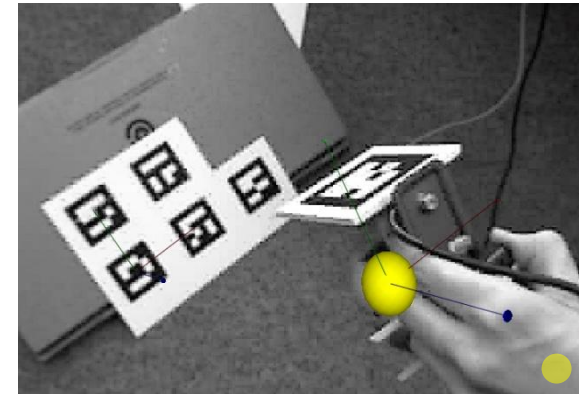
Automated Sensor Fusion

Patterns/algorithms for

- Calibration
 - Camera estimation
 - Hand-eye calibration
 - Display calibration (SPAAM)
- Registration
 - 3D-3D pose estimation
- Sensor fusion
 - Complementary
 - Functionally complementary
 - Temporally/spatially complementary
 - Competitive
 - Binary competitive („winner take all“)
 - Mixed competitive (error reducing: Kalman)
 - Co-operative
 - Independent co-operation (concatenation, correction)
 - Dependent co-operation (initialization)

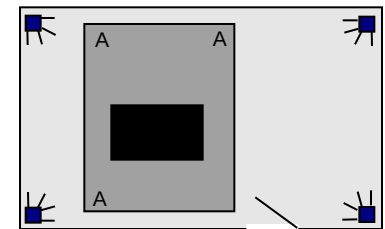
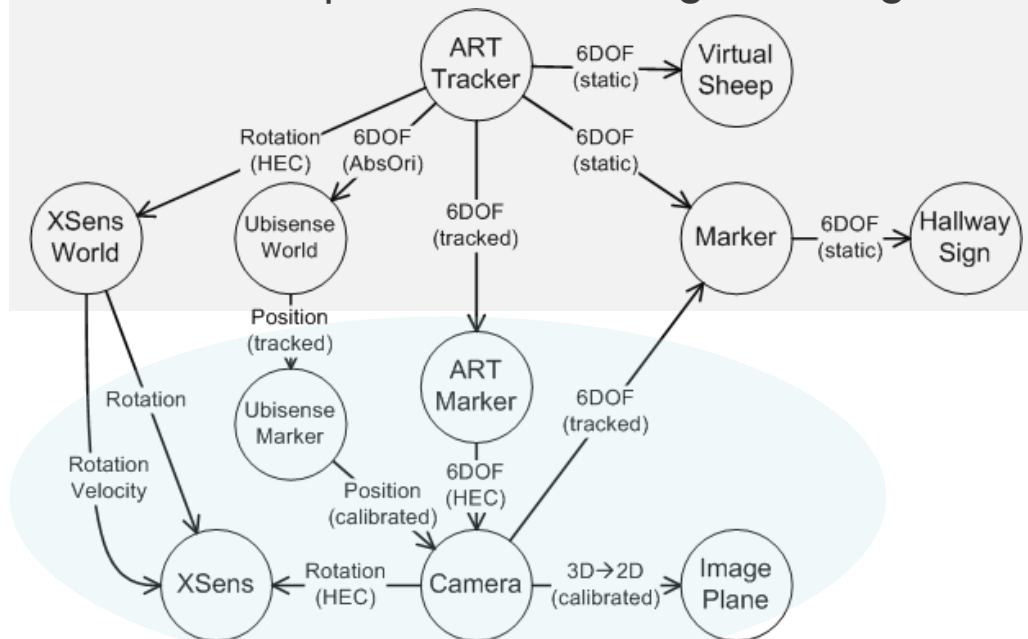
Error Estimation and Propagation in SRGs

- Computation of sensor error
 - Gaussian errors
 - High-precision ART tracking
 - Simple marker tracking
- Fusion algorithm
 - Kalman filter
 - Fully integrated into framework



Dynamic Reconfiguration

- Scenario: AR-equipped person enters room with high-precision tracking
- Client and application should automatically connect
- Idea: Use low-precision tracking to change SRG



Summary / Conclusions

- Augmented/Mixed Reality has the potential to significantly help computer users integrate and understand a wealth of digital information in their real surroundings
 - AR won't be used in isolation
 - Our approach: AR → Ubiquitous AR
 - Research issues under investigation
 - Concepts/middleware for integrating AR into a wider, ubiquitous information presentation scheme
 - Usability
 - Particular emphasis: User interfaces for critical or complex situations
- Recently:
- AR-Tunnel for picking
 - Visualization concepts for traffic anticipation
 - Augmented Chemistry
 - AR for divers

Thank you

Recent / new/ other things we do

- Ubiquitous interaction in real environments
 - AR-Tunnel for picking
 - Visualization concepts for traffic anticipation („just beyond the horizon“)
 - Augmented Chemistry
 - AR for divers
 - Navigation metaphors in large nD-environments („virtual Arabia“)
 - 2D/3D UIs for use in catastrophic events
 - AR on mobile devices
- Multi-touch environments: TischLib (OpenSource)
- Tracking cart for wide area tracking (ISMAR tracking contest)
 - People tracking
 - Sensor synchronization
 - Less precise tracking (wide area)
 - ToF based tracking
 - Trackman
- Outreach / Teaching:
 - Itüpferl
 - Mädchen machen Technik
 - Rappelkiste
 - Bachelor program „Informatik: Games Engineering“

