Computational Near-eye Displays with Focus Cues

Gordon Wetzstein TU Vienna Seminar 10/17/2017

www.computationalimaging.org



vərCH(əw)əl rē'alədē

the computer-generated simulation of a three-dimensional image or environment that can be interacted with in a seemingly real or physical way by a person using <u>special electronic equipment</u>, such as a helmet with a screen inside or gloves fitted with sensors.







simulation & training





gaming



education

visualization & entertainment







virtual travel

remote control of vehicles, e.g. drones





architecture walkthroughs



a trip down the rabbit hole

VR at Stanford's Medical School



• Lucile Packard Children's Hospital: used to alleviate pain, anxiety for pediatric patients

• VR Technology Clinic: applications in psychotherapy, mental health, for people with phantom pain, ...

help train residents, assist surgeons planning operations, ...

photo from Stanford Medicine News

National Academy of Engineering

"Enhance Virtual Reality" is 1 of 14 NAE grand challenges for engineering in the 21st century



Exciting Engineering Aspects of VR/AR

- cloud computing
- shared experiences



 compression, streaming

VR cameras





CPU, GPUIPU, DPU?



- - sensors & imaging
 - computer vision
 - scene understanding
- photonics / waveguides
- human perception
- displays: visual, auditory, vestibular, haptic, ...

- HCI
- applications

Exciting Engineering Aspects of VR/AR

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Where We Want It To Be



Personal Computer e.g. Commodore PET 1983









AR/VR e.g. Microsoft Hololens

A Brief History of Virtual Reality

Stereoscopes Wheatstone, Brewster, ... VR & AR Ivan Sutherland Nintendo Virtual Boy VR explosion Oculus, Sony, HTC, MS, ...



Ivan Sutherland's HMD

- optical see-through AR, including:
 - displays (2x 1" CRTs)
 - rendering
 - head tracking
 - interaction
 - model generation
- computer graphics
- human-computer interaction



Nintendo Virtual Boy

• computer graphics & GPUs were not ready yet!





Game: Red Alarm

Where we are now







Problems:

- fixed focal plane
- no focus cues ☺
 - cannot drive accommodation with rendering!

Focus Cues – An Important Depth Cue



Importance of Focus Cues Decreases with Age - Presbyopia

Nearest focus distance



Duane, 1912

Relative Importance of Depth Cues



Focus Cues (Monocular)



Focus Cues (Monocular)

Visual Cue



Binocular Disparity

Focus Cues (Monocular)



Focus Cues (Monocular)



Focus Cues (Monocular)



Focus Cues (Monocular)



Focus Cues (Monocular)



Cue

Visual



Conventional Display



0.5m (2D)

0.7m (1.43D)

0.25m (4D) 0.3m (3.33D) 0.35m (2.86D)



Conventional Display





0.25m (4D) 0.3m (3.33D) 0.35m (2.86D)

0.5m (2D)

0.7m (1.43D)

43D)

1 m

virtual image of screen

2m (0.5D)

∞ (0D)

Conventional Display





0.5m (2D)



1 m

virtual image of screen

0.7m (1.43D)

Conventional Display







Conventional Display



0.5m (2D)

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Conventional Display





Conventional Display





Accommodation-dependent Point Spread Functions

The Vergence-Accommodation Conflict (VAC)






Consequences of Vergence-Accommodation Conflict

- Visual discomfort (eye tiredness & eyestrain) after ~20 minutes of stereoscopic depth judgments (Hoffman et al. 2008; Shibata et al. 2011)
- Degrades visual performance in terms of reaction times and acuity for stereoscopic vision (Hoffman et al. 2008; Konrad et al. 2016; Johnson et al. 2016)
- also: double vision (diplopia), reduced visual clarity, possibly nausea

- <u>Q1</u>: How to address the vergence-accommodation conflict for users of different ages?
- <u>Q2</u>: Can computational displays effectively replace glasses in VR/AR?
- <u>Q3</u>: What are (in)effective near-eye display technologies?

possible solutions: gaze-contingent focus, light fields, ...

1. Varifocal Displays



Sugihara et al., SID 1998 Liu et al., ISMAR 2008 Koulieris et al.,SIGGRAPH 2017 Padmanaban et al., PNAS 2017 ...

2. Multiplane Displays





Rolland et al., Applied Optics 2000 Akeley et al., SIGGRAPH 2004 ...

3. Monovision Displays



Konrad et al., SIGCHI 2016 Johnson et al., Optics Express 2016 ...

4. Light Field



Huang et al., SIGGRAPH 2015 Lanman et al., SIGGRAPH Asia 2013 ...

5. Accommodationinvariant Displays



Konrad et al., SIGGRAPH 2017

Holographic Displays



Maimone et al., SIGGRAPH 2017

Fixed Focus







Adaptive Focus - History



Heilig 1962

automatic focus adjustment Mills 1984 deformabe mirrors & lenses McQuaide 2003, Liu 2008

- M. Heilig "Sensorama", 1962 (US Patent #3,050,870)
- P. Mills, H. Fuchs, S. Pizer "High-Speed Interaction On A Vibrating-Mirror 3D Display", SPIE 0507 1984
- S. Shiwa, K. Omura, F. Kishino "Proposal for a 3-D display with accommodative compensation: 3DDAC", JSID 1996
- S. McQuaide, E. Seibel, J. Kelly, B. Schowengerdt, T. Furness "A retinal scanning display system that produces multiple focal planes with a deformable membrane mirror", Displays 2003
- S. Liu, D. Cheng, H. Hua "An optical see-through head mounted display with addressable focal planes", Proc. ISMAR 2008









NIR/VIS Beam Splitters

STO-RC

Padmanaban et al., PNAS 2017

▲★

.....





Conventional Stereo / VR Display



vergence accommodation

Removing VAC with Adaptive Focus



vergence accommodation

Task



Follow the target with your eyes























Padmanaban et al., PNAS 2017



• non-presbyopes: adaptive focus is like real world, but needs eye tracking!











Padmanaban et al., PNAS 2017

Gaze-contingent Focus – User Preference





Padmanaban et al., PNAS 2017



at ACM SIGGRAPH 2016

Gaze-contingent Focus for AR



Side view

Front view

Bottom view

Dunn et al., IEEE VR 2017, Best Paper

Gaze-contingent Focus for AR



Dunn et al., IEEE VR 2017, Best Paper

Summary

 adaptive focus drives accommodation and can correct for refractive errors (myopia, hyperopia)

 gaze-contingent focus gives natural focus cues for non-presbyopes, but require eyes tracking

• presbyopes require fixed focal plane with correction
2. Multiplane Near-eye Displays

Multiplane VR Displays



- Rolland J, Krueger M, Goon A (2000) Multifocal planes head-mounted displays. Applied Optics 39
- Akeley K, Watt S, Girshick A, Banks M (2004) A stereo display prototype with multiple focal distances. ACM Trans. Graph. (SIGGRAPH)
- Waldkirch M, Lukowicz P, Tröster G (2004) Multiple imaging technique for extending depth of focus in retinal displays. Optics Express
- Schowengerdt B, Seibel E (2006) True 3-d scanned voxel displays using single or multiple light sources. JSID
- Liu S, Cheng D, Hua H (2008) An optical see-through head mounted display with addressable focal planes in Proc. ISMAR
- Love GD et al. (2009) High-speed switchable lens enables the development of a volumetric stereoscopic display. Optics Express
- ... many more ...

Multiplane VR Displays



- Rolland J, Krueger M, Goon A (2000) Multifocation head-mounted displays. Applied Optics 39
- Akeley K, Watt S, Girshick A, Banks M (2004) A soreo display prototype with multiple focal distances. ACM Trans. Graph. (SIGGRAPH)
- Waldkirch M, Lukowicz P, Tröster G (2004) Multiple imaging technique for extending depth of focus in retinal displays. Optics Express
- Schowengerdt B, Seibel E (2006) True 3-d scanned voxel displays using single or multiple light sources. JSID
- Liu S, Cheng D, Hua H (2008) An optical see-through head mounted display with addressable focal planes in Proc. ISMAR
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- ... many more ...

3. Monovision Near-eye Displays

Monovision VR





Konrad et al., SIGCHI 2016; Johnson et al., Optics Express 2016; Padmanaban et al., PNAS 2017





Can the eyes switch focus between two planes in Monovision?

Presbyopia



CSS MASTERY: ADVANCED WEB STANDARDS SOLUTION

Fahrner Image Replacement (FIR)

Constant the Unit of Deriver, First is the series and an event technic, or 1 are going to respine, the methods because it is one of the exercit methods to under and accessibility restorations, which I will constant

The haur concept is very simple. You many

esperantile wride/spans cAp

How then apply your rep.

Near Vision

Far Vision

Monovision increases visual acuity



Zheleznyak *et al.* Modified Monovision With Spherical Aberration to Improve Presbyopic Through-Focus Visual Performance, 2013

Monovision for non-presbyopic viewers in VR?



Monovision for non-presbyopic viewers in VR?





Recent Implementations



Inconclusive Results





Task #1



Follow the target with your eyes

Stimulus



Accommodation response for conventional display



Accommodation response for dynamic display



Accommodation response for Monovision Display



Task #2



Look at each target















4. Light Field Displays

Near-eye Light Field Displays



Idea: project multiple different perspectives into different parts of the pupil!

Light Field Stereoscope

Huang et al., SIGGRAPH 2015

Light Field Stereoscope



Target Light Field



Input: 4D light field for each eye



Model Courtesy of Bushmills Irish Whiskey



Input: 4D light field for each eye



Model Courtesy of Bushmills Irish Whiskey



Input: 4D light field for each eye



Model Courtesy of Bushmills Irish Whiskey


Input: 4D light field for each eye



Model Courtesy of Bushmills Irish Whiskey



Input: 4D light field for each eye



Model Courtesy of Bushmills Irish Whiskey



Traditional HMDs - No Focus Cues



The Light Field HMD Stereoscope





The Light Field HMD Stereoscope





The Light Field HMD Stereoscope

Model Courtesy of Paul H. Manning





The Light Field HMD Stereoscope

Model Courtesy of Paul H. Manning



Tensor Displays





Vision-correcting Display



printed transparency

iPod Touch prototype

prototype



300 dpi or higher



Diffraction in Multilayer Light Field Displays





Wetzstein et al., SIGGRAPH 2011 Lanman et al., SIGGRAPH Asia 2011 Wetzstein et al., SIGGRAPH 2012 Maimone et all., Trans. Graph. 2013

Less diffraction artifacts with LCoS



Hirsch et al, SIGGRAPH 2014

more details in separate part on light fields after the rest (ppt is getting too big and keeps crashing)

3. Accommodation-invariant Near-eye Displays

Blur Gradient Driven Accommodation

Conventional Display



0.25m (4D) 0.3m (3.33D) 0.35m (2.86D)



Accommodation-dependent Point Spread Functions

PSF Engineering

Conventional Display

Accommodation-dependent Point Spread Functions

Accommodation-invariant Display





2m (0.5D)

∞ (0D)

Q: can we drive accommodation with stereoscopic cues by optically removing the retinal blur cue?



Binocular Disparity

Retinal Blur







How do we remove the blur cue?

Aperture Controls Depth of Field



Image courtesy of Concept One Studios

Aperture Controls Depth of Field



Image courtesy of Concept One Studios

Aperture Controls Depth of Field



Image courtesy of Concept One Studios

Maxwellian-type (pinhole) Near-eye Displays



Maxwellian-type (pinhole) Near-eye Displays



Severely reduces eyebox; requires dynamic steering of exit pupil

Focal Sweep



Dowski & Cathey, App. Opt. 1995 Nagahara et al., ECCV 2008 Cossairt et al., SIGGRAPH 2010







.

Convolution



Convolution



*







Deconvolution



Target Image





Conventional



Target Image



Conventional Display @ 1D





Conventional



Target Image



Conventional Display @ 3D





Conventional



Al



AI @ 3D



Conventional Display @ 3D




Strobing the Backlight



Accommodation Invariant



Multi-plane Accommodation Invariant



Point Spread Functions



Conventional

Point Spread Functions





Point Spread Functions



Stimulus



Measured User Response



Measured User Response



Now: benchtop



Future: multifocal lenses





Photonics Challenges for Getting Here



Thin Beam Combiner?



Thin Beam Combiner!



Pepper's Ghost 1862



Case Studies





Meta 2

- larger field of view (90 deg) than Glass
- also larger device form factor



Microsoft HoloLens





Pub. No.: US 2016/0231568 A1

Microsoft HoloLens

Saarikko et al.			(43) Pub. Date:	Aug. 11, 2016	
(54)	WAVEGUIDE		(52) U.S. CL		
(71)	Applicant: Mice Reda	osoft Technology Licensing, LLC, acad, WA (US)	CPC		
(72)	Inventors: Pasi Saarikko, Espoo (FI); Pasi Kostamo, Espoo (FI)		(57) ABS	TRACT	
			A waveguide has a front and a roor surface, the waveguide for a display system and annupact to guide light from a light engine onto an eye of a user to make an image visible to be user, the light guided through the waveguide by reflection at the front and roar surfaces. A first portion of the front or row surface has a surface which cancer light to change phase spectra theteion of the target phase set of a surface set. A surface has a surface which cancer light to the surface set of the first set of the surface set of the surface set of the spectra theteion of the set of the set of the surface set of which cancer light to channer these uses reflection from the which cancer light to channer threat uses reflection from the		
(21)	Appl. No.: 14/617,697				
(22)	Filed: Feb. 9, 2015				
	Publication Classification				
(51)	Int. Cl.		second portion by a second	amount different from the first	
	G02B 27/01	(2006.01)	amount. The first portion is o	diset from the second portion by	
	G02B 5/18	(2005.01)	a distance which substan	tially matches the difference	
	F21V 8/00	(2005.01)	between the second amount	and the first amount.	

19) United States

Patent Application Publication



- diffraction grating
- small FOV (30x17), but very good image quality



Zeiss Smart Optics

- great device form factor
- polycarbonate light guide easy to manufacture and robust
- smaller field of view (17 deg)







 need small entrance pupil (small device) and large exit pupil (large eye box) - pupil needs to be magnified



 need small display (small device) but large field of view – image needs to be magnified



- pupil needs to be magnified
- image needs to be magnified



can't get both at the same time – etendue!



 possible solutions: exit pupil replication (loss of light), live with small FOV (not great), dynamically steer eye box (mechanically difficult), ..

Challenges: Eyetracking



- need eye tracking for correct calibration of display & world
- camera and projector need different optical paths! (no solution so far)

Challenges: Chromatic Aberrations



• thin grating couplers create chromatic aberrations

Challenges: Chromatic Aberrations

volume holographic couplers, e.g. TruLife Optics

stacked waveguides





• all solutions have their own problems: ease of manufacturing, yield, robustness, cost, ...

Occlusions



Stanford EE 267

Da

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a

HMD Housing & Lenses

IMU & 🚺 🚺

124

VRduino

Vibration Motors

6" LCD & HDMI Driver Board

Flex Sensors

2x USB Cable

HDMI Cable

HMD Housing and Lenses



- View-Master VR Starter Kit (\$15-20) or Deluxe VR Viewer (\$23)
 - implements Google Cardboard 1.0/2.0
 - very durable protect flimsy LCDs
 - may need to drill additional holes



Display



- Topfoison LCDs:
 - 1080p \$90
 - 1440p (2K) \$100

- HDMI driver boards included
- no audio jack! doesn't fit in housing
- super easy to use as external monitor on desktop or laptop

Display



 same LCD you'll find in many smartphones

reasonably robust (only broke a few)

 ideally use OLEDs, but haven't found any low-cost ones similar to these LCDs

VRduino



- Arduino-based open source platform for:
 - orientation tracking
 - positional tracking
 - interfacing with other IO devices
- custom-design for EE 267 by Keenan Molner
- all HW-related files on course website


- Teensy 3.2 microcontroller (48 MHz, \$20) for all processing & IO
- InvenSense 9250 IMU (9-DOF, \$6) for orientation tracking
- Triad photodiodes & precondition circuit (\$1) for position tracking with HTC Lighthouse









Photodiode 1



Photodiode 3

Photodiode 2

About EE 267 – VRduino



x=-42mm, y=25mm

x=42mm, y=25mm



x=-42mm, y=-25mm

x=42mm, y=-25mm







Student-built Input Devices

- data gloves with flex sensors
- different types of controllers with tactile feedback via vibration motors
- all connected to VRduino GPIO pins





images from Adafruit.com

Acknowledgements

Near-eye Displays

- Robert Konrad (Stanford)
- Nitish Padmanaban (Stanford)
- Keenan Molner (Stanford)
- Fu-Chung Huang (NVIDIA)
- Emily Cooper (Dartmouth College)

Light field displays

- Doug Lanman (Oculus)
- Matt Hirsch (Lumii)
- Andrew Maimone (Oculus)
- Henry Fuchs (UNC)

<u>Other</u>

- Wolfgang Heidrich (UBC/KAUST)
- Ramesh Raskar (MIT/Facebook)
- Ed Boyden (MIT)
- Joseph Ford (UCSD)
- Karl Deisseroth (Stanford)



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