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# Enhancing Robotic UIs with Mixed Reality

## Improving Interaction and Visual Communication

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**Technical Aspects of Multimodal Systems**

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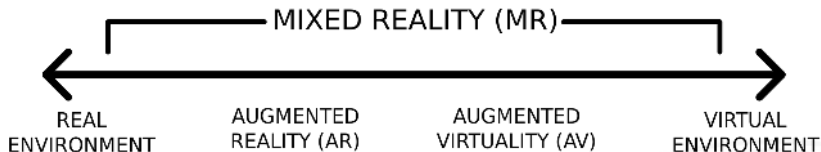
3. UI Improvements

Enhancing Visual Feedback & Communication

Enhancing Control Methods

4. Discussion





## A selection of achievable advantages:

- ▶ sense of agency
- ▶ spatial/situational awareness
- ▶ depth perception
- ▶ immersion
- ▶ natural interaction

[Bur99] G. C. Burdea, *Invited review: the synergy between virtual reality and robotics*, IEEE Trans. Robot. Autom. **15** (1999), no. 3, 400–410.

[MTUK95] Paul Milgram, Haruo Takemura, Akira Utsumi, and Fumio Kishino, *Augmented reality: A class of displays on the reality-virtuality continuum*, Telemanipulator and telepresence technologies, vol. 2351, International Society for Optics and Photonics, 1995, pp. 282–293.



# Mixed Reality

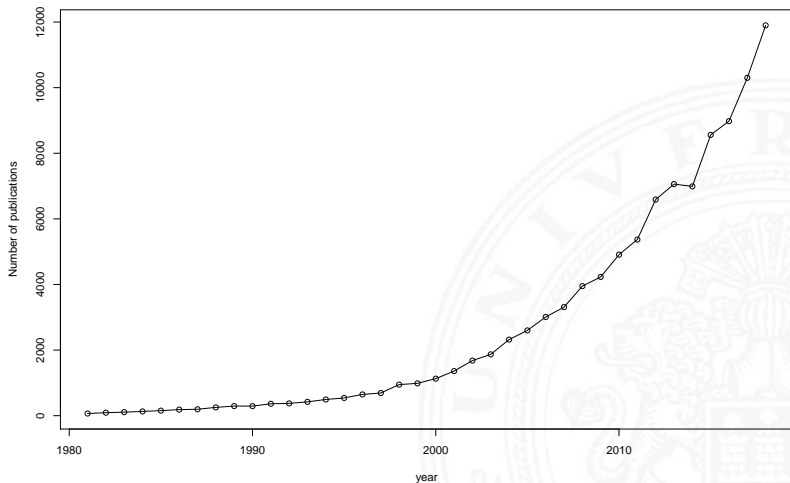
## Scientific Interest in MR and Robotics

Research Questions and Motivation

Implementation

UI Improvements

Discussion



Source: Google Scholar, 2019-03-13



# Research Questions

- ▶ How can we *extend robotic systems* with mixed reality?
- ▶ What are appropriate *interaction methods* for robotic tasks?
- ▶ How is it possible to *enhance the communication* between the operator and the robot for increasing the *predictability* of the system?





# Research Questions

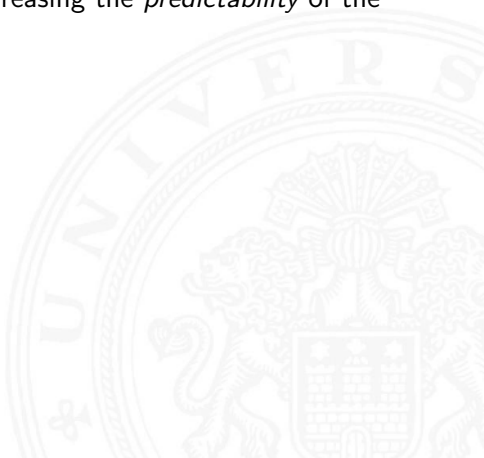
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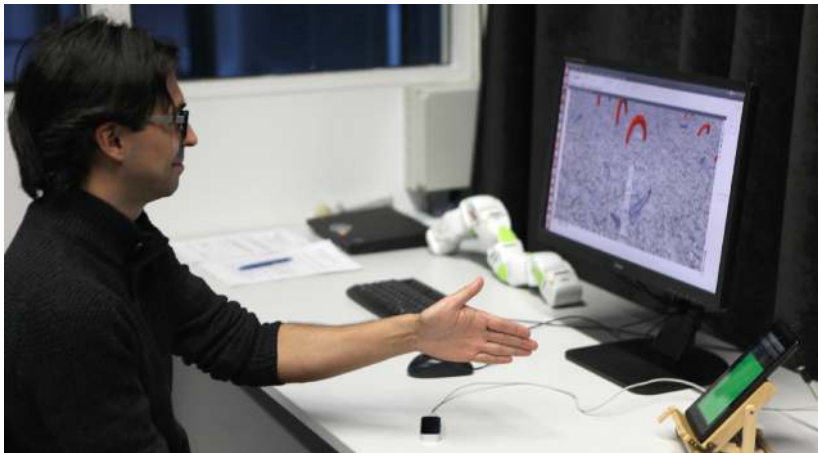


# Research Questions

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# How not to achieve this!



- ▶ It was very cumbersome to extend OpenRAVE-based middleware with an Android device!
- ▶ Very static hand gestures are exhausting for operators!



# How not to achieve this!



► This causes strong simulator sickness!

# Mixed Reality Robotic User Interfaces (MRRUI)

Research Questions and Motivation

Implementation

UI Improvements

Discussion

- ▶ What is potentially possible with MR?
- ▶ What factors can be influenced during the system design phase?
- ▶ What has already been done by other researchers?



# Mixed Reality Robotic User Interfaces (MRRUI)

## IMPAct Framework for Classification

Research Questions and Motivation

Implementation

UI Improvements

Discussion



[KZS19] Dennis Krupke, Jianwei Zhang, and Frank Steinicke, *Impact: A holistic framework for mixed reality robotic user interface classification and design*, *Multimodal Technologies and Interaction* 3 (2019), no. 2.

# Mixed Reality Robotic User Interfaces (MRRUI)

## Example: IMPAct Template

Research Questions and Motivation

Implementation

UI Improvements

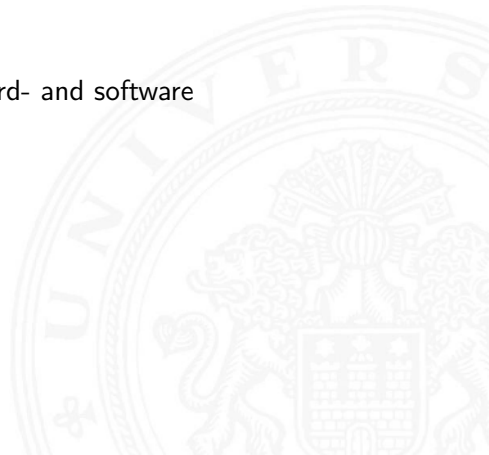
Discussion

Category	Group	Factor	Value
Interaction	Assessive Features	Action Type	Passive
		API Interaction Level	Type D
		Control Appearance	Icon-4
		Control Stroke	0
		Direction	straight trajectory
		Size	5
		Interactive Elements	minimal
		Interaction Type	point-and-click
		Manipulation Technology	gesture
		Parameter Manipulation Type	direct
Interaction	Feedback	Response Behavior Characterization	non-ambiguous
		Intelligent Robot Control Paradigm	knowledge of user goal
		Robot Control Element	feedback control loop
		Role of Navigation	responsive to scenario
		UI Type	intuitive
Advancement	Image/Display	Display Clarity	appropriate
		Display Color (Medium)	black & white
		Display Shape	rectangular
		Image Scaling	1:1
		Visibility	obstruction
Advancement	Input	Action Measurement Type	fiducial landmark tracking
		Distance of Interaction	partially directly viewed
		Goal	1:1
		Interaction Type	static gesture
		Input Type	MR, structured light IR camera, eye camera, joint encoder, camera non-structured
Advancement	Goal/Task	Action Type	robot arm & gripper
		Display Type	see-through HMD
		Review of Body Mapping	no VR
		Review of Proprioceptive Mapping	virtual scene and steering function
		Review of Physics Mapping	strong tendency towards real-time insights
Placement	Interaction/Manipulation	Interaction of VR	direct completely integrated
		Level of MR	AR with tendency to RE
		Representation Fidelity	classroom tradition rendering but with graphic details
		Quantity of Manipulation	partially measured and structured
		Substructure	only scene
Placement	Manipulation	Navigation	direct scene
		Stack of Manipulation	complex
		Representation of Manipulation	abstract
		User Experience	status of transparent, structured and supervised robot
		Review of World Knowledge	status of interest are recorded with manual to high accuracy
Space/Time	Space/Time	Location	in line
		Rotation Level	adapted to half a second
		Acceleration	very fast 2D
		Rotation Delay	software based in low scenes
		View (orientation)	beam
Accuracy	Assessment	Level of Classification	gesture independent, self location
		Level of Identification	collaborative workspaces, virtual group gesture
		Plus	virtual robot shows gesture online
		Robust LQA	redundancy: 10 samples, 3. Accuracy: 1.8, variance: 0
		Utilization	based on the beam
Accuracy	Behavioral	MR Application Level of the Robot	class 2
		Task Accuracy	class 2
		Robot Behavior Level	minimal coordinated
		Robot Communication Capable by Transparency of System State	reactive
		UI	reactive
Accuracy	Behavioral	Level of Robot Anthropomorphism	very low
		Robot Physics	high
Accuracy	Behavioral	Robot Type	holonomic



# Why ROS and Unity3D?

- ▶ widely accepted frameworks
- ▶ strong communities
- ▶ (at least tendencies to) professional use
- ▶ modular and extendable
- ▶ effective and efficient
- ▶ support of state-of-the-art hard- and software





# Why ROS and Unity3D?

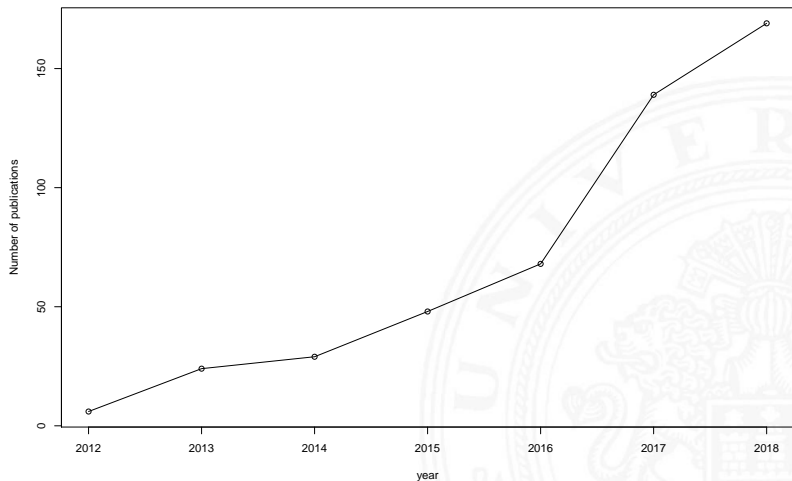
## Scientific Publications on Google Scholar

Research Questions and Motivation

Implementation

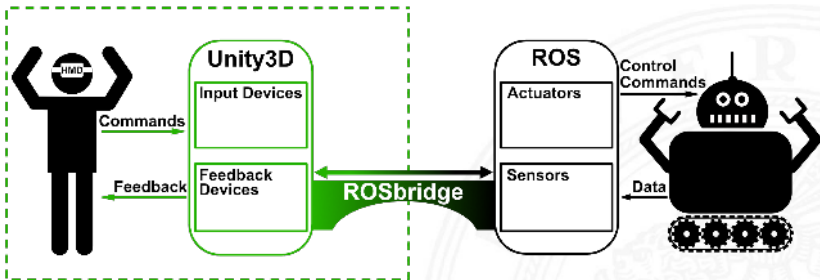
UI Improvements

Discussion



Source: Google Scholar, 2019-03-13

- ▶ URDF importer
- ▶ local IK solver
- ▶ bi-directional communication
- ▶ state machine
- ▶ tools (coordinate conversion, reliable (marker) tracking, ...)



[KSE<sup>+</sup>17] Dennis Krupke, Sebastian Starke, Lasse Einig, Frank Steinicke, and Jianwei Zhang, *Prototyping of Immersive HRI Scenarios*, Human-Centric Robotics (Mohammad O. Tokhi Benedita Malheiro Pedro Guedes Manual F. Silva, Gurvinder S. Virk and Paulo Ferreira, eds.), Proceedings of CLAWAR 2017: 20th International Conference on Climbing and Walking Robots and the Support Technologies for Mobile Machines, CLAWAR Association, World Scientific, sep 2017, pp. 537–544.

# Visual Aids

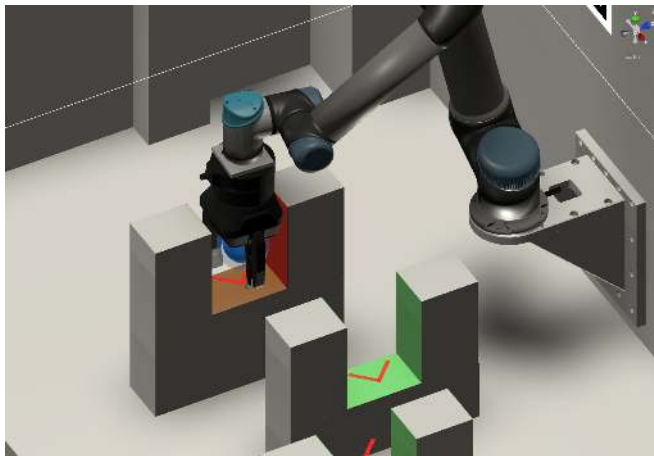
## Visual Virtual Fixtures

Research Questions and Motivation

Implementation

UI Improvements

Discussion



- [KZS18] Dennis Krupke, Jianwei Zhang, and Frank Steinicke, *Virtual Fixtures in VR - Perceptual Overlays for Assisted Teleoperation, Teleprogramming and Learning*, Proceedings of the ICAT-EGVE (International Conference on Artificial Reality and Telexistence and Eurographics Symposium on Virtual Environments) 2018 (Gerd Bruder, Shunsuke Yoshimoto, and Sue Cobb, eds.), The Eurographics Association, The Eurographics Association, nov 2018.



# Visual Aids

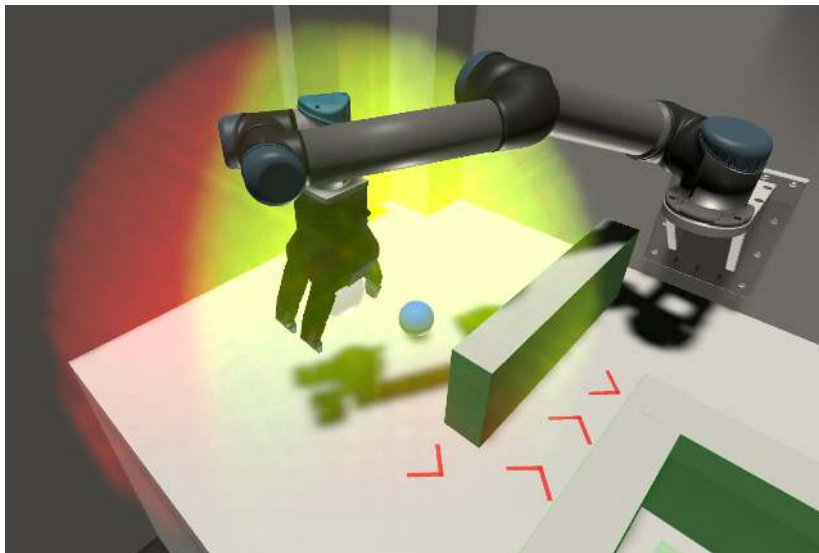
## Reachability Visualization

Research Questions and Motivation

Implementation

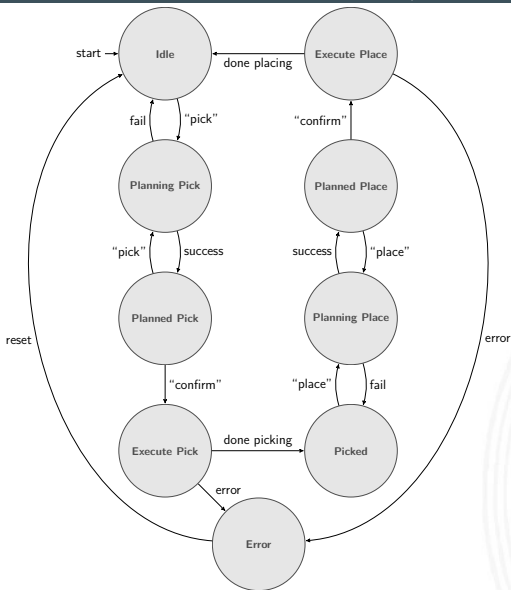
UI Improvements

Discussion



# Visual Aids

## State-Machine



- ▶ basis for head-up display (HUD)
- ▶ (necessary for a robust system)



# (Natural) Control Methods

## "Real" Walking

Research Questions and Motivation

Implementation

UI Improvements

Discussion



- ▶ 6-DoF tracking of the operator's head is applied to the robot's floor pose

[ZLK<sup>+</sup>18] Jingxin Zhang, Eike Langbehn, Dennis Krupke, Nicholas Katzakis, and Frank Steinicke, *Detection Thresholds for Rotation and Translation Gains in 360° Video-based Telepresence System*, IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics (TVCG), Special Issue on IEEE Virtual Reality (VR) 24 (2018), no. 4, 1671 – 1680.

# (Natural) Control Methods

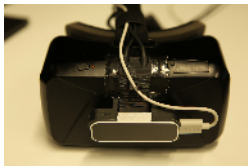
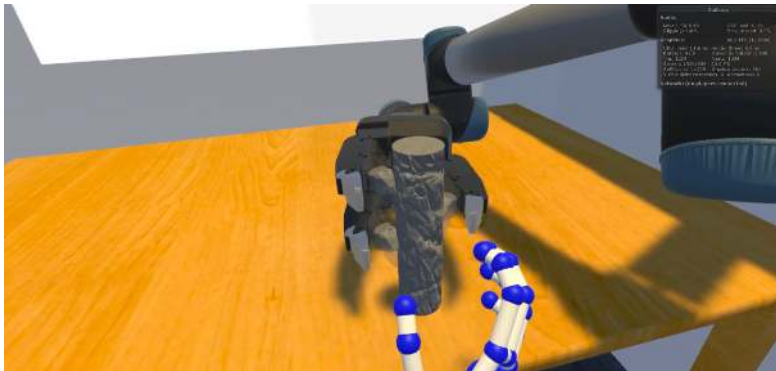
## "Natural" Grasping

Research Questions and Motivation

Implementation

UI Improvements

Discussion



- ▶ hand tracking is applied to gripper control

# (Natural) Control Methods

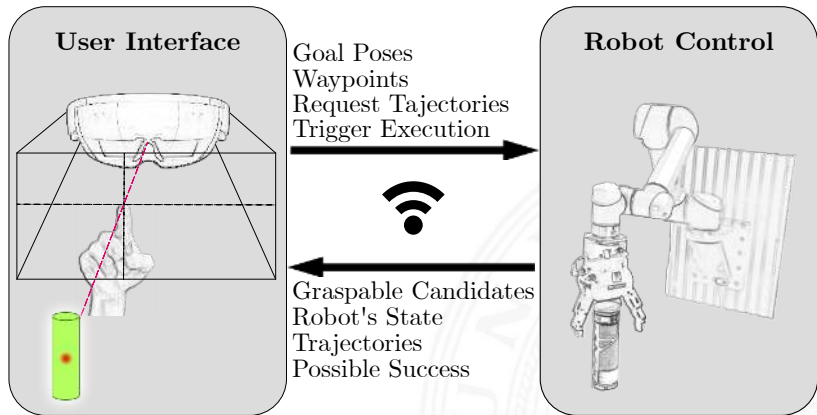
## Selection by Raycast

Research Questions and Motivation

Implementation

UI Improvements

Discussion



[KSL<sup>+</sup>18] D. Krupke, F. Steinicke, P. Lubos, Y. Jonetzko, M. Görner, and J. Zhang, *Comparison of Multimodal Heading and Pointing Gestures for Co-Located Mixed Reality Human-Robot Interaction*, 2018 IEEE/RSJ International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems (IROS), Oct 2018, pp. 1–9.

## Achieved Results:

- ▶ Development of a Theoretical Framework for MRRUI Classification.
  - ▶ Implementation of Unity3D Assets for Prototyping Robotic Use-Cases.
  - ▶ Evaluation of Control and Visual Communication Concepts.
- 
- ▶ <https://github.com/denniskrupke/ros2unity>
  - ▶ <https://github.com/denniskrupke/virtualFixturesExperiment>
  - ▶ <https://github.com/denniskrupke/holoROS>
  - ▶ [https://github.com/TAMS-Group/hololens\\_grasp](https://github.com/TAMS-Group/hololens_grasp)

<mailto:krupke.dennis@gmail.com>

# Thank You!