
Human in the Loop and Ubiquitous Computing: Technologies for the Virtuality Continuum and Intelligent Environments

- State of the Art, Technology Trends, Roadmaps -

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Plzen, 7th February 2002

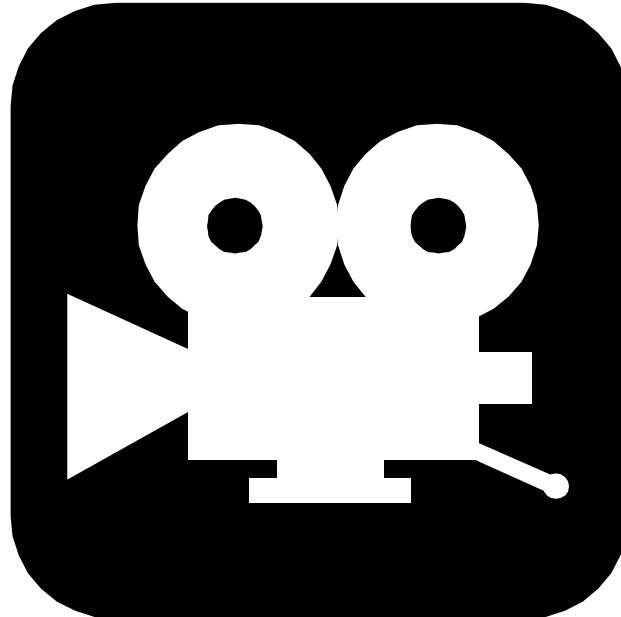
Outline

- Actual Observations
- Development, Trends, Topics
- Roadmaps
 - ↪ Technology
 - ↪ Faculties
- Conclusion



A young boy wearing a red baseball cap, a green t-shirt, and colorful shorts is standing on a sandy beach. He is holding a telescope to his eye and looking out towards the ocean. The background shows a clear blue sky and the horizon line of the sea.

Actual Observations



Video – Virtual Oceanarium

Observation 1: Standard User Interface: hardly changed in 20 Years



What hasn't / has hardly changed:

- WIMP
 - ↳ Windows
 - ↳ Icons
 - ↳ Menus
 - ↳ Pointer
- Resolution
(today: 1280 x 1024)

Standard User Interface...



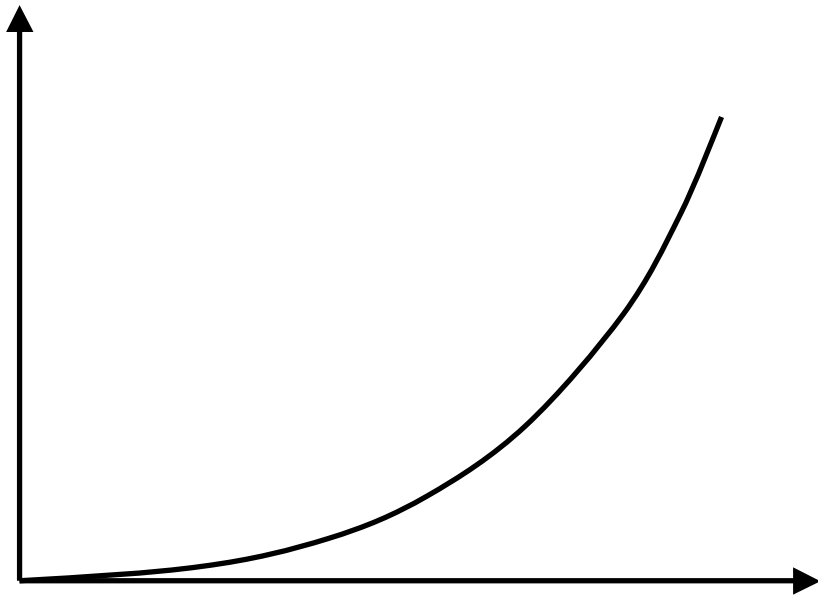
... is a technology for a human with

- ↪ one eye
- ↪ one ear
- ↪ without mouth
- ↪ without body
- ↪ one hand
- ↪ one finger

The Complexity is Increasing ...

- Amount of available data
- Information worlds
- Networked systems
- Simulations
- Presentation methods
- ...

Moore's Law ...



Twice the Performance every 18 Month

What does that really mean:

➤ Computers in the future are

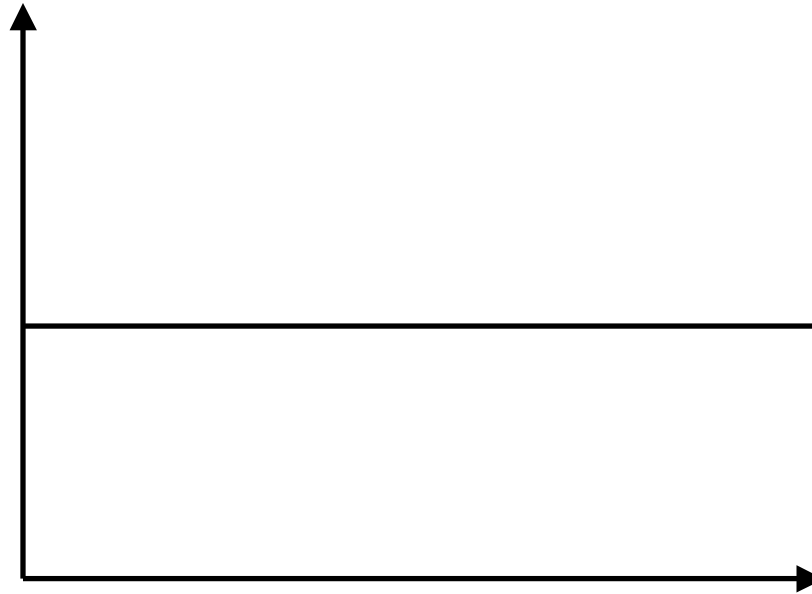
↳ faster

↳ more powerful

↳ cheaper

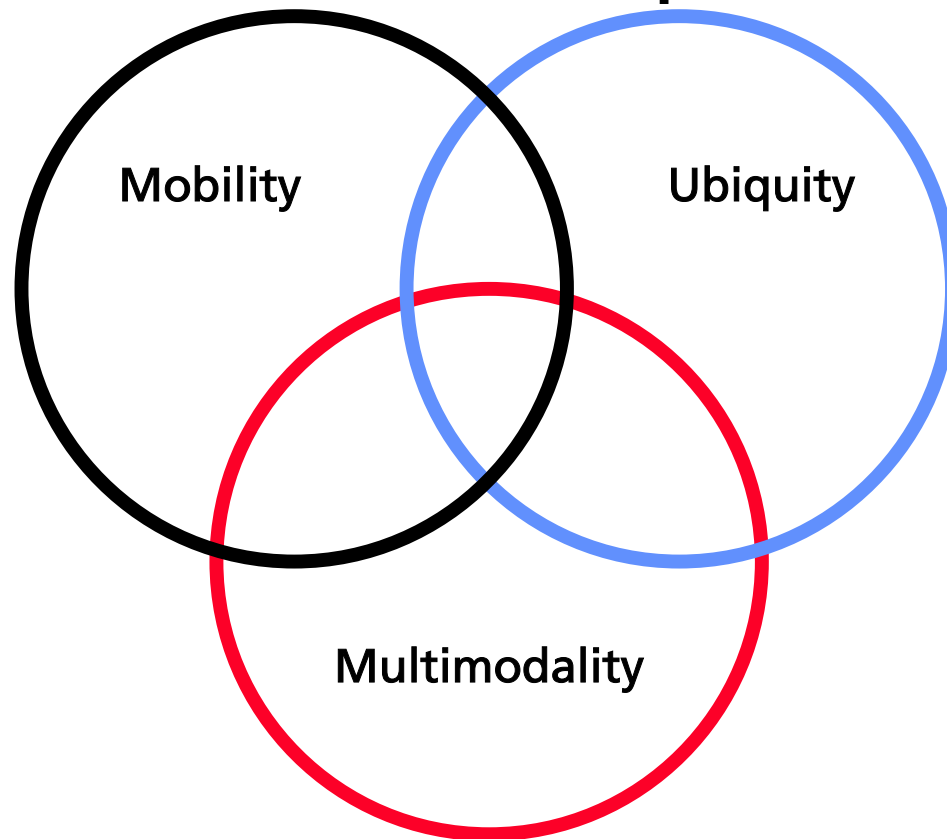
as in the past

But ...



... the Capacity of the Human Brain is Constant!

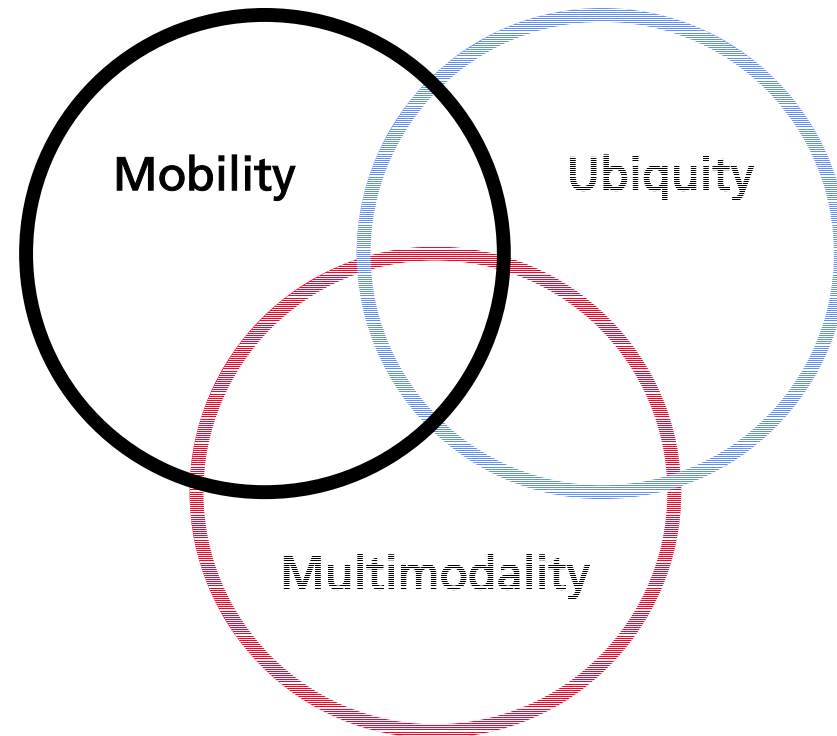
Key Elements for further Development



Mobility

User Support

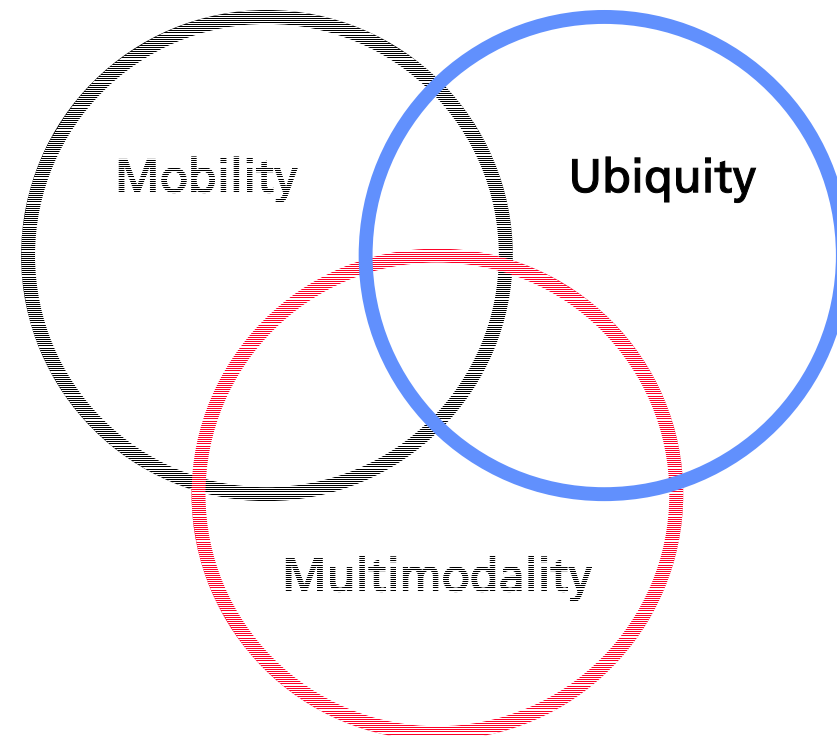
- Everywhere
- Anytime
- **For every task!**



Ubiquity

Computer

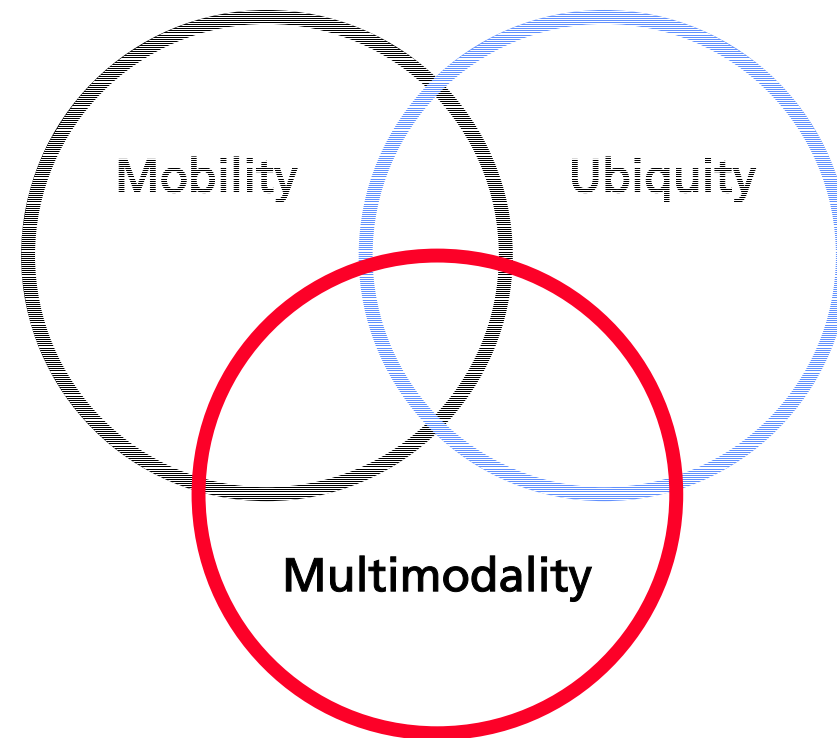
- Everywhere
- Anytime
- **For everyone!**



Multimodality

We remember

- 10% of what we read
- 20% of what we hear
- 30% of what we see
- 50% of what we hear and see
- 70% of what we say
- 90% of what we do



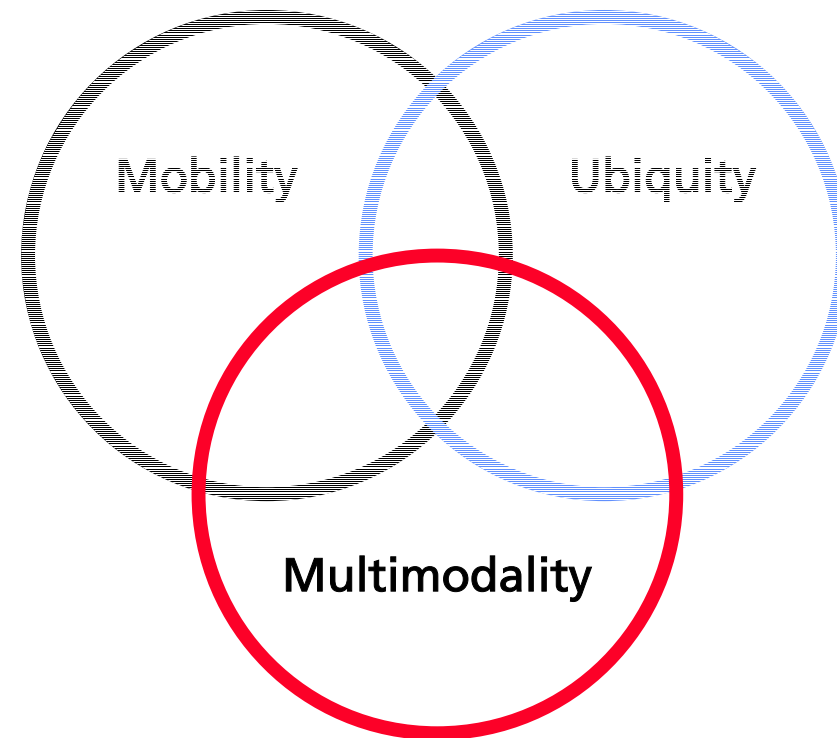
Multimodality

Data types

- Text
- Image (static, dynamic)
- Video
- Music

Requirement

- Multimodal navigation and/or to experiment in computer generated worlds





Development, Trends, Topics

WIR WISSEN, WAS KOMMT.

Today

Computer graphics is today

- Visualization
- Interaction with visual information
- Visual communication over networks

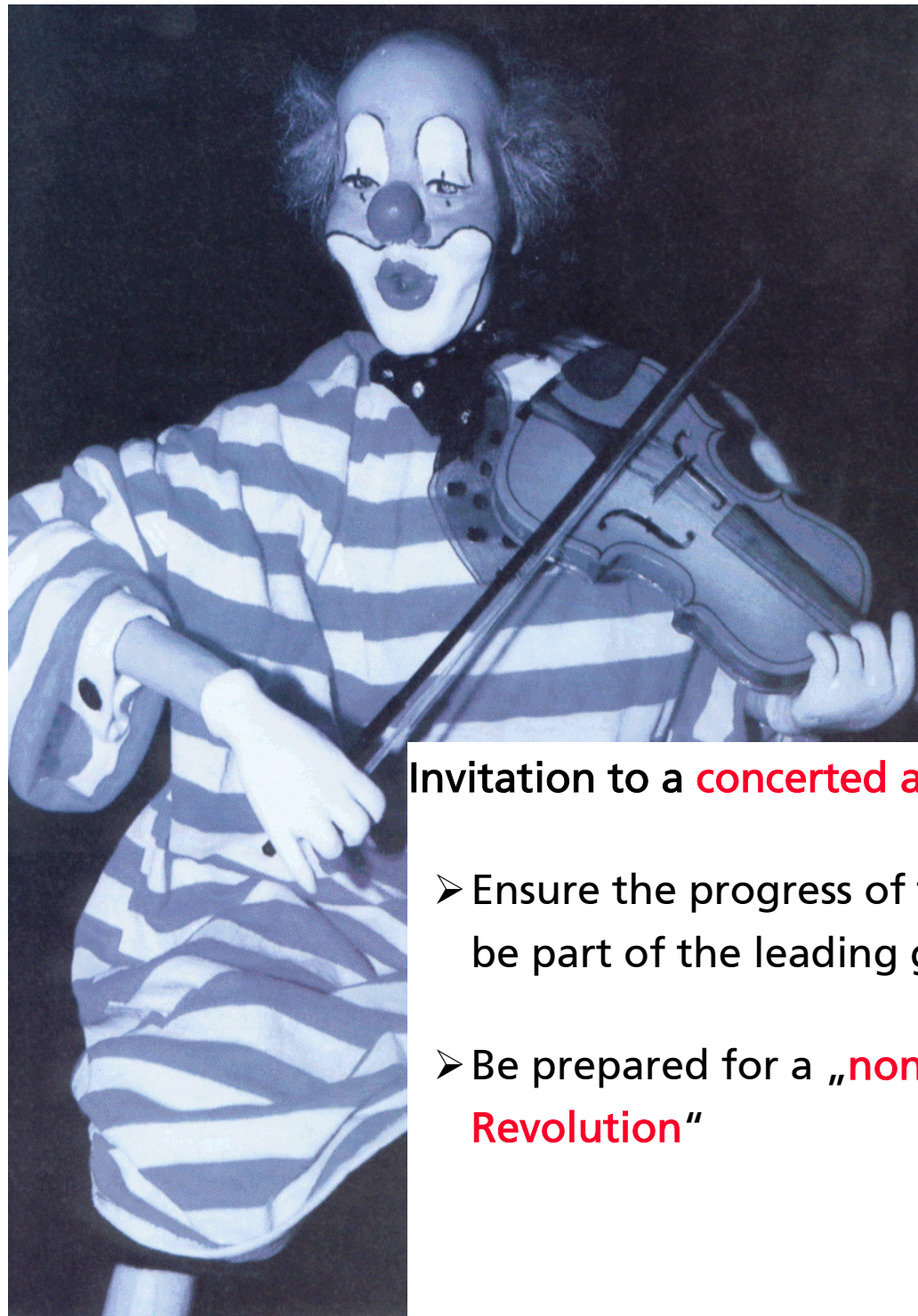
... where is the expected **quantum leap?**

The Evolution

- Leave the „desktop“
- Millions of users
- Web-based „visual“ services
- 2D und 3D „for all“
- Interactive video technology
- Interactive broadcasting

The **Revolution** needs a **quantum leap**

- „**Rendering**“ for other senses has to be developed and consistently integrated into the „Rendering-Pipeline“
- **Integration** of our **biological system** with **computers** and other communication systems
- The man-machine interface becomes „fuzzy“
- **Paradigm shift**
 - ↳ Virtuality-Continuum
 - ↳ Human-Centered Computing and Interaction
 - ↳ Mobility and Ubiquity



Invitation to a **concerted action**:

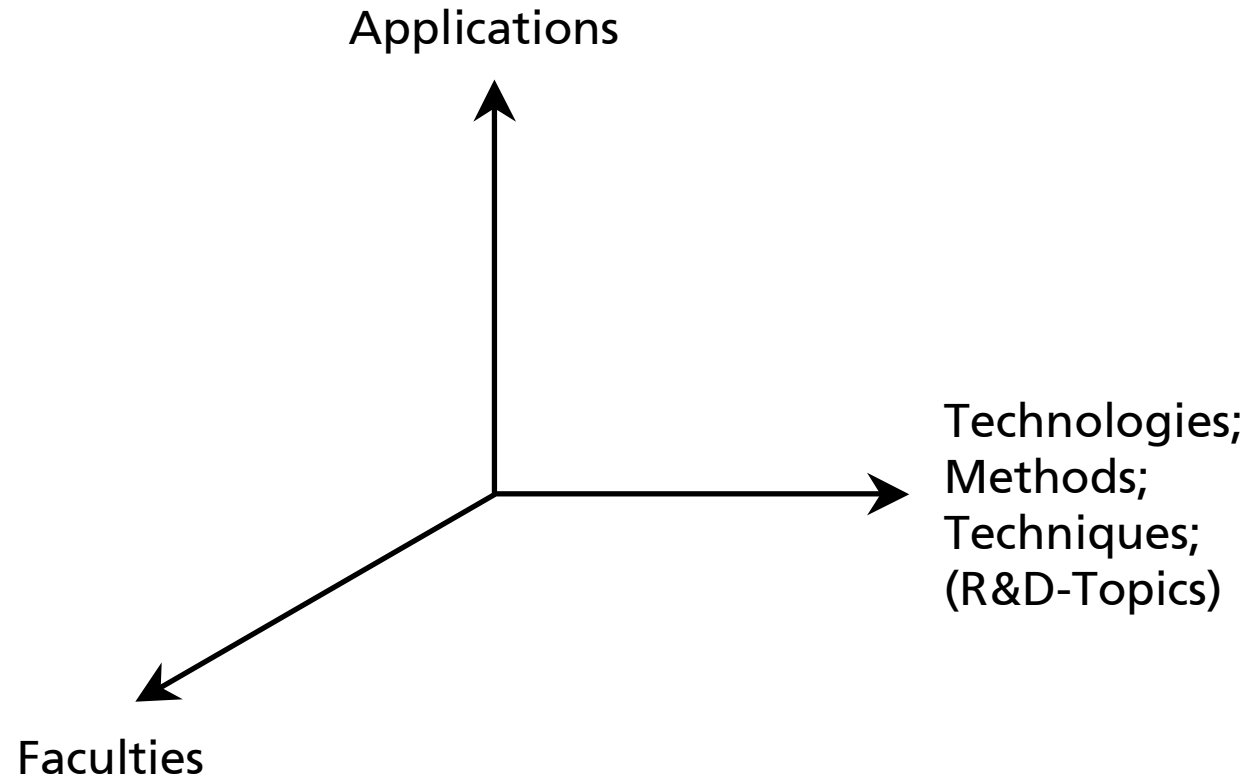
- Ensure the progress of the **evolution** and be part of the leading groups
- Be prepared for a „**non predictable Revolution**“

*Stimmt
die Richtung?*

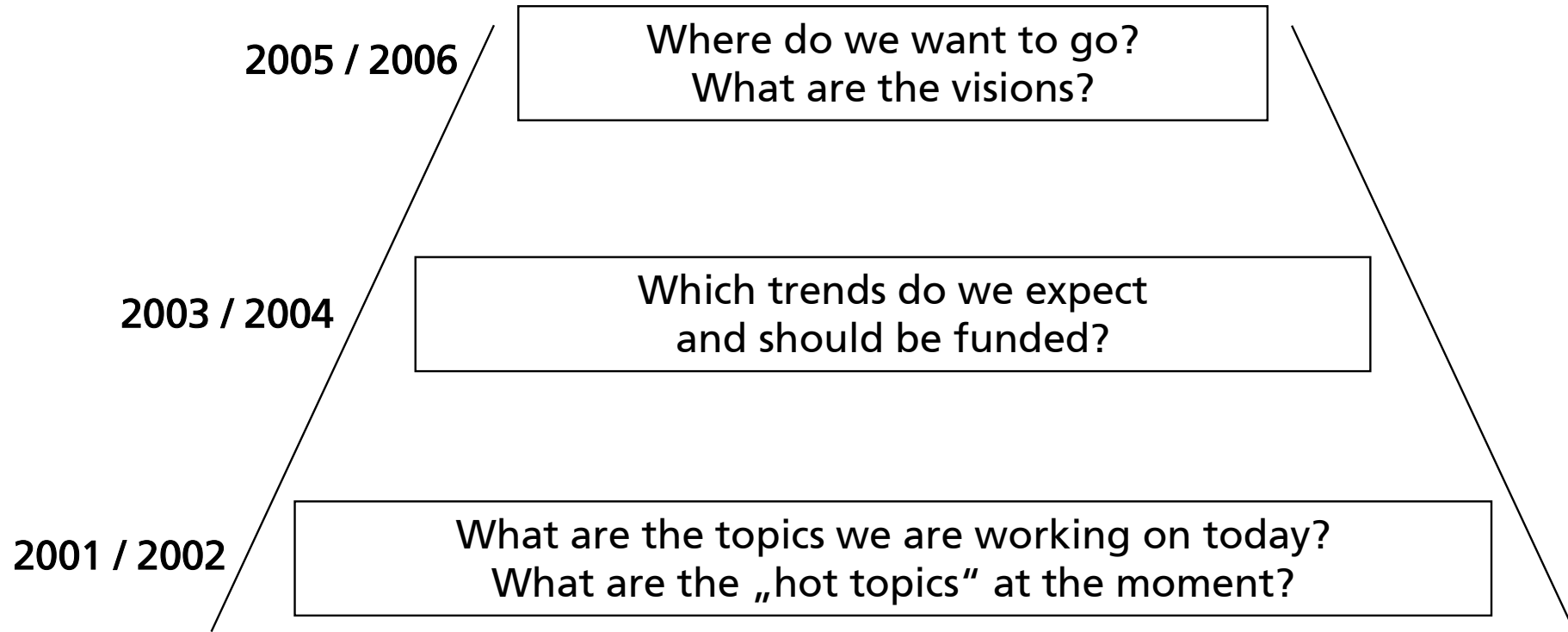
Roadmaps

A landscape of rolling sand dunes under a blue sky. The dunes are light yellow and have soft shadows. The sky is a pale blue with some light clouds. The word "Roadmaps" is written in large, bold, white letters with a black outline, centered over the dunes.

Roadmaps



Technology Roadmap





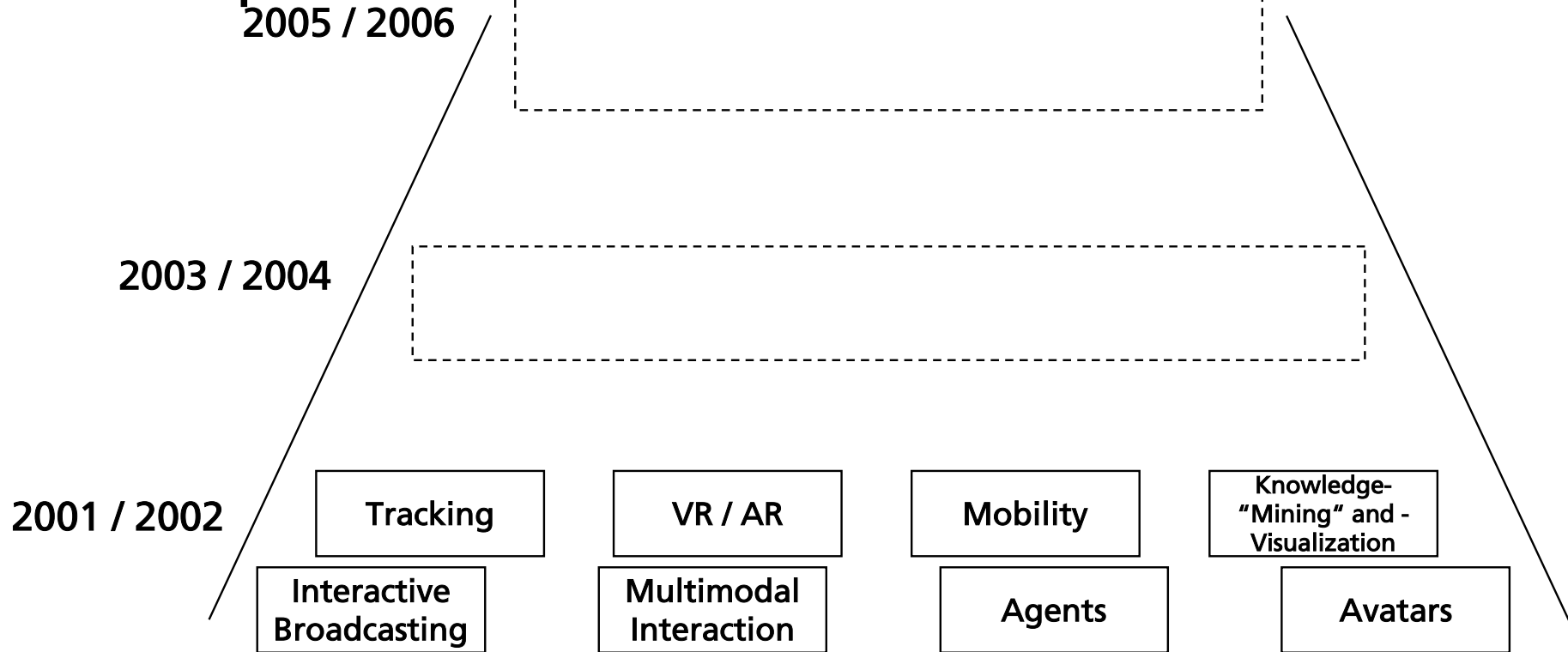
Technology Roadmap

(2001 – 2002)

a RACE against TIME!

Technology Roadmap (2001 – 2002)

R&D-Topics



What is Interactive Broadcasting?

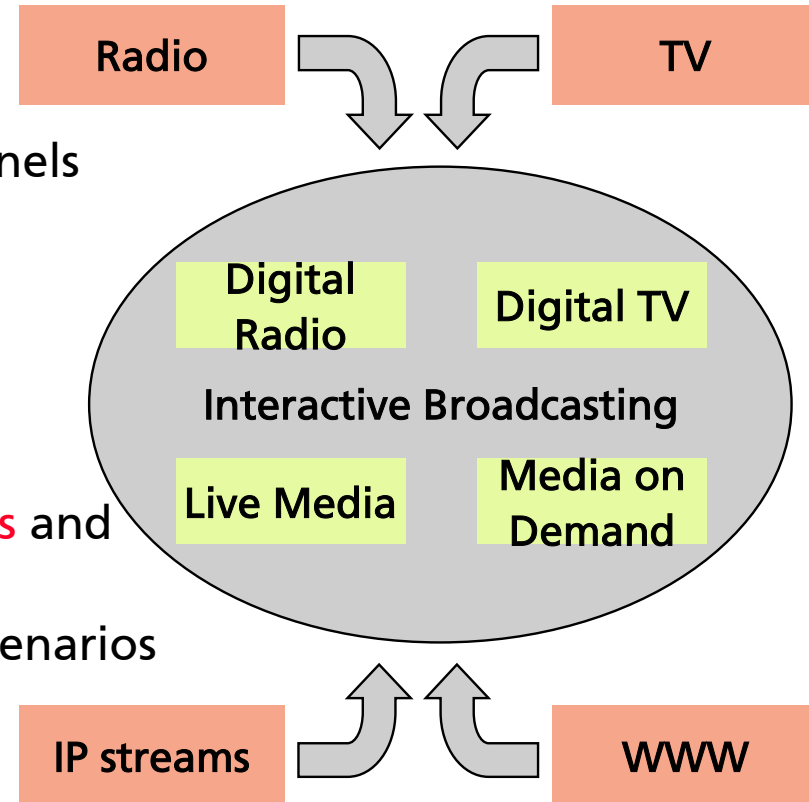
It is more than

- Video Streaming and transmission channels
- Interactive television

It **combines**

- **Contents, services, transmission channels** and
- Applications for different application scenarios

and supports the activity of the user.



Research- and Development Topics

Integration of **broadcast content into online services**

- Which content types – besides TV – are suitable?

Presentation of the **content on different output devices**

- A TV set is not a computer monitor!
- Mobile vs. stationary output devices

Which **applications** can be used **in different context**?

- When will the user be about to use the offered services (at home, in the office, during travel, ...)

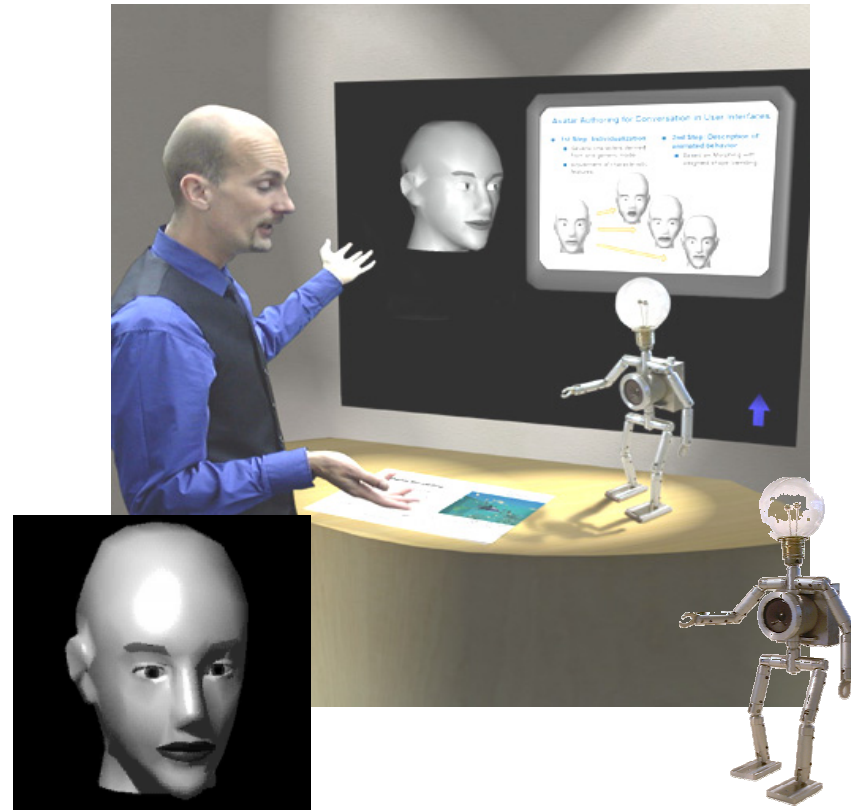
Multimodal Interaction

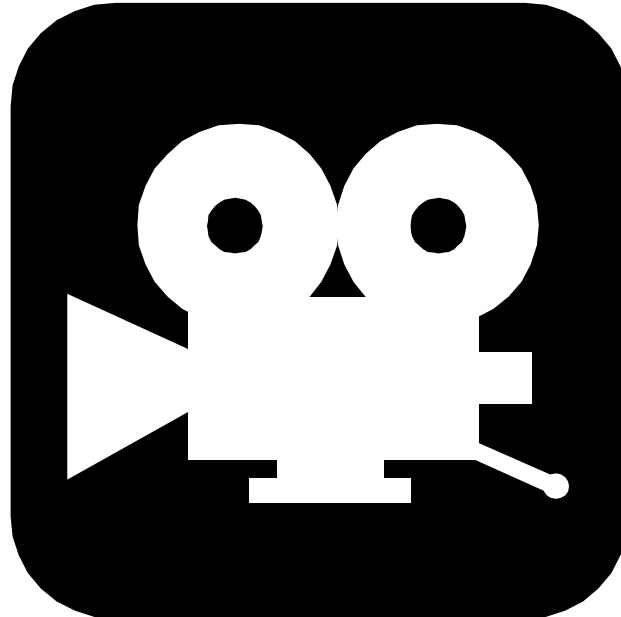
Multimodal Interaction

- Gesture- and speech recognition
- Haptic Displays

New interaction metaphors

- Digital Assistants
- Avatar



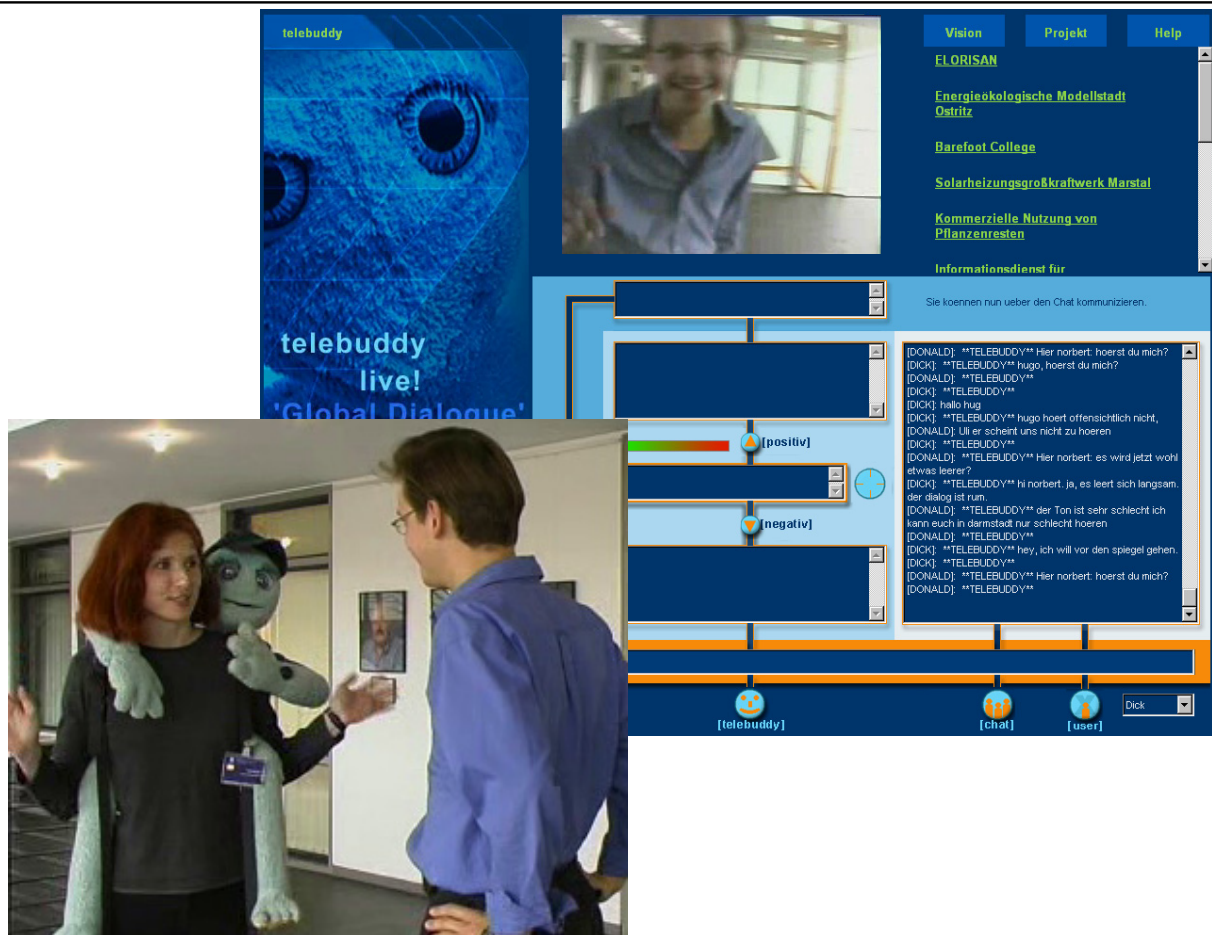


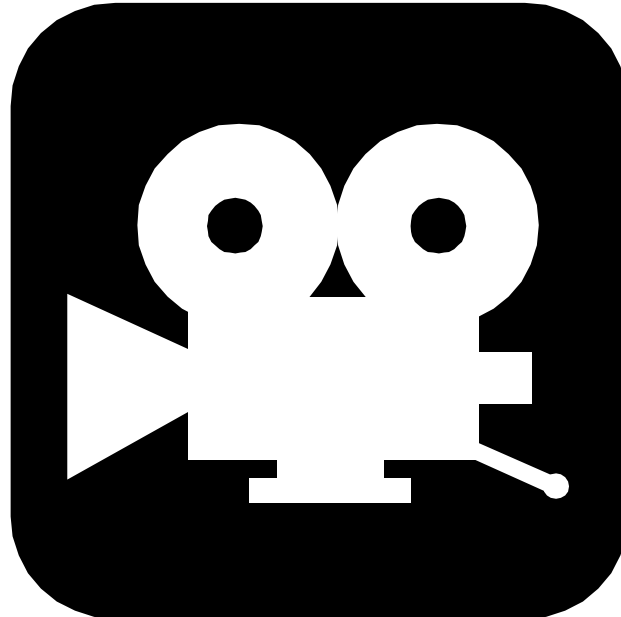
Video – Avatar Programming

Avatar

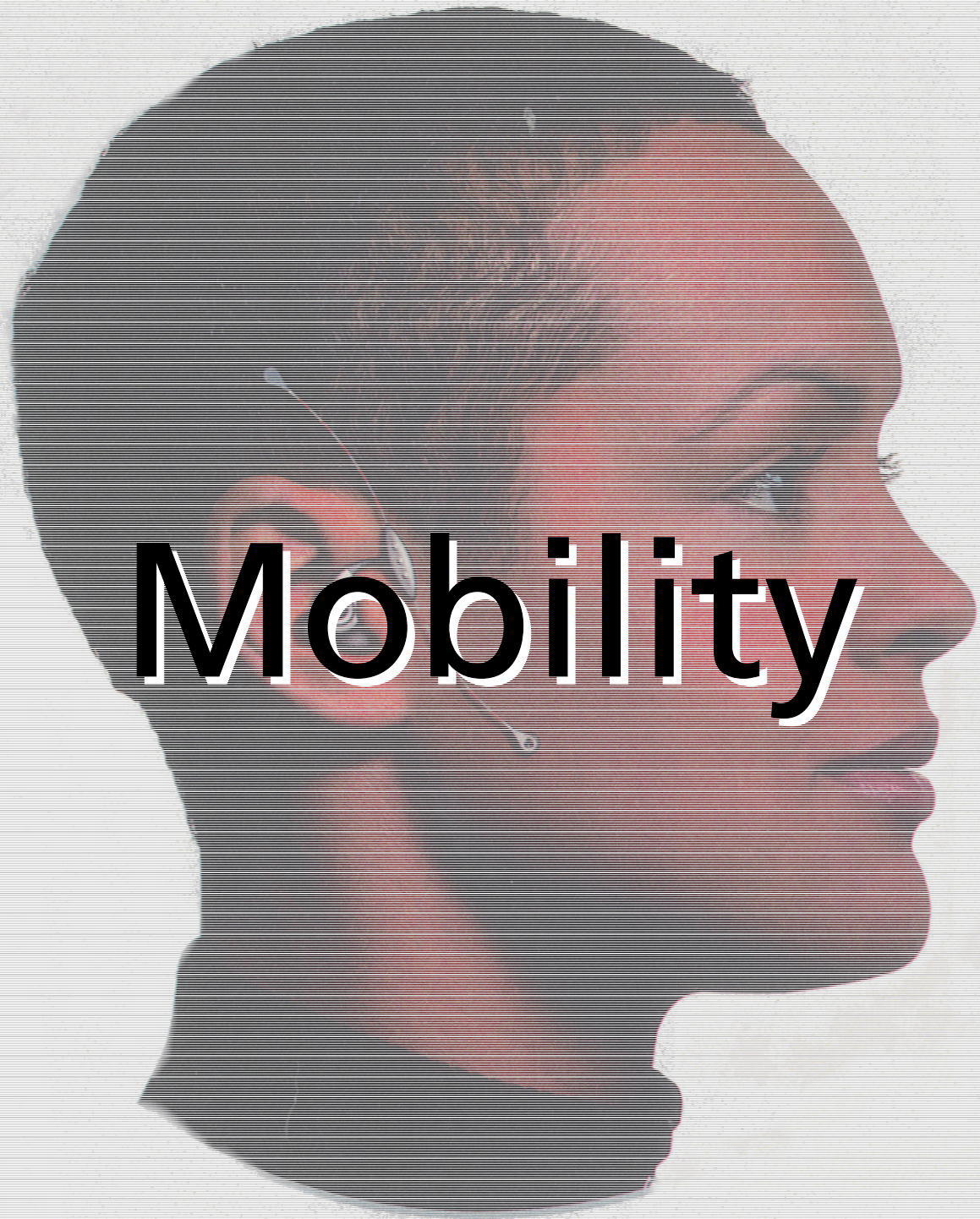
Physical Avatar-Interface

- Fun / Attention
- Avatar will be controlled by internet users and visitors
- New forms of communication
- Design and usability





Video – Telebuddy



Mobility

Mobility

Wearable Computer

➤ Features

↪ Wearable during the work

↪ Hands remain free

➤ May include sensors

↪ **Registration of the physical environment**

➤ Autonomous actions

↪ e.g. may inform the user about incoming informations

➤ **Operational all the time (24/7)**



Tracking

Coarse tracking:

- Active badges, GPS

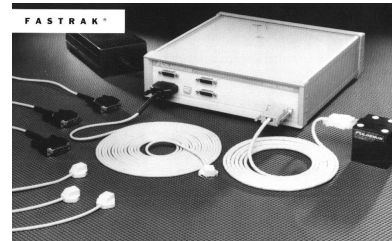
Precise tracking:

- Magnetic
- Ultrasound
- Mechanic
- Inertial
- Optic
- Laser

Trend: Combination

- Hybrid Tracking

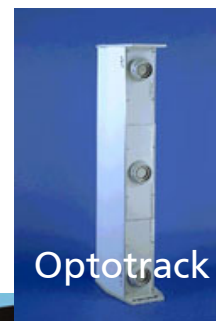
Fastrak



Flashpoint



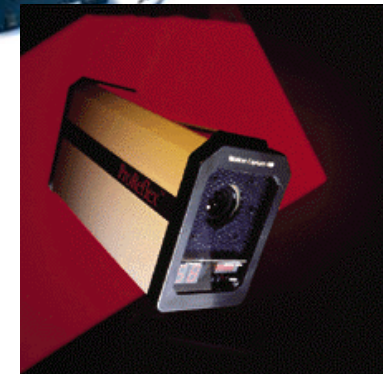
Intersense



Optotrak

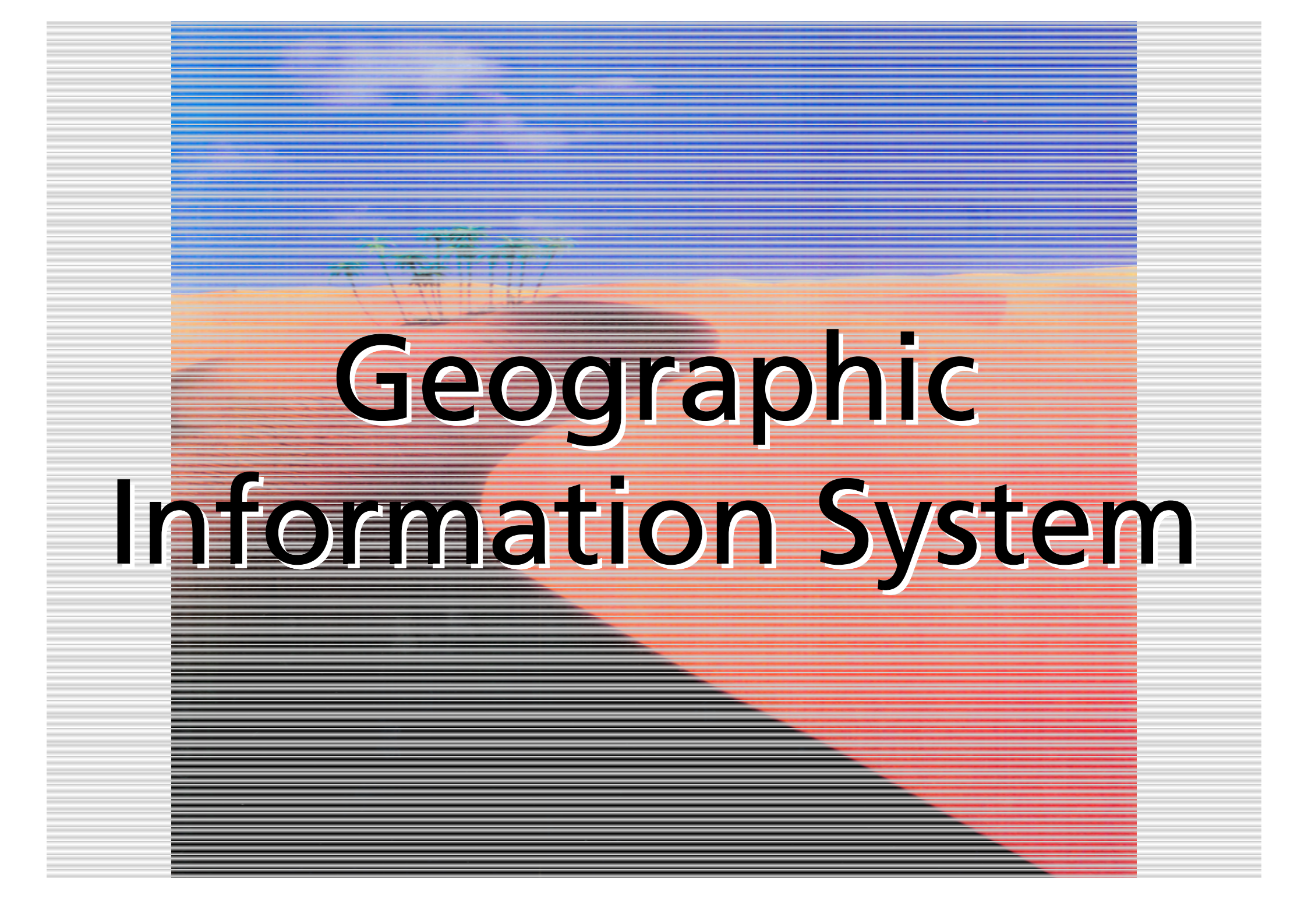


Ascension



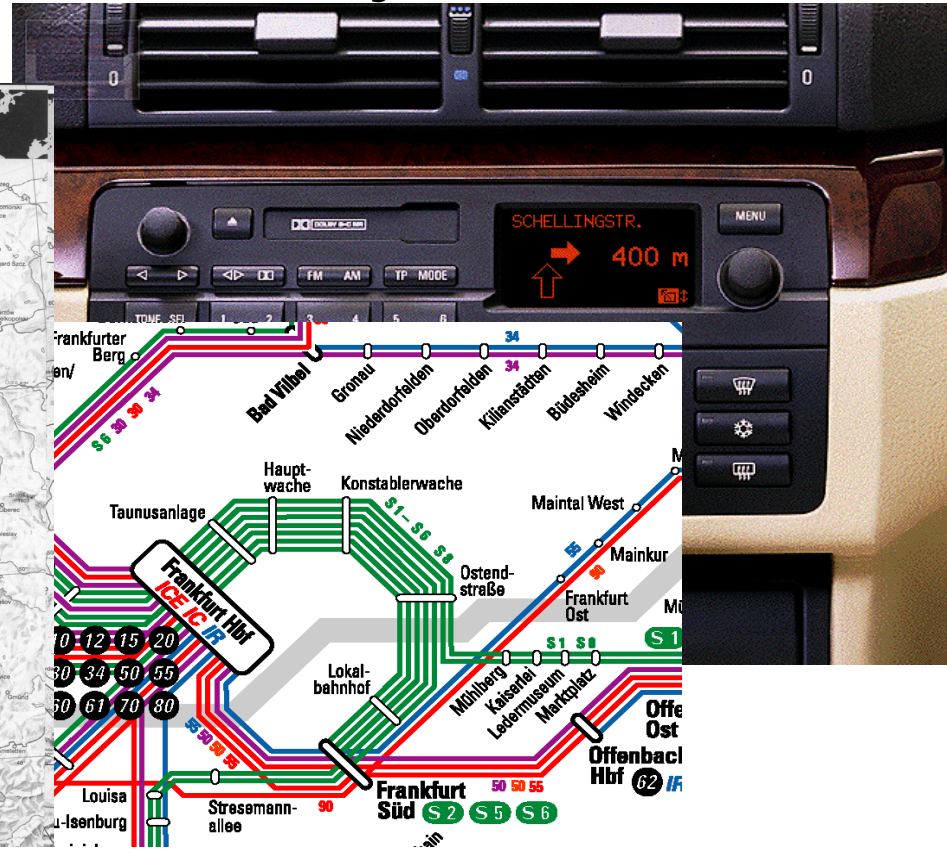
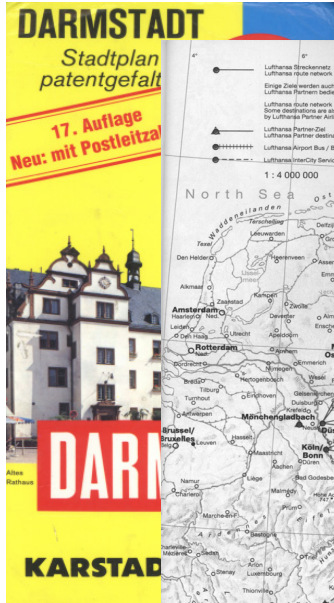
Qualisys





Geographic Information System


Presentation of Traffic Routes – „Today“ - Monomodal



Intermodal Personal Mobility Assistant

- „Knows“ (spatial) goals
- Usable in different locations
 - ↳ car, public transport, plane, ...
- Offers informative description of directions
- „Knows“ attractions in the area
- Is able to make online reservations in nearby hotels





Knowledge-“Mining” and -Visualization

Business Needs Knowledge

Knowledge-“Mining” and -Visualization

➤ Visualization of **data and structures**

↳ Show correlations (Infospaces)

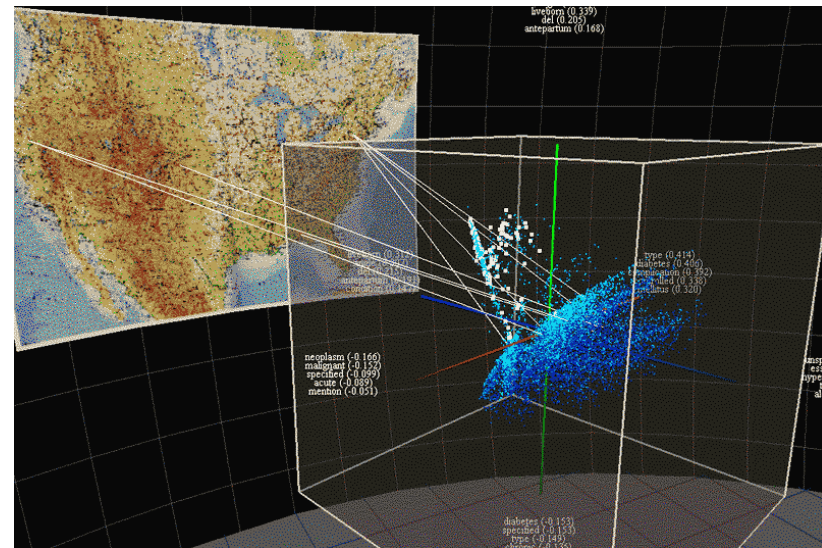
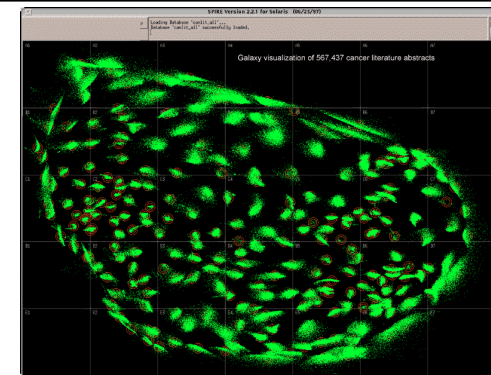
↳ New media (e.g. 3D-Models)

➤ Analysis techniques

↳ Text correlations, image analysis

↳ Topic-Map

↳ (Automatic) **metadata creation**

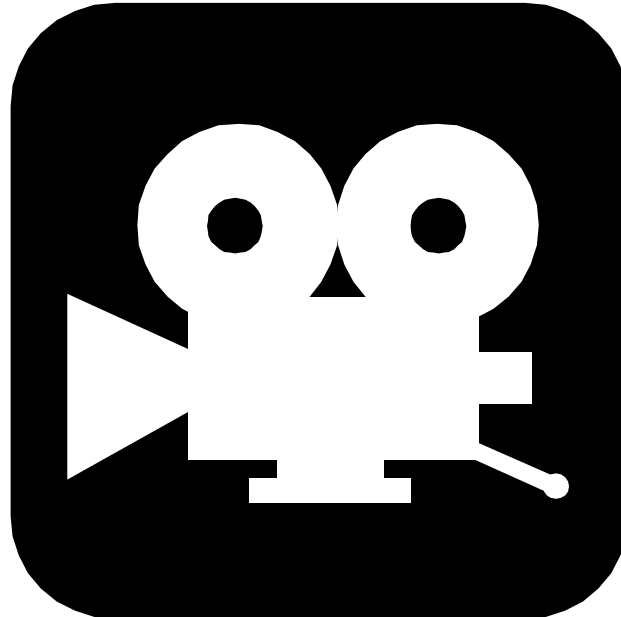


Virtual Reality (VR)

Third Generation is in sight

- 3D graphic systems in PCs
(also at home)
- Vivid attractive, virtual worlds
- **Interactive knowledge imparting** (history, nature, science, ...)
- Distributed virtual worlds
(**VR videoconferencing**)

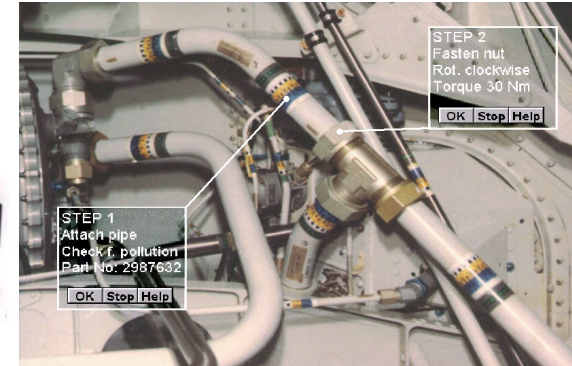




Video – Cathedral of Siena

Augmented Reality (AR)

- First real world applications available (ARVIKA)
- Registration of on-line data (especially for medical applications)
- Concepts for interaction with real and virtual objects
- „Breakthrough“ relies on the next hardware generation (mobile computers and cell phones), which will be equipped with cameras





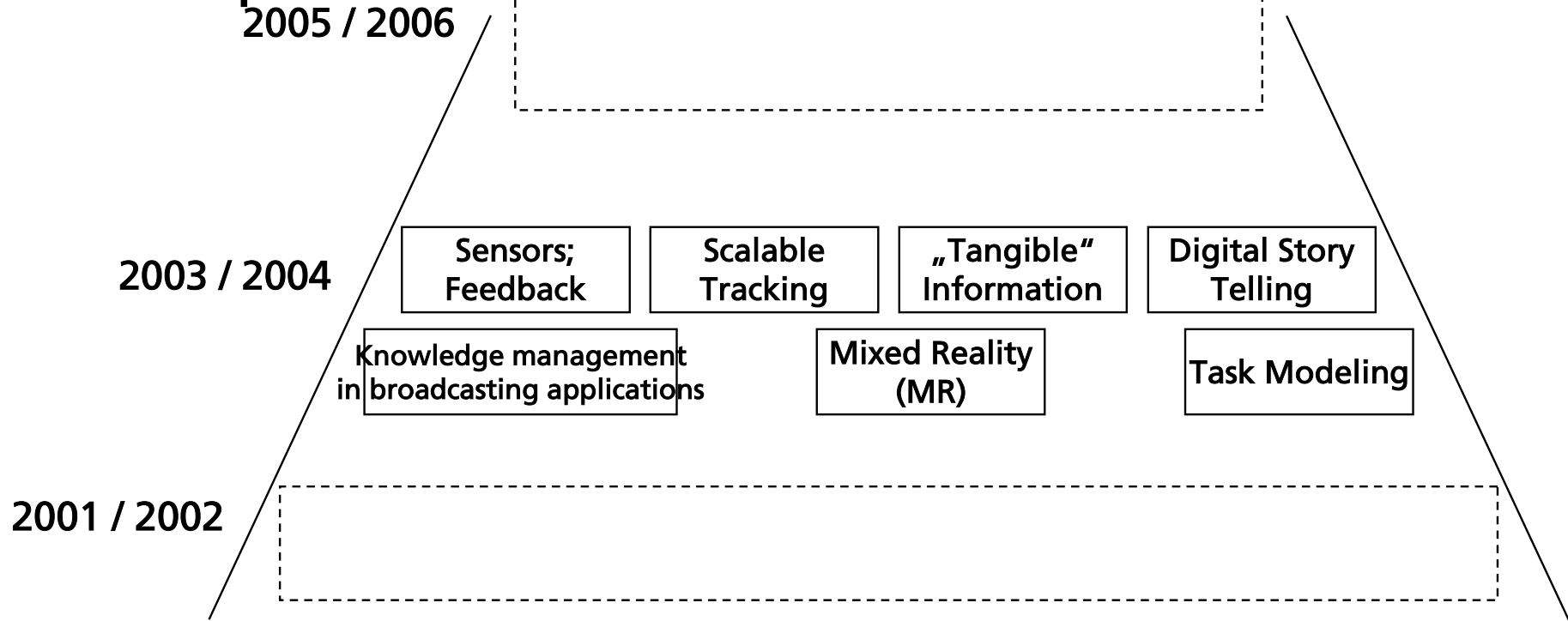
Technology Roadmap

(2003 – 2004)

Explore

Technology Roadmap (2003 – 2004)

R&D-Topics



Knowledge management in broadcasting applications

➤ Automatic video hyperlinks



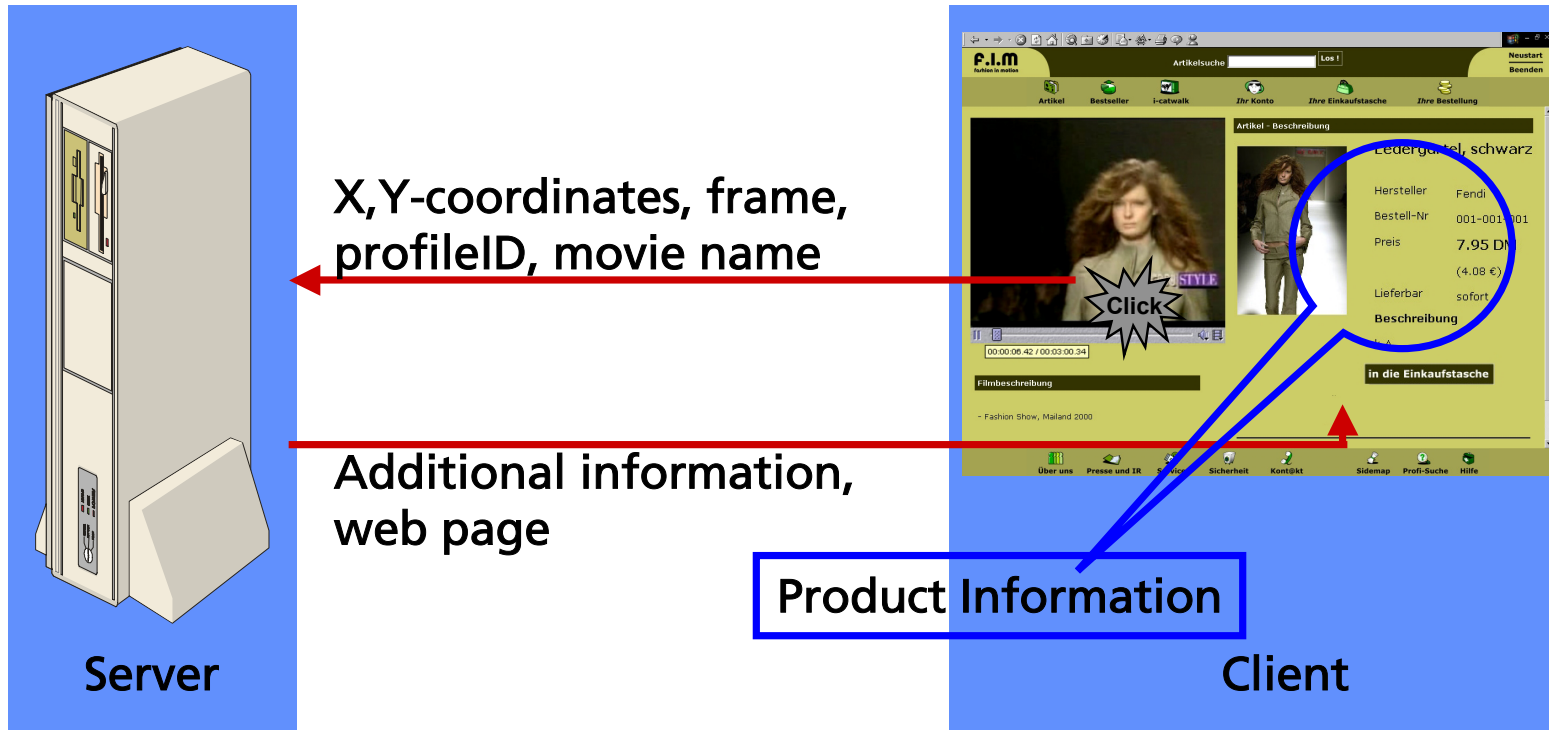
➤ New forms of interaction

↪ „Off-Screen Hyperlinking“



Broadcasting Applications

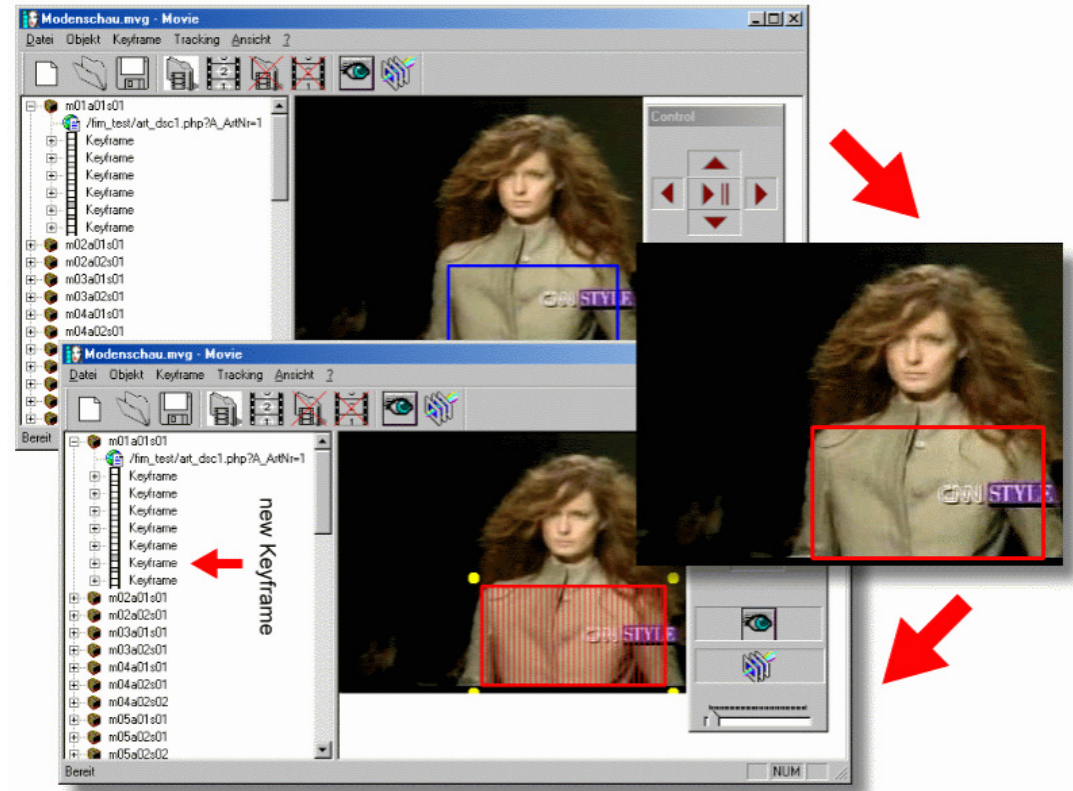
Presentation of **Product Information**

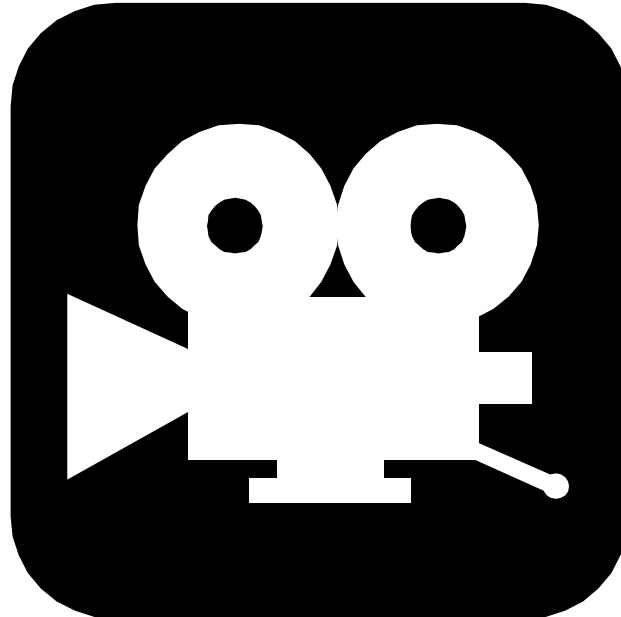


Broadcasting Applications

Authoring tools

- Object definition
- Automatic tracking using key-frames





Video – Interactive Broadcasting

Definition Mixed Reality (MR)

Virtuality continuum (Paul Milgram)

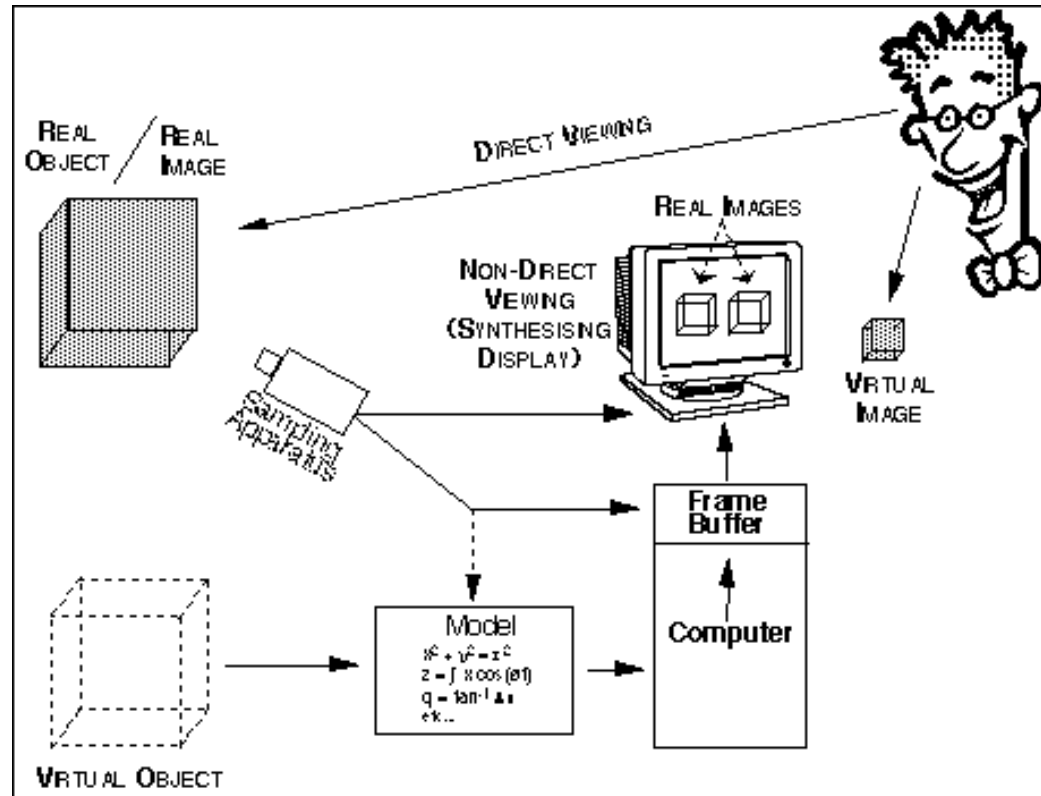
Several classes of existing hybrid display environments can be found, which could reasonably be considered to constitute MR interfaces according to the 'virtuality continuum'



Mixed Reality (MR)

Different aspects for the distinction between Reality and Virtuality:

- Real vs. virtual objects
- Direct vs. Indirect viewing
- Real vs. virtual images

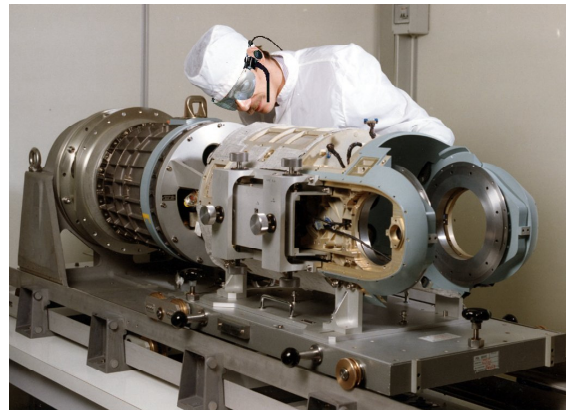
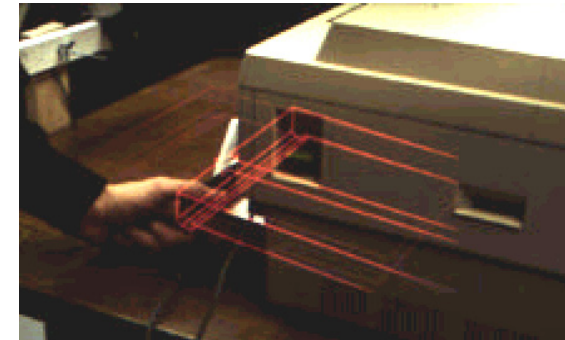
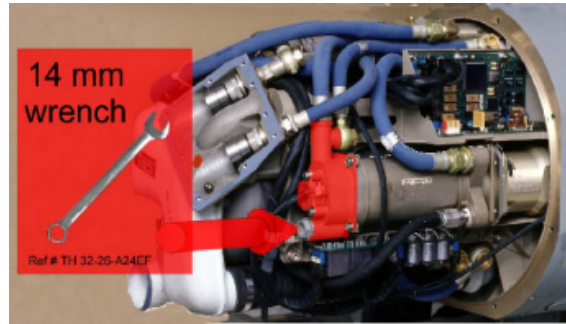


Mixed Reality Applications: Production, maintenance, ...

Supporting

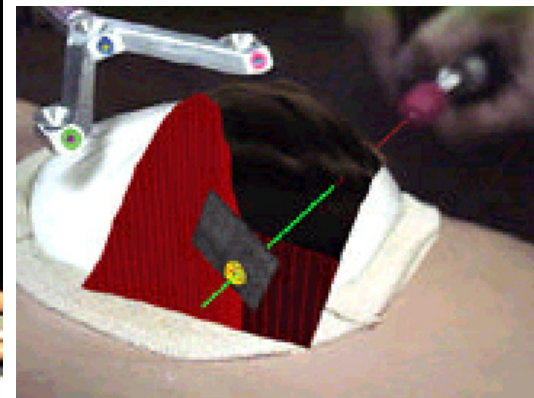
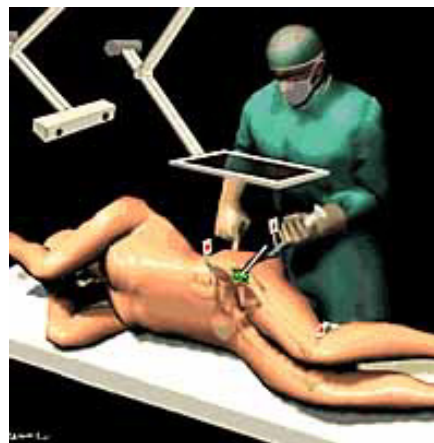
- Development
- Production
- Training
- Service

by superposition of 3D instructions



Mixed Reality Applications: Medicine

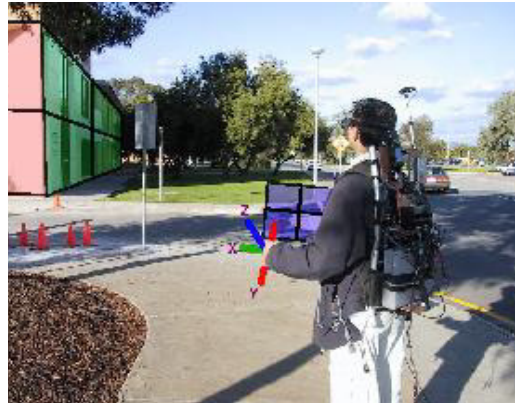
- Education and training
- Support for minimal invasive surgery
- Operation scheduling



Mixed Reality Applications: Guidance and Information Systems

Main Tasks

- Navigation
- Information imparting

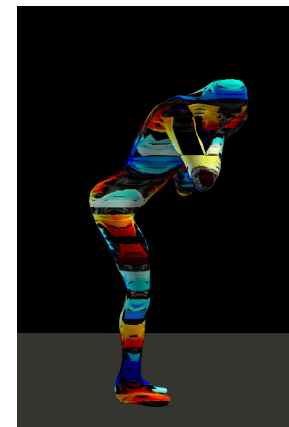
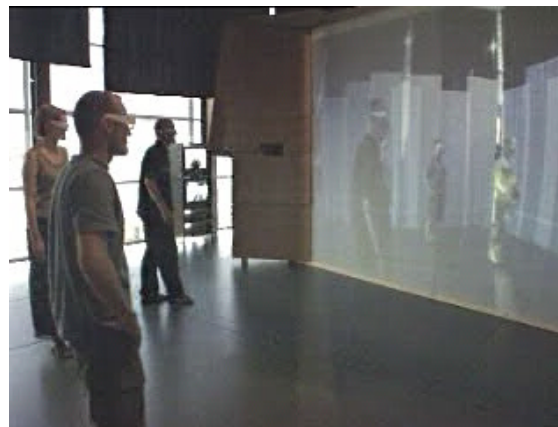


Mixed Reality Applications: Entertainment

- **Multiplayer Entertainment** in Mixed Reality Environments



- **Users interact „directly“** with the avatar



Personal Ubiquitous Assistance

Task Modeling

- For personal ubiquitous **assistance**

Sensors

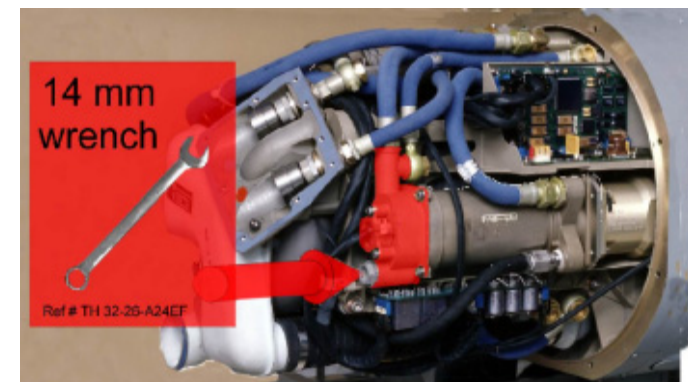
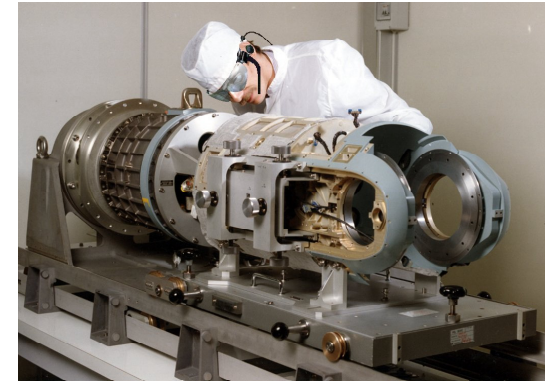
- **Registration** of the **physical environment**
- **Feedback** in „online“ mode

Personal Ubiquitous Assistance

Facts about everyday life:

- **Complex** spatial and temporally widespread **tasks/activities** (e.g. maintenance)
- **Diverse parallel activities**
- **Frequent context switches** from one task to another

What is the right way to support the user here?

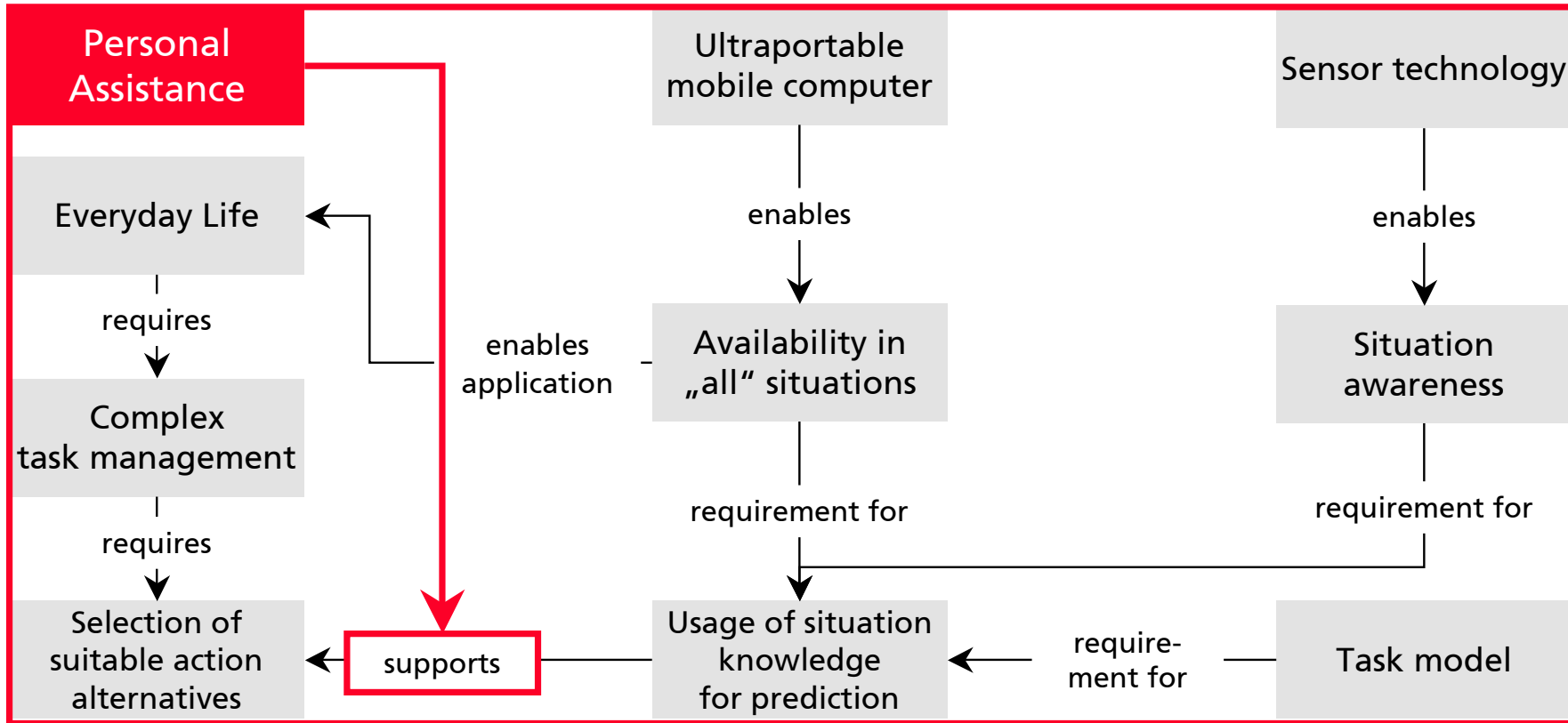


Personal Ubiquitous Assistance

Necessary Technologies

- **Situation** and **event tracing** (sensor technology)
- **Task models** (description of tasks)
- **Prediction methods** (determination of action alternatives)
- **Presentation and interaction mechanisms** for „synchronisation“

Task Modeling



Digital Storytelling (1)

Integration of multimedia „fragments“

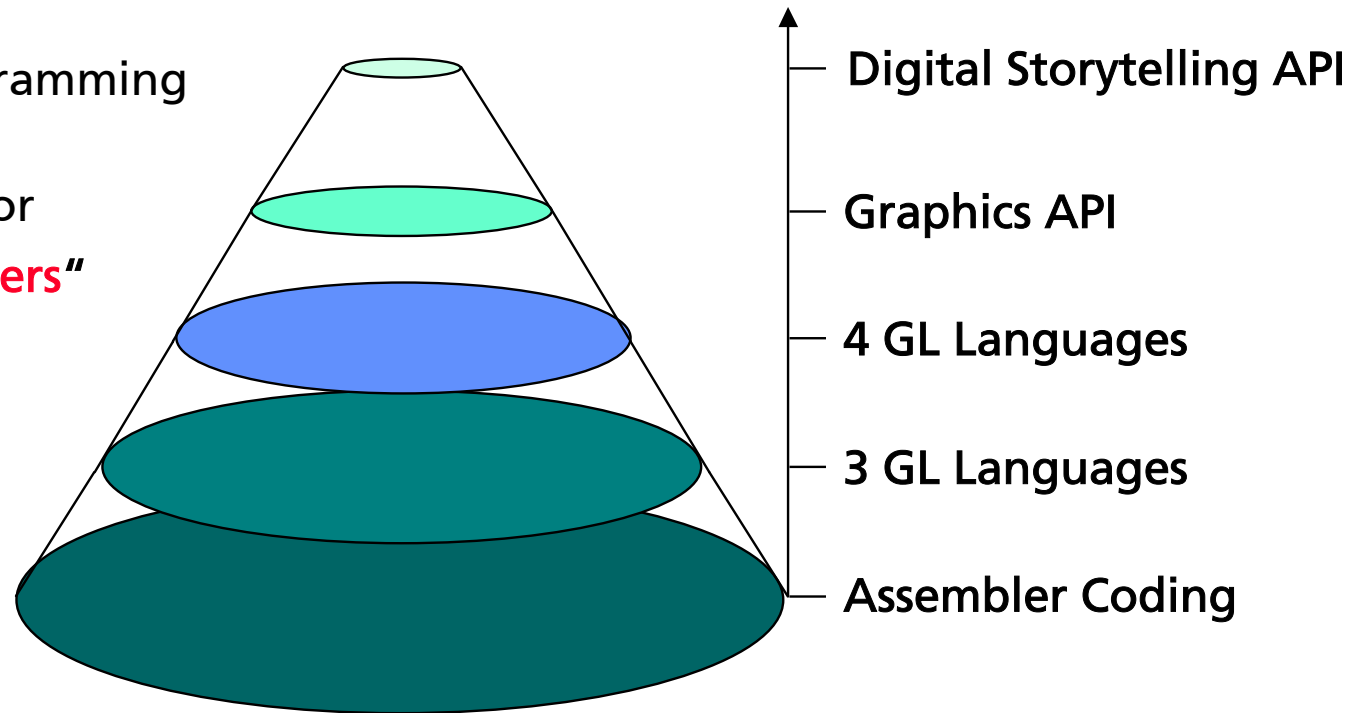
- Computer graphics: images, animations, 3D worlds
- Real recording: photo, video
- Syntheses and recording of: music, spoken text, noise
- Multimodal user centered interaction
- Immersive or mobile environment
- Network based presentation and cooperation

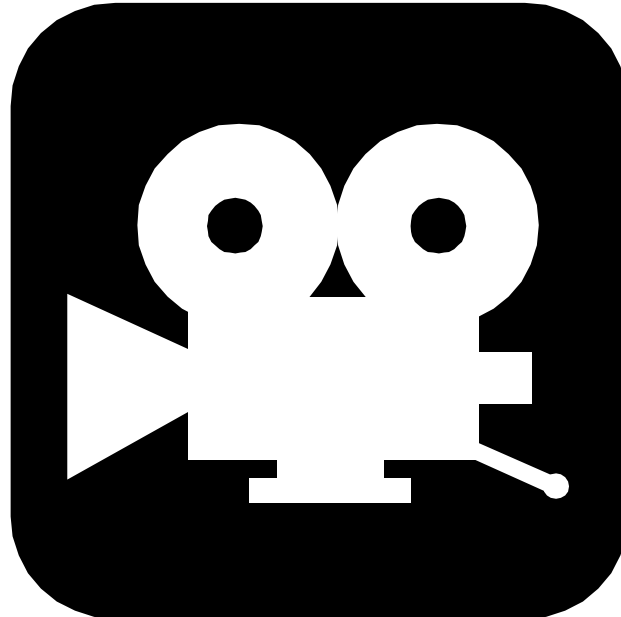
to a **comprehensive experience**

Digital Storytelling (2)

Interdisciplinary teamwork

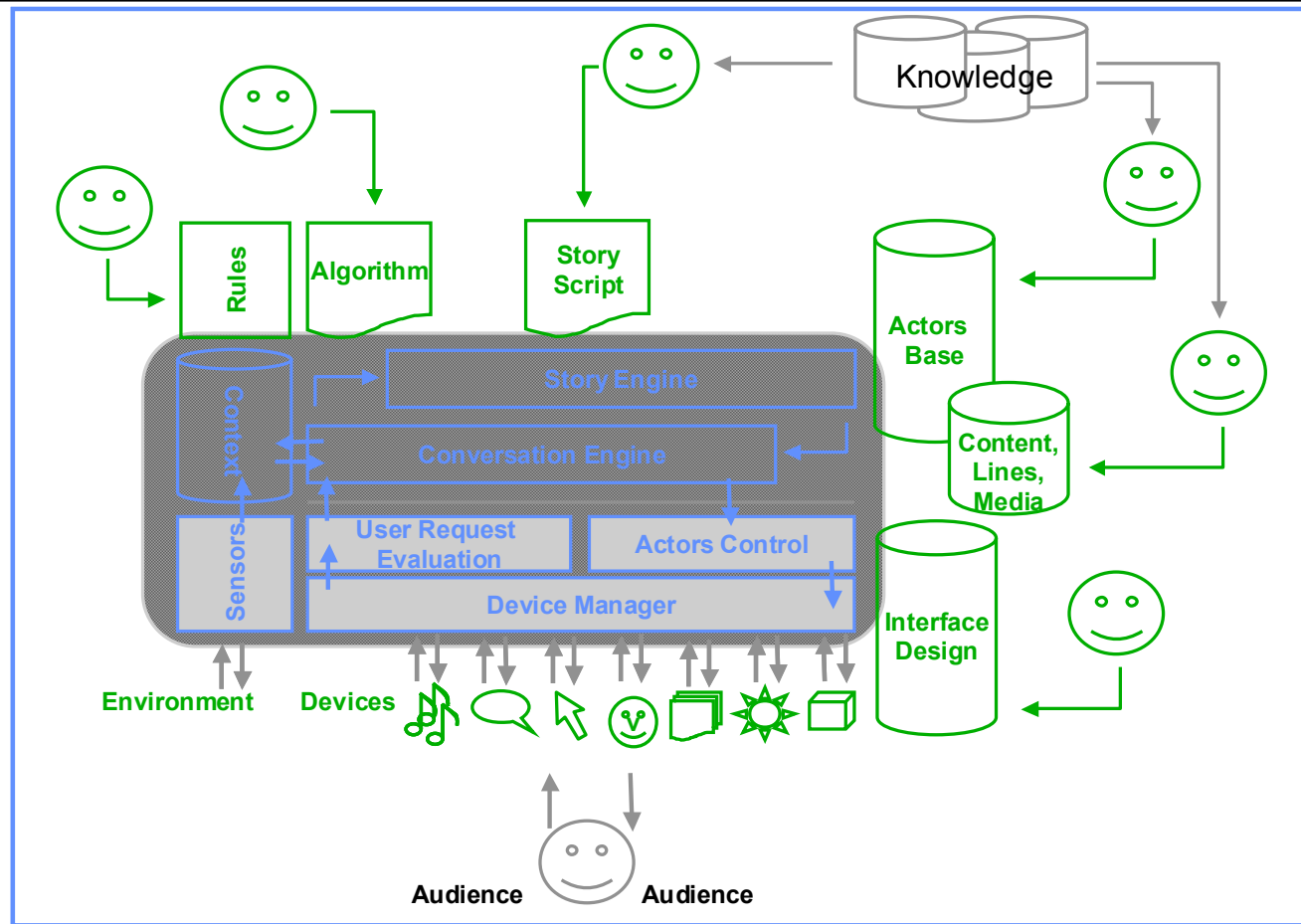
- Writing as programming
- High-Level-API for **„Non-Programmers“**





Video – Gari's Game

Digital Storytelling System view



GEIST

Experience a historic context in an urban environment by using a mobile AR information system and digital storytelling



Mobile Augmented Reality

- Historic information for pedestrians
- **Application for Tourism and Training**

Research topics

- Video based, **mobile tracking system** using wearable computers
- **Historic knowledge database**
- Automatic, animated presentation through **interactive story engine**

Interactive Storytelling within the GEIST Project

Magic Equipment:

- Interface is part of the story!
- Seamless integration with AR sensors:
ghosts „show up“
- User is protagonist
of the story



Innovative Perspektiven

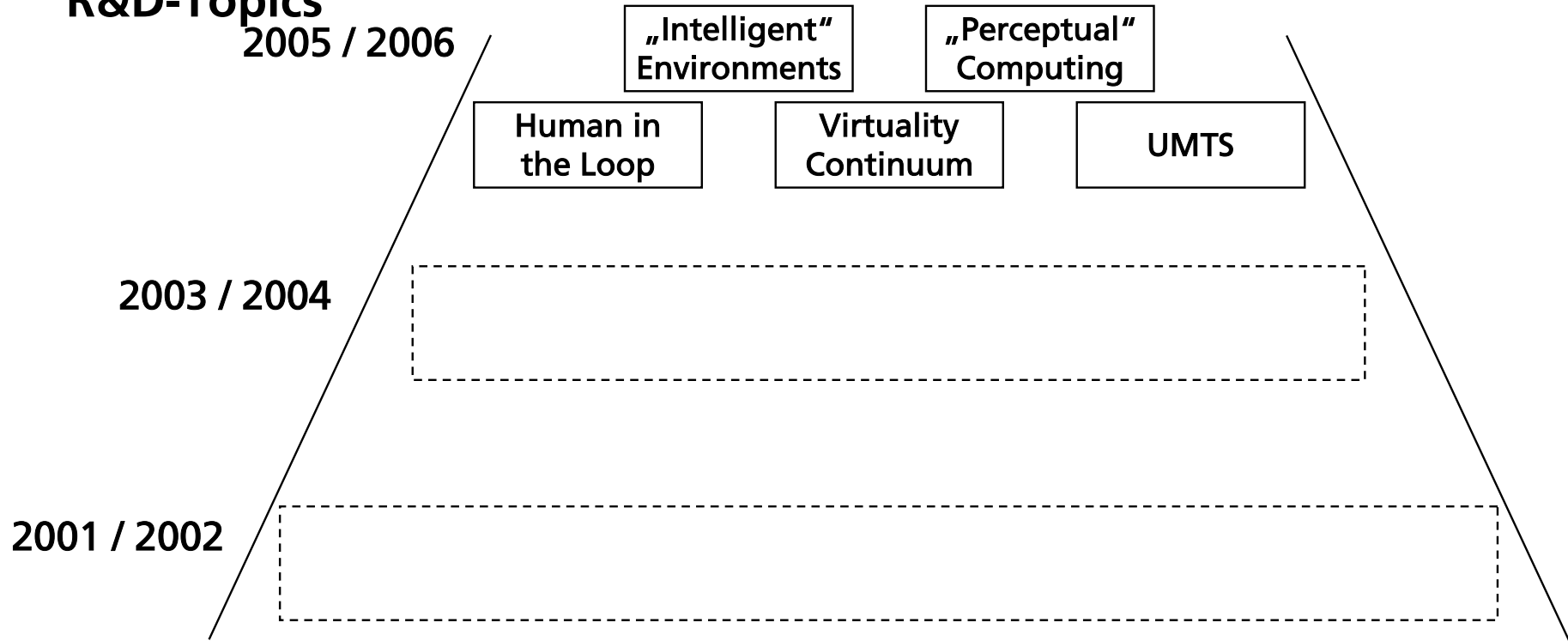
Technology Roadmap

(2005 – 2006)

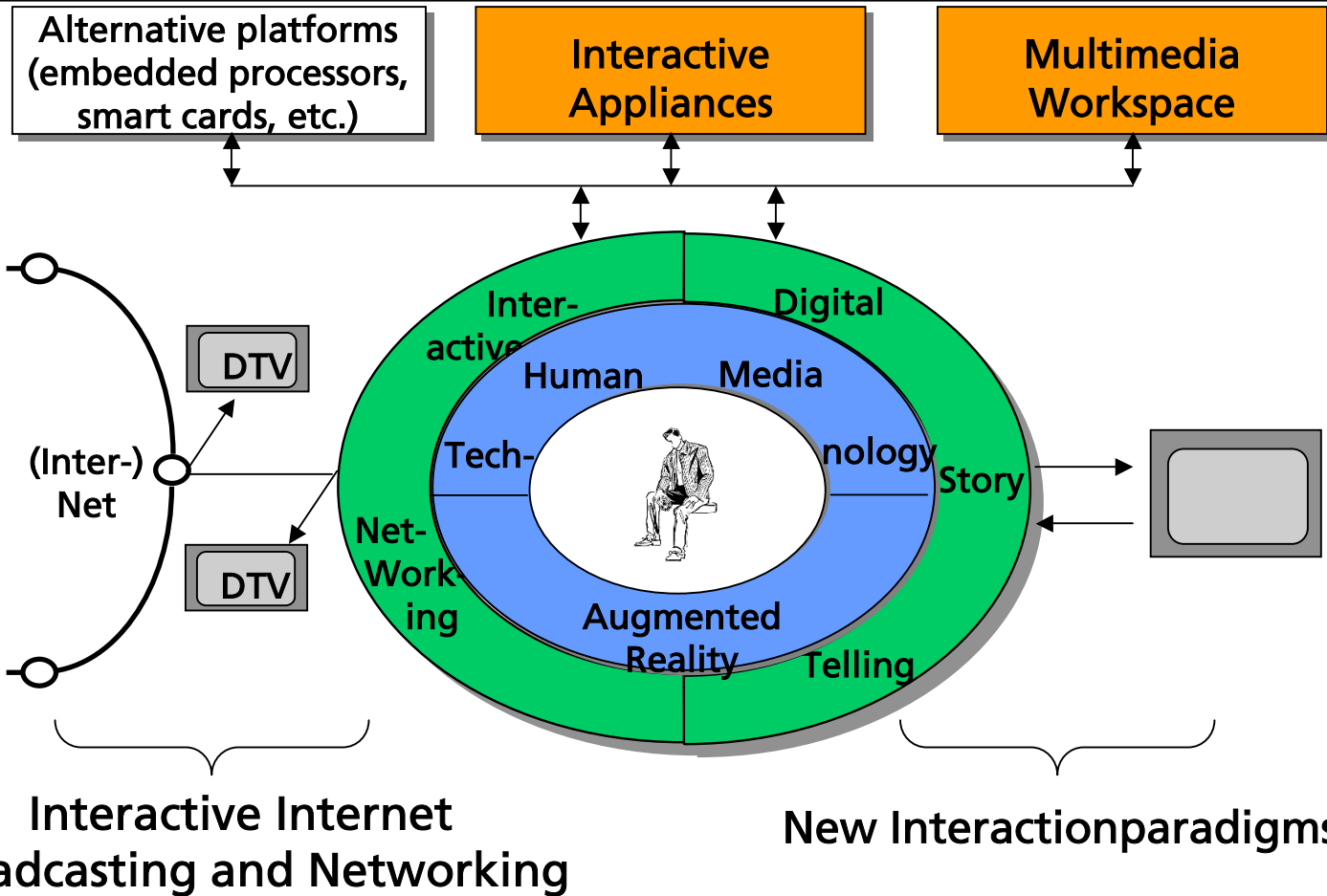
A man in a dark suit and white shirt is shown from the chest up, sitting at a desk. He is looking down at a laptop screen, which is partially visible at the bottom of the frame. His right hand is raised to his forehead, with his fingers spread, covering his eyes. The background is a plain, light-colored wall. The overall image conveys a sense of frustration, stress, or being overwhelmed, likely related to the technology roadmap mentioned in the text.

Technology Roadmap (2005 – 2006)

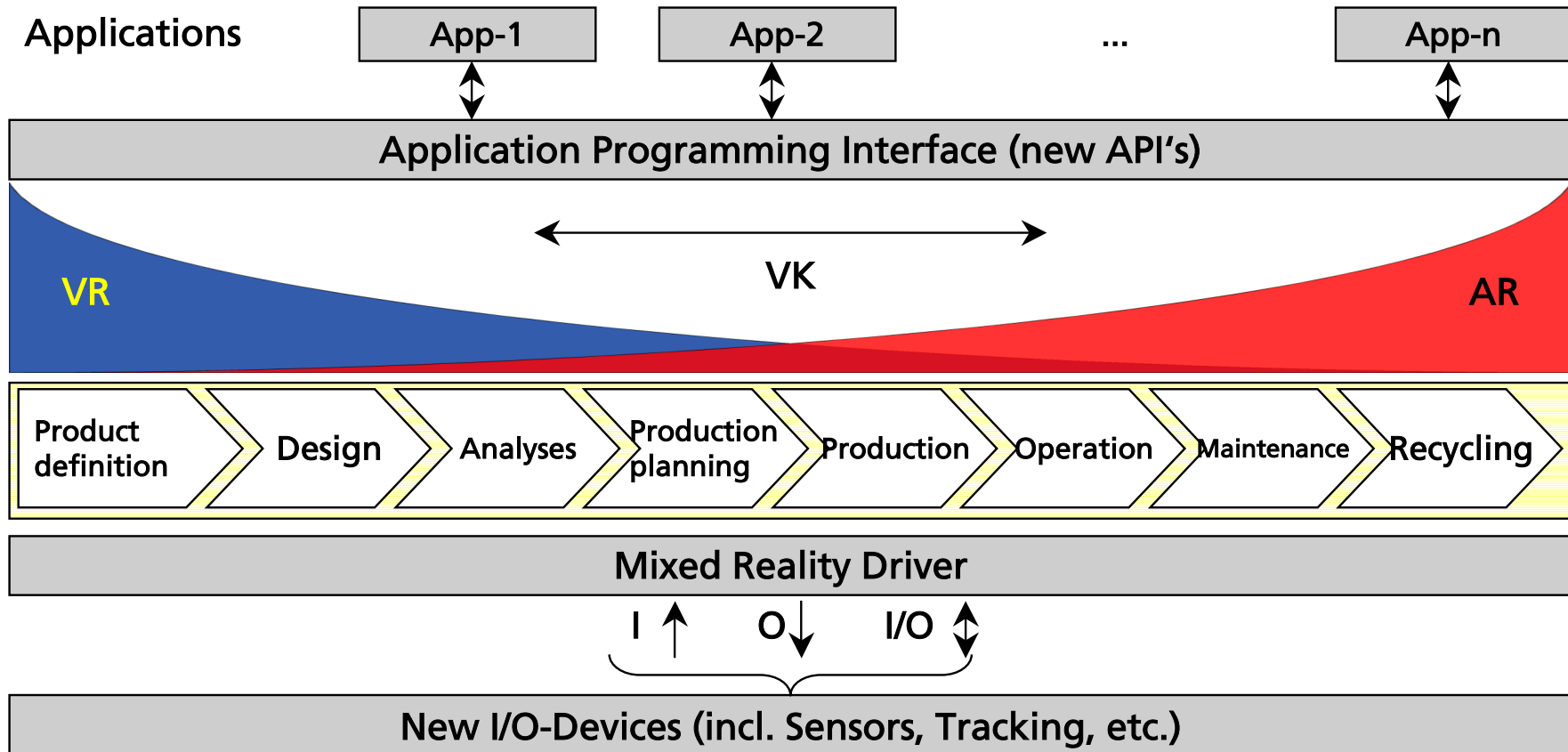
R&D-Topics



Human in the Loop



Virtuality Continuum (VC)





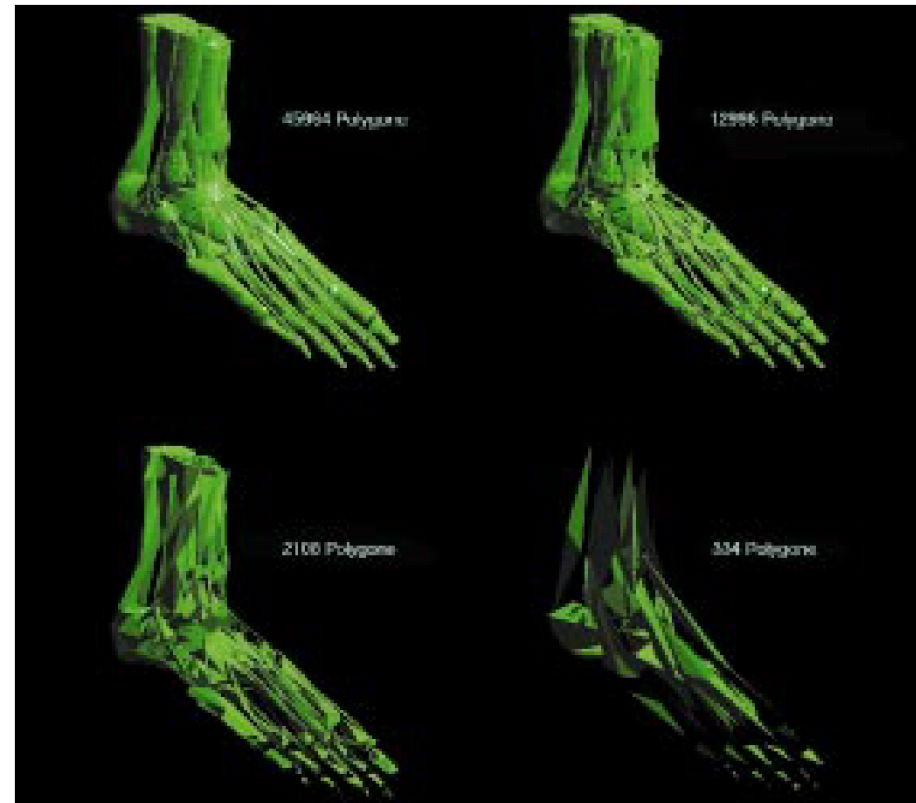
UMTS

UMTS (Universal Mobile Telecommunications System)

- Users are „24 hours“ online
- Using UMTS we will use only one universal device for several applications
 - ↳ Video over the internet
 - ↳ Download of software, video and music
 - ↳ Infotainment
 - ↳ etc.
- **Research topic**
 - ↳ „ WAP (Wireless Application Protocol) for graphical objects“

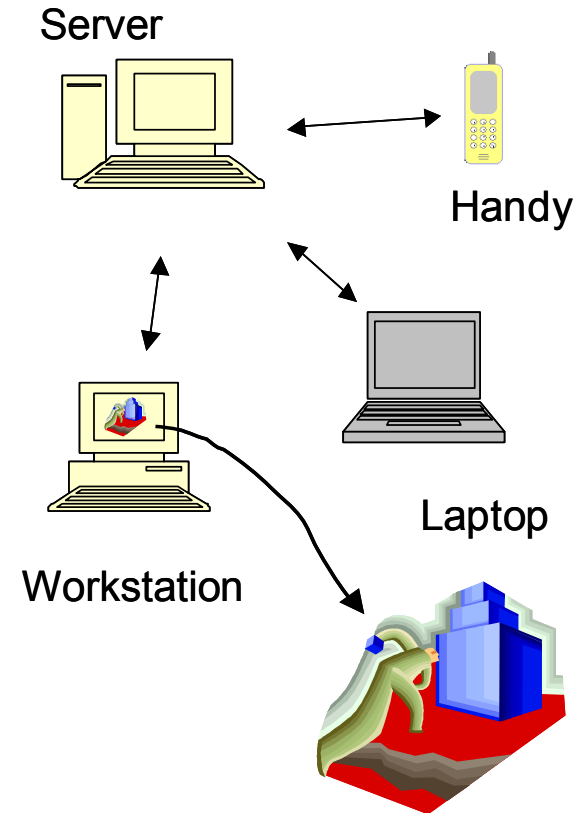
WAP for Graphical Objects

- Platform independent transmission of complex, dynamic 3D graphics
- Availability on „arbitrary“ output devices
- Dynamic adaptation of the data based on the available network capacity will make the distinction between stationary and mobile devices obsolete



WAP for Graphical Objects

- Progressive transmission of 3D data between different devices
- Integration of mobile devices through WAP
- Animation and interaction on distributed systems



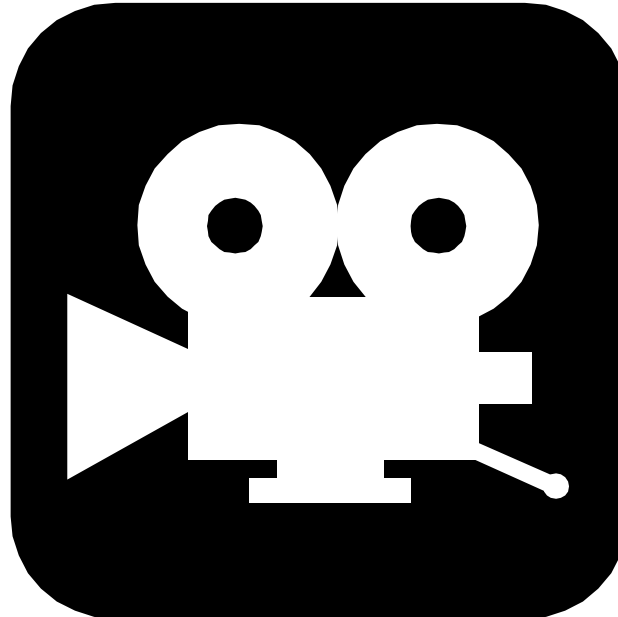
„Intelligent“ Environment

Goal Oriented Interaction

- User will define goals and will no longer use commands to control the computer
- Challenge
 - ↪ The system has to organize the collaboration of the available devices by itself
 - ↪ The system has to „understand“ the goals of the user within the multimodal interaction of the user
 - ↪ The user has to spot the potential of the environment
- No general problem solver possible
 - ↪ The system needs „location und situation awareness“, in order to reduce the users target area

Perceptual Computing


- Recognition and consideration of the user emotions
- Recognition and consideration of physical reactions
- Context-“Awareness”
- Address new users (elderly and handicapped persons) through „ability-awareness”



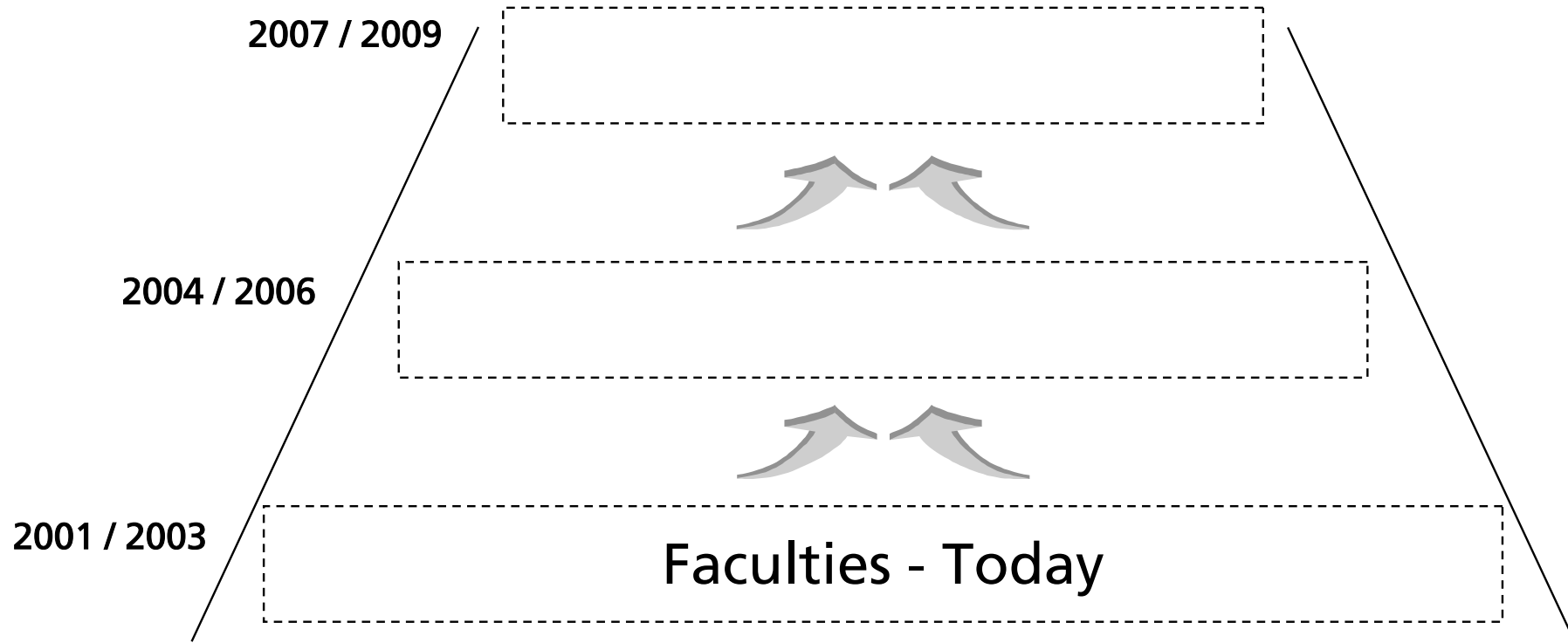
Video – Baby

erst Maß nehmen, dann empfehlen.

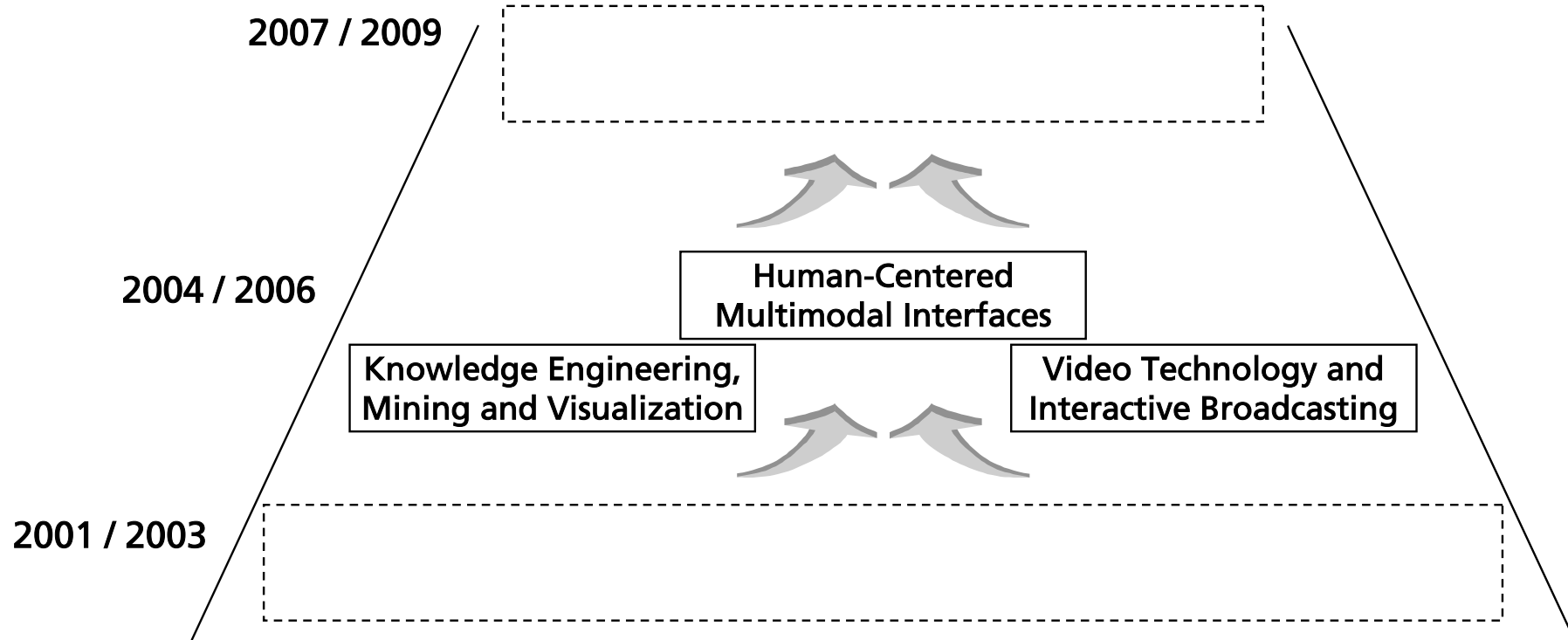
Roadmap Faculties

A rolled-up road map with a yellow and green cover, lying on a light blue surface. The map is partially unrolled, showing some road lines and text. The background is a light blue, textured surface.

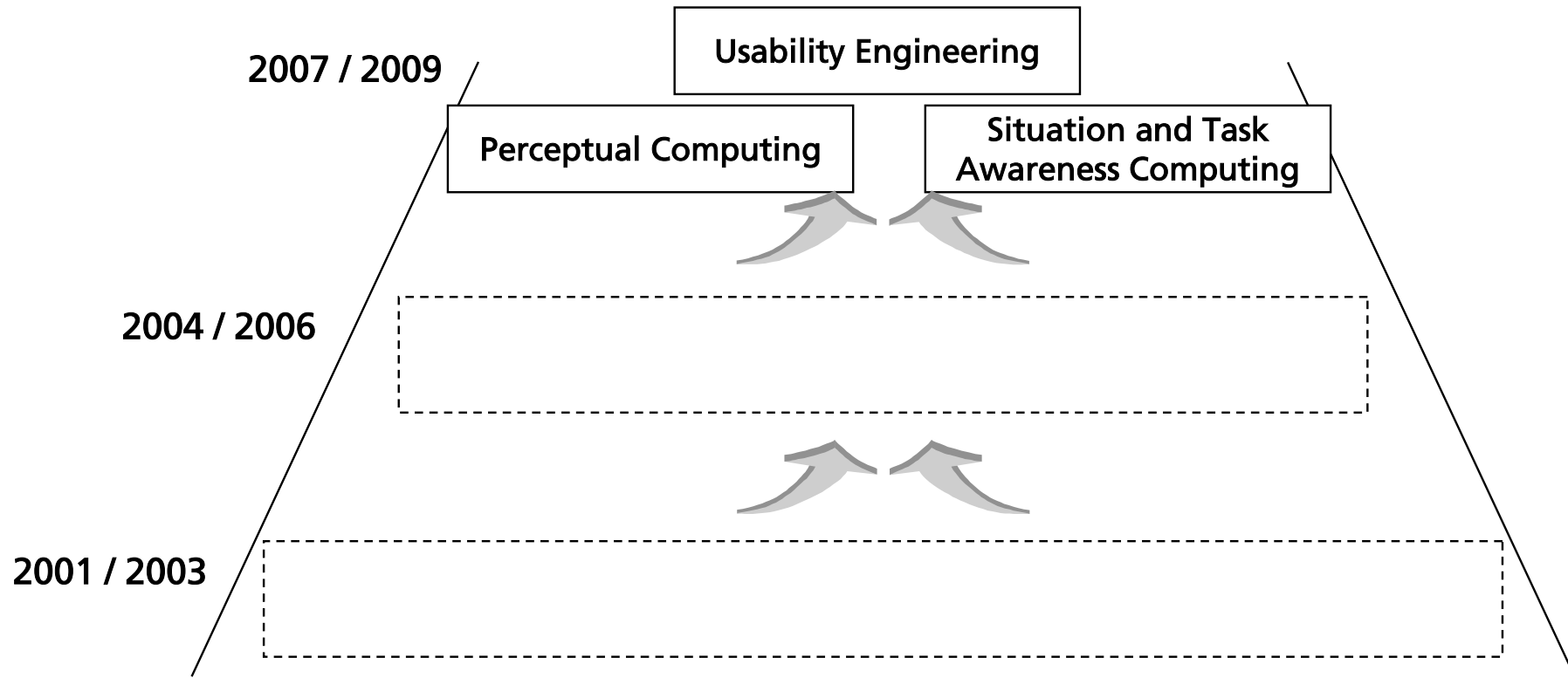
Roadmap Faculties (1)



Roadmap Faculties (2)

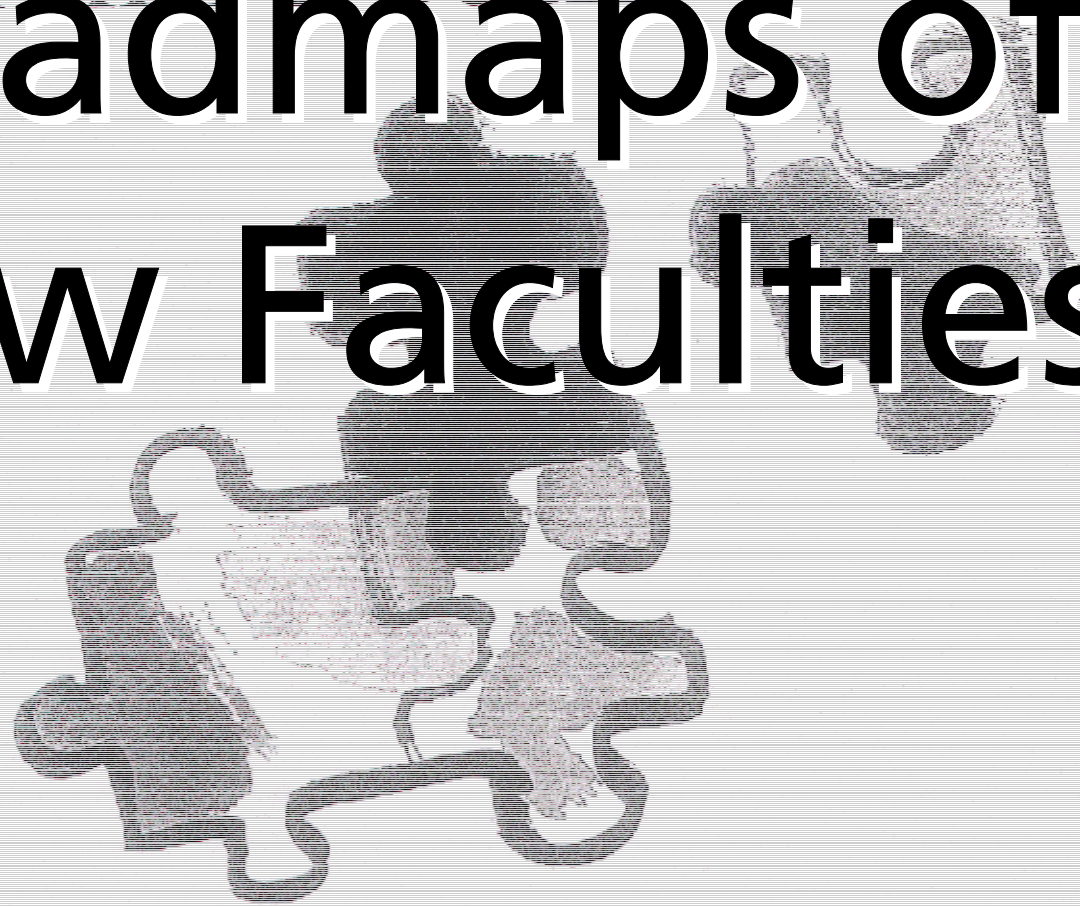


Roadmap Faculties (3)

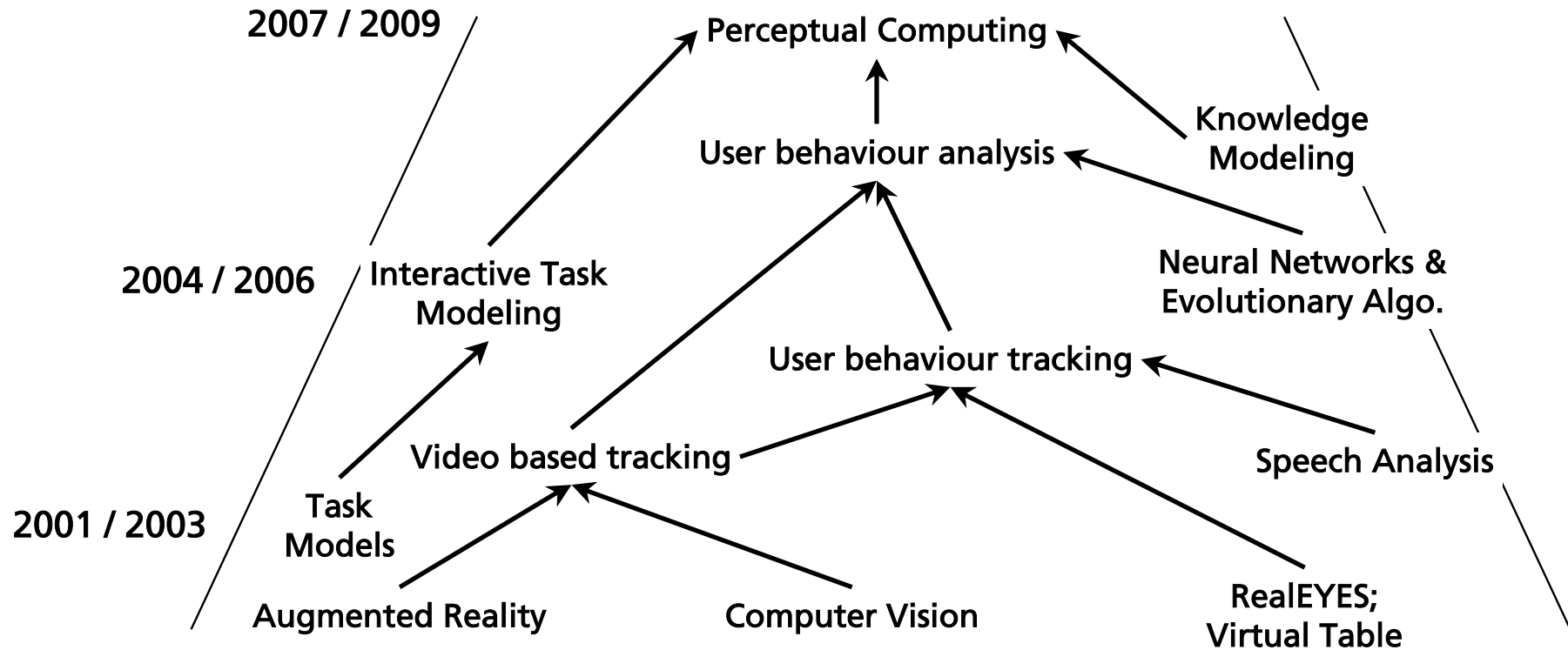


Ein Konzept im ganzen
ist stets nur so
erfolgreich wie seine
Ideen im Detail.

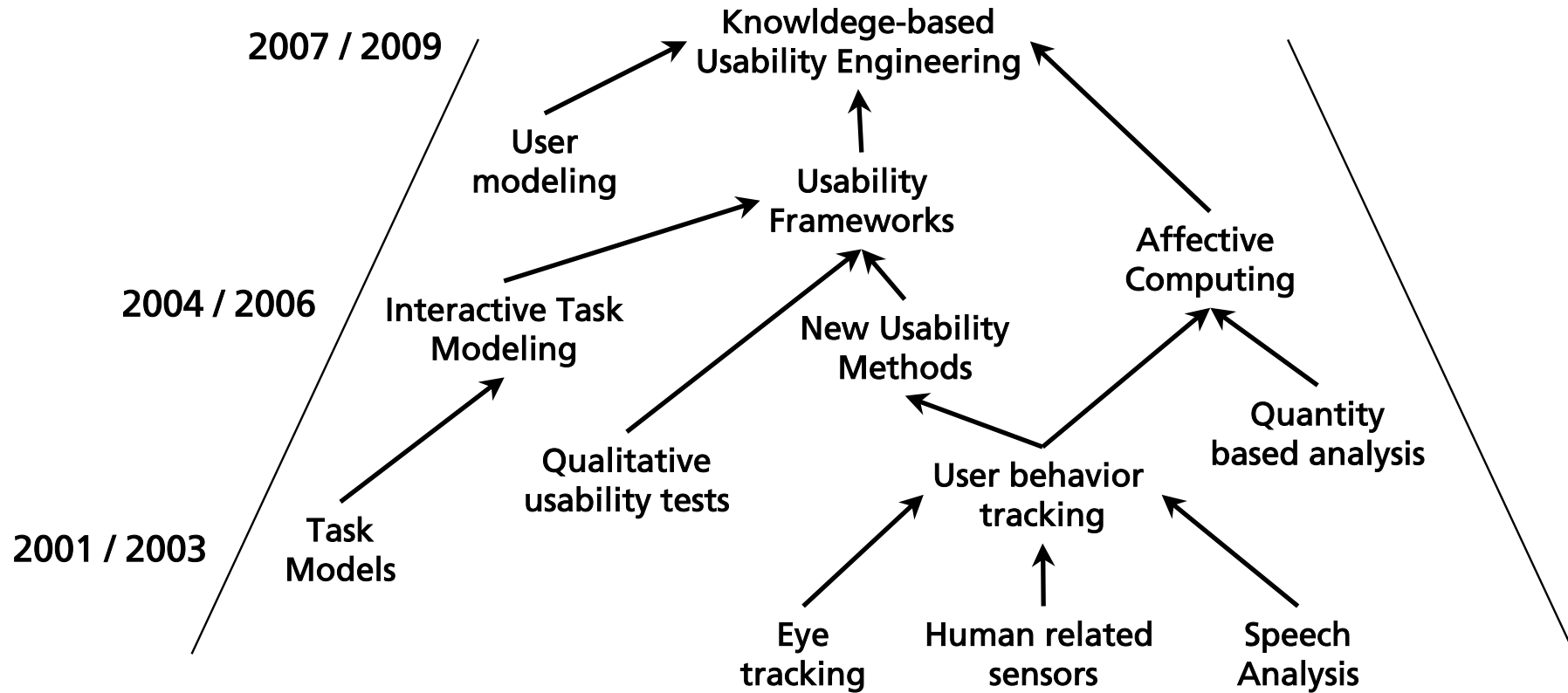
Roadmaps of New Faculties



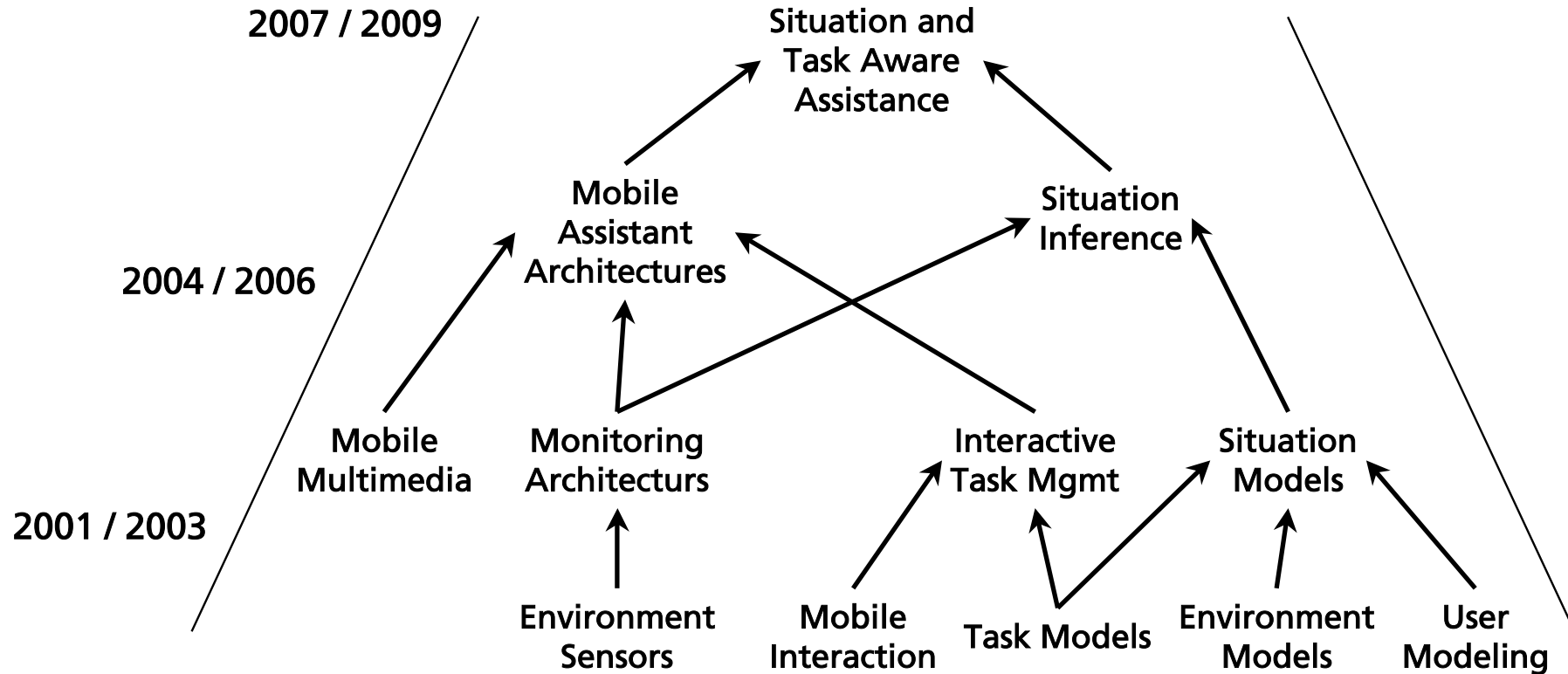
Roadmap: Perceptual Computing



Roadmap: Usability Engineering



Roadmap: Situation and Task Awareness Computing



A wooden clothespin is shown in a three-quarter view, resting on a plain white surface. The clothespin is made of light-colored wood and has a metal spring mechanism in the center. The word "Conclusion" is overlaid in a large, bold, black font with a white outline, centered over the clothespin.

Conclusion

Die besten Ideen sind im Grunde ganz einfach.

Conclusion

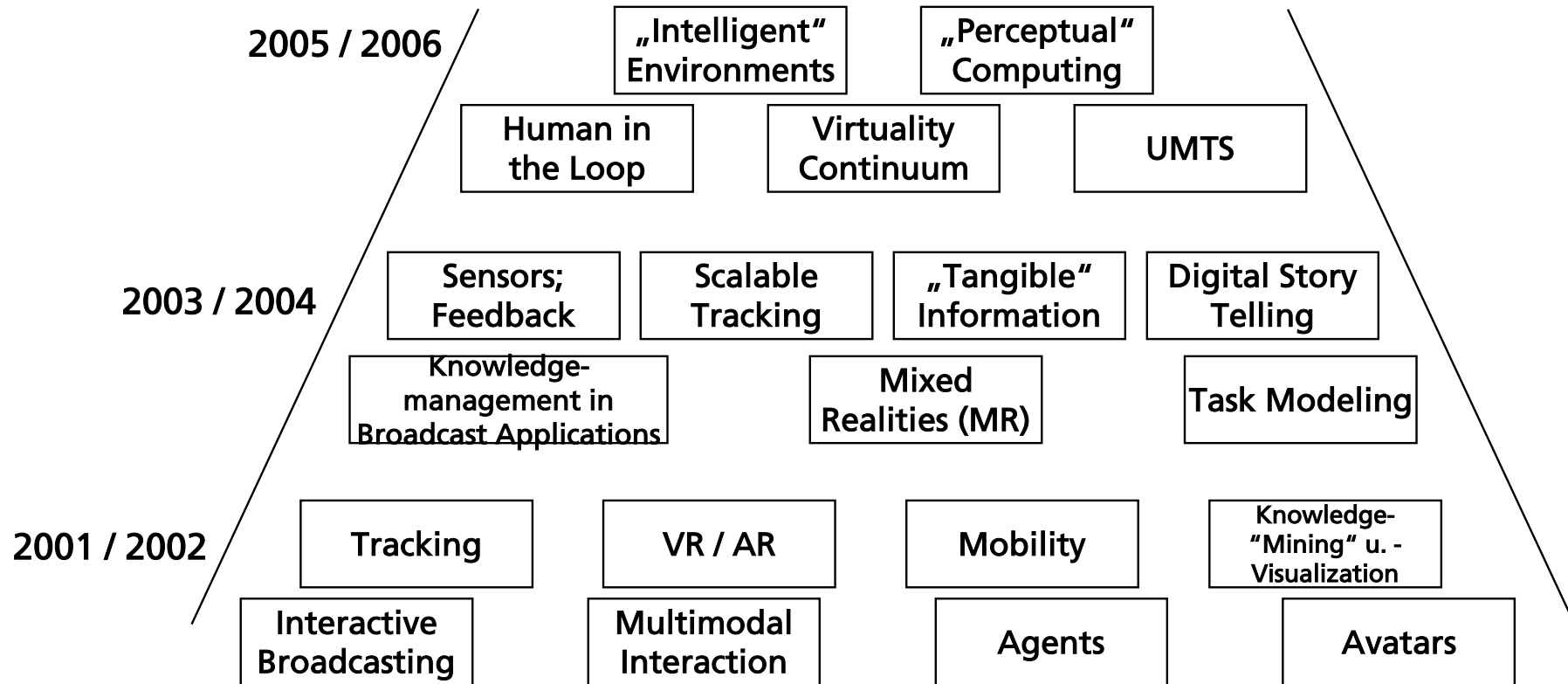
- Ensure the progress of the **evolution**

- Be prepared for a „non predictable **revolution**“

- **Personal view** from José L. Encarnaçãõ



Technology Roadmap

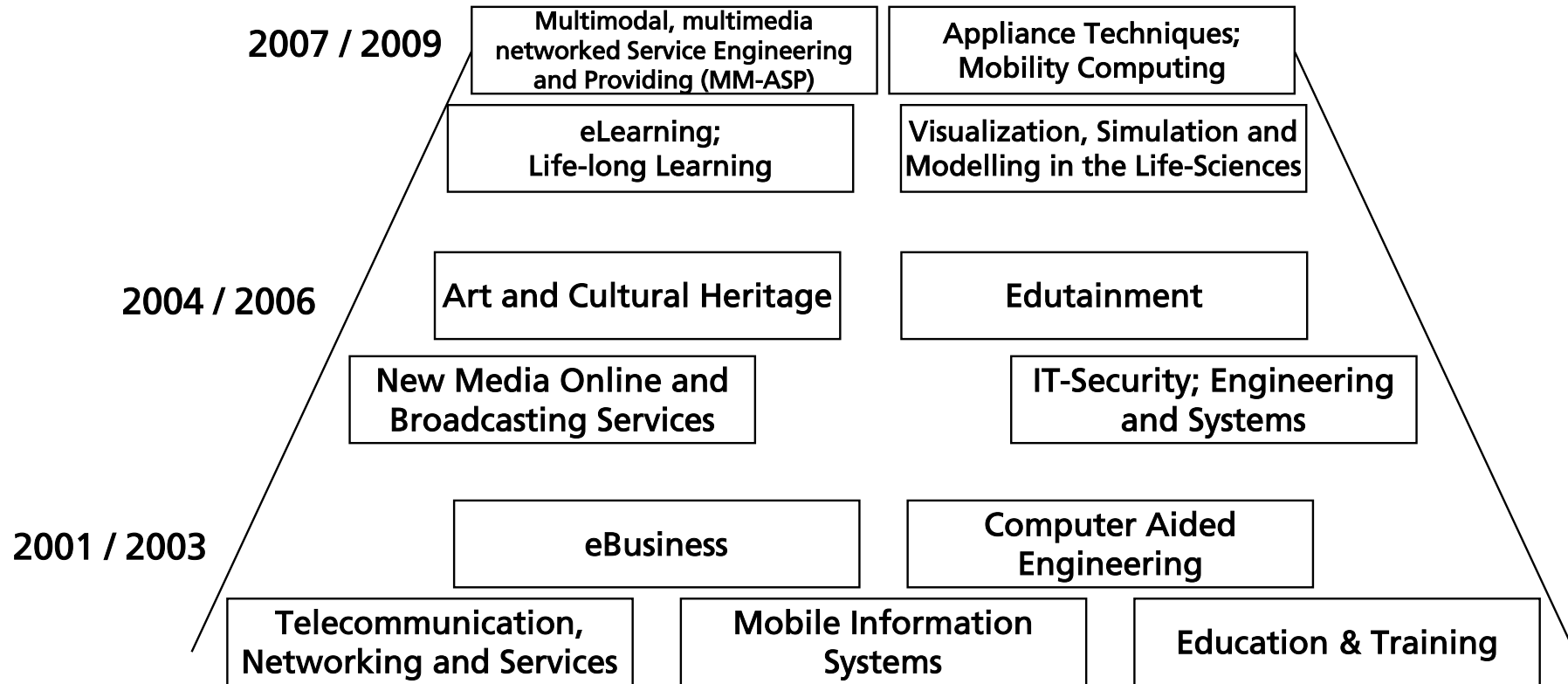


Applications (Markets)

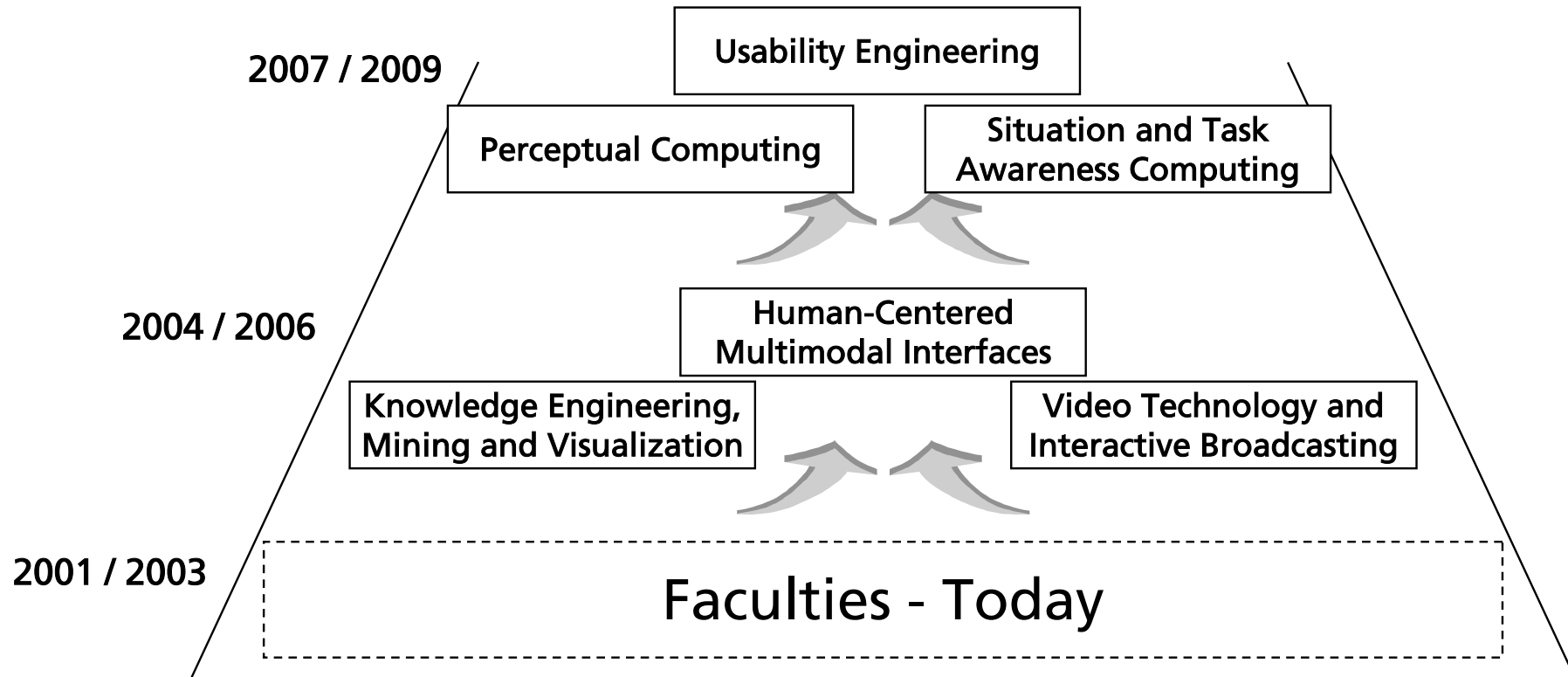
New Application Areas

- Multimodal, multimedia networked Service Engineering and Providing (MM-ASP)
- Appliance Techniques; Mobility Computing
- eLearning; Life-long Learning
- Visualization, Simulation und Modeling in den Life-Sciences

Roadmap Applications



Roadmap Faculties



Key Technologies for the Future of the Information and Communication Technology

- Digital representations and the real environment are growing together (**virtuality continuum**)
- Levels of abstraction are becoming more flexible (**ubiquity; mobility**)
- Perception and interaction with digital representations lead to new requirements (**human in the Loop**)

Vision (1)

Visualization in the future stands for:

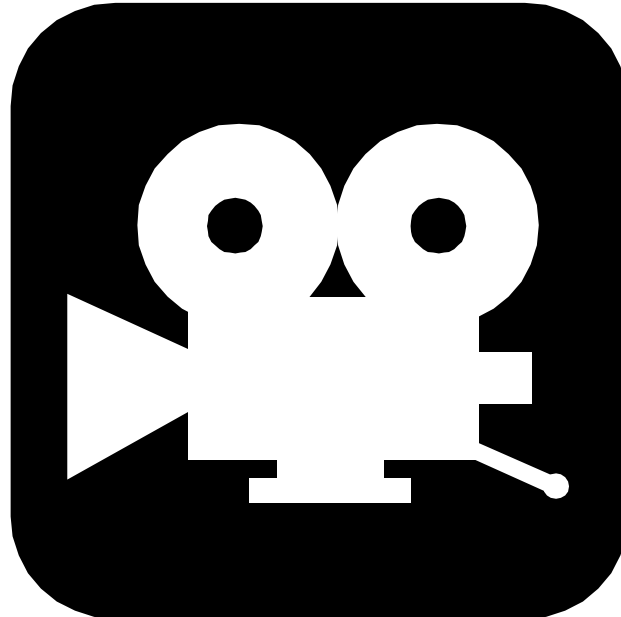
- Eliminate existing weak spots
 - ↳ High quality visualization for **everyone, anytime, everywhere**
 - ↳ Provide **more than a tool**
- Innovative human-computer-interface
 - ↳ **Leave the „desktop metaphor“**
- **Human centered**

Vision (2)

- „**Rendering**“ for other senses has to be developed and consistently integrated into the „Rendering-Pipeline“
- **Integration** of our „**biological system**“ with computers and other communication systems
- **Self-controlled visualization**
- Establish **standards**

Goals and Objectives

„When setting goals, it’s important to be realistic. But we have to go beyond that if we want to accomplish anything. We have to aim at advanced and achievable goals and objectives that result from an evolutionary approach, but opens opportunities to follow an unexpected revolution“

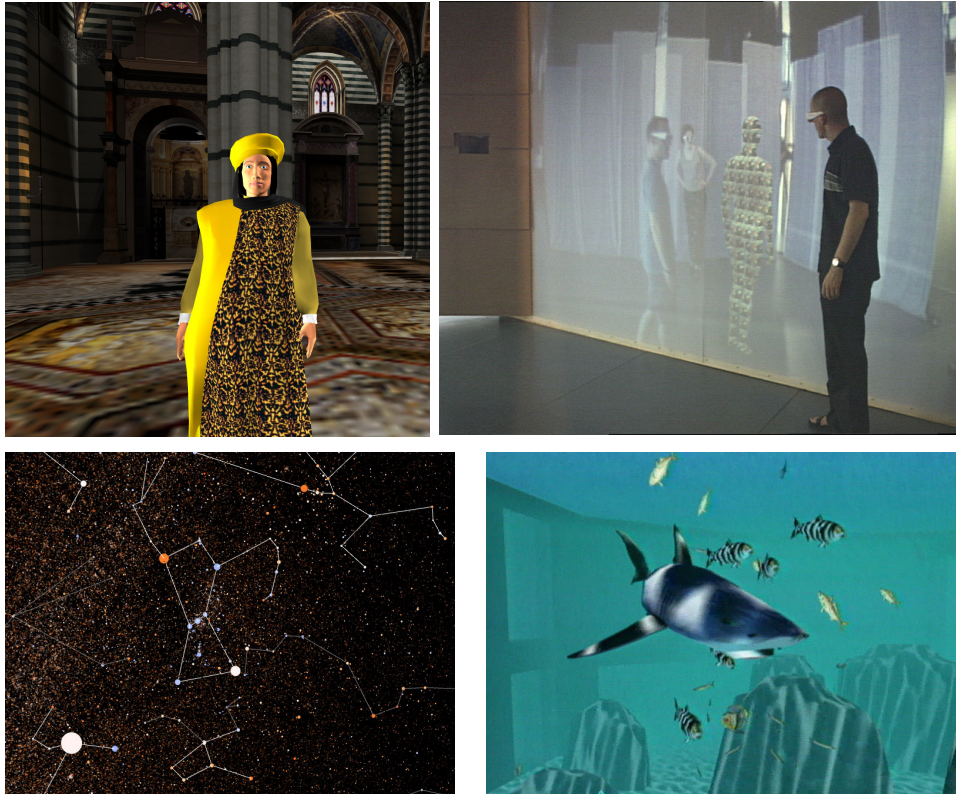


Video – ACM SIGGRAPH



... and finally my
personal vision:
Cybernarium

Cybernarium: the Idea ...



Using VR and AR we have a technology

- With an enormous didactic potential
- That makes a new experience possible
- Transfer know-how in a new and attractive way
- That has to be presented to a broad audience
- That allows the user to be immersed in virtual worlds
- That offers fun, attraction and learning

Cybernarium: a VR technology park



Cybernarium:

- “not another” multimedia oder science park
- “Exploratorium” for VR and AR technologies
- Accessible for the public
- Will transfer contents about culture, history, space, biology etc. through attractive and often changing exhibits and the opportunity to “experience” the information

www.cybernarium.de

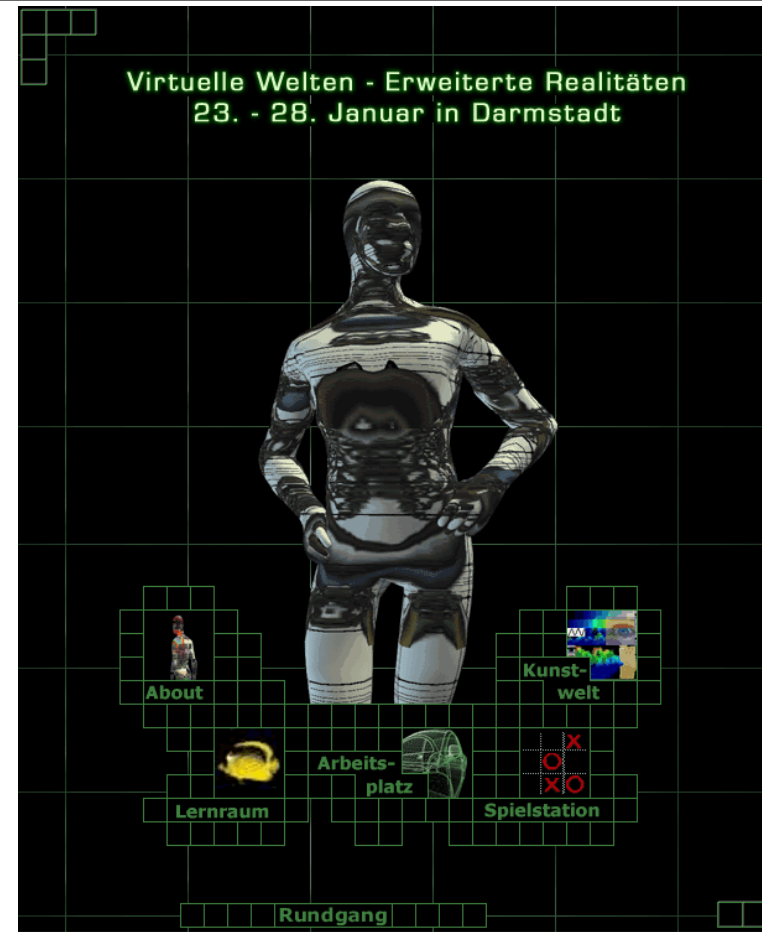
Cybernarium: the Concept ...



- Museum part: simulators (e.g. flight simulator) and technology
- Experience part with high-end installations (CAVE, projections)
- "Cyberdome" with changing presentations
- VR service company
- Budget for several extraordinary new exhibits per year

Cybernarium Days 2002

- First public presentation of the idea in Darmstadt
 - ↪ 15 exhibits; 6 days opened
 - ↪ We hoped for 6000 visitors
- The Reality
 - ↪ **10.000(!)** visitors
 - ↪ Waiting time up to 3 hours
 - ↪ Overall positive feedback



Our Goal



Official Opening in Summer 2004!



**Thank you for
your attention!**

Get the spirit of our new