



Bachelor's Thesis

**Concept and development of a
human robot interface
using parametrised Augmented Reality**

**Konzept und Entwicklung einer
Mensch-Roboter Schnittstelle
mit parametrisierbarer Augmented Reality
(GERMAN)**

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Abstract

This bachelor's thesis proposes means to shift the development weight from programming over to parameterisation. This trend is also seen in the robotics community in general and might allow little-trained personal to actively contribute in development teams without much training time.

Kurzzusammenfassung

Table of Contents

Abstract	A
List of Figures	G
List of Tables	I
Nomenclature	K
1 Introduction	1
1.1 Reasons for- and problems with Human-Robot collaboration	1
1.2 Parametrised development as an approach to solve AR-developer shortage . .	2
1.3 Augmented Reality in a nutshell	2
1.4 State of the Art AR-development	3
1 Bibliography	5

List of Figures

List of Tables

Nomenclature

Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Description
ATR	Autothermal reforming
GTL	Gas-to-liquids
PFR	Plug flow reactor
SBCR	Slurry bubble column reactor
WGS	Water-gas shift reaction

Latin Symbols

Symbol	Description	Unit
$H_{i,j}$	Henry constant of species i in j	Pa
$RMSD$	Root-mean-square deviation	depends
RSS	Residual sum of squares	depends
t	Time	s
T	Temperature	K
V	Volume	m ³
\dot{V}	Volumetric flow rate	m ³ /s
x	Molar fraction in liquid phase	–
z	Axial reactor coordinate	m

Greek Symbols

Symbol	Description	Unit
η	Dynamic viscosity	Pa s
ρ	Density	kg/m ³
τ_{Rel}	Residence time	–
ω_i	Weight fraction	–

Subscripts

Symbol	Description
0	Initial
i	Fraction, index, species
j	Index, species
L	Liquid
ref	Reference
S	Solid

Superscripts

Symbol	Description
j	Cell index

Dimensionless groups

Definition	Name
$Bo = \frac{vL}{D_{eff,i}}$	Bodenstein number
$d^* = d \left(\frac{\rho g \Delta \rho}{\eta^2} \right)^{1/3}$	Dimensionless particle diameter
$K_C = \frac{\rho \sigma^3}{g \eta^4}$	Modified Morton number
$Mo = \frac{g \eta^4 \Delta \rho}{\rho^2 \sigma^3}$	Morton number
$Re = \frac{\rho d v}{\eta}$	Reynolds number
$Sc = \frac{\eta}{\rho D_{i,j}}$	Schmidt number
$v_0^* = v_0 \left(\frac{\rho^2}{\eta g \Delta \rho} \right)^{1/3}$	Dimensionless velocity

1 Introduction

1.1 Reasons for- and problems with Human-Robot collaboration

Today's world is highly automated in each and every aspect of our lives. One of the most important advancements within the last 30 years were robots. They allow us to minimize costs, while maximizing output, quality and efficiency. With the rising need of agile production plants, classic robotic systems do not seem to fulfil all requirements any-more. Industrial robots do have numerous abilities but adapting to new situations easily is certainly not one of them. In contrast, the human's strength always was exactly that - to learn quickly. Thus, human robot collaboration is an inevitable step towards the future of humanity.

Robotics needed to adapt to the new situation where humans and robots share a perimeter, thus compliant robots were developed. For machines to feel natural it is not enough to be compliant and not hurt humans. As Gary Klein et al. stated, communicating intent is a key issue in effective collaboration within teams [1].

Augmented Reality (AR) can help us to communicate with robots in three dimensions. With rapid advancements in the field of robotics during the last few years [2], innovative ways to program, develop and operate these highly complex systems need to be researched. Both robotics and AR have been heavily worked on for the last 20 years separately, but their combination has mostly remained untouched. Lately though, it has become a new focus area in research. While it is a known fact that AR can improve communication in certain use cases, the way how we develop these applications is not as clear. Most projects involving AR re-do most of the same steps over and over again, requiring software engineers along the way to do everything. Thus, the time-to-market is long and expenses are high.

According to the U.S. Department of Labour, there is a massive hunt for talent in the software industry [3]. The department reported an expected growth of over 30% within the next 10 years. One possible reason could be, that acquiring the necessary skills to develop software

applications takes a long time and is not viewed as an easy path. Specifically AR applications currently require a wide variety of skills. On top of that, many processes and steps have to be repeated for each new AR-application and it is increasingly hard to build upon other peoples work.

The lack of programming talent is also seen in the robotics industry, which requires its developers to posses an even wider set of skills, including software development, mechanical and the basics of electrical engineering. Due to the lack of developers the speed of innovation and time-to-market is slowed as stated by multiple companies worldwide. [Citation maybe?]

1.2 Parametrised development as an approach to solve AR-developer shortage

Today, most industrial robots are only parametrised and not actually programmed, which results in lower requirements for employees and thus in less time and money spent on training. Employees only set certain locations, points and actions within an easy to understand User-Interface. Applying a similar methodology to the development of Augmented Reality applications could lead to similar effects. If non-programmers could setup, configure and thus develop Human-Robot interfaces involving AR and robot controlling all by themselves, without the need to write a single line of code, the cost efficiency and speed of innovation can be improved.

This bachelor thesis researches the feasibility and practicability of such an abstract development environment.

1.3 Augmented Reality in a nutshell

AR technology must not be confused with Virtual Reality (VR). Whereas VR completely immerses users, the former still allows the real world to be seen together with superimposed 3D objects projected into the user's view. T. Azuma crafted a very general definition of AR-Systems very early on [4]. He wrote that, in order for a system to be classified as an AR system, it has to fulfil three characteristics. Namely, the system has to combine real and virtual objects, be interactive in real time and spatially map physical and virtual objects to each other. The term Augmented Reality is often used as a synonym for the also commonly used expression "Mixed Reality".

There are various types of AR devices and principles. In this bachelor's thesis the term AR should be understood as head-mounted superimposing Augmented Reality devices, such as the Microsoft HoloLens, that actually create the illusion of three dimensional holograms being projected into the real world.

1.4 State of the Art AR-development

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