

PAPRIKA

A FRAMEWORK FOR PAPER-BASED INTERACTION

Carlos Sanchez Witt
Master Thesis Project
CHILI, EPFL, 2014



WHAT IS PAPRIKA

An **abstraction model** for:

- **Paper card** controllers,
- **Properties** and **Interactions** of said controllers

A **practical tool** for:

- **Easy implementation** of paper-based applications
- That requires **no deep knowledge** of the technology and mathematics under the hood

A solution for Design and Development

OUTLINE

- **Context and Motivation**
 - TUIs and Paper Interfaces
 - Paper Cards in Video Games
 - Modeling Interaction
- **Paprika**
 - Framework for Paper-based Interaction
 - JavaScript Implementation
- **Discussion**
 - Assumptions and Outstanding Challenges
 - Conclusion and Future Work

TANGIBLE USER INTERFACES

- An interface in which the user interacts with **digital information** through the **physical environment**.
- Examples: mouse, gamepad, touchscreen, etc.

Why tangible?

- Physical, natural, intuitive, direct manipulation

Why digital?

- Rich, dynamic, multi-media applications, simulations

PAPER INTERFACES

Paper is ubiquitous and affordable

- Notebooks, newspapers, maps, banknotes, playing cards, etc.

Paper as a powerful interaction device

- Through **content** (writing, reading, annotating, drawing, etc.)
- Through **tangibility** (folding, wrapping, orienting, flipping, etc.)

Research at CHILI

- Bonnard, Q. (2012). Paper Interfaces: an HCI Approach to Geometry Education. Ph.D. Thesis, École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL). doi:10.5075/epfl-thesis-5579
- Cuendet, S., Bonnard, Q., Kaplan, F., & Dillenbourg, P. (2011, May). Paper interface design for classroom orchestration. In *CHI'11 Extended Abstracts on Human Factors in Computing Systems* (pp. 1993-1998). ACM.

PAPER CARDS IN VIDEO GAMES



The Eye of Judgment,
Sony PlayStation 3 (2006)



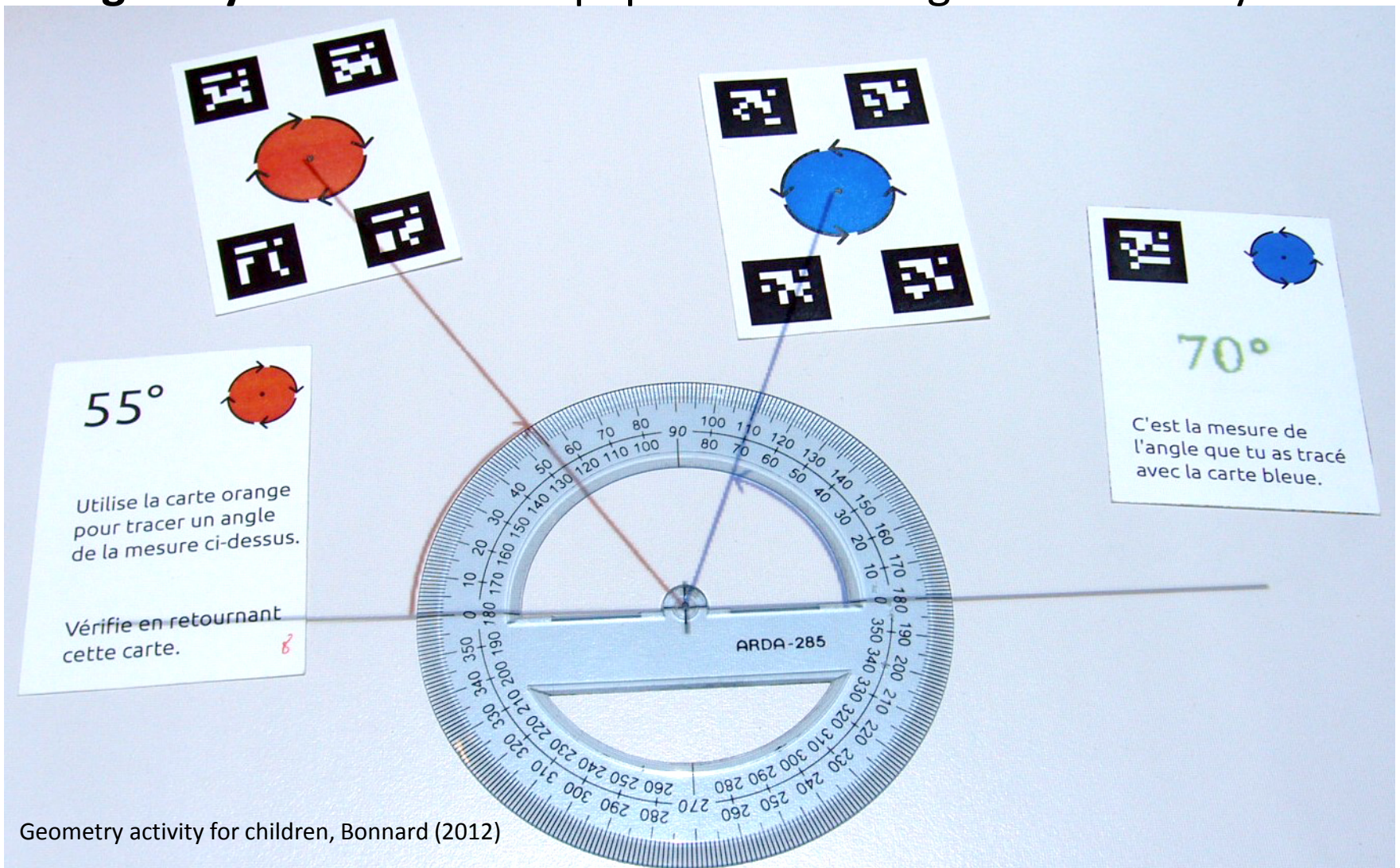
Computer Graphics

Hardware

Computer Vision & Tracking

PAPER CARDS IN RESEARCH

Tangibility and **content** of paper cards in augmented reality



FIDUCIAL MARKERS

2D pictograms placed on objects for the purpose of **identification** and **tracking**.

- Used to detect the **presence** of a marker,
- And extract its 4x4 **transformation** in 3D space.

Chilitags

- Developed at CHILI
- Multiplatform
- Illumination tolerant
- Precise and reliable at low resolutions

<https://github.com/chili-epfl/chilitags>



MODELING INTERACTION

Tracking technologies ✓

Proven potential of paper interfaces ✓

Creating paper-based applications remains hard

- **Different** technologies, **different** APIs, **difficult** to interface
- High abstraction manipulations **unavailable** (flipping, orienting)
- (Re)implementation requires **deep technical knowledge**

DART: Toolkit for Adobe Director, a model for AR environments.

TUIO: Protocol + API for tabletop interfaces.

Kaltenbrunner, M., Bovermann, T., Bencina, R., & Costanza, E. (2005, May). TUIO: A protocol for table-top tangible user interfaces. In *Proc. of the 6th Int'l Workshop on Gesture in Hu-man-Computer Interaction and Simulation*.

MacIntyre, B., Gandy, M., Dow, S., & Bolter, J. D. (2004, October). DART: a toolkit for rapid design exploration of augmented reality experiences. In *Proceedings of the 17th annual ACM symposium on User interface software and technology* (pp. 197-206). ACM.

OUTLINE

- **Context and Motivation**
 - TUIs and Paper Interfaces
 - Paper Cards in Video Games
 - Modeling Interaction
- **Paprika**
 - Framework for Paper-based Interaction
 - JavaScript Implementation
- **Discussion**
 - Assumptions and Outstanding Challenges
 - Conclusion and Future Work

WHAT IS PAPRIKA

An **abstraction model** for:

- **Paper card** controllers,
- **Properties** and **Interactions** of said controllers

A **practical tool** for:

- **Easy implementation** of paper-based applications
- That requires **no deep knowledge** of the technology and mathematics under the hood

A solution for Design and Development

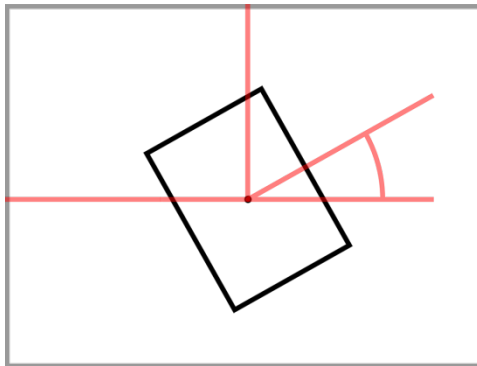
FRAMEWORK ELEMENTS

- **Playfield**

- Reference **plane of action**
- Two-dimensional

- **Controller**

- **Paper card**, flat rectangle
- Height and width, no depth



Basic Properties

- **Presence**

- Detection in playfield

- **Position**

- Coordinates w.r.t. playfield

- **Rotation**

- Angles of **orientation** and **inclination** w.r.t. playfield

ABSTRACT INTERACTIONS

Manipulations as **atomic events** derived from properties.

- Presence
 - **Appear/Disappear:** card has entered the playfield
- Position
 - **Approach/Retreat:** card has entered region of playfield
 - **Stack/Unstack:** card has been placed on top of another
- Rotation
 - **Orient/Disorient:** card has been oriented at a specific angle
 - **Tilt:** card has been inclined a specific amount
 - **Flip:** card has been flipped entirely (inclined past 180°)

Tree + use cards

e1 – orientation + flip

$e_2 - \text{position} + \text{stack}$

JAVASCRIPT IMPLEMENTATION

Target platform: **The Web**

- Rich interactive applications and games

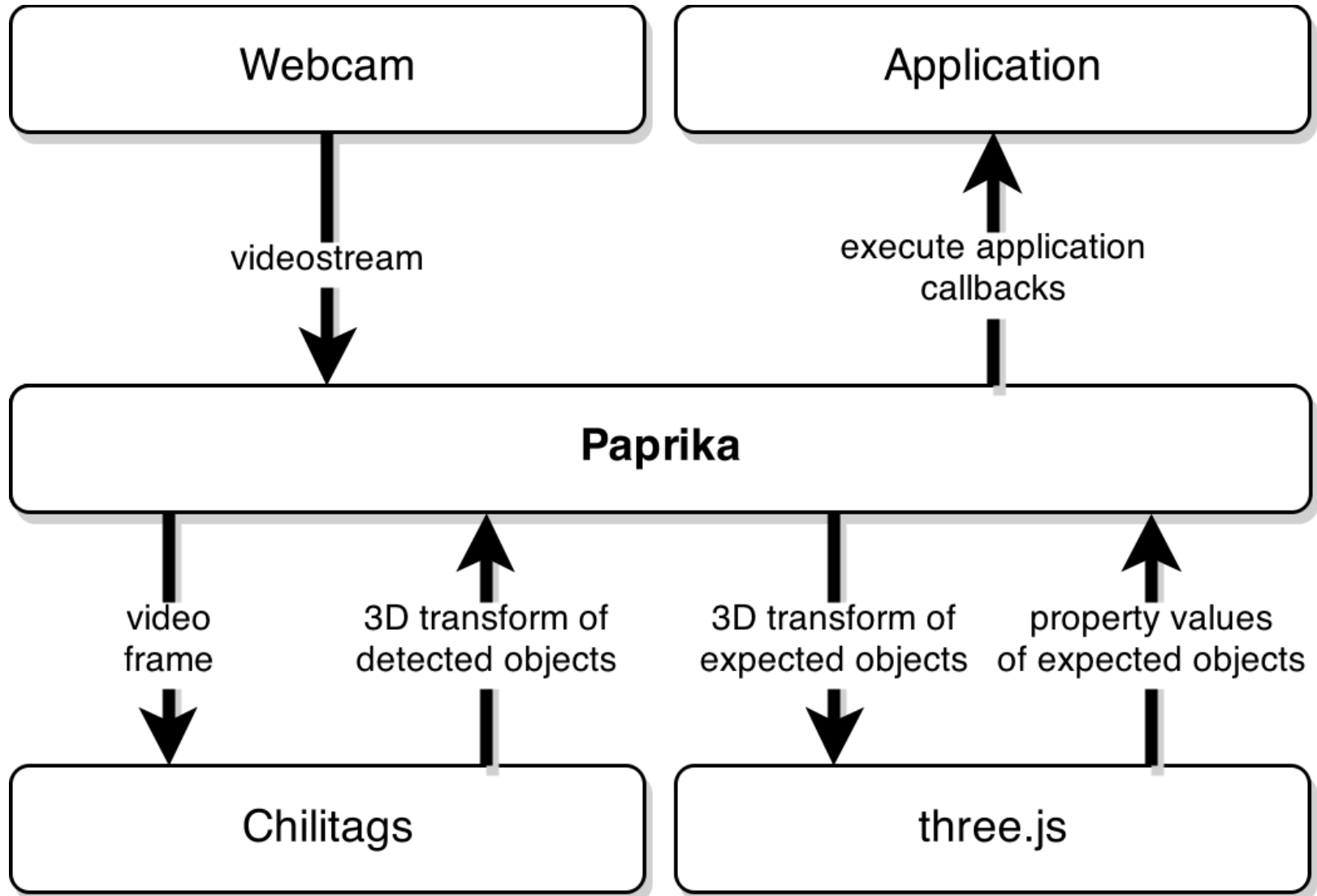
Dependencies

- **Chilitags**: computer vision solution for tracking
- **three.js**: computer graphics solution for mathematics

Informal Evaluation

- Implementation of HTML5 games using Paprika input.

PAPRIKA EXECUTION FLOW



RESULTS

Abstract Framework

- A considerable set of **properties** and **interactions**.
- A **base language** for describing paper-card interfaces that **helps in communication** and **design** of paper-based applications.

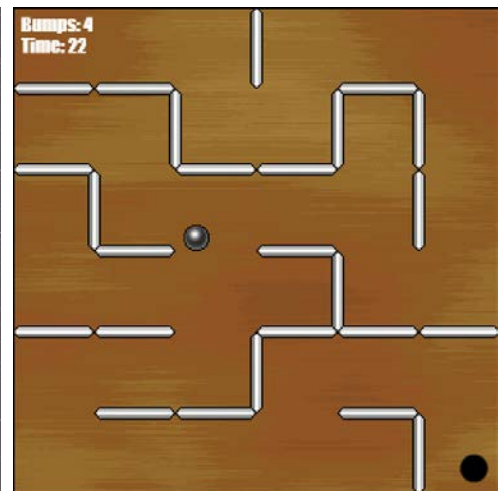
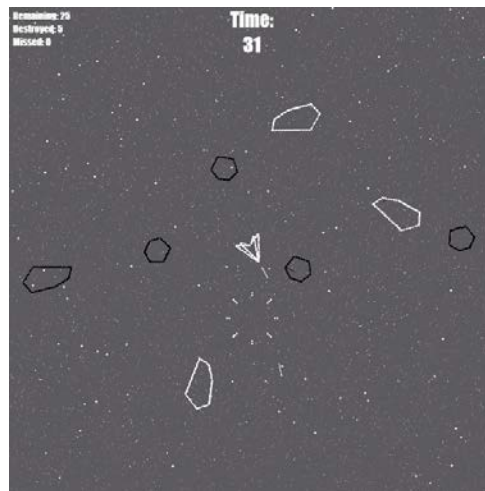
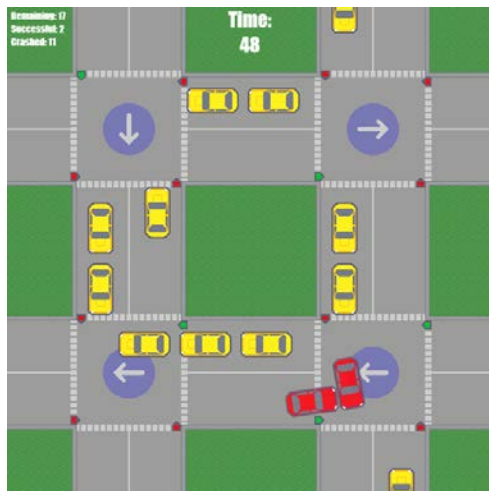
JavaScript Implementation

- A simple tool that **does not require technical knowledge** of computer vision, computer graphics, or AR.
- Accessible solution that **simplifies development** by providing continuous access to properties and defining **atomic events for high abstraction interactions**.

RESULTS

Informal Evaluation

- **Three browser games** developed using Paprika
- Put the framework **to the test** while in development
- Mutual influence between game design and **abstract concepts**
- **Phaser**: HTML5 JavaScript framework for 2D games



Traffic demo

OUTLINE

- **Context and Motivation**

- TUIs and Paper Interfaces
- Paper Cards in Video Games
- Modeling Interaction

- **Paprika**

- Framework for Paper-based Interaction
- JavaScript Implementation

- **Discussion**

- Assumptions and Outstanding Challenges
- Conclusion and Future Work

CAMERA-CENTRIC IMPLEMENTATION

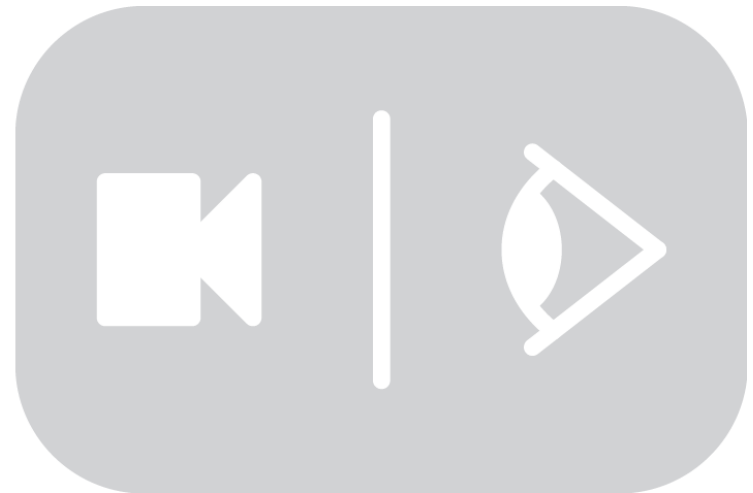
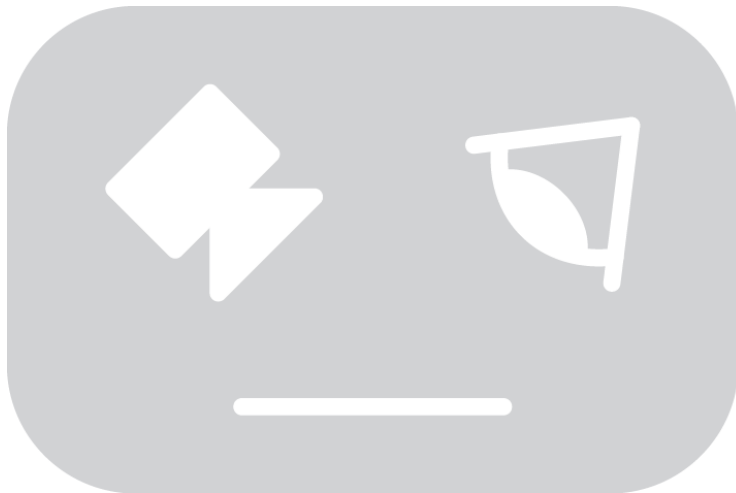
The **camera view** is the **playfield**.

- The **physical camera setup** must be taken into account by the **developer** using Paprika and communicated to the **player**.
- Properties are relative to the view, there is no notion of **physical scale** or **distances**.

Need for a Referential System

PHYSICAL PLAYFIELD SETUP

- **Developers** must **decide on intended setup**.
- This must be **communicated** to the **player**.
- Icons symbolizing the **top-down** and **mirror** setups used in our games.



NON-EXHAUSTIVE SET OF INTERACTIONS

Multi-card actions

- Align, group, spread



From defined properties

- Movement, speed

Unused properties of paper

- Malleability: fold, deform, tear ?
- Ink: write, draw ?



Expandable set of interactions

IMPLEMENTATION AND EVALUATION

- Fiducial markers: **visibility** is essential
- **Co-located** and **occluded** actions are hard
- Is our model portable to other technologies? (RFID)
- Abstraction model **untested** by other developers
- Abstract concepts and communicative potential **unevaluated**

Involve the web developer community

SUMMARY

Abstract Framework

- A considerable set of **properties** and **interactions**.
- A **base language** for describing paper-card interfaces that **helps in communication** and **design** of paper-based applications.

JavaScript Implementation

- A simple tool that **does not require technical knowledge**.
- Accessible solution that **simplifies development** by providing access to properties and defining **atomic events for high abstraction interactions**.
- **Three browser games** developed using Paprika.

Future Work

- Referential system development and expandable set of interactions
- Ongoing open source development

Games