

# INTRO TO MOBILE SYSTEMS

CSE 599 N1: Modern Mobile Systems

[modernmobile.cs.washington.edu](http://modernmobile.cs.washington.edu)

# Plan

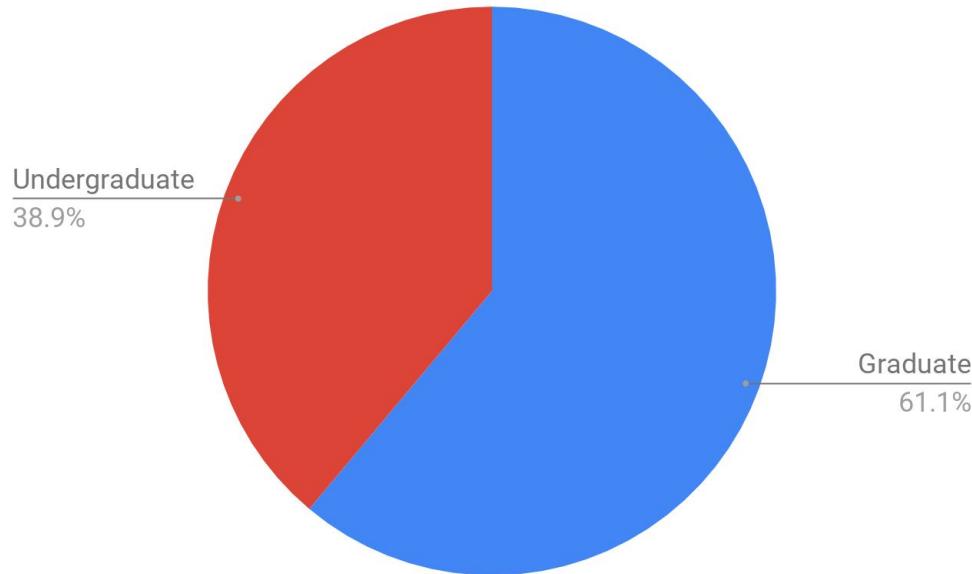
- Why this course
- Course aims and goals
- Administrivia
- What is ubicomp?
- Historical context of ubicomp

# If you want to...

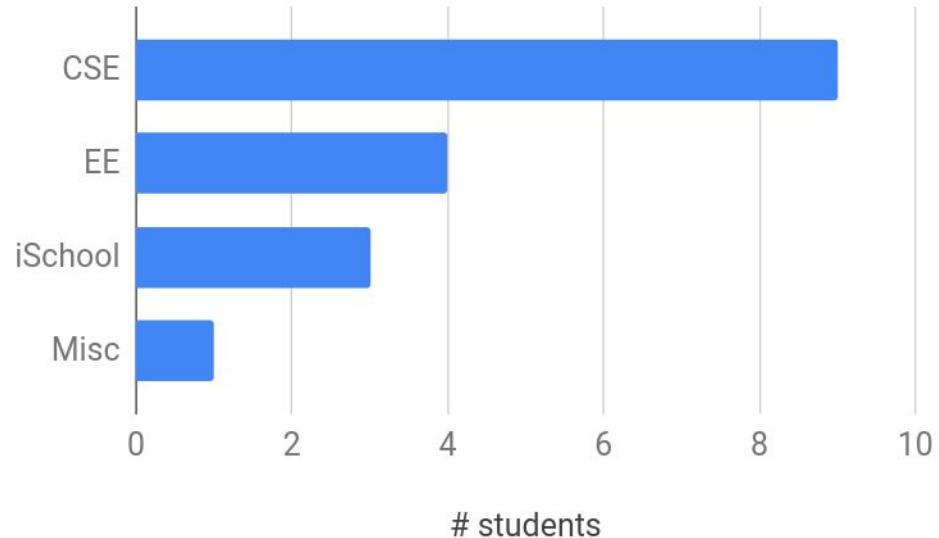
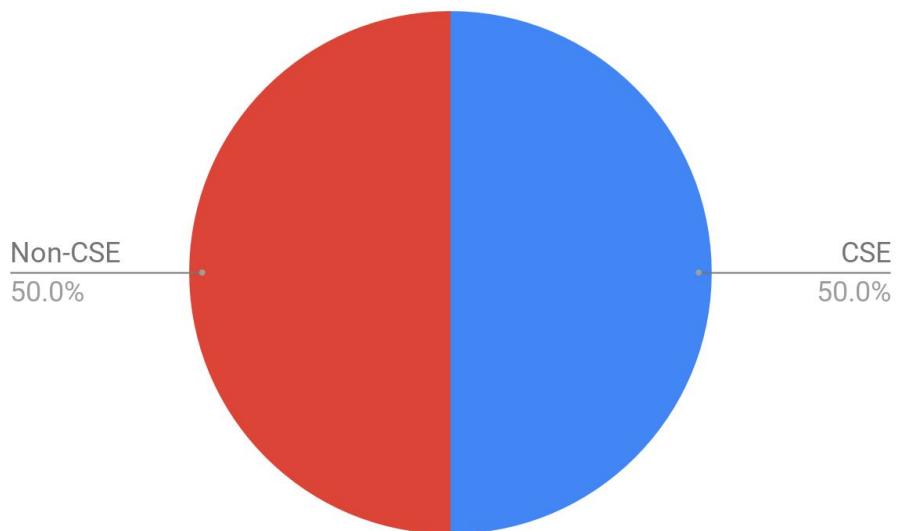
- Learn how to reuse traditional sensors in the smart devices in an unconventional manner to have impact on real world problems like diagnosing diseases and health disorders that affect millions of people
- Explore state of the art interfaces to interact with VR/AR systems and drones
- Leverage sensor fusion, signal processing and deep/machine learning for activity monitoring and motion tracking
- Exploit the waves of signals around us for communication, gesture recognition, sensing and more
- Apply technical skills and knowledge of the world to solve issues that touch lives (instead of getting people to click on more ads)

**This class is for you**

# Enrollment ( $n=\sim 18$ )



# Even split between CSE/non-CSE



# Goal of the course

- Have an understanding of state of the art research going on in mobile systems
- Broaden view of what applications are capable with computing devices
- Acquire knowledge about the different techniques required to solve problems in this area
- Appreciate the different challenges and constraints that go into developing a mobile system
- Be able to critically evaluate mobile systems papers and know the tradeoffs made as a result of different design decisions

# Mobile Health

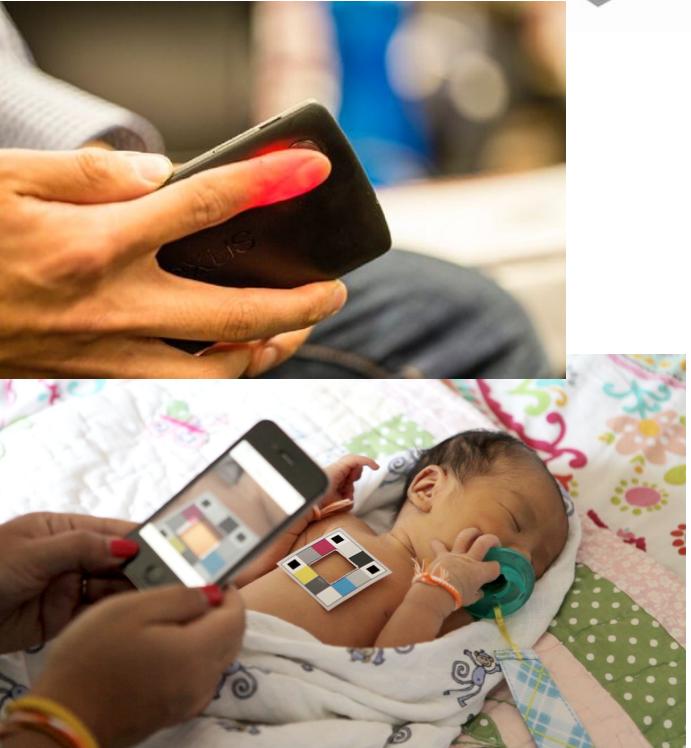
Detecting medical conditions with just a smartphone

Instructors: Sleep apnea, opioid overdose, middle ear infection, agonal breathing, vascular anomalies, fetal heartbeat, sinus infection, speech dysfunction, microtia

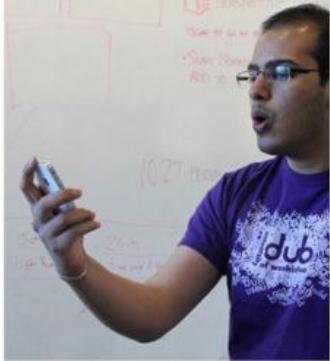
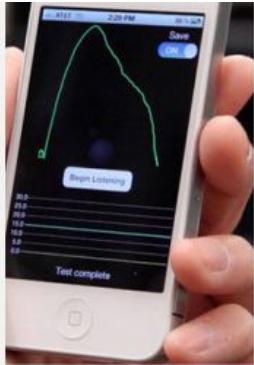
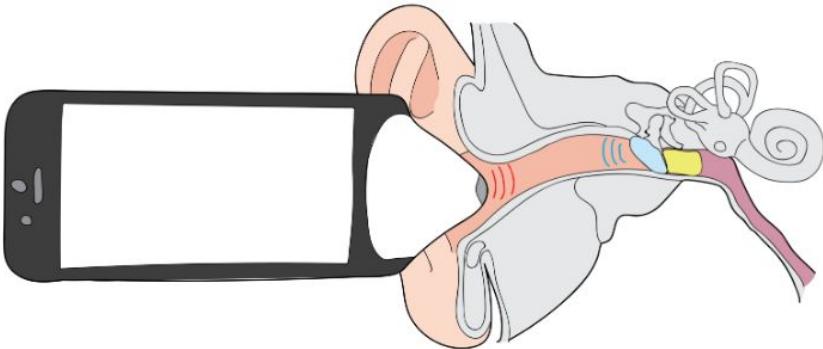
Ubicomp lab/elsewhere: Jaundice, hemoglobin monitoring, lung function, melanoma detection skin cancer, blood pressure monitoring, HIV/syphilis detection, semen analysis, urinary tract infection diagnosis

Highly accessible and cheap alternative to medical devices that are expensive/difficult to acquire/requires expertise/inaccurate

Your smartphone  
camera is now a  
medical device  
Introducing: clinical urinalysis at home



# Mobile health



# Sensors



Accelerometer  
Gyroscope  
Speaker/microphone  
Camera  
Magnetometer  
GPS  
Proximity  
Thermometer  
Barometer  
Light sensor  
Hygrometer



Functions as an ECG monitor that can monitor heart rate detect cardiac arrests.  
Detects falls

In one year alone, **475,000 Americans die from a cardiac arrest**. Globally, cardiac arrest claims more lives than colorectal cancer, breast cancer, prostate cancer, influenza, pneumonia, auto accidents, HIV, firearms, and house fires combined.



**475,000**  
Americans die/yr

About 90 percent of people who experience an out-of-hospital cardiac arrest die.

# Mobile phone penetration

The Economist

Topics ▾

Current edition

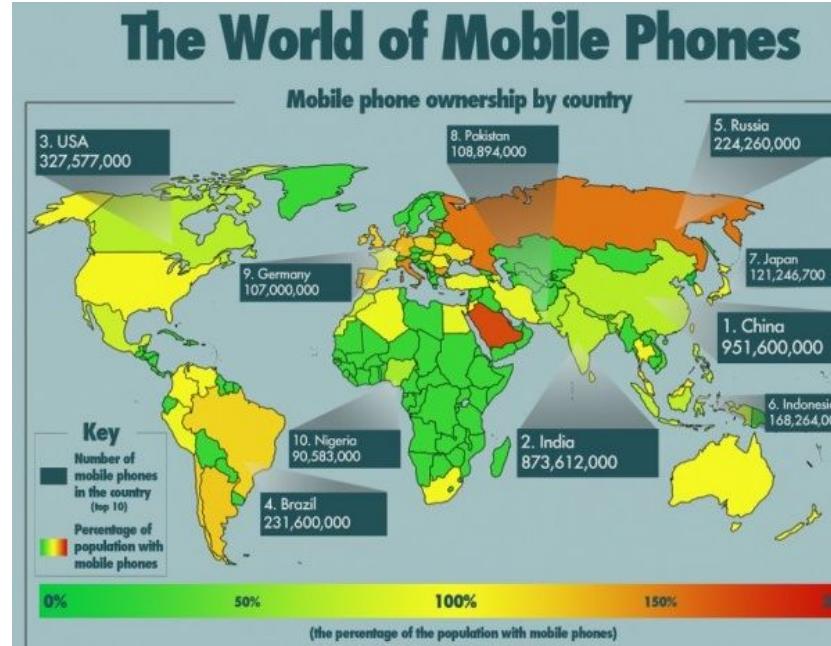
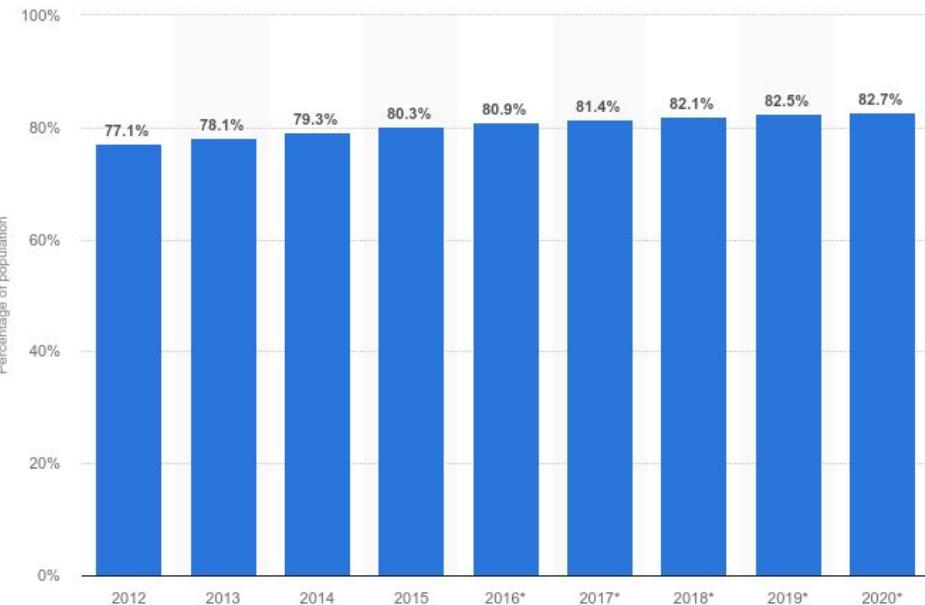
More ▾

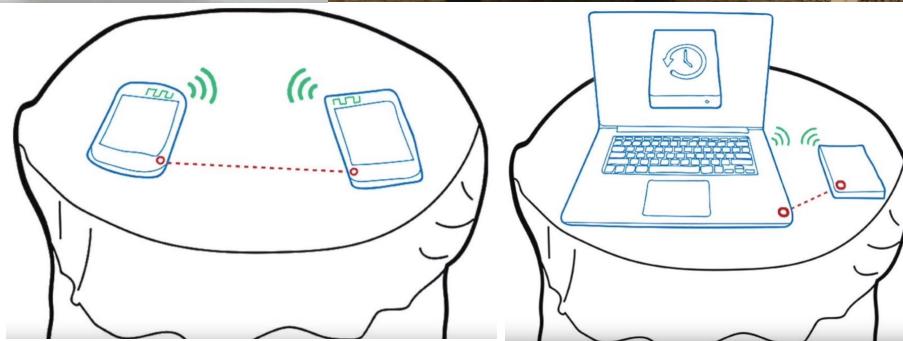
Subscribe

Log in or sign up ▾  
Manage subscription

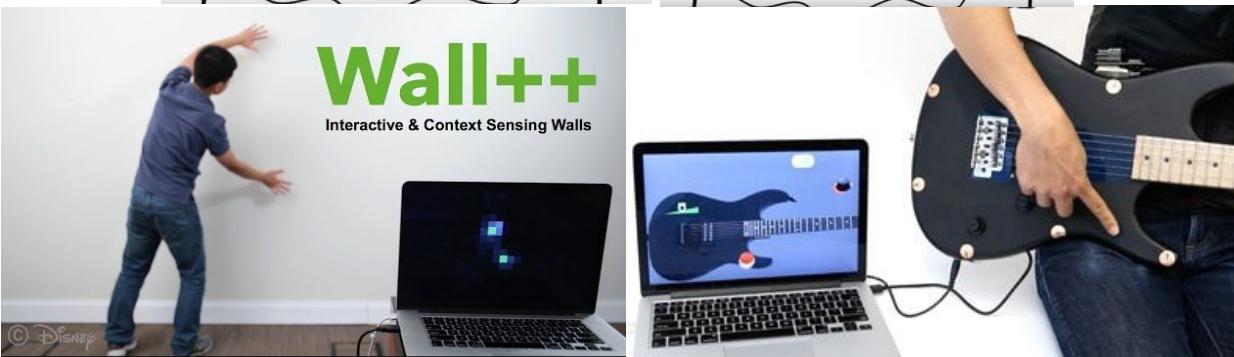
Continental disconnect

Mobile phones are transforming Africa

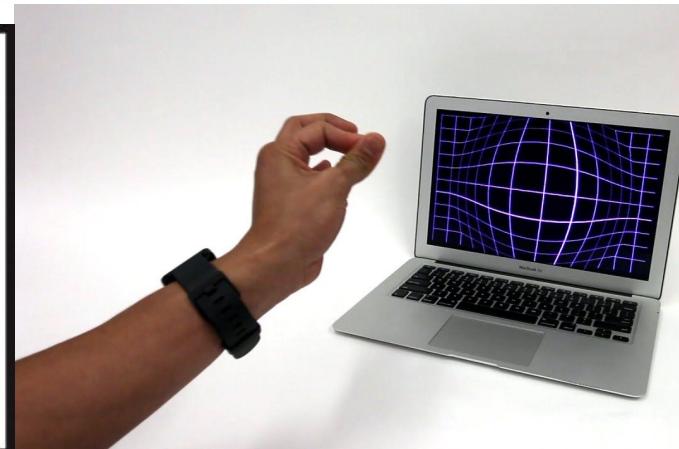
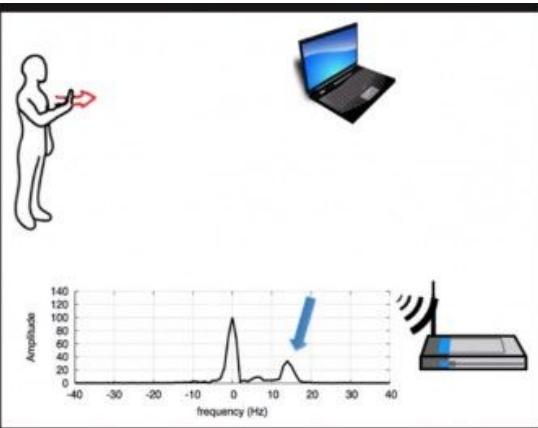
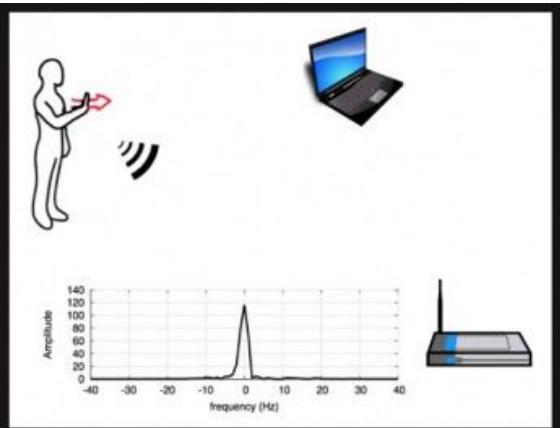
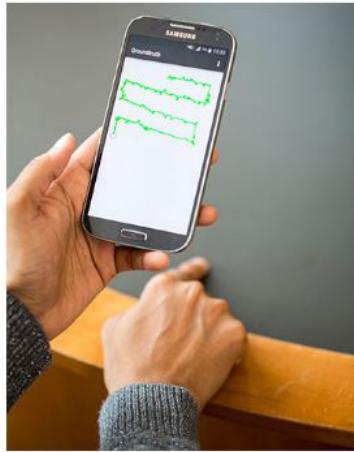




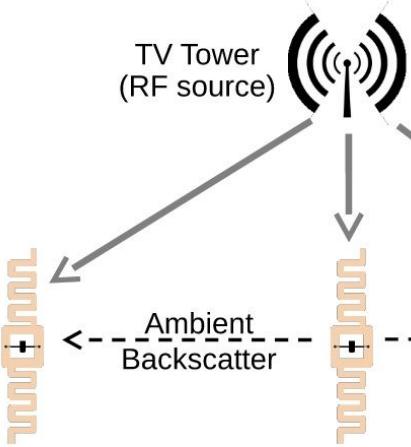
Smart  
homes



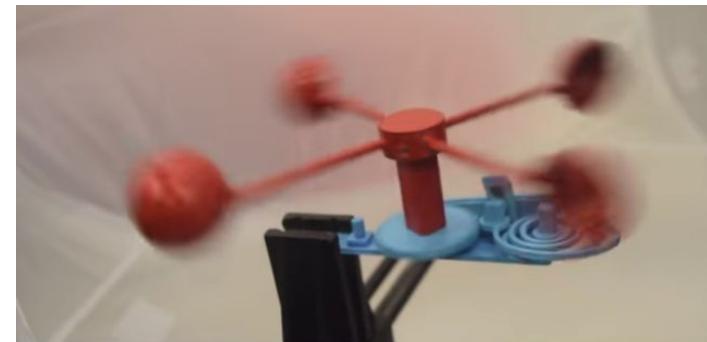
# Interaction



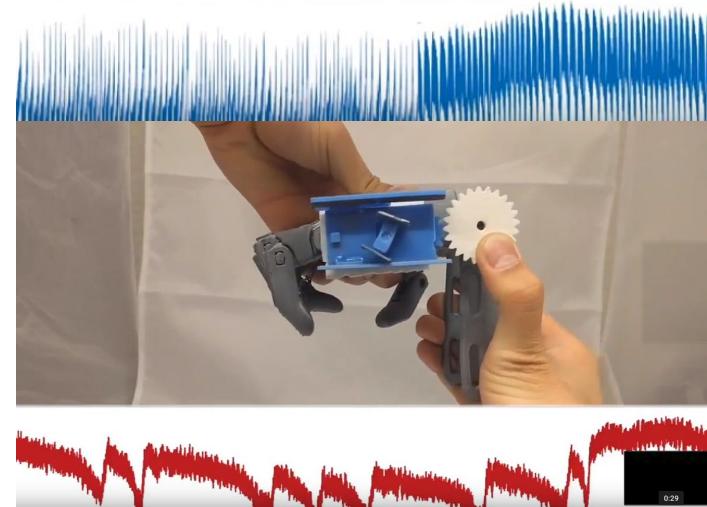
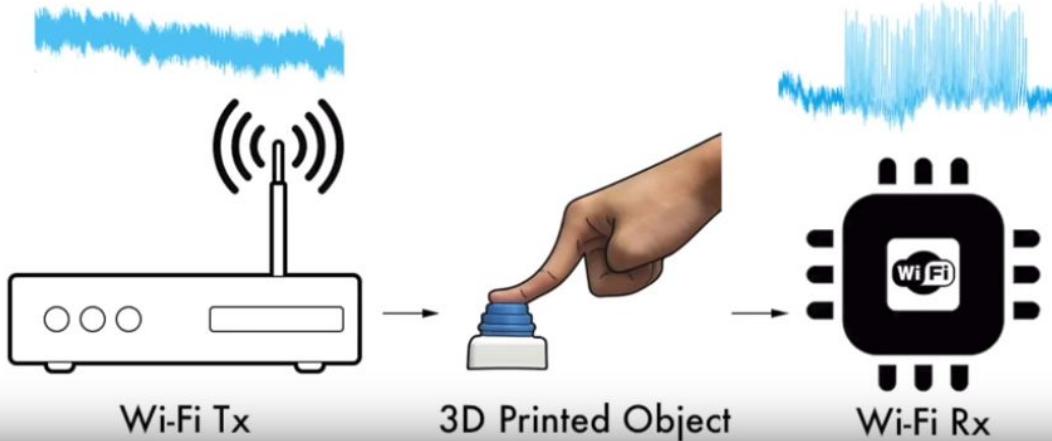
TV Tower  
(RF source)



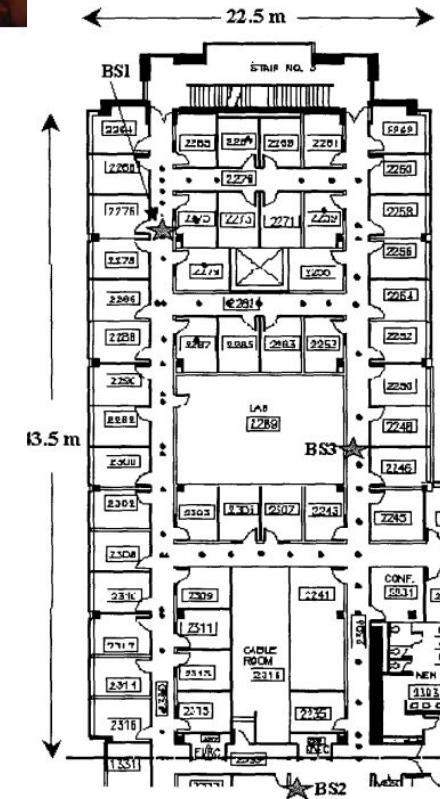
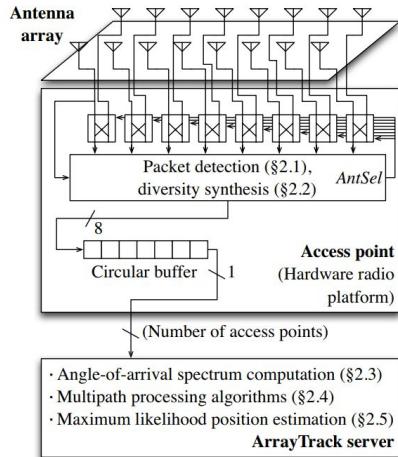
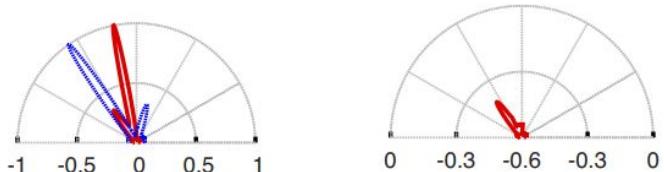
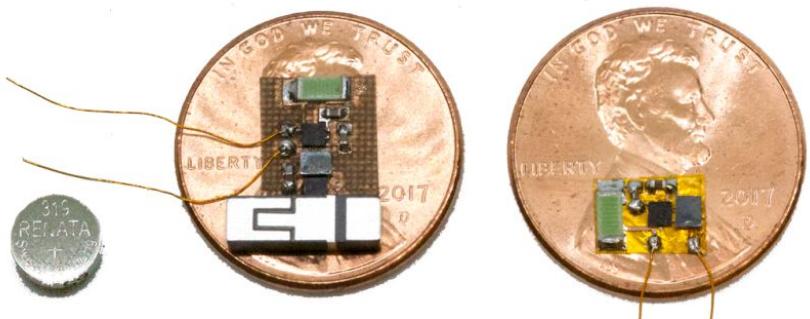
# Backscatter



## PRINTED WI-FI



# Indoor localization



# Syllabus

- Ubicomp/mobile systems
- Interaction (wireless, through-body, acoustic etc.)
- Localization
- Mobile health
- Physical computing
- Low-power systems
- Smart homes
- Fabrication
- Drones
- Deep learning
- Security and privacy
- Etc...

CSE 599 N1: Modern Mobile Systems

## CSE 599 N1, Autumn 2018 Modern Mobile Systems

Lecture: Wednesday, Friday 2:00-3:20 Room: [Loew Hall](#) 105

Instructors: [Rajalakshmi Nandakumar](#) and [Justin Chan](#)

Contact: [\(aliases to {rajaln, jucha}@cs.washington.edu\)](mailto:cse599n1-instructor@cs.washington.edu)

Office Hours by appointment

[Canvas](#)

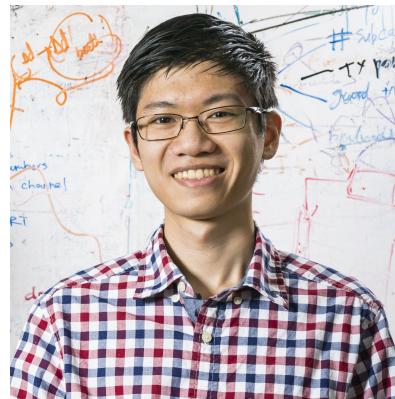
# Staff

Rajalakshmi Nandakumar



Final year PhD  
Active sonar/acoustic  
technologies  
ApneaApp, FingerIO,  
CovertBand, Opioid  
overdose detection

Justin Chan



3rd year PhD  
EarApp, cardiac arrest  
detection, pediatric health  
3D printing and fabrication  
Smart homes and interfaces

# Hours

Course hours

Wednesday, Friday, 2 - 3:20 pm

Office hours:

By appointment

Both instructors away during week of Oct 29th

Guest lectures will occur during that week



# Prerequisites



Knowledge of basic programming

Assignments will be loosely specified, you have the freedom to select which mobile platform you wish to develop on e.g. iOS, Android, Windows, BlackBerry...

So long as the code works, the implementation details do not matter

# Assignment grading (demo or die)

- Assignments will be graded based on in-person demos
- Code must be submitted by the start of the demo session
- Late code submissions will not be able to earn any points for the demo portion of the grade, but can still earn full points for the code portion



# Assignments (TBD)

- Step counting (pedometer)
- Acoustic gesture recognition or acoustic communication
- Heart rate monitor with microcontroller

Around two weeks to complete each assignment

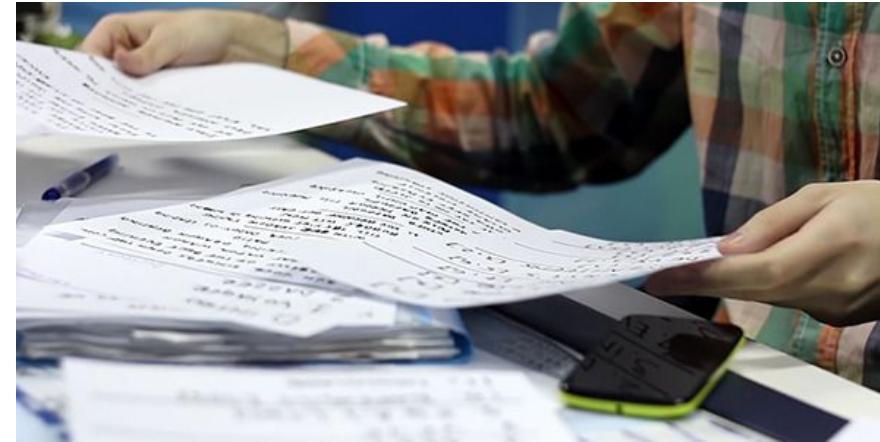
Schedule a demo session with instructors

All code should work in realtime on the mobile device



# Reading summaries

- Post response to readings on Canvas before class
- Ideas for what to write in response
  - Compare papers assigned for that day
  - Compare with papers assigned previously in course
  - Compare with papers of your own choosing
  - Pros and cons of approach in the paper
  - How can the paper be improved?



# Late policy

Don't be late

Within reason we will accept assignments without penalty

Without reason assignments will be penalized



# Participation

- Active participation and discussion is valued
- Everyone should be comfortable commenting and providing insights from their own perspectives



# Conferences for course project

- MobiCom/MobiSys - mobile systems, fabrication
- CHI/UIST - human computer interaction
- Nature, Science, Ubicomp - mobile health
- Sigcomm, NSDI - wireless, backscatter, networking

Aim high for course project -- ideal project should be publishable at these conferences!

Mobile projects can have fast development cycles.

Feasible to prototype an idea publishable at these top conferences



# Grade breakdown

60% project

30% homeworks

10% paper reviews, participation

# Introduction to Ubiquitous Computing Background and Context

# Definitions of UbiComp

- Computing that moves beyond the desktop
- Computing that is embedded everywhere in the environment
- A technology where the task is the focus, not the technology itself

ubiq·ui·tous  adj \yü-'bi-kwə-təs\

## Definition of UBIQUITOUS

: existing or being everywhere at the same time : constantly encountered : WIDESPREAD <a *ubiquitous* fashion>  
— ubiq·ui·tous·ly *adverb*  
— ubiq·ui·tous·ness *noun*

 See [ubiquitous](#) defined for English-language learners »  
See [ubiquitous](#) defined for kids »

## Examples of UBIQUITOUS

- The company's advertisements are *ubiquitous*.
- <by that time [cell phones](#) had become *ubiquitous*, and people had long ceased to be impressed by the sight of one>
- Hot dogs are the ideal road trip food—inexpensive, portable, *ubiquitous*. —Paul Lucas, *Saveur*, June/July 2008

[+] more

[www.merriam-webster.com](http://www.merriam-webster.com)

# Origins of UbiComp

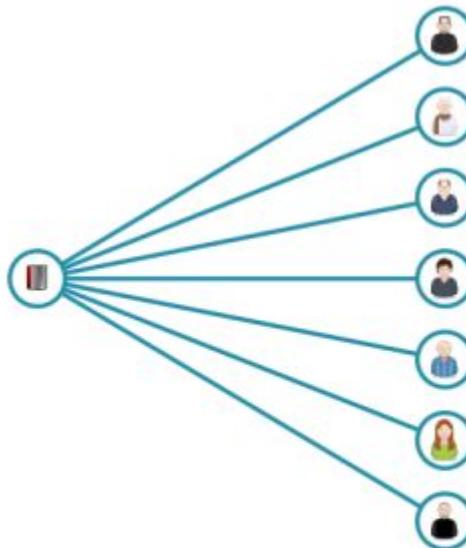
## XEROX PARC (1970s)



- \_ Laser Printer
- \_ Ethernet local area computer network
- \_ Computer generated bitmap graphics
- \_ Graphical user interface featuring windows and icons
- \_ WYSIWYG text editor

Invented many ideas that were foundational to the original Apple Macintosh system

# 3 eras of computing



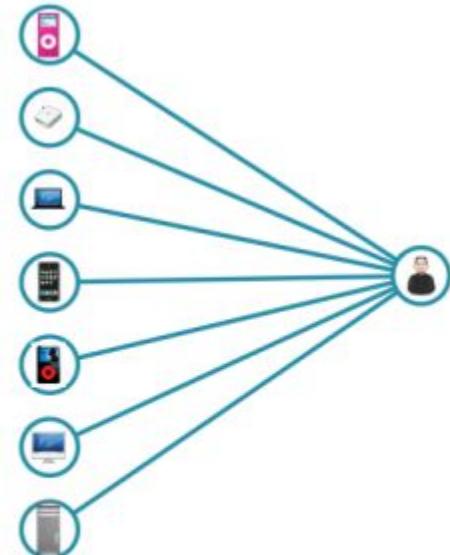
## First Wave

1 Computer, Many People



## Second Wave

1 Computer, 1 Person



## Third Wave

Many Computers, 1+ Person

# First wave

- Main Frame Computing
- 1960-1970
- Massive computers to do simple data processing
- Few computers in the world
- Killer apps: scientific calculations



# Second wave (PC era)

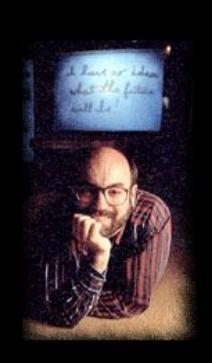
- Desktop Computing
- 1980-1990
- Business applications drive usage
- One computer per desk
- Computers connected in intranets to a massive global network
- All wired
- Killer apps: spreadsheets, text editing



# Third wave

- Ubiquitous computing
- 2000-present
- Information creation, access, communication drive usage
- Multiple computers per environment/person
- WANs, LANs, PANs, ad-hoc networking, wireless
- Traditional notion of a 'computer' disappearing
- Killer apps: social networks, ridesharing apps





# Mark Weiser (1952 - 1999)

- CTO of Xerox PARC
- Introduced notion of “calm technology”
  - interaction between the technology and its user is designed to occur in the user's periphery rather than constantly at the center of attention.
  - E.g. video conferences, smart homes
  - E.g. water kettle, you fill it up and walk away, and don't need to focus on it
- Computing should be as “refreshing as a walk in the woods”
- Late 1980s, Mark Weiser became new manager of PARC’s Computer Science Lab. Mark felt it was time for a new and radically different paradigm of computing and proposed a new research agenda termed “ubiquitous computing.”

# The Computer for the 21st Century

*Specialized elements of hardware and software, connected by wires, radio waves and infrared, will be so ubiquitous that no one will notice their presence*

by Mark Weiser

**T**he most profound technologies are those that disappear. They weave themselves into the fabric of everyday life until they are indistinguishable from it.

Consider writing, perhaps the first information technology. The ability to represent spoken language symbolically for long-term storage freed information from the limits of individual memory. Today this technology is ubiquitous in industrialized countries. Not only do books, magazines and newspapers convey written information, but so do street signs, billboards, shop signs and even graffiti. Candy wrappers are covered in writing. The constant background presence of these products of "literacy technology" does not require active attention, but the information is to be processed; it is ready for use at a glance. It is difficult to imagine modern life otherwise.

Silicon-based information technology, in contrast, is far from having become part of the environment. More than 30 million personal computers have been sold, and the computer nonetheless remains largely in a world of its own. It

is approachable only through complex jargon that has nothing to do with the tasks for which people use computers. The state of the art is perhaps analogous to the period when serfs had to know as much about making ink or baking clay as they did about writing.

The recent surge that surrounds personal computers is not just a "user interface" problem. My colleagues and I at the Xerox Palo Alto Research Center think that the idea of a "personal" computer itself is misplaced and that the vision of laptop machines, dynabooks and "knowledge navigators" is only a transitional step toward achieving the real potential of information technology.

Such machines cannot truly make computing an integral, invisible part of people's lives. We are therefore trying to conceive a new way of thinking about computers, one that takes into account the human world and allows the computers themselves to vanish into the background.

Perhaps most dramatically opposed to our vision is the notion of virtual reality, which attempts to make a world inside the computer. Users don special goggles that project an artificial scene onto their eyes; they wear gloves or even body suits that sense their motions and gestures so that they can move about and manipulate virtual objects. Although it may have its purpose in allowing people to explore realms otherwise inaccessible—the insides of cells, the surfaces of distant planets, the information web of data bases—virtual reality is only a map, not a territory. It excludes desks, offices, other people not wearing goggles and body suits, weather, trees, walks, chance encounters and, in general, the infinite richness of the universe. Virtual reality focuses an enormous apparatus on simulating the world rather than on invisibly enhancing the world that already exists. Indeed, the opposition between the

MARK WEISER is head of the Computer Science Laboratory at the Xerox Palo Alto Research Center. He is working on the next revolution in computing, after what revolution? Virtually all computing is now done using computers composed of embedded circuitry. Before coming to PARC, he was a professor of computer science at the University of Maryland; he received his Ph.D. from the University of Michigan in 1979. Weiser also helped found an electronic publishing company and a video arts company and claims to enjoy computer programming "for the fun of it." His most recent technical work involved the implementation of new theories of automatic computer memory reorganization, known in the field as garbage collection.

# "The most profound technologies are those that disappear. They weave themselves into the fabric of everyday life until they are indistinguishable from it"

(1991)

# Disappearing technologies

Virtual reality focuses an enormous apparatus on simulating the world rather than on invisibly enhancing the world that already exists.

The vanishing of electric motors: Cheap, small, efficient electric motors made it possible first to give each machine or tool its own source of motive force, then to put many motors into a single machine.

Abstraction of technologies



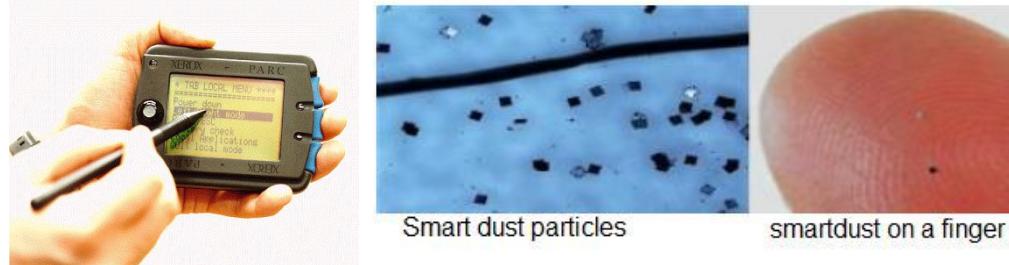
# Scale: Inch, foot, yard contributions

- Research agenda focused on addressing the problems of everyday life (away from the desk).
- Developed a computational agenda around computing by the inch, foot and yard
- Each sized device is built for different tasks



# Tabs (smart dust)

Post-it note sized, like Active Badge



Smart dust particles

smartdust on a finger

Titles on book spines, labels on controls, thermostats and clocks, small pieces of paper

Clip-on computers that can identify themselves and track people or objects

Vision: 100s of computers per room

These computers will become invisible like wires in the walls to accomplish everyday tasks

Animate objects previously inert. Beep to locate objects. Make active maps for any book

# Design requirements

- Cheap low-power computers, convenient displays
- Network - support hundreds of machines in every room that can work indoors and outdoors
- Tiny range wireless, long range wireless, high speed wired
- Software systems, future OSes based around tiny kernels of functionality that adapt to changing needs of environment



# Pads

Size: sheet of paper/current laptop

Pads are *\*not\** like laptops, they are 'scrap computers' that can be grabbed and used anywhere like scrap paper. They have no individualized identity or importance.

Pads can be used as reminders and spread out over the desk, not limited to desktop screen



# Boards

Video screens, bulletin boards, whiteboards, flip charts

Computer interaction that casually enhances every room

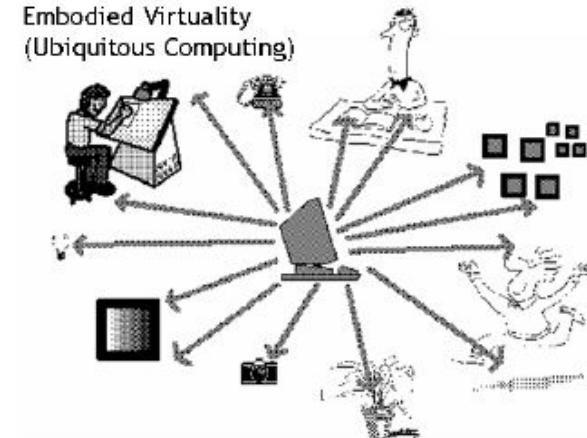
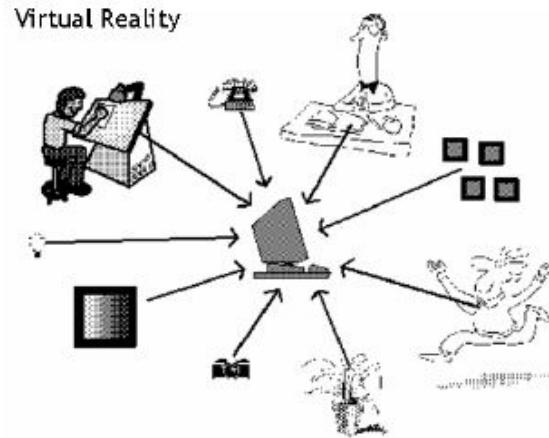


# Trends

Present: people holed in offices before glowing screens and smartphones, gets in the way of human interaction

VR: outside world ceases to exist

Vision: computers reside in human world and pose no barrier to personal interactions



# What next UbiComp? (2012)

Thesis: ubicomp is here and no longer requires special attention -- ideas and challenges are widespread throughout computing



Everything that is published in Ubicomp could find a publication home elsewhere and vice versa

Fourth generation of computing (?): many to many

Crowd sourced/deep learning results benefitting the masses

Get answers to complex questions in real time, get medical advice instantly, personal assistants etc.

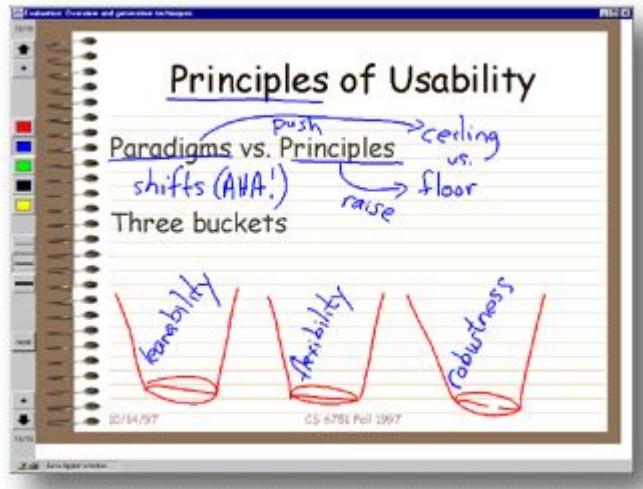
# Early UbiComp research themes

Charting Past, Present and Future Research in Ubiquitous Computing (2000)

1. Automated capture and access
2. Natural and implicit feedback
3. Context-awareness

# Automated capture

- Manual record-taking is hard
- Machines can record some things better than humans
- Multiple streams of information sometimes need to be synchronized



The image shows a computer interface for automated lecture capture and search. It includes:

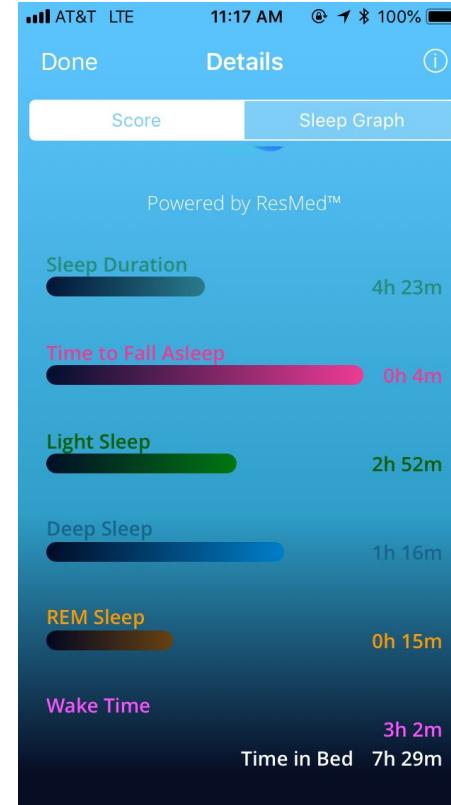
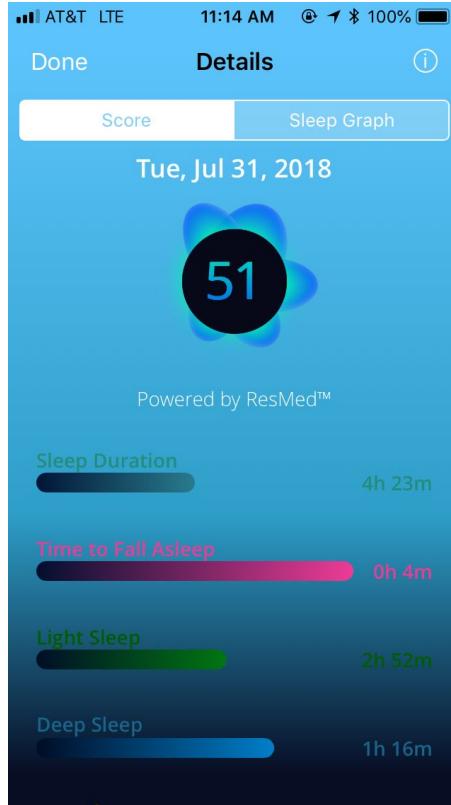
- Lecture Search**: A sidebar listing various search results.
- Timeline of search results**: A vertical timeline showing the progression of search results.
- Search and Summary Interface**: A main window containing:
  - A slide titled "Slide 6" with the text "Engineering and Software" and "Origins of SE engineering 1968 NATO conference in Germany".
  - A search bar with the placeholder "Type in a topic to look up content relevant to this SLIDE".
  - Checkboxes for "Link to Content" and "Case insensitive".
  - Checkboxes for "View", "Slide Text", "Teacher Notes", "Collab", "URL", and "Page link".
  - Search results table:

Date	Description
10/03/11	AND OF SOFTWARE ENGINEERING IN GENERAL AND THEN GETTING INTO CHAPTER TWO IN THE BOOK TALKS ABOUT
10/03/11	Software Transcripts
- Search Results**: A summary of the search results.

Legend for Timeline colors:

- voice transcripts
- slide texts
- teacher notes
- online topic
- handwriting texts
- WWW page titles

# Automated capture examples

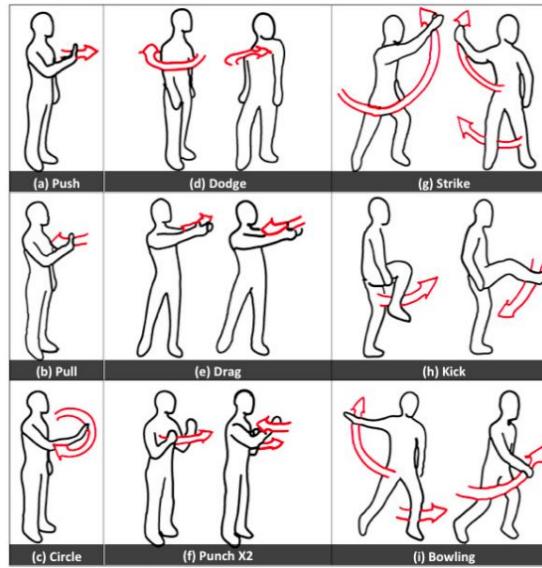


# Natural and implicit interfaces

- Traditional computing involves interacting with a computer using command terminals, mice, and keyboards
- More intuitive and natural interfaces allow devices to be used more easily



Figure 1: SoundWave allows non-contact, real time in-air gesture sensing on existing commodity computing devices.



# Natural and implicit interfaces examples



“we expect that 75 percent of households with VPAs (virtual personal assistants) will have one, 20 percent will have two, and five percent will have three or more devices by 2020.”  
-- Gartner

Microsoft  
PixelSense

Minority  
Report  
(2002)

# Context-aware computing

When devices are used in different scenarios, they might need to do different things

Computing services should sense the environment (e.g. location, emotion) and automatically change their behavior

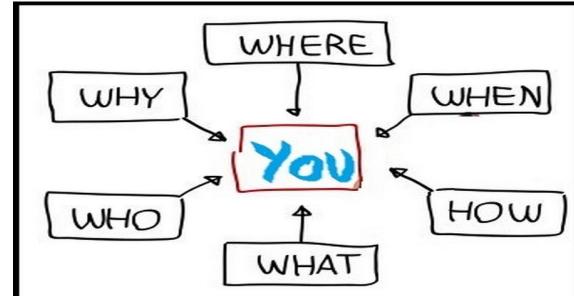
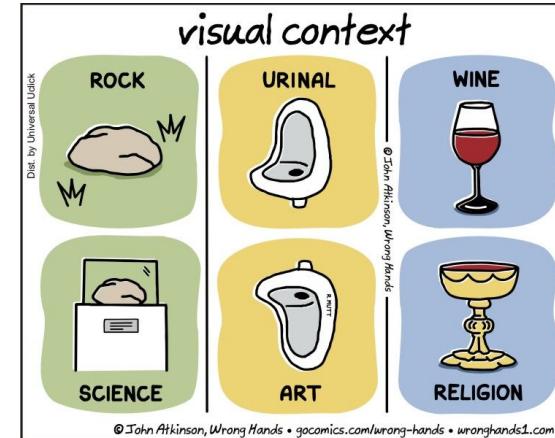


# Critical contextual elements

- Location and scale
- Biometrics
- Time
- Conversational context
- Environment context (e.g. temperature)
- Identity (i.e. who is using it)
- Proximity to other devices
- Human behavioral patterns
- Interests and beliefs
- Emotional context

# Minimal set of contextual elements

- What are we doing?
- Where are we doing it?
- Who are we and who are we doing it with?
- When are we doing it? Have we done it before?



# Example contexts

Location

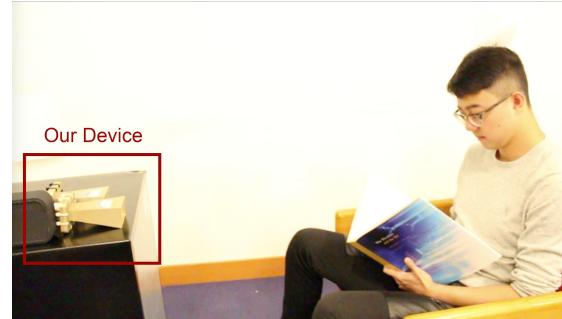


Movement

Activity

Social interaction

Emotion



# Location

Computers must know where they are

When a computer has this knowledge it can adapt its behavior in significant ways

# “Simple” context can be hard

- Re: location. What does the system need to infer?
- Lat/long?
- A physical address (185 E Stevens Way NE)
- The room I'm in?
- A semantic place (e.g., my home, my work, a friend's house)
- What's near me?
- Which way I'm facing?
- ...

# Location inference: Active Badge

The Active Badge emits a unique IR code every 15 secs, which are picked up by a sensor network placed throughout a building, which communicates with a centralized server and provides a social location API. IR was chosen because ultrasonic too expensive.



# Technologies

Infrared

Ultrasonic

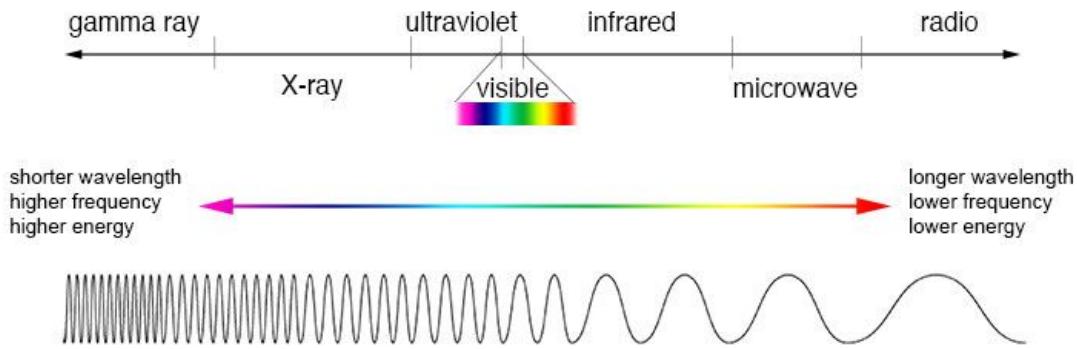
Radio frequency/Wi-Fi

FM radio

Bluetooth

GSM

Etc.



# Today

- The **Active Badge** Location System Want et al., ACM Trans. **InfoSys'92**
- The **Cricket** Location-Support System Priyantha et al., **MobiCom'00**
- **RADAR**: An In-Building RF-Based User Location and Tracking System Bahl & Padmanabhan, **INFOCOM'00**
- Location Systems for Ubiquitous Computing Hightower & Borriello, **IEEE Computer'01**
- **RightSPOT**: A Novel Sense of Location for a Smart Personal Object Krumm et al., **UbiComp'03**
- LOCADIO: Inferring Motion and Location from WiFi Signal Strengths Krumm & Horvitz, **MobiQuitous'04**
- **Place Lab**: Device Positioning Using Radio Beacons in the Wild LaMarca et al., **Pervasive Comp'05**
- Accurate GSM Indoor Localization Otsason et al., **UbiComp'05**

# Everyday computing constraints

- Rarely have beginning or end
  - There is typically no point of closure, information from the past is often recycled
- Interruption is expected
  - Assume that activities will not be continuous, may have to operate in background
- Multiple activities operate concurrently
  - Assume the need for context shifts
- Time is an important discriminator
  - Incorporating notions of time (minutes, hours, days) since last interaction
- Associative models of information are needed
  - Context-rich model. User should be allowed to gather information from multiple paths