

# User Interface Software & Technology Overview

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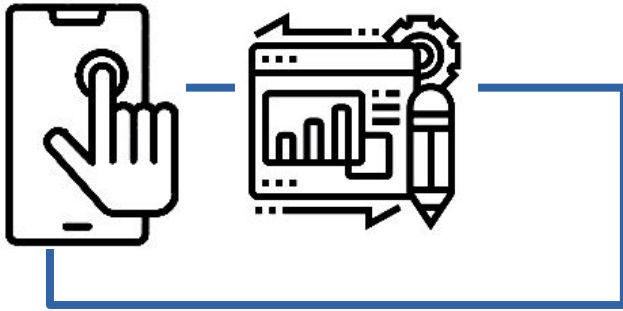


ACM Transactions on  
**Computer-Human  
Interaction**

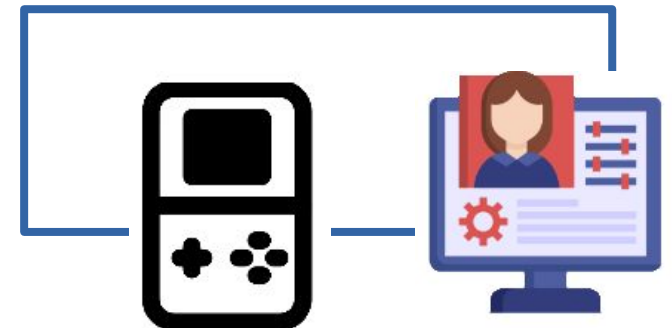
# Day 1: Overview Day

Mengqi Gao  
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Matthew Dressa





# Topics and Subject Areas



# Framing Paper 1

[ Brad Myers, Scott E. Hudson, and Randy Pausch.

Past, Present, and Future of User Interface Software Tools. TOCHI 7, 1 (2000) ]



## Why are tools so important and successful?

## Framing Paper 1

*Brad Myers, Scott E. Hudson, and Randy Pausch. Past, Present, and Future of User Interface Software Tools. TOCHI 7, 1 (2000).*

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### Why are tools so important and successful?

- Help reduce the amount of code that programmers need to produce when creating a user interface
- Allow user interfaces to be created more quickly
- Enables more rapid prototyping and, therefore, more iterations of iterative design that is a crucial component of achieving high-quality user interfaces [Nielsen 1993].
- Help achieve a consistent look and feel, since all user interfaces created with a certain tool will be similar.

## Framing Paper 1

*Brad Myers, Scott E. Hudson, and Randy Pausch. Past, Present, and Future of User Interface Software Tools. TOCHI 7, 1 (2000).*

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- What worked
- What didn't work
- **Future Prospects and Visions**

## Framing Paper 1

*Brad Myers, Scott E. Hudson, and Randy Pausch. Past, Present, and Future of User Interface Software Tools. TOCHI 7, 1 (2000).*

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## Future Prospects and Visions

1. Computers as Commodities
2. Ubiquitous Computing
3. Varying Input and Output Capabilities.
4. Tools to Rapidly Prototype Devices, not Just Software.
5. Tools for Coordinating Multiple, Distributed Communicating Devices.
6. Recognition-Based User Interfaces
7. Three-Dimensional Technologies
8. End-User Programming, Customization, and Scripting

## Framing Paper 2

*Jun Rekimoto. Pick-and-drop: a Direct Manipulation Technique for Multiple Computer Environments. UIST (1997).*

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### Main Argument/Points and Takeaway

- **Problem:** There is restriction of today's input devices (e.g. device not sharable across multiple computers or devices) & lack of easy direct data transfer user interfaces between different but nearby computers
- **Solution:** The pick-and-drop technique, a pen based direct manipulation technique that can be used for data transfer between different computers as well as within the same computer is proposed as part of the Multi-computer director manipulation user interface



## Framing Paper 2

*Jun Rekimoto. Pick-and-drop: a Direct Manipulation Technique for Multiple Computer Environments. UIST (1997).*

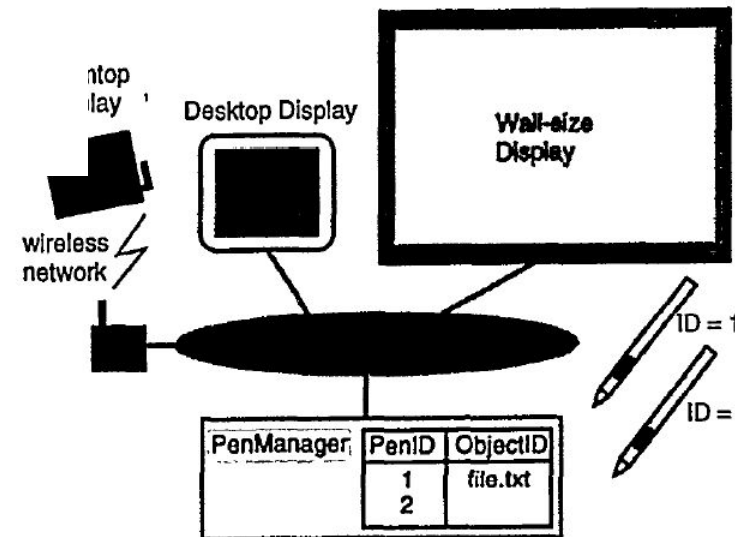
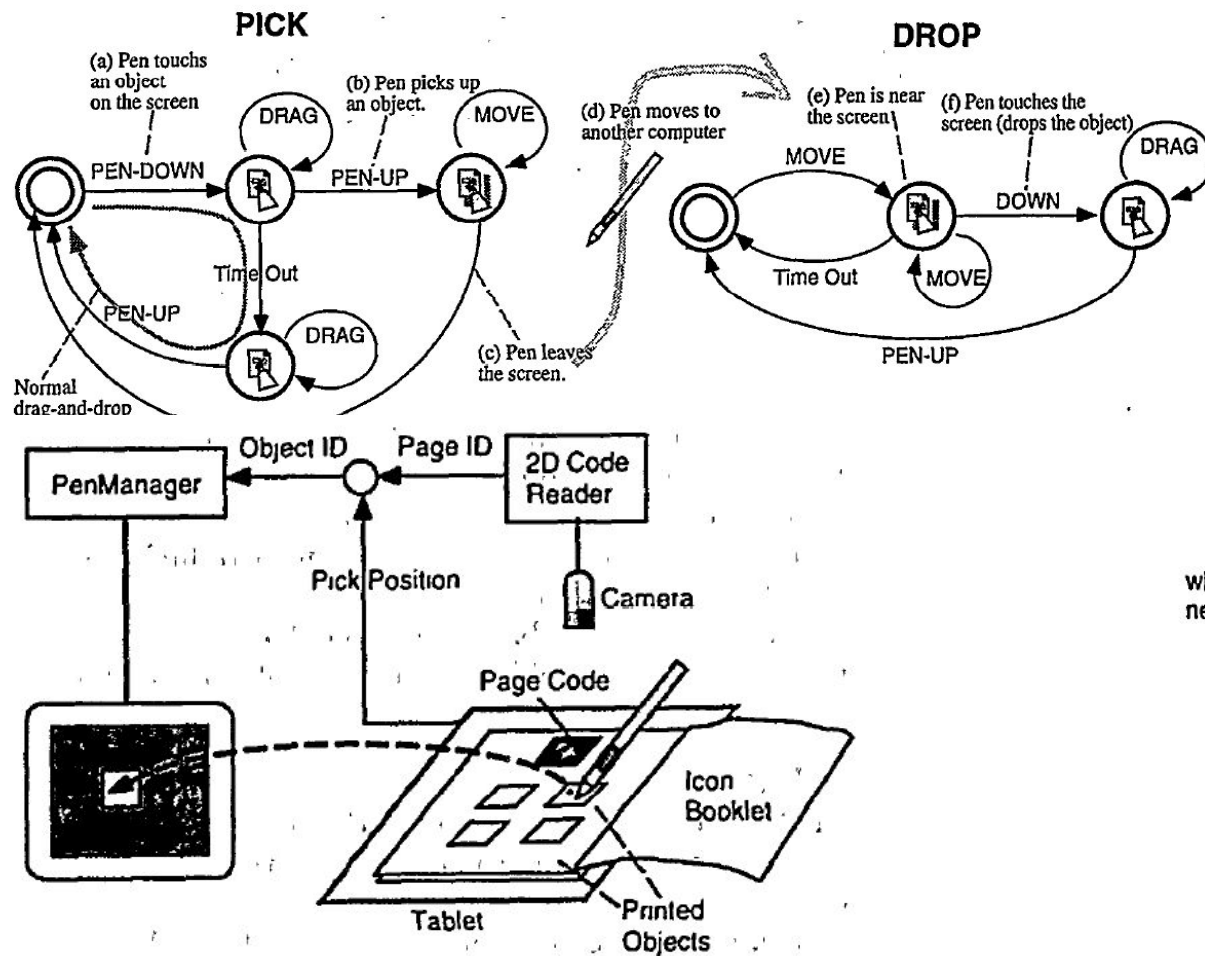


Figure 3: System configuration

## Framing Paper 3

*Hiroshi Ishii and Brygg Ullmer. Tangible Bits: Towards Seamless Interfaces between People, Bits and Atoms. CHI (1997).*

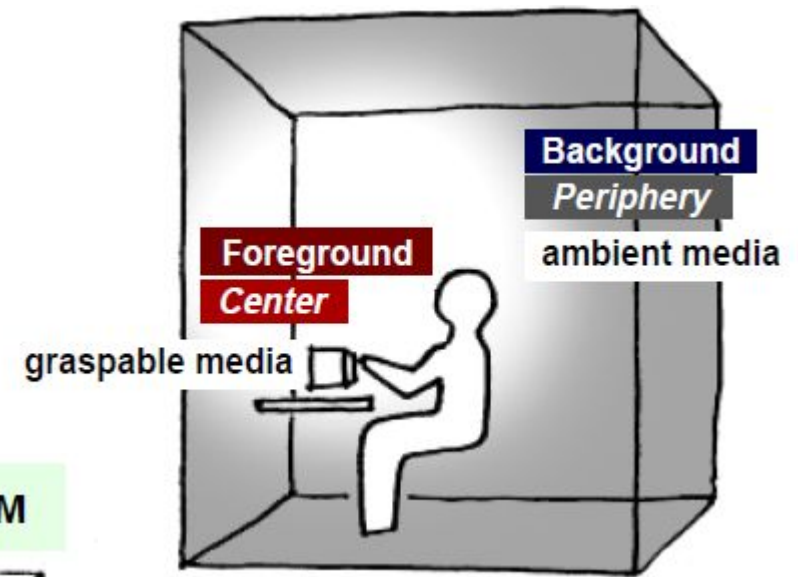
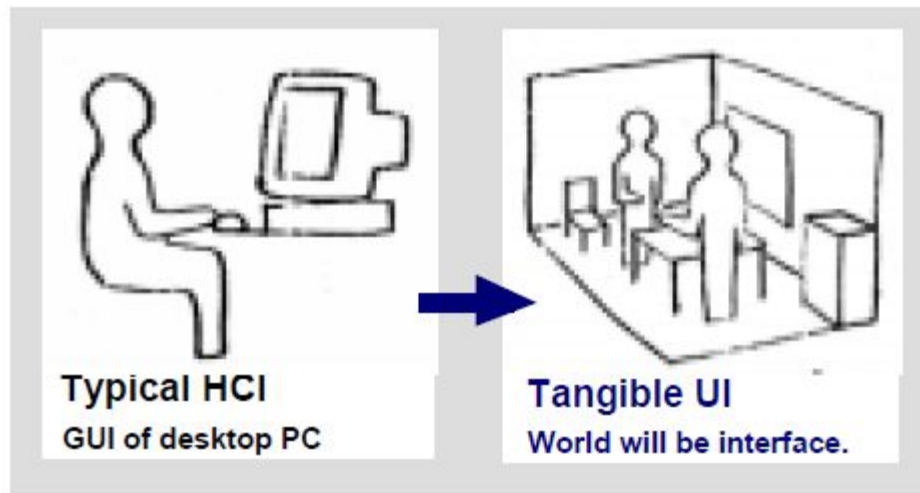
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### Main Argument/Points and Takeaway

- **Problem:** The current model GUI (Graphical User Interface) is bound to computers with a flat rectangular display, windows, a mouse and a keyboard which restricts our imagination and senses and also removes the physical artifacts we used to relish before the advent of computers
- **Solution:** Presents a new (at that time) HCI vision called Tangible Bits allows users to "grasp & manipulate" bits in the center of users' attention by coupling the bits with everyday physical objects and architectural surfaces.

## Framing Paper 3

*Hiroshi Ishii and Brygg Ullmer. Tangible Bits: Towards Seamless Interfaces between People, Bits and Atoms. CHI (1997).*



metaDESK

transBOARD

ambientROOM



Foreground Objects  
on Interactive Surface



Ambient Media  
in Background

# Major Topics in UIST (Personal Classification)

**Modalities**

**Purpose  
Driven:**

**Solving  
Problem**

**Purpose  
Driven:**

**Extract  
Insights**

**Purpose  
Driven:**

**Enabling**

# Modalities

## Senses, 2D/3D/4D, AR, VR, Input, Output, Recognition

- LaserOrigami: Laser-Cutting 3D Objects
- Pinpointing: Precise Head- and Eye-Based Target Selection for Augmented Reality
- In-Depth Mouse: Integrating Desktop Mouse into Virtual Reality
- [SensaBubble: A Chrono-Sensory Mid-Air Display of Sight and Smell](#)

# Purpose Driven: Solve problem

**overcome, solve,  
address, barrier, hindrance**

- [SmartVoice: A Presentation Support System For Overcoming the Language Barrier](#)
- Addressing Misconceptions About Code with Always-On Programming Visualizations

# Purpose Driven: Enabling

**Improving pre-existing product, design or operation;  
Make something easier to do;  
Empowerment of End Users (allowing for more  
customization from users);  
Make prototyping easier**

- WatchConnect: A Toolkit for Prototyping SmartWatch-Based Cross-Device Applications
- [NewsViews: An Automated Pipeline for Creating Custom Geovisualizations for News](#)
- ModelTracker: Redesigning Performance Analysis Tools for Machine Learning

# Purpose Driven: Extract Insights

**use, understand, explore, mine**

- [Mining Human Behaviors from Fiction to Power Interactive Systems](#)
- Using and Exploring Hierarchical Data in Spreadsheets



# How would we characterize framing papers 2 and 3?

In most cases, papers fall under multiple categories....!

**Jun Rekimoto. Pick-and-drop: a Direct Manipulation Technique for Multiple Computer Environments. UIST (1997).**

**Hiroshi Ishii and Brygg Ullmer. Tangible Bits: Towards Seamless Interfaces between People, Bits and Atoms. CHI (1997).**

# How would we characterize framing papers 2 and 3?

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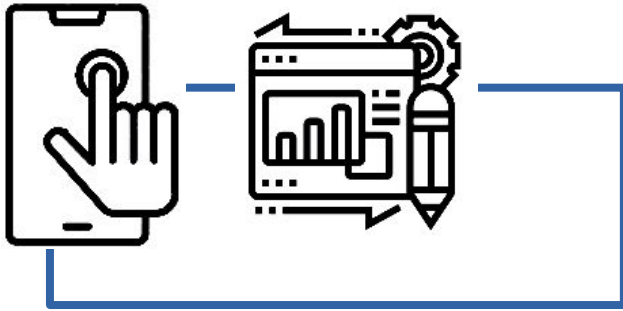
**Modalities**  
**Purpose Driven: Enabling**

# How would we characterize framing papers 2 and 3?

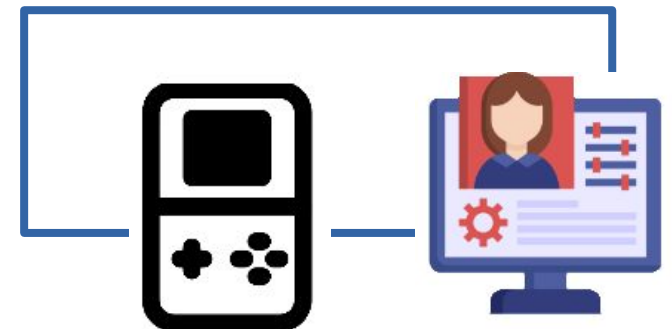
**Hiroshi Ishii and Brygg Ullmer. Tangible Bits: Towards Seamless Interfaces between People, Bits and Atoms. CHI (1997).**

**Modalities**

**Purpose Driven: Extract Insights**



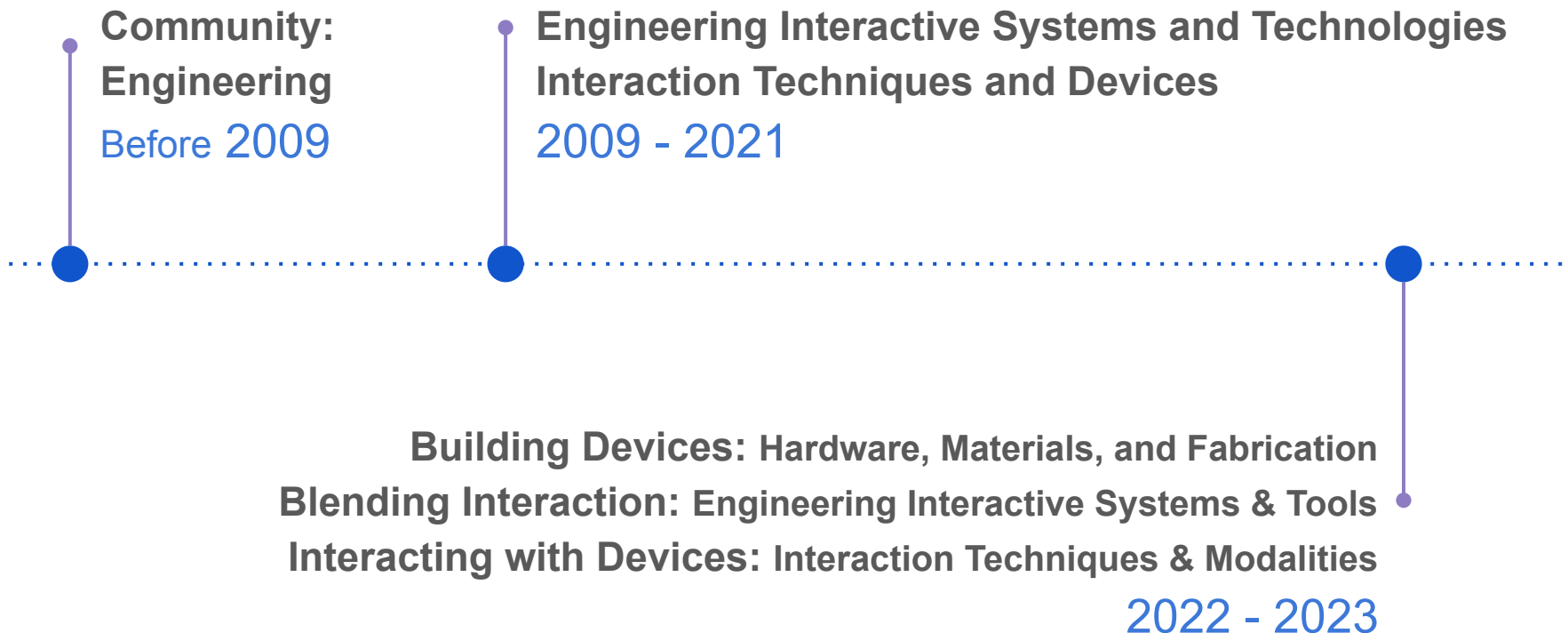
# The History





**How long has this area been its own a subcommittee?**

# History of Subcommittees



# Engineering Interactive Systems and Technologies

## 2009 - 2021

This subcommittee is suitable for papers which present and describe **novel interactive systems and technologies, as well as the technical development of resources which will facilitate and inspire future interface design explorations.** This includes both **software and hardware technologies** that enable and demonstrate novel interactive capabilities, and “enabling” contributions, such as datasets, tools, methods, and languages which will directly support the construction, engineering or validation of interactive systems. Engineering contributions should clearly explain **how they address interactive systems concerns such as scalability, reliability, interoperability, testing, and performance.** They can be targeted at end users, offering novel interaction capabilities or supporting improved interactions. They can also be targeted at developers, improving or facilitating the construction of innovative interactive systems. “Enabling” contributions must specify how they can impact HCI research, or how they can support HCI practitioners in the design or implementation of future interactive systems.



**How has the subcommittee's description  
of what makes a contribution changed  
over time?**



# Blending Interaction: Engineering Interactive Systems & Tools

## 2022 - 2023

This subcommittee focuses on the development of novel interactive systems and “enabling” contributions, which are resources that facilitate the development of future interactive systems and inspire future interface design explorations. Interactive systems combine multiple technical components of hardware, algorithms, artificial and human intelligence, and interaction techniques. Their contributions will be judged by **how well they enable and demonstrate novel interactive capabilities. “Enabling” contributions include datasets, tools, libraries, infrastructure, and languages.** These contributions will be judged by how well they support the construction, engineering or validation of interactive systems and how well they can be shared among the research community to design future interactive systems.

**Subcommittee Chairs | 2023:** Jessica Cauchard, Ben Gurion University of the Negev, Israel  
Bjoern Hartmann, University of California Berkeley, USA

# Building Devices: Hardware, Materials, and Fabrication

## 2022 - 2023

This subcommittee focuses on advances in interactive hardware, new sensing, display, and actuation approaches, developments in materials that lead to novel interactive capabilities, and new fabrication techniques. Contributions will be judged based on the **novelty of the resulting hardware prototype, the quality of the implementation, and the demonstrated improvements over existing hardware through a technical evaluation and where appropriate a user study.** In addition, work in this subcommittee covers design tools that extend the type of interactive hardware we can build today.

**Subcommittee Chairs** | **2023:** Alexandria Ion, Carnegie Mellon University, USA  
Alanson Sample, University of Michigan, USA

# Interaction Techniques, Devices, and Modalities

## 2009 - 2021

This subcommittee focuses **on advances in interaction and enabling technologies as well as explorations of emergent computing domains and experiences.** It welcomes contributions that are fundamentally new, those that examine capabilities/modalities that have not yet been fully exploited, and those which describe substantive improvements on prior work that open new interactive possibilities. Contributions will be judged in part based on their novelty or on their demonstrated improvements. Areas of interest include, but are not limited to: **software interaction techniques, touch and gestural input, haptic and tangible interfaces, interaction with and around digital fabrication, 3D interaction, augmented/mixed/virtual reality, wearable and on-body computing, sensors and sensing, displays and actuators, muscle- and brain-computer interfaces, and auditory and speech interfaces.**



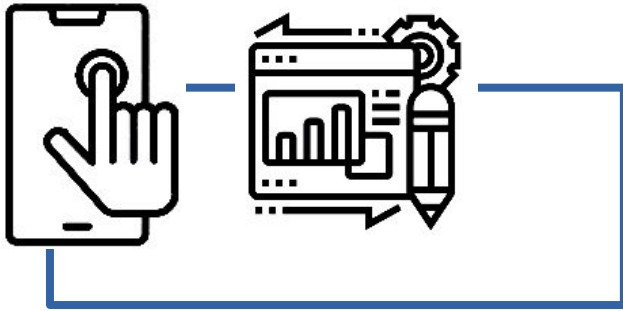
**How has the subcommittee's description  
of what makes a contribution changed  
over time?**

# Interacting with Devices: Interaction Techniques & Modalities

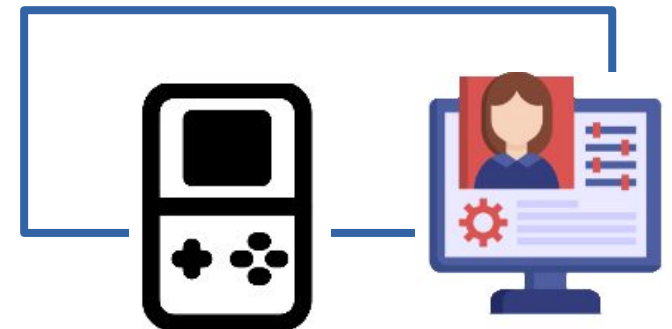
## 2022 - 2023

This subcommittee focuses on enabling interactions using different modalities, such as touch, gestures, speech & sound, haptics & force feedback, gaze, smell, and physiological signals (e.g., heart rate, muscle tension, brain waves, and breath), on different devices (hand-held, stationary, head-mounted, wrist-mounted, in midair, on-body) and for different domains (on 2D screens, in 3D environments, as tangibles). Contributions will be judged based on the **novelty of the interaction, its design rationale, and the demonstrated improvements over existing interaction techniques** through **evaluations.**

<b>Subcommittee</b>	<b>Chairs</b>	<b> </b>	<b>2023:</b>	Eve Hoggan, Aarhus University, Denmark
				Diego Martinez Plasencia, University College London, UK



## Other Disciplines UIST Draws from



# Other Disciplines

## Blending Interaction: Engineering Interactive Systems & Tools

Electrical and Mechanical Engineering

Materials Science

Manufacturing

## Building Devices: Hardware, Materials, and Fabrication

Computer Science

Software Engineering

Human factors engineering

Information Science

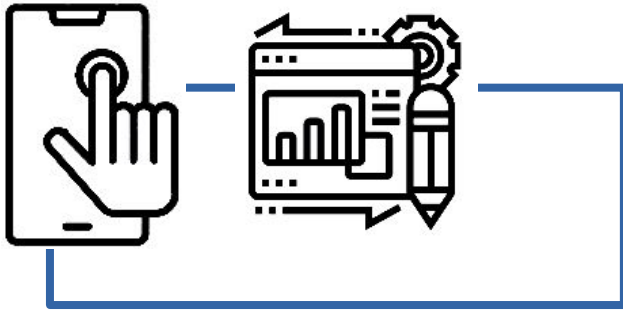
## Interacting with Devices: Interaction Techniques & Modalities

Psychology

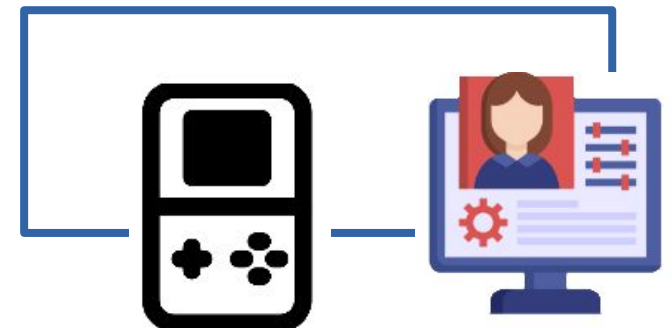
Cognitive Science

Human factors engineering

Design



# Venues





# User Interface Software and Technology

**CHI**

Conference

Subcommittees

**TOCHI**

Journal

**UIST**

Conference

## SIMILARITIES

General Topics  
Audience

## DIFFERENCES

Specific application field  
User studies VS Implications  
Novelty Concern  
Typical Contribution

# CHI: Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems

- **Blending Interaction: Engineering Interactive Systems & Tools**
  - Novel interactive systems and “enabling” contributions
- **Building Devices: Hardware, Materials, and Fabrication**
  - Advances in interactive hardware
- **Interacting with Devices: Interaction Techniques & Modalities**
  - Interaction: different modalities, devices, domains

# CHI: Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems

Blending Interaction

Building Devices

Interacting with Devices

A Toolkit for Prototyping SmartWatch-Based Cross-Device Applications

Blending Interaction

A Presentation Support System For Overcoming the Language Barrier

Blending Interaction

A Touchscreen that Senses Fingerprints

Building Devices

Integrating Desktop Mouse into Virtual Reality

Interacting with Devices

## **Tangible bits: towards seamless interfaces between people, bits and atoms**

- Bridge the gap between cyberspace and the physical environment by making digital information (bits) tangible
- Interactive surfaces
- Ambient media for background awareness



**What subcommittees do you think  
this paper belongs to? Why?**

# TOCHI: Transactions on Computer-Human Interaction

- Peer-reviewed scientific **journal** covering research on HCI.
- Covers the software, hardware and human aspects of interaction with computers.
- CHI Journals: TOCHI and TCS (Transactions on Social Computing)

## Topics

Hardware and software architectures; interactive techniques, metaphors, and evaluation; user interface design processes; users and groups of users

## Past, present, and future of user interface software tools



**What's the difference between  
this TOCHI paper and CHI/UIST papers?**

# Past, present, and future of user interface software tools

- Literature review and survey contributions
- Future prospects and visions
- Long paper (26 pages)

## Keywords

User Interface, Human Factors, User interface management systems, Windowing systems, Event languages, Interface builders, Scripting languages, Toolkits, User interface development environments, User interface software

## UIST: Symposium on User Interface Software and Technology

- The premier **forum** for innovations in human-computer interfaces
- Brings together people from diverse areas
- Novelty concern
- User Studies Are Not Required

### Areas

Graphical & web user interfaces, tangible & ubiquitous computing, virtual & augmented reality, multimedia, new input & output devices, and CSCW



**Pick-and-drop: a direct manipulation technique  
for multiple computer environments**



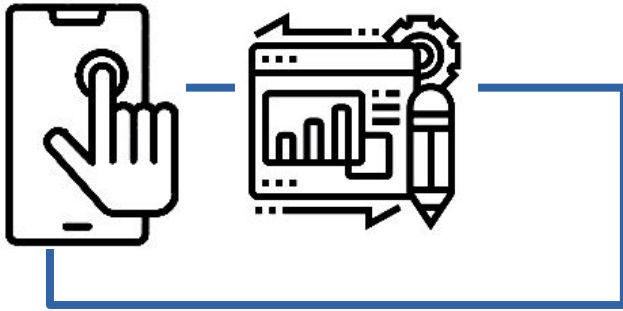
**What's the difference between  
this UIST paper and CHI/TOCHI papers?**

# Pick-and-drop: a direct manipulation technique for multiple computer environments

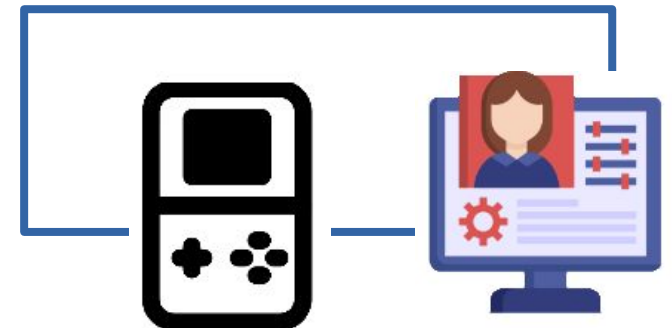
- A new field of user interfaces
- Designing and application examples
- No user test or evaluation

## Keywords

Direct manipulation, Graphical user interfaces, Input devices, Stylus interfaces, Pen interfaces, Drag-and-drop, Multi-computer user interfaces, Ubiquitous computing, Computer augmented environments



# Contributions



# Contributions

## Past, present, and future of user interface software tools

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considered cases of both success and failure in past user interface tools. From these cases we extract a set of themes which can serve as **lessons for future work**.

# Contributions

## **Tangible bits: towards seamless interfaces between people, bits and atoms**

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**Tangible Bits:** the use of graspable objects and ambient media will lead us to a much richer multi-sensory experience of digital information, suggesting to us a direction for the **next generation of HCI**

## Contributions

### **Pick-and-drop: a direct manipulation technique for multiple computer environments**

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**multi-computer direct manipulation, a pen-based direct manipulation technique:** a new field of user interfaces; built several experimental applications; considered the importance of physical artifacts in designing user interfaces **in a future computing environment.**

## Similar Patterns for these three papers



**Are there any common patterns or themes  
for the contributions of these three  
papers?**

# What do you think are the typical contributions for these subcommittees?



## CHI

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**Building Devices:**  
Hardware, Materials,  
and Fabrication

## CHI

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**Interacting with  
Devices:** Interaction  
Techniques &  
Modalities

## CHI

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**Blending Interaction:**  
Engineering Interactive  
Systems & Tools



## Typical contributions for UIST



**What do you think are the typical contributions for UIST?**

# Day 2: Discussion Day

Mengqi Gao  
Seungjun (Josh) Kim  
Hazel Chiang  
Fernanda Ventorim  
Matthew Dressa

