Robot Competition

Motor





"Ubiquitous" Display CMSC730 | Huaishu Peng | Fall 2024

ubiquitous computing

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

computing is made to **appear anytime** and **anywhere**

if everything is a computer, everything will also **sense** user input and everything will be a **display** for output



Mark Weiser

ubiquitous computing

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Mark Weiser

how can we prototype this to make everything in our surrounding appear to be a display?

projection

as a place holder for freeform screens



Foldable display?

Tracking with infrared (IR) LEDs Display with a projector

Goal is to simulate the flexible display interaction when technology is not ready yet



Foldable display?

Tracking with infrared (IR) LEDs Display with a projector

Goal is to simulate the flexible display interaction when technology is not ready yet

Foldable Interactive Displays Johnny Chung Lee, Scott E. Hudson Edward Tse Human-Computer Interaction Institute Carnegie Mellon University Smart Technologies 1207-11 Avenue SW, Suite 300 5000 Forbes Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15213 Calgary, Alberta, Canada T3C 0M5 {johnny, scott.hudson}@cs.cmu.edu edwardtse@smarttech.com ABSTRACT Modern computer displays tend to be in fixed size, rigid, and rectilinear rendering them insensitive to the visual area demands of an application or the desires of the user. Foldable displays offer the ability to reshape and resize the interactive surface at our convenience and even permit us to carry a very large display surface in a small volume. In this paper, we implement four interactive foldable display designs using image projection with low-cost tracking and explore display behaviors using orientation sensitivity. Author Keywords Foldable displays, interactive, mobile, projection, augmented reality, orientation sensitivity, privacy. ACM Classification Keywords H5.2 [Information interfaces and presentation]: User Interfaces. H5.1 [Multimedia Information Systems]: Figure 1 - Foldable fan display with stylus inpu Augmented Reality. INTRODUCTION this paper, we explore this concept of inactive foldable In the realm of science fiction, future display technology displays and create a number of working prototypes such as the one shown in Figure 1. often depicted as holographic surfaces that float in thin air. Sometimes these displays can be summoned at will in Emerging technologies such as electronic paper and organic proximity to a person's body, can be changed in size and light emitting diode (OLED) displays are expected to shape to fit the desired usage, can be collapsed or dismissed provide some degree of flexibility. However, current in an instant if the user needs to tend to some other activity. prototypes remain quite rigid and are typically rectilinear. and of course, can support interactive input. While modern This prevents them from becoming truly foldable in the displays have become thinner higher in resolution and sense that we think of paper as being foldable. Additionally, provide input using a stylus or touch sensitivity, we still are performing input on such flexible displays is an entirely a long way from **UIST 08** Lee et.al.

Sphere display?

No Master User Position or Orientation

Visible Content Changes with Position and Height

Smooth Transition Between Vertical and Horizontal Surfaces

Borderless, but Finite Display



how does this work?





Skin as display?



Skin as display?





do not limit your imagination

to what is available in terms of technology right now.

we move very quickly (and also learn from the history)...

in HCI we often **prototype interface concepts** before the hardware / software becomes available...

so **how far** are we with display tech?

let's look at where we came from...

(1957) cathode ray tube (CRT) (1957) split-flap display

flip-disc display

light-emitting diode (LED)

stroboscopic display

braille display / pin screen

(1971) **liquid crystal display** (1974) **electro-luminescent (EL)** (2004) **e-ink**

so **how far** are we with display tech?

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(2004) **e-ink**

cathode ray tube (CRT)



monochrome cathode ray tubes







cathode ray tube (CRT):

image is created line by line

beam consists of negatively charged electrons

electromagnets steer the beam to the correct location

screen is coated with **phosphor** that lights up when hit



Light Pen

when CRT beam hits the light pen, the pen senses the light changes and notifies the computer about the exact timing

since CRT scans display line by line, one pixel at a time, the computer can infer the pen's position from the latest timestamp



1963: Ivan Sutherland's Light Pen on CRT



the light pen does no longer work on today's screen, but the **interaction concept** remains.

in HCI we develop interaction concepts that work across technology

(1961) flip-disc display

split-flap display

(1957)



1957 split flap display (electro-mechanical)



The characters are split between two flaps

the flaps are hinged on a rotating spool

there's a catch at the top to keep the upper flap from falling down





http://www.instructables.com/id/Split-Flap-Display/



1961 flip-disc display (electro-magnetic)

100 µs to 1 ms pulse depending on coil type









how would you build a equivalent "light pen" input for this?

stroboscopic display

1960s stroboscopic displays: rotating cylinder, but it appears to be standing still



stroboscopic effect

series of intense light flashes at specific intervals emitted onto an object that rotates at high speed makes the object appear to stand still if you have one flash per turn, you see the actual number of fan blades





Art installation




What if we apply to objects with different textures?

yes this is real wool and real felt. any idea how this works?





Rendering shape with **real** material

Remix **real** physical objects



braille display / pin screen



1969 braille display for the blind and visually impaired

Hyperbraille: a hypertext system for the blind

Authors: <u>T. Kieninger</u> <u>N. Kuhn</u>

Published in:

Proceeding

Assets '94 Proceedings of the first annual ACM conference on Assistive

technologies

Pages 92-99



much later 1994: HyperBraille (allows blind users to browse the internet)





What if we scale it up?



was the inspiration for some newer tech...

this is very expensive... \$10,000+ how would you build a **cheaper** tactile interactive display?

swell paper





create black line drawing



put in heater only black lines attract heat & swell

->



swell paper + laser cutter (almost 0% power + defocus)

Can we make the "display" refreshable?

use a 3D printer!

Printed lines offer haptic feedback

Large space so no need for fast refresh rate

Printed line can be removed off



Visual Impairment and Technology

#chi4good, CHI 2016, San Jose, CA, USA

HPI

Linespace: A Sensemaking Platform for the Blind

Saiganesh Swaminathan, Thijs Roumen, Robert Kovacs, David Stangl, Stefanie Mueller, and Patrick Baudisch Hasso Plattner Institute, Potsdam, Germany {firstname.lastname}@hpi.de

ABSTRACT

For visually impaired users, making sense of spatial information is difficult as they have to scan and memorize content before being able to analyze it. Even vorse, any update to the displayed content invalidates their spatial memory, which can force them to manually rescan the entire display. Making displayed contents presits, we argue, is thus the highest priority in designing a sansemaking system for the visually impaired. We present a tateli display system designed with this goal in mind. The foundation of our system is a large tatelid display (140x100cm, 23.2 larger than *Higherbraülle*), which we ablieve by using a 3D printer to print raised into soff flament. The system's software then uses the large space to minimize screen update. Instaed of panting and acoming, for example, our system reates additioning were leaving display. We this inition any site is design principles at the scample of four spatial applications. We evaluated our system with site blind users. Partiipants responded forvarby to the system and expressed, for example, that having multiple views at the same time was helpful. They also judged the increased expressiveness of lines over the more traditional dots as useful for encoding information.

Author Keywords: 3D printing; accessibility. ACM Classification Keywords: H.5.2 [Information inter faces and presentation]: User Interfaces. INTRODUCTION For visually impaired users, making sense of spatial infor



CHI 16 Swaminathan et.al.

liquid crystal display



liquid crystal display

polarizer

optical filter lets light waves of a specific polarization pass blocks light waves of other polarizations

liquid crystals acts as a polarizer switch!







Polarizer 1

Liquid crystals

twisted the light 90 degree naturally



Light panel

Polarizer 1

Liquid crystals

Polarizer 2

RGB pixels

twisted the light 90 degree naturally

when electricity applied, molecules realigned that light will not be twisted

control the electricity changes the amount of the light

electro-luminescent (EL)



electroluminescent display: also uses **phosphor!** —> no more electron beam, instead apply electricity directly



4-layer sandwich structureTop and bottom electrodes act as a capacitorApply high voltage and low current AC, **phosphor** emits photons

Why EL display?



Blue Electroluminescent (EL) Tape Strip - 100cm w/two connectors

PRODUCT ID: 447

EL tape is the big sister to EL wire - it has the same glow effect but with a flat, wide shape instead of a round shape. The glowing part of the tape is 1 cm wide (the plastic coating is about 1.5cm wide). The other side has an adhesive on it so you can stick the tape onto something. Its covered in what seems to be PVC, the tape is thus weather-proof - but note that the connectors are NOT waterproof, just a bit of heatshrink. This isn't...

ADD TO CART



High Brightness Blue Electroluminescent (EL) Wire - 2.5 meters - High brightness, long life

PRODUCT ID: 408

EL Wire, also known as Electroluminescent wire is a stiff wire core coated with phosphor and then covered with a protective PVC sheath. When an AC signal is applied to it, it glows an aqua (blue green) color. You can make it look different colors by changing the coating, for example this is a vivid blue. It looks a little like thin neon. Very bendable, it keeps its shape and you can curl it around your finger. Its an easy way to add some glow to...

NOTIFY ME



\$8.95

54 IN STOCK



Electroluminescent (EL) Panel - 10cm x 10cm White

PRODUCT ID: 625

EL panel is the big sister to EL wire - it has the same glow effect but with a flat shape instead of a round shape. This is a big sheet of flexible plastic coated with EL material so its like one big glowing square. It emits an even glow over the entire shape. The glowing part of the panel is 10 cm x 10 cm (approx: 4" x 4"). There's a plastic coating is about 10.4 cm x 10.4 cm. Its covered in what seems to be PVC, the tape is thus weather-proof -...

ADD TO CART



https://www.adafruit.com



use **screen printing** to make them (2D inkjet printing and 3D printing them is still hard)

Prototyping **ubiquitous display**



Fabrication

ABSTRACT

UIST'14, October 5–8, 2014, Honolulu, HI, USA

PrintScreen: Fabricating Highly Customizable Thin-film Touch-Displays

Simon Olberding, Michael Wessely, Jürgen Steimle

Max Planck Institute for Informatics and Saarland University Campus E1.7, 66123 Saarbrücken, Germany {solberdi, mwessely, jsteimle}@mpi-inf.mpg.de



Figure 1. PrintScreen contributes a digital fabrication approach to enable non-experts to print custom flexible displays. They can be fully folded or rolled and enable manifold applications in ubiquitous, mobile and wearable computing.

INTRODUCTION

. . . .

PrintSreem is an enabling technology for digital fabrication of customized flexible displays using thin-film electroluminescence (TFEL). It enables incepensive and rapid fabrication of highly customized displays in low volume, in a simple lab environment, print shop or even at home. We show how to print ultra-thin (120 µm) segmented and passive matrix displays in greyseale or multi-color on a variety of deformable and rulgs labstrate matrix. In challing PET plays can have castom, unconventional 2D shapes: and can be benr, rolled and folded to create 3D shapes. We contribute a systematic overview of graphical display primitives for customized displays and show to in integrate them with static print and printed electronics. Furthermore, we contribute a sensing framework, which leverages the disPrinted electronics is becoming a powerful and affordable enabling technology for fabricating functional devices and HCI prototypes that have very thin and deformable form factors. For many years already, printing has been a powerful means allowing end-users to produce customized static print products rapidly, incepensively and in high quality. Recent work has contributed methods for easily printing custom interactive components on thin and factible substrates. While sensing of user *input* has been successfully vestomized functione databases and the substrates. While sensing of user *input* has been successfully printing factible displays, such as OLEDs or Electronic paper, required a high-end print lab, complex machinery and expert skills, making it prohibitive to fabricate custom displays in low volume.

UIST 14 Olberding et.al.



Touch

Prototyping **ubiquitous display**



Prototyping **ubiquitous display -> Printing on-skin display**

Need to be: Flexible & Stretchable (Ultra) thin

Polydimethylsiloxane of **PDMS**

Flexibility and Elasticity

Biocompatibility

Transparency





- transparent electrode
- binding layer
- isolation layer
- PDMS filled with phosphor particles
- transparent electrode
- binding layer
- PDMS substrate

Stretchable display EL embedded in silicone





Stretchis: Fabricating Highly Stretchable User Interfaces

Michael Wessely michael.wessely@inria.f Theophanis Tsandilas Wendy E. Mackay theophanis.tsandilas@inria.fr wendy.mackay@inria.f Inria; Univ Paris-Sud & CNRS (LRI); Université Paris-Saclay F-91405 Orsay, France



ABSTRACT Recent advances in materials science research have enabled the production of highly stratchable sensors and displays. However, such technologies are not yet accessible to non-expert makers. We present a novel and interpretive fabri-cation method for creating *Stretchin*, highly stretchable user interfaces that continue sensing approximations and visual out-interfaces that continue sensing approximations and visual out-relations of stretching and the stretchable teach-nel of the stretching and the stretchable teach-and enrovinity-senses and stretchable learchable. rail tor à *Stretchi* and show how to embed stretchable touch and proximity sensors and stretchable electroliminescent dis-plays. Stretchis can be ultra-thin (= 200 µm), flexible, and fully customizable, enabling movement makers to add inter-action to elastic physical objects, shape-changing surfaces, fabrics, and he human body. We demonstrate the usefulness of our approach with three application examples that include biquitous computing, wearables and on-skin interaction.

Author Keywords Stretchable interfaces; personal fabrication; sensing technologies; custom-shaped displays; wearables

This paper offers a set of key innovations toward our goal of creating inexpensive, ultra-thin, stretchable user inter-

tablets combine input and output, allowing users to interact directly via multi-touch displays. Unfortunately, these tech-nologies are rigid, expensive and complex to manufacture.

What if we could create inexpensive, lightweight, interac-tive surfaces that can be embedded in or attached to nearly any physical object? We are particularly interested in ultra-thin, *stretchable* user interfaces that can embed rich inter-action onto a wide variety of objects. To this end, we need ultra-flexible and stretchable substrate materials that

need uitra-itexible and stretchable substrate materials that can adapt to complex object geometries, doubly curved and shape-changing surfaces, and fabrics. We also need highly deformable sensors and displays that remain functional even when the underlying substrates are under strain.

Recent research on printed electronics has made considerable progress in this direction, but has not yet reached a com-plete solution. For example, ISXII r281 sensors allow limited stretching, up to 30%, but do not provide visual output. Other research [20] demonstrates how to print flexible electrolumi-nescent displays, but the fabrication approach does not sup-root stretchhole unbergate.

port stretchable substrate

UIST 16 Wessely et.al.

SkinMarks Enabling Interactions on Body Using Conformal Skin Elec Skin



SkinMarks: Enabling Interactions on Body Landmarks Using Conformal Skin Electronics

Martin Weigel¹ Aditya Shekhar Nittala¹ Alex Olwal² Jürgen Steimle Saarland University, Saarland Informatics Campus, Germany ² Google Inc., Mountain View, California, United States {weigel, nittala, steimle}@cs.uni-saarland.de, olwal@google.con



Figure 1: SkinMarks are conformal on-skin sensors and displays. They enable interaction on five types of body landmarks skeletal landmarks, (b) skin microstructures, (c) elastic landmarks, (d) visual skin landmarks, and (e) accessorie

The body provides many recognizable landmarks due to the

INTRODUCTION The body is recognized as a promising input surface for mobile computing, as it offers a large and quickly accessible area for interaction. Prior research contributed input [11, 12, 14, 16, 17, 26, 27, 29, 41, 45] and output devices [11, 43] for onbody interactions. However, they mostly assume interactiv elements to be rather large and only slightly curved.

devices for precisely localized input and output on fine body landmarks. SkinMarks comprise skin electronics on temporary rub-on tattoos. They conform to fine wrinkles and are compatible with strongly curved and elastic body locations. We identify *five types of body landmarks* and demonstrate novel interaction techniques that leverage SkinMarks' unique touch, squeeze and bend sensing with integrated visual output. Finally, we detail on the conformality and evaluate ub-millimeter electrodes for touch sensing. Taken together, SkinMarks expands the on-body interaction space to more de

underlying skeletal structure and variations in skin texture.

elasticity, and color. The visual and spatial cues of such body landmarks can help in localizing on-body interfaces, guide input on the body, and allow for easy recall of mappings Our main contribution are SkinMarks, novel skin-worn I/G

ABSTRACT

The human body has various types of landmarks which an distinct from their surroundings. It offers unique possibilities for interaction due to their tactile properties and visual appear-ance. For example, protruding skeletal landmarks, like the knuckles, provide physical affordances for touching and cir cling around them. Prior work in human-computer interaction has briefly explored the potential of such unique landmarks. Gustafson et al. [8, 9], for example, suggested using the seg ments of the finger as distinct input buttons. However, thus

CHI 17

Weigel et.al.



Martin Weigel¹, Aditya Nittala¹, Alex Olwal², Jürg Saarland University, Saarland Informatics Camp² Google Inc., USA

ACM CHI 2017

conformal displays

temporary tattoo paper (Tattoo Decal Paper)

How to scale up? (like for room-scale interactions?)





Sprayable User Int Prototyping Large-Surfaces with Senso

Michael Wessely, Ticha Sethapakdi, Carlc Jackson C Snowden, Ollie Hanton, Isabel Mike Fraser, Anne Roudaut, Stefanie Mu

CHI 2020, April 25-30, 2020, Honolulu, HI, USA

Sprayable User Interfaces: Prototyping Large-Scale Interactive Surfaces with Sensors and Displays

Michael Wessely¹, Ticha Sethapakdi¹, Carlos Castillo¹, Jackson C. Snowden¹, Ollie Hanton² Isabel P.S. Qamar¹², Mike Fraser³, Anne Roudaut², Stefanie Mueller¹

¹MIT CSAIL, Cambridge, MA, USA ²University of Bristol, Bristol, UK {wessely, ticha, carlosca, jsnowden, psqamar, stefanie.mueller}@mit.edu

CHI 2020 Paper

{oh12660, mike.fraser, Bath, UK, BA2 7AY anne.roudaut}@bristol.ac.uk mcf35@bath.ac.ul

³University of Bath



Figure 1. Sprayable User Interfaces enable makers to create large-scale interactive surfaces on various materials and cu geometries. After designing an interactive artwork (a), our tool supports their fabrication with auto-generated stencils (b) e novel user interfaces that cover entire rooms (c), integrate in interactive architecture (d), and smart cities (e)

ABSTRACT We present Sprayable User Interfaces: room-sized interac-

CSS Concepts • Human-centered computing~Human computer inter-We present Sprayable User interaces: room-sized interac-tive surfaces that contain sensor and display elements created by airbrushing functional inks. Since airbrushing is inher-ently mobile, designers can create large-scale user interfaces on complex 3D geometries where existing stationary fabri-cation methods fail. action (HCI): Human-centered computing INTRODUCTION Since the early 1990s, Human-Computer Interaction re-

searchers have envisioned a world in which digital user in-terfaces are seamlessly integrated with the physical environment until the two are indistinguishable from one another (Computer of the 21st century [29]). One of the greatest challenges in enabling this future is the integration of sensors and display elements with the physical environment, since the fabrication of interactive surfaces re-

To enable Sprayable User Interfaces, we developed a novel design and fabrication pipeline that takes a desired user in-terface layout as input and automatically generates stencils for airbrushing the layout onto a physical surface. After fabricating stencils from cardboard or projecting stencils digi-tally, designers spray each layer with an airbrush, attach a quires many design considerations, including how to adhere the elements to different materials and how to apply them microcontroller to the user interface, and the interface is ready to be used. onto irregular surface geometries in a manner accessible to novice users.

Our technical evaluation shows that Sprayable User Interfaces work on various geometries and surface materials, such as porous stone and rough wood. We demonstrate our system with several application examples including interactive smart home applications on a wall and a soft leather sofa, an interactive smart city application, and interactive architecture in public office spaces Author Keywords

Spraying; fabrication; printed electronics; ubiquitous computing; airbrush

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developed that enable the fabrication of displays and sensors using inkjet- and screen-printing (*PrintScreen* [19]) as well as hydrographics (*ObjectSkin* [6]). However, all of these methods are limited to small-scale geometries, i.e. they are bound by the volume of the fabricating device, such as the size of the printer, the area of the screen-printing net, or the size of the hydrographic bath. In this paper, we explore how to make large-scale user interfaces using spraying as the fabrication method. Unlike many existing techniques, such as 3D printing, screen printing or

inkjet printing, spraying is not bound to a specific volume and, as often demonstrated by graffiti artwork, can create output that covers entire walls and even building facades. In addition, since spraying is a non-contact method, it works well on various surface textures (wallpaper, concrete, wood, bathroom tiles) and surface geometries, such as those with

Over the last few years, novel fabrication methods have been

Page 1




electroluminescence is also used in **OLEDs**



EL displays concept, but organic instead of inorganic phosphors

zooming out...

ubiquitous computing:

computing is made to **appear anytime** and **anywhere**

if everything is a computer, everything will also **sense** user input and everything will be a **display** for output

Special thanks to Prof. Stefanie Mueller. These slides are largely based on hers.

Optional readings

CHI 2020 Paper

CHI 2020, April 25-30, 2020, Honolulu, HI, USA

Sprayable User Interfaces: Prototyping Large-Scale Interactive Surfaces with Sensors and Displays

Michael Wessely¹, Ticha Sethapakdi¹, Carlos Castillo¹, Jackson C. Snowden¹, Ollie Hanton² Isabel P.S. Qamar¹², Mike Fraser³, Anne Roudaut², Stefanie Mueller¹

¹ MIT CSAIL, Cambridge, MA, USA ² University of Bristol, Bristol, UK ³ University of Bah {wessely, ticha, carlosca, jsnowden, jpsqamar, stefanie.mueller}@mit.edu anne.roudaut}@ristol.ac.uk mcf35@bath.ac.uk



geometries. After designing an interactive artwork (a), our tool supports their fabrication with auto-generated stencils (b) enabling novel user interfaces that cover entire rooms (c), integrate in interactive architecture (d), and smart cities (c).

ABSTRACT

We present Sprayable User Interfaces: room-sized interactive surfaces that contain sensor and display elements created by airbrushing functional links. Since airbrushing is inherently mobile, designers can create large-scale user interfaces on complex 3D geometries where existing stationary fabrication methods fail.

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Our technical evaluation shows that Sprayable User Interfaces work on various geometries and surface materials, such as porous stone and rough wood. We demonstrate our system with several applications or avail and a soft leafther soft, an interactive smart city application, and interactive architecture in public office spaces.

Author Keywords

Spraying; fabrication; printed electronics; ubiquitous computing; airbrush

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Paper 122

CSS Concepts • Human-centered computing-Human computer interaction (HCI); Human-centered computing

INTRODUCTION

Since the early 1990s, Human-Computer Interaction researchers have envisioned a world in which digital user interfaces are seamlessly integrated with the physical environment until the two are indistinguishable from one another (Computer of the 21st entury [29]).

One of the greatest challenges in enabling this future is the integration of sensors and display elements with the physical environment, since the fabrication of interactive surfaces requires many design considerations, including how to adhere the elements to different materials and how to apply them onto irregular surface geometries in a manner accessible to novice users.

Over the last few years, novel fabrication methods have been developed that enable the fabrication of displays and sensors using inkjet- and screen-printing (*PrintScreen* [19]) as well as hydrographics (*ObjectSkin* [6]). However, all of these methods are limited to small-scale geometries, i.e. they are bound by the volume of the fabricating device, such as the size of the hydrographic buth.

In this paper, we explore how to make large-scale user interfaces using spruying as the fabrication method. Unlike many existing techniques, such as 3D printing, screen printing or inkjet printing, spraying is not bound to a specific volume and, as often demonstrated by graffiti attwork, can create output that covers entire walls and even building facades. In addition, since spraying is a non-contact method, it works well on various surface textures (wallpaper, concrete, wood, bathroom tiles) and surface geometries, such as those with

Page *

CHI 20 Wessely et.al. Haptics on Skin

CHI 2017, May 6-11, 2017, Denver, CO, USA

SkinMarks: Enabling Interactions on Body Landmarks Using Conformal Skin Electronics

Martin Weigel¹ Aditya Shekhar Nittala¹ Alex Olwal² Jürgen Steimle¹ ¹ Saarland University, Saarland Informatics Campus, Germany ² Google Inc., Mountain View, California, United States {weigel, nittala, steimle}@cs.uni-saarland.de, olwal@google.com



Figure 1: SkinMarks are conformal on-skin sensors and displays. They enable interaction on five types of body landmarks: (a) skeletal landmarks, (b) skin microstructures, (c) elastic landmarks, (d) visual skin landmarks, and (e) accessories.

ABSTRACT

The body provides many recognizable landmarks due to the underlying skeletal structure and variations in skin texture, elasticity, and color. The visual and spatial cues of such body landmarks can help in localizing on-body interfaces, guide input on the body, and allow for easy recall of mappings. Our main contribution are SkinMarks, novel skin-worn I/O devices for precisely localized input and output on fine body landmarks. SkinMarks comprise skin electronics on temporary rub-on tattoos. They conform to fine wrinkles and are compatible with strongly curved and elastic body locations. We identify five types of body landmarks and demonstrate novel interaction techniques that leverage SkinMarks' unique touch, squeeze and bend sensing with integrated visual output. Finally, we detail on the conformality and evaluate sub-millimeter electrodes for touch sensing. Taken together, SkinMarks expands the on-body interaction space to more detailed, highly curved and challenging areas on the body.

Author Keywords

On-body interaction; on-skin sensing; on-skin display; epidermal electronics; electronic tattoos; fabrication; flexible display.

ACM Classification Keywords

H.5.2. User Interfaces: Input devices and strategies, Interaction Styles, Haptic I/O

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INTRODUCTION

The body is recognized as a promising input surface for mobile computing, as it offers a large and quickly accessible area for interaction. Prior research contributed input [11, 12, 14, 16, 17, 26, 27, 29, 41, 45] and output devices [11, 43] for onbody interactions. However, they mostly assume interactive elements to be rather large and only slightly curved.

The human body has various types of landmarks which are distinct from their surroundings. It offers unique possibilities for interaction due to their tactile properties and visual appearance. For example, protruding skeletal landmarks, like the knuckles, provide physical affordances for touching and circling around them. Prior work in human-computer interaction has briefly explored the potential of such unique landmarks. Gustafson et al. (8, 9), for example, suggested using the segments of the finger as distinct input buttons. However, thus far, the majority of potentially beneficial landmarks remain unexplored and unsupported. These include landmarks with highly curved geometries, tactile microstructures, or strong deformability.

This paper presents *SkinMarks*, an enabling technology for interaction on body landmarks. SkinMarks are highly conformal interactive tattoos, which enable precisely localized input and output on five types of body landmarks.

SkinMarks are inspired by recent research on slim, skin-worn sensors and displays [41, 17, 27, 43]. We extend beyond prior work by contributing highly conformal skin electronics with co-located input and output, which are compatible with strongly curved, elastic, and tiny body landmarks. These make it possible to use the plethora of tactile and visual cues on body landmarks for direct, eyes-free, and expressive interaction.

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