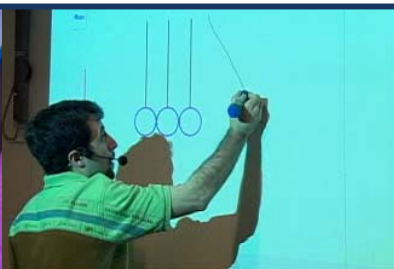
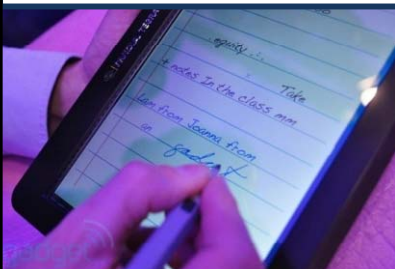
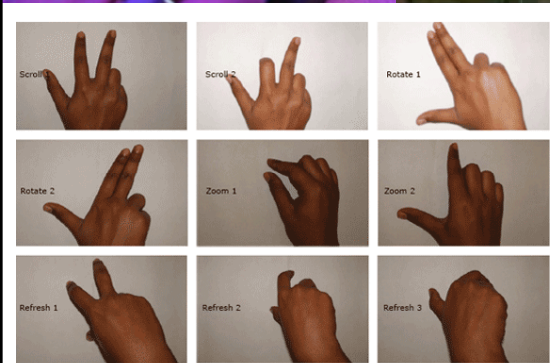


# Gestural Technologies and Gesture Interaction



11/07/2011  
UMBC IS 760

Lisa Anthony, PhD



# Plan for today

1. What are gestures?
2. Hardware
  - *Sensing gestures made by users*
3. Software
  - *Understanding gestures made by users*
4. Usability
  - *Interaction design concerns for gesture input*
5. Interaction Case Studies
  - *What works and what doesn't work for gesture interaction*
6. Remaining Challenges
  - *New frontiers in gestural technologies & gesture interaction*

# **1. WHAT DO WE MEAN BY “GESTURES”?**

# What do we mean by “gestures”?

...definitions? examples?

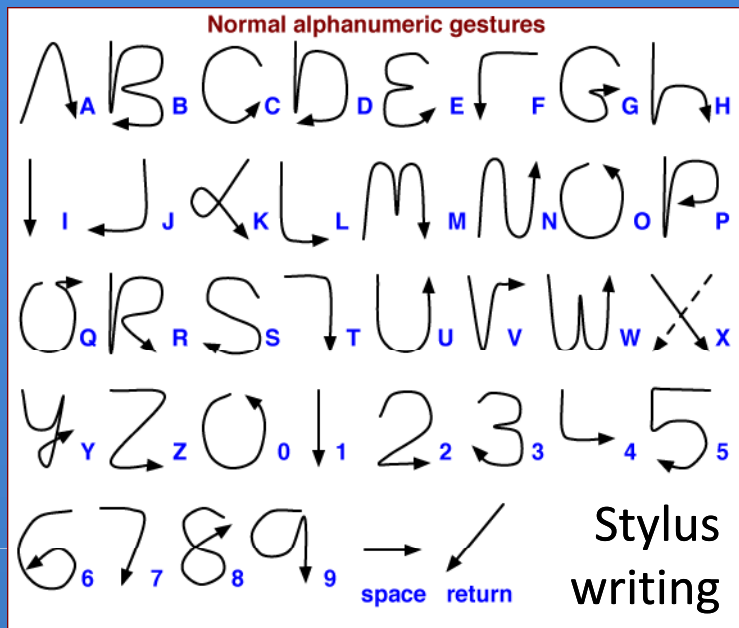
Surface  
 Gestures



Device Gestures

Direct Gestures

Air Gestures



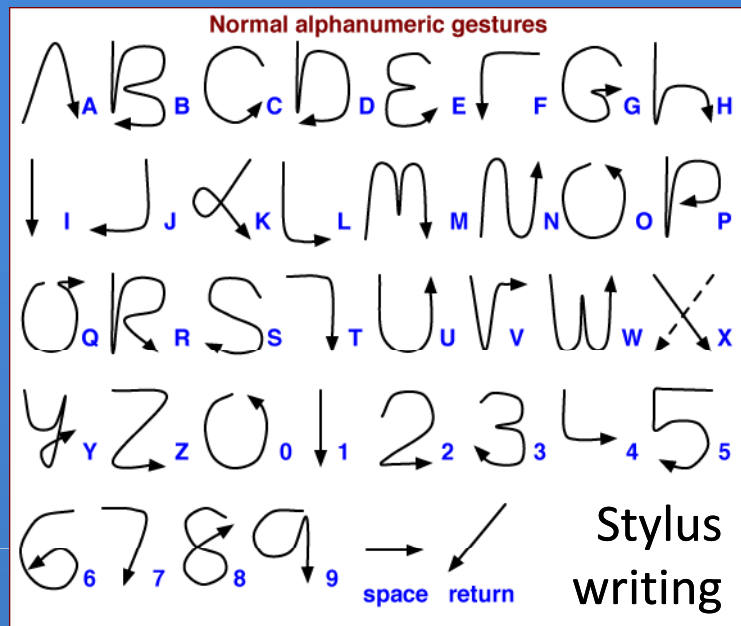
Surface  
 Gestures



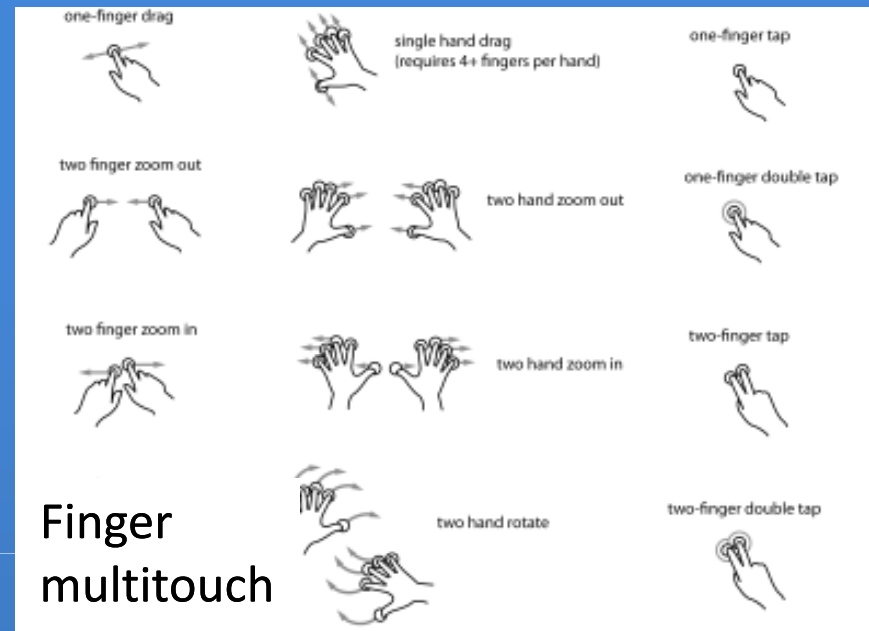
Device Gestures

Direct Gestures

Air Gestures



Surface  
Gestures



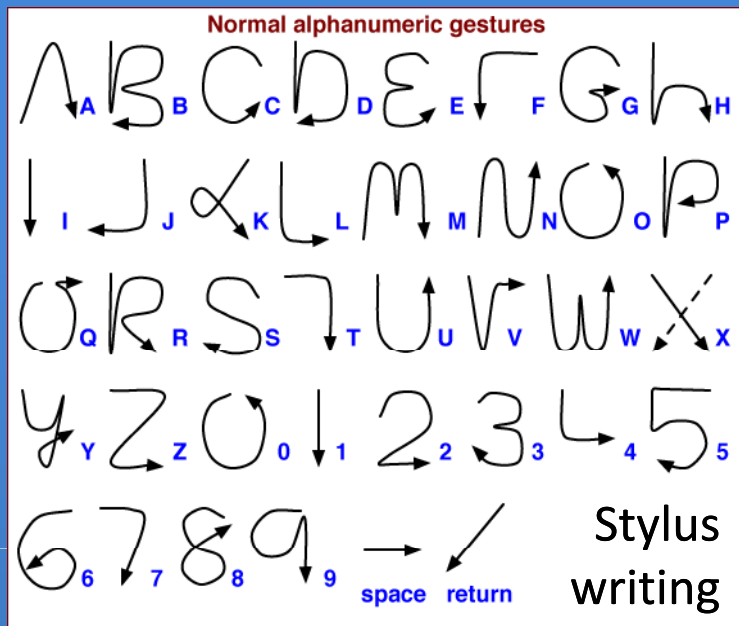
Device Gestures

Direct Gestures

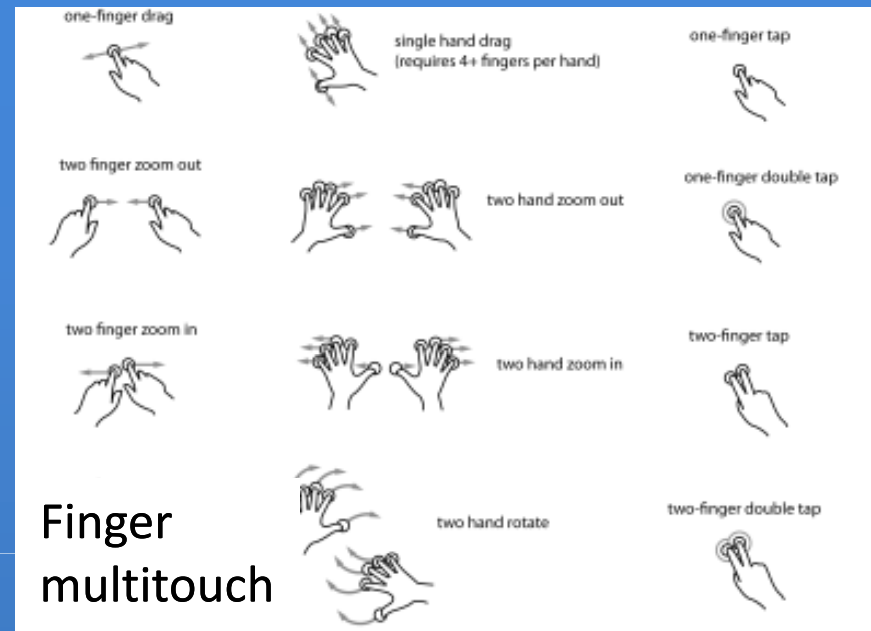


Air Gestures



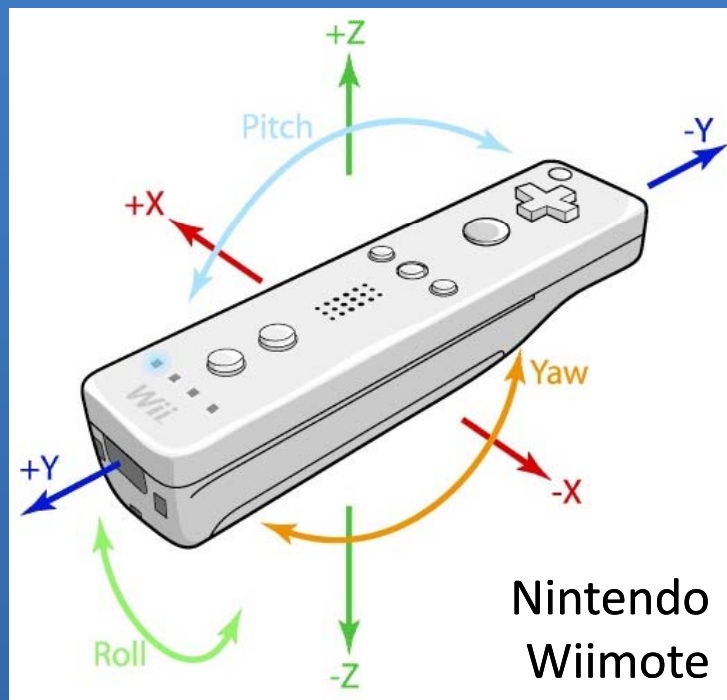


Surface  
 Gestures



Device Gestures

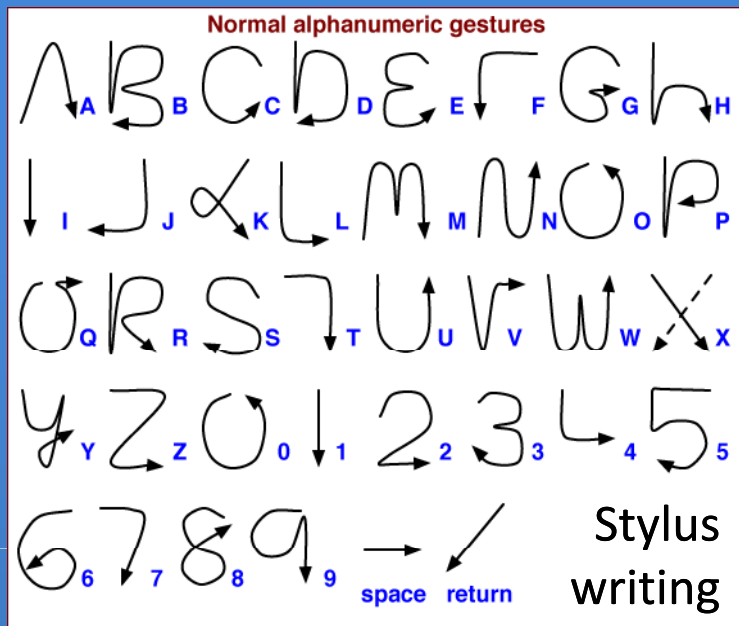
Direct Gestures



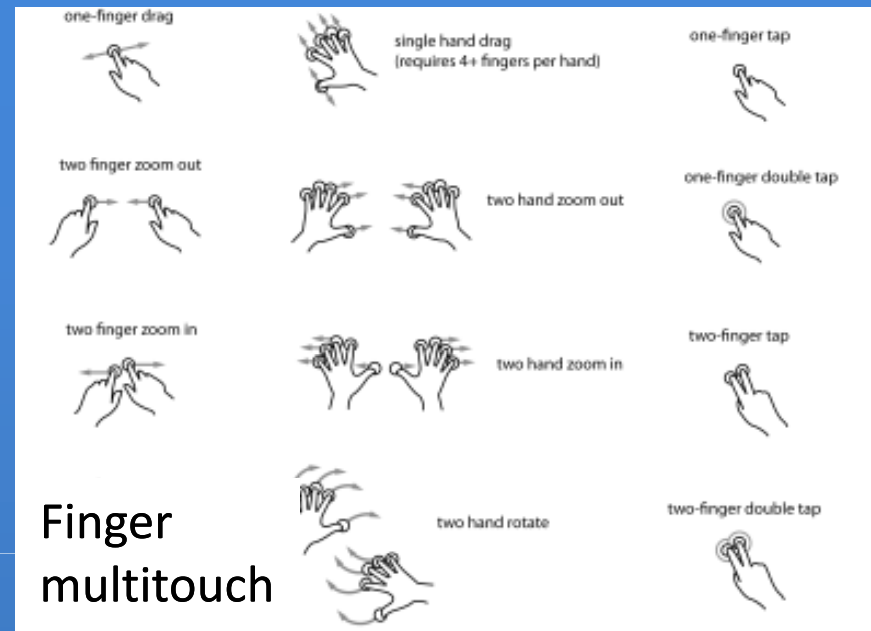
Air Gestures



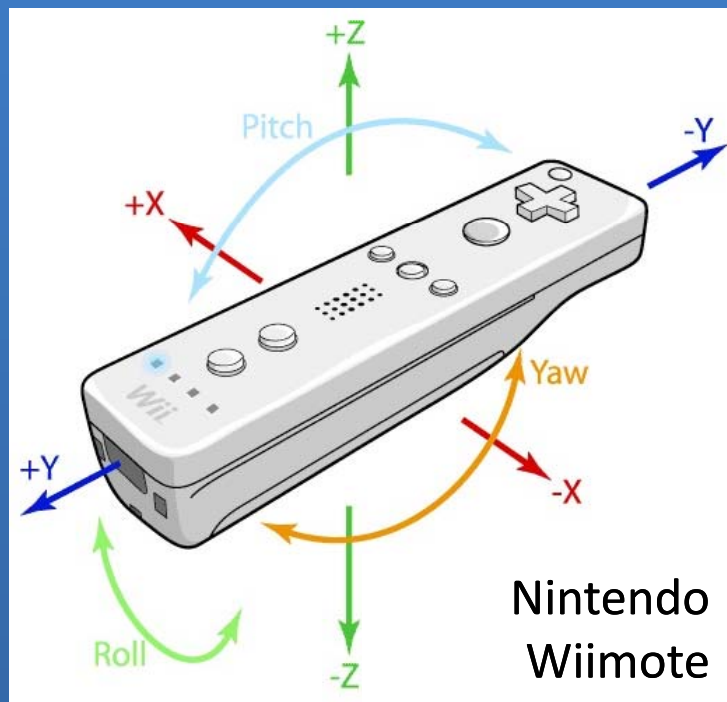




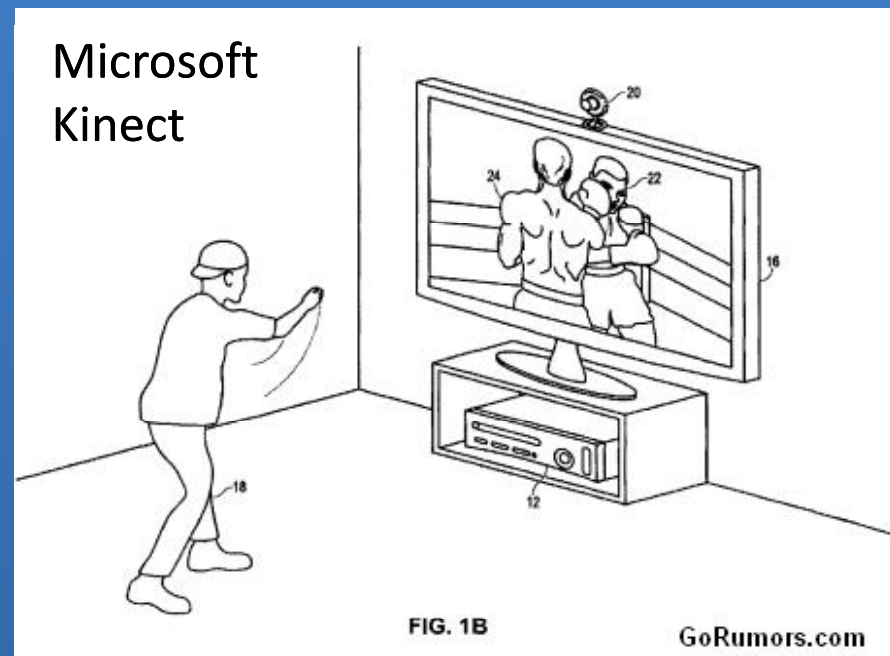
## Surface Gestures

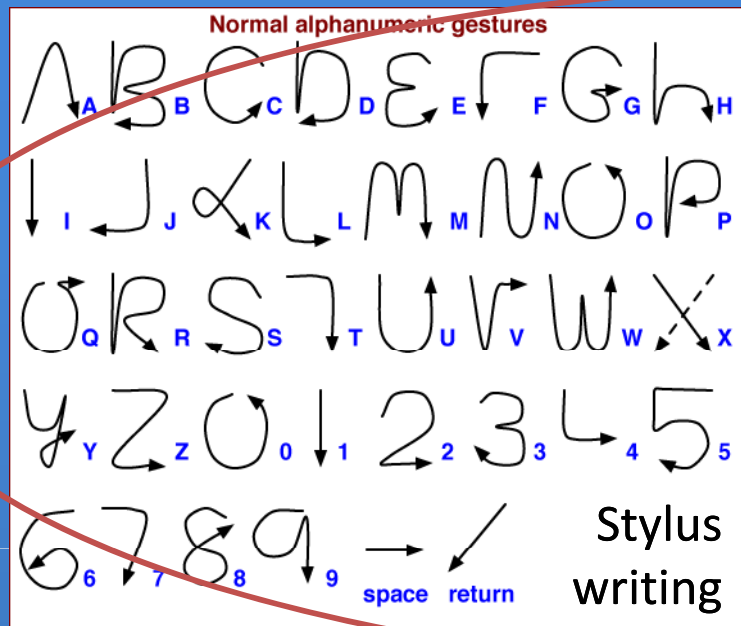


## Device Gestures

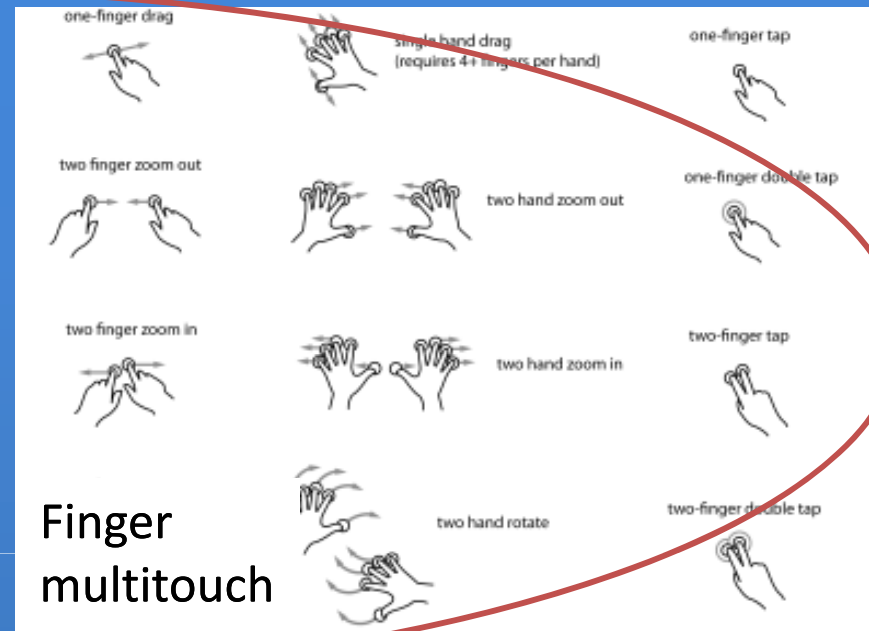


## Air Gestures

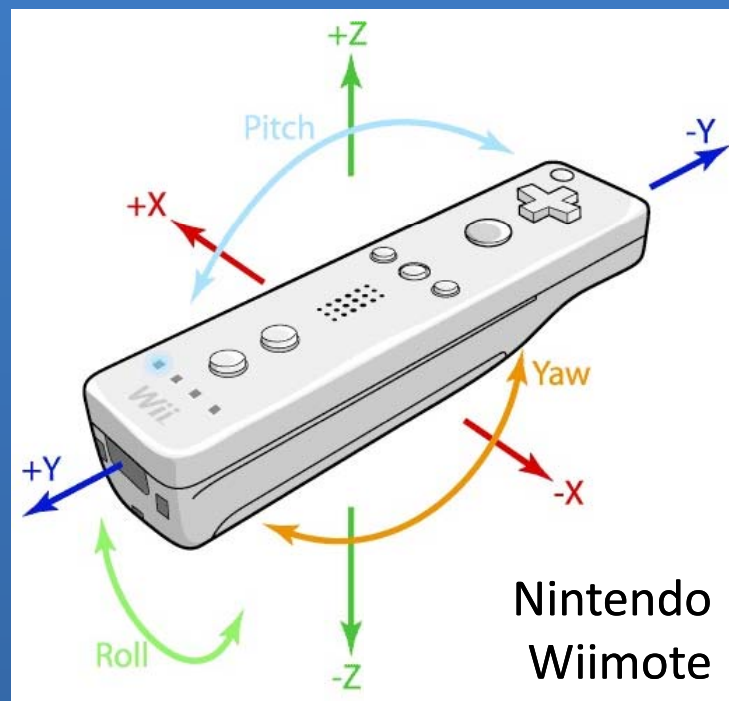




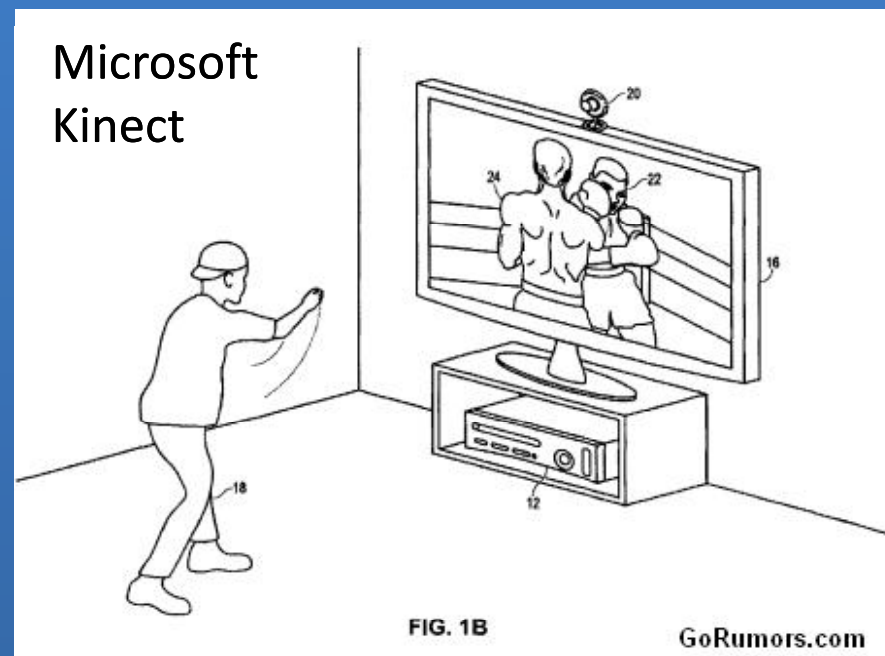
## Surface Gestures



## Device Gestures



## Direct Gestures



## Air Gestures

Sensing gestures made by users

## **2. HARDWARE**

# Types of sensing surfaces

Technology	How it works	Accepted input devices	Real-world examples
Capacitive touchscreen	Conductive material; when touched by human finger (a conductor), electrostatic field is distorted measurably.	Finger, active stylus	iPhone, iPod, iPad
Resistive touchscreen	Two layers of material; when touched, they press together and location of touch is registered by gridlines on material.	Finger, passive stylus, whole hand	LG Optimus, Nokia N97
Surface acoustic wave	Sound waves are passed along surface of material; when touched, sound waves are distorted measurably.	Finger, active / passive stylus	ATMs, public kiosks
Infrared / optical imaging	Grid of LED beams are projected over surface; breaks in the beams correspond to touch locations.	Finger, active / passive stylus	Microsoft Surface

*(surface gestures only; other approaches also exist but these are the most common)*

Understanding gestures made by users

## **3. SOFTWARE**

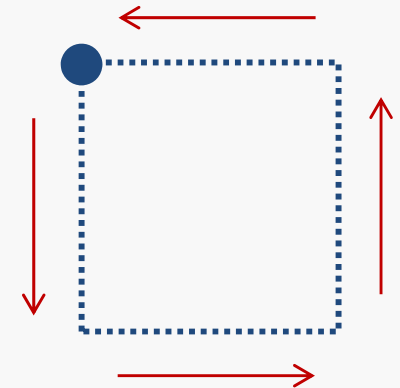
# Capturing surface gesture input

Input events are series of (X, Y) coordinates

- Sometimes time or pressure can also be sensed for each point

Stroke = {Pen Down, Point<sub>1</sub>, ... Point<sub>n</sub>, Pen Up}

Language	Listeners	Events
Java	MouseListener: MousePressed, MouseDragged, MouseReleased	MouseEvent {MOUSE_PRESSED, MOUSE_DRAGGED, MOUSE_RELEASED}
C#	System.Windows.Forms.MouseEventHandler: MouseDown, MouseMove, MouseUp	MouseEventArgs
Android	View.OnTouchListener.OnTouch	MotionEvent {ACTION_DOWN, ACTION_MOVE, ACTION_UP}





# Approaches to gesture recognition

## Situational approaches

Online vs. offline

Unistroke vs. multistroke

Segmented vs. free-form

Trainable model vs. fixed model

Mixed model vs. single model

Size of vocabulary

## Algorithmic approaches

Machine learning

- Finite state machines
- Hidden Markov Models (HMMs)
- Neural networks
- Statistical classifiers

Dynamic programming

Template matching

Heuristic recognizers



# \$1 and \$N recognizers

(Anthony & Wobbrock, 2010)

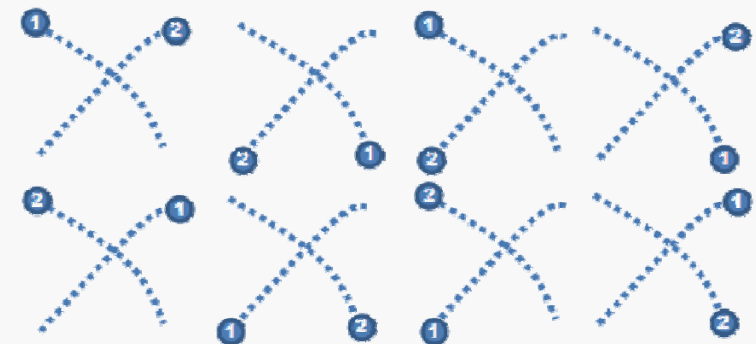
Template matchers

\$1: unistroke, \$N: multistroke

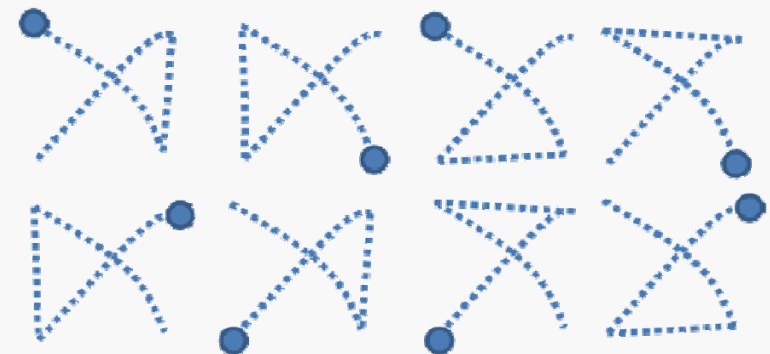
Open-source (C#, Java, more)



**Figure 2.** Steps in the \$1 matching process and the aligning of a candidate and template. GSS means *Golden Section Search*.



**Figure 3.** The 8 possibilities for a two-stroke "x". The numbered dots indicate stroke order and beginnings.



**Figure 4.** The 8 unistroke permutations for a two-stroke "x" based on the two-stroke gestures in Figure 3.

*(how \$N represents multistrokes)*

# Improving recognition accuracy

Limited vocabulary set

Boxed character entry



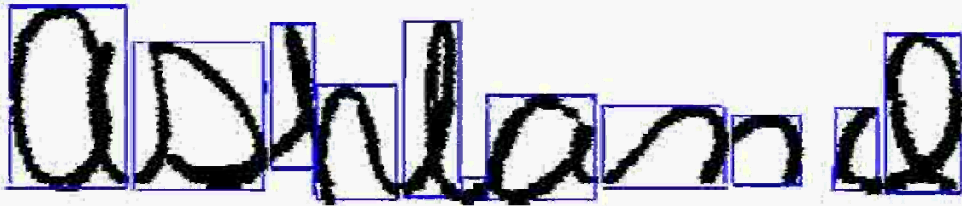
User-specific training examples

Use of context (domain-specific)

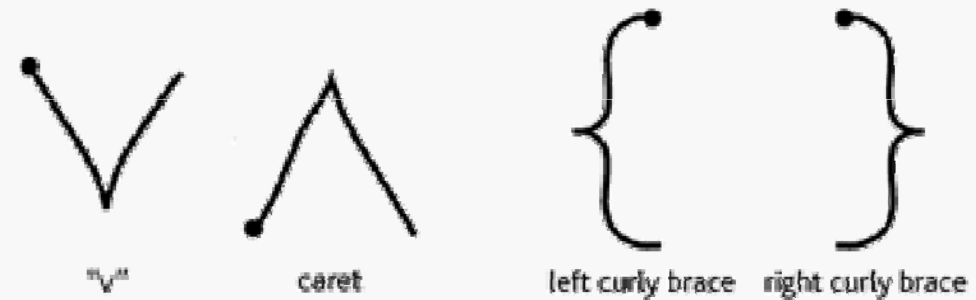
...others?

# Recognition challenges

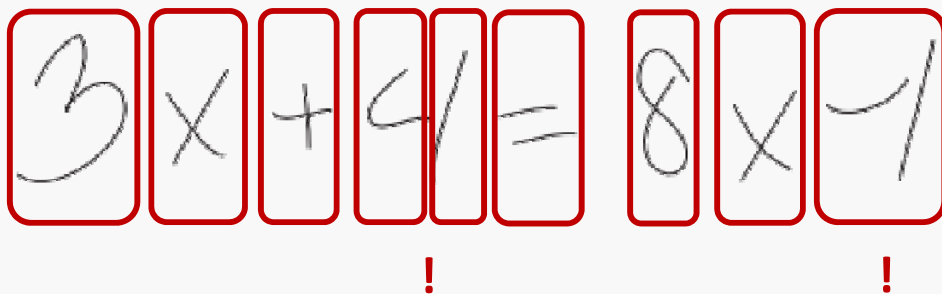
Segmentation: Overlapping symbols



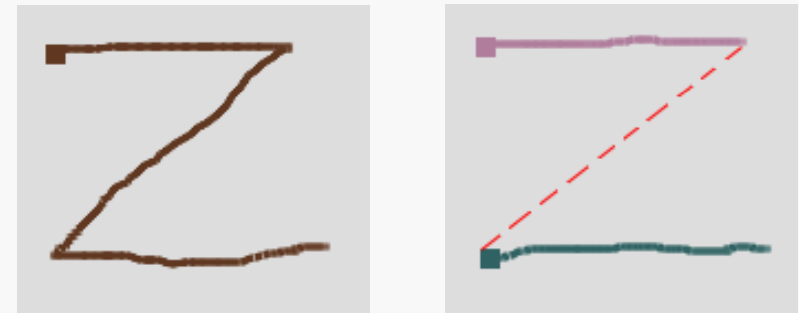
Orientation of symbols



Segmentation: Multistroke symbols

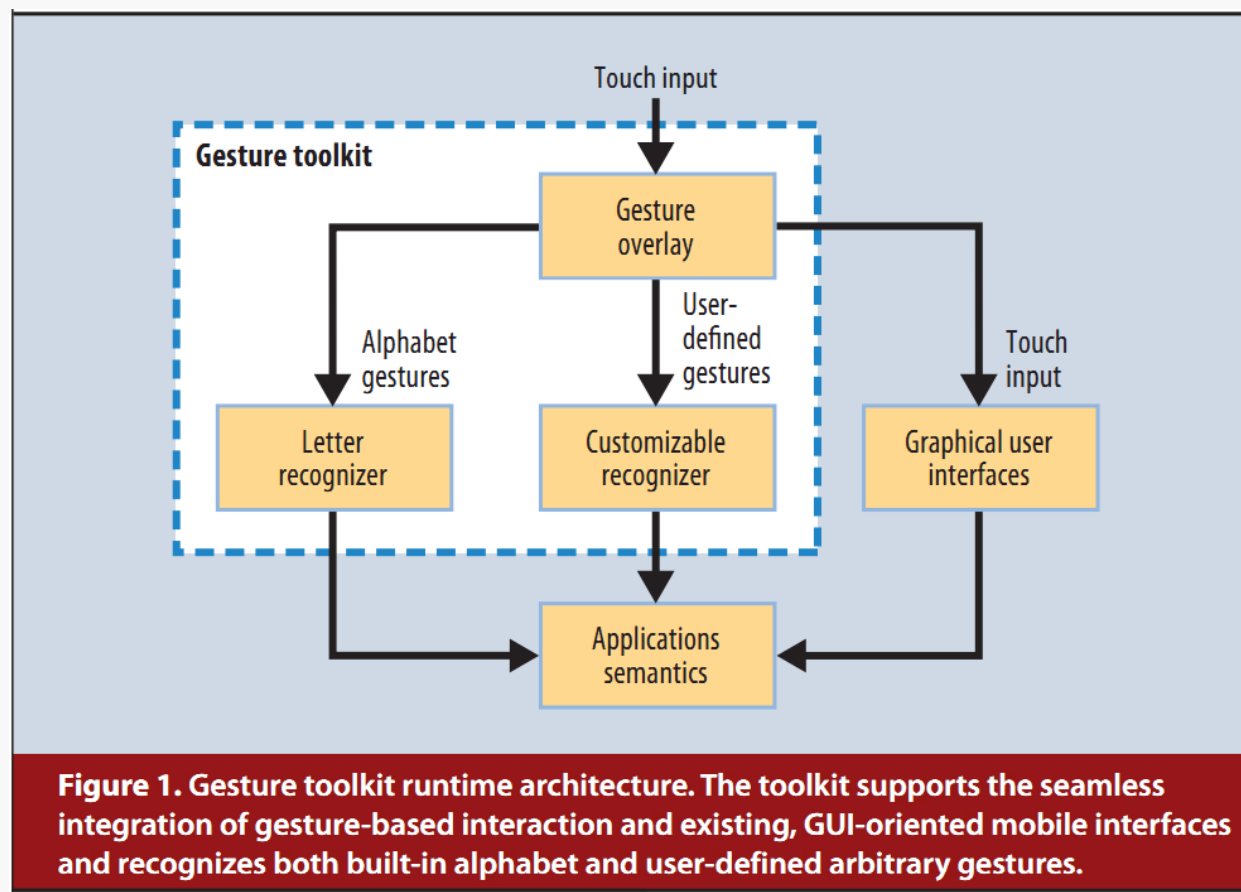


Confusable symbols



# Operating system integration

## Google Android open-source toolkit (Li, 2009)



Interaction design concerns for gesture input

## **4. USABILITY**

# Usability and interaction concerns

...ideas?

# Deciding what gestures to support

(Morris et al, 2010)

Application specific vs. platform / interaction standards

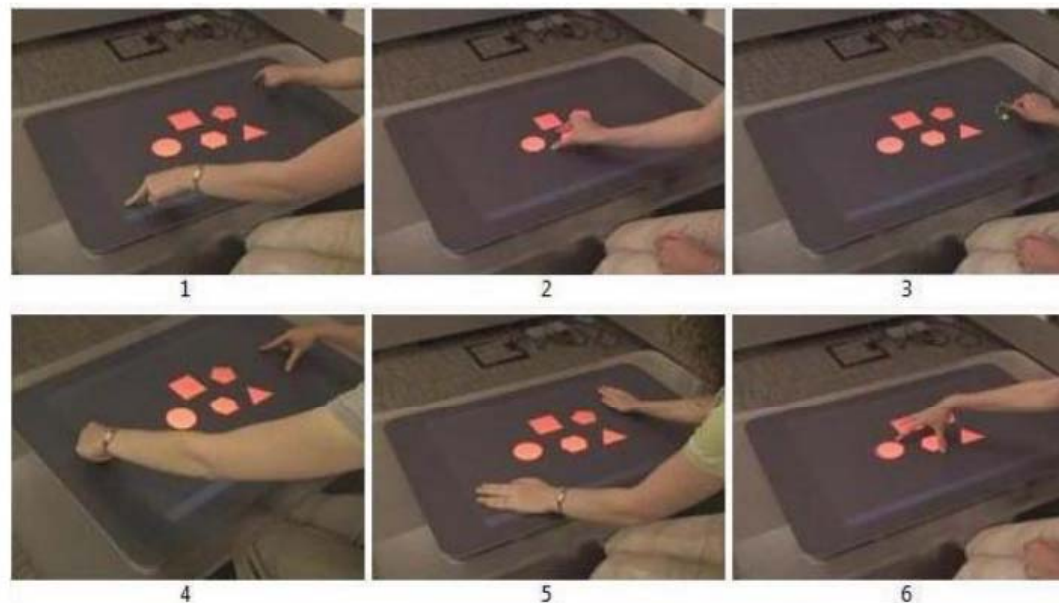


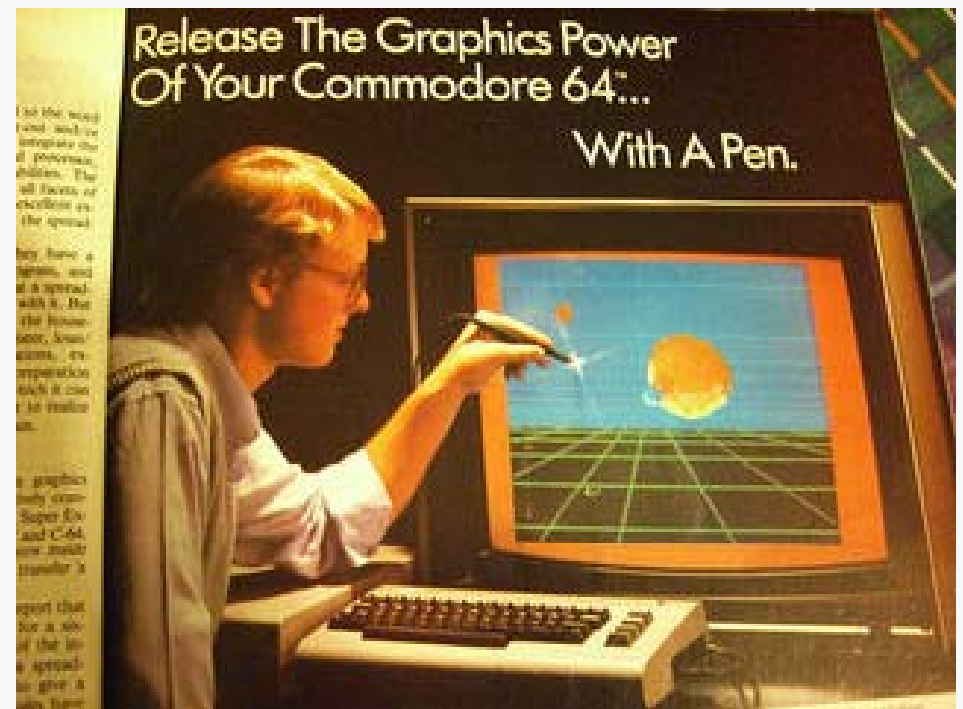
Figure 2. After viewing, imitating, and rating all of the gestures for a particular command, participants were presented a screen of thumbnail images depicting each of the proposed gestures, and were asked to select which one was the best for that command. This figure depicts the six alternatives shown for “zoom out.” Any gesture could be replayed at this stage.



# Ergonomics and comfort

...issues with long-term use of surface, air gestures?

...how is gesture interaction different than using a keyboard and mouse?



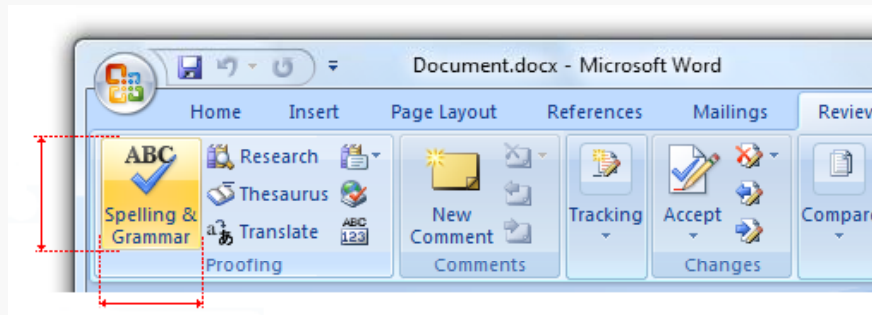
*Beware the dreaded gorilla arm!*

# Precision and touch point size

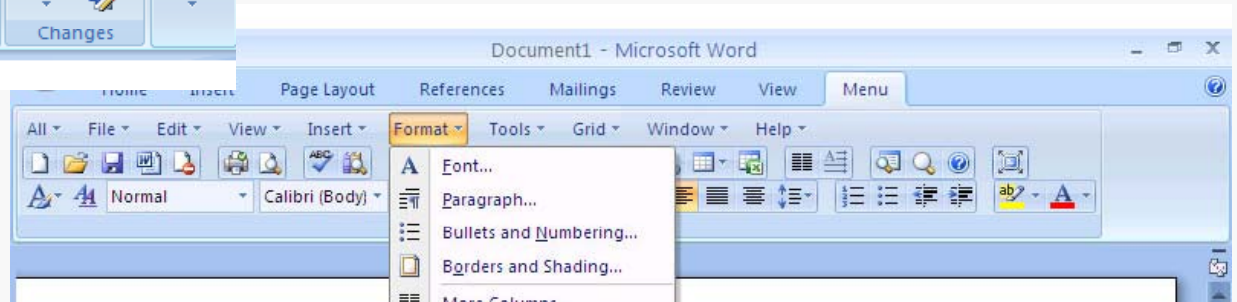
Stylus vs. finger use affects desired size of interactors

Recommendations on touch point size differ by platform:

- Apple: 44 pixels x 44 pixels (164ppi)
- Windows Phone: 9 mm x 7 mm
- Nokia: 1 cm x 1cm



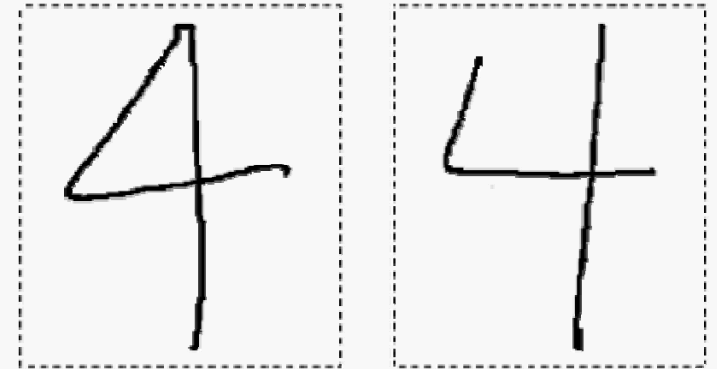
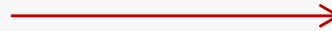
*Microsoft Office Ribbon vs Classic Toolbar*



# Recognition tolerance and errors

## Gesture input tolerance:

- Size, orientation, speed, tremor
- Multiple styles for symbols



## Gesture delimitation:

- How do you know the user is making a gesture vs. just moving their arms?
- Mode switching, hardware buttons, special gestures, returning to “home” position...others?

## Error recovery:

- How much should we ask the user to help correct system input?
- Depends on context, e.g., students learning math vs. mathematicians

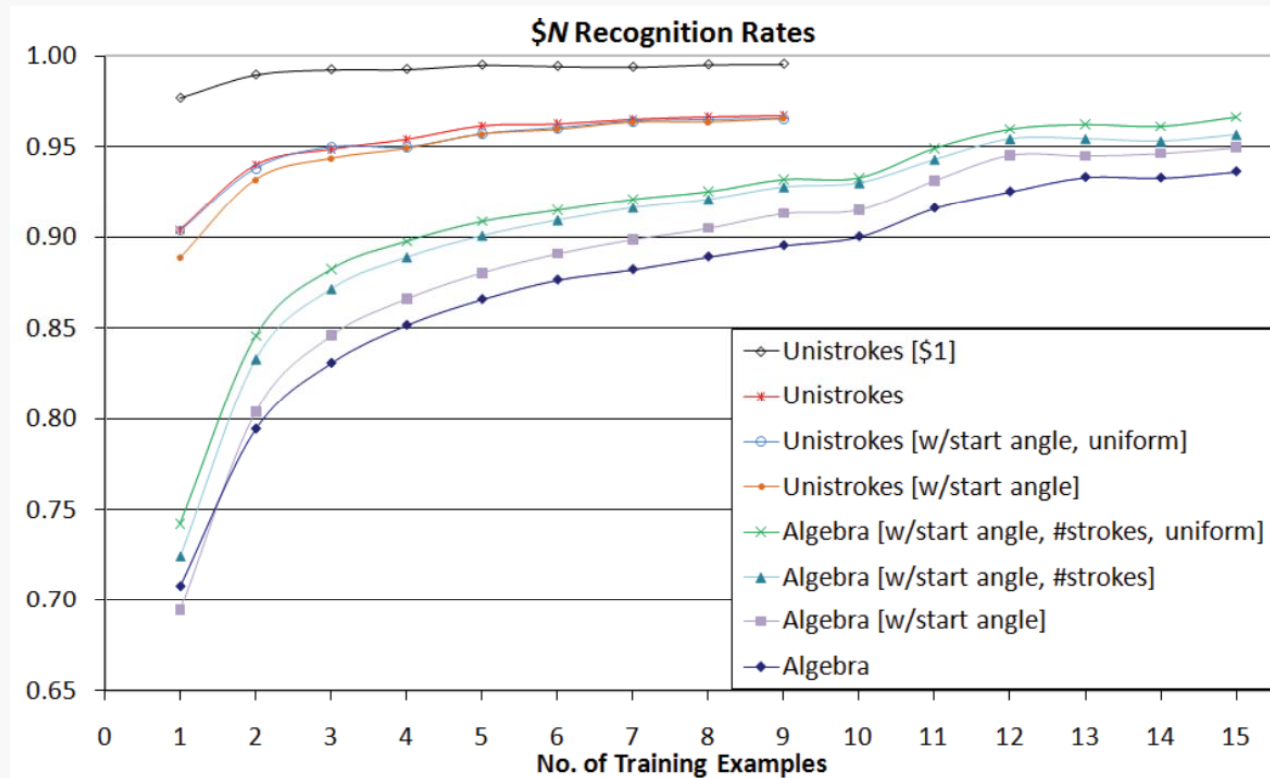
# Gesture recognition feedback

Method	When would you use it?	When would you not use it?
Immediately after receiving single stroke ( <b>eager</b> )		
Recognition in background, waiting for enough information ( <b>lazy</b> )		
Upon <b>user request</b> (e.g., tap, special gesture, menu item)		
<b>Never</b> (e.g., store raw strokes only)		

# To train or not to train?

User-dependent vs. user-independent

When to collect data to train the gesture recognizer?



*\$N recognition rates with more training examples (Anthony & Wobbrock, 2010)*

What works and what doesn't work for gesture interaction

## **5. INTERACTION CASE STUDIES**

# Minority Report demonstration

1. Type of gesture input:
  - Surface / Air
  - Device / Direct
2. Pros:
3. Cons:
4. Other comments:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NwVBzx0LMNQ>



# Air Guitar Hero demonstration

1. Type of gesture input:
  - Surface / Air
  - Device / Direct
2. Pros:
3. Cons:
4. Other comments:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pktVSTwC8qo>

# Hands-on Math demonstration

1. Type of gesture input:
  - Surface / Air
  - Device / Direct
2. Pros:
3. Cons:
4. Other comments:

<http://www.acm.org/uist/archive/videos/2010/p17-zeleznik.wmv>

# Double Flip demonstration

1. Type of gesture input:
  - Surface / Air
  - Device / Direct
2. Pros:
3. Cons:
4. Other comments:

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NuN\\_d-DiAKs](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NuN_d-DiAKs)

# Iron Man

## demonstration

1. Type of gesture input:
  - Surface / Air
  - Device / Direct
2. Pros:
3. Cons:
4. Other comments:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PYjIMflhysc>

# Mouse Gestures demonstration

1. Type of gesture input:
  - Surface / Air
  - Device / Direct
2. Pros:
3. Cons:
4. Other comments:

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WUYyCituz\\_U](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WUYyCituz_U)

# Kinect Sign Language demonstration

1. Type of gesture input:
  - Surface / Air
  - Device / Direct
2. Pros:
3. Cons:
4. Other comments:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qFH5rSzmGFE>

New frontiers in gestural technologies and gesture recognition

## **6. REMAINING CHALLENGES**



# Remaining Challenges

...ideas about the future of gesture interaction?

# Combining gestural technologies

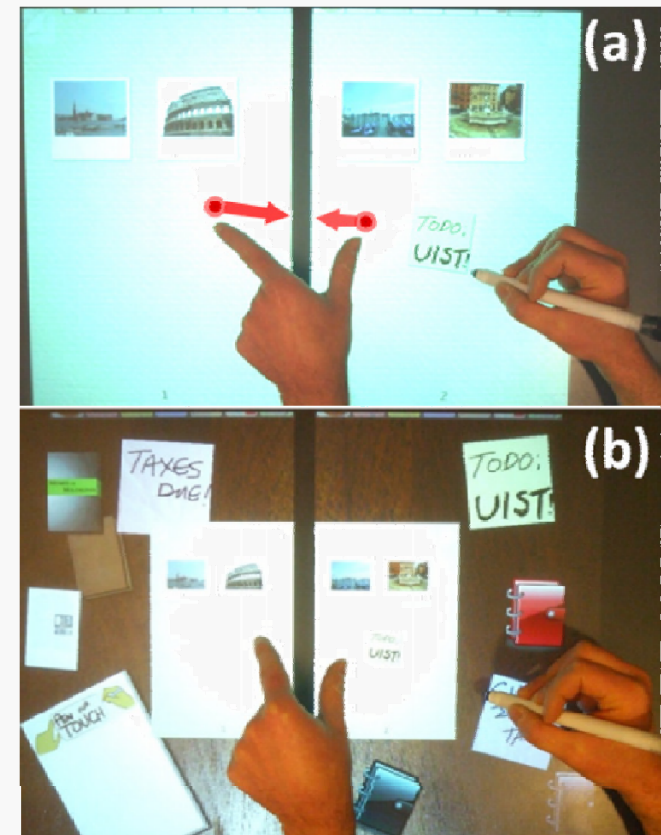
(Hinckley et al, 2010)

Design considerations:

- Pen vs Touch
- Differentiated vs Interchangeable task assignment
- Nonpreferred vs Preferred hand assignment
- Unimodal vs Multimodal input
- Mobile vs Stationary use
- Unimanual vs Bimanual interaction
- Interleaved vs Simultaneous input
- Ink vs Command mode
- Elementary input vs Phrases

“Pen writes, touch manipulates”

New tools and workflow enhancements are possible



**Fig. 11.** Pinching across the pages in 2-up view supports semantic zooming to the “desk view” extended workspace.

# Questions?

## Contact:

- Lisa Anthony, PhD
- [lanthony@umbc.edu](mailto:lanthony@umbc.edu)

## Resources:

- Buxton, Bill. (2011). "Some Milestones in Computer Input Devices: An Informal Timeline." <http://billbuxton.com/inputTimeline.html>
- Buxton, Bill. (2007-2011). "Multi-Touch Systems that I Have Known and Loved." <http://www.billbuxton.com/multitouchOverview.html>
- UIST Video Archive. (1995-2010). <http://www.acm.org/uist/archive/html/videos.html>

## References:

- Anthony, Lisa & Wobbrock, Jacob O. (2010). "A Lightweight Multistroke Recognizer for User Interface Prototypes." Proceedings of Graphics Interface (GI '10). Ottawa, Ontario (May 31-June 2, 2010). Toronto, Ontario: Canadian Information Processing Society, pp. 245-252.
- Yang Li. (2009). "Beyond Pinch and Flick: Enriching Mobile Gesture Interaction." IEEE Computer 42, 12 (December 2009), pp. 87-89.
- Morris, M.R., Wobbrock, J.O. and Wilson, A.D. (2010). "Understanding Users' Preferences for Surface Gestures." Proceedings of Graphics Interface (GI '10). Ottawa, Ontario (May 31-June 2, 2010). Toronto, Ontario: Canadian Information Processing Society, pp. 261-268.
- Hinckley, K., Yatani, K., Pahud, M., Coddington, N., Rodenhouse, J., Wilson, A., Benko, H. & Buxton, B. (2010). Pen + Touch = New Tools. Proceedings of the 23rd annual ACM symposium on User interface software and technology (UIST'10), 27-36.