

DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE  
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

CSC318S

**THE DESIGN OF  
INTERACTIVE COMPUTATIONAL MEDIA**

Lecture 13 — 2 March 1998

**INTERACTION THROUGH  
ANIMATION, VIDEO, AND MULTIMEDIA**

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Ronald Baecker  
Professor of Computer Science,  
Electrical and Computer Engineering, and Management  
University of Toronto

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## 13.1 Motivation

Enrich dialogues

Higher information transmission

More enjoyable interfaces

Appeal to different cognitive styles, e.g., left brain, right brain

Show things that cannot be described in words

## 13.2 Animation at the interface

Uses of animation at the interface

Identification	What is this?
Transition	Where have I come from and gone to?
Orientation	Where am I?
Choice	What can I do now?
Demonstration	What can I do with this?
Explanation	How do I do this?
Feedback	What is happening?
History	What have I done?
Interpretation	Why did that happen?
Guidance	What should I do now?

*VIDEO — Animated Icons (Baecker, Small, and Mander, Apple Computer, Video Supplement to CHI '91 Paper)*

In Lecture 11, showed basic technique of animated icons for Demonstration

Remainder of video:

- Problem icons

- Control issues

- Animation + sound effects

- Media-intensive animation

Will show *VIDEO — Sorting Out Sorting (Baecker, 1981)*, but first a video sampler

### **13.3 Interaction techniques & scientific visualization**

*VIDEO — The Dynamic Image (Baecker, U of T, 1987)*

- Highly interactive dragging, rubber-band rectangles, use of constraints in NEWSWHOLE (Tilbrook, 1974)

- 3D input tools (Chan, 1987)

- Scientific visualization

  - Display of 4D hypersolids (Olshevsky, 72)

  - Display of molecular dynamics (Parr, 71)

  - Display of growth of teeth (Tuori, Hill, 76)

  - Bubblepeople (Badler, mid 80s)

  - 3D magnetic resonance imagery (Joy, 87)

  - Enhanced program typesetting (Baecker/Marcus, 87)

  - General-purpose hashing machine (Booth, 77)

*VIDEO — Visual Information Seeking Using the Film Finder (Shneiderman & Ahlberg, U. of Maryland, SGVR 97, 1994)*

Graphical selection sliders for specifying queries  
Starfield displays  
Rapid interaction

### **13.4 Maps at the interface**

Use — Geographic-based information display and manipulation

*Class: Imagine what kinds of displays you can generate of geographic information?*

*Class: Imagine what kinds of interaction you can do with geographic information?*

Example, using maps and video — The Aspen Project (Andy Lippman, M.I.T. Architecture Machine Group, circa 1980)

### **13.5 Video at the interface**

Use — Appeal, excitement, realism, authenticity of real video

Video compression standards and technology  
QuickTime, MPEG, H.261 and other standards

*VIDEO — The Movie Manual Project (Backer and Gano, The Architecture Machine Group, M.I.T., circa 1980, SGVR 13, 1984)*

## 13.6 Multimedia at the interface

Medium (Webster's Third New Int'l. Dictionary)

“Something through or by which something is accomplished, conveyed, or carried on ...”

“a channel, method, or system of communication, information, or entertainment ...”

“the material or technical means for artistic expression ...”

Multimedia — Computer technology ...

Text, images, sounds, animation, video

Example: Electronic encyclopedias — multimedia  
Beethoven and Shakespeare

Multiple methods of representation and access

The Movie Manual also illustrates *hypertext* and *hypermedia*

Hypertext is branching text, with links that can be used for navigation (e.g., Glossary items in the Movie Manual)

## 13.7 3D at the interface

Uses

Deal with real world, which is three-dimensional

Add level of dimensionality, increased display space,  
to represent and manipulate complex abstractions

Artificial reality, virtual reality

*VIDEO — Information Visualization Using 3D Interactive Animation (Xerox PARC, SGVR 63)*

Cone trees

Cam trees

Perspective wall

Linked visualizations

Augmented reality — overlay computer graphics on live video of real world

*VIDEO — Augmented Reality with Graphical Overlay of Stereoscopic Images — ARGOS (Milgram, U of T, SGVR 88, 1993)*

Augmented reality

3D display

Stereo display

Virtual pointers

### **13.8 Agents with point of view at the interface**

Use

Direct manipulation forces you to do it all yourself, which may be very slow and repetitive

Imagine instead *delegating* to an intelligent assistant

Multiple agents could represent different abilities, perspectives, points of view

VIDEO example not to be shown — Guides 3.0 (Apple Computer, SGVR 63)

Most recent phenomenon — avatars, representations of 3D animated faces, other anthropomorphisms

## 13.9 Multi-modal dialogues

### Elements

Large display surfaces (e.g., video projection)

Voice output

Output of sounds

Voice input

Large scale storage of digital data (CD-ROM)

Large scale storage of video data

Hand inputs (e.g., data glove)

Tracking of body movements

Tracking of eye movements

The real payoff – Use in combination

e.g., Put That There (already shown) — Voice recognition, voice synthesis, English language recognition, gesturing in 3D (pointing), large screen display