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# Immersive experiences through augmented, virtual and mixed reality: uses, challenges and opportunities

Enzo Pasquale Scilingo



**CROSSLAB**  
Innovation for industry 4.0



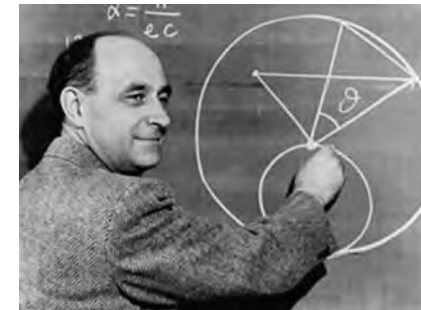
**Centro E. Piaggio**  
bioengineering and robotics research center

- 20 departments – 17 libraries – 13 museums
- 60 Bachelor Degrees
- 66 Master Degrees
- 5 Long Cycle Degree Programmes
- 21 PhD programmes
- 68 Third cycle specialisation/Residency programmes
- 55 Special shorter programs (including an MBA)
- 28 Summer Schools



- Past glories

- ✓ Galileo Galilei,
- ✓ Antonio Pacinotti (Physicist),
- ✓ Ulisse Dini (Mathematician and Politician)



- Nobel prizes

- ✓ Giosuè Carducci (Literature)
- ✓ Enrico Fermi (Physics)
- ✓ Carlo Rubbia (Physics)



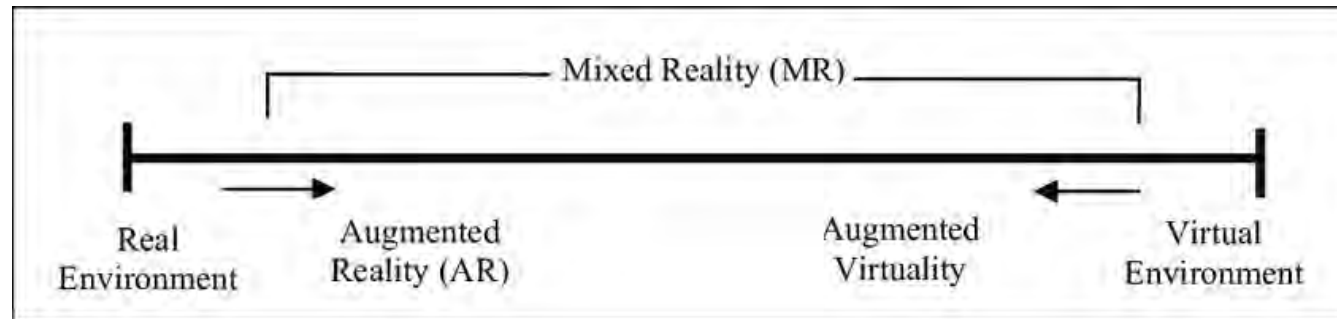
- Fields Medal

- ✓ Enrico Bombieri
- ✓ Alessio Figaldi (2018)



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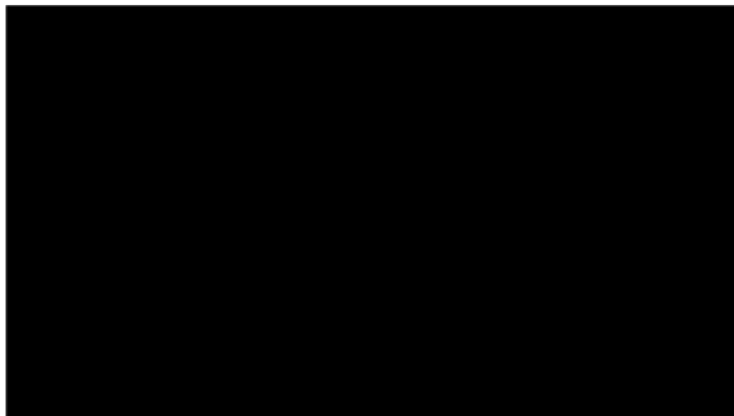
- An Excellence Center in the University of Pisa for Research and Higher Education in the field of Information and Communication Technology (ICT)



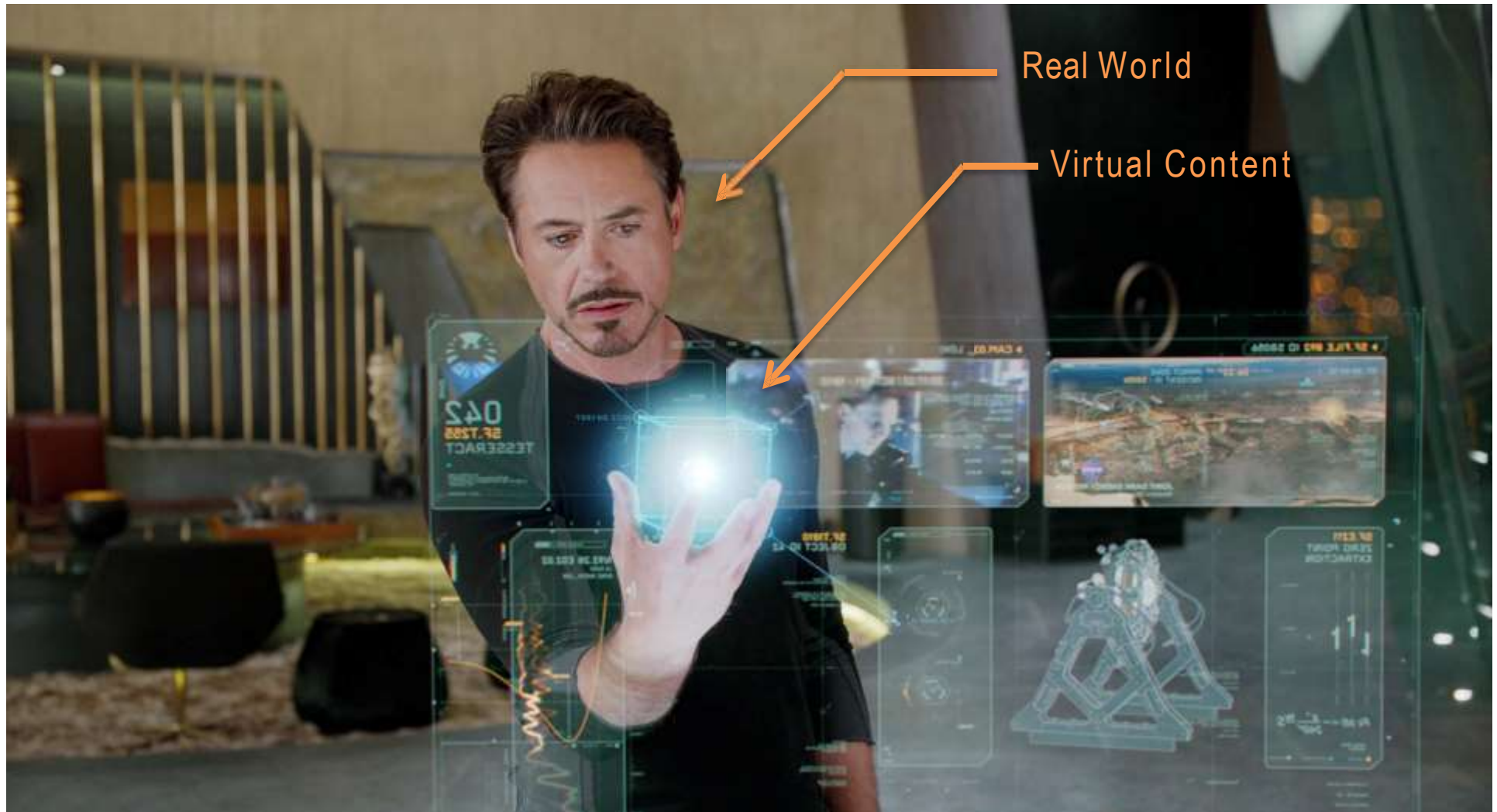
# What is Virtual Reality?

The Virtual Reality is a technology that use software to generate realistic images, sound and other sensations that replicate real world environment.

A user can interact and manipulate with the virtual objects of virtual world with the help of specialized devices like display screens or other devices.



# What is AR?

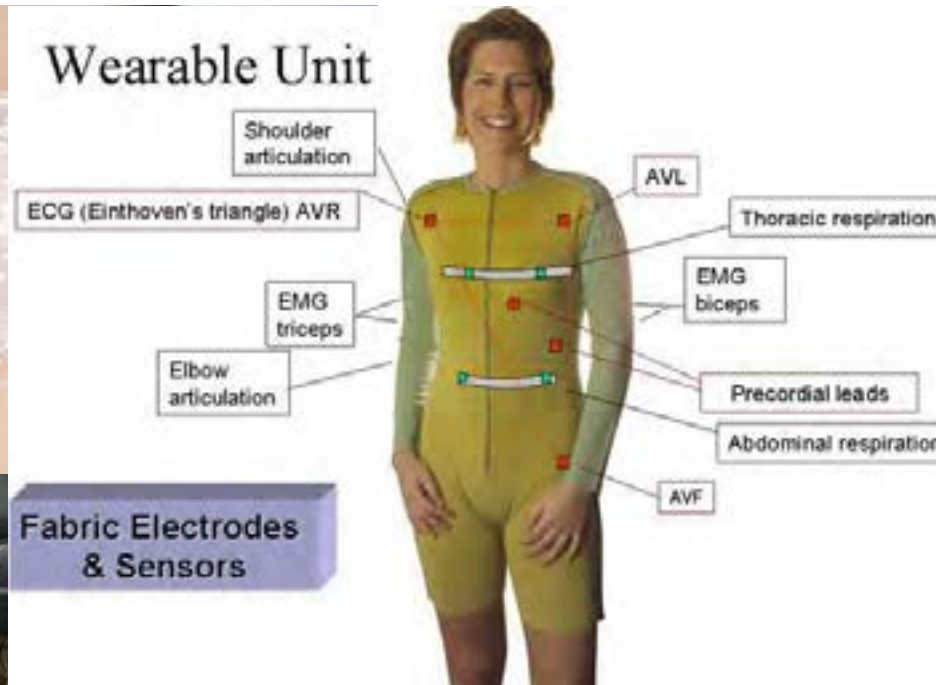




**Augmented Reality (AR)** is an interactive experience with a real-world environment whereby the objects in the real-world are "augmented" by computer-generated perceptual information, sometimes across multiple sensory modalities, including



Visual a



Olfactory



Augmented Reality is a field of computer research which deals with the combination of real-world and computer-generated data.

An augmented reality system can be defined as one that:

- Combines real and virtual world aspects
- Is interactive in real-time
- Is registered in three dimensions





## What is Mixed Reality?

It is the merging of Real and Virtual worlds to produce new environments and visualizations where physical and digital objects co-exist and interact in real time.



- Augmented Reality (AR)

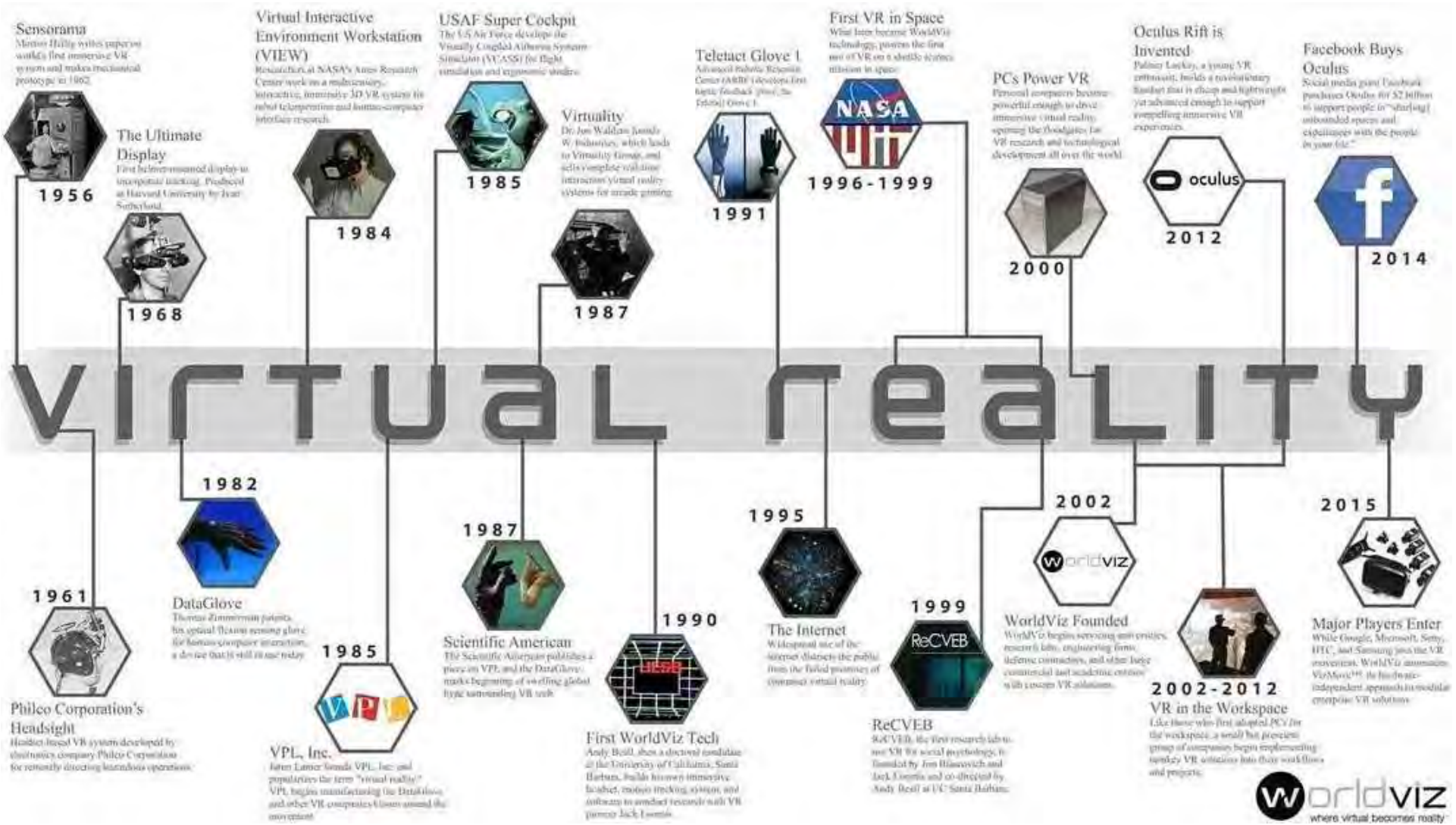
Supplements the real world with the virtual (computer generated) objects that appear to coexist in the same space as the real world.

- Virtual Reality (VR)

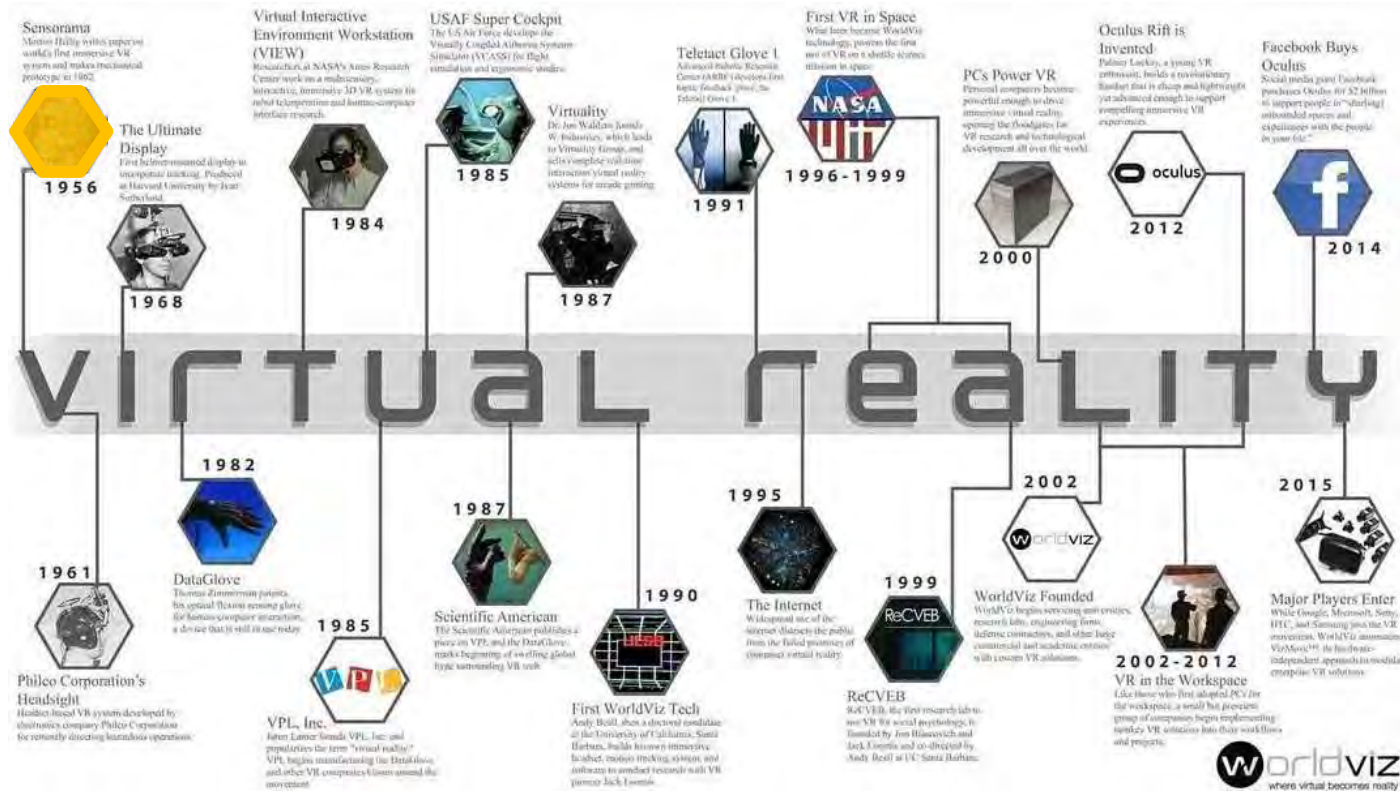
a computer generated, interactive, 3D environment in which a person is immersed : virtual, interactive and immersive



# Timeline 1956 - 2015



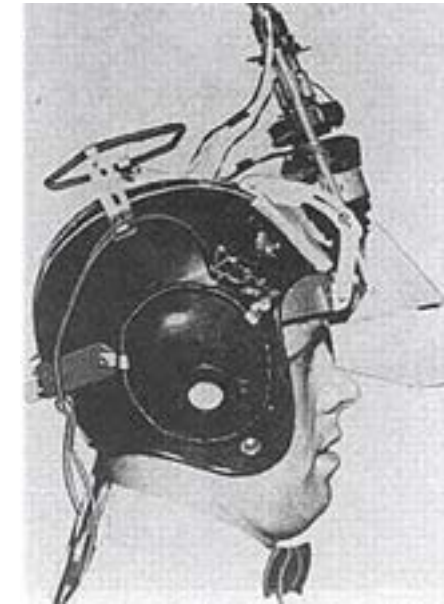
# Sensorama (1956)



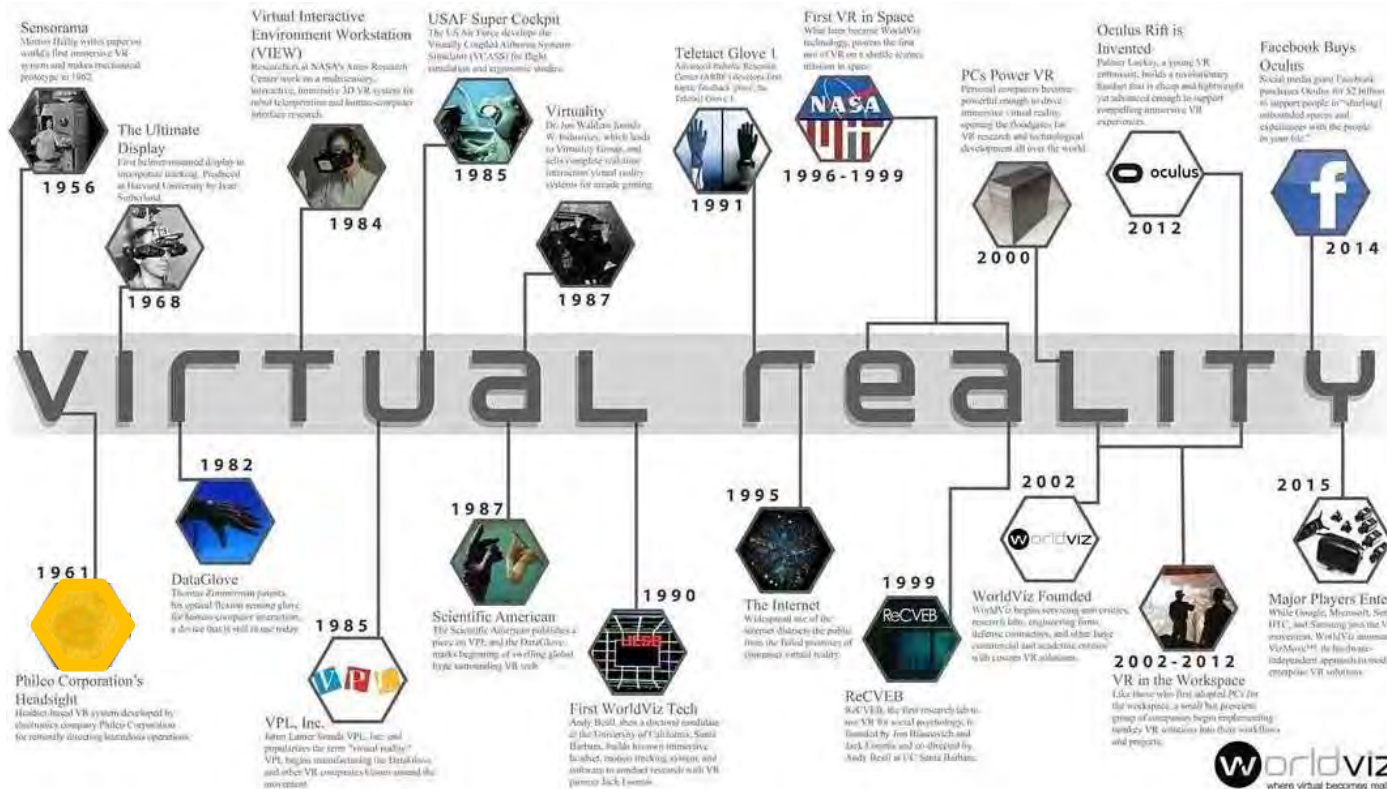
**Morton Heilig**  
Sensorama - 1956-1962

The Sensorama was able to display stereoscopic 3-D images in a wide-angle view, provide body tilting, supply stereo sound, and also had tracks for wind and aromas to be triggered during the film.

# Philco Corporation (1961)

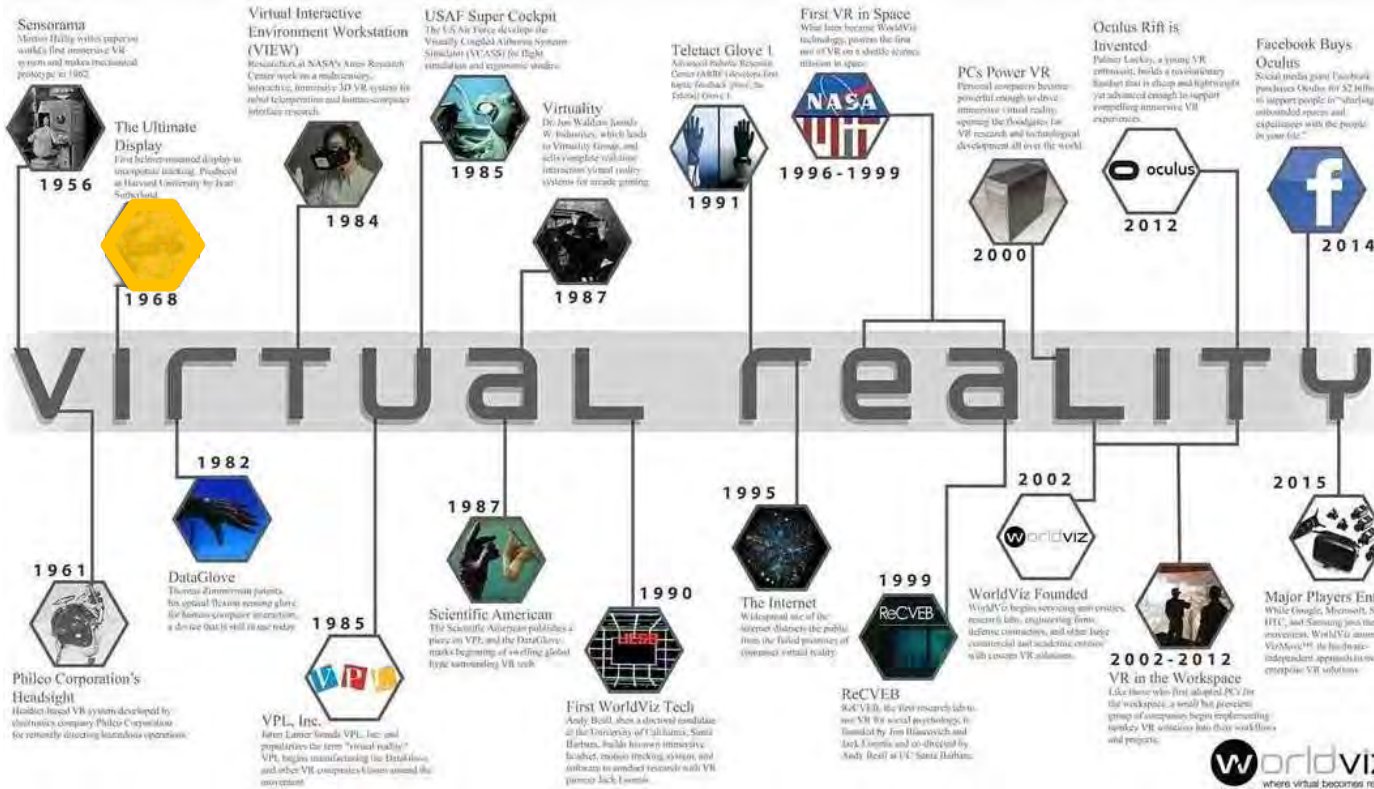


In 1961, devised project 'Headsight' Produced visual stimulation and a tracking system. Also used for military purposes. E.g. Pilots could train under Headsight to simulate flying in complete darkness





# Ultimate display (1968)

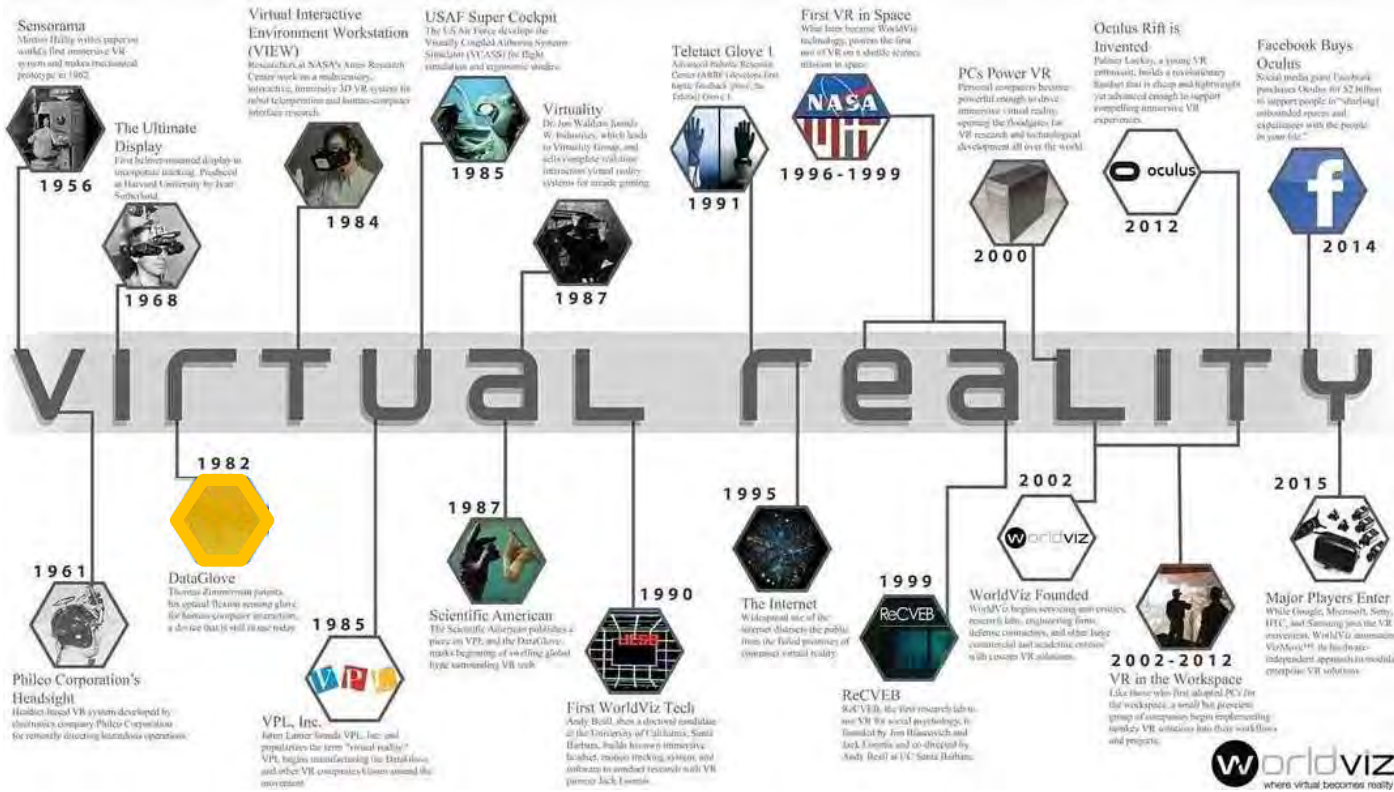


Ivan Sutherland  
Head Mounted Display

The Sword of Damocles is widely considered to be the first virtual reality (VR) and augmented reality (AR) head-mounted display (HMD) system. It was created in 1968 by computer scientist Ivan Sutherland with the help of his student Bob Sproull. Before he began working toward what he termed "the ultimate display", Ivan Sutherland was already well respected for his accomplishments in computer graphics.



# Dataglove (1982)

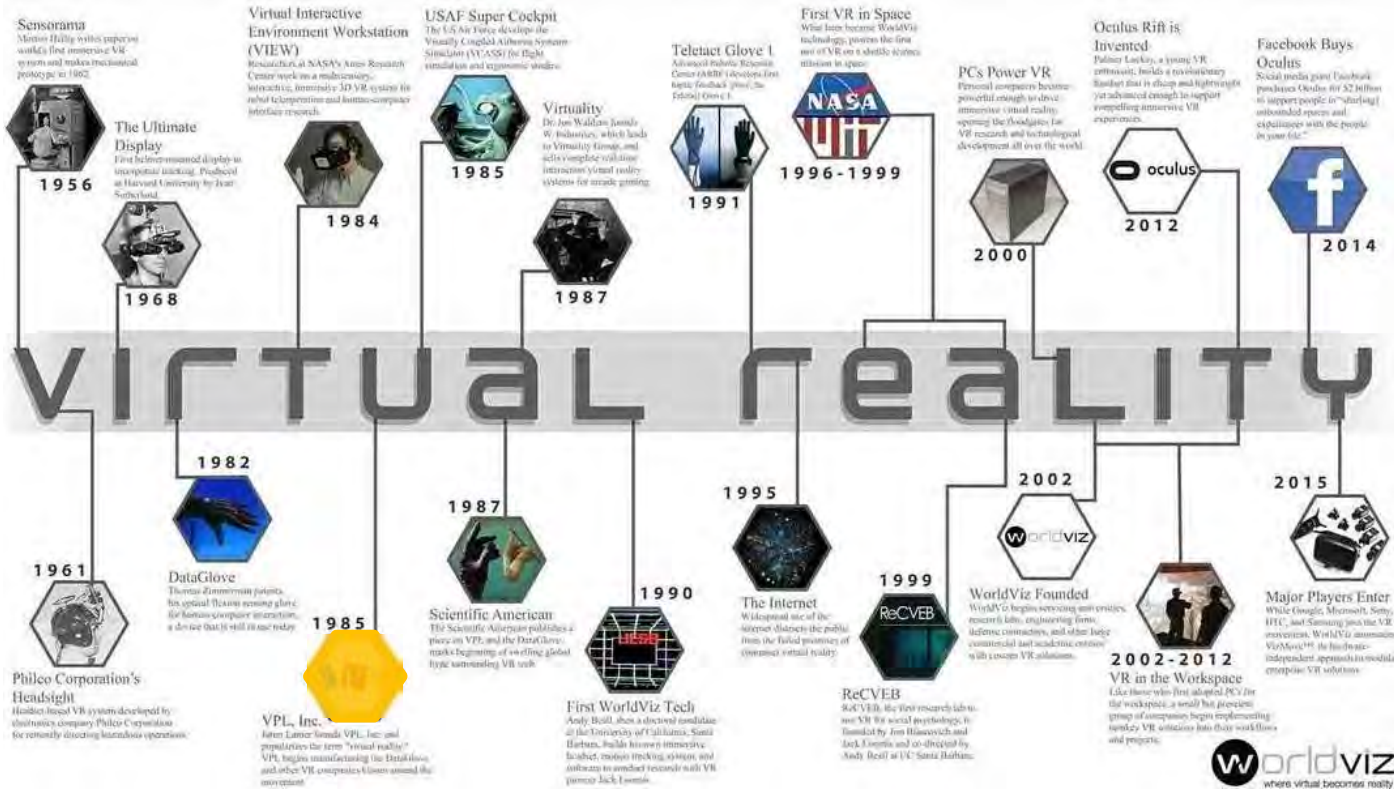


**DataGlove**  
 Thomas G. Zimmerman US Patent 4542291

Various sensor technologies are used to capture physical data such as bending of fingers. Often a motion tracker, such as a magnetic tracking device or inertial tracking device, is attached to capture the global position/rotation data of the glove. These movements are then interpreted by the software that accompanies the glove, so any one movement can mean any number of things.



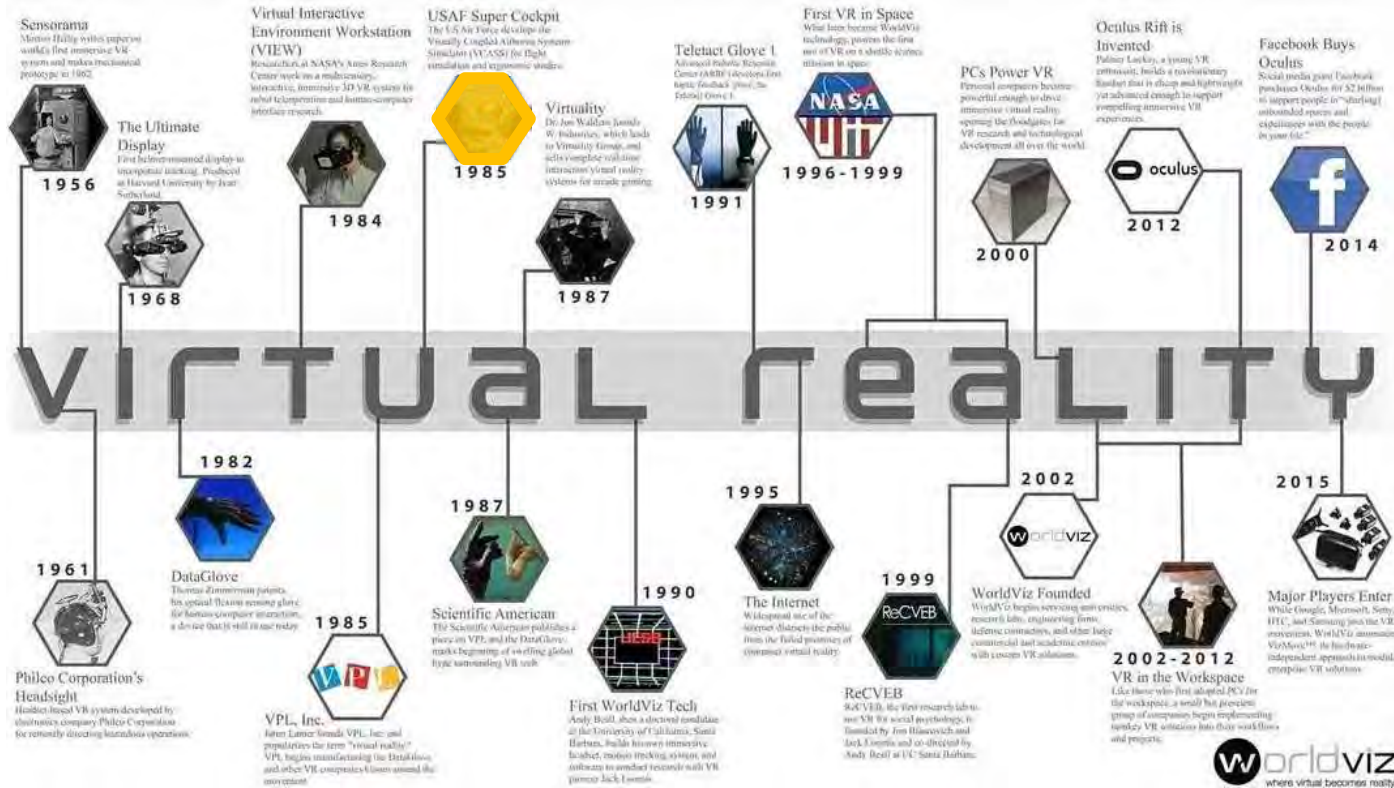
# Visual Programming Language (1985)



## VPL, Inc.

One of the first companies that developed and sold virtual reality products. It was founded by VR pioneer Jaron Lanier in 1985. VPL started in the corner of Lanier's cottage in the San Francisco Bay Area. "VPL" stood for "Visual Programming Languages", and Lanier said that the goal of the company was to create a visual programming language to bring programming to a mass audience.

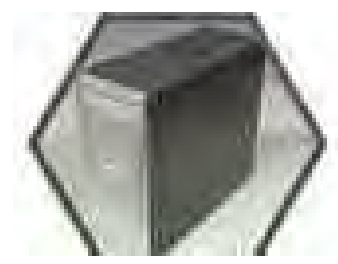
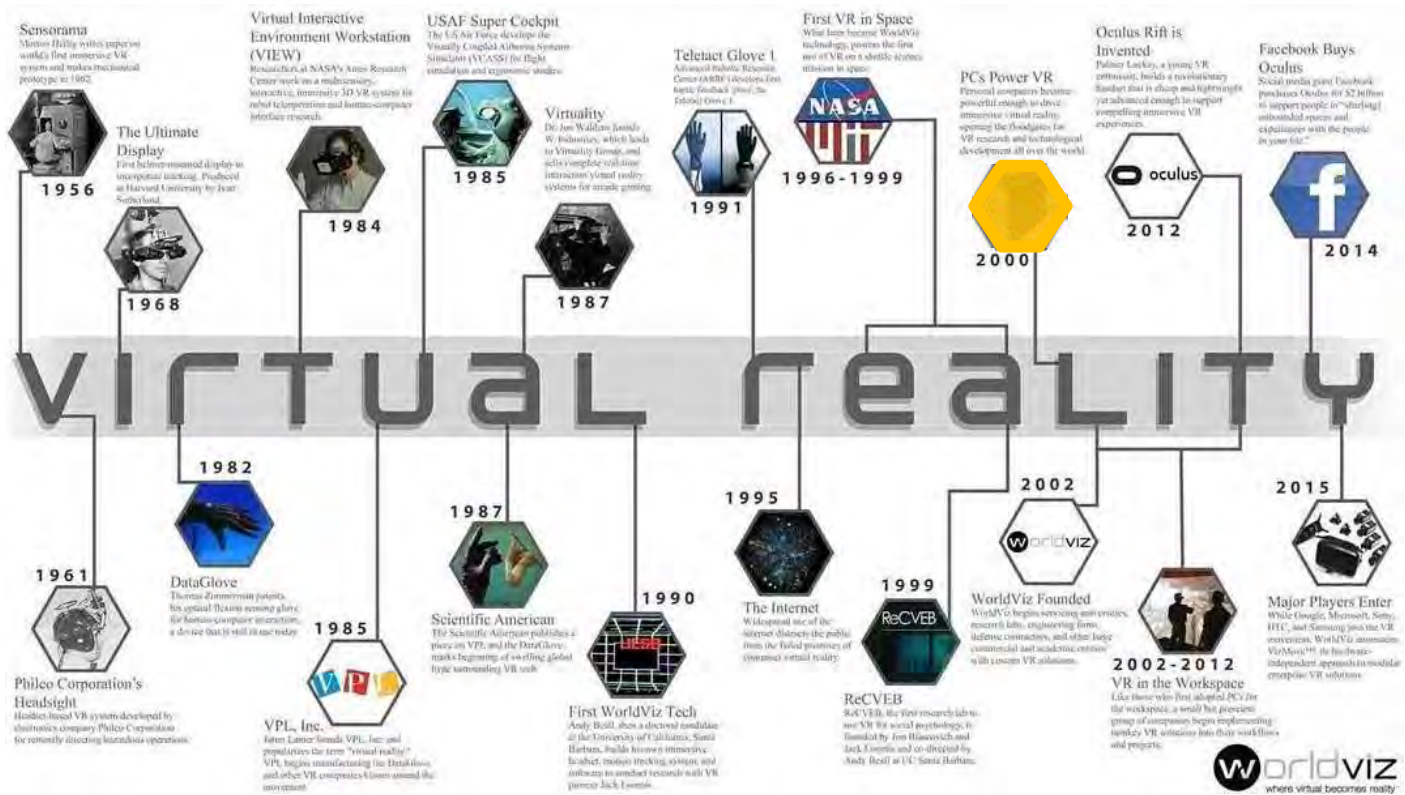
# Super Cockpit (1986-1989)



USA Super Cockpit Program 1986-1989

Dr. Thomas Furness is a pioneer in the development of interfaces between humans and complex machines. Most of his work has centered on the concept of virtual interface technologies which prove a circumambience of three dimensional spatial information to the human using the visual, auditory and tactile sensory modalities.

# PC Power VR (1998-2000)

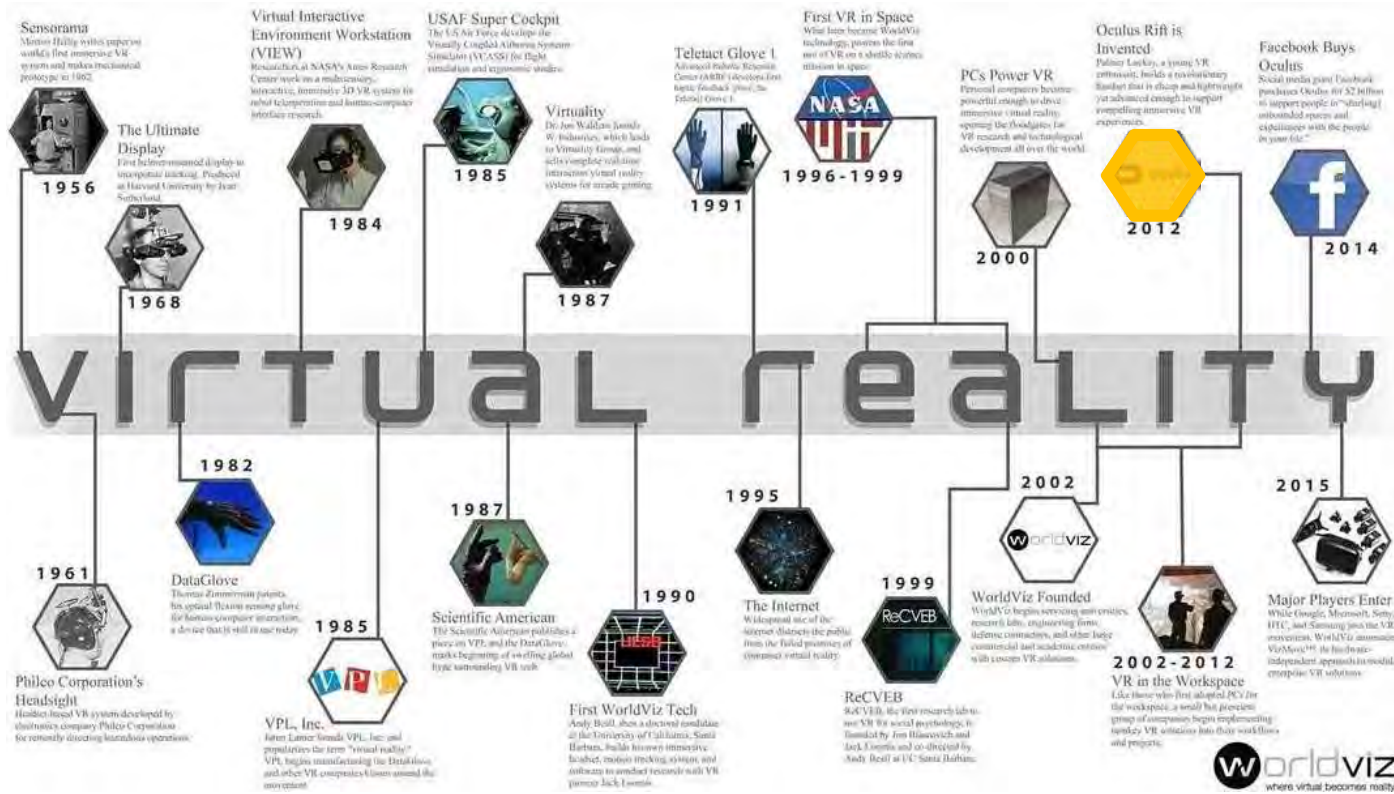


PC Power VR 1998-2000

The first personal computers capable of running virtual reality came onto the market in the late 90s. But the head-mounted displays were cumbersome and of lower resolution.



# Oculus Rift (2012)

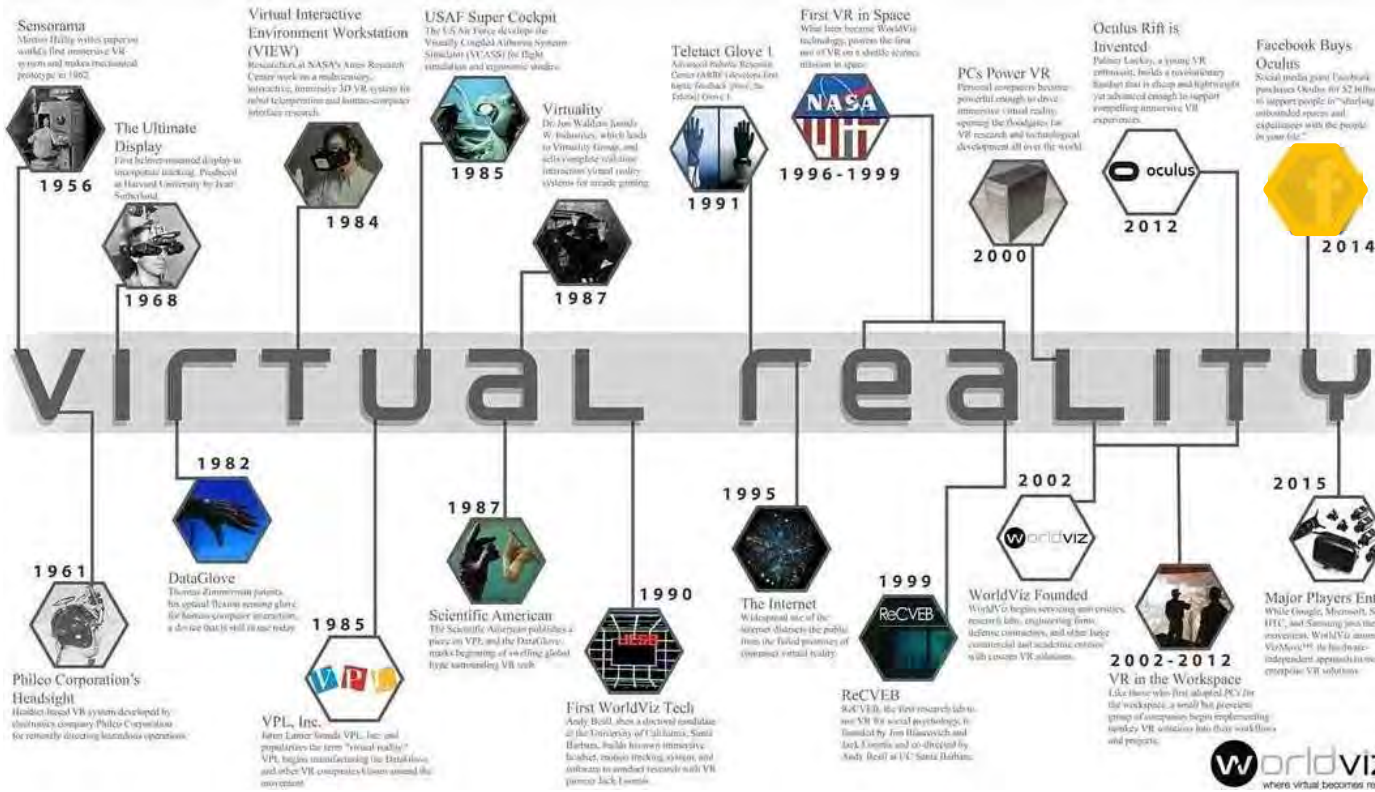


Oculus Rift  
August 2012

In just 30 days, the Oculus Rift Kickstarter campaign raised \$2,437,429, a mere 947% over their intended goal. It was a testament that the average tech consumer was ready for a VR device.



# Facebook Buys Oculus (2014)

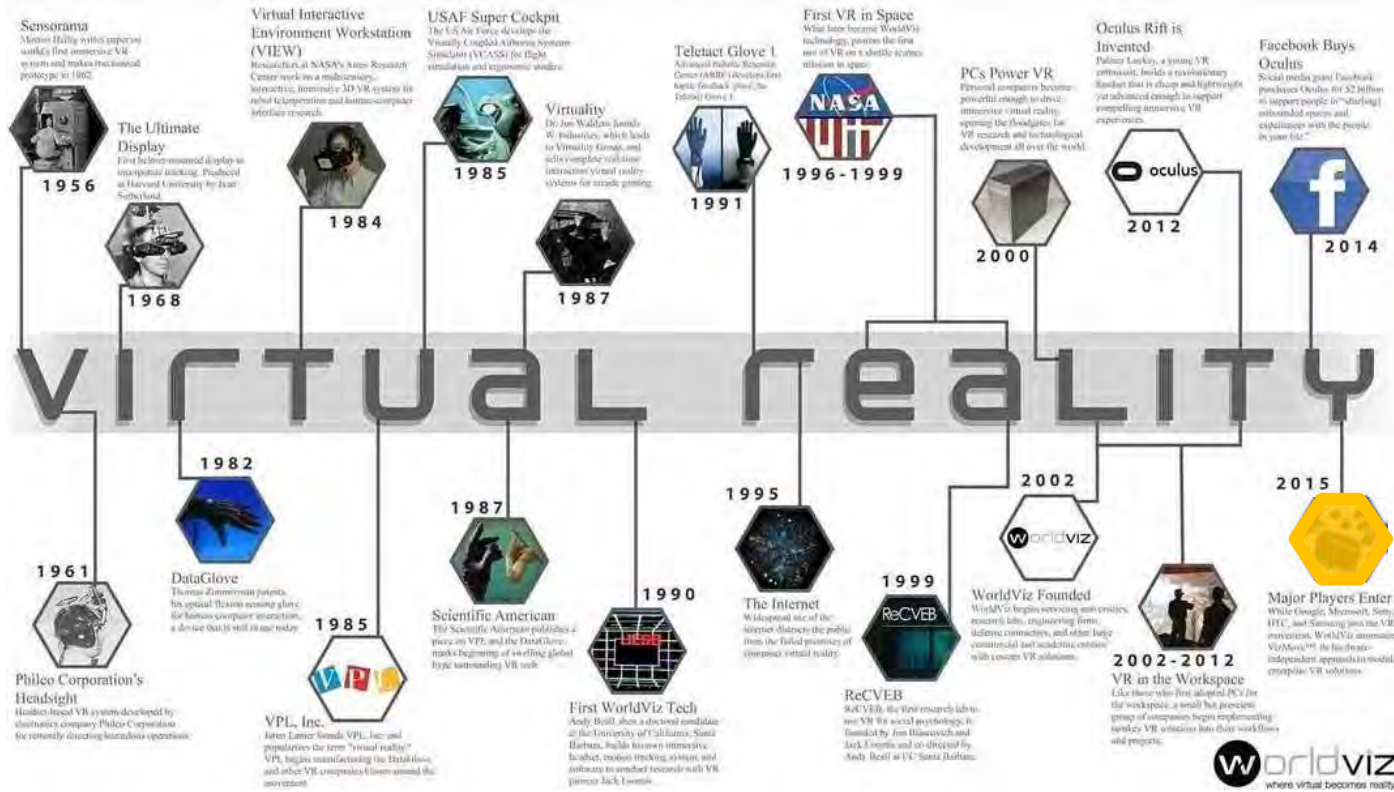


## Facebook Buys Oculus April 2014

The \$2 billion acquisition deal of the virtual reality pioneer becomes official. The exact price of the acquisition came out to \$2,001,985,000. The VR startup will operate somewhat independently and maintain its main offices in the Irvine and Los Angeles areas.



# Major Players enter (2015)



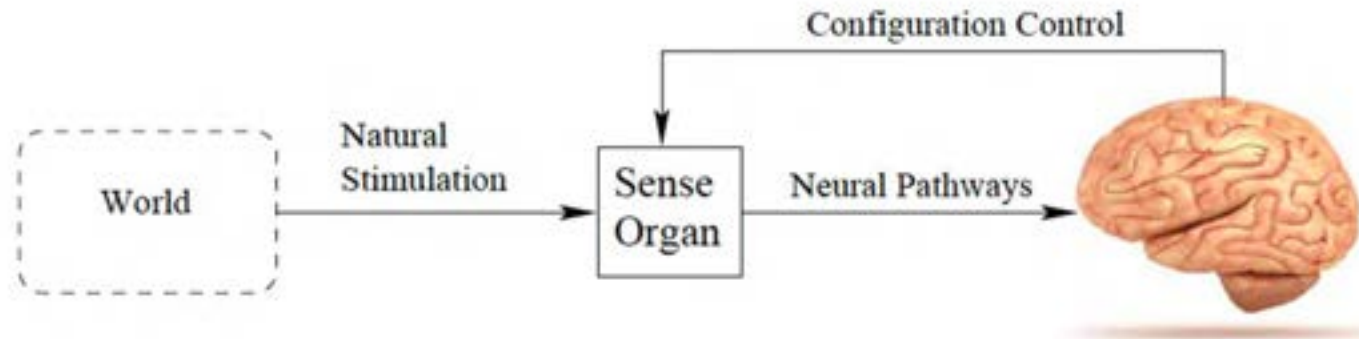
## Major Players enter the VR Market

Aside from Facebook, 10 other companies were added to the VR Watchlist: Amazon, Google, Virtuix, AMD, Qualcomm, Samsung, Nvidia, Microsoft, Sony, and Valve.

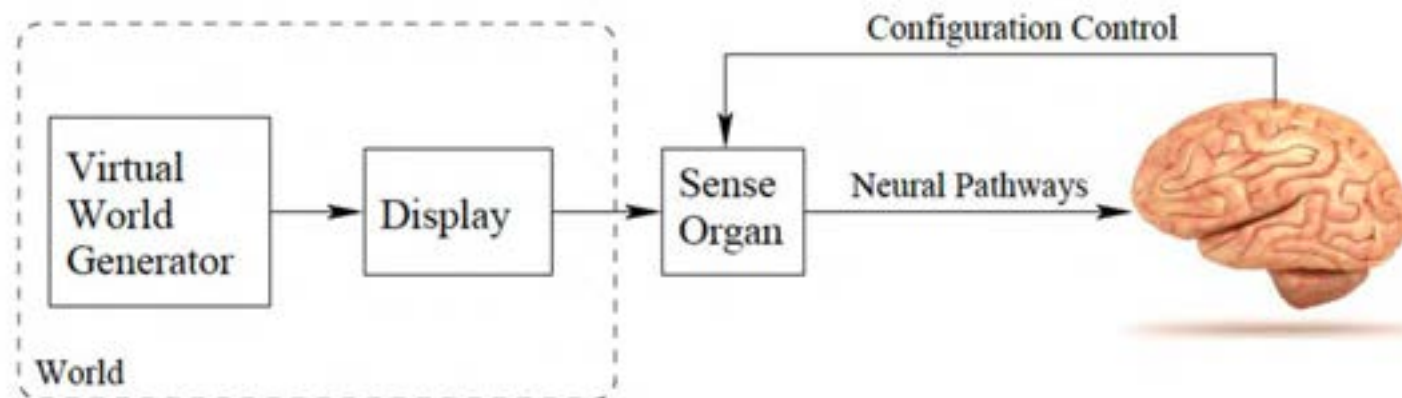




# How Virtual Reality works?



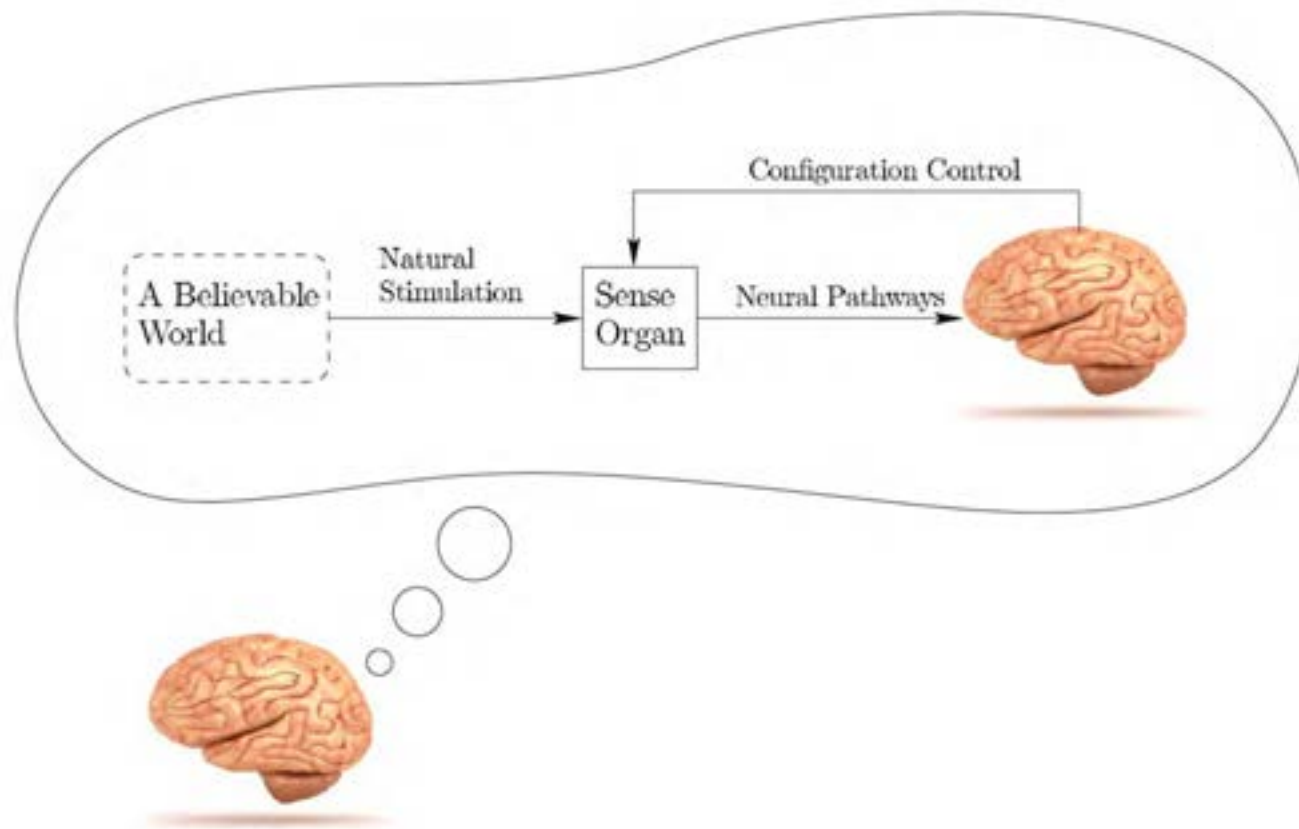
Under normal conditions, the brain (and body parts) control the configuration of sense organs (eyes, ears, fingertips) as they receive natural stimulation from the surrounding, physical world.



A VR system “hijacks” each sense by replacing the natural stimulation with artificial stimulation that is provided by hardware called a display. Using a computer, a virtual world generator maintains a coherent, virtual world.

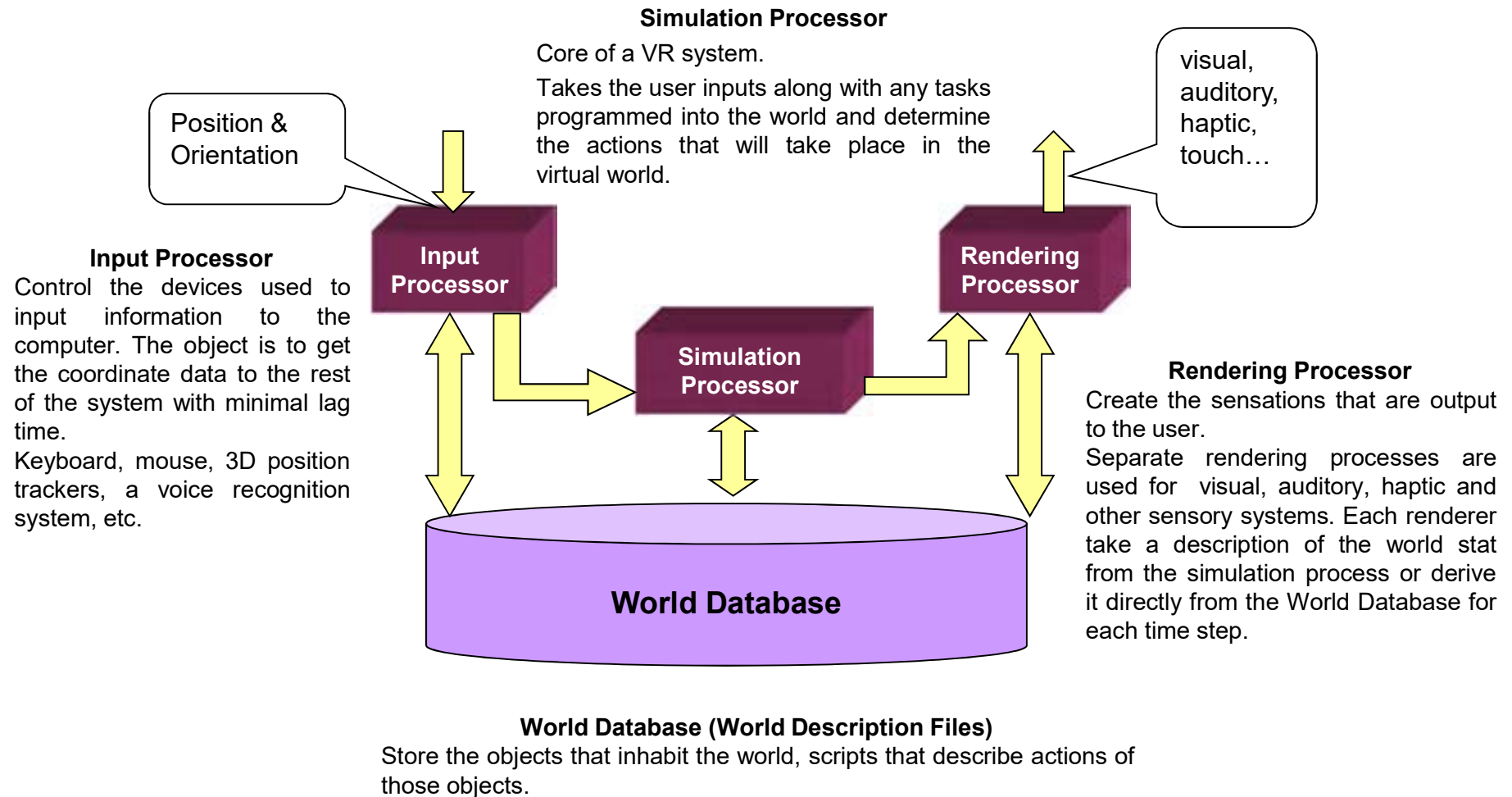
# How Virtual Reality works?

Virtual reality tricks your brain into believing you are in a 3D world.

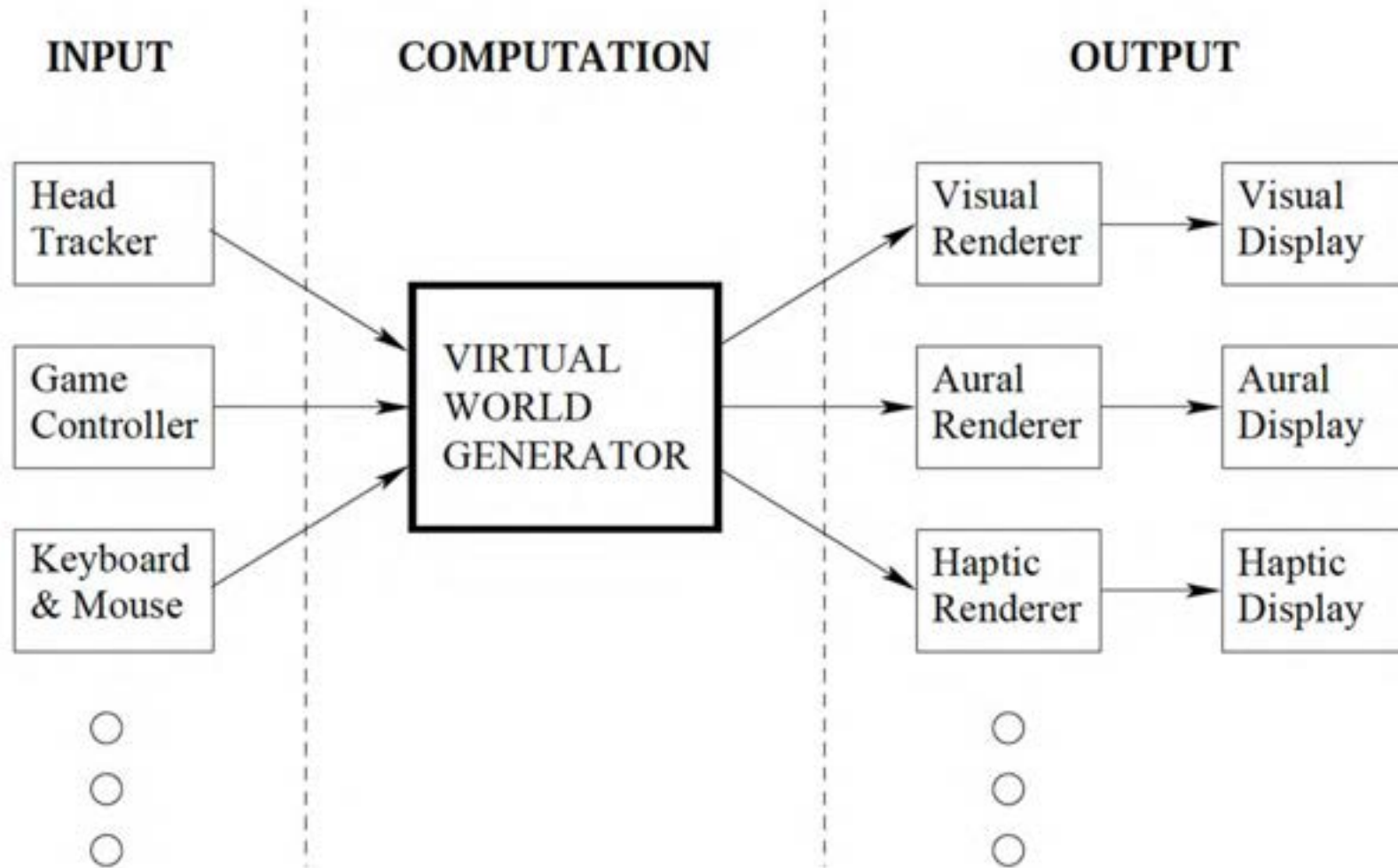


If done well, the brain is “fooled” into believing that the virtual world is in fact the surrounding physical world and natural stimulation is resulting from it.

# Architecture of VR System



# Components of VR System



The **Oculus Rift** is a virtual reality headset developed and manufactured by Oculus VR, a division of Facebook Inc., released on March 28, 2016.



**Google Cardboard** is a virtual reality (VR) platform developed by **Google** for use with a head mount for a smartphone. Named for its fold-out **cardboard** viewer, the platform is intended as a low-cost system to encourage interest and development in VR applications.



The **Samsung Gear VR** is a mobile virtual reality headset developed by Samsung Electronics, in collaboration with Oculus, and manufactured by Samsung. When in use, a compatible Samsung Galaxy device (Galaxy Note 5, Galaxy S6/S6 Edge/S6 Edge+, or Galaxy S7/S7 Edge) acts as the headset's display and processor, while the Gear VR unit itself acts as the controller.



**HTC Vive** can be ordered now for \$799. Includes headset, two wireless controllers, and two base stations for 360 degrees room-scale motion-tracking.



Healthcare is one of the biggest users of virtual reality for things like:

- ✓ Surgery simulation
- ✓ Phobia treatment
- ✓ Robotic surgery
- ✓ Skills training

HumanSimSystem

- ✓ Fully interactive environment
- ✓ Training scenarios



- ✓ Used by the Army, Navy, and Air Force for different training purposes like
  - ✓ Flight simulation
  - ✓ Battlefield simulation
  - ✓ Medic training
  - ✓ Vehicle simulation
  - ✓ Virtual boot camp
- ✓ Vehicle and flight simulation typically uses a Cave system



- ✓ The entertainment industry is another industry with the most advocates of virtual reality
- ✓ Some examples of virtual reality in Entertainment
  - ✓ Virtual museums
  - ✓ Theatre
  - ✓ Virtual theme parks
  - ✓ Gaming
- ✓ Recent advances in VR Gaming
  - ✓ Oculus Rift
  - ✓ Omni and Cyberith





## Immersive VR

- ✓ Completely immerse the user's personal viewpoint inside the Virtual 3D- World.
- ✓ The user has No Visual Contact with the physical world.
- ✓ Often equipped with a Head Mounted Display (HMD).



## Window on World (WOW)

- ✓ Also known as Desktop VR.
- ✓ Use of a monitor to display the visual world.
- ✓ Does not require special hardware.
- ✓ Low cost , low performance, less Immersion.



## Telepresence

- ✓ Real-time Telepresence
  - ✓ Interaction are reflected to some real world objects.
- ✓ Delayed Telepresence
  - ✓ Interactions are recorded, and later operations are applied to the real-world object.



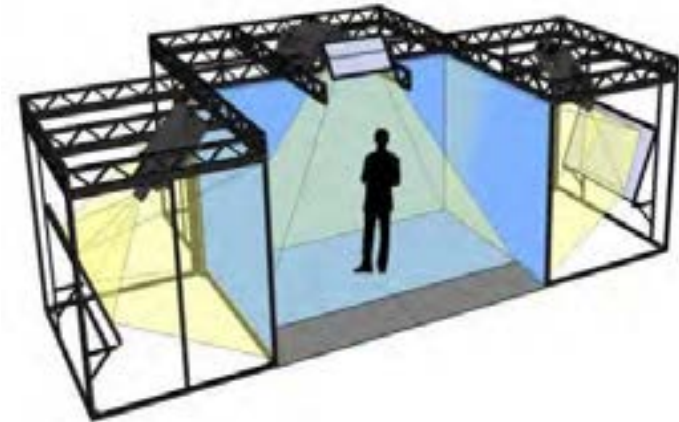
## Head Mounted Display(HMD)

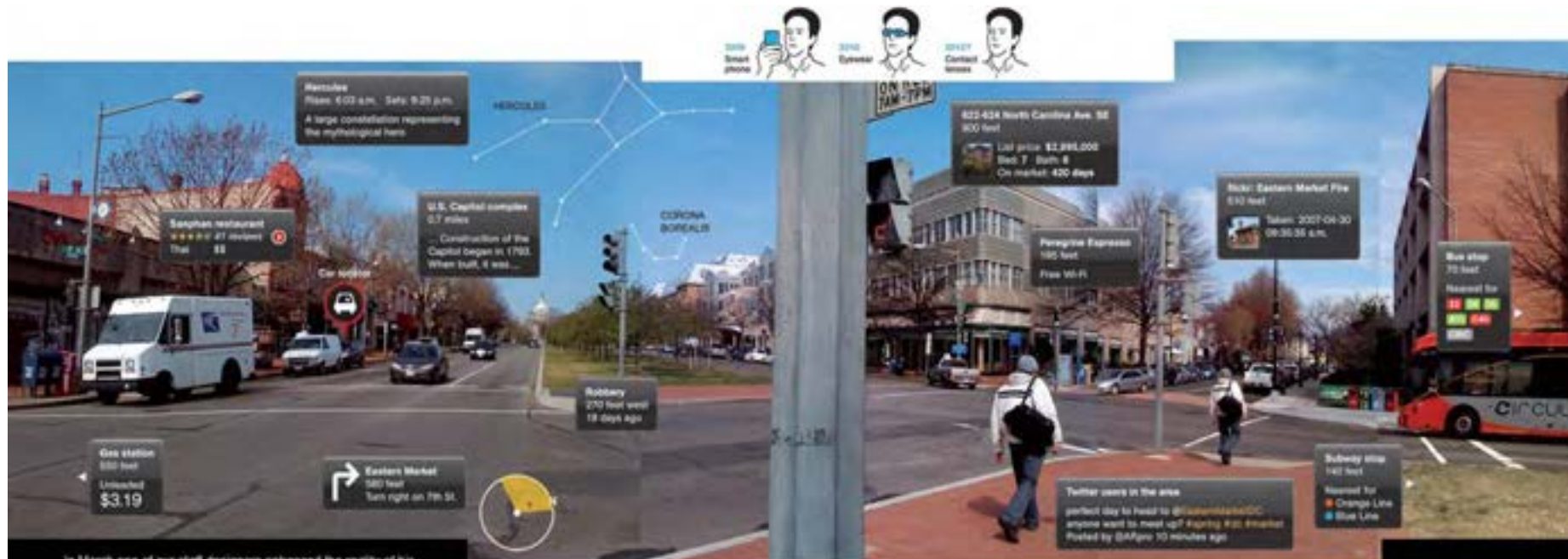


- ✓ A Helmet or a face mask providing the visual and auditory displays.
- ✓ Use LCD to display stereo images.
- ✓ May include built-in Head-tracker and Stereo headphones.

## Cave Automatic Virtual Environment (CAVE)

- ✓ Provides the illusion of immersion by projecting stereo images on the walls and floor of a room-sized cube.
- ✓ A head tracking system continuously adjust the stereo projection to the current position of the leading viewer.

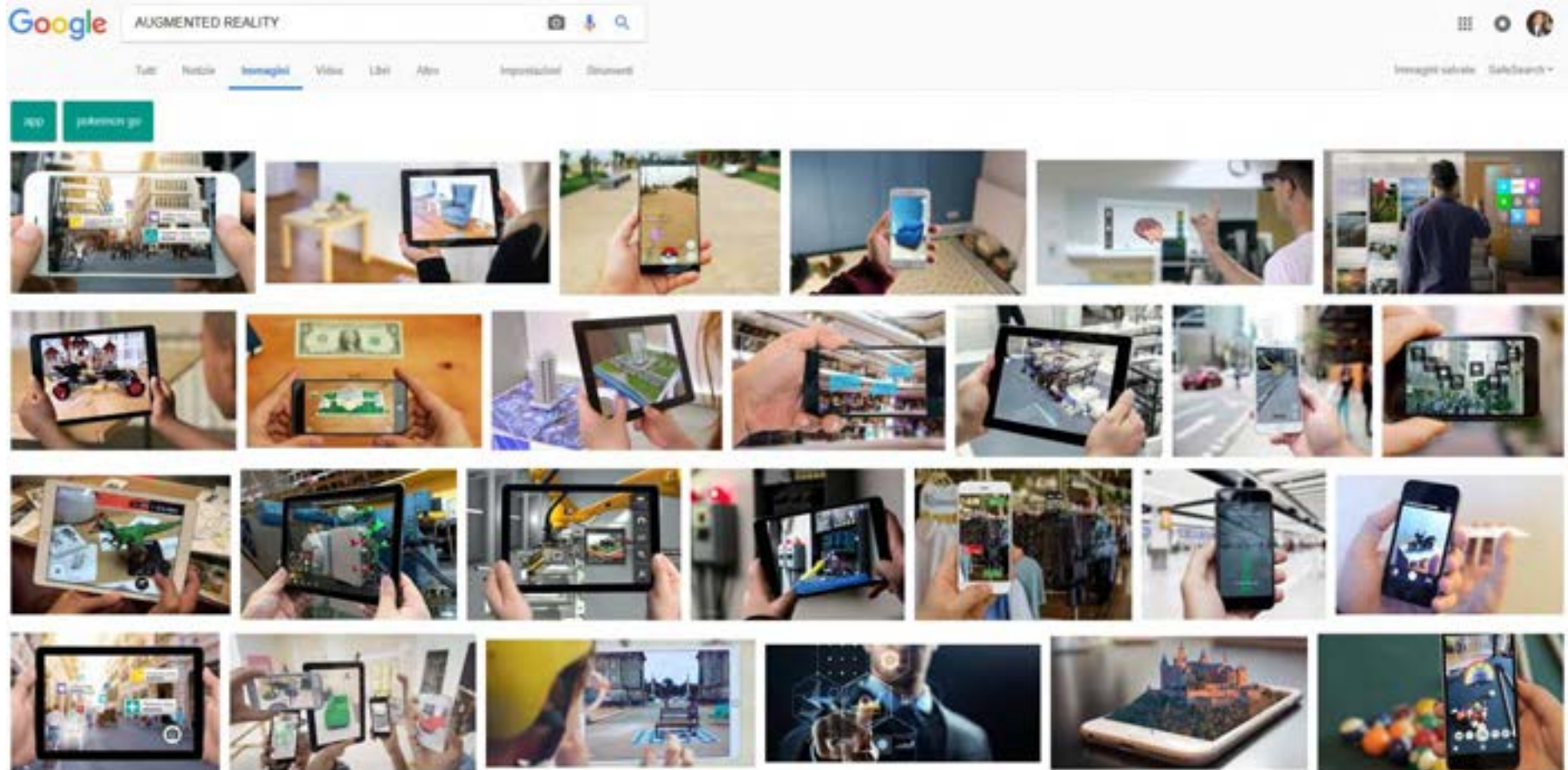




**UP AND AWAY** Point your phone at the sky and find stars hidden by daylight. Aim at a tourist spot and see its history plus info for visitors. For an augmented-reality check, tap into crime stats.

**REAL DEALS** Various apps can steer you to the cheapest gas around, mass-transit options, good food, and Wi-Fi spots. You can also learn the price of that town house that's up for sale.

**STREET PALS** The Tweeps Around app tells if tweeters are near. Flickr displays area photos by members (Eastern Market, above). In the works: an app to match faces to social-network profiles.



# Confused with Augmented Reality And Virtual Reality







## Augmented Reality

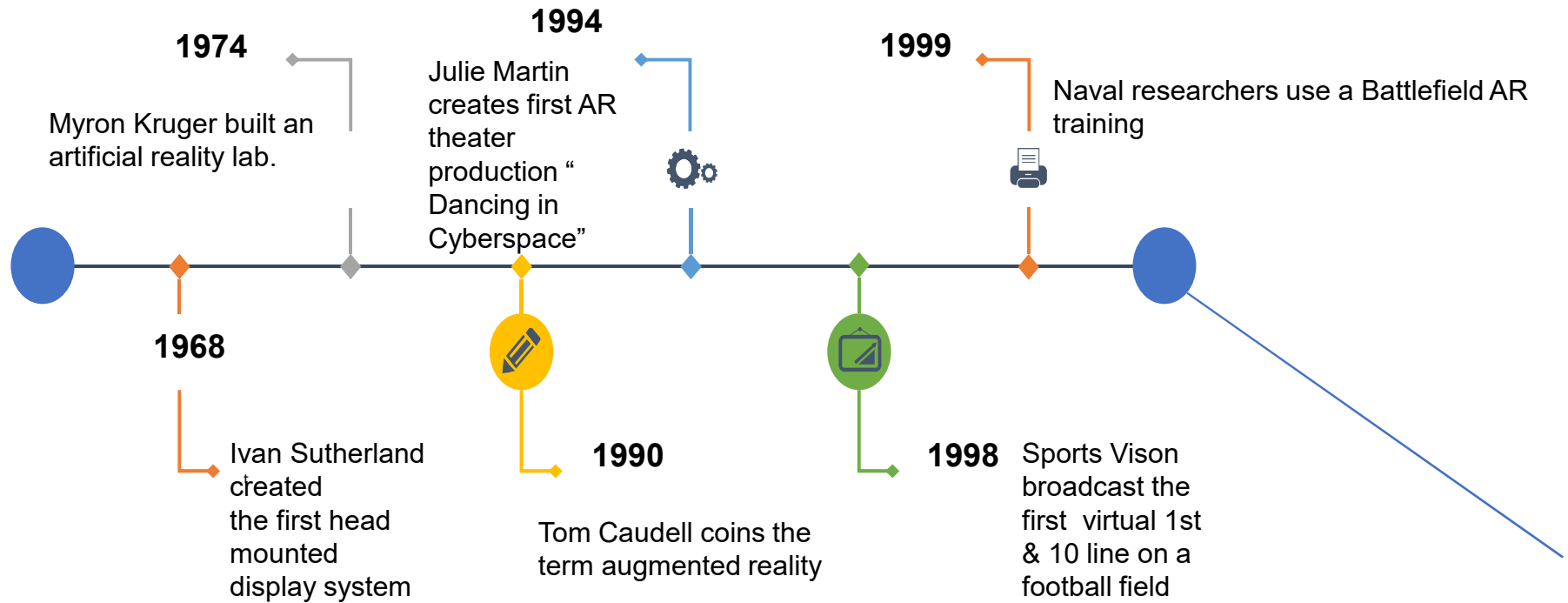
- Virtual Pop-out of the image
- It enhances the real world
- Some times viewing glasses are not required
- A camera (Capturing Device) plays an important role in VR. It acts as a mediator between user and real world



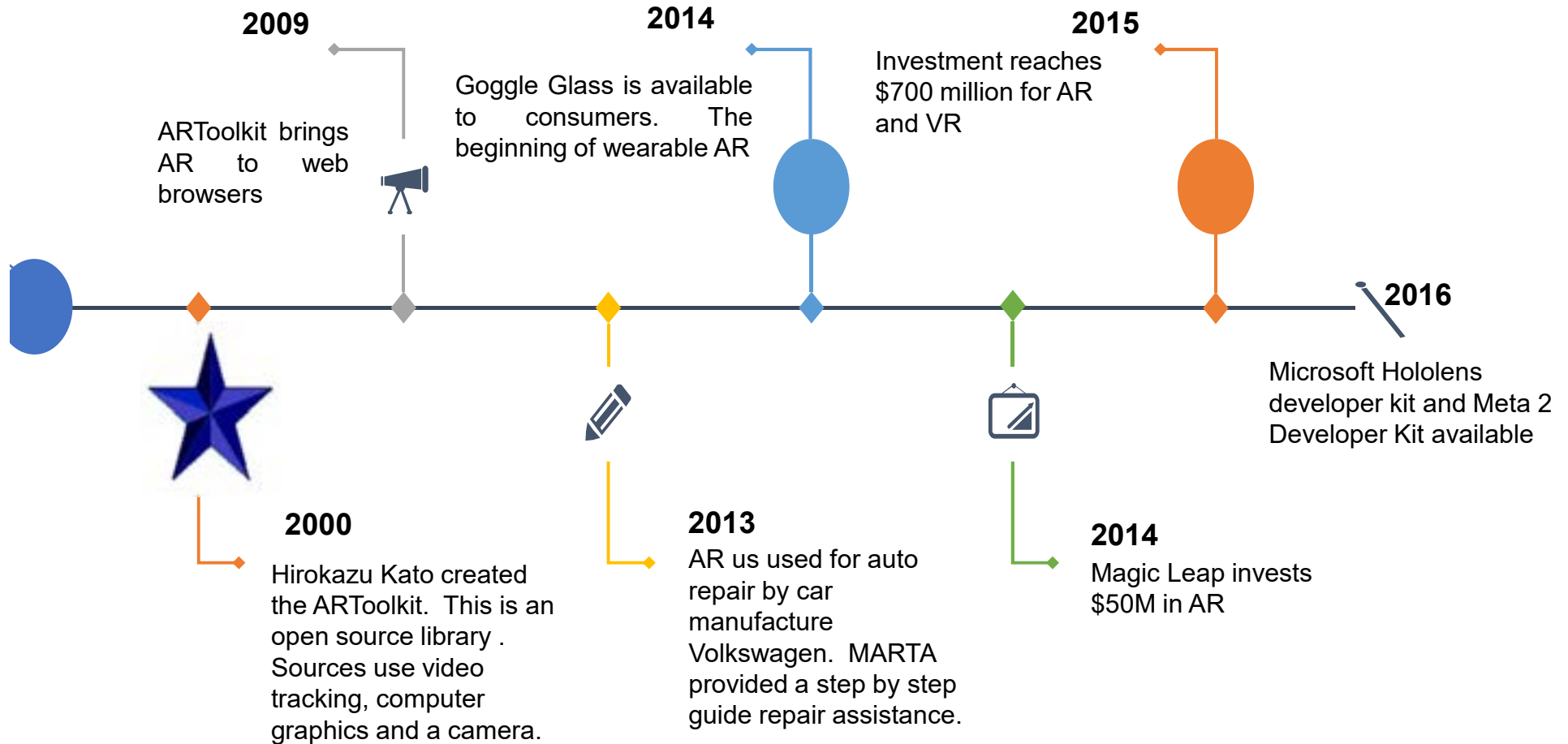
## Virtual Reality

- Real Time Experience
- It leaves you blind to real world
- A VR headset is required
- Most important part of VR is motion sensing and sensing personal emotions, etc.

# AR History Timeline



# AR History Timeline (cont'd)



1997 - Azuma's definition:

*“Augmented Reality is a technology which:*

1. *Combines real and  
virtual world aspects*

**Display System**

2. *Is interactive in real time*

**Interaction System**

3. *Registers the virtual imagery  
with the real world in three  
dimensions*

**Tracking System**

## Display



See-through HMDs



Projection-Based  
Displays



Handheld Displays

## Interaction



Tangible AR



Collaborative AR

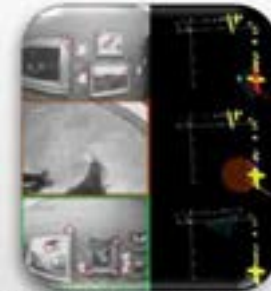


Hybrid AR Interface

## Tracking



Sensor - Based

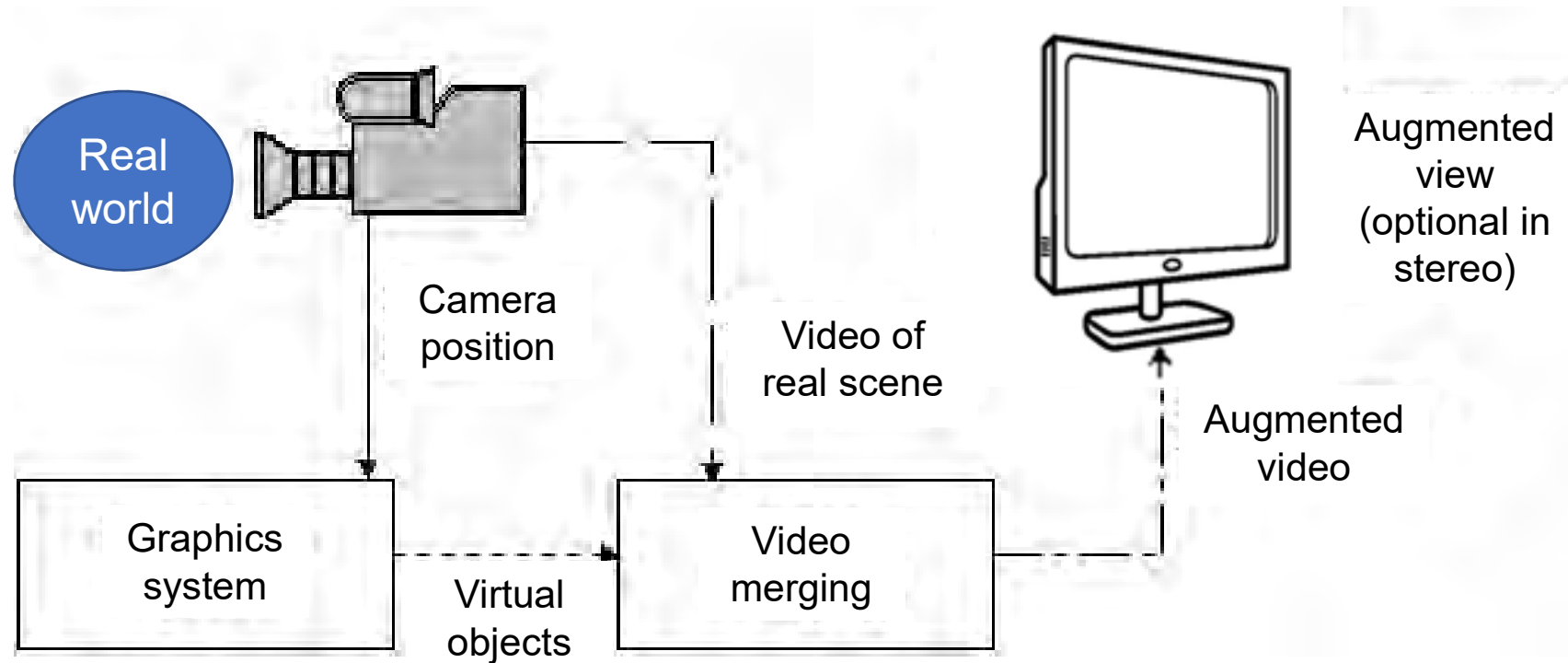


Vision - Based

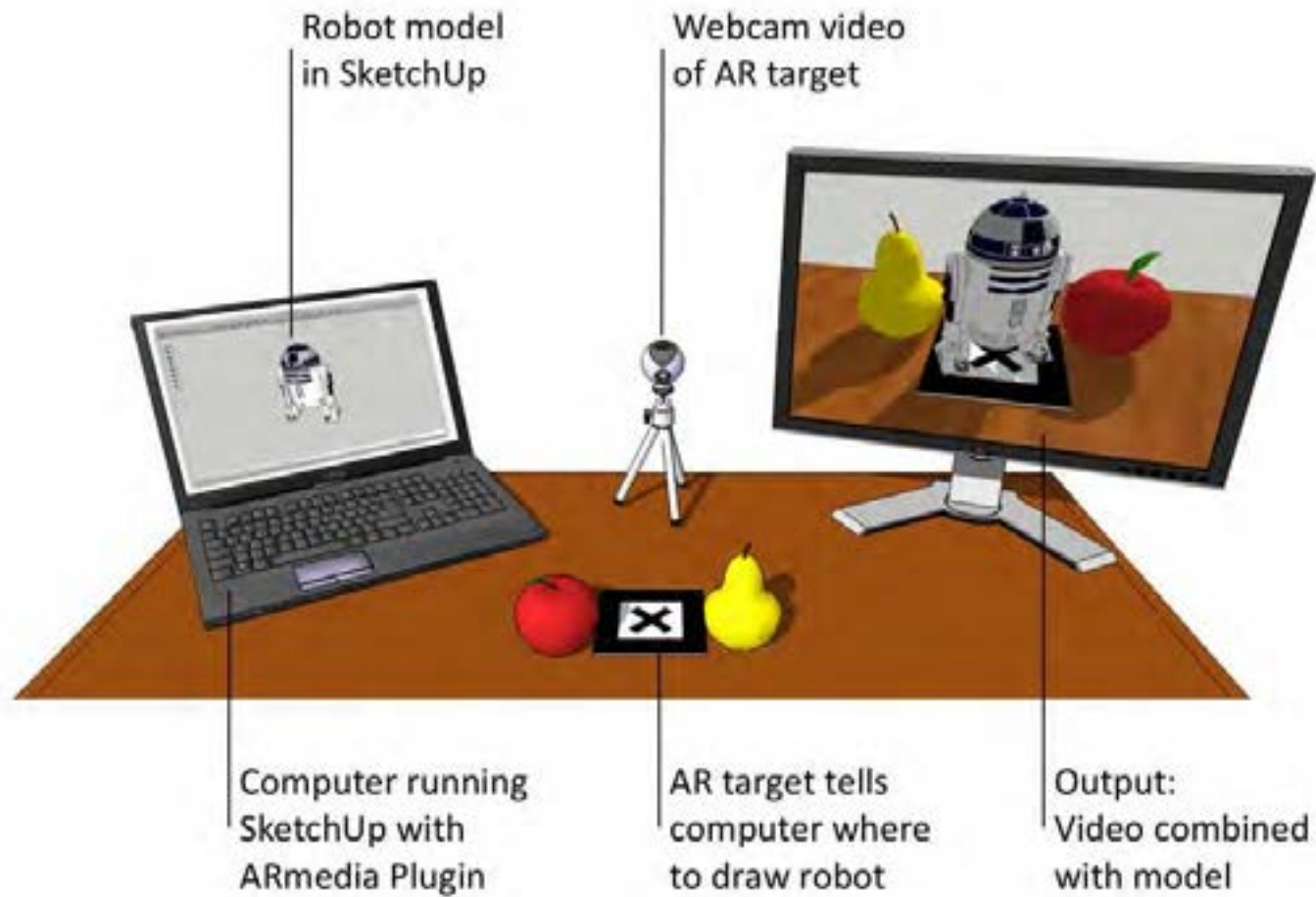


Hybrid

- Monitor Based
  - Laptops
  - Cell phones
  - Projectors (more Ubiquitous Computing)
- Head Mounted Displays:
  - Video see-through
  - Optical see-through

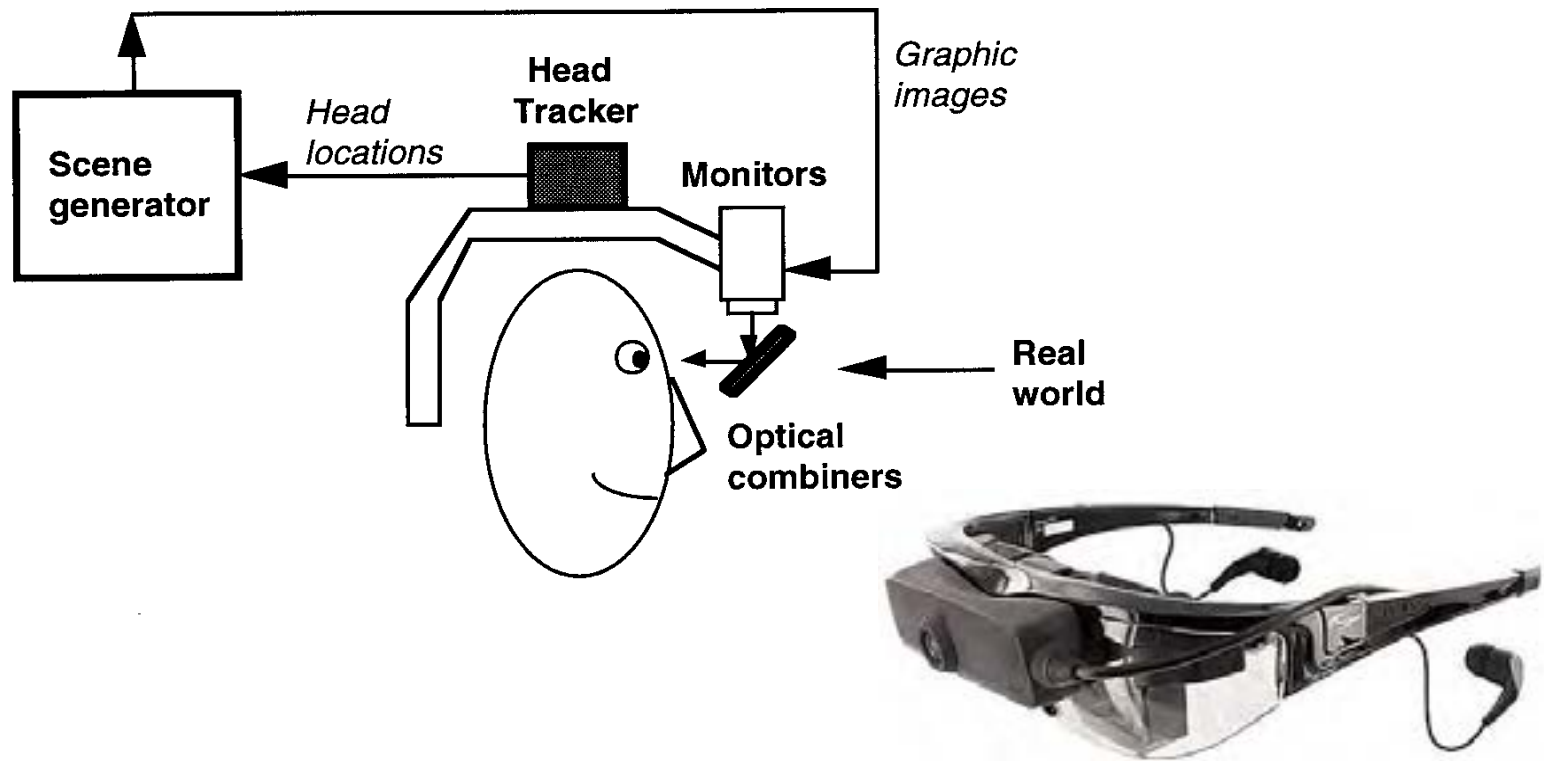


# How it works

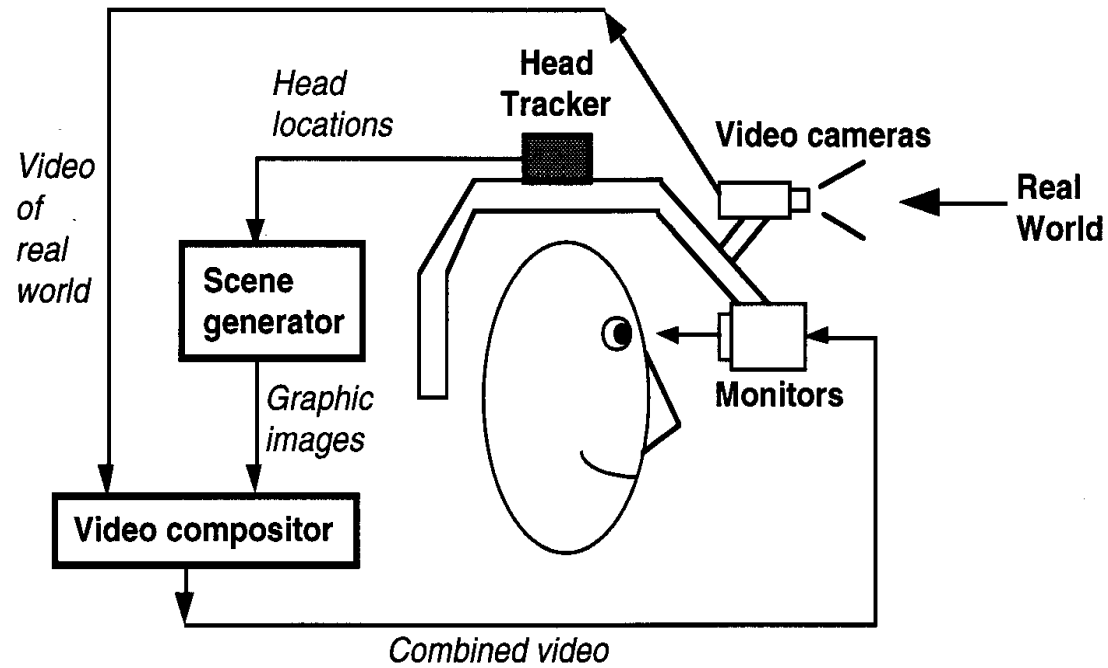




# Optical see-through HMD



# Video see-through HMD



Video see-through	Optical see-through	Monitor display
Flexibility in composition strategies	Simplicity	Consumer-level equipment
Real and virtual view delays can be matched	Resolution	Most practical and simplest available
Wide field of view	No eye offset	A lot of current research aimed here
		Other current active area is a flip-down optical display.

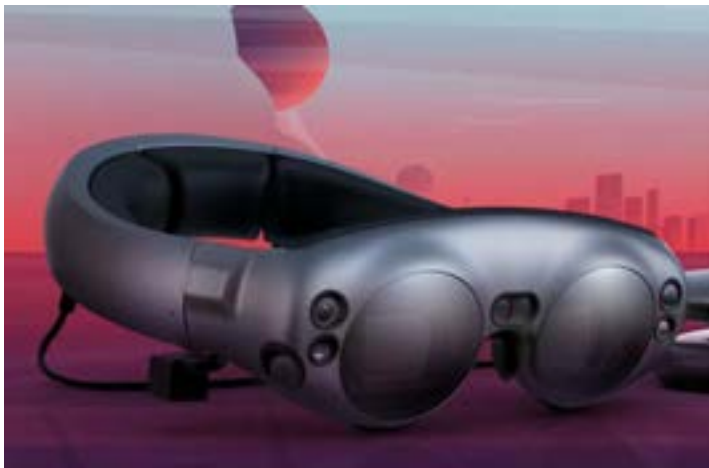
**ORA-2 by Optinvent**



**Meta 2 Augmented Reality**



**Magic Leap One**



**Microsoft HoloLens**



## Chroma-keying

- ✓ Used for special effects
- ✓ Background of computer graphics images is set to a specific color (green or blue)
- ✓ Combining step replaces all colored areas with corresponding parts from video



## Past

- **Bulky Head mounted displays**



1<sup>st</sup> HMD by Ivan Sutherland (1968)

## Present

- ✓ **Handheld devices**
- ✓ **Lightweight head mounted displays**



Xiaomi smartphone



Leap Motion's AR HMD



Microsoft HoloLens

## Future

- ✓ Wide FOV see through
- ✓ Retinal displays
- ✓ Contact lens



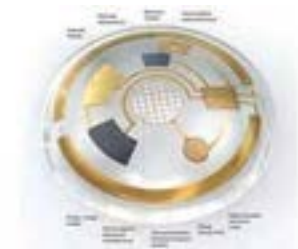
Lumus DK40



Magic Leap One



Intel's Vaunt smartglasses



Contact lens concept



## Past

- ✓ Limited interaction
- ✓ Viewpoint manipulation



## Present

- ✓ Screen based
- ✓ Simple gestures



## Future

- ✓ Natural gesture
- ✓ Multimodal input (gestures and speech)





<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LblxKvbfEoo>

## Past

- ✓ Location based
- ✓ Marker based



## Present

- ✓ Image based
- ✓ Hybrid tracking



## Future

- ✓ Ubiquitous
- ✓ Model based
- ✓ Environmental



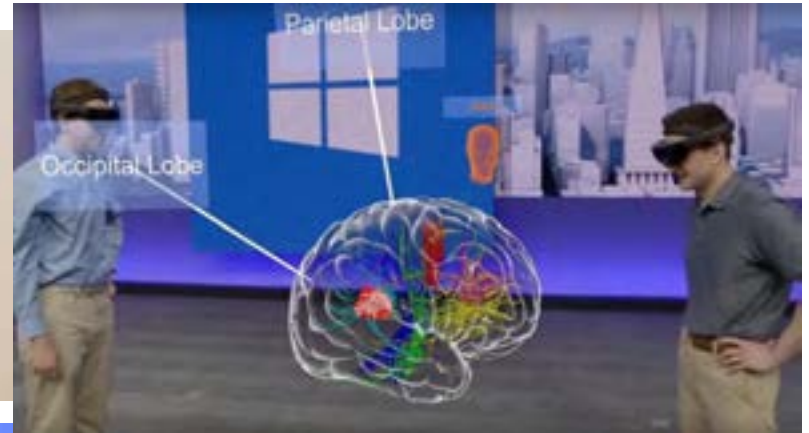


# Examples For Augmented Reality

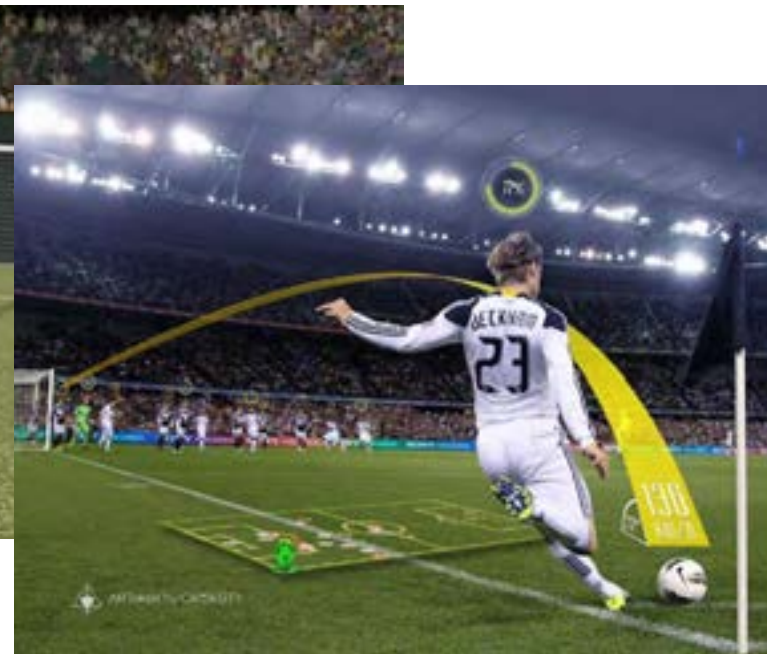
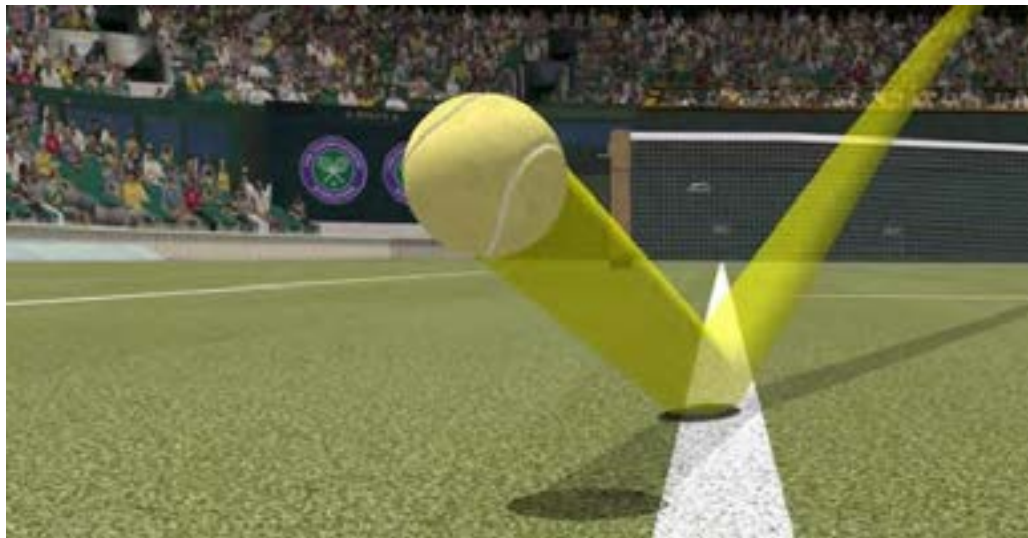


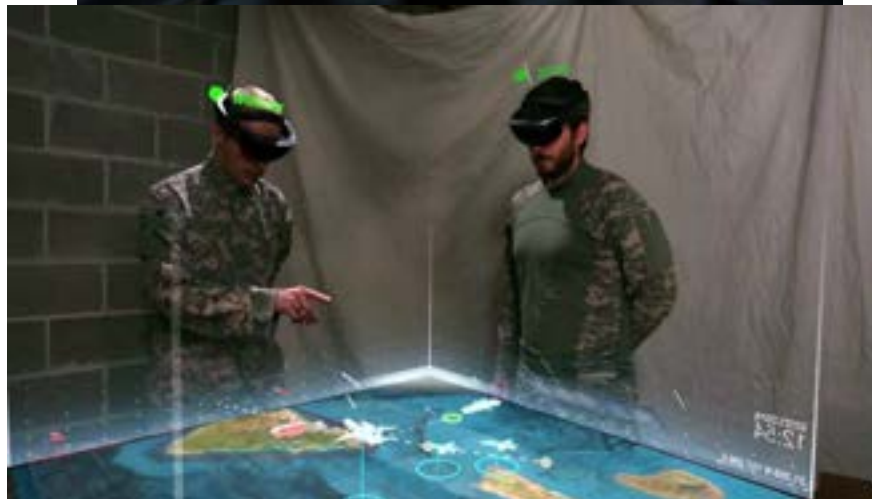


# Augmented Reality in Education









# Augmented Reality APPS





# **Manufacturing Maintenance Security**

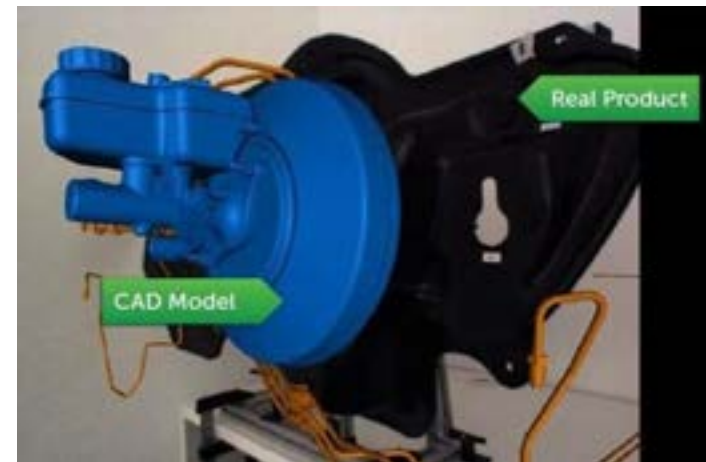


## Design Checking

Fast detection of design flaws allowing evaluate alternatives and visualizing simulation results.

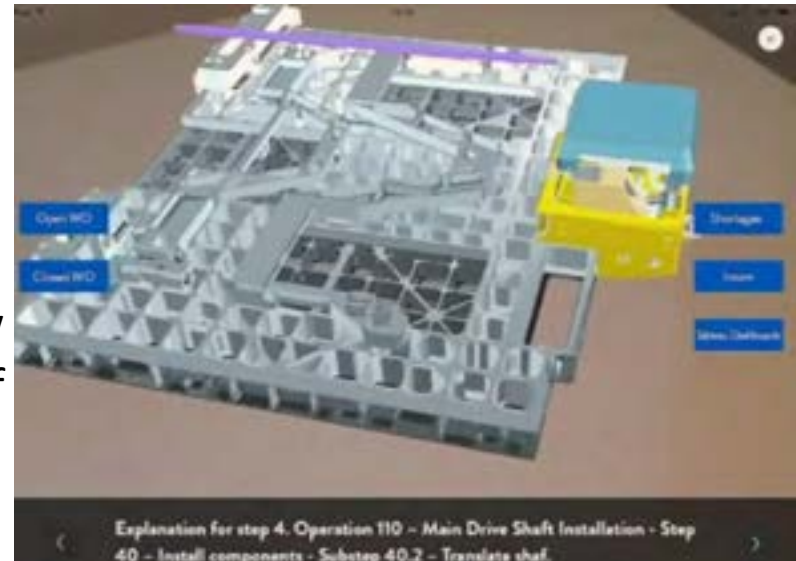
## Deviation analysis

Combining virtual 3D objects on top of real products reduces or replace the need for physical prototypes.



## Step by step assembly

- Interactive and intuitive step-by-step guidance
- Superimposition of 3D models to highlight construction parts
- Superimposition of 3D animations to show how to perform tasks directly on an area of interest
- Attachment of digital labels and comments to real components





## Step by step service and maintenance

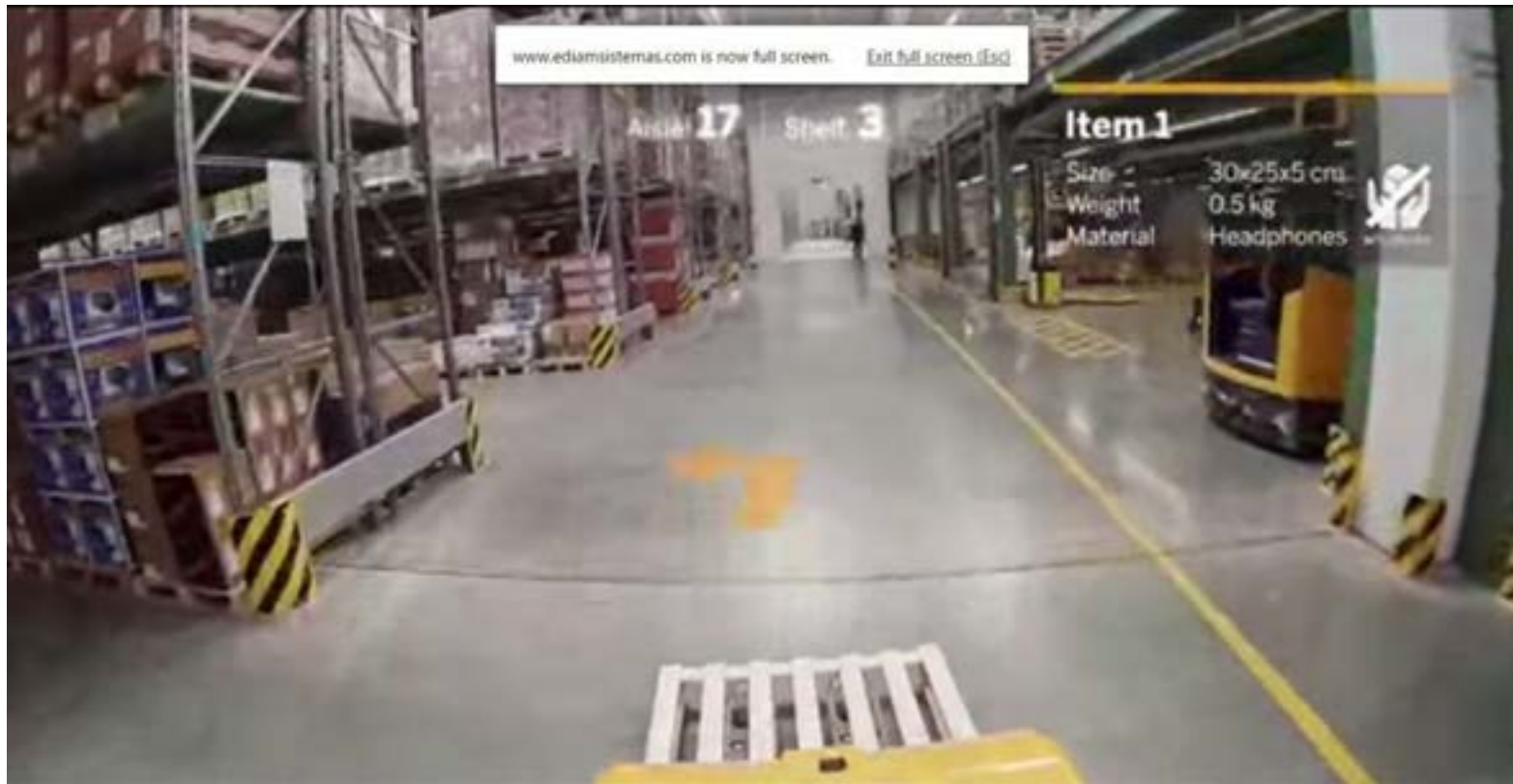
Step-by-step instructions in a head-mounted display (HUD) directly in the user's field of view, facilitate and accelerate the maintenance, repair, or installation of complex units.



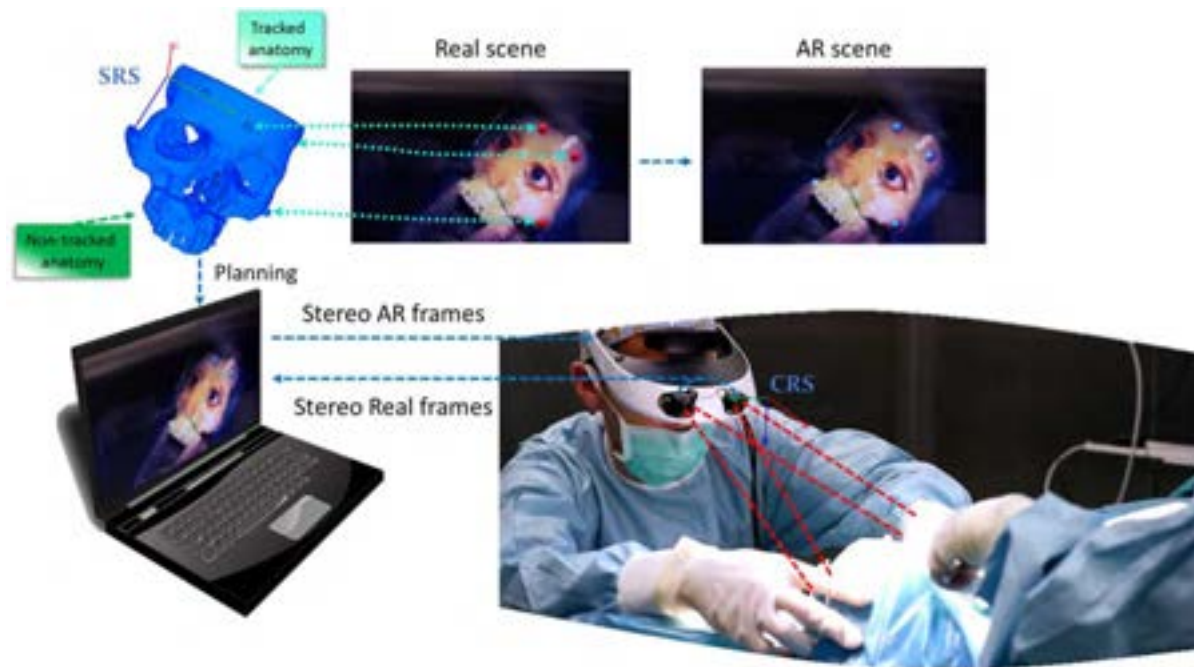
- **Advanced documentation**
  - 3D information directly from documents and manuals.
  - Hands free operation with AR + Smart Glasses



## Logistics - Picking



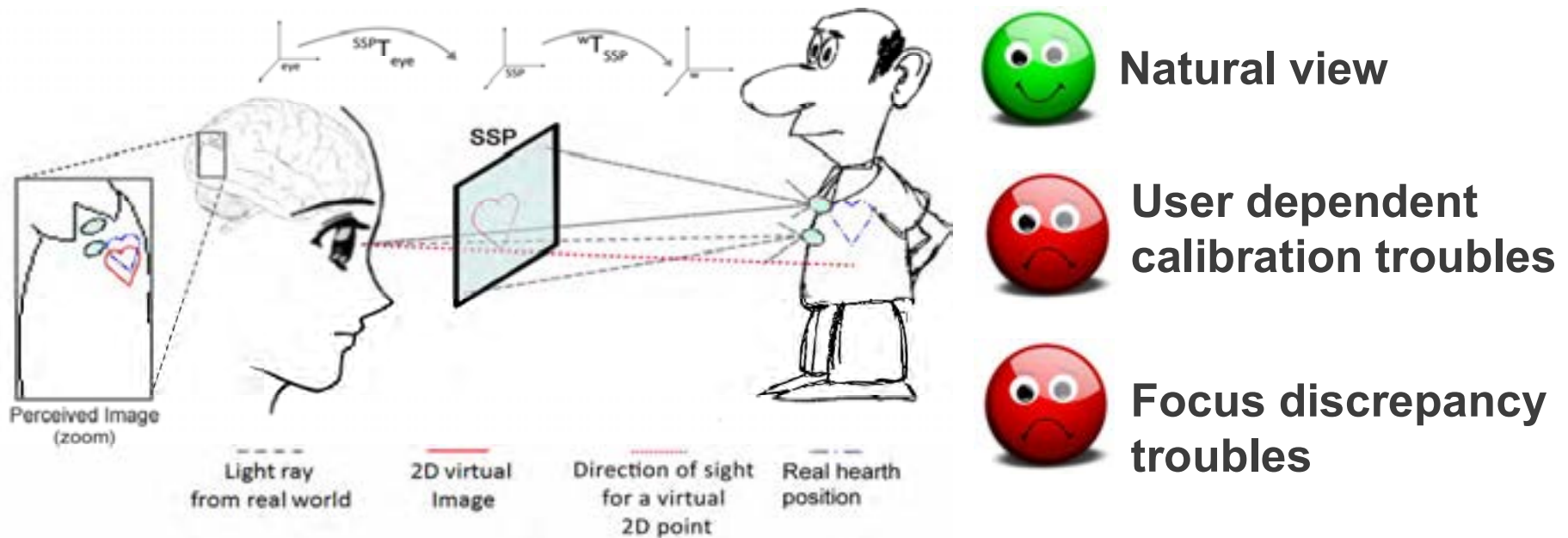




"Augmented reality for maxillofacial surgery: validation of a wearable system for maxillary repositioning," *Journal of Cranio-Maxillofacial surgery*, 2014.



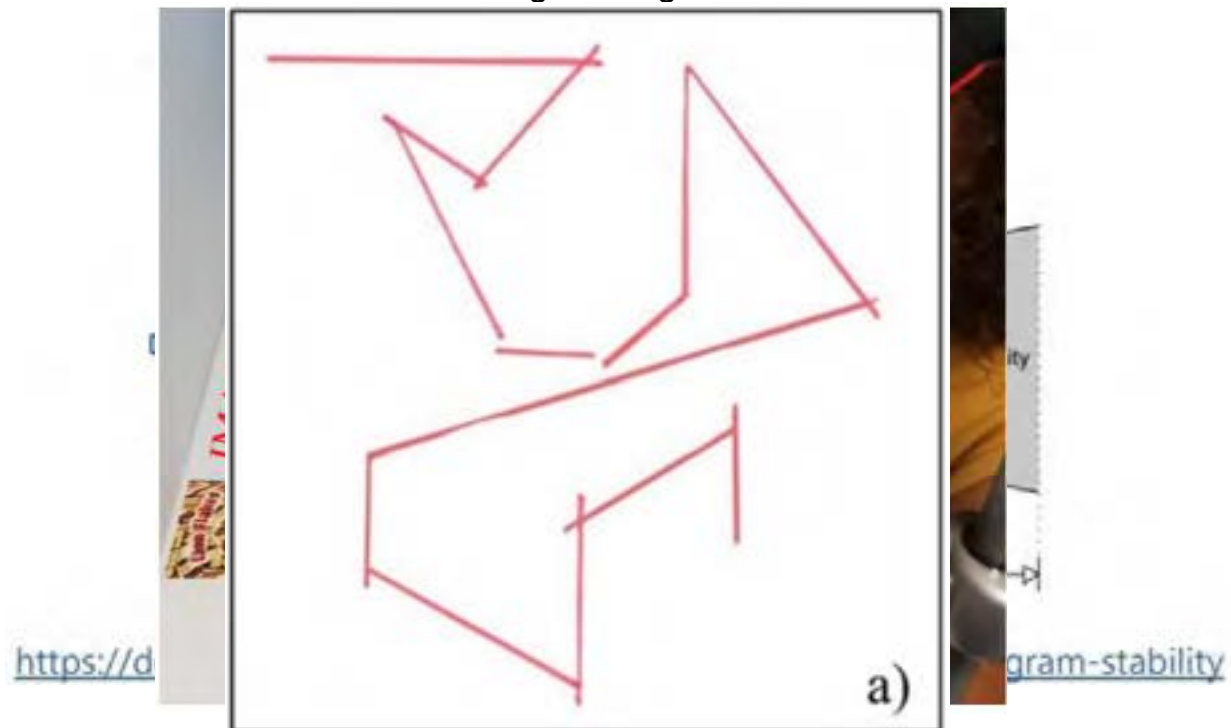
*Confirmed in Condino et al 2018 Journal  
of Healthcare Engineering*



**Vergence-accommodation conflict**

*Perceptual Limits of Optical See-Through Visors for Augmented Reality Guidance of Manual Tasks*

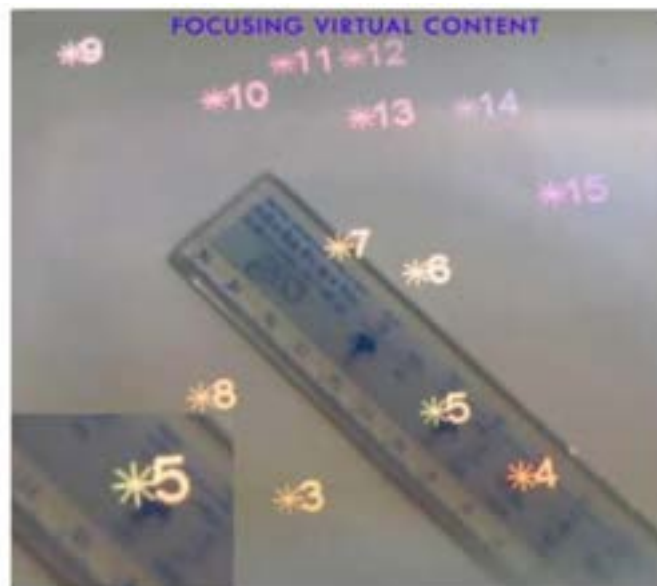
S Condino, M Carbone, R Piazza, M Ferrari, V Ferrari  
IEEE Transactions on Biomedical Engineering 2019





*Perceptual Limits of Optical See-Through Visors for Augmented Reality Guidance of Manual Tasks*

S Condino, M Carbone, R Piazza, M Ferrari, V Ferrari  
IEEE Transactions on Biomedical Engineering 2019





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VIDEO AND OPTICAL SEE-THROUGH  
AUGMENTED REALITY SURGICAL SYSTEMS

**VOSTARS**

VOSTARS WILL BE THE FIRST HYBRID VIDEO/OPTICAL SEE-THROUGH HMD,  
A DISRUPTIVE SOLUTION FOR IMPROVING SURGICAL OUTCOMES.

PHOTONICS<sup>21</sup>

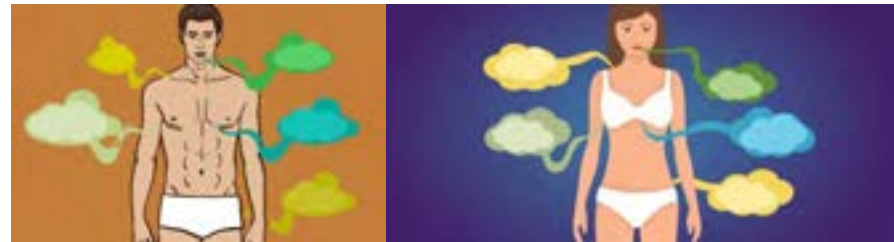


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POTION aims to study the human capacity to transmit emotions and influence social behaviour through body odour: **chemosignals**.

When we feel emotions such as happiness and fear, the human body produces chemosignals which are released through sweat and which could be emotionally contagious the moment they are perceived by others.



POTION will take up the challenge of identifying **human chemosignals associated to happiness and fear.**



To this aim, sweat will be collected in **sorbent pads** or **tubes** placed under the armpit of subjects undergoing a controlled emotional stimulation (vision of fear- or happiness-inducing **movies** in **virtual reality**).



Strict recruitment criteria and a specific protocol concerning diet, smoke and personal hygiene will reduce odour variability and possible contaminations.

Virtual, Augmented reality and Mixed reality have a very strong potentials and maybe they are currently only at an initial stage but for sure they will have a very big role in our lives in the future when these technologies are matured enough.

