IN4MATX 148: Ubiquitous Computing Prototyping and Projects



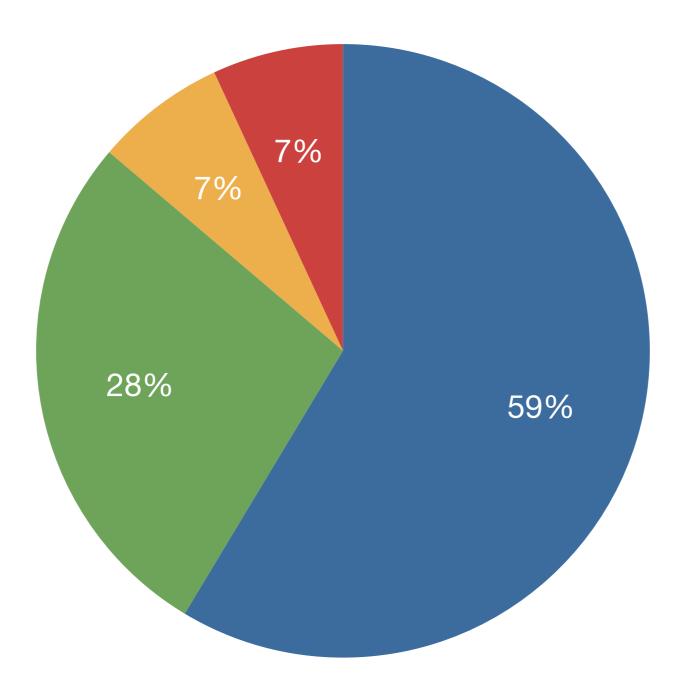
Week 3: Design Crit 1, Sketching Part II: (Hybrid & Physical Sketches), Ubicomp in the Home

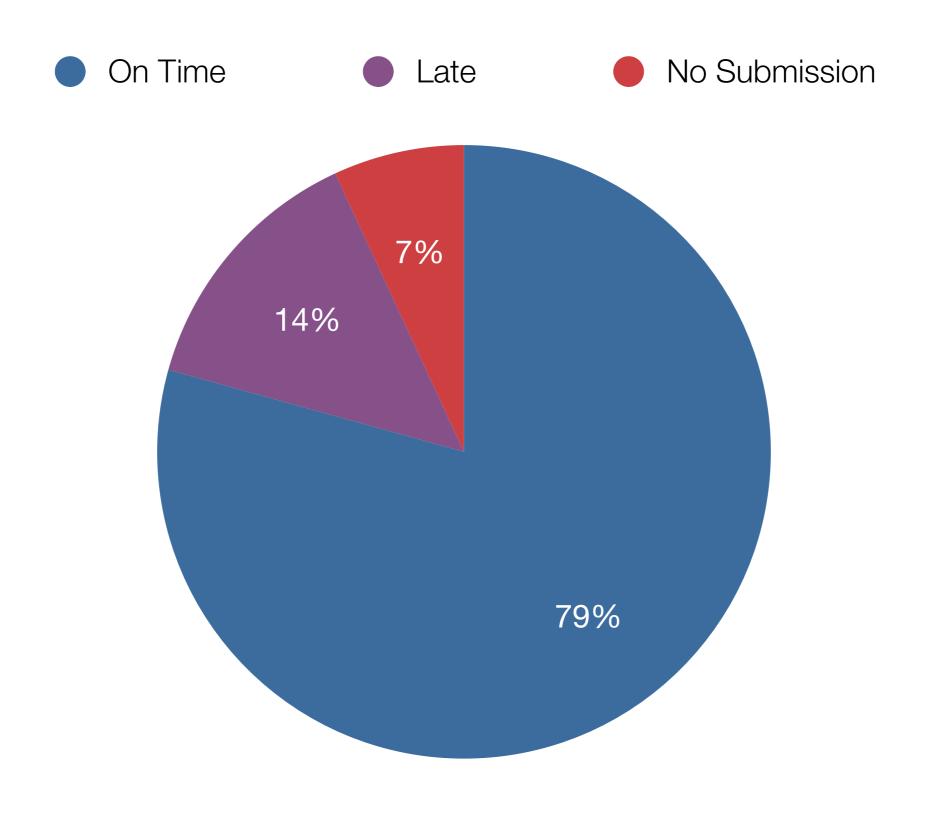
16 April 2012 Stephen Voida svoida@uci.edu

Preface: Course Logistics

- Group Projects: Teams Assigned
 - Should have received e-mail from me about this!
 - Need to meet with your mentor ASAP
 - No need to CC me or Miya on group emails
 - 1–2 page project overview statement (see class website for details) is due to me via e-mail by
 5:00pm PDT on Wednesday, April 18







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- Group Projects: Teams Assigned
 - 1–2 page project overview statement (see class website for details) is due to me via e-mail by
 5:00pm PDT on Wednesday, April 18
- Sketching Exercise due at the end of tonight's crit
 - Will be graded and available for pick-up on Wednesday (check EEE announcements for details)
- Check EEE announcements, course website regularly
- Questions? Comments? Concerns?

On Deck for Tonight

- Part I: Design Crit 1
- Part II: Sketching, The Sequel (Hybrid & Physical Sketching)
 - Hands-on Activities
- Part III: Ubicomp in the Home
 - Your Exercise for the Week
- Afterword: Group Project Discretionary Time
 - (Get Organized!)



Quick review, recapping material by Miya Sylvester

Design Crit: Method to Our Madness

- One at the beginning of every class meeting
- Groups of ~5 students
- Present your work for 4–5 minutes
- Constructively critique your peers' work for ~3 minutes
- ~2 minutes for change-overs between presenters
- Turn in your assignments when the crit is finished

Design Crit: Instructions for Presenters

- Be creative and communicative
- Remember: "...evaluated primarily on the creativity of thinking represented and the communicative effectiveness of the deliverable; less focus will be placed on the artistic merit of the submissions."
- Explain by introducing:
 - What the design exercise is of
 - What it is supposed to do for the user
 - The novelty of the design; where your idea(s) came from

Design Crit: Instructions pr Critics | Construction | Constructio

- What is going on?
 - Does the prototype communicate what is intended?
 - What would the design make/have the user do?
- What is the flow of the interaction? Does it remind you of something?
 - What would it be like to use the design?
 - Would you use the designed prototype?
 - What do you (not) like about it?
- Does it follow a creative purpose? Is it quality work?
 - Is it original?
 - Is it similar to another product or person's work?
 - What can be changed to make it more original?

Part II: Sketching, The Sequel (Hybrid and Physical Sketching)

based on Saul Greenberg's CPSC581 lecture materials



The Attributes of Sketches

Quick

• to make

Timely

provided when needed

• Disposable

 investment in the concept, not the execution

Plentiful

 they make sense in a collection or series of ideas

Clear vocabulary

 rendering & style indicates it's a sketch, not an implementation

Constrained resolution

 no higher than required to capture its concept

Consistency with state

 refinement of rendering matches the actual state of development of the concept

Suggest & explore rather than confirm

 suggests/provokes what could be i.e., they are the catalyst to conversation and interaction

A catalyst

evokes conversations & discussion

From Sketches to Prototypes

Early design

Brainstorm different ideas and representations

Choose a representation

Rough out interface style

Task centered walkthrough and redesign

Fine tune interface, screen design Heuristic evaluation and redesign

Usability testing and redesign

Limited field testing

Alpha/Beta tests

Multitude of sketches

Sketch variations and details

Sketch or low fidelity prototypes

Low to medium fidelity prototypes

High fidelity prototypes

Working systems

Late design

Sketches: Digging Deeper

generality

narrativity

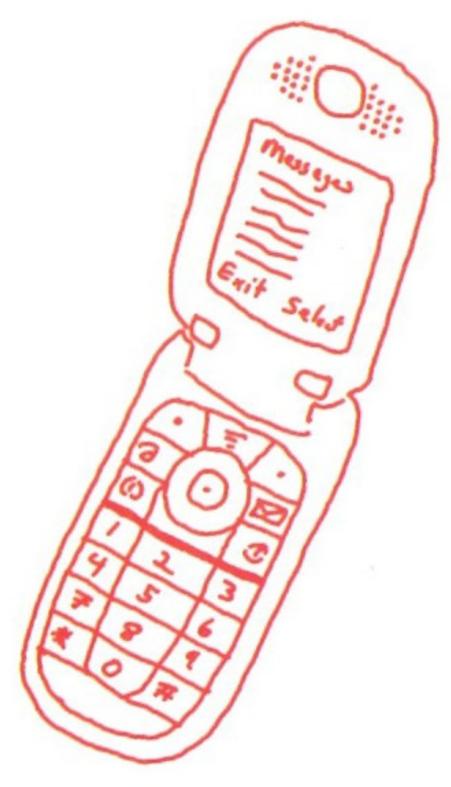
materiality

Technique: Tracing

- Basic idea
 - Copy/trace the fixed elements of an existing interface
 - Leave your design space empty
- Technology
 - Camera, photograph, tracing paper or
 - Photoshop (or equivalent)
 - Trace over image on a separate layer
- Drawing skill required
 - Almost zero

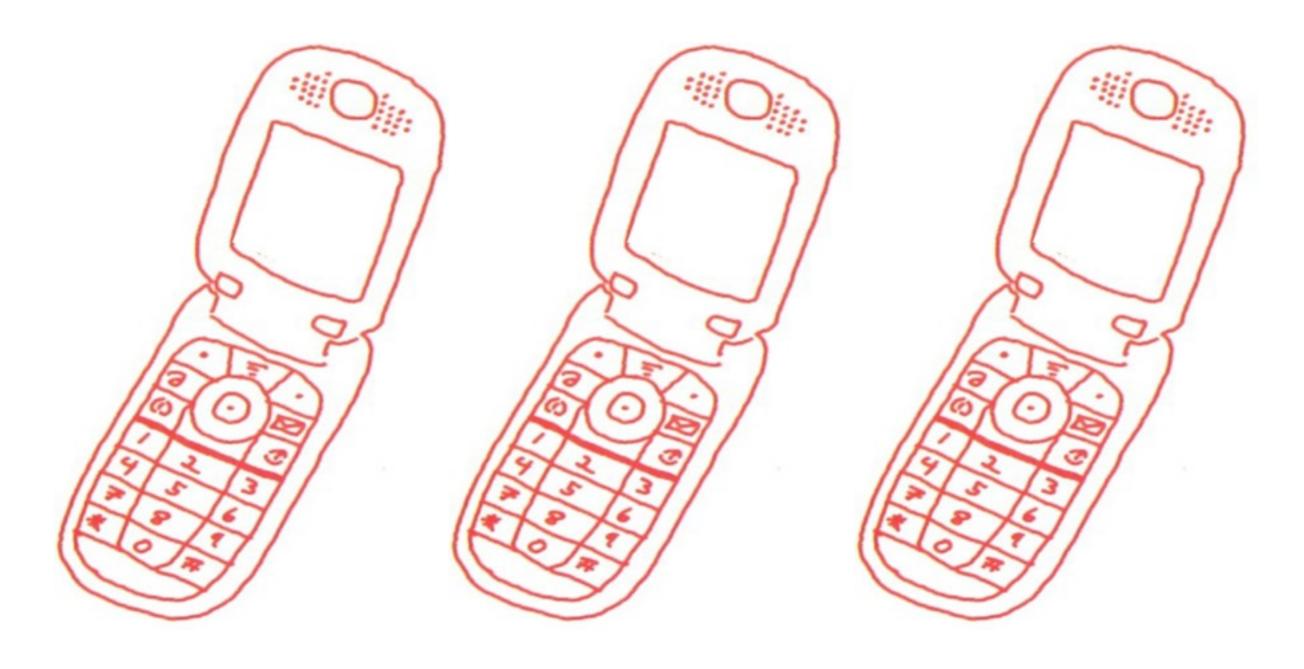






Generate Blanks for Your Designs

Screen can be filled in, phone is constant



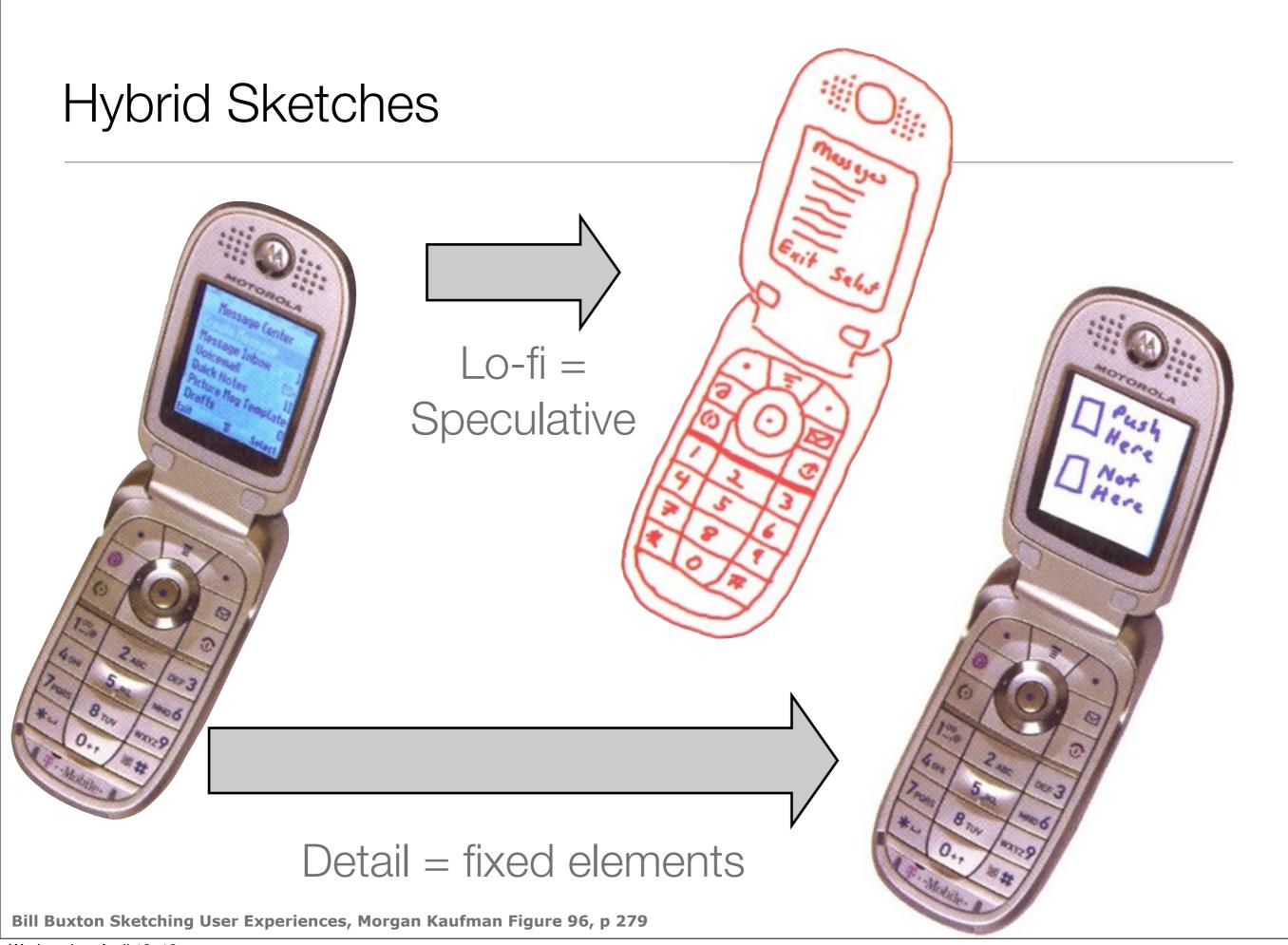




Technique: Hybrid Sketches

- Mixes full- and low-fidelity elements
- Full-fidelity portions
 - Fixed design elements
- Low-fidelity portions
 - Speculative components
- Contrast
 - Makes certain parts of sketch stand out over others

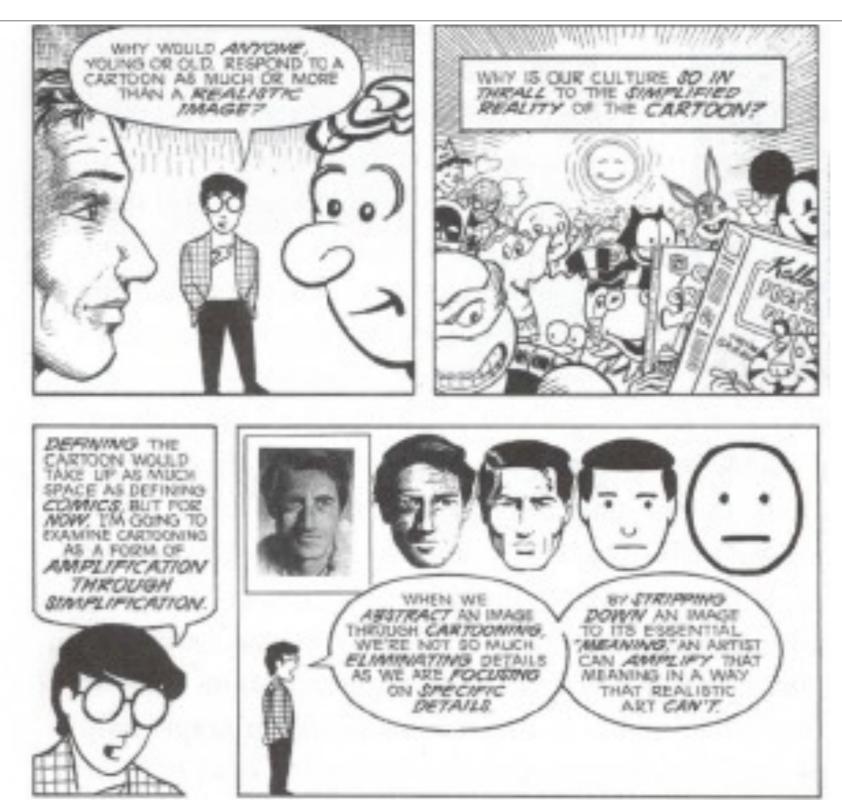




Hybrid sketches

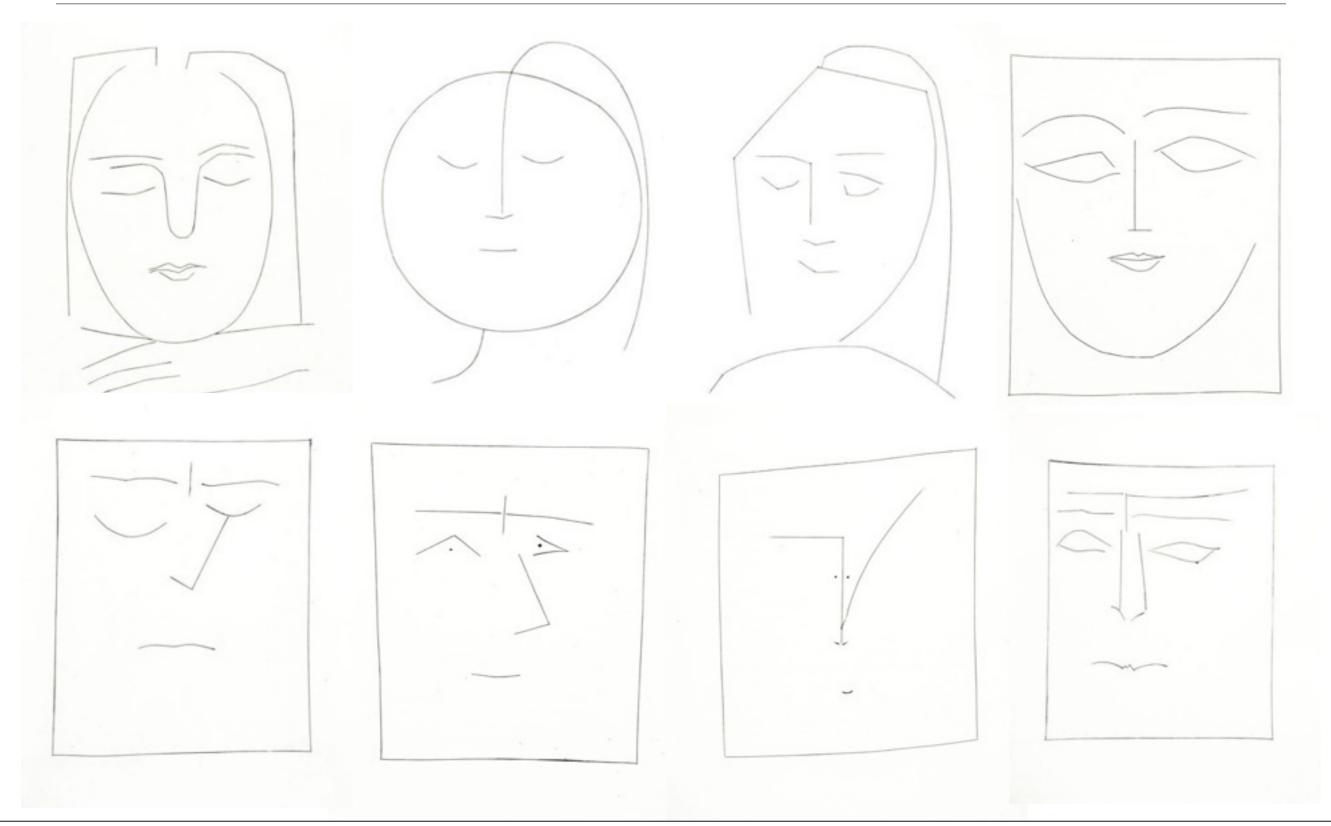


How Much Fidelity Do We Really Need?



Bill Buxton Sketching User Experiences, Morgan Kaufman Figure 105 (from Scott McLaoud, Understanding Comics, p30)

Picasso's Engravings for Carmen

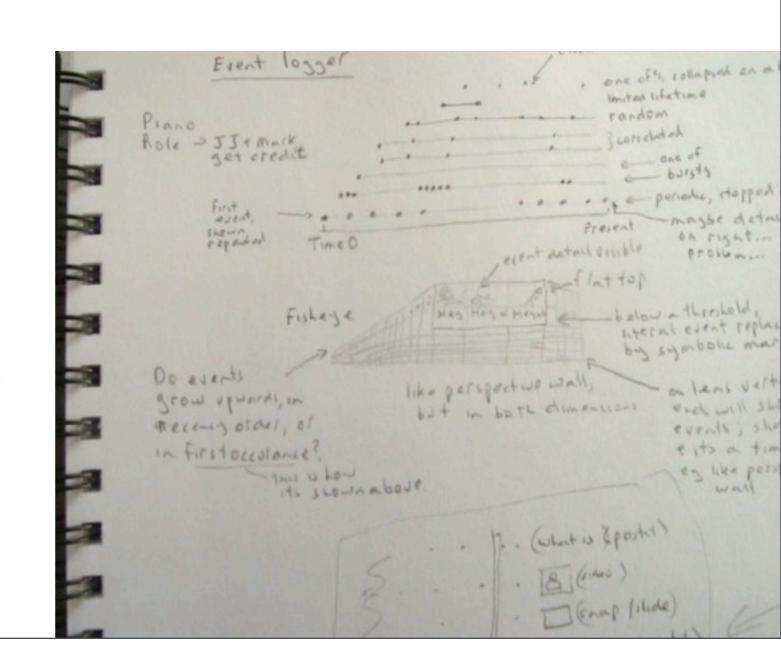


Picasso's Don Quixote



Technique: Annotations

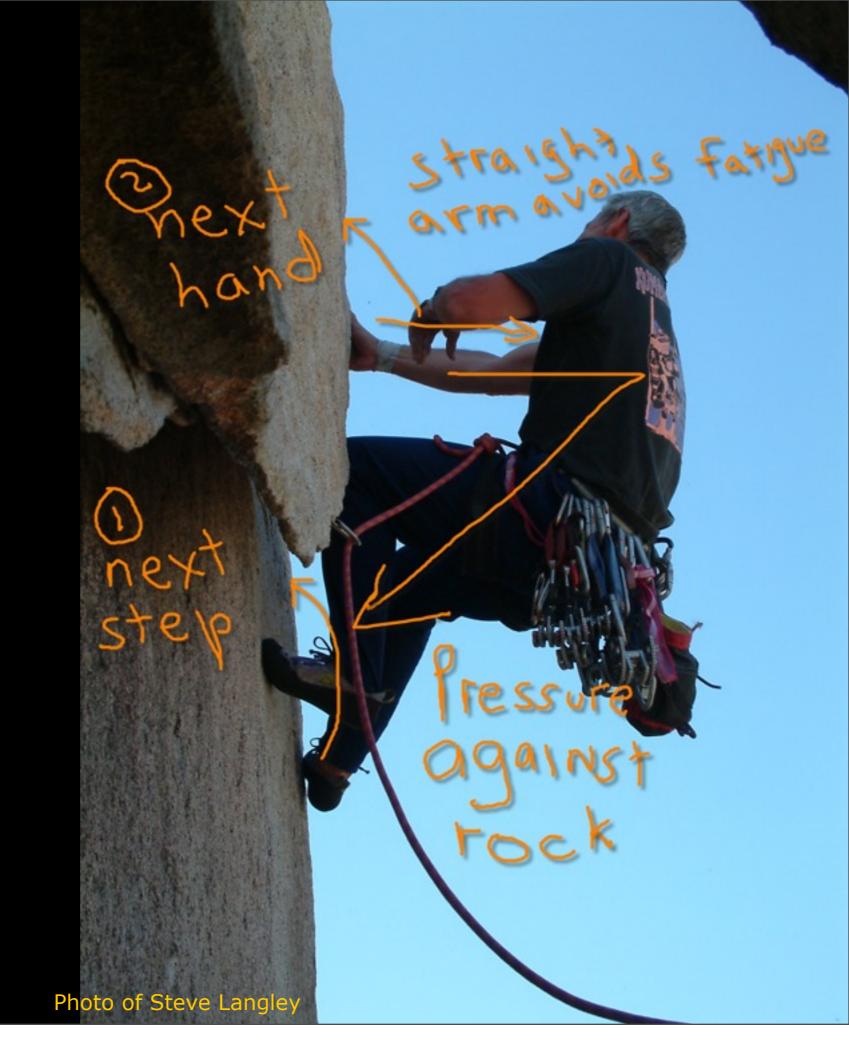
- Marks that augment a sketch
 - Directly on sketch
 - As layer
 - Tracing
 - Photoshop layer
 - Over dynamic media

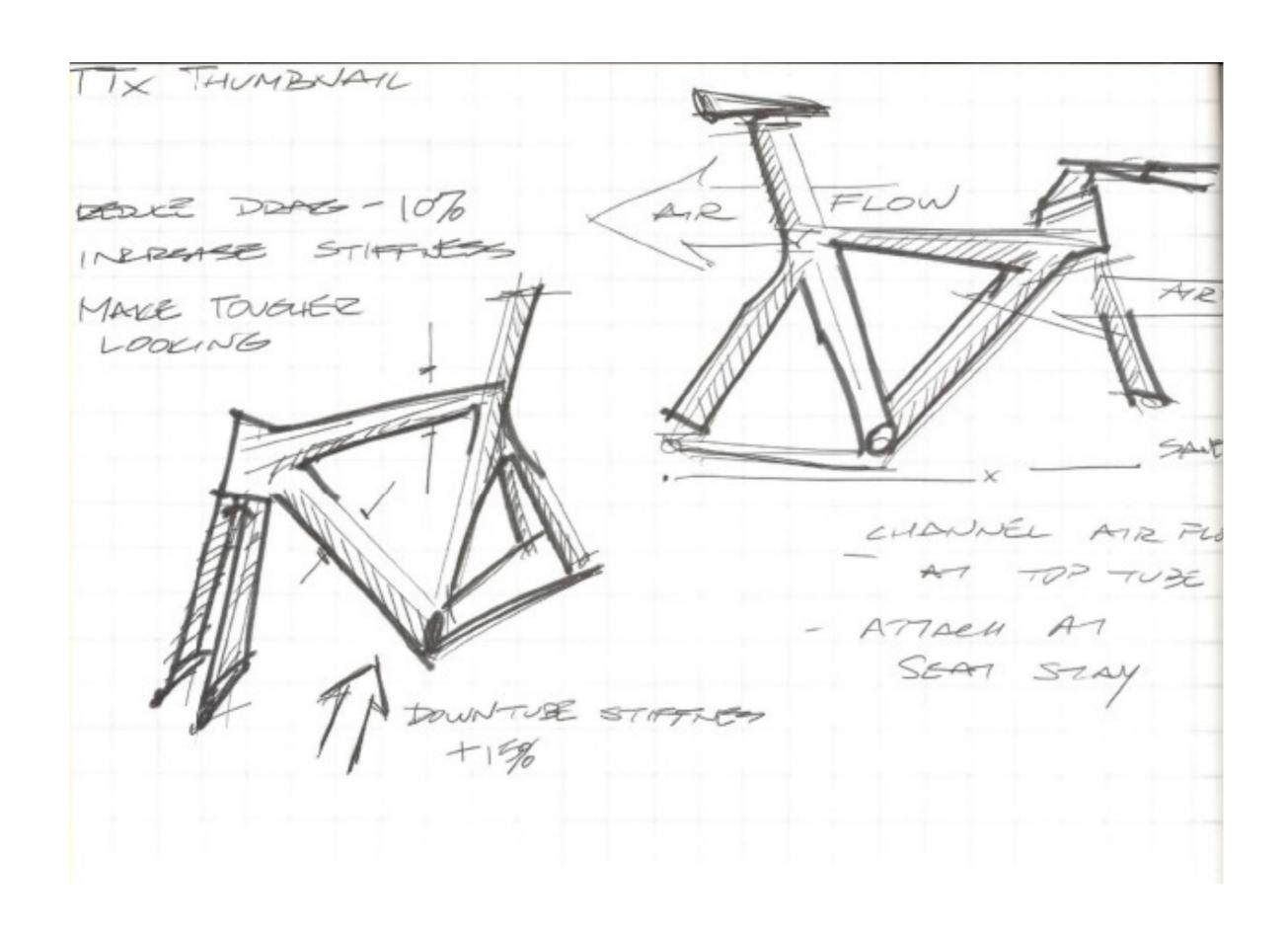


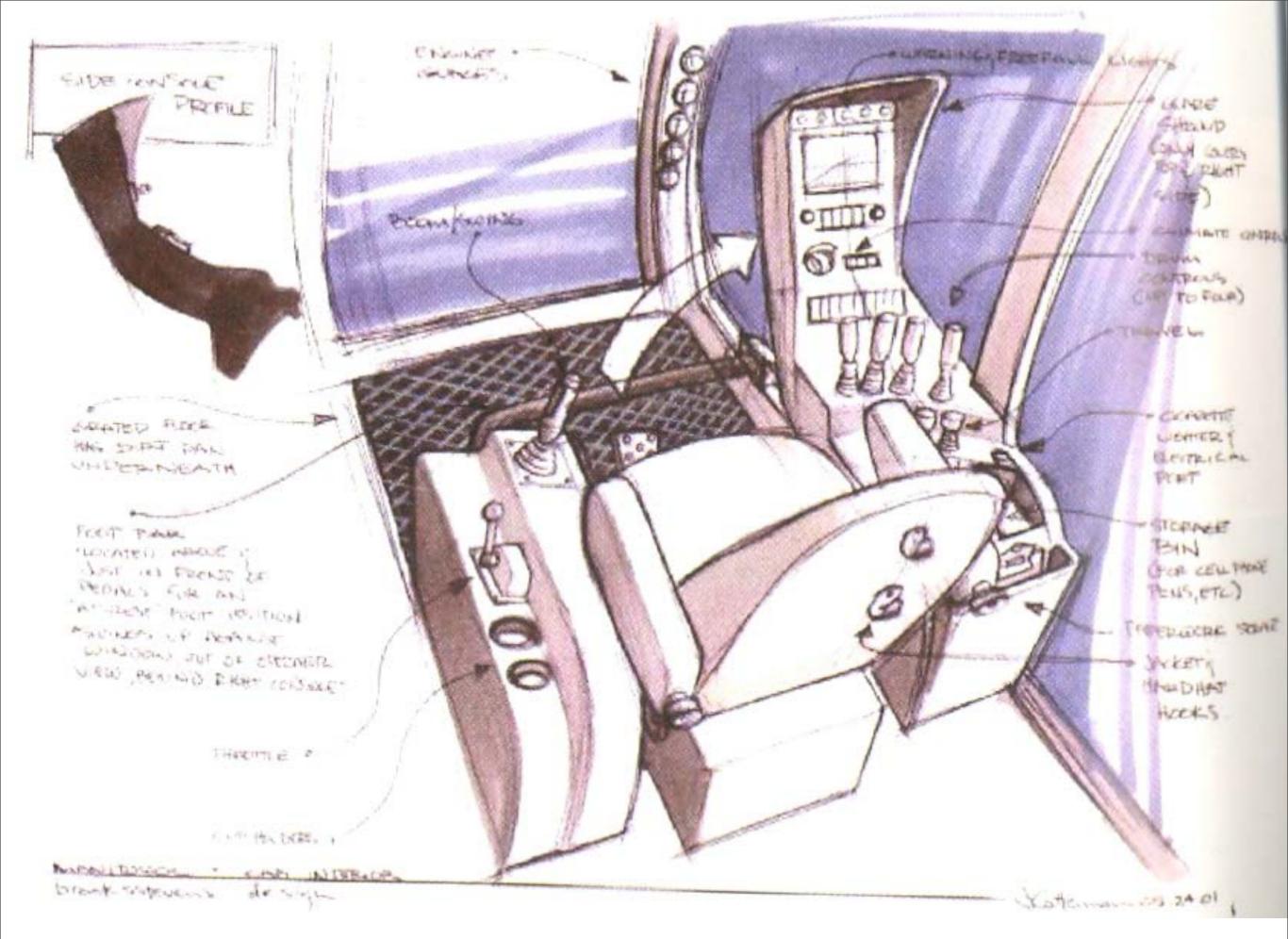
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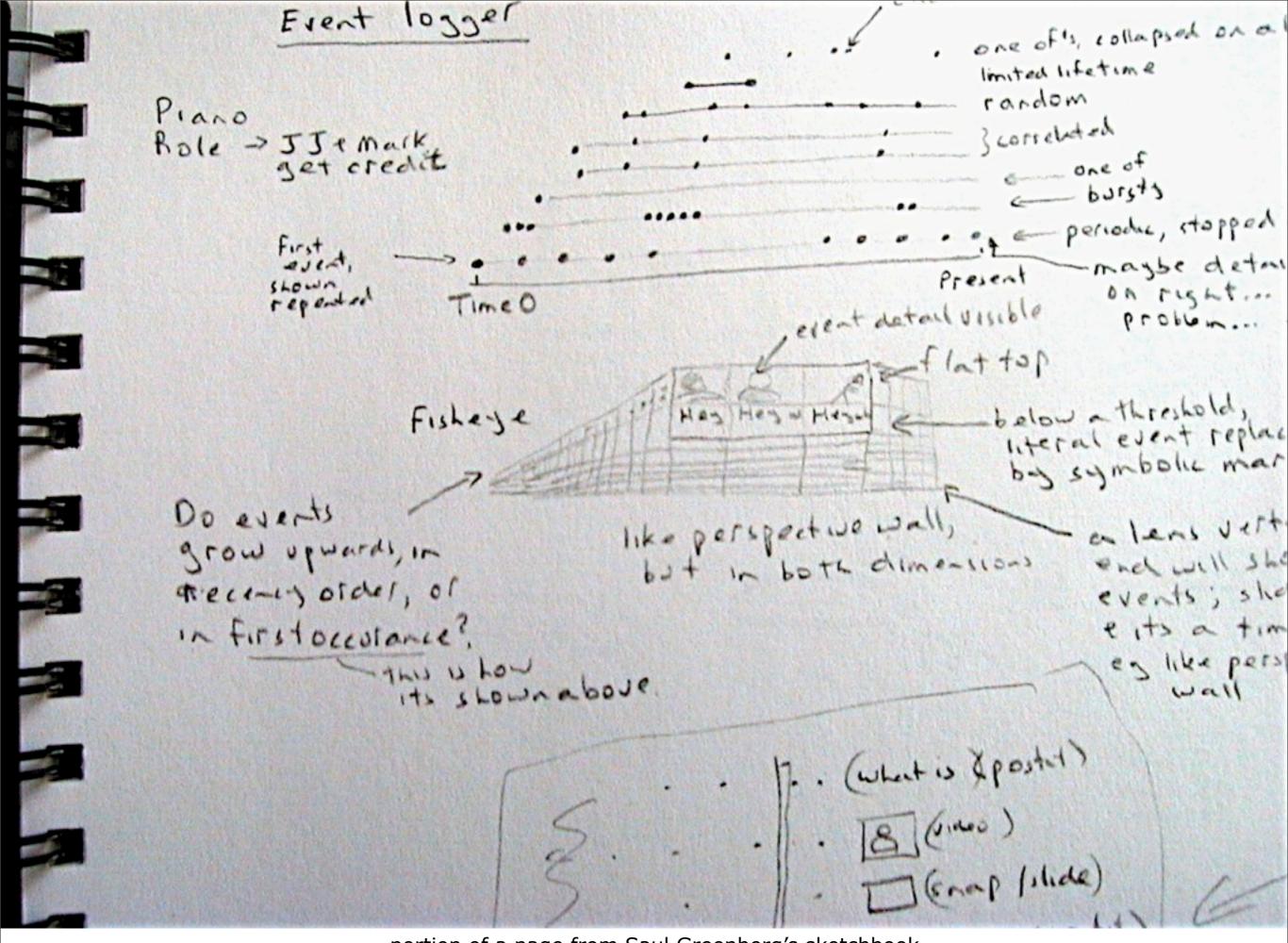
- Textual Notes
 - Name and/or explain things
 - Add detail
 - Lists of items
 - Questions/issues about design…
- Graphical Marks
 - Connects notes to sketch elements
 - Relates sketch elements
 - Show dynamics of elements or interaction over time...











portion of a page from Saul Greenberg's sketchbook



How to Make Playdough (Play-doh)

Basic ingredient ratios:

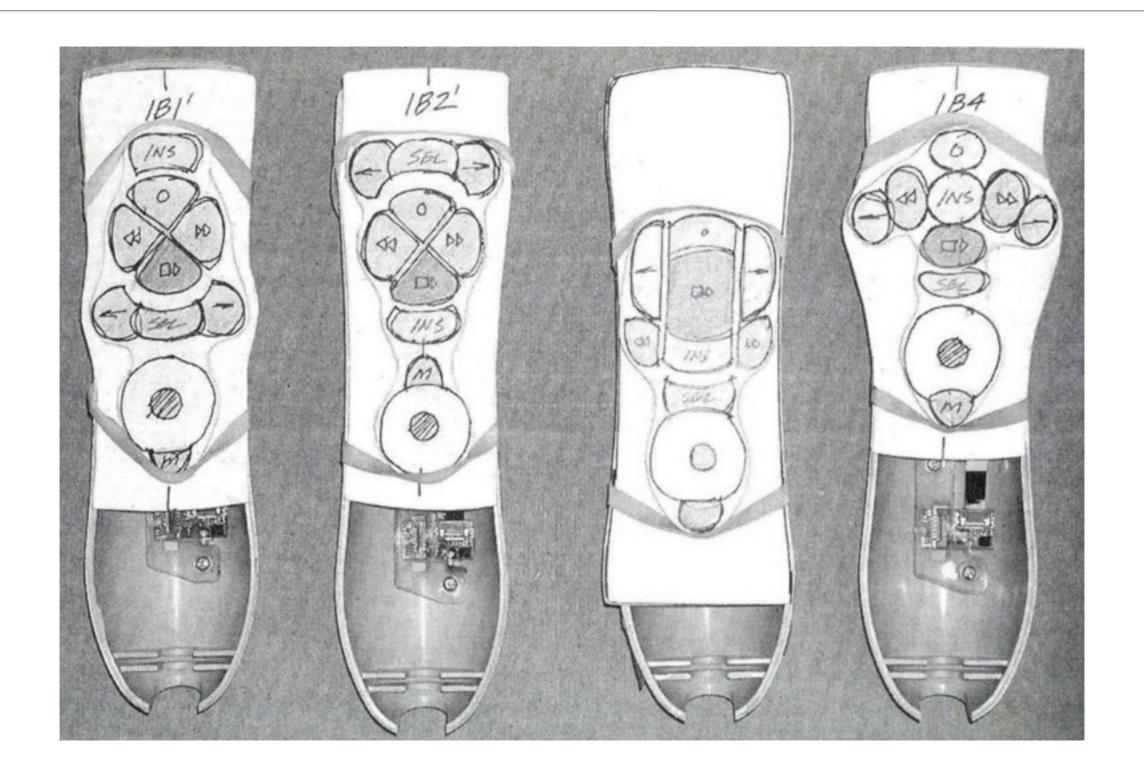
- 2 cups flour
- 2 cups warm water
- 1 cup salt
- 2 Tablespoons vegetable oil
- 1 Tablespoon cream of tartar (optional for improved elasticity)



http://www.instructables.com/id/How-to-Make-Playdough-Play-doh/



Sketch Examples: Design Variations



¹From Carloyn Snyder's Book Paper Prototyping (2003) Morgan Kaufmann, p350



Wednesday, April 18, 12



based on Geraldine Fitzpatrick's HCl course slides http://www.informatics.sussex.ac.uk/courses/hci/HCl_lecture10_Dec4_6.pdf

Ubicomp in the Home

- Background
 - Embedded sensors & devices
 - Ubicomp as an environment: "the smart home"
- Need to understand
 - how people will experience these environments
 - what they will want to live with
- Need to situate ubiquitous computing research in the real world
- Different from office and workplace environments

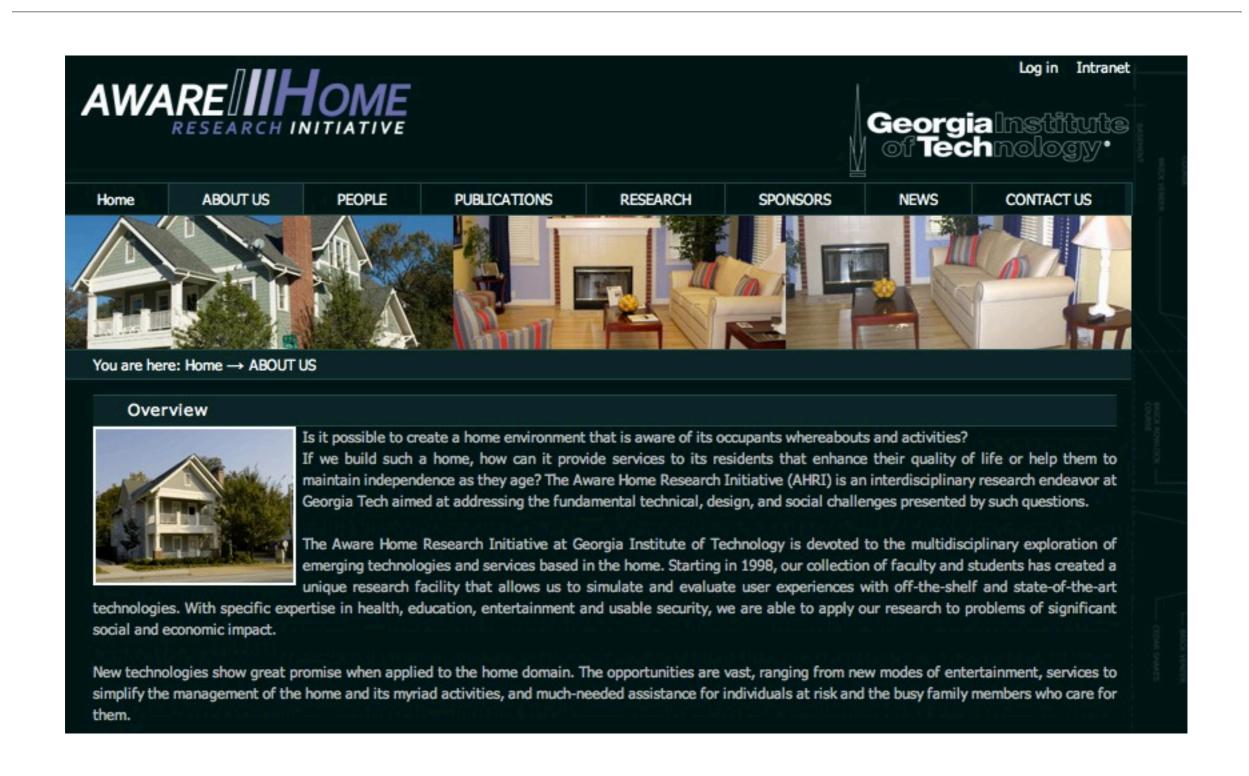
Application Areas in the Home

- Home automation and entertainment
- Remote control, energy management
- Capture of experiences
 - Reminder services/lost objects
- Locator services
- Personal communications
- Information filtering: in and out
- Cleaning robots
- Looking after pets

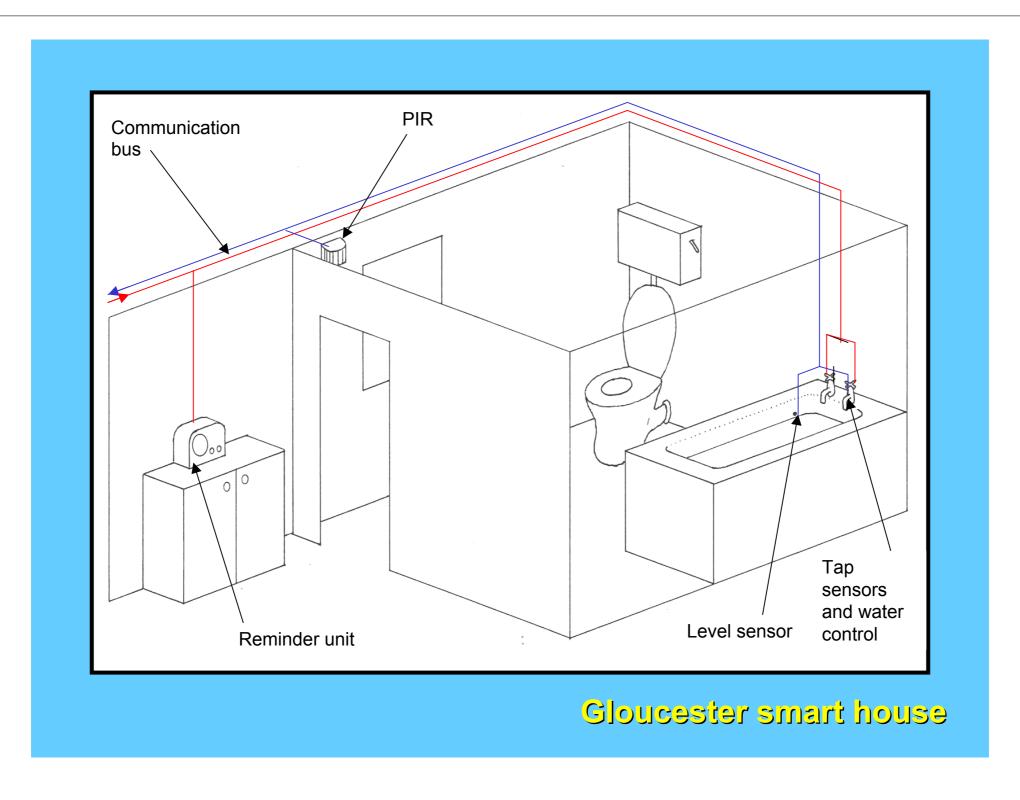
Application Areas in the Home (con't)

- Looking after kids/elders/homebound individuals
- Home diagnostics/health care
- Food tests/alarms
 - Expiration dates, allergies
- Store keeping
- Awareness of consumption/consumables
- Shopping list reminders
- Improved security/safety
- Electronic butler ("Where are my favorite socks?")

Aware Home Research Initiative

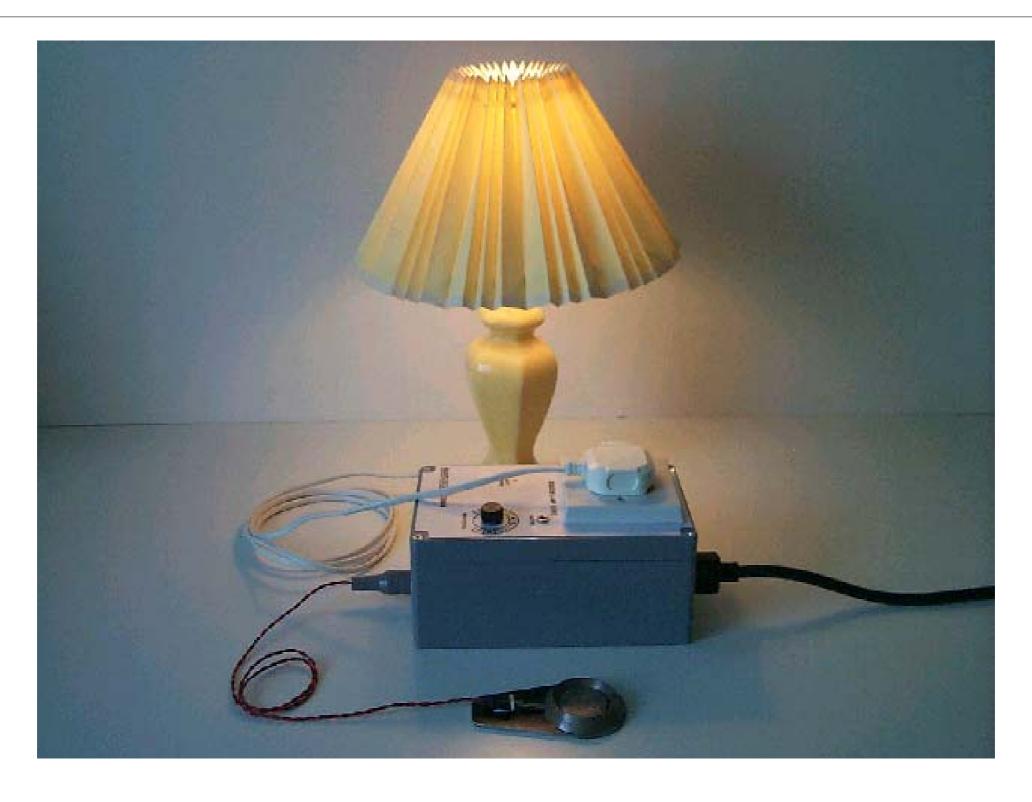


Sensors: Bath Smart House Project



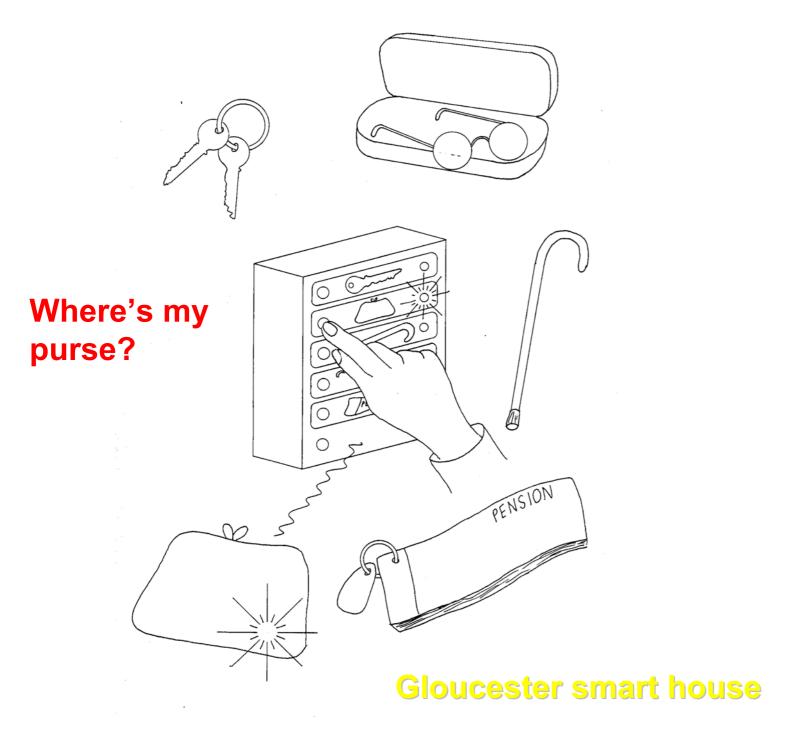
Gloucester Smart Home: http://www.bath.ac.uk/bime/projects/dc_projects.htm

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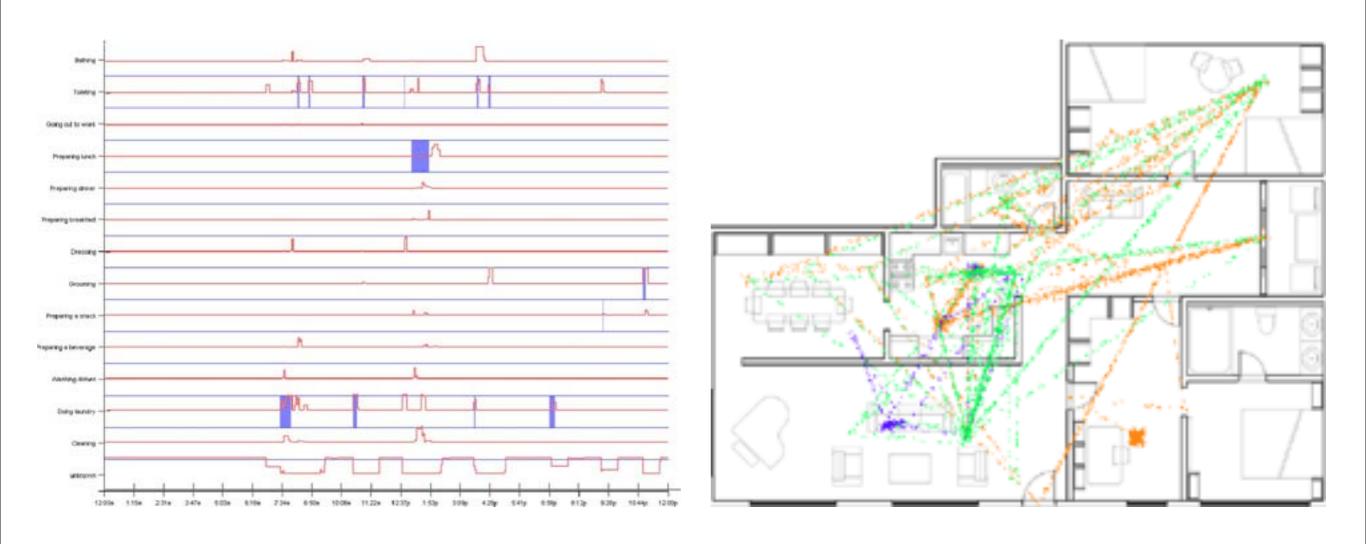
Gloucester Smart Home: http://www.bath.ac.uk/bime/projects/dc_projects.htm

Activity Sensors (MIT House_n)

- 77+ sensors/home
 - Monitoring daily living
 - Judging independence
 - Detecting changes in behavior
 - Motivating healthy behavior



Inferring Activities from Sensor Data



http://alumni.media.mit.edu/~emunguia/html/activity_recognition.htm

Prosthetic Memory Supports



Cook's Collage
Tran et al.,
Georgia Tech

Sensing for Remote Carers

Helping family members/"carers" to keep an eye on...



Digital Family Portrait

Mynatt et al.,

Georgia Tech



CareNet Display Consolvo et al., Intel Research

Communicating with Remote Family Members

Helping remote family members feel connected...





Dude's Magic Box Peek-a-Drawer Rowan et al., Siio et al.,

Georgia Tech Georgia Tech/Tamagawa

http://home.cc.gatech.edu/jimRowan/4 http://www.siio.jp/index.php?Projects

Aesthetic/Playful Applications







The Drift Table The History Tablecloth

Key Table

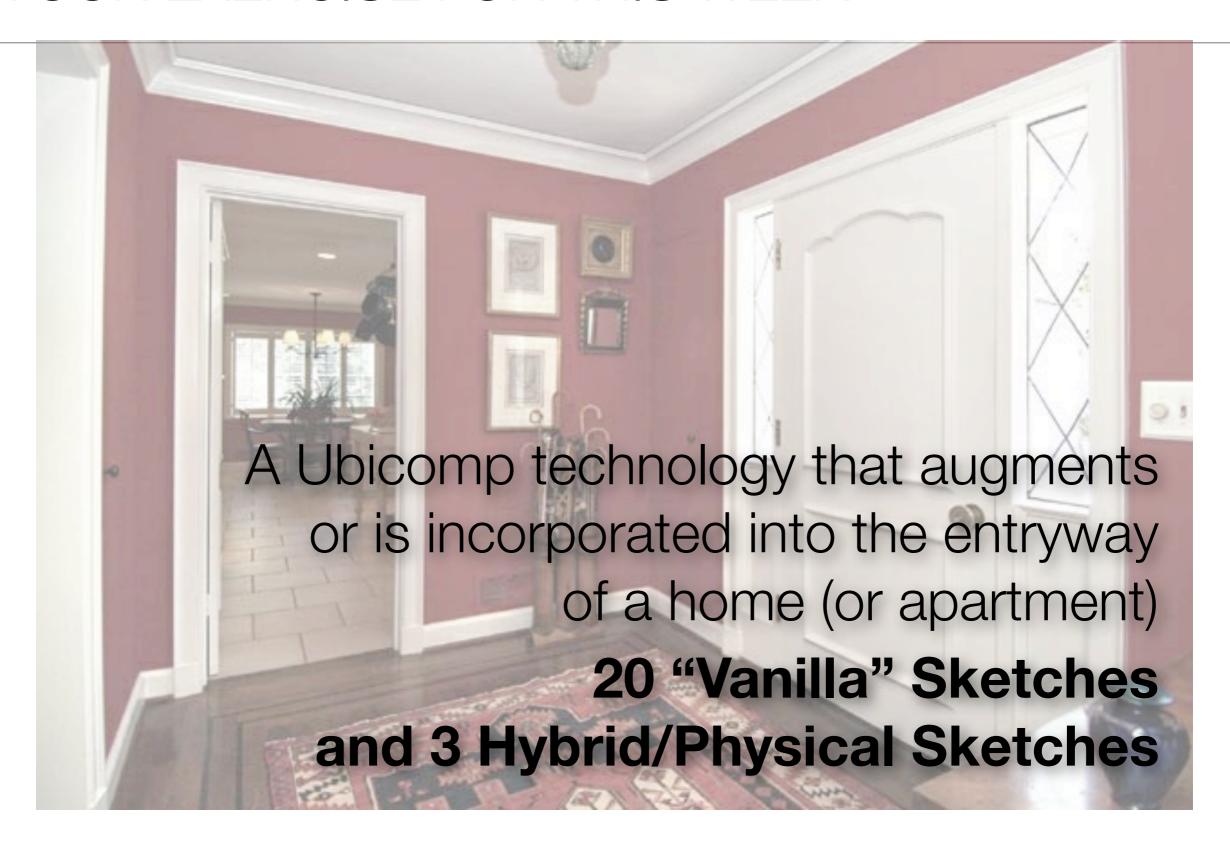
Equator Project Gaver et al., RCA/Goldsmiths College

http://www.equator.ac.uk/index.php/articles/c58/

Impediments/Open Questions

- Cost
- Technical feasibility
- Complexity "home administrators?"
- The need for technology is not seen as contributing to a better life
- Privacy and security concerns
- Recording everything will fundamentally change our lives (and not necessarily in a good way)

YOUR EXERCISE FOR THIS WEEK



Next Week

- Hybrid Sketching + Home Assignment Due
 (20 Sketches + 3 Hybrid Prototypes)
- Initial Design Crits
- The Visual Narrative (Storyboards)
- Intro to Augmented Reality systems
- Bring: sketchbook, drawing tools
- Due this week:
 - Group project overview reports (by Wed., 5pm)
- Don't forget your readings!