

# The Power of Two:

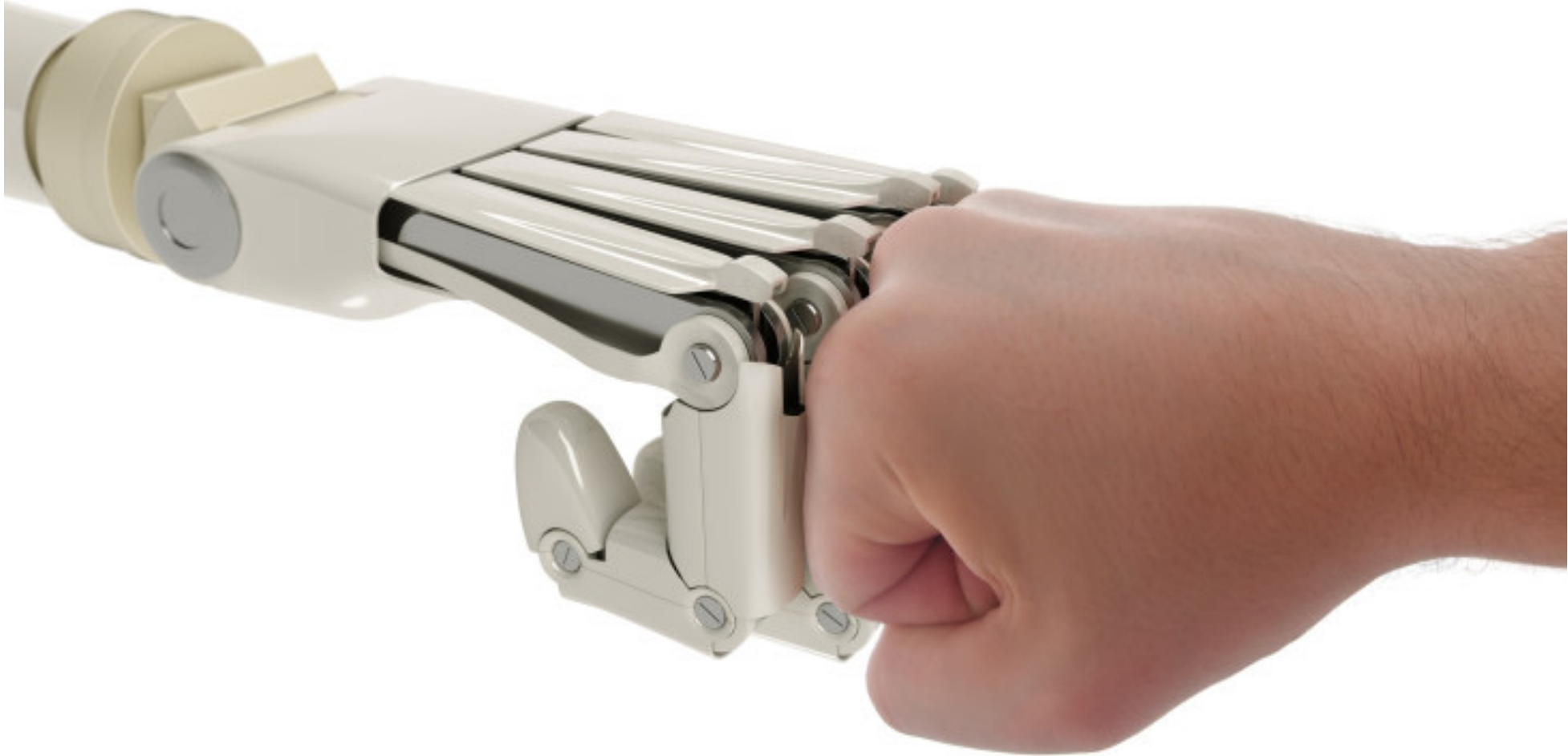
## Exploring the Synergies between Human Intelligence and Machine Learning

Florian Michahelles

Professor of Ubiquitous Computing

<http://media.tuwien.ac.at>

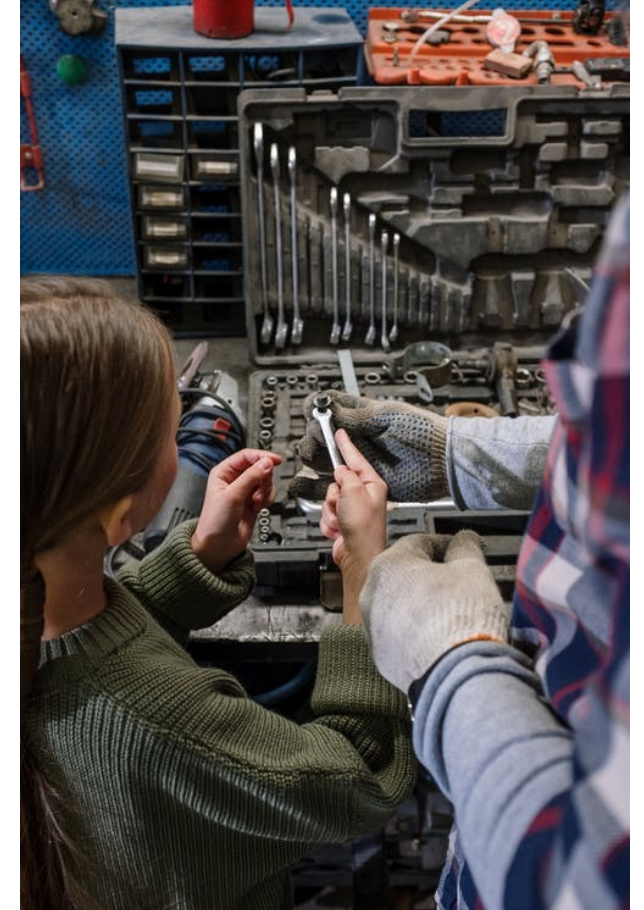
What the human can do the machine can't do  
→ and what they can do better together



# Human deprived being



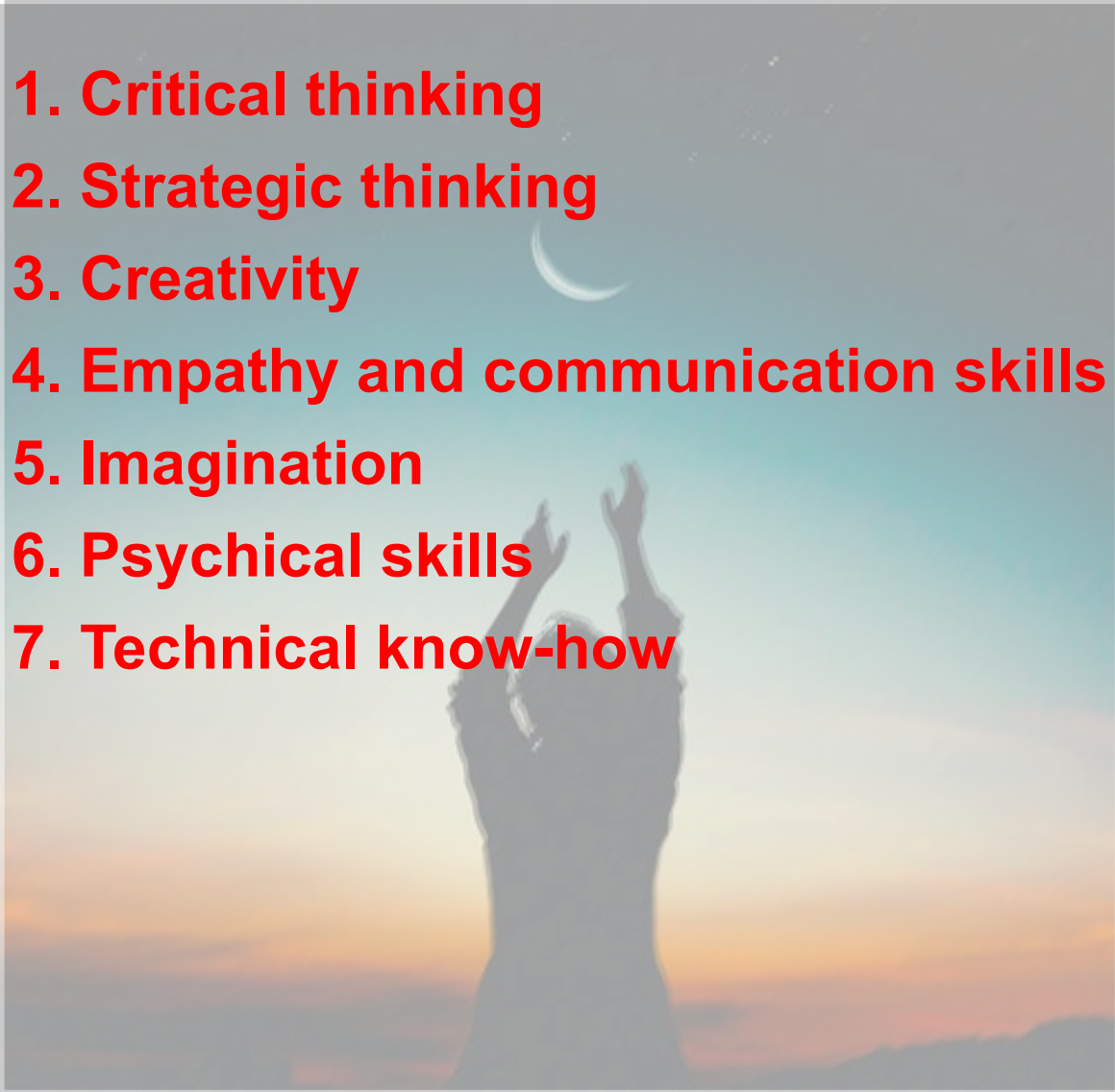
- Arnold Gehlen's Anthropology (1904-1976)
  - Unfinished character of human organism
  - Unspecific to environment (instinctual deprivation)
  - Construct own world



Peter L. Berger and Hansfried Kellner, "Arnold Gehlen and the Theory of Institutions," *Social Research*, vol. 32, no. 1 (Spring 1965): 110–115



# Humans and machines

- 
1. **Critical thinking**
  2. **Strategic thinking**
  3. **Creativity**
  4. **Empathy and communication skills**
  5. **Imagination**
  6. **Psychical skills**
  7. **Technical know-how**

- 
1. **Handling tedium:**  
monotonous duties
  2. **Extreme sensing**
  3. **Strength and speed**
  4. **Unwavering focus**
  5. **Perfect, objective recall**

Drive you around in relative safety. ...

Book things for you by phone. ...

Write marketing language which outperforms humans.

Understand you (most of the time) ...

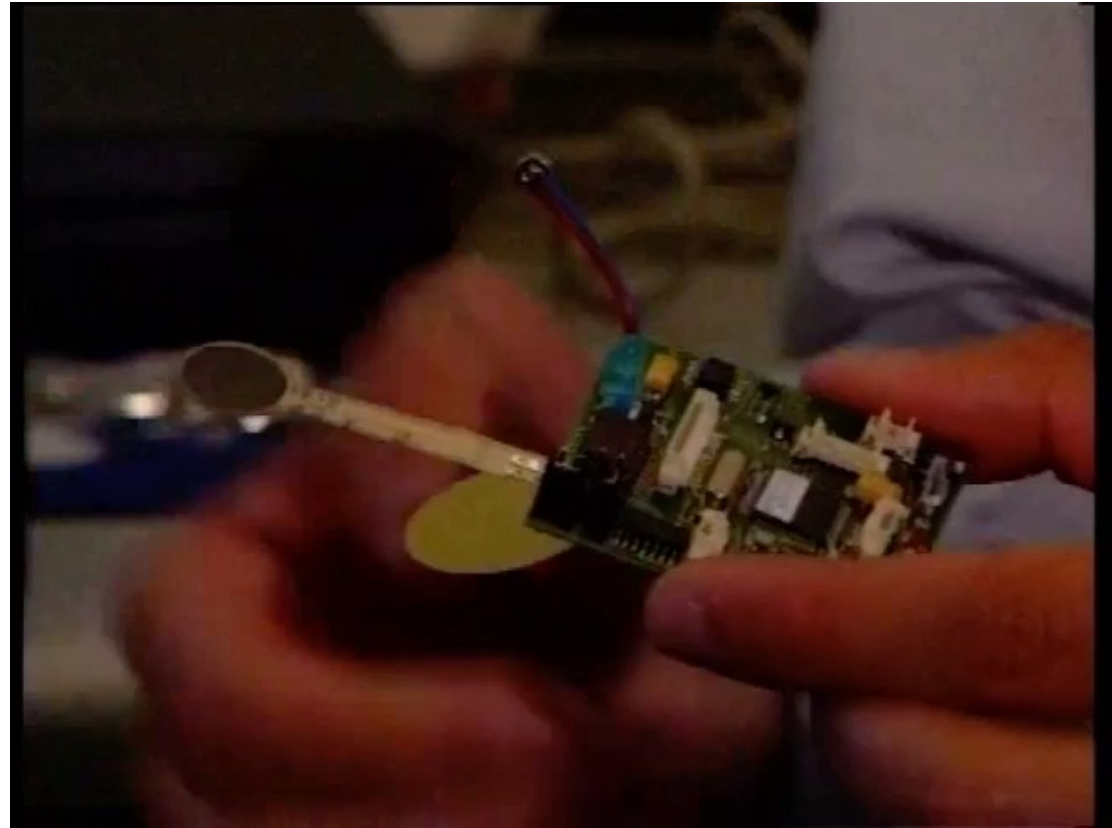
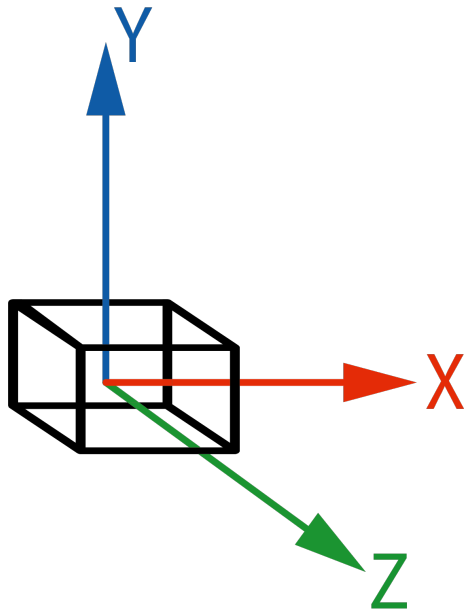
Predict which movies/TV shows/songs/products you'll like with a reasonable degree of accuracy.



- perceive
- feedback
- collaboration
- experience

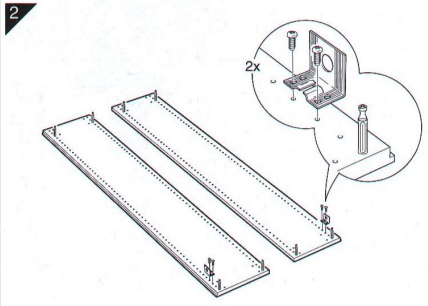
# First step: perceiving user actions

- Users' Context in Smart Environments

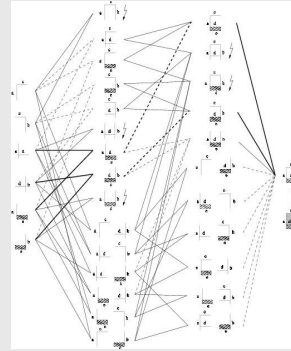


Antifakos, Stavros, Florian Michahelles and Bernt Schiele. "Proactive Instructions for Furniture Assembly." UbiComp (2002). [10.1007/3-540-45809-3\\_27](https://doi.org/10.1007/3-540-45809-3_27)

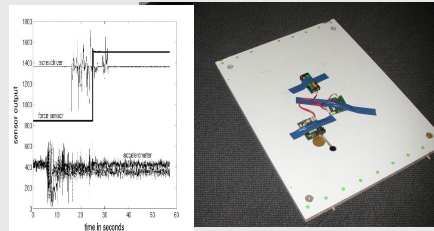
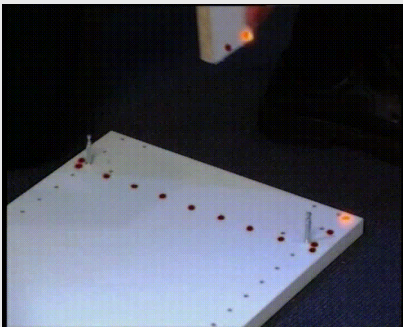
# Second step: feedback



## 1. Improve classic instructions



## 2. Assembly plan



## 3. Perceiving actions with sensors

## 4. Proactive Instructions



# Digital Lathe Companion



Many advanced manufacturing industries depend on the experience of highly skilled tradespeople, such as machinists.

# Just Dance

We want to find out if EMS supported learning of motoric tasks (demonstrated on the example of dancing) can reduce the training time, compared to classical skill acquisition?

We picked a subsection of Indian dance form called 'Hand Mudras' as a task. We decide on a set of Mudra sequences to train the users on.





# Third step: human machine collaboration



How can a team of humans and machines be more successful than either humans or technology alone?

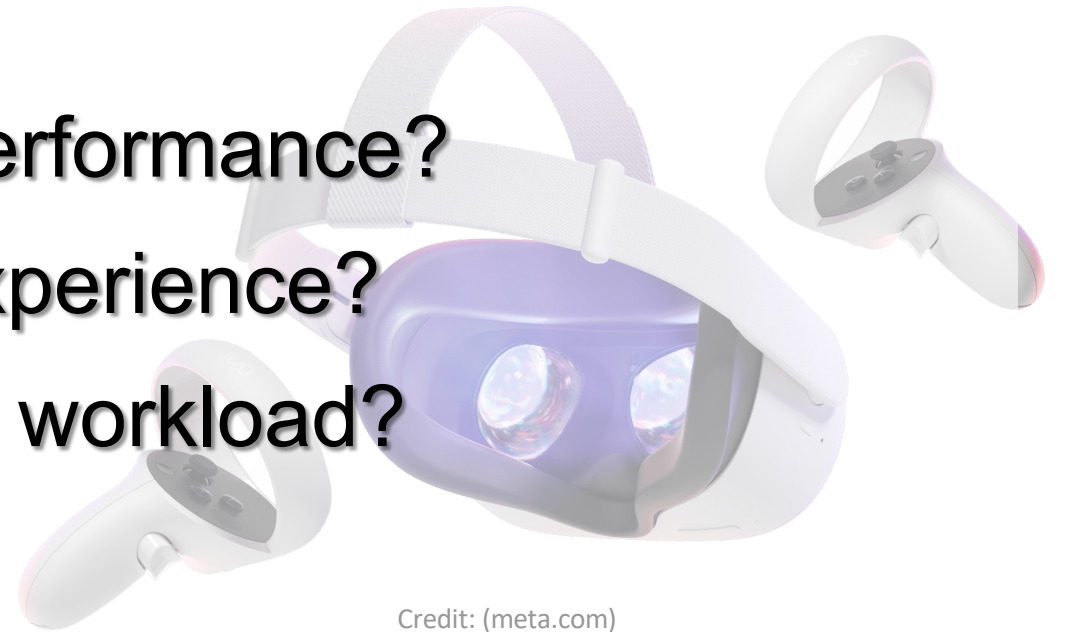




# Study Environment

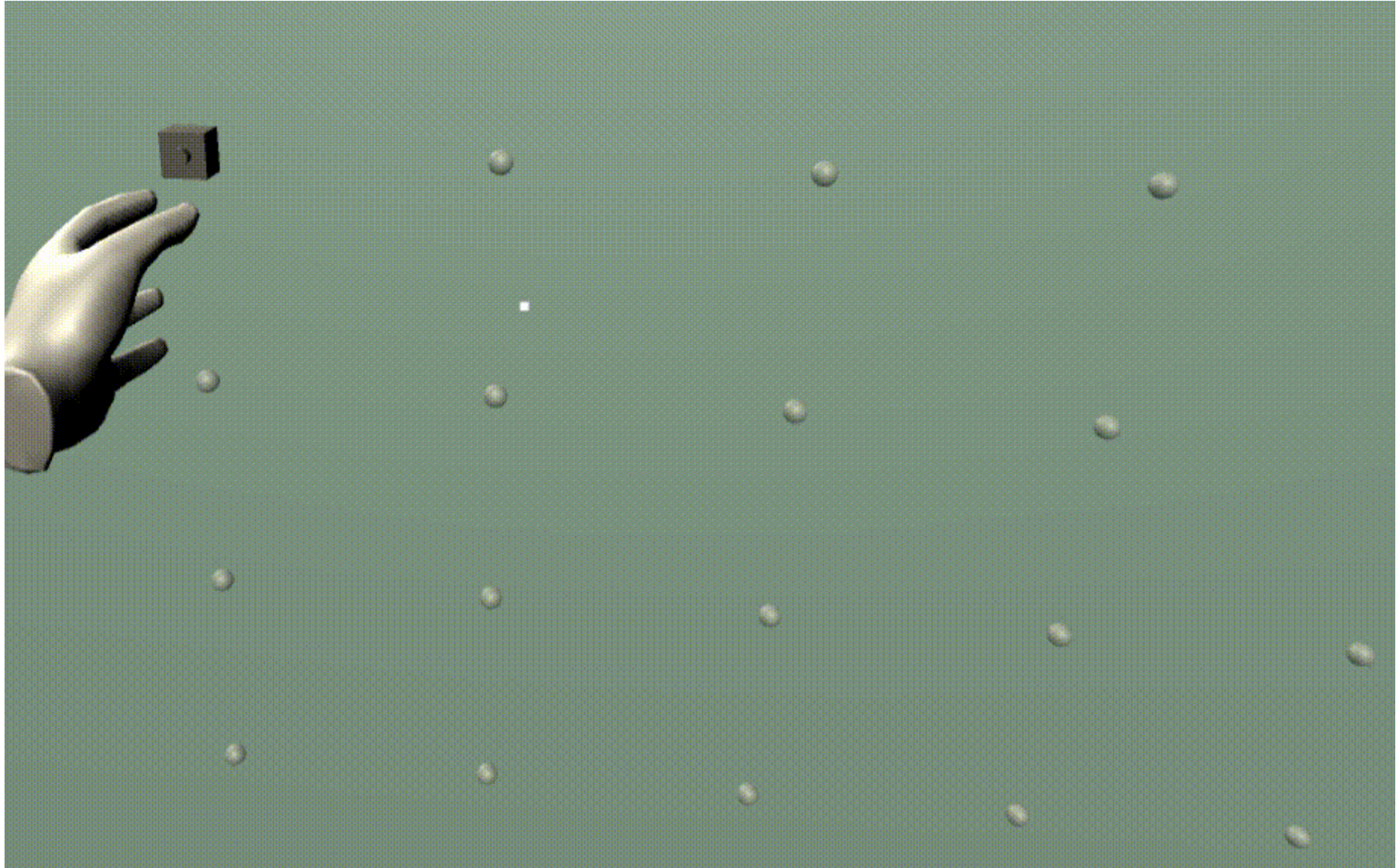
Given a visually-obstructed, collaborative task between a human and robot, which feedback modalitie(s) are most suited to...

- RQ1: improve the human's performance?
- RQ2: provide a better user experience?
- RQ3: minimize the operator's workload?

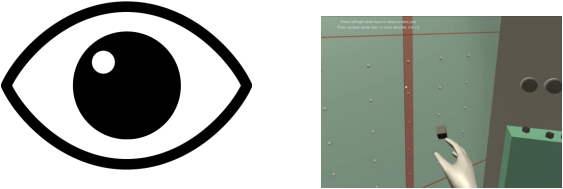
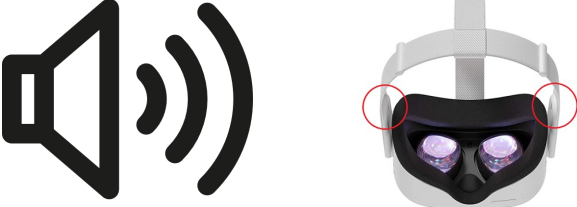
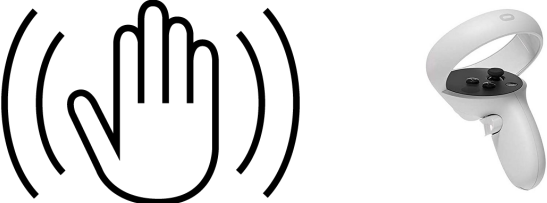



Credit: (meta.com)

# Study Task



# Findings

			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Highest performance improvement</li> <li>▪ Highest pragmatic UX</li> <li>▪ Lowest cognitive load</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Improvement over baseline</li> <li>▪ Participants indicated effectiveness communicating pace</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Least useful practically</li> <li>▪ Highest hedonic rating</li> <li>▪ Possible learning curve</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Significant performance improvement</li> <li>▪ Low cognitive load</li> <li>▪ More resilient to noise</li> <li>▪ Possible sensory overload</li> </ul>



# Key Takeaways

- Include visual feedback in any form of multimodal feedback
- Auditory feedback is helpful with communicating timing information
- Haptic feedback was divisive, but novel and entertaining
- 3-way multimodal feedback less cognitively loading than single modalities  
→ suitable for visually obstructed collocated collaboration in VR

# Increasing of throughput

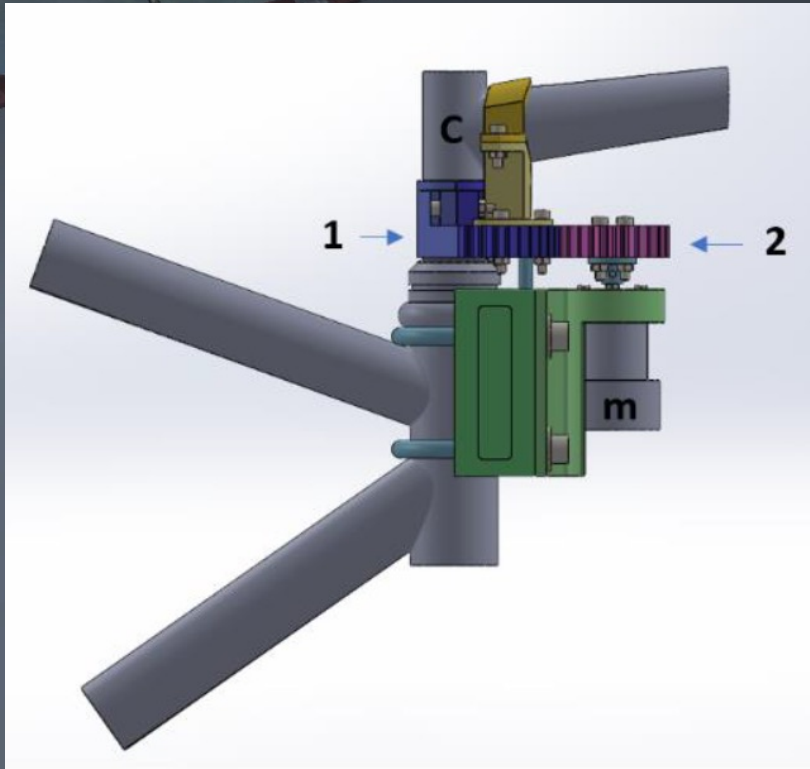
**This study assesses in how far different feedback modalities can help or hinder a user in avoiding obstacles when remote controlling a robot.**

**It is done in the course of a bachelor's thesis at TU Vienna.**



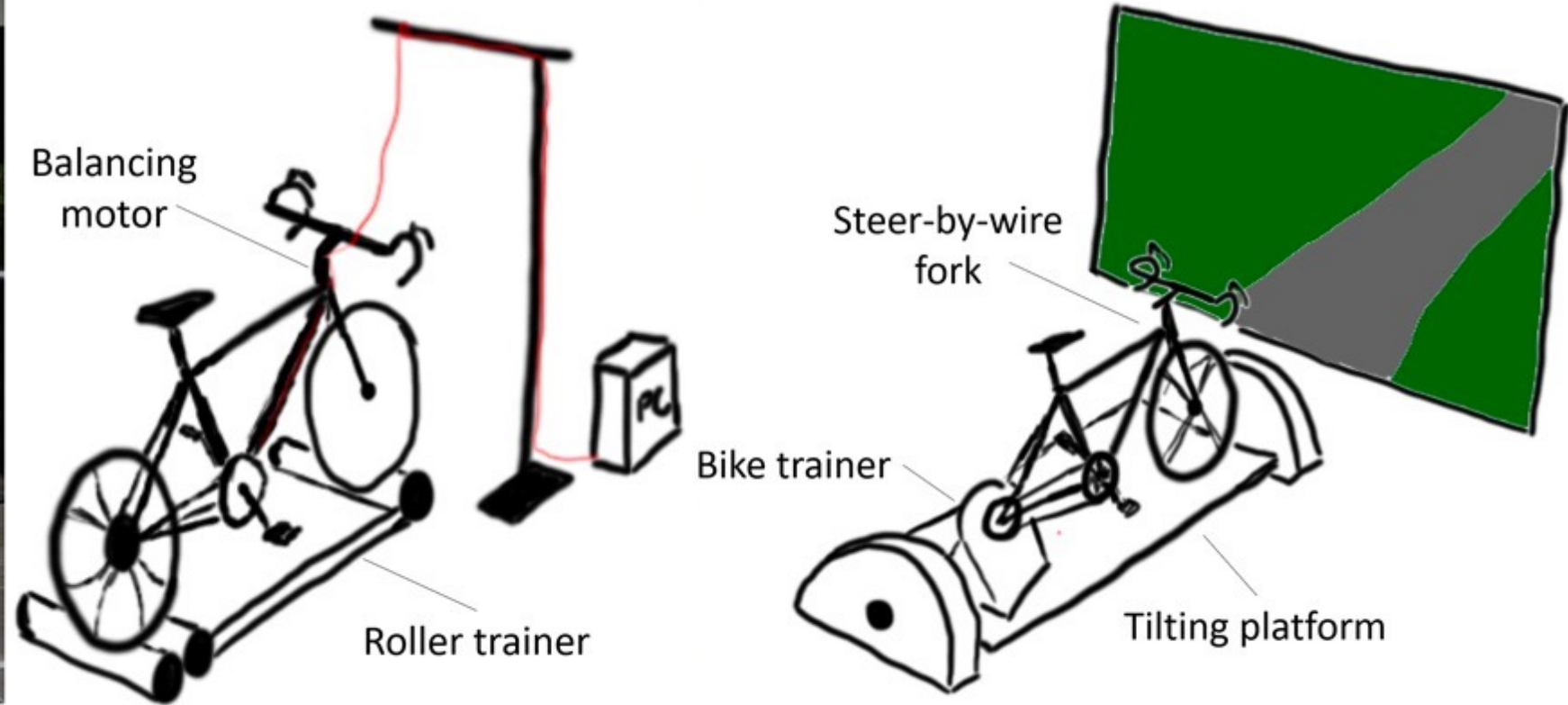






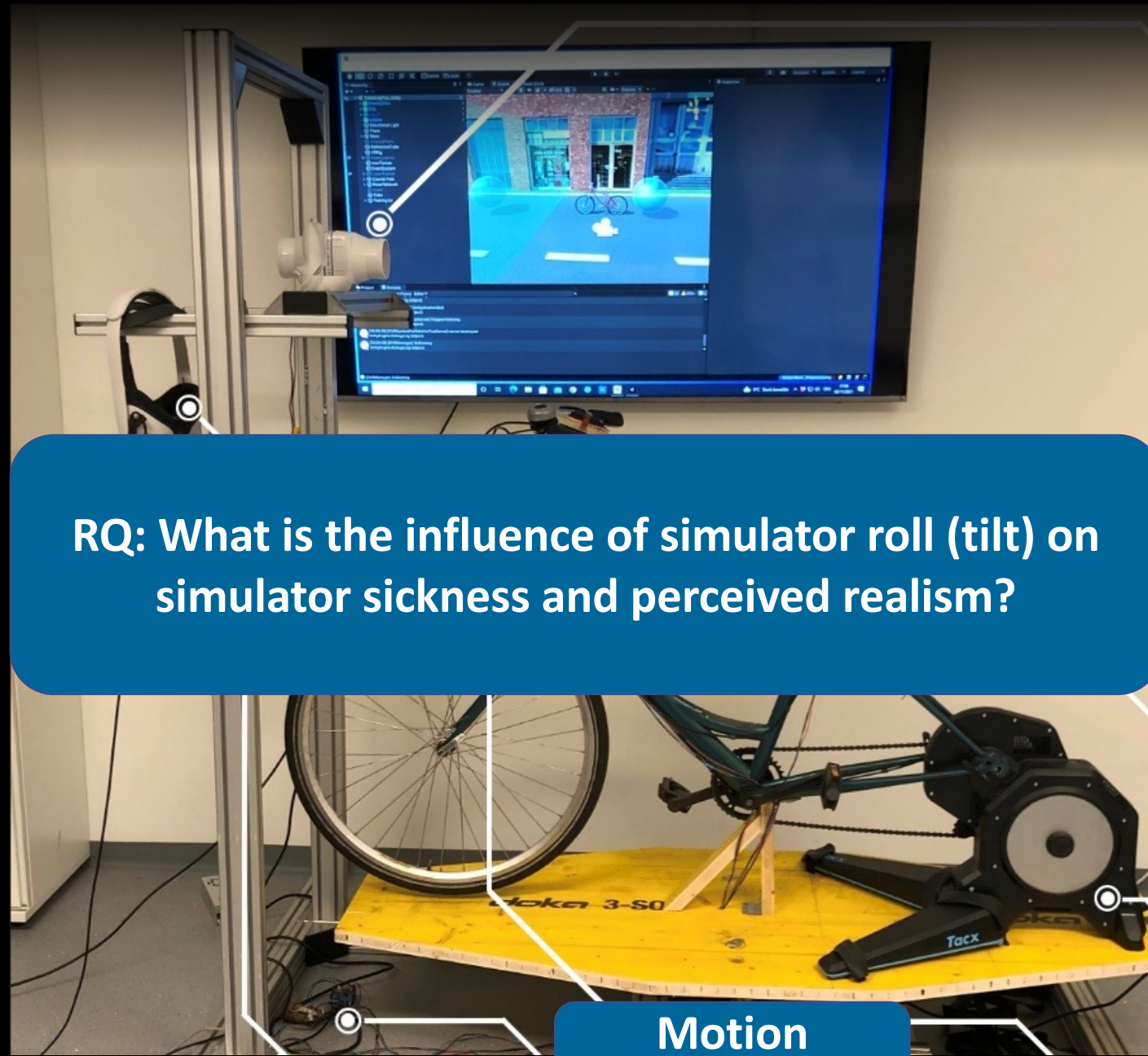


# Test environment: bicycle simulator





# Simulator Design



Airstream

Steering Motor

RQ: What is the influence of simulator roll (tilt) on simulator sickness and perceived realism?

Pressure Sensor Brakes

Tacx Flux 2 Smart Trainer

Motion Platform

# User study

- › 3 Conditions (no support, strong tilt, weak tilt)
- › Within-subjects design, N=31 (21 male, 10 female)
- › Test track with different curve elements (5, 10, 15m radius)
- › Measurements
  - › Ingroup Presence Questionnaire (IPQ)
  - › Simulator Sickness Questionnaire (SSQ)
  - › User Experience Questionnaire (UEQ)
  - › Driving Performance (SDLP, speed, steering angles)



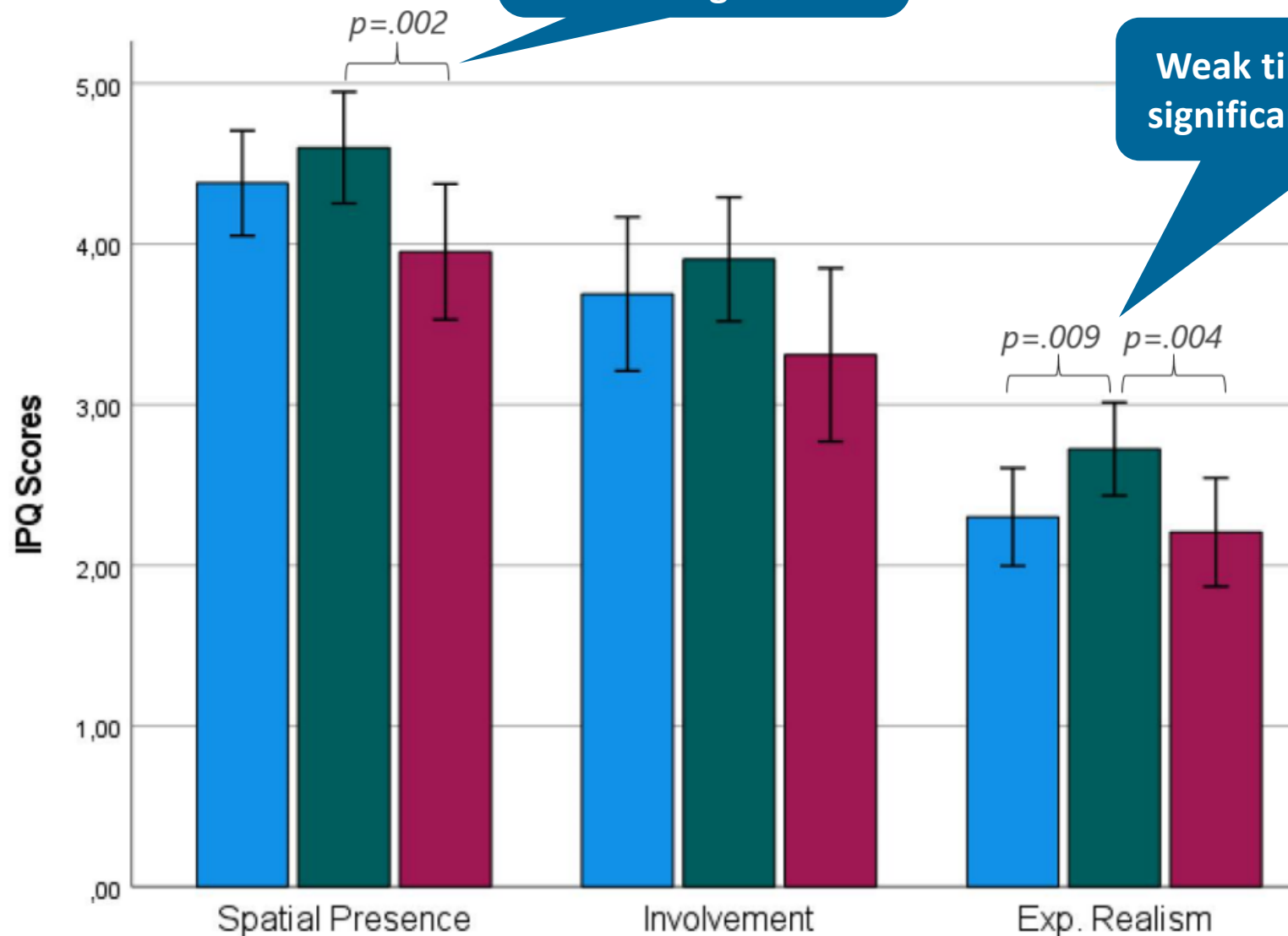






# Results

- Baseline
- *Weak Tilt*
- *Strong Tilt*



Weak tilt: higher spatial presence than strong tilt

Weak tilt: experienced as significantly more realistic

# VR Bicycle Simulator

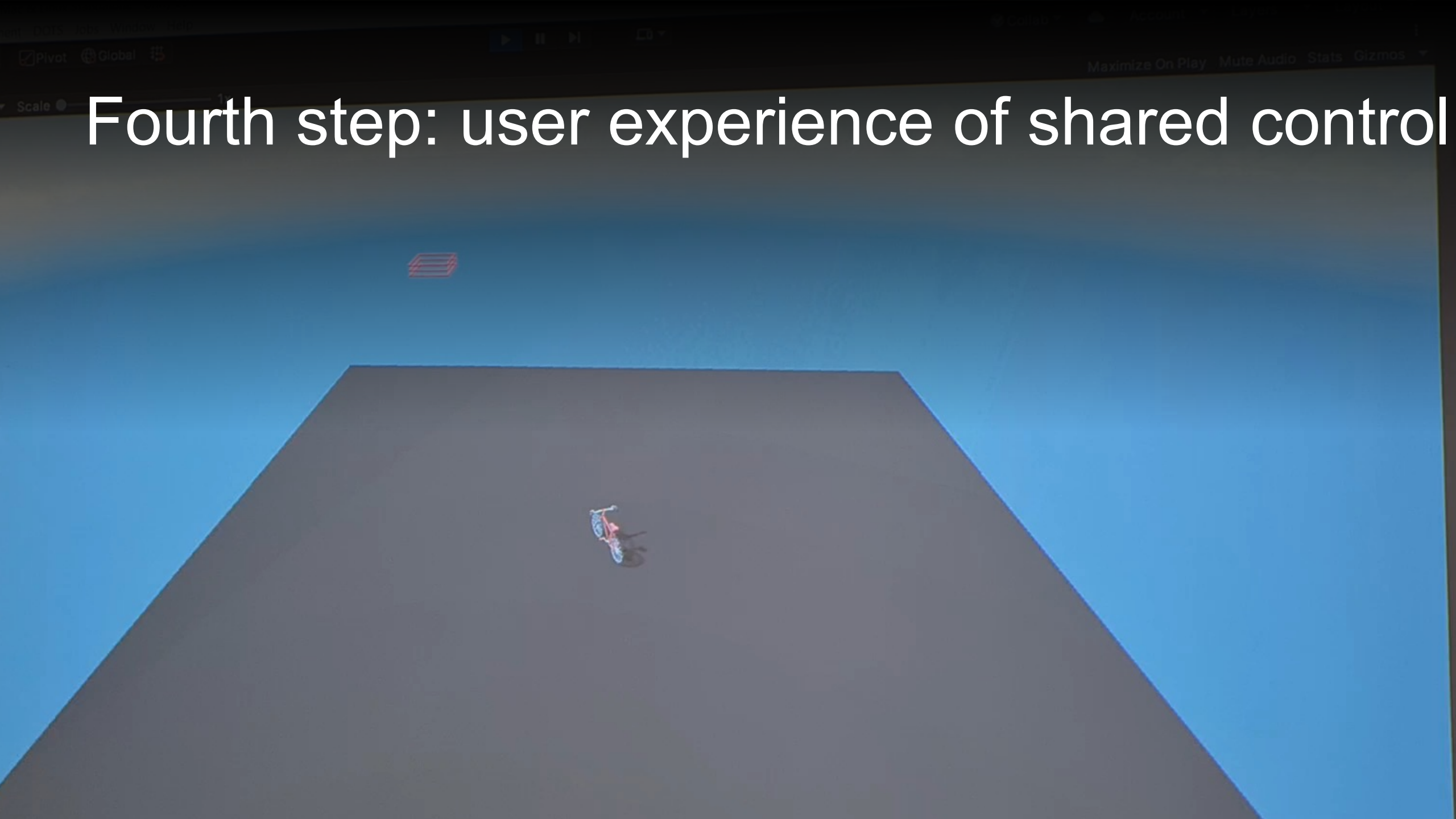
## Summary and Conclusion

- › „Construction Manual“ for a motion-based VR bicycle simulator
- › Strong „realistic“ tilt is unsuitable for VR cycling
- › „Weak“ tilt improves immersion and presence while not inducing additional simulator sickness, i.e., „the right amount of realism“
- › A „sweet spot“ for the tilt function must be determined (sickness vs. Realism)
- › We need more systematic research on „simulator fidelity“ for bike simulators!

[1] R. Parasuraman and V. Riley, Humans and automation: Use, misuse, disuse, abuse, Human factors, vol. 39, no. 2, pp. 230253, 1997..



Fourth step: user experience of shared control





# „Wizard of Oz“ study

- **Parent-Child Tandem**, both riders can
  - Steer,
  - Pedal, and freewheel independently
- Experimenter in the back mimics the self-balancing bike and announced upcoming turns verbally



## User Study

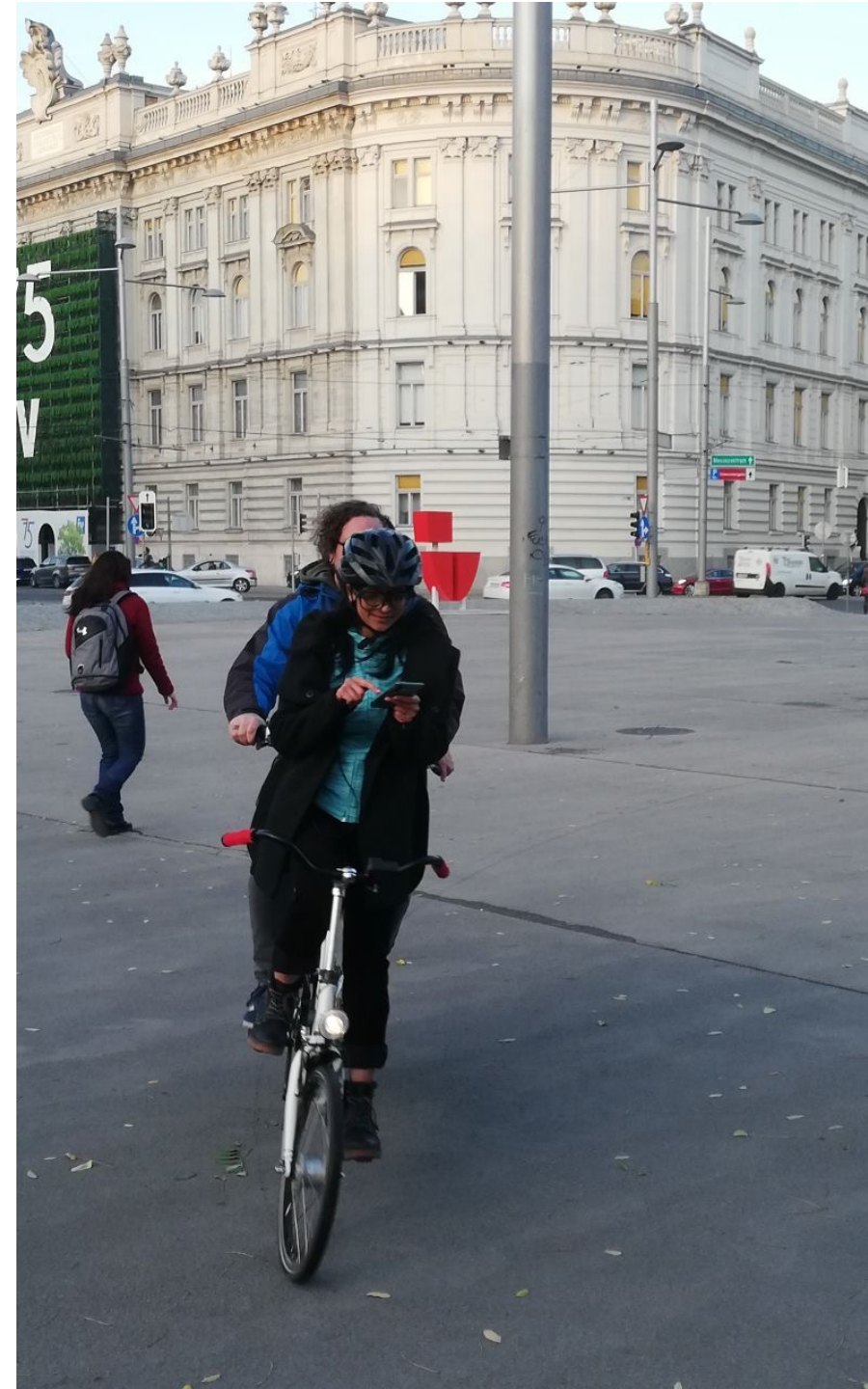
### Participants & Measurements

#### › N=13

- › 10 male, 3 female
- › Age = 25.7 (22-35 years)
- › 6 frequent cyclists (use bike at least 4 times/week)
- › 7 infrequent cyclists

#### › Measurements

- › Thematic Analysis: Interviews and think-aloud
- › Hands on/off: camera facing upper body
- › Monitoring behavior: Eye Tracker





User Study  
Participa

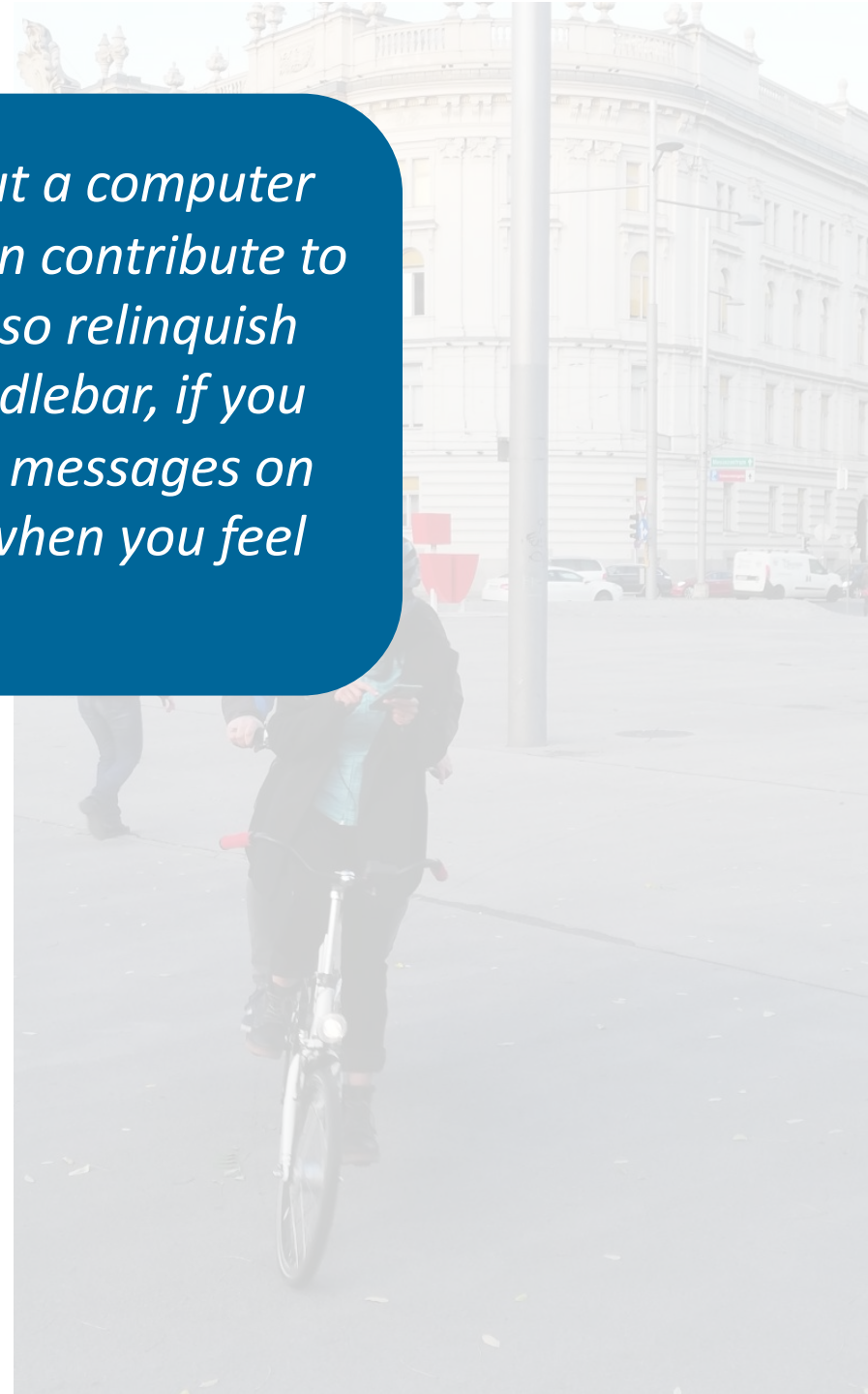
› N=13

- › 10 male
- › Age =
- › 6 frequ
- › 7 infreq

*„Please imagine that not the experimenter but a computer system would control the bike with you. You can contribute to pedaling or steering any time, but you can also relinquish control and remove your hands from the handlebar, if you feel safe. During the trip, you will receive text messages on your smartphone. Please answer them only when you feel this is safely possible.“*

› Measurements

- › Qualitative interview
- › Camera facing participant (hands on/off)
- › Eye Tracker to quantify behavior







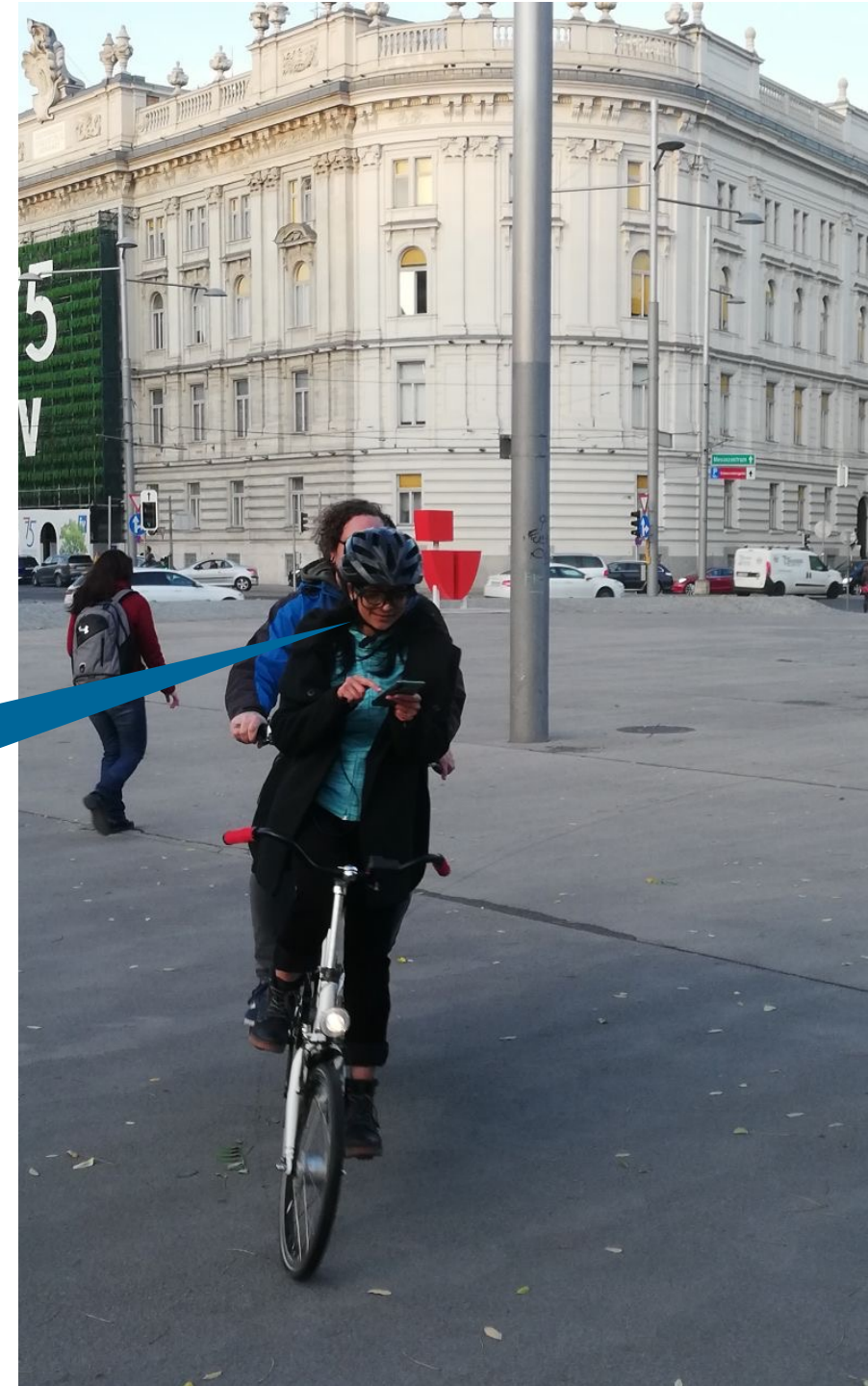
## User Study

### Results – Thematic Analysis (5 Key Themes)

#### › Leisure

- › Especially articulated by frequent cyclists
- › Not a means of transportation, but
- › Tourist attraction for sightseeing
- › Scenic routes
- › Assistance in long bike rides

*“When I ride long tours, I could imagine using it, but definitely not in the city [...] it is definitely **very pleasant on tours** where you do not have to think for a long time, where you always have to pay attention to the small changes in the steering to just ride without keeping your hands on the handlebars”*



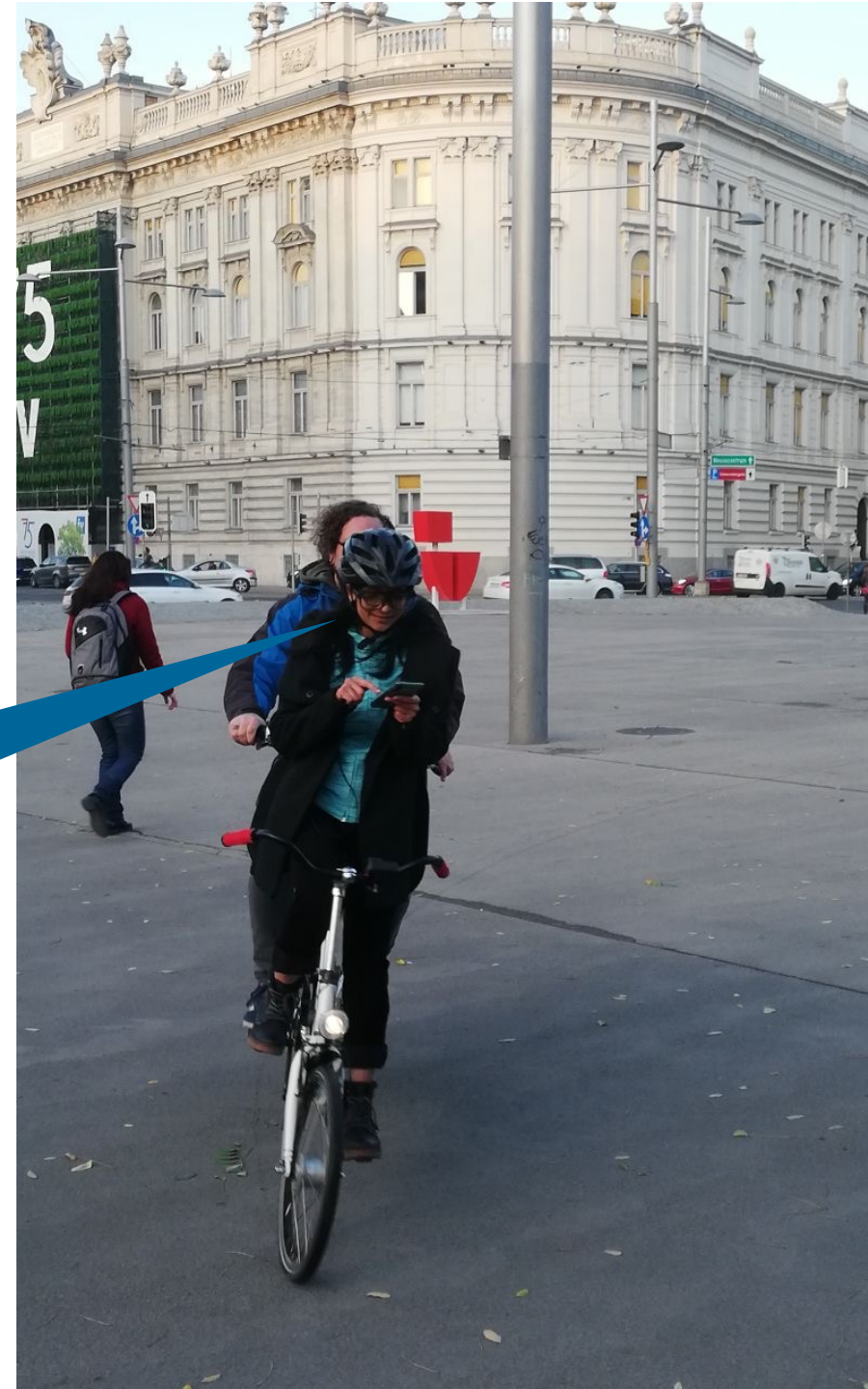
## User Study

### Results – Thematic Analysis (5 Key Themes)

#### › Transportation

- › Primarily expressed by infrequent cyclists
- › Urban mode of transportation
- › Learning how to ride a bike
- › Multitasking with smartphones
- › Increased mobility for some target groups

*“In the city, if it is possible, it could be **a quick way to get to places** [...] or maybe in the countryside where a bike like this is easier than a cab or something so that it could be helpful in those areas as well”*





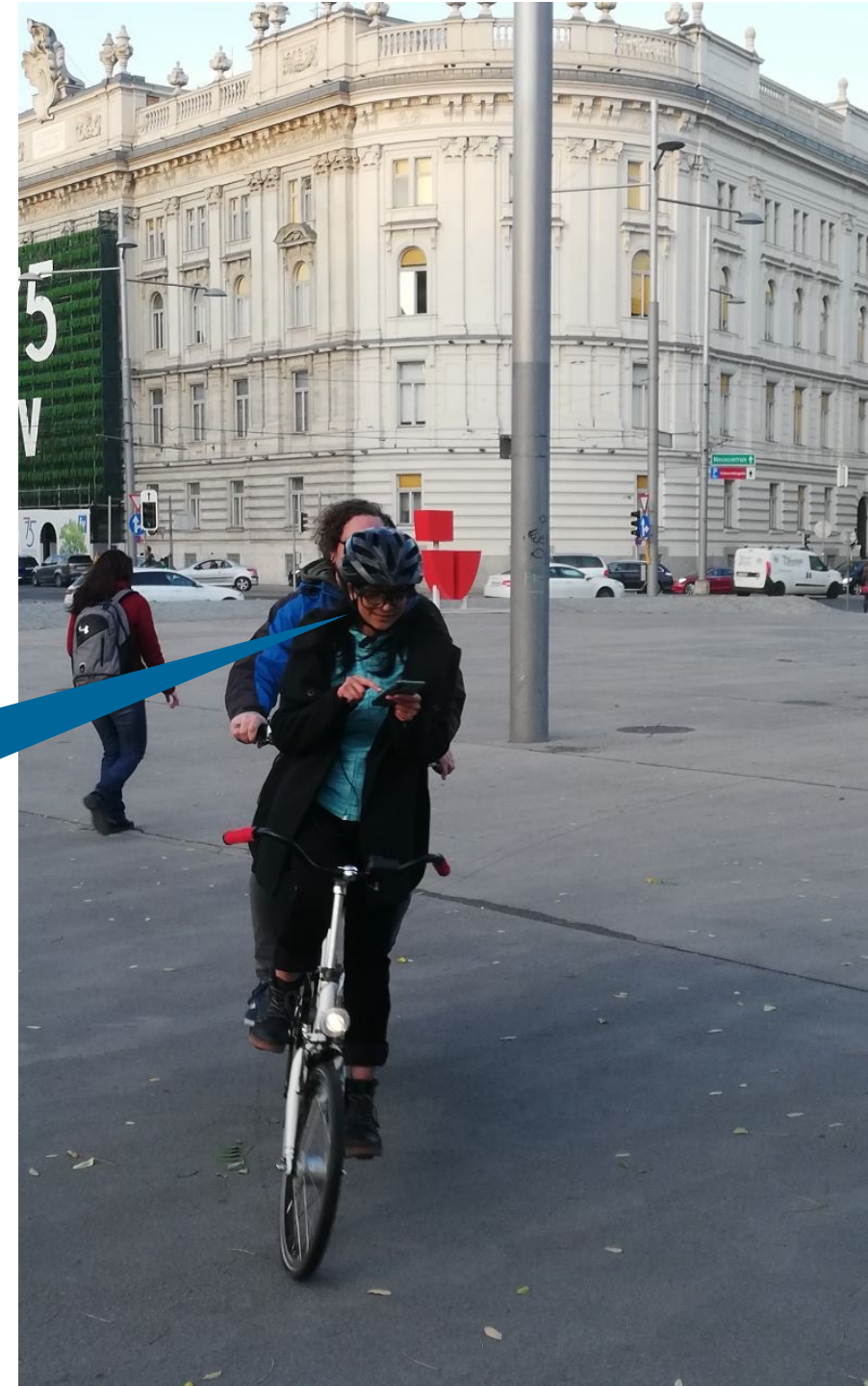
## User Study

### Results – Thematic Analysis (5 Key Themes)

#### › Trust

- › Cyclists are very vulnerable
- › It would take time to develop trust, even when the system is highly reliable
- › More traffic => less trust

*“try it first near a lake or in areas with fewer people to see how the bike behaves [...] **once I have the confidence, I can use it on the road**, because at the moment if I see a car or a group of people passing very close to me, I am a little afraid that I will collide with them...but once I gain the confidence, I will use it everywhere”*



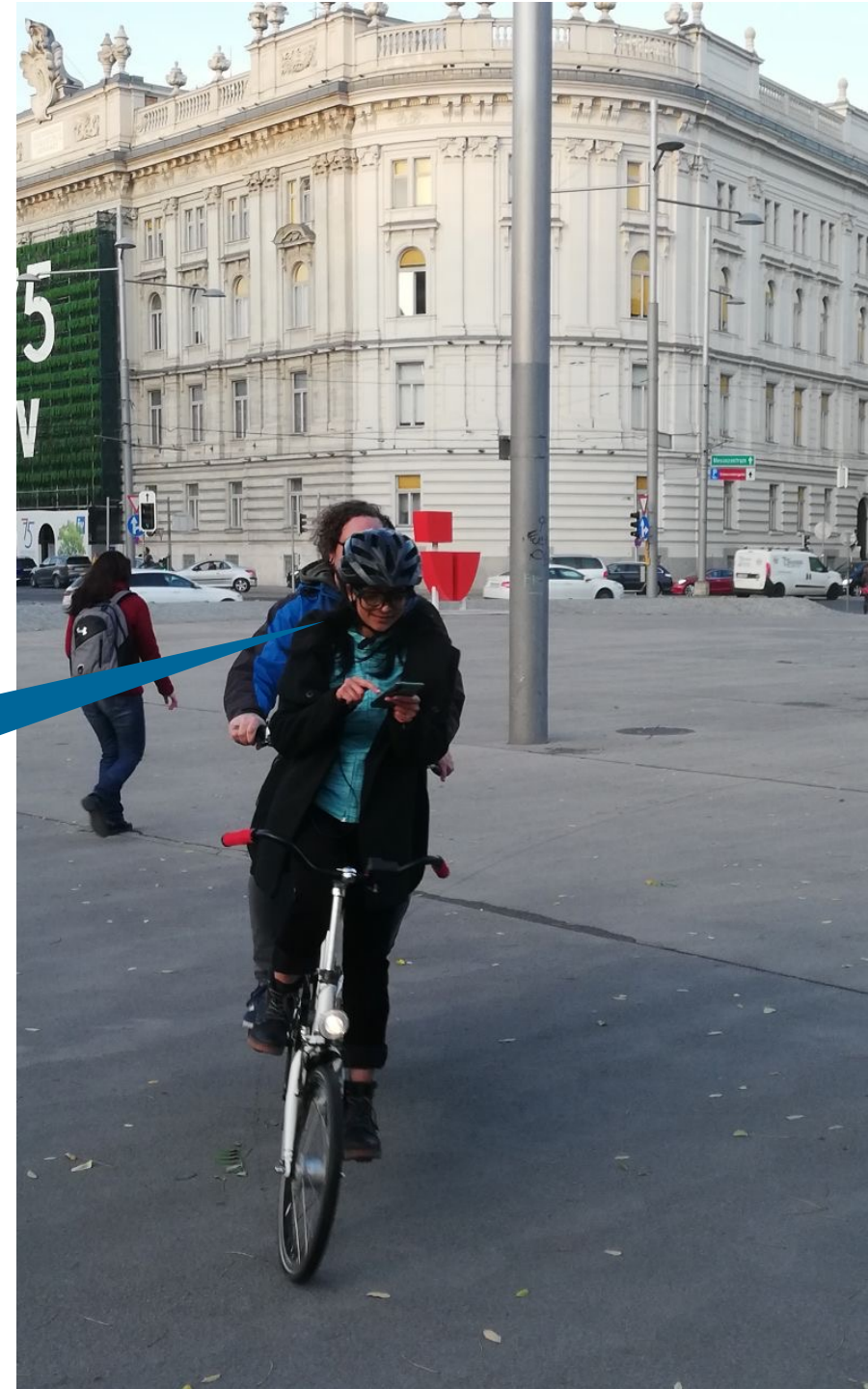
## User Study

### Results – Thematic Analysis (5 Key Themes)

#### › Transparent Communication

- › Upcoming actions need to be announced
- › This is not necessarily about trust but motion dynamics
- › Suggestions: auditory and/or visual cues

*“It worked kind of well that there were **no abrupt steering maneuvers**. It was good that **it was announced that a turn was coming** now. I think otherwise; it can be irritating or even dangerous.”*





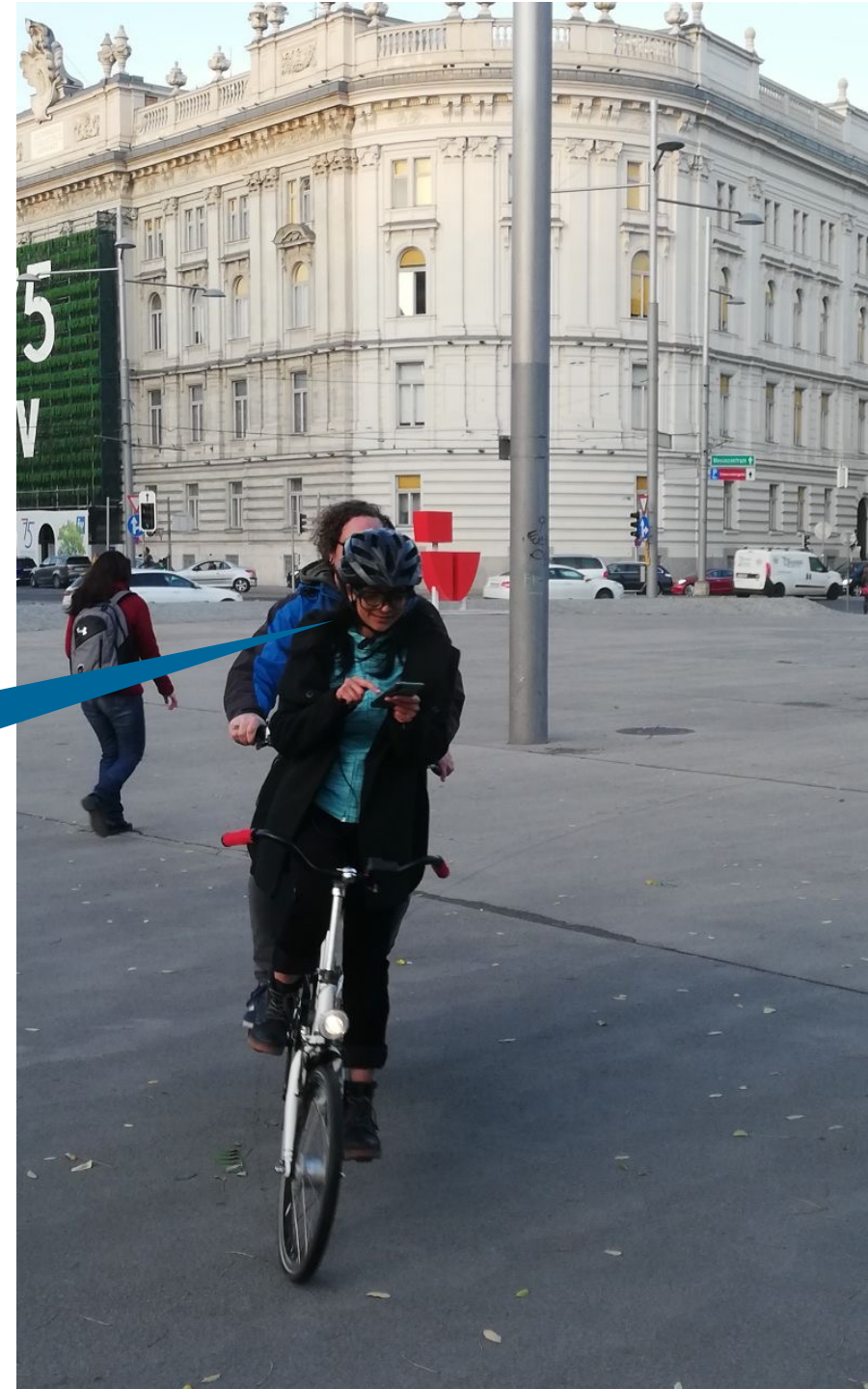
## User Study

### Results – Thematic Analysis (5 Key Themes)

#### › Intervention

- › Being able to take over control in any situation
- › Not only because of safety but driving style
- › Configuring the bikes „default behavior“

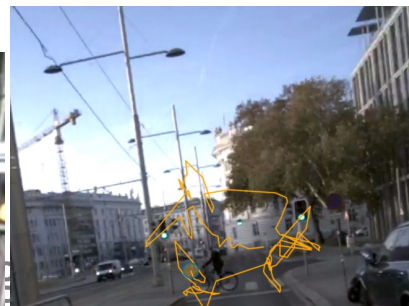
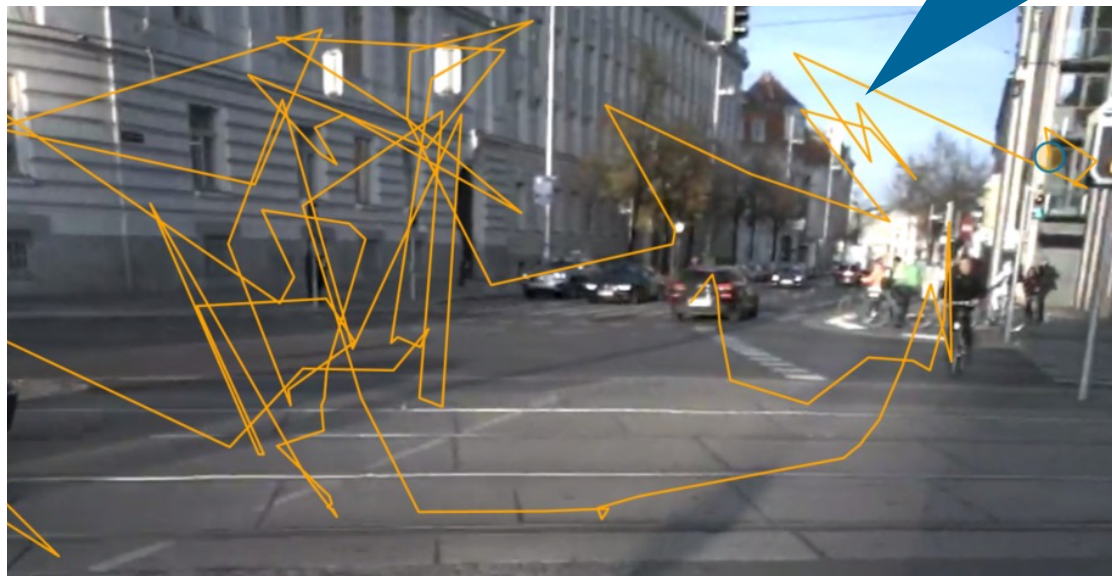
*“when I had to pay attention to the road [...] I found it **difficult that I did not have full control** or I was afraid that the **bike might ride differently** than I expected.”*



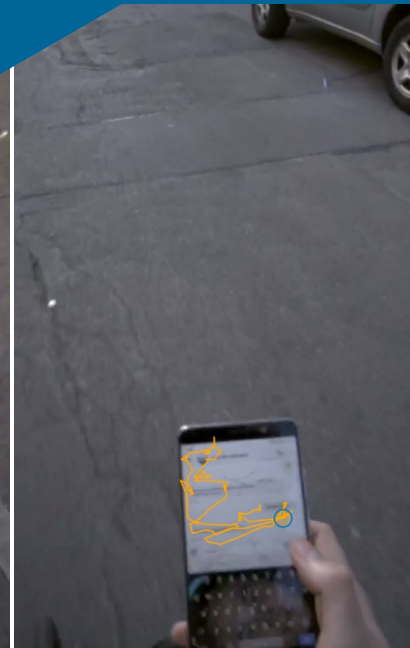
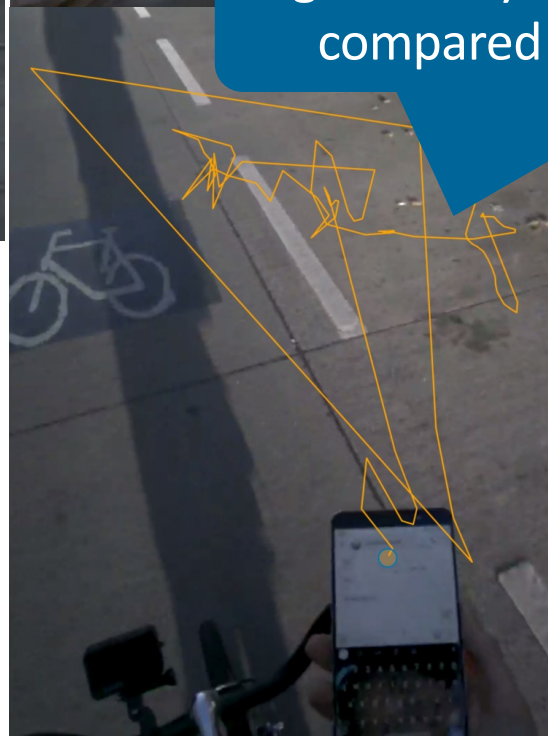


# User Study Results – Gaze Behavior

Highest environment monitoring at junctions,  
least in the tramway section



Significantly more monitoring during the first,  
compared to the subsequent messages!



## Discussion

### Is there a Future for Self-Balancing Bikes?

#### › Use cases

- › Leisure vs. Transportation
- › Could attract new target groups
- › „Levels of automation“ not applicable to bikes

#### › Trust and Feedback

- › Feedback is more than information for trust development
- › Complex motion dynamics must be considered

#### › Monitoring and Behavior

- › Overreliance must be expected
- › In general, consistent with manual bike studies





# Self-Balancing Bicycles Summary

- › Self-Balancing bikes could **expand the user base** and **complement existing services**
- › Frequent cyclists see less benefit, would use it for tourism or long bike tours
- › Trust is a major concept for bicycles, too
- › **Multitasking** can become a source of **overtrust** when using self-balancing bikes
- › **Fine-grained feedback** is necessary to allow users adjusting their body positions

[Philipp Wintersberger, Ambika Shahu, Johanna Reisinger, Fatemeh Alizadeh and Florian Michahelles: *Self-Balancing Bicycles: Qualitative Assessment and Gaze Behavior Evaluation*, MUM2022]





# What's next...making better decisions?

- causality
- effect
- contextualization
- continuity
- participation

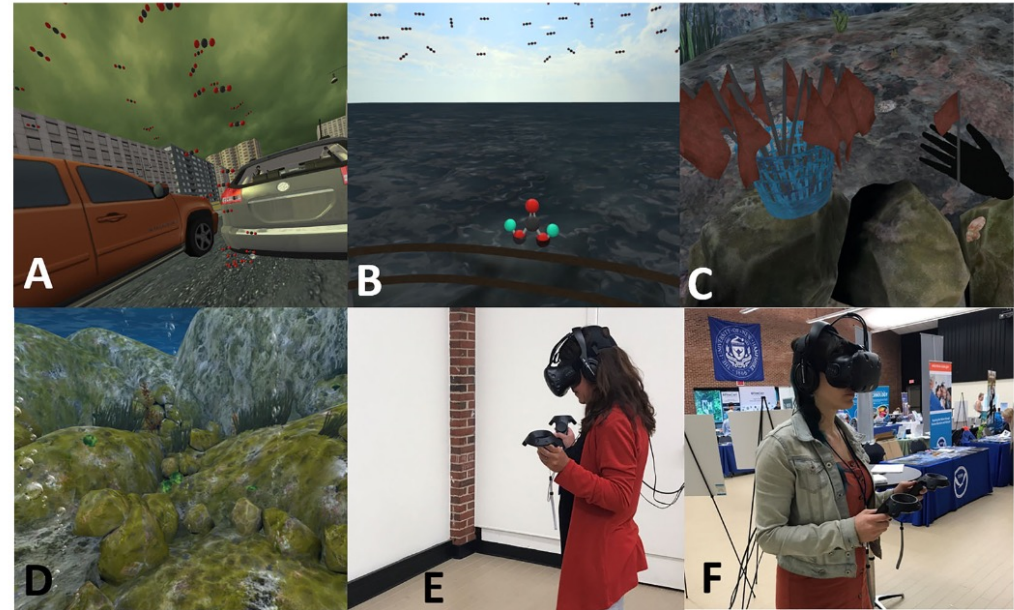
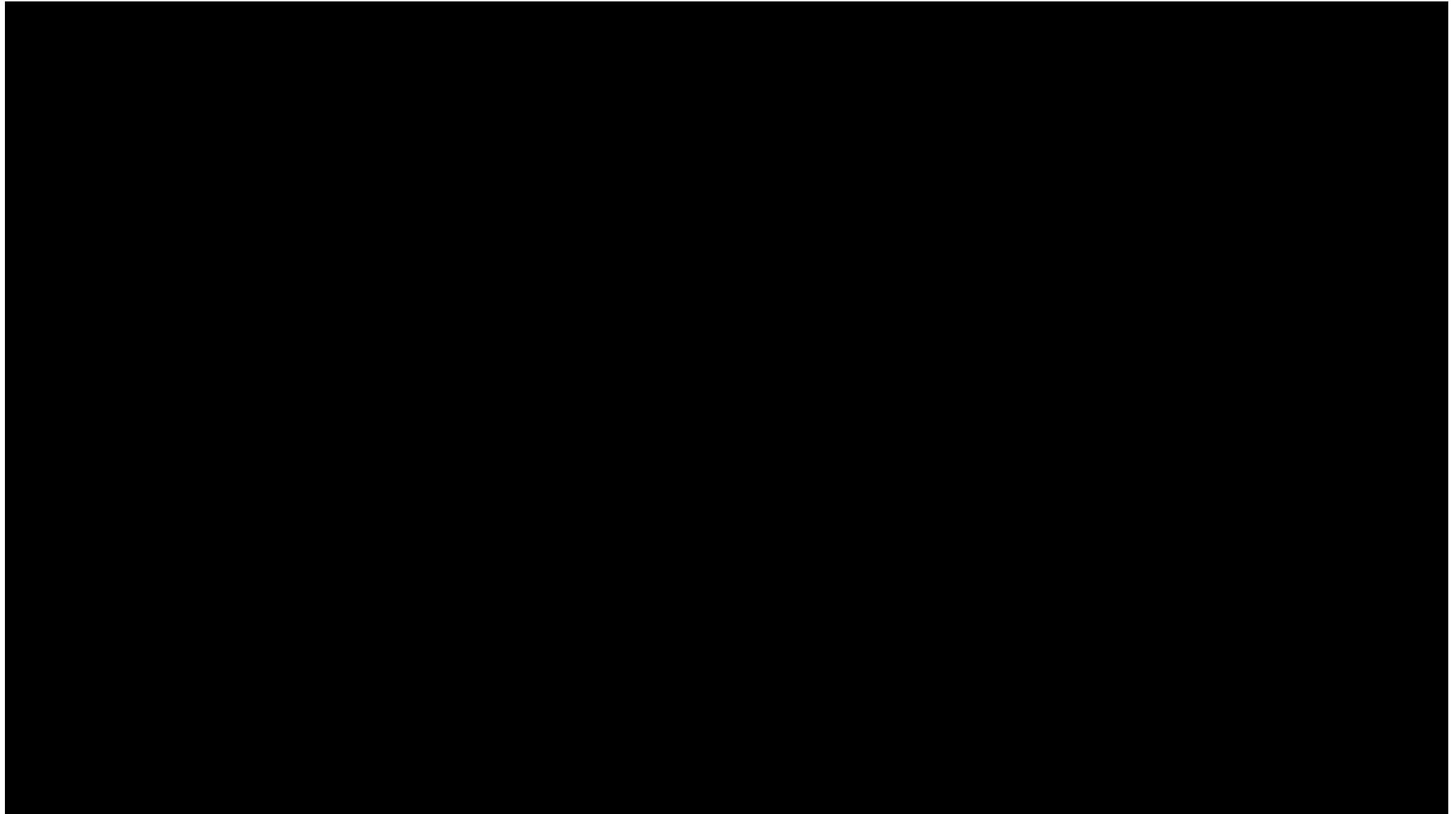


Figure 2. A: CO<sub>2</sub> molecules spewing out of a car. B: CO<sub>2</sub> reacting with sea. C: Participant placing flags next to the sea snails on the reef. D: Acidified reef without sea snails. E, F: Consultation participants in VR.

Géraldine Fauville, Anna C. M. Queiroz, Linda Hambrick, Bryan A. Brown & Jeremy N. Bailenson (2021) Participatory research on using virtual reality to teach ocean acidification: a study in the marine education community, *Environmental Education Research*, 27:2, 254-278, DOI: [10.1080/13504622.2020.1803797](https://doi.org/10.1080/13504622.2020.1803797)

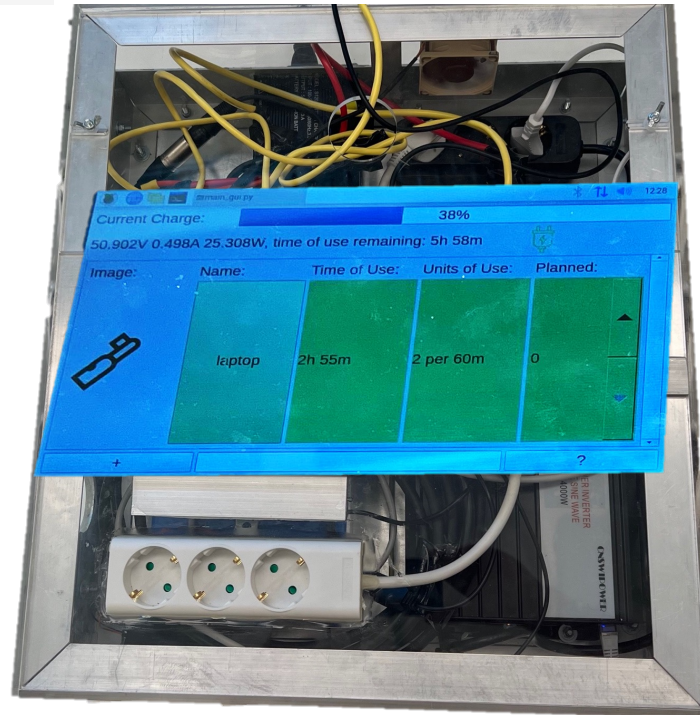
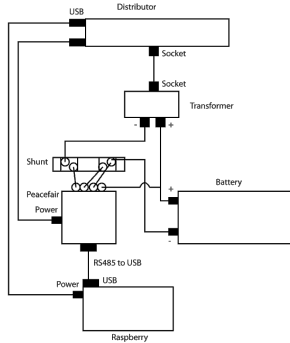
# Achieve your goals



- How to complement human deficiencies by technologies?
  - How to help people to better achieve their goals?
  - How to support long-term thinking?
  - How to keep the human in control?



Source: <https://carbon.kilowh.at/>





# Multiplication Saves the Day

by BILL MCKIBBEN

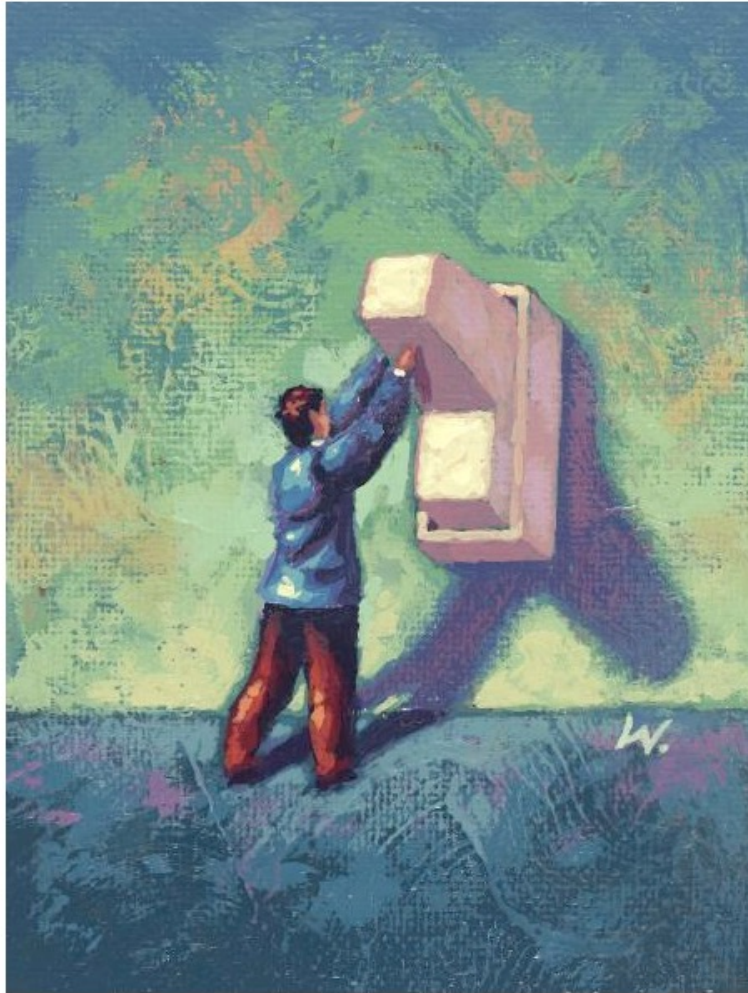


Illustration: Corbis

CARBON



REBELLION

# Are machines the better humans?

- Machines live up to expectations, but only people can surpass
  - Machines personalize, but only people can make it personal
  - Machines thrive in routines, but only people innovate
  - Machines can predict, but it's still people who surprise
  - Machines confirm, people smile
- ➔ Machines thrive with rational tasks, but they can't beat us at creativity, empathy and passion!
- ➔ How can machines and humans achieve more together?



# Summary

**machines can level up skills**

- augment human performance:
  - perceive, feedback, collaborate, experience
- automating mundane tasks
  - free from tedious repetitive tasks
  - focus much more on communication and innovation

**move from information age to creativity age**

- Human strengths are **creativity, problem solving, critical thinking, and social collaboration**
- when to hand-over
- seamless interaction and feedback
  - what are the best bridges between human and machine?



# Let's collaborate!



Florian Michahelles  
Professor of Ubiquitous Computing

<https://media.tuwien.ac.at/>

## Thank you!

