

# Hochschule für Angewandte Wissenschaften Hamburg Hamburg University of Applied Sciences

# **Ambient Assisted Living**

- Accessibility: Ambient awareness -

Seminar Stefan Meißner 21.12.2007





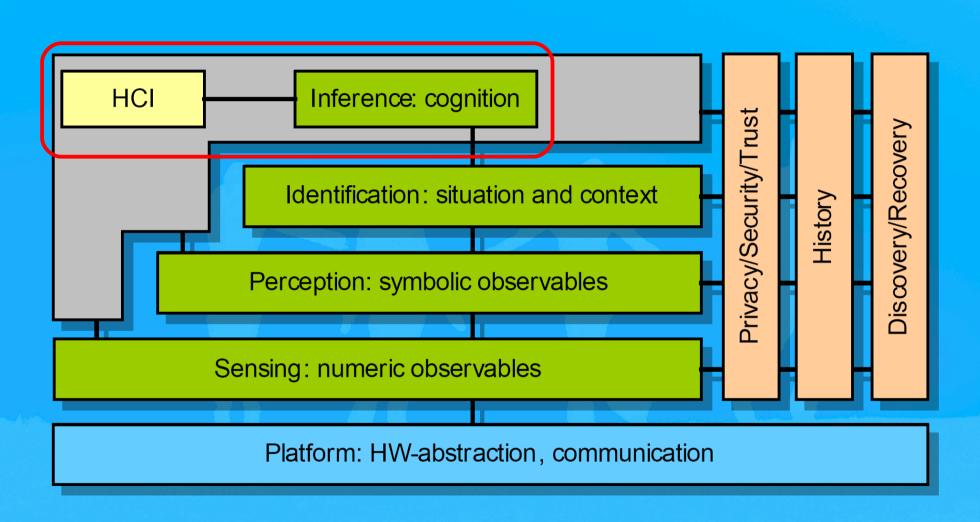
- Motivation
- Feedback in AAL environments
- Ambient / Sound awareness
- Approaches
  - IC2Hear, CHIL (ITC-irst)
  - Nimio
  - IFeel2Hear, IFeel2Perceive?
- Summary
  - Next steps
  - Risks and opportunities

#### **Motivation**



- People with certain disabilities
  - Impaired perception causes less feedback
  - Lack of some interpersonal interactions
    - hearing someone's shout
    - noticing if a person has entered the room
  - or no feedback at all
- People without disabilities
  - Even more feedback
  - Experiencing new ways of interaction
  - "Playing" with the ambience

#### Feedback in AAL environments



[Nehmer et al.:2006]



#### **Ambient / Sound awareness**

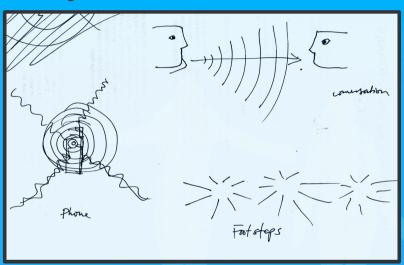
- Peripheral awareness
- Cognition or just awareness?
  - Low-key feedback
- Entropy and evaluation
  - Filtering / muting
  - Learning
  - Verbose mode?



#### IC2Hear - Sound awareness

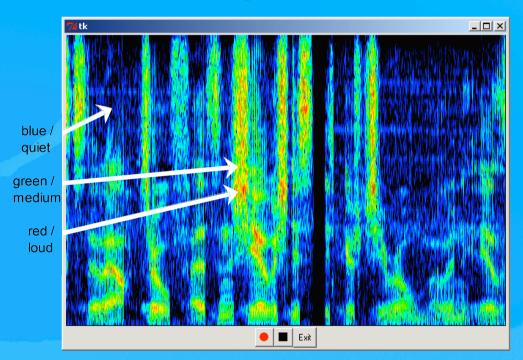
## Sound visualization

Symbols / Icons





Spectrograph



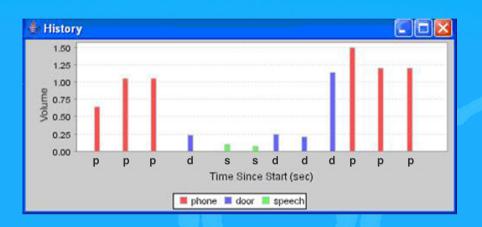
[Ho-Ching et al.:2003]



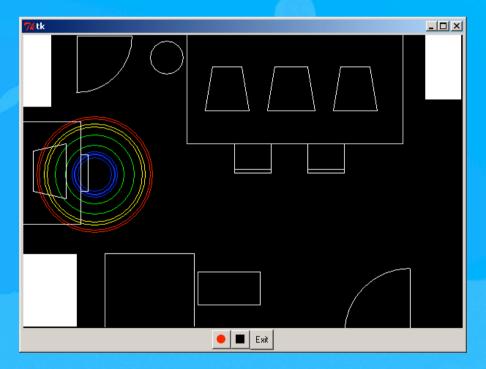
### **IC2Hear – Sound awareness**

#### When? Where?

History



Map prototype



[Matthews et al.:2006]



## CHIL Project (ITC-irst)

#### **Demo video of the CHIL Project**

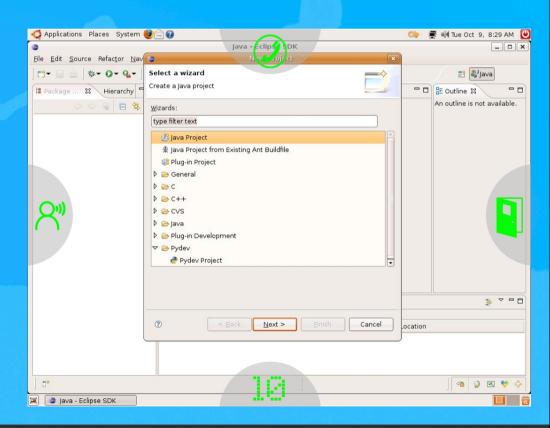
"In this demo, the classification is based on the input from a given microphone, while the location of the source is based on 14 microphones. The classification is based on Hidden Markov Models. Event accuracy is around 95%"

[shine.itc.it]



## Head-up display metaphor

- event display within the user's field of vision
- attracting attention without distracting the user
- relative sound localization
- could display computer sounds as well, e.g. for
  - gaming
  - video clips





## Motes - a different approach

## Motes (sensor networks)

- low-power wireless sensing devices
- small / tiny
- ad-hoc network formation capability
- Technology (tmote sky)
  - IEEE 802.15.4 WPAN (ZigBee)
  - TinyOS Support
  - Integrated sensors
    - Humidity
    - Temperature
    - Light



[Tmote sky datasheet:2006]





#### **Nimio**

- Context-specific ambient display
  - Microphone
  - Movement detection
  - Different reaction
    - "Family group"
    - Interaction type
- Tangible interface
- Desktop toy



[Brewer et al.:2005]



Uses moteiv telos sky "berkeley" motes

- Benefits
  - easy to set up
  - open-ended
  - may be decorative

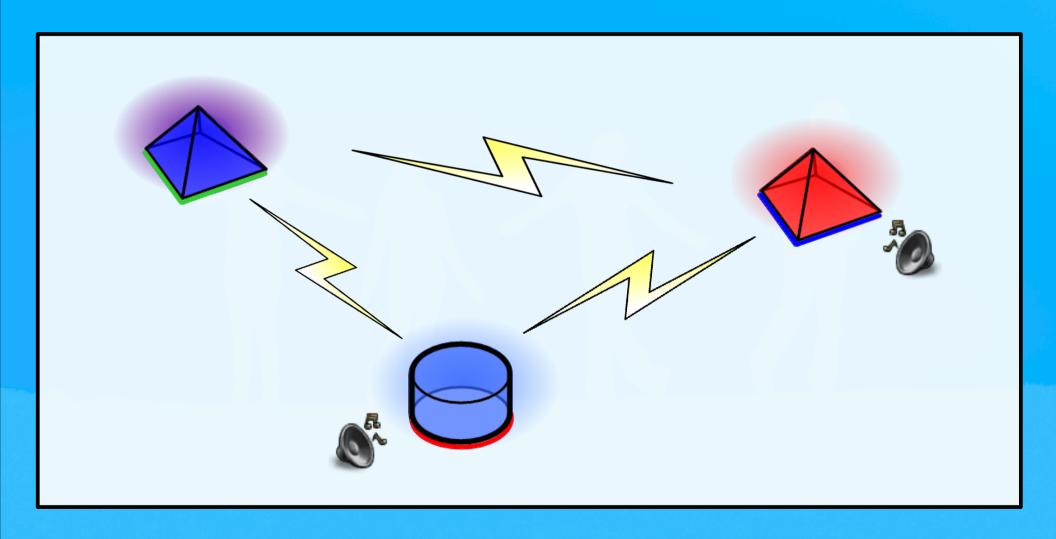


[Brewer et al.:2005]



## Sound awareness motes

## **Scenario with Nimio**





#### IFeel2Hear / IFeel2Perceive?

#### **Vibration**

- Major perception improvement for
  - deaf-blind people
  - deaf people
- Wearable, unobtrusive
  - cell phones
  - small gadgets



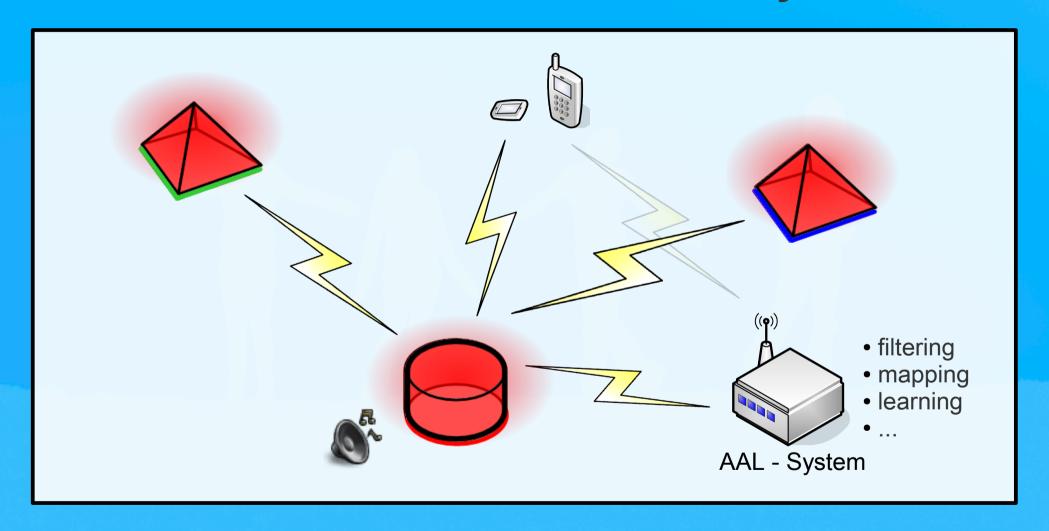
**Bluetooth Vibrating Bracelet** 

[www.lm-technologies.com]



## Goal: Ambient awareness motes

# Scenario vision with an AAL-System







- Sound Visualization
  - Developing different prototypes
- Ambient Awareness
  - Determine requirements
    - hardware (motes, vibrating devices)
    - software (TinyOS, iROS)
- Evaluation with different audiences
  - Hearing impaired people
  - Deaf-blind people
  - People without disabilities



## Risks and opportunities

- Moteiv motes
  - TinyOS, nesC
  - new hardware platform: Java (www.sentilla.com)
- iROS event heap
- Feasibility
  - hardware costs
- Acceptance



#### References

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  [www.xkcd.com]





Questions?

[www.nabaztag.com]



## **Glossary**

AAL Ambient Assisted Living

CHIL Computers in the Human Interaction Loop

HCI Human Computer Interaction

iROS Interactive Room Software

nesC Programming language for deeply networked

systems

TinyOS Open-source operating system designed for wireless

embedded sensor networks

WPAN Wireless Personal Area Network