

# Privacy and Security Considerations in Real-Time Remote Healthcare Delivery

*Dr. Gregorij Kurillo*

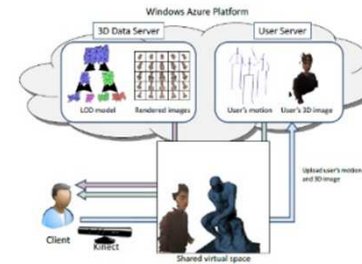
**Teleimmersion Lab**

University of California, Berkeley

*gregorij@eecs.berkeley.edu*

# UC Berkeley - Teleimmersion Lab

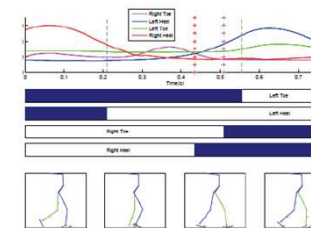
- Exploring Teleimmersion technology for **collaborative work** of geographically distributed users through **virtual presence**
- Real-time observations and modeling of human movement dynamics
- Our research combines **3D computer vision, collaborative virtual reality and networking**



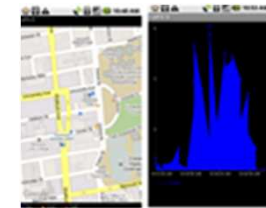
**Access of Large Data**  
(UCB, Uni. of Tokyo)



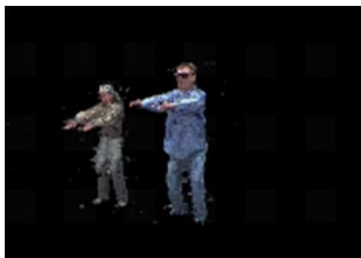
**Automotive Safety**  
(UCB, UCB ME)



**Modeling of Walking**  
(UCB, UT)



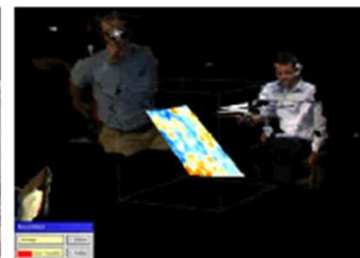
**Mobile Technologies**  
(UCB, USB SPH)



**Immersive Tai Chi**  
(UCB, Stanford Univ.)



**Remote Dancing**  
(UCB, UIUC)



**Virtual Geology**  
(UCB, UC Davis)



**Virtual Archaeology**  
(UCB, UC Merced)



**Tele-Medicine**  
(UCB, UC Davis)

# Outline

- Motivation
- Remote Healthcare delivery
- Sensor technology
- Our Tele-healthcare projects
- Proposed solutions
- Conclusion

# Motivation

- We are witnessing conjunction between **Information Technology, Communication** and **Healthcare**
- Use of **wireless personal computing** (i.e. smart phones) and **health-monitoring** devices is increasing



BASIS Watch  
<https://mybasis.com/>



Fitbit Ultra  
<http://www.fitbit.com/>



BioHarness BT  
<http://www.zephyr-technology.com>



Nike FuelBand  
<http://www.nike.com/fuelband/>



BodyMedia Link Armband  
<http://www.bodymedia.com>

# Motivation

- Devices are becoming increasingly **connected**
- There are security and privacy issues in **remote healthcare delivery** with respect to:
  - Data collection
  - Communication protocols
  - Data storage
  - Data analysis
  - Data sharing...
- What and how much do you share with whom?
  - Family, Parents, Children, Physician, Insurance...

# Introduction

- Majority of research in healthcare privacy and security is in data encryption and access control of already stored data
- We are interested in privacy & security issues pertaining to **human observations in real time**
- In tele-health delivery, there are **heterogeneous sensor networks**. Challenge is how to ensure calibration, synchronization, validity of data, and privacy controls within the same framework.

# Remote Healthcare Delivery through Heterogeneous Sensors

- Tele-healthcare:
  - Real-time interaction between patient & doctor
    - Video & audio ... teleconference, consultation, remote office visit
    - Therapy & exercise ... tele-rehabilitation
  - Real-time monitoring of patient's activity (with data analysis and storage):
    - EKG/ECG, EMG, heart-rate ... body function
    - GPS ... location (e.g. are you walking uphill, are you on busy street)
    - Accelerometry ... activity levels
    - Questioners ... can be triggered by other sensors to request patient's input

# Sensor Technologies

## Video



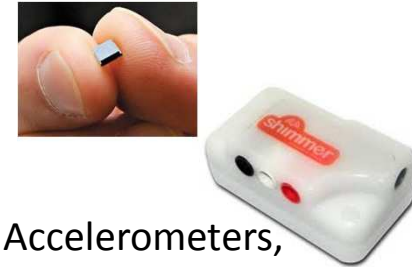
Cameras  
(wireless, wired,  
Security, mobile...)

## Audio



Microphones

## Movement



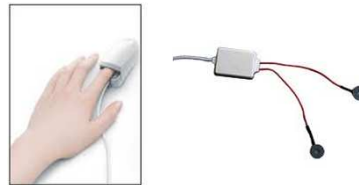
Accelerometers,  
Gyroscopes,  
GPS...

## Multimedia Devices



Video, audio, 3D,  
GPS, accelerometers,  
Gyroscopes...

## Body Functions



EKG/ECG, EMG,  
Skin conductivity...

## Other Sensors



Motion, pressure...



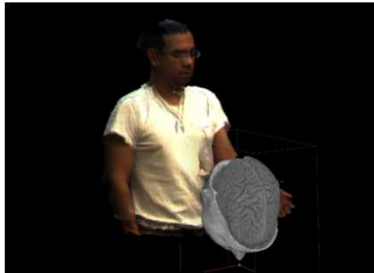
# Privacy Considerations in Heterogeneous Sensor Systems

- If the user does not feel privacy is respected, they will less likely embrace the technology
- Users should be involved in the design phase to understand the privacy needs
- Tele-healthcare development should:
  - Include visibility and transparency of the processes
  - Provide education of users on how the system operates
  - Maximize both privacy and functionality

# Privacy Considerations in Heterogeneous Sensor Systems

- Video and audio data is considered most revealing
- Computer vision algorithms can extract even more information from the data (e.g. person detection, face recognition, accurate tracking, activity recognition)
- Combination of sensors – **data fusion**, can reveal even more information that is by itself out of context (e.g. human daily activity recognition – time synchronized and geo-referenced)

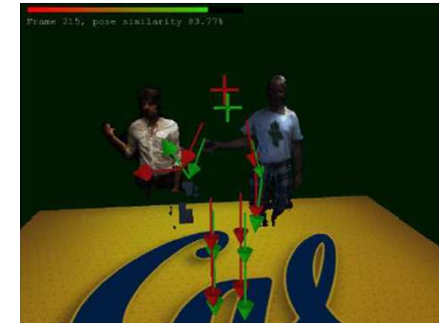
# Teleimmersion Lab Healthcare Projects



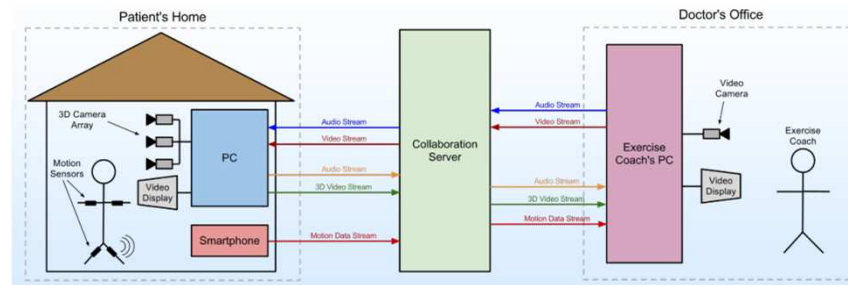
Remote Consultation  
& Medical Data  
Visualization  
(Collaboration with IDAV, UC Davis)



Wireless/Mobile  
Sensor Monitoring  
of Activity



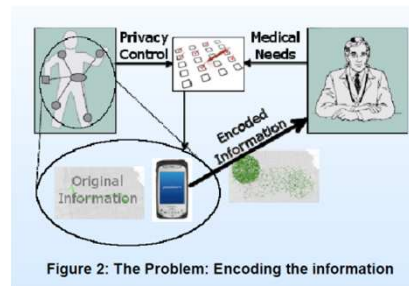
Remote delivery  
of physical therapy  
(Collaboration with UC Davis  
Medical Center,  
CITRIS grant)



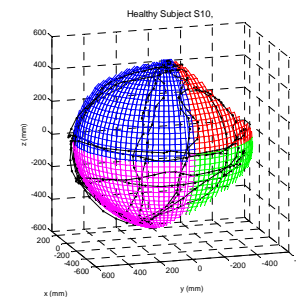
**TeleHealth Network Architecture**



Consensus from  
multiple specialists  
(Collaboration with  
Kaiser Permanente)



Data Privacy  
& Security



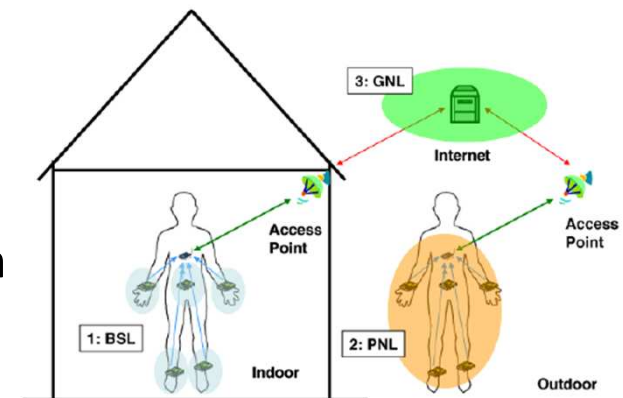
Upper Extremity  
Evaluation  
(Collaboration with UC Davis  
Medical Center)



Motion Capture &  
Exercise Evaluation  
(Collaboration with Oregon  
Health & Science University,  
NSF #1111965)

# DexterNet

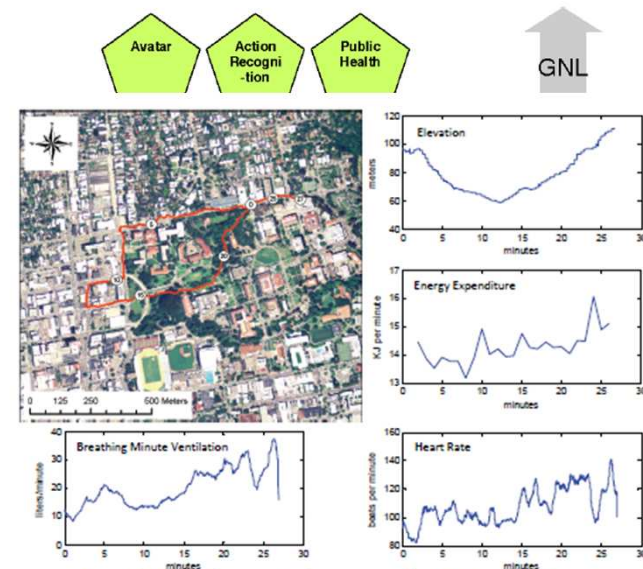
- An **open platform** for heterogeneous body sensor networks
- Project between UC Berkeley, Cornell University, Telecom Italia, UT Dallas, Tampere University of Technology- Finland
- Features **three-layer architecture** to control heterogeneous body sensors:
  - Body sensor layer (BSL) ...  
design of sensors on the body
  - Personal network layer (PNL) ...  
sensors on single subject communication
  - Global network layer (GNL) ...  
multiple PNLs communication with remote Internet server



**Figure 1.** The three-layer hierarchy of the DexterNet system: 1. Body sensor layer (BSL). 2. Personal network layer (PNL). 3. Global network layer (GNL).

# DexterNet

- DexterNet presents a competitive framework to support a variety of applications in healthcare, military, and consumer electronics.
- Architecture implemented **higher-level algorithms**:
  - Fall detection
  - Breathing volume
  - Energy expenditure
  - Recognition of 13 action categories (e.g. stand, sit, lie down, walk, go upstairs, jump, push wheelchair...)
- Geo-referenced multi-sensor data

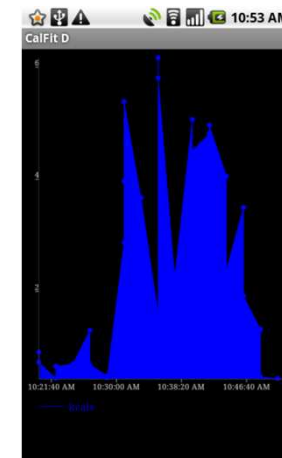
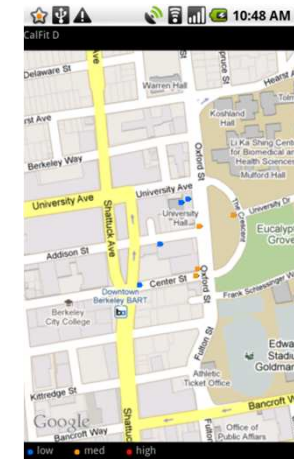


Kuryloski, P.; Giani, A.; Giannantonio, R.; Gilani, K.; Gravina, R.; Seppa, V.-P.; Seto, E.; Shia, V.; Wang, C.; Yan, P.; Yang, A.Y.; Hyttinen, J.; Sastry, S.; Wicker, S.; Bajcsy, R.; "DexterNet: An Open Platform for Heterogeneous Body Sensor Networks and its Applications," Wearable and Implantable Body Sensor Networks, 2009. BSN 2009. Sixth International Workshop on , vol., no., pp.92-97, 3-5 June 2009

less tablet) and associated sensors. The GNL includes our applications built with the DexterNet system.

# CalFit (BerkeleyFit)

- CalFit, a **multi-user mobile application**
- Monitors physical activity and encourages exercise through social interaction and competition.
- Collaboration between UC Berkeley Engineering and the School of Public Health
- CalFit aims to fulfill two goals:
  - to promote healthier and more active lifestyles
  - to provide data on social and physical environments (important for future health policies and planning)



# DexterNet & CalFit

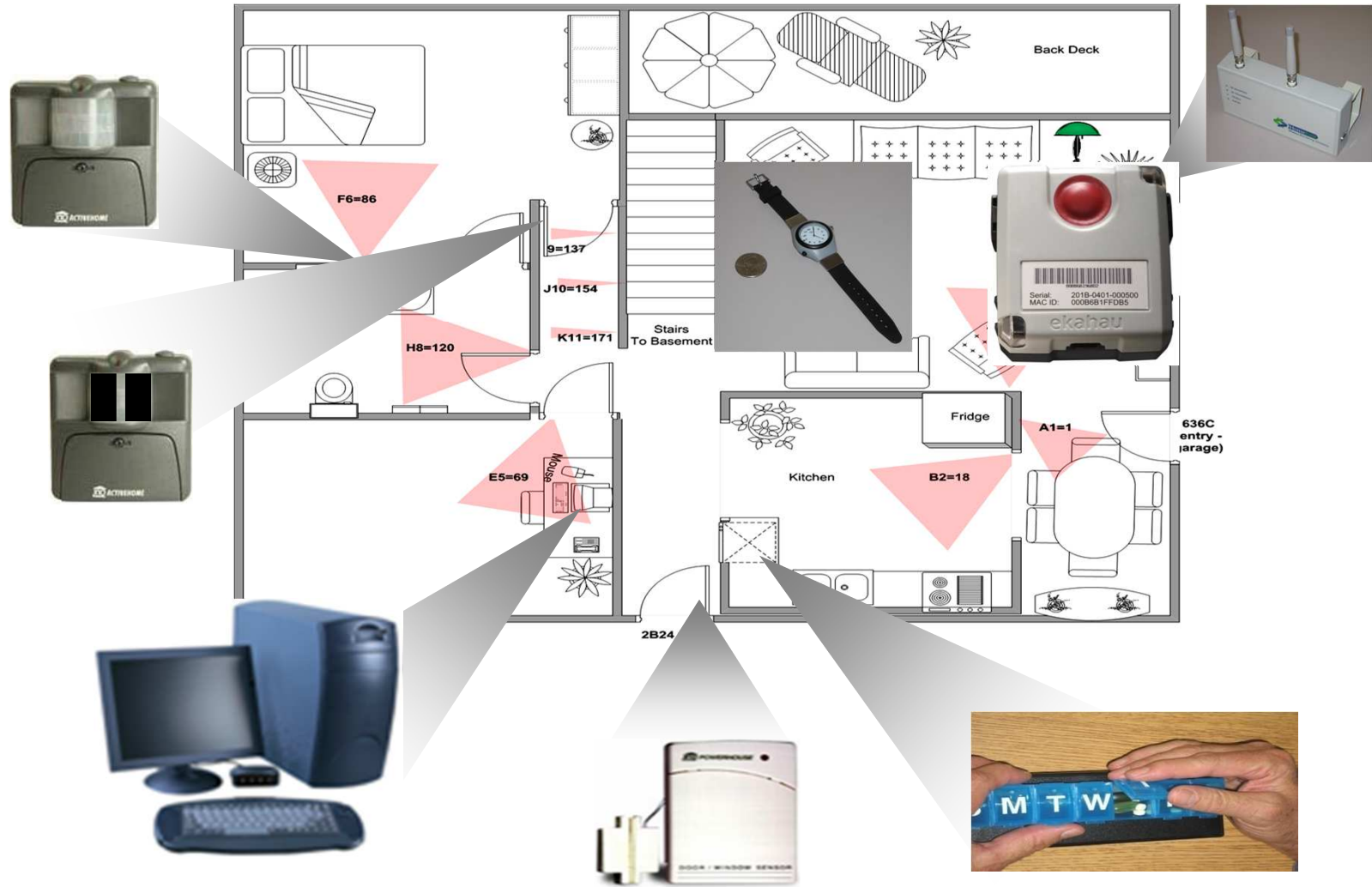
- **Privacy & Security considerations:**
  - Location information is collected with relatively high accuracy
  - Several action categories are detected from the smartphone data in your pocket
  - Data is geo-referenced and time synchronized
  - Activity and location data is shared with others as in a social network

# Smart Healthcare for Older Adults

## Integrated Communications and Inference Systems for Continuous Coordinated Care of Older Adults in the Home

- Millions of **elderly people** live alone and do not take proper care of their physical health.
- **Wireless and other sensors** in home can be used to **observe** cognitive behavior and physical activity.
- National Science Foundation (NSF) sponsored project to **investigate and model cognitive and physical performance** in elderly.
- Partner: **Oregon Health Science University: Center for Health & Healing.**
- Privacy models for the sharing of home monitoring data





Holly Jimison, OHSU

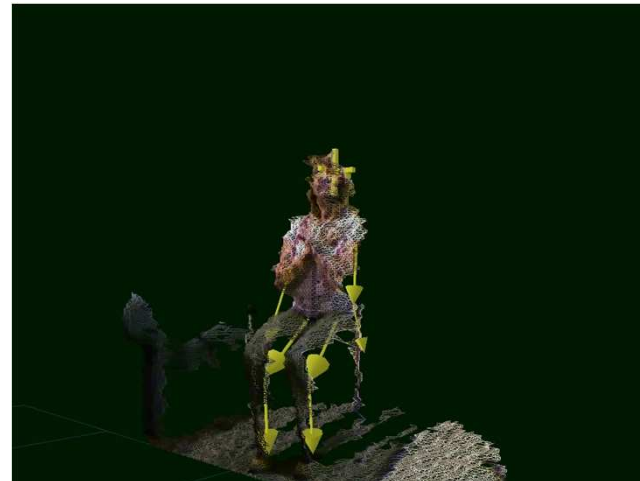
# Smart Healthcare for Older Adults

- **Privacy & Security considerations:**
  - Patients are monitored by various sensors 24/7
  - Information is being collected on computer usage, phone, Skype etc.
  - Data is used to provide semi-automated cognitive and physical health coaching
  - A lot of information is sensitive.
  - The goal is to understand what data subjects are willing to share and with whom

# Smart Healthcare for Older Adults

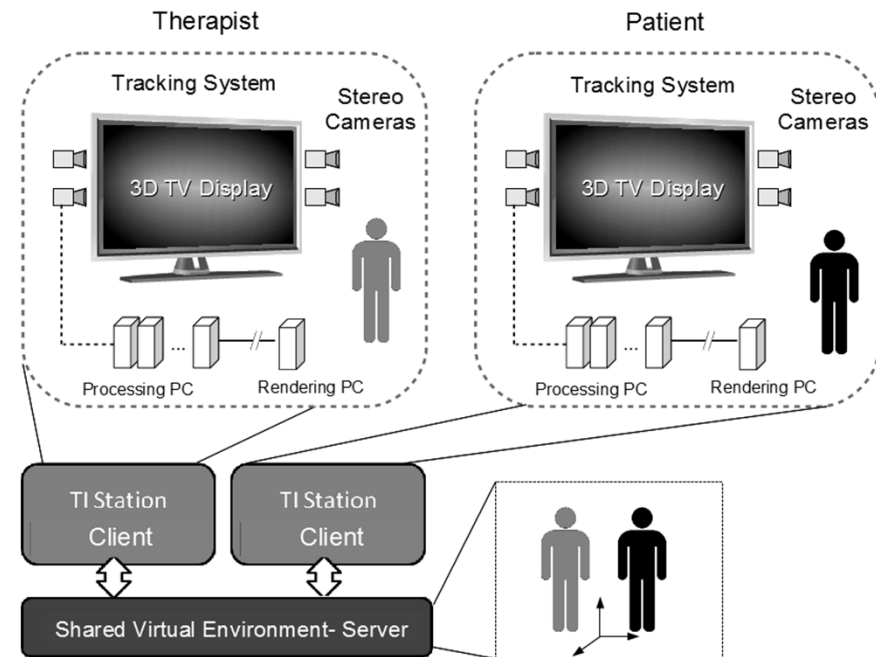
## Physical Health Coaching

- Technology assisted interactive exercise with Microsoft Kinect camera
- Movement data is collected and analyzed in real-time
- Real-time interaction between subject and coach on daily basis



# Delivery of Remote Healthcare through Teleimmersion

- Tele-immersion connects remote users through a shared 3D virtual environment
- Communication through 3D video
- Use of real-time 3D imaging for observing, recognizing and measuring human movement
- Implementation of security and privacy measures to protect patient and ensure robust delivery



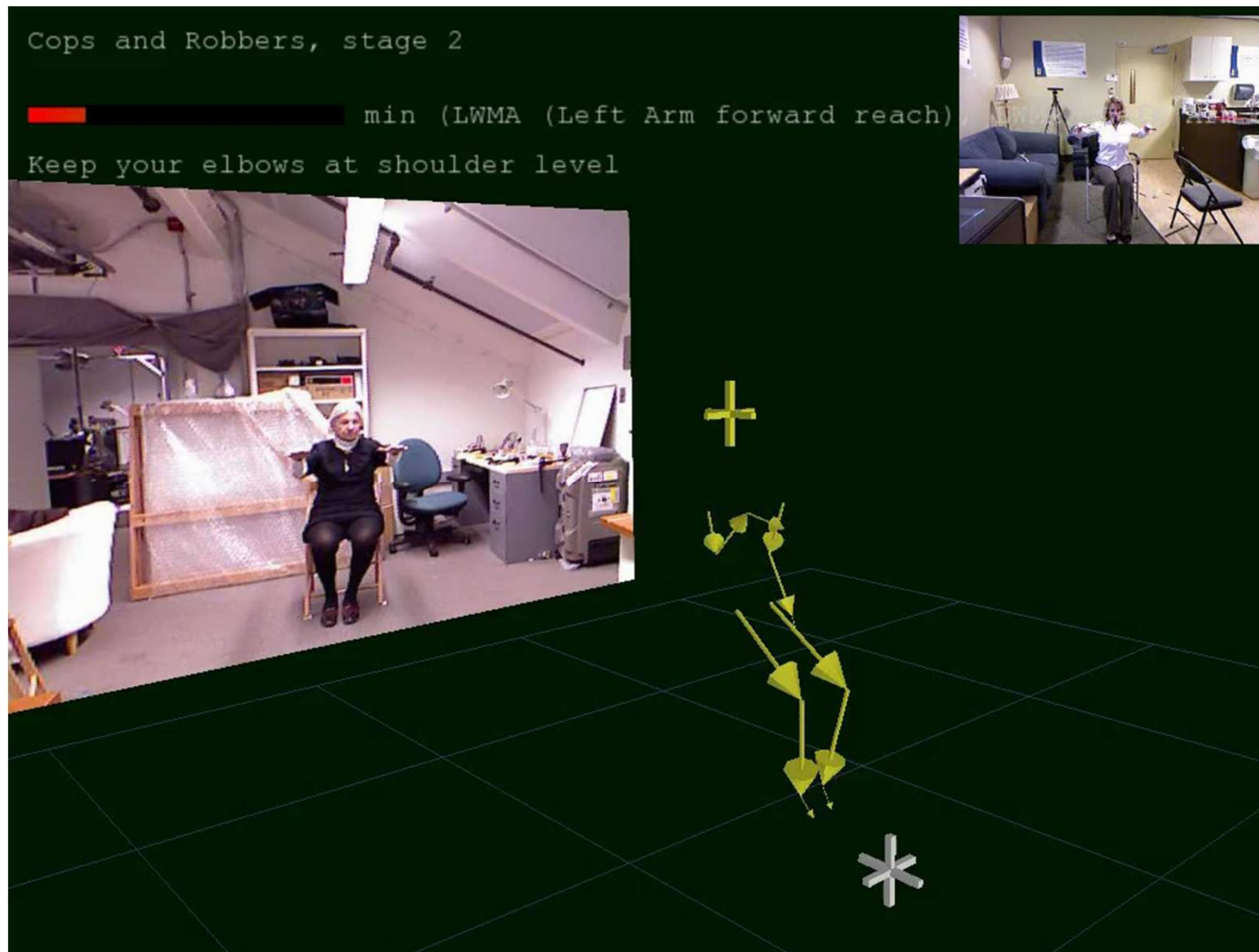
# Smart Healthcare for Older Adults

## Physical Health Coaching

- Kinect is used to provide tracking information on individual's exercises from 3D image
- Higher-level features (based on joint angles and positions) are extracted in real-time based on predefined exercise routine
- These features provide performance measures, describing individual's levels of endurance, strength, balance and flexibility.

# Smart Healthcare for Older Adults

## Physical Health Coaching



# Smart Healthcare for Older Adults

## Physical Health Coaching

- **Privacy & Security considerations:**
  - Elderly are considered vulnerable population, especially with respect to new technology
  - Video & audio is captured in person's home
  - 3D data is collected (e.g. body geometry, weight)
  - Body tracking data is being collected (e.g. action recognition, style)
  - Objective information on subjects physical state is available.

# TeleHealth: Remote Office Visit

- Collaboration with Kaiser Permanente Oakland
- In this scenario patient connects via a multimedia link to talk to doctor from home
- From technological point of view, this is trivial
- Privacy and security of data are crucial
- Can we use off-the-shelf technologies?



Remote consultation



Consensus from  
multiple specialists



Remote office visit

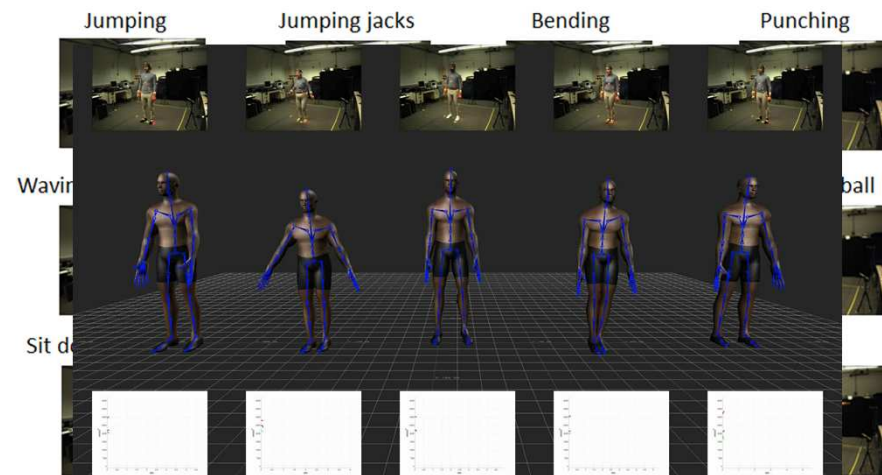
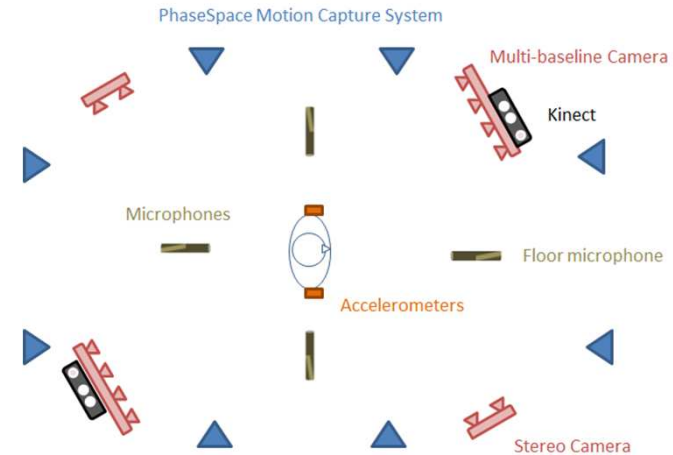


# TeleHealth: Remote office visit & consensus from multiple specialists

- Remote office visit allows patient to be “seen” without travel, e.g. orthopedics
- Physician may need to perform remote visual assessment (e.g. ask patient to move limbs)
- Video quality (resolution, frame rate), camera positioning are important
- Technology would allow multiple geographically distributed physicians to observe/evaluate patient at the same time

# Multimodal Human Activity Database

- Multimodal data collection facility:
  - Motion capture
  - Multi-view stereo
  - Accelerometers
  - Sound
- 12 actions, 11 subjects, 5 repetitions
- Large amount of data for motion analysis, segmentation, recognition etc.
- Exploring activity recognition from various modalities



# Patient-Controlled Privacy of Real-Time Data

- **Challenges in real-time data collection:**
  - Multiple heterogeneous sensors streams (e.g. video, audio and other data)
  - Data access requires low latency for real-time interaction (e.g. in home monitoring, tele-rehabilitation)
  - Access control model for static data repository does not work.
  - Should raw data be stored on third-party system?
  - Who is the owner of the data?

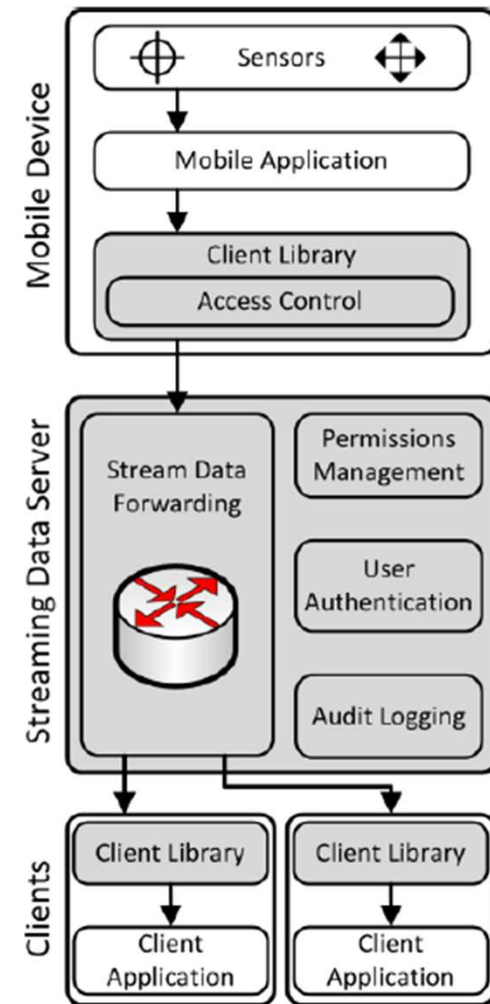
# Architecture for Patient-Controlled Privacy of Real-Time Data

- **Privacy Principles:**

- User should have ultimate control of their data
- The control should be at the device level
- The resolution of the data is set by user
- Framework should allow generating data at different granularities to each recipient
- Data, which user choose not to share, is discarded
- Authentication of users and devices
- Audit logging of data access and permission settings

# Architecture for Patient-Controlled Privacy of Real-Time Data

- Client-server architecture:
  - Client Library: facilitates r/w access to data streams
  - Streaming Data Server: provides interconnection point for clients
- Data streams are forwarded to each recipient in real time
- Access control is applied on the client side (device level)



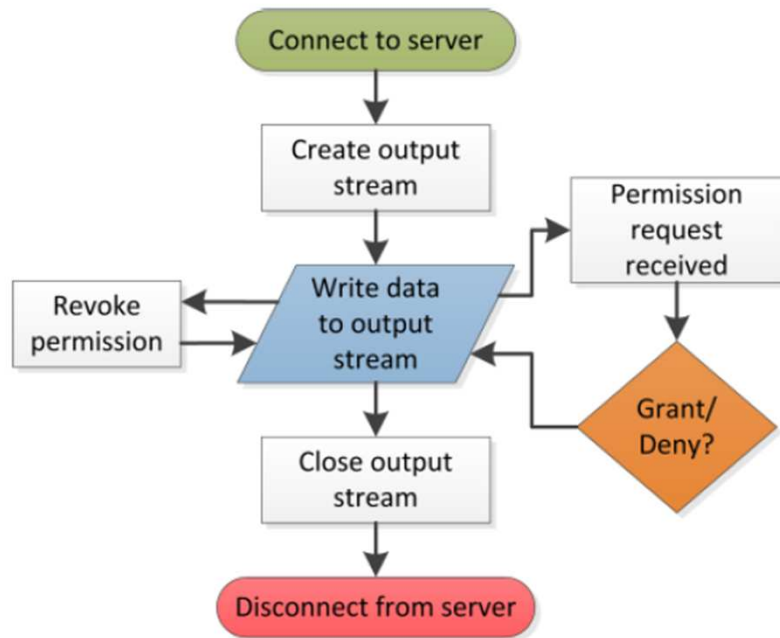
# Client Library

- Provides simple API for device to access network:
  - Opening/closing sockets
  - Managing IP addresses
  - Sending/receiving control and data packets
- Telehealth applications interact with a simple abstraction of the network
- Client can accept, deny or revoke requests for data streams
- Implementation in Java and Python on PC and Android device, C++ to follow

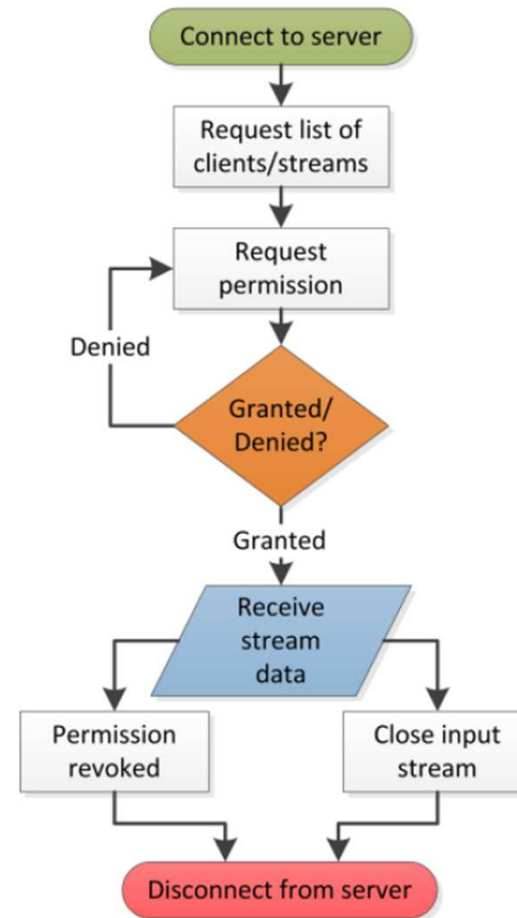
# Streaming Data Server

- Provides a common point of contact for networked clients with authentication and logging mechanisms
- Key functions:
  - Receiving and forwarding of data streams based on permissions controls
  - Maintains list of valid user credentials
  - Maintains a log of connected clients and streams for audit
- Standardized and descriptive XML header describing sensor parameters (type, settings, resolution) for abstraction
- Implementation in Java

# Architecture Protocol



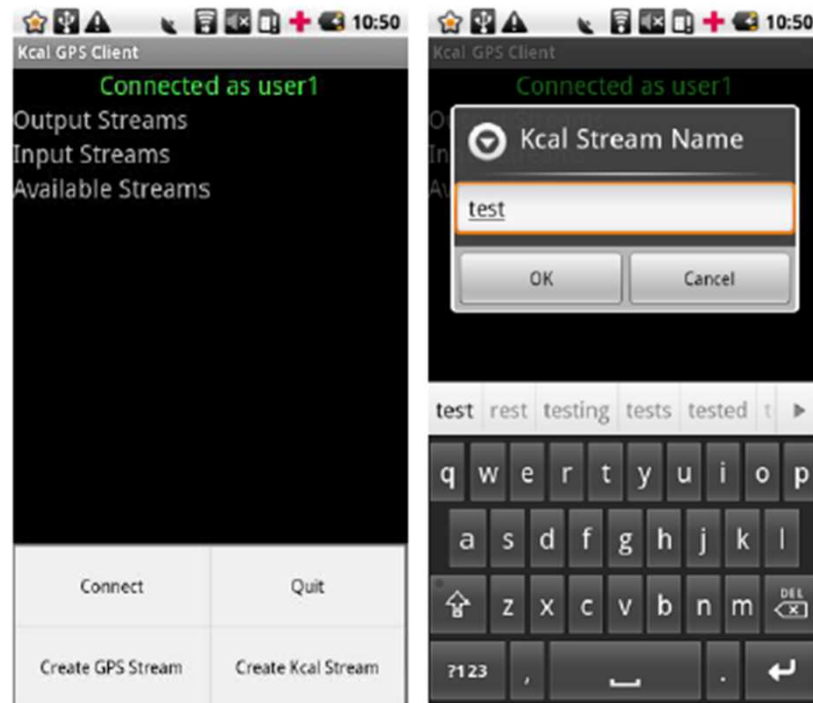
Flow diagram for sending client



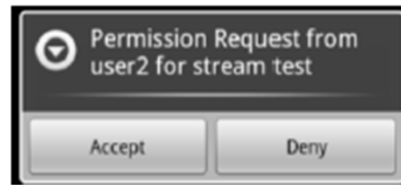
Flow diagram for receiving client



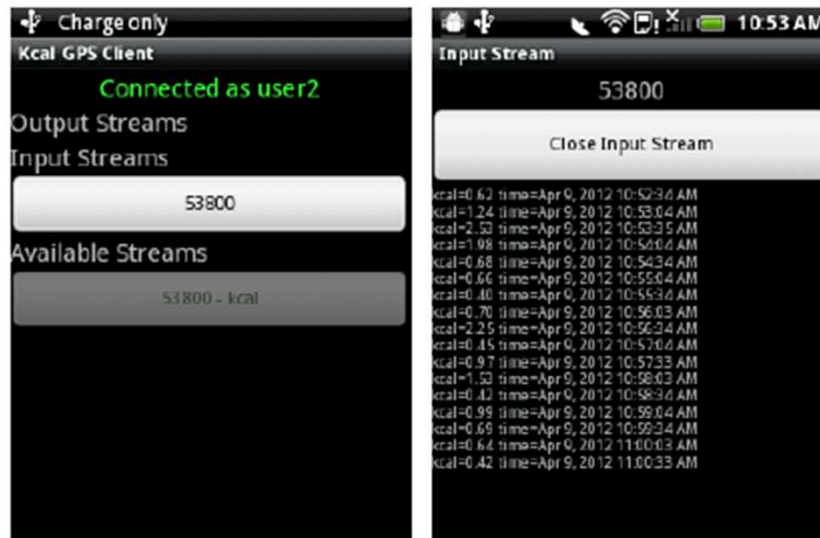
# Test Application – kcal Streaming



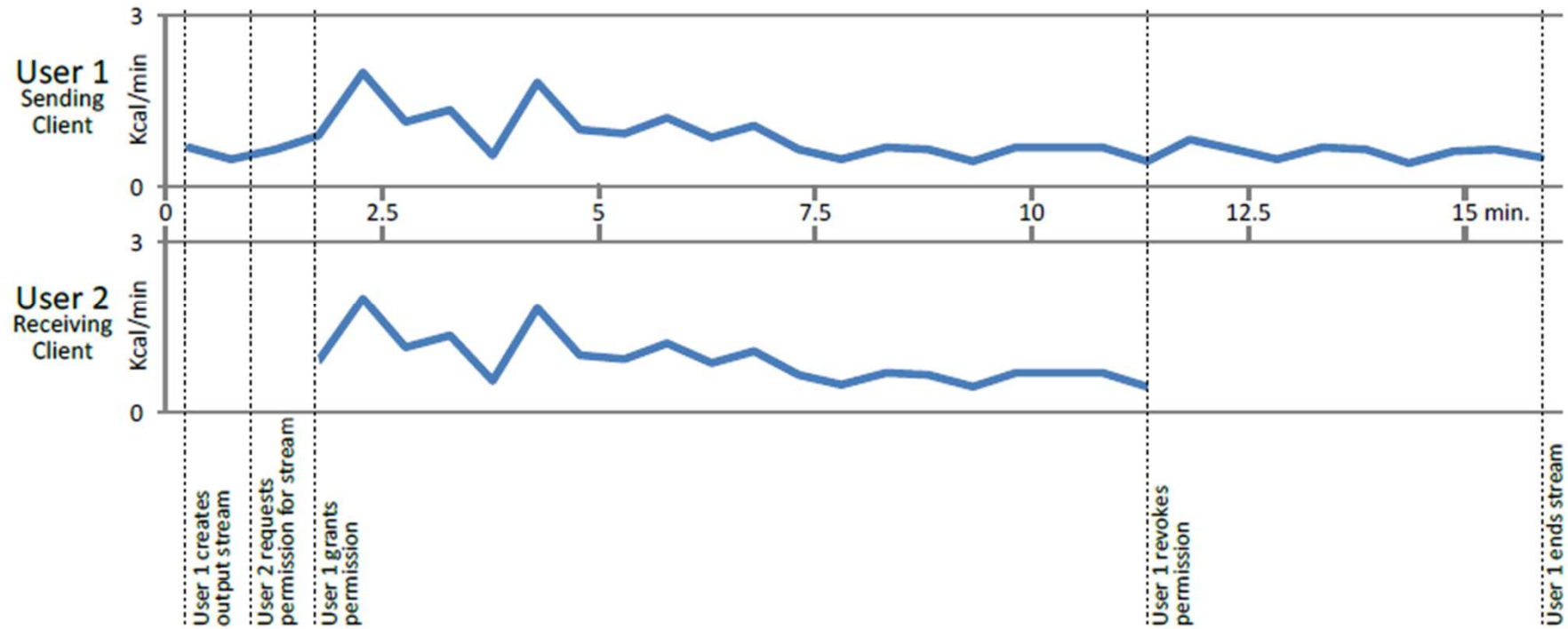
# Test Application – kcal Streaming



# Test Application – kcal Streaming



# Test Application – kcal Streaming



# Framework - Summary

- Framework creates permission model for real-time data streaming across multiple platforms (PC, Android)
- Data flow is controlled close to the source (sensor)
- Users are able to control granularity of data received by different clients
- Abstraction of device output streams (application requests type of stream, does not care about sensor)
- The framework allows reliable, secure connectivity in a variety of network environments

# A Game Theoretic Approach to TeleHealthcare

- Patients have **sensors** attached to their bodies/in their environment gathering measurements and **sending data** to a doctor/hospital
- We need to make sure that the data being sent complies with the patients' **privacy preferences** but is enough for doctors to **provide healthcare**
- Defining a **game** in which we have the three players: The **Patient**, The **Hospital** and The **Device**. Each player has one move which represents their decisions/preferences.

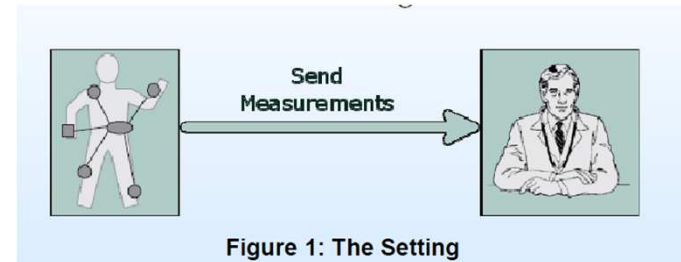


Figure 1: The Setting

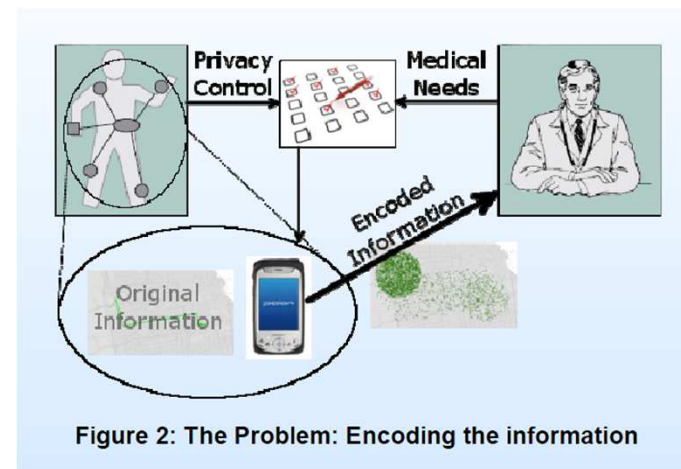


Figure 2: The Problem: Encoding the information

# Information bargaining

- Model the **Doctor-Patient** dynamics in the process of bargaining for information
  - **Patients** and **doctors** have mutual payoff but individual costs for each information partition  $x$ 
    - **Mutual payoff**: good treatment
    - **Patients** may not want to share all their medical information with **doctors** because of potential cost in case the information gets compromised
    - **Doctors** may have a cost for receiving information: liability, misleading irrelevant information, etc...

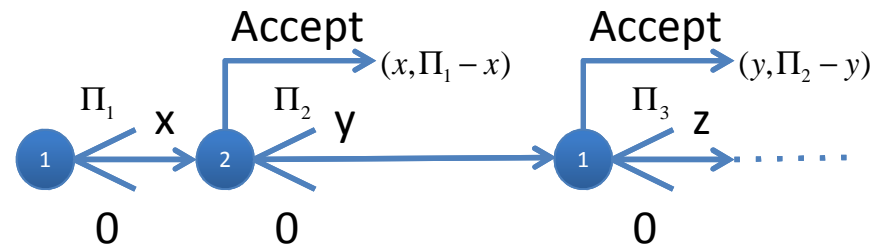
# The Problem

- The goal is to find the policy of sending measurements/information that produces minimal level of dissatisfaction
- Encoding information includes:
  - sending partial data
  - adding noise to the data
  - sending peaks or average ...



# Approach

- In the Rubinstein bargaining model:
  - Starts with player 1 making an offer
  - Alternating offers until a player accepts the other's offer
- **ASSUMPTION 1** [Rubinstein [1] (A-1)]: At any given round of the game
  - If  $x > y$  then Player 1 will prefer the partition  $x$  over the partition  $y$
  - If  $x < y$  then Player 2 will prefer the partition  $x$  over the partition  $y$
- In our medical setting, this assumption usually doesn't hold.
  - Relax the assumption



# Conclusion

- Use of wearable and environmental sensors in healthcare can:
  - Reduce cost through prevention
  - Improve clinical outcomes
  - Facilitate independence of living
- Continuous data collection is required for the above -> significant privacy risks
- In real-time data collection users should have control over what data is collected, when and who is the receiver

# Acknowledgements

- This work was partially supported by grants:
  - SHARPS Grant, HHS 90TR0003/01
  - National Science Foundation (NSF) Grant #1111965
  - TRUST
  - Center for Information Technology Research in Interest of Society (CITRIS), Seed Grant

Introduction | Tele-Immersion @ UC Berkeley - Mark H. Lewis

http://tele-immersion.citris-uc.org

# Teleimmersion Lab

University of California, Berkeley

### Site Navigation

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  - Old Projects
- Publications
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- Contact
- Private

### Introduction

Tele-immersion is aimed to enable users in geographically distributed sites to collaborate in real time in a shared simulated environment as if they were in the same physical room. This enterprise has engaged the skills of researchers in a variety of disciplines, including computer vision, graphics and network communications. Tele-immersion is aimed to be used in different areas, such as 3D CAD design, ergonomics, entertainment (e.g. games), remote learning and training, coordination of activities (e.g. dancing, rehabilitation), 3D motion capture of body segments etc. The tele-immersion lab at UC Berkeley is located at Hearst Memorial Mining Building 4475.

<http://tele-immersion.citris-uc.org>  
[gregorij@eecs.berkeley.edu](mailto:gregorij@eecs.berkeley.edu)