Association for Computing Machinery at Southeast Missouri State University

VIRTUAL REALITY

By Stephen Sladek

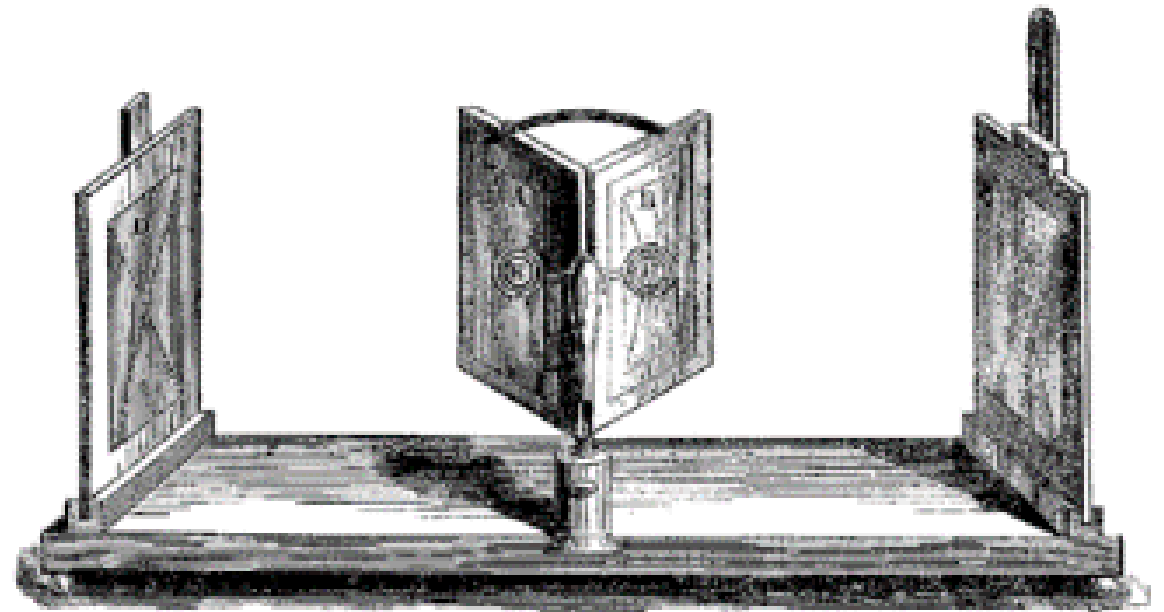# Virtual Reality

History

How it Works

Tools of VR

How it's Used

History

History - 1838

The stereoscope was invented by Sir Charles Wheatstone. This was the first invention of a 3D display.

History - 1968

THE SWORD OF DAMOCLES WAS THE FIRST VR DEVICE EVER CREATED. MADE BY IVAN SUTHERLAND OF MIT.
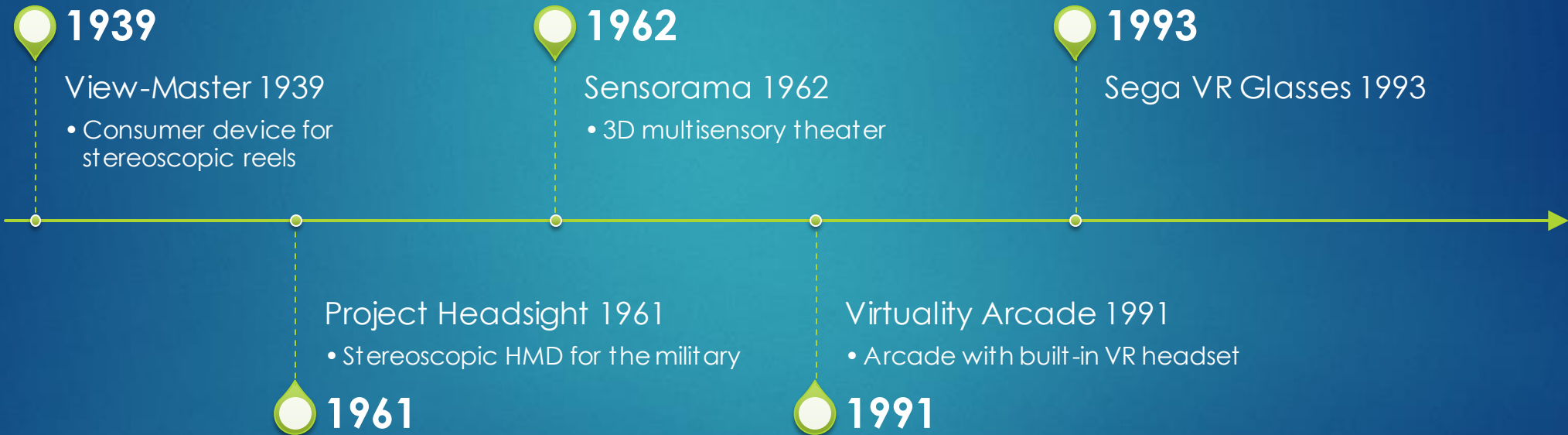
History - 1995

Nintendo launches the Virtual Boy, the first consumer VR device to hit the shelves.

It is a commercial failure due to the uncomfortable stationary design, monochromatic red, and high price tag.

History – Honorable Mentions

1939

View-Master 1939
- Consumer device for stereoscopic reels

1962

Sensorama 1962
- 3D multisensory theater

1993

Sega VR Glasses 1993

Project Headsight 1961
- Stereoscopic HMD for the military

1961

Virtuality Arcade 1991
- Arcade with built-in VR headset

1991

History - 2012

Oculus hits Kickstarter and raises $2.4 million. Nearly %1000 of the original target.

The low cost solution of utilizing smart phone components along with exposure to several gaming conventions helped launch its popularity.

Palmer Luckey

1990s VR vs. Present VR
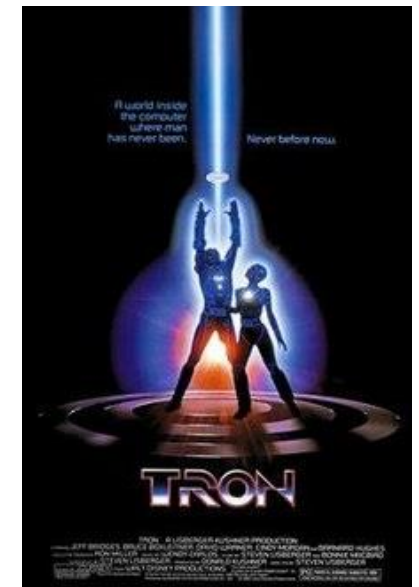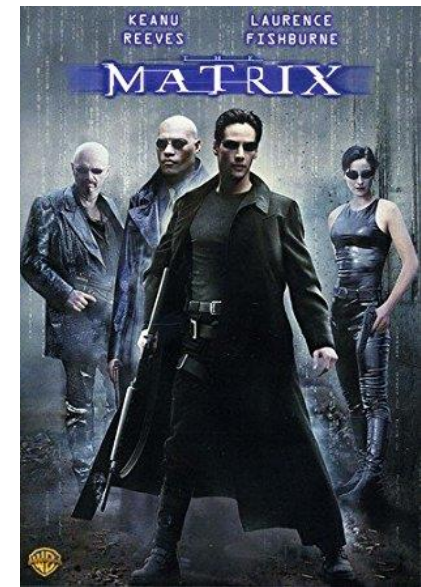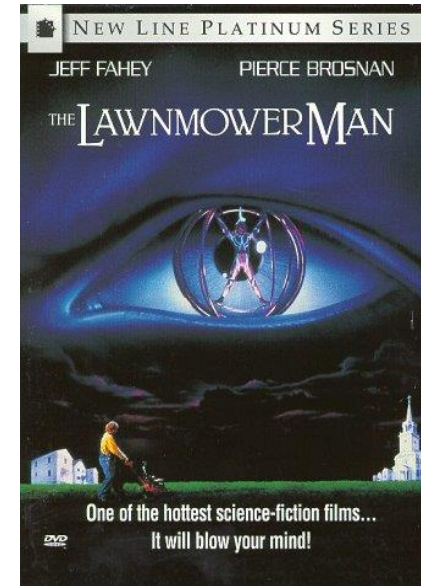
Popular Virtual Reality Movies / Series

Tron 1982

Lawnmower Man 1992

The Matrix 1999

Sword Art Online 2012

Log Horizon 2013

Ready Player One 2018

How it Works

How it Works

Required

- Optics
- Focal Length
- Field of View
- Stereoscopy
- Rotational Tracking

Not Required

- Low Persistence*
- Spatial Audio
- Positional Tracking
- Haptic Feedback
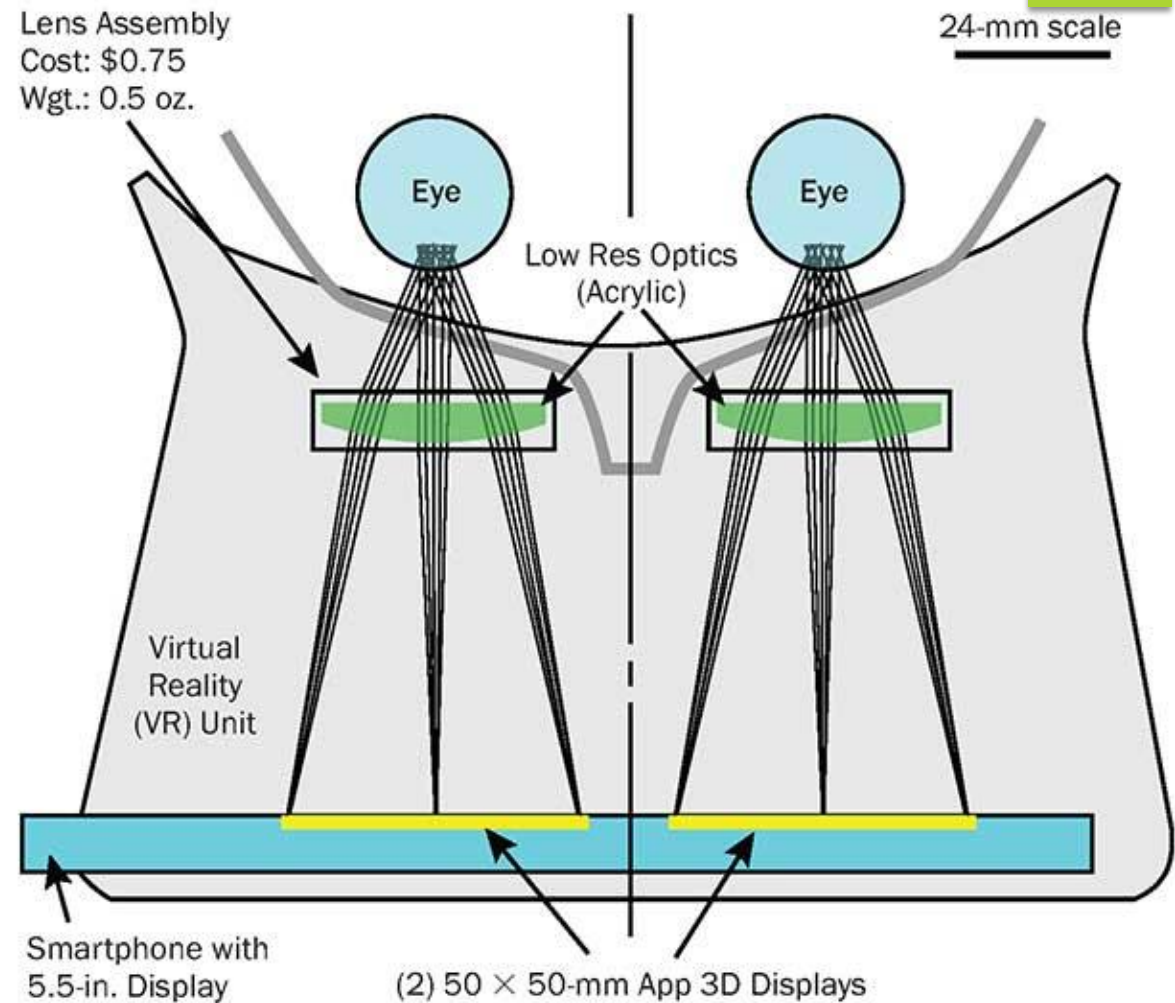- Eye Tracking

How it Works

Low Persistence

- Displays a moving slice at high fps
- Reduces motion blur which, in turn reduces motion sickness

Example

How it Works

- Optics
  - Thin acrylic lenses for small HMD
  - Thick plastic lenses for large HMD

- Focal Length
  - Distance between human eye, optics, and the screen

Lens Assembly
Cost: $0.75
Wgt.: 0.5 oz.

24-mm scale

Eye

Eye

Low Res Optics
(Acrylic)

Virtual
Reality
(VR) Unit

Smartphone with
5.5-in. Display

(2) 50 × 50-mm App 3D Displays

How it Works

- Field of View (FOV)
  - Average human has ~200 degree FOV
  - Perceive symbols at 60 degree and read text at 10 degrees
  - We only care about the binocular FOV
 - VR Headsets typically range from 90 – 110 degree FOV

~200° ~ 220°

~114°

Monocular Field of View

Binocular Field of View
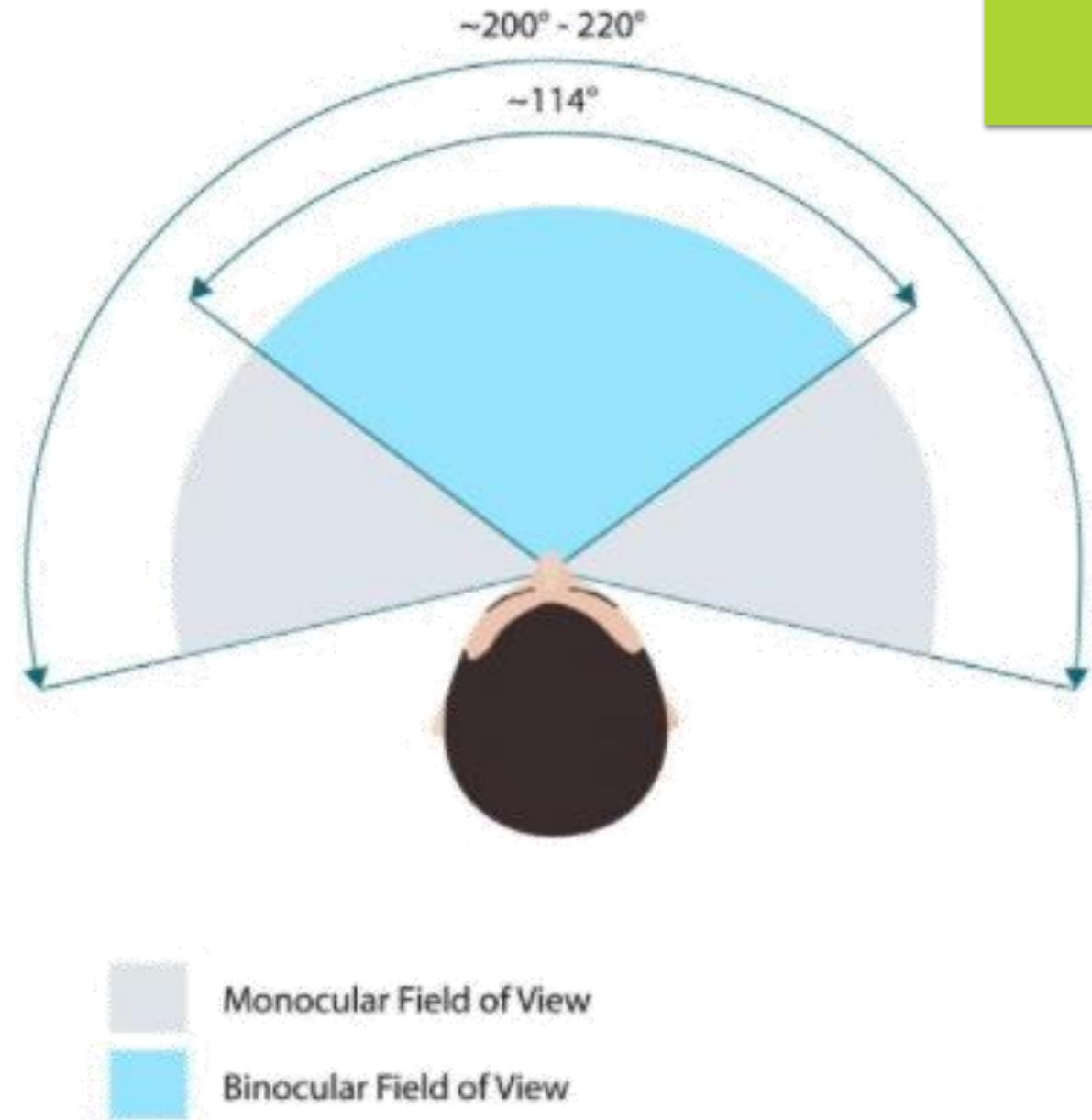
How it Works

- Stereoscopy – the seeing of objects in three dimensions
    - Creates two offset images to imitate what our eyes do
    - If lined up correctly, our brain will handle the rest of the processing
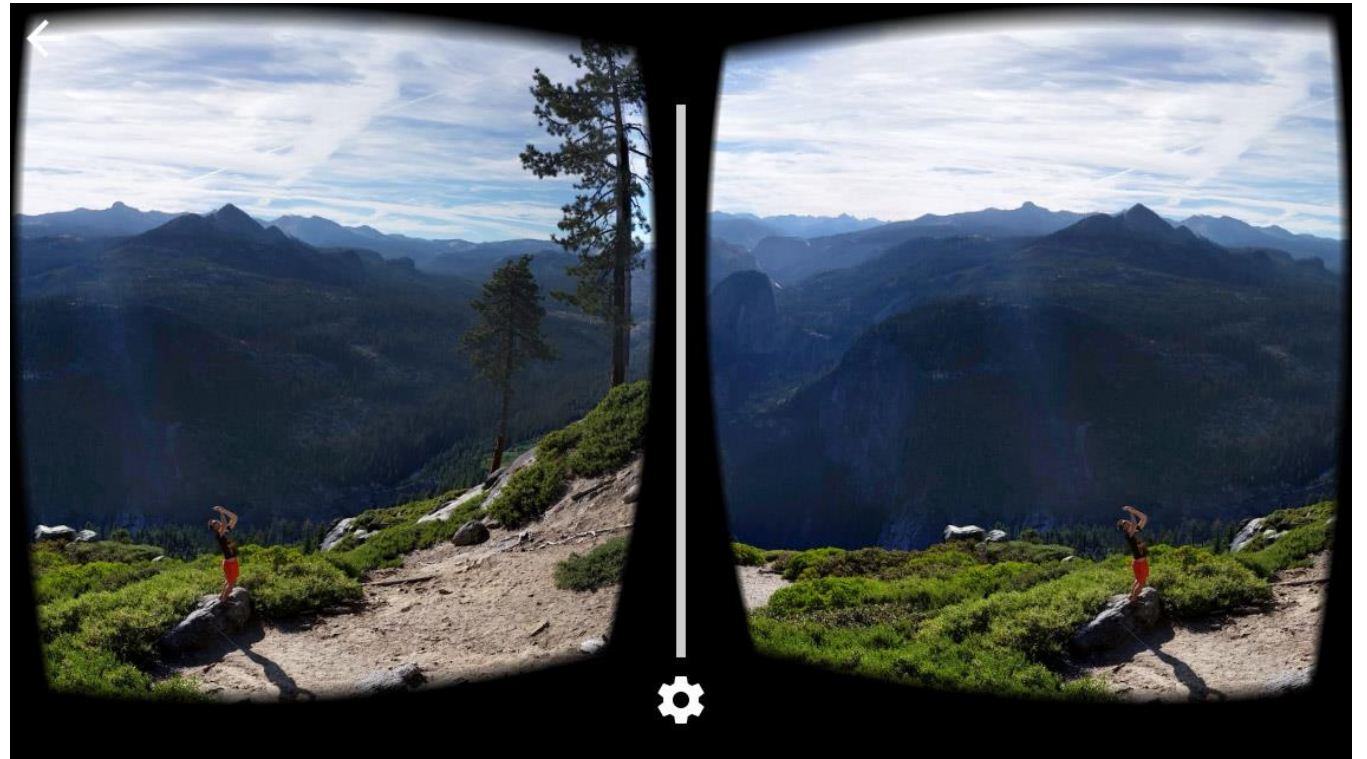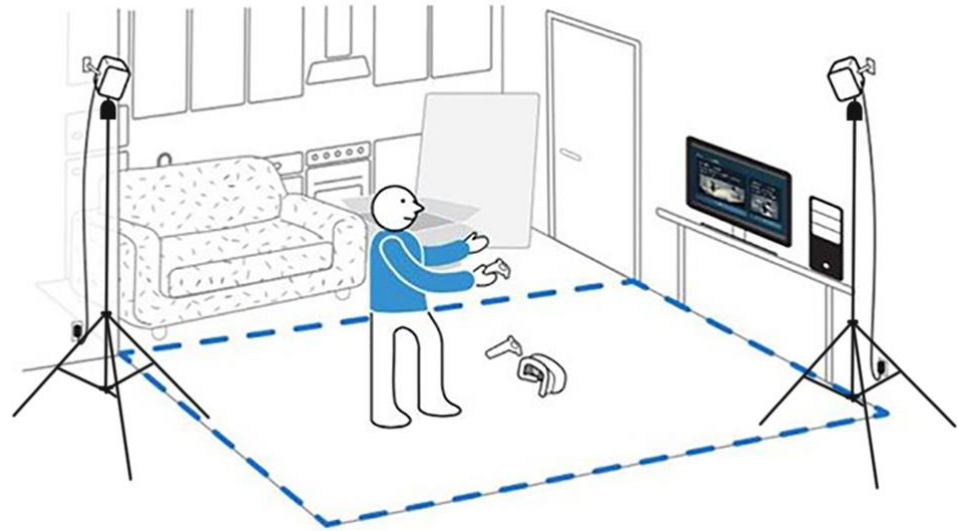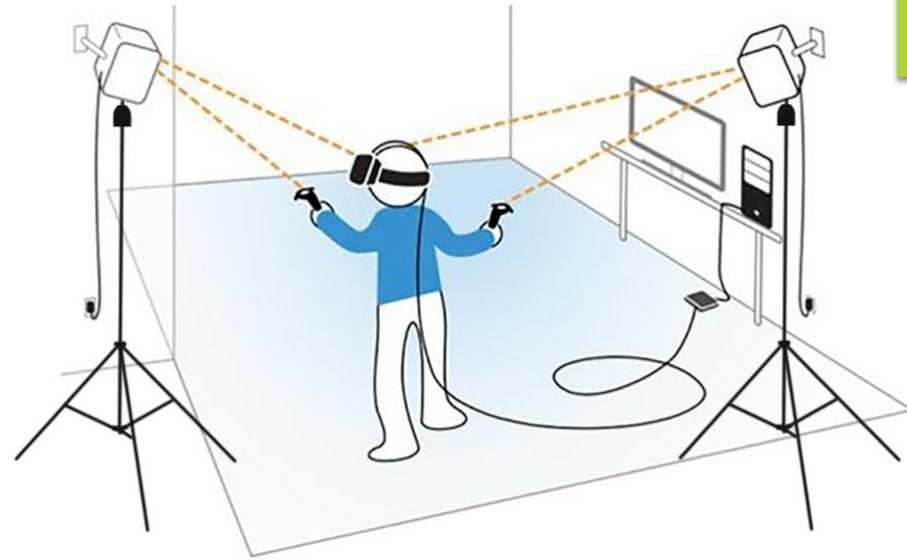
How it Works

- Rotational Tracking
  - Inertial Measurement Units (IMU)
  - Accelerometer
  - Magnetometer
  - Gyroscope
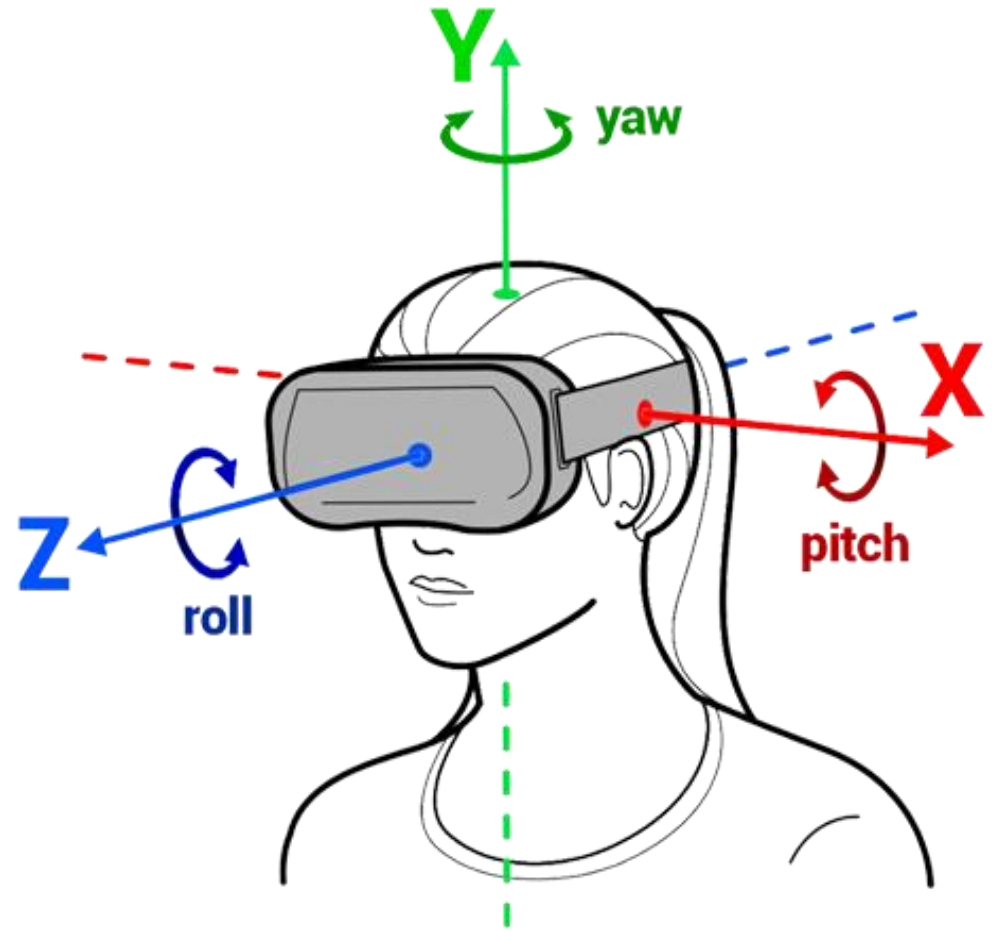
How it Works

- Positional Tracking
  - Oculus Constellation
  - Vive Lighthouse
  - Inside-Out Tracking
- Link to video

How it Works

3 DoF

- Measures Rotation of X, Y, and Z-axis
- Used for Mobile VR

6 DoF

- Additionally measures Position of X, Y, and Z-axis
- Used for Desktop VR

Tools of VR

Tools of VR – Headset Desktop

Oculus Rift

Oculus Go

Tools of VR – Headset Desktop

HTC Vive

HTC Vive Pro

Tools of VR – Headset Desktop

Windows Mixed Reality Devices

Tools of VR – Headset Mobile

Google Cardboard

Google Daydream

Tools of VR – 360 Treadmill

Omni by Virtuix

Tools of VR – Haptics

Hardlight VR Suit

Teslasuit

Tools of VR – Haptics

Taclim Shoes

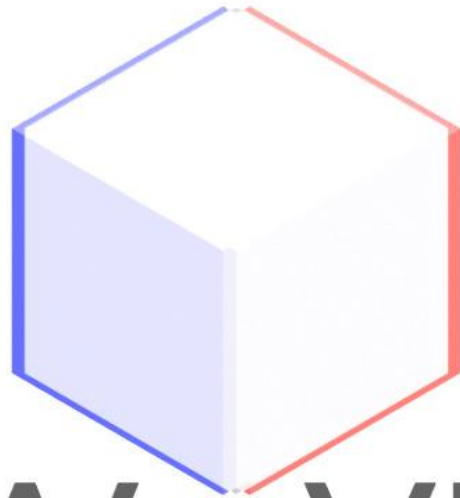Haptx Gloves

Tools of VR – Frameworks

Unity3D Engine

Unreal Engine 4

Tools of VR - Frameworks

How is VR being used?

How VR is Used – Social VR

[Facebook Spaces](#)

[VR Chat](#)

[BigScreen VR](#)

How VR is Used - Education

- [Virtual Tours](#)
- [Chemistry](#)
- [Math](#)
- [Architecture](#)
- [Welding](#)
- [Surgery](#)

Other Fields of Use

Gaming

Spatial Audio

Painting

Physical Therapy

Therapy for Mental Illnesses

Human Behavior Studies

Virtual Shopping

Questions?