



## Human-Computer Interaction (HCI) Interaction modality and Multimodality

**Laurence Nigay**



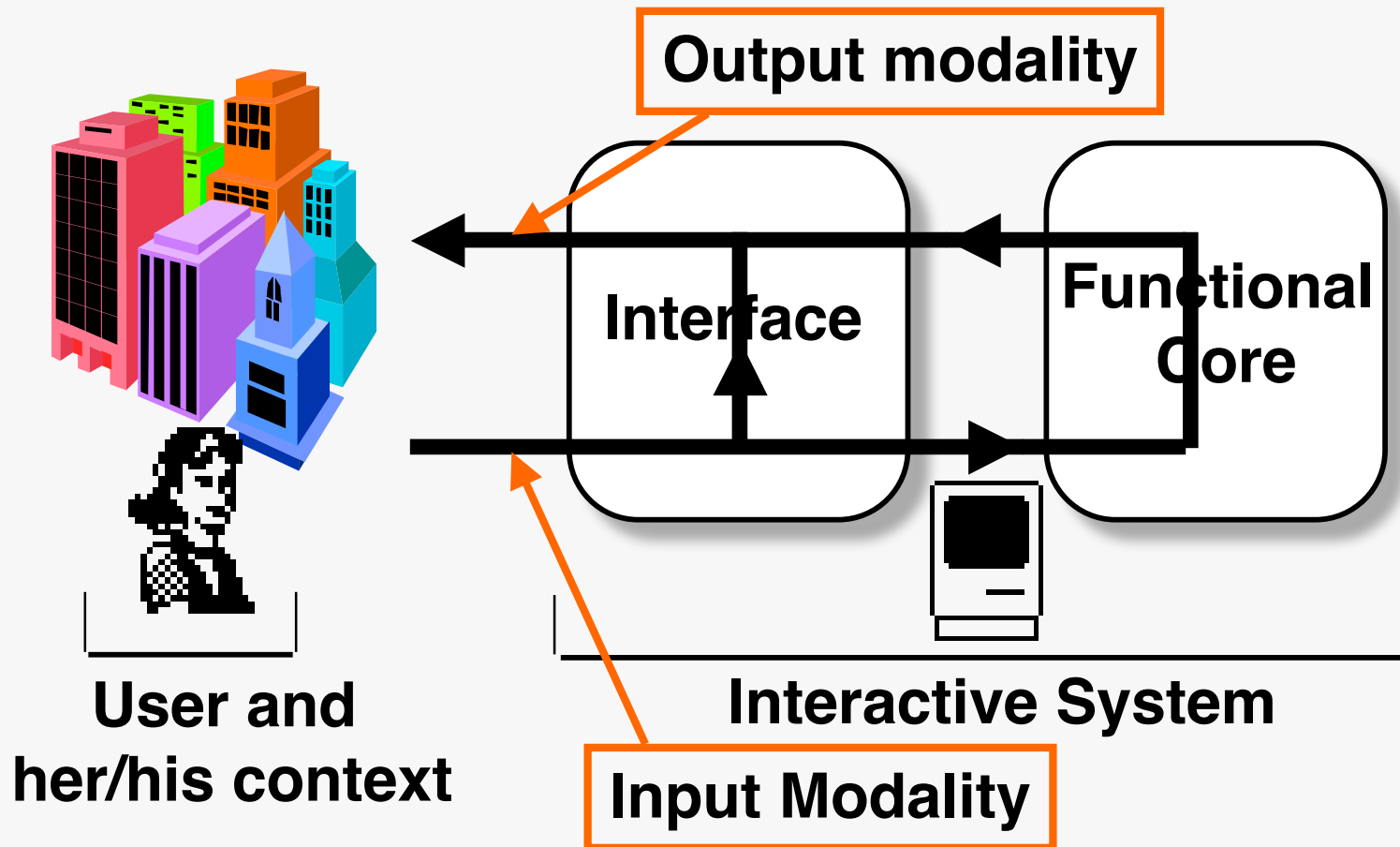
**University of Grenoble**  
CLIPS-IMAG Laboratory



**User Interface Engineering Team**

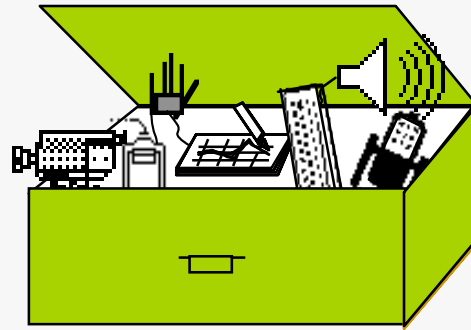
# Introduction: the Domain

## Human-Computer Interaction



# Introduction: the Domain

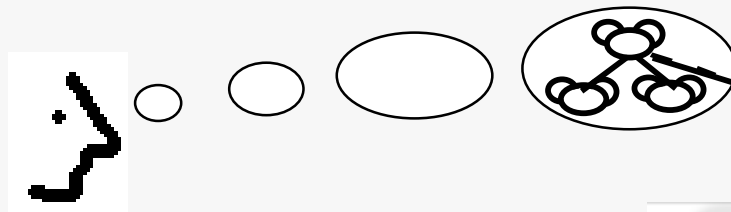
- Human-Computer Interaction
  - Design of usable multimodal interaction



A modality

A multimodal system

- Software architecture model for multimodal systems

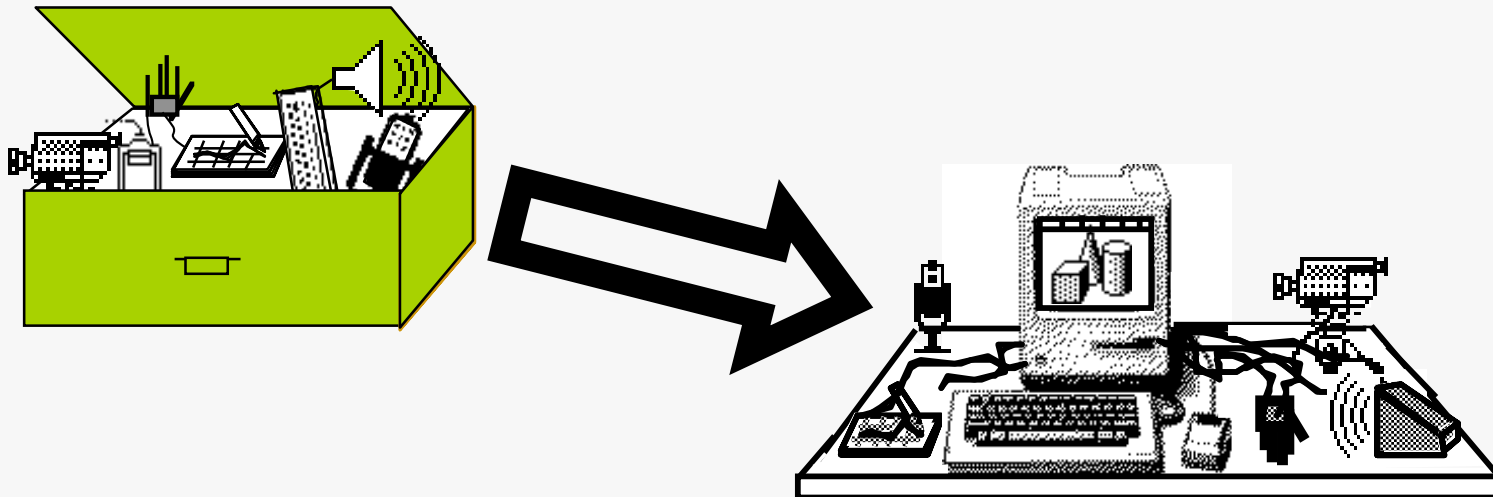


Fusion of different objects  
from various modelling  
techniques:

How?

At which level of abstraction?

# Introduction: the Domain



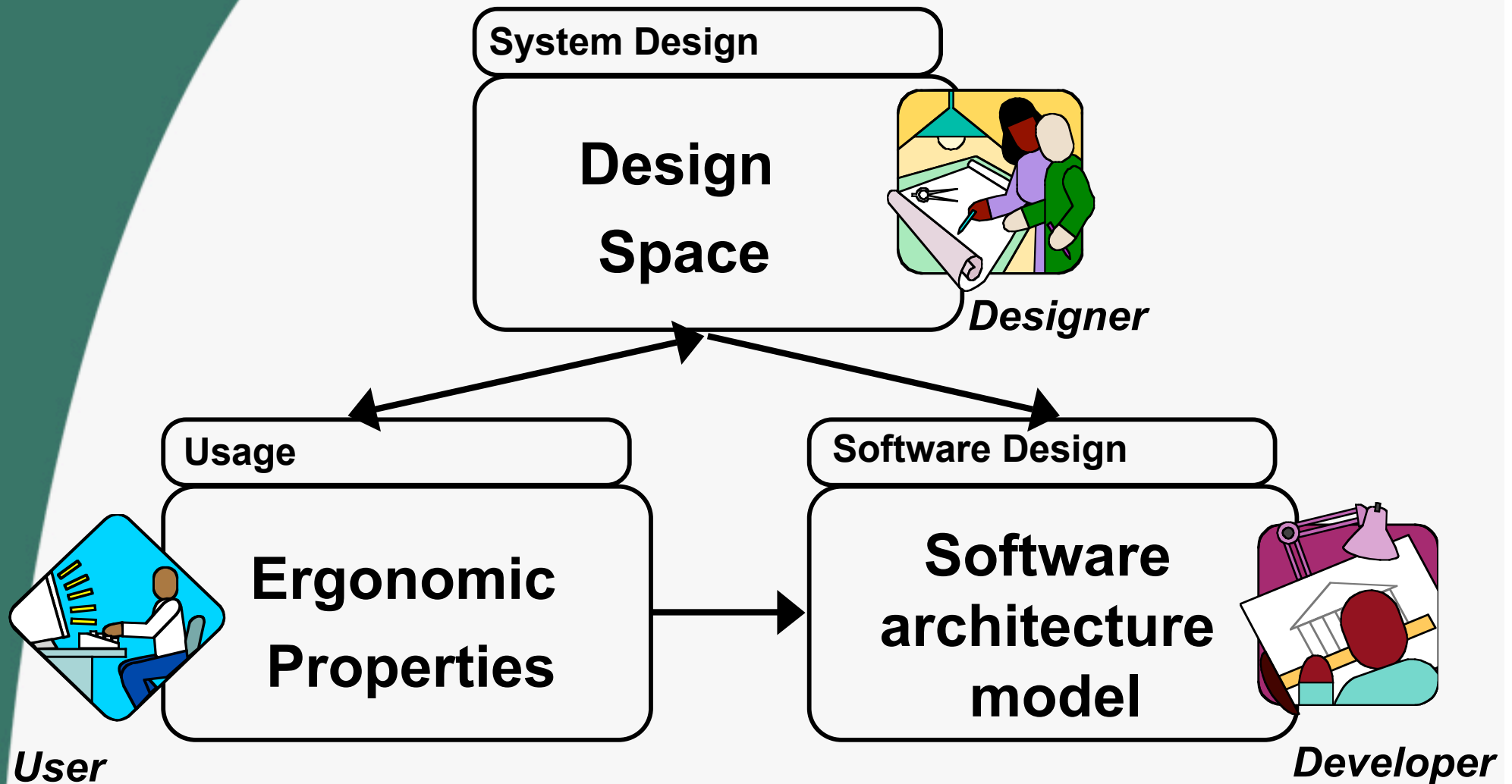
Multimodal Interfaces extend the sensori-motor capabilities of computer systems

Multimedia  $\neq$  Multimodal

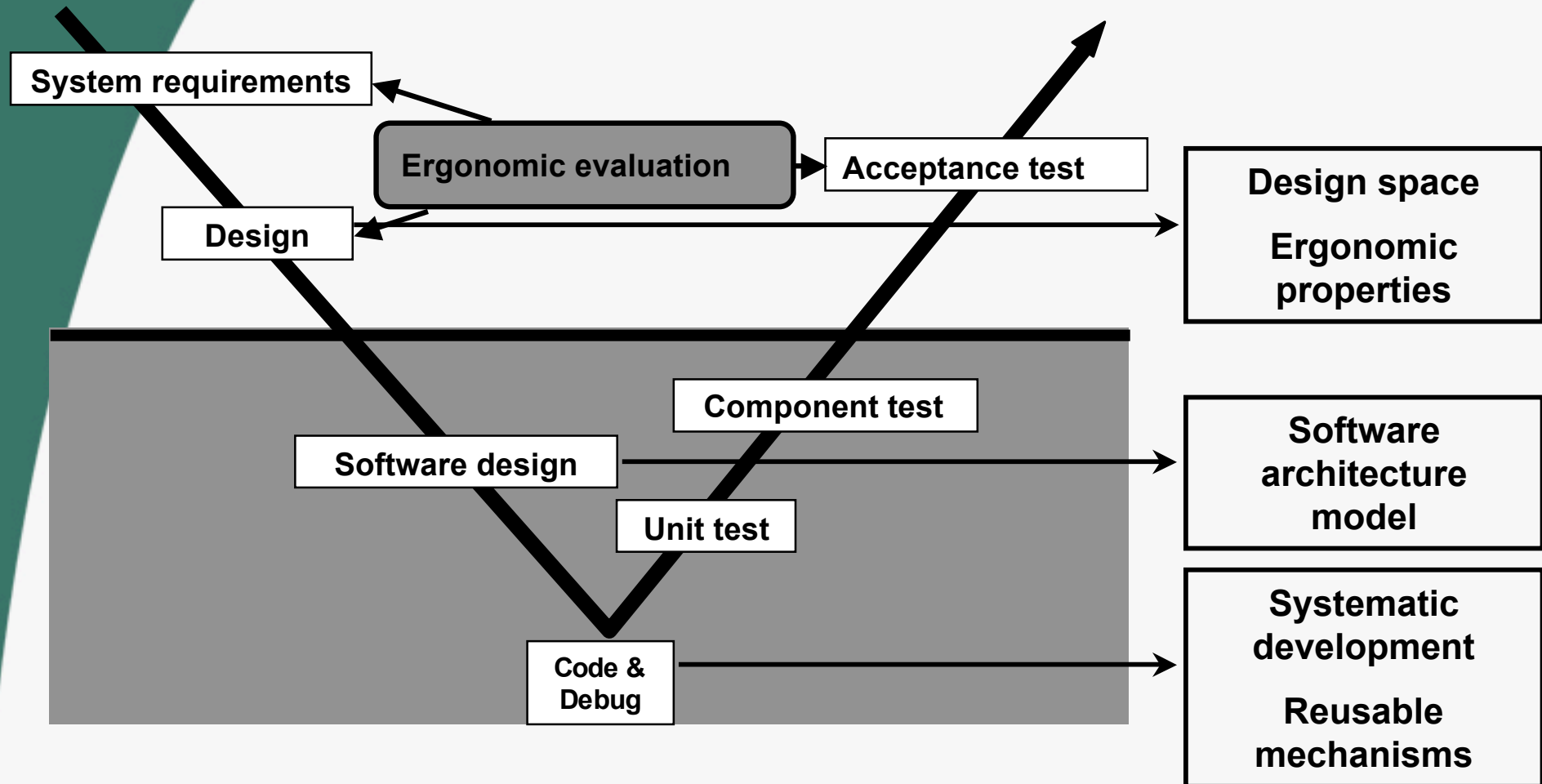
New interaction capabilities will probably appear



# Research approach



# Research approach and the V software lifecycle

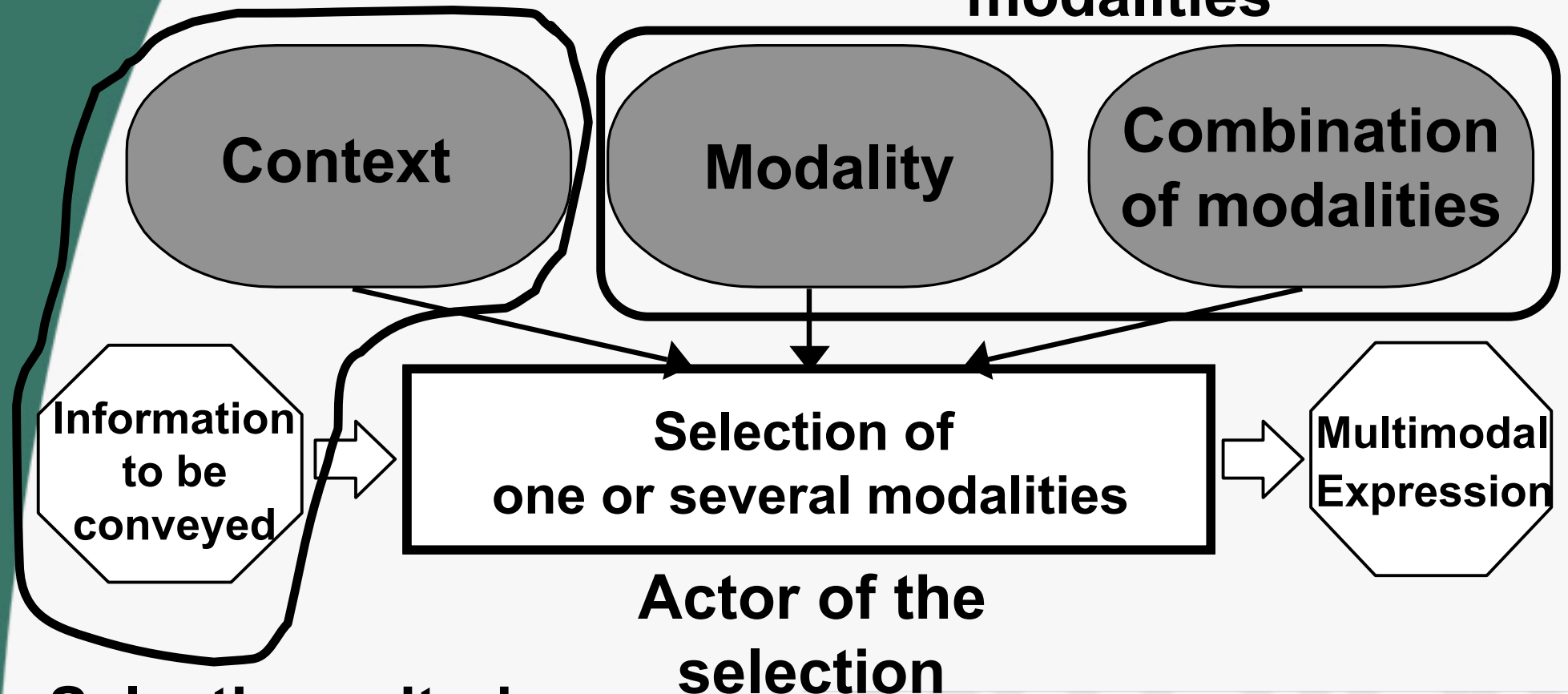


# Outline

- Terminology
  - Design space
  - Interaction modality
  - Multimodality: combination of modalities
- Fusion/Fission mechanisms
- ICARE platform for input/output multimodal interaction
- Grand Challenges

# Multimodality: Design space

Set of atomic/combined modalities

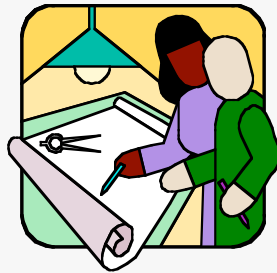


Selection criteria

# Multimodality

## Actor of the selection

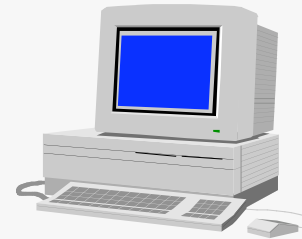
- Who is performing the selection



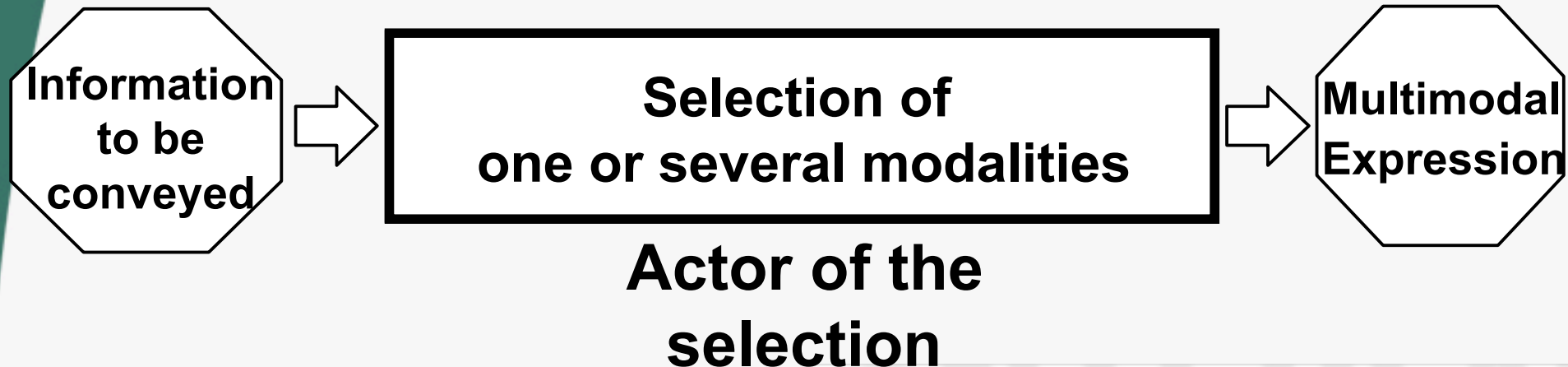
**Designer**



**User**



**System**



# Multimodality

## Actor of the selection

 No adaptation

 Adaptability

 Adaptivity



Selection by  
the designer



Selection by  
the user



Selection by  
the system

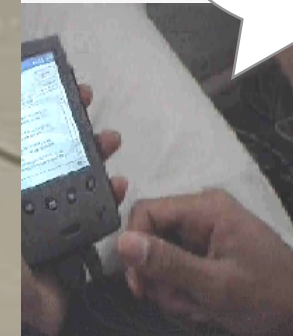


# Multimodality Adaptability

Go to the middle  
of the message



Here, I'm looking at that subway map again.



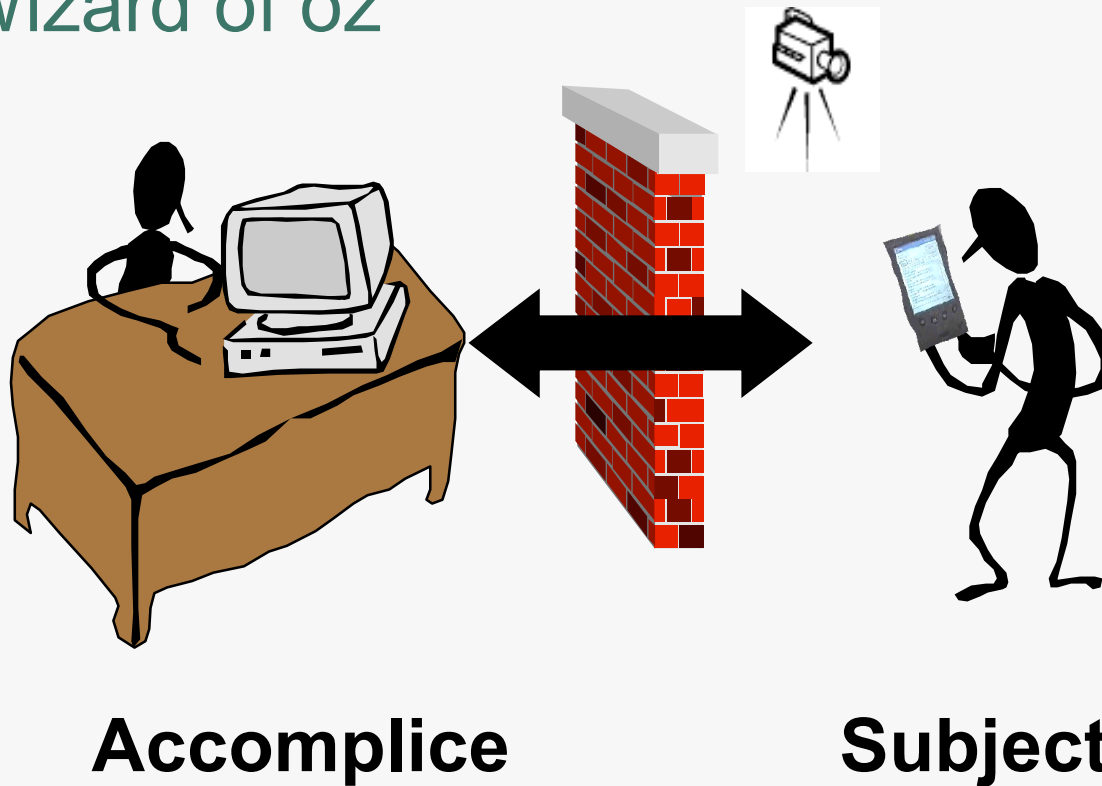
speech



simulation

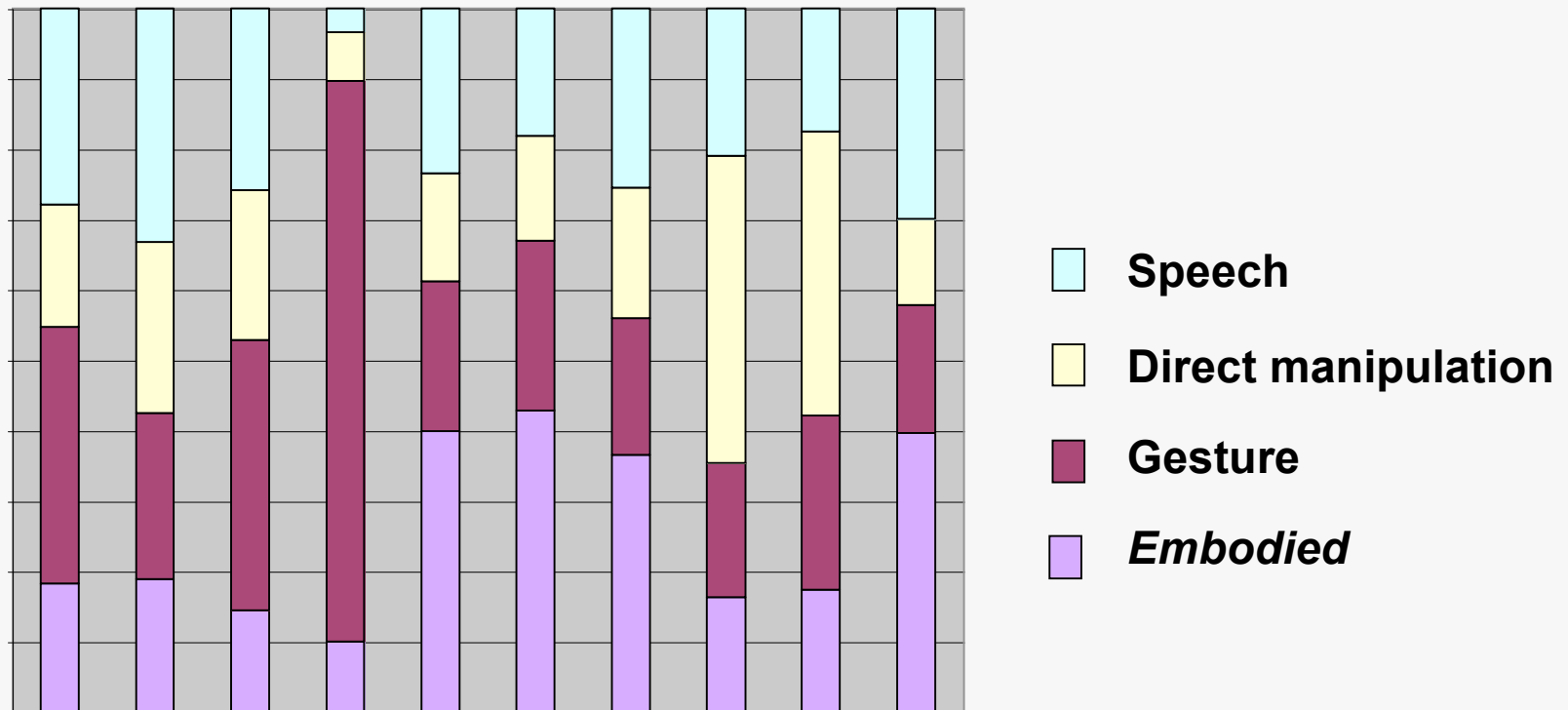
# Multimodality Adaptability

- Wizard of oz



# Multimodality Adaptability

- Usage of the modalities
- All sessions / All subjects



# Multimodality Adaptability

- The subjects used all of the modalities
- Individual preferences leading in some cases to specialization
- Few redundancy and complementarity cases

# Multimodality Adaptativity

- Selection of the modalities by the system
- Context-aware systems

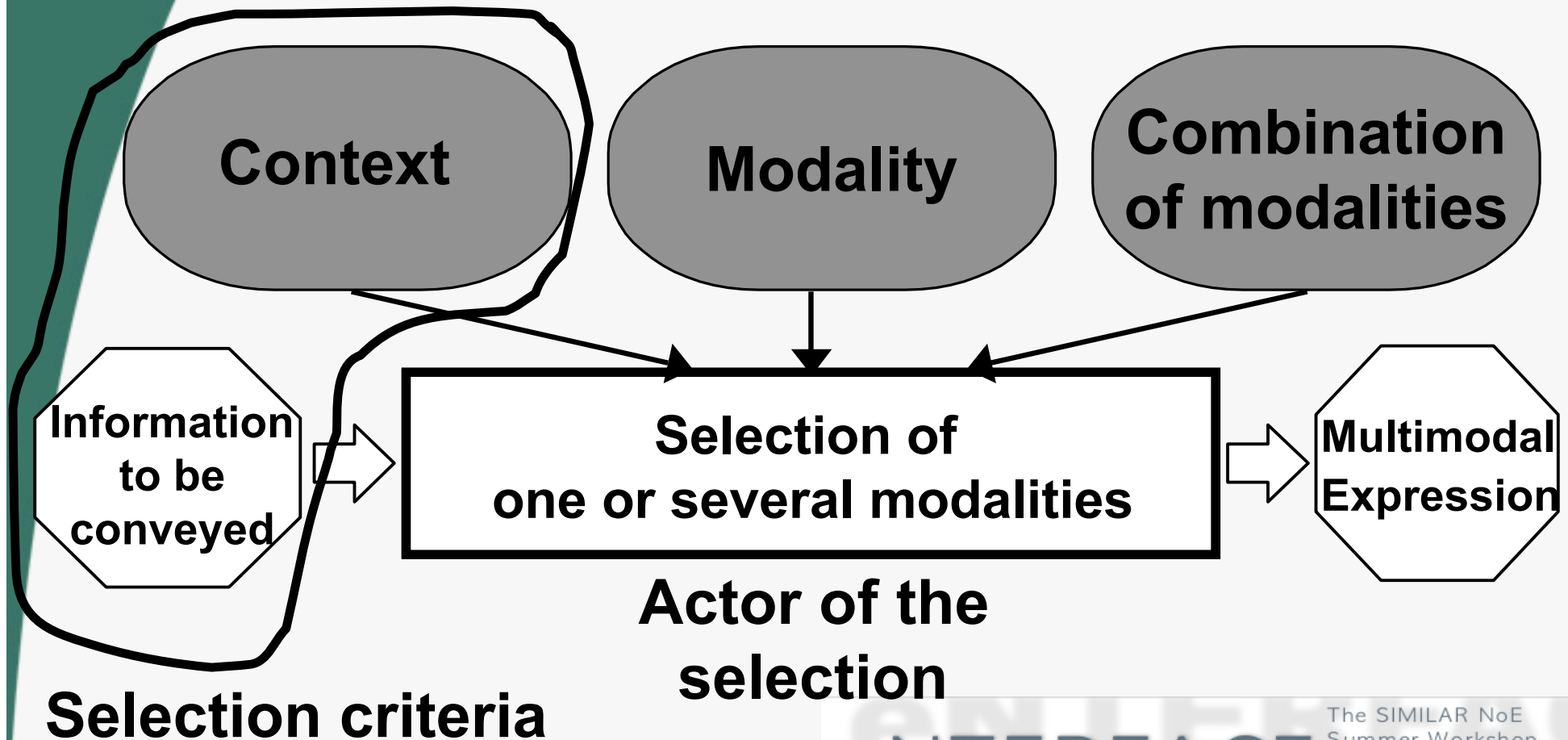


**Ring**



**Vibration**

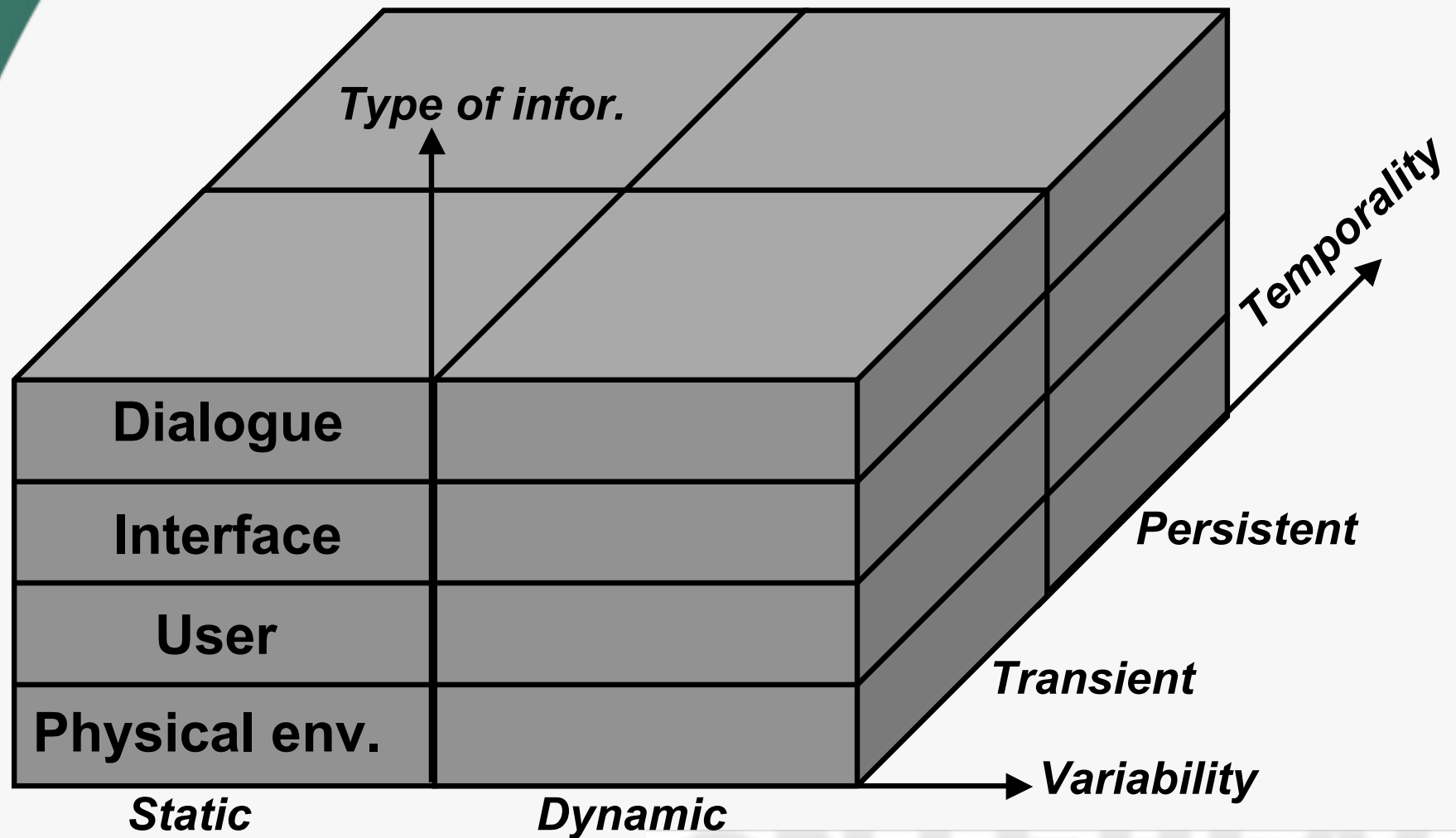
# Multimodality: Design space





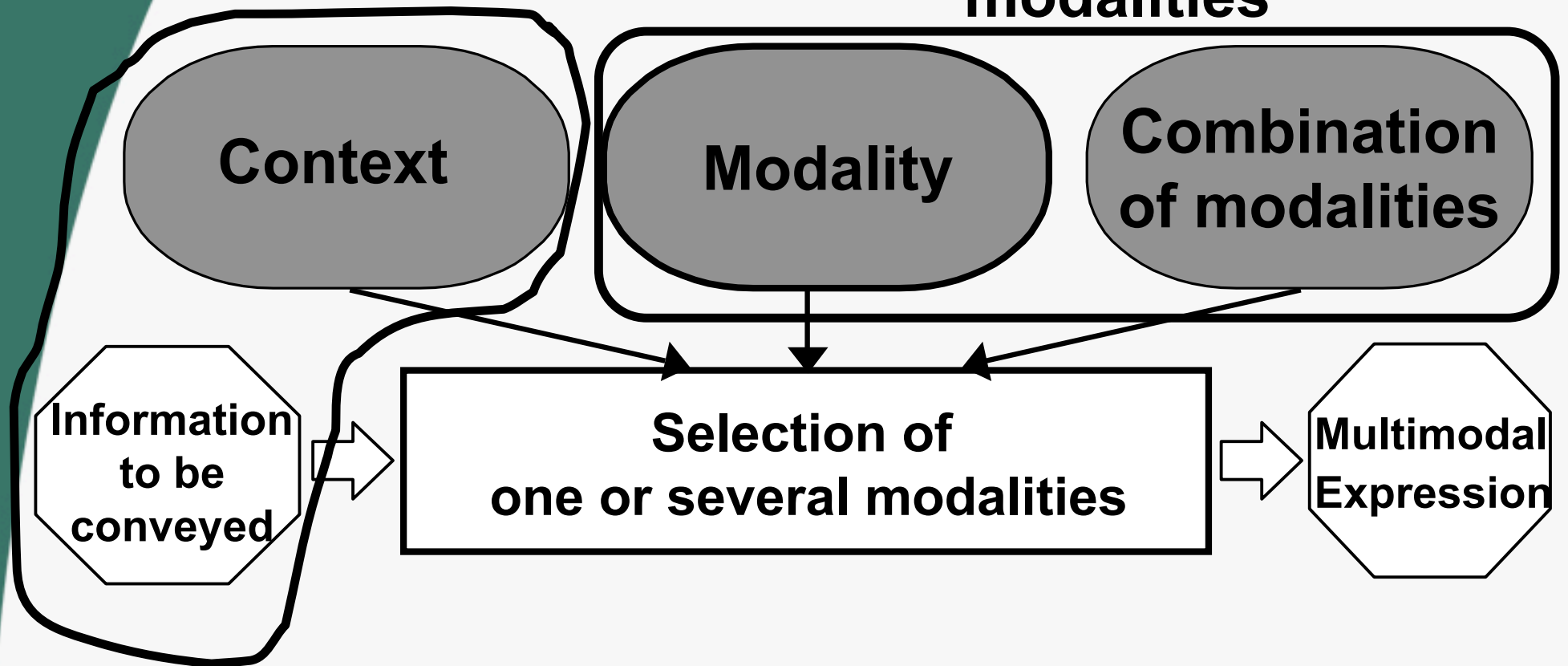
# Multimodality

## Selection criteria: Context



# Multimodality: Design space

Set of atomic/combined modalities



**Selection criteria**

# Multimodality

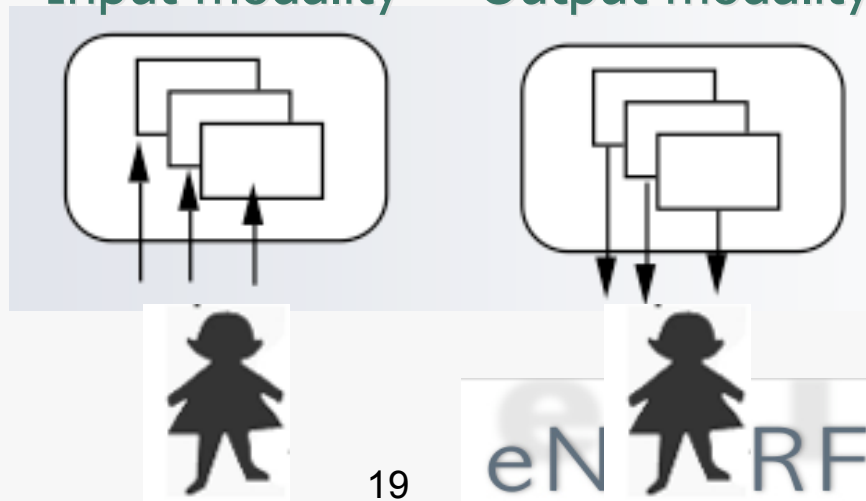
## Characterisation of a modality

### Definition of a modality

- Modality = (device, interaction language)
  - A set of sensors (input devices) or effectors (output devices) ← **Perception/Action**
  - A processing facility based on a language ← **Cognition**

Input modality

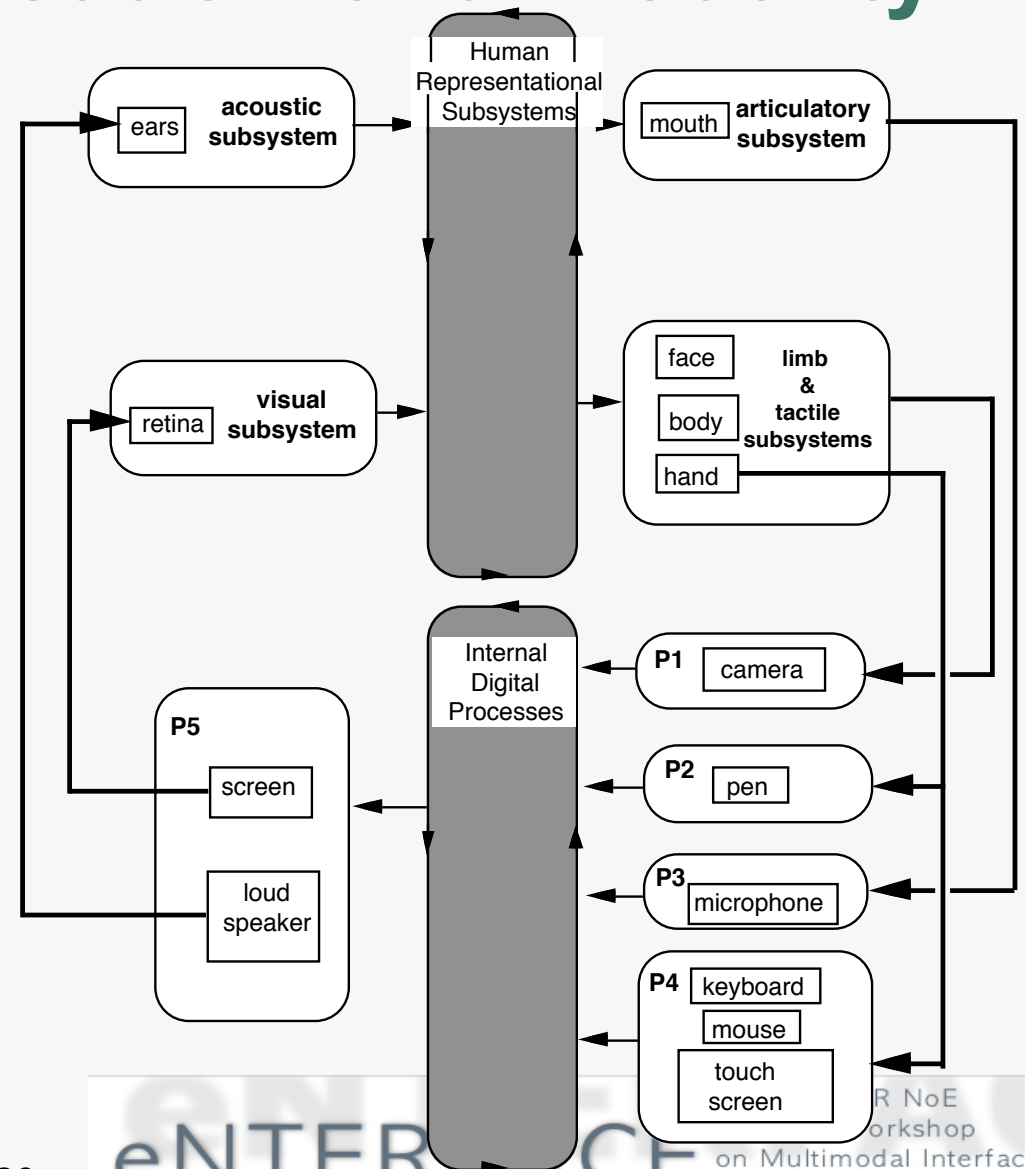
Output modality



# Multimodality

## Characterisation of a modality

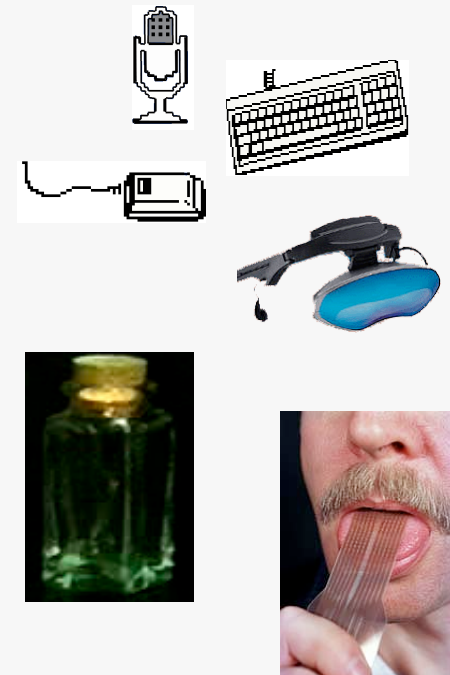
- Theory ICS  
– APU Cambridge
- ICS as predicting cognitive resources involved in using and choosing modalities



# Multimodality

## Characterisation of a modality

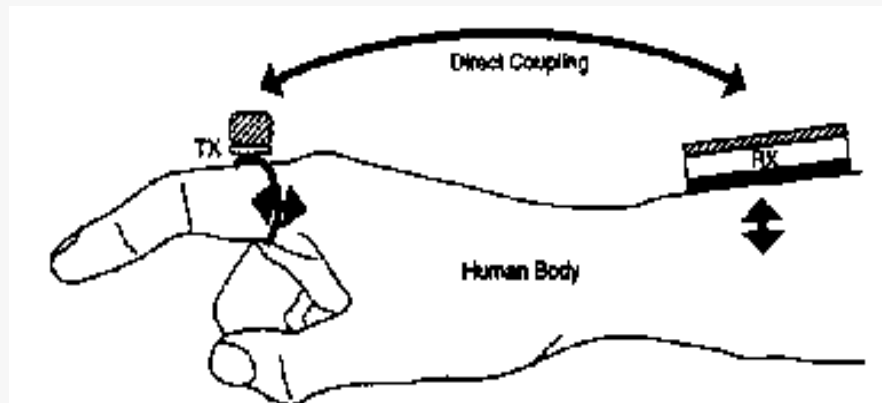
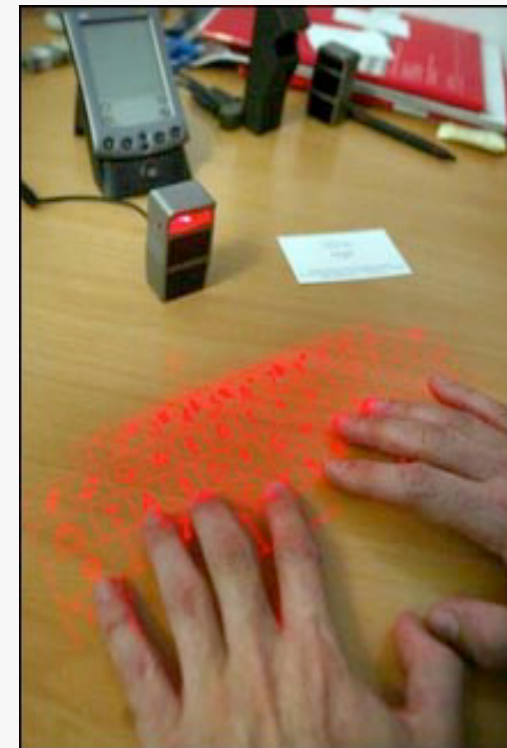
- Modality = (device, interaction language)
- Recent interaction paradigms such as perceptual User UI tangible UI and embodied UI open **a vast world of possibilities**
  - M1 = (microphone, natural language)
  - M2 = (keyboard, command language)
  - M3 = (mouse, direct manipulation)
  - M4 = (PDA, 3D gesture) **embodied UI**
  - M5 = (HMD, 3D graphics) **AR**
  - M6 = (bottle-sensor, 3D gesture) **tangible UI**
  - M7 = (GPS, localization) **perceptual UI**
  - M8 = (Tongue display, 2D shape)



# Multimodality

## Characterisation of a modality

- $M = \langle \text{device, text} \rangle$

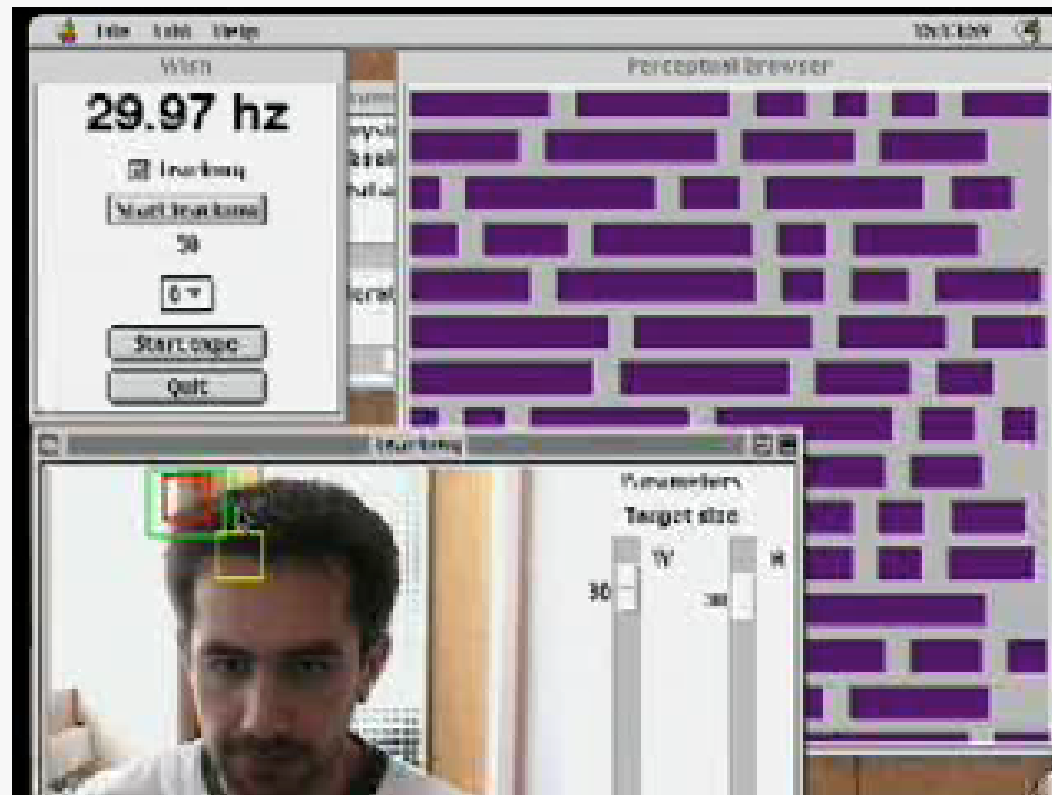




# Multimodality

## Characterisation of a modality

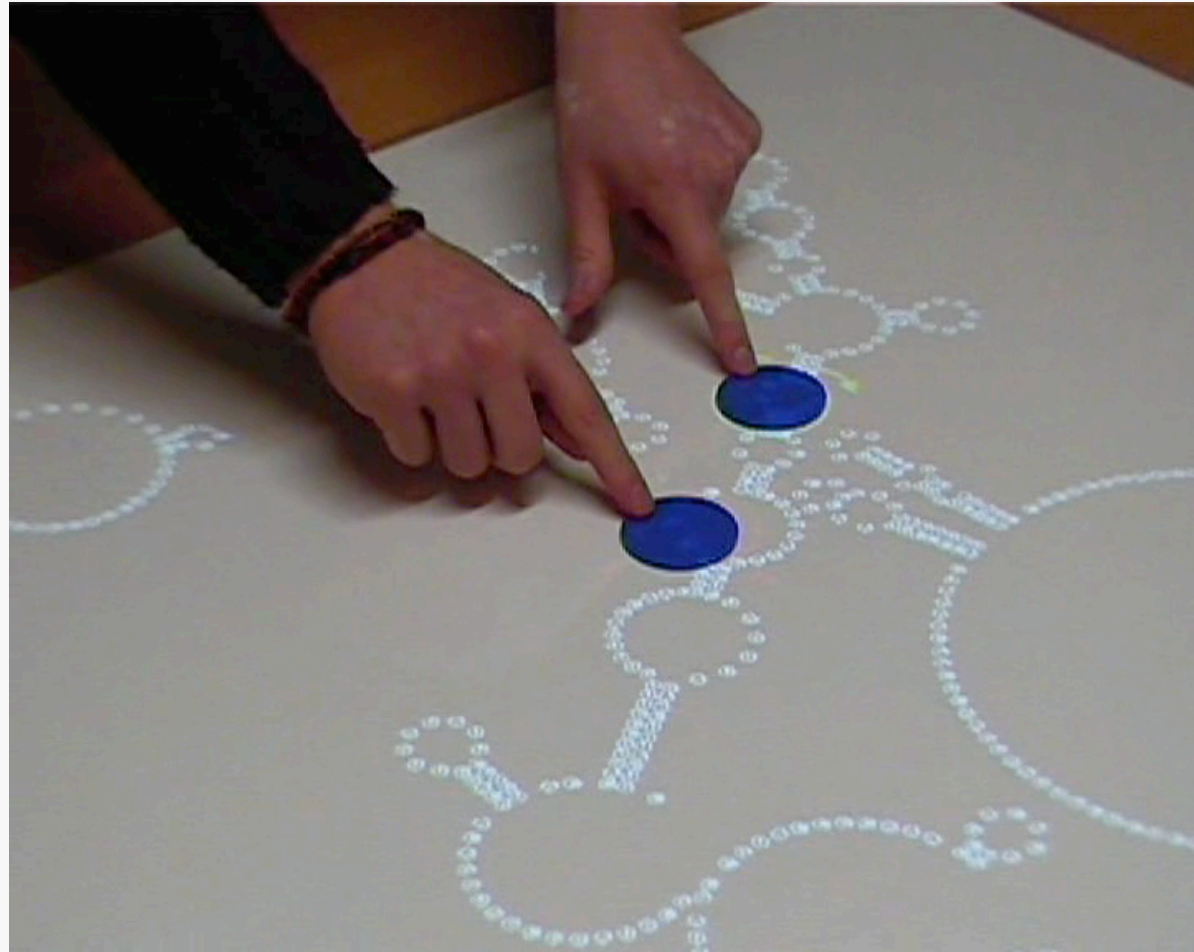
- $M = \langle \text{camera-head, gesture} \rangle$



# Multimodality

## Characterisation of a modality

- $M = \langle \text{camera-token}, \text{gesture} \rangle$ 
  - Two-handed interaction  $\Rightarrow$  two modalities  $\Rightarrow$  multimodality



# Multimodality

## Characterisation of a modality

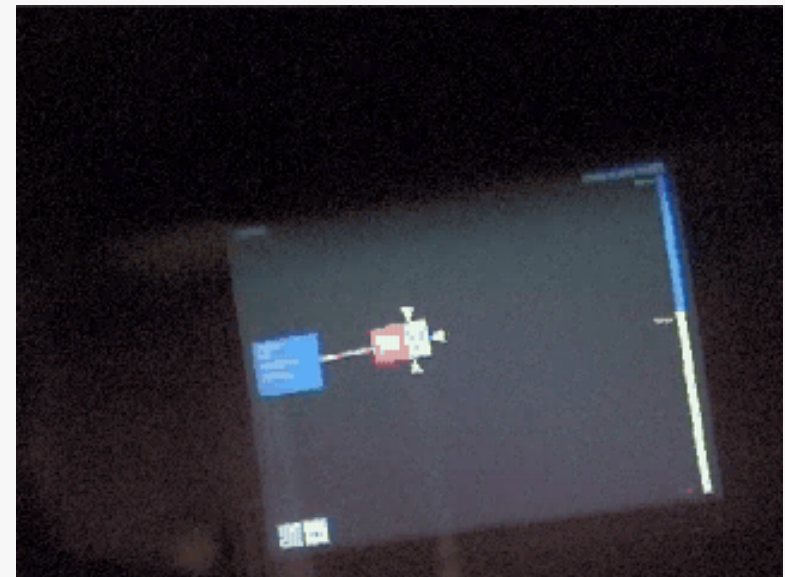
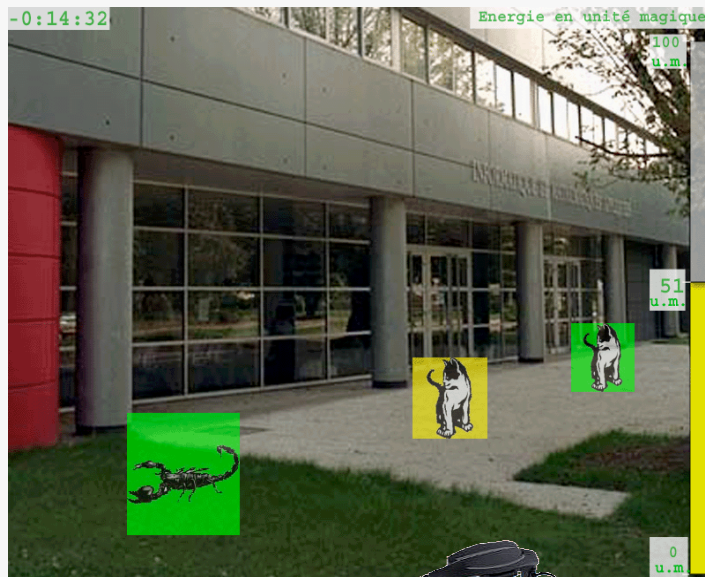
- $M = \langle \text{bottle-sensor, gesture} \rangle$



# Multimodality

## Characterisation of a modality

- TROC: a game based on the technique of barter
- M1 = <GPS, localization>
- M2= <magnetometer, orientation>



# Multimodality

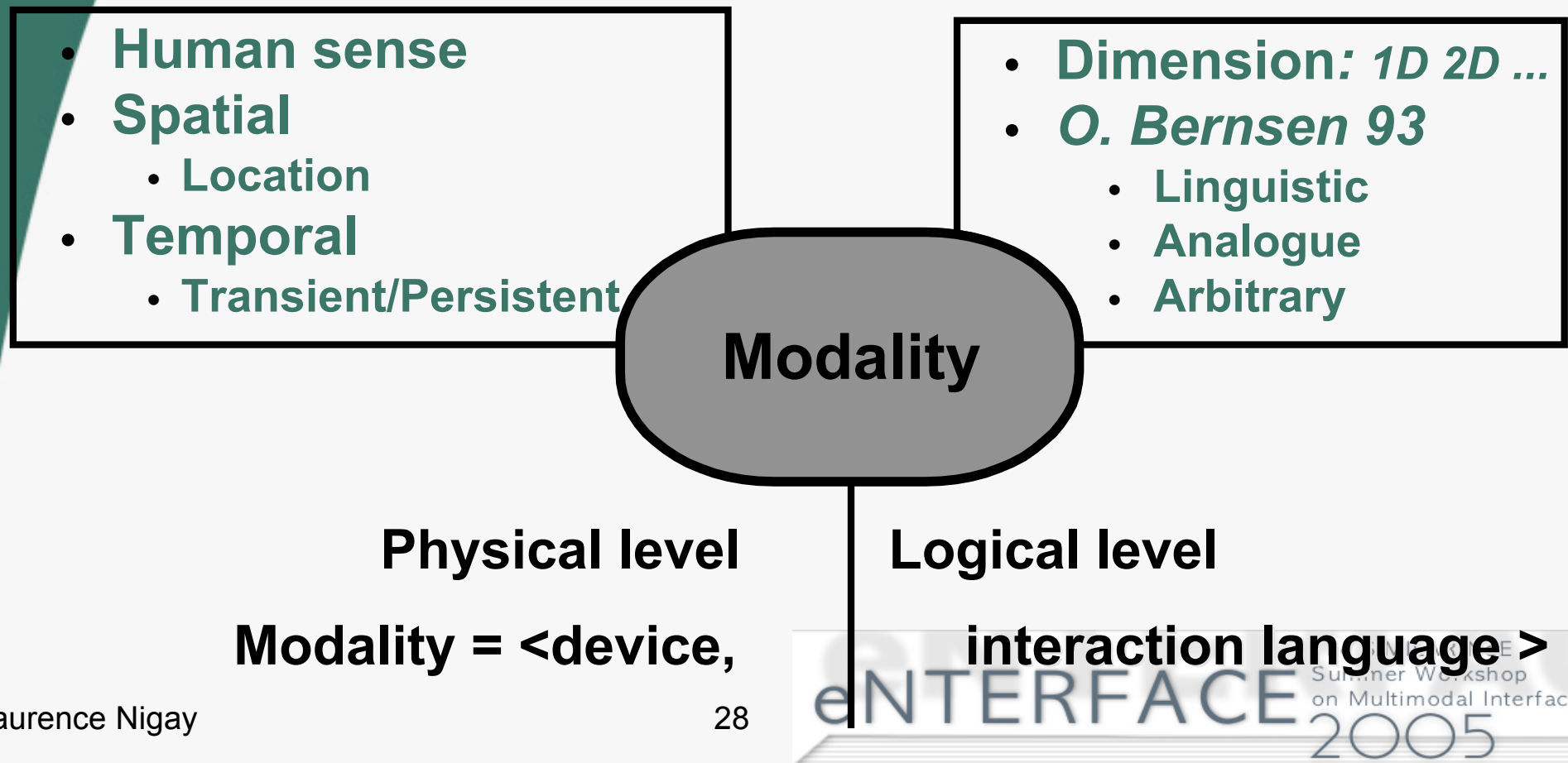
## Characterisation of a modality

- **ACTIVE MODALITIES**
  - For inputs, active modalities are used by the user to issue a command to the computer such as a pedal to move a laparoscope in a CAS system.
- **PASSIVE - IMPLICIT MODALITIES**
  - Passive modalities are used to capture relevant information for enhancing the realization of the task, information that is not explicitly expressed by the user to the computer (PUI). For example tracking position.



# Multimodality

## Characterisation of a modality





# Multimodality

## Characterisation of a modality



# Multimodality

## Characterisation of a modality

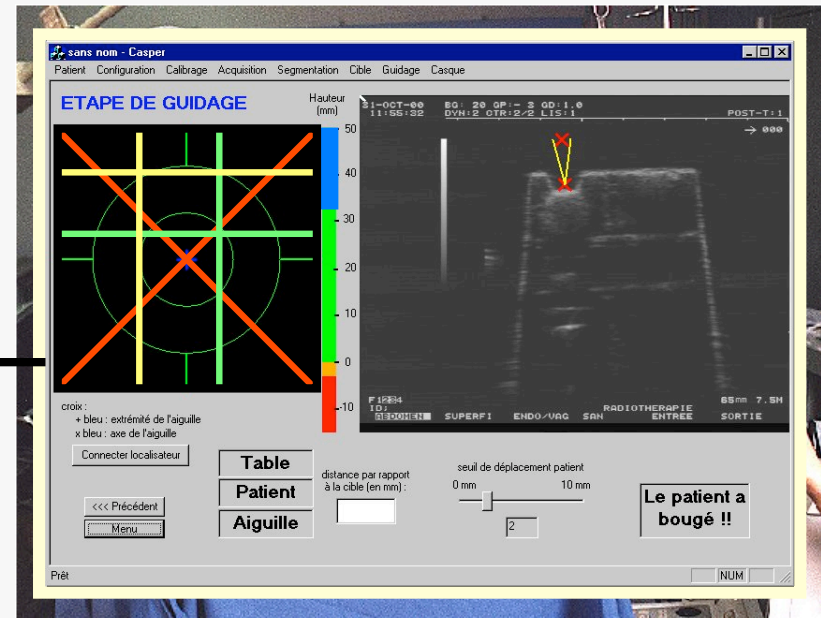
- **Physical level**
  - Human sense: Sight
  - Spatial:  
Location = operating field
  - Temporal: Persistent
- **Logical level**
  - 3D
  - Analogue
  - Non arbitrary



# Multimodality

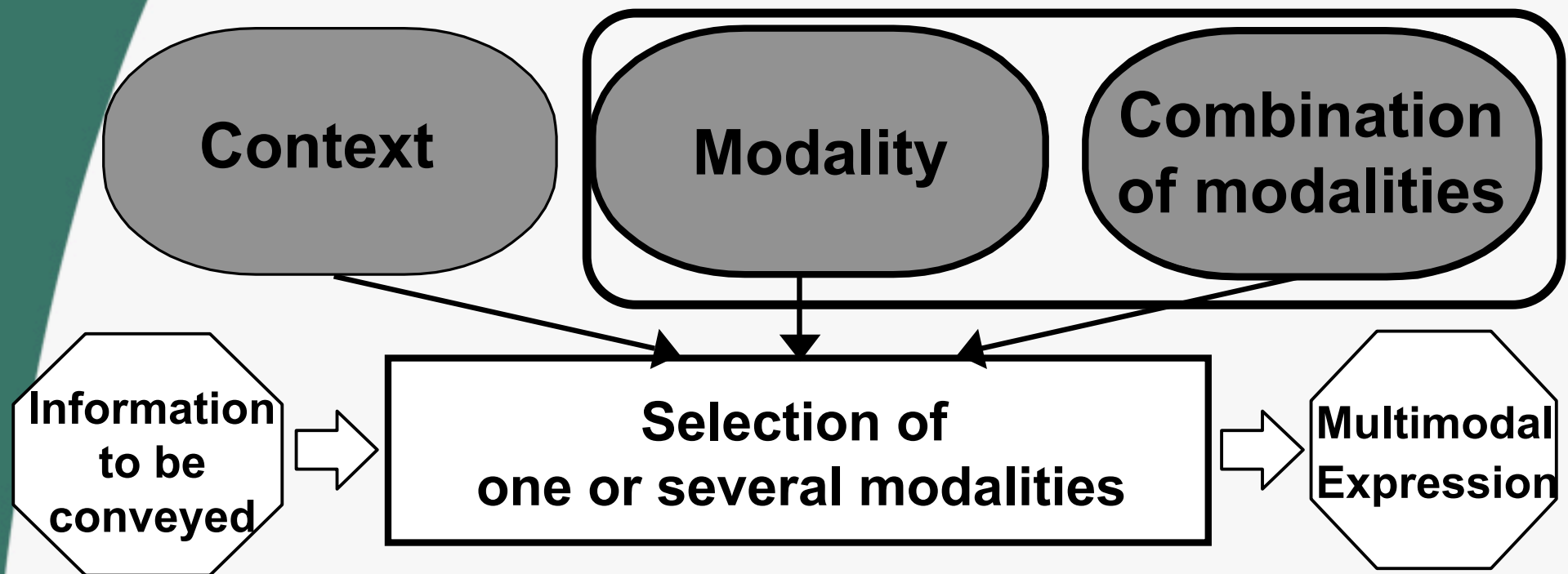
## Characterisation of a modality

- **Physical level**
  - Human sense: Sight
  - Spatial: Location = screen
  - Temporal: Persistent
- **Logical level**
  - 2D
  - Non Analogue
  - Arbitrary



# Multimodality: Design space

**Set of atomic/combined modalities**



# Multimodality

## Combination of modalities

- Several studies
  - UOM 94 / TYCOON 95 / CARE 95 / MSM 96
- CARE properties
  - Relationships between Devices, Interaction languages and Tasks
    - **C : Complementarity**
    - **A : Assignment**
    - **R : Redundancy**
    - **E : Equivalence**



# Multimodality

## Combination of modalities

TROC: a game based on the technique of barter

M1 = (Magnetometer, orientation)

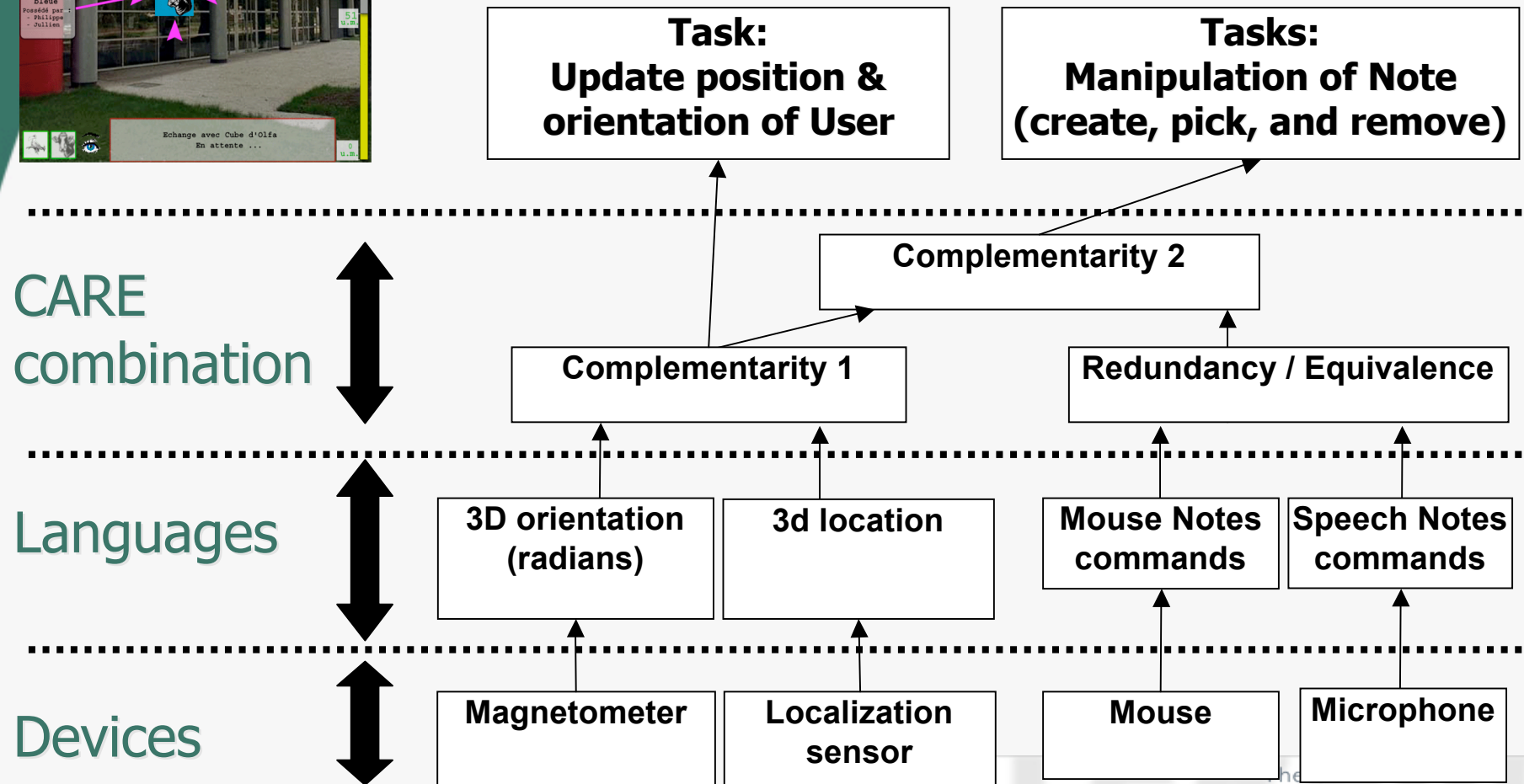
M2 = (GPS, location)

Complementarity of M1 and M2 for selecting an object



# Multimodality

## Combination of modalities

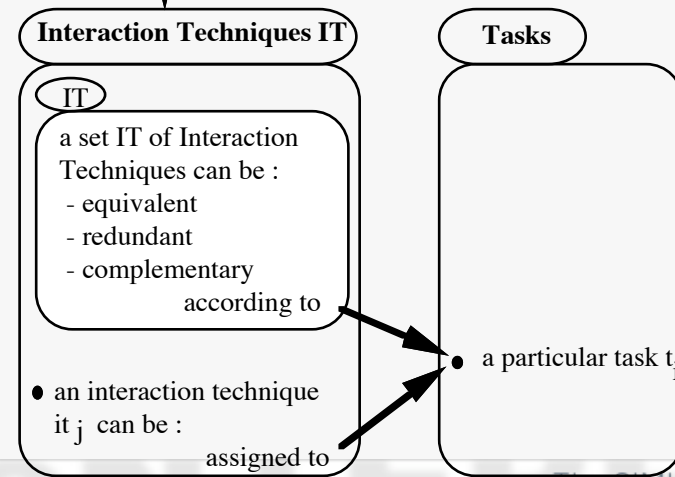
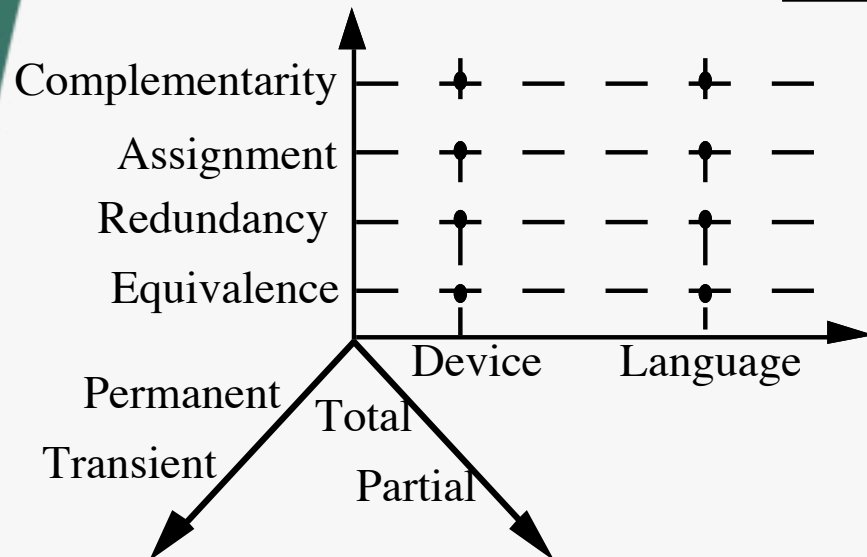
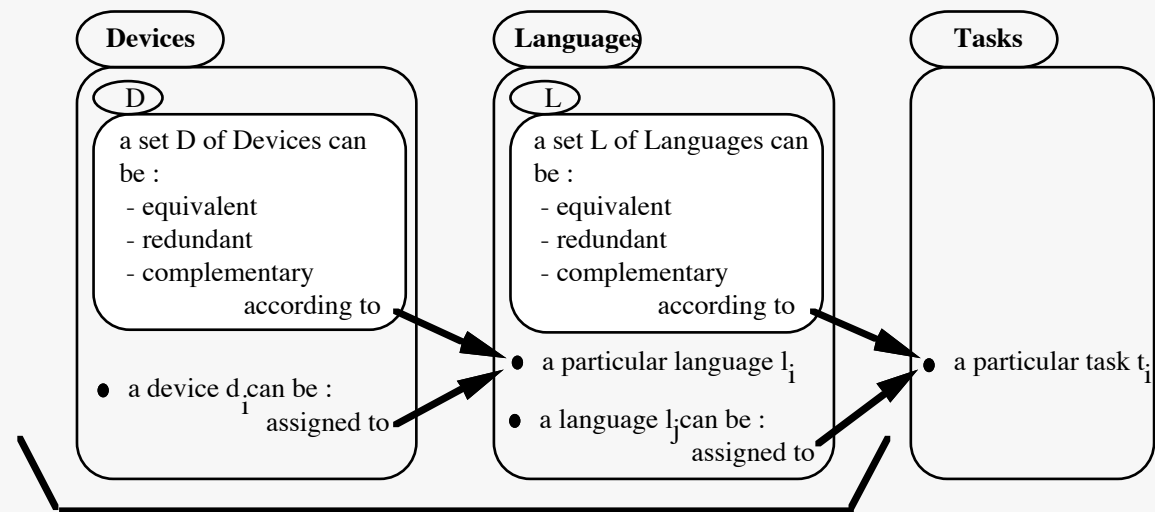




# Multimodality

## Combination of modalities

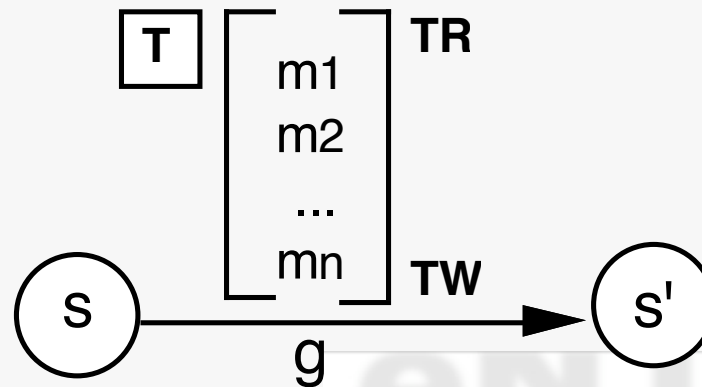
- CARE properties



# Multimodality

## Combination of modalities

- CARE properties
- The formal expression of the CARE properties relies on the notions of state, goal, modality, and temporal relationships.
- A modality is an interaction method that an agent can use to reach a goal.



# Multimodality

## Combination of modalities

Redundancy : Modalities of a set  $M$  are used redundantly to reach state  $s'$  from state  $s$ , if they have the same expressive power (they are equivalent) and if all of them are used within the same temporal window,  $tw$ .

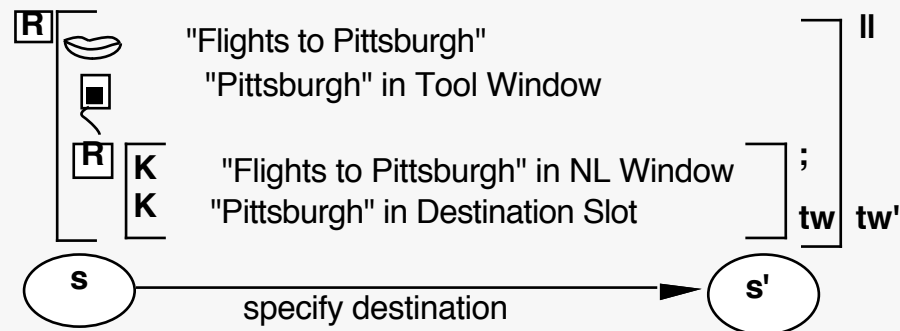
- $Redundancy(s, M, s', tw) \Leftrightarrow Equivalence(s, M, s') \wedge (Sequential(M, tw) \vee Parallel(M, tw))$
- $Parallel(M, tw) \Leftrightarrow (Card(M) > 1) \wedge (Duration(tw) \neq \infty) \wedge (\exists t \in tw \cdot \forall m \in M \cdot Active(m, t))$
- $Sequential(M, tw) \Leftrightarrow (Card(M) > 1) \wedge (Duration(tw) \neq \infty) \wedge (\forall t \in tw \cdot (\forall m, m' \in M \cdot Active(m, t) \Rightarrow \neg Active(m', t))) \wedge (\forall m \in M \cdot \exists t \in tw \cdot Active(m, t))$

# Multimodality

## Combination of modalities

Redundancy : Modalities of a set  $M$  are used redundantly to reach state  $s'$  from state  $s$ , if they have the same expressive power (they are equivalent) and if all of them are used within the same temporal window,  $tw$ .

- Example: Multimodal form (airline information)

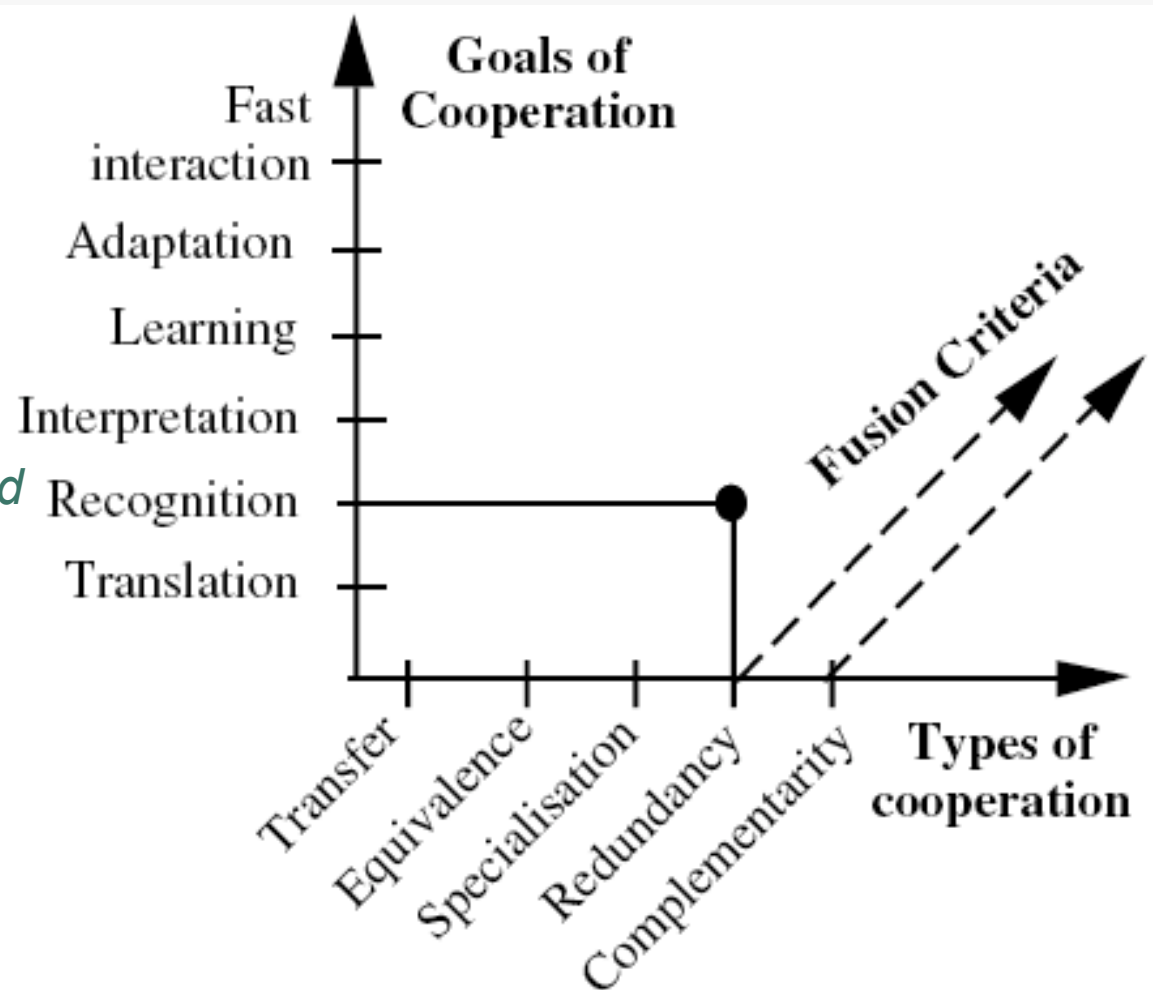


# Multimodality

## Combination of modalities

- TYCOON

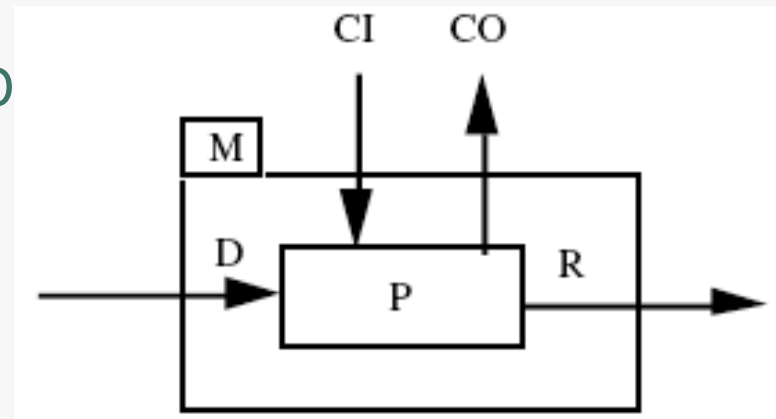
*Each type of cooperation may be involved in several goals. For instance, redundancy between messages uttered and typed on the keyboard by the user may improve recognition. Only redundancy and complementarity need **fusion** which may use combination of several criteria (dotted arrows).*



# Multimodality

## Combination of modalities

- TYCOON
- Logical formalism to describe the combination
- $M = \{ P, D, R, C \}$ 
  - A process  $P$ 
    - controlled by a set of parameters  $C$  (CI Input parameters  
CO Output parameters)
    - analyzing a set of data  $D$
    - to give a set of results  $R$

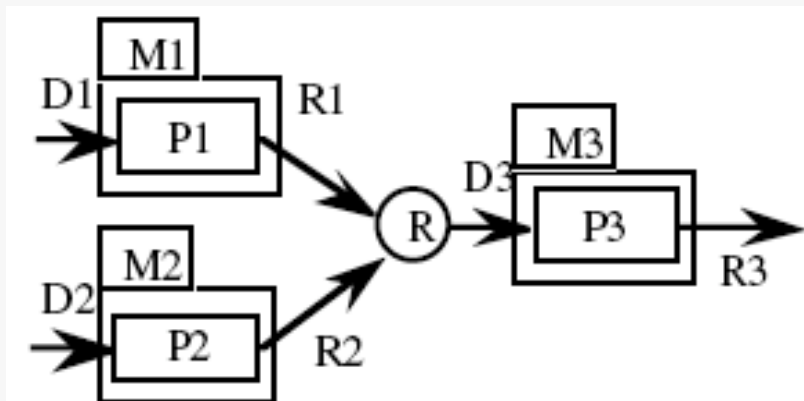


# Multimodality

## Combination of modalities

- TYCOON  $M = \{ P, D, R, C \}$
- Redundancy

*for each possible result  $r3$  of modality  $M3$ , the results  $r1$  obtained by modality  $M1$  and  $r2$  obtained by modality  $M2$  have been merged by an intermediate process  $R$  and have the same value for an attribute  $att$ . The criterion used by  $R$  is a parameter of the redundancy definition and may be a combination of temporal coincidence, spatial coincidence...*





# Multimodality





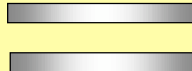
## Combination of modalities

- Several studies
  - UOM 94 / TYCOON 95 / CARE 95 / MSM 96
- New combination space
  - Different schemas and aspects of combinations
  - 5 aspects: temporal, spatial, articulatory, syntactic and semantic
  - 5 schemas: [Allen 83]

# Multimodality: Combination of modalities

## Combination schemas

Combination aspects

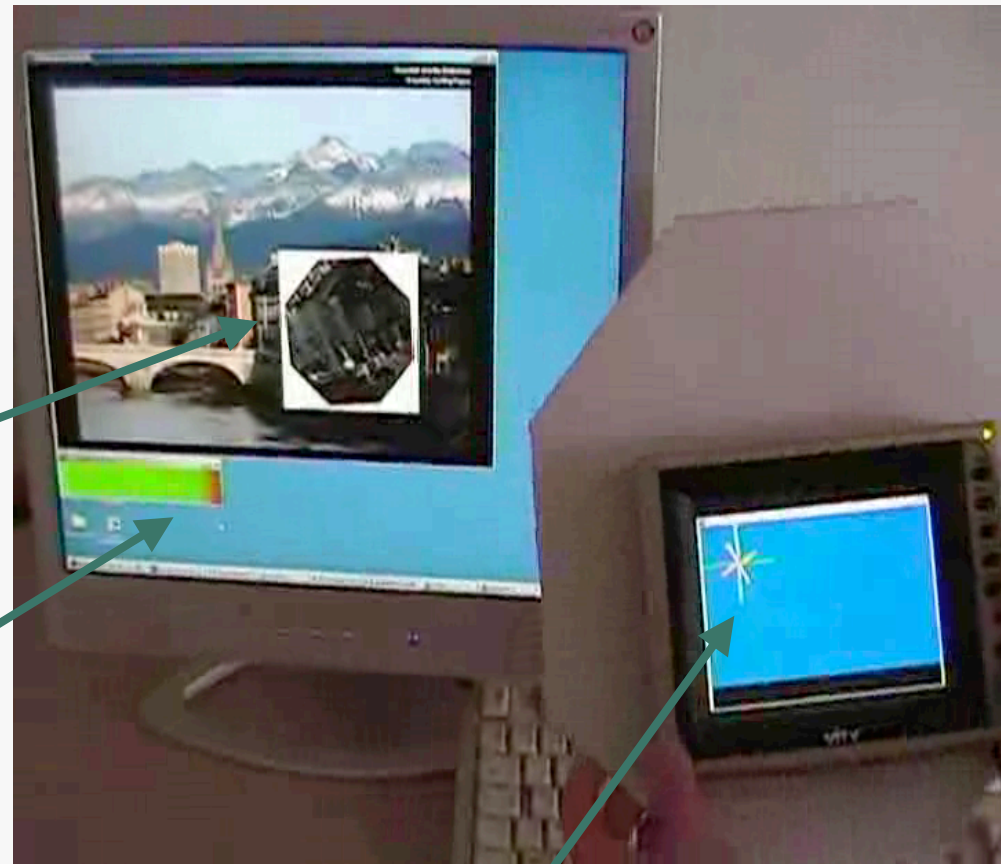
					
<b>Temporal</b>	Anachronism	Sequence	Concomitance	Coincidence	Parallelism
<b>Spatial</b>	Separation	Adjacency	Intersection	Overlaid	Collocation
<b>Articulatory</b>	Independence	Fission	Fission Duplication	Partial Duplication	Total Duplication
<b>Syntactic</b>	Difference	Completion	Divergence	Extension	Twin
<b>Semantic</b>	Concurrency	Complementarity	Complementarity & Redundancy	Partial Redundancy	Total Redundancy

# Multimodality: Combination of modalities

- Puzzle

M1 = <screen,  
2D image>

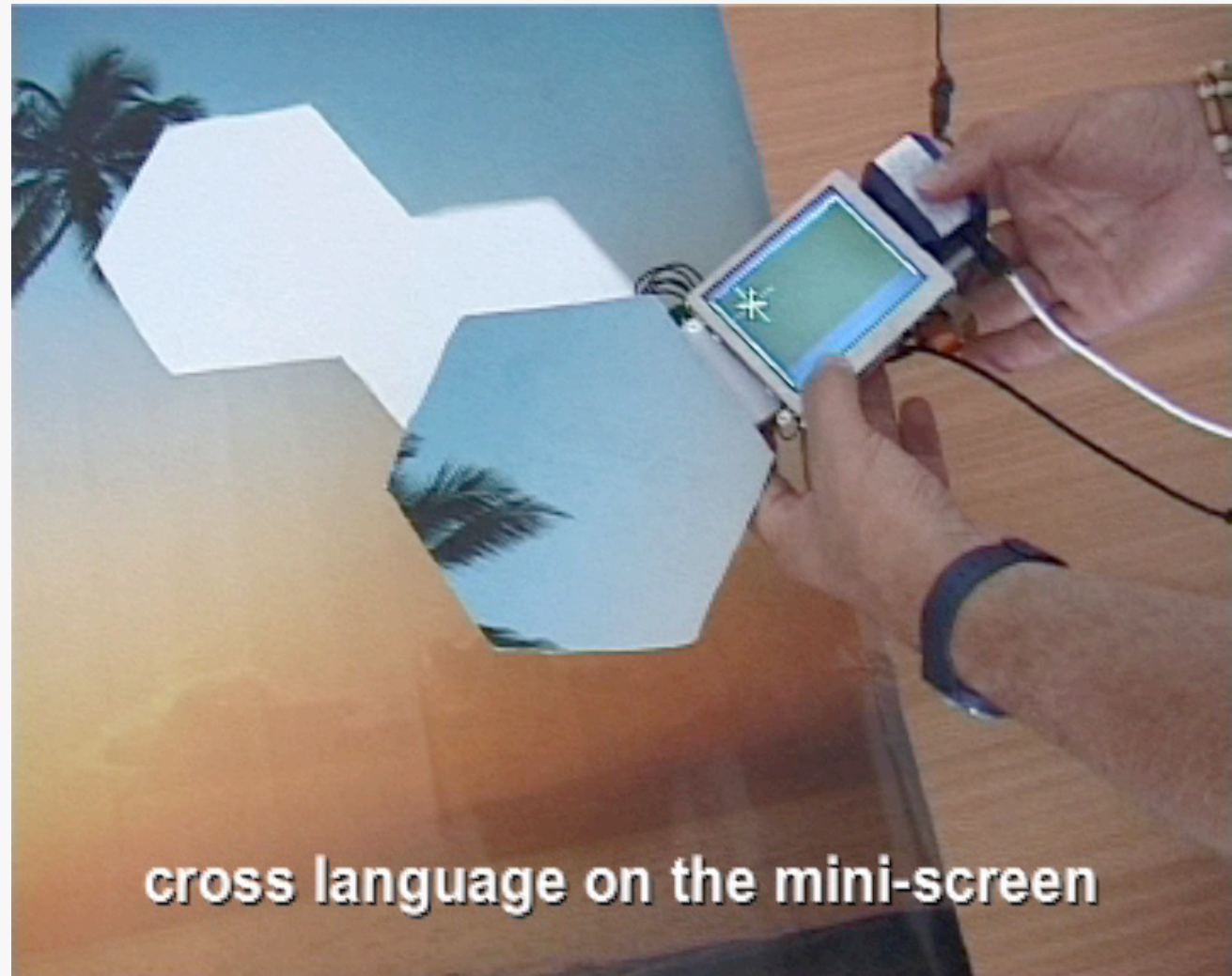
M2 = <screen, color>



M3 = <mini-screen, crosses>

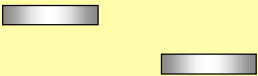
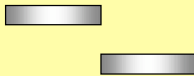


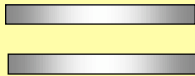
# Multimodality: Combination of modalities

- Puzzle



# Multimodality: Combination of modalities

Combination of  
M2 = <wall, color> and M3 = <mini-screen, text>

					
<b>Temporal</b>	Anachronism	Sequence	Concomitance	Coincidence	Parallelism
<b>Spatial</b>	Separation	Adjacency	Intersection	Overlaid	Collocation
<b>Articulatory</b>	Independence	Fission	Fission Duplication	Partial Duplication	Total Duplication
<b>Syntactic</b>	Difference	Completion	Divergence	Extension	Twin
<b>Semantic</b>	Concurrency	Complementarity	Complementarity & Redundancy	Partial Redundancy	Total Redundancy



# Outline

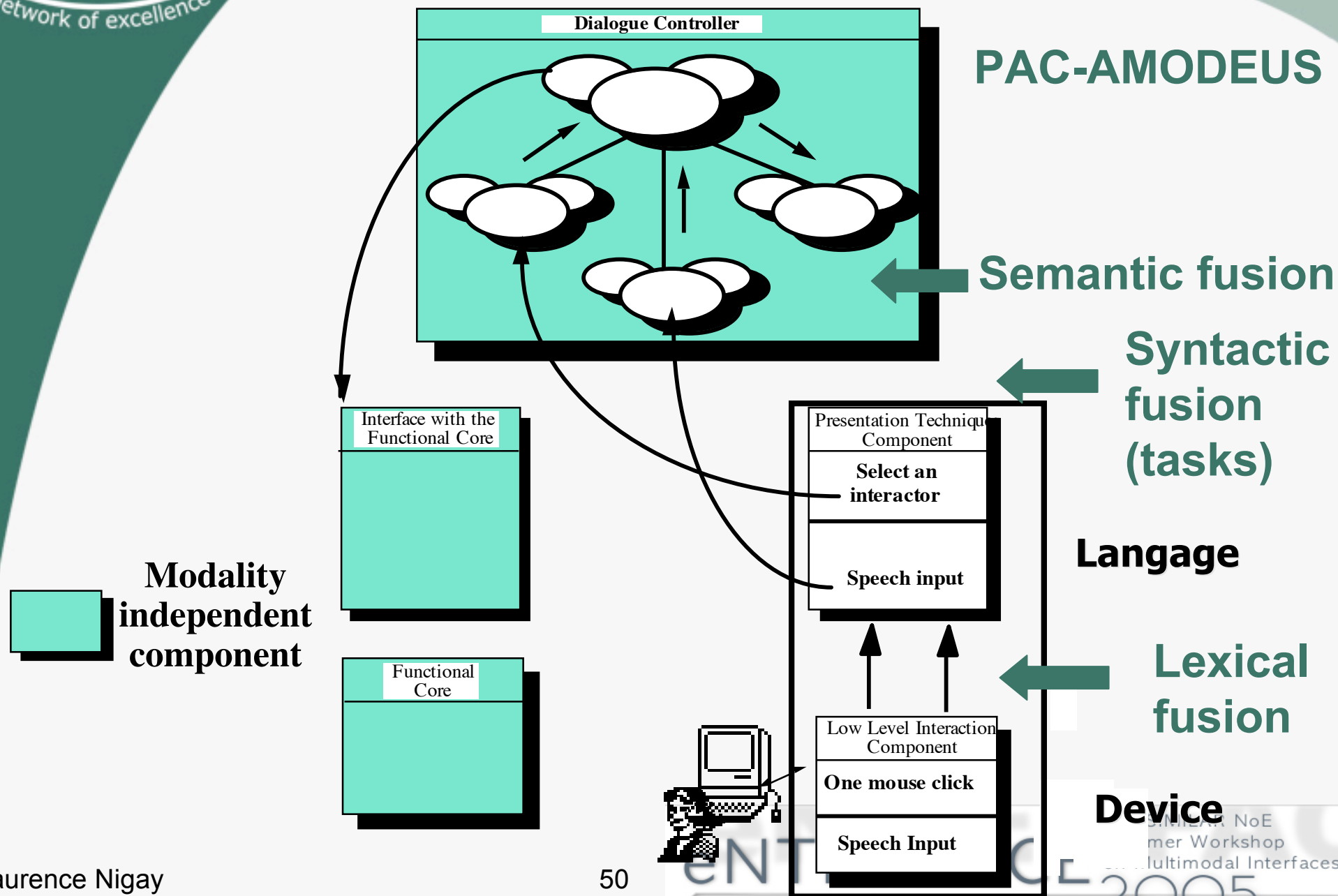
- Terminology
  - Design space
  - Interaction modality
  - Multimodality: combination of modalities
- Fusion/Fission mechanisms
- ICARE platform for input/output multimodal interaction
- Grand Challenges

# Implementational Issues: Fusion mechanism

- CARE properties
  - Complementarity    Redundancy => Fusion of data
- Implementational issues
  - Reusable code
  - Domain independent
    - (description of the semantic outside the code)

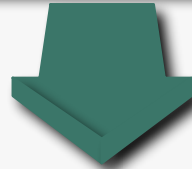


# A generic fusion mechanism

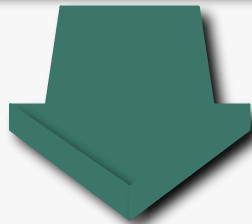


# Multimodal interaction handling

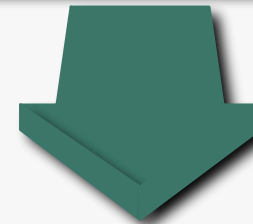
**Multimodal expression**



**Fusion of objects from various modelling techniques  
(one modelling technique per interaction technique)**



**Common  
representation**

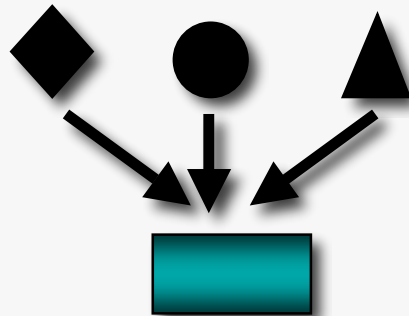


**Criteria for triggering the  
fusion**

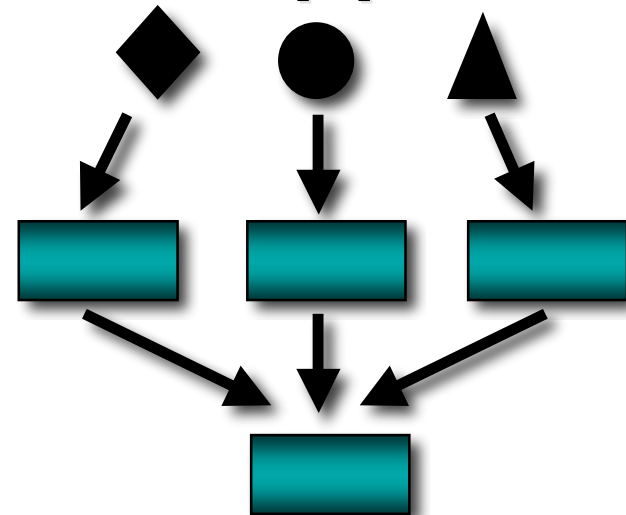
# Fusion mechanism: Common representation

- Objects from various modelling techniques: ◆ ● ▲
- Common representation: ■
- Fusion mechanism:

## One step process



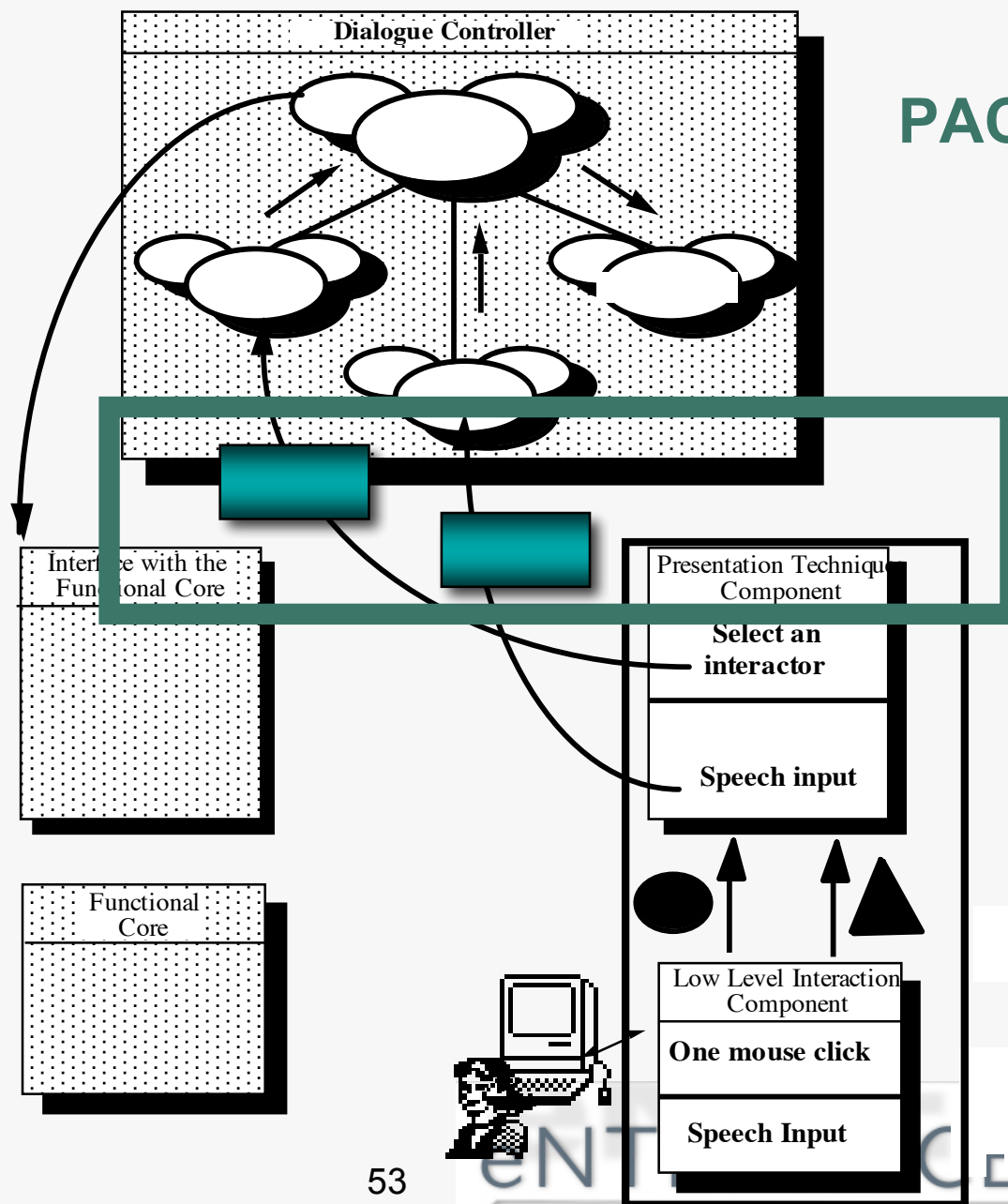
## Two step process



# A generic fusion mechanism

PAC-AMODEUS

Modality independent component



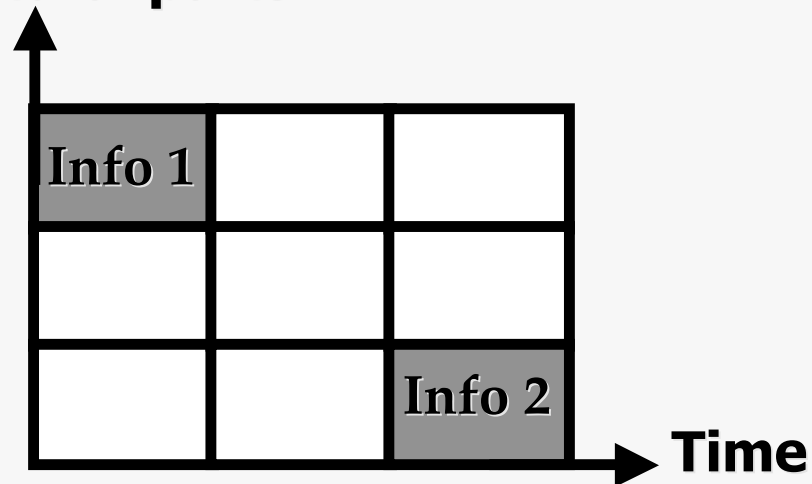
Langage

Device

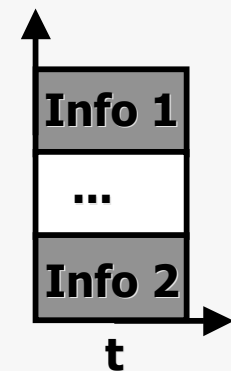
# Fusion mechanism: Common representation

- A melting pot: 2-D structure

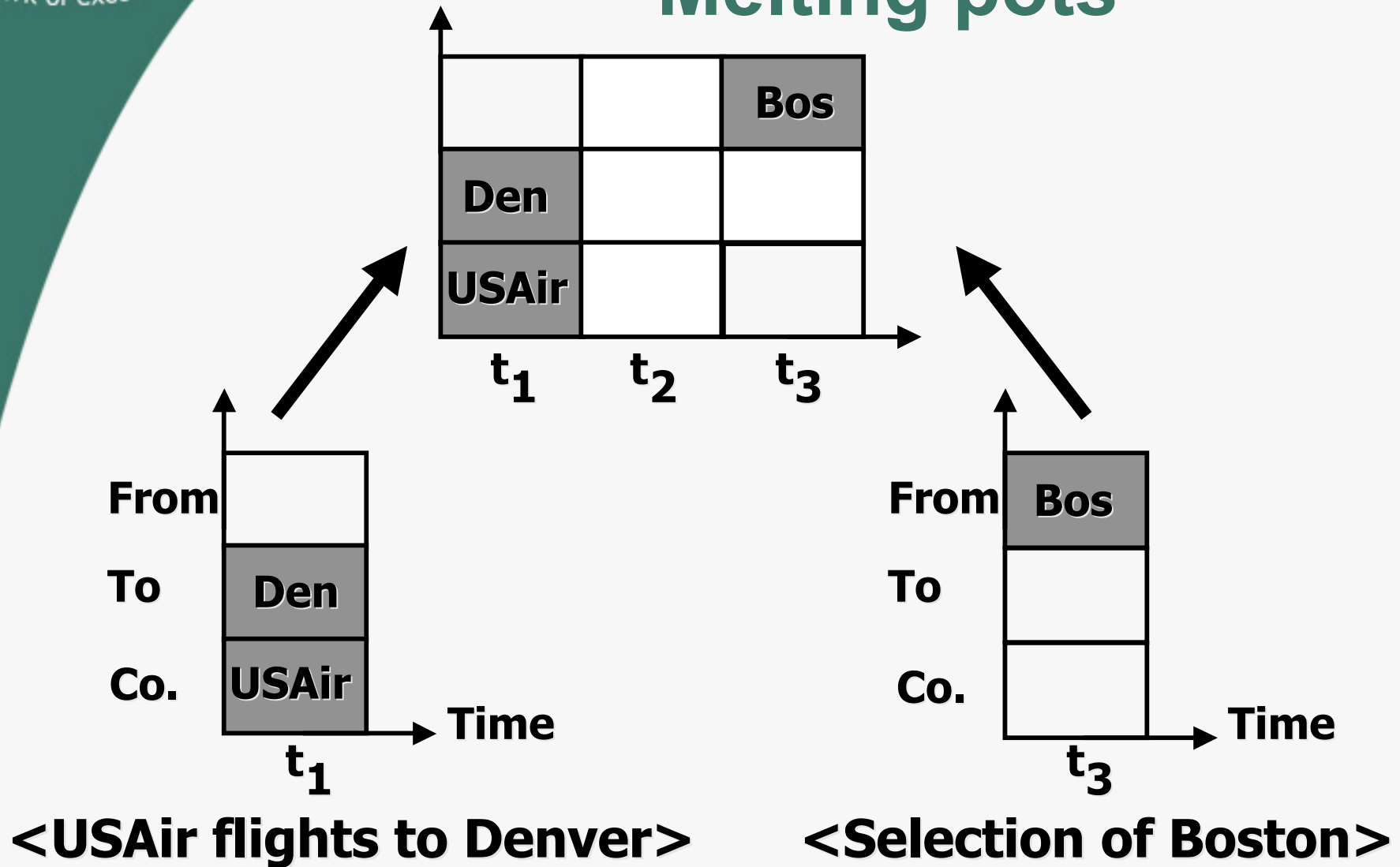
**Structural parts**



- User's event mapped with the structural parts of a melting pot defines a new column.



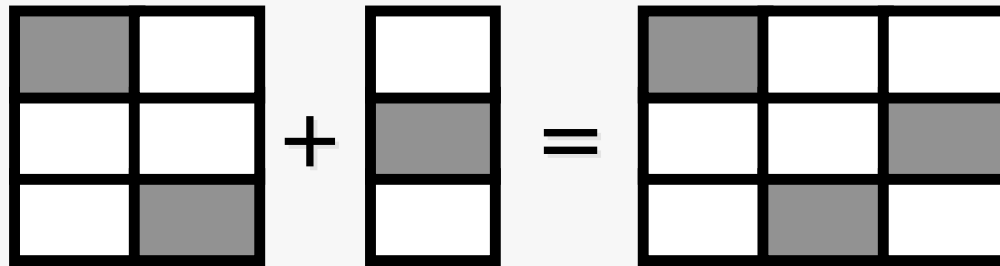
# Fusion mechanism: Melting pots



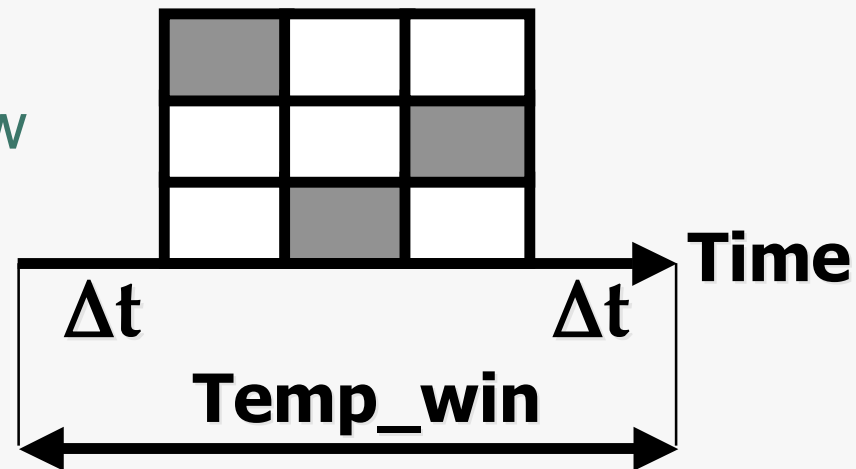


# Fusion mechanism: Criteria

- Structural complementarity



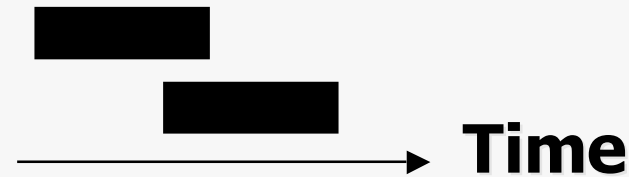
- Time
  - Temporal window



# Fusion mechanism: Three levels of fusion

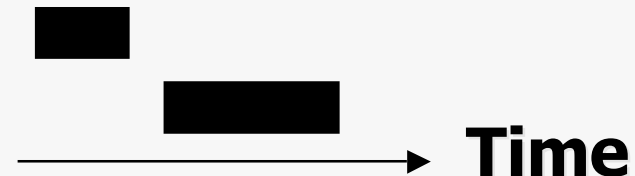
- Microtemporal fusion

- combining melting pots produced in parallel manner.



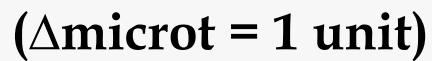
- Macrotemporal fusion

- combining melting pots close in time (when the time intervals of these melting pots do not overlap but their temporal windows do overlap).



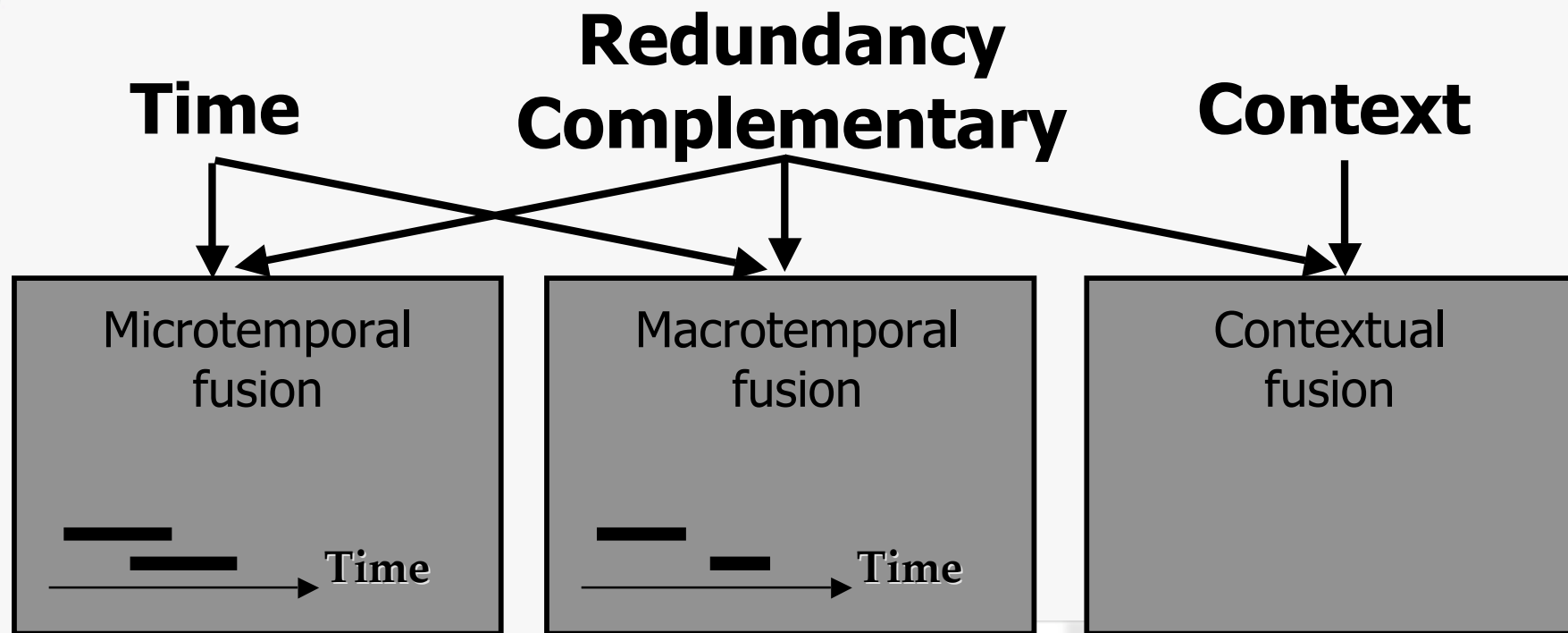
- Contextual fusion

- based on the context (no temporal constraint)



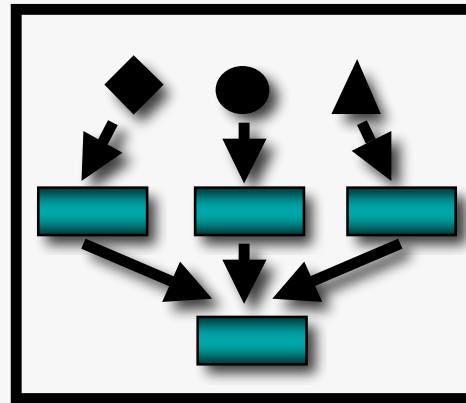
# A generic fusion mechanism

- Three levels of syntactic fusion



# Fusion mechanism: conclusion

- Two step process



- Criteria for triggering the fusion: **time**
- Representational format
  - Feature structures: melting pot / Quickset
  - Frames

# Fusion mechanism: conclusion

- Representational format
  - Feature structures: melting pot / Quickset

```

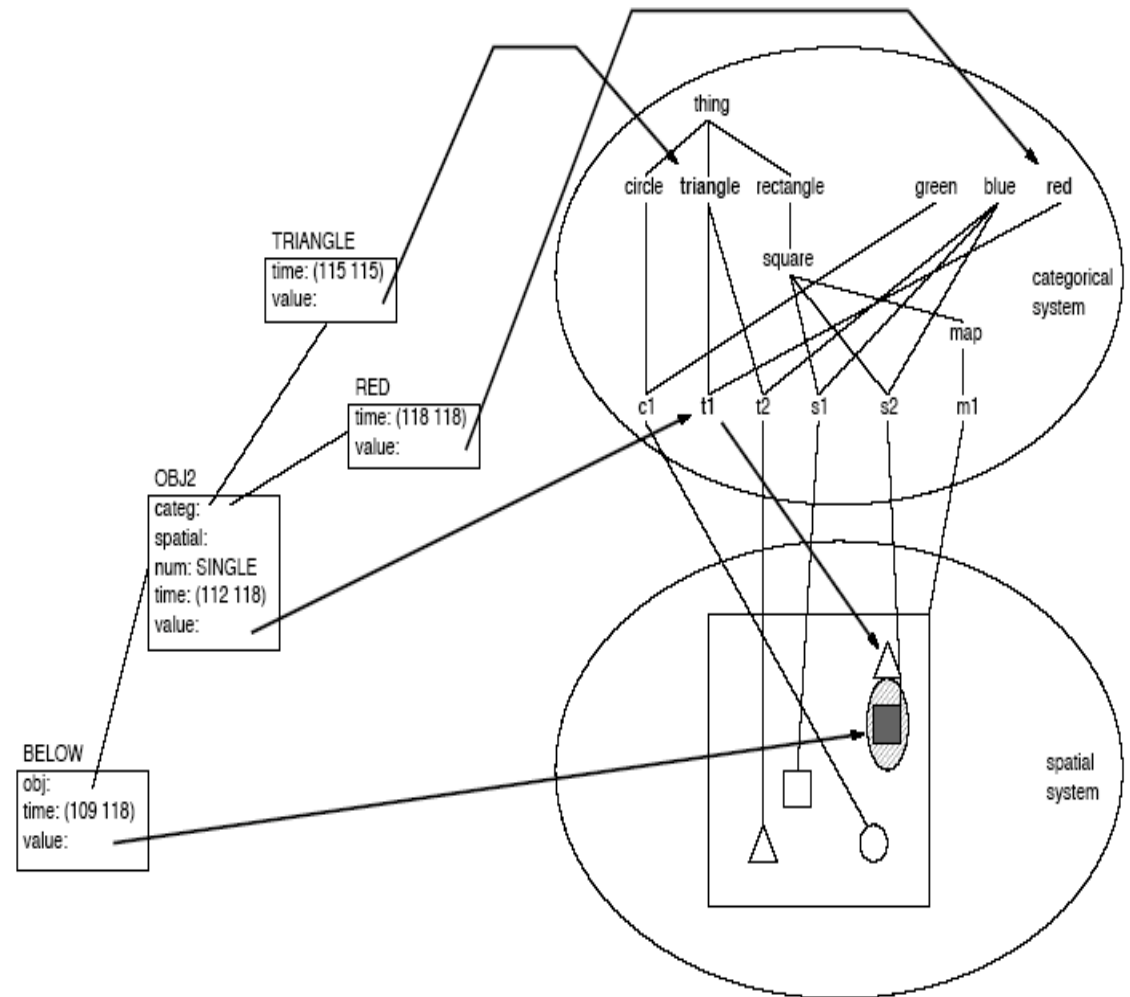
[ object : [ type : m1a1 ] ]
[ object : [ type : m1a1
              echelon : platoon ] unit ]
[ location : [ xcoord : 95305
                ycoord : 94365 ] point ] create_unit
[ ... ] point ] command
  
```



# Fusion mechanism: conclusion

## Representational format

- Frames
- Embedded frame representing “below the red triangle”



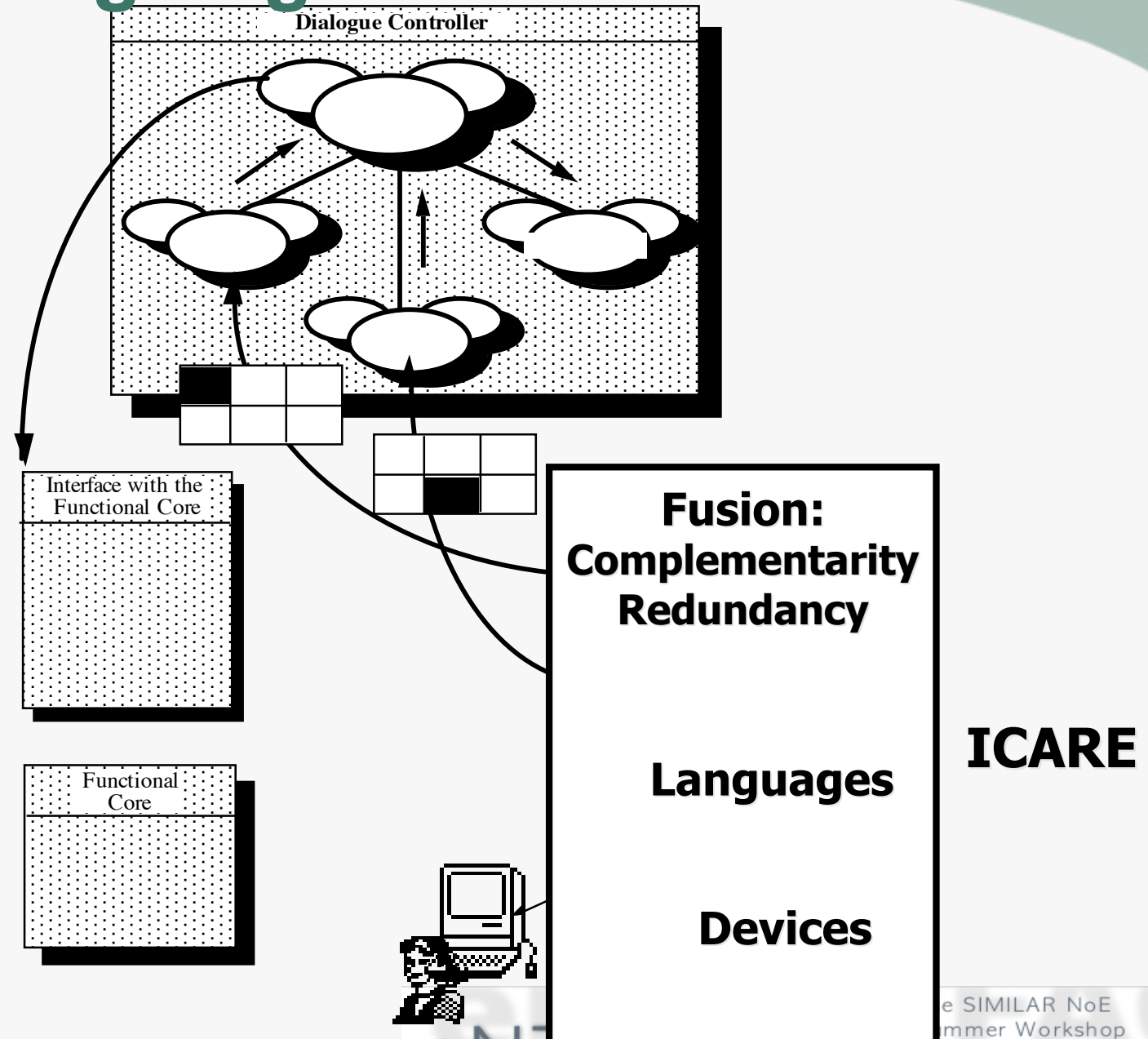
# Outline

- Terminology
  - Design space
  - Interaction modality
  - Multimodality: combination of modalities
- Fusion/Fission mechanisms
- ICARE platform for input/output multimodal interaction
- Grand Challenges

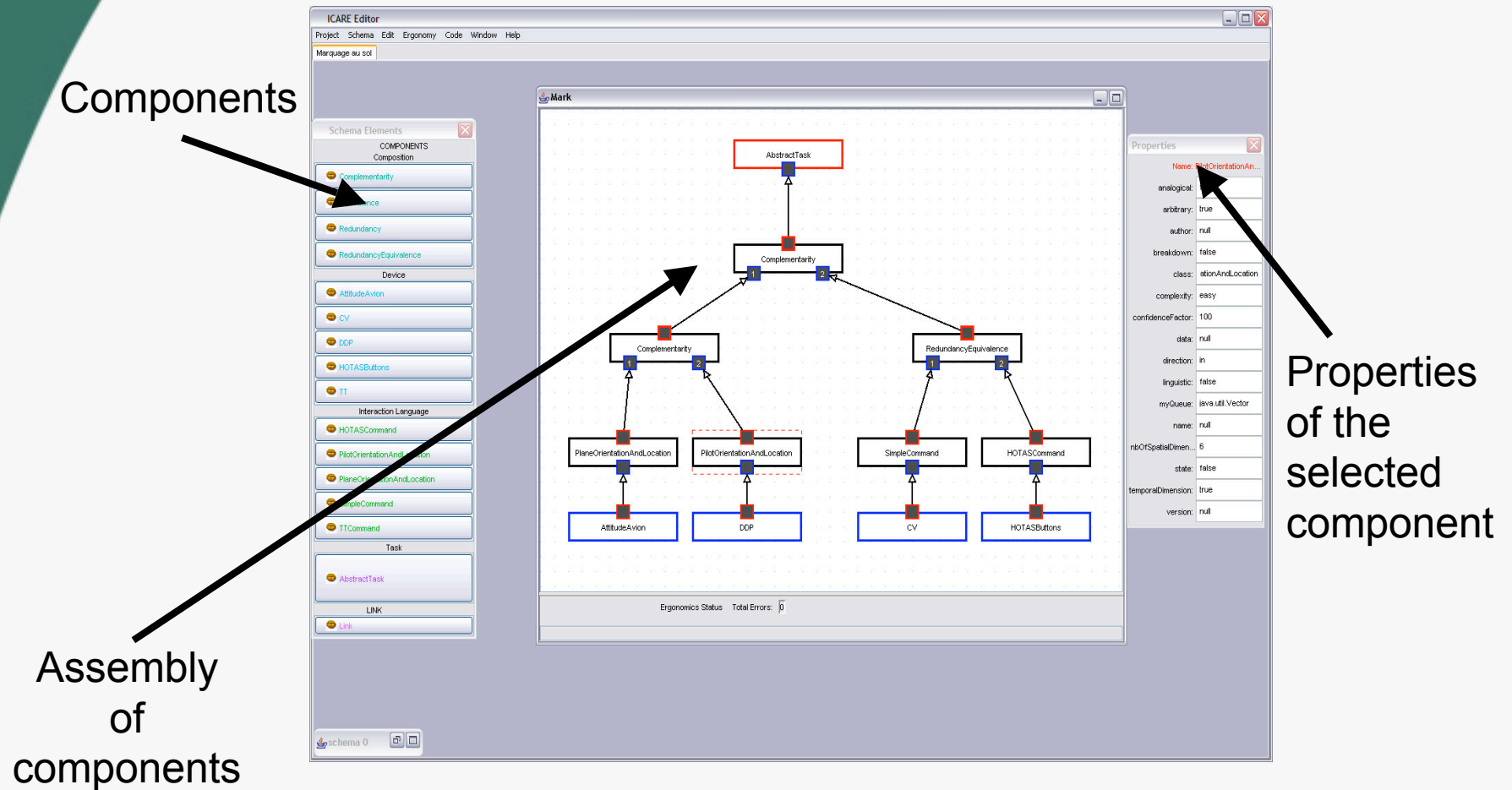
# On-going work: ICARE

- ICARE:
- A component-based approach for the design and development of multimodal interfaces (CHI'04)
  - elementary components that describe pure modalities
  - composition components (Complementarity, Redundancy and Equivalence)
- Editor to graphically assemble components
- Automatic generation of the code (fusion mechanism)

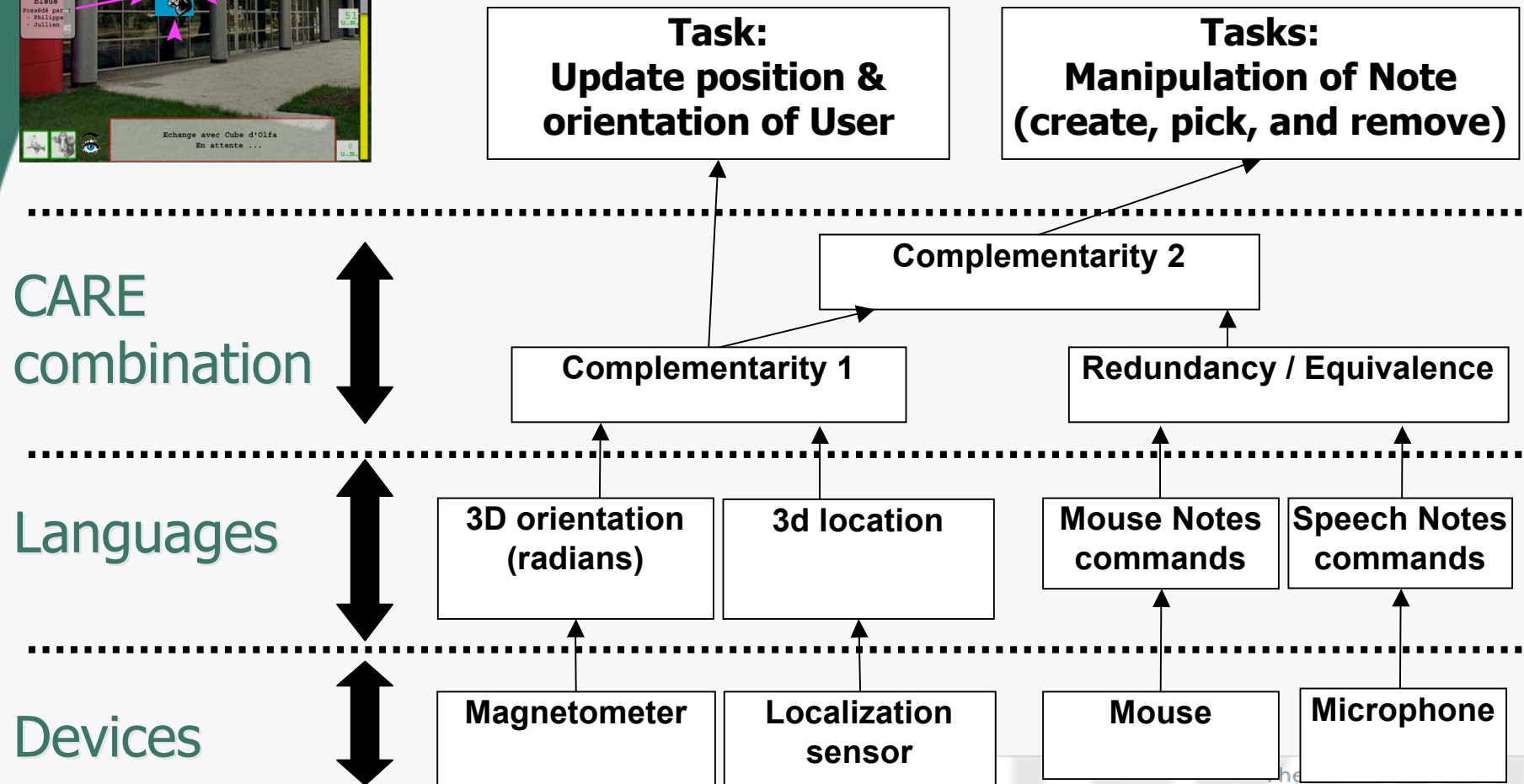
# On-going work: ICARE



# On-going work: ICARE



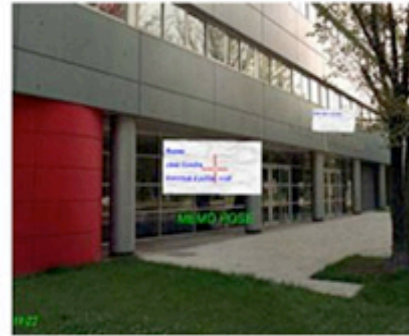
# On-going work: ICARE





# On-going work: ICARE

MEMO RA / PDA



Aircraft cockpit simulator



Puzzle in RA



Multimodal IDentification



# Outline

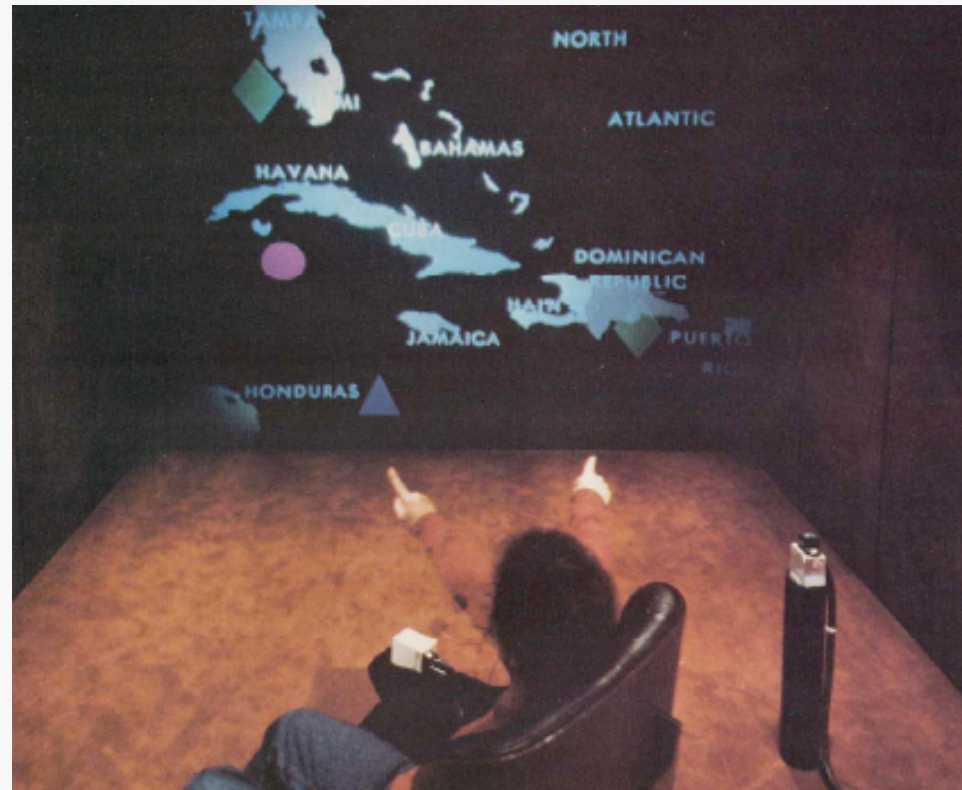
- Terminology
  - Design space
  - Interaction modality
  - Multimodality: combination of modalities
- Fusion/Fission mechanisms
- ICARE platform for input/output multimodal interaction
- Conclusion: Grand Challenges

# Multimodality: HCI Challenges

- HCI challenge 1: Theory of modality and multimodality
  - a vast world of possibilities  
=> Characterization of the modalities
- HCI challenge 2: Fusion mechanism
  - Criteria for triggering the fusion: time and ? ... space
  - Ambiguity and the fusion mechanism (interactive solution: human in the loop)
  - Uncertainty of the data processed by the fusion mechanism
- HCI challenge 3: Pervasive computing
  - Dynamicity  
=> Plugging at runtime new modalities to the fusion mechanism
- HCI challenge 4: Development tools
  - Tools for quickly developing multimodal interaction
    - ICARE , context-toolkit for passive-implicit modalities, quickset ...

# Multimodality: Path to evolution

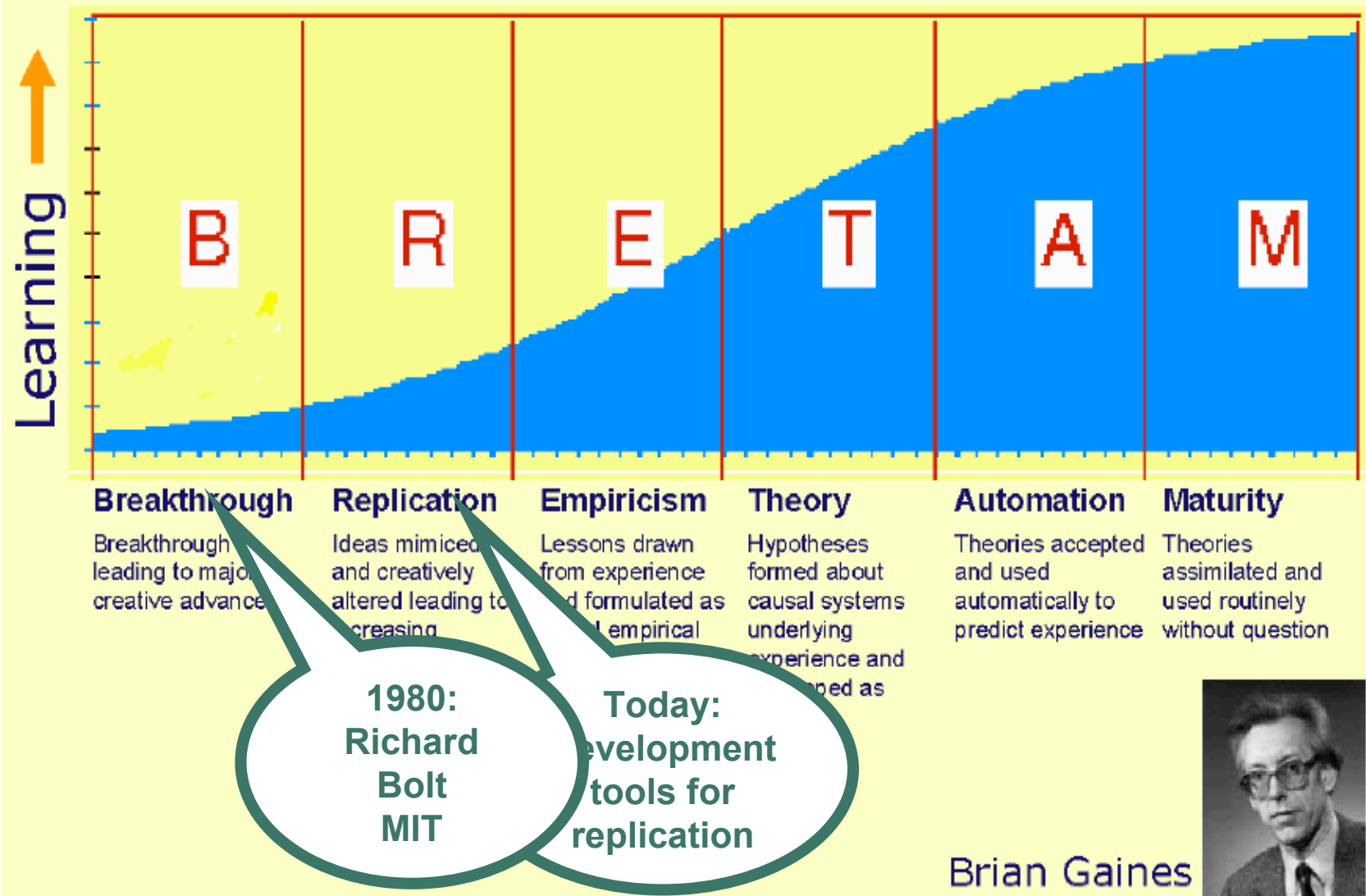
- Since 1980 “Put that there” paradigm  
R. Bolt MIT



In the 80's, Brian Gaines introduced a model on how science technology develops over time

# Brian Gaines's Model

Time →



# Human-Computer Interaction (HCI)

## Interaction modality and Multimodality

Laurence Nigay



**University of Grenoble**  
CLIPS-IMAG Laboratory



**User Interface Engineering Team**