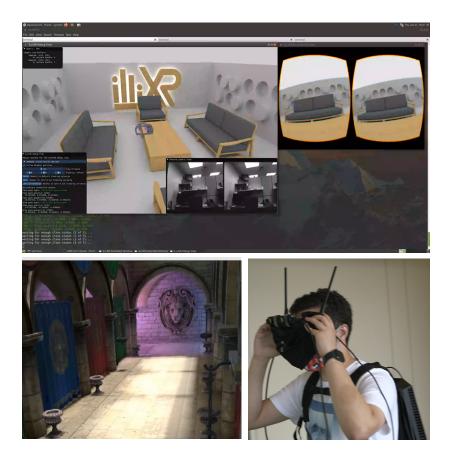
# **Enabling the Immersive Era of Computing**



#### Sarita Adve

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illixr.org

w/ many collaborators acknowledged on slides

This work is supported in part by the Applications Driving Architecture (ADA) center (JUMP center co-sponsored by SRC & DARPA), the DARPA DSSOC program, and the National Science Foundation







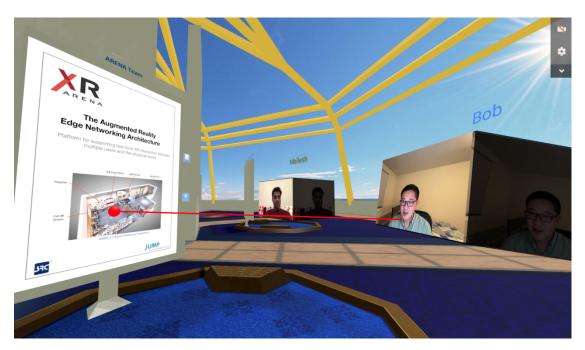




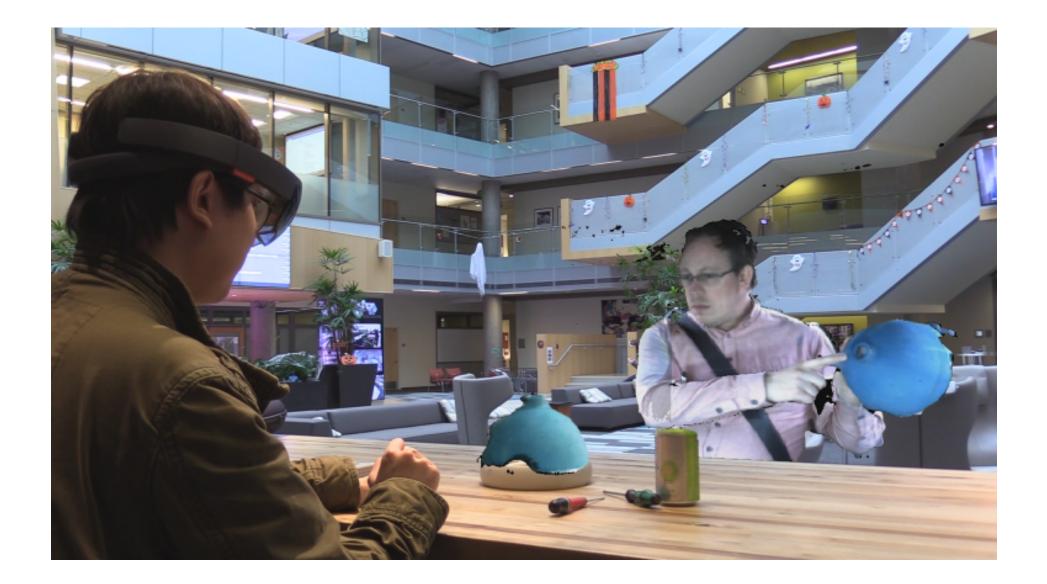


#### Meta avatars on Unity

#### ARENA [Rowe, CMU]









#### Immersive Computing =

#### Seamless integration of the physical and the virtual Real time, mobile, comfortable all day

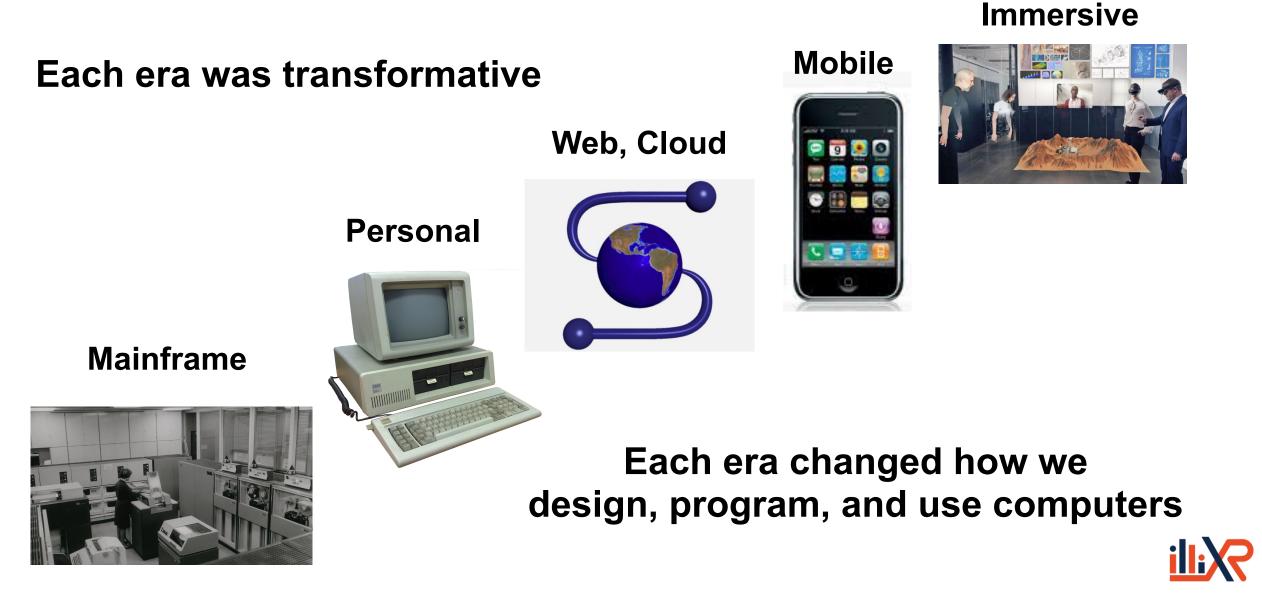
Virtual, augmented, mixed reality (VR, AR, MR)  $\rightarrow$  Extended reality (XR) Metaverse, digital twins, spatial computing, ...

Will transform most human activities





## **New Era of Computing**



#### Immersive Computing =

#### Seamless integration of the physical and the virtual Real time, mobile, comfortable all day

Hardware, software, applications ecosystem

Sensors, displays, headsets, wearables, edge and cloud backends, networking

A broad systems problem



### **Immersive Computing for Architects**



Orders of magnitude gap in power, performance, quality-of-experience between current and desired systems

Approximate	Current	Desired
Res (Mpixels)	7	200
Power (W)	~7	0.1
Weight (g)	500	10

Huzaifa et al., Micro Top Picks'22

**A A A** 



## **XR Systems: Challenges**

#### Orders of magnitude gap

Power, performance, quality-of-experience (QoE)

#### **Diverse expertise**

Graphics, vision, audio, video, optics, haptics, ...

#### Cross-layer system co-design

Hardware, compiler, OS, algorithm. Device, edge, cloud

Approximate	Current	Desired
Res (Mpixels)	7	200
Power (W)	~7	0.1
Weight (g)	500	10

#### **Complex metrics**

Multiple, user-driven, end-to-end QoE metrics

#### **Closed systems, few participants**

No open reference systems or benchmarks

#### Large barrier to entry for open R&D

How can we democratize XR systems research, development, benchmarking?



## **ILLIXR: Illinois Extended Reality Testbed**

ILLIXR: Open-source full system XR testbed

State-of-the-art XR components w/ modular runtime

OpenXR compatible

Extensive characterization and use for research

illixr.org

Huzaifa et al., IISWC'21 best paper, IEEE Micro Top Picks'22



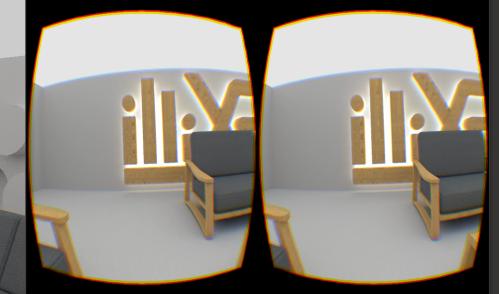




#### ILLIXR Debug View

▼ Camera + IMU

Camera view buffers: Camera8: (672, 376) GL texture handle: 6 Camera1: (672, 376) GL texture handle: 7

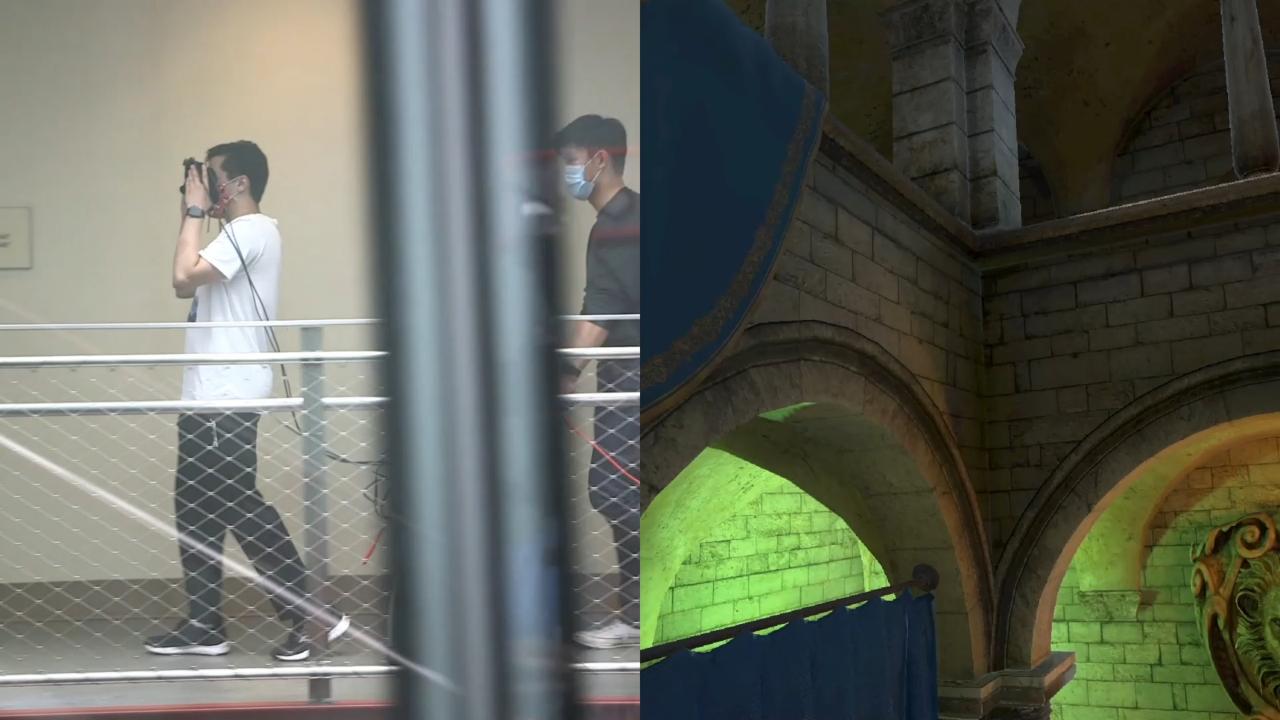


✓ ILLIXR Debug View
 Adjust options for the runtime debug view.
 ✓ Headset visualization options
 ✓ Follow headset position

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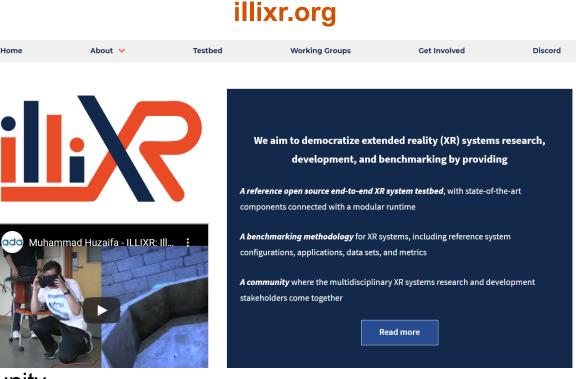
# **ILLIXR Consortium**

ILLIXR Consortium w/ industry + academic partners

• Arm, Facebook, Micron, North Star, NVIDIA, ...

#### Goals

- Reference open source testbed
  - Components and interfaces
  - Modular, extensible runtime
  - Telemetry
- Benchmarking methodology
  - Applications, data sets
  - System configurations
  - Metrics
- Build XR systems research and development community



Now funded by NSF CISE community research infrastructure progam *Join us: illixr@cs.illinois.edu, illixr.org, discord, weekly meetings* 



### **ILLIXR Deep Dive**



### **Team ILLIXR**

#### ILLIXR students and developers

- Madhuparna Bhowmik
- Henry Che
- Rishi Desai
- Steven Gao
- Samuel Grayson
- Qinjun Jiang
- Muhammad Huzaifa
- Xutao Jiang
- Ying Jing
- Jae Lee
- Jeffrey Liu

- Fang Lu
- Yihan Pang
- Joseph Ravichandran
- Giordano Salvador
- Bill Sherman
- Finn Sinclair
- Rahul Singh
- Boyuan Tian
- Lauren Wagner
- Henghzi Yuan
- Jeffrey Zhang

#### Consultations

- Ameen Akeel
- Wei Cui
- Aleksandra Faust
- Liang Gao
- Rod Hooker
- Matt Horsnell
- Amit Jindal
- Steve LaValle
- Steve Lovegrove

- David Luebke
- Andrew Maimone
- Vegard Oye
- Maurizio Paganini
- Martin Persson
- Archontis Politis
- Eric Shaffer
- Paris Smaragdis
- Chris Widdowson

Founding consortium members: Arm, Meta Reality Labs, Micron, NVIDIA Founding sponsor: ADA research center, a DARPA/SRC JUMP center

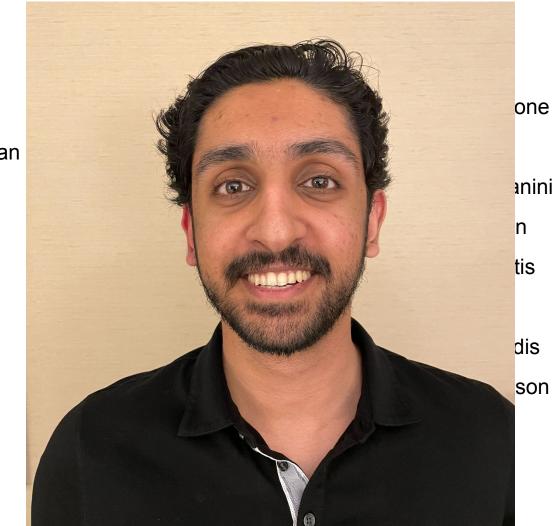


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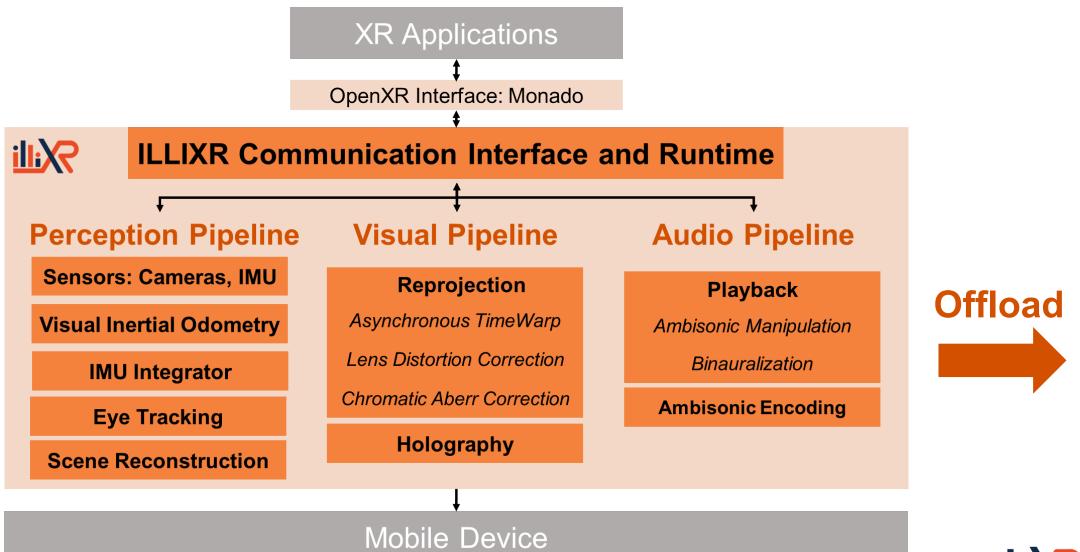
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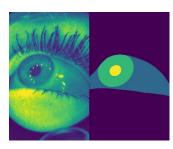


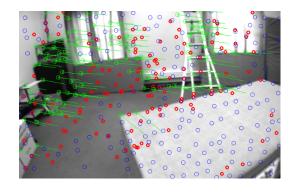
#### **ILLIXR Overview**



## **Perception Pipeline**

- Sensors: Camera, Inertial Measurement Unit (IMU)
- Visual Intertial Odometry (VIO)
  - Provides position and head orientation (pose)
- IMU Integrator
  - Provides high frequency pose estimates
- Pose Predictor
  - Extrapolates pose to future timestamp
- Scene Reconstruction
  - Uses RGB-Depth camera to build dense 3D map of world
- Eye Tracking



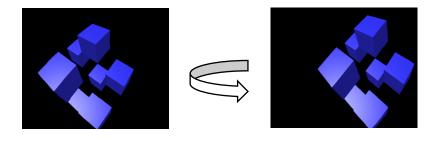




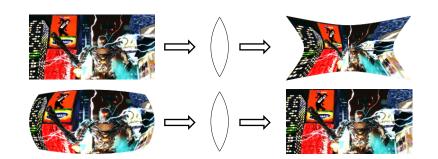


## **Visual Pipeline**

- Asynchronous reprojection
  - Warp rendered frame to account for head movement during rendering
  - Uses latest pose estimate and prediction
  - Cuts motion-to-photon latency



- Lens distortion and chromatic aberration correction
  - Corrects for distortion due to curved lenses



- Computational holography
  - Vergence-accommodation conflict (VAC): eyes focused at fixed point, converge at different points
  - Computational displays w/ multiple focal planes can fix VAC: compute per-pixel phase shift



# **Audio Pipeline**

- Audio encoding
  - Encodes multiple sound sources into Higher Order Ambisonics (HOA) soundfield
- Playback
  - Rotates and zooms HOA sound field for user's latest pose
  - Performs binauralization to account for user's ear, head, nose

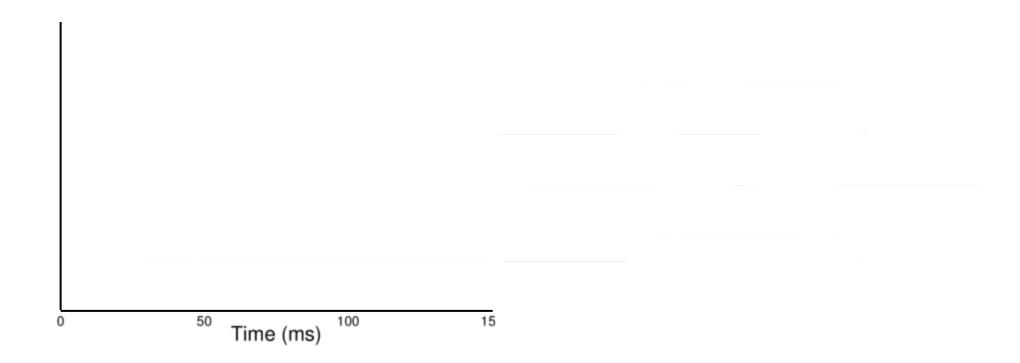


# **BUT XR is not just a collection of components**

# It is a SYSTEM

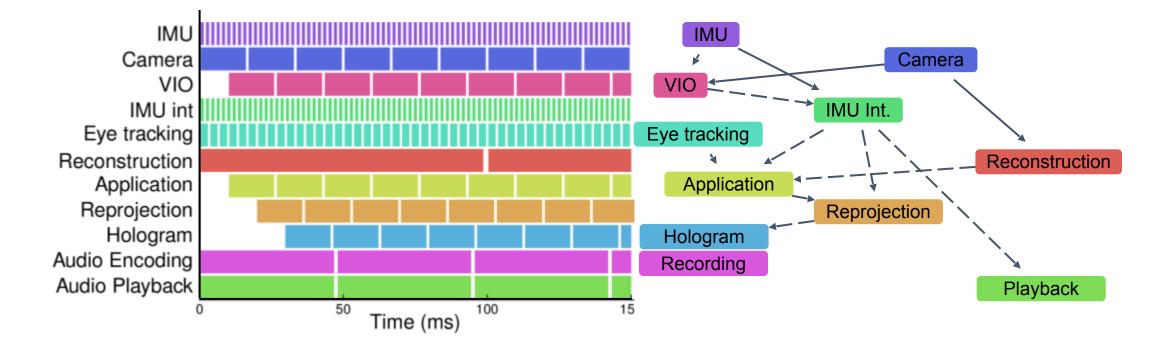


#### **XR System Dataflow**





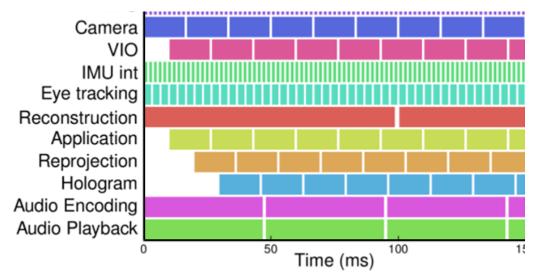
## **XR System Dataflow**



Different components at different frequencies Multiple interacting pipelines Synchronous and asynchronous dependences Multiple quality of experience metrics

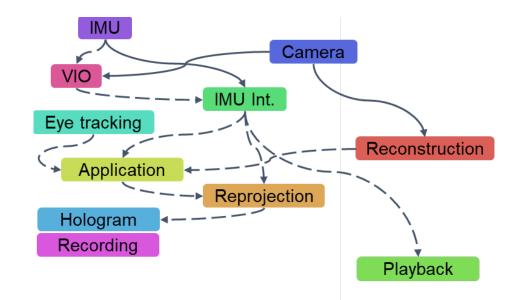


### **ILLIXR Runtime**



#### Modular, flexible architecture

ILLIXR components are plugins Separately compiled, dynamically loaded Easily swap/add new components, implementations



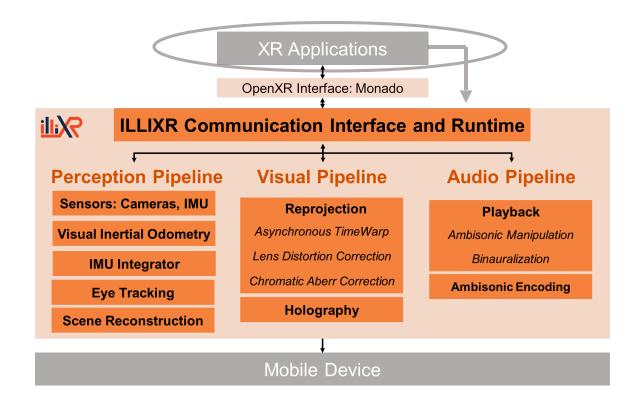
#### Efficient, flexible communication interface

Component specifies event streams to publish, subscribe Synchronous or asynchronous consumers Copy-free, shared memory implementation

End-to-end system balances flexibility with efficiency



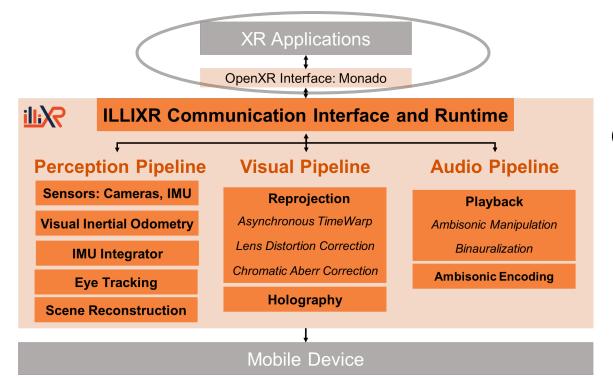
# **ILLIXR Applications**



Can write XR applications directly to ILLIXR



# **ILLIXR Applications**



Can write XR applications directly to ILLIXR

#### ILLIXR supports OpenXR applications

- Uses Monado implementation of OpenXR
- Today: Godot game engine
- Soon: Unity, Unreal development platforms



## **End-to-End Quality Metrics**

- Motion-to-photon latency
  - Time from head motion to display (currently w/o display latency)
  - Target: < 20ms for VR, < 5ms for AR/MR
- Image quality: SSIM and FLIP
- + Extensive telemetry: Frame rates, missed frames, time distributions, power, ...



### **ILLIXR Components Today**

	Component	Algorithm	Implementation
	Camera Camera	ZED SDK Intel RealSense SDK	C++ C++
	IMU IMU	ZED SDK Intel RealSense SDK	C++ C++
Perce ption	VIO VIO	OpenVINS Kimera-VIO	C++ C++
Pipeli ne	IMU Integrator IMU Integrator	RK4 GTSAM	C++ C++
	Eye Tracking	RITnet	Python, CUDA
	Scene Reconstruction Scene Reconstruction	ElasticFusion KinectFusion	C++, CUDA, GLSL C++, CUDA
	Reprojection	VP-matrix reproject w/ pose	C++, GLSL
Visual Pipeli	Lens Distortion	Mesh-based radial distortion	C++, GLSL
ne	Chromatic Aberration	Mesh-based radial distortion	C++, GLSL
	Adaptive Display	Weighted Gerchberg-Saxton	CUDA
Audio	Audio Encoding	Ambisonic encoding	C++
Pipeli ne	Audio Playback	Ambisonic manipulation, binauralization	C++



# **ILLIXR Findings**



## **Evaluation Methodology**

Component	Parameter	Range	Tuned	Deadline
Camera (VIO)	Frame rate Resolution Exposure	15 – 100 Hz VGA – 2K 0.2 – 20 ms	15 Hz VGA 1 ms	66.7 ms – –
IMU (Integrator)	Frame rate	≤ 800 Hz	500 Hz	2 ms
Display (Visual pipeline + Application)	Frame rate Resolution Field-of-view	30 – 144 Hz ≤ 2K ≤ 180°	120 Hz 2K 90°	8.33 ms – –
Audio (Encoding + Playback)	Frame rate Block size	48 – 96 Hz 256 – 1024	48 Hz 1024	20.8 ms –

- Platforms
  - High-end desktop machine

High

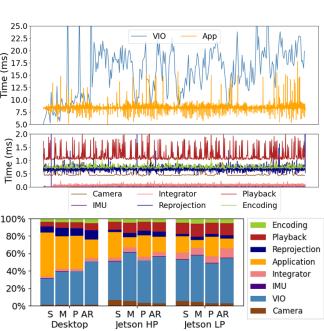
- Embedded: NVIDIA Jetson-HP (high performance) and Jetson-LP (low power)
- Applications: Sponza, Materials, Platformer, AR Demo on Godot game engine

Graphics intensity



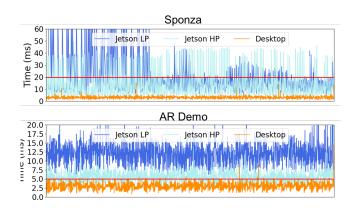
### **Results Summary**





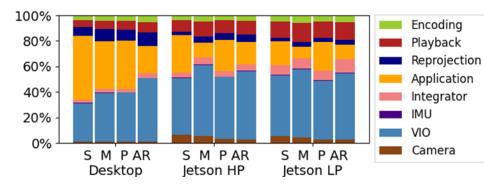
#### **Quality of Experience**

Application	Desktop	Jetson-HP	Jetson-LP
Sponza	3.1 ± 1.1	13.5 ± 10.7	19.3 ± 14.5
Materials	3.1 ± 1.0	7.7 ± 2.7	$16.4 \pm 4.9$
Platformer	$3.0 \pm 0.9$	6.0 ± 1.9	11.3 ± 4.7
AR Demo	$3.0 \pm 0.9$	5.6 ± 1.4	$12.0 \pm 3.4$

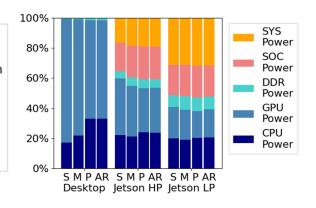


Platform	SSIM	1-FLIP
Desktop	0.83 ± 0.04	0.86 ± 0.05
Jetson-HP	$0.80 \pm 0.05$	$0.85 \pm 0.05$
Jetson-LP	$0.68 \pm 0.09$	0.65 ± 0.17

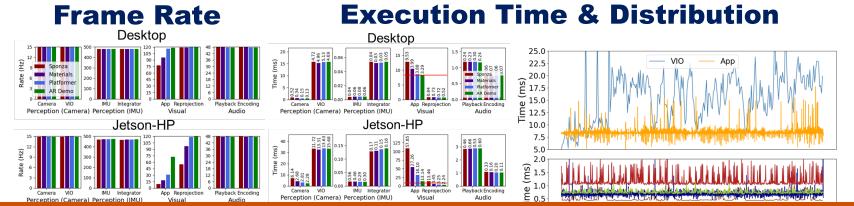
#### **Power**







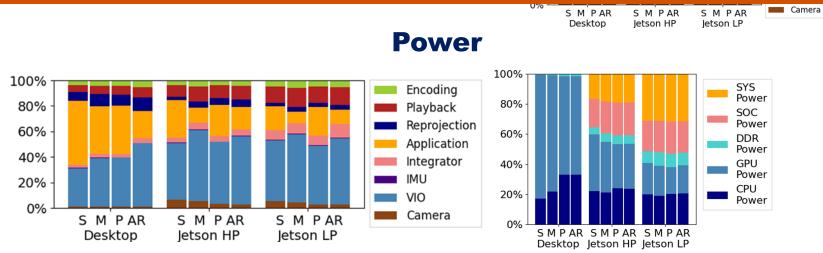
### **Results Summary**



#### **Quality of Experience**

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# First published performance/power/QoE results for end-to-end XR system



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### **Results Summary and Implications for System Designers**

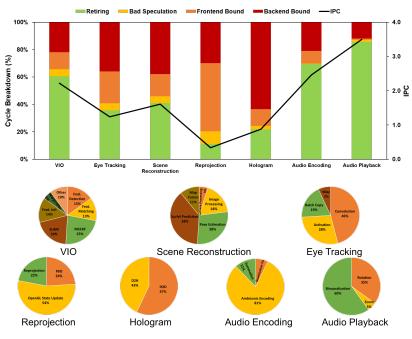
- Substantial performance, power, QoE gap
  - ⇒ Need to specialize hardware, software, system
- No application component dominates all metrics
  - ⇒ Must consider all application components in *system* together
- Power consumption goes beyond CPU, GPU, DDR
  - $\Rightarrow$  Must consider *system*-level hardware components; e.g., display and I/O
- Significant variability
  - ⇒ Need to partition, allocate, and schedule *system* resources
- Per-component metrics do not capture QoE
  - ⇒ Must look at entire system to make QoE-driven tradeoffs



### **Results Summary and Implications for System Designers**

- Need to specialize hardware, software, system
- Must consider all application components in system together
- Must consider system-level hardware components; e.g., display and I/O
- Need to partition, allocate, and schedule system resources
- Must look at entire system to make QoE-driven tradeoffs
- Abundance of tasks and no single task dominates
  - ⇒ Need *automated* techniques to determine what to accelerate
- Impractical to build accelerator for every task
  - ⇒ Must build *shared* hardware
- Diversity of compute and memory primitives
  - $\Rightarrow$  *Flexible* on-chip memory hierarchy
  - $\Rightarrow$  *Flexible* accelerator communication interface
- Algorithms in flux
  - ⇒ Must design *programmable* hardware
- Different algorithms have different QoE vs. resource usage profiles
   ⇒ End-to-end QoE driven approximate computing

#### **Standalone Components**

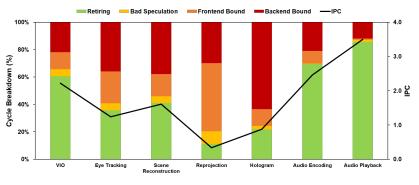


Task	Time	Computz	tion	Memory Patter	n			Task		Computa				y Pattern	
Feature detection Detects new features in the new camera images	15%	Integer ste pyramid le	stencils per each Locally dense stencil; globally mix dense and sparse		cil; globally mixed			Camera Processing Processes incoming camera depth image	5%	Bilateral fi rejection			lmage	equential accesses (	
Feature matching Matches features across images Filter	s 13% Integer stencils; GEMM; inear algebra 62% Gauss-Newton refinement;		Locally dense stencil: globally mixed dense and sparse; mixed dense and random feature map accesses Mixed dense and sparse feature map				Image Processing Pre-processes RGB-D image for tracking and mapping	18%	Generation normal ma intensity; i undistortio transforma	op, and in image in; pose	age		dense; local stene from RGB.RGB → .BB		
Estimates 6DOF pose using earners and IMU measurements		linear algo		and filter matrix accesses				Pose Estimation Estimates 6DOF pose	28%	ICP; phote	P: photometric error: Photometric error is globally den others are globally sparse, locally dense				
Other Miscellaneous tasks Task		me Comp		Memory F	Memory Pattern			Surfel Prediction Calculates active surfels in current frame	38%	Vertex and	i fragmen	t shaders	ders Globally sparse; locally dense		nse
FBO FBO state management OpenGL State Update		24% Framebuffer bind and clear Driver calls: CPU-GPU communication 54% OpenGL state undates: one Driver calls: CPU-GPU						Map Fusion Updates map with new surfel information	11%	Vertex and	i fragmen	t shaders	Globally	sparse; locally de	ner
Sets up OpenGL state drawcall per eye communication						Task		Time C	Comput	ation		Memory	Pattern		
Reprojection Applies reprojection transformation to image	Applies reprojection MULs/vertex fragment				iform, vertex, and iffers; 3 texture gment			Normalization INT16 to FP32		7% E	Slement-	wise FP32	t divisio	on Dense ro	w-major
Task		Time	Computation		Memory Patte	ern		Encoding Sample to soundfield		81% Y	[j][i] =	$D \times X[j]$		Dense co	lumn-major
Hologram-to-depth		57%	Transcendenta		Dense row-majo			mapping							
Propagates pixel phase to depth plane			TB-wide tree i	eduction	pixel data; temporal lo data; reduction in scra			Summation HOA soundfield summati	on	11% ¥	'[i][j]+ :	$= X_k[i][j]$	$\forall k$	Dense ro	w-major
Sum Sums phase differ from hologram-to-dept		< 0.1%	Tree reduction		Dense row-majo scratchpad	a; redu	action in		3	kels lotation omdicki rotat	Time 35%	Psychoacou	ntie	Computation FFT: frequency do- main convolution:	Memory Pattern Batterly pattern for FFT/IFFT; dense raw-ma
Depth-to-hologram Propagates depth plane phase to pixel		43%	Transcendenta thread-local re		Dense row-major; n pixels written once		pixel reads;			dag pase		Apples fo domain filte HOA rotot Batates virts rols	ion al chan-	IFFT Transendentals: FMADDs	sequential accesses for convulution Sparse column-major accesses; some temporal locality
									5	eem omdfeld ze sing pose	525 mm			Linear algebra	Dense column-major sequential accesses
										Insurolizatio RTF opplication				Identical to psychoa- romatic filter	Identical to psychoneous filter

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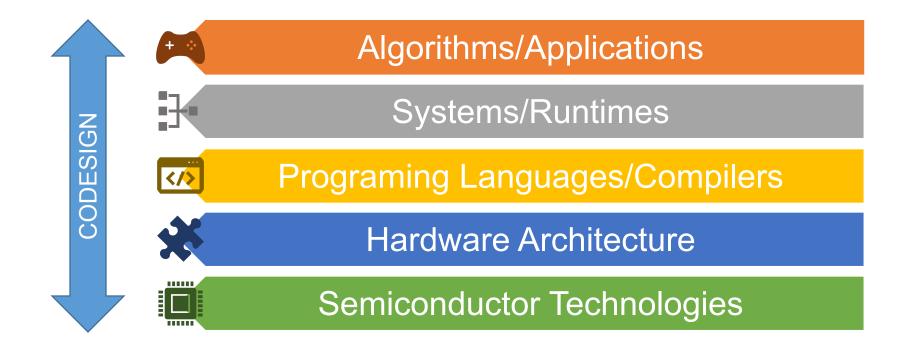
# ILLIXR = Rich playground for systems research

- Diversity of compute and memory primitives
  - $\Rightarrow$  *Flexible* on-chip memory hierarchy
  - $\Rightarrow$  *Flexible* accelerator communication interface
- Algorithms in flux
  - ⇒ Must design *programmable* hardware
- Different algorithms have different QoE vs. resource usage profiles
  - ⇒ End-to-end QoE driven *approximate computing*

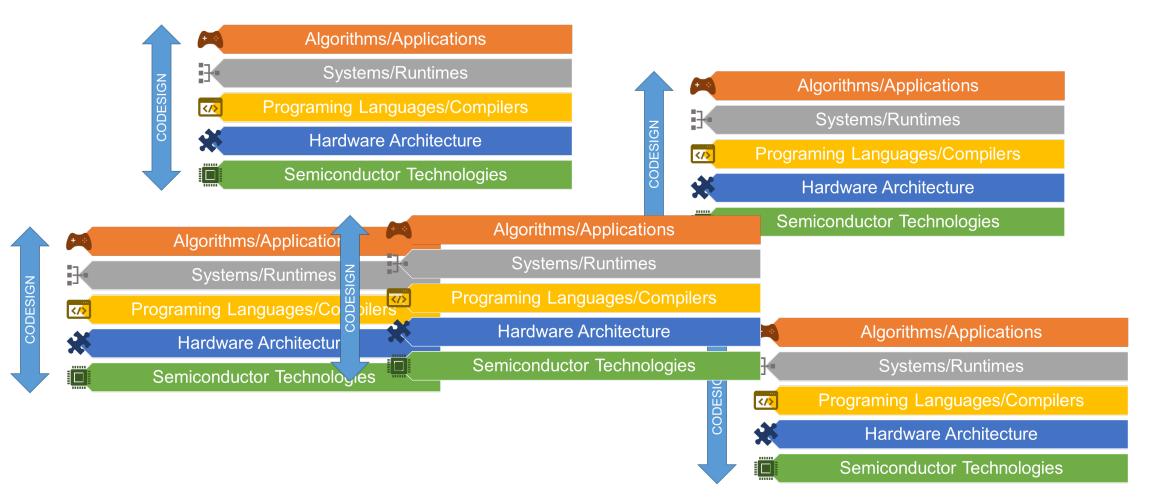


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Other Miscellaneous tasks Task		Gaussian	filter; histogram	Globally dense sto Memory I				Surfel Prediction Calculates active surfels in current frame	38%	Ve
FBO FBO state management	24%		buffer bind and cle	communica	ion			Map Fusion Updates map with new surfel information	11%	Vé
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Reprojection Applies reprojection transformation to image	MULs/vertex fragm			ccesses uniform, vertex, and gment buffers; 3 texture cesses/fragment			Normalization INT16 to FP32		7	
Task		Time Computation			Memory Pattern			Encoding Sample to soundfield		8
Hologram-to-depth Propagates pixel phase to depth plane		57%	Transcendenta		Dense row-major; spati			mapping		
		TB-wide tree reduction pixel data; temporal locality in depth data; reduction in scratchpad						Summation HOA soundfield summation		
Sum Sums phase differences from hologram-to-depth		< 0.1%	Tree reduction	Dense row-major; reduction in scratchpad				1	Task Reta	
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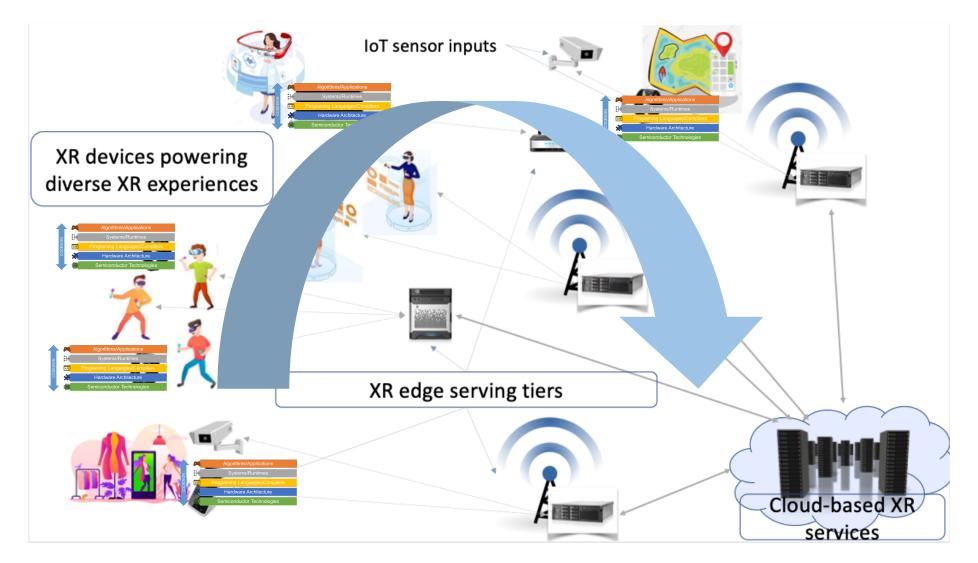






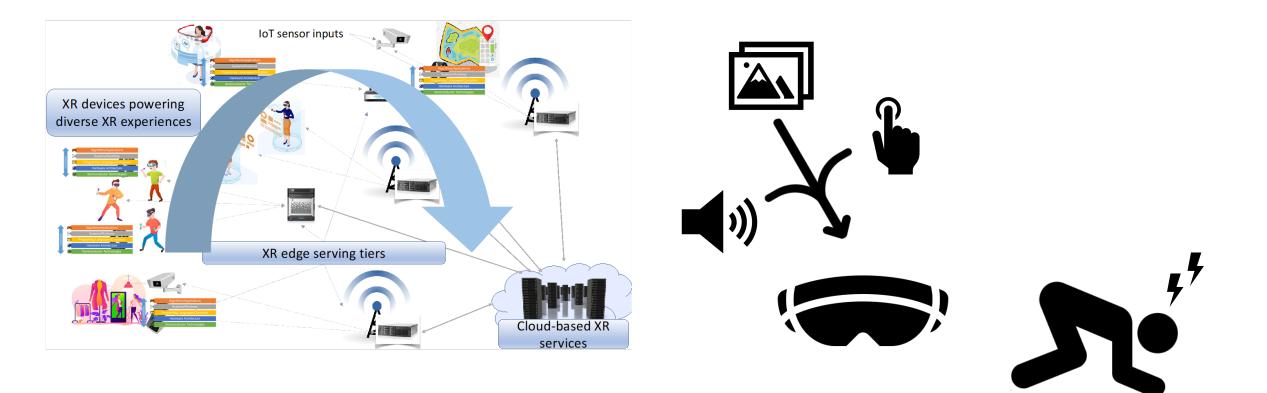








Distributed system figure from Gavrilovska



### End-to-end QoE-driven, full system codesign



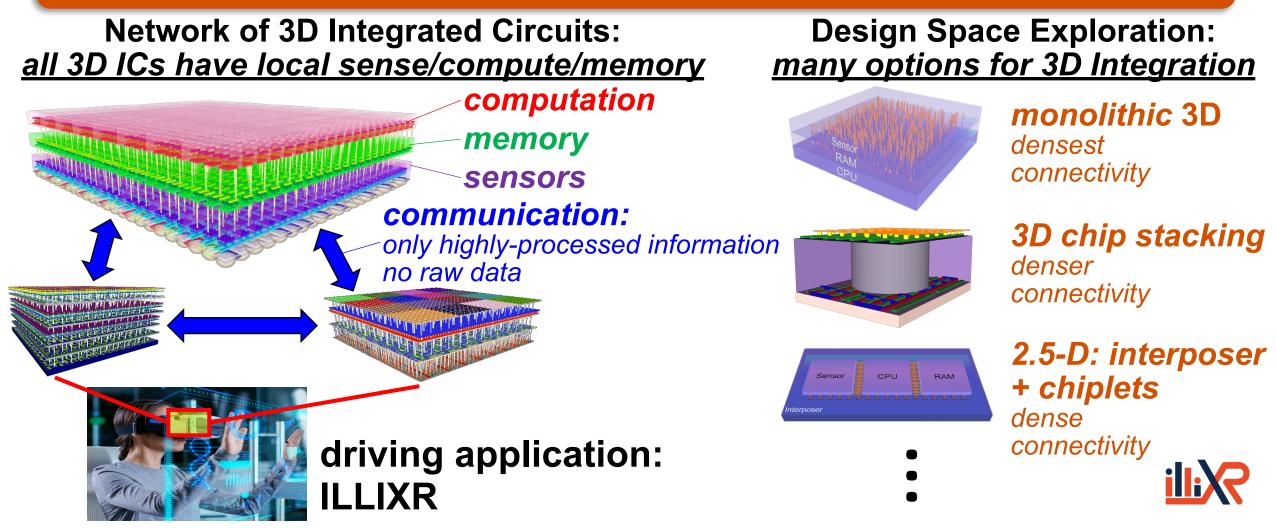
### **Research with ILLIXR**



### **3D-Integrated Sense/Compute/Memory/Communication for XR**

w/ D. Brooks, G. Hills

Enables ultra-low latency "sense-to-processed information" architectures + alleviates data communication bottlenecks

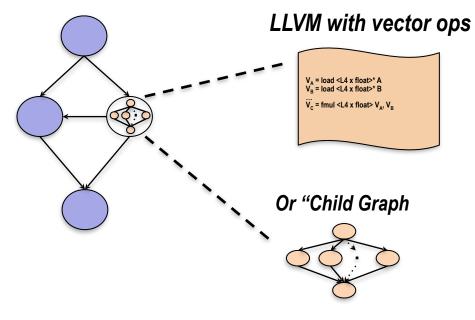


### **Representing Heterogeneous Parallelism in Software**

w/V. Adve and S. Misailovic

#### HPVM: Heterogeneous Parallel Virtual Machine [PPoPP18, OOPSLA19, PPOPP21]

Compiler IR and Hardware Virtual ISA



Representing ILLIXR in HPVM

Model: Hierarchical dataflow graph with side effects Captures

- coarse grain task parallelism
- streams, pipelined parallelism
- nested parallelism
- SPMD-style data parallelism
- fine grain vector parallelism

& data communication

Supports high-level optimizations as graph transformations

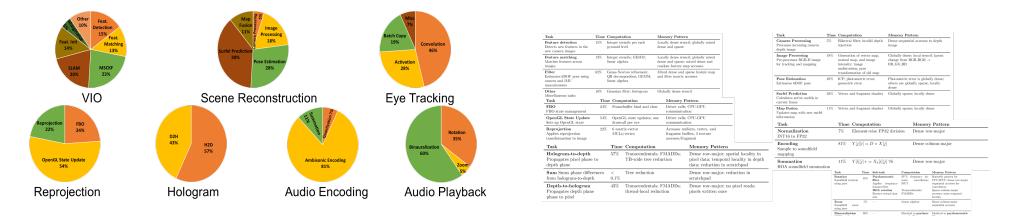
Targets: CPUs, vector extensions, GPUs, FPGAs, domain specific accelerators [so far, SoC; now distributed system]

For code generation, automated accelerator selection, approximation, resource mapping, distributed systems, ...



### Automated Selection, Generation of Accelerator HW & SW

w/ V. Adve, D. Brooks, V. Reddi, G.-Y. Wei



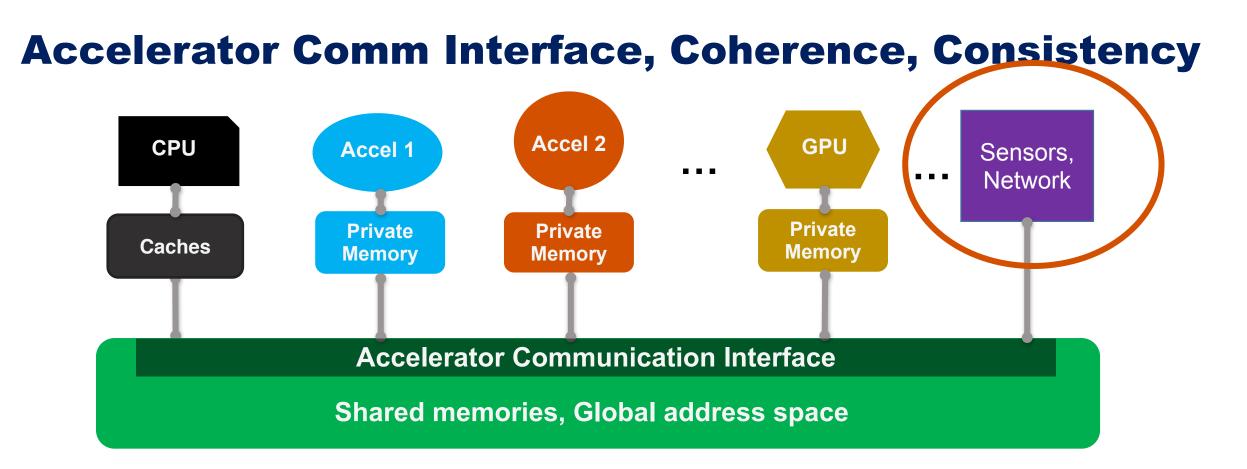
Manual identification of common compute, memory patterns

⇒ Cross-component co-design allows hardware, computation, and data reuse w/ large benefits

Automated design space exploration to identify profitable acceleration, generate HW+SW

- Use HPVM's parallelism representation
- Recent results for automated design space exploration w/ loop, task, streaming parallelism
  - ~2X better performance for same area vs. using sequential LLVM representation [in review]
- Ongoing: Compiler analysis and transformations for common patterns and optimizations, code generation, resource mapping





- How should heterogeneous parallel accelerators, sensors, network i/f, ... communicate w/ each other?
- Programmable, shared hardware  $\Rightarrow$  shared memory
  - Coherence, consistency, communication
  - Build on Spandex heterogeneous coherence interface for coherence specialization [ISCA18, TACO'22]

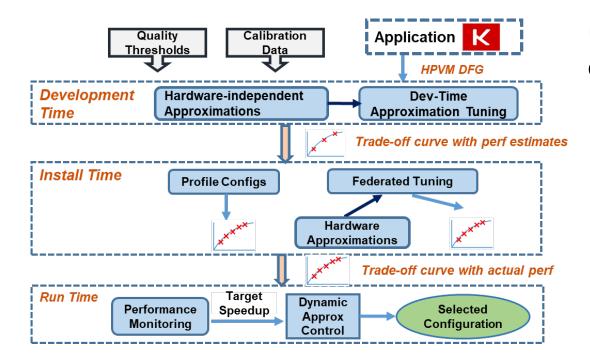


# **Automated Approximation Selection**

w/ V. Adve and S. Misailovic

#### ApproxTuner [PPoPP21]

Combines multiple software and hardware approximations for tensor operations



Uses predictive models to compose accuracy impact of multiple approximations

3-phase approximation tuning

- Development-time preserves hardware portability via ApproxHPVM IR
- Install-time allows hardware-specific approximations
- Run-time allows dynamic approximation tuning

#### Approximations for ILLIXR

Build on ApproxTuner for QoE-driven automated selection



# **End-to-End Cross-Component Co-Design**

#### Scene reconstruction

- Co-design with other upstream and downstream components
- Co-design Hardware + System software + Algorithm
- So far 69X better energy/frame w/ only SW (vs. InfiniTAM)
- Hardware accelerator in progress
- Eye tracked foveated rendering (w/ NVIDIA)
  - How to trade off accuracy among components?

Disciplined end-to-end accuracy driven approximation w/ Aprox

- Foveated video image quality metrics

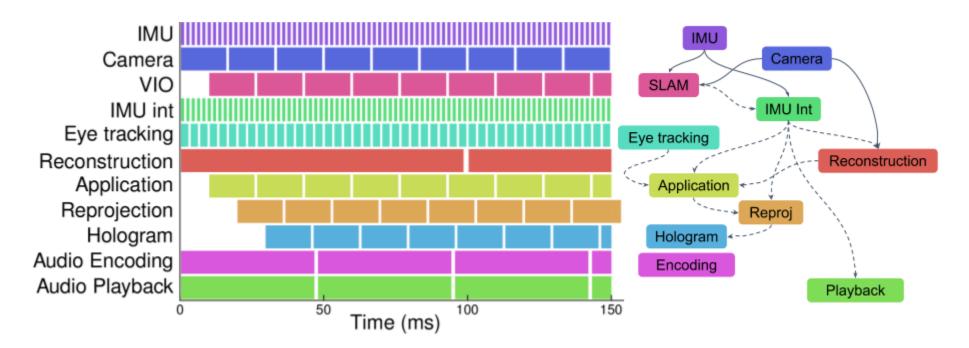






# **QoE-Driven Scheduling**

w/ P. B. Godfrey, R. Mittal



ILLIXR task graph is a DAG with multiple critical paths and QoE constraints

Scheduler goal: Determine frame rates and schedule to meet QoE for given hardware mapping Preliminary results: Lower MTP than Linux baseline on single core CPU

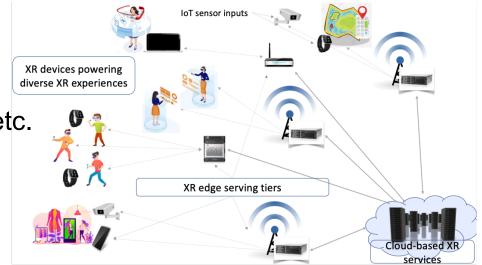
Ongoing: Multiple hardware targets for given task, hardware and software approximations



# **Offloading to Remote Servers**

w/A. Gavrilovska, Godfrey, Hassanieh, Intel

- Offloading computation to remote compute
  - Recent support in ILLIXR
  - What to offload, when, where?
    - Depends on compression, transmission energy, etc.
    - Integrate with scheduler
  - Impact of network
    - Intel's Wireless Time Sensitive Networking
    - mmWave
  - Impact on accelerator design, algorithm, scheduler

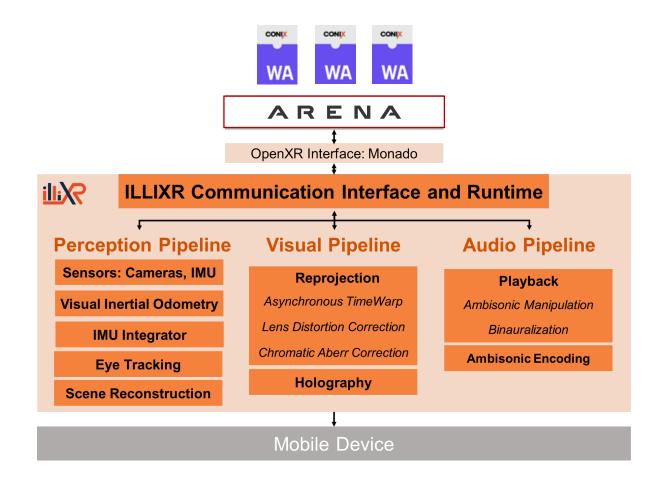


# **Multi-User Immersive Systems**

w/A. Gavrilovska, Nahrstedt, Rowe

Multiuser XR experiences

- Devices, edge, cloud distributed computing
- Step 1: ILLIXR + CMU's ARENA for distributed services



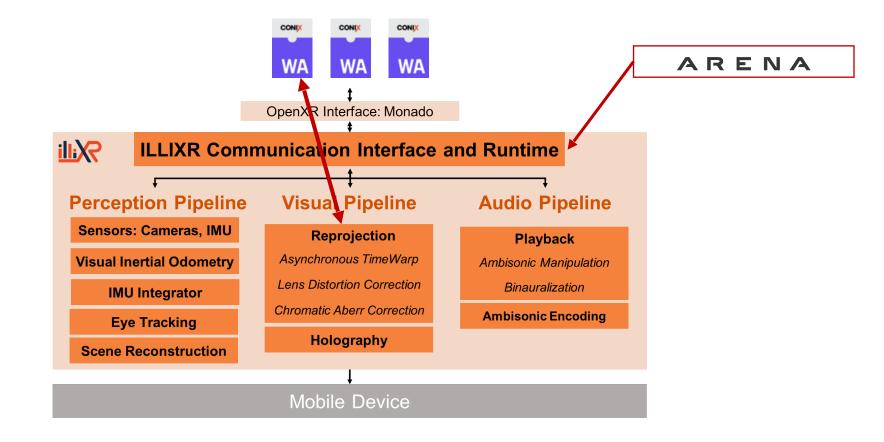


## **Multi-User Immersive Systems**

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### **And More**

- Eye tracking + Holograms [Sivasubramanium et al., Micro'21]
- Security and Privacy
- 360 Video streaming
- Multiparty AR programming stack
- Displays

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- On-sensor computing
- QoE metrics
- XR algorithms

# **A New Immersive Era**

Will transform how we design, program, and use computers

### We need new style of research



End-to-end QoE-driven, full system codesign

**Build systems** 

Chips, compilers, runtimes, apps

User studies

Large teams

### We need new style of reviewing

ILLIXR paper rejected four times from top conferences

### We need new style of funding

We were fortunate to be part of the DARPA/SRC funded ADA center, DARPA DSSOC project IBM/Pradip Bose + 3 univs, (recently) NSF CISE Community Research Infrastructure



# **ILLIXR: Illinois Extended Reality Testbed**

ILLIXR is a rich playground for immersive systems research Consortium for immersive systems research, development, and benchmarking *Join us: illixr@cs.illinois.edu, illixr.org, discord, open meetings on Wed@11a CT* 

