

# 25 Years of interACT: A Success Story for International and Crossdisciplinary Cooperation

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KIT-FOCUS ANTHROPOMATICS AND ROBOTICS



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#### interACT: research competence world wide



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## interACT – how it all began...



1991: Joint lab of Alex Waibel at University of Karlsruhe and Carnegie Mellon University



## interACT – how it all began...



- 2004 official foundation of the international center for Advanced Communication Technologies
- 2004 official signing @ CMU by Presidents Horst Hippler (KIT) and Jared Cohon (CMU)



## interACT – how it all began...



- 2007 Hong Kong University of Science and Technology
- 2008 Waseda-University, Tokyo, Japan



Waseda-President Shirai, Minister Frankenberg, Alex Waibel

## interACT – how it all began



#### 2010 :

- National Institute of Information and Communications Technology (NICT)
- University of Southern California
- Fondazione Istituto Italiano di Tecnologia (IIT)
- 2012 Nara Institute of Science and Technology (NAIST)



KIT-President Hippler and NAIST-President Isogai, 2012

## interACT's Mission



Neither Export nor Import, but Collaboration between the Best:

#### Education

- Educate Internationally Experienced Scientists
- Adept to work in International Teams
- Build Alliances between the Best
- Research
  - Develop Advanced Communication Technologies
  - Build Technology that makes Collaboration and Communication Easier
  - Facilitate Joint Projects and Joint Funding

## interACT's tasks





### interACT Student Exchange



- 2004 2016: 160 students supported
- 41 Studien-, 52 Diplom-, 27 Bachelor-, 28 Master-, and 12 PhD Thesis at the partner universities



CMU-president Cohon with interACT-students at Universität Karlsruhe, June 2006

interACT students St. Gärtner, M. Völker, D. Hazer, S. Greiner, Mount Washinghton, Pittsburgh

interACT students D. Telaar and A. Fritz @ HKUST



### interACT Cooperations



More than 75 permanent cooperations established between professors of the partners



Waseda Associate Director A. Takanishi and interACT student H. Sperr at Waseda-University

## interACT Distinguished Lecture Series

- Sharing scientific know-how between partners
- Around 5 distinguished lectures per year





Tom Mitchel, CMU @ KIT, 2005



Randy Bryant, CMU @ KIT, 2013



Dekai Wu, HKUST @ KIT 2007

## Karlsruhe Institute of Technology

## interACT Summer Academies & Workshops

- Research workshops and academies with cross-institutional and crossnational emphasis
- interACT organised six summer academies in the last 10 years
- Strong support of the international evaluation campaign (IWSLT)



1st summer academy on "Summarization of Spoken Language", Pittsb. & Tokyo, 2004



IWSLT in Heidelberg, 2013



interACT-partners in the IWSLT-steering committee



interACT-partners at IWSLT 2012 @ HKUST

## interACT joint Projects and Research



- CLICS, interACT-Partners KIT & HKUST & Waseda & NAIST & CMU, Funding 1 Mio€ (2015-2018)
- EU-BRIDGE, interACT-Partner KIT & HKUST, Funding 8 Mio€, 1,5 Mio€ (nur KIT) 2012–2015
- Babel, interACT-Partner KIT & CMU, Budget 328.000€ (nur KIT), 2012-2014
- Xperience interACT-Partner KIT & IIT, Budget 1,6 Mio€ (nur KIT), 2011-2015
- WALK-MAN, interACT-Partner KIT& IIT, Budget: 960.000€ (nur KIT), 2013-2017
- **KoroiBot**, interACT-Partner KIT & IIT, 560.000€ (nur KIT), 2013-2016
- Autonomes Lernen, (Schwerpunktprogramm, DFG, NSF) (interACT-Partner, KIT & USC), 20.000€ (nur Reisekosten, KIT), 2014-2018
- CHIL, interACT-partners KIT & CMU, Funding: 15 Mio€, 2,4 Mio€ nur KIT, 2004-2007
- TC-STAR, interACT-partners KIT & CMU, Funding 5,9 Mio€, 567.500€ nur KIT, 2004-2007

## interACT Organisation

- Follows local organizational principles and operates in collaborative manner
- interACT director is Alex Waibel, associate directors at each partner
- interACT offices at all partners





interACT Director A. Waibel



## interACT Associate Directors



Each partner appointed an associate director:





Florian Metze, CMU



Pascale Fung, HKUST



AtsuoTakanishi, Waseda











### ....and some of the robots within InterACT









# Institute for Anthropomatics and Robotics (IAR) one of the Core Members of InterACT

KIT-FOCUS ANTHROPOMATICS AND ROBOTICS



KIT – University of the State of Baden-Wuerttemberg and National Research Center of the Helmholtz Association

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## ... the science of automatic handling for manufacturing, services, interaction with humans





Anthropomatics is ...



## ... the science of the symbiosis between human and machine





## **Institute for Anthropomatics and Robotics**



#### 9 Labs, approx. 150 members





### **Research Topics**



## Karlsruhe Institute of Technology

#### High Performance Humanoid Technologies (Asfour)

- Mechatronics and Mechano-Informatics
- Grasping and dexterous manipulation
- Learning from human observation
- Wearable robotics



#### interACT: The International Center for Advanced Communication Technologies

#### Humanoids and Intelligence Systems (Dillmann/Asfour)

Programming by Demonstration

Learning from human observation

Application in humanoid and service robotics







### Humanoids and Intelligence Systems (Dillmann)



#### Junior Research Group Computer-assisted Surgery (Speidel)

- Surgical Vision
- Intraoperative Sensor/Workflow Analysis
- Context-aware visualization
- Biomechanical Simulation







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#### Vision and Fusion (Beyerer)

- Automated Visual Inspection
  - Deflectometry in Infrared and Visual Spectrum, Ellipsometry
  - Detection and Identification of Surface Defects
  - Underwater Vision
- Human-Machine Interaction
  - Multi-Modal Interaction Methods
  - Interaction Techniques for Augmented Reality
- Semantic World Modeling
  - Open World Modeling for Cognitive Systems
  - Smart Surveillance Systems
  - Semantic Interoperability for Manufacturing Execution Systems







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#### Intelligent-Sensor-Actuator System (Hanebeck)

- Extended-Range Telepresence
  - Multi-modal interface
  - Navigation by walking in arbitrary-sized environments
  - Increased degree of immersion
- Self-organizing Sensor-Actuator-Networks
- Stochastic Model-Predictive Control



#### **Intelligent Industrial Robotics (Hein)**



Interaction technologies Industrial and Service Robots



interACT: The International Center for Advanced Communication Technologies

Control und Programming)

## Computer Vision for Human Computer Interaction (Stiefelhagen)



- Human-Robot Interaction
  - Person tracking, head and hand tracking, pointing gestures (3D), face recognition
- Smart enviroments
  - Smart crisis control room (work with Fraunhofer IOSB)
- Videoanalysis & Retrieval, Security, Surveillance
  - Interactive search in video
  - Recognition of politicians and VIPs
  - Gender, age, head orientation, interest, …
- Assistance systems for visually-impaired people





## 22/09/1

## Karlsruhe Institute of Technology

#### **Interactive Systems (Waibel)**

- Automatic Speech Recognition
- Simultaneous Machine Translation
- Translation of Lectures and Speeches
- Multimodal Dialog Systems

Partner Laboratory at Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, USA





#### 22/09/1

#### **Process Control, Automation and Robotics (Wörn)**





22/09/1

# Success of InterACT: Bringing the People together...















## **Thanks for Your Attention**

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