

Emanuele Ruffaldi

emanuele.ruffaldi@gmail.com

via Aurelia 61F, Torre del Lago Puccini (LU), Italy

+39 3291610680

<http://eruffaldi.com/>

Areas of Expertise

Machine Learning

Virtual and Augmented Reality

Wearable Technologies

Haptics

User Interaction and Evaluation in VE

Software Development

Project Management

Research Team Management

Experience

Assistant Professor, PERCRO, Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna

June 2007 to Present, Pisa, Italy

Research and development, team management and tutoring, multi partner research management, research project financial responsibility, EU grant writing. Lecturing (Interaction in Virtual Environments, Information Visualization and haptics related classes). Currently Principal Investigator (PI) of two European and two industrial projects.

> Leader of Sensing, Modeling and Learning for Humans Group

Since 2010

Engineering team management spanning several research projects. The group currently comprises 5 PhD students, 1 Post-doc and 4 master students. In the past tutored 3 PhDs and supervised 15 master theses.

> PI Research on Intention Recognition for Autonomous Driving

Since 2015

Industrial project for an automotive company aimed at estimating the behavior of vehicles in highway. Development of a C++ software framework based on probabilistic graphical models.

> Research on Diagnostician User Interface for Haptic Remote Medicine

December 2013 to Present

Research and Development on a new Augmented Reality interface for interacting with a remote USG and palpation robot based on encountered haptic paradigm. Leading research on the interaction, component selection, core development in C++/OpenGL guiding a new component framework for Mixed Reality interaction (DiagUI).

> Transfer of Human Abilities to Robot

November 2013 to December 2015, regional project – Research on a Baxter robot based system for the transfer of human abilities through robotics. Multi-camera sensor fusion, trajectory learning, AR feedback

> Pano stereoscopic system for tele-presence

March 2014 to November 2014, industrial collaboration - System definition, component selection, core development (C++/OpenGL) and optimization for a system based on 5 pairs of cameras for real-time tele-presence and HMD.

> Platform for Sport Training in Virtual Environments

October 2006 to December 2011

Research, development and team coordination on a system for training Rowing in Virtual Environments (SPRINT) based on a multimodal platform. The system employed audio feedback, vibrotactile feedback, motion capture, integration of sensors such as VO2. Architecture design, interaction design, definition of feedback, 3D graphics development. Supervision of a PhD during the period and coordination of the team involving multiple partners for the development of the platform and execution of experiments.

> PI on Ergonomic Assessment using Wearable Systems

Since 2012 to Present, ministry of health and industrial collaboration with telecom company

Research, development and management of a system for the real-time assessment of workload based on a wearable system capable of precision reconstruction of arm motion and EMG workload. Reconstruction algorithm core development based on UKF in C++/Eigen, co-development and optimization of the firmware STM32 in C. Experiment design and component selection.

> Mobile Haptic Platform for Rehabilitation

March 2009 to Present, industrial collaboration and regional/European funding

Research and development of the MOTORE mobile rehabilitation device, currently being commercialized. Software platform design and development in C++/Qt (32kLOC), contribution to the design of the haptic rendering, co-development and optimization of the firmware in Simulink and C, communication protocol, project management.

> **Machine Learning Anomaly Detection for Industry**

January 2011 to 2015

Research and team management for the creation of new algorithms, development and plant integration of systems for the identification of anomalies in data. Applied in a C++ software for the Italian electric utility.

> **Haptic Rendering and Interaction for Virtual Textiles**

January 2010 – March 2011

Development of an interaction system for the haptic interaction with virtual textiles simulated using a FEM model. Algorithm and interaction design, development in C++ and OpenGL.

> **Haptic Virtual Laboratory**

January 2008 to September 2008

Design and development of a system for the execution of multi user experiments involving haptic rendering and physics based simulation. Implemented in C++, OpenGL and XVR.

> **Information Landscape Visualization System**

Since 2002 to 2010

Research and development of a system for immersive data visualization. The system has been developed in C++/OpenGL and designed to work in different types of Virtual Environments, from CAVE to HMDs.

Research Fellow, PERCRO, Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna

June 2006 to May 2007, Pisa, Italy

Contribution to the definition of the system architecture of a haptic simulation of interaction of textiles (HAPTEX). Development of a framework in C++/OpenGL/Chai3D for the design of haptic-enabled games and applications

Visiting Researcher, Stanford CS Department, BioRobotics Lab

September 2005 to June 2006, Stanford CA

Research and development on Haptic Rendering working on the haptic interaction with volumetric models for Maxillo-Facial planning and on standardized evaluation of algorithms.

Education

Visiting Researcher, Stanford CS Department, BioRobotics Lab

September 2005 to June 2006, Stanford CA

Ph.D. CS & Robotics, Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna

January 2003 to June 2006, Pisa, Italy – on Haptic Rendering, with Honors

Visiting Scholar, University College of London CS Department

June 2003 to August 2003, London, UK

Diploma of Engineering, Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna

October 1997 to October 2002, Pisa, Italy – on Immersive Visualization, with Honors

MS in CS Engineering, University of Pisa

October 1997 to October 2002, Pisa, Italy

Technical Competences

Main language: C++ and cross-platform programming. Use of C++ since 1995 in networked, multi-threaded applications ranging from robotics, virtual reality and machine learning. Library and tools development. Usage of several libraries such as Qt, Eigen, OpenCV, PCL and CHAI3D. Parallel and GPU computing with OpenMP and CUDA.

Additional languages: Python, Matlab/Simulink

Artificial Intelligence and Data Processing: Keras, Probabilistic Graphical Models

3D and Virtual Reality technologies: OpenGL, WebGL, HMD/CAVE, Vicon Motion Capture

Platforms: Linux, cross-platform development, Windows system internals, experience in ARM STM32

Research Products

Patents: 1 granted, 1 application

Publications: publications in the areas of virtual and augmented reality, human-robot interaction, haptic rendering, human training in virtual environments, wearable sensing, machine learning: 17 ISI Journal papers, 84 peer-reviewed conference papers, 10 book chapters, 29 posters and workshops, 9 invited talks. H-Index: 14 (Scholar), 10 (Scopus). Best poster award at MMVR14.