9-2012

The fat thumb: Using the thumb's contact size for single-handed mobile interaction

Sebastian BORING

David LEDO

Xiang 'Anthony' CHEN

Anthony TANG
Singapore Management University, tonyt@smu.edu.sg

Anthony TANG

See next page for additional authors

Citation

Author

Sebastian BORING, David LEDO, Xiang 'Anthony' CHEN, Anthony TANG, Anthony TANG, and Saul
GREENBERG

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Sebastian Boring
University of Calgary
2500 University Dr. NW
Calgary, AB, T2N 1N4, Canada
sebastian.boring@ucalgary.ca

David Ledo
University of Calgary
2500 University Dr. NW
Calgary, AB, T2N 1N4, Canada
dledomai@ucalgary.ca

Xiang 'Anthony' Chen
University of Calgary
2500 University Dr. NW
Calgary, AB, T2N 1N4, Canada
anthony.xiangchen@ucalgary.ca

Nicolai Marquardt
University of Calgary
2500 University Dr. NW
Calgary, AB, T2N 1N4, Canada
nicolai.marquardt@ucalgary.ca

Anthony Tang
University of Calgary
2500 University Dr. NW
Calgary, AB, T2N 1N4, Canada
tonyt@ucalgary.ca

Saul Greenberg
University of Calgary
2500 University Dr. NW
Calgary, AB, T2N 1N4, Canada
saul.greenberg@ucalgary.ca

Abstract
Modern mobile devices allow a rich set of multi-finger interactions that combine modes into a single fluid act. Such gestures may require the use of both hands: one holding the device while the other is interacting. While on the go, however, only one hand may be available to both hold the device and interact with it. In this demo, we present the Fat Thumb interaction technique, which uses the thumb's contact size as a form of simulated pressure. We present how this can be used, for example, to integrate panning and zooming into a single interaction. Contact size determines the mode (i.e., panning with a small size, zooming with a large one), while thumb movement performs the selected mode.

Author Keywords
Mobile device; touch-screen; single-handed interaction

ACM Classification Keywords
H.5.2: User Interfaces: Input Devices and Strategies.

Accompanying Paper
Boring, S., Ledo, D., Chen, X., Marquardt, N., Tang, A., Greenberg, S. The Fat Thumb: Using the Thumb's Contact Size for Single-Handed Mobile Interaction. *In Proc. MobileHCI*, ACM Press (2012).