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Augmenting Touch Expressivity to Improve the Touch Modality

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During the last few decades, interactive touch surfaces have become more and more ubiquitous. Whether for tablets, smartphones or laptops, touch surfaces are used by the majority of us on a daily basis. However, the limited expressivity of touch - the different channels used to convey information to the system - drastically restricts the amount of functionality that can be controlled via touch. For instance, a typical smartphone touchscreen only provides the absolute position of a contact on the screen, thus applications have only one way to carry out tasks (which can augment user frustration or cap performances) or restrict possibilities (e.g., Photoshop on desktop offers more than 600 commands but only 40 on smartphones and tablets). In this talk, I will present an overview of my ongoing research and discuss different ways to tackle this problem, to augment touch expressivity and improve user efficiency: from tools that helps better designing touch interfaces to the use of new input dimensions in original interaction techniques.

Monday, October 30th @ 11:30am
Information Technology Centre, room ITC317