

An overview of head tracking integral imaging three-dimensional display using smart pseudoscopic-to-orthoscopic conversion

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ABSTRACT

We overview a previously reported head tracking integral imaging three-dimensional (3D) display to extend viewing angle accommodated to a viewer's position without the crosstalk phenomenon. A head detection system is applied to obtain the head position and rotation of a viewer, and a new set of elemental images is then computed using the smart pseudoscopic-to-orthoscopic conversion (SPOC) method for head tracking 3D display. Experimental results validate the proposed method for high quality 3D display with large viewing angle.

Keywords: Integral imaging, pseudoscopic-to-orthoscopic conversion, 3D image processing; 3D display, head tracking.

1. INTRODUCTION

Integral imaging (InIm) [1]-[3] is an autostereoscopic three-dimensional (3D) imaging technology which can provide continuous viewing points and 3D visualization without any special viewing glasses. A 3D scene can be recorded as multi-perspective 2D images by using a single imaging sensor with a lenslet array or an array of imaging sensors [4]. The 2D images capture both the directional information and intensity information of a scene. Integral imaging 3D optical reconstruction is the reverse process of the 3D sensing. The multi-perspective 2D images are displayed on a display screen, light rays from the screen pass through a lenslet array and integrate in the space to form a 3D image [5].

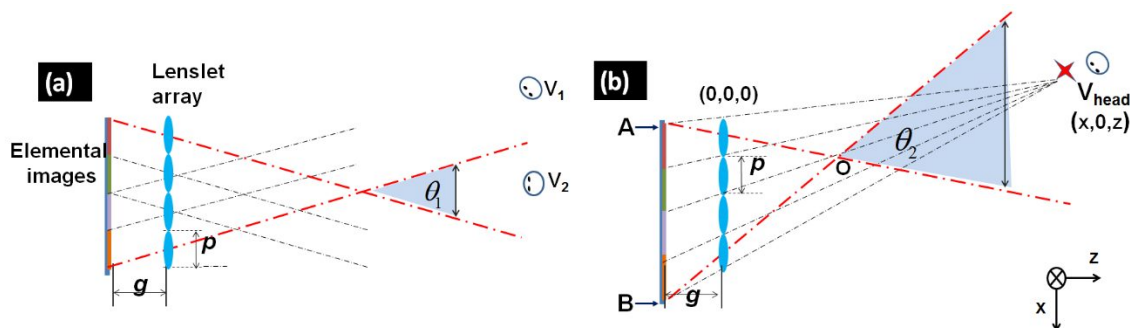


Fig. 1. The viewing angle of an InIm display. (a) For the conventional InIm display. (b) For the head tracking InIm with a specific viewing position. p is the pitch of the lenslet, g is the distance between the display panel and the lenslet, θ_1 and θ_2 are the viewing angles of conventional and head tracking InIm, respectively [14].

The main performance factors for a conventional integral imaging display system include the resolution quality, 3D image depth of focus, and the viewing angle. Methods and techniques are introduced to improve the performance of the integral imaging 3D display system [5]-[8]. For a conventional InIm optical display, the viewing angle depends on (1) the distance between the elemental image and the lenslet, and (2) the pitch of each lenslet. As shown in Fig. 1(a), high quality 3D image is provided within the angle $\theta_1 = 2\arctan(p/2g)$ [9]. If observed with an angle larger than θ_1 , pixels in one elemental image may pass through the adjacent lenslet to form a 3D image, which may cause the crosstalk

phenomenon and degrades the 3D image quality. Research works have been done to analyze and solve the problem [10]-[13].

In this paper, we present an overview of a previously reported head tracking InIm 3D display system [14] to enhance the viewing angle using the smart pseudoscopic-to-orthoscopic conversion (SPOC) method [15][16]. Head tracking technology is considered for 3D display. A head tracking system is added for obtaining the observer's viewing parameters. The elemental images will be re-generated corresponding to the detected viewing position. Fig. 1(b) illustrates the viewing angle of the head tracking InIm 3D display using new elemental images generated with the observer's position. This paper is organized as follow: Section. 2 describes the process about the generation of a new elemental image array using the SPOC method. Then the experimental results are explained in Section. 3, and the conclusion is given in Section. 4.

2. GENERATION OF AN ELEMENTAL IMAGE ARRAY FOR HEAD TRACKING 3D DISPLAY

The SPOC method is first introduced in [15] to solve the depth reverse problem of the InIm optical display with full control of the system parameters [17]. The previously proposed method for head tracking 3D display using SPOC is depicted in Fig. 2. By using the SPOC method, a new set of elemental images is computationally generated combining the real captured elemental images and the detected observer's viewing position with fully controllable system parameters.

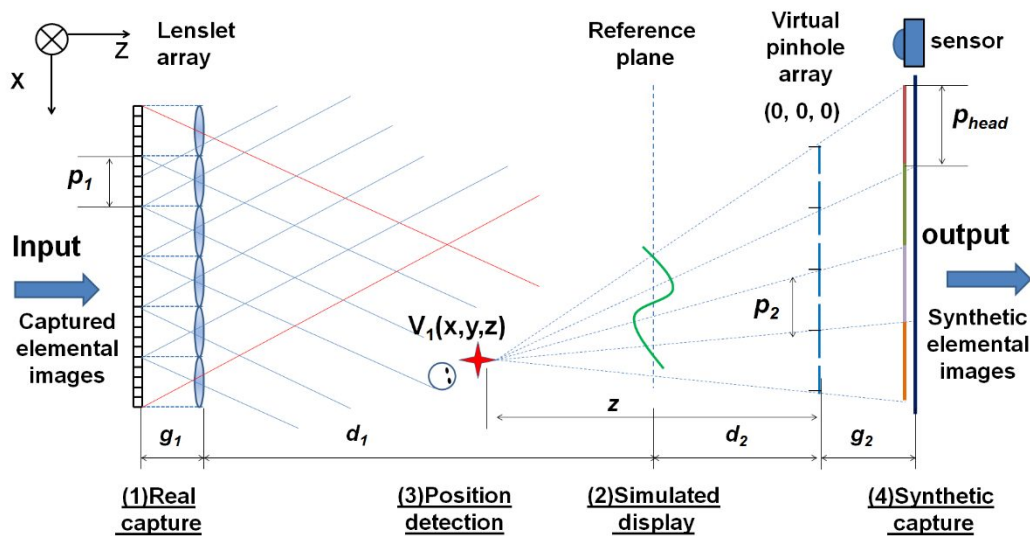


Fig. 2. Generation of a new set of elemental images for the previously reported head tracking InIm 3D display. In the pickup stage, p_1 is the pitch of the lenslet, g_1 is the distance between the display screen and the lenslet, and d_1 is the distance from the lenslet to the reconstruction plane. In the synthetic capture stage, all the system parameters depend on the display system. d_2 is the distance between the reference plane and the virtual pinhole array, g_2 is the distance between the virtual pinholes and the synthetic elemental images, and p_2 is the pitch of the virtual pinholes [14].

There are four general steps for the previously proposed head tracking InIm 3D display method [14]: (1) Pickup process of InIm. A 3D scene is captured based on the conventional InIm, the 3D information is recorded as a set of elemental images with different perspectives, which is named the capture elemental images. (2) Simulated display. The captured elemental images are computationally reconstructed in the 3D space with various in-focus depth planes. (3) Viewing position detection. A head tracking system is used to detect and calculate the observer's viewing position. (4) Synthetic capture. A virtual pinhole array model is set based on the 3D display system and the detected viewing position to generate a new set of synthetic elemental images for head tracking 3D display.

An IR sensor is placed on the plane which is identical with the display system, the signal from an IR clip which is attached with the observer is captured by the sensor and then calculate the viewing position. Once the viewing position is obtained, pixel mapping from the captured elemental images to the synthetic elemental images is conducted through the detected viewing position and the pinhole array model. Note that the parameters in the simulated display stage are based on the real pickup process, however, the parameters in the synthetic capture stage depends on the 3D display system. As

an advantage of the SPOC method, the synthetically generated elemental images are fully controllable with all the parameters [15][17], it works well even if the corresponding parameters in the pickup process are different with the 3D display system.

3. EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS

We show the experimental results between the previously proposed head tracking 3D InIm display system [14] and a conventional 3D display. A head tracking device (TrackIR 5.2™) was used in the experiment. The sensor was located on the display plane to obtain the observer’s viewing position. A 3D scene (letters “3” and “D”) was generated by a software (3dsMax). The letters “3” and “D” are located at 40 mm and 60 mm from the sensor, respectively. With the captured elemental images, a reference plane was set in the center of the 3D scene ($d_l = 50\text{mm}$) for simulated display. The resolution of the display screen (HTC-One) is 1920 (H) $\times$ 1080 (V) pixels with the pixel size of $\sim 54\text{ }\mu\text{m}$. The pitch of the lenslet is 1 mm, and the distance (g_2) between the lenslet array and the display screen is 3.3 mm. We set the distance (d_2) between the reference plane and the virtual pinhole array as 20 mm. As a result, the 3D image can be displayed around 20 mm from the display screen. The specifications of the real capture and synthetic capture are shown in Table I [14].

Table I. Specifications of the real capture and synthetic capture for the experiments [14].

Specifications	Real capture	Synthetic capture
g (mm)	6.03 (g_l)	3.30 (g_2)
d (mm)	50 (d_l)	20 (d_2)
Elemental images (EI)	7 (H) $\times$ 7 (V)	104 (H) $\times$ 58(V)
Size of each lenslet (mm)	5 (H) $\times$ 5 (V)	1 (H) $\times$ 1 (V)
Resolution of EI (pixels)	2000 (H) $\times$ 2000(V)	18 (H) $\times$ 18 (V)

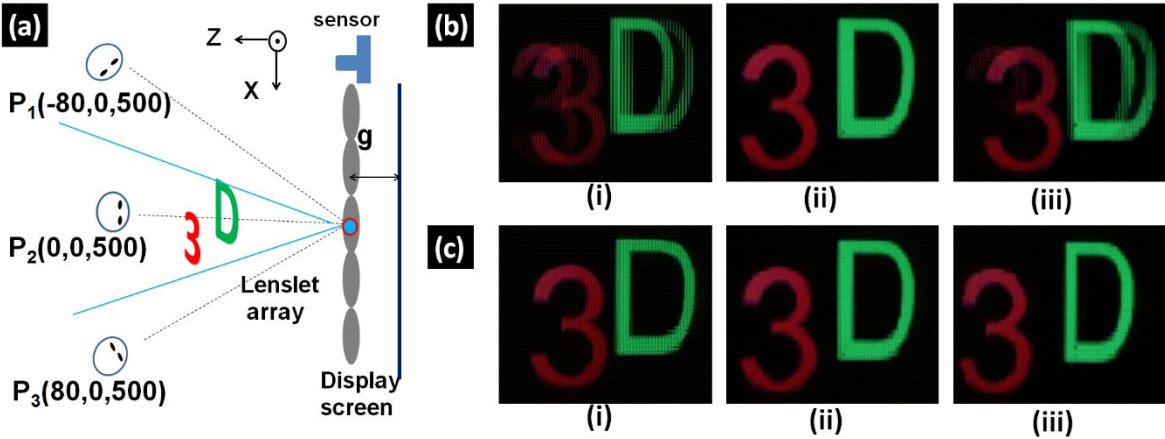


Fig. 3. (a) 3D display with different viewing positions (left view P_1 , center view P_2 , and right view P_3). Display results with (b) conventional InIm, and (c) head tracking InIm. Display results from (i) left view, (ii) center view and (iii) right view [14].

In the experiment, the acceptable viewing angle (FOV) of the conventional InIm is $17.2^\circ (\pm 8.6^\circ)$. If the viewing position is out of the FOV, the display results will be degraded due to the crosstalk. Fig. 3(a) illustrates the configuration of the head tracking 3D display experiment. Three positions (P_i , $i = 1, 2, 3$) were selected for observation. Fig. 3(b) shows the

corresponding display results by the conventional InIm. The viewing positions at P_1 and P_3 are out of the FOV. The observed 3D images are flipped. With the previously proposed head tracking 3D display, the display results are improved without image flipping at P_1 and P_3 , as shown in Fig. 3(c). If the 3D image is observed from the center position (P_2), both the conventional and head tracking 3D display can provide high quality display results, as shown in Figs. 3(b)(ii) and (c)(ii), respectively.

4. CONCLUSIONS

We present an overview of a previously reported head tracking integral imaging (InIm) 3D display for an extended viewing angle [14]. By implementing the smart pseudoscopic-to-orthoscopic conversion (SPOC) method, a new set of elemental images corresponding to a specific viewing position is computationally generated for head tracking 3D display. The experimental results show that the proposed system can eliminate crosstalk for a large viewing angle 3D display.

5. REFERENCES

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