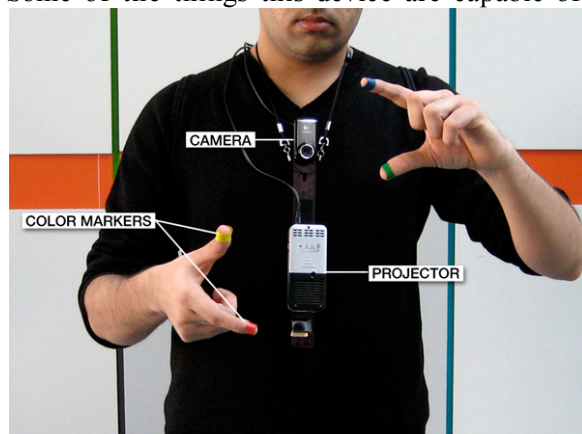


## Sixth Sense Computing

Many people have not yet heard of the small, non-profit, company TED (Technology, Entertainment, Design) or of Pranav Mistry and his 'SixthSense Technology' but it is thought by many that this technology will "change the whole dynamic of how the digital world and the real world operates". Pranav Mistry, currently a research assistant and PhD candidate at the MIT media lab, is the creator of the SixthSense technology which is a gestural interface design that augments the physical world with digital information.

The SixthSense is a portable device that the user wears around his or her neck and is comprised of a camera, a projector, colored markers (also needed is a smart phone). The camera is set to track the movements of the colored markers that the user has on their fingertips and sends the information to the smart phone to be processed; it can also take pictures and record videos. The colored markers that the user wears on their fingertips are comprised of red, yellow, green, and blue tapes which are tracked using algorithms. Finally, the projector displays the data onto most any surface.

Some of the things this device are capable of



are; virtually displaying the time on the users wrist, taking pictures from hand algorithms and storing them, searching the internet and displaying information onto different surfaces,

and much more. For a true understanding of the capabilities of this device, I suggest doing your own research and watching the demonstrations of Mistry using the device on youtube or on the TED website.

Another important aspect of the SixthSense device is that the total cost of the device would be about 300\$ (hardware) as Mistry is working to make the software open source and free to the public. This will allow users to build their own applications and make them available for the public. However, as a biomedical engineering major, I also saw the possibility for medical devices using the SixthSense. I believe that the tracking abilities of the camera can help improve such things as surgical procedures or rehabilitation techniques.

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