



AUSTRIAN ARMED FORCES
National Defence Academy




NATO S&T Organization

NATO MODELLING & SIMULATION GROUP

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AUSTRIAN ARMED FORCES
National Defence Academy

“Virtual Reality CBRN Defence” (16)

paper presentation:



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Overview

- ▶ **Problem & Motivation**
- ▶ **Requirements**
- ▶ **Design & Architecture**
- ▶ **Implementation**
- ▶ **User Study**
- ▶ **Conclusion & Future Work**





Problem Statement & Motivation

- ▶ **Learning under guidance in a controlled setting**
- ▶ **Real world training requires immense resources (financial costs, equipment, participants need to travel, ...)**
- ▶ **Some scenarios not possible to train in real world (wide-area contamination)**
- ▶ **Repetition of scenarios with different parameters**
- ▶ **Controllability of the scenario's characteristics**
- ▶ **Exposure to hazardous conditions**
- ▶ **After Action Review**





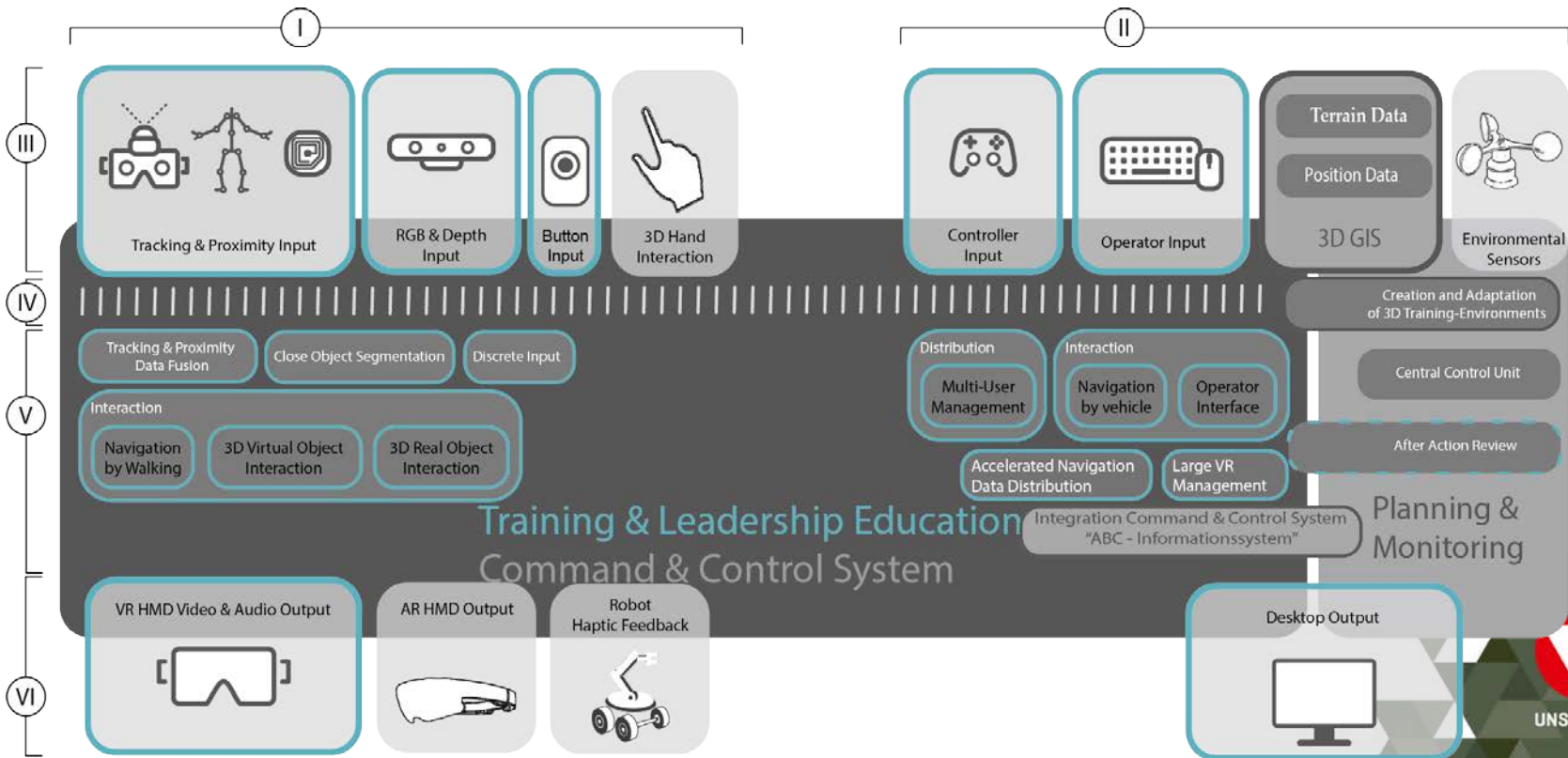
Requirements of CBRN Training

- ▶ **Three skill bundles with a high potential to be trained in VR were identified:**
 - ▶ CBRN-defence recce
 - ▶ Urban search and rescue
 - ▶ Skills for aircraft rescue
- ▶ **Derived technical requirements**
 - ▶ Movement (virtual and physical)
 - ▶ Manipulation of objects (virtual and physical)
 - ▶ Communication
 - ▶ Customization of Scenario Content & Parameters





System Design



Hardware

I. Virtual Reality Backpack

- ▶ Schenker XMG Walker (Intel Core i7, NVIDIA GeForce GTX 1070)

II. Head Mounted Display

- ▶ Oculus Rift Consumer Version

III. RFID-reader

IV. Motion capture suit

- ▶ Perception Neuron

V. Tracking camera

VI. RGB-D camera

- ▶ Intel Realsense



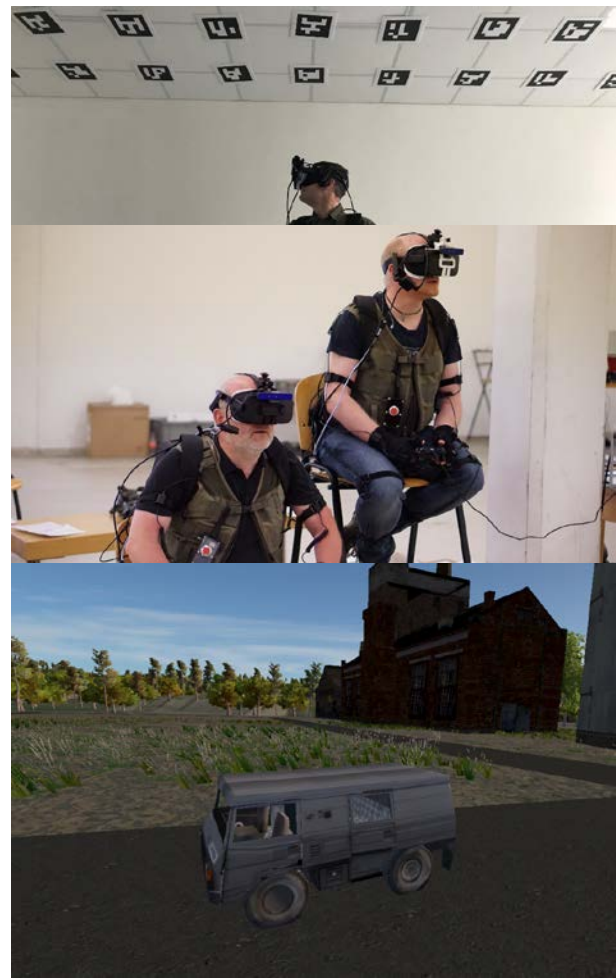
Tracking and Navigation

▶ Marker-based Head-tracking

- ▶ Inside-out tracking
- ▶ Natural navigation by walking
- ▶ Warehouse scale tracking
- ▶ Efficient implementation on GPU

▶ Gamepad

- ▶ Navigation by virtual vehicle
(Pinzgauer 710FM or Dingo)
- ▶ Wide-area navigation in virtual world



Interaction with Real Equipment

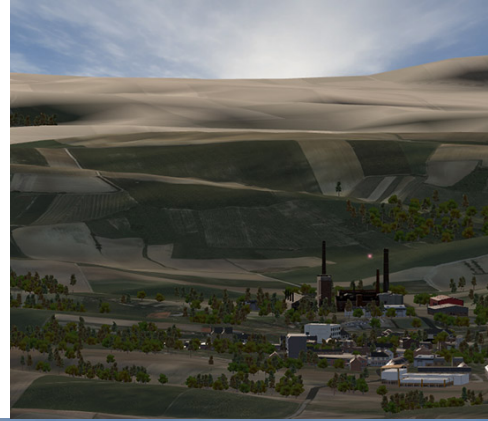
- ▶ **Augmented Reality Approach**
- ▶ **RFID and Motion Capture Suit**
 - ▶ Real items equipped with RFID-Tags
 - ▶ RFID-Reader on lower arm
 - ▶ Approximate item position in proximity of users' hands
 - ▶ Management of object ownership in multi-user scenarios
- ▶ **Arbitrary objects**
 - ▶ Map, ECAM, forms etc.





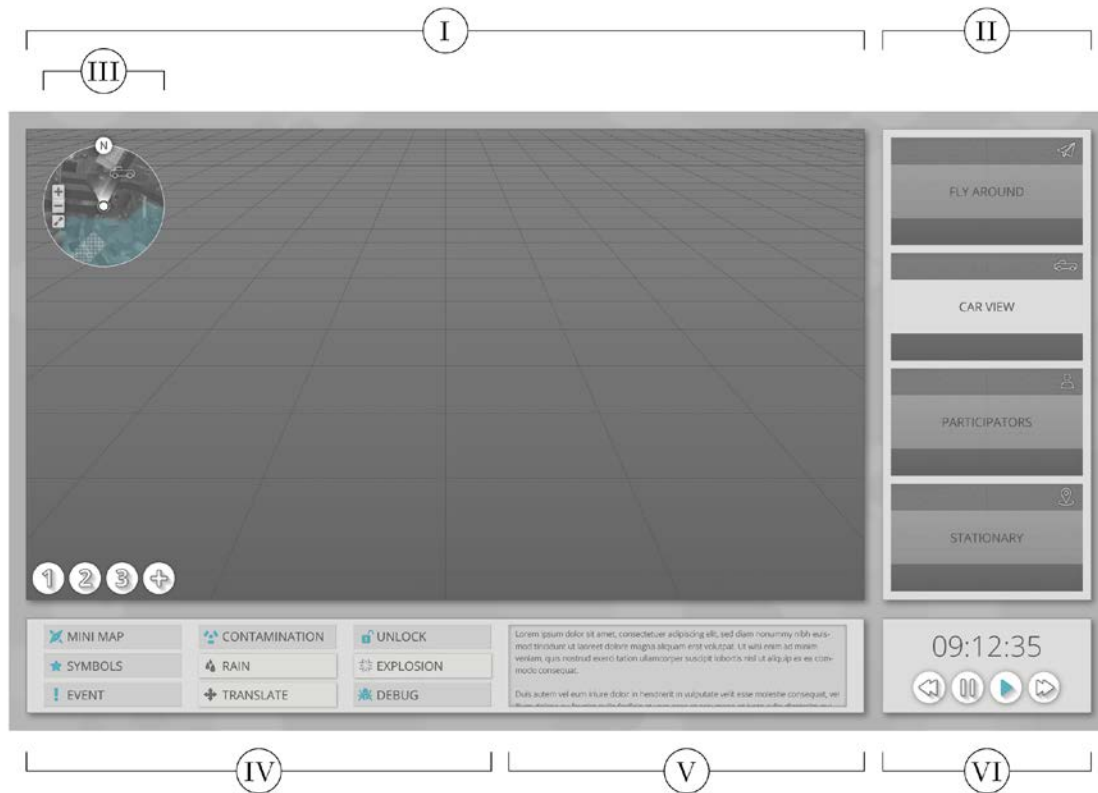
Application Scenario Implementation

- ▶ **CBRN Defence Recce**
 - ▶ Observation
 - ▶ Detection
- ▶ **Configurable Events**
 - ▶ Artillery
 - ▶ Air Strike
 - ▶ Configurable distribution of hazard materials on ground and air
- ▶ **Area of 10km x 10km**
 - ▶ Village with residential, administrative, commercial and industrial buildings
 - ▶ Based on GIS data
- ▶ **Airspace of 2500m**



Operator Interface

- I. Main scene view
- II. Four different camera perspective settings
- III. Minimap
- IV. Function keys
 - I. Trigger Events
 - II. Visualization options
 - III. Movement
- V. Debug output window
- VI. Time control and recording panel



Virtual Reality CBRN Defence

**Johannes Göllner, Andreas Peer, Christian Meurers, Gernot Wurzer
Christian Schönauer, Hannes Kaufmann, Chris Bösch**





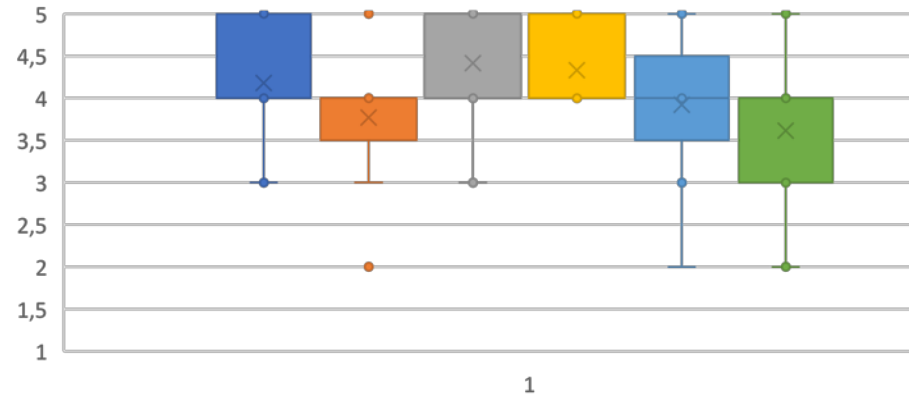
Evaluation

- ▶ **13 experts in CBRN defence**
 - ▶ Competence Center NBC
Defence of the Austrian Armed
Forces (AFF)
 - ▶ National Defence Academy
- ▶ **Two user studies during
development**
- ▶ **Questionnaires with a five point
Likert scale (1-5)**
- ▶ **Feedback implemented in
demonstrator**



Results Trainees

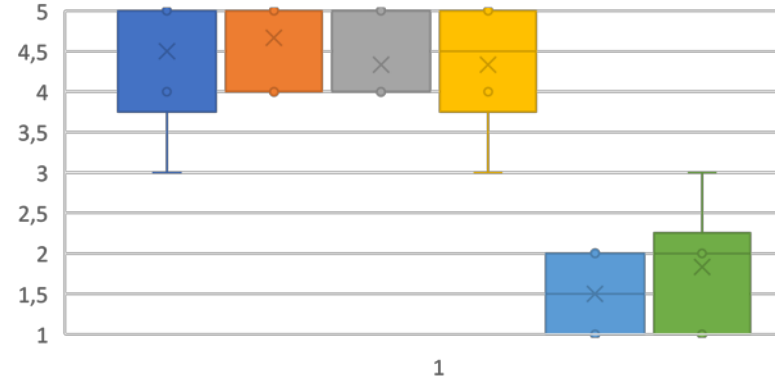
- ▶ **All participants agreed that the virtual environment can support training CBRN Defence**
- ▶ **All participants liked training with multiple users in VR**
 - ▶ Speed and quality of collaboration ok
- ▶ **Interaction speed and visual quality of real items good, but can be improved**
- ▶ **Text down to 10pt recognizable**
- ▶ **Interaction with virtual equipment**
 - ▶ Compass, height angle protractor very good
 - ▶ Others (ECAM, Menu) ok, but improved in latest version



- Navigation Gamepad Easy
- Navigation Wide-Area Tracking easy
- Interaction Real Devices Easy
- Interaction Virtual Compass
- Visual Quality Sufficient for Observation
- Visual Quality Sufficient for Detection

Results Trainer

- ▶ **Very positive feedback regarding usability**
 - ▶ Intuitive – little learning effort
 - ▶ Low complexity
 - ▶ Well integrated
- ▶ **All participants agreed that the operator interface can support training CBRN Defence**

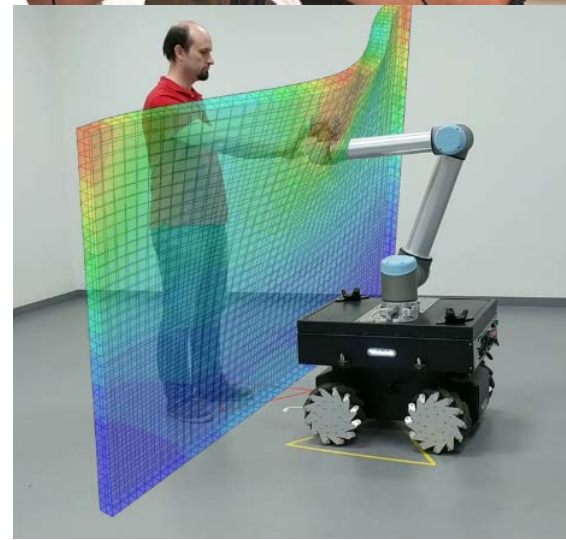


- Training easy to follow
- Interaction with Training easy
- Trainer View visually appealing
- Trainer view easy to handle
- Complexity of Trainer View
- Technician needed for Operation



Conclusion & Future Work (I)

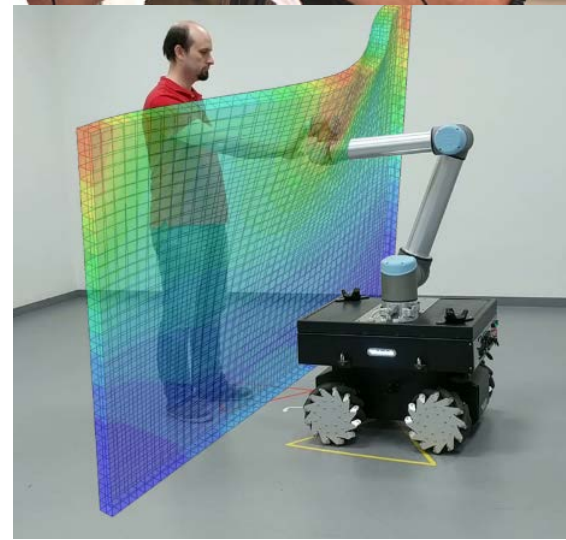
- ▶ **Demonstrator for immersive multi-user VR training**
 - ▶ Navigation
 - ▶ Interaction with virtual and real equipment
 - ▶ Collaborative training with multiple users
 - ▶ Wide-area training environment
 - ▶ Trainee evaluation and education in CBRN Defence (*After Action Review*)
- ▶ **Scenario CBRN Defence recce**
- ▶ **Evaluation**



Conclusion & Future Work (II)

► Future Prototype

- Extensions towards MR, with integration of an AR HMD and gesture interaction targeting requirements of a command and control system
- Integration of mobile robot platform for haptic feedback
- Integration of 3D GIS, “ABC (CBRN)-Informations-system” and a separate planning and monitoring module.
- Wider area of training scenarios in group-size
- Continuation within Austria's FORTE defence research program and more long term with funding from the European Defence Agency.





Conclusion & Future Work (III.1)

(related to After Action Review)

- ▶ **Competence & skill profiling and After Action Review Measuring**
 - ▶ **Leadership competences**
 - ▶ **Social competences**
 - ▶ **Personal competences**
 - ▶ **Professional competences**
 - ▶ **Methods competences**

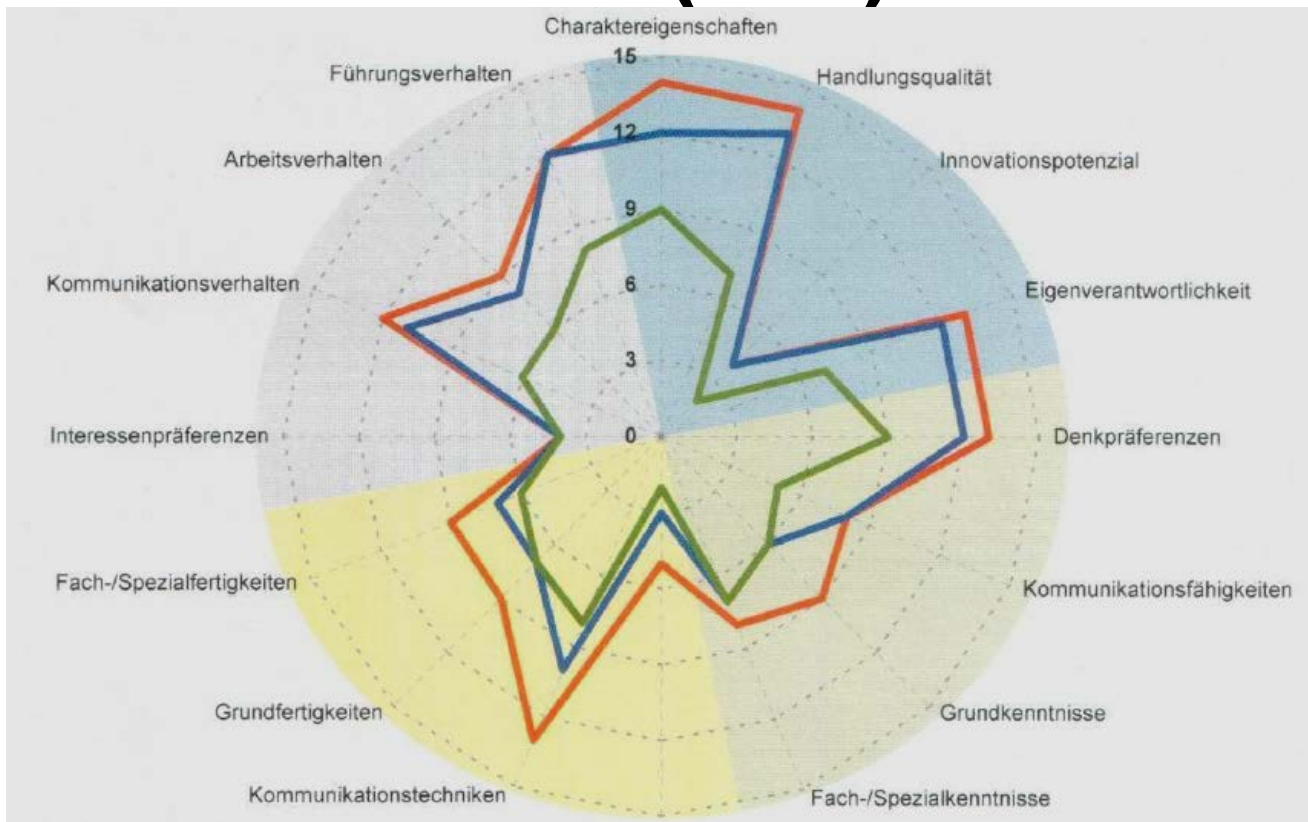




Conclusion & Future Work (III.2)

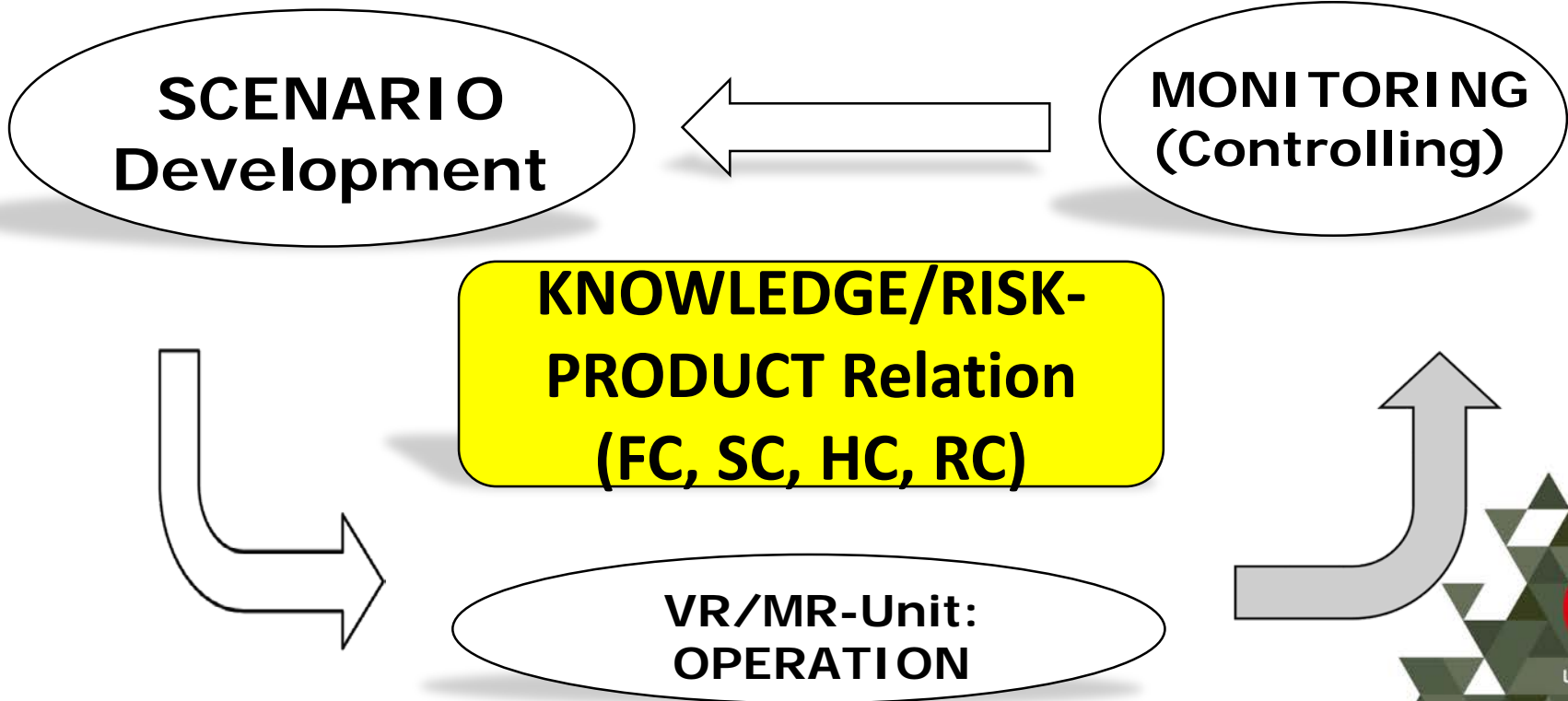
► Competence

Radar:





Conclusion & Future Work (III.3)





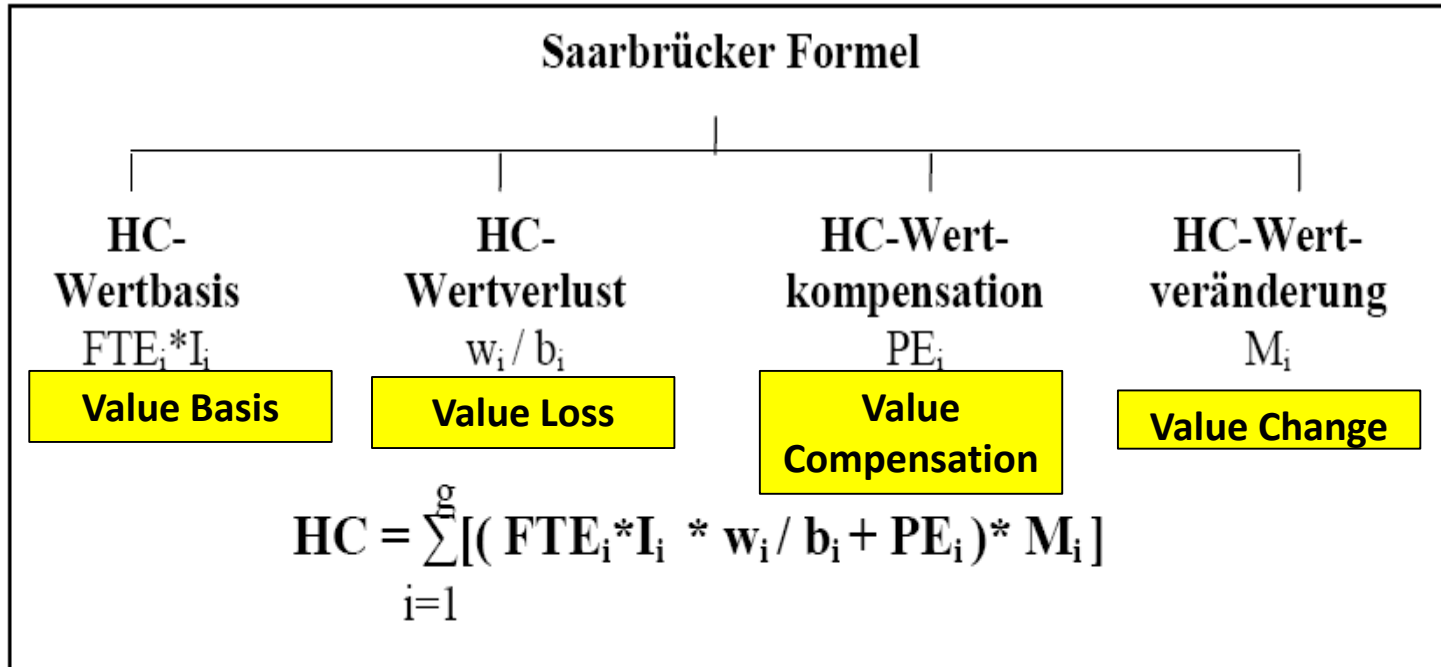
Conclusion & Future Work (III.4)

Human Capital – Measuring Models:

- ▶ **Input Models:** value of the HC = in employee invested sum of money
- ▶ **Output Models:** value of the HC = from employee earned profits
- ▶ **Comparison Value Models:** value of the HC = difference between at the employment market potentially achievable value and the transacted investments
- ▶ **Indicator Models:**
 - ▶ often only listings of indices
 - ▶ mostly approximations



Conclusion & Future Work (III.5)





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Thank you for your Attention !

Questions ?





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