



Assistive Augmentation Technologies

Guest Editors:

Dr. Jochen Huber
jochen.huber@synaptics.com

**Assoc. Prof. Dr. Suranga
Nanayakkara**
suranga@ahlab.org

Assist. Prof. Dr. Roy Shilkrot
roys@cs.stonybrook.edu

Dr. Markus Funk
funk@tk.tu-darmstadt.de

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Message from the Guest Editors

Assistive Augmentation is an emerging research thrust that sits at the intersection of accessibility, assistive technologies and human augmentation. The central theme is that of putting sensorial capability on a continuum of usability for certain technology—not in individual silos per targeted audience of an assistive technology. For example, consider a reading aid for people with visual impairments that enables access to printed text. Apart from its main purpose, the same aid can be used by sighted users for other applications such as language learning or reading with eyes closed. In essence, the Assistive Augmentation as a field is concerned with the design, development and study of technology that substitute, recovers, empowers or augments physical, sensorial or cognitive capabilities, depending on specific user needs.

