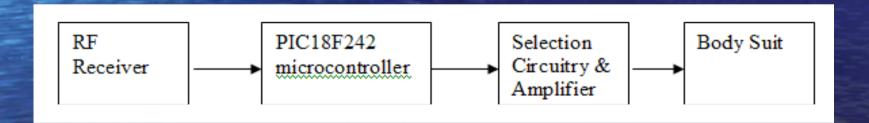




- Base Station
  - "The Brain" of the system
  - Decide which transmitter to send
  - Time difference measurement
- RF communication
  - Used to communicate with Mobile station
  - Start of time measurement

## Transmit Stage (cont'd)

- Mobile Unit
  - Captures and decodes the RF pulse
  - Turn ultrasonic transmitter on
  - Pulse generation





#### Receive Stage

- Ultrasonic receiver
  - Picks up pulse sent by mobile unit
- Noise rejection amp circuit
  - Takes signal from receiver
  - Provides non-linear gain
  - Rejects ambient noise

AC Couple

BPF

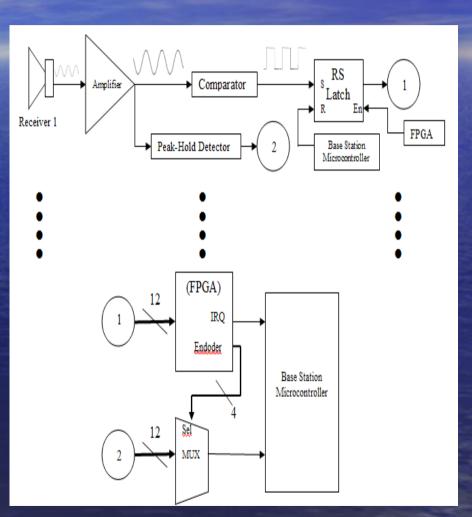
Pre-amp

Nonlinear Amp

**RAM** 

### Receive Stage (cont'd)

- Receiver array matrix board
  - Captures which receivers turned on first (up to 4 sets)
  - Interrupt generated to Base Station
  - Channel disabled temporarily
  - Peak hold detection used to measure phase error
  - Analog to Digital Converter

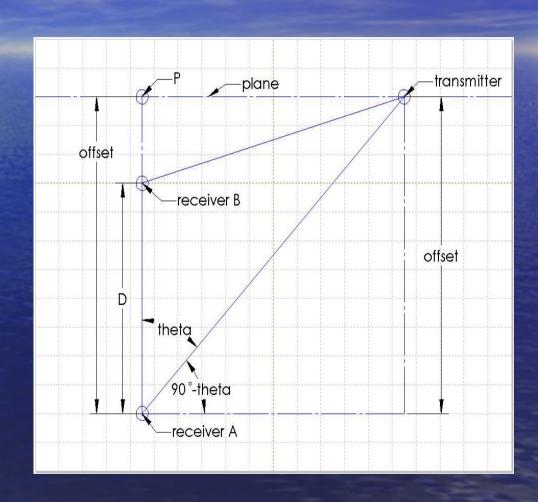


#### Data Stage

- Base Station
  - Once interrupt receives, captures Signal ID
  - Calculates time difference, acquires A/D results
  - Data sent to PC via Serial
  - RAM Board temporarily disabled
- Triangulation
  - Converts time difference to distances
  - Distances triangulated to normalized coordinate in space

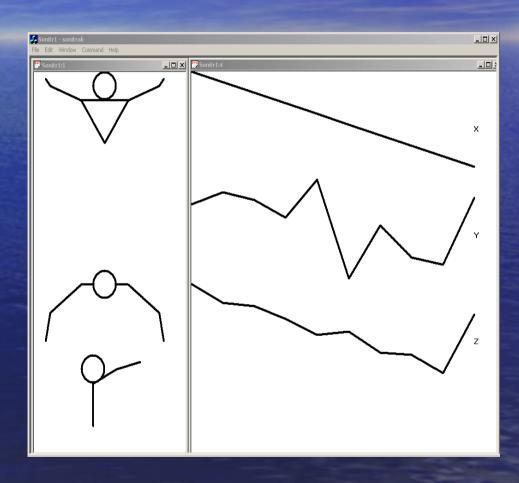
### Data Stage (cont'd)

- Triangulation
  - Algorithm 1
    - 4 data sets
    - Trigonometric calculation
  - Algorithm 2
    - 3 data sets
    - Iterative calculation



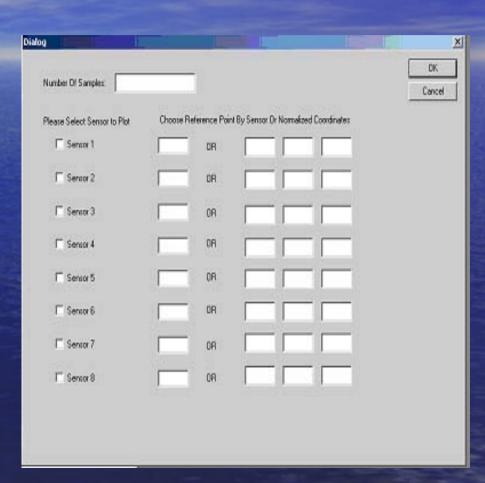
### Data Stage (cont'd)

- Graphical UserInterface
  - Visual C++ with MFC
  - Left window realtime visual representation of the user
  - Right (multiple)
    windows displays
    sampled data in
    graph format



### Data Stage (cont'd)

- Sampling Control
  - Number of samples (at 17ms period)
  - Select which sensors (transmitter channels) to plot
  - For each channel, reference can be set by the location of another channel, or constant.



#### Market

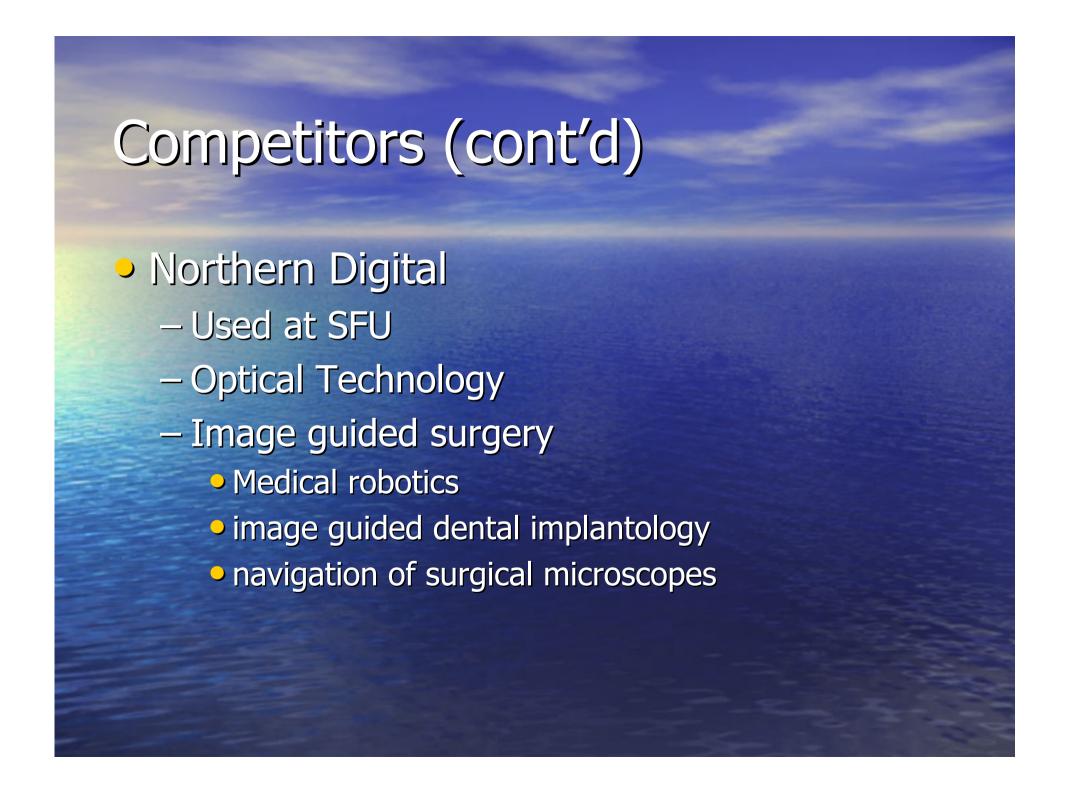
- Target Customer: Research
  - Universities, talked to Kinesiology Faculty of SFU
  - Industrial research labs
- Market's current status
  - Relatively small industry
    - 44 companies as of Feb 1999
- Target Price: \$5 000 ~ \$15 000

### Market (con't)

- Other possible customers
  - Game industry, Medical research facilities, Entertainment industry
- Possible partners
  - Universities, other Instrumentation
    Engineering firms (to provide a broader range of products)
- Our competitive edge
  - Low cost (approx. 1/6 of industry price)
- Our competitors

## Competitors (cont'd)

- Intersense
  - Multi-million dollar company established before tech boom
  - Ultrasonic/inertial tracking products
  - NASA space station robot arm controller
  - VR simulation tracked 3D glasses
    - Helicopter
    - Japan motorcycle(learning)
    - automobile test drive
    - robot navigation AI programming
    - nanomachinary prototyping



#### Conclusion

# Improvement considerations (& why they weren't implemented):

- Higher frequency ultrasonic transducers for better accuracy (costs 5 times more)
- Separate A/D to improve resolution for better phase correction delay (ran out of time)
- Better Quality ultrasonic transducers for faster ramp up time and sensitivity (cost)
- Self calibrating receiver array (pipes are hard enough to work with)
- Faster microprocessor (ours was free)

### Conclusion (cont'd)

#### **Budget:**

- Proposed: approx. \$1100
- Spent: approx. \$1200
- Overspent on back-up parts

#### **Lessons Learned:**

- 1. Coupling capacitors are our friends
- 2. Cross talk ... bad
- 3. Creativity does not always imply ingenuity (working)

#### **Group Dynamics**

