# Reflections on the startup experience



#### Pre-history: Sony eyetoy

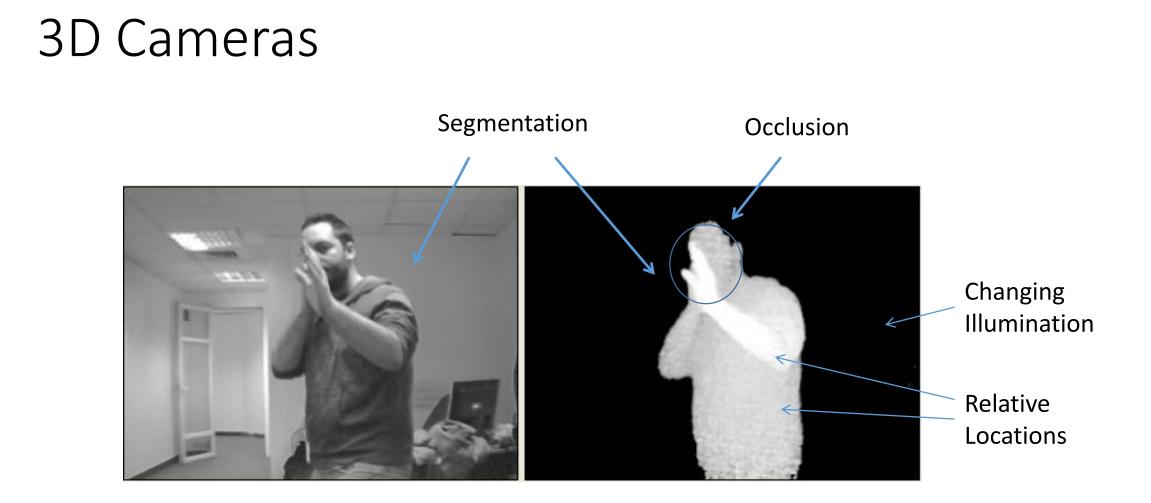




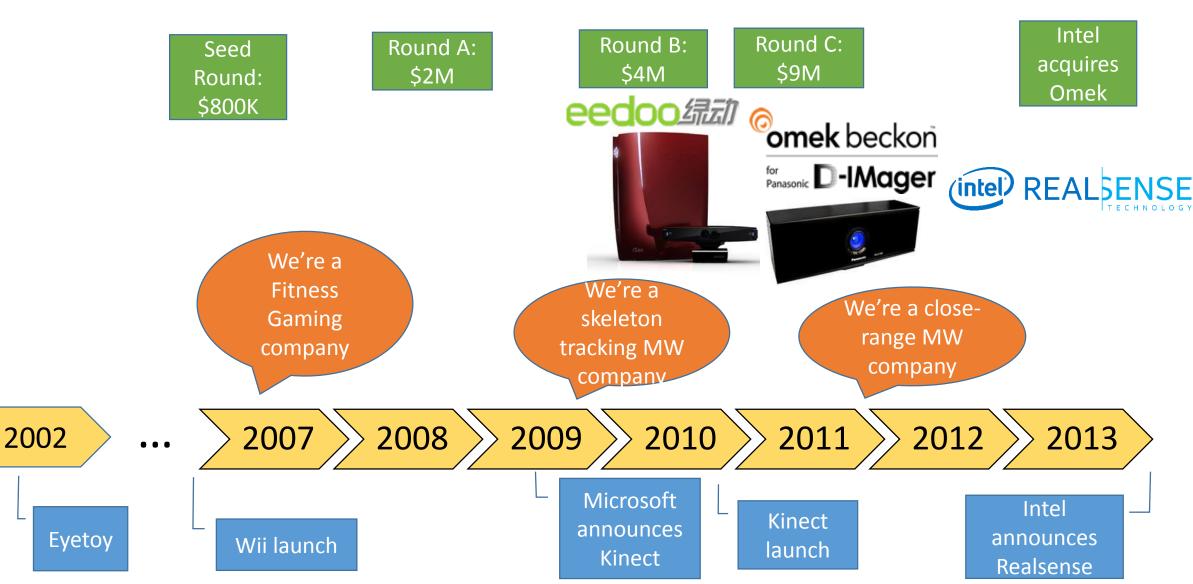
#### 3DVsystems vs. Prime Sense



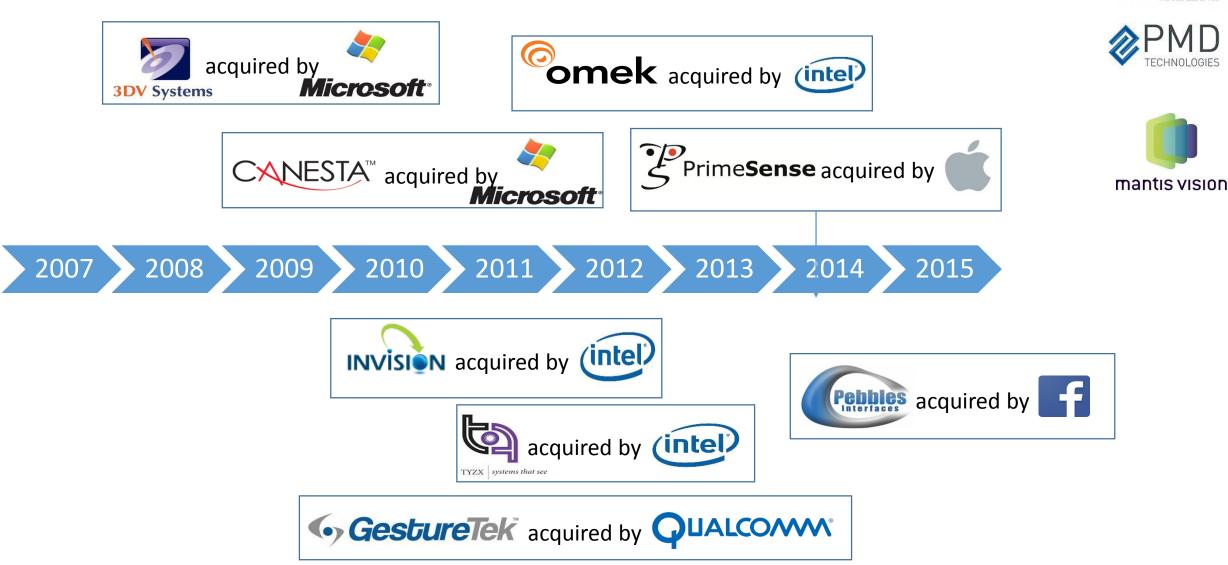




#### How did we get here?



#### The 3D camera space





#### Bad Decisions

- Bad Decisions
  - Dependency on a hardware component
  - Underestimating complexity of new technology
- Good Decisions
  - Only software
  - 3D cameras
  - Closing down Beckon product

### Why can start-ups be successful?

- Focus
- Ability to take risks
- Founders

#### What do you need?

- A strong stomach.
  - Most startups never get to Round A.
- A great team.
- An idea.
- Funding.

### **Funding Sources**

- Venture Capital
- Angels
- Strategic Investors
- Office of the Chief Scientist (OCS)

#### Venture Capital

- The VC model
  - Invest in 10 companies
  - 6-7 will bring no return
  - 2-3 will return 2-3x
  - 1 will have 10x return
- Might be helpful ("smart money")
- The VC's portfolio may impact your company

#### Angels

- Smaller sums of money
- Lighter due diligence process
- Probably not helpful to the business

#### Strategic Investors

- May limit upside potential
- May be very helpful to the business
- Not relevant for early rounds

#### Chief Scientist

- The OCS wants to encourage development of IP in Israeli hi-tech.
- Funds a % of R&D budget with a low-interest loan repaid from product's revenues.
- Great source of money if the acquiring company leaves the IP in Israel.
  - (This is usually not the case.)

#### How much money will you need?

- Your investors expects a return on their money.
- Once you take money, you are on the clock.

#### Capitalization #1

#### Capitalization #2

Round	Amt. Raised	Pre-money Valuation	% owned by founders	Round	Amt. Raised	Pre-money valuation	% owned by founders
А	\$500K	\$500K	50%	А	\$1M	\$3M	75%
В	\$1M	\$2M	33%	В	\$2M	\$8M	60%
С	\$10M	\$10M	17%	С	\$4.5M	\$12M	44%
D	\$5M	\$20M	13%	D	\$9M	\$16M	28%

## Questions you will get when pitching

- Why don't you have any competitors?
- How are you better than your competitors?
- Why do you think it's disruptive?
- What is your exit strategy?
  - IPO
  - Acquisition
  - Profitable private company
- Who are your other investors?

#### Random Advice (Take it or leave it.)

- Your people are more important than your idea.
- Ideas are a dime a dozen. Show me execution.
- Control your ability to get to market.
- If there is no risk, there is no upside.
- There are windows of opportunity.
- Get out there and be a player.
- Enjoy the highs.



## Thank you.