

Second Project Review

Växjö (Sweden), Sept. 10, 2004



## *EU Project COLDEX*

# ***Collaborative Learning and Distributed Experimentation***

**(IST-2001-32327)**

# Topic List

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- COLDEX framework and origin
- Approaches and challenges
- The background(s)
  - > partner profiles

# “E-Learning Futures”

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*E-Learning futures* is conceived as an action line open to fundamental and visionary contributions to shape the future of net-based educational systems and services. On the other hand, there is a popular understanding of e-Learning defining it essentially as “e-commerce with learning-related IT products and services”. ... The “magic factors” neglected in this model are *context and culture*. To be effective, learning in groups and also in virtual communities should take place in a common context of habits, orientations, persons, locations etc. which serve as a frame of reference and allow for more implicit communication and shared understanding. In this sense, *inter-operability* is not only a technical feature but also a social and cultural phenomenon. If this is true, virtual learning communities have to be established by building up context and common culture which we believe has to proceed bottom-up, i.e., *from the local to the global communities*.

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# The Origin: Eurolatis

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- Joint proposal authored by U. Chile and U. Duisburg (including UNED, VXU, USB as potential partners)
- Meeting in Santiago de Chile, Dec. 2000  
=> association of other interested partners
- Forming of the consortium around CSCL workshop in Duisburg (March 2001)
- Science centre (Xperiment huset, Växjö)
- Open door for associating other institutions: "open user scheme" (WP 7)

# General Goals

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- Putting new educational technologies in a rich social and global, multi-cultural context
- Building and supporting a heterogeneous community of learners in science and technology (from local to global)
- Blending and integrating different forms of direct and remote experience with computer-supported (collaborative) learning and modelling

# “Technical” challenges

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## New tools:

- collaborative modelling tools (extension-diversification)
- specification, representation, processing of remote observations
- situation-adapted mobile and wireless devices and smart objects
- community archives with flexible and contextualised indexing and access mechanisms

# “Technical” challenges

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## Integration:

- an integrated framework for synchronous and asynchronous collaboration support
- extended metadata using session and tool context
- remote experience and local modelling
- local experience/modelling and global re-use

# Educational goals

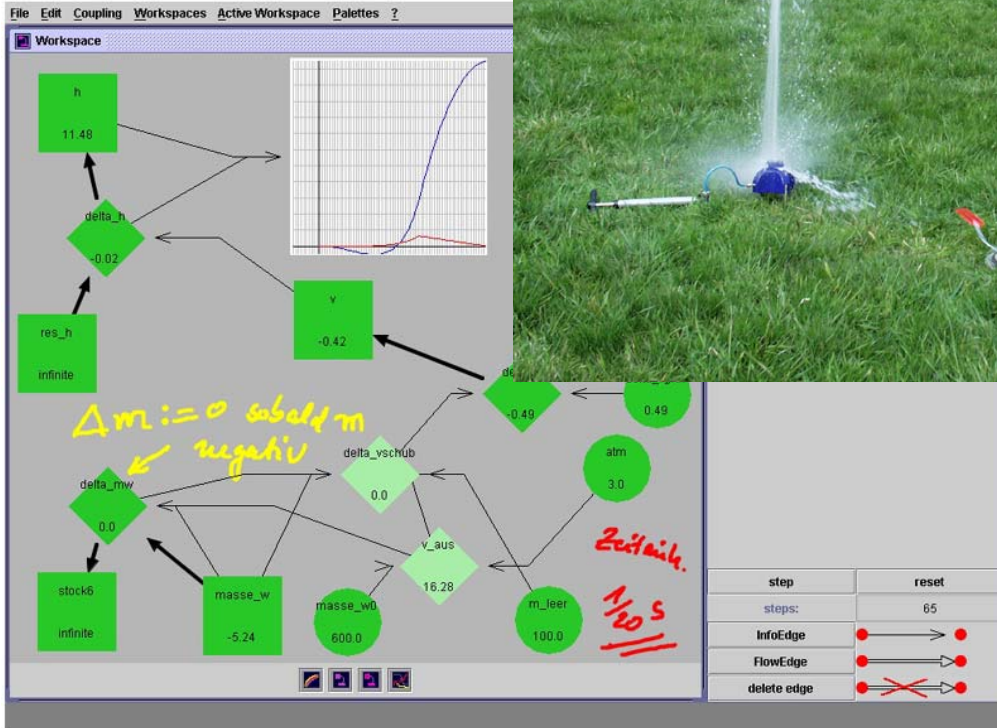
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- Stimulate interest for the understanding of complex phenomena.
- Provide a means to improve comprehension by challenging current understandings.
- Foster a “mixed reality” transition between virtual and tangible environments.
- Facilitate experience sharing between learners.
- Develop awareness and sensitivity to global cultural issues and perspectives.



# Experiential Learning



# The DExT idea

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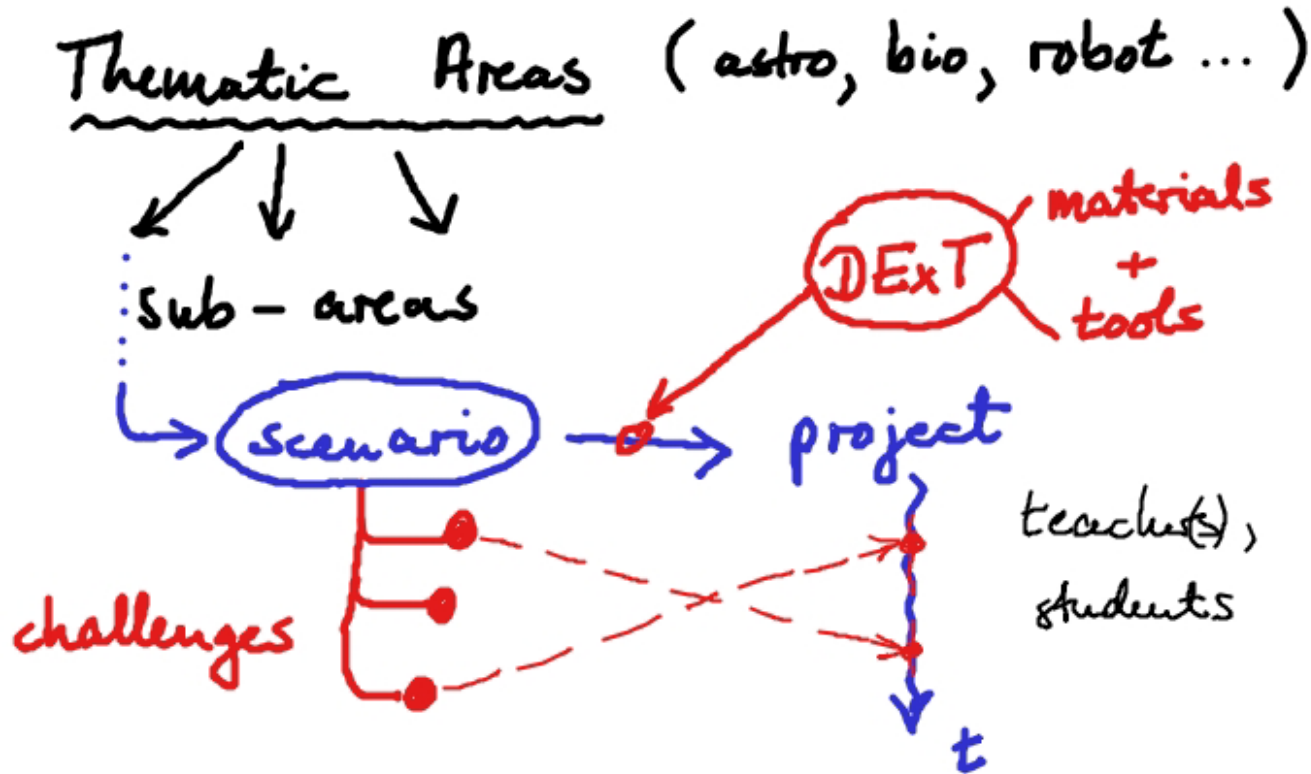
## “Digital Experimentation Toolkits”

- ... containing **interactive materials + tools**
- Delivery model:
  - > get your “package” from the web
  - > mostly self-contained,  
usage independent of personal contact  
or training

# Related concepts



Theme - scenario - project



# Collaboration modes



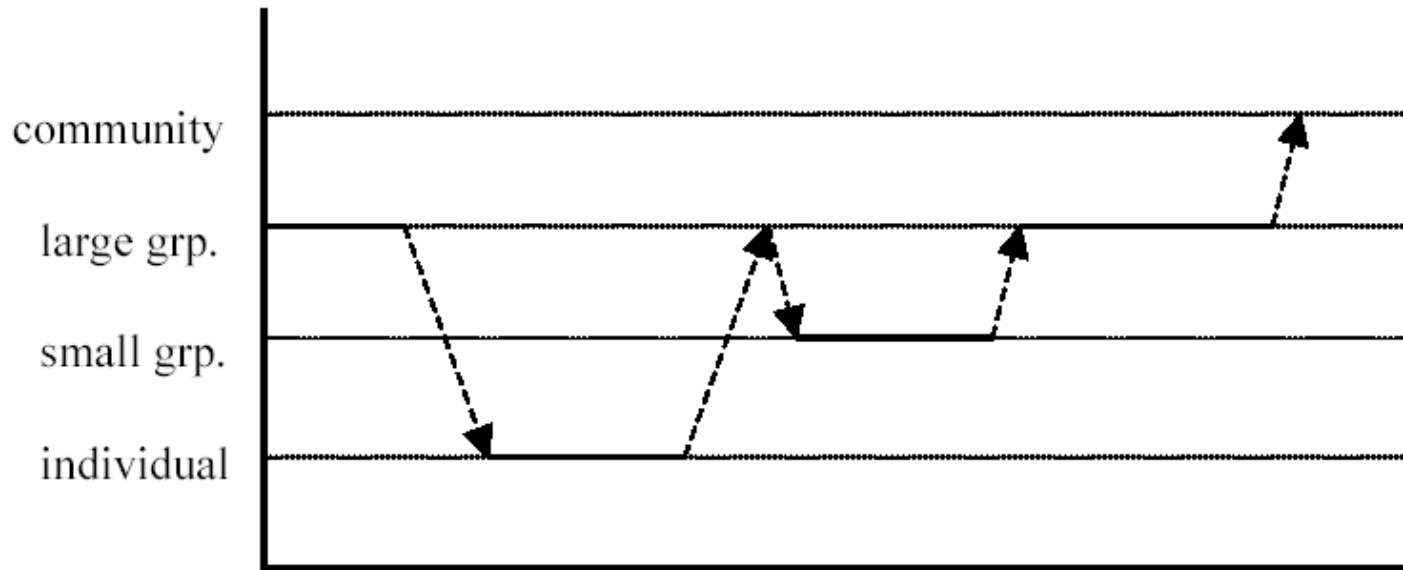
	<i>individual</i>	<i>small group</i>	<i>large group</i>	<i>community</i>
<i>setting(s)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- homework</li> <li>- individual studies (e.g. in self-learning centre)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- group work (in school)</li> <li>- afternoon groups</li> <li>- museum user groups</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- classes (f-t-f)</li> <li>- courses (also online)</li> <li>- bigger museum visitor groups</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- trans-continental network of learners and institutions</li> </ul>
<i>knowledge building strategies</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- indiv. inquiry and problem solving</li> <li>- reading</li> <li>- browsing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- group problem solving</li> <li>- smaller discussions</li> <li>- design meetings</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- aggregation / comparison of small grp. and indiv. results</li> <li>- discussions</li> <li>- teacher presentation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- retrieval of others' learning objects</li> <li>- online SIGs</li> <li>- FAQs</li> </ul>
<i>cooperation mechanisms</i>	no (instead: access to archives at all levels)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- workspace sharing</li> <li>- group archives</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- result sharing using big screen</li> <li>- classroom archives</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- indirect exchange of learning objects through archives</li> </ul>

# CSCL integration challenge



How to support the integration of / interoperability between different scales in cooperative learning?

-> support for **“educational workflow”** or **“learning flow”**



# Central hypothesis

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It is possible to initiate and to maintain an exchange of learning results and social interaction through “thematic objects” in a virtual community made up of subgroups with face-to-face interaction based on learning challenges in the form of non-standard problems!

# Partners and Profiles

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## Partner 1: COLLIDE Group at U. Duisburg

- *CSCCL design and analysis*
- *Theories of collab. learning and Activity Theory*
- *Synchronous shared workspace systems (collab. visual languages)*
- *Ubiquitous computing in learning environments*
- *Visualisation & modelling in local scenarios, esp. models of human perception (co-developer & user)*
- *Remote scenarios (user)*
- *Undergraduate academics (comp. science, comm. and media)*
- *Secondary high school (physics)*



# Partners and Profiles

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## Partner 2: Universidad de Chile, Santiago

- *Telecommunication technologies (-> ACCESS-NOVA)*
- *Distributed classroom technology (CiC)*
- *Remote scenarios (developer & user)*
- *Local scenarios (co-developer & user)*
- *Undergraduate academics (physics, mech. eng.);*
- *High schools (ENLACES network)*



# Partners and Profiles

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## Partner 3: Växjö University, Sweden

- *Scientific modelling – system dynamics*
- *Ethnographic studies in education*
- *Participatory educational design with teachers*
- *Local scenarios, esp. environmental studies and biodiversity (co-developer)*
- *Remote scenarios (user)*
- *Secondary high schools + regional teacher network*
- *Association of "Xperiment Huset" (science centre)*

# Växjö: Xperiment Huset



**livet i rymden**  
Vintergatan  
...ett rymdäventyr på Xperiment Huset!

*vintergatans DVD*    *spaka skeppet själv*    *om livet i rymden*

A large, dark-themed promotional graphic for the 'livet i rymden' exhibition. It features a central circular window showing a space scene with a person. Below the main title are three smaller inset images: a group of people, children looking through a telescope, and a child interacting with a control panel. The text is in various colors and fonts, including a large blue and purple title.

# Xperiment Huset

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## *Innovative projects/exhibits*

- *spaceship environment as a portal to "space themes"*
- *construction and design of robots etc.*
- *bio-sphere environment*

*.... testbed for a variety of learning challenges!*

# Partners and Profiles

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## Partner 4: U. of Saarland (D)

- *VRML and other 3D modelling languages*
- *Web languages and tools*
- *Programming languages*
- *remote scenarios (co-developer)*
- *Local scenarios (co-developer, esp. 3D modelling tools)*

# Partners and Profiles

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## Partner 5: UNED, Madrid

- *Analysis of collab. Learning (asynchronous)*
- *Activity Theory in educational design*
- *Document structuring and electronic archives*
- *Educational networking*
- *Local scenarios, esp. environmental aspects (co-developer & user)*
- *Remote scenarios (user)*
- *Academic distance education (chemistry)*

# Partners and Profiles

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## Partner 6: U. Politécnica de Madrid

- *Web-based learning environments for engineering*
- *Remote control of experiments*
- *Visualisation & modelling*
- *Remote scenarios (developer & user)*
- *Local scenarios (user)*
- *Undergraduate academics (mech. eng.)*

# Partners and Profiles

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## Partner 7: INESC, Lisboa

- *Animated software agents (incl. VR models)*
- *Agent models of perception and interaction*
- *Intelligent support*
- *Local scenarios, esp. models of human perception (developer)*



# Partners and Profiles

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## Partner 8: U. Católica del Norte, Antofagasta

- *Remote scenarios (co-developer, provider)*
- *Potential user (undergraduate acad.),*
- *Link to schools in OUS*



# Scientific Achievements

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## **First IEEE Workshop on Mobile and Wireless Technologies in Education (WMTE 2002)**

Växjö, August 2002 -> JCAL special issue + paper

## **ICALT 2003**

- paper on "conceptual change in scientific inquiry"

## **CSCL 2003**

interactive event ("earthquakes and probabilities")

## **AIED 2003**

- paper on "learning object repository"
- interactive event on collaborative mind tools
- poster

## **ICCE 2003**

- paper on "model-based reasoning"

# Scientific Achievements

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## **CAEPIA 2003/2004 (selected papers)**

- paper on LOR and ontology support
- workshop on CACL using Coldex examples

## **ICLS 2004**

poster on seismo scenario (UCH - UDUI)

## **Second IEEE Workshop on Mobile and Wireless Technologies in Education (WMTE 2004, Taiwan)**

- paper on "maze" scenario (UDUI) -> journal paper invitation
- joint paper (UDUI - VXU) on "educational workflow around digitally enhanced experiments"

## **IEEE-ICALT 2004**

- workshop on modelling tools in science education
- poster on astro scenario

## **SWEL (at "Adaptive Hypermedia 2004")**

paper on using task/tool context for indexing and retrieval

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# Dissemination & Exploitation

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## **Learntec 2003 (Karlsruhe)**

- Coldex presented as part of EU stand

## **European Science Week + "School foresight"**

- > Athens (November) ...

## **IST conference (The Hague, NL)**

## **MEADE (leading telescope manufacturer)**

- joint popular article
- provision of learning supplements based on COLDEX tools (under negotiation)

## **Riesmuseum Nördlingen (Germany)**

- incorporation of crater simulation as exhibit

... more in the context of OUS (Latin America)

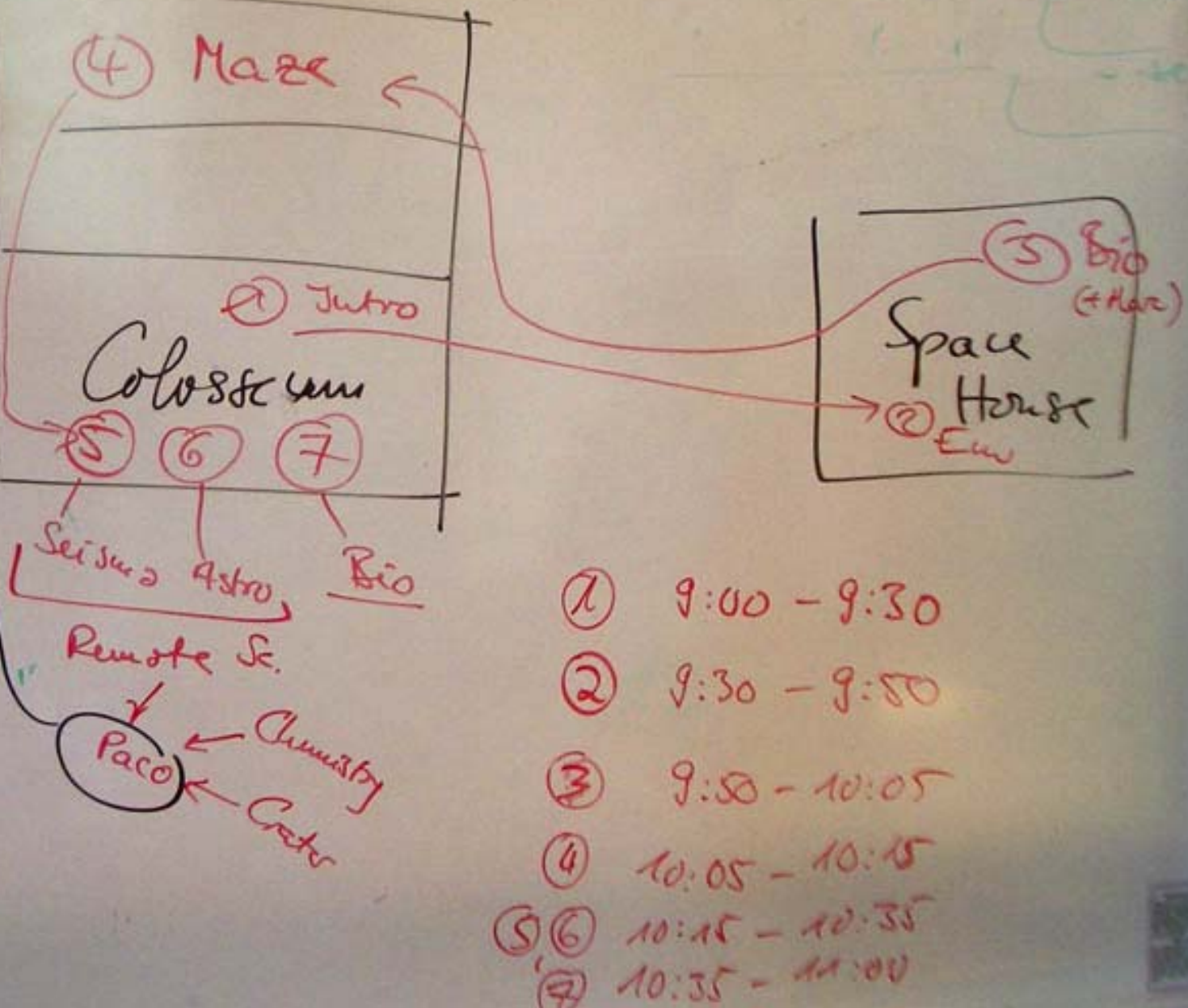


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**Please prepare for the**

**SPACE WALK .....**

**-> "map"**



# Scientific background (CSCL)

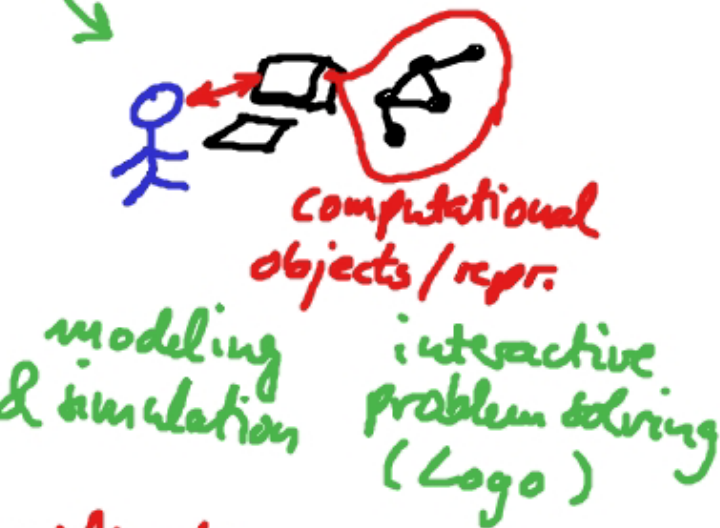


Computer-mediated  
Communication  
Scenarios

CMC



interactive-  
constructive  
environments



volatility ↔ reification

# The current challenge



Computer-mediated  
Communication  
Scenarios

C  
M  
C

interactive-  
constructive  
environments

I  
C  
E

