

+Once pages are defined...

... it is necessary to define the dialogue flows, i.e., how the dialogue can continue from one point (page) to other points (pages)



Dialogue flows are sequences of pages and LINKS

HOW are links defined?

In some cases, deterministic definition:

e.g., when the user is in a painting page and asks about its (only) painter (N-1 relatiship): 1 link

In most cases, multiple alternatives:

e.g. consider a group of topics

- shall the system decide where to start exploring them? Or should all possibilities be offered to the user, who decides?
- What happens when a topic has been explored and the user is interested to another one in the same group?
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*Navigation Strategies



Navigation decisions are not taken casually, but some general navigation "strategies" must be defined to define links within sets of pages

■ Structural strategies

 How the dialogue flows among the pages about a topic (single or of a given kind)

■ Transition Strategies

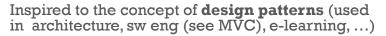
how the dialogue flows from the pages about a topic and the pages of a RELATED topic

■ Group Strategies

how the dialogue flows withing a group of topics, e.g., from an introductory page of a (multiple) group of topics and the pages of the topics of the group, or among the pages of the topics of the group

+ Navigation patterns

Compact specifications of some general "typical" navigation strategies



A design pattern "... describes a *problem* which occurs over and over again in our environment, and then describes the core of the *solution* to that problem, in such a way that you can use this solution a million times over, without ever doing it the same way twice" [Alexander, 1979]. It provides a descriptive structure for integrating the analysis and the solution of a recurring problem, in a way that is sensitive to context, is informed by theory and evidence, and is *re-usable with a minimum degree of customization*. (C. Alexander, 1979)

* Navigation Patterns

■ General **Topologies** of nodes (pages) and arcs (links) that have been proved effective and usable for navigation in large hypermedia structures



- GUIDED TOUR
- INDEX
- ALL-TO-ALL
- Can be intermixed and combined
- See paper

Garzotto F., Paolini P., Bolchini D., Valenti S. Modeling-by-Patterns" of Web Applications. In Proc. WWWCM'99 - World-Wide Web and Conceptual Modeling, ER'99 Workshop, Paris (Fr), Nov. 1999, Springer, 1999, Lecture Notes in Computer Science, 1823/1999





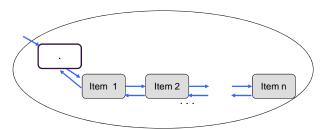
+ Guided tour pattern Guided Tour

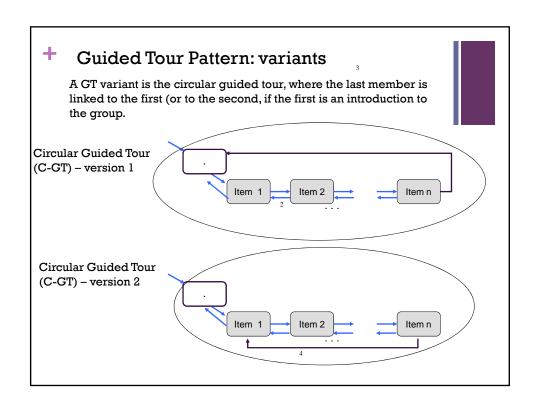
(GT)

When to adopt this pattern?

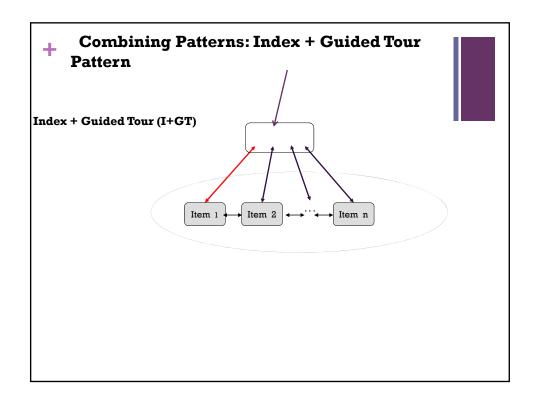
Problem: To provide "easy-to-use" access to a small group of objects, assuming the user has no reason (or is unable) to select one of them.

Solution: The solution consists of identifying an order among the group members, and creating sequential bidirectional links among them.



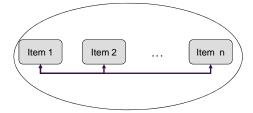


+ Index Pattern When to adopt this pattern? Problem: To provide fast access to a group of objects for users who are interested in one or more of them and are able to make a choice. Solution: The core solution consists of defining links from the entry point of the group collection (the introductory page in IDM) to each member, and from each member to the entry point.



+ All-to-all Pattern

ALL-To-ALL (A2A)



Problem: To speed up navigation in a group of objects, so that the user can jump directly from one member to another without returning to the collection entry point.

Solution: linking each member of the group to all other members of the collection,

How to use navigation patterns



- Navigation patterns provide an intensional, compact representation for a set of links among groups of pages
- They improve readibility of documentation: by "attaching" a pattern name to a group of pages, we specify all possible navigation paths and avoid defining each link explicitly and intensionally

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Documentation & Notation

+ P-Design: OUTPUT



- Graphical + textual specification of all pages and page types that will be implemented and generated by tehe application
 - "Site Map" (graphical P-IDM schema) + documentation (textual)

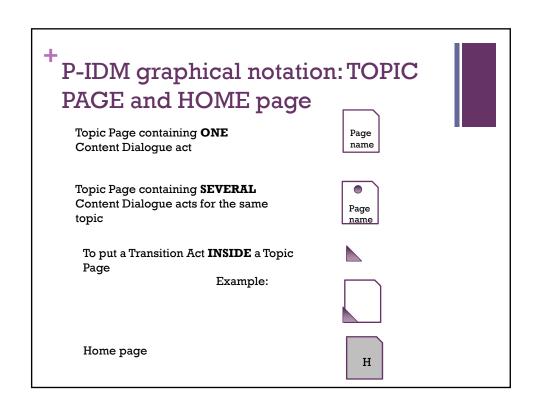


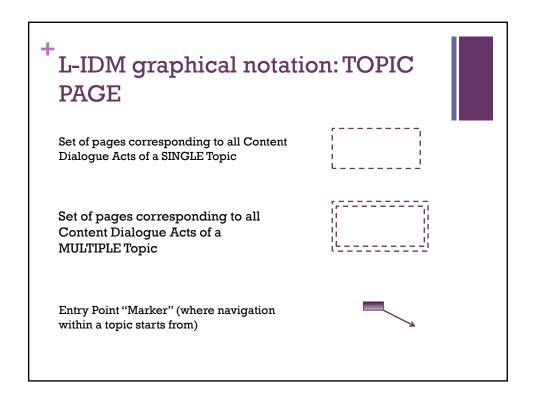
- ■"Concrete" page design
 - Sketches that describe each page (type) in terms of links and examples of realistic contents" + comments (e.g., categories of links, their destination, etc.)

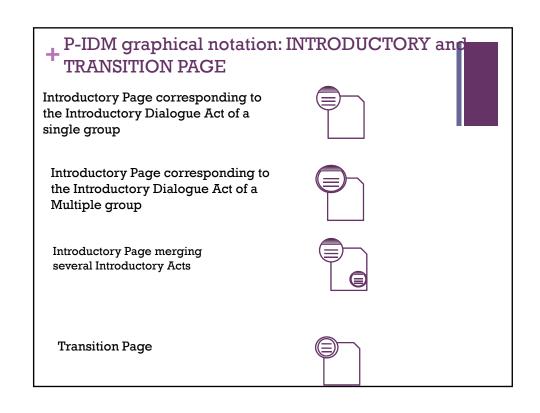


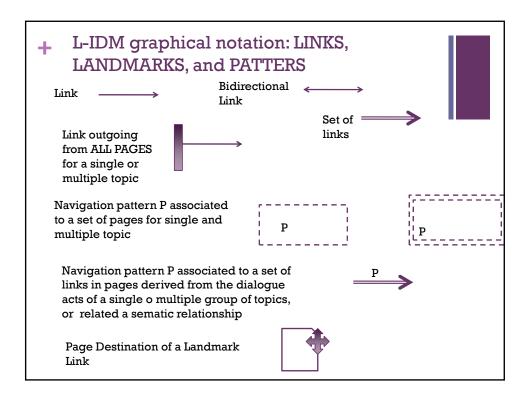
P-IDM textual specification

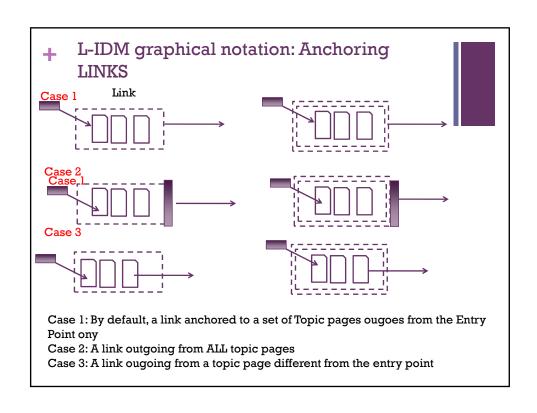
- Textual descriptions and comments:
 - The detailed content of each page should be defined textually (not graphically)
 - It is derived from the dialogue acts defined in the textual documentation of L-IDM you can make references to L-IDM or specify the act contents again in P-IDM
 - The patterns associated to each group of pages should be defined both textually and graphically, associating pattern names/code (e.g., I (Index), GT (Guided Tour), CGT (Circular Guided tour), I+GT, A2A (All-to-All) to sets of topic pages, Introductory pages and Transition Pages
 - Motivations for merging acts should be included!!

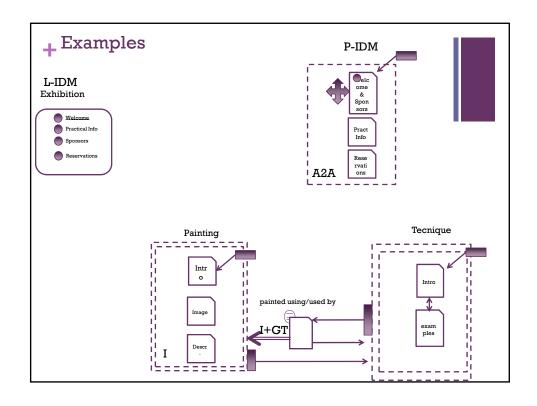


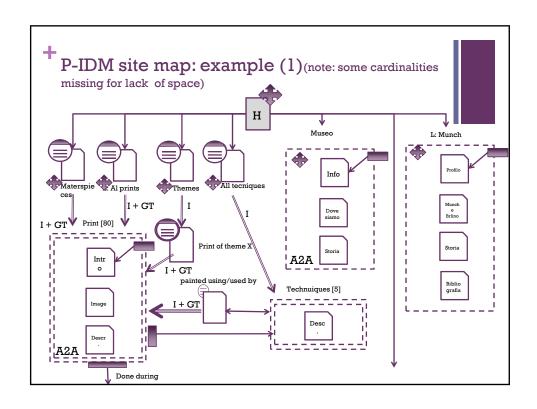


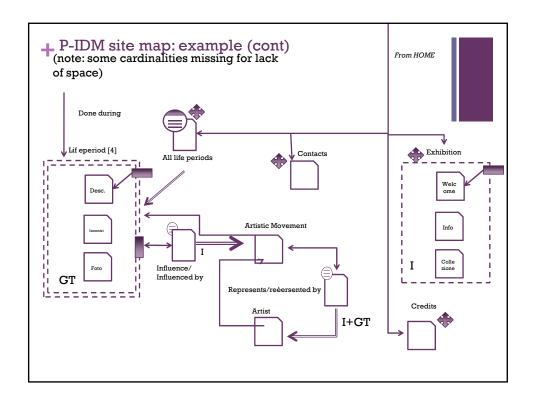




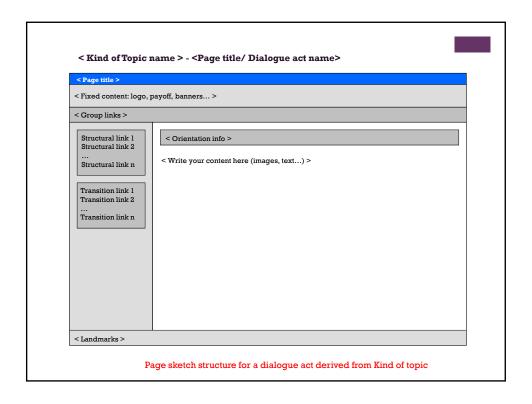


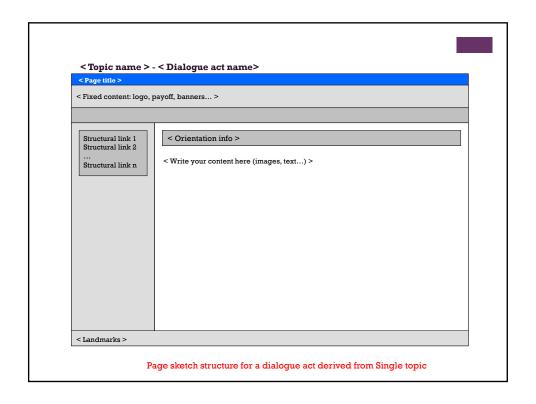


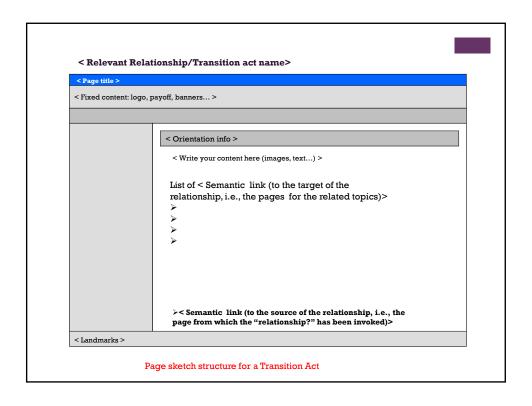


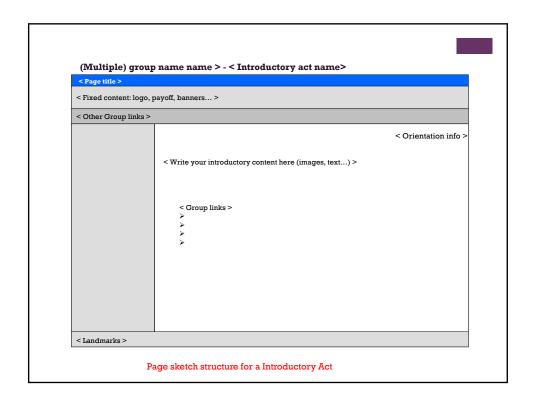


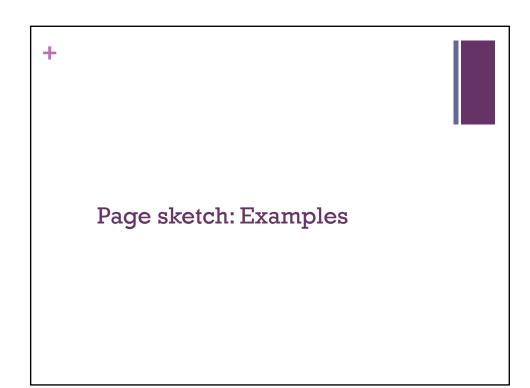


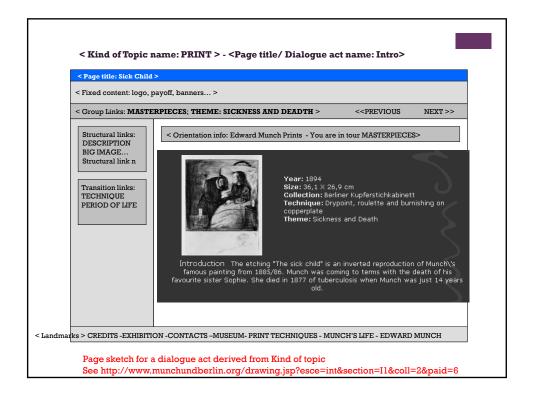


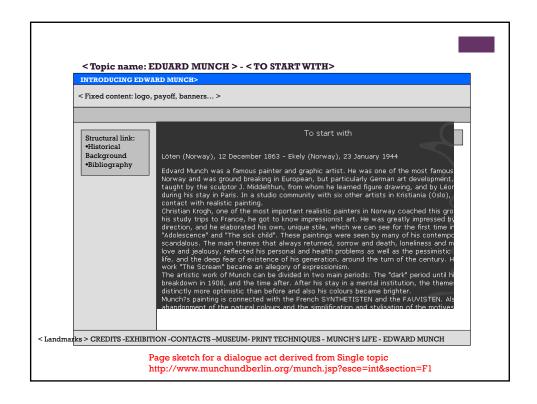


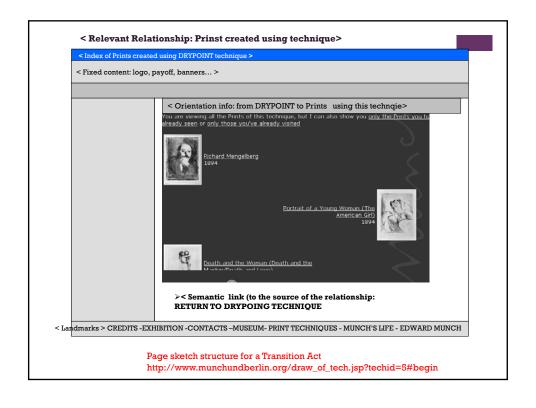


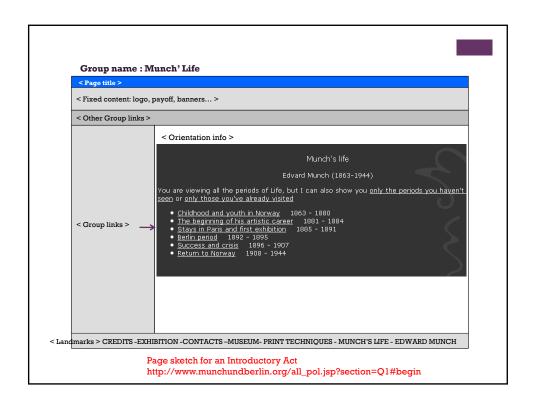


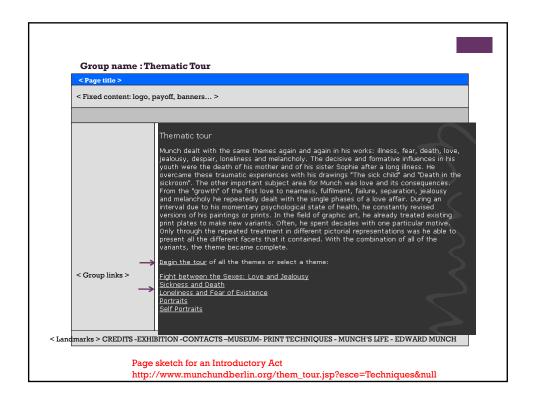












+ Exercises



- Perform reverse design of http://www.yoox.com and create
 - C-IDM map
 - L-IDM map
 - P-IDM map
 - Discover patterns in
 - http://www.nga.gov
 - http://www.rijksmuseum.nl/
 - http://amazon.com

