

Revisiting the Dynabook concept

Hilaire Fernandes

Department of Public Instruction
Geneva

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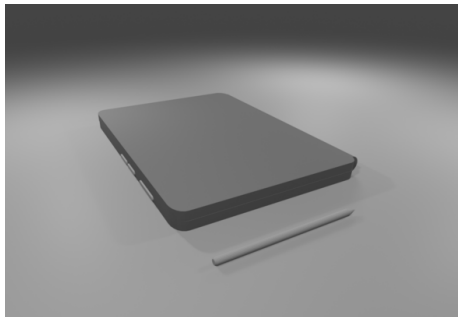


About me

- Educator in public school, Geneva, B.Math, Ma.Ed
- Computer scientist, Ma.CS, PhD.CS
- Free software enthusiast and user since 1998
- And of course, Smalltalk user since 2002

Contents

- 1 Why this presentation?
- 2 In essence, what is Dynabook?
- 3 Changing the Point of View
- 4 Where are we?
- 5 How to get involved?



The cashier register of education

- The Dynabook is a concept
- In school, dynamic numeric tool mostly not used
⇒ compare to the other sectors of the society
- We need a dedicated hardware and software environment for a meaningful use in education

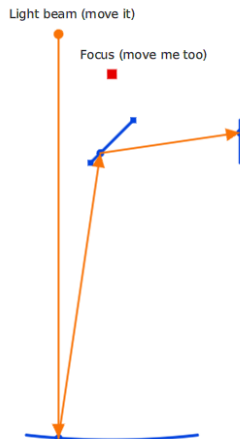
To get you involved

- Educator, professor
- Benefactor
- Student at university
- Economist
- Software developer
- Project manager
- Hardware specialist
- Designer
- System administrator
- ...

Dynamic model of knowledge
the user can design and/or operate

Dynamic model of the *Newton Telescope*

The learner can operate a different level of knowledge light beam, focus point (change the mirror curve)



Teacher

What is a teacher?

- Yes, an educator. Manipulating, designing, sharing knowledge.
⇒ Library of dynamic knowledge models, scriptable with a DSL and/or GUI (think **Dr. Geo, keynote Tuesday 9/11 at 11:00**)
- ... but also a manager
 - managing student
 - managing assignment
 - managing grade
 - managing meeting
 - managing parents
 - ...

Any realistic Dynabook revisit should take these aspects in consideration.

Kid

Can we reduce the bag wight?

I have seen lightweight students assigned with mountain of materials:

- >10 binders
- >10 books
- >10 activity files
- numerous notebooks

Any realistic Dynabook revisit should take theses aspects in consideration.

Software environment

What do we need?

- Free software from the basement (OS) to the attic (end user applications)
- Rapid prototyping
- A malleable environment to develop knowledge models with state of the art visual representation
- Easy to implement DSL to script knowledge models
- Portable to different hardware architecture

⇒ Cuis-Smalltalk to develop end user applications and knowledge models

Free Hardware

Design there
Manufacture anywhere

Economic

Large scale adoption in one place, also require local economic benefits on that place:

- Software support
- Assembling/Manufacturing
- Repairing
- Training

⇒ Free software & hardware as prerequisites

Is there any plan?

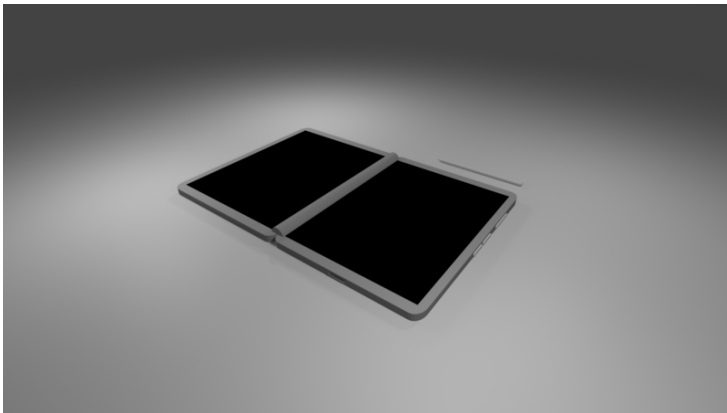


Roughly

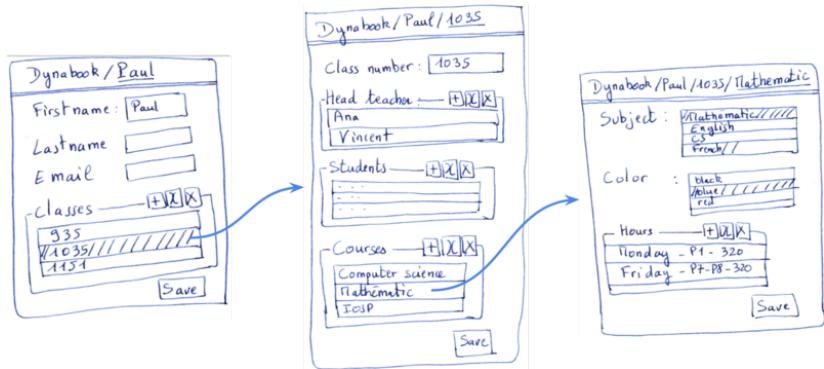
Iterations

- 1 **Develop the Dynabook app** (me, but join!)
- 2 Test Dynabook app in school and iterate with the development (1 or 2 teachers)
- 3 Develop hardware prototype with existing hardware
- 4 Develop Dynabook operating system
- 5 Test Dynabook app in school and iterate with the development (tenth of teachers)
- 6 Test Dynabook in school and iterate on the hardware and software (1 or 2 teachers/students)
- 7 Test Dynabook hardware and software with one classroom (30 users, students and teachers)

Visual Concepts







Management - Concept



Management Viewer

Untitled Window

Hilaire's Dynabook CO Foron 932 Mathématiques

Periods—

Monday (315)
Tuesday (315)
Wednesday (315)
Friday (315)

Teacher—

Unknown person





Topics—

Rational Number
Triangle

Edit Save

Management Editor

Untitled Window

Hilaire's Dynabook CO Foron 932

Information

Number

Accept

Head teacher

Firstname

Lastname

Email

Accept

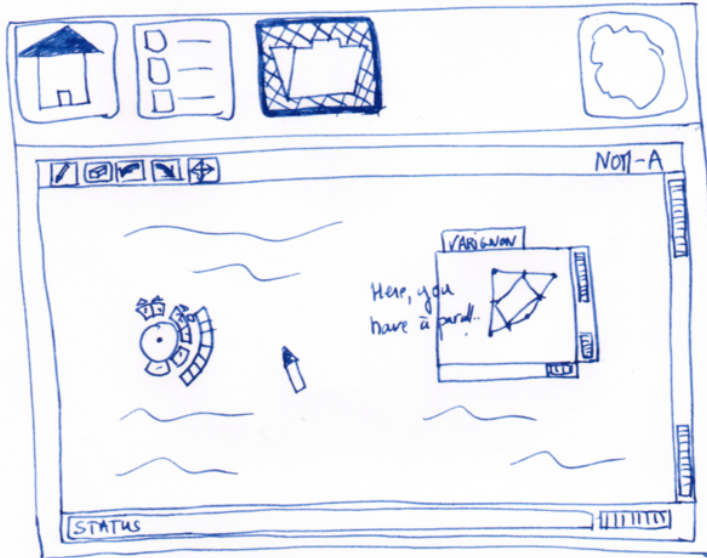
Lessons

Histoire

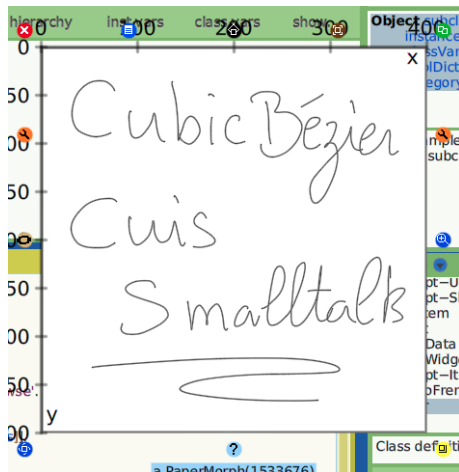
Mathématiques

Students

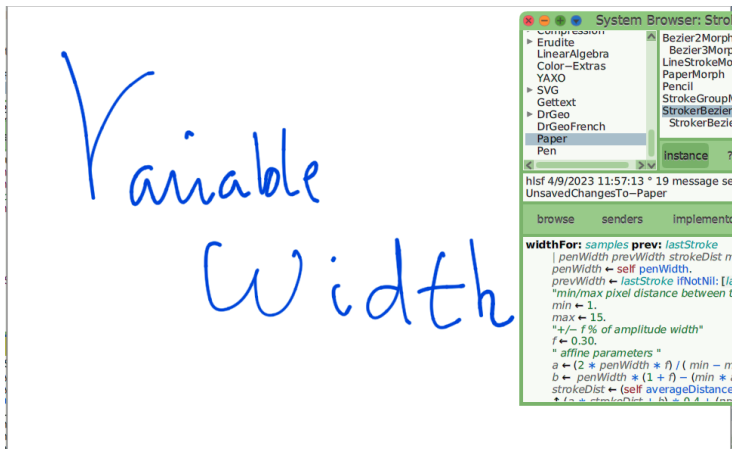
Knowledge environment



Paper Morph



Paper Morph – Pressure emulation



1. Who & What?

- Educators
 - ⇒ Write the specifications of interactive knowledge models in your domain
 - ⇒ Review, compile existing pedagogical resources – under free license
- Software developers
 - ⇒ Participate to the Dynabook.app design
 - ⇒ Code with Cuis-Smalltalk interactive knowledge model and DSL
- Professors
 - ⇒ Student projects

2. Who & What?

- Economists
 - ⇒ Prospective on economic benefits
 - ⇒ Environmental impacts
- Hardware specialists
 - ⇒ Participate to the Dynabook hardware specification and design
- Benefactors
 - ⇒ Set up a foundation to support the software and hardware specifications, design and development

Some cathedrals took a century to complete. Can you imagine the grandeur and scope of a program that would take as long?

– Alan Perlis

<http://github.com/hilaire/dynabook>