

# Chapter 2:

People,  
Activities,  
Contexts,

and

Technologies:

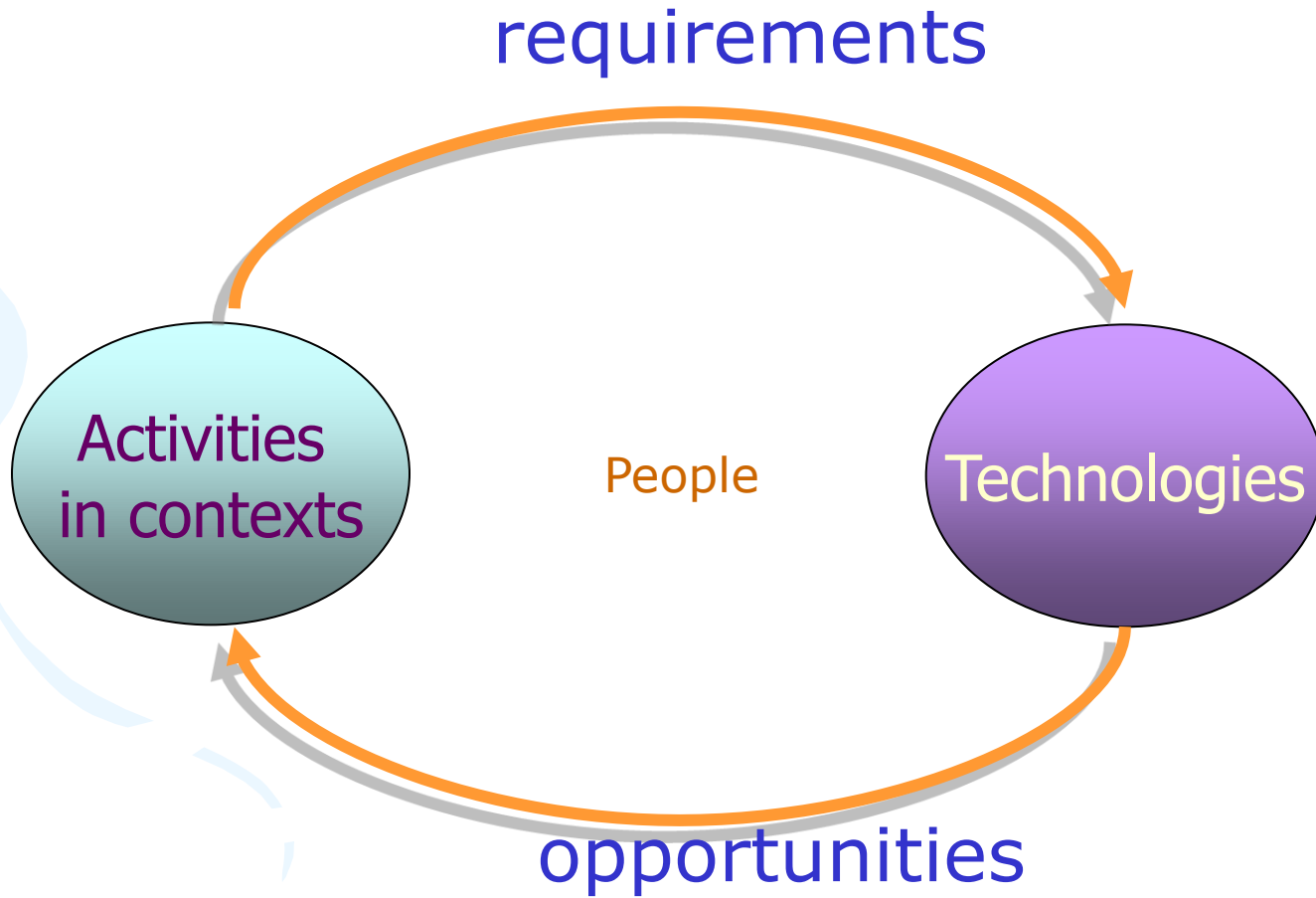
A framework  
for **designing**  
interactive systems



# Chapter 2 (PACT):

- 2.1 Introduction
- 2.2 People
- 2.3 Activities
- 2.4 Contexts
- 2.5 Technologies
- 2.6 Scoping a problem with PACT
- 2.7 Process of interactive systems design

## 2.1 Introduction



A decorative graphic on the left side of the slide featuring three balloons: a green one at the top, a light blue one in the middle, and a purple one at the bottom. Each balloon has a string and several small yellow triangular flags attached to it.

## 2.2 People

- Physical differences
- Psychological differences
- Usage differences







## 2.2 People- Physical differences (3)

- Ex: Wheelchair users, people having big fingers.
- $\Rightarrow$  Which physical affects of people that can take into account in the design ?



## 2.2 People- Psychological differences

- Spatial ability
- Languages
- Cultures
- Needs, abilities, attention and memory, depending on the stress and the tiredness
  - remembering long numbers & complicated instructions
  - recognizing vs remembering things
  - grasping how something works)
- Experiences and conceptual models of things
- ⇒ Mental model





## 2.2 People- Psychological differences (2)

- Have not good mental model ⇒
  - Only perform actions by rote
  - Don't know why something goes wrong and not be able to recover
- Ex: When using
  - software systems
  - 'simpler' domestic systems
- ⇒ Design so that people will form correctly and usefully their mental models of:
  - How they work
  - What they do



## 2.2 People- Usage differences

- Types of users of a technology:
  - Experts
  - Novices
  - Discretionary users

Three balloons (green, blue, and purple) with yellow streamers and small yellow triangles are positioned on the left side of the slide.

## 2.2 People- Usage differences (2)

- Experts:
  - Use regularly a system
  - Learn all sorts of details
- Novices:
  - Need to be guided through interactions
- Discretionary users:
  - Do not have to use a system
  - Be often quickly put-off if the things are difficult to do



## 2.2 People- Usage differences (3)

- Types of groups of people:
  - *Homogeneous* groups: everyone are broadly similar and want to do much the same thing.
  - *Heterogeneous* groups



## 2.2 People- Usage differences (4)

- Design for *homogeneous* groups:
  - Can be taken by a design team
  - Provide much more detailed input for the representatives
- Design for *heterogeneous* groups:
  - Particular
  - To respond to particular needs of particular people