

touching technology

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Athena/Tripolis, March 2009

I work in Lancaster
and live in Cumbria
The Lake District



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... but

although I live in England
and I speak English
I am not English
I am Welsh
rydw i'n Cymraeg



... and have sabbatical year so

mostly in Tiree
... when not elsewhere



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today I am not talking about ...

- intelligent internet interfaces
fuzzy personal ontologies and
structure from folksonomies
- situated displays, eCampus,
small device – large display interactions
- visualisation and DB interfaces
- fun and games, virtual crackers,
artistic performance, slow time
- modelling dreams and regret!!



... or even lots of lights



<http://www.hcibook.com/alan/projects/firefly/>

cognition connects with computation

when bodies touch technology

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the physical world

material artefacts and design

the body physiology

space and spatial arrangement

digital artefacts virtual physicality

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different ways to touch

ubiquitous comp.	- tech. entering the world
tangible UI	- embodying computation
... plus mobile ...	- when location matters

virtual reality	- emulating the world
AR / MR	- blending physical and digital worlds
physiological comp.	- the body is the interface
product design	- physical devices with digital effect

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three rules to be broken

- directness of effort
- locality of effect
- visibility of state

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continuity in time and space

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physicality and the body

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bodily limitations – skin and bone

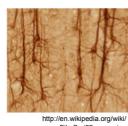
- ergonomics and health
 - keyboards and trackpads
 - car switches
- as a design resource
 - simultaneous switches in nuclear bunker
 - sweeties on the high shelf



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bodily limitations – grey matter

- fleeting thoughts – electrical
 - Millers 7+-2
- long-term memory – physical connections
 - some sums ...
- mood and medium term memory – chemical
 - coping with multiple chat windows



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action in the world

- Gibson and affordances
- distributed cognition
- the embodied mind

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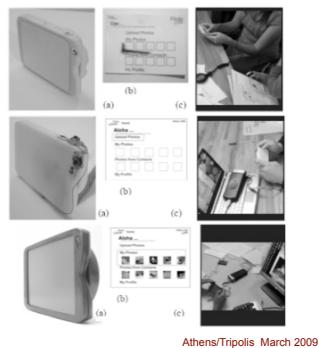


physicality and design

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levels of fidelity in design

from paper prototype
to working mock-up



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study the old to design the new

work with Masitah Ghazali & DEPTH project

- look at ordinary consumer devices
 - washing machine, light switch, personal stereo

why?

- we are used to using them ourselves
- they have been 'tested' by the marketplace
- they embody the experience of designers



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half empty?

- not the first ...
 - Norman – DOET/POET
 - Thimbleby – FSM for video, microwave
- often used as HCI strawman
 - emphasise for design flaws
- we are looking for the good lessons
 - how mundane devices exploit physicality

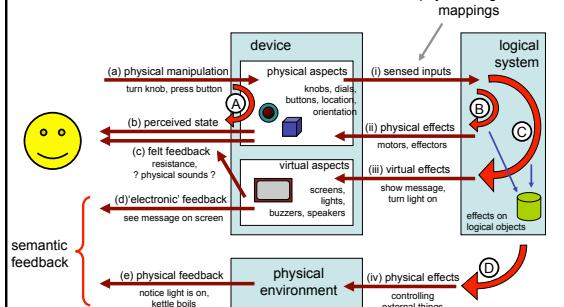
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models of AR & tangiblity

- Ullmer and Ishii – MCRpd
 - architectural interaction model
- Benford et al. – sensible/sensable/desirable
 - exploring design space
- Koleva et al. – TUI framework
 - 'coherence' between the physical and digital

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multiple feedback loops

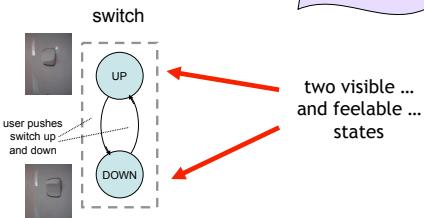


the GUI fallacy ... semantic feedback is NOT enough

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model physical device states the device 'unplugged'

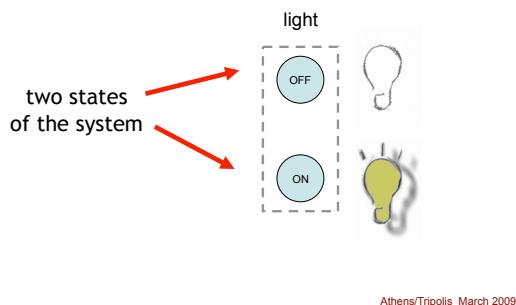
physigram



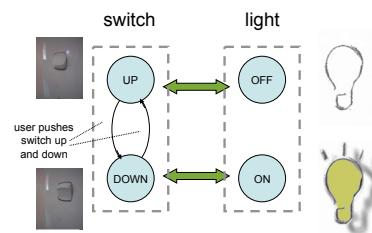
- the device 'unplugged'

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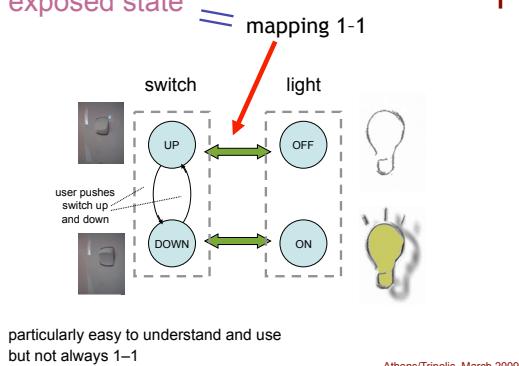
model logical system



physical–logical mapping



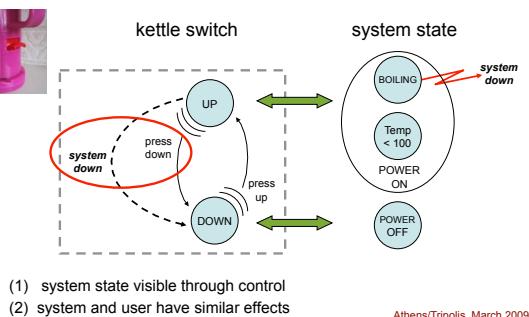
exposed state



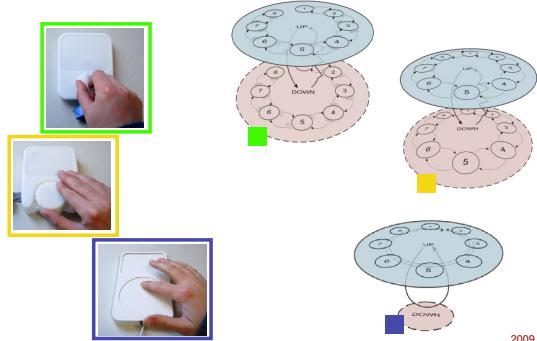
controlled state

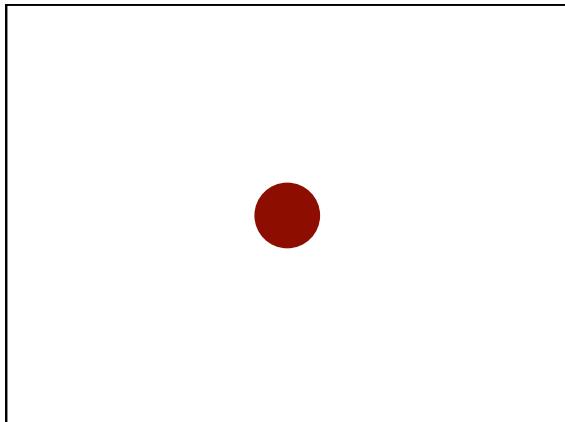


compliant interaction

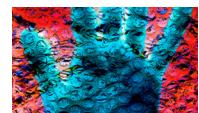


give it to designer





- 'real' world and 'virtual world' interactions are *all physical*
... but some are more physical than others
- understanding physicality is fascinating
... and helps us to design better
- watch for the book ... TouchIT



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