

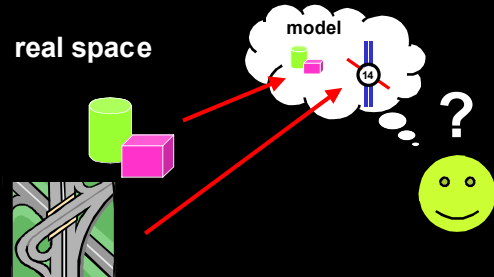
# Welsh Mathematician walks in Cyberspace

Alan Dix

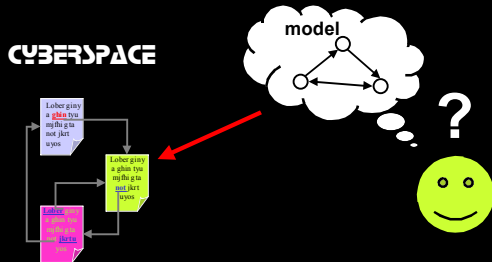
Lancaster University,  
vfridge and aQtive

<http://www.hiraeth.com/alan>

## understanding space



## understanding cyberspace



maps

mazes



sources

myth &  
magic

mathematics

cognition

community

sources

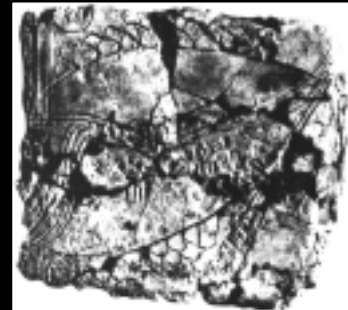
computation

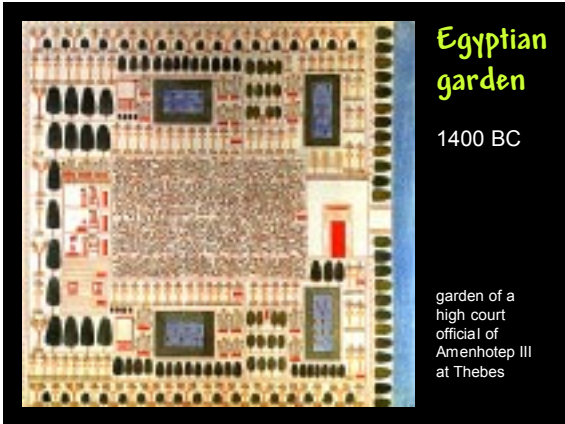
constructed  
environment

Clay  
tablet map

2200 BC

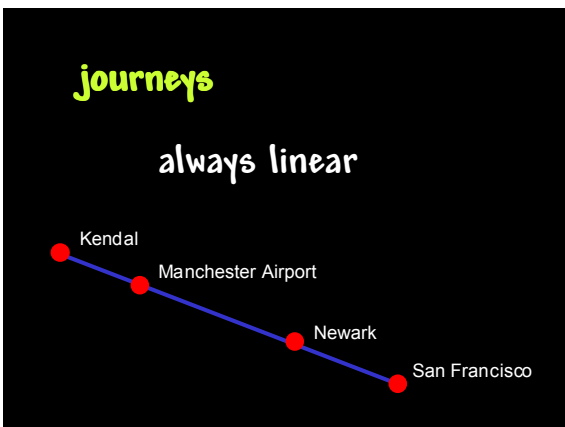
Yorghhan Tepe,  
Iraq






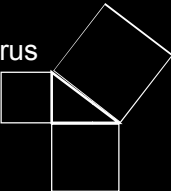
**drawings**

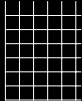
- cartographic (isomorphic)
- cartographic (homomorphic)
- schematic
- linear
- episodic



**2D/3D**

Euclid 

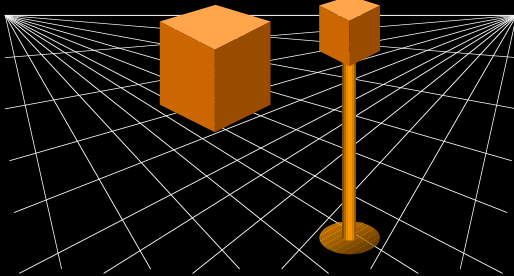
Pythagorus 

Descartes  
x, y, z 

but is it real  
and is it natural

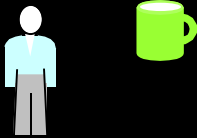
**seeing in 3D**

which is closer?



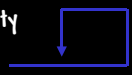
**real is easy**

which is closer?



**2D navigation**

walking vs. helicopter

Poincare property 

tunnels and flyovers

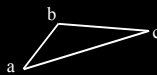
manipulate in 3D  
see in 2 1/2 D  
navigate in 2D

**properties of space**

closeness and connectedness  
fixed orientation/centre  
flat  
infinite  
objective

**closeness**


metric spaces




$$D(a,c) \leq D(a,b) + D(b,c)$$

topology

neighbourhoods  
open and closed sets  
limits





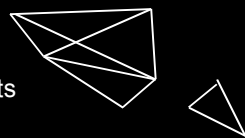
awareness models

nimbus, focus, etc. Benford et al.

**connectedness**

graph theory

arcs and points




awareness

reformulated! Rodden

architecture

**Hillier**

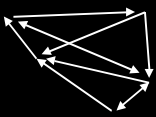


space is the machine



**symmetry**

directed graphs



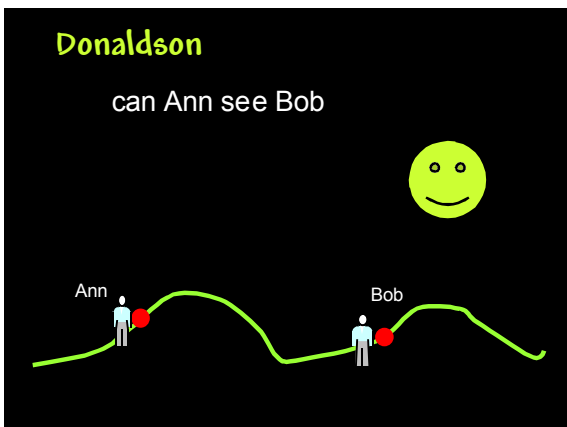
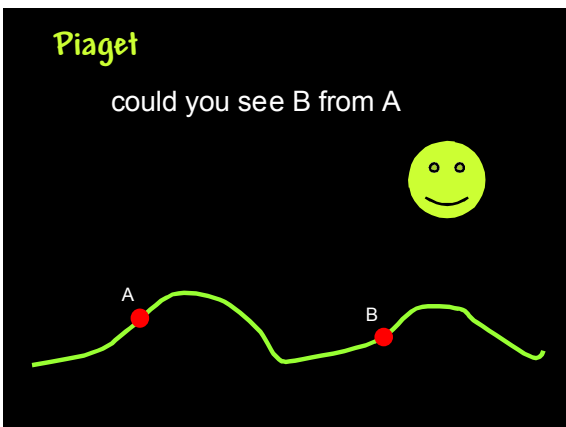
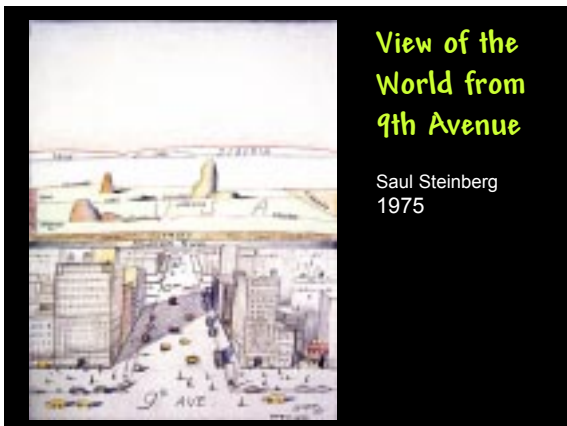
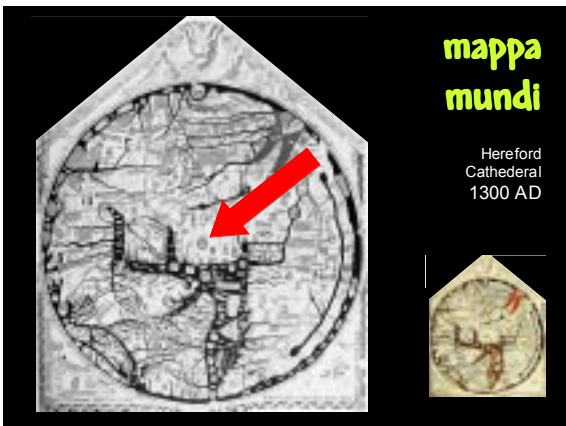
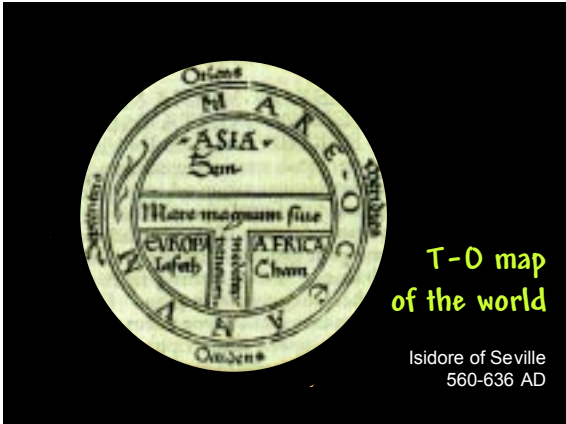
one-way streets

hyperlinks

**symmetry**

**fixed centre**

**fixed orientation**



## viewpoints

Bali - left/right/east/west  
Polynesia - what moves  
CVE ...



## infinite space ... finite, or cyclic

When we've been here ten thousand years,  
Bright shining as the sun,  
We've no less days to sing thy praise  
than when we first begun.

Amazing grace  
John Newton (1725-1807)

The day thou gavest, Lord, is ended,  
The darkness falls at they behest;  
To thee our morning hymns ascended,  
Thy praise shall sanctify our rest.

The day thou gavest, Lord, is ended  
John Ellerton (1829-93)

We thank thee that thy church unsleeping,  
While earth rolls onwards into light,  
Through all the world her watch is keeping,  
And rests not now by day or night.

The day thou gavest, Lord, is ended  
John Ellerton (1829-93)

As o'er each continent and island  
The dawn leads on, another day,  
The voice of prayer is never silent,  
Nor dies the strain of praise away.

The day thou gavest, Lord, is ended  
John Ellerton (1829-93)

flat space  
bent space



Temple of Bel-Shamharoth,  
Discworld

“The floor was a continuous  
mosaic of eight sided tiles.”

Terry Pratchett, The colour of magic

hyperbolic browser (inxight)

data mapped in  
hyperbolic space

hyperbolic space  
projected into 2D



stiching together

general relativity

curved space time  
differential geometry  
locally euclidean patches  
smoothly joined

? cyberspace

local vs. global ...

shapes of  
community

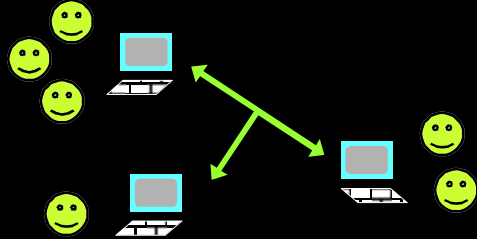


## vfridge

collaboratively  
building  
structure  
in  
space



## close collaboration



## parallel reality

portals and gateways

coexistent worlds

mabinogion  
ubiquitous computing

## in conclusion

there's more to space  
than three dimensions