

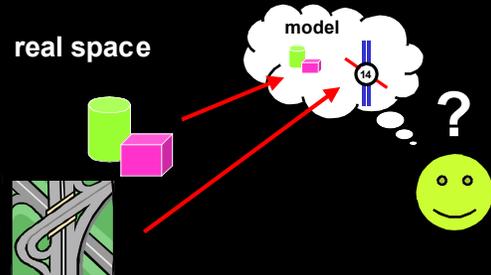
Welsh Mathematician walks in Cyberspace

Alan Dix

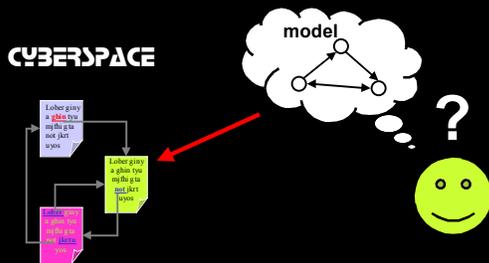
Lancaster University,
vfridge and aQtive

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

understanding space



understanding cyberspace



maps

mazes



mathematics

sources

myth &
magic

cognition

community

sources

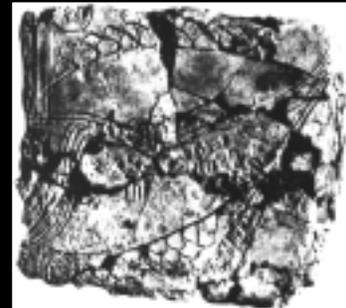
computation

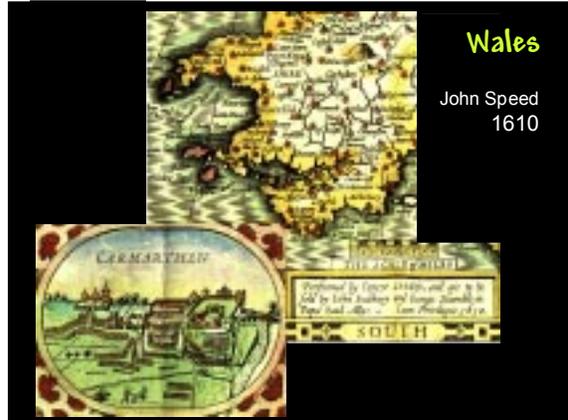
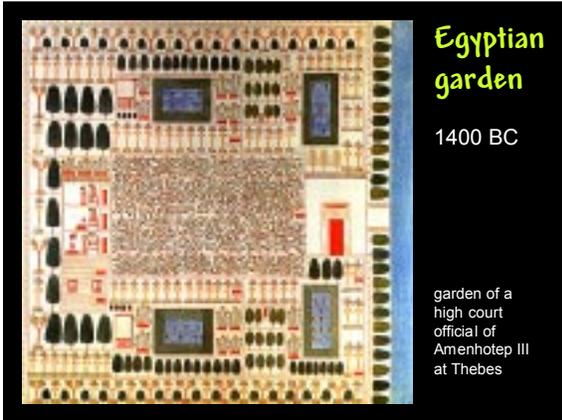
constructed
environment

Clay
tablet map

2200 BC

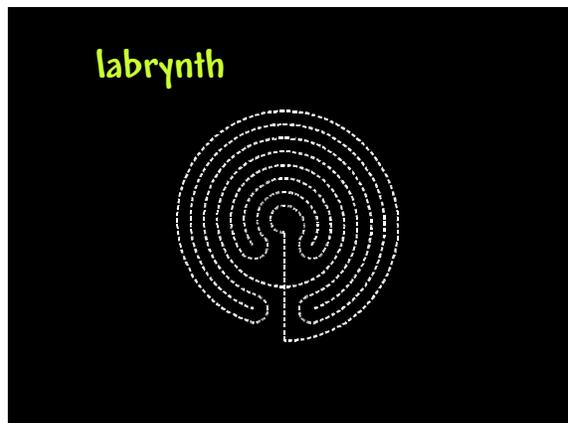
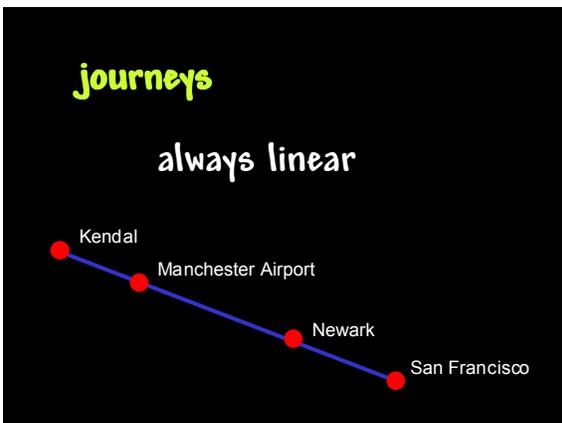
Yorghhan Tepe,
Iraq





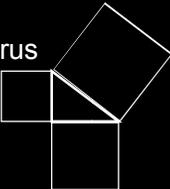
drawings

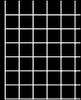
- cartographic (isomorphic)
- cartographic (homomorphic)
- schematic
- linear
- episodic



2D/3D

Euclid 

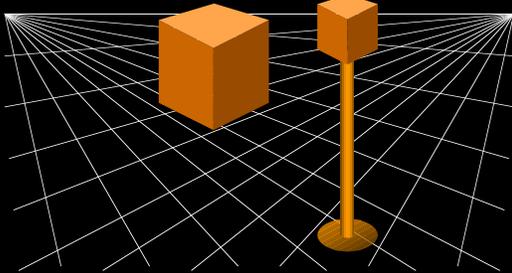
Pythagorus 

Descartes
x, y, z 

but is it real
and is it natural

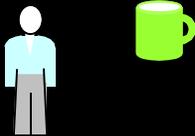
seeing in 3D

which is closer?



real is easy

which is closer?



2D navigation

walking vs. helicopter

Poincare property 

tunnels and flyovers

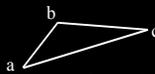
manipulate in 3D
see in 2 1/2 D
navigate in 2D

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





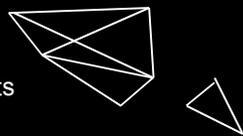
awareness models

nimbus, focus, etc. Benford et al.

connectedness

graph theory

arcs and points

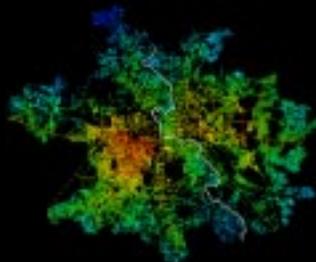


awareness

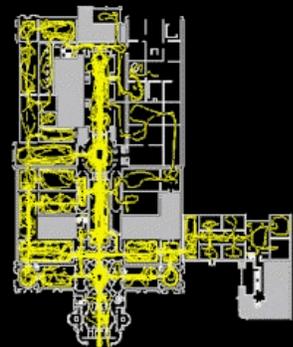
reformulated! Rodden

architecture

Hillier

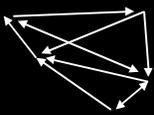


space is the machine



symmetry

directed graphs



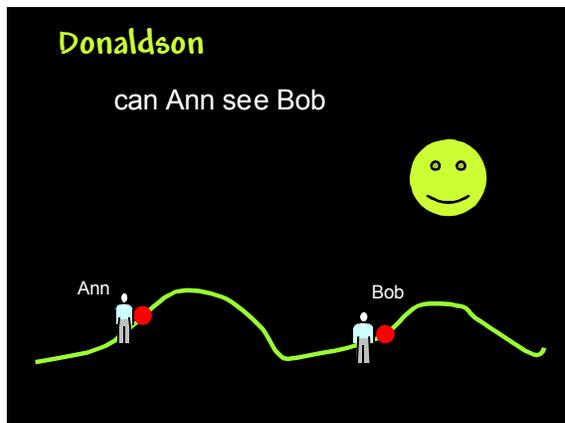
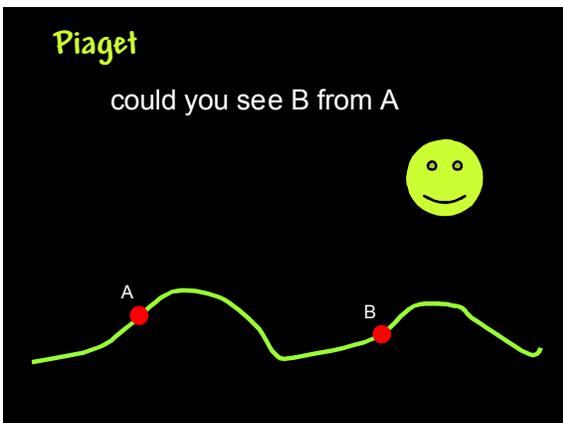
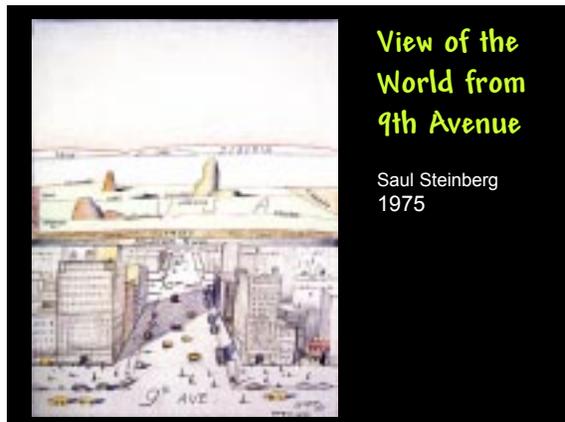
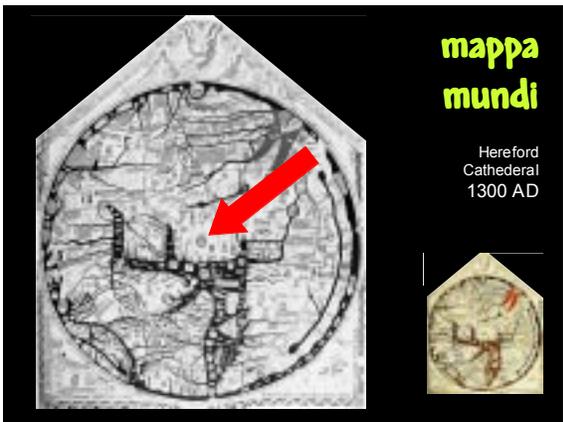
one-way streets

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 thy behest;
To thee our morning hymns ascended,
Thy praise shall sanctify our rest.

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

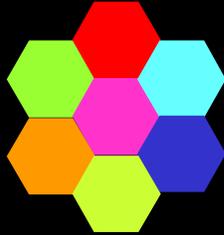
We thank thee that thy church unsleeping,
While earth rolls onwards into light,
Through all the world her watch is keeping,
And rests not now by day or night.

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

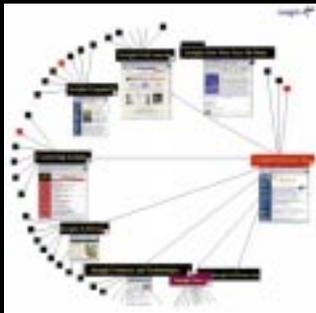
“The floor was a continuous
mosaic of eight sided tiles.”

Terry Pratchett, The colour of magic

hyperbolic browser (inxight)

data mapped in
hyperbolic space

hyperbolic space
projected into 2D



stitching together

general relativity

curved space time
differential geometry
locally euclidean patches
smoothly joined

? cyberspace

local vs. global ...

shapes of
community

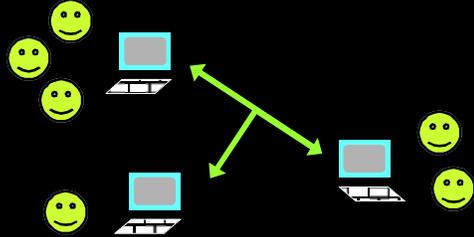


vfridge

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