

Infinite Bandwidth, Zero Latency: Imagine learning futures

Steve Walker, Simon Bell, Clem Herman, Sarah Davies, Elaine Thomas, Adrian Jackson

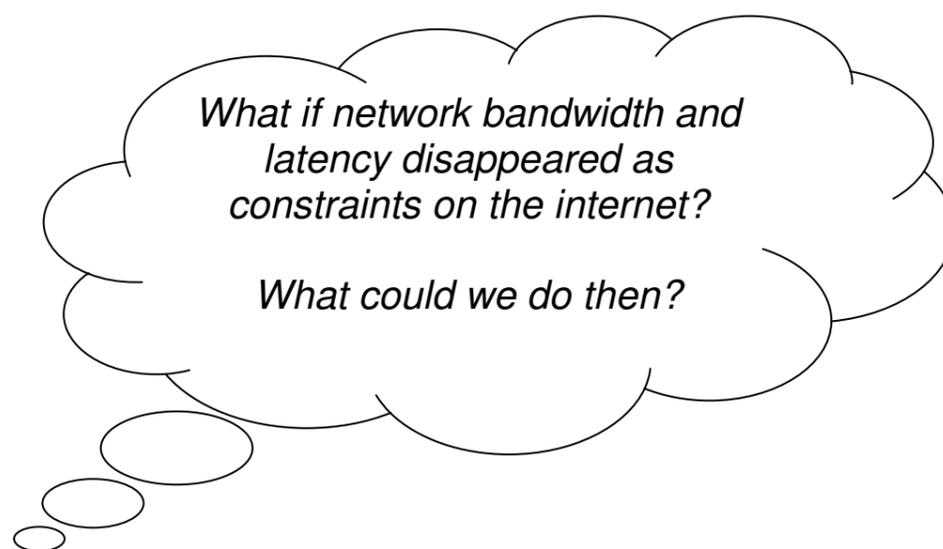


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“Education delivery has the capacity to be transformed, enabling remote and distance learning, completion of homework online and other innovative applications that are currently unable to operate over the existing network.”

Dept. of Business, Innovation & Skills, 2010

IBZL – A thought experiment



- The capacity and speed of the internet has increased exponentially over the last 20 years in steps that have unleashed waves of innovation.
- ‘First generation’ broadband gave millions of users ‘always-on’ connection to the net for the first time.
- Unanticipated and disruptive new applications like Wikipedia and YouTube.
- Will ‘next generation’ broadband similarly see wave of disruptive applications?
- What might they look like?

Using the ‘Imagine’ workshop methodology, we have sought to identify new possibilities through positing a world with effectively infinite bandwidth and zero latency. IBZL tries to create the conditions to start that imagining process, and contributing to thinking about the OU’s own work in such a world.

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1. Reflect and understand

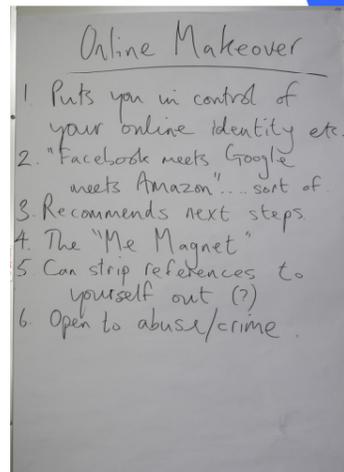


Imagine: how

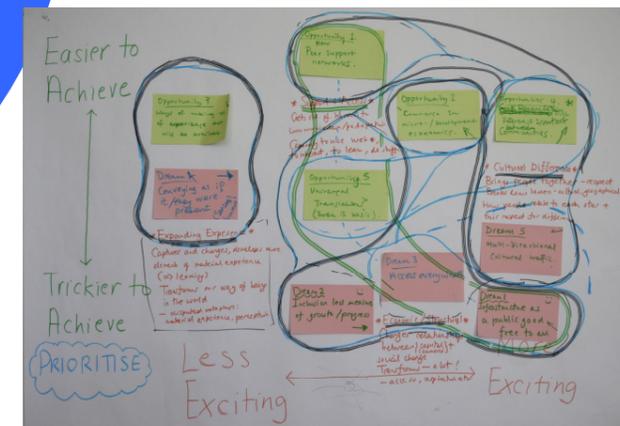
3. Model



5. Reflect and evaluate



2. Cluster and prioritise



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Real avatars?

Ethical tagging?

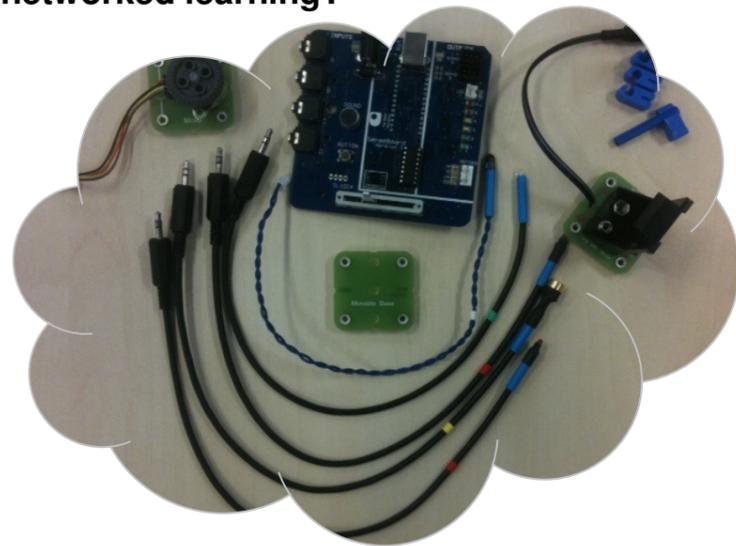


Preserving an offline space...



Smilla <http://www.flickr.com/photos/smilla4/4>

Hybrid networked learning?



Imagine what?



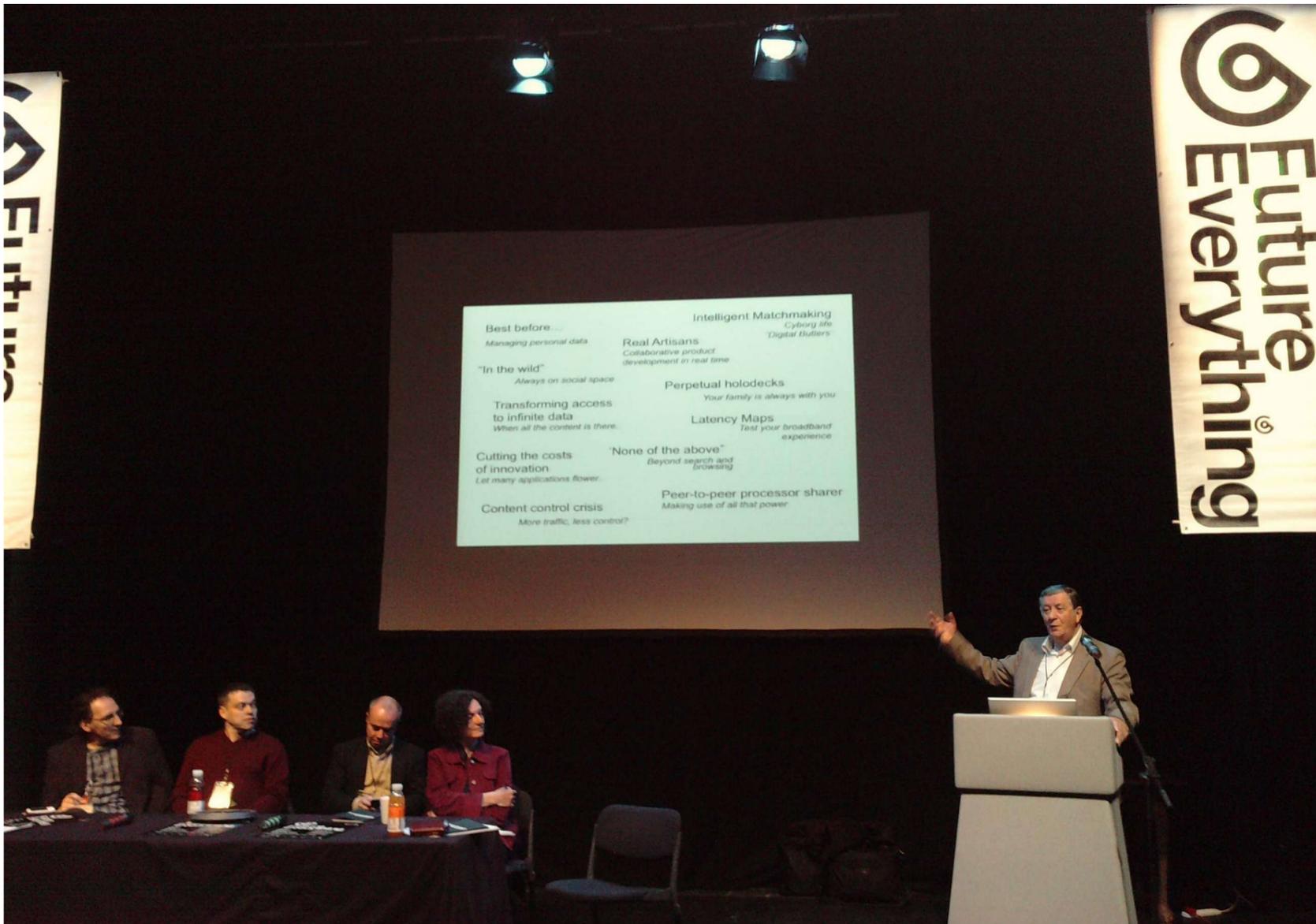
Flying shepherds?

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Ken Eason introducing OU's Tony Hirst, Clem Herman with Manchester Digital's Mike Ryan and Shaun Fensom – Future Everything, Manchester 2010

IMAGINE workshops in Birmingham, Bristol, Manchester, Milton Keynes.

Further reading

Bell S. & Walker S. (2011) Futurescaping 'Infinite Bandwidth, Zero Latency', **Futures** 43(5) 525-539

Thomas, E., Walker S. & Richardson, P. (2012 forthcoming) What did the Romans ever do for us? 'Next generation' networks and hybrid learning resources, **Networked Learning 2012**, Maastricht Apr 2-4

Walker, S., Bell, S., Fensom, S. & Straughan, K. (2011) The 'Infinite Bandwidth, Zero Latency' Project: Inventing a digital future. IN Bradley, G., Whitehouse, D. & Singh, G. (Eds.) **IADIS International Conference: ICT, Society and Human Beings** Rome, IADIS Press

