HOW TO TEACH HUMANS (WITH MACHINES)

ROB KOPER OPEN UNIVERSITY OF THE NETHERLANDS KEYNOTE CSEDU CONFERENCE, LISBON, 23-5-2015

I WILL EXPLORE THE QUESTION:

How to develop digital learning devices that enable people to learn better and faster

QUESTIONS

- 1. How do humans learn?
- 2. How can you help humans to learn better and faster?
- 3. What are the implications for the development of digital devices

DIGITAL DEVICES?



DIGITAL DEVICES?



DIGITAL DEVICES? *"INTERNET OF (EDUCATIONAL) THINGS"*



DIGITAL DEVICES?

Of course!

It is not the hardware as such, but the applications that run on the hardware

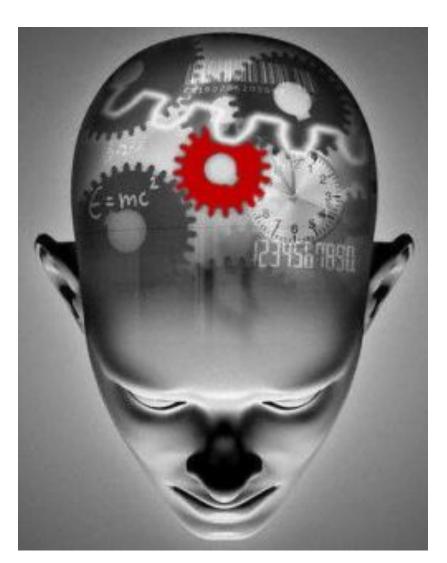
A SHORT PERSONAL STORY



WHAT IS LEARNING?

A change in the mental representations of the world

REPRESENTATIONS ARE IN THE BRAIN...



BEHAVIOR & COGNITIVE FUNCTIONS

Ohlson (2011):

"Differences in representations explain differences in behavior"

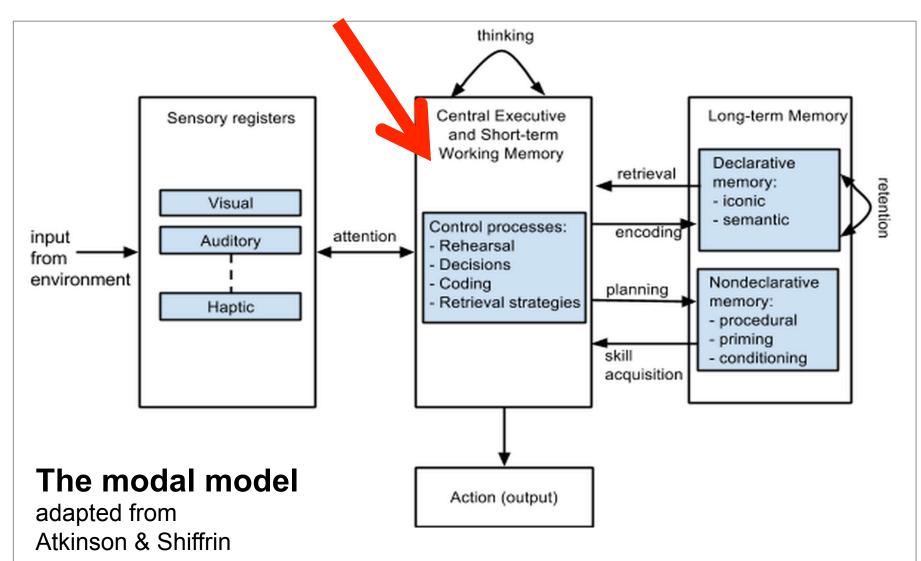
"Cognitive functions (like learning, thinking, acting) are implemented by processes that create, utilize and revise representations"



TEST: PICTURE SIMILAR TO REPRESENTATION?



WHERE ARE THE REPRESENTATIONS IN THE COGNITIVE SYSTEM?

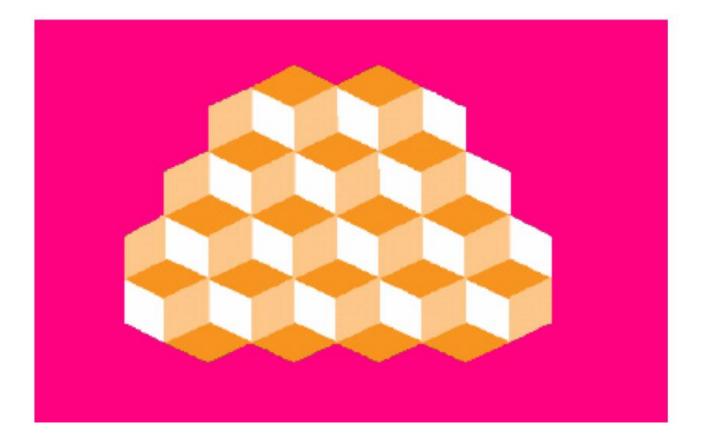


CHANGING REPRESENTATIONS

Representations can change automatic and unconsious!

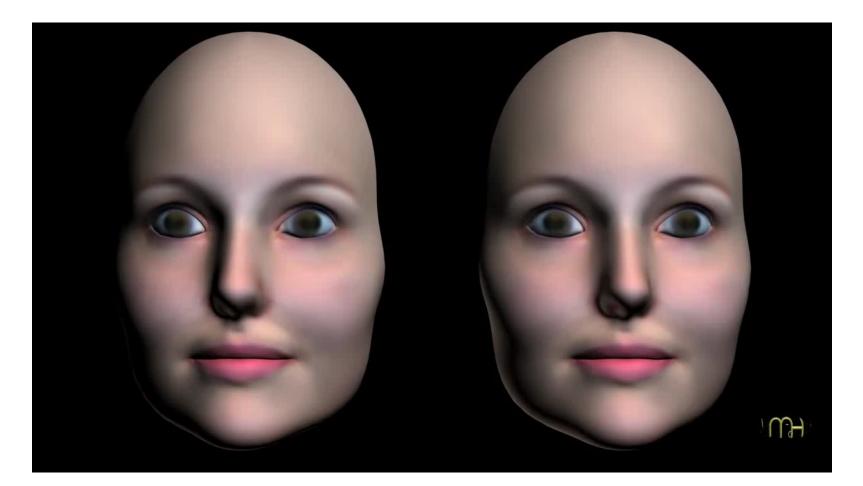
Visual illusions are a great means to *illustrate* this principle. So I will show you two different ones:

HOW MANY BLOCKS?

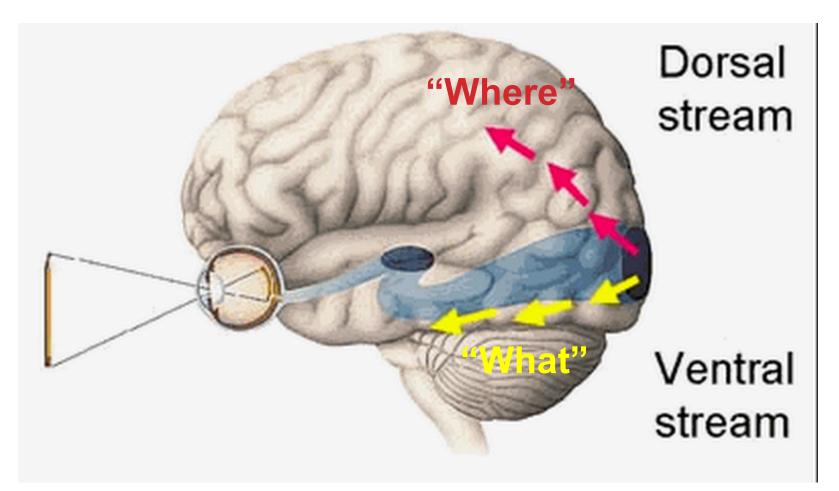


SOME REPRESENTATIONS CAN BE HARD TO CHANGE

HOLLOW MASK



WHAT HAPPENS IN THE BRAIN?



THE CHALLENGE OF LEARNING TECHNOLOGIES

Help people to <u>change</u> their mental representations

Learning Better, Learning Faster

THE CONCEPT OF "HUMAN LEARNING INTERFACES" (HLI)

• In <u>Human Computer Interaction</u> the focus on the question "how humans can instruct a machine in order to perform some tasks"

=> User Interface

 In <u>Teaching with technology</u> it is the other way around: "how can machines instruct humans to support learning, i.e. change representations"

=> Human Learning Interface

THE CONCEPT OF "HUMAN LEARNING INTERFACES" (HLI)

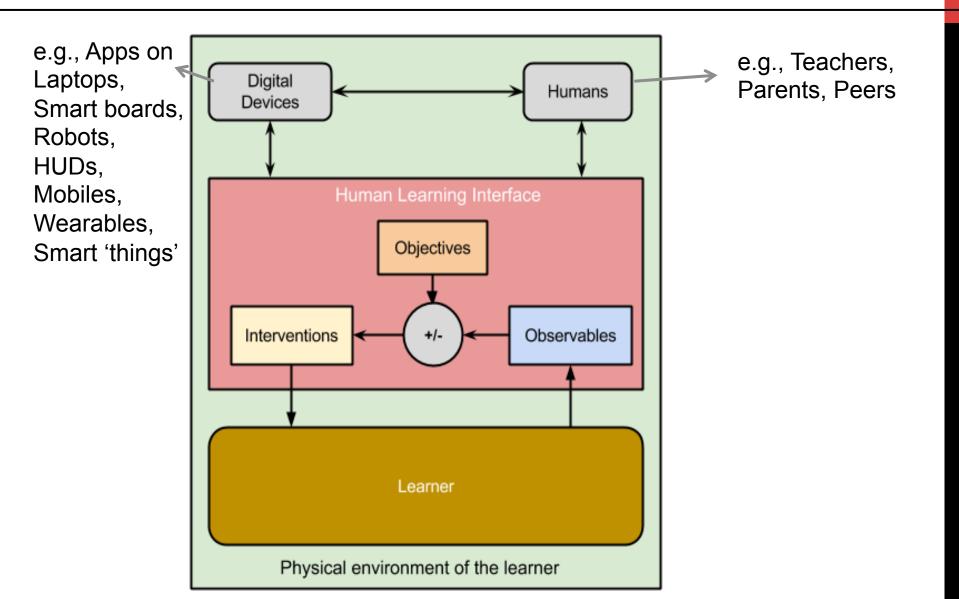


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Human (Learning) Interface



THE CONCEPT OF "HUMAN LEARNING INTERFACES" (HLI)



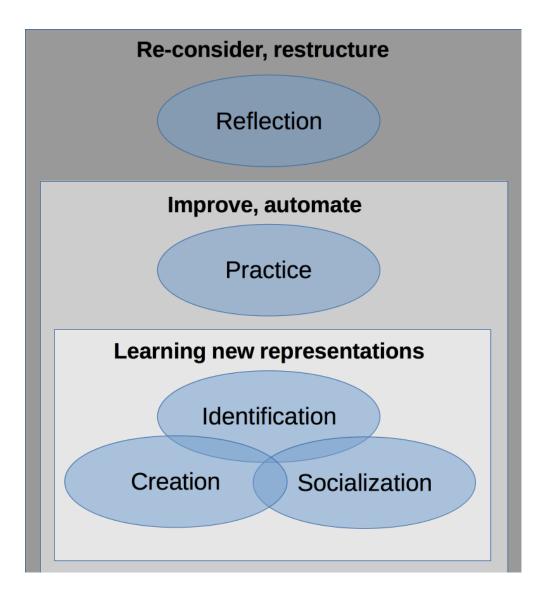
INTERVENTIONS

Building blocks of interventions

- 1. Ask the learner a <u>question</u>
- 2. Assign a <u>task</u> to the learner
- 3. <u>Provide</u> something to the learner (information, materials)
- 4. Conditioning of the environment (eg, incentives)

In order to implement educational software, all of these basic interventions should be available.

5 TYPES OF HUMAN LEARNING INTERFACES EACH WITH THEIR OWN OBJECTIVES



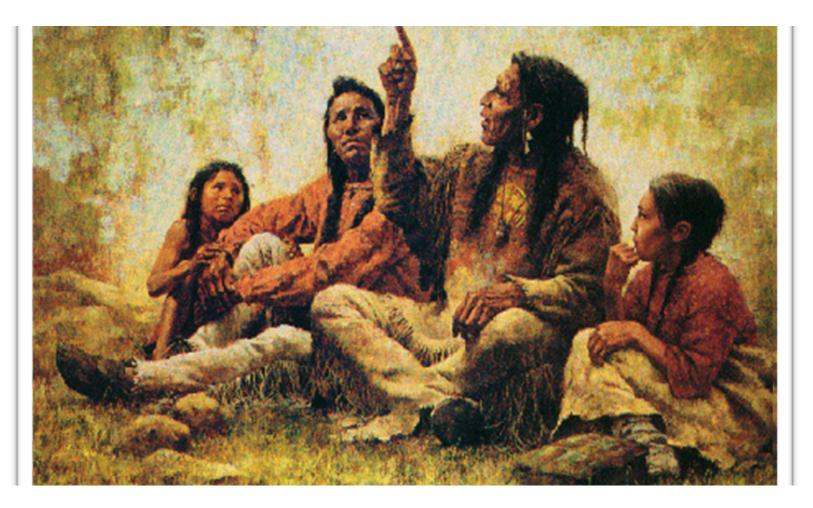
IDENTIFICATION

Learning to represent new situations and events in the world and know how to act and react

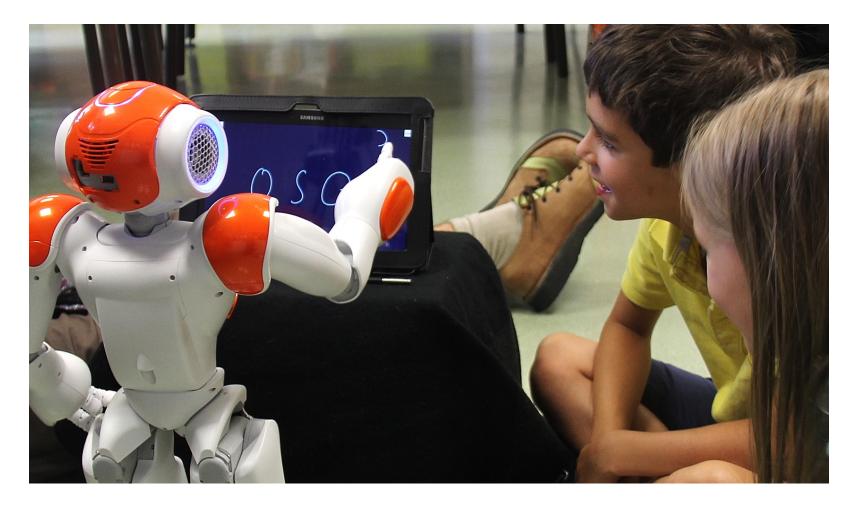
IDENTIFICATION



IDENTIFICATION: LABELS AND STORIES



IDENTIFICATION



SOCIALIZATION

Learning to represent the behaviors, habits and culture of a social group enabling you 'to behave' within these groups

SOCIALIZATION



SOCIALIZATION





Learning to represent new sequences of behavior in order to create something

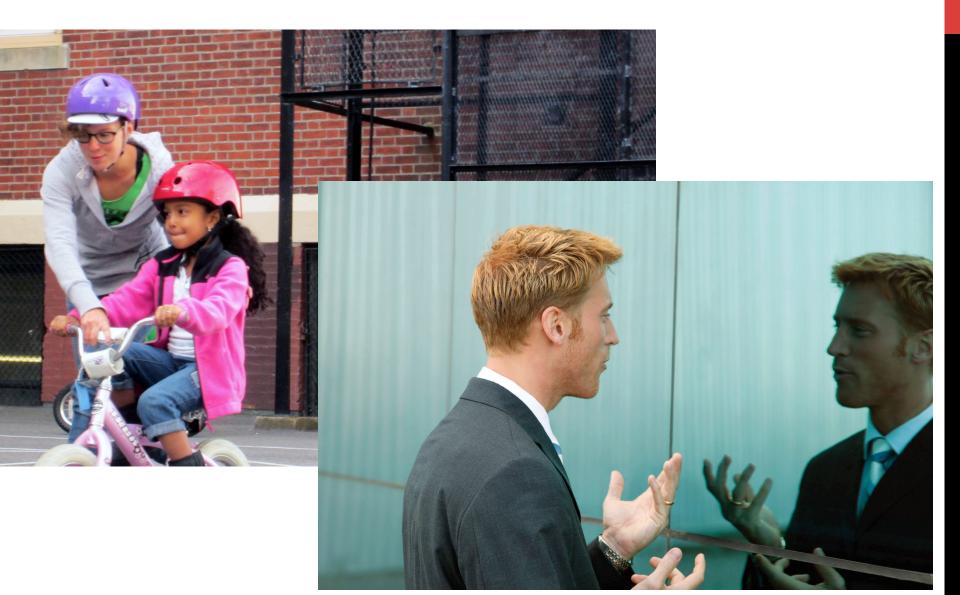
CREATION





Learning to represent situations & actions faster and better, as measured through some performance criteria





REFLECTION

Learning to create representations of representations and to change the initial representations and **behaviors**

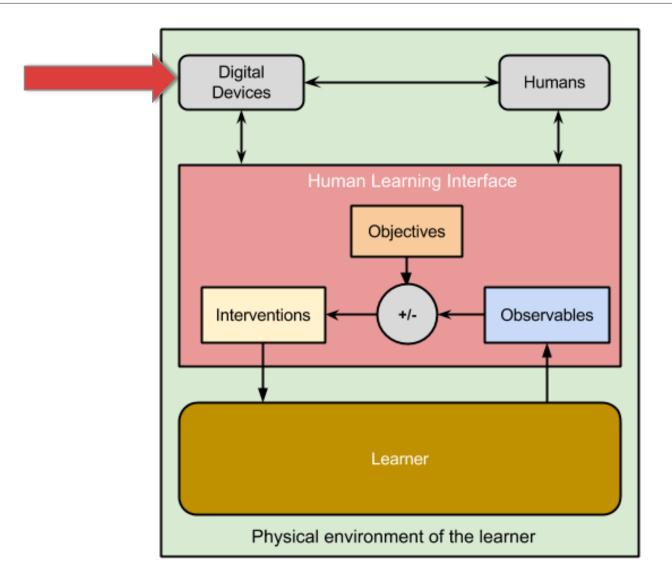
REFLECTION

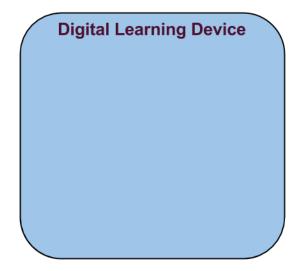


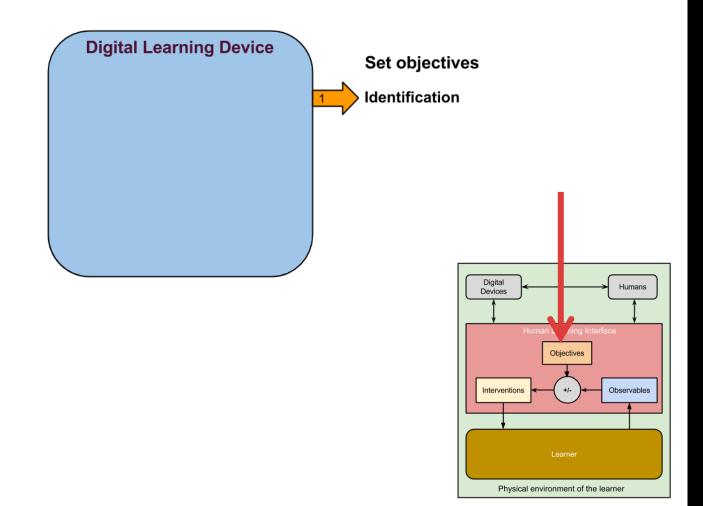
OK, COMING BACK TO THE QUESTION

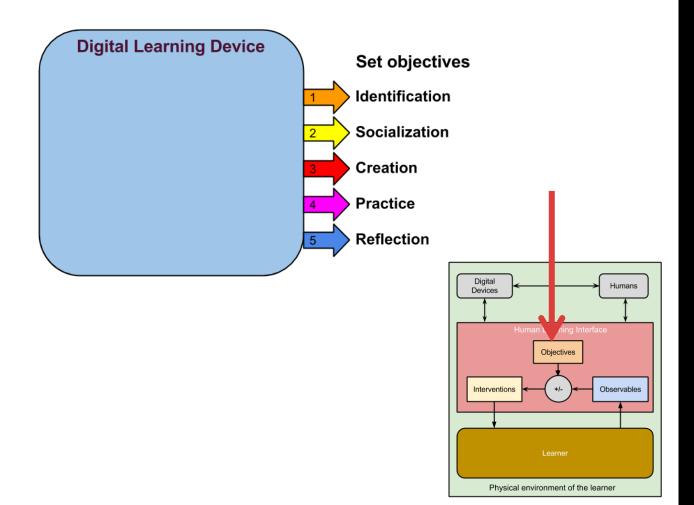
How to develop digital learning devices that enable people to learn better and faster

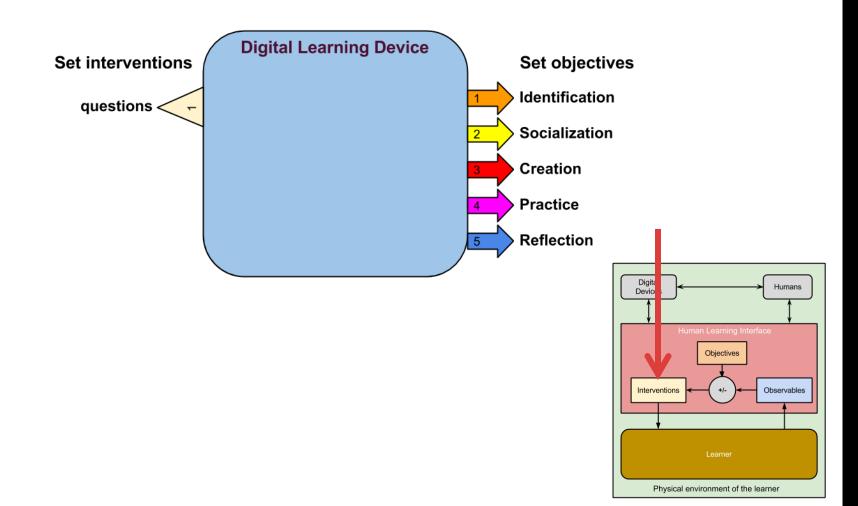
ANSWER: UTILIZE HLIs

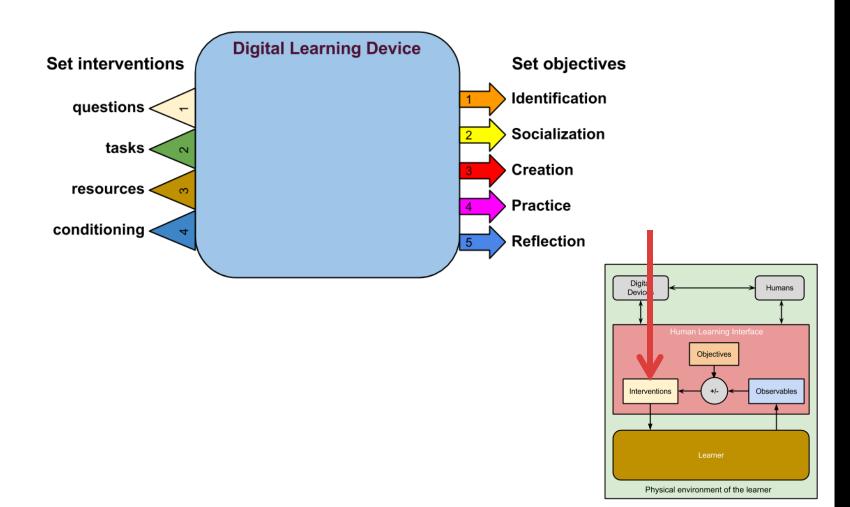


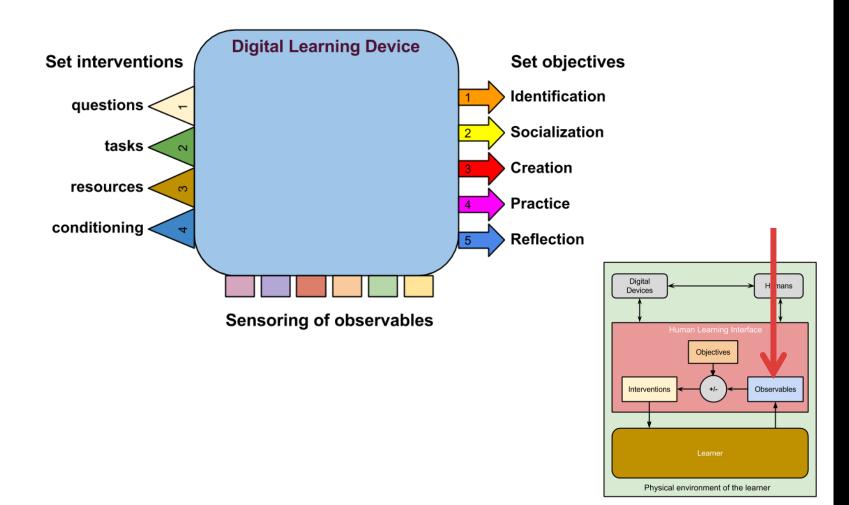


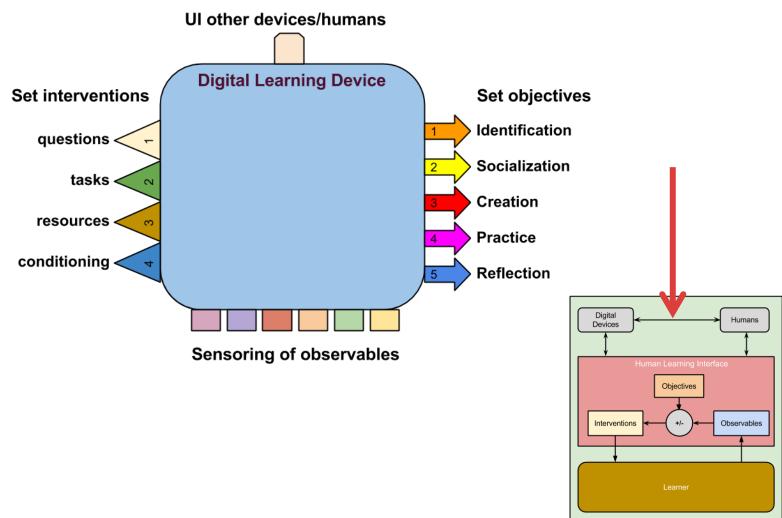




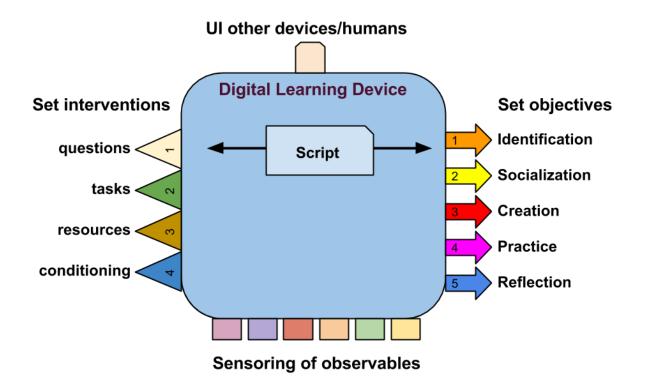


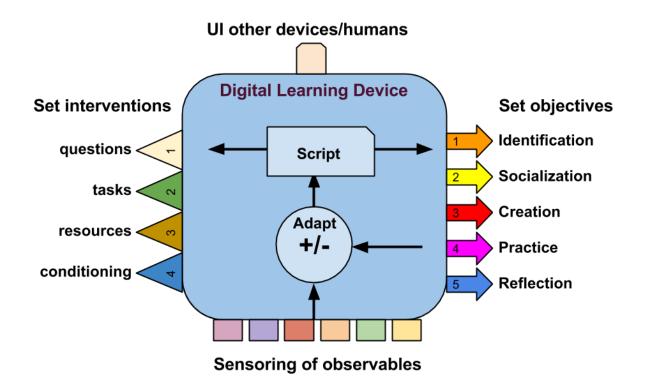






Physical environment of the learner



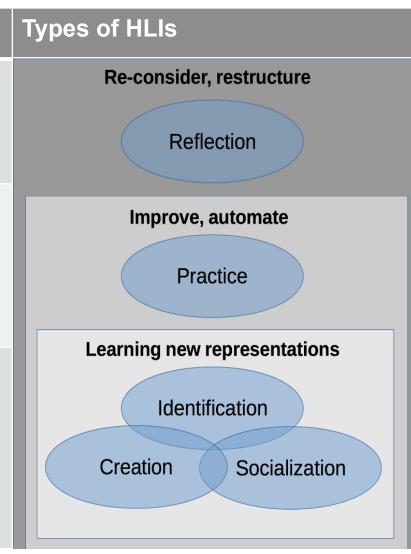


HOW TO TEACH HUMANS TO LEARN BETTER AND FASTER?

 Utilize natural learning interfaces to change representations

Action

- Make a clear distinction between learning new physical worlds, new social worlds and learning to create
- Always combine learning of new representations with sufficient practice and reflection



THANK YOU!

READ MORE? TINYURL.COM/ROBKOPER