# Supporting Practice, Integrating Research in Immersive Technologies into Educational Designs (SPIRITED): Technology to Support Co-located Collaborative Learning

Vanessa Svihla, vsvihla@unm.edu

Joe Kniss, Eileen Waldschmidt, David Beining, Jonathan Strawn, Allison Hagerman, Matt Dahlgren, and Nichols Kvam and Jeffrey Bowles
University of New Mexico
6/2/2012





## questions we are exploring

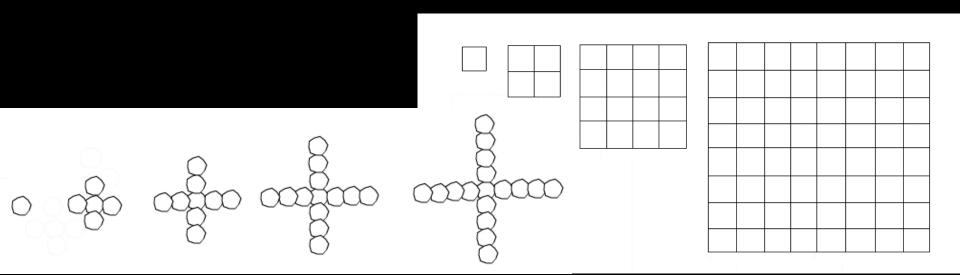
- How might we support teachers to design and implement inquiry in which context is provided and scientific activity structures are provoked using immersive, interactive technology?
- In what ways might an immersive experience reconfigure inquiry learning, before, during, and after the experience?

#### Pilot studies

- mathematics for elementary teachers
  - topic selected has had low success rate in past
  - n = 9
- greenhouse effect
  - in development
  - exploring feasibility of turning a netlogo simulation into a 3D model
- nature of science, with pre-service secondary science teachers

# arithmetic and geometric sequences with domestroids

- context: cancer researcher proposes new weapon design to destroy asteroids, based on ideas of sequences
- number of asteroids
- size of asteroids



#### Methods

- interdisciplinary design team
- video records
  - low light conditions in dome
  - interaction analysis
- artifacts
  - grounded coding
- pre/post comparisons
- interviews

### ways forward

- low-cost immersive, interactive projection kits for use in classrooms
- exploring how our designs might fit into classrooms to reconfigure learning, transforming corners of classrooms into interactive rings of Saturn or carbon nanotubes.

#### feedback desired

- what are the affordances of this immersive, interactive environment?
- how do they differ from other similar environments?
- how are we (not) taking advantage of them?
- what are we not asking, that we should be asking?

#### thanks

This research is supported by an Interdisciplinary Research grant from the College of Education in cooperation with the Office of the Provost, University of New Mexico. We also acknowledge prior NSF funding (PFI #917919) for the technology development, though the views presented are our own.



#### **Design Dimension**

Design occurs under constraints.

Design involves form and function. A customer may select a design based on form, even if function is inferior.

#### Components

Cost Regulations

Materials
Style
Ambiguity

Designs address diverse customer or client needs, some of which may be implicit.

Roles Needs Implicit/False

Design is an iterative process that requires evaluation and optimization across tradeoffs.

Tradeoffs
Improvement
Coevolution

interdisciplinary projectbased learning course, in-service teachers (n=9)

design tools: VOC, ideation, evaluation, prototyping

data: reflections, artifacts, pre/post tests