

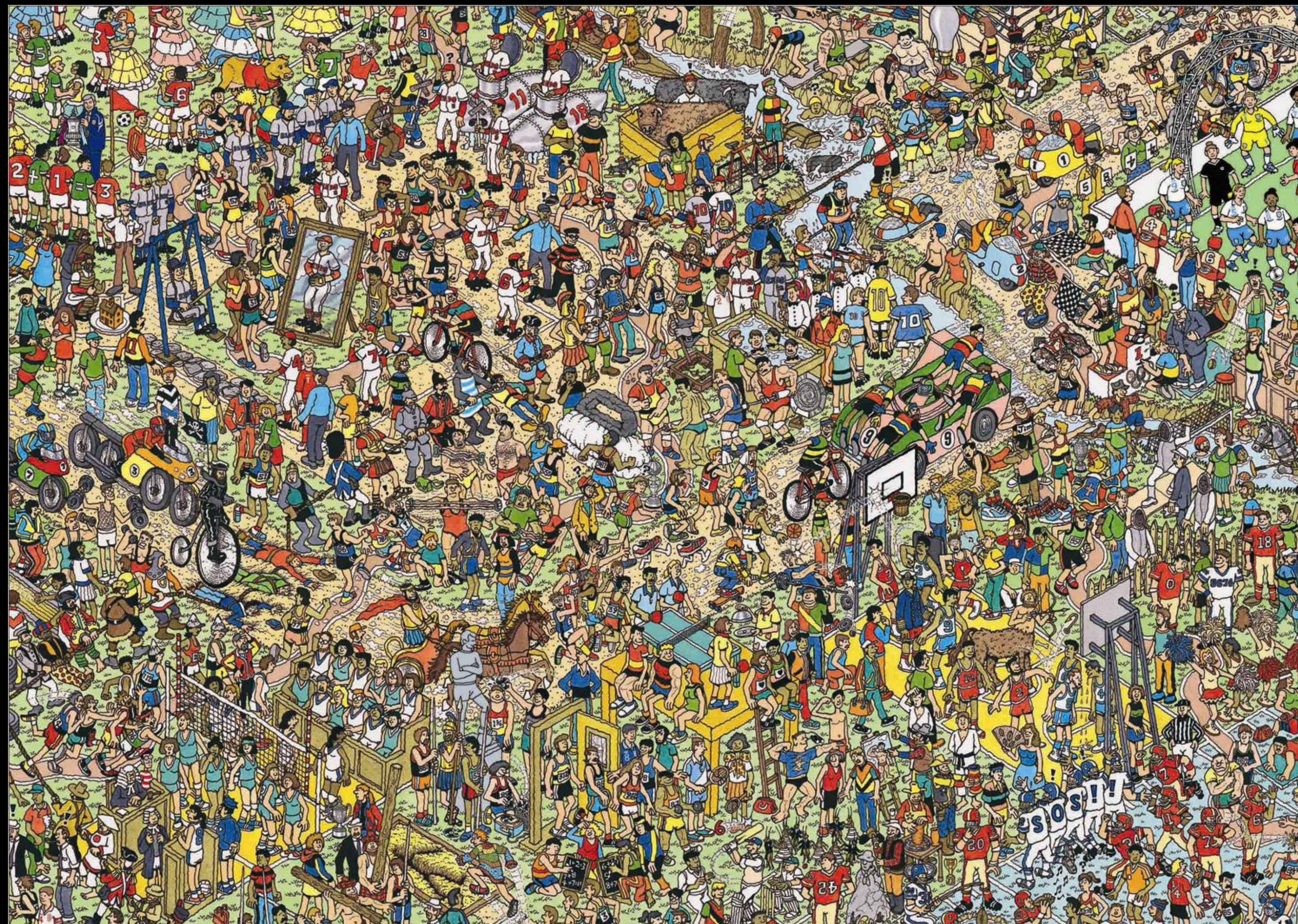
WORLD IA DAY 2015
LOCAL CONNECTIONS. GLOBAL IMPACT.

Where is Wally's lab ?

plan.epfl.ch: best IA practices in academic context
Natalie Meystre, VPSI-EPFL

02.2015

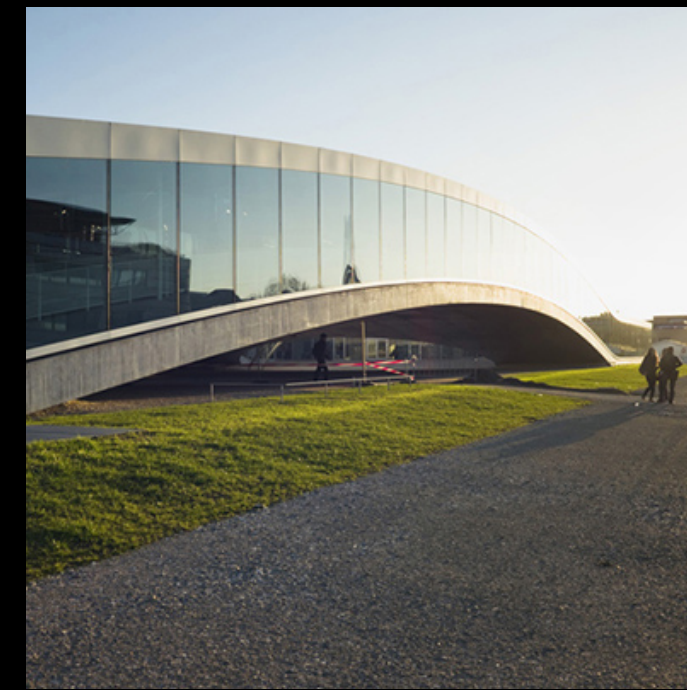
How to find somebody at EPFL ?



Situation

- EPFL: Ecole polytechnique fédérale de Lausanne
- ~5'000 employees, ~9'000 students
- Main campus in Lausanne: a lot of buildings and levels

Campus 1978 - 2014



IT project



- A web application to help people find places and other people's offices.
- Existing data: maps by the infrastructure department + people directory (name, phone, office)
- Start 2005

IT developers team issues



- To build an application combining these data on a dynamic plan (OpenStreetMap)
- How to calculate an itinerary ?
- How to manage levels ?
- How to maintain updated informations ?
- ... and many other features to add ...



IA team issues

- A data visualisation issue
- How to make it usable ?
- How to market it ?
- How to convince people to use it instead of their usual tools (googlemap...)

IT delivering



- A debugged application !
- A homepage stuffed with features

Outil d'orientation - Microsoft Internet Explorer

Fichier Edition Affichage Favoris Outils ?

Précédente Recherche Favoris

Adresse http://dev.camptocamp.com/~yves/scie/client_scie.php OK Liens

Outil d'orientation

fr | en

Actualiser Réinitialiser

Navigation Thèmes PDF

déplier - fermer
tout sélectionner - tout
désélectionner

Toiture

- Accès
- Handicapés
- Administration
- Associations
- Ateliers
- Commerces
- Lieux importants
- Restauration
- Services
- Utilitaires
- Zones fumeur

0 170 340 510 680 850 m

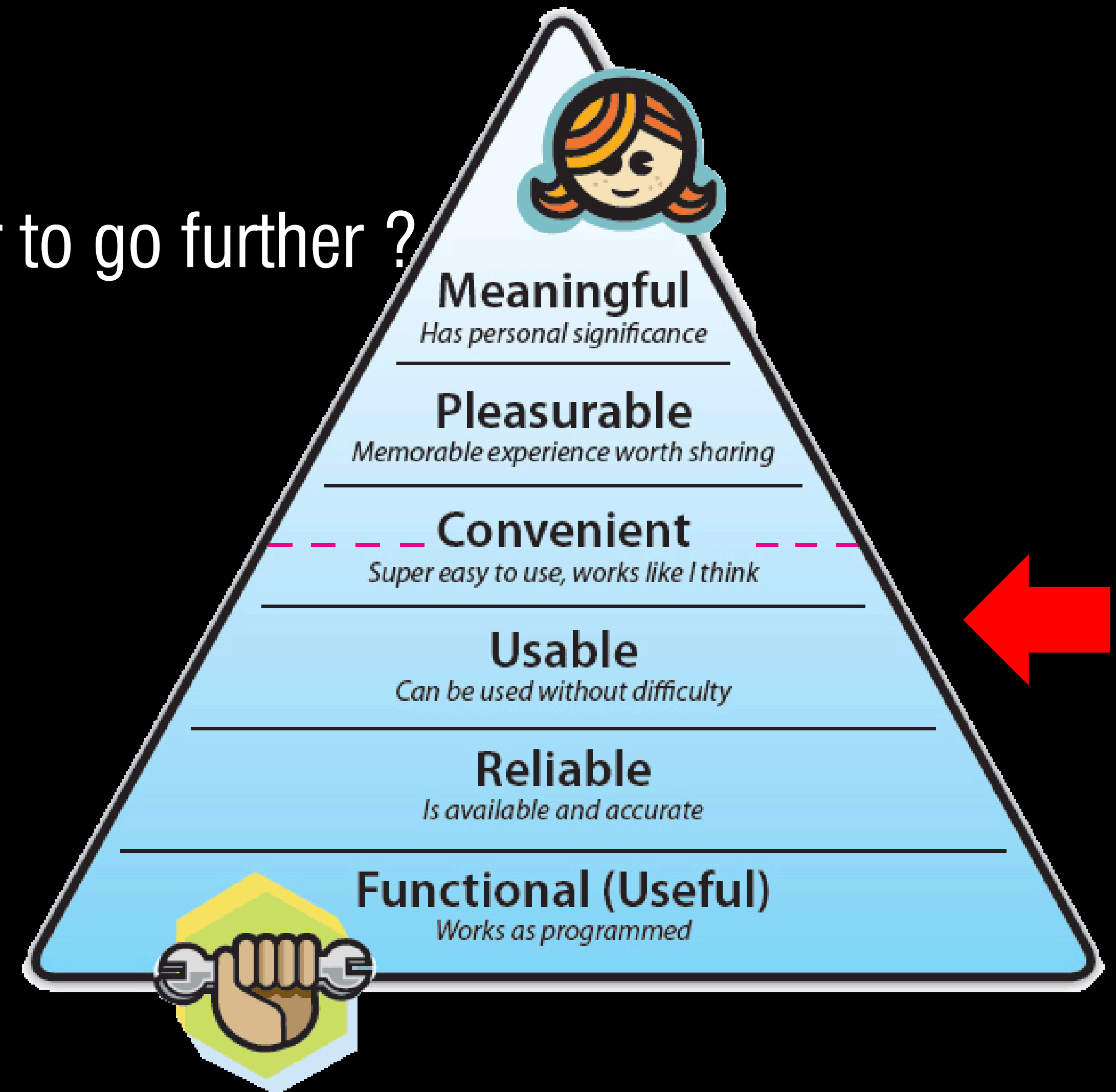
© Camptocamp SA - XHTML Validator

Terminé Internet



IA delivering

- How to convince the project manager to go further ?



Some cases 'against' IA

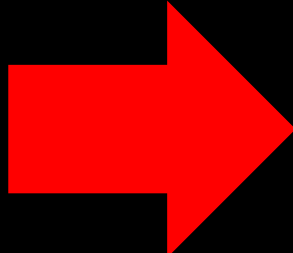


- Too expensive
- Slow the delivering
- Too subjective
- Too late
- It's a designer issue (colors & icons)

 If an application has no bug and all the features are present, the work is done !



IA method

 To do a user testing

- With few simple usecases to test a few users
- Simple method (observation and notes)
- Quick deliver (failed / success)
- No bad tricks (let's the project manager choose the questions)

plan.epfl.ch update

 Improvements rather than changes

- Less elements on the main page
- Better labelling
- Less icons
- Less colors
- Organization of elements

“ Less is more ”



Why are the users happy now ?

 A truly pure user oriented app'

- Focus on the people' s need (not institution's)
- Not academic at all

Find a person now

The screenshot shows the EPFL Map application interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the EPFL logo, menu items for 'YOU ARE', 'BY SCHOOL', and 'ABOUT EPFL', and a search bar. Below this is a secondary navigation bar with options like 'Search', 'Points of Interest', 'Routing' (which is selected), 'Print', 'Measure', 'Reset', 'Link', and 'Help'. On the left side, there is a search input field with 'Natalie Meystre' and 'Jean-Claude Berney' entered, a 'Disabled' checkbox, and 'Let's go!' and 'Reset' buttons. Below the search is a table of routing instructions:

Step	Description	Distance
A	Departure from level 0	
1	Up the stairs to level 1	60 m
2	Up the stairs to level 2	378 m
3	Down the stairs to level 1	557 m
4	Down the stairs to level 0	569 m
B	Arrival to level	604 m

The main map area shows a detailed view of the EPFL campus with buildings labeled with letters like AA, SG, AN, AI, SV, CO, MX, EL, BC, III, DIA, ME, MA, GR, GC, BP, BM, LE, and PB. A red dotted line indicates the routing path between point A (marked with a red 'A') and point B (marked with a red 'B'). On the right side, there are controls for 'Zoom' (with '+' and '-' buttons), 'View' (switching between 'Map' and 'Satellite'), and a 'Places' list including EPFL Campus, Aula Cour, Basel, CHUV, CRR Valais, ECAL Renens, Fribourg, MC Microcity, Maillefer, and Middle East. An inset map in the bottom right corner shows the location of the campus within the region of Renens and Ecublens.

THANK YOU.

QUESTIONS?

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