

# VCRI

Using shared visualisations for collaboration

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# Overview

- Introduction
- Shared
- Collaboration & User experience
- Visualisations
- Future



## What's the VCRI?

- An awful acronym
- A multiplatform groupware application
- Client – TclHttpd server
- A toolbox with almost 20 tools
- Pure Tcl/Tk
- A research tool



# VCRI

The screenshot displays the VCRI 2.3 application interface, which is divided into several functional windows:

- Cowriter:** A text editor window containing a document with sections labeled 'Vraag 1' through 'Vraag 4' and 'Deel 1' through 'Deel 3'. The text discusses technical details about Tequila, firewalls, and synchronization mechanisms.
- Forum:** A window for posting messages. It shows a 'Post message' dialog box with the text 'Can anybody tell me what everybody is doing?'. Below this, a list of messages is visible, including one from Marcel asking 'hey, where's everybody??' and another from Marcel replying 'nobody there?'.
- Diagrammer:** A window for creating and editing diagrams. It includes a toolbar with 'Add', 'Delete', and 'Release' buttons, and a workspace where a diagram is being constructed.
- Participation:** A window showing a 3D visualization of a network or participation structure. It features a central node labeled '101 Ceciel' and other nodes labeled 'Helen' and 'Marcel'. The diagram is interactive, with buttons for 'Zoom in', 'Zoom out', and 'Restore'.

The interface also includes a menu bar (File, Edit, Tools, Window, Help) and a status bar at the bottom showing the current user as 'Online: Marcel'.



# Shared

- Synchronisation
  - Consistency, persistency
  - Files or Metakit
  - Connections
- WYSIWIS
  - Illusion of one copy
  - Awareness



# Collaboration & User experience

- VCRI
  - Consistency is hard
  - Tile is easy
- Participation
  - Cancel vs. pause
  - Scale
  - Contextual menu vs. toolbar
- Cowriter
  - Turn taking
  - Multiple texts
  - (Un)locking
  - Automatic (un)locking
  - Optimistic concurrency control



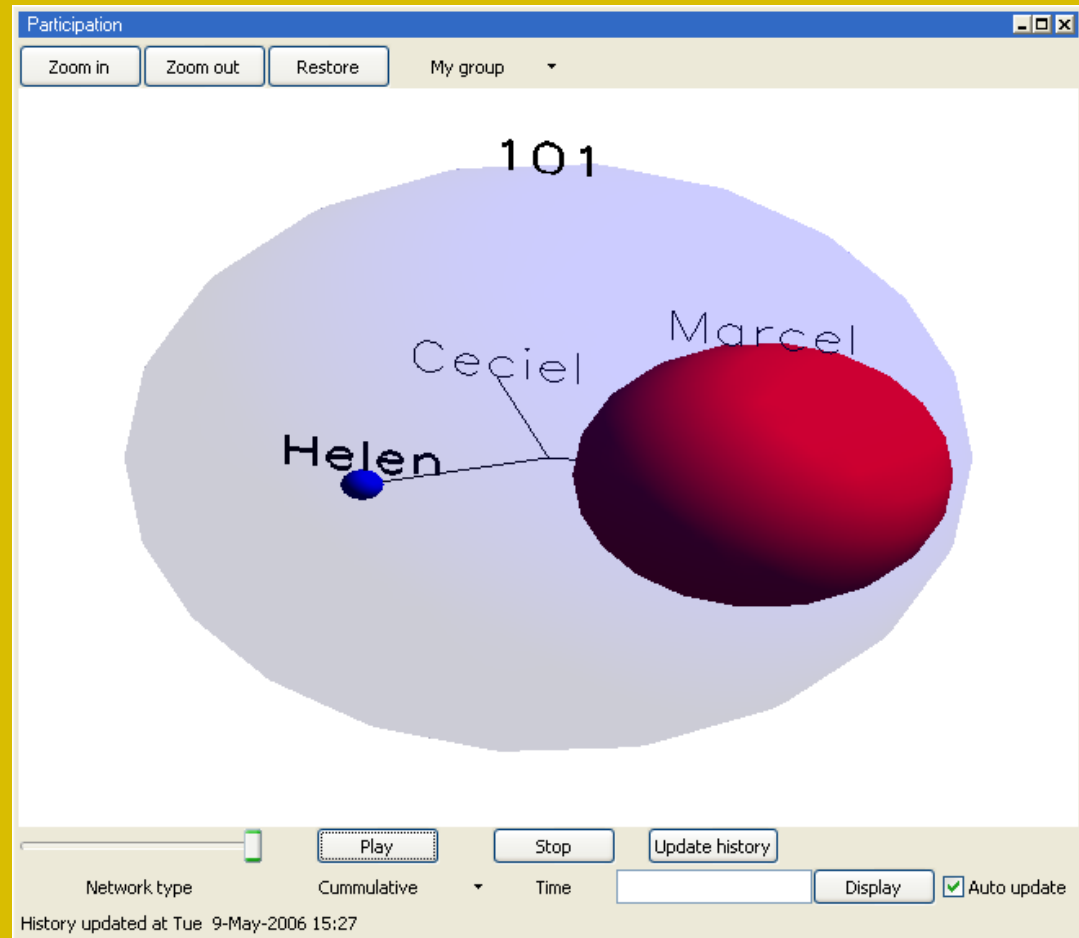


## Participation (1/2)

- Influence of feedback on participation
- Visualises participation rates
  - Frequency
  - Intensity
- 3D using tclogl
- Results
  - More long messages
  - Better awareness of free riders
  - More collaboration



# Participation (2/2)





## Shared Space (1/2)

- Influence of feedback on discussion
- Visualises discussion/agreement
- Enhanced chat
- Analyses messages
  - Divide in topics
  - Using 'dialogue act filter'
  - Discussion or agreement
- Results
  - More media richness
  - Less effort maintaining understanding
  - Constructive but critical



# Shared Space (2/2)

Chat

Show message history

(15:20) Marcel hey, where's everybody??

(15:20) Marcel nobody there?

(15:25) Helen here i am!

(15:25) Helen tralalala

(15:50) Marcel this has to be in dutch

(15:51) Helen alles goed?

(15:51) Marcel super, fijn dat je dat vraagt

(15:51) Helen geen probleem

(15:51) Helen verdonie, dat gaat lekker

(15:51) Marcel verdonie?

(15:52) Marcel nee, nee en noge eens nee

(15:52) Helen jazeker

(15:52) Helen jawel

(15:53) Marcel dit is een nieuw topic!

(15:55) Helen yeah!!!

Discussion Agreement

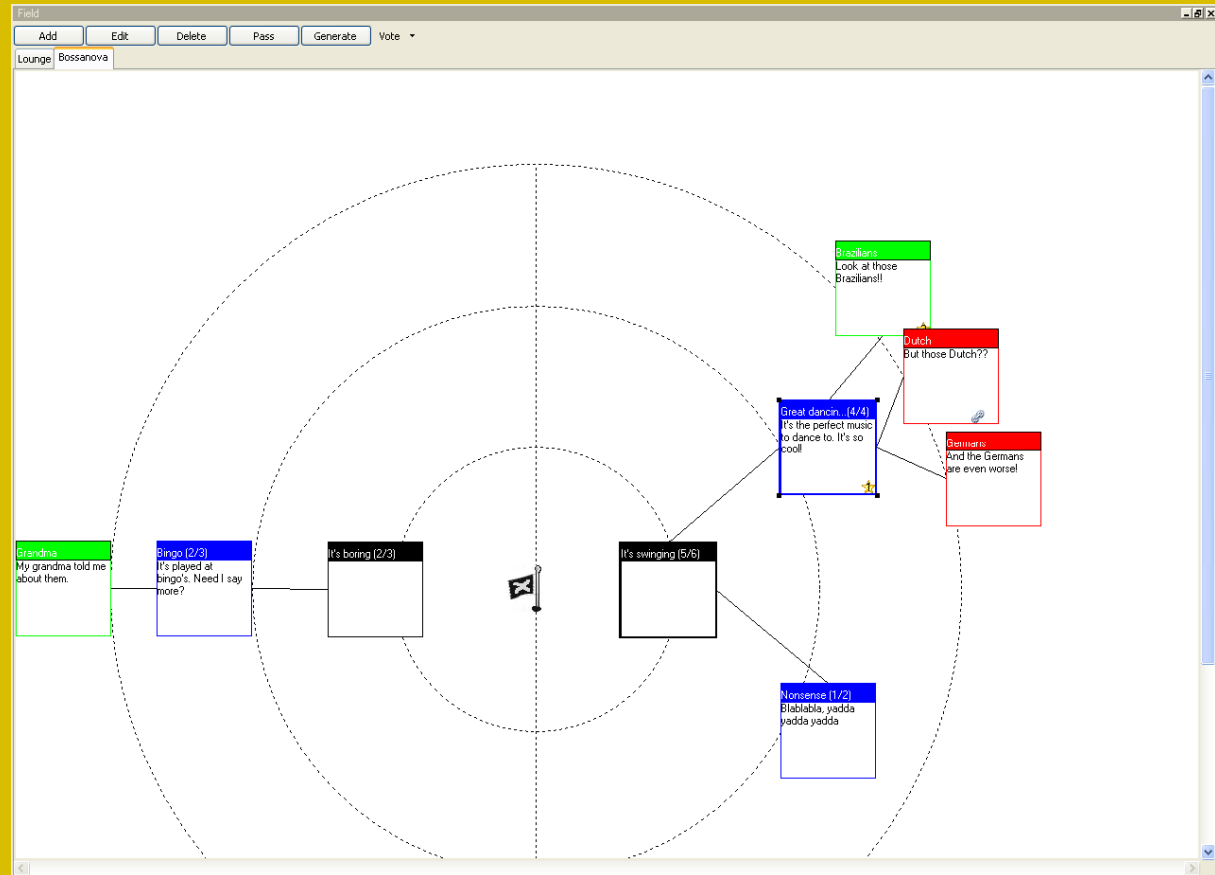


## Commitment Field (1/2)

- Influence of feedback on argumentation
- Visualises argumentation
  - Complexity
  - 'Argumentative power'
- Links to the Internet
- Rounds, votes, linearisation
- MVC design
  - Easy code maintenance
  - Test different views
- Results
  - Time will tell



# Commitment Field (2/2)



# VCRI's future

## VCRI goes

- European
  - KP-Lab
- Public
  - Educational release
  - Easier to install
- Open source
  - Improving
  - Extending
- European Tcl Users Meeting 2007?



## Questions?

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