

Chair for Information Architecture | HS2008

# Elective Course Information Architecture

## Thinking with your Eyes

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**ia**

Chair for Information Architecture

Thinking with your Eyes

## Overview

- INFORMATION Architecture - Review L2
- From Information to Knowledge
- Principles
- Perception and your Minds Eye

Thinking with your Eyes

## Overview

- **INFORMATION Architecture - Review L2**
- From Information to Knowledge
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INFORMATION Architecture - Review L2

# Information R/Evolution

From Card Boxes to Database

From Database to Hypertext

From Hypertext to Web 2.0

From Web 2.0 to Web 3.0

# Information R/Evolution

**1.0** one-way &  
broad

E-Mail  
Static Websites  
Discussion Forums  
Instant Messaging  
Chat Rooms

**1.x** dynamic &  
interactive

Dynamic Websites  
Portals  
Communities  
Agents  
Video Conferencing  
Web Services  
Collaborative Filtering  
VOIP

**2.0** simple &  
social

Blogs  
Wikis  
RSS  
Mashups  
Pod- & Webcasts  
Social Networks  
Social Bookmarking  
Folksonomies

## A Case for Research: The PhaseX experiments

PhaseX is the major experiment at the Chair for CAAD from 1996-1998

<http://www.space.arch.ethz.ch/>

## Summary

The trend in social media is the continuous shift to upload and share rich multi-media content and there is a big movement towards participation.

This represents a real shift in media consumption and production from passivity (TV) to personal control (YOUTUBE).

Thinking with your Eyes

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From Information to Knowledge

## Situation - Information Overload

more and more information  
needs to be communicated  
faster and faster  
to more and more stakeholders

From Information to Knowledge

## Visualization Fields - Static

- Graphic Design
- Art
- Advertising
- Graphic Design
- Visual Communication
- Information Design
- Film



From Information to Knowledge

## Visualization Fields - Interactive

- Interaction/Game Design
- Geographic Information System (GIS)
- Medical Visualization
- Scientific Visualization
- Computer Graphics
- Information Visualization
- Human Computer Interaction
- Virtual Reality
- Augmented Reality
- Knowledge Visualization

Thinking with your Eyes

## Discussion

Why is this relevant to you?

From Information to Knowledge

Why is this relevant to you?

The architect's key resource in the future is the comprehensive knowledge about different **visualization methods** and the understanding of **relations, patterns, and principles.**

It is the capacity to create high level design by the combination of Architecture and Information.

From Information to Knowledge

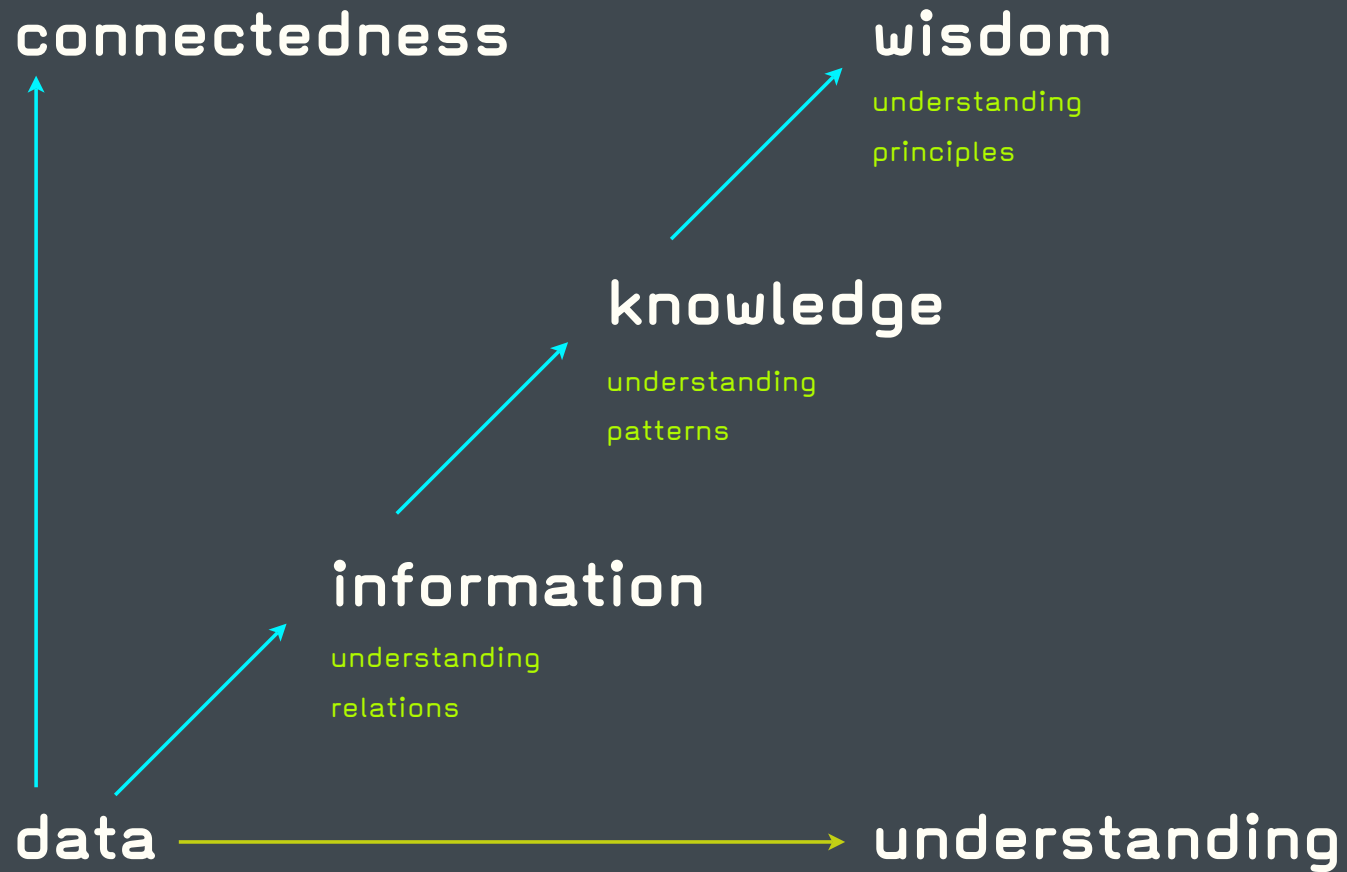
# Why is this relevant to you?

## Visualization Methods

- Envisioning (Mental Images, Stories)
- Sketching (Sketch)
- Expressing, Narrating (Images)
- Diagramming (Diagramms, Charts)
- Mapping (Maps)
- Materializing (Objects, Models)
- Exploring (Interactive Visualizations)

From Information to Knowledge

# Data - Information - Knowledge - Wisdom



From Information to Knowledge

# Data - Information - Knowledge - Wisdom

## Data

**Represents a fact or a statement of an event  
without relation to other things**

Example: 42

Example: It rains



From Information to Knowledge

# Data - Information - Knowledge - Wisdom

## Information

**Embodies the understanding of a relationship of some sort, possibly cause and effect**

Example: The temperature dropped 15 degrees and then it started raining.

From Information to Knowledge

# Data - Information - Knowledge - Wisdom

## Knowledge

**Represents a pattern that connects and generally provides a high level of predictability as to what is described or what will happen next**

Ex: If the humidity is very high and the temperature drops substantially the atmosphere is often unlikely to be able to hold the moisture so it rains.

From Information to Knowledge

## Data - Information - Knowledge - Wisdom

### Wisdom

Embodies more of an understanding of fundamental principles embodied within the knowledge that are essentially the basis for the knowledge being what it is. Wisdom is essentially systemic.

Example: It rains because it rains. And this encompasses an understanding of all the interactions that happen between raining, evaporation, air currents, temperature gradients, changes, and raining.

From Information to Knowledge

## Situation - Information Overload

Did you know...?

From Information to Knowledge

## Situation - Information Overload

Students forget 90% of what they learn in class within 30 days.

From Information to Knowledge

## Situation - Information Overload

Students forget 90% of what they learn in class within 30 days.

The majority of this forgetting occurs within the first few hours after class.

Thinking with your Eyes

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Principles

# Flow of Information

Did you know...?



Principles

## Flow of Information

People will **remember 10%**  
of information presented orally  
tested **72 hours after exposure...**

Principles

## Flow of Information

People will **remember 10%**  
of information presented orally  
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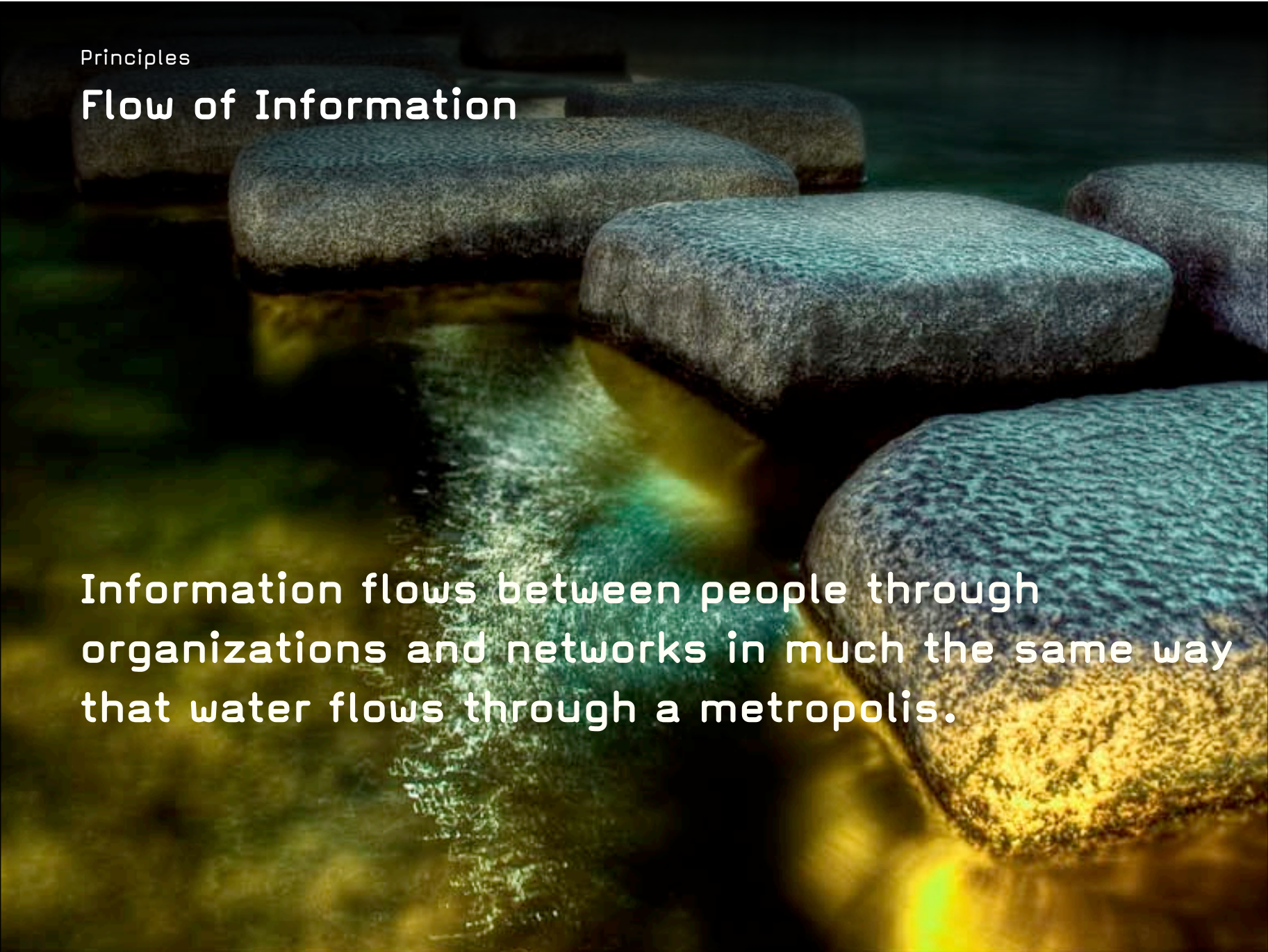
**...add an image and it goes up to 65%!**

Principles

## Flow of Information

**VISION** outperforms all other senses

Example:



Principles

## Flow of Information

Information flows between people through organizations and networks in much the same way that water flows through a metropolis.



Principles

## Flow of Information

Regardless of where you are in the metropolis, you should be able to trust that water supply is consistent, meets a certain level of quality, and if you open the faucet it will flow.





Principles

## Flow of Information

This is one analogy with information.  
You need to be able to access and trust  
the information you need.



Principles

## Flow of Information

We can capture information, which makes it easier to control: both the access to and the quality of the information.



Principles

## Flow of Information

This is actually a dangerous environment,  
not only for a goldfish!





Principles

# Flow of Information

Now to the point...

Principles

## Flow of Information

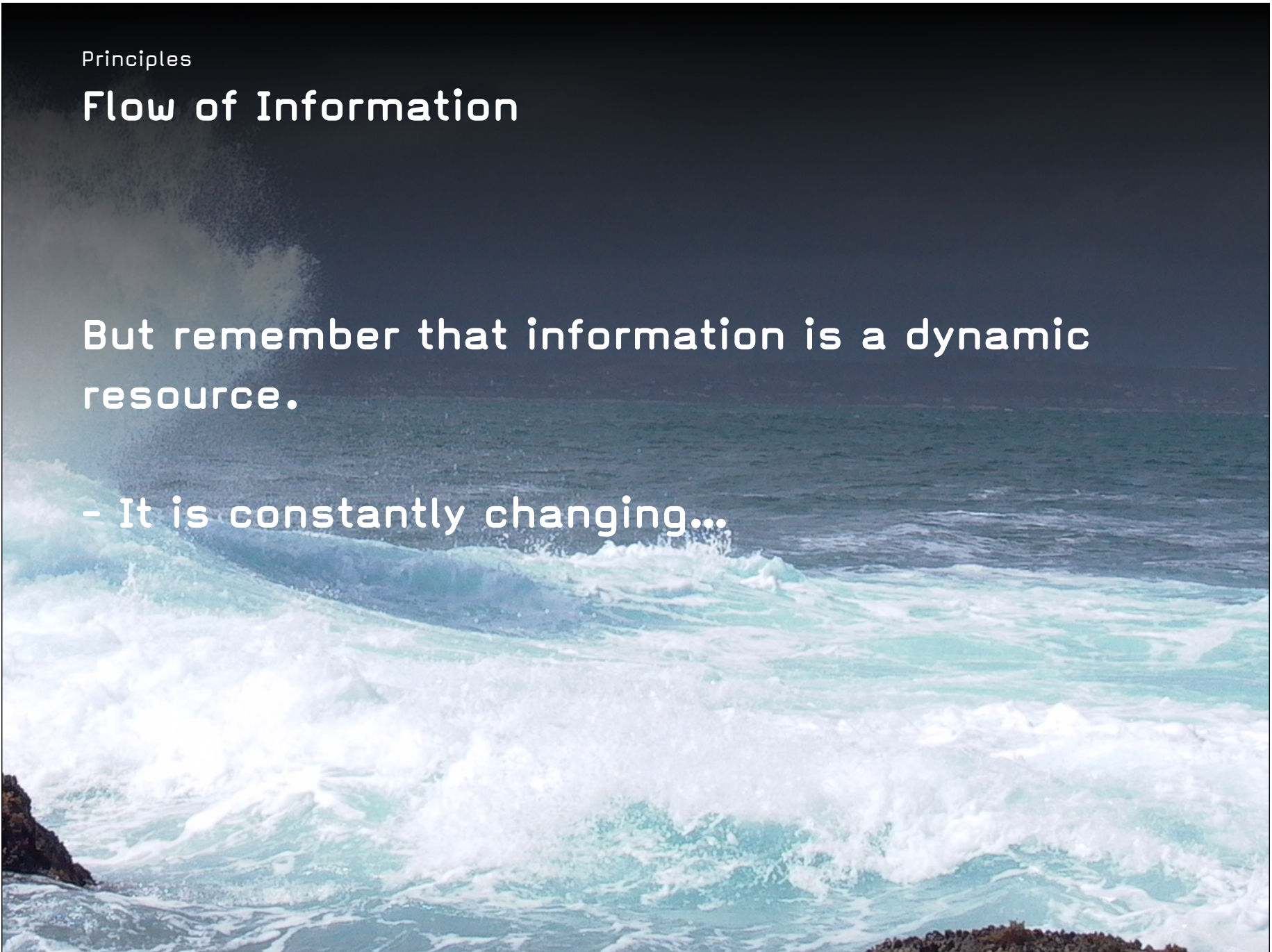
Making information flow between people is fundamental for collaboration and knowledge exchange to happen.

Principles

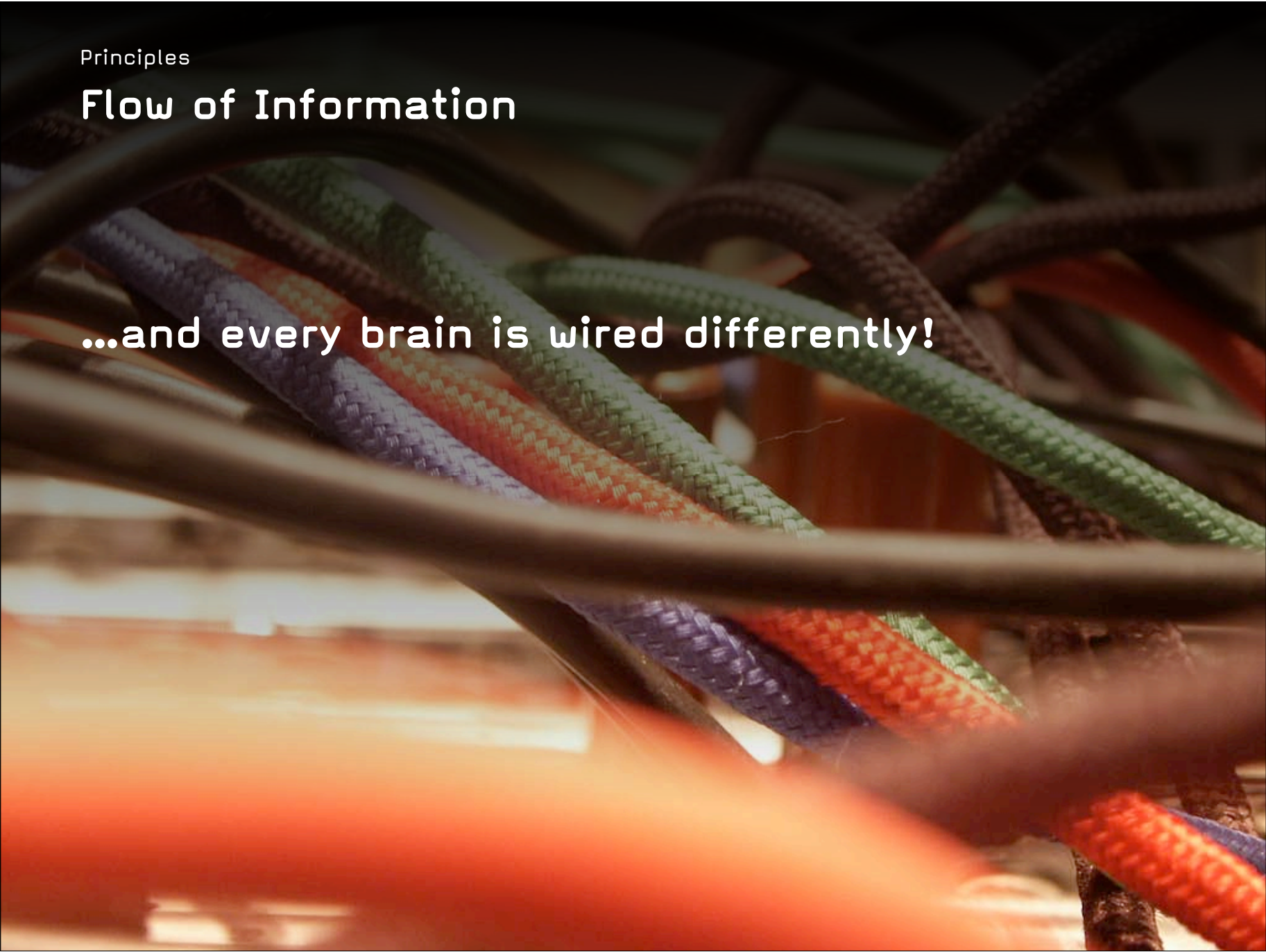
## Flow of Information

But remember that information is a dynamic resource.

- It is constantly changing...







Principles

## Flow of Information

...and every brain is wired differently!

Thinking with your Eyes

## Overview

- The Review - the Outlook
- From Information to Knowledge
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- Perception - Your Minds Eye

Perception - Your Minds Eye

## Experiment 1

How many „F“s can you find in this text?

Perception - Your Minds Eye

## Experiment 1

FINISHED FILES ARE  
THE RESULT OF YEARS  
OF SCIENTIFIC STUDY  
COMBINED WITH THE  
EXPERIENCE OF YEARS

Perception - Your Minds Eye

## Experiment 1

FINISHED FILES ARE  
THE RESULT OF YEARS  
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Solution: 6



Perception - Your Minds Eye

## Experiment 2

Monitor the white team of players by counting the number of passes they made.



Perception - Your Minds Eye

## Experiment 2

Monitor the white team of players by counting the number of passes they made.

Solution: 16

Did you see anything out of the ordinary?

- Watch the video again!

Perception - Your Minds Eye

## Experiment 3

Are you left or right eye dominant?

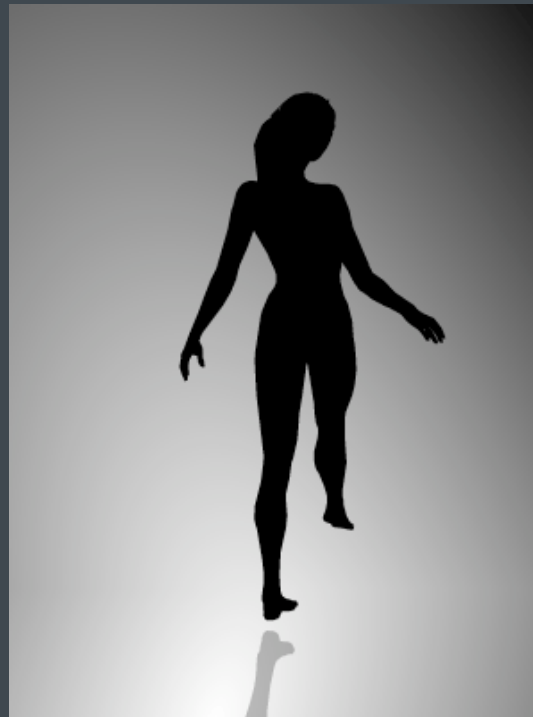
Perception - Your Minds Eye

## Experiment 3

Do you see the dancer turning clockwise  
or anti-clockwise?

Perception - Your Minds Eye

## Experiment 3



Perception - Your Minds Eye

## Experiment 3

### Left Eye dominant

uses logic  
detail oriented  
facts rule  
words and language  
present and past  
math and science  
can comprehend  
knowing  
acknowledges  
order/pattern perception  
knows object name  
reality based  
forms strategies  
practical  
safe

### Anti-Clockwise

If you see the ,Spinning Lady'  
anti-clockwise, then you use more  
of the left side of the brain.

Most of us would see the dancer  
turning anti-clockwise

Perception - Your Minds Eye

## Experiment 3

### Clockwise

If you see the ,Spinning Lady‘ clockwise, then you use more of the right side of the brain.

### Right Eye dominant

uses feeling  
"big picture" oriented  
imagination rules  
symbols and images  
present and future  
philosophy & religion  
can "get it" (i.e. meaning)  
believes  
appreciates  
spatial perception  
knows object function  
fantasy based  
presents possibilities  
impetuous  
risk taking



Perception - Your Minds Eye

## Conclusion

Have you figured out the essence of this lecture?

## Conclusion

Have you figured out the essence of this lecture?

We do not see the world as **IT IS**,  
we see the world as **WE ARE!**

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# Podcast Information Architecture

[http://www.ia.arch.ethz.ch/teaching/  
teaching-08/](http://www.ia.arch.ethz.ch/teaching/teaching-08/)

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## Sources

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26-30: <http://www.shutterstock.com>

33-34: <http://www.thecontenteconomy.com/>

40: VisCog Productions, DVD, Surprising Studies of Visual Awareness

44: <http://www.maniacworld.com/Spinning-Silhouette-Optical-Illusion.html>