

Expansive Design:
designing with contradictions

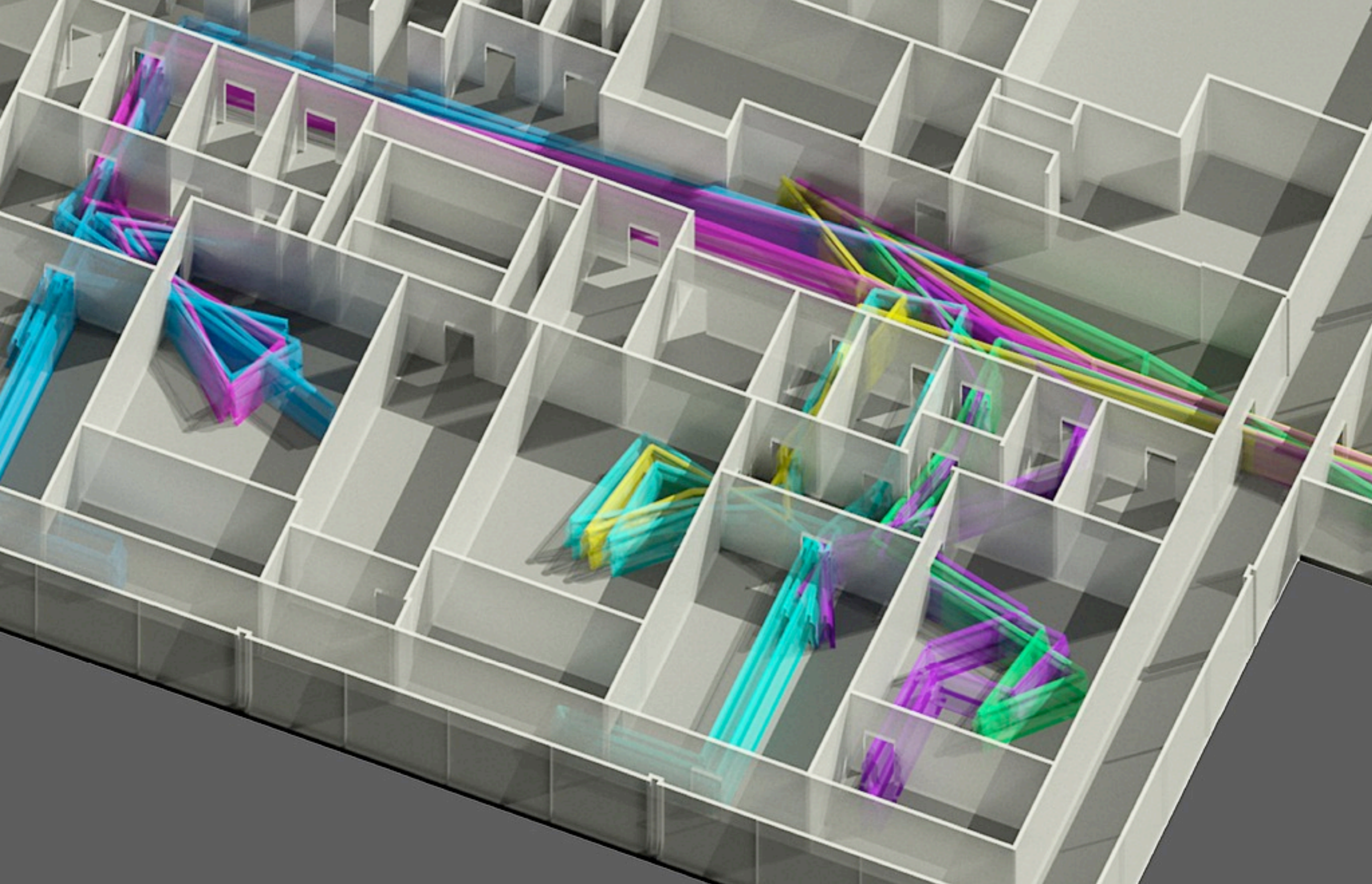
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UNIVERSITY OF TWENTE.

Today's program

- 10 minutes presentation
- 45 minutes defense
- Reception and drinks
- Please switch off your phone

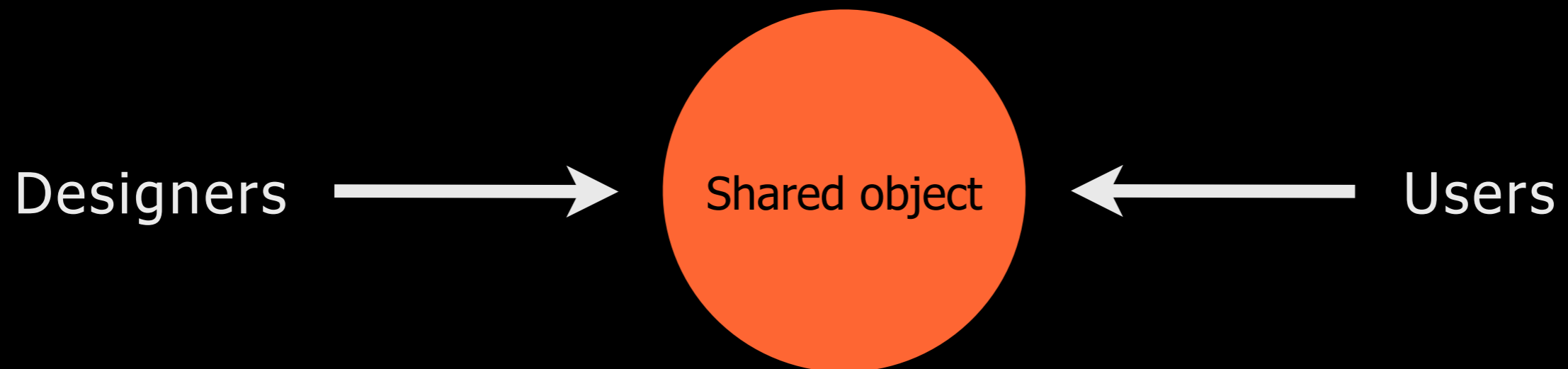




This research is about the design that rises from the development of spaces and activities

The expansive design concept

Engeström, 2006

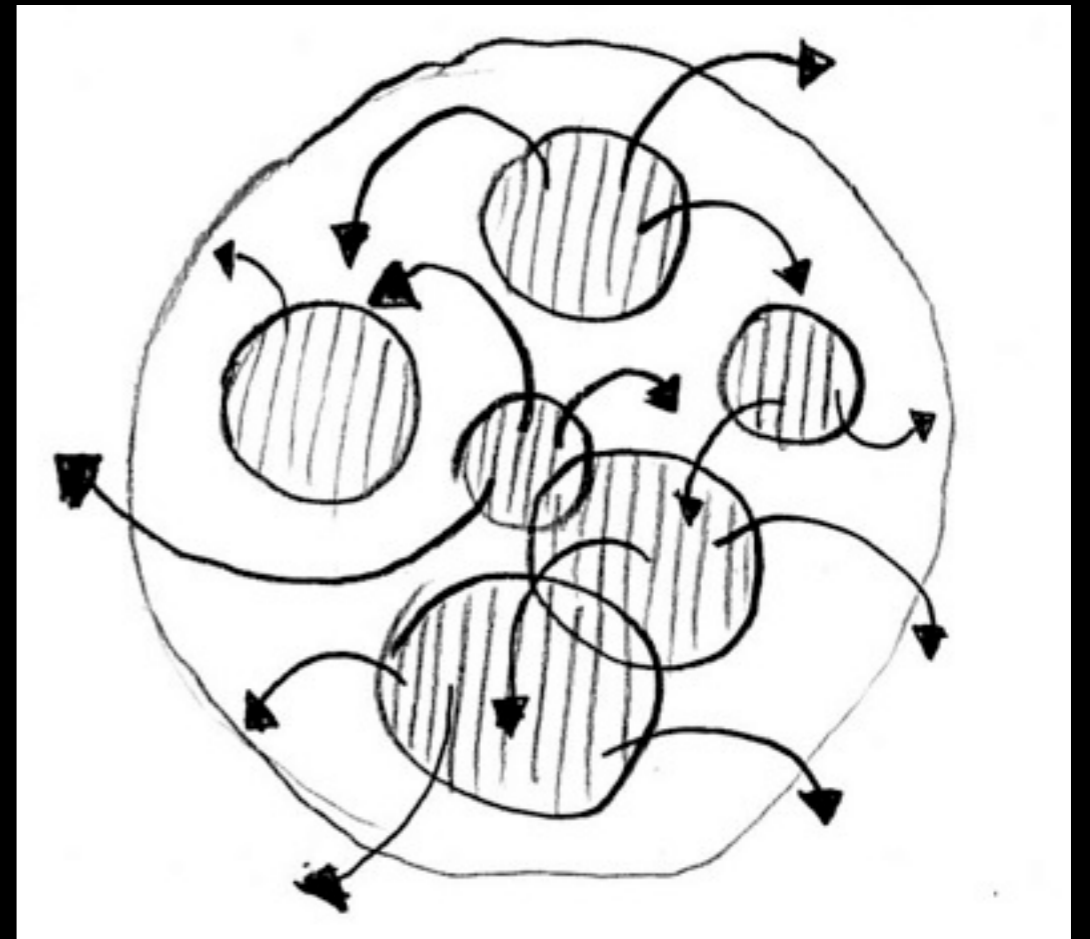




Designer and users co-creating a shared object

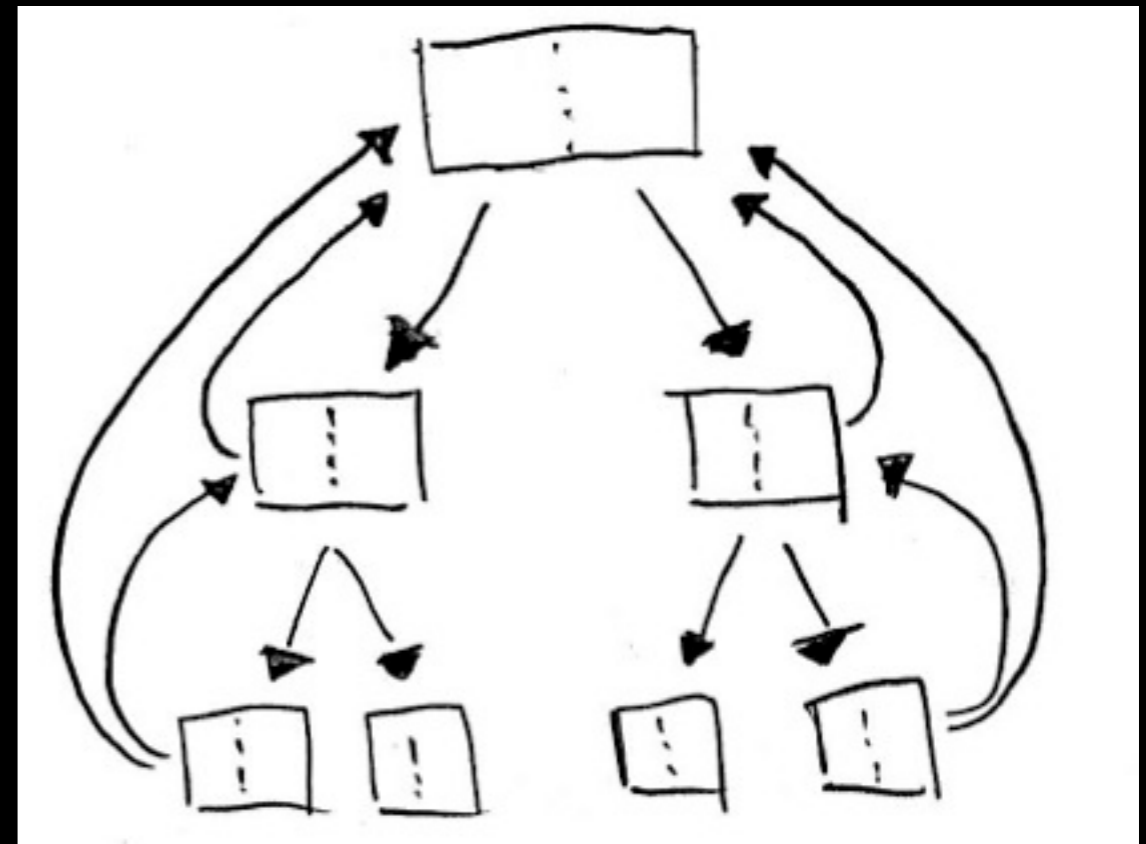
The expansion technique

- Adding more and more parts to the whole
- Including more people in the design process
- Considering many aspects



The reduction technique

- Breaking down the whole into parts
- Dividing the work among specialists
- Going deep into one thing



Contradiction

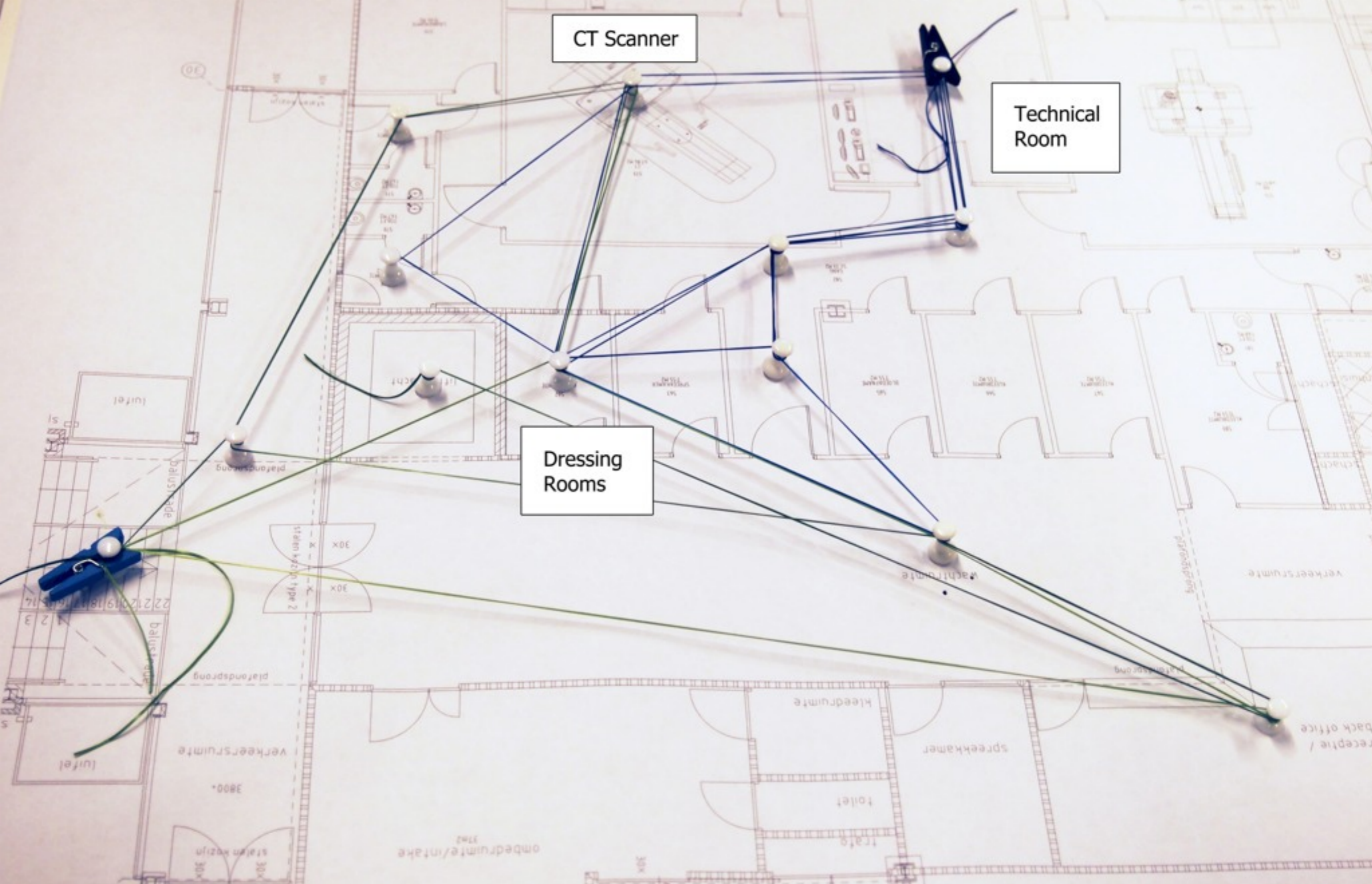
- Accumulated tensions in social relationships that may not be visible at first sight



The Treachery of Images, Rene Magritte

A practical question

- How to deal with contradictions in a design project?
- Through games!



The Knitting Game represents people following a procedure inside a building

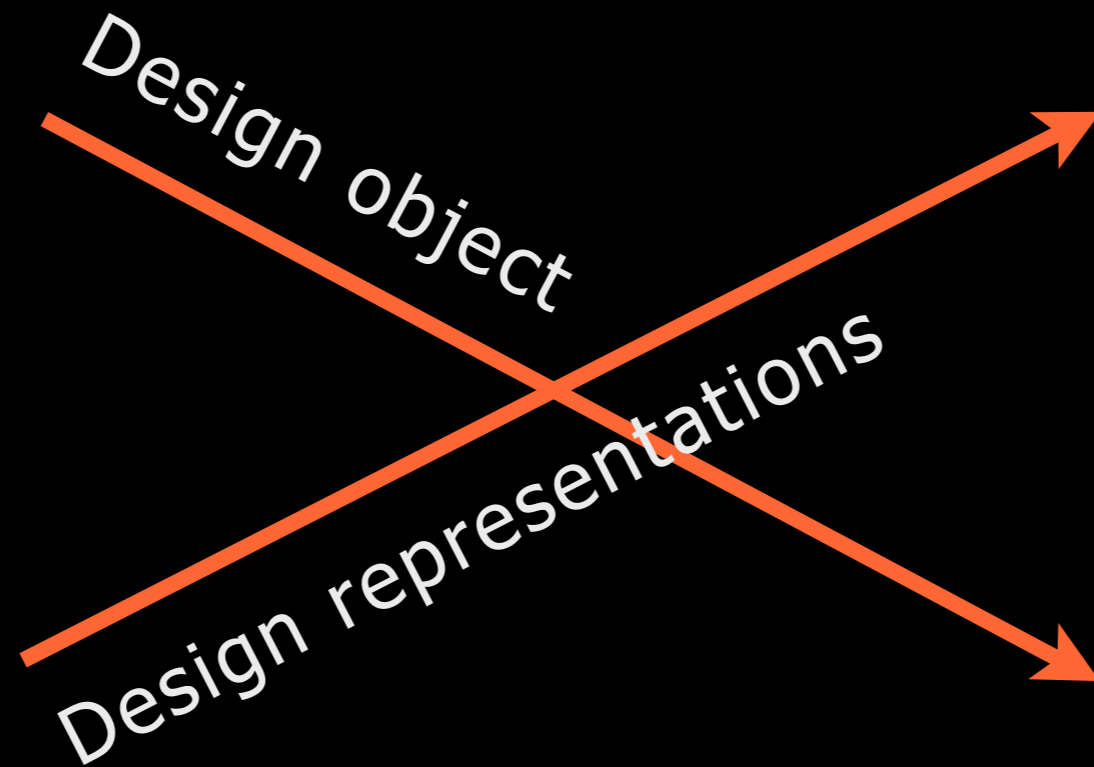
Contradiction 1

Building materials

Computer drawings

Paper drawings

Experiences



treatment

Role cards

Patient waiting in the queue

Pipework

The Expansive Hospital

Time limiter

Contracts

Building blocks

Databases

Insurance bank

A game about a hospital that may expand faster than it can treat patients



Clinics Hospital of Paraná had a strong conflict among the departments involved in surgeries



The Expansive Hospital game helped them to see the conflict from different perspectives and work them out

What is so expansive?

- Designing despite having contradictions
- The process is not stuck by conflict
- Taking advantage of contradictions
- The contradictions develop and reveal new possibilities for action

Conclusions

- Design cannot avoid reproducing contradictions
- However, design may transform contradictions of activity into contradictions of space and vice-versa
- Designing with contradictions is possible by playing games

for all involved in this adventure:

Thank you!

Dank je wel!

Obrigado!

Frederick van Amstel