

Reflecting on research-creation methodologies in the development of distributed applications for live performance

Jean-Brice Godet
Musician, Compagnie LpLp
jeanbrice.godet@gmail.com

Suzanne Saint-Cast
Ircam-STMS UMR9912
suzanne.saintcast@ircam.fr

Aliénor Golvet
Ircam-STMS UMR9912
alienor.golvet@ircam.fr

Benjamin Matuszewski
Ircam-STMS UMR9912
benjamin.matuszewski@ircam.fr

ABSTRACT

In this paper, we propose to report and reflect on a long-term collaboration between researchers and a musician from the improvisation scene, to design and implement a Web-based distributed system - composed of 8 Raspberry Pi nano-computers equipped with speakers and batteries connected together through a local WiFi network - dedicated to co-located settings and live performance. The paper first presents the different applications developed during this collaboration. Then we propose to reflect on some of the aspects of the collaboration that appear salient during the project and that we think have important implications both for design and for the successful implementation of research-creation methodologies. More precisely, we propose to unfold the different socio-economical questions and constraints that we noticed during the collaboration. We examine the learning and appropriation process and analyse it in the framework of the Instrumental Genesis Theory. Finally, we reflect on how artistic practice and design considerations interact in the creation of a Digital Music Instrument (DMI) as a co-evolutionary process.

1. INTRODUCTION

Recent development of Web and Internet of Things (IoT) technologies – by democratizing the access to both software (e.g. large JavaScript ecosystem) and hardware (e.g. nano-computers) – have enabled novel possibilities for artists, developers and researchers experimenting with distributed multimedia environments. In the musical field, the adoption of the Web Audio API [1], and the larger appropriation of electronic devices through Makers communities, opens up possibilities of profound changes in music practices, from ideation to production [2]. However, the inherent complexity of such distributed systems – considered as “a collection of autonomous computing elements that appears to its users as a single coherent system” [26] – also opens novel questions

regarding the ways in which practitioners can interact with, and moreover, can appropriate them.

In this general context, the present paper proposes to report and reflect on a long-term collaboration between researchers and a musician from the improvisation scene, to design and implement a Web-based distributed and wireless system dedicated to co-located settings and live performance. Drawing from previous research and developments, the system is composed of 8 Raspberry Pi nano-computers equipped with speakers and batteries connected together through a local WiFi network [15], and running applications developed using Web technologies [14, 16]. Such a light setup allows in particular to deploy the system in unusual places, forms and contexts (i.e. indoor, outdoor, with or without power supply), promoting a relocalization and a dissemination of experimental music. The collaboration has been held in the framework of two research projects: 1) the PhD of one of the authors and 2) the DOTS research project funded by the French National Research Agency (ANR), leading to the creation of *MurMures* by Jean-Brice Godet, a piece for clarinets and ensemble of 8 nano-computers (cf. Fig. 1).



Figure 1: The whole setup used by Jean-Brice Godet in the *MurMures* project



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Such an art/science collaborative project conducted in the very demanding context of live music performance, comes with a number of questions from different perspectives. How to reduce the inherent complexity of such distributed systems to foster appropriation, operability and ease of use? How to reconcile the conflicting requirements for robustness and stability necessary for public concerts on the one hand, and for openness to evolution necessary to research and experimentation on the other hand? On a larger perspective, how to address requirements from the different stakeholders with their own needs, constraints and timelines? These linked and intertwined questions, which goes beyond the strict context of distributed music systems, seem to require, beyond purely technological lenses, an interdisciplinary approach mixing design, development and methodological questions, recognizing and taking into account given socio-economic and socio-technical contexts.

Our goal in this paper is to modestly contribute to these questions regarding some aspects that appeared salient during this on-going collaboration. As such our contributions are twofold: 1) to present the different applications developed during this collaboration and 2) to reflect on different aspects of the collaboration that we think may have important implications in terms of design and in the successful implementation of art/science collaborations and research-creation methodologies.

The remainder of the paper is structured as follows. After a related work section (cf. Section 2), we present in Section 3 the projects that structured the collaboration and the different Web-based applications that were implemented. Then, in Section 4, we discuss three main points which arise during the collaboration. First, we attempt to unfold the different socio-economical questions and constraints that we noticed during the collaboration and that we think have important implications in the design process. Second, we examine the learning and appropriation process and analyse it in the framework of the dual process of instrumentation and instrumentalization. Finally, we reflect on how improvisation practice and design considerations interact in the creation of a Digital Music Instrument (DMI) as a coevolutionary process.

2. RELATED WORKS

2.1 Co-located Distributed Music Systems

The works presented in this article were influenced by earlier examples of co-located distributed music systems. One of the more emblematic examples is *The Hub*, founded in 1986 following the *League of Automatic Music Composers* [10] (see. Fig. 2). Although each musician in the group played a computer programmed of his own making, their performances were based on the exchange of information via a local network according to a communication protocol defined for each piece. Over time, the group's dynamics and aesthetics evolved through each player's development in their individual practice and instrument creation but also as the group developed new pieces influenced by new technologies (e.g. MIDI, Internet) [9].

While *The Hub* was based on the interconnection of computer programs, the *Ambiguous Devices* ecosystem by Stapleton and Davis [23] aims to build a network of physical musical objects as part of the improvised musical practice of the two authors and with the objective to "better under-



Figure 2: The League of Automatic Music Composers

stand how the technology used to facilitate networking could actually play a role in reconfiguring improvised music". For instance they describe how the signal picked up by a magnet mounted on a turntable would be sent over the network to control a solenoid that would strike strings on another instrument. *Ambiguous Devices* was gradually extended by adding modular artefacts to the system and perpetually re-configured through the musicians' practice as new networked connections were created between these artifacts. In particular, the authors insist on improvisation's "radical openness to the present" as a resource for design and the positive role of ambiguity in the behaviour of instruments [7].

Weinberg proposed the theoretical framework of *Interconnected Musical Networks* (IMN) [24] to describe distributed music systems in which participants are able to directly influence the musical output of their peers using communication channels. An example of IMN is *Voice Network* (2003)[25], a collaborative music installation that allows non-expert users to take part in a collective music-making experience, highlighting the social aspect of group play. The installation comprises four stations arranged in a square, facing each other, with a screen in the middle. Each station is equipped with a microphone, a touchpad controller and loudspeakers. Participants can record sound loops with their microphones and apply sound transformations to them using the touchpad which controls a Max/MSP patch. The network is used to exchange sound loops created between participants. The technical configuration of *Voice Network* and the prominent use of vocal loops were some of the main inspirations behind early versions of our project *Simone* (cf. Sec. 3.1) which was at the time intended to be played by multiple players [8].

The conceptual framework of IMN was later refined by Matuszewski *et al.* with what they call "Situated Networked Music Systems" using a concept of "interaction topologies" that describe possible interactions between actors [18]. These different topologies were implemented in multiple applications and installations. Among those is *CoLoop* (2017) [22] in which a physical speaker is playing loop sequences that may be created collectively by participants using a web interface available on their smartphone.

2.2 Research-Creation Methodologies

Collaboration and synergies between researchers and artists have seen significant growth in the 2000s. In the French-speaking context, the alliance of academic research and artistic creation gave rise to *recherche-cr  ation*, with “a dual objective: the production of a work (material or immaterial), artifact or original performance, as well as the production of knowledge” [19]. The institutionalisation of *recherche-cr  ation* was initiated in Quebec in the 1990s as a consequence of the transfer of artistic teaching from art schools to university, and spread to Europe, going hand in hand with the entry of artistic practice into higher education and the restructuring of national higher education standards resulting from the Bologna Process. The arrival of artists in university and the introduction of practice-based PhDs prompted debate about the methods and forms of knowledge derived from artistic research, and raised various questions regarding the publication and evaluation of such research. Canadian philosopher Erin Manning suggests that these new forms of knowledge are “extra-linguistic” and “may have no means of evaluation within current disciplinary models” [13]. Such novel approaches enjoin us to “find ways of activating thought that is experienced rather than known”, and disclose the embodied, material and affective aspects of practical knowledge.

In the English-speaking context, Frayling proposed in 1993 to distinguish between *research into art*, *research through art*, and *research for art* [5]. Numerous terms have later been proposed: practice-based research, practice-led research, practice as research, research-through-practice, artistic research, creative research, art-based research, and so on. This growing interest for practice as research comes along with a shift of perspective on science. With the emergence of Science and Technology Studies (STS), which have revealed the “constitutive role of material and social practices in the production of knowledge and technologies” [4], science is no longer seen as a “self-contained body of knowledge made of empirical and theoretical propositions about the world” [20], but as practice [21].

Practice-based research modes have reached the field of Computer Science and Human-Computer Interaction (HCI), taking multiple forms, as design practice has become more prevalent within the HCI research community. An influential framework is *research through design* [5, 6, 28], which employs methods and processes from design practice, in particular its interdisciplinarity and its iterative and dialogic approach, as a “legitimate method of inquiry” [29]. Design is seen as a way to explore and produce knowledge about “situations chosen for their topical and theoretical potential”, with the resulting design artifacts “embodying designers’ judgments about valid ways to address the possibilities and problems implicit in such situations” and allowing “a range of topical, procedural, pragmatic, and conceptual insights to be articulated” [6].

In the NIME community, *technical practice research*, introduced by Pelinski et al. [20], “translates a practice research approach to technical practice, focussing on the first-person and real-time nature of practice”, instead of conceiving technical practice from a science and engineering perspective as it is usually done. Pelinski et al. propose to locate practice-based research not only in musical per-

formance, but also in technical development and plead for real-time accounting of practice, as a posteriori reports are often made to fit preestablished linear narratives which “neglect the material agencies that enter into play instrument building”.

Benford et al. [3] proposed the concept of *performance-led research*, as a form of *research in the wild*, focussing on real-life interaction with technology in the context of performance. They highlighted the numerous challenges raised by this research methodology, from contrasting approaches, requirements and temporalities between researchers and artists, to difficulties in documentation or archiving.

Referring to the roots of the concept of *techn  *, Kang et al. [12] put forward “techno-aesthetic encounters” as a theoretical and methodological framework drawing from three modes of inquiry: engineering (linear and problem-solving approach), art (sensitive and first-person approach), and humanities (reflexive and analytic approach). According to the authors, “it intends to explore undiscovered, underdeveloped, and more creative HCI inquiries through alliance, competition, and occasional moments of unity or complementarity between these now largely separated approaches”. This epistemological framework is accompanied by three methodological recommendations: 1) cultivate a trustful and supporting environment for people involved in collective experiments, 2) secure ‘error-engaged studios’ as spaces of safe and open inquiry, and 3) include art-based ethnography to collect rich and multidimensional traces of the interactions and collective explorations.

We find these proposals promising and try to fit our approach into this line of research. Our aim is to acknowledge and reflect on the materiality and non-linearity of research/practice collaboration in real-life contexts. We think that long-term engagement and dialogue can foster richer interactions – enabling to alternate “performance-led” and “research-led” projects, and mitigating the extractivist tendencies of research.

3. PROJECTS AND APPLICATIONS

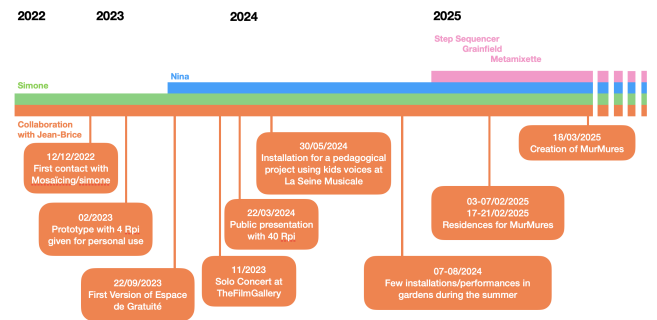


Figure 3: Chronology of the collaboration

The collaboration started in 2022 when Jean-Brice Godet was commissioned to design the sound for a performance called *Espace de gratuit  *, taking place in a 40 x 5 meter installation containing 5854 objects selected by stage director Ema Drouin. In this context he reached the Sound Music Movement Interaction (ISMM) team from Ircam to have a state of the art of the technical possibilities to deploy a wireless portable multichannel system. In return, the team

¹translated from French

offered Jean-Brice a collaboration with Aliénor Golvet in as part of her PhD project. He then started to use *Simone* (cf. Sec. 3.1), a distributed instrument using audio mosaicing synthesis, to test and improve it, as well as to include it in live improvised performance.

For the premiere of *Espace de gratuité* in 2023, Jean-Brice needed a simple application that could play pre-recorded sound files (text reading, field recordings...) with or without delay effect, which led to the development of *Nina* (cf. Sec. 3.2). In 2024, during the development of the mixed composition *MurMures* for double-bass clarinet and electronics, the set of available applications was extended with a Step Sequencer (cf. Sec. 3.3), to introduce time based and rhythmic patterns. Additionally, a re-implementation of *Grainfield* (cf. Sec. 3.4) [17], which allows to create a sort of granular reverberation of the musician’s performance, appeared an interesting compromise to connect the acoustic and electronic worlds. Finally, to allow the use of these four applications within a single performance, we developed a mixer application, the *Metamixette*, which allows the performer to control the relative volume of each application and to create transitions between them from one single interface.

During the lifetime of the collaboration, the system and the different applications were used in different contexts, such as concerts, installations or pedagogical settings.

3.1 Simone

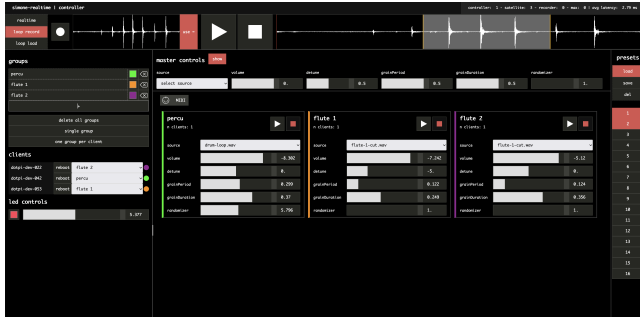


Figure 4: The *Simone* controller interface

*Simone*² is a distributed instrument controlled through a web interface meant to be played by a single instrumentalist. The sound is produced by a network of any number of Raspberry Pi computers (each called *satellite*) equipped with loudspeakers. Sound synthesis in *Simone* is done using a technique called audio mosaicing[27, 11]. This technique, which can be seen as the audio analog to the more widespread concept of *photomosaics*, consists in reconstructing an audio signal (thereafter named the *model* signal) with elements from another signal (the *generator* signal). To do this, the *model* signal is cut into small audio segments (called *grains*). For each grain, we look for the most similar grain in the *generator* file, according to a chosen metric and audio descriptors. The resulting sound is the concatenation of grains from the *generator* signal. The synthesized sound then follows the temporal evolution of the *model* signal but with the timbre of the *generator* signal. *Simone* is operated through a web interface that offers the option to: 1) record a sound with the microphone and use it (either in real

²<https://github.com/ircam-ismm/simone-v2>

time or by looping a section of a pre-recorded sound) as the *model* sound that controls audio mosaicing on all *satellites* simultaneously. 2) control various synthesis parameters on user-defined groups of *satellites*.

3.2 Nina

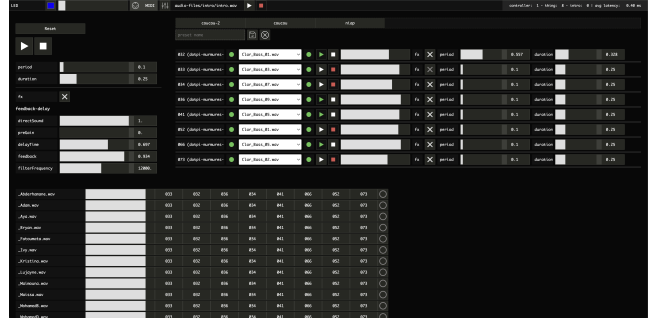


Figure 5: The *Nina* controller interface

*Nina*³ is an application (cf. Fig. 5) that aims at providing simple ways to playback sound files on an arbitrary Raspberry Pi, in an approach inspired by *acousmatic* systems. For each connected client (on top of the interface), the user can select a sound file, start and stop its looped playback, control its volume and optionally pipe it through a feedback delay effect. The playback of the audio file is done using a granular synthesis technique, where the position of each consecutive grain is chosen in such a way that the source audio file is reconstructed without distortion of time. This allows the user to either play the file such that it is almost identical to the original, but also to be able to alter it via the manipulation of the grains’ period and duration. A second part of the control interface (on the bottom of the interface) allows to trigger playback of a list of audio files on every connected client.

3.3 Step Sequencer

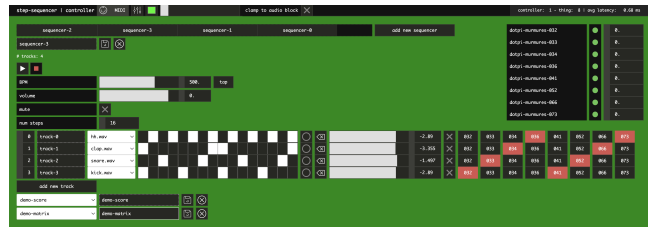


Figure 6: The *Step Sequencer* controller interface

The *Step Sequencer* application allows the user to create rhythmic patterns that can be arbitrarily distributed on the connected Raspberry Pi devices. The application enables the creation of multiple sequencers running in parallel. A sequencer is defined by a given number of steps and a BPM. The user can add and remove tracks and define on which client the track is played through a diffusion matrix. The score as well as the diffusion matrix can be saved as presets that can be recalled at runtime, allowing the creation of evolving rhythmic structure in time. Future evolution of

³<https://github.com/ircam-ismm/nina>

the application will allow the scheduling of preset change to be triggered on a defined beat, as well as the possibility to synchronize the playback start of sequencer on a predefined beat of another sequencer, opening the door for precise and complex polymetrical and polyrhythmic patterns.

3.4 GrainField (embedded)

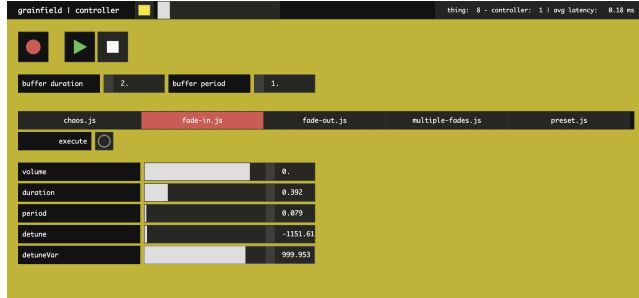


Figure 7: The *GrainField (embedded)* controller interface

GrainField (embedded) is a reimplementation of the *GainField* described in [17]. In *GainField*, the sound of the performer is constantly recorded and cut into overlapping chunks that are sent round-robin to each of the 8 Raspberry Pi segment groups (see Fig. 8).

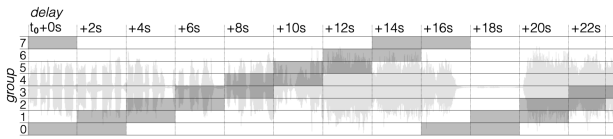


Figure 8: The segmentation of the recording into chunks that are sent round-robin to each Raspberry Pi.

The sound segments received on the Raspberry Pi are then played back through a granular synthesis engine whose parameters (e.g. grain period and duration, detune) can be controlled from the controller interface shown in Fig. 7. The overall sonic result can be described as a sort of constantly evolving granular reverberation of what is played by the instrumentalist.

Additionally to these general principles, the application also allows the performer to start and stop the recording at runtime, enabling a possibility of freezing the memory of the system and thus the audio rendering at runtime. Finally, the application also allows the user to script and automate some parameters of the application (e.g. fade-in, fade-out) though an embedded code editor.

3.5 Méta-Mixette

The *Méta-Mixette* application (cf Fig. 9) provides a way for the user to control, and thus mix, the volume of all clients of the other applications. It also provides a scripting ability that allows to prepare transitions and presets, e.g. to cross-fade between two applications, that can be triggered at any moment using MIDI controllers.

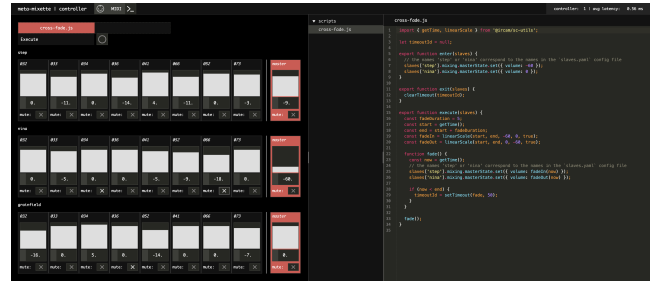


Figure 9: The *Méta-Mixette* controller interface. On the left, the mixing tables that allow to control volumes of every client of each application. On the right, the scripting interface that allows the user to prepare automations that can be dynamically launched at runtime.

4. DISCUSSION

In the section, we propose to report and reflect on different aspects of our collaboration that we think can be of interest in the design of new instruments and in such a *recherche-création* setup.

4.1 Socio-economic contexts and constraints

From a general perspective, we think it is important to first report on some of the socio-economic constraints that can occur in art / science collaborations, as we think they are generally overlooked while they can be of great importance regarding some design choices and constraints.

To demonstrate our point, it's interesting to consider a performance context as a form of contract between a performer or a set of performers and an audience. Hence, if the contract is not considered as fulfilled by the audience, the direct consequence for the performers might be that there is no payment for the performance, probably no other chance to perform, and therefore, no possibility to make performance as a living income for the performer(s). From this simple consideration, consequences will flow that will impact the process of design and appropriation of a new instrument.

The first obvious one is that professional musicians cannot bring a prototype that they do not master on stage, as there is no second chance in a live performance (at least if not explicitly written in the contract with the audience). This basically means that during a performance only a very few number of "crashes", be them musical or technical, are allowed. Hence, the performer needs to invest an important amount of time to practice and co-develop a tool that cannot be immediately used on stage. However, and somehow contradictory, developing a practice and furthermore a mastery of an instrument requires to use it in multiple contexts (e.g. in concert halls or outdoor, in solo or within collaborations). Each specific context allows the performer to discover specific use, possibilities or limits of the instrument. Only by multiplying the contexts can they test different usages and adapt the system to specific needs. This leads us to the question, that may have institutional consequences, of how to create concert situations in which the possibility of experimenting is accepted and recognised as valuable by the public?

Second, mastering an instrument on stage means developing a deep embodied knowledge of the gestures to control the instrument, so that the technique can somehow disap-

pear during the performance to give the place to the artistic discourse. This learning phase is necessarily long (see for example the years of practice that are necessary to master a traditional instrument), and maybe more specifically with an instrument that is being designed and is thus evolving in real time. Indeed, the performer will have to teach herself without any existing repertoire or help from an existing community of practice. Additionally, this learning and development of a specific gestural practice may have to be co-constructed alongside a specific artistic vision and discourse enabled by the instrument. Finally, the interaction between the development team and the performer during the co-development of the instrument is also defined by a number of constraints, e.g. feedback, bug report (all sorts of things that have to be learned too) that can slow down further the appropriation process. For example, in some situations one or the other can be stuck for days because of a bug, a missing element in the reporting or misunderstanding, just because the other end is not available.

While these considerations may appear relatively trivial, we think they must be fully acknowledged and recognised in the implementation of research / creation methodologies.

4.2 Learning and appropriation

For Jean-Brice the first steps of appropriation – beside the mere fact of being able to plug and run the system – consisted in trying to get a basic understanding of the sound synthesis process and to infer which sound is going to be produced by a determined input or gesture. As he specifically started working with *Simone*, he needed to understand and appropriate the behavior of mosaicing on a distributed system composed of 8 devices. Therefore, he started by selecting a set of basic *generator* sounds that he describes as “simple musical elements” to understand how the system would react to them. Making up what he describes as a “base grammar”, these sounds, which could be qualified as “test sounds”, include: sinus, clicks, white noise, piano chords, clarinet sounds, etc. We can describe Jean-Brice’s process of appropriation as an additive, combinatorial and inferential approach, described by him as follows “starting from simple elements [...] and to see how I could combine them, how I could transform them to try to make sound pieces with them”. This first phase of the learning process may be comparable to instrumentalists practicing sound emission and scales. Over time, this soundbank of “simple elements” was supplemented with sounds originally coming from the rest of Jean-Brice’s music practice (clarinet solos, rehearsal recordings, personal recordings, ...).

In the following steps of his appropriation process, Jean-Brice focused on the development of instrumental gestures. The support of MIDI controllers (i.e. an 8 channel mixing table) was seen by Jean-Brice as a definite “step” that had a significant change in his way to play the instrument. With this novel feature, he was able to get over the limitations of mouse-based web interfaces to define new gestures, to change multiple parameters at the same time and to define control groups of several Raspberry Pi computers. The embodied and gestural relationship with the system, where the technique and the gestures can be forgotten in favor of the musical ideas, contributed to make it a (real) instrument.

During this process of development, one idea that guided the design was that one application should offer enough possibilities and have the potential to generate enough music

materials to cover the needs of the creation of a full concert. However, after numerous upgrades in this direction, *Simone* became bloated, too complicated to use and over-specific. To avoid that problem, we decided to keep *Simone* as simple as possible and to adopt the strategy of having several simple and generic applications running in parallel, which led to the implementation of the other applications presented in Section 3. Those five applications are used simultaneously by Jean-Brice in *MurMures*.

This learning and appropriation process resonates with Instrumental Genesis Theory where the development of instruments is considered as “a dual process comprising instrumentation (i.e., the user’s adaptation to the artifact’s constraints) and instrumentalization (i.e., the attribution of functions to the artifact and the technical transformation of the artifacts by the user)” [?]. Indeed, the first step of appropriation where Jean-Brice used simple test sound to create a “base grammar” relates to *instrumentation* where the user adapts to the artifact by creating a sort of mental map of its possibilities and constraints. While the phase of development of his own mappings and gesture vocabulary through MIDI interfaces relates to *instrumentalization*. Hence a complex feedback loop appears between the understanding of the possibilities and constraints of the system which in turn allows us to manipulate it and reconfigure it to adapt it to specific needs, or in other words a dynamic spiral between what is “doable” and what is “thinkable”.

4.3 A co-evolutionary process

This period of learning and appropriation never happened with a fixed state of the system and of the different applications. Instead, we were constantly engaging in a co-evolutionary process between engineering, design and artistic questions. Indeed, as improvised music is a very demanding context in terms of adaptability and instant reactions it is an interesting playground to test and challenge the limits of a system. By observing Jean-Brice practice with the systems, using his feedback from his usage and discussing with him, we gradually made changes to the design of the applications, but also improved lower level engineering elements such as the audio engine performance or GUI components usability. In return, each new feature would provide more options for Jean-Brice and would have an influence on the development of playing techniques. Numerous feedbacks from Jean-Brice can be described as “the repetition of a task or gesture triggers the need for (of the implementation of) a new button”. However such an approach in the design, exemplified above by the proliferating phase in the development of *Simone*, can lead to two possible and not exclusive problems in the development of an instrument. The first one is that the instrument ends-up being completely tailored to one’s practice or even to one’s piece of music, preventing the reuse of the instruments by others or for other projects. The second one is that the instrument tries to handle every possible idea proposed by the user, ending in an application that somehow loses its “identity”. In both cases, these “design traps” can be a hindrance to the learnability and for the development of an instrumental practice with the system. Over time, it therefore became important for us to set limits and declare which elements of the design were fixed and not open to rediscussion.

From another perspective, an important point to discuss is that the creation of performance (or musical piece) is a

moment of crystallization of the design due to the need for the performer to have a fixed state of her practice space. Indeed, this crystallization of the embodied knowledge of the interface is paired with the crystallisation of the musical ideas. Hence, any evolution that changes this practice space, even aimed at simplifying a given task for the performer, can impede his/her capacity to use the system and therefore to perform the piece, as a new learning and embodied appropriation of the new features is required. We could observe this issue when, after an update of *Simone* in order to simplify its usage with more than 8 devices, Jean-Brice was no longer able to play his piece *Clarissime Iris*⁴ that he created using the old interface.

These two examples tend to show an interesting property in the articulation between the different aspects, e.g. engineering, design, art, etc. involved in such research-creation projects. Indeed, while each of these parts of the projects tends to run in their own feedback loops, with their own questions and temporalities, sometimes one or the other requires another one to stop its process and/or to crystallize an aspect of its problem so that the other one can continue to iterate (cf. Fig 10).

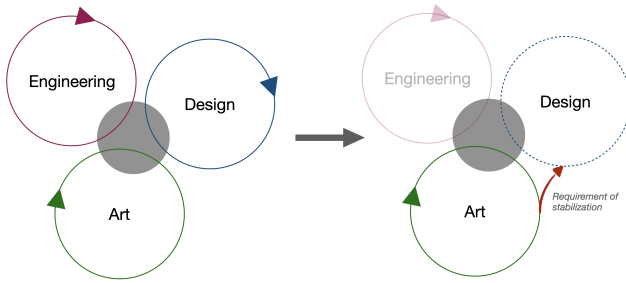


Figure 10: Process by which one aspect of the project requires a crystallization and a suspension of the feedback loop of another aspect of the project

5. CONCLUSION

In this paper, we have reported and reflected on a long-term collaboration between researchers and a musician from the improvisation scene, to design and implement a Web-based distributed system (composed of 8 Raspberry Pi nano-computers equipped with speakers and batteries connected together through a local WiFi network) dedicated to co-located settings and live performance. After a presentation of the different applications developed during this collaboration, we discussed some of the aspects of the collaboration that appeared salient during the project and that we think may have important implications for design, as well as for the successful implementation of research-creation methodologies. More precisely, we attempted to unfold the different socio-economical questions and constraints that we noticed during the collaboration. We examined the learning and appropriation process and analysed it in the framework of the dual process of instrumentation and instrumentalization. Finally, we reflected on how artistic practice and design considerations can be seen as coevolutionary processes that interact and sometimes conflict. Importantly, we think that

these findings are closely linked to the long-term engagement and dialogue between the different persons involved in the project, fostering richer interactions and enabling to alternate “performance-led” and “research-led” projects, hence mitigating the extractivist tendencies of research.

6. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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