



CENTRE FOR UNUSUAL COLLABORATIONS

**The Proof of the Pudding is in the Eating: Co-Learning about
Knowledge Integration Practices in Unusual Collaborations**
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Purpose

Use the metaphor of cooking in order to:

- spark reflections on integration processes in ITD
- explore the usefulness of this metaphor
- provide exercise for participants to take home



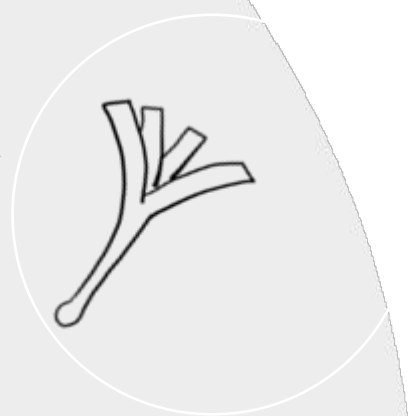
Outline

3 stages:

1. Exploration
2. Translation
3. Harvesting

1. Exploration

Ready Steady Cook: explore the ingredient



(2min) Explore the ingredient you received:

- Explore taste, texture, origin, cuisine, combines well with

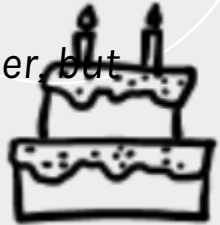


Ready Steady Cook: combine ingredients

- (3 min) Find 2-3 other ingredients (and their owners) to combine forces. Find a table together.



In looking for ingredients, think of tastes and textures go well together, but also think of 'unusual suspects'.



- (5 min) Make a list of possible dishes you could make with these ingredients; write (or draw!) those on the table cloth.
- (5 min) Briefly reflect on what you did to come up with the dishes: what qualities of the ingredients did you take into account? What ingredients or properties did you start out from?



2. Translation

What's the equivalent of ingredients in ITD integration?

Reflect & write on the table cloth:

- What are or could be the inputs of the integration process in your own ITD context?
- What feeds into the integration process in your own ITD experiences?
- Between which components do you create new relationships?
- Which components go through a transformation?

What's the equivalent of ingredients in ITD integration?

According to literature review by O'Rourke et al. (2016):

Local epistemic elements:

- Concepts
- Methods
- Data
- Explanations
- Knowledge
- Models

Global epistemic achievements:

- Theories
- Fields
- Disciplines
- Domains

And beyond the epistemic: languages, social problems, project participants, supporting institutions, concrete objects such as photographs or film

Quality and quantity: what kind of elements, how many, how diverse are they?

What's the equivalent of the cook in ITD integration?

Reflect & write on the table cloth

- Who engages in the process of transformation of the inputs into a more integrated whole?
- Who is responsible for the integration process?
- To what extent is the responsibility for integration explicitly assigned?

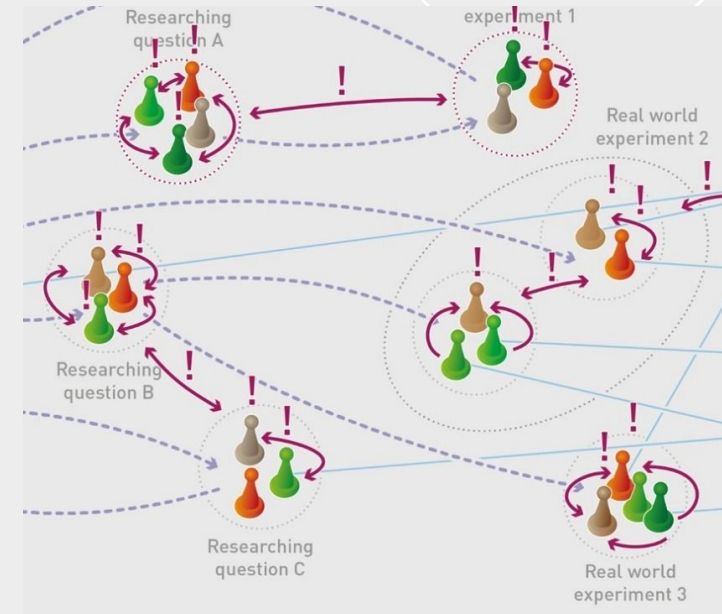
What's the equivalent of the cook in ITD integration?

According to the conceptualization by Pohl et al. (2021):

Integration taking place:

- Unilateral <> bilateral integration
- Involving two, several, or all team members

Responsibility: which balance to strike between tasking an “integration expert” (e.g. Hoffmann et al., 2022) and distributing integration tasks among all team members (equally)?



3. Harvest

Cooking as a metaphor

What the metaphor of cooking brings us when thinking about integration:

Through a process of **transformation**(s), **distinct inputs** (ingredients) are **combined** into a **new** whole (dish) which has **new properties** (emergence).

Although recipes can be useful to create tasty dishes, the generalized skill of **cooking goes beyond following a recipe**. It requires **expertise** and **competencies**, and a universal blueprint cannot be provided.

Cooking as a metaphor

Write on sticky notes:

- How does the metaphor of cooking resonate with you? What does it highlight or bring (for you)?
- What about ITD integration is being masked by the use of the metaphor of cooking?
- What alternative metaphors do you find useful?

Take home messages

- Cooking and learning to cook can provide a framing to think of integration in ITD
- Other metaphors may highlight other aspects of integration and provide meaningful lenses to look at ITD integration
- Reflection on the ingredients and process of cooking may support integration in design and execution stages of ITD

Thank you!

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