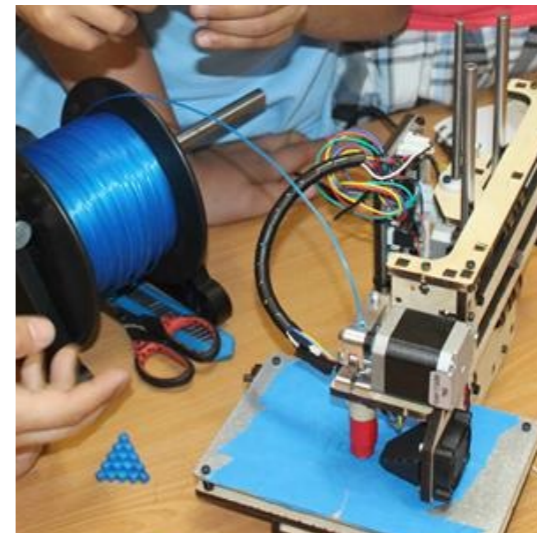Thomas Ludwig,
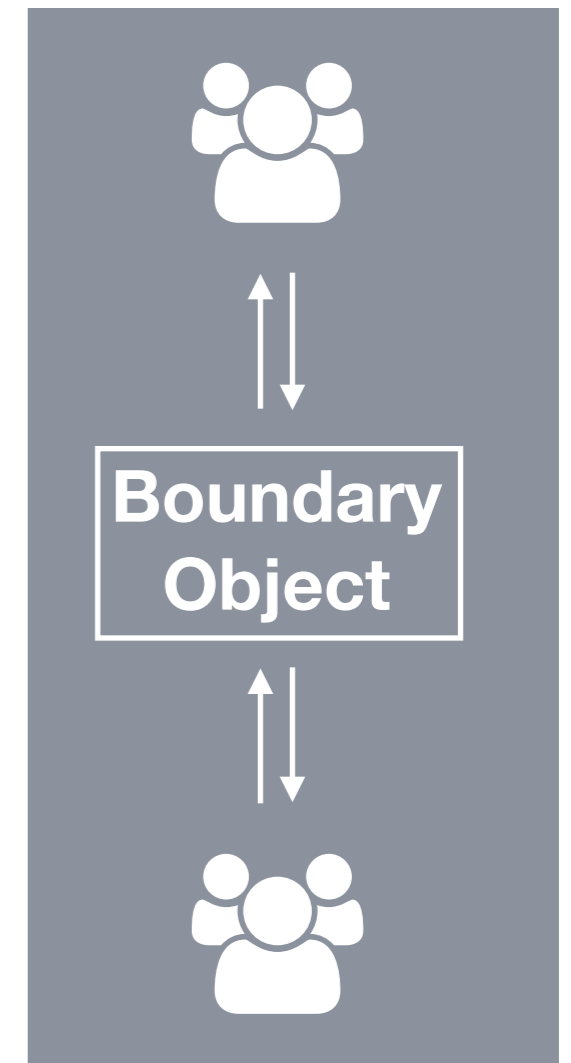Oliver Stickel,
Volkmar Pipek

Uni Siegen
Germany

3d Printers as Potential Boundary Negotiating Artifacts for 3rd places

Physical Artifacts

Coordinate between groups

Plastic but universally understood

Boundary Object

2 Communities (HCI Researchers / Arts Academy

Observations (10hrs)

2 Workshops (2hrs each)

7 Interviews (1hr each)

Focus: Appropriation

Study Setting

OLDENBURG

Regulars	**Low Profile**	**Playful Mood**	**Home away from Home**
Neutral Ground	**Conversation main activity**	**Leveller**	**Accessibility & Accommodation**

+ "Hanging around" & talking

- Domain-specific vocabulary

Conversation main activity

+ Neutral Ground

Neutral Spaces (e.g. Fab Labs) **+**

Reflected in Open Hardware **+**

Inherently neutral (make anything) **+**

+ Maker-Values, Open Hardware

- Complexity hampers levelling

= Leveller

Accessibility & Accommodation

Makerspaces: open, democratic **+**

Transcend work hours… ;) **+**

| + | 3d printers attract regulars |

| + | Teach others:Community |

Regulars

Low Profile

| Focus on Maker Machines | +- |

| Futuristic, technical | - |

+ Huge amount of playfulness

+ Evoke fascination and joy

Playful Mood

Home away from Home

Welcoming, open atmosphere **+**

Often still different from home **-**

3d-printers as enablers for 3rd places

Motivate people to enter Makerspaces

Spark Conversation

Span & Negotiate Boundaries

Complexity and appearance needs to be more friendly

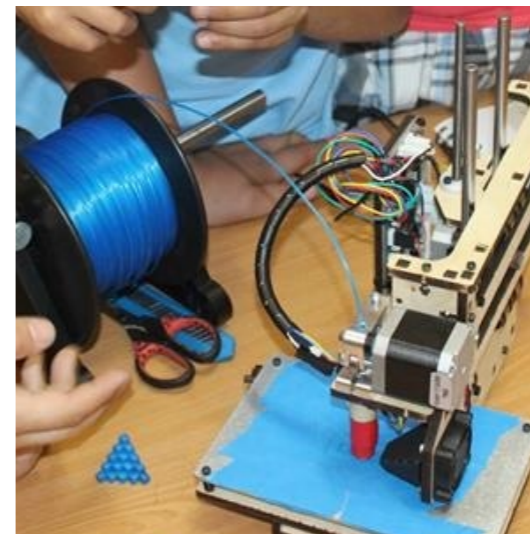# Outlook: Deploy 3d printers in different settings

Wrap-Up

Thomas Ludwig,
Oliver Stickel,
Volkmar Pipek

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3d Printers as Potential Boundary Negotiating Artifacts for 3rd places

2 Communities (Researchers / Artists) | Focus: Appropriation

Regulars

Low Profile

Playful Mood

Home away from Home

Neutral Ground

Conversation main activity

Leveller

Accessibility & Accommodation

+ Attract Regulars		+ Fascination, Joy	- Not like home
+ Regulars train newbies	- Futuristic, technical	+ Playfulness aplenty!	+ Makerspaces often home-ish
Regulars	**Low Profile**	**Playful Mood**	**Home away from Home**
Neutral Ground	**Conversation main activity**	**Leveller**	**Accessibility & Accommodation**
+ Can Make anything	+ Hanging Around, Talking	+Maker Values, OSS, OHW	+ Open Spaces
+ Often in Neutral Spaces	- Domain Vocabulary	- Complexity	+ Transcend work hours

3d-printers as enablers for 3rd places

Span & Negotiate Boundaries

Complexity and appearance needs to be more friendly

Outlook: Deploy 3d printers in different settings

Deploy 3d printers to create or develop a 3rd place and enable people to hack the place themselves!