# Implementing and Evaluating the Digital Turn in Estonian Schools: from Spectacular to Fundamental

Mart Laanpere, sen.researcher @ Centre for Educational Technology, Tallinn University



Conference on Data Science and Social Research :: Naples, 19 February, 2016

# Spectacular vs fundamental

Huberman (1980) 'Recipes for Busy Kitchens': educational innovations tend to "spend too much time on spectacular at the expense of fundamental"

# ICT/E-learning strategies in Estonia

1:1 computing, Computerisation, ICT integration, E-textbooks, E-learning, OER, internet competencies Pilot schools ICT innovation SCHOOLS LLL strategy Tiger Leap Tiger Leap + Learning 2014-2020 Tiger strategy strategy strategy 2003 2006 2009 2000 1997 2014 **EDUCATION** HITSA **E-university E-VET** consortium foundation consortium HIGHER ESF-funded programs: OER, First e-courses Digital competences in WebCT e-courses, staff training infrastructure, resources

# Technology generation shifts







# Estonian Strategy for Lifelong Learning 2014-2020: action plan for Digital Turn

- Digital turn in formal education system: digital culture into curricula, bottom-up innovation, sharing good practice, educational technologists in schools
- → Digital learning resources: digital textbooks, OER, quality management, recommender systems
- Digital infrastructure for learning: 1:1 computing, BYOD, interoperable ecosystem of services, mobile clients, schoolwide digital turn (first in 20 pilot schools, then in others)
- Digital competences of teachers and students: competence models, self-assessment tools, mapping with course offerings and accreditation procedures, updating initial teacher education curricula

### Digital infrastructure in Estonian schools

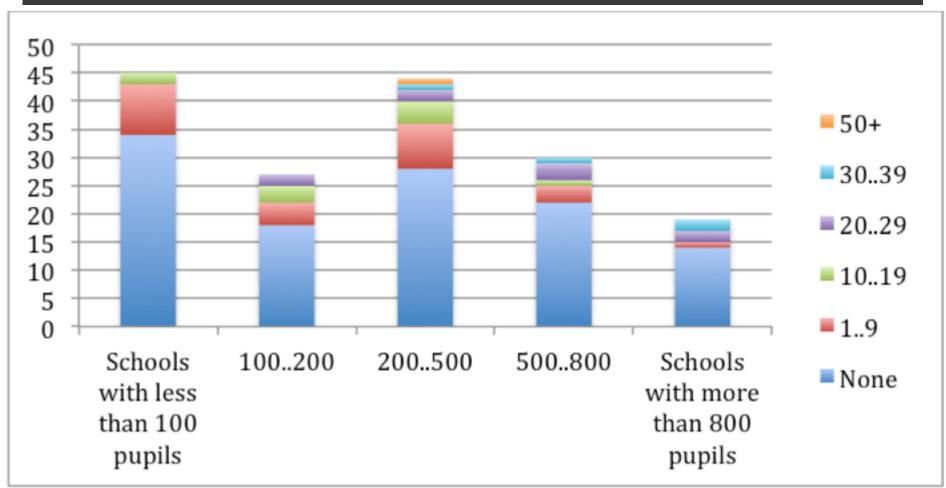
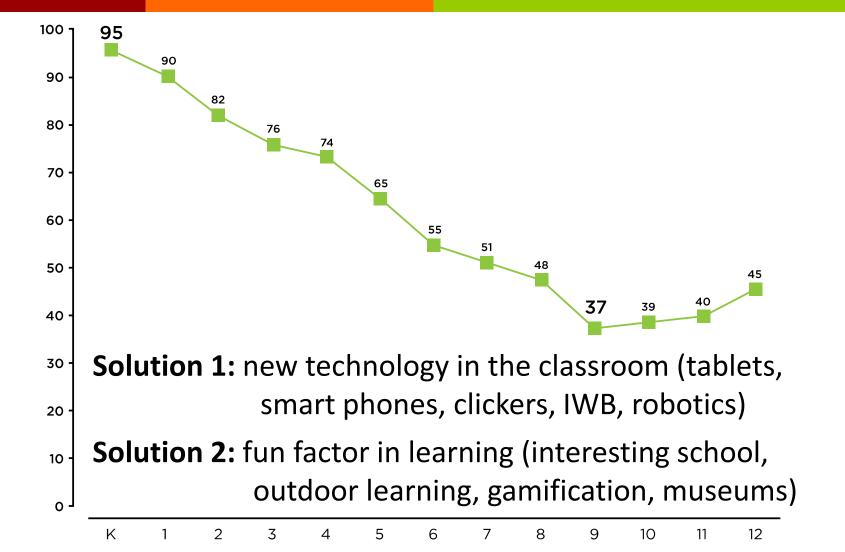


Figure 8. Availability of tablet computers in schools.

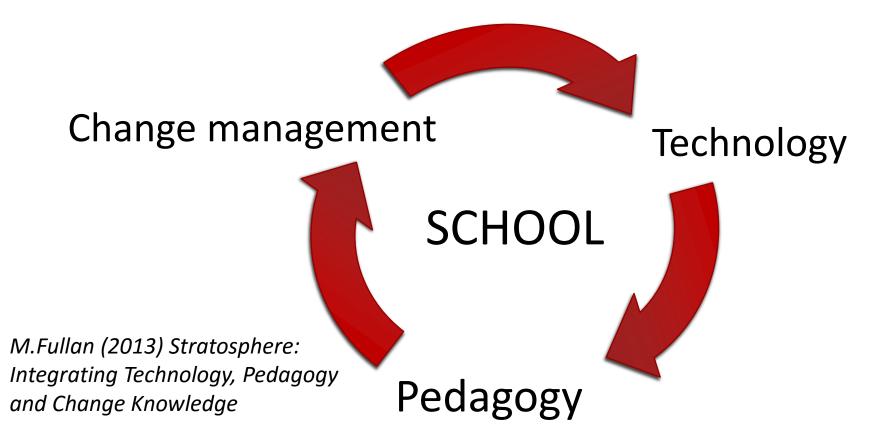
Erasmus+ project Creative Classroom: school survey 2014

### Loss of enthusiasm at school



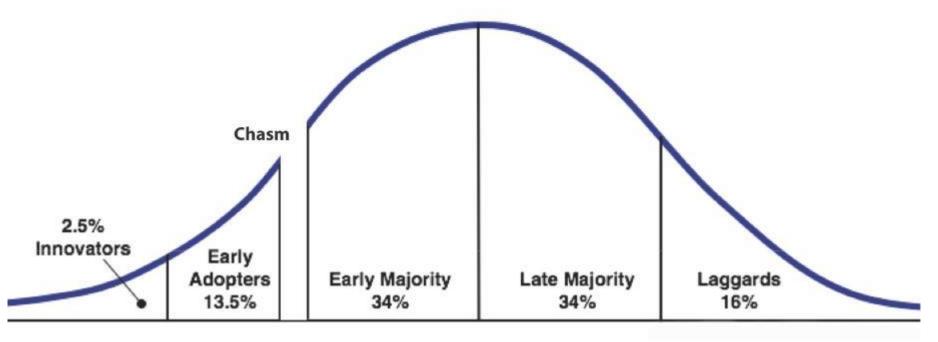
# Technology and fun are not enough

Successful educational innovation requires combination of three forces on the school level:



### Change management: whole school turn

#### **Technology Adoption Life Cycle**



- 7 The training and support is oriented on the level of a teacher
- Diffusion of innovations (Rogers, 1992), OECD study (2002)
- Whole school intervention models are needed

# Pedagogical change

- The Club of Rome (1979) From reproductive learning to innovative learning (anticipation, participation)
- Metaphors of learning (Paavola & Hakkarainen):
  - MONOLOGICAL: learning as **aquisition** of knowledge
  - **▶ DIALOGICAL: learning as participation** in community of practice
  - TRIALOGICAL: learning as collaborative **knowledge creation** resulting with shareable digital artefacts

## Old and new pedagogies

**Teacher** Pupil Tech use Pedagogical plo capacity Content Master required Content knowledge content Ubiquitous technology New Discover and master content together

Create and use new

knowledge in the world

Outcome:

mastery

Outcome:

Deep learning

Pedagogical

capacity

(Fullan 2013)

### Innovation models in education

- Macro-level innovation management: national strategy, related programs, national curriculum, changes in regulations (assessment, textbooks), quality assurance
- Micro-level innovation: teachers networks, professional development, competitions, projects
- Often overlooked meso-level innovation model:
  - Whole-school policies and change management
  - Inclusive management, learning from each other
  - Learning organisation, double loop learning (Why, How, What)
  - Success stories: Waldorf schools, Schools with Distinction

# Samsung Digital Turn pilot schools





### Five scenarios for tablet classrooms

- **Flipped classroom**: learning in advance of the lesson from short videos and other resources, making sense and applying new knowledge during the lesson (Khan Academy)
- Inquiry-based learning: learning like scientists do, by questioning, exploring, explaining, (in)validating
- Project-based learning: collaborative creation of digital artifacts
- **Problem-based learning**: solving, then designing problems (tasks)
- Game-based learning: learning from playing and designing games (e.g. Quest2Learn school NY)

## Digital Mirror: assessing digital maturity

- An online tool for self- and peer-assessment of school's digital maturity
- Three dimensions of digital maturity:
  - Digital infrastructure (1-1 computing, BYOD, Wifi, support)
  - Pedagogical innovation (learning environment & resources, roles)
  - Change management (whole school policies, learning organisation)
- 5-point assessment scale (from iTEC innovation maturity model):
  - Exchange: teaching approach is not changed
  - Enrich: technology supports differentiated learning
  - Enhance: teaching and learning are re-designed
  - Extend: ubiquitous technology, learner takes control
  - **7** Empower: beyond institutional boundaries, learner as co-author

# Digital Mirror



### Conclusions

- Schools are overwhelmed by surveys that only ask for data without giving anything back
- Digital Mirror is a data collection tool that supports teachers and school administration in implementing double-loop learning and becoming a learning organisation
- Meso/school-level innovation model is often overlooked, yet very powerful in focusing on fundamental rather than spectacular side of innovation