

# Advise-Me

## Plans for the future

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Multiplier Event

October 19, 2018

Heerlen



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# Introduction

**Timeline:** September 2016 – August 2019 (1 year remaining)

- Slightly behind schedule with implementation (software development and modeling), but we can catch up
- I will present our **plans for the future**

Please **Advise Us** about how we should proceed:

1. Connecting learning environments
2. Dashboard and adaptive testing paths
3. Evaluation studies
4. Scientific output
5. Second multiplier event
6. Dissemination opportunities

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# Connecting learning environments

The project plan emphasizes reuse of the assessment technology by connecting multiple learning environments

- The **assessment services** should facilitate easy integration
- **Numworx** (a.k.a. the Digital Mathematics Environment) is connected to the assessment software, and was used in the pilot studies
- Future plans:
  - Connect the French Pepite system (on a WIMS server)
  - Improve interoperability by adding support for QTI standard



# Dashboard and adaptive testing paths

Not discussed today (but work in progress):

- A **dashboard/reporting module** that presents the assessment
  - Reporting about groups and individuals
  - Targeted at teachers and pupils
  - Will be inspired by similar dashboards in the DME and Pepite
- We want to make **testing paths adaptive**
  - **Task sequencing**: order and selection of tasks depends on answers
  - Selection based on ‘unknowns’ in user model



# Evaluation studies

- Main activity in third year: design and execute a larger **evaluation study**
  - We aim at approximately 300 pupils
  - Three countries
  - Preferably, involving different learning environments
- Evaluation from a **technical** and a **quality** perspective



# Scientific output

The main project results so far are described in our EC-TEL 2018 paper

- **Comments** about the paper?
- **Recommendations** for follow-up research?
- **Related work** we missed?
- Other **ideas**?

We are planning to write a **second paper** after the evaluation studies

## Fine-grained Cognitive Assessment based on Free-form Input for Math Story Problems

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**Abstract.** We describe an approach to using ICT for assessing mathematics achievement of pupils using learning environments for mathematics. In particular, we look at fine-grained cognitive assessment of free-form answers to math story problems, which requires determining the steps a pupil takes towards a solution, together with the high-level solution approach used by the pupil. We recognise steps and solution approaches in free-form answers and use this information to update a user model of mathematical competencies. We use the user model to find out for which student competencies we need more evidence of mastery, and determine which next problem to offer to a pupil. We describe the results of our fine-grained cognitive assessment on a large dataset for one problem, and report the results of two pilot studies in different European countries.

**Keywords:** Math story problems · Step-based assessment · Free-form input · Solution strategies · User modelling

### 1 Introduction

Competence in mathematics has been identified at EU level as one of the key competencies for personal fulfilment, active citizenship, social inclusion, and employability in the knowledge society of the 21st century.<sup>7</sup> In 2009, concerns about low student performance led to the adoption of an EU-wide benchmark in basic skills, which states that 'by 2020 the share of 15-year-olds with insufficient abilities in reading, mathematics and science should be less than 15%'.<sup>8</sup> An extensive

<sup>7</sup> Mathematics Education in Europe: Common Challenges and National Policies, 2011.

<sup>8</sup> Strategic Framework for European Cooperation in Education and Training, ET 2020.

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## Second multiplier event

- Workshop about final project results (including evaluation)
- Summer 2019, exact date to be decided
- OUNL campus, Heerlen, the Netherlands, or co-located with a related conference
- Similar to today's event, but perhaps somewhat less technical

You are cordially invited to also attend this workshop

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# Dissemination opportunities

- Advise-Me is a **Strategic Partnership** in the Erasmus+ programme
  - International collaboration
  - Multi-disciplinary (Computer Science, Math Education, Psychometrics)
  - Research and applied technology
  
- Do you see opportunities for future collaboration?



## Advise-Me

Automatic Diagnostics with Intermediate Steps in Mathematics Education

### Project details:

- Start: September 1, 2016
- End: August 31, 2019
- Duration: 36 months
- Funding: € 442.895
- Programme: Erasmus+
- Action: Strategic Partnerships
- 2016-1-NL01-KA201-023022

### Partners:

Open University of the Netherlands  
(coordinator)

Utrecht University

Cito

Saarland University

Université Paris-Est Créteil

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# Advise-Me

On Friday October 19, 2018, we are organising a multiplier event in Heerlen, the Netherlands. On this day, we will give an overview of the results of the project, and have asked two international experts to give their view on assessment in mathematics. You are very welcome to attend ([registration](#) is required).

Our research paper [Fine-grained Cognitive Assessment based on Free-form Input for Math Story Problems](#) was accepted for the European Conference on Technology Enhanced Learning (EC-TEL) 2018.

### Interested?

Feel free to contact the project coordinator, [dr. Bastiaan Heeren](#), about the Advise-Me project.

### Fifth project meeting



April 20, 2018  
Paris, France

### Fourth project meeting



November 27, 2017  
Arnhem, the Netherlands

### Third project meeting



April 18, 2017  
Paris, France