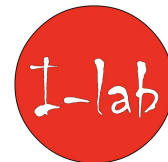# Augmenting Creativity:
introducing WeWrite

Pietro Gravino

SONY CSL - Paris, 01/03/2021

Writing is not the inverse of Reading!

We tend to think that reading is (mainly) a linear operation.
Writing is not, because is a complex creative process!

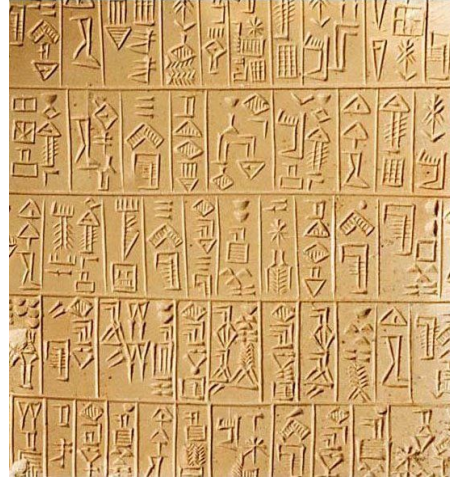The White Rabbit put on his spectacles. **"Where shall I begin, please your Majesty?"** he asked.

"Begin at the beginning," the King said gravely, **"and go on till you come to the end: then stop."**

Text editor or text reader?

"GIFTS FROM THE HIGH AND MIGHTY OF ADAB TO THE HIGH PRIESTESS"

sumerian on creamy stone

IT are mature enough to be used to empower the c...
The idea is to create a flexible platform for text editing ...
overcome limitations of classic text editor, allowing u...
or providing users with features to facilitate the e...
comparisons, etc);
allow trusted multi-user editing, through blockchain ...
credit distribution system taking into account ...
contributions of different users;
offer a library of texts to be used (with the automatic ...
liquid publication paradigm; such library will be ...
recommender system able to suggest texts to be use...
integrate an artificial intelligence system able to prop...
to fill voids or to stimulate the creativity of the users.
...se features, besides the importance per se, will prov...
...out the users that will fuel our research lines on the ...
... of new possibilities opened by novel Informa...
...logies. The outcomes of this research will then be ...
...ms to furtherly boost effectiveness.

"WEWRITE CONCEPT"

english on a text editor

26th c. BC

1 year ago

Text editors are conceived to host linear operations like reading. The text we are writing is presented to us in a linear form.

What about managing the structure, handling the alternatives, review the history, and revising the text and all these things?

A complex process forced into a linear space

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et dolore magna aliqua.

A text corrected (by me or someone else) ... how was it before?

Ut enim ad minim veniam, quis nostrud exercitation ullamco laboris nisi ut aliquip ex ea commodo consequat.

Ut enim ad minim veniam, quis nostrud exercitation sunt laboris nisi ut cillum ex ea commodo consequat.

Two alternative version. I am still undecided but this way the text is less readable.

Excepteur sint occaecat cupidatat non proident, sunt in culpa qui officia deserunt mollit anim id est laborum.

I am not sure about the position of this paragraph ...

... velit esse cillum dolore eu fugiat nulla pariatur ...

An idea I like, but I am not sure if and where to put it ...

Adapting technology

humans ← ADAPTATION → technology
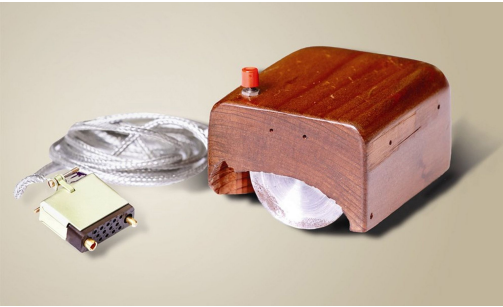
Can we adapt technology to **human processes**?

WeWrite is a flexible Augmented Creativity framework to support (and study) the creative process.
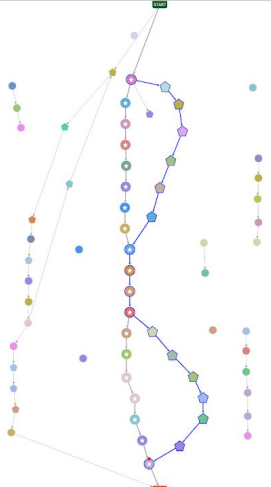
Introducing WeWrite

Welcome pietro

PROJECTS EDITOR

NODE ▾ SEQUENCE ▾ HIDE ▾ TOOLS ▾ SAVE LOG

WeWrite Doc

Guide and tutorials

WARNING: This guide is still to be completed and it is constantly updated. For any question, please contact us!
§
Quickstart

There few things you really need to know before you start using WeWrite:

Nodes are parts of text. You create them by adding a separator (the special character you chose when you create the project, e.g. we choose '§' in this text) or by right clicking on the graph. They are represented as circles in the graph.
Links bind subsequent nodes. They define the (possible) flows of your text. They are represented with arrows in the graph.
The Selection is the focus of your work, and allows you to edit a piece of text, that is a path through linked nodes. It is highlighted with blue lines and countours in the graph. Left click on the first or on the last node of the selection to deselect them.
A Sequence is a selection that has been saved (through the menu "Sequence"). It is useful to avoid selecting by hand, and to save important milestones in your work (a particular version you want to keep or a subsection, a chapter, etc). Nodes and links belonging to saved sequences are bolder, in the graph.
The Main Sequence is a special saved sequence meant to be the most up-to-date version of your work. You can set which saved sequence has to be the main in the Sequence Manager (in menu "Sequence") or when saving a sequence. Nodes belonging to the Main Sequence have a star.
You can hide nodes or links from the graph that you do not like by right clicking on them or through the "Hide" menu. Beware: the Main sequence cannot be hidden, but you can always hide all, from the "Hide" menu: everything will be hidden and a new main sequence with a single, empty node will be automatically created.

§

Starting situation

When you start a new project, after the settings, the system will automatically create an empty node linked to the "Start" and to the "End" (they are just placeholders added for reference). Also a sequence is created and saved as "New. Seq." plus date and time, and it contains only the empty node. Being the only sequence from the beginning to the end, this sequence is automatically selected as the main. You can directly start writing and every time you add a separator you will create a new node, in the sequence.
§
Basic text editing and switching

To work on a text in the editor you first need to select one or more nodes, that must be linked. You can do it by clicking on a sequence of linked nodes or by loading a saved sequence. This will make the sequence of their texts appear in the editor. To split, just add a separator wherever you want to split nodes. To merge, just delete the

DESELECT ALL

Working sequences
Click on ❋ and edit the text to create an alternative version

Correzioni_Ruggiero

ADD SEPARATOR: §   ZOOM + −   10406 CHARS

GUIDE AND
QUICKSTAR
'IN THIS
STARTING
BASIC TEX
ALTERNATI
COOPERATI
FAST TROU
IT LOGS O
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LINKS BET
§

WeWrite pillars

1. Fallback to normal

It is always possible to use it as a traditional simple editor.

2. Non-linearity of writing

Variants and recombinations are supported.

3. Last is best

The last thing the author writes is considered to be the best …

4. Tell me something I don't know

… unless the author says differently.

5. Nothing ever really deleted

All the history is recorded, and can be recovered (and studied).

WeWrite basic concepts

Node:
a discretional and editable unit of text.
It can be edited, split, merged, deleted, recovered, etc

Selection:
a path through linked node to work on.
The texts of the selected nodes can be directly modified.

Main sequence:
a special saved sequence used as a reference.
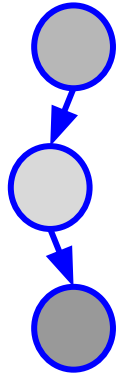It represents the closest thing to the final version.

Link:
a sequential bound between nodes.
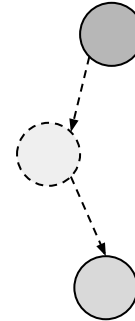It signals a potential sequentiality, which might not be the only one.

Saved Sequence:
a selection saved to be loaded later.
Makes selection faster, also useful for versioning and structure

Hide:
things you do not need can be hidden.
They can be recovered.

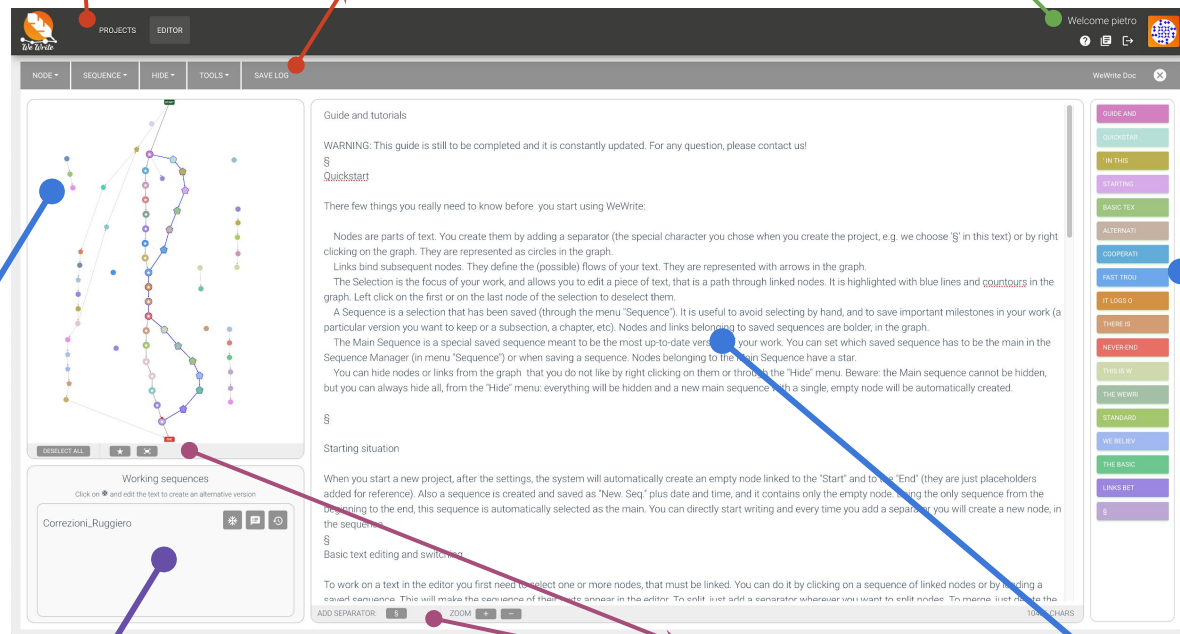# WeWrite interface

Platform Menu

Editor Menu

Help Area

The Switcher

The Editor

The Graph

Toolbars

Working Sequence box
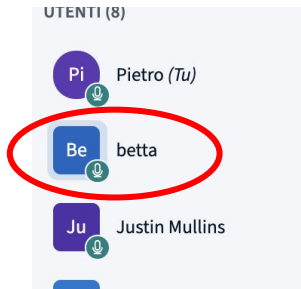
WeWrite: before we start

- Supported browsers:

(limited support)

- Supported charset:

LATIN-1

- Supporting users:

live help and documentation

DISCOVER WEWRITE

`e.falivene@ilabroma.com`

- Let's go:

`http://sew-workshop.org/wewrite/`

WeWrite hands-on tutorial

- Login
- Create project
- Starting situation (interface description)
- Basic editing and switching (graph navigation, tooltip)
- Advanced editing (selection, free nodes, graph editing)
- Alternative paths (freeze)
- Cooperative writing
- Annotations
- Help mode & Guide
- (Search?)
- (History?)

WeWrite troubleshooting

- Automatic logout
- Hard refresh needed
- Loading
- Bug identification and reporting

Thanks