

The Mobile Learning Ecosystem



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Mobile Learning Defined

- **Learning or training:** knowledge construction, skill development and performance support
- Learners participate **across locations, times and contexts**
- Enabled by **portable devices** and web connectivity
- M-learning devices: **handheld, portable, connected, always-on, personal, ubiquitous**

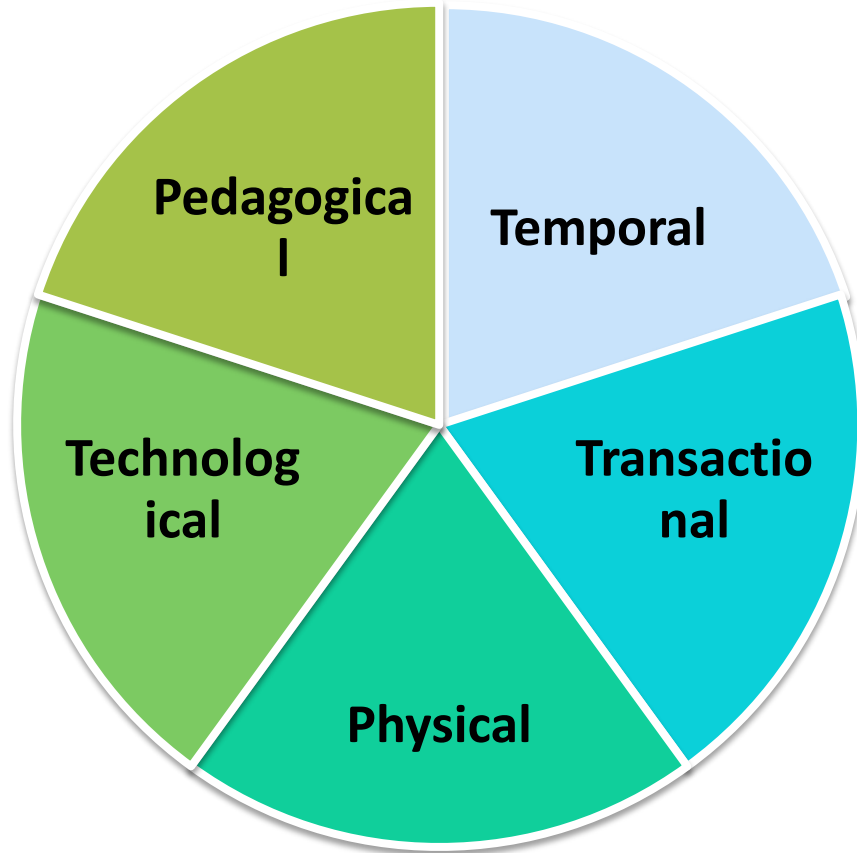
...contingent on needs and context

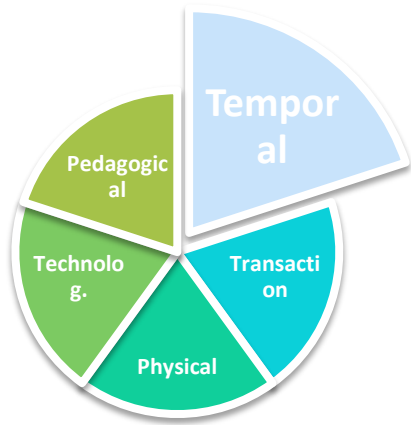
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Outcome:

To identify the various components of the m-learning system and understand how they contribute to the effectiveness of mobile learning.

Dimensions of Mobile Learning





The Temporal Dimension

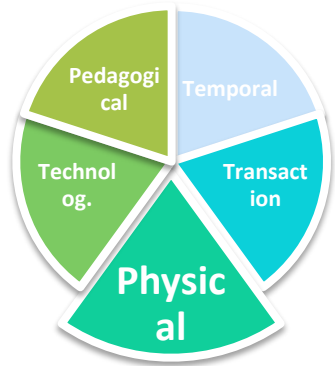
When?

How long?

Within what time limits?

- Ad-hoc learnable moments
- Longer stretches of learning

e.g., during a bus ride, while walking a dog, during a lecture



The Physical Dimension

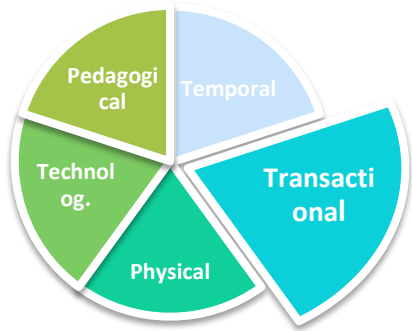
Where?

What layout?

Within what physical limits?

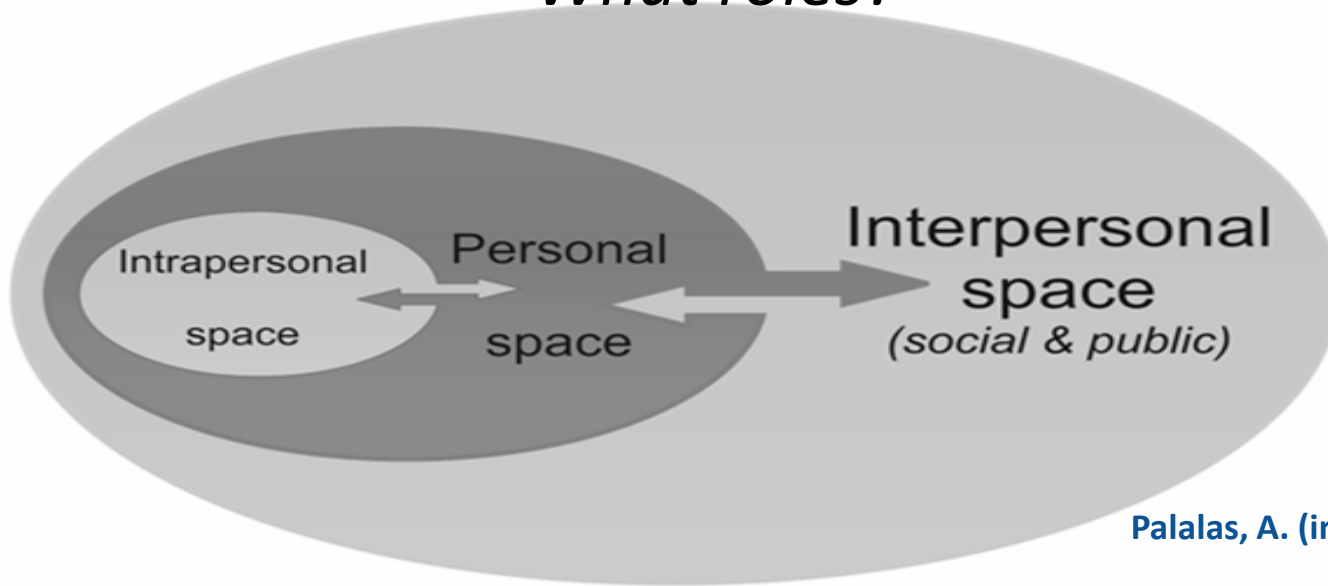
- Place, position, location
 - geographical coordinates, layout, pertinent circumstances, context and its limitations

e.g., on the bus ride, at home, during clinical practice

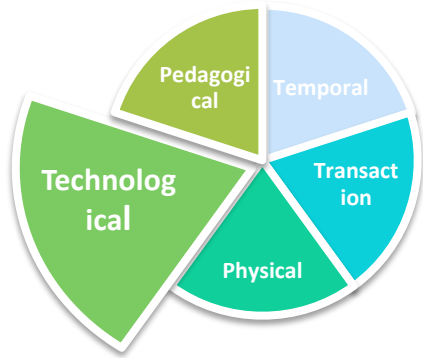


The Transactional Dimension

*Who? With whom?
For whom? From whom?
What roles?*



Palalas, A. (in press)



The Technological Dimension

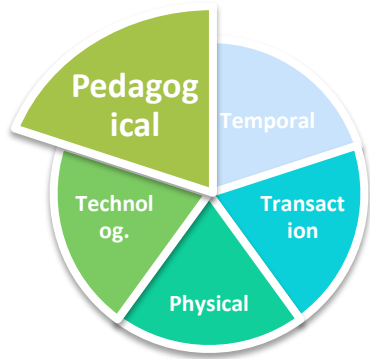
How?

Using what tools?

Within what infrastructure?

- Technologies as enablers:
 - mobile devices
 - connectivity, network/web
 - computational power
 - software
- Virtual space

e.g., apps, Internet, telephony, built-in camera, Wi-Fi, cloud computing, AR



The Pedagogical Dimension

How? Why? What? Who?

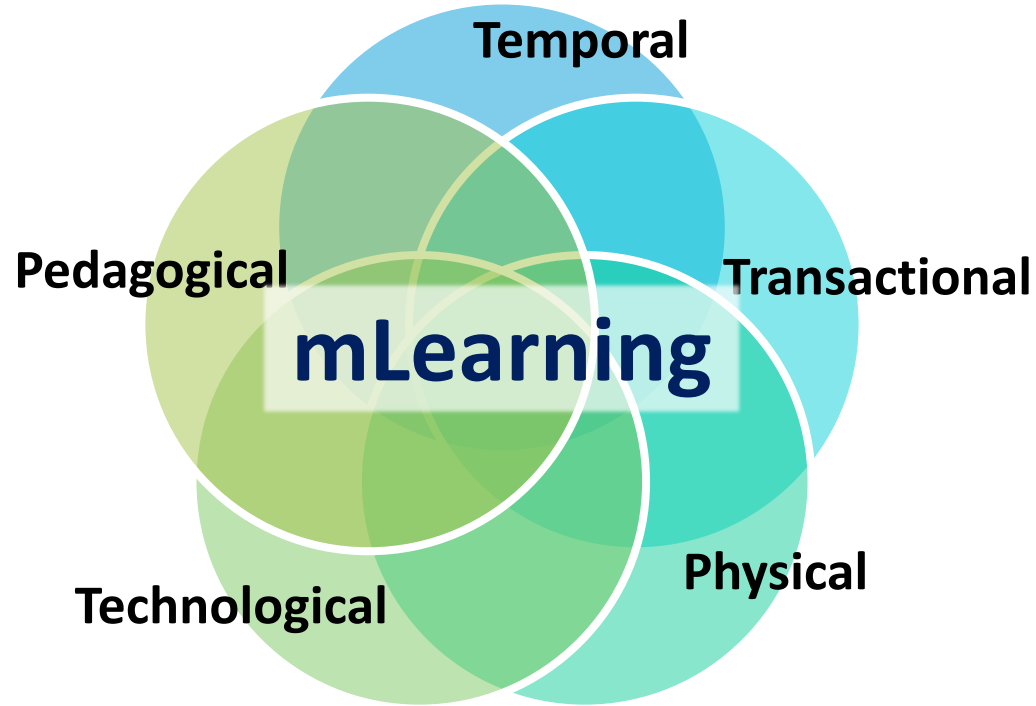
What materials?

What m-learning designs/frameworks?

- Learning theories and approaches
 - strategies
 - activities
 - procedures
 - content and materials
 - scaffolds and supports

e.g., situated learning, activity theory, ecological constructivism, context-aware activities, assessment tasks

The Mobile Learning Ecosystem



If we teach today's students as we taught yesterday's, we rob them of tomorrow.

John Dewey

Thank you!

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- **References:**

- Palalas, A. (in press). *Blended mobile learning: Expanding learning spaces with mobile technologies*. In M. Ally & A. Tsinakos (Eds.), *Mobile Learning Book*.