# 1 QUESTIONS

- What are co-writer’s motivations for territorial behavior?
- What means and strategies do co-writers apply to support territorial functioning?
- How is territorial practice negotiated during the writing?
- What challenges can we identify for HCI/CSCW research and design regarding the mediation of territorial functioning?

# 2 STUDY

- Interview study with groups doing academic writing (19 researchers, 13 university students)
- Extraction and visualization of document revisions (revision = small bulk of additions and/or deletions)
- Analysis:
  - Territorial functioning (Taylor, 1988)
  - Fragmented Exchanges (Clement and Wagner, 1995)

# 3 RESULTS

- Writing groups have ecologies of multiple tools with overlapping functionality (see Figure below).
- Co-writers shift between shared and non-shared work: “It’s just that it’s a process inside the head that’s on paper and I need to, just, have that to myself until I get started.”
- Co-writers perceive and respect territories: “For me to then go in and change his words feels like a violation in a way, right, I don’t have the right to do that.”
- Territorial behavior adapts to the phases of the writing: “Maybe if there was a rush at the end and they deleted part of what I wrote, then fair enough.”

# 4 IMPLICATIONS

- The current multi-mediation of collaborative writing requires frequent migration between tools, impeding co-writers’ coupling of communication and activities.
- A transitional view of computer-mediated collaboration emphasizing timing of transitions and interactions over a static characterization of group and context.
- Support for timing of transitions and interactions requires shared awareness of the state of the object of work, but awareness should be addressed with an eye to the need for disarticulation (cf. Clement and Wagner).

Territorial division

Five consecutive paragraphs in which the majority of the revisions have been made by the light writer. The dark writer has only made 9% revisions in one paragraph. This indicates that these five paragraphs are light’s territory.

The next five paragraphs in the document, in which the dark writer has made most of the revisions, indicating that these paragraphs are dark’s territory.

Dissolution of territory towards the deadline

One paragraph depiction split according to timing of the revisions, showing at which times the various writers have made revisions. We can see that the green writer worked on the paragraph on multiple occasions, while blue and pink only made revisions on the last day. This indicates that the paragraph is green’s territory, but also indicates that the deadline pressure changes territorial behavior.

CIO Symposium, January 2019.

This project has received funding from the European Research Council (ERC) under the European Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme (grant agreement No 740548).