A Room Of Our Own:
Experiences from a Direct Office Share

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For nine months, the authors worked in a "direct office share"—two offices joined by unswitched audio/video connections. This paper describes that experience. While working together, the authors were engaged in developing an architecture of use for techno-social systems—framework for describing distributed technology and people together at work. The paper therefore also seeks to achieve a second purpose: to present, mostly by demonstrating its use, the beginnings of such an architecture. This description comprises three complementary 'sightings' on the direct office share, labeled 1, 1+1, and (1+1)+others. Each sighting captures selected aspects of technology (audio/video connections) in use by the authors at work. This capturing of experience demonstrates by example that multiple sightings provide a powerful form for describing techno-social systems, that current patterns of use both support and interfere with the use of new technology, and that only in a description that encompasses both the technical and social can the use of technology be comprehended.

Methods in Search of Methodology—
Combining HCI and Object Orientation

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Software design and user interface design and analysis methods are each insufficient methods for ensuring good software development. We propose a combination of object-oriented analysis and design, human computer interaction, and process redesign forged into one methodology. We describe the use of these methods in a project case study and conclude with a synopsis of how the methods worked and lessons we learned.