

# Towards a transactional and intensity oriented understanding of collaboration



Rethinking inclusion and collaboration as a pathway  
to inclusive school development AU/DPU 14.03.2019.

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# Focus points

- ▶ Collaboration as inseparable from the practice-arrangement bundles of sites (schools) – co-labouring on and acting on the practically intelligible tasks in schools
  - ▶ The potentiality of collaboration – difference and intensity
  - ▶ In- and exclusion processes amidst competing practices and intensities
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# The research project in short

- **Investigating:** How teachers and pedagogues collaborate, how it is practically intelligent to collaborate the way they do, and what potentialities collaboration has in regards to the participation of all children in school.
- **Methodologie:** Qualitative ethnographic case-study approach utilizing – observation, interviews, documents via primarily shadowing observations. Three case-schools (Danish public primary schools) with involved teachers, pedagogues, school leaders, leisure-time center leaders and children.
- **Main Theories;** Pragmatism (Dewey) Practice Theory (Schatzki) and theory concepts from Deleuze.

\*Pedagogue=child-and youth care worker/kindergarten teacher, who holds a Bachelors degree in Social Education

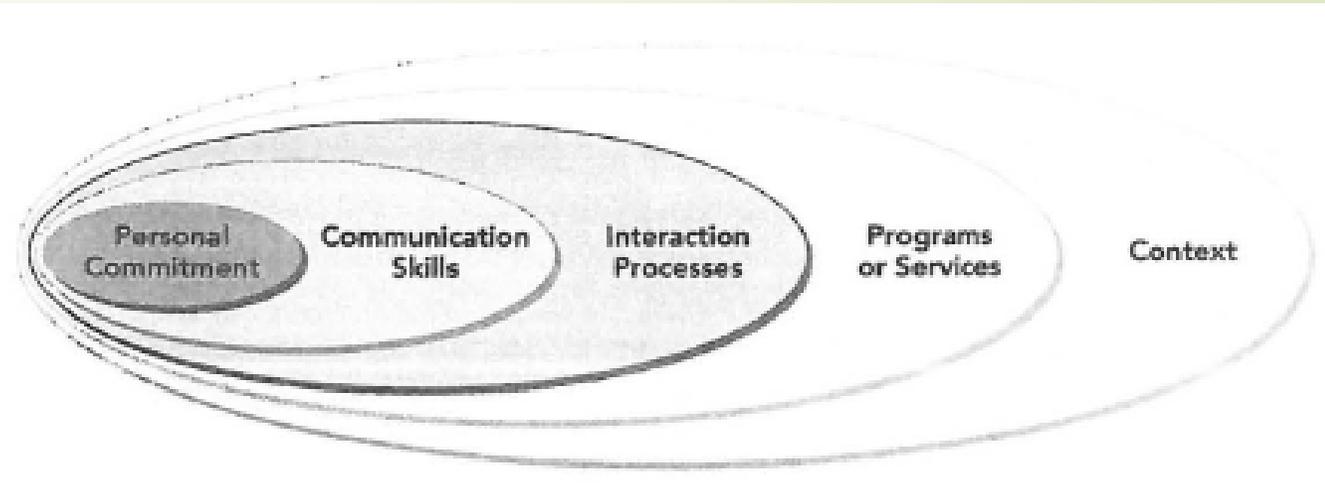
# An understanding and ongoing definition of collaboration

- ▶ “Collaboration is a process over time with an initially increased intensity and thereby potentiality in the transaction between two or more social entities and their practices and environments, in situations where the activities of collaboration are characterized by adequate attunement processes towards common actions and goals, which in time finds relative stability in the distribution of the potentialities of collaboration within existing or novel practice-arrangements of the collaborative situation”

# Transaction vs. interaction – the detachable elements vs the inseperable continuing co-constitution

Friend & Cook,  
2017

(Dewey & Bentley, 1960)



- Inter-action  
– Newtonian causality

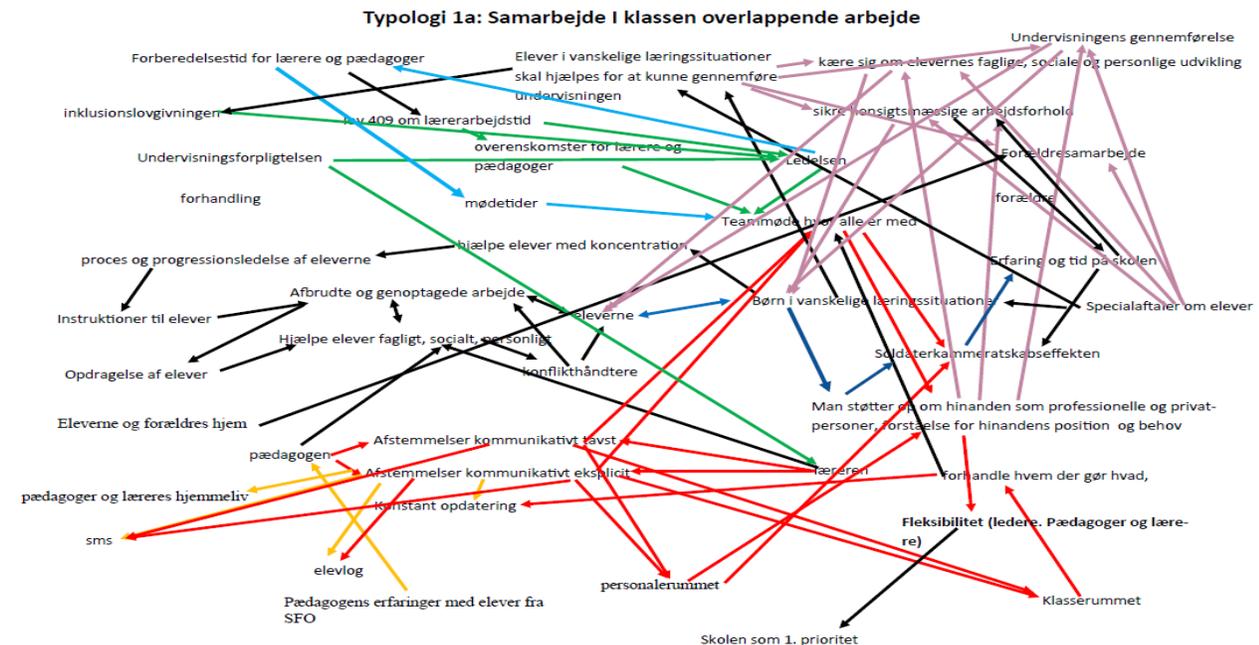


Substantivism

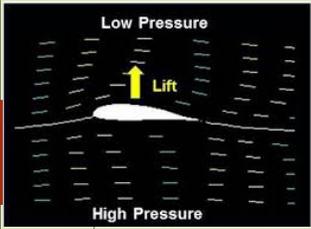
- Transaction  
– Darwin and Einstein  
(and Bohr) – evolution and quantum mechanics



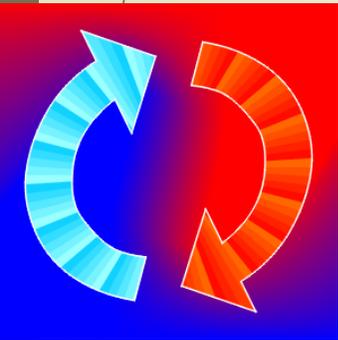
Relational



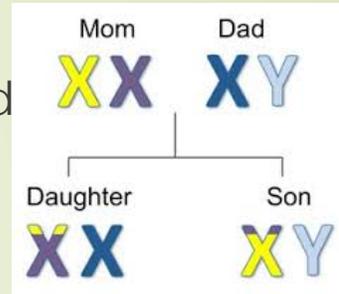
# Intensities and **potentiality**



- Differences creates intensities, which drive processes: this includes both qualitative and quantitative and their is potentiality in differences (Deleuze 2014/1968; Da Landa, 2013; Mader, 2017; Clisby, 2017)



- In physics – e.g. – warm and cold air in a box **creates ventilation**, lightning and electricity, pressure **creates flight**, denseness is materials etc.



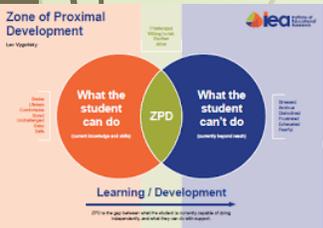
- Biologie e.g. reproduction and chromosomes = **life**

- Social processes (not as causal mechanism) – by driving force in social relationships e.g. **love, divorce** (reason for divorce was **irreconcilable** differences)



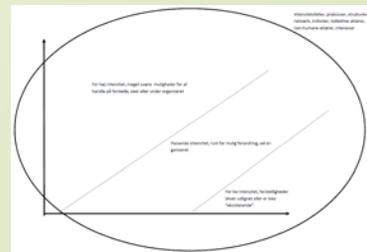
- **Learning** teacher-student, zone of proximal development

- Practices – different practices – **new practices, hybrid practices** (not investigated)



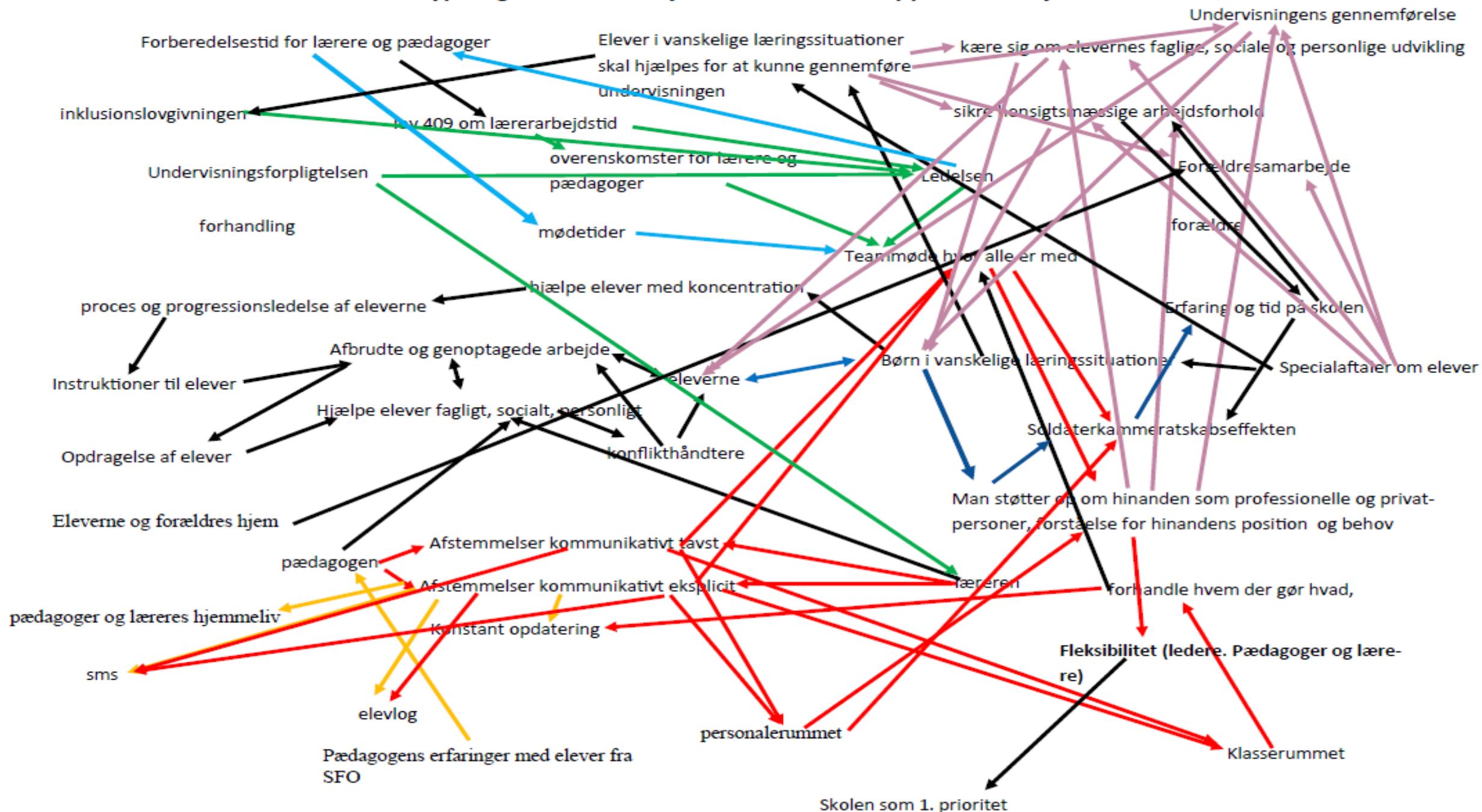
Collaboration a teacher and a pedagog in a school create??? – the potentiality is dependent on differences but can never be detached from the situation in which it is created and the competing intensities within the same situation.

- And is their a level of appropriate intensities within a school site?





# Typologi 1a: Samarbejde I klassen overlappende arbejde





# Practices and material arrangements prefigure collaboration

The intensities and thus potentiality created by collaboration distributes itself into actions, reactions and practices – often the already established practices unless?.

Negating OR acting in new ways on the potentialities within a situation of practices and material arrangements with competing intensities – what is practically intelligible to do – sustaining practices, changing practices, identities, personal or organizational behavior and structure?



# How does this connect to in- and exclusions processes within schools?

- Differences and their by intensities "demand" action, but how do we act upon intensities in the situations we are in?
- Intensity lowering strategies - homogenisation - Getting rid of differences = exclusion
- Is there an appropriate level of intensity within schools as sites, which enables differences to be potentials? - increasing the capacity in practice-arrangements with school sites to be able to act on the potentialities that differences can bring?
- Or relatively major reorganization of school's practice arrangements and networks?
- Right now it seems like a zero-sum game?
- Collaboration as a change engine – collaboration has the potential at least initiating multilevel change processes

Intensitetsfelter, praksisser, strukturer,  
netværk, individer, kollektive aktører,  
non-humane aktører, interesser

For høj intensitet, meget svære muligheder for at handle på forskelle, over eller under organiseret

Passende intensitet, rum for mulig forandring, vel organiseret

For lav intensitet, forskelligheder bliver udlignet eller er ikke "eksisterende"

# Already observed potential in collaboration in regards to pupil participation

Note; "good collaboration" is nothing in it-self, "good" must be evaluated in regards to the management of the tasks the be handled (problem solving) and/Or values that we choose to aim for e.g. in regards to the academic, social and personal particiaption of children in schools and in leisure time centers

- ▶ Sharing task, burdens and succes
- ▶ Invitating pupils into a fellowship, not "just" a relationship - another dynamic
- ▶ Childrens access to more and different adults
- ▶ Constant updating between practices between school practices and leusure time activities
- ▶ More informal information from parents into the school via leisure time institute practices and the pedagogues (much information and contact betwen schools and parents are of a formal character)
- ▶ Silent collaboration – less energy consuming
- ▶ **Not observed but theoretical potentiality:** Hybrid and new practices

# Litterature/references

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