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A videogame based on particle physics

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A platformer game exploring a mysterious world imbued with particle physics



Take a picture...

Take a picture... to reveal the invisible!

# Goal #1 : Feynman diagrams

To bring non-expert players to manipulate basic (2D) diagrams, via pattern recognition puzzles, including special tools such as: missing energy, time flow or a zoom...



# Goal #2 : Particle zoology

In your rosette, collect 17 "pixules" corresponding to (real) elementary particles...



#### Muon

Very similar to the electron, just heavier. Its lifetime is relatively long for a pixule, about two microseconds. This longevity allows it to reach the ground, while it is created high in the atmosphere, by energetic cosmic rays. It is there, by the way, that Dirca discovered them. Totally unexpected, these muons showed up by surprise, revealing the existence of other pixules than the ones we are made of.



- $\rightarrow$  Filling the rosette opens new levels
- $\rightarrow$  Discovering bosons unlock power-ups



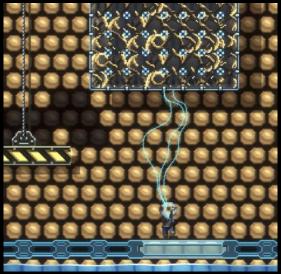


Photon sphere





4 POWER-UPS



Zediacal boxes

Four skills allow you to tame and overcome absurd substances

# A SCIENCE-INSPIRED WORLD BUILDING

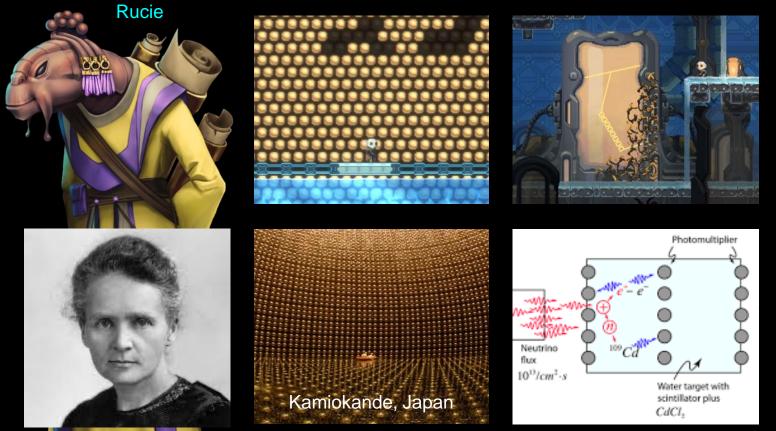






#### in game

# A SCIENCE-INSPIRED WORLD BUILDING

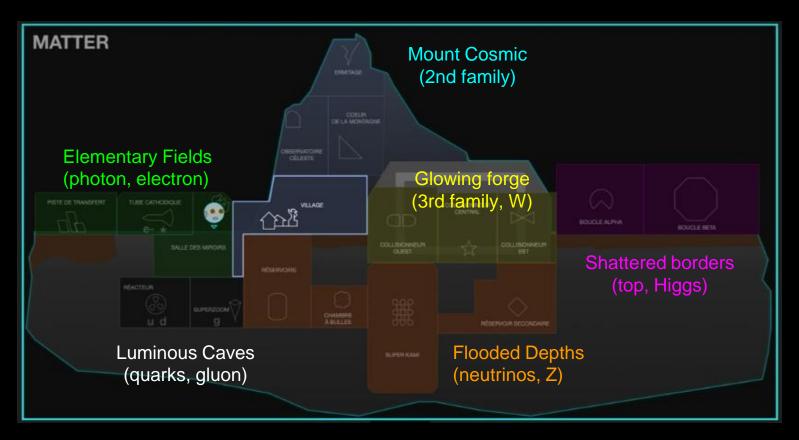


#### in game

behind the scenes

(to be revealed in a wiki, reddit, discord, forum...)

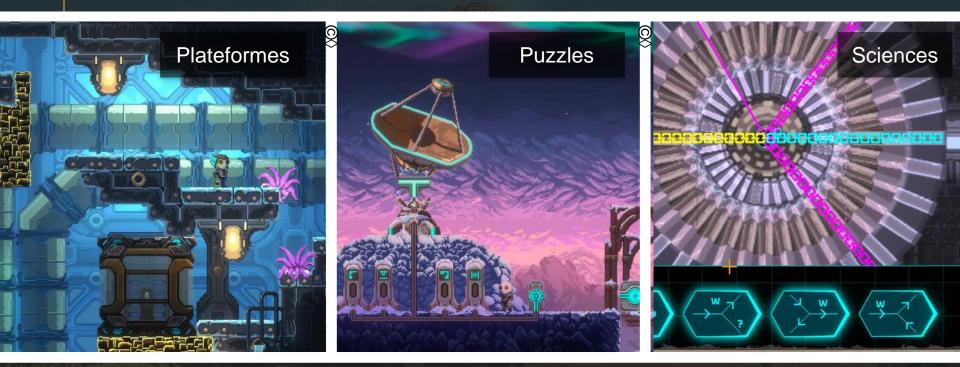
# WORLDMAP 20+ levels and 6 atmospheres to go back to the origin of the disaster and face the ultimate discovery



EXOGRAPHER

10

# Master goal: raise curiosity for particle physics



About 15 hours of gameplay, surrounded by particles, for ~20 €

1 EXOGRAPHER

# Exographer timeline



2019-23 : Conception within the Science & Videogame academic chair of École polytechnique (under Ubisoft patronage)

SWITCH

Nov'23 : Shown at Paris Games Week (200+ players, excellent feedback)

S STEAM

Jans 📉 XBOX

- Nov'23 : Spin-off studio SciFunGames "Science for all, fun above all"
- Jan'24 : Deal with the Abylight publisher
- Fev'24 : Announced on Steam (wishlist started)
- Jun'24 : playable demo on Steam and discover photons and electrons Sep'24 : release on PC & Mac [link] & consoles (Switch, PlayStations, XBOX)

The team



Raphaël Narration Science

Thomas Artistic director

Tony Lead Dev

Catherine Producer

(-)E ٠

Priscilla & Arthur UX designers



Pierre-Alban Game Designer Léonard Tech Art

G4F Sound design

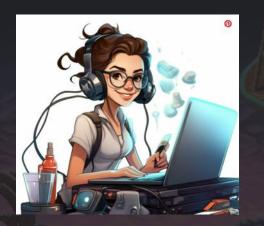
Yann Composer



13

127.0

## Targeted audience = 12-35 yrs



Target #1 (Fun) : Frequent players, curious and eager for new experiences; they have played best-selling platformers (Fez, Braid, Owlboy, Celeste, Ori, Hollow Knight...)

Target #2 (Sci) : Players interested in science; prescribing parents; curious scientists; academics; they consume science on other media (Youtube, TikTok...)



## Exographer, lessons



Goal : reach a large audience with no a priori interest  $\rightarrow$  Video games Professional quality videogames cost money (human resources, with several high-level profiles needed) Target : 100 000+ players (9 languages available already) Now that Exographer exists: we can use it to popularize our science  $\rightarrow$  Spread it around you?!... we can discuss extra visuals / side levels based on your favourite experiment / physics case?

# CONTACT Wanna know more? Wanna play more?

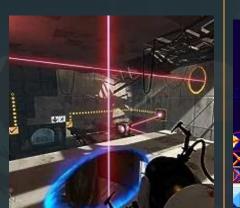


Raphaël Granier de Cassagnac raphael@scifungames.com http://scifungames.com

# End of talk, back-up slides

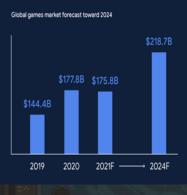


# OUR SOLUTION Videogames, the best popularization media?



# Game mechanics

# Engaging graphics





# Large audience

Interactive experience

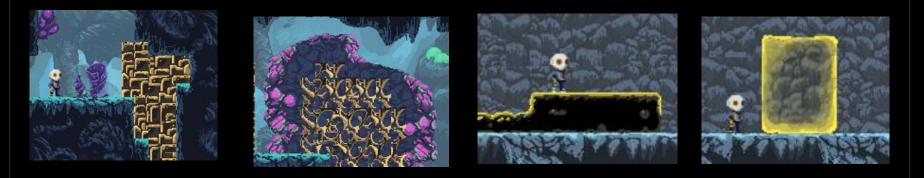
# **TABLET & PICTURES**

Guided by a mysterious tablet equipped with a camera, Unveil encrypted clues and repair impressive machines





Discover a familiar environment yet strangely corrupted: Four absurd substances have swamped the world Each is an obstacle that you will learn to overcome





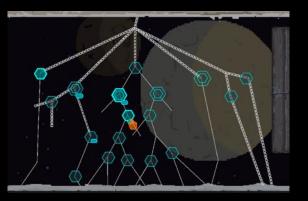




# **EXOGRAPHER'S PILLARS**

#### A mysterious world

Full of intriguing machines unveiling fascinating phenomena



#### A pure platformer game

Engaging and guiding players through original mechanics



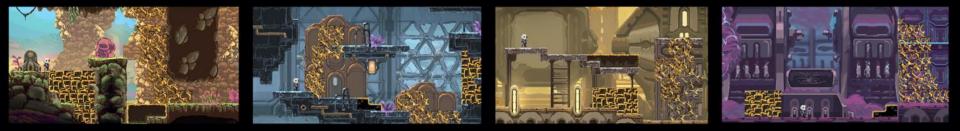
#### A scientific background

Echoing from world building to puzzle design



# A DUAL-PHASE EXPERIENCE

#### Explore a disconcerting universe and break its mystery...



#### Understand its core elements to track the chronology of a disaster...





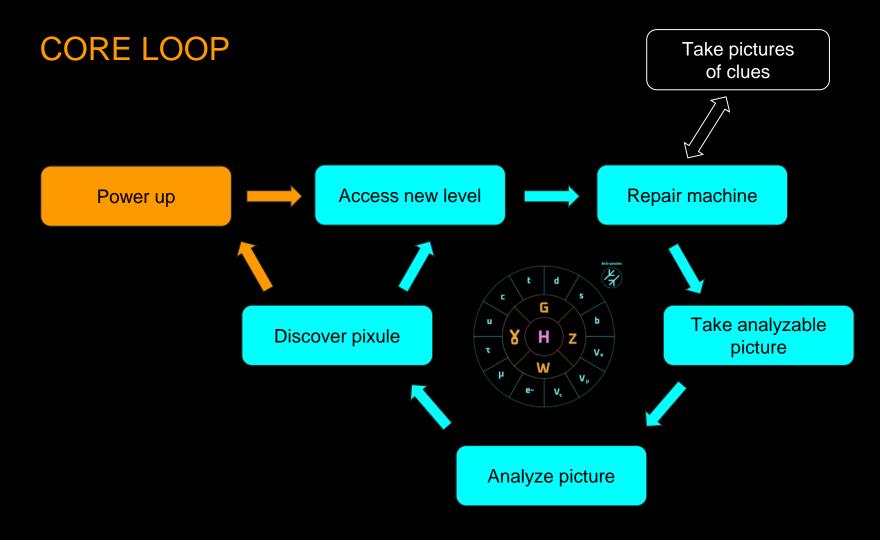
Embody InI, an explorer teleported for a rescue mission on a strange planetoid, with no possible return





Character equipment and progression





# A CENTRAL FEATURE = TAKING PICTURE

## Reveal new particles and their tracks

## Decypher all the clues left by the Natitans...





# Live an amazing encounter with science, making particle physics intriguing, wonderful and tameable through a pure puzzle / platformer game

### OUR MISSION Reconnecting audiences

# 27%

of young people\* doubt that humans are the fruit of evolution (IFOP, 2023) 95%

of young people\* play video games (SELL, 2020)

# 200G\$

annual worldwide revenue from video games, the leading medium

 $\rightarrow$  Using video games to democratize science

\* French statistics, same tendencies worldwide

#### our founder Raphaël Granier de Cassagnac

Ubisoft's trust to hold the Science & Video Games academic chair @ Polytechnique (2019-2023)

Sci = physicist at CERN && Fun = Game studio cofounder, writer (3 novels, 12 short stories, 4 universe-books, 2 movie projects...)





## Science for all

## Fun above all



The first videogame studio dedicated to science popularization

# THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION



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