Cavrois an Organic Window Management

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Some systems feels like ...



They IMPOSE their flow They know what is good for your flow :(

- You cannot open a browser on typing anywhere you want - You cannot have multiple workspaces, browsers side by side - You cannot have workspaces on top of the others
- You have to press that button...
- You can only see one of this window

Others are a junggle

• Pharo windows can be a mess!





What we want...

A system that let us work the way we Want but in a better **organized** way

Outline

- Developer activity profiles
- Existing challenges
- Cavrois's concept
- Cavrois functionalities by example
- Tasks
- Achievements



Existing Challenges

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How does Pharo's UI Impact these Developers?

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Stack Organizer:



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Interface Interaction:

- Carefully organizes their workspace and avoids having too. many windows open in the first place.
- Prefers to maximize individual windows size to display as much information as possible without overloading the visual space.

Shortcut Use:

• Dives into code manually. Wants to be able to maximize windows with more accuracy and navigate code faster.

to see a lot of things at the same time."





Interface Interaction:

- They open windows as needed and close them once they're no longer. useful or when too much information on the screen feels overwhelming.
- Dislikes having to arrange and rearrange windows for task specific layouts, won't do so unless necessary.

Shortcut Use:

 Uses shortcuts to open and close windows, as well as to copy and paste code. Wishes there were shortcuts to speed up arranging windows.

"I don't give importance to the code browser. It's going to take 20% of my time. But I prefer to open it. Use it and close it."

"So there's too much window. And... I cannot understand what I'm seeing. So I'm closing everything."

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3. Stack Organizer



Interface Interaction:

- Maintains a basic layout with background windows, adding windows according to the flow of each task.
- Sets up stacks of windows related to each task, using a "mind map" to remember their layout and structure.

Shortcut Use:

Uses shortcuts to optimize navigation and quick space organization.

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"I use the windows as a stack. Because it's the most comfortable use with the keyboard, with the current design. That is. I open windows. I close windows. And they open in a stack."





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Pharo windowing jungle

- + Powerful environment with tons of tools
- + Full freedom
- Far too many messy windows
- You have to resize the windows again and again...grrrr
- Loss of productivity for the user





Why yet another windowing manager?

We want

- support multiple tasks, organisations

Most windowing managers force developers to adapt to the manager

- a windowing manager that the developer can adapt to its own flow

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Cavrois: an organic window manager

- Place your tools the way you want
- Specify your way of interacting for a specific tool
- Define a specific profile for each different tasks
- The system will "place" automatically the tools in your "right" place

Profiles, placeholders and strategies

- Profiles: a group of configured placeholders Placeholder: represents a type of tool (position and size) Strategy: what do we do when we request a tool



A profile and its placeholders



Placeholders and strategies





Strategies: Replace

Replace: opens a new instance of the tool at the placeholder and replaces an existing one if there is one

Strategies: Place on Top

Place on Top: opens a new instance or place on top of the existing one

You see only one!

Strategies: Stacking

Stacks:

opens a new instance of the tool stacked on top existing ones

Strategies: Popup

Pop Up: opens a new instance of the tool if none place on top any existing ones

a.k.a jump over the mess

You can have any number of the same tools at different places... Cavrois will cycle the tool windows

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Profile management

- Snapshot a profile
- Move windows according to current profile
- Switch windows between profiles





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Attracting cells to help you placing your tools





Use your profile in your startup

StartupAction name: 'Load Profile' code: [CavroisWindowManager current makeProfileCurrent: 'Work']

Support different screen resolutions

- Yes you can switch between your screen and your latop

Current Status

- First version in Pharo 13
- Current development in Pharo 14
- Limited investment in Morphic
- Looking soon at Bloc/Toplo but logic in 80% around Spec

Did we address the challenges?

- Devs do not have to resize multiple times the same tool :)
- Specific profiles to specific tasks
- Specific profiles for noobs
- Integration in the system
 - Ready to work out of the box
- **Feedback from users**

Outline

- Existing challenges
- Developer activity profiles
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- Cavrois functionalities by example
- Feedback and join the effort



If you want to help improve Cavrois You are welcome...

- Cavrois is hosted in
 - http://github.com/Pharo-Spec/NewTools

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