



Systems Engineering and beyond

Virtual Research Meet
July 2nd, 2020

HTSC

HIGH TECH
SYSTEMS
CENTER

TU/e

PROGRAM

09:30	Welcome	Ton Peijnenburg
09:35	Systems Engineering and System Thinking	Ton Peijnenburg
09:50	Q&A	
10:00	Digital Engineering	Marc Hamilton
10:20	Q&A	
10:30	AI in Engineering	Albert van Breemen
10:50	Q&A	
11:00	Closing	Ton Peijnenburg

Systems Engineering and System Thinking

Systems Engineering (SE) has been a key element of the strategy of HTSC since the center was officially kicked off in early 2015. We have identified that SE, in addition to multi-disciplinary working, is required to deal with the challenges inherent in the development and realization of technical systems of increasing complexity. An important element of SE is systems thinking, a skill required to solve problems in complex systems. In high-tech equipment development, we use a special flavor of SE that has evolved over decades in our ecosystem and enabled us to develop the world's most complex equipment. This presentation will discuss aspects of our special flavor of SE, challenges of the current state-of-practice and how HTSC intends to train and further improve the SE way-of-working, equipping future engineers with important skills to deal with increasing complexity.

Ton Peijnenburg, a.t.a.peijnenburg@tue.nl

Fellow TU/e HTSC and Deputy General Manager VDL-ETG



Digital Engineering

In high tech systems engineering, the collaboration between data and models of various disciplines is crucial. In current engineering practice, silos of computerization are present by a variety of tools. The transfer of tooling results, the cross-disciplinary and cross-paradigm interaction between models and the interpretation and feedback of data generated by virtualized or operational systems are largely left to human intervention. Digital engineering will further improve the efficiency of engineering processes. It in addition enables the application of Artificial Intelligence (AI) to support engineering processes (AI4SE) and to develop next generation systems (SE4AI). However, where humans are very flexible in the interpretation of languages, computers are not. This presentation will address how this further digitalization of multi-disciplinary engineering processes will impact systems engineering.

Marc Hamilton, m.a.m.hamilton@tue.nl

Fellow TU/e HTSC and MDE Expert at Altran Netherlands



AI in Engineering

Recent developments in the field of Artificial Intelligence led to a new mature technology called 'deep learning'. Deep learning is a combination of big data, supercomputing and algorithm innovations. The technology had many breakthroughs by outperforming human experts in areas such as vision, speech recognition and game play. This presentation explores the possibilities of AI for engineering. AI seems a new tool for the engineer to deal with the ever growing engineering design challenges on precision, productivity and intelligence. However, many barriers need to be taken before the engineer can start applying AI.

Albert van Breemen, a.j.n.v.breemen@tue.nl

AI program manager TU/e HTSC and EAISI





Systems Engineering and systems thinking

Ton Peijnenburg
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About myself

TU/e electrical engineering (1992)

Philips CFT – mechatronics department

- Linear motors: from CD player to stepper
- TwinScan™ pre-development
- Systems Engineering
- USA – Silicon Valley and Pittsburgh, PA

FEI – Phenom desktop SEM

VDL ETG – deputy managing director – technology

+ 20% TU/e – HTSC fellow



High Tech Systems Center

- A true multidisciplinary research center
- Single entry point for Dutch High Tech Systems industry
- With a strong international reputation as a top-class research center
- 200 PhD students, 20 PDEng trainees and 20 Postdocs
- Industrial Fellows as program leaders
- Located on the TU/e-campus with shared facilities
- Applied Physics, Computer Science, Electrical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering



Maarten Steinbuch
Scientific Director



Katja Pahnke
Managing Director



Building consortia

- **Contamination control** – Ton Peijnenburg, Jan-Jaap Koning
- **Digital Engineering** – Marc Hamilton
- **Industrial Internet of Things** – Georgo Angelis
- **AI in Engineering** – Albert van Breemen
- **Robotics** – Jesse Scholtes
- **Scientific Instrumentation & Metrology** – Frank Sperling, Marco van Beijersbergen
- **Opto-mechatronics** – Anton van Dijsseldonk
- **Additive Manufacturing** – Katja Pahnke
- **AgroFoodTech** – Jeannette Lankhaar, Edwin de Zeeuw

Where in high-tech equipment supply chains...

Systems become more complex

Timelines become shorter

Capital investment grows higher

Prototypes are sold to customers...

Design teams grow (much) larger

Embedded software becomes (much) more dominant

Suppliers are involved earlier, with higher-level capabilities

Consolidation is ongoing

International competition is increasing

We do our best to apply Systems Engineering, but...

We define SE in our own way – Philips, Stork, Océ, ASML, ... heritage

We use elements of SE, but not all well balanced

We tend to train system architects, not system engineers

We tend to focus on analysis rather than design

We do not rationalize and/or quantify trade-offs

We do not manage requirements well (heck, we don't even discover them well enough...)

Models are opportunistic, not well managed, not co-evolving

We tend to blame project management for project overruns and bad estimates

We work mostly document based: *.docx, *.xlsx and (even) *.pptx

High-Tech systems

High-tech – at the cutting edge, the most advanced technology available

System – an object studied in some field

Complex system – highly composite, very large numbers of mutually interacting subunits

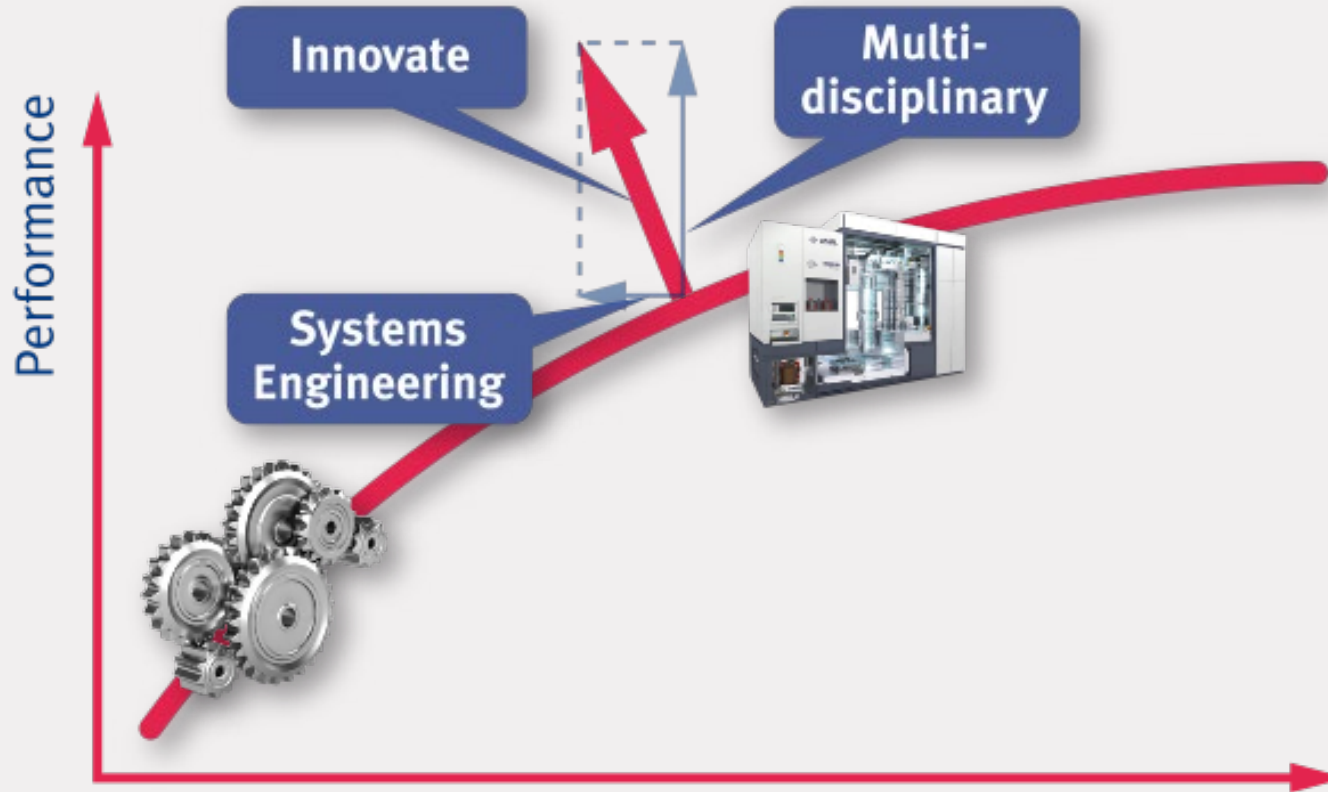
Chaotic system – maybe few interacting units, intricate dynamics

Simple system – few parts, simple laws

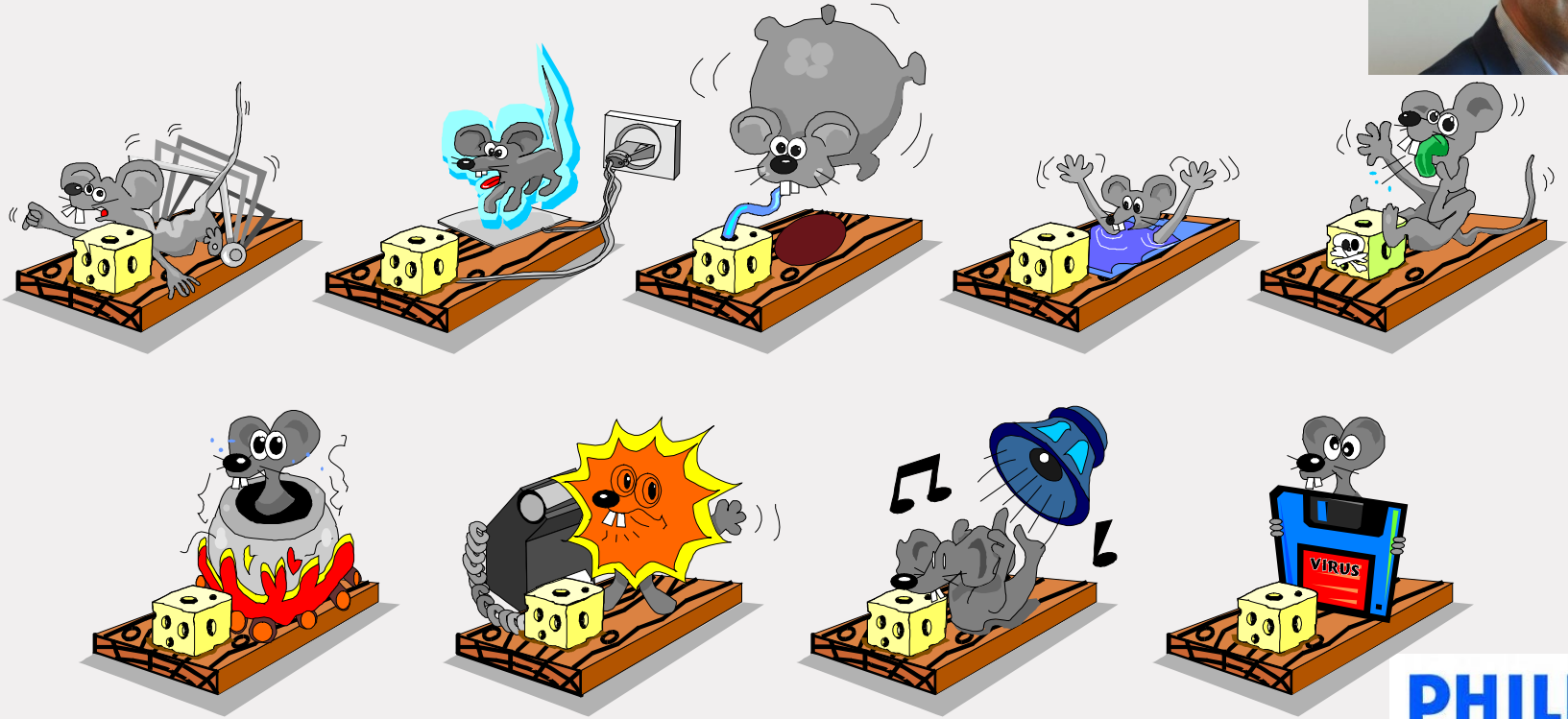
Complicated system – many parts, specific functional roles, simple rules

A simple guide to chaos and complexity, Dean Rickles, Penelope Hawe, Alan Shiell
J Epidemiol Community Health 2007; 61 :933–937. doi: 10.1136/jech.2006.054254

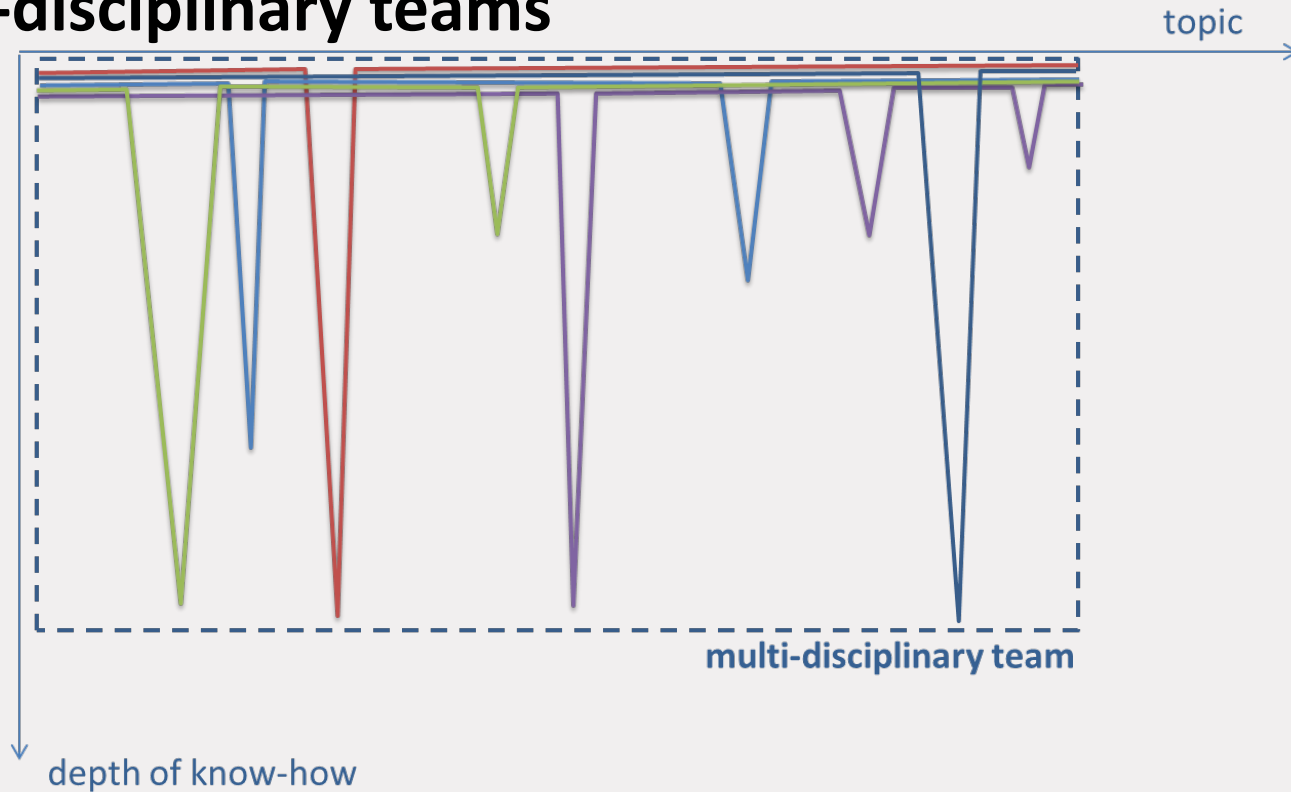
Resources versus Performance



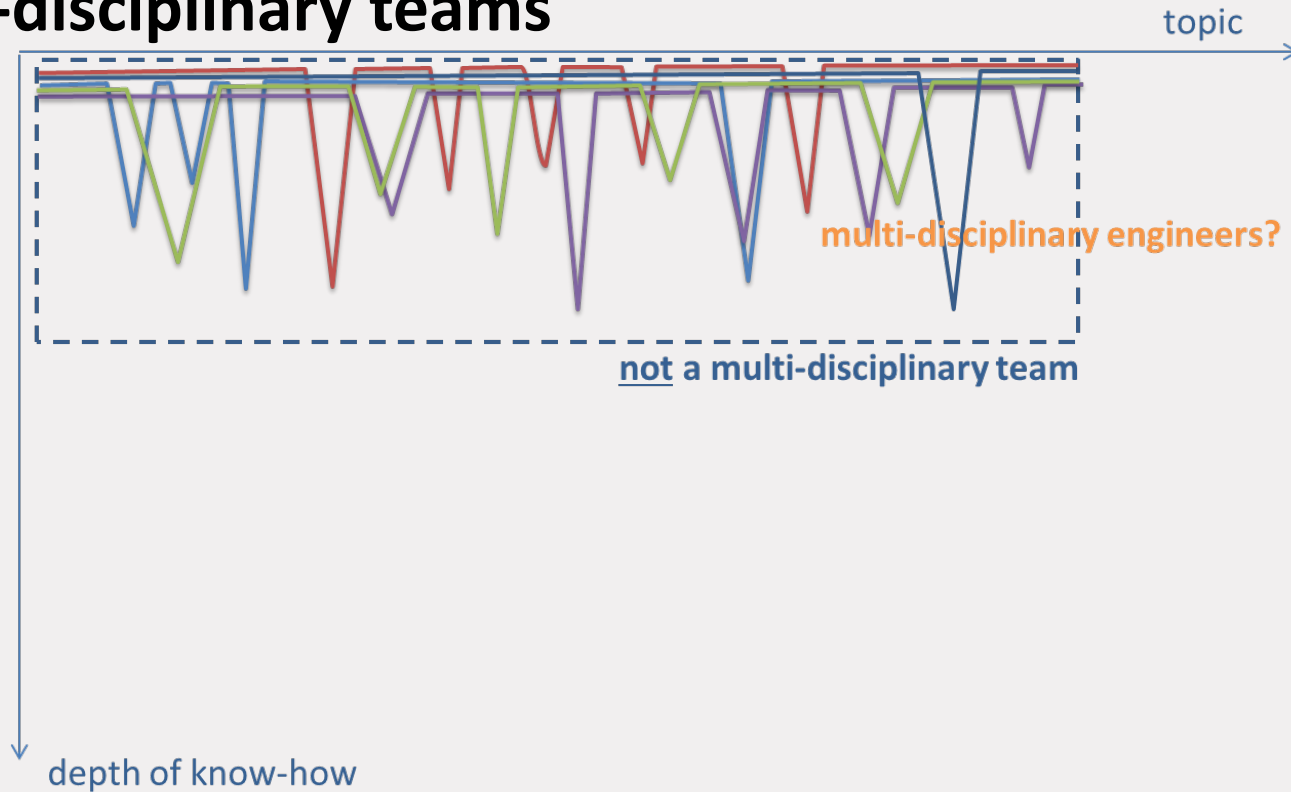
Multi-disciplinary – mechatronics



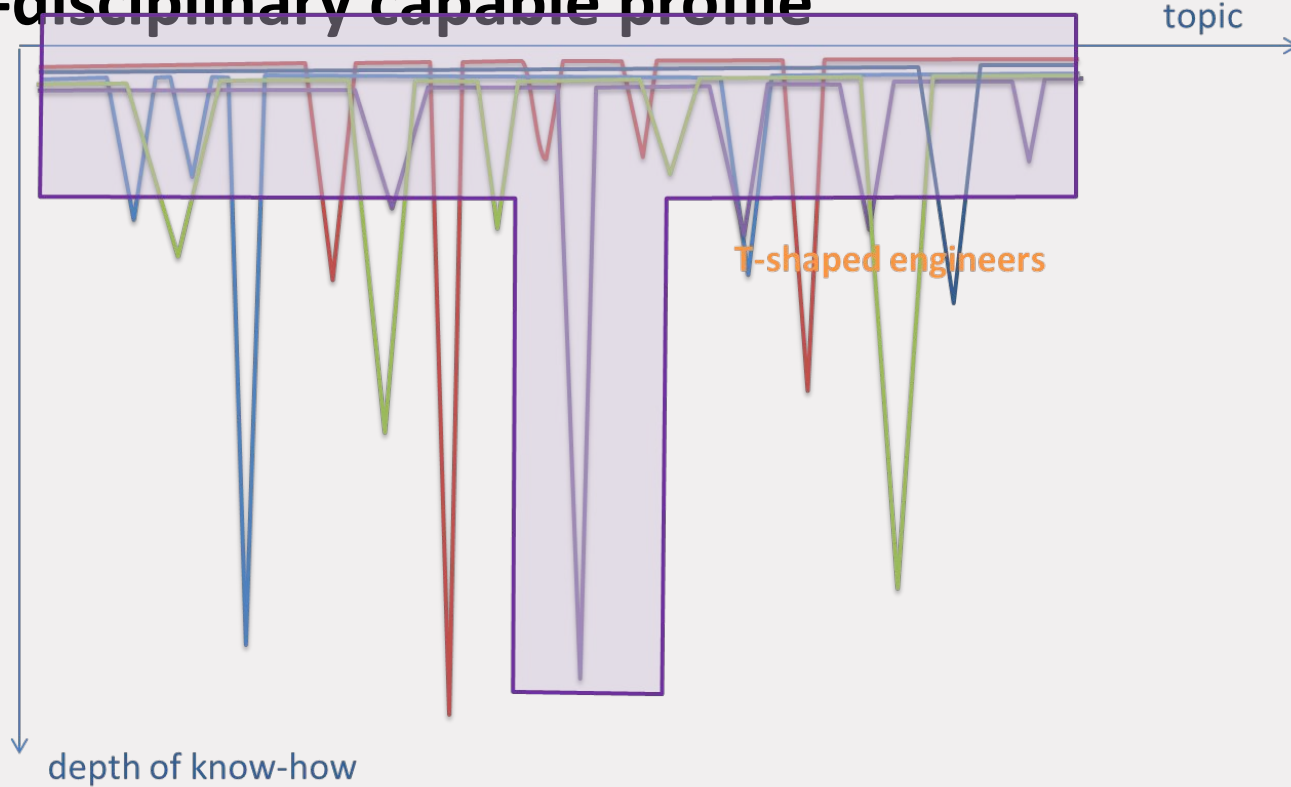
Multi-disciplinary teams



Multi-disciplinary teams



Multi-disciplinary capable profile



Systems Engineering



M-Shape

Systems cross disciplines. Multidisciplinary cooperation (T-shape) requires understanding each other and making yourself understandable. In the end, we aim for interdisciplinarity (M-shape), which requires to truly make other ways of thinking your own.

Analysis is the understanding of the world, through measuring the functional elements and construct complex models to describe reality.

Synthesis is to create coherent solutions by reviewing alternatives and create new elements or relationships between them.

perfection

compromise

Application knowledge

Model the relevant building blocks from the viewpoint of one discipline and from there understand the relationships and interactions with other domains.

never finished

must be ready

Stakeholders

Many and different stakeholders contribute and influence the system. Their viewpoints and concerns are relevant to the constraints and the validation of solutions.

Time

A system evolves over time on an unpredictable and unforeseen path. Disruptive technologies or a combination of new insights can also lead to a revolution.

Enablers determine the way of looking, analysing and predicting. In addition to process, tools and methods, they also define the boundaries of the modelling potential and therefore have to be developed along on time.

$$f^{(n)} = \frac{d^n f}{dx^n}$$

The **real world** - a mix of natural and man-made systems - is the context of grand challenges.

A **system** is an interconnected set of elements that are coherently organized, interact together and jointly achieve something.

Levels of aggregation support the understanding of the larger (complex) whole within which the question and the answer play. Zooming in and out, alternating different complementary views and exploring alternatives, supports the choice without exactly knowing.

Design versus Analysis

ANALYSIS

- Studying an *existing* situation/thing/effect
- In-depth
- Creating knowledge
- Single “correct” answer
- Cartesian



Truths that are attained by reason are broken down into elements that intuition can grasp, which, through a purely deductive process, will result in clear truths about reality.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rationalism>

DESIGN

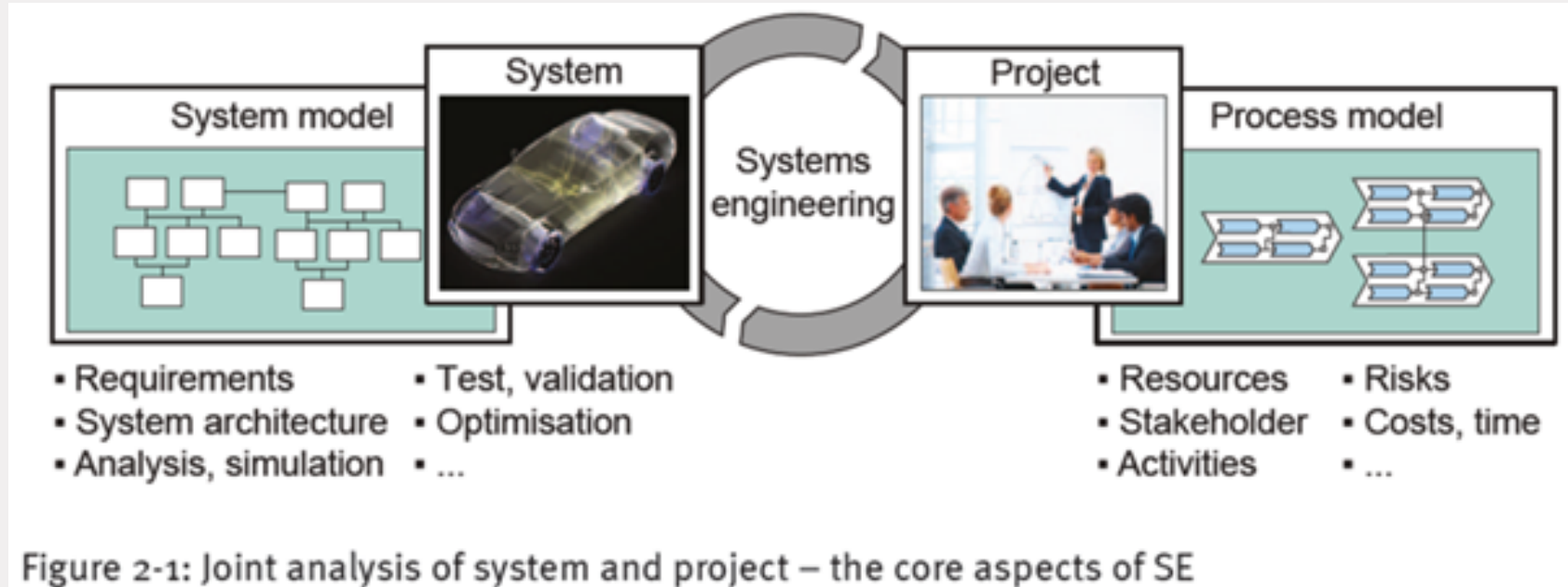
- Creating something *new*
- Big picture
- Creating knowledge
- Many possible “correct” answers
- Holistic



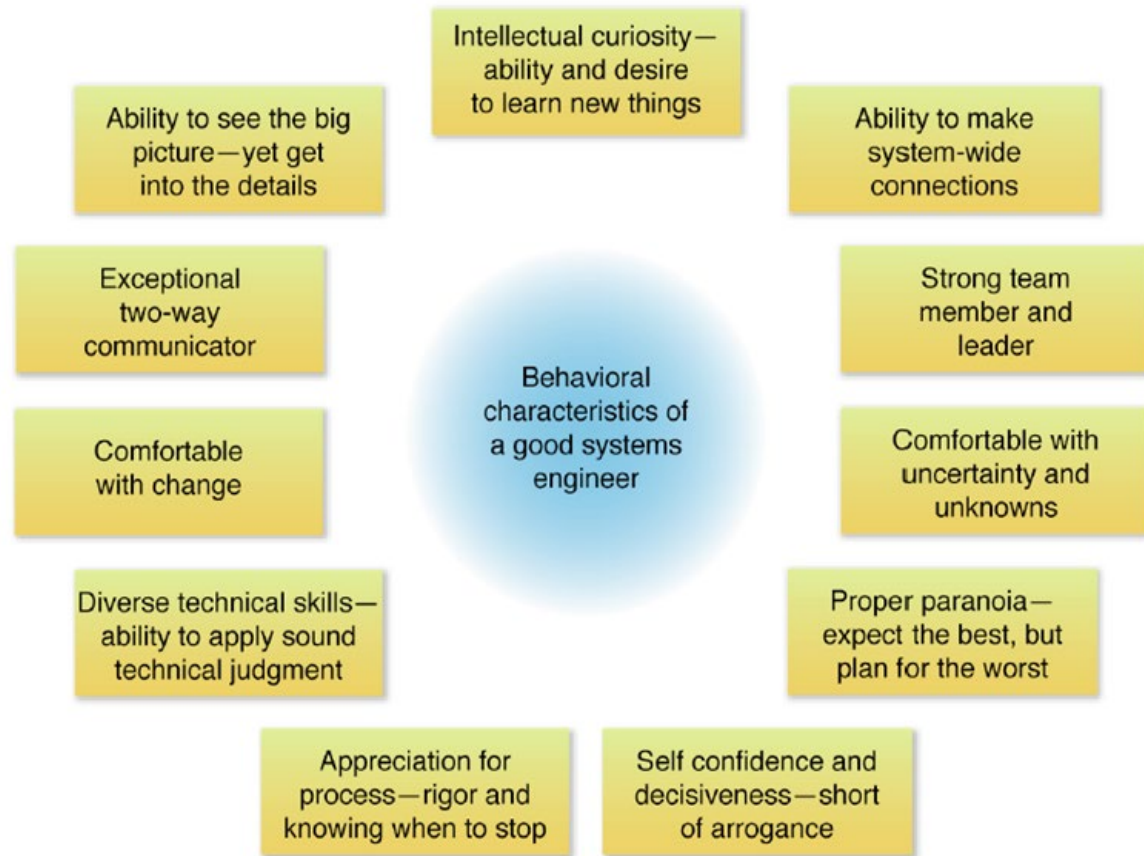
Holism (from [Greek](#) ὅλος *holos* "all, whole, entire") is the idea that [systems](#) (physical, biological, hemical, social, economic, mental, [linguistic](#), etc.) and their properties should be viewed as wholes, not just as a collection of parts.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Holism>

Systems Engineering



SYSTEMS ENGINEERING in industrial practice, Heinz Nixdorf, Fraunhofer IPT,
https://www.iem.fraunhofer.de/content/dam/iem/de/documents/Studie%20Systems%20Engineering_englisch.pdf



Michael Ryschkewitsch, Dawn Schaible and Wiley Larson, The Art and Science of Systems Engineering, Systems Research Forum, Volume 03, Issue 02, December 2009

Context

- Systems Engineering is required to industrial-scale design problems
- Systems thinking is required to do proper SE
- Dutch high-tech companies use an implicit SE approach, different from established SE*
- Each sector use their own domain specific variation, language, modeling approach, ...
- Dutch companies need more systems engineers
- Established SE promotes tools, while these are not widely used in Dutch high-tech
- SE (design engineering, ...) is a key mindset for future engineers, as is systems thinking
- TU/e should teach and research SE, to train and to innovate

* Although established SE is innovating at this moment

SE in high-tech equipment

There is a wide gap between SotA and SotP for SE in high-tech equipment industries

The applied systems engineering methodologies differ from “regular” SE

We need:

- Systems thinking
- Model-based design
- Requirements-centered development → Digital Engineering
- Quantified trade-offs
- Truly multi-disciplinary, e.g. bridging the gap between software and other disciplines
- Sufficient agility

SW in high-tech equipment

Software discipline becomes ever more dominant in high-tech equipment:

- More functionality is implemented in software
- Advanced control approaches, advanced algorithms
- More data driven operation of equipment, e.g. diagnostics → AI in Engineering
- Machine control state space increase, exception handling → AI in Engineering
- Support and automation of design → Digital Engineering
- Managing legacy is a pain → AI in Engineering?

We should:

- Merge thinking → Domain Specific (modeling) Language

Engineering Design Spine

HOME — ACADEMICS — UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES — ENGINEERING DESIGN SPINE

At the heart of the core curriculum is a series of eight design courses, one each semester, that is referred to as the Design Spine. The Design Spine courses are the major vehicle for developing a set of competencies to meet educational goals in areas such as creative thinking, problem solving, teamwork, economics of engineering, project management, communication skills, ethics, and environmental awareness. In most cases, they are also linked to the engineering science courses taken concurrently each semester. This is done so that experiments and design projects provide a tangible context for the engineering science lecture materials and thus are an aid to learning.

The first five core design courses are taken by all students and are taught by adjunct engineers who bring the benefit of their

industry-based design experience into the classroom. The last three courses are taken within their discipline - a junior course followed by a 2-semester capstone senior project.



Academics

UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES

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[Special Programs](#)

[The Freshman Experience](#)

[Innovation, Design and
Entrepreneurship \(IDEaS\)
Program](#)

[Senior Capstone Projects](#)

[Engineering Design Spine](#)

[Study Abroad](#)

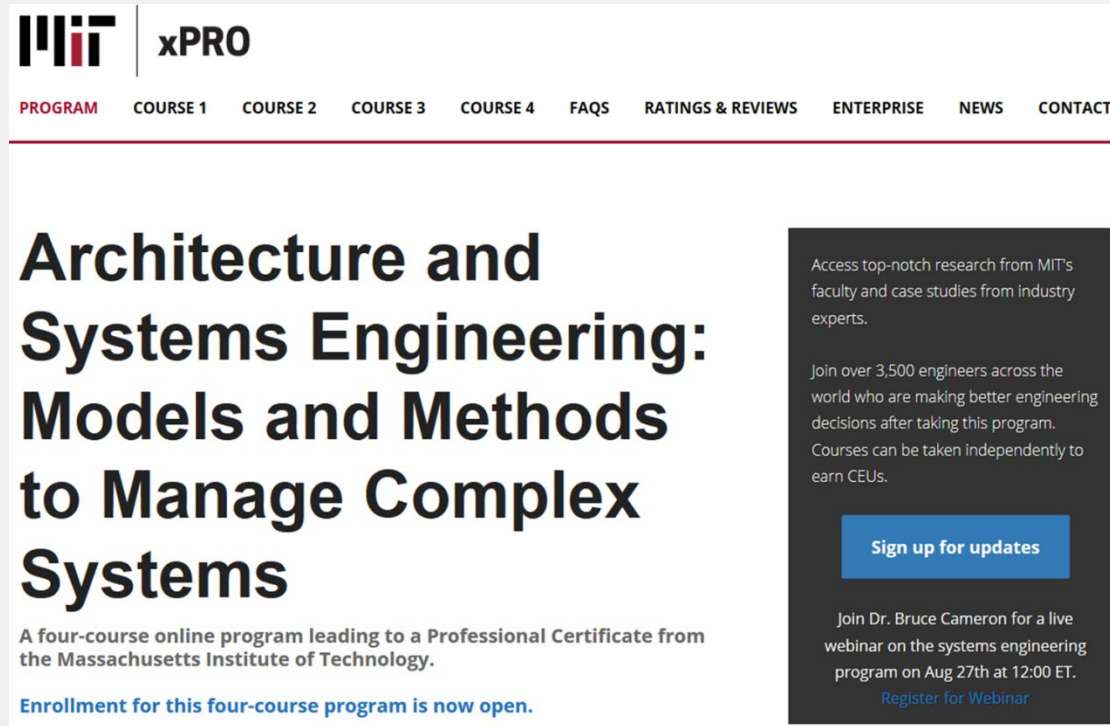
[Office of Undergraduate
Academics](#)

[Undergraduate Research](#)

[Foreign Language Study](#)

[Writing & Communications
Center](#)

MIT – MOOC on Systems Engineering



The image shows a screenshot of the MIT xPRO website. At the top, the MIT logo is on the left and 'xPRO' is on the right. Below the logo, a navigation bar contains links: PROGRAM, COURSE 1, COURSE 2, COURSE 3, COURSE 4, FAQs, RATINGS & REVIEWS, ENTERPRISE, NEWS, and CONTACT. The main content area features a large title 'Architecture and Systems Engineering: Models and Methods to Manage Complex Systems'. Below the title, it states 'A four-course online program leading to a Professional Certificate from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.' and 'Enrollment for this four-course program is now open.' To the right of the main text, there is a dark grey sidebar with white text. It says 'Access top-notch research from MIT's faculty and case studies from industry experts.', 'Join over 3,500 engineers across the world who are making better engineering decisions after taking this program.', and 'Courses can be taken independently to earn CEUs.' Below this text is a blue button that says 'Sign up for updates'. At the bottom of the sidebar, it says 'Join Dr. Bruce Cameron for a live webinar on the systems engineering program on Aug 27th at 12:00 ET.' and 'Register for Webinar'.

MIT xPRO

Architecture and Systems Engineering: Models and Methods to Manage Complex Systems

A four-course online program leading to a Professional Certificate from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Enrollment for this four-course program is now open.

Access top-notch research from MIT's faculty and case studies from industry experts.

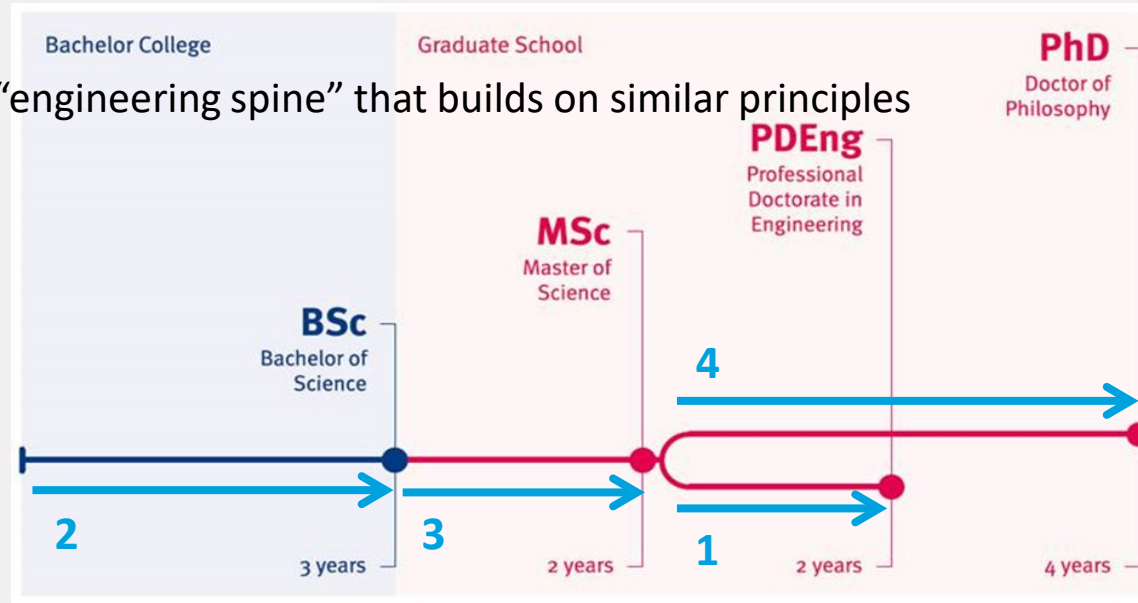
Join over 3,500 engineers across the world who are making better engineering decisions after taking this program. Courses can be taken independently to earn CEUs.

[Sign up for updates](#)

Join Dr. Bruce Cameron for a live webinar on the systems engineering program on Aug 27th at 12:00 ET. [Register for Webinar](#)

PDEng training on Systems Engineering

- Use PDEng as starting point – it is a designer school
- Expand
- Create an “engineering spine” that builds on similar principles



Systems Engineering and Systems Thinking

- SE is a methodology to design and realize systems and their components
- Systems Thinking is a cognitive orientation to view problems as part of a greater context, and devise solutions suitable for the system and its greater context
- All students should be trained in systems thinking
- Students should be exposed to state-of-the-art SE
- Companies should use state-of-the-art SE methodologies
- True systems engineers require training PLUS years of practice
- Industrial professionals may want additional training in SE

Thank you!