

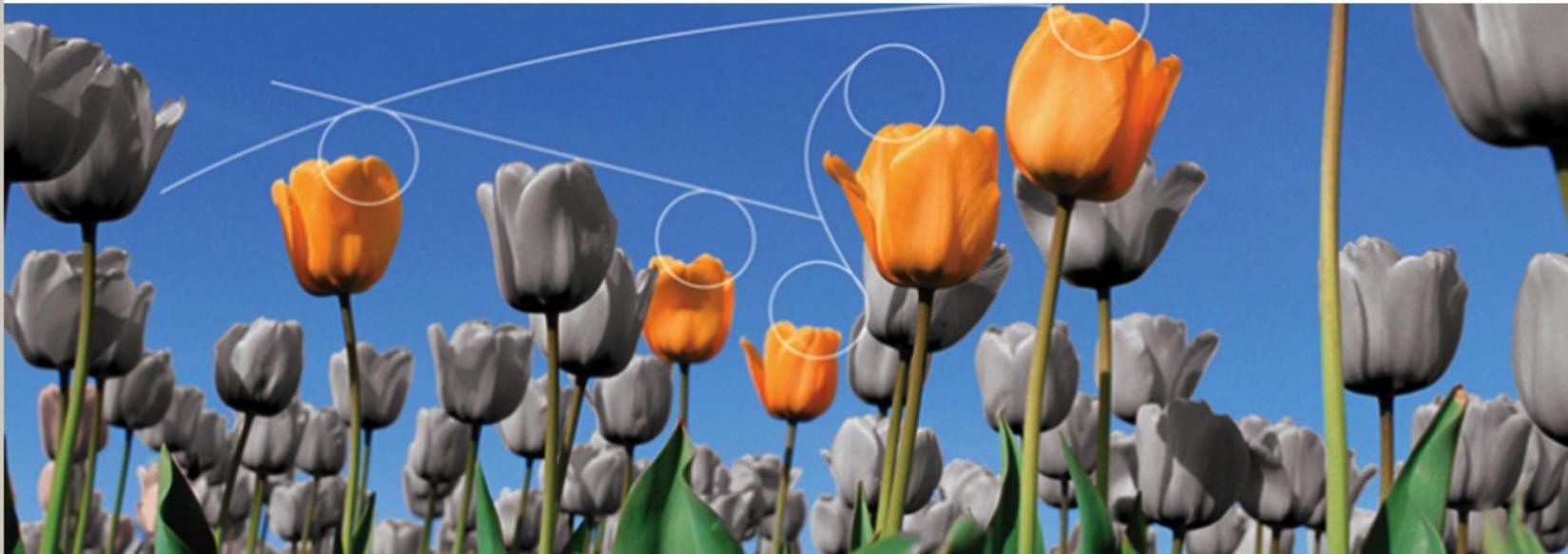


# ADAPTING ENGINEERING EDUCATION TO CHANGE

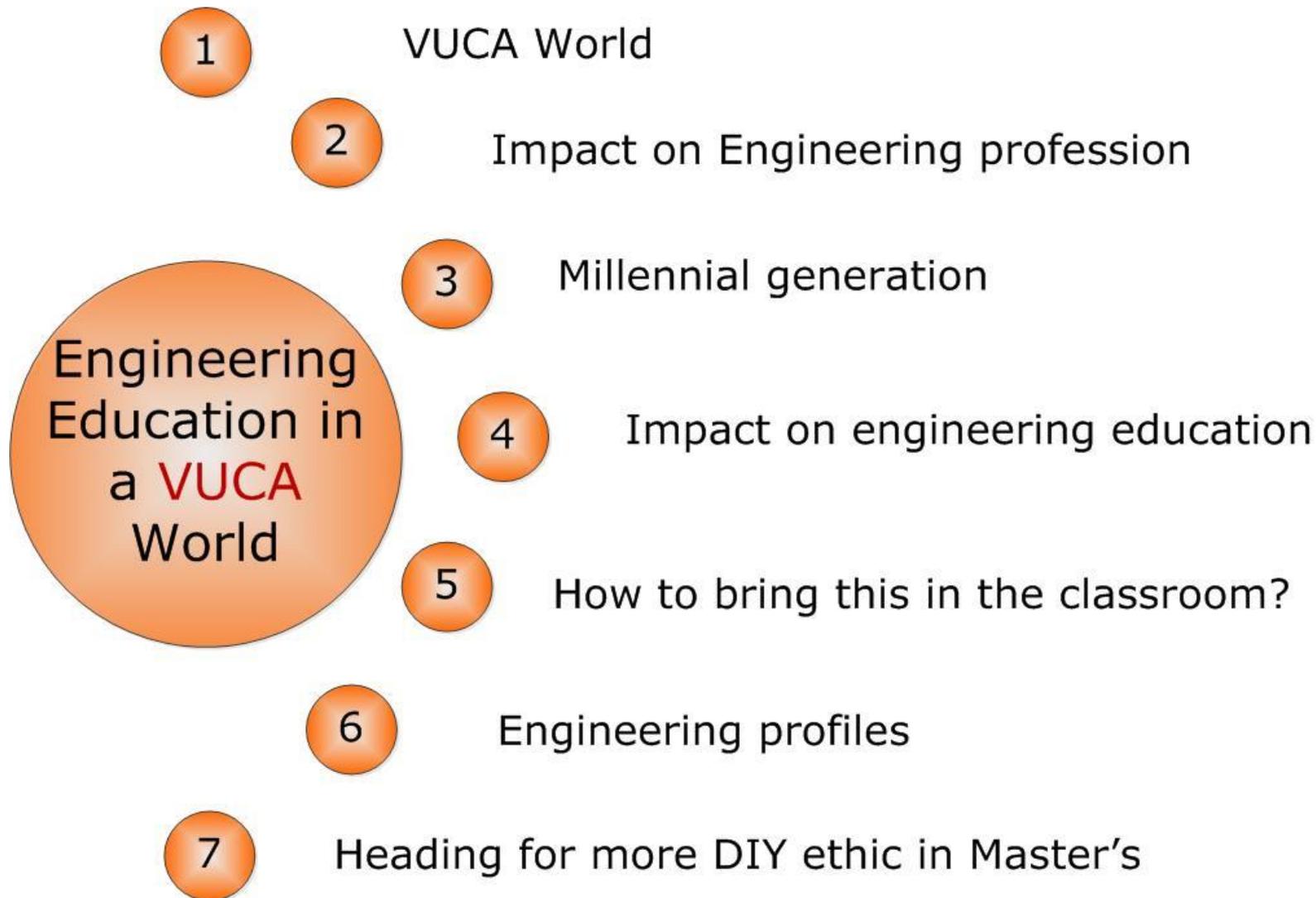
how much, how fast, in what way?

*Aldert Kamp*

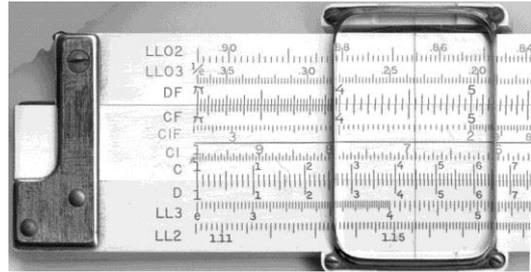
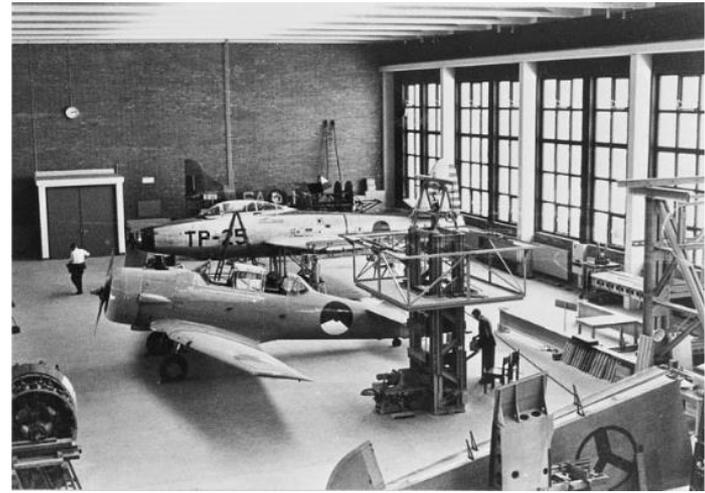
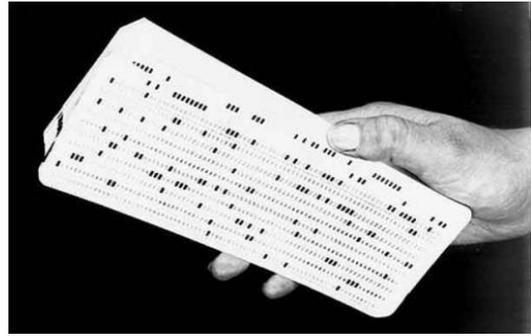
Delft University of Technology, The Netherlands



# Agenda



# Engineering education in 70's



# Today's changing world

- Accelerating change
- Faster communication
- Hyperconnectedness
- Blurring boundaries
- Less hierarchy
- Infinite speed access to infinite data
- Emerging technologies (learning machines, Industry 4.0,...)
- Open-sourced networks
- Shorter innovation cycles
- Liberalisation and monetisation of education and research
- New business concepts (products become services)

# Products become services

“

Welcome to 2030.  
I own nothing, have  
no privacy, and  
life has never been  
better.

- Ida Auken, Member of Parliament, Denmark



Source: Twitter World Economic Forum;  
Nov 2016

# Megatrends in engineering and society

Solving complex problems

Climate change

Humanising technology

Big data – Smart data

New materials

Scarcity of resources

Urbanisation

Robotics and automation

Advanced manufacturing  
automation, distributed and  
additive manufacturing

Circular economy

Mobility

The Internet of Things

Design beyond nature  
genome engineering and  
synthetic biology

Safety and  
(cyber)security

Cloud computing

Miniaturisation

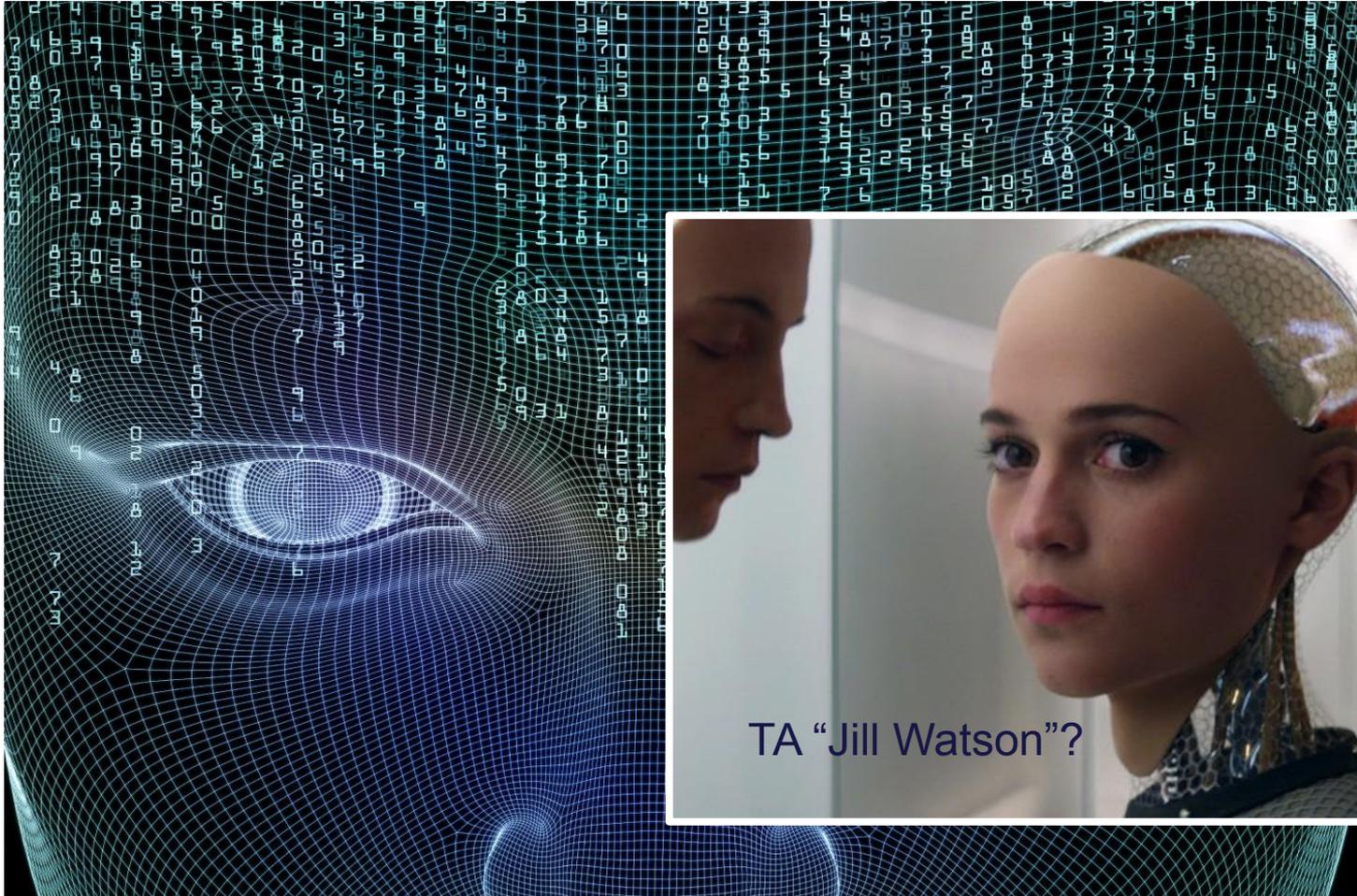
Globalisation

Mass personalisation

Energy transition

**Volatile**  
**Uncertain**  
**VUCA world**  
**Complex**  
**Ambiguous**

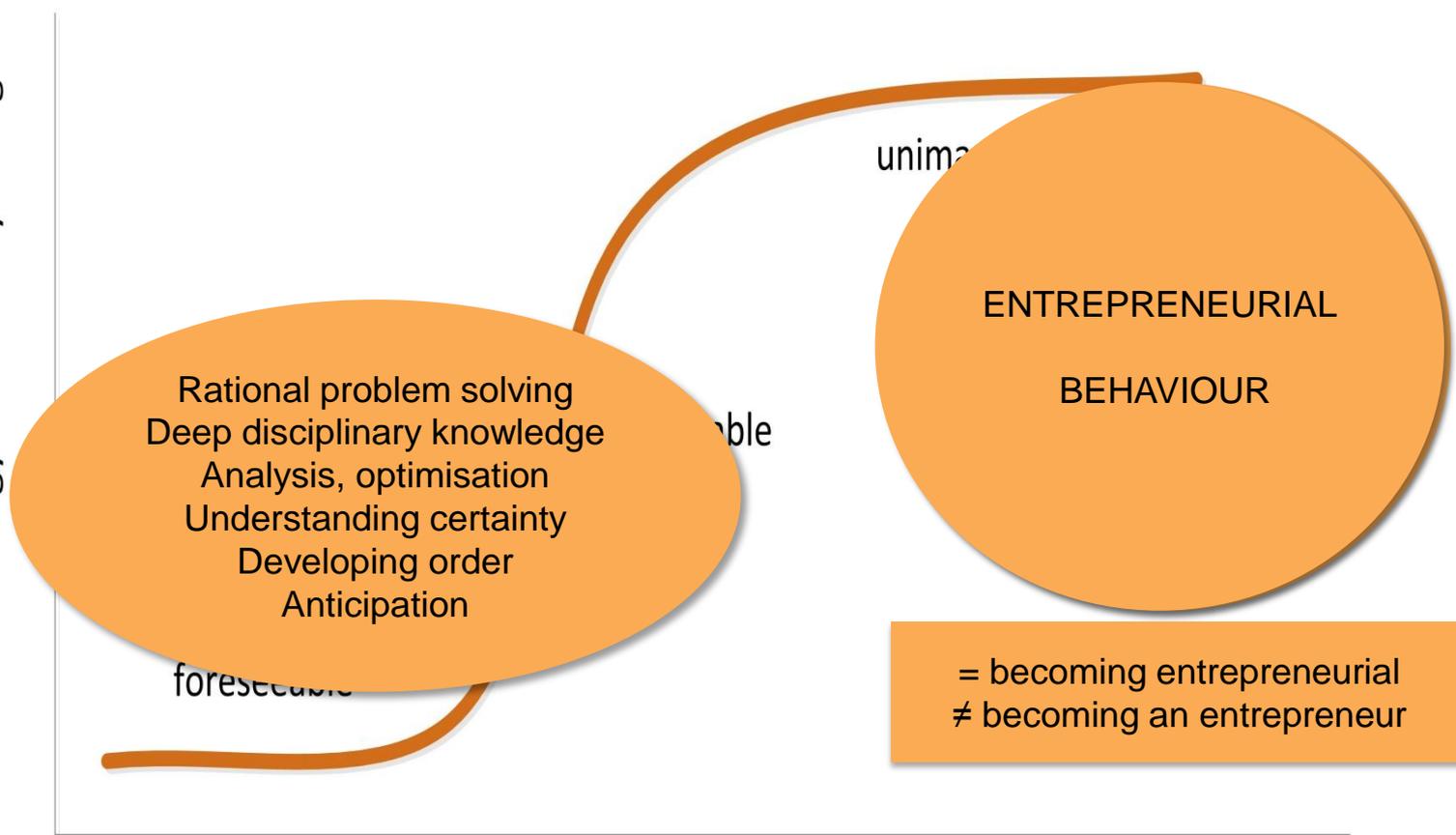
# Big Data and Artificial Intelligence



TA “Jill Watson”?

# VUCA World

Chance that context in engineering,  
technology and society changes



## EXPLOITATION

**How and When** mindset  
“how we’ve always done”

## EXPLORATION

**What and Why** mindset  
“new ways of working”

# Gaining prominence in engineering

- agility and resilience
- algorithmic thinking and programming
- business acumen
- creativity and innovation
- employability and lifelong learning
- engineering ethics
- entrepreneurial behaviour
- intercultural collaboration
- mobility
- multi- and interdisciplinary thinking
- systems and holistic thinking

*in alphabetical order*

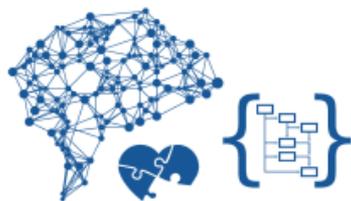
# “The 10 skills you need to thrive in the 4th Industrial Revolution”

## in 2020

1. Complex Problem Solving
2. Critical Thinking
3. Creativity
4. People Management
5. Coordinating with Others
6. Emotional Intelligence
7. Judgment and Decision Making
8. Service Orientation
9. Negotiation
10. Cognitive Flexibility

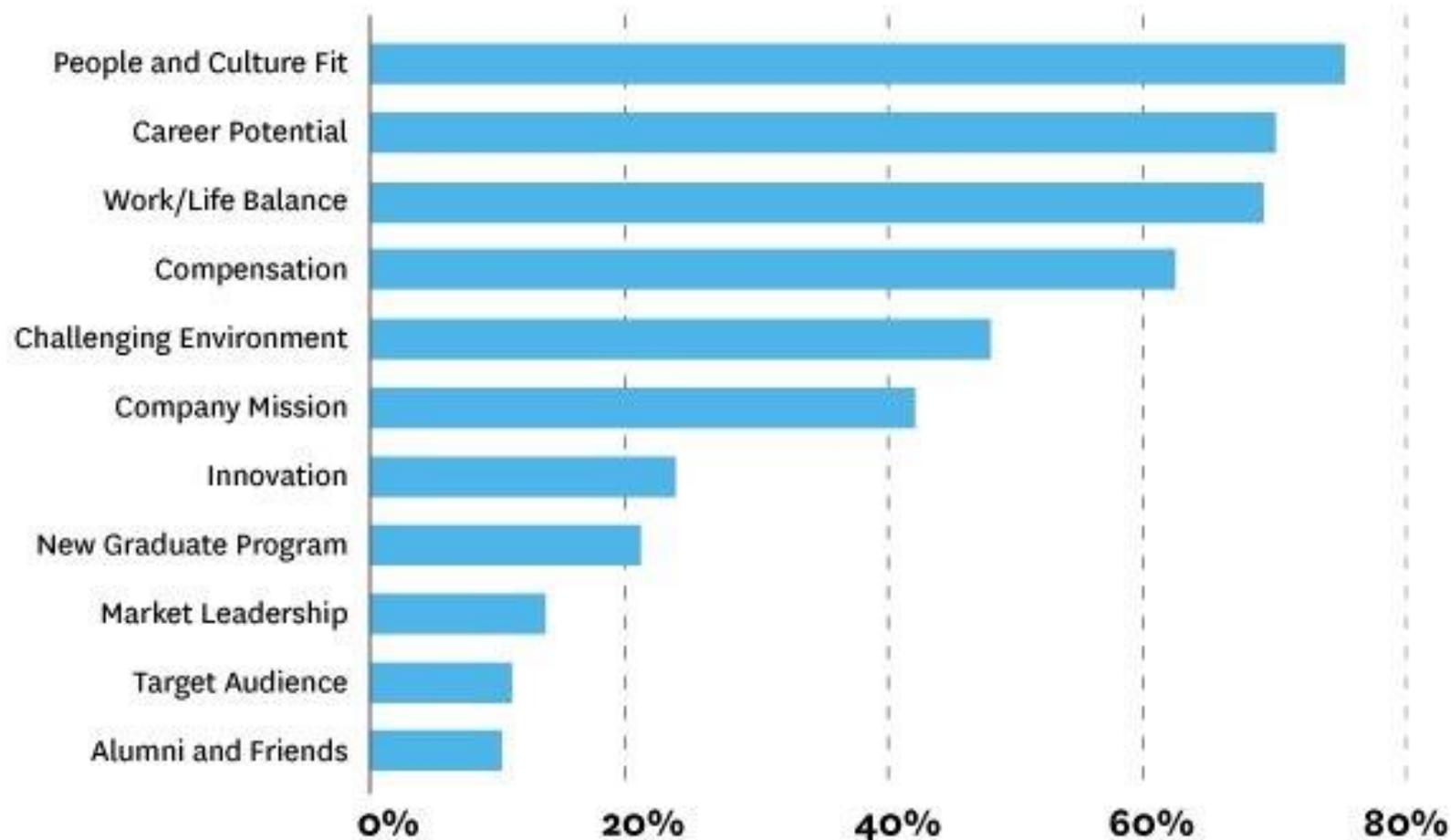
## in 2015

1. Complex Problem Solving
2. Coordinating with Others
3. People Management
4. Critical Thinking
5. Negotiation
6. Quality Control
7. Service Orientation
8. Judgment and Decision Making
9. Active Listening
10. Creativity



# Millennials: a different breed

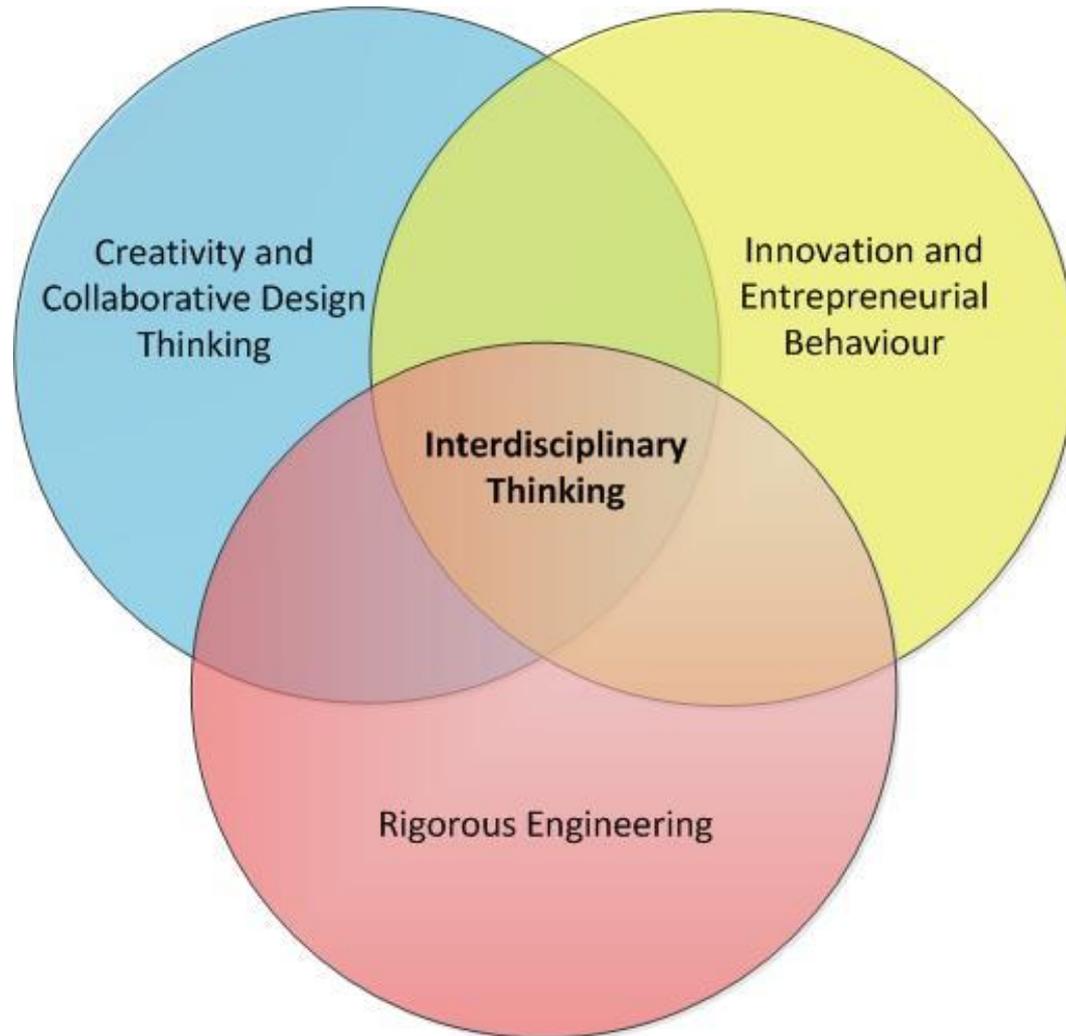
## WHAT MILLENNIALS LOOK FOR IN EMPLOYERS



# Education in 21<sup>st</sup> century

Emphasis remaining on	Shifting to more
Monodisciplinary expert thinking	Multi- and interdisciplinary systems thinking
Reductionism	Integration
Analysis	Synthesis
Abstract learning	Experiential learning; common sense
Developing order	Correlating chaos and resilience
Techno-scientific base	Human factor and empathy; business acumen
Convergent thinking	Creativity
Understanding certainty	Handling ambiguity and failure
Rational problem solving	Complex problem solving
Independence	Collaboration
Rounded expert	Employability and lifelong learning

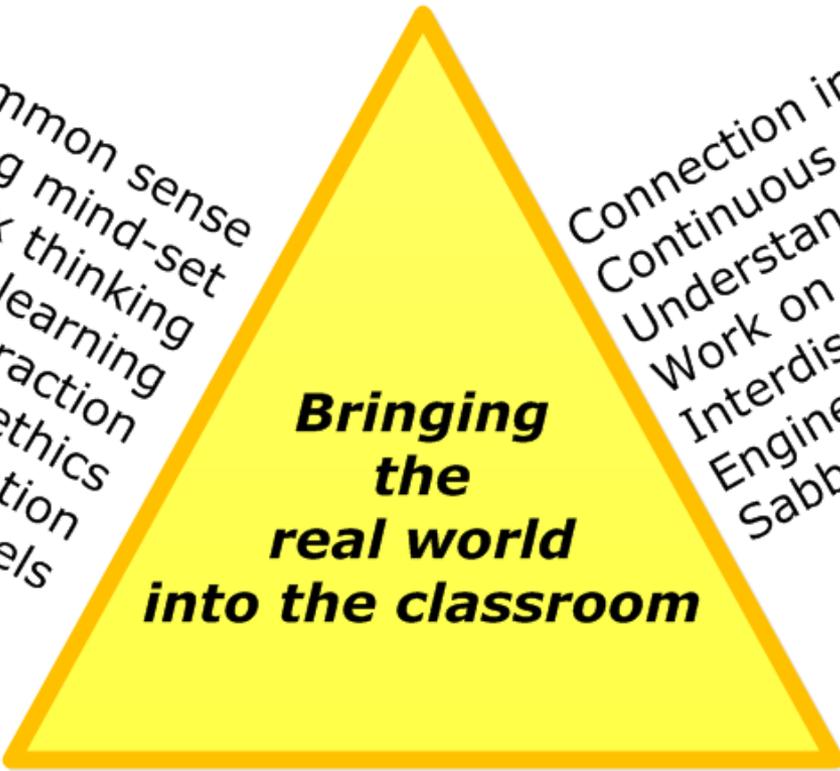
# 21<sup>st</sup> century curriculum





Tacit knowledge, common sense  
Lifelong learning mind-set  
Out-of-the-box thinking  
Practice-based learning  
Human interaction  
Engineering ethics  
Value creation  
Role models

Connection industry - faculty  
Continuous professional development  
Understanding trends and needs  
Work on real-world problems  
Interdisciplinary projects  
Engineering profiles  
Sabbaticals



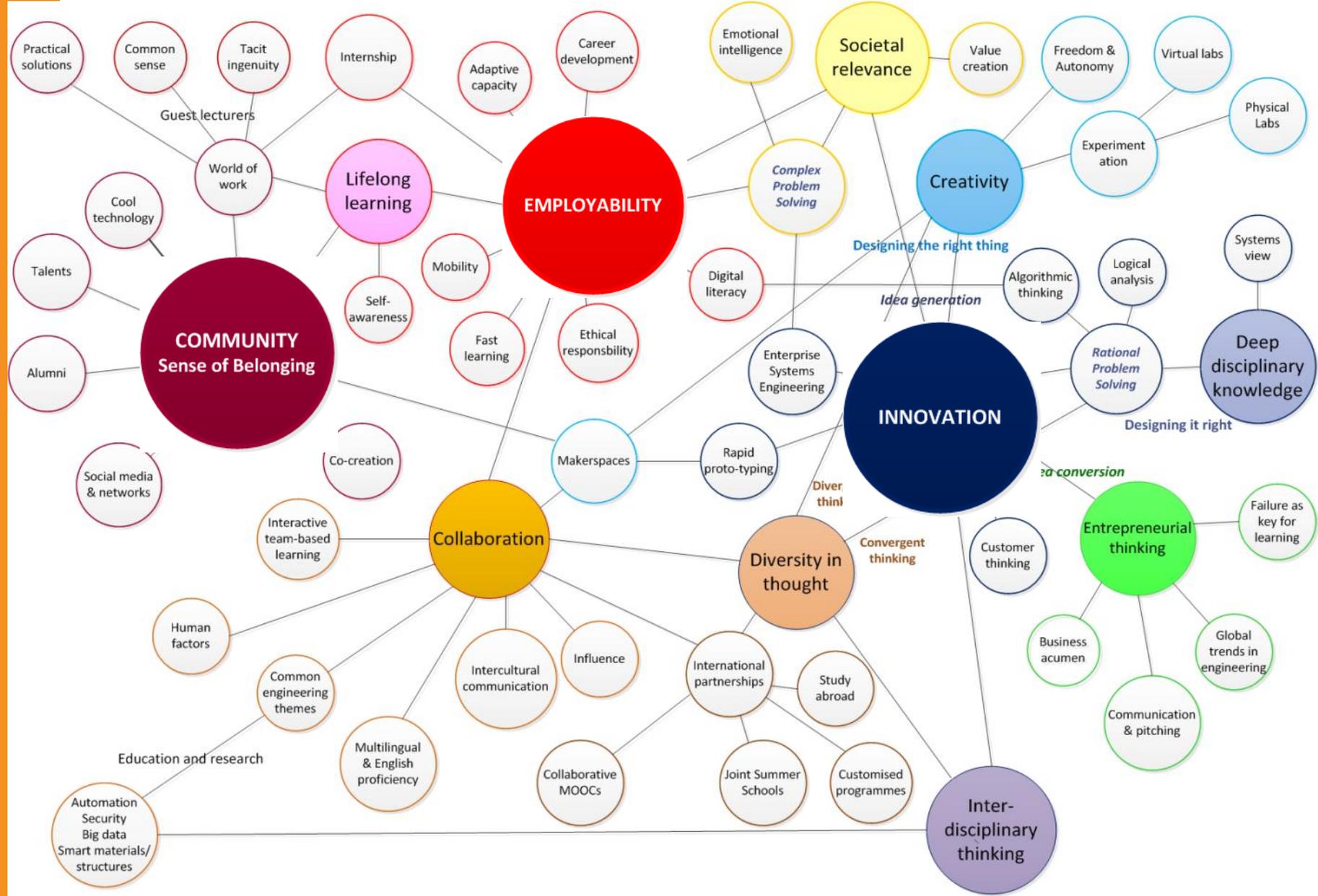
**Bringing  
the  
real world  
into the classroom**



Increasing student engagement  
Linking theory and practice  
Labwork and makerspaces  
Personal and career development  
University-for-life



# Mindmap Engineering Education



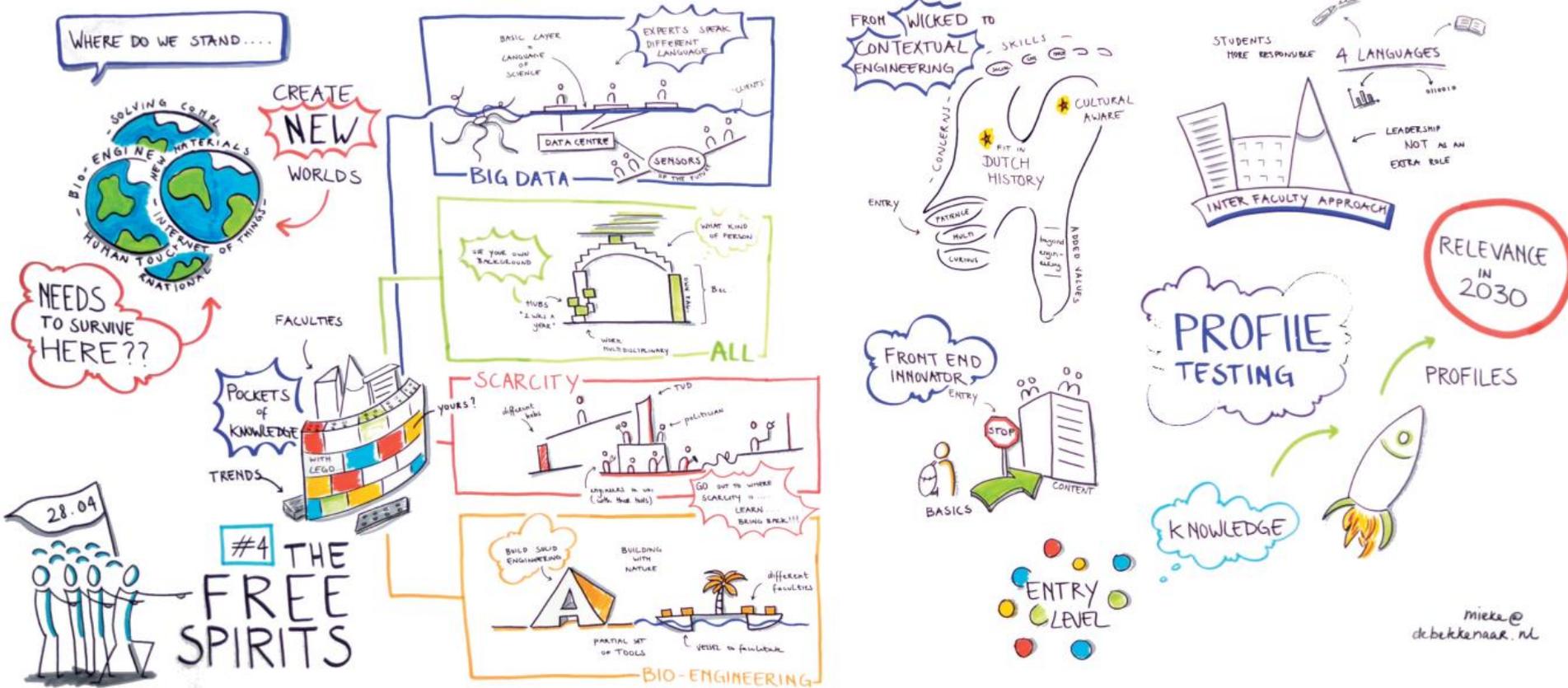
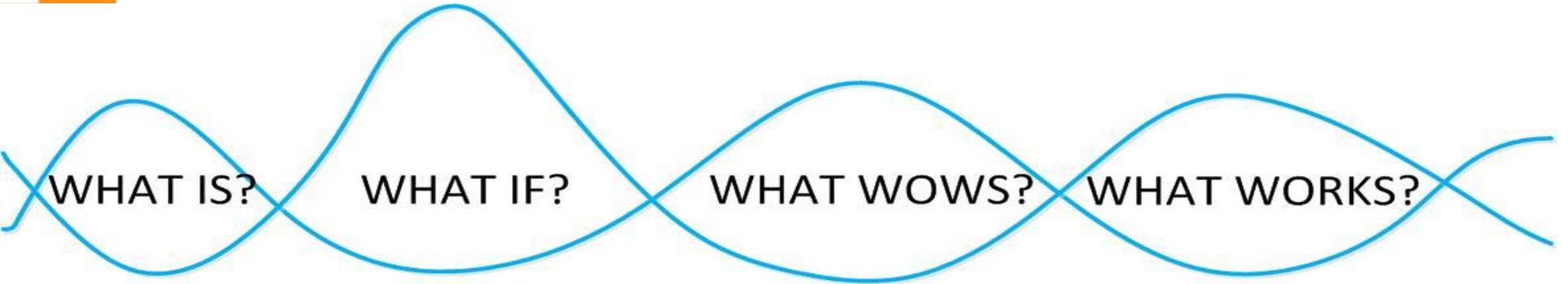
# Universities of connections



# Sense of belonging: Labs and makerspaces



# Think Tank Design Thinking



# Think Tank tripartite concept that “wows”

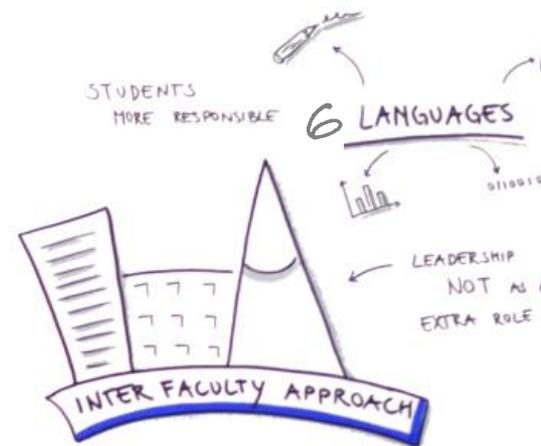
- I. Common engineering language across disciplines
- II. Profiling on top of disciplinary specialisation
- III. Hubs as pockets of knowledge for interdisciplinary learning



# Idea number 1

## Common engineering languages

1. Mathematics
2. Digital intelligence  
(data analytics, algorithmic thinking)
3. Design skills
4. Academic communication
5. Engineering ethics
6. Collaborative interdisciplinary  
teamwork



# Idea number II

## Profiles, professional roles

Engineering roles in particular contexts that provide opportunity for specialisation

Specialist

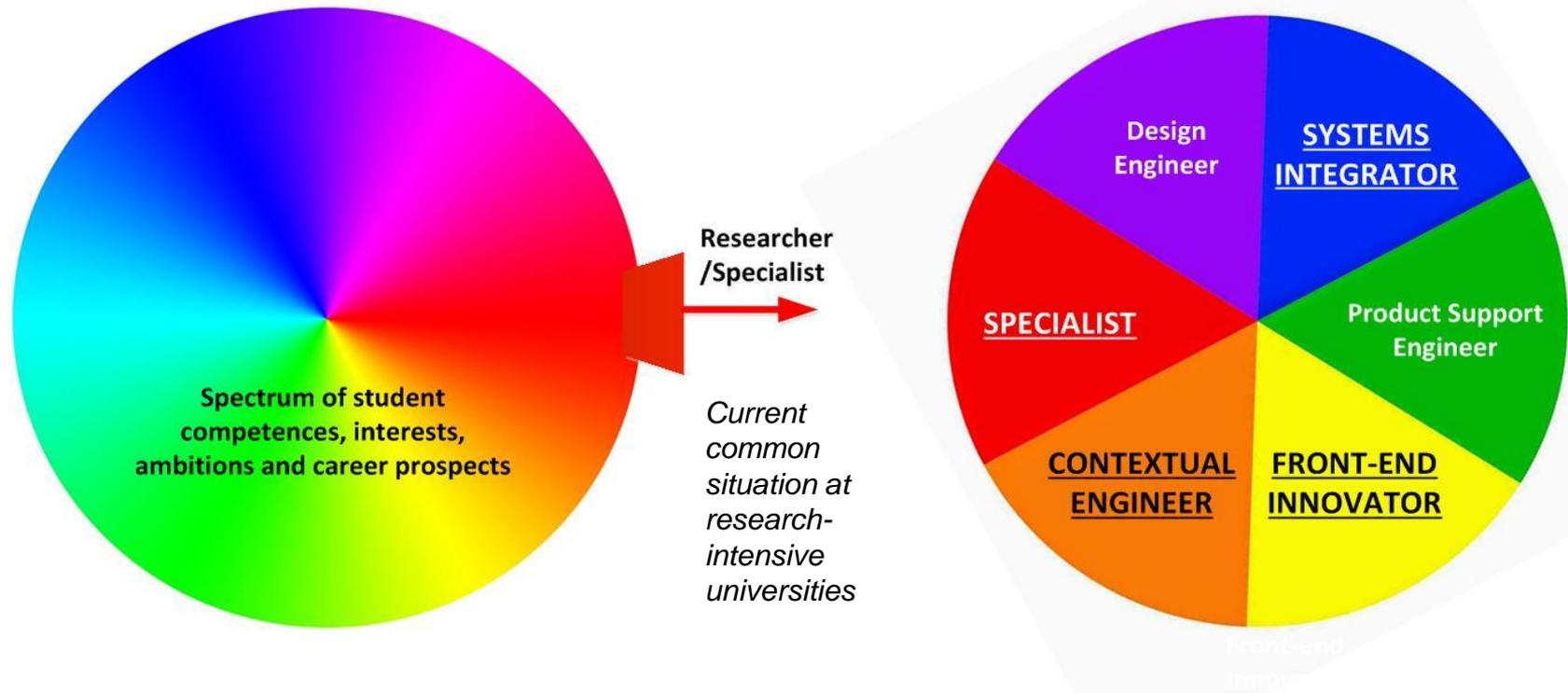
Systems Integrator

Front-end Innovator

Contextual Engineer

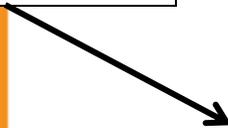


# Spectrum of profiles and professional roles



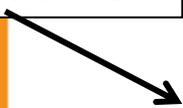
# Profile: SPECIALIST

heuristic



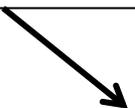
*“How can I advance engineering knowledge  
and optimise technology  
for innovation and better performance  
by research?”*

required  
attributes



- Deep expert knowledge
- Understanding impact of their specialism on the interfacing levels
- Innovating at the fringes of their specialism
- Collaborating with other specialists or in multidisciplinary

“pain and  
frustrations”



- Respect for other disciplines; compromising
- Language gap with non-experts

# Profile: SYSTEMS INTEGRATOR

*"How can I integrate  
disciplinary knowledge and subsystem expertise  
for a complete solution?"*

- Broad technical knowledge and business acumen
  - Helicopter view; systems thinking
  - Interdisciplinary teamwork (specialists, engineers, non-engineers)
  - Human factor, agility and resilience
- 
- Deeper specialisations = knowledge/design fragmentation = more integration time and cost for integration
  - Lack of systems thinking of the specialist; making concessions

# Profile: FRONT-END INNOVATOR

*“How can I apply knowledge and use technology to develop out-of-the-box solutions that cross disciplinary boundaries and create value for society?”*

- Broad knowledge in engineering and socio-economic factors
  - Entrepreneurial attitude; value creation
  - Interdisciplinary teams of specialists, engineers, stakeholders
  - Good social and empathetic listening skills
- Intellectual property rights at higher TRL levels
  - Fast decision making due to short innovation cycles

# Profile: CONTEXTUAL ENGINEER

*“How can I exploit diversity-in-thought  
in developing realistic and acceptable solutions  
that create value in different cultures and contexts?”*

- Technically adept and understanding different realms
- Helicopter view, open mind
- Local and global thinking
- Good intercultural communication and collaboration skills
- Agility and perseverance
- Moral dilemmas when maneuvering between personal and local cultural habits, norms, ethics and regulations



# Idea number III

## Hubs

Interdisciplinary learning in an engineering or research environment that focuses on a specific pocket of knowledge

Physical location on campus

Flexibly organised around (families of) high-tech innovative "hot topics"

Engineering and societal challenges

Collaboration in interdisciplinary teams

Jointly with industrial business partners, customers, government agencies

# Heading for more DIY ethic in MSc

Discipline Engineering Sciences courses  
40 EC

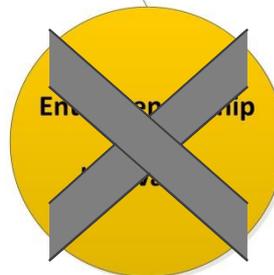
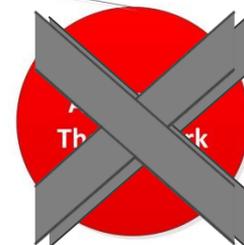
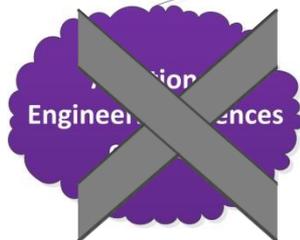
Professional Development  
30 EC

Internship  
20 EC

Thesis Research  
30 EC

*(all EC numbers  
indicative only)*

**CONTEXTUAL ENGINEER**

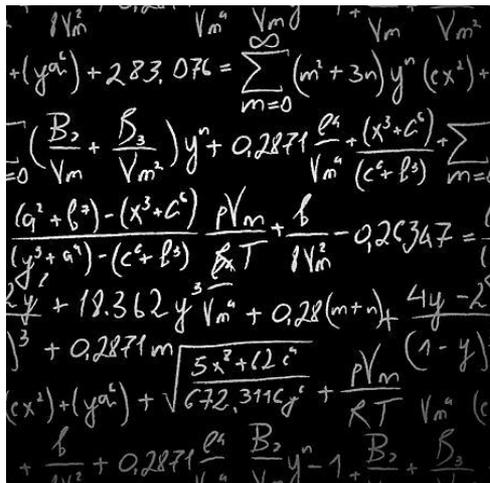


Systems Engineering  
Project Management  
Data Analysis  
Certification & Safety  
Programming

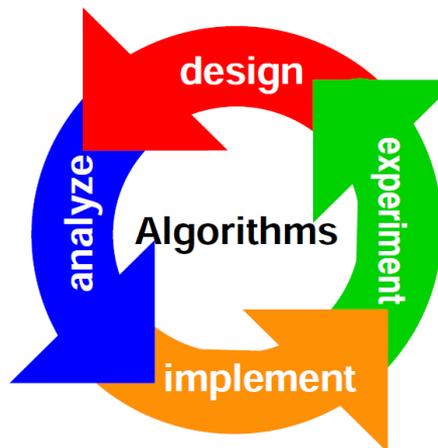
Personal leadership  
Group dynamics  
Strategic thinking  
Intercultural communication  
Academic communication  
Business economics  
Social sciences

Collaborative research at  
a Research Institute,  
involving public and  
private sectoral  
organisations

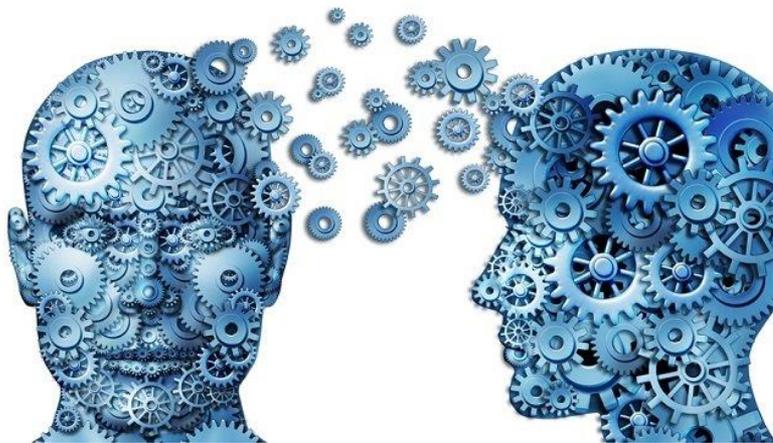
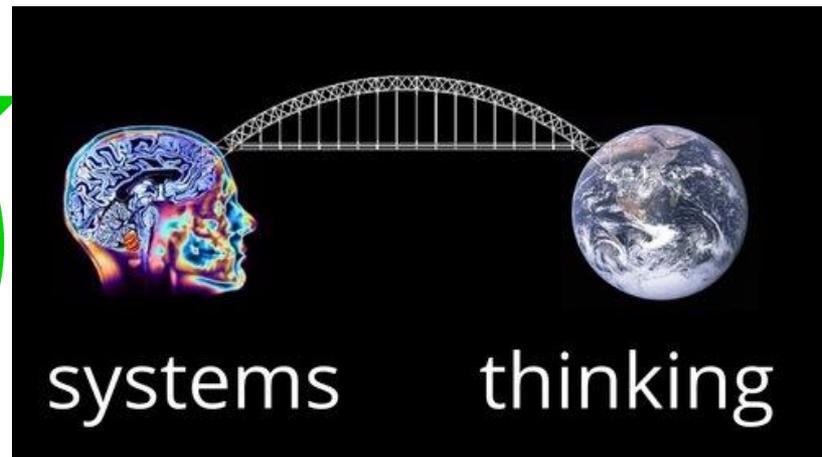
# Study engineering in 2030



Fundamentals



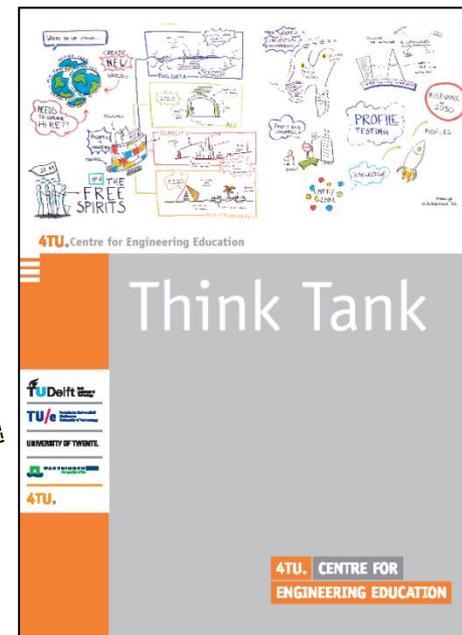
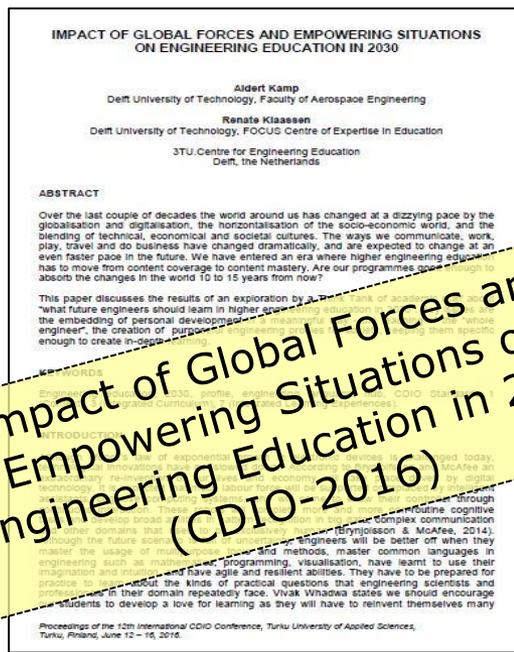
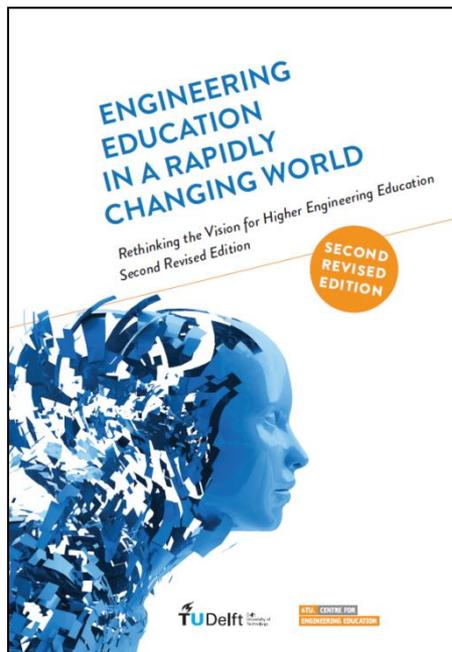
[www.collegeroadies.com](http://www.collegeroadies.com)



Knowledge sharing

- Fundamentals in math, science, engineering and technology
- Systems thinking
- Algorithmic thinking
- Knowledge sharing
- Lifelong learning

# Available sources



[www.4tu.nl/cee/en/publications/vision-engineering-education.pdf](http://www.4tu.nl/cee/en/publications/vision-engineering-education.pdf)

[www.4tu.nl/cee/en/publications/2016-cdio-engineering-education-2030.pdf](http://www.4tu.nl/cee/en/publications/2016-cdio-engineering-education-2030.pdf)

[www.4tu.nl/cee/en/publications/flyer-4tu-think-tank-def-lr.pdf](http://www.4tu.nl/cee/en/publications/flyer-4tu-think-tank-def-lr.pdf)