



# TU Delft

## Dropout rates of regular courses and MOOCs

24-7-2016

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Technical University of Delft,

Czech Technical University in Prague

# *Outline presentation*

- 1. MOOCs at TUDelft*
- 2. High dropout rates of MOOCs*
- 3. Possible reasons for high dropout*
- 4. Psychological assessment*
- 5. Didactical solutions high dropout rate*
- 6. Examples use of social media*

# MOOCs at Technical University of Delft (DUT)



# WHY MOOCs ? (Arno Smets-TUD)

MOOCs are not for everyone but for many

## Pioneering Education

- Insight in learning behaviour
- New teaching tools
- Improving performance of students
- Cost effective
- Replacement for lectures
- Continuing education

**Equal educational opportunities for everyone**

**MOOCs are not for everybody but for many (Obama)**

## Marketing

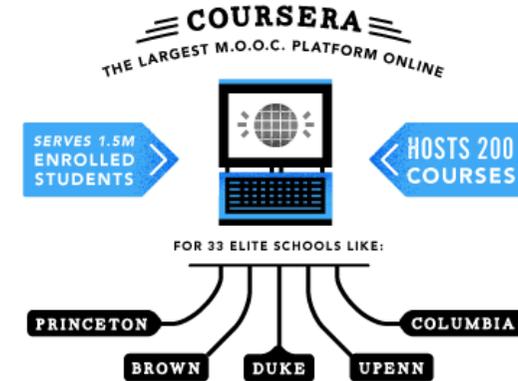
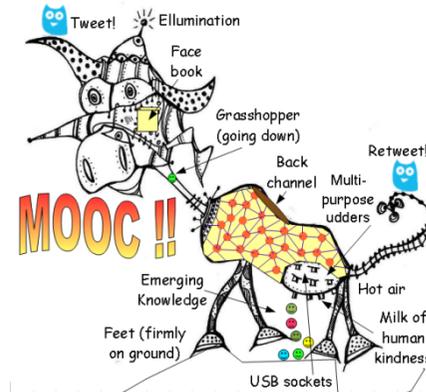
Showing world-top education  
Positioning of Brand TUDelft  
Claiming world authority  
Scouting talents

## Idealistic

Increasing impact of education

# MOOCs platforms

Anke Mulder-TUD



# Platform

(Anke Mulder-TUD)



- Harvard
- MIT
- Berkeley
- **TU Delft**
- Lausanne
- Wellesley College
- Georgetown University
- McGill
- Australian National University
- University of Texas Systems
- Rice
- University of Toronto



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WESTERN CAPE



The University of  
Nottingham



ParisTech  
INSTITUT DES SCIENCES ET TECHNOLOGIES  
PARIS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY



<http://ocwconsortium.org>



TU Delft

CSEDU – April 2016

# DelftX MOOCs



Next Generation Infrastructures



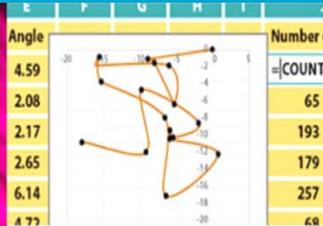
Next Generation Infrastructures



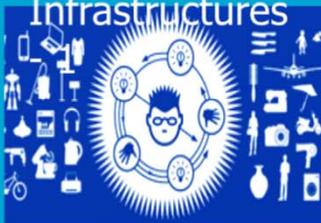
Drinking Water Treatment



Functional Programming



Data Analysis to the MAX()



Delft Design Approach



Industrial Biotechnology



Introduction to Solar Energy



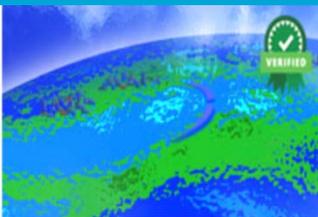
Responsible Innovation



Treatment of Urban Sewage



Credit Risk Management



Introduction to Water & Climate



Creative Problem Solving



Aeronautical Engineering



The Basics of Transport Phenomena



Framing



Topology in Condensed Matter



Pre-University Calculus



Circular Economy



# Delft-Blue MOOCs centre (Frans van Dam-TUD)



# Virtual University in the Netherlands

(Frans van Dam-TUD)



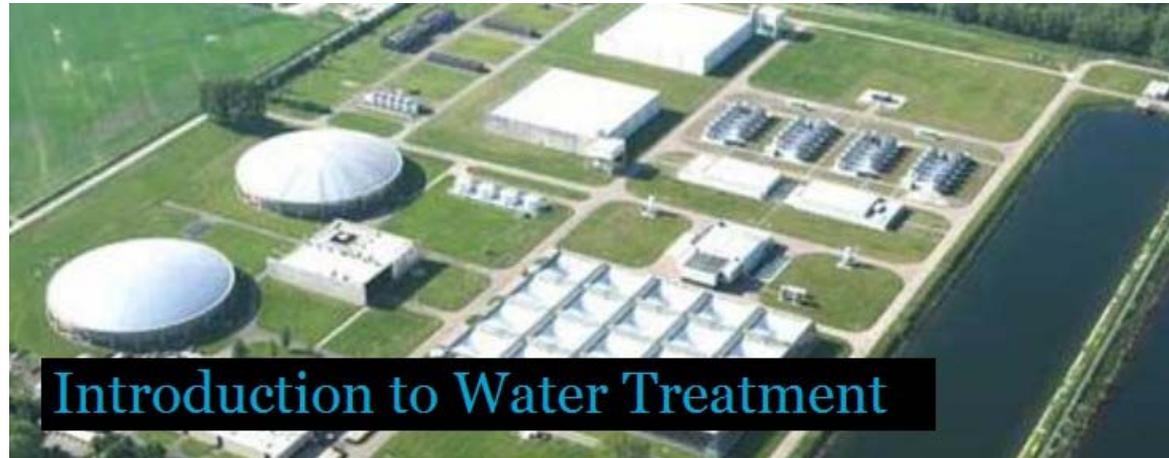
# European MOOCs centre (Wikipedia)



*Is it possible to set up a  
European equivalent of  
edX, Coursera, etc. ?*

*Why are dropout rates of MOOCs so high ?*

# Two MOOCs as examples (TUD)

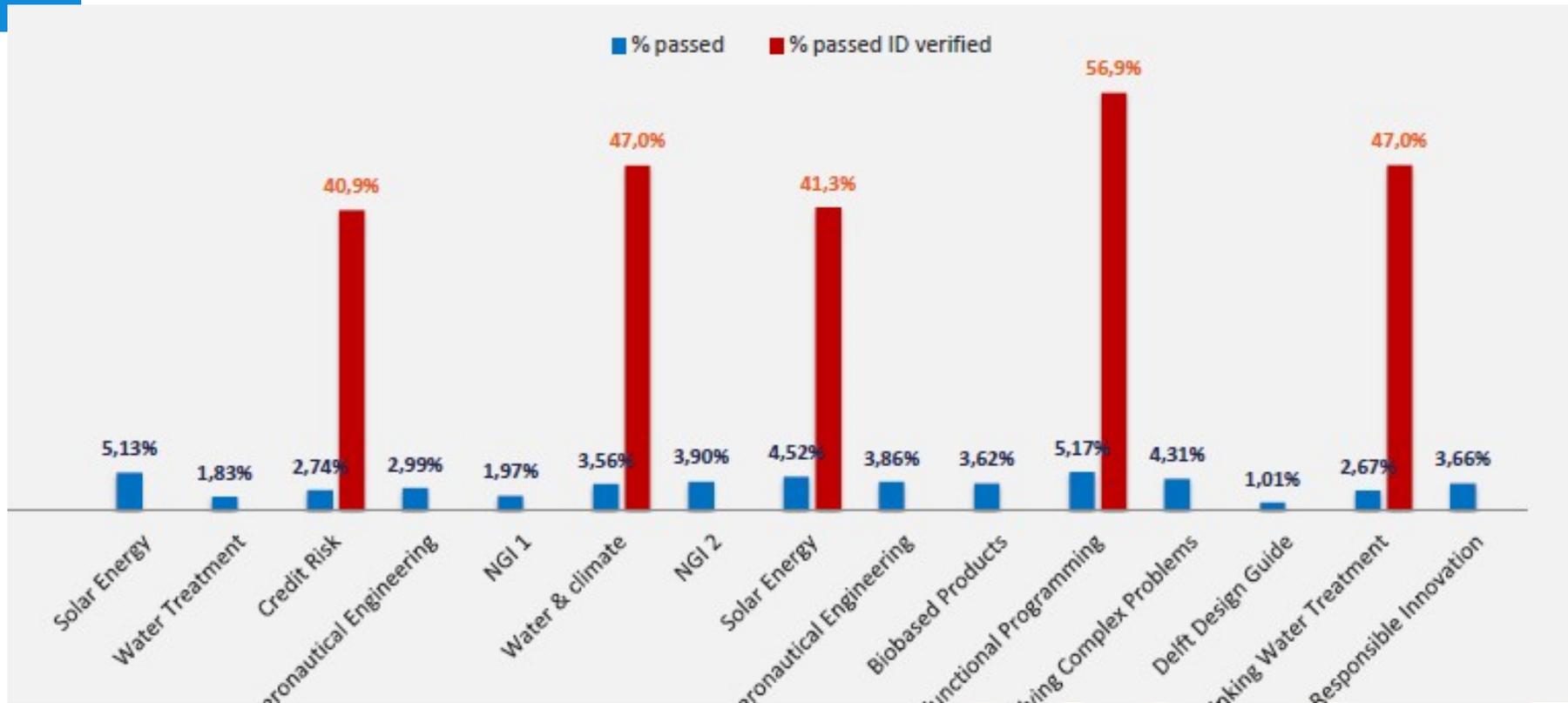


# RESULTS (Arno Smets)

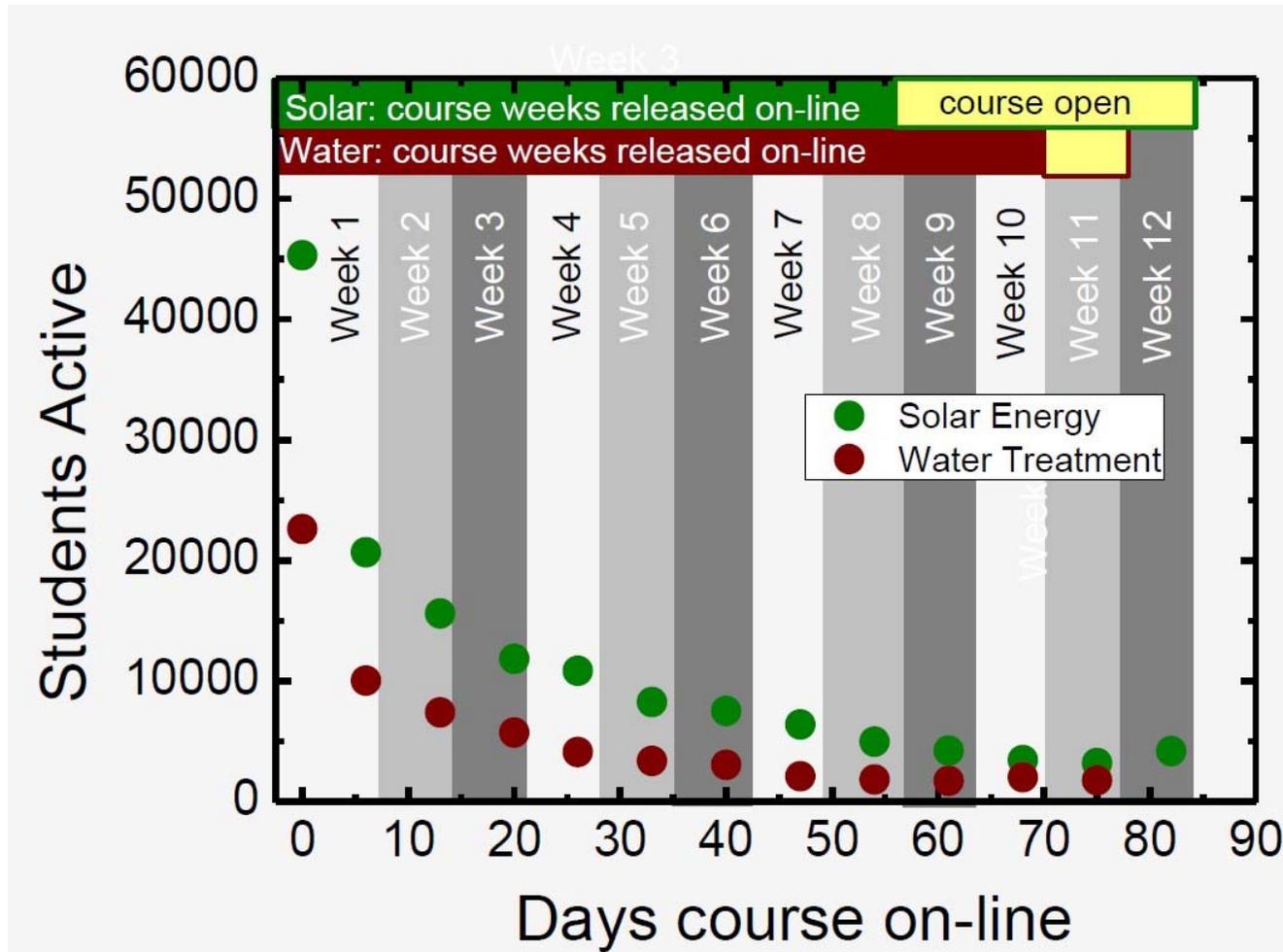


	<b>Water Treatment</b>	<b>Solar Energy</b>
# Enrollments	<b>29.179</b>	<b>56.809</b>
# students accessed the course	<b>23.617</b>	<b>47.183</b>
# tried at least 1 HW	<b>5.917</b> (25%)	<b>9.580</b> (20%)
# Certificates	<b>534</b> (2,3%)	<b>2.912</b> (6,2%)
# perfect score	<b>2</b>	<b>162</b>

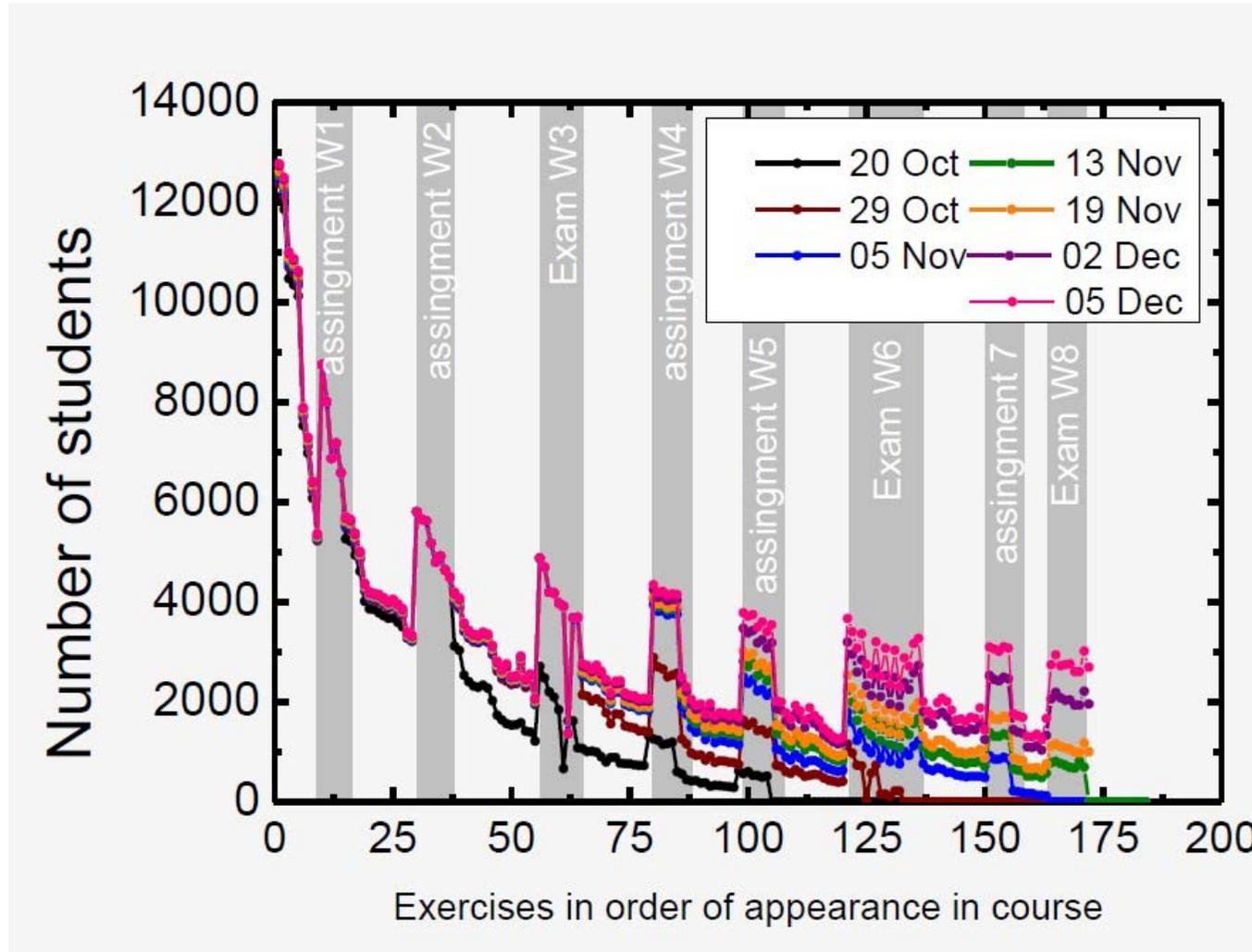
# Pass rates dramatically increase when students pay \$50 for n ID verified certificate (de Vries, Dexter, TUD)



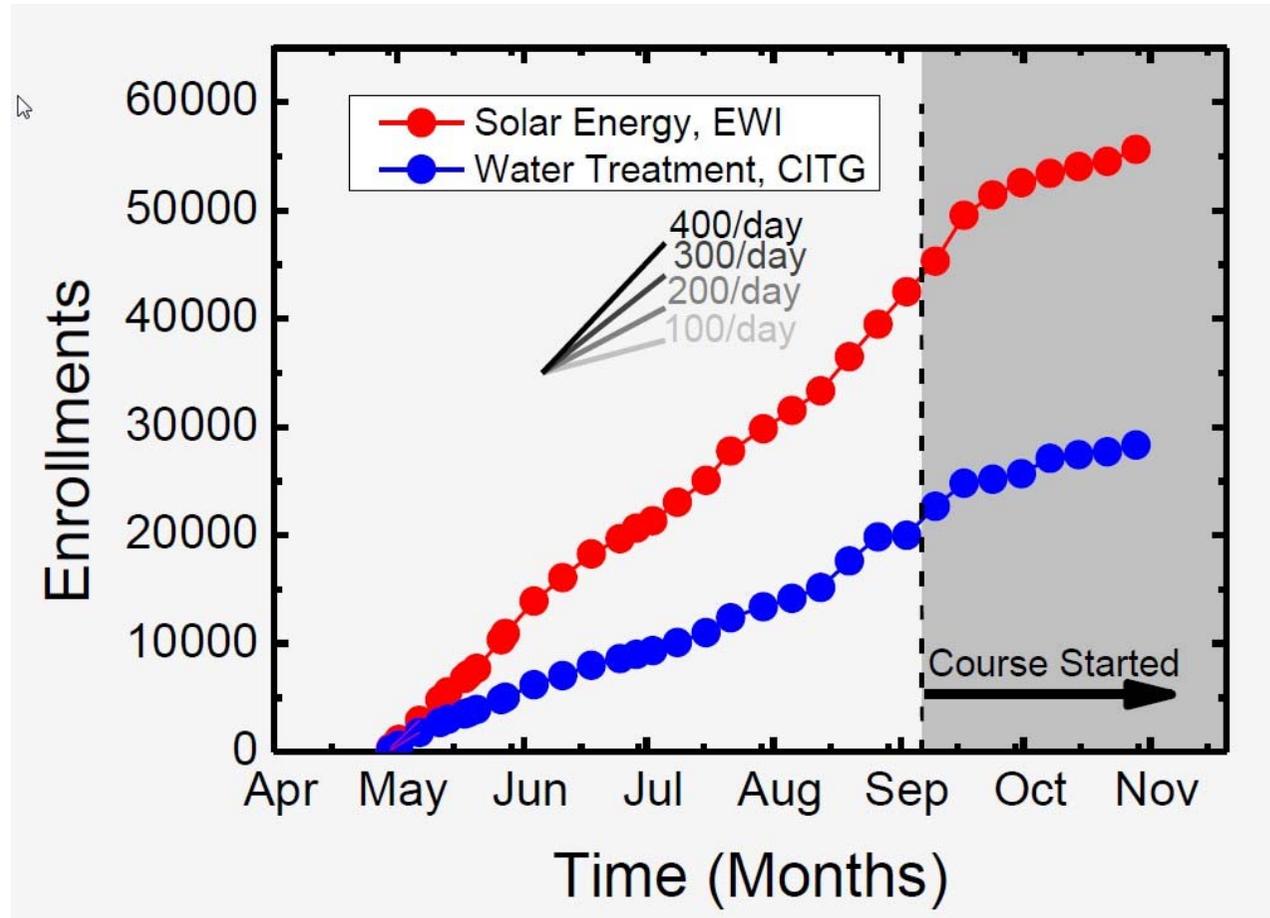
# Students activities (Arno Smets-TUD)

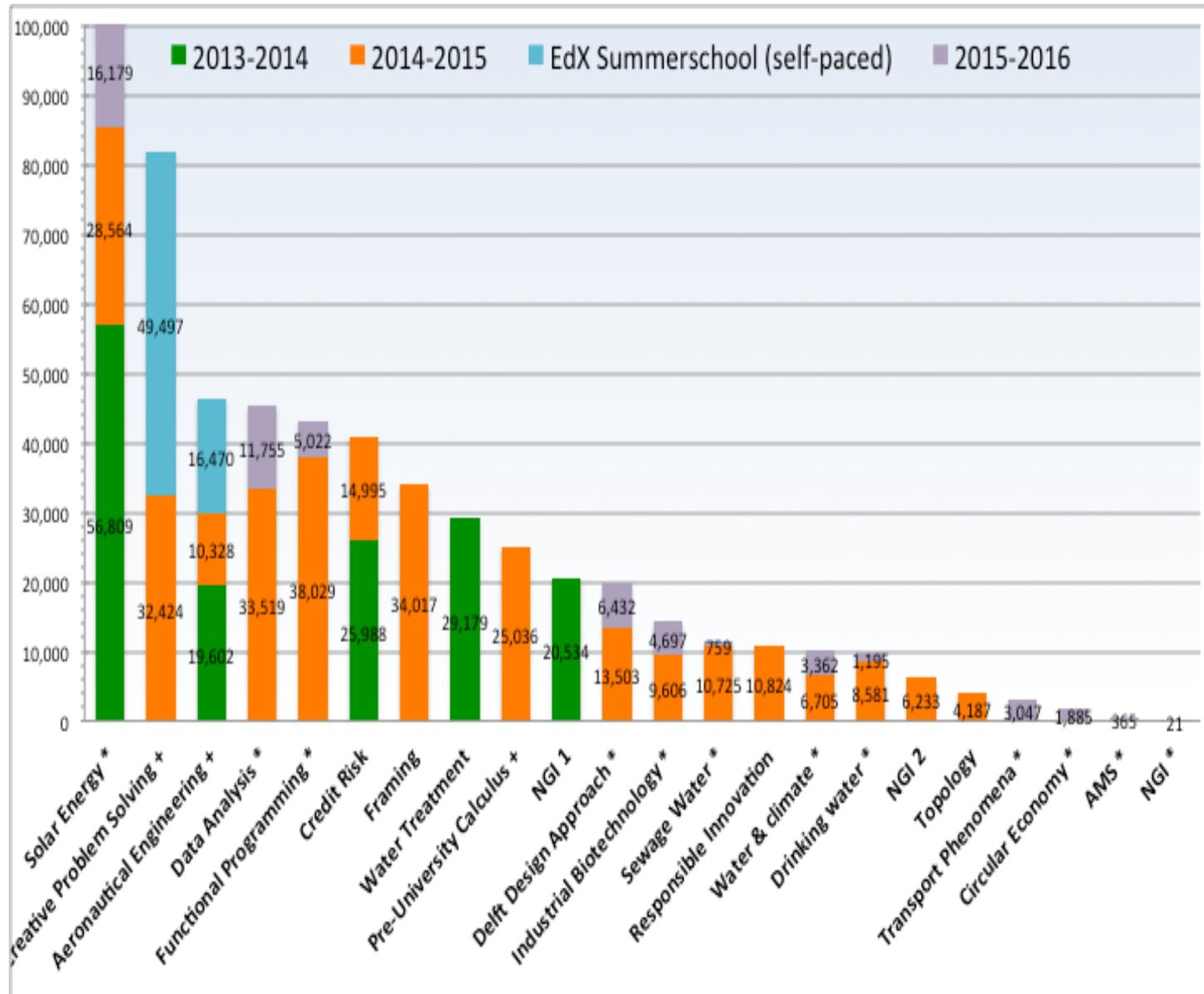


# Progress Work Students (Arno Smets-TUD)

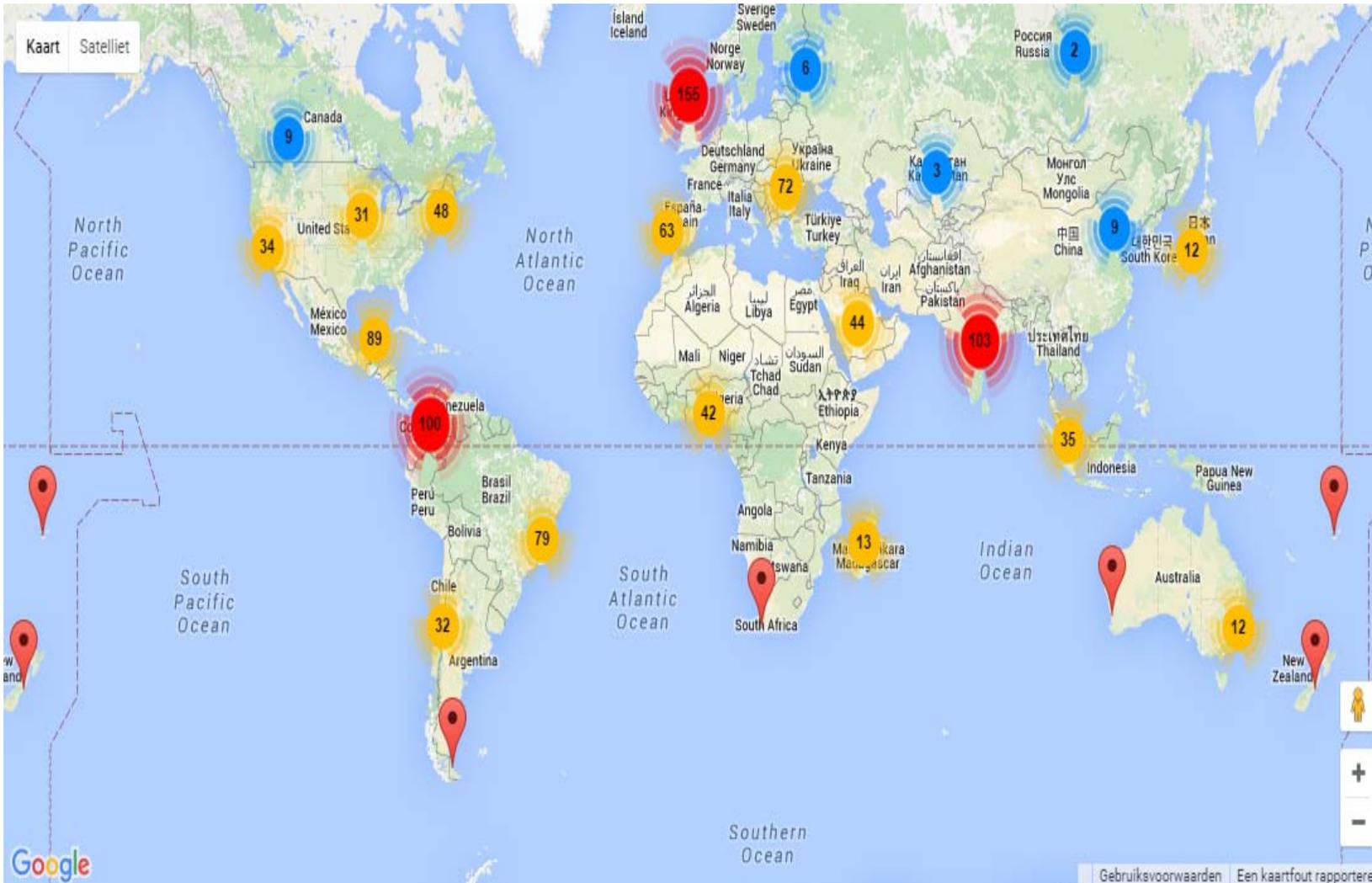


# Evolution Enrollments (Arno Smets)



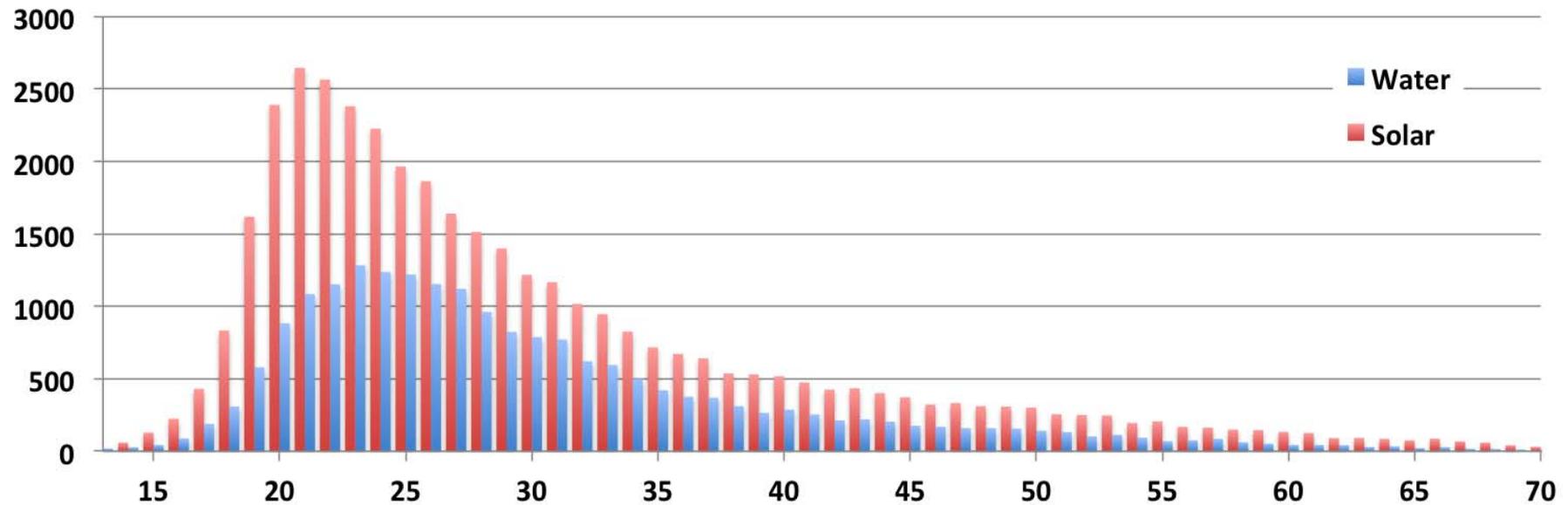


# MOOCs worldwide (TUD)



# Age distributions (Arno Smets)

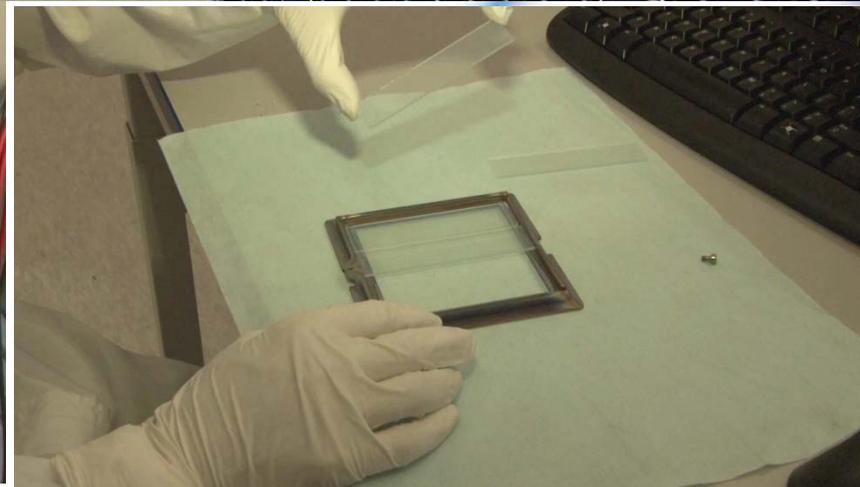
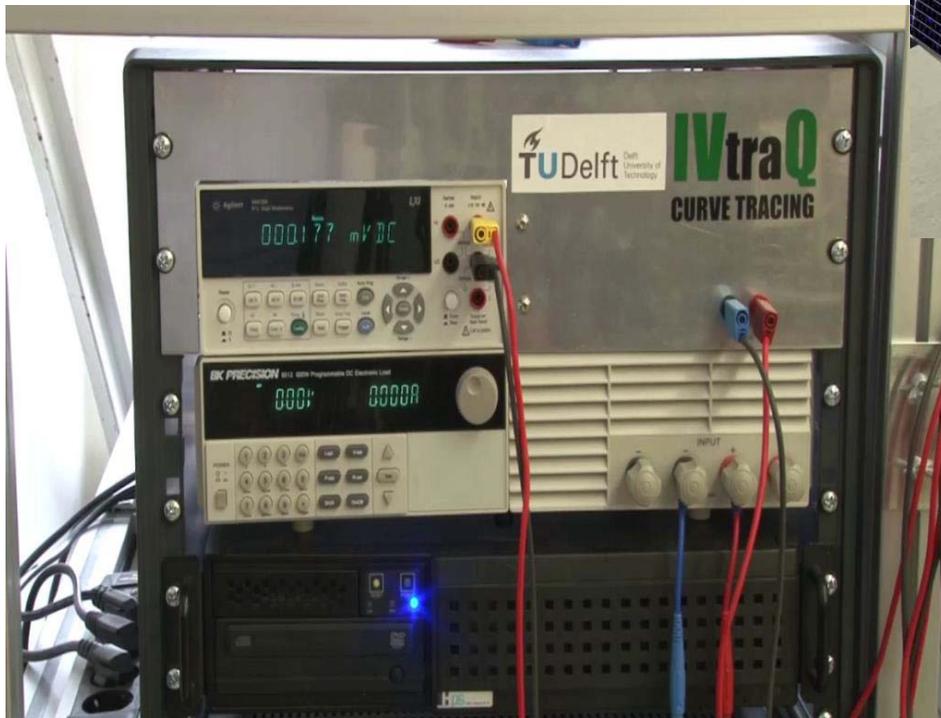
Age Distribution of DelftX Registrants  
(self-reported, >80% reporting rate)



# MOOC – design (Frans van Dam)



# The power of video and animation



# Learning Analytics-1

Micro blogging sites such as Twitter can play a vital role in spreading information

- The volume and velocity of tweets posted during a course today tend to be extremely high
- Messages that are entirely off-topic or personal in nature, to messages containing critical information

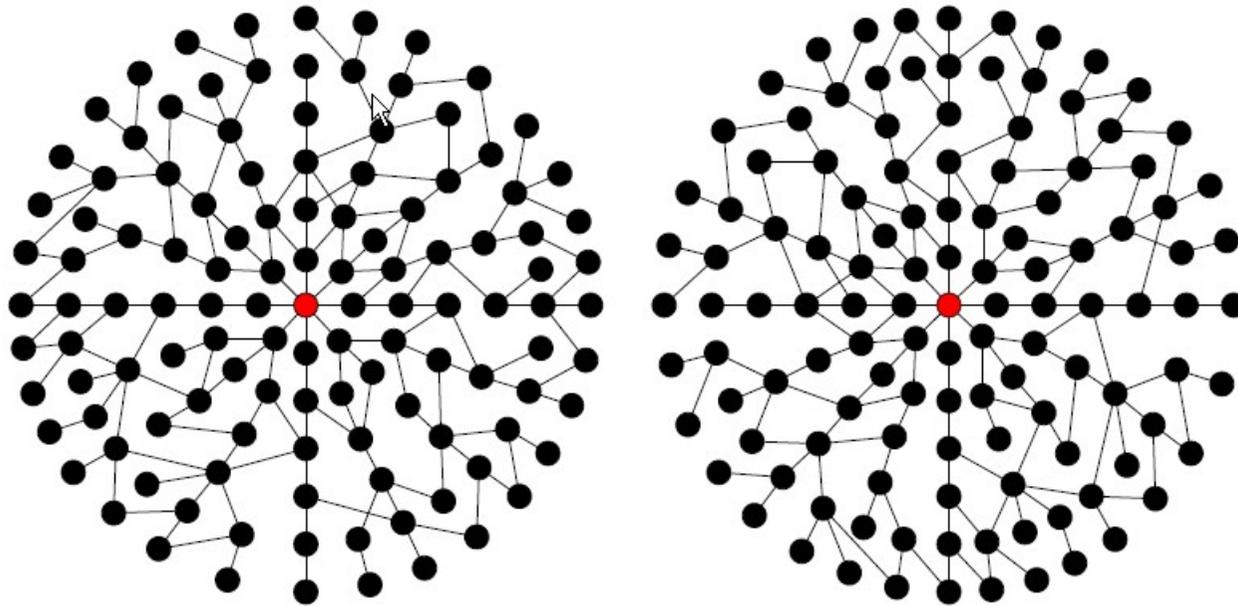
## Learning Analytics-2

More than 200,000 unique tweets were selected by monitoring the Twitter Streaming API using the hashtag #MOOC-TUD a few days after launching the MOOC

- To process the data the authors use NLP technology, such as n-grams, Part of Speech (POS), and Verbnet for example
- Bayesian classifiers were used to automatically classify a tweet in pre-defined classes



Two projects-clusters in a learning network,  
which partners should be connected so that  
the whole network is fully connected?



- 1. Special learning analytics software tools are needed to process data generated by MOOC students*
- 2. How to store-process-analyze the big data, around MOOCs ?*

## *Possible reasons for dropout*

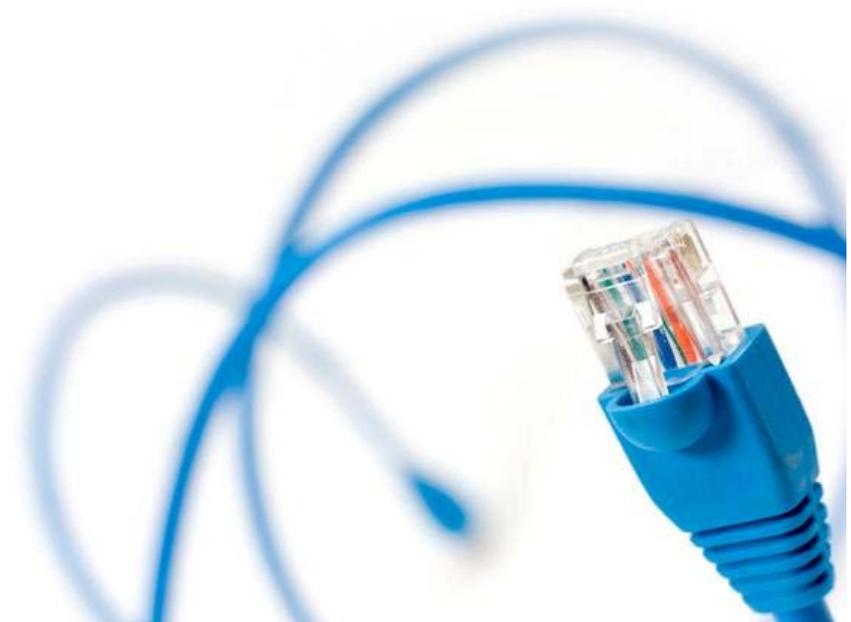
- 1. Self paced courses*
- 2. Missing adapted didactic models*
- 3. No entrance exam is required*
- 4. Missing individual tutoring*
- 5. Failing cooperation in student networks*
- 6. Missing personal characteristics*

## *How to teach 21<sup>st</sup> century skills ?*

- critical reflection*
- cooperating*
- networking*
- creativity*
- ability to handle big data*
- ability to solve real life problems*
- ability for life-long*

- 1. Current education academic education focused on realization of qualification goals*
- 2. How to include socialization and personal development?*

# Report Minister of Science, Culture and Education



# Bildung (Wikipedia)

First defined by Wilhelm von Humboldt (1767-1835)

Not only focussed on acquisition of knowledge

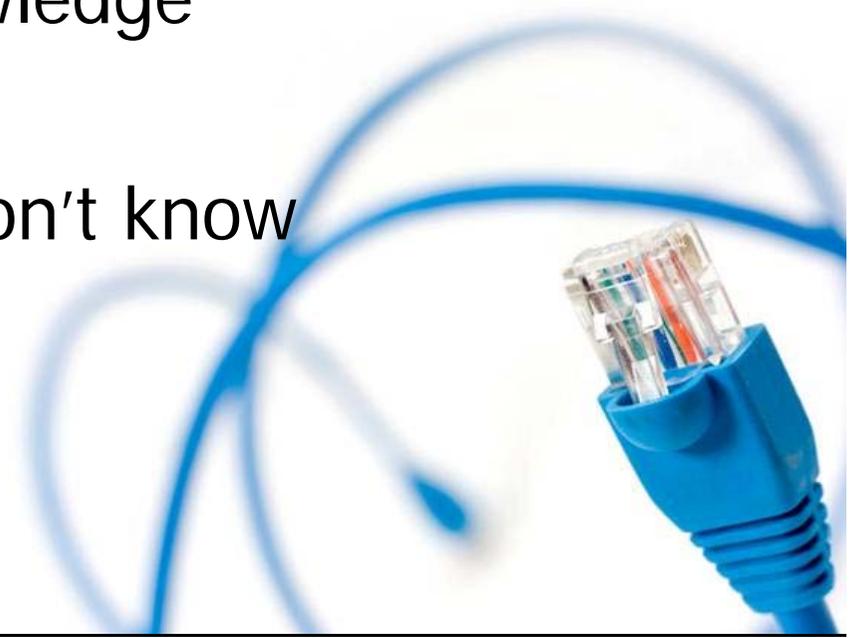
Abilities for critical thinking

Ability for moral judgement

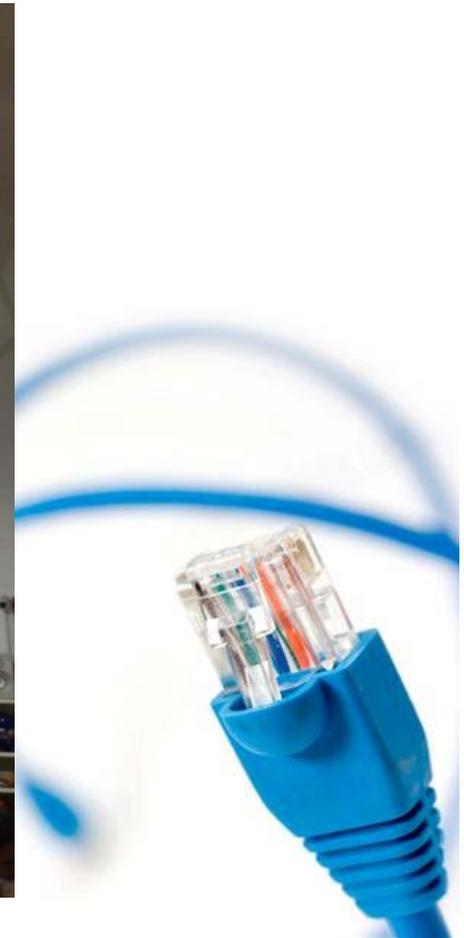


# Teaching adagio (source unknown)

- We teach today students
  - With yesterday knowledge
    - For a future we don't know



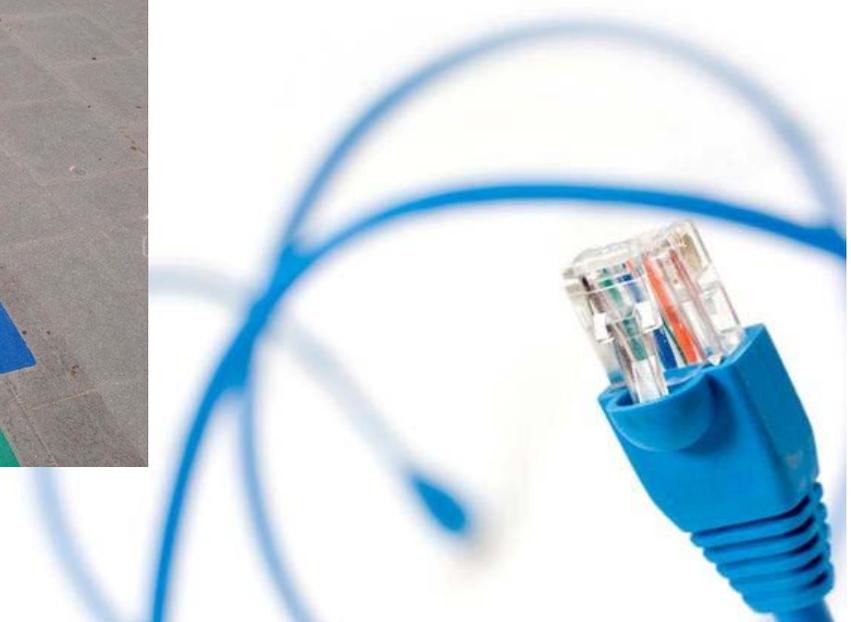
How to transform a Network without communication and interaction to a social network of actors connected by dyadic ties and cooperate via social media ?



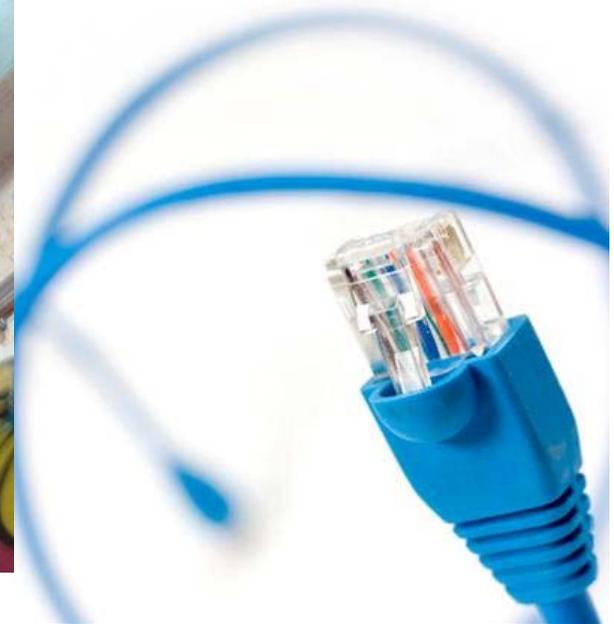
# **Social learning includes cooperation and modelling, How to implement in MOOCs?**



# Learning material could enable individual learning



For a good harmony orchestration, cooperation  
fine tuning is needed,  
How to implement in MOOCs?



# *Recent developments around MOOCs at TUDelft*

*How to increase student participation?*

*How to involve societal relevant  
applications?*

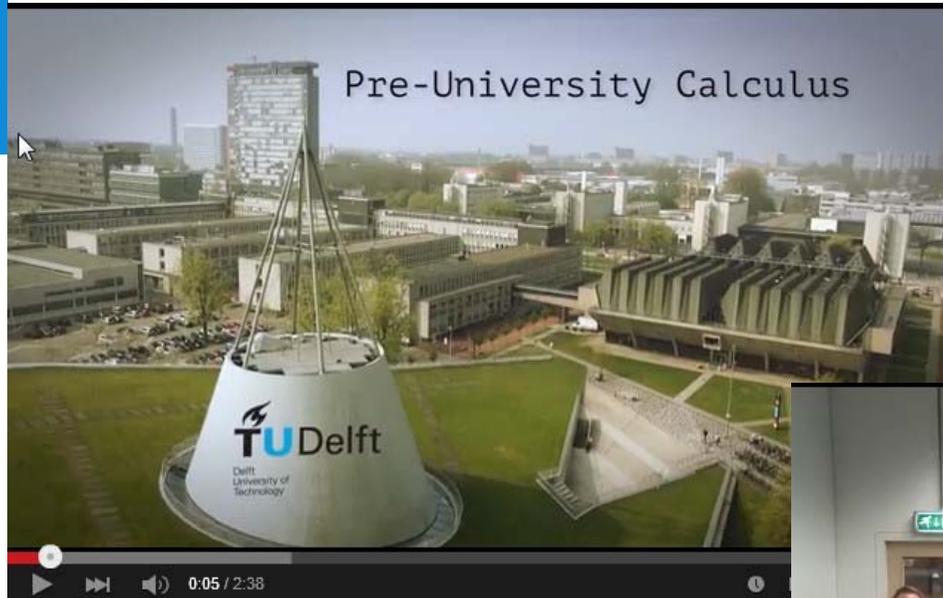
*How to use social media?*

# Fresh-up course mathematics starting students (TUD)

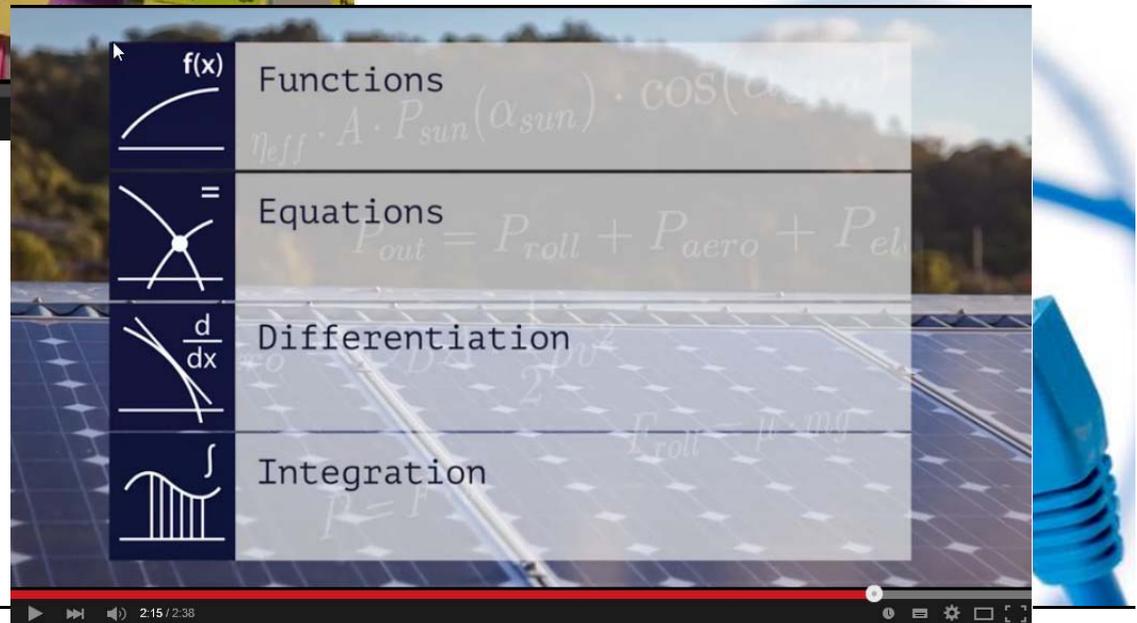
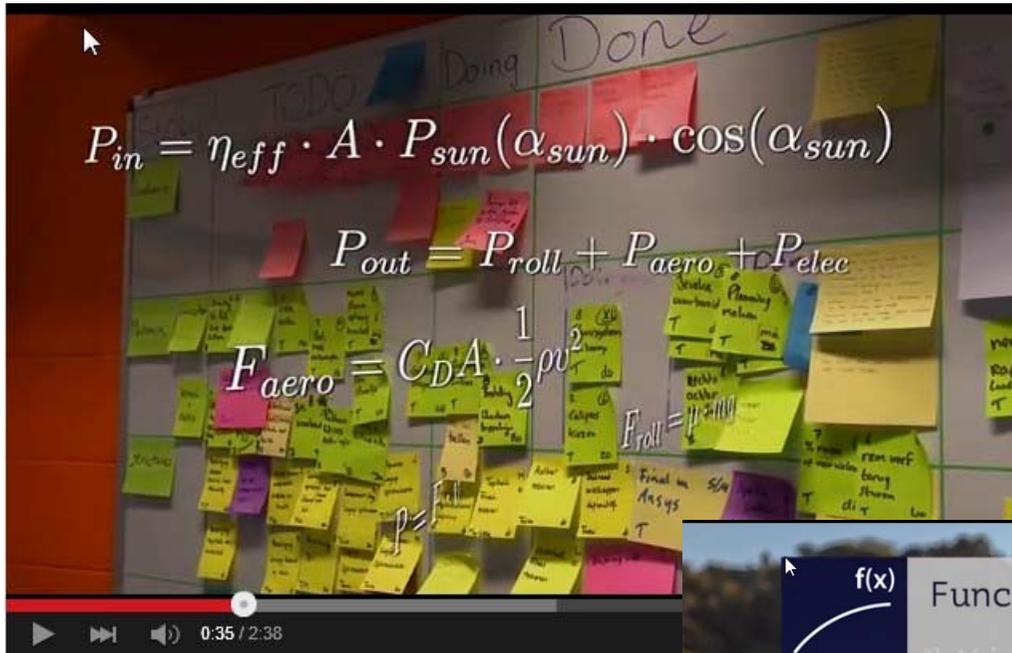


# Focus on real life applications

## Solar cars challenge race (TUD)



# How to design a course? (TUD)

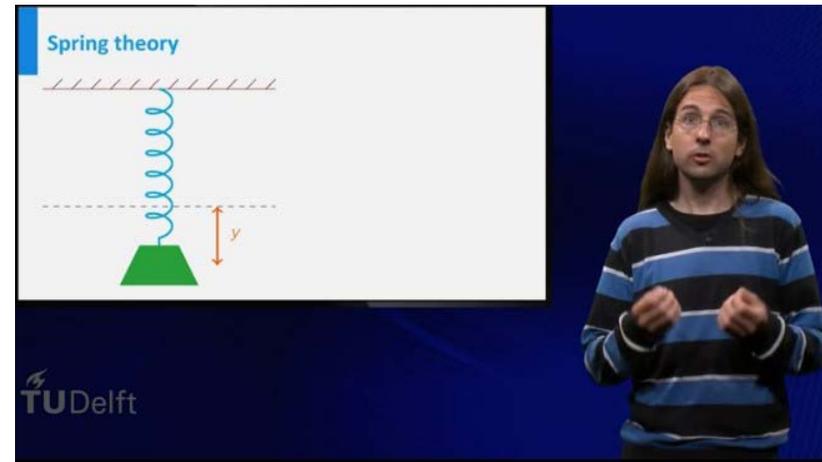


# Mathematics from real life (TUD)



**Context**  
Holland Particle Therapy Centre  
Ingrid Vos, Bart van den Driess  
TU Delft

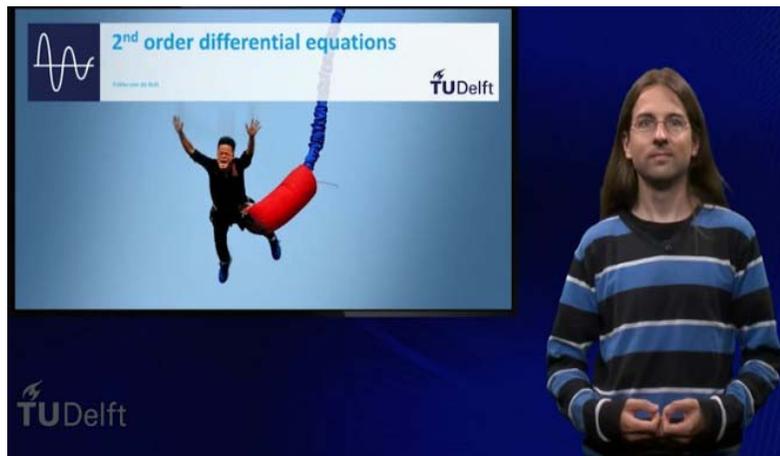
The slide features a background image of a hand holding a blue pen over a petri dish containing several small, glowing blue circular samples.



**Spring theory**

The slide shows a diagram of a blue spring attached to a red horizontal surface. A dashed horizontal line indicates the equilibrium position. A vertical double-headed arrow labeled 'y' shows the displacement of the spring from its equilibrium position.

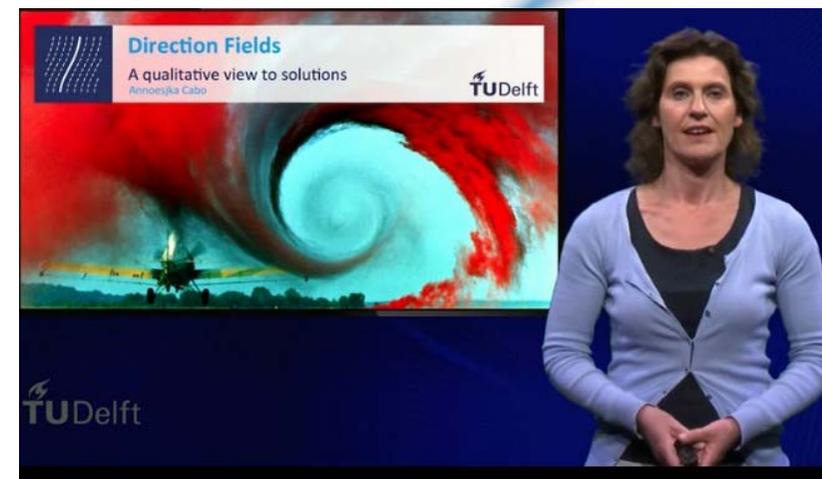
TU Delft



**2<sup>nd</sup> order differential equations**  
TU Delft

The slide features a background image of a person in a black jumpsuit and helmet, suspended in the air by a red and blue bungee cord.

TU Delft

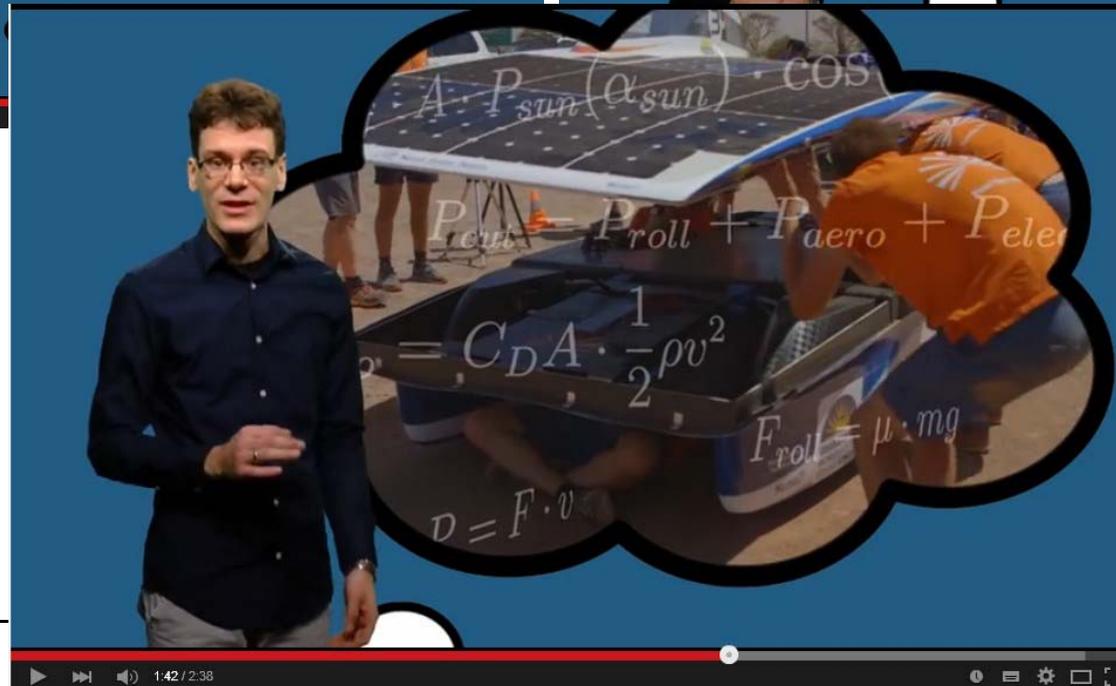
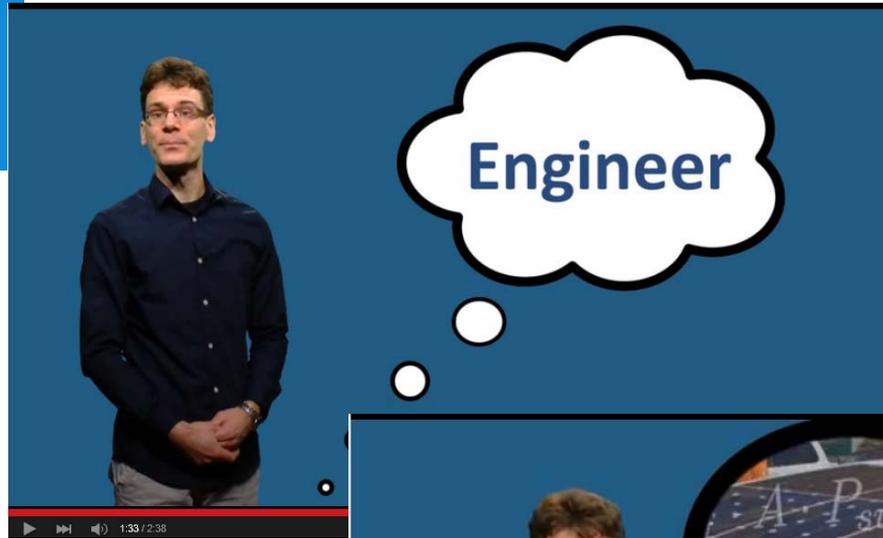


**Direction Fields**  
A qualitative view to solutions  
Annoesjka Cabo  
TU Delft

The slide features a background image of a weather map with a large, swirling cyclone in shades of red and blue.

TU Delft

# Introduction Pre-Un Calculus (TUD)



# Pre-University calculus

MOOC offered worldwide via edX<sub>(TUD)</sub>

Number of participants	Number attempted one exercise	Number attempted all exercise	Number passed final exam	
27.186	4.150	273		Worldwide
794	420	40	46	TU Delft

# Distribution of students who enrolled and didn't enrol in the MOOC (TUD)

	5	6	7	8	9	10
# students that didn't enrol	101	764	1017	703	332	52
# students that enrolled	32	173	200	166	63	10

- 1. Grades at secondary school are good predictors of a successful academic study*
- 2. Is there is need of psychological assessment?*
- 3. What could be the contribution of BIG Five personality test?*

# BigFive personality test

Average score , 5-pointscale, 20 items

Number of respondents	10189	179
Extroversion	3.05	3.05
Agreeableness	3.84	3.69
Conscientiousness	3.38	3.06
Neuroticism	2.98	3.39
Openness	4.05	3.71

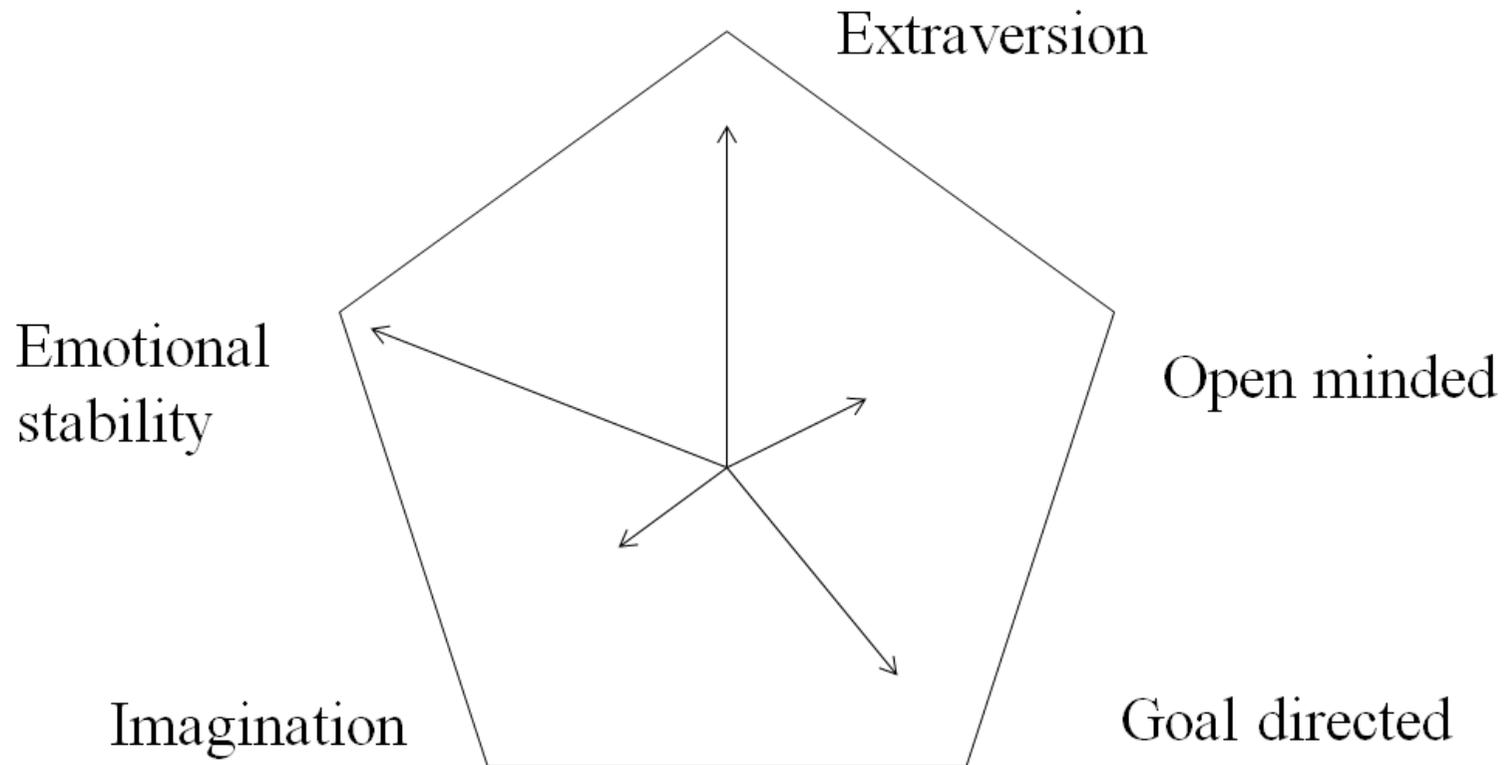


# BigFive personality test

Average score , 5-pointscale, 20 items

	Item/response	--	-	-/+	+	++
<b>1</b>	On <u>parties</u> I talk to <u>many people</u>					
<b>7</b>	I <u>work according to timeschedules</u>					
<b>10</b>	I have problems to imagine things					
<b>16</b>	I complain about things					
<b>19</b>	I don't mind being the centre of interaction					

# BigFive profile



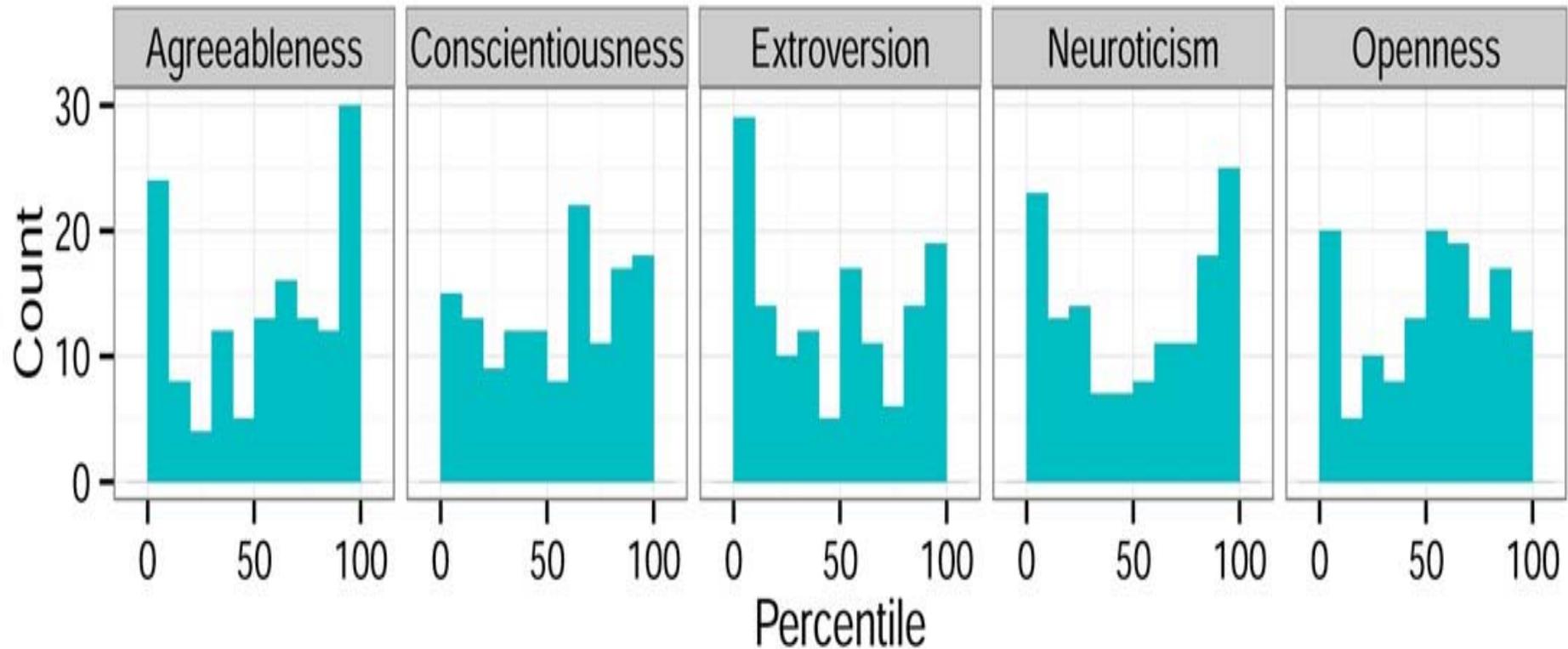
# BigFive personality Test (Wikipedia)

<b>Openness</b>	<b>Interest in searching new things and inexperienced stimuli, unconventional</b>
Conscientiousness	Self-discipline, prudence, following rules, strong will, active planning, organizing and completing tasks
Extroversion	Socializing, cheerfulness, searching new options and experiences
Agreeableness	Obedience, cooperation, friendliness, helping others
Neuroticism	Emotional lability, shyness, sadness, embarrassment

# Felder-Silverman learning style model (1993)

Dimension	Preference
Sensing – Intuitive	Facts and experiments vs. principles and theories
Visual – Verbal	Learning via pictures and diagrams vs. via verbal explanation
Active – Reflective	Active experimentation vs. passive observation
Sequential – Global	Linear reasoning process vs. intuitive leaps when problem solving

# Distribution item responses (D.Chuda)



# Psychological Assessment at TUDelft 1953-1957

- All first years students (2.500) were requested to take part in the psychological assessment procedure
- The following tests were used:
  - NAT'70            Mathematical ability test-Figure series
  - NPV                Personality Questionnaire
  - NVA                Non verbal Abstraction
  - VAT '69            Verbal Analogies
  - APT                Calculus with characters
  - DT                 Test using diagrams

**Conclusion: Outcomes Psychological test has no added value to scores mathematics, physics, Dutch at secondary school**

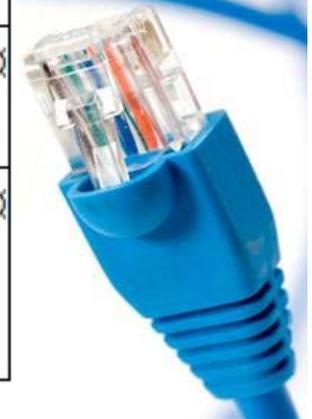
Study-progress/delay/dropouts in percentage crossed with average score mathematics/physics grades at school, cohort 1953

Studyprogress¶ ≥·150%□	0%□	4%□	11%□	15%□	7%□
Studyprogress¶ ≤·150%□	0%□	8%□	13%□	4%□	0%□
Delayed students· with·Incomplete first· year□	2%□	2%□	1%□	1%□	0%□
Dropouts during· second year□	2%□	6%□	2%□	0%□	0%□
Dropouts during first· year□	2%□	9%□	9%□	1%□	0%□
Average math/· physics grades at· school exam□	5-6□	6-7□	7-8□	8-9□	9- 10□



# Study-progress/delay/dropouts crossed with number of passed exams

Studyprogress $\geq 150\%$	0%	1%	7%	14%	16%
Studyprogress $\leq 150\%$	3%	8%	8%	4%	3%
Delayed students with Incomplete first year	2%	1%	1%	0%	0%
Dropouts during second year	2%	6%	1%	1%	0%
Dropouts during first year	6%	9%	5%	0%	0%
Numbers of exams passed successfully in first period	0	1	2	3	4



*How to find matching study partners  
in global online learning?*

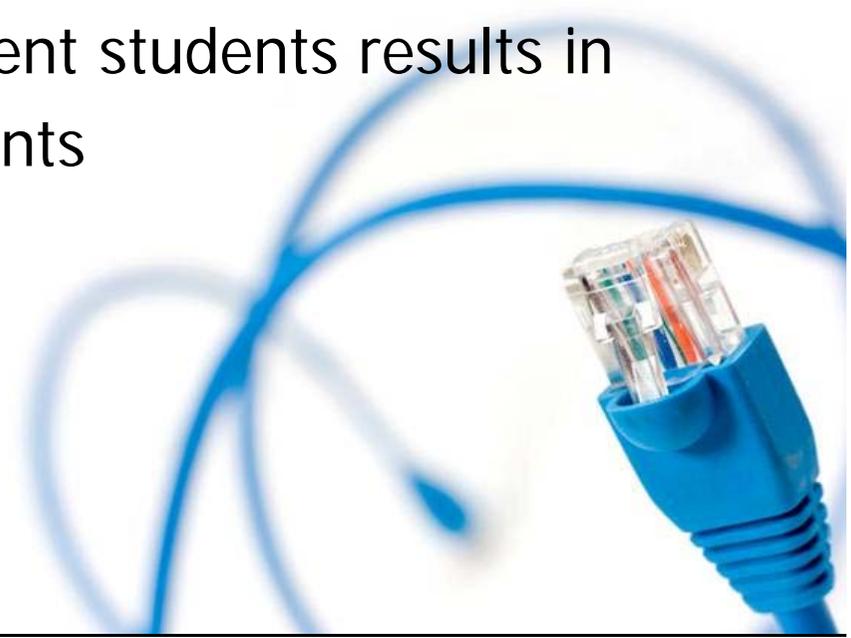
*The matching algorithm from dating sites  
can provide a solution*

# McKinlay University of California 2014

- McKinlay researched online data-sites and discovered that one of these dating sites sorted people into profiles using the answers to thousands of questions posed by other users on the site. By creating fake profiles and writing programs to answer questions he discovered the underlying algorithm and was able to create successful matching profiles. He used collaborative filtering by collecting the preferences of many people, and grouping them into sets of similar users.

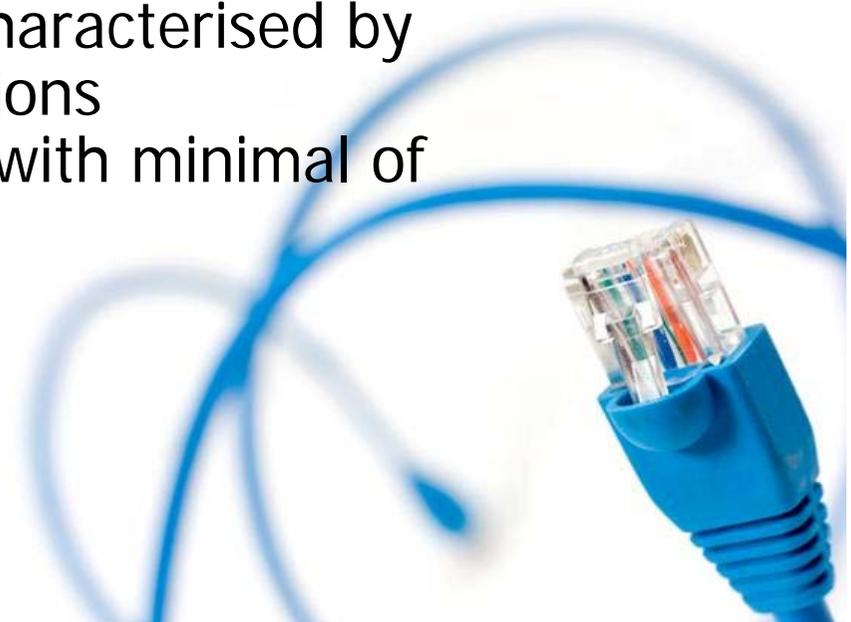
# Groups of study-friends in social networks

- Partners who chat for a longtime are stable, better fitting partners
- Groups with balanced abilities are stable groups
- Formation of groups of excellent students results in groups of less excellent students  
(underscoring students)



# Analysis social interaction

- Students, interaction and frequency of interaction can be displayed on a map
- Groups can be detected as clusters, groupleader barycentre
- Stable groups, partners are characterised by continuous stream of interactions
- Problem of outliers, students with minimal of interactions



# Features used in our matching algorithm

- Students provide scores of basic abilities as mathematics, programming, report writing, groupworks on a 5-point scale (possibility to upload academic record)
- Personal characteristics measured by Big Five personality test
- Data on personal websites, CV (if provided in a standard form)
- Problem of fake data

# Matching form students

## Profile

### Basic information:

Name:

Email:

Basic information:

Password:

Repeat:

### Skills:



Programming:

Documenting:

Mathematics:



Save

Profile  
image

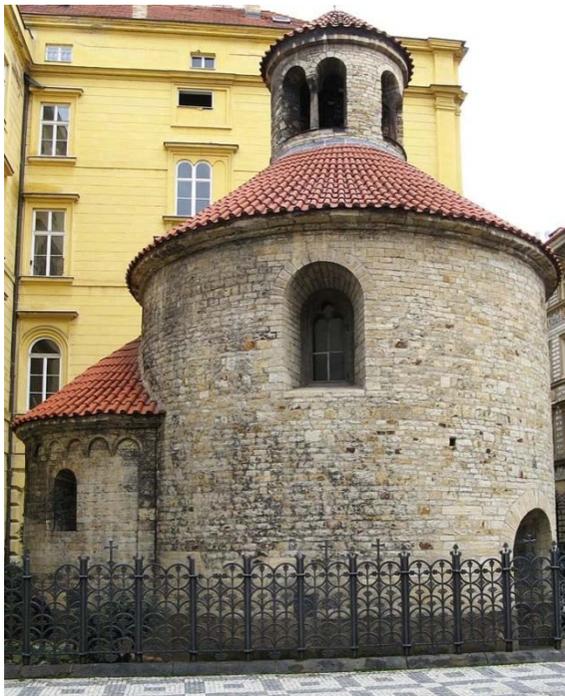
Upload

*How to use social media in open online  
learning?  
Some examples*

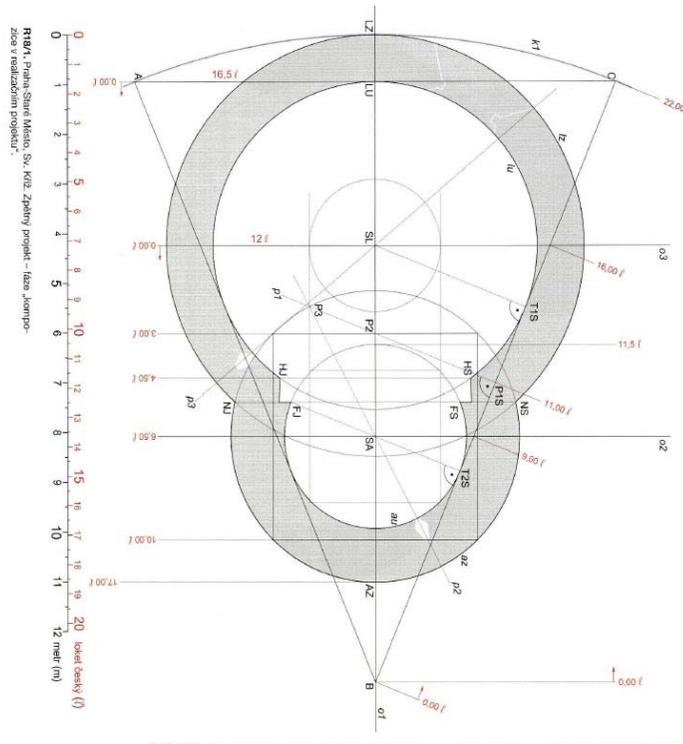


# Rotunda Holy Cross at Prague and its geometrical ground-floor

## Data collection via social media (Wikipedia)



van deze voorvertoning: 603 × 599 pixels. Andere resoluties: 242 × 240 pixels



Hanan Al-Kutubi , best graduate 2016  
“With a good network you can perform  
experiments you couldn’t do normally.

(TUD)



# Escape from prison of Alcatraz at San Francisco Bay (TUD)



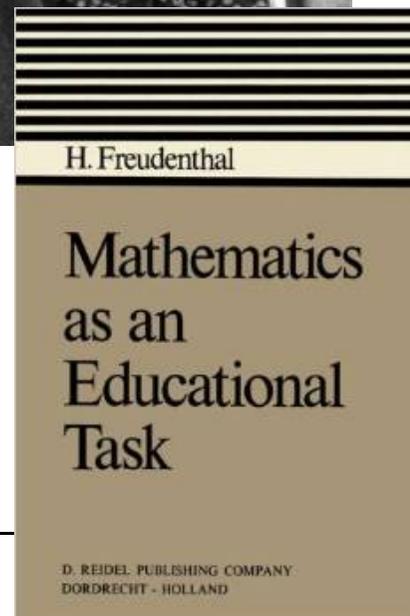
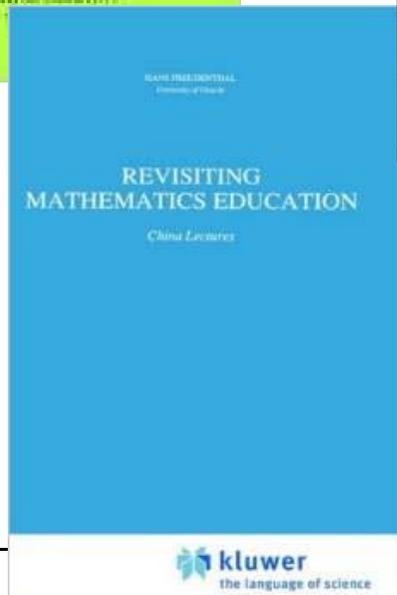
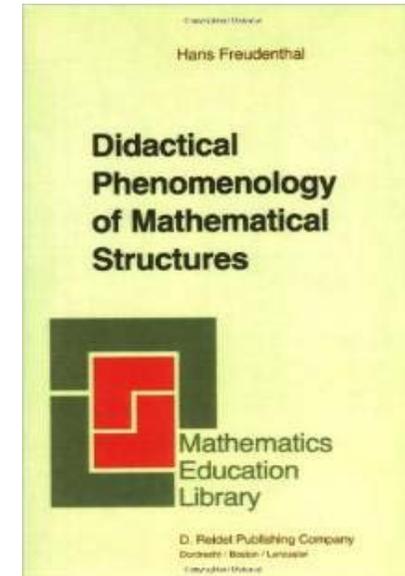
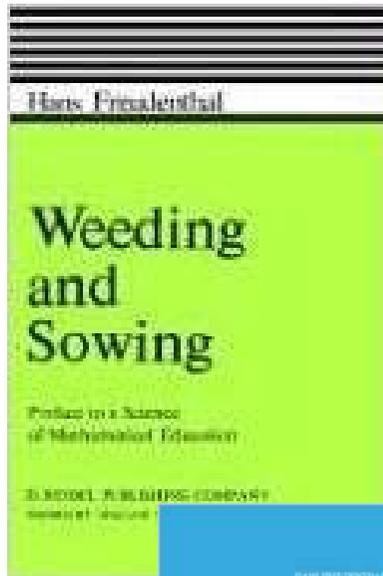
# A piece of pie to celebrate pie day (TUD)



# *Didactical Background*

# Teaching is more than knowledge transfer

## Mathematics as an educational task



**Freudenthal  
Institute for  
Science and  
Mathematics  
Education**

CSEDU – April 2016

# Improving the ability to **learn**

 FeedbackFruits facilitates **blended learning**

Watch intro ▶

Our partners in modernizing education

**inholland**  
hogeschool

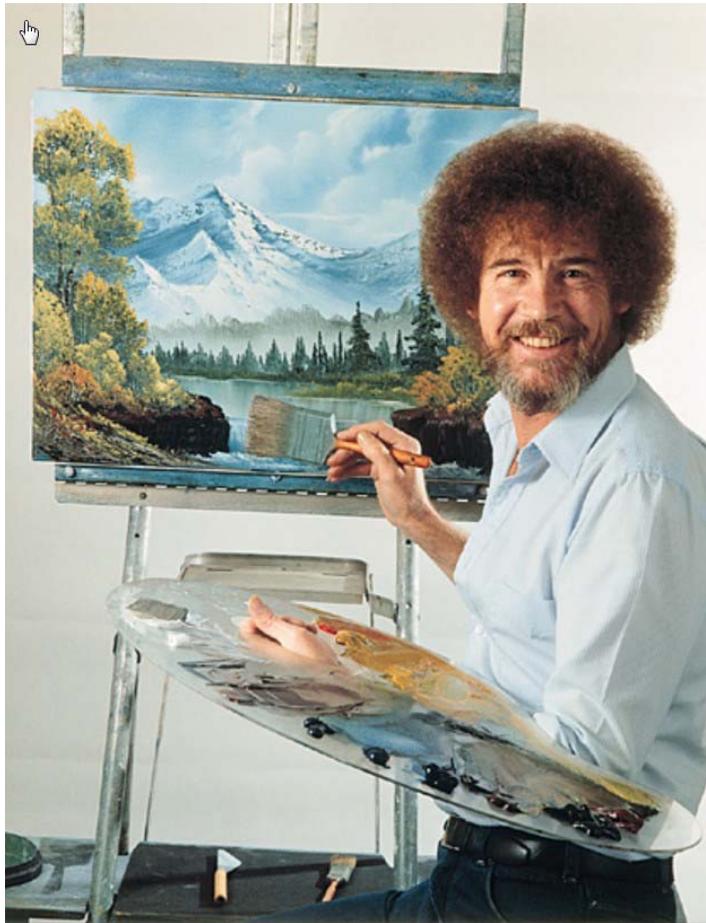
**VU**  **VRIJE  
UNIVERSITEIT  
AMSTERDAM**

 **Hanzehogeschool  
Groningen**  
University of Applied Sciences

provider

Researcher

# Successful example of non-participatory learning Bob Ross (TUD)



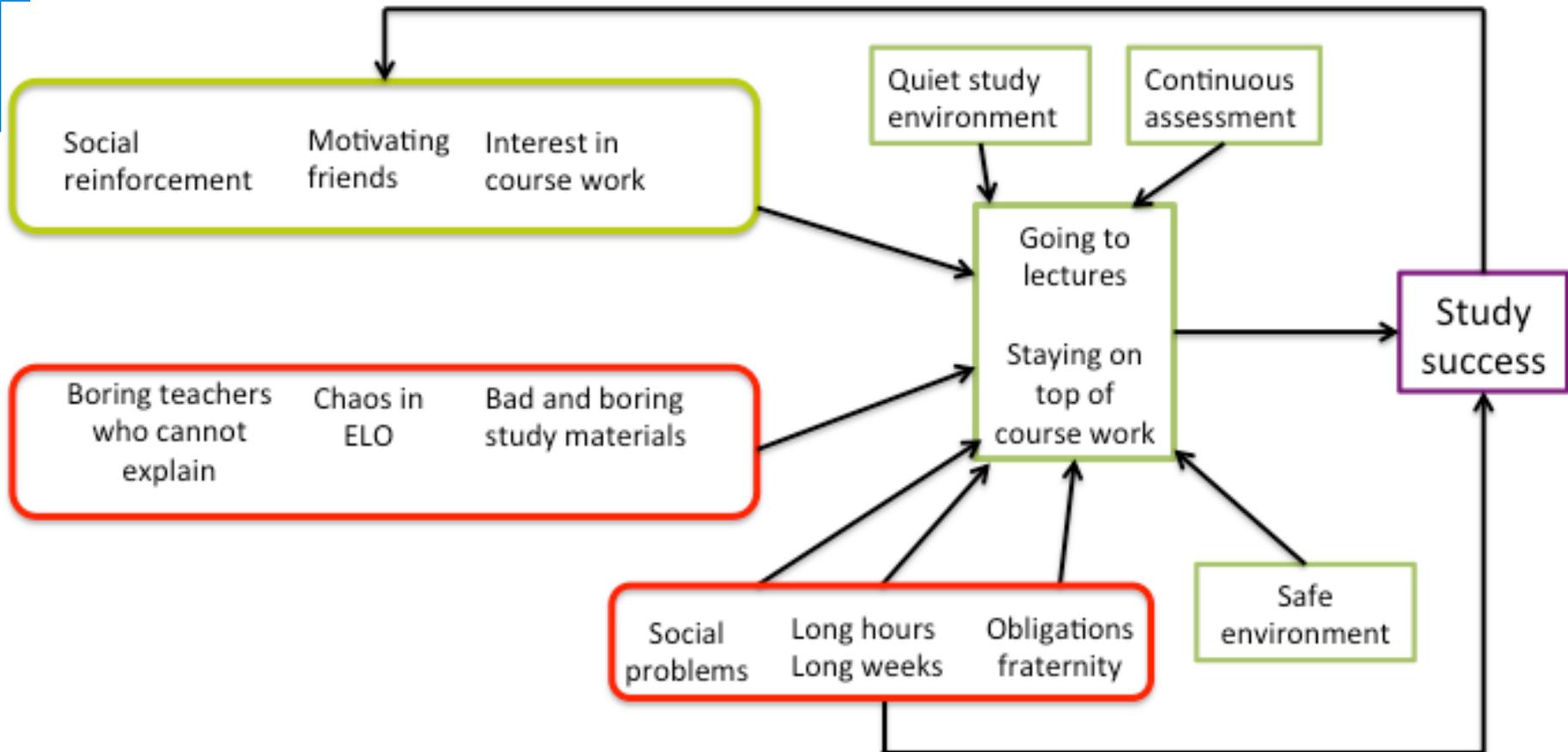
# Attribution of success according to Killen (1994)

Items pertaining to success	Rank students	Rank lecturers	P level (if <.05)
Interest in the course	1	2	
Self-motivation	2	1	.00001*
Self-discipline	3	4	
Regular attendance at lectures	8	16	.04243
Effective study techniques	13	5	.00442*
Maturity	14	8	.03006*
Ability to reason logically	20	7	.00062*
Enthusiastic lecturers/tutors	26	12	.03940*

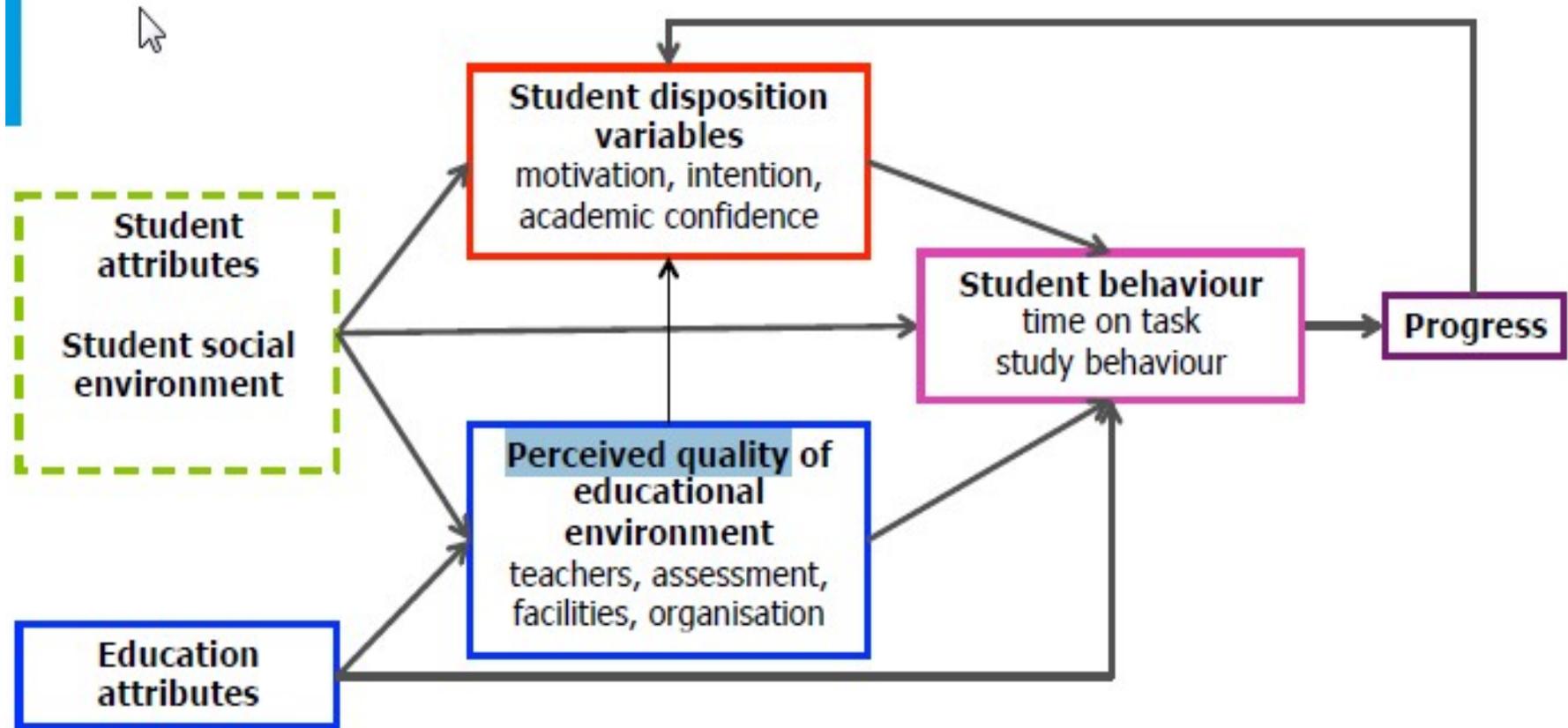
Items pertaining to failure	Rank <u>students</u>	Rank lecturers	p level (if <.05)
Insufficient effort	1	1	.01846*
Lack of self-motivation	2	2	
Too many demands on students' time	3	15	.00053
Lack of self-discipline	5	4	.03186*
Heavy course workload	7	35	.00001
Lecturers who are out of touch with students' needs	8	24	.00223
Boring presentations by lecturers	12	26	.00022
Failure to realize that <u>uni</u> ≠ high school	31	12	.00102*

# Student models of student succes

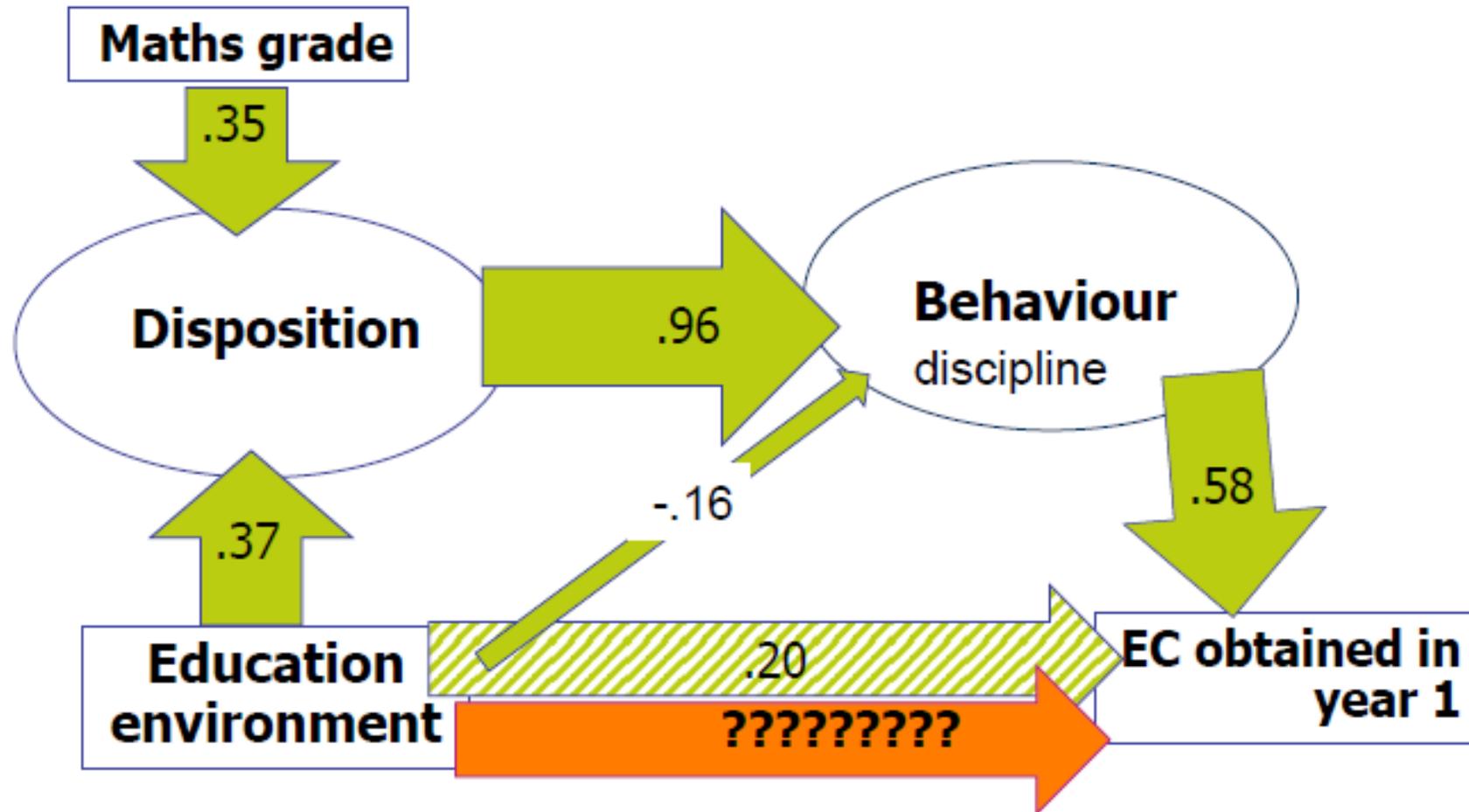
(M.vdBoogaard-TUD)



# Preliminary model for DUT first year student success (M.vd Boogaard-TUD)



# Generalised DUT model for first-year student success (M vd Boogaard-TUD)



# *Life Long Learning & Deeltijsonderwijs*



# Acknowledgement

- Colleagues from TUDelft
- Anke Mulder
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- Frans van Dam
- Maartje van den Boogaard
- Daniela Chuda

