



EXPERIENCE FROM INTRODUCING SYSTEMS ENGINEERING IN AN ACADEMIC ENVIRONMENT USING AN INDUSTRY TRAINING COURSE

MODPROD 2018

Erik Herzog, Åsa Nordling-Larsson, Jad El-Khoury

This document and the information contained herein is the property of Saab AB
and must not be used, disclosed or altered without Saab AB prior written consent.

AGENDA

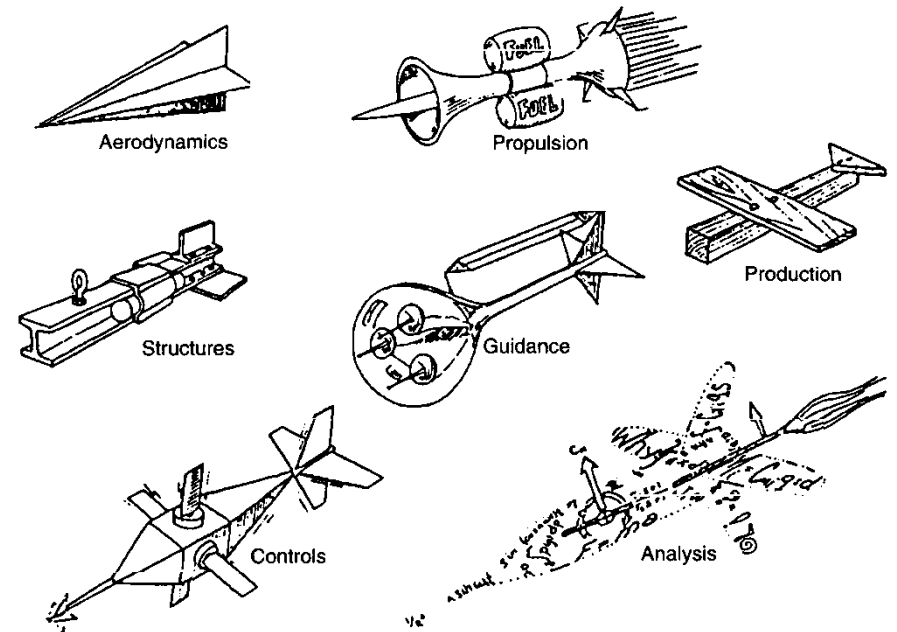
- What is a SAAB?
- What is the challenge in development of complex systems?
- Student competence mismatch
 - From the SAAB perspective
- Opportunities for introducing Systems Engineering in the Swedish educational system
- Experience from an initial experiment at KTH
- Conclusions

SAAB - THE DOMAIN



WHAT IS THE CHALLENGE?

- Formal models, simulations results, proofs matter little if we aren't in agreement on what we are building
- Safety analyses, no matter how elaborate, of a system we do not intend to build has little value
- Parts designed and built, but not compatible in the intended configuration has little utility even though they may be fully verified
- The merit of the design solution is low if it not sufficiently safe or if it can not be maintained
- **Optimising the whole – not the parts**
 - Mastering development is not about improving domain engineering methods but methodology for understanding and communicating system design



COMPLEXITY DRIVERS

RCS



Payload



Fuel capacity



Fuel consumption



Service life



Weight



Environmental impact



Range



Supportability

Development Cost



Maintenance interval

Security



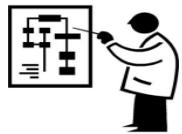
Center of Gravity



Flight envelope



Safety



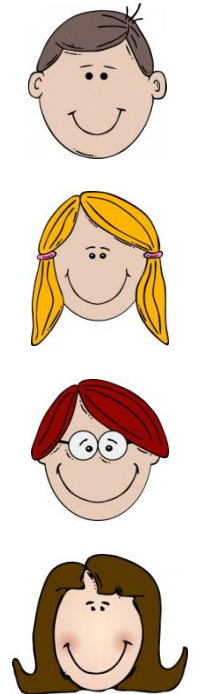
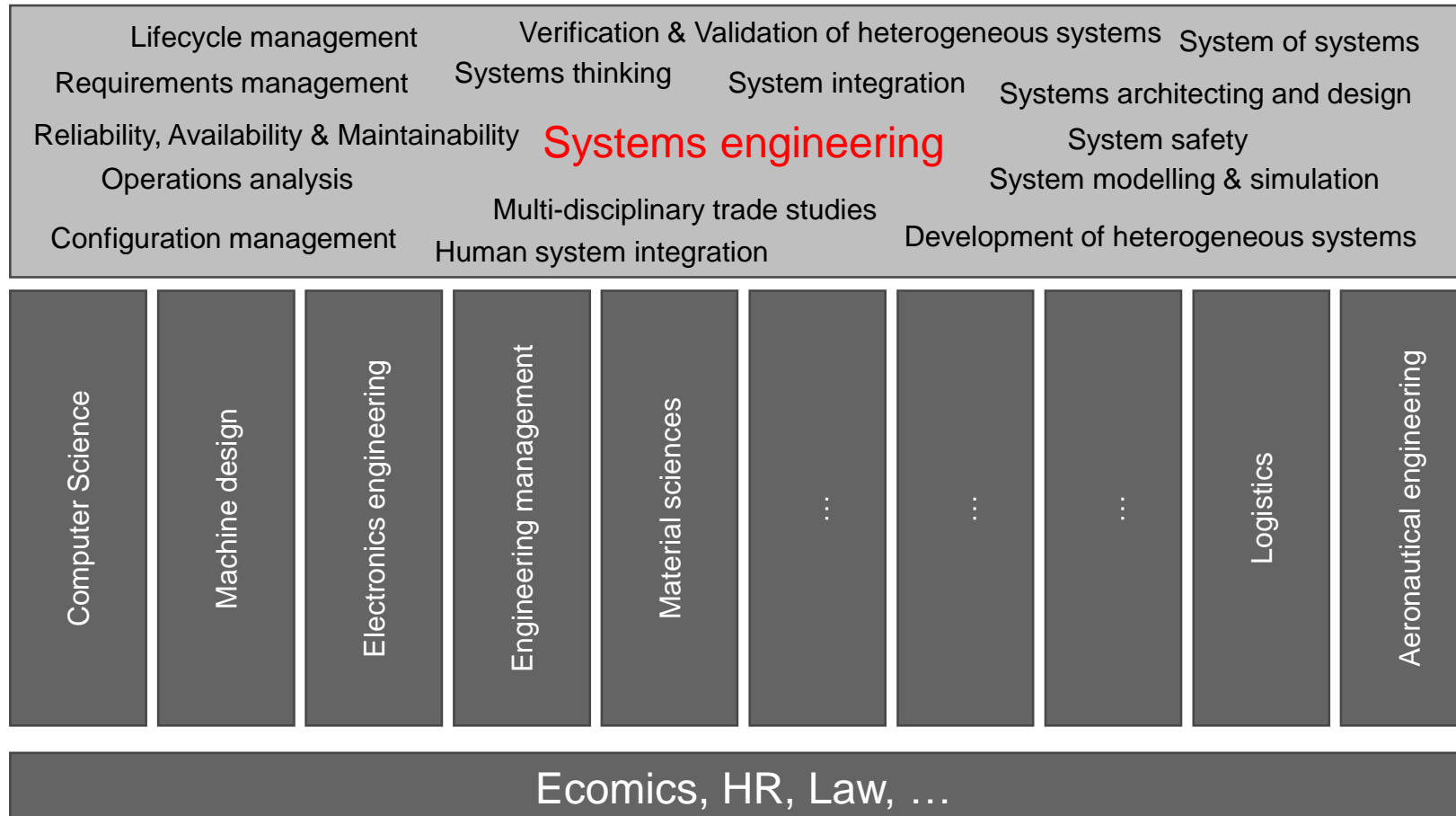
Availability



Operational cost



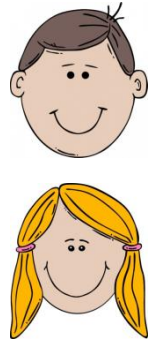
THE SITUATION FACING OUR NEW RECRUITS



CONTINUOUS COMPETENCE DEVELOPMENT

- Internal training programs
- General Systems Engineering courses
 - 6-20h introductions ←
 - INCOSE CSEP preparation courses
 - 20 students/year
- Dedicated courses in
 - Safety
 - ILS
 - Architecture
 - ...

Can such an introduction
be valuable to students?



IDEA AND EXECUTION

- Test whether the standard SAAB Systems Engineering introduction course will make sense to senior engineering students
- Minimal modification to course contents
 - SAAB specific details removed
- Course given at the Mechatronics Master's program at KTH
 - Spring term, year 4
- Given for 60 students
- An opportunity to communicate industrial challenges to students and faculty



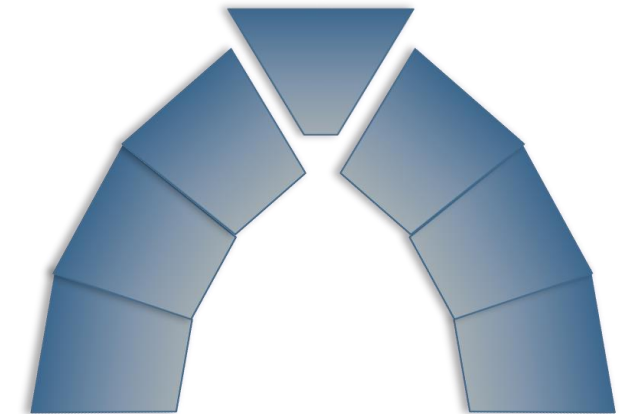
THE SETUP

Engineering Design Programme 2017-19

Mechatronics Track

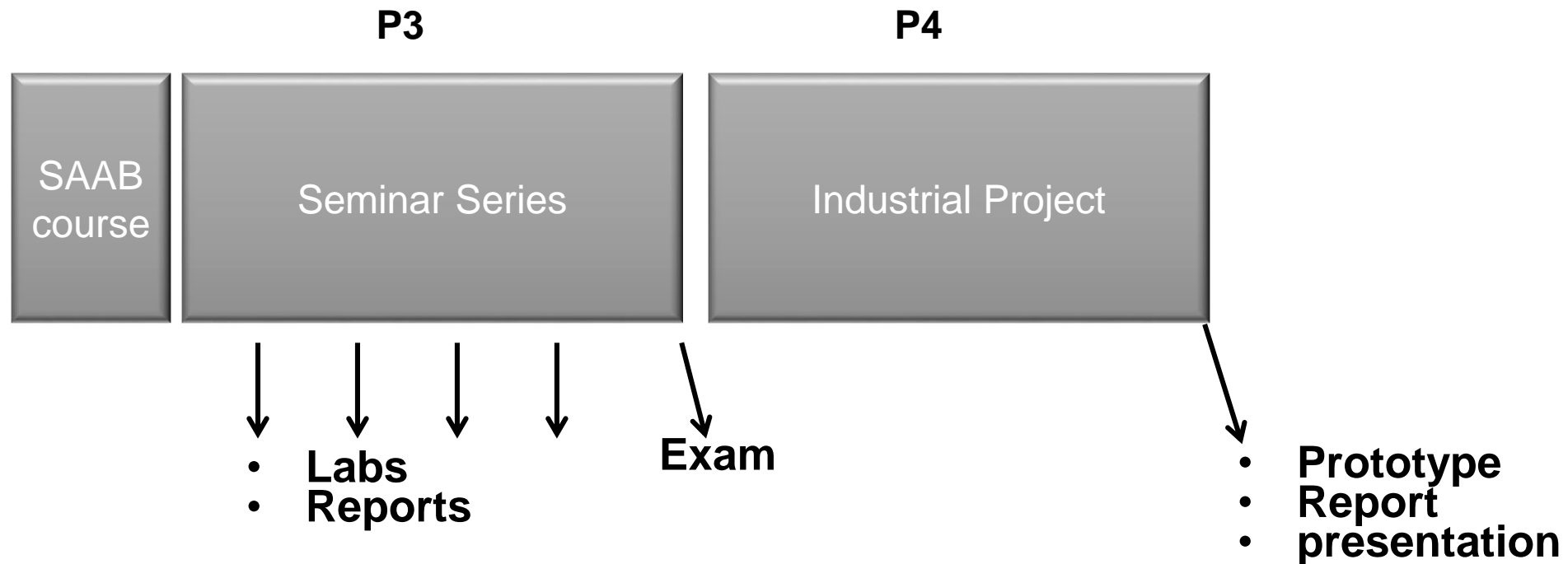
Year 1 (60 hp credits)				Year 2 (60 hp credits)				
Fall 2017		Spring 2018		Fall 2018		Spring 2019		
P1	P2	P3	P4	P1	P2	P3	P4	
MF2095 C Programming for Embedded Systems (3hp)	MF2042 Embedded Systems I (6hp)	free electives (6hp)		MF2071 Research Methodology in Mechatronics (4.5hp)		Master thesis project in Mechatronics (30hp)		
MF2030 Mechatronics Basic course (6hp)	free electives (9hp)	MF2007 Dynamics and Motion Control (9hp)	MF2044 Embedded Systems II (6hp)	free electives (10.5hp)				MF214X (CivIng students only)
MF2043 Robust Mechatronics (6hp)	MF2058 Mechatronics Advanced Course part 1 (9hp)		MF2059 Mechatronics Advanced Course part 2 (15hp) OR MF2091 Engineering Design Research Project (15hp)		MF224X (MSc students only)			

Capstone course



Designed to allow students to show that they can apply knowledge they have acquired on real projects

MF2058 MECHATRONICS ADVANCED COURSE, PART I



SAAB COURSE SETUP

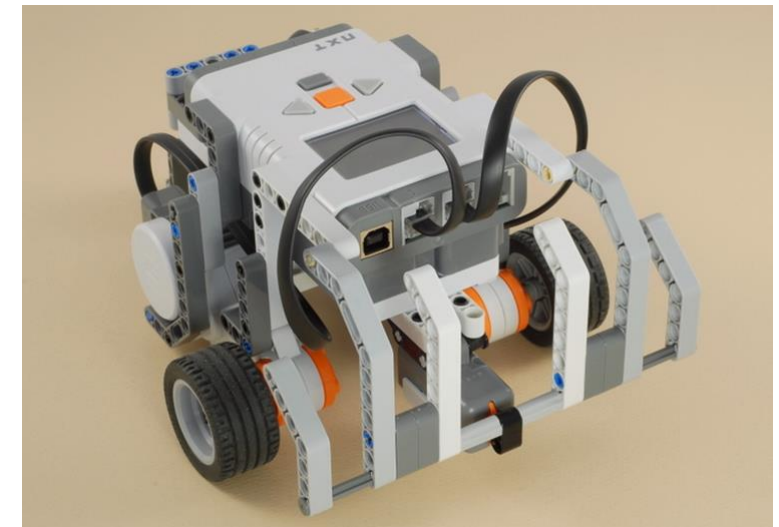
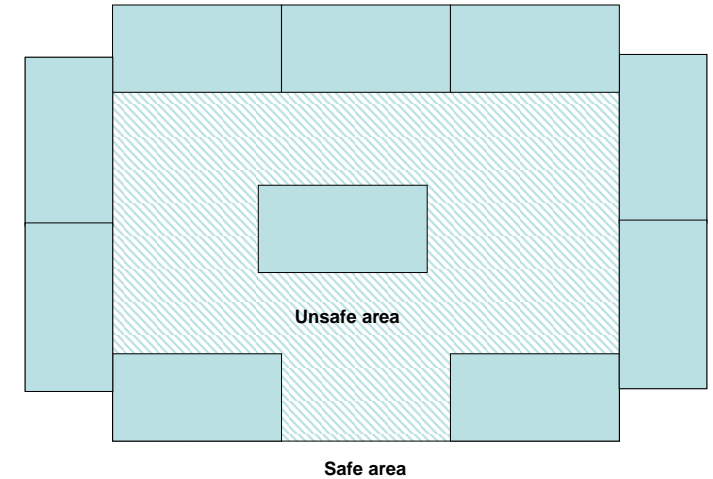
	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3
9:00	Introduction	Architecture properties & principles	Integration Driven Development
	Systems Engineering – Process and lifecycle	ILS	Verification & Validation
12:00			
13:00	Systems properties & trade-offs	Requirements & Design modeling	Practical work – up to SDR
	Systems safety		
	Practical work – up to SPR	Practical work – up to CER	
17:00			

Course objectives

- Multi-domain example
 - Time pressure
- Process
- Importance of Planning
 - Follow the plan
- Non-functional properties
 - Safety!

THE PRACTICAL PART

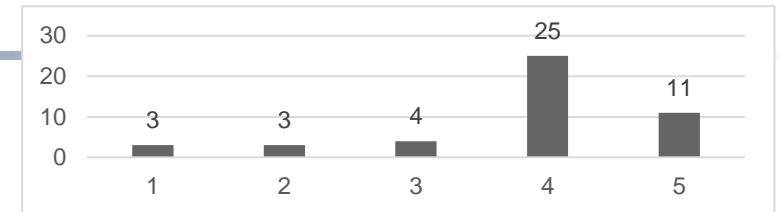
- Extracting valuable objects from unsafe building
- Autonomous vehicle, must not move the walls of the building
 - Safety is an issue here
- Based on LEGO Mindstorms
- Reliability information for all LEGO sensors have been produced
- The task in to exercise the Engineering process
 - Requirements
 - Design
 - Integration
 - Verification and Validation
 - Technical reviews
- For the students the tricky part of the exercise are
 - to realise that a proper safety analysis is required
 - To properly plan for all activities that have to be performed



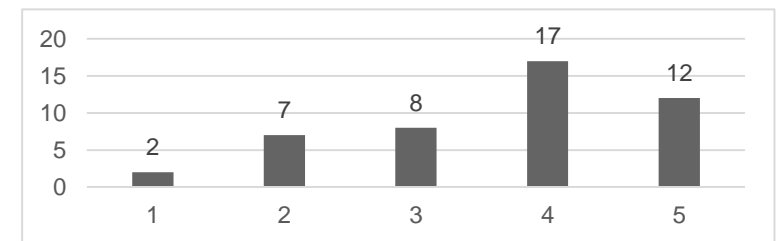
EVALUATION 2017

- Generally positive feedback
- First encounter for students for topics like
 - Systems Engineering
 - Safety
 - Reliability, Availability, Maintainability
 - Integration
 - Verification and Validation
- In the practical exercise many students complained that the task was unclear
 - This is a feature designed in on purpose on the exercise
 - Need to understand the problem, before trying to solve it
- Once the challenges was understood we saw an extraordinary level of creativity
 - Students compained that there was not sufficient time to fully implement their practical solution
- For SAAB, an excellent communication opportunity
 - Meeting the senior students that will soon be available for thesis work

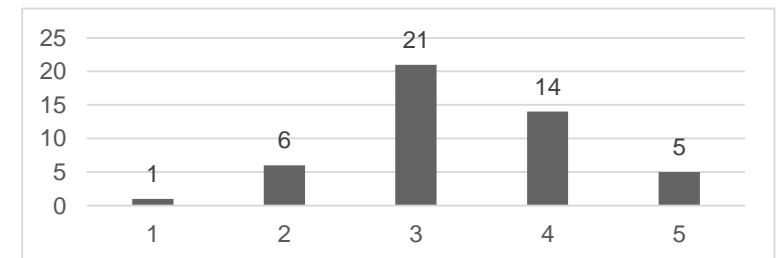
Coupling to course objectives – 5 optimal



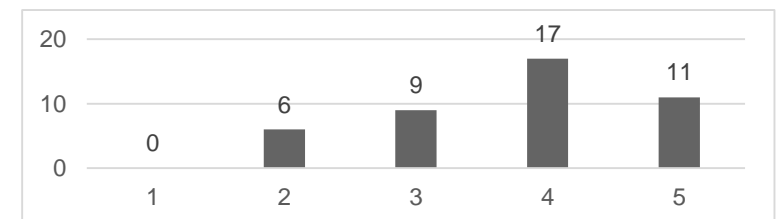
Theory practise mixture – 5 optimal



Course length – 3 optimal



Course element integration – 5 optimal



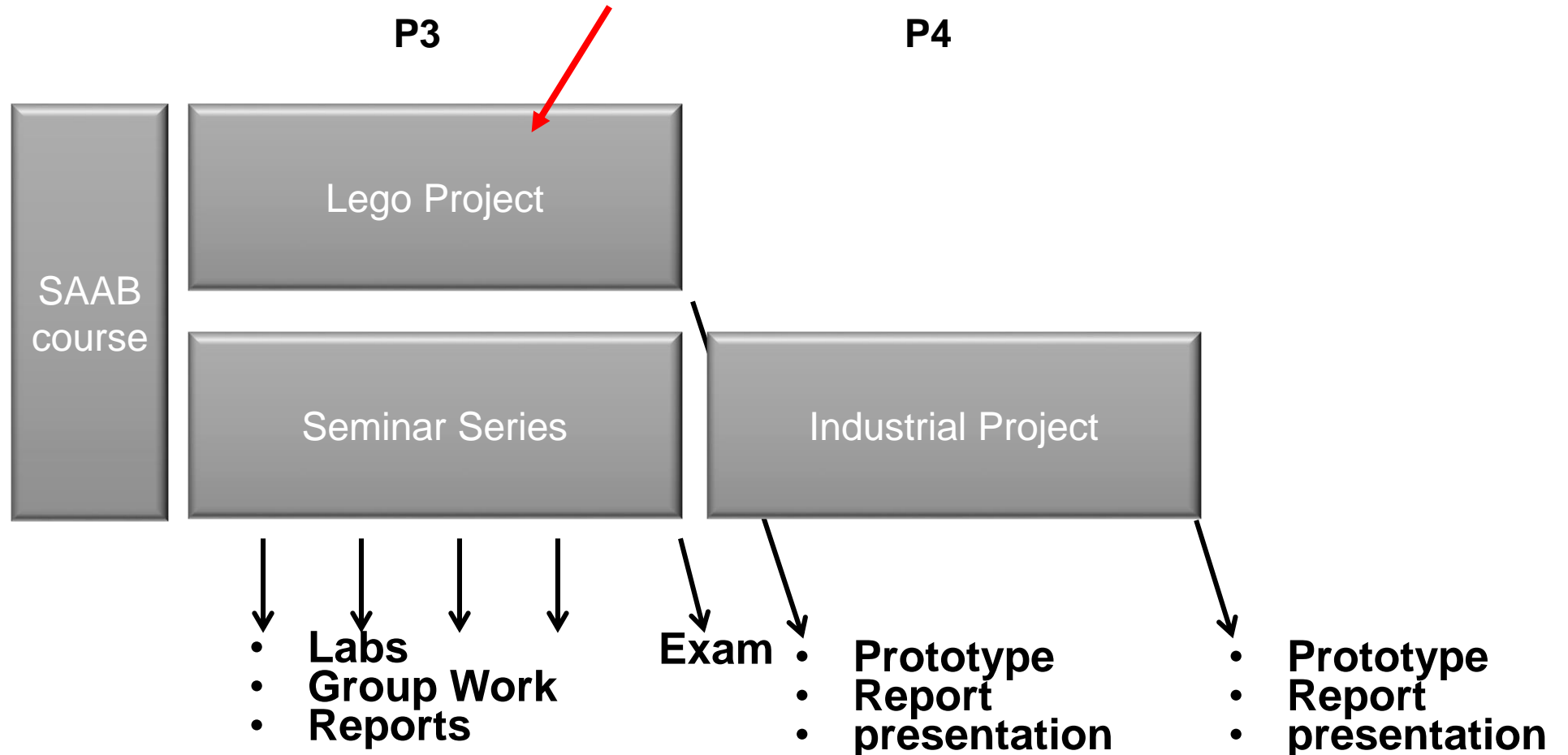
CONCLUSIONS AND WAY AHEAD

- Value added to the KTH course and students
 - Real world perspective from credible people
 - Real world large scale examples
- Lecturing to students does add value for SAAB lecturers
 - Need to focus the message in concise way
 - Early recruitment opportunity
- Need to strengthen the integration with the rest of the KTH course
 - Students requested a full implementation project to practise the application of Systems Engineering



2018 COURSE SETUP

Collaboration between 2 lego mindstorms robots to extract an object from an enclosed area



SUMMARY

- Can Systems Engineering be taught to students?
 - Absolutely, preferably coupled with a practical project!
- Standard internal course
 - Minimal investment
 - Course content is tailored and simplified in order to not overwhelm the audience
- Energy boost for the lecturers
 - Meet young, interested and creative students
- A good investment in SAAB's future!

