

# SYSTEMS THINKING

## Systems Analysis

Author: Eng. Carlos Andrés Sierra, M.Sc.  
[cavirguezs@udistrital.edu.co](mailto:cavirguezs@udistrital.edu.co)

Lecturer  
Computer Engineer  
School of Engineering  
Universidad Distrital Francisco José de Caldas

2024-III



# Outline

1 Introduction to Systems Thinking

2 General Systems Theory

3 Human Organizations



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2 General Systems Theory

3 Human Organizations



# Introduction to Systems Thinking I

- A **system** is just a set of elements interconnected with a common purpose.

- Not all elements must be connected to each others but every connection should be meaningful.

- The more the connections, the more the system complexity. Representation must be feasible.

- Each element must have at least one connection. Isolated elements makes no sense in a

System.

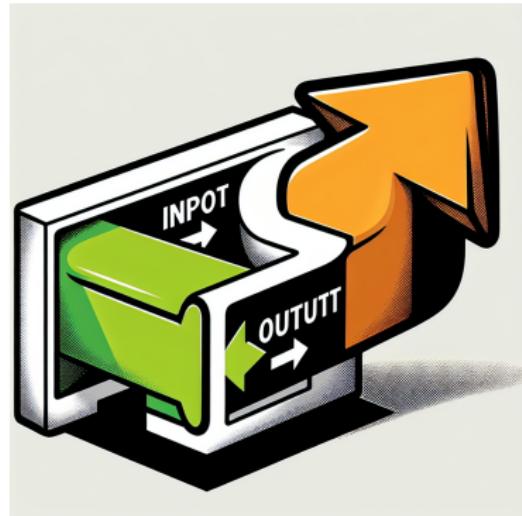


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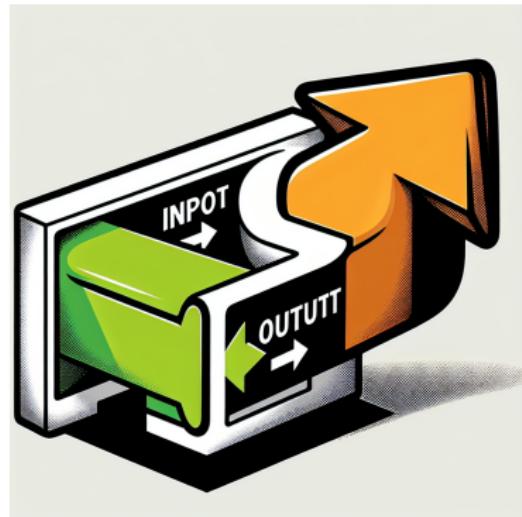


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  - Each element must have at least one connection. Isolated elements make no sense in a system.
- (Handwritten notes: 'connections' circled in orange, 'complexity' circled in orange, 'Isolated elements make no sense in a system' circled in orange, 'Isolated' crossed out with red ink, 'Transit' written over the crossed-out word)*

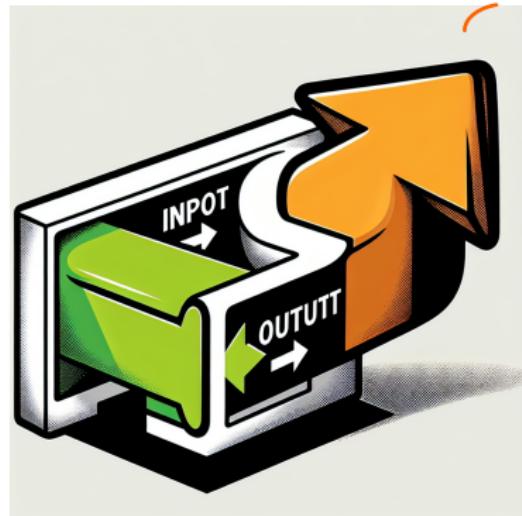


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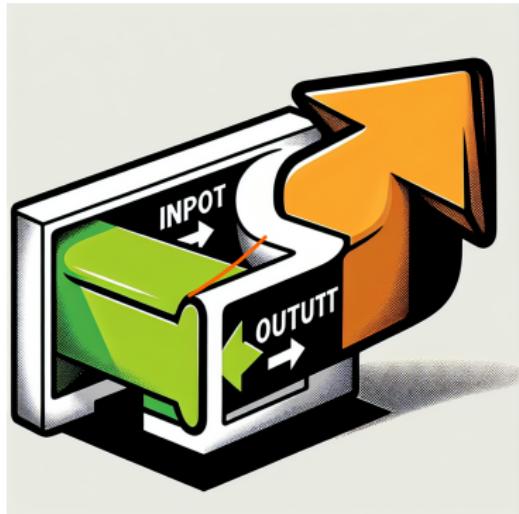
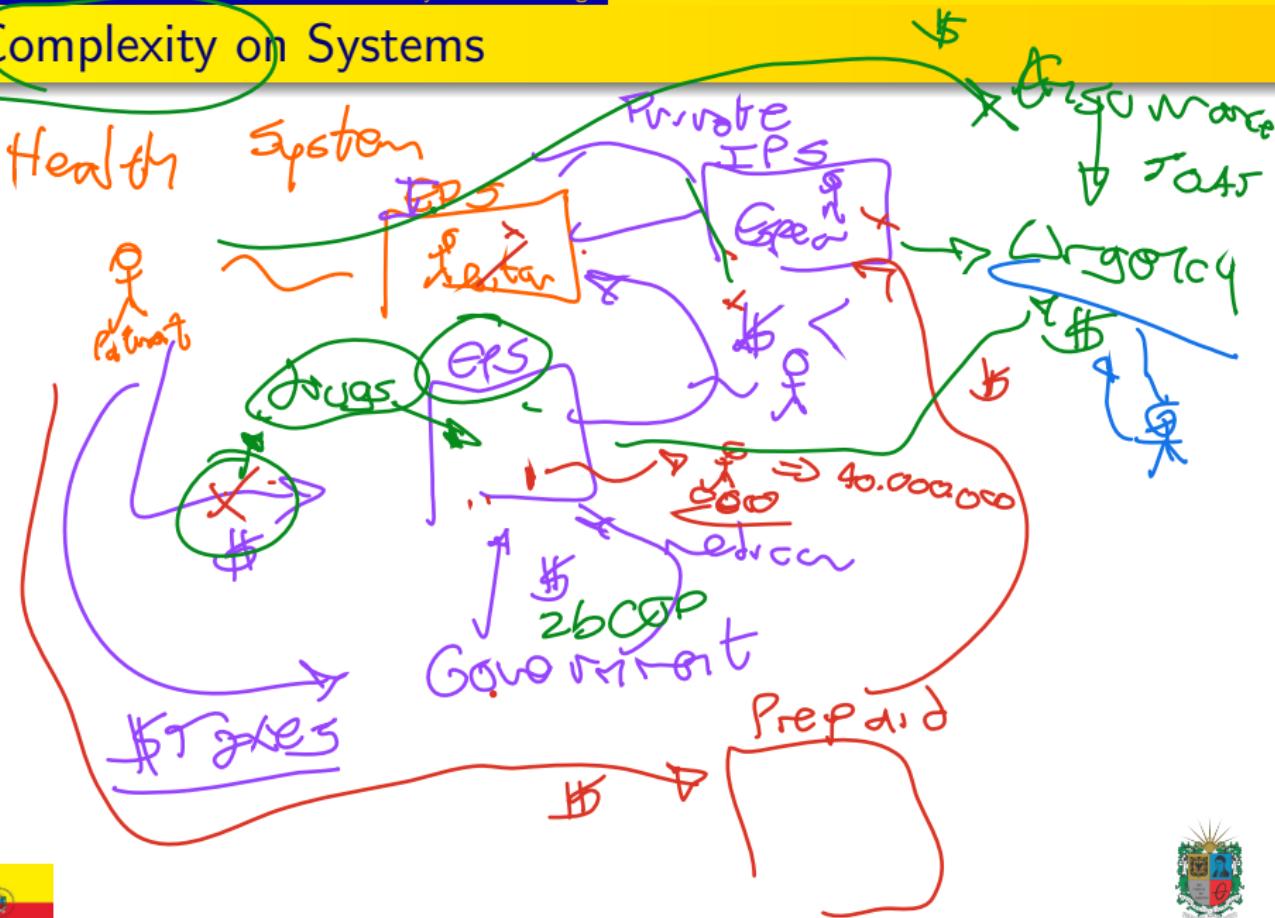


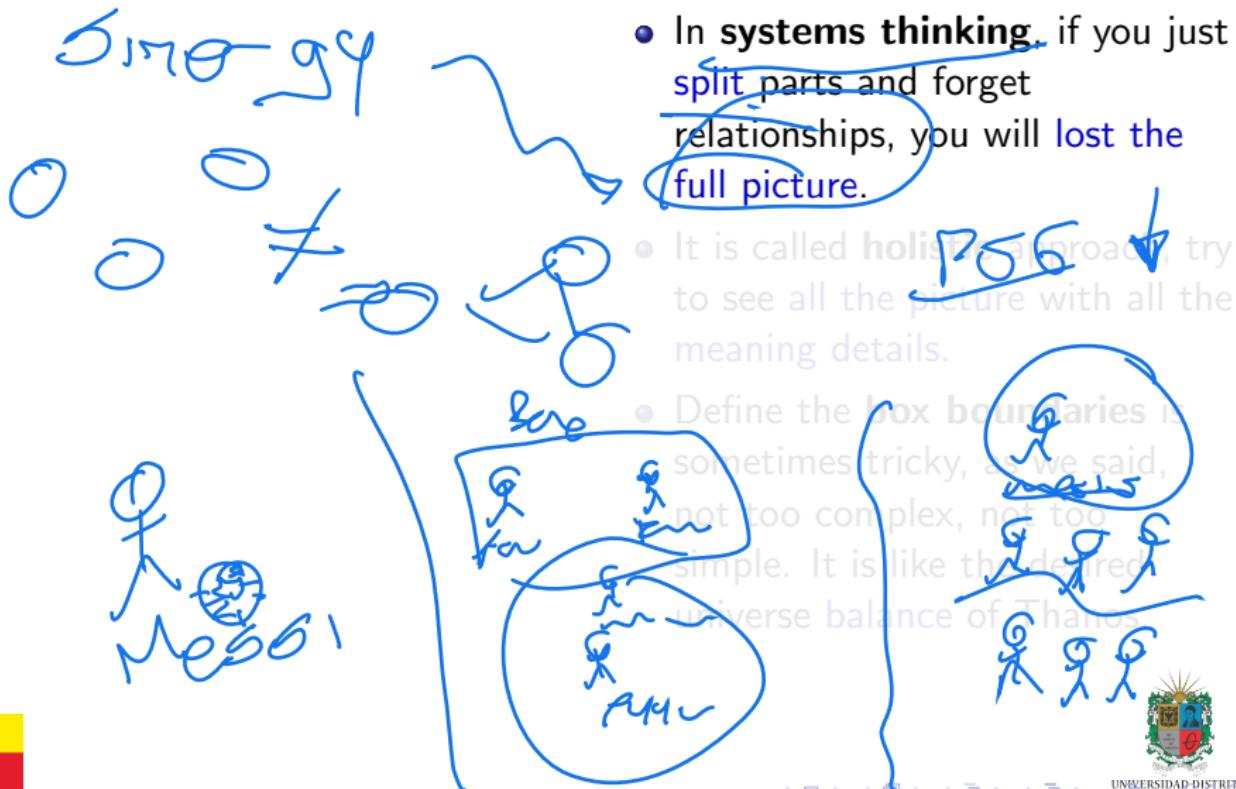
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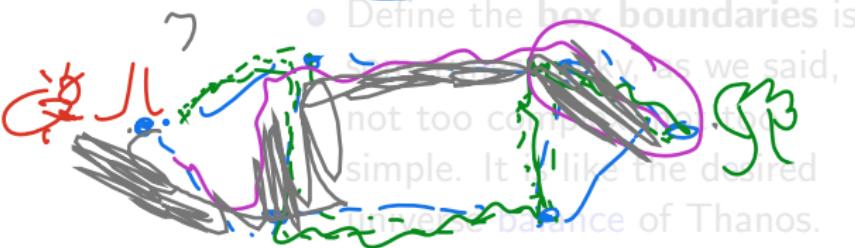
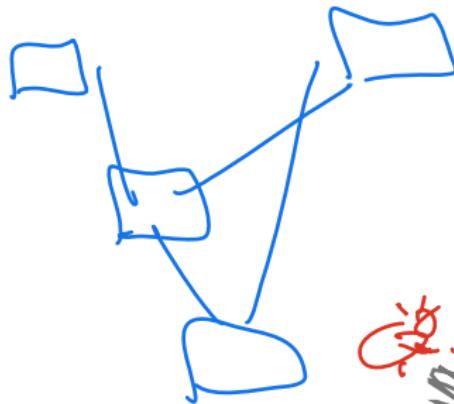
# Complexity on Systems



# Introduction to Systems Thinking II



# Introduction to Systems Thinking II



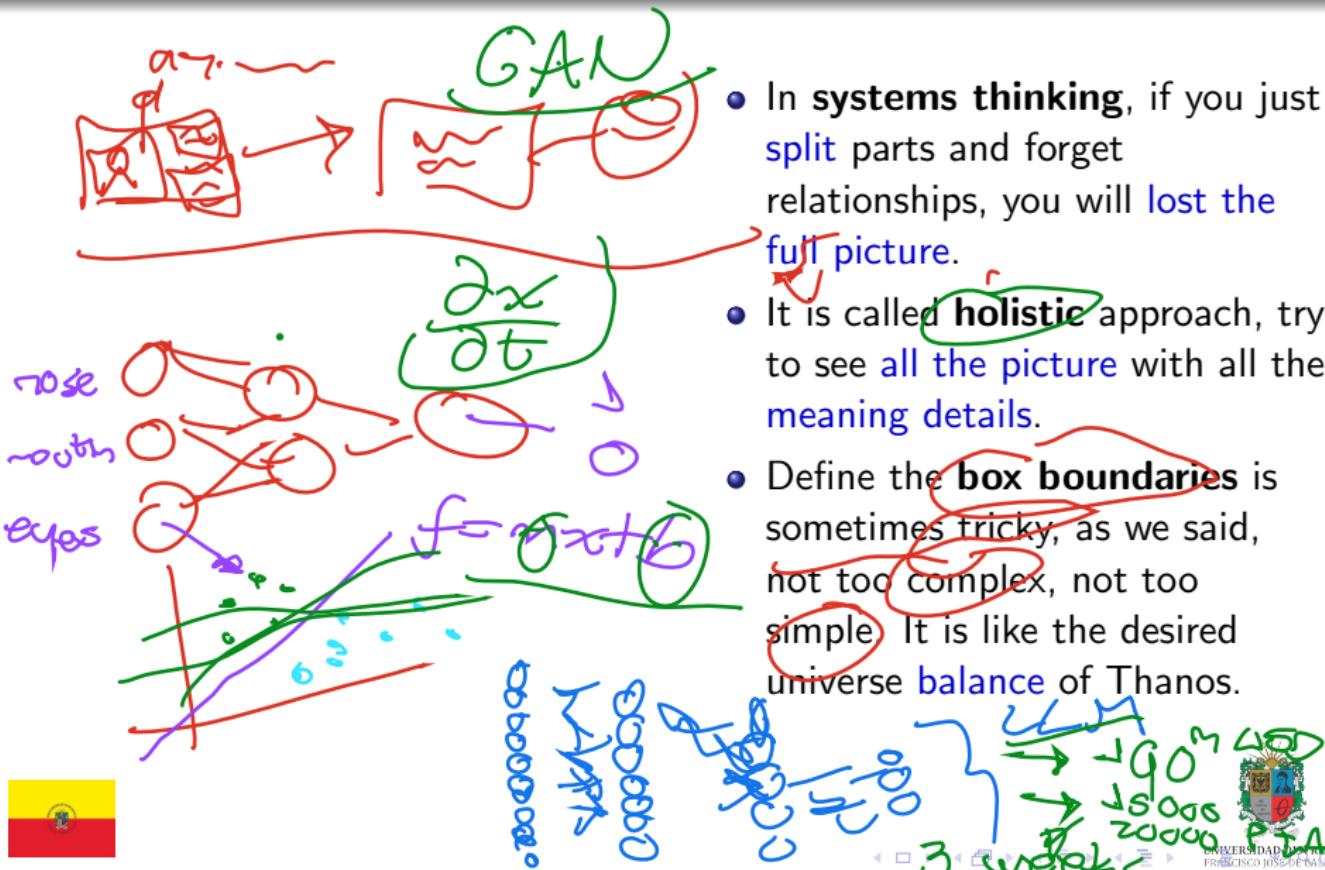
- In **systems thinking**, if you just **split** parts and forget relationships, you will **lost the full picture**.

- It is called **holistic** approach, try to see **all the picture** with all the **meaning details**.

- Define the **box boundaries** is not too complex, but it is simple. It is like the desired **balance of Thanos**.



# Introduction to Systems Thinking II

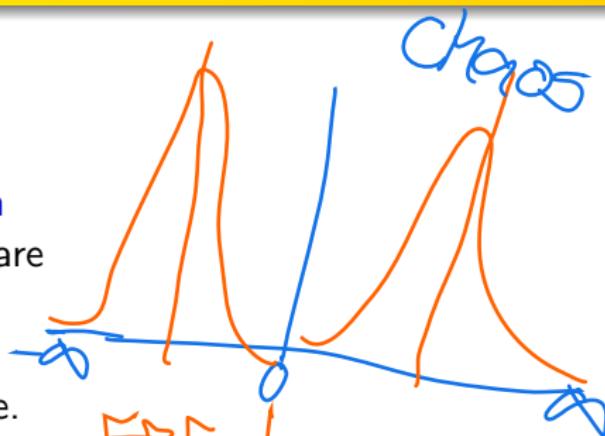


# Introduction to Systems Thinking III

- Another important concept is the **homeostasis**, it means to put a system in an **equilibrium state**. That is hard, **systems** are both **not in equilibrium** and **resilient to change**. **Chaotic attractors** study is useful here.

- A system is more than the sum of the parts. It means relationships, feedback loops, recovery capacity, and forgotten wholeness - the whole is just as its parts.

attractor

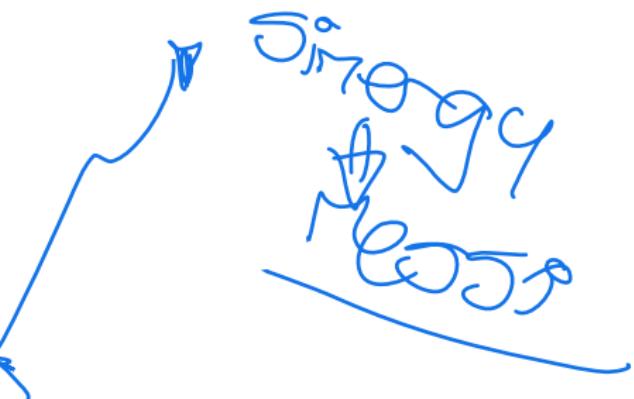


→ rules  
→ Probabilities  
↓  
Randomness



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- A **system** is more than the **sum of the parts**. It means, **relationships, behaviors, recovery capacity, are forgotten** when you see the system just as **its parts**.



# Introduction to Systems Thinking IV

- **Systems thinking** is a way to understand and represent problems in order to find the best possible solution.

- Think in a problem as a

system lets you understand details, involved elements, relevant information.

- Systems should be viable, auto-sustaining, provides internal feedback loops, also looks like a whole live-entity.



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Petabytes/day



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~~BRAZIL~~  
Argentina

(UD FJC)

Systems Analysis



# Introduction to Systems Thinking V

compute  
= math



a calculus

- Computation helps to represent behaviors in a mathematical way. Also, it lets to find patterns and information, simplify process; an example of all this is the Artificial Intelligence.

1870's

↳ machine

↳ Babbage

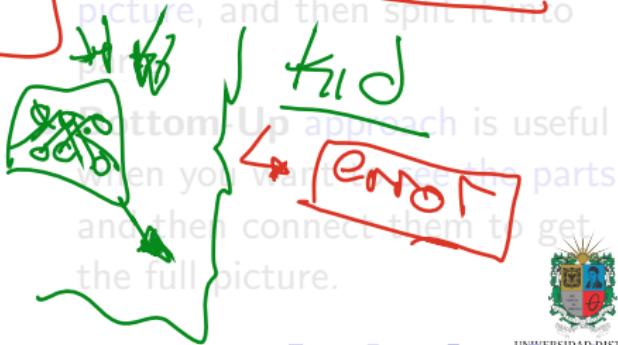
→ Add Lovelace

Alan Turing

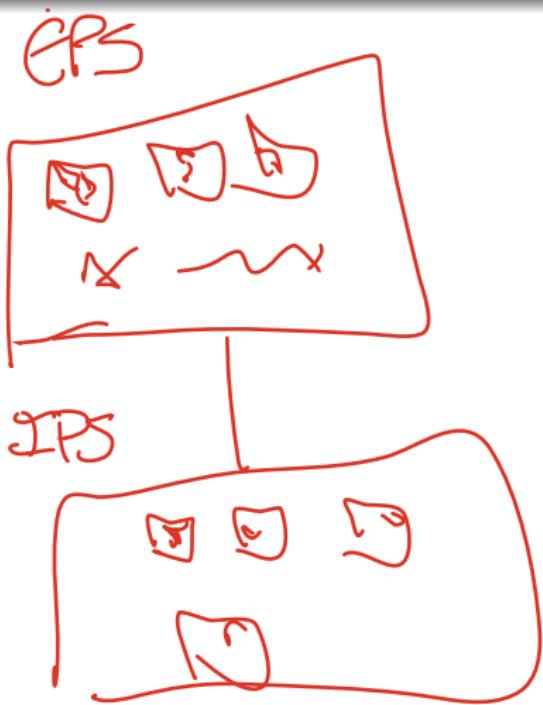
↳ Turing Machine

↳ Universal  
Turing Machine

- Top-Down approach is useful when you want to see the full picture, and then split it into parts.



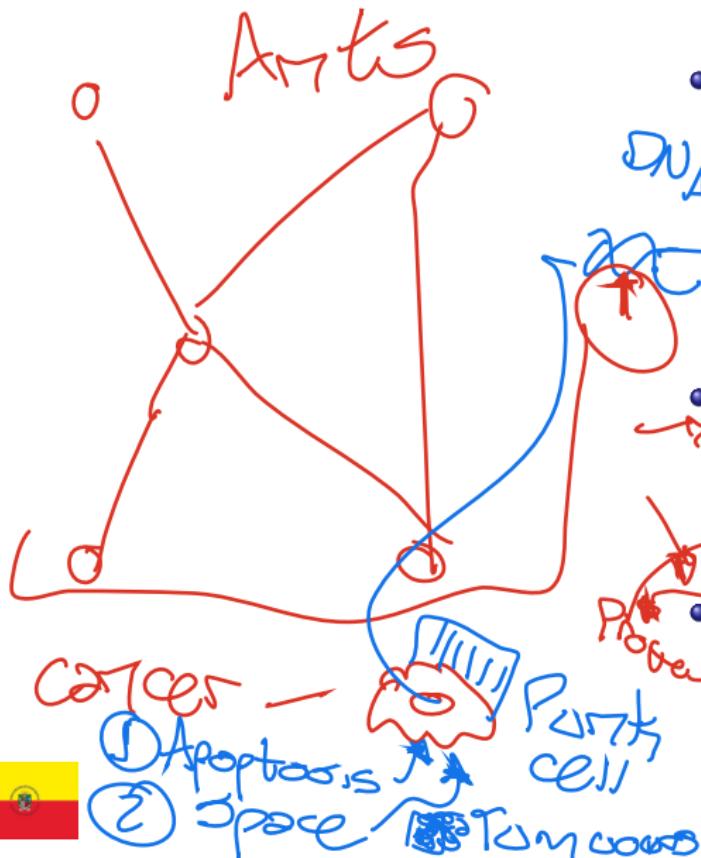
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- **Bottom-Up** approach is useful when you want to **see the parts** and then connect them to get the full picture.



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# Introduction to Systems Thinking VI

- It is important to understand the **sensitivity** of the problem, because it leads to make **better decisions**.

- The most simple **definition** is: for some inputs, after apply them a designed process you will get some outputs.



**Domino Effect**

- In a deterministic world the same inputs get the same outputs. Real-life is not deterministic.



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**Butterfly Effect**

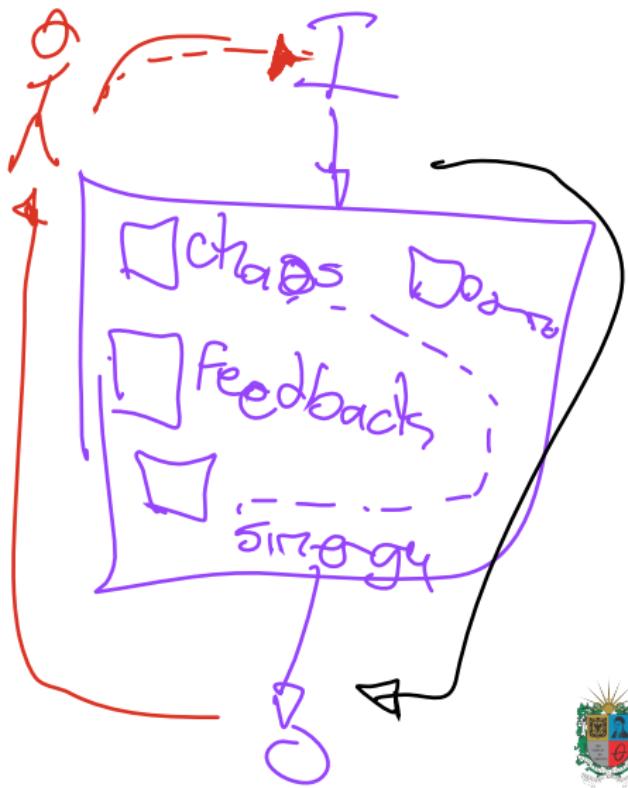
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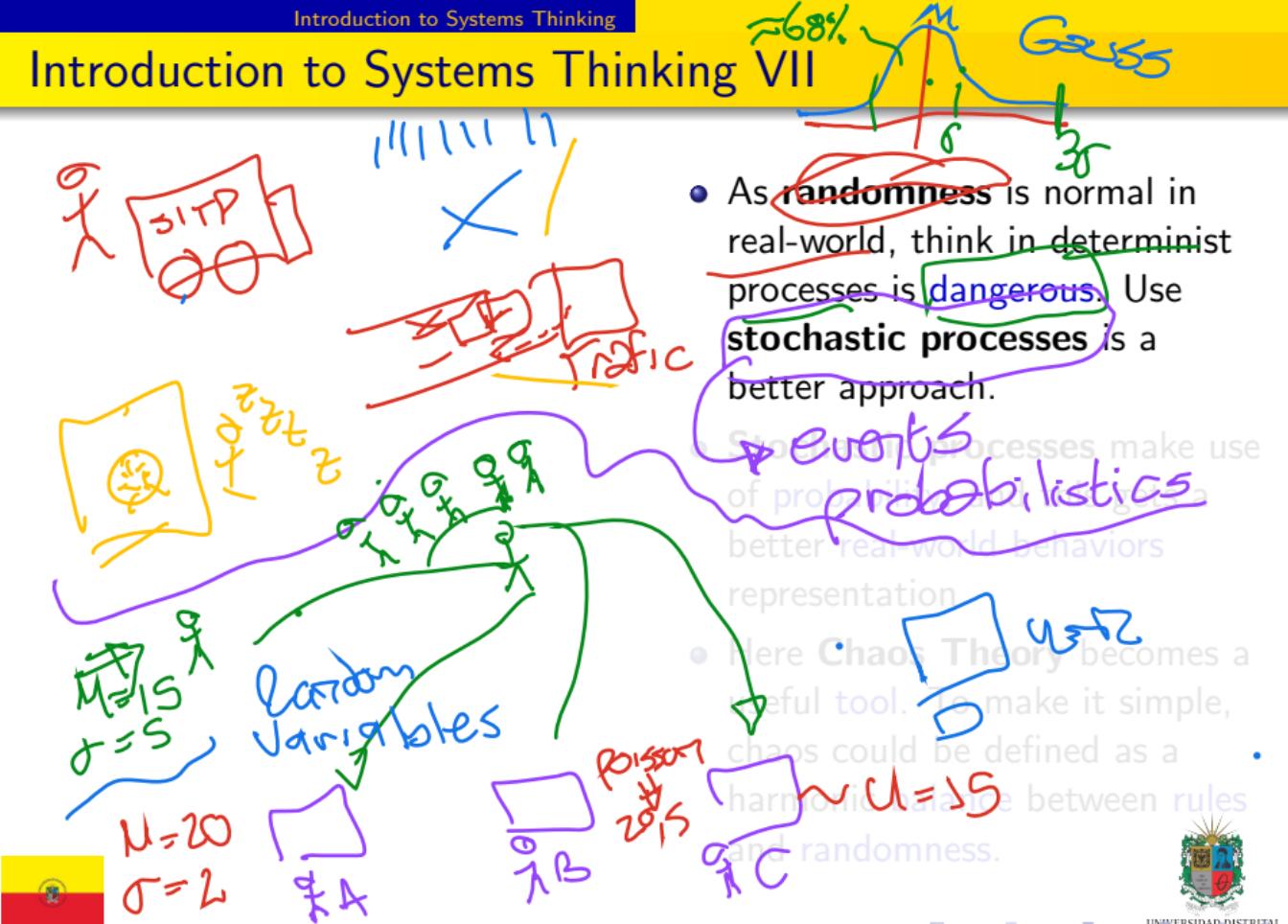


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# Introduction to Systems Thinking VII



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Bayes Theorem

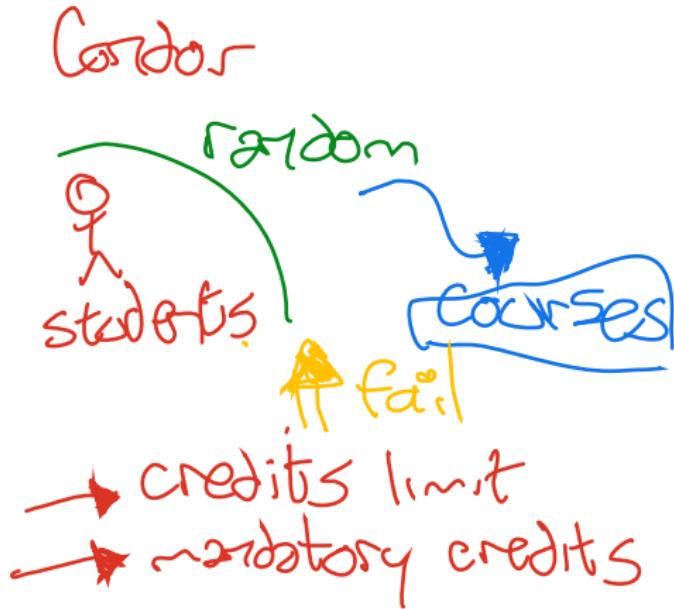
$$P(B \leftarrow A)$$

↳ Machine  
Learning

- As **randomness** is normal in real-world, think in determinist processes is **dangerous**. Use **stochastic processes** is a better approach.
- **Stochastic processes** make use of **probability**, and this gets a better **real-world behaviors** representation.
- Here **Chaos Theory** becomes a useful tool. To make it simple, chaos could be defined as a harmonic balance between **rules** and **randomness**.



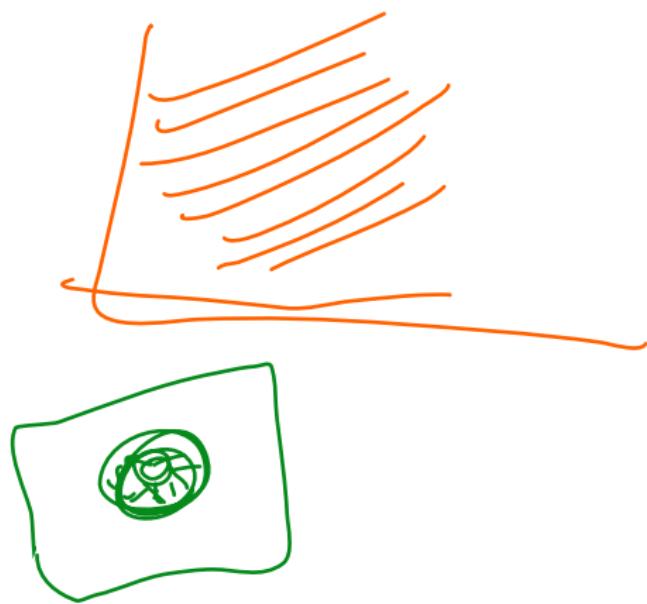
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# Systems Structure



# Case of Study: Transportation System



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# General Systems Theory I

- In **general systems theory** the idea is to see a problem since different autonomous **study areas**, it helps to create a better **full-picture** of a problem or situation.
- Systems are **dynamical**, for that reason you need to define boundaries and **constraints** to control analysis. Also, some systems are **highly susceptible** to changes from the environment.



**Figure:** Prompt: Draw systems at different levels in the context of astronomy.



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- A biologist call **Ludwig Von Bertallanfy** created the **General Systems Theory** around seventy years ago.
- His idea was to understand and represents in a very simple way some **individuals** and **populations behaviors**, also the **interactions** or different elements in nature.



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However, more you **go dive** to understand the problem, more the **complexity arises**.
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- Remember **concepts** as:  
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# Representation of a System



# General Systems Theory VIII

- Sometimes you have an **expected output**. Major part of the time it's **hard** to achieve it, you must be **prepared for everything**.
- **Black-box** is a type of model when you want to get the desired output based on **specific input**, but you don't want to expose the **process** to achieve it.



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- Critical Systems Practice is a methodology to deal with **Critical Systems Thinking** study field. CSP has 4 main stages: *Explore, Produce, Intervene, and Check — EPIC.*



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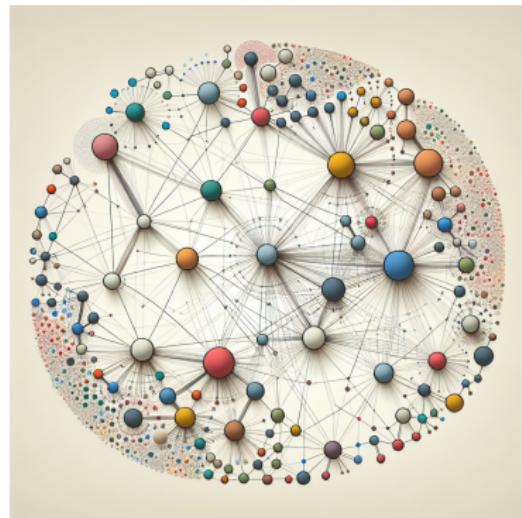
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# Human Organizations I

- **Sinergy** is a simple but powerful concept: the aim of the parts is more than the parts itself.
- It means the **interactions** could boost the capabilities of the parts of the **system**. Also, it lets both understand **emergent behaviors** and define improvements in systems.
- One of the main concepts is the **theory of the computation**. Based on graphs, you could define a computational machine.



**Figure:** Prompt: Define a draw of clusters in social networks.



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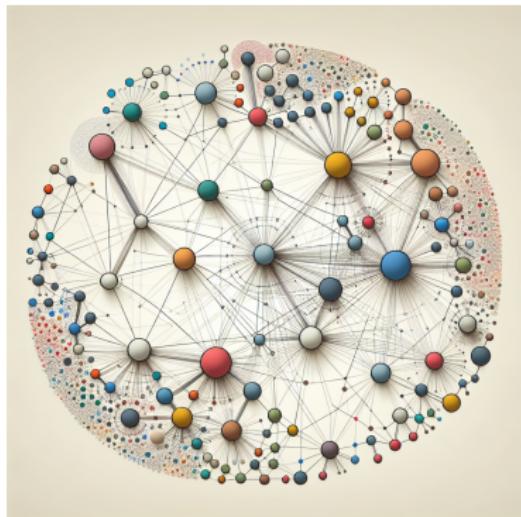


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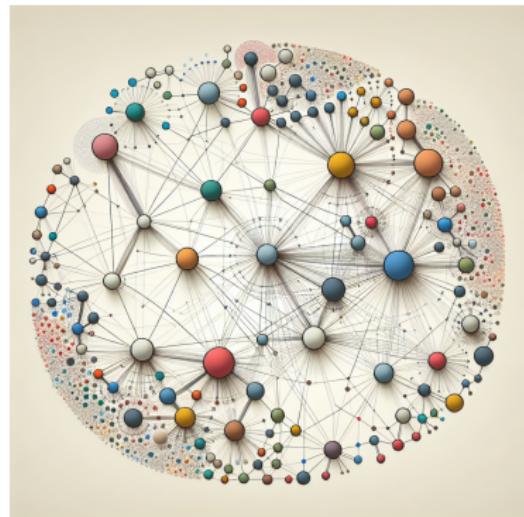


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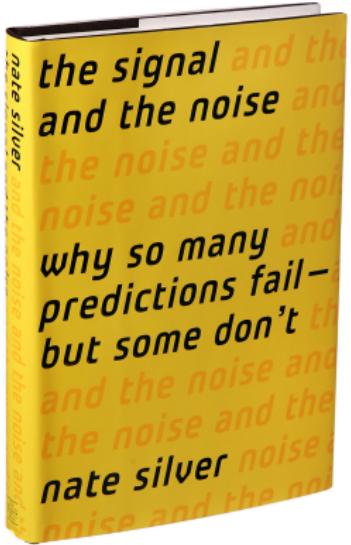


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# Synergy: Money Ball



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# Thanks!

## Questions?



Repo: <https://github.com/EngAndres/ud-public/tree/main/courses/systems-analysis>

