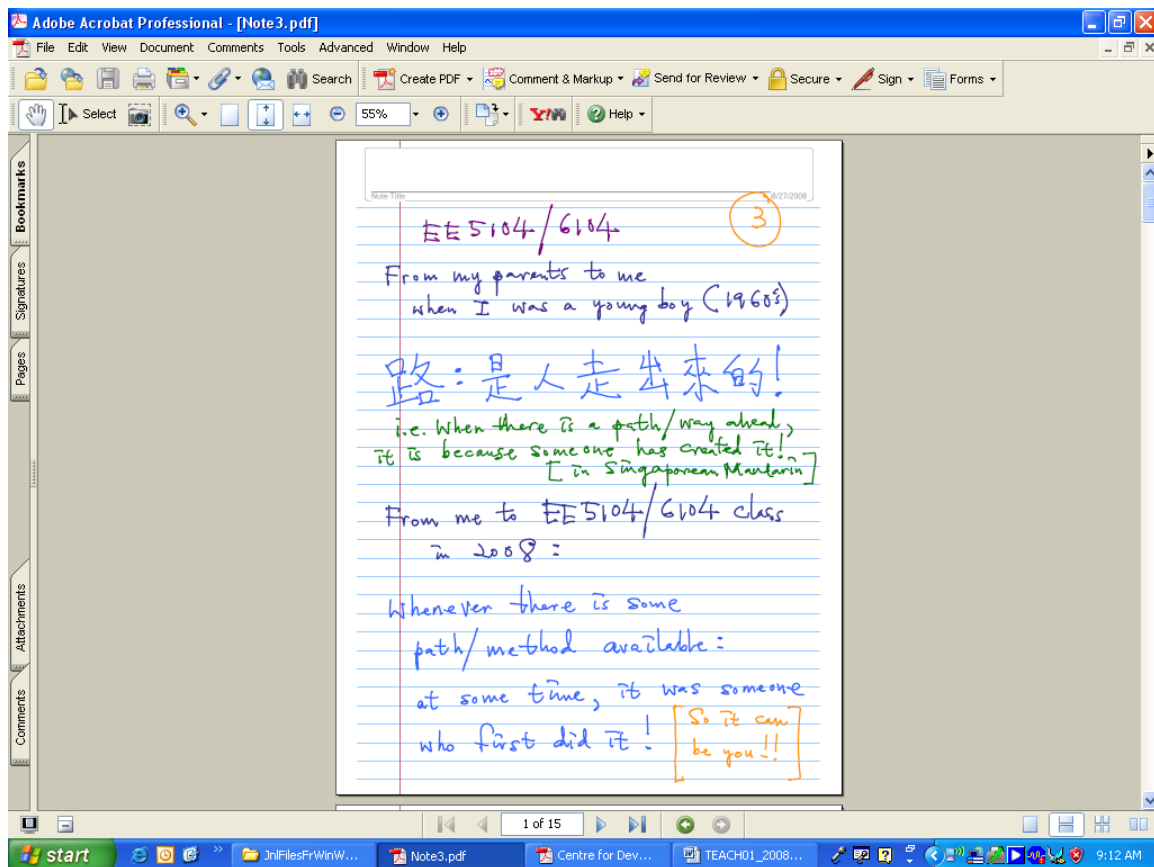


ON EDUCATION... [Aug 2009]

Prof. T.H. Lee; B.A. (Hons I) Cambridge, M.Engrg (NUS), Ph.D. Yale



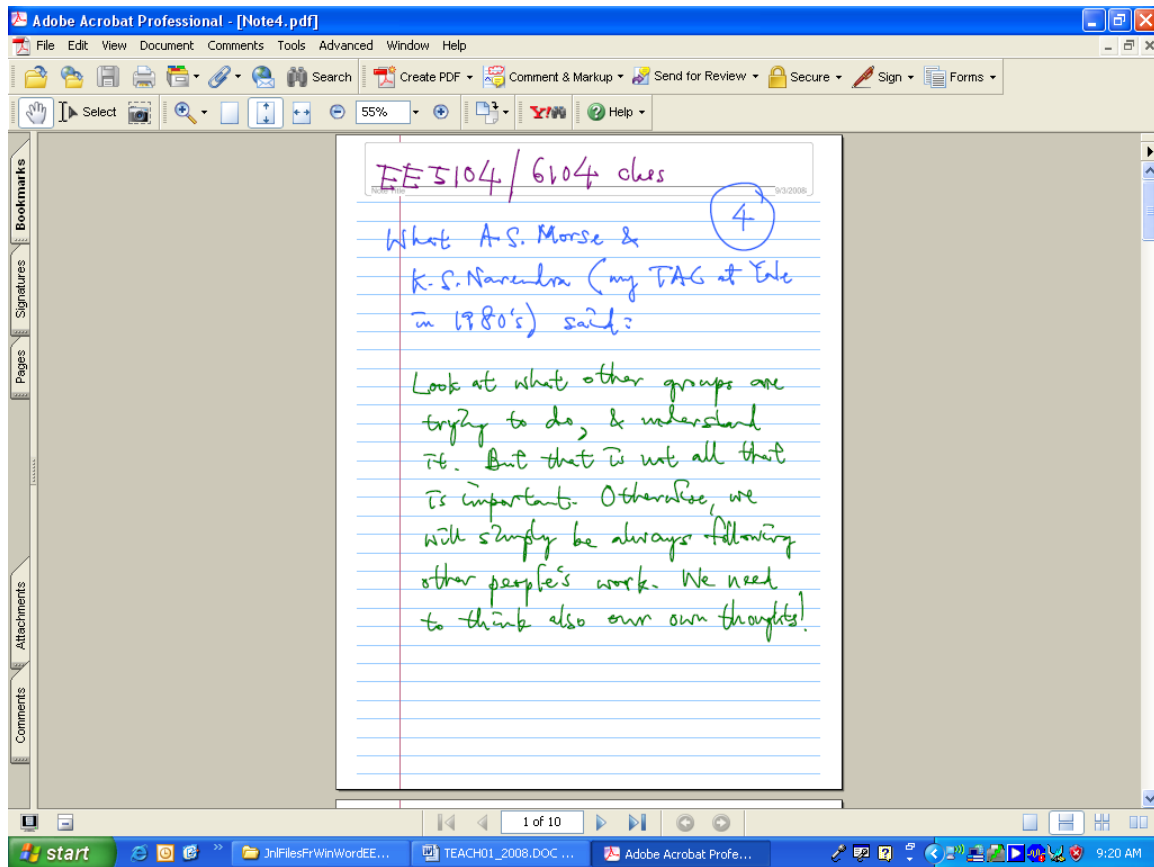
Engineering involves actual innovative instruments and machines.
Engineering education must **not** be "No Action, Talk Only": articulated in
this way by myself, T.H.Lee. I actively design and incorporate innovative,
complete software/hardware-in-the-loop mini-projects for my modules.

學與問相輔而行者也

君子之學必好問，學與問，相輔而行者也。非學，無以致疑；非問，無以廣識。

刘开（清朝1784—1824）

"Learning and questioning are like two actors on a stage. They can only move ahead, coupled together": an observation by Qing Dynasty writer Liu Kai. Learnt from my Chinese texts in the 1970's, as a student in RI.



CLOSING THOUGHTS:

落花生

- 许地山

父亲接下去说：「所以你们要像花生，它虽然不好看，可是很有用，不是外表好看而没有实用的东西。」

[“On being a useful person – just like how the ordinary groundnut is useful and un-ostentatious.” --- From my Chinese texts in the 1970’s, when I was a student at Raffles Institution.]

Paraphrased: “It would be worrying to have a surgeon who has a great reputation of being articulate and writing great books and the like, but for which one also knows that one would not even dare to leave one’s own dog with this person for surgical procedures.” --- then-Provost Prof. Tan Chorh Chuan (circa 2004), in some of the meetings in which I was privileged to be present.

[Resonating with

- In EE4302 “Advanced Control Systems” Part I: Obviously the first most important learning outcome and value (regardless of whether it is inside or outside the classroom) is that they should have learnt and have a good appreciation of the ideas and methods of “Advanced Control Systems” Part I, i.e. the ideas and methods of state-variable systems. Everything else is just useless and frivolous “extra icing on the cake” if this is not there. I would have thought this is obvious. I consider with low regard modules and approaches that do not meet this fundamental requirement.

]

Paraphrased: “The unique environment in a university is such that one should always be mindful that there are possibly greater intellects (colleagues and students) present just next to one-self. A truly great academic understands this deeply; and this is what makes for a rich intellectual environment in a great university.” --- NUS University Professor Prof. Chong Chi Tat, in our many musings over coffee.