

# Teaching Product Engineering

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# OUTLINE

- 🌐 Context- Why a Product Engineering course?
- 🌐 Objectives and audience
- 🌐 Methodology
- 🌐 Evaluation and Transferability
- 🌐 Conclusions

# Chemical Engineering Evolution



0. Pre-paradigm - engineers with no formal education  
Descriptive treatment of specific processes (potash, sulfuric acid, soap)

1. The first paradigm - *Unit Operations*, 1923

Processes broken into common, standard units such as heat exchange, distillation, crystallization, etc.



2. The second paradigm - *Transport Phenomena*, 1960

Unified mathematical treatment of momentum, heat and mass transfer

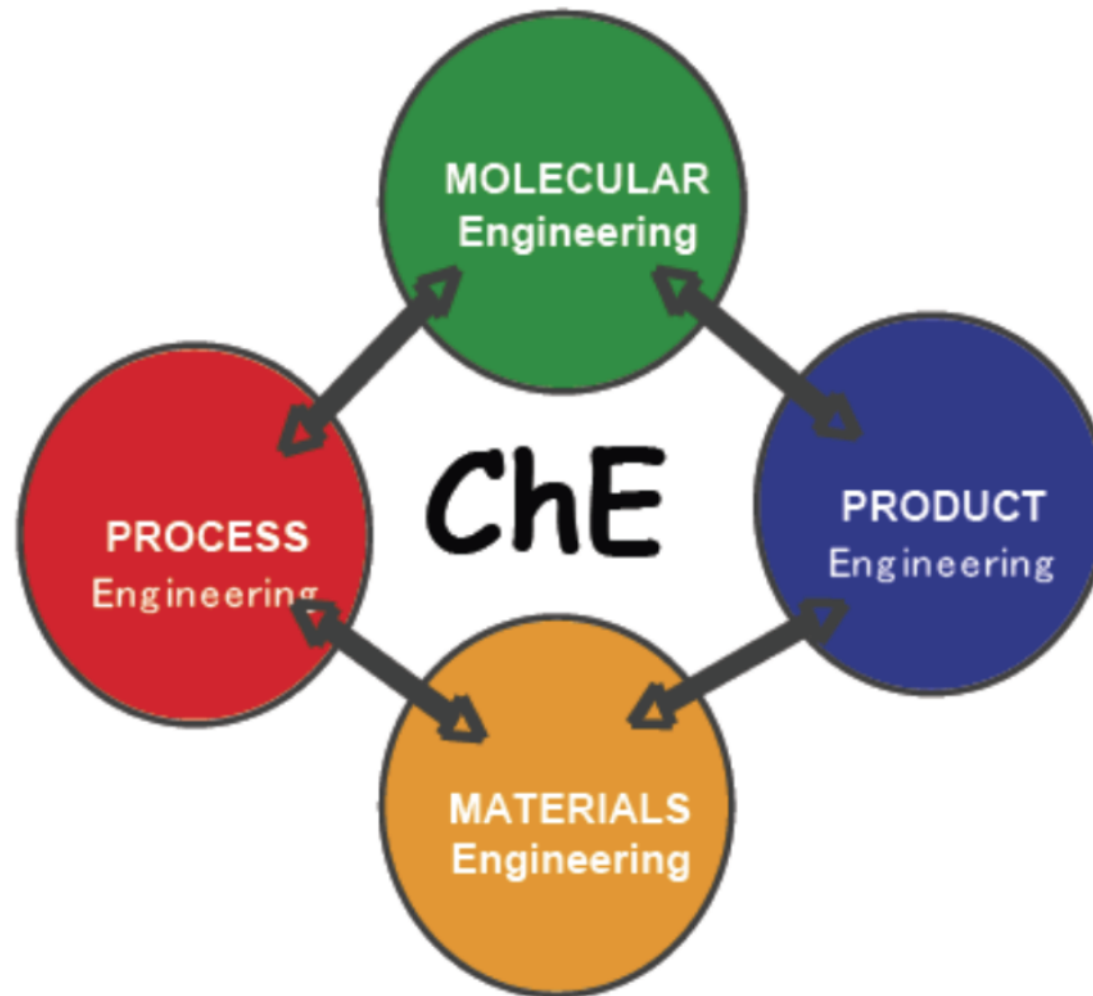


3. The third paradigm - Product Design? (Wei, Cussler)

Molecular Engineering ?Product design requires consideration of specific materials properties



# Chemical Engineering today ChE=M2P2E





## PRODUCT ENGINEERING COURSE

Introduced in MIEQ/FEUP in 2008 following a change in the curriculum

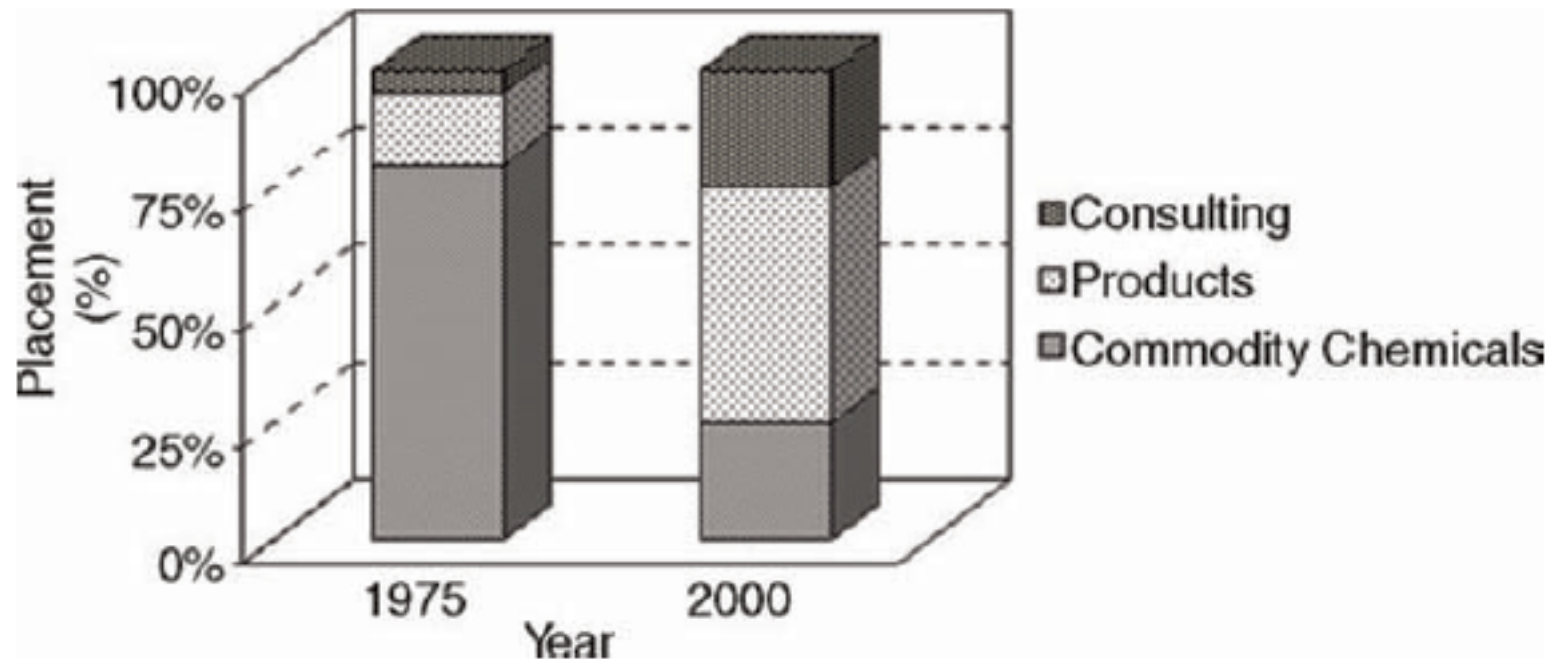
- three branches in the second cycle (Process and Product Engineering, Energy and Environment, Bioengineering)

I taught the course from 2007/2008 until retirement (forced) in 2013

I had the help of Viviana Silva (now at BASF, Germany) until 2011 and Miguel Teixeira (now at IFF, Holland) in 2011/2013

# Why a course in Product Engineering?

## Response to the changing nature of jobs for Chemical Engineers

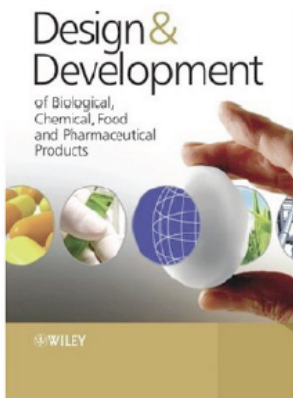


Saraiva and Costa, ChERD, 2004 based on Cussler and Moggridge book

# Product engineering course at MIEQ/FEUP



## Product Engineering



Needs  
Ideas  
Selection  
Manufacturing



TRIZ; CONSTRUCTAL

AER

8<sup>as</sup> Jornadas do DEQ, 4 Novembro de 2008



# Products & examples from LSRE



## Product Classification

1. Commodities:  
**propylene; Vanillin; Acetals**
2. Specialty chemicals:  
**Chiral molecules**
3. Formulated products:  
**Perfumes; Microcapsules**
4. Devices:  
**FlexSMB, NetMix**
5. Virtual chemical products:  
**SAXS, PTD**
6. Bio-based products:  
**Lactobionic acid; Dextran**
7. Technology-based consumer goods:  
**Perfumed suits**



# Devices: Simulated Moving Bed



*Unit at LSRE: Licosep 12-26*



*FlexSMB at LSRE*

# Course Content



1. Introduction to product design
2. Needs of consumer
3. Ideas;
4. Selection of ideas;
5. Manufacturing;
6. Commodities;
7. Devices;
8. Molecular products;
9. Microstructures;
10. TRIZ;
11. Economic aspects.

# Course information



Two classes of 2 hour each in a weekly basis

14 weeks

56 hours contact time

189 h of work load

7 ECTS credits

# Non-conventional teaching



I just gave a couple of lectures to introduce the course content and justify its existence

Students (30-40) of 4<sup>th</sup> year of MIEQ were divided in groups of 4

In one class each group presented one chapter of reference books; the discussion was made by other groups and myself

In the other class of the week each group will present the progress of their projects



# Evaluation & Transferability



Final exam 50%

Weekly presentations 20%

Report and Oral presentation of the project 30%

Limited to classes up to 50 students

# Types of projects

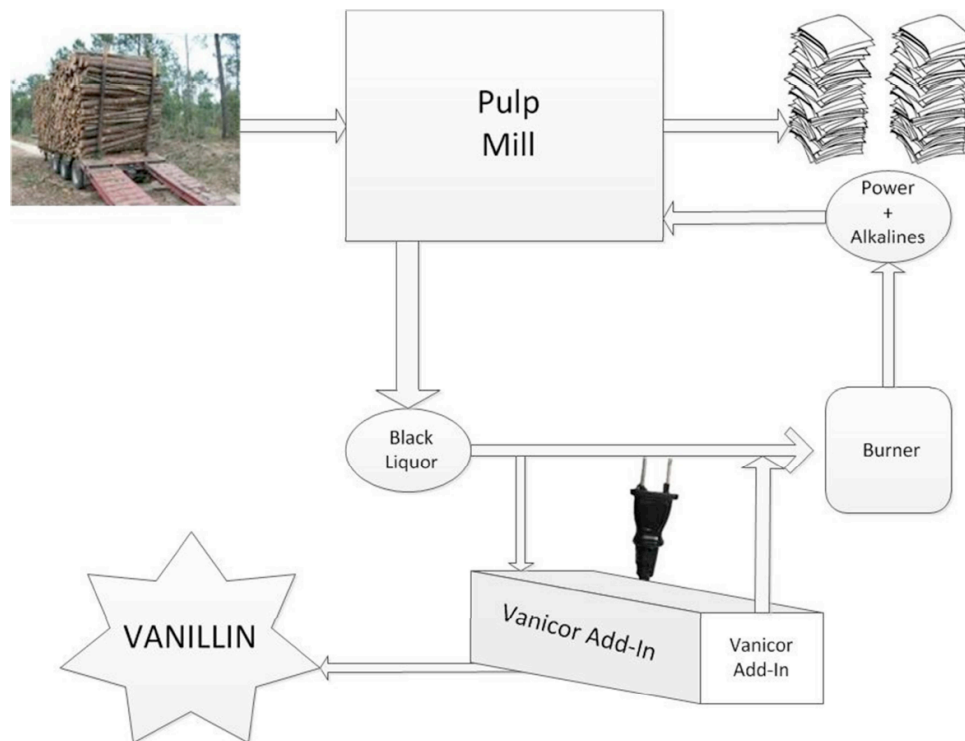


Figure 4: Vanicor Add-In plugging Scheme.



## Vanillin from kraft black liquor

# Aletria com sabor a baunilha





# Conclusions: The future of the lecture



## Lecture format: Cussler classification

**Traditional-** John Calvin (1509-1564)

new version MOOCs (Massive Open Online Course)

**Active** – Socrates (469-399 BC)

asks leading questions; then students develop ideas...

**Flipped** – Nancy Lape teacher of Thermodynamics at Harvey Mudd College  
taped lectures + classroom discussion



# Things didn't change much....

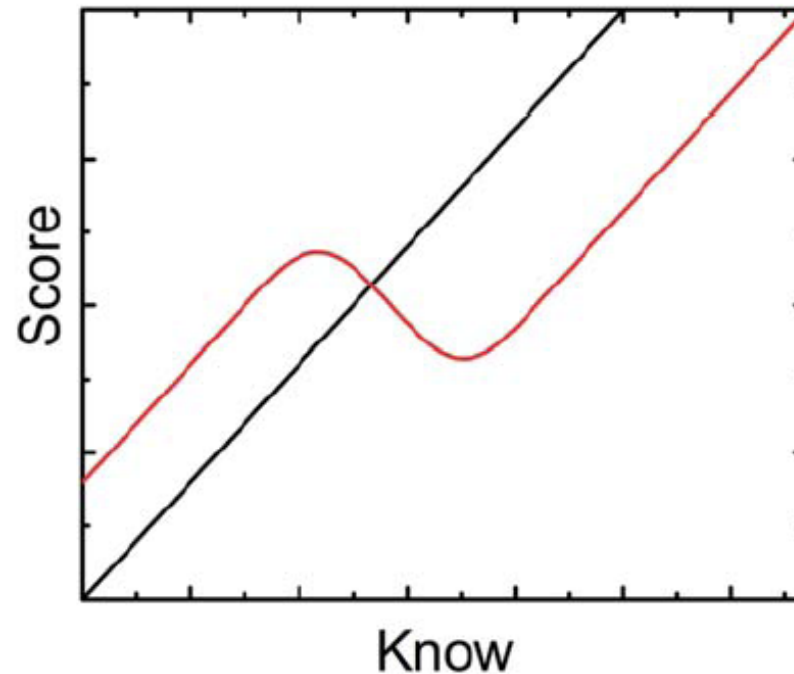


**Figure 2.** Henry of Germany delivering a lecture to university students in Bologna in 1233.

The behavior of students is very much the same today. Laurentius de Voltolina - The Yorck Project: 10.000 Meisterwerke der Malerei" DVD-ROM, 2002. ISBN 3936122202. Distributed by DIRECTMEDIA Publishing GmbH.

From Ed Cussler, Perspective,  
The future of the lecture, AIChEJ,  
1472 (2015)

# The teachable moment: Ed Cussler



**Figure 5. A schematic of exam scores vs. knowledge.**

Helping students who reach the minimum, which often produces one form of “teachable moment,” can give them huge gains.

# TRIZ





# The innovation triangle

