

so that you may become
blameless and pure,
children of God without
fault in a warped and
crooked generation. Then
you will shine among
them like stars in the sky
- Philippians 2:15

ORU

MAKE NO LITTLE PLANS HERE

**What hath Stuttgart to do w/ Jerusalem?
Exploring a Model of God as Process Engineer**

Dominic Halsmer, ASA Mtg, Belmont University, 7/20/13

The Problem of Evil/Pain

God Reveals Truth

For God's wrath is being revealed from heaven against all the ungodliness and unrighteousness of people who, in wickedness, try to suppress the truth,

because that which can be known about God is evident in them; for God has made it evident to them.

For since the creation of the world, His invisible qualities, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse.

“Meditation on [God’s] works enables us, at least to some extent, to admire and reflect on God’s wisdom...

We are thus able to infer God’s wisdom from reflection upon God’s works...

This consideration of God’s works leads to an admiration of God’s sublime power.”

“[God is pleased] to manifest his perfections in the whole structure of the universe, and daily place himself in our view, that we cannot but open our eyes without being compelled to behold him...

[The human body] bears on its face such proofs of ingenious contrivance as are sufficient to proclaim the admirable wisdom of its Maker.”

Wahlberg argues that rather than inferring the existence of God, humans perceive intentionality and intelligence when they observe natural systems.

I argue that a particular kind of intelligence is perceived: exquisite engineering expertise

**We all
solve the
inverted
pendulum
problem
within
about a
year!**

‘God is never spoken of as a “designer” in the Bible’ God is not a “divine engineer” or “omniscient technician”

**“Three Models of Making:
Prime Mover, Craftsman
and King – Alternate
Theistic Frameworks for
Teaching Origins”
(December 1987)**

**“The Divine Craftsman, is
not the God of the
Scriptures.” → Deism
Bible presents God as
Process Systems Engineer**



‘The concept of technology is not foreign to the Bible; in its canonical form, it is replete with references to ancient technologies of many types... God is sometimes presented in the OT in a manner that we would today call a *systems engineer*. He creates (designs) a universe and world and places within it creatures, including human beings.. The NT continues this theme of technologies... The sacrificial death of Jesus is presented as an act that was designed (in modern parlance “engineered”) and sanctioned by God as a means to present a spotless “lamb” who takes upon himself the sins of the world.’

“Like water spilled on the ground, which cannot be recovered, so we must die...

But God does not take away life; instead, **he devises ways so that a banished person may not remain estranged from him.”**

**God, as a
kid, trying
to make a
chicken in
the lab**

**Lessons from
Gen 6:5f**

- **Significant opportunities**
- **Compassion, kindness**
- **Grow strong & useful**
- **Learn truth, humility**
- **Drawing good out of evil**
- **The “beneversal”**

**Multiple
verses
on God
refining
his
people**

**“See, I will
refine and test
them, **for what
else can I do
because of the
sin of my
people**”**

- Jer 9:7

**“Looking Through
Pascal's Window”
by John T. Mullen
(Bethany College,
Kansas)
*Faith and
Philosophy*, Vol. 30,
No. 1, January 2013.**

Universe as soul-making device (John Hick) or drawing board

**John Avise,
UC Irvine**



Affordance-based Reverse Engineering of Natural Systems with Possible Corruption

Dominic Halsmer, PhD, PE, Dean of Science & Engineering

Ken Weed, PhD, Professor of Chemistry

Sean McDonough, Undergraduate Research Student

Christian Engineering Education Conference

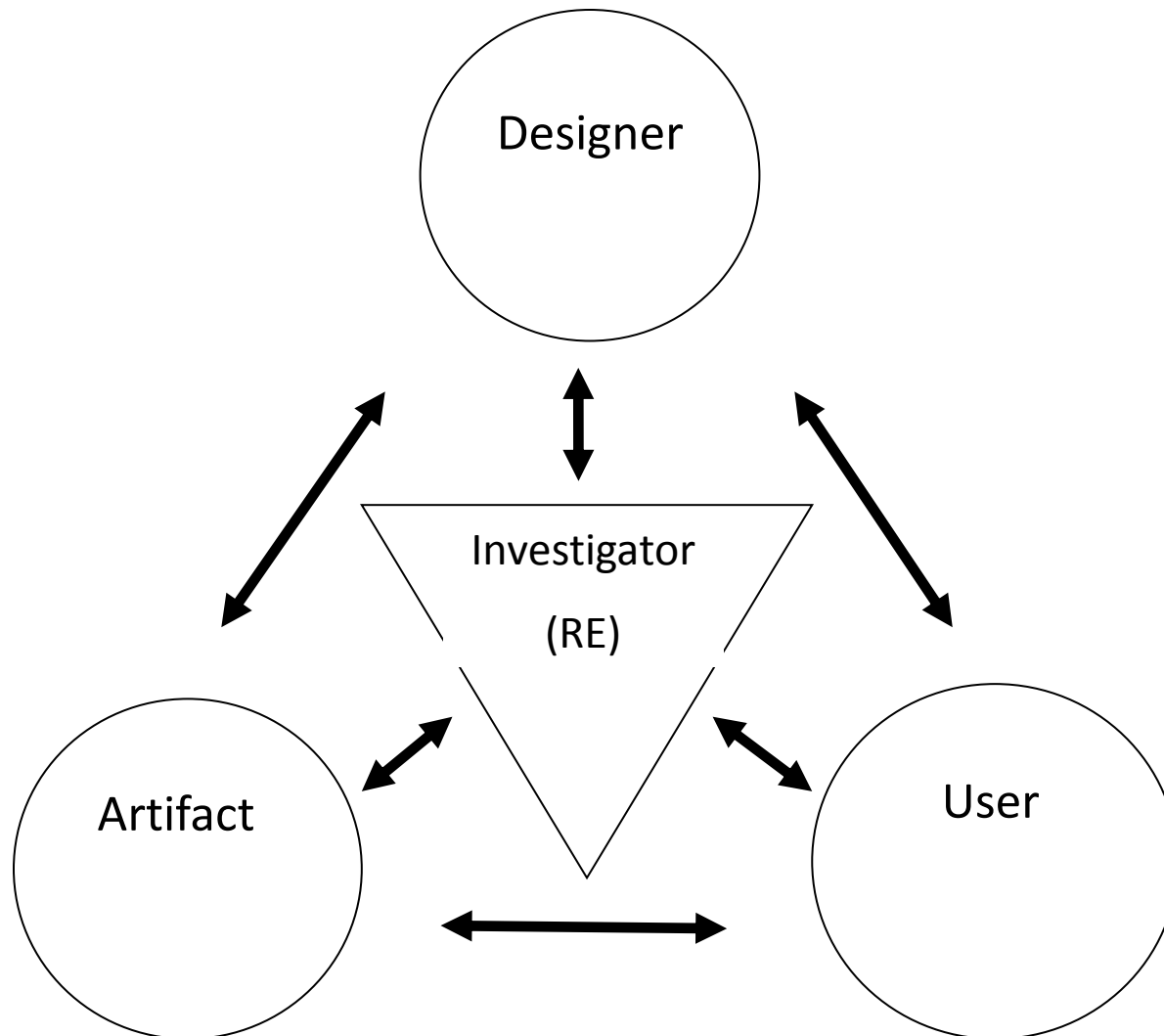
Trinity Western University, June 2011

- **How does the system work?**
- **How was it formed?**
- **How does it relate to other systems?**
- **What is its function or purpose?**
- **Has it experienced damage or corruption from its initial state?**
- **How has this corruption affected its functionality or **affordances**?**

J. Maier proposes the concept of **affordance (what a system provides to an end user, or to another system)... as an underlying and unifying principle in the science of design, & **reverse engineering**.**

**Affordances
capture
important
interactions
within the
Designer-
artifact-user
system (big
picture).**

Designer-Artifact- User-**Investigator (RE)**



**Affordances
are also key
to capturing
important
interactions
during
reverse
engineering
studies.**

**“The universe is
full of **magical**
things patiently
waiting for our
wits to grow
sharper.”**

Arthur C. Clarke's 3rd Law

***Any sufficiently
advanced
technology is
indistinguishable
from **magic**.***

Any sufficiently advanced technology may also be confused with **malevolence**.

***“Subtle is
the Lord,
but
malicious
He is not.”
-A. Einstein***

**It was good for me to be
afflicted
so that I might learn your
decrees.**

**The law from your mouth
is more precious to me
than thousands of pieces
of silver and gold.**

**“Science without religion
is lame;**

**Religion without science
is Blind.”**

**”The blind and the lame
came to him at the
temple, and he healed
them.” - Matthew 21:14**

Model → Increases faith, knowledge & worship of God

And God Rested...