

# Panel 5 Self-Study A Practical Example and the Results



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### I. Use Case Scenario

II. Theoretical Background

III. Results

**IV.** Related Projects





### **Objective of "Computer Science in Mechanical Engineering"**

- Content of the lecture: Introduction to Software Engineering
  - Java
  - Basics of object-oriented programming
  - Project management
  - Software development processes
  - Requirements analysis
  - Software design
  - Testing
- Objective of the affiliated laboratory:
  - Practical introduction to Programming
  - Consolidation of contents of lecture by application





### Challenges

- Huge number of attendants
- Limited resources
- Varying previous knowledge
- Prejudices against programming
- Low motivation
  - "I am studying Mechanical Engineering, not Computer Science"











- Avoid unnecessary complexity
- Provide success in early stages
- Self-contained and applicatory tasks
- Establish a connection to topics from Mechanical Engineering
- Medium of Choice: Robotics
  - Platform: LEGO Mindstorms NXT
  - Firmware: LeJOS
  - Programming in teams of two









### **Constraints due to boundary conditions**

- Usual Mindstorms courses:
  - Students build robots themselves
    - Each group needs own robot
    - Demand for more storage space
  - Students build individual robots
    - Robots cannot be shared
    - Individual problems
  - Models are often mobile
    - Demand for test areas
    - Debugging via Bluetooth



from lfb.rwth-aachen.de





#### Solution



Use of a preconstructed fixed crane model

- + Close relation to applications within Mechanical Engineering
- + One setup
- + No time spent on construction
- Model can be used subsequently by several groups
- + No additional testing areas
- + Data transfer via USB
- Students cannot construct their own robot
- Predetermined setup constricts students





	weeks											
	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12
	Java Programming Software Engineering Additional Topics									ional pics		
Le	ecture											
			Intro Java	Java	Intro NXT	Supp.	Gate 0	Supp.	Gate 1	Sup	port	Final Gate
La	aborato	ry										





I. Use Case Scenario

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#### Learning activities

- Learning process phase
- **Key activities:** groups of activities with focus on certain aspects
- **Concrete activities:** can be ordered in sequences

#### Learning resources

- Learning tools/services can be recommended based on the chosen learning activities and on the skills of a learner
- Artefacts: any product of individuals or groups or of their behaviour or interactions (e.g. documents)
- Actors: human beings and (software-) agents





#### Activities













#### **Dependencies Web Knowledge Map (WKM)**







#### View







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Start Date: 10.08.2012, 15:05 h

End Date: 18.09.2012, 11:27 h

Logins: 5796

Website hits: 240239

Accessed articels: 144295

Hits per login: 41

Accessed articels per login: 25





#### **Knowledgemap - Hits**



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### **IV.Related Projects**



#### **Computer Science in Mechanical Engineering II**

RWITHAACH





### **ROLE – Responsive Open Learning Environments**

- European collaborative 4-year project (16 research groups from 6 EU countries and China, 2009-2013)
- Centred around the concept of self-regulated learning to create responsible and thinking learners



- Tools from ROLE Widget Store helps teachers to create open personal learning environments for their students with support for
  - planning their learning process
  - searching independently for resources
  - learn and reflect on their learning process and progress
- IMA/ZLW&IfU: Knowledge Map testbed including the Web 2.0 Knowledge Map (Wiki with additional visualization capabilities, WKM), chat & history widget
  - Used in course for information science in mechanical engineering with +1500 students incl. tool evaluation

#### To read more:

- ROLE'n Web: http://www.role-project.eu/
- WKM testbed: http://role-showcase.eu/widget-bundle/knowledge-map-and-chat-tool





### **ExAcT – Center of Excellence in Academic Teaching**



ExAcT is part of state-countries program "RWTH 2020 Excellence in Teaching and Learning" and part of the project "RWTH 2020 – Improving teaching quality together" of the Institute Cluster IMA/ZLW & IfU at the RWTH Aachen university.

- ExAcT Qualification
  - Advanced training and competence impartation for academics at all levels of a university career
- ExAcT Research

NTHAACI

- practice-orientated and studentcentered teaching research on mediaand subject-didactic issues in the context of different disciplines
- Networking of all actors involved in teaching at the RWTH University





### **Project ELLI Research Fields**

Empiricism & surrounding parameters	Curricular development	Concepts for Teaching and Learning	Testing based on skills	Teaching experiments	Large classes
Eest Practice Monitoring Collaboration of the CoP and the Advisory Board	Image: Second	Shift from feaching to Learning: Problem- based Learning	Skill oriented Integrated in the learning- process Checking of Learning Outcomes	Didactic skill enhancement of secondary- and impact- research	Image: Appropriate teaching and learning concepts







## **Questions?**

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