

國立中山大學 教學實踐南區基地 教學實踐研究計畫撰寫工作坊 場次1通識/人文學門

教學實踐研究計畫 經驗分享

王鴻祥
工業設計系

 TAIPEI 國立臺北科技大學
TECH National Taipei University of Technology

Once upon a time,
there was an
email.

【計畫申請公告】敬邀老師踴躍申請「大專校院教學實踐研究計畫」，詳如內文說明。

收件匣 x

北科大-楊小慧

1月8日 週一 下午4:46

老師 您好，

我是教務處教資中心的小慧，抱歉來信打擾，因老師有參與中心「創新與創業」或「創新思考設計」或「微型創業實戰」等創創課程，針對課程實施成效，若老師有興趣可以申請教育部推動「大專校院教學實踐研究計畫」，計畫徵件說明請參閱下文說明。

老師如有意願申請，可直接回覆給我們，教資中心將全力協助，不論是否申請通過教育部該計畫補助，若經校內審核通過，都將給予部份經費補助，補助限量，請老師們把握機會踴躍申請，謝謝老師撥冗詳閱！

資訊聯絡窗口：教資中心 楊小慧

一、計畫主旨與運作模式：

- (一)教育部為鼓勵教師從事教學實踐研究(係指教師為提升教學品質，促進學生學習成效，以教育現場或文獻資料提出問題，透過課程設計、教材教法、或引入教具、科技媒體運用等方式，採取適當的研究方法與評量檢證成效之歷程)。
- (二)未來本補助計畫所獲成果，教師得作為個人升等審查著作，特辦理旨揭本補助計畫。
- (三)執行方式將採類似科技部補助教師專題研究計畫模式，直接將經費補助給教師，而非給學校統籌運用。
- (四)藉由提供經費補助、同儕審閱模式、教學成果公開平台的相關支持系統下，鼓勵擅長教學的教師能以教學成果進行升等，引導教師專長分工及分流，以達到教育資源投入應以重視學生學習成效為導向之目的。

二、計畫期程：107年8月1日~108年7月31日

三、補助金額：每案至多50萬元。

四、申請方式及注意事項：

王鴻祥 國立臺北科技大學工業設計系

18 minutes later...





王鴻祥 Hung-Hsiang Wang <wanghh@mail.ntut.edu.tw>

寄給 北科大-楊小慧 ▾

2018年1月8日 下午5:04

小慧好：

感謝通知，我將提出申請，後續若有問題，尚請協助，謝謝。

from 王鴻祥



北科大-楊小慧

2018年1月8日 下午5:17

王老師 您好，

感謝您願意申請本計畫，附件為教學實踐研究計畫_徵件網站操作手冊(教師申請)，請查收。


若有任何問題或需要協助的地方，再請老師不吝告知。

王鴻祥 國立臺北科技大學工業設計系

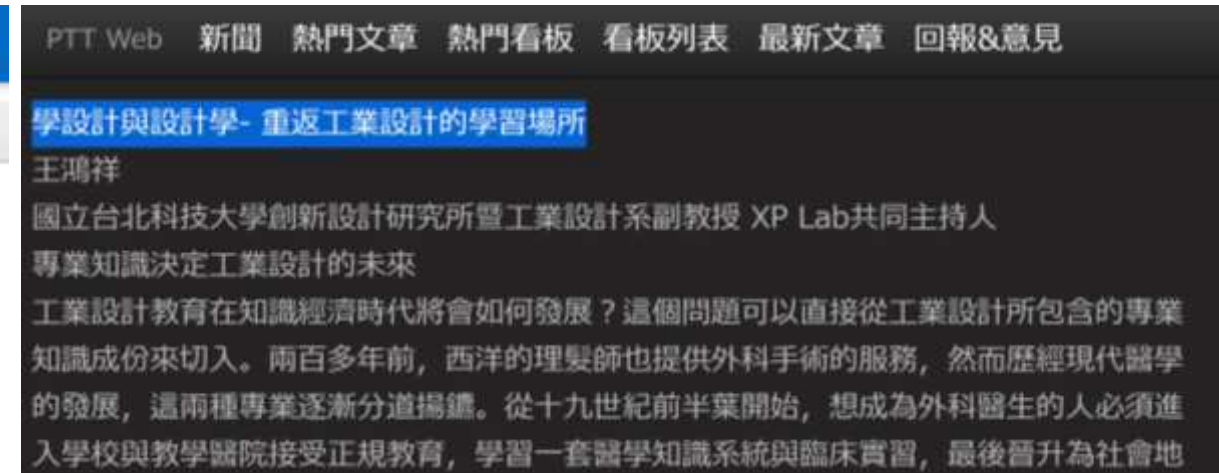


反思我19年前的「教學研究」

- 巧遇急徵計畫，無心長期耕耘？
- 只懂工業設計，是教育研究的門外漢？
- 曾獲優良教師與導師，但真的是好老師？

計畫主持人	王鴻祥	計畫名稱	工業設計專業能力指標之建立
計畫編號	91-MOE-S-027-002-X3	計畫全程執行起迄	2002.01.01 至 2002.12.31
執行機關	國立臺北科技大學工業設計系	核定日期	2002.02.07
狀態		報告	<p>精簡報告第1年 2002/01/01-2002/12/31 精簡報告(繳交日期:2003/04/01) 出席國際學術會議心得報告(繳交日期:2003/04/01)</p>  <p>期末報告公開日期：2003/04/01</p>
計畫主持人	王鴻祥	計畫名稱	貫通式教學模式之研究- 以電腦輔助工業設計的教學革新為例
計畫編號	91-2516-S-027-002-	計畫全程執行起迄	2002.08.01 至 2003.07.31
執行機關	國立臺北科技大學工業設計系	核定日期	2002.07.05
狀態		報告	<p>精簡報告第1年 2002/08/01-2003/07/31 精簡報告(繳交日期:2003/10/09) 期末報告公開日期：永不公開</p>
承辦人	王台徽	承辦司處	科教國合司 王鴻祥 國立臺北科技大學工業設計系

王鴻祥 (2003), "學設計與設計學- 重返工業設計的學習場所," 回饋雜誌, 第68期, 技嘉教育基金會, 12-19.



現在我最想做的一件事...

- 該開始回顧教書生涯，多做一件有意義的事
- 工業設計與教學的共通點：
 - 使用者為中心
 - 改變（將現狀變成更好的狀態）
 - 實踐派的專業
 - ...
- 我要重返教學研究，申請教學實踐計畫！

分享一

- 我有多大的勇氣？
- 我還承擔得起？
- 我應該正向思考？

2 days later,
there was a
workshop.

急件-【工作坊資訊】教資中心敬邀參與「大專校院教學實踐研究計畫」推動工作坊(107年1月15日星期一中午12:00假一教學大樓教師休息室) 收件匣 × 0-後續處理 ×

北科大-楊小慧

2018年1月10日 下午5:24

老師 您好：

感謝老師們有意願申請教育部「大專校院教學實踐研究計畫」，因計畫申請時程緊迫，煩請老師勞心趕一下計畫申請書，為利老師們能更加順利撰寫計畫書，並提高申請通過率，教資中心安排推動工作坊，敬邀有意申請計畫之老師出席參與，老師亦可請研究生或研究助理共同出席，惟場地空間有，故至多2名。

工作坊資訊如下：

日期：107年1月15日星期一

時間：中午12:00 (敬備午餐)

地點：第一教學大樓教師休息室

主題(一) 計畫推動說明及補助要點

主題(二) 教育研究方法介紹 (行動研究法/實驗設計法)

想起幾件事...

- 研究生時期參加過幾場教學多媒體、計畫書撰寫工作坊
- 菜鳥老師的教學聖經：Gilbert Highet (1950) *The Art of Teaching*
- 國際研討會上常見各國實務界的設計師發表研發成果的論文

該怎麼著手？

- 對象/場域：在工業設計系歷史傳統下，我該選擇什麼對象與現場？
- 問題/需求：跨領域合作的創新很重要，我怎麼幫助學生提升這種能力？
- 取向/方法：作為“research in designerly ways”的信徒，我該採什麼研究方法？

Gilbert Highet說：

- 小範圍的教學準備工作，教師們經常做得很好
 - 對於大規模的（一學年授課的全盤）計劃，很難有優良的表現
- 重新統整我的創新思考教學計畫

工作坊的教育專家們說：

- 行動研究，行動研究，行動研究！
- 作為Donald Schön的粉絲，我聽懂什麼是「在行動中反思」(reflection in action)
- 用科學的、系統化的方法解決現場問題

教育專家們的小叮嚀

- 若為「發表」故，「實證」不可拋！
 - 我喜歡思辨科學哲學，但我應該務實一點？
- 聽專家的話，留意主流觀點

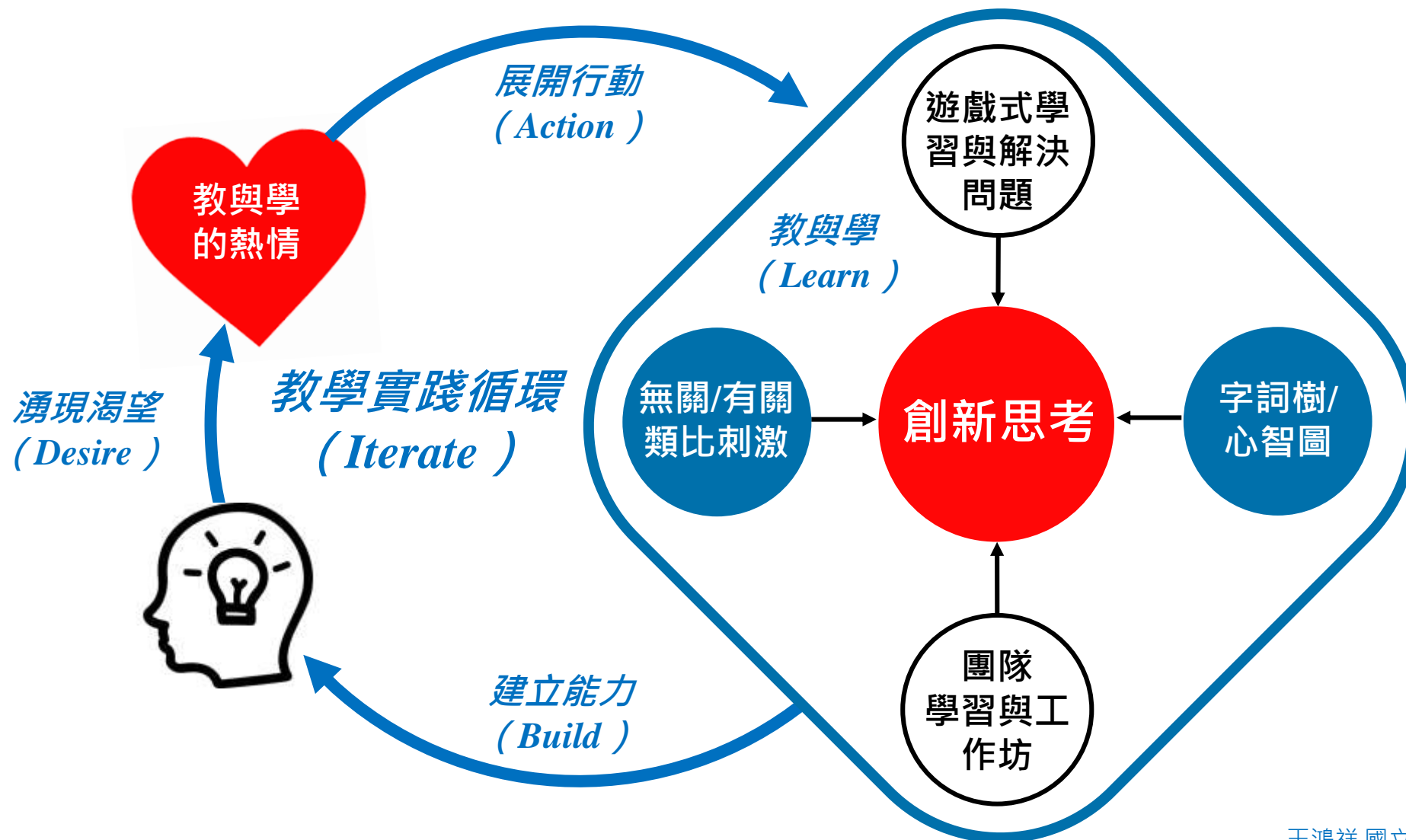
分享二

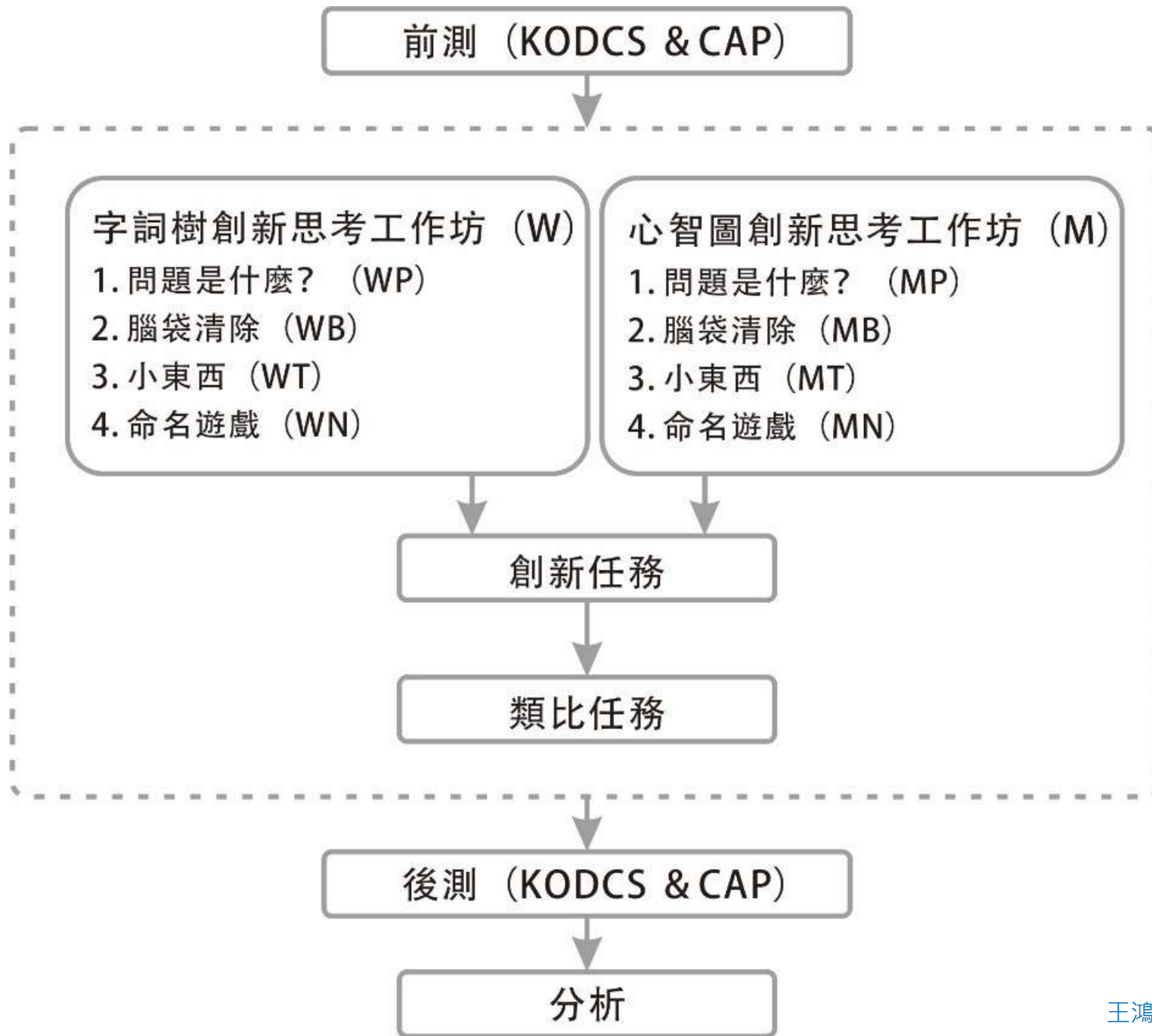
- 向教育專家學習使用「教育學語言」！
- 廣泛探索複雜的現象 vs 聚焦可能的變項關係？
- 解決特定的實際問題 vs 發展普遍的抽象理論？

迅速著手

- **場域**：通識科目創新創業學程兩個大班制「創新思考」，來自六個學院的大一學生
- **問題**：有學者主張：Word Tree可有效提高工程學生的創造力，且給定與目標無關的類比刺激物較能激發創造力
- **取向**：處理行動研究問題的實驗方法

計畫名稱：提升創新思考學習成效的教學實踐研究





工作坊主題

	1. 問題是什麼？	2. 腦袋清除	3. 小東西	4. 命名遊戲
	有關的刺激物		無關的刺激物	
字詞樹 (W組)	第一學期 A班	第一學期 A班	第一學期 A班	第一學期 A班
心智圖 (M組)	第二學期 B班	第二學期 B班	第二學期 B班	第二學期 B班

1 week later...



Fwd: [教育部教學實踐研究計畫] 提醒申請資料之完整確認

收件匣 x

北科大-楊小慧

1月22日 週一 下午2:32



老師 您好：

轉寄教育部來信通知提醒有關計畫上傳資料應包含如下：**(請留意第4點研究倫理審查文件)**

1.共同主持人同意書(如果有共同主持人) 檔名需為：共同主持人同意書-共同主持人姓名-學校簡稱

2.計畫內容書 計畫內容 PDF 檔名： plan-申請人姓名-學校簡稱-計畫中文名稱前 3 個字

3.經費聲明書 檔名需為：fund-申請人姓名-學校簡稱-計畫中文名稱前 3 個字

4.研究倫理審查相關文件 檔名：re-申請人姓名-學校簡稱-計畫中文名稱前 3 個字

->勾選 需送交「人體研究倫理審查委員會」查核者，請依據自身狀況以下擇一文件上傳：

(1)「研究倫理審查委員會核准函」


(2)「送審證明」併同「研究倫理審查聲明書」一併上傳

->勾選「本研究非屬人體研究」者，需將「研究倫理審查聲明書」併同「**告知同意規畫或告知同意說明書**」，兩者簽名後掃描為PDF檔一併上傳

「**告知同意規畫或告知同意說明書**」可參考專案辦公室整理他校之範本，老師們依需求可自行修訂

<https://tpr.moe.edu.tw/newsDetail/4b1141f260b5ded50160beb3e24305a4>

5.(若以研究原住民為目的之計畫)需檢附以下之一文件：檔名：ire-申請人姓名-學校簡稱-計畫中文名稱前 3 個字



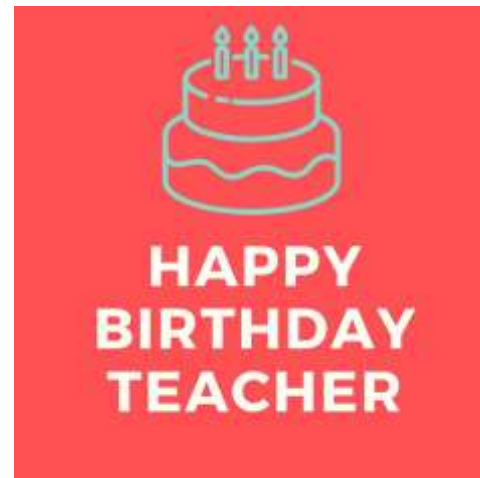
一切交給上帝

分享三

- 改善某個班級的某個重要的教學問題
- 掌握某個熱門教育議題、現有理論與成果
- 建立可檢驗改善成效的研究方法
- 果斷、迅速、正向

6 months later...

很不錯的生日禮物！



【重要】教育部107年度「大專校院教學實踐研究計畫」審查結果公告

收件匣 x



北科大-楊小慧

7月25日 週三 下午5:42 ☆ ↶ ⋮

王鴻祥 老師 您好：

依教育部107年7月24日臺教技(五)字第1070108318C號函（如附件），您申請之提升創新思考學習成效的教學實踐研究，核定結果為通過，獲補助經費為

依教育部來函，敬請老師配合下列事項：

1. 確認是否同意接受本計畫補助，請申請人於107年7月24日~8月25日期間，務必至系統(網址：<https://tpr.moe.edu.tw/login>)點選同意，始能進行後續相關補助程序。
2. 獲教育部之申請案則不再受理校內補助案申請，是故，若老師於7/18前有送校內申請者，將自動排除，則不另行通知。
3. 教育部請學校於8月31日前發函至教育部請款，故請老師配合於107年8月16日~8月22日期間於計畫系統進行經費修正(教育部原訂是8/25前，惟配合後續作業，方請老師能再盡早完成，謝謝！)。本計畫得編列人事費上限為計畫核定總金額之60%(計畫主持人費及兼任助理費)，另可依計畫執行必要性及需求性編列設備費。
4. 獲補助計畫主持人應於計畫執行期間，配合教育部及指定之專案辦公室規劃參與諮詢或座談等教學社群運作事宜。
5. 校長於107年3月20日本校106學年度第2學期第1次共識會議中提及，為鼓勵教師申請教學實踐研究計畫，若本校教師無執行其他計畫，且申請教育部教學實踐研究計畫獲得通過者，將由學校補足其每月主持人費至1萬元。

以上未盡詳細說明，尚請老師依據教育部補助技專校院教學實踐研究計畫作業要點辦理，經費核銷請依據教育部補助及委辦計畫經費編列基準表核實報支。若有任何問題請隨時提出，謝謝！

5. 校長於107年3月20日本校106學年度第2學期第1次共識會議中提及，為鼓勵教師申請教學實踐研究計畫學實踐研究計畫獲得通過者，將由學校補足其每月主持人費至1萬元。

計畫審查結果

學門：人文藝術及設計

計畫名稱：提升創新思考學習成效的教學實踐研究

計畫主持人：王鴻祥

計畫審查結果：通過

(必填)請確認是否執行此計畫

- 同意執行計畫 (送出日期：2018-07-25)
- 放棄執行計畫

審查意見

獻。

本教學實踐研究對象是修習創新思考的兩班學生，於本教學實踐的前測和後測皆包括三種創造力相關量表：威廉斯創造力測驗、考夫曼領域量表及創意成就問卷，而依每一場工作坊的學習目的、內容與預期成果亦擬訂出一種檢核表，用以讓教師與助教共同評估學生在四場工作坊的創新思考表現，最後亦提供學生意見調查表，用以讓學生對於每一場工作坊的教師教學與教材表達意見，如此可調查學生在整體課程學習成效的創造力提升之成果。惟須確認修習創新思考的兩班學生的相關程度與學習經驗是無差異的，否則比較的起始點就不會相同。

One more thing.

- 這是我唯一有承辦窗口不斷主動提醒、鼓勵、催促申請的計畫
- 學校加碼 \$\$\$ ，好禮獎不完、教育訓練、協助申請、提供貼心after service...
- 我給 ★★★★★

分享四

- 成果的推廣
- 學術的發表





■ 王鴻祥

字詞樹—— 提升創造力的方法

在團隊合作中，
綜合運用單詞樹與腦力接龍有助於提出有用的創意構想，
經過一段時間的練習更可提高個人的創造力。



字詞樹是傳統的「上下文關鍵字」方法的圖形化版本，
可以快速查詢和探索文本。

有什麼方法可提升創意

在設計科系實作課室裡，常常可看見老師指導學生用「心智圖」(mind map，又稱心智地圖、概念地圖)搭配腦力激盪(brainstorming)尋找創意靈感。英國心理學家東尼·博贊(Tony Buzan)1974年出版的《心智魔法師/大腦使用手冊》(Use Your Head)提出心智圖這種發散式思考的輔助工具，後來廣泛用來幫助設計師發展大量的構想。

心智圖的特色是從一個主題出發，然後畫出有關聯的對象，其形式自由，結構靈活，可以毫無約束地繪製出想法，以及想法之間的連結，最後呈現出一幅把許多概念連接在一起的語意網路或認知體系的圖像。然而，常用好用卻未必代表沒有其他更通用的工具，現在讓我們來認識一種稱為「字詞樹」(word tree，又稱單詞樹、文字樹)的方法。

新的創意思考輔助工具

字詞樹是谷歌(Google)數據視覺化團隊的馬丁·沃騰貝格(Martin Wattenberg)和弗南達·維加斯(Fernanda Viégas)於2007年發表的一項新技術，能把文字檔案視覺化並從中進行資訊檢索，字詞樹是傳統的「上下文關鍵字」方法的圖形化版本，可以快速查詢和探索文本(文本指以語言撰寫的文件，例如一個句子、一段文字或一篇文章)。

與心智圖一樣，字詞樹本身也是樹狀結構。它的基本單位稱為「節點」，節點之間的連結稱為「分支」，節點與分支形成樹狀，而結構的開端稱為「根」。但是字詞樹的繪製比心智圖更為特定，心智圖的節點可以是任何圖文符號，分支可以是任何



在網站<https://www.jasondavies.com/wordtree/>字詞樹工具輸入一個有關創造力的文本(如圖右上方)，系統會自動繪製這株字詞樹，可以從中迅速了解這個文本的樹狀結構。其中字體最大的「創造力」(creativity)最重要，「是」(is)和「能力」(ability to)次之。

連結關係，但字詞樹的節點則專指文本中的單詞，分支則代表兩個單詞之間的語法、語意或語用(pragmatics；我們在現實情境中如何使用語言)上的關係。

例如我們可以在英國軟體工程師傑森·戴維斯(Jason Davies)的網站(<https://www.jasondavies.com/wordtree/>)找到字詞樹工具，輸入一段文章(texts，又稱文本)之後，系統就會自動繪製一株字詞樹。我們可以從這株字詞樹迅速了解這個文本的樹狀結構，而且從字體的大小也可以知道這個文本的關鍵字重要性順序。

字詞樹原本是為了把非結構化的文本檔案視覺化成樹狀結構，能更快速、更容易掌握文本的主題含意。這個特性正好可用來幫助進行類比式設計，找尋更多更有用的類比來源以解決問題。一個簡單的類比式設計例子是「安心圈」，當設計一個在公共場所提醒聽覺障礙者與視覺障礙者避開地面溼滑區域的產品時，構想出「投射出某個空間以警示人員避開」的原理(例如應用紅外線感知器偵測人員靠近，用雷射光投射出警示區域界線，以揚聲器發出警示聲音等)，於是把這個原理當作一項類比目標。

這時類比來源就是可達成這些功能的類似案例（例如其他類別的產品或生物），設計師在發展產品構想階段的主要任務，就是尋找類似且可套用的類比來源。經過廣泛搜尋與篩選參考類似原理的案例之後，「安心圈」的設計師參考了工地用的「吊車警示裝置」雷射投影出空間的原理，把不同類別的產品案例當作類比來源，套用到類似的產品功能需求。

在創新工程設計的教學應用

谷歌團隊推出字詞樹技術的次一年，美國學者茱莉·林斯、克里斯汀·伍德和亞瑟·馬克曼（Julie Linsey, Kristin Wood 和 Arthur Markman）便發表一篇論文，報導如何運用字詞樹與「腦力接龍」（brainwriting，由第一棒把自己的想法傳給下一棒繼續發展出新的想法，如此循環接力）發展出一套可增進學生類比式設計能力的工作坊。

參與這項實驗的 92 位機械系大四學生的工程設計表現顯示，用字詞樹與腦力接龍進行思考的實驗組學生，比起純粹用腦力激盪法的對照組學生，能產出更多出人意料且有用的類比思考與解答，也更能運用不同的策略，在多元的領域中廣泛地搜尋適當的類比來源。當然，實驗組的工作坊表現比對照組好，並不代表他們的創造力也比對照組進步的更多。

這項應用新技術提升學生創造力的實驗很有趣，值得在創新思考教學裡嘗試。雖然原本的類比式設計工作坊的任務設定為「設計一種第三世界國家使用的花生剝殼裝置」，參與者沒有機械領域知識是沒有辦法進行的，但是類說字詞樹應該可以推廣到其他領域，甚至是跨領域。

因此，參考亞瑟·梵岡地（Arthur VanGundy）於 2005 年出版的《101 個創造力



臺北科技大學工業設計系盧遠馨的 2015 金點新秀設計獎作品「安心圈」，結合了紅外線人體位移動感應器、雷射光發射器與擴音器，可投影出紅色警戒圓圈警告和行人危險的地板溼滑區域範圍，並在行人靠近時發出警告聲響，以提高路人的安全保障。其類比來源是「吊車警示裝置」，套用其雷射警示空間的設計原理。



臺北科技大學土木工程系楊成、工業設計系簡百慧同學的德國 2012 red dot award design concept 作品「吊車警示裝置」，利用雷射光線在地面投射一個可隨吊裝作業移動而改變範圍的危險警示區，警告地面作業務必進入該範圍，其設計原理是投射出某個空間以警示人員迴避。

字詞樹原本是為了把非結構化的文本檔案視覺化成樹狀結構，以更快速、更容易掌握文本的主題含意。



類比式設計工作坊把來自不同學院的學生以 4~6 位組成一組，每一組依照學習單提示的步驟，在演講廳找尋適當的角落進行分組工作坊。



類比式設計工作坊的分組成員彼此通力合作，用字詞樹—腦力接龍法或心智圖—腦力激盪法共同完成每一場的創新任務。

與問題解決的教學活動》（101 Activities for Teaching Creativity and Problem Solving），選擇一些不需要仰賴特定領域知識，也可以操作的日常生活用品或活動之類的設計題目，規劃了四場各為期三周的類比式設計工作坊。

例如第三場工作坊是「小東西」（Tickler Things），學生以 4 至 6 位為一組，第一階段的 30 分鐘創新任務暫時不公布設計題目，先發給每組 5 件與題目不相關的小東西（例如火柴盒汽車、黃色小鴨），然後要求他們以這些小東西為討論的起點探索關鍵問題，從中歸納出關鍵的動詞。接著才公布題目（例如指甲剪改善、迎新活動），要求每組把關鍵動詞當作字詞樹的根，並使用腦力接龍的方式繪製出完整的字詞樹。

第二階段是 45 分鐘的類比任務，每組必須從完成的字詞樹中找出類比來源，並使用類比來源完成 20 個與題目相符的創意提案。這些過程都記錄在大幅海報紙上，



字詞樹—腦力接龍工作坊的分組成果例子。「指甲剪改善」是字詞樹的根，分支出動詞「磨平」等 5 個節點，然後繼續尋找與「磨平」等有關的動詞，最後尋找具有類比動詞特徵的東西當作類比來源。

可用來分析樹狀結構的節點與分支，有效的類比數量，以及設計成果的創新程度。這些工作坊的材料與過程都設計成學習單，方便學生快速學習。

字詞樹的特性可用來幫助進行類比式設計，找尋更多更有用的類比來源以解決問題。

108-2 教學實踐研究講座

107年度教學實踐研究亮點計畫得獎教師

臺北科技大學工業設計系
王鴻祥老師

實踐大學國際經營與貿易學系
陳朝斌老師

活動日期：109年 5月25日(一)

活動時間：12:00-14:30

活動地點：L棟3樓博雅講堂

- 主辦單位：教學發展中心
- 本活動為教師教學評鑑認證
- 因應防疫，請自備口罩與筆

研習課程報名資訊



回想起幾件事...

- 碩士時期參加過幾場教學多媒體、計畫書撰寫工作坊
- 講師時期的教學聖經：Gilbert Highet (1950) *The Art of Teaching*
- 國際研討會上常見歐美設計師發表論文，分享實務研發成果



提升創新思考學習成效的 教學實踐研究

王鴻祥 / 工業設計系



教學問題

- 常教學生用腦力激盪、心智圖練習創新思考，還有更好的方法嗎？
- 常給一些靈感刺激物來激發學生類比思考，但應該怎麼選擇比較好？
- 自認教學很認真，但學生的創造力真的進步了嗎？



問題解決策略

- 運用字詞樹(word trees) 與腦力寫作 (brainwriting)來培養學生的創新思考或許更有效
 - 類比刺激物要與解決的問題有關聯
- 用某些量表來進行前測、後測加以檢驗學生的創造力有無進步
 - 發展一系列的創新思考工作坊教材並施以實驗教學



研究方法

實驗研究法

	Y ₁ 有關的利器物		Y ₂ 有關的利器物	
工作坊	第一學期 W21	第二學期 W22	第一學期 W21	第二學期 W22
K, 字詞樹與腦力寫作				
K, 心智圖與腦力激盪				



研究結果探討

- W組與M組有效參與者分別為100位及121位本校大學部學生
- W組K-DOCS創造力量表分數顯著進步(自身/日常創造力、表現創造力及構構/科學創造力, $p < 0.01$)，但M組無顯著進步
 - W組CAP創造思考活動量表分數顯著進步(流暢力、變通力、與創力、與構密力, $p < 0.01$)，但M組無顯著進步
 - W組聯動性思考(節點平均關聯率=0.89)顯著低於M組(0.91)($p < 0.01$)
 - W組的有效類比(類比平均相關率=0.67)顯著高於M組(0.53)($p < 0.01$)
 - W組工作坊設計結果(平均達成率=0.47)與M組(0.44)無顯著差異
 - W組與M組的工作坊設計結果與利器物是否與問題有關均無顯著差異

實化

- W組的自評報告較常抽選字詞樹和腦力激盪不容易學習，兩組都有一些學生覺得這種工作坊的主題內容無太大差異。
- 工作坊以跨學院的4-6位學生分組進行，常發生組員未到齊、組員互動不足而影響整組全程參與，可以課程網路群組(如Facebook, Zuvio) 精緻改善。
- 建議學生超過100人，使用演講廳等教學現場，可藉由學習單海報、網路版評量適度克服。



Balancing abstraction of knowledge representations helps students generate novel ideas: A case study on biologically inspired design

Abstract

In learning biologically inspired design (BID), the mapping process from problem to biological inspiration is crucial for generating novel ideas. This study determines the effects of knowledge representations related to design problems and inspirations on students' novelty of ideas generated in BID. Forty-four industrial design undergraduates were divided into four groups in four BID workshops. In each workshop, the design problem was represented in rule- and case-based formats while 220 **biocards**, as inspirations, in concrete and abstract formats. Each group took turns to create ideas using one of four knowledge representation combinations of rule- or case-based design problems with concrete or abstract inspirations in each workshop and completed all of them throughout the workshops. Results showed that both ideas generated using the rule-based design problem with the concrete inspiration (RN) and the case-based design problem with the abstract inspiration (CA) had higher mean novelty scores than others. Accordingly, this study proposes a dual-track process for helping students achieve better innovation by balancing abstraction of knowledge representation in problem solving.

Keywords biologically inspired design, conceptual design, creativity, design process, innovation

Introduction

Analogical reasoning is a crucial method for acquiring new knowledge and solving problems (Vossniados 1988). In this process, similarities are drawn between the existing knowledge (source) and the unknown concepts (target), followed by mapping from the source to the target in order to generate new understanding or new solution for the target (Gentner and Markman 1997). Since analogical reasoning can assist the mapping of information from biology to the technology (Fayomi et al. 2017; Shu 2004), it is commonly used in biologically inspired design (BID) and **biomimetics**, or more generally, the field of design-by-analogy (DBA), to enhance design creativity (Fu et al. 2013; Fu et al. 2014; Gentner 1983; Gentner and Markman 1997; Linsay et al. 2012). According to the broader definition of DBA by (Chang et al. 2011), BID is a specific approach to generating novel products (Bonyea 1997; French 1988), in particular, for sustainable development and innovation (Helms et al. 2009). Thus, BID has been widely applied to design education to better match the requirements faced by professionals (Ahmed-Khatami et al. 2014; Lemas et al. 2018; Luo et al. 2020; Santilli and Langella 2011). For example, problem-driven BID processes are suggested to integrate into students' analogical reasoning (Fayomi, Matsumoto, Aouzat, & Bressan, 2014; Lemas et al., 2018).

For better performance of BID, we should understand what factors influence the design creativity of students. Because searching for good analogical source as inspiration is important, the source's characteristics have attracted much attention. Literature showed that the presence of visual stimuli of different richness levels affects

the performance of the design generated under various types of design problems that are being solved (Goldschmidt and Smithke 2006). Past related works argued that the abstraction of the analogical source has positive impact on students' creative thinking (Cusack 2004; Christensen and Schanz 2007; Linsay et al. 2008; Tol and Miller 2013). Especially, when using biological phenomena as an analogical source, the student's novelty of their ideas generated is affected by the abstraction levels of biological phenomena (Lemas et al. 2015).

In addition to the abstraction factors, the knowledge representations (KR) of the design problem is another factor that affects design performance in analogical reasoning. At the beginning of a problem-driven BID process, the student uses knowledge relevant to the problem to represent the target problem, from which the effective searching for analogical source becomes possible. Orasanu (1997) stressed the importance of knowledge representation in problem framing for creative design, including the transformation from the implicit knowledge to representational structure that enables modification and change, and the transformation from knowledge into representational structures to make novel modifications and changes within, or through, these representations. As problem framing is frequently identified as a key feature of design expertise, prior research focused on the capacity of students to create new designs and the differences in problem framing exist between design experts and novices (Cross 2004; Dozt 2011).

Although the aforementioned factors of the design problem and inspiration have been well explored to a certain degree, respectively, yet questions regarding the interactive effects of these two factors on BID processes remain. The present study attempts to investigate how the interaction between the KR of design problem and inspiration affects students' novelty of ideas generated in the problem-driven BID process.

Related work

Problem-driven biologically inspired design processes

BID frequently requires problem-driven methods, in which the student reframes the problem as a specific representation of behavior or function, and explores the mapping to some biological systems for inspiration. Lemas et al. (2018) compiled five conventional problem-driven BID processes, namely the five-step sequential model mentioned by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) (ISO 2015), the six-step design spiral established by the Biomimicry Institute (Delfino and Scholkmach 2014), the Georgia Tech model (Helms et al. 2009), the Paris Tech model (Fayomi et al. 2014), and the **biocard** model established by the Technical University of Denmark (Lemas et al. 2018). Although these BID processes have different steps, they share the same framework. First, the problems are defined, and the concrete design objectives are abstracted into technical problems. Next, biological phenomena are identified and selected as analogical sources for the abstracted-technical problem. Subsequently, concrete biological phenomena are abstracted into solution strategies. Finally, the solution strategies are concretized into design ideas.

Extending their previous work (Fayomi et al. 2014; Fayomi et al. 2017) unified twelve different problem-driven BID models into the Paris Tech model. In this updated model, a BID process is divided to two 4-step phases designed as a double symmetrical abstraction-specification cycle. The first phase (step 1–4) focuses on a technology problem to biology transition while the second phase (step 5–8), in turn, continues a reverse process from biology to technology. Each phase starts at a lower abstraction level, through a higher abstraction level, and

finally ends at a lower abstraction level. That implies how to appropriately transform the abstraction-specification cycle is crucial for generating creative ideas in BID processes. Among the aforementioned BID processes, the Paris Tech model provides the most detailed steps for describing biomimicry design and is thus one of the most comprehensive processes. proposed a clarified summary of the alternation between concreteness and abstraction in the Paris Tech model; their findings enabled the clarification of instruction in design process. Therefore, this study adopted the Paris Tech model for the BID process.

In addition to the design process, the abstraction of the design material used in teaching (e.g., the provided knowledge relevant to the given design problem and the biological phenomena used as inspiration) influences students' creativity. Therefore, this study focused the Paris Tech model to discuss the influence of the abstraction and concreteness of materials on innovation.

Knowledge representation of design problems

The first and significant step for problem solving is defining the problem, which is related to the students' knowledge (Chi et al. 1981; Becker and Mettler 2015). Knowledge used in design domain can be presented in forms at different levels of abstraction (Bernal 1987; Schön 1983). Rule- and case-based knowledge are two common types of knowledge used in design education (Bernal 1987; Dutton et al. 1997; Jossanen and Hernandez-Serrano 2002; Kolvander 1997, 2002; Schön 1983, 1987). Rule-based reasoning employs abstract rule-based knowledge (e.g., text documents that introduce the relationship between product components and function principles) for problem solving (Chi et al. 1981), whereas case-based reasoning adopts similar concrete cases (e.g., product usage experience and product dissection) that have already been completed (Dutta and Bouissone 1993). Take the LED applications to television screens for example. Various types and styles of fluorescent lights have been designed according to a similar set of rules about general structure. Nevertheless, the idea that smaller lights conserve more energy cannot result in breakthroughs in the structure of fluorescent lights. Instead, designers might employ case-based reasoning to design LED lights that are smaller and conserve more energy.

- Dutta and Bouissone (1993) pointed out that although structured, rule-based knowledge reduces cognitive load, it also imposes limitations on creativity. Other studies also suggested that rule-based knowledge lacks creativity and that engineering education should include case studies (Khisty and Khisty 1992; Schön 1983, 1987). Designers who hold insufficient rule-based knowledge relevant to the design problem can alternatively use related product cases to overcome these cognitive limitations and lack of inspiration (Herring et al. 2009). Schön proposed the reflective practice viewpoint (Schön 1983, 1987), which questions the effectiveness of traditional knowledge structuring methods for professionals and proposed that rule-based knowledge applications have greater effectiveness in ideal environments. Moreover, because real environments are highly complex, undefined, and uncertain, applying rule-based knowledge in problem solving is difficult.

- Contrary to this, some research has proposed that rule-based and scientific knowledge is essential. When encountering certain problems, students must first acquire general knowledge before they are able to solve concrete problems (Bernal 1987, 1971). Once the problem has been framed, textual stimuli are useful as part of the design process due to their knowledge inside (Goldschmidt and Sever 2011). The scope of the knowledge used is rather broad. In engineering design, for example, experts tend to use major physics principles that will be used in violations to analyze and categorize problems (Chi et al. 1981). Some students' abilities, such as physics, application of math, are significantly correlated to their overall success in engineering problem solutions (Shaha

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Can abstraction help ideation? A case study on biologically inspired design

Xiaotian Deng, Hung-Hsiang Wang , Chuan-Yu Liu & Yun-Hsiang Wang*International Journal of Technology and Design Education* (2021) | [Cite this article](#)59 Accesses | [Metrics](#)

Abstract

In learning biologically inspired design (BID), the mapping process from problem to biological inspirations is crucial for generating novel ideas. This study determines the effects of knowledge representations related to design problems and inspirations on students' novelty of ideas generated in BID. Forty-four industrial design undergraduates were divided into four groups in four BID workshops. In each workshop, the design problem was represented in rule- and case-based formats while 220 biocards (inspirations were in concrete and abstract formats). Each group took turns to create ideas using one of four knowledge representation combinations of rule- or case-based design problems with concrete or abstract inspirations in each workshop and completed all of them throughout the workshops. Results showed that both ideas generated using the rule-based design problem with the concrete inspiration and the case-based design problem with the abstract inspiration had higher mean novelty scores than others. That implies that exclusively using highly structured representation in learning BID is not conducive to generating creative ideas. Accordingly, this study proposes a dual-track process for helping students achieve better innovation by balancing abstraction of knowledge representation in problem-solving.

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Can abstraction help ideation? A case study on biologically inspired design

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Abstract

In learning biologically inspired design (BID), the mapping process from problem to biological inspirations is crucial for generating novel ideas. This study determines the effect of knowledge representations related to design problems and inspirations on students' novelty of ideas generated in BID. Forty-four industrial design undergraduates were divided into four groups in four BID workshops. In each workshop, the design problem was represented in rule- and case-based formats while 220 biocards (inspirations were in concrete and abstract formats). Each group took turns to create ideas using one of four knowledge representation combinations of rule- or case-based design problems with concrete or abstract inspirations in each workshop and completed all of them throughout the workshops. Results showed that both ideas generated using the rule-based design problem with the concrete inspiration and the case-based design problem with the abstract inspiration had higher mean novelty scores than others. That implies that exclusively using highly structured representation in learning BID is not conducive to generating creative ideas. Accordingly, this study proposes a dual-track process for helping students achieve better innovation by balancing abstraction of knowledge representation in problem-solving.

Keywords Biologically inspired design · Conceptual design · Creativity · Design process · Innovation

Introduction

Analogical reasoning is a crucial method for acquiring new knowledge and solving problems (Vosniadou, 1988). In this process, similarities are drawn between the existing knowledge (source) and the unknown concepts (target), followed by mapping from the source to the target in order to generate a new understanding or new solution for the target (Gentner & Markman, 1997). Analogical reasoning is used in the field of design-by-analogy (DbA), which transfers knowledge from inspiration source to the design problem

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to be solved (Fu et al., 2013; Fu et al., 2014; Gentner, 1983; Gentner & Markman, 1999; Linsey et al., 2012). Since analogical reasoning can assist the mapping of information from biology to technology (Fayemi et al., 2017; Shu, 2004), it is commonly used in biologically inspired design (BID), a specific approach in the broader definition DbA by (Cheong et al., 2011). BID uses biological phenomena as inspiration source for novel products (Benyus, 1997; French, 1988), sustainable development, and innovation (Helms et al., 2009). Thus, it has been widely applied to design education to better match the requirements faced by professionals (Ahmed-Kristensen et al., 2014; Len et al., 2018; Luo et al., 2020; Santulli & Langella, 2010).

The problem-driven BID approach is a practical and common design approach. This approach starts with problem analysis, searches and selects biological phenomena as inspiration sources, develops solutions, and finally generates design outcomes (Fayemi et al., 2017; Lenau et al., 2018). Considering that problem-driven approaches are usually used for industrial companies and creativity training (Coica, 2017; Han et al., 2019; Shanta & Wells, 2020), we used the problem-driven BID approach as the methodological framework of the current study. For a given design problem in problem-driven BID training, students generally need to acquire and apply two kinds of knowledge delivered by the teacher: knowledge of *design problems* and *inspiration sources*. The knowledge of design problems introduces design problems, helps students reframe the problem, define needs and constraints, and abstract design problems into technical problems in problem analysis; the knowledge of inspiration sources is the information from which students get inspiration and generate solutions.

The way of expressing and transferring knowledge is called *knowledge representation* (KR) (Davis et al., 1993; Markman, 2013). A significant feature of KR is that knowledge can be expressed at the *high* levels of abstraction, which means lacking specific attributes, or *low* levels of abstraction, which means full of specific attributes (Nokes & Ohlson, 2005). For example, in a design problem about "water filtration", the engineering principle of water filtration is the knowledge at the high level of abstraction. In contrast, an actual water filter product is the knowledge at the low level of abstraction (see subsection, *Knowledge representation of design problems*, for more details). For another example, in the inspiration source of "bat's echolocation system", "physical waves will be reflected back when they encounter obstacles" is the knowledge at the high level of abstraction, whereas "sound waves emitted by bats will be reflected back when they meet insects" is the knowledge at the low level of abstraction (see sub-section, *Biological phenomena representation of inspirations*, for more details).

Since the two kinds of knowledge are significant in the problem-driven BID and can be represented at different levels of abstraction, the question is: which abstraction level (high or low) of KR is more conducive to problem-driven BID innovation? So far is known, past studies did not have consistent views about knowledge of design problems: some studies argued that the knowledge of design problems at the high level of abstraction was the basis for solving problems (Bernal, 1967, 1971; Chi et al., 1983; Goldschmidt & Sever, 2011; Shanta & Wells, 2020), while other studies believed that the knowledge of design problems at the low level of abstraction could bring innovation (Dutta & Bonissone, 1993; Herring et al., 2009; Khisty & Khisty, 1992; Schön, 1983, 1987). As for the knowledge of inspiration sources, most studies argue that inspiration sources at the high level of abstraction positively impact students' creative thinking (Casakin, 2004; Christensen & Schunn, 2007; Linsey et al., 2008; Toh et al., 2011). Especially, biological phenomena represented at the high level of abstraction led to innovation (Lenau et al., 2015).

Although previous researches pointed out the impact of KR on innovation at different abstraction levels, these researches of KR of design problems and inspiration sources were independent of each other and hardly discussed together in the problem-driven BID. Therefore, this study aims to investigate the combined effect of KR of design problems and inspiration sources at the high or low level of abstraction on novelty in the problem-driven BID process. In this study, we reviewed the problem-driven BID process, introduced the KR of design problems (rule- and case-based) and inspiration sources (abstract and concrete) at different levels of abstraction, and investigated the combined effect through a design workshop. The results implied that the *balance* of abstraction between KR of design problems and inspiration sources for innovation should be considered for problem-driven BID in design education.

Related work

Problem-driven biologically inspired design processes

In the problem-driven BID, students reframe the problem in a specific representation of behavior or function and explore the mapping to some biological systems for inspiration. Lenau et al. (2018) compiled five conventional problem-driven BID processes, namely the five-step sequential model mentioned by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO, 2015), the six-step design spiral established by the Biomimicry Institute (Deldin & Schuknecht, 2014), the Georgia Tech model (Helms et al., 2009), the Paris Tech model (Fayemi et al., 2014), and the biocard model established by the Technical University of Denmark (Lenau et al., 2010). Although these problem-driven BID processes have different steps, they share a similar framework with alternation of *abstraction* and *concretization*: (1) the needs and constraints are defined from the given problem, and the concrete design objectives are abstracted into technical problems and biology requests (*abstraction*); (2) biological phenomena are identified and selected as analogical sources for the abstracted technical problems or biological terms (*concretization*). Subsequently, biological phenomena are abstracted into solutions (*abstraction*); (3) the solution strategies are concretized into design outcomes such as sketches and prototypes (*concretization*).

A case study of *polymer syringe* designed by Lenau et al. (2017) is used to illustrate the problem-driven BID process. This case pointed out a recycling problem: medical metal injection needles became hazardous waste requiring special treatment after use. When facing this problem, the designer first identified the need to use plastic needles and constraint that penetration performance of plastic needles was much worse than that of metal needles, which was abstracted into *penetrating by soft things* (*abstraction*). Next, the designer identified the biological phenomenon that the mosquito proboscis is quite flexible and thin that can penetrate the skin by the supporting organism and serrations with vibration and impulse (*concretization*). The designer then abstracted this biological phenomenon into a mechanical vibration solution to assist the plastic needle (*abstraction*). Finally, a plastic needle prototype with vibration unit was designed according to this solution (*concretization*).

Both abstraction and concretization are significant in problem-driven BID processes. Abstraction helps designers find unfamiliar biological phenomena to avoid design fixation (Ahmed-Kristensen et al., 2014; Lenau et al., 2018). For example, when facing the issue of *keeping warm*, if it is not abstracted into a technical problem, designers may generally find the biological phenomena of polar bears or penguins keeping warm by their fur, and

solutions are easily limited to using *warm materials*. If the problem is abstracted into *controlling temperature*, designers may find the biological phenomenon of butterflies opening or closing wing scales to control temperature, and then produce unique solutions. Concretization is essential for finding appropriate biological inspirations for abstracted technical problems and implementing solutions (Fayemi et al., 2017). Therefore, a problem-driven BID process with explicit abstraction and concretization phases should be helpful for innovation.

Fayemi et al. (2017) unified twelve different problem-driven BID models within the last decade into the Paris Tech model after extending their previous work (Fayemi et al., 2014). Compared to other BID processes mentioned above, the Paris Tech model provides the most detailed steps (eight steps in two 4-step phases) to describe biomimicry design and is thus one of the most comprehensive processes. Besides, the Paris Tech model proposes and illustrates a clarified summary of the alternations of abstraction and concretization, whereas other processes pay little attention to this. The process is divided into two 4-step phases designed as a double symmetrical *abstraction-specification cycle*: the first phase (step 1–4), including *problem analysis*, *abstract technical problem*, *transpose to biology*, and *identify biological models*, focuses on a technology problem to biology transition; the second phase (step 5–8), including *selecting the biological model*, *abstract biological strategies*, *transpose to technology*, and *implement*, in turn, continues a reverse process from biology to technology. Each phase starts at a lower abstraction level, through a higher abstraction level, and finally ends at a lower abstraction level. Because of the Paris Tech model clearly showing the most detailed steps and alternations of abstraction and concretization, this study used this model for the problem-driven BID process.

Knowledge representation of design problems

The mental processes and representations involved in designing means design cognition (Hay et al., 2017), including employing a practical approach to frame problems and generate solutions (Cross, 2001). Problem framing is frequently identified as a critical feature of design expertise (Cross, 2004; Dorst, 2011). Oxman (1997) stressed the importance of *knowledge representation* (KR) in problem framing for creative design, including transforming from the implicit knowledge to representational structure that enables modification and change. The transformation from knowledge into representational structures makes novel modifications and changes within, or through, those representations. As the first step of the Paris Tech model, *problem analysis* aims to frame the problem, and identify needs and constraints (Fayemi et al., 2017). Students need to know the knowledge related to the design problem before the problem analysis (Becker & Mentzer, 2015; Chi et al., 1981); otherwise, they may not know how to start or what to do with this problem. For instance, supposing students face the design problem of *water container design for maritime distress* without relevant knowledge, they may not know what functions the water container should have. However, if students have the knowledge of water filtration related to this design problem. In that case, students may probably define the needs that the water container should filter and store water.

Considering students' knowledge of a given design problem is generally limited, the KR of design problems is usually provided to students in design training and it is usually presented in forms at high and low levels of abstraction: *rule-based* and *case-based* (Dutta & Bonissone, 1993; Kolodner, 1997). Rule-based knowledge is usually formed by abstract rules for problem-solving, whereas case-based knowledge contains similar concrete cases

that have already been completed (Chi et al., 1981; Dutta & Bonissone, 1993). In example of water filters (Fig. 1), rule-based knowledge contains water filtration principle that introduce the water purification procedures. In contrast, case-based knowledge contains the existing filter case that illustrates how to use a portable water filter and its components (see more details in Rule- and case-based design problems).

Since knowledge of design problems can be expressed in rule- and case-based representations, which one is better for the problem-driven BID? So far as is known, there are two standing conflicting views of supporting rule- and case-based knowledge leading to innovation, but few of them had directly looked into the problem-driven BID. Opposite views of supporting rule- and case-based knowledge have existed for a long time. In the view supporting case-based knowledge, the case-based study will help students learn concepts and practice in more usable ways (Dutson et al., 1997; Kolodner, 2002). Designers who hold insufficient rule-based knowledge relevant to the design problem can alternatively related product cases to overcome these cognitive limitations and lack of inspiration (Fring et al., 2009). Other studies also suggested that rule-based knowledge lacks creativity and that engineering education should include case studies (Khisty & Khisty, 1992; Set 1983, 1987). Schön proposed the reflective practice viewpoint (Schön, 1983, 1987), which questioned the effectiveness of traditional knowledge structuring methods for professional environments. Moreover, because virtual environments are highly complex, undefined, and uncertain, applying rule-based knowledge in problem-solving is difficult.

Contrary to this, some research has proposed that rule-based and scientific knowledge is essential. When encountering certain problems, students must first acquire general knowledge before solving concrete problems (Bernal 1967, 1971). Once the problem has been framed, textual stimuli are helpful as a part of the design process due to their knowledge inside (Goldschmidt & Sever, 2011). The scope of the knowledge used is rather broad engineering design, for example, experts tend to use physics principles that will be used in solutions to analyze and categorize problems (Chi et al., 1981). Some students' ability such as physics and maths, are significantly correlated to their overall success in engineering problem solutions (Shanta & Wells, 2020). Additionally, cases were useful only for solving certain problems and under specific conditions because they are not as universal rules. (Dutta & Bonissone, 1993). Furthermore, students may misunderstand case studies thus hindering them from obtaining knowledge (Kolodner et al., 2005). They may e



Fig. 1 Rule-based (left) and case-based (right) knowledge of water filter

become accustomed to case studies that provide default solutions, which would result in them being unable to innovate (Linsey et al., 2010; Sio et al., 2015).

Problem analysis, as the first step, has a significant impact on problem-driven BID innovation, while KR of design problems influence the problem framing in problem analysis, which means that KR of design problems may play a significant role in problem-driven BID innovation. Although the above studies have pointed out the impacts of rule- and case-based knowledge on innovation, few of them directly investigated their impact on problem analysis in the problem-driven BID. Therefore, the influence of rule- and case-based KR of design problems on problem-driven BID innovation is worth investigating.

Biological phenomena representation of inspirations

According to the Paris Tech model, searching and determining the biological phenomenon as inspiration is a significant step. Students must select existing biological phenomena as the analogical source to apply in their design, during which the representation of analogical source affects the students' thinking and design performance (Goldschmidt & Smol'kov, 2006; Lenau et al., 2015). Biological phenomena can be represented in low and high levels of abstraction, namely, *concrete* and *abstract* descriptions. Concrete descriptions are usually used in biology to characterize actual natural phenomena, mainly focus on the form of the phenomenon, or briefly describe the process and behavior; abstract descriptions are typically used in engineering to express abstract and structural relationships in functional principles, mainly explain the principles and the reasons behind biological phenomena. For example (Fig. 2), a concrete description for the biological phenomenon, *bat echolocation*, would be "the bat makes the sound waves in order to find insects, sound waves are reflected back to the bat's ear after they encounter the insect, and then the bat positions the insect's location", which describes the process by which bats find food through echolocation. An abstract description of this biological phenomenon would be "when waves encounter the object surface, all waves are reflected off except vertical waves", which explains the fundamental principle of echolocation (Denny, 2004; Wilson, 2015).

Concrete descriptions of biological phenomena may result in fixation, which limits innovation (Jansson & Smith, 1991; Purcell & Gero, 1992, 1996). Lenau et al. (2015) indicated that abstract descriptions of biological phenomena are conducive to overcoming design fixation. In previous studies, when faced with the design problem of "positioning", the concrete description of bat echolocation may limit students' thinking regarding using sound waves for positioning. However, the abstract description of this biological phenomenon enables students to consider other waves (such as electromagnetic waves) for positioning. Studies have indicated that the abstract structural relationship between the target and source has a considerable innovation-guiding effect in analogical thinking (Casakin,



Fig. 2 Concrete (left) and abstract (right) biological phenomena of bat sonar. Images are redrawn from Denny (2004) and Wilson (2015)

2004; Christensen & Schunn, 2007; Gentner, 1983; Gentner & Markman, 1997). However, Casakin (2004) revealed that only some students could understand this abstract structure. Toh et al. (2013) noted that complex abstract structures might inhibit student innovation and Lenau et al. (2015) indicated that not all students have abstract thinking abilities. Additionally, concrete forms (e.g., colors, materials, and shapes) are essential for product innovation in certain fields. For example, the appearance of a doorknob indicates whether users should push or pull to open the door; the computer operating system interfaces commonly use the concrete symbol of a trash can to represent the delete functions. Well-designed products employ familiar forms to transmit the unfamiliar connotations of new designs (Hekkert & Cila, 2015; Krippendorff, 2007).

Previous studies have indicated that although abstract structural relationships positively impact the innovation of designs, concrete forms are indispensable. Take the example of Excalibur Toilet Brush, designed by Philippe Starck. First of all, the design problem is to elevate the everyday activity about the toilet brush. The student searched for inspiration in a DbA approach. He caught the implicit similarity of abstract structure between the activities that “a user draws the brush from the stand to clean a dirty toilet humbly” and “King Arthur pulled the Excalibur sword out of the stone to do battle with the enemy epically”. Starck adopted some concrete elements to shape the brush to enforce the user to acknowledge the negative emotion when using the toilet brush and flip that negative into a playful adventure. For example, the form of the protective scabbard and round point of fencing sword are related to the handle and bristle of the brush, respectively, invoking an image of jousting with the dirty toilet in fencing épée for joyful user experience (King & Chang, 2016). Therefore, reexamining the effects of concrete descriptions on the biological phenomena in BID is needed.

Biologically inspired design tools

BID requires tools that provide the *knowledge representation* (KR) of biological phenomena at suitable levels. Because of the limited duration of workshops, BID tools should be convenient, enable participants to understand biological phenomena quickly and support the BID abstraction process (Fayemi et al., 2014). Numerous databases on BID are available for acquiring innovations from biological phenomena and applying them to BID (Fu et al., 2014). For example, AskNature (<https://asknature.org>) (Deldin & Schuknecht, 2014), an online, social media-based database aiming to share knowledge in biology, contains essential information on biological phenomena and BID applications. The categorization and navigation methods of the AskNature database are similar to those of typical search engines and are suitable for nonprofessional users. Besides, biocards are a BID tool used to cultivate students' innovation (Ahmed-Kristensen et al., 2014; Lenau et al., 2015). Biocards employ short and precise text descriptions and sequential figures to describe biological phenomena (see more details in sub-section, *Concrete and abstract biocards*), thus facilitating user understanding and aiding in the abstraction process. Because the content in BID databases may be cumbersome, workshops that directly apply BID databases must expend considerable time to search and understand biological phenomena. Therefore, we employed AskNature as the search engines to obtain biological phenomena and then presented these phenomena as biocards. The present study used biocards to describe biological phenomena and as a tool to support the BID process.

Research objectives

In light of previous studies, the current study was developed to explore the effect of KR of design problems (i.e., rule- and case-based) and inspirations (i.e., concrete and abstract) on novelty in the problem-driven BID process. We investigated whether rule- or case-based design problems provide more support for innovation. Some research posited that rule-based knowledge in science or design fields (Bernal, 1967, 1971; Chi et al., 1981). However, concrete knowledge is more practical when encountering new problems (Schön, 1983). To determine these inconsistent arguments, we proposed the following hypothesis.

Hypothesis 1 (H1). *The case-based design problem representation has more positive impacts on the novelty of ideas than the rule-based design problem representation.*

Next, we aimed to determine whether abstract or concrete descriptions of biological phenomena provide greater support for innovation. Concrete descriptions of design fixation, which is conducive to innovative thinking (Jansson & Smith, 1991). However, abstract descriptions of biological phenomena are conducive to design fixation (Lenau et al., 2015). Although abstract structural relationships are conducive to understanding (Casakin, 2004; Toh & Miller, 2013), abstract descriptions of the structural relationships between the target and source can provide more support for innovation than concrete descriptions (Casakin, 2004; Gentner & Markman, 1997). Therefore, we proposed the following hypothesis.

Hypothesis 2 (H2). *The abstract inspiration has more positive impacts on the novelty of ideas than the concrete inspiration.*

Finally, to determine the combination of design problem with inspirations that provides the most support for innovation, we proposed the following hypothesis established based on the theoretical foundations of H1 and H2.

Hypothesis 3 (H3). *The combination of case-based design problem representation with abstract inspiration has more positive impacts on novelty of ideas than the combination of rule-based design problem representation with concrete inspiration.*

Method

Participants

The experiment participants in this study were 44 students (14 males and 30 females, ranging from 20 to 23 [$M = 20.9$, $SD = 0.73$]). All participants were undergraduates from the Department of Industrial Design of National Taipei University of Technology.

Materials

This study conducted four workshops on the following topics: (A) mouse trap design; (B) water container design for maritime distress; (C) design to reduce premature infant mortality rate in developing countries; and (D) smart logistics transportation system design. Each workshop included four types of materials based on combinations of knowledge representations, namely *rule-based* design problem with *concrete* inspiration (RN), *rule-based* design problem with *abstract* inspiration (RA), *case-based* design problem with *concrete* inspiration (CN), and *case-based* design problem with *abstract* inspiration (CA).

Rule- and case-based design problems

Fig. 3 illustrates the rule- and case-based design problem representations used in topic B (water container design for maritime distress). The rule-based design problem representation introduces water categories, procedures and functions, and design principles. For example, tap water, which has undergone chlorine filtering and impurity removal, must be boiled before drinking; the first step of a five-step procedure requires high-quality filtering materials used to filter mud, gravel, hair, and other materials; demands or issues that must be clarified and defined during maritime disasters. In the case-based design problem representation, the usage processes and scenarios were employed to illustrate a water purifier product. When camping with children in overseas countries, the hygiene of tap water and bottled water is questionable. The water filter uses numerous U-shaped hollow microfiber tubes that filter out 99.9999% of pollutants and provides a 0.1- μm absolute filter to filter bacteria, protozoa, and microplastics. Besides, a 16-oz reusable pressurization bag can be folded when empty, thereby conserving packaging space.

Concrete and abstract biocards

Biocards are used as inspiration representations in this study. Two hundred and twenty (220) pairs of concrete and abstract biocards were designed by the 44 participants under the authors' guidance. By searching biological phenomena examples in AskNature and referencing the existing biocards (Lenau et al., 2015), each participant created five concrete and abstract biocards encompassing topics related to mammals, fish, insects, and plants. The biocards comprise *biological phenomena*, *biological mechanisms*, and *functional principle*. The content of biological phenomena and biological mechanisms in concrete and abstract biocards are the same, whereas functional principle differs. Functional principle's discrepancy embodies in the different terminology, emphasis, and schematic diagram: the concrete biocard uses terminology from biology and focuses on biological behavior and processes, and the schematic diagram reflects the morphology of biological organism; the abstract biocard uses terminology close to the engineering field, focuses on presenting underlying principles, and the schematic diagram reflects the abstract underlying principle. For example, in “selective penetration of mouse aquaporins” (Fig. 4), both of them describe how aquaporins help the cells regulate their osmotic pressure (i.e., biological phenomena) by allowing water molecules to pass through the aquaporins (i.e., biological mechanism). About functional principle, the concrete biocard details the process of aquaporins allowing water molecules to flow in and out of the cell membrane rapidly, with biological terms such as “aquaporins”

Water container design for maritime distress

Introduction
In recent years, the climate is abnormal and disasters are frequent. It is a threat to the fishermen who have stayed in the ocean for a long time. They can lose access to advance when a natural disaster occurs. Without food, human life can last for more than 43 days, but it is difficult for people to survive due to lack of water within 3 days. When trapped in a disaster, how to maintain a certain amount of water is still a question. There are many different products and solutions for water supplements. It is needed to design innovative products in the case of water supplements during disasters and looking for more suitable product solutions.

Relative Information

Q1: How categories

Category	Function
Waterproof	Not easy to be damaged when being used
Lightweight	Easy to carry
Compact	Save space and reduce transportation cost
Reusable	Save resources
Safe	Not easy to be damaged or used

Q2: Principles and functions of water purifiers

Step	High-quality filter for better purification
First step	High-quality filter for better purification
Second step	High-quality filter for better purification
Third step	High-quality filter for better purification
Fourth step	High-quality filter for better purification
Fifth step	High-quality filter for better purification

Design principles

- The container setting is used when a disaster occurs, and the need or problem must be clearly defined.
- The type, characteristics and constraints of the disaster.
- Practical factors that affect the climate and environment.
- Disasters of water resources and steps in which they can be considered.
- The design of the past water container safety includes:
 - Purification equipment and filtration with a simple water source.
 - Lightweight and easy to carry.
 - Clear the product design of need for consumers to protect and feel healthy.
 - Reusable.
 - Cost: about 1000 yuan.
- Design requirements:
 - It is used by marine fishermen in case of an emergency.
 - Can be used in emergency disaster bags, and the location of installation.
 - A certain amount of water should be placed in the container for emergency use (the amount can be stored), or there are water sources and more methods can be used for water for growth and rescue.
 - The appearance is easy for the user to take it (immediately after the disaster), or it can be easily folded after being into the sea and used.

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Case: Sawyer MINI Water Filter



SAWYER MINI Water Filter

The Sawyer MINI water purifier is a lightweight, sensitive personal filtration system that can be placed in the palm of your hand and weighs only 2 ounces. The mini MINI is perfect for everything from camping with children to traveling abroad where you can't trust tap water and bottled water, and provides an absolute filtration capacity of 1.1 million for clean drinking water on the go. Filtering out bacteria, protozoa and microplastics. Each unit contains a durable, foldable 10-ounce reusable pressurization bag that can be folded when empty, thereby conserving packaging space. To start filtering water, simply fill the squeeze bag with water from the water source and screw the MINI filter onto the bag. You can store it directly from MINI or separate it into a water bottle to share with others. MINI can also be screwed onto a water or soda bottle with a standard threaded top, and you can install it directly on the water and packaging to filter water that is sold separately.

Features include:


- Great for outdoor recreation, hiking, camping, recreational, domestic and international travel, and emergency preparation.
- High-performance 1.1 gpm filter can be placed in the palm of your hand and weighs only 2 ounces. 100% MINI unit has been tested three times by Sawyer performance standards.
- The product can be attached to a dedicated drinking bag, ordinary standard one-liter plastic water bottle, and the attached straw can be drunk directly from the water source.
- Removes 99.9999% bacteria (Escherichia, Clostridia and E. coli), 99.9999% protozoa (such as Giardia and Cryptosporidium) and 100% of microplastics.
- More pressure rating up to 100,000 gallons, includes a Sawyer MINI Filter, 10-ounce reusable pressurization bag, 2 inch straw and clean plunger.

Fig. 3 Rule-based (top) and case-based (bottom) design problem representations of water filter container.

and “cell membrane”, and the schematic diagram illustrates the appearance of water molecules and aquaporins. In contrast, the abstract biocard details how positive dipoles enable water molecules to rearrange and pass through, with engineering terms such as “positive dipoles”, and the schematic diagram illustrated interaction between molecules.

Selective penetration of mouse aquaporins

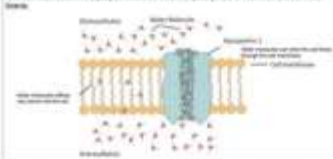
Organism: Mammalia



Biological phenomena
As a mammal, the successful adaptation of the respiratory system of mice depends on the balance of the internal environment of the respiratory system. The balance of water is very important, and aquaporins are proteins located on the cell membrane, which can control the permeability of water. Mice cells in mice adjust their osmotic pressure.


Biological mechanism
When the water molecules in the mouse pass through the aquaporins, they have a single channel and enter the normal and narrow channel. The internal dipole force and polarity will help the water to enter and cross the narrow channel of an aquaporin. Protein conformation is the reason that only water molecules can pass through.

Functional principle
Water molecules can diffuse slowly across the membrane without the help of aquaporins, and the intervention of aquaporins allows water to quickly flow in the cell. The cell membrane is shown.



Selective penetration of mouse aquaporins

Organism: Mammalia



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Functional principle
(1) The central channel of AQP1 is in the shape of a dumbbell, and the effect of excluding the size of most hydrated ions with a large or entering the narrowest part of the water channel. It will be screened for Region, which is mostly composed of arginine residues, and the size is positively charged ions. (2) At the entrance of the water channel, positively charged residues, which will delay hydrogen bonds and a large amount of water, at the same time, the electric field promotes the net molecules, allowing them to quickly pass through the water channel.




Fig. 4 Concrete (left) and abstract (right) biocards of selective penetration of mouse aquaporins

Design worksheet

The design worksheet was printed in A3 size. Each participant was required the title of biocards in the bottom quarter of the worksheet. The remaining half of the worksheet were blank for the participants to draft design ideas for their cards topic and note a brief design description.

Procedures

The experiment process adhered to the BID process of the Paris Tech model (Fu 2014). Because of the workshop duration limitations and training purpose, the focused on steps 1–8. In Step 9, three judges conducted the novelty assessment judges are one first-year industrial design doctoral student and two first-year design master's students with industrial design training experience from 5 to 7 they are trained for two semesters of design creativity and BID. Before the first the overall process of four workshops (that were held weekly) was introduced to participants, who were then divided into four groups. In each workshop, each of the materials (RN, RA, CN, and CA, see sub-section *Materials*) was distributed to participants in one of the four groups; the types of materials received by the four groups were not repeated. Afterward, the participants in each group received different types of materials during the four workshops. At the beginning of each workshop, each participant received the same set of materials in his or her group and a design worksheet, and then

explained the design topic of the current workshop, the workshop duration, and how to use the design material and worksheet. All participants conducted the workshop in the same classroom, and each participant individually inspected their design material for four hours and completed the innovative design on their design worksheet. Once a workshop was finished, ideas generated during this workshop were evaluated for novelty. After completing all four workshops, all ideas were divided into four idea groups according to the type of materials received, named RN, RA, CN, and CA idea groups.

Novelty assessment

Ideas generated through BID can be evaluated in terms of various factors, and the most common one is creativity. Furthermore, creativity can be evaluated using various indicators, including the quantity, quality, diversity, and novelty of the ideas (Peeters et al., 2010). In particular, novelty is commonly used to evaluate the creativity of ideas (Fu et al., 2013; Lenau et al., 2015) and refers to uniqueness or rarity in ideas (Dean et al., 2006). Fu et al. (2013) proposed a novelty evaluation method centering on idea rarity. This method employed the definition of function proposed by Hirtz et al. (2002) to determine whether the idea provides functional solutions for the design problems. Besides, this method assumed that ideas conceived by fewer people exhibit novelty. Therefore, we employed the method proposed by Fu et al. (2013) to evaluate the novelty of ideas.

In the novelty assessment method, a sub-function group consists of possible solutions. Each idea provides one or more solutions for the sub-function group. Moreover, each sub-function group comprises three components: (1) *what*, the type of sub-function (e.g., energy or a part of the human body such as the foot); (2) *how*, the components that implement the sub-function (e.g., pedal); and (3) *compound*, descriptions of the compound functions of *what* and *how* (e.g., the foot stomps on the pedal). The novelty (n) of each idea is calculated as follows:

$$n = \frac{1}{i} \times \sum_j \frac{w_j \times R}{1} \quad (1)$$

R represents the rarity score for the idea's solution for the *j*th component of *i*th sub-function. The overall rarity score of *i*th sub-function is calculated as the weighted mean of *j*th component in *i*th sub-function, and the recommended weights of *what*, *how*, and *compound* are 0.5, 0.3, and 0.2, respectively (Fu et al., 2013). Furthermore, the novelty score of each idea is obtained by calculating the unweighted means of rarity scores of all *i* sub-function. R for each idea's solution is computed in the following equation:

$$R = \frac{T - C}{T} \quad (2)$$

T, in this study, is the total number of solutions for a given component of a given sub-function, and C is the number of solutions of the same type as the current solution. Before the novelty assessment, the three judges (same as the three judges in the section, *Procedures*) individually assessed ideas for inter-rater agreement at two levels: (1) whether an idea provided a solution to a given sub-function; (2) type of *what*, *how*, and *compound*. The first level got a good agreement (Cronbach's $\alpha=0.901$), and the second level also got a good agreement of *what* (Cronbach's $\alpha=0.926$), *how* (Cronbach's $\alpha=0.958$) and *compound*

(Cronbach's $\alpha=0.961$). The three judges reached an agreement after discussing differences and then assessed the novelty of ideas.

For example, in the filter concept design (Fig. 5), the filter only allows water to run through by extruding it, inspired by the selective penetration of mouse aquaporins. This idea provides the solution for one sub-function, "transfer objects" ($i=1$), and this idea's *what* is "pressure", *how* is "extrusion device", and *compound* is "using the extrusion device to filter water by pressure". There are twenty-one solutions ($T=21$) for "transfer objects" in design outcome, and the number of solutions with the same *what*, *how* and *compound* of the given idea are seven ($C_{what}=7$), one ($C_{how}=1$), and one ($C_{compound}=1$), respectively. So, calculations of the rarity score in *what* ($j=1$), *how* ($j=2$) and *compound* ($j=3$) are 0.67 ($R_{what}=0.67$), 0.95 ($R_{how}=0.95$) and 0.95 ($R_{compound}=0.95$) according to Eq. (2). And, according to Eq. (1) and the suggested weights (0.5, 0.3, and 0.2 for *what*, *how*, and *compound*, respectively) (Fu et al., 2013), the calculation of the novelty score in this idea is 0.81.

Results

Ideas and novelty

In this study, 44 participants generated 519 ideas (Table 1), with an average of 11.8 ideas per participant ($SD=5.01$). The novelty scores of these ideas ranged from 0.10 to 1.00 ($N=519$, $M=0.826$, $SD=0.145$). First, we compared the effects of design problem

		Bio-cards	
		Concrete	Abstract
Knowledge	Rule		
	Case		

Fig. 5 Idea samples of the water container design for maritime distress

Table 1 Novelty scores of ideas

Ideas		N	Mean	SD	Min	Max
All		519	0.826	0.145	0.100	1.000
KRs of design problems	Rule	259	0.825	0.136	0.470	1.000
	Case	260	0.828	0.153	0.100	1.000
KRs of inspiration sources	Concrete	275	0.834	0.142	0.100	1.000
	Abstract	244	0.817	0.147	0.400	1.000
Groups	RN	135	0.850	0.118	0.470	1.000
	RA	124	0.798	0.149	0.470	1.000
	CN	140	0.820	0.161	0.100	1.000
	CA	120	0.837	0.144	0.400	0.980

(i) RN=rule-based design problem with concrete inspiration, RA=rule-based design problem with abstract inspiration, CN=case-based design problem with concrete inspiration, CA=case-based design problem with abstract inspiration

representations and inspiration representations, respectively, on the novelty of quantities of ideas and mean novelty score generated from the rule-based design problem with concrete inspiration ($N=259$, $M=0.825$, $SD=0.136$) and the case-based design problem with concrete inspiration ($N=260$, $M=0.828$, $SD=0.153$) are similar. In contrast, quantities of ideas and mean novelty score from concrete inspiration ($N=275$, $M=0.834$, $SD=0.142$) are higher than abstraction ($N=244$, $M=0.817$, $SD=0.147$). Second, we compared novelty scores groups (i.e., rule-based design problem with concrete inspiration, RN; rule-based problem with abstract inspiration, RA; case-based design problem with concrete inspiration, CN; and case-based design problem with abstract inspiration, CA). That mean novelty score of RN group was the highest ($N=135$, $M=0.850$, $SD=0.118$), whereas mean novelty score of RA group was the lowest ($N=124$, $M=0.798$, $SD=0.149$).

Idea samples are presented in Fig. 5 for topic B (water container design for maritime distress). In this topic B, an idea of the RN group employed the idea that camel reabsorb water vapor as the analogical source and designed a mask that can absorb a vapor from the air for water storage (novelty=0.93). An idea of the RA group designed a water filter device (novelty=0.77). Moreover, an idea of the CN group designed a filter device that allows selective penetration of mouse aquaporins as inspiration (novelty=0.86). An idea of the CA group was generated with the inspiration of thin-walled filters (novelty=0.86).

Hypothesis testing

In hypothesis H1, we anticipated that the case-based design problem represents more positive impacts on the novelty of ideas than the rule-based design problem. The purpose was to determine whether using different design problem types (i.e., rule- and case-based) enables the ideas generation with different novelty. To validate this hypothesis, we employed an independent-sample t-test to compare the novelty of ideas generated by the two types of design problems. The results revealed that the novelty of ideas generated using rule- ($M=0.825$, $SD=0.136$) and the case-

Fig. 6 Error bars (95% CI) of mean novelty of four groups of ideas ($N=519$) (RN=rule-based design problem with concrete inspiration, RA=rule-based design problem with abstract inspiration, CN=case-based design problem with concrete inspiration, CA=case-based design problem with abstract inspiration)

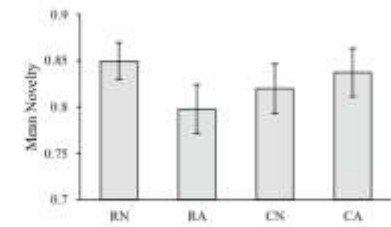


Table 2 Post-hoc comparison between groups

J (Group)	I (Group)			
	RN	CA	CN	RA
RN	-			
CA	0.012 (0.883)	-		
CN	0.030 (0.302)	0.017 (0.793)	-	
RA	0.052 (0.012)	0.040 (0.153)	0.022 (0.654)	-

Bold value in brackets indicates that the comparison difference is statistically significant (p -value below 0.05)

- (i) Groups are arranged by mean novelty scores
- (ii) Mean difference (I-J); p -values are in between brackets (bold values indicate p -value < 0.05)
- (iii) RN=rule-based design problem with concrete inspiration, RA=rule-based design problem with abstract inspiration, CN=case-based design problem with concrete inspiration, CA=case-based design problem with abstract inspiration

problem ($M=0.828$, $SD=0.153$) did not differ significantly ($t=-0.249$, $p=0.804$); thus, hypothesis H1 was rejected.

In hypothesis H2, we predicted that abstract inspiration had a more positive impact on the novelty of ideas than concrete inspiration. The purpose was to compare the novelty of ideas generated using the two types of inspiration representations (i.e., bio-cards with abstract descriptions and those with concrete descriptions). Similarly, we employed an independent samples t-test to compare the novelty of the ideas generated using the concrete ($M=0.834$, $SD=0.142$) and abstract ($M=0.817$, $SD=0.147$) inspiration. The results revealed no significant difference ($t=1.352$, $p=0.177$); therefore, this hypothesis H2 was rejected.

In hypothesis H3, it was supposed that the combination of the case-based design problem with abstract inspiration (i.e., CA) led innovation, whereas the combination of the rule-based design problem with concrete inspiration (i.e., RN) hampered innovation. We adopted the four types of materials as independent variables and the ideas' novelty as the dependent variable and applied a one-way ANOVA. As shown in Fig. 6, the results revealed a significant difference on novelty $F(3, 515)=3.122$, $p=0.026$, $\eta^2=0.018$. Because the Levene's test reported that variances were not homogenous ($p=0.023$), the Games-Howell test was conducted for post-hoc analysis. As shown in Table 2 (arranged by mean novelty scores), the mean novelty score of CA group ($M=0.837$) was not significantly ($p=0.883$) higher than RN group ($M=0.850$). The results rejected hypothesis H3. Nonetheless, the

only significance ($p=0.012$) of the novelty of these four groups was that RN group was higher than RA group ($M=0.798$). The mean novelty of CA group was slightly, yet not statistically, significantly higher than RA group ($p=0.153$); meanwhile, the mean novelty of CN group ($M=0.820$) was not significantly ($p=0.654$) higher than RA group. The results indicated a latent boundary between CA and CN groups, meaning RN and CA groups were better than RA and CN groups, which implied that the combinations of low and high levels of abstract representations in either RN or CA groups were conducive to innovation.

Discussion

Completing the experiment, we obtained data about the effects of *knowledge representations* (KRs) of design problems (i.e., rule- and case-based) and inspiration sources (i.e., concrete and abstract) on novelty in problem-driven BID training (i.e., rule-based design problem with concrete inspiration, RN; rule-based design problem with abstract inspiration, RA; case-based design problem with concrete inspiration, CN; and case-based design problem with abstract inspiration, CA). The main findings from the study were as follows: (1) the effects of rule and case-based design problem representations on novelty did not differ significantly; (2) the effects of concrete and abstract biological phenomena on novelty did not differ significantly; (3) ideas' novelty scores of RN and CA group were the highest, followed by the CN group, and ideas' novelty score in RA group was the lowest.

The first finding did not support hypothesis H1 that cases were better than rules, and it showed no bias towards supporting case-based knowledge (Dutson et al., 1997; Herring et al., 2009; Khisty & Khisty, 1992; Kolodner, 2002; Schön, 1983, 1987), or supporting rule-based knowledge (Bernal, 1967, 1971; Chi et al., 1981; Goldschmidt & Sever, 2011; Shanta & Wells, 2020). The second finding did not support hypothesis H2 and showed that abstract and concrete inspirations had little difference in leading innovation, which did not support previous studies that abstract inspirations were better than concrete inspirations (Jansson & Smith, 1991; Lenau et al., 2015; Purcell & Gero, 1992, 1996). In addition, the third finding showed that different combinations of design problems and inspiration sources impacted novelty. These three findings indicated that if KRs of design problems or inspiration sources were considered separately, it was difficult to judge whether knowledge at a high or low level of abstraction was more helpful for innovation.

The third and last main finding refuted hypothesis H3 that the combination of case-based design problem representation with abstract inspiration (i.e., CA) has more positive impacts on the novelty of ideas than the combination of rule-based design problem representation with concrete inspiration (i.e., RN). The actual result was that the ideas' novelty scores of RN and CA group were the highest, followed by the CN group. The most likely explanation is that students who received the CN materials had to face both KRs of design problems and inspiration sources at low abstraction levels (i.e., case-based design problem with concrete inspiration), which might increase cognitive loads of abstraction in the problem-driven BID process. In contrast, RN group started with the rule-based design problem at the high abstraction level, which reduced the cognitive loads when abstracting the design problem into technical problems and biology requests; CA group used abstract inspiration, which reduced the cognitive loads when abstracting inspiration into technology.

Although rule-based design problem or abstract inspiration reduced thinking loads of abstraction, the combination of them (i.e., rule-based design problem with abstract inspiration, RA) led to the lowest mean novelty score. This result might be due to cognitive

loads when facing materials at high abstraction levels. It was challenging to abstract structures and produce innovative ideas for students (Casakin, 2004; 2013), and not all students have enough abstract thinking abilities (Lenau et al., 2015). Furthermore, students must use metaphors to represent abstract functions in concrete products must express their intrinsic functions and image through their appearance (Hekkert & Cila, 2015; Krippendorff, 2007). Students who received RA could be difficult to understand both the rule-based design problem and abstraction, which were subjected to considerable cognitive loads of concretization in problem-driven BID process.

Materials at overly high or low abstraction levels may obstruct BID's abstract concretization processes, thereby influencing innovation. Using high abstract concrete materials, the participants had difficulty understanding and generating with the cognitive load on the concretization process, thereby leading to an innovation results. By contrast, CN materials were effortless for the participants and provided them with concrete forms to support their innovation, but the participants' cognitive load on the abstraction process. The experiment indicated that RN and CA materials facilitated innovation, which was not highly concrete and prevented the participants from sustaining excessive cognitive load. Therefore, an appropriate balance between abstract and concrete forms is crucial for problem-driven BID. This finding is significant for problem-driven BID. On the one hand, it pointed out that both KRs of design problems and inspiration are essential for innovation. On the other hand, this finding provided a reference for problem-driven BID training. When preparing knowledge for students, the balance of levels between KRs of design knowledge and inspiration sources should be considered.

According to the last finding, we concluded that abstraction and concretization complement each other in the BID. Maintaining a dynamic balance between abstraction and concretization is essential, and this dynamic balance should be integrated into problem-driven BID process. Therefore, we modified the Paris Tech model into a track problem-driven BID process which depicted two paths (RN and CA paths).

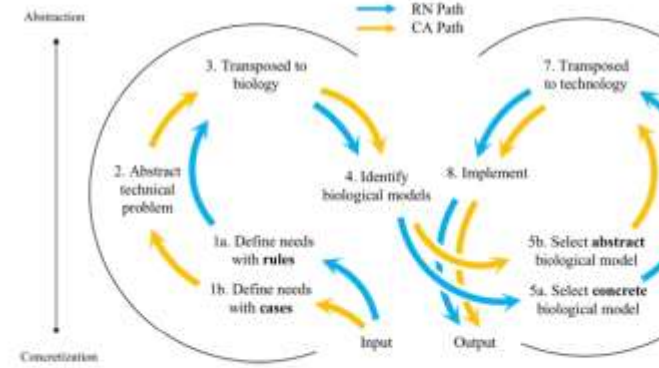


Fig. 7 Balancing abstraction between design problem and inspiration representations in RN=rule-based design problem with concrete inspiration, CA=case-based design problem with abstract inspiration

design innovation (Fig. 7). The two paths are roughly similar to each other, except for step 1 and step 5 (step 1a and step 5a for the RN path; step 1b and step 5b for the CA path). We use blue arrows to indicate the RN path and use a yellow arrow to indicate the CA path. RN path starts with rule-based design problem representation in step 1 (step 1a, problem analysis with rules), then skips step 2 and goes directly to step 3; in step 5, the path selects the biological model from concrete inspiration representation (step 5a, select concrete biological model). In contrast, CA path starts with case-based design problem representation in step 1 (step 1b, problem analysis with cases); in step 5, the path selects the biological model from abstract inspiration representation (step 5b, select abstract biological model), then the path skips step 6 and goes directly to step 7.

To better illustrate this modified model, we present two examples designed by students in workshops. The first example is "water vapor reabsorption mask" in the RN path (Fig. 8). When facing the problem, the student first identified the need, "A container that can collect and store water" (step 1a), which was directly abstracted into "Capture and store liquid" (step 3) and skipped the step of abstract technical problem. Next, the student identified the biological phenomenon of camel nasal, which can reabsorb water vapor (step 4), and select the concrete biological phenomenon that camel's nasal can reabsorb water vapor when the camel breathes (step 5a). And then, the student abstracted this concrete biological phenomenon into "absorb water vapor from the air" (step 6) and further abstracted it into "steam condenses to liquid" (step 7). Finally, an implementation of "a mask that can collect water vapor" was generated (step 8) with the sketch. The second example is "thin-walled filter" in the CA path (Fig. 9). The student first identified the need, "filter water and remove sand, rust and other things" (step 1b), which was abstracted into "remove the impurity and collect water" (step 2), and further abstracted it into "separate other things from liquid" (step 3). Next, the student identified the biological phenomenon of crab oral cavity, which can remove impurity in the oral cavity (step 4) and select the abstract biological

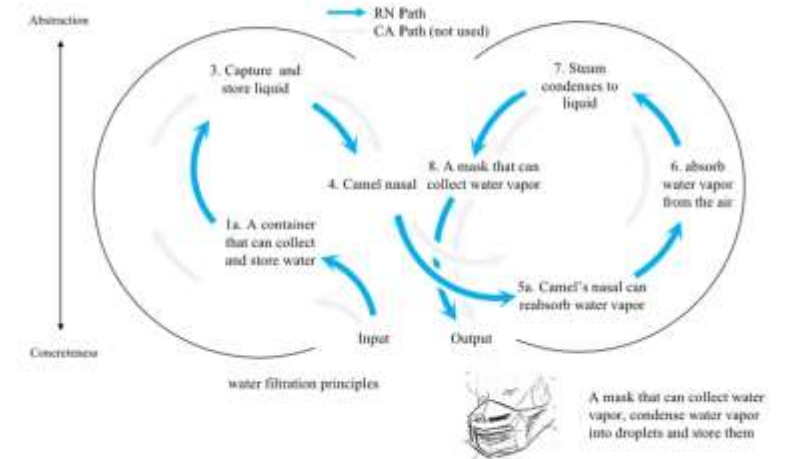


Fig. 8 Example of RN path: water vapor reabsorption mask. RN=rule-based design problem with concrete inspiration

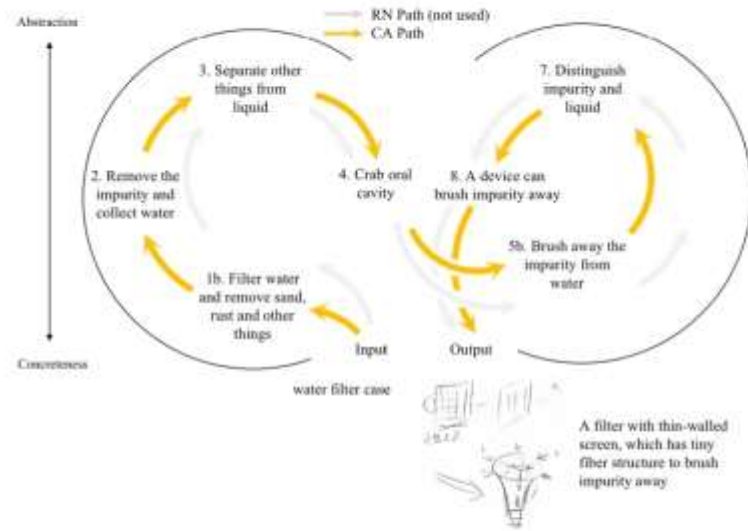


Fig. 9 Example of CA path: thin-walled filter. CA = case-based design problem with abstract inspiration

phenomenon that “brush away the impurity from water” (step 5b). The student directly abstracted this abstract biological phenomenon into “distinguish impurity and liquid” (step 7) and skipped the step of *abstract biological strategy*. Finally, an implementation of “a filter with thin-walled screen” was generated (step 8).

This study has limitations. First, only extrinsic knowledge (i.e., what all participants learned from the well-described design problems and inspiration provided by such external sources as worksheets) was discussed. However, intrinsic knowledge (i.e., what each participant used to relate the inspirations to solve the problems in a different thinking technique) was not considered, though it may influence the novelty of ideas generated. Second, because of the large number of participants and the focus on the novelty of products rather than processes, this study did not employ think-aloud protocol or participants’ self-reports. Instead, all assessments on the novelty were exclusively based on the participants’ ideas produced in the BID workshops. Further investigation is needed to explore the participants’ intrinsic knowledge in deeper analyses.

Conclusion

The current study investigated the combined effect of *knowledge representations* (KRs) of design problems and inspiration sources at the high or low level of abstraction on novelty in the problem-driven BID process. We have conducted four workshops and provided participants with materials comprising two types of design problem representations (i.e., rule- or case-based) and two types of inspiration representations (i.e., concrete or abstract).

The results revealed that KRs of *rule-based* design problem with *concrete* insp or *case-based* design problem with *abstract* inspiration (CA) was the most creative in the BID, followed by KRs of *case-based* design problem with *concrete* (CN), and KRs of *rule-based* design problem with *abstract* inspiration (I) least conducive to novelty. Based on these findings, a problem-driven BID to balance abstraction of KRs. In order to achieve the balance, KRs could be used in *case-based* design problem (e.g., product design requirement, function, or principle inspiration (e.g., illustration of animals’ behaviors), or *case-based* design problem (e.g., product design case) and *abstract* inspiration (e.g., underlying principle phenomena). Furthermore, we proposed a dual-track problem-driven BID to balance the balance to map the given problems to biological inspirations to help students generate novel ideas. Future research should consider the potential effects of the balance and more applications of the dual-track process to design education. Our study will guide students to establish a database containing design problems and in balance abstraction for the dual-track process. We will then identify challenges when applying the dual-track process with the database and optimize the BID innovation.

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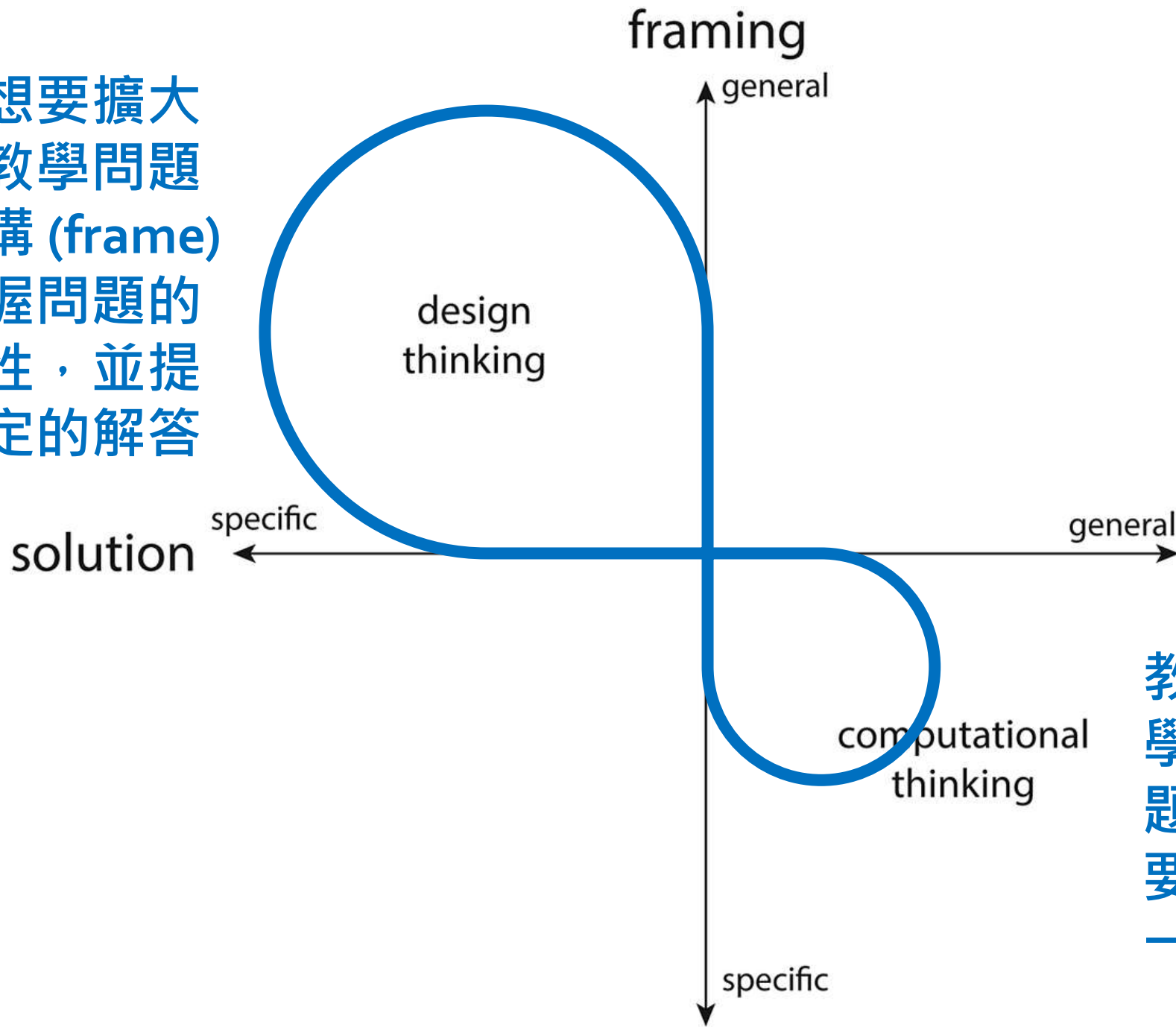
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- 回饋個人動機、同理心、教學知能...的正循環

教師想要擴大現場教學問題的架構 (frame) 來掌握問題的複雜性，並提出特定的解答



教師想要縮小現場教學問題的架構來將問題抽象化，消除不必要的複雜性，並提出一般性的解答

Thank you.

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