A Primer on the Integral Viewpoint of a Human to Facilitate Human-Centred Innovation.

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Abstract. Considering the backdrop of global social issues faced today, new ways of thinking and architecting our systems to work with the laws of nature would help society as a system become more able to adapt to a dynamic, volatile environment. It is observable that the trade-offs in deploying societal systems based on incomplete human requirements would incur negative downstream effects on individuals in the forms of chronic ailments and habitat destruction. From a strategic systems thinking standpoint, it is imperative that we do not lose sight of the larger containing system which we live in while we channel our efforts into refining system solutions. As our collective understanding of human complexity continues to advance, this paper sees that normative systems design principles and processes should also evolve together with progressive knowledge of human nature and emergent constraints. To expound on what it means to develop a more holistic view and evaluation of human-centred innovation, this paper utilises an integral viewpoint of the human as a starting point to discuss the potential to broaden and deepen our understanding of human-system interactions to be considered in the design of systems for society.

Keywords. Systems Theory, Integral Theory, Systems Approach, Human-Centred Design, Transdisciplinary Perspectives.

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