

Efficiency

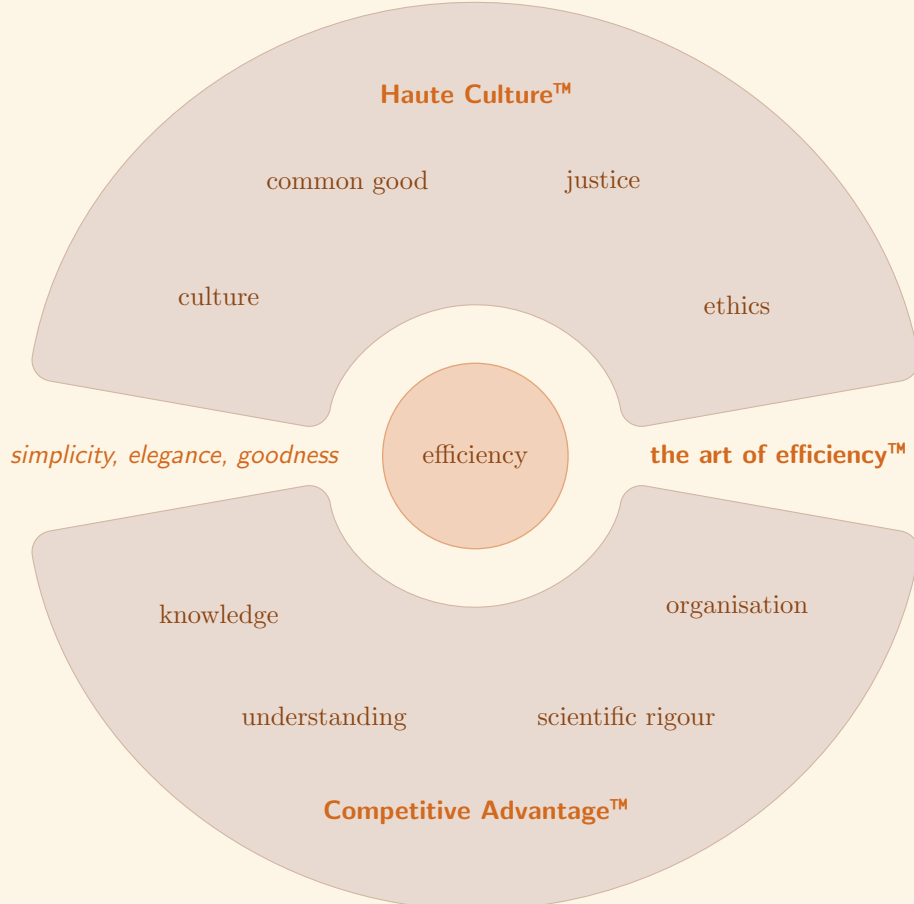
Systems PlanningSM is dedicated to *efficiency* in a holistic approach encapsulated as *the art of efficiency*TM (Perdicoulis, 2014h), epitomised by *Haute Culture*TM (Perdicoulis, 2014c), and put through its paces by *Competitive Advantage*TM (§ 2.4).

1 Archetype

1.1 Human values and scale

Systems PlanningSM invests in human competences, caring for both personal and community development through Classic EducationSM (Perdicoulis, 2014c) as much as Academic ActivismSM (Perdicoulis, 2014f). The underpinning archetype relies on *human values* (e.g. justice, ethics, the common good) that are close to people (e.g. for reasoning, reflection, appreciation, living experience, intervention) — hence, at a *human scale*.

1.2 Ideals



The cause of Systems PlanningSM (centre) and associated ideals (around) are shaped after human values and scale (Perdicoulis, 2014c)

1.3 Essence

The Systems PlanningSM model of efficiency looks up to *classic*^a refinements of human culture^b and aspires to their intrinsic qualities.

SIMPLICITY — STRAIGHTFORWARD AND UNCOMPLICATED After gaining an understanding about the structure and function of systems or phenomena, they do appear simple; and after thoughtful design, forms and working systems alike reach perfection when they can be made no simpler.

ELEGANCE — GRACE AND STYLE After acquiring appropriate skills, performing tasks becomes a breeze, gives good results, and it looks good from the outside, too. After thoughtful design regarding structure, function, and form, works become ‘cool’ or classic.

GOODNESS — HIGH STANDARD/ QUALITY After being ‘done well’, with due care, objects and situations appear to have this ‘goodness’. There are many versions of goodness, as its sense or references differ considerably among people — these must be discussed or negotiated explicitly.

^a The historical reference is Athens of the 5th and 4th centuries BC

^b Epitomised by poetry, gymnastics, architecture, and philosophy *inter alia*

2 Perspectives

2.1 Base level — Technical

In a ‘doing things well and fast’ perspective, efficiency is about objectives, outcomes, materials, money, and ‘human resources’.

$$\text{efficiency} = \frac{\text{intended outcome} - \text{side effects}}{\text{required resources}}$$

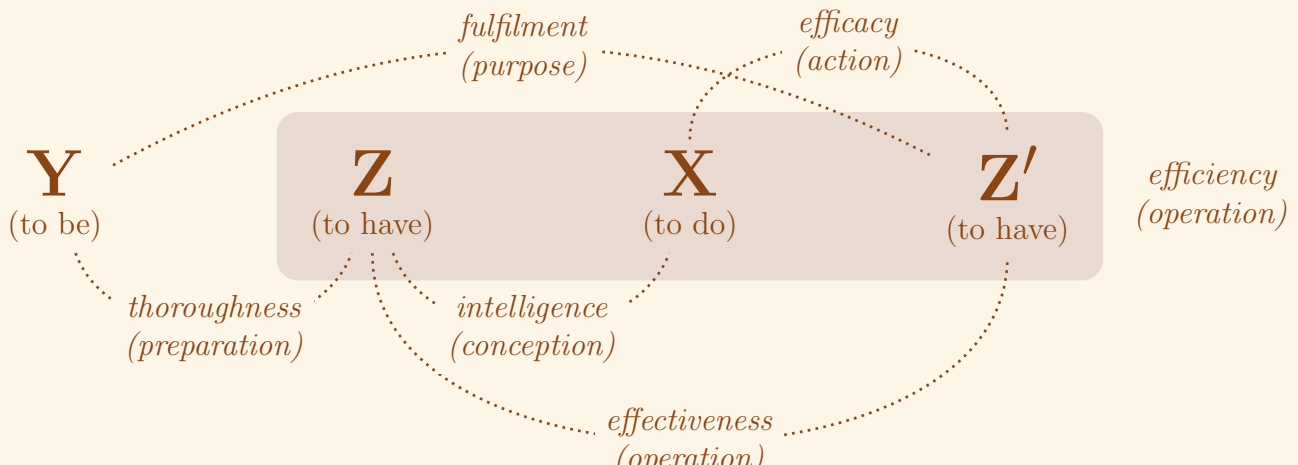
2.2 Top level — Holistic

At a top level, efficiency reaches its integrative, abstract, and qualitative essence — a blend of simplicity, elegance, and goodness (§ 1.3).

$$\text{efficiency} \sim [\text{simplicity, elegance, goodness}]$$

2.3 Positioning purposes — Assessable

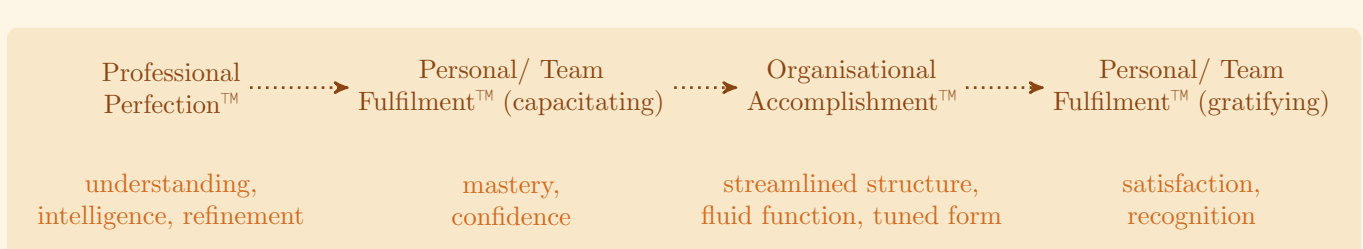
For positioning purposes, juxtaposition of elements in the planning problem (Perdicoulis, 2013b, 2014g) caters to assessments such as the *efficiency* (Z–X–Z’) and the *effectiveness* (Z–Z’) of the planning operation, the *fulfilment* of its purpose (Y–Z’), *thoroughness* of preparation (Y–Z), the *efficacy* of the action (X–Z’), as well as the *intelligence* of its conception (Z–X).



Planning problem with essential positions (in large font) and assessments (in italics); the nodes can be seen in more detail (Perdicoulis, 2014b)

2.4 Training purposes — Administered

For training purposes, Systems PlanningSM conveys efficiency through *Competitive Advantage*TM (Perdicoulis, 2014c, 2016) — i.e. Professional PerfectionTM, Personal/ Team FulfilmentTM, Organisational AccomplishmentTM — with direct investment and benefits involving all the stakeholders.



Efficiency is conveyed through the dynamic states of Competitive AdvantageTM (Perdicoulis, 2014c)

3 Importance

The *importance* of efficiency in planning — typically hindered by common ailments (Perdicoulis, 2014d) — is often perceived as proportional to one or more of the following items:

SCOPE AND SCALE of the planning operation (e.g. number of people)

SENSITIVITY of the subject (e.g. freedom, health, hunger, pollution)

MAGNITUDE AND EXTENT of the expected consequences (e.g. success, side effects)

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