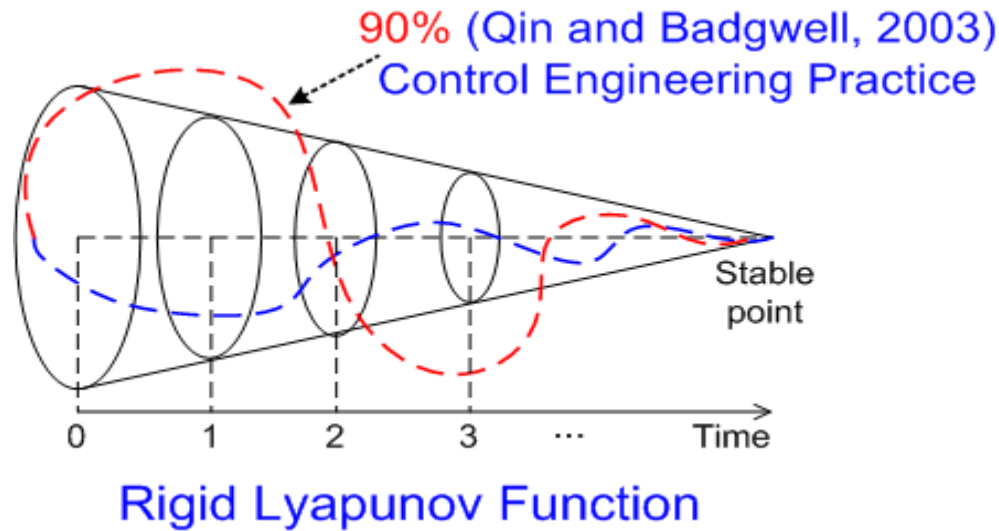


2008 VENI Round - TW
- My Experience -

Mircea Lazar

Preparing the VENI application

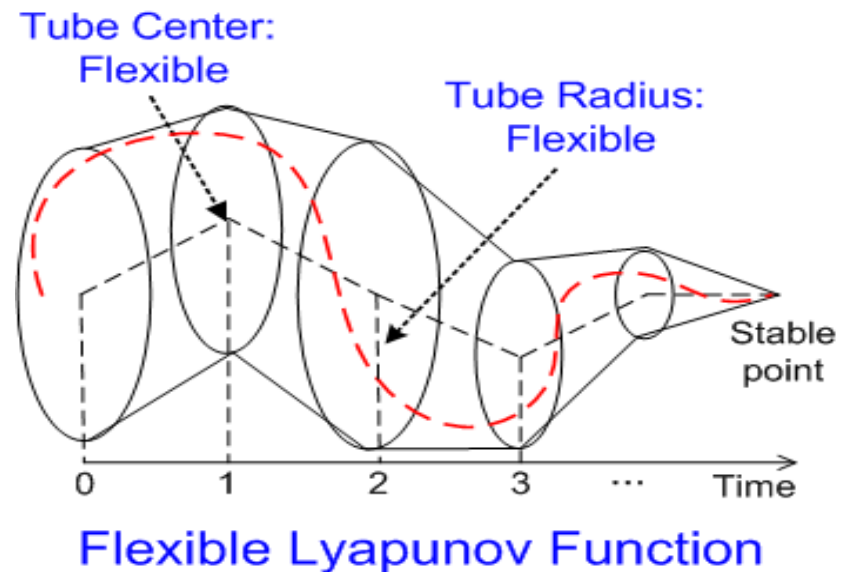
- **Written proposal paradox:**
 - 1. Must be appealing to non-experts**
 - 2. Must be rigorous to experts**
- **One innovating idea – One picture**
- **Important: there is no room for errors, it must be perfect from the start**



**Lyapunov's recipe
uses a rigid cone**

My solution: A unique approach

**I propose a
flexible cone!**



Preparing the VENI application

- Taking advice versus what if ...?
- Ask both experts and non-experts
- Getting support from industry:
 1. Envision already a clear utilization
 2. Get help from an experienced person

After Submission

1. **The VENI application is reviewed by a technical committee**
2. **The protocol is received**
3. **Answering the protocol is crucial: one must counteract all comments that lead to non-positive opinions**
4. **An independent jury grades the proposal – invitation to interview**

Preparing for the Interview

- **It is NOT about who is the best!**
- **Every “error” is penalized; presentation skills are equally important to scientific breakthrough**
- **At most one of the 10 members of the independent jury will be “expert” in your field**



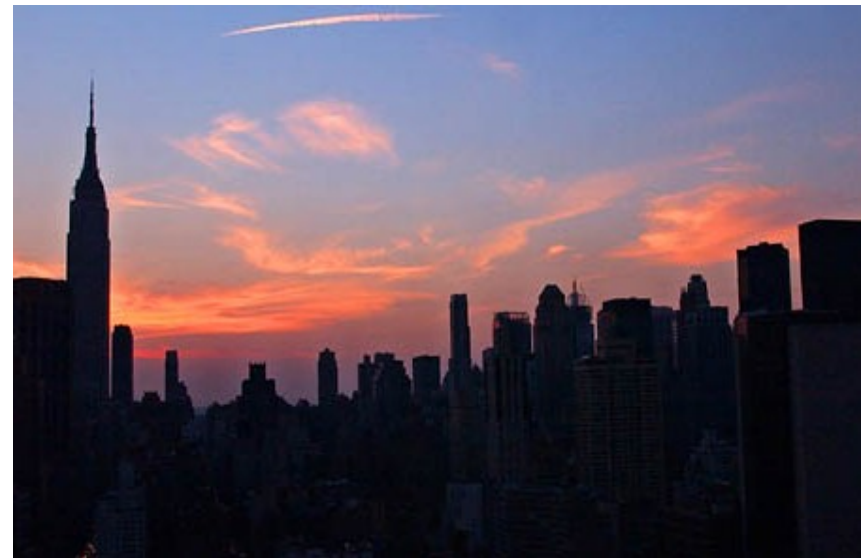
**1986 Chernobyl
nuclear plant disaster**

Unstable = Dangerous

Real-time control can fail!

Stable = Safe & Reliable

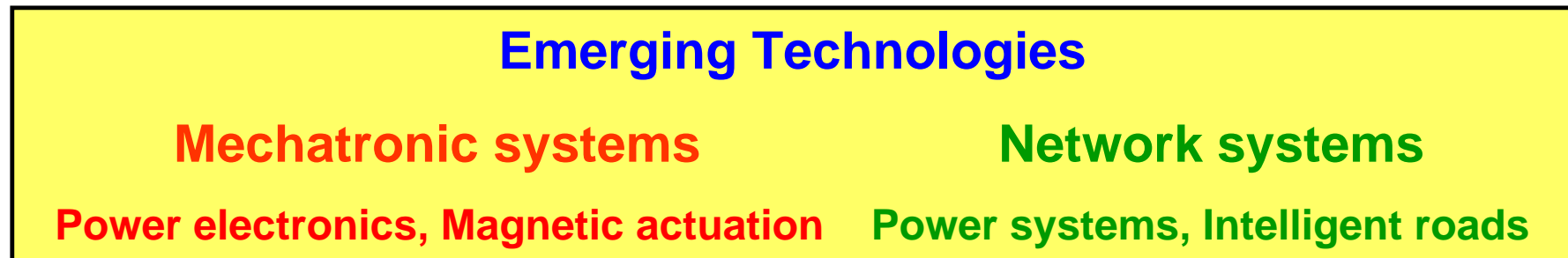
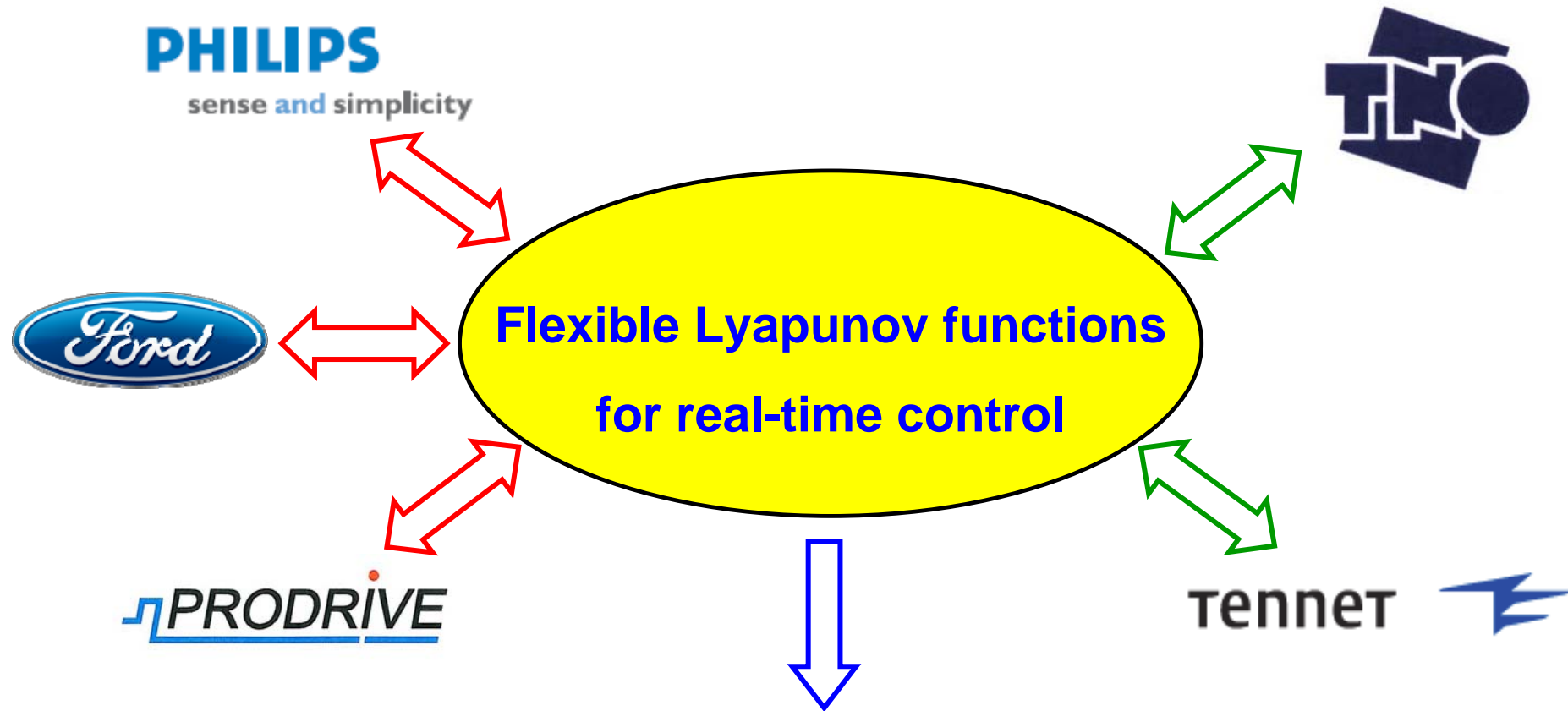
**2003 Power Blackout
New York without lights**



Preparing for the Interview

- **Practice, practice, practice ...**
- **Do not use movies or animation**
- **Prepare back-up slides**
- **Be prepared for a “fast-food” interview:**
 - 1. Seize their attention from the start**
 - 2. Establish visual communication**
 - 3. Impress them with your ambition**

Ambition



Great opportunities!

Important breakthroughs!

Challenging!

Exciting!