C.Tahan, University of Wisconsin-Madison, STS201: "Nanotechnology and Society" - Spring 2005

Class 33: Introduction to accidents

Reading:

- Charles Perrow, Introduction and Ch. 1
- Let a Thousand Reactors Bloom, WIRED

Define Perrow's terms:

Interactive complexity:

Tightly coupled events or processes:

Normal accidents:

How might a nanotechnology increase the chance of a normal accident?

How might it decrease it?