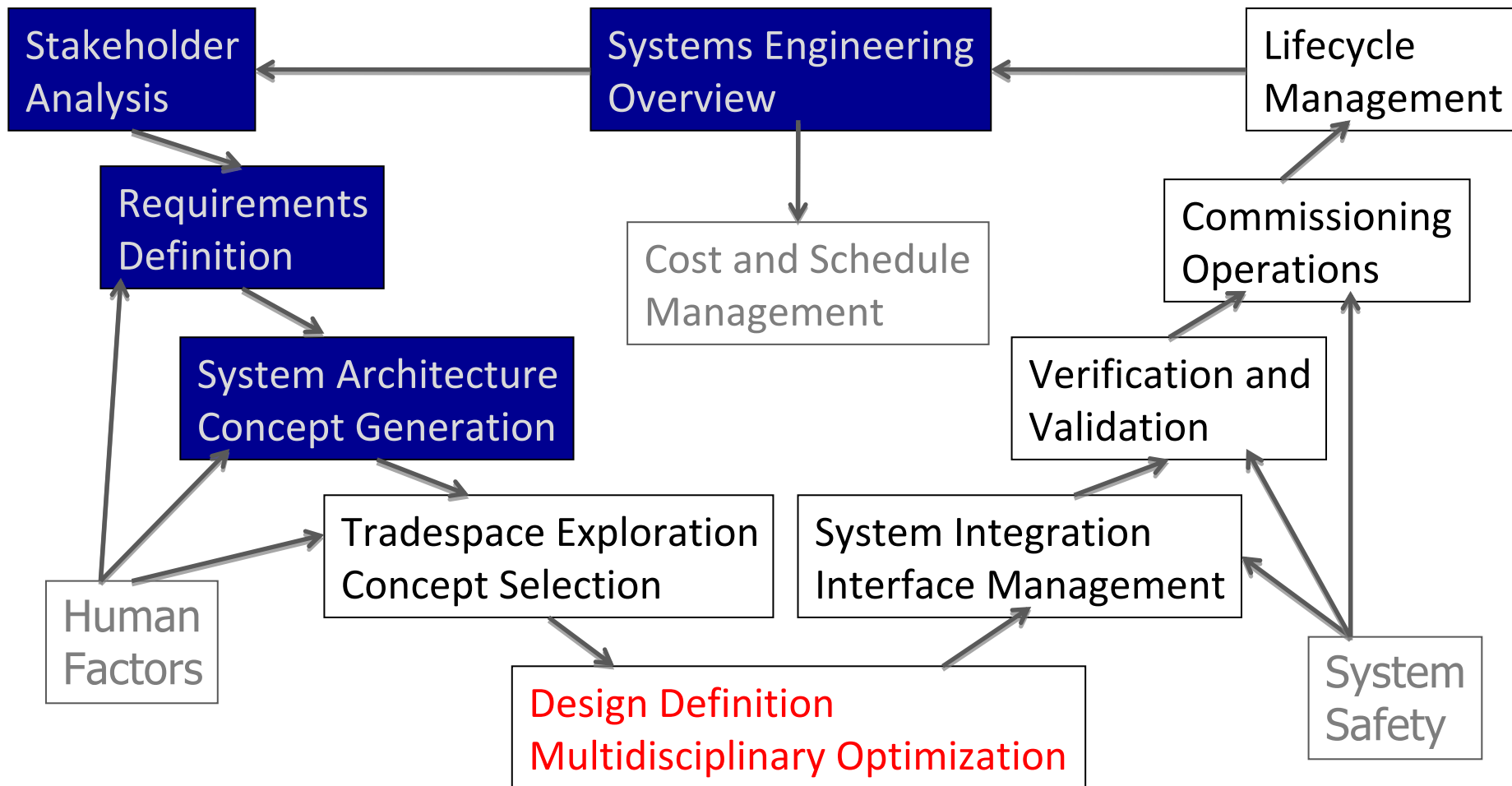


# 16.842 Fundamentals of Systems Engineering

## **Lecture 6 – Design Definition and Multidisciplinary Design Optimization**

Maj. Jeremy Agte

# V-Model – Oct 16, 2009



# Outline

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- NASA Design Definition Process
  - Process Overview
  - Slides from Lecture 5b on Stellar
- Multidisciplinary Design Optimization
  - What it is and where it fits in...
  - Motivation
  - Roots
  - Method
  - Limitations
  - Future Trends

# Design Solution Definition Process

- The Design Solution Definition Process is used to **translate** the outputs of the Logical Decomposition Process into a design solution definition

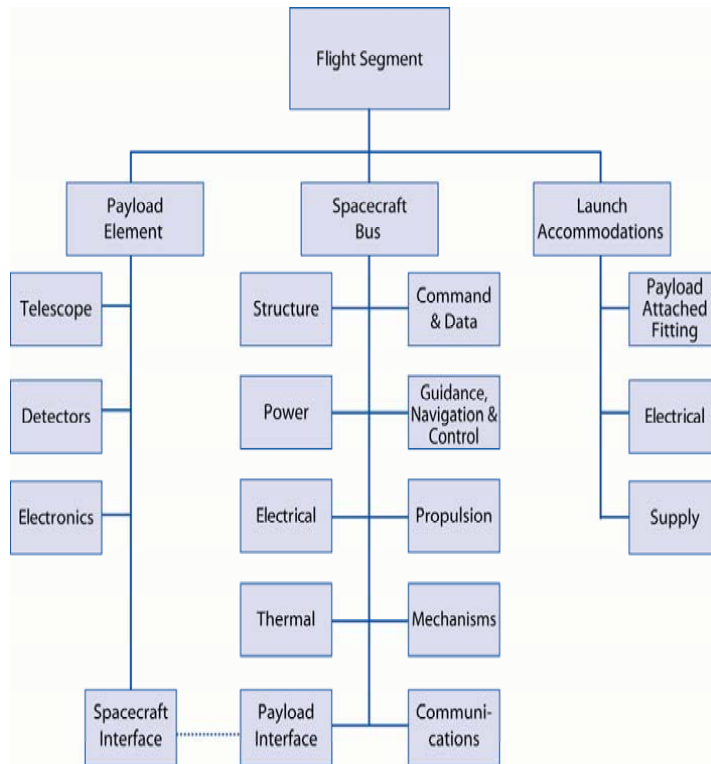
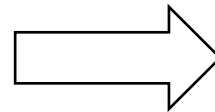


Figure 4.3-2 Example of a PBS



Design Solution Definition: the specification of a rocket, for example

# Design Solution Importance

## What we wanted

- Define solution space
- Develop design alternatives
- Trade studies to analyze
  - Alternate Design
  - Cost, performance, schedule
- Select Design Solution
- Drive down to lower level
- Identify enabling products

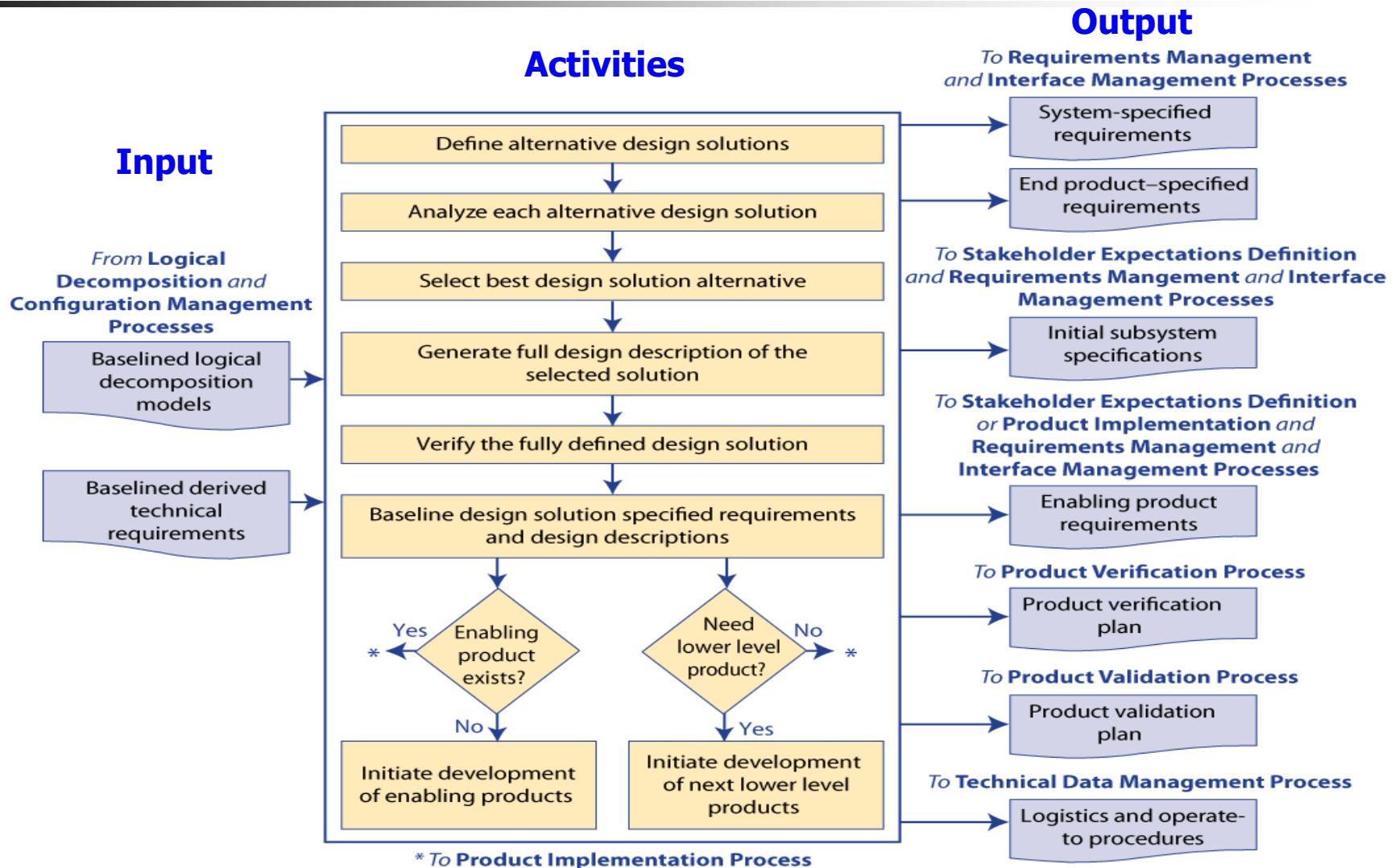
This image of a space shuttle has been removed due to copyright restrictions.

## What we got

This image of a space shuttle in a building complex has been removed due to copyright restrictions.

**Design with the end in mind!**

# Design Solution Definition – Best Practice Process Flow Diagram

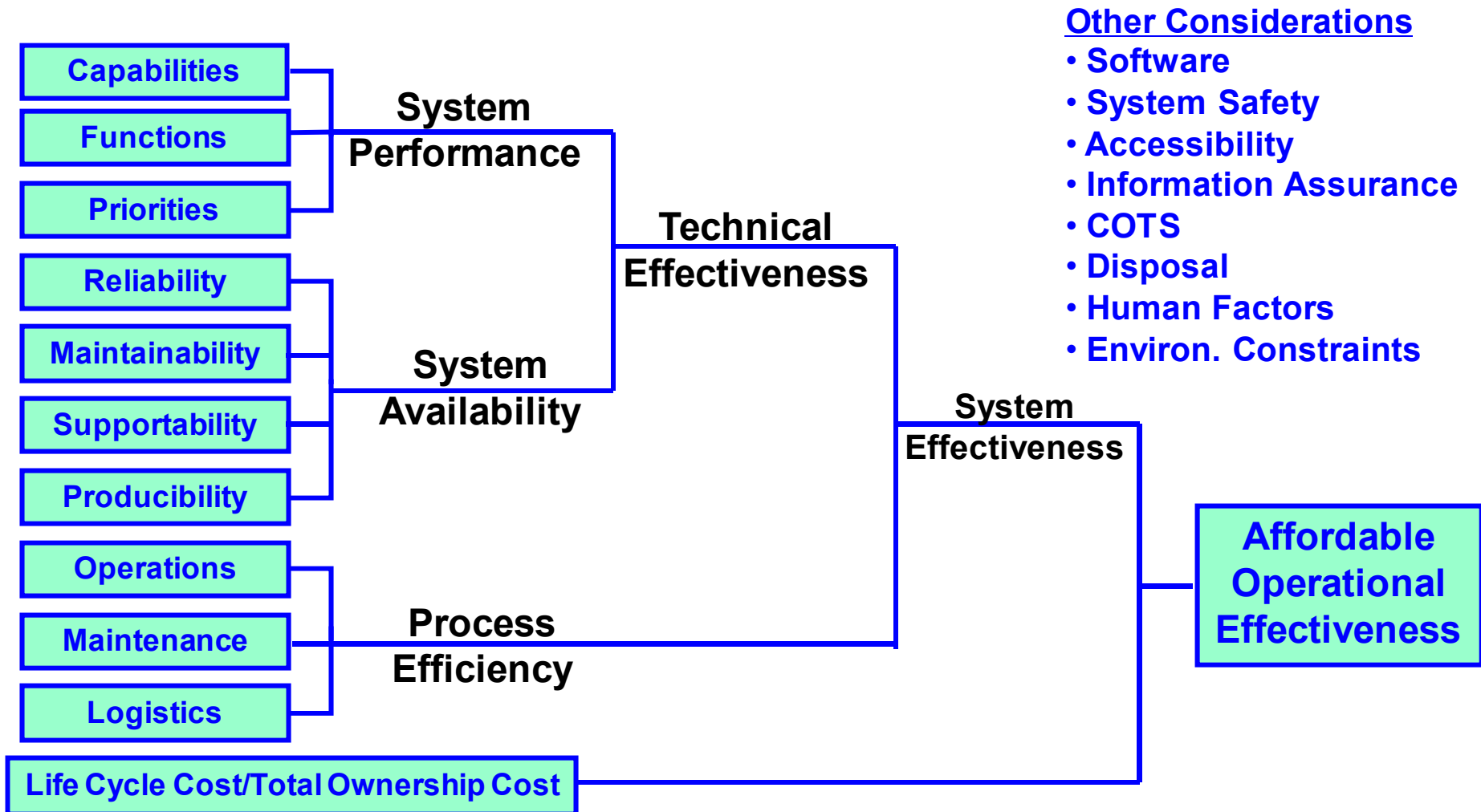


# Design Solution Definition – Methods

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- **Analyzing** each alternative to be able to select the preferred alternative
- Once an alternative is selected or baselined, the Design Solution Definition Process will be used for:
  - **Generating end products** as a function of the hierarchy in the system structure
- The output end product Design Solution Definition will be used for conducting product **verification**

# Design Solution Definition – Important Design Considerations





# Design Solution Definition – Summary

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- The Design Solution Definition Process is used to **translate** the outputs of the Logical Decomposition Process into a design solution definition
- Alternative design solutions must be defined and analyzed to **select the best alternative** that satisfies technical requirements
- The **form** of the design solution definition depends on the product life cycle phase and its hierarchy in the system
- The **Technical Data Package** allows for the building, coding, reusing, or buying of products

# Outline

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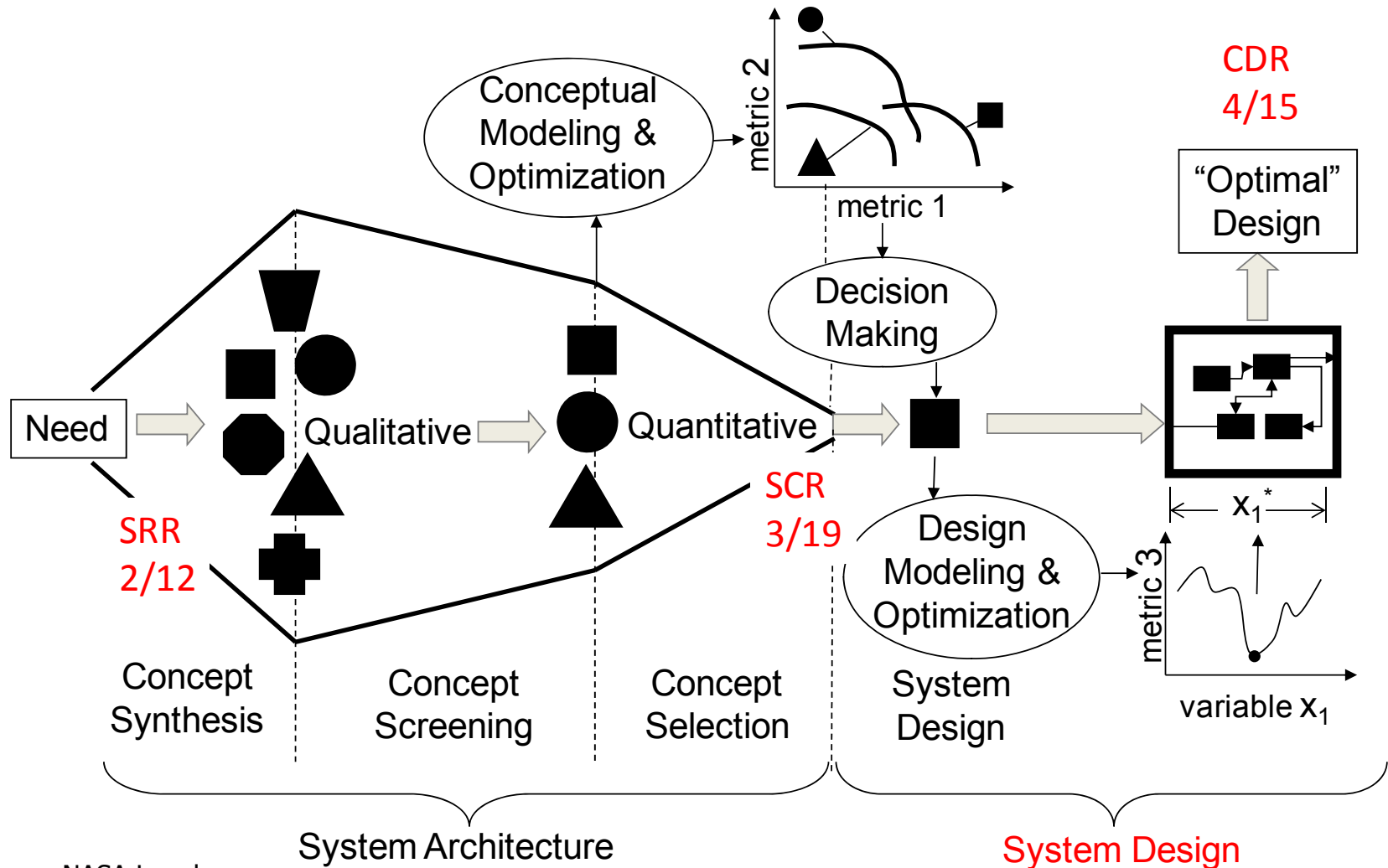
- NASA Design Definition Process
  - Process Overview
  - Slides from Lecture 5b on Stellar
- **Multidisciplinary Design Optimization**
  - What it is and where it fits in...
  - Roots
  - Motivation
  - Method
  - Limitations
  - Future Trends
- Some MDO Applications

# Multidisciplinary Design Optimization (MDO) – What it is and where it fits in...

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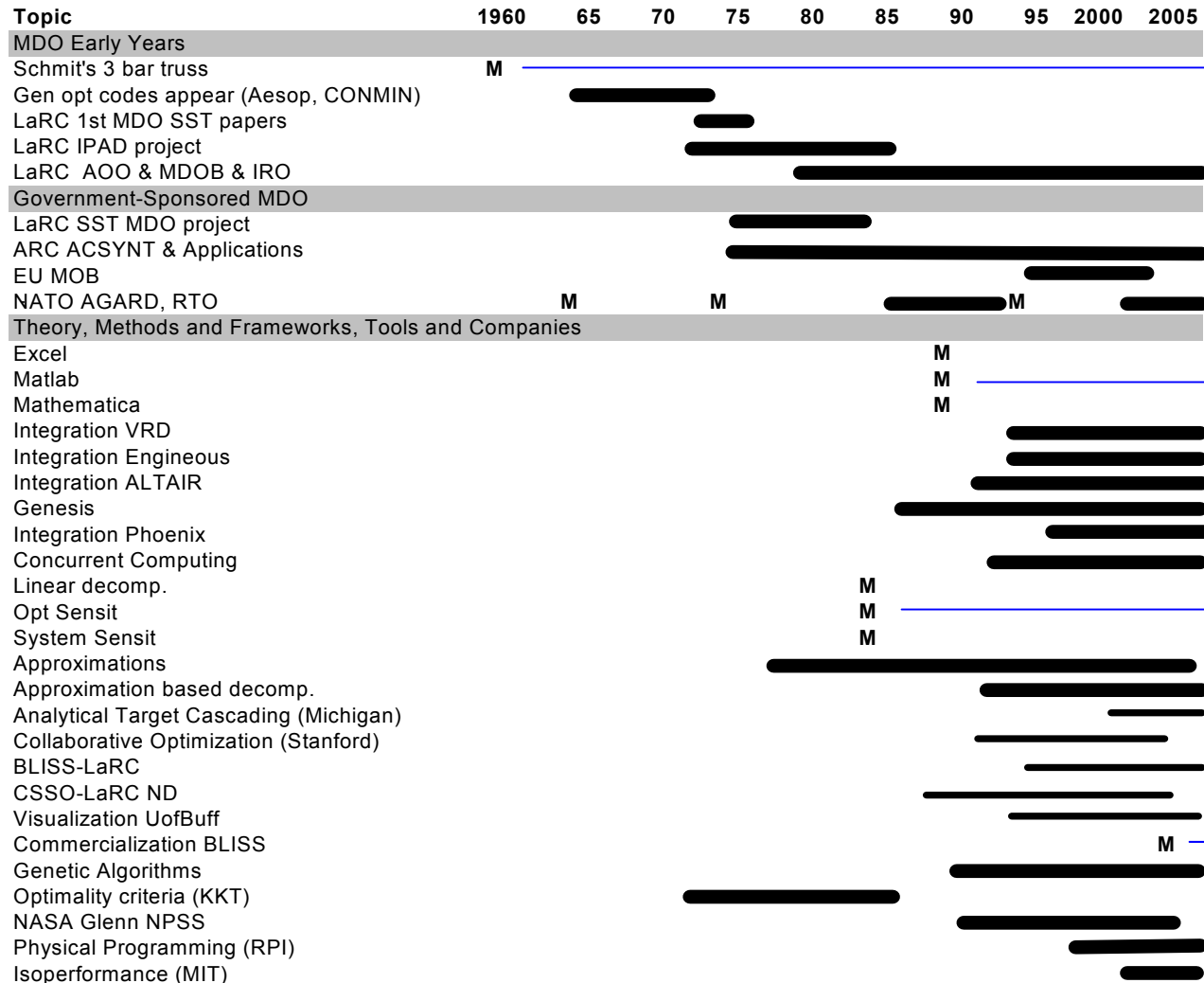
- MDO defined as (*AIAA MDO Tech Committee*):
  - “an evolving methodology, i.e. a body of methods, techniques, algorithms, and related application practices, for design of engineering systems couple by physical phenomena and involving many interacting subsystems and parts.”
  - *Emphasis*: 1) still evolving, 2) involves many disciplines
- Conceptual Components of MDO (*Sobieski '97*)
  - Mathematical Modeling of a System
  - Design Oriented Analysis
  - Approximation Concepts
  - System Sensitivity Analysis (less so w/ some methods)
  - Classical Optimization Procedures
  - Human Interface

# Multidisciplinary Design Optimization (MDO) – What it is and where it fits in...



Source: NASA Langley

# MDO - Roots



MDO roots found in structural optimization

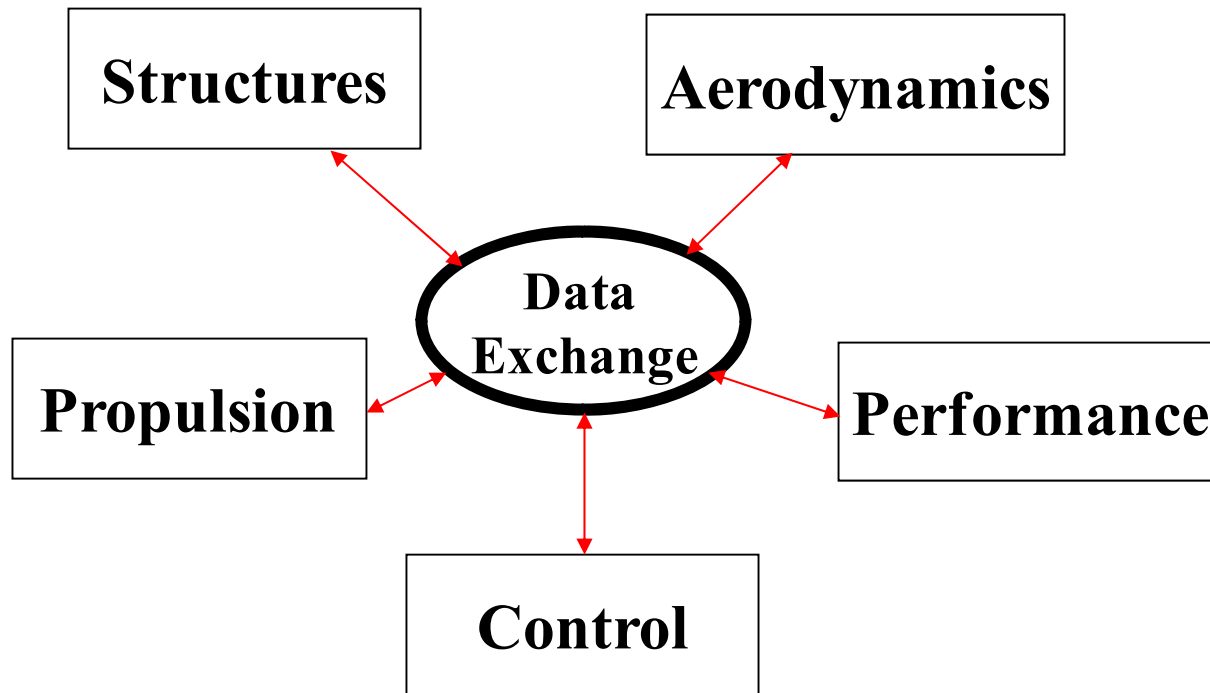
Optimization algrthms in mainstream prgms

More complex decomposition techniques appear

Commercialization of multi-level algorithm

# MDO - Motivation

- Design systems are very complex and interconnected



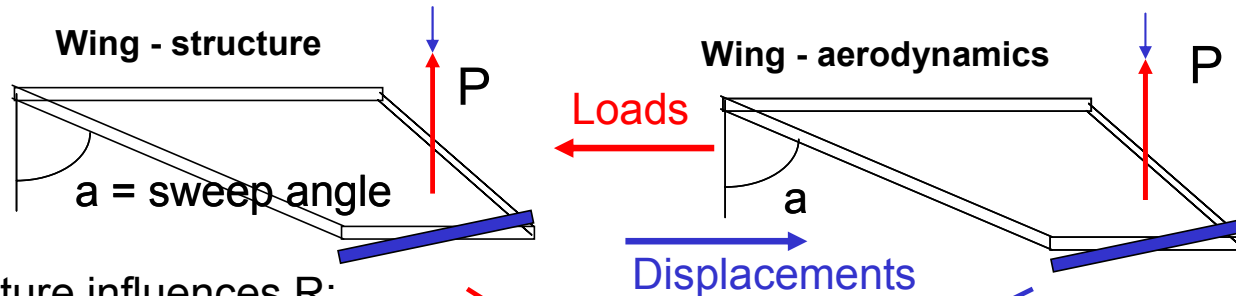
**“Everything affects everything else”**

Source: NASA Langley

# MDO - Motivation

- Simple example of interdependency

Range (R) is the system objective



- Structure influences R:
  - directly by weight
  - indirectly by stiffness that affect displacements that affect drag

Loads & Displacements must be consistent

$$R = (k/\text{Drag}) \text{ LOG } [(W_o + W_s + W_f) / (W_o + W_s)]$$

- What to optimize the structure for? **Lightness?**  
**Displacements = 1/Stiffness?**  
An optimal mix of the two?

Source: NASA Langley

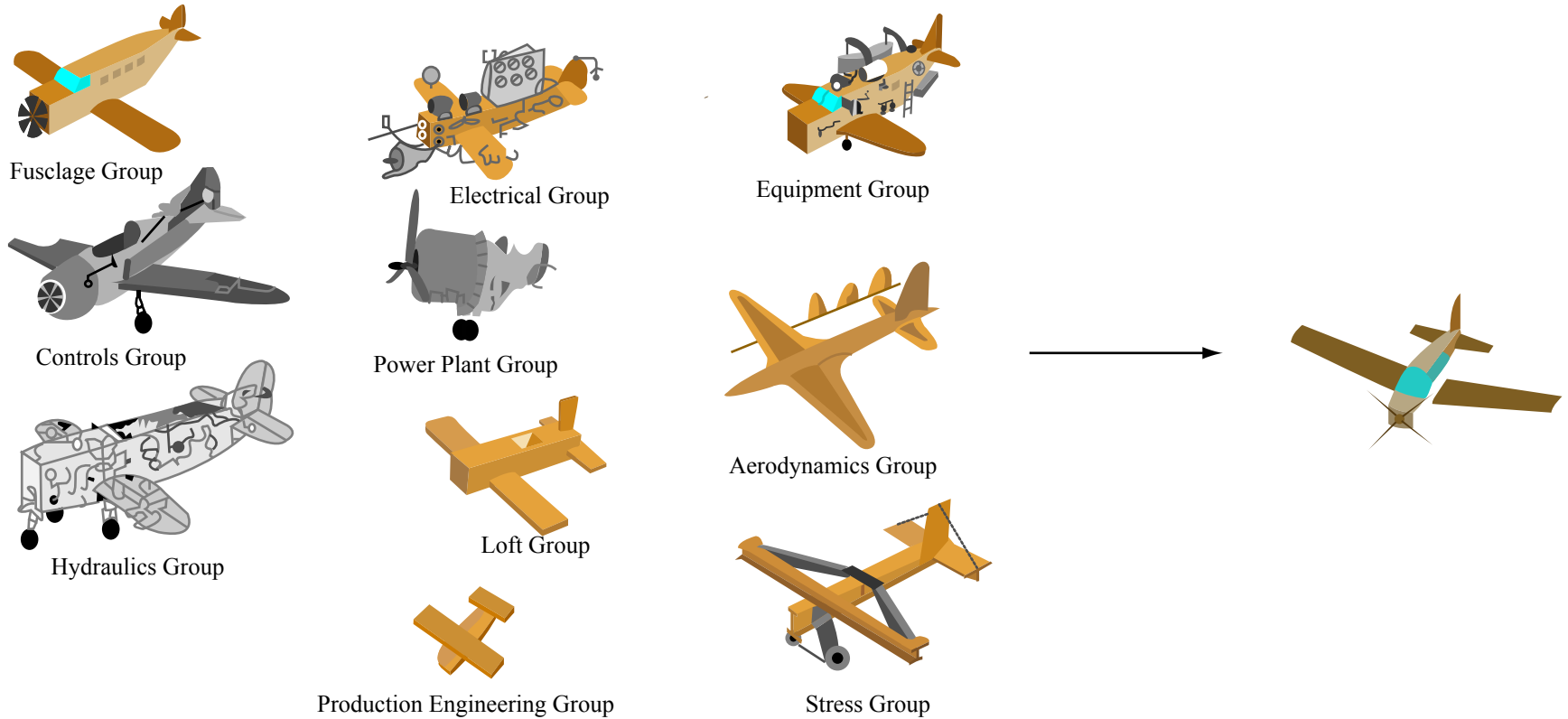
# MDO - Motivation

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- Today's design systems are subject to very stringent constraints
  - **Cost:** the more complex the system is -> the more expensive
  - **Time:** USAF (field as fast as possible), NASA (replace aging space systems)
  - **Environment:** Aircraft noise restrictions, Auto exhaust, Improve fuel efficiency (minimum weight, max efficient engines)
- Further constrained in that these systems require large groups of people with a broad range of expertise
  - Design teams divided into specialty groups
  - These teams generally geographically separated
  - Teams prefer to optimize (design) in own expertise domain
  - But their domains remain coupled by data exchange



# MDO - Motivation



MDO helps us get from this...

Image by MIT OpenCourseWare.

...to this...

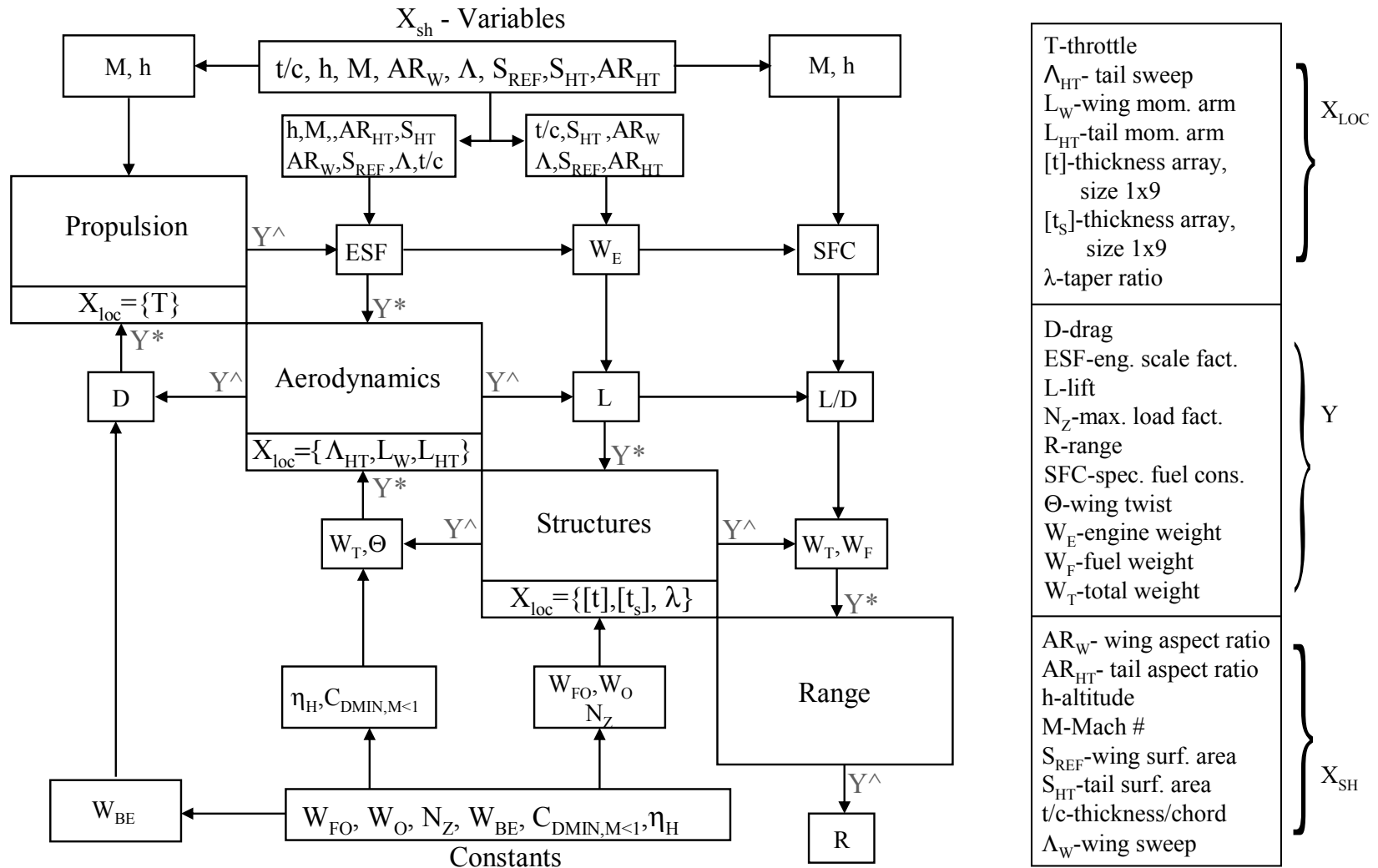
...and still fully utilize all of today's  
modern computational tools.

# MDO - Method

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- (1) Define overall system requirements
- (2) Define design vector  $\mathbf{x}$ , objective  $J$  and constraints  $\mathbf{g}$ ,  $\mathbf{h}$
- (3) System decomposition into modules
- (4) Modeling of physics via governing equations at the module level - module execution in isolation
- (5) Model integration into an overall system simulation
- (6) Benchmarking of model with respect to a known system from past experience, if available
- (7) Design space exploration (DOE) to find sensitive and important design variables  $x_i$
- (8) Formal optimization to find  $\min J(\mathbf{x})$
- (9) Post-optimality analysis to explore sensitivity and tradeoffs: sensitivity analysis, approximation methods, isoperformance, include uncertainty

# MDO – Method: Bi-Level Integrated System Synthesis



# MDO – Method: Bi-Level Integrated System Synthesis

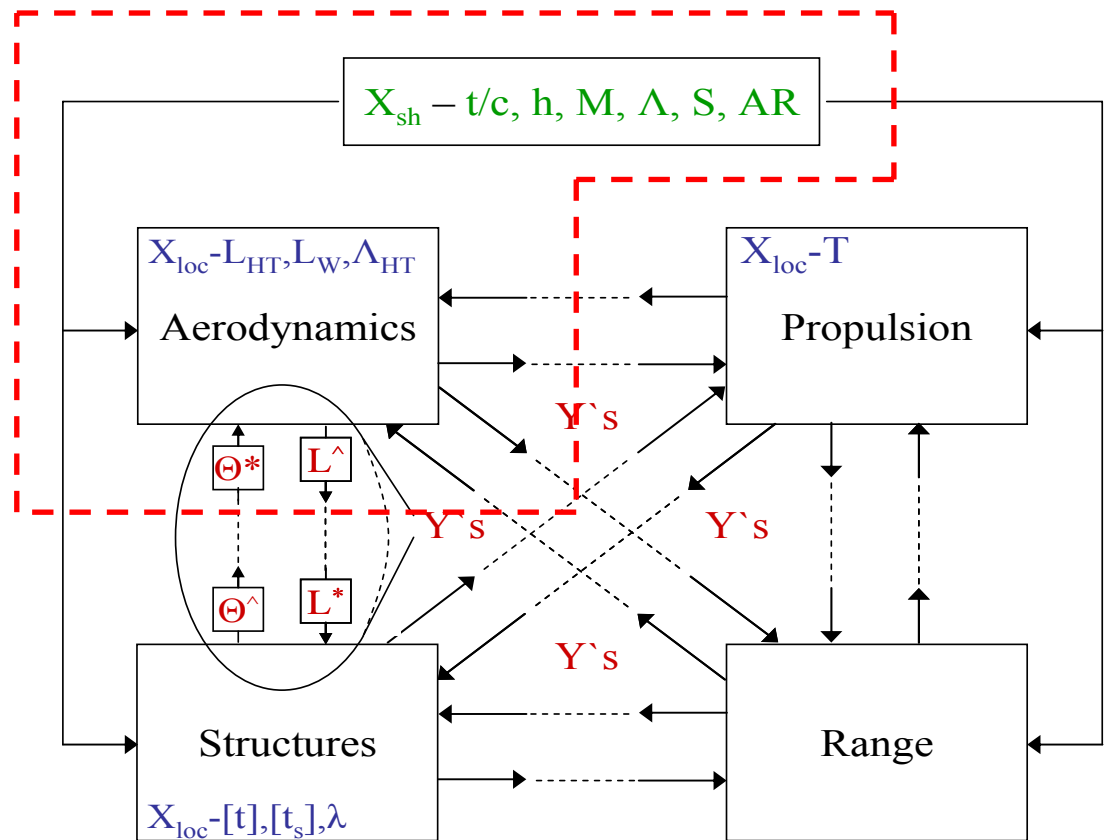
## ■ Formulation of Design System: Supersonic Business Jet Example

$X_{sh}$ -design variable shared by at least two subsystems

$X_{loc}$ -design variable unique to a specific subsystem

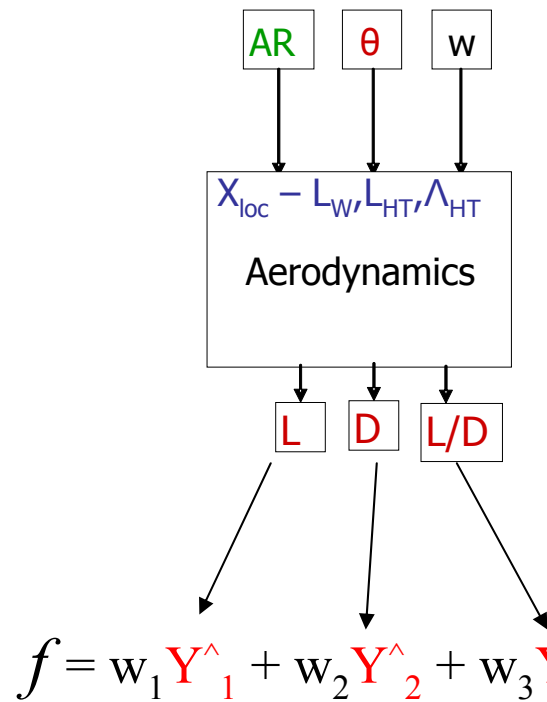
$Y^*$ -coupling variable input to particular subsystem

$Y^\wedge$ -coupling variable output from a particular subsystem



# MDO – Method: Bi-Level Integrated System Synthesis

## ■ Subsystem Optimization (SSOPT)



### ➤ SSOPT Formulation

Given:  $Q = \{[X_{sh}], [Y^*], [w]\}$ ,

minimize:  $f(w, Y^{\wedge}(X_{loc}, X_{sh}, Y^*))$

by varying:  $[X_{loc}]$ .

Satisfy:  $g(X_{loc}) \leq 0$

$h(X_{loc}) = 0$  and

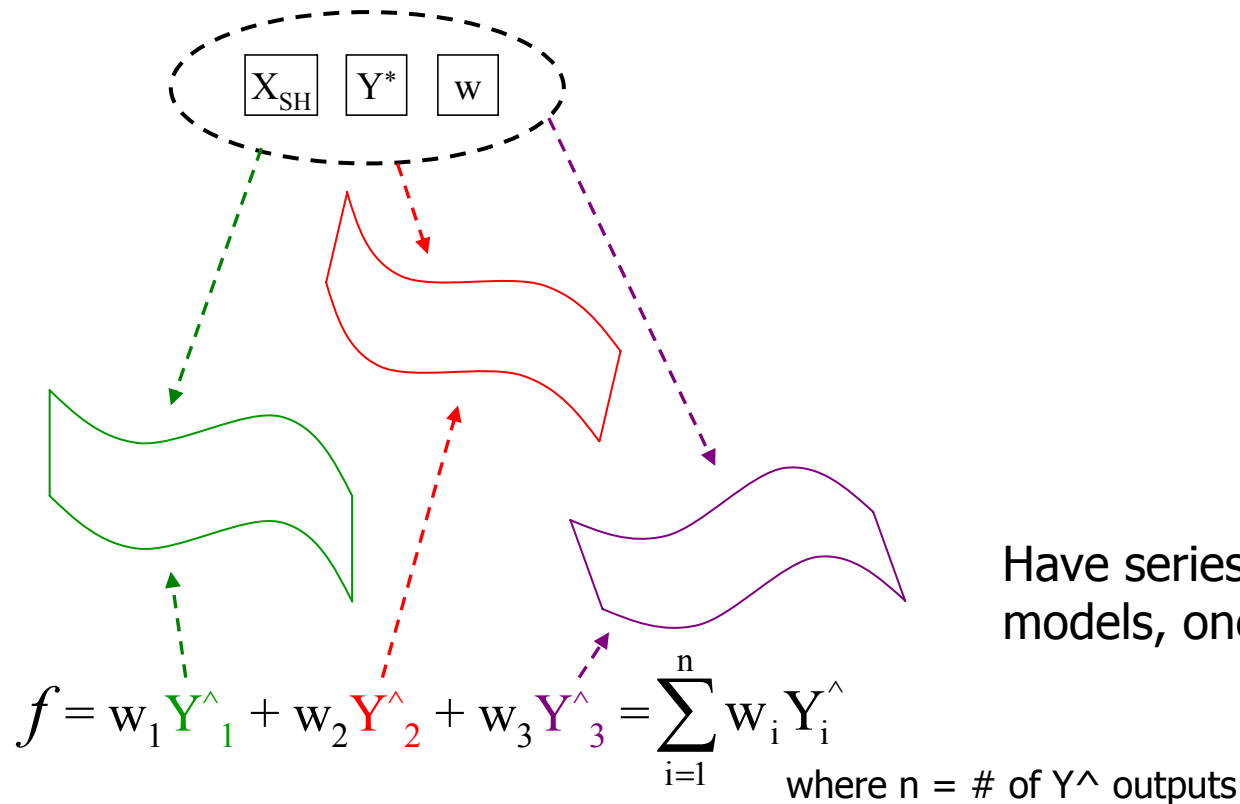
$[X_{loc, LB}] \leq [X_{loc}] \leq [X_{loc, UB}]$ ,

and retrieve:  $[X_{loc}]$  and  $[Y^{\wedge}]$  at optimum

where  $n = \#$  of  $Y^{\wedge}$  outputs

# MDO – Method: Bi-Level Integrated System Synthesis

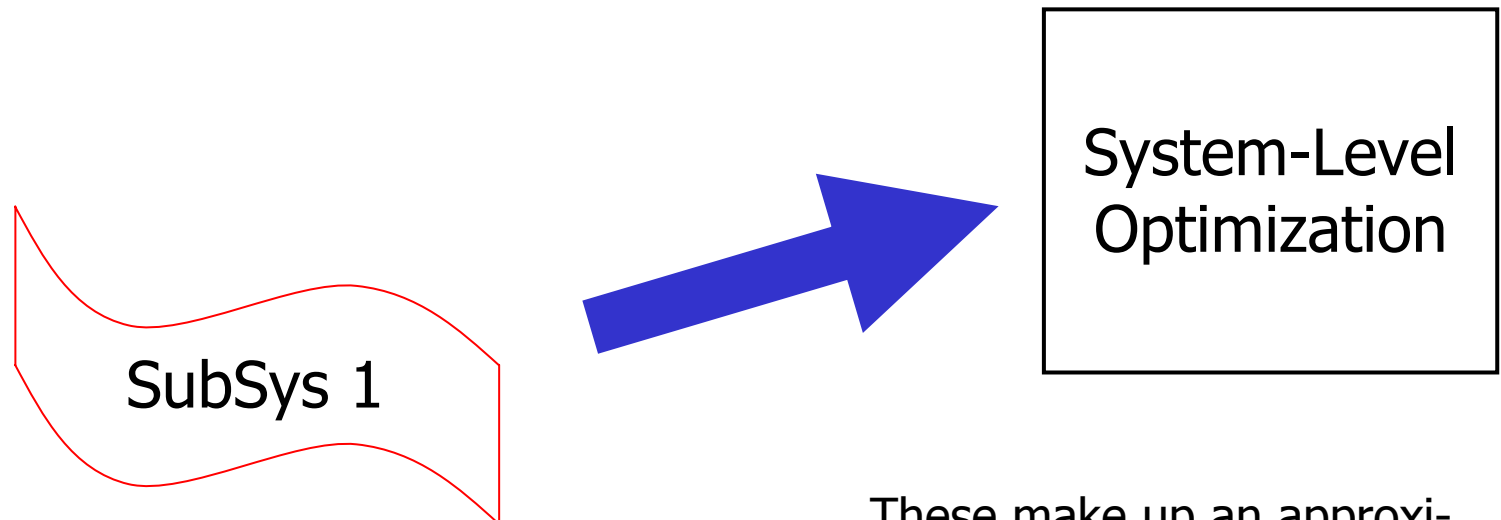
- Subsystem Optimization (SSOPT)



Have series of approximation models, one for each  $Y^{\wedge}$  output

# MDO – Method: Bi-Level Integrated System Synthesis

- Subsystem Optimization (SSOPT)



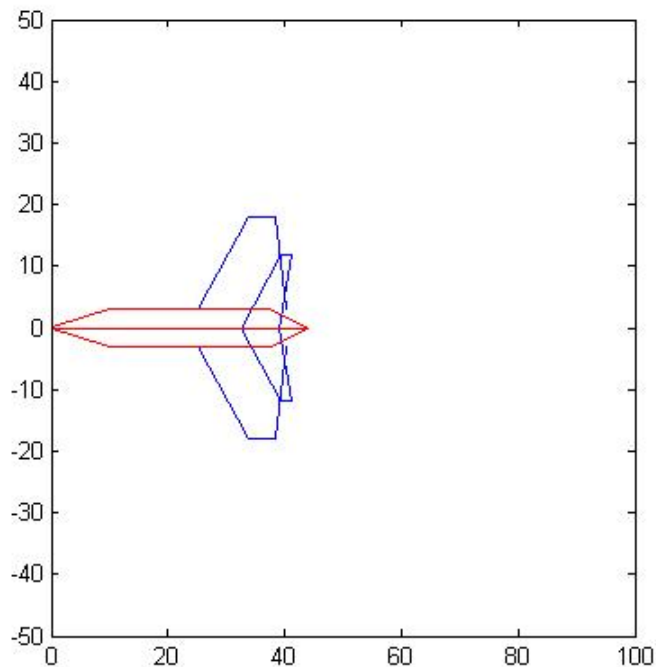
These make up an approximated subsystem...

...which is then sent to the system-level optimization.

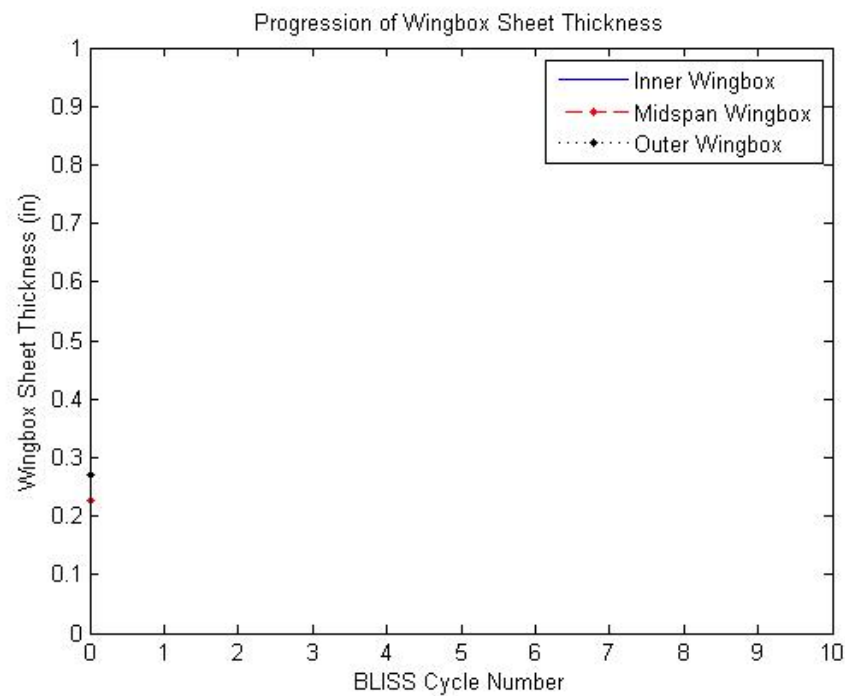
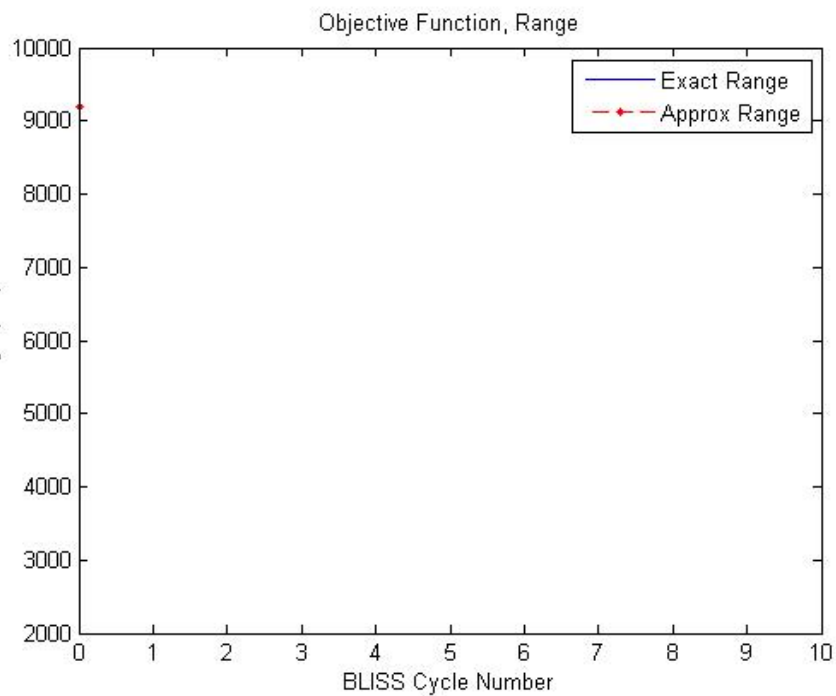




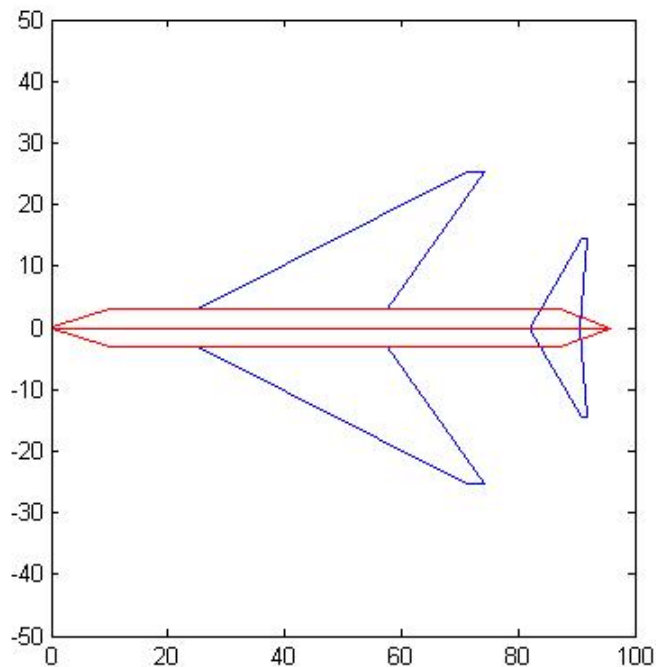
# BLISS Cycle # 0



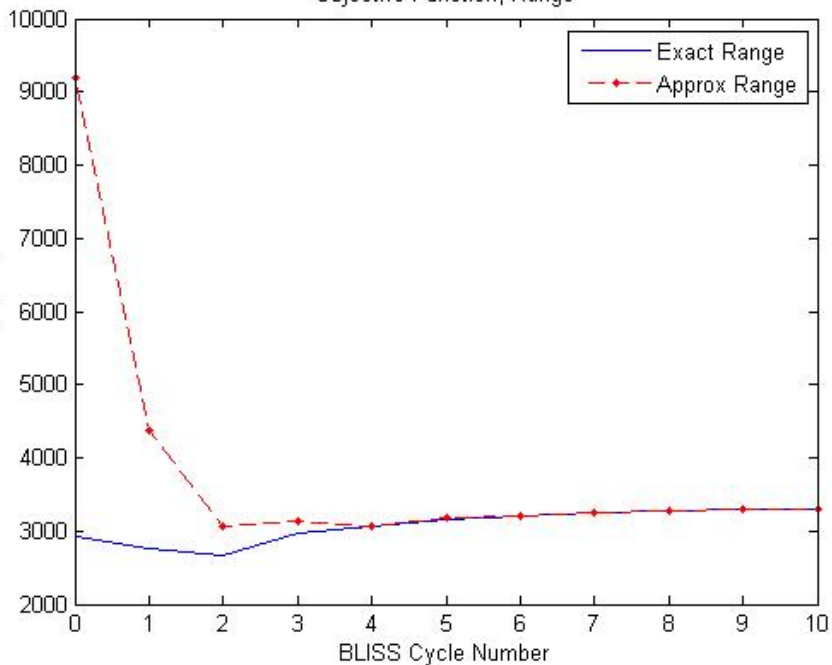
Progression of Wingbox Sheet Thickness



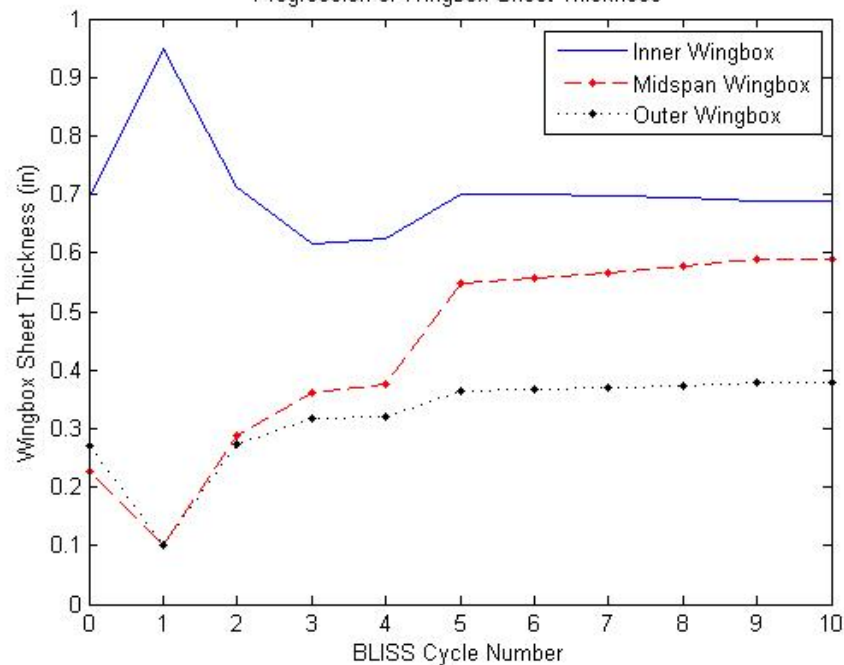
# BLISS Cycle # 10



Objective Function, Range



Progression of Wingbox Sheet Thickness



# MDO - Challenges

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- Fidelity/expense of disciplinary models  
Fidelity is often sacrificed to obtain models with short computation times.
- Complexity  
Design variables, constraints and model interfaces must be managed carefully.
- Communication  
The user interface is often very unfriendly and it can be difficult to change problem parameters.
- Flexibility  
It is easy for an MDO tool to become very specialized and only valid for one particular problem.

*How do we prevent MDO codes from becoming complex, highly specialized tools which are used by a single person (often the developer!) for a single problem?*

# MDO - Challenges

## Fidelity vs. Expense

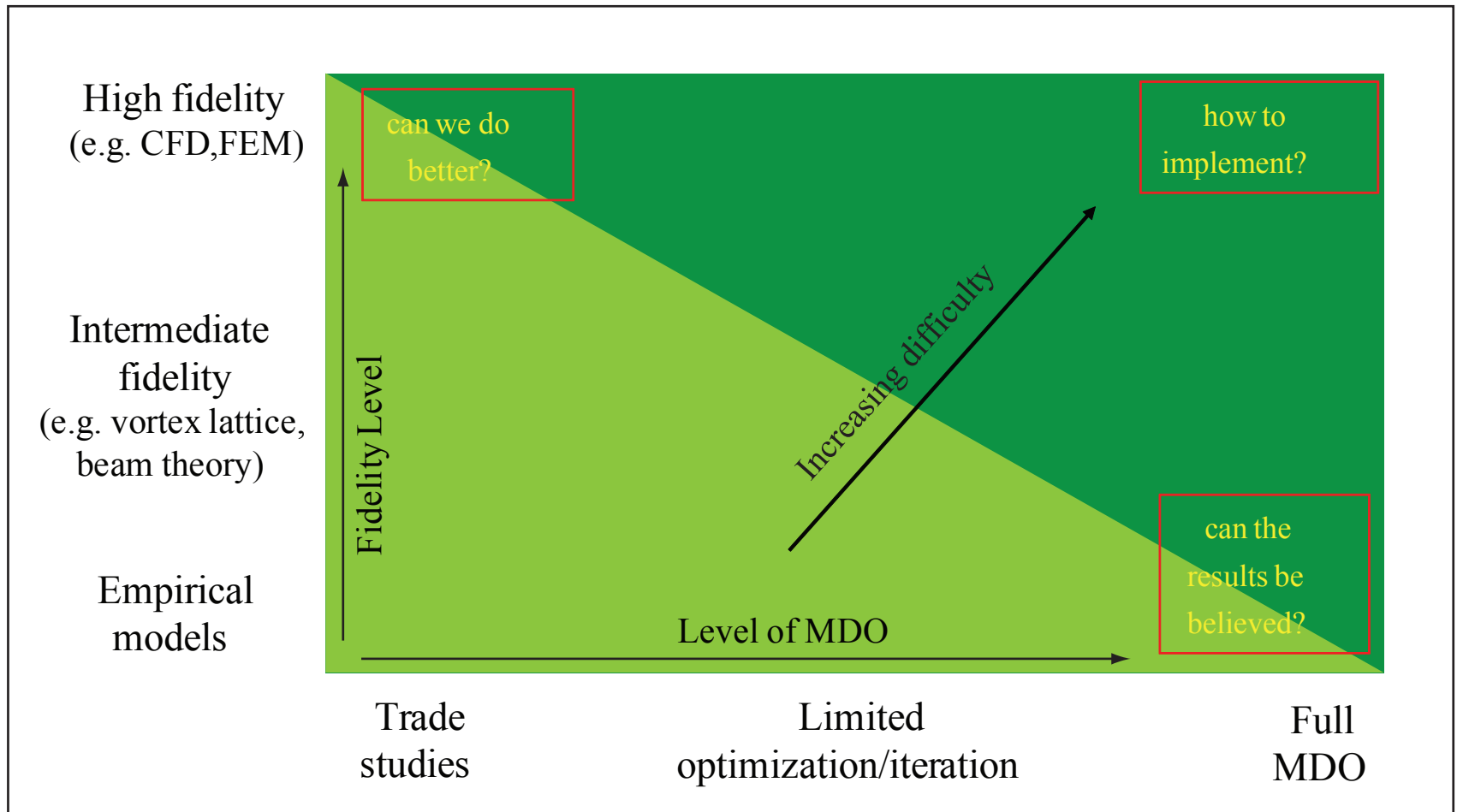


Image by MIT OpenCourseWare.

from Giesing, 1998

# MDO - Challenges

## Breadth vs. Depth

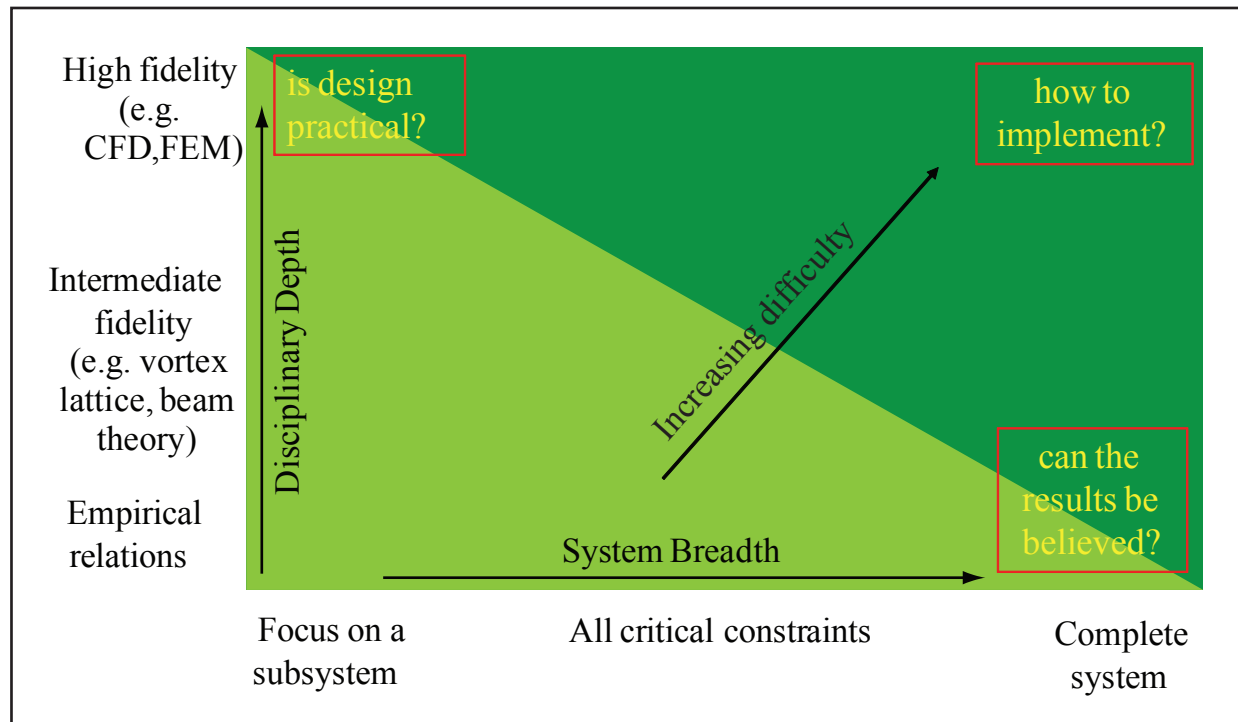
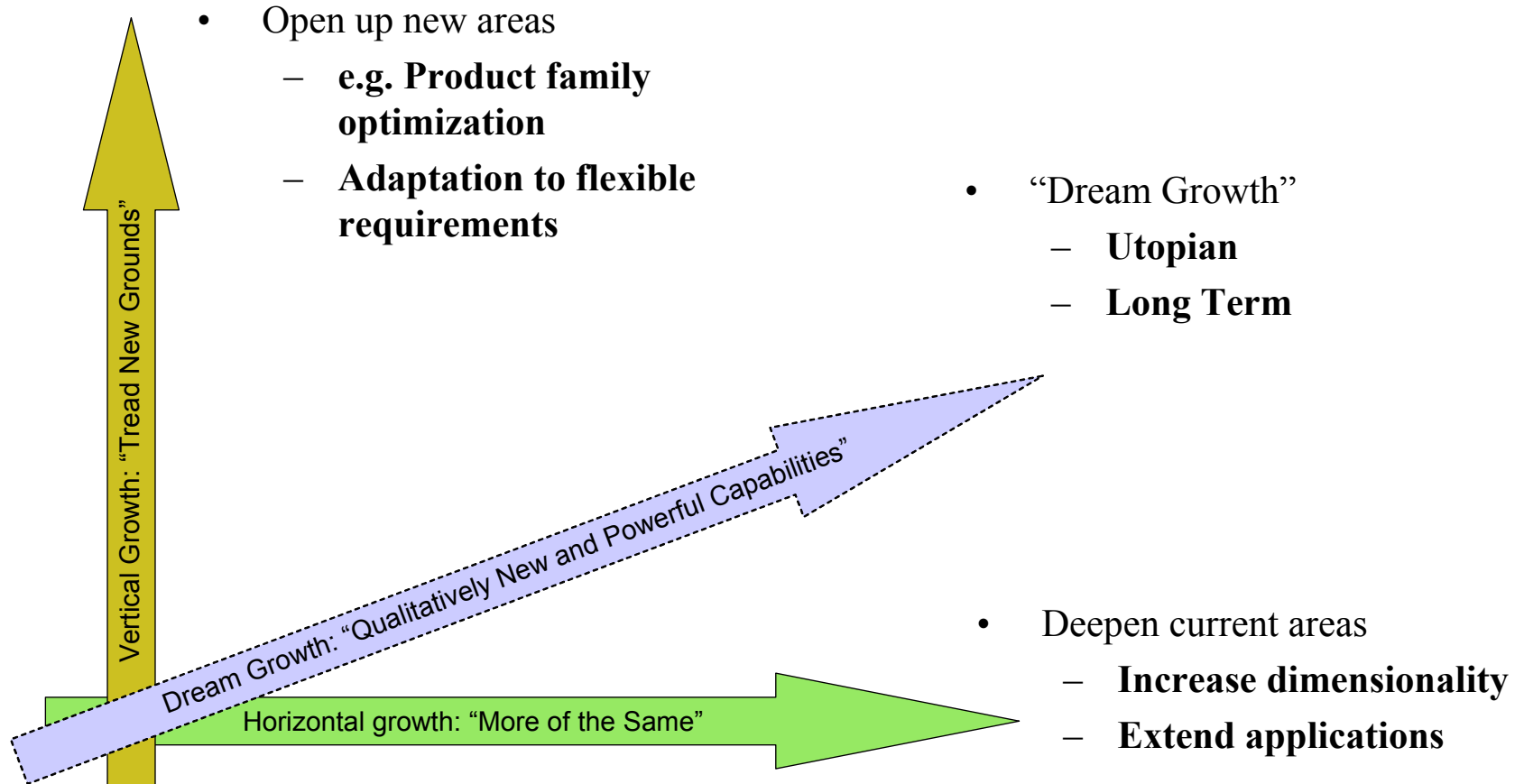


Image by MIT OpenCourseWare.

# MDO – Future Trends



# MDO - Summary

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- Multi-Disciplinary Optimization is a rapidly developing engineering discipline
  - Still evolving
  - Requires a paradigm shift from traditional design practices
- Several methods are available for use in MDO
  - Choice of method depends on design problem
  - Nearly all can still be further improved
- Newfound applications for MDO are multiplying quickly
  - Modeling the design system often the significant challenge
  - Rapid increases in computing power greatly enhance MDO capability
- Future developments are directed in two orthogonal, but mutually reinforcing directions
  - Horizontal for more capability
  - Vertical for new and innovative solutions

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