



# **16.885**

# ***Aircraft Systems***

# ***Engineering***

## ***Cost Analysis***

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# Outline

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- Lifecycle cost
- Operating cost
- Development cost
- Manufacturing cost
- Revenue
- Valuation techniques



# ***Lifecycle Cost***

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**Lifecycle :**

Design - Manufacture - Operation - Disposal

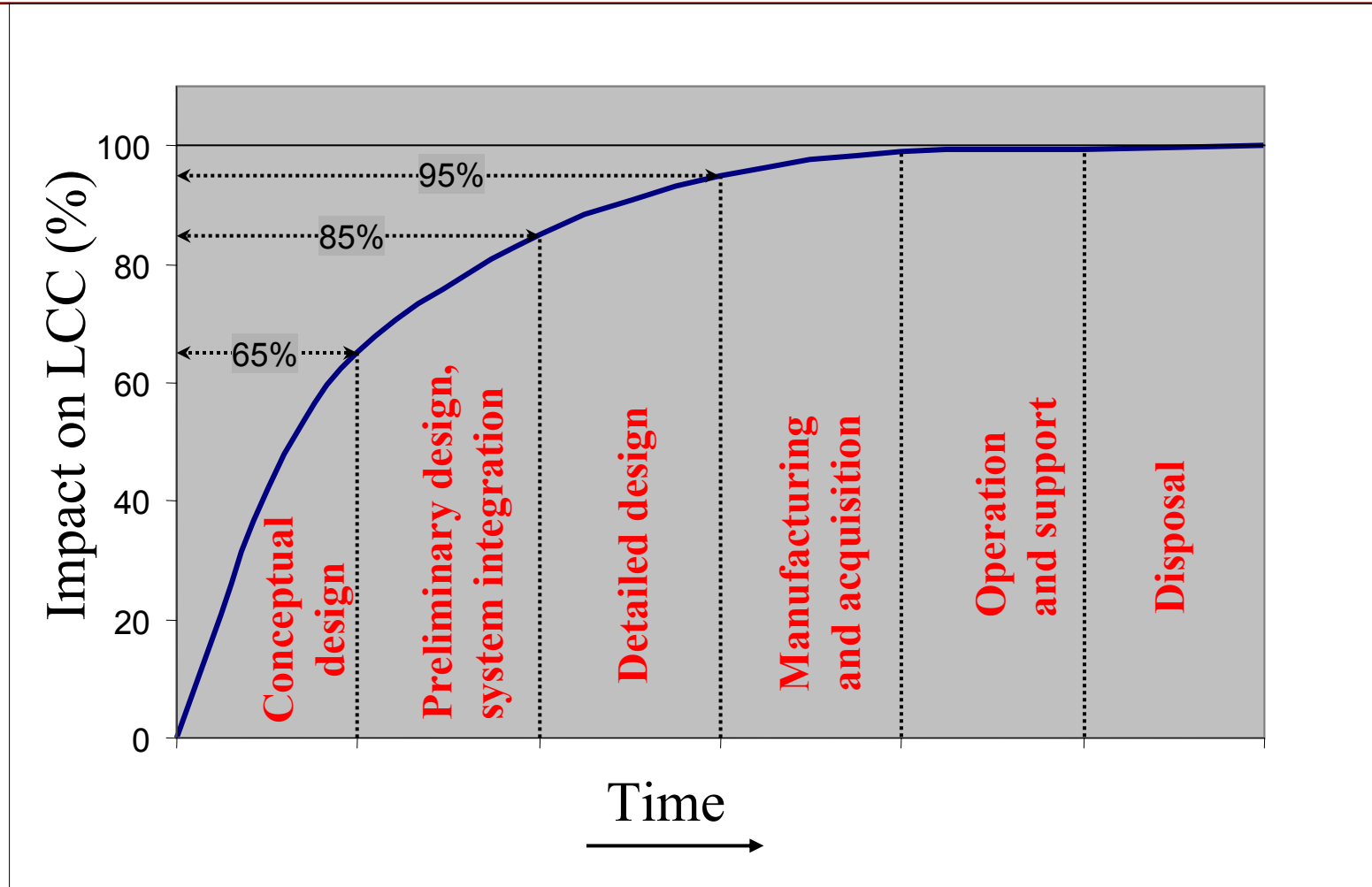
**Lifecycle cost :**

Total cost of program over lifecycle

85% of Total LCC is locked in by the end of preliminary design.



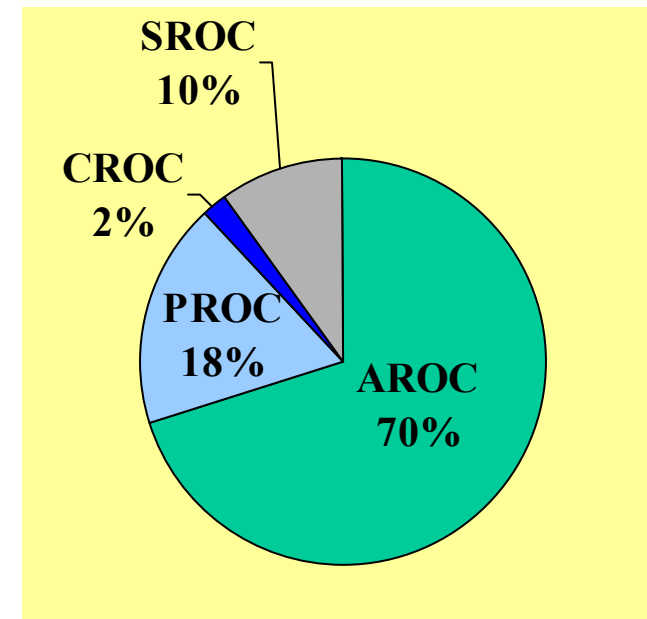
# Lifecycle Cost



# Operating Cost



- Airplane Related Operating Cost (AROC)
- Passenger Related Operating Cost (PROC)
- Cargo Related Operating Cost (CROC)
- Systems Related Operating Cost (SROC)

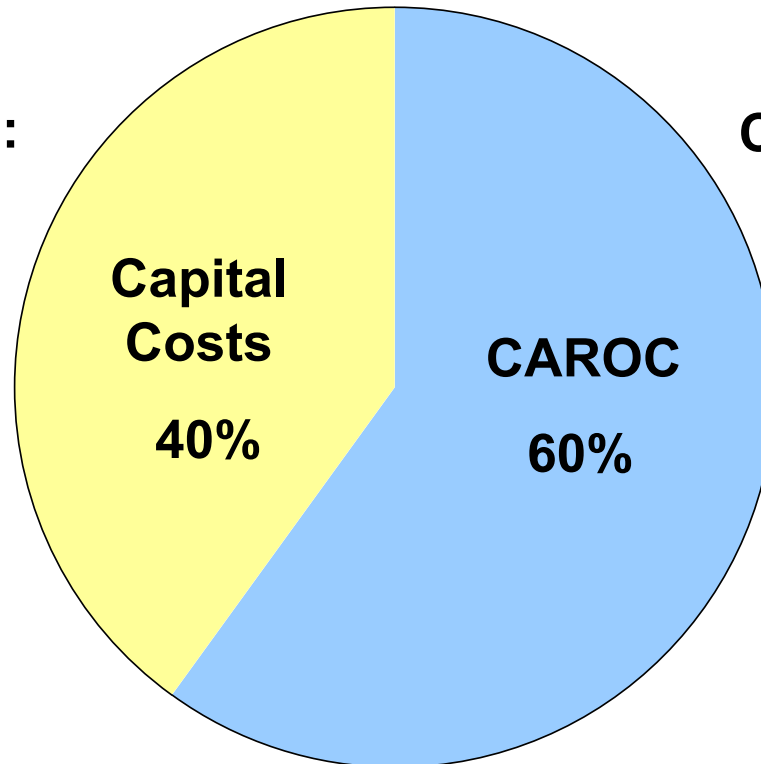


# Airplane Related Operating Costs



## CAPITAL COSTS:

Financing  
Insurance  
Depreciation



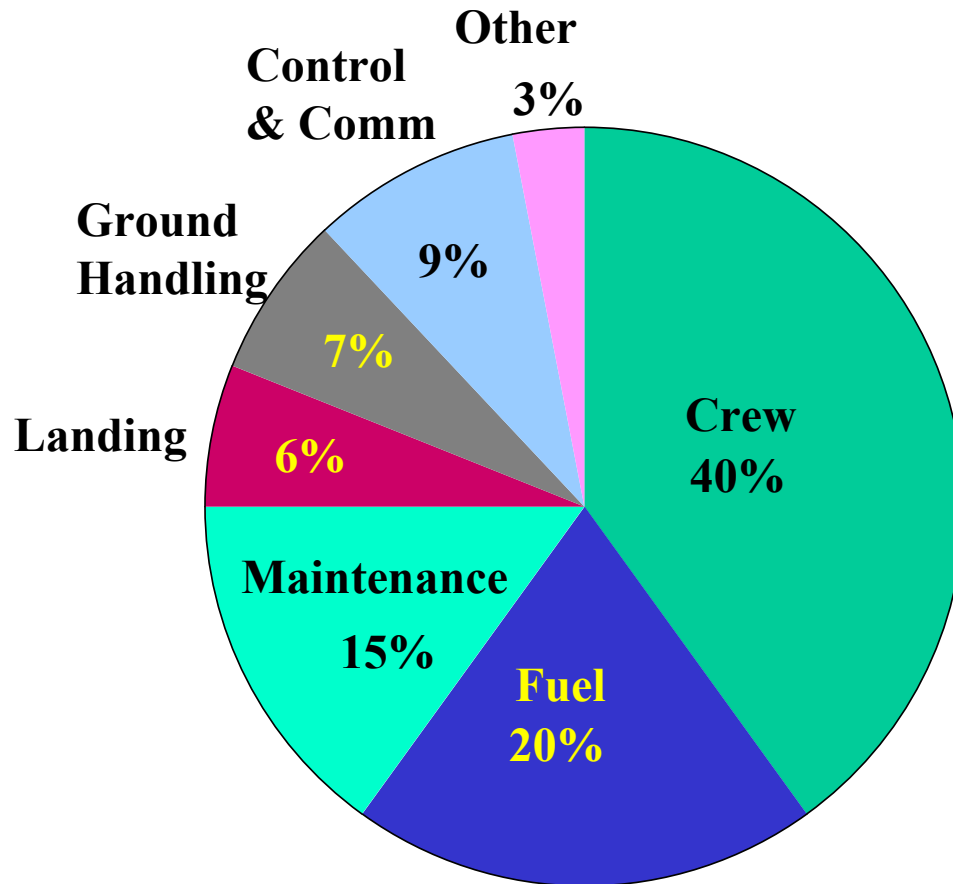
## CASH AIRPLANE RELATED OPERATING COSTS:

Crew  
Fuel  
Maintenance  
Landing  
Ground Handling  
GPE Depreciation  
GPE Maintenance  
Control & Communications

**CAROC is only 60% - ownership costs are significant!**



# CAROC Breakdown per Trip



**Fuel is roughly 20% of 60% of 70% of Total Operating Cost i.e. 8%**





# Non-Recurring Cost

Cost incurred one time only:

## Engineering

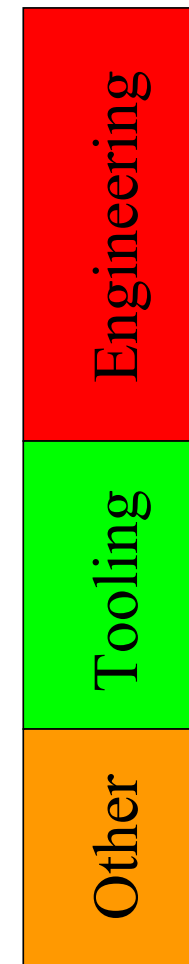
- airframe design/analysis
- configuration control
- systems engineering

## Tooling

- design of tools and fixtures
- fabrication of tools and fixtures

## Other

- development support
- flight testing







# Recurring Cost

Cost incurred per unit:

## Labor

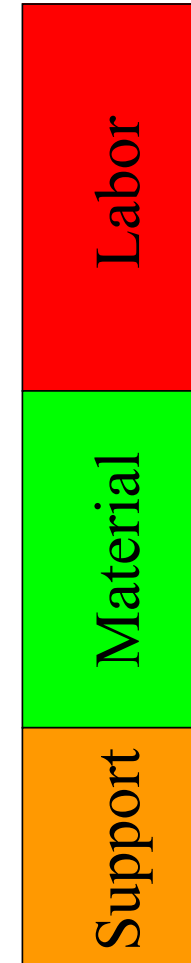
- fabrication
- assembly
- integration

## Material to manufacture

- raw material
- purchased outside production
- purchased equipment

## Production support

- QA
- production tooling support
- engineering support





# Learning Curve

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As more units are made, the recurring cost per unit decreases.

This is the learning curve effect.

e.g. Fabrication is done more quickly, less material is wasted.

$$Y_x = Y_0 x^n$$

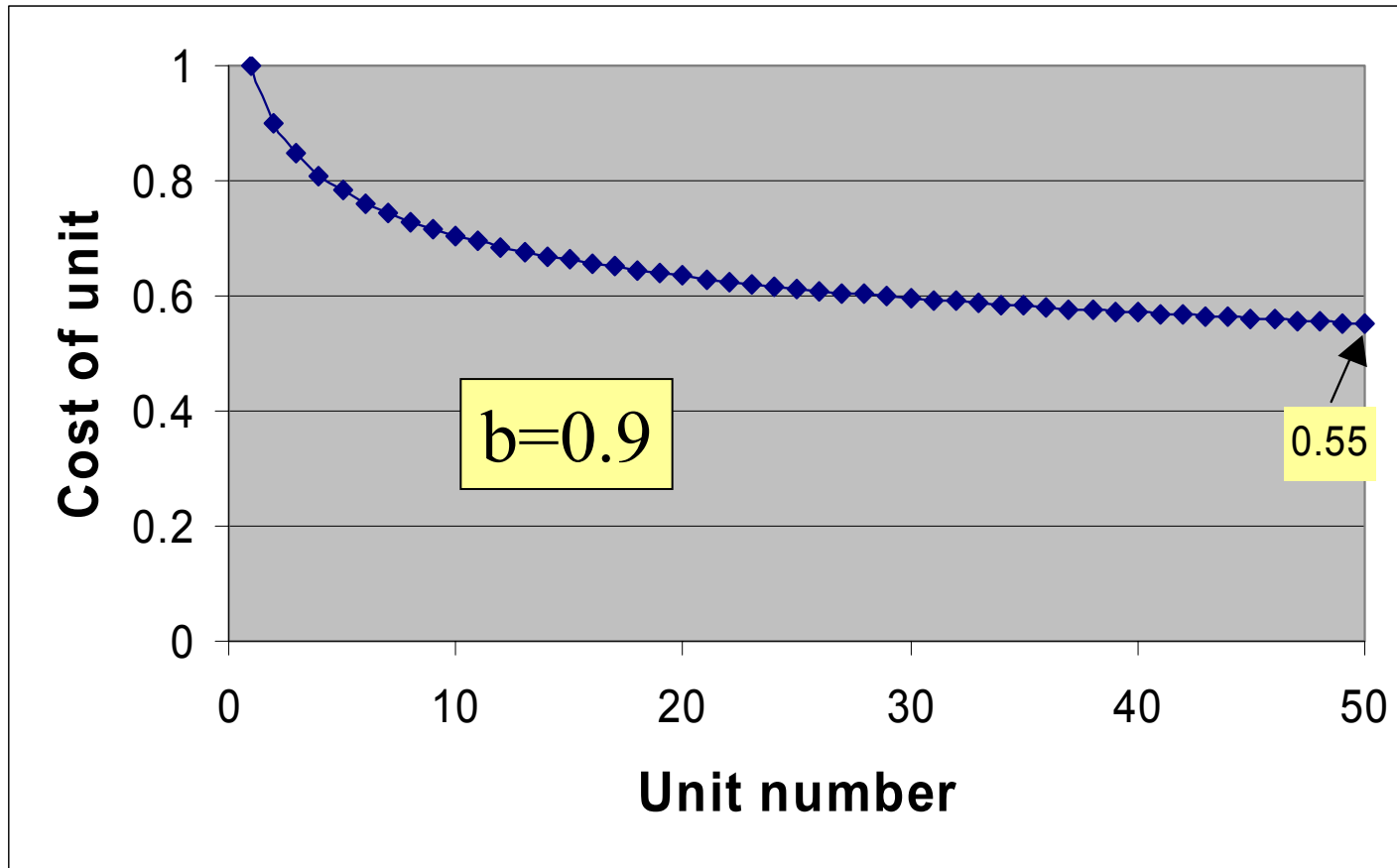
$Y_x$  = number of hours to produce unit  $x$

$n = \log b / \log 2$

$b$  = learning curve factor (~80-100%)



# Learning Curve

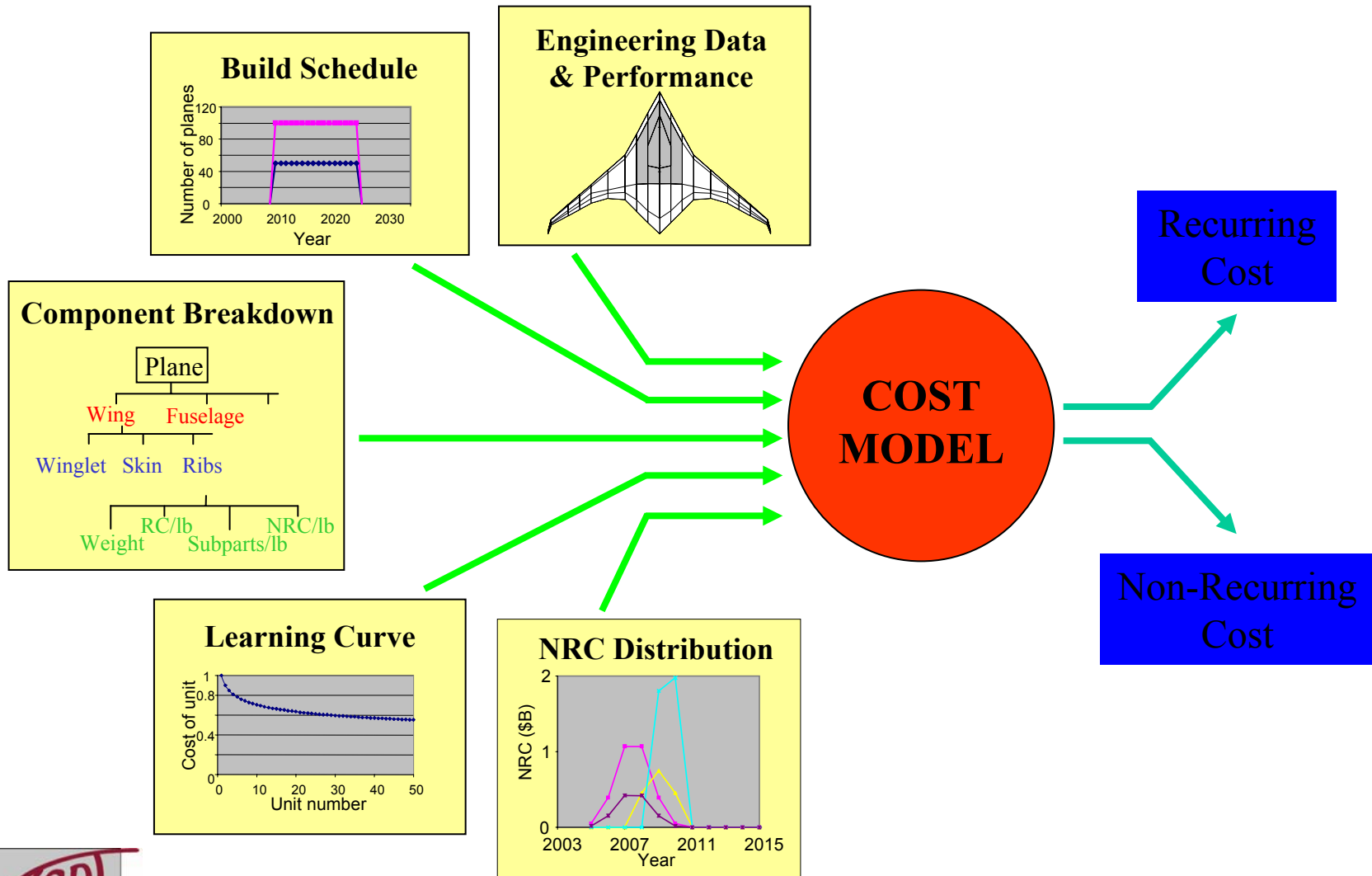


**Every time production doubles, cost is reduced by a factor of 0.9**

**Typical LC slopes: Fab 90%, Assembly 75%, Material 98%**



# Elements of a Cost Model



# Typical Cost Modeling

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1. Take empirical data from past programs.
2. Perform regression to get variation with selected parameters, e.g. cost vs. weight.
3. Apply “judgment factors” for your case. e.g. configuration factors, complexity factors, composite factors.

There is widespread belief that aircraft manufacturers do not know what it actually costs to turn out their current products.





# *Cost Modeling*

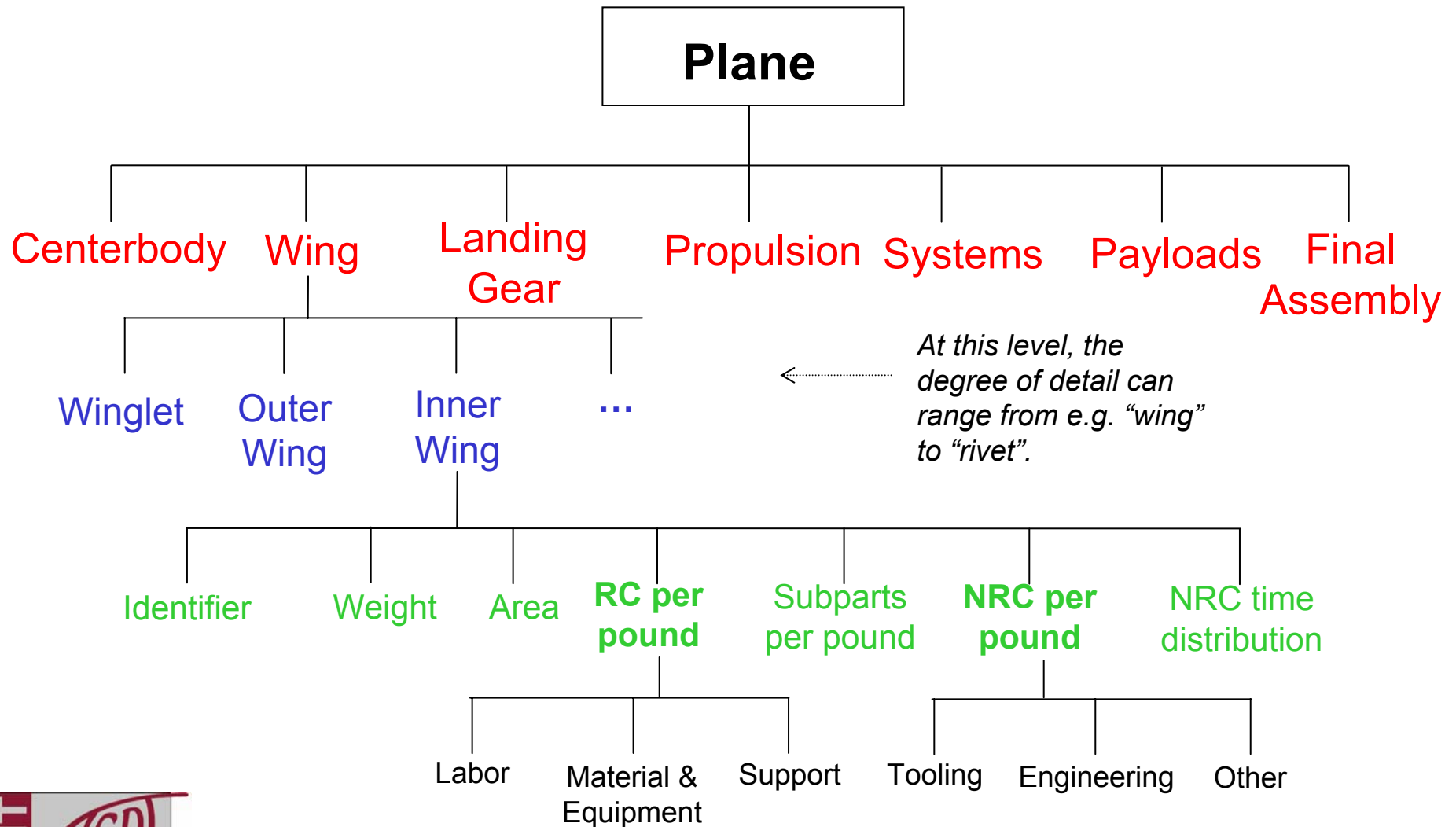
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- Aircraft is broken down into modules
  - Inner wing, outer wing, ...
  - Modules are classified by type
    - Wing, Empennage, Fuselage, ...
- ***Cost per pound*** specified for each module type
  - Calibrated from existing cost models
  - Modified by other factors
    - Learning effects
    - Commonality effects
- Assembly & Integration: a separate “module”
- 2 cost categories: development & manufacturing

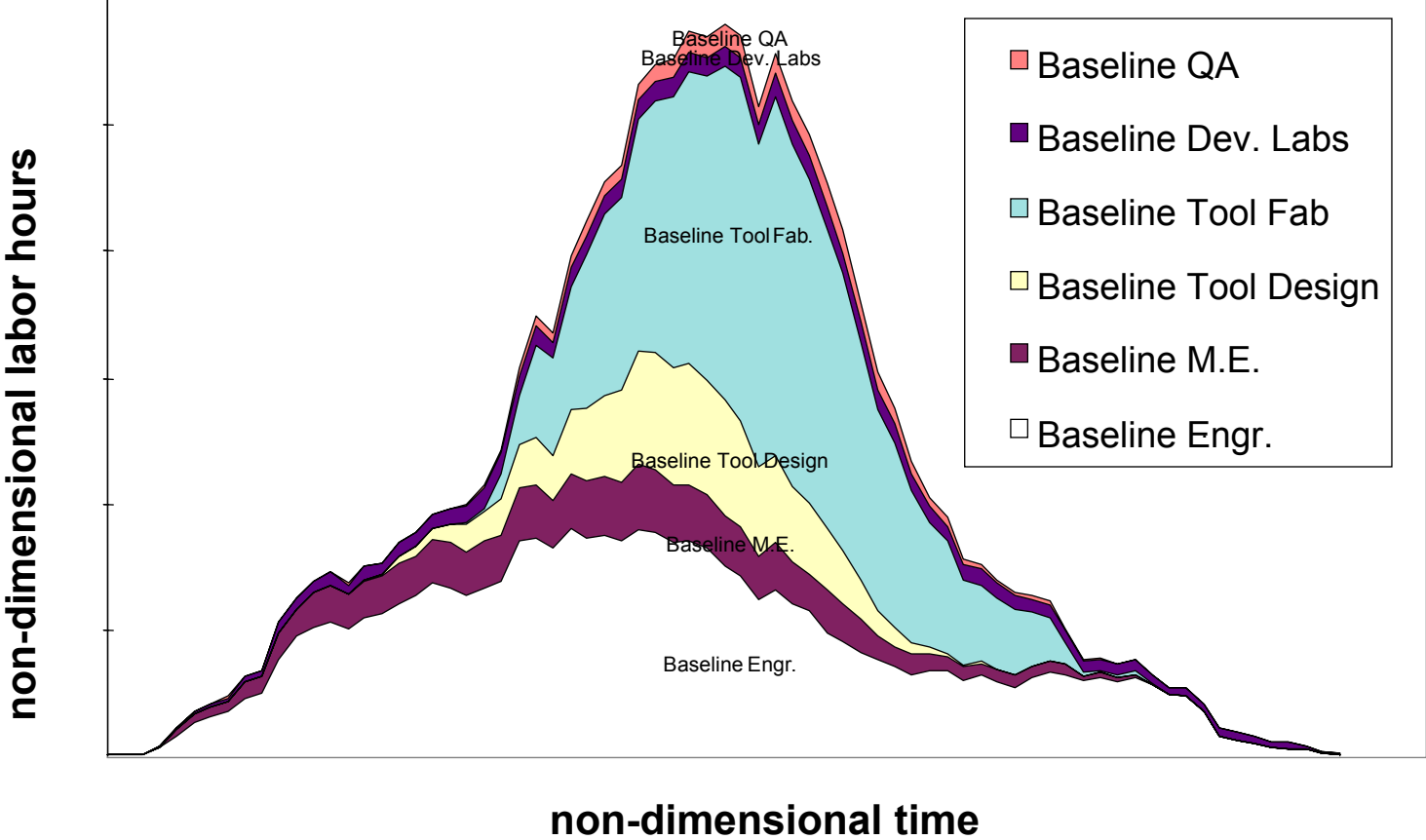


***Production run: a collection of modules***

# Cost Modeling



# Development Cost Data



*Boeing data for large commercial jet*





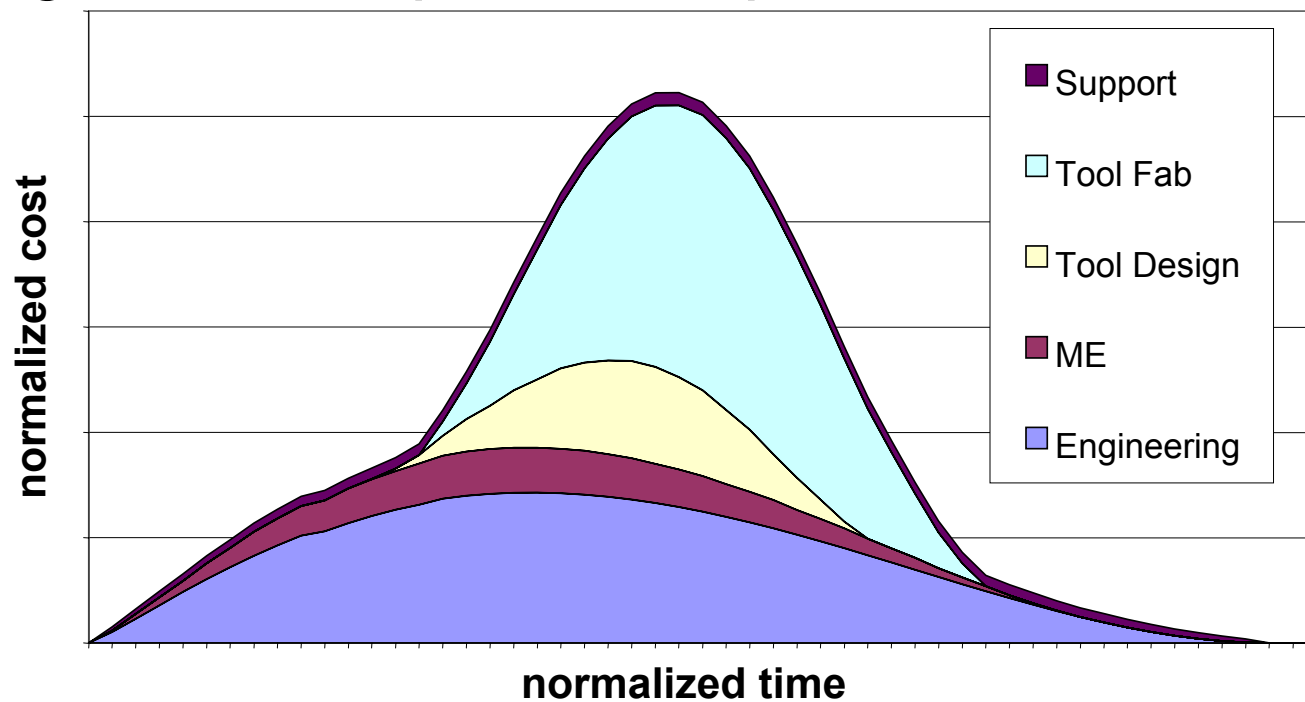
# Development Cost Model



- Cashflow profiles based on beta curve:

$$c(t) = Kt^{\alpha-1} (1-t)^{\beta-1}$$

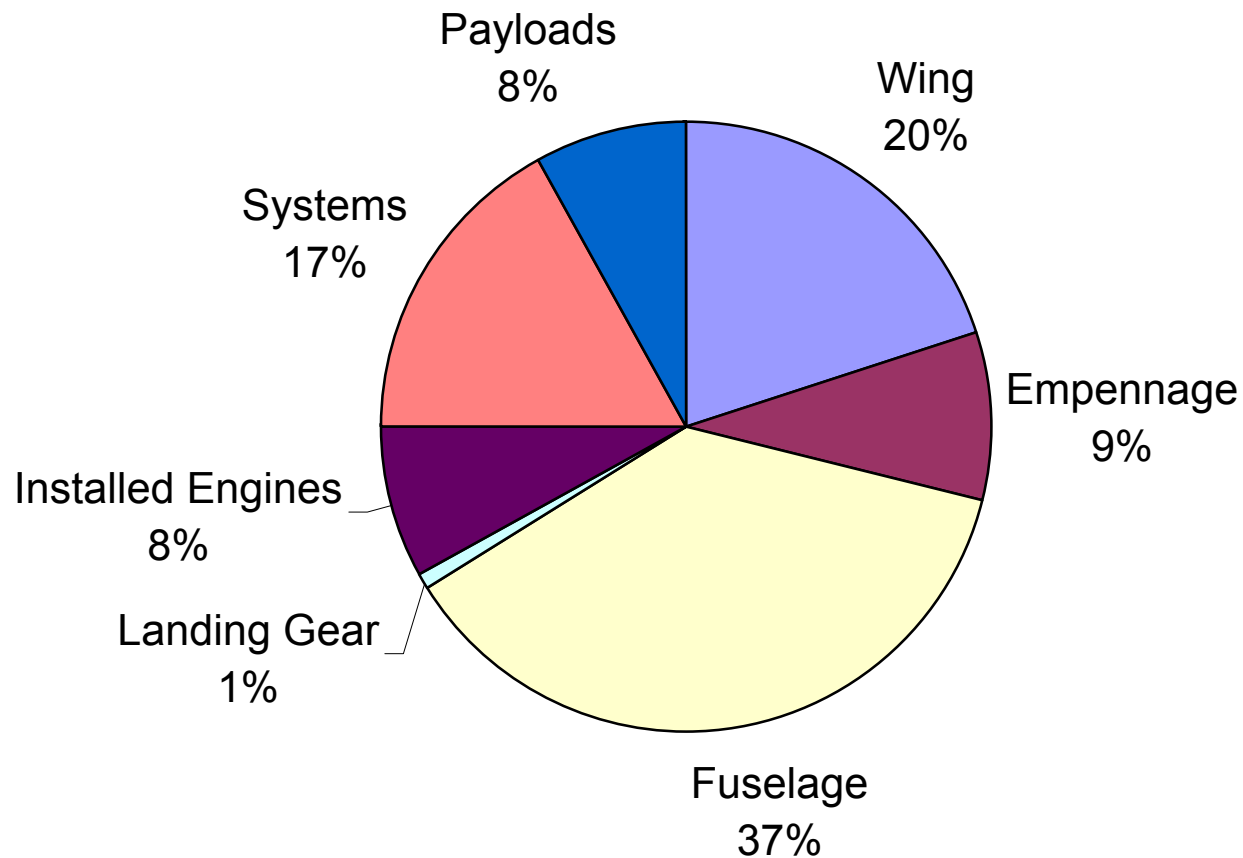
- Typical development time ~6 years
- Learning effects captured – span, cost



(from Markish)



# Development Cost Model



Representative non-recurring cost breakdown by parts for large commercial jet (from Markish).



# Development Cost Data



For your reference: \$/lb assembled from public domain weight and total cost estimates plus representative NRC breakdown by aircraft part (see Markish).

	Engineering	ME	Tool Design	Tool Fab	Support	Totals
	40.0%	10.0%	10.5%	34.8%	4.7%	100.0%
Wing	\$7,093	\$1,773	\$1,862	\$6,171	\$833	\$17,731
Empennage	\$20,862	\$5,216	\$5,476	\$18,150	\$2,451	\$52,156
Fuselage	\$12,837	\$3,209	\$3,370	\$11,169	\$1,508	\$32,093
Landing Gear	\$999	\$250	\$262	\$869	\$117	\$2,499
Installed Engines	\$3,477	\$869	\$913	\$3,025	\$408	\$8,691
Systems	\$13,723	\$3,431	\$3,602	\$11,939	\$1,612	\$34,307
Payloads	\$4,305	\$1,076	\$1,130	\$3,746	\$506	\$10,763

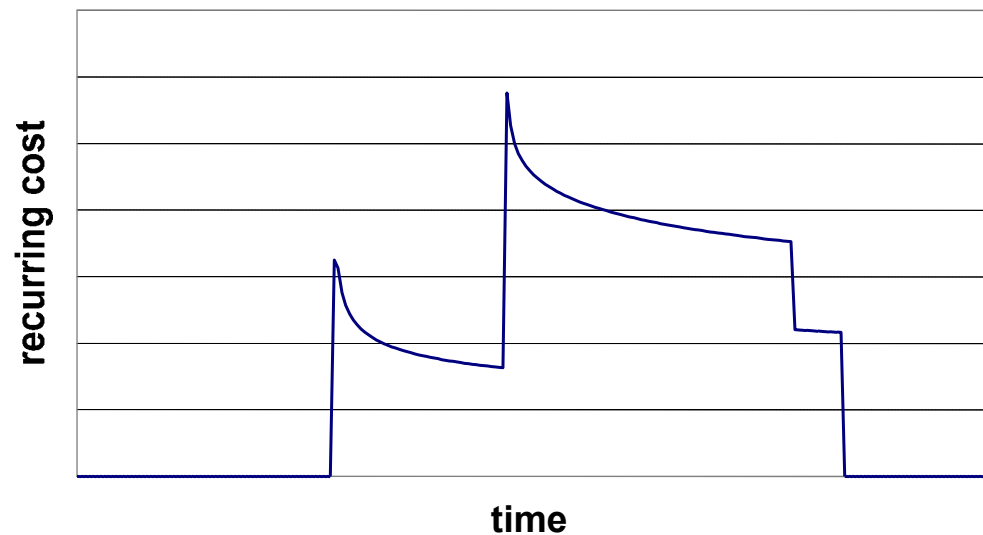


# Manufacturing Cost Model

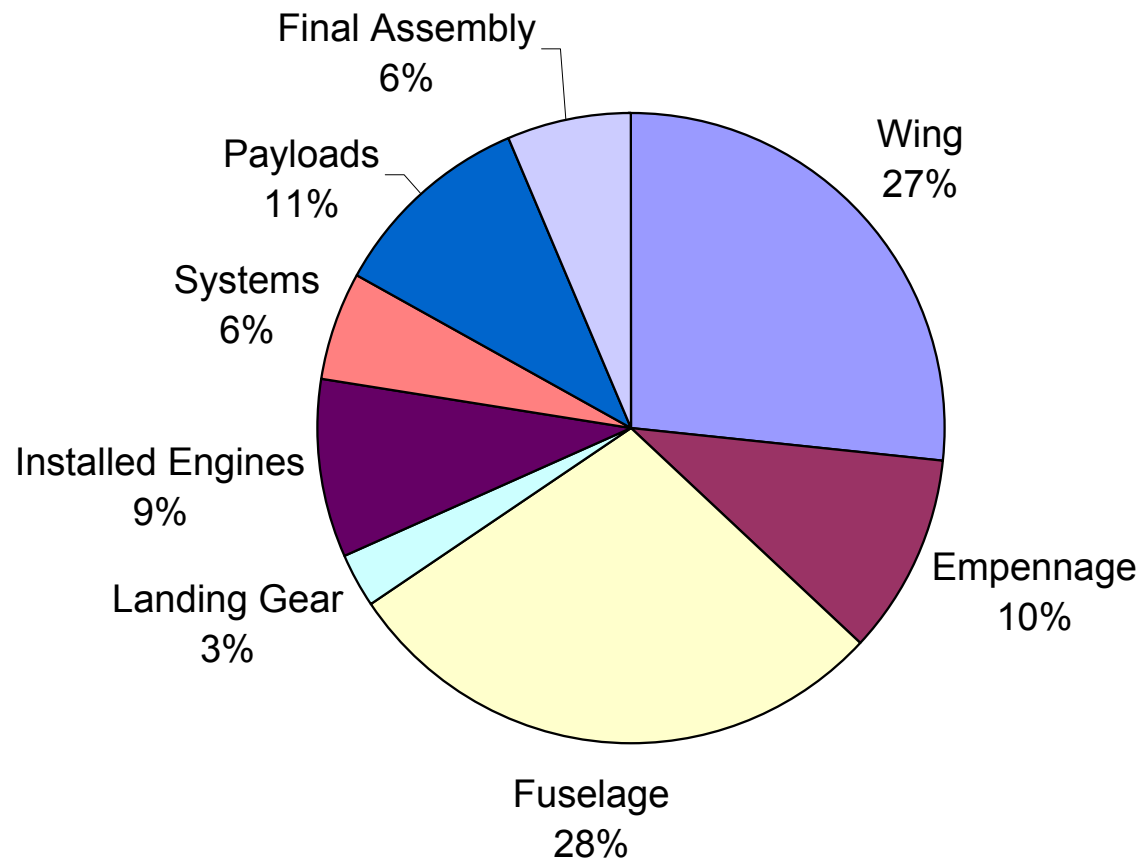


- Aircraft built  $\rightarrow$  modules required
- Modules database
  - Records quantities, marginal costs
  - Apply learning curve effect *by module, not by aircraft*

Labor	Materials	Support
85%	95%	95%



# Manufacturing Cost Model



Representative recurring cost breakdown by parts for large commercial jet (from Markish).



# Manufacturing Cost Data



For your reference: \$/lb values assembled from public domain weight and total cost estimates plus representative RC breakdown by aircraft part (see Markish).

	Labor	Materials	Other	Total
Wing	\$609	\$204	\$88	\$900
Empennage	\$1,614	\$484	\$233	\$2,331
Fuselage	\$679	\$190	\$98	\$967
Landing Gear	\$107	\$98	\$16	\$221
Installed Engines	\$248	\$91	\$36	\$374
Systems	\$315	\$91	\$46	\$452
Payloads	\$405	\$100	\$59	\$564
Final Assembly	\$58	\$4	\$3	\$65



# NASA Cost Models

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Online cost models available at

<http://www.jsc.nasa.gov/bu2/airframe.html>

e.g. Airframe Cost Model

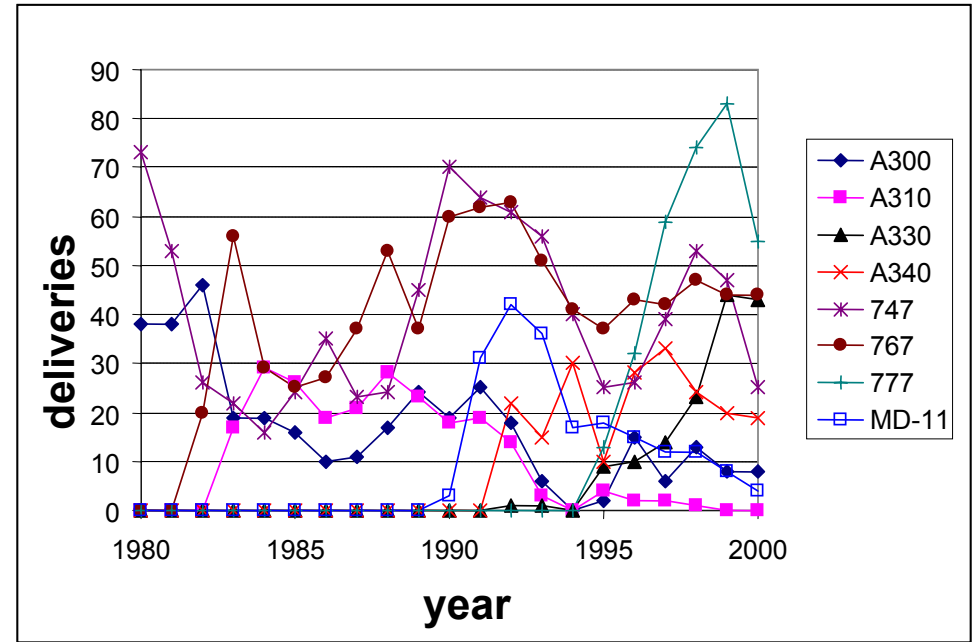
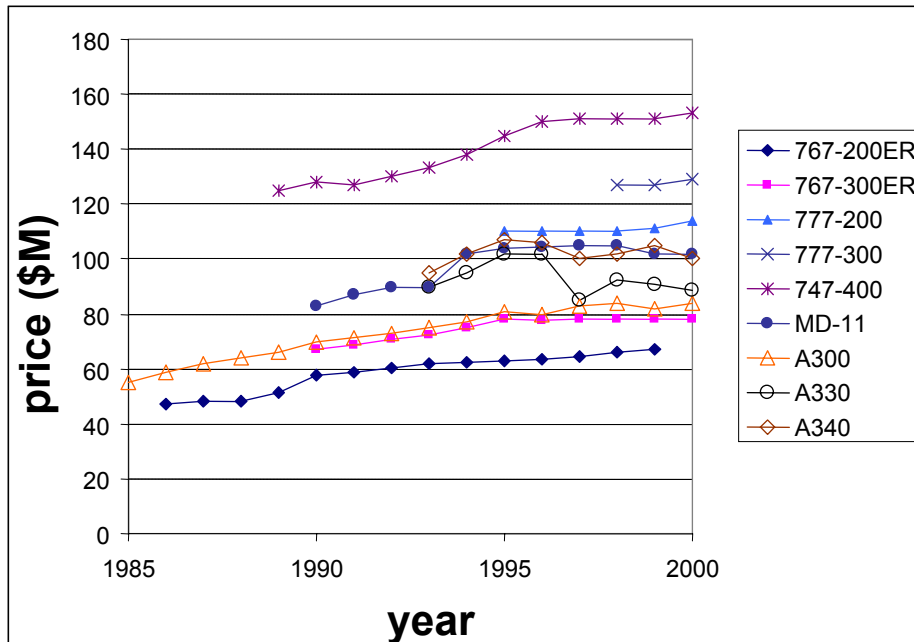
- simple model for estimating the development and production costs of aircraft airframes
- based on military jet data
- correlation with empty weight, max. speed, number of flight test vehicles, and production quantity





# Revenue Model

Revenue model must predict market price and demand quantity.



*Historical wide body data from Markish. No correlation found between price and quantity.*





# Aircraft Pricing



## Cost-Based Pricing

Cost + Profit = Price

Personal aircraft  
Business jets? →  
Military aircraft

## Market-Based Pricing

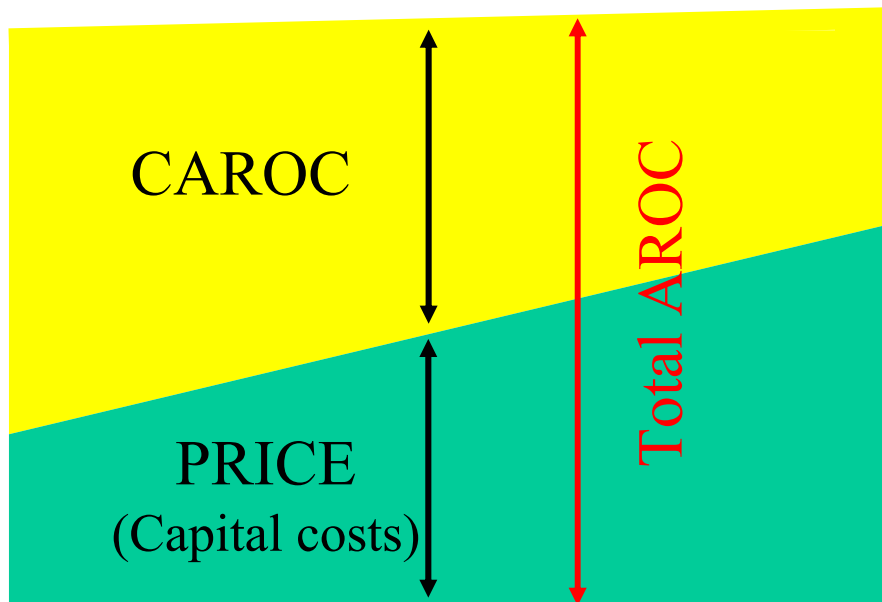
Performance  
Operating Cost  
Competition  
Passenger Appeal

} Market Value

Commercial transport



# Commercial Aircraft Pricing



- Total Airplane Related Operating Costs are fairly constant.
- Aircraft price must balance CAROC.

➔ **COST/WEIGHT  
TRADE-OFF**



# Business Jet Empirical Data



Figure A7 in Roskam:

$$\text{AMP}_{1989} = \log^{-1}\{0.6570 + 1.4133 \log W_{\text{TO}}\}$$

$\text{AMP}_{1989}$  is predicted airplane market price in 1989 dollars

Take-off weight:  $10,000 \text{ lb} < W_{\text{TO}} < 60,000 \text{ lb}$

BUT Gulfstream GIV and 737 BJ versions do not fit the linear trend.



# Commercial Jet Empirical Data



Figure A9 in Roskam:

$$\text{AMP}_{1989} = \log^{-1}\{3.3191 + 0.8043 \log W_{\text{TO}}\}$$

$\text{AMP}_{1989}$  is predicted airplane market price in 1989 dollars

Take-off weight:  $60,000 \text{ lb} < W_{\text{TO}} < 1,000,000 \text{ lb}$



# *Military Aircraft Empirical Data*



Figure A10 in Roskam:

$$\text{AMP}_{1989} = \log^{-1}\{2.3341 + 1.0586 \log W_{\text{TO}}\}$$

$\text{AMP}_{1989}$  is predicted airplane market price in 1989 dollars

Take-off weight:  $2,500 \text{ lb} < W_{\text{TO}} < 1,000,000 \text{ lb}$





# Revenue Model: Price

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- Assumption: market price based on
  1. Range
  2. Payload
  3. Cash Airplane-Related Operating Cost (CAROC)

- Regression model:

$$P = k_1 (Seats)^\alpha + k_2 (Range) - f(CAROC)$$

- Note that speed does not appear. No significant statistical relationship between price and speed was found in available data.

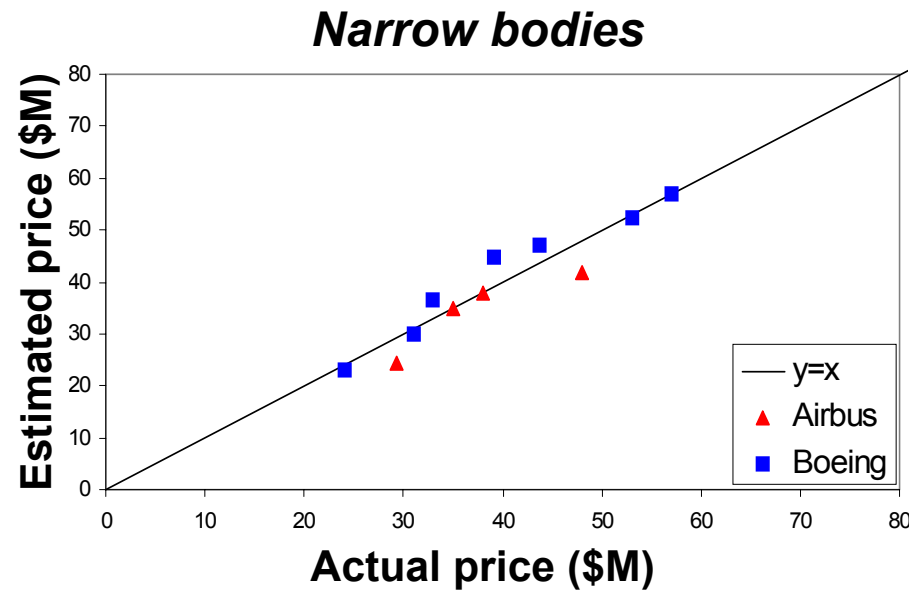


# Revenue Model: Price



Narrow bodies:

$$P = 0.735(\text{Seats})^{1.91} + 0.427(\text{Range}) - f(\text{CAROC})$$



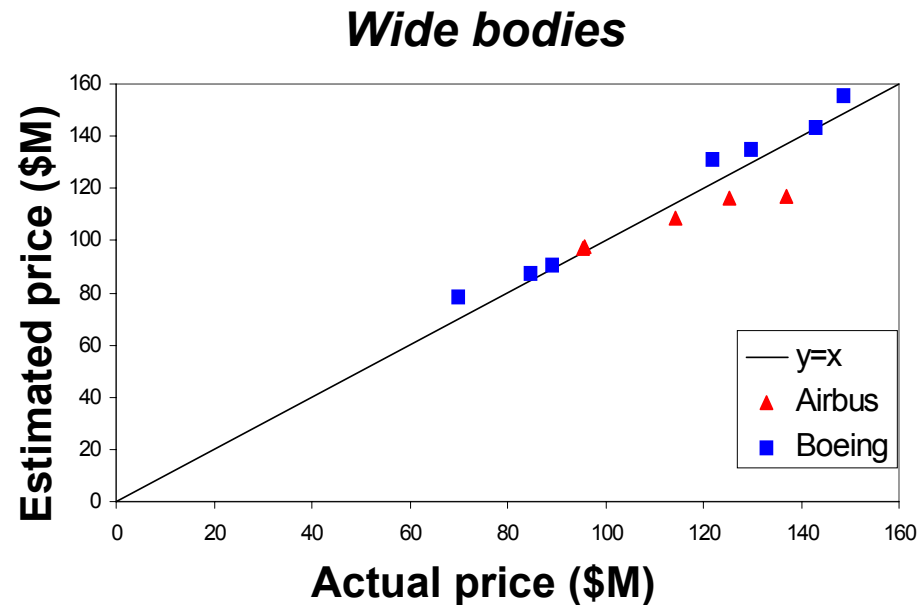
*Model from Markish, price data from Aircraft Value News, The Airline Monitor, 2001.*

# Revenue Model: Price



Wide bodies:

$$P = 0.508(\text{Seats})^{2.76} + 0.697(\text{Range}) - f(\text{CAROC})$$



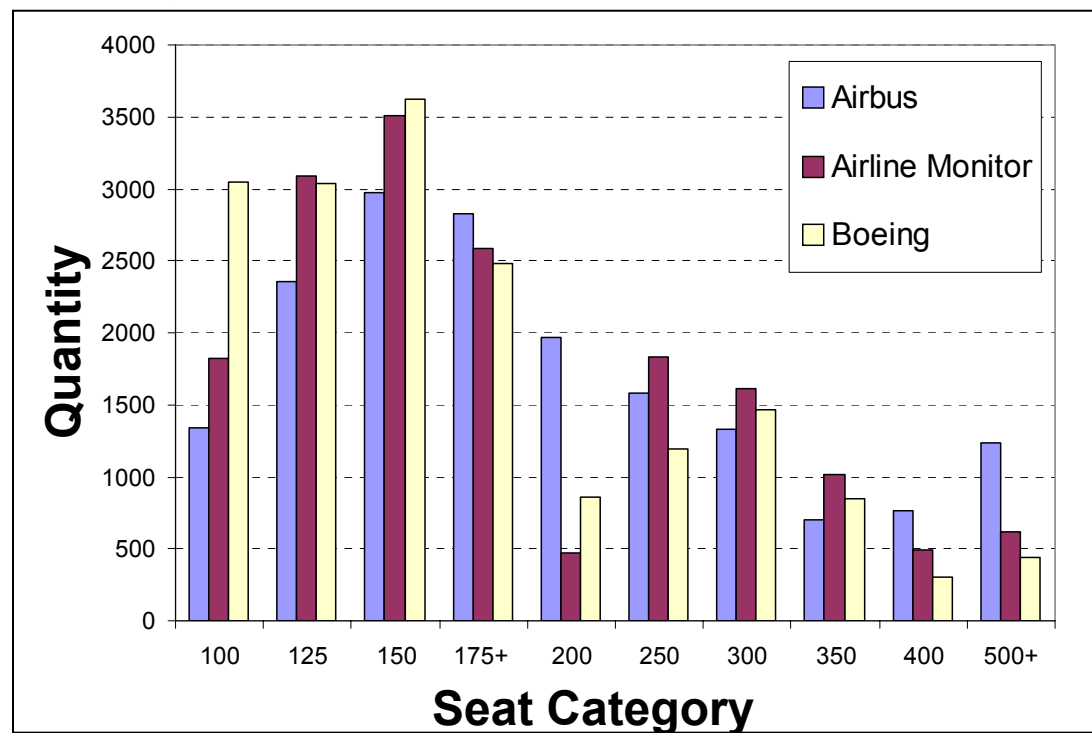
*Model from Markish, price data from Aircraft Value News, The Airline Monitor, 2001.*



# Revenue Model: Quantity



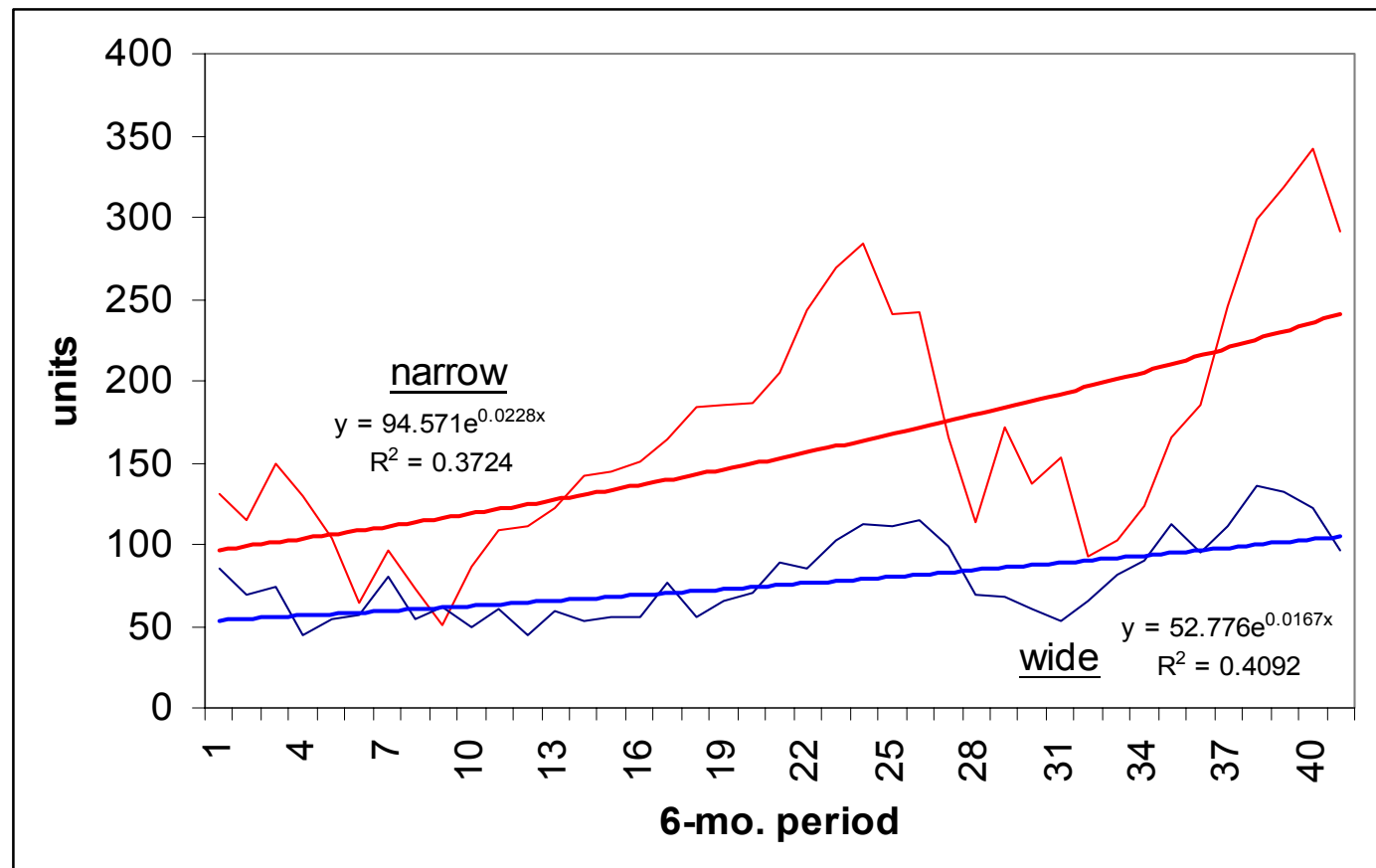
- Demand forecasts
  - 3 sources: Airbus; Boeing; Airline Monitor
  - Expected deliveries over 20 years
  - Arranged by airplane seat category
- Given a new aircraft design:
  - Assign to a seat category
  - Assume a market share
  - Demand forecast → 20-year production potential



# Revenue Model: Dynamics



- Expected aircraft deliveries: forecasted
- Actual deliveries: unpredictable
- Observe historical trends: growth rate, volatility



# Valuation Techniques

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## *The top 5 investor questions:*

- How much will I need to invest?
- How much will I get back?
- When will I get my money back?
- How much is this going to cost me?
- How are you handling risk & uncertainty?

## *Investment Criteria*

- Net present value
- Payback
- Discounted payback
- Internal rate of return



# Net Present Value (NPV)



- Measure of present value of various cash flows in different periods in the future
- Cash flow in any given period discounted by the value of a dollar today at that point in the future
  - “Time is money”
  - A dollar tomorrow is worth less today since if properly invested, a dollar today would be worth more tomorrow
- Rate at which future cash flows are discounted is determined by the “discount rate” or “hurdle rate”
  - Discount rate is equal to the amount of interest the investor could earn in a single time period (usually a year) if s/he were to invest in a “safer” investment



# Calculating NPV



- Forecast the cash flows of the project over its economic life
  - Treat investments as negative cash flow
- Determine the appropriate opportunity cost of capital (i.e. determine the discount rate  $r$ )
- Use opportunity cost of capital to discount the future cash flow of the project
- Sum the discounted cash flows to get the net present value (NPV)

$$NPV = C_0 + \frac{C_1}{1+r} + \frac{C_2}{(1+r)^2} + \dots + \frac{C_T}{(1+r)^T}$$



# NPV example



Period	Discount Factor	Cash Flow	Present Value
0	1	-150,000	-150,000
1	0.935	-100,000	-93,500
2	0.873	+300,000	+261,000

Discount rate = 7%

NPV = \$18,400





# Discount Rate

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- One of the problems with NPV: what discount rate should we use?
- The discount rate is often used to reflect the risk associated with a project:
  - the riskier the project, use a higher discount rate
- Typical discount rates for commercial aircraft programs: 12-20%
- The higher the discount rate, the more it does not matter what you do in the future...



# Payback Period

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- How long it takes before entire initial investment is recovered through revenue
- Insensitive to time value of money, i.e. no discounting
- Gives equal weight to cash flows before cut-off date & no weight to cash flows after cut-off date
- Cannot distinguish between projects with different NPV
- Difficult to decide on appropriate cut-off date





# *Discounted payback*

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- Payback criterion modified to account for the time value of money
  - Cash flows before cut-off date are discounted
- Surmounts objection that equal weight is given to all flows before cut-off date
- Cash flows after cut-off date still not given any weight



# Internal rate of return (IRR)



- Investment criterion is “rate of return must be greater than the opportunity cost of capital”
- Internal rate of return is equal to the discount rate for which the NPV is equal to zero

$$NPV = C_0 + \frac{C_1}{1+IRR} + \frac{C_2}{(1+IRR)^2} + \dots + \frac{C_T}{(1+IRR)^T} = 0$$

- IRR solution is not unique
  - Multiple rates of return for same project
- IRR doesn't always correlate with NPV
  - NPV does not always decrease as discount rate increases



# Decision Tree Analysis

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- NPV analysis with different future scenarios
- Weighted by probability of event occurring



# Dynamic Programming

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- A way of including **uncertainty** and **flexibility** in the program valuation
- Key features:
  - Certain aspects of the system may be uncertain, e.g. the demand quantity for a given aircraft = **UNCERTAINTY**
  - In reality, the decision-maker (aircraft manufacturer) has the ability to make decisions in real-time according to how the uncertainty evolves = **FLEXIBILITY**



# Dynamic Programming: Problem Formulation

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- The firm:
  - Portfolio of designs
  - Sequential development phases
  - Decision making
- The market:
  - Sale price is steady
  - Quantity demanded is unpredictable
  - Units built = units demanded
- Problem objective:
  - Which aircraft to design?
  - Which aircraft to produce?
  - When?



# Dynamic Programming: Problem Elements

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1. State variables  $s_t$
2. Control variables  $u_t$
3. Randomness
4. Profit function
5. Dynamics

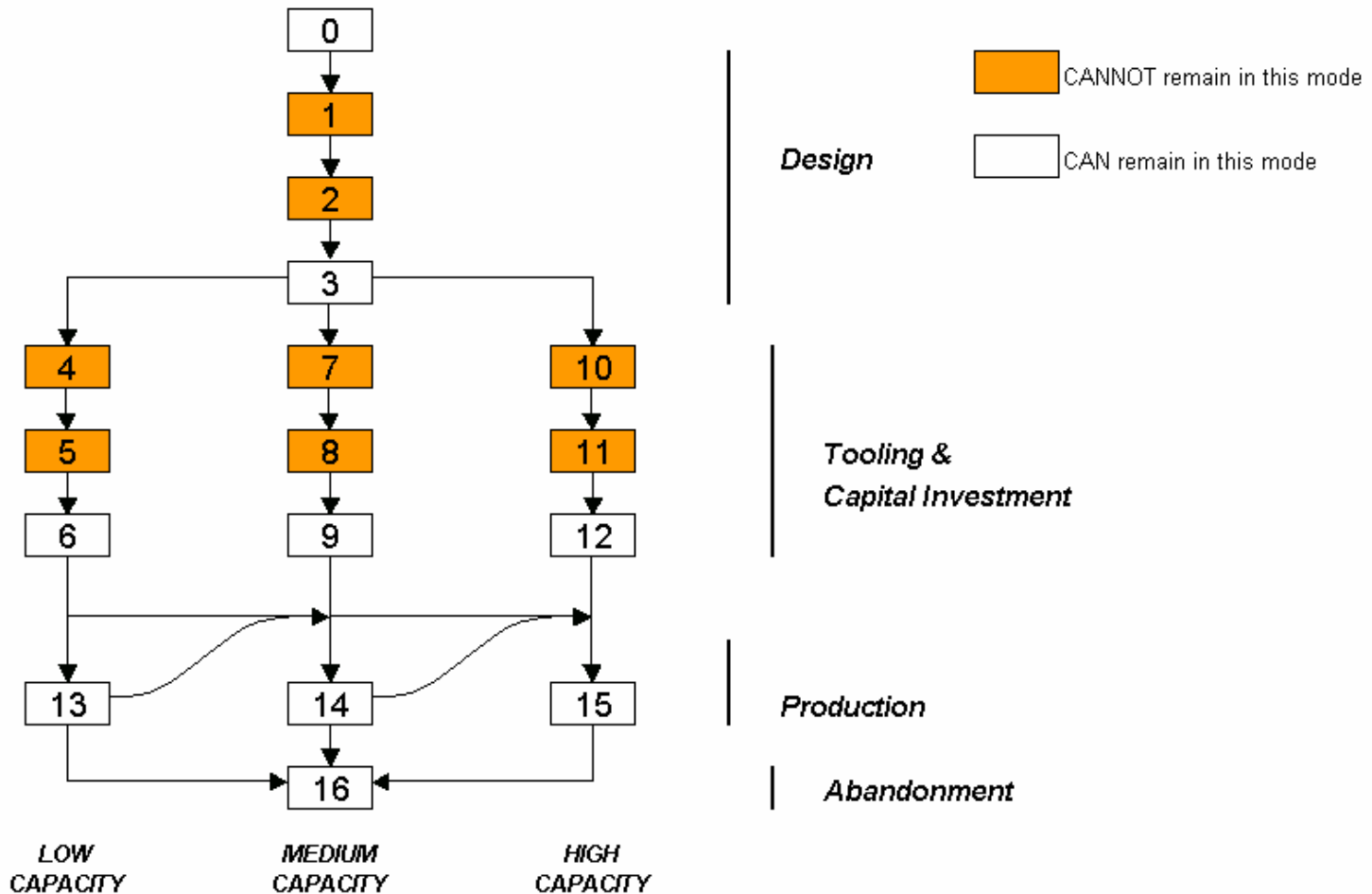
- Solution: 
$$F_t(s_t) = \max_{u_t} \left\{ \pi_t(s_t, u_t) + \frac{1}{1+r} E_t[F_{t+1}(s_{t+1})] \right\}$$
- Solve iteratively.



# Dynamic Programming: Operating Modes



How to model decision making?

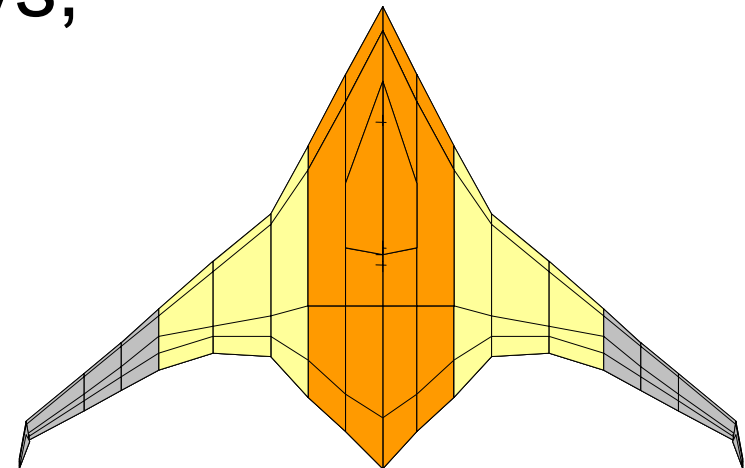


# Example: BWB

- Blended-Wing-Body (BWB):
  - Proposed new jet transport concept
- 250-seat, long range
- Part of a larger family sharing common centerbody bays, wings, ...

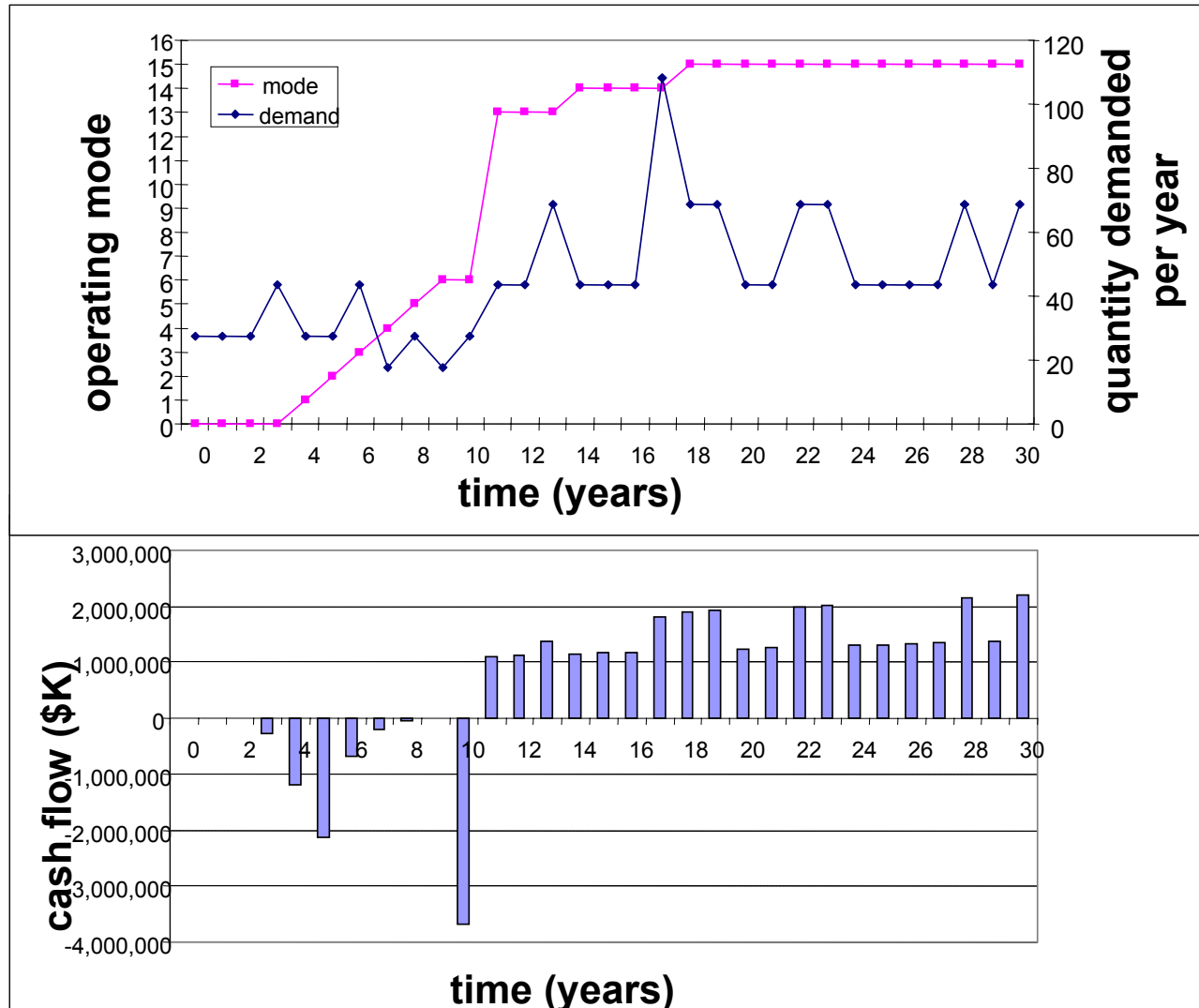


Image taken from NASA's web site: <http://www.nasa.gov>.

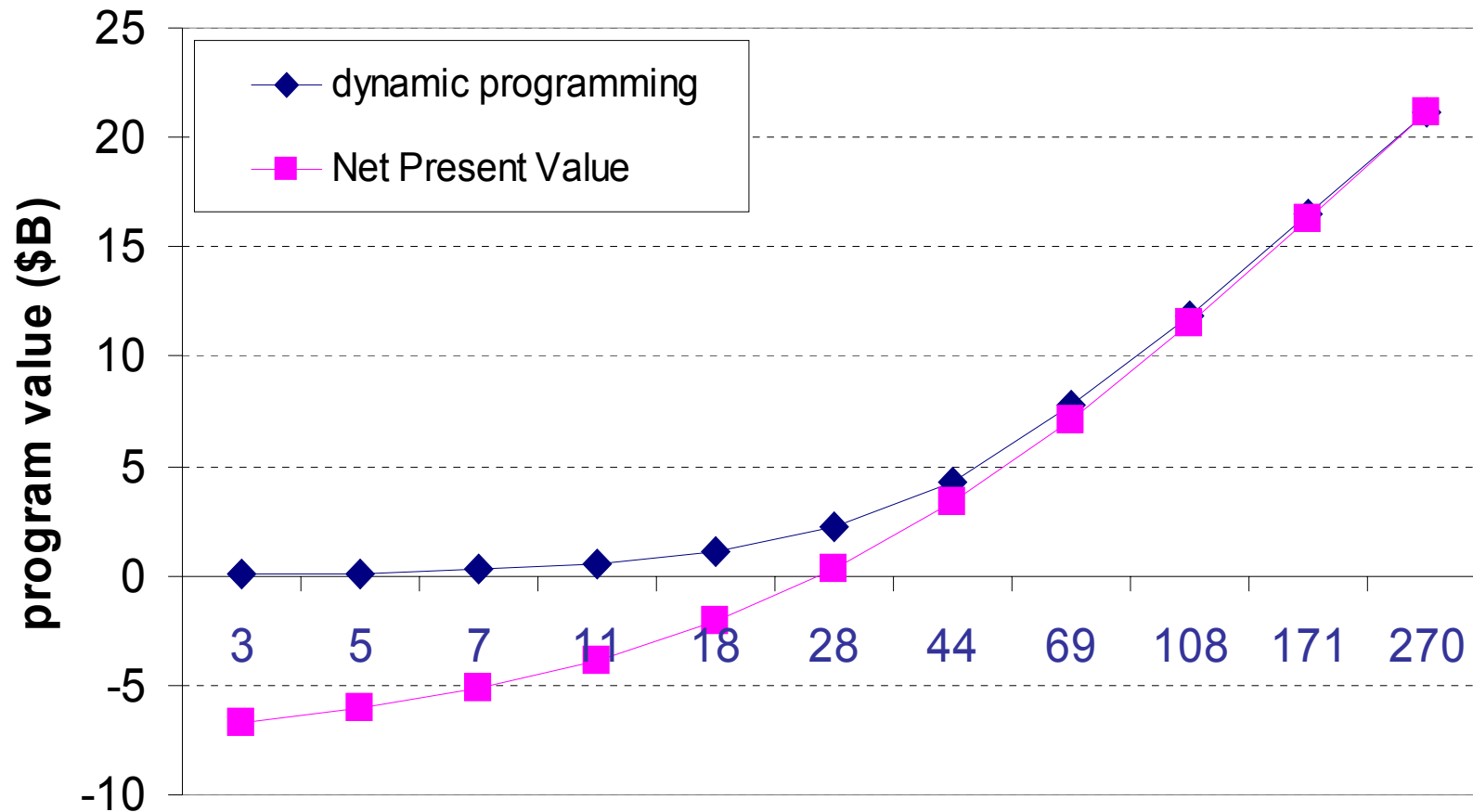




# Example: BWB Simulation Run



# Example: BWB Importance of Flexibility



initial annual demand forecast

**At baseline of 28 aircraft, DP value is \$2.26B versus NPV value of \$325M**





# References

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