



# Putting the “Systemic” (back) into the Engineering of Systems

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Session Number: 5.1

Session Title: Systems of Systems Engineering

Date: Tuesday, 21<sup>st</sup> July 2020

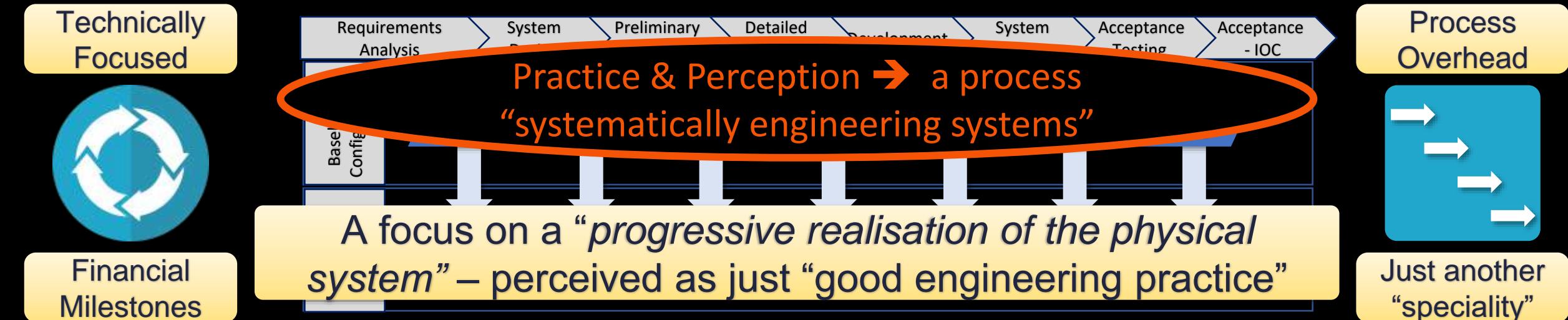
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# Systems Engineering – Practice & Perceptions

## INCOSE Definition (pre mid-2019) – “What is Systems Engineering”

An **engineering discipline** whose responsibility is *creating and executing an interdisciplinary process* to ensure that the customer and stakeholder's needs are satisfied in a *high quality, trustworthy, cost efficient and schedule compliant* manner throughout a system's *entire life cycle*.

(<http://www.incose.org/AboutSE/WhatIsSE>)



## INCOSE Definition (2019) – “What is Systems Engineering”

Systems Engineering is a **transdisciplinary and integrative** approach to enable the successful realization, use, and retirement of **engineered systems**, using **systems principles and concepts**, and scientific, technological, and management methods.

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# Putting the “Systemic” (back) into the Engineering of Systems

## Motivation....



Elevate the understanding of the *Engineering of Systems* and the relative-standing of *Systems Engineers*

Paper / Presentation Focus

### INCOSE Definition (2019) – “What is Systems Engineering”

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# Presentation Structure



## *Principles & Concepts*

- Systems Thinking
- Modelling & Simulation
- The Content of our Minds

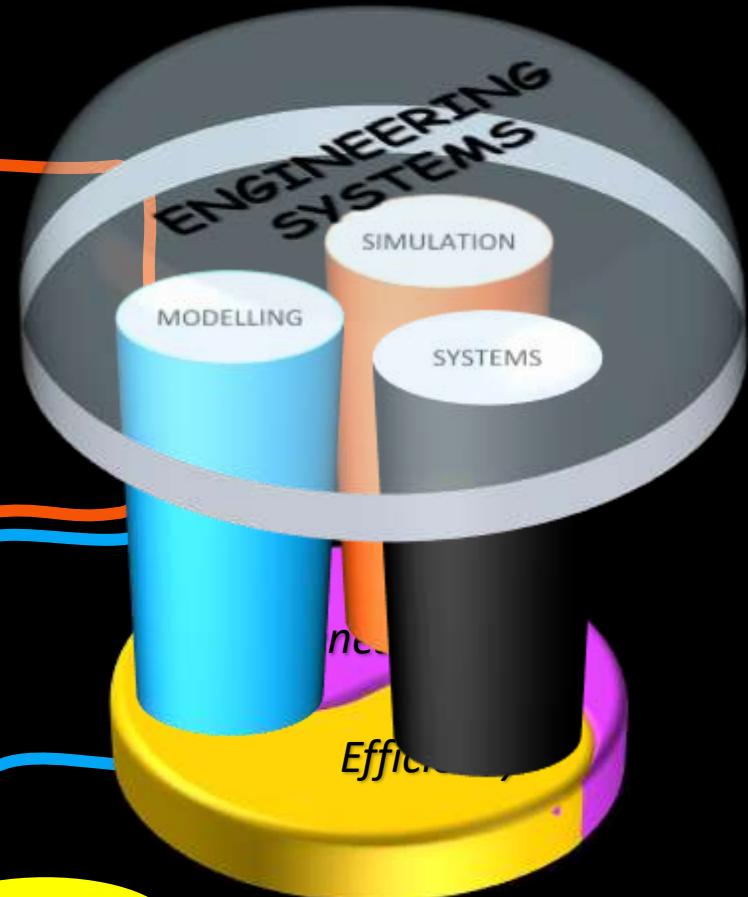
## *Application & Conclusions*

- The Engineering of Systems
- Key Points & Recommendations

**WHY?**

**WHAT?**

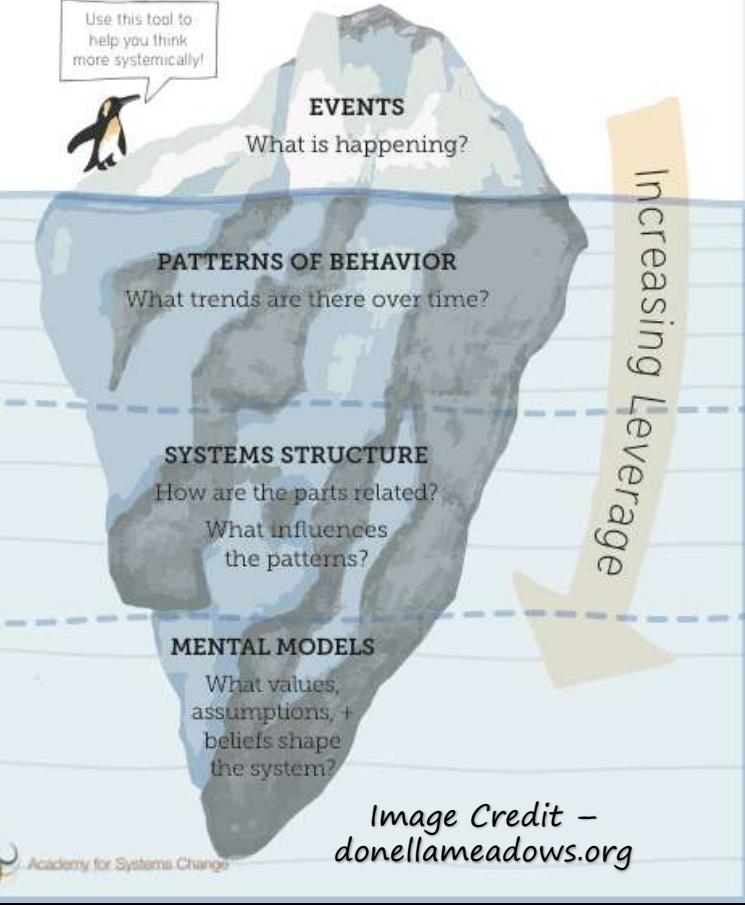
**HOW?**



# Problems, Symptoms & Root Causes

## THE ICEBERG MODEL

Use this tool to help you think more systematically!



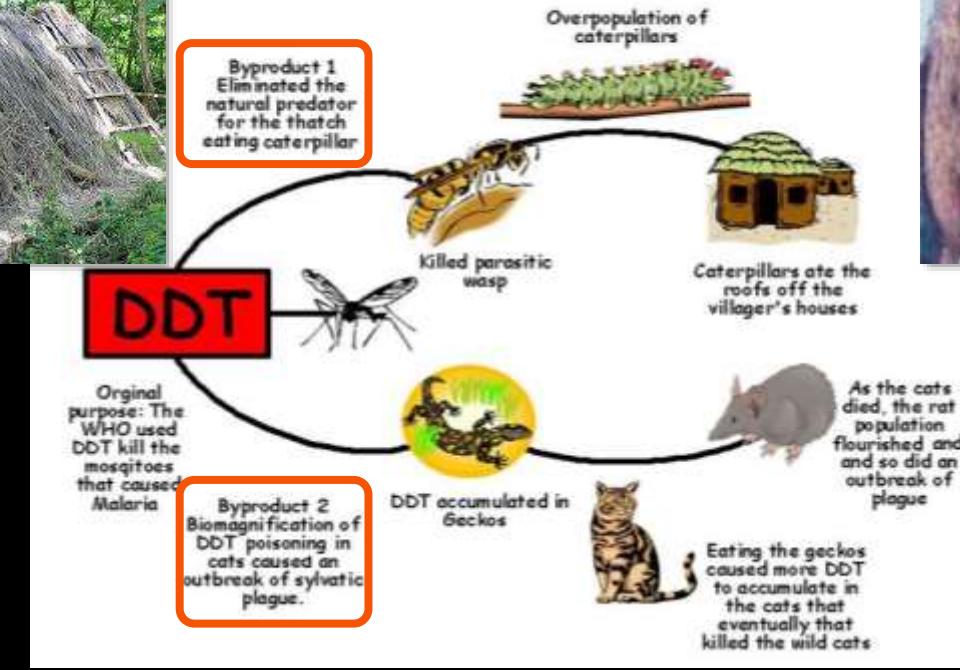
A major outbreak of malaria amongst the Dayak people in Sarawak, Borneo

The WHO Responded – Sprayed DDT



*Good Intentions*

Effect of DDT Use in Borneo  
In the early 1950's the people in Borneo, suffered from Malaria the World Health Organization had a solution, kill the mosquitoes with DDT. This is what happened.



*Unintended Consequences!*

# Problems, Symptoms & Root Causes

## THE ICEBERG MODEL

Use this tool to help you think more systemically!

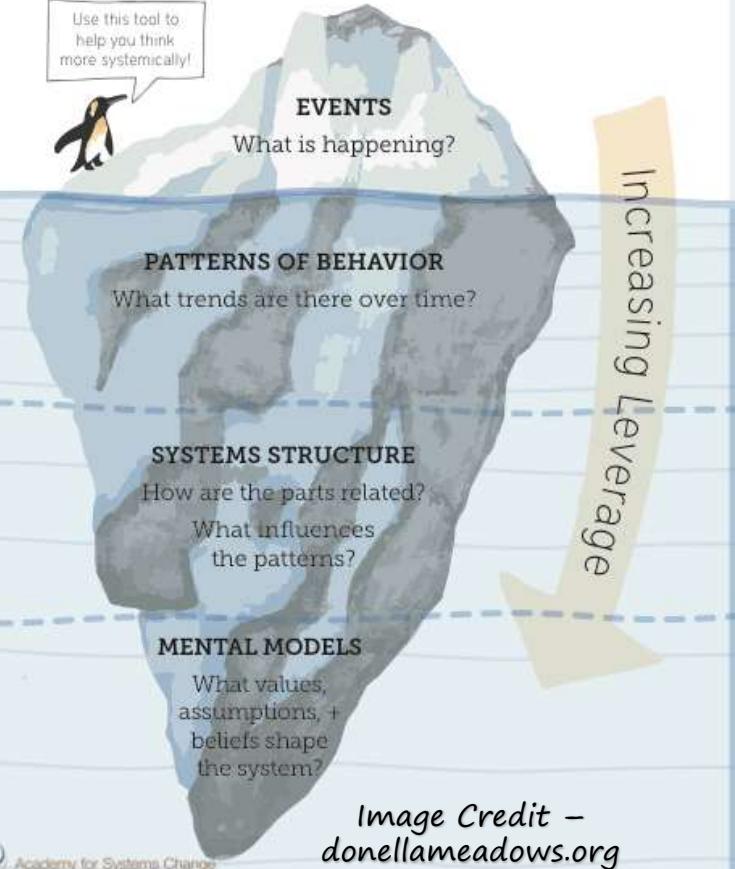


Image Credit – [donellameadows.org](http://donellameadows.org)



*Good Intentions*

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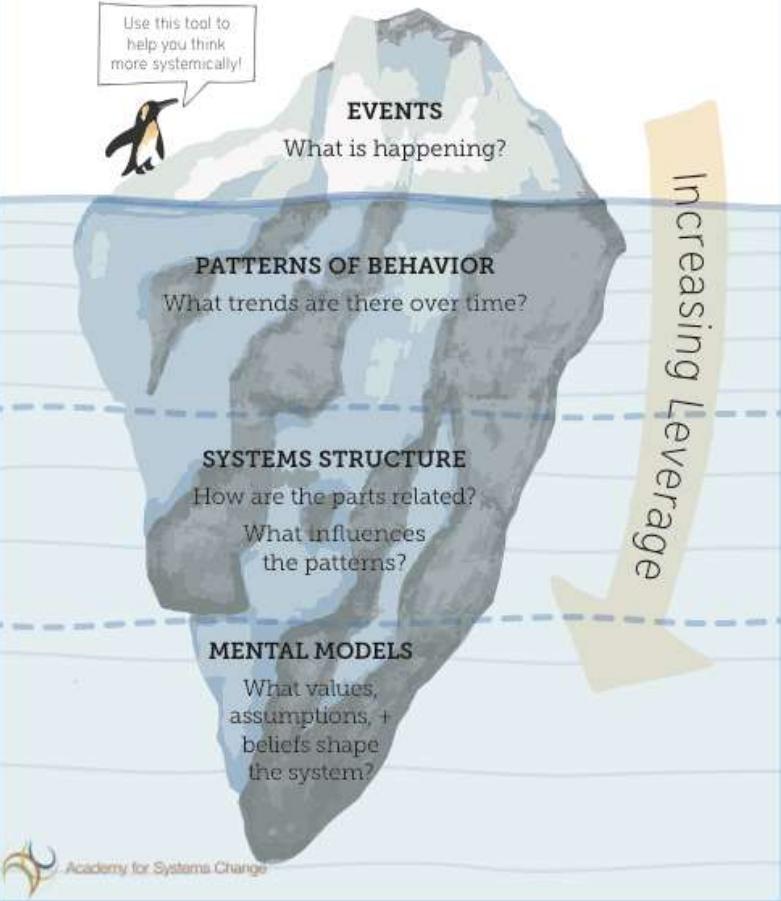
The WHO Responded – Sprayed DDT



*Unintended Consequences!*

# What is Systems Thinking?

## THE ICEBERG MODEL



Peter Senge → “*Systems Thinking is a conceptual framework, a body of knowledge and tools that have been developed over the past fifty years, to make the full patterns clearer, and to help to change them effectively.*”



Personal view → *Systems Thinking is a framework to make sense of the world we live in, to deal efficiently and effectively with the challenges we perceive and to create the reality we desire, while minimizing the chances of unintended consequences.*

Complimented by Modelling & Simulation

# How do we understand a System?

## A System

A *whole* that consists of *interdependent parts* each of which can affect its *behaviours* or its *properties*

(Russell Ackoff)

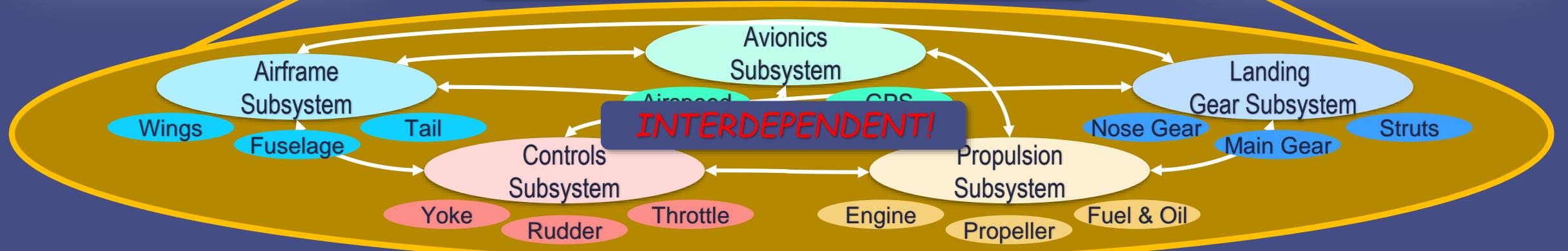
Think  
About  
it?

Analyse  
it?



The "DUJU"  
Ultralight Aircraft for Station Inspection

**INTERDEPENDENT!**



# How do we understand a System?

## A System

A *whole* that consists of *interdependent parts* each of which can affect its *behaviours* or its *properties*  
(Russell Ackoff)

HOW?

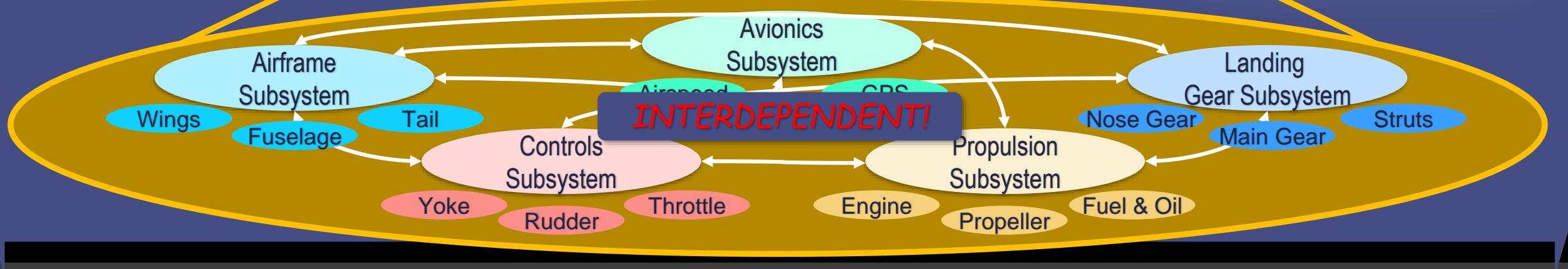
ANALYSIS

STRUCTURE  
(Organisational Interdependence)

ANALYSIS



Analyse  
it?



# How do we understand a System?

Predominant

determinism

## A System

Is an *arrangement* of *parts* or *elements* that *together* exhibit *behaviour* or *meaning* that the individual constituents do not (INCOSE-2019)

HOW?

ANALYSIS

STRUCTURE  
(Organisational Interdependence)

ANALYSIS



WHAT?

it?



## A System

A *whole* that consists of *interdependent parts* each of which can affect its *behaviours* or its *properties*  
(Russell Ackoff)

Airframe  
Subsystem

Wings

Fuselage

Avionics

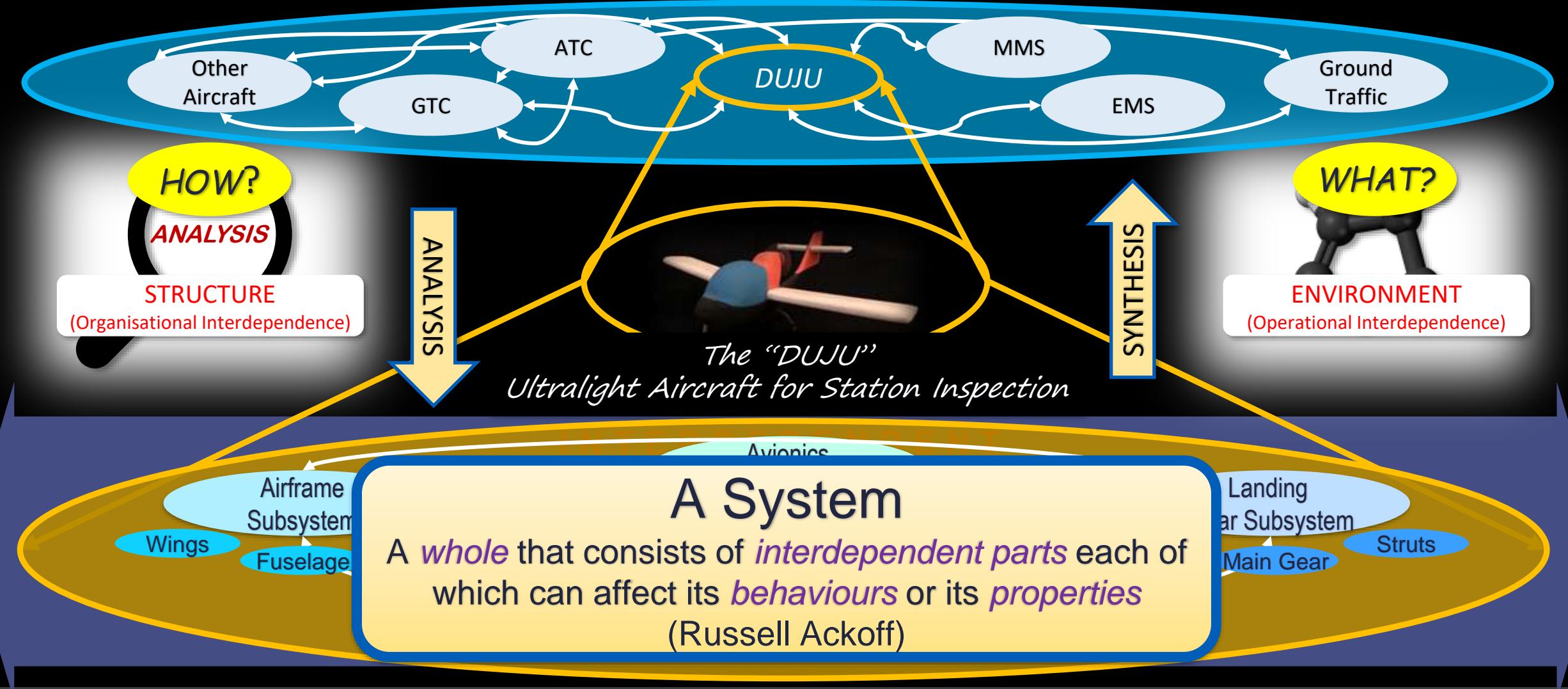
Landing  
Gear Subsystem

Main Gear

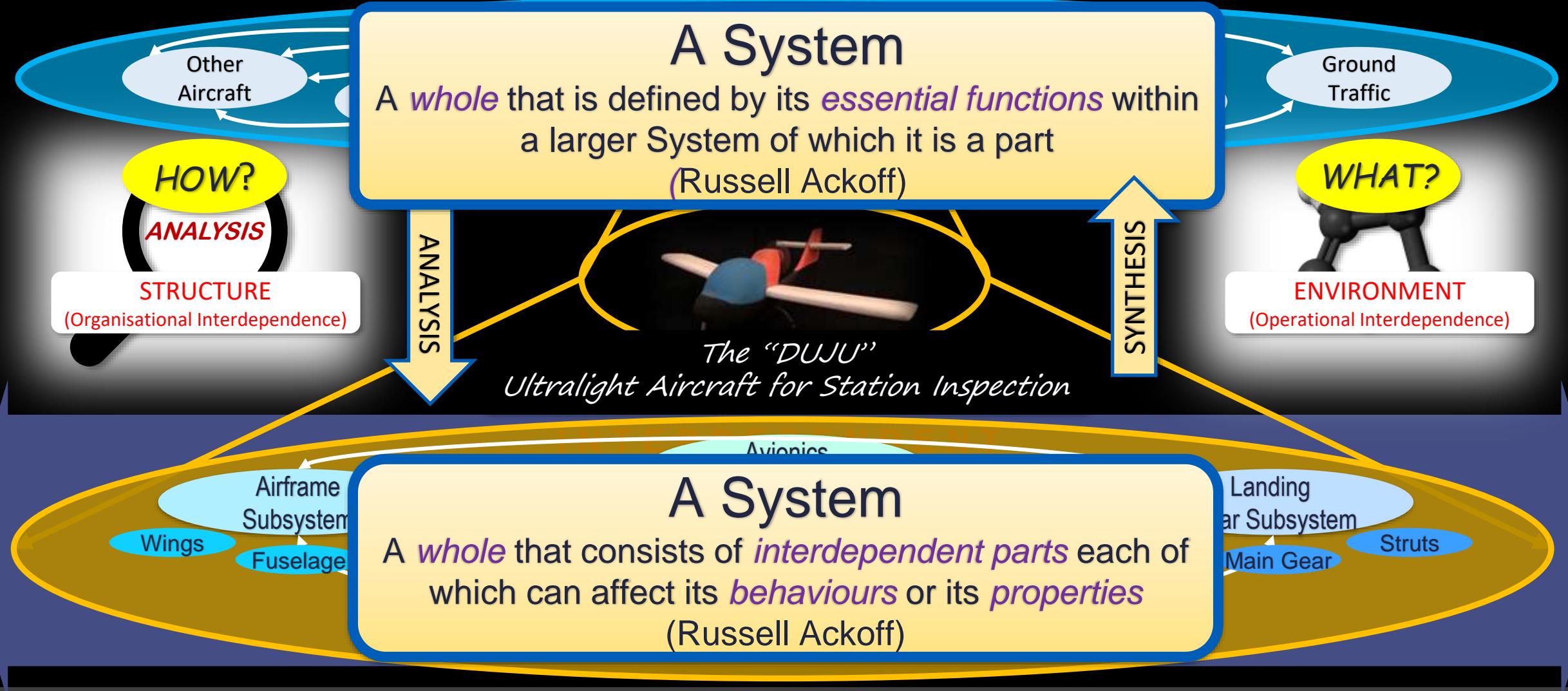
Struts



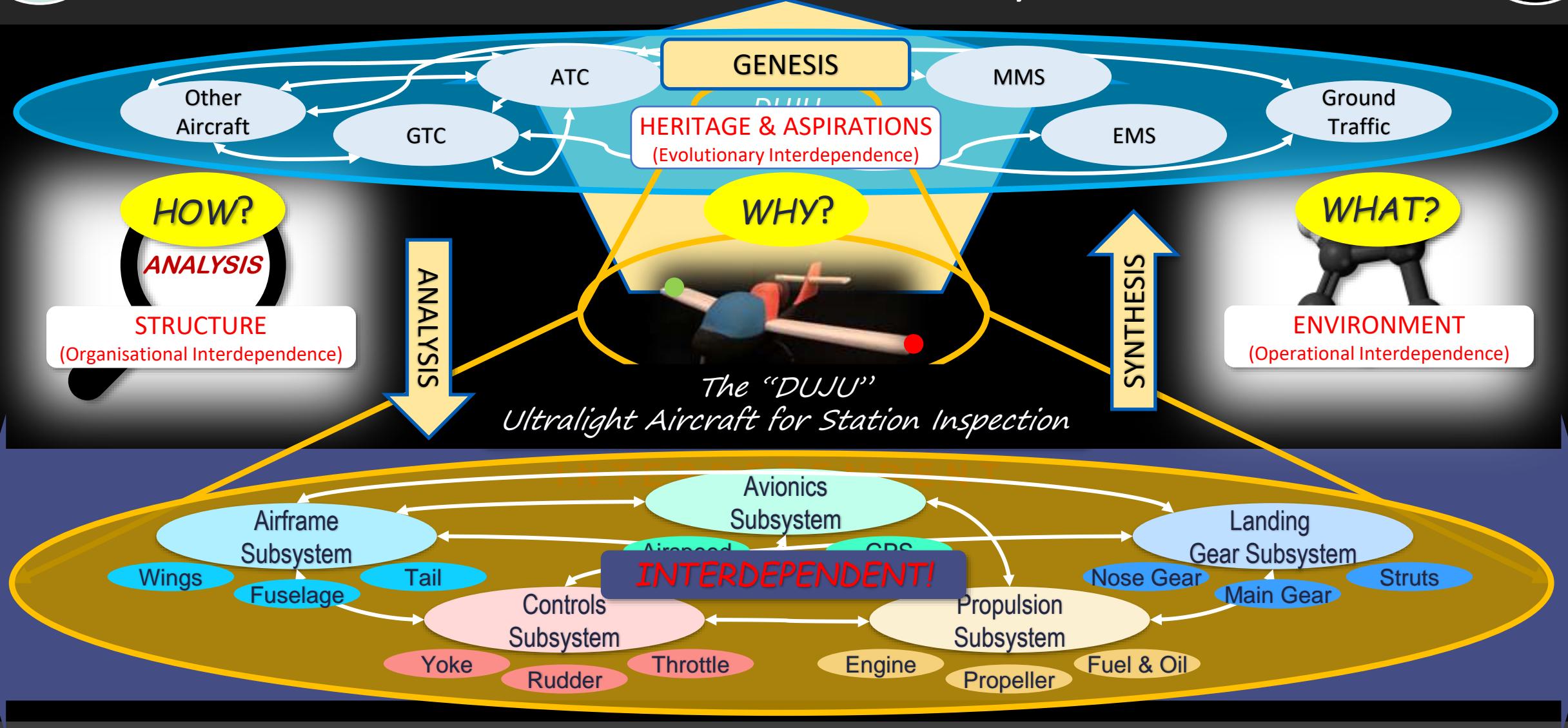
# How do we understand a System?



# How do we understand a System?



# How do we understand a System?



# Understanding Systems...with “GAS”



A **whole** who's **behaviours** are a result of its **evolving Structural and Environmental Heritage & Aspirations** (Personal Refinement)

**Analysis** answers “**HOW**” questions to provide “Knowledge” focused **Inside** the System to understand “**HOW the System works**” and “**WHAT the System does**”

**Genesis** Answers the “**WHY**” questions by “understanding” the **heritage & aspirations** of the System and **explains its behaviours** as a result of its **evolving Structure and Environment**

**Synthesis** Answers the “**WHAT the System should do**” question by “understanding” the **operational context within which the System exists**

# Presentation Structure



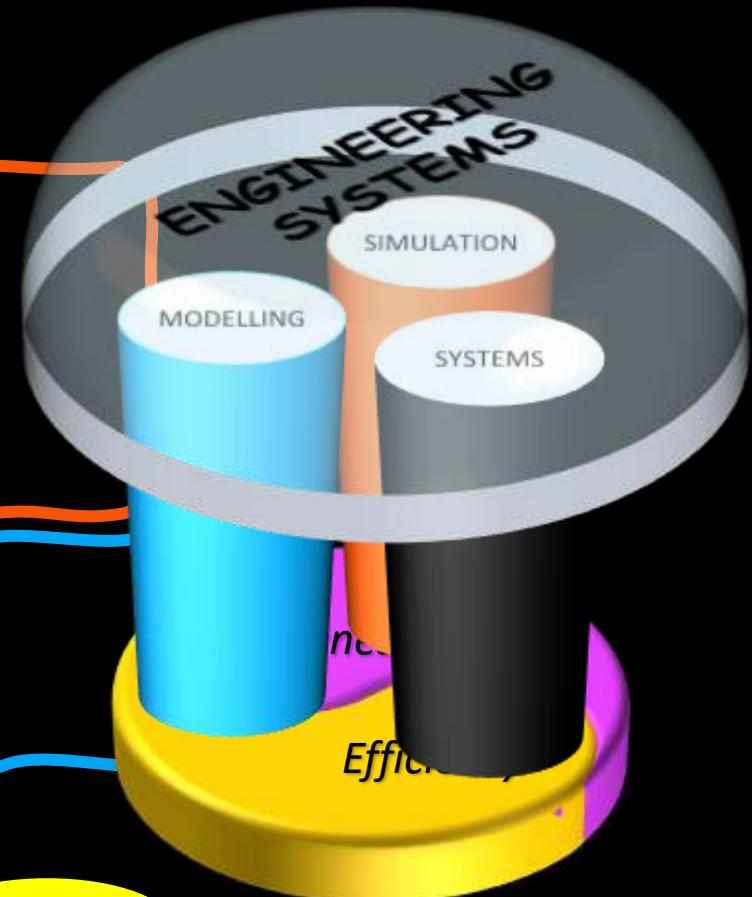
- Systems Thinking
- *Modelling & Simulation*
- The Content of our Minds
- The Engineering of Systems
- Key Points & Recommendations

*Application & Conclusions*

WHY?

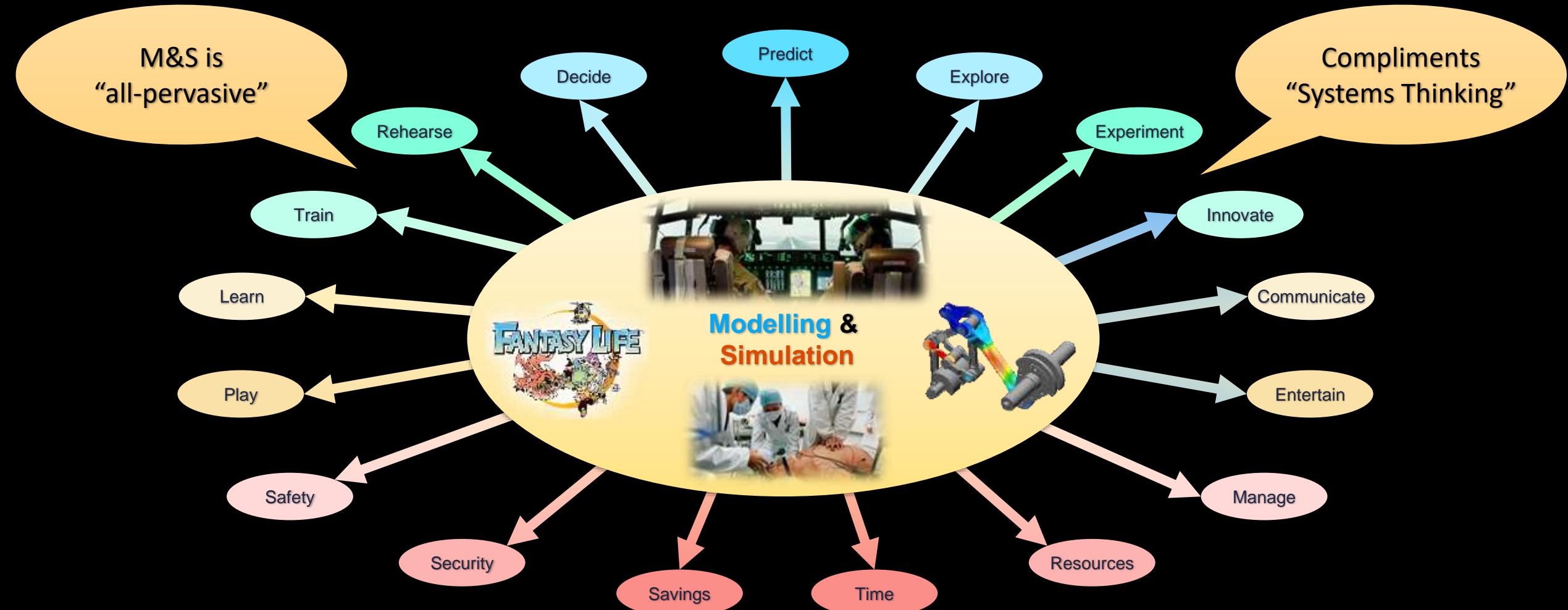
WHAT?

HOW?



## Modelling & Simulation

# Motivation – Why?



# Definitions – What?

**Simulation = Model + Execution**

A **Model** is a Physical, Mathematical or Logical abstraction for a particular purpose (i.e. focused/targeted fidelity), of a System, Entity, Phenomenon, Activity or Process (i.e. a suitable representation)

A **Simulation** is an **Enactment** (Method of Implementing) a **Model** over **Time**

Examples of **Simulations**



A **model** of a vehicle that moves across a **model** of terrain over **time**



**A Simulator → The Tool that Executes the Simulation**

# Definitions – What?

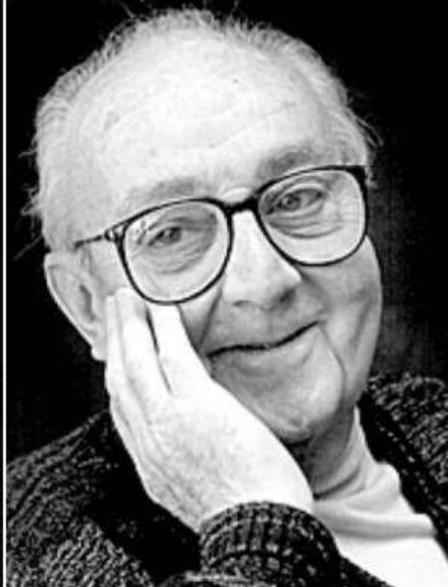
**Fidelity** → Breadth of Scope (forms, properties, functions) and Associated Resolution (granularity/detail)

A **Model** is a Physical, Mathematical or Logical abstraction for a particular purpose (i.e. focused/targeted fidelity), of a System, Entity, Phenomenon, Activity or Process (i.e. a suitable representation)

## A **Simulation**



Image Credit – giphy.com



All models are wrong, but some are useful.

— George E. P. Box —

AZ QUOTES

## del over Time

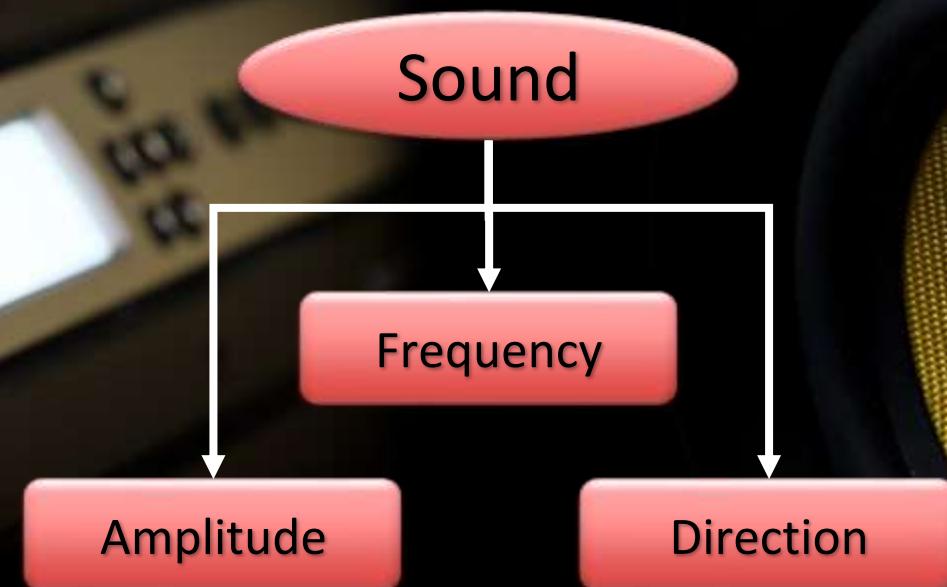


Image Credit – giphy.com

**A Simulator** → The Tool that Executes the **Simulation**

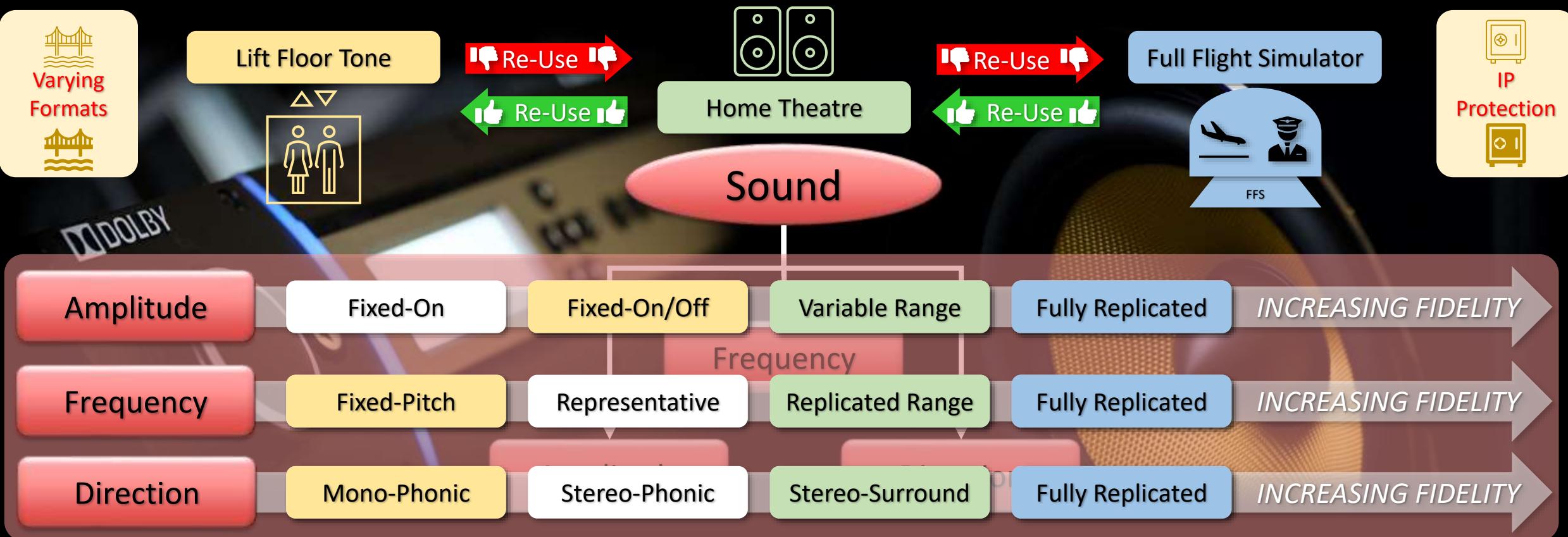
# Definitions – Fidelity (How?)

Fidelity → Breadth of Scope (forms, properties, functions) and Associated Resolution (granularity/detail)



# Definitions – Fidelity (How?)

Fidelity → Breadth of Scope (forms, properties, functions) and Associated Resolution (granularity/detail)



# Presentation Structure



## *Principles & Concepts*

- Systems Thinking
- Modelling & Simulation
- *The Content of our Minds*

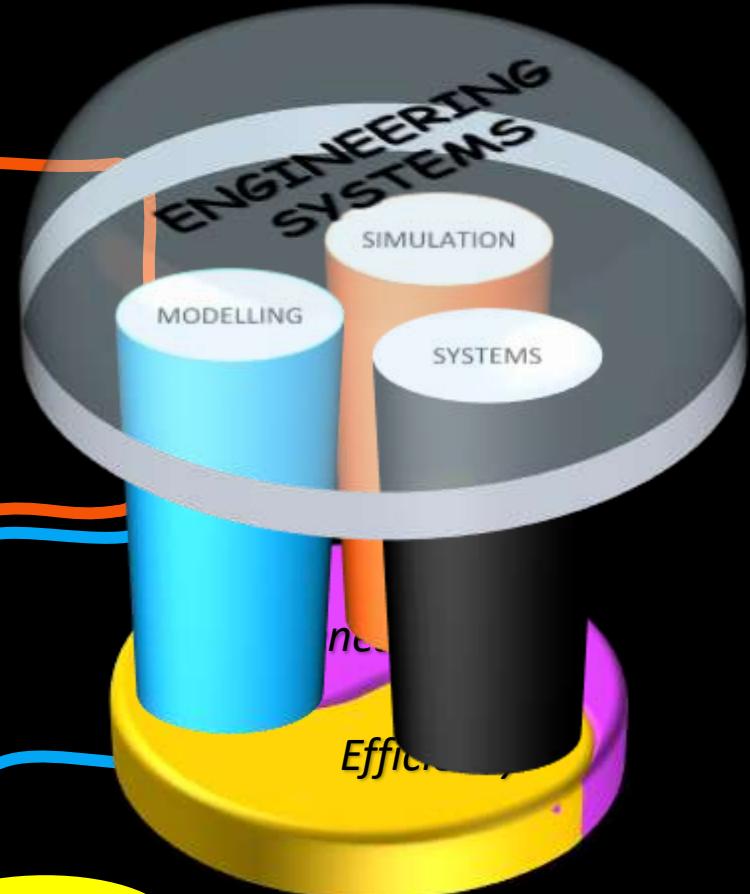
## *Application & Conclusions*

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- Key Points & Recommendations

WHY?

WHAT?

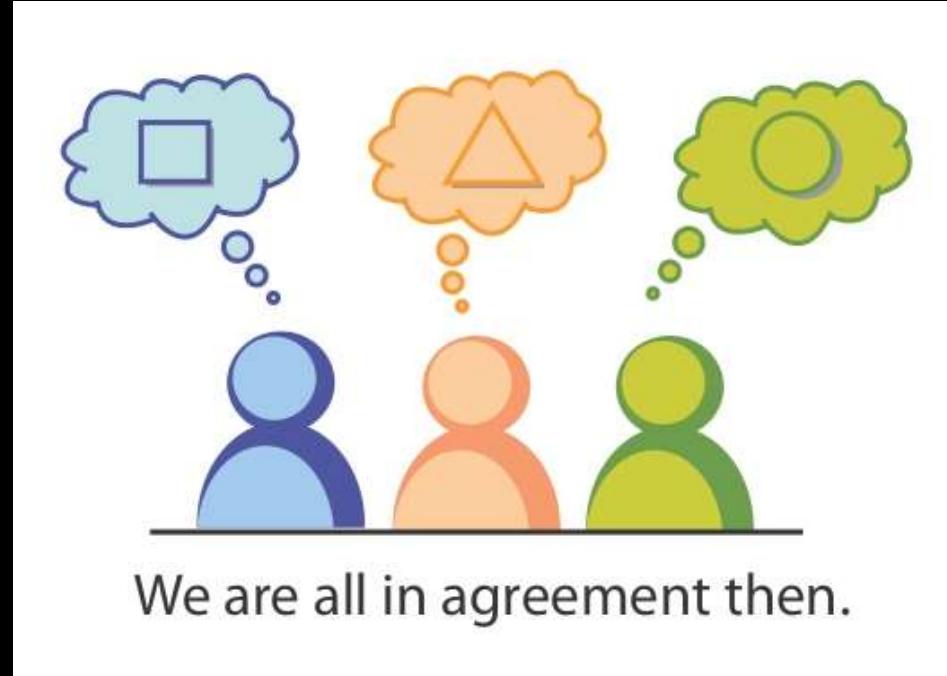
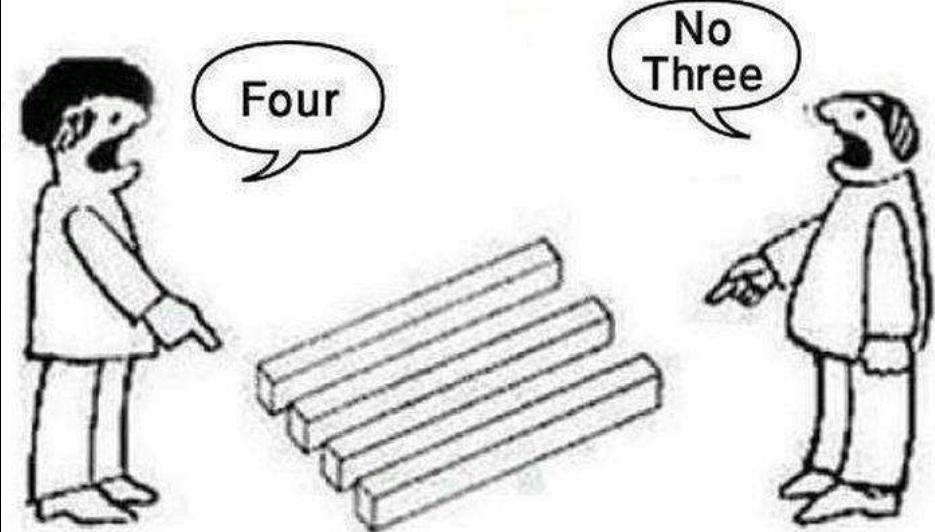
HOW?



# Why do we see things differently?

**It is really confusing!!!**

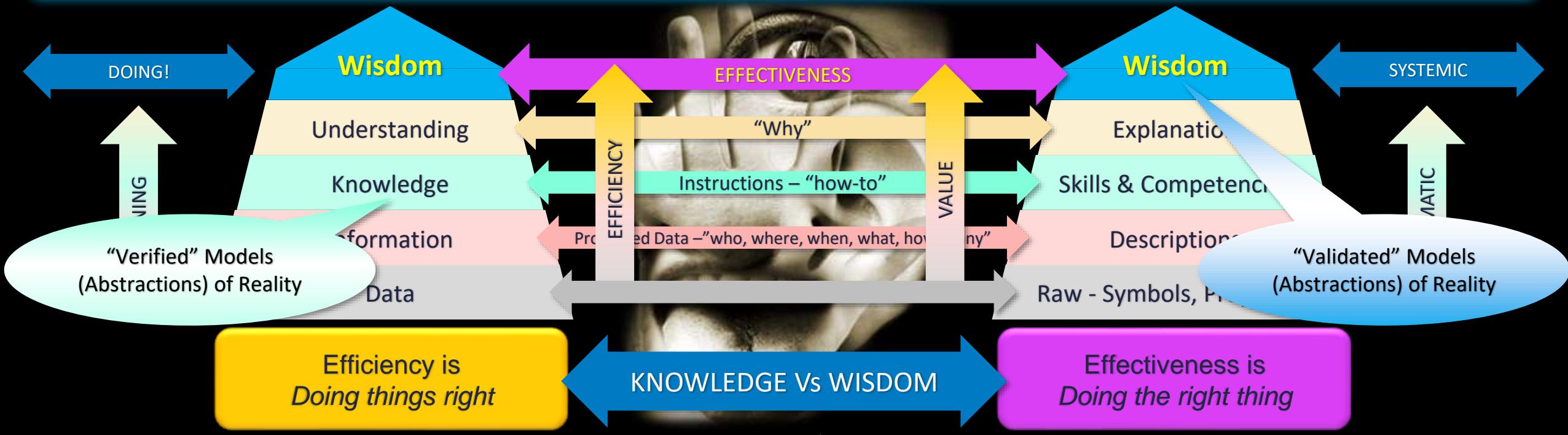
Image Credit – Timeline Photos



## The Content of our Minds

# How do we Understand / Create our Reality?

Knowledge can be taught / Wisdom must be learned (“doing” in an “environment”!)



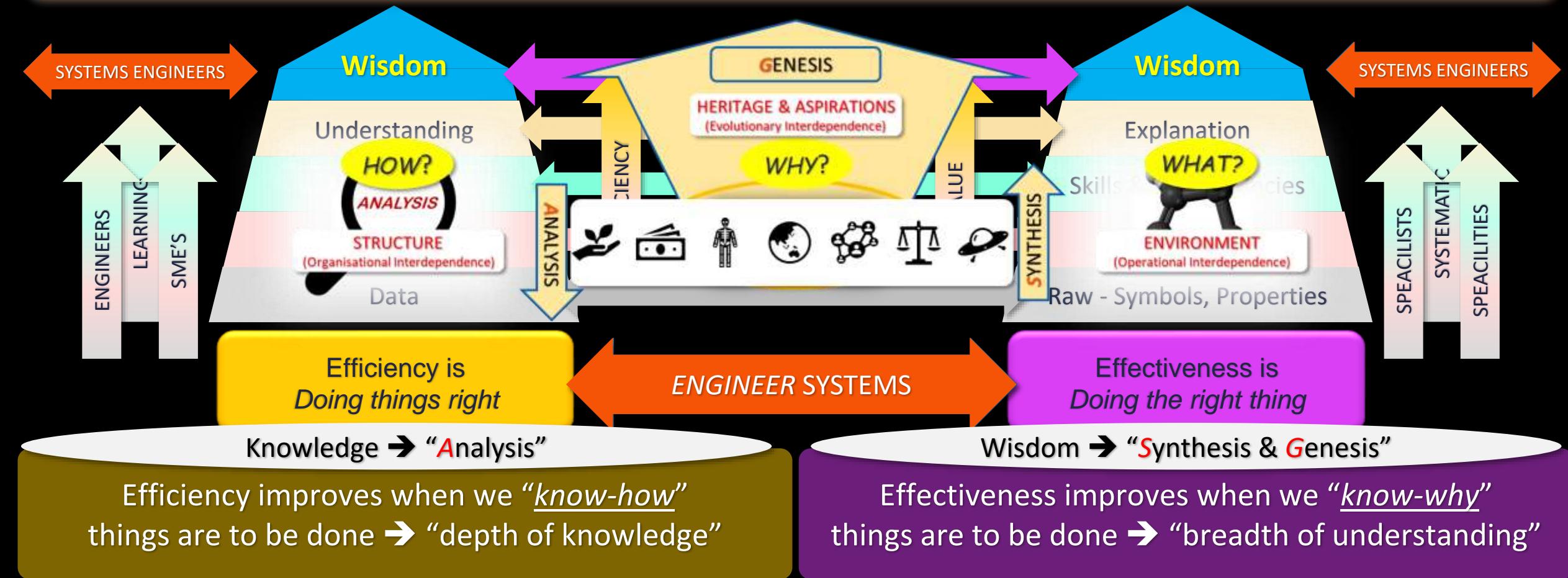
Efficiency improves when we “know-how”  
things are to be done → “depth of knowledge”

Effectiveness improves when we “know-why”  
things are to be done → “breadth of understanding”

## The Content of our Minds

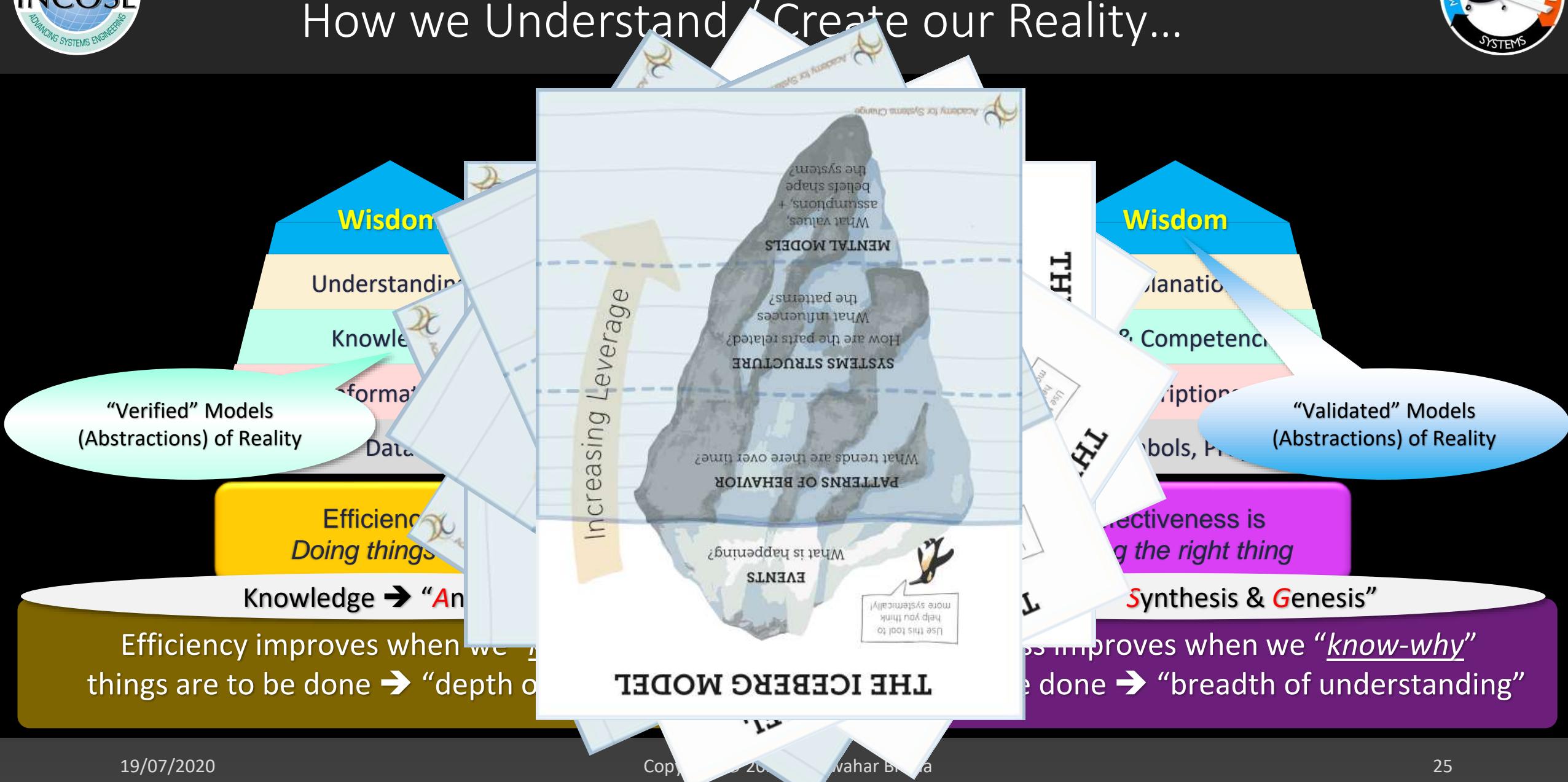
# How we Understand / Create our Reality...

*“A **transdisciplinary** and **integrative approach** building on **systemic principles** and **concepts...**”*



## *The Content of our Minds*

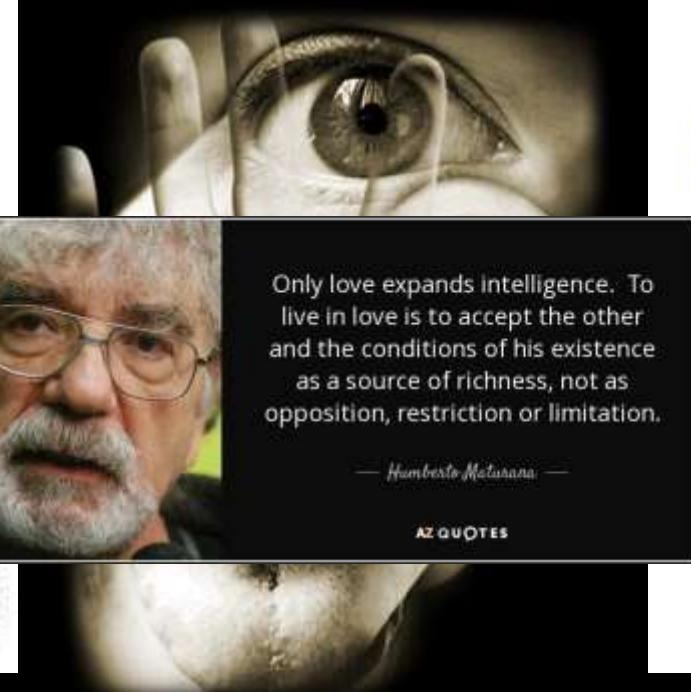
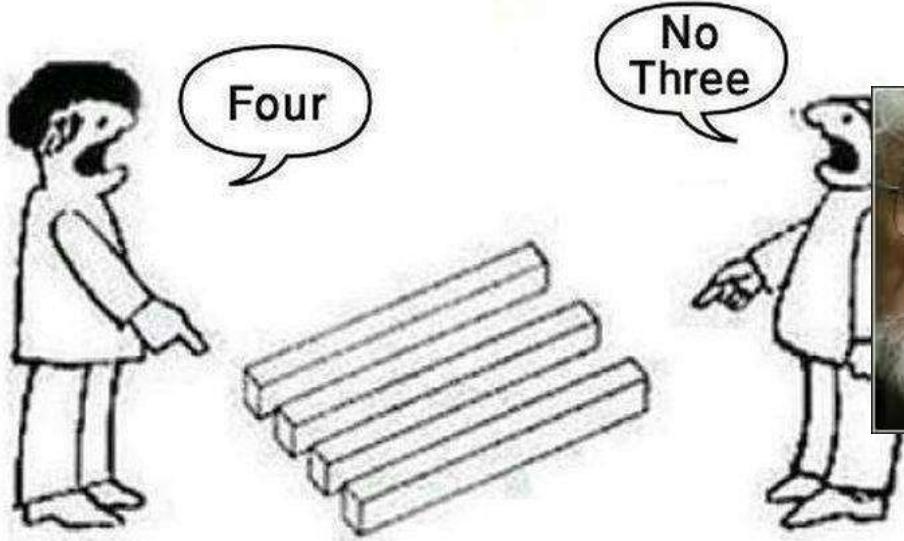
# How we Understand / Create our Reality...



# Why we see things differently...

**It is really confusing!!!**

Image Credit - Timeline Photos



We are all in agreement then.

Image credit [todayifoundout.com](http://todayifoundout.com)

*“We don’t perceive the world we see, we see the world we perceive”* – Humberto Maturana

# Presentation Structure



## *Principles & Concepts*

- Systems Thinking
- Modelling & Simulation
- The Content of our Minds

## *The Engineering of Systems*

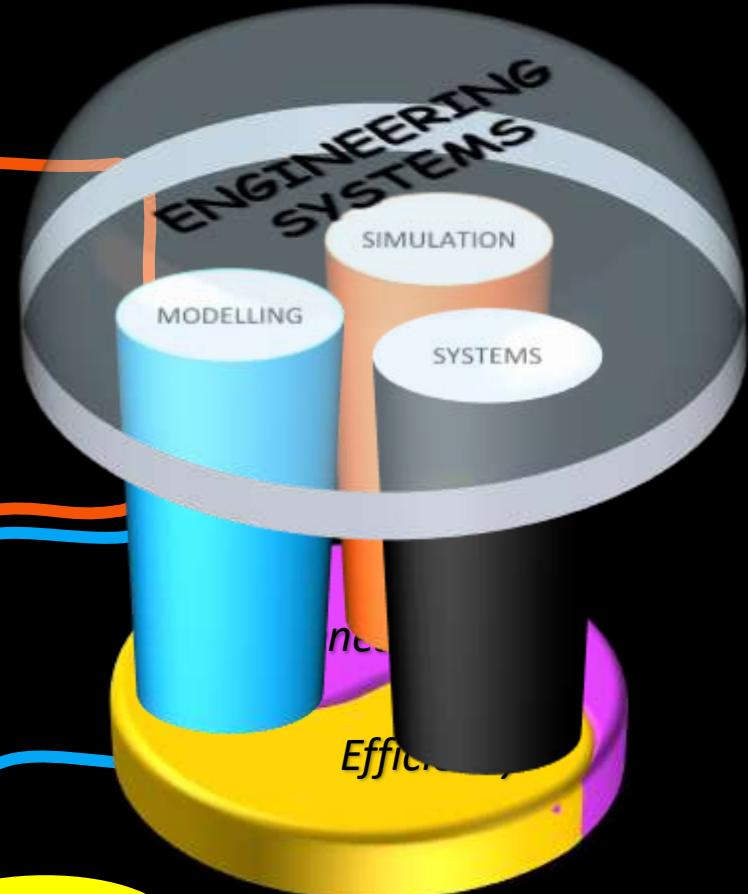
- Key Points & Recommendations

## *Application & Conclusions*

WHY?

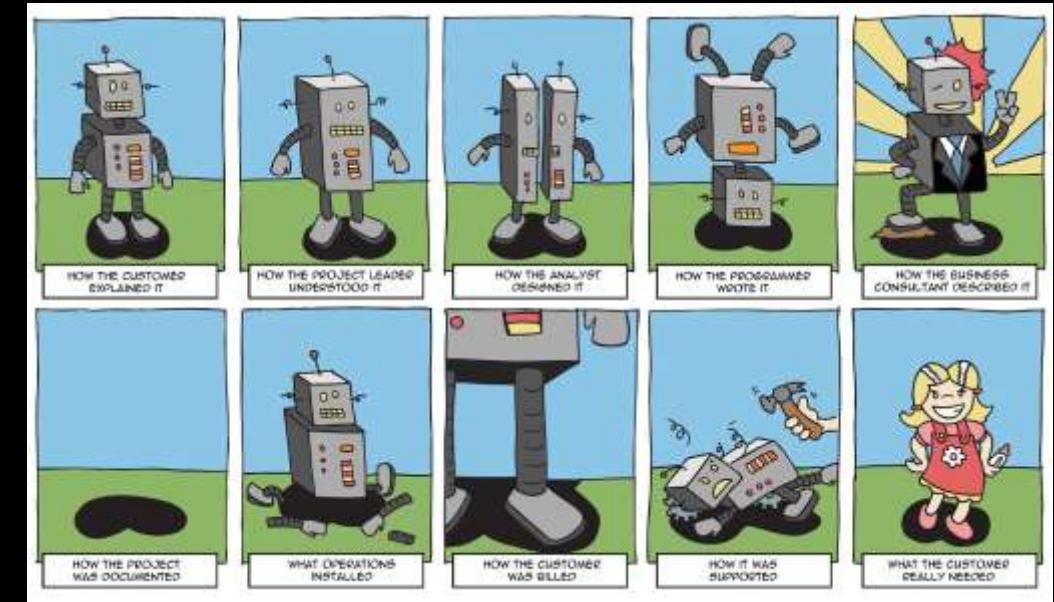
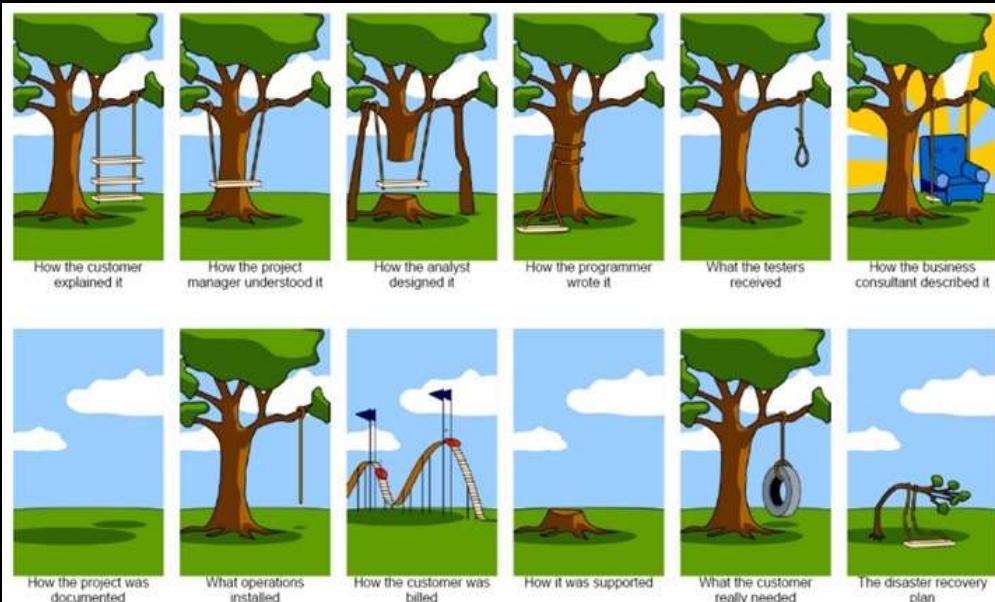
WHAT?

HOW?



# Motivation for Systems Engineering

- A framework to deal with complexity and risk
- Provides a bridging between user needs and the solution that best delivers these needs across stakeholders
- Maximises the chances of the delivered solution meeting the intended need
- Builds in the quality, saves money and reduces risk
- Provides a framework for measuring progress through project phases
- Provides traceability through development and decision making



# The Essence of “Engineering Systems”

- A framework to deal with complexity and risk
- Provides a bridging between user needs and the solution that benefits across stakeholders
- Builds in the quality, saves money and reduces risk

Enabled by Systems Thinking (GAS)

**Build the Right System**

Effectiveness

Efficiency

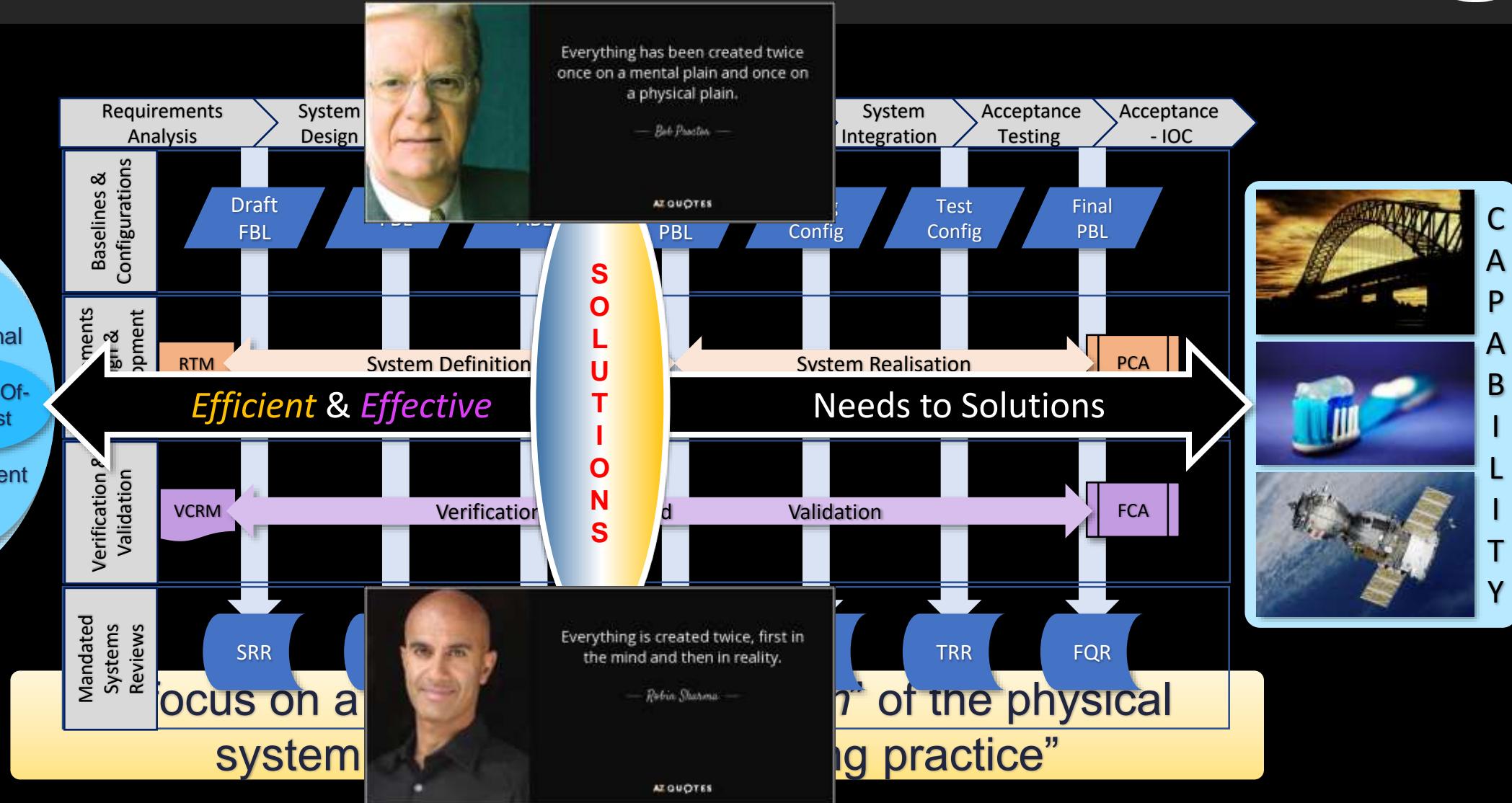
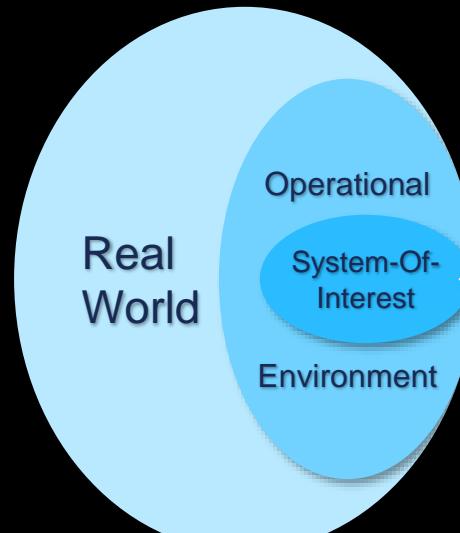
*Systems Engineers enable the **efficient** and **effective** realization, sustainment and retirement of complex capabilities!*

**Build the System Right**

Complimented by Modelling & Simulation



# What is our Underlying Intent ?





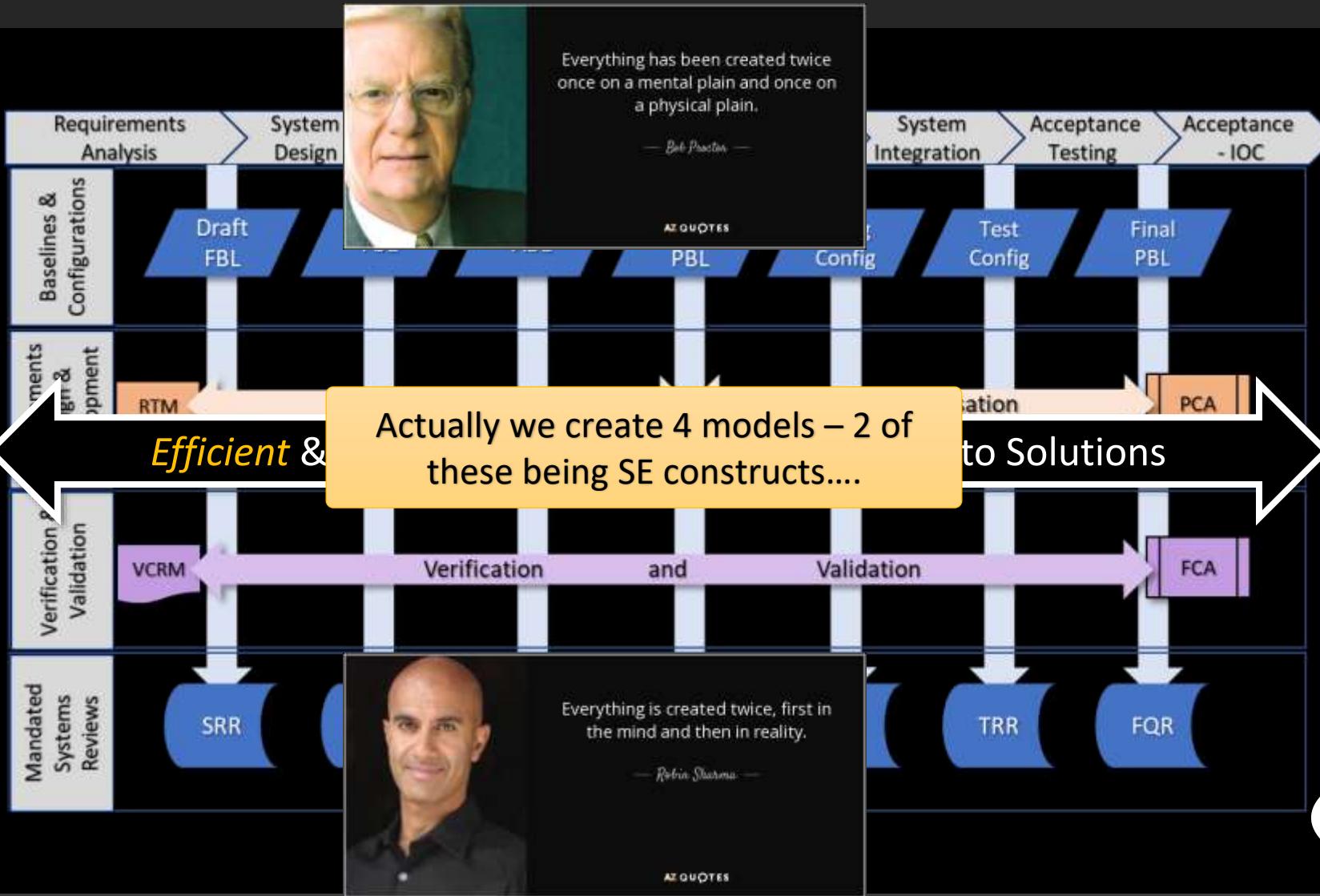
# *The Engineering of Systems*

# Always (at least) Two Creations...

1

# CONCEPT

# Conceptual Model of the Sol [C-SBS]



2

# CAPABILITY

## Tangible (Fielded) Sol [As-Built]

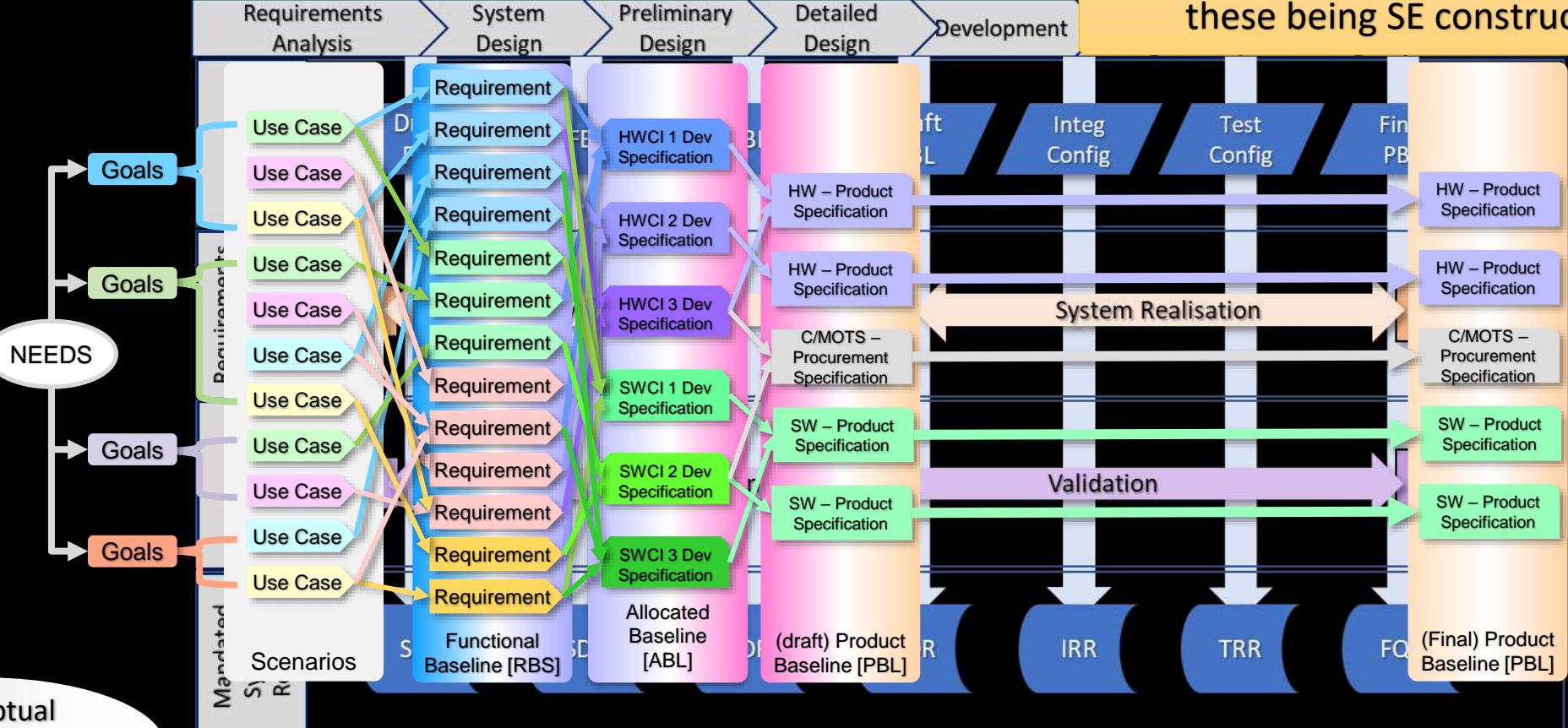
# The Engineering of Systems

## Baselines / Configurations

1

**CONCEPT**

Conceptual  
Model of the Sol  
[C-SBS]



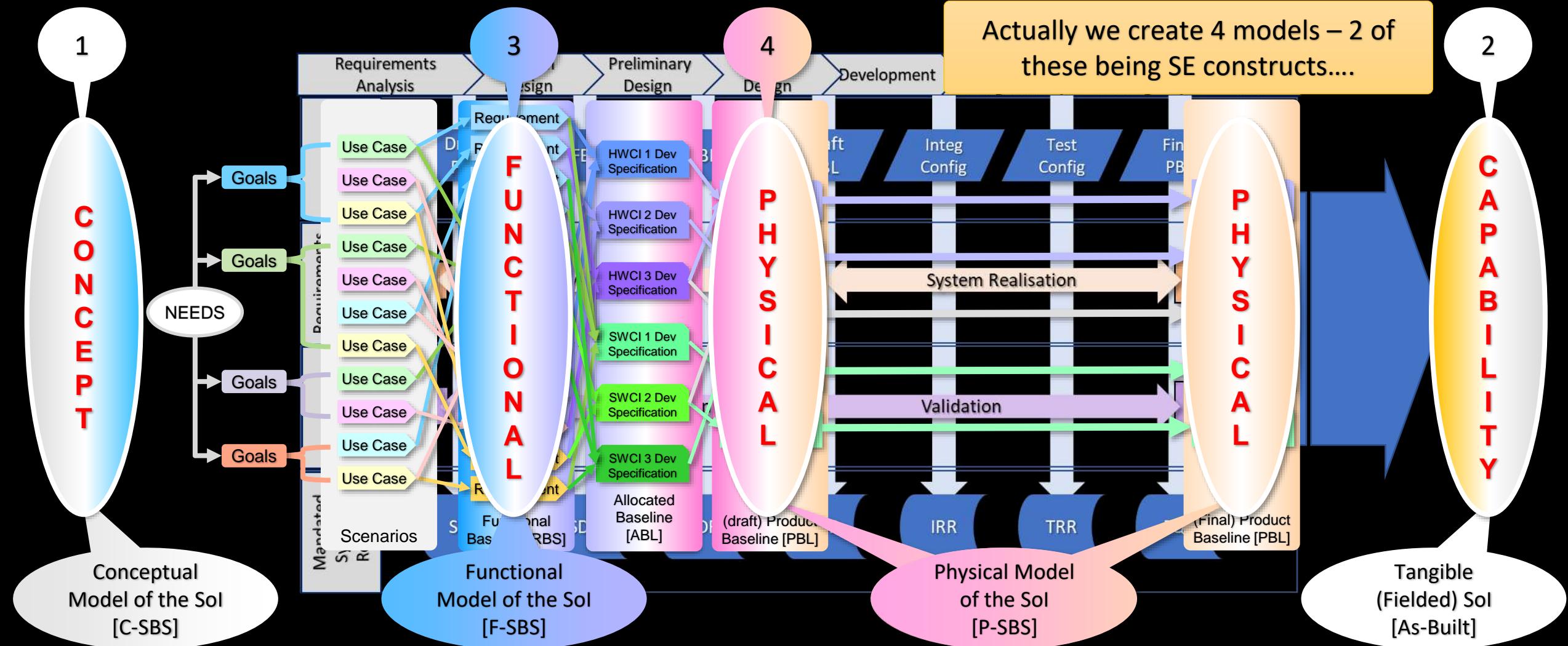
Actually we create 4 models – 2 of these being SE constructs....

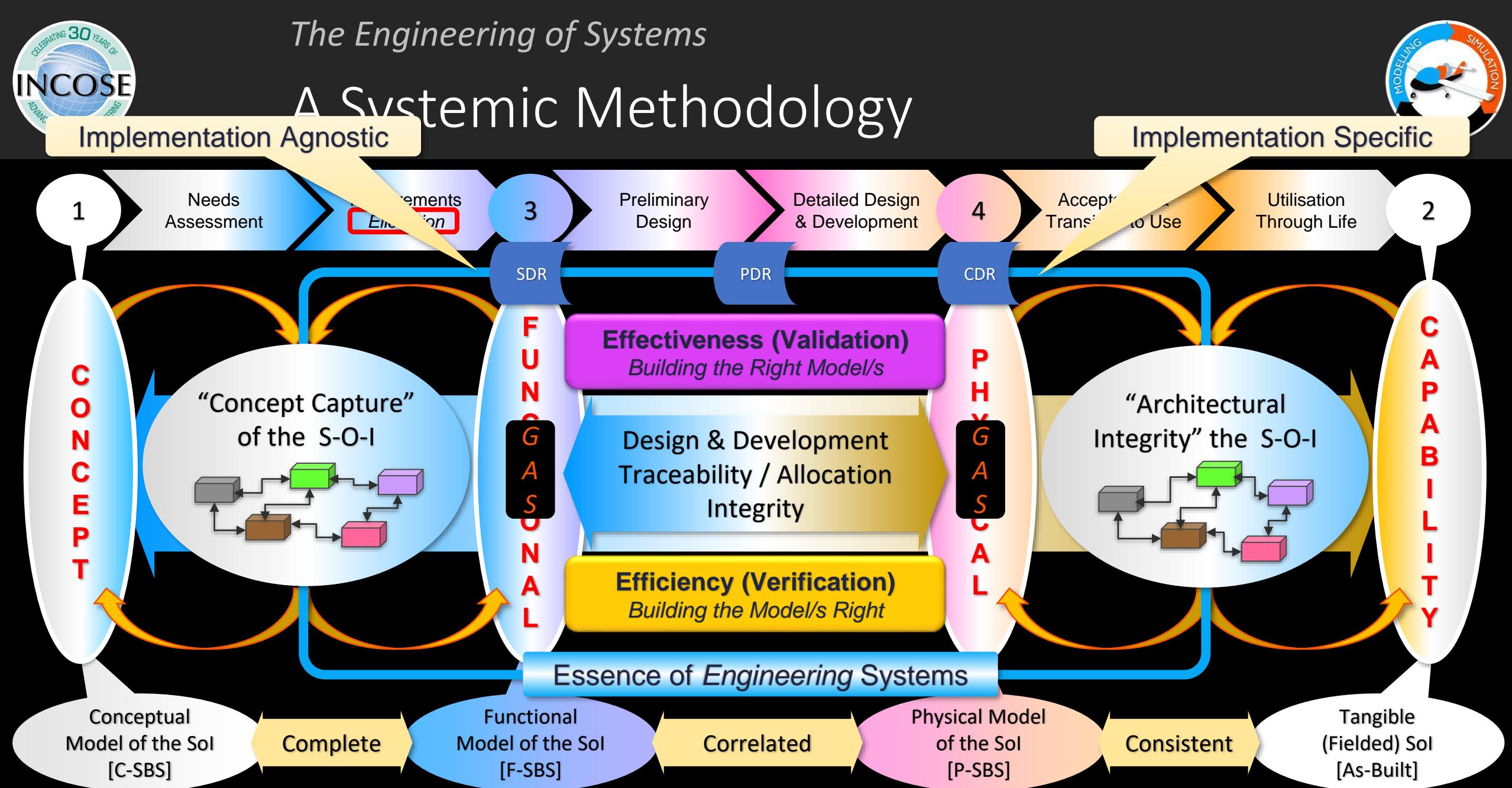
2

**CAPABILITY**

Tangible  
(Fielded) Sol  
[As-Built]

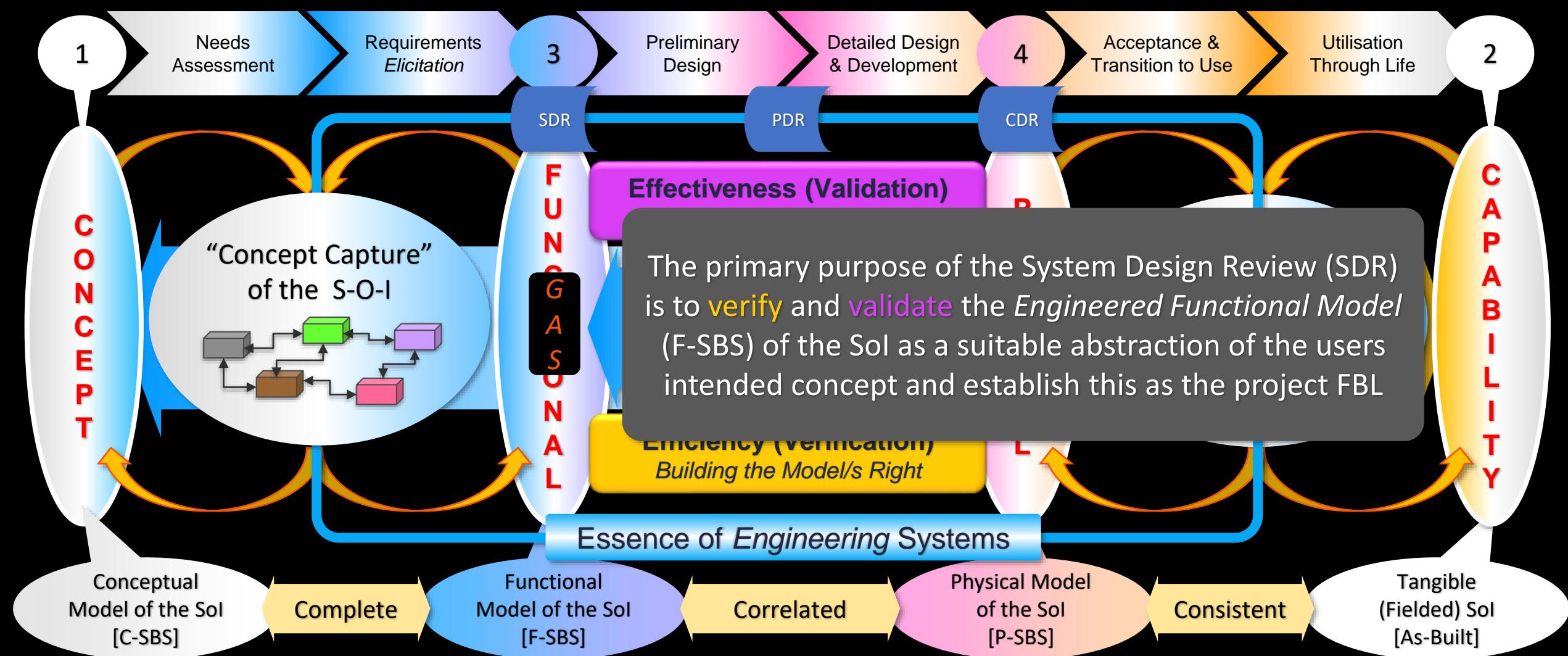
# Four Models of each System Created

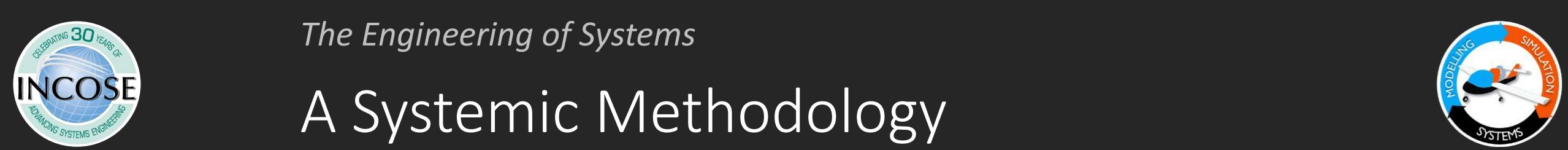




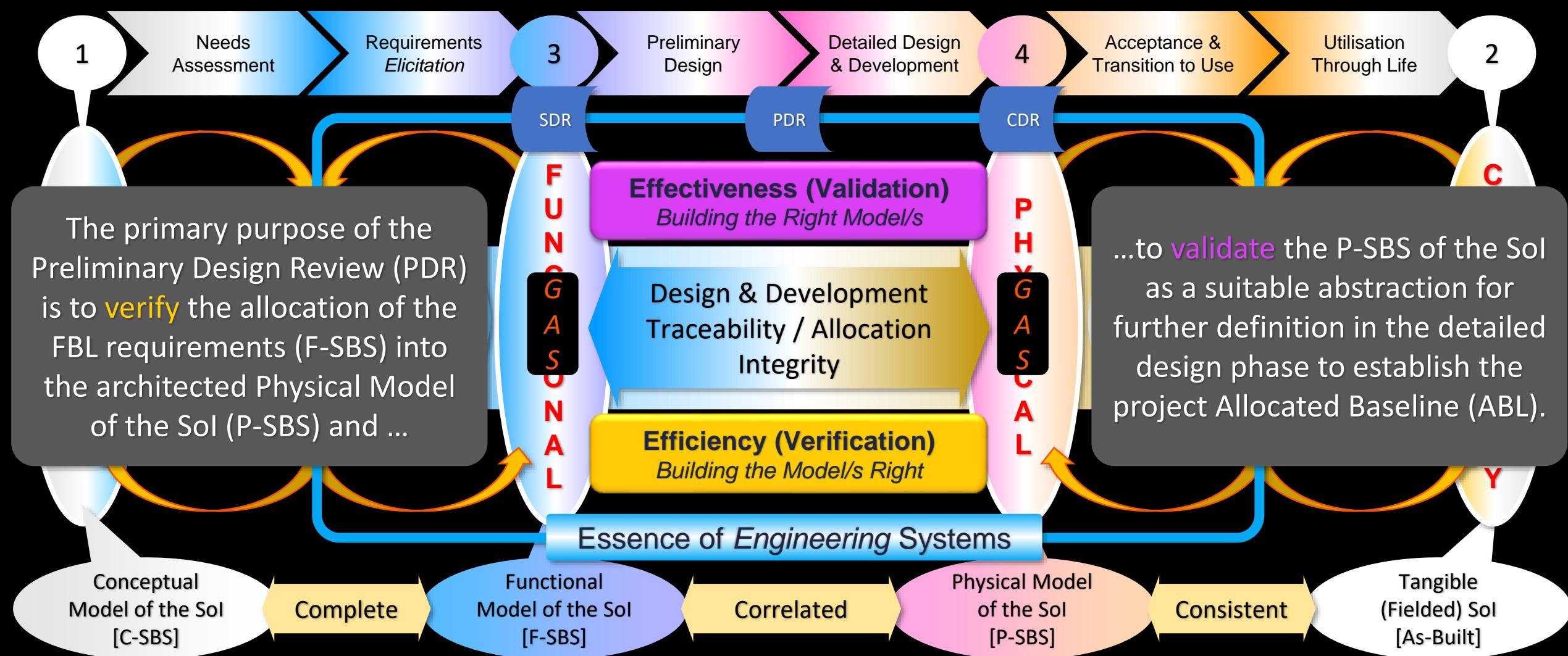
# The Engineering of Systems

## A Systemic Methodology

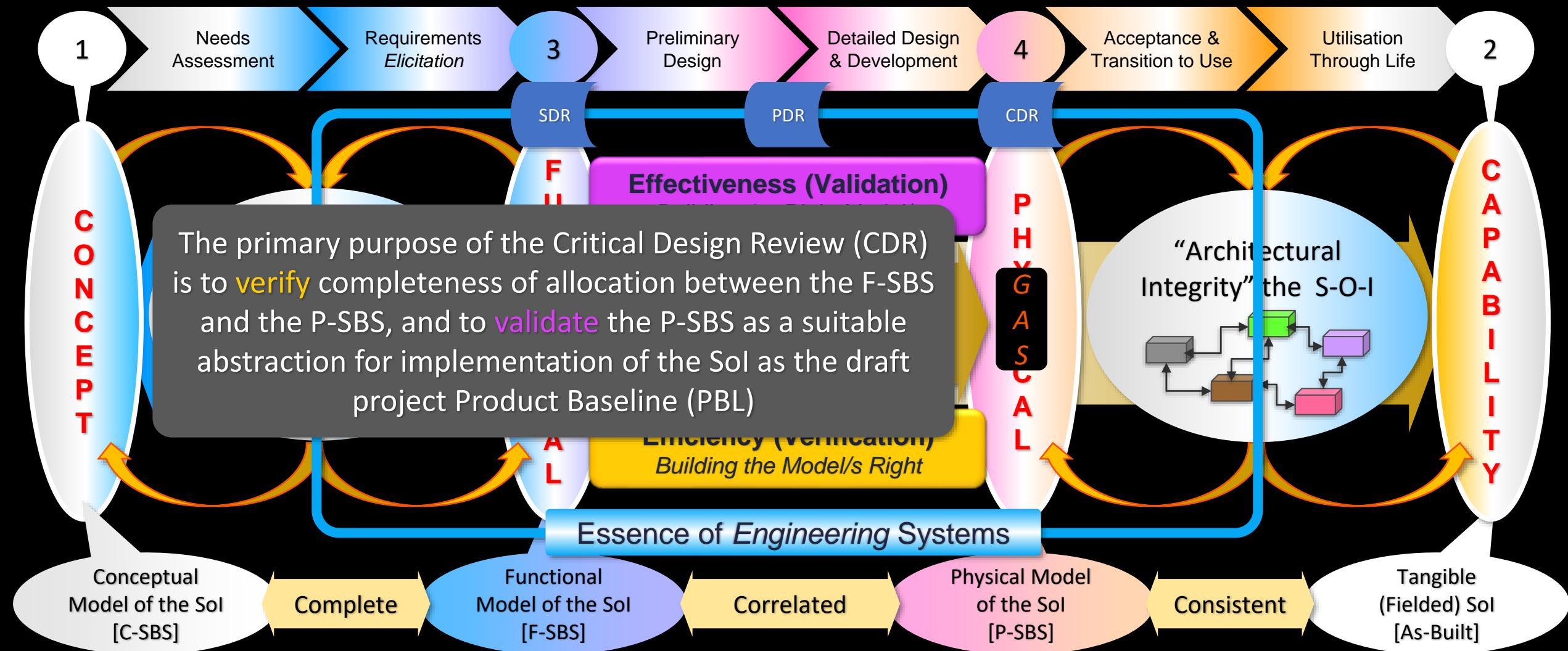




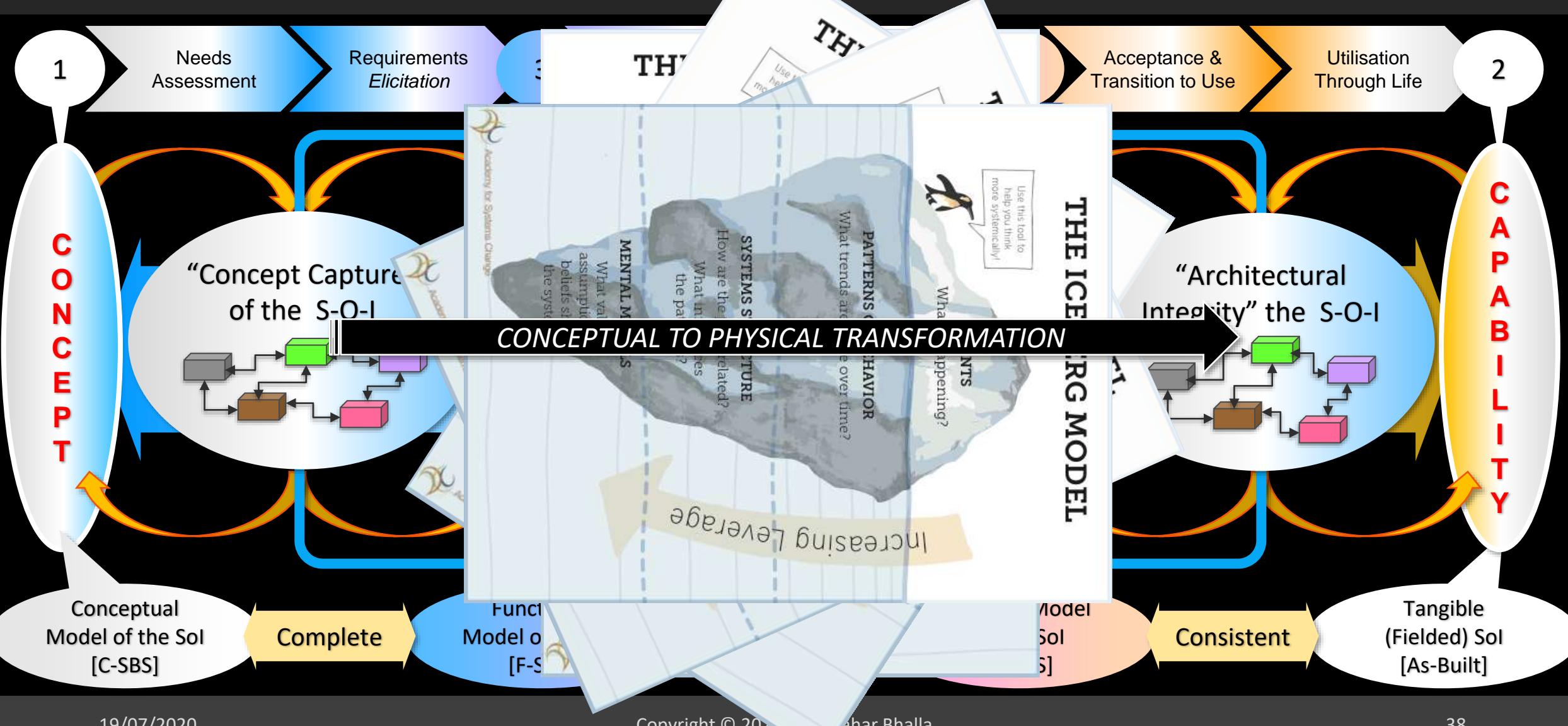
# A Systemic Methodology



## A Systemic Methodology



# A Systemic Methodology



# Presentation Structure



## *Principles & Concepts*

- Systems Thinking
- Modelling & Simulation
- The Content of our Minds

- The Engineering of Systems

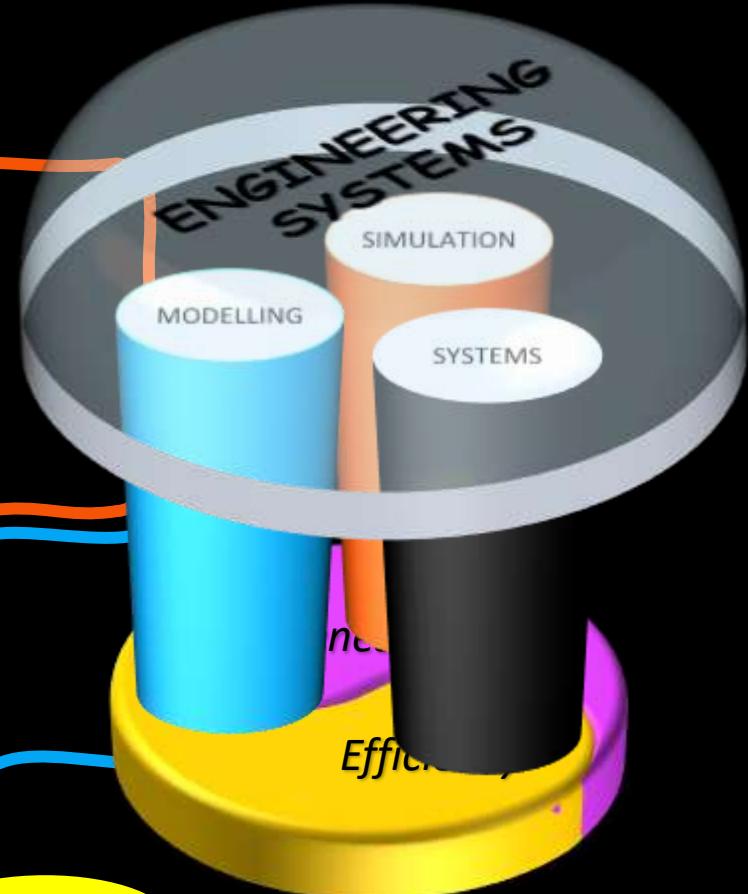
## *Key Points & Recommendations*

## *Application & Conclusions*

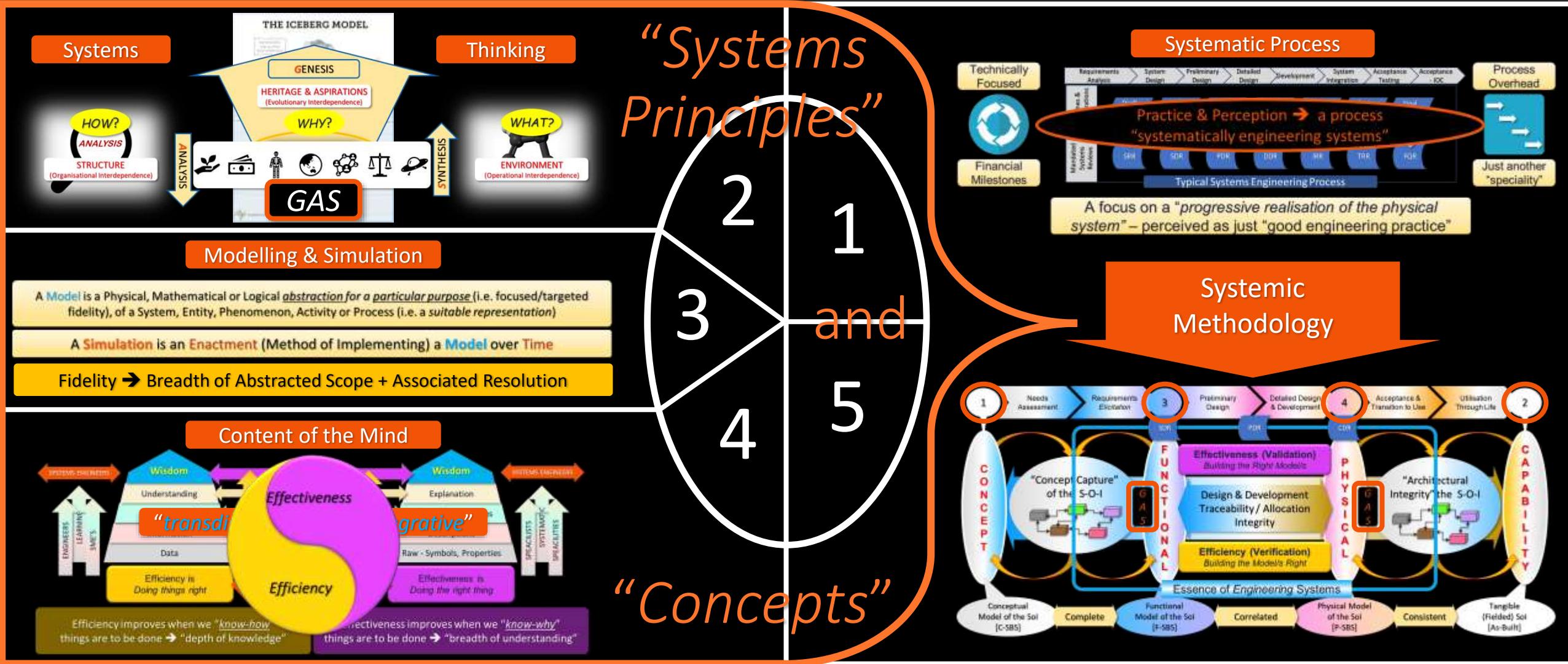
WHY?

WHAT?

HOW?



# Summary of Key Points

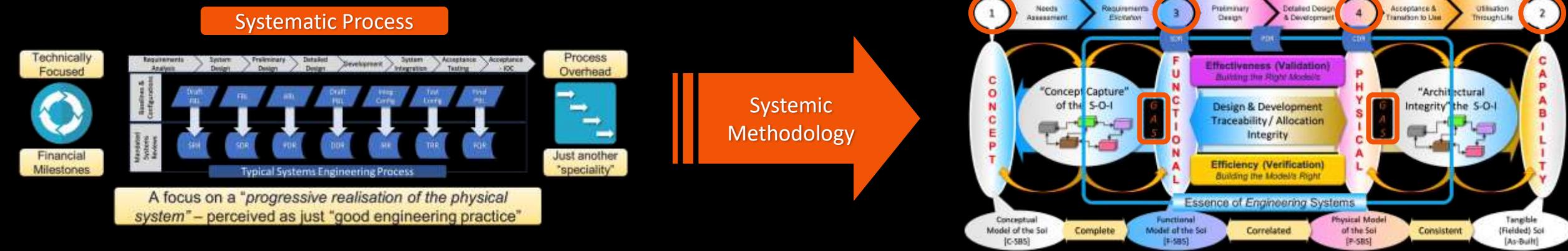


## Conclusion

# Summary of Key Points

### A Personal Definition on the “How” of *Engineering Systems*

The application of **systemic principles and concepts** (ST-GAS, M&S) in a **systematic whole-of-life framework** that facilitates an **efficient** and **effective** definition and realisation of Systems, their delivery into service, ensures their ongoing utility through life, their transition out of service and their eventual disposal.



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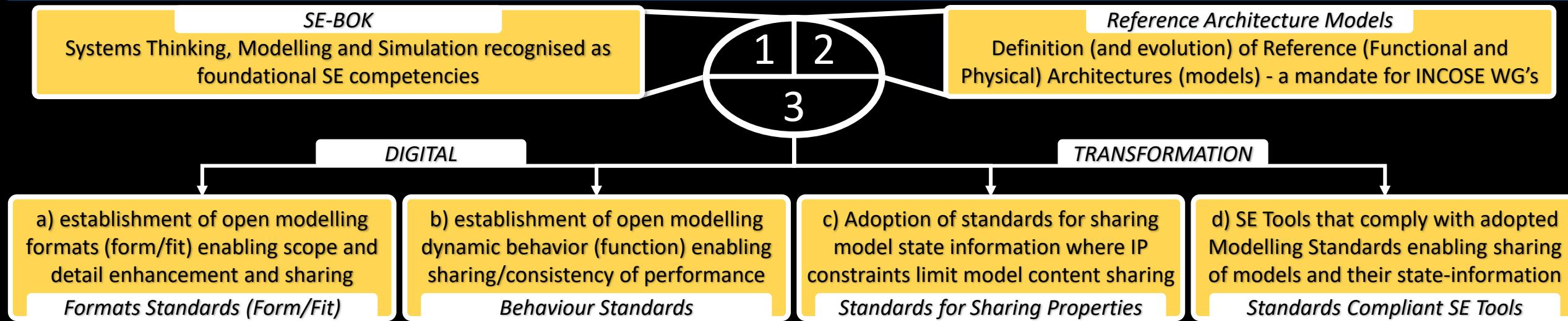
(<http://www.incosse.org/AboutSE/WhatIsSE>)

## Conclusion

# Recommendations

### A Personal Definition on the “How” of *Engineering Systems*

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