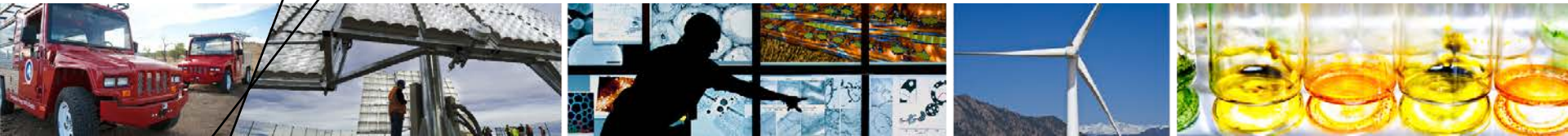


# **Innovation in Wind Energy: A Systems Engineering Perspective**



**Paul Veers**

**Chief Engineer: NREL's National  
Wind Technology Center**

**Systems Engineering Workshop  
29 January 2013**

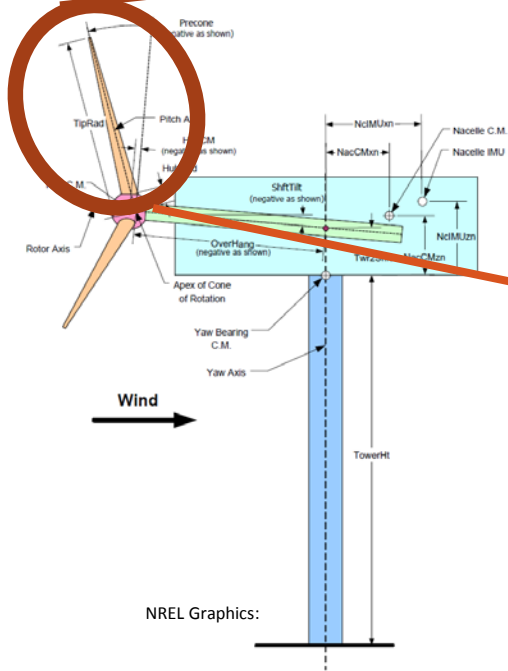
# Analysis

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- **Analysis: “the separating of any material or abstract entity into its constituent elements”**
  - Sandia Labs application – physical modeling
  - NREL/EERE application – economic modeling

# An Analysis Approach to Modeling

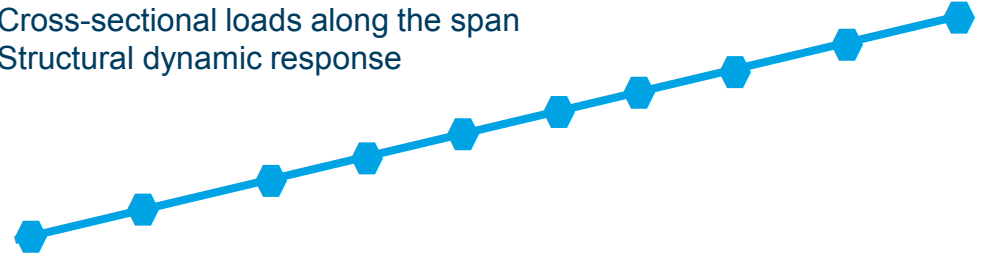
3 dof modal representation -  
Dynamics



NREL Graphics:

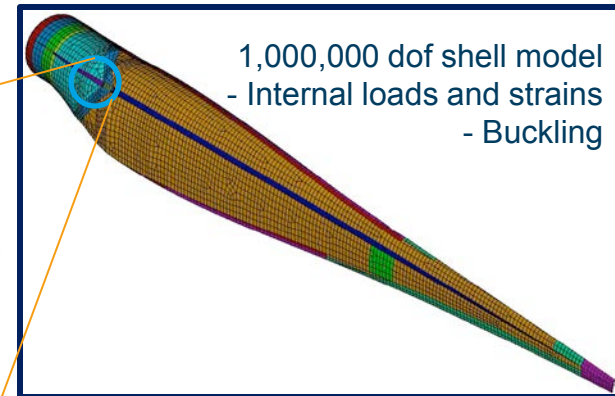
60 dof beam model

- Cross-sectional loads along the span
- Structural dynamic response

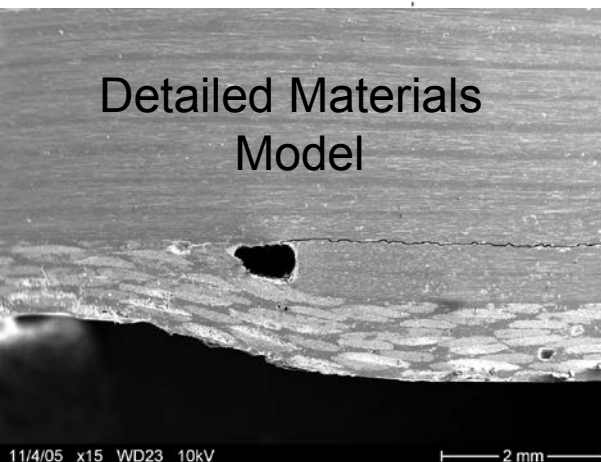


Boundary Conditions:  
Interface Loads

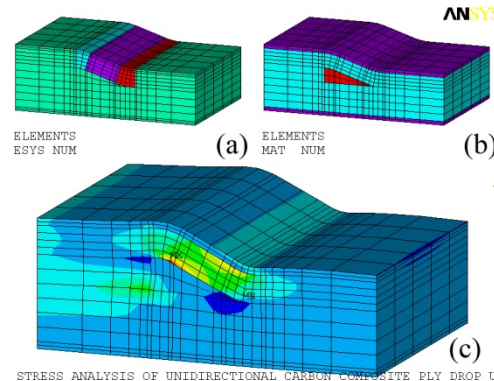
1,000,000 dof shell model  
– Internal loads and strains  
– Buckling



Detailed Materials  
Model



Manufacturing Details



STRESS ANALYSIS OF UNIDIRECTIONAL CARBON COMPOSITE PLY DROP

SMN = -.274E+09  
SMX = .125E+10

- Scales represent different criteria in the design space of wind turbine blades

Graphics: Courtesy Sandia Labs

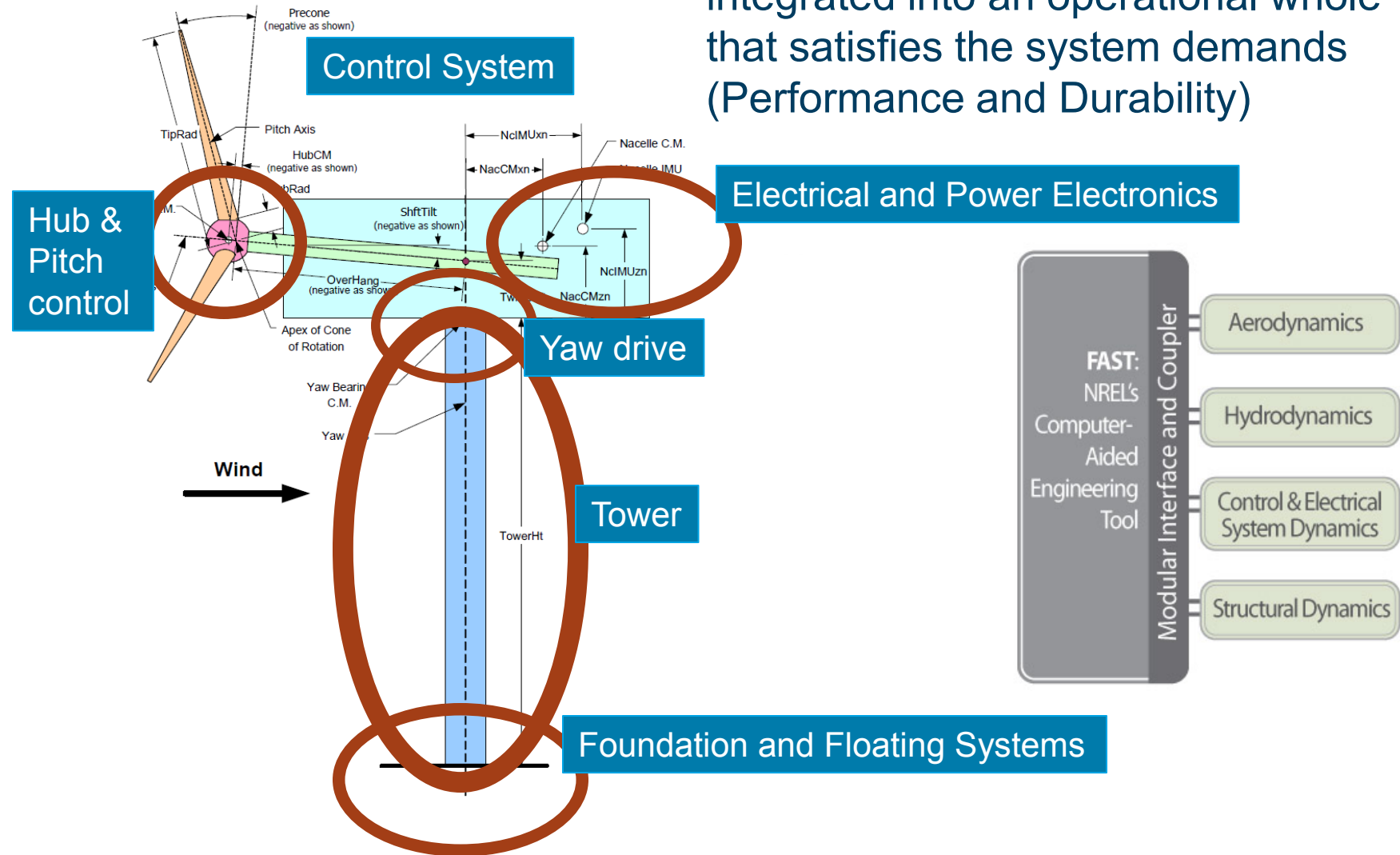
# Synthesis:

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- **Synthesis: “the combining of the constituent elements of separate material or abstract entities into a single or unified entity”**
  - Innovation
  - Systems Engineering

# Modeling Depends on Interfaces

Each subsystem needs to be integrated into an operational whole that satisfies the system demands (Performance and Durability)



# Wind Plants puts turbines in the wake of other turbines

- **The wind plant is more than the machine alone:**
  - **Turbine**
  - **Foundations**
  - **Electrical collection**
  - **Power conditioning**
  - **Substation**
  - **SCADA**
  - **Roads (or ships)**
  - **Maintenance facilities**
  - **...**





# System Perspective (Dykes)



The desired end state if a system engineering capability that accurately captures all the **interrelationships** between the various subsystems (including turbine interactions, O&M, transportation, environmental constraints, etc.) while meeting the **design requirements** for each subsystem.

		88/228/FDIS	
		FINAL DRAFT INTERNATIONAL STANDARD	
		PROJECT FILE NAME PROJECT FILE NO. IEC 61400-1 E-3	
		PROJECT NO. PROJECT	
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- Suite of “Design Load Cases” (DLCs)
- Uses aeroelastic model to apply atmospheric conditions to the dynamic structure

- Material properties
- Damage rules
- Statistical variation

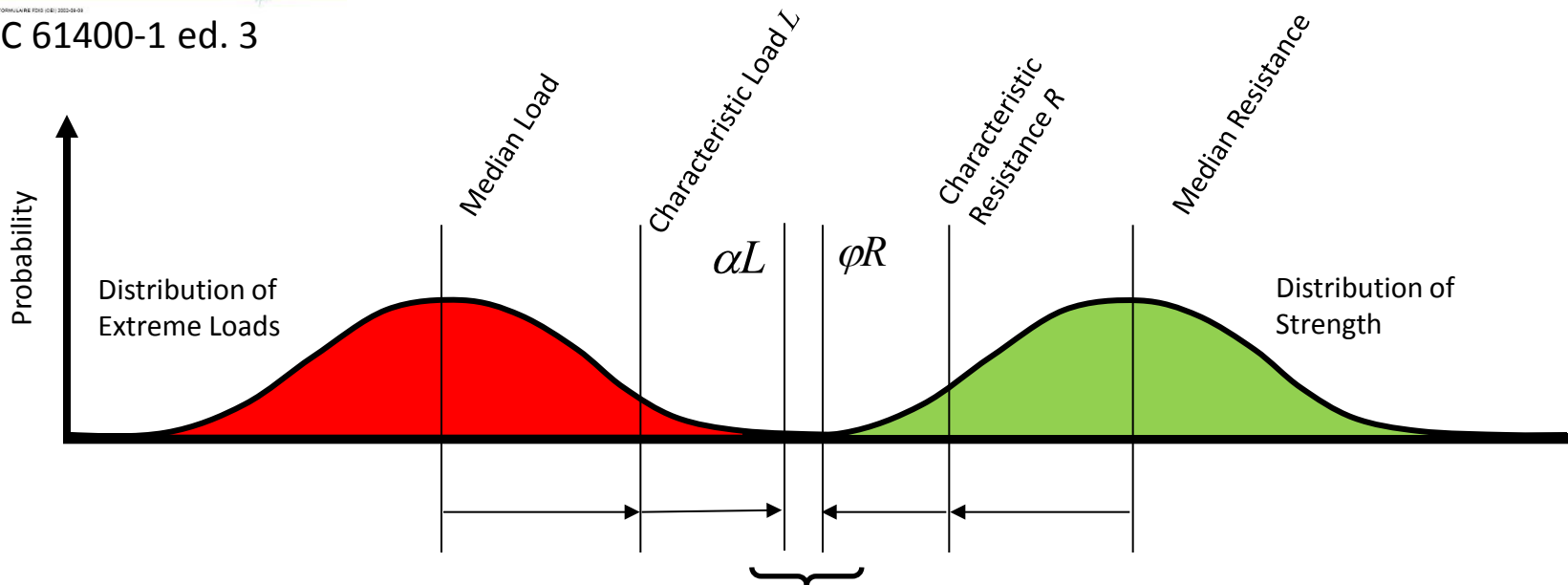
$$\alpha L < \varphi R$$




Table 2 – Design load cases

Design situation	DLC	Wind condition	Other conditions	Type of analysis	Partial safety factors
1) Power production	1.1	NTM $V_{in} < V_{hub} < V_{out}$	For extrapolation of extreme events	U	N
	1.2	NTM $V_{in} < V_{hub} < V_{out}$		F	*
	1.3	ETM $V_{in} < V_{hub} < V_{out}$		U	N
	1.4	ECD $V_{hub} = V_r \pm 2 \text{ m/s}$ , $V_r$ , $V_r \pm 2 \text{ m/s}$		U	N
	1.5	EWS $V_{in} < V_{hub} < V_{out}$		U	N
2) Power production plus occurrence of fault	2.1	NTM $V_{in} < V_{hub} < V_{out}$	Control system fault or loss of electrical network	U	N
	2.2	NTM $V_{in} < V_{hub} < V_{out}$	Protection system or preceding internal electrical fault	U	A
	2.3	EOG $V_{hub} = V_r \pm 2 \text{ m/s}$ and $V_{out}$	External or internal electrical fault including loss of electrical network	U	A
	2.4	NTM $V_{in} < V_{hub} < V_{out}$	Control, protection, or electrical system faults including loss of electrical network	F	*
3) Start up	3.1	NWP $V_{in} < V_{hub} < V_{out}$		F	*
	3.2	EOG $V_{hub} = V_{in}$ , $V_r \pm 2 \text{ m/s}$ and $V_{out}$		U	N
	3.3	EDC $V_{hub} = V_{in}$ , $V_r \pm 2 \text{ m/s}$ and $V_{out}$		U	N
4) Normal shut down	4.1	NWP $V_{in} < V_{hub} < V_{out}$		F	*
	4.2	EOG $V_{hub} = V_r \pm 2 \text{ m/s}$ and $V_{out}$		U	N
5) Emergency shut down	5.1	NTM $V_{hub} = V_r \pm 2 \text{ m/s}$ and $V_{out}$		U	N
6) Parked (standing still or idling)	6.1	EWM 50-year recurrence period		U	N
	6.2	EWM 50-year recurrence period	Loss of electrical network connection	U	A
	6.3	EWM 1-year recurrence period	Extreme yaw misalignment	U	N
	6.4	NTM $V_{hub} < 0,7 V_{ref}$		F	*
7) Parked and fault conditions	7.1	EWM 1-year recurrence period		U	A
8) Transport, assembly, maintenance and repair	8.1	NTM $V_{maint}$ to be stated by the manufacturer		U	T

## IEC Standards have a suite of Design Load Cases (DLCs)

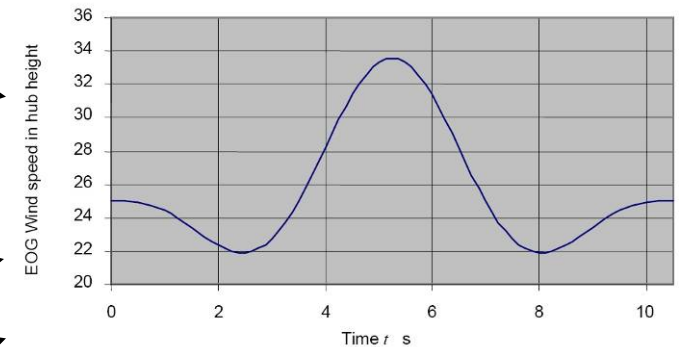


Figure 2 – Example of extreme operating gust

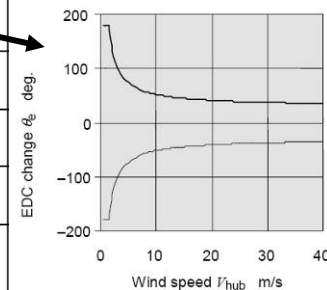


Figure 3 – Example of extreme direction change magnitude

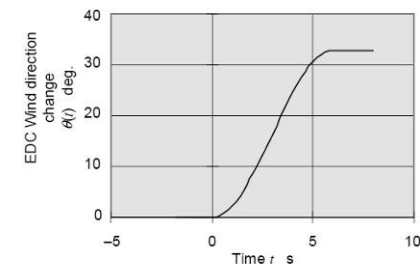


Figure 4 – Example of extreme direction change

# The Standard requires load extrapolation for extreme loads and load spectra for fatigue

Table 2 – Design load cases

Design situation	DLC	Wind condition	Other conditions	Type of analysis	Partial safety factor
1) Power production	1.1	NTM $V_{in} < V_{hub} < V_{out}$	For extrapolation of extreme events	U	N
	1.2	NTM $V_{in} < V_{hub} < V_{out}$		F	*
	1.3	ETM $V_{in} < V_{hub} < V_{out}$		U	N

## 7.6.2 Ultimate strength analysis

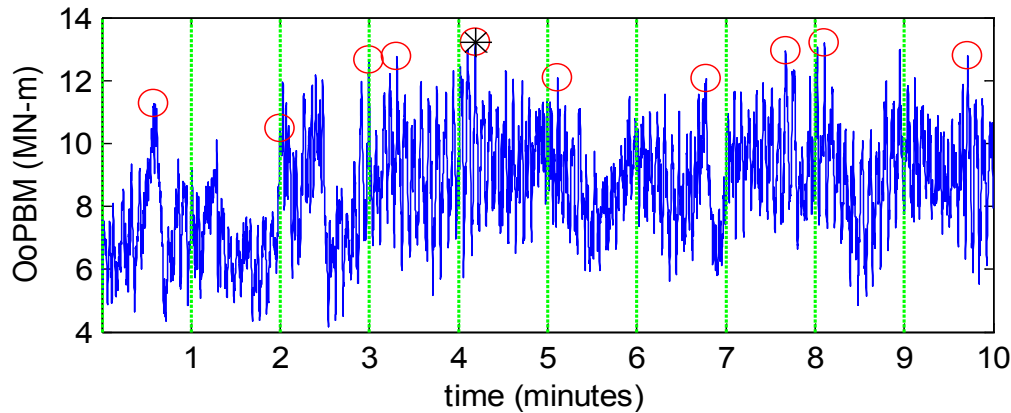
The limit state function can be separated into load and resistance functions  $S$  and  $R$  so that the condition becomes

$$\gamma_n \cdot S(F_d) \leq R(f_d) \quad (30)$$

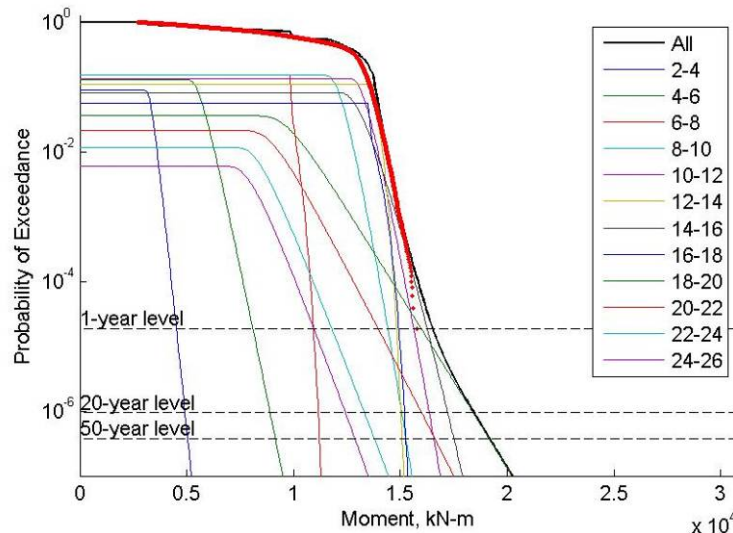
The resistance  $R$  generally corresponds with the maximum allowable design values of material resistance, hence  $R(f_d) = f_d$ , whilst the function  $S$  for ultimate strength analysis is usually defined as the highest value of the structural response, hence  $S(F_d) = F_d$ . The equation then becomes

$$\gamma_f F_k \leq \frac{1}{\gamma_m \gamma_n} f_k \quad (31)$$

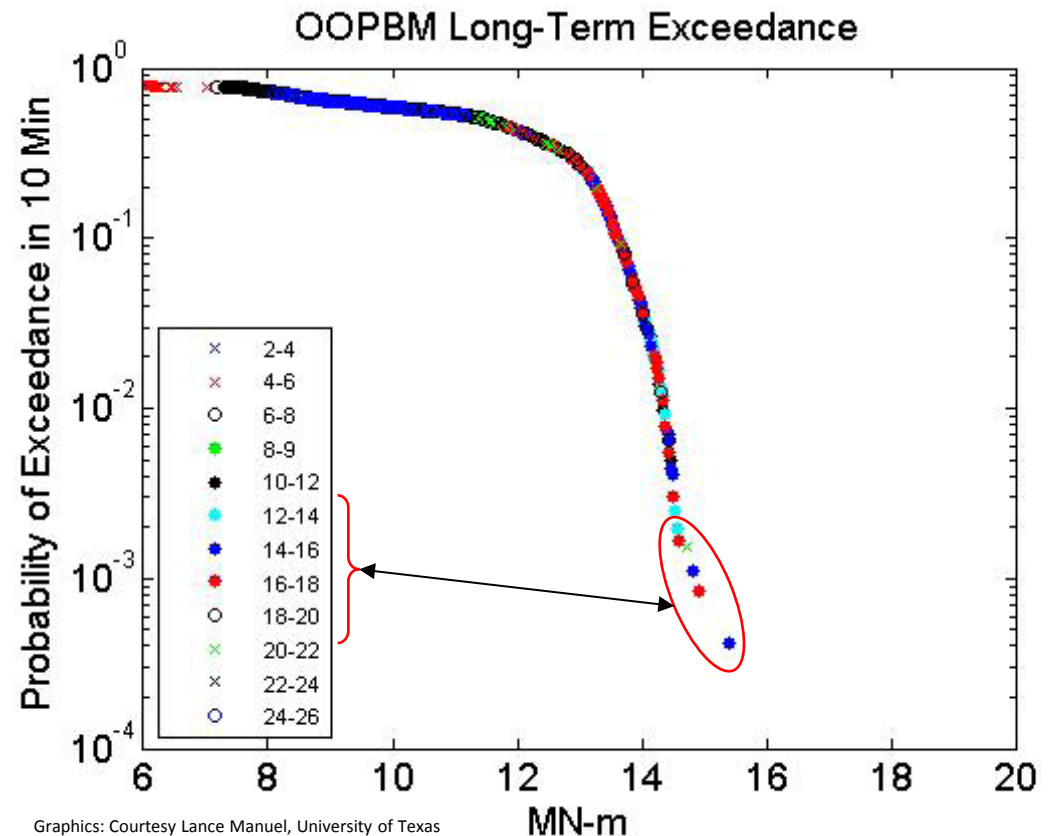
# Load Extrapolation : Extreme Design Loads



- Load extrapolation uses many short operational simulations to estimate a long term extreme



Sometimes the largest loads come from moderate wind speeds



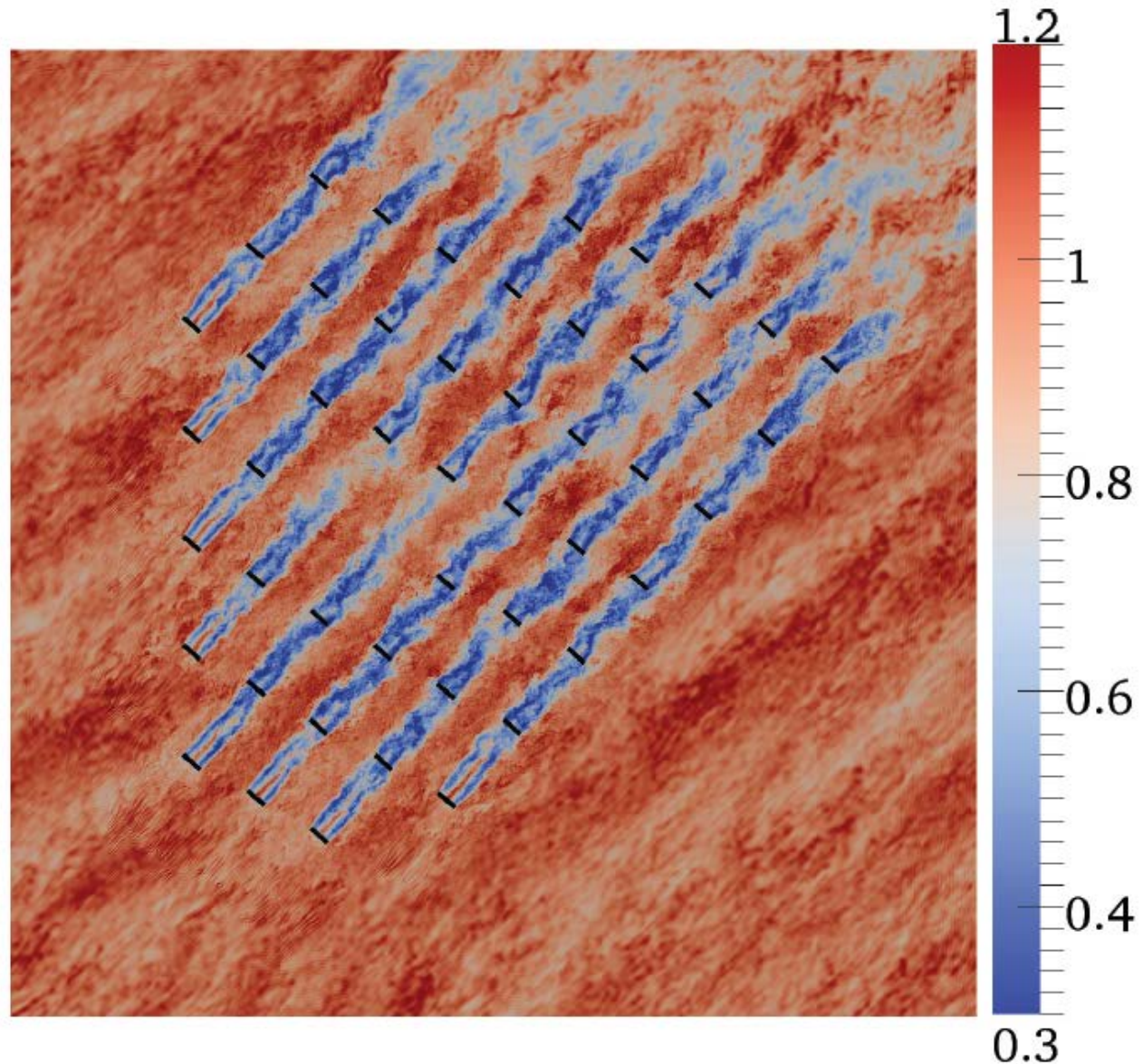
# Wind Plant Effects Less Well Understood

The IEC standard requires assessment of wake effects

Current recommended approach is a simple inflation of turbulence levels (Frandsen model)

Potential improvement is to move to Dynamic Wake Meandering (DWM) model

Could turbines be designed differently for location within a plant?



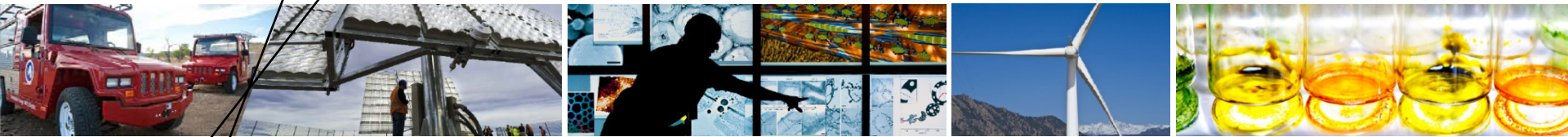
# Summary of Design Requirement Issues

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- **The design standards used across the entire industry will drive both cost and reliability levels across all suppliers**
- **Any single innovation that does not promise improvement across all design load cases will not have value**
- **Modeling and simulation tools and System Engineering capabilities must be able to evaluate the ability to meet the requirements**



# Case Study: Subsystem Design Blade Study at Sandia Labs

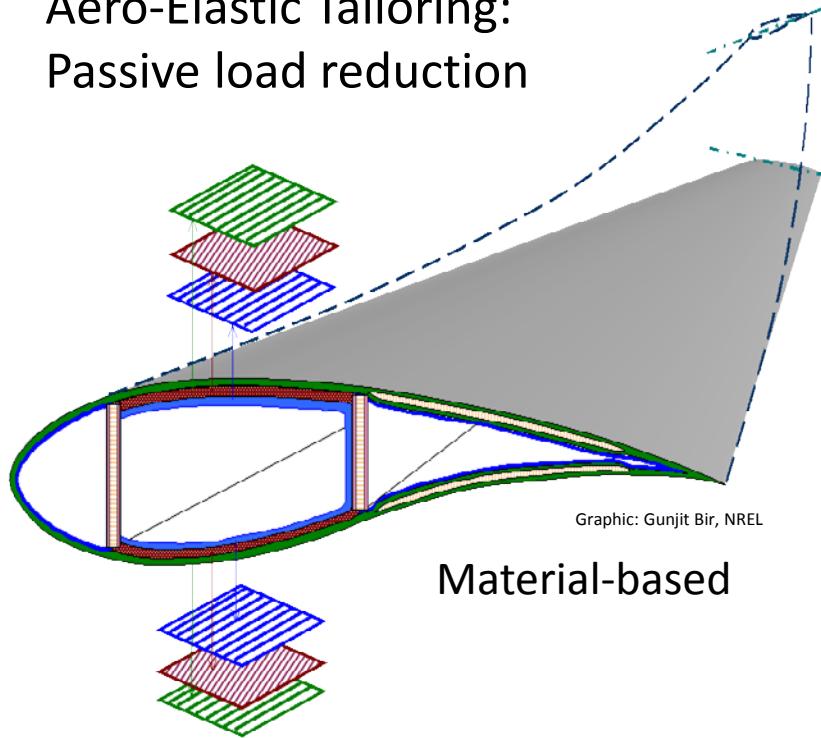


## Historic approach to blade design

- Define the aerodynamic envelop for maximum performance
- Design the internal structure for sufficient stiffness and durability
- Create a manufacturing process to produce the blade as designed

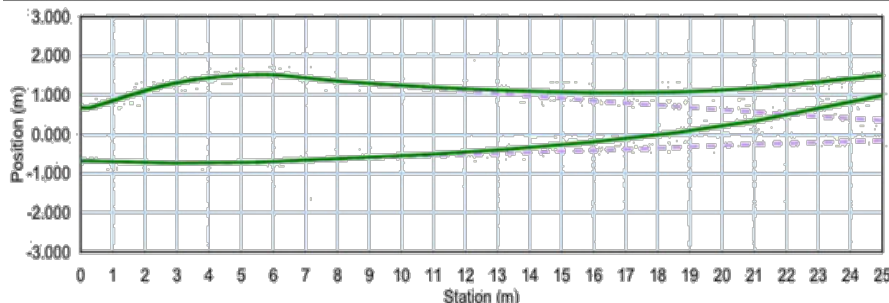
# Example of Fundamental Research findings

Aero-Elastic Tailoring:  
Passive load reduction

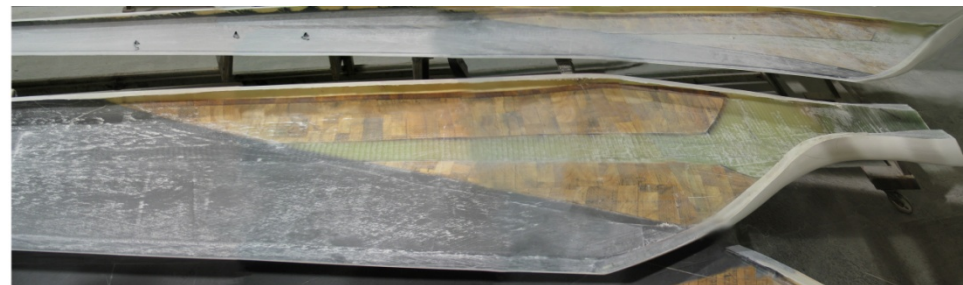
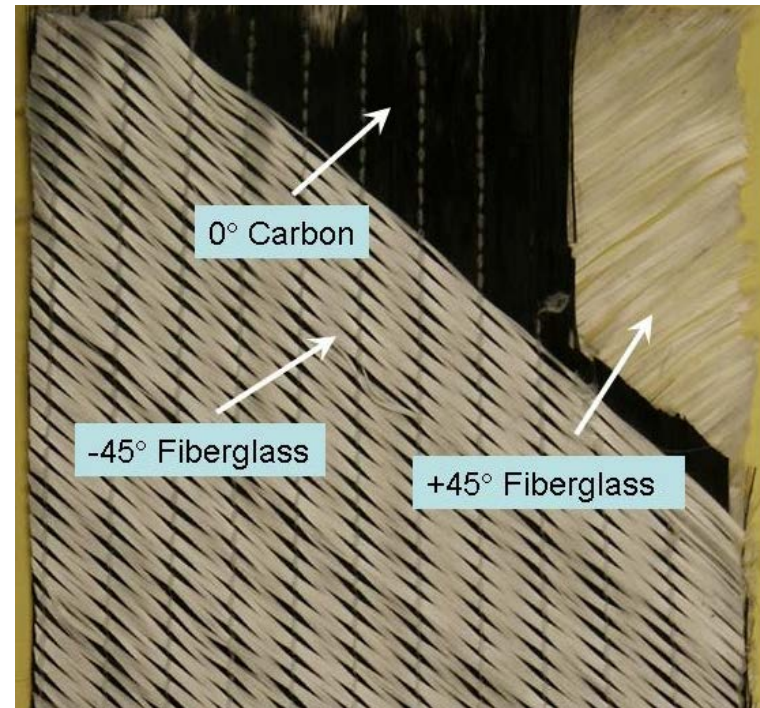


Material-based

Geometry-based



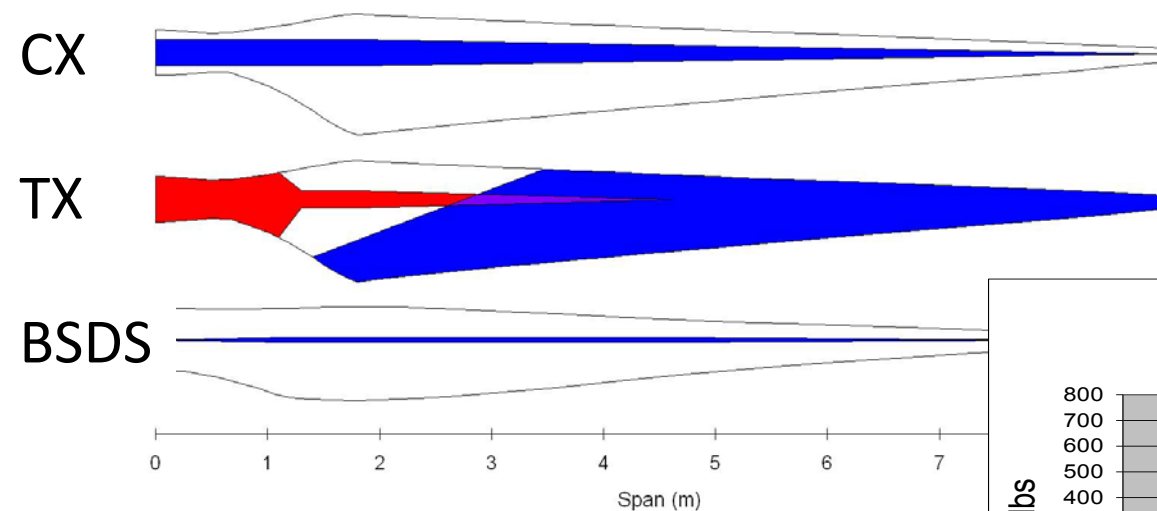
New Materials – Carbon Fiber



Photos and graphic: Courtesy Sandia Labs

# Blade System Design Study (BSDS) at Sandia

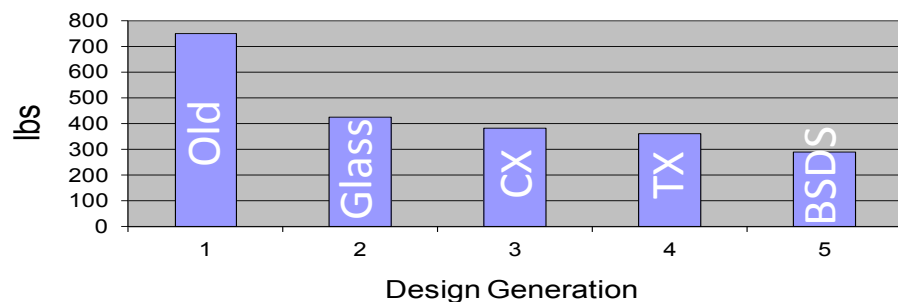
Blue = Carbon fiber usage



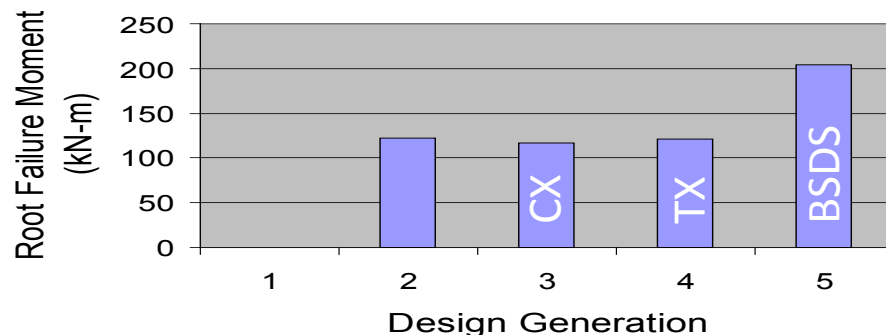
The BSDS blade incorporated a very small carbon spar cap, flat-back airfoils, and a novel root stud system.

Photo and Graphics: Courtesy Sandia Labs

## Weight



## Blade Strength





# Example of full-scale commercialization project

- Knight & Carver Demonstration
  - 27.1m swept blade
  - Replacement blades – Zond 750
  - 5-10% increased energy capture with longer blades
  - Maintained dynamic load envelop



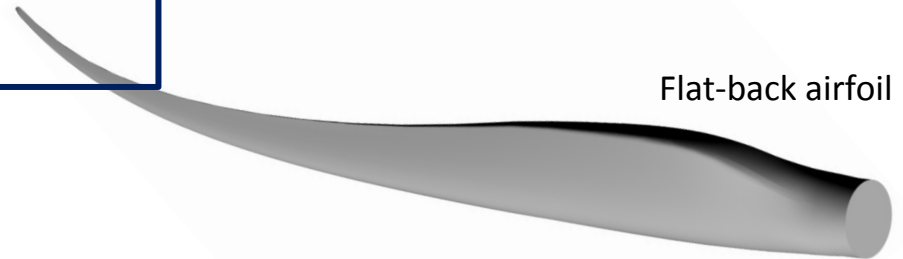
# Next Generation of Siemens Blades



Knight and Carver Blade  
2006



Flat-back airfoil



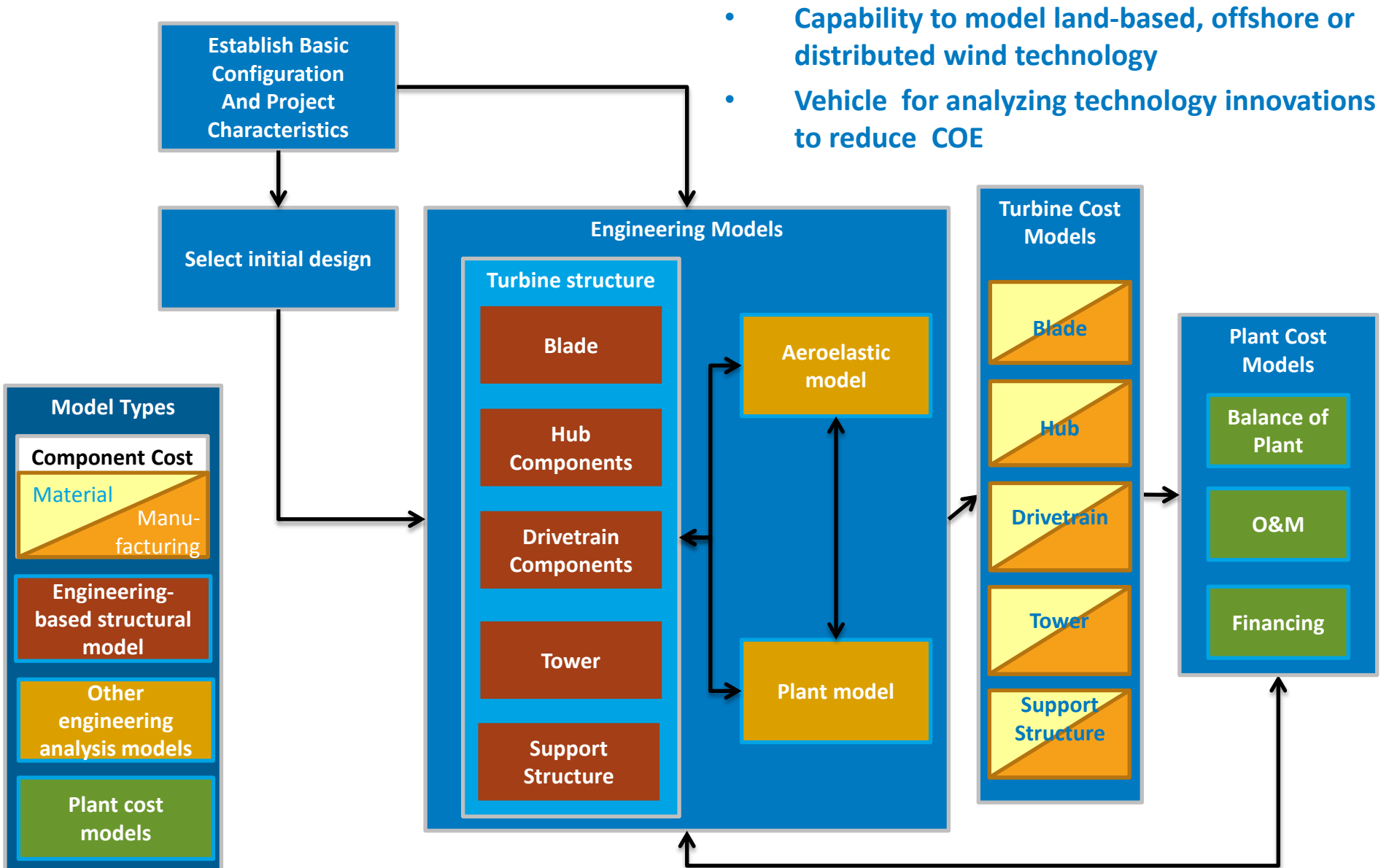
Siemens Blade  
2012

These Siemens blades have flat-back airfoils and sweep for aeroelastic tailoring.

Graphics: Courtesy Siemens

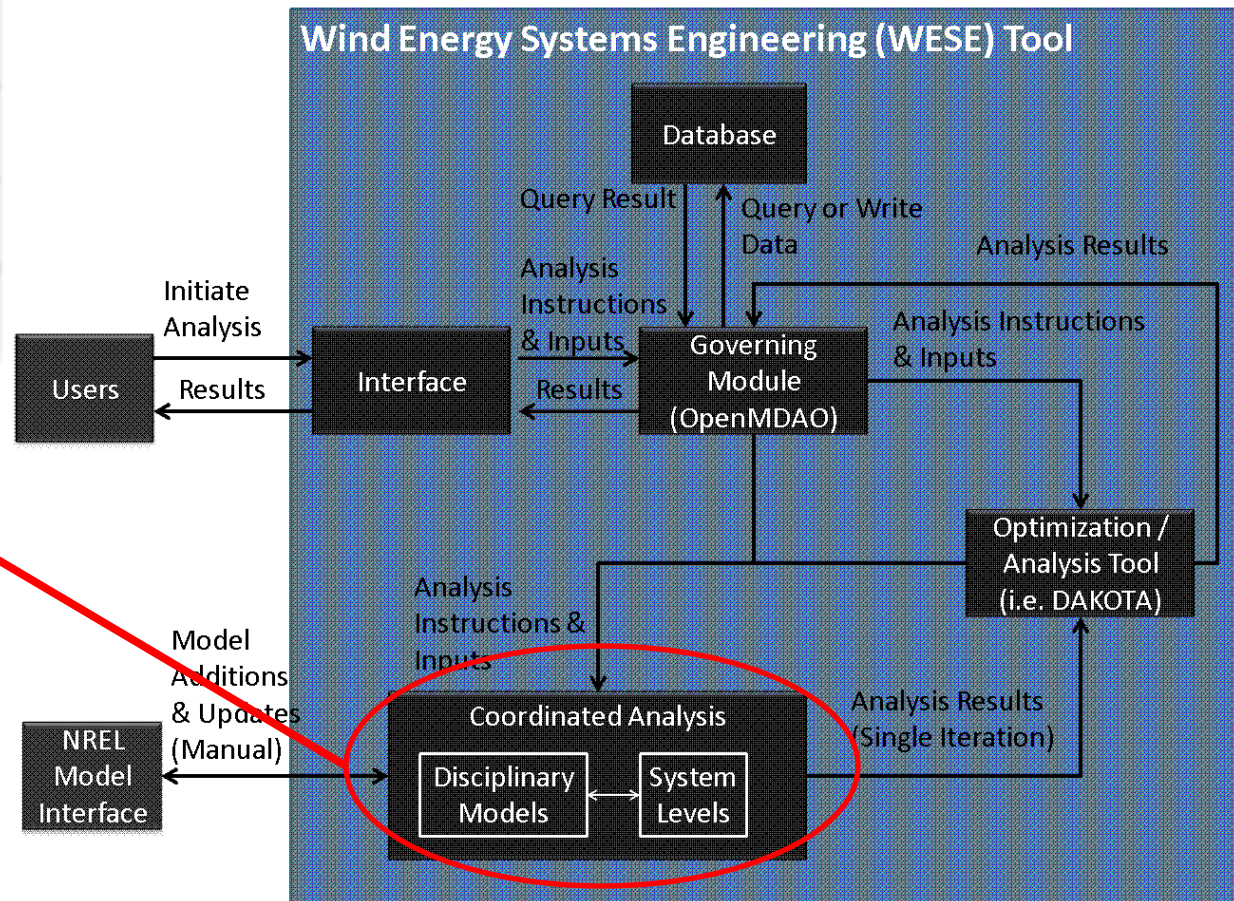
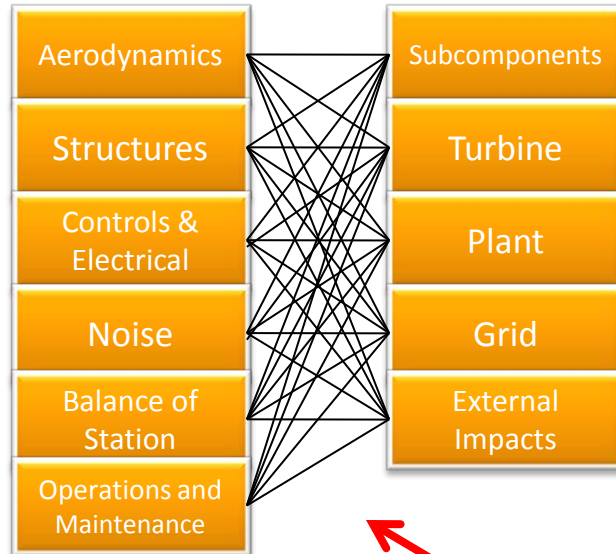


# The System Engineering Framework Models All Critical Subsystems



# Systems Engineering Framework Development

- Tool development involves integration of wind system modeling, analysis / workflow management, and analysis driver software



## Coordinated Analysis:

- integration of various models
- definition of subsystem interfaces
- full system representation
- different levels of fidelity representing different sub-systems



**National Renewable Energy Laboratory**  
*Innovation for Our Energy Future*

**Thank you.**

**Questions?**

