



The Role of Advanced Data Architectures in the MBSE Universe

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Model-Based System Engineering

“The formalized application of modeling to support system requirements, design, analysis, verification and validation activities beginning in the conceptual design phase and continuing throughout development and later life cycle phases.”

- *INCOSE*



Increased Quality



Reduced Risk



Reduced Cost

MBSE Modeling Challenges

Challenges

- Lack of modularity and reusability
- Lack of model interoperability
- Static and brittle models
- Descriptive nature of models
- Lack of model sustainability and obsolescence
- Complexity of change management





Other Models v. Data Models

Laying the Groundwork



“A representation of a system and its environment used to specify, design, analyze, and verify systems and share information with other stakeholders” (SEBok)

logical representation of a system (DoD 1998);

DOMAIN-SPECIFIC

models that may be realized in the real world (Steiner 2009);

FORMAL

Model

a simplified representation of a system at some particular point in time or space intended to promote understanding of the real system (Bellinger 2004);

INFORMAL

an abstraction of a system, aimed at understanding, communicating, explaining, or designing aspects of interest of that system (Dori 2002);

LOGICAL

HYBRID

a selective representation of a system whose form and content are chosen based on a specific set of concerns; the model is related to the system by an explicit or implicit mapping (Object Management Group 2010).

ABSTRACT

SYSTEM

MATHEMATICAL

Types of Models

CONCRETE



Physical
model airplane

ABSTRACT



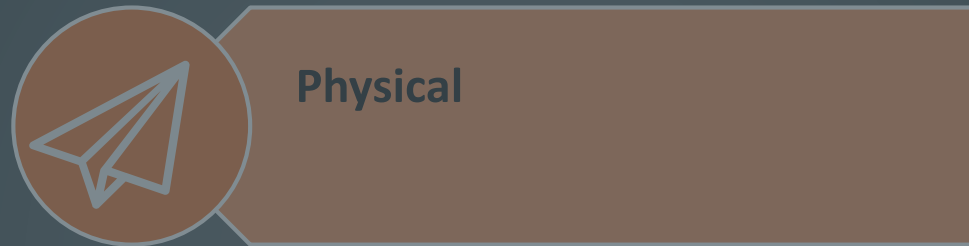
Mathematical
math-based model representing
flight trajectories



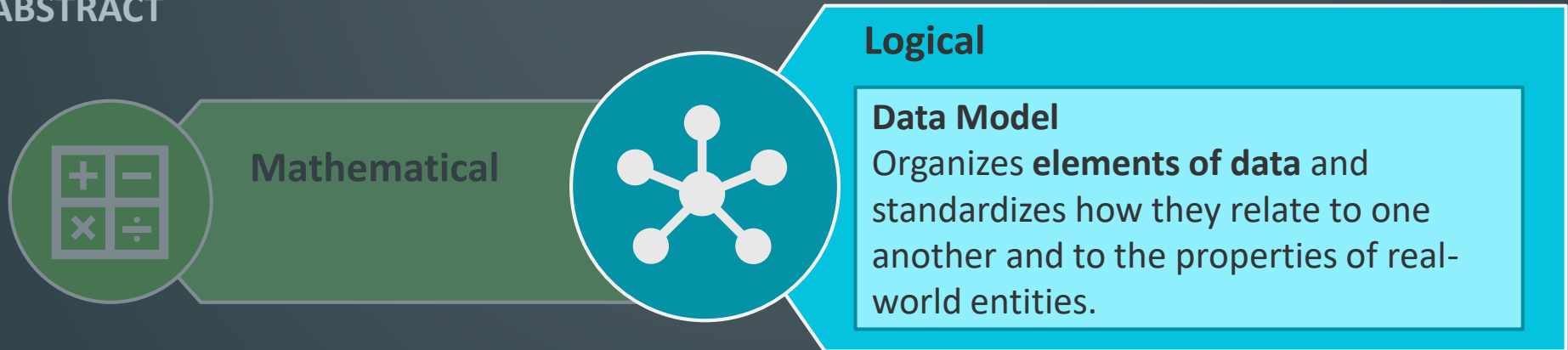
Logical
descriptive relationships among
aspects of airplane failure

Data Models

CONCRETE



ABSTRACT





Data Architecture

Data Architecture includes models, rules and standards that define the data management blueprint by aligning with organizational strategy and operational requirements

What is our organizational strategy?



What is the best form, fit and function to meet our mission?



What are our requirements?





Innovations in Data Architecture & MBSE

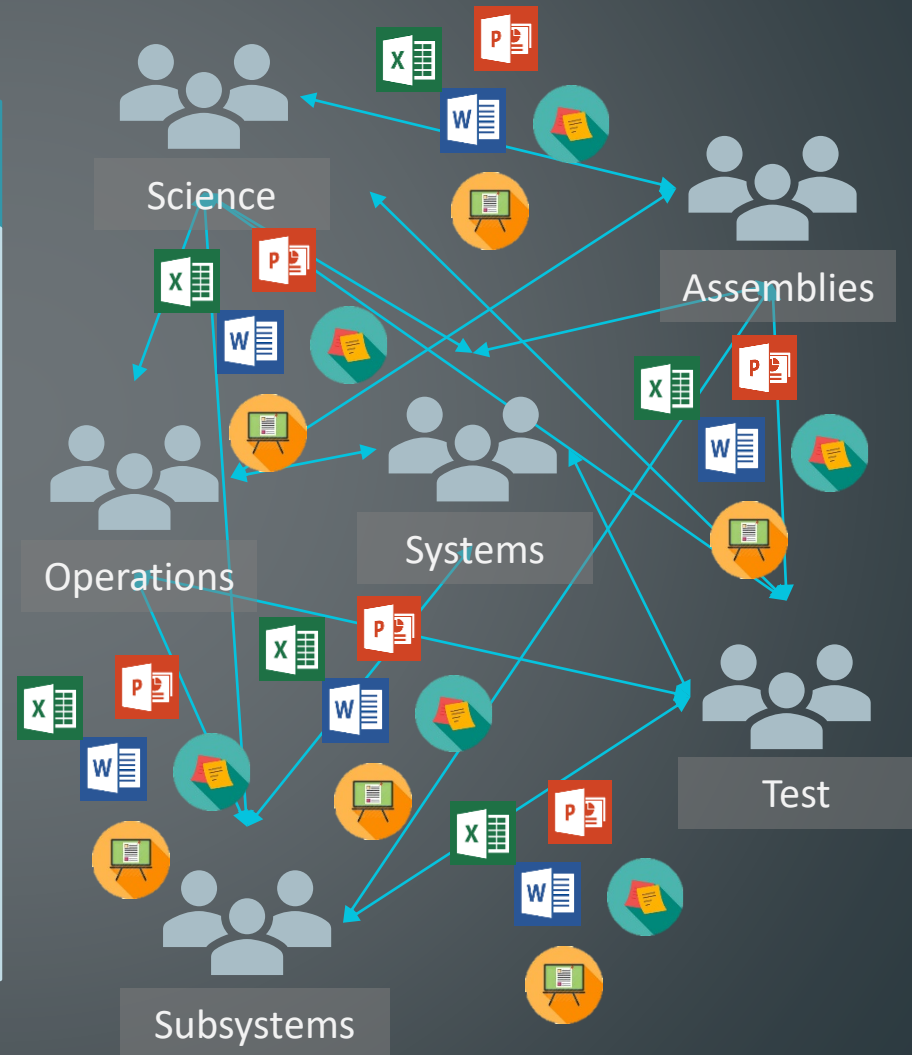
Finding Solutions to Modeling Challenges



Traditional SE Practices

Traditional

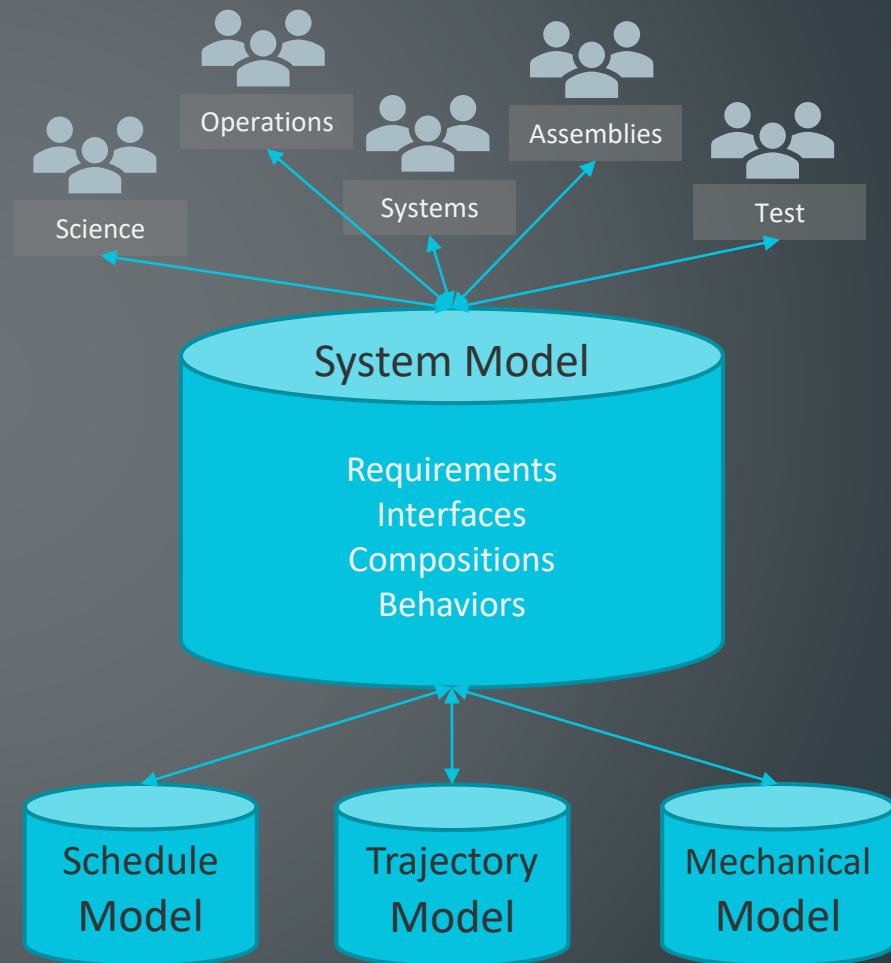
- Stand alone domain models
- Institutional life cycle documents
 - Requirements Documents
 - Interface Documents
 - Deployment Plans
- Formal review presentations
- Informal communications
- Reliance on Institutional Knowledge



Modern MBSE Practices

Modern

- Integrated system model with multiple views, connected to discipline models
 - Authoritative source of information
 - Exchanges information to/from analysis and stakeholders via projections of model information
 - Information accessible to all members of the project

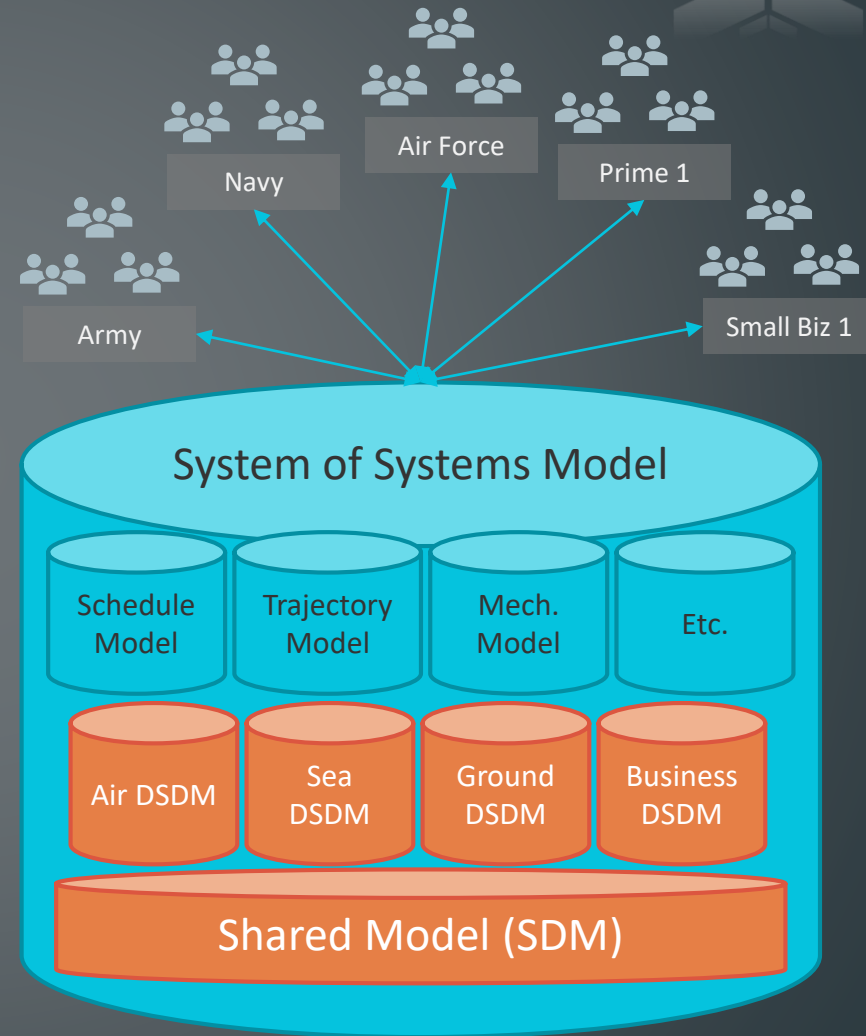




Advanced MBSE Practices

Advanced

- Integrated system of systems (SoS) model
 - Machine leverageable
 - 1 Shared Data Model
 - Multiple Domain Models
 - Captures syntactic, *semantic and temporal*
 - Captures relationships *and* behaviors
 - Single source of truth
 - Collaborative knowledge sharing among enterprises





Advanced Data Architecture & Interface Documentation

A Brief Look Inside the Foundational Advancements

Application to Interface Interoperability

Traditional

- ICS & IDDs
- Informal communications (notes in margins)
- Reliance on Institutional Knowledge

Modern

- Integrated system model
- Electronic Data Definition
- Entity Relationships / Entity Model
- Machine Readable SysML

Advanced

- Integrated System of Systems (SoS) Model
- Machine Leverageable
- Allows for automated integration through configurable infrastructures

INTEROPERABILITY

INTERFACE DOCUMENTATION MATURITY LEVELS

advanced

ENTITY MODEL WITH RELATIONSHIPS

Formal documentation of the messages against a data model using containment and tracing through related contexts.

mid

ENTITY MODEL WITH DIRECT PROJECTIONS

Formal documentation of the messages against a data model in which the entities reflect their real-world analog and message attributes directly project to the attribute they represent.

ELECTRONIC DATA DEFINITION

This is an electronic version of the ICD/IDD in which the document exists in a format easily parsed by a computer. The data still requires a human for interpretation.

early

SOURCE CODE

There is no explicit data model. All documentation is captured by the source code that implements it.



ENTITY MODEL WITH CONTAINMENT

Formal documentation of the messages against a data model in which the entities reflect their real-world analog and the message attributes project to their corresponding attributes through the related entities that build the context of the attribute.

MESSAGE MODEL

Formal documentation of the messages against a data model in which the entities directly mirror the message structure.

INTERFACE CONTROL / DESCRIPTION DOCUMENT (ICD / IDD)

There exists a text-based document that explains the meaning of the interfaces, how the data is transmitted, and how the data is formatted.



BOLD. VISIONARY. INTEGRATED.

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Benefits & Next Steps

Data Architecture & MBSE

Benefits of the Advanced Architecture Approach

Challenges

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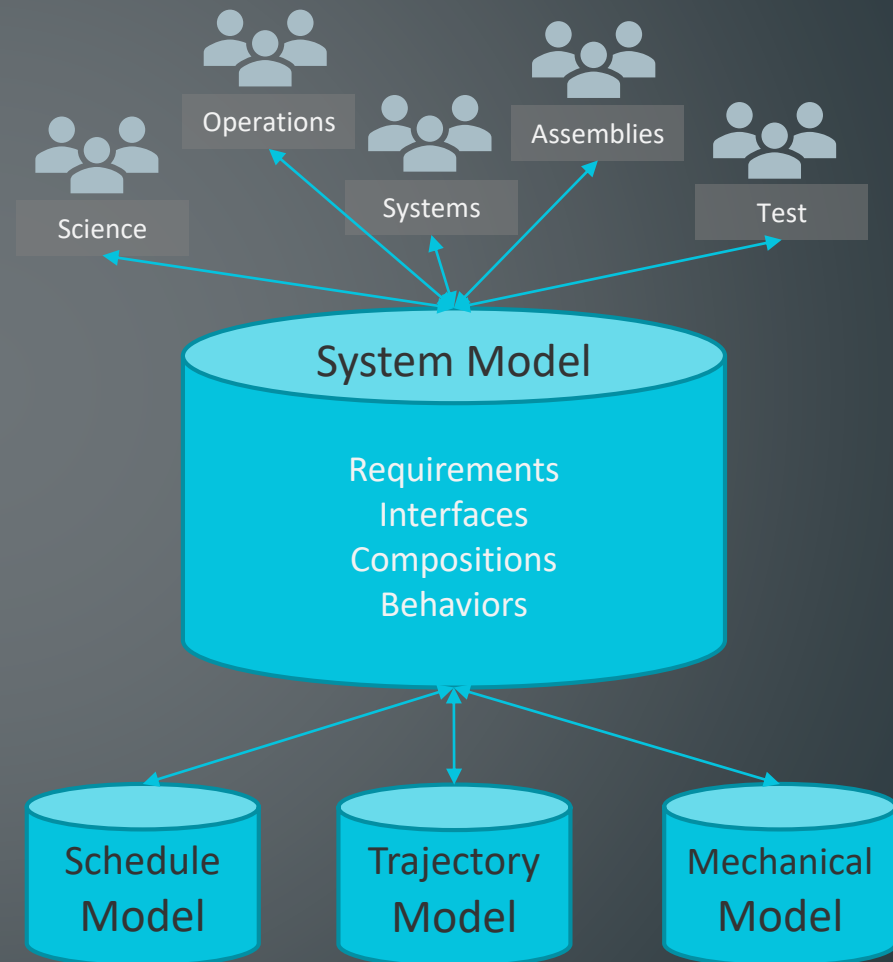
Solutions / Benefits

- Built-in modularity
- Fully-integrated models
- Dynamic, flexible models & integrations
- Executable models enabling automated integration
- Reusable Shared and Domain Specific Models
- Opportunities for collaborative, guiding tools
- Decreased redundancy
- Increased Accuracy (SSOT)
- Inherent Traceability & Testability

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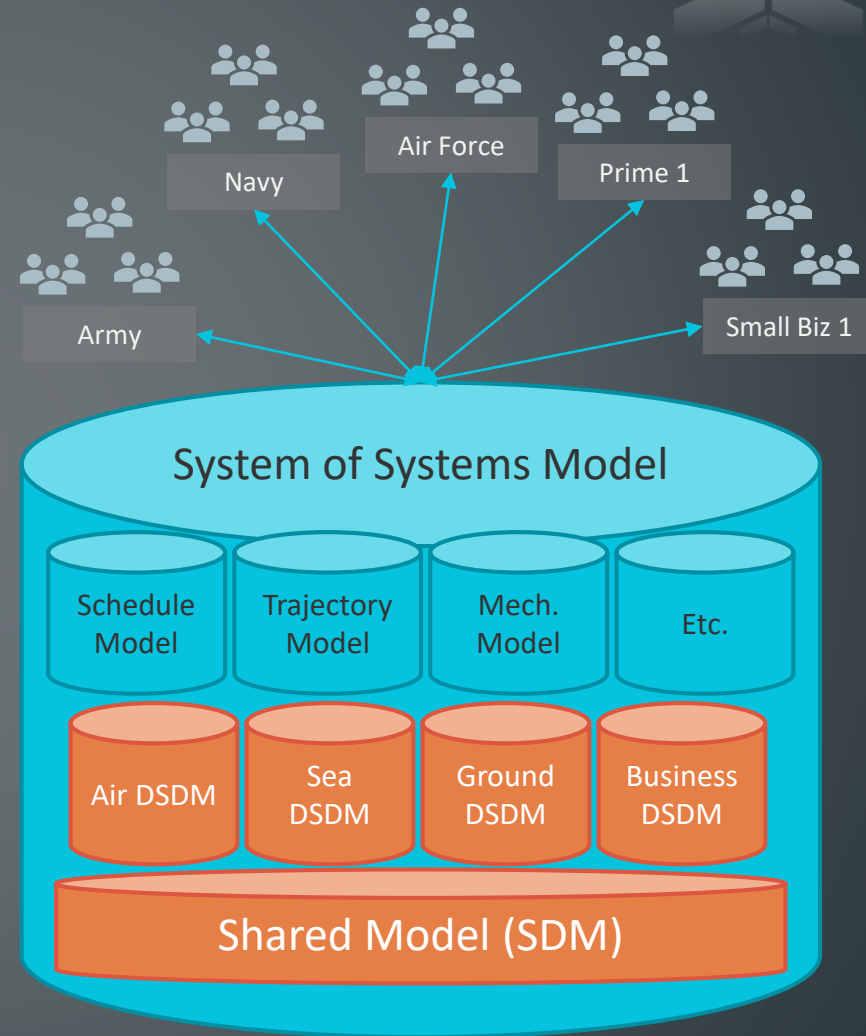




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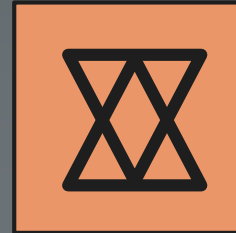


How do We Go About It?



Rigorous Machine-Leverageable Documentation

- Form
- Fit
- Function



Begin with the End in Mind

- Top-Down (mission and requirements)
- Bottom-Up (messages, functions & interactions)



Capture the Meaning of the Data

- Syntactic – Structure and form of data
- Semantic – Meaning and intent of data
- Behavioral – Semantics of the interaction



SySML and UML + Advanced Tools

- Semantic and temporal characteristics
- Collaboration
- Change management



A Perspective Shift



Increased Quality



Reduced Risk



Reduced Cost



Inherent Testability



Optimization



Analytics



Rapid Integrations



Future Advancement



Operational Automation



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Sources & Resources

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- [Allport, C. et al. \(2017\) *Why Should I Care? It's All About Me – Data Models & The Cross-Functional Team.*](#)
- [Hunt, G. & Allport, C. \(March 2017\) *Data Modeling Is Hard v. Data Modeling Is Hard.*](#)
- [Three Guys and a Data Model Podcasts](#)
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