

# RCI

## Systems engineering process

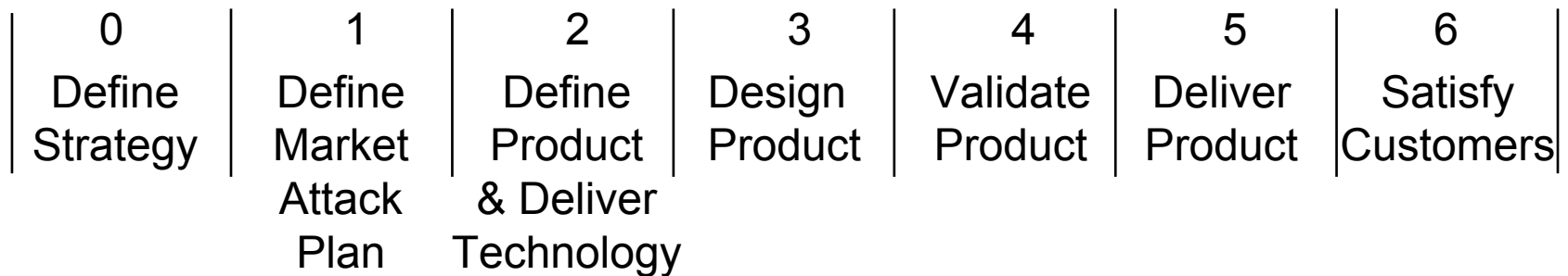
Don Clausing

2004

Developed by Don Clausing, Lou Cohen, and  
Madhav Phadke, 1996-2000



# Traditional PPP



- Phased Program Planning (PPP)
- But how do we do the work?



# Three levels of SE process

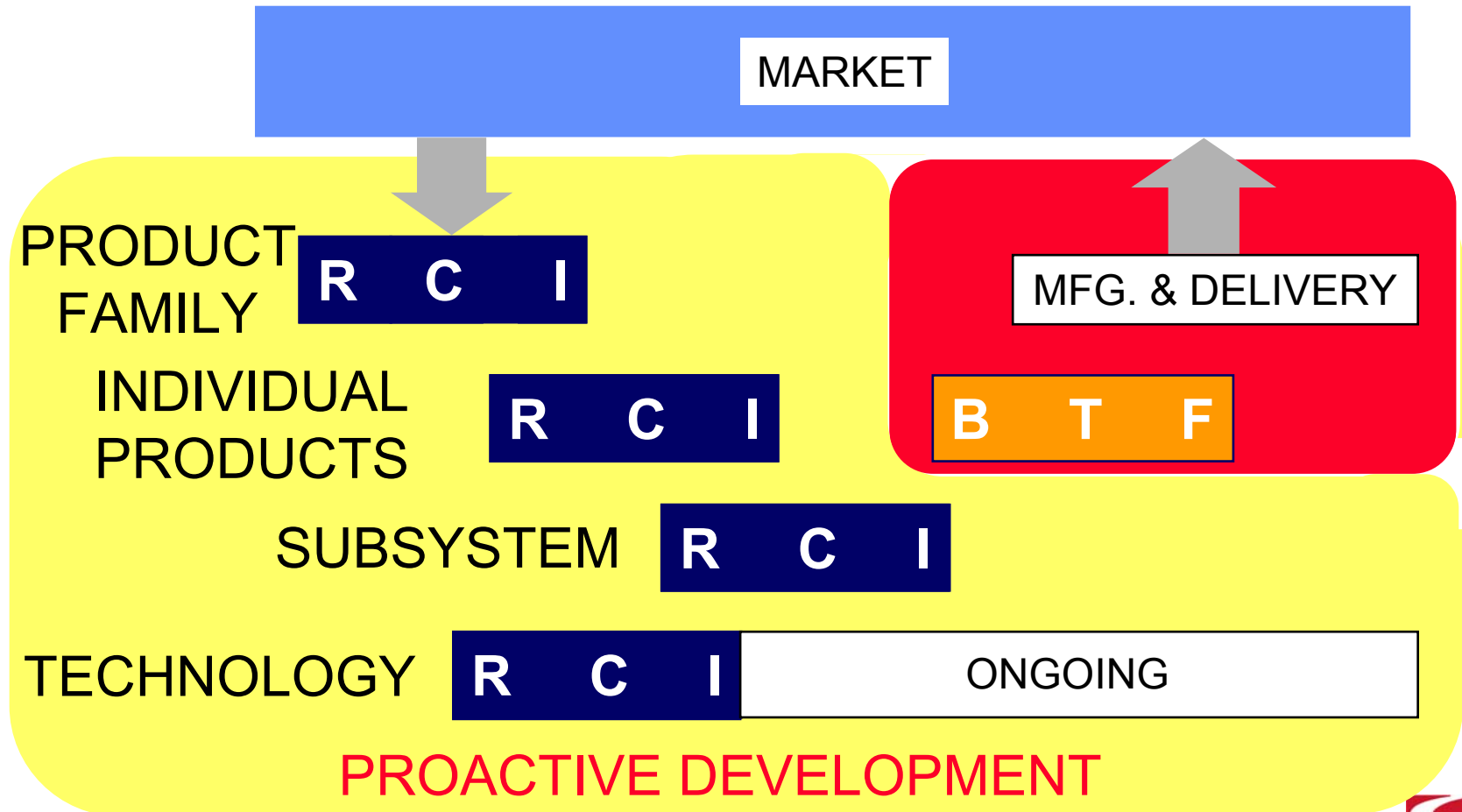
- Integration level - emphasizes system levels
- Managerial level - emphasizes RCI
- Operational level - emphasizes skills





**Improvement**

# Integration level

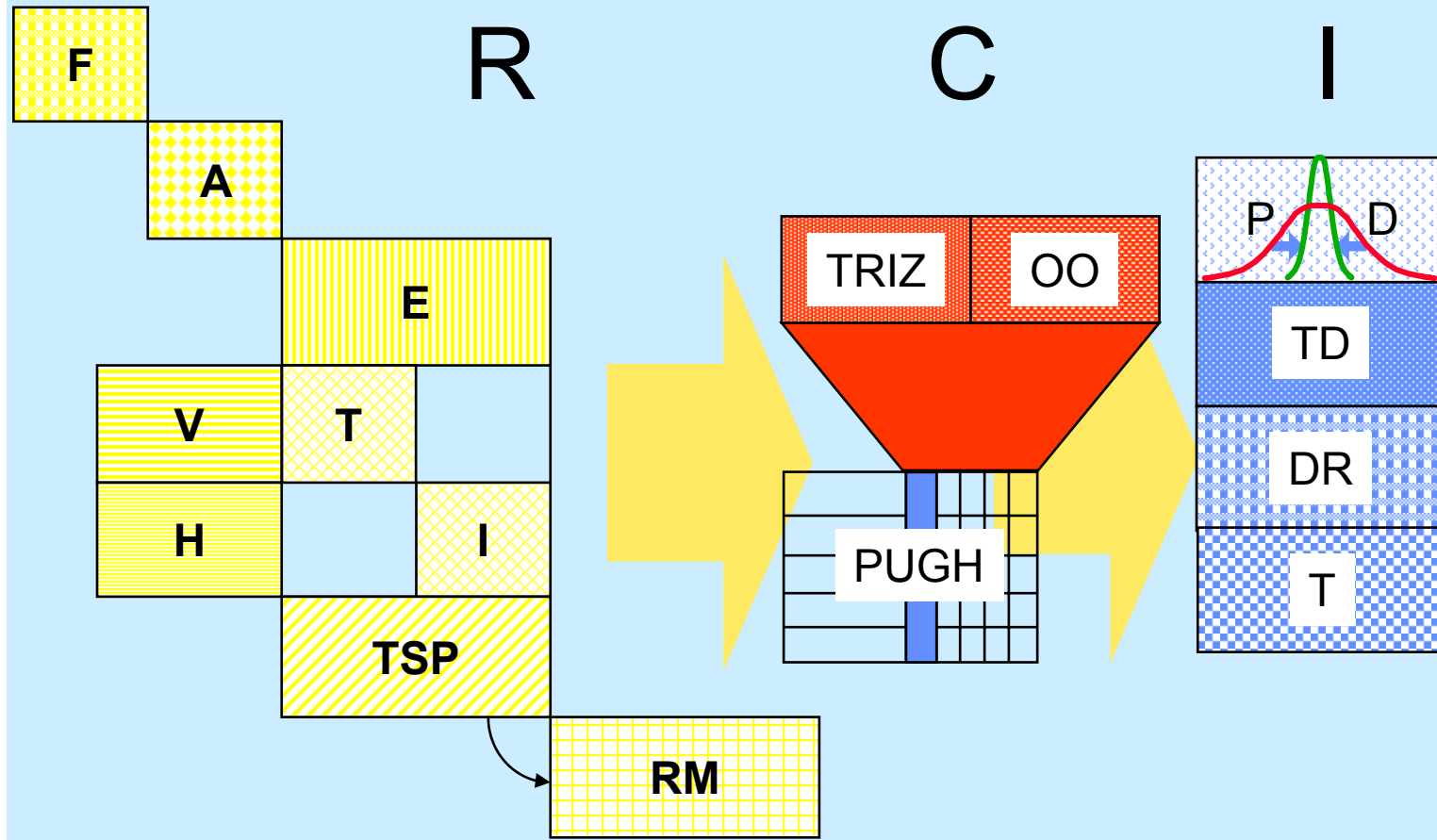




**RCI is the backbone of  
Systems Engineering**



# Managerial level



# Operational level

- Requirements
- Concepts
- Improvement

at the operational level of detail.





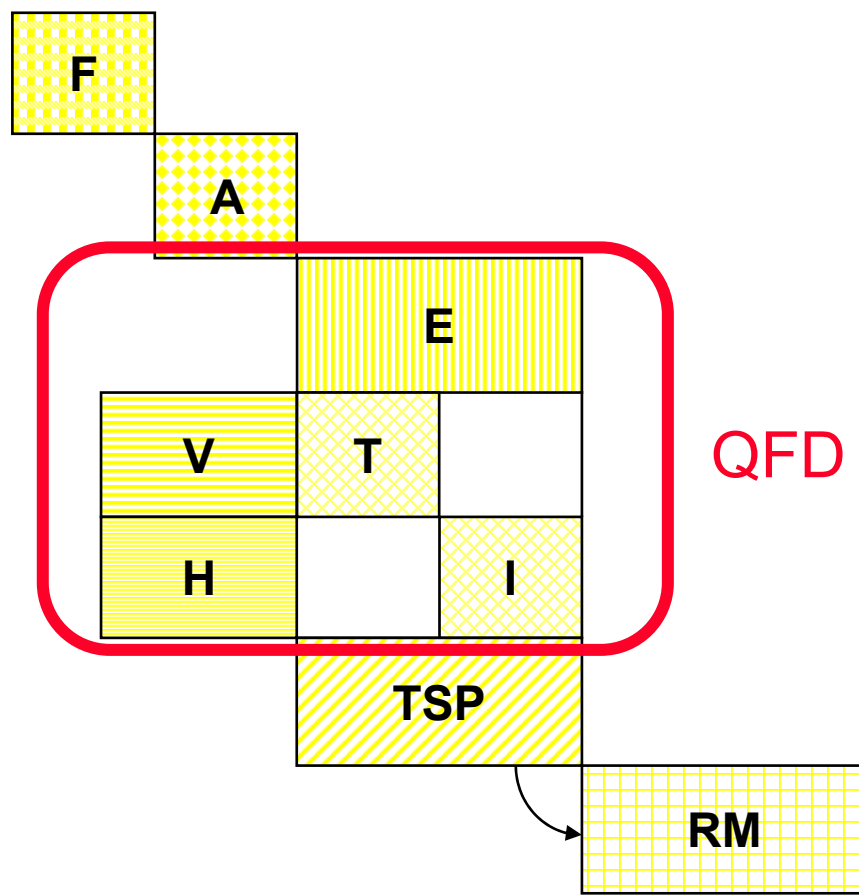
# Requirements

- QFD
- Functional analysis
- Functional amplification
- Reusability

An introduction

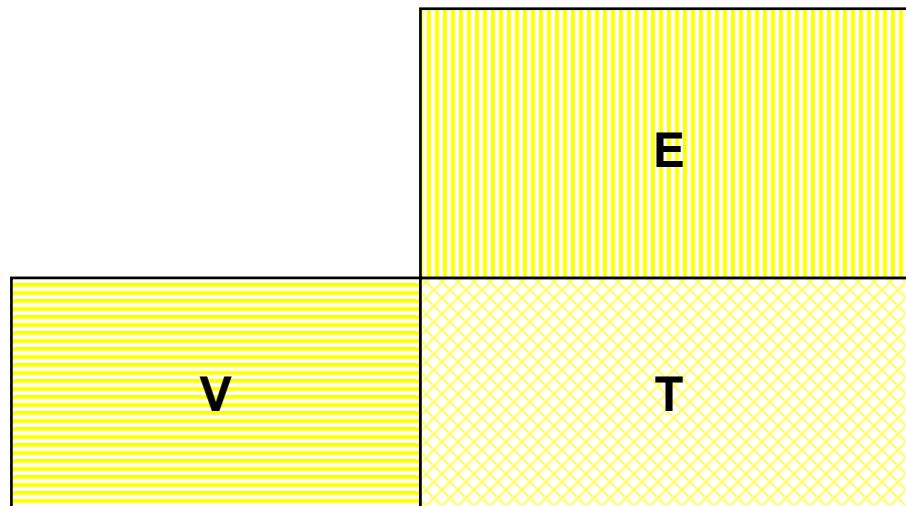


# QFD, key to customer satisfaction



# Traditional House of Quality

3 core rooms



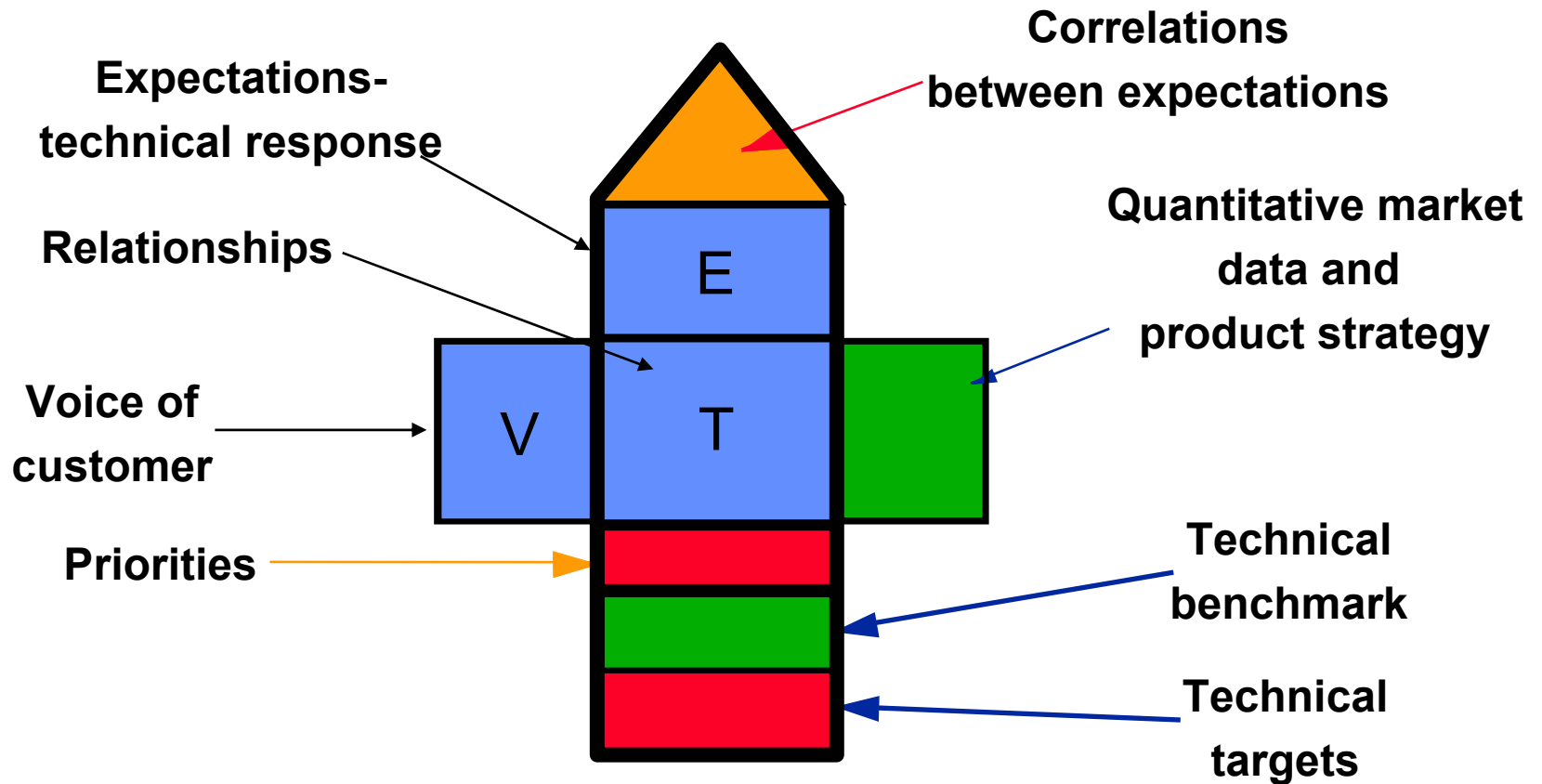
V – VOICE OF EXTERNAL STAKEHOLDERS

E – EXPECTATIONS OF INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT TEAM

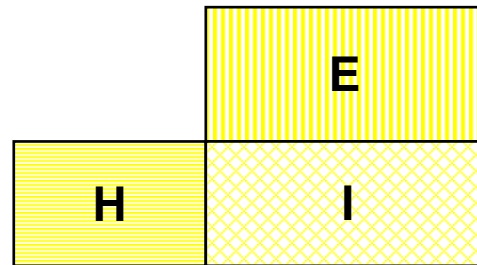
T – VERIFIES TRANSLATION FROM CUSTOMERS' VOICES  
TO IDT VOICE



# Complete House Of Quality



# Expectations are deployed down



H – EXPECTATIONS FROM HIGHER SYSTEM LEVELS,  
SUCH AS PRODUCT

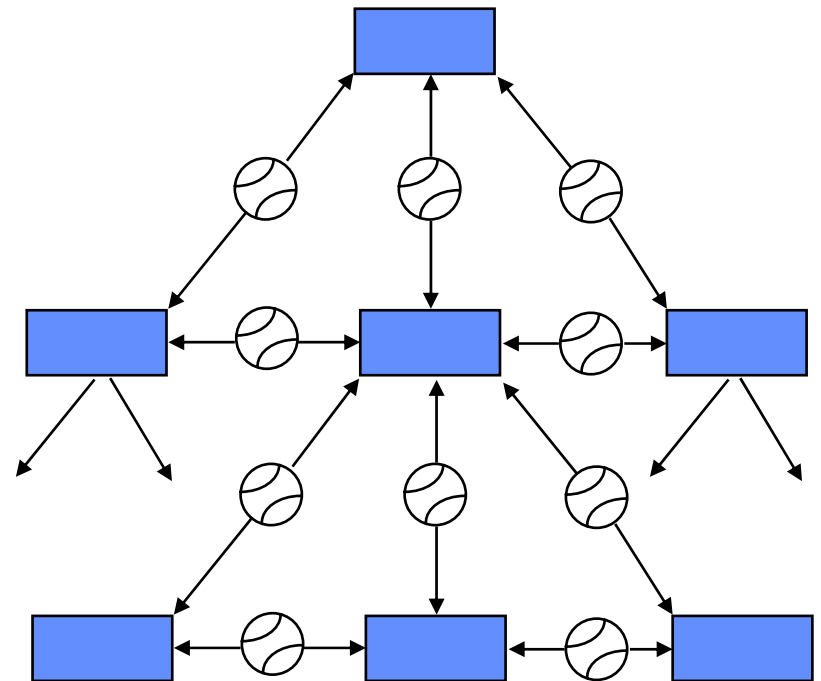
E – EXPECTATIONS AT LOWER SYSTEM LEVEL,  
SUCH AS SUBSYSTEM

I – INTERLEVEL DEPLOYMENT MATRIX



# Consistency of levels

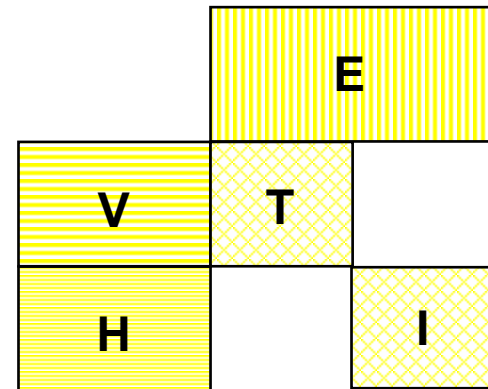
- Use catchball planning
- Iteration to consensus assures consistency
- Make levels N-1, N, and N+1 consistent
- Choose concept before completing requirements deployment to next level



# Combined QFD

## House of Quality and Interlevel

- Inputs:
  - Voice of external stakeholders (V)
  - Higher level expectations (H)
- Output: prioritized expectations



# Requirements output

- QFD matrix
    - Voice of external stakeholders (VOES)
    - Providers' expectations
  - Complete requirements development includes functions & reusability planning
- Use all of these to guide, inspire, and select concepts





# Concepts

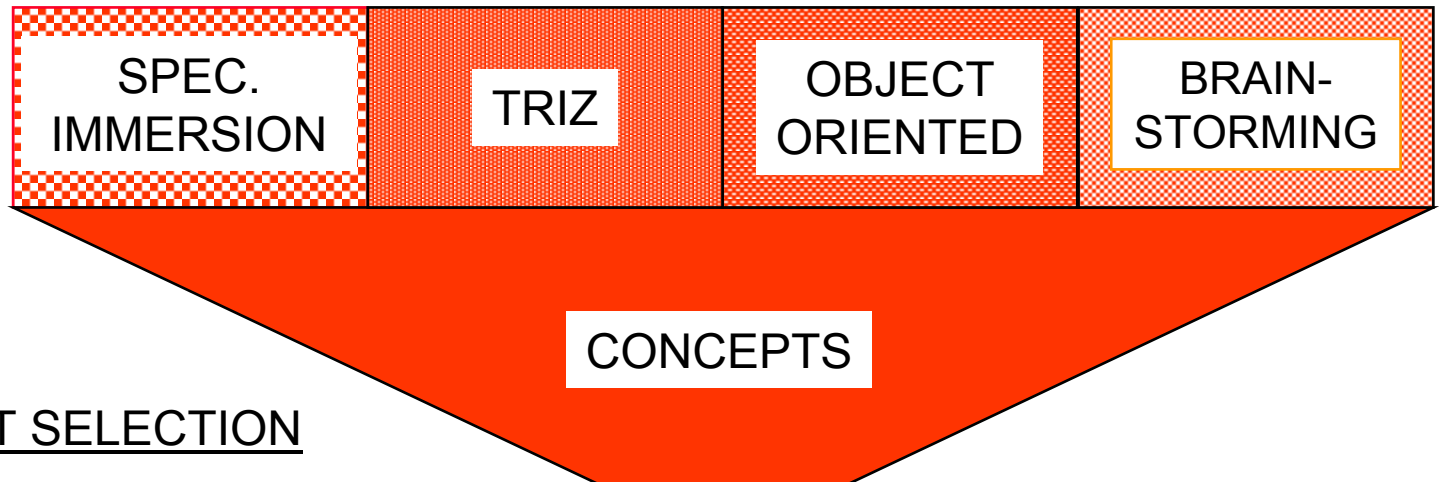
- Concept generation
  - Specification immersion
  - Object-oriented systems analysis
  - TRIZ (theory of inventive problem solving)
  - Brainstorming
- Concept selection – Pugh process

An introduction

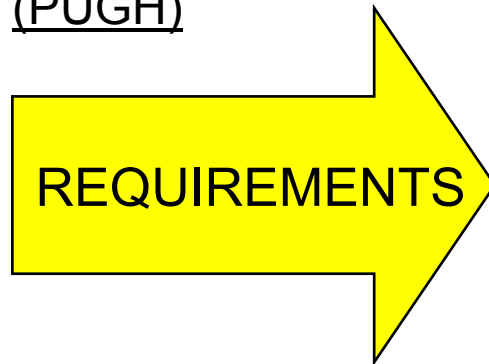


# Operational level: Concepts

## CONCEPT GENERATION



## CONCEPT SELECTION (PUGH)



Criterion 1	D	+	S	-	+
Criterion 2	A	-	+	+	-
Criterion 3	T	S	-	-	S
.....	U	+	-	-	+
Criterion N	M	+	-	+	S



# Simple methods

- Specification immersion
  - Creative people, immersed in developing the specifications, generate concepts
  - In creative environment it works well
- Brainstorming
  - Started in advertising
  - Weak record of success in engineering

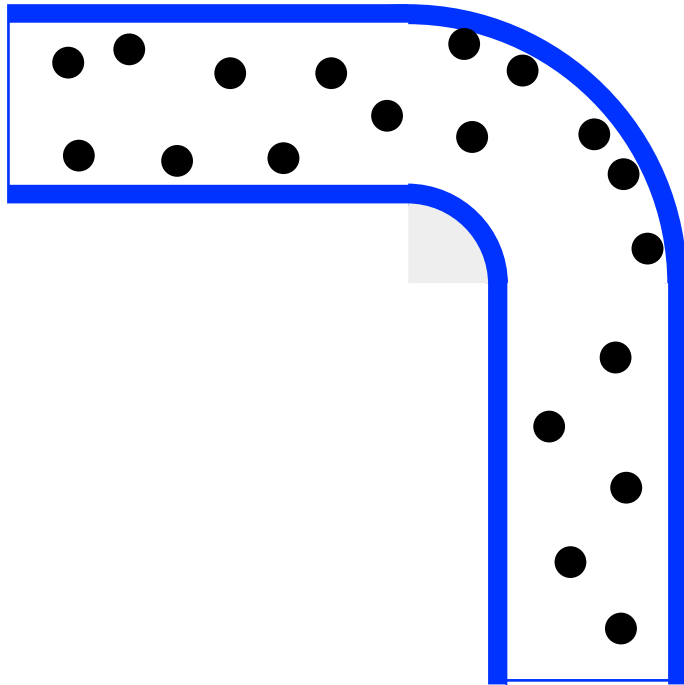


# TRIZ/TIPS

- Invention process – based on studying many patents and observing evolution patterns
- Conflicts are the mother of invention
- Standard solutions applied in diverse fields
- Evolution of technological systems follow certain patterns
- Systematic application of scientific effects



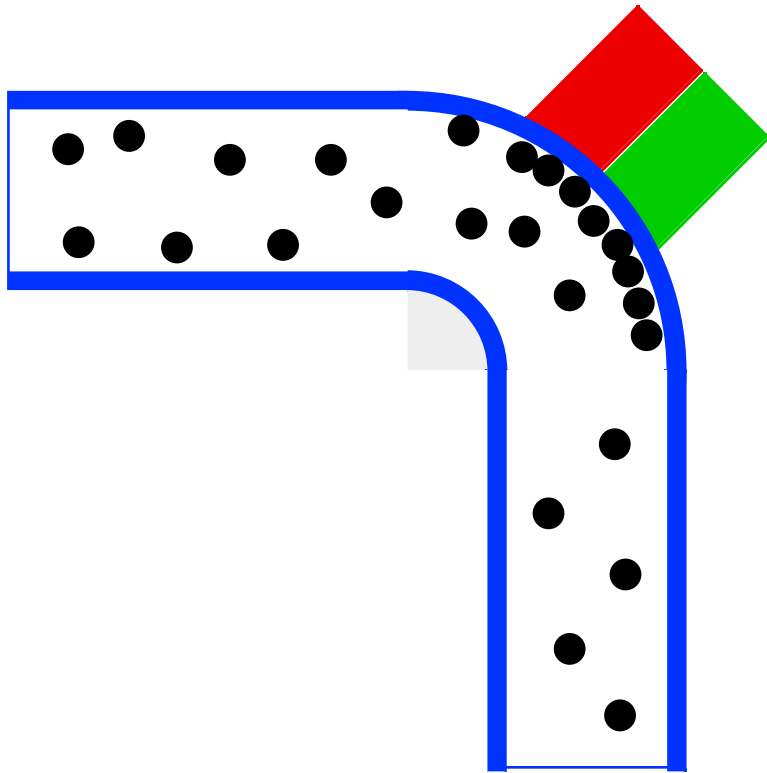
# Conflict



- Shot wear pipe at the turn
- Conflict
  - Need coating
  - Don't want coating
    - Cost
    - Short life



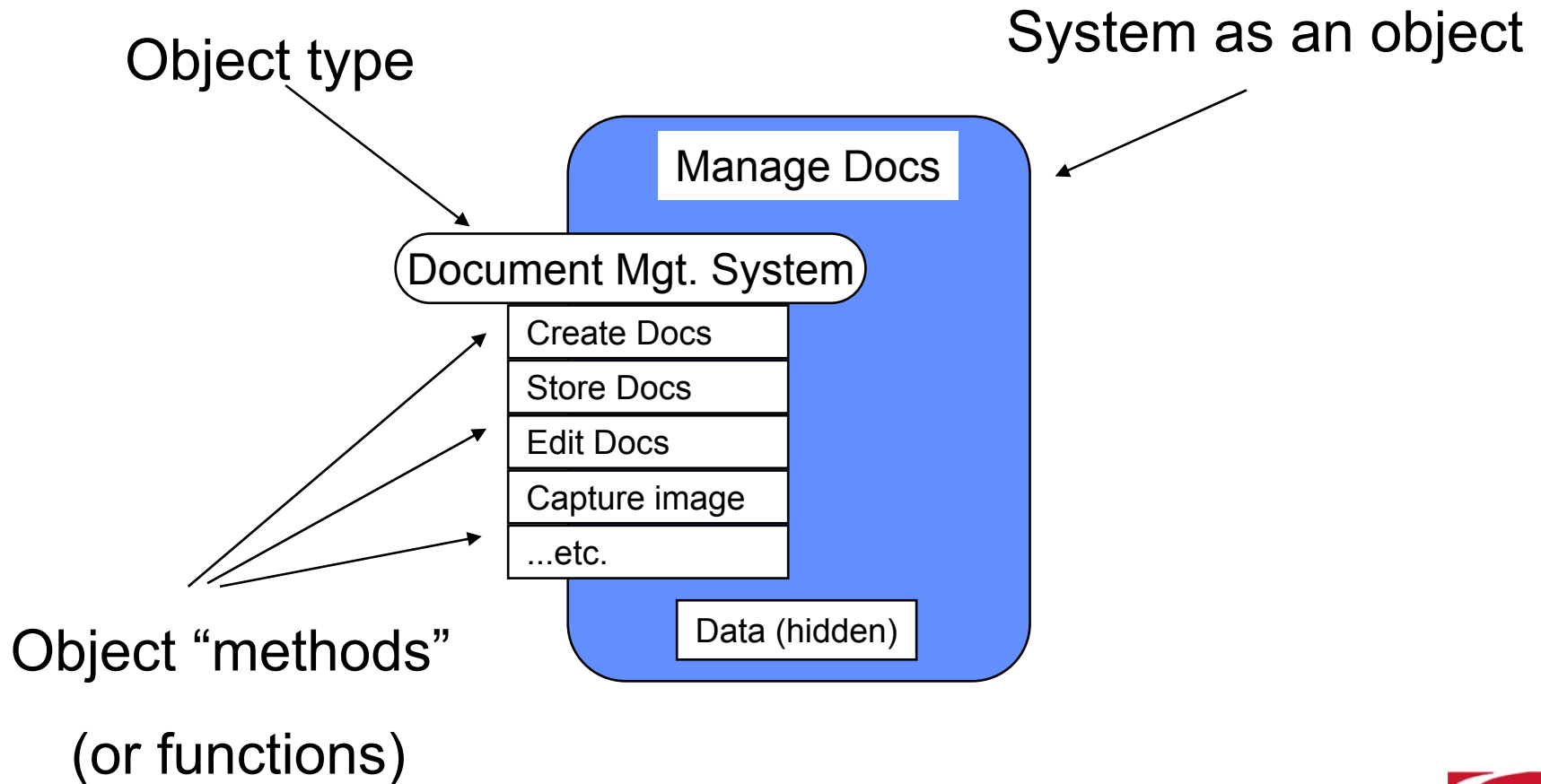
# Solution



- Magnets form protective layer of shot
- Continuously replenishable
- Is one standard approach – use one of interfacing materials to form interface



# Objects are abstractions of the real world



# How can objects be useful in Systems Engineering?

- Easy to test alternate system decompositions
- Bridges the gap between HW and SW
- Provides path for simulation (manual or automated)
- Provides path for allocating responsibility
- Facilitates reusability




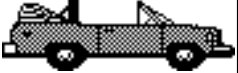

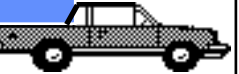


# Pugh concept selection

- Qualitatively analyze different concepts
- Combine beneficial aspects
- Eliminate disadvantages
- Evolve to a concept supported by the team, no winners or losers



# Pugh Concept Selection Matrix

				
Responsiveness	D	+	+	+
Braking	A	-	-	-
Ease of mfg.	T	S	-	-
Safety	U	+	+	-
Risk	M	-	-	-
Complexity		S	-	-

+ 2

S 2

- 2

+ 2

S 0

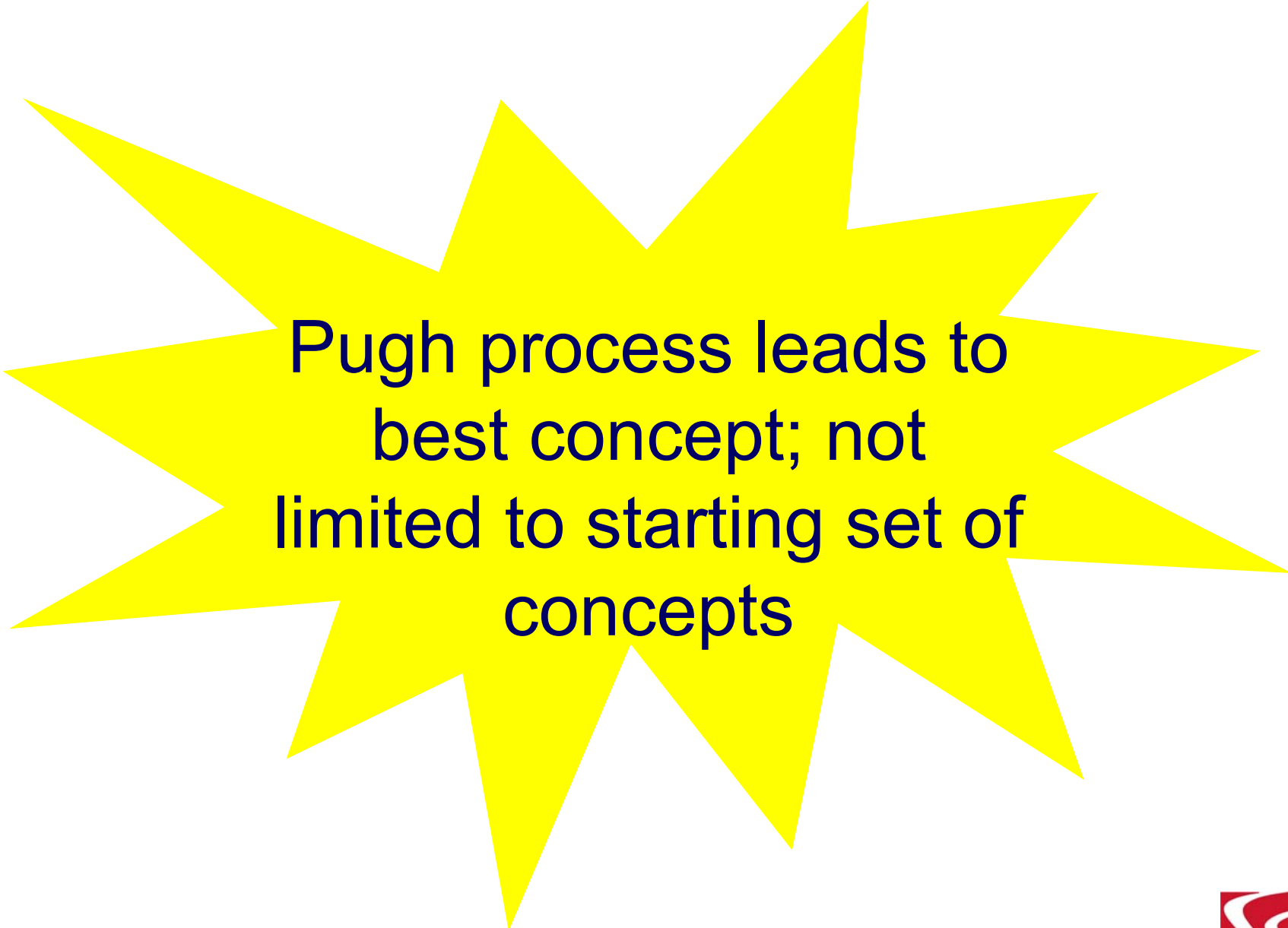
- 4

+ 1

S 0

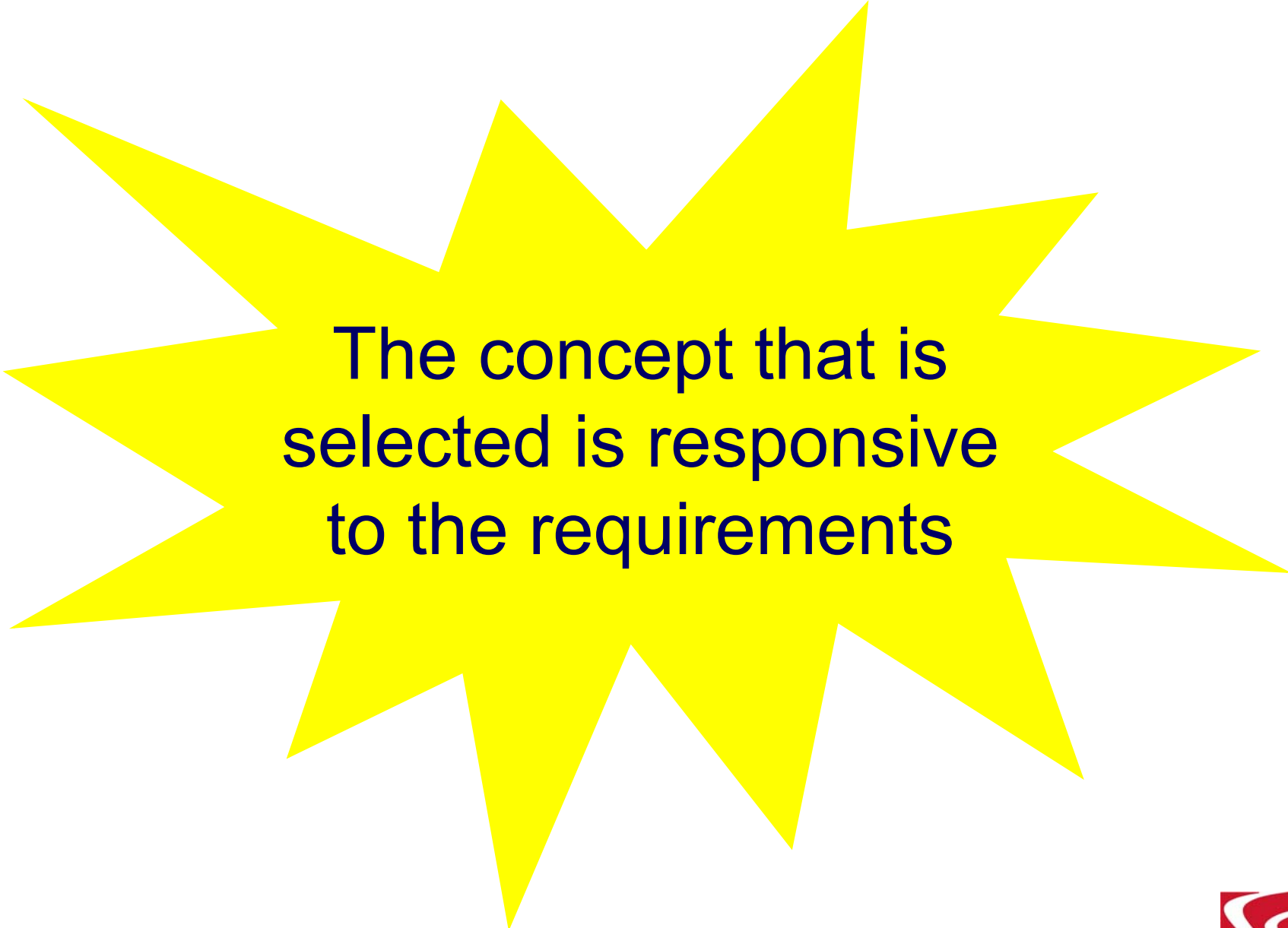
- 5





**Pugh process leads to  
best concept; not  
limited to starting set of  
concepts**





The concept that is  
selected is responsive  
to the requirements





**Team owns selected  
concept; therefore  
supports it**



# Improvement

- Robust Design
  - Parameter design
  - Tolerance design
- Mistake avoidance

An introduction



# Goal of Parameter Design: Optimization

Select the best levels of the **control factors** to achieve the **ideal function** under all **noise factor** conditions



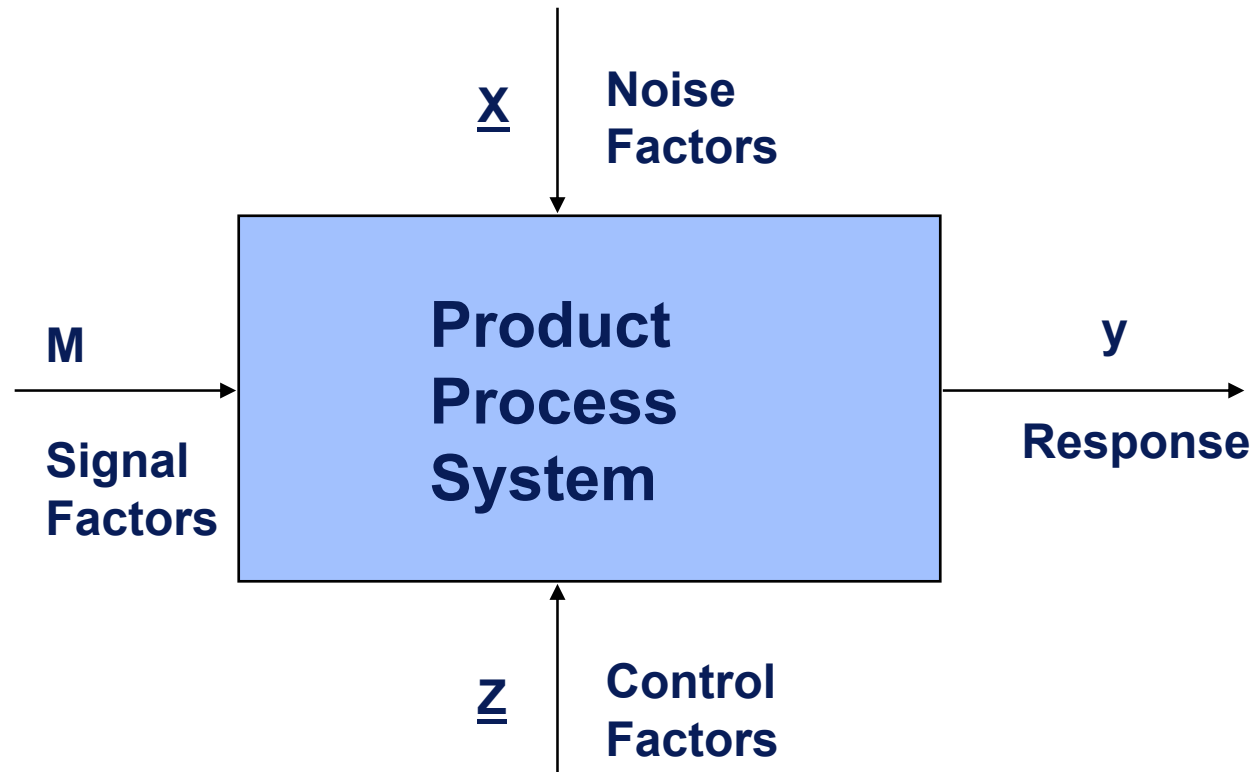
# Tools of Robust Design

- P-diagram
- Ideal function and S/N ratio
- Quality loss function
- Orthogonal arrays





# P diagram

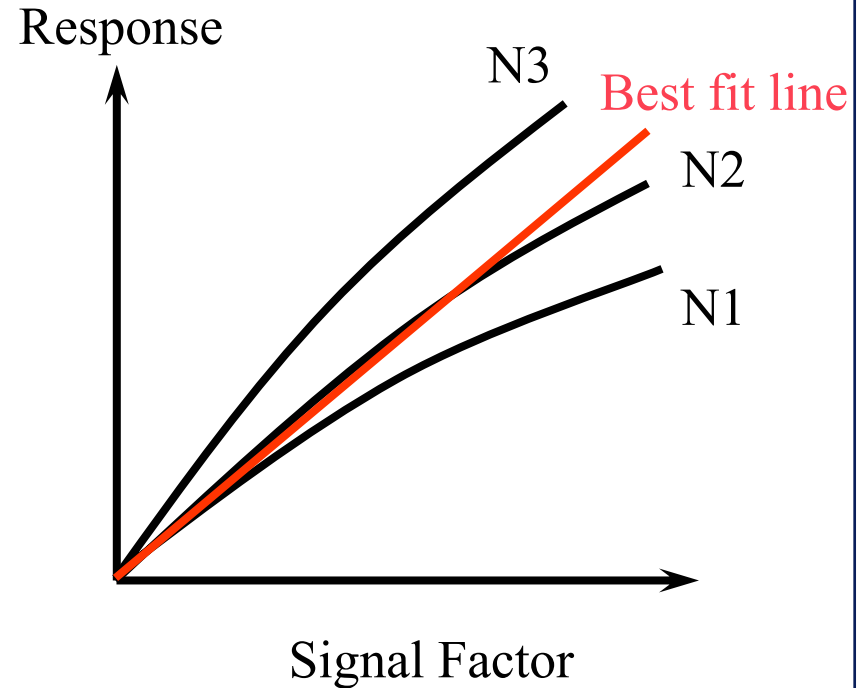
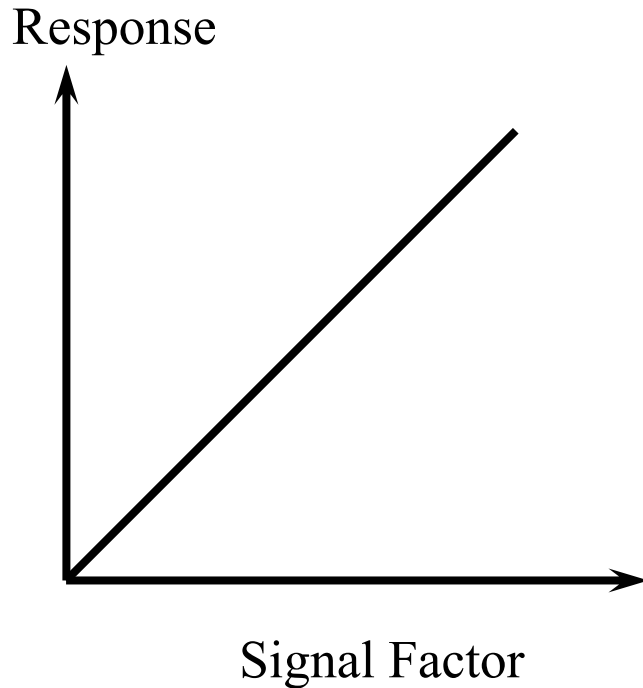


# Ideal function

- Ideal function is a mathematical representation of the behavior of the “product” as expected by the higher level system
- Insightful definitions of P-diagram, ideal function, and S/N ratio are essential for technology reuse across many products



# Ideal function



$$\text{S/N Ratio} = 10 \log \left( (\text{slope})^2 / \text{Variance} \right)$$



# Parameter Design Steps

- Prepare P-diagram
- Define ideal function and S/N ratio
- Define S-N tests to evaluate S/N ratio
- Select and conduct an orthogonal array experiment
- Optimize the S/N ratio and tune the mean response





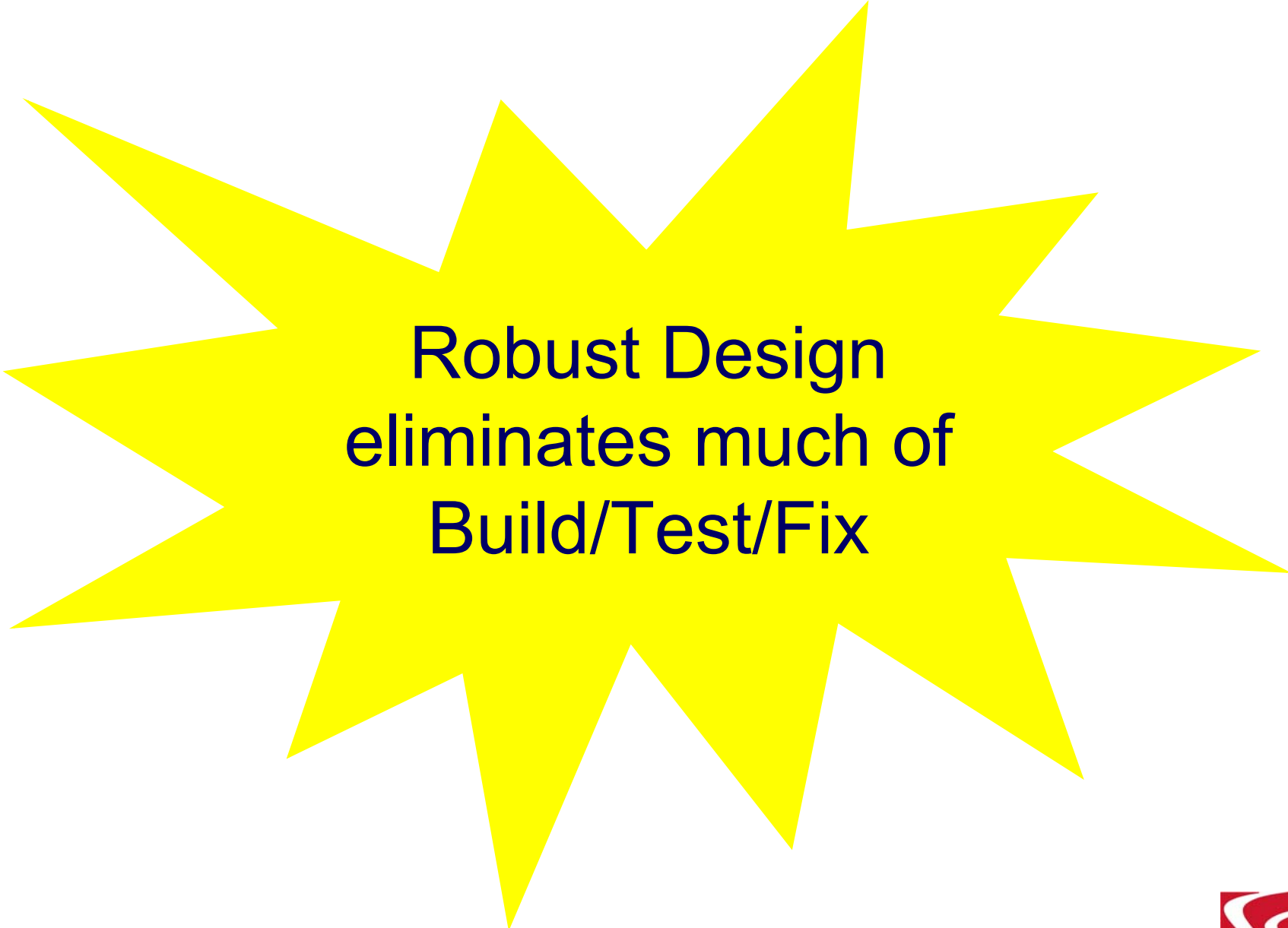
Parameter Design  
produces **ready**  
technology



# Tolerance Design

- Select the cost effective quality of component or production process
- Determine best tolerances for product and production parameters
- Use quality loss function to quantify the quality loss





**Robust Design  
eliminates much of  
Build/Test/Fix**



# Eliminate Mistakes

KNOWLEDGE-BASED ENGINEERING (KBE)	DESIGN REVIEW	VALIDATION & TESTING
--------------------------------------	------------------	-------------------------





# Knowledge-based engineering (KBE)

- Standard engineering practice
- Reduced to handbooks and software
- Example: bearings – well understood for more than a century
  - Bearing overload is simply a mistake
  - Use KBE to select proper bearing



# Design Review (Formal inspection)

- Clear definition of design defect
- Defined, repeatable process
- Defined roles for all reviewers
- Ensures 100% coverage
- Design defects are documented and classified
- Defect database used for product and process improvement



A large, bright yellow starburst graphic with multiple points, centered on the slide. The text is written in a bold, blue, sans-serif font within the starburst.

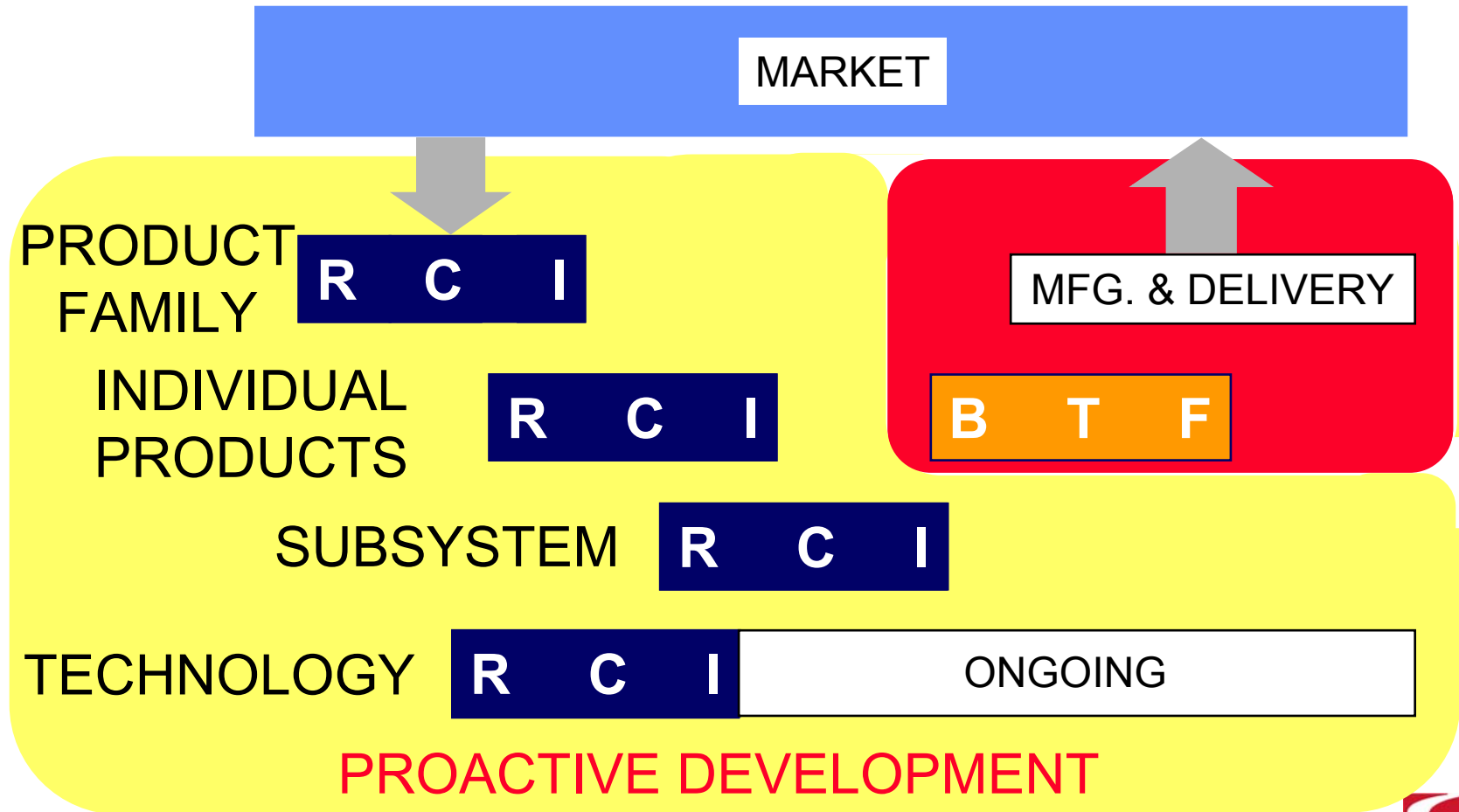
# Robust Design and Mistake Elimination: Keys to Reliability



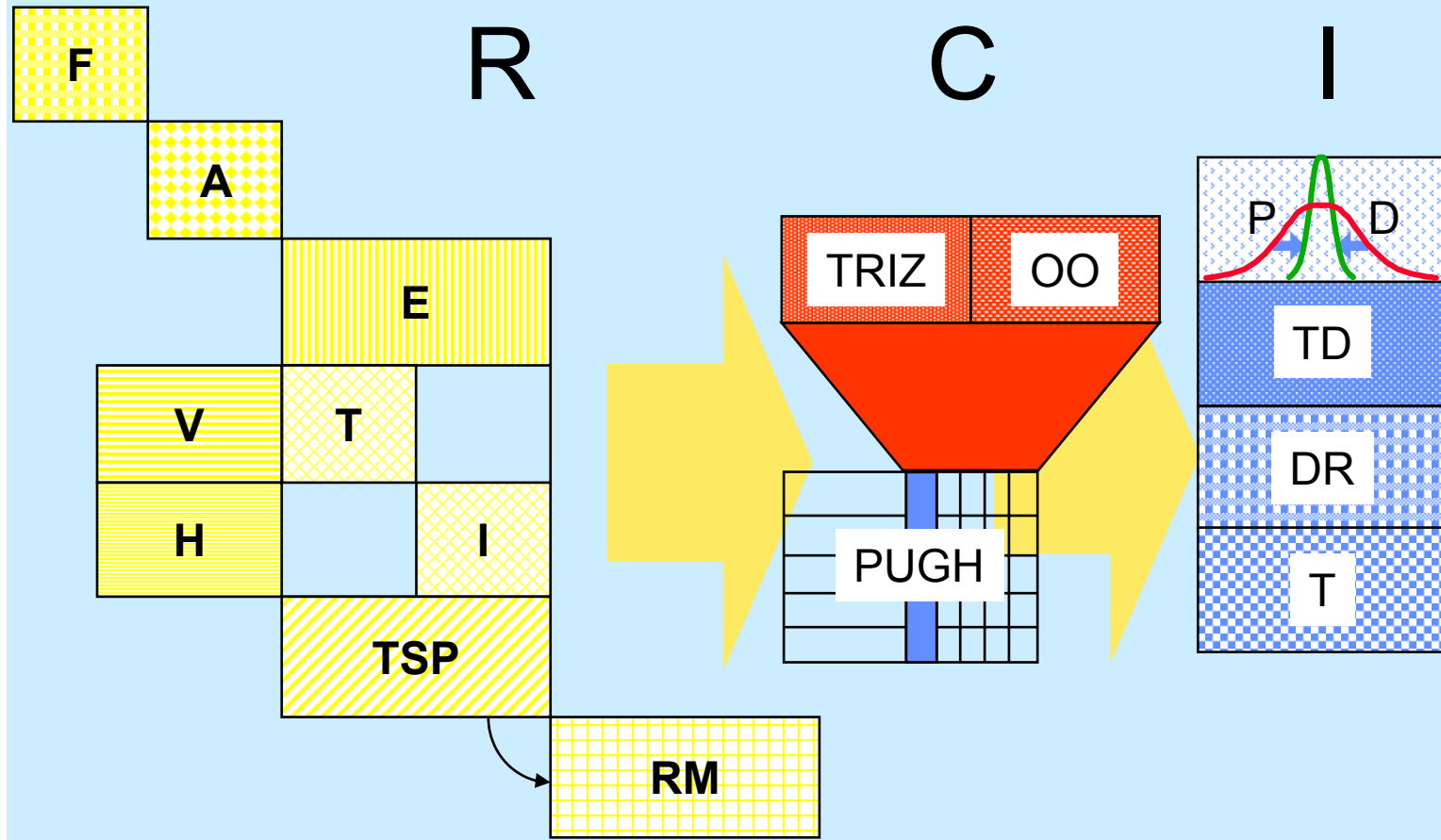
# Summary of RCI



# Integration level – RCI



# Complete RCI process

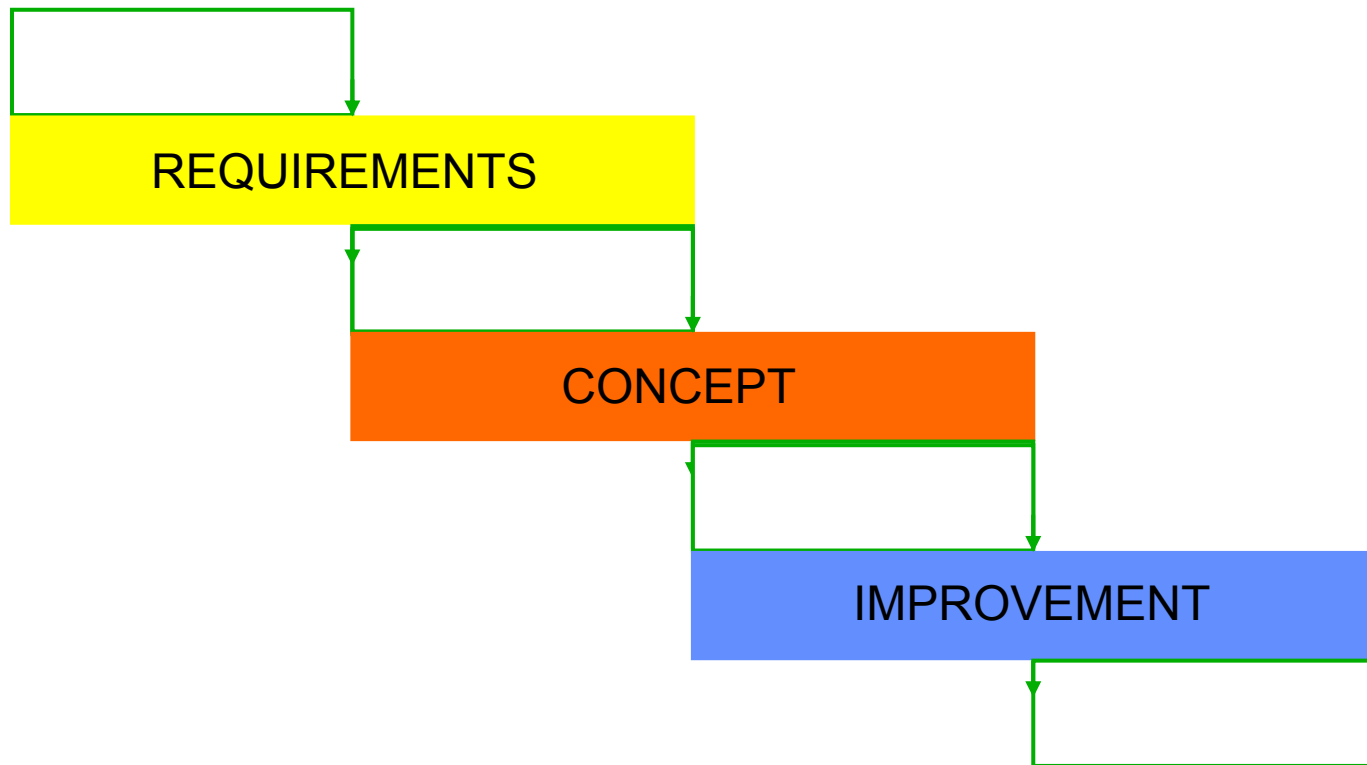


# Summary of SE process

- RCI at each system level
- Detailed path is not linear - tailored to project
- Start next step when there is enough information to make good start
  - Will help quality of completion of previous step
  - Freeze any step when feedback from subsequent steps no longer provides new insights

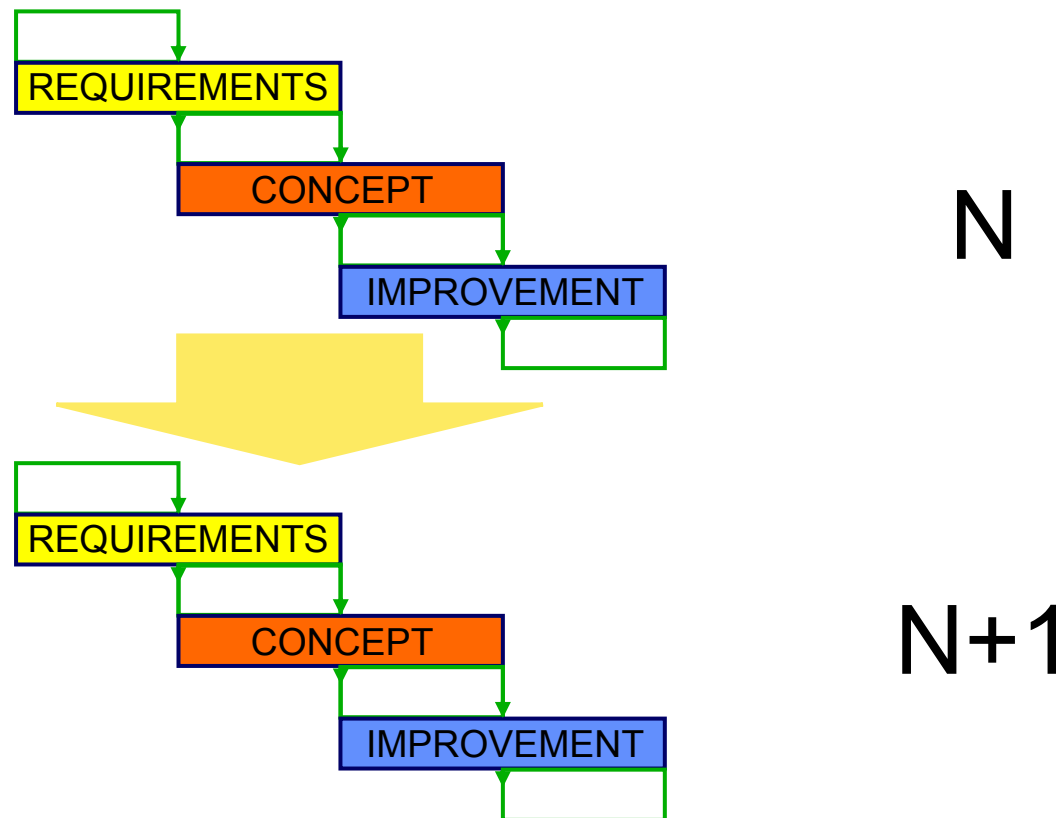


# RCI at level N

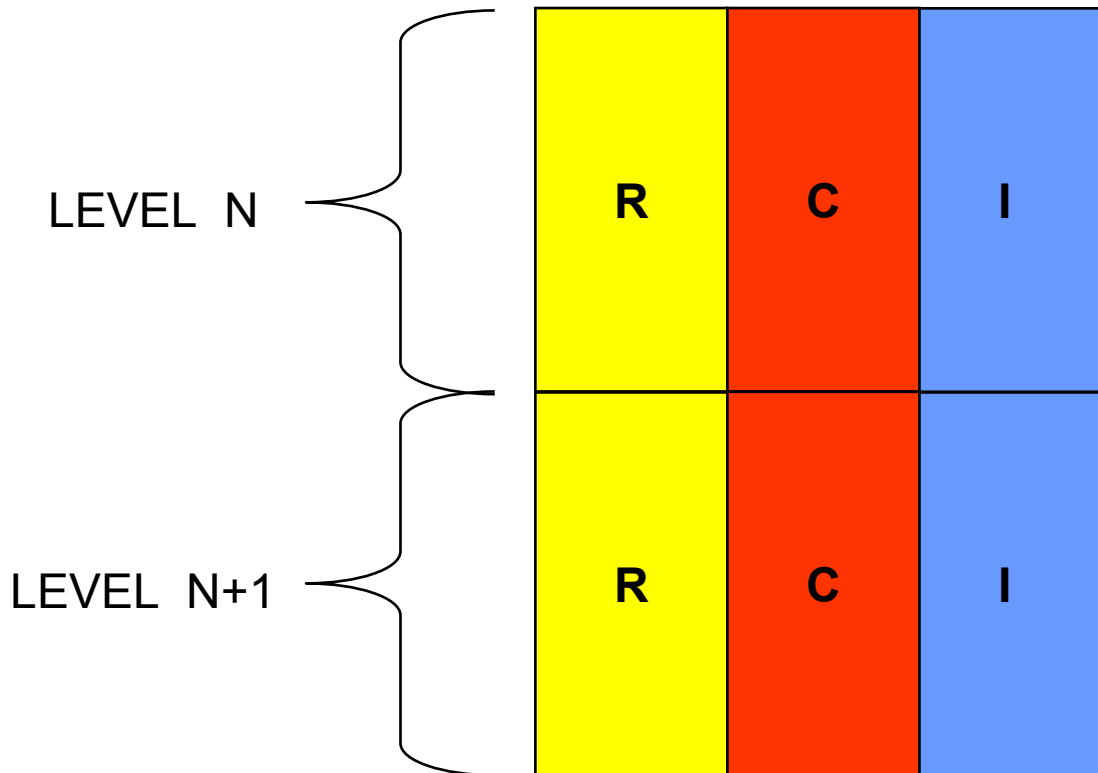




# RCI from level N to level N+1

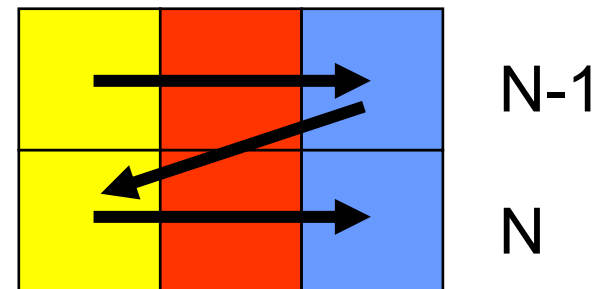


# Sequence through the levels



# Zigzag flowdown path

- $(RCI)_{N-1}$  to  $(RCI)_N$
- Zigzag path
- Flowdown from level N-1 to sub-units at level N
- However, much micro iteration
- Cannot directly flow down  $R_{N-1}$  to  $R_N$ , unless conceptually static



Level N typically has multiple units from each unit at Level N-1





Flowdown is zigzag



A large, bright yellow starburst graphic with multiple points, centered on the slide. The text is written in a bold, dark blue font within the starburst.

**RCI is the key to  
Systems Engineering**



END



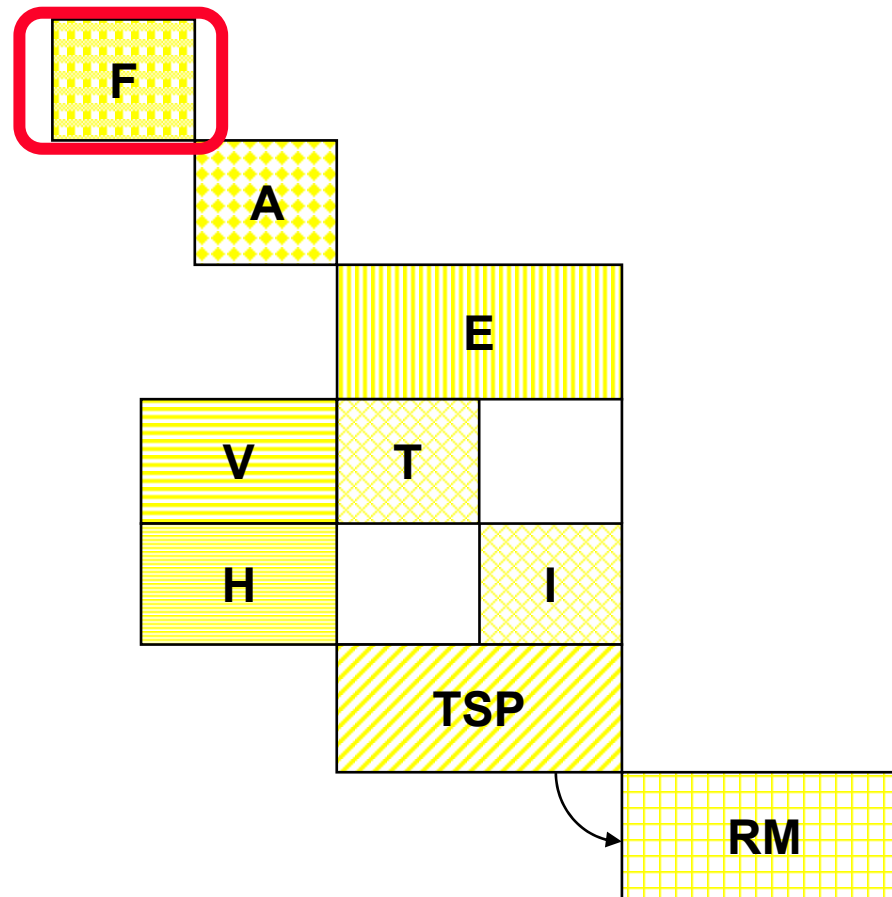
# Requirements extension

- The following slides show more detail about the requirements process
- They outline the integration of functional analysis and reusability planning with QFD



# Functional analysis (F)

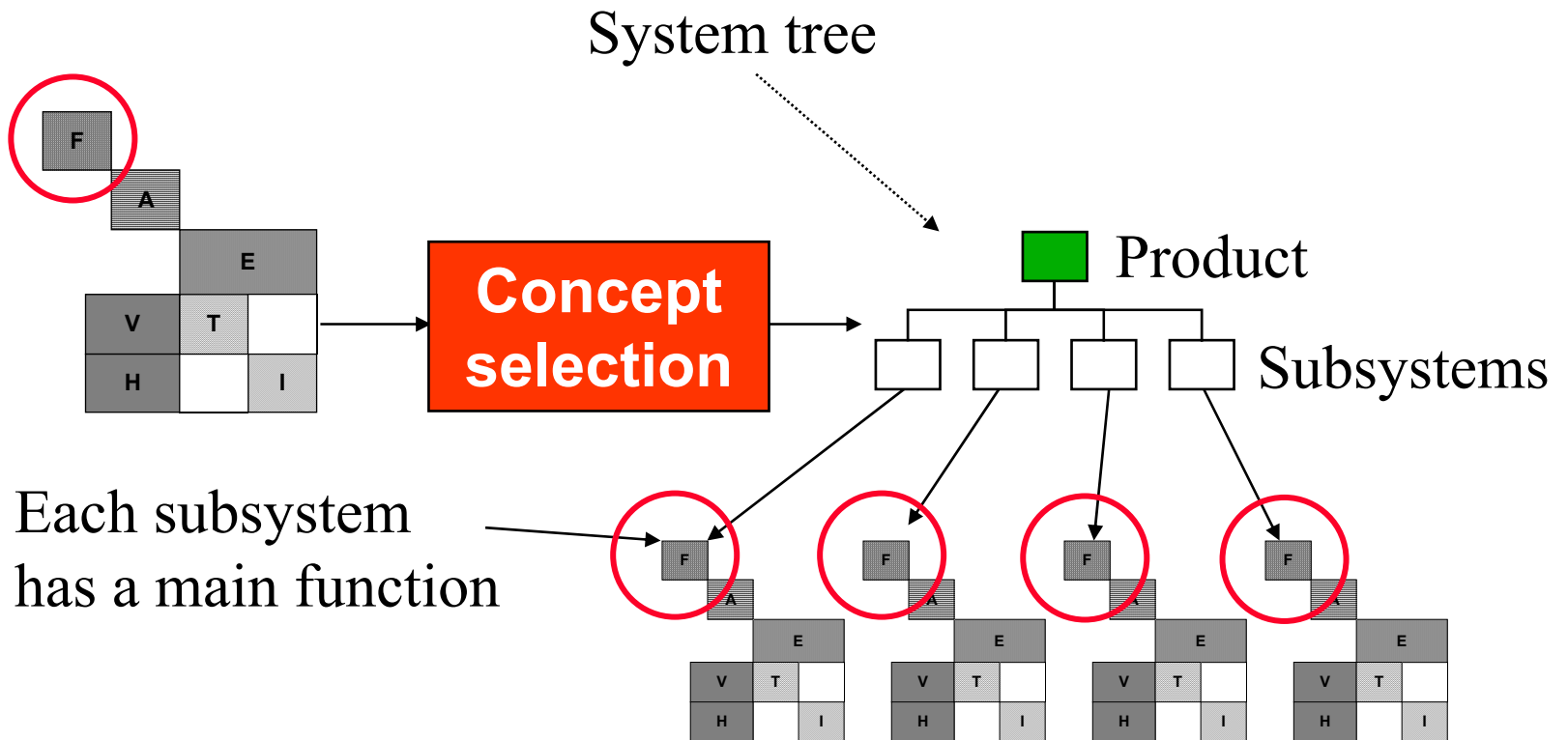
Path to elegant simplicity



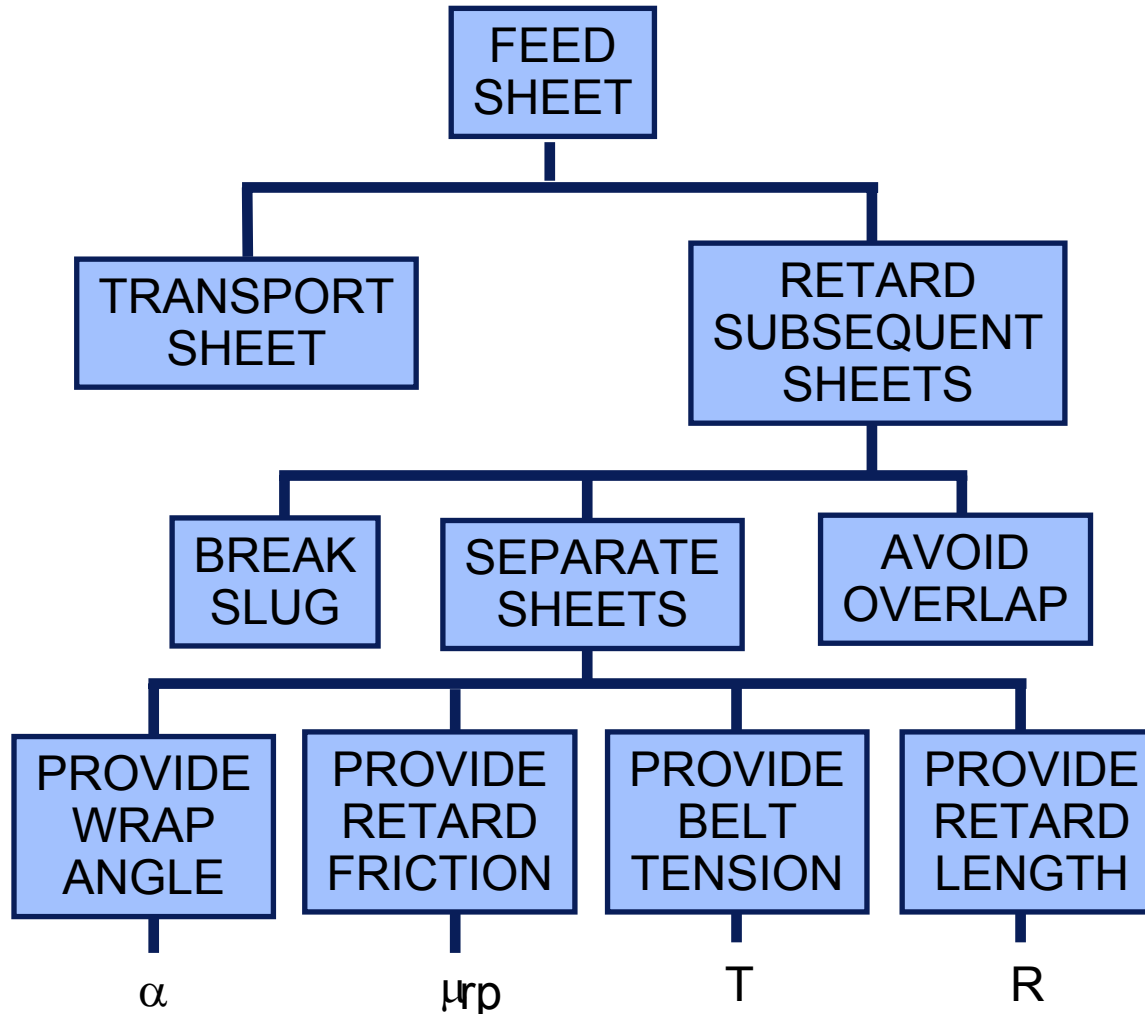


# QFD and FA

Functional tree elements are circled



# Functional tree



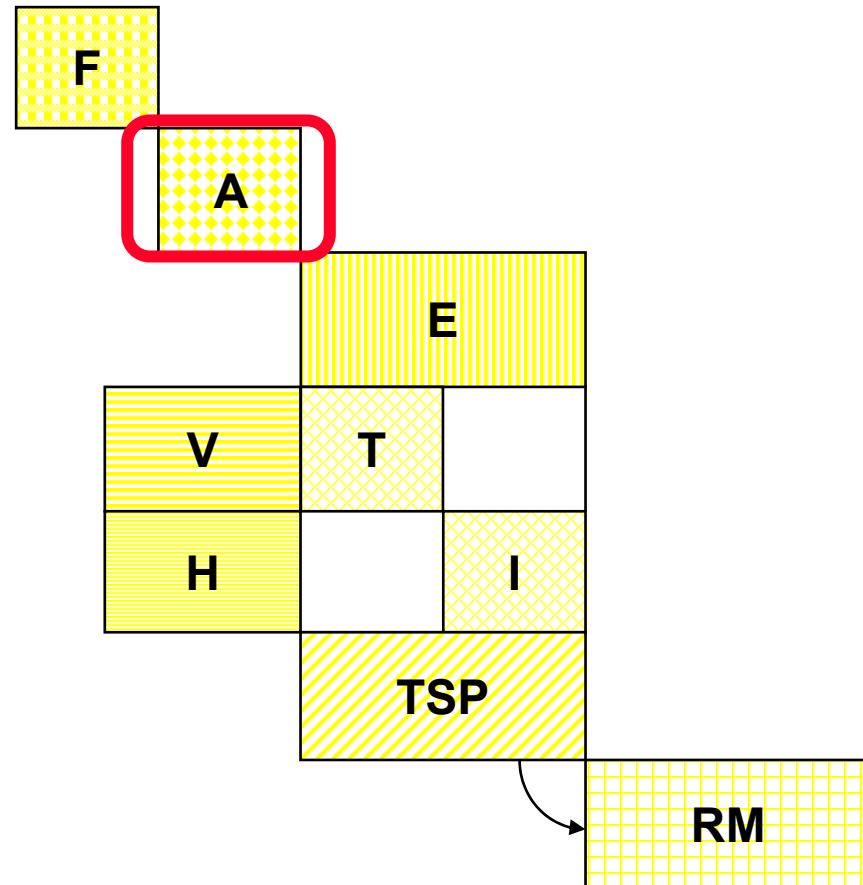


Every system has one  
function



# Amplification

Marries functional analysis to QFD



# Amplify function

- Function “Feed sheet” is amplified to describe expectations as to what the feeder will **be** and **do**
- **Do**: speed, paper-size-and-weight ranges, paper-stack height, etc. – changes of energy, geometry, and information in process
- **Be**: size, mass, manufacturing, safety, etc





**QFD marries functions  
to customer needs**



# Summary: 3 sources for expectations

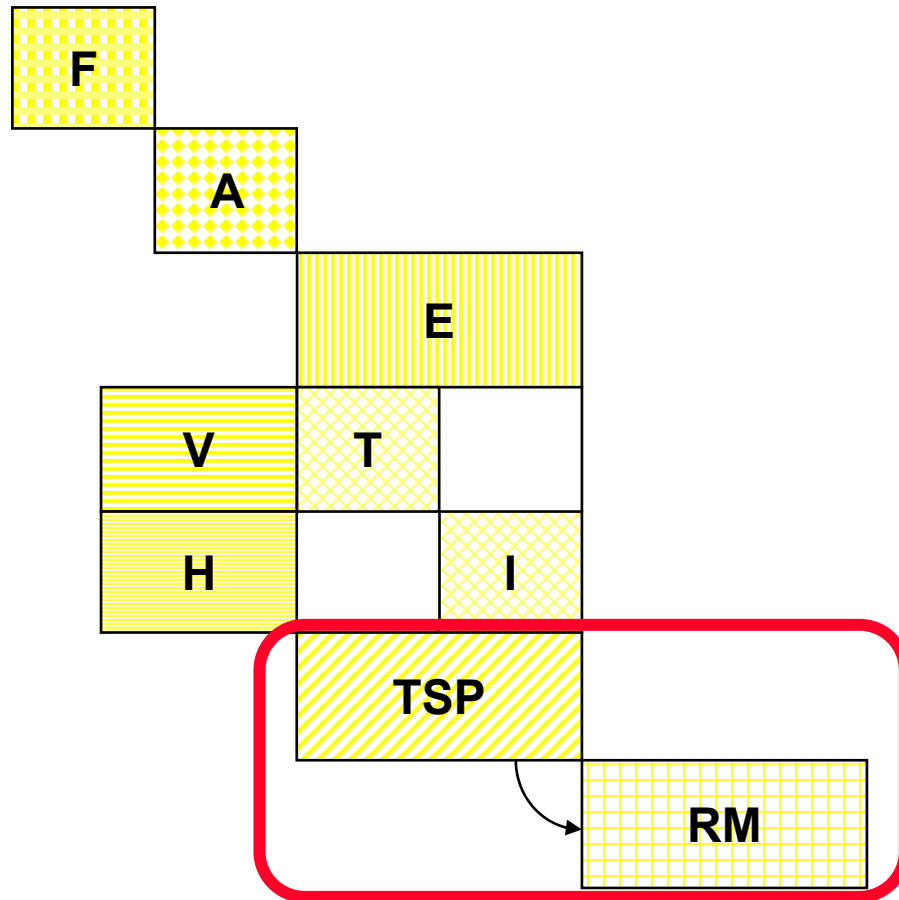
(columns of QFD matrix)

- Higher-level expectations from level N-1
- Voices of external stakeholders at level N
- Amplifications of functions at level N



# Reusability

Customer satisfaction at a low cost





# Reusability matrix (RM)

## Sources

**Current Products**



**Competitive Products**



**Analogous products**



**New technology**



## Levels

TSA concept

SS concept

PP concept

PP feature


## **Legend**

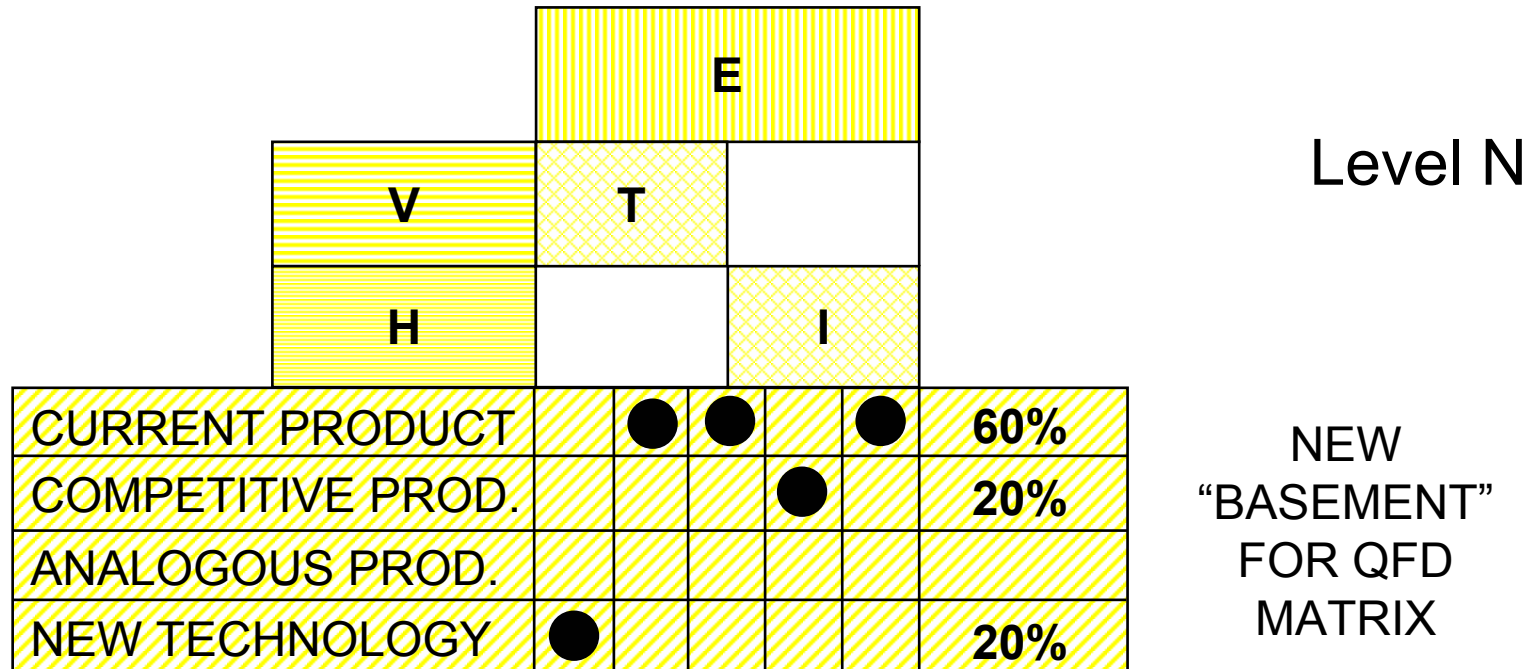
TSA-Total System Architecture

SS-Subsystem

PP-Piece Part



# Technology sources planning (TSP)



COMPARE WITH  
REUSABILITY MATRIX PLAN –  
JUSTIFY CHANGES

LEVEL-N ROW  
REUSABILITY  
MATRIX  
(RM)





**QFD marries  
reusability to  
customer needs**

