



Alex: Education and Current Work

- Background
 - Bachelors MIT: Literature, Aero/Astro
 - Masters MIT: Aero/Astro
 - PhD candidate MIT: ESD-TMP (ICAT), IGERT fellow
 - Ashtanga yoga teacher in training
- Research focus: Adaptation in the Air Transportation System
 - Current major challenge is expanding system capacity
 - Possible solutions
 - Integration of new technologies, procedures, expansion of physical infrastructure
 - Management of system to increase efficiency
 - Many proposed solutions envision a future system, but don't plan for transition
 - Problems are path dependant making transition difficult
 - True for technology development
 - Also true for the human side of problems and perhaps more important



Alex's Biases

- I'm interested in people and society
- Technology is an integral part of how our society is structured
 - For me, the invention and design of technology/science is not the most interesting part, but we invest most energy there
- We invest significantly less effort into understanding the effect of changes in technology and science on society
 - The argument is always that it makes “us” better off, helps us do what we do better
 - But it changes us and how we live in much more fundamental ways
 - We created a society where we don't really live in a way that fits us
- I think the key to dealing with some of the current and future problems we face is to understand problems more holistically
 - This includes understanding the effects of solutions that we develop and implement
 - Such thinking requires a more long term view of problems and solutions