



# Undergrad Research Opportunities in ASDL MBSE Branch

*MBSE = Model-Based Systems Engineering*

Selcuk Cimentalay, PhD

*[cimentalay@gatech.edu](mailto:cimentalay@gatech.edu)*

MBSE Branch

Advanced Methods Division

ASDL

Apr 2023

*Follow instructions  
on slide #10  
if you are interested*



# Undergrad Research Opportunities (p1/2)

## *Example Projects*

- Example projects & external collaborators:
  - Lockheed MBSE - CubeSat testbed
  - NASA MBSE Pathfinder initiative (*see Project 1 below*)
  - US Navy (NAVAIR) Model-Centric Engineering (MCE) – UAV testbed (*see Project 2 below*)
  - NASA JPL: model-based systems engineering (MBSE); model-based wikis; embedded s/w; ...
  - Boeing: MBSE model complexity & health management
  - Other emerging projects and sponsors
  - Most of our projects (but not all) require US Persons (US citizens or permanent residents)
  - Multiple potential position types (depending on interests) – see next slide
- *Example results for students for MBSE/SysML-related jobs:*
  - Summer internships at Aerojet Rocketdyne, Boeing, GTRI, Harris Corp, various NASA centers (ARC, GRC, JPL, JSC, LARC), No Magic Inc, Orbital ATK, Sandia, ...
  - Full-time hires (after graduation) at Boeing, various NASA centers (JPL, LARC), Lockheed Space Systems, Sandia, US Navy contractors, ...

**NOTE:** Our normal policy is that (a) first-semester 1<sup>st</sup>-year students and (b) new last-semester seniors are not eligible for these positions.

**IMPORTANT:** See also GPA requirement on slide #10.



# Undergrad Research Opportunities (p2/2)

## Position Types & Timeline

*SysML = The Systems Modeling Language*  
[www.omg.sysml.org](http://www.omg.sysml.org)

### Normal Timeline

#### URA Semester1

- Learn SysML basics
- Apply in team project

#### URA Semester2 (and beyond)

- Increase SysML skills
- Apply in Sponsor projects

#### After URA Semester1

- Optional: Seek internships related to MBSE/SysML

URA = undergrad research assistant

- **Position Type1** desired skills (System Modeling Using SysML):
  - Strong interests in learning and applying SysML (see overview below)
  - A key requirement is an interest in SysML (no prior SysML experience required) and a willingness to learn and explore
- **Position Type2** desired skills (SysML & OOP Interfacing):
  - Strong interests in programming, especially object-oriented programming (OOP)
  - Experience with object-oriented languages (Java, python)
  - A key requirement is an interest in SysML (no prior SysML experience required) and a willingness to learn and explore
- **Position Type3** desired skills (Parametric CAD/CAE and Computing):
  - NOTE: We typically require that Type3 be combined with an interest in Type1 or Type2 per above.
  - Strong interests in parametric CAD/CAE and engineering computing in general
  - Experience with CAD parametric modeling, and/or CAE/analysis/simulation, etc.
  - Mostly we use the NX CAD tool by Siemens PLM Corp. Prior NX experience is helpful but not required (as long as you have a willingness to learn and explore). That said, at least some type of CAD experience is required (ideally including some parametric CAD experience, but not essential).
- **Position Type4** = combinations of two or more positions above



Statistics as of *Dec 2022*

- ◆ Undergrad & graduate courses

- Fall 2007 originated by Profs. Leon McGinnis (IE) & Chris Paredis (ME)
- Today ~24 courses across campus with MBSE/SysML content (~10 courses in AE) and ~790 course participants per year (academic degree students)

- ◆ Ex: Professional Masters in Applied Systems Engineering

- [www.pmase.gatech.edu](http://www.pmase.gatech.edu) (initiated 2009)
  - » Blended distance learning & in-person format; ~12 courses with MBSE/SysML
  - » Two-year program (~25-35 students per cohort)
- ASE 6005: SysML-based MBSE course: each Spring/Summer
  - » Content = SysML 101/201, SysML 621 & 631, plus more homework etc.
- ASE 6006: Systems Engineering Lab: each Fall
  - » SysML-based system design project: SMAD/FireSAT++ (satellite mission)
- ASE 6xxx: *[many PMASE courses thereafter utilize SysML]*

## Professional Masters in Applied Systems Engineering

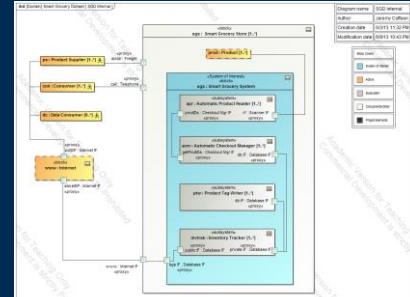
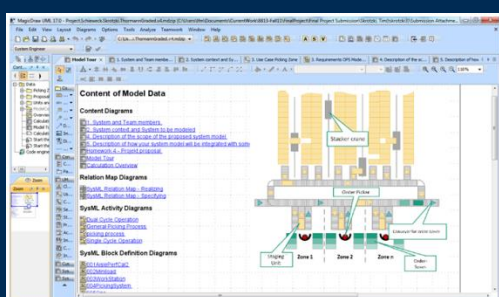
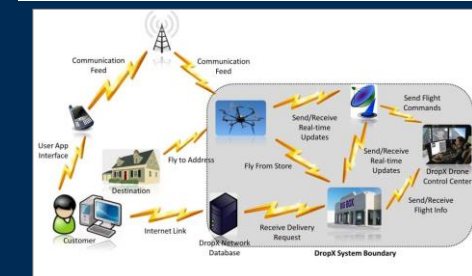
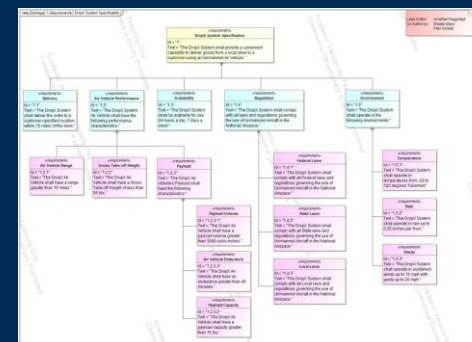
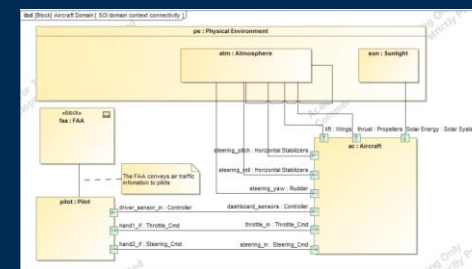
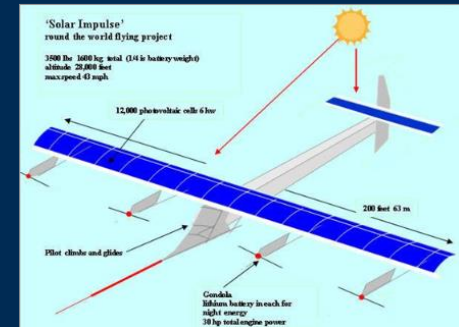
ASE 6005 – Systems Modeling Using SysML

Lead Instructor: [Russell.Peak@gatech.edu](mailto:Russell.Peak@gatech.edu)

## Team Advanced Projects (TAPs)

<i>Team</i>	<i>Short Name</i>	<i>System-of-Interest (SOI)</i>	<i>May-Jun 2013</i>
S1	GT60	GT60 Commercial Microturbine CHP (power generation equipment - gas turbine; CHP=combined heat power)	
S2	SGS	Smart Grocery System Product Line 2013 (smart grocery system)	
S3	SPlane	Solar Plane (small manned solar plane)	
S4	DropX	DropX.1, Site-To-Store-To-You (unmanned aircraft system delivering site-to-store orders to customers)	
S5	Hybrid Boat	Eco Power Boat Product Line 2013 (plug-in hybrid leisure boat)	
S6	GMM	Green Mean Machine To Go (off-grid renewable energy system)	

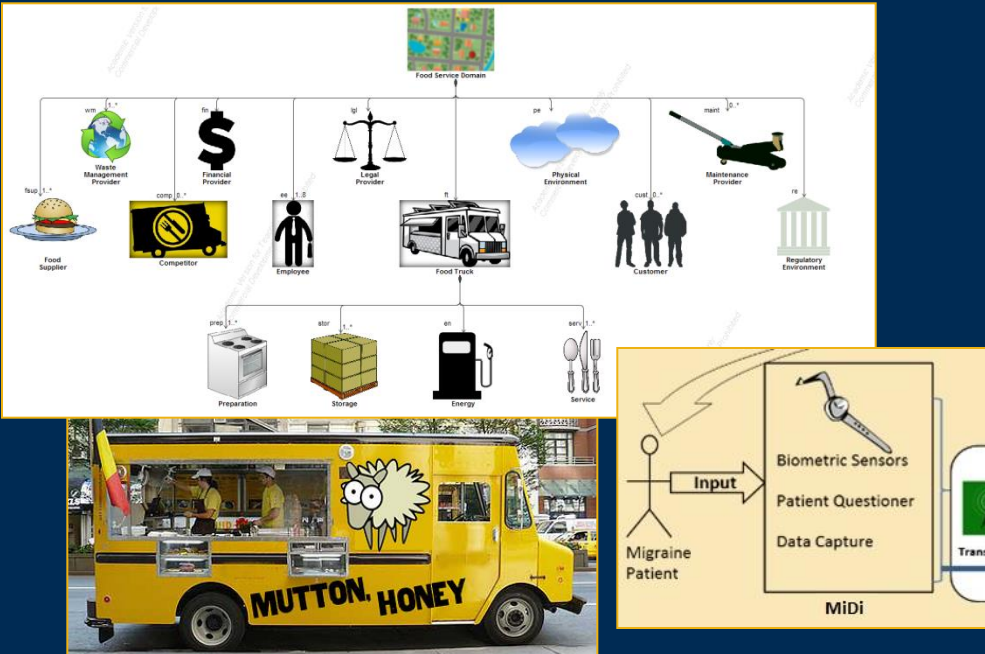
Team	Short Name	System-of-Interest (SOI)	Mar-Apr 2014
S1	Fit-Er	Fit-Er Product Line 2014 (wearable computing device: fitness tracking monitor)	
S2	Jurassic Park	SmartGen's Jurassic Park (material & supplies logistics system - food/water/etc. for dinosaurs & humans)	
S3	WFAP	Wildfire Firefighter Assistant and Protector (UAV-based monitoring & communications system)	
S4	HEMS	Home Energy Management System (residential alternative energy mgt. system - monitoring & cost optimization)	
S5	TacCOM	Tactical Cellular Communication Network (mobile battlefield communications system)	
S6	E-Pedigree	Ollie's E-Pedigree System (pharmaceutical serialization, authentication, and tracking system)	



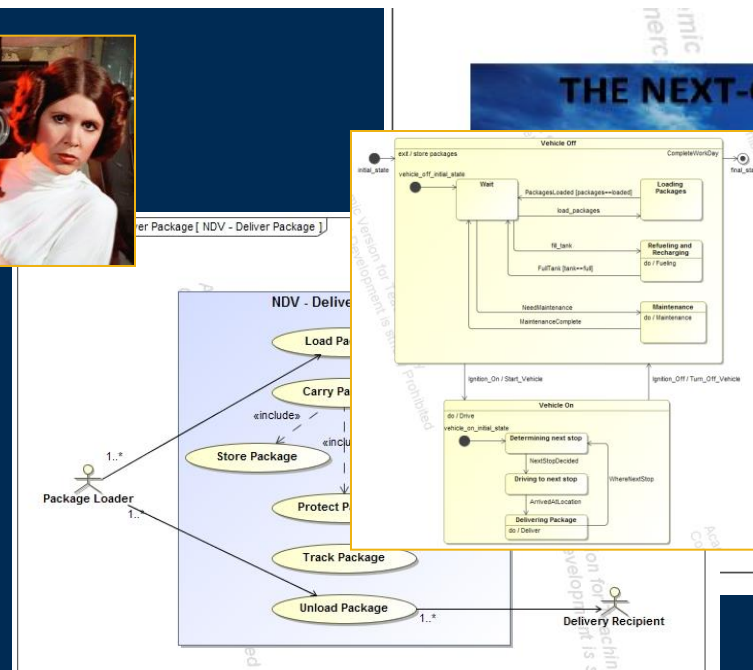
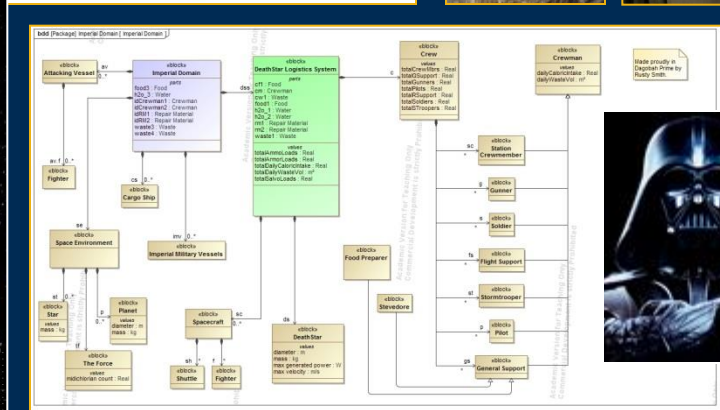
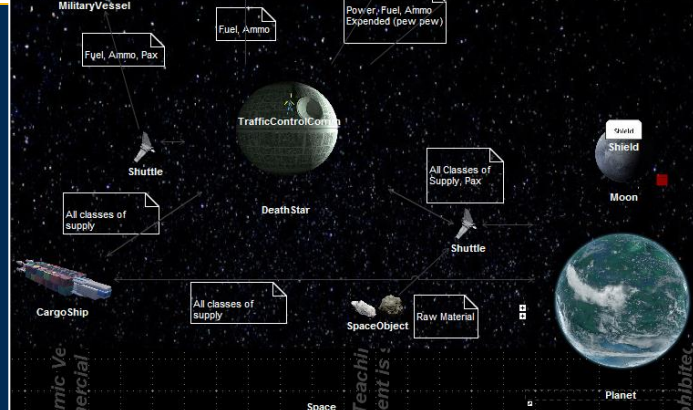
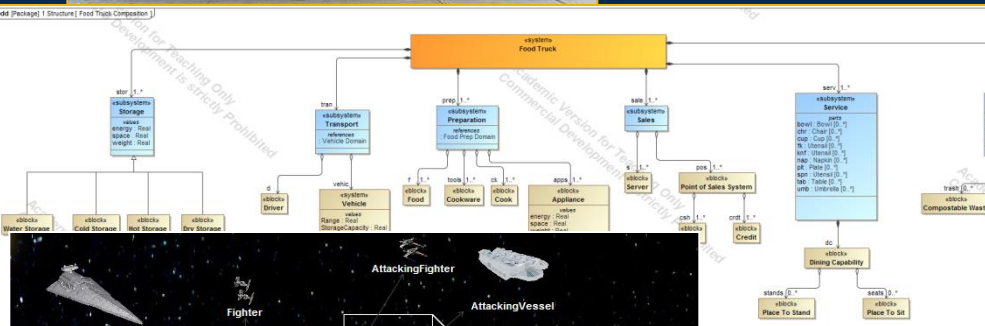


# Position Type1: System Modeling w/ SysML

Creating SysML models for examples similar to below (pg 2/2)



Team	Short Name	Project Title & System-of-Interest (SOI)
S1	NDV	Next-Gen Delivery Vehicle (hybrid commercial vehicle for the local home/business delivery industry – e.g., UPS)
S2	MiDi	Migraine Diary (wearable biometric device for migraine mgt.; interfaces with remote medical professionals)
S3	EATS	Evaluating Aspects of Traveling Sustenance (food truck industry – mobile food service operations and financial model)
S4	DeathStar	DeathStar: The Other 364 Days (space station materials & supplies logistics system - food/water/meds/etc.)







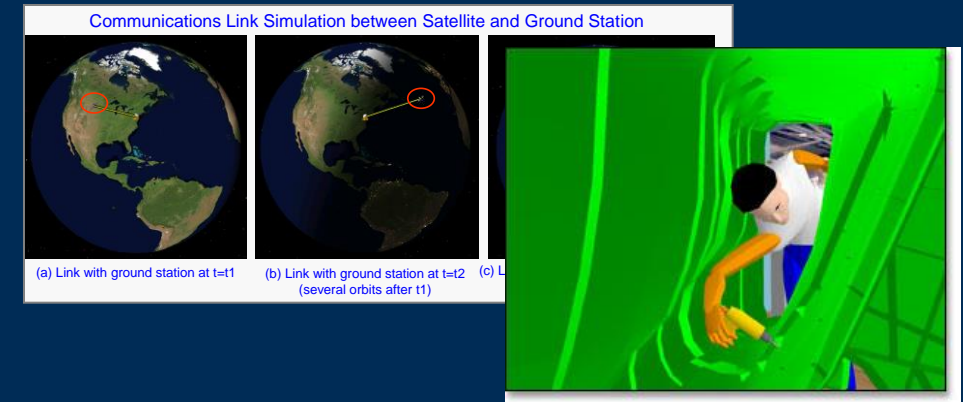
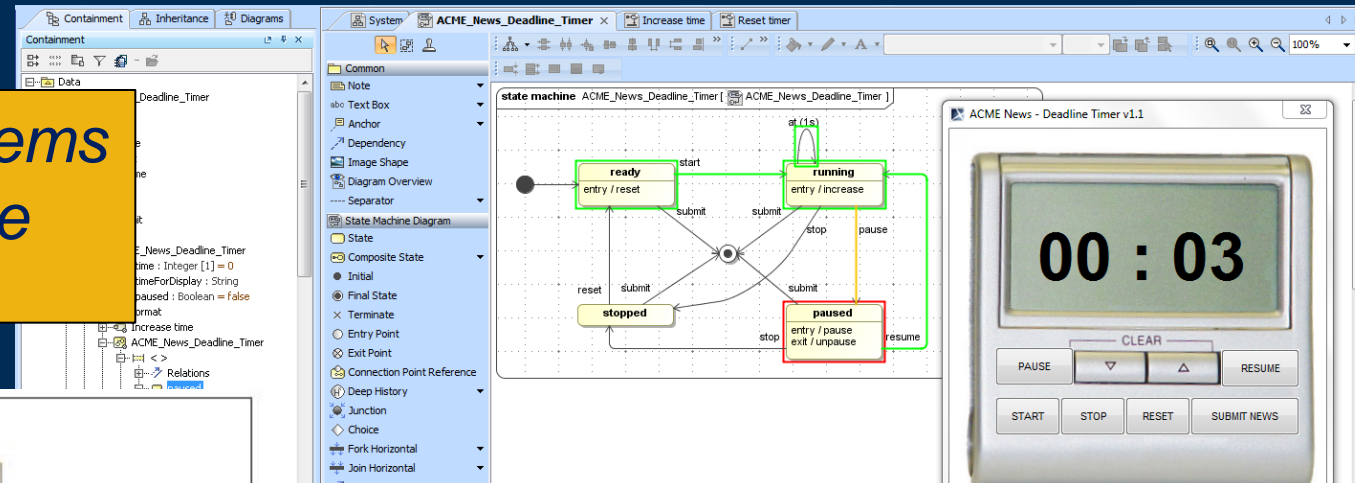
# Position Type1/2: SysML & OOP Interfacing

Primary Associated Project/Stakeholder: NASA JPL

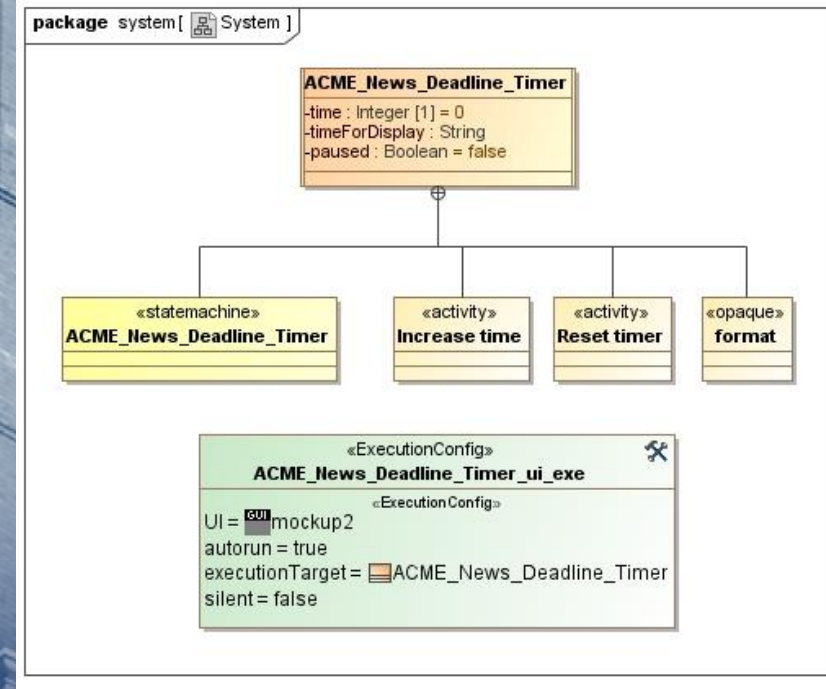
Utilizing Cameo Simulation Toolkit  
(state machines, executable activities, ...)

Interfacing with Simulations  
(Unity, Ergo/Jack, STK, ...)

**SysML = The Systems  
Modeling Language**  
[www.omgsysml.org](http://www.omgsysml.org)



Interfacing with Physical Systems





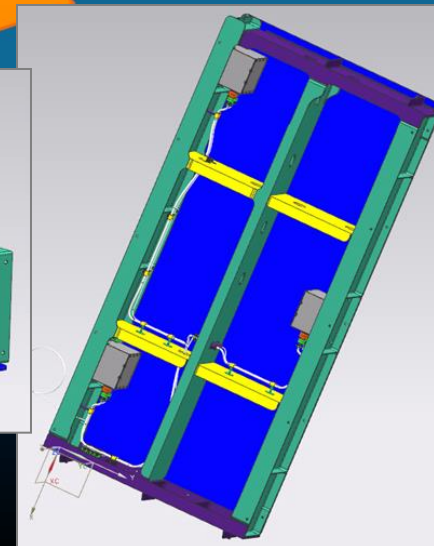
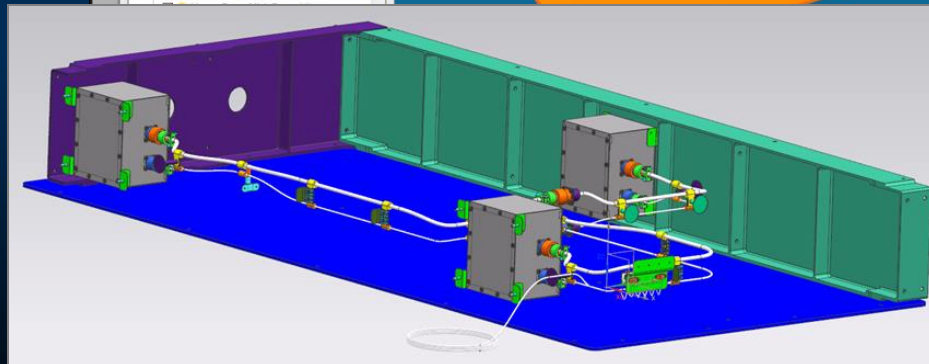
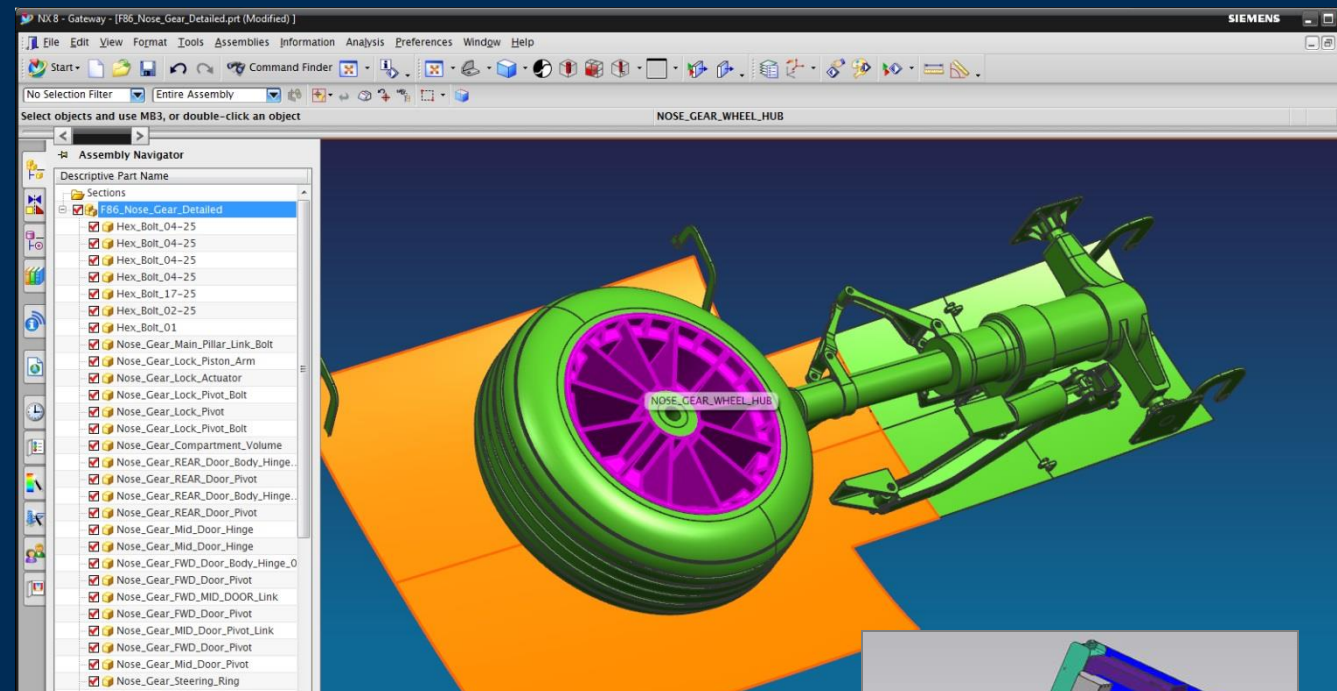


# Position Type3: Parametric CAD/Simulation

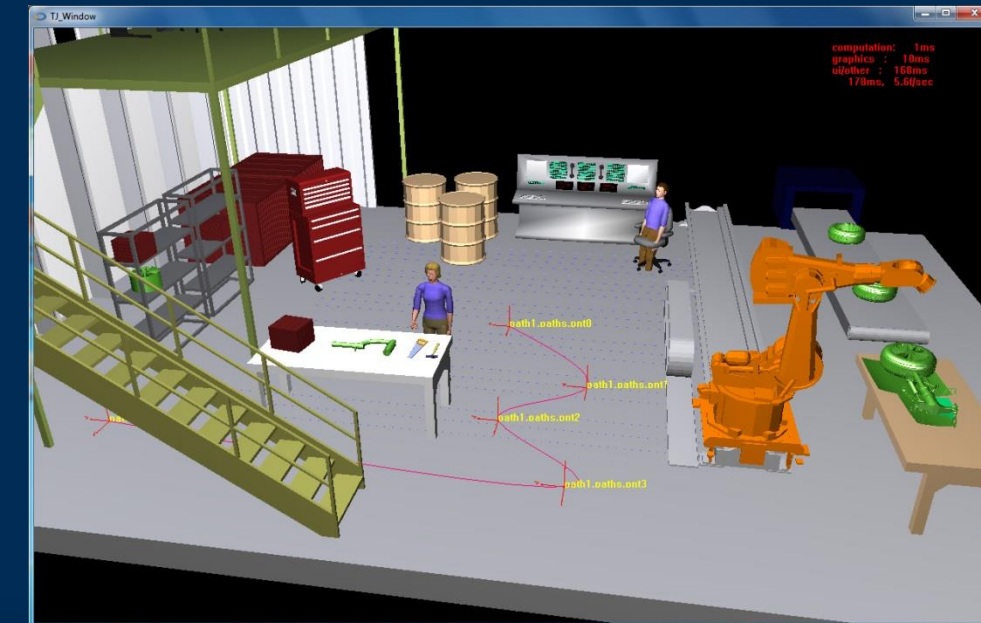
Primary Associated Project/Stakeholder: Boeing

Creating New CAD Models, and  
Parameterizing Existing Models (for Design/Analysis ...)

NOTE: Type3 normally  
needs to be combined  
with interests in  
Positions Type1 or 2



Building Models for CAE and SysML  
(Matlab/Simulink, ModelCenter, Jack, FEA, ...)



Jack (Environment for Ergonomics Simulation)





# Ex. Project: NASA MBSE Pathfinder

Students worked on Team Nx with NASA engineers & fellow students (Nx = N1, N2, N3, N4 and N5)



## MBSE Pathfinder Focus Areas

**Team N1:**  
*Mars Colony ISRU*



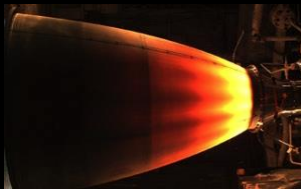
- Begin with the End, ISRU Colony
- LEO : Surface, 20 : 1 gear ratio
- Architecture/System/Campaign

**Team N2:**  
*Space Habitat*



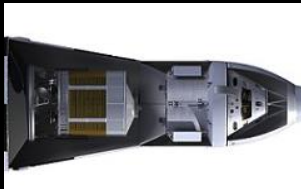
- Integral Element, Space Habitat
- Generic Element Extensibility
- System/Sub-System

**Team N3:**  
*LOX/Methane Rocket Engine*



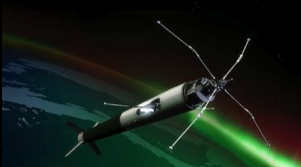
- Element/Sub-System, AM Engine
- In-Space, Lander, Ascent Applicability
- System/Design, Re-Tooling SE

**Team N4:**  
*Launch Vehicle Payload Attach Fitting & Mfg*



- Mission Integration, SLS Payload Attach Fitting
- Extensible to numerous missions
- Functional and Physical Integration

**Team N5:**  
*Mission Lifecycle Sounding Rocket*



- Mission Integration, Sounding Rocket
- Extensible to any LV
- Mission Design Life Cycle



*ISRU = in-situ resource utilization*



## MBSE Pathfinder Product/Work Activities

**Team N1:**  
*Mars Colony ISRU*



- Lox and/or Methane Farm Development Trades
- Characterization of Components
- Concept of Operations

**Team N2:**  
*Space Habitat*



- Space System Requirements Decomposition
- Systems level optimization trades

**Team N3:**  
*LOX/Methane Rocket Engine*



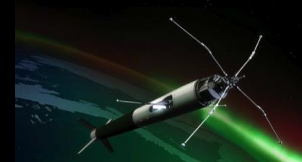
- Engine Requirements to include Analysis (ROCETS) & Test V&V
- Configuration Management of Design (CAD)
- Flow from CAD to Additive Manufacture (CAM)
- Testing and Additive Manufacturing (LSM)

**Team N4:**  
*Launch Vehicle Payload Attach Fitting & Mfg*



- PAF Requirements to include Analysis (CLA) & IDD Generation
- Configuration Management of Design (CAD)
- Flow from CAD to Composite Manufacture (CAM)
- Testing and Composite Manufacture

**Team N5:**  
*Mission Lifecycle Sounding Rocket*



- Addition of discipline analysis to existing MBSE mission models
- Includes both programmatic and technical (DoD partnering)
- 20+ Flights per year for shadowing and validation

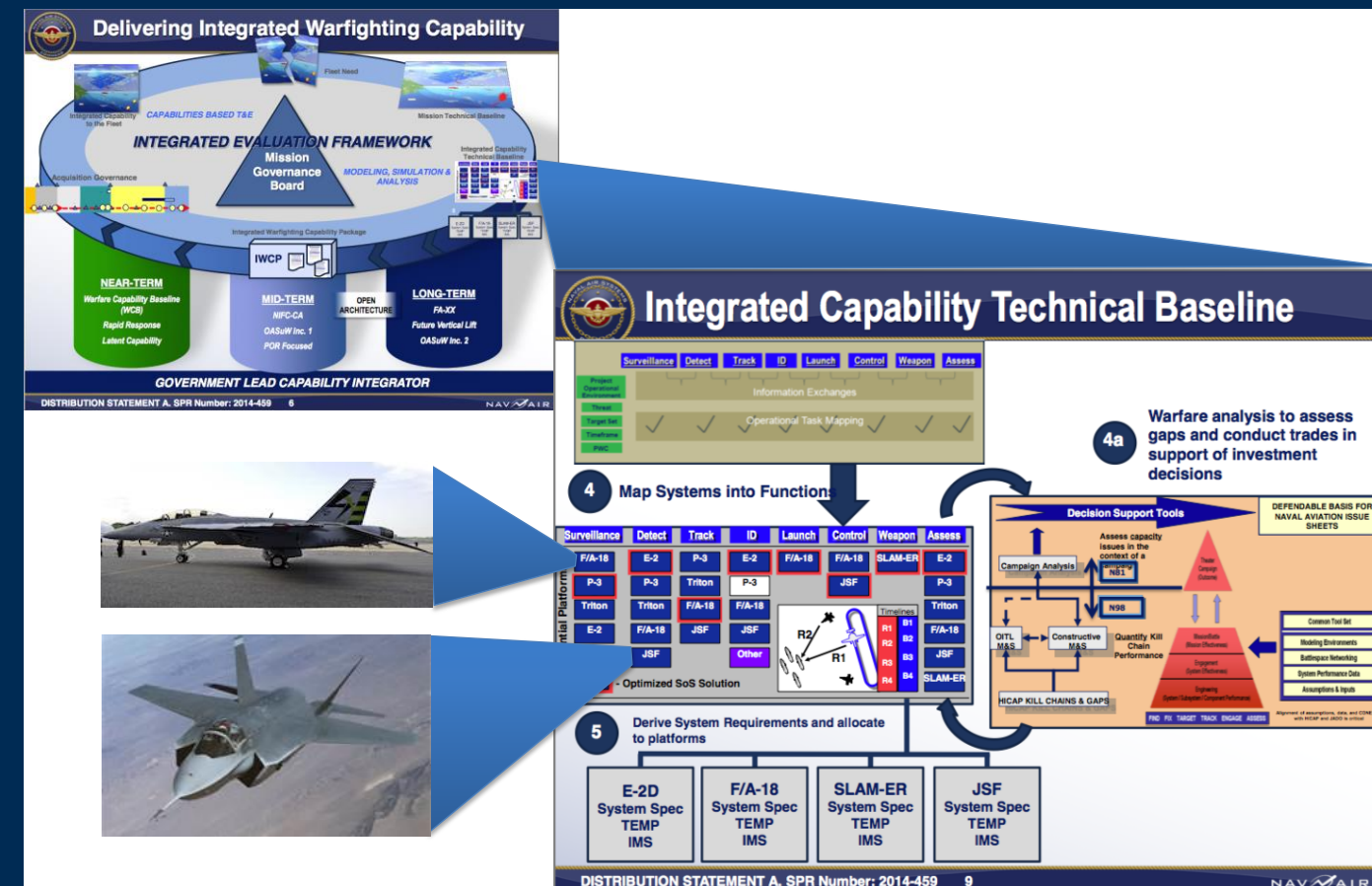
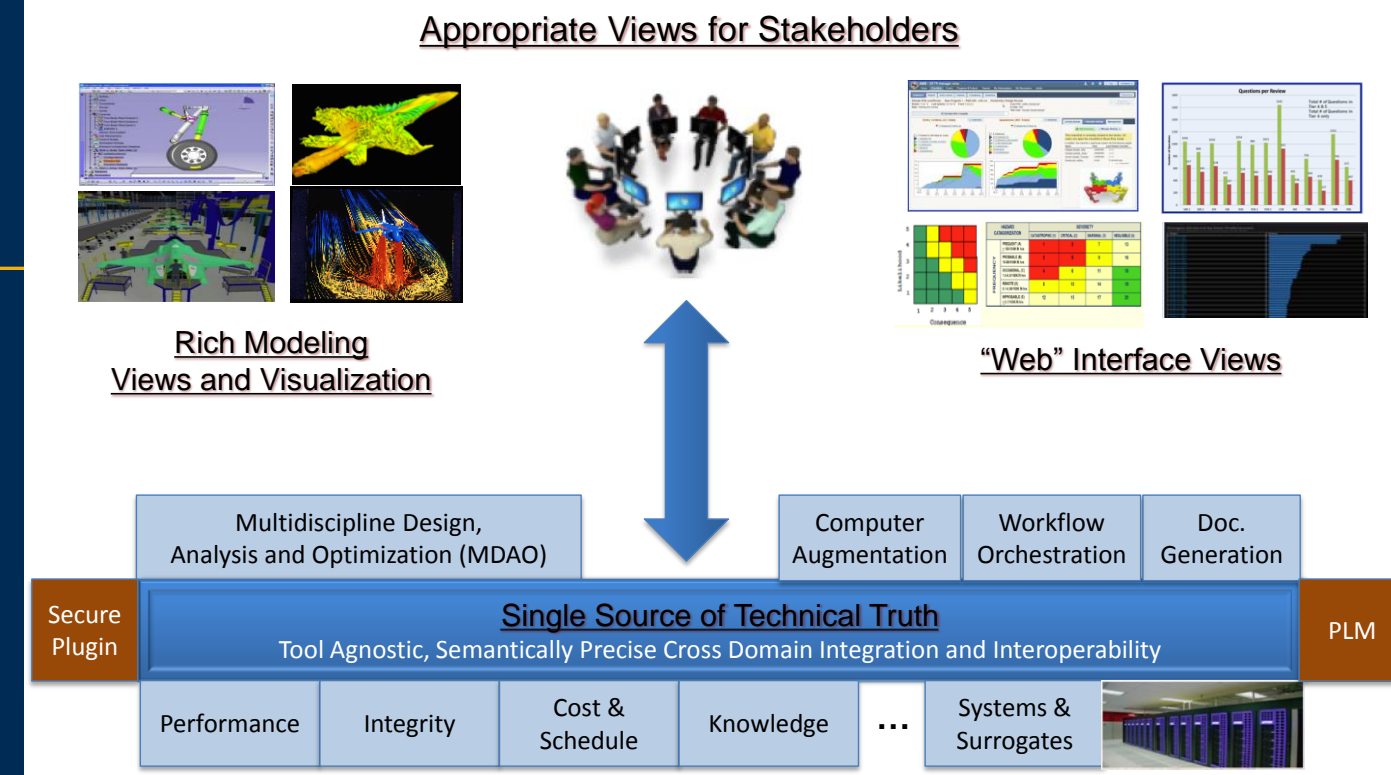






# Ex. Project: NAVAIR MCE / UAV Testbed

- **Overall objective:**  
Develop and demonstrate next-gen MCE capabilities (MCE = model-centric engineering)
- **Sponsor:**  
NAVAIR (Pax River, Maryland) – US Navy
- **Collaborators:**  
SERC (DoD-sponsored systems engineering research consortium = ~20 universities), specifically Stevens Institute of Technology and U. of Maryland
- **Approach:**  
Extend/apply model-based techniques (ala ASDL JPL E2E project, etc.)
- **Testbed:**  
UAV design and advanced trade studies





# If you are interested ... do this asap:

Follow these instructions carefully (as *attention to detail* is important for all positions):

- Sending from your gatech email address, email your resume' to *cimtalay@gatech.edu* using
    - Email Subject: *ASDL MBSE URA interest - last name, first name* URA = undergrad research assistant
    - Include citizenship info & GPA (see Note 2 below)
    - Include expected graduation date & level (1st year, 2nd year, etc.)
    - Indicate which position type(s) you are interested in (including priority, if you have multiple interests):
      - *Position Types 1, 2, 3, 4 (per above slides)*
  - *After that, we will contact the best-fit candidates:*
    - *Determine if this is a good mutual fit*
    - *Finalize setup before the class registration deadline*
- Note1: Our normal policy is that (a) first-semester 1<sup>st</sup>-year students and (b) new last-semester seniors are not eligible for these positions. And we give priority to students interested in a multi-semester URA position.
- Note2: Our normal policy is we prioritize for a GPA of at least 3.5 (and absolute minimum GPA = 3.2). Normally we have so many applications that the cut-off GPA is 3.5 or above.





# MBSE Branch Overview

Russell S. Peak, PhD

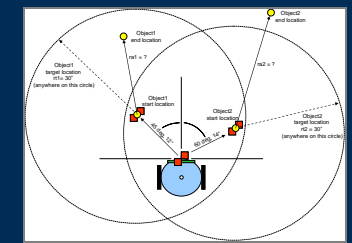
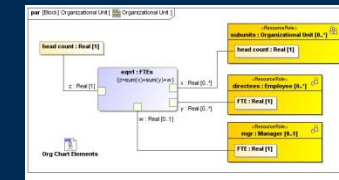
*[Russell.Peak@gatech.edu](mailto:Russell.Peak@gatech.edu)*

**Georgia  
Tech**  **Aerospace Systems  
Design Laboratory**



# MBSE Branch Overview

Branch Chief: Russell.Peak@gatech.edu

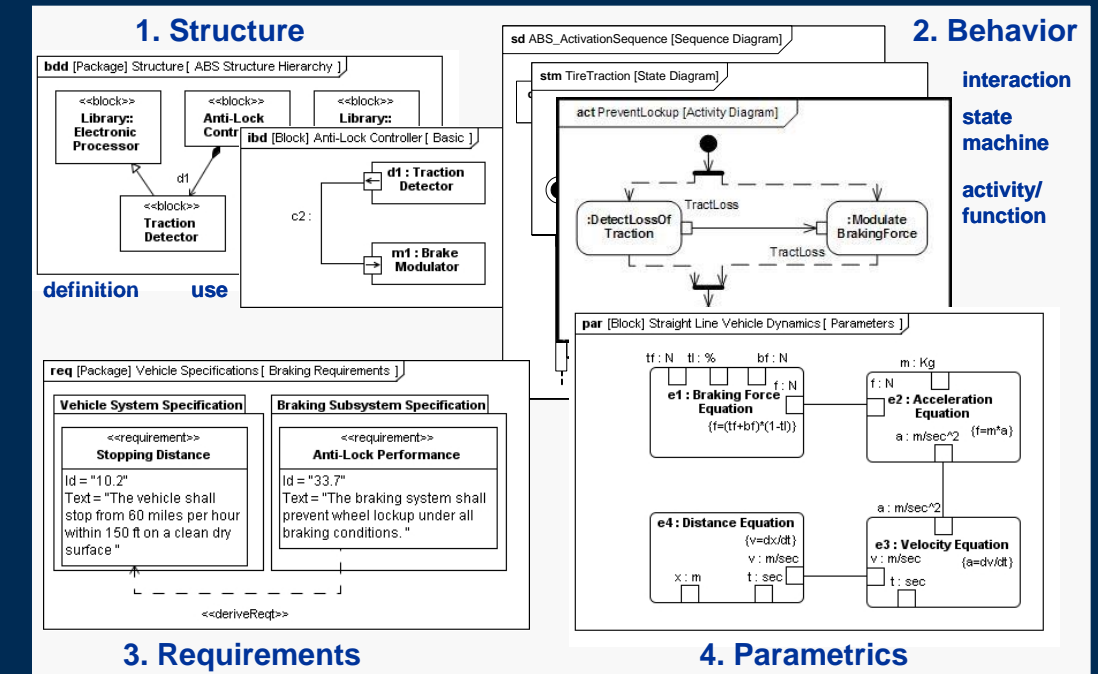


## MBSE: Model-Based Systems Engineering SysML: The Systems Modeling Language

- SysML – graphical language for system structure, behavior, requirements, ...
- Unified, complete, consistent, verifiable
- Enables MBSE vs. “doc/ppt-engineering”
- Rapidly growing usage in diverse fields

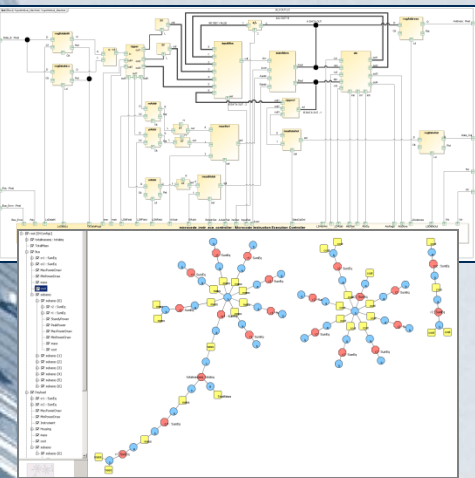
## Academic & Professional Education

- Academic & professional masters courses
- MBSE/SysML short course series
- Delivered over 187+ hands-on courses for 3320+ professionals to date
- Public offerings & onsite contract courses
- Ex. Industry, NASA (ARC, GRC, JSC, JPL ...) DoD (ARDEC, DISA, MDA, NSWC ...), Sandia



## MBSE/SysML Research

- Next-gen spreadsheets++
- Traceability graphs / impact analysis
- DoDAF/UPDM interfaces
- V&V patterns and automation
- Simulation interoperability
- Execution & interfacing with things



**BROWN SMITH WALLACE**  
CONSULTING GROUP  
A MEASURABLE DIFFERENCE™

Are Spreadsheets Sabotaging Your Profits?

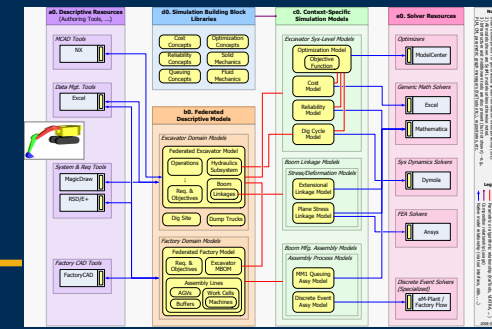
Based on a broad study of U.S. corporations, Sanders & Manrodt (2002) determined that almost 90 percent of businesses rely on spreadsheets for their forecasting software. This study also concluded that using commercial software packages for forecasting produced better performance than spreadsheets.

By Steve Epner  
Founder Brown Smith Wallace Consulting Group  
and Innovator in Residence  
at St. Louis University





# Summary



- MBSE & SysML are critical and growing trends
  - Quantified benefits: cost estimates, error reductions, ...
  - Broad usage across many industries & applications
  - Defining the present and the future
- Guiding your organization's destiny
  - Kick start & enhance your MBSE effort
  - Develop MBSE/SysML adoption roadmap
  - Define & manage your tool ecosystem
  - Provide short courses for your organization
  - Engage consulting & project support
  - Foster research & advanced studies

