



### **Modeling System Dynamics**

### Sarah Sheard With Andrew Moore and Robert Ferguson March 21-22, 2014



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- What is sustainment?
- Why model sustainment dynamics?
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- What is system dynamics modeling?
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- Sustainment: Everything that happens to a system after the production line is closed down (product maintenance, infrastructure)
- Hardware: Repair, Remove corrosion, Replace worn parts
- Software
  - Corrective Maintenance (Bug fixes )
  - Adaptive (fix for changed environment, e.g., other systems, operating system...)
  - Perfective (New requirements)
  - Preventive (reliability/maintainability fixes)

#### All software sustainment is engineering work



### Why Model Sustainment Dynamics?



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#### Sustainment has

- Many loops
  - bug fixes, small enhancements, large enhancements
- Many stakeholders
  - operational forces, programs, sustainment organizations
- Many funding sources
  - O&M, program procurement, modernization procurement
- Simple cost/benefit models fail to capture dynamic nature
- Varying time cycles for decisions
- Dramatic consequences: Funding delays can cause a "tipping point": recovery very expensive

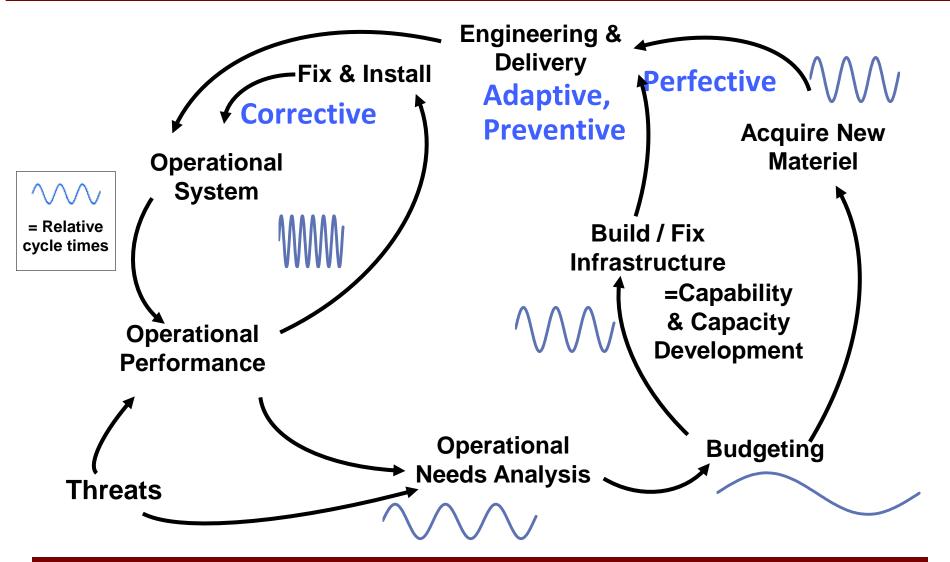
Dynamic model allows exploration of funding scenarios



Sustainment Cycles



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Factors to Model



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- Sustainment Capability
  - skills and knowledge held by staff
- Sustainment Capacity
  - amount of sustainment work the staff can do
  - = # staff \* capability

### • Performance

amount of work the staff does, compared to needed

### • Productivity

amount of work done per unit cost

#### • Desired output

sustained systems, number of system capabilities added

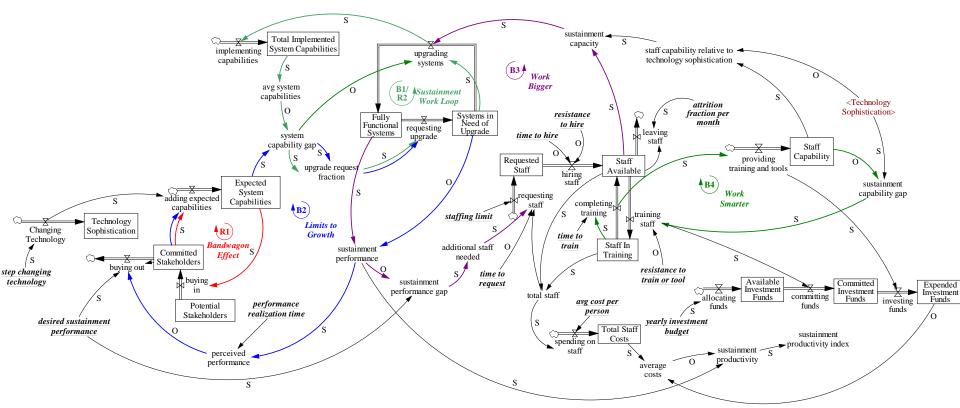


- Create causal loop diagram
  - Stocks (quantities with an amount)
  - Flows (change the amount in stocks)
  - Relationships (and auxiliary variables)
- Simulate
  - Establish equilibrium
  - Pulse
  - Understand results

#### • Finalize

- Calibrate
- Publish
- Productize

### Sustainment Systems Dynamics Diagram



- R1: Represents the need for additional missions and additional capability
- B1/R2: Demand for sustaining work and development
- B2: Sustainment performance vs. System performance and gaps
- B3: Efforts to work overtime and do more with less
- B4: Building additional capability and capacity to sustain
- Not a loop but lower right: Effects of delayed funding decisions and commitment



Conclusion



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- Determined sustainment variables
- Dynamic relationships
- Calibrating with customer now
- Can calibrate to your organization





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## Modeling Sustainment Dynamics





# **BACKUP CHARTS**

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### Calibration and Validation

Comparing performance to goals

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