



# Conception optimale pour l'ingénieur (Aerospace)

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C6 by Prof. J. Morlier  
2025

# AU PROGRAMME

## Python based

lundi 31 mars 2025			
		09h15 - 12h45	MORLIER Joseph
		14h00 - 16h15	MORLIER Joseph
mardi 01 avril 2025			
		09h15 - 12h45	MORLIER Joseph
		14h00 - 16h15	MORLIER Joseph
mercredi 02 avril 2025			
		09h15 - 12h45	MORLIER Joseph MURADÁS ODRIOZOLA Daniel
		14h00 - 16h15	MAS COLOMER JOAN MURADÁS ODRIOZOLA Daniel
jeudi 03 avril 2025			
		09h15 - 12h45	MAS COLOMER JOAN MURADÁS ODRIOZOLA Daniel

Intro: Sustainable Aviation (Materials) With Both Eyes Open
Design optimization 1: constrained optimization, MOO, Sensibility with examples
Project DO 1 2 3

Topology Optimization with examples
Material ecoselection, Ashby Diagram and more

Projet DO 1 2 3
Wrap up and demo from students

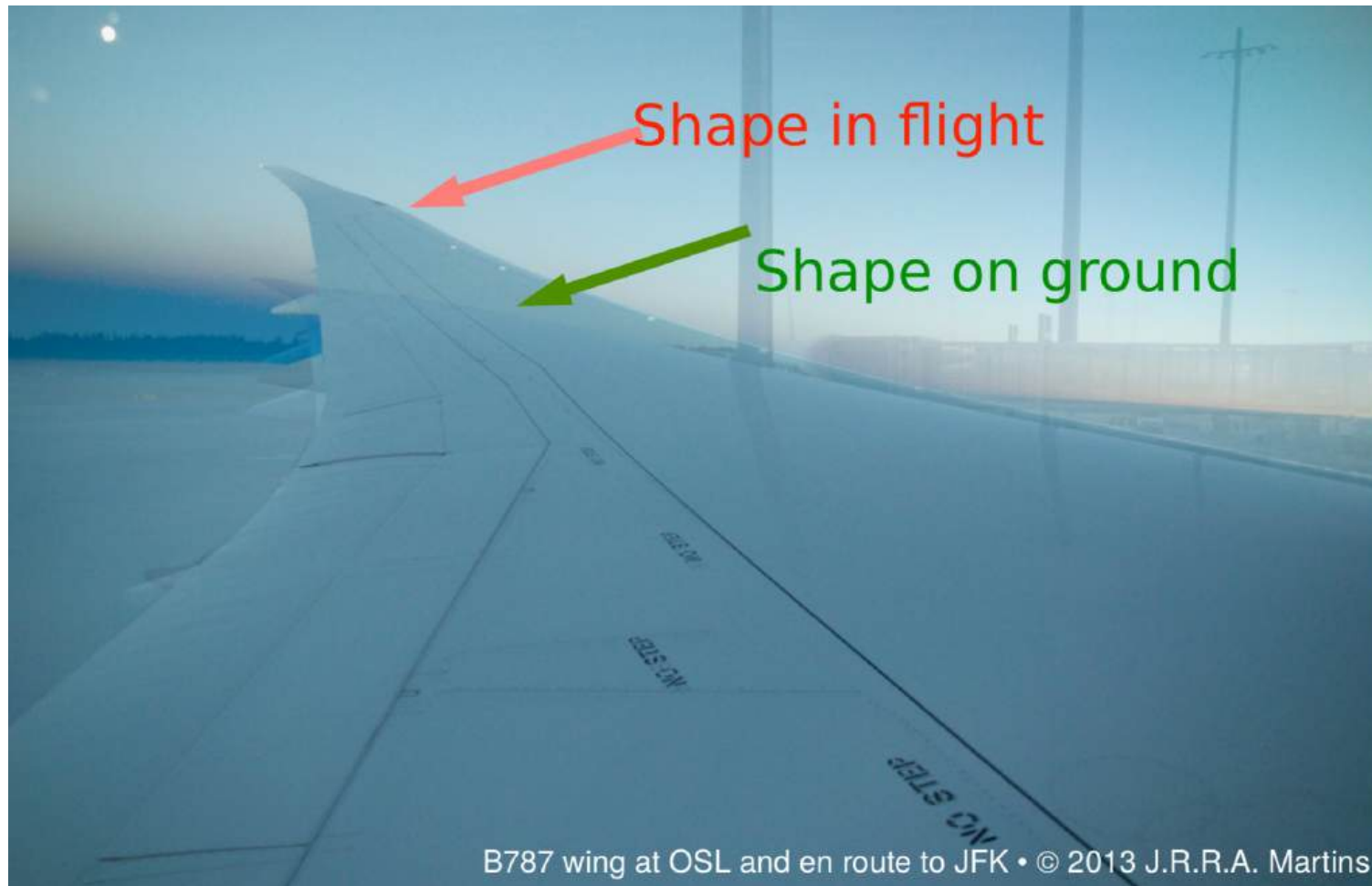
Intro to MDAO Static Aeroelastic problem is a MDAO problem
Airbus PROJECT by TEAM of 3 (marked*)

vendredi 04 avril 2025		ORAL MARKED*	
		09h15 - 11h30	MORLIER Joseph MURADÁS ODRIOZOLA Daniel

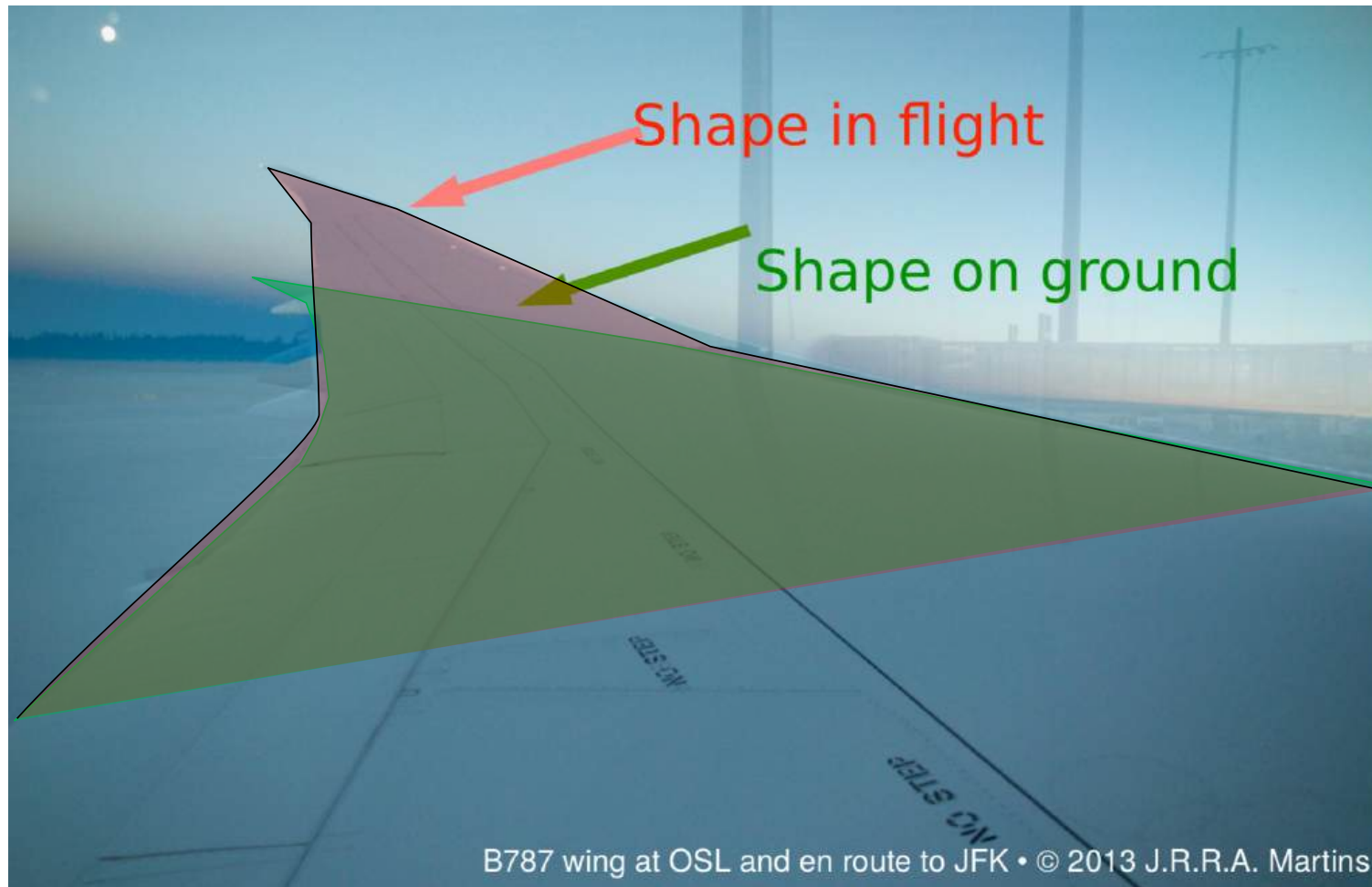
# Multidisciplinary Design Optimization

- Multidisciplinary Design Optimization (MDO) focuses on solving optimization problems spanning across multiple interacting disciplines

# Coupled problem

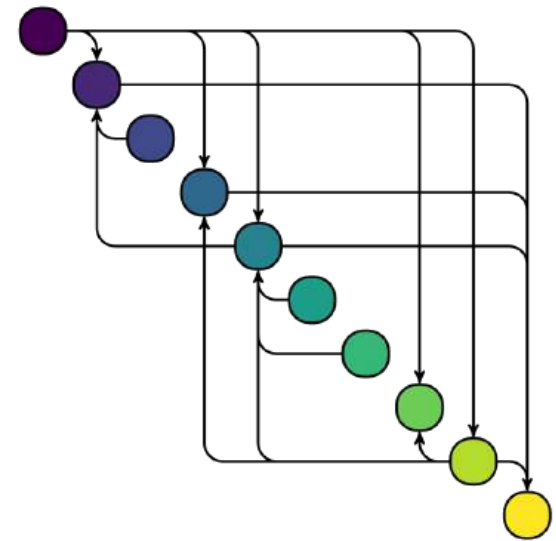


# Coupled problem



# Interdisciplinary Compatibility

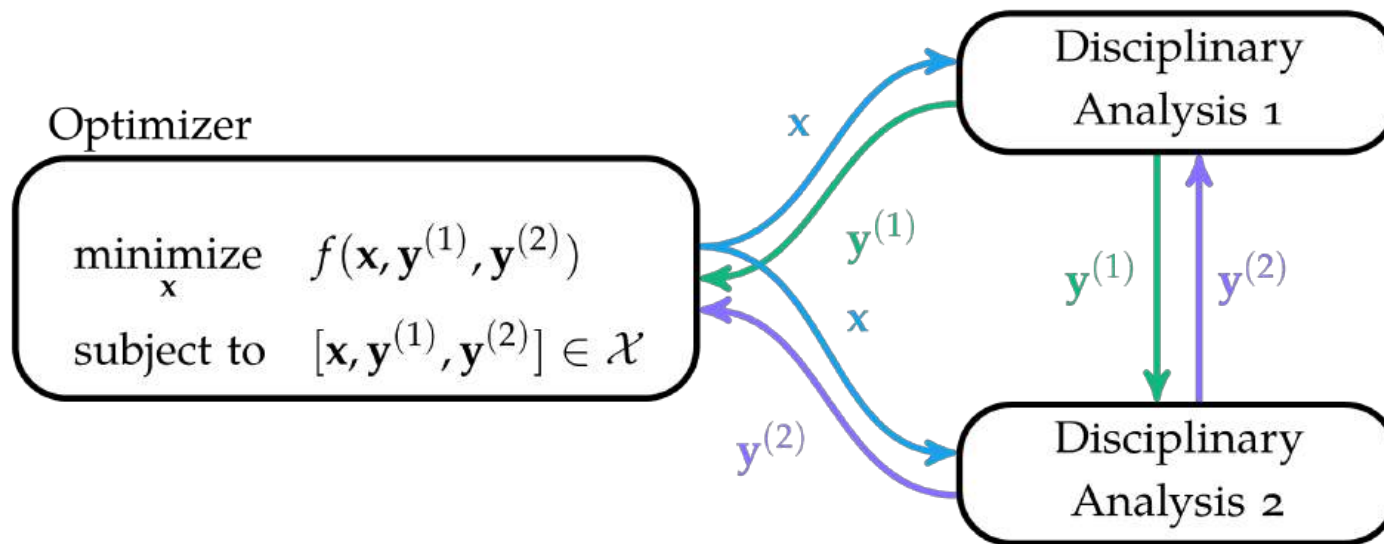
- If there are dependency cycles, then no topological ordering exists
- A general approach is iterative techniques such as the Gauss-Seidel method
- Depending on the nature of the problem, iterative methods can converge slowly



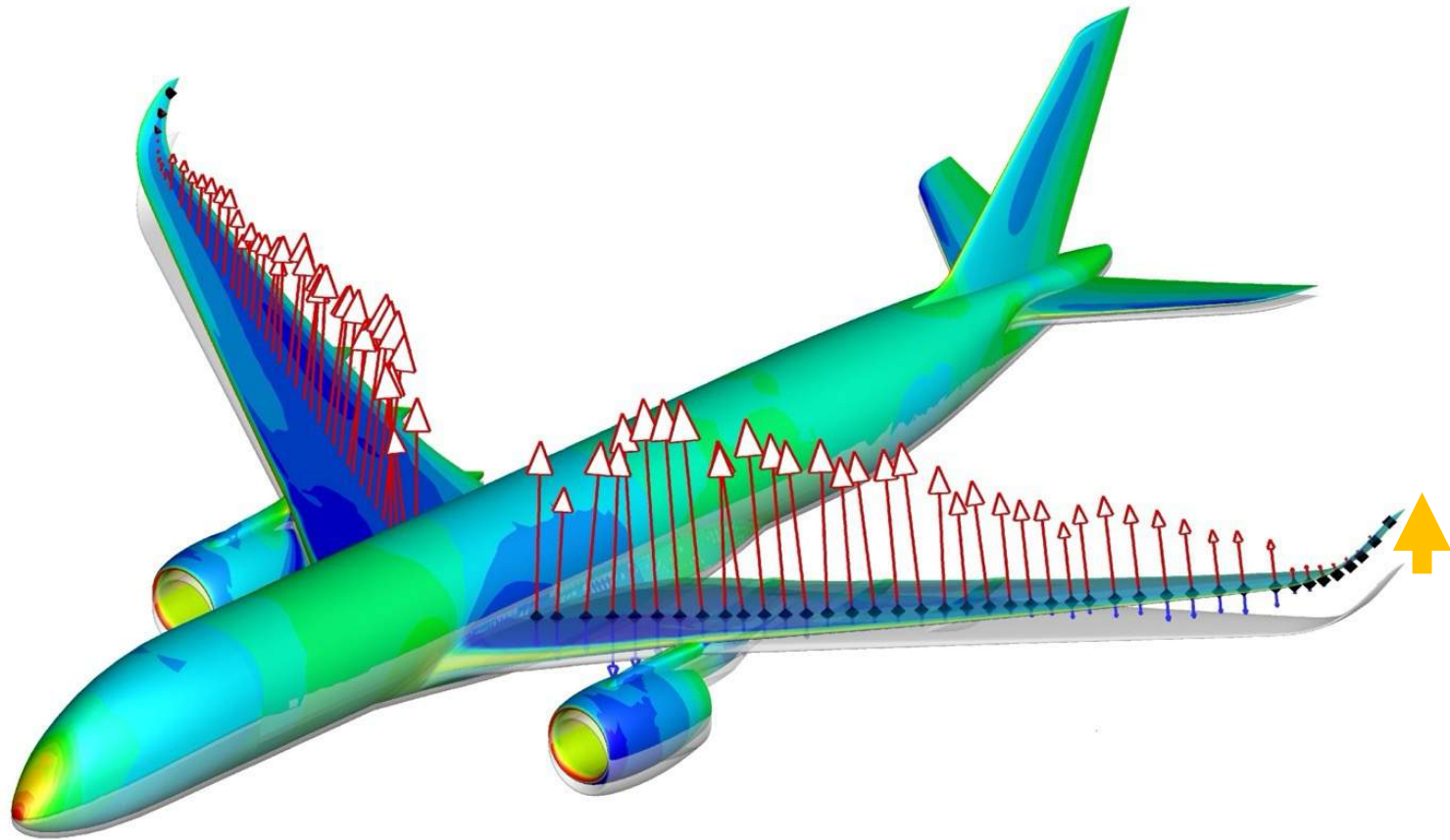
# Interdisciplinary Compatibility

No MDO without MDA

- If there are multiple disciplines, then dependencies have to be considered



What is an MDA ? Static Aeroelasticity for example?



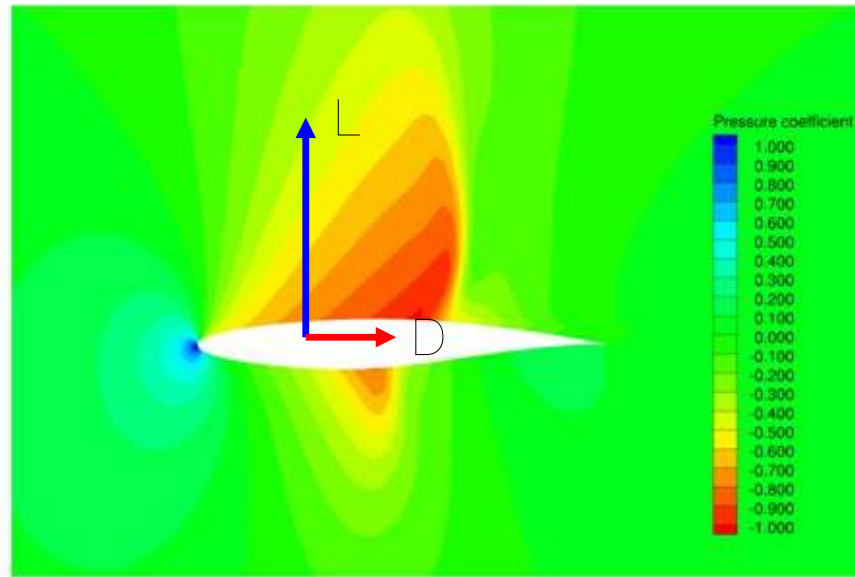
Source: DLR

EMSM207



# But first, what is Disciplinary Optimization?

Example: Aerodynamics (L/D max)

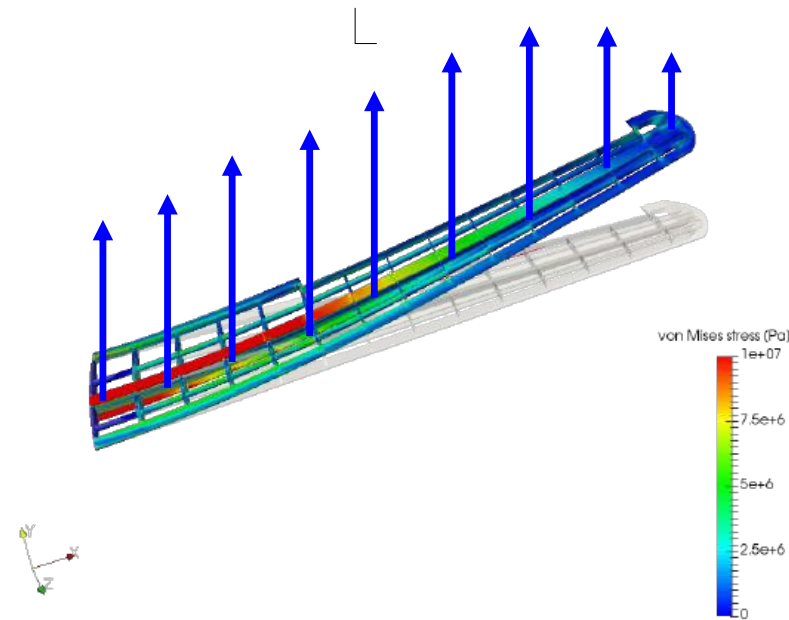


Source: NLR

Minimize  $D$   
w.r.t. shape,  $\alpha$   
Subject to  $L = W$

# What is Disciplinary Optimization (2)?

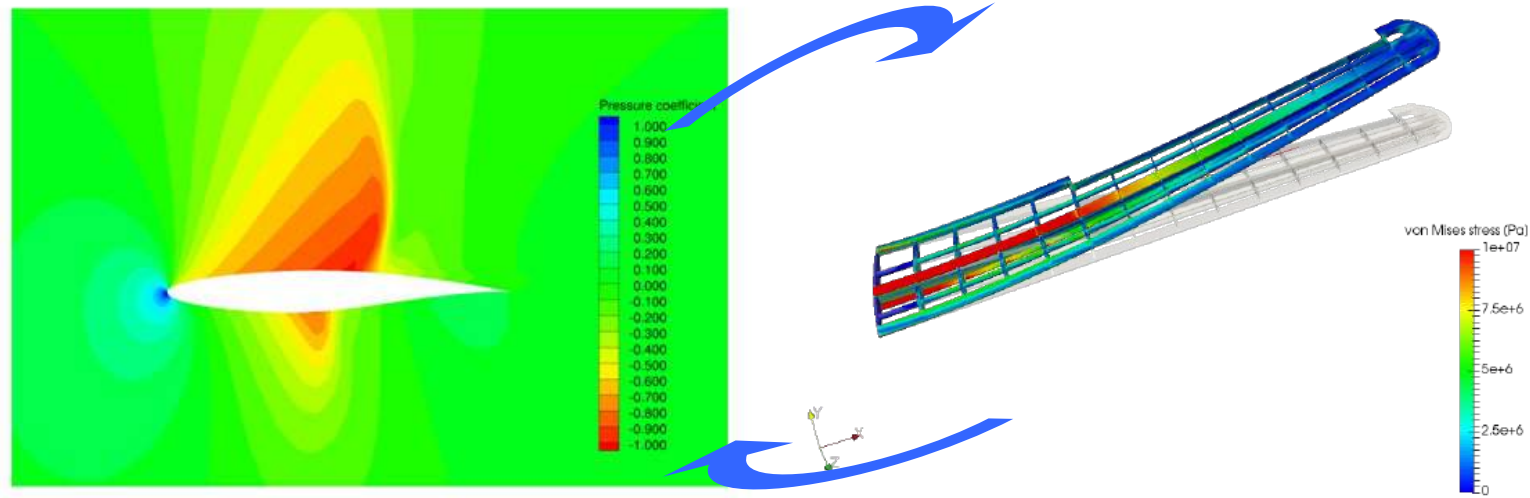
Another example: Structures



Source: [simscale.com](https://simscale.com)

Minimize Mass  
w.r.t. thicknesses  
Subject to  $\sigma \leq \sigma_y$

# However... Disciplines are not isolated:



Structural deformation of wing  
→ changes in the shape  
exposed to airflow

Changes in the shape exposed  
to airflow → changes in the  
aerodynamic loads

# Then, how do we solve the complete system?

Nodal forces

Structure Analysis

Nodal displacements

Load Transfer

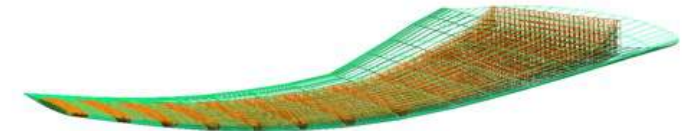
The solution of the complete system is the set of displacements and forces that “satisfy” this loop

Radial Basis Function displacement interpolation (same for y and z)

$$u_x = \sum_{i=1}^{N_s} \alpha_i^x \phi(\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_i\|) + \gamma_0^x + \gamma_x^x x + \gamma_y^x y + \gamma_z^x z$$

Displacement interpolation matrix

$$u_a = H u_s$$



Loads using principle of virtual work

$$f_s = H^T f_a$$

Aero grid displacements

Aerodynamic Analysis

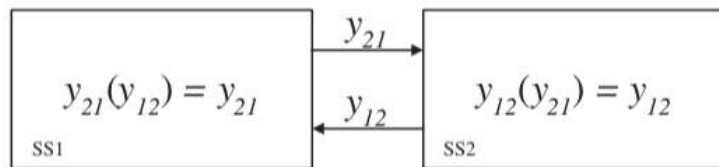
Forces on aero grid points

Rendall, T. C. S., & Allen, C. B. (2008). Unified fluid–structure interpolation and mesh motion using radial basis functions. *International Journal for Numerical Methods in Engineering*, 74(10), 1519-1559.

# Multi-Disciplinary Analysis

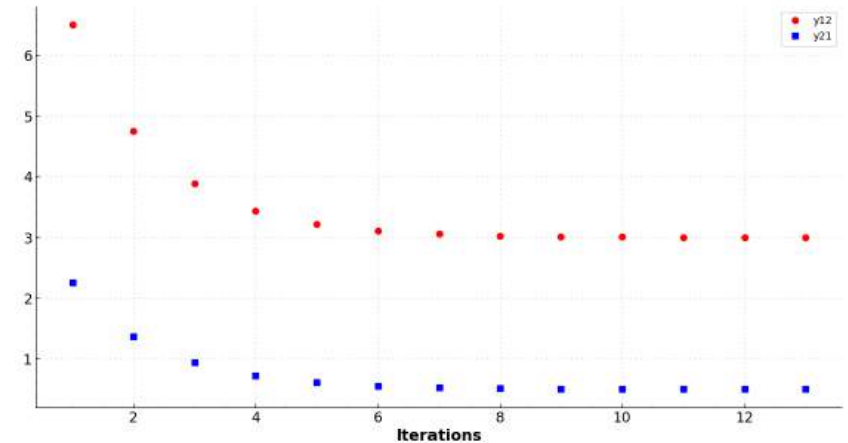
## ■ Computation of the state variables at equilibrium for given x and z

- Generally computed using a fixed-point algorithm (Jacobi or Gauss-Seidel)
- Or a root-finding method (Newton-Raphson)



Check the default tolerance

Introductio to FPI



(Step 0) choose initial guess  $y_{12}^0$ , set  $i = 0$

(Step 1)  $i = i + 1$

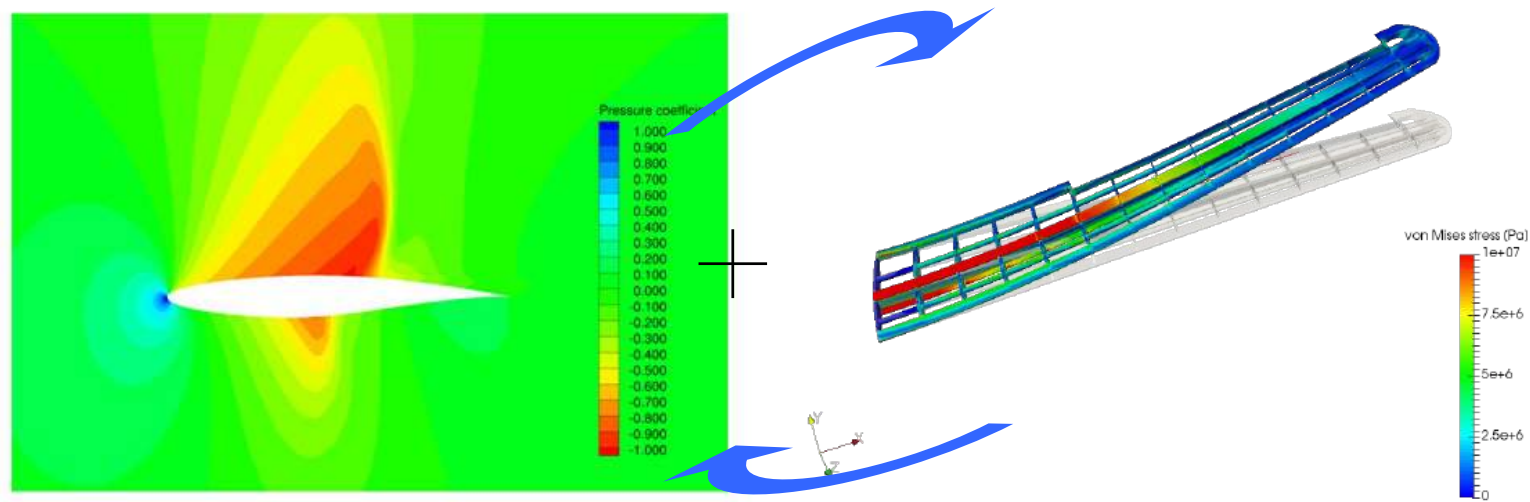
(Step 2)  $y_{21}^i = y_{21}(y_{12}^{i-1})$

(Step 3)  $y_{12}^i = y_{12}(y_{21}^i)$

(Step 4) if  $|y_{12}^i - y_{12}^{i-1}| < \varepsilon$  stop, otherwise go to (Step 1)

[https://colab.research.google.com/drive/1Spc5Sh1u0A91Ryk05ep1Xfhy7x7ieKbg#scrollTo=7ab\\_CXxl3Gmp](https://colab.research.google.com/drive/1Spc5Sh1u0A91Ryk05ep1Xfhy7x7ieKbg#scrollTo=7ab_CXxl3Gmp)

So, we need to analyze BOTH disciplines at the SAME TIME



Minimize D, or Mass, {or a combination of D and Mass}  
w.r.t. shape,  $\alpha$ , thicknesses

Subject to:

$$L = W$$

$$\sigma \leq \sigma_y$$

# In practice, how do we solve that problem?

One possible approach: MultiDisciplinary Feasible (MDF, probably the most intuitive one...)

Steps:

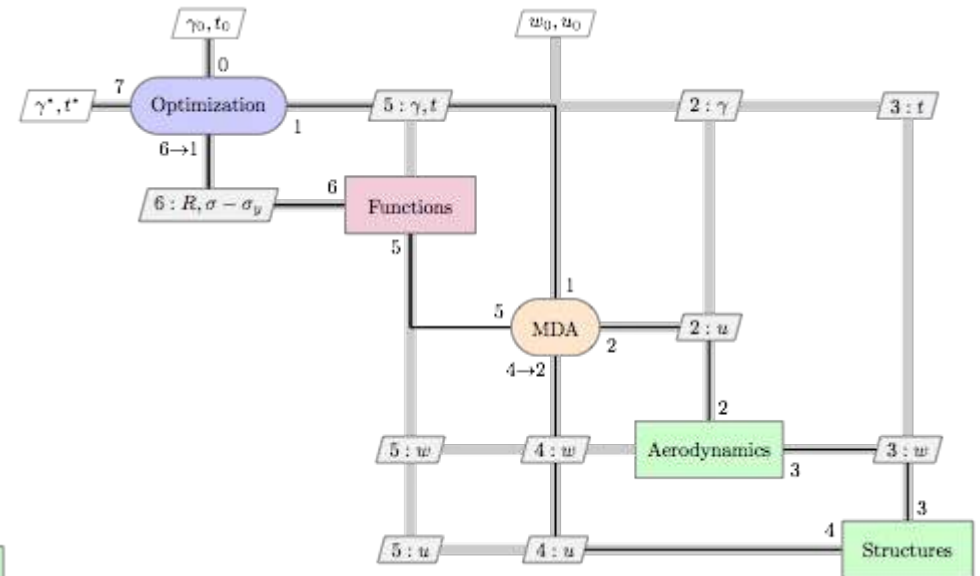
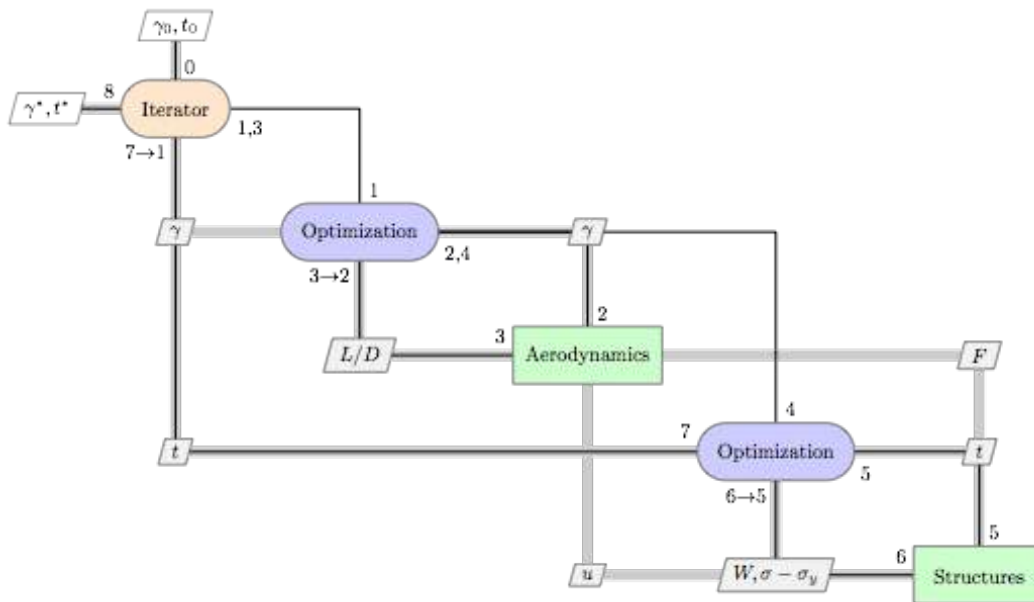
1. Start from a set of particular design variables: shape,  $\alpha$ , thicknesses
2. Solve the complete system (with all the interactions) for these values
3. Evaluate objective function and constraints
4. From these values, the optimizer proposes a new set of design variables.

These steps are repeated until the optimum is reached.

MDO optimizes all variables simultaneously,  
accounting for all the couplings

Sequential optimization

MDO

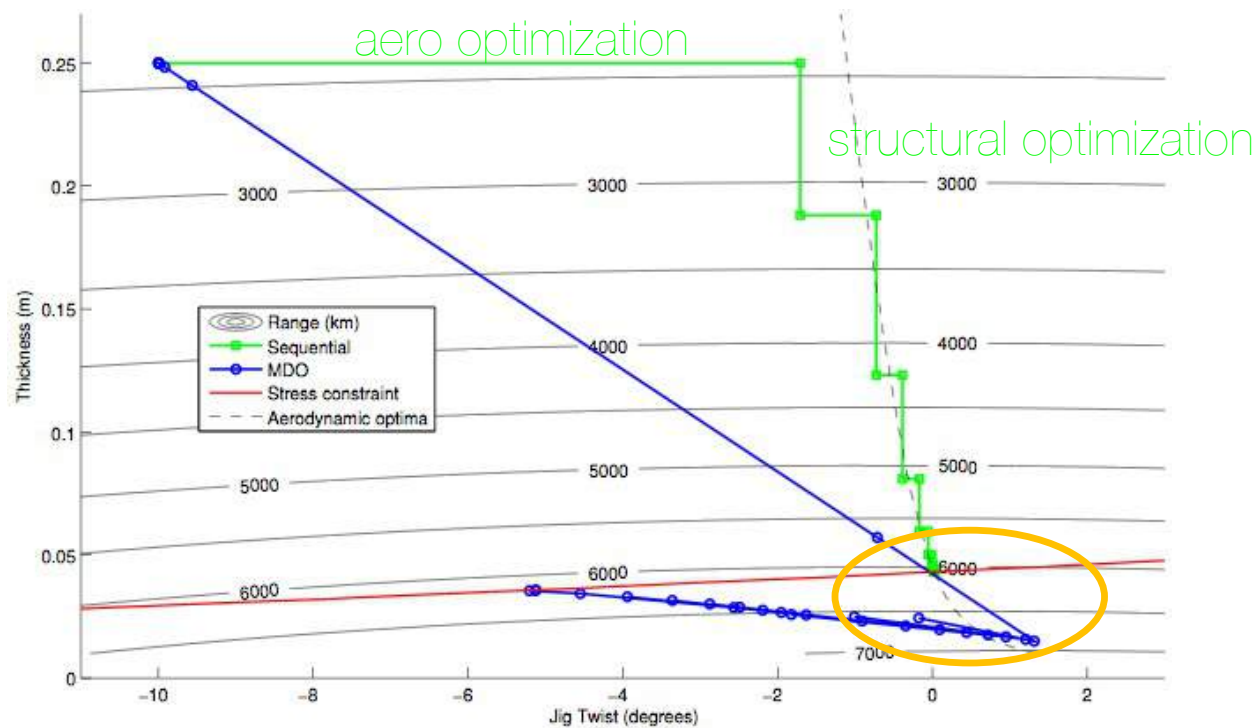


I. R. Chittick and J. R. R. A. Martins. An asymmetric suboptimization approach to aerostructural optimization. Optimization and Engineering, 10(1):133–152, Mar. 2009. doi:10.1007/s11081-008-9046-2.



# Sequential optimization fails to find the multidisciplinary optimum

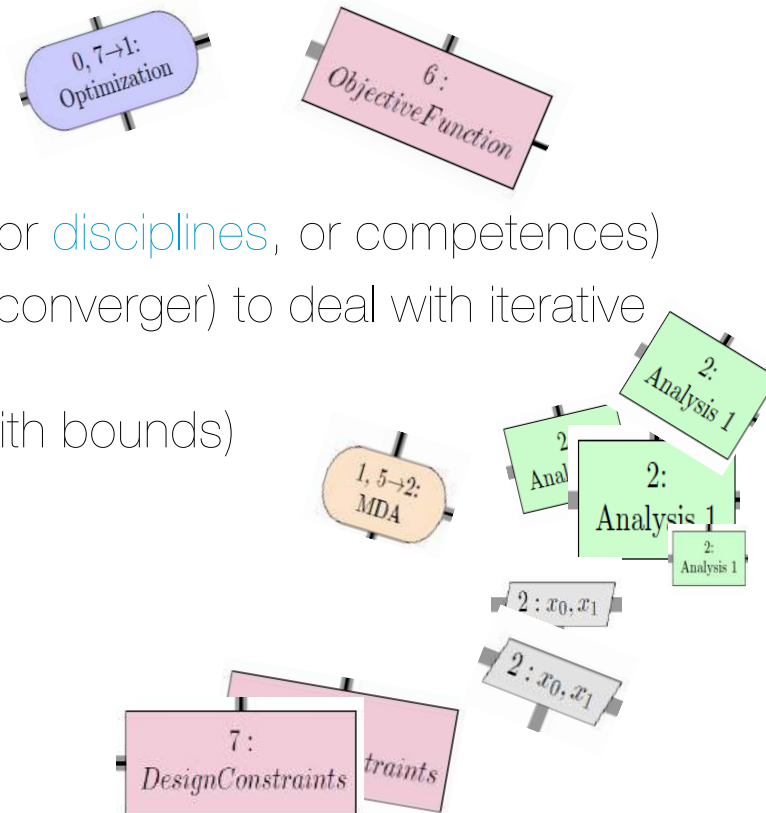
Chittick, I. R., & Martins, J. R. (2008). Aero-structural optimization using adjoint coupled post-optimality sensitivities. Structural and Multidisciplinary Optimization, 36(1), 59-70.



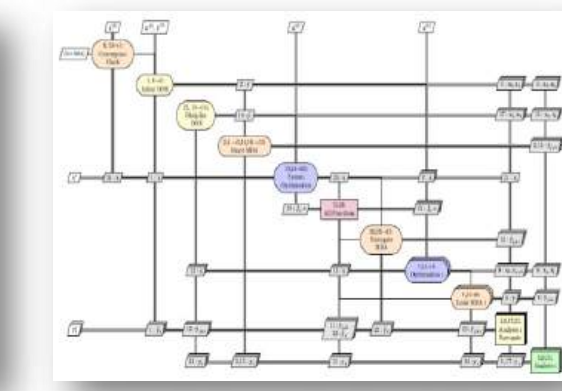
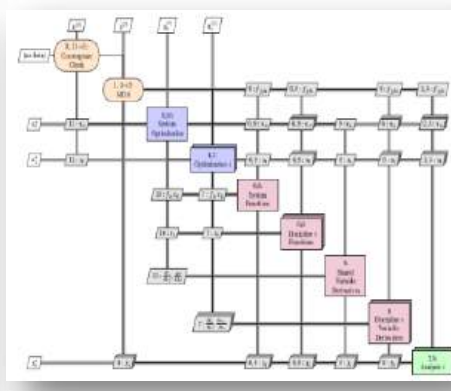
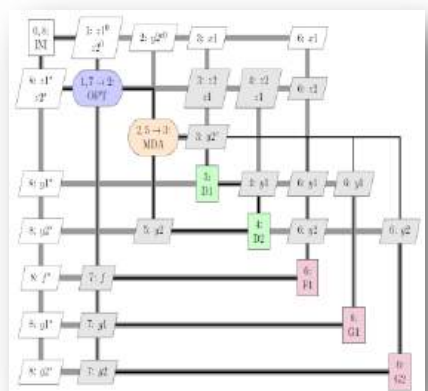
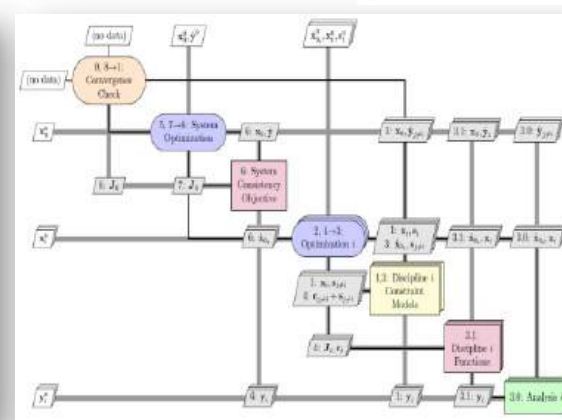
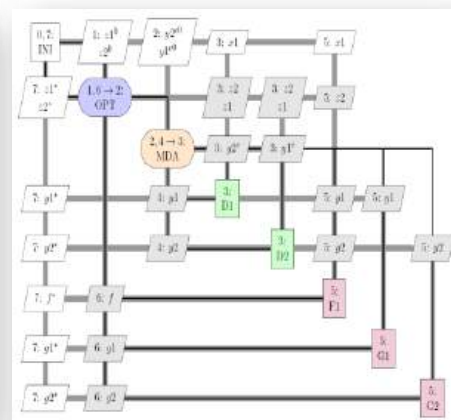
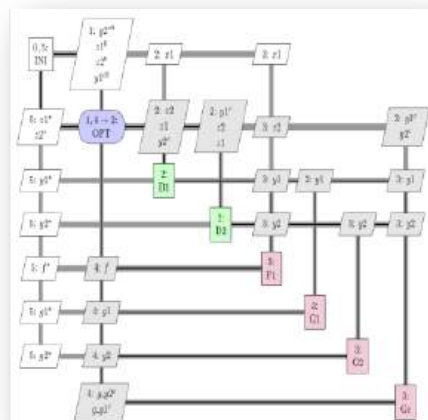
# Assembling MDO systems

In order to assemble an MDO “architecture” we need a number of **components**:

- One (or more) **optimizers**
- One (or more) **objectives**
- A number of disciplinary tools (or **disciplines**, or competences)
- Possibly some **coordinator** (or converger) to deal with iterative loops
- A bunch of **design variables** (with bounds)
- Some **constraint** specification



# Assembling MDO systems



## Multidisciplinary Design Optimization

### Monolithic

All-at-Once (AAO)  
Simultaneous Analysis and Design (SAND)  
Individual Discipline Feasible (IDF)  
Multiple Discipline Feasible (MDF)

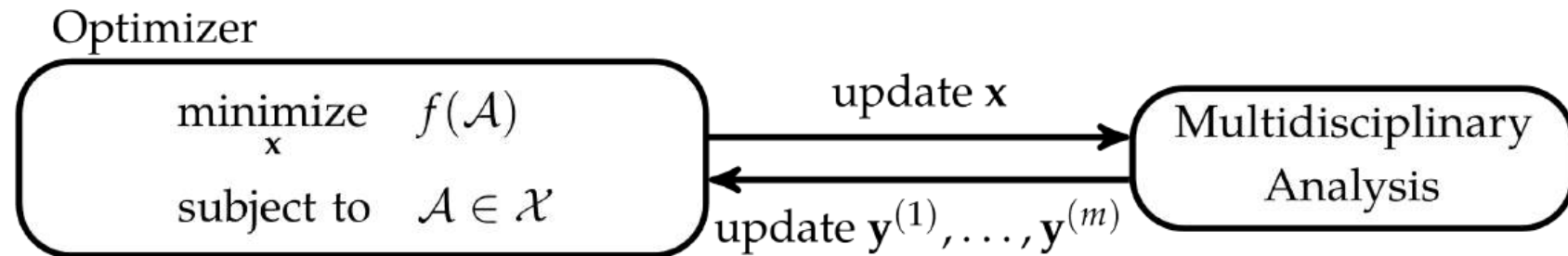
### Distributed

Concurrent Sub-Space Optimization (CSSO)  
Bi-Level System Synthesis (BLISS)  
Collaborative Optimization (CO)  
Analytical Target Cascading (ATC)

MDF Multidisciplinary Feasible approach—a complete analysis is performed at every optimization iteration. Also known as the All-in-One approach.

# Multidisciplinary Design Feasible

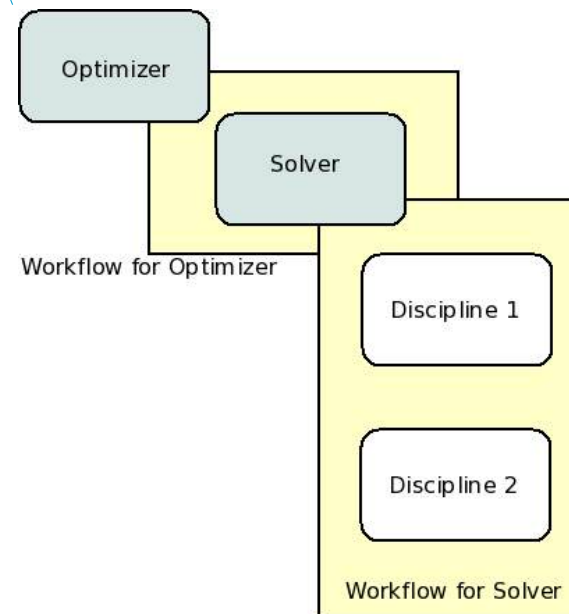
- The multidisciplinary design feasible architecture structures the MDO problem such that standard optimization algorithms can be directly applied to optimize the design variables



$$\begin{aligned} &\underset{\mathbf{x}}{\text{minimize}} && f(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}^{(1)}, \dots, \mathbf{y}^{(m)}) \\ &\text{subject to} && [\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}^{(1)}, \dots, \mathbf{y}^{(m)}] \in \mathcal{X} \end{aligned} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \begin{aligned} &\underset{\mathbf{x}}{\text{minimize}} && f(\text{MDA}(\mathbf{x})) \\ &\text{subject to} && \text{MDA}(\mathbf{x}) \in \mathcal{X} \end{aligned}$$

# Multidisciplinary Feasible (MDF)

- The MDF architecture is **the most intuitive** for engineers
- The optimization problem formulation is identical to the single discipline case, except the disciplinary analysis is replaced by **an MDA**



# Illustrative example: the Sellar problem

2 disciplines involved

Variables:  $x_1, y_1, y_2, z_1, z_2$

We'll see later what are the differences between these variables ...

minimize  $x_1^2 + z_2 + y_1 + \exp(-y_2)$   
with respect to  $z, x$  or  $(z_1, z_2, x_1)$

subject to :

$$3.16 - y_1 \leq 0$$

$$y_2 - 24 \leq 0$$

$$-10 \leq z_1 \leq 10$$

$$0 \leq z_2 \leq 10$$

$$0 \leq x_1 \leq 10$$

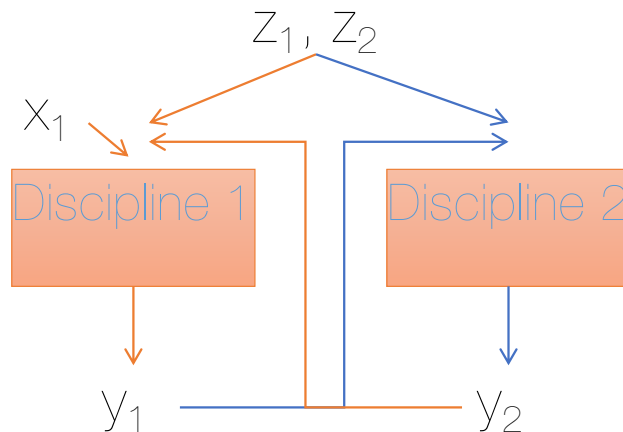
$$\text{Discipline 1 : } y_1(z_1, z_2, x_1, y_2) = z_1^2 + x_1 + z_2 - 0.2y_2$$

$$\text{Discipline 2 : } y_2(z_1, z_2, y_2) = \sqrt{y_1} + z_1 + z_2$$

Sellar, R. S., Batill, S. M., and Renaud, J. E., "Response Surface Based, Concurrent Subspace Optimization for Multidisciplinary System Design", 34th Aerospace Sciences Meeting and Exhibit, Aerospace Sciences Meetings, 1996.

# Illustrative example: the Sellar problem

- **Design** variables:  $z_1, z_2, x_1$  to minimize the objective
- **Shared (or global)** variables:  $z_1, z_2$
- **Local** variable:  $x_1$
- **Coupling** variables:  $y_1, y_2$



$$\begin{aligned} &\text{minimize } x_1^2 + z_2 + y_1 + e^{-y_2} \\ &\text{with respect to } z_1, z_2, x_1 \end{aligned}$$

subject to:

$$\frac{y_1}{3.16} - 1 \geq 0$$

$$1 - \frac{y_2}{24} \geq 0$$

$$-10 \leq z_1 \leq 10$$

$$0 \leq z_2 \leq 10$$

$$0 \leq x_1 \leq 10$$

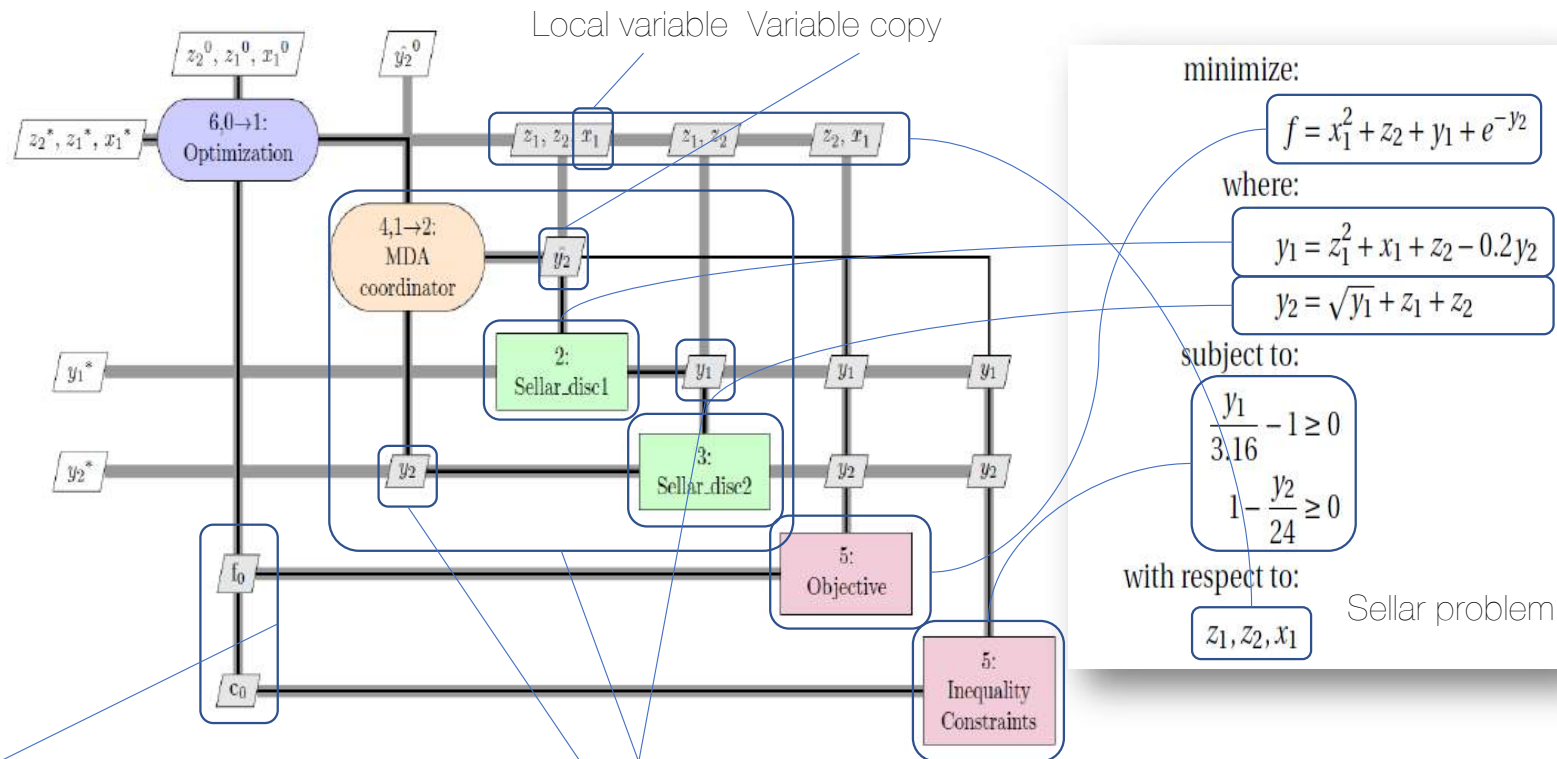
$$\begin{aligned} \text{Discipline 1: } &y_1(z_1, z_2, x_1, y_2) = z_1^2 + x_1 + z_2 - 0.2y_2 \\ \text{Discipline 2: } &y_2(z_1, z_2, y_1) = \sqrt{y_1} + z_1 + z_2 \end{aligned}$$

Multidisciplinary analysis (MDA) consists in solution of the following equations

$$R_1 = 0 \quad \rightarrow \quad y_1 \text{ solutions}$$

$$R_2 = 0 \quad \rightarrow \quad y_2 \text{ solutions}$$

# MDF illustration on the Sellar problem; MDF – Gauss-Seidel variant



Coordinated MDA system with sequential discipline execution

Objective and constraints are sent to optimizer only after MDA coordinator has converged ( $y_2 = \hat{y}_2$ )

Coupling variables

EMSM207-1 Dec\_03\_c1



# Multidisciplinary Feasible (MDF)

## ■ Advantages:

- Intuitive procedure/no specialized knowledge required → Easy to incorporate existing models
- Always return a system design that satisfies the consistency constraints, even if the optimization process is terminated early – good from a practical engineering point of view

## ■ Disadvantages:

- Intermediate results do not necessarily satisfy the optimization constraints
- Cannot be parallelized
- Developing the MDA procedure with CSM/CFD might be time consuming\*, if not already available

\* Automatic mapping, postprocessing etc...

Gradients of the coupled system more challenging to compute

# Optimizer solver

- Requirements

- Problem to solve

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \min f(\mathbf{x}) \\ \text{wrt } \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d \\ \text{st } g_i(\mathbf{x}) \leq 0 \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, m \end{array} \right.$$

- Derivative Free Optimizer (DFO)

- Evolutionary Strategies (ES)

- Surrogate based Optimizer (SBO) or Bayesian Optimization (BO)

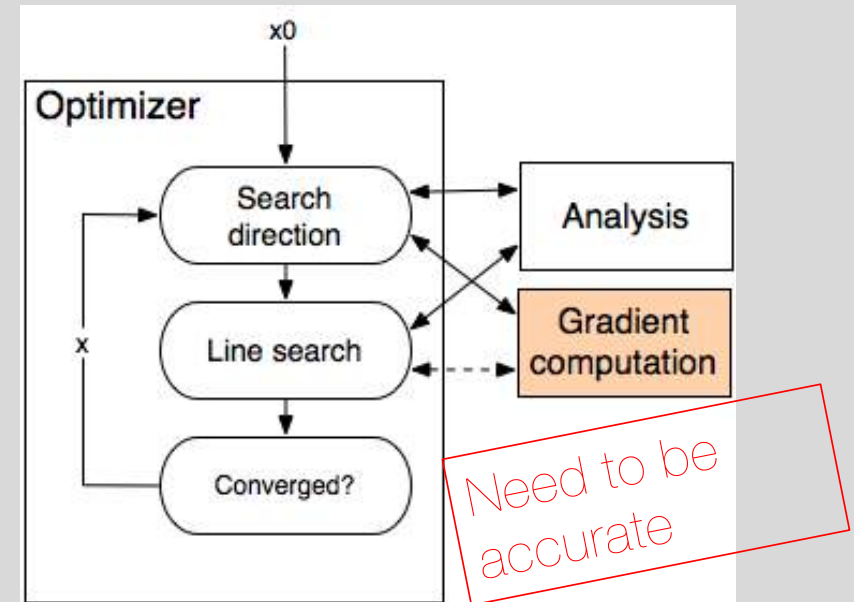
- ...

- Gradient based Optimizer

→ Computation of the derivatives of  $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})$  and  $\mathbf{g}_i(\mathbf{x})$  to iterate and satisfy the KKT optimality conditions

→ OpenMDAO focus on computation of sensitivities (adjoint vs direct)

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}, \frac{\partial g}{\partial x_i}, \frac{\partial h}{\partial x_i}$$



# When to use gradient-free optimizers???

1. Very cheap models
2. When you can't compute derivatives

# When to use gradient-free optimizers???

Noisy and discontinuous design space

(YOU DON 'T KNOW *a priori*)

When you have a “noisy” design space, it means that the outputs change rapidly for a small change in the inputs. This noise might be caused by computational or physical reasons.

If your model is either C0 or C1 discontinuous, gradient-free methods might make sense for you. C0 discontinuities mean that there are jumps in the design space. These might be caused by if-then conditions or discrete variables in your model or something else. C1 discontinuities mean that the derivative space is not smooth and continuous.

For example, what are the derivatives for a wind turbine having two or three blades? 2.2 or 2.9 blades are not an option, so that's inherently introduces a discontinuity. The derivative doesn't exist for discrete variables.

# When to use gradient-free optimizers???

Multimodal problems

(YOU DON 'T KNOW *a priori*)

Gradient-free algorithms don't automatically solve multimodal problems better than gradient-based ones.

[DIRECT](#), [ISRES](#), [particle swarm](#), and [evolutionary](#) methods.

Nelder-Mead and COBYLA are local algorithms in that they are not made to explore the global design space. I suggest COBYLA as default optimizer

<https://github.com/relf/cobyla>

```
class COBYLA(maxiter=1000, disp=False, rhobeg=1.0, tol=None)
```

Constrained Optimization By Linear Approximation optimizer.

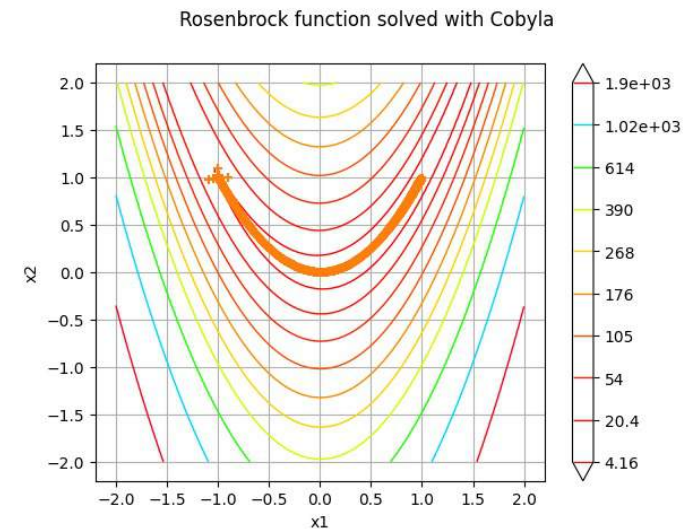
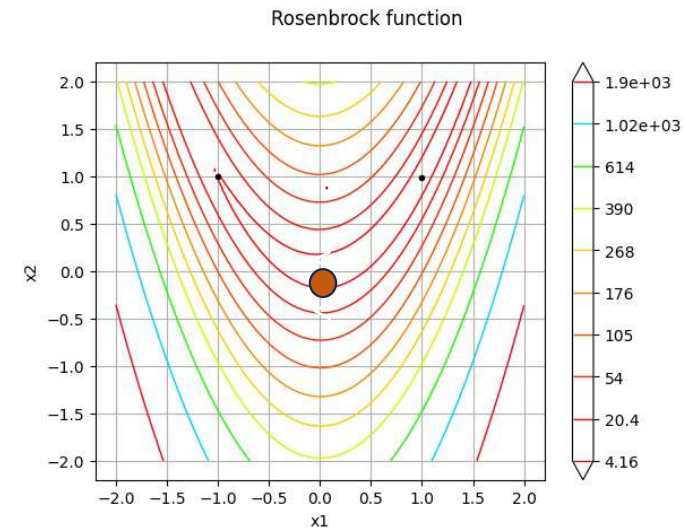
COBYLA is a numerical optimization method for constrained problems where the derivative of the objective function is not known.

Uses `scipy.optimize.minimize` COBYLA. For further detail, please refer

to <https://docs.scipy.org/doc/scipy/reference/generated/scipy.optimize.minimize.html>

Parameters

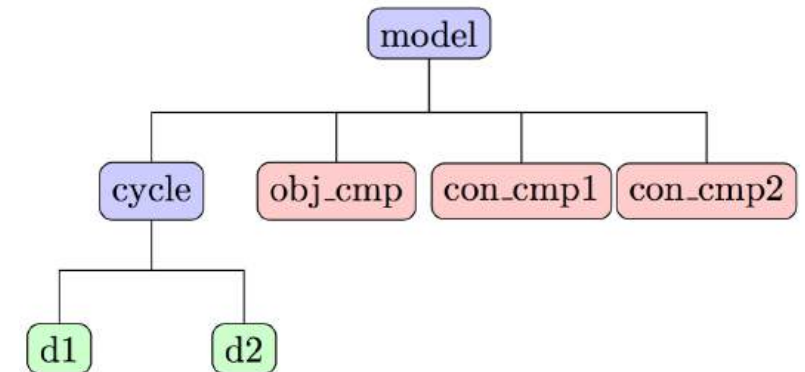
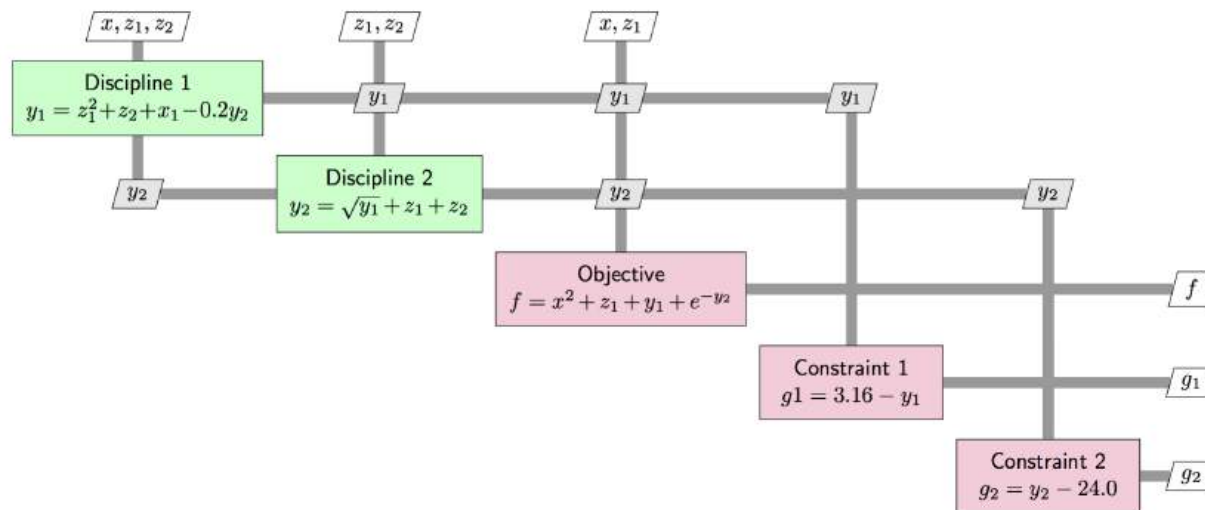
- `maxiter` (int) – Maximum number of function evaluations.
- `disp` (bool) – Set to True to print convergence messages.
- `rhobeg` (float) – Reasonable initial changes to the variables.
- `tol` (Optional[float]) – Final accuracy in the optimization (not precisely guaranteed). This is a lower bound on the size of the trust region.



# To finish Complementary materials online

<https://colab.research.google.com/drive/1o31643WndtBYe5QuA1Q5yk2rC3VCndXT#scrollTo=w6um54OqHmhC>

## CHALLENGE #5 play with Sellar



# Grouping and Connecting Components

```
class SellarMDA(om.Group):
```

```
    """
```

```
    Group containing the Sellar MDA.
```

```
    """
```

```
def setup(self):
```

```
    cycle = self.add_subsystem('cycle', om.Group(), promotes=['*'])
```

```
    cycle.add_subsystem('d1', SellarDis1(), promotes_inputs=['x', 'z', 'y2'],  
                        promotes_outputs=['y1'])
```

```
    cycle.add_subsystem('d2', SellarDis2(), promotes_inputs=['z', 'y1'],  
                        promotes_outputs=['y2'])
```

```
    cycle.set_input_defaults('x', 1.0)
```

```
    cycle.set_input_defaults('z', np.array([5.0, 2.0]))
```

```
# Nonlinear Block Gauss Seidel is a gradient free solver
```

```
cycle.nonlinear_solver = om.NonlinearBlockGS()
```

```
self.add_subsystem('obj_cmp', om.ExecComp('obj = x**2 + z[1] + y1 + exp(-y2)',  
                                           z=np.array([0.0, 0.0]), x=0.0),  
                  promotes=['x', 'z', 'y1', 'y2', 'obj'])
```

```
self.add_subsystem('con_cmp1', om.ExecComp('con1 = 3.16 - y1'), promotes=['con1', 'y1'])
```

```
self.add_subsystem('con_cmp2', om.ExecComp('con2 = y2 - 24.0'), promotes=['con2', 'y2'])
```

Why do we create the *cycle* subgroup?  
There is a circular data dependency between *d1* and *d2* that needs to be converged with a nonlinear solver in order to get a valid answer. Models with cycles in them are often referred to as “Multidisciplinary Analyses” or **MDA** for short.

