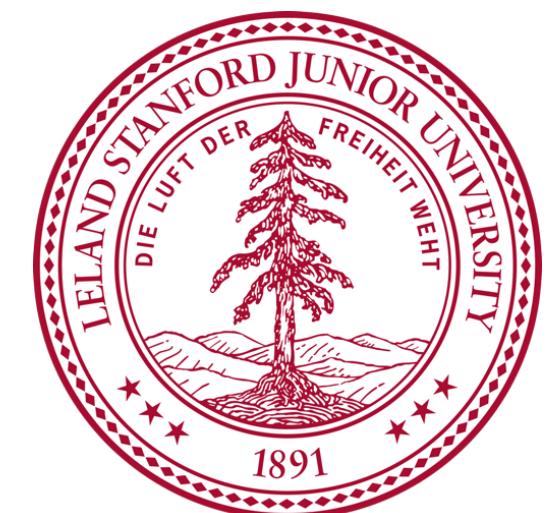




ME270 – Fall 2021

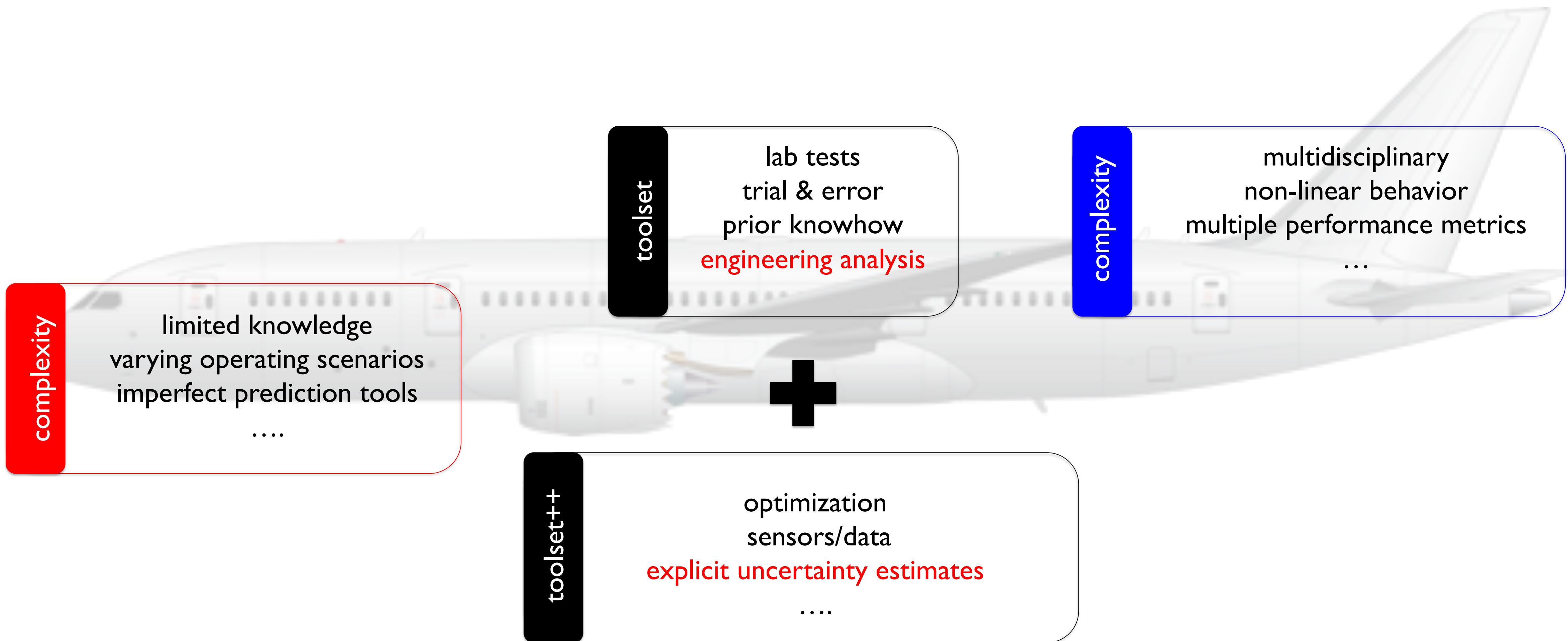
Gianluca Iaccarino
Director, Institute for Computational Mathematical Engineering
Professor, Mechanical Engineering Department
Stanford University



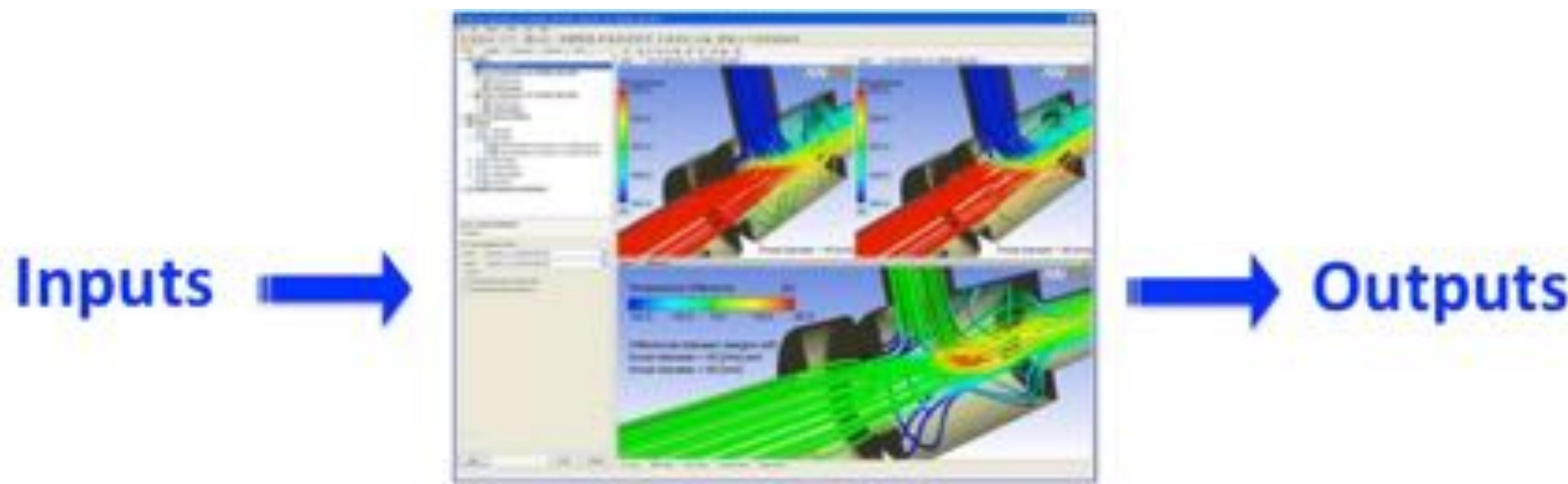
computational design of complex engineering systems



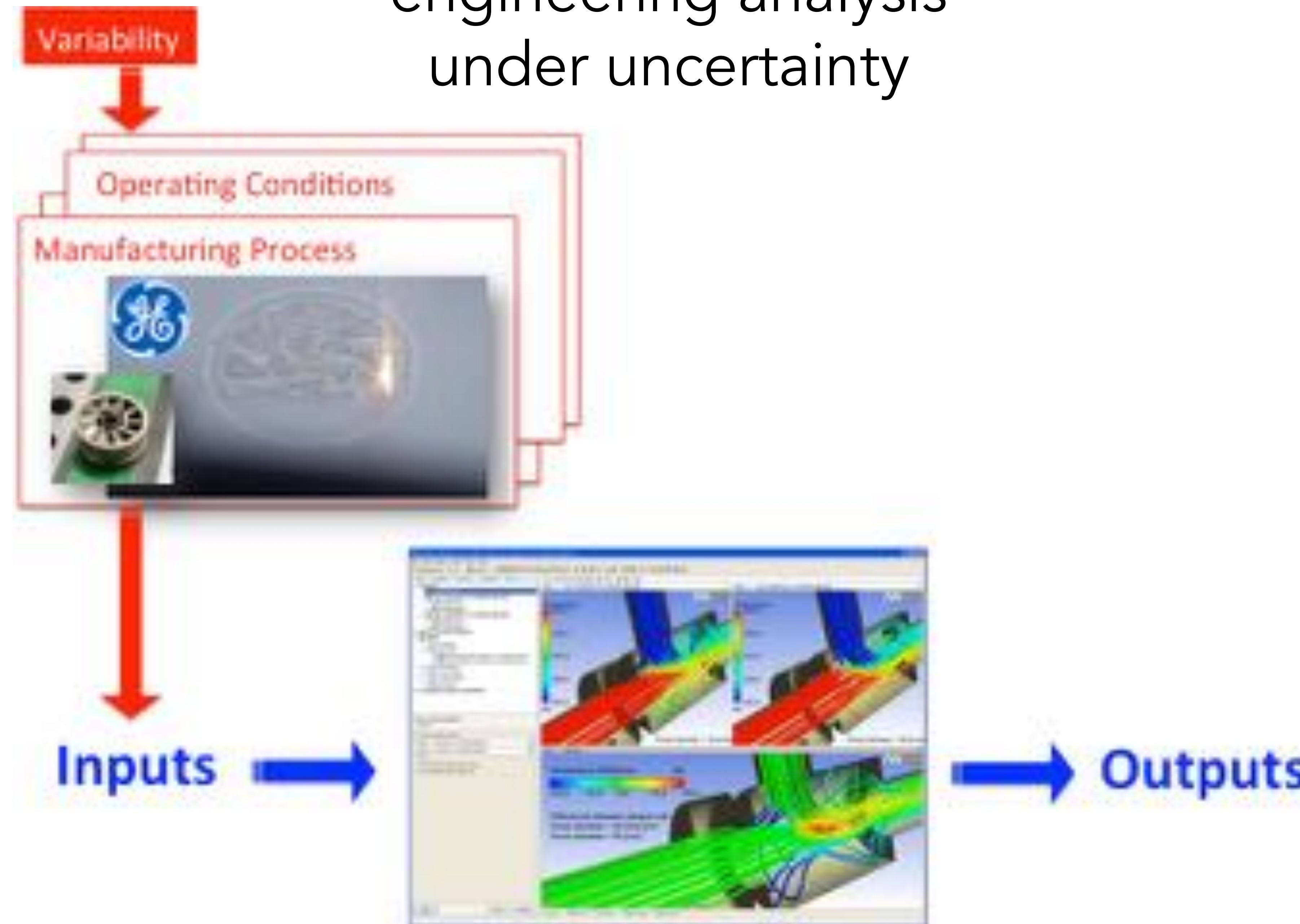
computational design of complex engineering systems



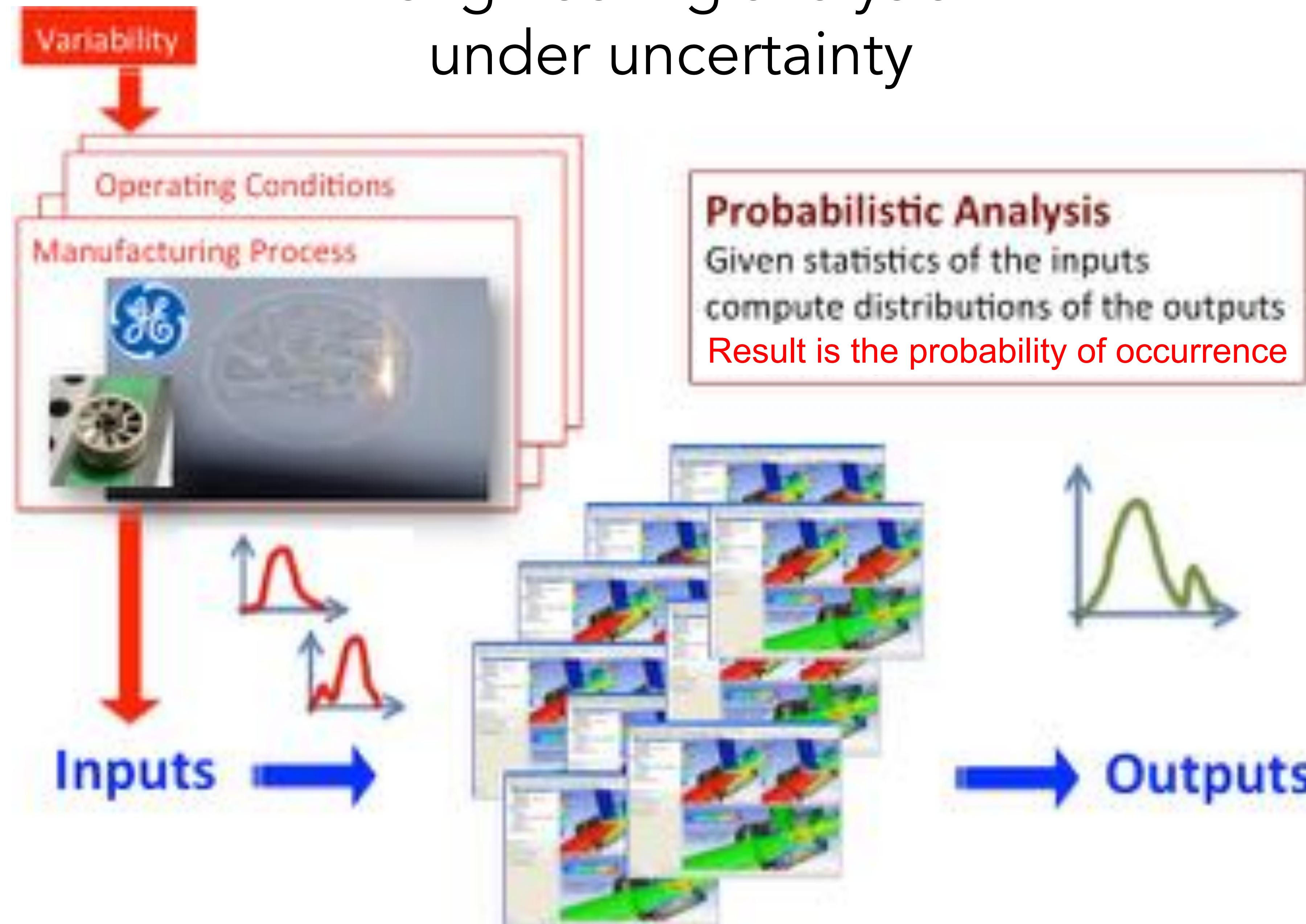
engineering analysis



engineering analysis under uncertainty



engineering analysis under uncertainty



engineering analysis under uncertainty

Uncertainty = Variability

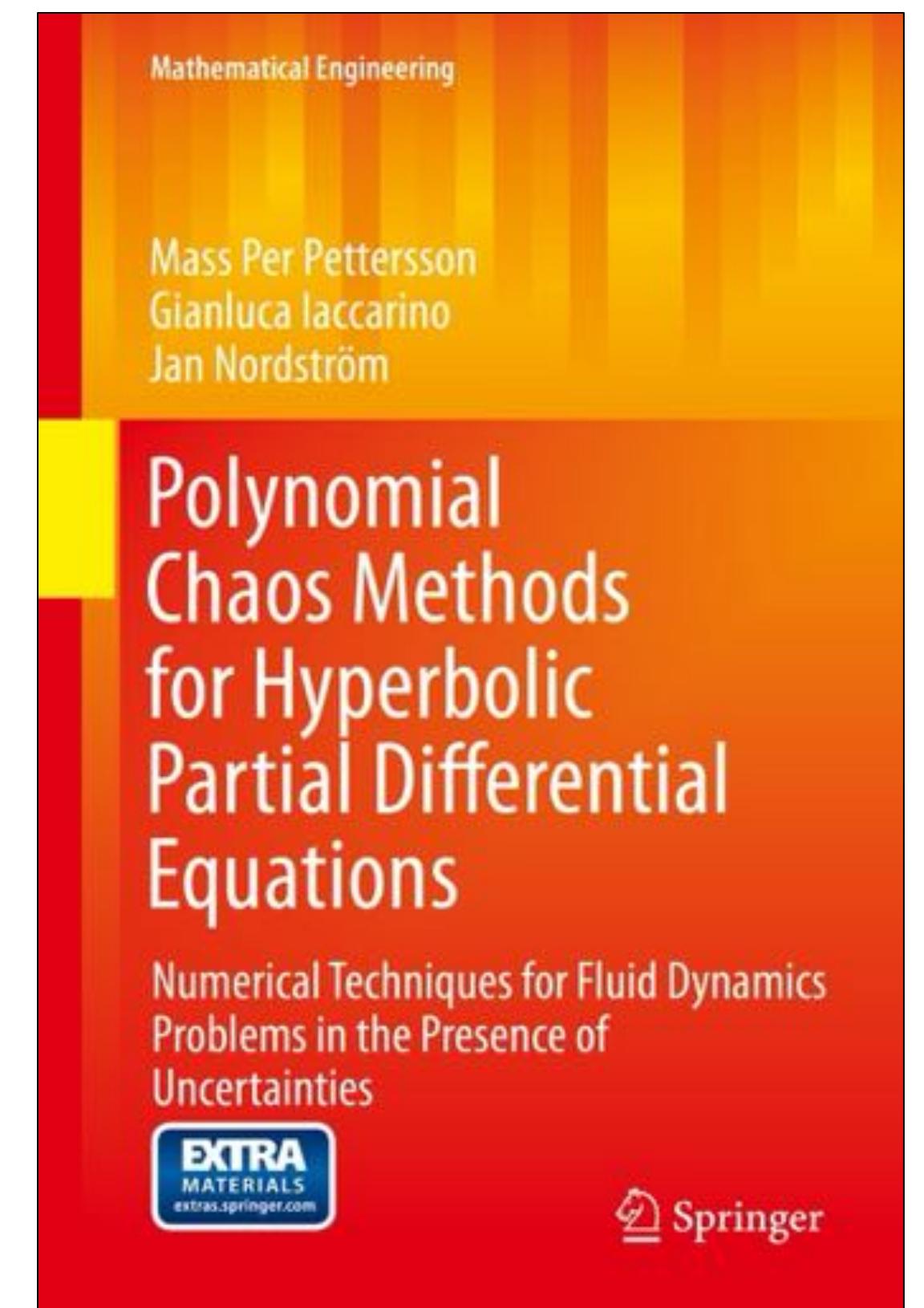
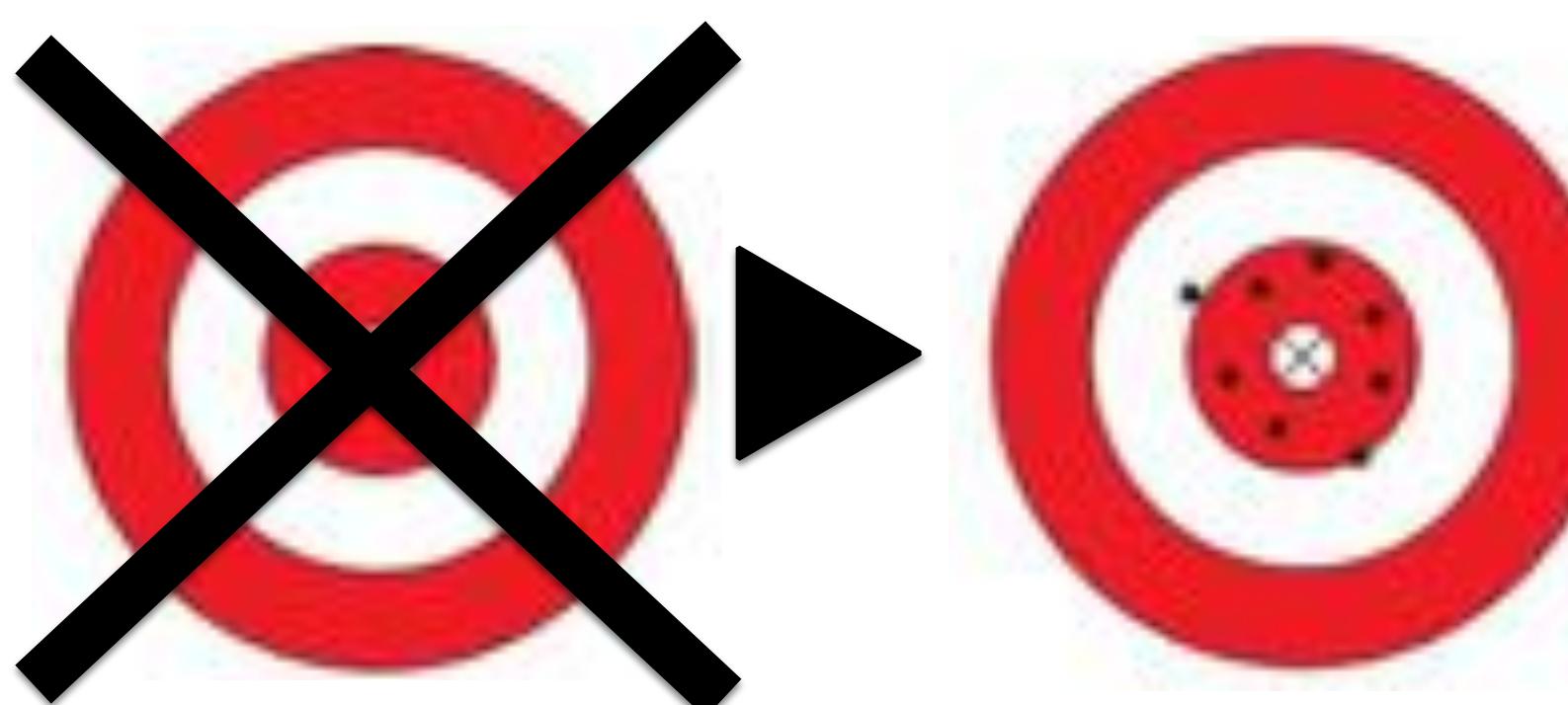
Probabilistic analysis

sampling strategies

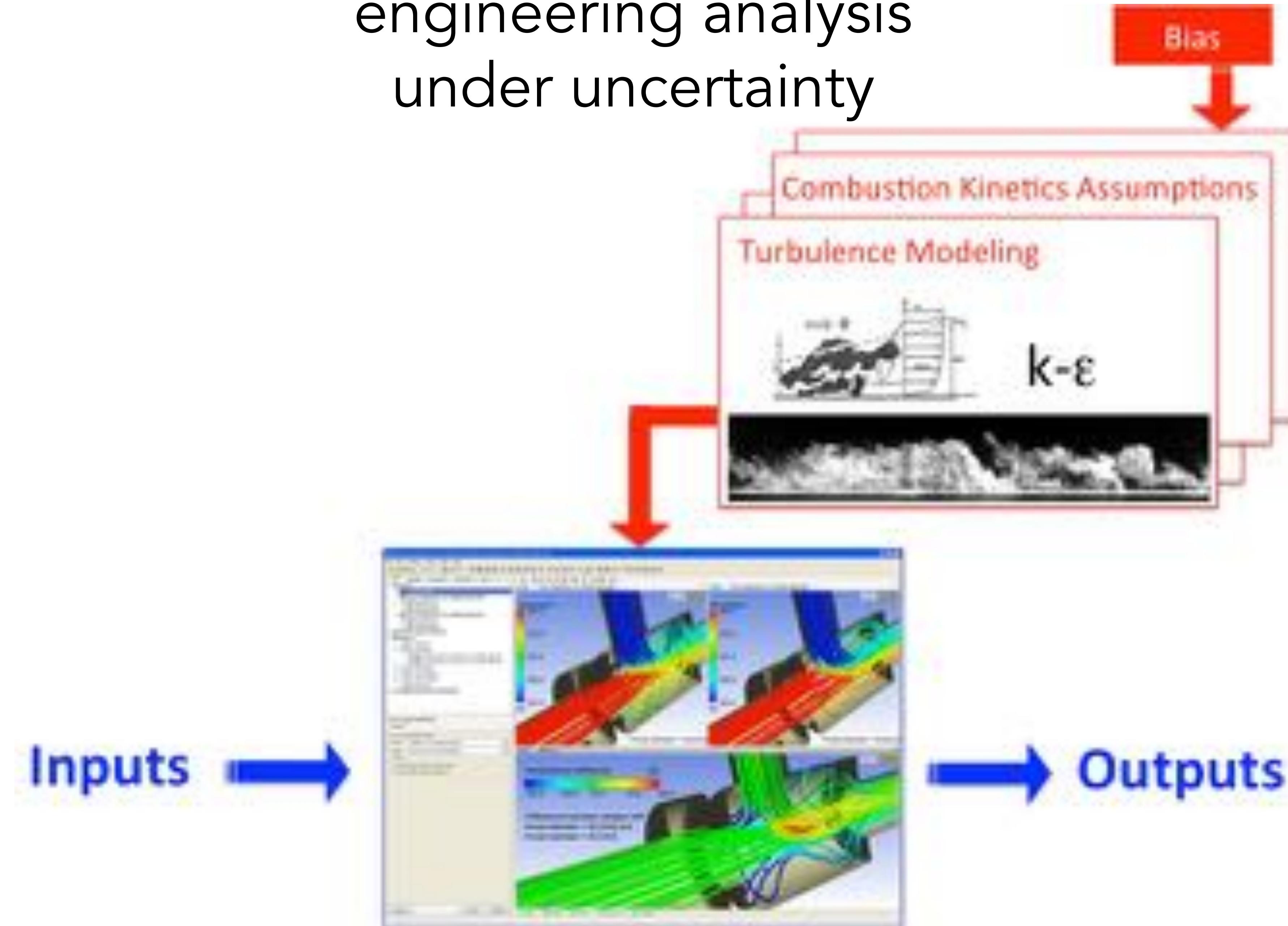
- Monte Carlo
- quasi random sequences
- Latin Hypercube
- ...

approximation strategies

- stochastic collocation
- polynomial chaos
- ...



engineering analysis under uncertainty



engineering analysis under uncertainty

Enveloping Models

Construct models that represent
the possible outcomes when
with different assumptions

Result is the prediction interval

Combustion Kinetics Assumptions

Turbulence Modeling



$k-\epsilon$

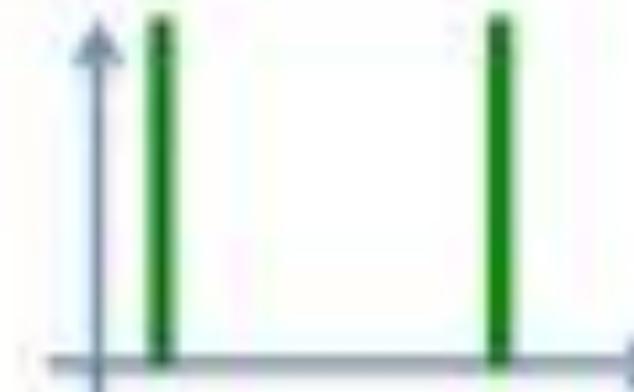


Inputs



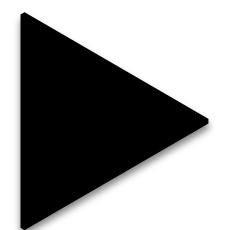
Outputs

Bias



engineering analysis under uncertainty

Uncertainty = Bias



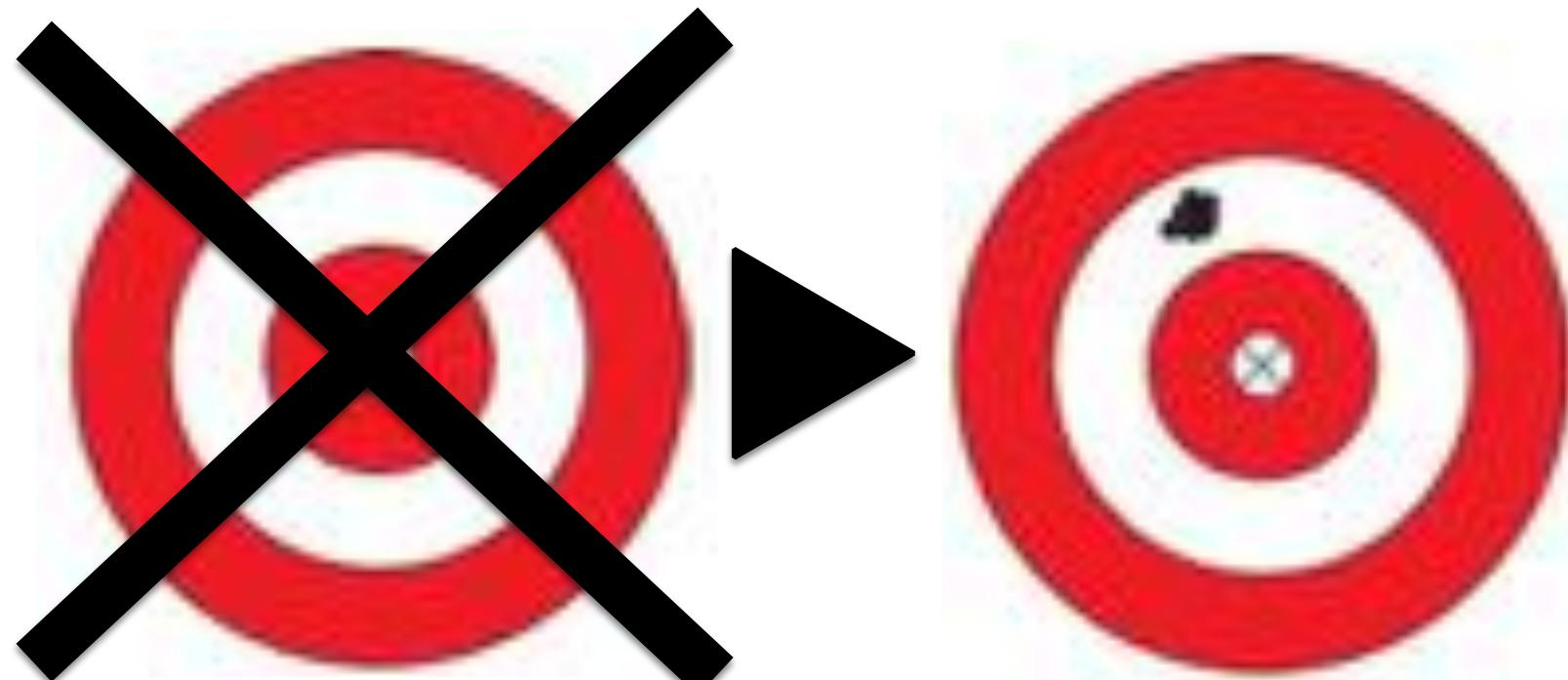
**non
probabilistic
methods**

Physics based

- Enveloping methods for turbulence

Formal bounds

- best/worst case analysis
- interval analysis
- ...



PHYSICAL REVIEW FLUIDS 2, 024605 (2017)

Eigenspace perturbations for uncertainty estimation of single-point turbulence closures

Gianluca Iaccarino, Aashwin Ananda Mishra,^{*} and Saman Ghili
Center for Turbulence Research, Stanford University, Stanford, California 94305, USA
(Received 12 September 2016; published 27 February 2017)

Reynolds-averaged Navier-Stokes (RANS) models represent the workhorse for predicting turbulent flows in complex industrial applications. However, RANS closures introduce a significant degree of epistemic uncertainty in predictions due to the potential lack of validity of the assumptions utilized in model formulation. Estimating this uncertainty is a fundamental requirement for building confidence in such predictions. We outline a methodology to estimate this structural uncertainty, incorporating perturbations to the eigenvalues and the eigenvectors of the modeled Reynolds stress tensor. The mathematical foundations of this framework are derived and explicated. Thence, this framework is applied to a set of separated turbulent flows, while compared to numerical and experimental data and contrasted against the predictions of the eigenvalue-only perturbation methodology. It is exhibited that for separated flows, this framework is able to yield significant enhancement over the established eigenvalue perturbation methodology in explaining the discrepancy against experimental observations and high-fidelity simulations. Furthermore, uncertainty bounds of potential engineering utility can be estimated by performing five specific RANS simulations, reducing the computational expenditure on such an exercise.

DOI: 10.1103/PhysRevFluids.2.024605

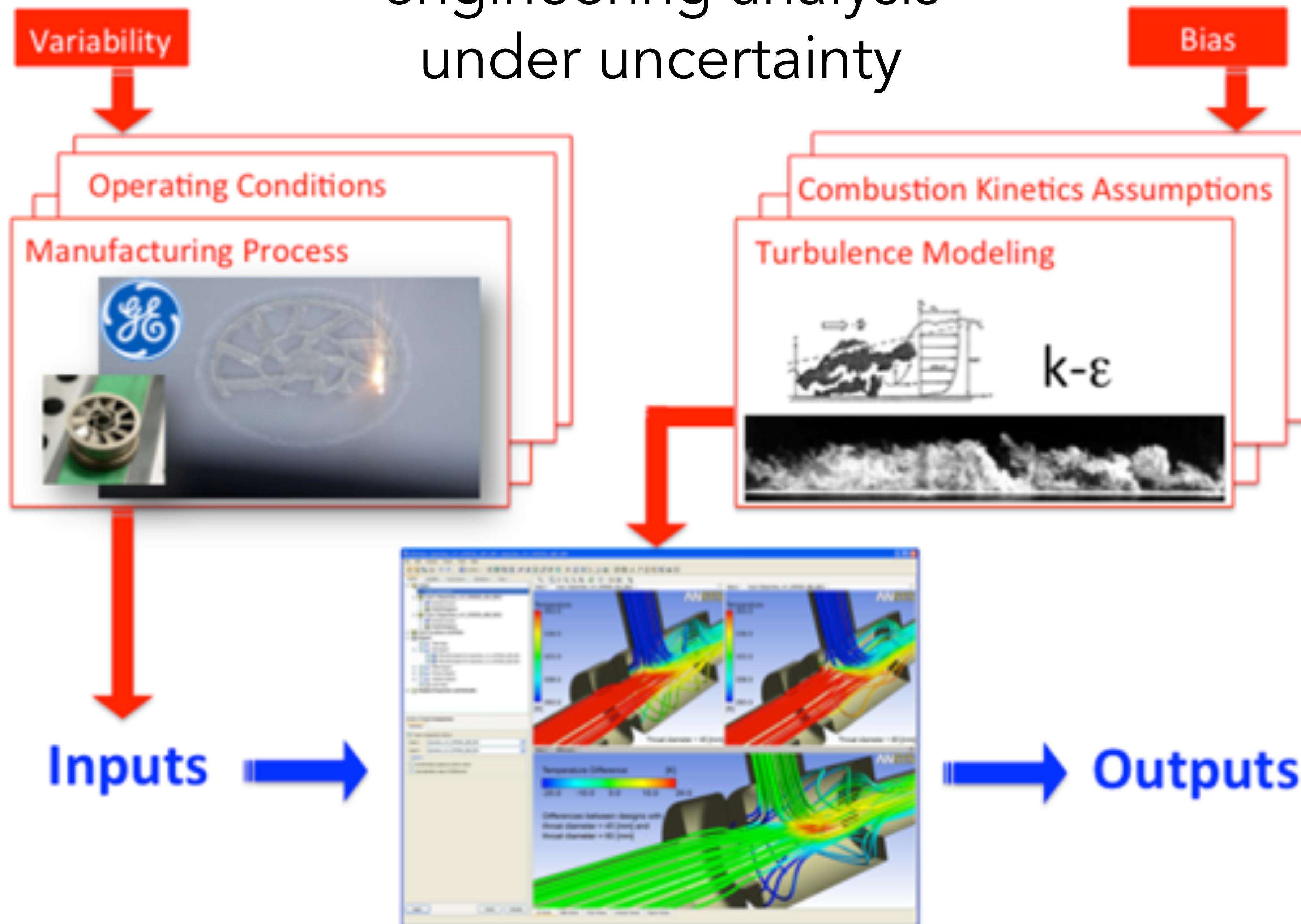
I. INTRODUCTION

In spite of over a century of research, no analytical solutions for the equations governing turbulent flows are available. With the present state of computational resources, a purely numerical resolution of turbulent time and length scales encountered in engineering problems is not viable in industrial design practice. Consequently, almost all investigations have to resort to some degree of modeling. Turbulence models are constitutive relations attempting to relate quantities of interest to flow parameters using assumptions and simplifications derived from physical intuition and observations. Reynolds-averaged Navier-Stokes (RANS)-based models represent the pragmatic recourse for complex engineering flows, with a vast majority of simulations, in both academia and industry, resorting to this avenue. Despite their widespread use, RANS-based models suffer from an inherent structural inability to replicate fundamental turbulence processes and specific flow phenomena, as they introduce a high degree of epistemic uncertainty into the simulations arising due to the model form.

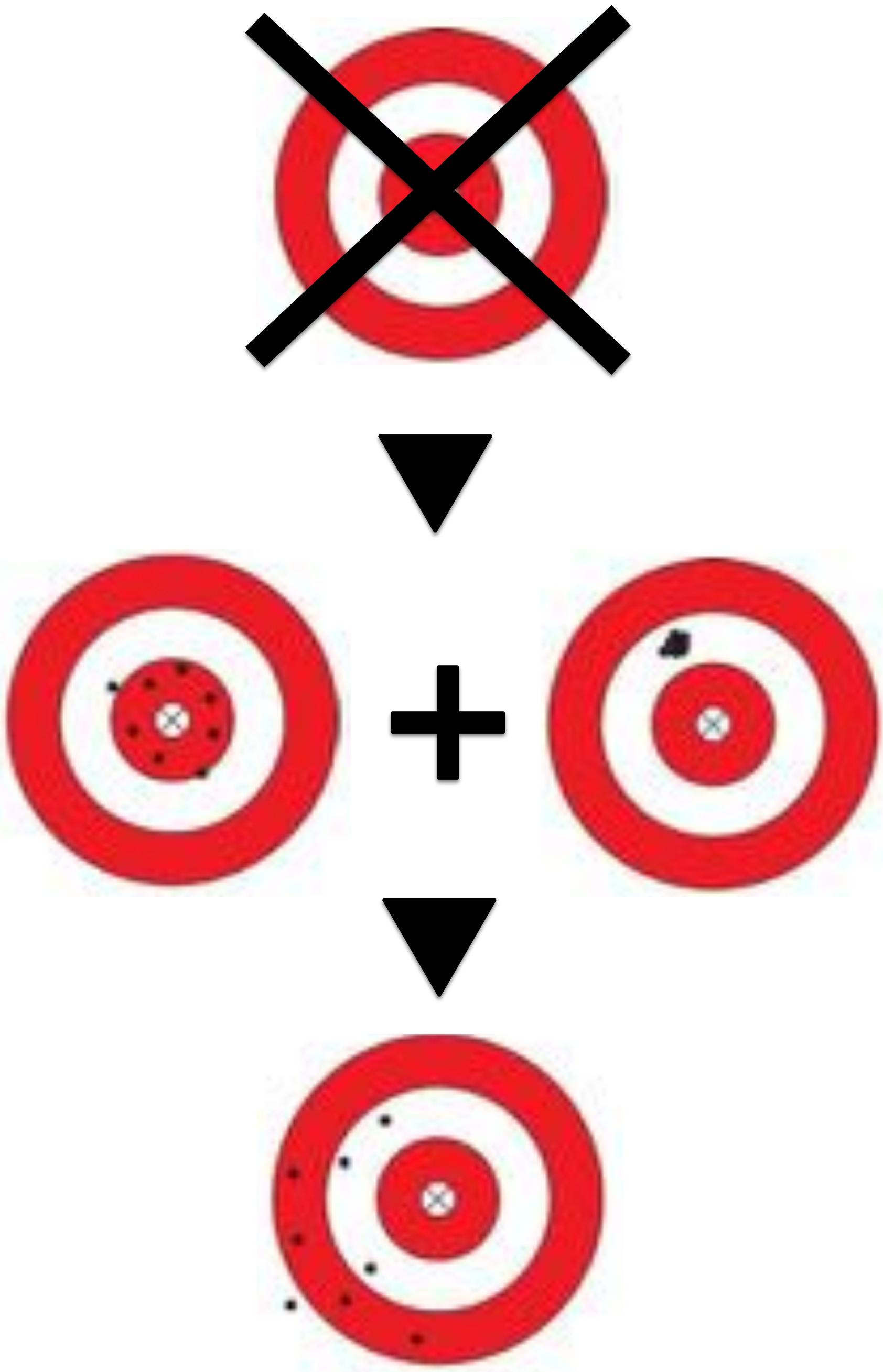
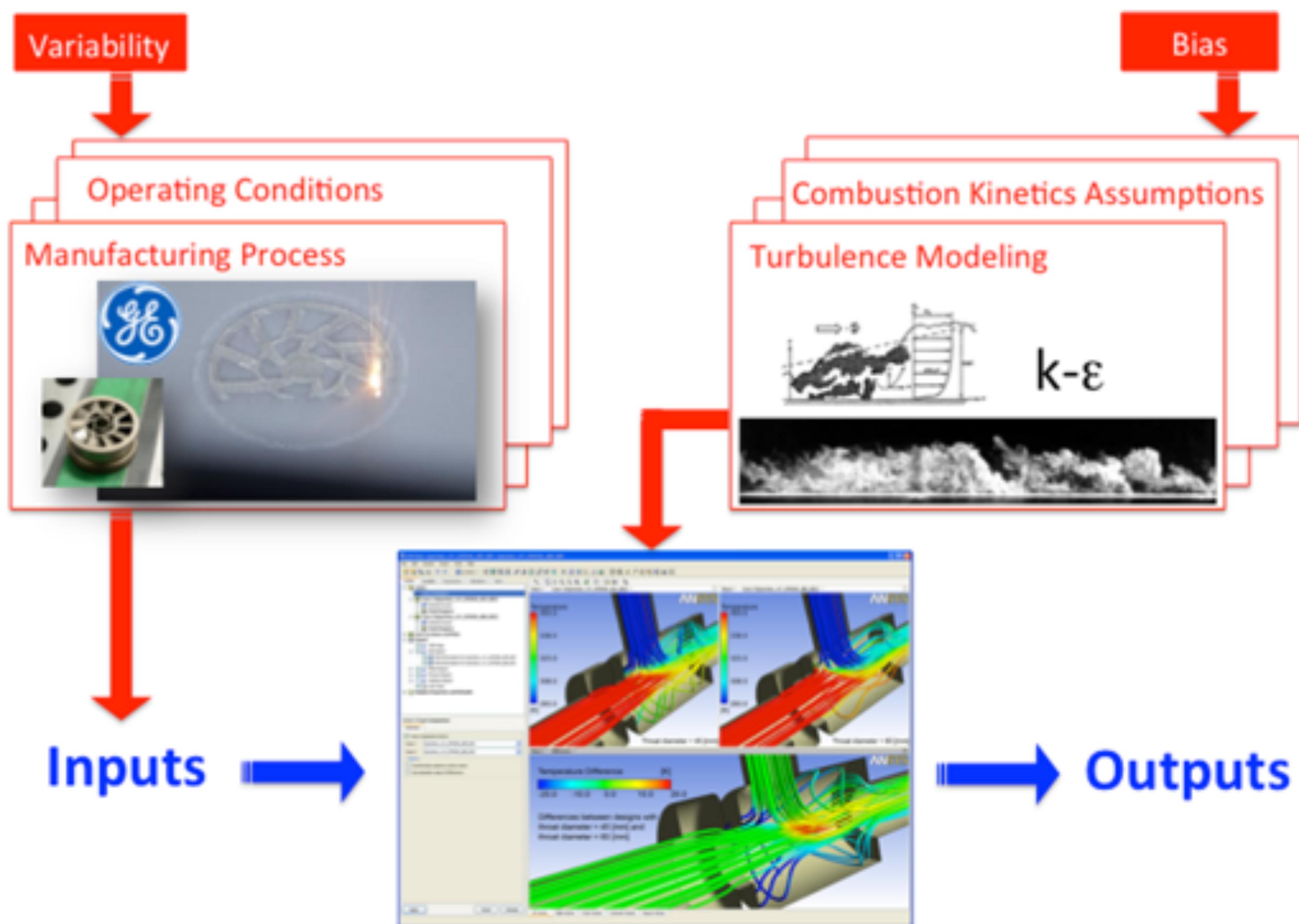
Uncertainty quantification for RANS-based closures attempts to assess the trustworthiness of model predictions of quantities of interest and is thus of considerable utility in establishing RANS models as tools for engineering applications. To address structural uncertainties, Singh and Duraisamy [1] and Parish and Duraisamy [2] utilize a data-driven approach wherein full-field data sets are utilized to infer and calibrate the functional form of model discrepancies. This is augmented by machine learning algorithms to reconstruct model corrections. Ling and Templer [3] employ a data-driven approach along with a variety of machine learning algorithms to identify regions in the flow where high degrees of model-form uncertainty are extant. Recently, a physics-based nonparametric approach to estimate the model-form uncertainties has been developed by Emory *et al.* [4]. This framework approximates structural variability via sequential perturbations injected

^{*}aashwin@stanford.edu

engineering analysis under uncertainty



engineering analysis under uncertainty



ME270

**advances in computing
with uncertainties**

topics for today

**communicating
uncertainties**

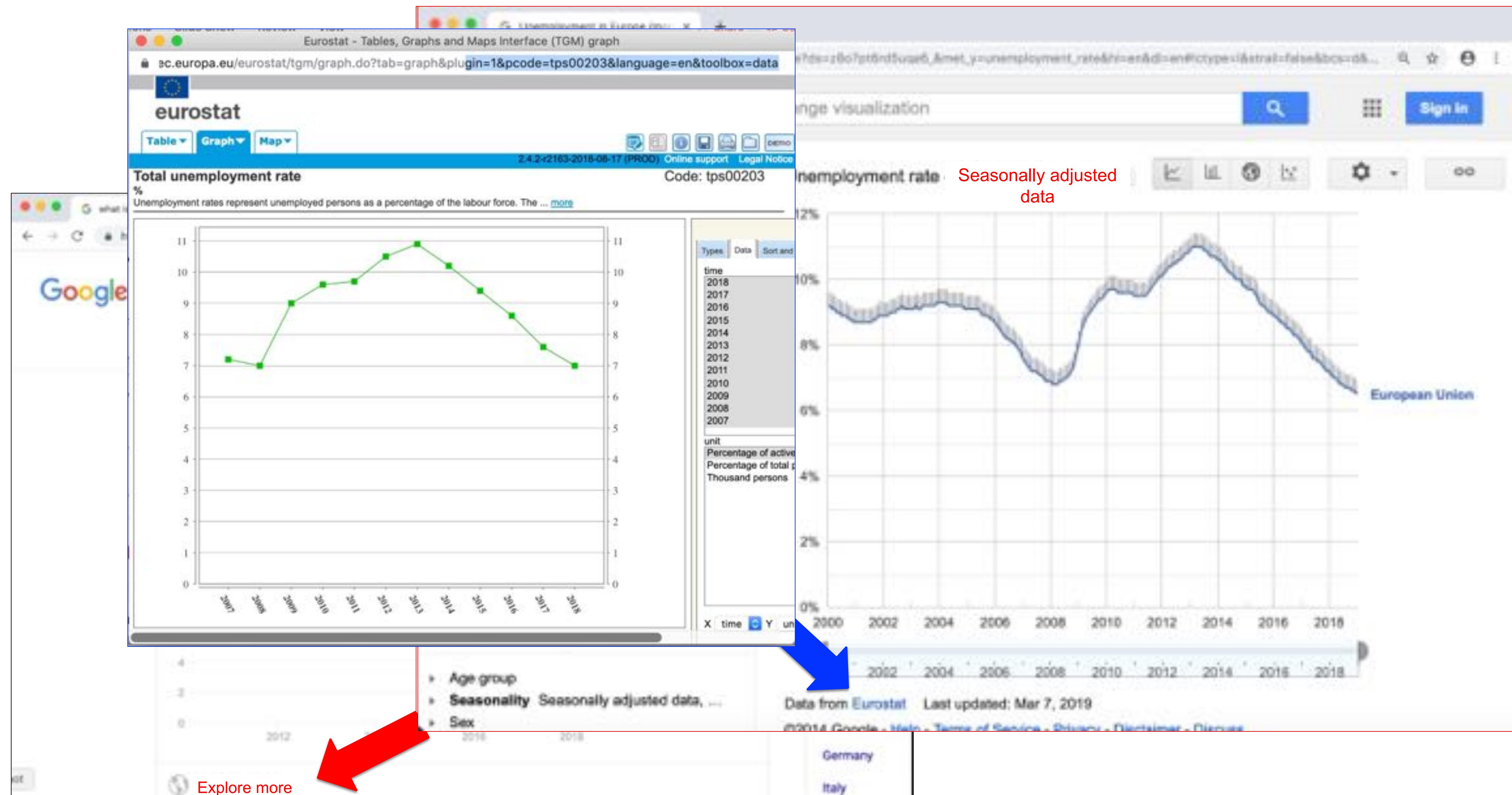
**optimization with
uncertainties**

**uncertainties
without probabilities**

communicating uncertainties

official economic statistics

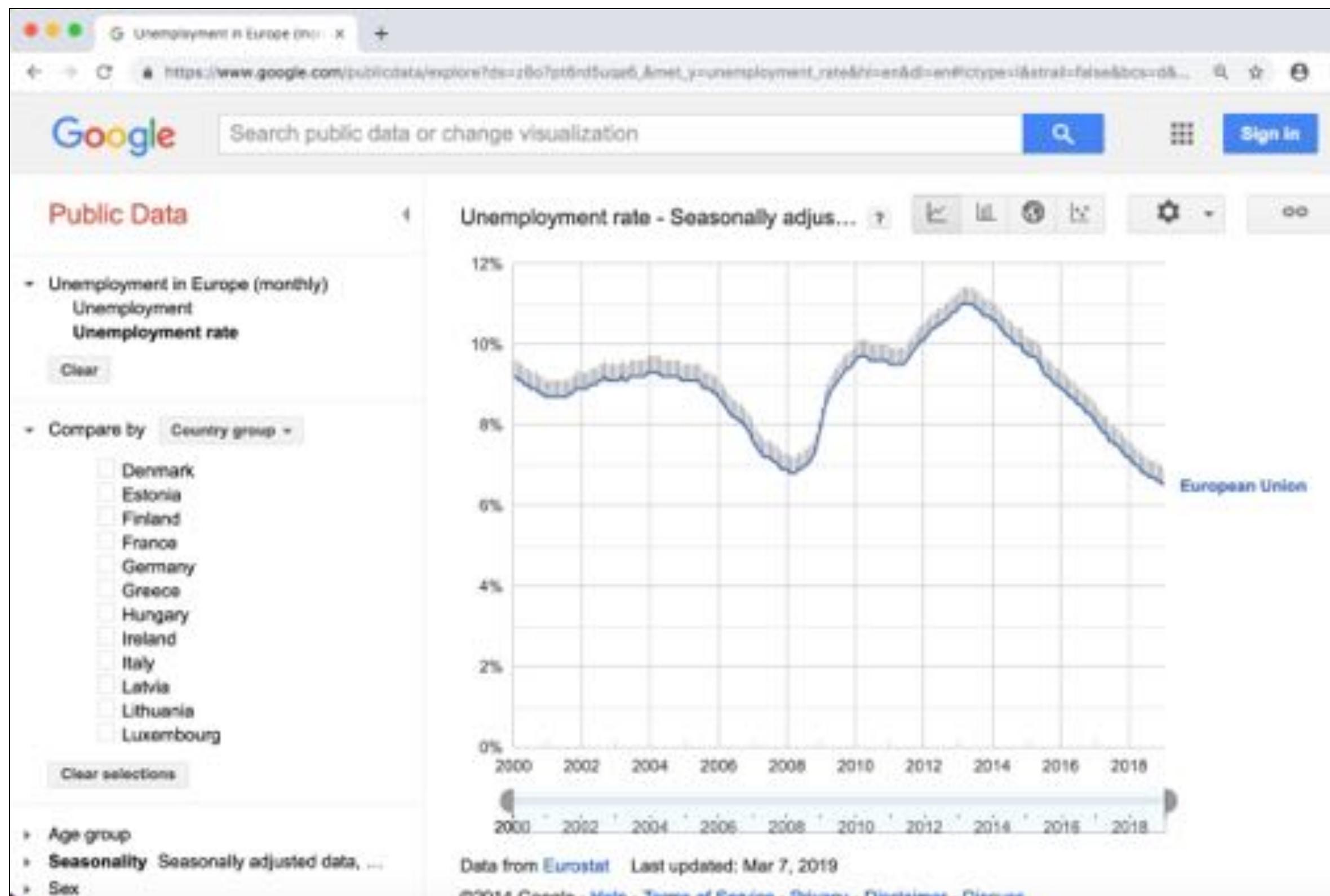
official economic statistics



the unemployment rate is 6.8%!

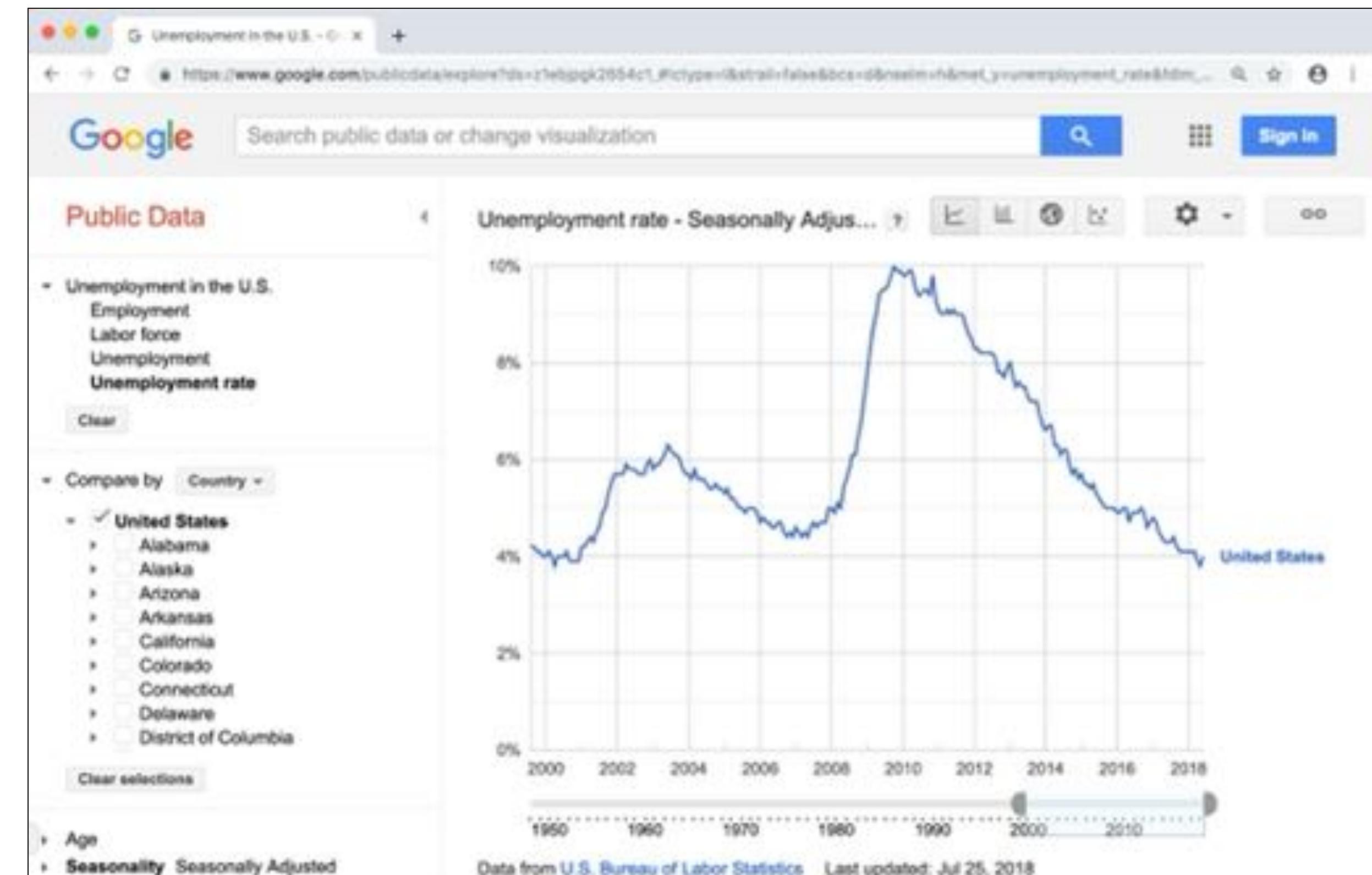
official economic statistics

What is the unemployment rate in Europe?



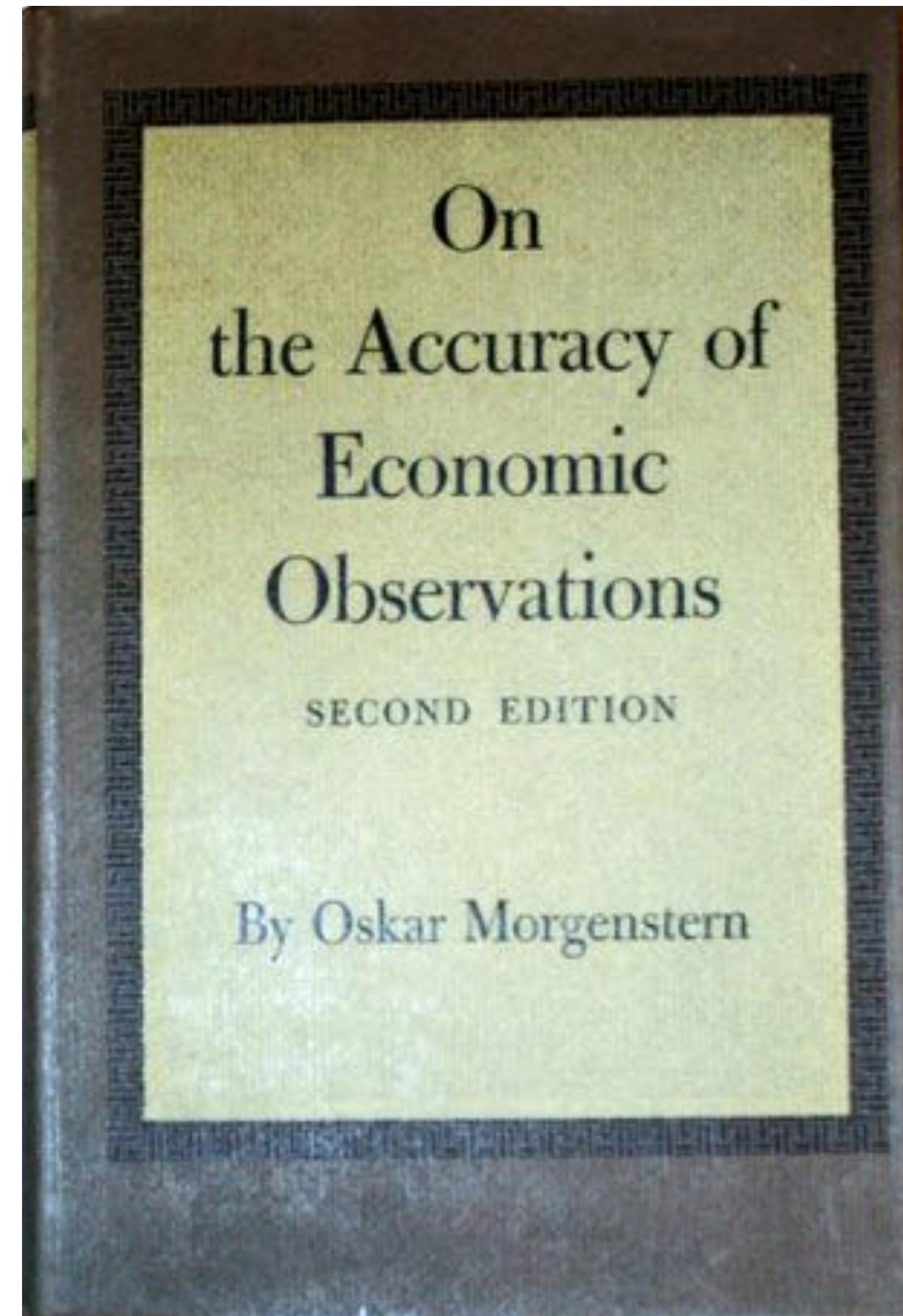
Data from Eurostat

What is the unemployment rate in US?



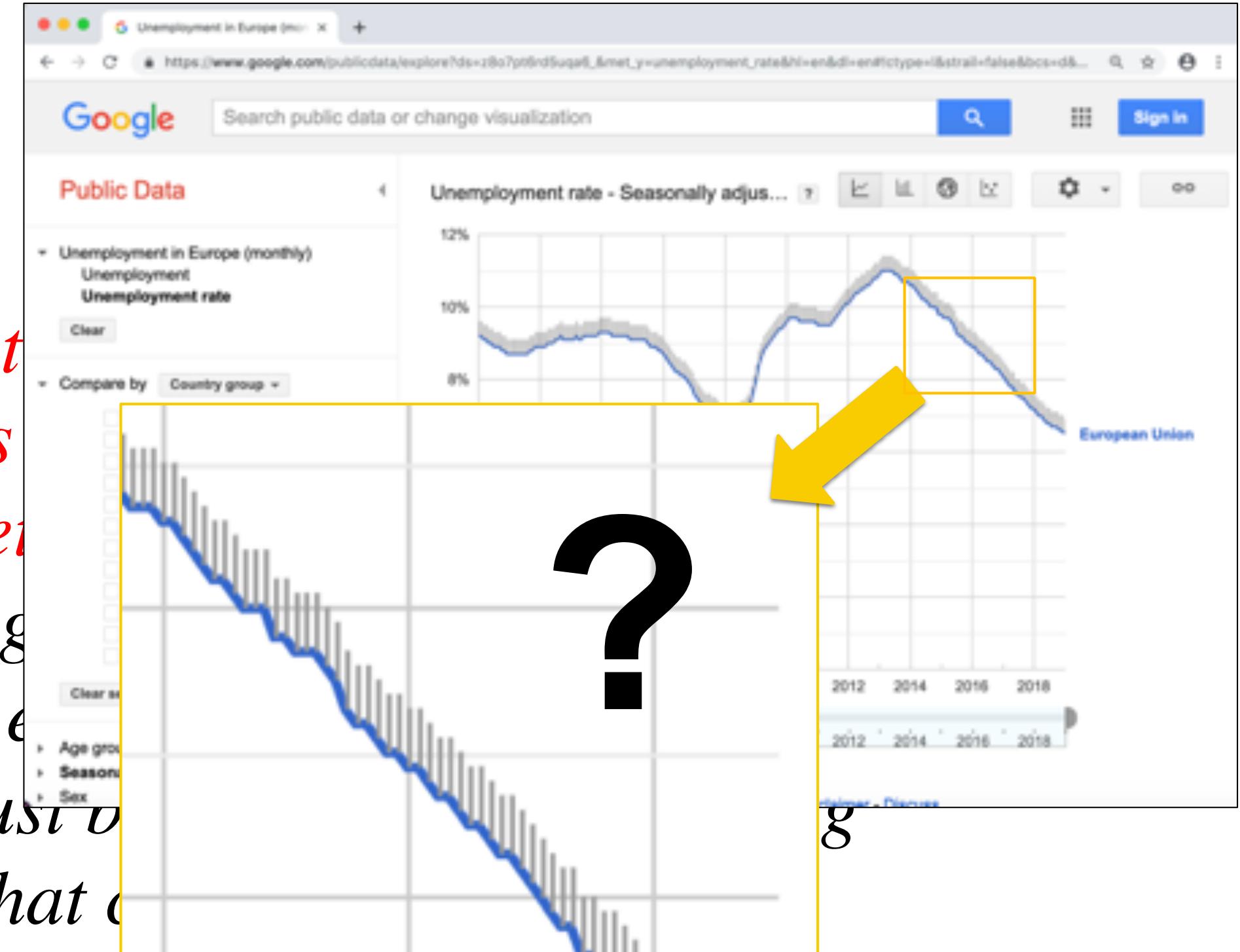
Data from US Bureau of Labor Statistics

errors in official economic statistics



Perhaps the greatest statistical difficulty is that the errors of observation, even at short notice, is likely to be only published together with the observations themselves. An error. Even if only roughly estimated, would produce a wholesome effect. The publication of error estimates in economic statistics must therefore be encouraged. It would give claims and demands that can be checked statistically. The publication of error estimates would have a profound influence on the whole situation.

Morgenstern (1963a, pp. 304–05)



are there errors?

the unemployment rate is “about” **6.8%!**

Sampling Errors & Non-Sampling Errors

- limited number of respondents

**probabilistic
methods**

- delays in data collection
- inability to obtain information from a group or a region
- temporal/seasonal factors
- mistakes made by respondents
- data collection and processing errors
- ...

**non
probabilistic
methods**

errors or uncertainties?

“Errors in scientific results due to *software bugs* are not limited to a few high-profile cases that lead to retractions and are widely reported. Here I estimate that in fact **most scientific results are probably wrong** if data have passed through a computer, and that these errors may remain largely undetected. The opportunities for both subtle and profound errors in software and data management are boundless, yet they remain surprisingly underappreciated.”

Soergel, 2015

**verification is
for errors....
not the topic of
this class**

“Any computer code longer than 600 lines has a *bug*!”

Jameson, 2007

uncertainties...

probabilistic vs non-probabilistic

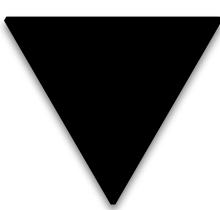
aleatory vs epistemic

stochastic vs deterministic

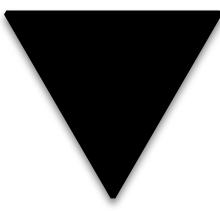
irreducible vs reducible

....

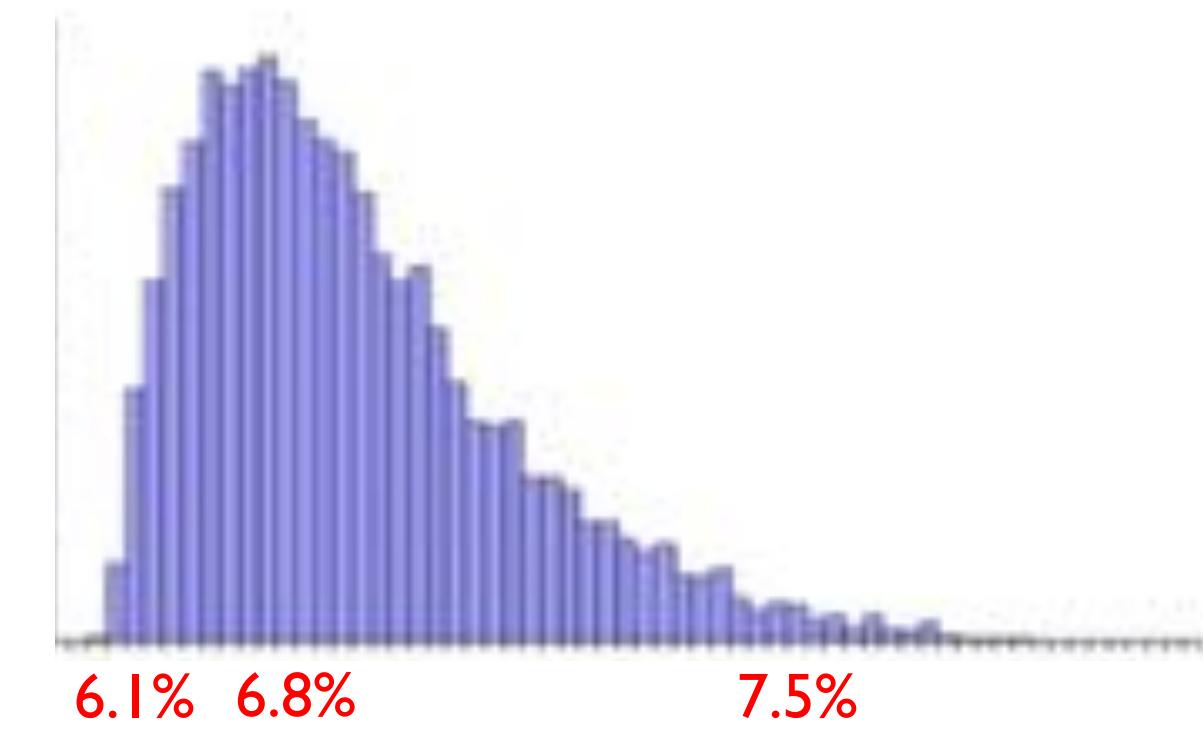
the unemployment rate is **6.8%**!



“uncertainty quantification”



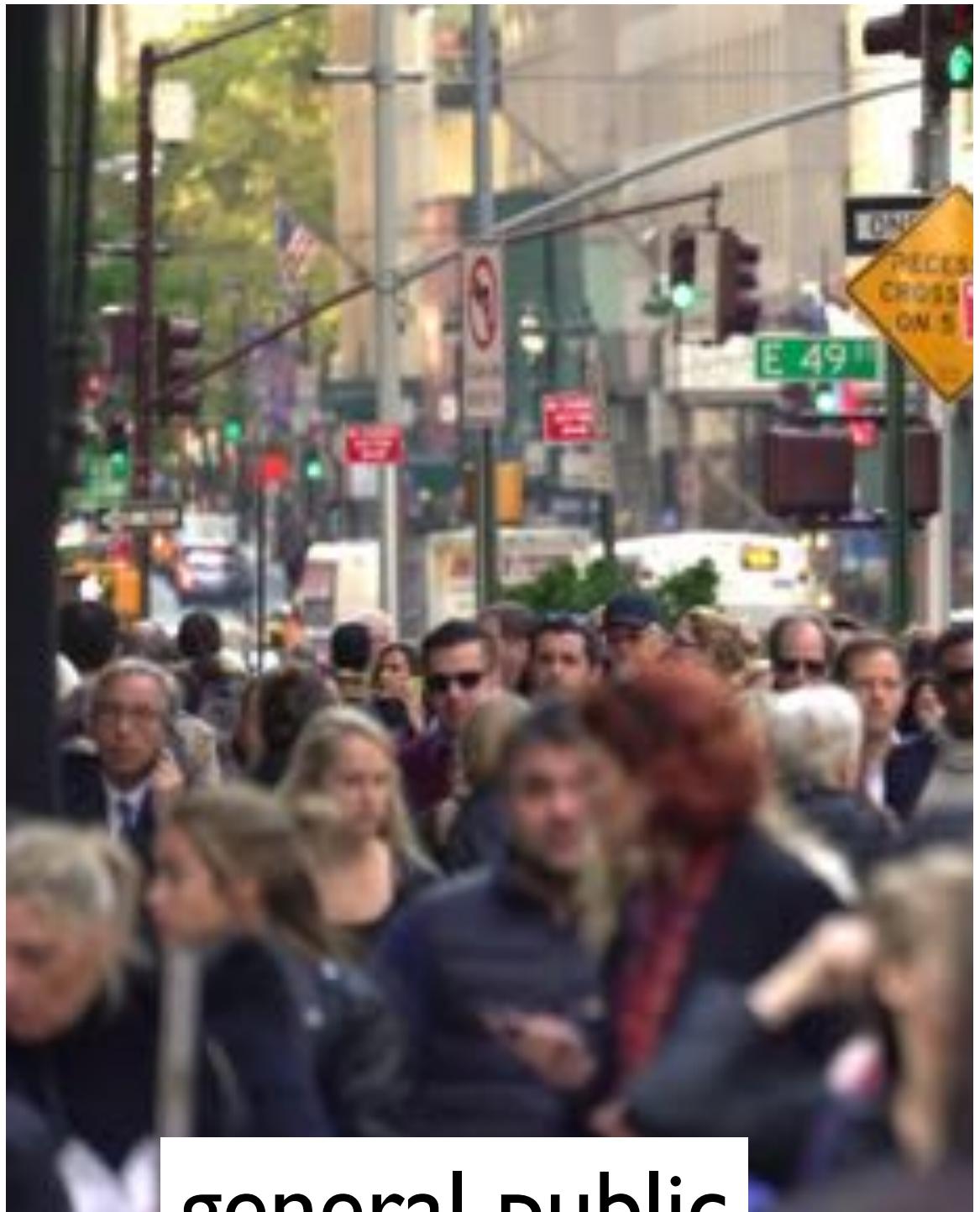
the unemployment rate is



communicating uncertainties: audience

Perhaps not

- can be cumbersome and confusing
- erodes confidence in the message
- ...



general public

Certainly yes

- increases understanding
- might lead to future improvements
- fosters collaboration and transparency
- ...

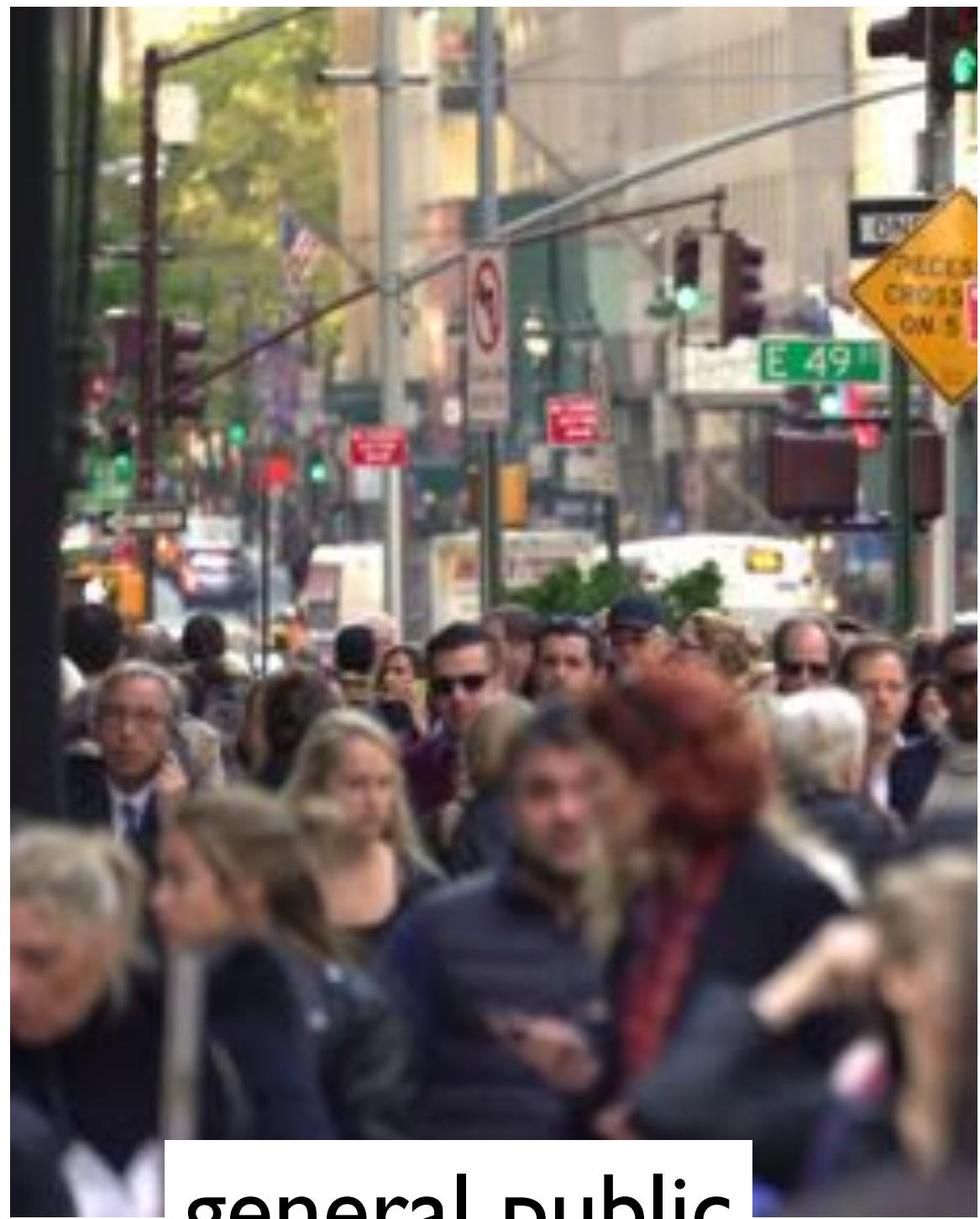


domain experts

communicating uncertainties: audience

Perhaps not

- can be cumbersome and confusing
- erodes confidence in the message
- ...



general public

Certainly yes

- increases understanding
- might lead to future improvements
- fosters collaboration and transparency
- ...

?



decision makers



domain experts

communicating uncertainties: metrics



Qualitative **vs** Quantitative



Level	Legal standard
11	'virtually certain'
10	'beyond a reasonable doubt'
9	'clear and convincing evidence'
8	'clear showing'
7	'substantial and credible evidence'
6	'preponderance of the evidence'
5	'clear indication'
4	'probable cause'/'reasonable belief'
3	'reasonable indication'
2	'reasonable, articulable grounds for suspicion'
1	'no reasonable grounds for suspicion'/'inchoate hunch'/'fanciful conjecture'
0	Insufficient even to support a hunch or conjecture

intuitive, descriptive

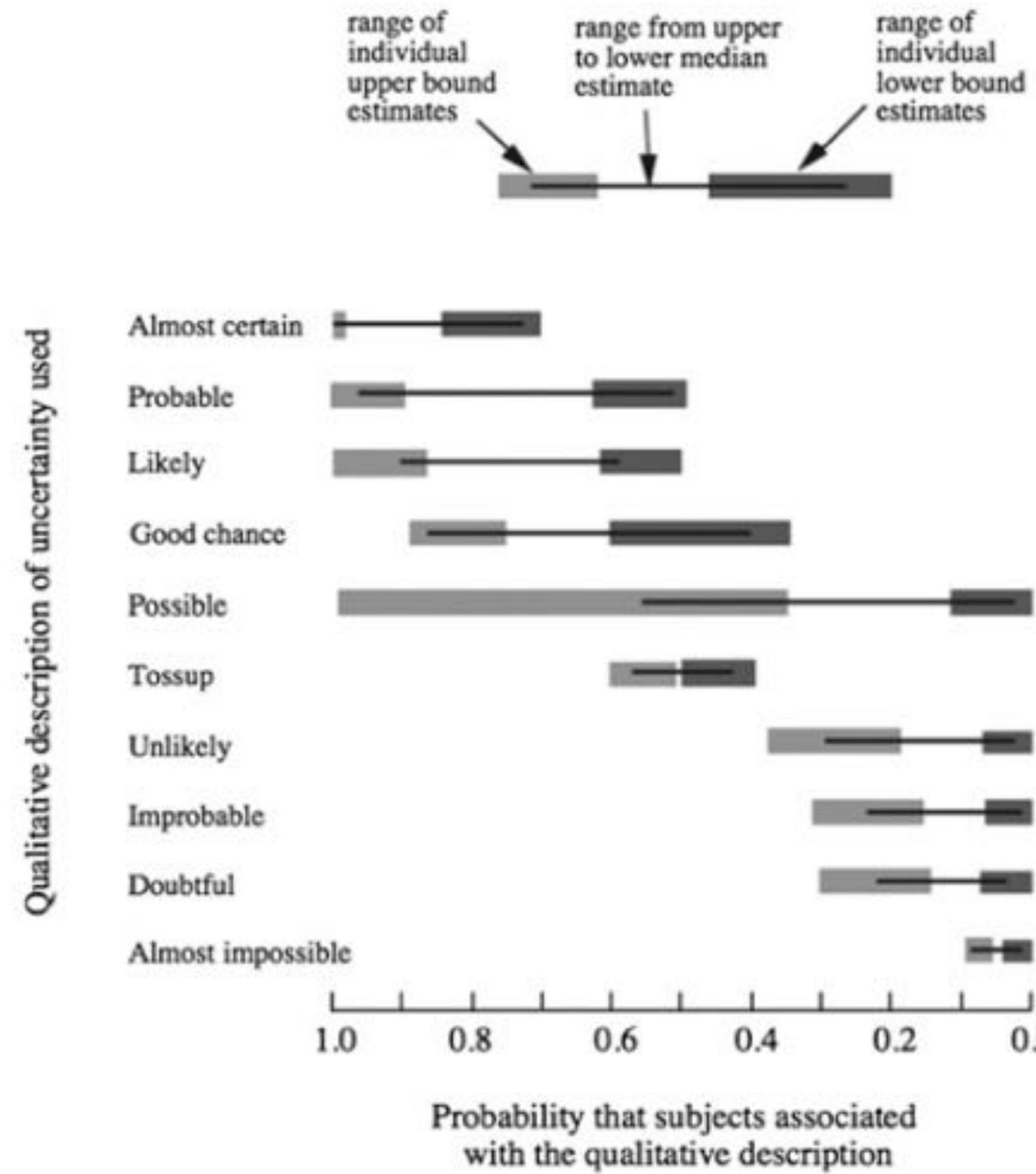
- Count
- Missing Count
- Sum
- Mean
- Standard Deviation (Std Dev)
- Standard Error (Std Error)
- Lower 95% Confidence Limit for the Mean (95% LCL)
- Upper 95% Confidence Limit for the Mean (95% UCL)
- Median
- Minimum
- Maximum
- Range
- Interquartile Range (IQR)
- 90th Percentile (90th Pctile)
- Variance
- Mean Absolute Deviation (MAD)
- Mean Absolute Deviation from the Median (MADM)
- Coefficient of Variation (COV)
- Coefficient of Dispersion (COD)
- Skewness
- Kurtosis

technical, objective

communicating uncertainties: metrics

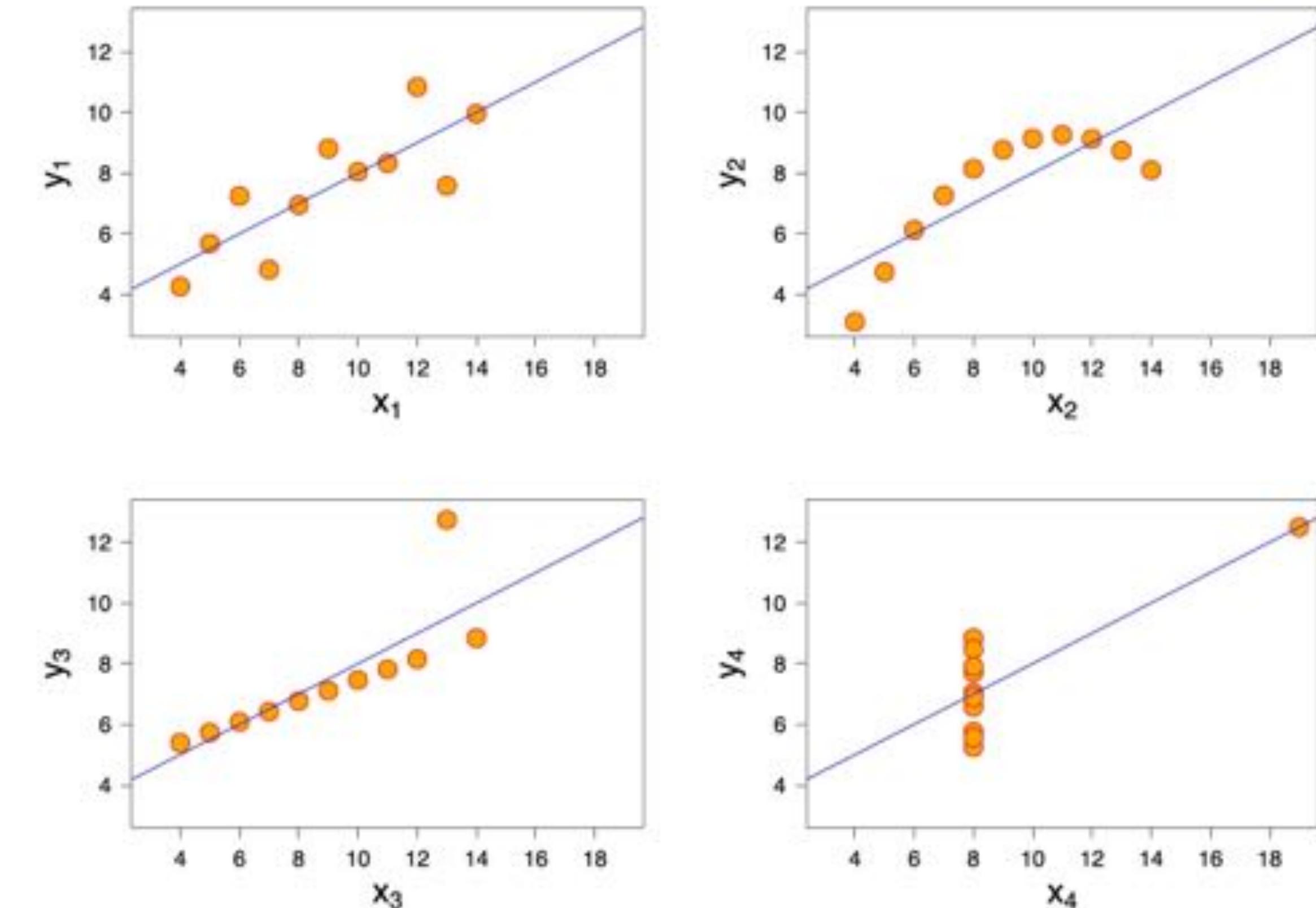
Qualitative vs Quantitative

M. Granger Morgan, www.pnas.org/cgi/doi/10.1073/pnas.1319946111



intuitive, descriptive

Anscombe, F.J. (1973). Graphs in Statistical Analysis. - The American Statistician 27, 1, 17–21.



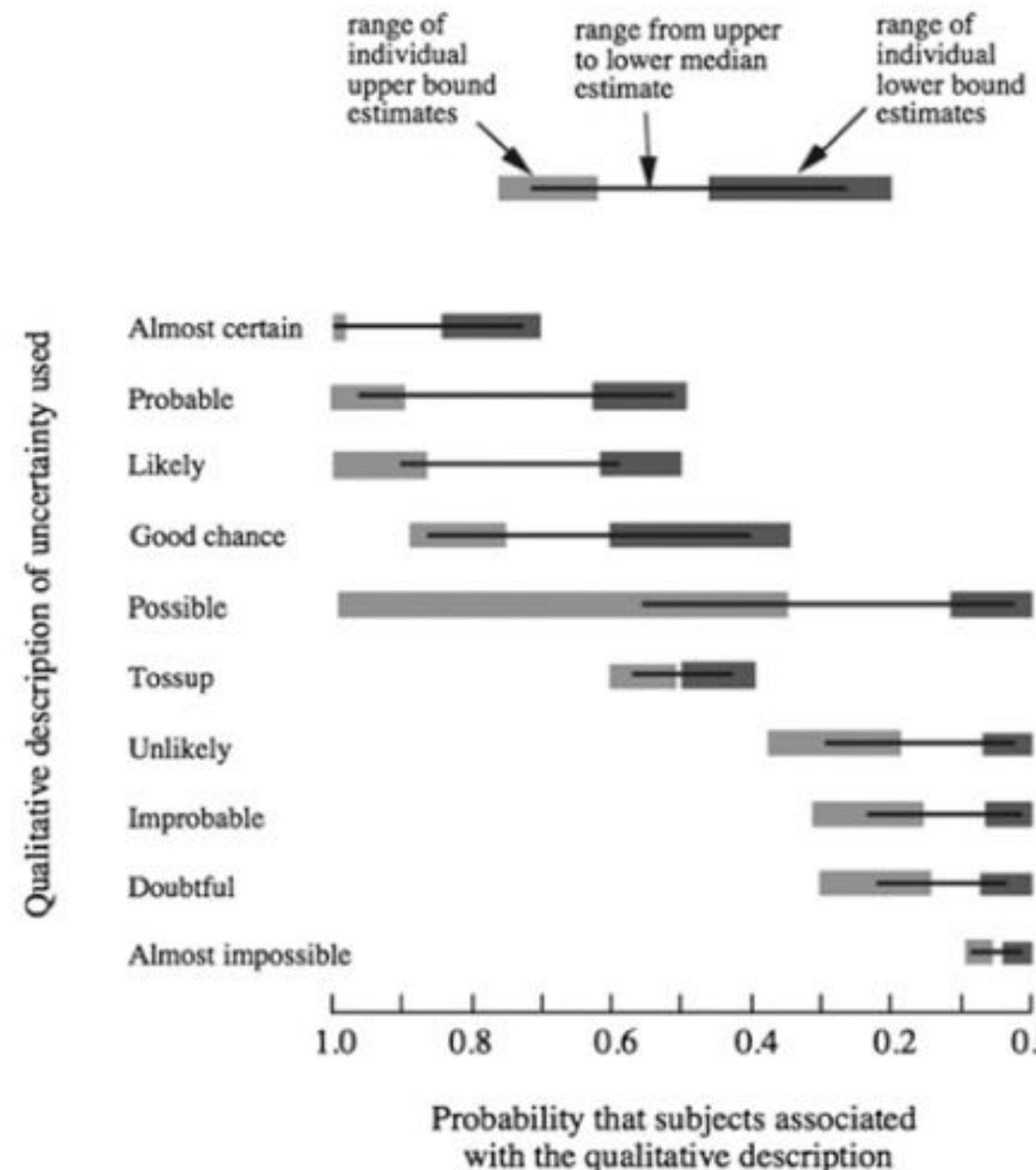
technical, objective

communicating uncertainties: metrics

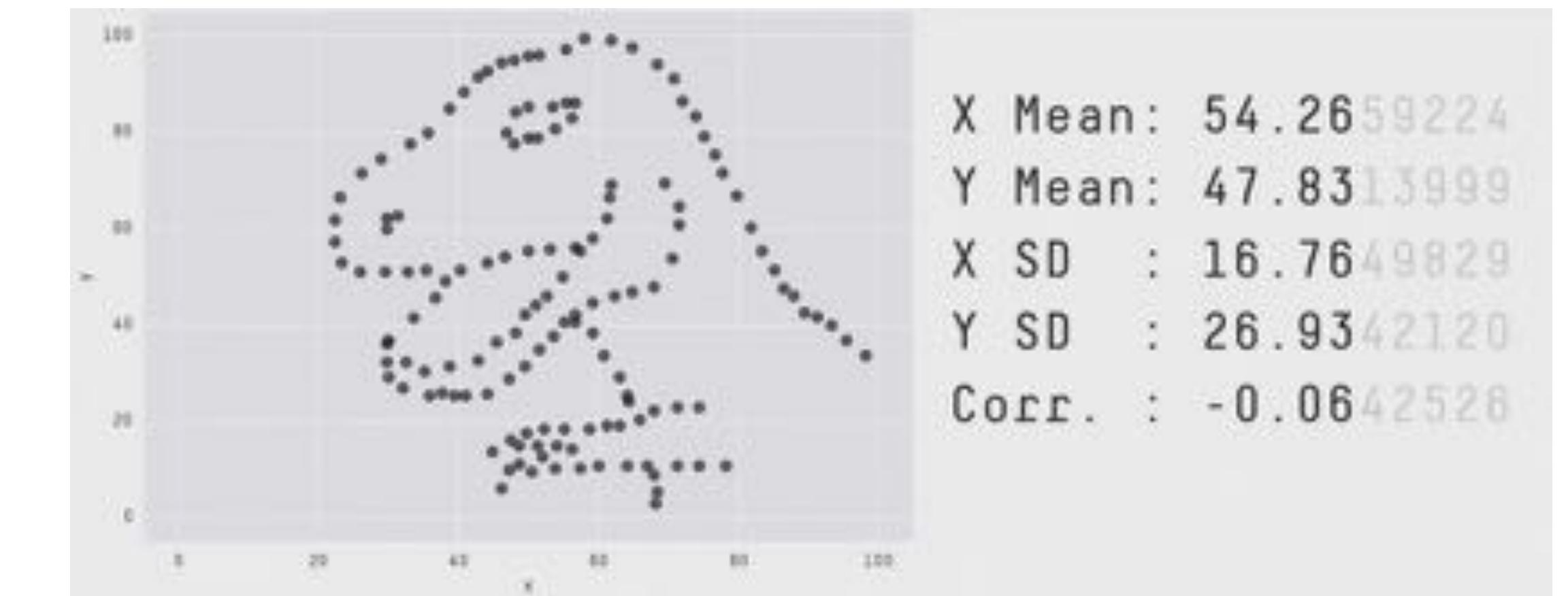
Qualitative **vs** Quantitative

M. Granger Morgan, www.pnas.org/cgi/doi/10.1073/pnas.1319946111

F. Matejka, G. Fitzmaurice, Autodesk



intuitive, descriptive



technical, objective

a case study
QMУ in high-consequence decisions

QMU in high-consequence decisions

The Hanford site is a repository of leftover waste from nuclear reactors & medical devices

- Safety concern: hydrogen buildup in tanks and explosion risk

Risk assessment involves:

- Complex physical analysis and forecasting
- Careful characterization of the uncertainties
- Identification of remedial actions
- Communication of the outcomes to decision makers

Nuclear Engineering and Design 324 (2017) 376–389

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Nuclear Engineering and Design

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/nuengdes

ELSEVIER

Application of QMU to the design of a nuclear waste storage tank

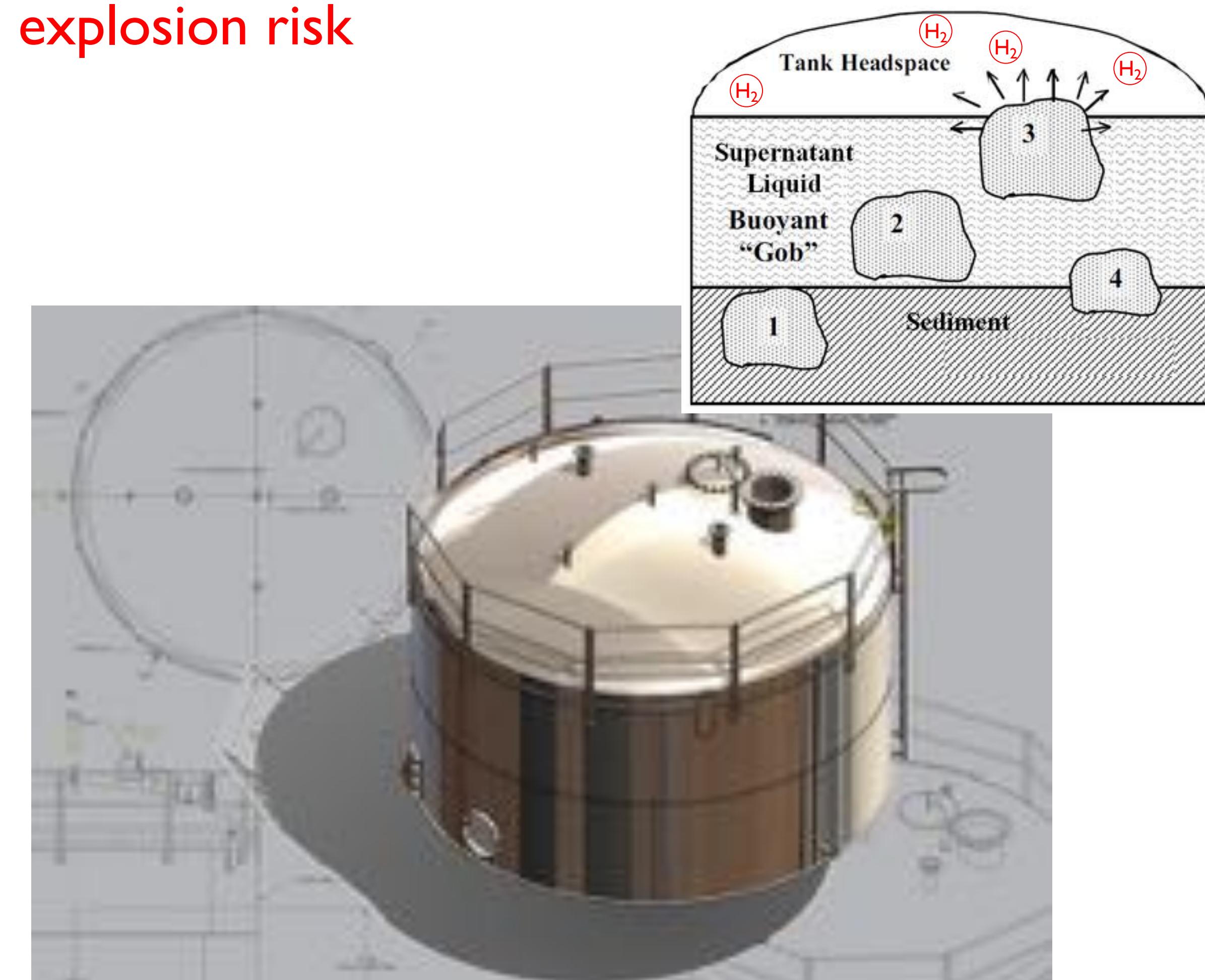
A. Frankel^a, D. Sharp, G. Iaccarino

^a Mechanical Engineering, Stanford University, Stanford, CA 94305, USA

ARTICLE INFO

ABSTRACT

Defining the reliability of complex physical systems is crucial for system certification and guaranteeing safety, but is often complicated by the presence of many uncertainties and system sub-components. One such example is the certification of the Hanford Waste Treatment Plant, where radioactive and toxic chemical waste that spontaneously generates flammable gases is stored in large tanks. We introduce the QMU methodology to quantify the system safety of waste storage tanks in the event of a loss of tank ventilation, which poses a safety risk to workers. We also show how QMU can be used as a design tool to find operating regimes that maintain a desired confidence level. A simplified physical model is used to analyze the build-up of hydrogen gas in storage tanks and conduct an uncertainty propagation study to quantify the operating margin with respect to the flammability conditions. A demonstration problem is shown in which the radiation loading in a waste tank is



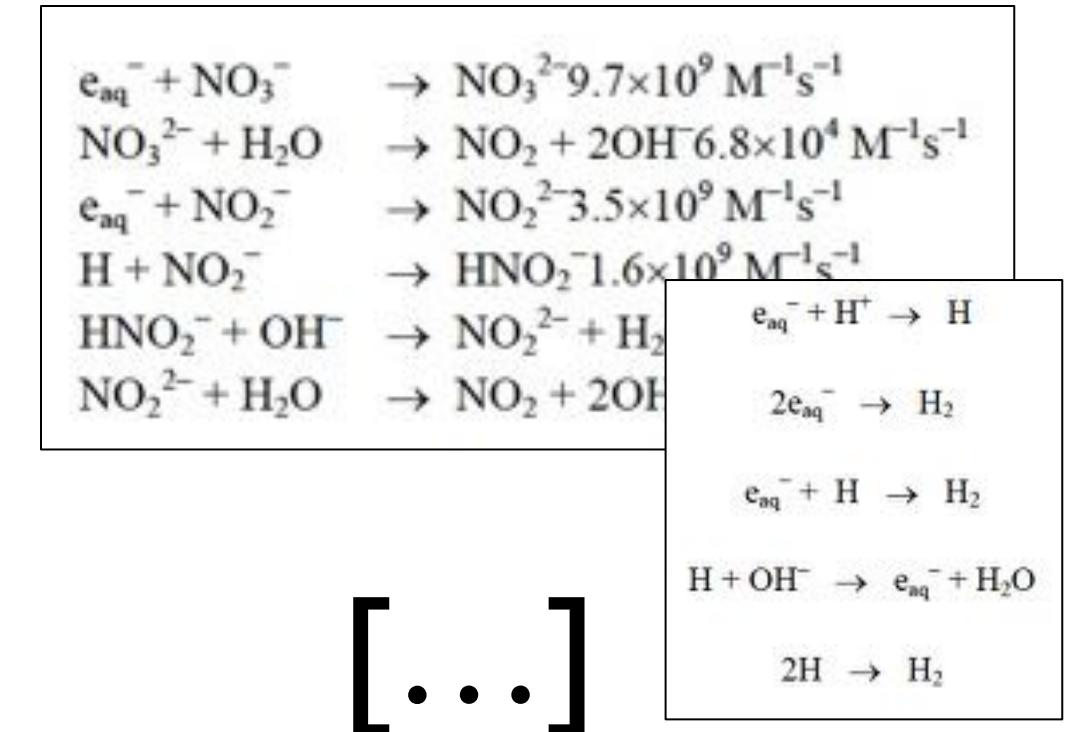
QMU in high-consequence decisions

The Hanford site is a repository of leftover waste from nuclear reactors & medical devices

- Safety concern: hydrogen buildup in tanks and explosion risk

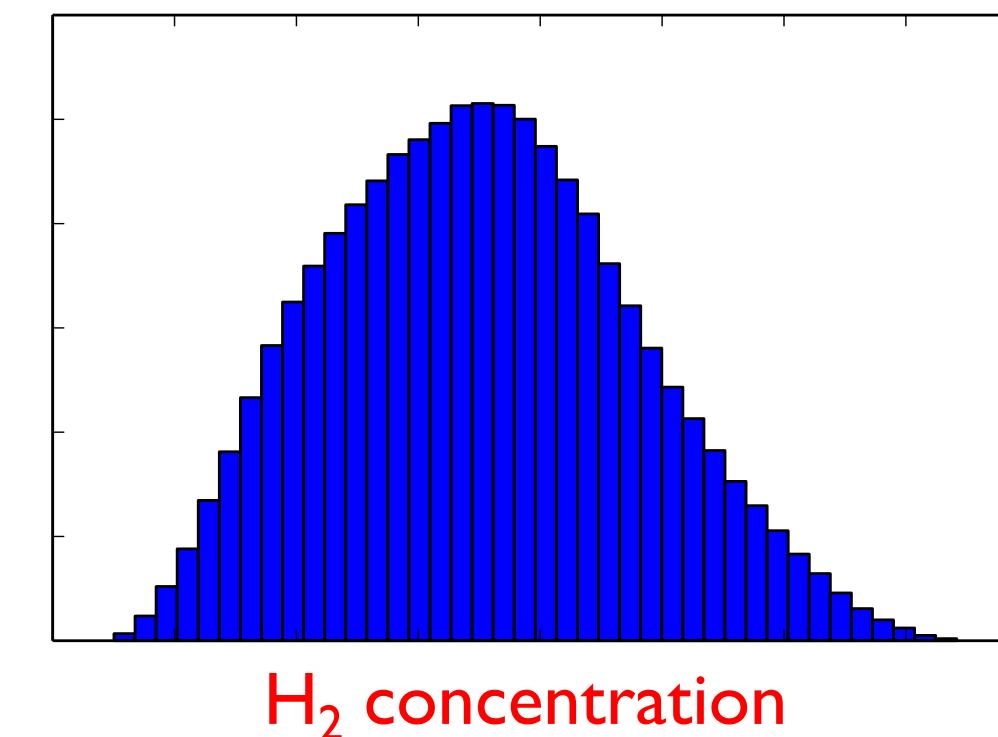
I) Identification of the Uncertainties

- Composition of the tank content: radioactive compounds, organic solvents and water
- Physical processes in the tank: chemical pathways, molecular aggregation and mixing, tank corrosion, etc...



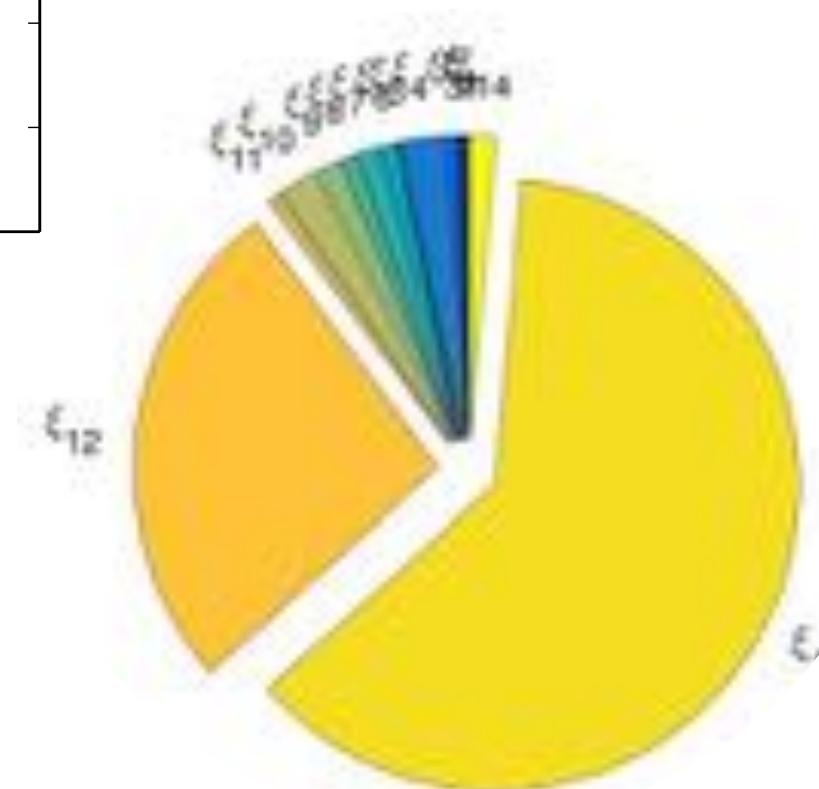
2) Uncertainty Quantification

- Forecasting: probabilistic physics-based thermo-chemical simulations
- Statistical analysis: Best estimate of the H_2 concentration



3) Communication of the outcomes

- Best estimate: $E[H_2] \pm STDEV$
- Expert analysis: ranking of the sources of uncertainty (ANOVA)



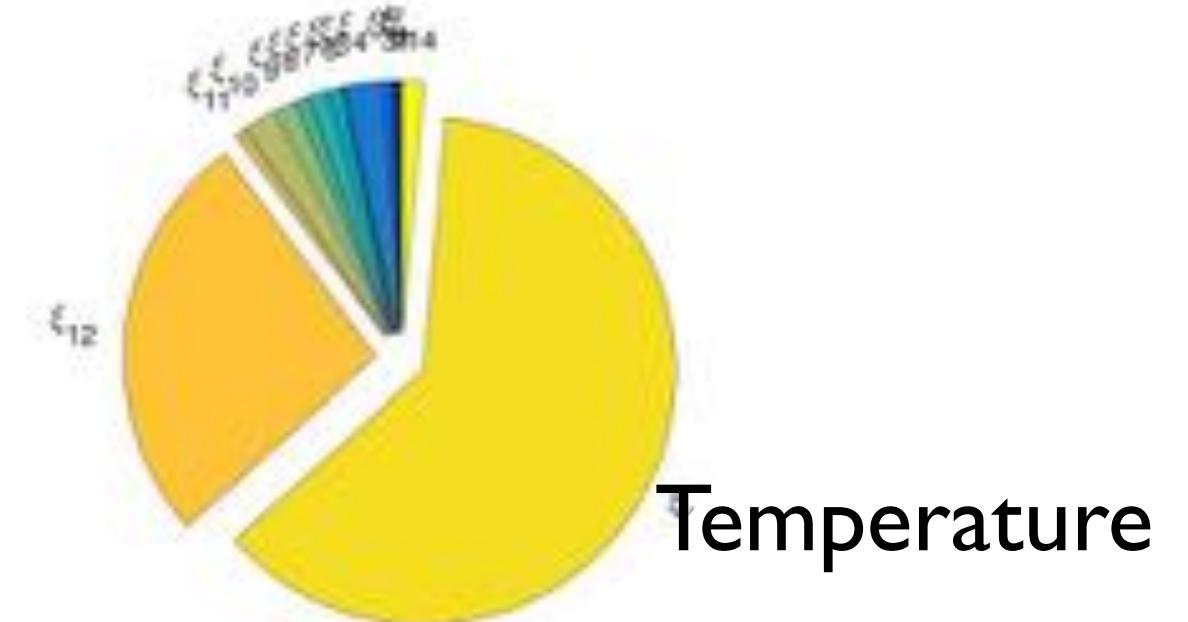
QMU in high-consequence decisions

The Hanford site is a repository of leftover waste from nuclear reactors & medical devices

- Safety concern: hydrogen buildup in tanks and explosion risk

Surprise

most important uncertainty factor is the temperature in the tank, NOT the composition



Rather than H₂ concentration focus on the **decision**

- Temperature increase can lead to much faster build up of hydrogen
- How much time it takes for concentration to exceed critical value?
- Estimate the Time To Lower Flammability Level (TTLFL)

Decision: Is the time-to-flammability more than 14 days? first responders can then ventilate the tank and avoid explosions

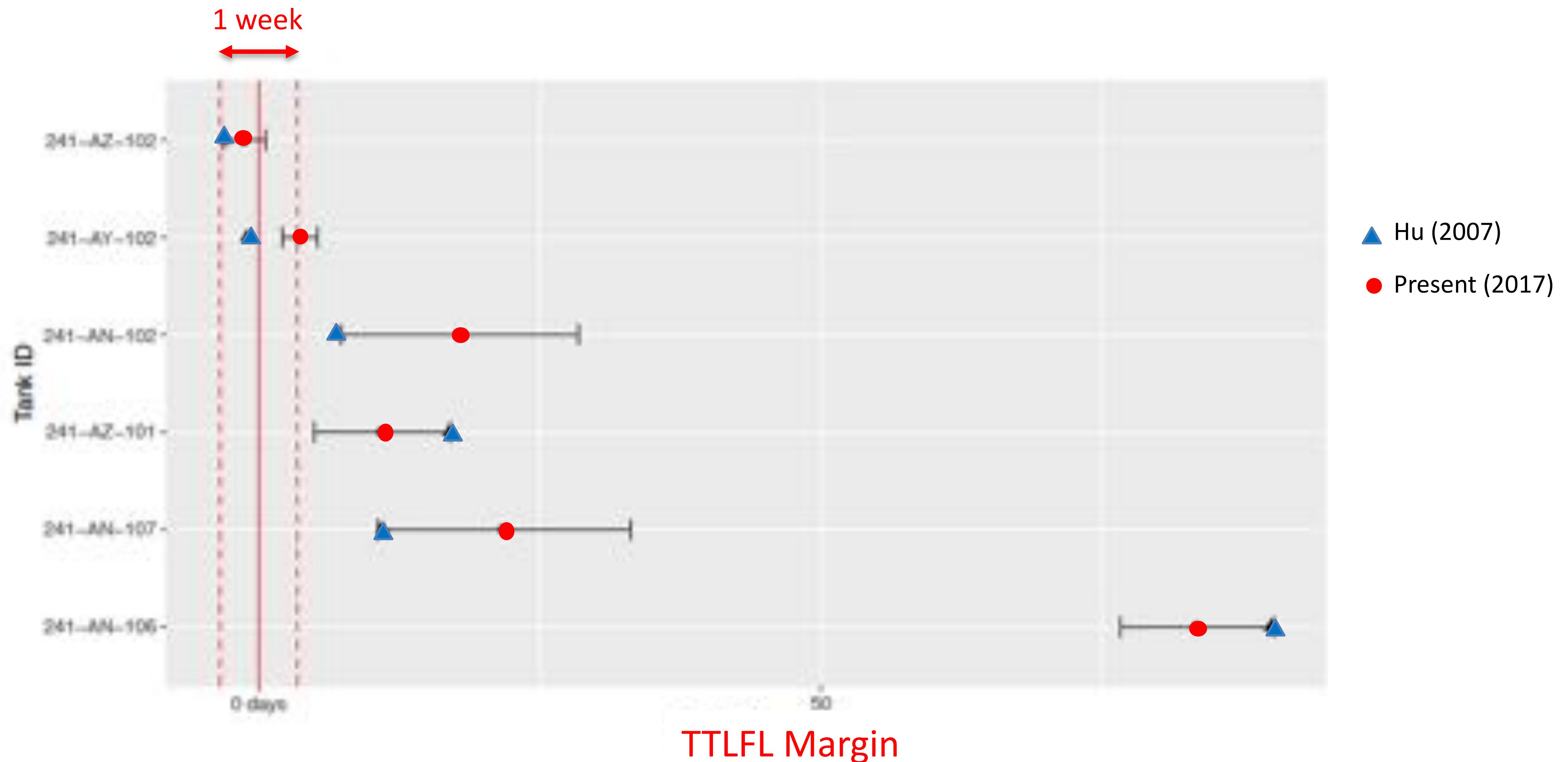
$$Q = \frac{\text{TTLFL Margin}}{\text{TTLFL Uncertainty}}$$

Q ↑ confidence/slack ↑

QMU: Quantification of Margins and Uncertainties

Tank	M (days)	U (days)	Q = M/U
241-AZ-102	-1.37	0.523	-2.63
241-AY-102	3.60	0.45	8.08
241-AZ-101	10.8	2.03	5.33
241-AN-102	18.2	5.02	3.63
241-AN-107	21.9	4.78	4.57
241-AN-106	83.3	2.52	33.0
241-SX-103	60.8	28.2	2.16
241-AY-101	324	18.6	17.4
241-SX-105	137	67.7	2.03

QMU in high-consequence decisions



summary

errors are uncertainties are NOT the same

- errors are avoidable and should/will be corrected
- uncertainties are unavoidable and must be acknowledged

uncertainties come in multiple forms

communicating uncertainties is an important element

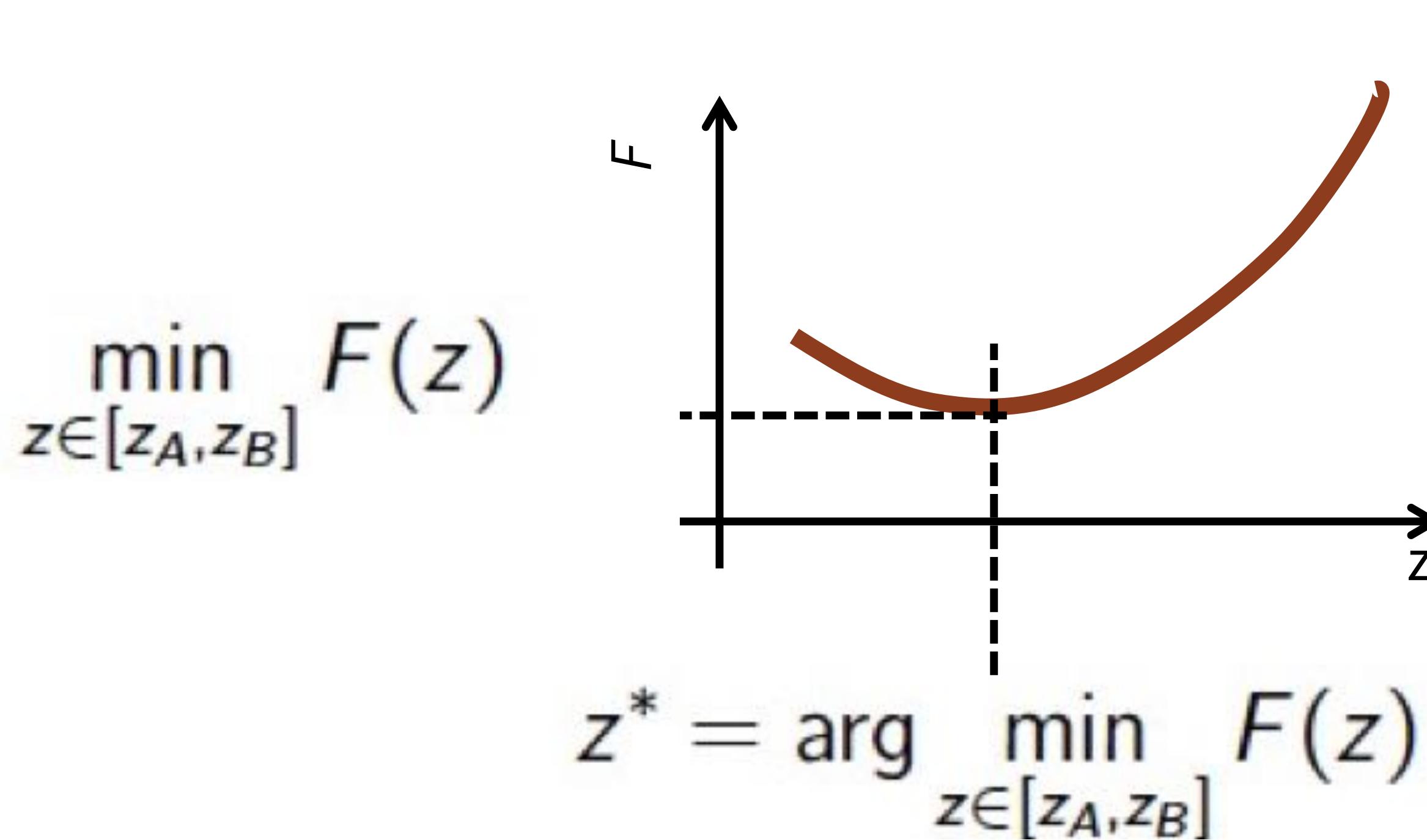
- must depend on the audience
- must depend on the context/use case

optimization under uncertainty

optimization

in its simplest form, optimization refers to the selection of the best among various options based on a specific criterion (goal a.k.a. objective)

given a “design parameter”, ie an input that can vary in a range, an optimization algorithms searches in the space of the possible solutions to find the “best”

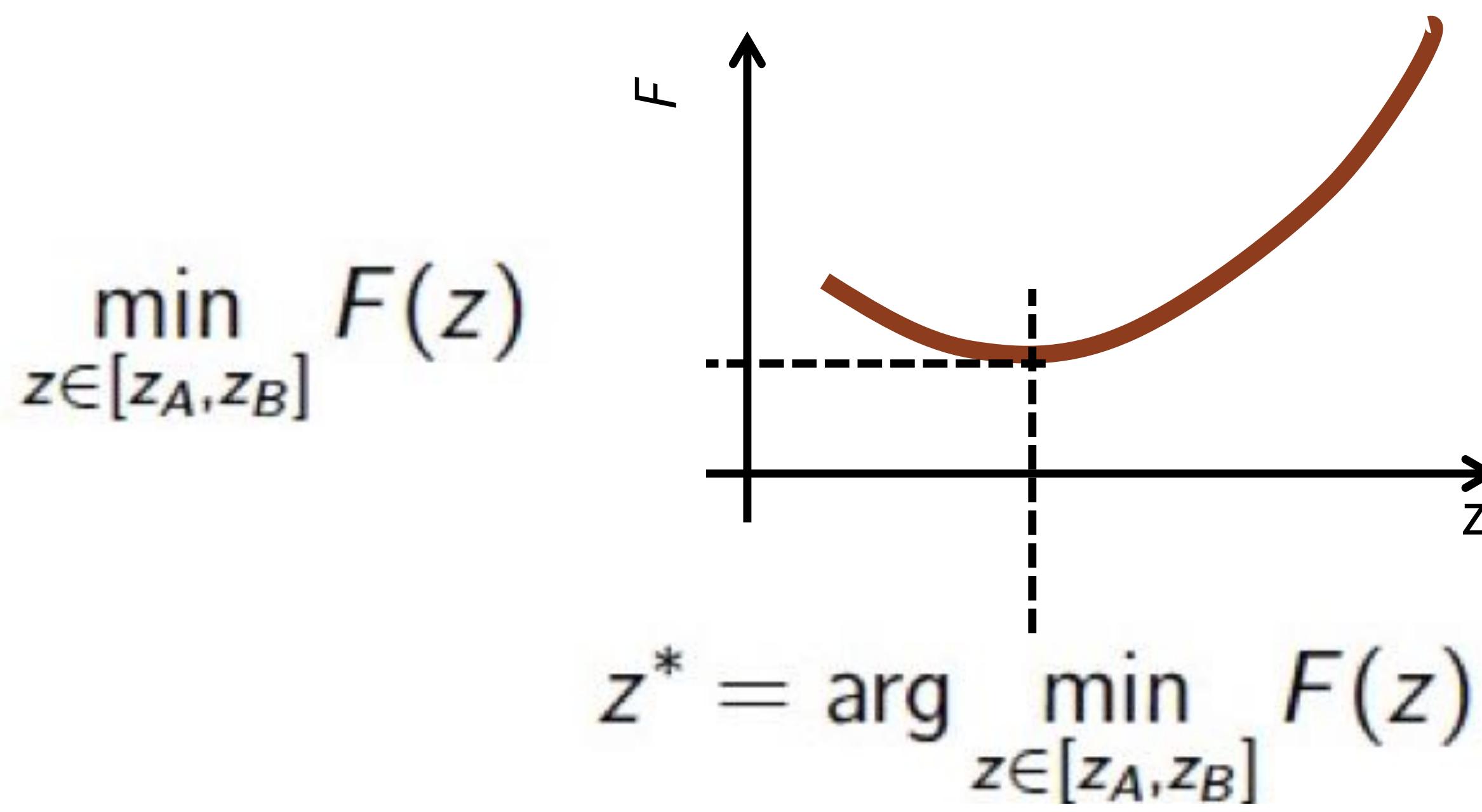


many specific formulations (linear programming, constrained, etc.) and many strategies to solve the problem...

optimization

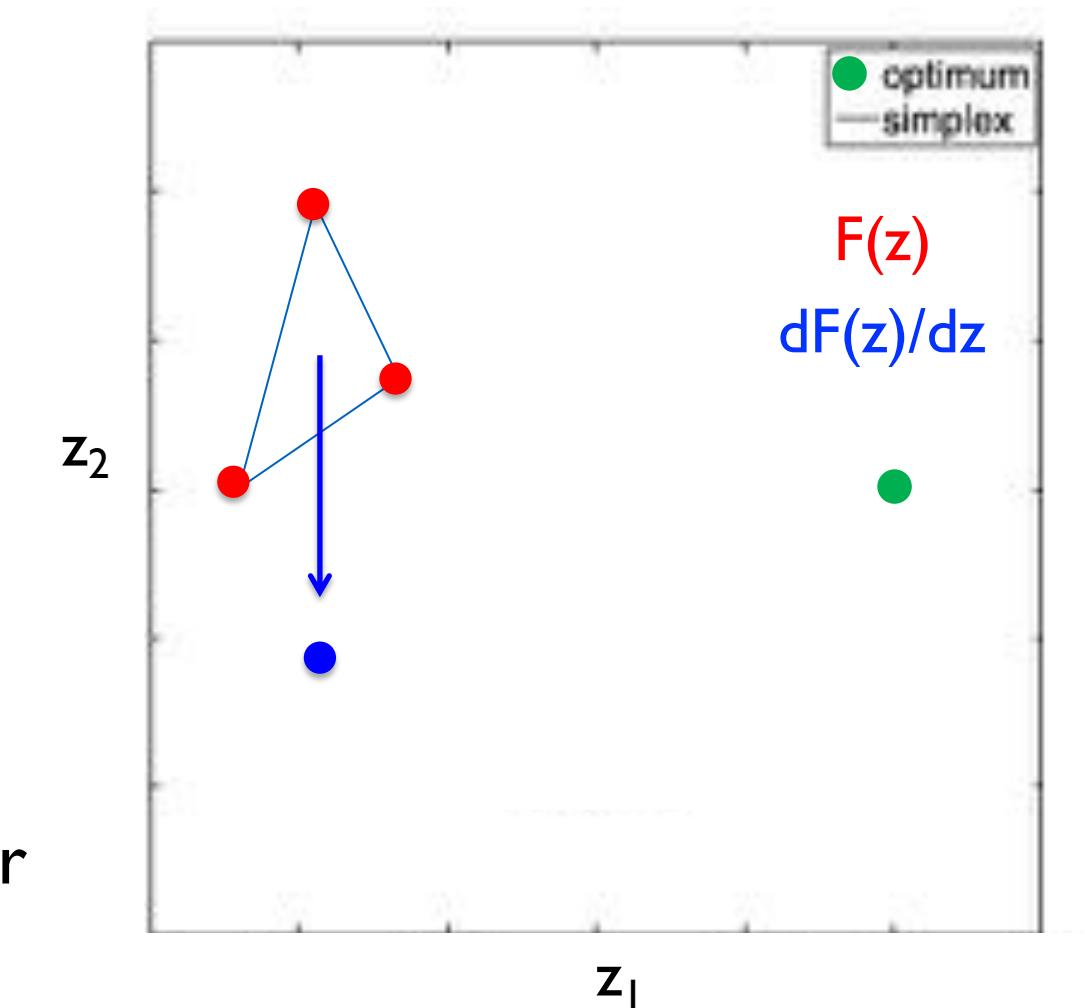
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many specific formulations (linear programming, constrained, etc.) and many strategies to solve the problem...

- Nelder-Mead Algorithm
- Gradient-descent optimizer
 - Simple & Fast



optimization under uncertainty

...as you know uncertainties are always present in applications.

How do we account for uncertainties in an optimization problem?

first step is to recognize the “design”
variables and the uncertainties in the system
– assume they are distinct:

$$f = f(s, \omega)$$

objective

design uncertain
variables variables

If we treat the uncertainties as probabilistic
variables, then

$$\underset{s}{\text{minimize}} \quad f(s, \omega)$$

the objective is itself **random**

optimization under uncertainty

$$\underset{s}{\text{minimize}} \quad f(s, \omega)$$

minimizing the random objective is possible but not typically the preferred approach

$$\underset{s}{\text{minimize}} \quad \mathbb{E}\{f(\omega, s)\}$$

consider the expectation (the mean) of the objective!
optimizing the system so that the mean response is minimized has lots of practical applications

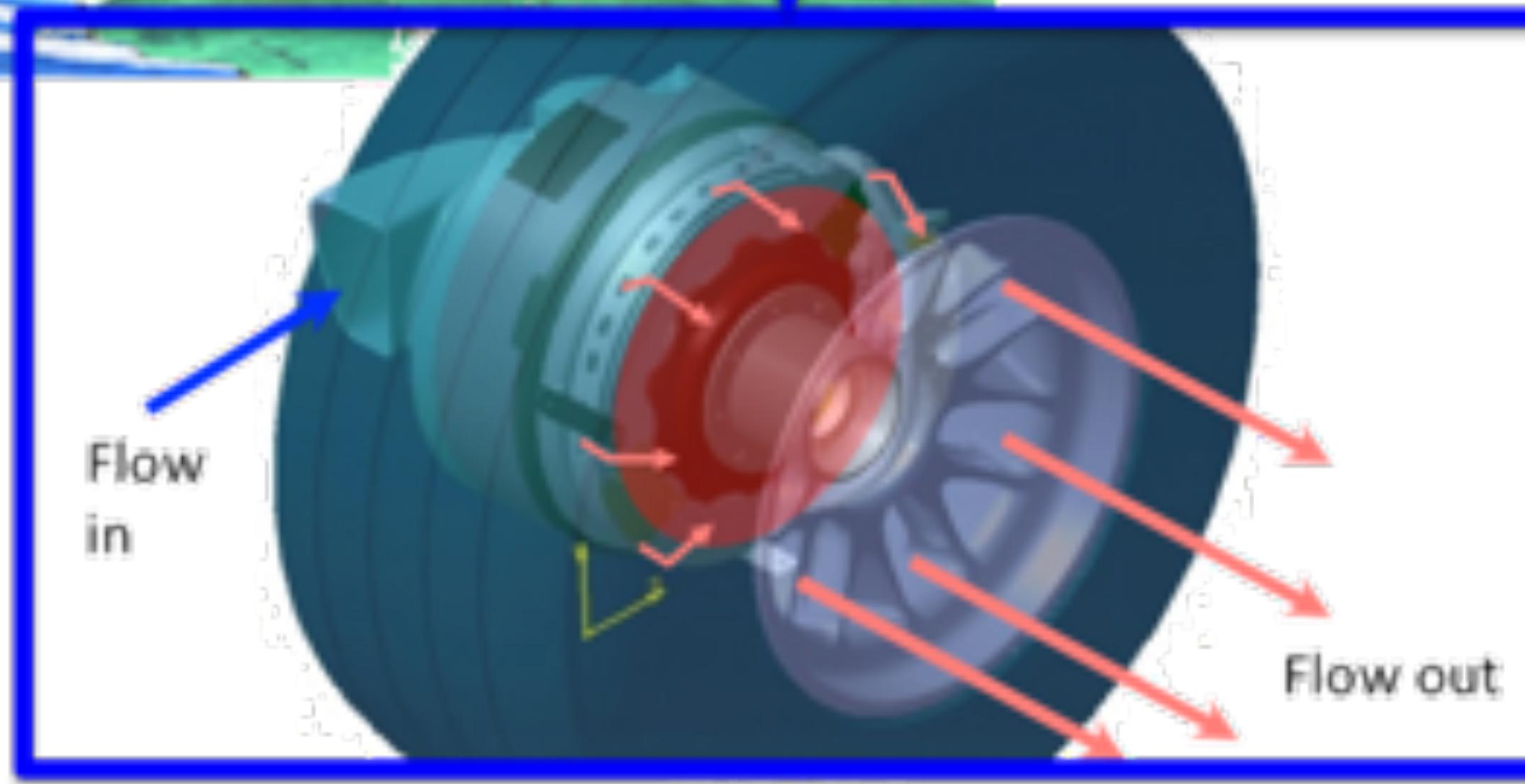
$$\underset{s}{\text{minimize}} \quad \mathbb{E}\{f(\omega, s)\}$$
$$\sigma^2\{f(\omega, s)\}$$

consider the expectation (the mean) and the variance simultaneously leads to a multiobjective optimization; this is referred to as **robust optimization**.

$$\underset{s}{\text{minimize}} \quad P\{f < f_{\text{crit}}\}$$

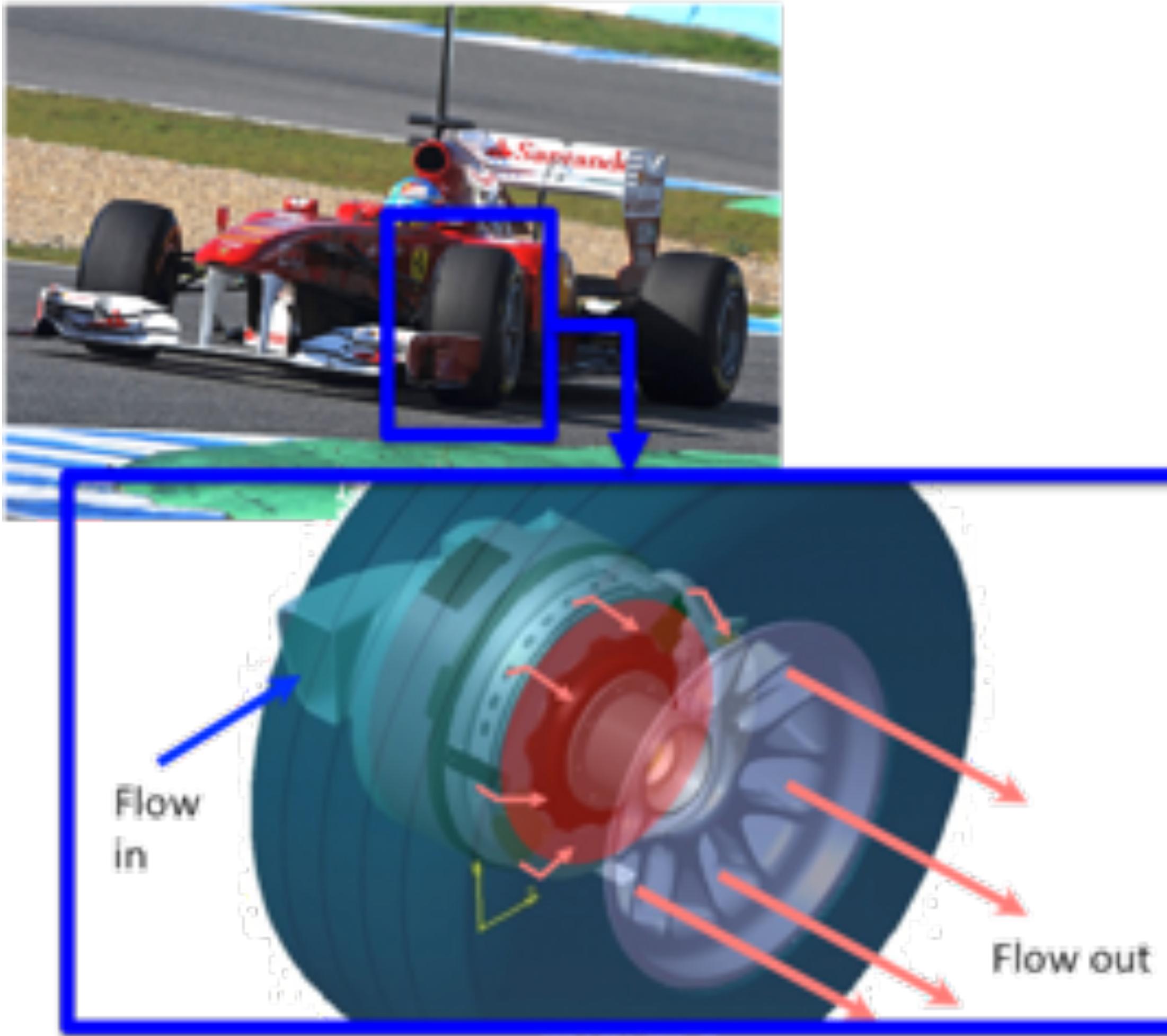
consider the probability of your objective exceeding a critical value; this is referred as **reliability-based optimization**.

optimization under uncertainty – an example

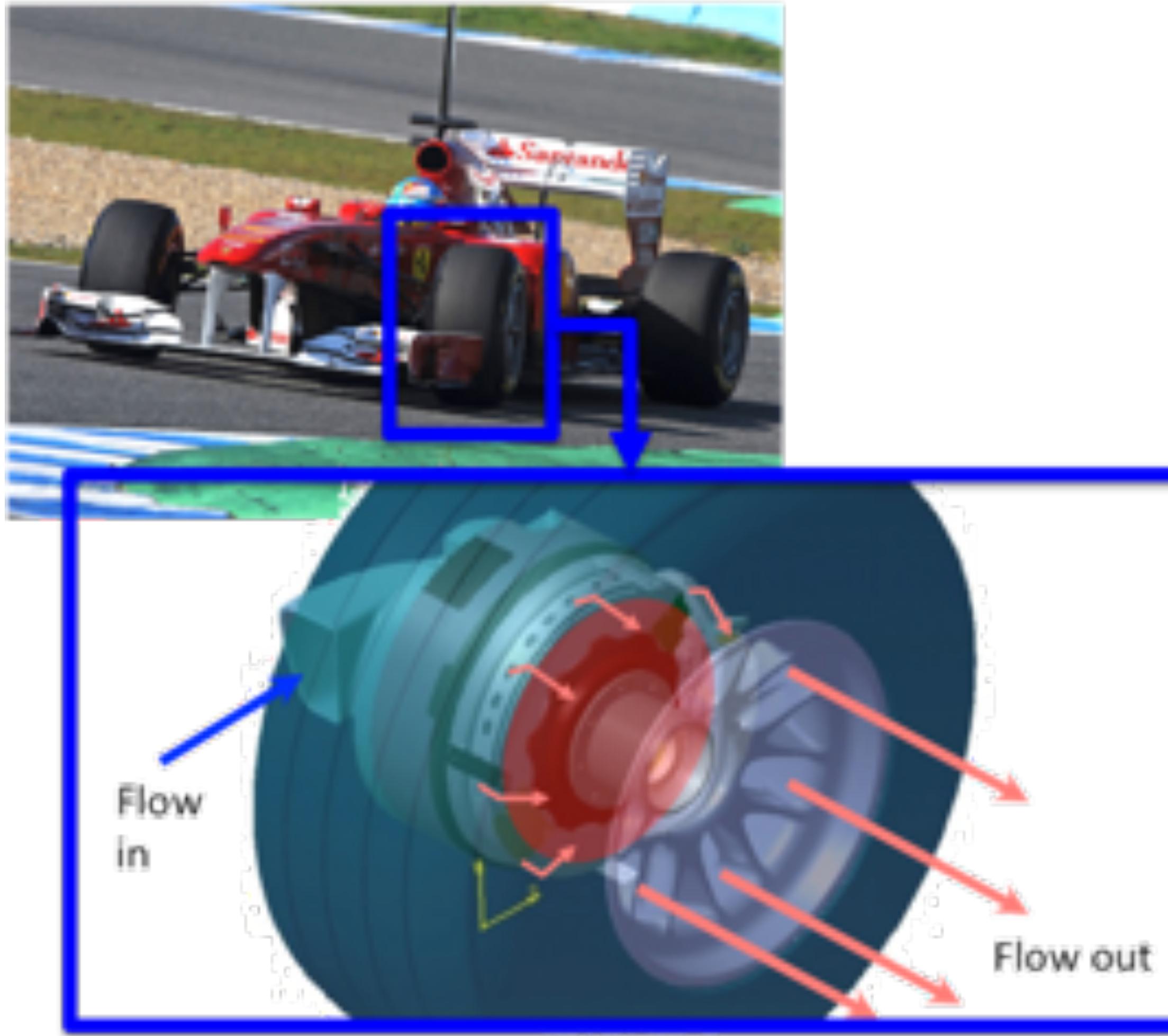


Optimize the shape of
the brake duct to
**maximize cooling and
minimize drag**

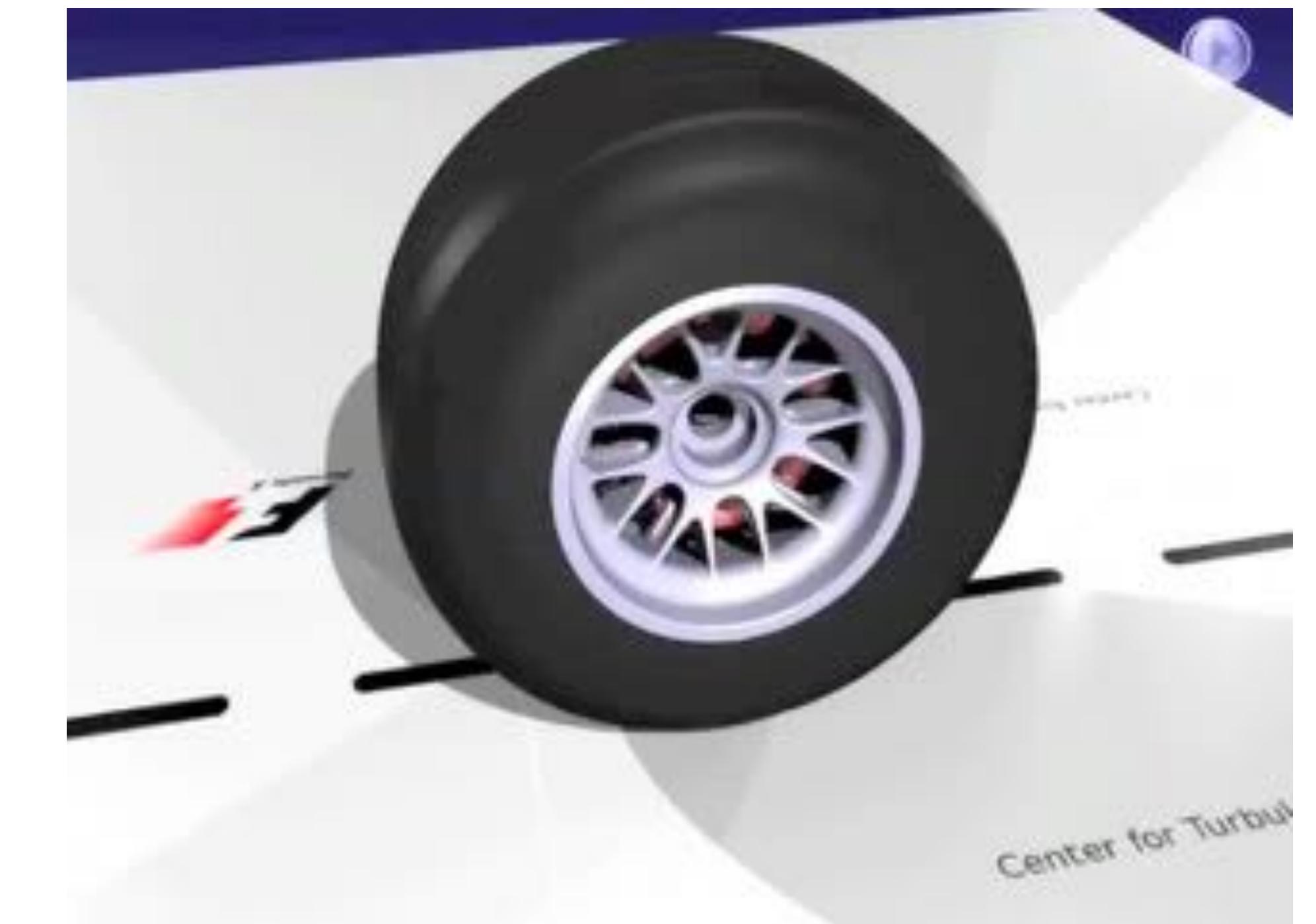
optimization under uncertainty - an example



optimization under uncertainty – an example



...no uncertainties so far.
But what is the effect of **tire deformation?**



optimization under uncertainty - an example



optimization under uncertainty – an example



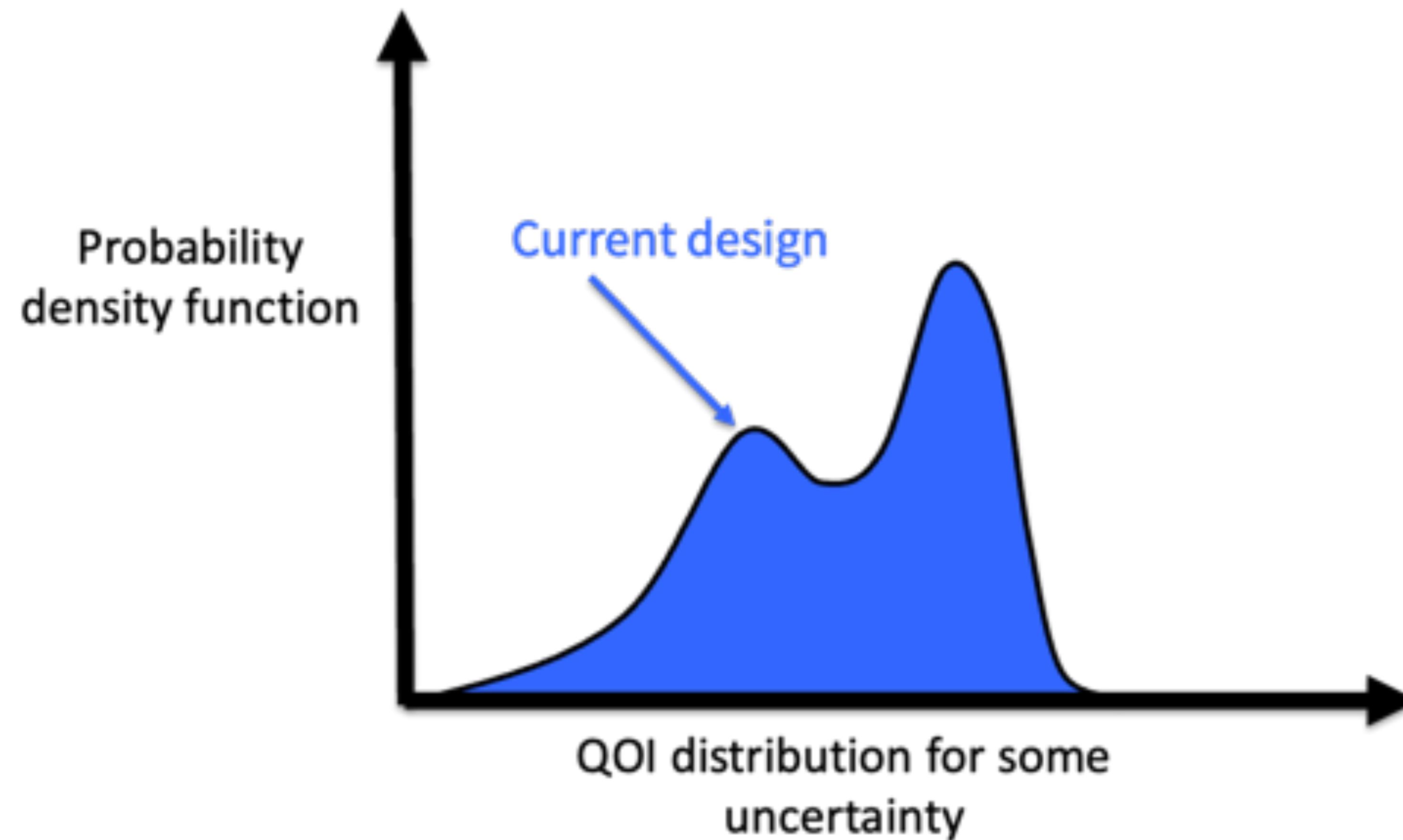
UQ enables to
discard low-drag
design as being
not robust



**a case study
density-matching optimization**

optimization under uncertainty

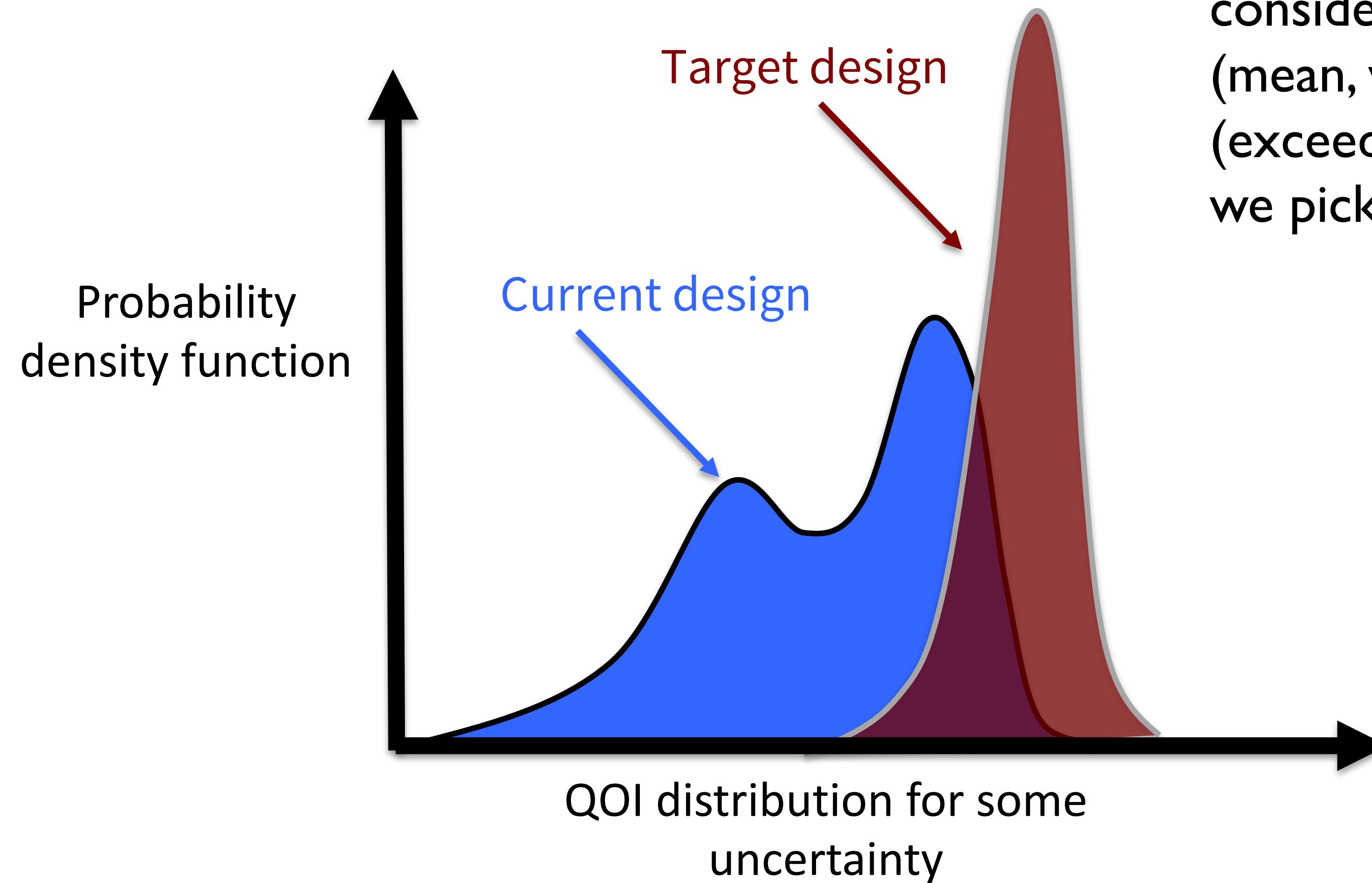
Accounting for uncertainties lead to performance metric for our system (quantity of interest, QOI) to become probabilistic, i.e. they have an **associated distribution**



optimization under uncertainty

Accounting for uncertainties lead to performance metric for our system (quantity of interest, QOI) to become probabilistic, i.e. they have an **associated distribution** but rather than

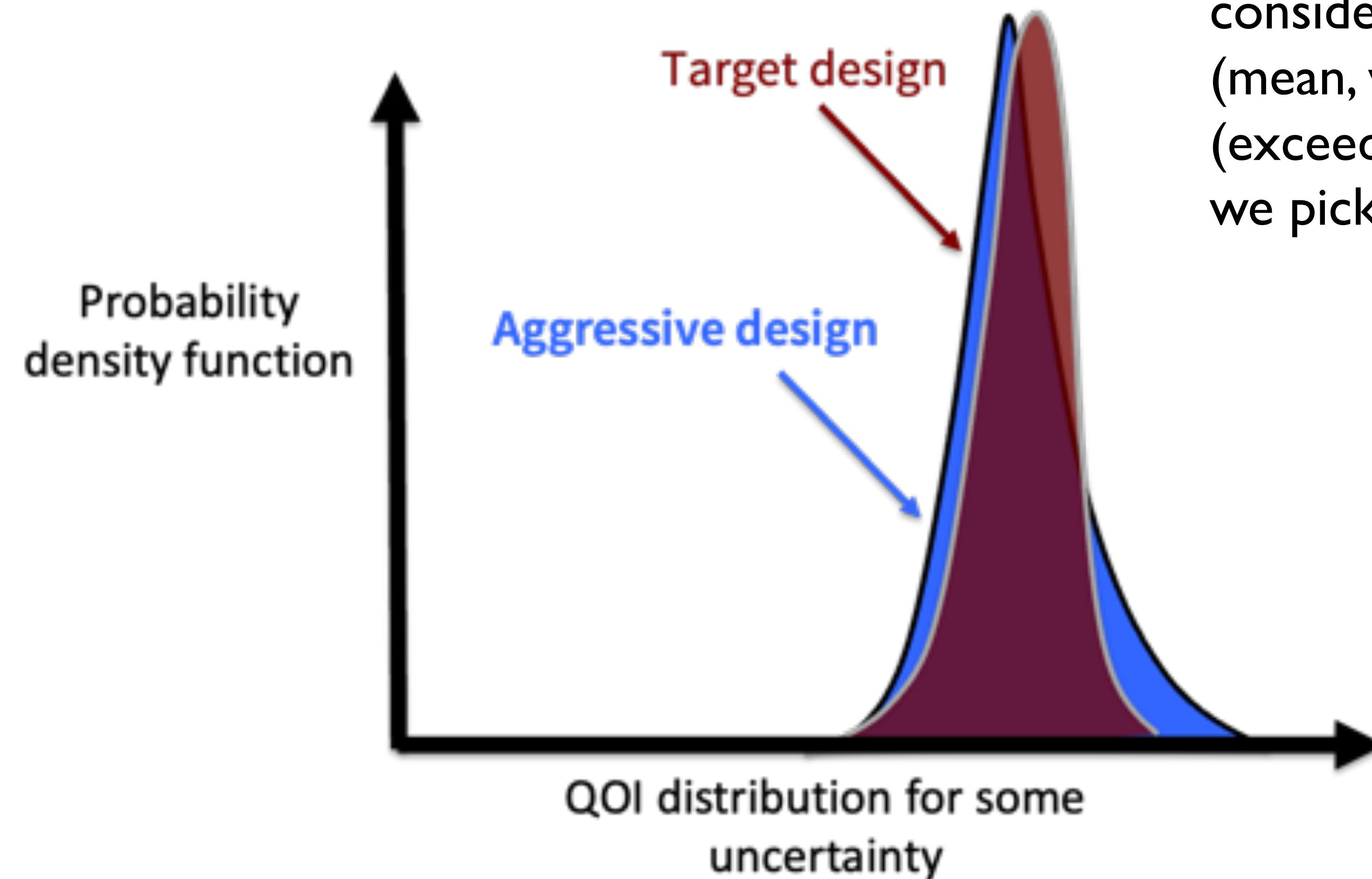
considering moments
(mean, variance) or tails
(exceedance probability)
we pick a **target design!**



optimization under uncertainty

Accounting for uncertainties lead to performance metric for our system (quantity of interest, QOI) to become probabilistic, i.e. they have an **associated distribution** but rather than

considering moments
(mean, variance) or tails
(exceedance probability)
we pick a **target design!**



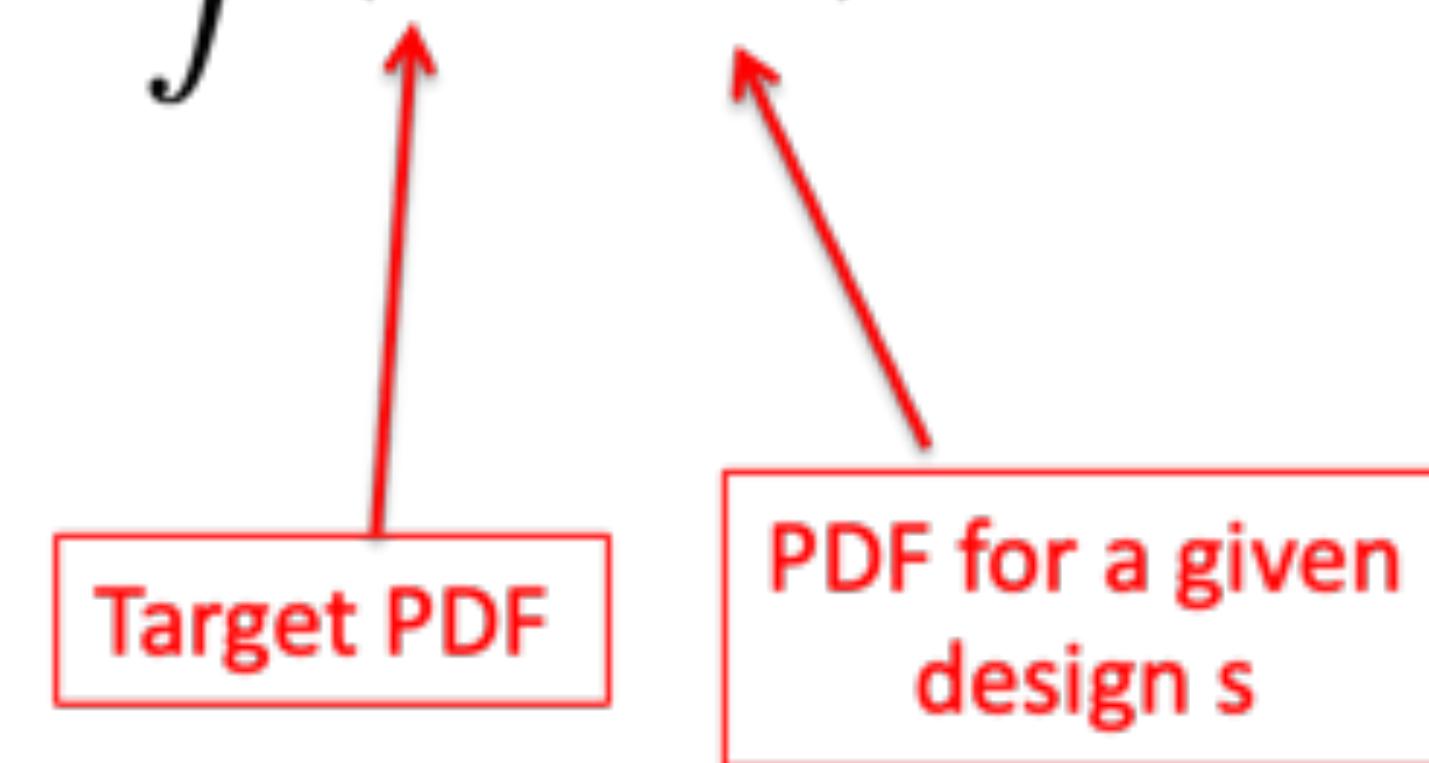
optimization under uncertainty

Goal is to find the design so that model pdf is as close as possible to the designer's target.

$$\underset{s}{\text{minimize}} \quad \delta(t, u_s)$$

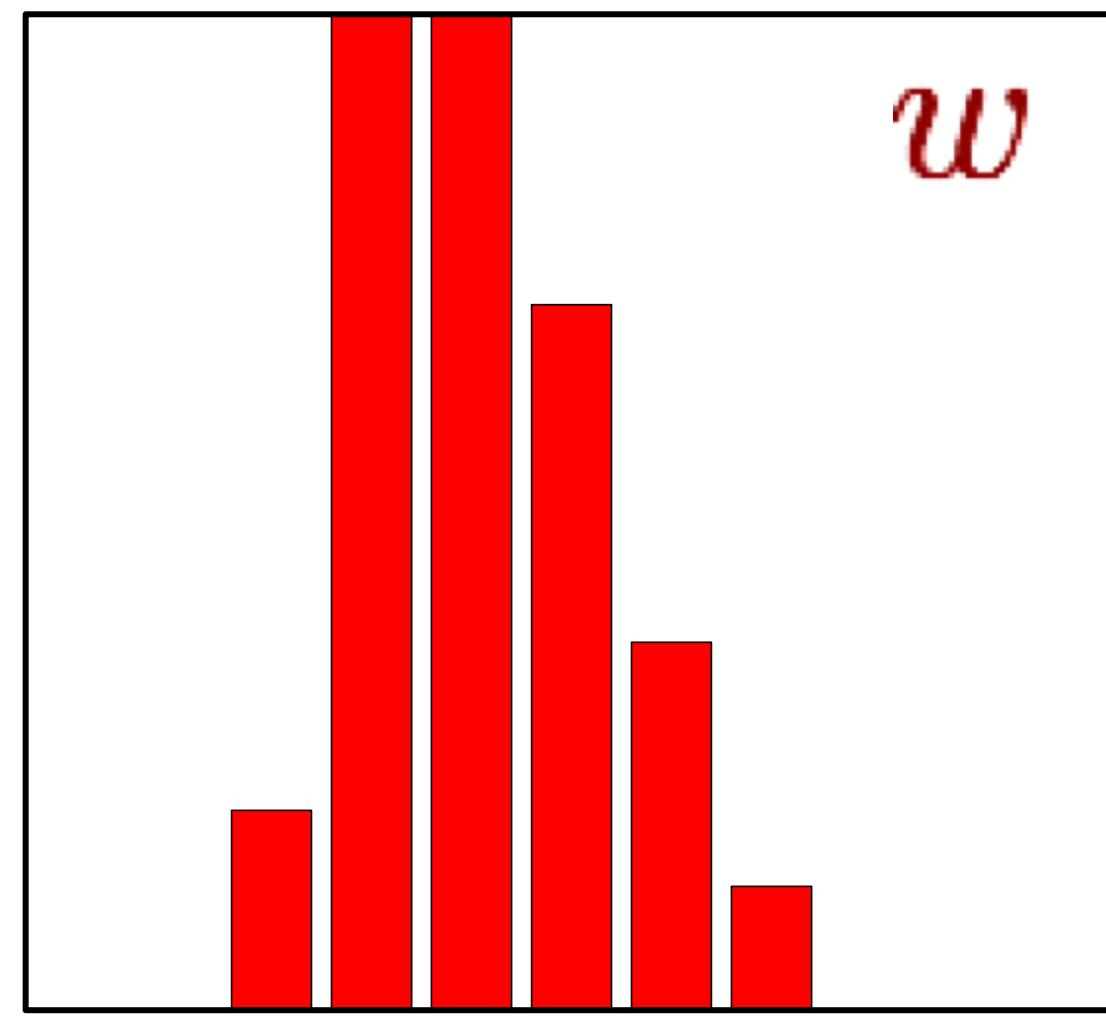
where delta is a distance metric. We choose

$$\delta(t, u_s) = \int (t - u_s)^2 df$$

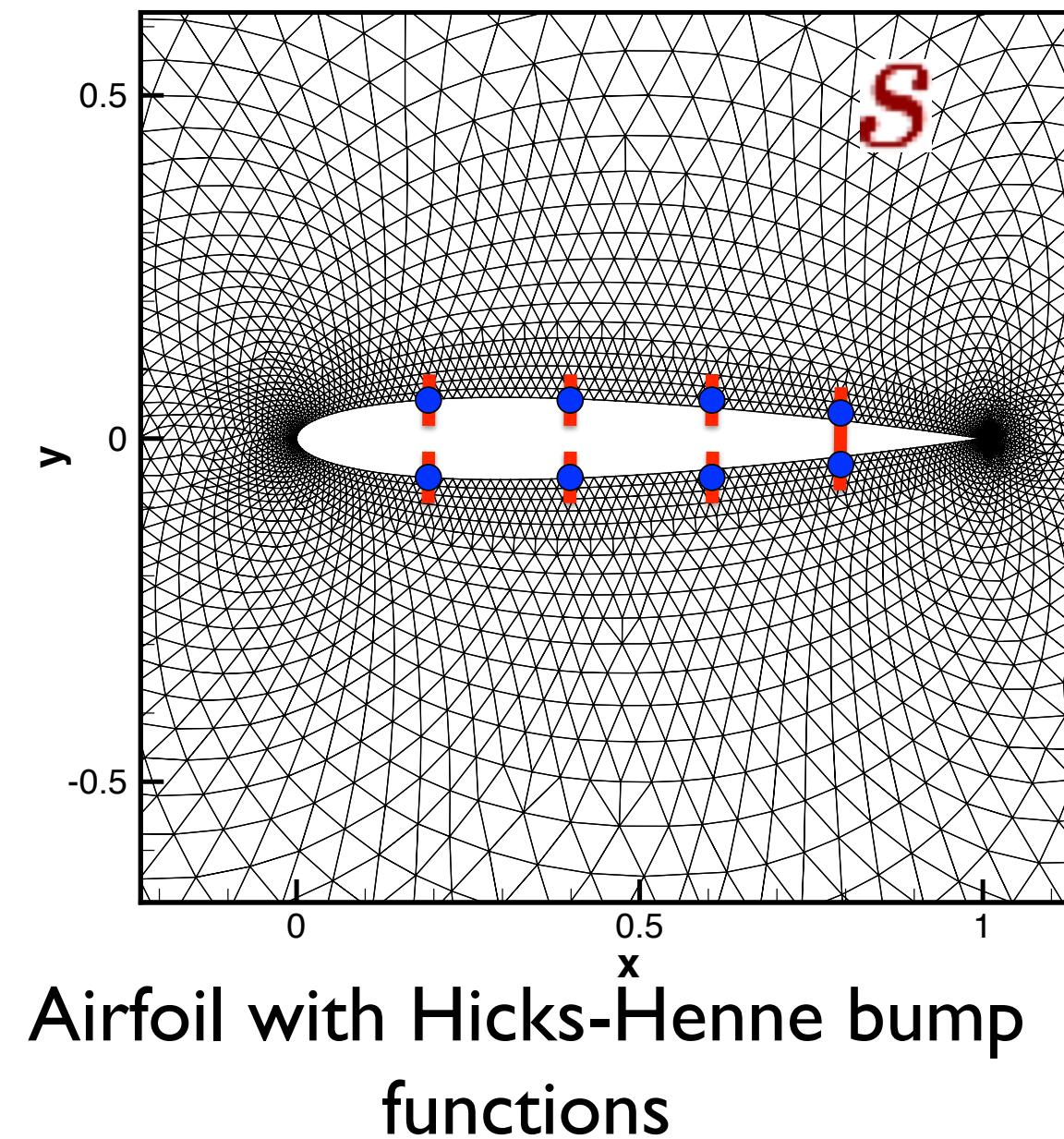


optimization under uncertainty

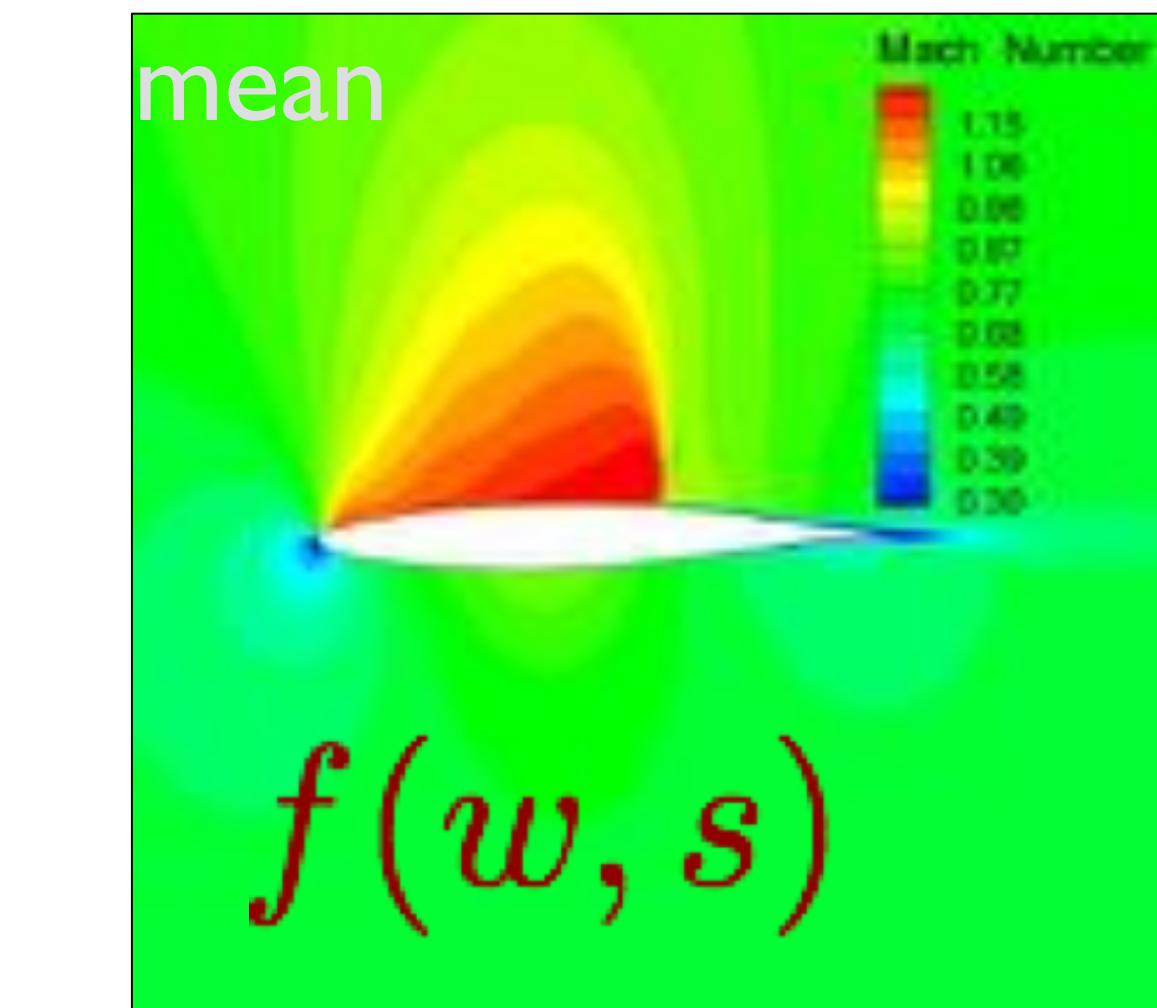
Probability distribution



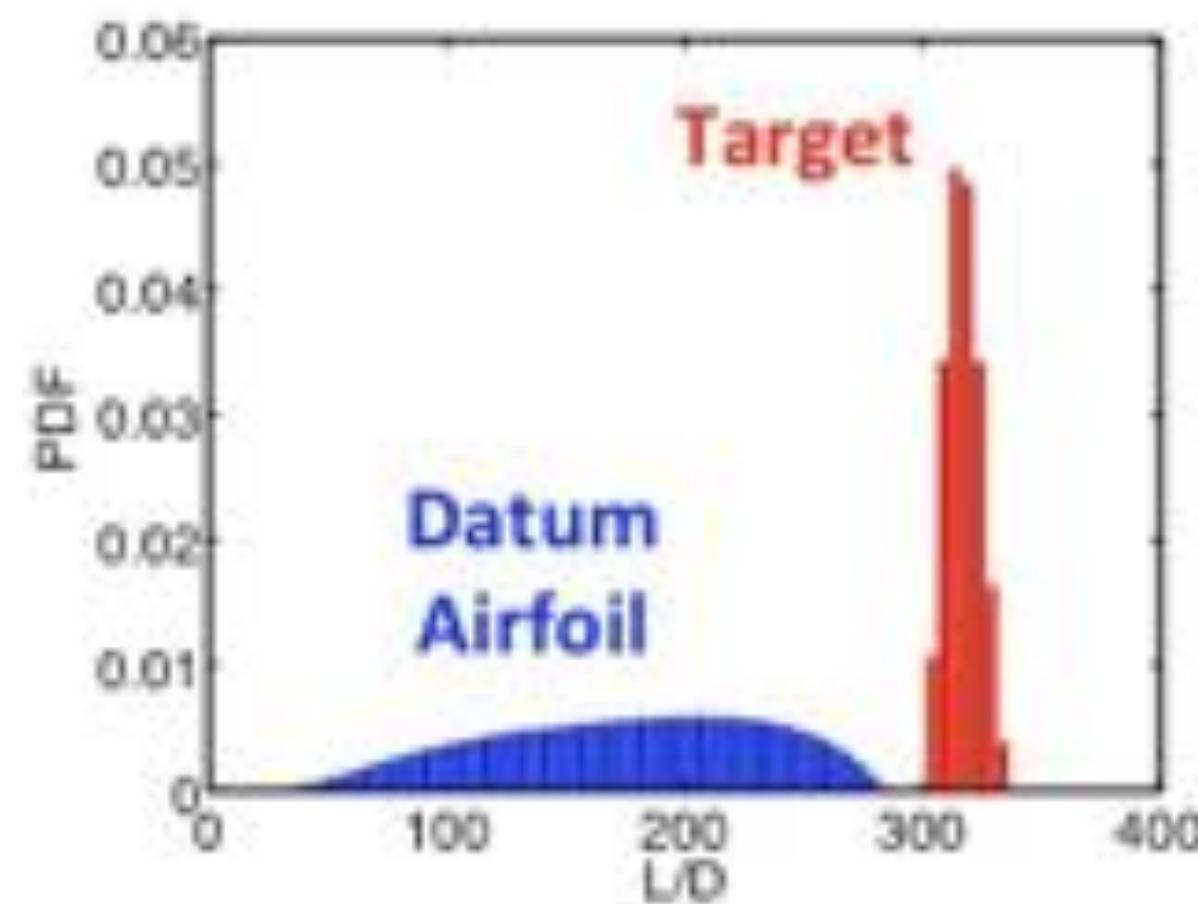
Free-Stream
Mach # uncertainty



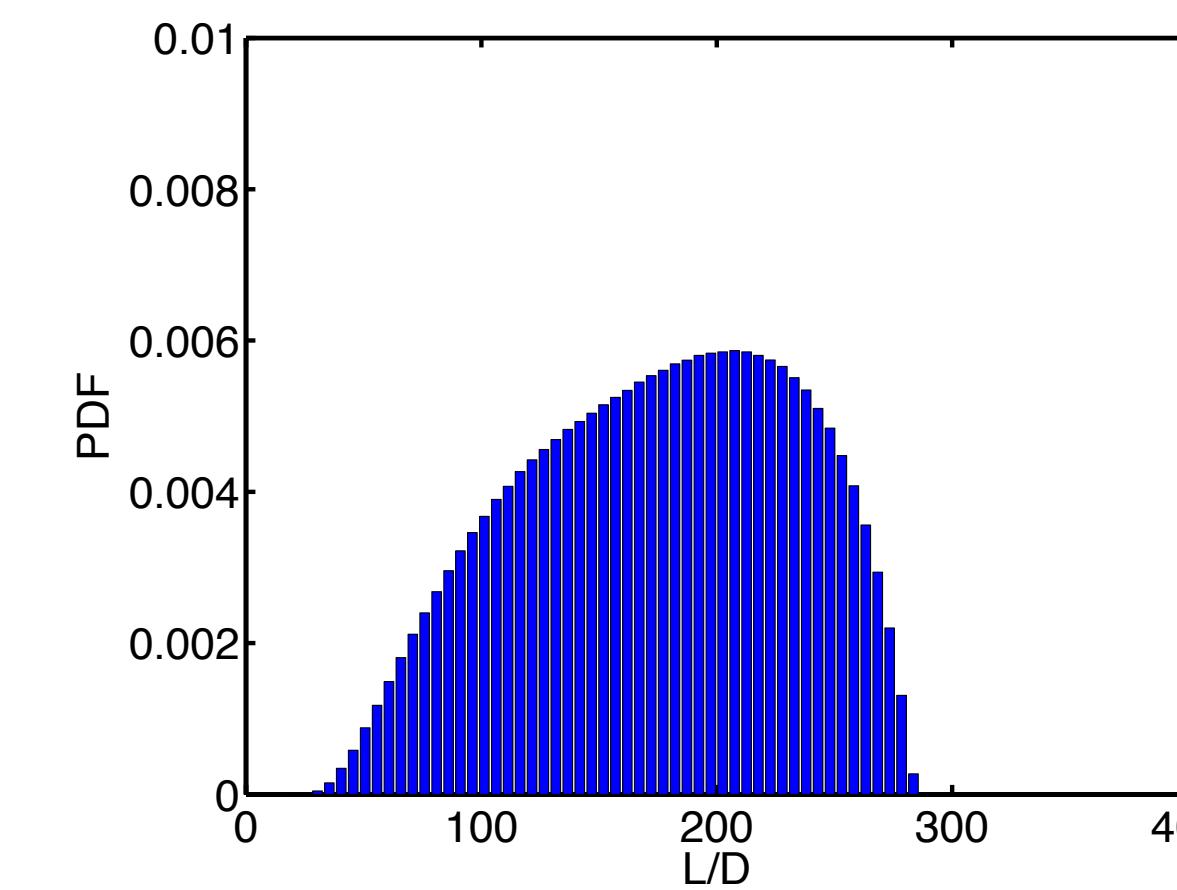
Airfoil with Hicks-Henne bump
functions



Obtain lift-to-drag
ratio

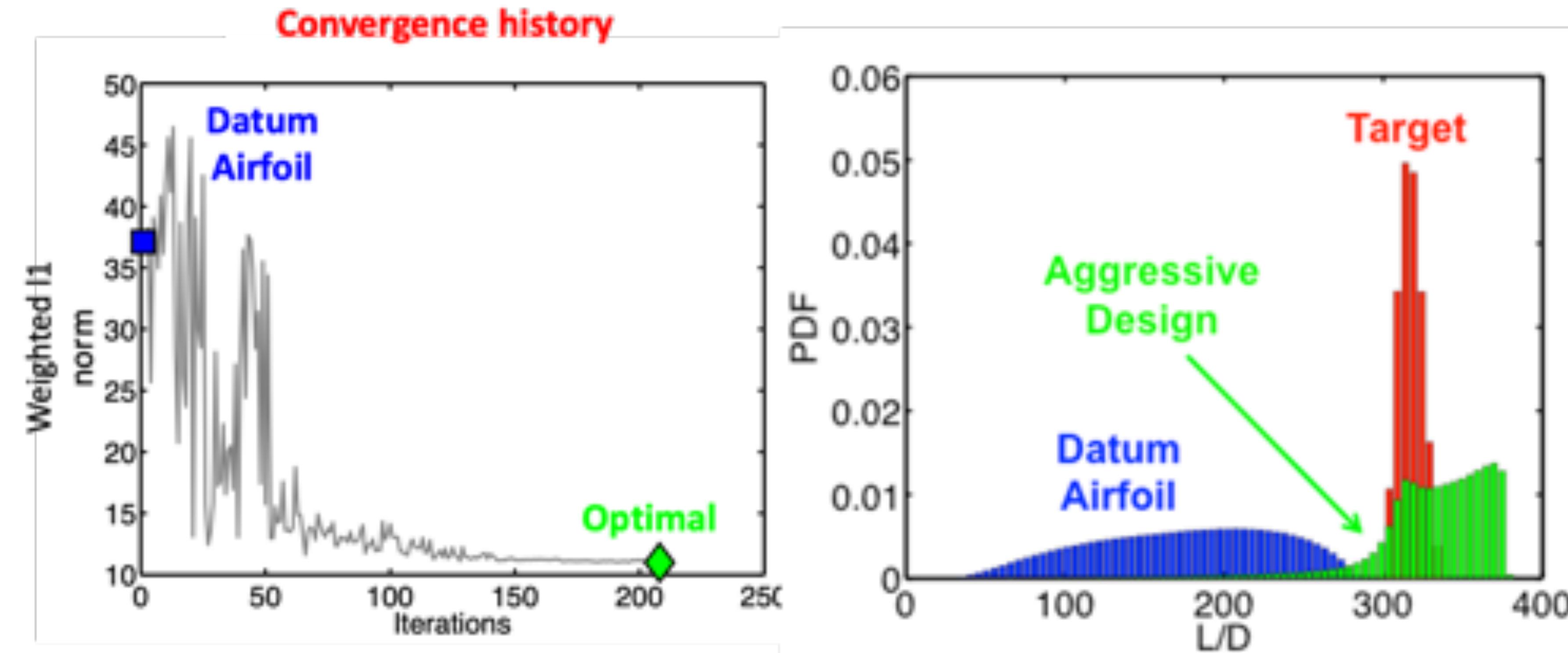


Optimize



PDF and statistical
moments of
lift/drag

optimization under uncertainty



Property	Datum Airfoil	Target PDF	Aggressive Design
Mean	174.68	317.14	330.5
Standard deviation	57.52	7.0	40.5

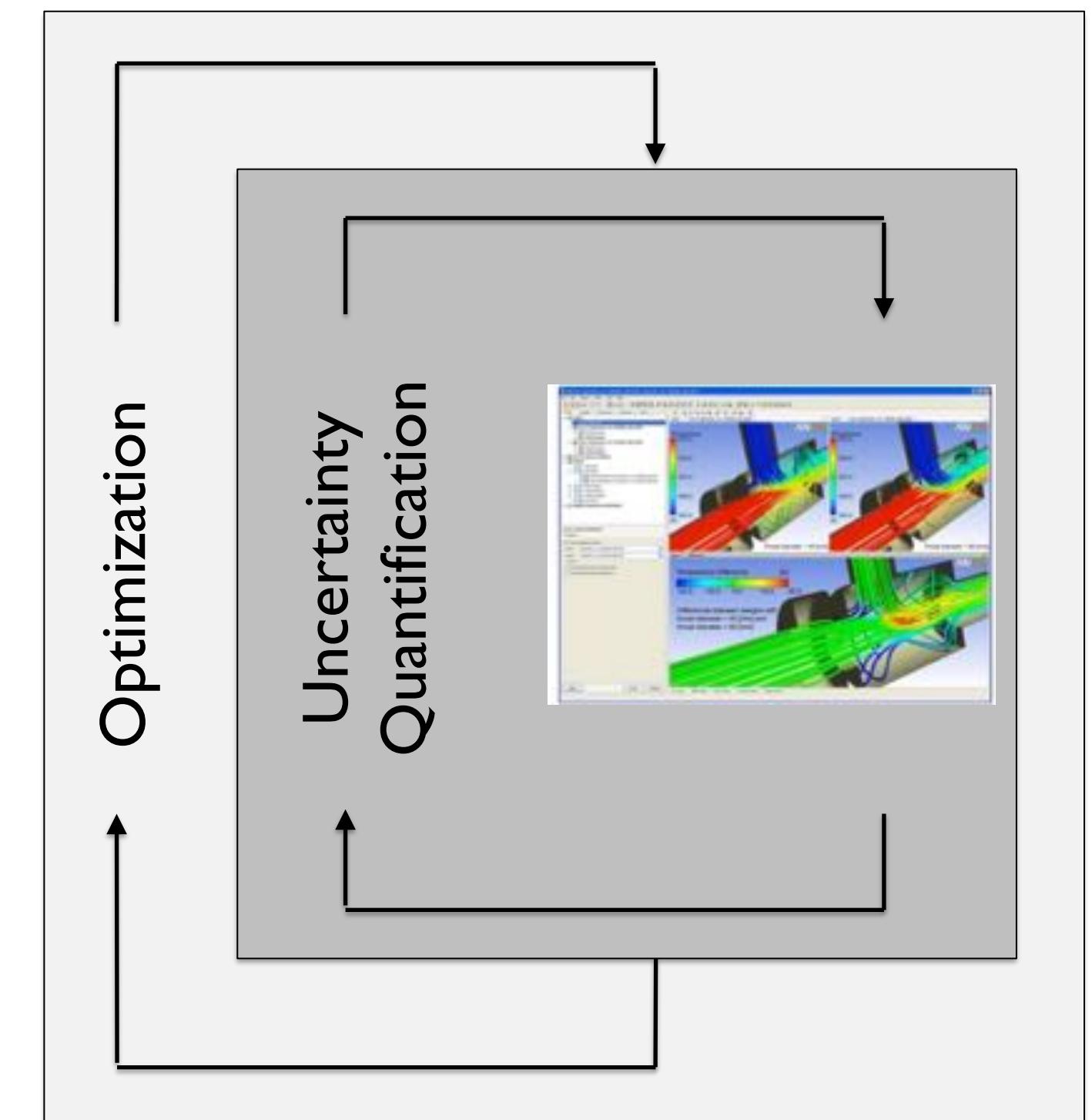
summary

optimization under uncertainty

- formulation of the optimization goal is not straightforward
- solution strategies are complex and more expensive

accounting for uncertainties is critical

- “certain” optimal performance are fragile
- uncertainty quantification leads to natural choice between different trade-offs



uncertainties without probabilities

“basic equation of uncertainty analysis”

Experimental Thermal & Fluid Sciences, 1988

Describing the Experimental F

Robert J. Moffat
Professor of Mechanical Engineering,
Stanford University, Stanford, California

Describing the Uncertainties in Experimental Results

Robert J. Moffat

Professor of Mechanical Engineering,
Stanford University, Stanford, California

■ It is no longer acceptable, in most circles, to present experimental results without describing the uncertainties involved. Besides its obvious role in publishing, uncertainty analysis provides the experimenter a rational way of evaluating the significance of the scatter on repeated trials. This can be a powerful tool in locating the source of trouble in a misbehaving experiment. To the

Reprints: experimental uncertainty, error analysis, design concepts
accuracy, multiple-variable methods, quality control

INTRODUCTION

The error in a measurement is usually defined as the difference between its true value and the measured value. The evidence is clear that one needs to go beyond this value and introduce an estimate of how much the true value and the measured value are likely to differ and understanding in “quantifying” an experiment requires some form of a quantitative view of the basic uncertainty laws of engineering. In most instances, one cannot take into account all of the errors in a measurement in one case only, but about what weight he places the errors that are best known for particular errors.

The term “uncertainty” is used in order to “a possible value that deviates from the true and best known value” and therefore it is more [1], and it will suffice an appropriate and relevant concept. The terms “uncertainty analysis” and “uncertainty” are commonly used interchangeably, and they will be used in this discussion, both referring to the interval around the measured value within which the true value is believed to lie. The term “uncertainty analysis” refers to the process of estimating how great an effect the uncertainty in the measured values has upon the calculated result.

There is more to uncertainty analysis than just knowing your

uncertainty analysis Professor Robert J. Moffat, Mechanical Engineering Department, Stanford

Experimental Thermal and Fluid Sciences 1988, 11:1-17
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work

The partial derivative of R with respect to X_i is the *sensitivity coefficient* for the result R with respect to the measurement X_i .

When several independent variables are used in the function R , the individual terms are combined by a root-sum-square method.

$$\delta R = \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^N \left(\frac{\partial R}{\partial X_i} \delta X_i \right)^2 \right\}^{1/2} \quad (4)$$

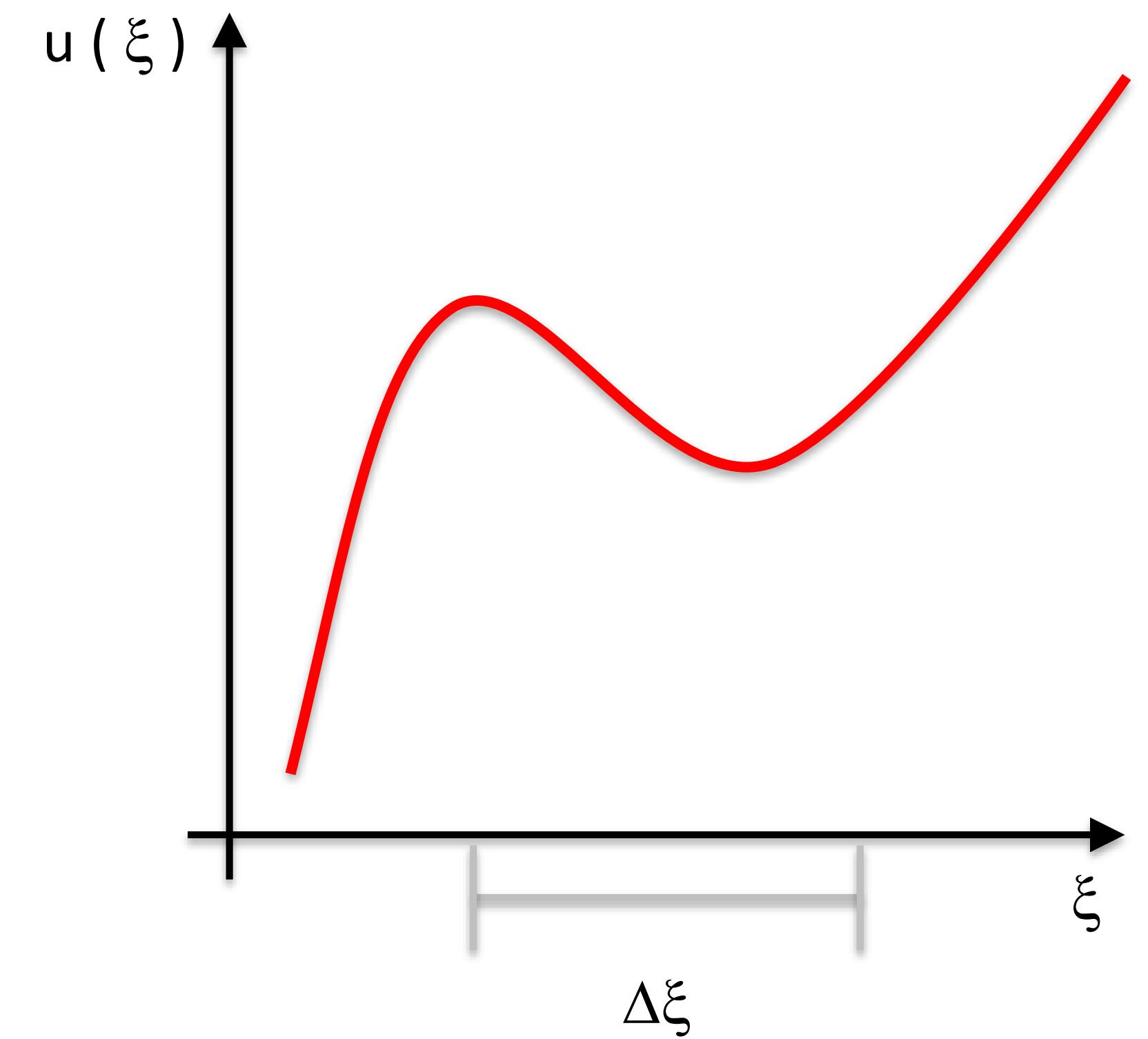
This is the **basic equation of uncertainty analysis**. Each term measures the contribution made by the uncertainty in one

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deterministic estimate of uncertainties

model output
↓
 $u = u(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_d)$

model inputs with given ranges $\Delta\xi_i$



deterministic estimate of uncertainties

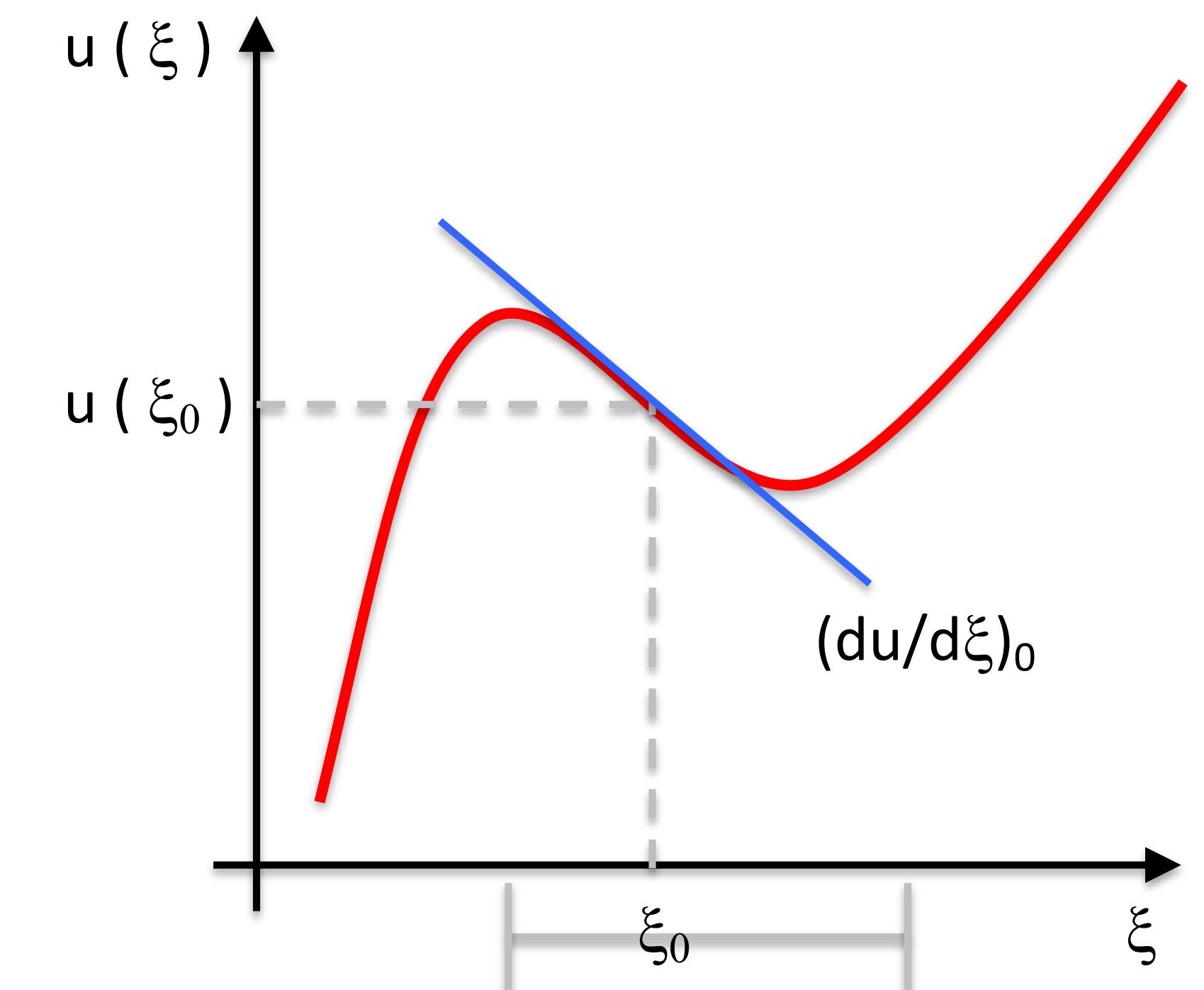
model output model inputs with given ranges $\Delta\xi_i$

↓

$$u = u(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_d)$$

Moffat's **basic equation of uncertainty analysis**
is simply a first order Taylor series expansion:

$$\Delta u \approx \left[\sum_{i=1}^d \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial \xi_i} \right)^2 \Delta \xi_i^2 \right]^{\frac{1}{2}}$$



this is also referred to as a local sensitivity, i.e. refers to a local approximation of the function

deterministic estimate of uncertainties

model output

model inputs with given ranges $\Delta\xi_i$

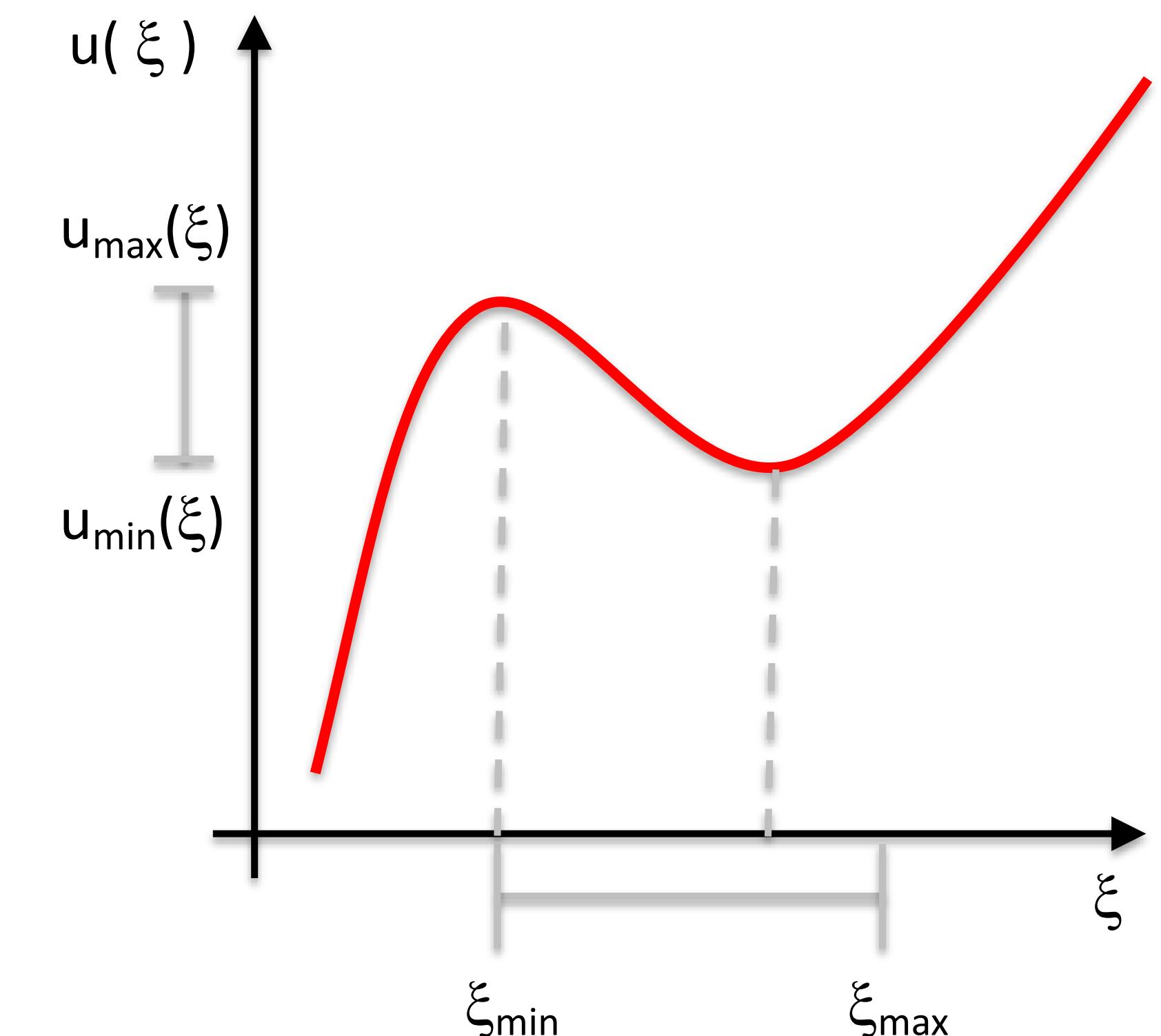
$$u = u(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_d)$$

The **most general strategy**

given $\xi \in [\xi_{min}, \xi_{max}]$

solve two optimization
problems to find:

$$u(\xi) \in [u_{min}, u_{max}]$$



deterministic estimate of uncertainties

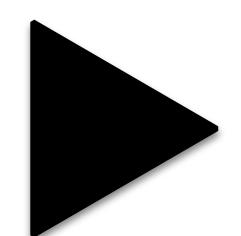
model output

$$u = u(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_d)$$

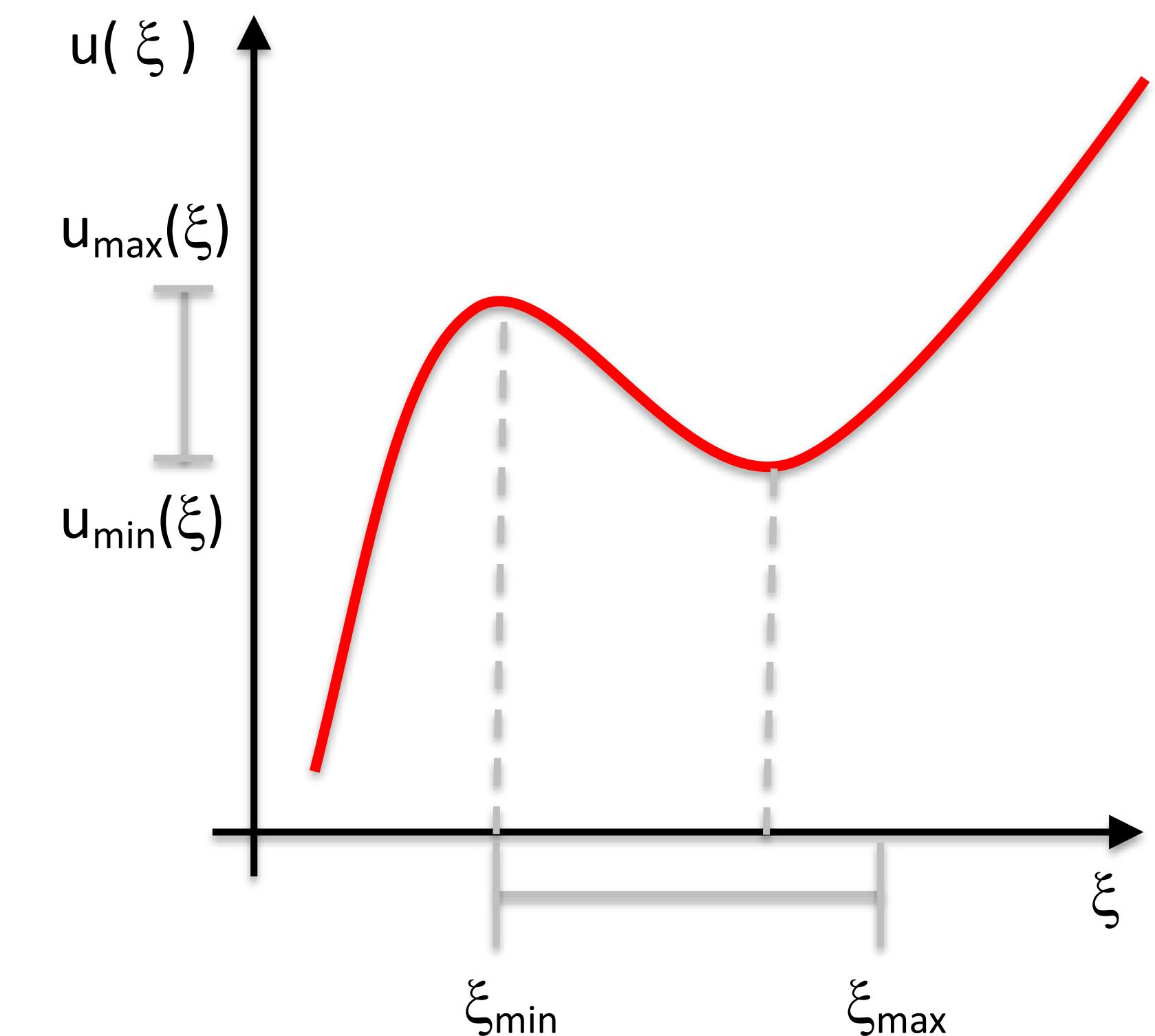
model inputs with given ranges $\Delta\xi_i$

Can we compute intervals directly?

$$\xi \in [\xi_{min}, \xi_{max}]$$



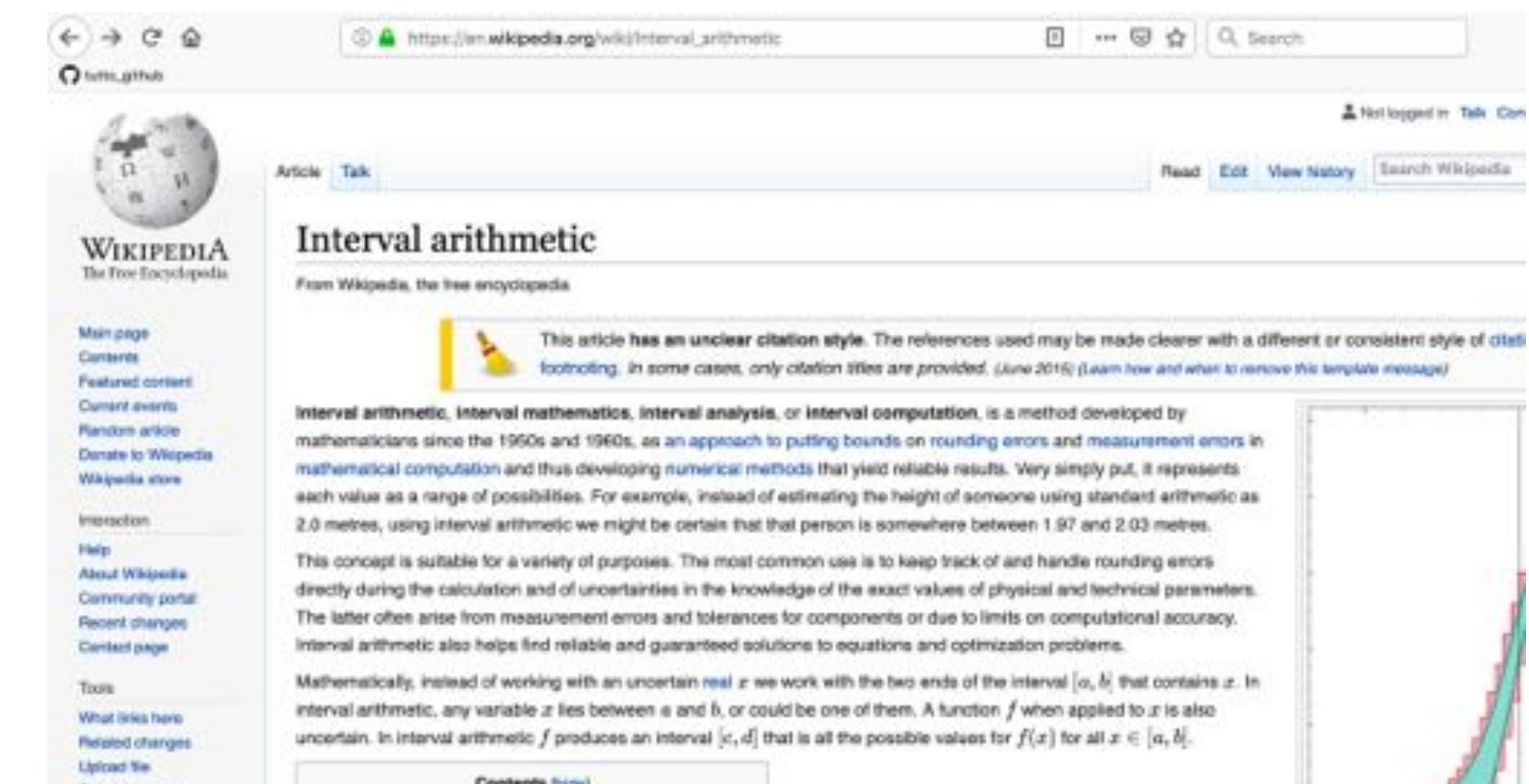
$$u(\xi) \in [u_{min}, u_{max}]$$



Values vs. Intervals

interval arithmetic – given two variables defined as intervals....

- ▶ $\xi + \eta = [\xi_a : \xi_b] + [\eta_a : \eta_b] = [\xi_a + \eta_a : \xi_b + \eta_b]$
- ▶ $\xi - \eta = [\xi_a : \xi_b] - [\eta_a : \eta_b] = [\xi_a - \eta_b : \xi_b + \eta_a]$
- ▶ $\xi \times \eta = [\xi_a : \xi_b] \times [\eta_a : \eta_b] = [min(\xi_a \eta_a, \xi_a \eta_b, \xi_b \eta_a, \xi_b \eta_b) : max(\xi_a \eta_a, \xi_a \eta_b, \xi_b \eta_a, \xi_b \eta_b)]$
- ▶ $\xi / \eta = [\xi_a : \xi_b][1/\eta_a : 1/\eta_b]$



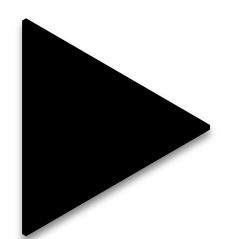
The screenshot shows a computer screen displaying the Wikipedia article on Interval arithmetic. The page title is "Interval arithmetic". The content starts with a warning about unclear citation style. It explains that interval arithmetic is a method developed by mathematicians since the 1950s and 1960s, as an approach to putting bounds on rounding errors and measurement errors in mathematical computation and thus developing numerical methods that yield reliable results. The text states that instead of estimating the height of someone as 2.0 metres, using interval arithmetic we might be certain that that person is somewhere between 1.97 and 2.03 metres. It also mentions that interval arithmetic helps find reliable and guaranteed solutions to equations and optimization problems. The page includes a sidebar with links to Main page, Contents, Featured content, Current events, Random article, Donate to Wikipedia, Wikipedia store, Help, About Wikipedia, Community portal, Recent changes, Central page, Tools, What links here, Related changes, and Upload file.

resulting intervals are rigorous and relatively inexpensive to evaluate...but

Problems with Intervals Arithmetic

Dependency Problem

$$\xi \in [1 : 2]$$

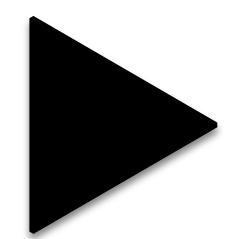


$$\xi - \xi = [-1 : 3]$$

$$f(x) = \frac{x}{1+x}$$

$$g(x) = \frac{1}{1+1/x}$$

$$x = \bar{x}[1 - 1/10 : 1 + 1/10]$$



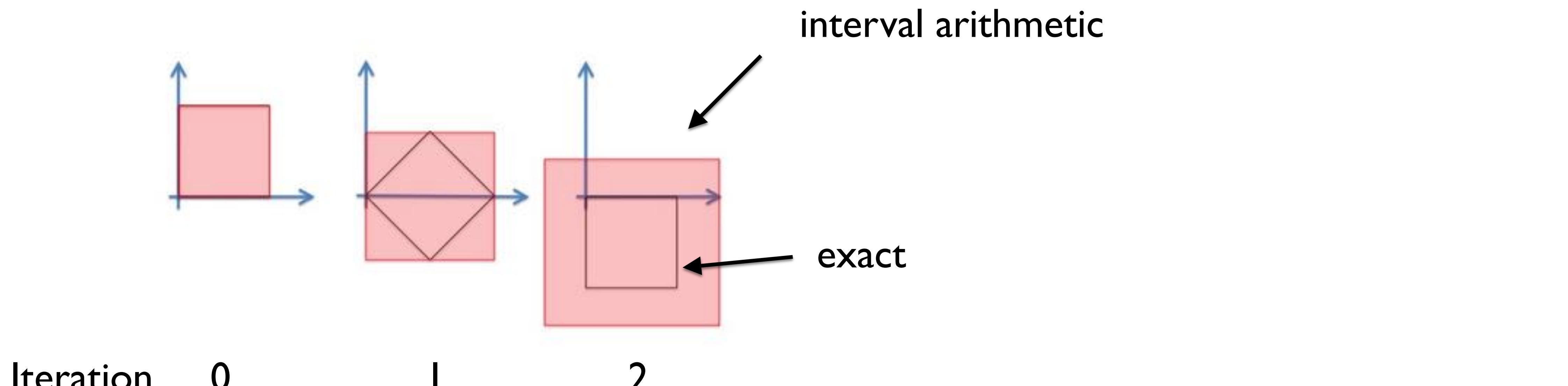
\bar{x}	x	$f(\bar{x})$	$g(\bar{x})$	$f(x)$	$g(x)$	$\frac{\ f(x)\ }{\ g(x)\ }$
1	$[\frac{9}{10} : \frac{11}{10}]$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$[\frac{3}{7} : \frac{11}{19}]$	$[\frac{9}{19} : \frac{11}{21}]$	3
$\frac{5}{4}$	$[\frac{9}{8} : \frac{11}{8}]$	$\frac{5}{9}$	$\frac{5}{9}$	$[\frac{9}{19} : \frac{11}{17}]$	$[\frac{9}{17} : \frac{11}{19}]$	$\frac{7}{2}$
$\frac{3}{2}$	$[\frac{27}{20} : \frac{33}{20}]$	$\frac{3}{5}$	$\frac{3}{5}$	$[\frac{27}{53} : \frac{33}{47}]$	$[\frac{27}{47} : \frac{33}{53}]$	4
$\frac{7}{4}$	$[\frac{63}{40} : \frac{77}{40}]$	$\frac{7}{11}$	$\frac{7}{11}$	$[\frac{7}{13} : \frac{77}{103}]$	$[\frac{63}{103} : \frac{77}{117}]$	$\frac{9}{2}$
2	$[\frac{9}{5} : \frac{11}{5}]$	$\frac{2}{3}$	$\frac{2}{3}$	$[\frac{9}{16} : \frac{11}{14}]$	$[\frac{9}{14} : \frac{11}{16}]$	5

Problems with Intervals Arithmetic

Wrapping Problem

consider the iteration

$$(\xi, \eta) \rightarrow \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}(\xi + \eta, \eta - \xi)$$



intervals arithmetic produces accurate bounds
that are, in general, not **optimally tight**

summary

non-probabilistic methods for uncertainty quantification don't have a rich theoretical foundation but they are useful when no information is available to justify a probabilistic assumption

question: is an interval equal to a uniform random variable?

interval arithmetic is mostly the focus of computer scientists aiming at building error control within compilers

An Interval Compiler for Sound Floating-Point Computations

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Abstract—Floating-point arithmetic is widely used by software developers but is unsound, i.e., there is no guarantee on the accuracy obtained, which can be imperative in safety-critical applications. We present IGen, a source-to-source compiler that translates a given C function using floating-point into an equivalent sound C function that uses interval arithmetic. IGen supports Intel SIMD intrinsics in the input function using a specially designed code generator and can produce SIMD-optimized output. To mitigate a possible loss of accuracy due to the increase of interval sizes, IGen can compile to double-double precision, again SIMD-optimized. Finally, IGen implements an accuracy optimization for the common reduction pattern. We benchmark our compiler on high-performance code in the domain of linear algebra and signal processing. The results show that the generated code delivers sound double precision results at high performance. In particular, we observe speed-ups of up to 9.8 when compared to commonly used interval libraries using double precision. When compiling to double-double, our compiler delivers intervals that keep error accumulation small enough to compute results with at most one bit of error in double precision, i.e., certified double precision results.

Index Terms—floating-point arithmetic, source-to-source compiler, interval arithmetic, certified accuracy.

implementation. In abstract domains for verification, sound floating-point arithmetic could replace rational arithmetic to gain speed [5], [6]. For the robustness analysis of neural networks, sound floating-point computations are essential [7], [8]. Another direction is mixed-precision tuning in which tools estimate error bounds on floating-point computations to select a suitable precision [9], [10].

One common technique to guarantee soundness is static code analysis based on abstract interpretation using intervals or more complex polyhedra [11]. Many tools have emerged to guarantee soundness by estimating roundoff errors using static analysis [12]–[17]. However, since the input is not known, the bounds become too loose. A more practical approach is thus to rewrite the code to account for ranges, either from scratch or using libraries [18]–[21]. The cheapest solution is interval arithmetic [22], which treats all values as intervals that are guaranteed to contain the true value. However, the manual effort can be considerable, the resulting code can become significantly slower than the original, and, most importantly,

ME270

**advances in computing
with uncertainties**

topics (briefly) covered for today

**communicating
uncertainties**

**optimization with
uncertainties**

**uncertainties
without probabilities**

overall summary

errors are uncertainties are NOT the same

uncertainties come from diverse sources and require different representations (intervals, random variables) thus leading to multiple quantification strategies

context and intended use of the model estimates (and uncertainties) is an important component of the communication strategy

uncertainties are always present in engineering design and can lead to different choices among various trade-offs

uncertainty quantification should be explicit, principled and free of errors



ME270 – Fall 2021

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