

You can't always get what you want,
but if you use operations and data science
you may get what you need
Or: The next practice of engineering and managing capital projects

Martin Fischer

Kumagai Professor in the School of Engineering

Professor, Civil & Environmental Engineering

Director, Center for Integrated Facility Engineering (CIFE)

Senior Fellow, Precourt Institute for Energy (PIE)

Stanford University

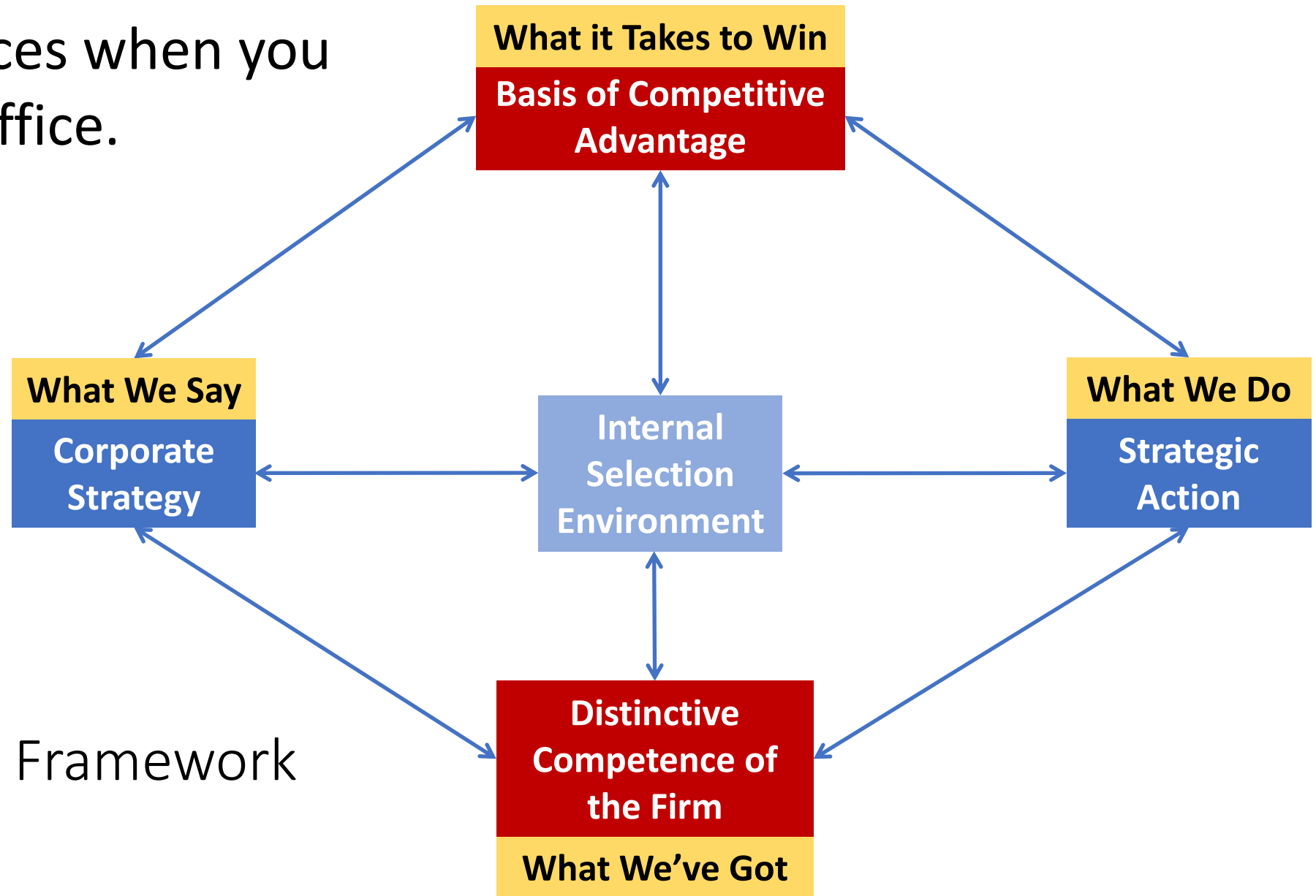
Member, Technical Committee, PPI

National Academy of Construction

fischer@stanford.edu



You must decide how to allocate your firm's resources when you get back to your office.



Strategy Diamond Framework

Many technology and management developments

Mobile

- from just-in-case to just-the-right information

Cloud

- anytime (push and pull, bi-directional, "unlimited")

Parallelization

- fast

Location / dimensional measurement

- accuracy, dimensional control, off-site / on-site

Machine learning

- experience and data

Robotics, additive manufacturing

- virtual \leftrightarrow real, safety, environmental impact

Internet of Things (IoT)

- virtual \leftrightarrow real

Virtual Environments

- test!

Collaboration

- concurrent knowledge

Lean

- lower uncertainty, lower risk, customer, pull, purpose \rightarrow value

The combination of these developments creates significant opportunities for dramatic change.

“You are an idiot if you are not using the best tool possible.”

Manfred Fischer, 1972

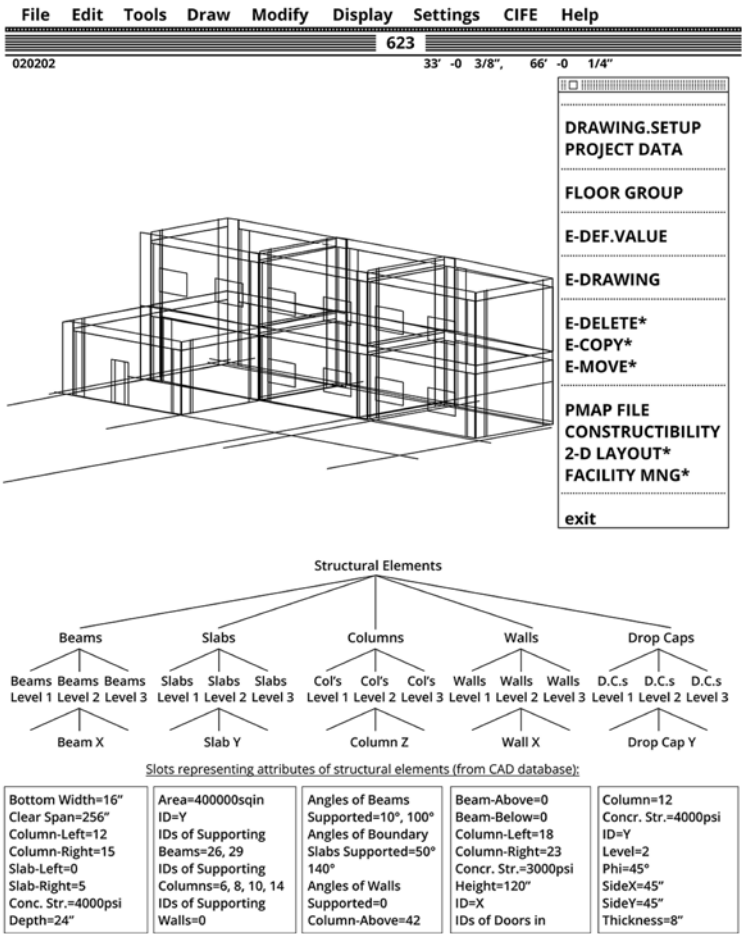


Frustrating



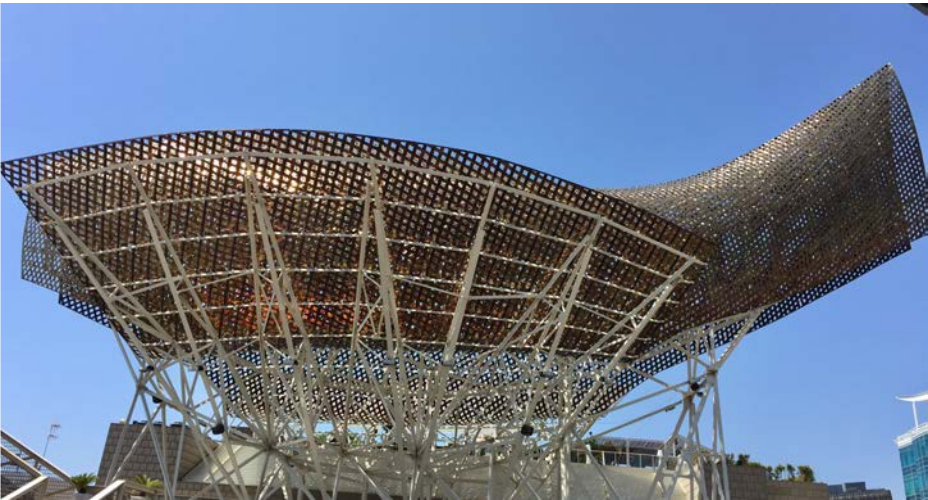
Picture courtesy Michael Veegh

First attempt



From CIFE Technical Report Nr. 64,
<https://stacks.stanford.edu/file/druid:vy646gd5926/TR064.pdf>

Inspiring



Picture taken by Martin Fischer

Today's best practice: VDC Virtual Design and Construction



Client Objectives

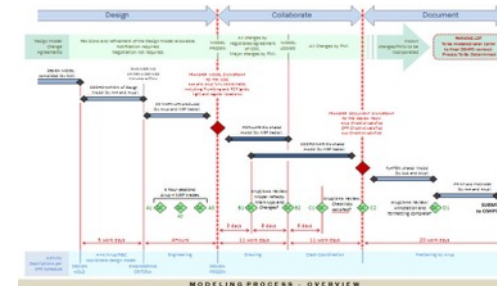
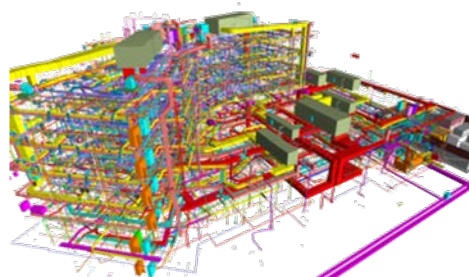


Project Objectives

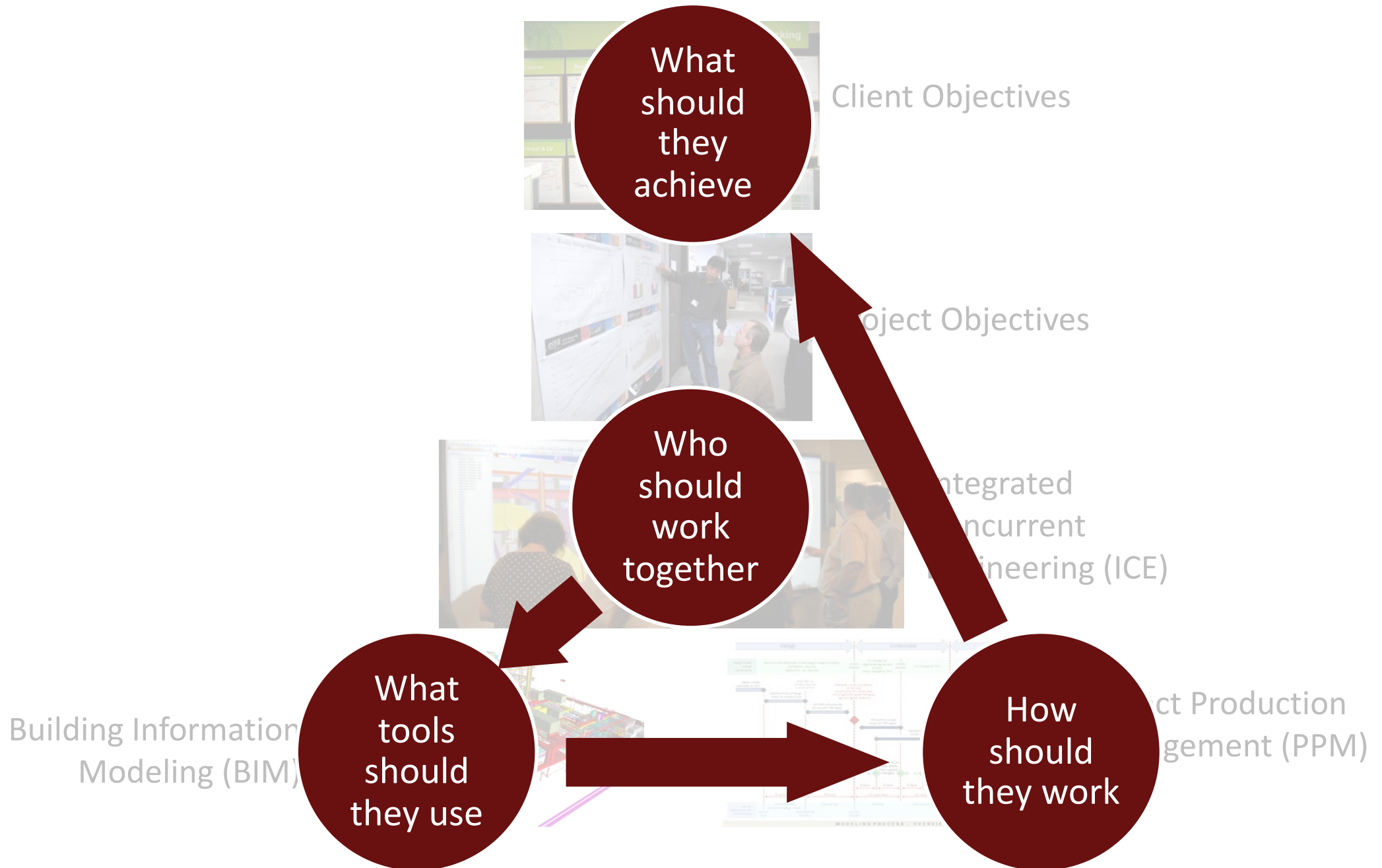


Integrated
Concurrent
Engineering
(ICE)

Building
Information
Modeling
(BIM)

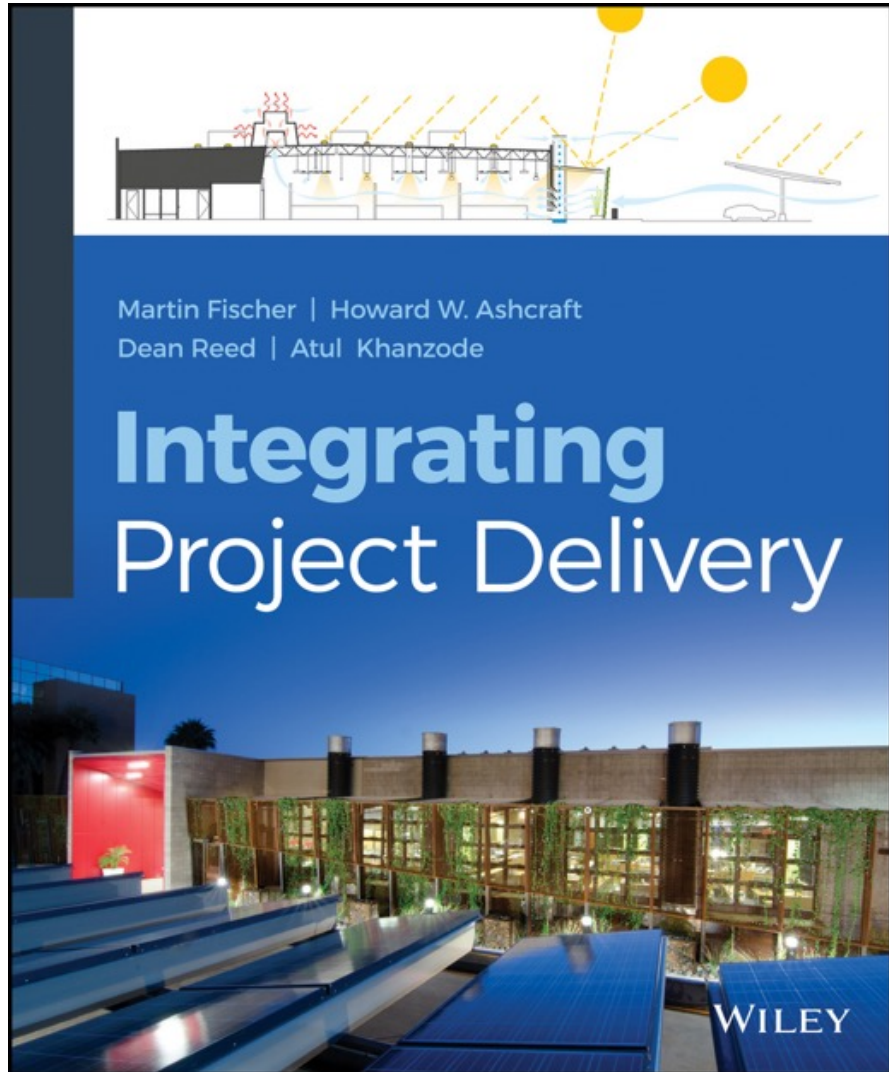


Project
Production
Management
(PPM)



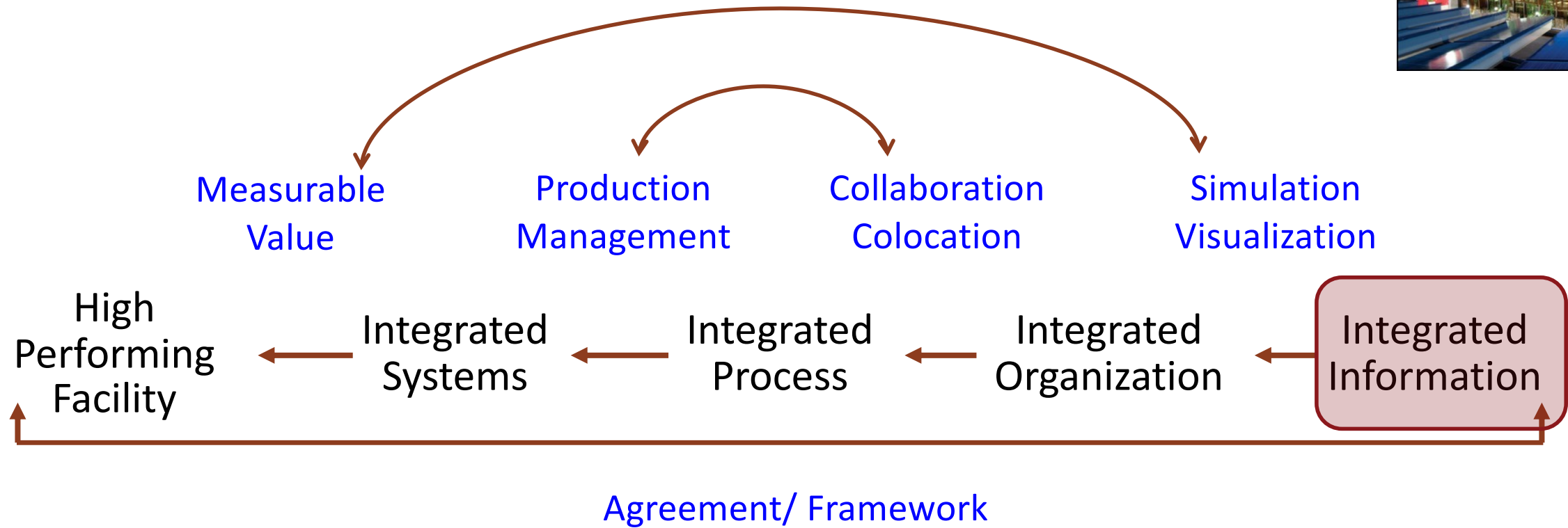
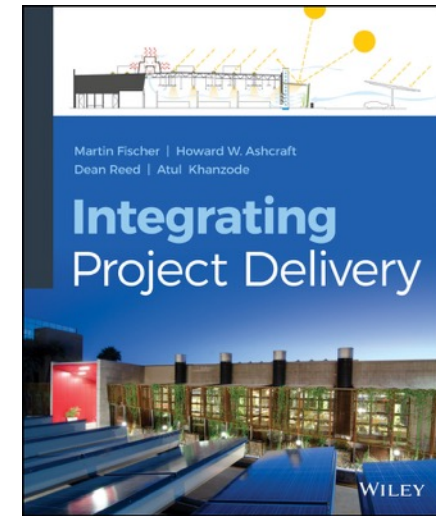
INTEGRATING PROJECT DELIVERY

A Strategic Model for Project Integration



- Theory and Practice
- 450 pages
- 50 Projects
- 123 Examples
- Textbook published by Wiley 2017

The Simple Framework for IPD



Do you need to complete your projects fast or at low cost?

Most need to do both.

Then there are two more related questions:

Do you have the same amount of work each day?

The same amount of resources you can count on?

Let's see how good 200 Norwegian owners, engineers, and contractors can produce fast and at low cost with variable demand and supply



Capacity Utilization Simulation

Legend:
X-axis: Extra capacity
Y-axis: Average unmet demand



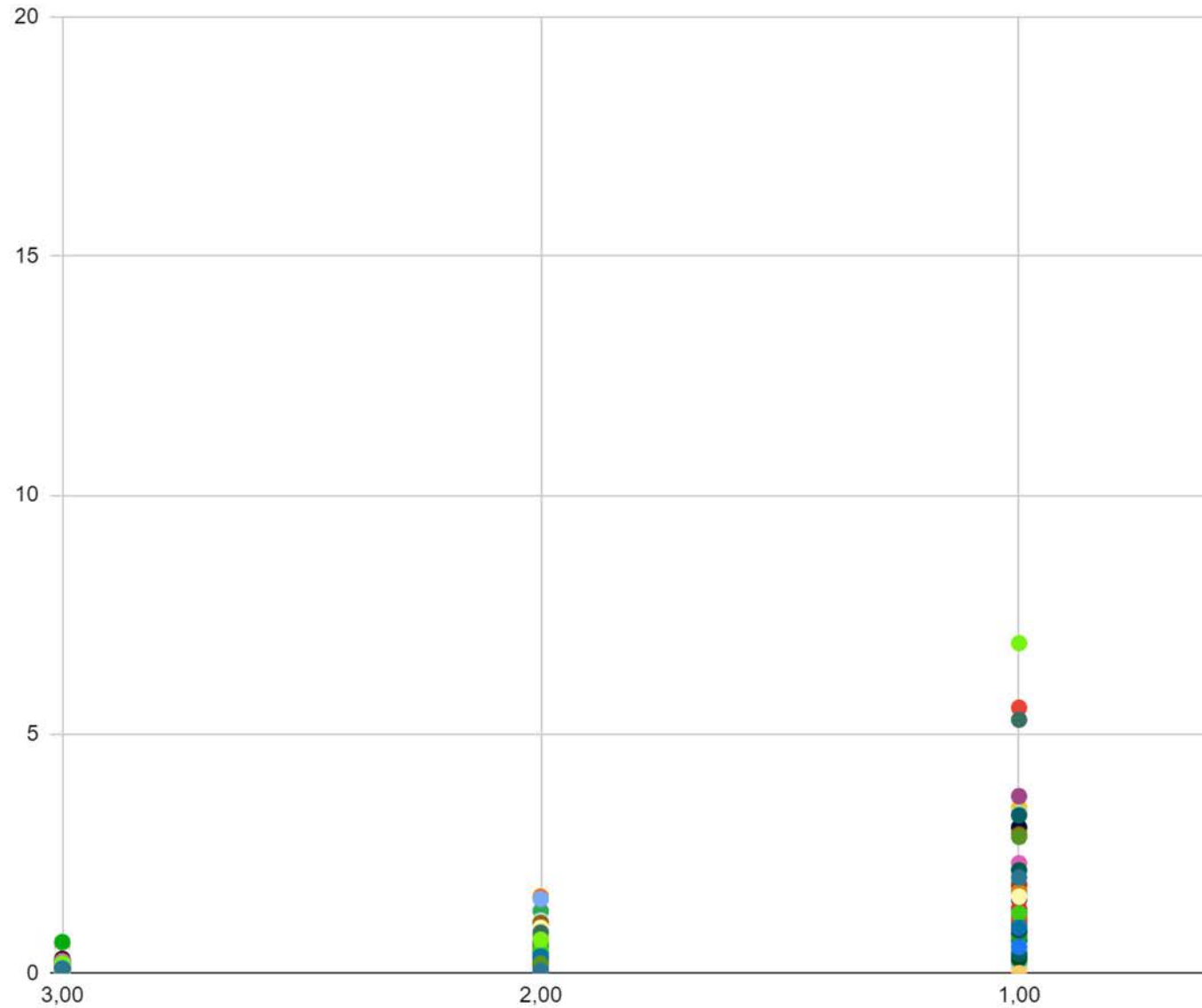
Capacity Utilization Simulation

Legend:
X-axis: Extra capacity
Y-axis: Average unmet demand



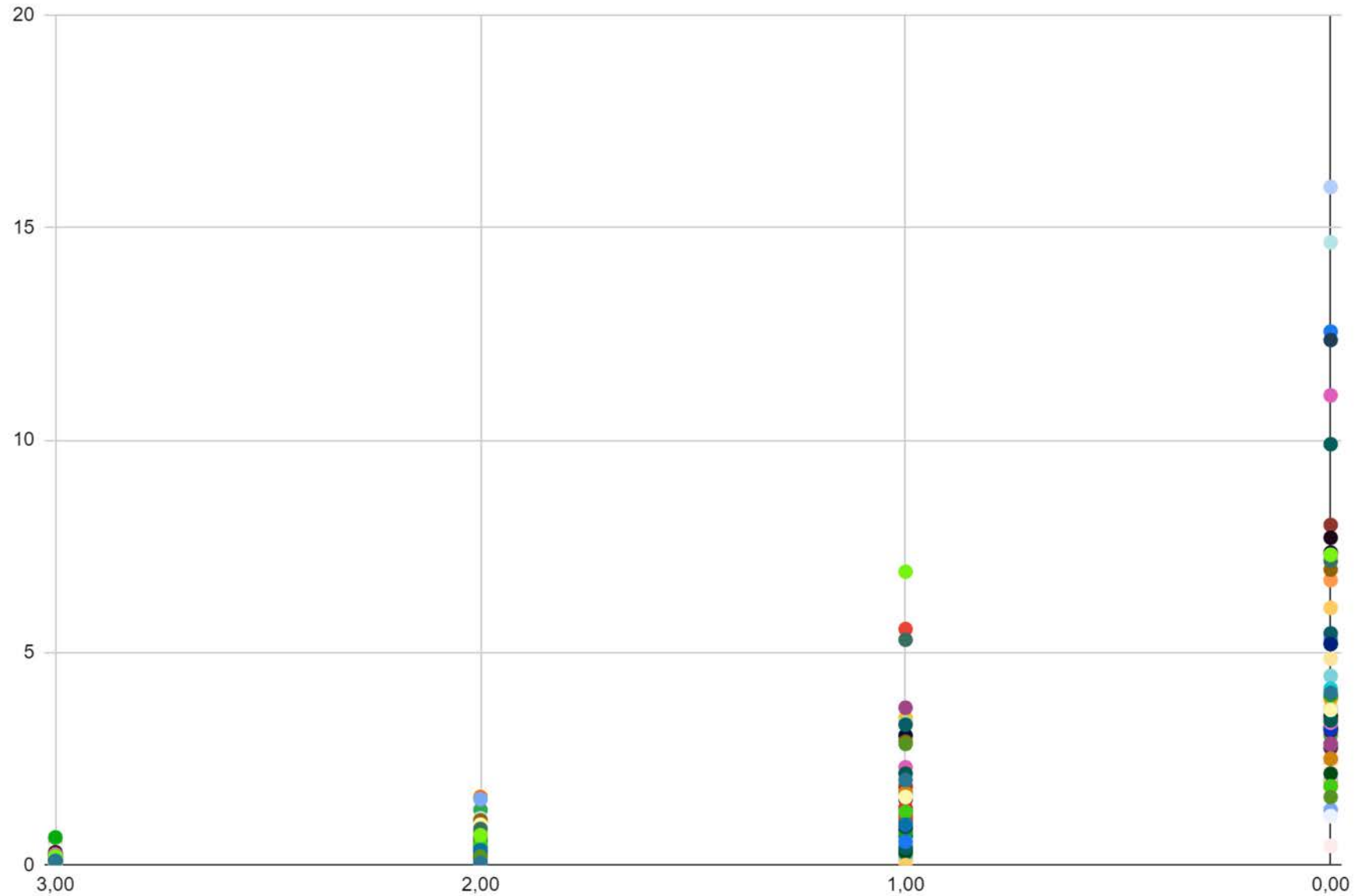
Capacity Utilization Simulation

Legend:
X-axis: Extra capacity
Y-axis: Average unmet demand



Capacity Utilization Simulation

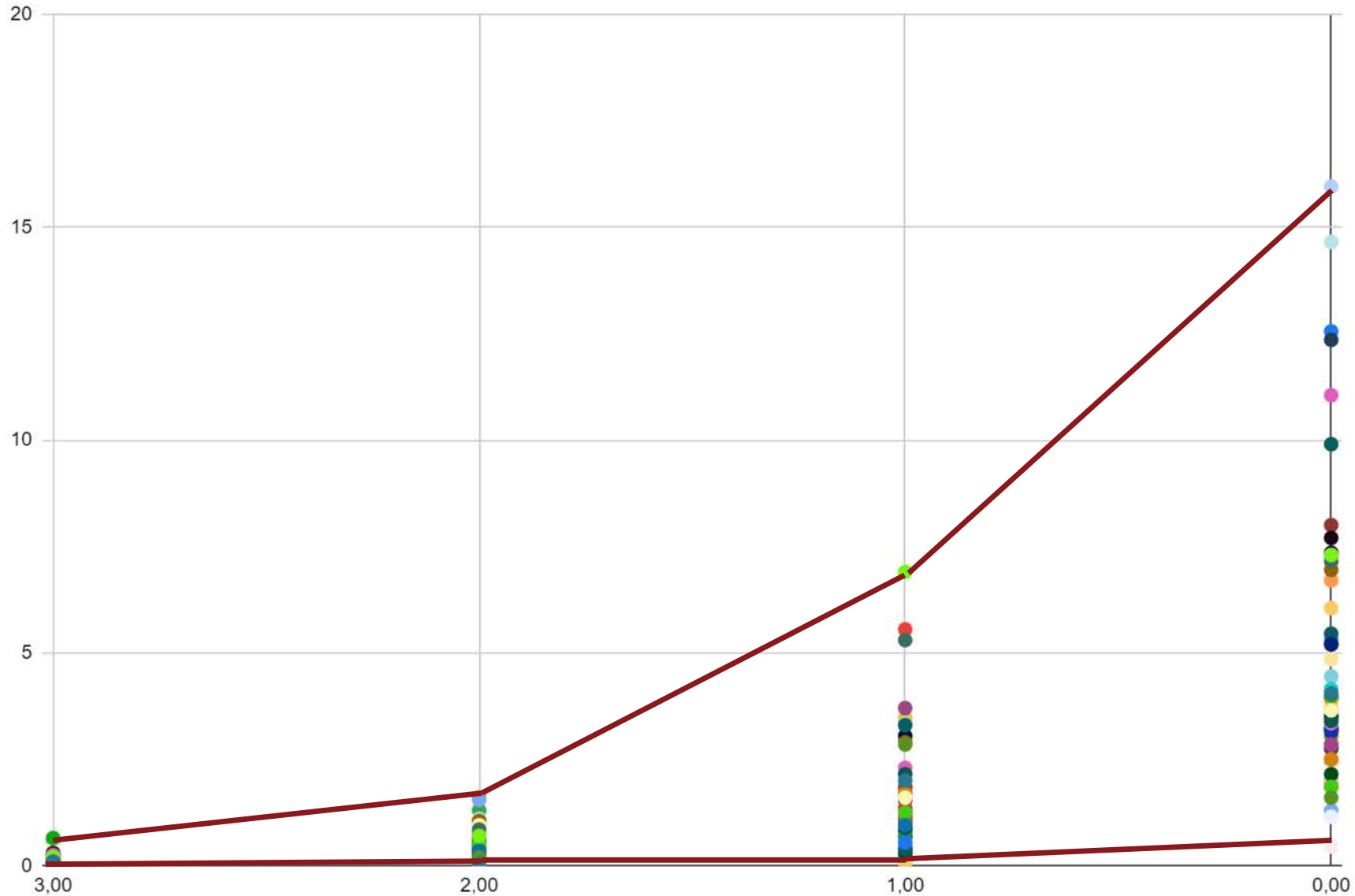
Legend:
X-axis: Extra capacity
Y-axis: Average unmet demand



Capacity Utilization Simulation

With less extra capacity, it takes longer to meet demand and performance is less predictable

Legend:
X-axis: Extra capacity
Y-axis: Average unmet demand



Capacity Utilization Simulation

worst

0.65

1.60

6.90

15.95

spread

0.65

1.55

6.90

15.50

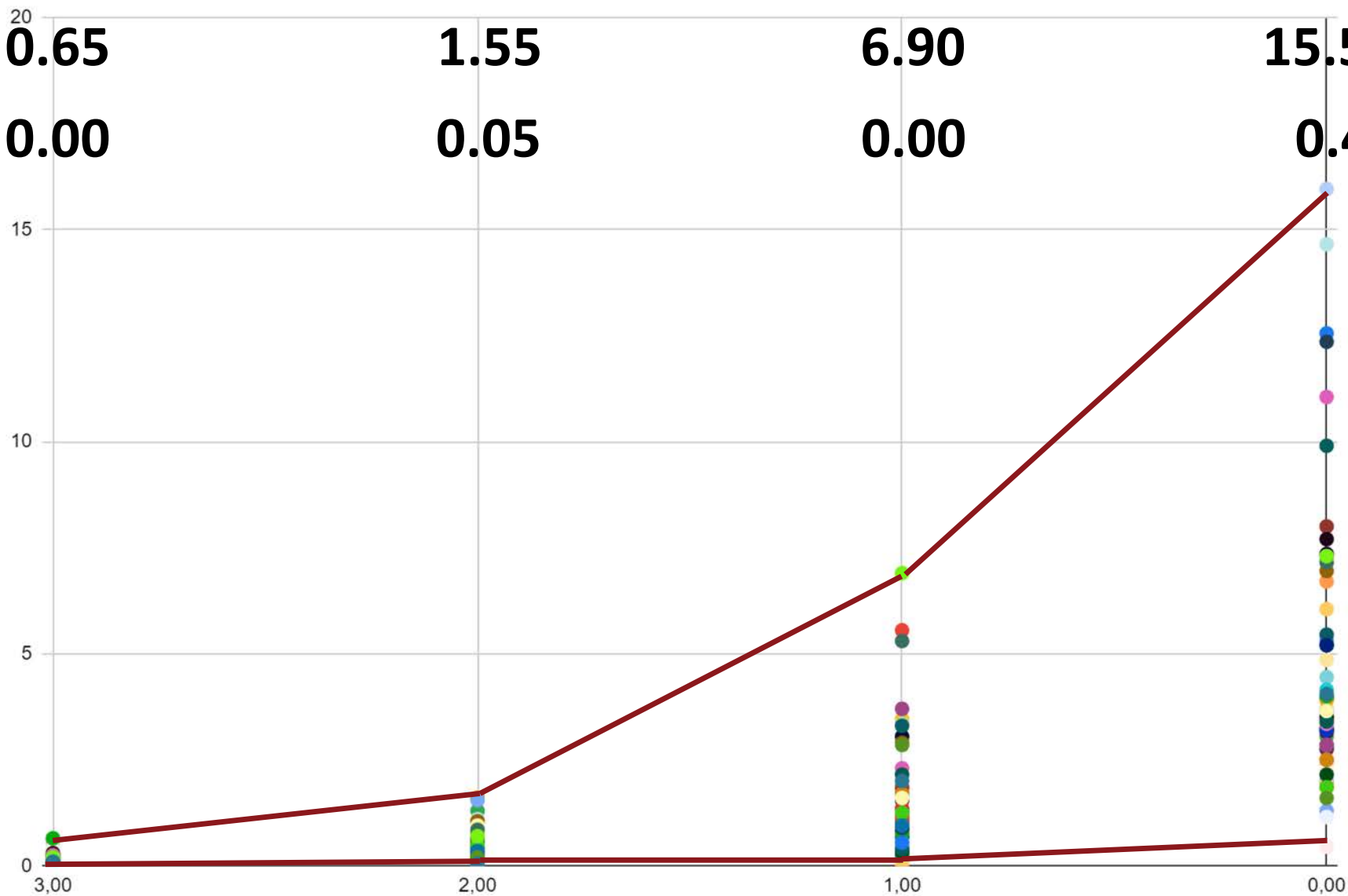
best

0.00

0.05

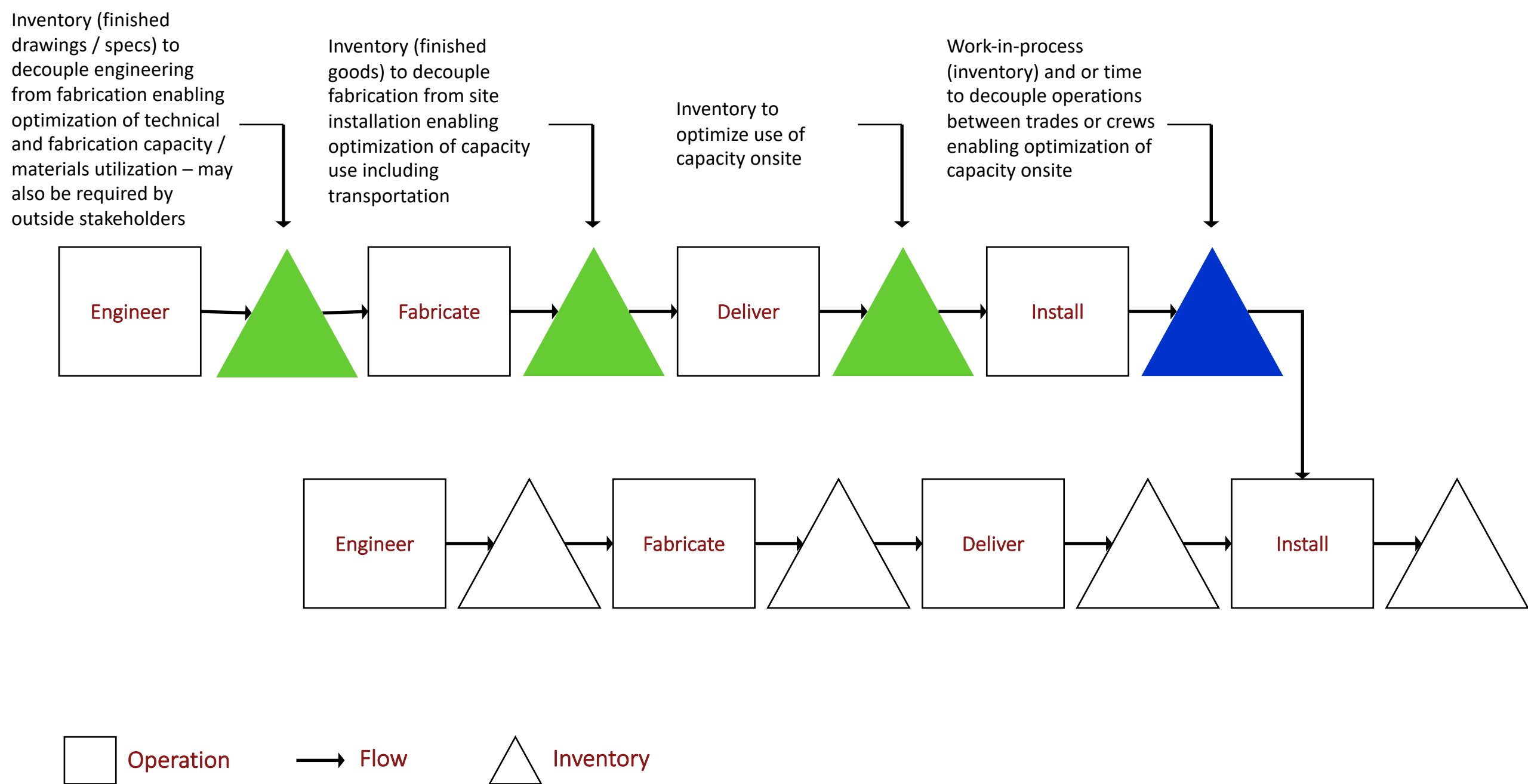
0.00

0.45



Lots of WIP gives you lots of possibilities, but ties up lots of \$ and stays a long time in the production system



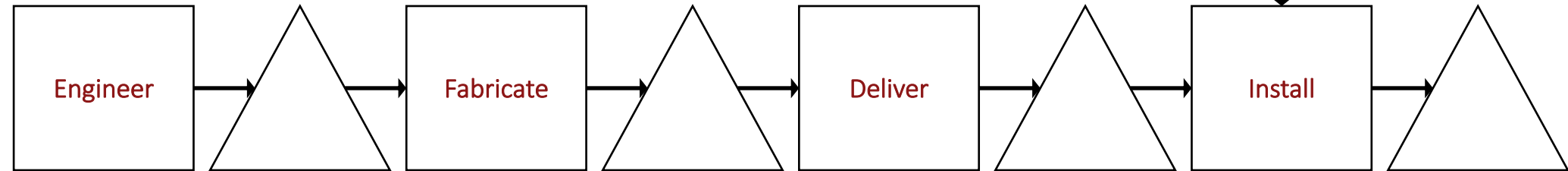


Engineer

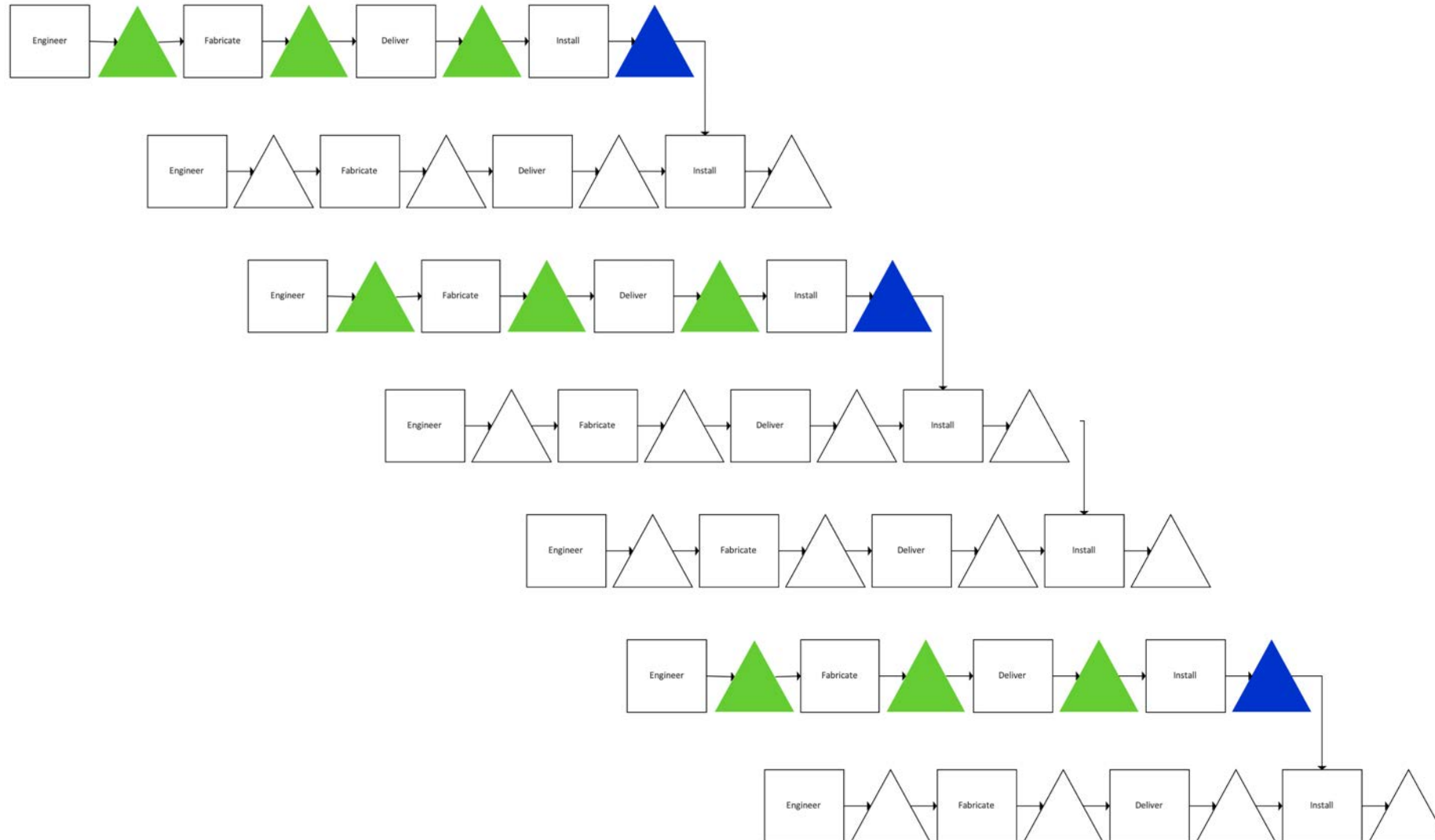
Fabricate

```
graph LR; A[ ] --> B[Deliver];
```

```
graph LR
    Start(( )) --> Install[Install]
    Install --> End(( ))
```



Projects consists of many supply chains



Excavation

Foundation

Substructure

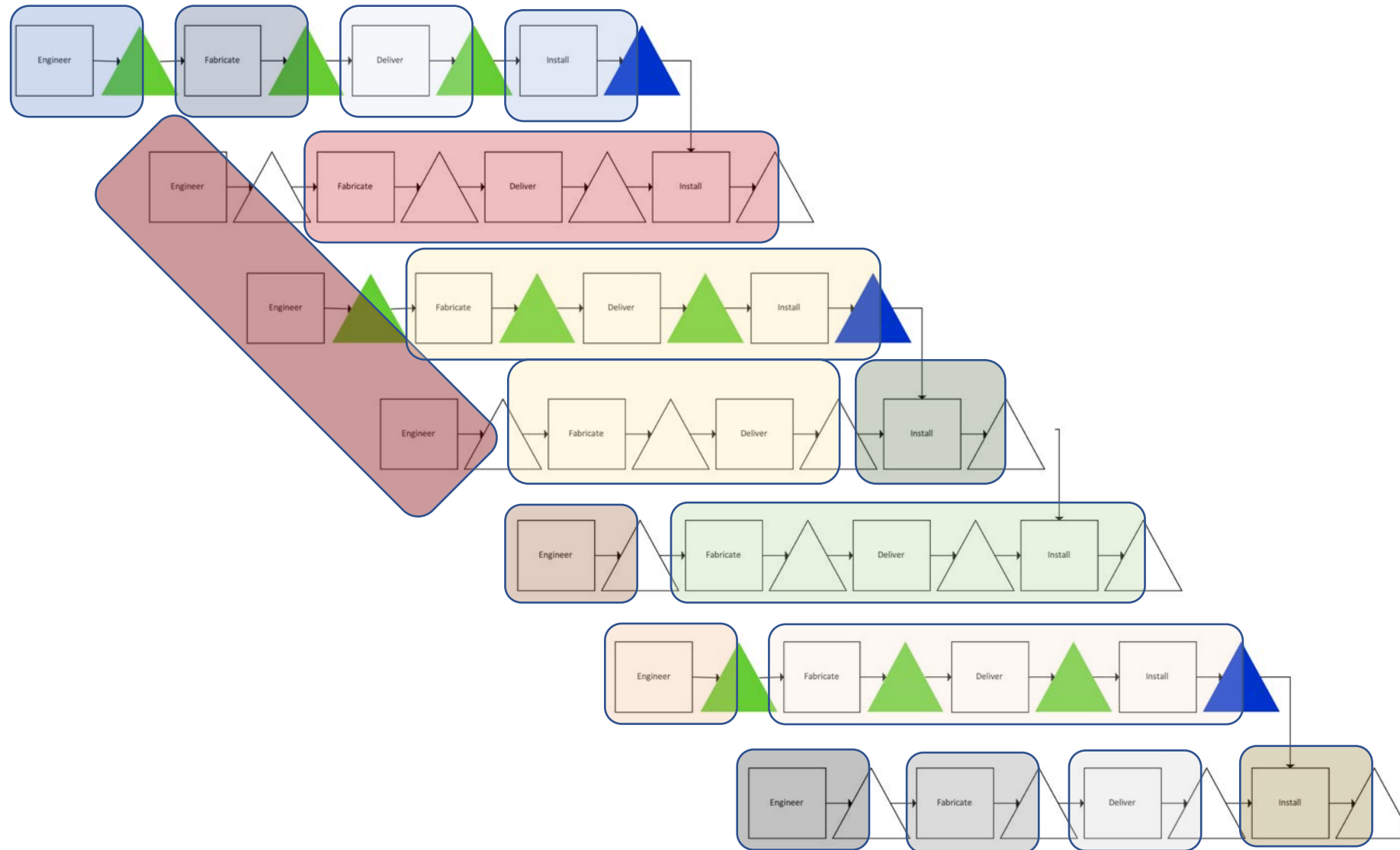
Structure

Mechanical

Electrical

Piping

Projects consists of many supply chains with many organizational boundaries



Excavation

Foundation

Substructure

Structure

Mechanical

Electrical

Piping

To be successful, you really only have to do one thing:

Use your resources efficiently for the right thing.

In other words:

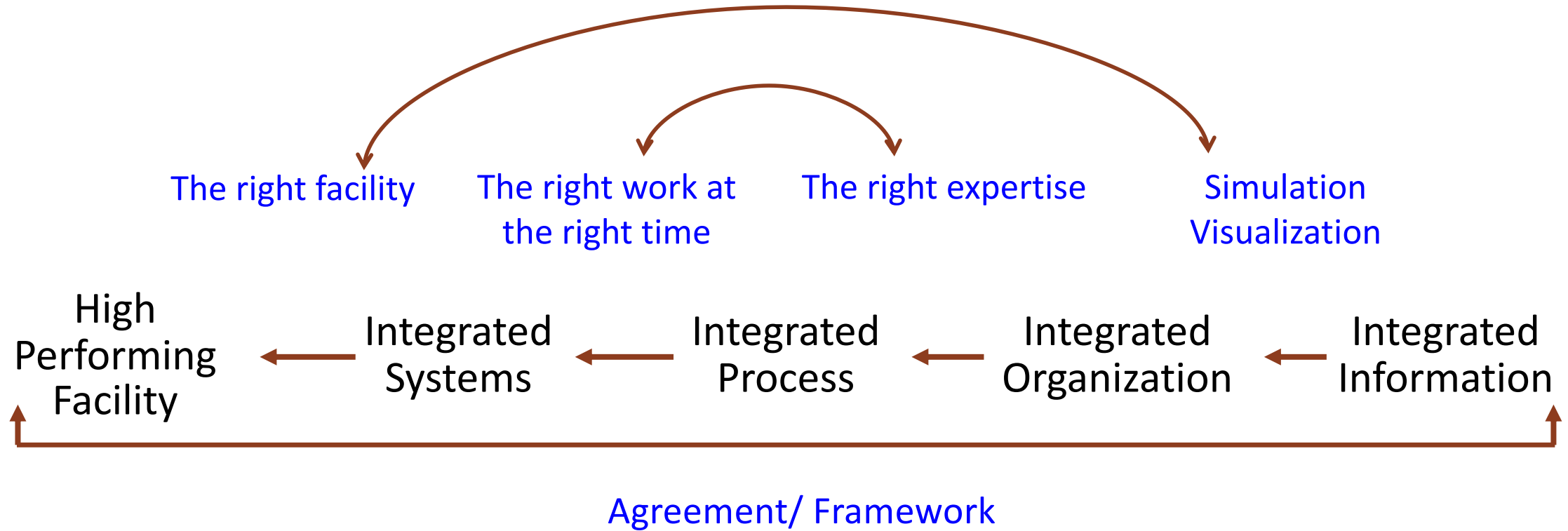
You must match demand and supply.

Which means:

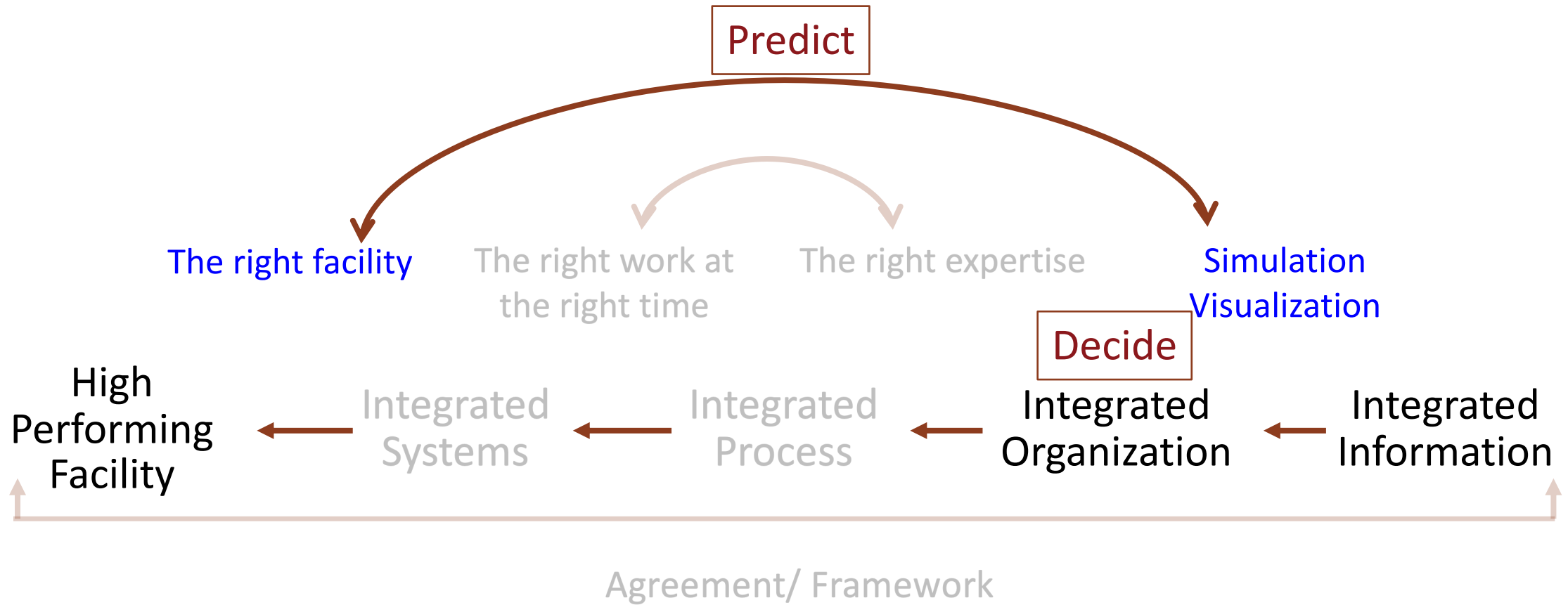
You must plan and predict.

(Or pay lots of money for WIP and a slow project.)

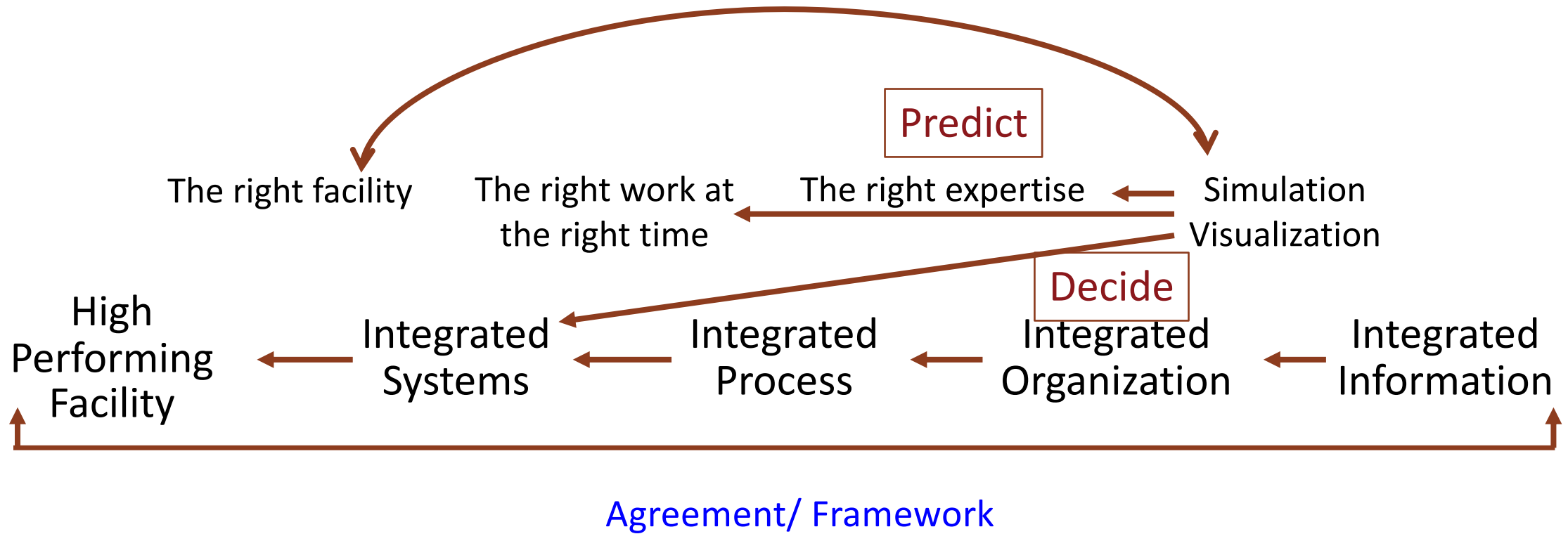
The Simple Framework for IPD



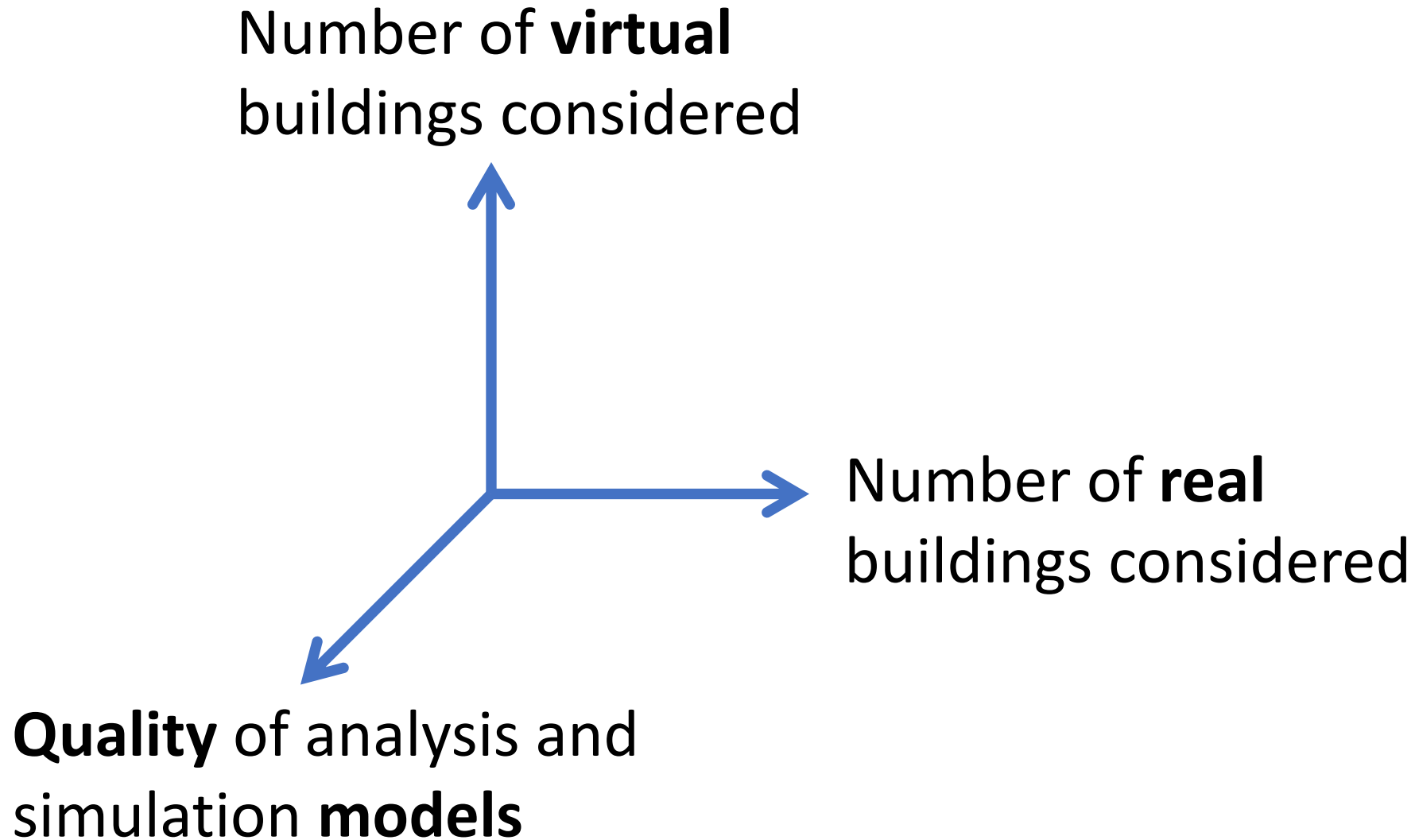
The Simple Framework for IPD



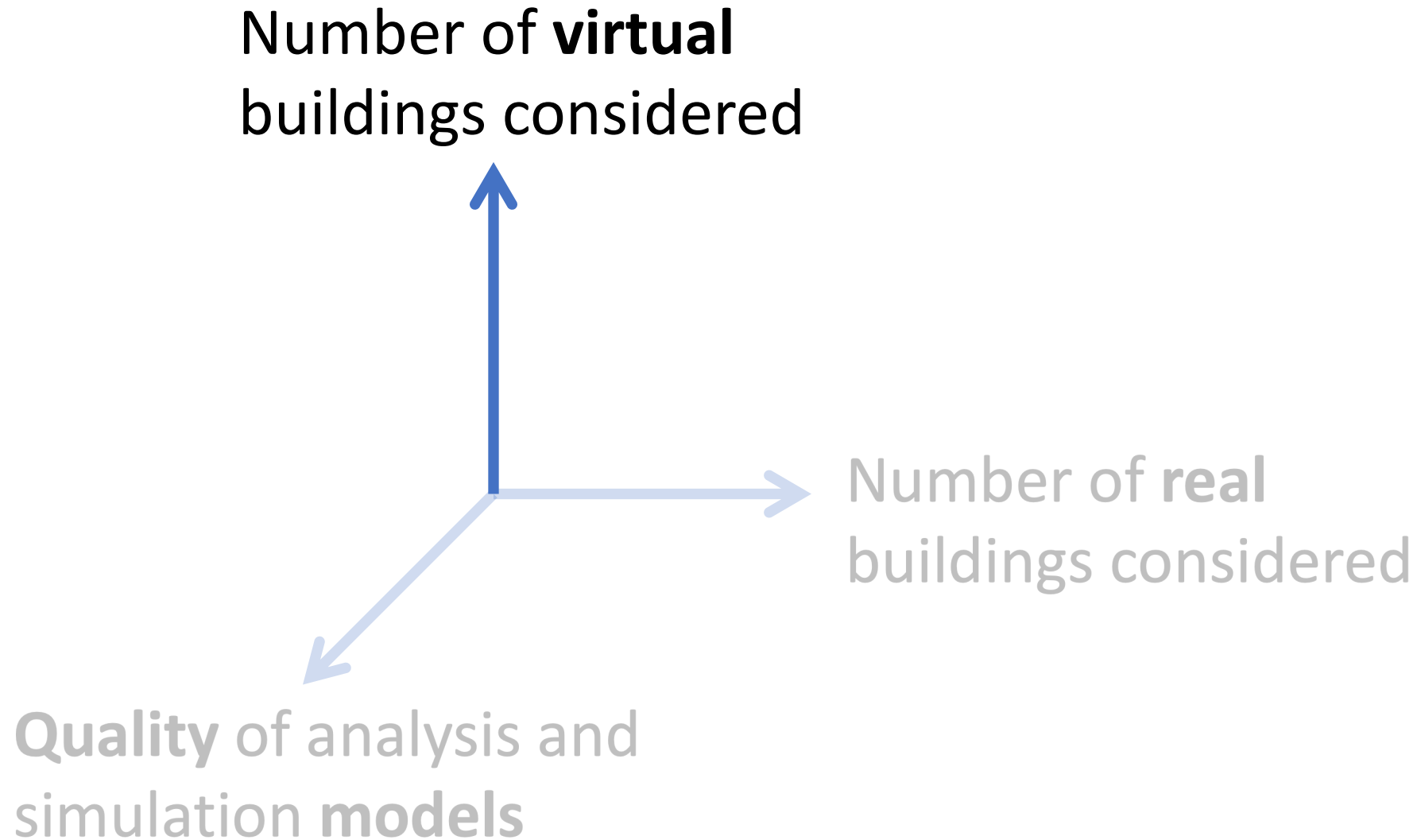
The Simple Framework for IPD



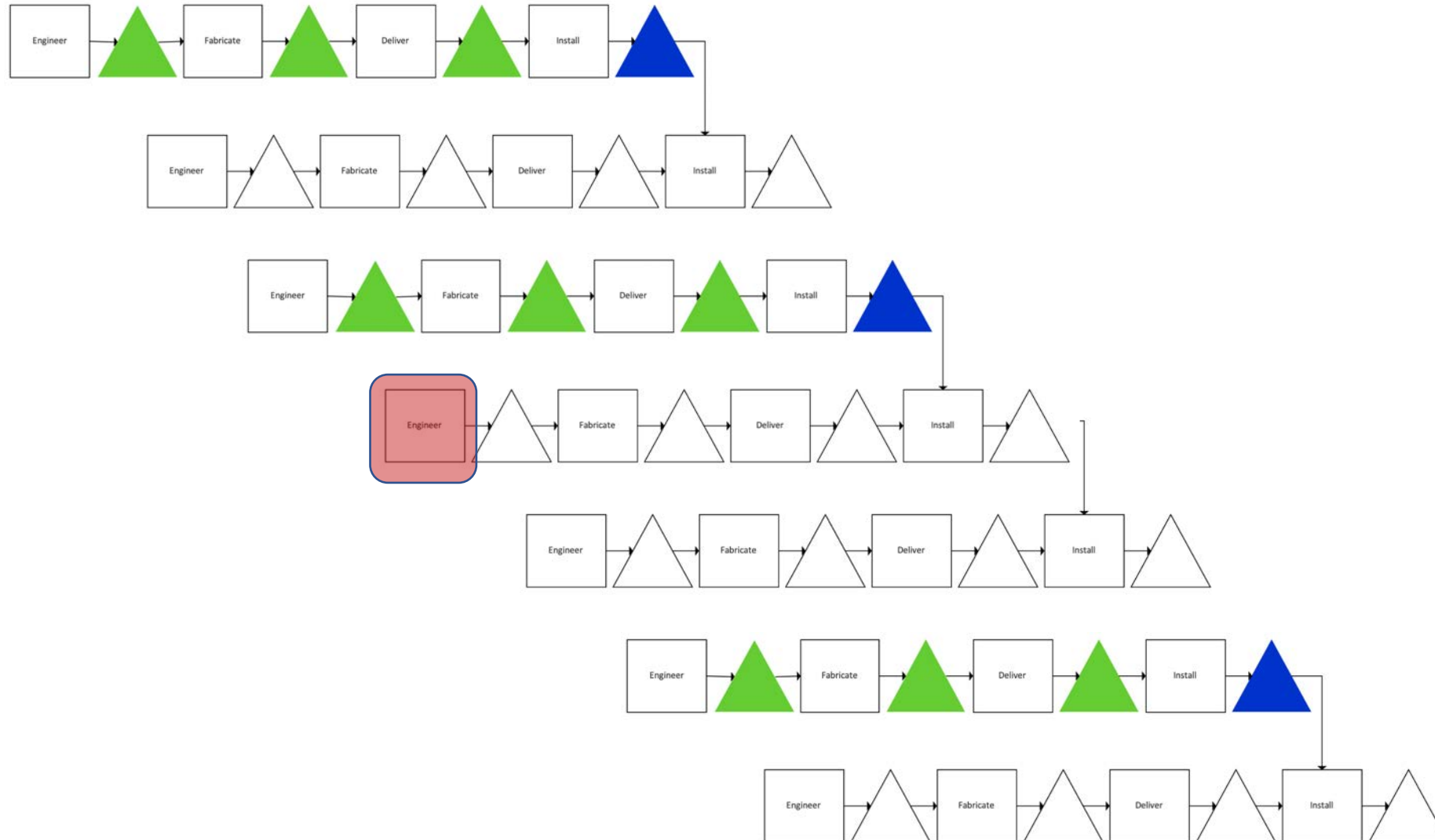
Your success depends on the quality of your predictions
→ how will you improve performance predictions?



Your success depends on the quality of your predictions
→ how will you improve performance predictions?



Optimal structural design



Excavation

Foundation

Substructure

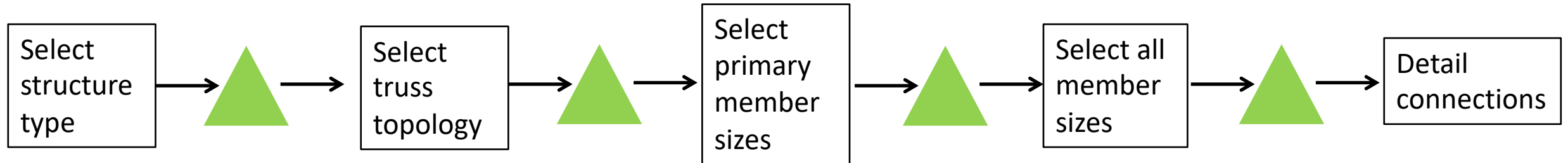
Structure

Mechanical

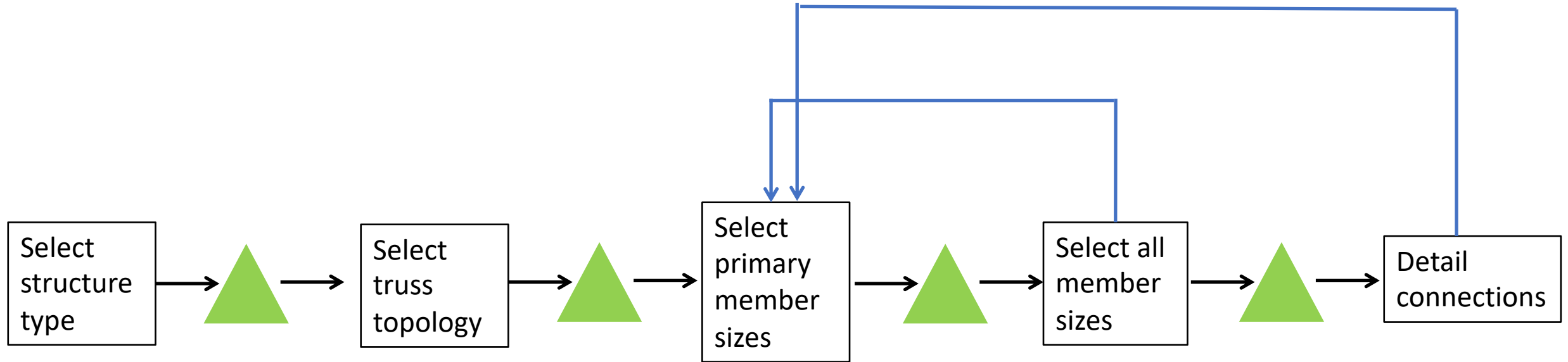
Electrical

Piping

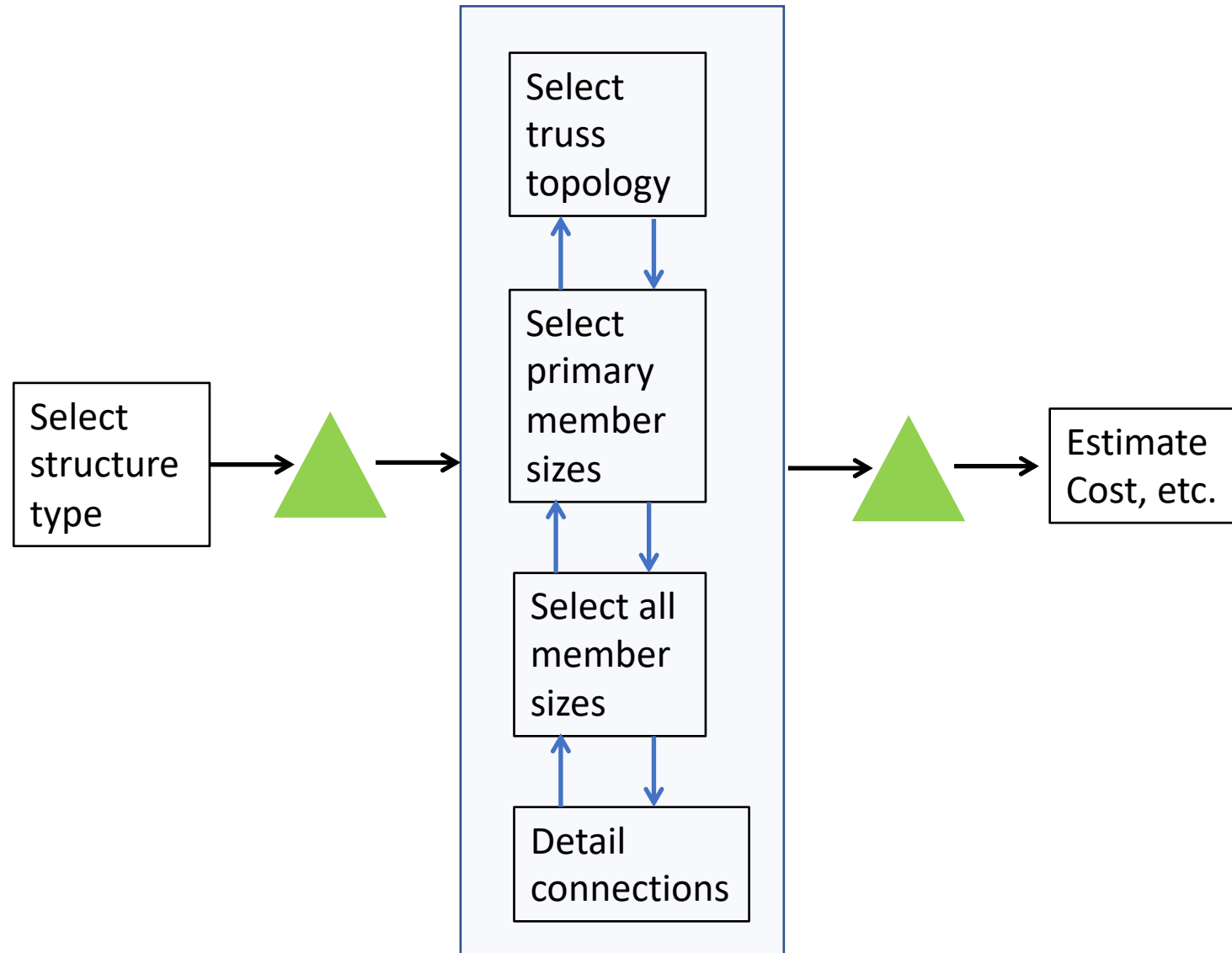
Designing a structural system today



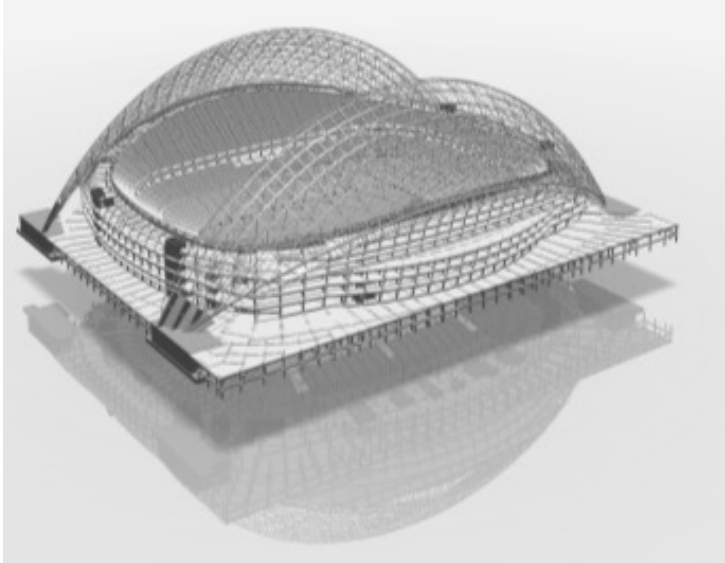
Designing a structural system today



Designing a truss with concurrent engineering



An engineer using digital tools with today's process cannot compete with an engineer with connected tools

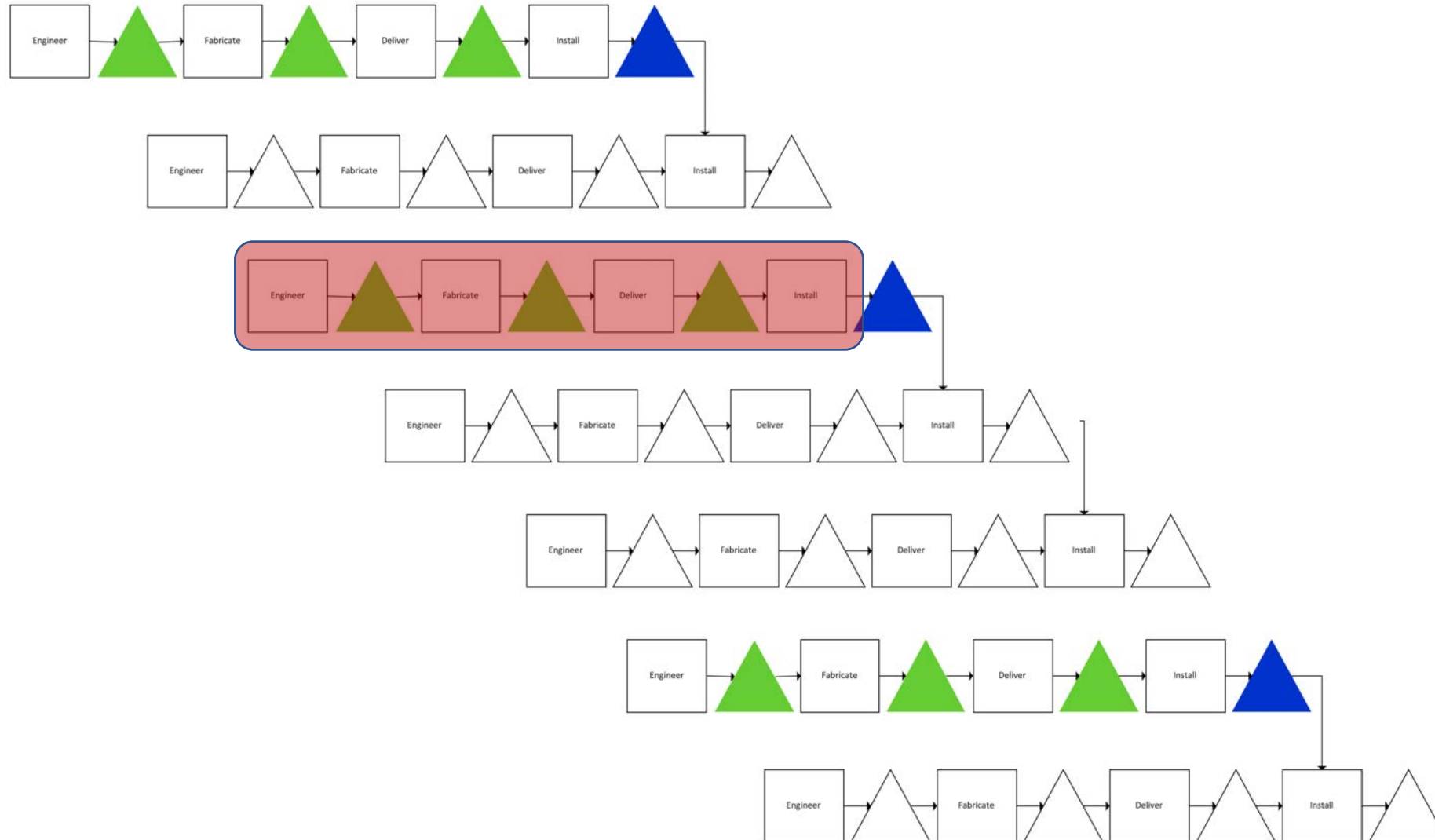


	Engineer with today's tools	Engineer with connected tools
Total steel weight	2,728 mt	2,292 mt
Cost savings		\$4M
# alternatives evaluated	39	12,800
Design time per alternative	4 hours	3 seconds
Total design time	~200 hrs	~200 hrs

Roof truss design for a soccer stadium in the Middle East

Work by Forest Flager and John Haymaker in collaboration with Arup Sports, London

More optimal structural design



Excavation

Foundation

Substructure

Structure

Mechanical

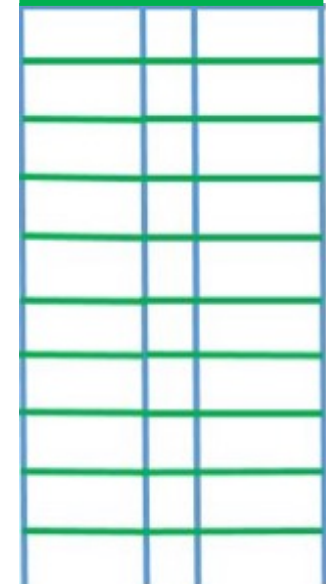
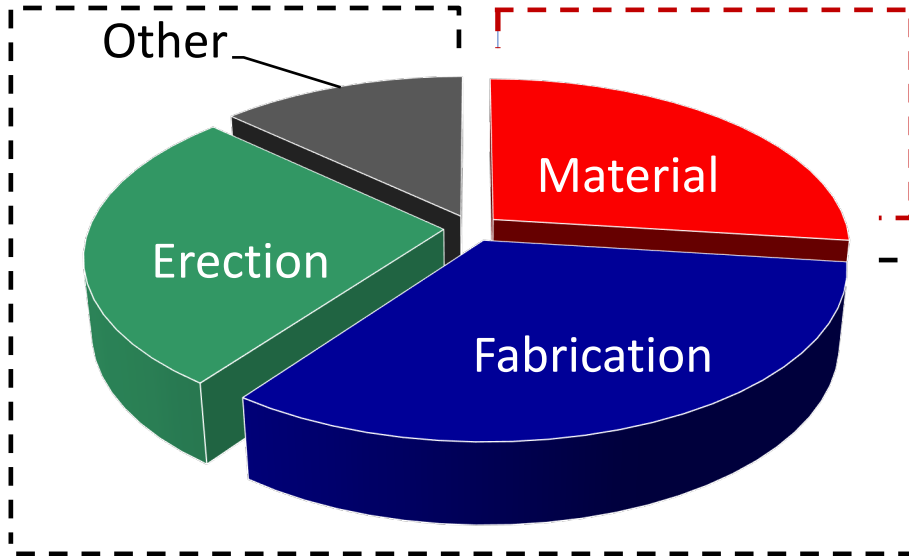
Electrical

Piping

Optimize across all cost components of a steel frame



Design Cycle Time: 8-24 weeks

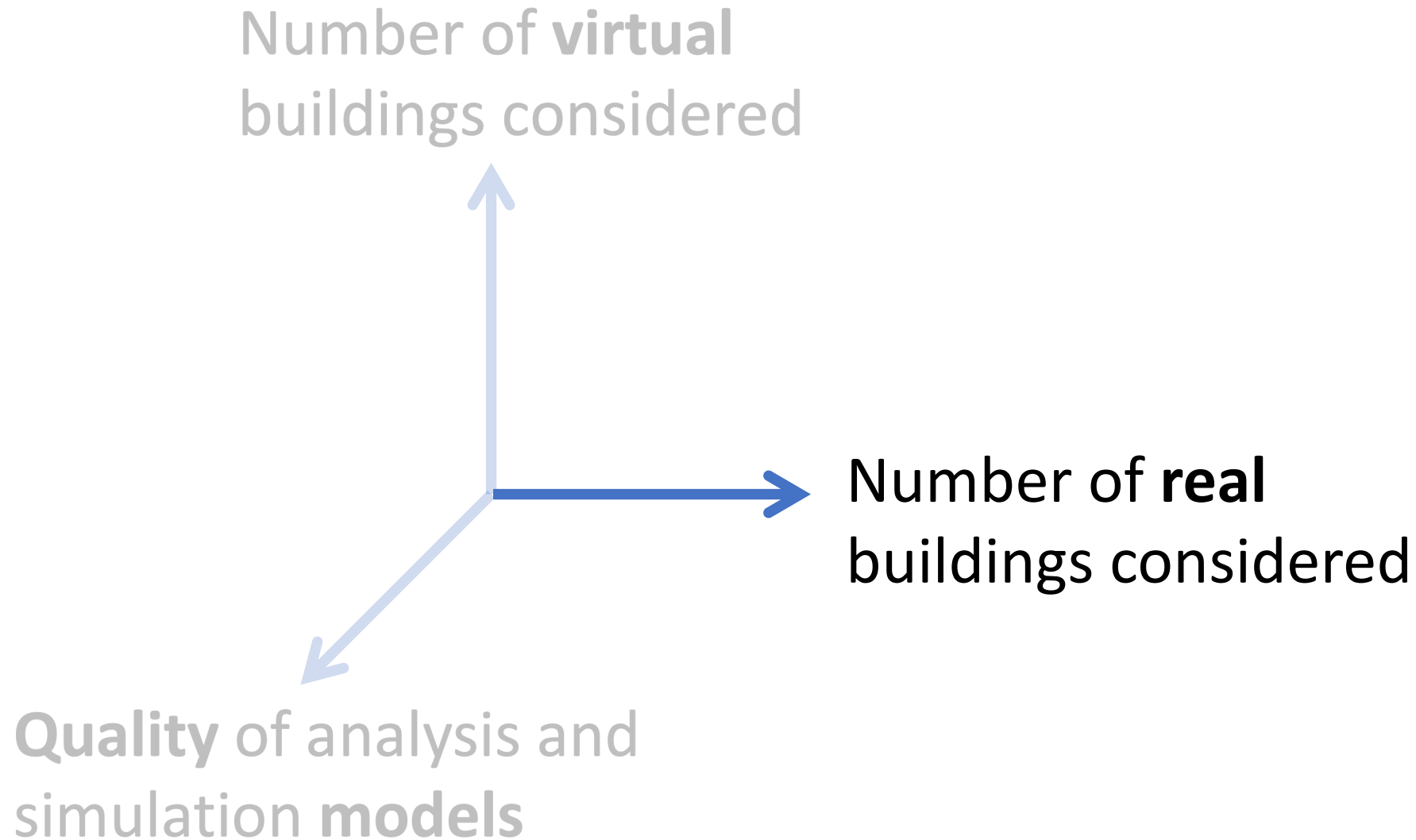


	Original Frame	Value-Engineered Frame
Steel Weight	-	+8%
Total Cost	-	-13%
Procurement Time	-	-20%

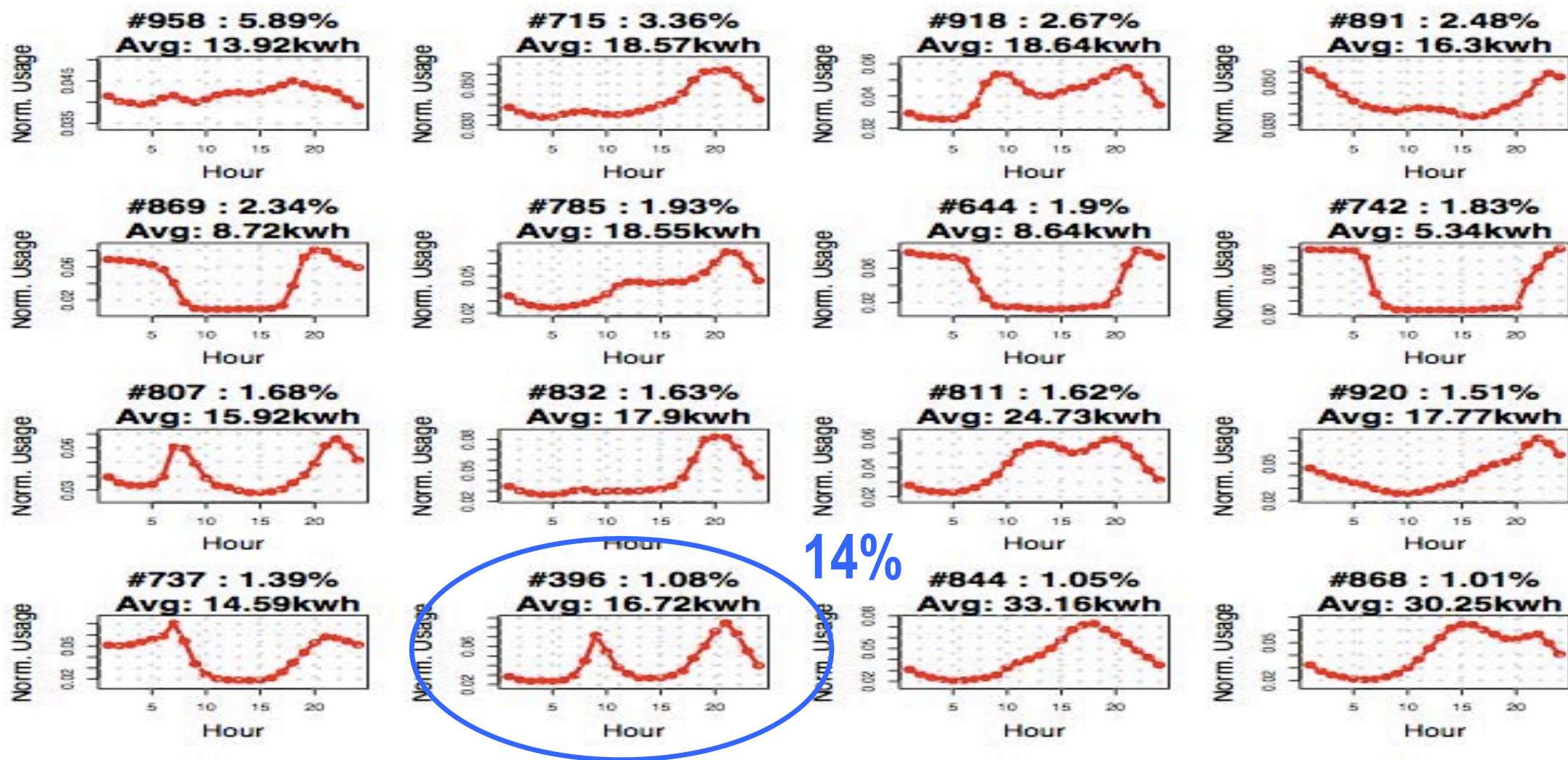
Work by Forest Flager, Pratyush Havelia, Henry Hamamji, Filippo Ranalli, Bo Peng, Thomas Trinelle in collaboration with SOM, Herrick, Autodesk

You can only optimize “things” for which you have good data.

Your success depends on the quality of your predictions
→ how will you improve performance predictions?

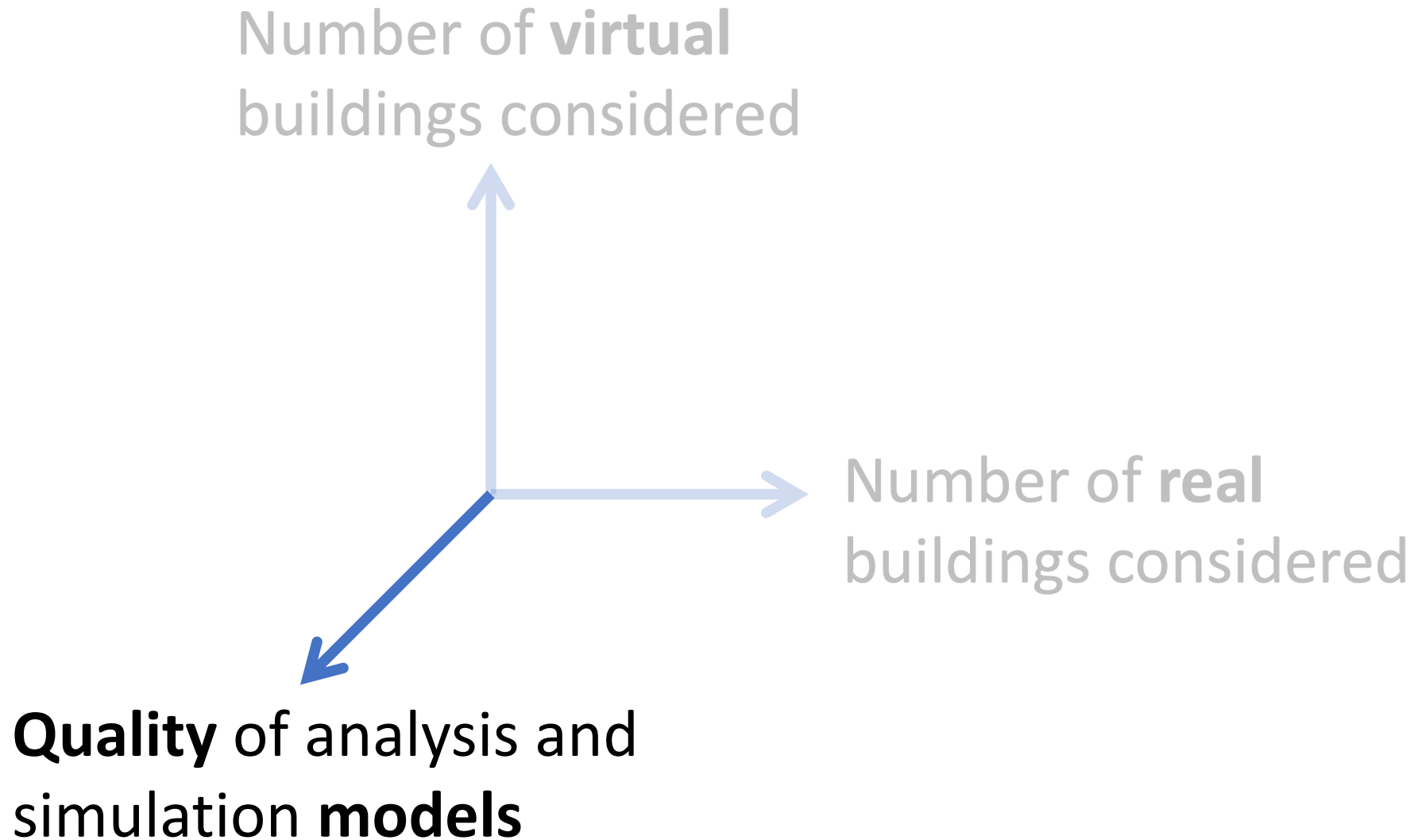


Consumption Patterns

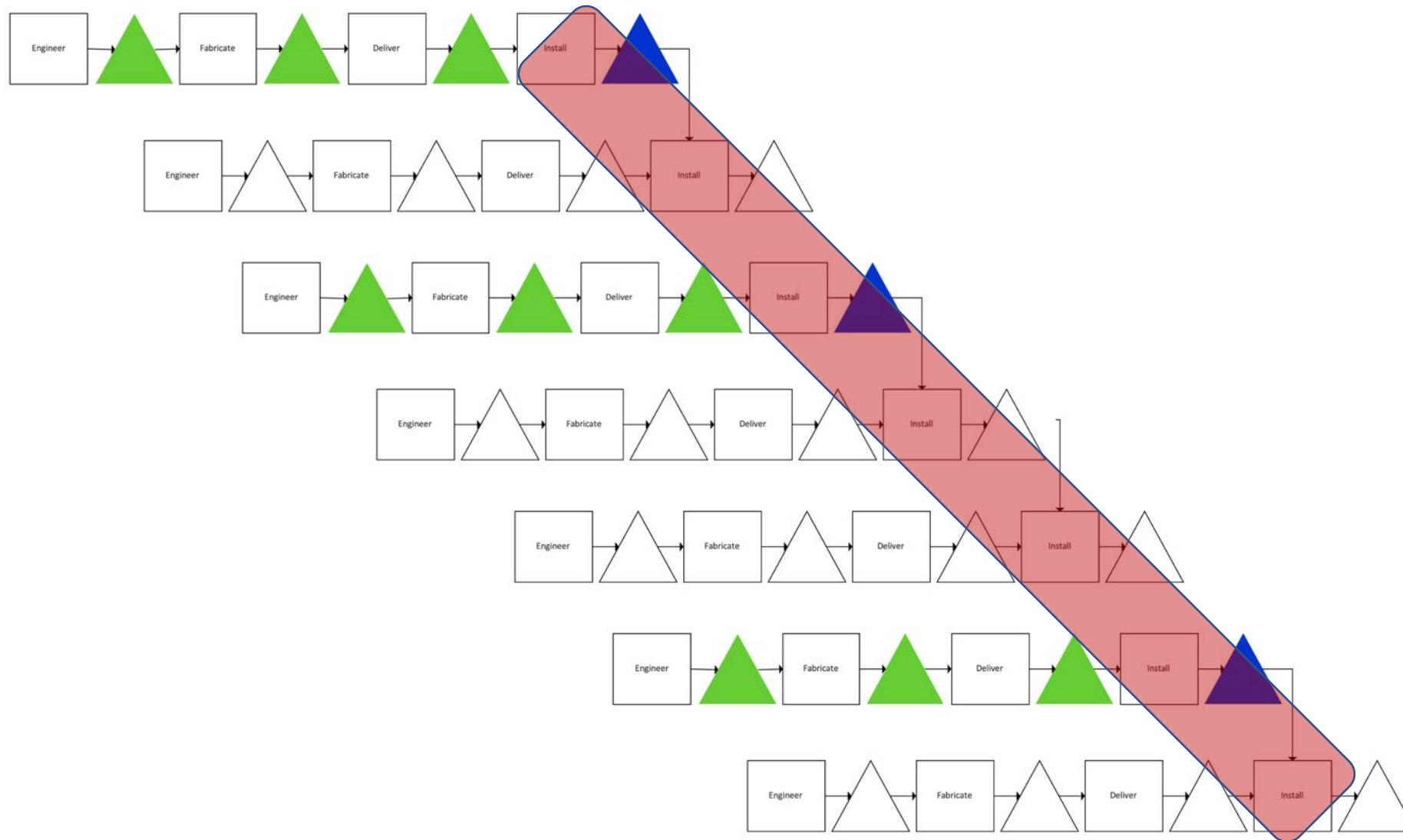


Household Energy Consumption Segmentation Using Hourly Data, J. Kwac, J. Flora and R. Rajagopal, IEEE Trans. Smart Grid, 5:1, pp 420-430, 2014.

Your success depends on the quality of your predictions
→ how will you improve performance predictions?



Optimal construction schedule



Excavation

Foundation

Substructure

Structure

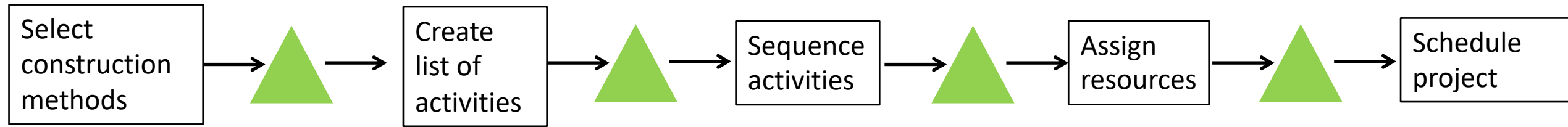
Mechanical

Electrical

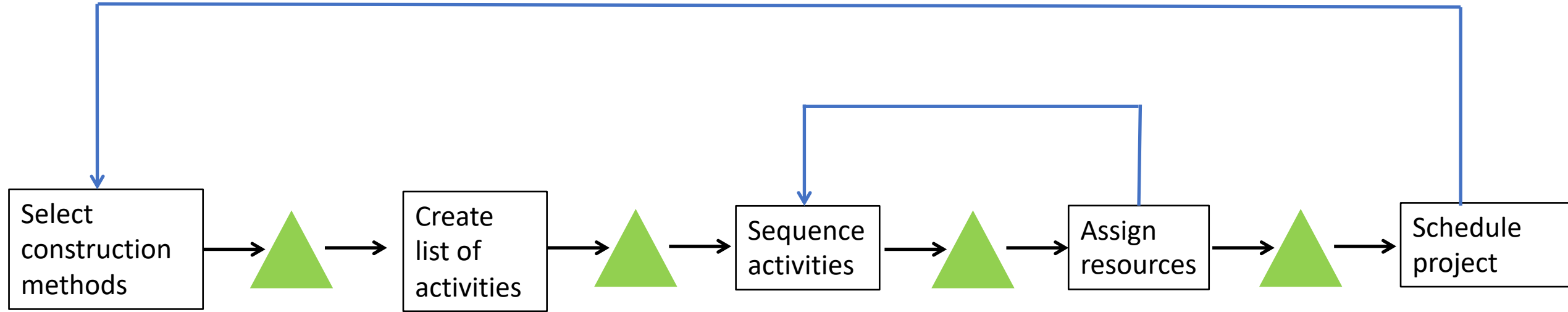
Finishes

Etc.

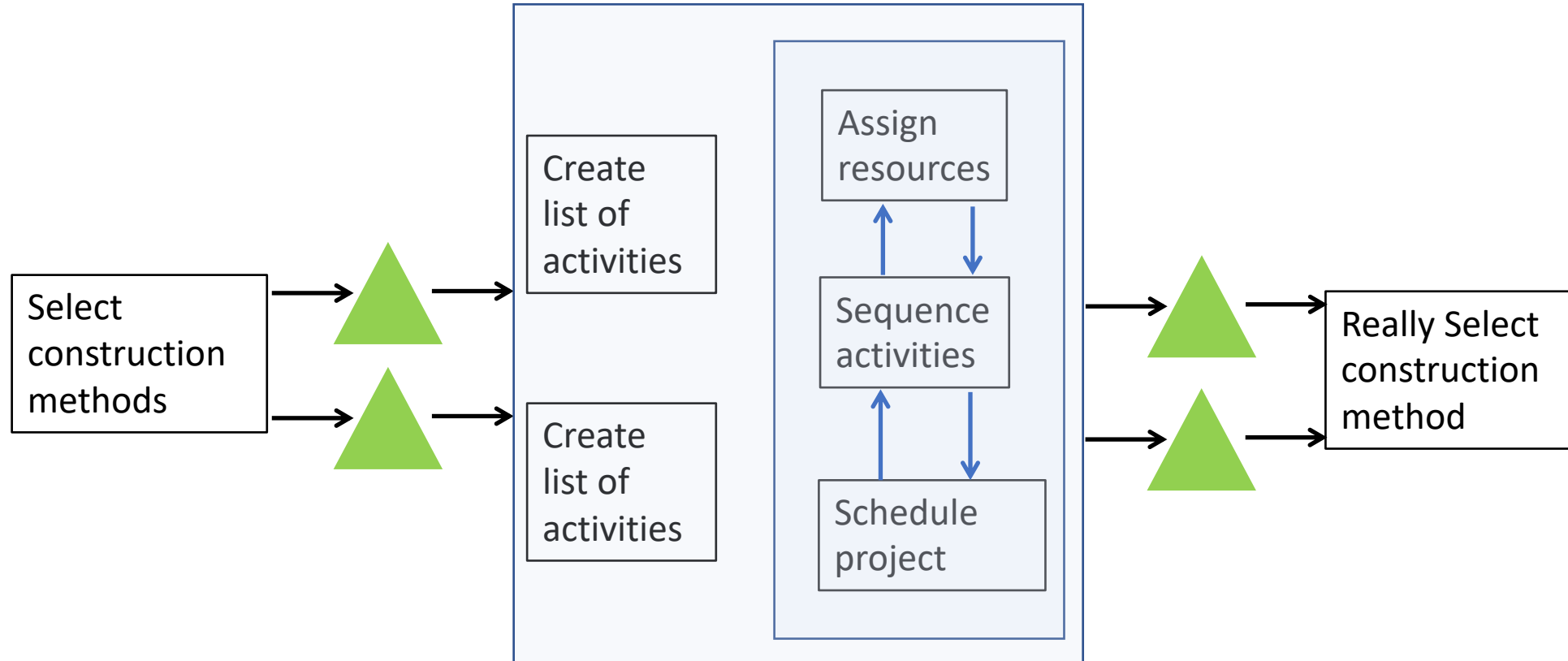
Creating a construction schedule today



Creating a construction schedule today



Creating a construction schedule with concurrent engineering





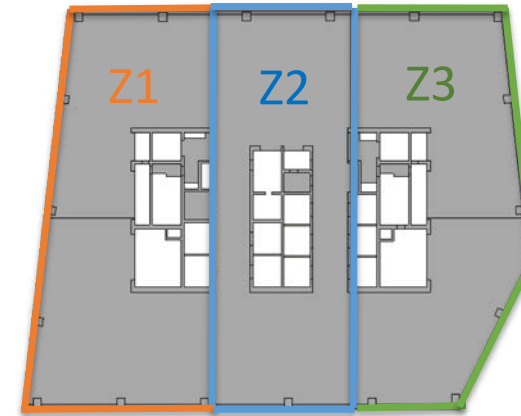
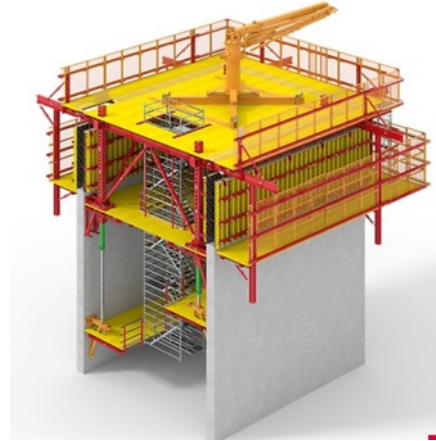
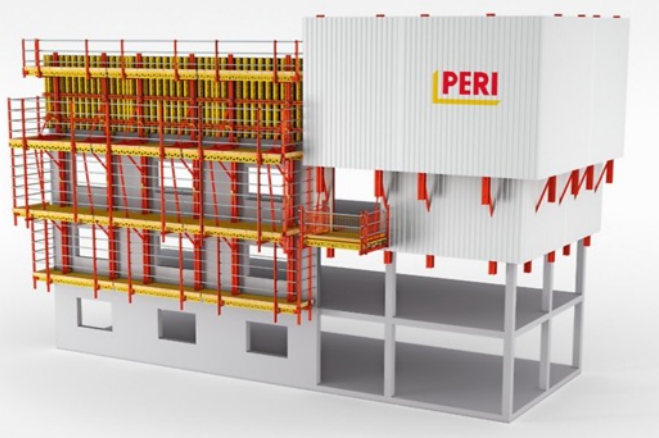
Construction Schedule Workshop on May 25, 26, and 28, 2018

Find the “best” formwork and sequencing option for a high-rise building project

Participants:

- Skanska Property Development, Construction, and Quality Control
- ALICE
(a start-up based on 25 years of scheduling research in Martin Fischer’s research group, Martin Fischer is an advisor and small shareholder in the company)
- CIFE-Stanford Researchers

Key construction decisions: formwork and sequencing



Z1 → Z2 → Z3

Sequential

Z1 ← Z2 → Z3

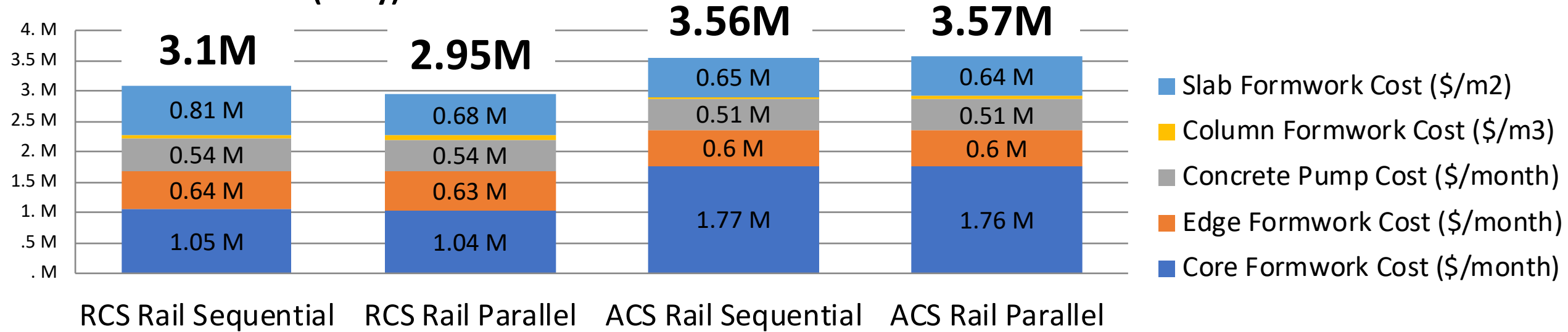
Parallel

- **Peri RCS Rail Climbing System**
- \$165,000 / month
- Time to raise / set up formwork: 20 hours
- Time to close formwork: 6 hours
- Crane required to raise and close formwork

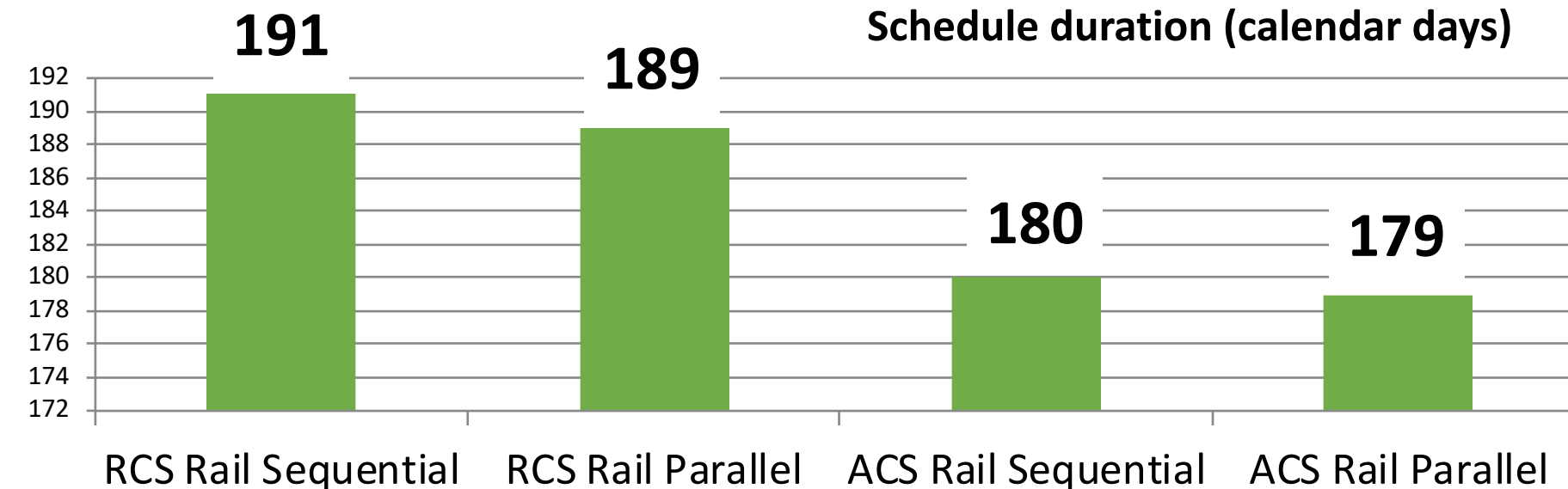
- **Peri ACS Core 400 Self-Climbing System**
- \$295,000 / month
- Time to raise / set up formwork: 10 hours
- Time to close formwork: 2 hours
- No crane required to raise and close formwork

Results overview: cost and schedule

Cost breakdown (Zloty)



Schedule duration (calendar days)



Results Overview – Slab + Column Formwork

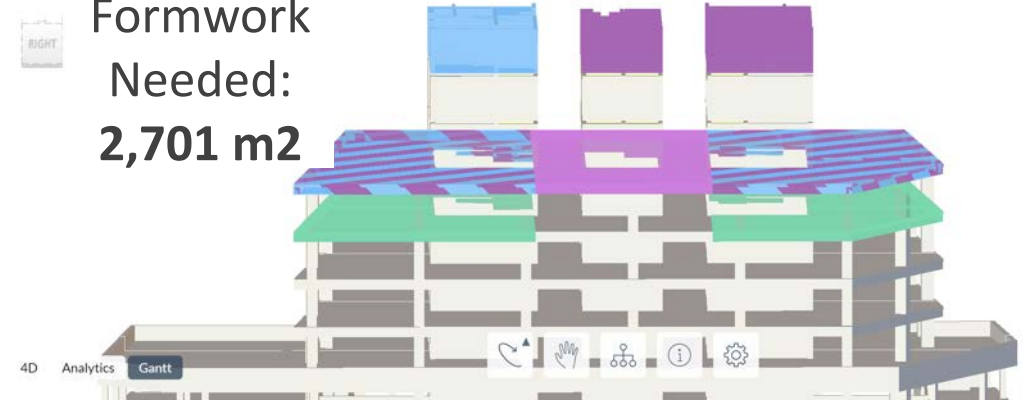
Find slab and column formwork required to achieve the “optimal” schedule for each option

RCS

Formwork
Needed:
3,182 m²

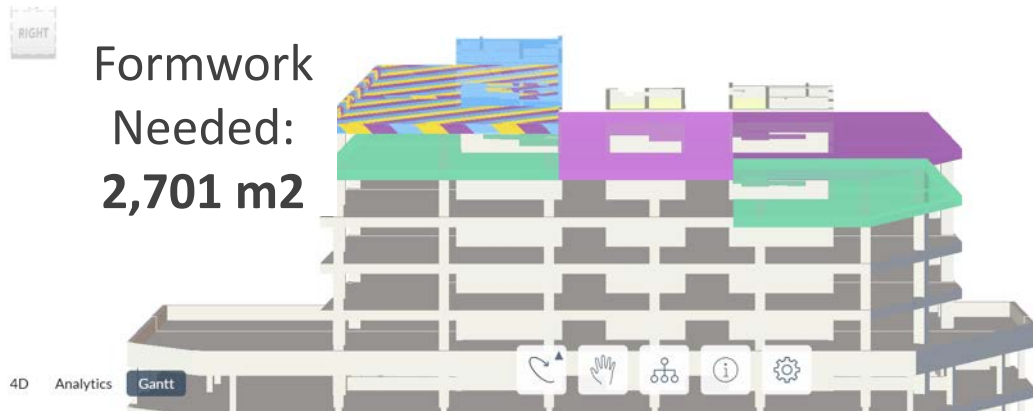


Formwork
Needed:
2,701 m²

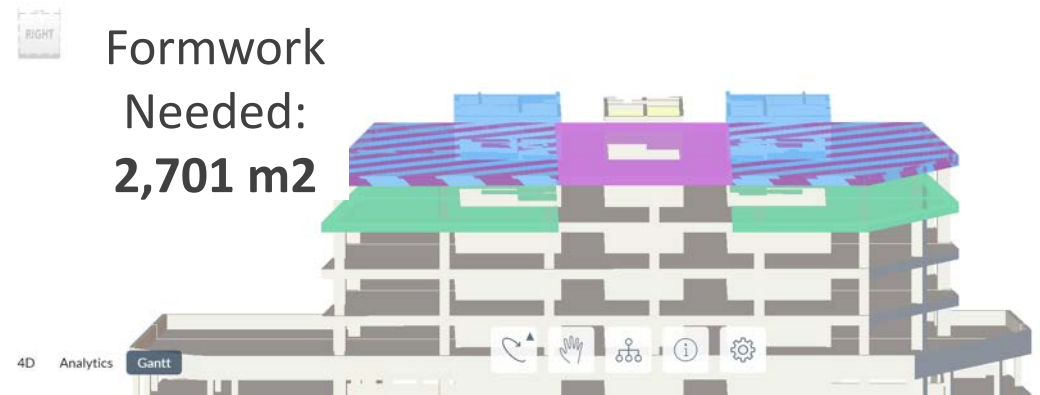


ACS

Formwork
Needed:
2,701 m²



Formwork
Needed:
2,701 m²



Sequential

Parallel

Key simulation and collaboration information

# Schedule scenarios generated	341
# Optimization runs	65
# Schedule scenarios used for analysis	24
Average time to reschedule	10 mins

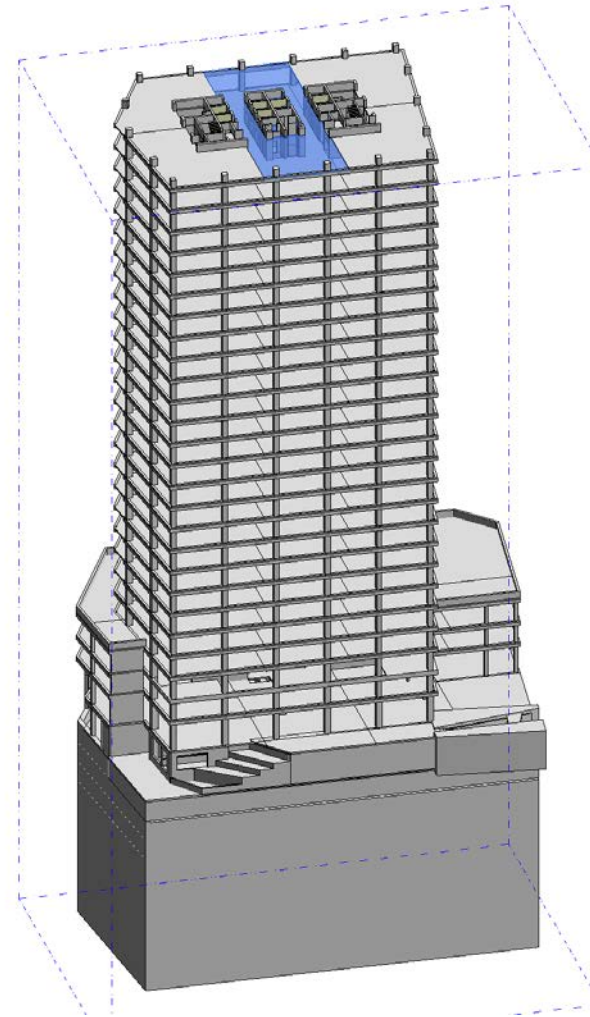
BIM simplification and zone breakdown

Input: Structural Model

Required Revit modeling time: 2 days

3,860 building components

344 construction elements



Construction recipes

Task Name

Pour Concrete

Assigned Resources

LABOR

EQUIPMENT

MATERIALS

SPACES

RATES

DURATION

Does this operation require a Movable Crane?

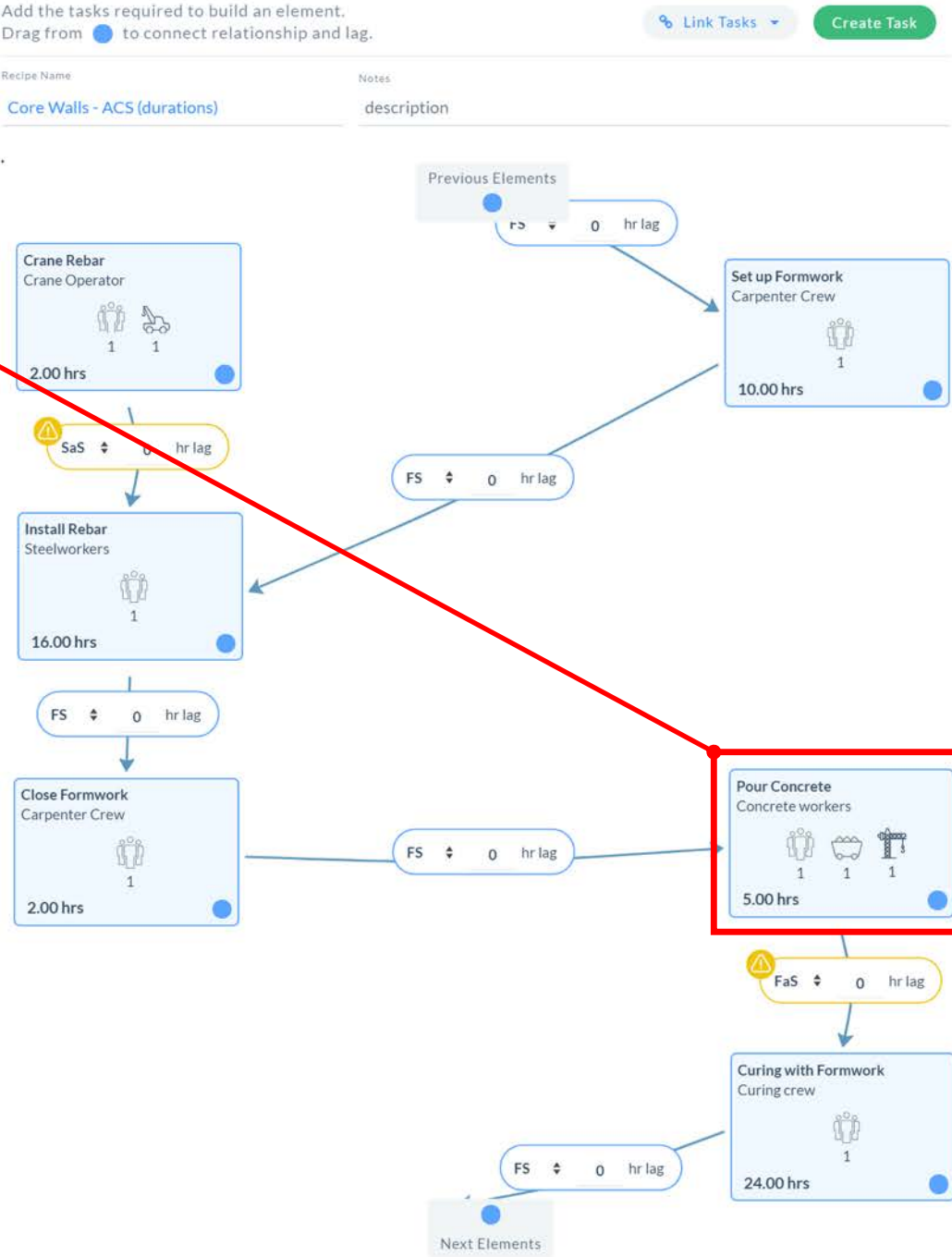
Type

Concrete Pump

Qty Rqd.

1

+ Assign Equipment



Given the recipes and BIM, ALICE generates 4D models automatically

Day 67
7-Dec-2017 @ 18:00
7 Tasks 7 Crews

35%

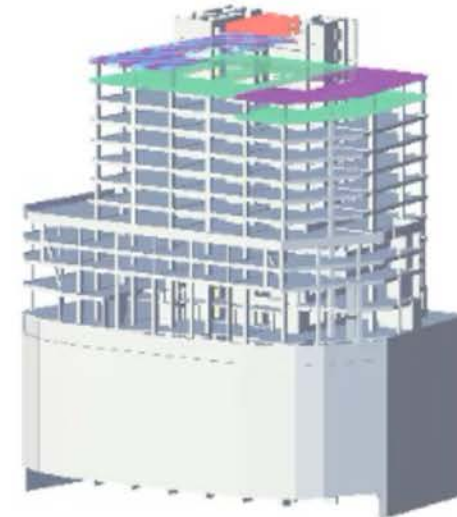
Curing crew
Curing with Formwork
Slab L11_1
Planned Start Monday 12/4/17 @ 1pm
Planned Finish Friday 12/8/17 @ 1pm
96 working / 96 total hours

Curing crew
Curing with Formwork
Slab L10_3
Planned Start Monday 12/4/17 @ 5am
Planned Finish Friday 12/8/17 @ 5am
96 working / 96 total hours

Curing crew
Curing with Formwork
Slab L11_2
Planned Start Thursday 12/7/17 @ 1pm
Planned Finish Monday 12/11/17 @ 1pm
96 working / 96 total hours

Carpenter Crew
Install Shores and Formwork
Slab L12_1
Planned Start Thursday 12/7/17 @ 6am
Planned Finish Friday 12/8/17 @ 10am
16 working / 28 total hours

Steelworkers
Install Rebar
Slab L11_3



Develop calibrated schedules

Issue: Central core rising too fast, waiting for too long to start slabs on zone 1 and 3

Day 25

26-Oct-2017 @ 21:00

1 Tasks 1 Crews

42%



Curing crew

Curing with Formwork
Walls L26_1

Planned Start Thursday 10/26/17 @ 9pm
Planned Finish Friday 10/27/17 @ 9pm
24 working / 24 total hours

4D Analytics Gantt

LABOR RECIPE LEVEL

- Car Carpenter Crew
- Crane Operator
- Steelworkers
- Concrete workers
- Curing crew
- Dummy Crew

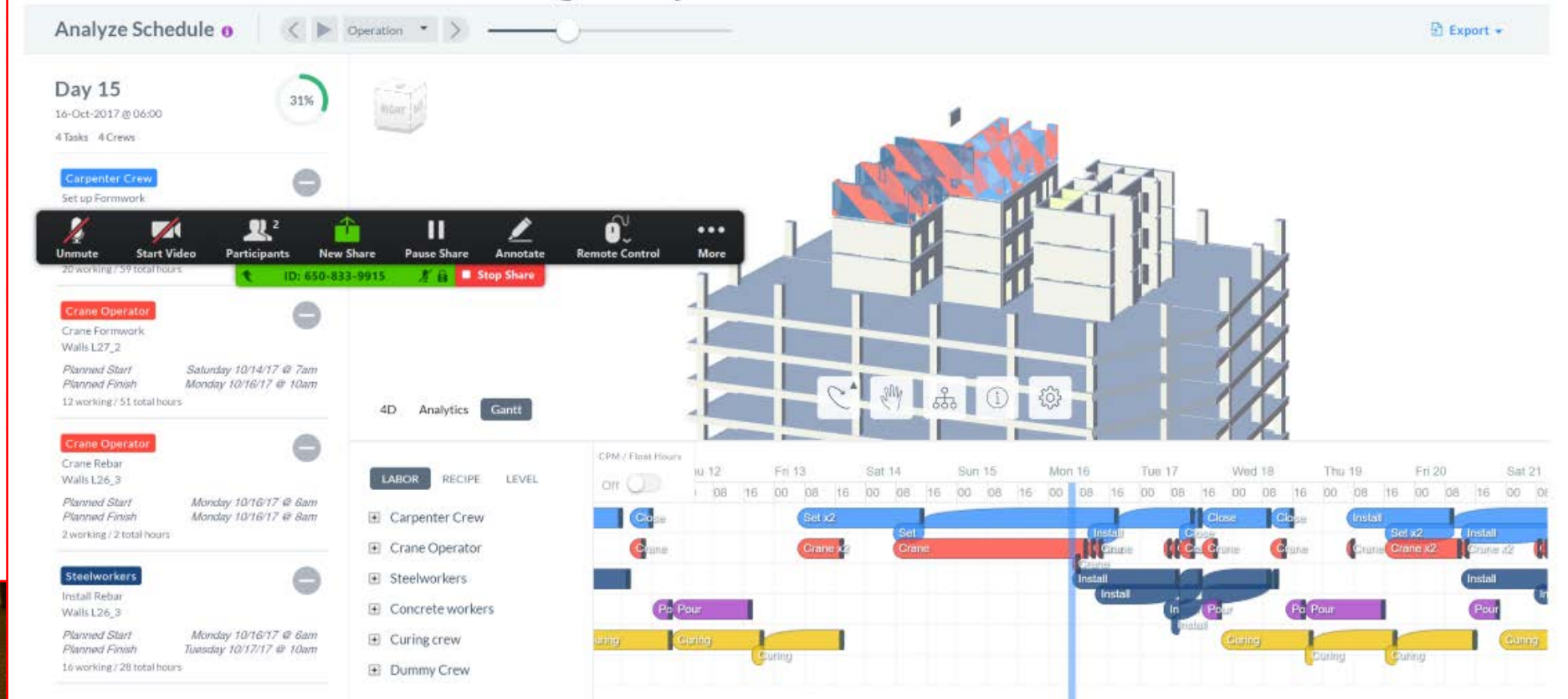


Develop calibrated schedules

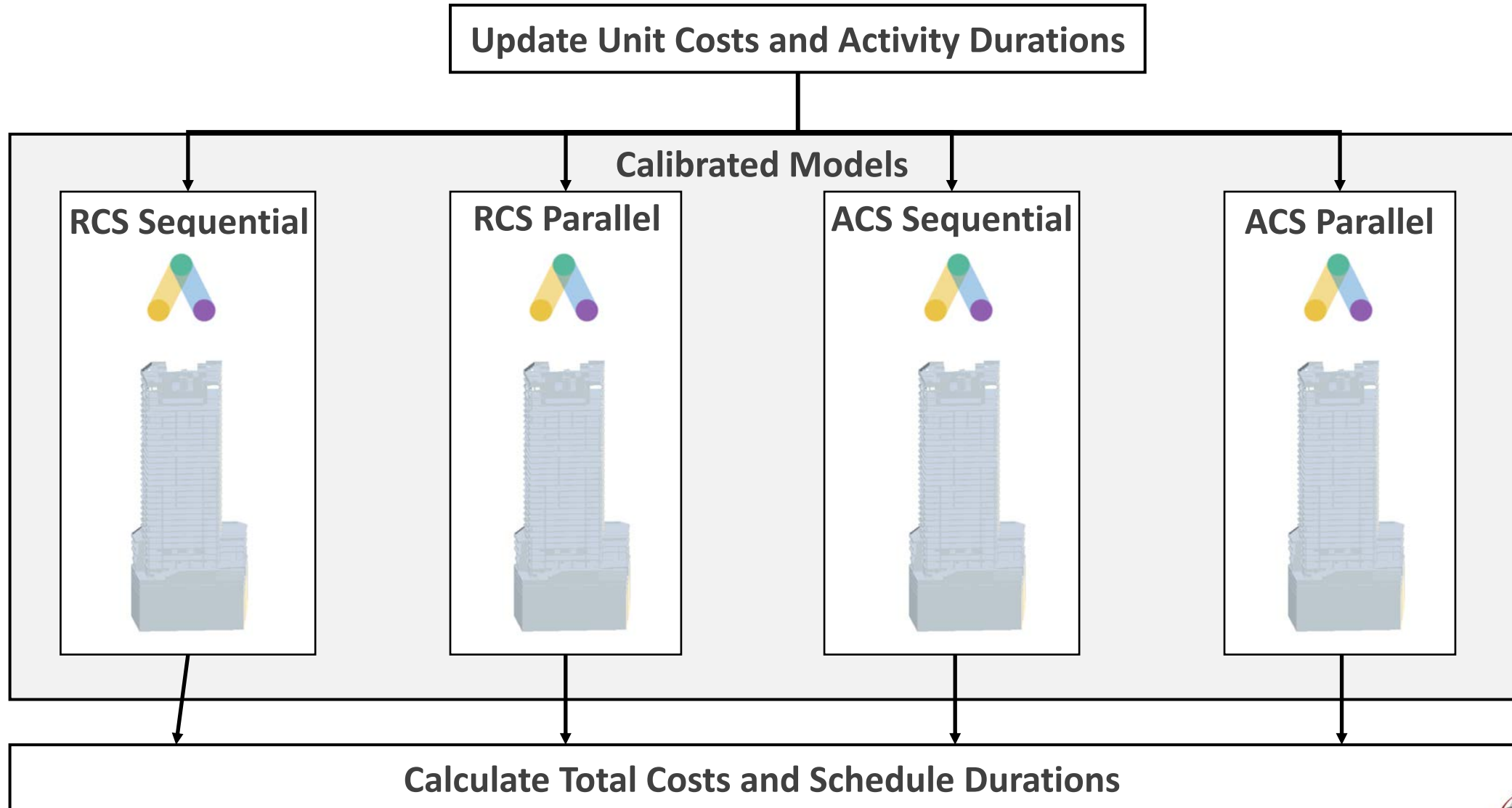
Issue: Central core rising too fast, waiting for too long to start slabs on zone 1 and 3

Issue: Zone 3 slab has not added rebar before zone 2 pour

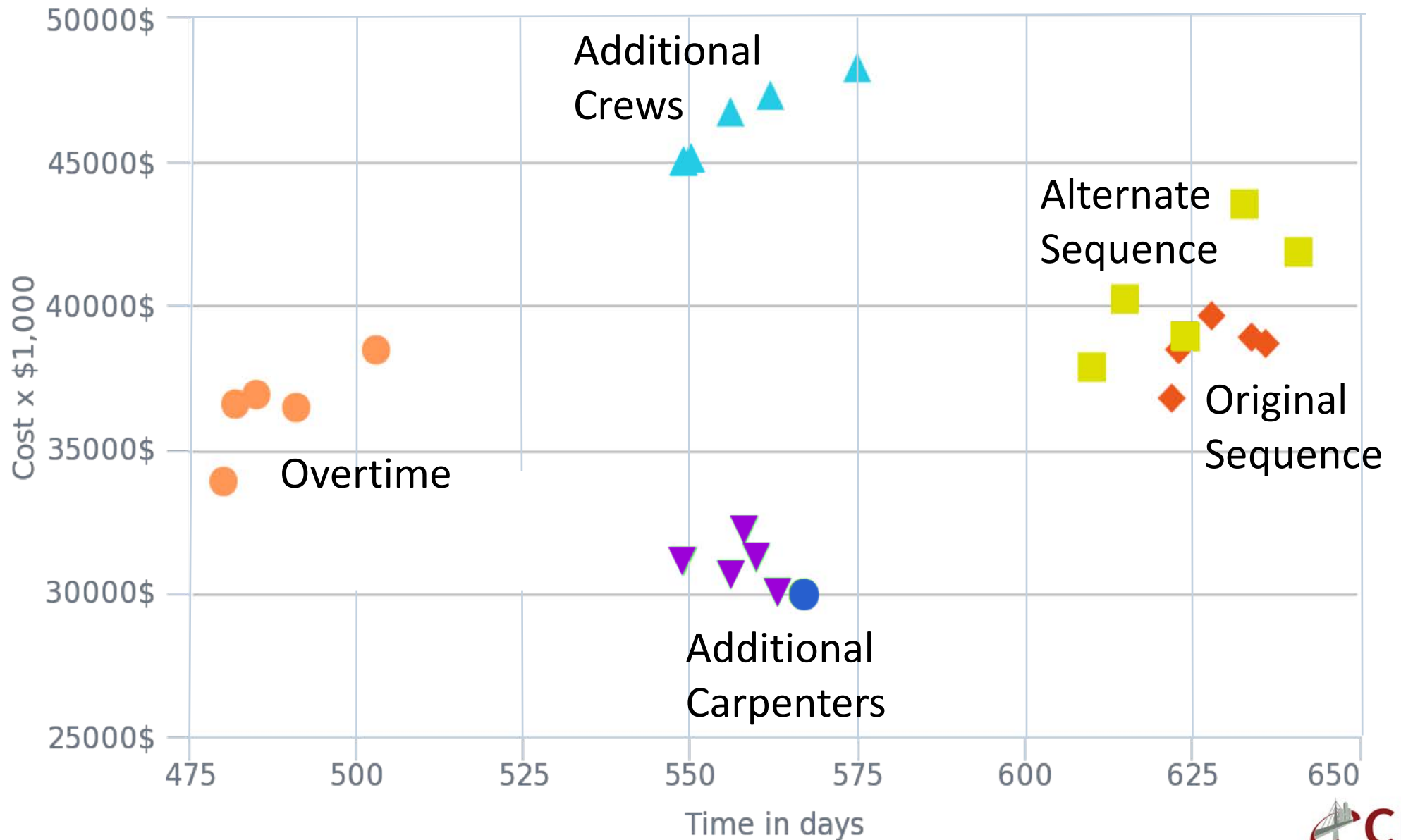
Issue: Cannot have cranes working on adjacent cores even on different levels.



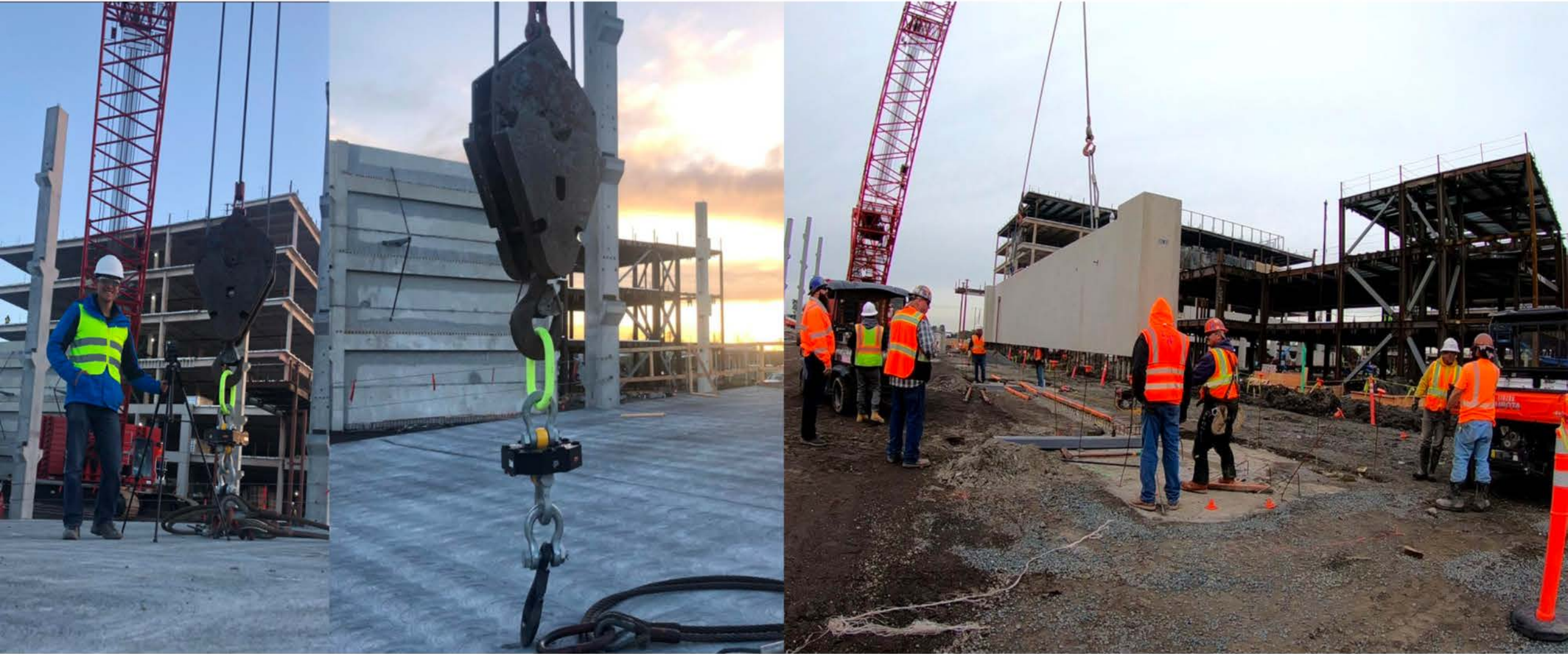
ALICE allows set-based construction scheduling



... for many conditions or situations



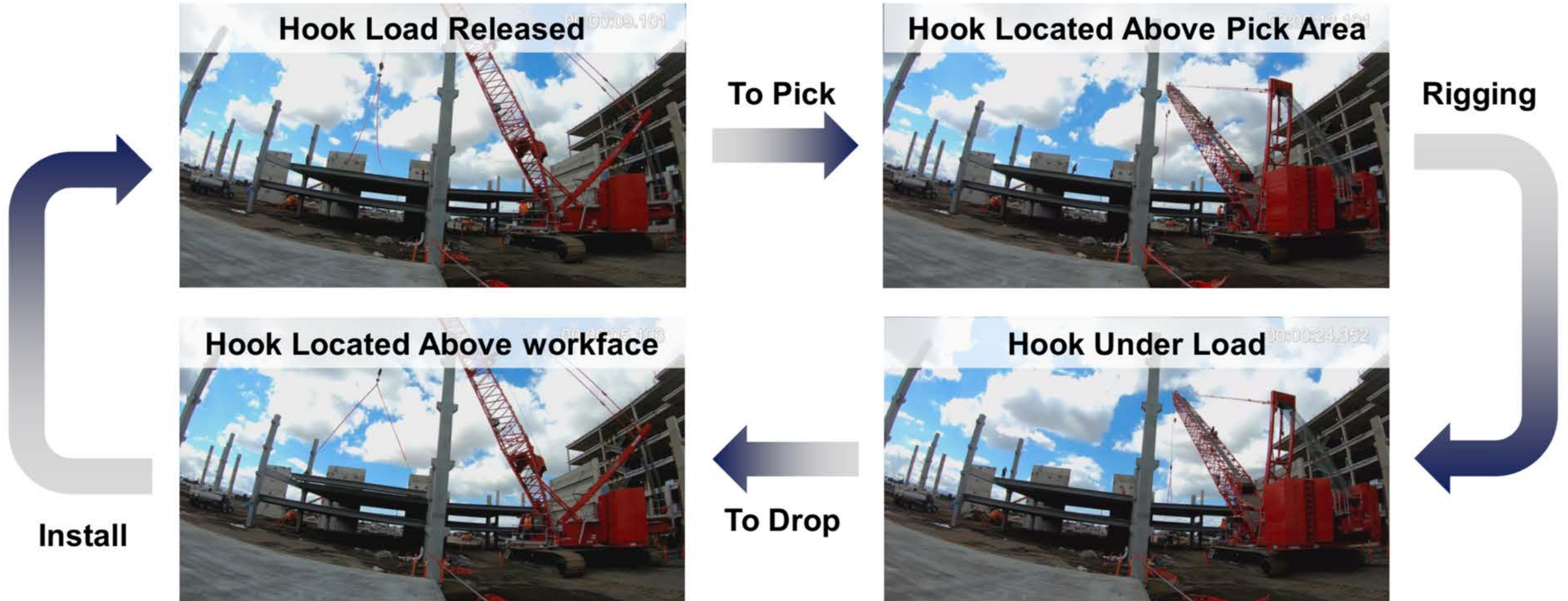
Measuring the variability of construction activities



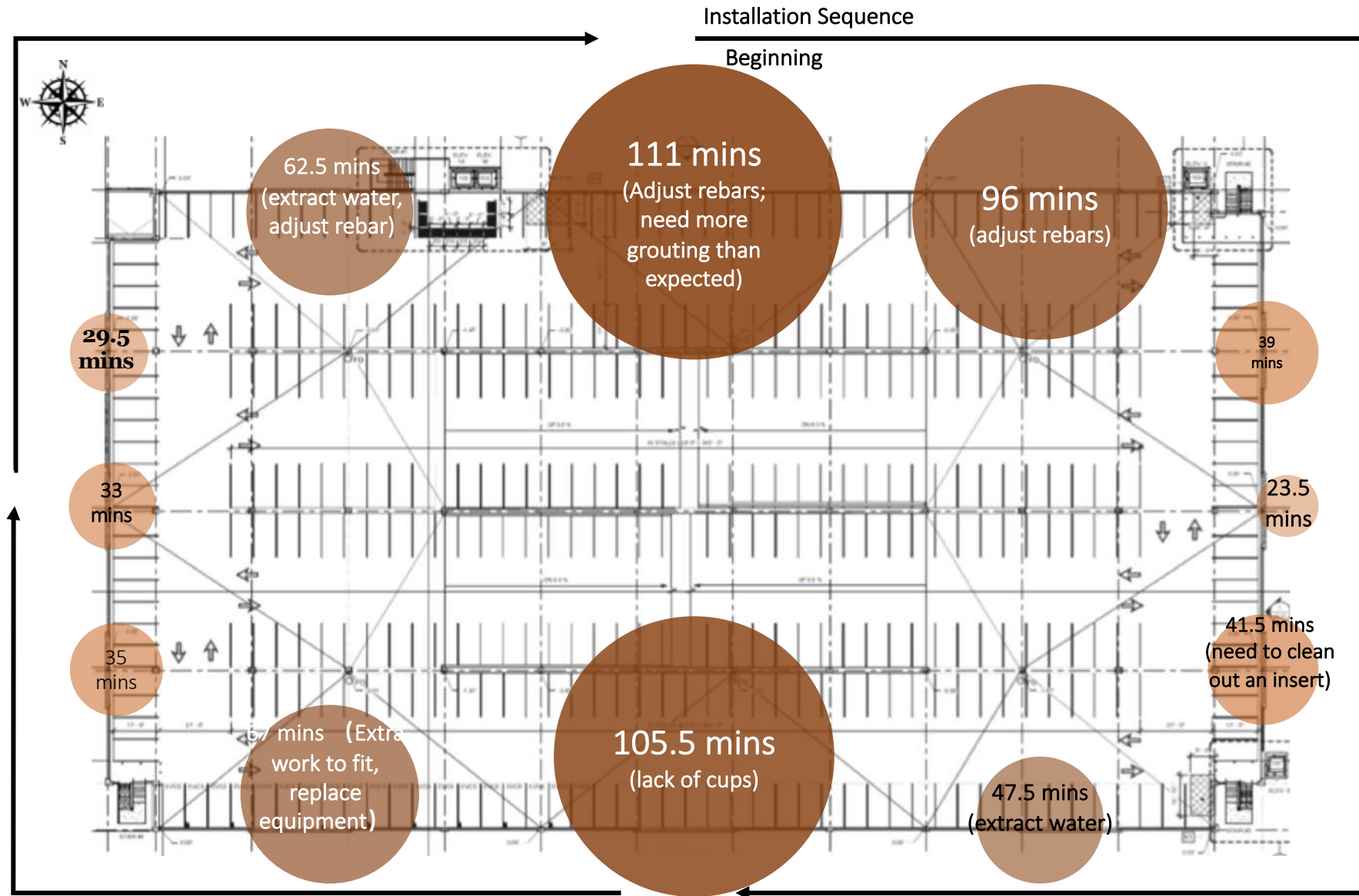
Work by Yan-Ping Wang and Rui Liu in collaboration with Clark Pacific and Versatile Natures

4-Step Installation Cycle

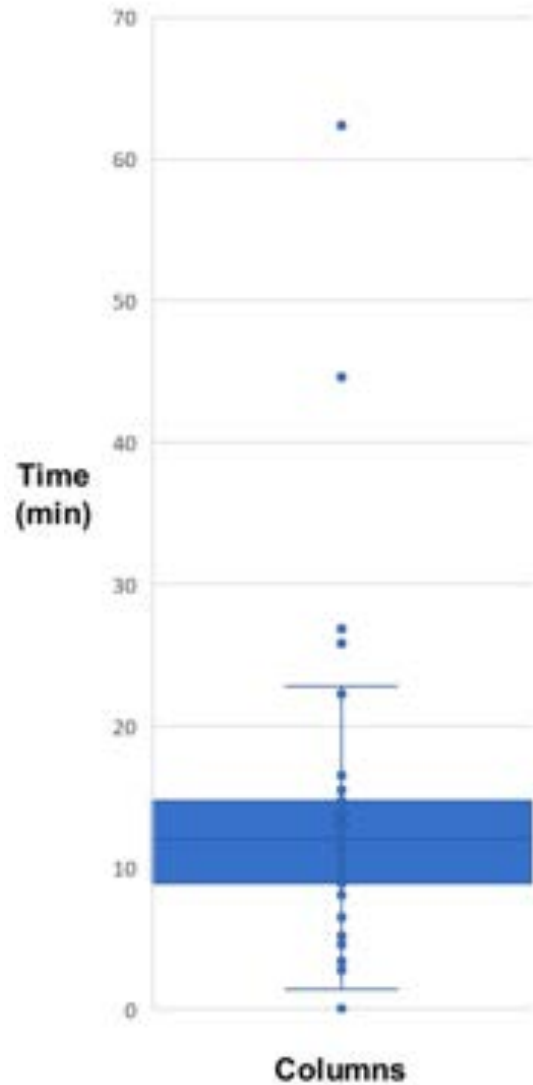
Total Cycle Time = To Pick + Rigging + To Drop + Installation



Collecting as-built data for every task to close the loop with pre-construction

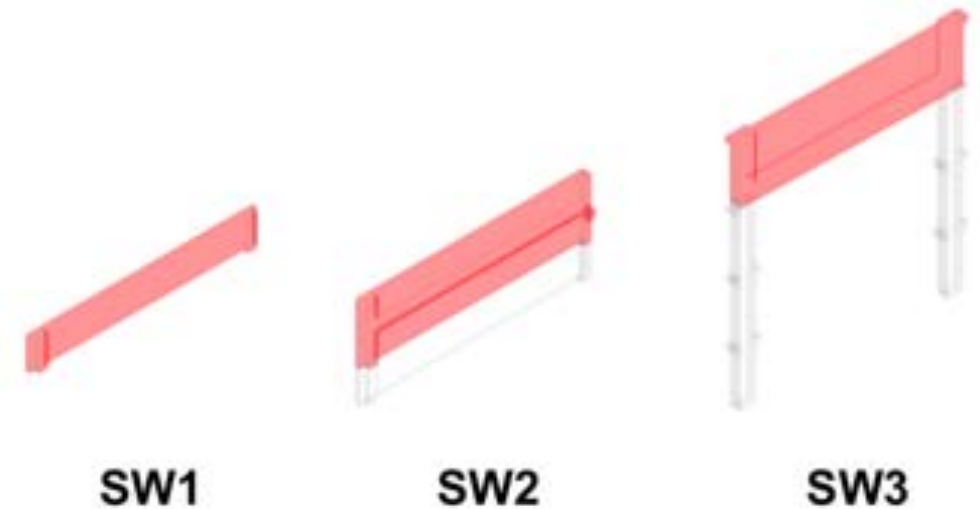
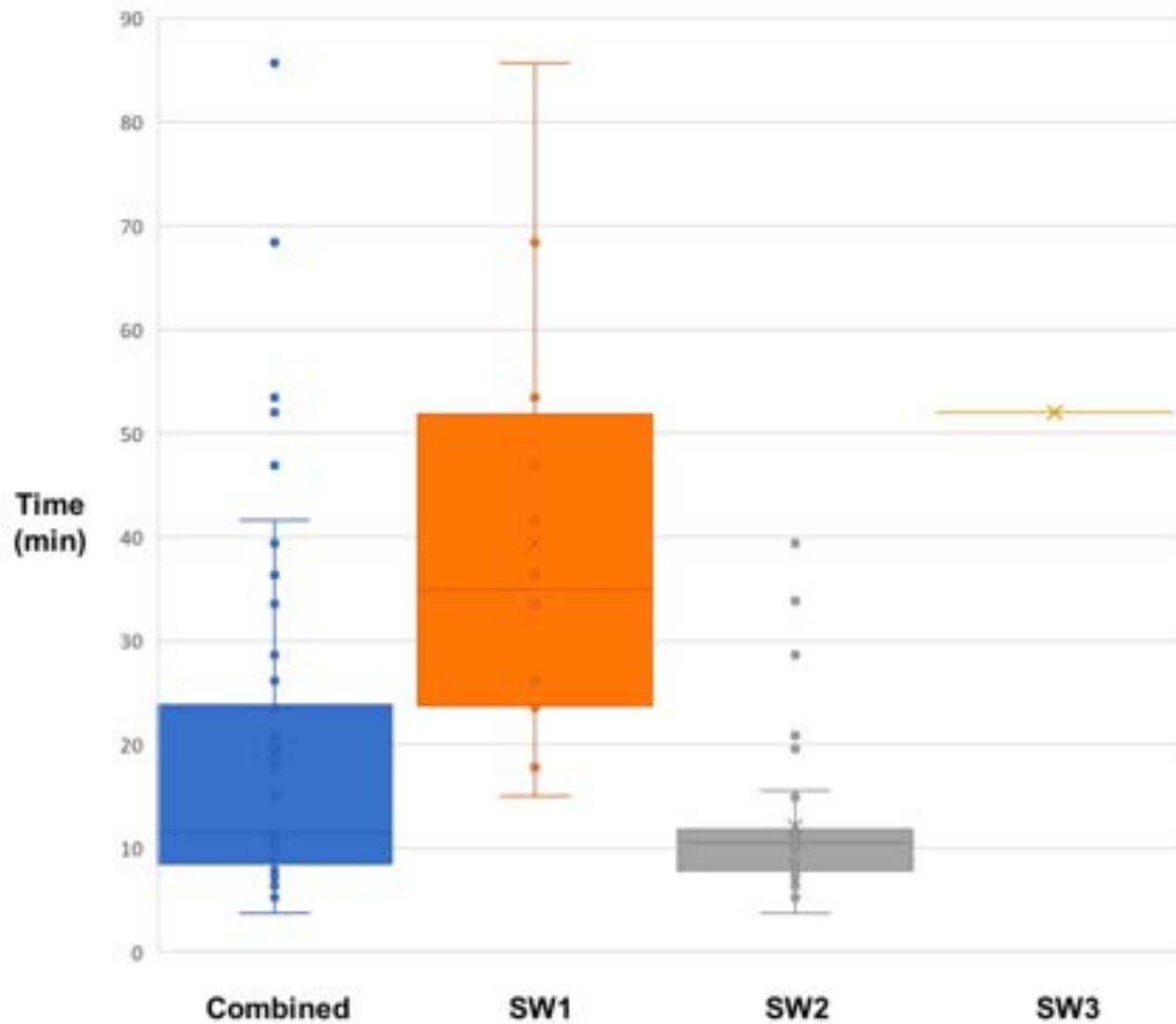


Column installation durations

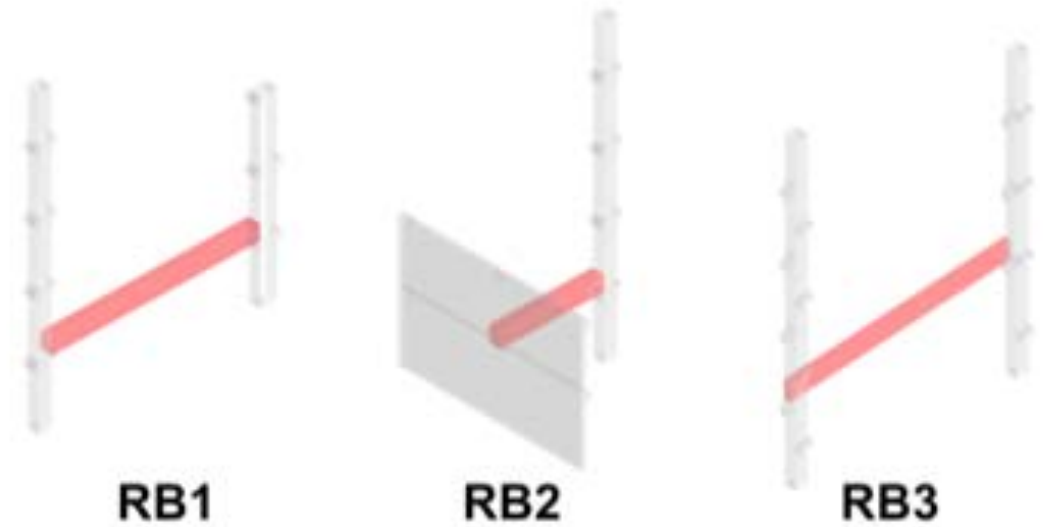
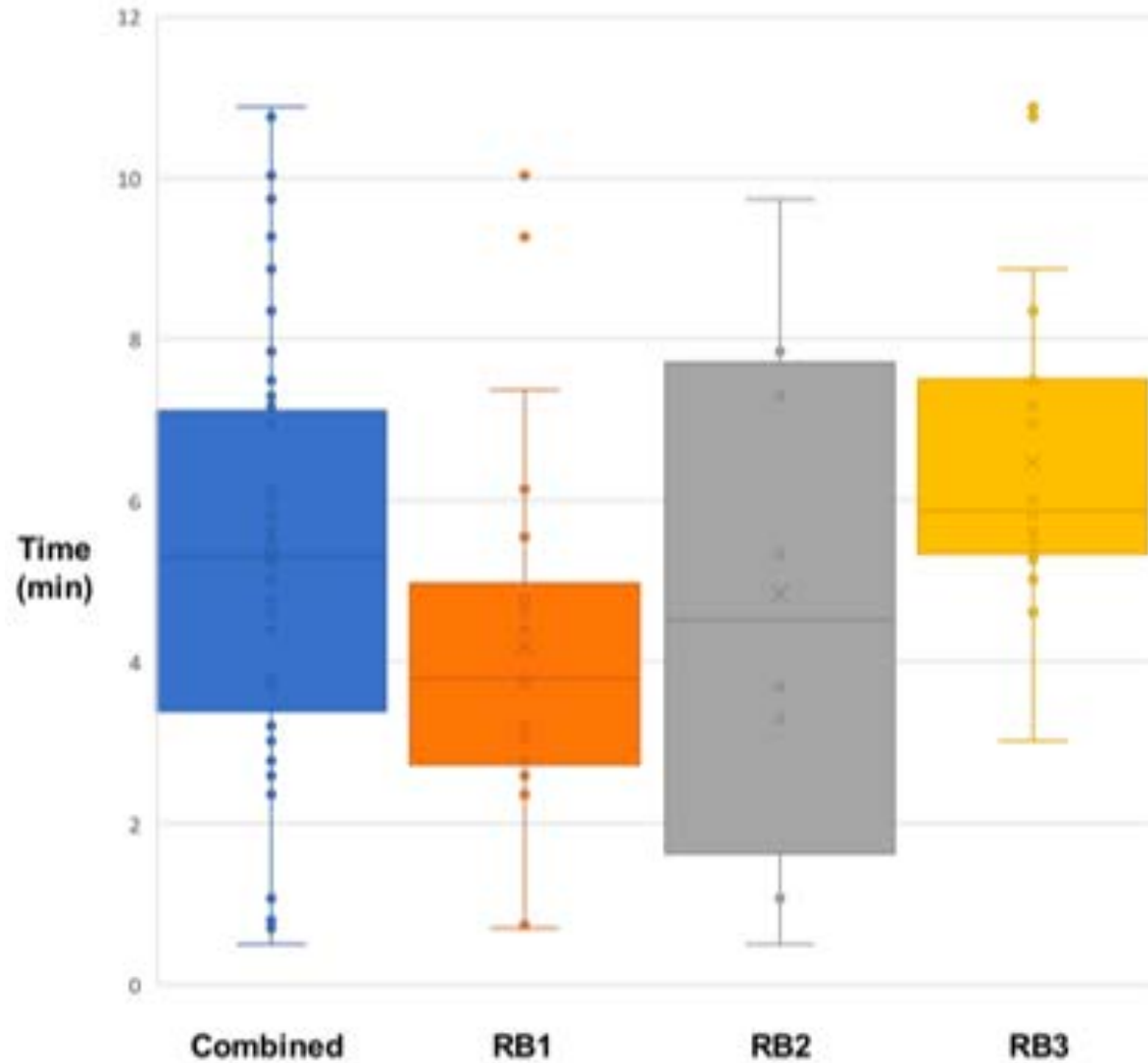


GC1

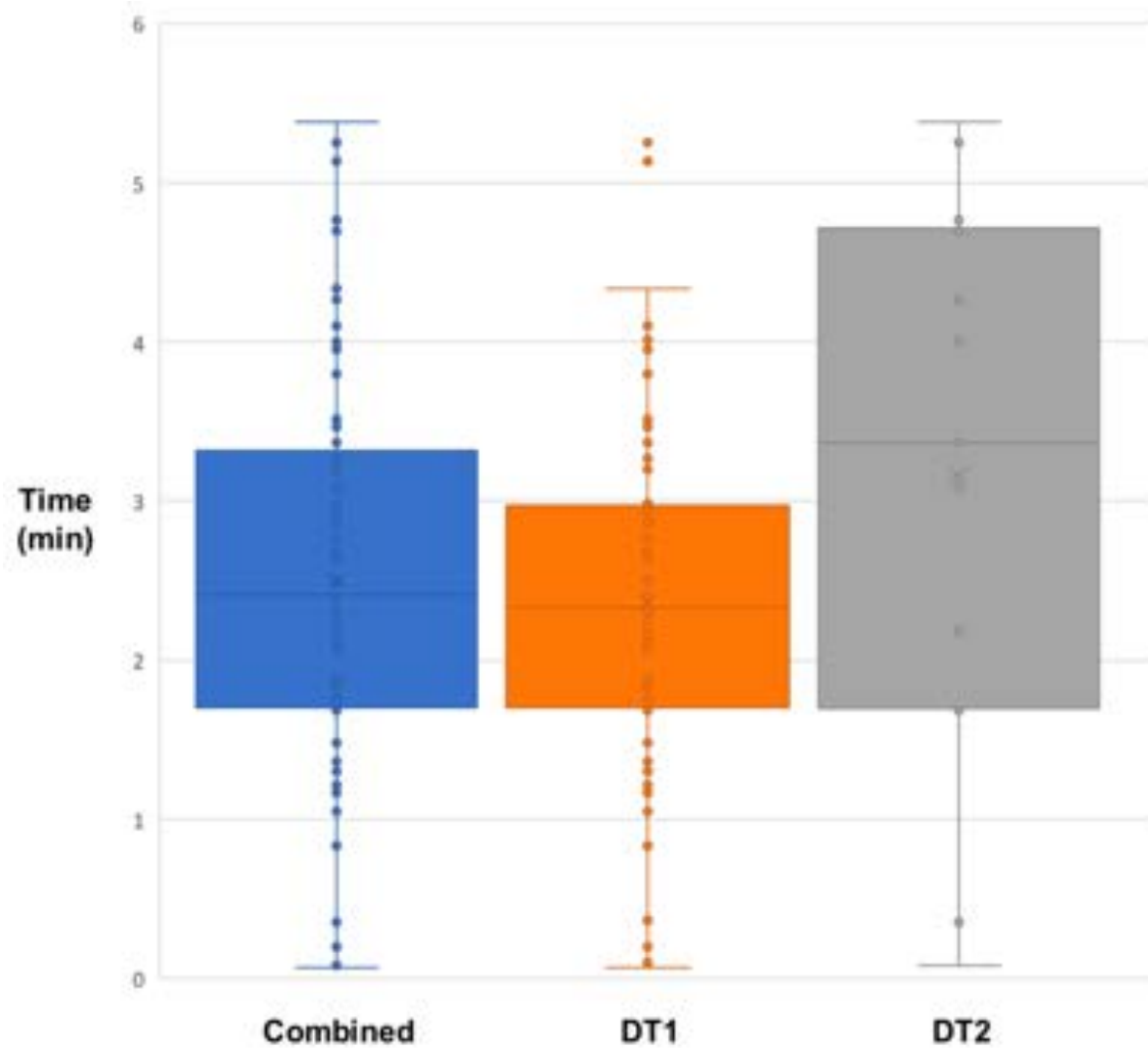
Shear wall installation durations



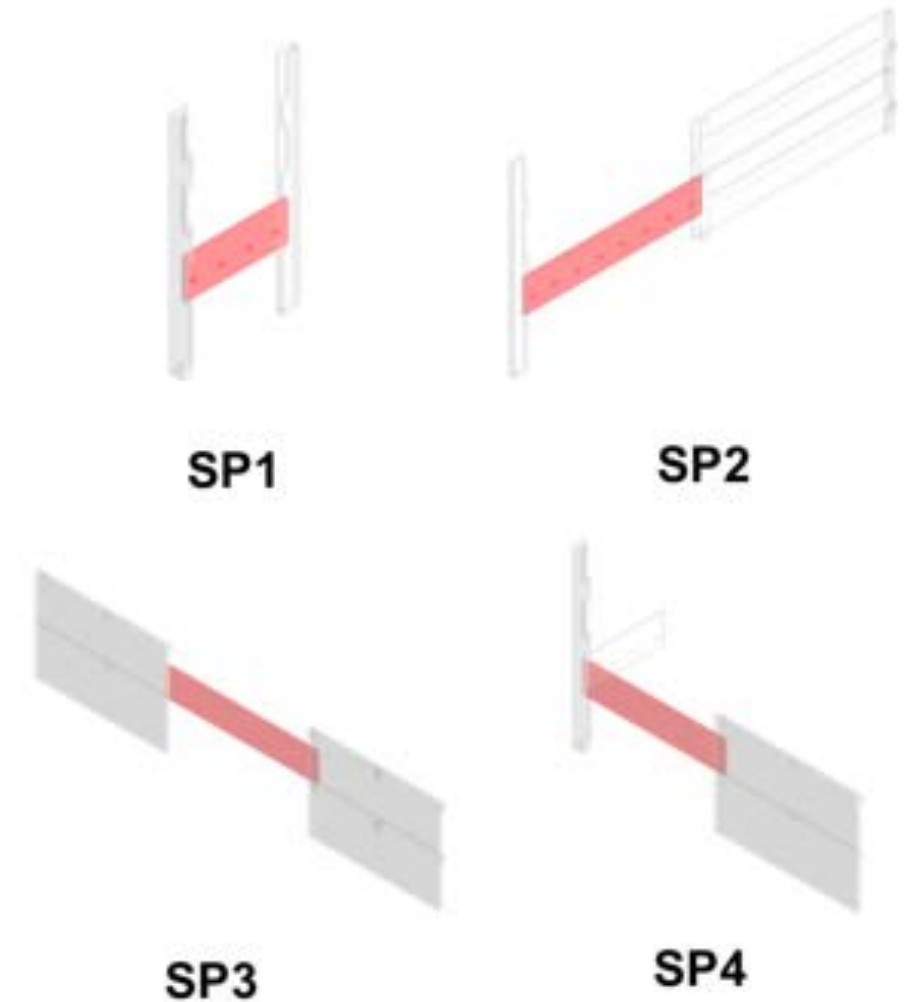
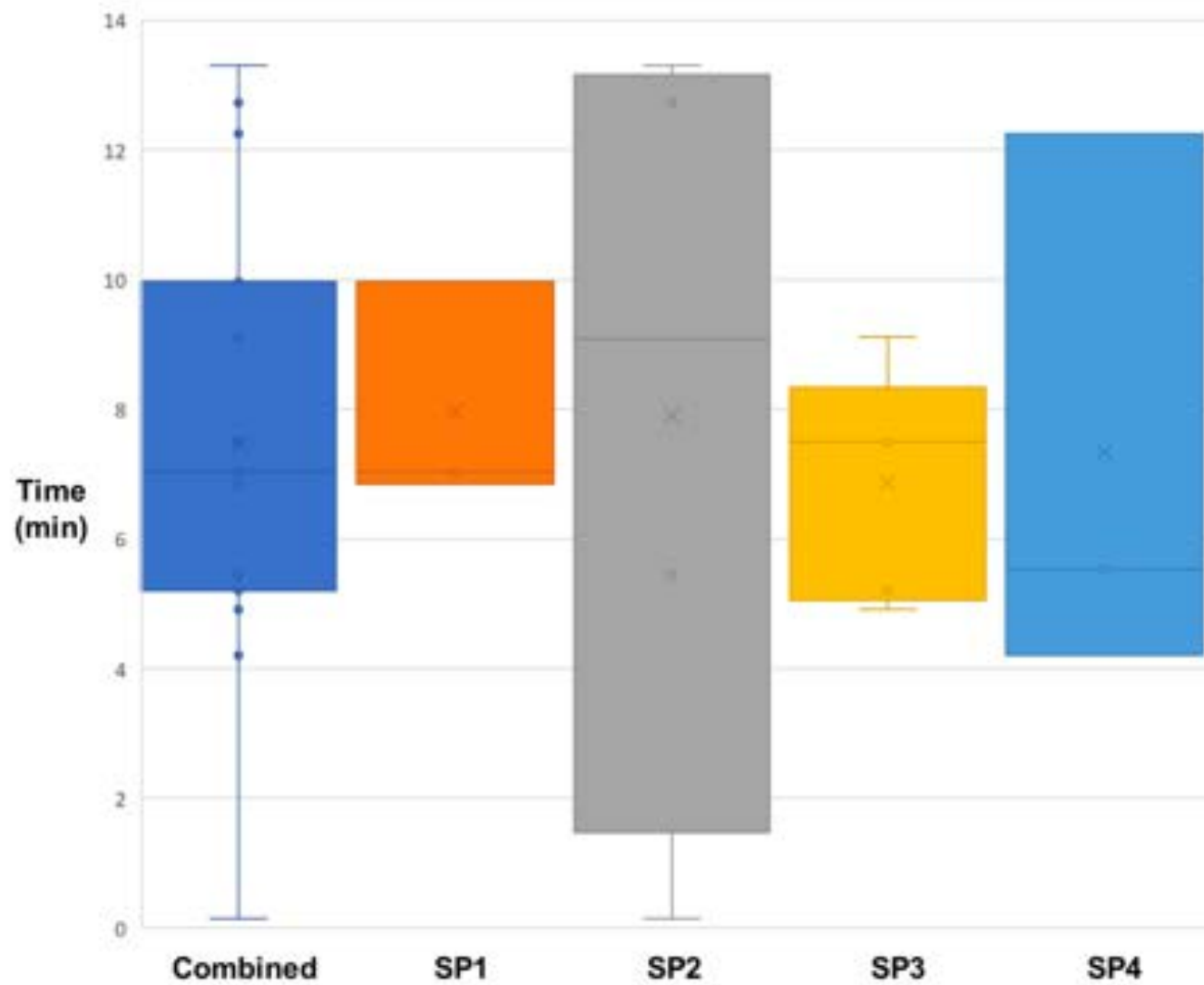
Beam installation durations



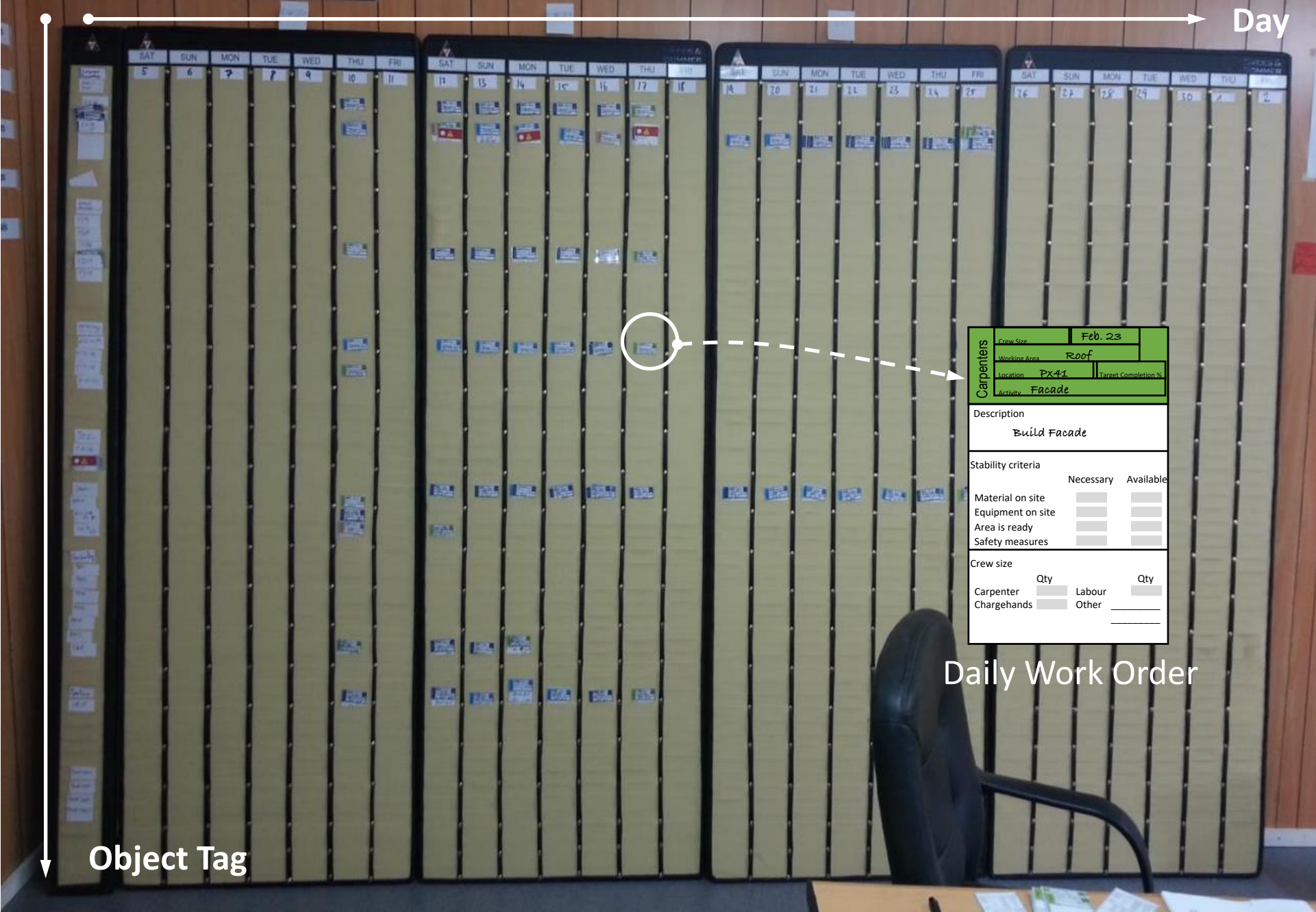
Double tee installation durations



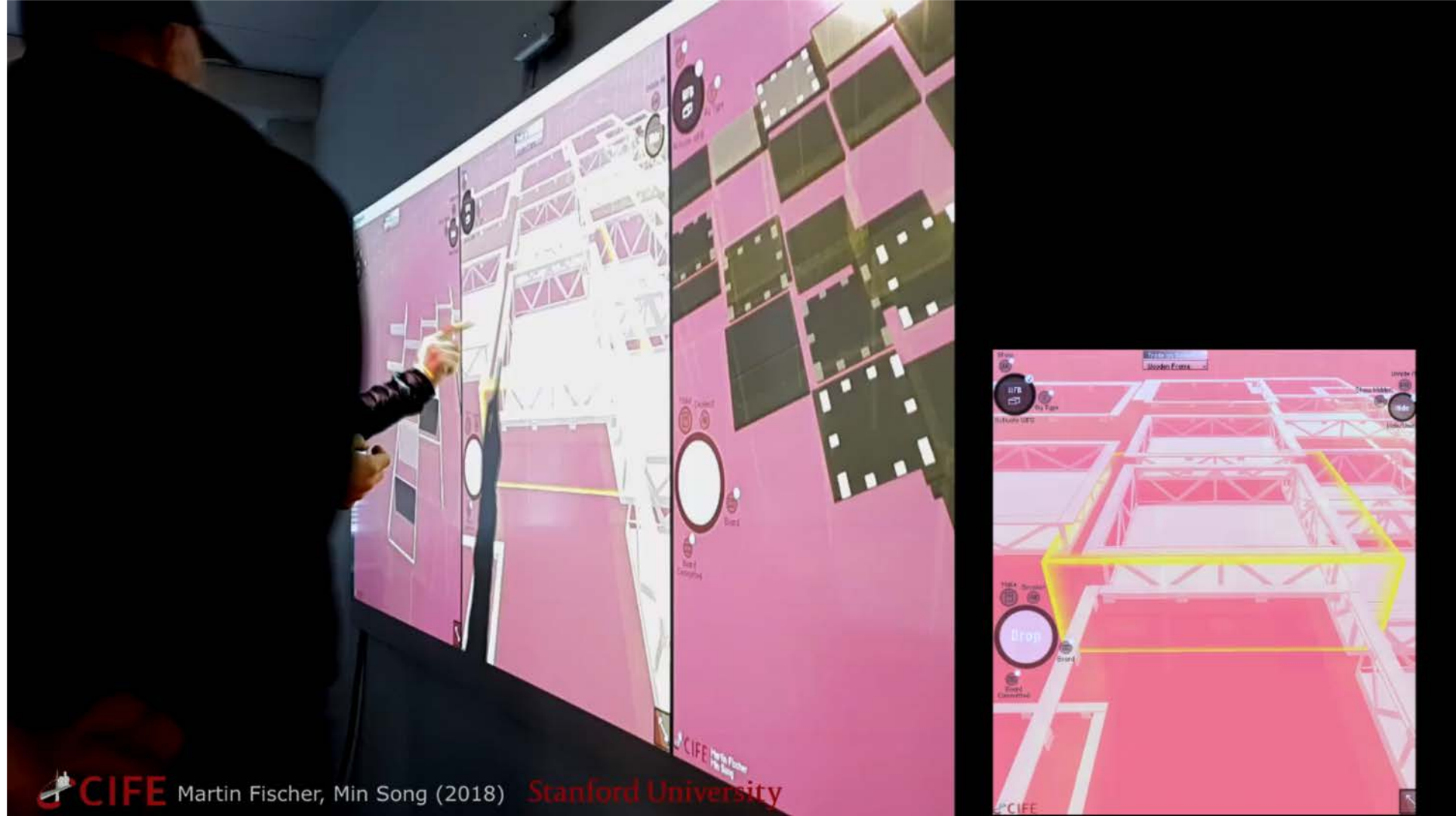
Spandrel installation durations



We are seeing lots of digitization of analog practices



Digital daily planning on site



Average time spent for training: 17 min 30 sec

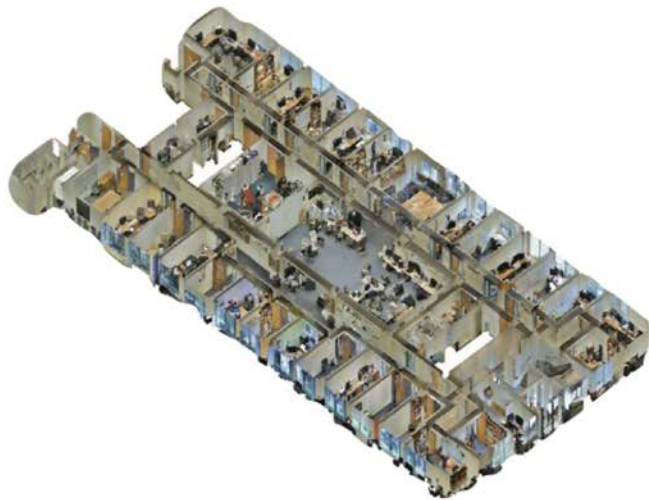


Foremen's native language in 5 experiments:

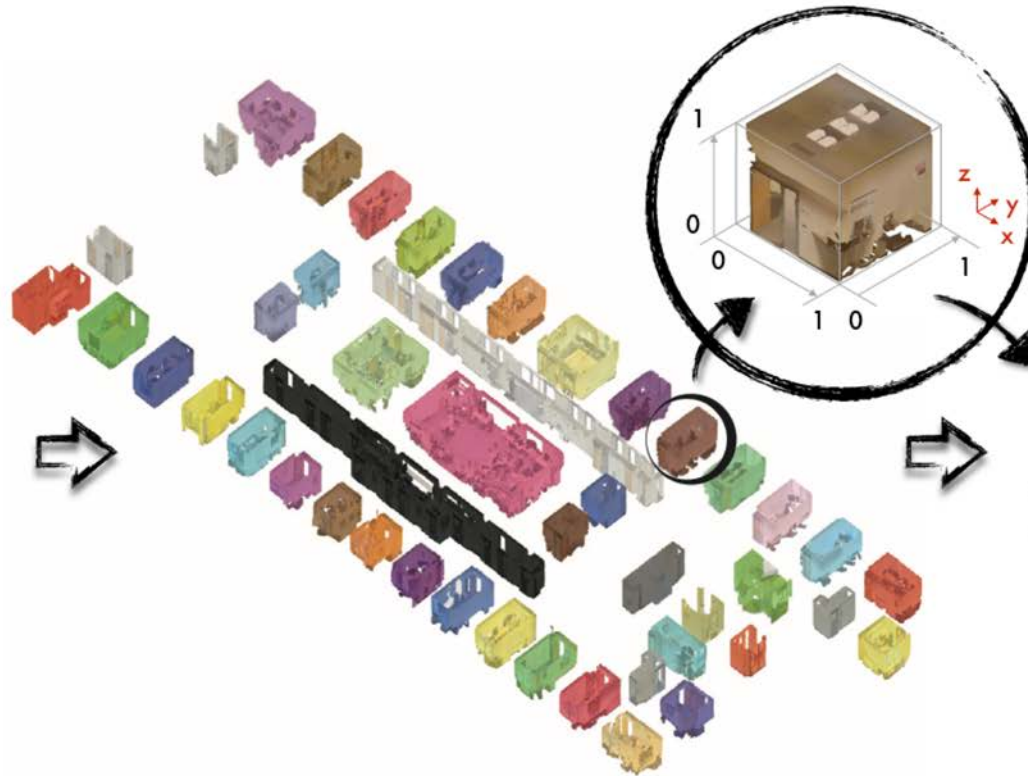
Arabic
Filipino
Swedish
Spanish
English

Deploying Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition Methods to Make BIM for Existing Facilities Affordable

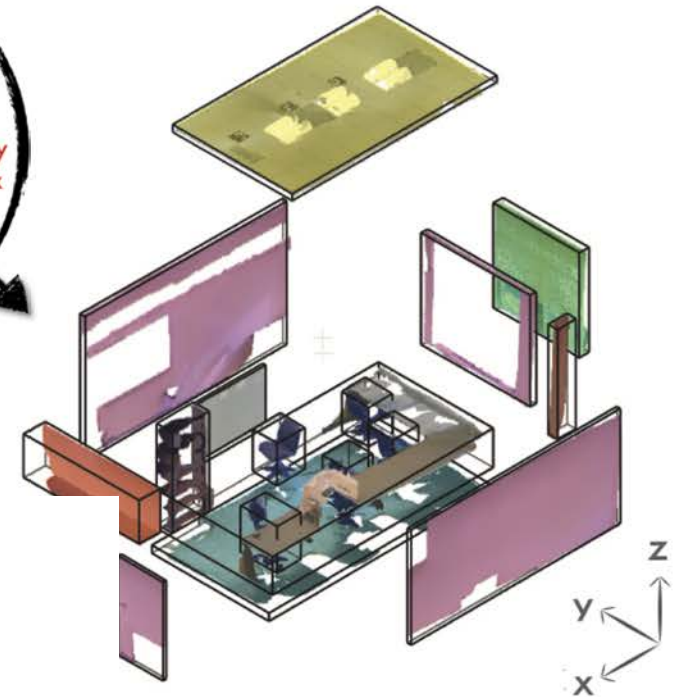
Raw Point Cloud



Disjoint Space Parsing



Building Element Detection



Semantic Building Parser Research

With Silvio Savarese, Iro Armeni, Amir Zamir, buildingparser.stanford.edu

Merging robotics, sensing, vision, haptics, and VR



OceanOne by Oussama Khatib, Robotics Lab, Stanford University



We must act with an understanding of our
immediate and broader context



Andrew Ng



<https://www.mma-fl.com/best-methods-to-reduce-construction-site-injuries/>

I have made all my generals
out of mud.
Napoleon



Picture by Martin Fischer

Interact in a virtual environment

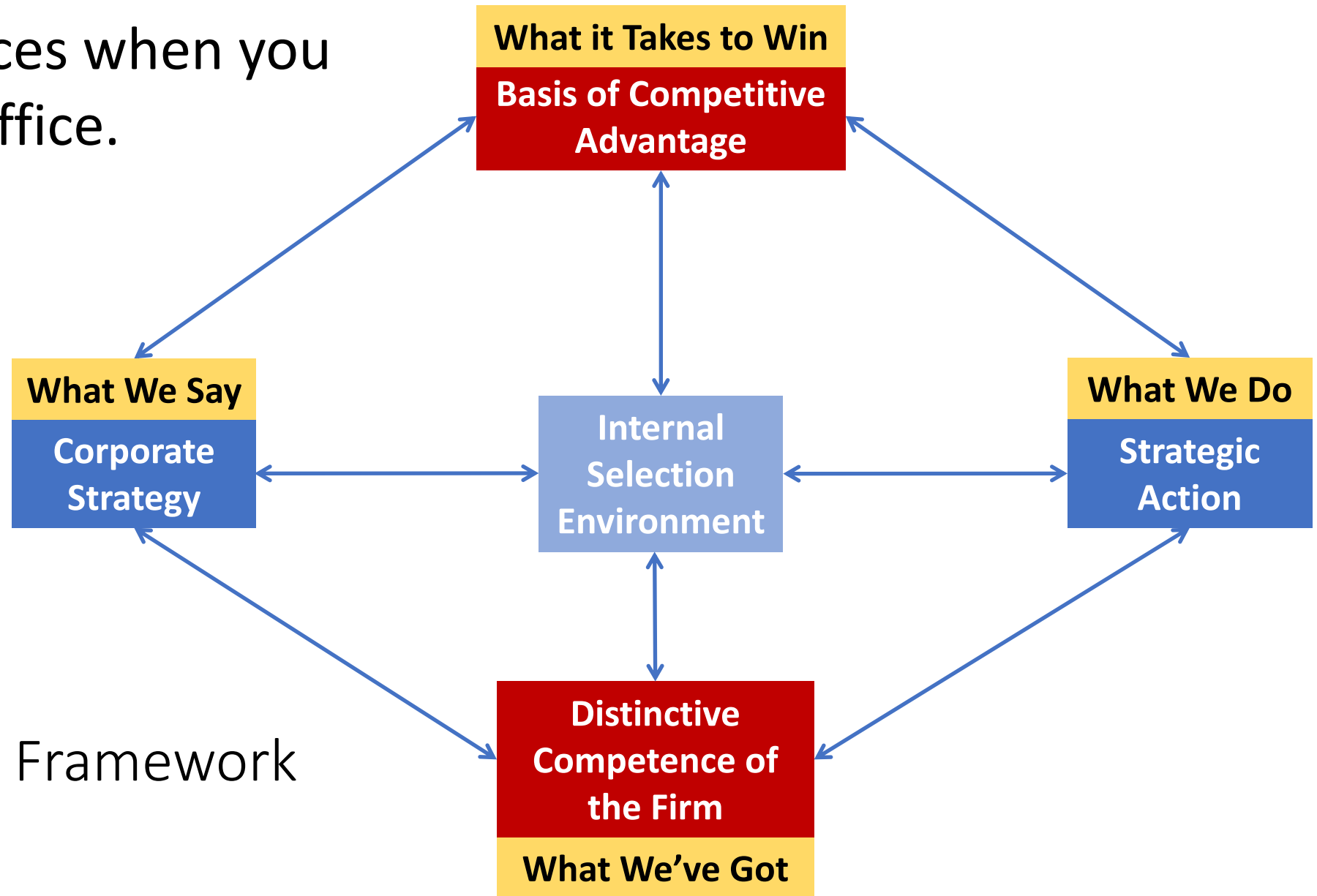


Screenshots courtesy Brandon Fischer

- Rapidly understand and update:
 - target
 - team
 - roles
 - progress
 - obstacles
 - individual / team performance
- Frequent communication, feedback



You must decide how to allocate your firm's resources when you get back to your office.



Strategy Diamond Framework

You can't always get what you want,
but if you use operations and data science
you may get what you need
Or: The next practice of engineering and managing capital projects

Martin Fischer

Kumagai Professor in the School of Engineering

Professor, Civil & Environmental Engineering

Director, Center for Integrated Facility Engineering (CIFE)

Senior Fellow, Precourt Institute for Energy (PIE)

Stanford University

Member, Technical Committee, PPI

National Academy of Construction

fischer@stanford.edu

