



Global Sensitivity Analyses for Test Planning with Black-Box Models for Mars Sample Return

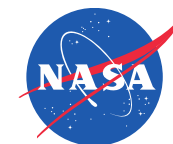
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The decision to implement Mars Sample Return will not be finalized until NASA's completion of the National Environmental Policy Act process.
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How to design tests with limited project sources?



OBJECTIVE

Design/plan experimental **tests** for: model validation, uncertainty quantification, digital twins, etc.
to support a project/mission **design** and **decision-making process** over the entire life cycle with **limited resources**

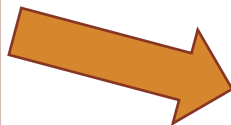
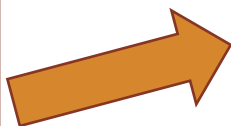
LIMITATIONS

Constrained budget / schedule

Computationally expensive models

Black-box models

Correlated model input parameters



SOLUTIONS

Design of experiments

- Use appropriate design of experiment to maximize value of information

Global sensitivity analyses (GSA)

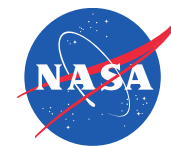
- **Screen** uninfluential parameters and fix to nominal values
- **Prioritize** influential parameters to target through experiments
- Make practical through **multi-fidelity** simulation techniques
- Make informative through sensitivity indices that can uncover hidden effects and parameter interactions
- Use sensitivity indices that are agnostic about parameter dependencies

- What is global sensitivity analysis
- Application to Mars Sample Return
 - Overview
 - Case study
- Multi-fidelity simulation framework
- Design of experiments
- Global sensitivity analyses
 - Factor fixing
 - Factor prioritization
 - Univariate
 - Multivariate
 - Direction of change
 - Interactions
- Data assimilation and predictive models
- Conclusions

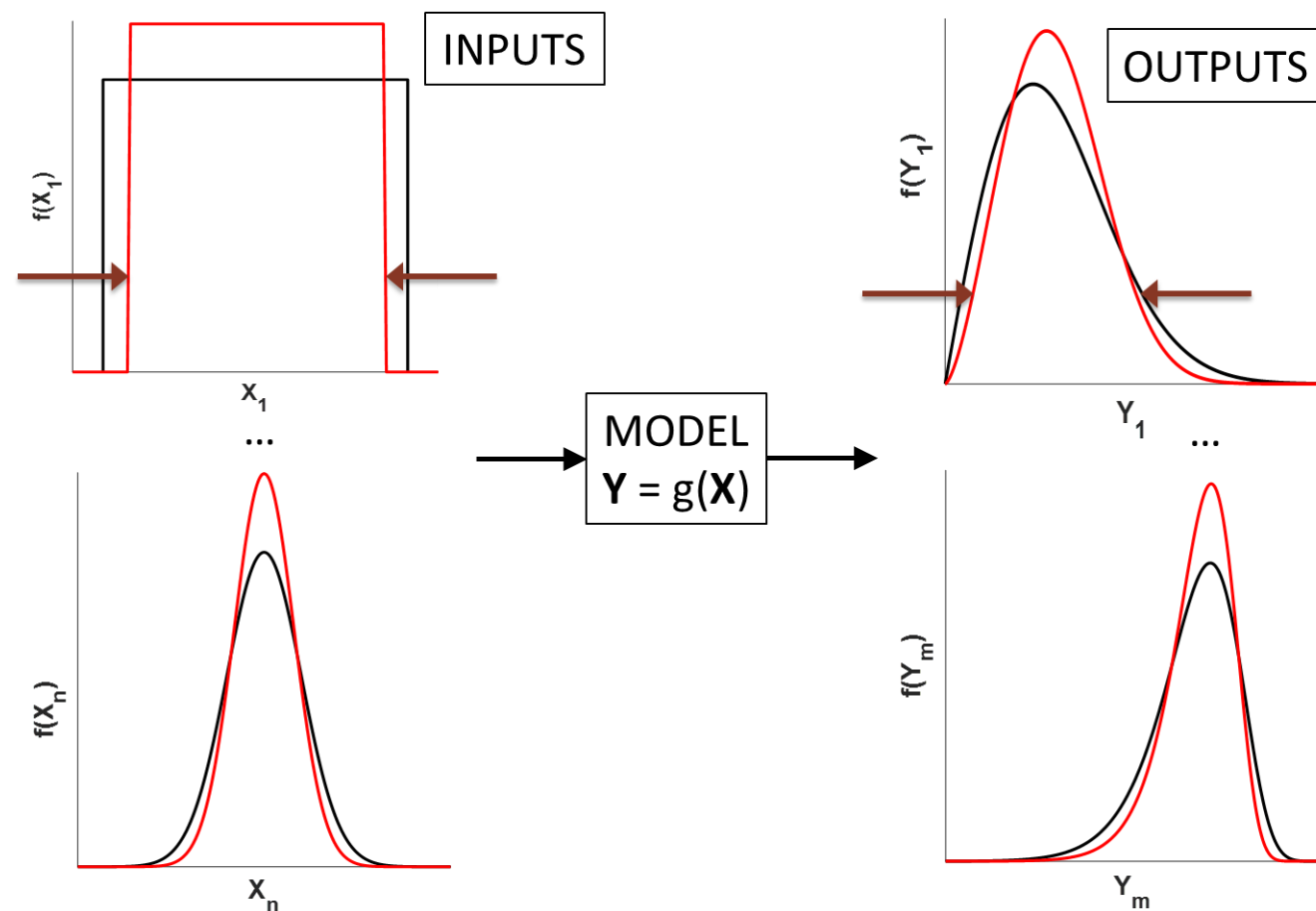
NOTE: All the results shown in this presentation are from the following reference:

[1] Cataldo et al., “Global sensitivity analyses for test planning with black-boxes models for Mars Sample Return”, *Operations Research*, submitted.

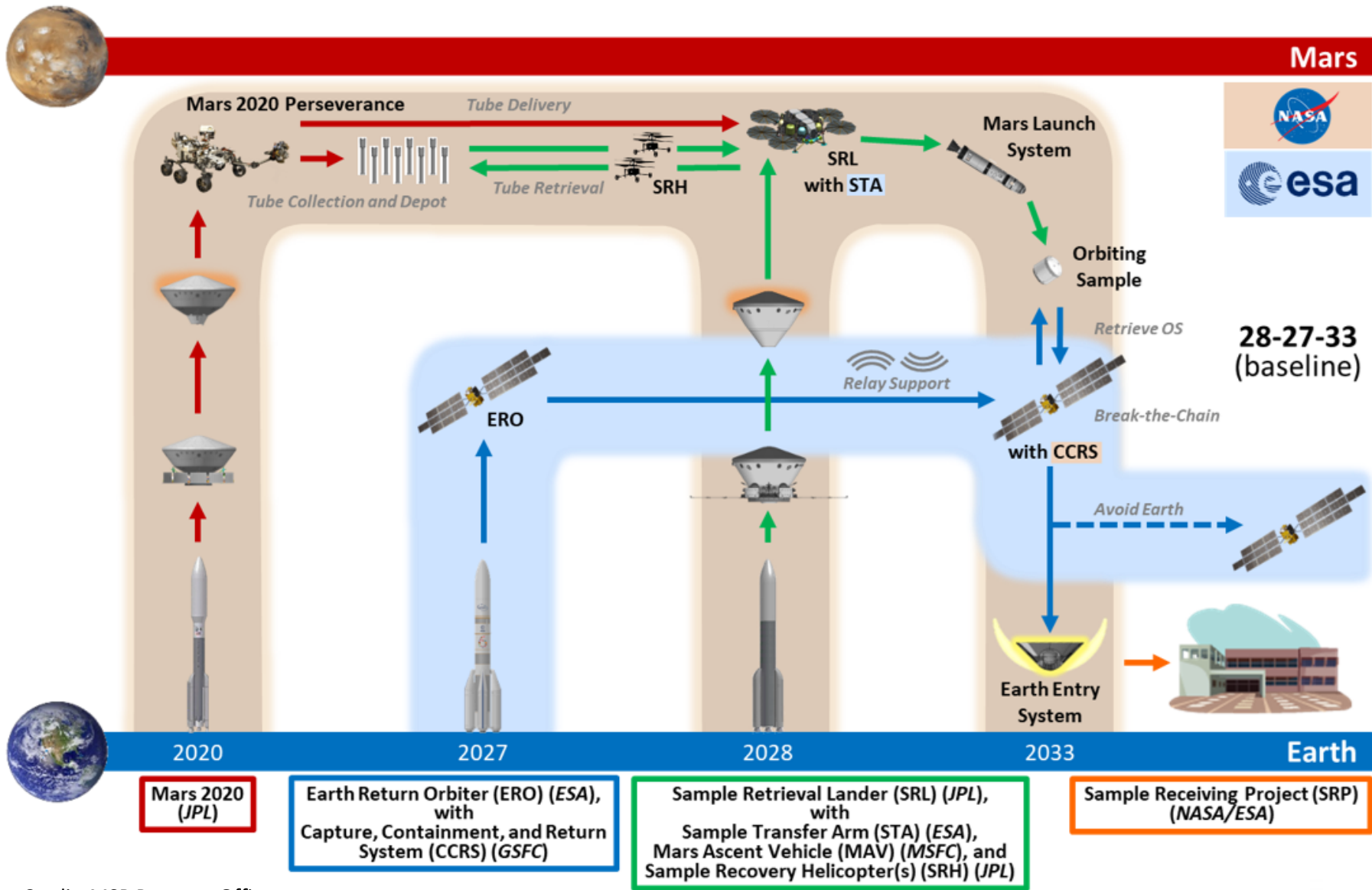
Global sensitivity analysis helps identify uncertainty drivers



- **GOAL:** to determine the amount of uncertainty that would disappear in the outputs if one or more input parameters were known and fixed.
- Global sensitivity indices
 - Sobol' indices (main and total effects) [2]
 - Global importance measures [3]
 - Optimal transport-based measures [4]
 - Etc.
- **Prioritize parameters** based on the amount of reduction in the output uncertainty **and target them through tests**.



Mars Sample Return campaign architecture prior to 2024 re-architecture



As part of the NASA response to the September 2023 MSR Independent Review Board’s report and in light of the current budget environment, the MSR Program is undergoing a consideration of changes in its mission architecture.

This work is based upon the previous baseline MSR architecture in which ERO-CCRS would return the OS to Earth within approximately five years of landing on Mars to retrieve samples collected by the Perseverance rover.

The CCRS project completed system development to a Preliminary Design Review level of maturity in mid-December 2023, after which it was stopped indefinitely pending the results of the re-architecting effort.

Credit: MSR Program Office

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What are the drivers in the design of the Earth Entry System?

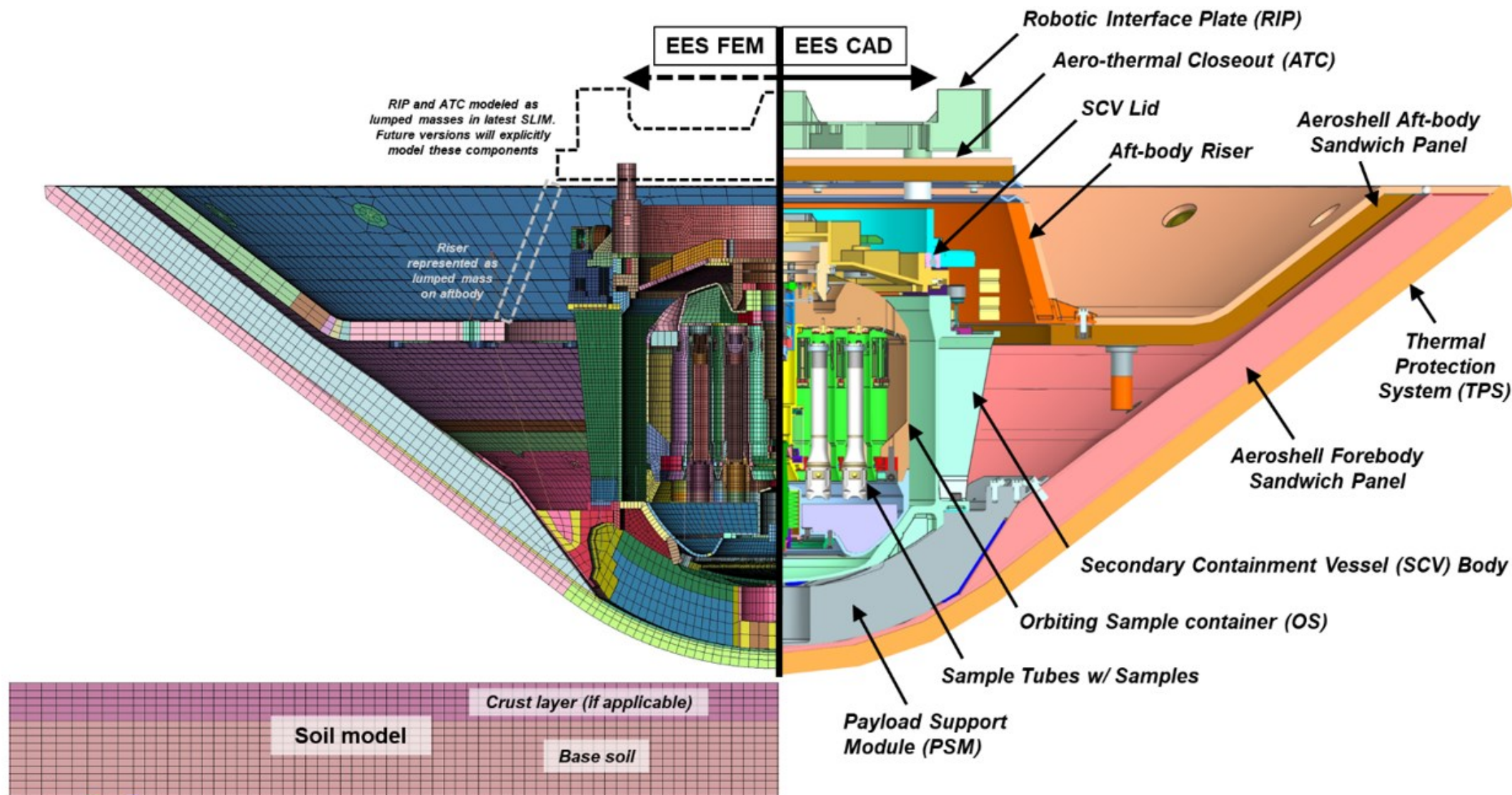
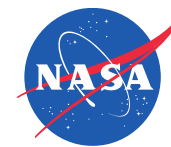


Image credit: Cataldo et al., 2024 [1]

The Earth Entry System model and study set-up

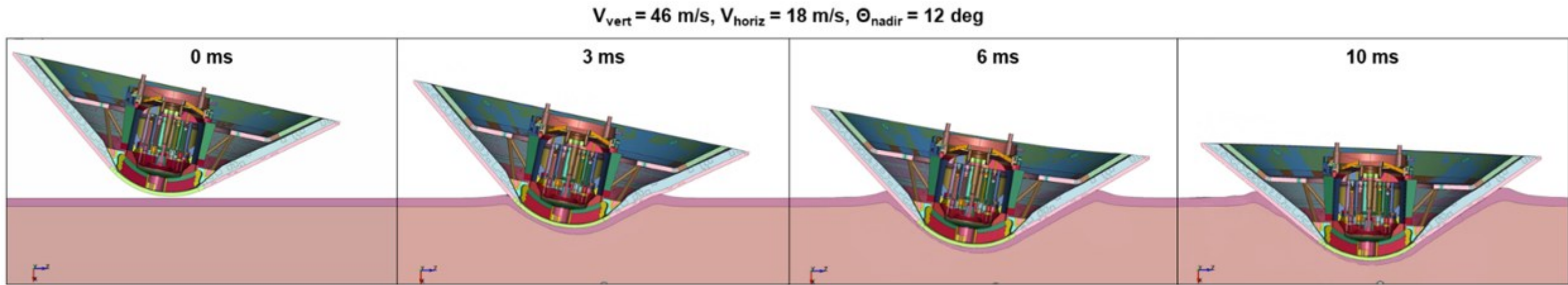


Image credit: Cataldo et al., 2024 [1]

- System-Level Impact Model (SLIM)
 - LS-DYNA finite-element model of all key EES structural components and soil.
 - Can simulate full range of kinematic and soil conditions the EES is required to withstand.
- For the study presented here:
 - Varied 10 input parameters
 - Analyzed 8 output metrics
- GSA requires a large number of samples, e.g., $O(1000)$ or more, to converge.
 - However, SLIM takes ~ 2.5 hours per run
 - In addition: license availability, queue time, code set-up, etc.

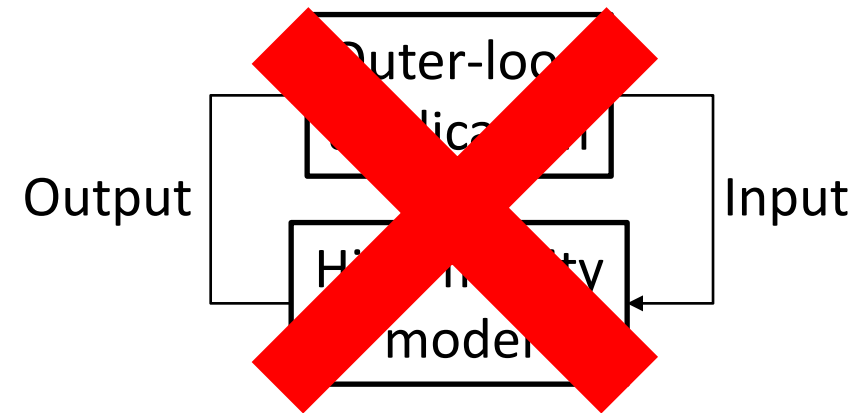
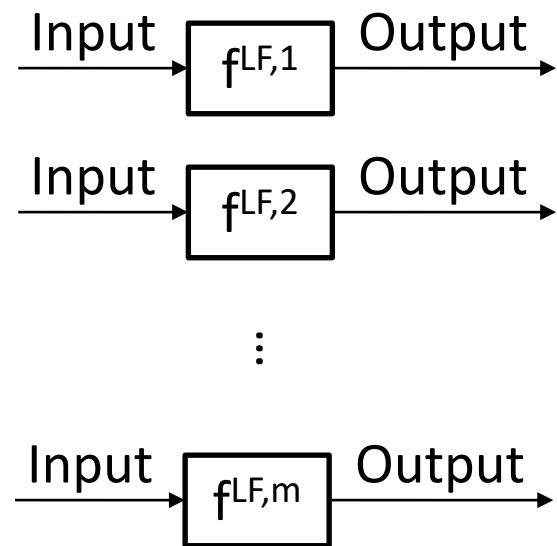
Resources become limited
given the SLIM's overall
large computational cost!
How to make GSA feasible?



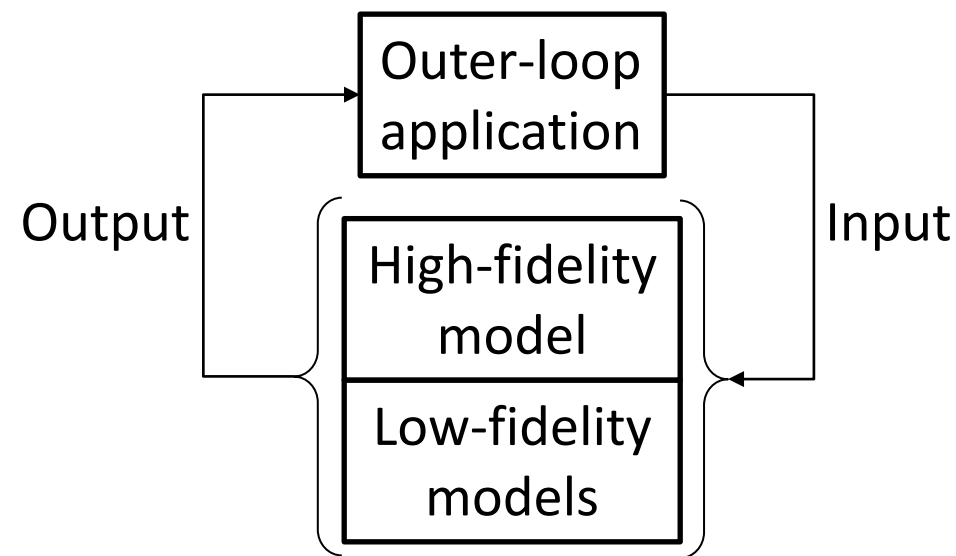
High-fidelity (HF) model



Low-fidelity (LF) models



- Invoke multiple models to **reduce computational cost**
- Maintain **accuracy guarantees** on outer-loop results



Samples are shared optimally among models

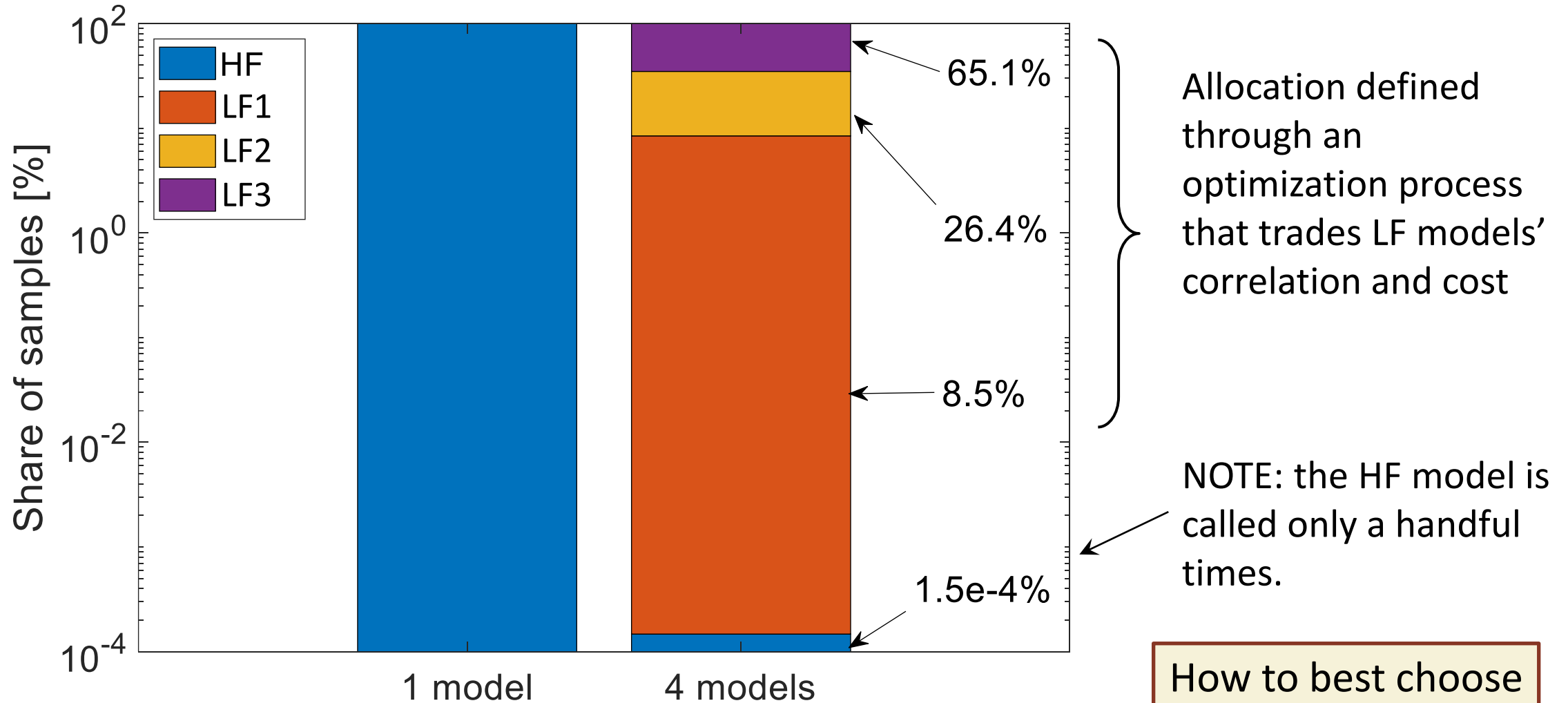


Image adapted from Cataldo et al., 2022 [5]

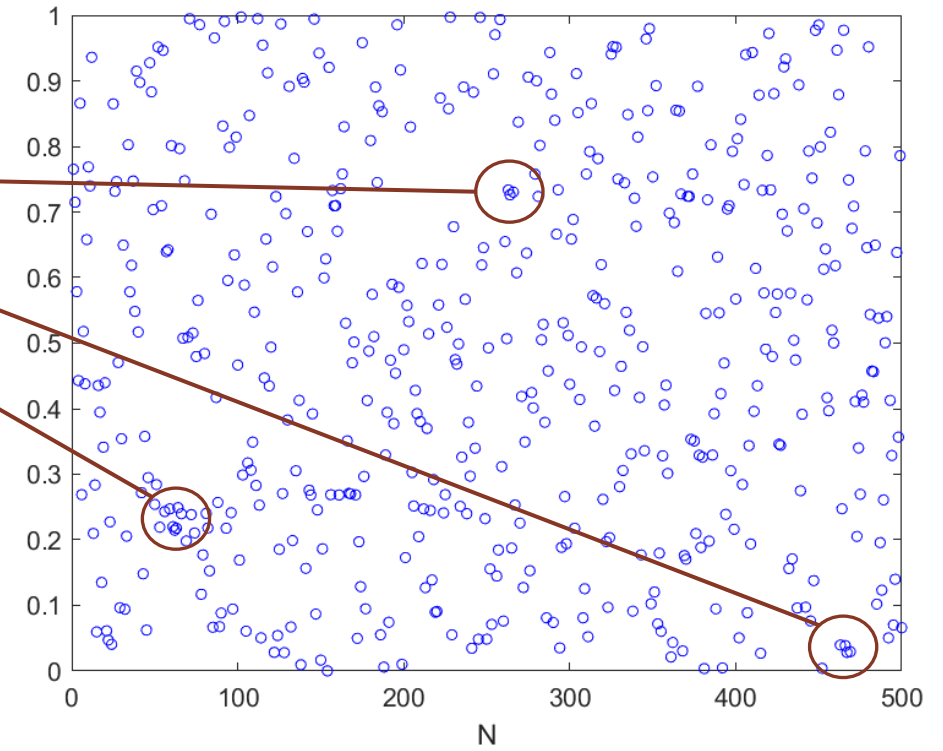
Select the best samples to maximize value of information from HF model



- Design of experiments with numerical models or test hardware

- Monte Carlo

Clustered
samples cause
low efficiency
due to **slow**
convergence



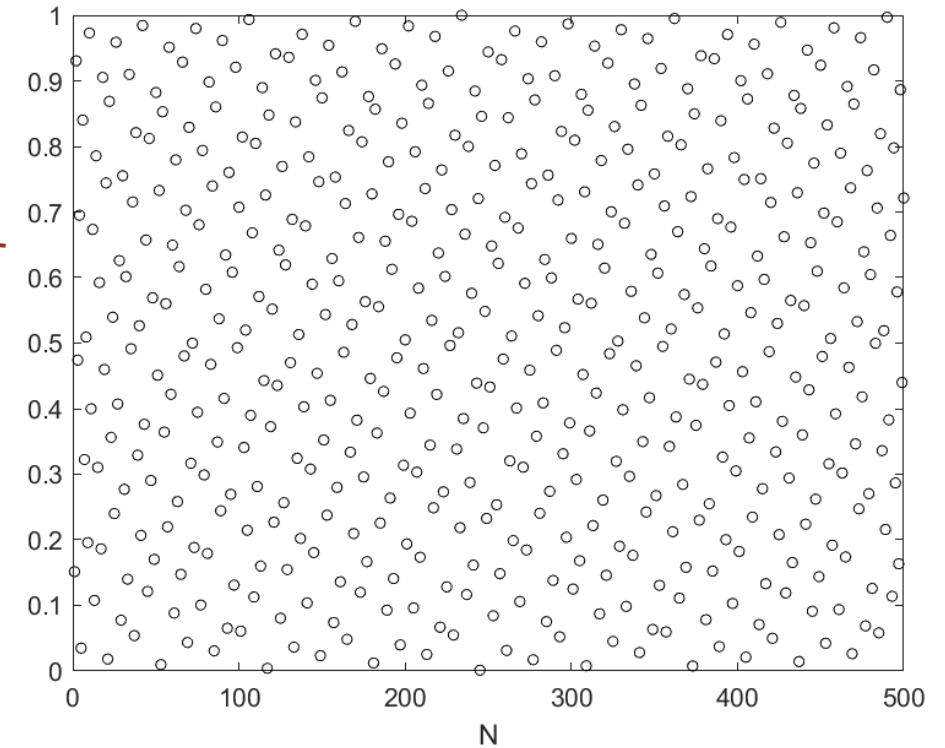
Select the best samples to maximize value of information from HF model



- Design of experiments with numerical models or test hardware

- Monte Carlo
- Latin Hypercube
- Quasi-random
 - Halton
 - Sobol'

More uniformly spaced samples lead to **higher efficiency** due to **faster convergence**



Select the best samples to maximize value of information from HF model



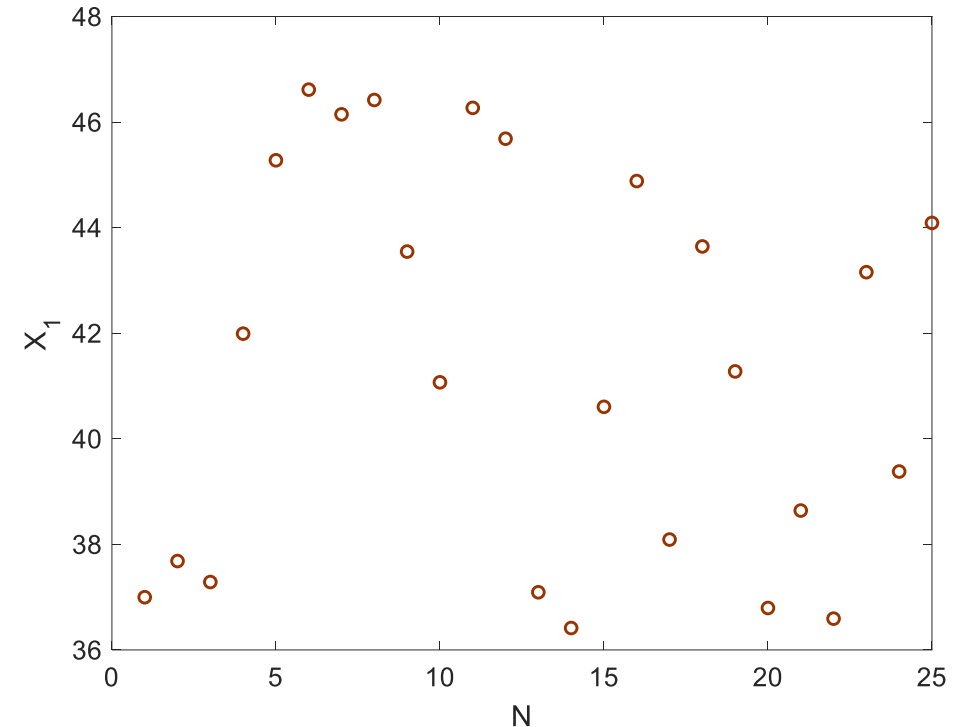
- Design of experiments with numerical models or test hardware

- Monte Carlo
- Latin Hypercube
- Quasi-random
 - Halton
 - Sobol'
- Response surface
 - Box-Behnken
 - Central composite
- D-Optimal
 - Seeks to minimize the covariance of the parameter estimates for a specified model
 - Good for non-linear models, constrained factors, correlated parameters

- Maximum projection

- Maximizes the product of the distances between potential design points with the goal of providing good **space-filling** properties on projections of factors [6].

- Etc.



Selected for the application presented here, given the ability to run the SLIM only for 25 cases

Global sensitivity analysis settings used

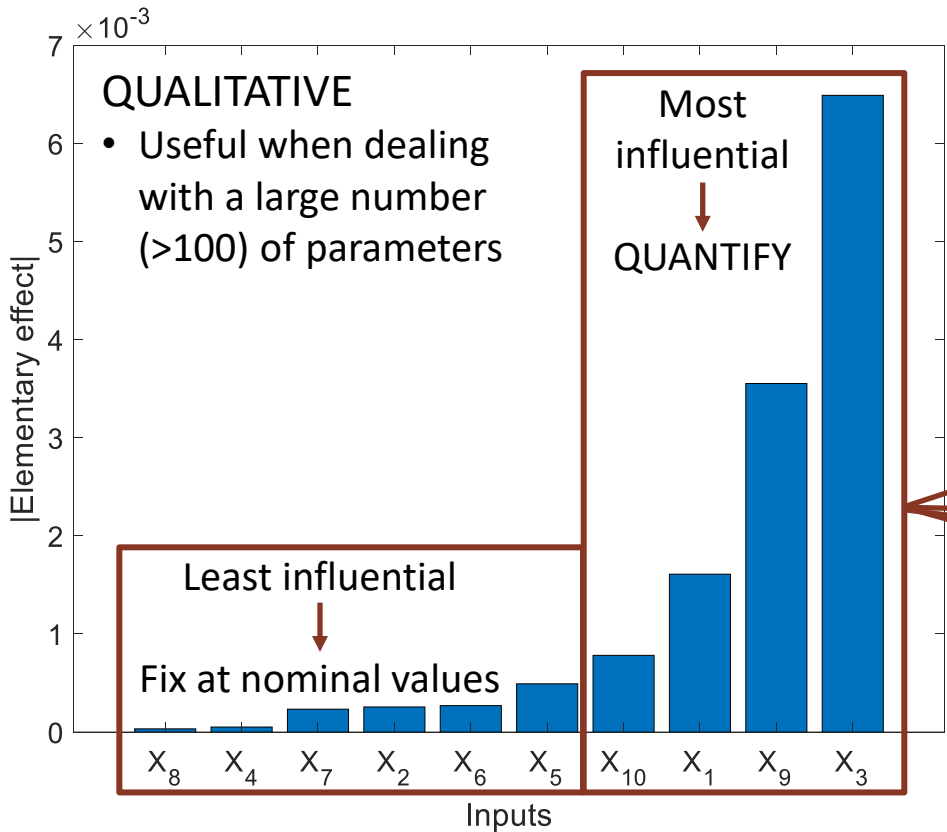


FACTOR FIXING		INTERACTION QUANTIFICATION	
Morris' method	Morris, 1991 [7]	Total indices	Sobol', 1991 [2]
FACTOR PRIORITIZATION – UNIVARIATE		DIRECTION OF CHANGE	
Optimal transport-based	Borgonovo et al., 2024 [4]	Partial dependence functions Individual conditional expectation (ICE) plots	Friedman et al., 2001 [10]
δ –importance measure	Borgonovo, 2007 [8]		Goldstein et al., 2015 [11]
β^{KS} –importance measure	Baucells and Borgonovo, 2013 [9]	Discrepancy index	Baucells et al., 2021 [12]
β^{Ku} –importance measure	Baucells and Borgonovo, 2013 [9]		
Sobol' first-order main indices	Sobol', 1991 [2] and others	Flatness index	Baucells et al., 2021 [12]
FACTOR PRIORITIZATION – MULTIVARIATE			
Optimal-transport based	Borgonovo et al., 2024 [4]		

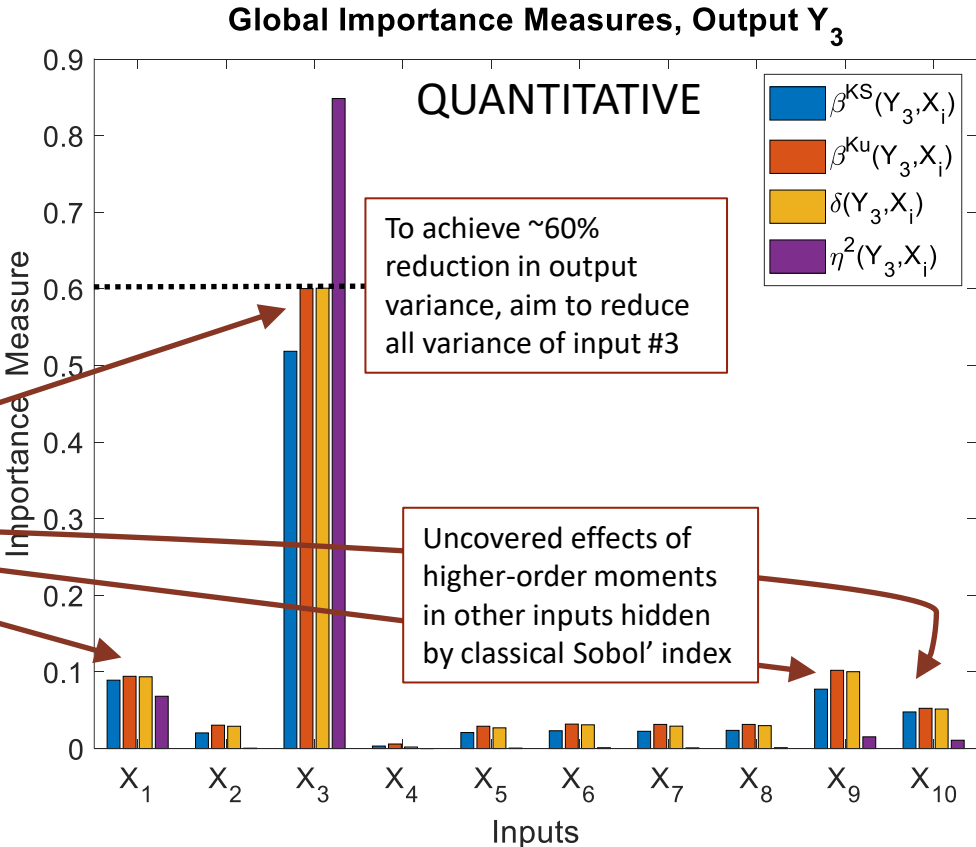
Factor fixing and prioritization: explore and quantify



- Identify the least influential parameters, which can confidently be fixed at their nominal value.
 - Use, for example, Morris' factor fixing method [7].
- Quantify drivers' impact on model output
 - Use sensitivity indices that:
 1. Can efficiently estimate parameter effects beyond variance through higher-order moments,
 2. Do not require independence among model inputs.

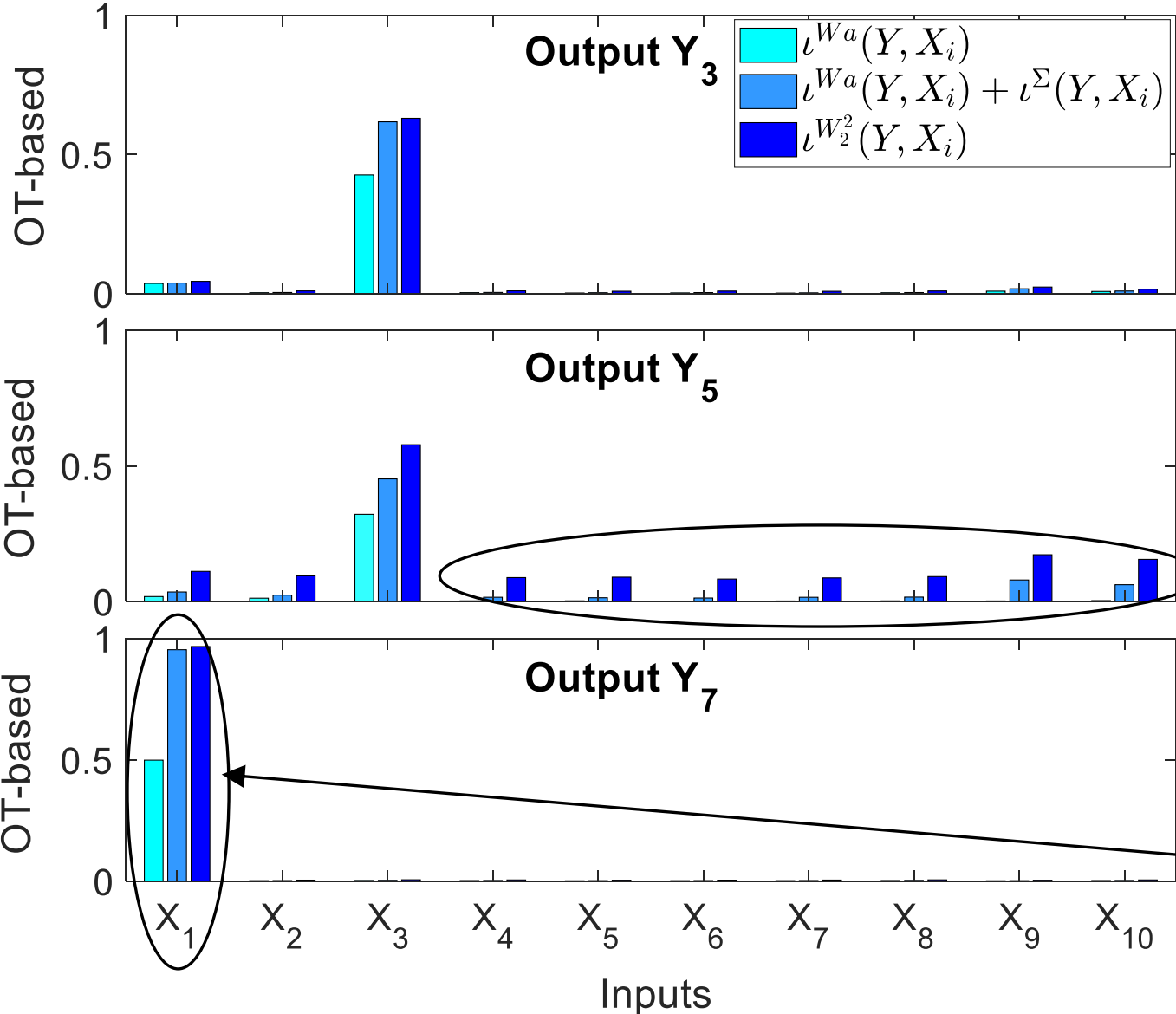


Images adapted from Cataldo et al., 2024 [1]



β^{KS} : Kolmogorov-Smirnov distance Beta [9], β^{Ku} : Kuiper distance Kappa [9]
 δ : Borgonovo Delta (Does not require independence among model inputs) [8]
 η^2 : Pearson Correlation Ratio Eta = Sobol' main index [2]

Factor prioritization: optimal transport-based (univariate case)



$$l^{W_2^2}(Y, X_i) = l^{W^a}(Y, X_i) + l^{\Sigma}(Y, X_i) + l^{\Gamma}(Y, X_i)$$

First-order main effect
(i.e., $1/2 \eta^2$)

Second-order
moment

Higher-order
moments

Main advantages:

1. Zero-independence
2. Max-functionality

Image adapted from Cataldo et al., 2024 [1]

Direction of change: opening the model's black box

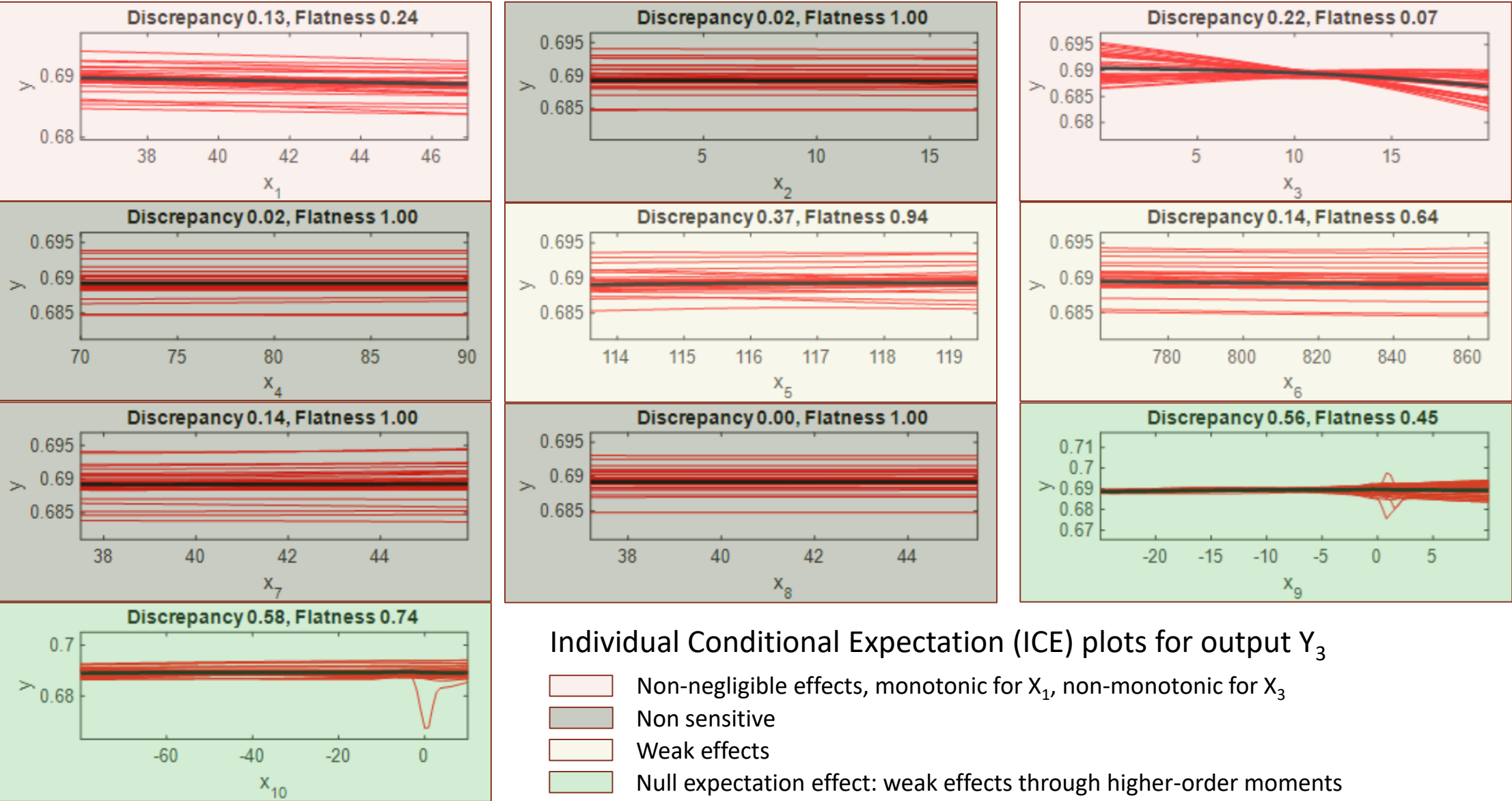
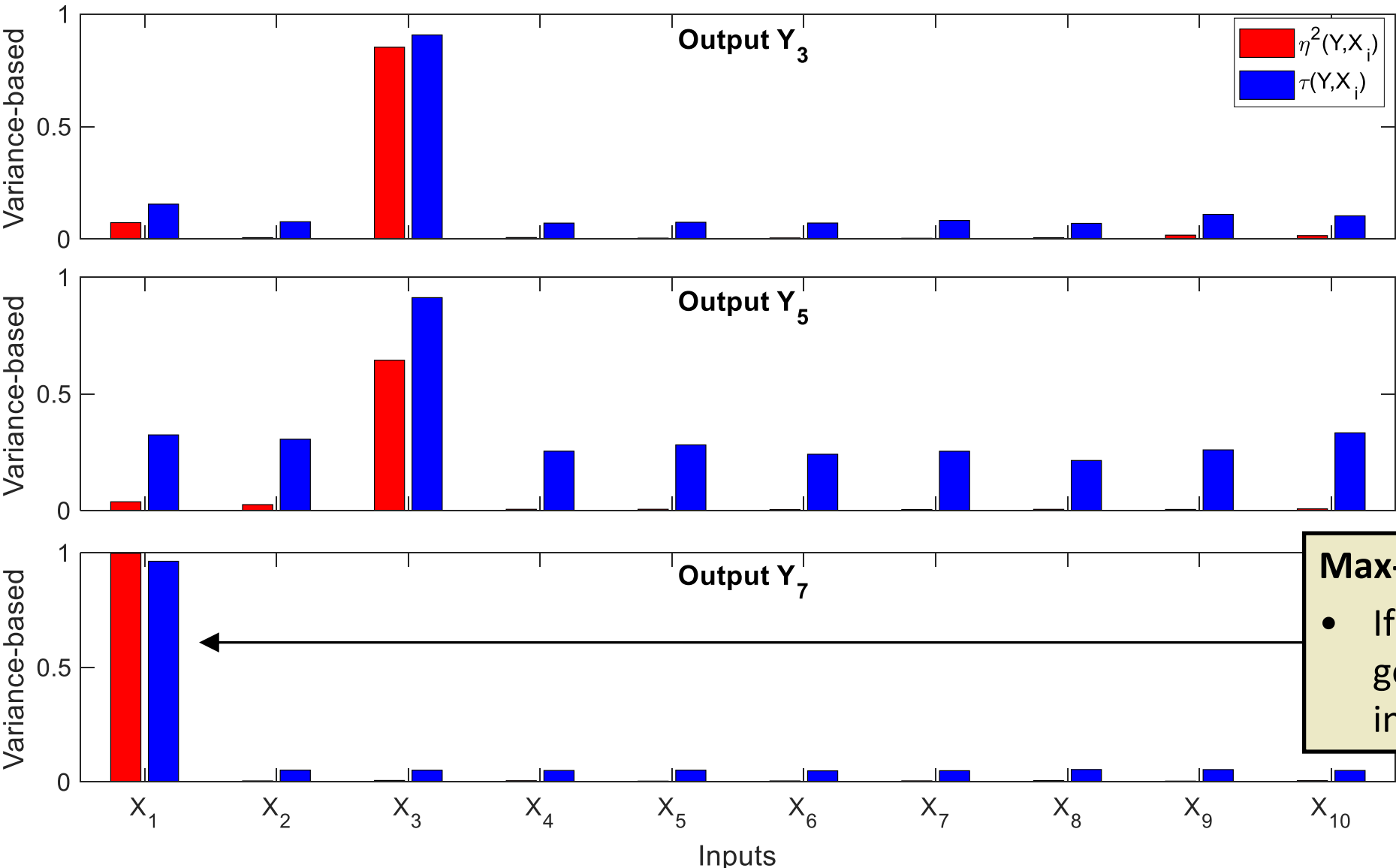


Image adapted from Cataldo et al., 2024 [1]



- Total effects τ computed through nearest-neighbor approach.
- Confirms insights from previous indices.

Max-functionality

- If all the uncertainty in X_1 goes away, the uncertainty in Y_7 also goes to zero.

Factor prioritization: optimal transport-based (multivariate case)

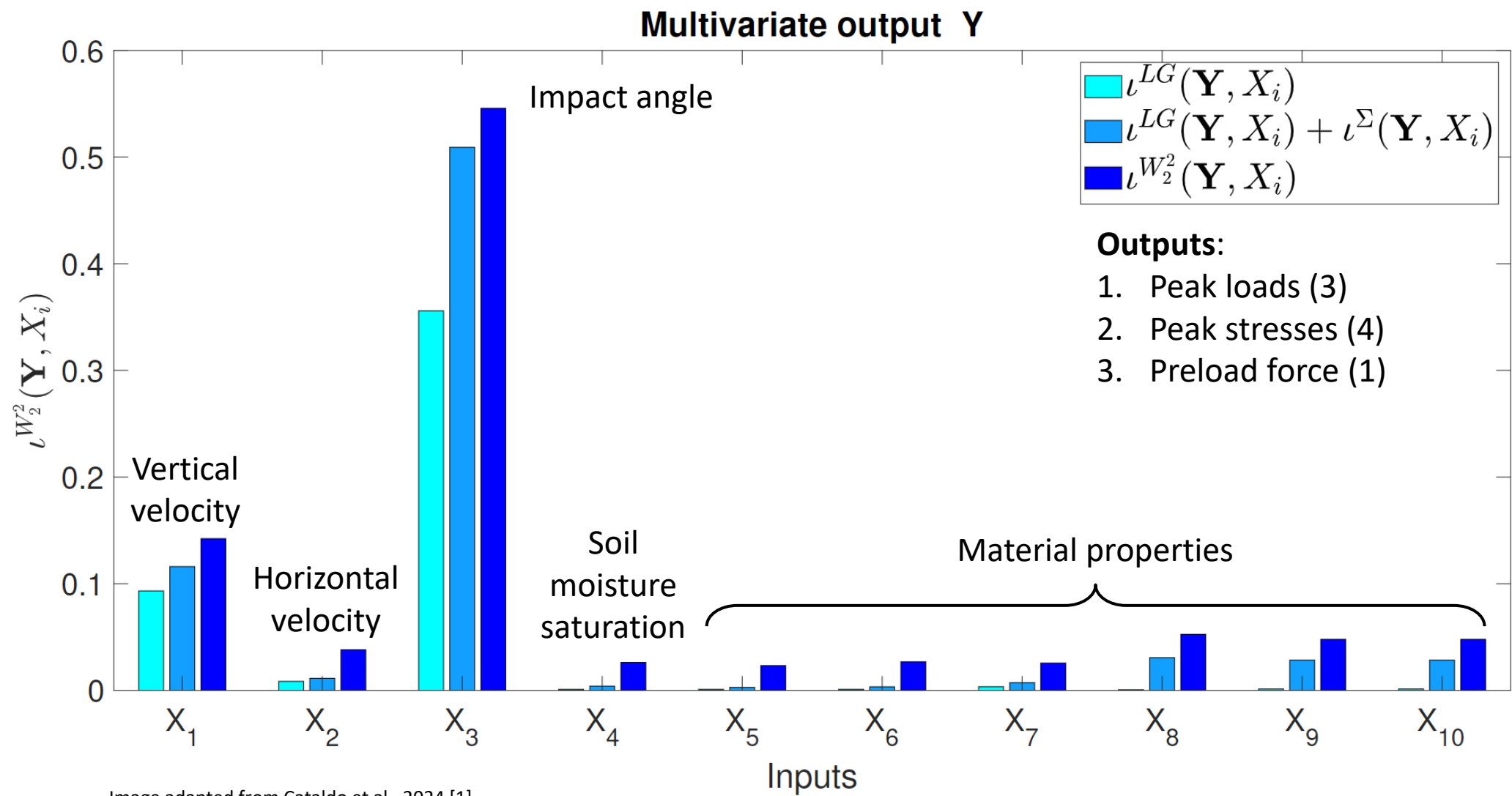


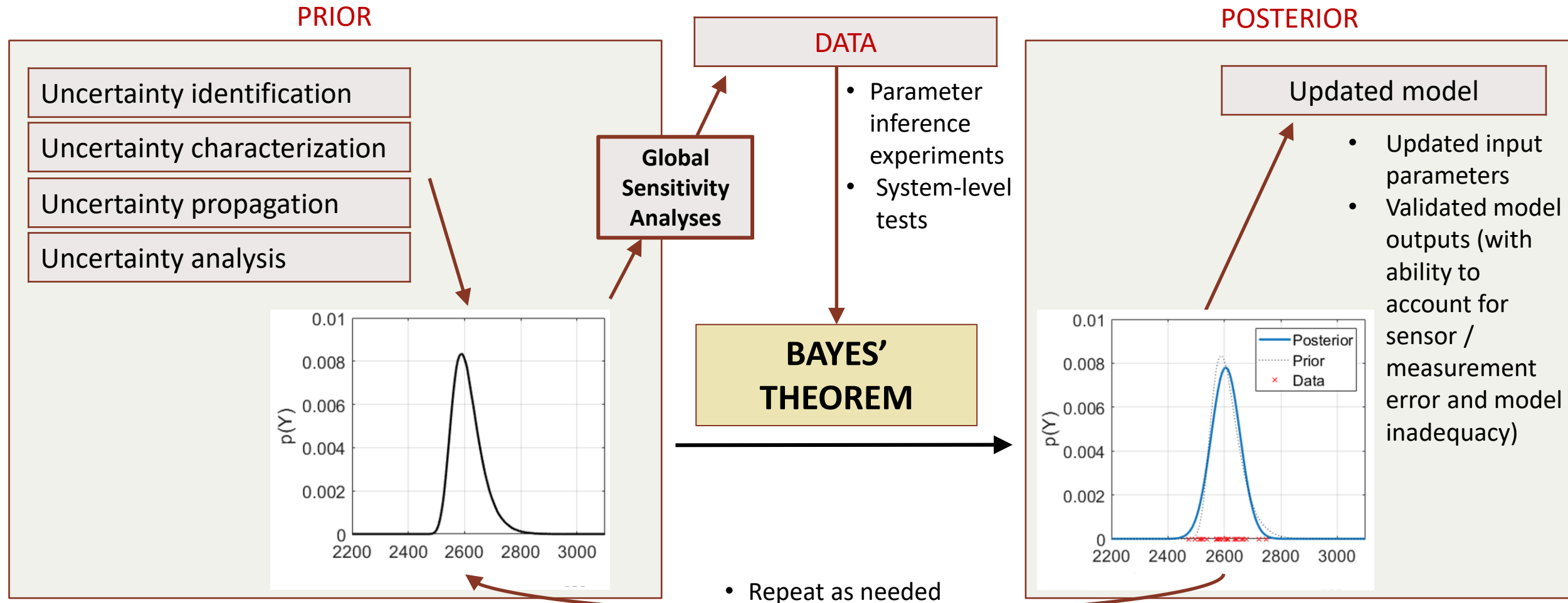
Image adapted from Cataldo et al., 2024 [1]

- Novel approach to identify overall drivers for all outputs.
- Kinematic factors are responsible for most uncertainty.
- Confirms findings from previous indices.

Proper data assimilation enables models to be dynamically updated



- GOAL:** Leverage the power of properly designed experimental data to make the models predictive (e.g., digital twin) and increase our knowledge of the system under design early in the life cycle, bringing in noticeable improvements in the decision-making process and mission success.



Use GSA to guide the decision-making process and optimize resources

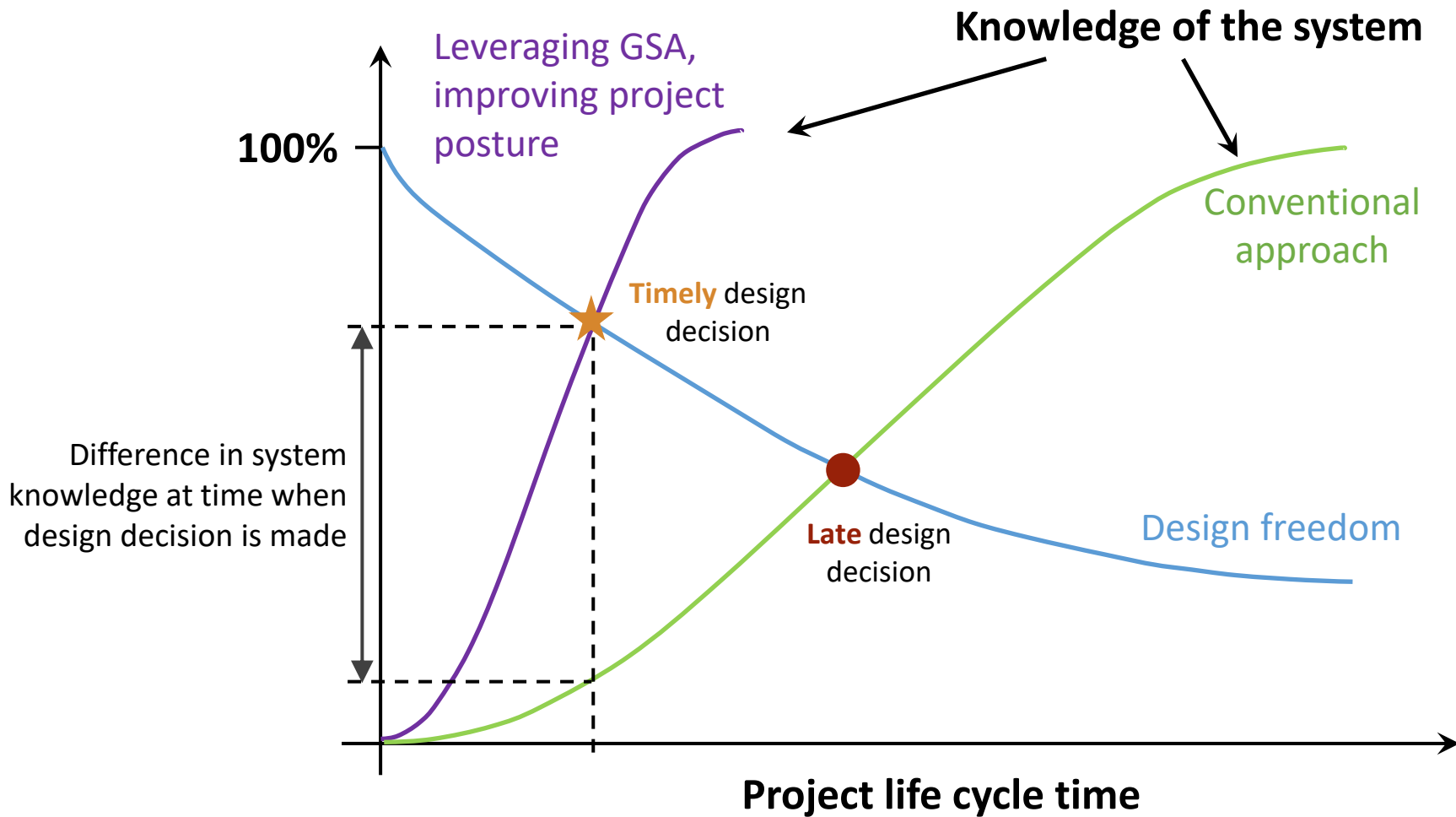


Image adapted from [13]

- Through these methodologies, **system knowledge is increased early in the life cycle** due to a systematic, rigorous approach to identifying and reducing important system uncertainties prior to system-level model validation experiments.

- This is ever more important considering that ~85% of a project's total life cycle cost is locked in by the end of preliminary design [14].

Acknowledgments

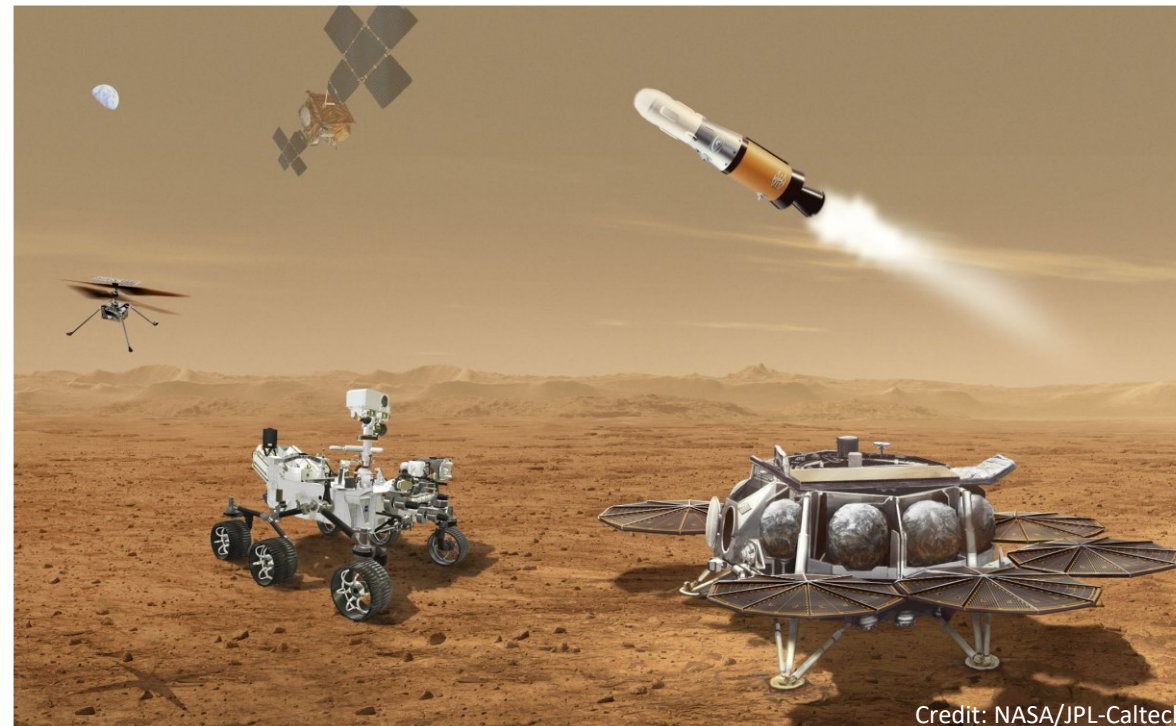


- Main collaborators:
 - Dr. Aaron Siddens Jet Propulsion Laboratory
 - Mr. Kevin Carpenter Jet Propulsion Laboratory
 - Prof. Emanuele Borgonovo Bocconi University
 - Prof. Elmar Plischke Clausthal University
 - Mr. Martin Nado ISAE-SUPAERO (former)

QUESTIONS?



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Credit: NASA/JPL-Caltech

- [1] G. Cataldo, E. Borgonovo, M. Nado, A. Siddens, K. Carpenter, E. Plischke, Global sensitivity analyses for test planning with black-boxes models for Mars Sample Return, *Oper. Res.*, submitted.
- [2] I. M. Sobol', Sensitivity estimates for nonlinear mathematical models, *Math. Model. Comput. Exp.*, **1**(4):407–414, 1993
- [3] [E. Borgonovo, E. Plischke, Sensitivity analysis: A review of recent advances, *Eur. J. Oper. Res.*, **248**\(3\):869-887, 2015](#)
- [4] E. Borgonovo, A. Figalli, E. Plischke, B. Savaré, Global Sensitivity Analysis via Optimal Transport, *Manag. Sci.*, Forthcoming.
- [5] [G. Cataldo, E. Qian, J. Auclair, Multifidelity uncertainty quantification and model validation of large-scale multidisciplinary systems, *J. Astron. Telesc. Instrum. Syst.*, **8**\(3\):038001, 2022](#)
- [6] [V. R. Joseph, E. Gul, S. Ba, Maximum projection designs for computer experiments, *Biometrika* **102**\(2\), ISSN 0006-3444, 2015](#)
- [7] [M. D. Morris, Factorial sampling plans for preliminary computational experiments, *Technometrics*, **33**\(2\):161–174, 1991](#)
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- [13] [K. Stout, Bayesian-based simulation model validation for spacecraft thermal systems, PhD thesis, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 2015](#)
- [14] J. Roskam, Airplane Design Part VIII: Airplane Cost Estimation: Design, Development, Manufacturing and Operating. DARcorporation, 1990
- And references therein!