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# Cost Risk Allocation

## Objectives, Tendencies and Limitations

**John Sandberg**

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**Joint ISPA/SCEA Conference, June 12-15, 2007**

- Los Angeles
- Washington, D.C.
- Boston
- Chantilly
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- Silver Spring
- Warner Robins AFB
- Vandenberg AFB





- **Overview**  
2-3 minutes
- **What Is Cost Risk Allocation?**  
6-10 minutes
- **Defining The Threat**  
5-8 minutes
- **Minimizing Average Budget Overrun**  
10-15 minutes
- **Minimizing Budget Overrun Semi-Variance**  
15-20 minutes
- **In Conclusion**  
2-3 minutes

## Proverb

Knowledge is better  
than blind practice.

*-Fortune Cookie*

*Lucky numbers: 7 9 23 36 41, 19*





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# What Is Cost Risk Allocation?





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# A Risk By Any Other Name



## Cost

*The price paid to acquire, produce, accomplish, or maintain anything*

Dictionary.com



## Risk

*The possibility of suffering harm or loss; danger*

American Heritage Dictionary

## Cost Risk Allocation

*A process by which costs of subordinate WBS elements are allotted such that they sum to the parent cost at the selected cost risk*

(working definition)

## Cost Risk Consequence

*The average additional cost suffered*

(working definition)

## Cost Risk

*The probability of incurring additional cost to the budget*

Dictionary.com

## Allocate

*To distribute according to a plan; allot*

American Heritage Dictionary

## Risk Dollars

*The amount of funds needed to bring the TBE value up to a selected probability level*

AFCAA CRH

## Allocate Risk Dollars

*To distribute risk dollars back to WBS elements*  
(paraphrase of presentation title of S. Book)



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# Uncertainty Is Understanding

## ■ Point Estimate Has No Context on Its Own

- How **precise** is our model?
- How likely will we beat the P.E.?
- What elements drive the **uncertainty**?

## ■ Cost Uncertainty Analysis...

- Quantifies **precision** of the model
- Identifies ranges of **likely costs**
- Reveals worrisome elements

## ■ However, Uncertainty **Doesn't** Add Up

- Accountants don't like this fact
- Managers want an answer that they understand
- Hard to compare against execution progress

## ■ Allocated Costs Add Up (just like P.E. and Mean)

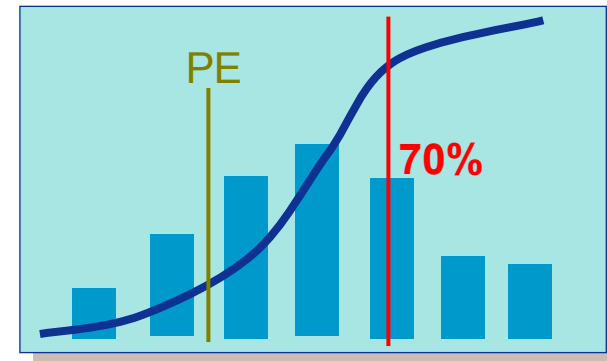
- More **statistically meaningful** than point estimate

## ■ But Beware

- **Cost risk** of elements will **change** if their cost changes
- Allocated estimate loses context of model **precision**

## ■ But What is a **Good Cost Risk Allocation Method**?

- It ultimately comes down to priorities



**Cost = \$10,235,329.88**



**Cost = \$10M - \$12M**



**\$5.2M + \$6.3M = \$11.5M**  
 @73%                      @73%                      @80%



# Priority One

## ■ First, Define What is Important: (*may conflict*)

- Minimizing overruns that may occur
- Reducing chance of a budget overrun
- Protecting important systems from failure
- Meeting schedule demands
- Identifying money flow problems
- Tracking well to EVM during execution
- Etc.

## ■ Next, Figure Out What You Can Manage:

- Identifying and mitigating risk
- Holding funds in reserve
- Schedule and scope
- Etc.

## ■ And What You Can't Manage:

- Due to legal issues (color of money)
- Due to bureaucracy (approval and reporting)
- Due to project inertia (contracts and penalties)
- Etc.

### Proverb

Digging a hole in the right place is more important than digging the hole right.







- **Our Ultimate Goal Is Project Success**
  - A good start means better chance of success
  - Helps our manager make informed decisions
- **Our Realistic Goal Is Getting WBS to Add**
  - For whatever reason...
    - ... we must capture risk dollars in line items
    - ... we cannot show a reserve line
- **A Cost Risk Allocation Scheme...**
  - ...should reliably optimize what **concerns** us
- **Cost Risk Allocation Is a **Limited** Tool**
  - **Fails to capture** important issues that impact budget viability...
    - ... schedule risk, money flow, contract vehicle, risk mitigation, etc.



**Proverb**

When all you own is a hammer  
everything looks like a nail.

Could  
our  
model  
capture  
these?

**The First Rule of Allocation**

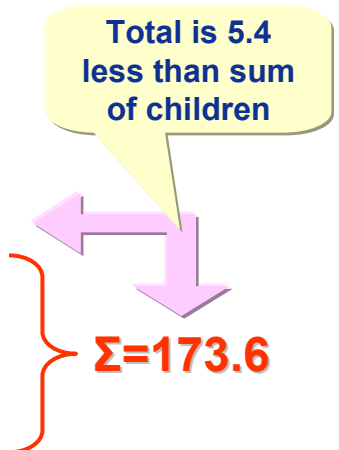
Perform cost risk allocation only when the WBS  
must sum to a budget at a specified cost risk.



# Quick Example

- **Ex: Allocate Air Vehicle for 25% Cost Risk**
  - i.e., 75% probability of being under budget
- **What is the “correct” way?**
  - **Semantically** correct as long as WBS adds up
- **Compare four methods**
  - (bad) Subtract 5.4 from largest elements
  - (bad) Subtract 1.8 from each element
  - (good) Minimize average size of cost overrun
  - (good) Minimize semi-variance (*explained later*)

Uncertainty Statistics	
WBS/CES	75.0%
Air Vehicle	168.2
Design & Dev.	34.7
Prototypes	18.6
Software	120.3



		Four Cost Risk Allocation Methods			
WBS/CES	Point Estimate	Subtract From Largest	Subtract 1.8 From Each	Average Overrun	Overrun Variance
Air Vehicle	111.5 (32%)	<b>168.2</b> (75%)	<b>168.2</b> (75%)	<b>168.2</b> (75%)	<b>168.2</b> (75%)
Design & Dev.	25.0 (25%)	34.7 (75%)	<b>32.9</b> (67%)	<b>34.0</b> (72%)	<b>29.9</b> (54%)
Prototypes	9.7 (20%)	18.6 (75%)	<b>16.8</b> (66%)	<b>18.1</b> (72%)	<b>14.6</b> (54%)
Software	76.8 (41%)	<b>114.9</b> (71%)	<b>118.5</b> (74%)	<b>116.1</b> (72%)	<b>123.7</b> (77%)





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# Defining The Threat





# Two Camps of Thought

*An overrun may be a symptom of project illness*

*threat*  $\propto$  *overrun*

*threat*  $\propto$  *overrun*<sup>2</sup>

## **The “Cost Camp”**

### ■ Do You Believe?

- Your level of **angst** increases as overrun increases
- Subsystems should meet their budget **regardless of cost**
- The **percentage** of overrun defines the **threat** of failure
- Allocation should be **proportional** to the cost **risk**

## **The “Variance Camp”**

### ■ Do You Believe?

- Your level of **angst** rapidly **accelerates** as overrun increases
- Less costly subsystems are **less important** to stay within budget
- The **dollar amount** of the overrun determines the **threat** of failure
- Allocation should be in proportion to the **square** of the cost risk

*The risk of project failure encompasses more than a cost overrun*



## Proverb

Expenses grow to fill the budget.

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## Trip To The Mall

*You give Ben and Alice each \$15 for a CD.  
How much change do you get back?*



*Ben paid \$12. Alice needs \$2 more.  
Did you overrun by \$2 or recover \$1?*



*A cost model reports that you get \$1 back.  
In our world, you need \$2 more to succeed.*



# "Overrun" Defined

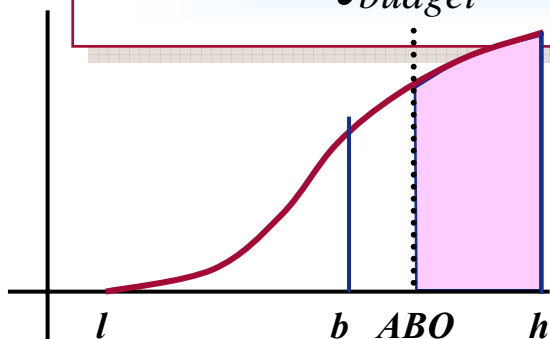
## Proposed Definitions

### Average Budget Overrun (ABO)

The cost risk consequence of a budget assigned to an element weighted by its cost risk

$$ABO = \int_{budget}^{\infty} (c - budget) f(c) dc$$

Where,  
*c* is a potential total cost  
*f(c)* is the element's PDF

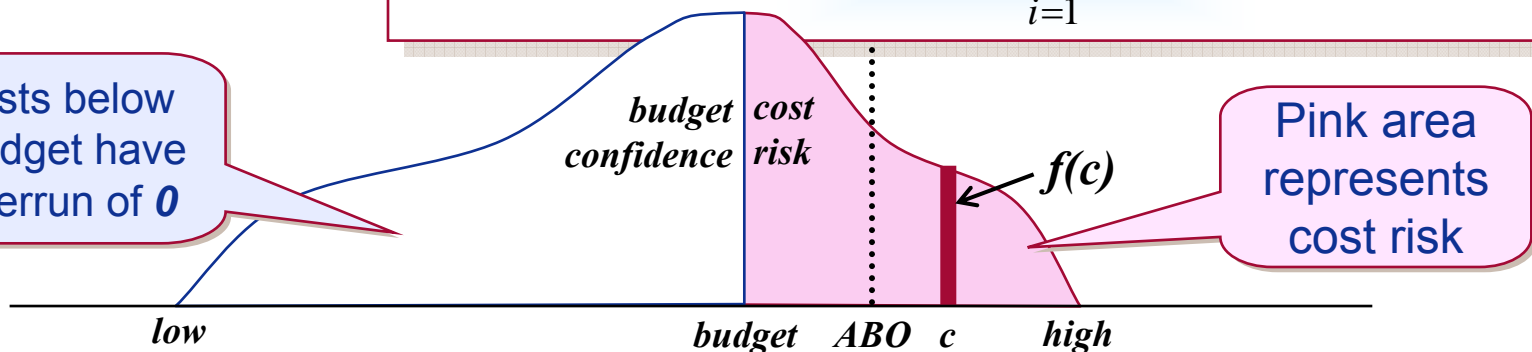


### Total Average Budget Overrun (TABO)

The cost risk consequence for a sum of elements given money from under-budget elements cannot be recovered

$$TABO = \sum_{i=1}^n ABO_i$$

All costs below the budget have an overrun of 0





# Overrun Defined (cont.)

## Proposed Definitions

### Budget Overrun Semi-Variance (BOSV)

A measure of risk consequence using the squares of each potential cost risk consequence weighted by probability of occurrence

$$BOSV = v^2 = \int_{budget}^{\infty} (c - budget)^2 f(c) du$$

Where,

$c$  is a potential total cost  
 $f(c)$  is the element's PDF

### Total Budget Overrun Semi-Variance (TBOSV)

A measure of risk consequence for a sum of elements including the impact of pairwise correlations among elements

$$TBOSV = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \rho_{i,j} \sqrt{BOSV_i BOSV_j}$$

Where,

$\rho_{ij}$  is the correlation between  $i$  and  $j$   
 $\rho$  represents a full correlation matrix  
BOSV is Budget Overrun Semi-Variance

Look familiar?  
Analogous to  
variance.

$$\sigma^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n \sigma_i^2 + 2 \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \sum_{j=i+1}^n \rho_{i,j} \sigma_i \sigma_j$$

Where,

$\rho_{ij}$  is the correlation between  $i$  and  $j$   
 $\sigma^2$  represents the variance for  $i$



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# Minimizing Average Cost Overrun

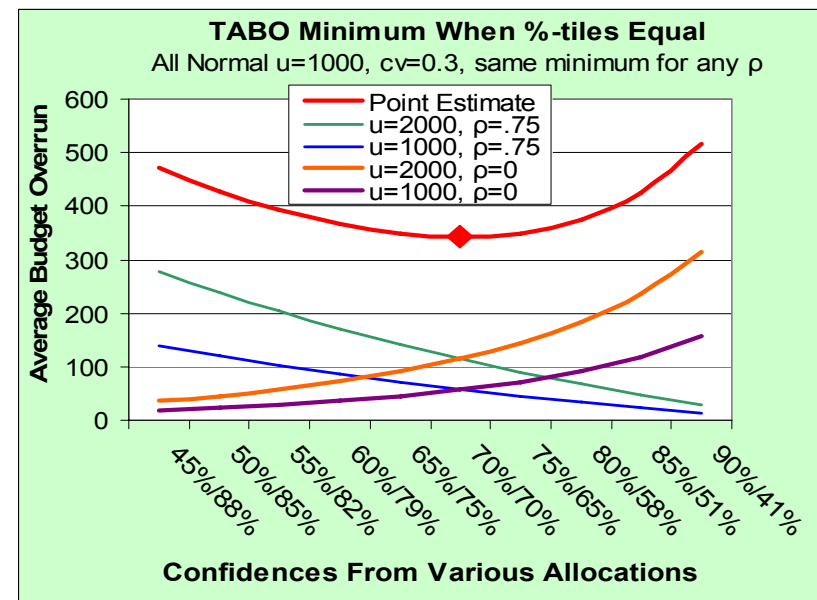
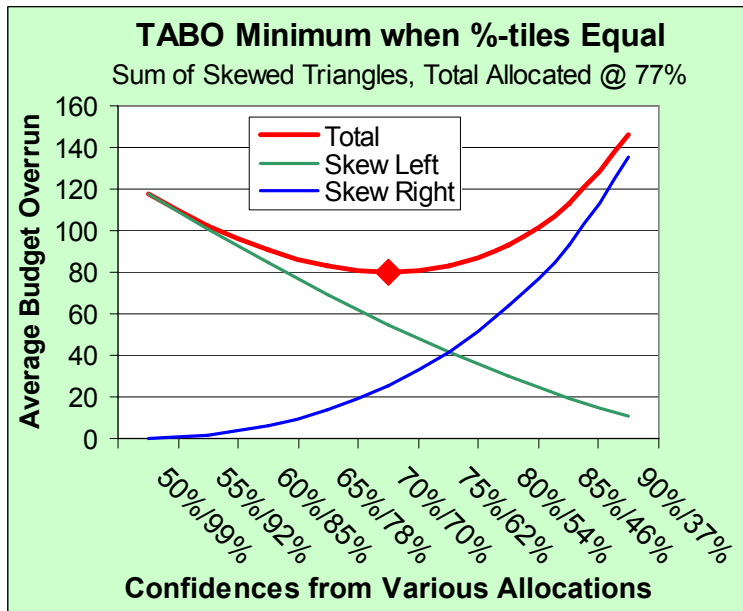






# Simulation Results

- **Charts show simulation results for sum of skewed and sum of correlated elements**
  - The total budget was 2370 (*77%-tile*) & 6945 (*81%-tile*) for respective charts, TABO plotted
  - The uncertainty levels of A, B were altered by *increments of 5%* and ABO plotted
  - The uncertainty levels for C, D also displayed on X-axis for reference and ABO plotted
  - The total average budget overrun was plotted for each pair of element confidence levels
- **Result: Total average budget overrun was minimum when element confidences were equal**



WBS	Distribution	Low	Mode	High	Allocated	Alloc %-Tile
Total					2370	77%
Skew Left	Triangular	1000	2000	2000	1450	70%
Skew Right	Triangular	1000	1000	2000	920	70%

WBS	Distribution	Mean	CV	Allocated	Alloc %-Tile
Total		4000		6945	81%
A (Cor w/ B)	Normal	1000	0.2	2315	70%
B (Cor w/ A)	Normal	1000	0.2	1158	70%
C (Ind.)	Normal	1000	0.2	2315	70%
D (Ind.)	Normal	1000	0.2	1158	70%



# Peanut Butter

## Optimizing the “Cost Camp” Way...

- **When Allocating to Minimize the Total’s Average Budget Overrun...**
  - ...everything is already captured in the uncertainty statistics...
  - ...so don’t worry about integrating additional measures into method

### Minimal Total Average Budget Overrun

Allocate so that all elements receiving funds end up at the same confidence level.

Negative Correlation?

- **The Only Decisions to Make Are...**

- Where to **allocate from** – this should be where you can **manage funds**
- Where to **allocate to** – usually the **lowest level** WBS you are **reporting**
  - Also reasonable to allocate to **immediate children** and work up the WBS
- How **precise** to be with uncertainty levels (*why is explained later*)
  - About **±1% is fine** – after that round and report

i.e. move money around WBS



# Allocation Destination

## ■ Determine...

- ... WBS detail to report
- ... Where to allocate from
  - i.e., where you manage funds
- ... Where to allocate to
  - i.e., who is adjusted

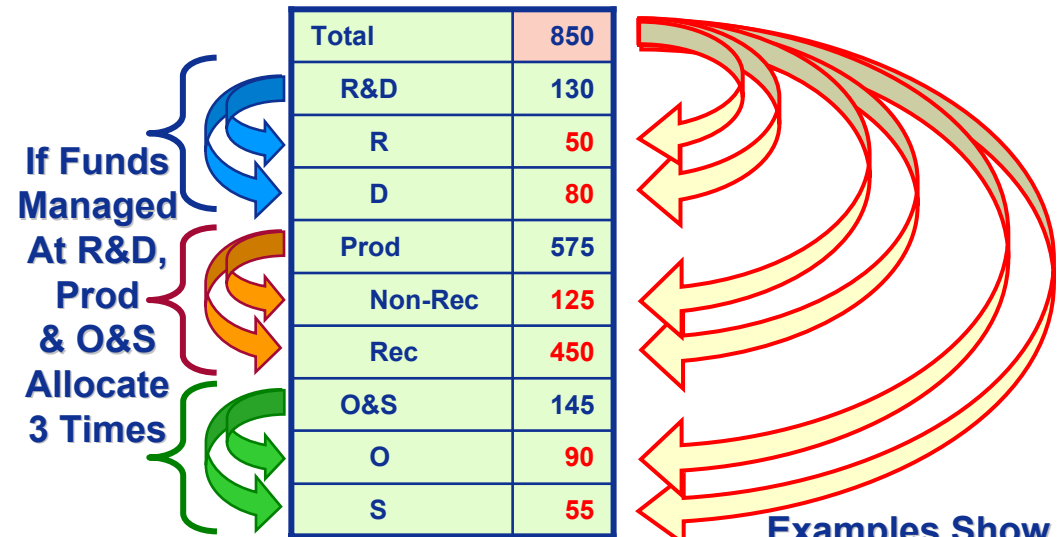
## Multi-Tier Allocation Options:

### ■ 1) Allocate to lowest WBS

- And then sum up WBS
- ↑ One step process is easier to implement
- ↓ Mid-WBS values change if level of detail changes

### ■ 2) Allocate down WBS

- Allocate from total to immediate children
- And then, allocate from child to its grandchildren, etc.
- ↑ Keeps values consistent if report detail changes
- ↓ More steps to perform



**Examples Show Funds Managed At Total**

Total	850
R&D	126
R	46
D	80
Prod	524
Non-Rec	128
Rec	456
O&S	145
O	90
S	148



# TABO Calculation

## Adjusting Once for Tot. Ave. Budget Overrun:

(Easy to do and results close to optimal)

$$\mathit{delta} = \mathit{budget}_{\mathit{total}} - \sum_{i=1}^n \mathit{cost}_i$$

$$\mathit{budget}_i = \mathit{cost}_i + \mathit{delta} \frac{\sigma_i}{\sum_{j=1}^n \sigma_j}$$

Where,

$\mathit{budget}_{\mathit{total}}$  is the target cost for total for desired cost risk

$\mathit{cost}_i$  is row  $i$ 's cost with the same cost risk as  $\mathit{budget}_{\mathit{total}}$

$\mathit{delta}$  is the amount to distribute among rows

$\mathit{budget}_i$  is the new, adjusted cost for row  $i$  after allocation

$\sigma_i$  is the standard deviation of row  $i$

Replace  $\sigma$  for the *square root of BOSV* if you feel like calculating it

## Recursive Formula:

(For penny pinchers)

$$\mathit{pct}_0 = F_T(\mathit{budget}_{\mathit{total}})$$

$$\mathit{cost}_{r,i} = F_r^{-1}(\mathit{pct}_i)$$

$$\mathit{delta}_i = \mathit{budget}_{\mathit{total}} - \sum_{r=1}^n \mathit{cost}_{r,i}$$

$$\mathit{budget}_{r,i+1} = \mathit{cost}_{r,i} + \frac{\mathit{delta}_i \sigma_r}{\sum_{j=1}^n \sigma_j}$$

$$\mathit{pct}_{i+1} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{r=1}^n F_r(\mathit{budget}_{r,i+1})$$

Where,

$\mathit{budget}_{\mathit{total}}$  is the desired total cost

$\mathit{pct}_i$  is percentile of the rows to sum

$\mathit{delta}_i$  is the amount to distribute

$\mathit{cost}_{r,i}$  is the cost for row  $r$  at  $\mathit{conf}_i$

$\sigma_r$  is the standard deviation of row  $r$

$F_r(\mathit{v})$  is the CDF for row  $r$

$F_T(\mathit{v})$  is the CDF for the total

$F_r^{-1}(\mathit{c})$  is the inverse CDF for row  $r$



# TABO Example

## Calculation Example When Allocating to Lowest Reported WBS Level:

- Step 1: Pick cost risk of 25% (75%-tile)= \$608.94M (*this assumes we manage funds at total*)
- Step 2: Choose where to allocate to... 3<sup>rd</sup> level WBS elements (*lowest reported level*)
- Step 3: Calculate *delta*: Sum at @ 75% = 625.98 - *budget* = -17.04
- Step 4: Prorate *delta* for each element weighted by standard deviation (*or TABO*)
- Step 5: Determine confidence levels for each element's cost
- Step 6: If percentiles aren't close enough, use the weighted mean of the new levels as your next percentile,  $pct_{i+1}$ , and then return to step 3. (*Twice through is sufficient*)

WBS/CES	75% -Tile	Std Dev	Calculate Adjustment	Allocated	New %-Tiles
Total (\$M)	\$608.94			\$608.94	75.0%
Procurement	\$385.66			\$393.92	75.2%
Manufacturing (Air Force)	\$272.67	\$ 68.80	$-17 * 69 / 188 = -6.24$	\$266.43	72.2%
Ground Station LRIP Support	\$0.88	\$ 0.25	$-17 * 0.25 / 188 = -0.02$	\$0.86	72.7%
Transportation (AF)	\$2.00	\$ 0.57	$-17 * 0.57 / 188 = -0.05$	\$1.95	72.7%
Manufacturing (Army)	\$125.87	\$ 29.59	$-17 * 29 / 188 = -2.68$	\$123.19	72.2%
Transportable Ground Stations	\$0.91	\$ 0.24	$-17 * 0.24 / 188 = -0.02$	\$0.89	72.5%
Transportation (Army)	\$0.60	\$0.00	$-17 * 0 / 188 = -0.00$	\$0.60	
Quality Control	\$10.78	\$ 4.27	$-17 * 4.3 / 188 = -0.39$	\$10.39	72.7%
SEPM	\$212.27	\$ 84.14	$-17 * 84 / 188 = -7.64$	\$204.63	72.5%
<b>SUM OF CHILDREN (\$M)</b>	<b>\$625.98</b>	<b>\$187.86</b>	<b>-\$17.04 to distribute</b>	<b>\$608.94</b>	<b>75.0%</b>

Close  
Enough



# TABO Step Down

## ■ Calculation Example when Stepping Down WBS:

- Step 1: Pick project budget = \$608.9M (75% percentile)
- Step 2: Allocate budget for 1<sup>st</sup> Level to 2<sup>nd</sup> level WBS items (*its immediate children*)
  - Step 2-1: Calculate  $\delta_1$ : Sum at @ 75% = 616.6 +  $\text{budget}_1$  of 608.9 = -7.7
  - Step 2-2: Prorate  $\delta_1$  for each element weighted by standard deviation (or BOSV<sup>1/2</sup>)
  - Step 2-3: If percentiles aren't close enough, use weight mean of percentiles and repeat step 2
- Step 3: Take allocated budget for each 2<sup>nd</sup> level WBS element and allocate to 3<sup>rd</sup> level
  - Repeat steps 2-1 through 2-3 for each 2<sup>nd</sup> level  $\text{budget}_2$ , using  $\text{budget}_2$  - sum of children @73.7%
- Step 4: If report contains 4th+ level WBS, Repeat step 3 for elements @ each level

WBS/CES	75% -Tile	Std Dev	2 <sup>nd</sup> Level WBS Adjustment	Apply to 2 <sup>nd</sup> Level	%-Tiles	3 <sup>rd</sup> Level WBS Adjustment	Allocated	%-Tiles
Total (\$M)	\$608.9			\$608.9	75.0%		\$608.9	75.0%
Procurement	\$393.5	\$ 86.0	$-7.7*86/174 = -3.8$	\$389.7	73.7%		\$389.7	73.7%
Manufacturing (AF)	\$272.7	\$ 68.8		\$269.8	73.7%	$-8.9*69/99 = -6.2$	\$263.6	71.0%
Ground Station LRIP	\$0.88	\$ 0.3		\$0.87	73.7%	$-8.9*0.3/99 = -0.02$	\$0.85	71.4%
Transportation (AF)	\$2.00	\$ 0.6		\$1.97	73.7%	$-8.9*0.6/99 = -0.05$	\$1.92	71.4%
Manufacturing (Army)	\$125.9	\$ 29.6		\$124.5	73.7%	$-8.9*30/99 = -2.7$	\$121.8	71.0%
Transportable Stations	\$0.91	\$ 0.2		\$0.90	73.7%	$-8.9*0.2/99 = -0.02$	\$0.88	71.4%
Transportation (Army)	\$0.60	\$0.0		\$0.60			\$0.60	
Quality Control	\$10.8	\$ 4.3	$-7.7*4.3/174 = -0.2$	\$10.6	74.1%		\$10.6	74.1%
SEPM	\$212.3	\$ 84.1	$-7.7*84/174 = -3.7$	\$208.6	73.8%		\$208.6	73.8%
<b>SUM OF CHILDREN (\$M)</b>	<b>\$616.6</b>	<b>\$174.4</b>	<b>Distribute \$-7.7</b>	<b>\$396.8</b>	<b><math>\Sigma\sigma=99.5</math></b>	<b>Distribute \$-8.9</b>	<b>\$608.9</b>	<b>75.0%</b>





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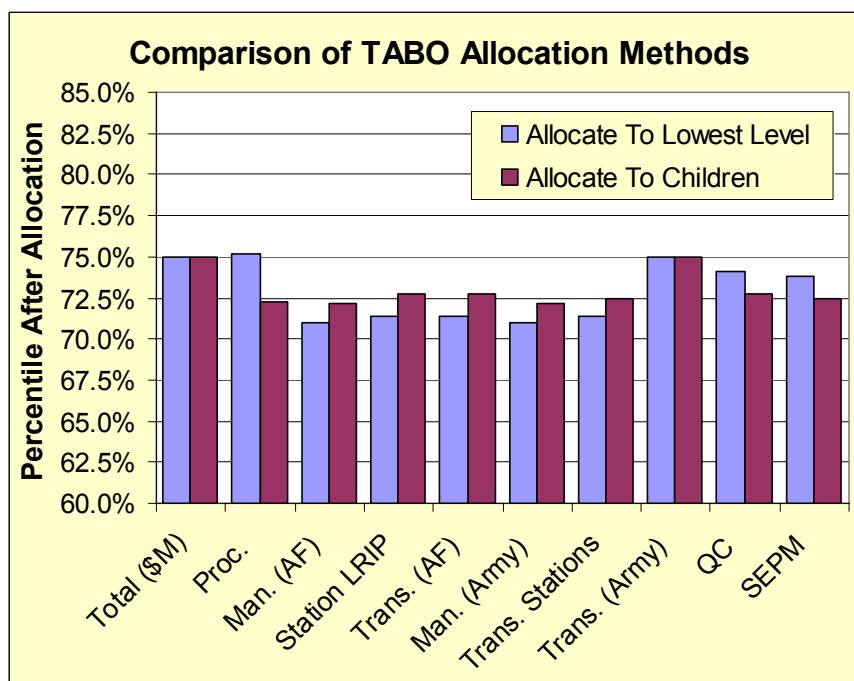
# TABO Side By Side

## Cost Risk Allocation To Lowest WBS Level

Allocated	%-Tiles
\$608.9	75.0%
\$389.7	75.2%
\$263.6	71.0%
\$0.85	71.4%
\$1.92	71.4%
\$121.8	71.0%
\$0.88	71.4%
\$0.60	
\$10.6	74.1%
\$208.6	73.8%

## Cost Risk Allocation To Immediate Children

Allocated	%-Tiles
\$608.94	75.0%
\$393.92	72.3%
\$266.43	72.2%
\$0.86	72.7%
\$1.95	72.7%
\$123.19	72.2%
\$0.89	72.5%
\$0.60	
\$10.39	72.7%
\$204.63	72.5%





# Lather, Rinse, Repeat?

## How Many Times Should We Iterate?

- **Once, usually; otherwise, twice**
  - Don't sweat the 0.001%-tile of confidence!
  - Too much precision is **misleading**...
  - If you allocate to the **penny**, it implies the estimate is **very precise**.
  - *Example: Guess the precision of these estimates: \$255,359.25 vs. \$250,000*
- **I *humbly* suggest that two values are essentially the same...**
  - ...at the 2<sup>nd</sup> significant figure of standard deviation or 1% of confidence
- **I *humbly* suggest that you round at the **second** digit of standard deviation\***
  - *Example: Cost is \$2359.25,  $\sigma$  is \$238.77... thus, report \$2360 with  $\sigma$  of \$240*
  - Or round at **first digit** of the difference between values 1% confidence apart
  - *Example: Cost is \$268.36 @73%-tile and \$265.95 @ 72%-tile...*
    - *...difference is 2.38... thus, report cost @73%-tile as \$268*
  - Rounding at these positions retains an extra digit of padding for precision

### Proverb

To err is human,  
to measure it divine.

### My Suggestion for Rounding

Round to the 2<sup>nd</sup> digit of the deviation after all intermediate calculations are complete.

\* Examples at NIST Physical Constants web site<sup>[2]</sup>



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# Minimizing Overrun Semi-Variance



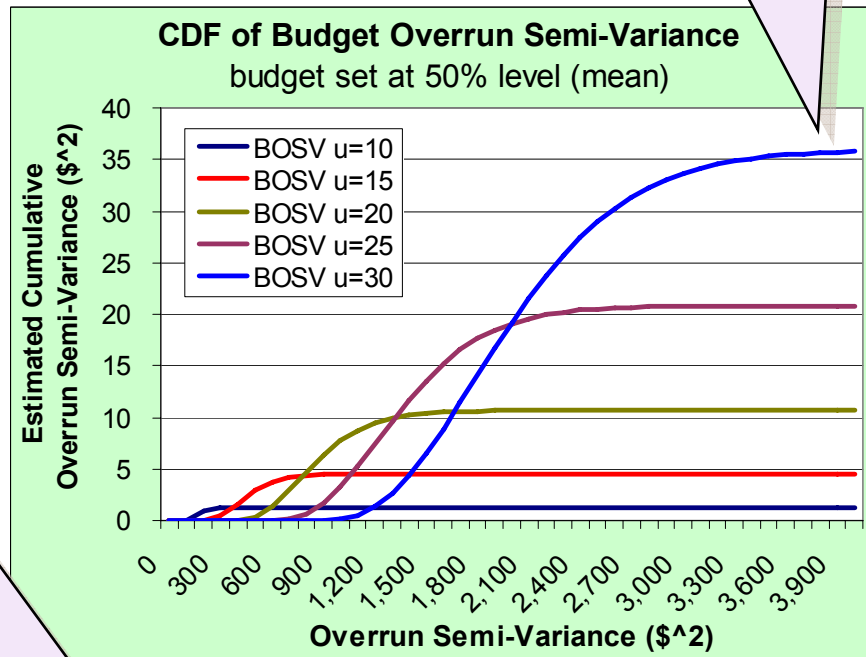
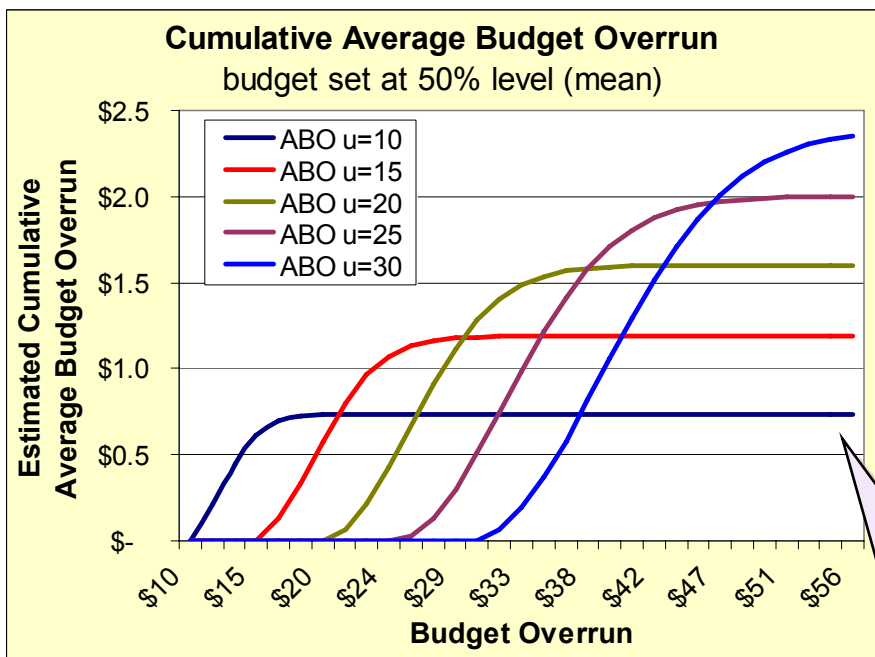


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# TABO vs. TBOSV

- **Total Budget Overrun Semi-Variance Is *Tough to Visualize***
  - The charts below compare “Average” vs. “Semi-Variance”
  - “average overrun” progresses linearly as mean increases
  - “overrun variance” progresses at a rate of  $R^2$  as overrun increases

**3x the cost receives  
9x the weighting**



**Heights represent  
element weightings**

Mean	SD
\$10	\$3
\$15	\$5
\$20	\$6
\$25	\$8
\$30	\$9

Mean	SD
\$10	\$3
\$15	\$5
\$20	\$6
\$25	\$8
\$30	\$9



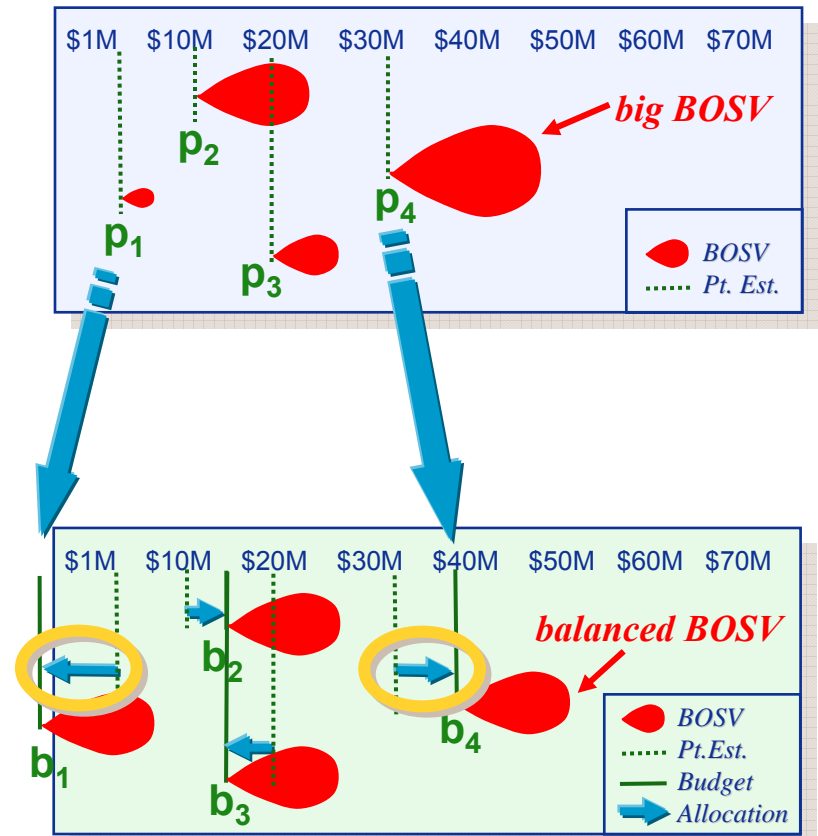
# Overrun Semi-Variance

## Optimizing the “Variance Camp” Way...

- **Elements with large risk consequence have disproportionate importance**
  - Argument goes that we should protect them
  - Since we are dealing with variance, we must take correlation into account
- **Behavior of Optimal Solution**
  - A budget,  $B$ , such that the total budget overrun semi-variance (TBOSV),  $v_{total}^2$ , is minimal.
  - All things being equal, we would want equal  $v_k$
  - Desired BOSV decreases as element’s correlation to other elements increases
  - The method begins to resemble “cost camp” method as more and more correlations increase

## Unfortunately...

- **The Optimal Solution is Not Viable**
  - Elements with small BOSV could move dramatically—potentially outside valid bounds
  - Tough math to solve, too.
- **How to Stay Within Distribution Bounds?**
  - Put limits on elements’ ranges of movement
  - Or, we can “anchor” our solution to something
    - Larger variances move further from “anchor”
    - Smaller variances remain near “anchor”





# "Needs\*" Somewhere To Start

## ■ "Allocating risk dollars back to WBS elements\*" - a.k.a. the "Needs" Method

- Offers a scheme for the "Variance Camp" to reduce budget overrun semi-variance when allocating
- It uses PE as an "anchor" and distributes "risk dollars" to elements

NOT RECOMMENDED

$$b_k = pe_k + Risk\$ \sum_{i=1}^n \left( \frac{\rho_{ik} Need_i Need_k}{\sum_{j=1}^n \rho_{ij} Need_i Need_j} \right)$$

Where,

$C$  is the probability level of the total budget

$b_k$  is the allocated cost (budget line)

$pe_k$  is the initial estimate for element  $k$

$Risk\$ = F_T^{-1}(C) - pe_T$  is the total "at-risk" money to distribute

$Need_k = F_k^{-1}(C) - pe_k$  when  $F_k(pe_k) < C$ ; otherwise  $Need_k = 0$

$\rho_{ij}$  is the correlation of elements  $i$  and  $j$  (full correlation matrix)

$F^{-1}(C)$  is inverse distribution function (returns cost at %-tile  $C$ )

Definition for  
 $Need_k$  in Question

## ■ Issues with "Needs":

- Less risky (*left skew*) rows are subsidized, harming budgets for more risky (*right skew*) rows
- Undo burden to rows with  $Need > 0$  which can potentially send small BOSV below their 0%-tile
- $Need$  is analogous to semi-variance, yet an element's  $Need$  changes with changes in cost risk
- At higher cost risk, costs lose their "bolstering" from associations with elements with  $Need=0$
- Method does not produce a solution at when all elements'  $Need=0$

## ■ The problem is with what is being minimized

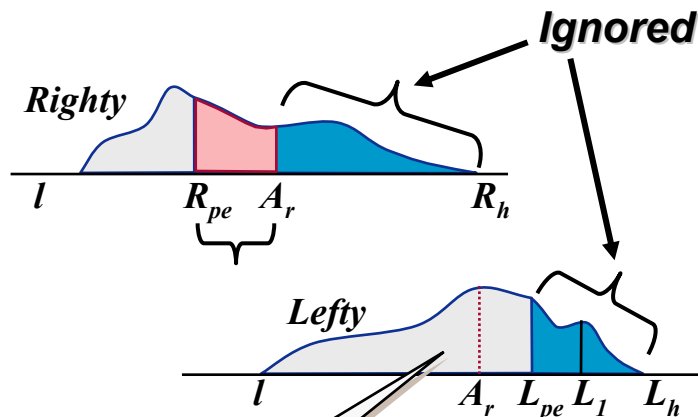
\* "Allocating Risk Dollars Back to WBS Elements" Presentation, Stephen A. Book<sup>[4]</sup>





# "Needs" Are A Changin'

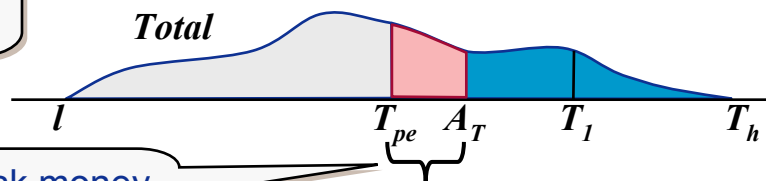
- Why is the equation " $Need_k = 0$ " so troublesome?
- In "Needs," only measures the range between PE and target percentile
  - Ignores cost risk above the target percentile (thus most of the budget's cost risk)
  - In fact, an element's measure of contribution could go away completely
- As long as our "anchor" doesn't move neither should our element's contribution



Proof that a row contributes to total's cost risk at any target probability level  
 "Risk" is defined as the distribution above PE  
 Let, Lefty + Righty = Total  
 Choose a percentile C such that  $F(L_{pe}) > C$  and  $F(R_{pe}) < C$   
 Since  $F(L_{pe}) > C$ , thus  $Need_L = 0$   
 Assume, Lefty's cost risk does not contribute to total's cost risk above  $A_T$   
 The total's cost risk is defined in the range  $[A_T, L_h + R_h]$   
 If  $L_{pe} < L_h$ , then some total value  $T_1 > A_T$  exists where  $T_1 = L_1 + R_h$ , and  $L_1 > L_{pe}$ ,  
 $T_1$  is part of total's cost risk, thus  $L_1$  contributes to total's cost risk  
 However, a  $Need = 0$  assumes the contribution to "risk" is 0  
 Therefore  $Need_L$  must be  $> 0$  whenever  $L_{pe} < L_h$

Contributes no cost risk?

Risk money to allocate



Proverb ~~variance~~  
 The only constant is change.



# Intro To "New Needs"

## The "New Needs" Method...

### ■ Apply Two Alterations

- Replace fluctuating *Need* with a **constant** measure,  $v$
- Do not set *Need* ( $v$ ) to zero

Proverb,  
using  
The ends justify the means.

### ■ Standard Deviation, $\sigma$ , Won't Work For $v$ Since It is a Symmetrical Measure

- We want to estimate the BOSV, which lies to the **right** of the target budget
- $\sigma$  **underestimates** the consequence for elements whose distributions are **skewed** to the right

### ■ For $v^2$ , I recommend Using **Positive Semi-Variance (PSV)**, $\sigma_+^2$

- It is a constant measure that takes distribution skew into account & offers a rough BOSV metric
- There are a number of ways to estimate PSV if you cannot calculate it directly

$$b_k = anchor_k + delta \frac{\sum_{j=1}^n \rho_{k,j} v_k v_j}{\sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \rho_{i,j} v_i v_j}$$

$$v = \sigma_{+,k} = \sqrt{c_k \sum_{i=1}^s (x_i - \mu_k)^2}, \text{ for } x_i > \mu_k$$

where,

$b_k$  is the allocated cost (budget line)

$anchor_k$  is anchor point for element  $k$

$delta$  is the amount to distribute among elements

$\sigma_{+,k}$  is the square root of the PSV

$\rho_{ij}$  is the (full) correlation of elements  $i$  and  $j$

where,

$x_{i,k}$  is a point in element  $k$ 's random variable,  $X_k$

$s$  is the number of data points in  $X$

$c_k$  is the confidence level of the mean,  $\mu_k$



# Example Session

## Six element example model with correlation\*

Example Session						
WBS/CES	Pt. Est.	PE %-tile	Mean	Std Dev	95%-tile	Semi-Variance
Air Vehicle	\$333,396	15%	\$411,798	\$74,435	\$545,604	
Payload	\$11,416	14%	\$14,590	\$3,006	\$19,962	7,214,596
Propulsion	\$16,271	17%	\$20,496	\$4,499	\$28,744	17,007,376
Airframe	\$112,250	49%	\$116,277	\$26,776	\$165,003	593,555,769
Guidance	\$186,979	15%	\$251,304	\$61,745	\$366,670	3,327,328,489
IAT&C	\$6,480	9%	\$9,130	\$2,163	\$13,198	4,137,156

Correlation Matrix					
WBS/CES	Payload	Propulsion	Airframe	Guidance	I, A, T & C
Payload	1	0.32	0.32	0.21	0.33
Propulsion	0.32	1	0.25	0.17	0.15
Airframe	0.32	0.25	1	0.19	0.12
Guidance	0.21	0.17	0.19	1	0.18
I, A, T & C	0.33	0.15	0.12	0.18	1

We can estimate the semi-variance using a simple formula:

$$\sigma_+^2 \approx \frac{(high - \mu)^2}{4} \approx \frac{(cost_{95\%} - \mu)^2}{4}$$

More ways to estimate at end of presentation

\* "Air Vehicle Production Sub-WBS From AFCAA CRH Example<sup>[5]</sup>



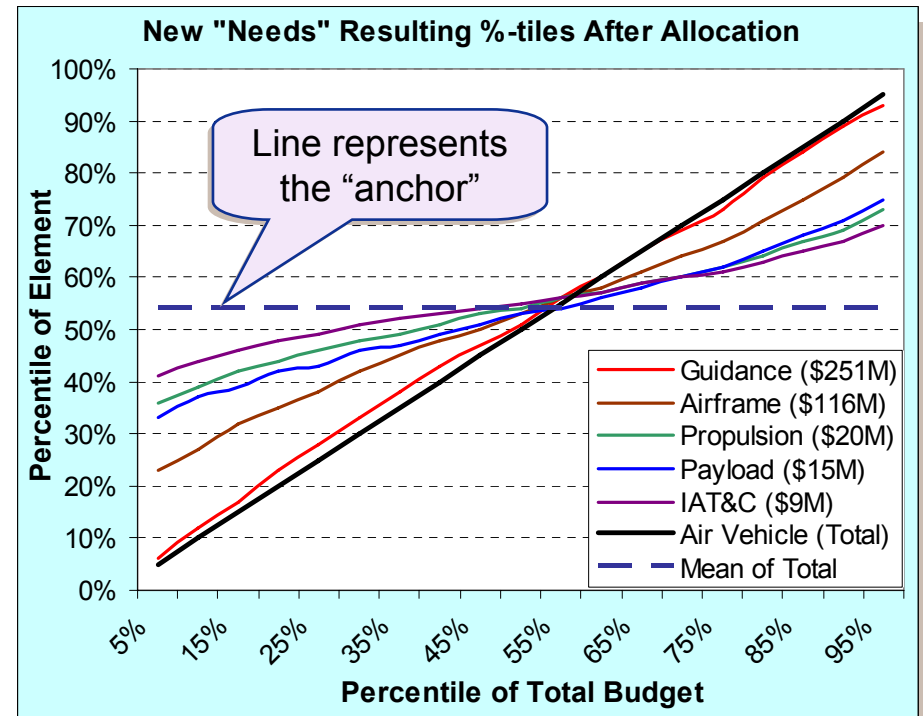
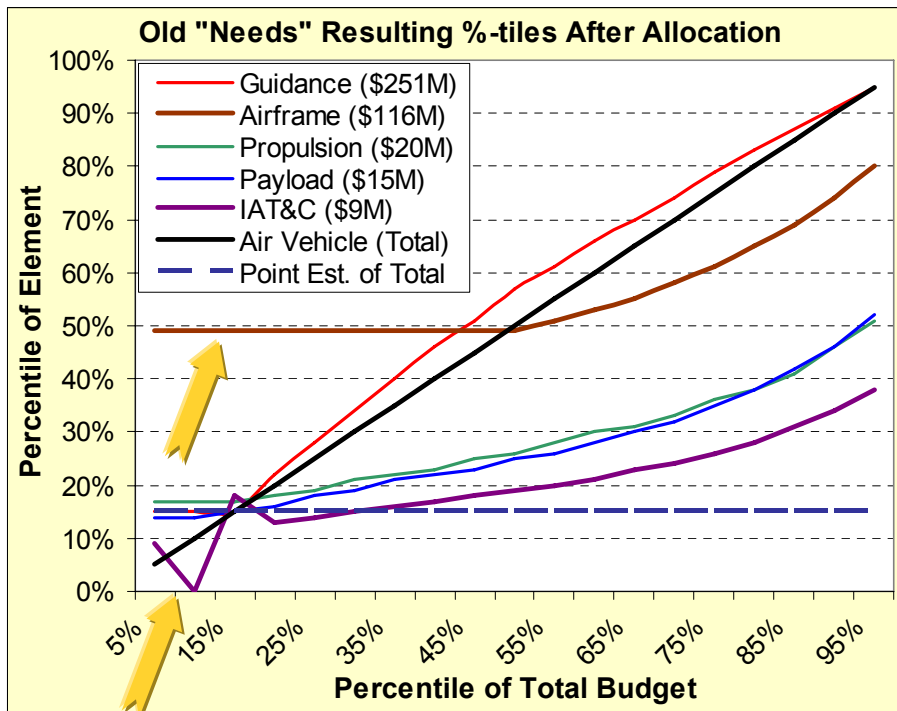
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# "Needs" Comparison vs. Mean

## ■ Comparison of Resulting Percentiles After Allocation Performed

- Chart shows "New Needs" offers more stability than "Old Needs"
- Anchoring at the mean offers "symmetry" for allocating at low and high percentiles

**Scenario uses mean ( $\mu$ ) as anchor:**  $delta = budget_T - \mu_T$





# "Needs" Comparison vs P.E.

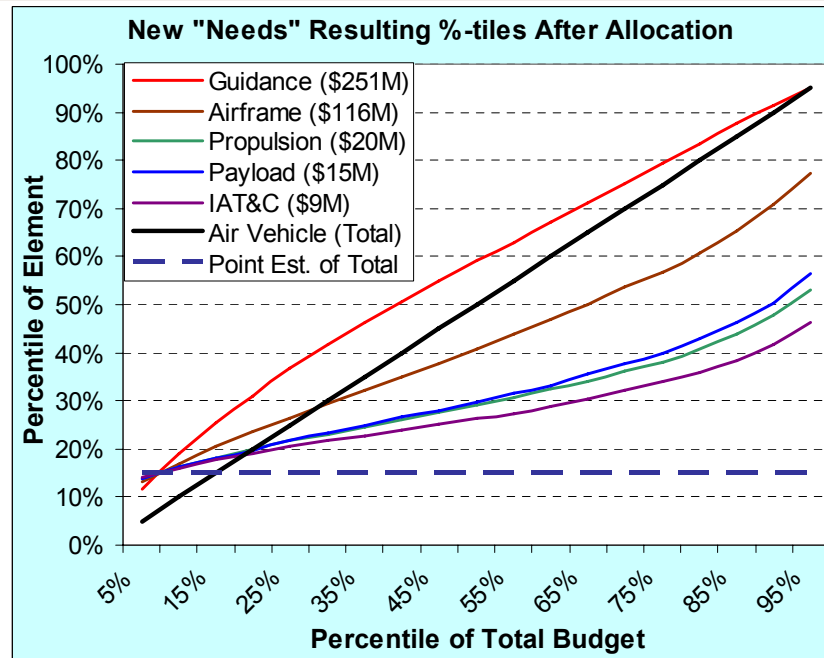
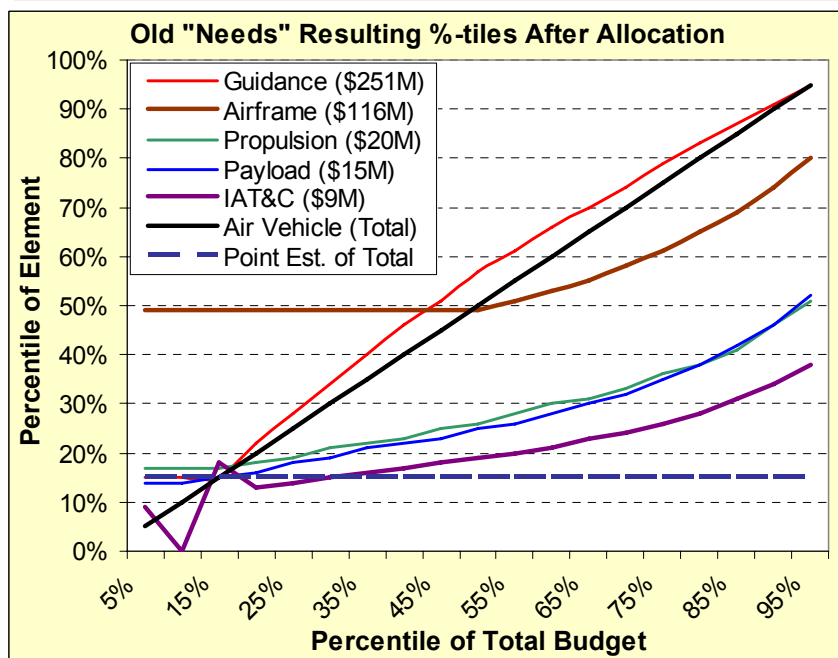
## ■ Alternate Comparison of Resulting Percentiles After Allocation

- "New Needs" supports alternatives to *anchor* and *delta* to suite your priorities
- Some prefer to use point estimate instead of mean. The total's  $pe_T$  is at 14%-tile.
- We find the  $cost_i$  for each element at 14%-tile and use their sum them for to calc. *delta*

Scenario uses PE %-tile as anchor:

$$anchor_i = F_i^{-1}(F(pe_{total})) = [cost_i \text{ at } \% \text{ tile of } pe_{total}]$$

$$delta = budget_T - \sum_{i=1}^n anchor_i$$

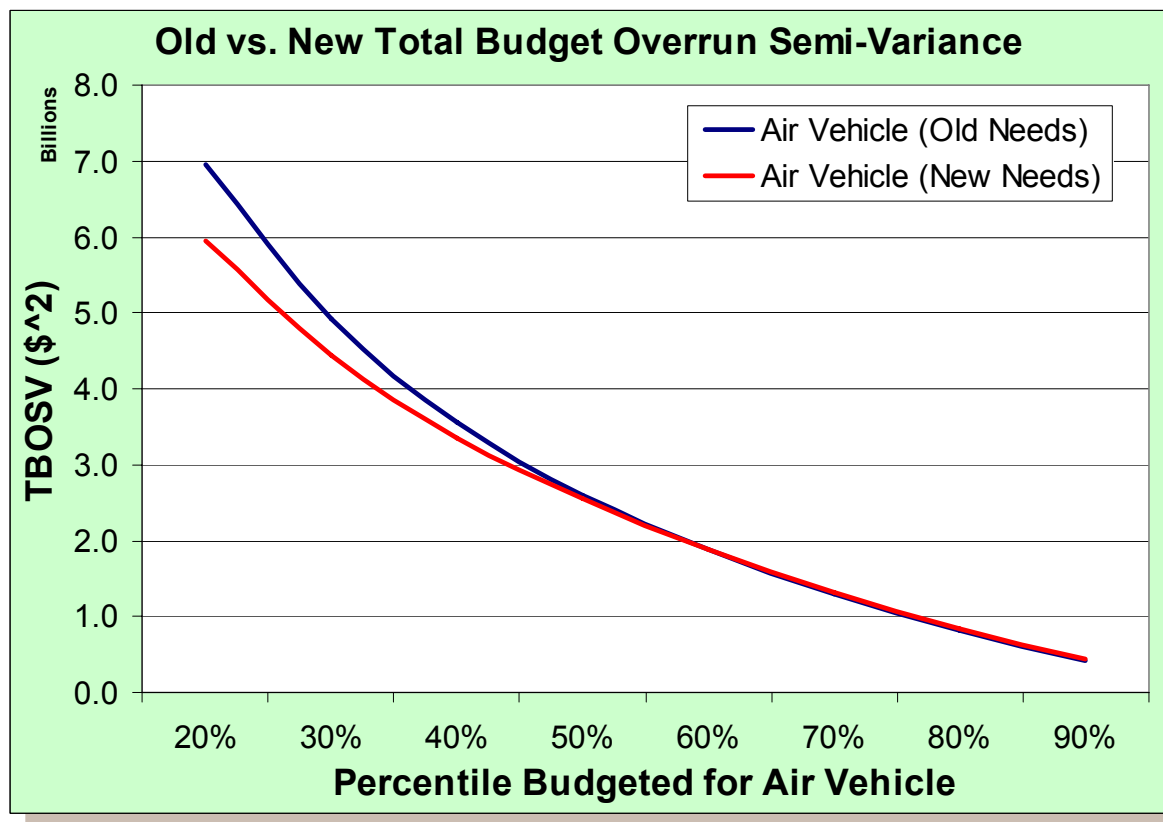




# Minimization Performance

The ultimate goal of the “Variance Camp” is to minimize TBOSV

- The chart below compares the TBOSV for “Old” and “New” methods
  - The “New Needs” method is using the P.E. %-tile scenario from previous slide.
- The new method outperforms the old for low confidences
- At high confidences, they are virtually identical







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# Conclusion





- **Cost Risk allocation is a tool that serves a specific purpose**
  - Be sure that allocation serves your analysis goals
  - Only allocate when you have to encapsulate all money in WBS
  - Always allocate from where funds are managed
  - Allocate up or down the WBS
- **Two useful allocation methods were presented**
  - Consider the two camps of thought when picking a method
  - How to minimize the total average budget overrun (TABO)
  - How to (nearly) reduce the total budget overrun semi-variance (TBOSV)
    - Introduction to a more reliable “New Needs” method to replace old one
- **Round to stress the (lack of) precision of your numbers**
- **Be wary when discussing confidence levels after allocation**
  - This is a huge topic on its own!



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# Questions?

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## References:

[1] Information on the meanings of accuracy and precision:

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Accuracy\\_and\\_precision](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Accuracy_and_precision)

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Significance\\_arithmetic#Uncertainty\\_and\\_error](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Significance_arithmetic#Uncertainty_and_error)

[2] Examples of rounding at 2<sup>nd</sup> decimal of deviation:

<http://physics.nist.gov/cuu/Constants/>

## Description of Semi-Variance

[3] “Selected Semi-Variance Estimators of Underreporting NonFarm Sole Proprietor Income,” Chih-Chin Ho, Internal Revenue Service, IRC1996\_028

[http://www.amstat.org/sections/srms/proceedings/papers/1996\\_028.pdf](http://www.amstat.org/sections/srms/proceedings/papers/1996_028.pdf)

## Detailed description of the “Needs” method and model

[4] “Allocating Risk Dollars Back to WBS Elements” Stephen A. Book, Chief Technical Officer, MCR, LLC SSCAG/EACE/SCAF Meeting 19-21 September 2006, also presented at SCEA Conference June 2006, DoDCAS Symposium February 2007

## Additional information on uncertainty analysis and time-phased cost risk allocation

[5] “AFCAA Cost Risk Handbook” Alfred Smith et. al., CR-1254-3, 9 April

[6] “Need’ Needs Kneading” John Sandberg, Tecolote Research, Inc., presented at SSCAG Meeting 17 Jan 2007



# Helpful Formulae

Here are general ways of calculating budget semi-variance,  $v^2$

If you substitute  $\mu$  for  $pe$ , you get the positive semi-variance,  $\sigma_+^2$

General

**General Form**

$$v^2 = c \sum_{i=1}^s (x_i - pe)^2, \text{ for } x_i > pe$$

where,  $x$  is a point in X,  
 $t$  is the # of points in X, and  $c$  is the prob. of overrun

For Symmetrical Distribution Forms and  $pe = \mu$

$$v^2 = \frac{\sigma^2}{2}$$

Reference

**Rough Estimates For Arbitrary Forms**

$$v^2 = \frac{c}{4} (h - pe)^2$$

$$v^2 = \frac{c}{5} (h_{95\%} - pe)^2$$

For Triangular Distributions with  $p \geq \text{Mode}$

$$v^2 = \frac{c}{6} (h - pe)^2$$

For Uniform Distributions

$$v^2 = \frac{c}{3} (h - pe)^2$$

For Triangular Distributions with  $p < \text{Mode}$

$$v^2 = \frac{(m - pe)^4}{6(h - l)^2} + \frac{2(m - c)^3(c - l)}{3(h - l)^2} + \left( \frac{h - m}{h - l} \right) \left[ \frac{(h - m)^2}{2} + \frac{4(m - c)(h - m)}{3} + (m - c)^2 \right]$$



# Probability Functions

G  
e  
n  
e  
r  
a  
l  
  
R  
e  
f  
e  
r  
e  
n  
c  
e

## Cumulative density for triangular

$$1 - c = F(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & x < l \\ \frac{(x-l)^2}{(\text{mode}-l)(h-l)}, & l \leq x < \text{mode} \\ 1 - \frac{(h-x)^2}{(h-\text{mode})(h-l)}, & \text{mode} \leq x \leq h \\ 1, & x > h \end{cases}$$

## Inverse CDF for triangular

$$F^{-1}(p) = \begin{cases} l + \sqrt{p(\text{mode}-l)(h-l)}, & p < F(\text{mode}) \\ h - \sqrt{(1-p)(h-\text{mode})(h-l)}, & F(\text{mode}) \leq p \end{cases}$$

## Probability density for triangular

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & x < l \\ \frac{2(x-l)}{(\text{mode}-l)(h-l)}, & l \leq x < \text{mode} \\ \frac{2(h-x)}{(h-\text{mode})(h-l)}, & \text{mode} \leq x \leq h \\ 0, & x > h \end{cases}$$

## Mean and variance for triangular

$$\mu = \frac{(l + \text{mode} + h)}{3}$$

$$\sigma^2 = \frac{(\text{mode}-l)(\text{mode}-h) + (h-l)^2}{18}$$

## Cumulative density for uniform

$$1 - c = F(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & x < l \\ \frac{(x-l)}{(h-l)}, & l \leq x \leq h \\ 1, & x > h \end{cases}$$

## Inverse CDF for uniform

$$F^{-1}(p) = l + p(h-l)$$

## Probability density for uniform

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & x < l \\ \frac{1}{(h-l)}, & l \leq x \leq h \\ 0, & x > h \end{cases}$$

## Mean and variance for uniform

$$\mu = \frac{(l+h)}{2}$$

$$\sigma^2 = \frac{(h-l)^2}{12}$$





# Derivations for Estimates

General Reference

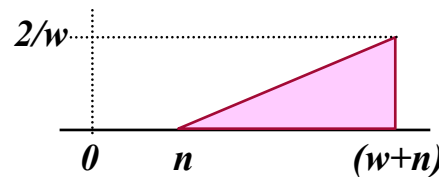
“cost-distance-squared”  
of displaced triangle

$$v^2 = \int_0^w (x+n)^2 \left( \frac{2x}{w^2} \right) dx$$

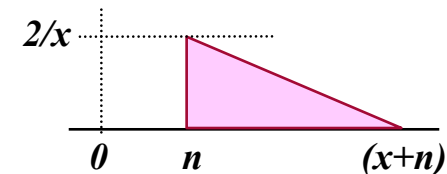
$$v^2 = \frac{2}{w^2} \int_0^w [x^3 + 2nx^2 + n^2x] dx$$

$$v^2 = \frac{2}{w^2} \left( \frac{w^4}{4} + \frac{2nw^3}{3} + \frac{n^2w^2}{2} \right)$$

$$v^2 = \frac{w^2}{2} + \frac{4nw}{3} + n^2$$



“cost-distance-squared”  
of displaced triangle



$$v^2 = \int_0^w (x+n)^2 \left( \frac{2(w-x)}{w^2} \right) dx$$

$$v^2 = \frac{2}{w^2} \int_0^w [(x^2 + 2nx + n^2)(w-x)] dx$$

$$v^2 = \frac{2}{w^2} \int_0^w [wx^2 - x^3 + 2nwx - 2nx^2 + n^2w - n^2x] dx$$

$$v^2 = \frac{2}{w^3} \left( \frac{w^4}{3} - \frac{w^4}{4} + nw^3 - \frac{2nw^3}{3} + n^2w^2 - \frac{n^2w^2}{2} \right)$$

$$v = 2 \left[ w^2 \left( \frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{4} \right) + w \left( n - \frac{2n}{3} \right) + \left( n^2 - \frac{n^2}{2} \right) \right]$$

$$v^2 = \frac{w^2}{6} + \frac{2nw}{3} + n^2$$

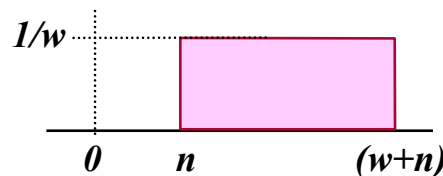
“cost-distance-squared”  
of displaced rectangle

$$v^2 = \int_0^w (x+n)^2 \left( \frac{1}{w} \right) dx$$

$$v^2 = \frac{1}{w} \int_0^w (x^2 + 2nx + n^2) dx$$

$$v^2 = \frac{1}{w} \left( \frac{1}{3} w^3 + nw^2 + n^2w \right)$$

$$v^2 = \frac{w^2}{3} + nw + n^2$$



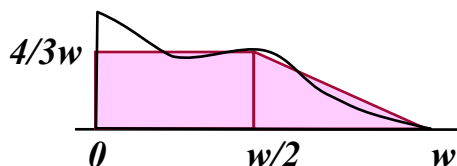


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# Derivations for Estimates

General Reference

Rough estimate for curve tapering down (fat tail)



$$v^2 = area_1 v_1^2 + area_2 v_2^2$$

$$v^2 = \frac{2}{3} \left( \frac{(w/2)^2}{3} \right) + \frac{1}{3} \left( \frac{(w/2)^2}{3} + (w/2)(w/2) + (w/2)^2 \right)$$

$$v^2 = w^2 \left( \frac{2}{4(9)} + \frac{1}{4(9)} + \frac{1}{12} + \frac{1}{12} \right) = w^2 \frac{9}{36}$$

$$v^2 = \frac{w^2}{4}$$

$$v^2 = area_1 v_1^2 + area_2 v_2^2 + area_3 v_3^2$$

$$v^2 = \frac{9}{13} \left( \frac{(w/3)^2}{6} \right) + \frac{3}{13} \left( \frac{(w/3)^2}{6} + \frac{2}{3} (w/3)(w/3) + (w/3)^2 \right) + \frac{1}{13} \left( \frac{(w/3)^2}{6} + \frac{2}{3} (w/3)(2w/3) + (2w/3)^2 \right)$$

$$v^2 = \frac{w^2}{13} \left( \frac{9(9)}{6(9)} + \frac{3}{6(9)} + \frac{6}{3(9)} + \frac{3}{9} + \frac{1}{6(9)} + \frac{4}{3(9)} + \frac{4}{9} \right) = w^2 \frac{147}{13(54)}$$

$$v^2 = \frac{49}{234} w^2 \approx \frac{w^2}{5}$$

Rough estimate for curve tapering up (thin tail)

