



# Impact of (Applied) Mathematics on Industrial Software

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Independent Investor and Advisor




Former CEO Siemens Industry Software NV, Former SVP Siemens Simcenter).

Where today meets tomorrow  
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## “Industrial Software” Market - Companies

### “Industrial Software”

- Software applications for design (CAD), engineering (CAE/Simulation, CAT/Testing), manufacturing (CAM), manufacturing operations (MES, MOM), and maintenance (APM) of products.
- Also PLM (Product Life Cycle Management)  
incl. MDA (Mechanical Design Automation) and EDA (Electric/Electronic Design Automation)
- Also referred to as software applications enabling “Digital Twin” of a product
- Started in 1960’s. Now a very sizable business, with market size: +45 b\$ and CAGR: +9%

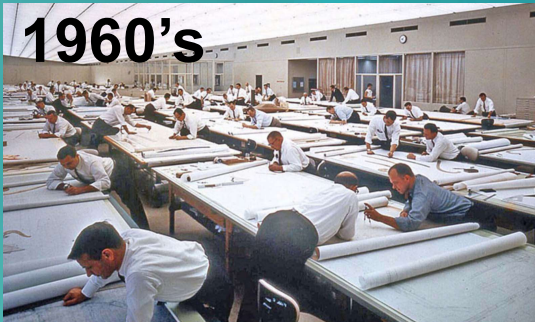
Companies	AUTODESK	SIEMENS	SYNOPSYS®
	Rev.: +6.1 b\$ Mkt Cap: +63 b\$	Industrial Software Unit Rev. (Est.): +7.5 b\$ Part of Siemens	Rev.: +8.5 b\$ Mkt Cap: +77 b\$ (Partly incl. Ansys)
			
	Rev.: +2.3 b\$ Mkt Cap: +21 b\$	Rev.: +6.7 b\$ Mkt Cap: +32 b\$	Rev.: +5.2 b\$ Mkt Cap: +87 b\$

Very “valuable” companies - Market capitalization at high multiples (upto +10 !) of revenue (!)

The image features a blue background with a subtle, repeating pattern of white binary code (0s and 1s). The text "Siemens Digital Industries Software" is centered in a bold, white, sans-serif font. The background has a slight gradient, being darker at the top and bottom and lighter in the middle where the text is located.

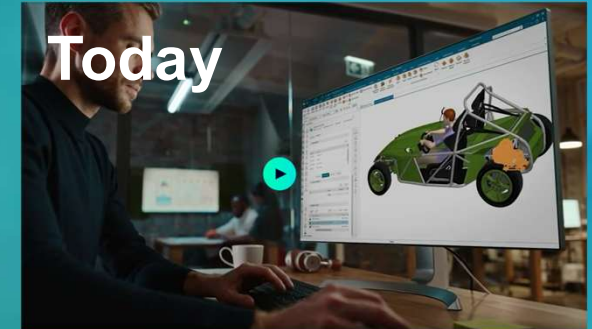
# Siemens Digital Industries Software

# Computer Aided Design (CAD)



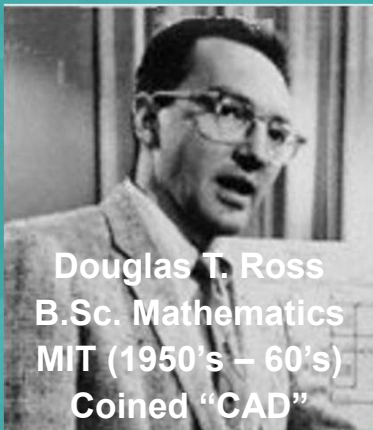
1960's

From "Drawing Board"  
To "CAD"  
and Digital Mock-Up (DMU)  
*Disruptive Innovation*



Today

Driven by applied mathematicians and engineers ... working at Universities and Industry

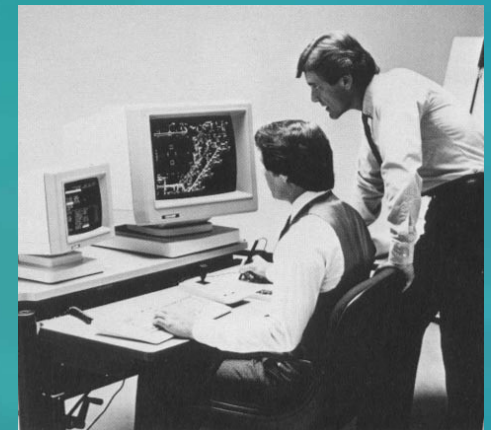


Douglas T. Ross  
B.Sc. Mathematics  
MIT (1950's - 60's)  
Coined "CAD"

From early 1960's:

**The aircraft industry** started to develop CAD programs:  
Proprietary software developed at Boeing;  
CADAM by Lockheed; McAuto by McDonnell Douglas  
(later Unigraphics); CATIA by Dassault Aviation.

**Similar initiatives in automotive industry**, driven by  
General Motors (US) and Renault and Citroen (France)



# Computer Aided Design (CAD) Enabled by Bernstein Polynomials – Bezier Curves

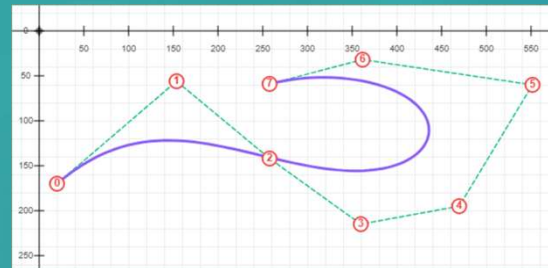


**Pierre Bezier**  
(1910-1999)

Engineer at Renault  
UNISURF (CAD Software)

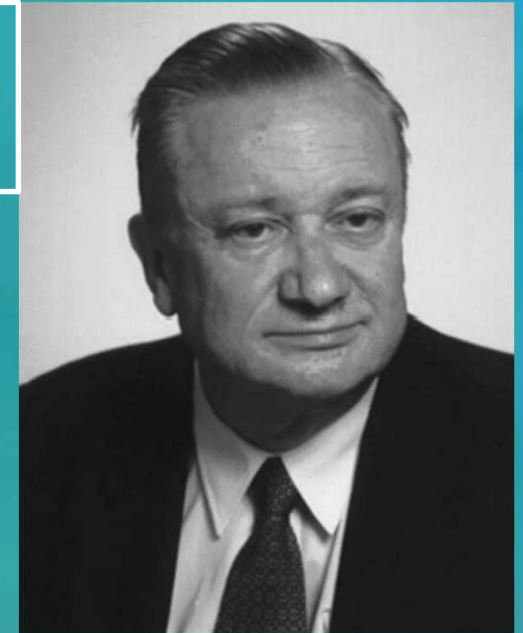
Recursive method to evaluate  
Bernstein Polynomials  
(Sergueï Bernstein – 1880-1968)

## Bezier Curves



Bezier curves are a type of parametric curve widely used in computer graphics to model smooth and scalable shapes. They are defined by a set of control points that influence the shape of the curve.

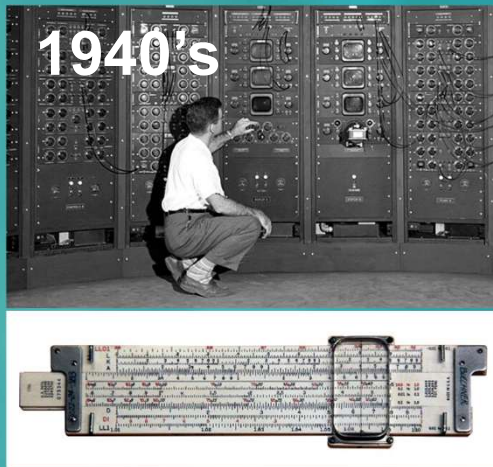
## From 2D to 3D



**Paul de Casteljaou**  
(1930-2022)

Mathematicien at Citroen  
SADUSCA (CAD Software)

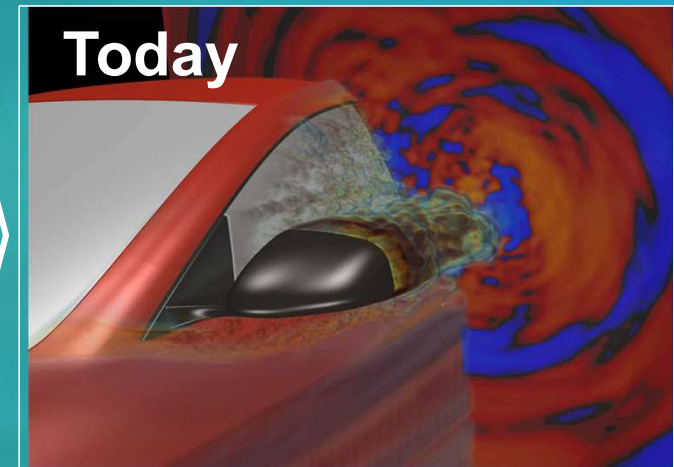
# Computer Aided Engineering (CAE/Simulation)



1940's

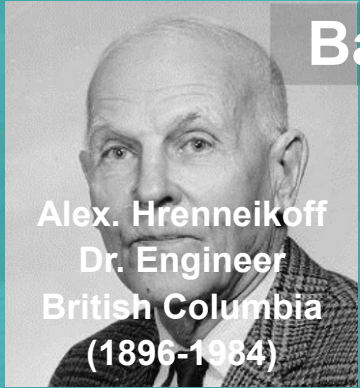
From "Calculus"  
To "CAE/Simulation"  
for Solving  
Differential Equations  
(Physical properties of products)

*Disruptive Innovation*



Today

## Based on the Finite Element Method (FEM)



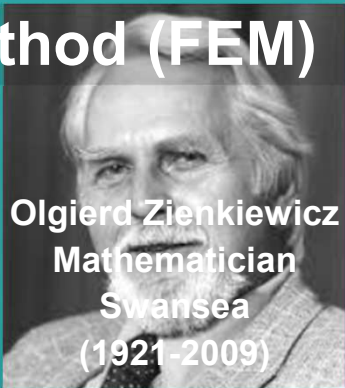
Alex. Hrenneikoff  
Dr. Engineer  
British Columbia  
(1896-1984)



Richard Courant  
Mathematician  
New York  
(1888-1972)



John Argyris  
Dr. Engineer  
Stuttgart  
(1913-2004)



Olgierd Zienkiewicz  
Mathematician  
Swansea  
(1921-2009)



Ray Clough  
Dr. Engineer  
Berkeley  
(1920-2016)

Initial focus (1950's): Structural Analysis

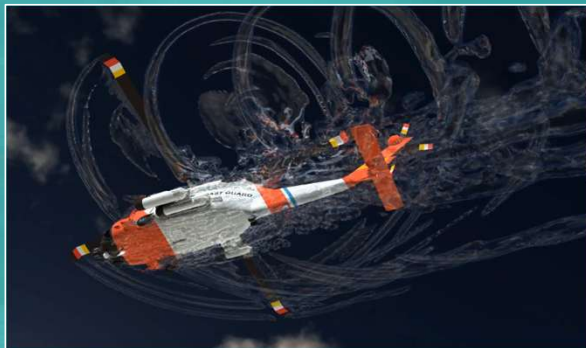
## Computer Aided Engineering (CAE/Simulation) Covering all Physics – Enabling “Digital Twin”

Initially driven by large Aerospace Programs:

- NASA Apollo Program - Initiated the NASTRAN FEM Software (initially Open Source)  
Triggered start of MSC – McNeal-Schwendler in 1963 (First CAE/Simulation company)
- Developments for ESA – Initiated ASKA FEM Software (Univ. of Stuttgart)

The method has since been generalized for the numerical modeling of all physics

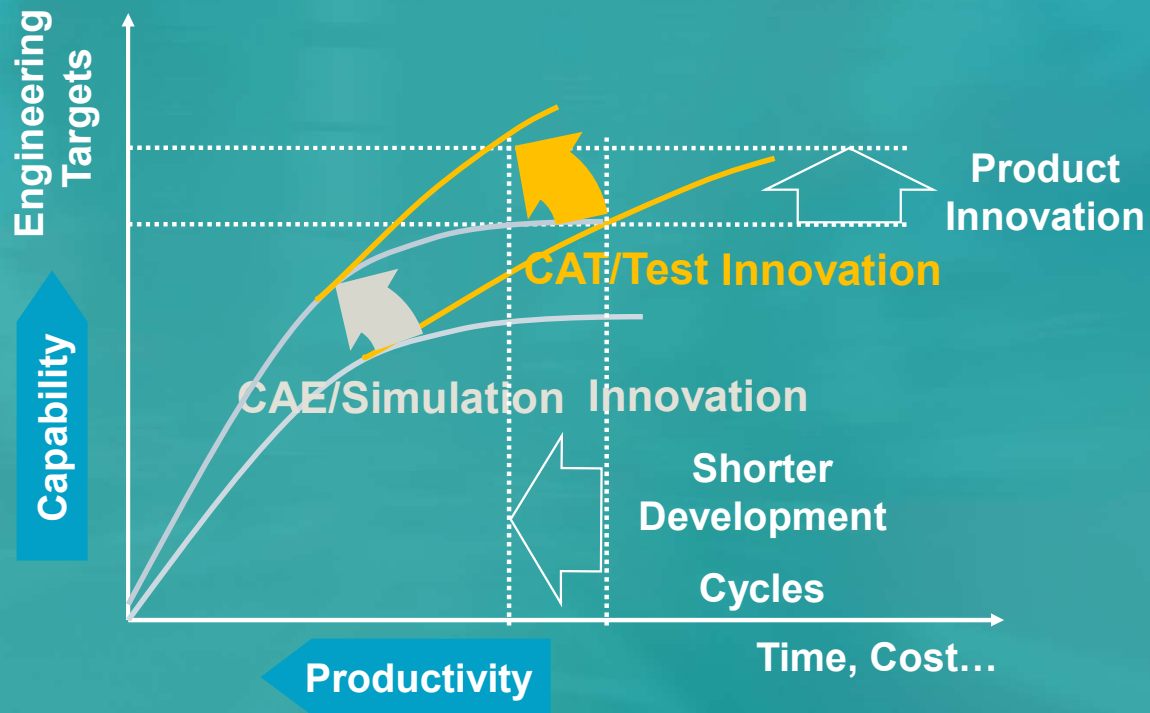
- Globally in use throughout Aerospace, Automotive e.a. Industries
- Exponential Increase of Capabilities of Simulation ... Enabling “Digital Twin”



**Towards “Zero (physical) Prototyping” – But, are we there yet?**

# CAE/Simulation and CAT/Test

## Interacting together – Driven by relentless push for Product Innovation



## Example of Test Innovation



**Ground vibration test  
drastically reduced:  
(Siemens/LMS  
Simcenter Test.Lab)**

- A380 2005 → 1 Month
- A400M 2007 → 3 Weeks
- A350-900 2013 → 9 Days
- A350-1000 2017 → 2 Days



**“Shaking things up – Airbus speeds up ground vibration testing  
for the A350-1000”**

Airbus Newsroom, 13/02/2017

Source Youtube <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L8fMtu83zo>

## Computer Aided Testing (CAT/Test)



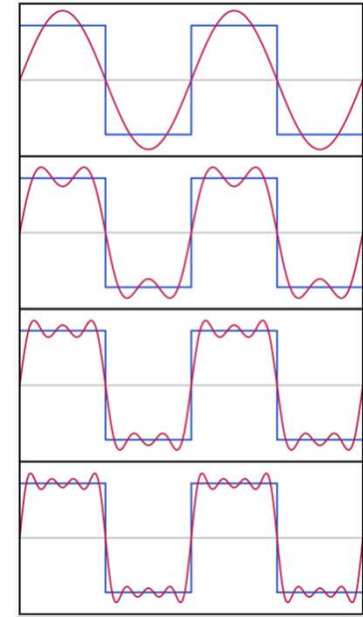
**Joseph Fourier  
(1768-1830)**

**Mathematician/Physicist  
Studied under Lagrange and Laplace**

**Any periodic function  
can be decomposed  
in a series of trigonometric functions**

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{+\infty} c_n(f) e^{i2\pi \frac{n}{T} x}$$

$$c_n(f) = \frac{1}{T} \int_T f(t) e^{-i2\pi \frac{n}{T} t} dt.$$



**Basis for Harmonic/Spectral Analysis  
Essential in the analysis of most physical phenomena  
(Based on Fourier Analysis / Fourier Synthesis)**

## Computer Aided Testing (CAT/Test) Fast Fourier Transform (FFT) – Making Fourier Analysis Practical



James Cooley  
Ph.D. Mathematics  
IBM  
(1926-2016)



John Tuckey  
Ph.D. Mathematics  
Bell Labs,  
U. Princeton  
(1915-2000)

1965 – Cooley-Tuckey Fast Fourier Transformation (FFT)  
Breakthrough acceleration for Fourier Analysis

E.g. Time sample of 4096 data points:  
DFT would require 30 Million operations.

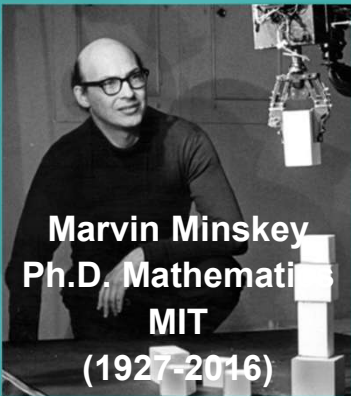
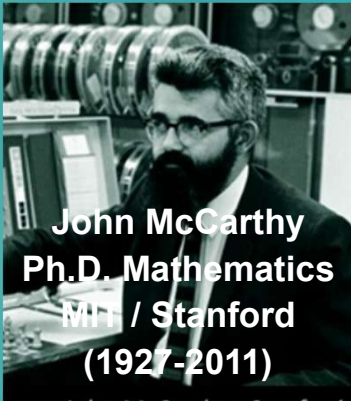
FFT would do with 30.000 operations. **1000 Faster**

Computing revolution in 1970's, including emergence  
of mini-computers, made FFT one of the indispensable  
algorithms in digital signal processing.

At the heart of any digital spectral analyzer ...  
the speed of FFT defined “Real Time” competitiveness

## Impact of AI on Industrial Software

### Early adoption, starting 1980's ...



### 1980's – Based on Research at MIT AI Labs:

- “Expert” Systems
- LISP Programming Language
- Symbolics – “LISP Machine” (1980-1996)

### ICAD - “Intelligent” CAD (Concentra, UK)

- Founded 1984
- “Knowledge Based Engineering – KBE”
- CAD Software embedding KBE, programmed on LISP
- Developed for Symbolics, later ported to UNIX (after LISP became available as Open Source)
- Enables users to encode design knowledge using a semantic representation that can be evaluated for Parasolid (a CAD kernel) output
- Acquired by Dassault Systemes 2001

**Interest evaporated during AI winter (1990's-2000's)**

## Impact of AI on Industrial Software Renaissance ...



- ML running in background to support users in setting up ever more complex CAE/Simulation models
- Integrate ML into solvers, e.g. to improve/accelerate convergence
- ML running in background to support users in getting insights in simulation results (not unlike use in medical imaging applications)

## Concluding Thought

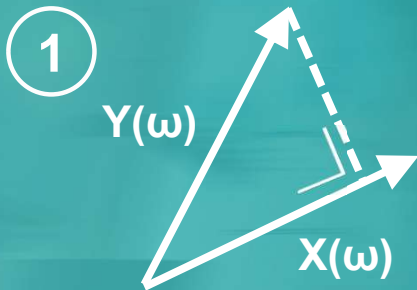
(Applied) Mathematics ... mattered, matters, and will continue to matter



2025

How many methods for estimating a Frequency Response Function (FRF -  $H(\omega)$ ) from measurements of input  $X(\omega)$  and output  $Y(\omega)$  on a under test?

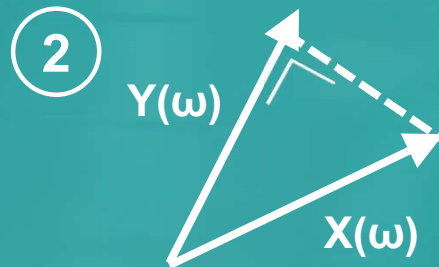
So solving:  $Y(\omega) = H(\omega) * X(\omega)$



$$Y(\omega) + \epsilon = H_1(\omega) * X(\omega)$$

$H_1$  "Error on the Output"

Quite common ...



$$1/H_2(\omega) * Y(\omega) = X(\omega) + \epsilon$$

$H_2$  "Error on the Input"

Julius Bendat & Alan Piersol (1974)



$$B(\omega) * (Y(\omega) + \epsilon) = A(\omega) * (X(\omega) + \delta)$$

$H_v = A/B$  "Error on Output and Input"

Manfred Schroeder (1977)

Generalized by Håvard Vold (1985) ...  $H_v$

*Hypothetical, what would ChatGPT have suggested on this topic, in 1973, 1976, 1984?*



**Thank You!**

Realized innovation