

17th November 2014

Product Discovery

&

Concept Development



Me



Cambridge 2007-2012 – Natural Science & MET Tripos

Rolls Royce, The Technology Partnership, PwC

November 2012 - Founded Baltic Blue Energy

Board Member of British Estonian Chamber of Commerce

Supervisory board member of TFTAK

@DaveEstUK

# The Company

## Laser Diagnostic Instruments



Estonian SME, established in 1991

ISO 9001 certified

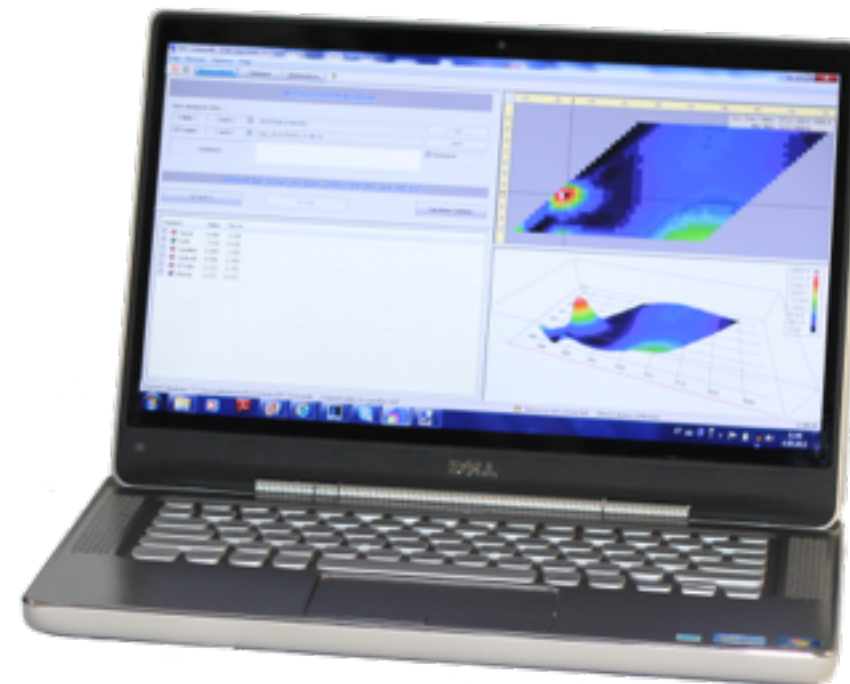
World recognition and 20+ years experience in Laser Remote Sensing and Spectral Fluorescence Analysis

R&D, manufacturing, application

Privately held, 20+ people organisation

# The Products

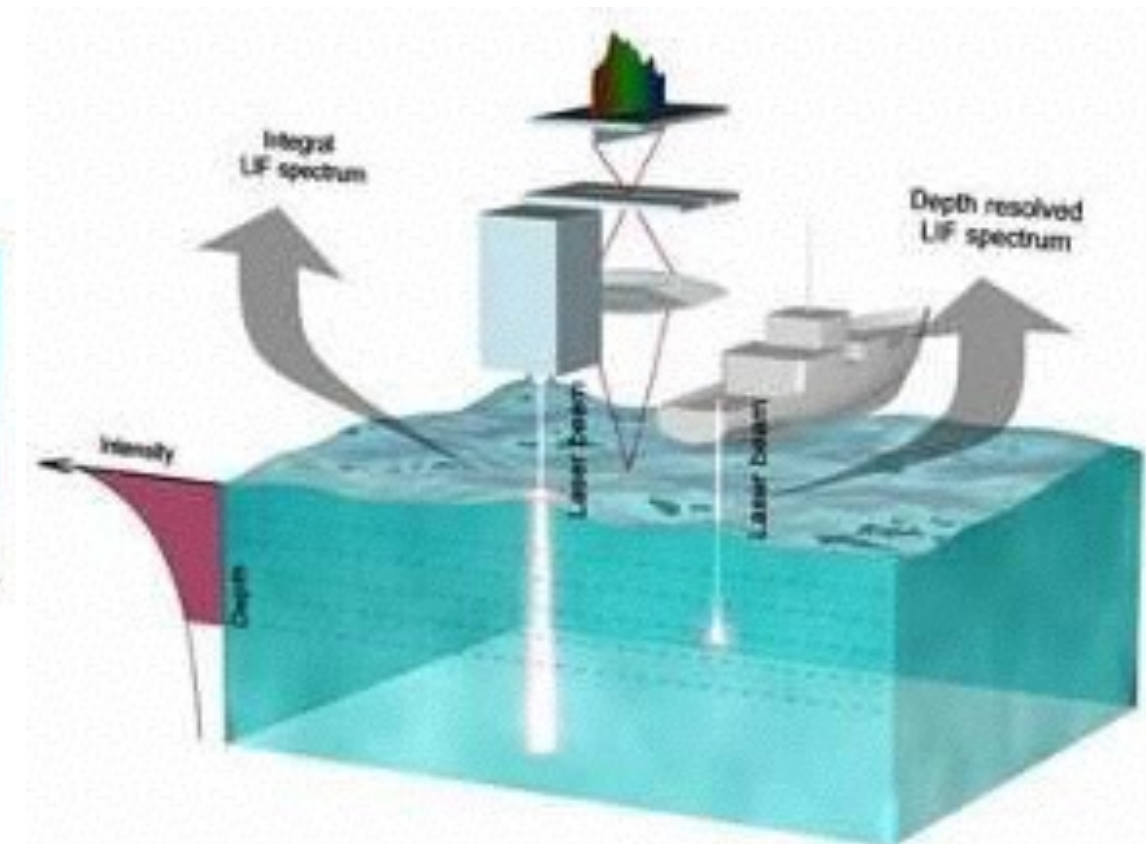
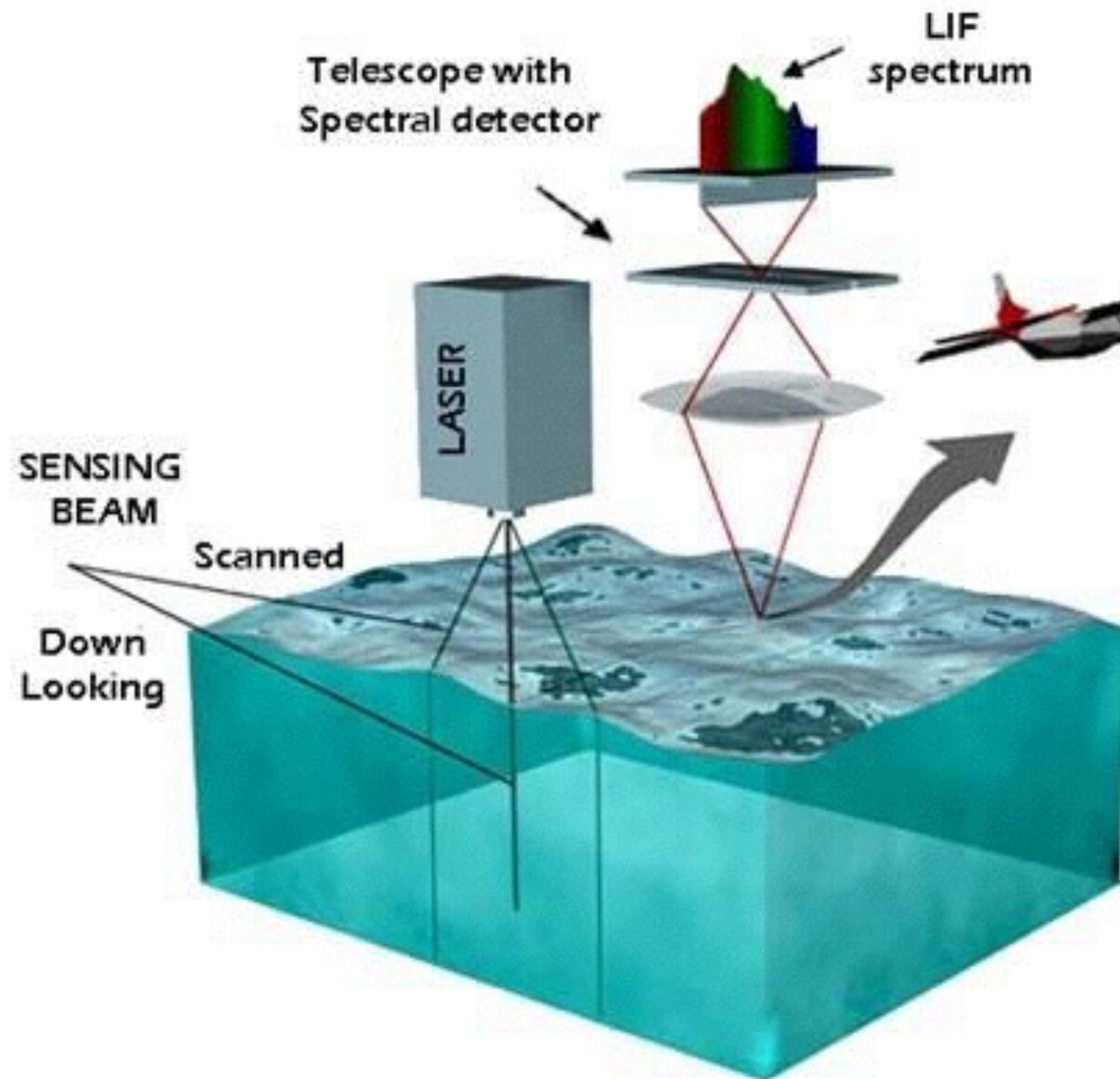
Spectral Fluorescence Signatures (SFS)





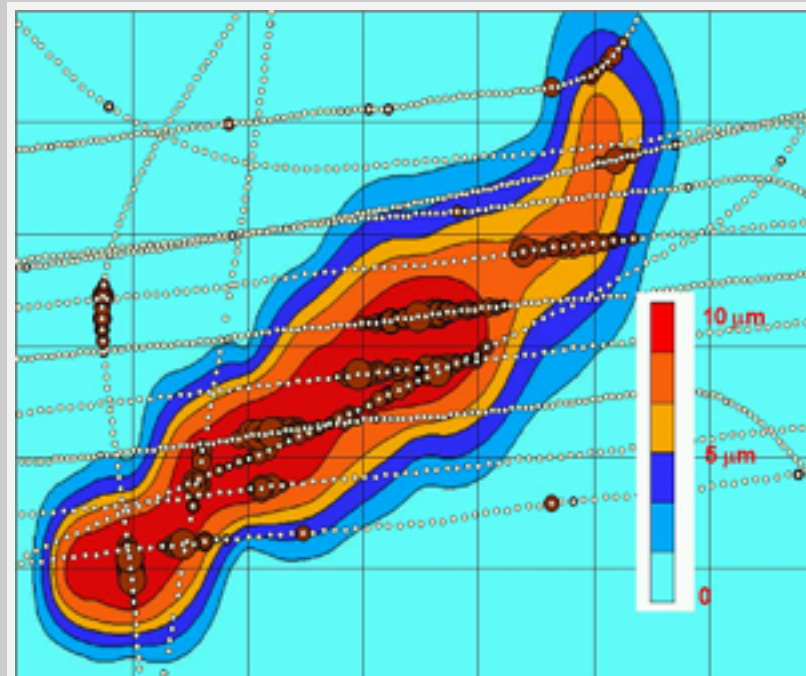
# The Products

Laser Induced Fluorescence LIDAR technology



# The Products

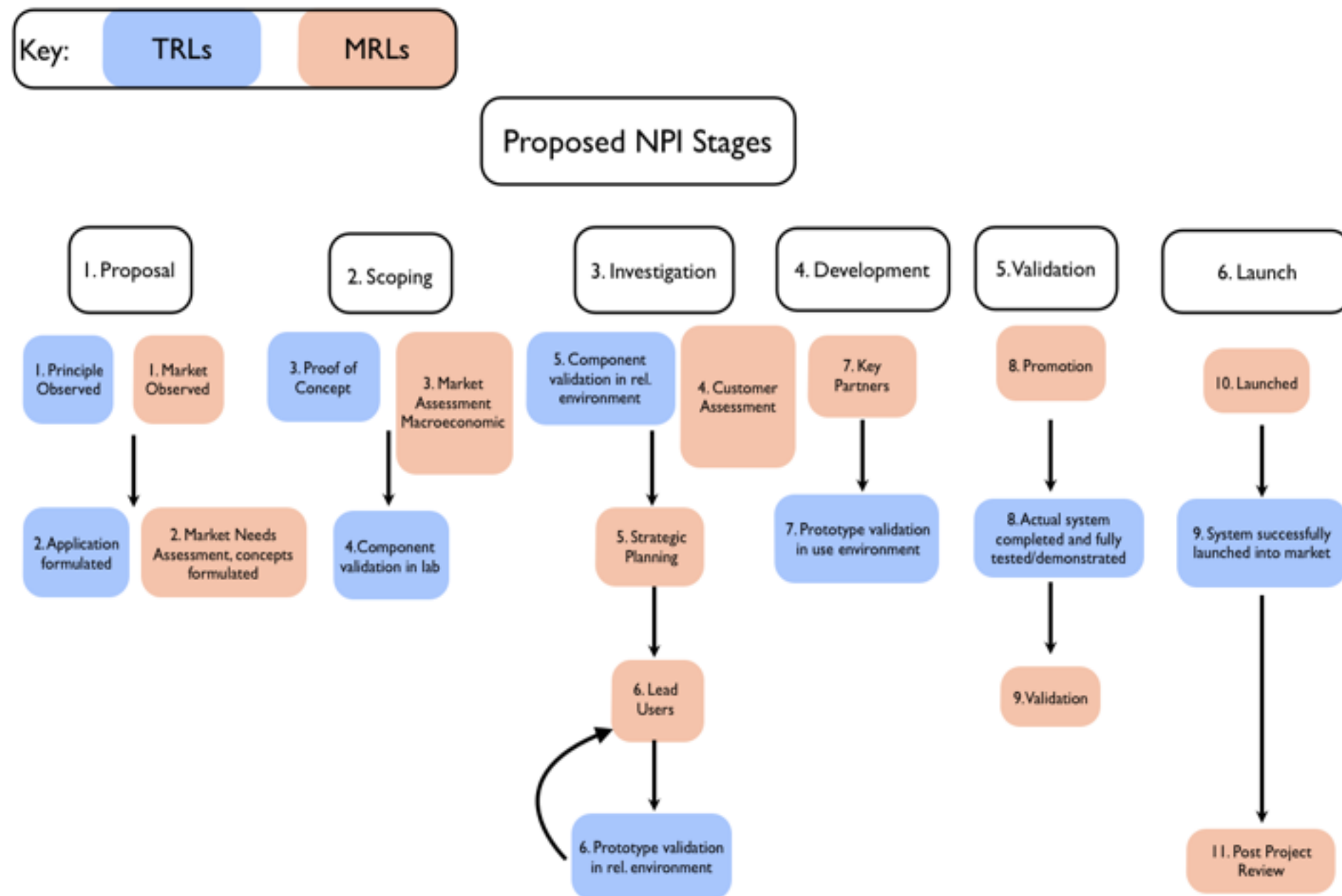
Laser Induced Fluorescence LIDAR technology

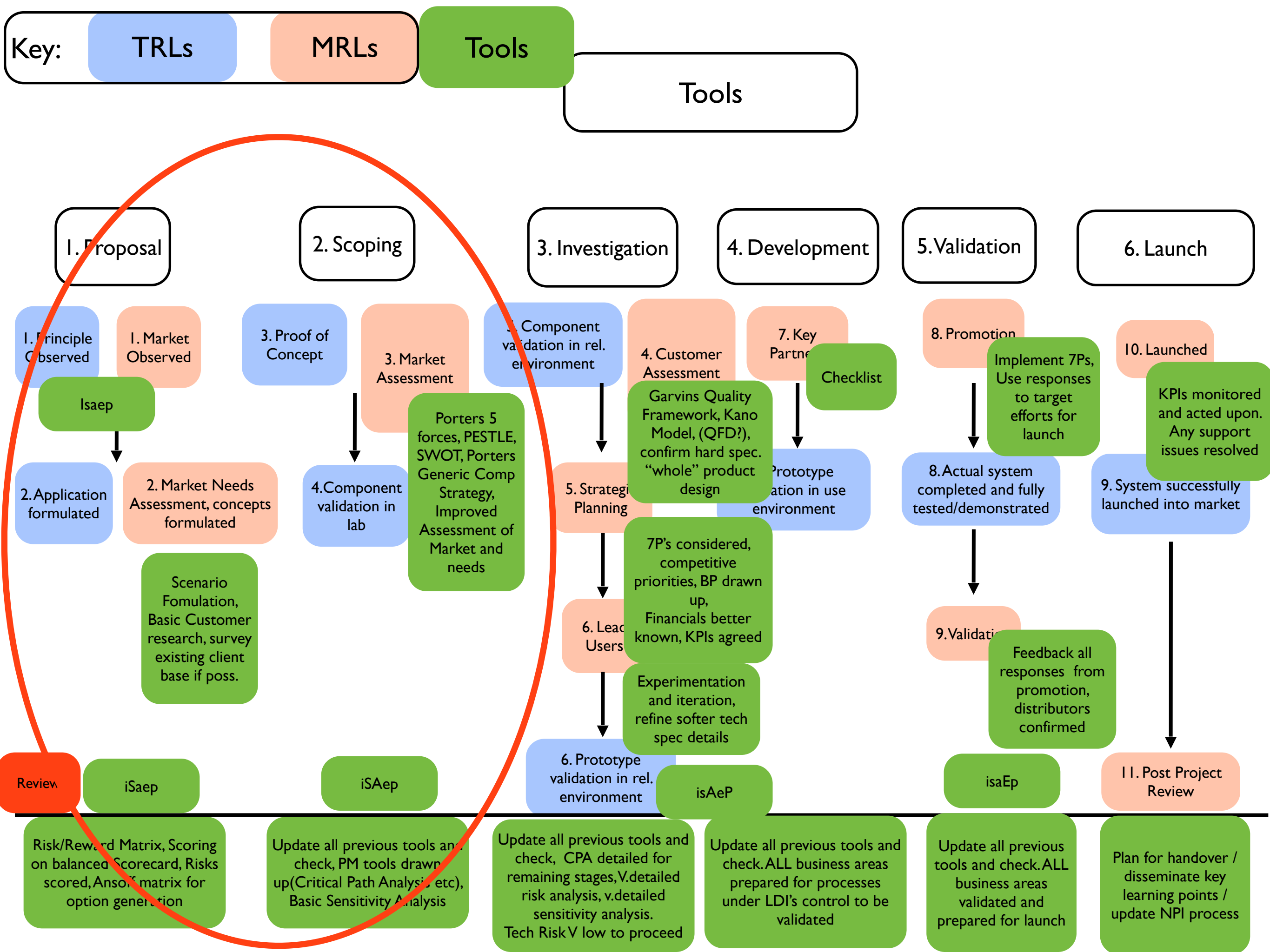






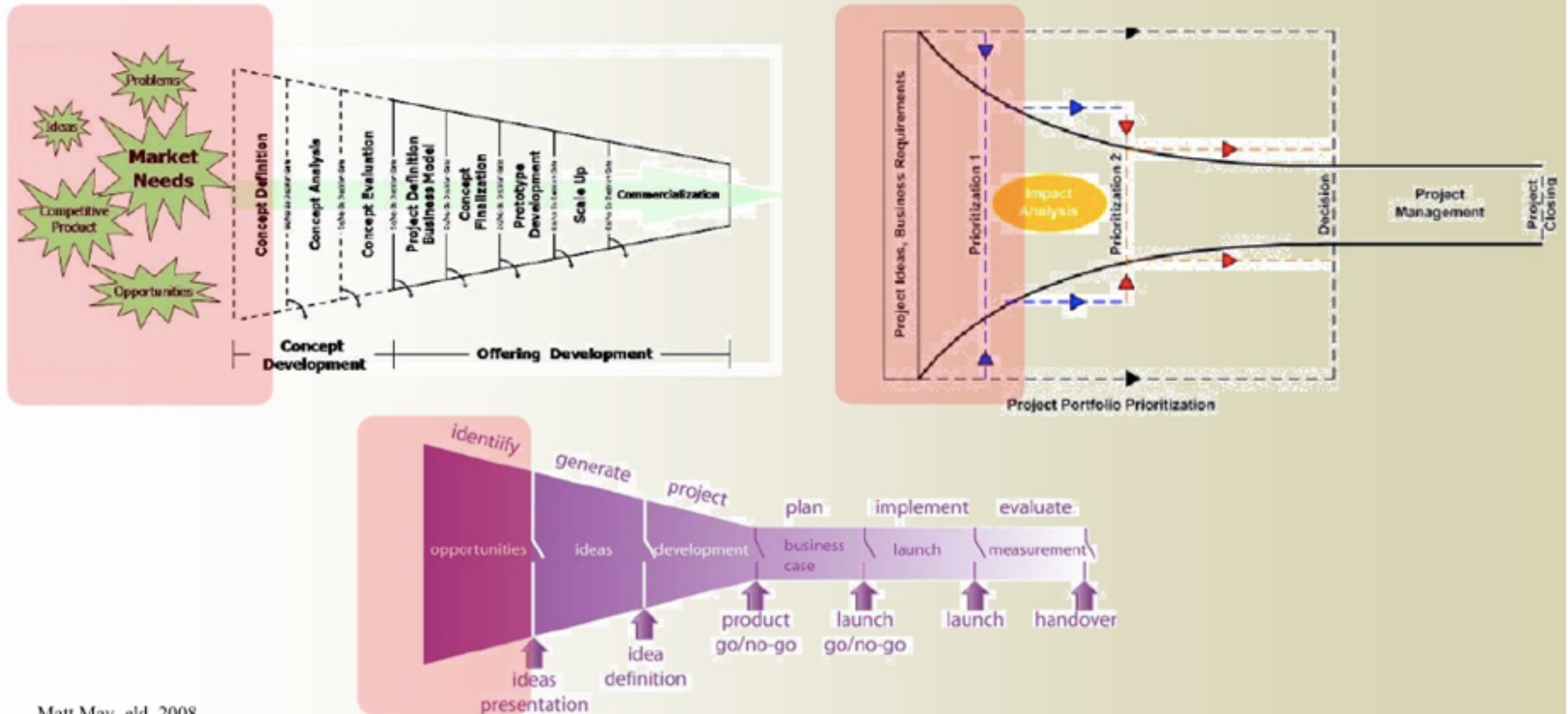
# New Product Introduction Process





# Innovation Funnel

## The funnel of development



Matt May eld, 2008



## I. Proposal

I. Principle Observed

I. Market Observed

2. Application formulated

2. Market Needs Assessment,  
concepts formulated

Scenario  
Formulation,  
Basic  
Customer  
research,  
survey existing  
client base if  
possible

Project Scorecard, Ansoff Matrix

















## I. Proposal

I. Principle Observed

I. Market Observed

2. Application formulated

2. Market Needs Assessment,  
concepts formulated

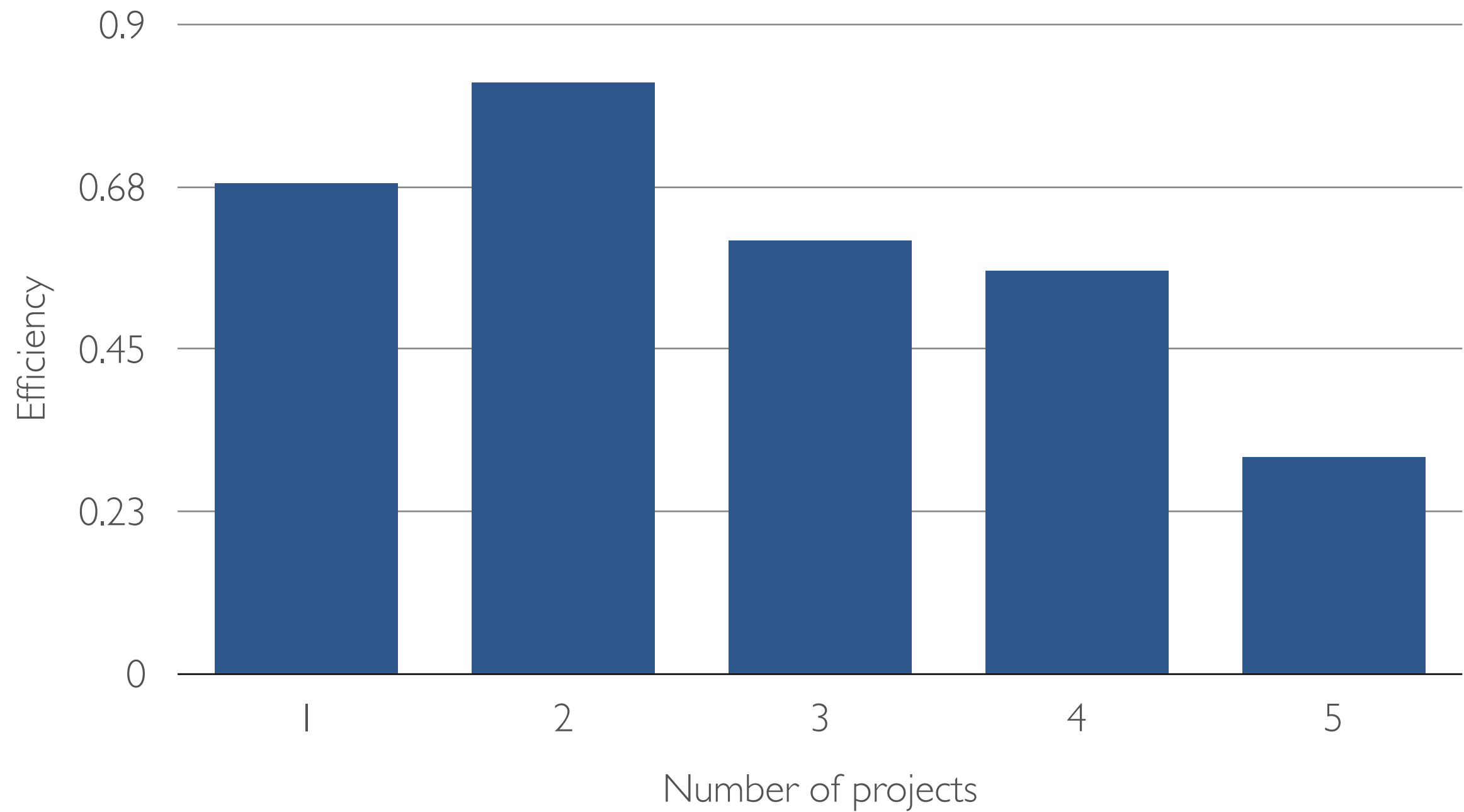
Scenario  
Formulation,  
Basic  
Customer  
research,  
survey existing  
client base if  
possible

Project Scorecard, Ansoff Matrix

# Why is Selection important

No Portfolio Management means	Immediate Result	End Result
Many projects added to list	Resources thinly spread	Inefficiency, Increased time to market
Weak decision points/ poor Go/No Go decisions	Too many mediocre projects, good projects starved	Too few real winners
No rigorous selection criteria,	Wrong projects are selected	Many failures
No strategic criteria for project selection	Projects lack strategic direction	New products do not support business strategy

Too many projects = inefficiency



# Goals of Selection & Portfolio Management

- Maximise ROI of the limited resources which can be applied to new developments
- To achieve balance and focus to the portfolio
- To reflect the organisation's strategic needs
- Fast, efficient, transparent decision making

## Non-financial methods : Scoring Systems

- Score project proposals on aspects other than just financial estimates
- Use as the basis for discussion and differentiating between options
- Focus on relative scoring, not actual score



# Market Opportunity - Reward

	Rating	0	2	4	8	14
	Key Items					
"HARD"	<b>Increased Sales / decreased costs in first 3 years after launch</b>	None / None	€1 million / 10%	€3 million / 15%	€5 million / 20%	€10 million / 30%
	<b>Competitive Intensity of Market</b>	Market saturated by all large competitors	At least 1 large competitor with significant market share (>5%)	Many competitors but none of the big brands / medium market penetration (x%)	Some competition but low market penetration (<x%)	LDI only company that can enter market
	<b>Market Profitability</b>	A lot worse than in our main business	Slightly worse margin	Similar margin to main business	Improved margin	Significantly better margin
	<b>Opportunity to enter new market / Learning</b>	Old Market & Old Technology	Time limited Market Opportunity & Old Technology	Old Market & New Technology	New Market & Old Technology	New Market & New Technology
"SOFT"	<b>Future Synergies</b>	Certainty over dead end / one off product	Not certain but little evidence for future prospects	At least 1 product affected	Entire group of products affected	All business areas and product lines affected
	<b>Customer need / Customer Impact</b>	No interest & No needs expressed / No unique benefits	Little interest, needs mainly guessed / some minor benefits	Passive Interest, some general needs expressed / Some unique benefits but need to explain them	Enquiries from potential users with specific needs identified / Clear unique benefits	Demanding product / Eye-catching benefits. Talking point at conferences

# Technical Feasibility - Risk

	Rating Key Items	0	2	4	8	14
"HARD"	<b>Time to Market</b>	Market / Technology likely to have moved on before product is realised	> 5 years	5 years > and > 2years	2 years > and > 1 year	< 1 year
	<b>Fit to existing Supply Chain</b>	No fit with current chain. No knowledge of possible suppliers	Many key components required from new suppliers, few to choose from	At least one key component required from a new supplier, many to choose from	Few required, but none for key components	No new suppliers required
	<b>Skill and Labour requirement / Manufacturing process availability</b>	All key skills missing and absent from local labour market, very labour intensive / no in-house manufacturing process capable	Most key skills missing, some absent from local labour market / can produce at least 1 key component	Many key skills missing, all available in local labour market / manufacturing capability for key component cannot be introduced	Some new skills required but readily obtainable in the local labour market / can produce all but one key component but capability can be introduced	All key skills already acquired / processes available full production if required, outsourcing production not an issue
	<b>Routes to Market / Channel Capability</b>	Unknown / None existing	Key players poorly understood / At least channel exists but uncertainty over suitability	Entire route understood but no direct experience or contacts / Existing channels could become capable, new channels identified	Direct experience and good relationship with some key players in the chain / Current channels probably capable	Experience of and good knowledge of entire route to market / Current channels more than capable
"SOFT"	<b>Strategic Fit / Impact on existing business</b>	Inhibits strategy / Negative impact on existing business	No impact / All impact coincidental	Weak alignment to strategy / Some impact, exact impact unclear	Alignment to long term strategy / Steady long term positive impact but unquantifiable	Required to realise both immediate and long term strategy / Large measurable positive impact, likely to lead to a direct increase in sales of other products
	<b>Knowledge of the Market</b>	No experience, only gut feeling. No idea how to gather information	Some formulated ideas but sources unreliable and weak understanding	Some areas known well but many gaps. Own sources of information are no	Experience and knowledge attained but requires updating, know where to find reliable sources	Active participant in current market, have good sources of information actively feeding updates to the company

## Exercise

- What considerations must you bear in mind in the design of a scoring system to prioritise projects?
- What difficulties might you encounter in applying the tool?

# Scoring systems

- Good for
  - Early appraisal
  - Supporting exploratory initiatives - Complex, multi-stage, projects
  - Relative ranking and selection
- Must give way progressively to “harder” valuations as projects mature

Choosing Evaluation methods

Full business plan

Financial Valuation

Risk / reward analysis

Strategic balance

Scoring methods

Opportunity Identification

Basic research

Targeted  
research

Concept  
development

Product  
development

Commercialisation

David Probert, Cambridge 2012 et al



## 2. Scoping

3. Proof of Concept

3. Market Assessment  
Macroeconomic

PESTLE  
Analysis

Porter's 5  
Forces

4. Component validation  
in lab

Update all previous tools and check, PM tools drawn up  
e.g. Critical Path Analysis, Basic Sensitivity Analysis

# PESTLE Analysis

- Political
  - Growing concern over security of supply
  - Natural Disasters, Terrorism, day-to-day
- Economic
  - Polluter Pays
- Social
  - Changing view on Health
- Technological
  - Gap in current capabilities
  - Number of suitable sensors, req. integration
- Legal
  - Regulations, standards
- Environmental
  - Limited water resources



# Porter's 5 Forces

- Rivalry from existing competition
  - Large, state run, closed market, established
- Threat of substitution
  - Larger companies taking over, muscling out LDI
  - Competing technology
- Threat of new entrants
  - Rival standard
- Bargaining power of suppliers
  - Partners, Architecture suppliers, access to utilities
- Bargaining power of buyers
  - Govn't contracts
  - LDI needs them, they don't need LDI

## Minimum Viable Product

- The minimum set of features needed to learn from early visionary early adopters
  - Avoid building products that nobody wants
  - Maximise learning per euro spent
- Probably more minimum than you think!
- Applies to both internal and external product development



# ROW

EARLY DETECTION  
SYSTEM FOR OIL  
ON WATER



# Specific concepts

## Applied to ROW

Idea already developed

One of several products/projects in LDI's portfolio

Ansoff Matrix



# Specific concepts

## Applied to ROW



Disrupting Dominant design and incremental innovation

Technology S curve

Product attribute perceptions: Relative advantage, Observability, Trialability, Compatibility, Complexity

ISAEP – Range finder

QCT

Over confidence in NPI



# Competition



# General concepts

## Applied to ROW

Product redesign – metal, surface treatments, machining  
Experiments  
New Variants  
Accessories  
Kits  
Quality Control (in house and in the field)





# General concepts

## Applied to ROW



Context - Where will the product be used? How? By Who?

Purchasing - Who will decide to purchase? Is this the same as the user?

Functionality - Minimum features required?

Use cases

Further development - which direction to move:

Turbo ROW, ATEX, Scanning, Identification





















# Product Discovery & Concept Development

## Summary

Lots of places to get inspiration from - tricky part is selecting good ideas to pursue

Idea selection - No one way, assumptions important to revisit regularly

Idea selection - Move to more financial “hard” selection as product refined

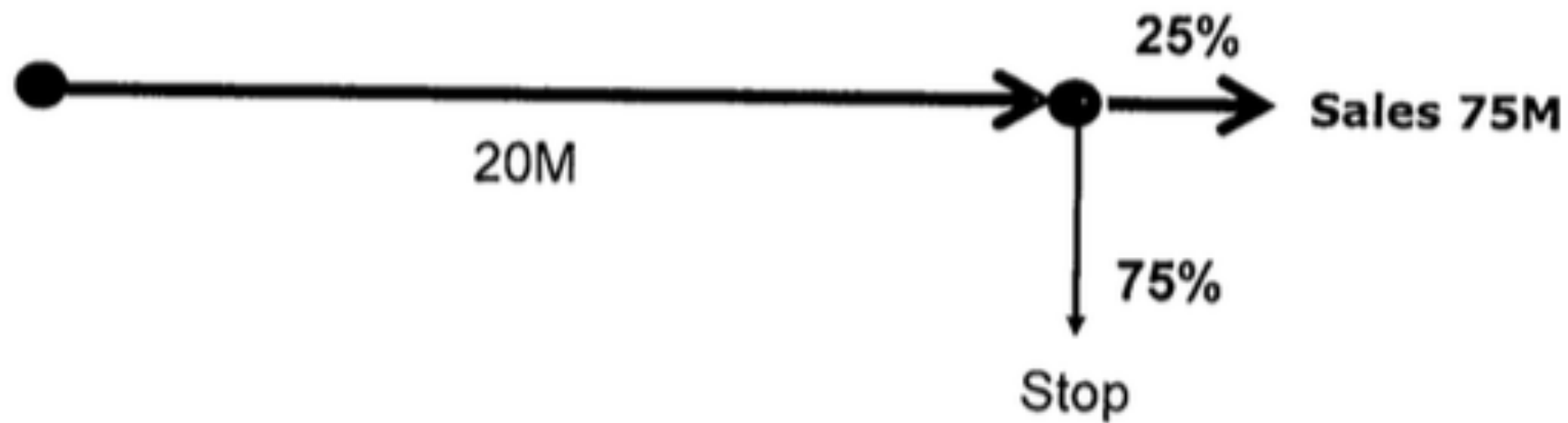
Concept development - Both Technology and Business side of product need to be developed in tandem

All parts of the business / project plan must be good

Thank you for Listening  
Any Further Questions?

@DaveEstUK

Value of a single-stage project with uncertain outcome



**Net Present Value (NPV):**

$$75 \times 0.25 - 20 = \underline{-1.25M}$$

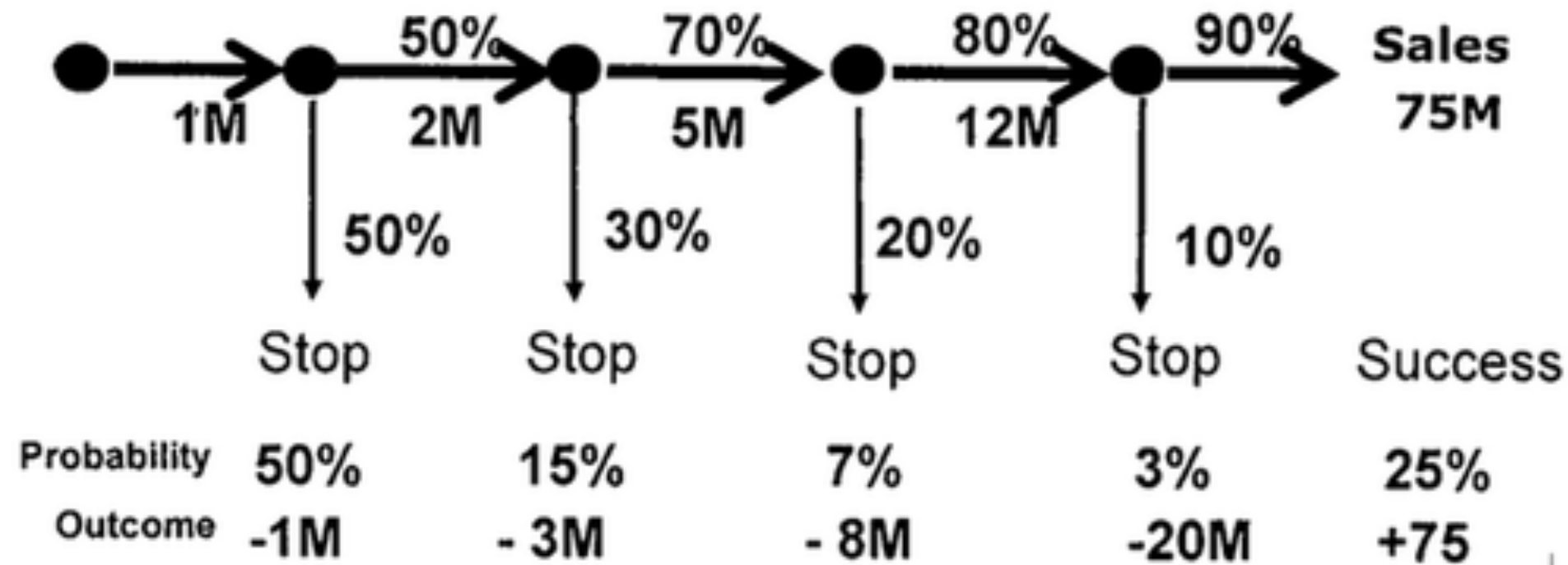
## Expected Commercial Value (ECV):

$$75 \times 0.25 - 2.1 = \underline{16.6} \quad (\text{not } -1.25)$$

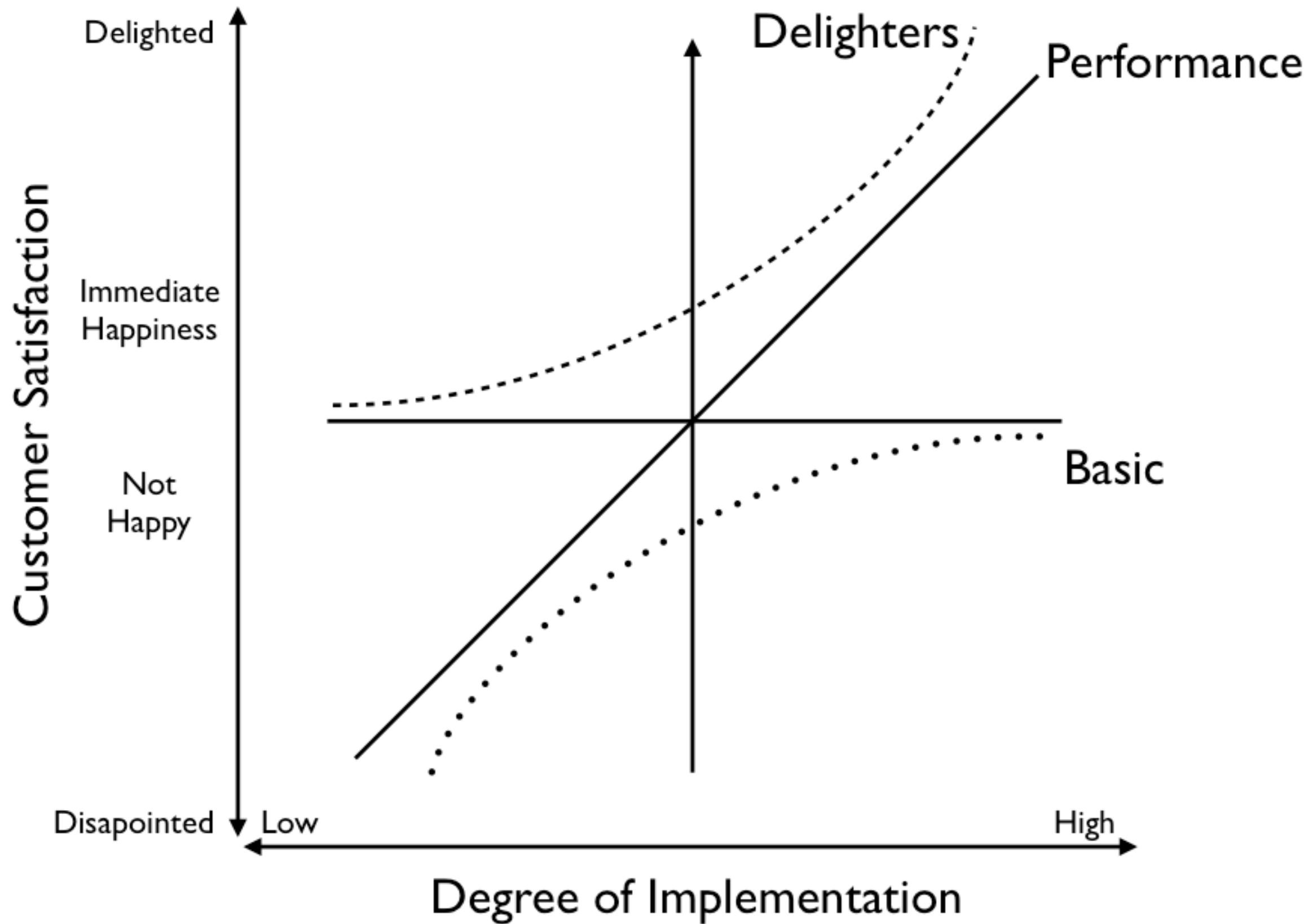
(Because probability-weighted cost is

$$0.5 \times 1 + 0.15 \times 3 + 0.07 \times 8 + 0.03 \times 20 = (2.1)$$

better NPV



# Kano model



# Classifying Customer needs for SFS-portable with the Kano model

