

# **COMPUTER BASED TRAINING IN AIRCRAFT DESIGN EDUCATION**

**D. Scholz - University of Applied Sciences, Hamburg, DE**

**J. Thorbeck - Technical University of Berlin, DE**



# Contents

## **1 Introduction**

- 1.1 Computer Based Training
- 1.2 Economic Problems

## **2 Computer Applications in Aviation Training**

- 2.1 Pilot Training
- 2.2 Aviation Maintenance Training
- 2.3 Other Branches of Aviation Training
- 2.4 CBT Developers

## **3 Requirements and Background: CBT in Aircraft Design Education**

- 3.1 Requirements
- 3.2 Traditional Aircraft Design Computer Programs
- 3.3 PC-based Flight Simulation

## **4 CBT Tools**

## **5 First Results**

## **6 Conclusions & Recommendations**

# Introduction

## Computer Based Training

### Definition:

Computer based training (CBT) is  
"the **use of computers**  
to provide an **interactive** instructional experience"  
in which the computer is seen  
"as the **primary mode of instruction**".

Aviation Industry CBT Committee: *Glossary of terms*

# Introduction

## Computer Based Training

### Characteristics:

CBT is:

- interactive
- self-directed
- self-paced

CBT often includes:

- hypertext
- multimedia elements
- hypermedia

Classification:

- Student-paced CBT ("the original CBT")
- Instructor-lead CBT

# Introduction

## Computer Based Training

### **Other acronyms for CBT:**

CAI    computer assisted instruction

CAL    computer aided learning

CBE    computer based education

CBI    computer based instruction

CBL    computer based learning

...

# Introduction

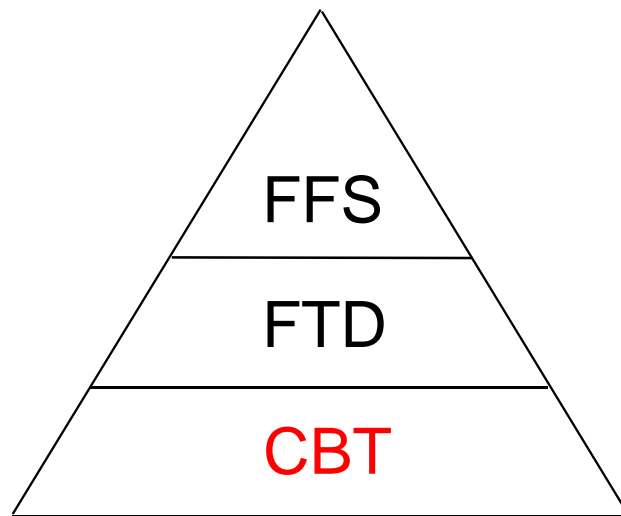
## Economic Problems

Costs for the development of a CBT training course  
(duration **one hour**):

- PLATO, Lilienthal Project, ... : **≈ 25 000 US\$**
- ⇒ Development **costs must be distributed**  
over a large number of students.
- ! Usually there is a **small number of students**  
**in aircraft design.**

# Computer Applications in Aviation Training

## Pilot Training



Training Pyramid

**FSS** Full Flight Simulator

**FTD** Flight Training Devices:

FBS Fixed Based Simulator

PPT Part Task Trainer

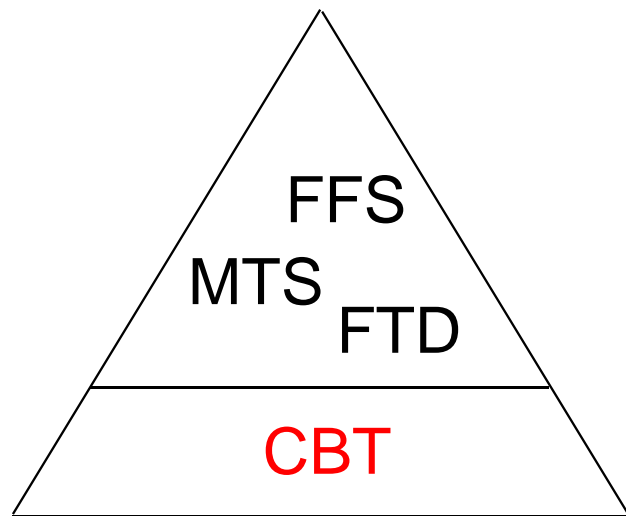
CSS Cockpit System Trainer

IFF Instrument Flight Trainer

**CBT** Computer Based Training

# Computer Applications in Aviation Training

## Aviation Maintenance Training



Training Pyramid

- FSS** Full Flight Simulator
- MTS** Maintenance Training Simulator
- FTD** Flight Training Device
- CBT** Computer Based Training



# Computer Applications in Aviation Training

## Aviation Maintenance Training

### CBT levels:

- ✈ Aircraft maintenance **fundamentals**
- ✈ Generic aircraft **systems concepts**
- ✈ Aircraft **type-specific maintenance**
- ✈ **Troubleshooting** by means of simulation-type CBT

# Computer Applications in Aviation Training

## Aviation Maintenance Training

### Lessons learned:

- ✈ **CBT does not provide a total training solution.**
- ✈ Use a mix: lectures, CBT, practical training, field trips.
- ✈ **Pure student-paced CBT does not work.**
- ✈ Limit student-paced CBT to 3 hours per day.
- ✈ **The human brain is no storage area.**
- ✈ Provide easy-to-use retrieval systems.

# Computer Applications in Aviation Training

## Other Branches of Aviation Training

- ✈ Cabin crew training
- ✈ X-ray interpretation training
- ✈ General topic training:
  - Safety
  - Emergency
  - Security

# Computer Applications in Aviation Training

## CBT Developers

### Dedicated CBT developers

- ✈ Vega Group PLC
- ✈ Wicat Systems Inc.



### Aircraft Manufacturers

- ✈ Airbus Industrie
- ✈ FlightSafety Boeing Training International



### Airlines (in cooperation with partners ↑)



# Requirements and Background: CBT in Aircraft Design Education

Requirements (problem-based learning, PBL)

- ✈ Student-paced **CBT** on aircraft design fundamentals
- ✈ **Computing modules** on
  - preliminary sizing
  - conceptual aircraft design
- ✈ Ideally: Elements of **simulation-type CBT**
- ✈ CBT usable via Internet ⇒
  - Web Based Training (WBT)
  - **Distance Learning**
- ✈ Discussion groups, E-mail support

# Requirements and Background: CBT in Aircraft Design Education

## Traditional Aircraft Design Computer Programs

- ✈ Advanced Aircraft Analysis (**AAA**)
- ✈ **RDS** Aircraft Design Software



## PC-based Flight Simulation (**Fly your aircraft !**)

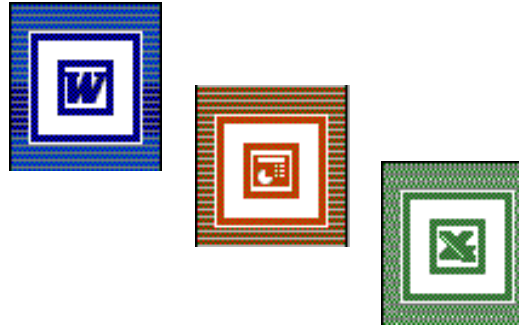
- ✈ **X-Plane** with 'planemaker'
- ✈ Aviator Visual Design Simulator (**AVDS**)



## CBT Tools

### Microsoft

- ✈ Word
- ✈ PowerPoint
- ✈ Excel



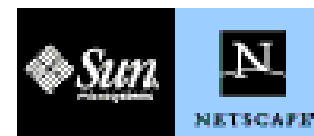
### Adobe Portabel Document Format (PDF)

- ✈ Acrobat Exchange
- ✈ Acrobat Reader



Acrobat Exchange™

### HTML, JavaScript, Java



### Macromedia

- ✈ Director



## First Results

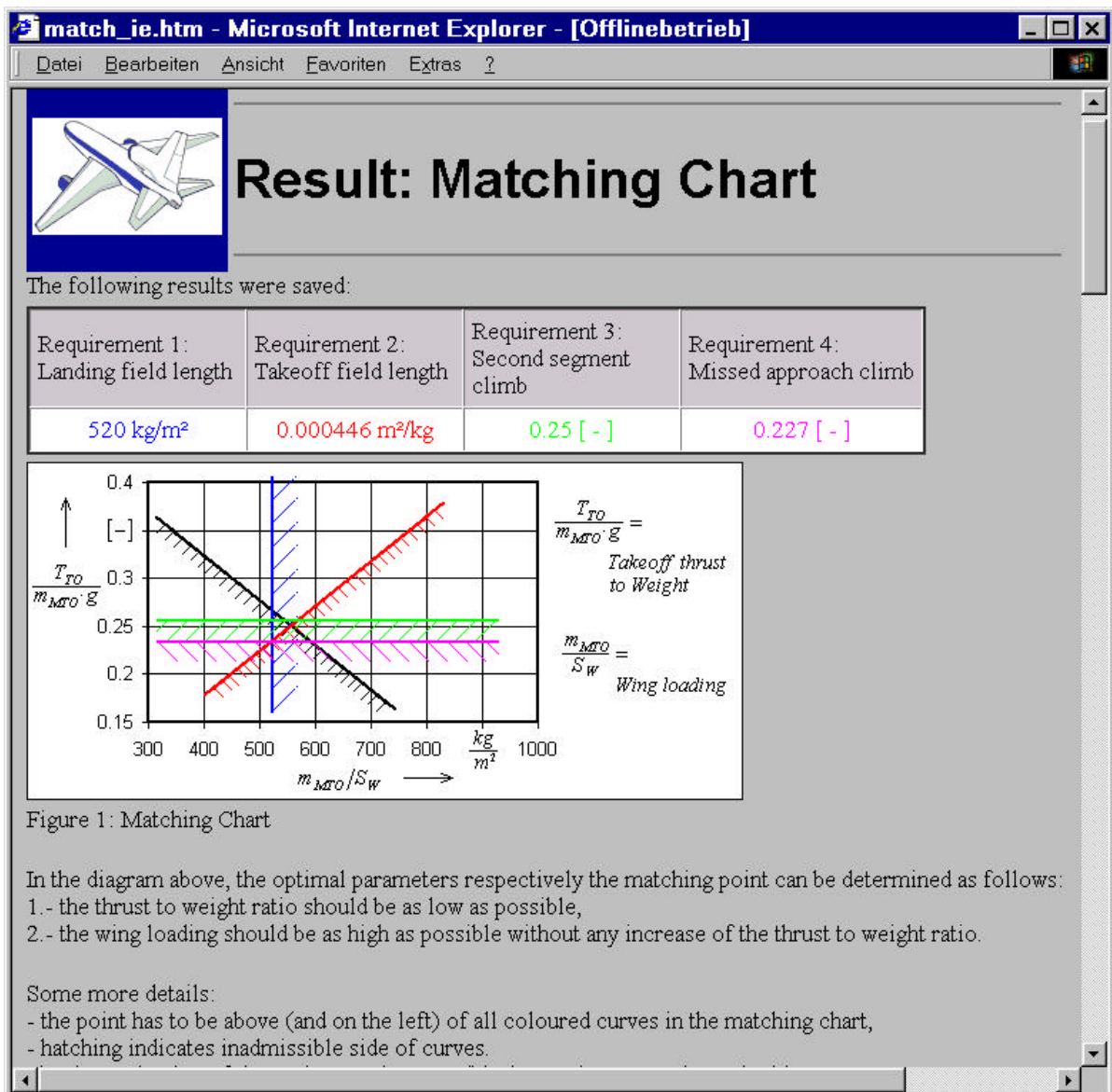
### University of Applied Sciences, Hamburg

- ✈ Aircraft Design Education:
  - PBL, small teams, one semester
  - industry project: whole & new aircraft
  - course notes in WWW (PDF)
  - students develop their own spreadsheets
  - WWW bulletin board, E-mail support, discussion group
  
- ✈ **Experimental CBT** development
  - Topic: Preliminary sizing (Loftin: NASA Ref. Pub. 1060)
  - **HTML, JavaScript**, Java
  - Multimedia: HTML with video



# First Results

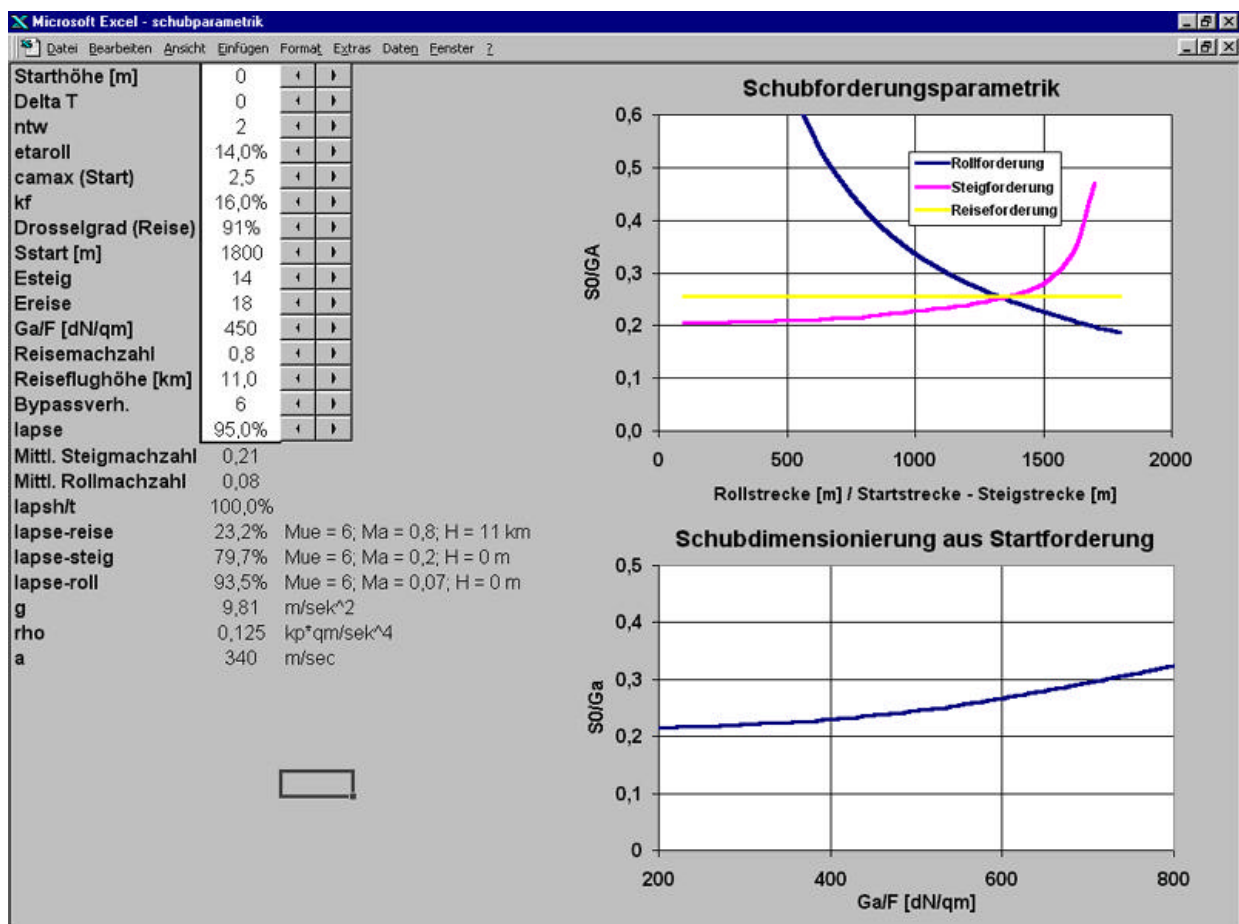
**University of Applied Sciences, Hamburg**  
 Screen shot from CBT/WBT module on  
 preliminary sizing



# First Results

## Technical University of Berlin

Screen shot from Excel program on sizing of the engines for take-off and cruise



## Conclusions

### **CBT in aircraft design education:**

- ✈ potential to improve teaching & learning situation
- ✈ danger: pitfalls (see experience from maintenance training)
- ✈ far too expensive

## Recommendations

### **CBT designed in internationally combined effort**

- ✈ course modules linked in open architecture on WWW
- ✈ <http://www.AircraftDesign.org>