

# Using MBPLE to manage specification complexity

Maxime Varoqui  
Systems Engineer – MBSE

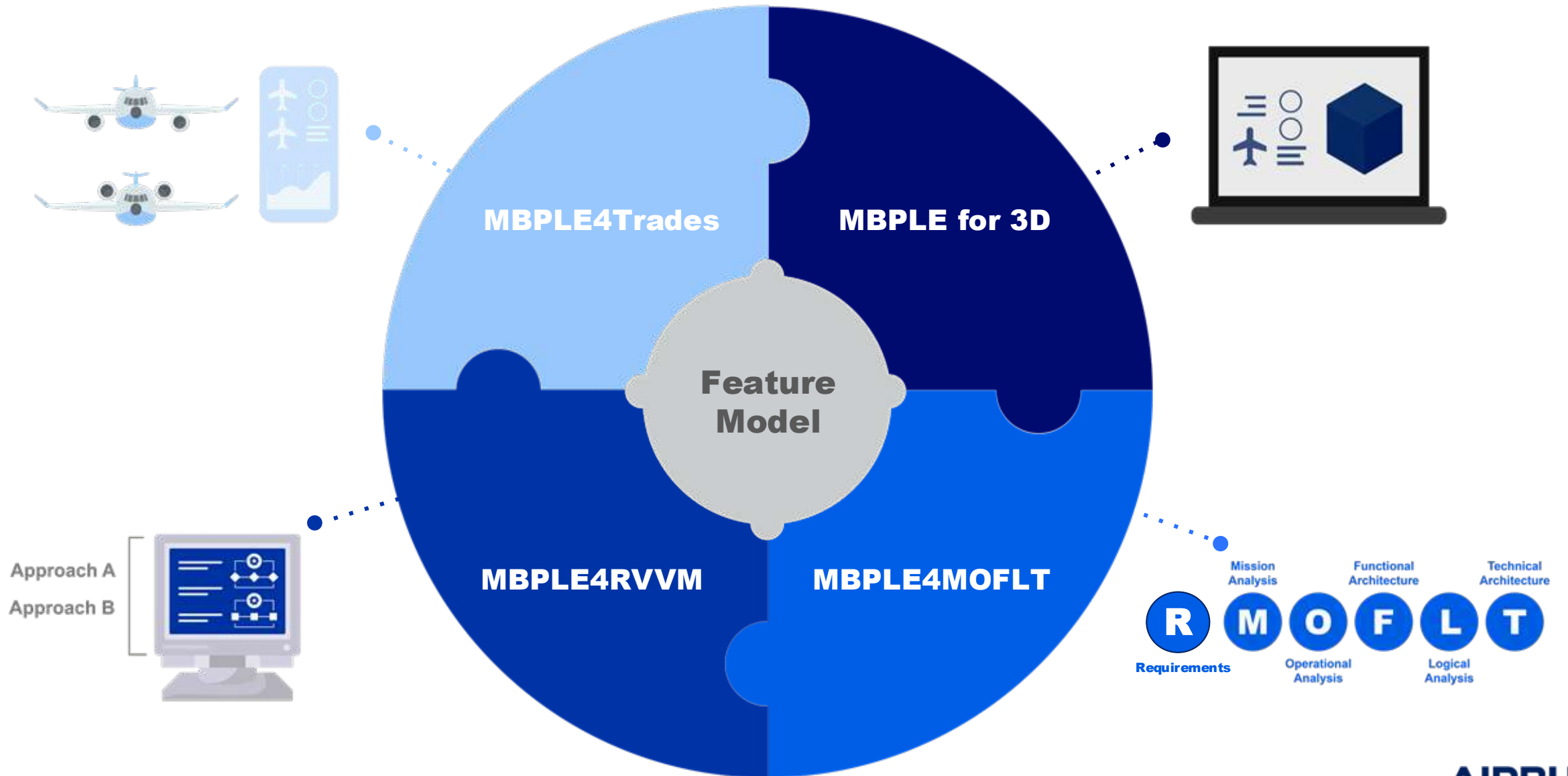
24/25 March 2026



Product Line Engineering in Action

**AIRBUS**

# Holistic MBPLE Framework Methods



# Deployment at Airbus

Beyond the "Traditional" System Development



Product



Industrial



Services

Successfully Deployed at the Three Axis of Co-Development

Method already delivering value to real-life projects for 1.5+years



From Proof of Concept to Real-Life Deployment

Proven to Support Diverse Types of Systems and Hierarchical Levels



A/C Level



FAL



A/C Components & Assemblies



Sub-Systems

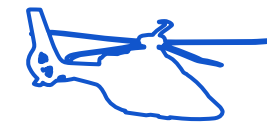
Method proven applicable to different domains

Method developed accounting to the need of the whole Airbus Group

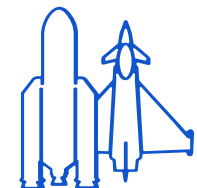
**AIRBUS**



Commercial Aircrafts



Helicopters



Defense & Space

Covering the Needs of Airbus "Big Family"

# Introduction and Challenges

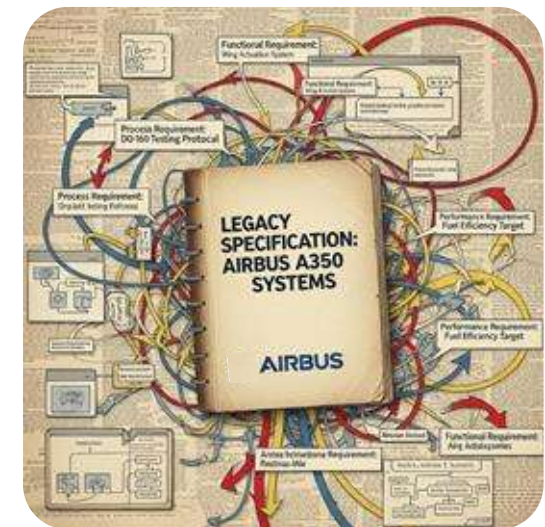
## Context

- Seat vendor designs seats (owns the design)
- Airbus oversees and integrates the Seats inside the aircraft
- Airbus requirements shared with the seat vendor as PDF Documents
- Shared V&V Activities



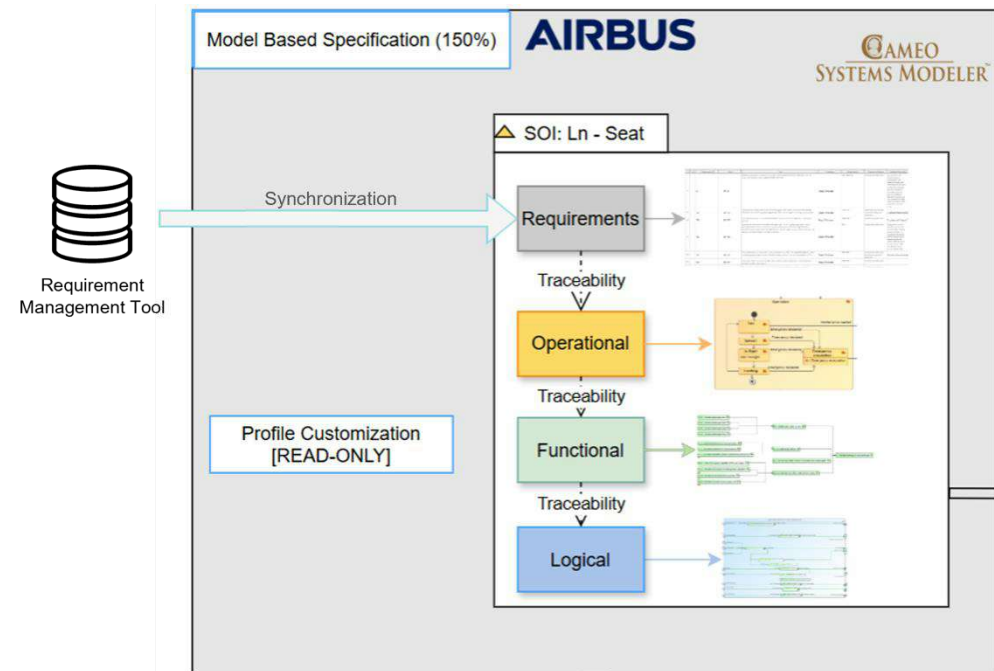
## Challenge from Legacy Specification

- Specification comes as a 1000+ page document
- Cross-Program requirements, difficult to determine their applicability
- Gathers different types of requirements: Process, Functional, Performance...



# Overall MBSE and MBPLE Approach

- Airbus MBSE/MBPLE Framework R-MOFLT (Mission, Operational, Functional, Logical, Technical)
  - Seat as System of Interest
  - Development of the 150% Seat specification
  - Feature Model in Pure Variants
  - **Requirements** synchronized from database
  - **Use Cases**, Seat **Life Cycle**
  - High-Level **Functional architecture**
  - Primary **Logical Architecture** of the Seat's main components
  - No Technical Layer developed within the specification to preserve seat vendor's innovation
- 100% Model-Based Specification (MBS) is sent to seat vendors alongside the traditional 150% PDF documents



# Cross Program Requirements

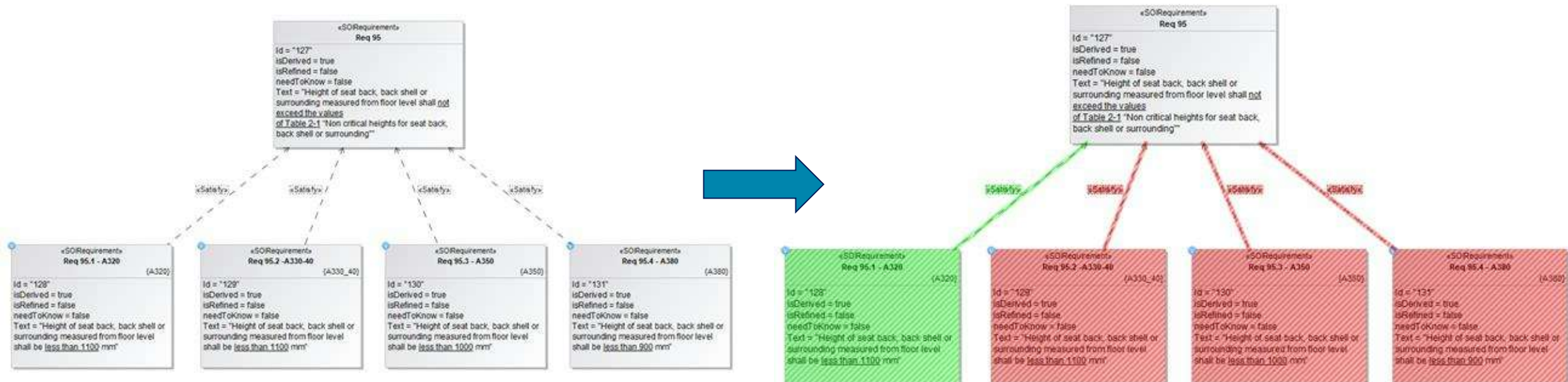
- Development of a feature model in Pure Variants
- Variation Points set up on the system model elements
- Different approaches identified and tested for this project to manage the requirement set once in the modeling tool



# Cross Program Requirements

## Option 1: Variation points on Requirements

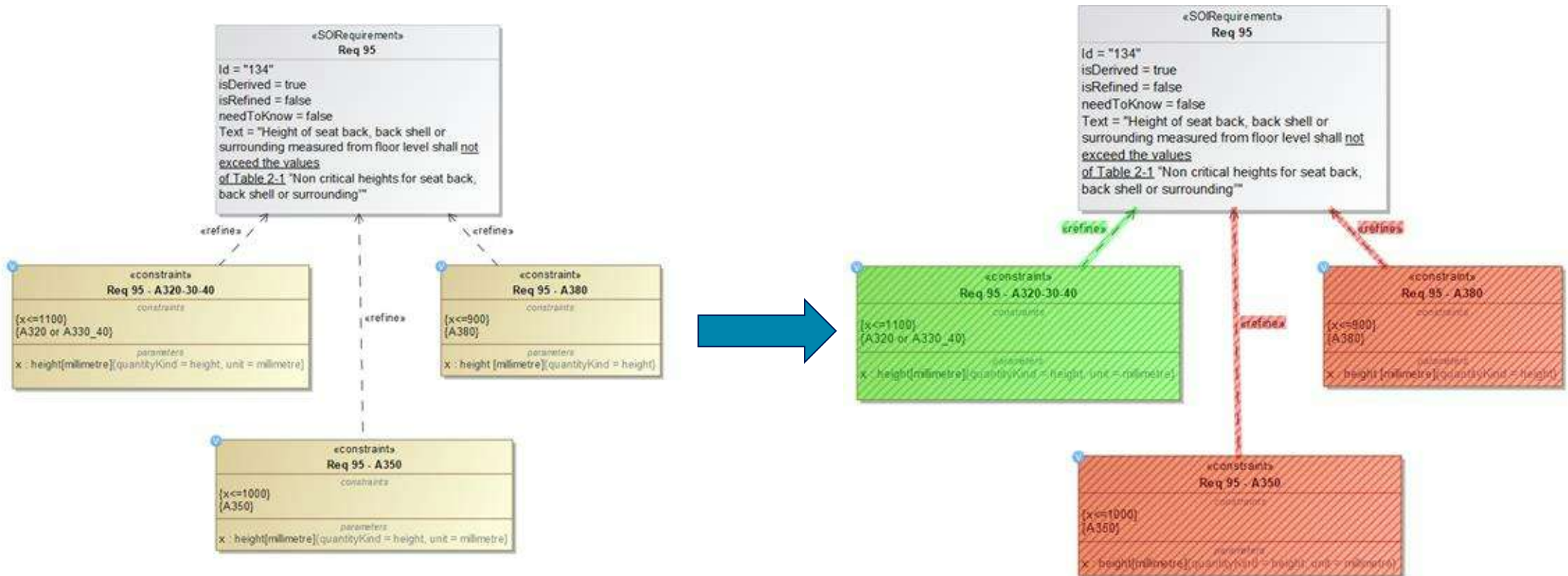
One cross-program requirement split into individual requirements



# Cross Program Requirements

## Option 2: Variation points on Constraint Blocks

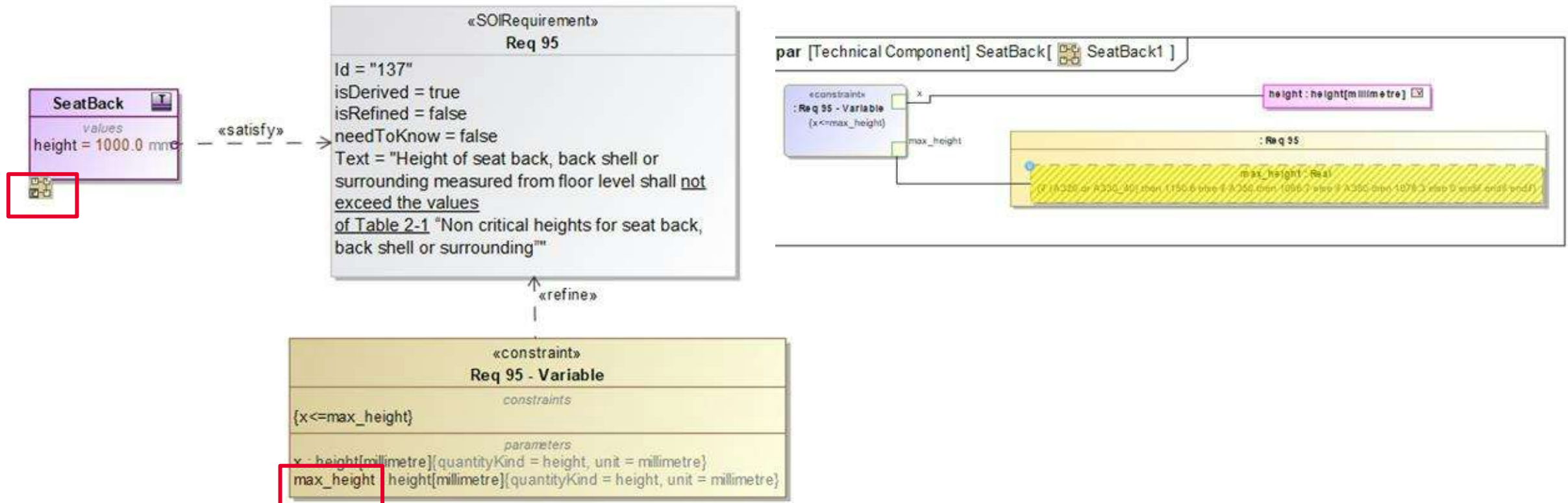
One cross-program requirement refined by individual constraintBlocks



# Cross Program Requirements

## Option 3: Variation points on objective value/constraint

One cross-program requirement refined by a unique constraintBlock, for which the mathematical constraints varies

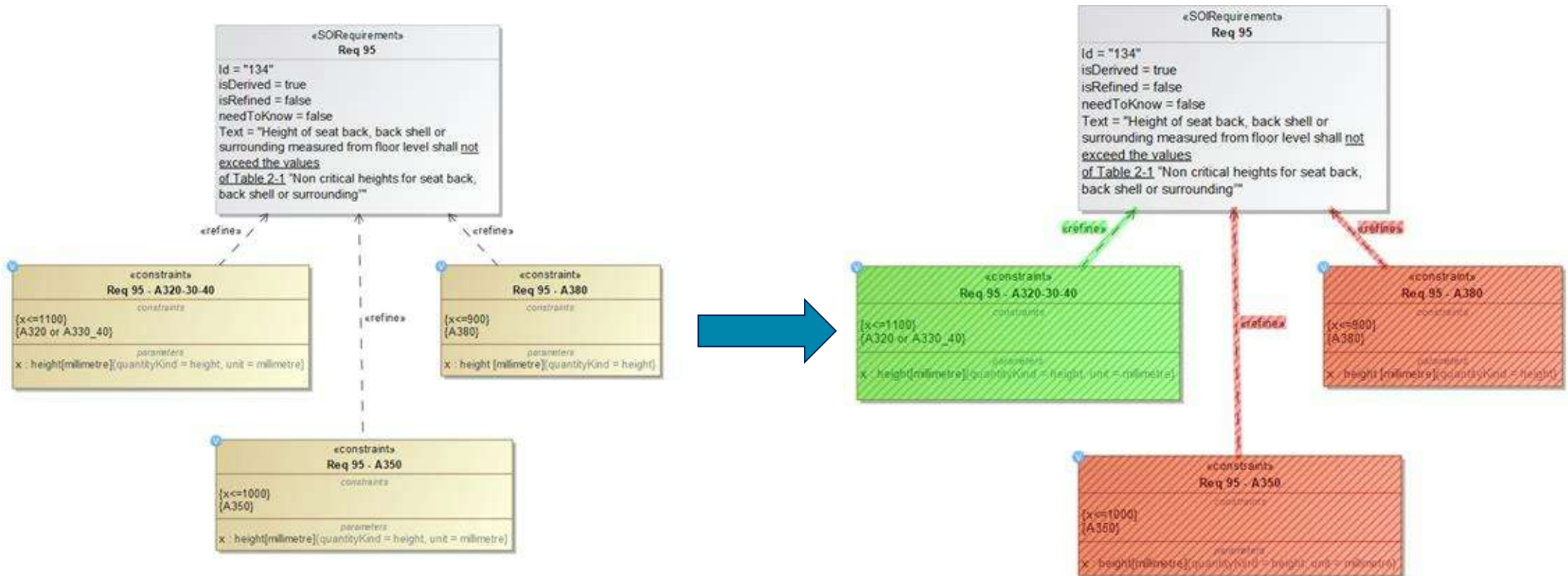


# Cross Program Requirements



## Option 2: Variation points on Constraint Blocks

One cross-program requirement refined by individual constraintBlocks



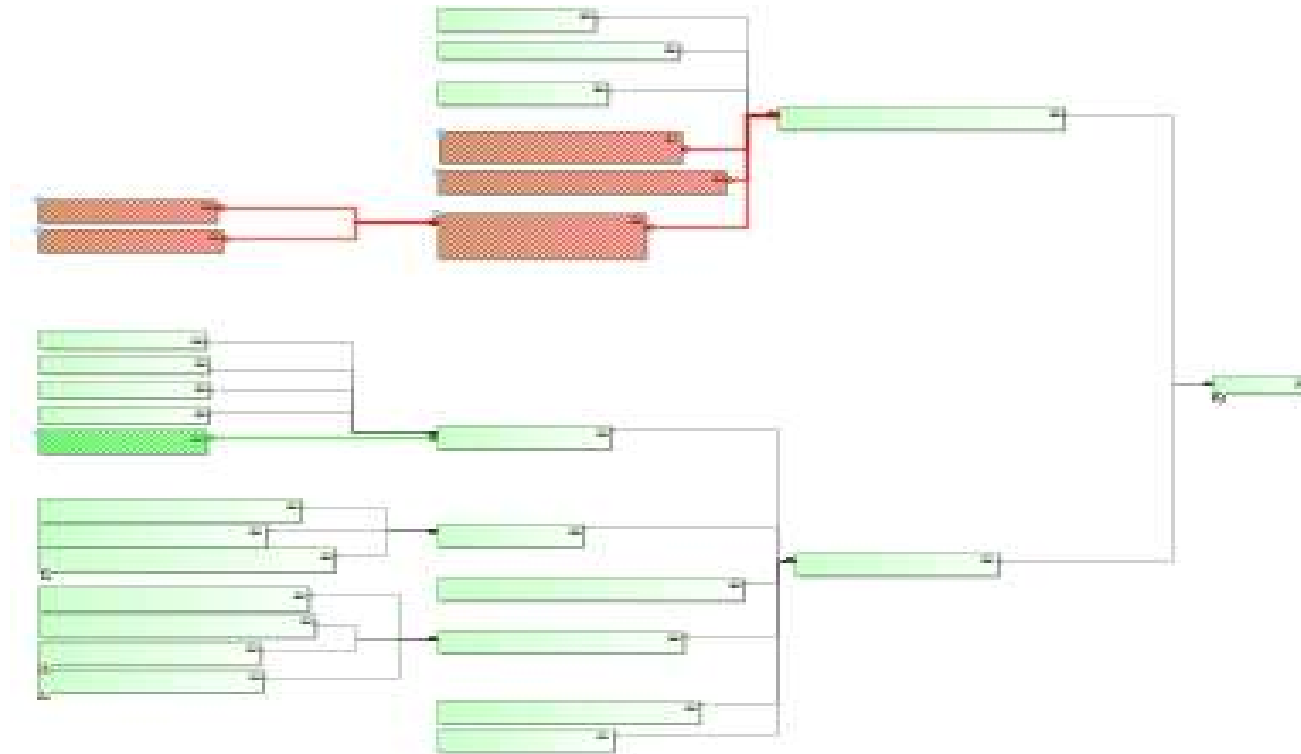
# Highlights of the Approach - Requirements

- Variation Points on requirements and potential constraintBlocks
- From a cross-program to version-specific tailored specification

#	Id	Name	PV Feature
2	X_2521_Frame-18	SR General	
14	X_2521_Frame-67	SR Certification Tests	
111	X_2521_Frame-74	SR Process (non technical) Requiremen	
269	X_2521_Frame-23	SR Product Requirements	
270	X_2521_Frame-24	SR Product Description	
384	X_2521_Frame-31	SR Module	
385	X_2521_Frame-101	SR	Seat
386	X_2521_Frame-311	SR	
387	X_2521_Frame-32	SR Weight	
388	X_2521_Frame-34	SR Weight Report	
389	X_2521_Frame-111	SR	
390	X_2521_Frame-126	SR	Seat Furniture OR Seat
391	X_2521_Frame-128	SR	
392	X_2521_Frame-112	SR	
393	X_2521_Frame-4863	SR	
394	X_2521_Frame-4864	SR	
395	X_2521_Frame-4865	SR	
396	X_2521_Frame-5251	SR	
397	X_2521_Frame-35	SR Weighing and Weighing Re	
398	X_2521_Frame-117	SR	
399	X_2521_Frame-120	SR	
400	X_2521_Frame-121	SR	
401	X_2521_Frame-122	SR	
402	X_2521_Frame-5045	SR	Seat Furniture OR Seat
403	X_2521_Frame-123	SR	
404	X_2521_Frame-127	SR	
405	X_2521_Frame-2719	SR	
406	X_2521_Frame-41	SR Materials	
419	X_2521_Frame-42	SR Ttol	
431	X_2521_Frame-44	SR Rapid Decompression	
449	X_2521_Frame-45	SR Ventilation	
460	X_2521_Frame-46	SR Appearance	
474	X_2521_Frame-47	SR Identification & Placards	
521	X_2521_Frame-1383	SR Special Seats	
522	X_2521_Frame-5316	SR Full Height Seat Furniture (FH Full Height Seat Furniture)	
587	X_2521_Frame-48	SR Components	
748	X_2521_Frame-28	SR Aircraft Interfaces	
822	X_2521_Frame-49	SR Safety, Installation & Maintenance	
942		SR HELPS-V-25-20 Seat Interface Specifica	
943		SR HELPS-V-25-20 Seat Attachment Specifica	
944		SR HELPS-V-25-20 Seat Leg	
945		SR HELPS-V-25-20 Passenger And/or Petrol	

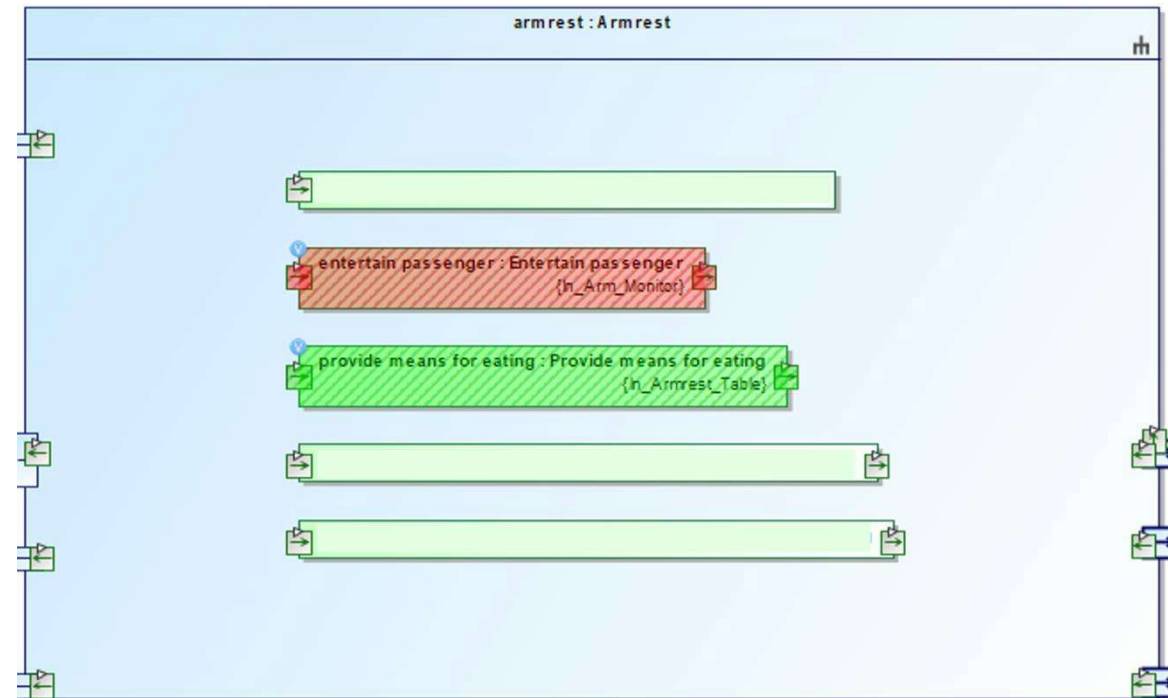
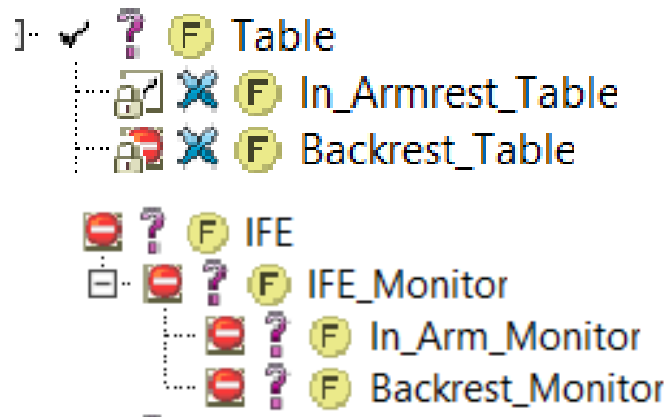
# Highlights of the Approach - Functional

- Variation Points on High Level Seats Functions
- Architecture cleaned up for each version



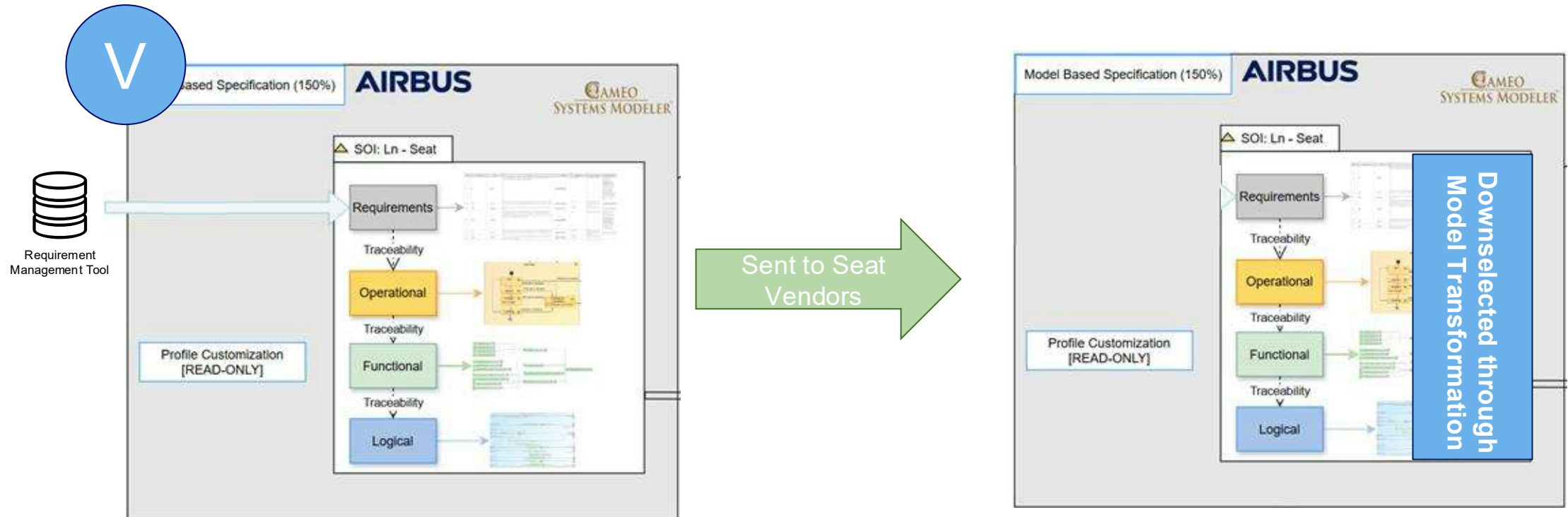
# Highlights of the Approach - Logical

- Variation Points within Logical Components
- Expected functions the sub-systems realize are version-dependent



# Highlights of the Approach - Model-Based Specification

- Specification applicable for specific seat development



# MBPLE for Specification - Overview



150%

- Model contains the entire specification, **all possible Seats features**

120%

- Represents a platform seat and contains a reduced specification, with **vendor's offered features**

100%

- Represents a platform seat to be integrated in an aircraft and contains an even more reduced specification with the specific **features selected by the airline**

# Benefits

- **Improved specification** quality
- Pure variants provides **easy selection** of features and connects to all R-MOFLT assets
- Provides a visualization of the Feature Model to present to SMEs
- Automated generation of applicable **requirements**
- **Functional and Logical breakdown** structure adapted to each Aircraft
- **High reusability** of models thanks to 150%/120%/100% configurations

# Thank you



---

**Maxime Varoqui**

[maxime.varoqui@airbus.com](mailto:maxime.varoqui@airbus.com)

# Thank you

© Copyright Airbus (2026) / Using MBPLE to manage specification complexity

This document and all information contained herein is the sole property of Airbus. No intellectual property rights are granted by the delivery of this document or the disclosure of its content. This document shall not be reproduced or disclosed to a third party without the expressed written consent of Airbus. This document and its content shall not be used for any purpose other than that for which it is supplied.

Airbus, its logo and product names are registered trademarks.