

## A New Generation of TRIZ

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*Shuzenji, Izu*

## Outline of Talk

"Innovation" in technologies is crucial for industries today.

For achieving innovations, we need philosophy and methodology for "Creative Problem Solving".

TRIZ has developed such a set of methodology, containing:

Philosophy, Thinking ways, Knowledge-bases,  
Software tools, Training/Education, etc.

TRIZ has been penetrating into western countries,  
but still meets much difficulty.

We need a new generation of TRIZ; simpler and more effective.  
USIT will meet such needs, I believe.

TRIZ/USIT can lead the practices of technical innovations.

## Overview of TRIZ

- (a) **Philosophy:** Recognition of evolution of technical systems and Philosophy in the thinking ways
- (b) **Methods:** Methods and procedures for creative problem solving
- (c) **Knowledge bases:** A system of knowledge organized for better utilization of science and technology
- (d) **Software tools:** Realization of knowledge bases and methods
- (e) **Practices:** Training of engineers, industrial practices, services, school education, etc.

Historically, these have been constructed via **bottom-up** through the analysis of patents, etc.

This lecture discusses in the order of (a) --> (c)(d) --> (b) for better understanding of the overview and for clarifying the problems in the practices of TRIZ.

## (1) Philosophy of TRIZ

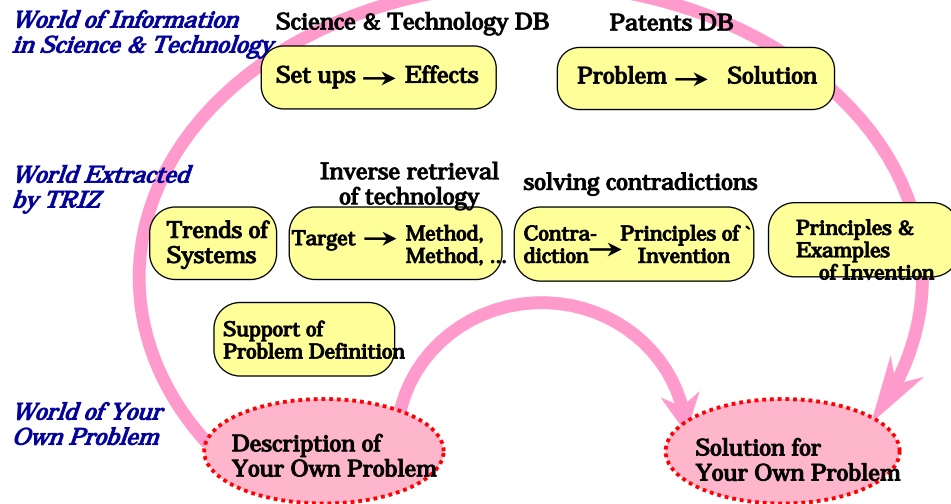
### Essence of TRIZ:

Recognition that  
**technical systems** evolve  
towards the increase of **ideality**  
by overcoming **contradictions**  
mostly with minimal introduction of **resources**.

Thus, for creative problem solving,  
TRIZ provides with a **dialectic way of thinking**,  
i.e.,  
to understand the **problem as a system**,  
to make an image of the **ideal solution first**, and  
to **solve contradictions**.

## (2) Knowledge Bases of TRIZ

### TRIZ Methodology for Problem Solving



## TRIZ Knowledge Bases and Software Tools

### Classical TRIZ: Genrich Altshuller and his followers

Analyzed a huge number of patents and constructed a system of knowledge bases.

→ In 1990s: Emigrated to USA and made software tools  
 Knowledge bases working smoothly on PCs.  
 TechOptimizer (Invention Machine), etc.

### In 2000 - 2003: Darrell Mann and CREAX (Belgium)

Analyzed all the US Patents granted since 1985 till present by using Altshuller's approach and Revised the whole TRIZ knowledge bases.

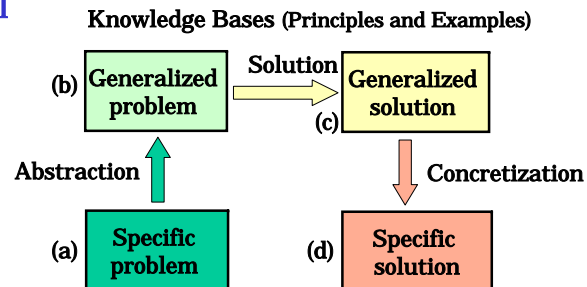
Textbook: "Hands-On Systematic Innovation"  
 Data book: "Matrix 2003"  
 Software tool: 'CREAX Innovation Suite'



## (3) Methods of Problem Solving in TRIZ

### Basic Principles/Models of Problem Solving in TRIZ

#### 1. Generalization model



2. Understand the problem as a system.

3. Make an image of Ideal Solutions first.

4. Formulate the Contradictions and solve them.

## TRIZ (+USIT) Ways of Thinking:

### (1) Understand the Problem as a system

- Think over the System of Problem, and focus the problem to solve.
- Consider the super- and sub-systems of the technical system of problem, and examine the past, present, and future of them (i.e. 9-Windows) on the basis of Trends of Evolution of Technical Systems.
- Analyze the system with respect to Objects, Attributes, and Functions.
- Analyze the Functional relationship of the system, with additional attention to insufficient and harmful relationships.
- Consider the mechanism in the problem system, examine Root Causes (and/or Root Contradictions), and reveal the attributes relevant to the problem. (i.e. Attribute Analysis)
- Reveal the characteristic nature of the problem and its system in terms of Space and Time.

## 9-Windows Method (Outline of an application example)

	Past (10 yrs ago)	Present	Future (in 5 yrs)
Super-System	<p>⑥ Society systems at higher levels</p> <p>Telephone network system</p>	<p>③ Society systems at higher levels</p> <p>Mobile phone network system</p>	<p>⑦ Keywords of future society</p> <p>Future information technology and network systems</p>
System	<p>④ Telephone</p> <p>Other devices whose functions have been brought into the mobile phone</p>	<p>① <b>Mobile phone</b></p> <p>Other devices possibly relevant in future (including Notebook PC)</p>	<p>⑧ Mobile information &amp; communication device "i-base" (pocketable)</p> <p>(wrist-watch type, pen type, card type, accessory type)</p>
Sub-System	<p>⑤ Basic functions of telephone</p> <p>Various usages of telephone</p>	<p>② Functions of mobile phone</p>	<p>⑨ Functions of "i-base"</p> <p>Functions of smaller-sized devices</p>

## TRIZ (+USIT) Ways of Thinking: (2) Make an image of Ideal Solutions first

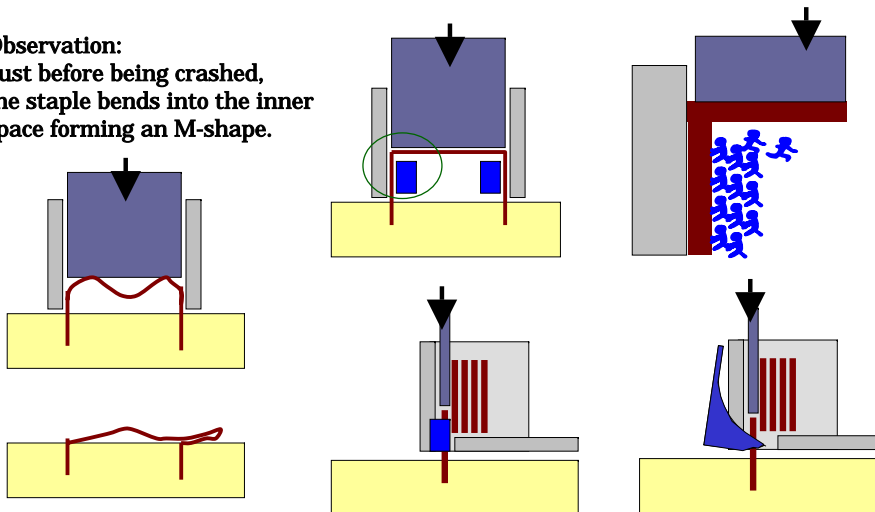
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- Reveal the characteristic nature of the problem and its system in terms of Space and Time.

Toru Nakagawa & Kazuaki Kamiya (2004)

## SLP (Smart Little People) Modeling

Application example: Preventing a staple from being crushed

Observation:  
Just before being crushed, the staple bends into the inner space forming an M-shape.



## TRIZ (+USIT) Ways of Thinking: (3) Formulate the Contradictions and Solve them

- Formulate the problem as a Technical Contradiction, where improving the system in one aspect worsens in another aspect, and solve the contradiction by using Inventive Principles recommended with the Contradiction Matrix.
- Formulate the problem as a Physical Contradiction, where requirements exist in the opposite directions in an aspect of the system, and solve the contradiction by using the Separation Principle and Inventive Principles recommended through it.

## Methods to Solve Contradictions

(= Biggest contribution of TRIZ to science/technology)

**Physical Contradiction:** opposite requirements in one aspect of the system

→ Apply the Separation Principle. Able to find solutions surely.

- (1) Examine the requirements to separate them with respect to Space, Time, or any other condition.
- (2) For the separated situations, find separate solutions satisfying each requirement.
- (3) Then, find a way to use the solutions in combination.

→ A break-through is necessary at the Combination stage (3).  
Apply some Inventive Principles.

Refer to Mann's textbook HOSI or "Matrix 2003".

→ A nice case study: 'Water-saving Toilet' by Kyeong-Won Lee (Korea).

## TRIZ Case Study of Solving a Physical Contradiction: 'Water-Saving Toilet'

by Hong Suk Lee and Kyeong Won Lee (Korea), TRIZ Journal, Nov. 2003.

**Task:** Reduce the amount of flashing water necessary for the toilets.  
-- Needs over the world.



**Current problem:** For flashing the waste, water of 6 to 13 liters is used.

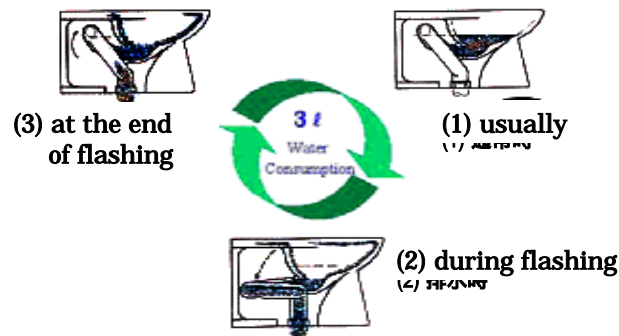
**Analysis:** S-pipe is necessary to block the bad odour from coming up, and is effective for flashing all with the ciphone effect. S-pipe is not desirable for reducing the amount of flashing water.

Physical Contradiction: S-pipe is required to exist and not to exist.

**Separation Principle:** Separable in Time:

Required to exist -- during most of the time except flashing  
Required Not to exist -- during the time of flashing

**Solution:** Instead of the rigid S-shaped pipe, a flexible plastic tube is used and is lowered during flashing.



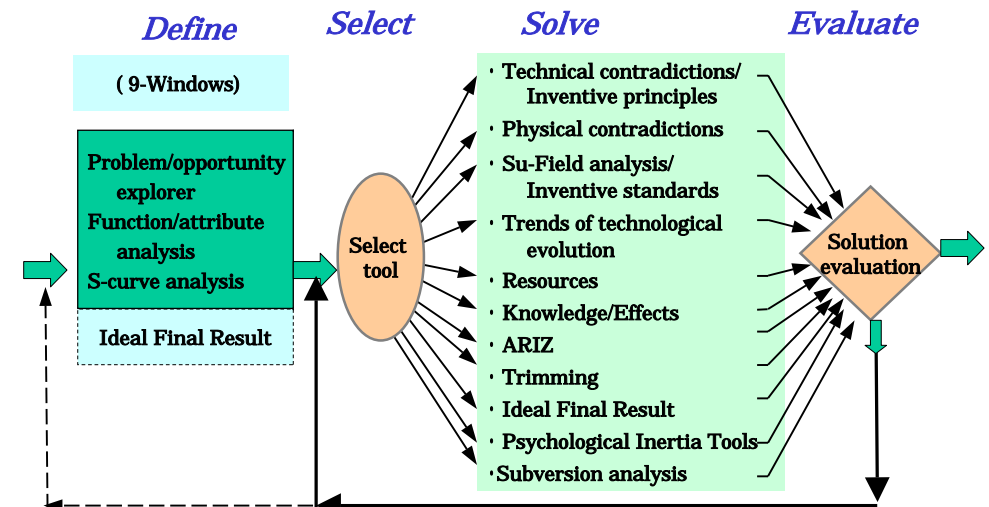
**Results:** Flashing with only 3 liters of water

**Implementation:** Experiments of usage, maintenance-free, durability, etc.  
The amount of water is adjustable to environments and regulations.

## Overall Procedure in TRIZ

[Flowchart]

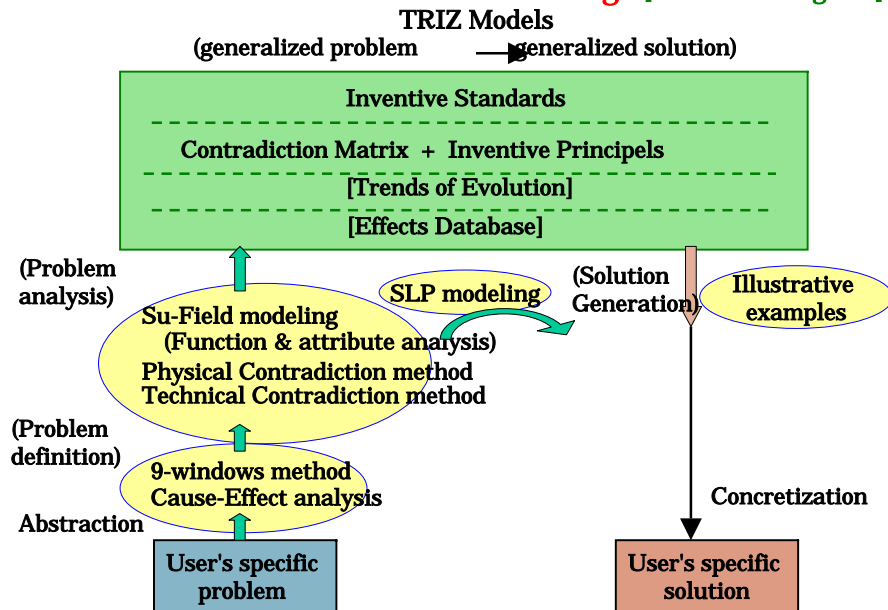
(in the modernized form by Darrell Mann)



So many methods, so complex procedure.

Can we and should we learn them all? -- Learn one by one. (Mann)

## Overall Structure of TRIZ Problem Solving [Data-flow diagram]



## TRIZ in the traditional way:

Principal Models for Solution Generation request their own analysis methods (for abstraction):

Contradiction Matrix → Inventive Principles  
 Su-Field analysis → Inventive Standards  
 ARIZ (for formulating Physical Contradictions) → Separation Principle

Separate analysis methods provide insufficient and narrow understanding of the problem.

→ The solution process is confusing and not effective enough.

The lack of a clear overall structure in TRIZ is the root cause of the "TRIZ slow-penetration problem".

## Let's reconsider the essence of TRIZ:

Penetration of TRIZ in industrial practices is slow

not because TRIZ is poor,  
but because TRIZ is so rich.

Darrell Mann has explained TRIZ easier to understand  
but has not made TRIZ easier or simpler to apply.

Instead of handbook-type knowledge in TRIZ,  
we should better learn the essence of TRIZ.

→ Essence of TRIZ is simple!!! (See it in 50 words.)

We need a simple and effective process for problem solving.

→ That's USIT !!!

## USIT ("Unified Structured Inventive Thinking")

Developed by Ed Sickafus (at Ford)  
(1995 - )

Refined in Japan

Simplified and unified from TRIZ



"USIT Operators"  
A system of solution generation methods  
(Nakagawa, Kosha, Mihara, 2002)

Clearly defined, effective process



Clear overall structure  
"6-Box Scheme"  
A new paradigm for problem solving  
(Nakagawa, 2004)

Define the problem,  
Analyze the problem, and  
Generate solutions.

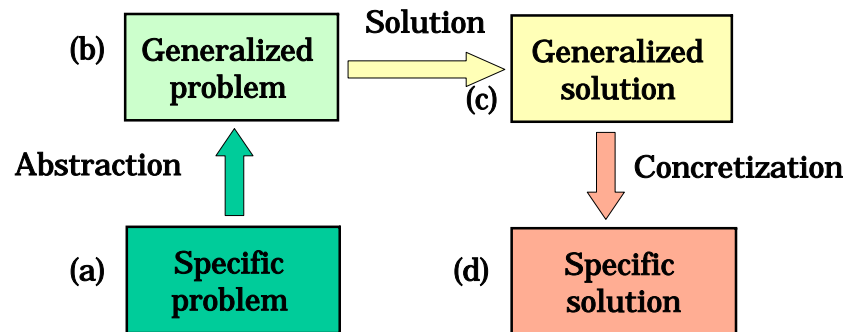
Readily applicable to real industrial problems  
for obtaining conceptual solutions.

Do not depend on the use of tables, handbooks, or software tools.



## Re-examine the Basic Scheme for Problem Solving:

### Basic Four-Box Scheme for Problem Solving



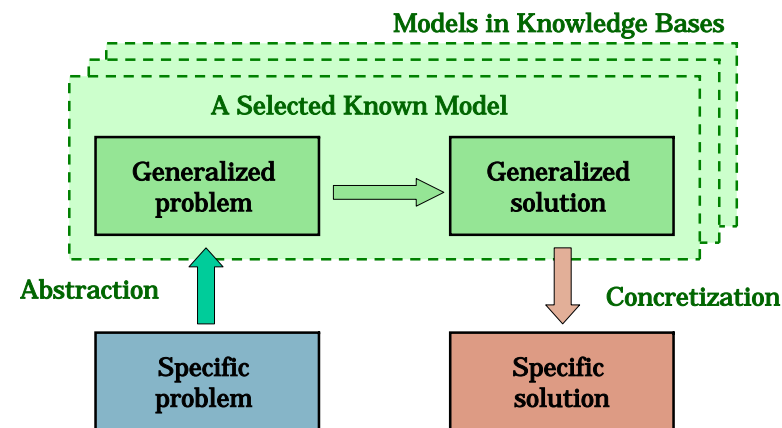
? Contents of these boxes depend specifically on the fields, models, and problems; thus are not explainable any further in general terms.

## Four-Box Scheme Using Models in Knowledge Bases

[Analogical Thinking]

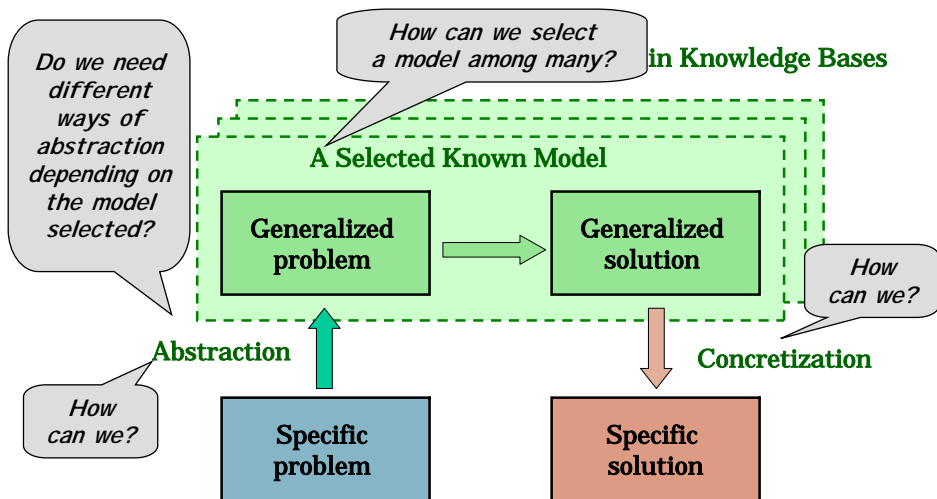
Basic scheme in TRIZ (in reality)

= Basic Scheme in many other scientific/technological methods



## Four-Box Scheme of Problem Solving with Analogy

TRIZ (in reality) and many other scientific/technological methods



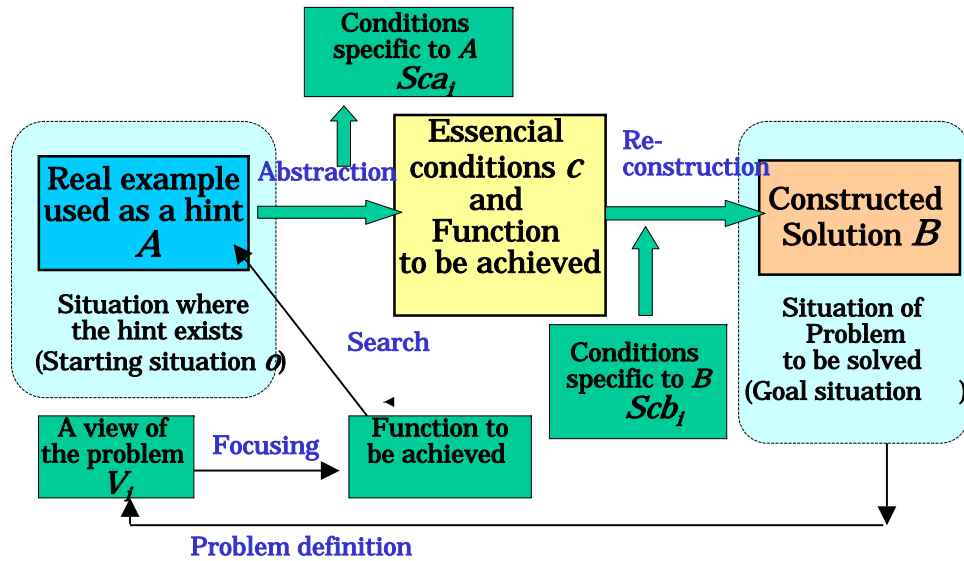
## Equivalent Transformation Thinking Developed by Kikuya Ichikawa

A big source of Creativity Study in Japan  
Tried to go further than analogical thinking

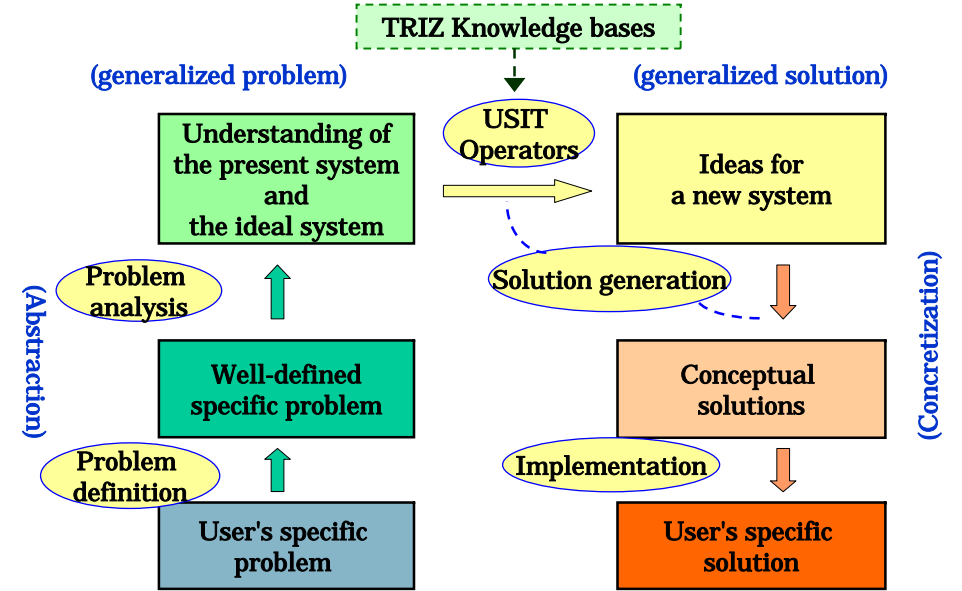
$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & \uparrow Sca - i & \\
 A & \xrightarrow{c} & B \\
 Vi \rightarrow & O & \uparrow Scb - i
 \end{array}$$

# Overall Structure of Equivalent Transformation Thinking

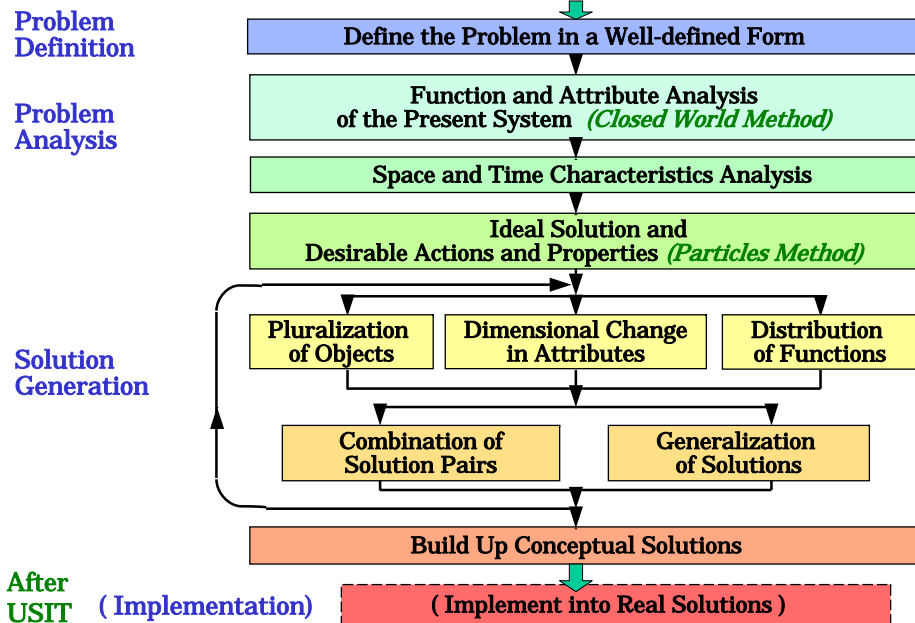
(Toru Nakagawa, Jul. 2005)



# Overall Structure of Problem Solving in USIT

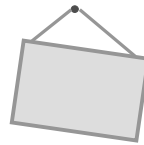


## USIT Procedure [Flowchart] [T. Nakagawa, Mar. 2005]



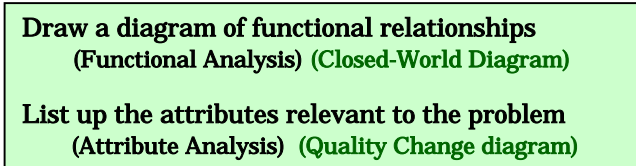
## Usage of USIT: Example: "Picture Hanging Kit Problem"

Problem Definition Stage: Well define in the following points:

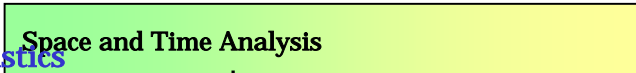
- (1) Undesirable effect: The picture frame is apt to tilt sometime later.
- (2) Problem statement: Improve the picture hanging kit, which is currently composed of a nail, a string, and two
- (3) Simple sketch of problem situation 
- (4) Plausible root causes: Offset of the center of mass of the frame, vibrati  
A frame, two hooks, a string, a nail, and wall
- (5) Minimum set of relevant objects:

## USIT: Problem Analysis Stage (T. Nakagawa, Dec. 2004)

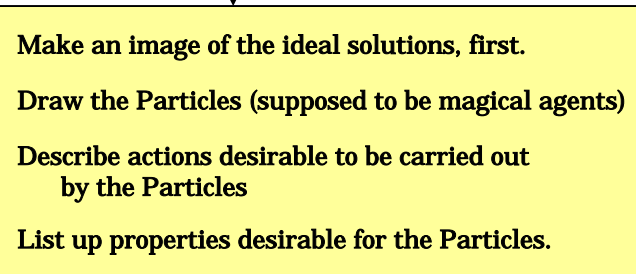
Analyze the current system  
(Closed-World Method)



Analyze the Space and Time characteristics

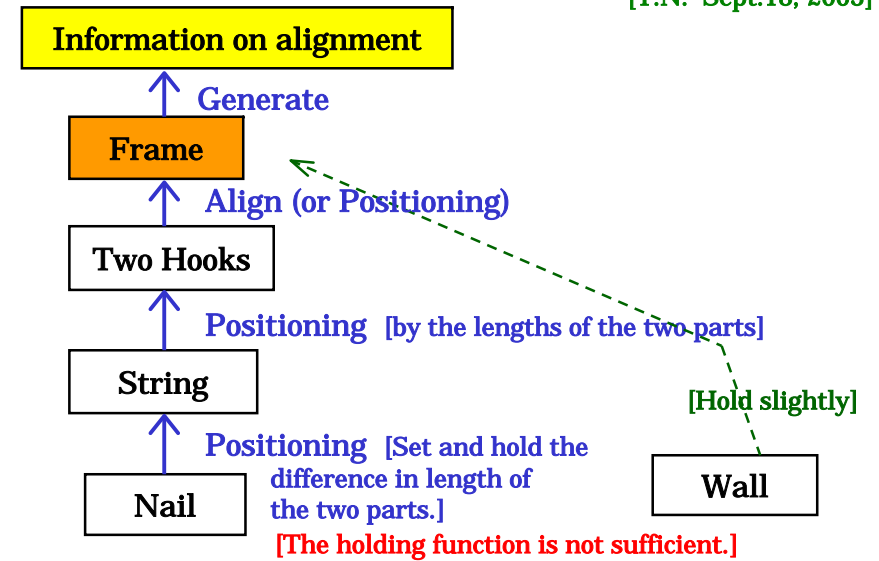


Analyze the image of ideal systems  
(Particles Method)



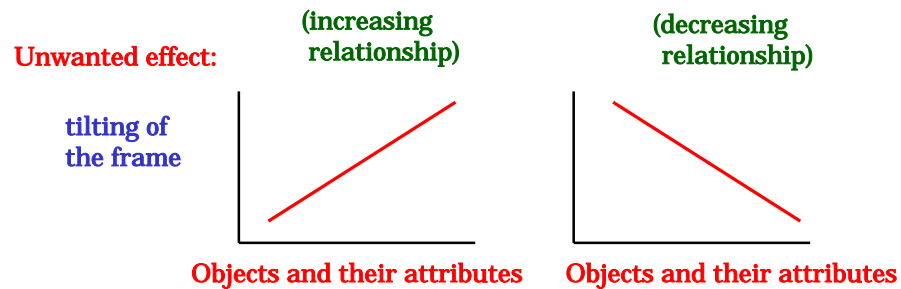
## Functional Analysis in USIT Picture Hanging-Kit Problem

[T.N. Sept.18, 2003]



## Attribute Analysis in USIT

Qualitative Change Graphs for Picture Hanging Kit Problem

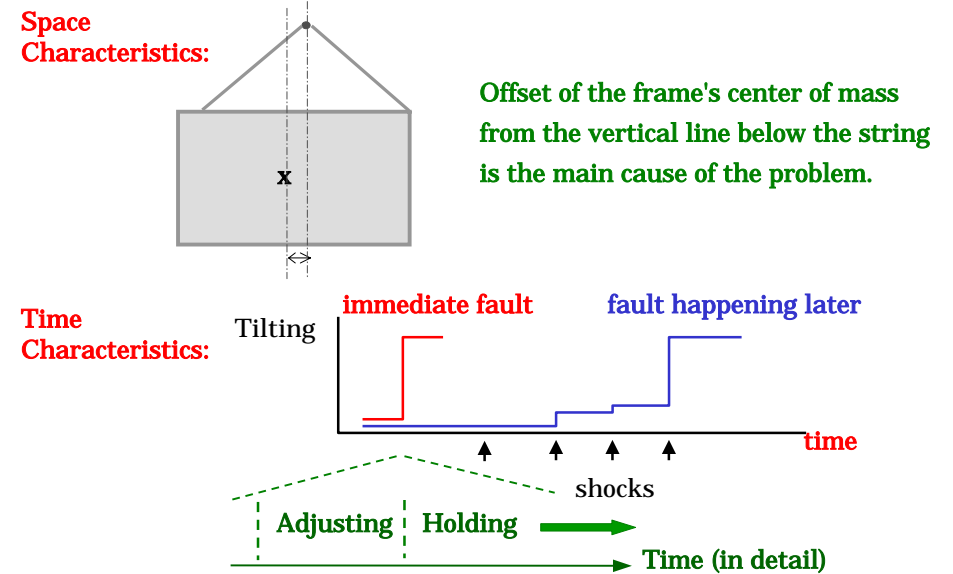


frame: offset of the center of mass  
frame: asymmetry in the shape  
hooks: offset from symmetric position  
wall: causing vibration

Wall/frame bottom: friction  
nail/string: friction  
hooks: location adjustment

## Space & Time Analysis in USIT

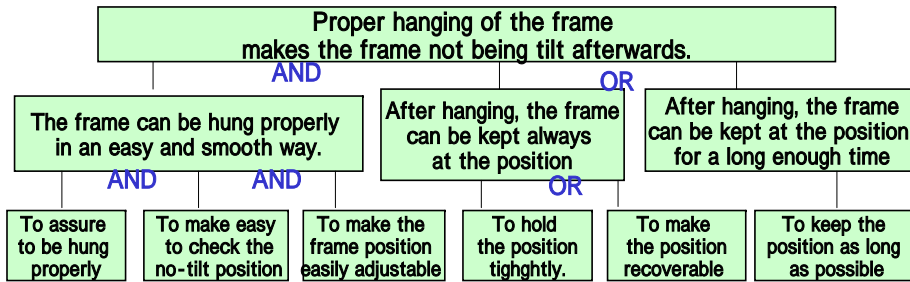
Picture Hanging Kit Problem





## Analysis of Ideal Systems in USIT Picture Hanging Kit Problem Particles Method (Action & property diagram)

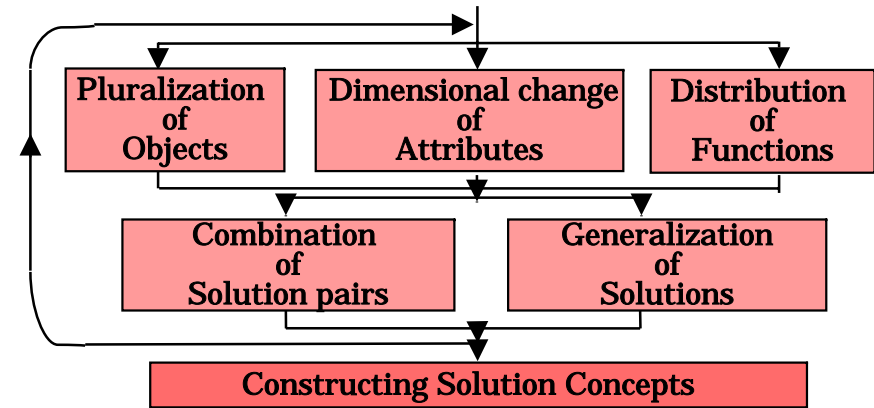
Desirable actions:



Desirable properties:

Lengths of the two parts of the string	Horizontal position of the frame	Smoothness of the nail surface	Fixing the string at the nail	Recovery power	Friction
Offset of center of mass	Vertical position of the frame	Smoothness of the string surface	Strength of fixing	Elastic	Roughness of the nail surface
Adjustment at the hook		Freedom of adjustment	Adhesion	Self adjustment	Pressure
Support by the wall			Pressing to fix	Electric magnet	Strength of holding
Automatic adjustment					Preventing shocks

## Solution Generation in USIT: "USIT Operators"



The five solution generation methods (i.e., USIT Operators) are operated onto their possible operands, as shown in their names.

The USIT Operators are applied repeatedly in any order.

## USIT Solution Generation Methods: USIT Operators Nakagawa, Kosha, Mihara (2002)

### (1) Object Pluralization Method

- Eliminate
- Multiply into 2, 3, ...,
- Divide into 1/2, 1/3, ..., 1/
- Unify
- Introduce or modify  $\leftrightarrow$  KB
- Introduce from the Environment.
- From solid to powder/liquid/gas

### (3) Function Distribution Method

- Reassign to a different Object
- Divide the compound Functions and assign them separately
- Unify multiple Functions
- Introduce a new Function  $\leftrightarrow$  KB
- Vary the Function in space, use space-related Functions.
- Vary the Function in time.
- Detection/measurement Function.
- Enhance adapting/coordination/control
- With a different physical principle

### (2) Attribute Dimensionality Method

- Deactivate a harmful attribute
- Activate a useful attribute  $\leftrightarrow$  KB
- Enhance a useful or suppress a harmful attribute
- Introduce a spatial attribute or vary in space
- Introduce a temporal attribute or vary in time
- Change the phase or the inner-structure
- Attributes at the micro level
- Properties of the system as a whole

### (4) Solution Combination Method

- Combine functionally
- Combine spatially
- Combine temporally
- Combine structurally
- Combine at the principle level.
- Combine at the super-system level

### (5) Solution Generalization Method

- Generalize/specify
- Hierarchical system of solutions

## USIT Solution Generation Methods (1c)

### (1c) Divide the Object (into 1/2, 1/3, ..., 1/ ) .

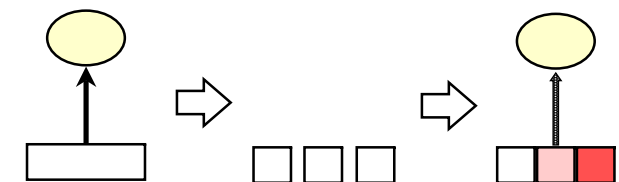
Divide the Object into multiple parts (1/2, 1/3, ..., 1/ ), modify the parts (slightly, or differently for different parts), and combine them for using together in the system.

P1 Segmentation

P2 Taking away

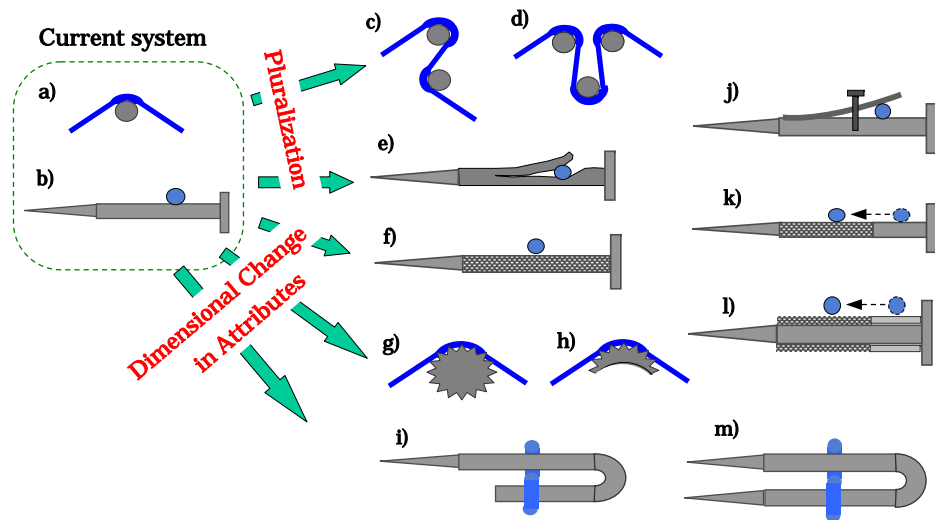
P3 Local quality

P15 Dynamicity



## Examples of Application of USIT Operators: (Part)

Picture Hanging Kit Problem. USIT Operators are applied to the nail.



## A case of solution

Picture Hanging Kit Problem



This idea can be generated in five different ways in USIT:

### (a) Object Pluralization Method

Divide the Nail Object into halves, change the smoothness of the two parts, and use them in combination.

### (b) Attribute Dimensionality Method

Change the values of the Smoothness Attribute in parts of the Nail.

### (c) Function Distribution Method

The Adjusting and Holding Functions of the Nail are re-assigned to different parts of the Nail.

### (d) Solution Combination Method

The solution of making the Nail smooth for easier adjustment and the solution of making the Nail rough for better holding are combined in space by dividing the Nail.

→ are combined in time. [This interpretation of the idea is most important.]

Multiple ways of generating an idea = Redundancy in USIT Operators for making the application easier.

## USIT Solution Generation Methods (5a)

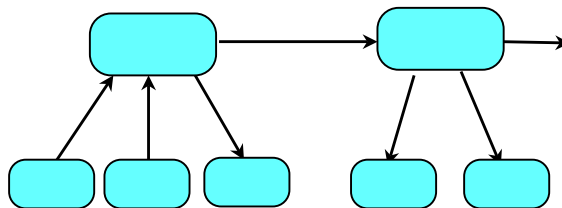
### (5a) Generalize/specify the solution for associative thinking.

Replace the technical/specific terms in a solution with plain/generic terms, form a plain solution template, and then obtain new specific conceptual solutions in an associative way.

H18 Generification

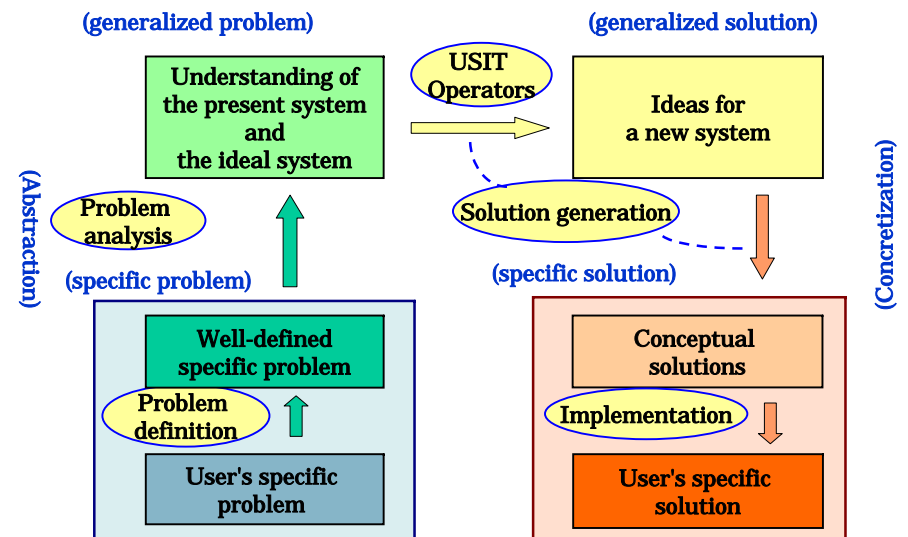
H19 Solution templates

Heuristics by Ed Sickafus



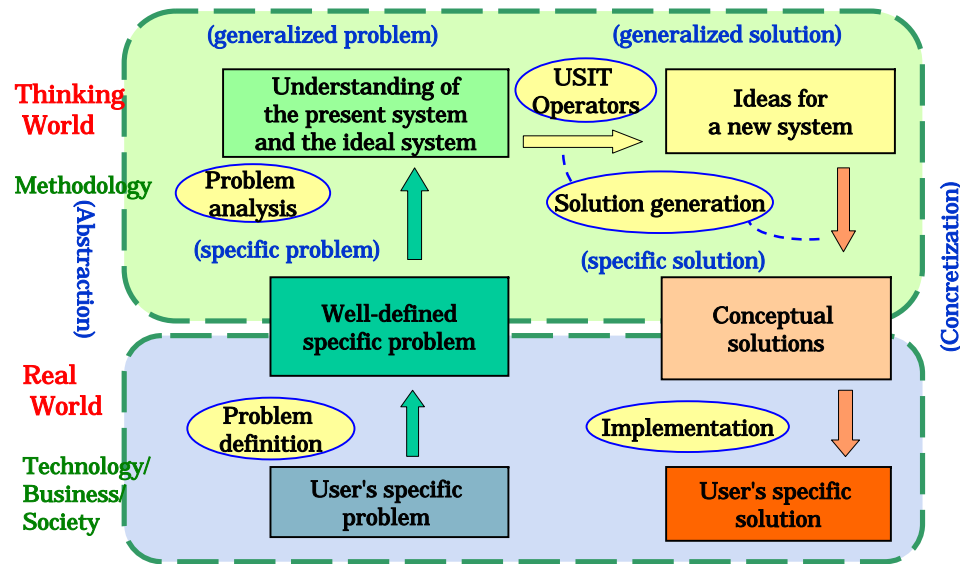
## New Scheme of Creative Problem Solving (6-Box Scheme in USIT)

Implication (1) Refinement of the basic 4-Box Scheme



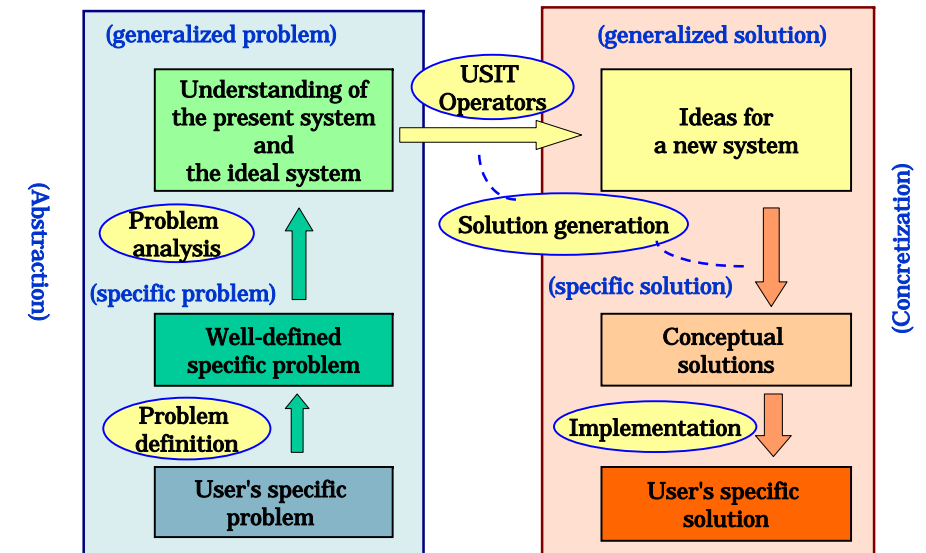
## New Scheme of Creative Problem Solving (6-Box Scheme in USIT)

### Implication (2) Real World and Thinking World



## New Scheme of Creative Problem Solving (6-Box Scheme in USIT)

### Implication (3) Idea Generation as the Jump



## Practices of Training/Applying USIT in Japan

### USIT 2-Day Training Seminar in Japan

10:00	(L1) Introduction to TRIZ/USIT	9:00	(L4) Problem Analysis 2 (Particles Method) (Ex 3) Group Work
12:00	Lunch		(D3) Presentations & Discussions
13:00	(L0) Introduction (D0) Presentation of Problems	11:20	(L5) Solution Generation
14:00	(L2) Problem Definition Problem Definition (Ex 1) Group Work (D1) Presentations & Discussions	12:15	Lunch
16:20		13:15	Solution Generation 1 (Ex 4) Group Work (D4) Presentations & Discussions
16:30	(L3) Problem Analysis 1 Problem Analysis 1 (Closed World Method) (Ex 2) Group Work	15:15	
19:00	(D2) Presentations & Discussions	15:30	Solution Generation 2 (Ex 5) Group Work (D5) Presentations & Discussions
		17:15	
		17:30	(L6) Promotion in Industries (D6) General Discussion
		18:00	

## USIT 2-Day Training Seminar in Japan

First morning (2 hrs): **Introductory lectures on TRIZ and USIT**  
 1.7 Days (14 hrs): **Group practice for solving problems with USIT**

### 3 Real problems are brought in and solved by group practices.

Important, un-solved, and clearly definable problems.  
 Needs technical background knowledge and passion to solve the problem.

**15 to 25 Participants:** Engineers, staff, managers, etc.  
 Novices in TRIZ/USIT are welcome.

### Groups of 4 to 8 members for practicing each problem:

Bring different knowledge and specialty together. Non-specialists are useful

### 5 Step-by-step sessions with USIT procedure:

Each session has:  
 Short lecture on the concrete way of the step;  
 Group practice in parallel (each group solves one problem);  
 Presentation by the groups to the whole members, for discussion.

**Participants can master USIT to the level able to apply it in their jobs.**

**Serves as the model for trainings and practices in industries.**

## Open Multi-company Training Seminar

Needs a prior 'Win-Win-Win' agreement by smaller 'Loss-Loss-Loss'

	Win (Win more than ordinary)	Loss (Loss more than ordinary)
(A) Problem Proposer	Solve his own problem by USIT, Master the problem solving method, Obtain the whole results with IP rights including contributions from others, Exclusive rights for 2 years to utilize the results and to develop them further, and to file the patents	Allow public disclosure of the technical contents after 2 years, Take a risk of leakage of information of some degree of company secret
(B) Other participants	Master the problem solving method by real application, Able to report the method and the case studies (including technical details) inside his company, Able to apply the method in his company, Able to publicly report the method	Discarding any rights of his own contribution to the solutions, Duty of non-disclosure of the technical contents outside his company for 2 years, Having no rights of further developing the technical contents of the case for 2 years.
(C) Instructor	Experiences of applying the method to real problems, Rights of improving and publishing the method and its application method, Rights of publishing the case study (including technical details) after 2 years	Discarding any rights of his own contribution to the solutions, Duty of non-disclosure of the technical contents outside his company for 2 years.

## How to Use USIT in Industrial Practices

- (1) USIT is much easier to learn than (traditional) TRIZ.
  - ➔ Bring up one or several USIT experts in a company, and then train many engineers in in-house training programs.
- (2) USIT fits well for group work.
  - ➔ Joint team of 1-2 USIT experts and 4-8 engineers for problem solving. USIT experts may lead the discussion or better pose appropriate questions along the USIT process.
- (3) USIT is applicable to real problems to obtain conceptual solution
  - ➔ Apply USIT to real important problems in the company and obtain results. Introduce USIT in the regular procedures of R&D whenever appropriate. Selecting problems and implementing USIT solutions must be done in real world.
- (4) Use USIT and TRIZ software tools in a complementary way.
  - ➔ Use USIT in a group as the guiding process of human thinking. Use TRIZ software tools mostly personally as knowledge-bases.

## Strategies for Introducing TRIZ into Industries

### Hurry and Forcing

In a complete form of the whole TRIZ,  
Using the full ARIZ algorithm,  
Teaching system analysis, from the beginning,  
With top-down leadership organization,  
Ordering to all/many employees,  
Changing current R&D style drastically,  
Believing in its effectiveness,  
Rapidly, extensively, and widely

### Steady Strategy

(Nakagawa, Jan. 2003)

Understanding the essence of TRIZ,  
Using USIT Process for problem solving  
Using USIT analysis & solution methods and TRIZ knowledge bases,  
Authorizing and enhancing the grass-root organization,  
By core groups of volunteer employees,  
Introducing into the current R&D activities,  
Providing results by practices ,  
Steadily, deeply, and widely

### Slow-but-Steady

(Nakagawa, Oct. 1999)

Starting with the understandable parts of TRIZ,  
Using USIT process (I.e. a simplified TRIZ),  
Using TRIZ data base and USIT, at the beginning,  
With bottom-up grass-root organization,  
By groups of volunteer employees,  
Introducing into the current R&D activities,  
Proving its effectiveness by ourselves,  
Without hurrying; steadily, and deeply

Limited success, anti-reaction

Steady penetration

gradual progress

## Concluding Remarks: Significance of TRIZ/USIT

TRIZ/USIT has provided

A new view and new philosophy of technologies,

Knowledge bases and software tools powerful for innovation in technologies,

Practical methods for creative problem solving.

6-Box Scheme in USIT gives

a new paradigm of creative problem solving.

USIT has now become "A New Generation of TRIZ".

TRIZ/USIT will carry

a new movement of innovation in technology in future

(because it has provided the quality improvement movement with a new pillar of technological view).