

NEREUS

Núcleo de Economia Regional e Urbana
da Universidade de São Paulo

The University of São Paulo
Regional and Urban Economics Lab

“Picturing your research”

De Jong, J. (2017). **Effective Strategies for Academic Writing**, Bussum: WritingUitegeverij Coutinho bv, chapter 3.

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Planning the paper

1. Finding a suitable **topic**
2. Working your way from topic to **research plan**
3. Making a preliminary division of the **sections**
4. Making a **time schedule**
5. **Writing out** the plan in full

Research plan (step 2)

What: you narrow down the topic, place the topic in its academic context, formulate a main question, and determine exactly what the answer is going to cover

Why: you reason out the relevance of the question

How: you determine what the logical sub-questions are, make the sub-questions operational, possibly work out a more detailed sub-question structure, and determine the research methods

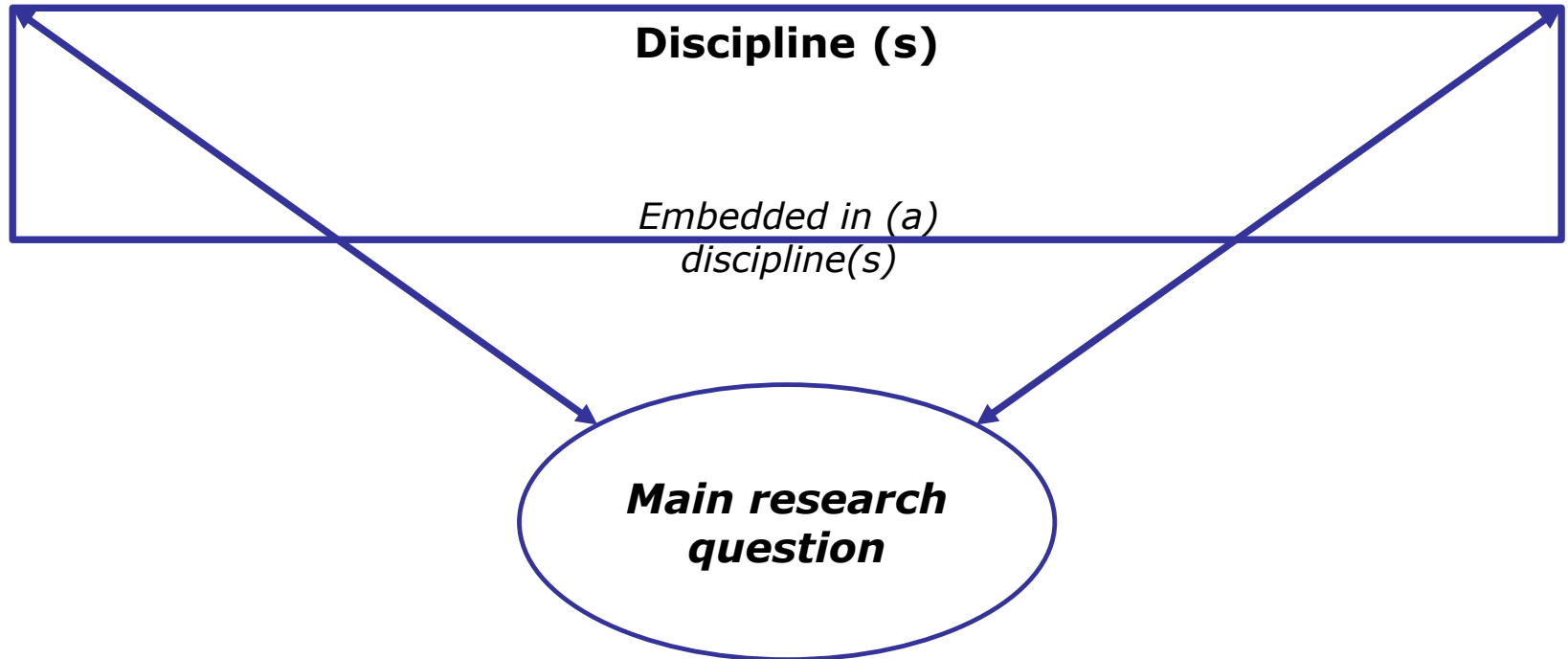
Making the plan is a cyclical process

Main question...

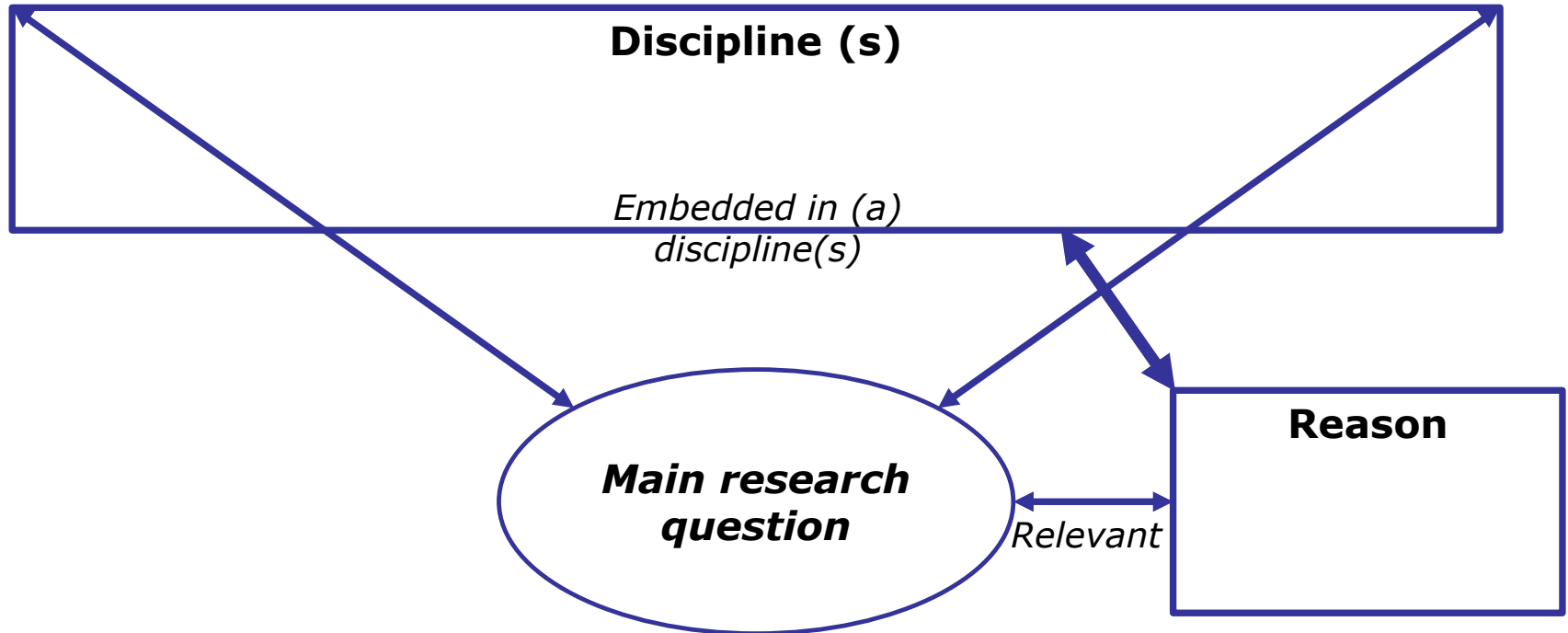
1. ... ties in with the knowledge within your discipline
2. ... is relevant
3. ... is researchable
4. ... will lead to an answer that you are looking for

“Structure Model of the Research Problem” (Oost, 1999)

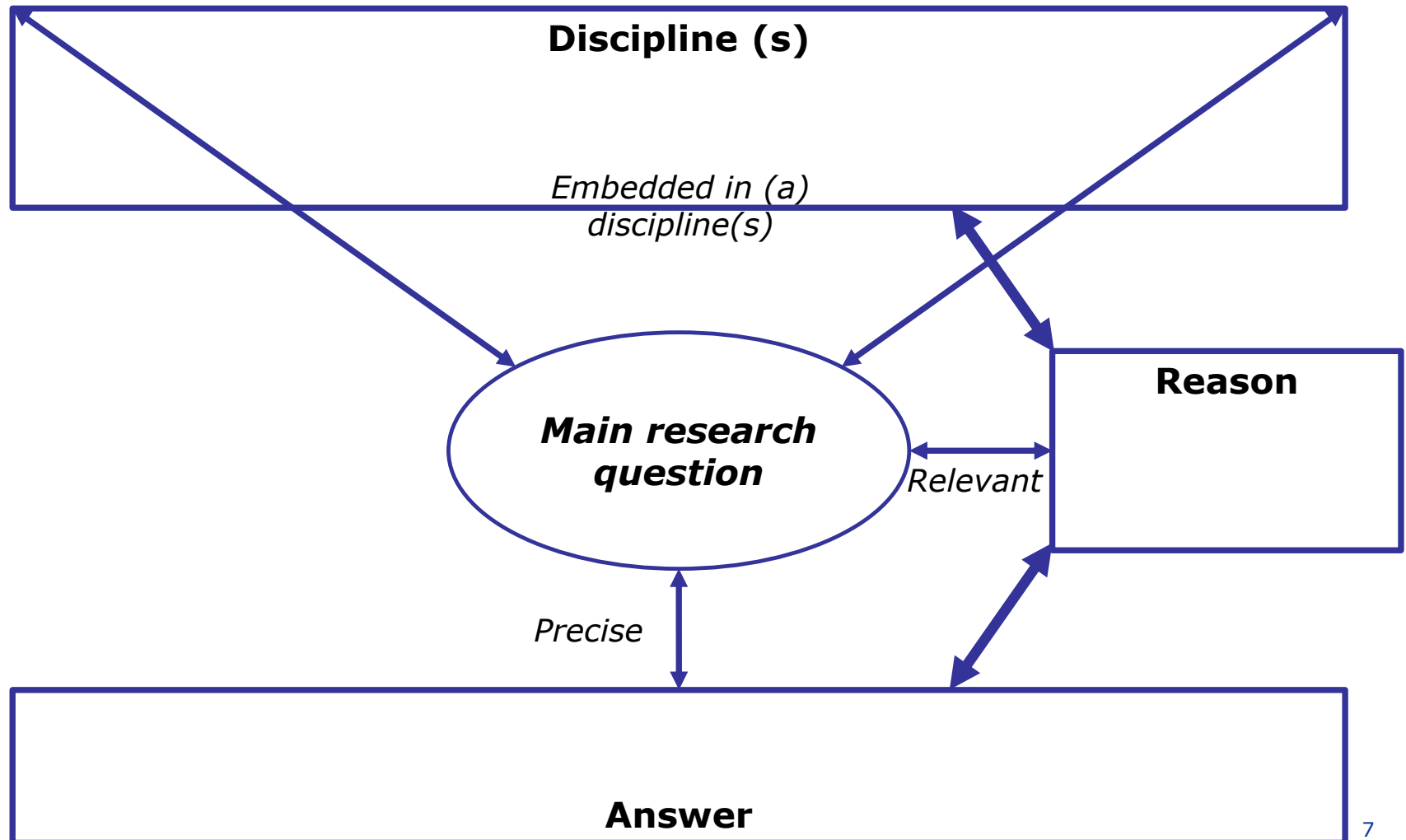
The model step by step: 1st criterion



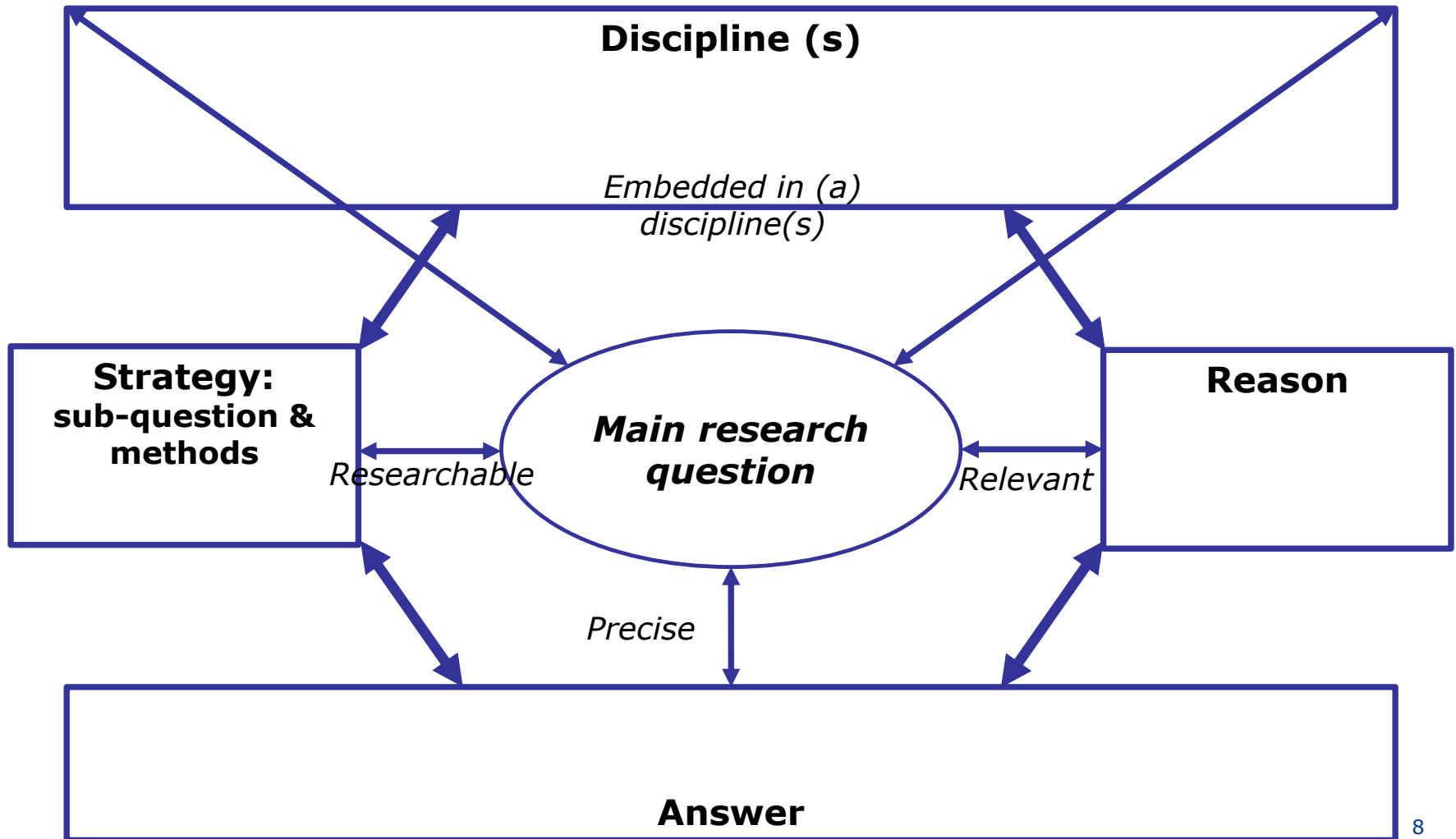
The model step by step: 2nd criterion (relevance)



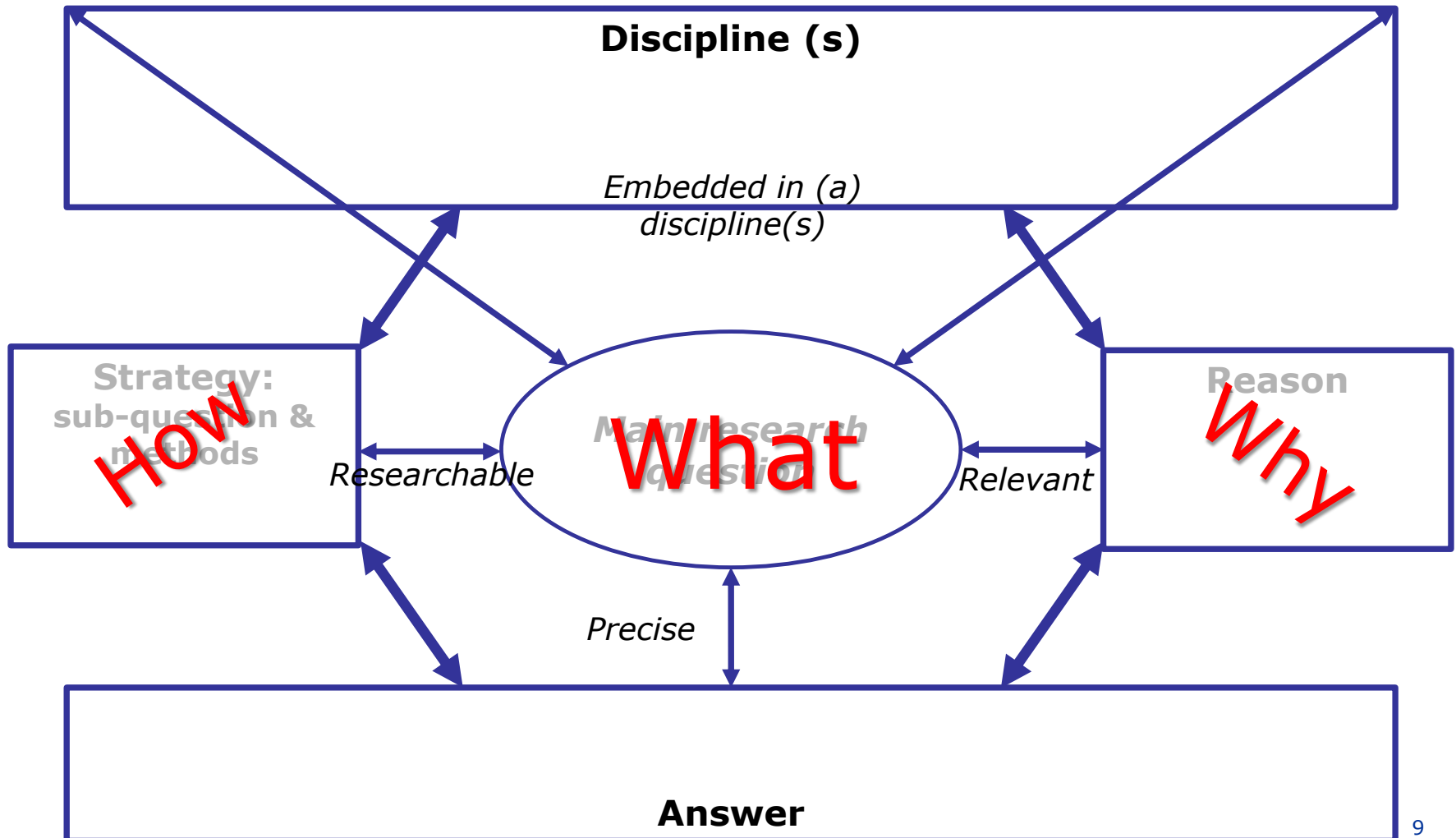
The model step by step: 3rd criterion (precision)

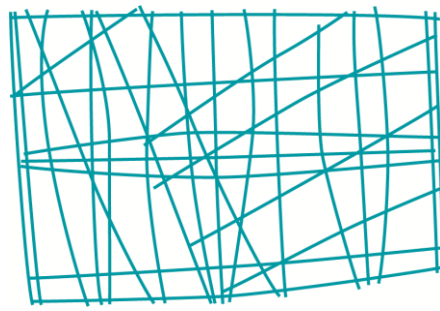


The model step by step: 4th criterion (researchability)



The model step by step: what, why and how





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Obrigado!

<http://www.usp.br/nereus/>

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