



34th Annual **INCOSE**
international symposium

hybrid event

Dublin, Ireland
July 2 - 6, 2024



Tom McDermott

The Updated SERC AI and Autonomy Roadmap



SYSTEMS
ENGINEERING
RESEARCH CENTER

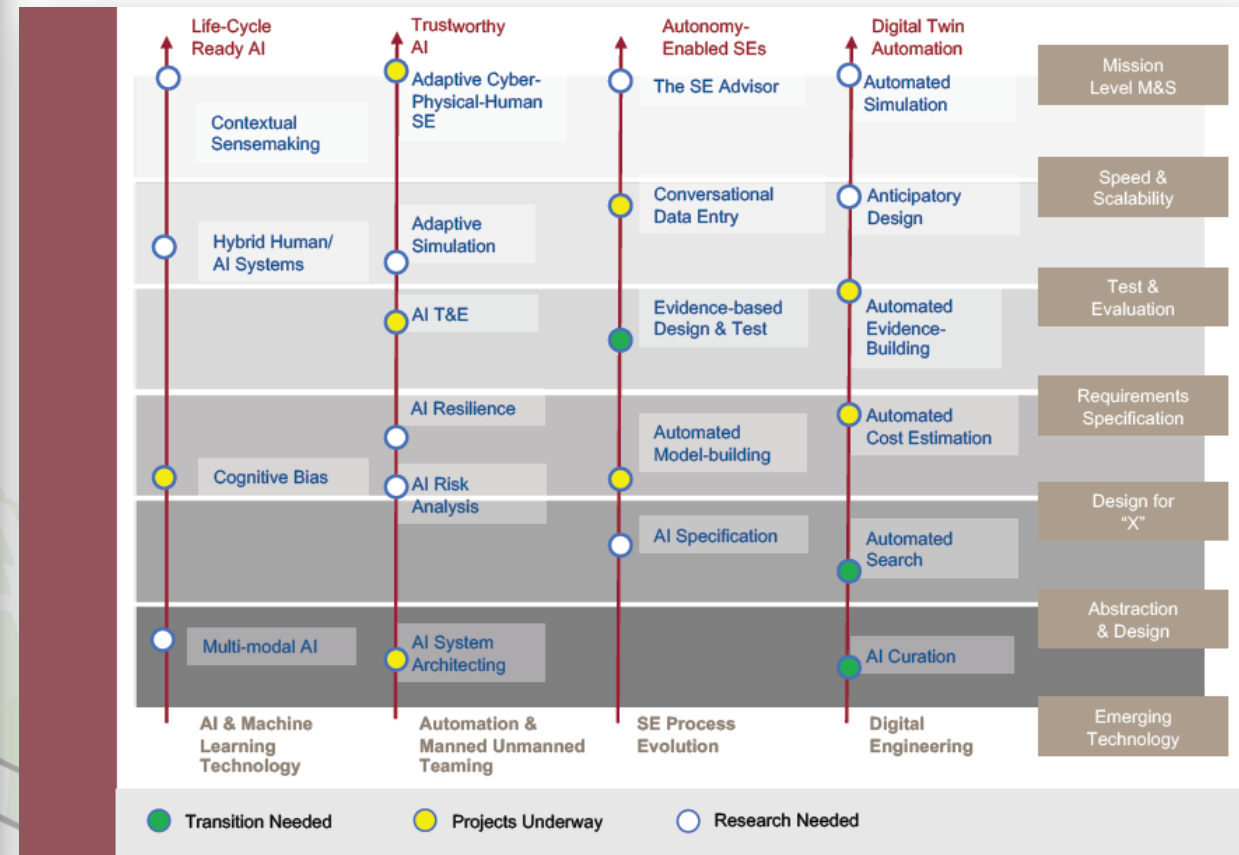
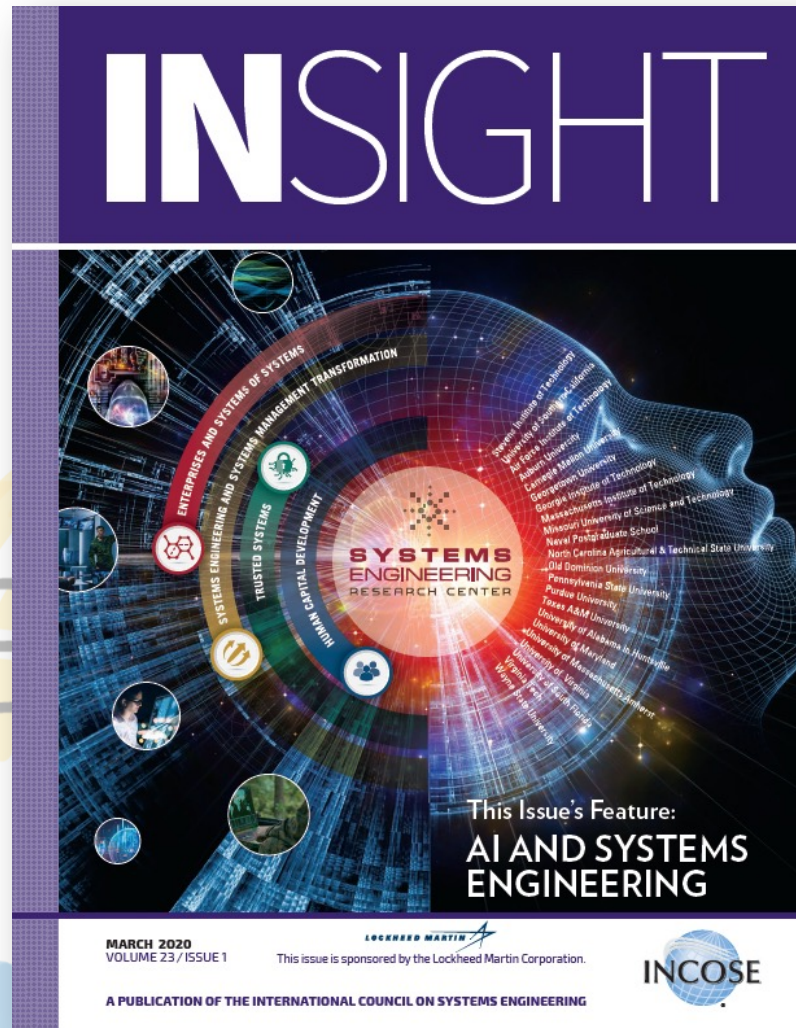
AIRC

ACQUISITION INNOVATION
RESEARCH CENTER

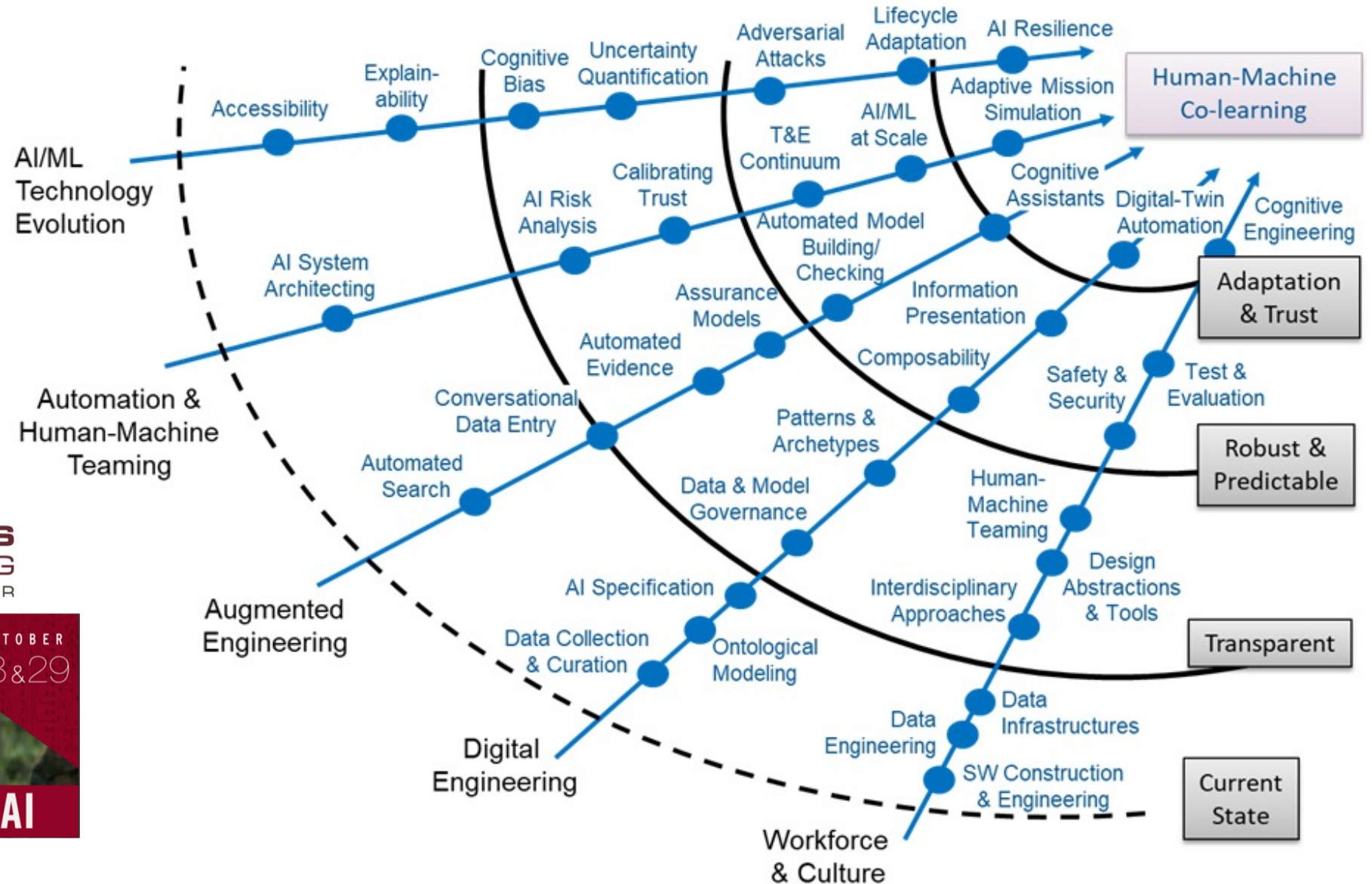
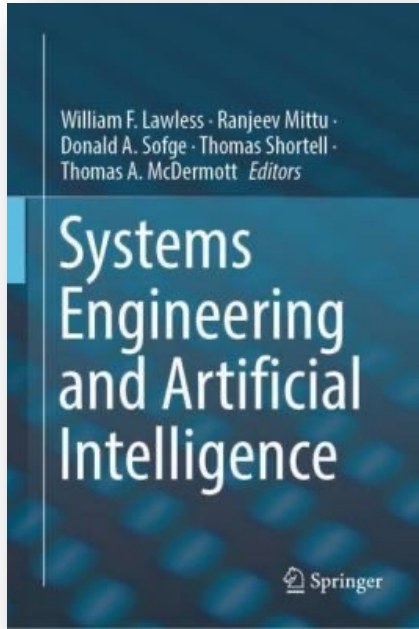
2-6 July 2024

www.incose.org/symp2024 #INCLOSEIS

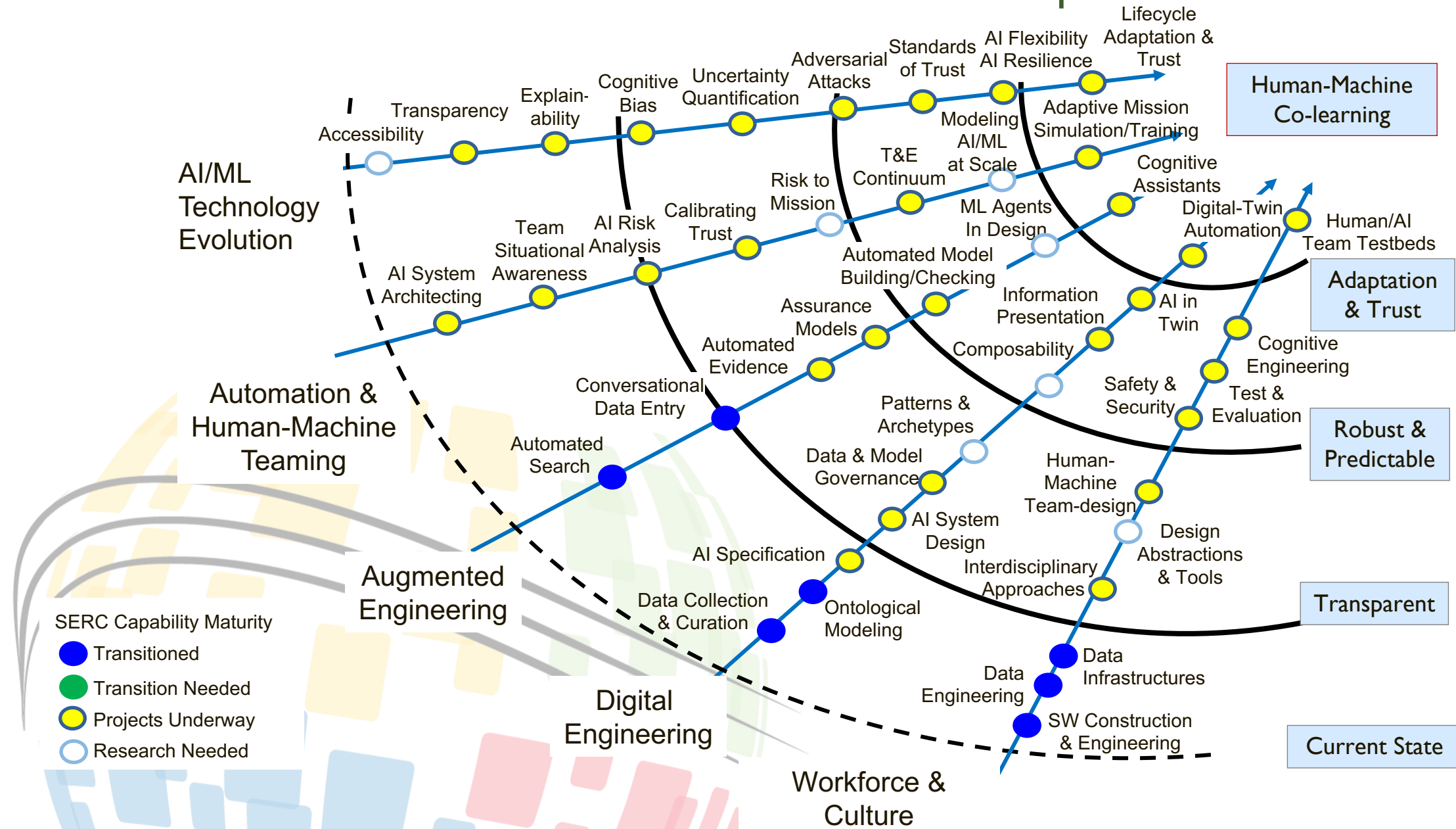
Initial SERC AI & Autonomy Roadmap



Second SERC AI & Autonomy Roadmap



2024 SERC SE4AI/AI4SE Research Roadmap

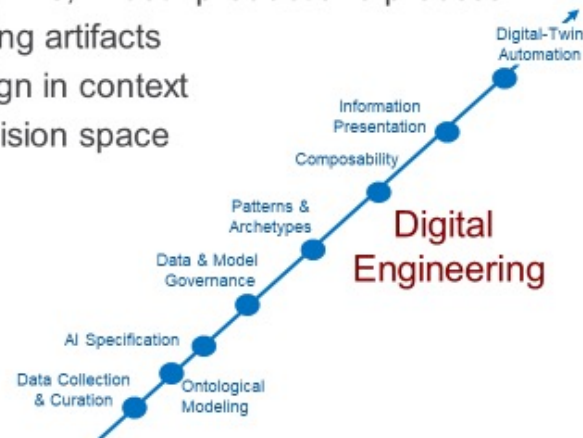


Digital Engineering Transformation

AI Enabled Digital Engineering

- **Data Collection and Curation** - data collection, management, curation and governance
- **Ontological Modeling** – schematic representation to semantic representation
- **Specification** – what will be allocated to the machine, in both product and process
- **Patterns and Archetypes** – learning from modeling artifacts
- **Composability** – training and evaluating for design in context
- **Information Presentation** – representing the decision space for human understanding and learning

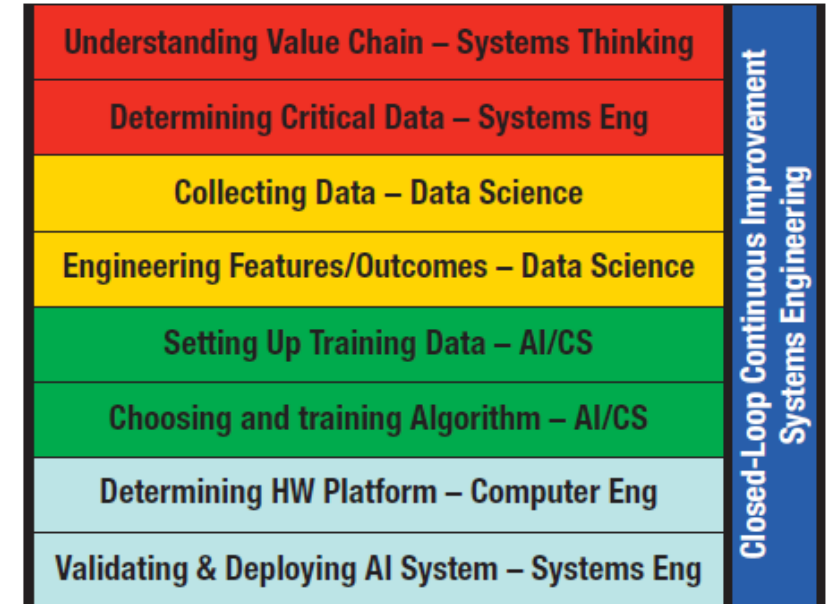
- **Digital Twin Automation** – real-time continuous learning from real system and shadow simulations



- Convergence of Data Science and Systems Engineering Disciplines
- **Models** become central to defining complex systems of systems
- Results in Product plus **Virtual Twins** of Product
- Human-Machine interfaces and **Visualization** of complex interrelationships

Start with Workforce and Culture

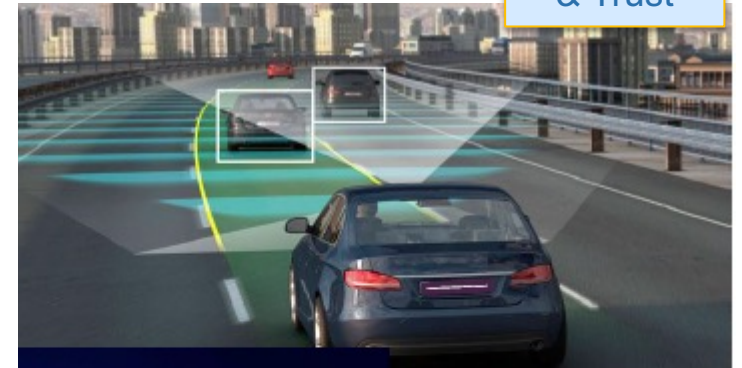
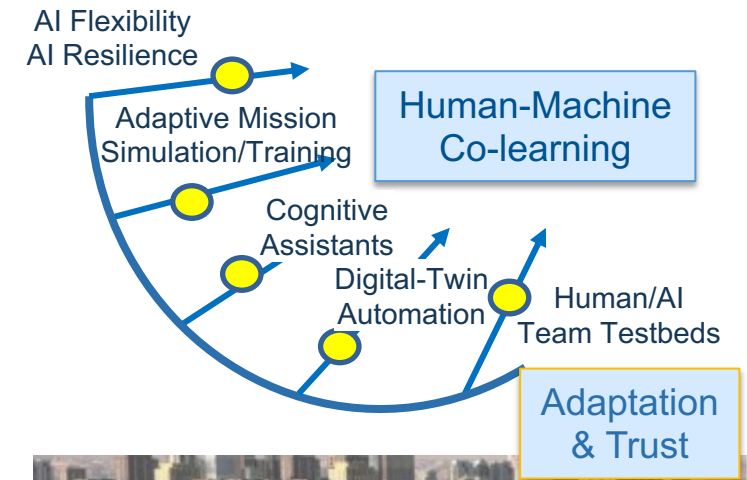
- Digital Engineering Competencies
- Integrating AI/ML experts with Domain experts, all disciplines
- Evolving tools to align with design and disciplinary abstractions =>
- Human Systems Engineering: no longer a specialty discipline
- Threat models, safety, security, resilience, and other 'ilities
- Evolving test and evaluation competency
- Training the Users to appropriately interact with AI's



Wade, J., Buenfil, J. and Collopy, P. (2020), A Systems Engineering Approach for Artificial Intelligence: Inspired by the VLSI Revolution of Mead & Conway. INSIGHT, 23: 41-47.

HUMAN-MACHINE CO-LEARNING

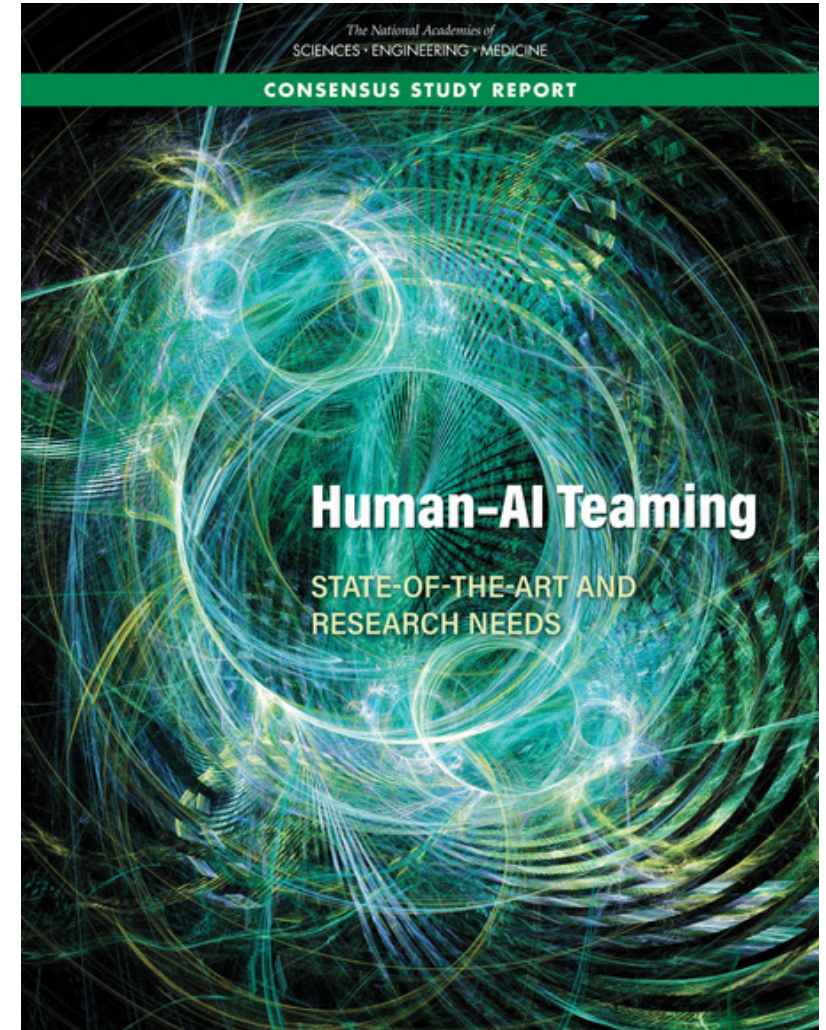
- **Adaptive Cyber-Physical-Human Systems** – digital twins: modeling of cyber-physical systems as influenced by humans, in testbeds...
- **Adaptive Mission Simulation/Training** – Simulation and training that supports non-static objectives (pick-up games)
- **AI Flexibility & Resilience** – AI systems that self-adapt to changing operational boundaries while maintaining rigorous safety and security and policy constraints



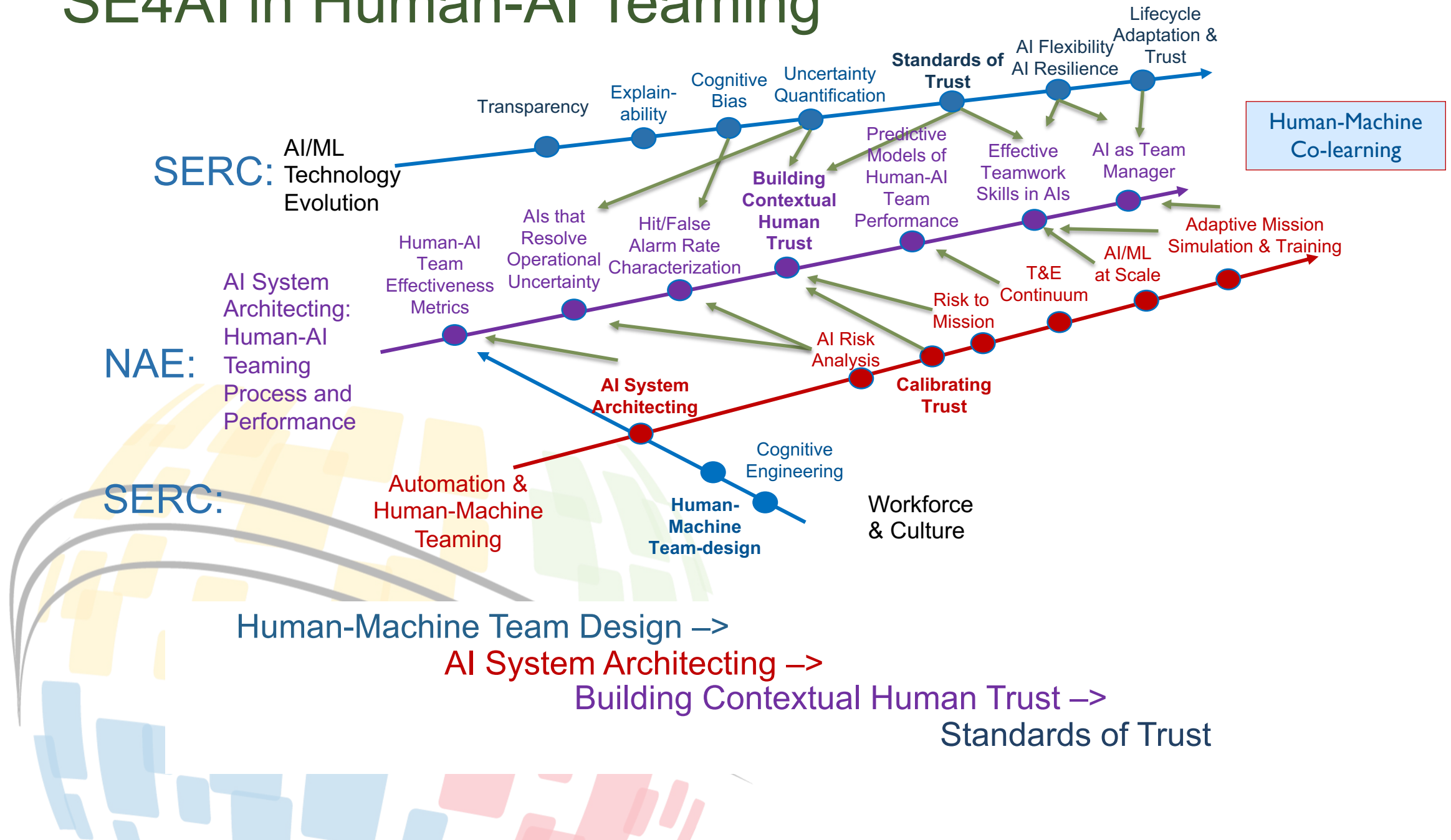
SE/HSI Objectives

Significant value in considering the human and AI as a team

- Long-term, distributed, and agile human-AI teams through improved team assembly, goal alignment, communication, coordination, social intelligence, and the development of a new human-AI language – **AI System Architecting**
- Methods for improving human situational awareness of AI systems
- Improved AI system transparency and explainability
- **Interaction mechanisms and strategies within the human-AI team**
- Advance understanding of how broader sociotechnical factors affect trust in human-AI teams
- Better understand the interdependencies between human and AI decision-making biases
- What, when, why, and how to best train human-AI teams
- **Advances in HSI processes and measures**



SE4AI in Human-AI Teaming



New Areas of Emphasis in SE4AI Research

- Holistic view of the system of systems
- Measurement of “ilities” (e.g., flexibility, resilience, trust)
- Architecting / Human-system integration
- Product platforms / evolvability of systems of systems
 - Lifecycle risk analysis
- Linking “Design for X” “T&E” and lifecycle value.
 - Understanding human behavior as part of the system
- Emergent system behavior

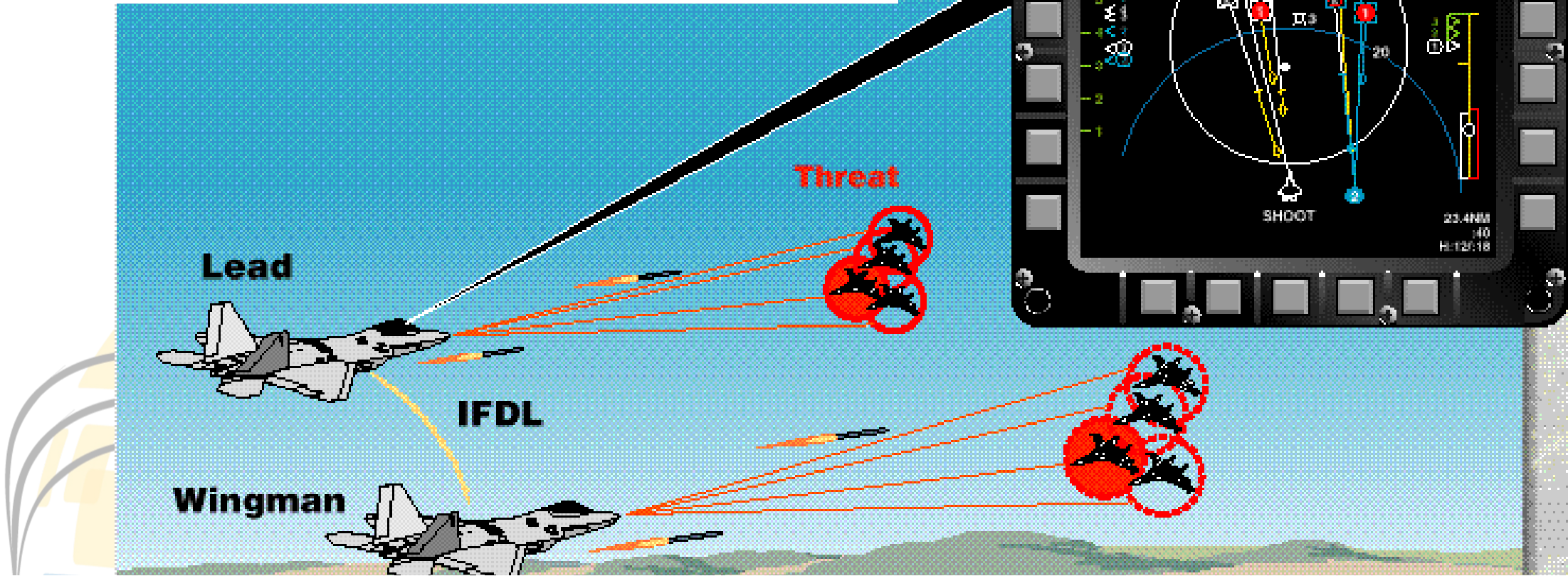
Building user Trust by understanding the Human AI system

Architecting AI Systems for long-term trust: Linking task & function allocation, test and risk analysis and need for **systems** testbeds

T&E as a Continuum: what to test and how to interpret for AI Systems of varying complexity and embeddedness

AI Resilience: Strategies to mitigate disruptions / ensure acceptable behaviors and recoveries when failures occur

1990's: Is this an Intelligent Aircraft?



The sensor fusion loop detects threat aircraft, tracks location and movement, identifies the type, calculates an optimal engagement, even tells the pilot when to shoot. The pilot must initiate the shot. This all happens beyond the visual range of the pilot. How does the pilot trust the information provided by the sensor fusion in this critical situation?

What makes you trust (or not trust) “the AI”?

Developer

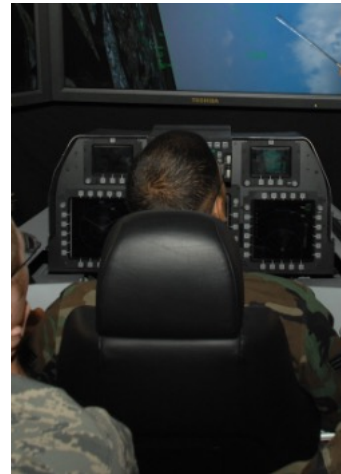


[1]

Accuracy:

If you're a computer scientist you want to see the math of this specific algorithm or at least a visualization of the prediction.

Domain Expert



[2]

Agrees with me:

If you're a pilot flying in an engagement using your display image, you might want to see the system agree with you often enough.

End User



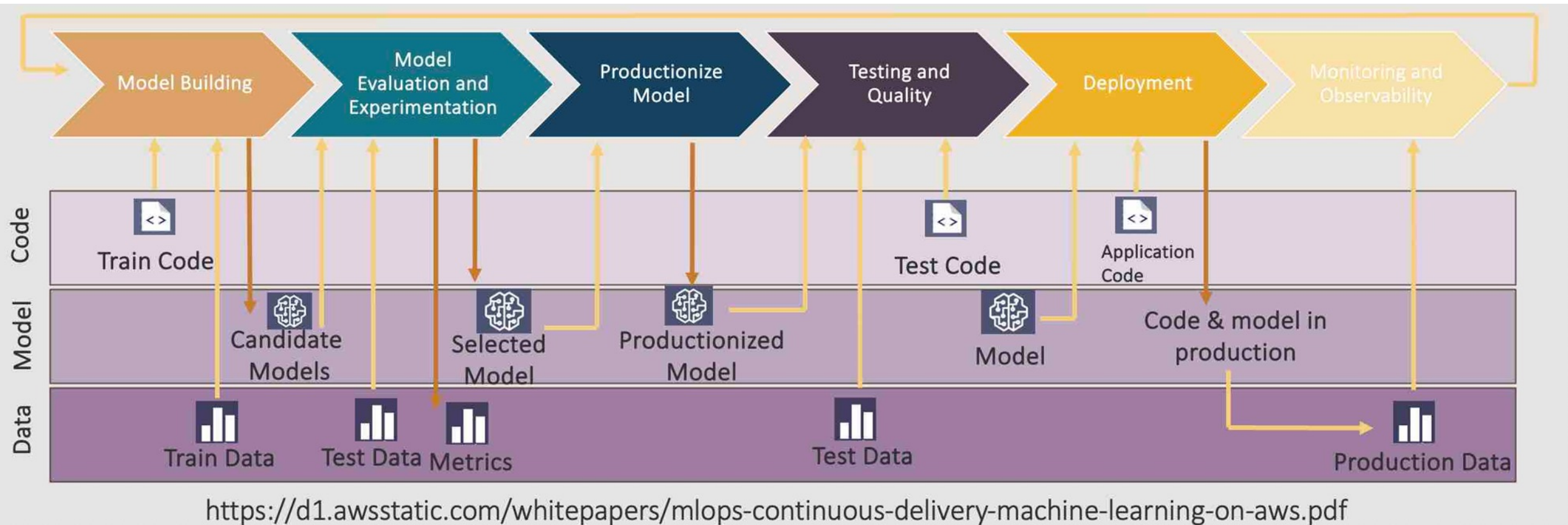
[3]

Trusted 3rd Party:

If you're an operational evaluator, you might want to certify it's safety...and for commanders, not have created any international incidents!

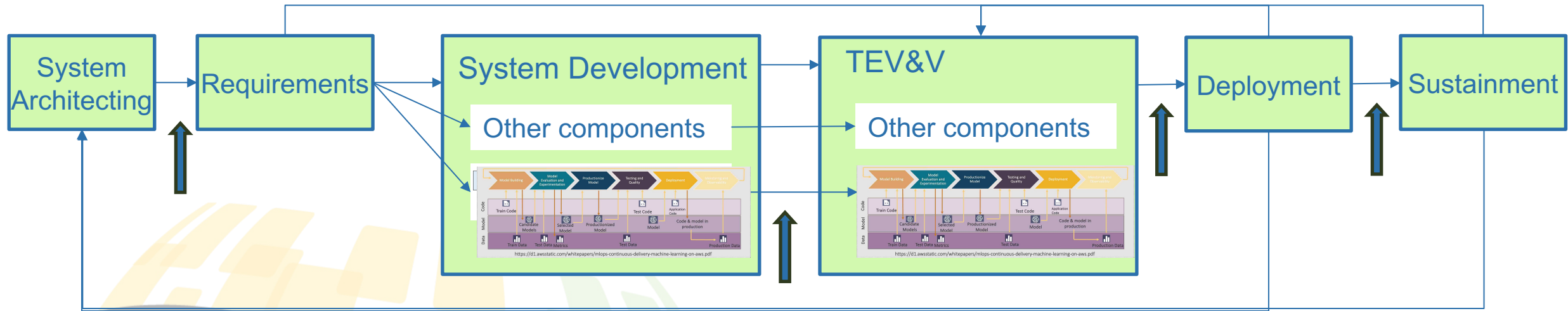
AI SYSTEMS ARCHITECTING: THE AI/ML PIPELINE TODAY

Typical representation of AI/ML pipeline:



... but this is still focused on the AI model as the system.

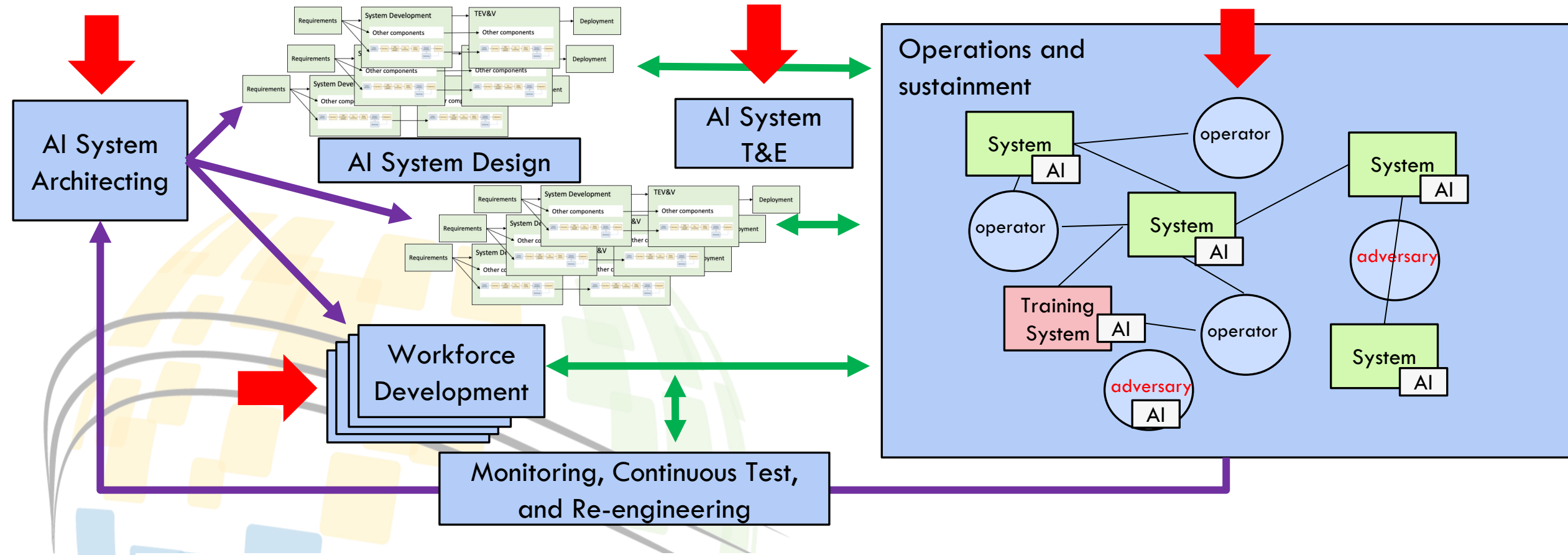
For Systems Engineers, AI is part of a “system”



Emphasizes tradeoffs in performance and risk
Recognizes that system might need to work in unplanned ways over its lifecycle and that behavior (and failures) must be acceptable

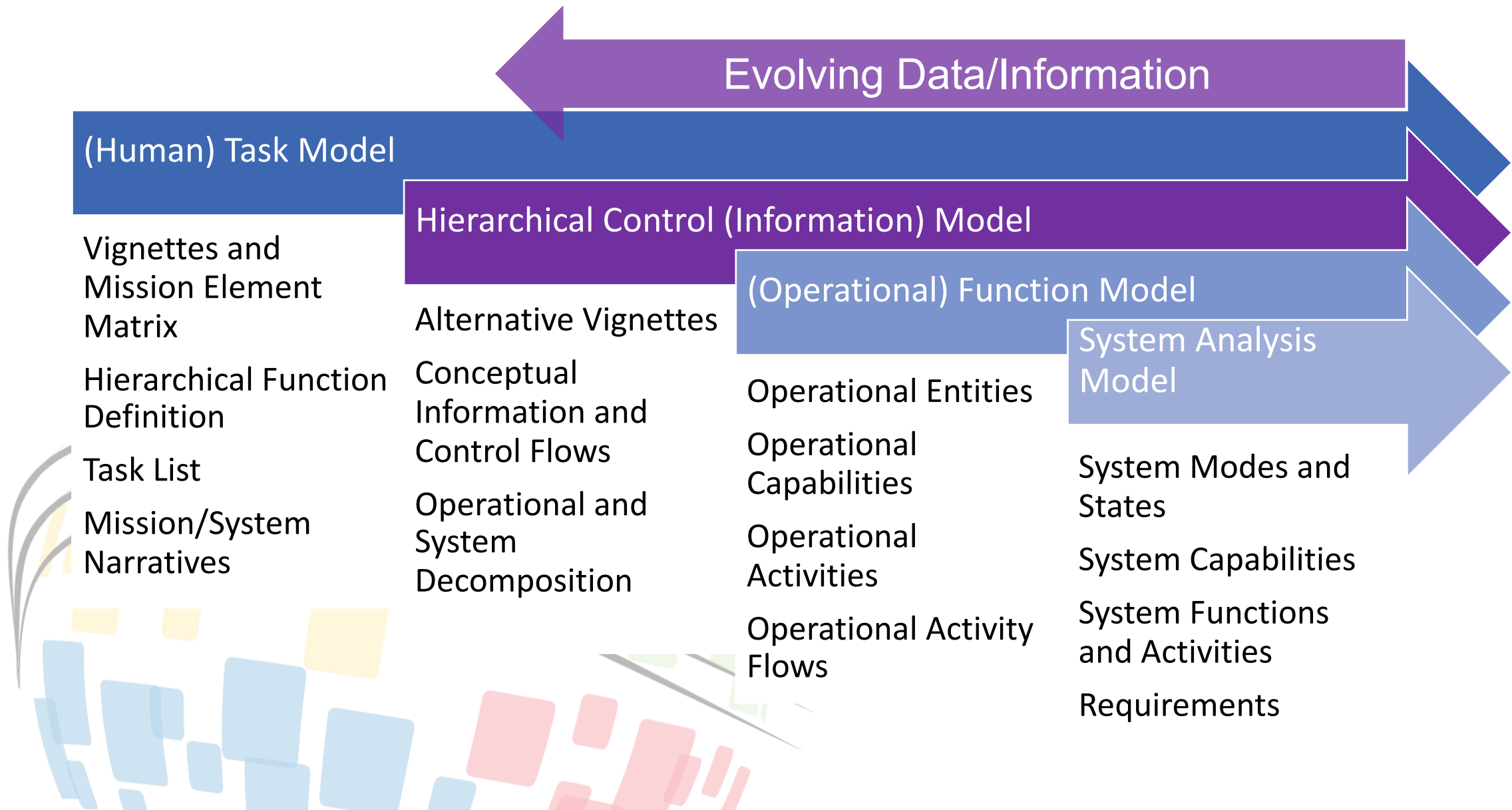
The real world operates in a socio-technical systems architecture

Involving complex interactions among humans and systems that were not always intended to work together in a constantly changing environment.

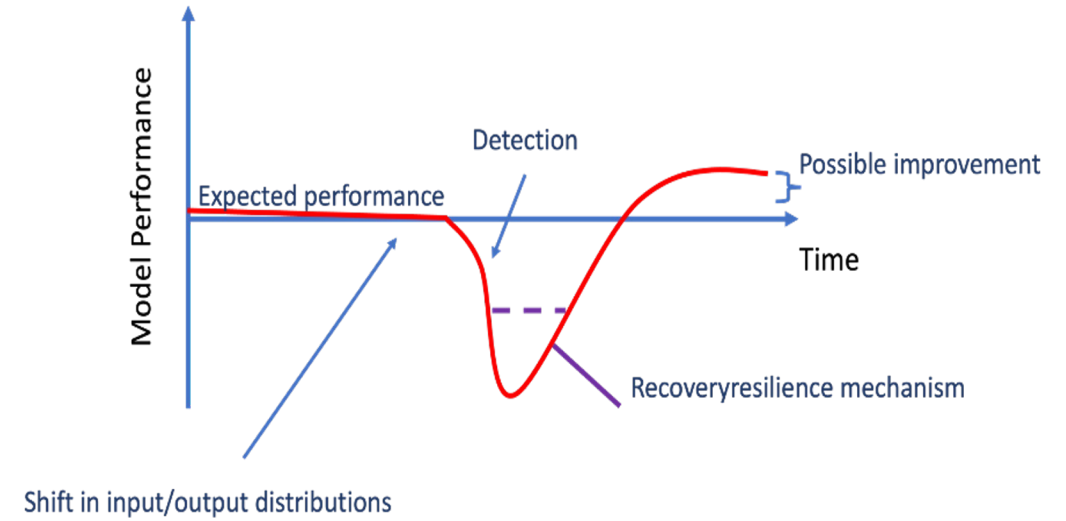
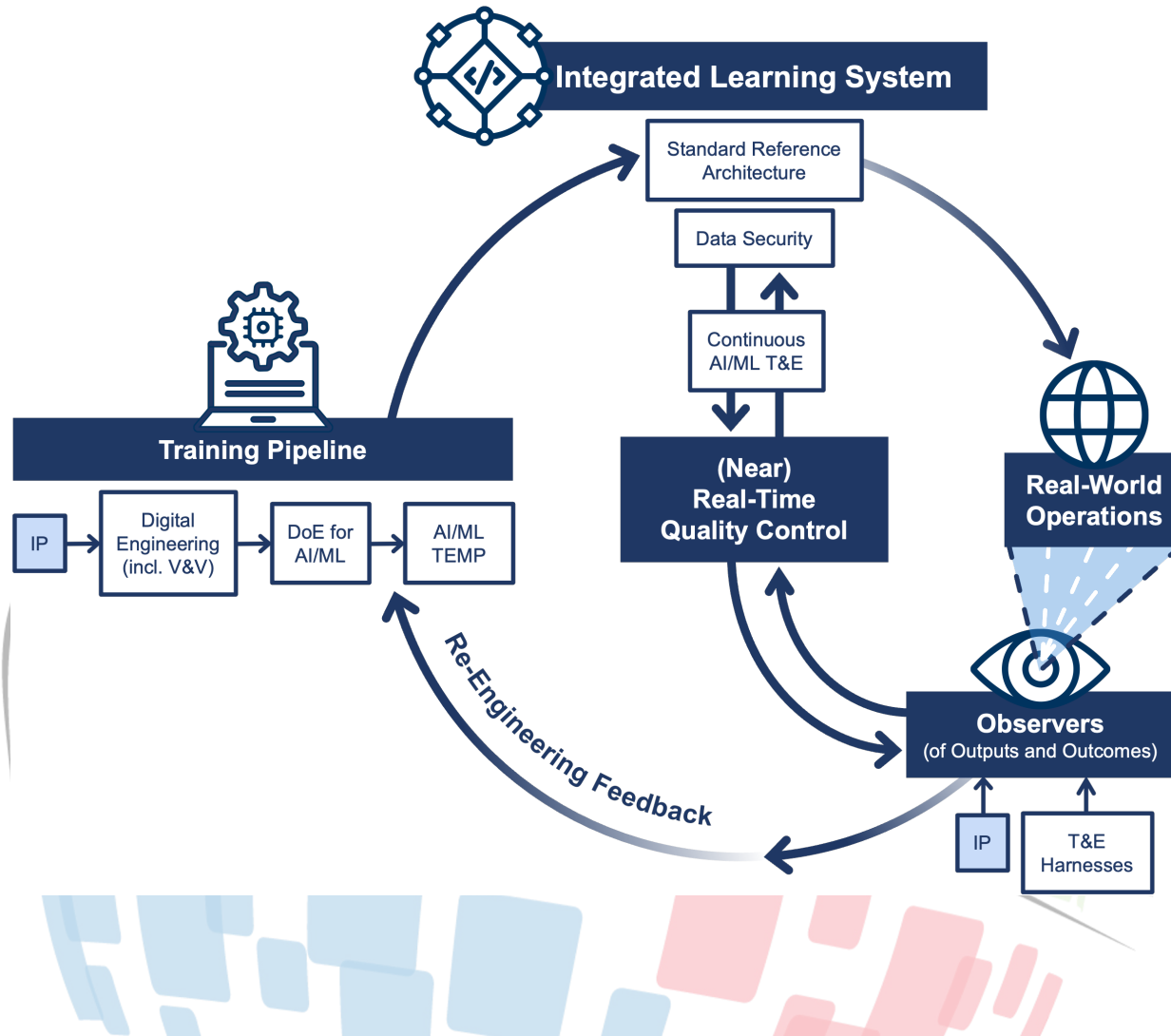


AI in system context; Building user trust; Architecting for long-term trust; T&E as a continuum

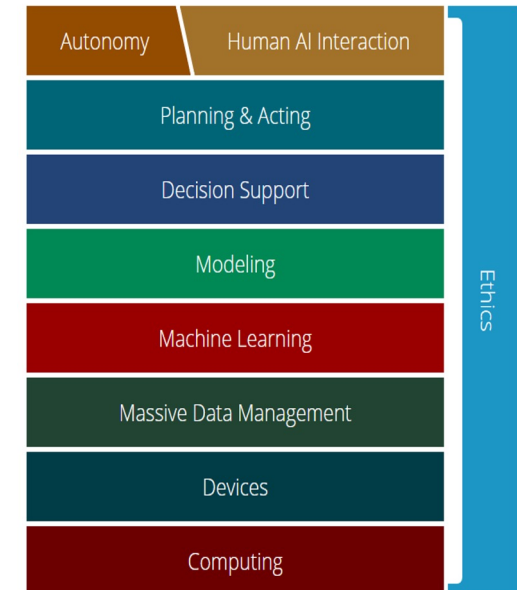
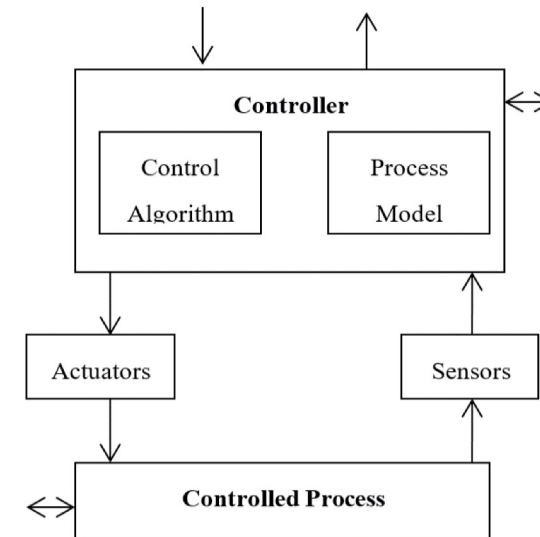
Expanded SE modeling flow



FRAMEWORK FOR AI RESILIENCE THROUGH EVALUATION OF SYSTEMS AND TECHNOLOGY (FAIREST)

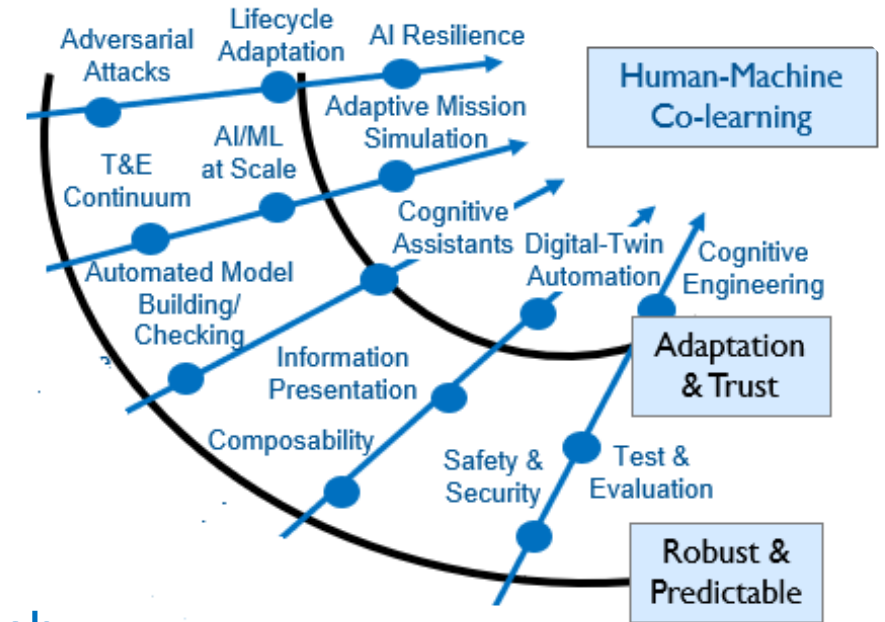


Shift in input/output distributions



Challenges for Test & Evaluation of AI

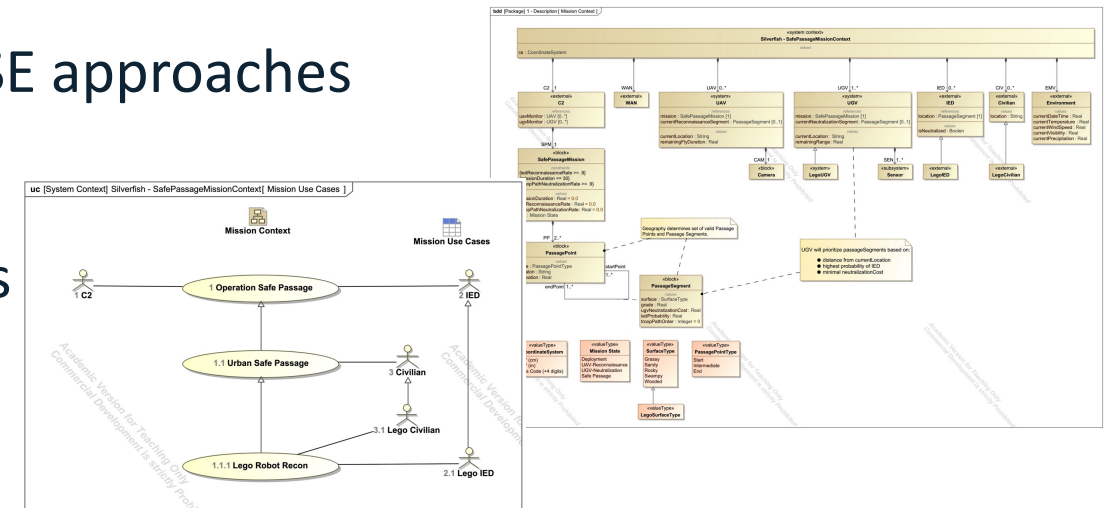
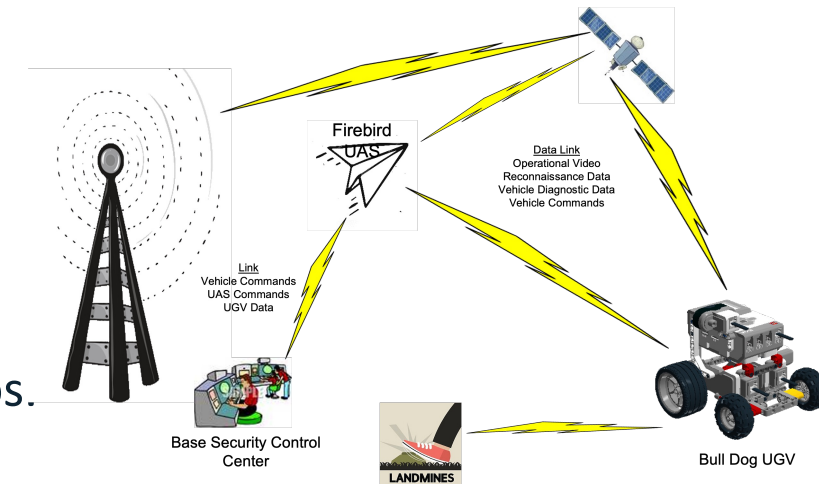
- Testing & Evaluation is a **continuum**
 - Information accumulates over time across varying operating envelopes
 - does not end until the system retires
- All AI areas need **testbeds**
- Operational relevance is essential
- Data Management is foundational
- AI systems require a **probabilistic risk-based approach**
- Previous test metrics apply, but may have different interpretations
 - Task & mission level performance, course of action, non-functional requirements
- An expanded definition of **external context** is necessary
- The T&E workforce and culture must evolve



Freeman, L. (2020), Test and Evaluation for Artificial Intelligence. INSIGHT, 23: 27-30.

TRUSTED ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE SYSTEMS ENGINEERING CHALLENGE

- Teams engage in
 - Assured design of AI and autonomy into notional system
 - Risk-based monitoring and management of operational use of AI capabilities.
- Semester-long Stages:
 - Explore performance of AI models over variety of operational scenarios.
 - Design of the decision system; human-machine teaming, resilience.
 - Operational simulation of mission scenarios.
- Teams judged on quantitative performance & SE approaches used to design and operate the system.
- Open to all SERC universities + HBCUs and MSIs
- Prizes! Sponsored by DEVCOM



SERC 5TH ANNUAL AI4SE & SE4AI WORKSHOP



The conference theme, “Safer AI-Enabled Complex Systems: Responsible Deployment of AI through Systems Engineering,” aims to foster discussions and insights on how systems engineering can support the development of robust and ethical AI systems, and how AI tools can in turn transform the practice of systems engineering.

<https://sercuarc.org/event/ai4se-se4ai-workshop-2024/#dates>

2023 SUMMARY REPORT



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