



34th Annual **INCOSE**
international symposium
hybrid event
Dublin, Ireland
July 2 - 6, 2024



Risk Assessment Method for Systems-of-Systems Internal and External Interactions

Using a case study of wildfire fighting

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Presentation Outline



Problem and
Purpose

Method

Results of
the case
study

Discussion

Conclusion

Problem

We create systems without enough consideration of its impacts

Many diverse stakeholders, both internal and external

Risk assessments are most often done of the development of the internal system and of the technical risks.

Only a few stakeholders are often considered – not the most impacted ones

Leading to unintended consequences

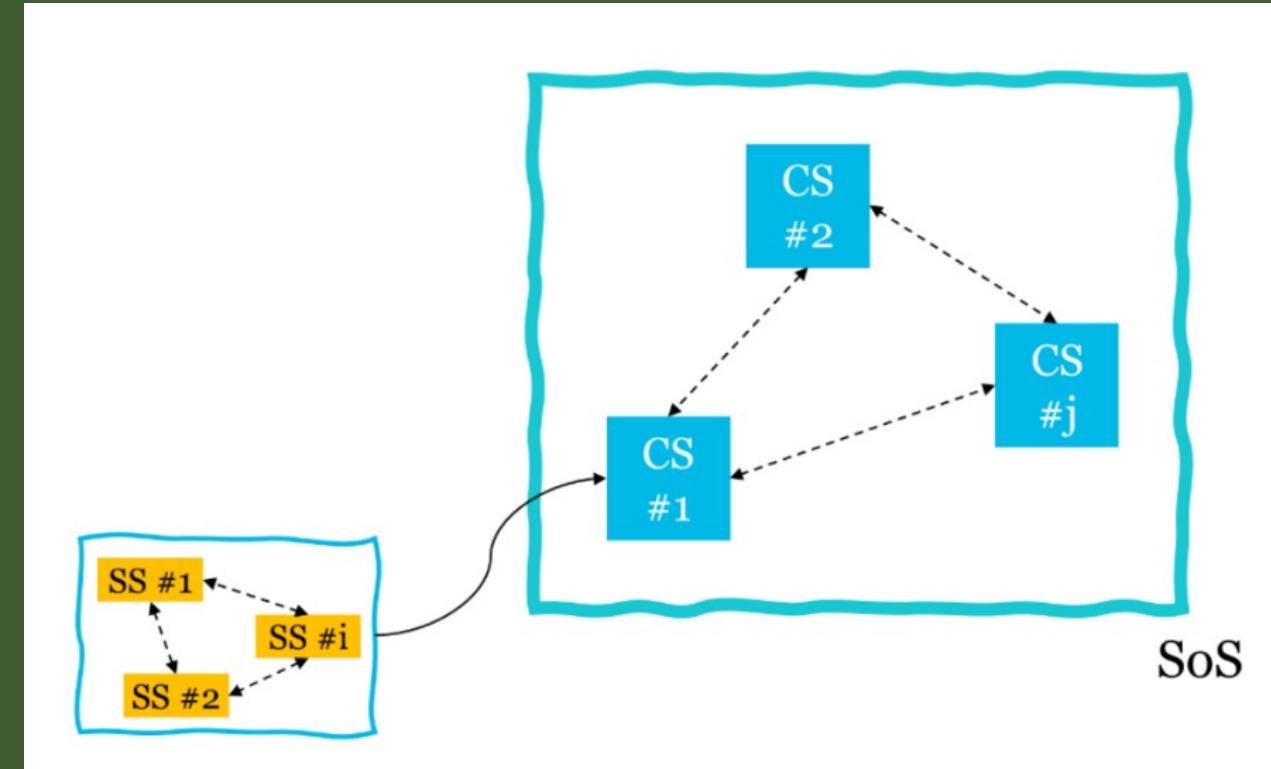
Planetary boundaries

Social inequality

Mental illness

System-of-Systems

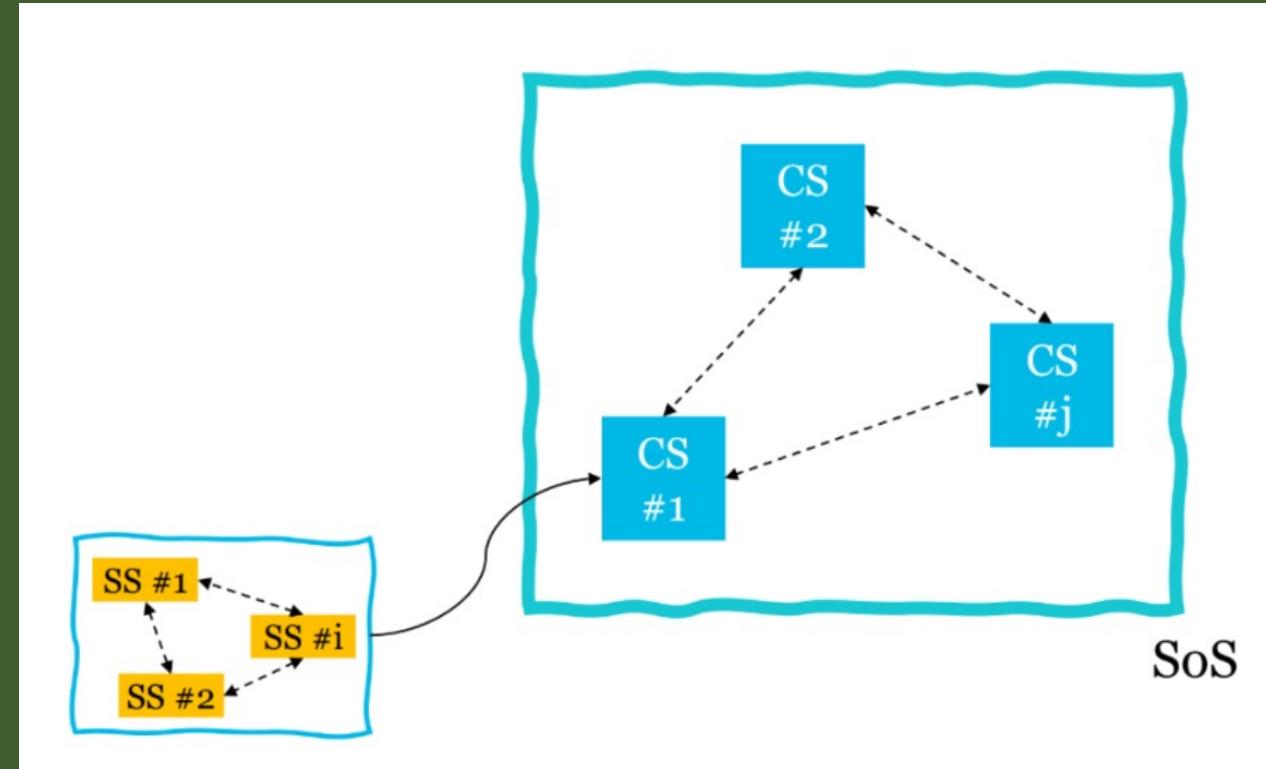
- Collaborative systems
- Five characteristics
- Identified by Interactions (Maier 1998)
- Useful for complex operations and organizations



Source: Jouannet, C. (2023). *Model Based System of Systems Engineering*. Lecture, Linköping University.

System-of-Systems

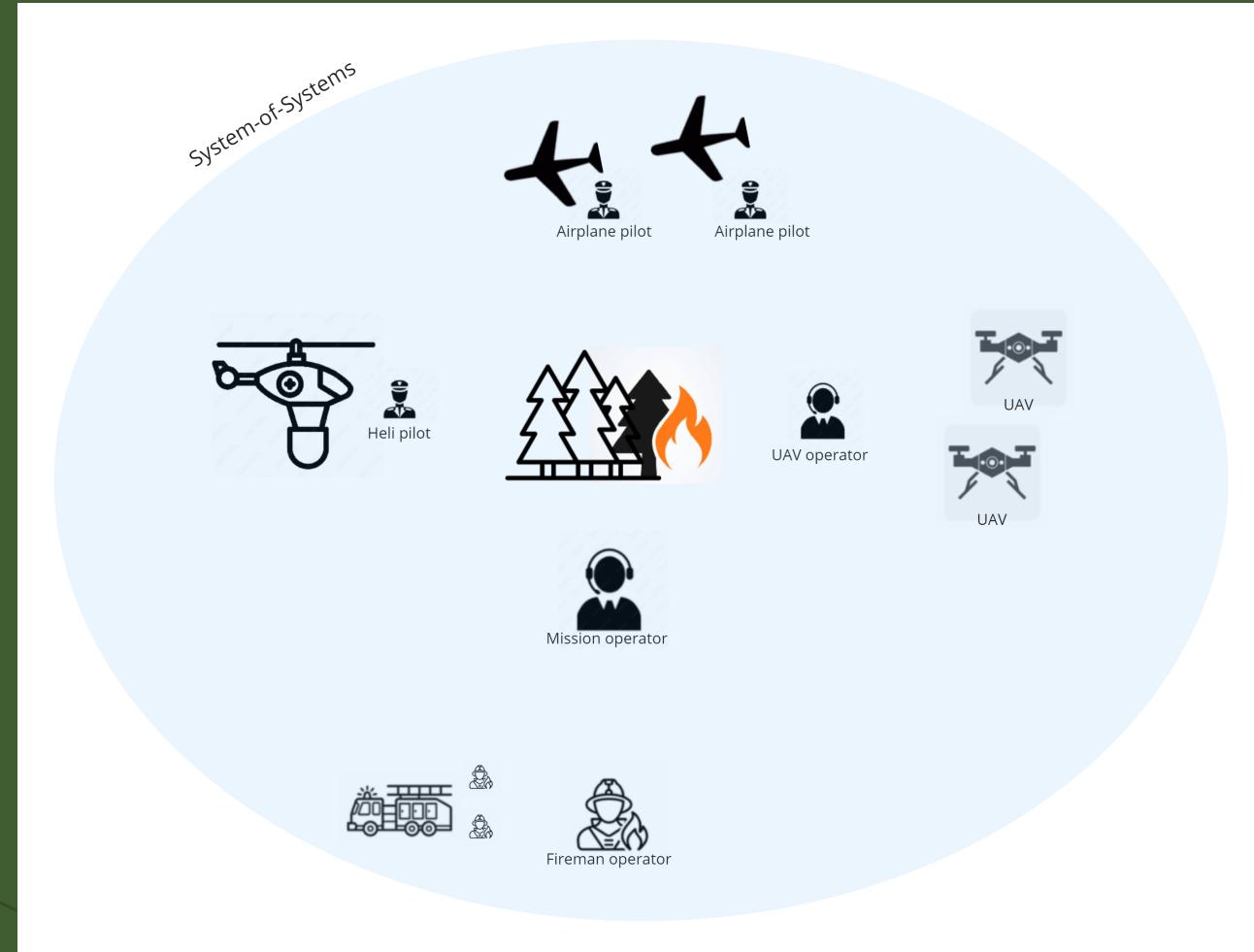
- Collaborative systems
- Five characteristics
- Identified by interactions (Maier, 1998)
- Useful for complex operations and organizations - tools
 - Independent management
 - Independent operated
 - Emergent behavior
 - Evolutionary behavior
 - Geographical distribution



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System-of-Systems

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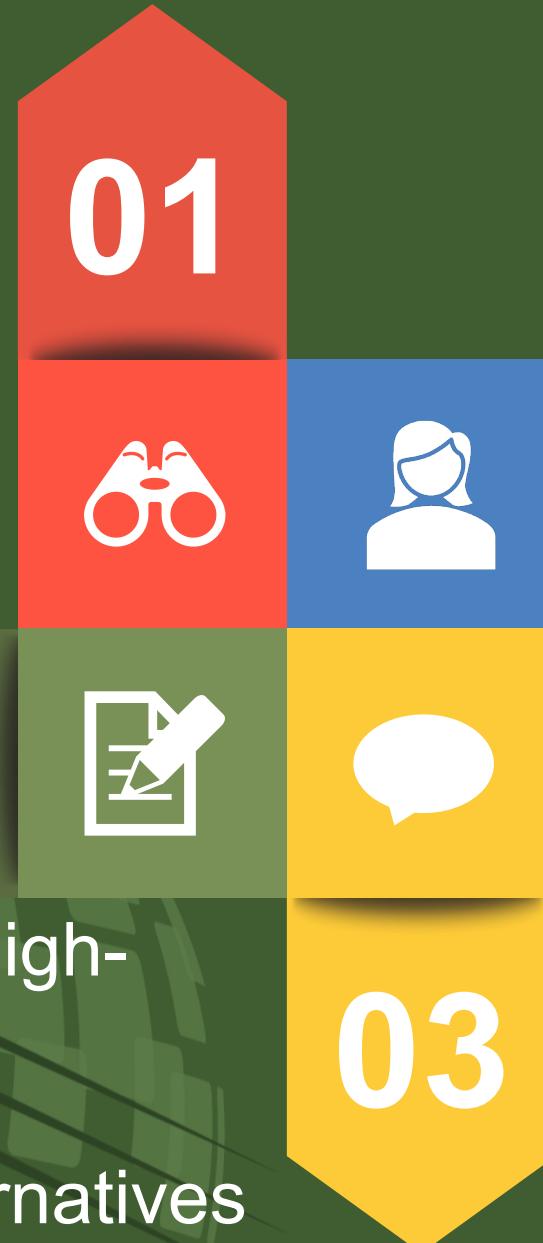


Purpose

Present a holistic risk assessment method during early stage Systems-of-Systems development

Can be developed into high-level SoS requirements.

Comparing SoS alternatives



Benefit SoS developers to create safer system for all stakeholders, including the externally impacted.

02

Starting point for discussion, how can a broader assessment be carried out?

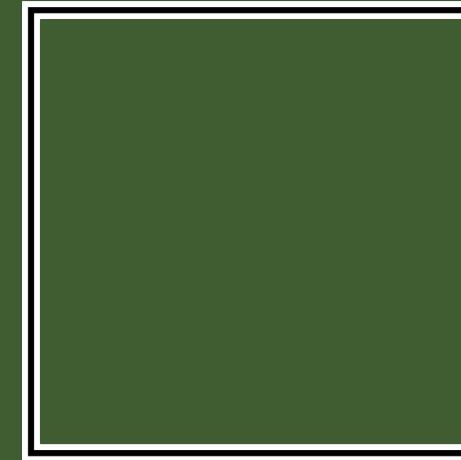
Research Question

- How can risks of a directed SoSs internal and external interactions be assessed at an early stage of SoS development?



Scope and Limitations

- General and broad risk categories
- First iteration of a method
- Static SoS
- Only high-level SoS risks, not CSs risks



Method

System-of-Systems internal
and external interactions

Using systems thinking
(INCOSE)

Severity, likelihood,
interconnectedness

System-of-Systems

Four different types

Directed – Centralized decision and no other interests.

- Example: Emergency operation.

Acknowledged – Centralized operation but CSs have own interests.

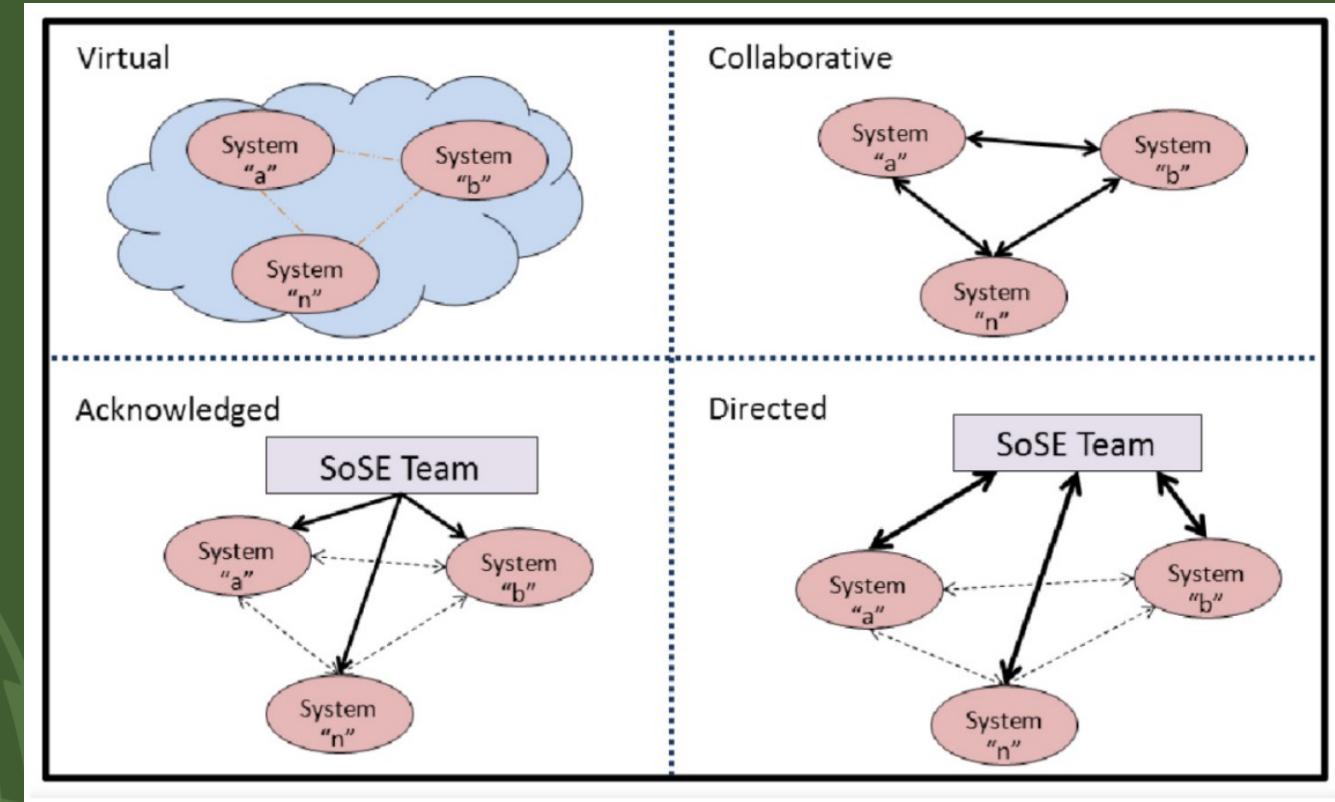
- Example: Air Traffic Management

Collaborative – Decentralized decision making.

- Example: Decentralized energy systems

Virtual – No obvious common goal.

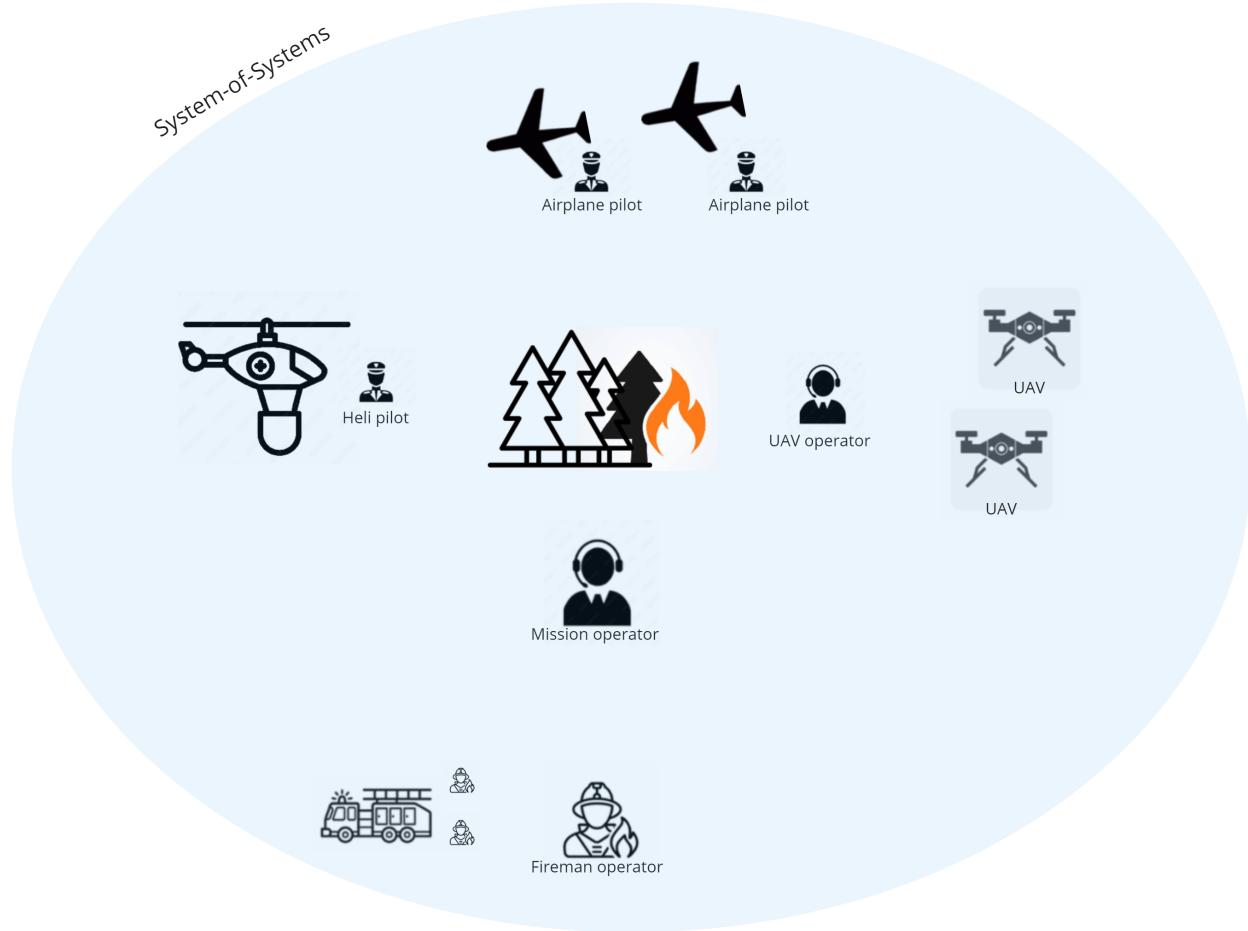
- Example: Internet



Source: Jouannet, C. (2023). *Model Based System of Systems Engineering*. Lecture, Linköping University.

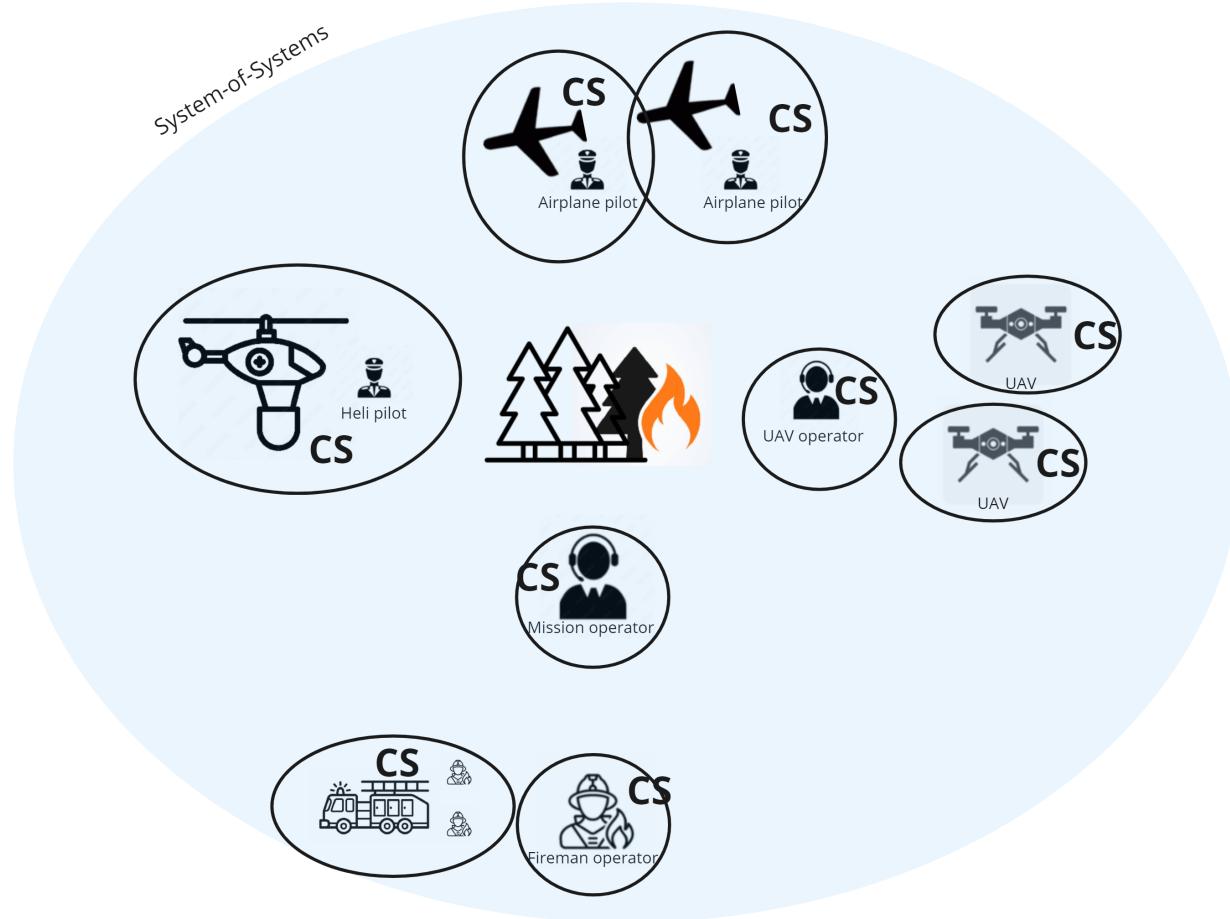
Case Study

- Wild Fire Fighting - Directed
- Fictional

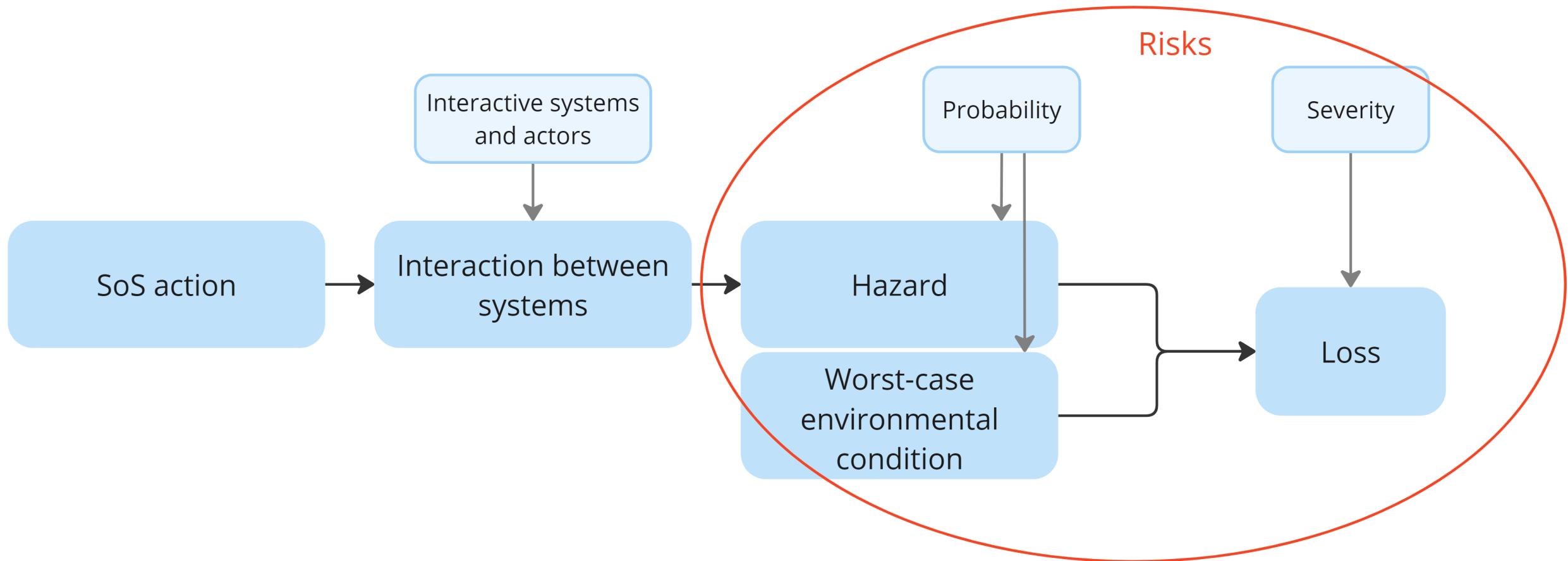


Case Study

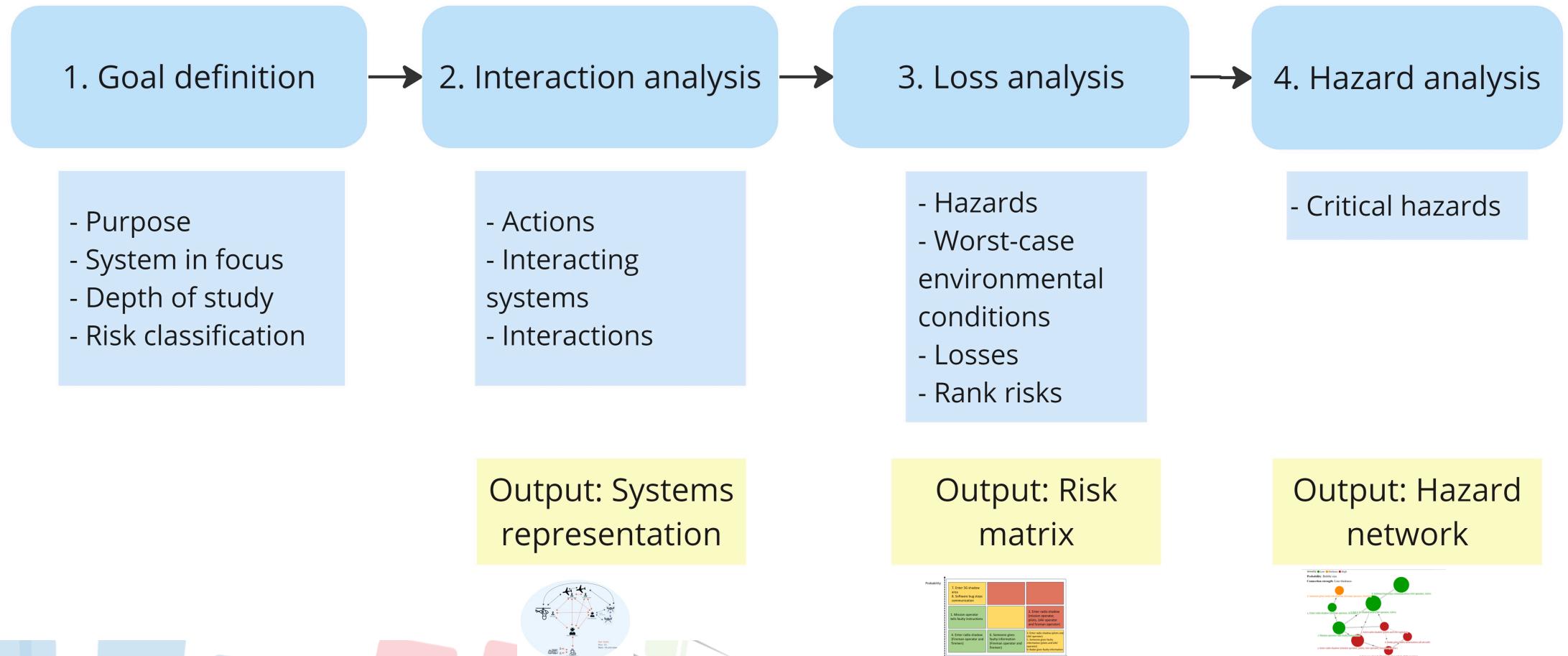
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Risks Definition



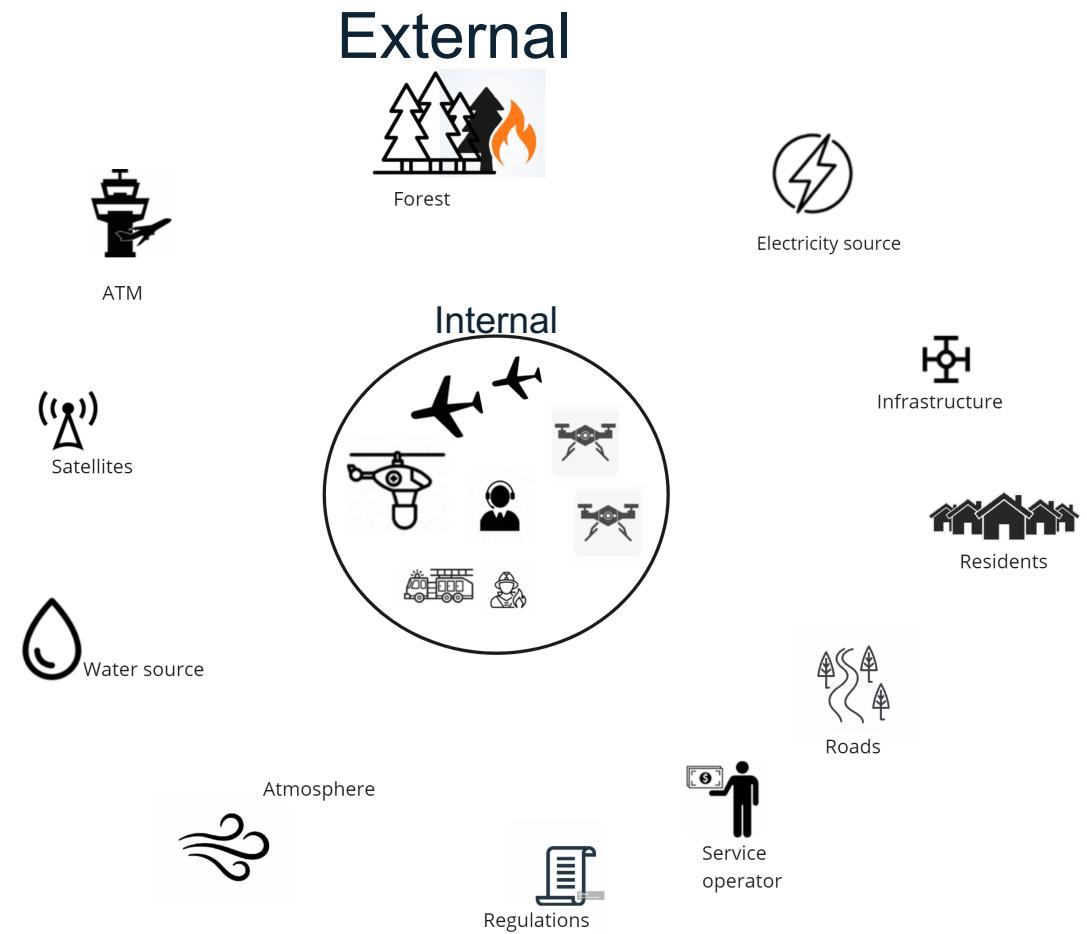
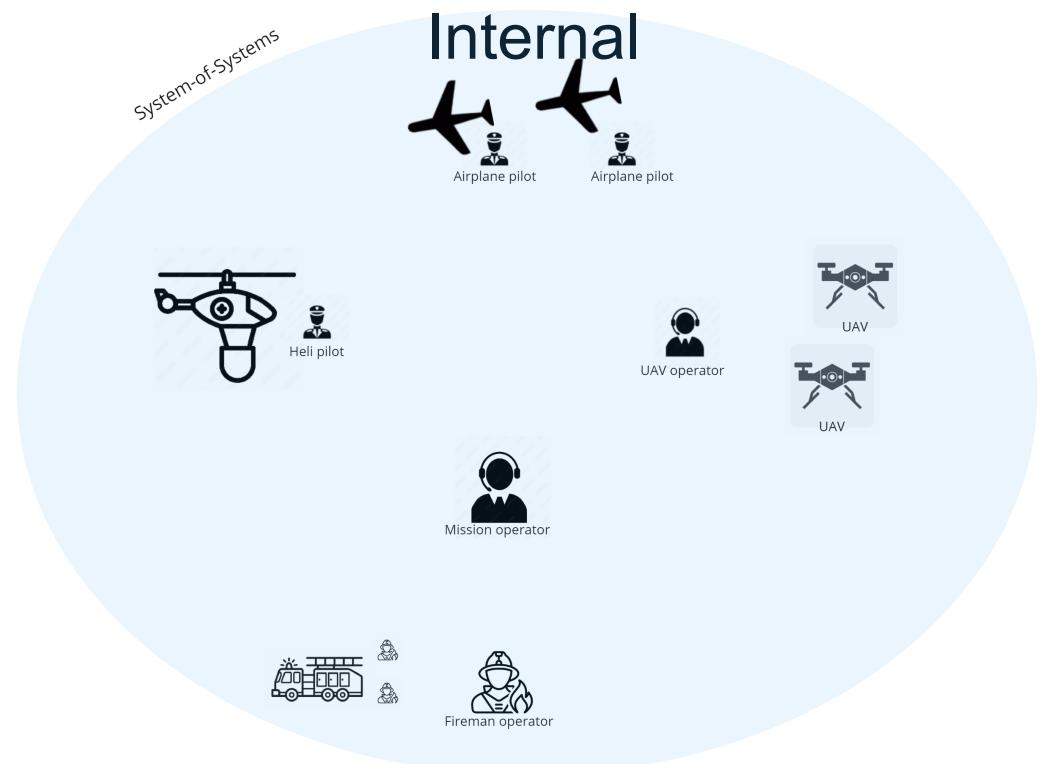
Risk Assessment Method





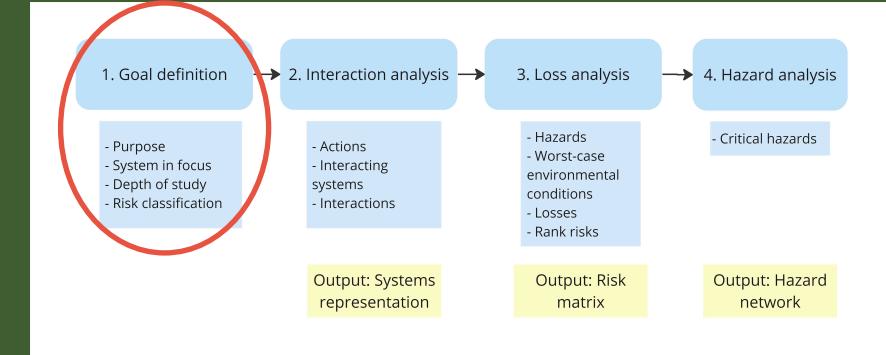
Results Case Study – Internal and External Interactions of a Wildfire Fighting SoS

Internal and External Systems



Internal – 1. Goal Definition

Purpose – Do a risk assessment to plan operation execution in early stage.

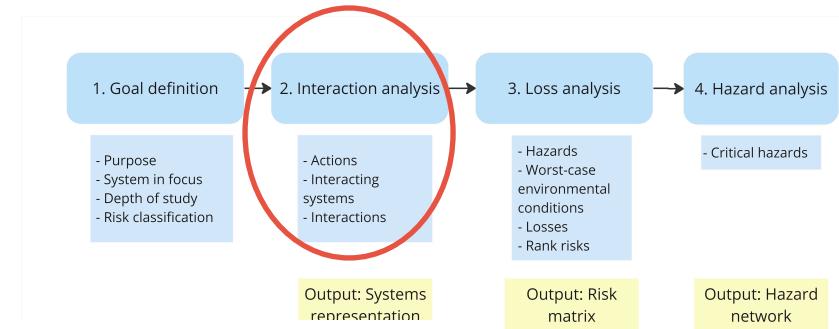


System in focus – Wildfire fighting SoS. 1 mission operator, 1 fireman operator and firemen, 1 helicopter with pilot, 2 airplanes with pilots, 1 UAV operator with 2 UAVs.

Depth of study – Direct effects.

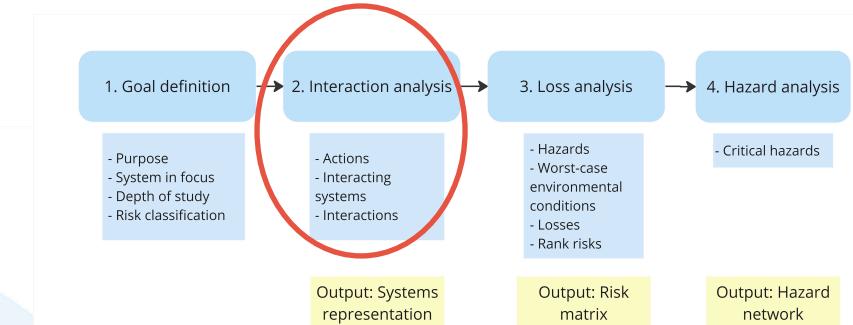
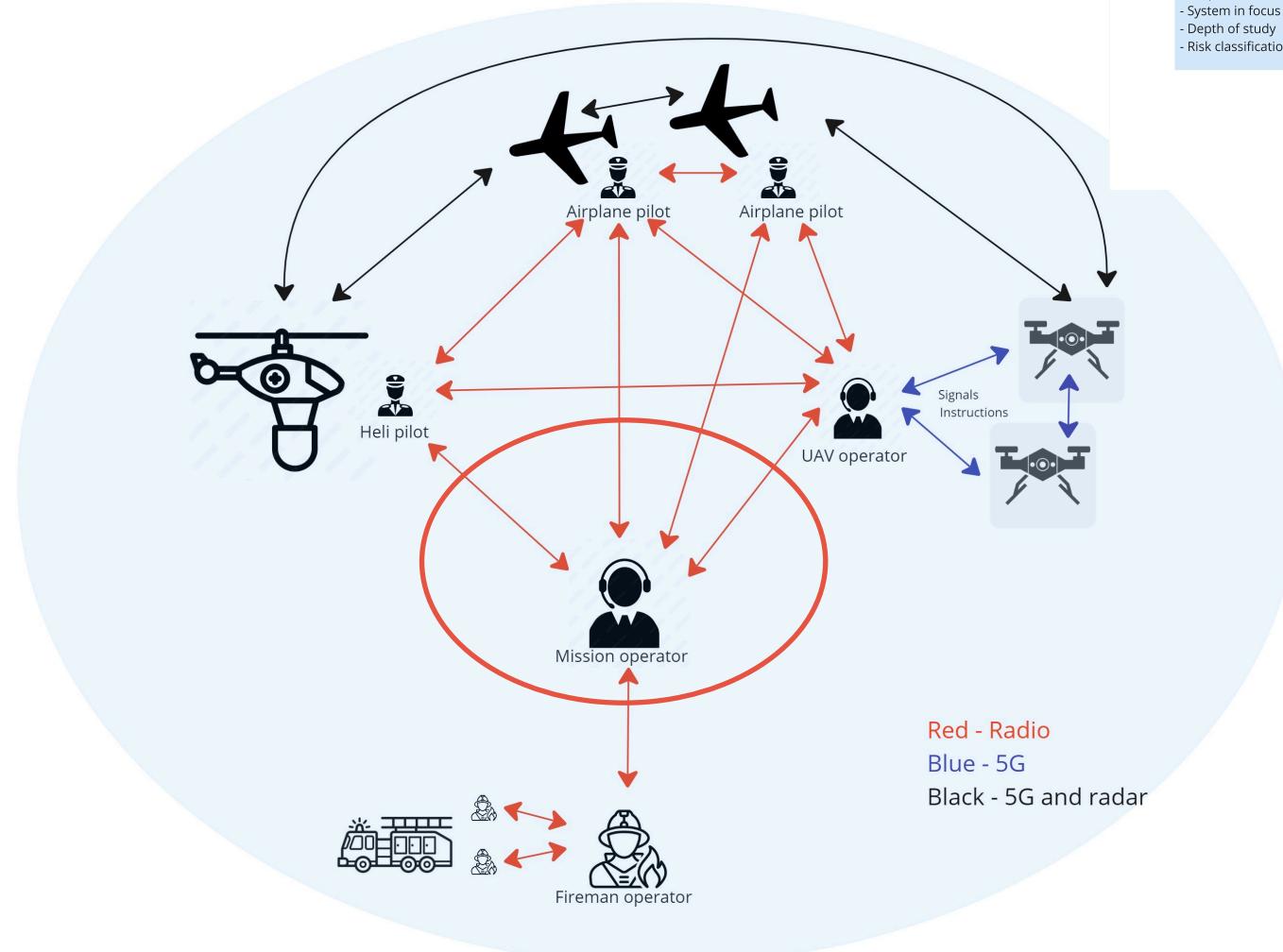
Risk classification – mission delay, human causality, and material loss.

Internal - 2. Interaction analysis



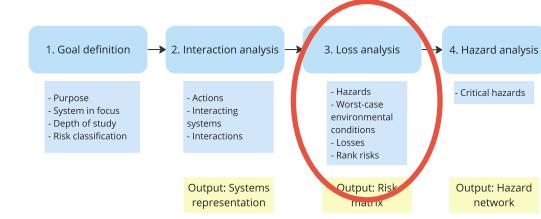
Action	Interactive actors and systems	Interaction
Mission operator gives instructions to active constituent systems	Mission operator, pilots, UAV operator and fireman operator	Radio
UAV operator gives instructions to perform to UAVs	UAV operator and UAVs	Software using 5G
The flying agents share location and uses radar to prevent crashes in a shared airspace	All aircrafts	5G and radar
The pilots and UAV operator communicates about fire state flying condition near the fire and about water dropping location	Pilots and UAV operator	Radio
Fireman operator gives instructions to firemen	Fireman operator and firemen	Radio

Internal - 2. Interaction analysis



Internal - 3. Loss analysis

Interaction	Interactive actor or system	Hazard	Type of hazard	Probability
Radio	Mission operator, pilots, UAV operator and fireman operator	1. Mission operator tells faulty instructions	Unwanted outcome of interaction	Medium
		2. Enters radio shadow	Disrupted interaction	Medium
		3. Enters radio shadow	Disrupted interaction	Low
	Pilots and UAV operator	4. Someone gives faulty information	Unwanted outcome of interaction	Low
		5. Enters radio shadow	Disrupted interaction	Low
	Fireman operator and firemen	6. Someone gives faulty information	Unwanted outcome of interaction	Low
Software using 5G	UAV operator and UAVs	7. Enter 5G shadow area	Disrupted interaction	High
		8. Software bug stops communication	Disrupted interaction behavior	High
5G and radar	All aircraft	9. Radar gives faulty information	Unwanted outcome of interaction	Low



Keywords:

- Disrupted interaction
- Changed interaction behavior
- Unwanted outcome of interaction
- New interaction

Internal – 3. Loss Analysis

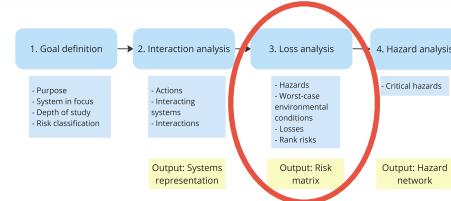
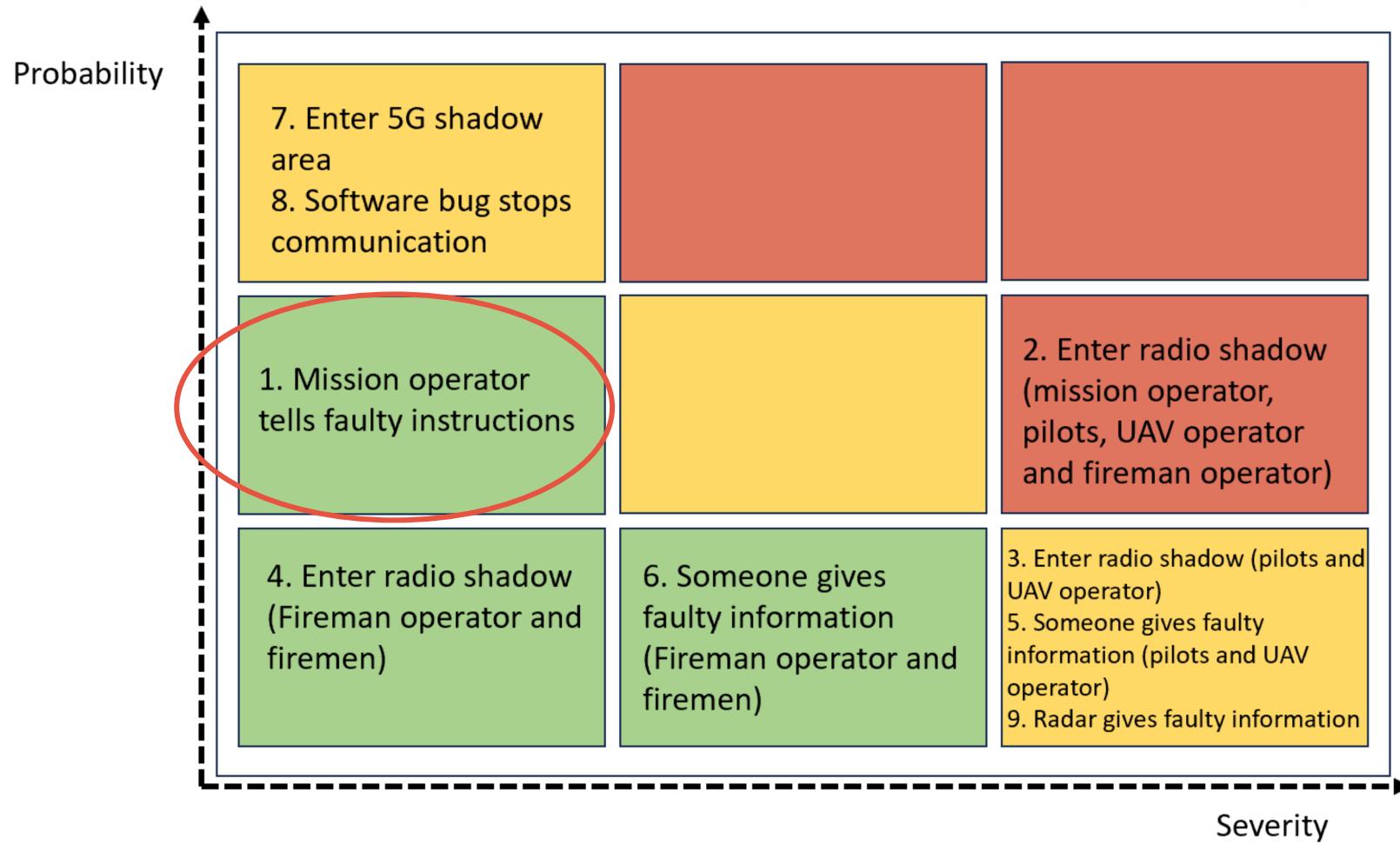
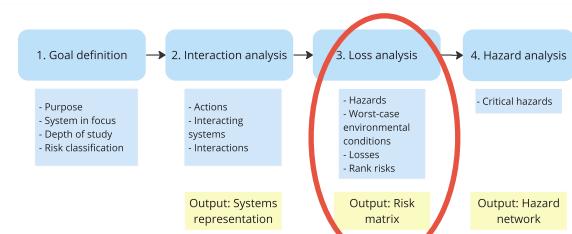


Table 4.3: Internal SoS hazards and environmental conditions leading to losses.

Nr	Hazard	Interactive actor or system	Worst-case environmental conditions	Loss	Severity
1.	Mission operator tells faulty instructions	Mission operator, pilots, UAV operator and fireman operator	Critical point of mission	Mission delay	Low
2.	Enter radio shadow	Mission operator, pilots, UAV operator and fireman operator	Aircraft are close to each other	Human causality, material loss	High
3.	Enter radio shadow	Pilots and UAV operator	Aircraft are close to each other	Human causality, material loss	High
4.	Enter radio shadow	Fireman operator and firemen	Critical point of mission	Mission delay	Low
5.	Someone gives faulty instructions	Pilots and UAV operator	Aircraft are close to each other	Human causality, material loss	High

Internal – 3. Loss Analysis

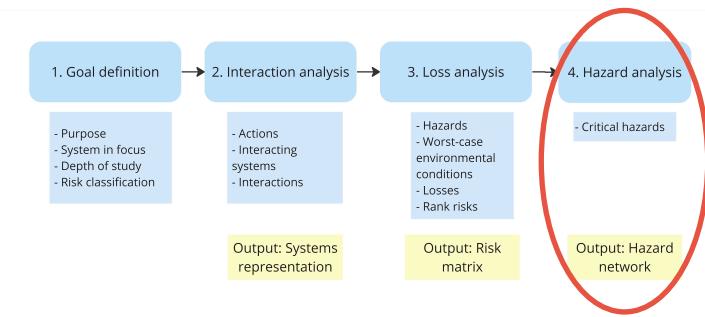
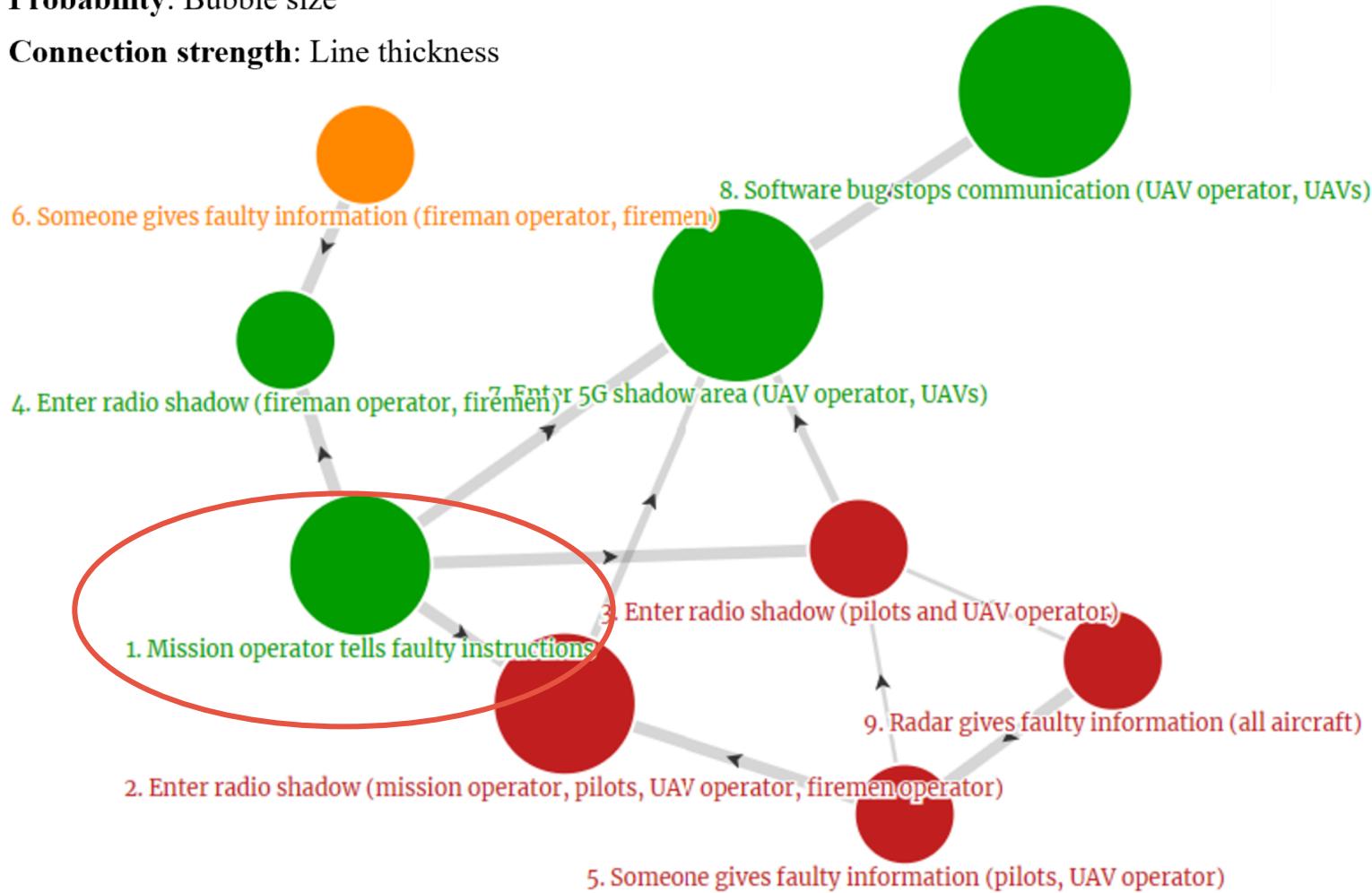


Internal – 4. Hazard Analysis

Severity ● Low ● Medium ● High

Probability: Bubble size

Connection strength: Line thickness

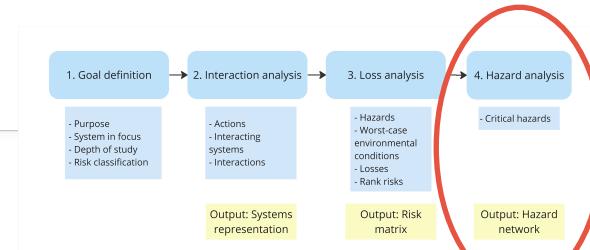
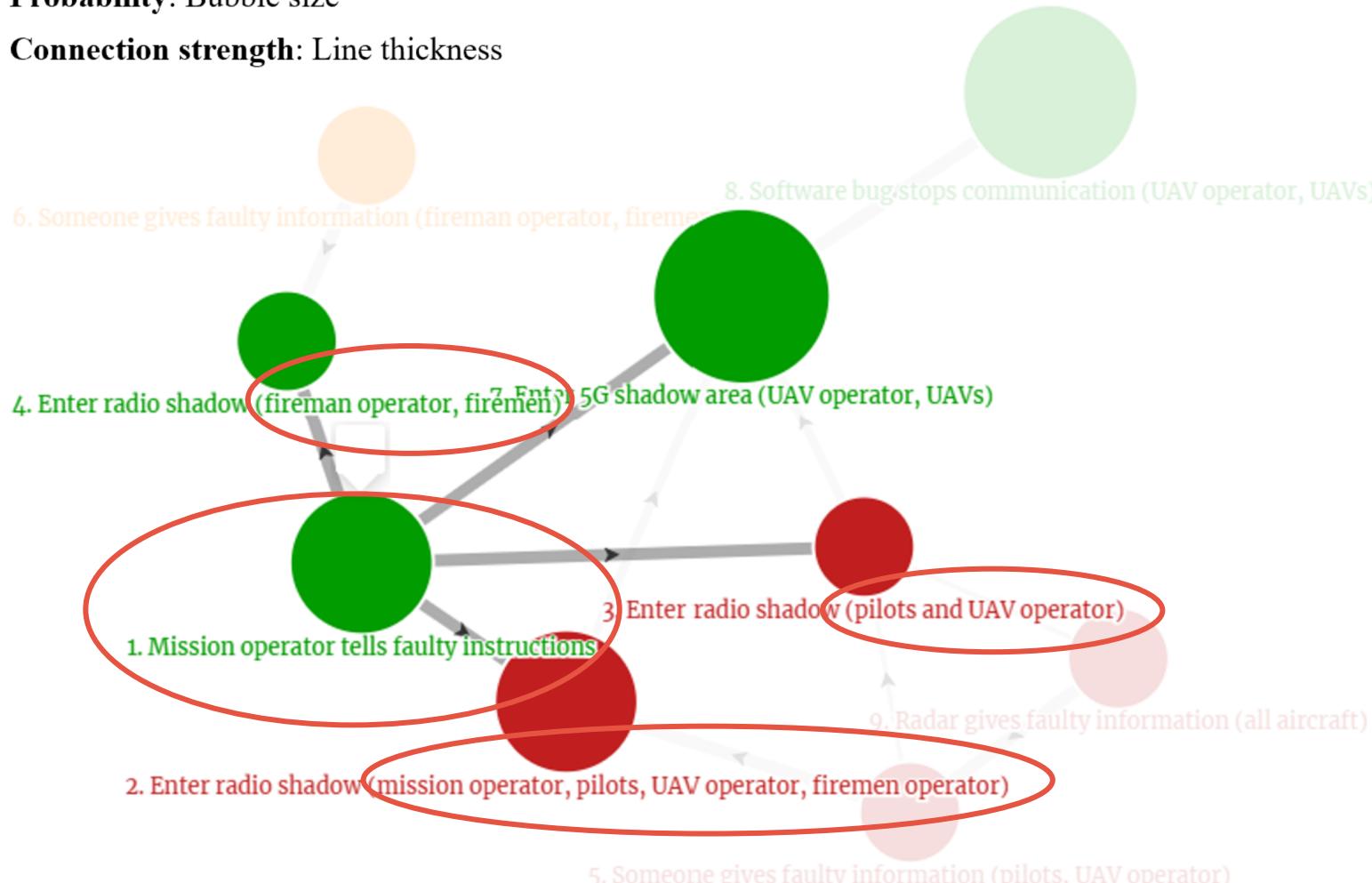


Internal – 4. Hazard Analysis

Severity ● Low ● Medium ● High

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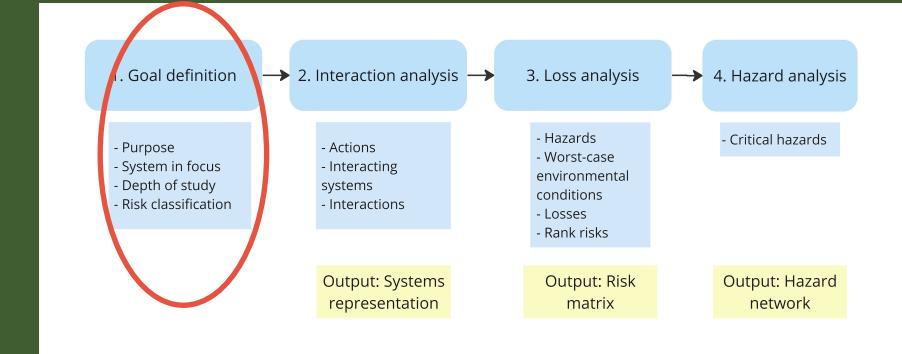
External – 1. Goal Definition

Purpose – Do a risk assessment to plan operation execution in early stage.

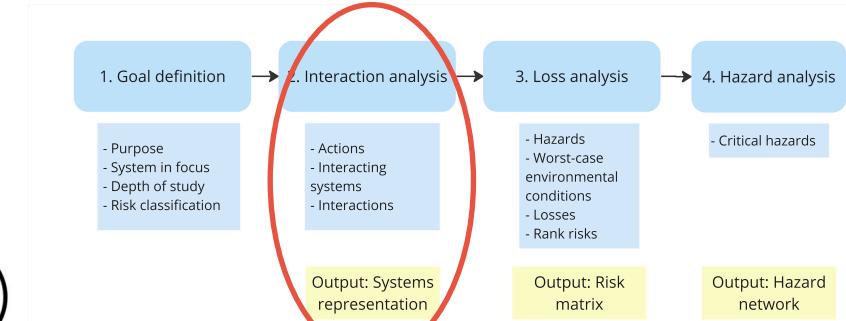
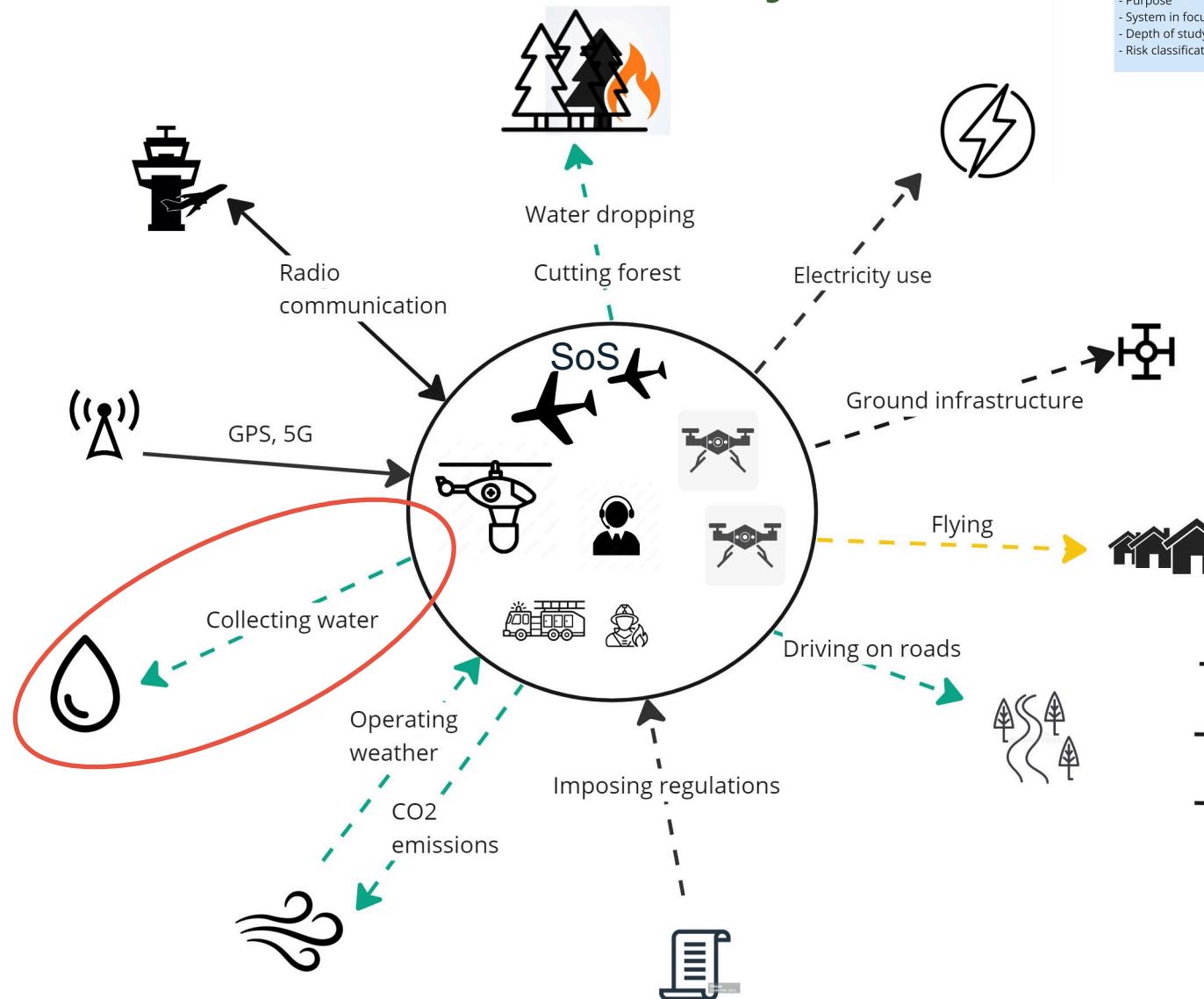
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Depth of study – Direct effects.

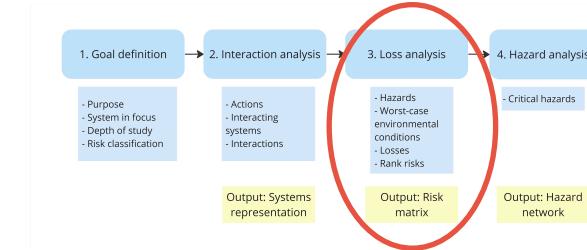
Risk classification – Mission, social, material, and environmental.



External - 2. Interaction analysis

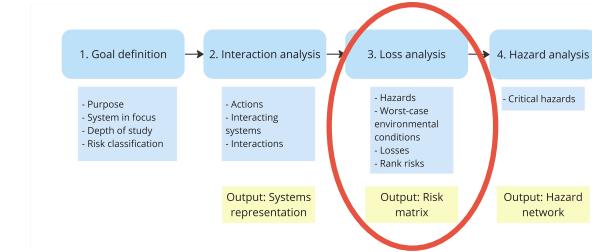


External - 3. Loss Analysis



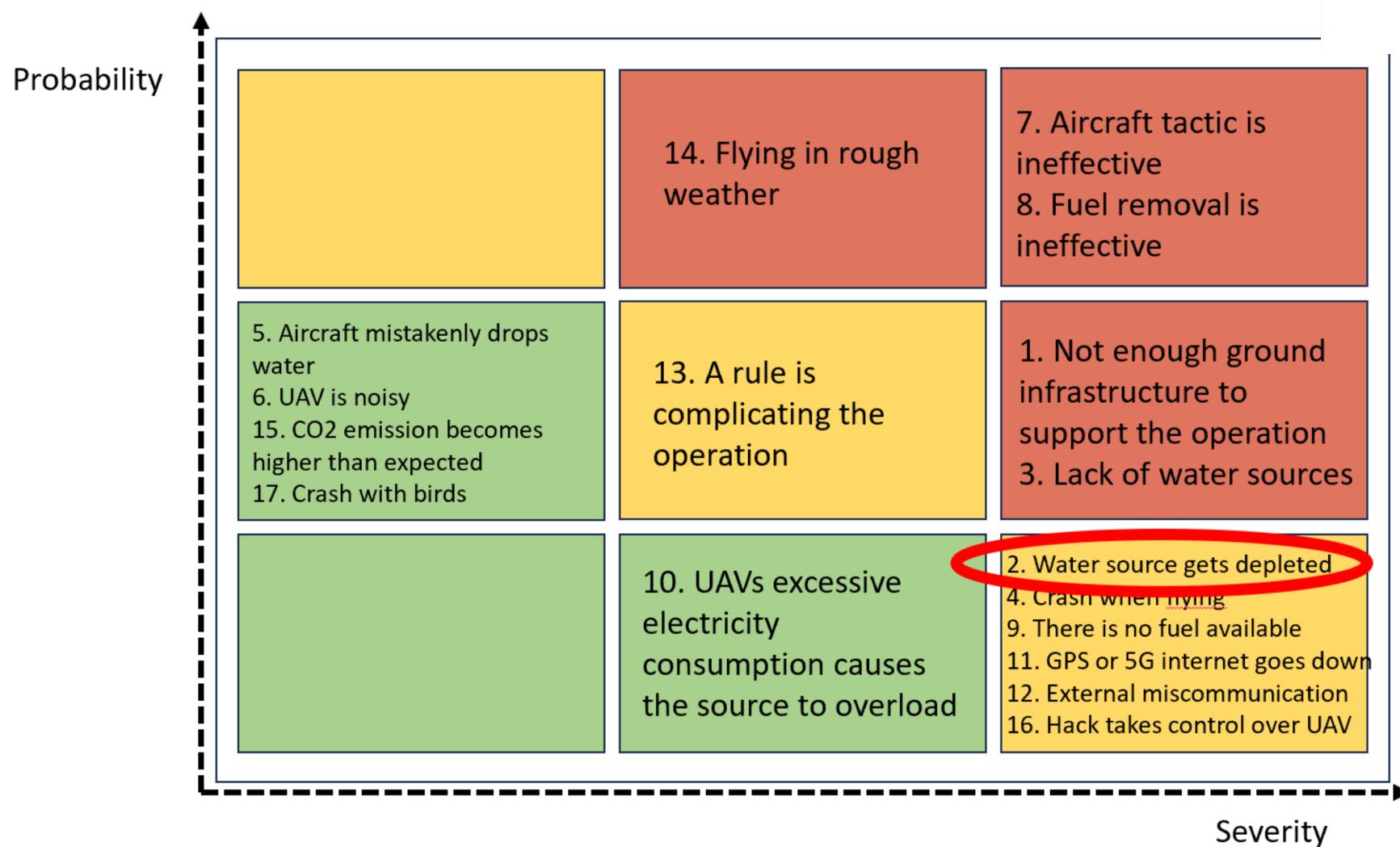
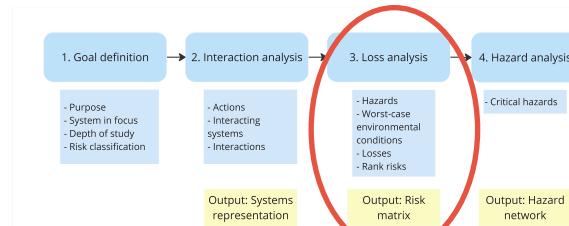
Interaction	Interactive actor or system	Hazard	Type of hazard	Probability
Aircraft using airport and vertiports, trucks drive on roads	Ground infrastructure	1. There is not enough ground infrastructure needed by the CSs	Disrupted interaction	Medium
CSs collects water	Water source	2. Water source gets depleted 3. Lack of water sources	Unwanted outcome of interaction Disrupted interaction	Low Medium

External - 3. Loss Analysis

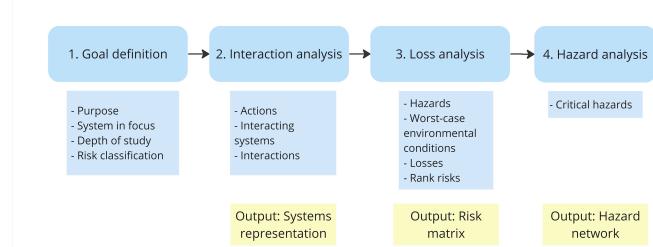
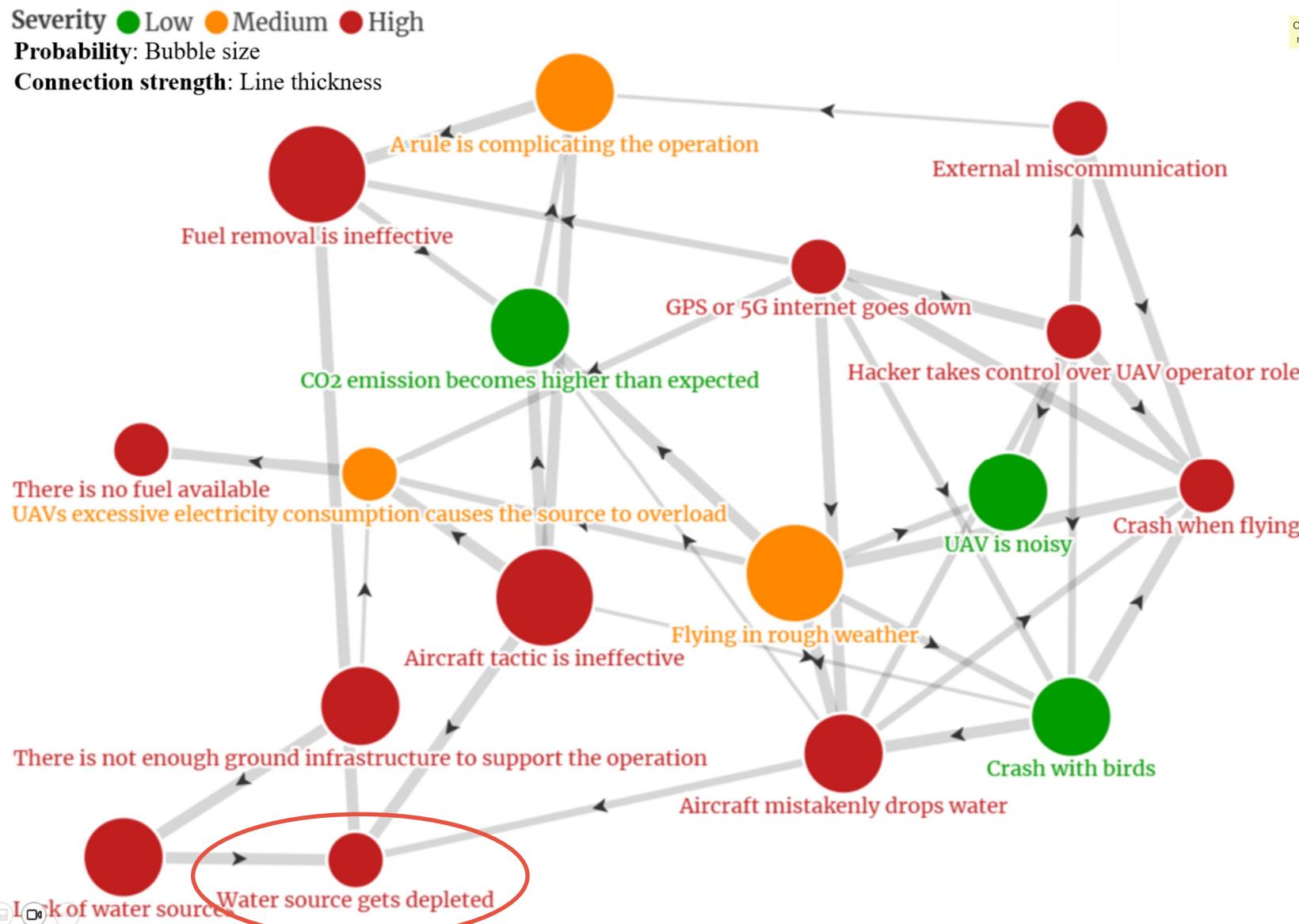


Nr	Hazard	External actor or system	Worst-case environmental conditions	Loss	Severity
1.	There is not enough ground infrastructure to support the operation	Ground infrastructure	Fireline is in inaccessible area	Mission	High
2.	Water source gets depleted	Water source	Other users are dependent on the same water source	Social	High

External - 3. Loss Analysis



External – 4. Hazard Analysis



External – 4. Hazard Analysis

Severity ● Low ○ Medium ● High

Probability: Bubble size

Connection strength: Line thickness

There is no fuel available
There is not enough ground infrastructure to support the operation

Lack of water sources

UAVs excessive electricity consumption causes the source to overload

Aircraft tactic is ineffective

Water source gets depleted

CO₂ emission becomes higher than expected

Fuel removal is ineffective

Aircraft mistakenly drops water

GPS or 5G internet goes down

Crash with birds

Crash when flying

Hacker takes control over UAV operator role

External miscommunication

Flying in rough weather

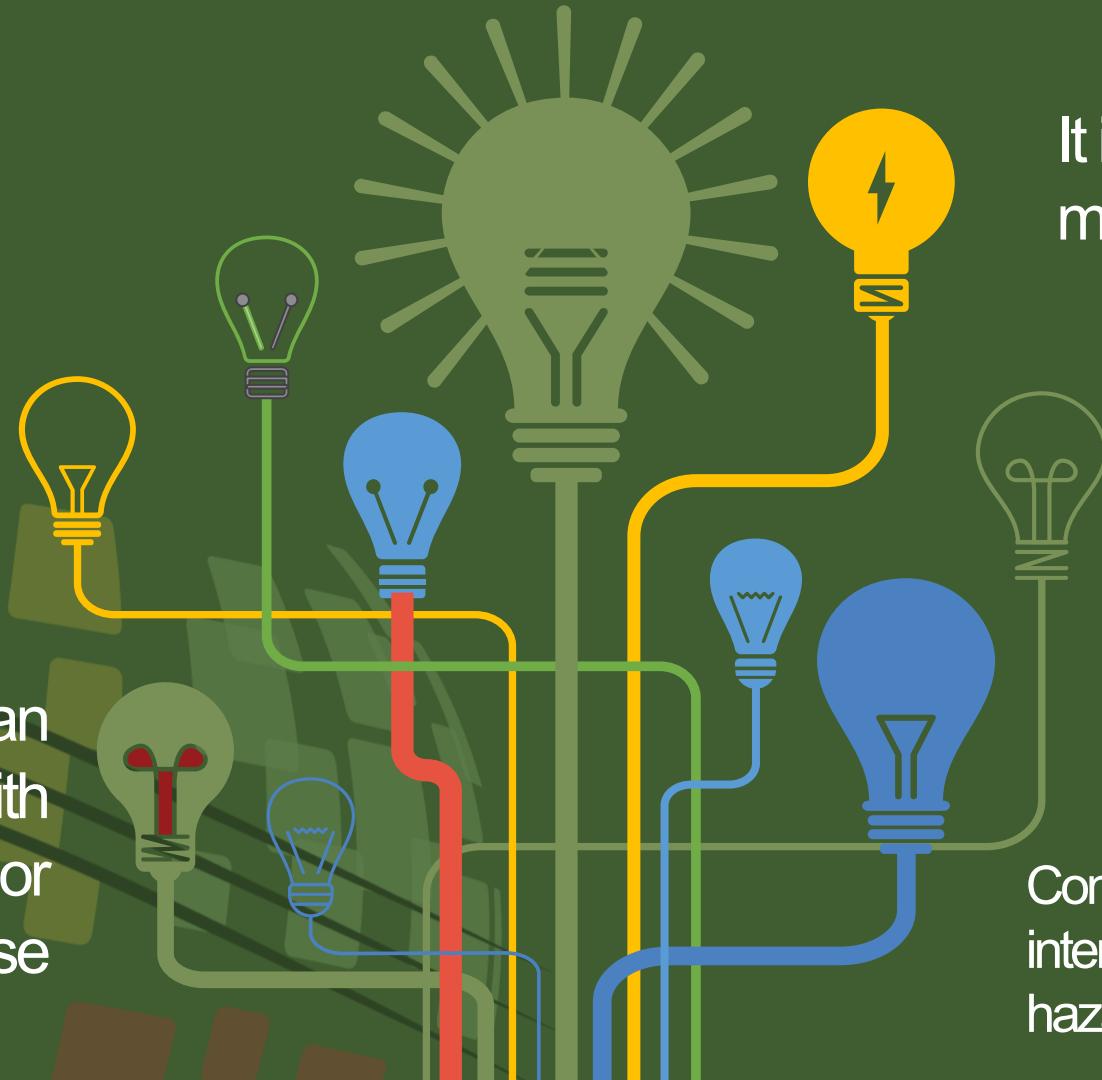
UAV is noisy



Discussion

Can be integrated with LCA for the use phase

The hazards can be identified with historic data or domain expertise



It is very broad and misses details

Cost-benefit analysis

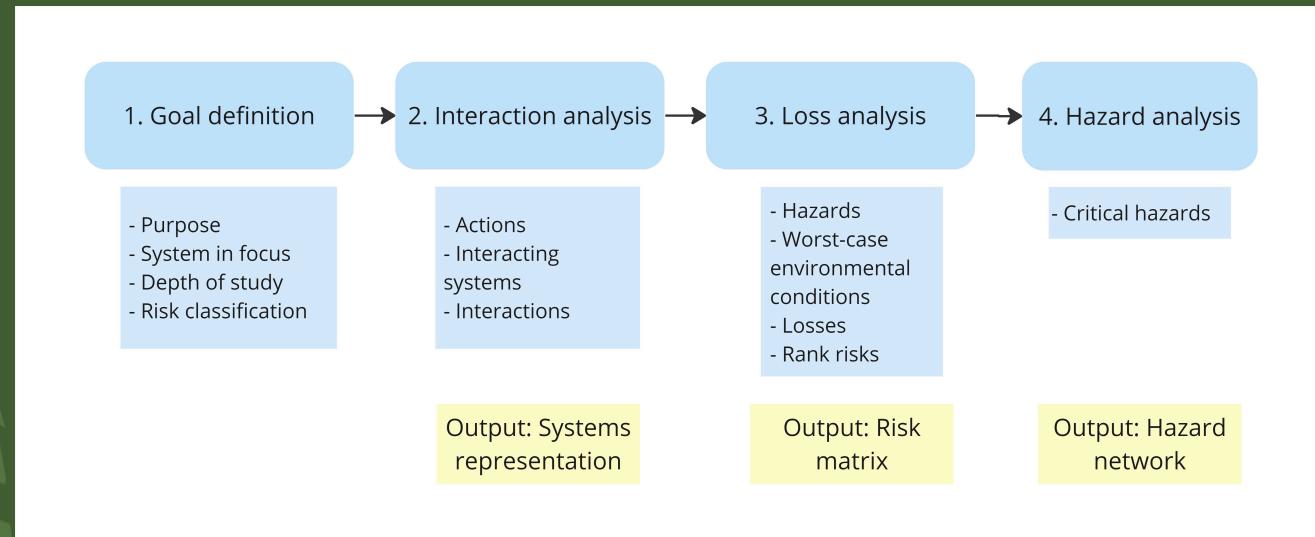
Static model while SoSs are dynamic

Connection between internal and external hazards

Conclusion

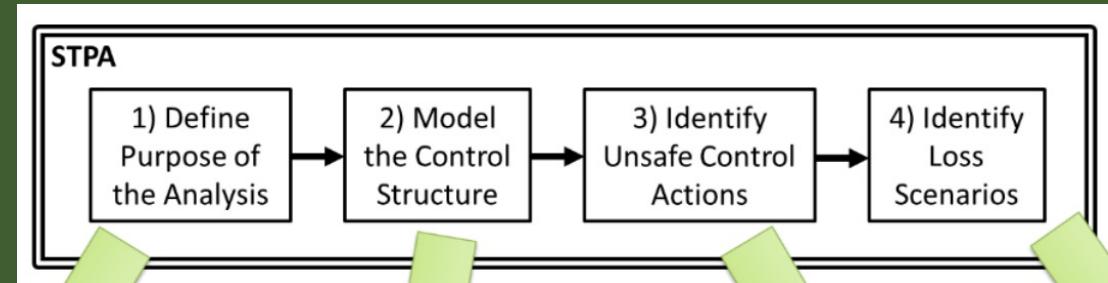
RQ: How can risks of a directed SoSs internal and external interactions be assessed at an early stage of SoS development?

- Using systems thinking
- Dividing interactions into internal and external
- Using system context diagram, risk matrix, and network analysis



References and Similar Work

- Systems Theoretic Process Analysis (STPA) Nancy Leveson, John P Thomas, 2018
- Mark W. Maier. “Architecting principles for systems-of-systems”. In: Systems Engineering 1.4 (1998), pp. 267–284
- Towards a Risk Analysis Method for Systems-of-Systems Based on Systems Thinking (Jakob Axelsson, Avenir Kobetski, 2018)
- Gaya Herrington. How Schneider Electric’s climate risks interact. Schneider Electric Sustainability Research Institute, 2023





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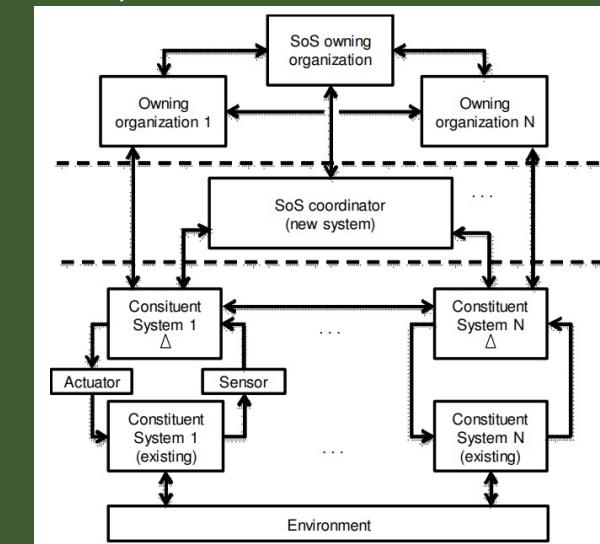
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Questions

- What similar work is already done?
 - Life Cycle Analysis – identifying environmental and social impact during product life cycles
 - STAMP (System-Theoretic Accident Model and Processes) - using control theory to identify hierachal risks
 - STPA (System-Theoretic Process Analysis)
- HAZOP - Hazard and operability study keywords
- Towards a Risk Analysis Method for Systems-of-Systems Based on Systems Thinking (Jakob Axelsson, Avenir Kobetski, 2018)



Questions

- What methodology did you do to conduct this work?

Literature review -> a lot of own intuition -> followed my own method

Questions

- How was the information in the case study collected?

The information is not validated. It is just an example of how it could be.

It could be based on historical data and expertise knowledge.

Questions

- How high certainty would the results have?

As high as extensive you did the analysis

