



**International Council on Systems Engineering**  
*A better world through a systems approach*

# Rally the Troops!

## The Secret Energies Driving All Innovation Ecosystems

Bill Schindel

[schindel@ictt.com](mailto:schindel@ictt.com)



# Abstract

- Can “innovation systems” deliver faster, while also earning confidence in the face of risk?
- Limitations on capabilities of an engineered aircraft, bridge, or car are ultimately constrained, through their designs, by underlying first principles phenomena.
- Does this also apply to phenomena of the socio-technical innovation ecosystem itself?
- Verification and validation (V&V) are more than “checks on the main work”.
- Instead, they highlight consistency gaps which define the potential energy framework of the innovation ecosystem’s Hamiltonian, driving the entire innovation ecosystem.
- Foundational limits don’t just tell us what is impossible—they also tell us what future may be possible, including for hybrid human-AI ecosystems.
- Following is a partial tour of the descriptive landscape, to provoke thought . . . .

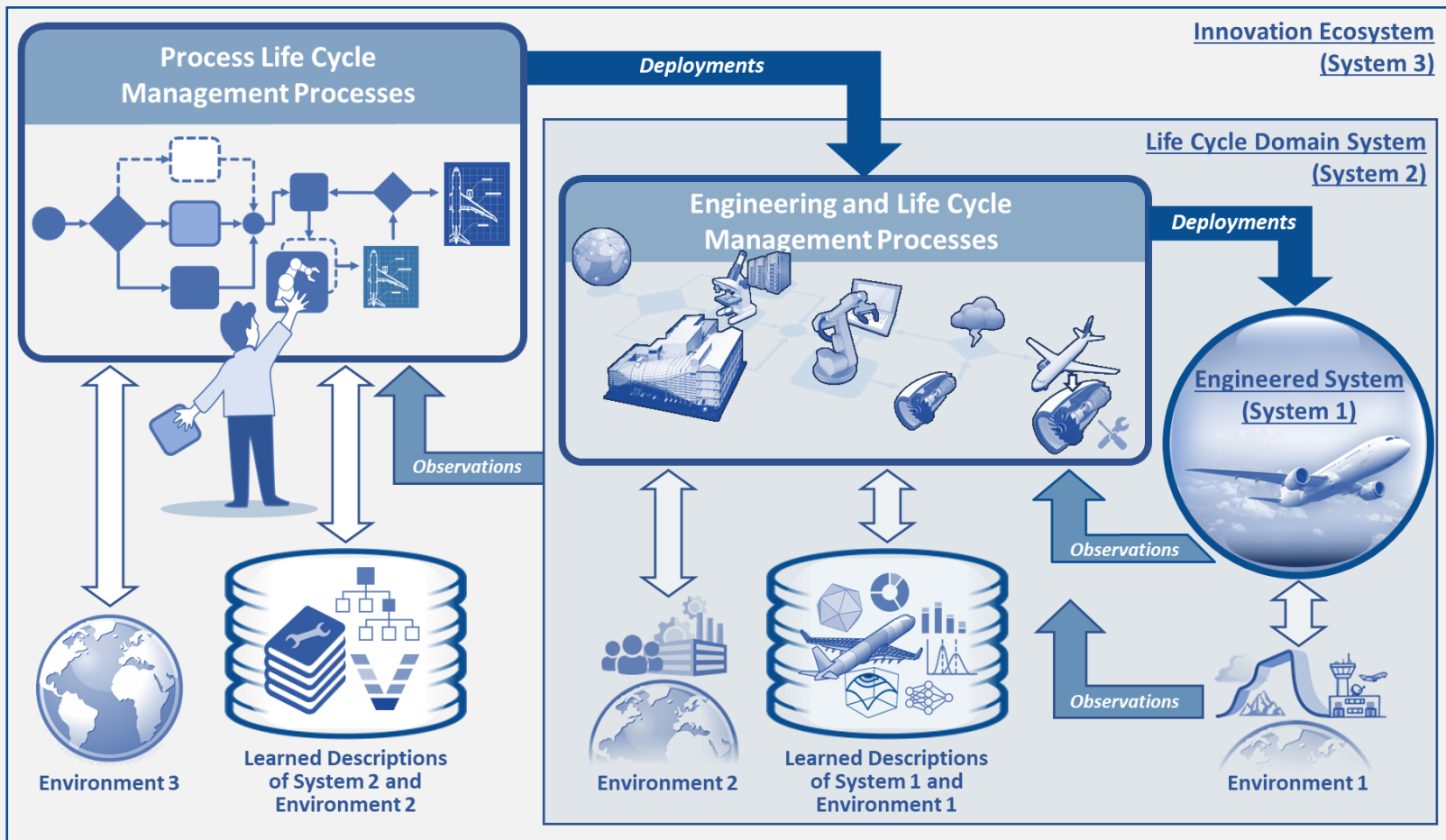


# Contents

- Innovation ecosystem performance: ASELCM Reference Pattern
- Learning as ecosystem state trajectory
- VVUQ standards situation: The Rosetta Stone Project
- How to quantify inconsistency across all model & artifact types (MBSE, etc.)
- Vector spaces describe the landscape
- Inconsistency and ecosystem energy
- Questions, discussion
  
- References

# Innovation ecosystem performance: ASELCM Reference Pattern

- INCOSE ASELCM (Agile Systems Engineering Life Cycle Mgmt) Pattern [1,2]
  - AKA The Innovation Ecosystem Pattern
- A configurable reference model used to represent ecosystem learning in particular, independent of methodology and effectiveness
- Descriptive, not prescriptive – used to study anyone’s innovation ecosystem
- Especially information artifacts themselves (models or otherwise), not just the processes that consume and produce them

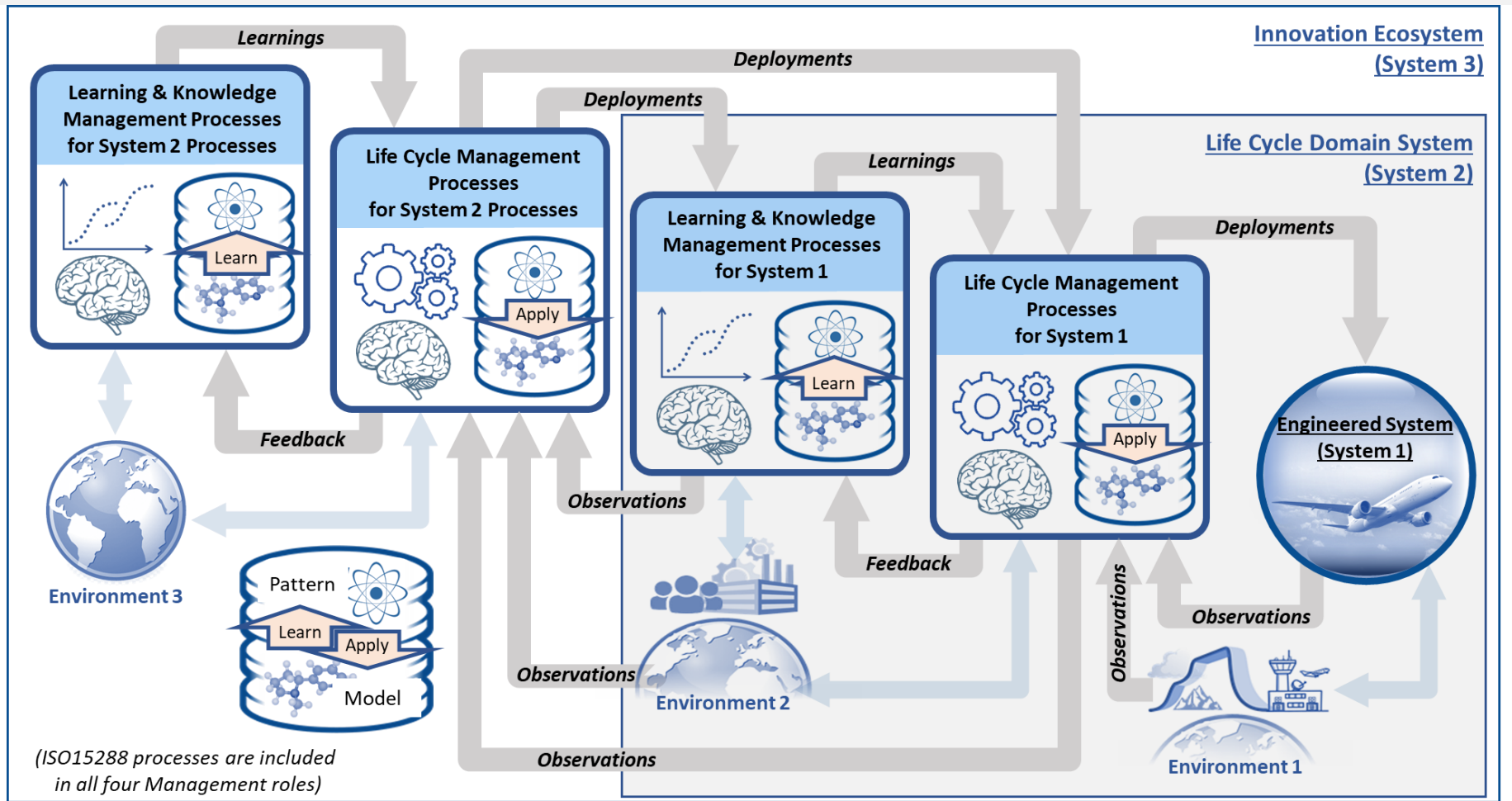


INCOSE ASELCM Level 0 Reference Model

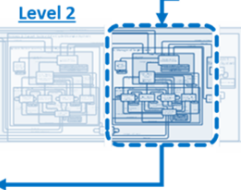
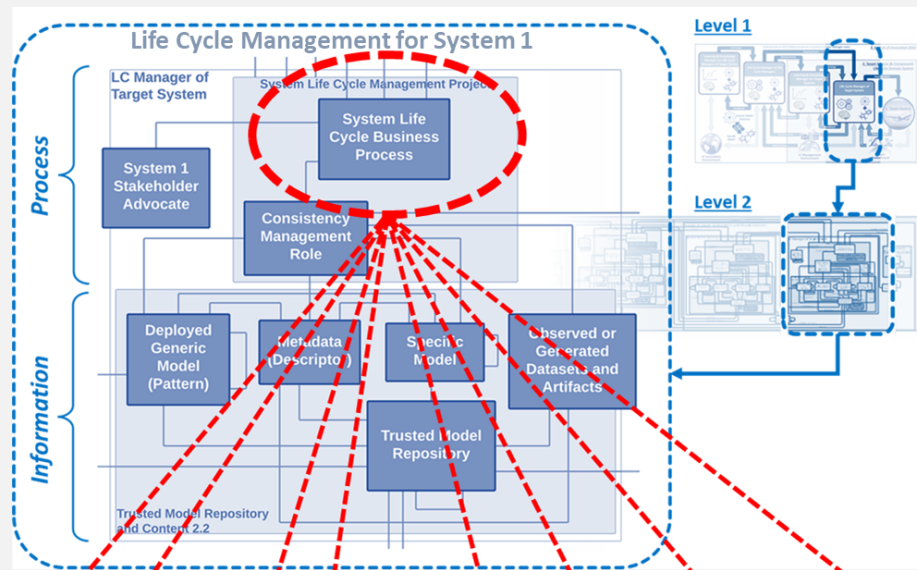
System 3: Process definition, advancement

System 2: Engineering, production, support, science

System 1: Products



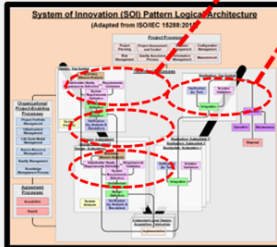
INCOSE ASELCM Level 1 Reference Model



## ASELCM Level 2 Roles

Configurable to specific life cycle management models---

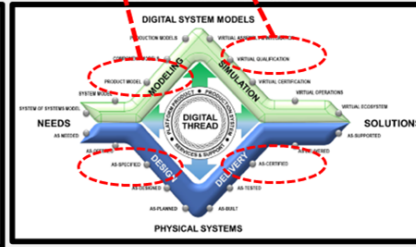
ISO15288 Life Cycle  
"Vee" Model<sup>1</sup>



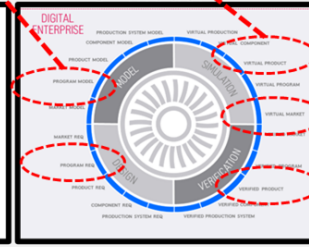
DoD 5000 Defense  
Acquisition Life Cycle Model<sup>2</sup>



Boeing  
"Diamond" Model<sup>3</sup>



Rolls-Royce  
"O" Model<sup>4</sup>



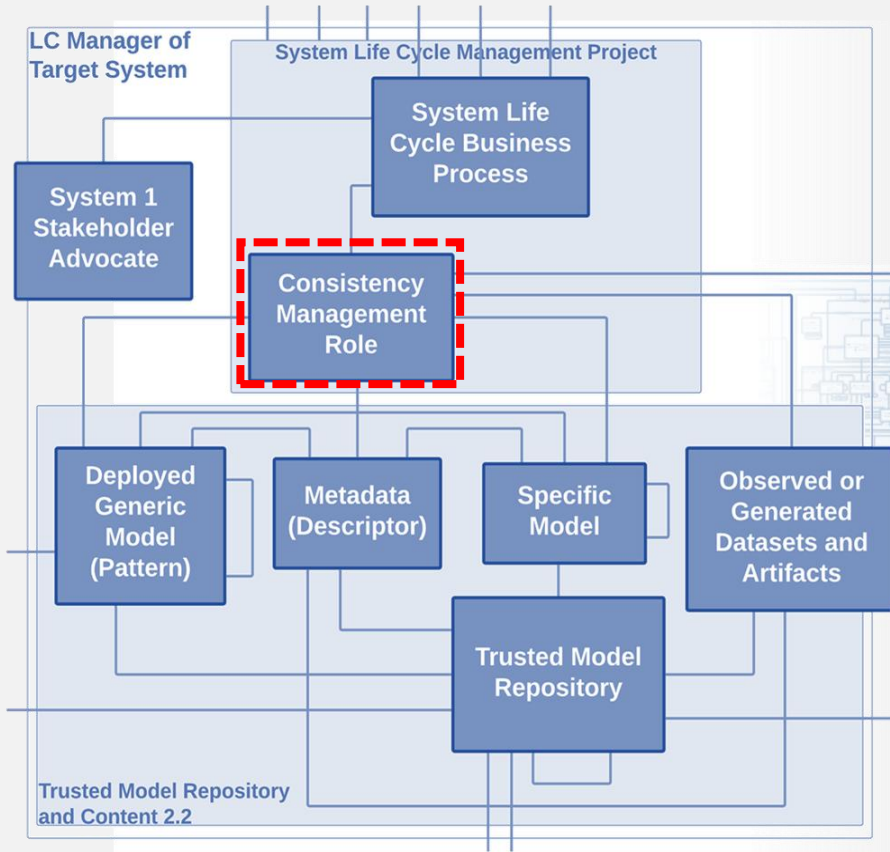
Excerpted or adapted from: (1) ISO15288 and INCOSE SE Handbook; (2) DoD5000 Wall Chart; (3) AIAA Sci Tech, 01.2020, J. Hatakeyama; (4) AIAA DEIC Digital Twin Subcommittee, 04.08.19 Donaldson, Flay, French, Matlik, Myer, Pond, Randjelovic



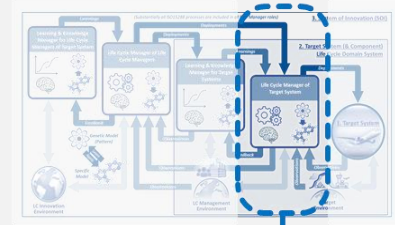
## Life Cycle Management for System 1

Process

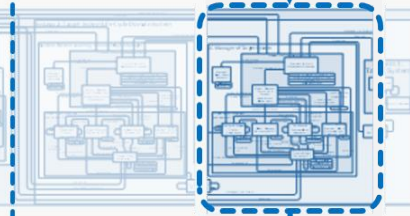
Information



### Level 1



### Level 2



- “Semantic interoperability” is not the central dynamics issue of achieving inter-artifact content consistency.

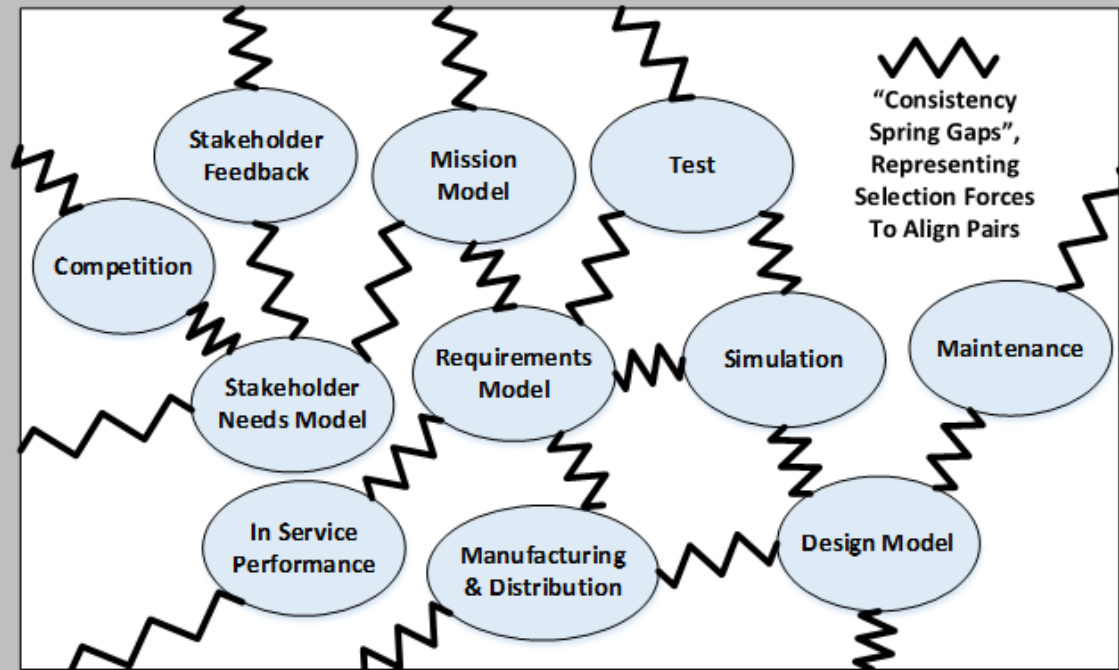
Examples:

- Design not meeting Requirements
- Production Recipe inconsistent with Design



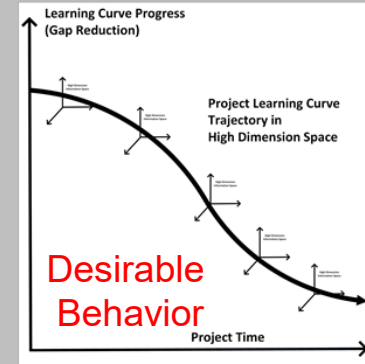
# Learning as Innovation Ecosystem state trajectory

## Program Boundary

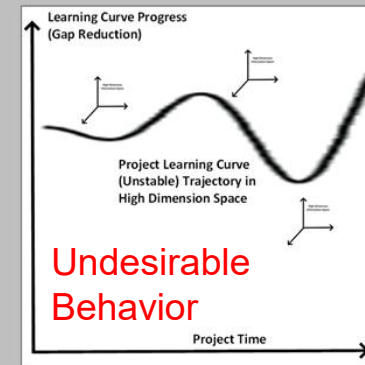


From [ 3 ]

## Program Boundary

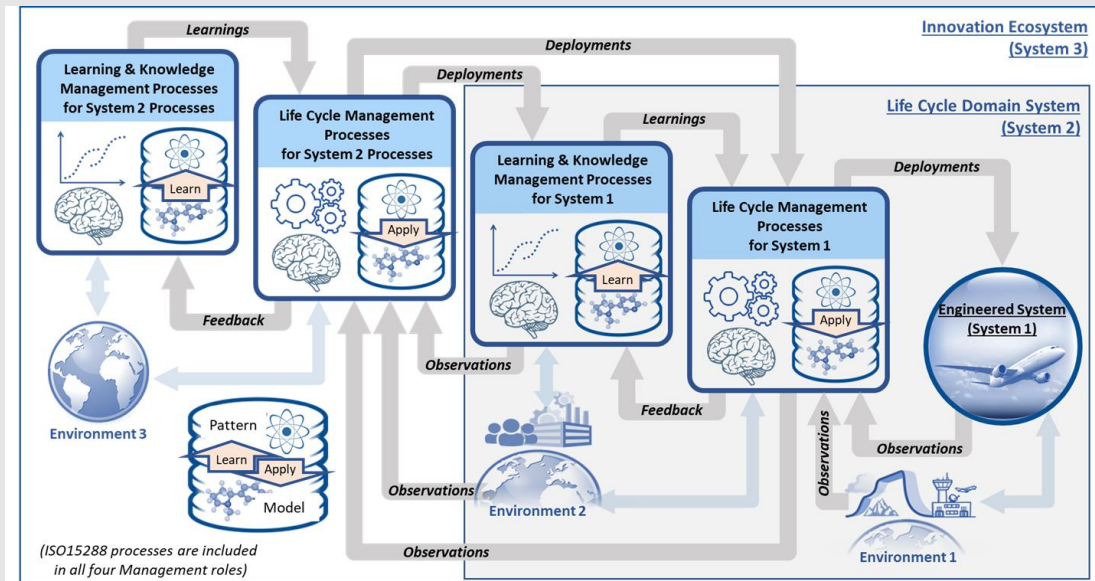


## Program Boundary



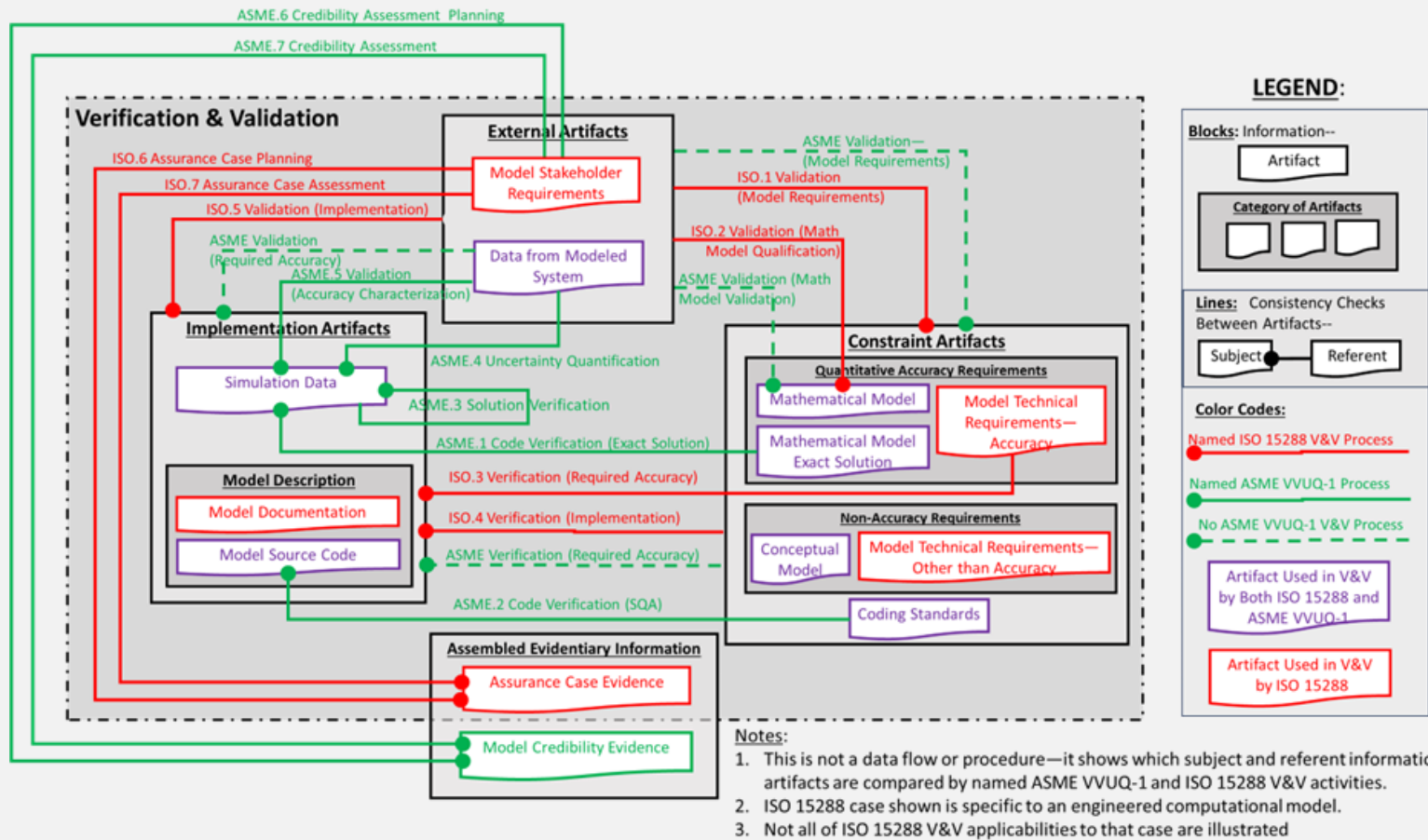
# Learning as Innovation Ecosystem state trajectory

- So, what foundational laws govern the learning trajectory?
- What are the “state variables”?
- What is the “energy”?
- Insights from V&V . . . .



# VVUQ standards situation: The Rosetta Stone Project

- **An ASME VVUQ50 Standards Working Group Task (c. 2016):**  
Write a standard for managing the credibility of computational models for advanced manufacturing, across their full life cycles.
- Initial effort blended ISO-15288 V&V and ASME VVUQ-1 V&V. [4,5]
- Learned these are profoundly inconsistent views of V&V.
- Rewrote initial draft to incorporate an explicit comparison of the standards, based on use of differing “consistency pairs”.
- Draft standard ASME 50.1 passed ASME VVUQ Standards Committee balloting in 2025, based on that . . . .

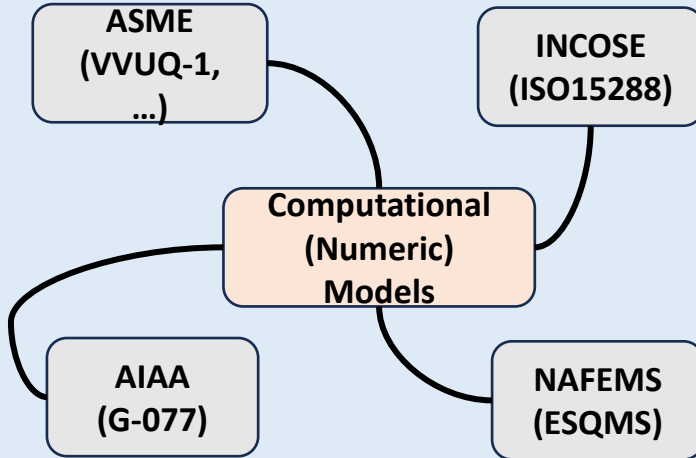


V&V Standards—Comparing Different “Consistency Pairs” of ISO15288 V&V versus ASME VVUQ-1 V&V. [4,5,6,7]

# VVUQ standards situation: The Rosetta Stone Project

- That standards authoring journey also spawned the (separate) Rosetta Stone Project. [ 6 ]
- A joint activity of members of related committees in ASME, AIAA, INCOSE, and NAFEMS.
- Generated formal comparisons of those four societies' related V&V standards, based on consistency pairs.
- Rosetta Stone Report was published in Jan, 2025 . . .

## Formal V&V Standards, Applied to Models



## Results of the 2024 Rosetta Stone Project— A Cross-Societies Collaboration



Olivia Fischer<sup>1</sup>, Mat French<sup>1,2</sup>  
Joe Hightower<sup>3</sup>, Alex Karl<sup>4</sup>  
John Matlik<sup>1</sup>, Laura Pullum<sup>3</sup>  
Bill Schindel<sup>1,2,3</sup>, Guodong Shao<sup>3</sup>  
Nigel Taylor<sup>1,3</sup>

1 – AIAA Digital Engineering Integration Committee  
2 – INCOSE/OMG MBSE Patterns Working Group  
3 – ASME VV50 Model Life Cycle Working Group  
4 – NAFEMS Simulation Governance Working Group



From [6]

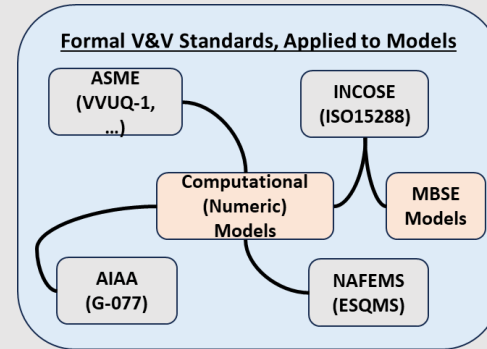




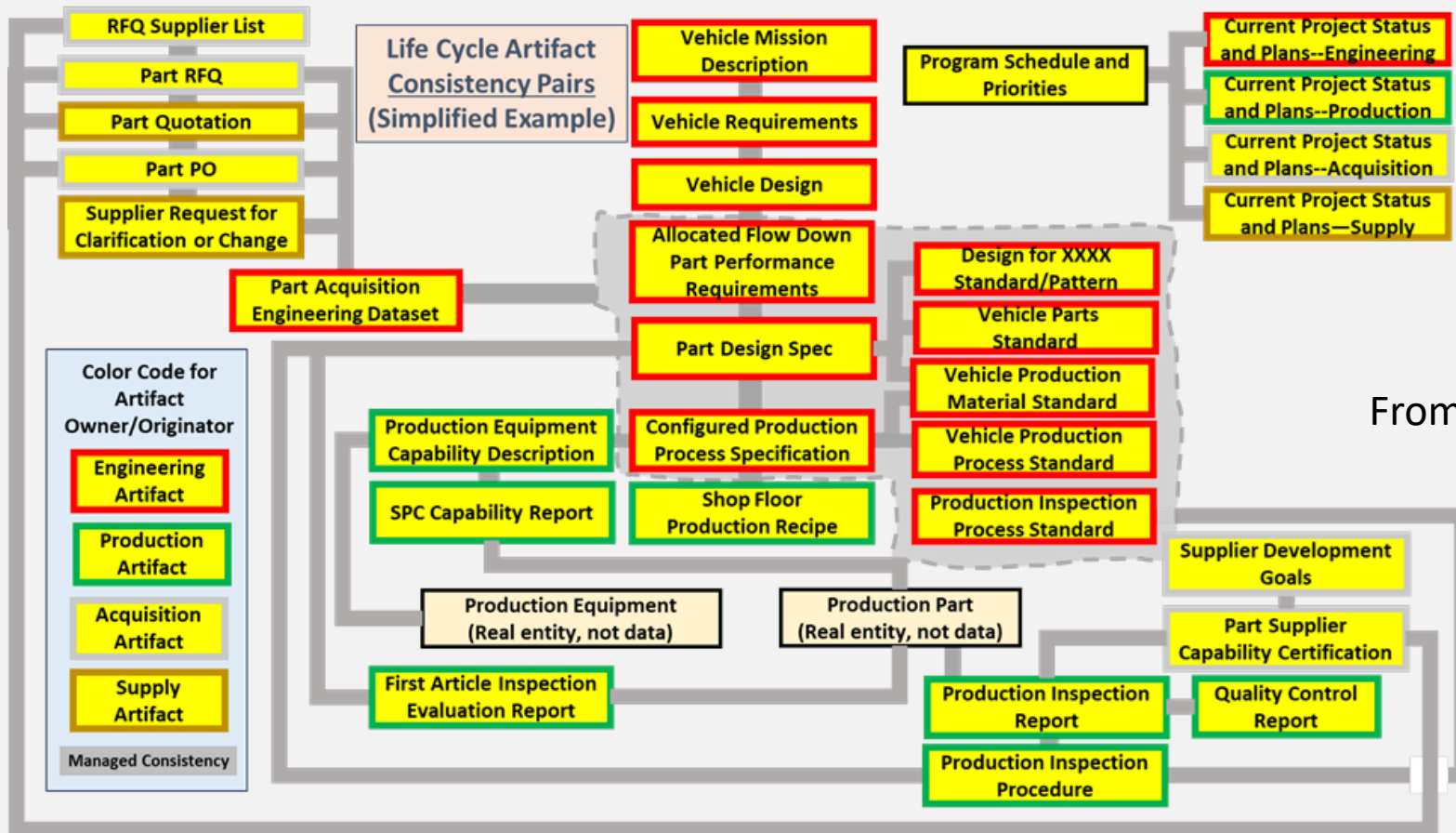
# How can inconsistency be quantified across all artifact types (MBSE included)?

- The Rosetta Stone Project also begged the question of how to measure inconsistency when the subject models are not just numerical quantitative simulations, as in computational models:

- For example, MBSE models, as well as non-model artifacts:

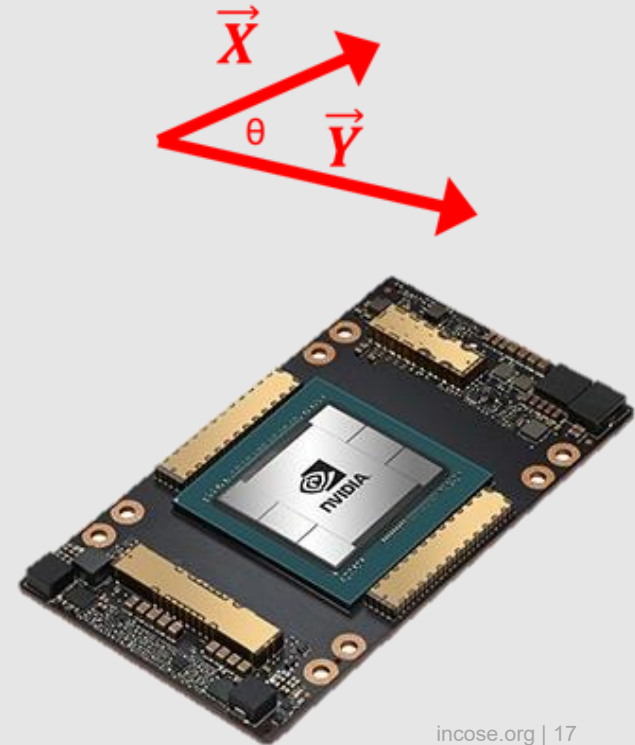


- Use of “artifact proxy models” improves consistency checking and generalizes its framework.



# Vector spaces describe the landscape

- Established long ago in mathematics, and long applied by engineers: Vector spaces, metric spaces, Hilbert spaces. [ 9, 10, 11]
- It is also how contemporary AI does internal representation and distance calculation, for entities in general, although not so much in the current public AI discourse. [12, 13]
- It is also what the newer hardware is good at computing very fast, especially thanks to NVIDIA GPUs, NPUs.



# Systems Engineering Evolution: Hilbert Space Enables Mathematical Comparison of MBSE Model “Nearness”

## Definitions [2]

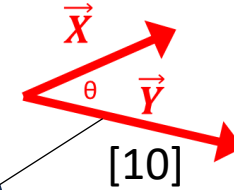
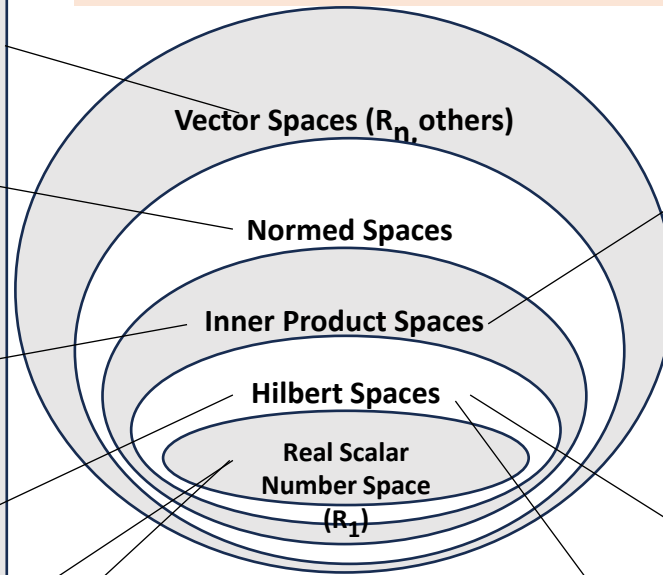
Spaces of multi-dimensional vector ( $\mathbf{V}$ ) entities, that can be added ( $\mathbf{V1}+\mathbf{V2}$ ) and scalar multiplied ( $c\mathbf{V1}$ ).

Vector spaces with norms on vectors  $|\mathbf{V1}|$ , describing their “size”.

Normed spaces with inner products  $\langle \mathbf{V1}, \mathbf{V2} \rangle$  that express “relative orientation” of vectors, and for which  $|\mathbf{V1}|^2 = \langle \mathbf{V1}, \mathbf{V1} \rangle$ .

Inner product spaces that are complete (closed for limit sequences).

Simple one-dimensional numeric quantities.



David Hilbert  
1862 - 1943


3. “Vector Embedding” software can currently embed MBSE Models in this space, quantifying their “nearness” & “gaps”.

1. We express Computational Model numerical output in this space.

2. “Area Metric” expresses Computational Model “nearness” in this space.

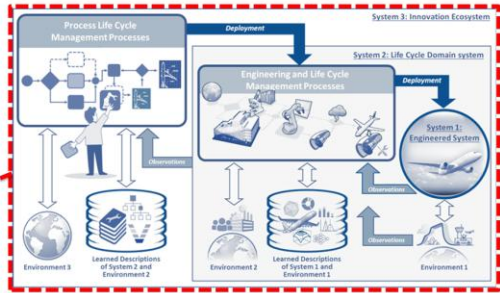
# Inconsistency and ecosystem energy

- If inter-artifact consistencies are the state variables of ASELCM dynamics, what is the “energy” governing ASELCM dynamics?
- Hamilton’s “characteristic function” (now Hamiltonian) also applies to information systems and socio-technical systems [3 ].




**34<sup>th</sup> Annual INCOSE**  
International symposium  
hybrid event  
Dublin, Ireland  
July 2 - 6, 2024

INCOSE ASELCM Innovation Ecosystem Pattern



$$\dot{q}_i = \frac{\partial H}{\partial p_i}$$

$$\dot{p}_i = - \frac{\partial H}{\partial q_i}$$



W R Hamilton  
Dublin, Ireland  
(1805-1865)

What Can Hamilton Tell Us?

Innovation Ecosystem Dynamics, Value, and Learning I

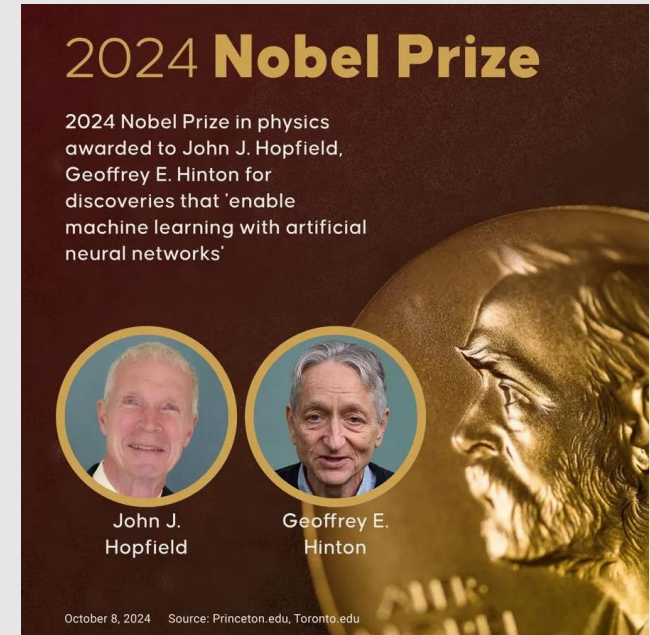
Copyright © 2024 by William D. Schindel. Permission granted to INCOSE to publish and use.

V1.2.1



# Inconsistency and ecosystem energy

- It may seem strange to apply Hamiltonians, which originated in mechanics, to socio-technical and information systems—but consider that the 2024 Nobel Prize *in Physics* was awarded to John Hopfield and Geoffrey Hinton for their related work in neural networks.

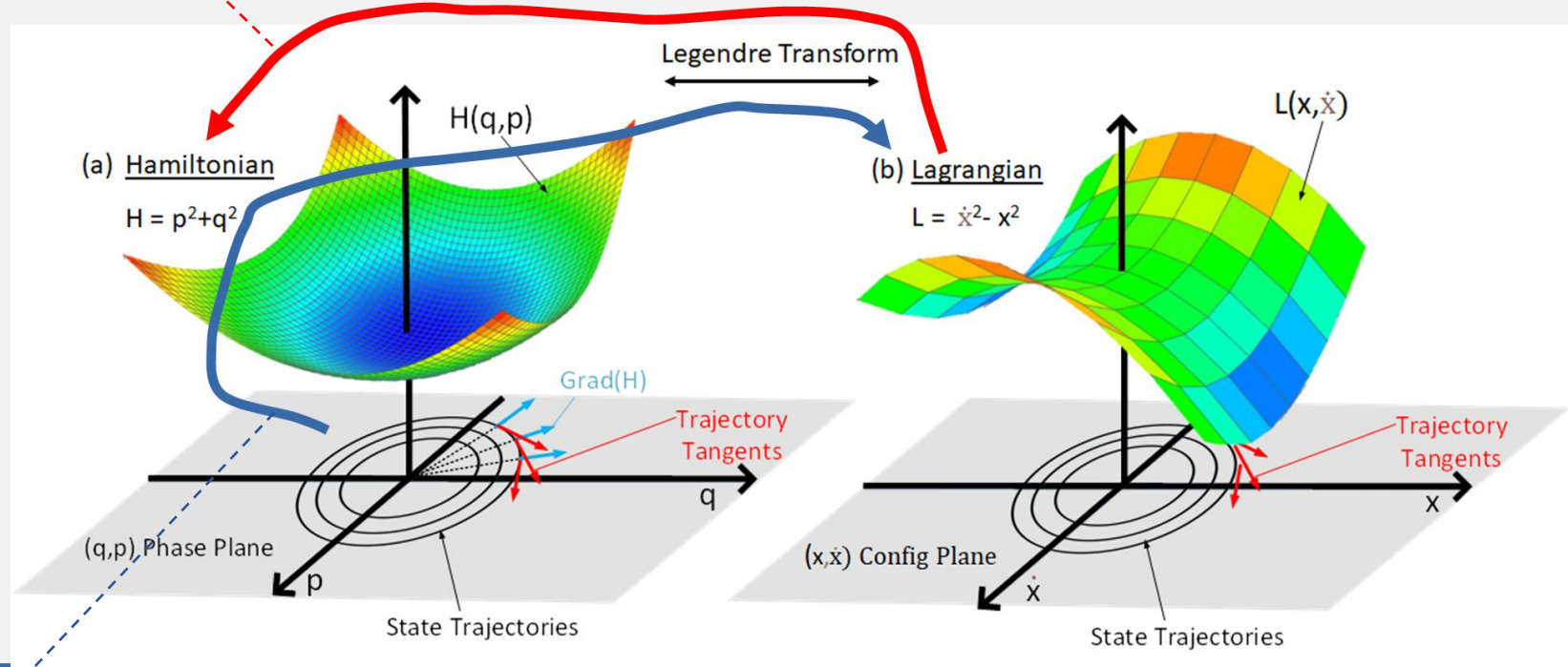


- Hopfield's famous 1972 neural net paper was explicitly built on physics; energy-based ANN methods have since grown. [14,15]



**Traditional Reasoning Sequence:**  
Assumes energy concept and leads  
to Hamiltonian [16,17]

The historical path assumed we already had a Lagrangian and familiar mechanical or other energies. The alternate path does not require those, and teaches us about “energies” of different systems.



**Alternate Reasoning Sequence:** Assumes only States, Trajectories; leads directly to Hamiltonian and “energy”. Examining  $\text{Grad}(H)$  leads to invariance (conservation) of  $H$  along trajectories; variational/Lagrangian insight. [3,18]

# Questions and discussion

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
-

- [1] Schindel, W. & Dove, R. (2016). Introduction to the Agile Systems Engineering Life Cycle MBSE Pattern, in *Proc. of INCOSE 2016 International Symposium*, Edinburg, UK.
- [2] Schindel, W., “Realizing the Promise of Digital Engineering: Planning, Implementing, and Evolving the Ecosystem”, *INCOSE 2022 International Symposium*, July 2022. Upload paper from [https://www.omgwiki.org/MBSE/lib/exe/fetch.php?media=mbse:patterns:realizing\\_the\\_vision\\_of\\_digital\\_engineering\\_is2022\\_v1.3.4.pdf](https://www.omgwiki.org/MBSE/lib/exe/fetch.php?media=mbse:patterns:realizing_the_vision_of_digital_engineering_is2022_v1.3.4.pdf)
- [3] Schindel, W. “Innovation Ecosystem Dynamics, Value and Learning I: What Can Hamilton Tell Us?”. *Proc. of INCOSE 2024 International Symposium*. Dublin. 2024. Download from -- [https://www.omgwiki.org/MBSE/lib/exe/fetch.php?media=mbse:patterns:incose\\_is2024\\_hamiltonian\\_ecosystem\\_schindel\\_v1.6.2.pdf](https://www.omgwiki.org/MBSE/lib/exe/fetch.php?media=mbse:patterns:incose_is2024_hamiltonian_ecosystem_schindel_v1.6.2.pdf)
- [4] ASME VVUQ 1-2022: “Verification, Validation, and Uncertainty Quantification Terminology in Computational Modeling and Simulation”, 2022.
- [5] ISO, "ISO/IEC/IEEE 15288-2023: ISO/IEC/IEEE International Standard - Systems and software engineering -- System life cycle processes", 2023.
- [6] Fischer, French, Hightower, Karl, Matlik, Pullum, Schindel, Shao, and Taylor, “A Cross-Society Collaboration Project: Mapping Consistency Confirmation Frameworks of Different Communities—Phase I Project Report”, presented at AIAA SciTech 2025, January, 2025. Download from -- [https://www.omgwiki.org/MBSE/lib/exe/fetch.php?media=mbse:patterns:rosetta\\_stone\\_project\\_report\\_01.08.2025\\_v2.1.5.pdf](https://www.omgwiki.org/MBSE/lib/exe/fetch.php?media=mbse:patterns:rosetta_stone_project_report_01.08.2025_v2.1.5.pdf)
- [7] INCOSE Patterns Working Group. “Consistency Management as an Integrating Paradigm for Digital Life Cycle Management with Learning.” Download from -- [https://www.omgwiki.org/MBSE/lib/exe/fetch.php?media=mbse:patterns:aselcm\\_pattern\\_consistency\\_management\\_as\\_a\\_digital\\_life\\_cycle\\_management\\_paradigm\\_v1.3.1.pdf](https://www.omgwiki.org/MBSE/lib/exe/fetch.php?media=mbse:patterns:aselcm_pattern_consistency_management_as_a_digital_life_cycle_management_paradigm_v1.3.1.pdf)

- [8] Schindel, W., “Innovation Ecosystem Dynamics, Value, Learning II: Can V&V Frameworks Tell Us More?”, INCOSE Patterns Working Group meeting paper for INCOSE 2025 International Symposium, July, 2025. Download from --  
[https://www.omgwiki.org/MBSE/lib/exe/fetch.php?media=mbse:patterns:v\\_and\\_v\\_in\\_innovation\\_ecosystems\\_ver1.2.1.pdf](https://www.omgwiki.org/MBSE/lib/exe/fetch.php?media=mbse:patterns:v_and_v_in_innovation_ecosystems_ver1.2.1.pdf)
- [9] Boyer, C. B., “Descartes and the Geometrization of Algebra”, *The American Mathematical Monthly*, Vol. 66, No 5., May, 1959, pp. 390 – 393.
- [10] Simmons, G. F., *Introduction to Topology and Modern Analysis*, McGraw-Hill, New York, 1963.
- [11] Lass, H., *Vector and Tensor Analysis*, McGraw-Hill, New York, 1950.
- [12] Ananthaswamy, A. *Why Machines Learn: The Elegant Math Behind Modern AI*. Dutton, Penguin, Random House Publishers, New York. 2024.
- [13] LeCun, Y., Bengio, Y., Hinton, G. “Deep Learning”, in *Nature*, pp 436-444. May 2015.  
[https://www.researchgate.net/publication/277411157\\_Deep\\_Learning](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/277411157_Deep_Learning)
- [14] LeCun, Y., et al (2006). “A Tutorial on Energy-based Learning”, in *Predicting Structured Data*, MIT Press.
- [15] Hopfield, J. (1982) “Neural Networks and Physical Systems with Emergent Collective Computational Abilities”, in *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA*, Vol 79, pp 2554-2558, Biophysics.
- [16] Greenwood, D. (1977) *Classical Dynamics*, Dover Publications, Mineola, NY.
- [17] Landau, L, and Lifshitz, E (1976) *Mechanics*, Third Edition, London, Butterworth Heinemann.
- [18] Lanczos, C. (1986) *The Variational Principles of Mechanics*, 4th Edition, New York, Dover Publishers.



# 35<sup>th</sup> Annual **INCOSE** international symposium

hybrid event

**Ottawa, Canada**  
July 26 - 31, 2025