



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

Rally the Troops! The Secret Energies Driving All Innovation Ecosystems

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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

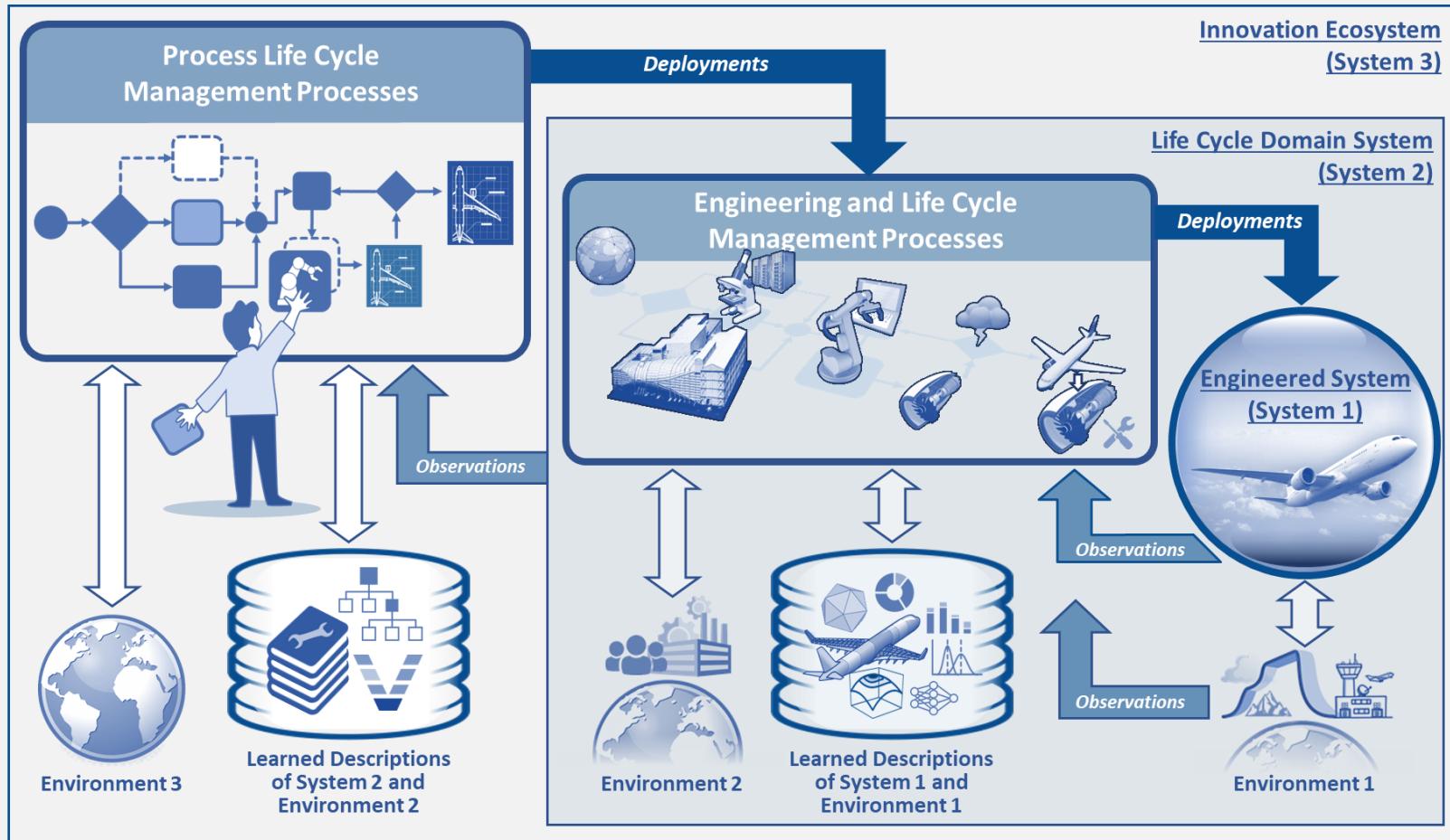


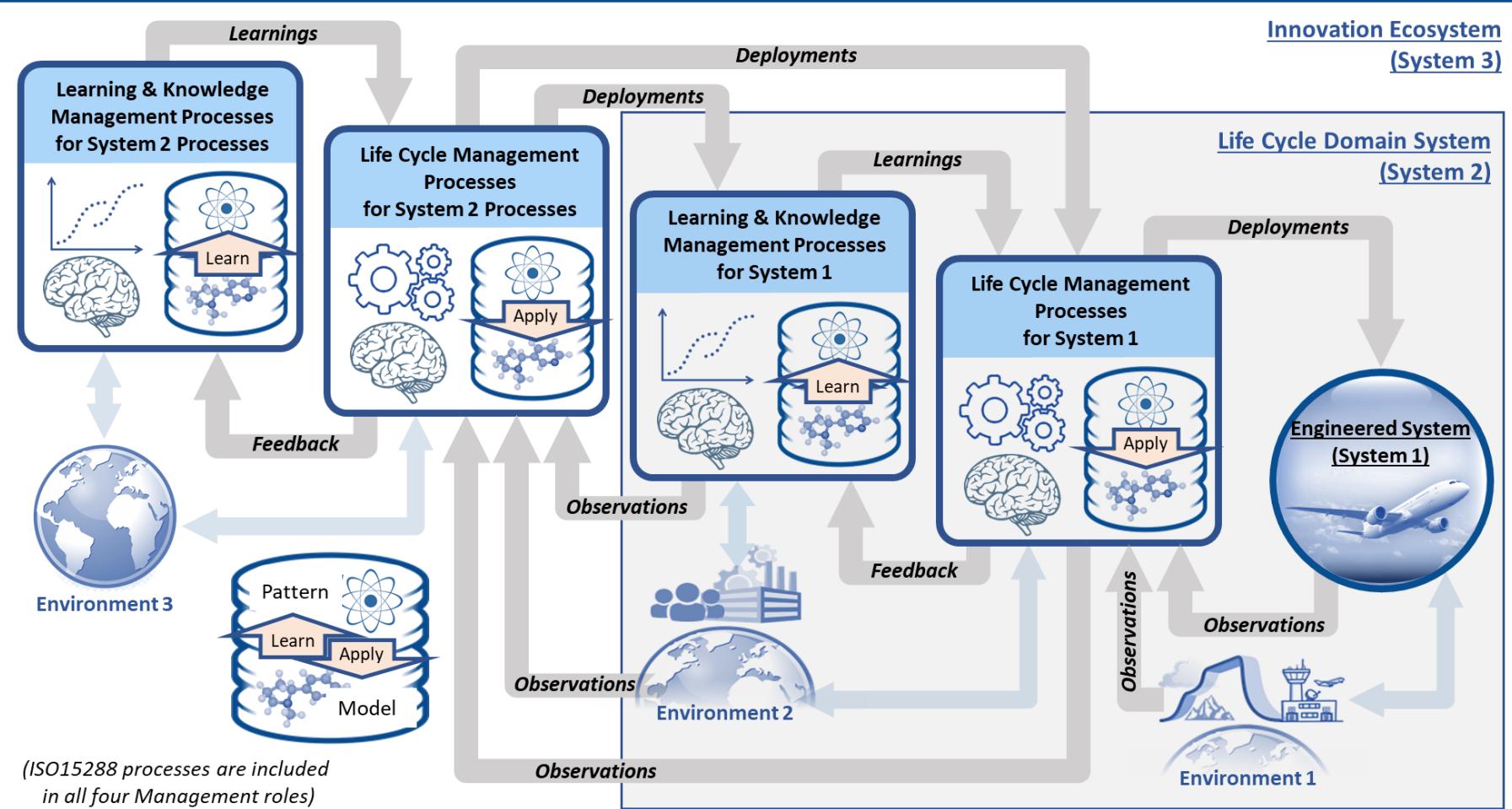
Contents

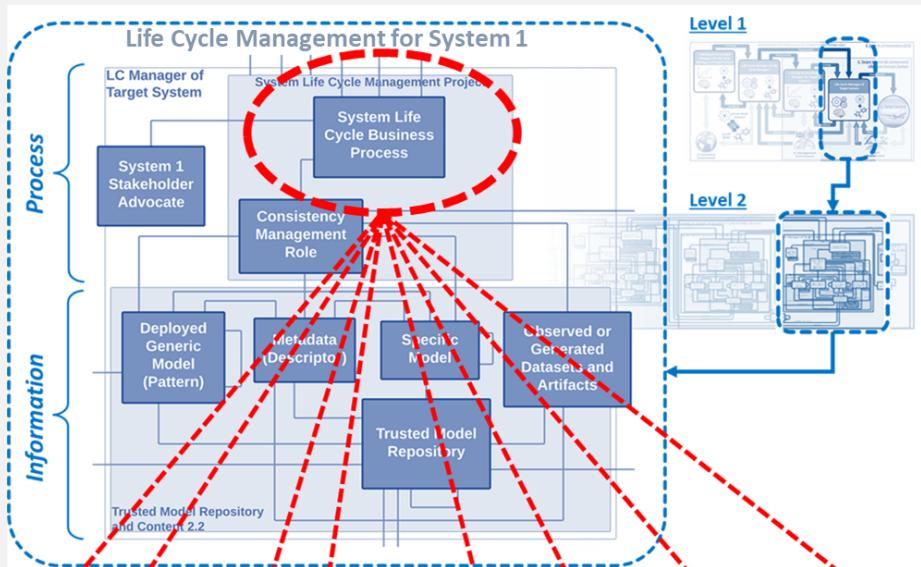
- Innovation ecosystem performance: ASELCM Reference Pattern
- Learning as ecosystem state trajectory
- VVUQ standards situation: The Rosetta Stone Project
- How to quantify inconsistency across all model & artifact types (MBSE, etc.)
- Vector spaces describe the landscape
- Inconsistency and ecosystem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



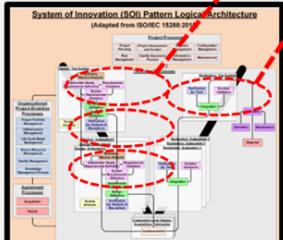




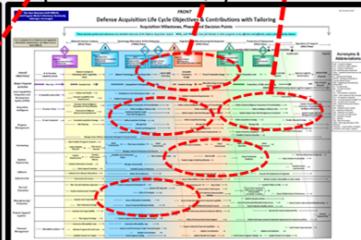
ASELCM Level 2 Roles

Configurable to specific life cycle management models---

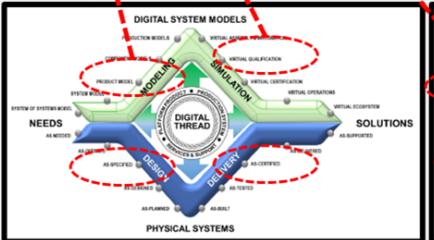
ISO15288 Life Cycle “Vee” Model¹



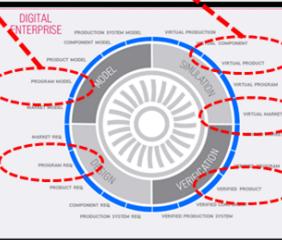
DoD 5000 Defense
Acquisition Life Cycle Model²



Boeing “Diamond” Model³

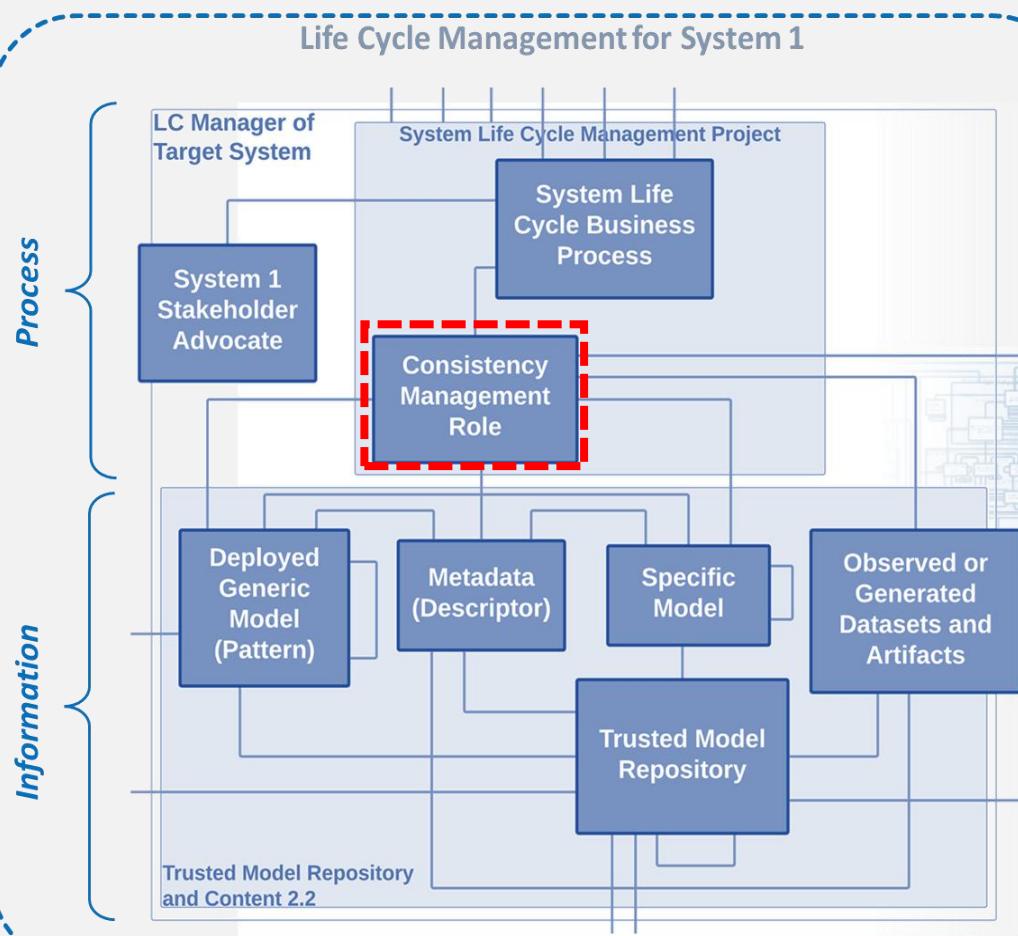


~~Rolls-Royce "O" Model¹⁴~~



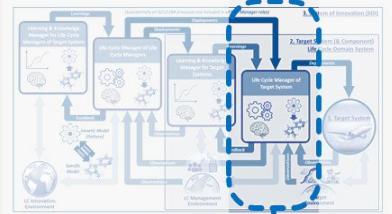
Excerpted or adapted from: (1) ISO15288 and INCOSE SE Handbook; (2) DoD5000 Wall Chart; (3) AIAA Sci Tech, 01.2020, J. Hatakeyama; (4) AIAA DEIC Digital Twin Subcommittee, 04.08.19 Donaldson, Flay, French, Matlik, Myer, Pond, Randjelovic

Life Cycle Management for System 1

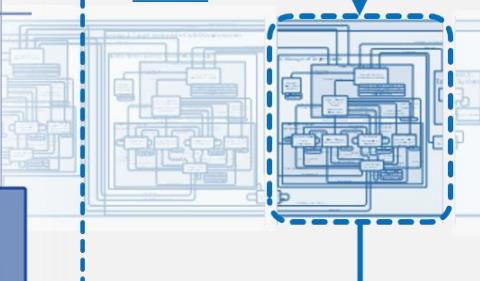


INCOSE ASELCM Level 2 Reference Model

Level 1



Level 2



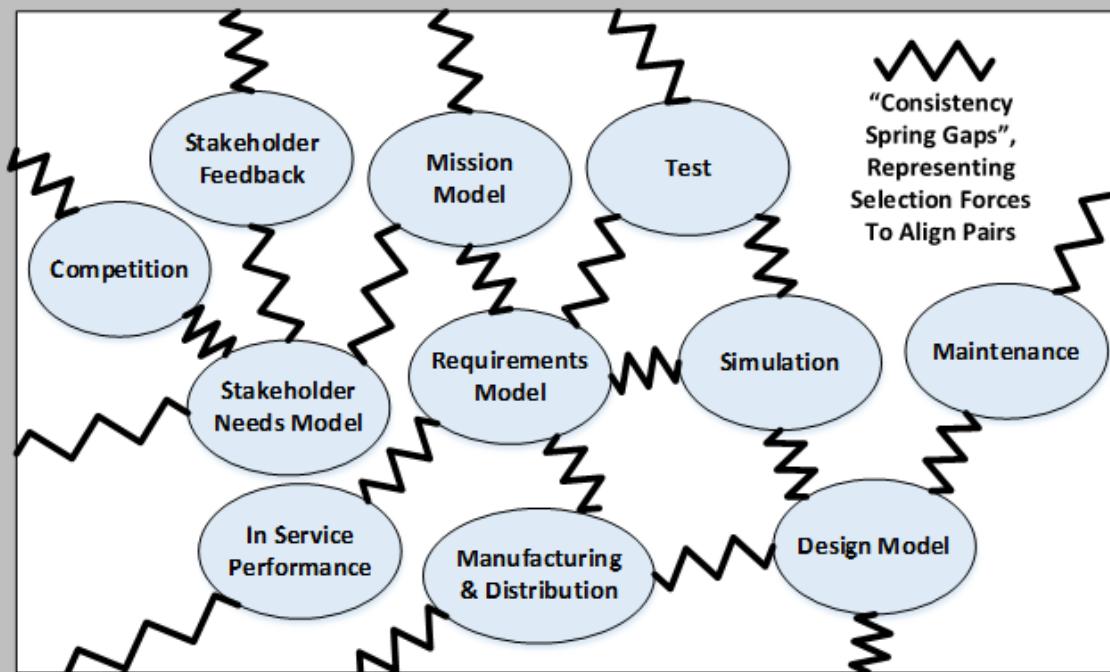
- “Semantic interoperability” is not the central dynamics issue of achieving inter-artifact content consistency.

Examples:

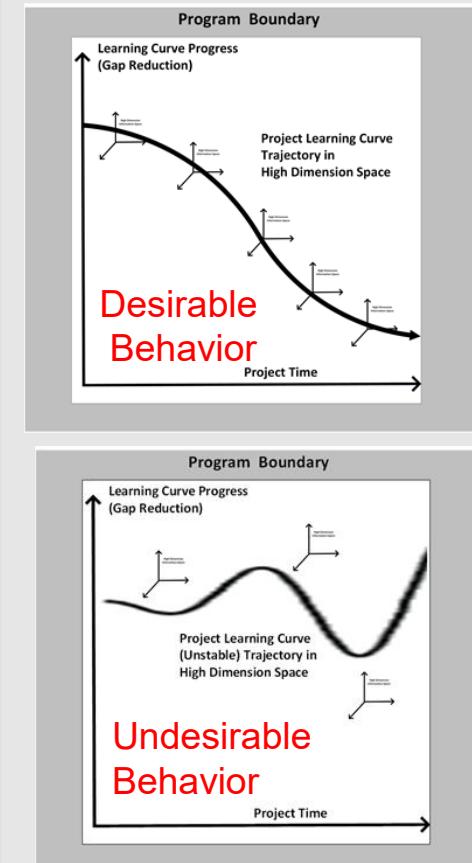
- Design not meeting Requirements
- Production Recipe inconsistent with Design

Learning as Innovation Ecosystem state trajectory

Program Boundary

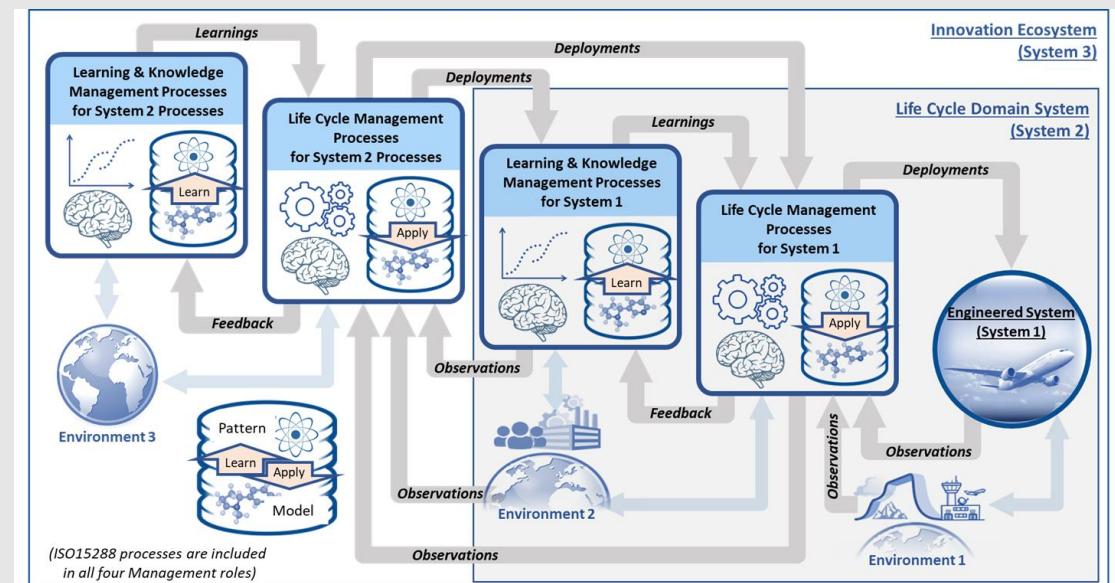


From [3]



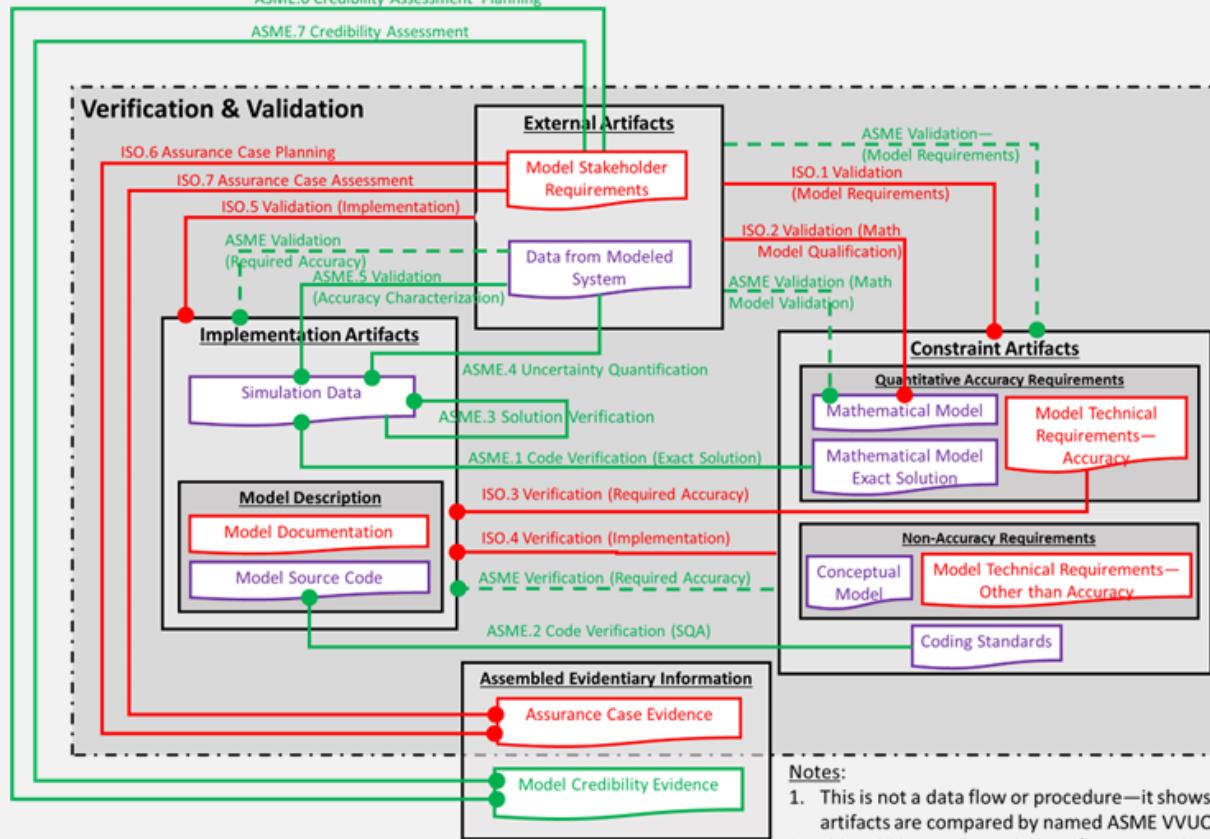
Learning as Innovation Ecosystem state trajectory

- 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 . . .



LEGEND:

Blocks: Information--
Artifact
Category of Artifacts
Lines: Consistency Checks Between Artifacts--
Subject → Referent
Color Codes:
Named ISO 15288 V&V Process
Named ASME VVUQ-1 Process
No ASME VVUQ-1 V&V Process
Artifact Used in V&V by Both ISO 15288 and ASME VVUQ-1
Artifact Used in V&V by ISO 15288

Notes:

1. This is not a data flow or procedure—it shows which subject and referent information artifacts are compared by named ASME VVUQ-1 and ISO 15288 V&V activities.
2. ISO 15288 case shown is specific to an engineered computational model.
3. Not all of ISO 15288 V&V applicabilities to that case are illustrated

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

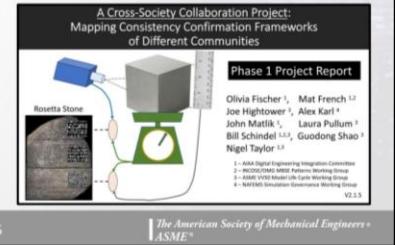
- That standards authoring journey also spawned the (separate) Rosetta Stone Project. [6]
- A joint activity of members of related committees in ASME, AIAA, INCOSE, and NAFEMS.
- Generated formal comparisons of those four societies' related V&V standards, based on consistency pairs.
- Rosetta Stone Report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

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

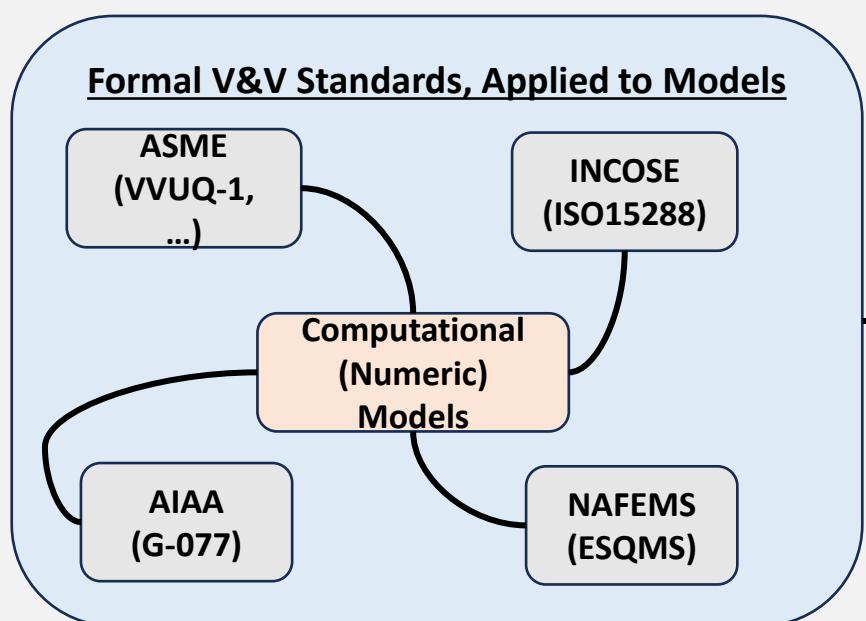


Olivia Fischer ¹, Mat French ^{1,2}
Joe Hightower ³, Alex Karl ⁴
John Matlik ¹, Laura Pullum ³
Bill Schindel ^{1,2,3}, Guodong Shao ³
Nigel Taylor ^{1,3}

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

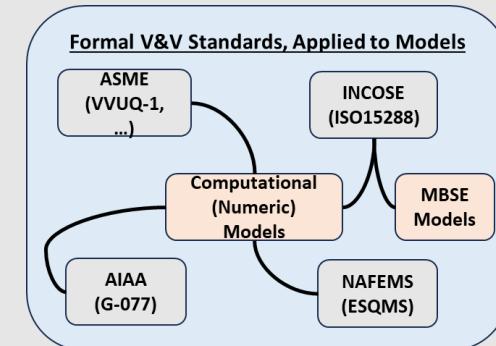


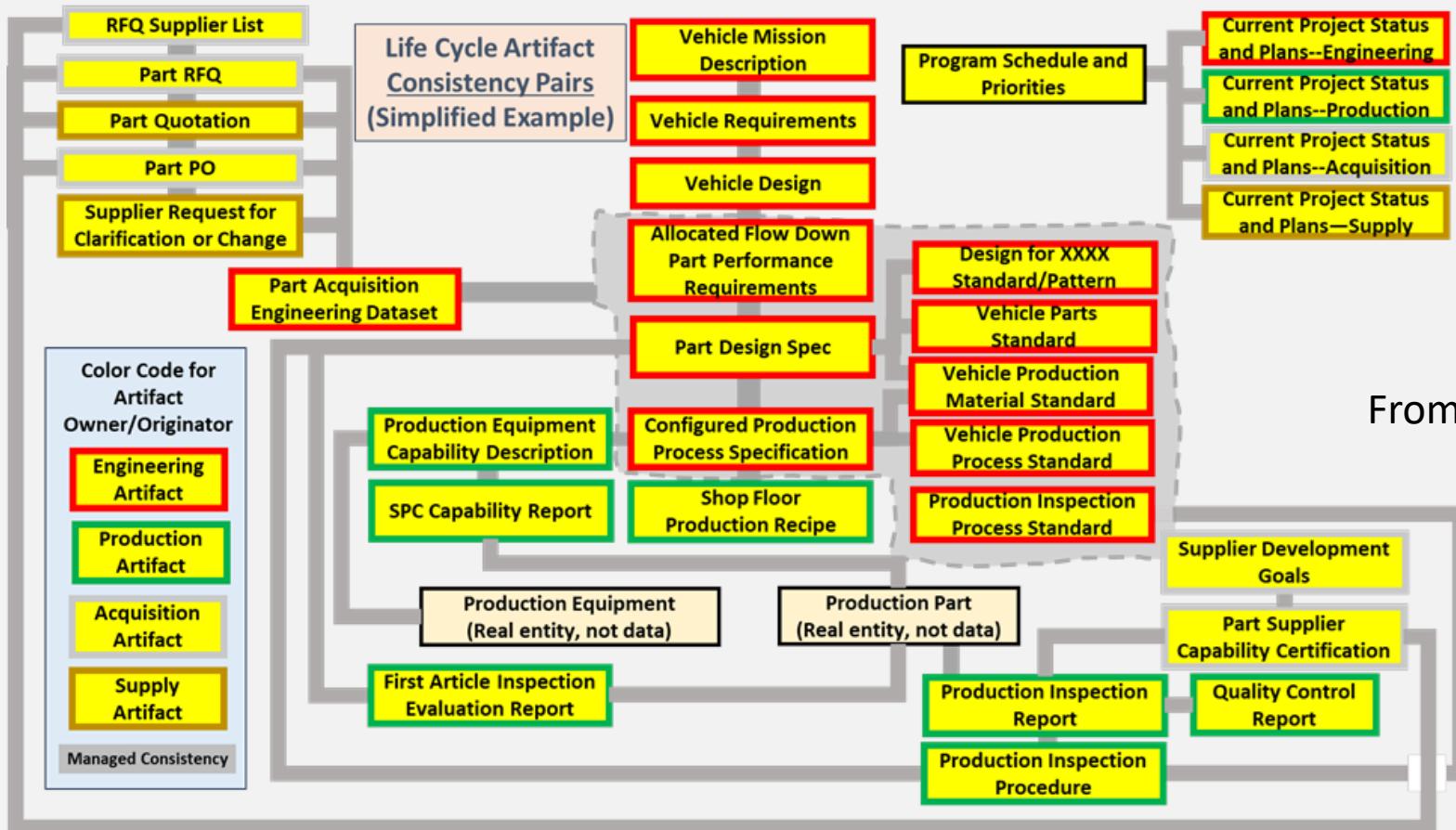
From [6]



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.

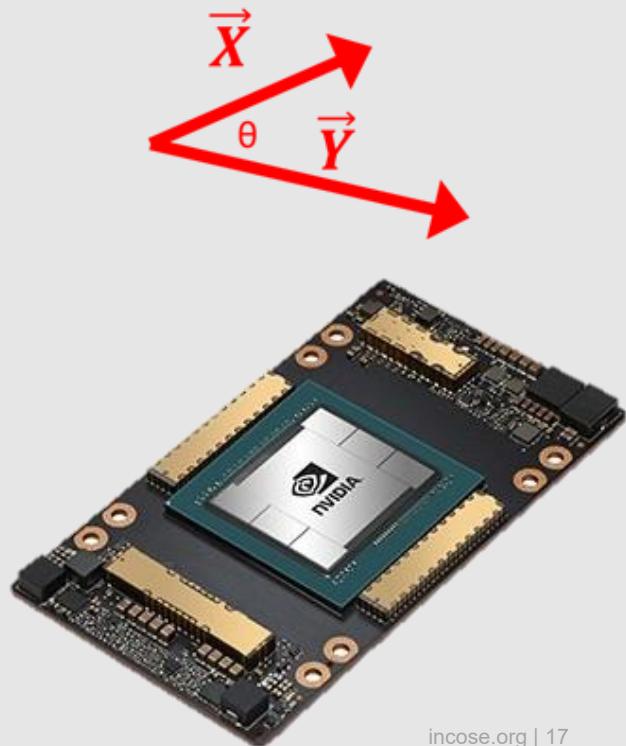




From [8]

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]

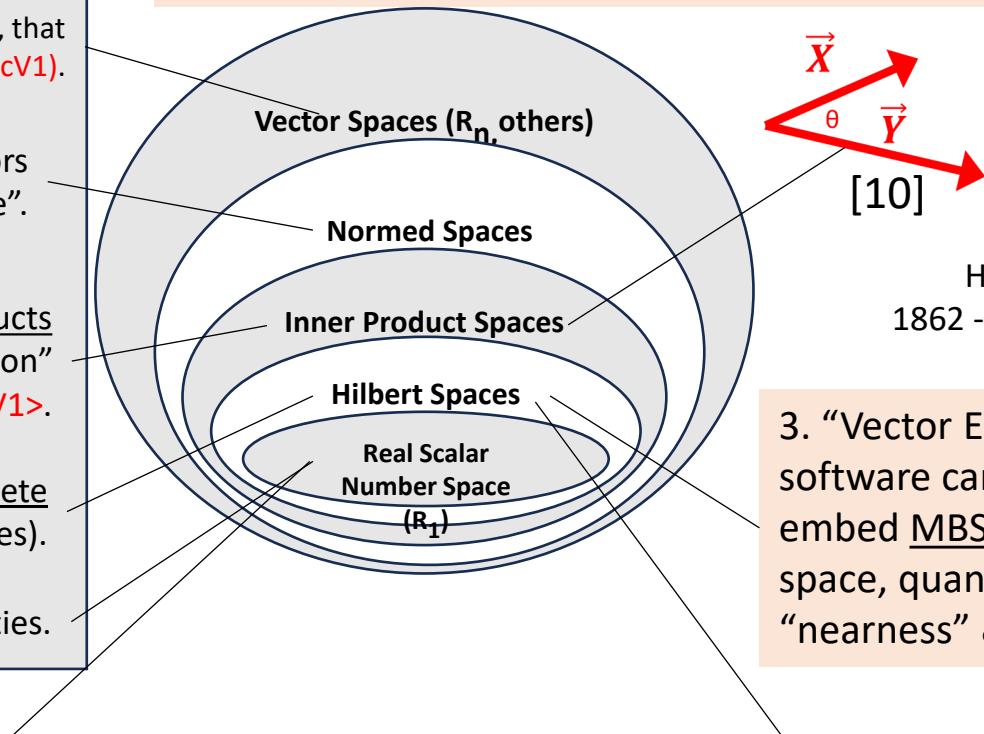
Spaces of multi-dimensional vector (\mathbf{V}) entities, that can be added ($\mathbf{V1} + \mathbf{V2}$) and scalar multiplied ($c\mathbf{V1}$).

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.



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].

34th Annual INCOSE international symposium
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W R Hamilton
Dublin, Ireland
(1805-1865)

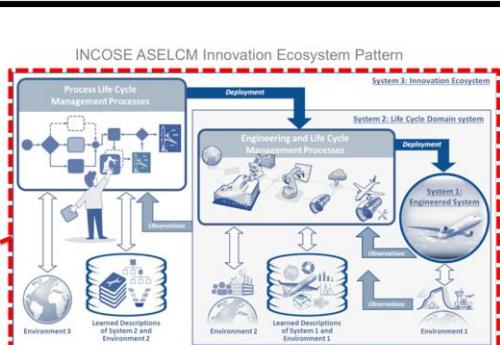


$\dot{q}_i = \frac{\partial H}{\partial p_i}$

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

What Can Hamilton Tell Us?
Innovation Ecosystem Dynamics, Value, and Learning I

INCOSE ASELCM Innovation Ecosystem Pattern



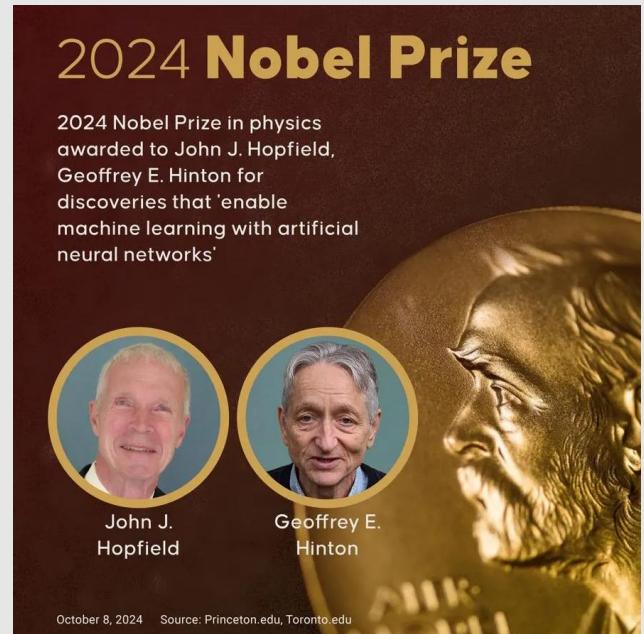
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V1.2.1



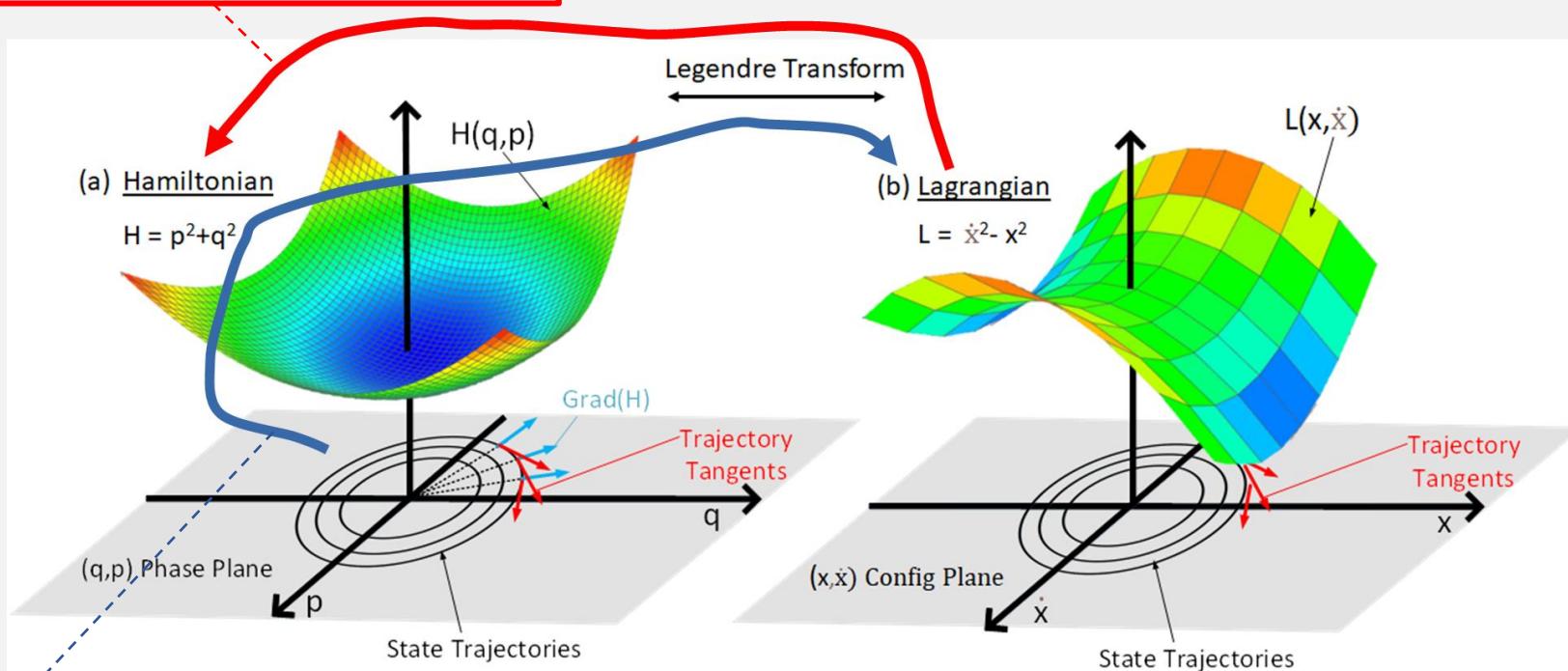
Inconsistency and ecosystem energy

- 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

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[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

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[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 --
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