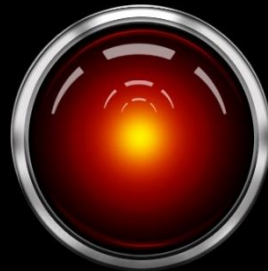


Intelligent-Controller Extensions to STPA

Dan “Mirf” Montes



Disclaimer

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All images courtesy of Google

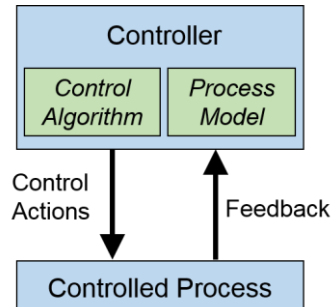
Overview

- Motivation
- Work
- Snapshot

Background

The increase of interacting humans and autonomous components in complex systems necessitates rigorous methods to classify information about the **controllers** in a system.

STPA, although advanced in terms of safety analysis, still oversimplifies the human's role in complex systems.



STPA Gaps

Motivation

- 1) Detailed fundamental human-engineering considerations missing from the analysis
- 2) Controller process-model investigation does not capture higher levels of abstraction used in making robust and flexible decisions
- 3) No current method in the analysis to summarize the impact of social and organizational influences

Human Requirements

Motivation

1) Detailed fundamental human-engineering considerations missing from the analysis

MIL-HDBK-1908B – Human Factors Definitions

MIL-STD-1472G – Human Engineering

MIL-STD-46855A – Human Engineering for the Military

MIL-HDBK-87213A – Visual Displays

MIL-STD-1787C – Display Symbology

MIL-STD-411F – Aircrew Alerts

MIL-STD-1797A – Flying Qualities

MIL-STD-1474D – Noise Limits

MIL-HDBK-516C – Airworthiness

Air Force HSI Handbook

Air Force HSI Pocket Guide

NASA HSI Overview

Standards

Guidance

Best Practices



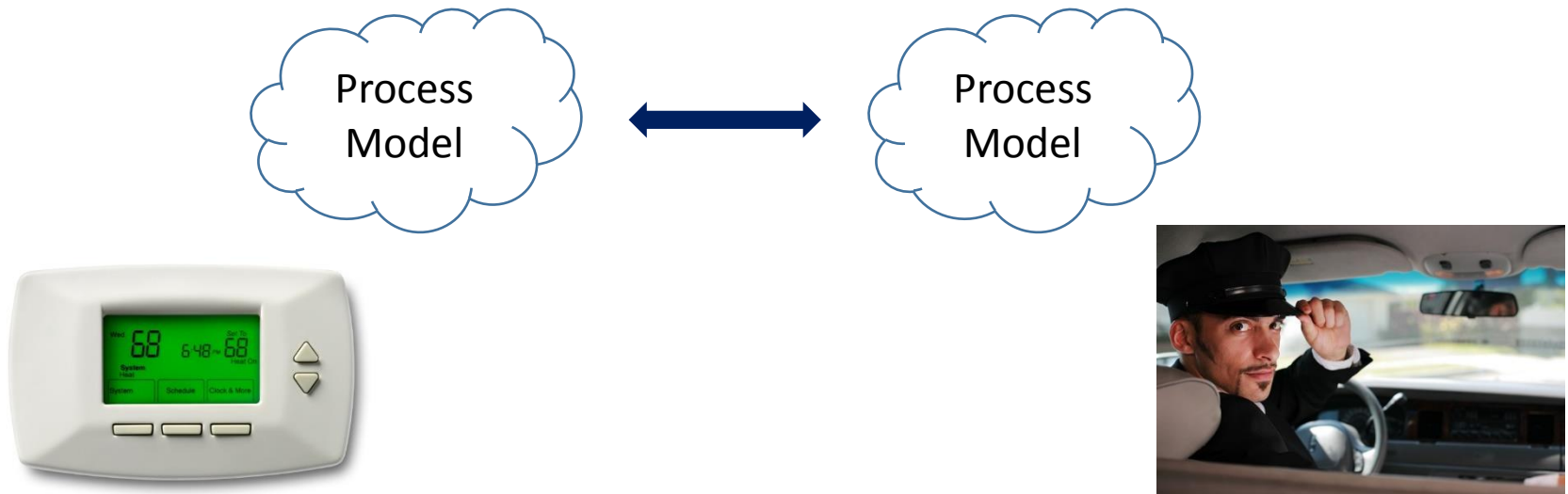
STPA Gaps

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More to the process model? *Motivation*

- 2) Controller process-model investigation does not capture higher levels of abstraction used in making robust and flexible decisions



Adapting in Systems

Motivation

Optimized – System can satisfy fixed objectives in a fixed environment

Robust – System can satisfy fixed objectives and adapt to changes or uncertainties in the environment or the system itself

Flexible – System can also adapt to changes or uncertainties in objectives

Saleh et al., 2003

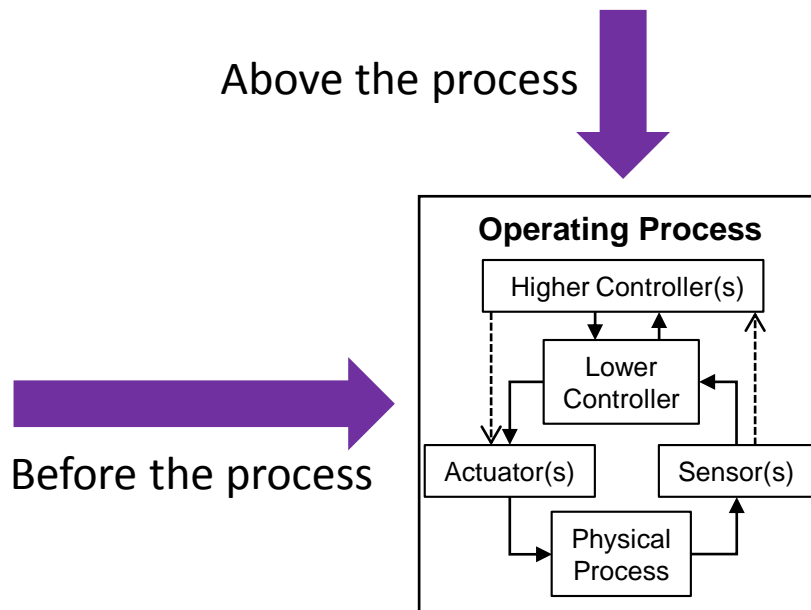
STPA Gaps

Motivation

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Influences to the Controller *Motivation*

- 3) No current method in the analysis to summarize the impact of social and organizational influences *from outside the operating process*



Objectives

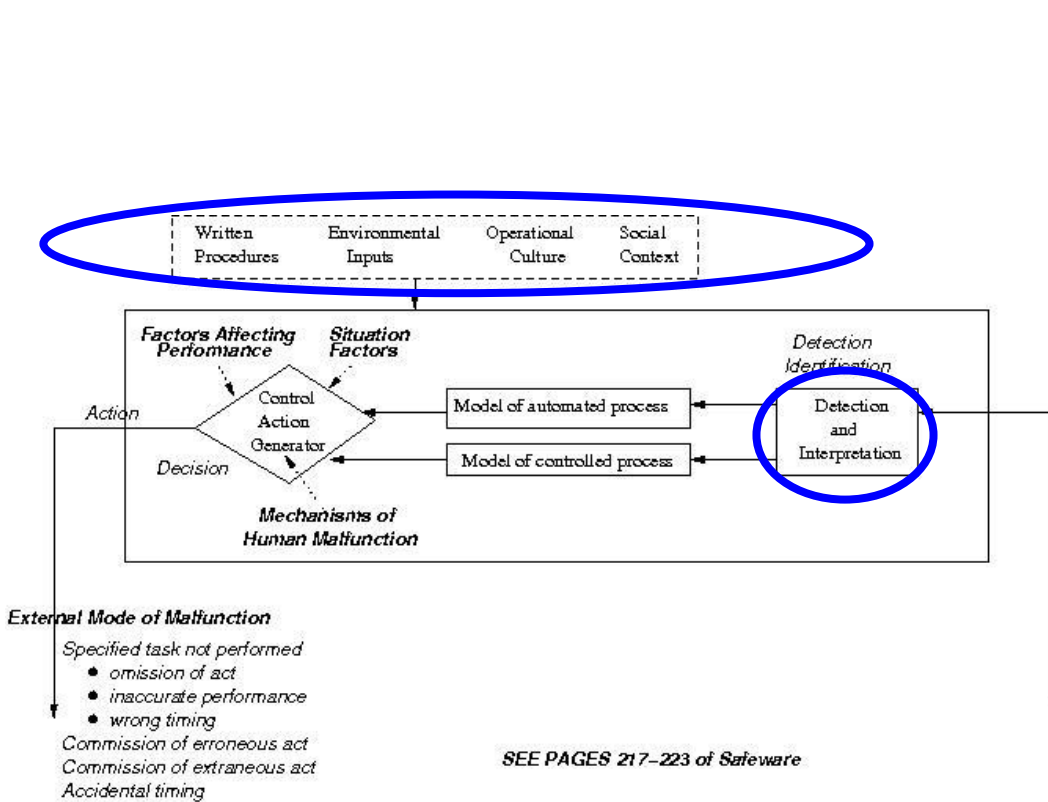
Work

- Recognize existing STPA human models & analyses
- Extend analysis to address STPA gaps
- Stay general to any controller

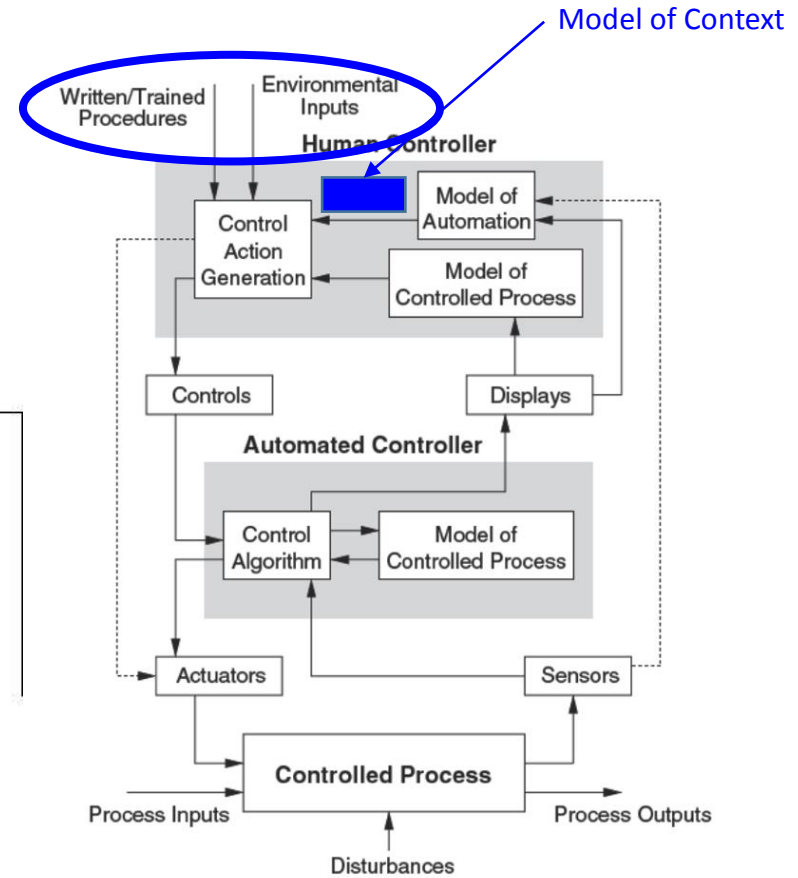


Previous Human Models

Work



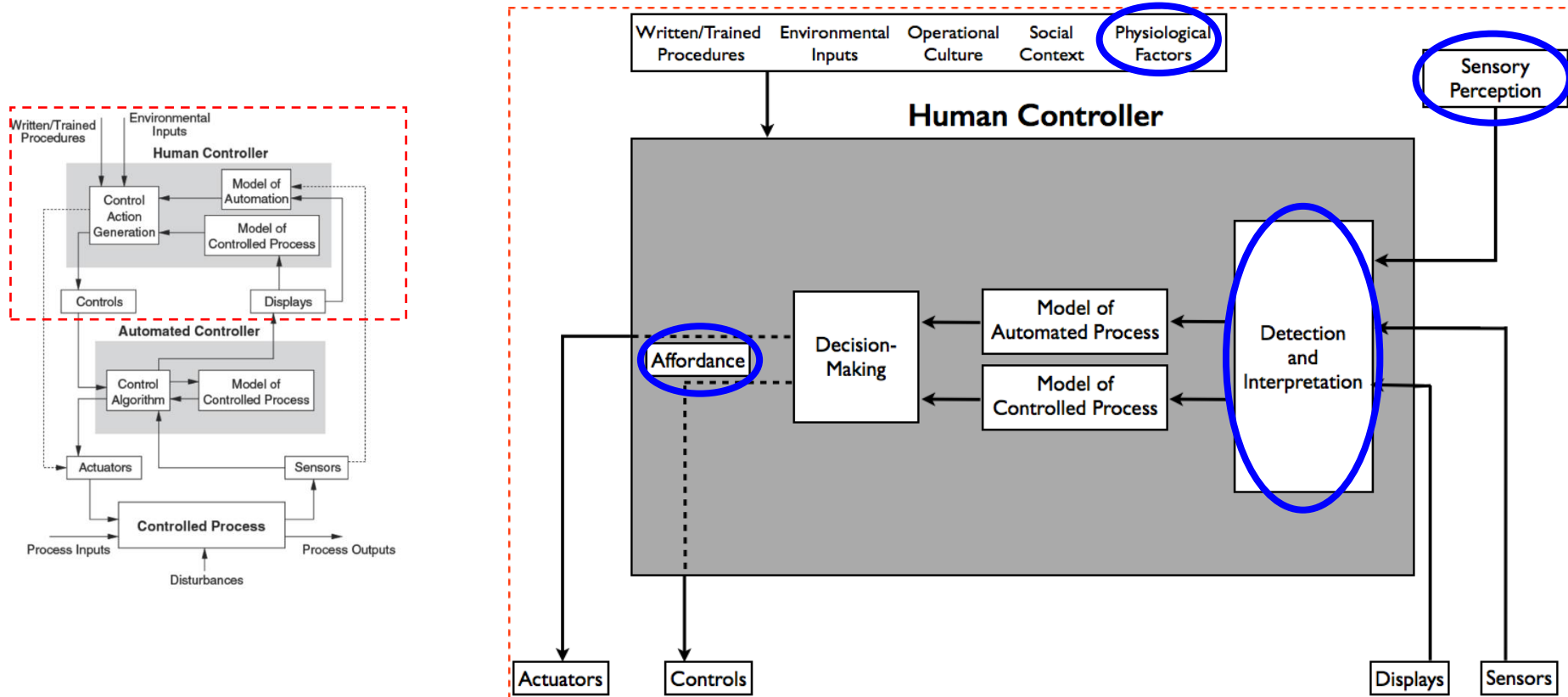
SEE PAGES 217-223 of *Safeware*



Leveson, *Engineering a Safer World*

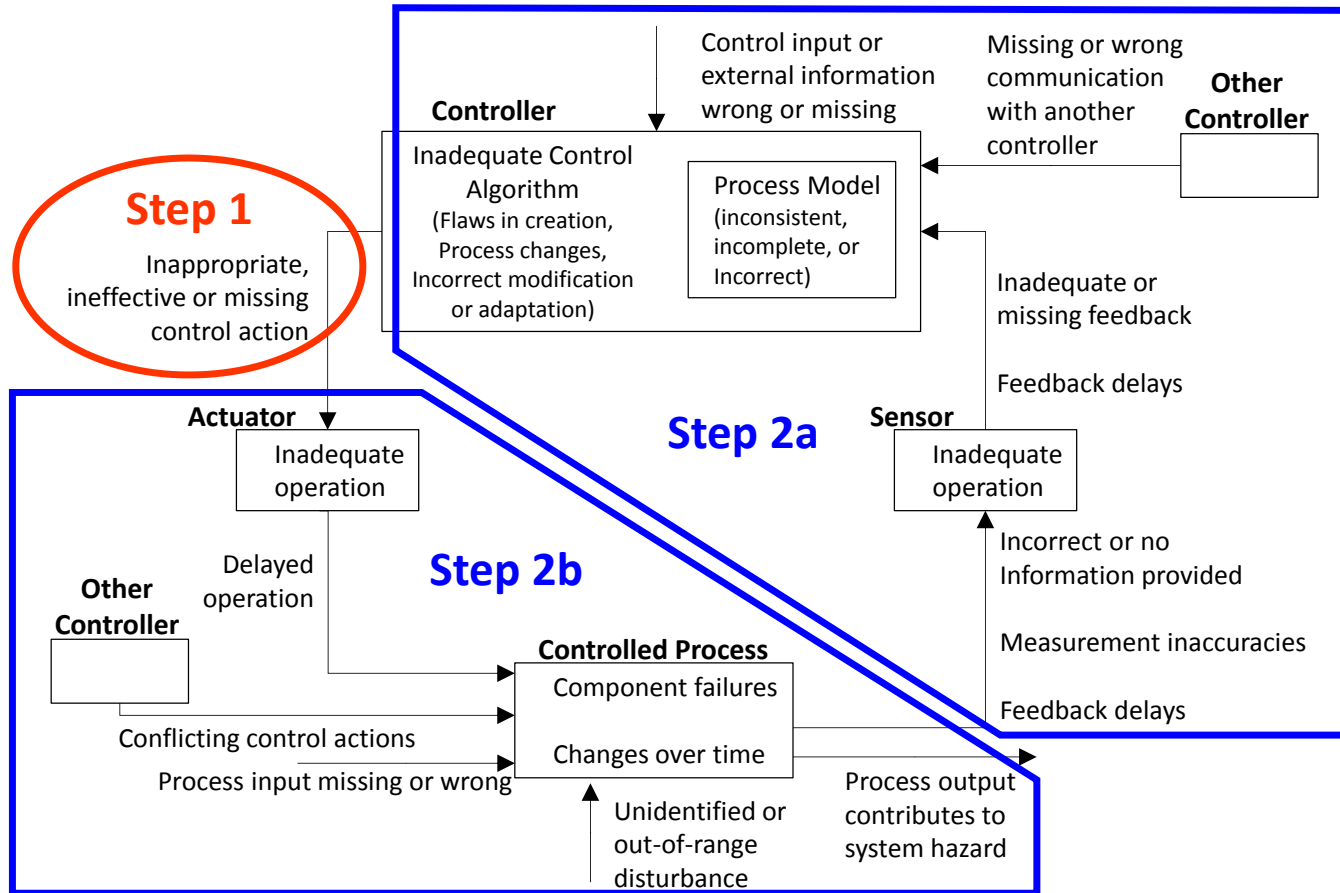
Most Recent Model

Work



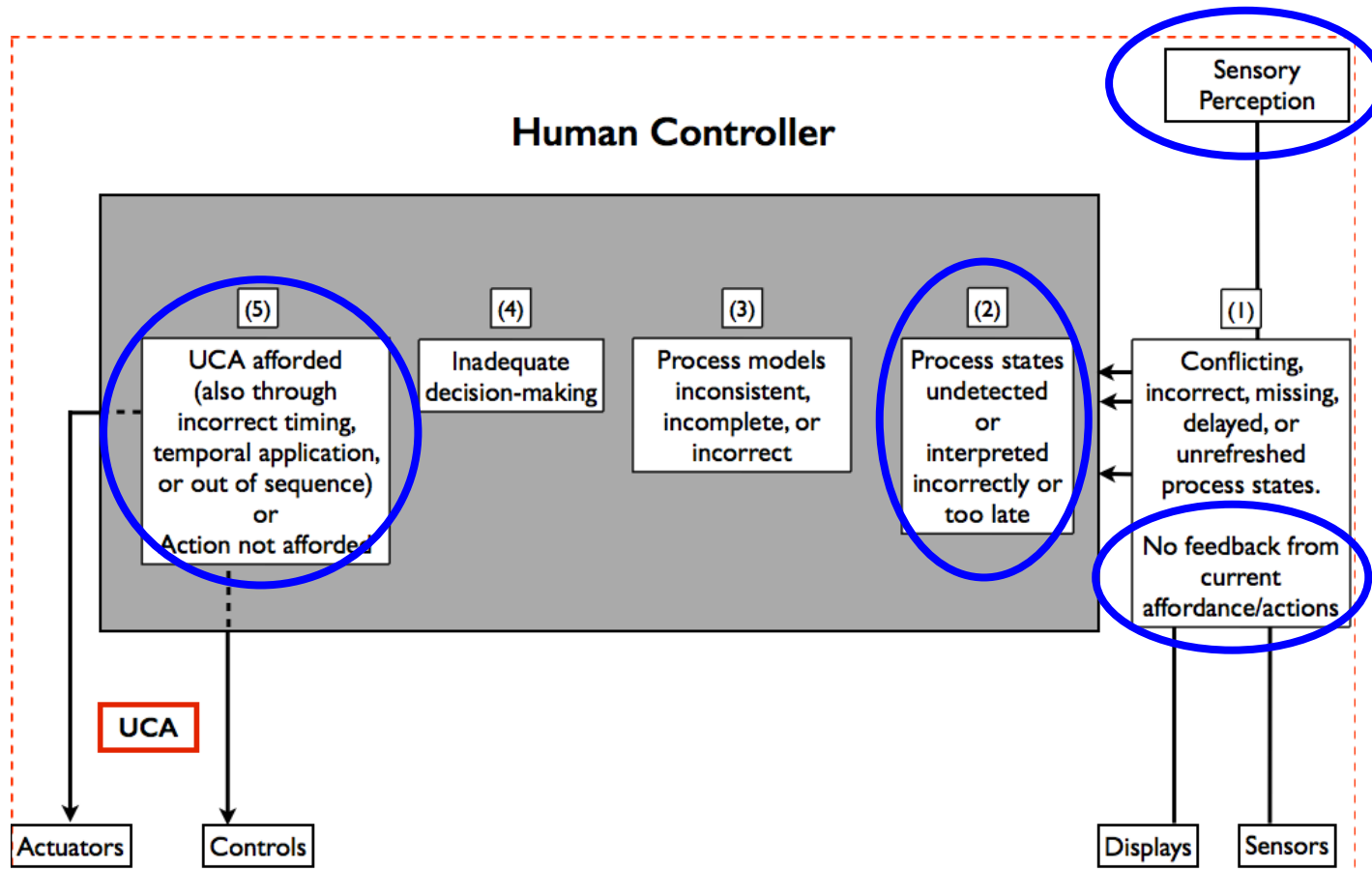
Thornberry, 2014

Human Analysis



Most Recent Analysis

Work



Thornberry, 2014

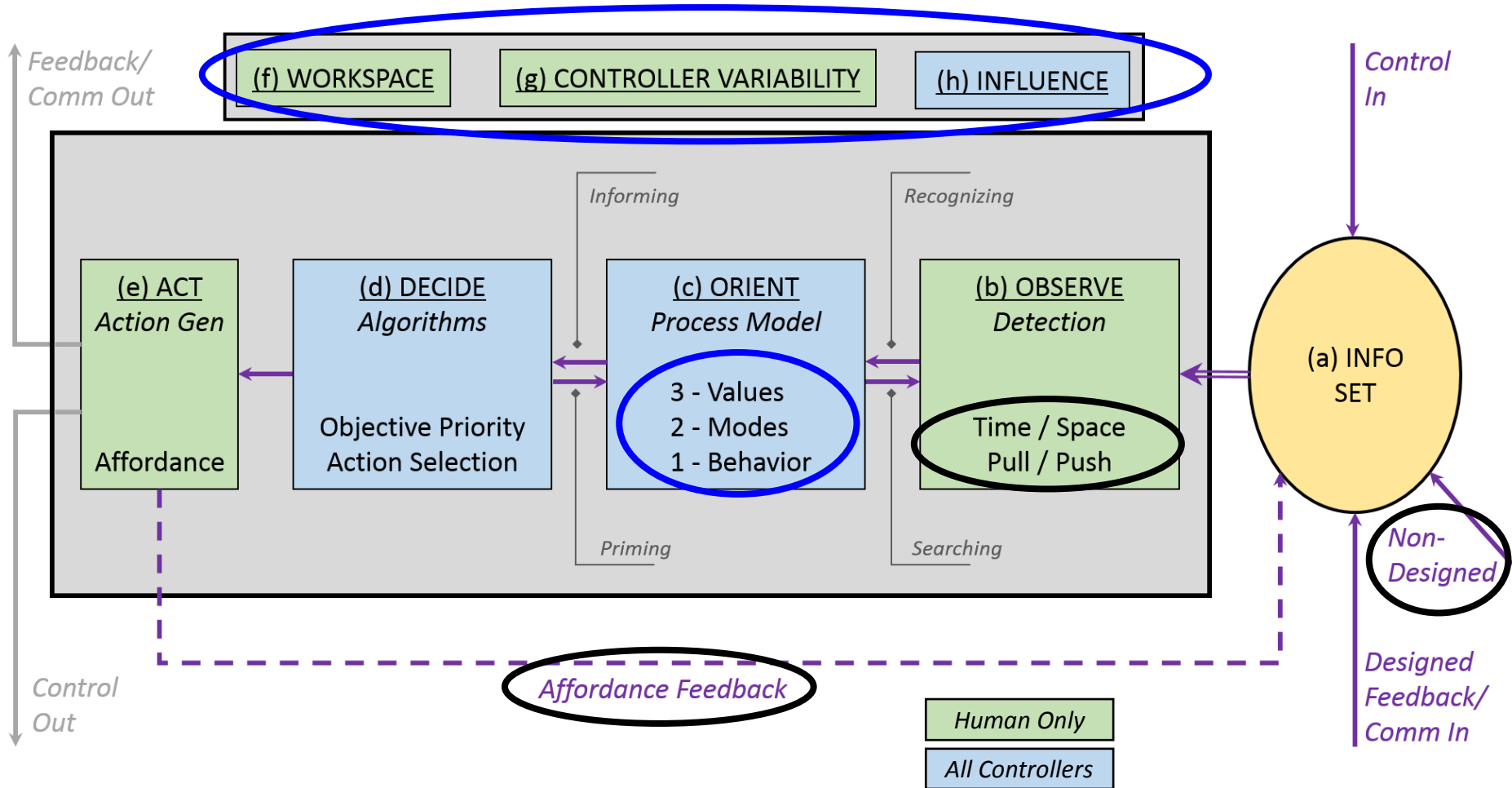
Extending the Analysis

Work

- Address STPA gaps
- Add refinement to the controller investigation
- Maintain exhaustiveness

Analysis Extension

Work



Process Model Investigation

Work

Behavior

How the controlled process interacts with the environment

Model of
Controlled Process

Mode

Mutually exclusive set of system behaviors

Model of
Automation/Context

Value

Higher-level goals that are driving the local (safety) constraints

Means-Ends
Relationships

Mode – Three Parts

Work

Supervisory Structure

The control relationships and communication links in the system hierarchy.

Which controllers currently have or share priority over each controlled component?

Which controlled components may apply authority limits and under what circumstances? Can those limits be overridden? How will conflicts be decided (i.e., who should have the final authority?)

Component Operating Mode

The set of algorithms that components under my control can use to exert control over their process(es).

What are the physical or logical assumptions and constraints associated with the component's current operating mode?

What data in the information set is the controlled component using to inform its model?

What input/and output format am I using with my controlled component(s)?

Mission Phase

The specified set of related behaviors of the controlled system representing its operational state.

What mission phase is the system in (e.g., takeoff, cruise, etc.)

Do all controllers know the current mission phase?

Does a change in mission phase mode cause a change in supervisory structure and/or component operating modes (including input/output formats)?

Leveson, 1997

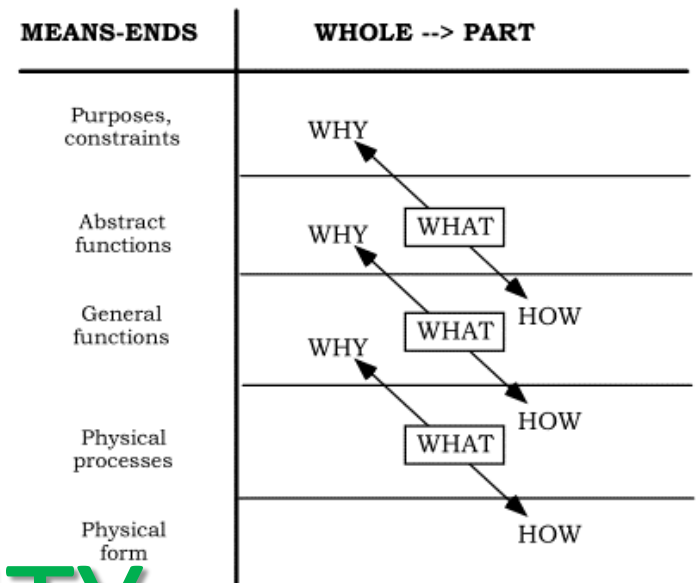
ROBUSTNESS

What is the controller's understanding of how values at higher levels of the means-ends hierarchy map to objectives at the controller's level?

Are there any values the controller personally maintains that originate outside the system?

Example: "get-there-itis"

FLEXIBILITY



Rasmussen, 1994

Too Much Flexibility?

Work

Exploratory behavior!

Normalization of deviance!

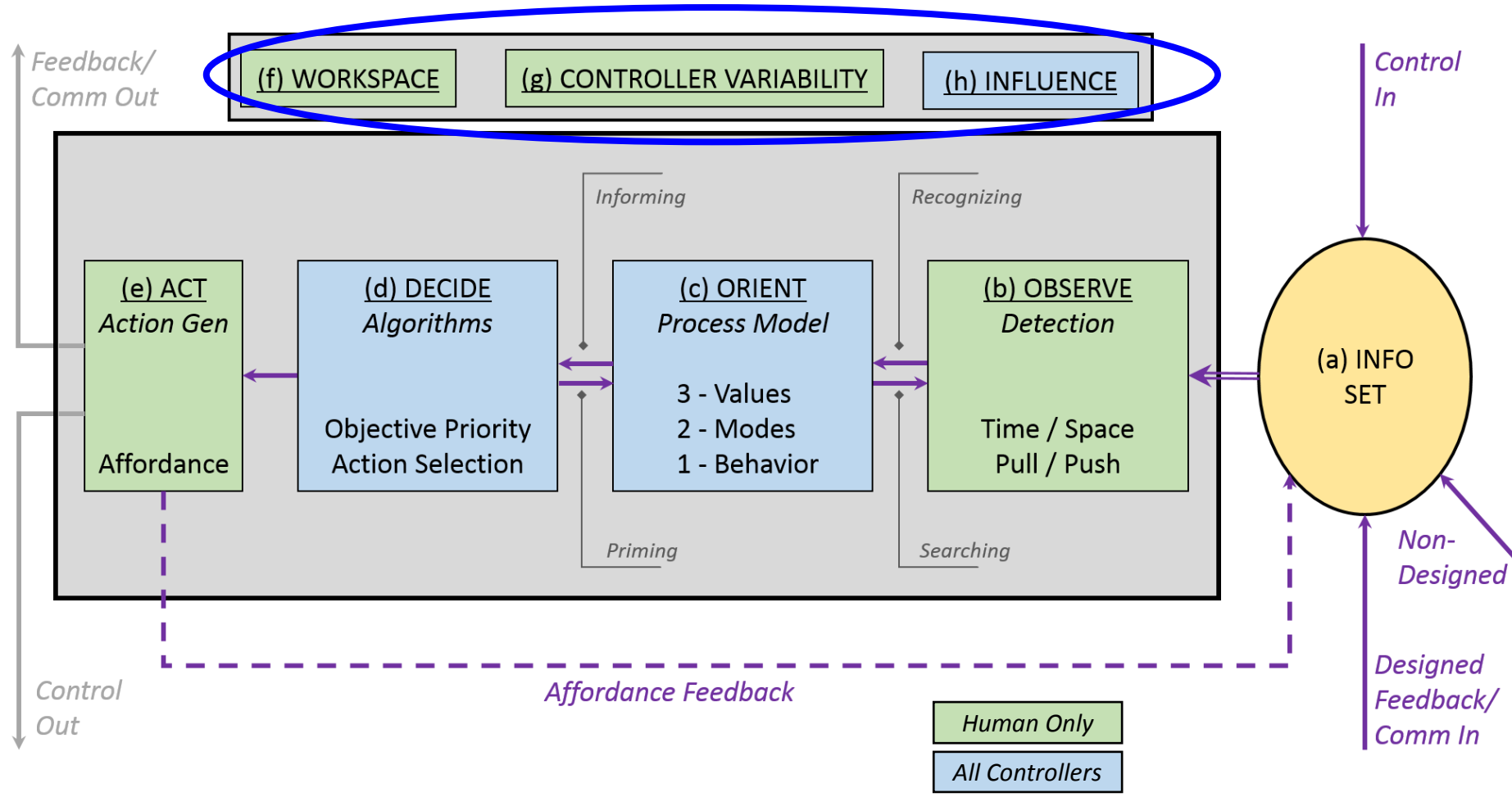
People might tradeoff performance of one behavior for another (or use modes in ways not intended by the designer)

This may inadvertently violate higher-level constraints that should not be violated



Extrinsic Factors

Work



Workspace

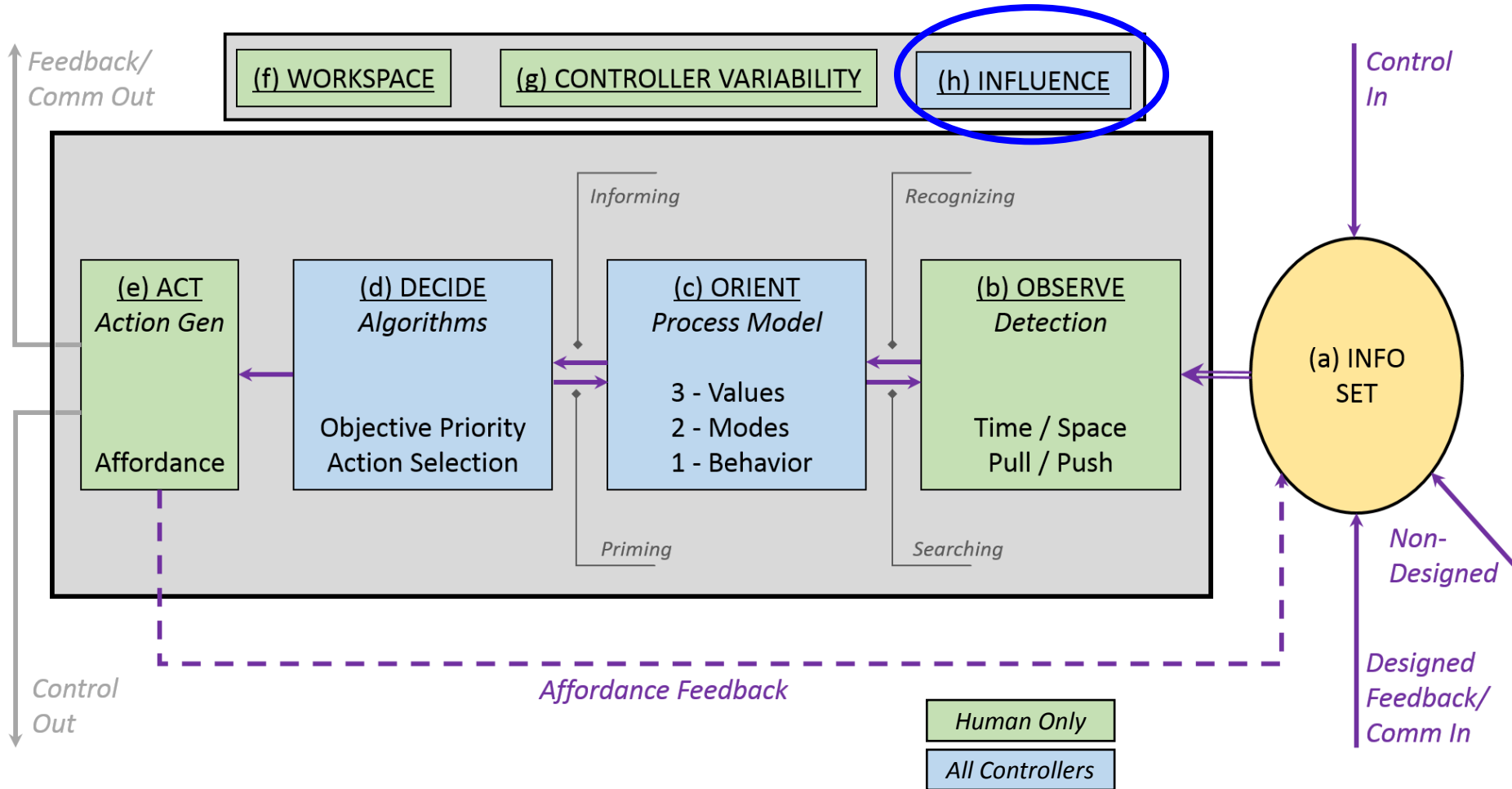
- Climate (light, temp, noise)
- Physiology (inertial, vibrations)
- Anthropometry / ergonomics
- Task workload

Variability

- Age
- Perceptual acuity
- Natural attention capability
- Disposition
- Health, injury, disability, disease
- Psychological / emotional
- Fatigue, physical stress, sleep
- Drugs, medications

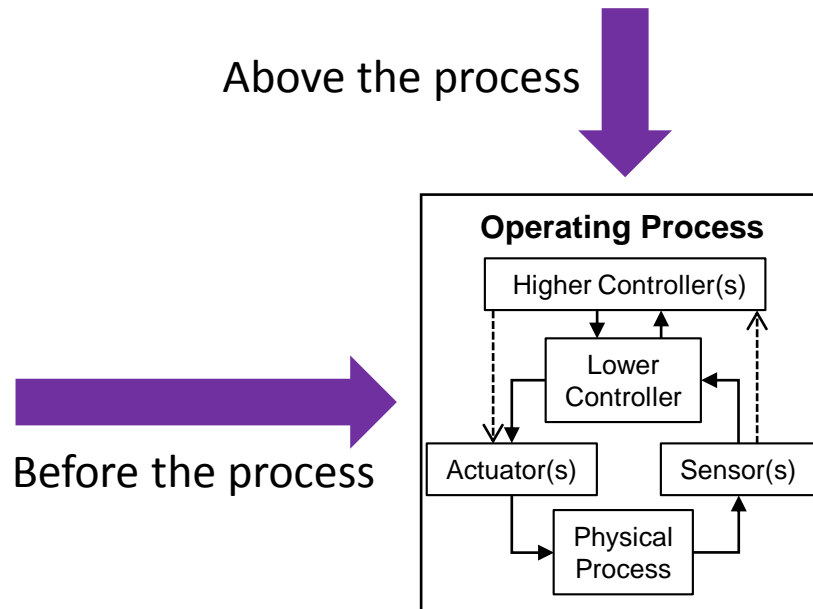
What is this?

Work



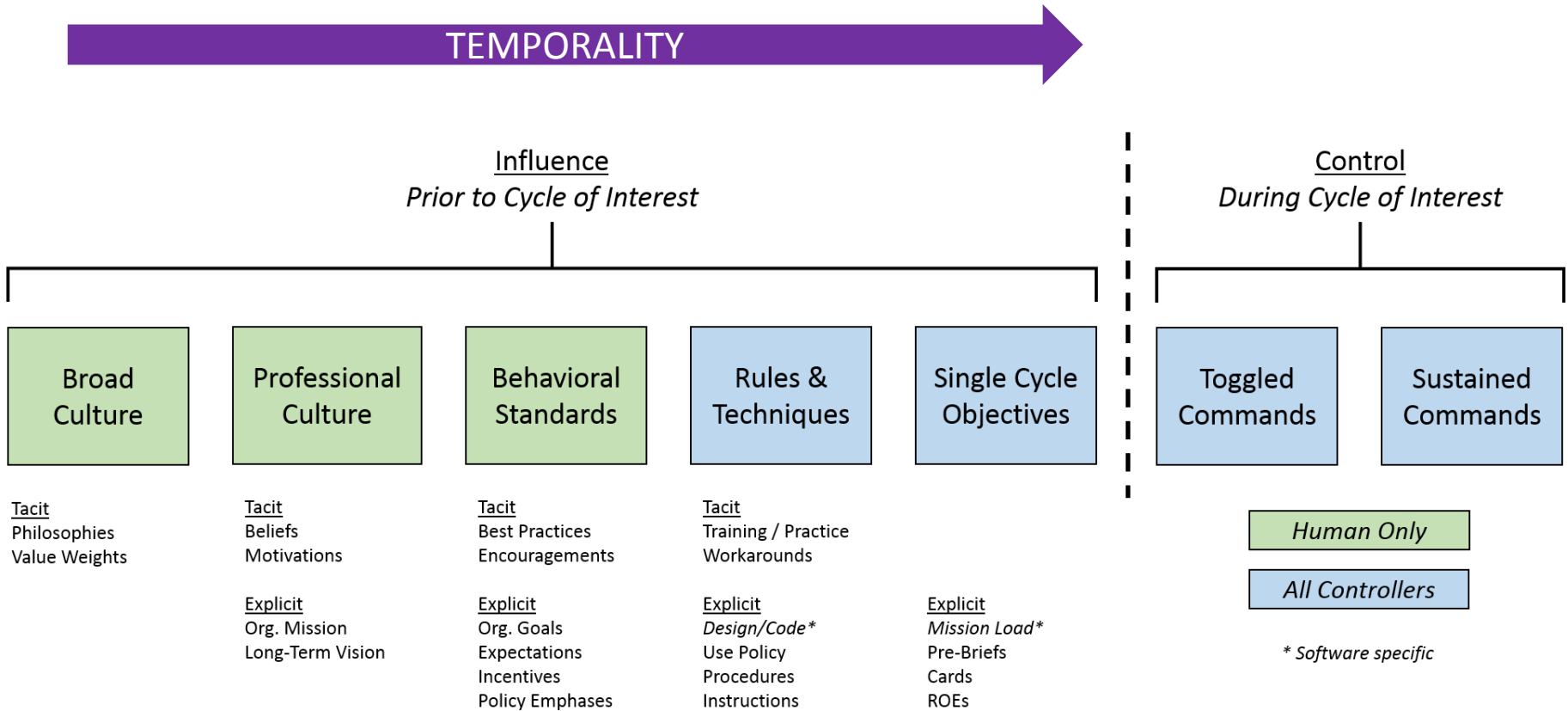
Influence

Work



Influence

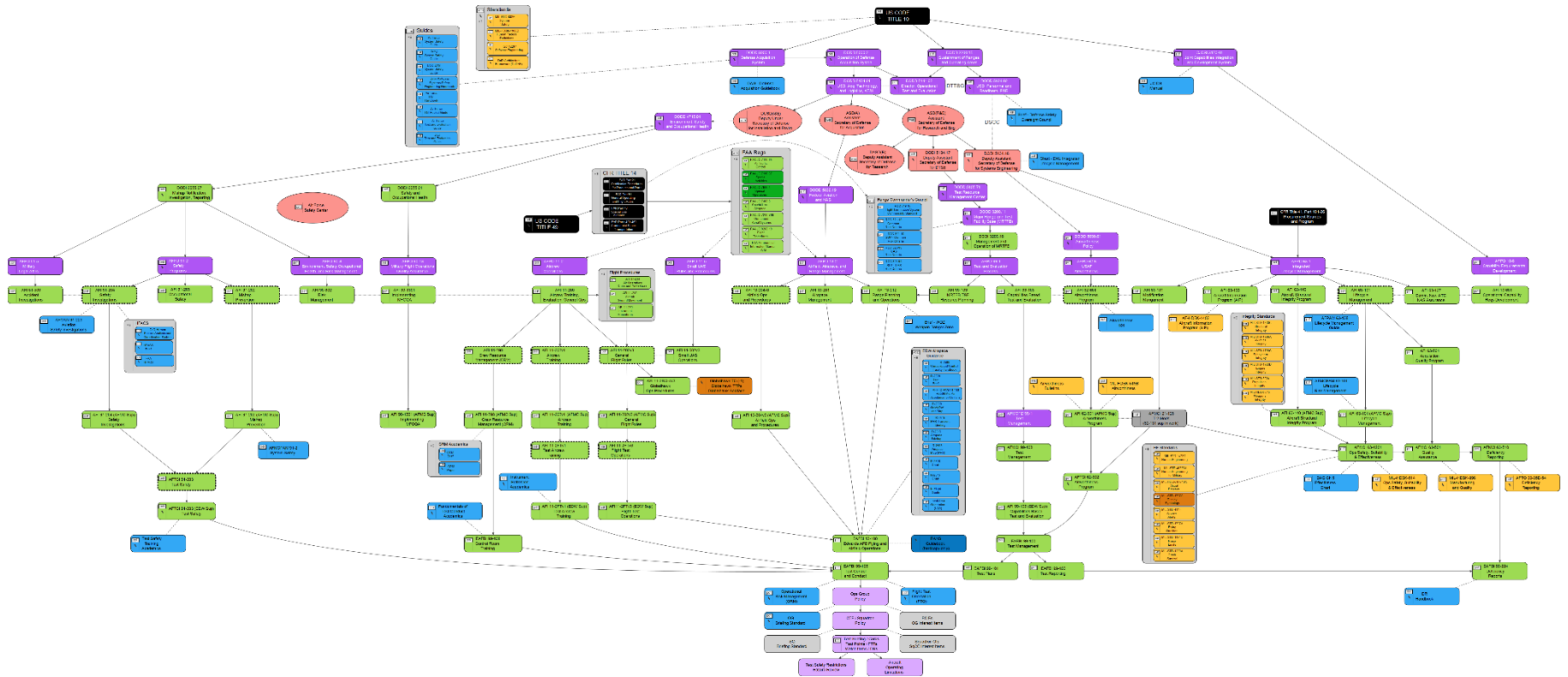
Work



- Personnel
 - Selection, attributes (e.g., acuity, cognition), background, skills
- Training – tactics, decision-making
- Human Factors
 - Workload, workspace, displays, anthro/ergo, automation
- Habitability
 - Living conditions, sleep, stress
- Environment/OSHA/Safety
 - HAZMAT, noise, moving parts, wiring

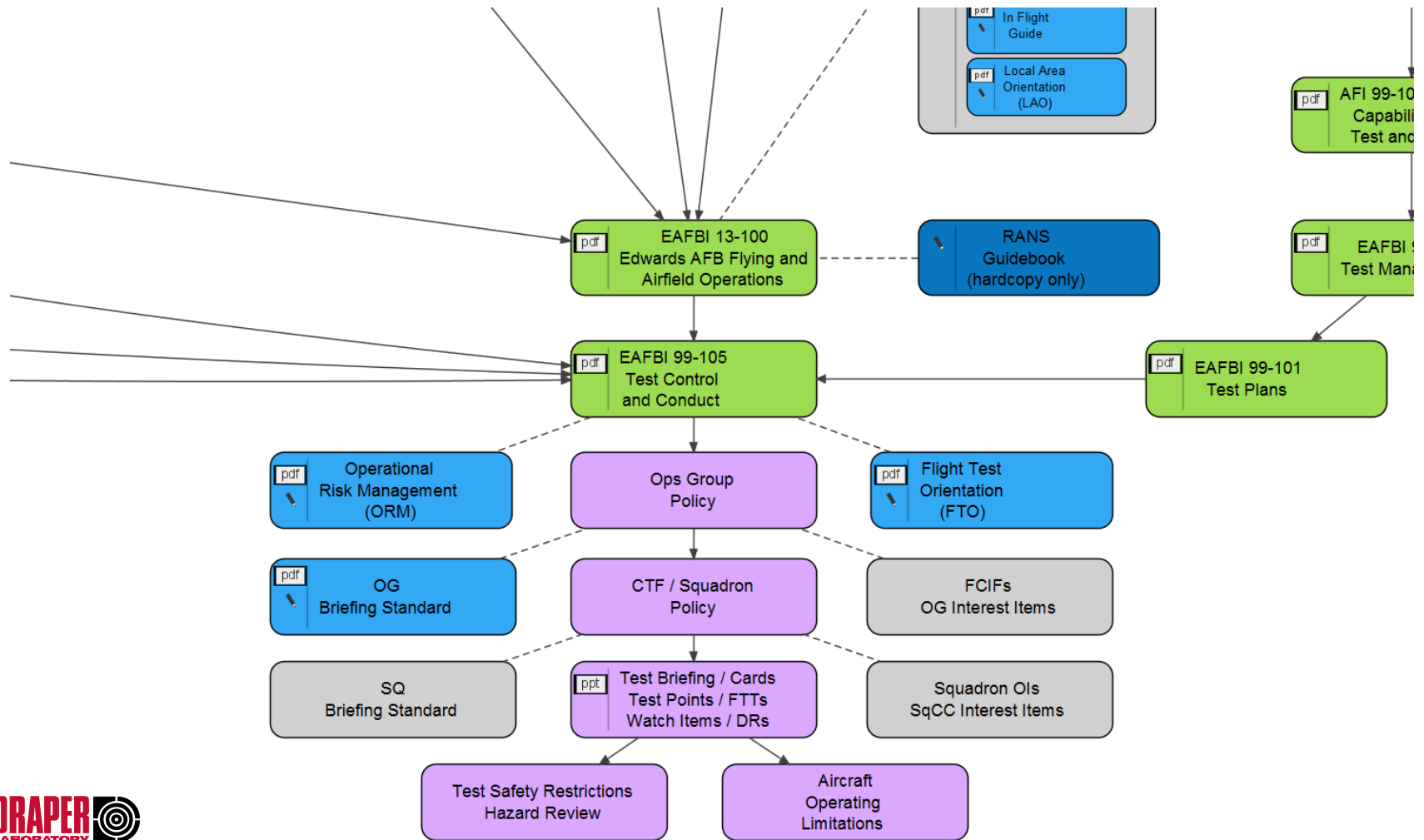
Explicit-Influence Map

Snapshot



Where it meets the road...

Snapshot



Conclusion

- Gaps addressed
 - ✓ Human-engineering considerations
 - ✓ Process model
 - ✓ Socio-organizational and pre-cycle influences
- Any good SE management system can identify, document, and maintain the information elicited with the extended analysis

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