



STINGER
GHAFFARIAN
TECHNOLOGIES

Technology and Tool Development to Support Safety and Mission Assurance

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ISRDS 2

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Summary

- How we are (and have been)
 - Defining the state of the art
 - Foundational research in assurance technology
 - Pushing the state of the practice
 - Application of research to enable application of emerging technologies
 - Unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) missions
 - Developing supporting tools and technologies
 - AdvoCATE (Assurance Case Automation Toolset)
 - Proven application in unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) missions

- Motivation
- Assurance Cases
- Example
- Tool Support
- Outlook

Outline



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- **MOTIVATION**
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- High-hazard industries are moving to *active safety management*
 - Safety management system (SMS) in aviation
 - Need to
 - Unify reasoning about technical aspects of safety
 - Support safety-related decision making
- *Goals-based* regulation is attractive for novel applications
 - When performance standards are absent
 - Unmanned aircraft systems (UAS), Autonomous systems, ...
 - Increases flexibility for regulated entity
 - Evidence-based assurance → *safety case*

Foundational research in languages, methodology, and automation support

- MIZOPEX (2013)
 - NASA Earth science mission with Sierra UAS off Alaska coast
 - Flight in combination of US National Airspace + Oceanic Airspace
 - Use of air defense radar for detect and avoid
 - Project needed FAA approval through submission of *safety case* – a detailed safety justification
- UTM (2016 – Ongoing)
 - Fleet of small UAS demonstrating low-altitude traffic management system
 - Flight in US national airspace, over sparsely populated land
 - Use of ground-based radar for detect and avoid
 - Project needed FAA approval through submission of *safety case*

Practical application of our research solutions
in response to customer needs

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‘A safety case is a structured argument, supported by a body of evidence, that provides a compelling, comprehensible and valid case that a system is safe for a given application in a given operating environment’

- *UK MOD, DS-00-56 Issue 4 (2007)*

- Essentially, a *safety risk management artifact*
 - Other compatible definitions and guidance on content
 - Based on application domain, standard, regulatory paradigm, etc.
 - FAA: Order 8900.1, FSIMS, vol. 16, UAS
 - NAVAIR: Instruction 13034.4
 - ICAO and Eurocontrol: Safety case development manual
 - Automotive: ISO 26262
 - FDA: Infusion pumps total product lifecycle guidance

- FAA (8900.1, FSIMS, vol. 16, UAS)
 - Core content
 - Environment (airspace system) description
 - System description and system change description
 - Airworthiness description of affected items
 - Aircraft capabilities and flight data
 - Accident / incident data
 - Pilot / crew roles and responsibilities
 - Hazard analysis and details of risk analysis, risk assessment, and risk control
 - Emergency and contingency procedures
 - Safety risk management plan
 - Hazard tracking and treatment
 - Safety performance monitoring

- In general,
 - Explicit statement of safety assurance objectives
 - Heterogeneous evidence
 - Datasheets, design and analysis, verification, operational testing,...
 - Structured argument
 - Capturing rationale why evidence supports the claims made
- Additionally,
 - *Safety architecture* providing a *risk basis*
 - Hazard log and hazard analyses
 - Evidence model
 - Monitoring and update

‘A documented body of evidence that provides a convincing and valid argument that a specified set of **critical claims regarding a system’s properties** are adequately justified for a given application in a given environment’

- *MITRE (2005)*

‘A reasoned and compelling argument, supported by a body of evidence, that a **system, service, or organization, will operate as intended** for a defined application, in a defined environment’

- *Goal Structuring Notation Standard (2011)*

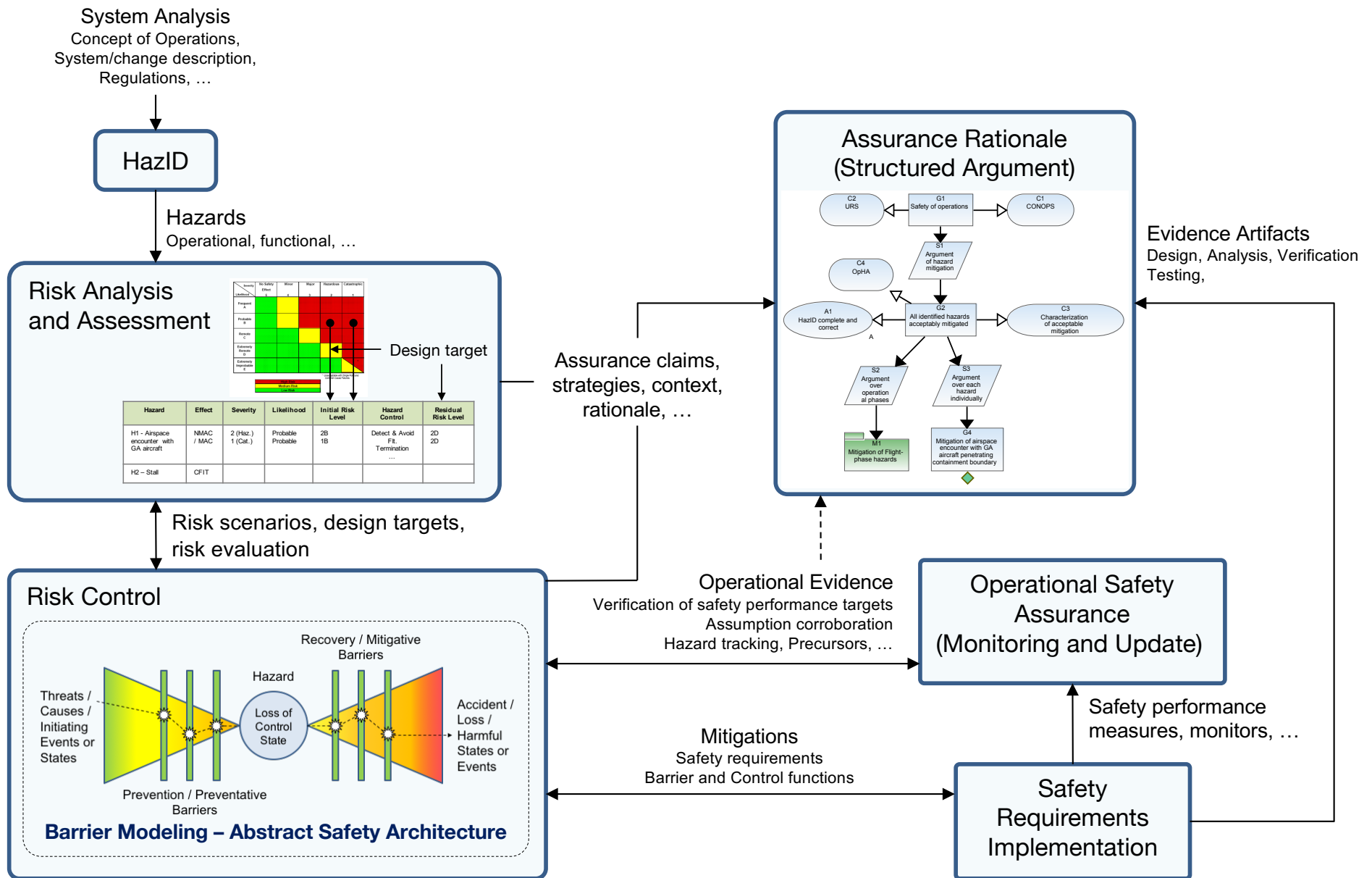
‘A structured set of arguments and a body of evidence showing that an (information) system **satisfies specific claims with respect to a given quality attribute**’

- *National Institute of Standards and Technology (2013)*

Generalization of safety cases to other assurance properties: security, dependability, ...

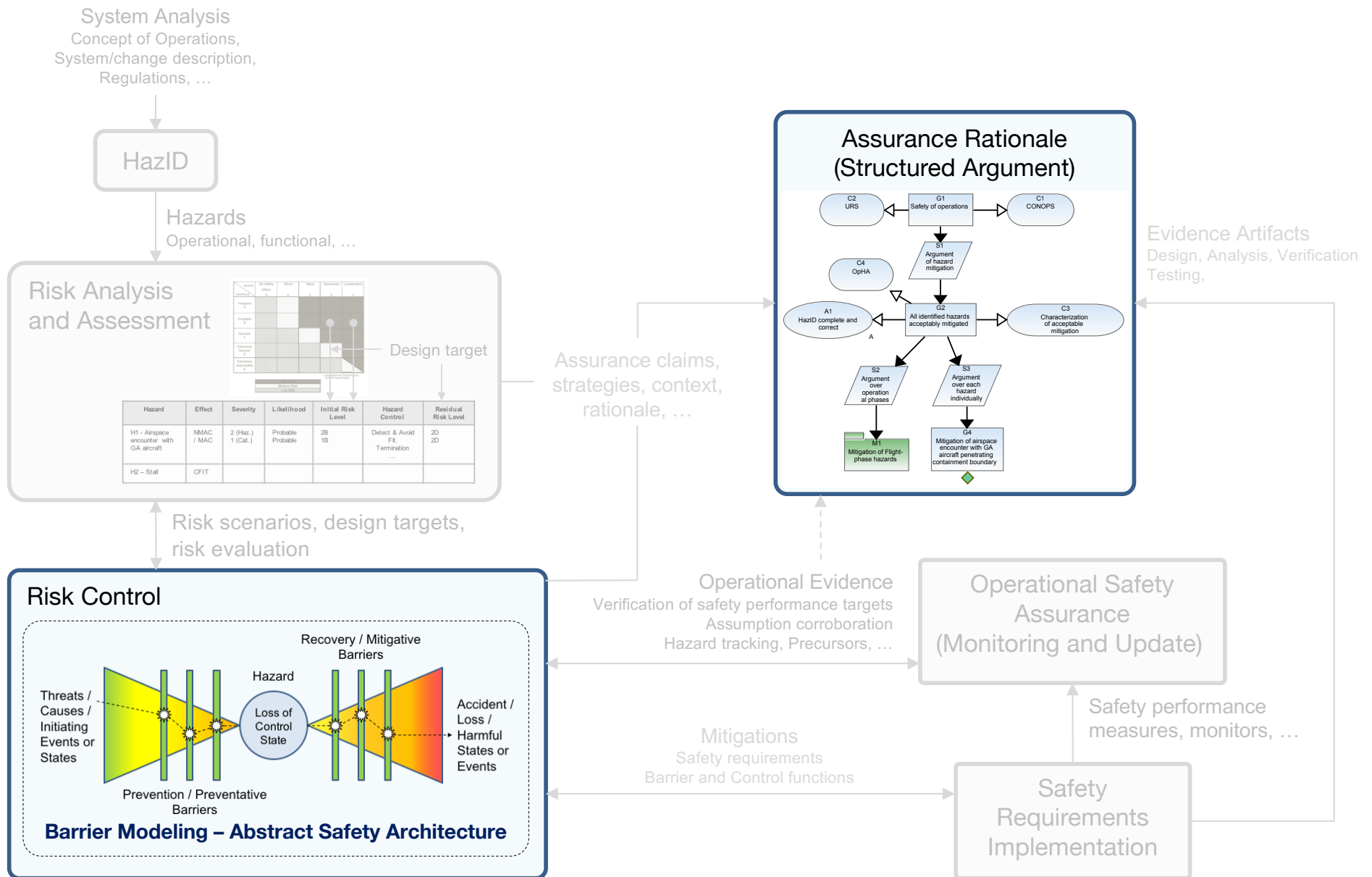
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Safety Risk Management Approach

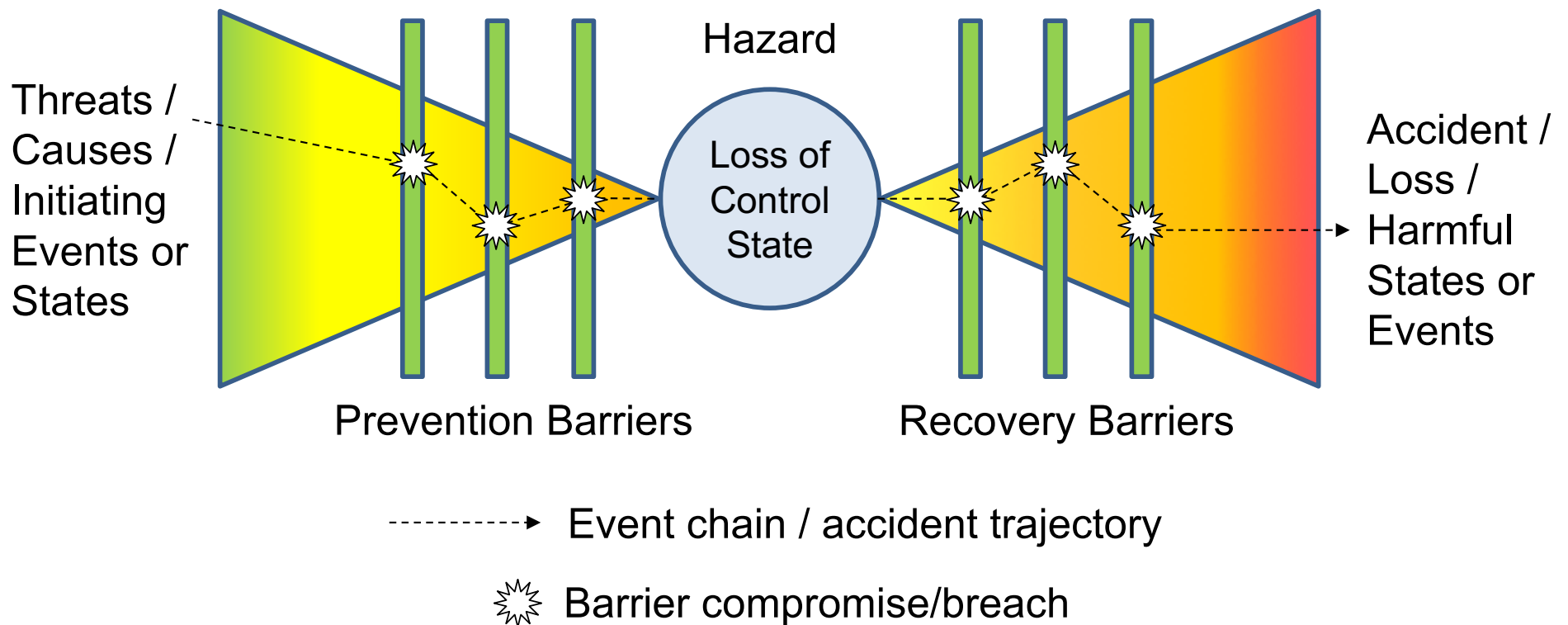


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This Talk

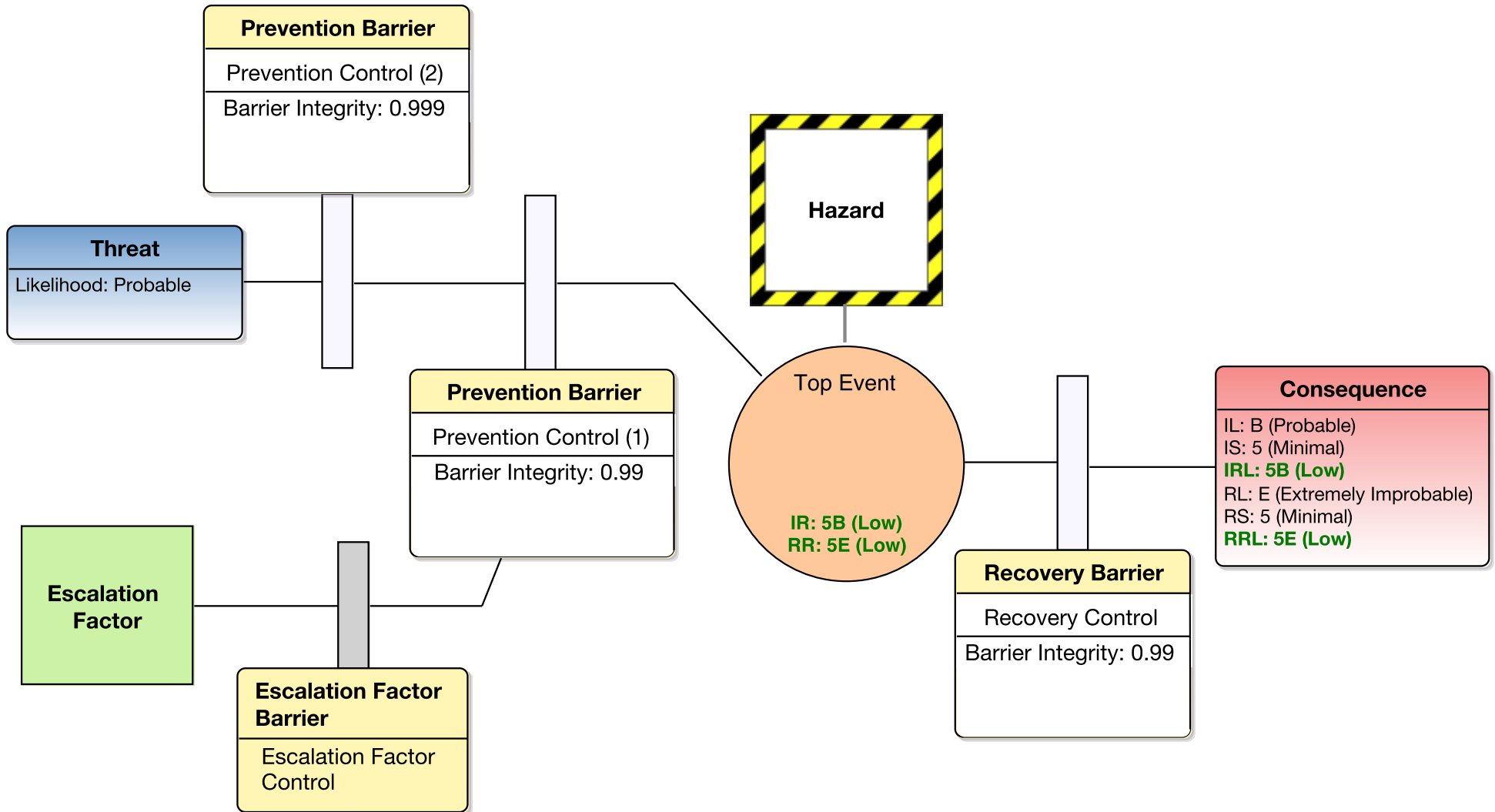


- Collection of barrier models providing a *risk basis*
 - Collection of all factors affecting risk
 - Model for risk qualification/quantification



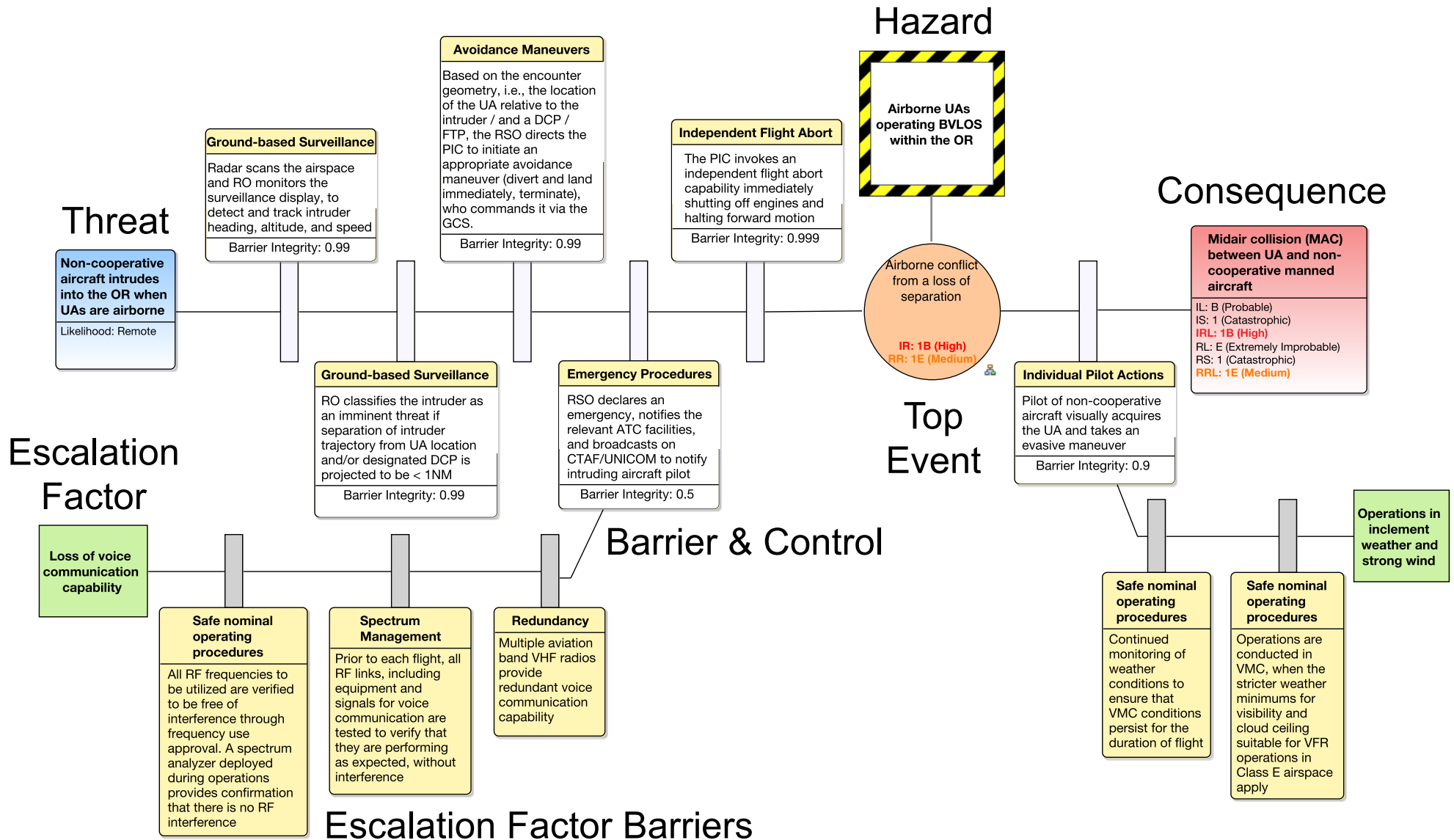
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Bow Tie Diagram (BTD)



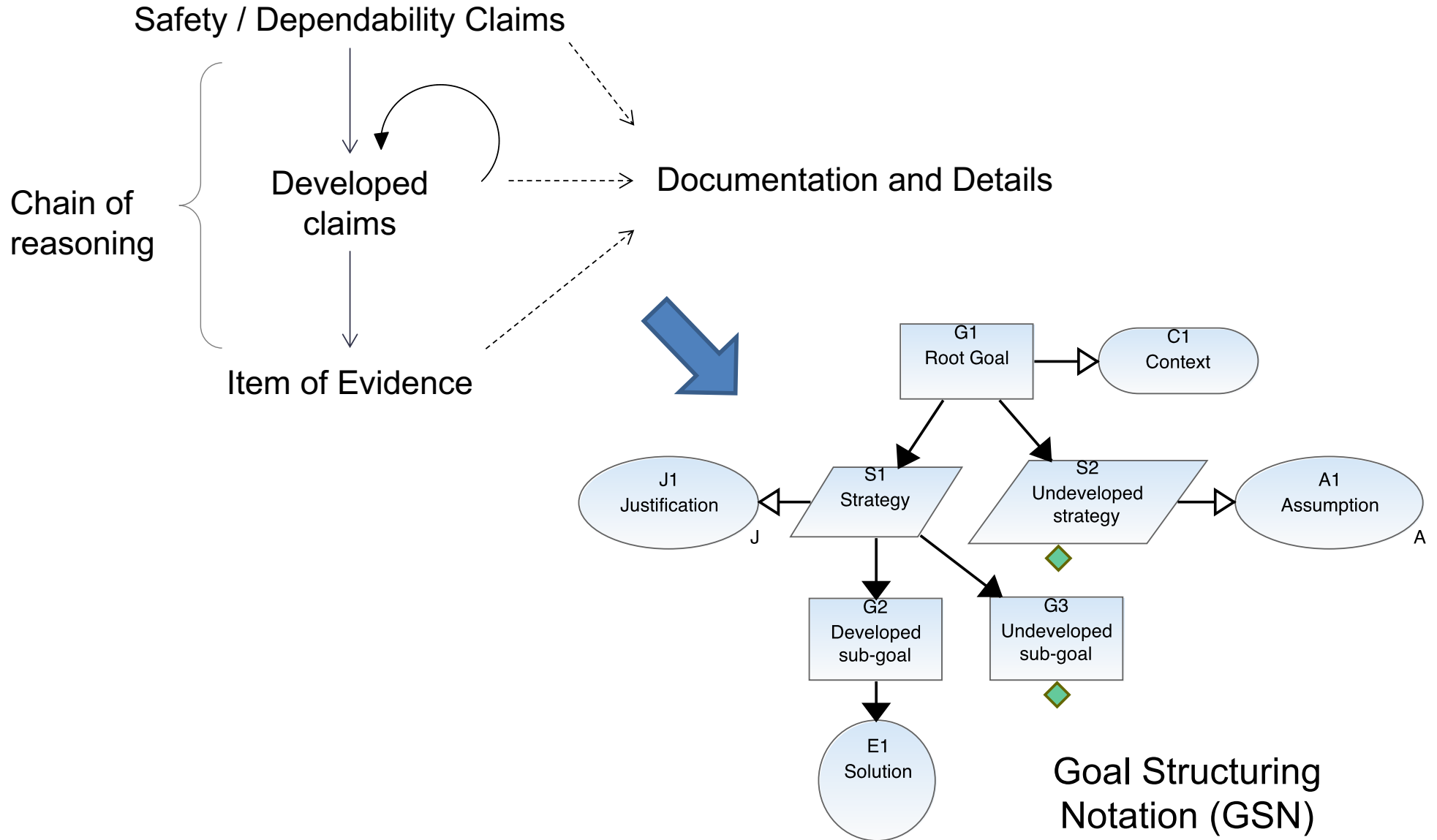
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Example: Loss of Separation



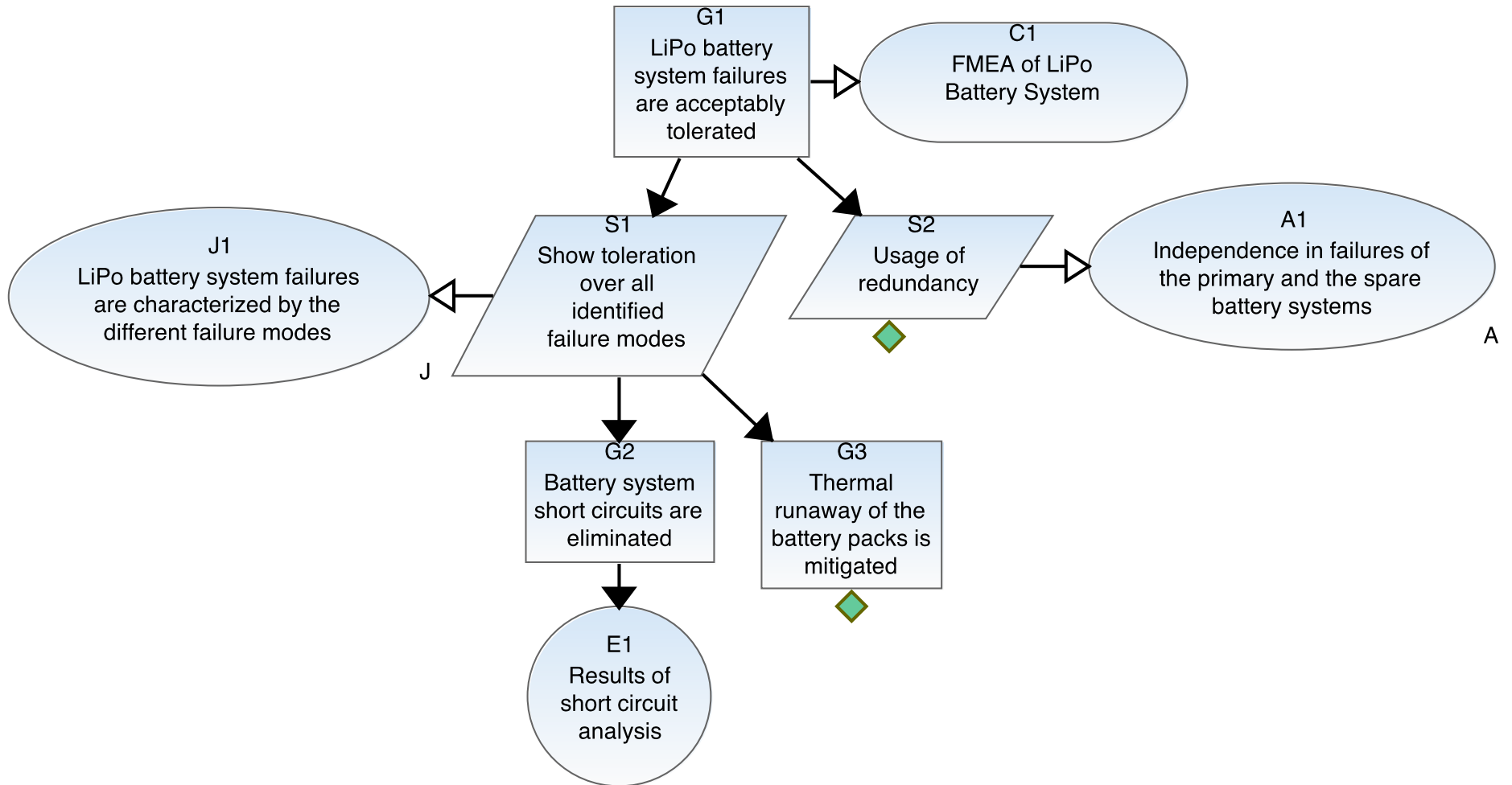
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Rationale Capture



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Example Structured Argument



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Tiered Assurance Framework



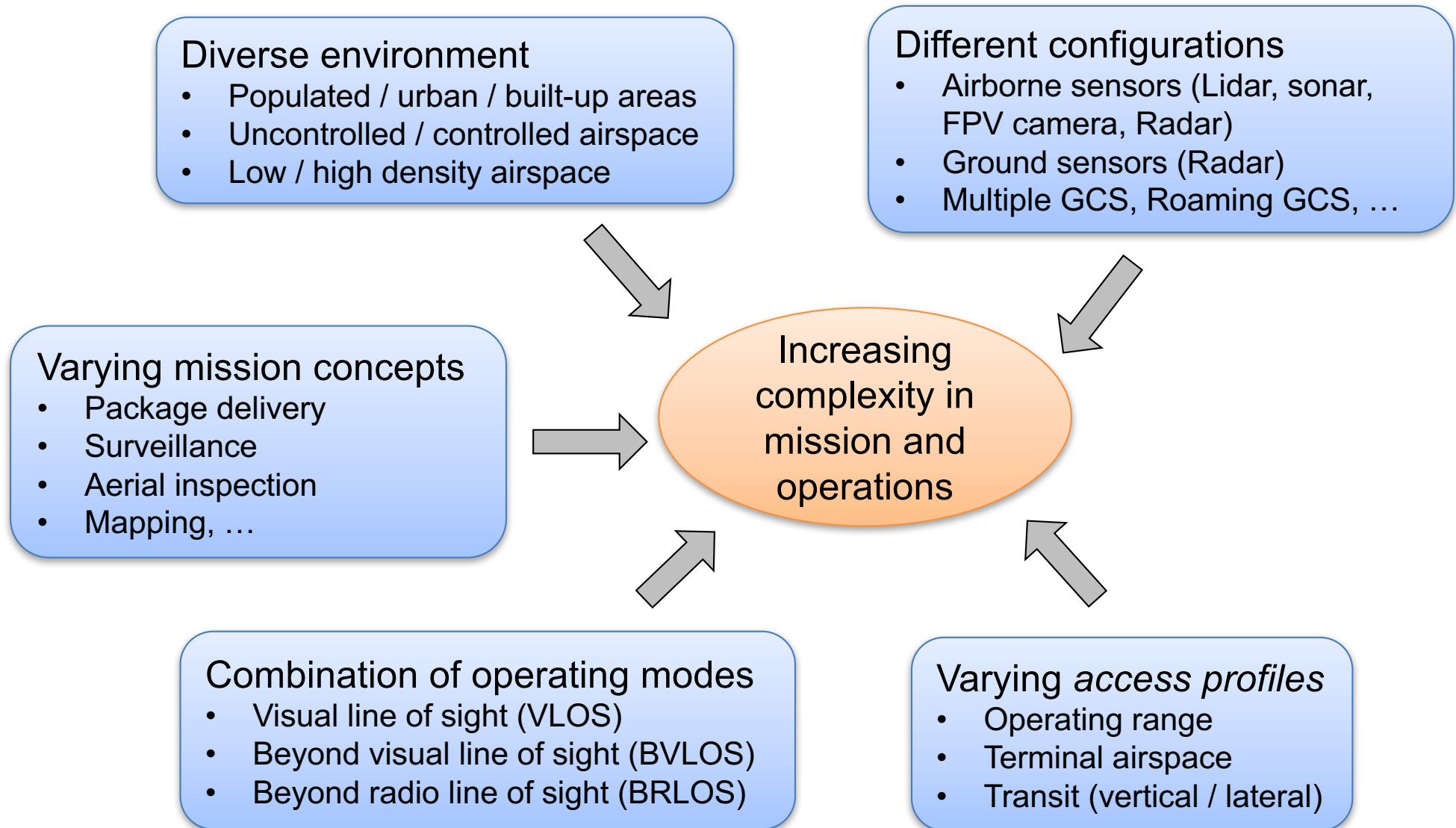
Tier	Core Assurance Concerns and Scope			Additional Assurance Qualities
Safety Objectives	System Safety – Safe concept (safety designed-in) – Safety in design – Safety in implementation – Safe transition into service – Safety in operations – TLOS / Acceptable level of risk – Safe disposal	Due diligence Reduction of risk – ALARP – SFAIRP – ASARP	Compliance with Aviation Regulations	Processes; – Maturity, ... Input data; People; – Competence, ... Method and Tools; – Qualification, ... Safety management system; Lifecycle
1	Overall Assurance All hazards / hazard risk statements, i.e., combination of hazardous situation, hazard release. All relevant consequences across all BTDs.			Coverage; Independence of threats; Effectiveness;
2	Profile of Risks For each hazard, all risk scenarios (consequences), e.g., midair collision, near midair collision, ground collision, ... Specific consequence, e.g., midair collision All causal chains, threats, and dangerous interactions across all hazards.			Coverage (function, environment, interactions, scenarios, ...); Independence; ...
3	Individual Risks Specific risk scenario , i.e., causal chain of consequence, top event, threats, causes/precursors Applicable system of barriers / safety measures			Depth; Independence; Proactiveness: Prevention vs. Recovery; ...
4	Barriers Functional safety / fitness for purpose Delivery of required service			Depth; Independence; Common causes/modes, ...
5	Controls Functional safety / fitness for purpose Delivery of required service			Reliability and effectiveness; Availability; Functional / safety integrity; Resilience; Fail safety; Data integrity; Verifiability; ...

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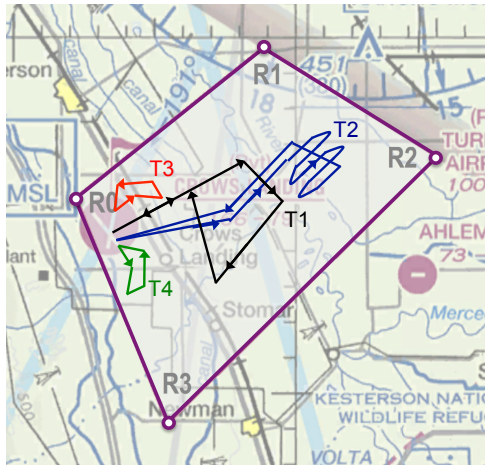
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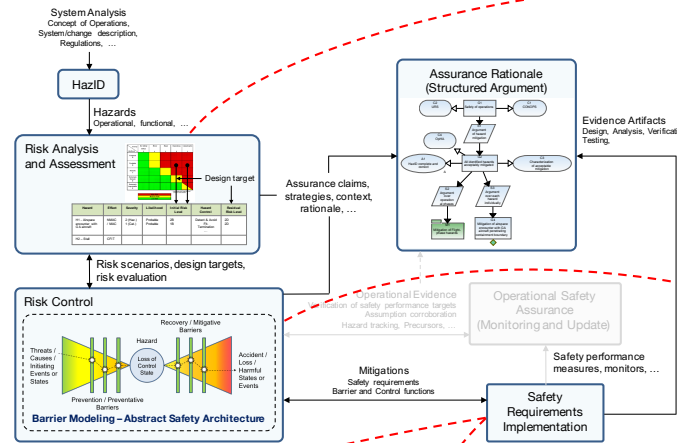
- Scope of UAS safety
 - Design assurance
 - Prior to deployment
 - Engineering evidence from development of fitness for purpose
- Operational assurance
 - Post-deployment, runtime evidence
 - Corroboration of expected safety performance
- Safety measures should be commensurate with the risk posed by the intended operations
 - Level of risk posed dictates safety measures employed and the extent of assurance provided
- Preferred form of safety justification (FAA Order 8900.1)
 - Safety Case
 - Assessment of Acceptable Level of Safety (ALoS)

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UTM / UAS Safety

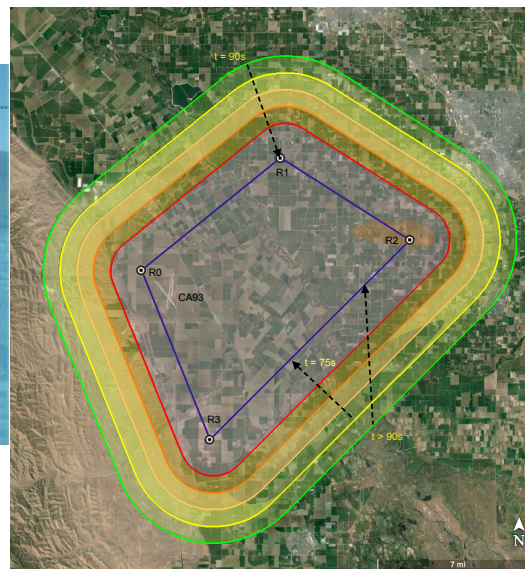
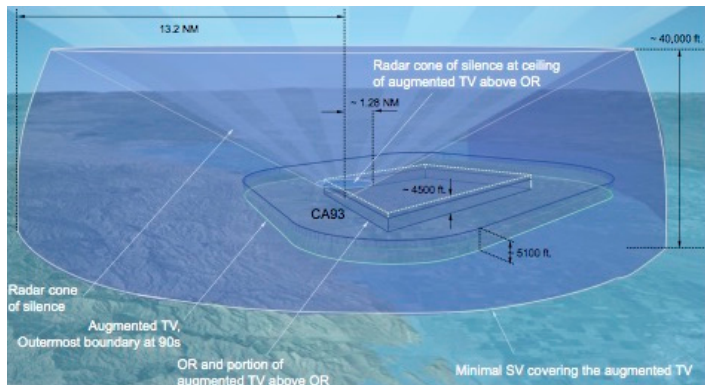
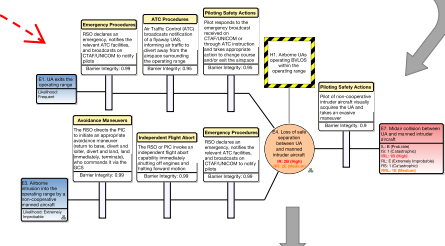


Notional CONOPS



Identified Hazards

- **Primary hazards**
 - PH1: NMAC with non-cooperative airborne entities
 - PH2: NMAC between UAs
 - PH3: Collision into ground / structures / people / vehicles
 - PH4: Rapid onset of inclement weather
 - PH5: GPS signal outage
 - PH6: UAs exiting the OR
- **Contributory hazards**
 - CH1: Loss of surveillance
 - CH2: Loss of command and control (C2) links
 - CH3: Loss of ground control station (GCS)
 - CH4: Unrecoverable UA failures/malfunction in flight
 - CH5: UA deviation from approved flight path and/or exiting the OR
 - CH6: Human factors
 - CH7: Loss of voice communication links
- **Secondary hazards**
 - SH1: Lithium fire and/or explosion



Airspace / Threat Modeling

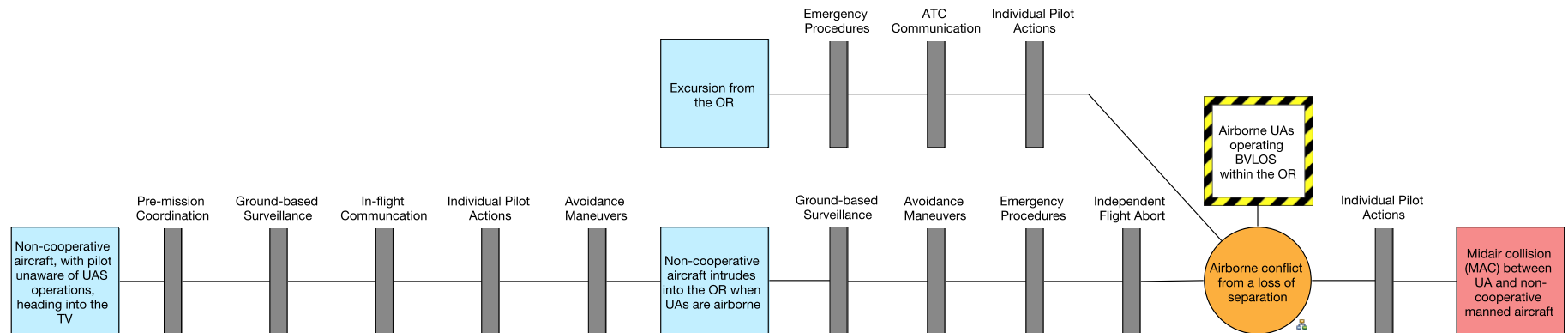
Cross Reference	Mitigation Barriers	Primary and Secondary Hazards					
		PH1 NMAC with a non-cooperative aircraft or other airspace user	PH2 NMAC between UAs	PH3 Collision into terrain and/or terrestrial entities	PH4 Rapid onset of inclement weather	PH5 GPS Signal Outage	SH1 Alkali metal (Lithium) fire and/or explosion
Section 2.2	M1	✓		✓		✓	
Section 3.2	M2	✓	✓				
Section 3.1	M3	✓		✓		✓	
Section 3.4 and 9.2	M4	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
COA Application	M5	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Section 6.4	M6		✓				✓
Section 9.3	M7		✓				✓
Section 9.4	M8	✓		✓		✓	
Section 6.7	M9	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
COA Application	M10	✓		✓			
Appendix D	Hazard Analysis Worksheets	Table 9	Table 10	Table 11	Table 12	Table 13	Table 14

Traceability from Hazards to Mitigation Barriers

- Surveillance Requirements
 - Avoidance maneuvers, Procedures, etc.
 - Justification and Rationale
- Oct. 30 - 31, 2017

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Risk Assessment



- Residual risk = Consequence probability x severity
 - Probability of disjunction of all paths leading to consequence
 - Inclusion exclusion principle
 - Path probability = Joint probability of all events on path
 - Barrier *integrity*, threat event probability
 - Assumptions and data

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Recall Tiered Assurance



Tier	Core Assurance Concerns and Scope			Additional Assurance Qualities
Safety Objectives	System Safety – Safe concept (safety designed-in) – Safety in design – Safety in implementation – Safe transition into service – Safety in operations – TLOS / Acceptable level of risk – Safe disposal	Due diligence Reduction of risk – ALARP – SFAIRP – ASARP	Compliance with Aviation Regulations	Processes; – Maturity, ... Input data; People; – Competence, ... Method and Tools; – Qualification, ... Safety management system; Lifecycle
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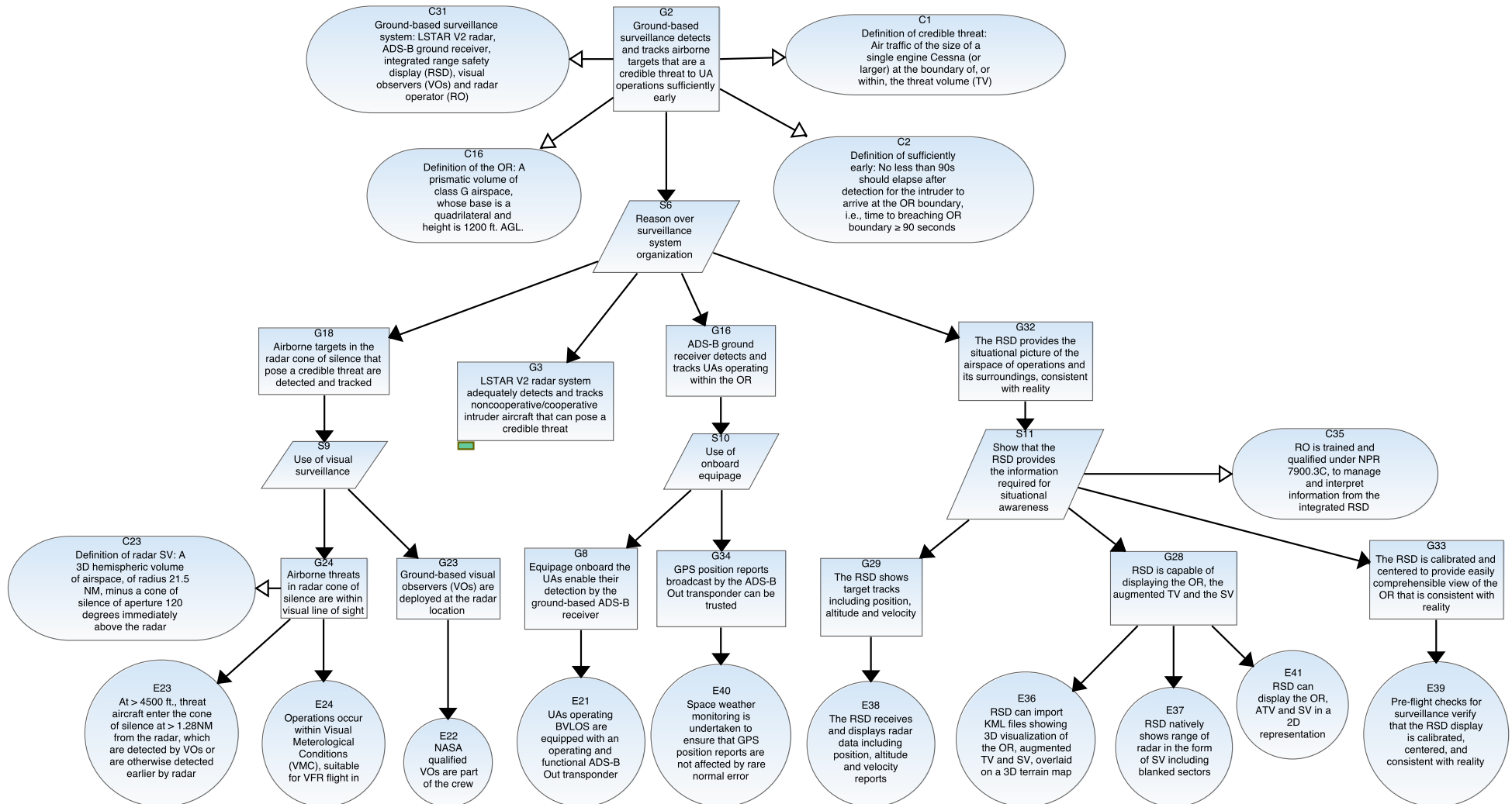
Argument-based Assurance



Tier	Core Assurance Concerns and Scope		Additional Assurance Qualities
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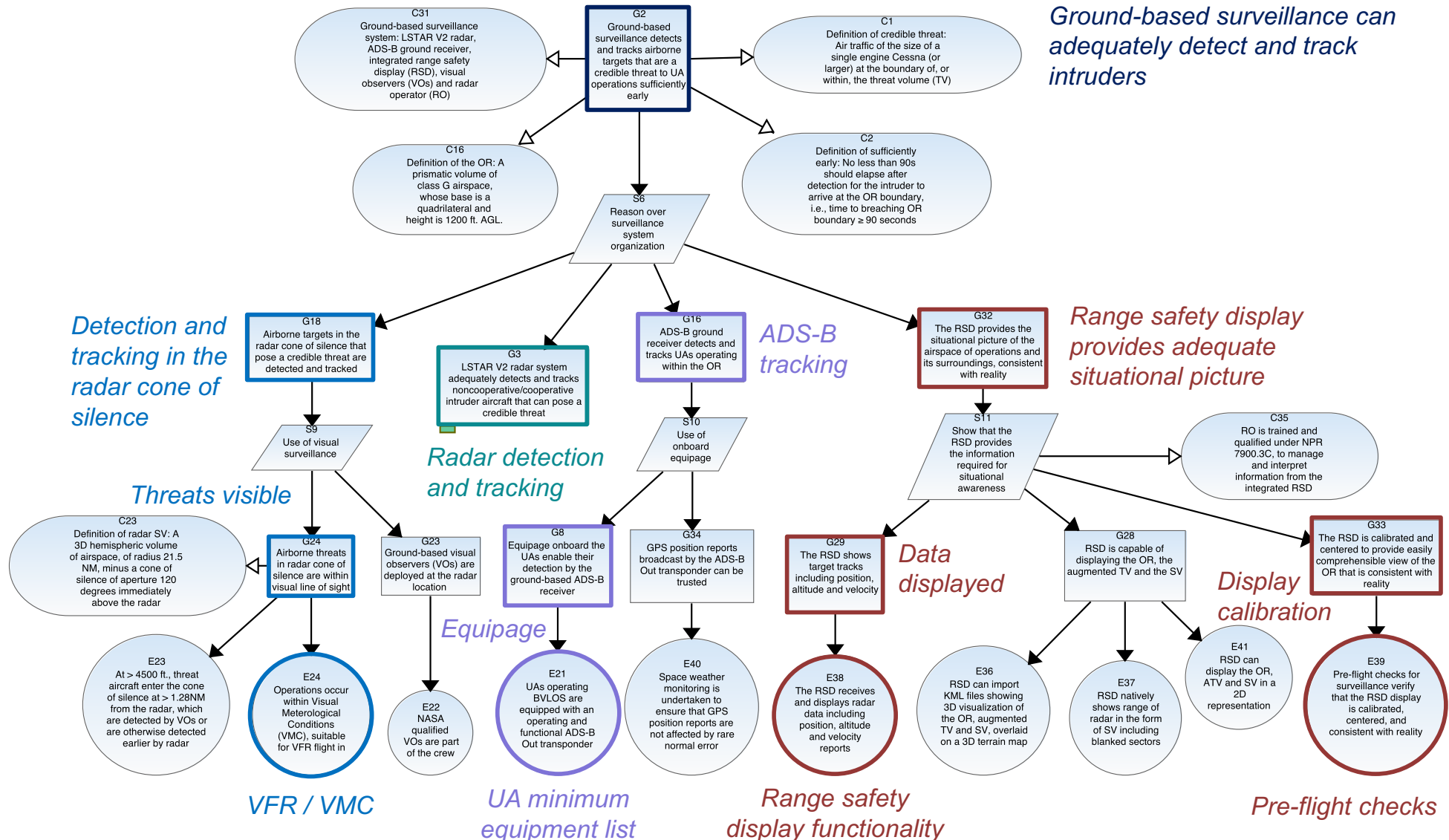
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Barrier Fitness for Purpose



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Barrier Fitness for Purpose



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AdvoCATE



The screenshot displays the AdvoCATE tool interface. The main workspace shows a complex structured argument diagram for an assurance case. The diagram consists of several interconnected nodes:

- Goals (G1-G8):**
 - G1: Probabilistic claim (APM, AQM) - The probability that the LEAP produces unsafe actions is acceptably low.
 - G2: Simulation results indicate that the probability of the LEAP producing control actions that violates the applicable safety policies is less than 1E-04.
 - G3: The LEAP does not violate any allocated safety policy.
 - G4: LEAP Guarantee: for all plans in the set of feasible plans, there does not exist an action in the set of control actions such that (commanded altitude < minimum altitude) and (commanded speed < minimum speed).
 - G5: Information obtained from multi-spectral data classification is trustworthy.
 - G6: LERS component functional requirements.
 - G7: Supervised learning classifier used for feature identification and classification is robust.
- Solutions (S1-S8):**
 - S1: Appeal to simulation-based verification.
 - S2: Appeal to non-violation of all applicable safety policies.
 - S3: Decomposition over all LEAP guarantees traced to the allocated safety policies.
 - S4: Decomposition over all external component dependencies.
 - S7: Show reliability of multi-spectral camera.
 - S8: Show robustness of sensor data classifier.
- Assumptions (A1-A3):**
 - A1: A high fidelity simulator is used.
 - A2: The operating environment model in the simulator is representative of the actual operating environment.
 - A3: LEAP Assumptions.
- Contexts (C1-C7):**
 - C1: The threshold for acceptability is no more than 1 unsafe action in 1E04 operational hours.
 - C2: Safety policies for the learning-enabled automated planner (LEAP).
 - C3: Mission planner architecture.
 - C4: External dependencies capture error propagation paths.
 - C5: Definition of classification robustness: minimization of an expected cost for false positives and false negatives.
 - C6: LERS component functional requirements.
 - C7: Minimum altitude = 2000 ft; minimum speed = 250 KIAS.

Supporting evidence and claims are also present, such as "Functional Safety Claim (APM)", "Assurance monitor on planner actions (TA2)", and "Design-time verification evidence (TA1)".

At the bottom of the interface, a table shows the semantic properties of the argument:

Property	Value
Semantic	
Behaviors	
Documentation	
Rulers & Grid	
Appearance	
Argument lec-example-v2	
Links	
Name	
Nodes	
	→ Is Supported By ISB1, In Context Of ICO1, Is Supported By ISB2, Is Supported By ISB3, In Context Of ICO2, In Context Of IC...
	← lec-example-v2
	← Goal G1, Strategy S1, Context C1, Goal G2, Solution E1, Context C2, Assumption A1, Assumption A2, Strategy S2, Goal G3,...

Developing Structured Arguments

Assurance Case Automation Toolset (AdvoCATE)

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AdvoCATE



The screenshot displays the AdvoCATE software interface, which is used for model exploration and assurance case generation. The interface is divided into several main sections:

- Model Explorer:** Located on the left, it shows a hierarchical tree of model elements. The selected element is "Event Instance h1.INMACLoS", which is expanded to show sub-elements like "NMACLoS-BcV", "NMACLoS-BT", and "NMACLoS-BT-v2".
- Automated View Extraction:** The central-left pane shows a diagram titled "Ground-based Surveillance". It details the Radar Operator's (RO) monitoring of the surveillance display and UA tracks. It includes text boxes such as "RO monitors the surveillance display and UA tracks from ADS-B position reports, warning if UA deviates from the assigned flight paths, altitudes, and/or approaches CR boundary" and "RO classifies the intruder as an imminent threat if separation of intruder trajectory from UA location and/or designated DCP is projected to be < 1NM".
- Bow Tie Modeling:** The central-right pane shows a complex bow tie diagram for "Airborne UAS operating BVLOS within the CR". It maps various hazards (e.g., "Non-cooperative aircraft intruder into the CR when UAs are airborne", "Loss of voice communication capability") to safety goals and mitigation measures (e.g., "Avoidance Maneuvers", "Emergency Procedures", "Redundancy").
- Properties Table:** At the bottom, a table provides semantic details for the selected event instance.

Semantic	Property	Value
	Event Instance h1.INMACLoS	
Behaviors	Associated Argument	
	Depth	2
Documentation	Escalation	false
Rulers & Grid	Event	Event NMACLoS
Appearance	Incoming Links	CES Link, CES Link
	Initial Likelihood Value	0.001
	Initial Severity	CATASTROPHIC
	Name	h1.INMACLoS
	Outgoing Links	CES Link
	Residual Severity	CATASTROPHIC

- Hazard analysis and safety requirements capture
- Structured arguments
 - *Pattern* specification and automated pattern *instantiation*
 - Integration of formal methods and formal tool-based evidence
 - *Hierarchical* and *Modular* refactoring
 - Argument *queries* and *views*
 - Argument *verification*
 - Metrics
 - Report generation
- Safety architectures
 - Bow tie modeling
 - Views
 - Transformations (event and barrier split / merge)
- Evidence management
- **Safety, Mission Assurance, and Risk management (SMART) Dashboard**

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- NASA adoption of *safety case* paradigm
- Promulgated by Office of Safety and Mission Assurance (OSMA)
 - *Objective hierarchies* (OHs)
 - Decomposition of assurance objectives
 - Safety, reliability and maintainability, software assurance, range safety, ...
 - *Risk informed safety case* (RISC)
 - System Safety Handbook, vols. 1 & 2
 - Elaborates
 - NASA acquisition process based on safety performance
 - Supplier requirements for justification of safety performance
 - Argumentation for rationale capture
 - Risk assessment and cost-benefit analysis for decision making

- Software assurance research program funding (FY18)
 - Retrospective characterization of assurance afforded by RISC and Software OH against an *assurance baseline*
 - Assurance baseline from NASA ARC BioSentinel mission
 - CFS/CFE
 - V&V artifacts
 - Current NASA assurance standards and guidelines
 - Mapping to RISC and OH to assurance artifacts
 - Analysis of potential gaps and assurance deficits
 - Tool support via AdvoCATE

- Development of end-to-end assurance methodology and tool support
- Foundational research, informed by and corroborated in practical application
- Safety cases created were the first of their kind
 - MIZOPEX: First civil safety case to be approved
 - NASA Honor Award
 - UTM Safety Case: First civil safety case to be approved for using ground-based detect and avoid to conduct BVLOS operations in the NAS

- Ongoing focus on design-time assurance
 - Artifacts and rationale from development, prior to release-into-service
- Outlook towards operational assurance through lifecycle
 - In-service safety performance monitoring
- Dashboard for stakeholder-specific assurance
- Current focus on safety
 - Expansion in focus to mission assurance
 - Expansion in application domain to spaceflight
 - Initially robotic
 - Eventually, human spaceflight

Looking for opportunities to infuse our technology
into other SGT customer projects



The *Assurance Case* approach is being adopted in a number of safety-/mission-critical application domains in the U.S., e.g., medical devices, defense aviation, automotive systems, and, lately, civil aviation. This paradigm refocuses traditional, process-based approaches to assurance on demonstrating explicitly stated assurance goals, emphasizing the use of *structured rationale*, and concrete *product-based evidence* as the means for providing justified confidence that systems and software are fit for purpose in safely achieving mission objectives. NASA has also been embracing assurance cases through the concepts of *Risk Informed Safety Cases* (RISCs), as documented in the NASA System Safety Handbook, and *Objective Hierarchies* (OHs), as put forth by the Agency's Office of Safety and Mission Assurance (OSMA). This talk will give an overview of the work being performed by the SGT team located at NASA Ames Research Center, in developing technologies and tools to engineer and apply assurance cases in customer projects pertaining to aviation safety. We elaborate how our **A**ssurance **C**ase **A**utomation **T**oolset (AdvoCATE) has not only extended the state-of-the-art in assurance case research, but also

demonstrated its practical utility. We have successfully developed safety assurance cases for a number of Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) operations, which underwent, and passed, scrutiny both by the aviation regulator, i.e., the FAA, as well as the applicable NASA boards for airworthiness and flight safety, flight readiness, and mission readiness. We discuss our efforts in expanding AdvoCATE capabilities to support RISCs and OHs under a project recently funded by OSMA under its Software Assurance Research Program. Finally, we speculate on the applicability of our innovations beyond aviation safety to such endeavors as robotic, and human spaceflight.