# Cyber Physical Security (CPS) Extension to Air Traffic Management (ATM) Testbed

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# Outline

- The Problem
- Motivation
- Cyber Physical System Attack Avenues
- ATM System Attack Examples
- Study Approach
- Emulation & Study Environment - NASA’s ATM Testbed
- Cyber Physical System Attack Types
- Attack Methods Developed
- Attack Emulation Procedure
  - Traffic Scenario Creation
  - Visualization of Simulated Traffic
- Future Work

# The Problem

**Truck driver with GPS jammer accidentally jams Newark airport**
*CNET, August 2013*

**Hackers ground 1,400 passengers at Warsaw in attack on airline's computers**
*The Guardian, June 2015*

**French fighter planes grounded by computer virus**
*The Telegraph, February 2009*

**"The cyber world of interconnected and interdependent systems has increased the vulnerability of aircraft and systems and therefore the potential impact that breaches in security can have."**
*Cyber Security in Civil Aviation, August 2012*

**At the Hack-In-The-Box conference in Amsterdam, security consultant Hugo Teso demonstrated PlaneSploit, that he claims can take control of airplane systems and cause it to change direction or crash into the ground**
*Bloomberg, April 2013*

**Malware implicated in fatal Spanair plane crash. Computer monitoring system was infected with Trojan horse, authorities say**
*NBC News, August 2010*

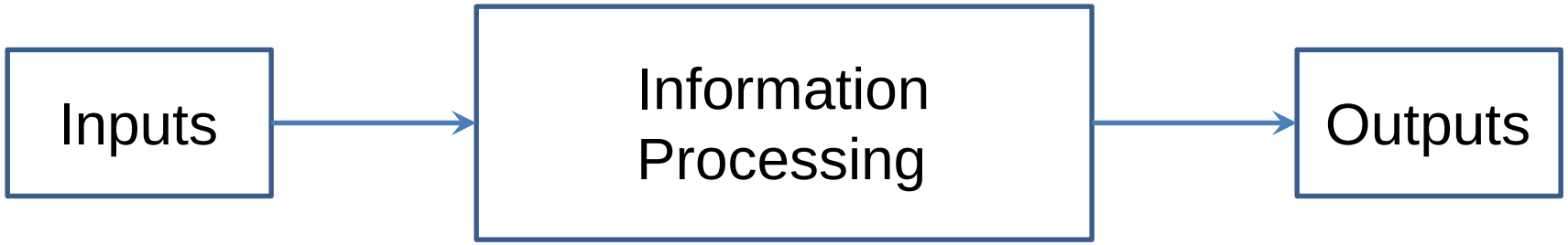
**Researchers use GPS spoofing to hack into a flying drone**
*BBC, June 2012*

# Motivation

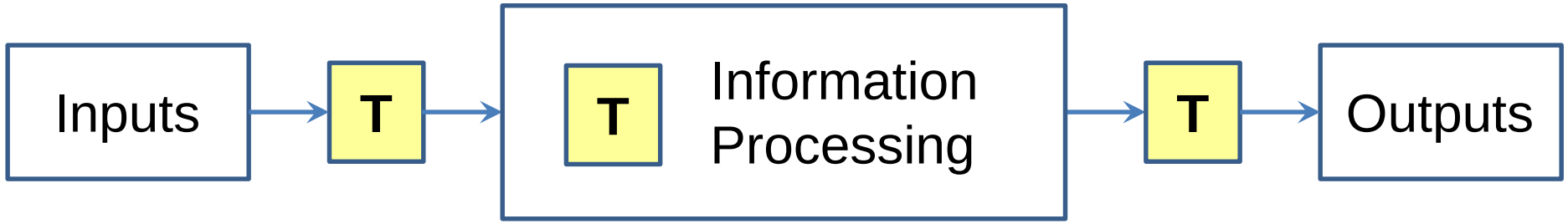
We do not currently have a way to study the effects of cyber-attacks on future ATM concepts and decision support tools that are being developed by NASA and the FAA, and to support the development of detection and mitigation strategies in response to cyber-attacks

# Cyber Physical System (CPS) Attack Avenues

**Normal CPS**

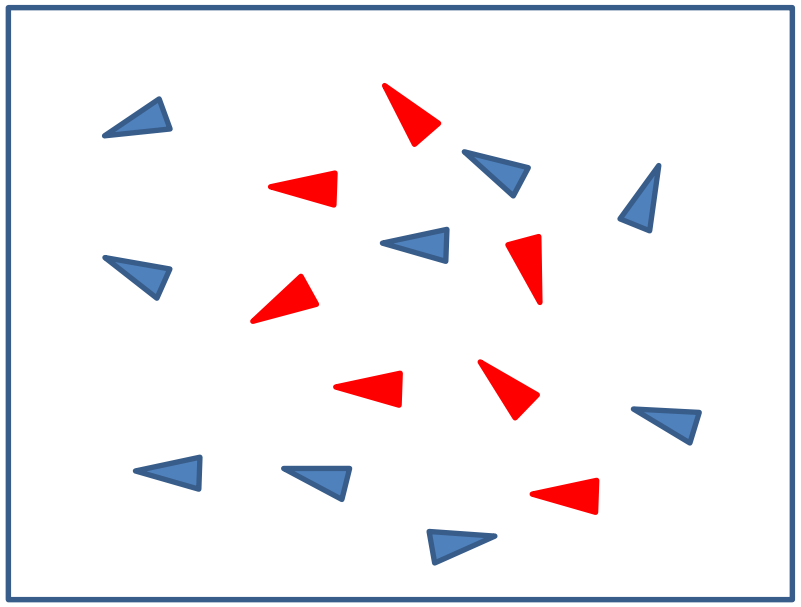



**Compromised CPS**

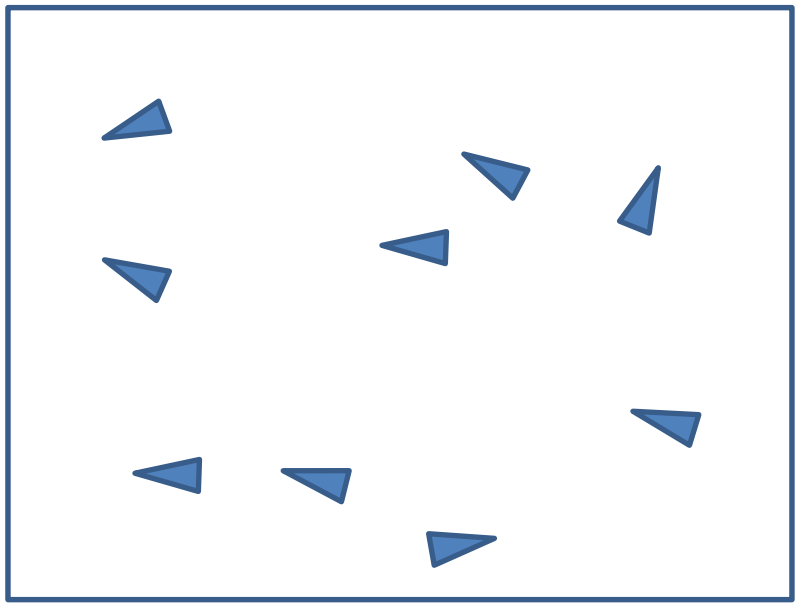



T CPS attack attempts to transform Inputs, processing and outputs

# Example Attack 1: Fake Aircraft



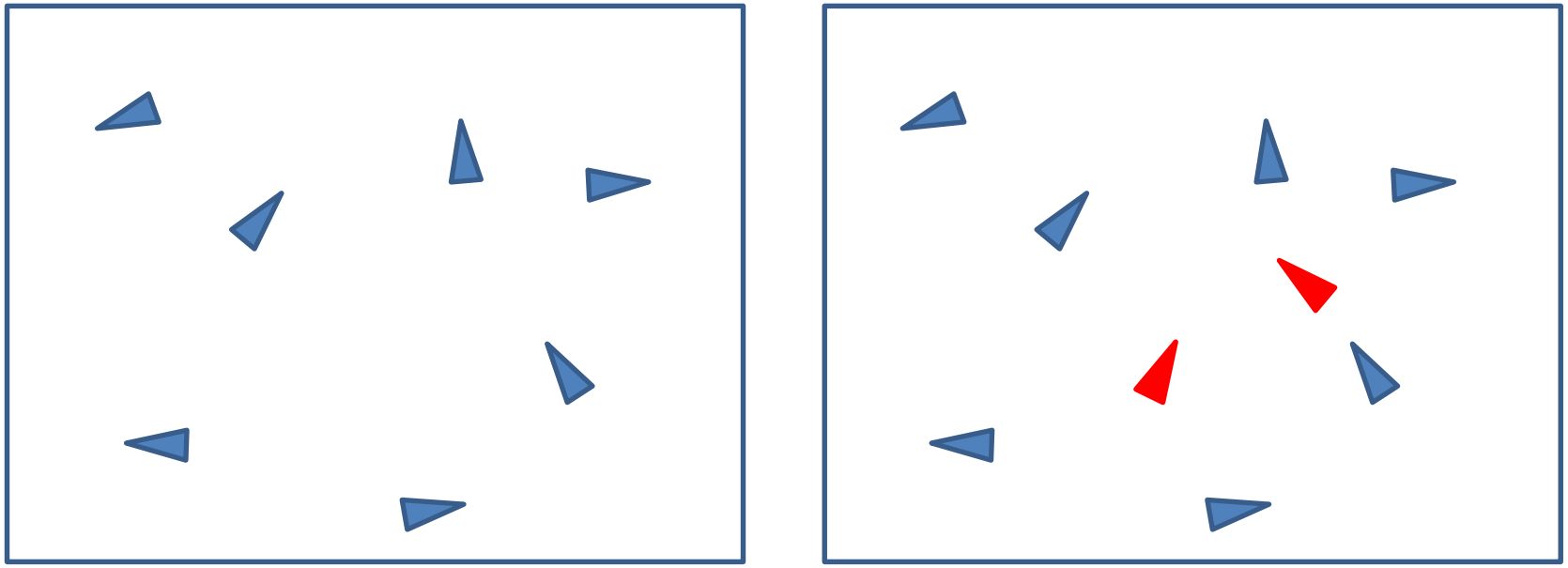
ATC Display



Reality

Fake aircraft that do not exist in reality appear on Air Traffic Control (ATC) display to overwhelm the air traffic controller

# Example Attack 2: Invisible UAS

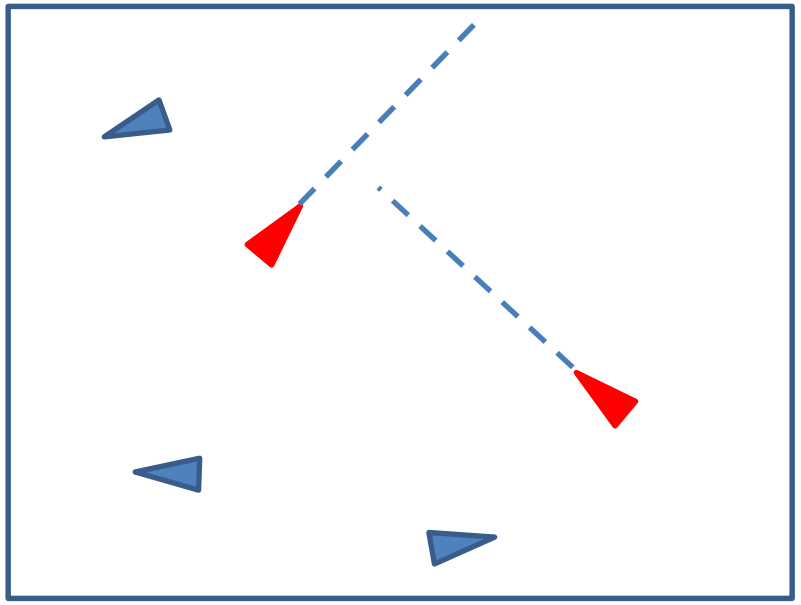


Observed via Surveillance

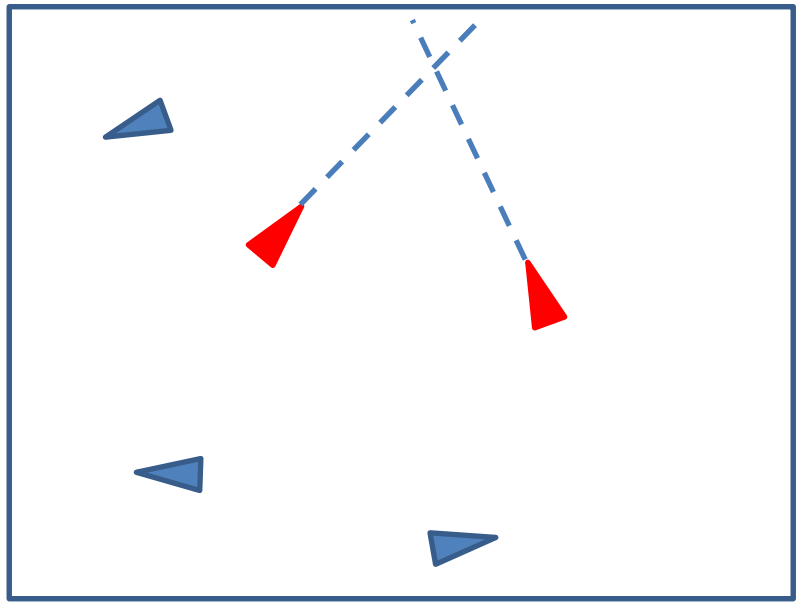
Reality

Two rogue UASs, shown in red, are flying undetected; they are not transmitting their position information to the UAS Service Supplier

# Example Attack 3: Incorrect State Reported on ATC Display



No conflict on ATC Display



Conflict in Reality

Position and heading of one aircraft reported incorrectly in ATC system to mask an impending conflict

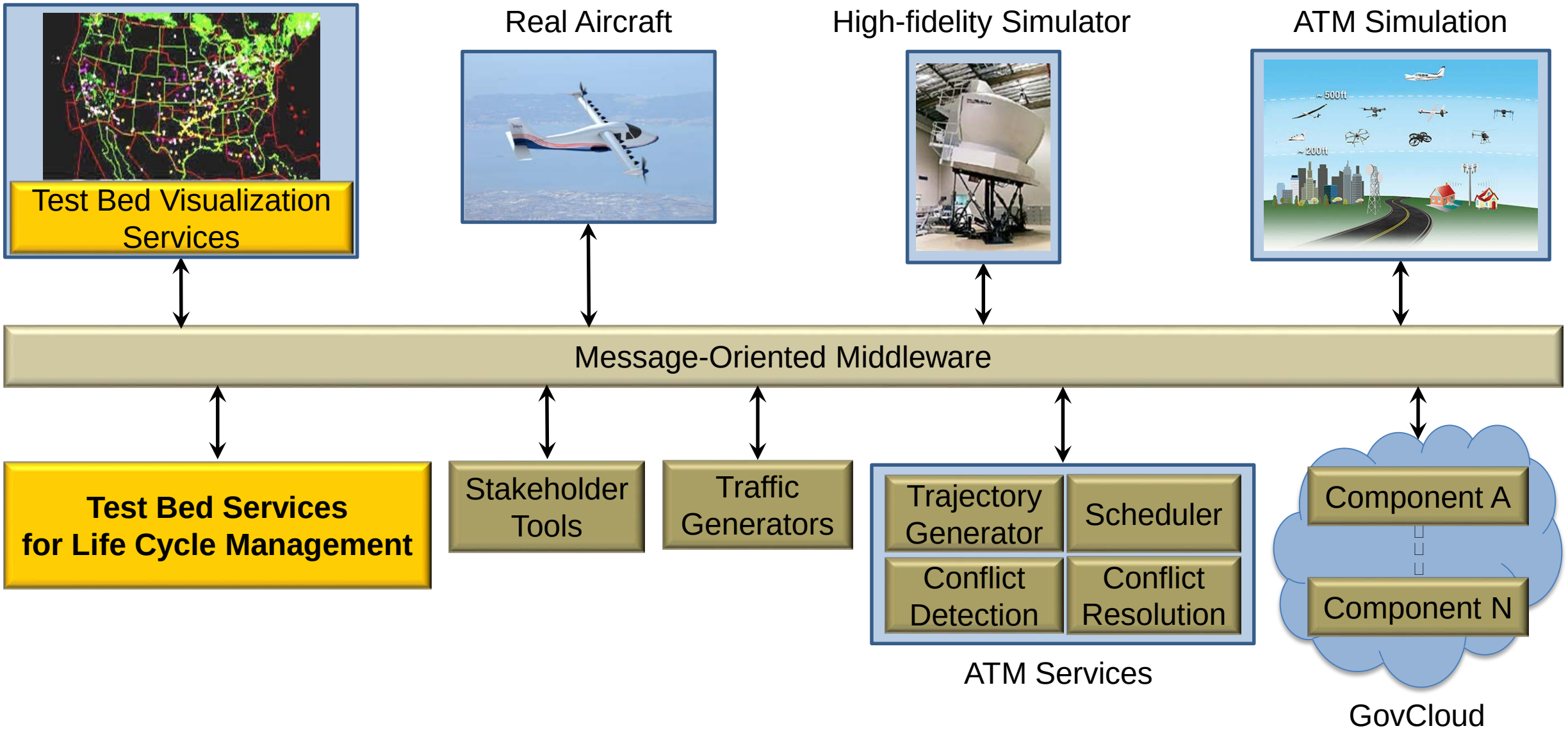
# Study Approach

- Emulate attack scenarios in a modeling and simulation environment to explore Air Traffic Management (ATM) system cybersecurity vulnerabilities
- Develop methods for detecting and analyzing the impact on the ATM system based on emulated security events
- Develop mitigation strategies, including prevention, containment and recovery, for uninterrupted operation of the ATM system

# Emulation & Analysis Environment – NASA's ATM Testbed

- Platform-as-a-Service for creating, configuring and running real-time and fast-time simulations with large-scale simulators, mathematical models and operational systems
- Provides a service-oriented-architecture in which components are autonomous; they interact with each other via data exchange using message-oriented middleware
- Provides configuration driven automated simulation life cycle management including deployment, initialization, run, shutdown and data archival
- Provides user friendly utilities & tools
  - GUI-based tool for simulation configuration
  - Code generation widget to build adapters for connecting components to Testbed
  - Adapters for connecting legacy systems

# Emulation & Analysis Environment – ATM Testbed Architecture



# Cyber Physical Security (CPS) Attack Types

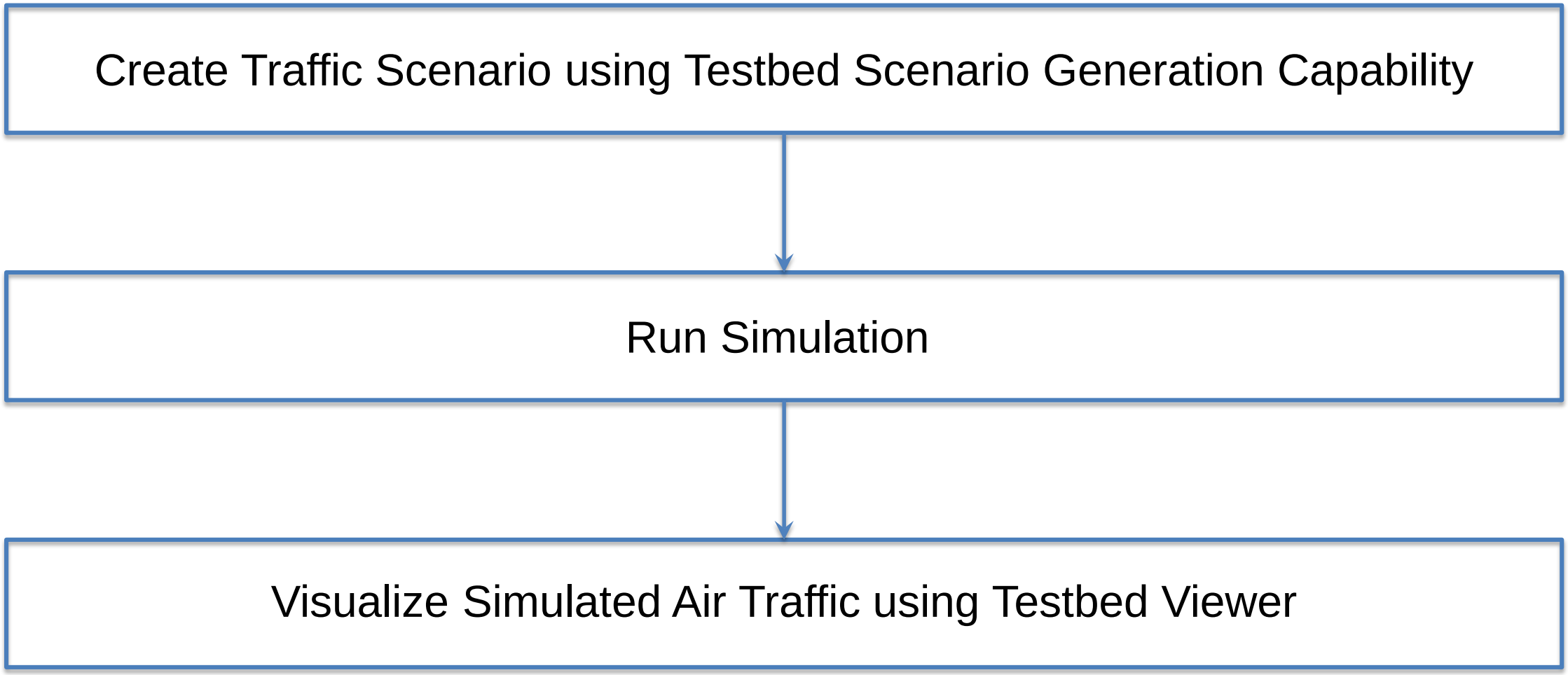
| Attack Type | Action |
|---|---|
| Denial of Service | Overwhelming or removing values |
| Spoofing | Tampering with values |
| Exploiting | Taking advantage of a vulnerability |
| Counterfeiting | Passing fake information as legitimate |
| Man in the Middle | Adversary intercepts and broadcasts own signal |

Violating the Confidentiality, Integrity, and Availability of the System

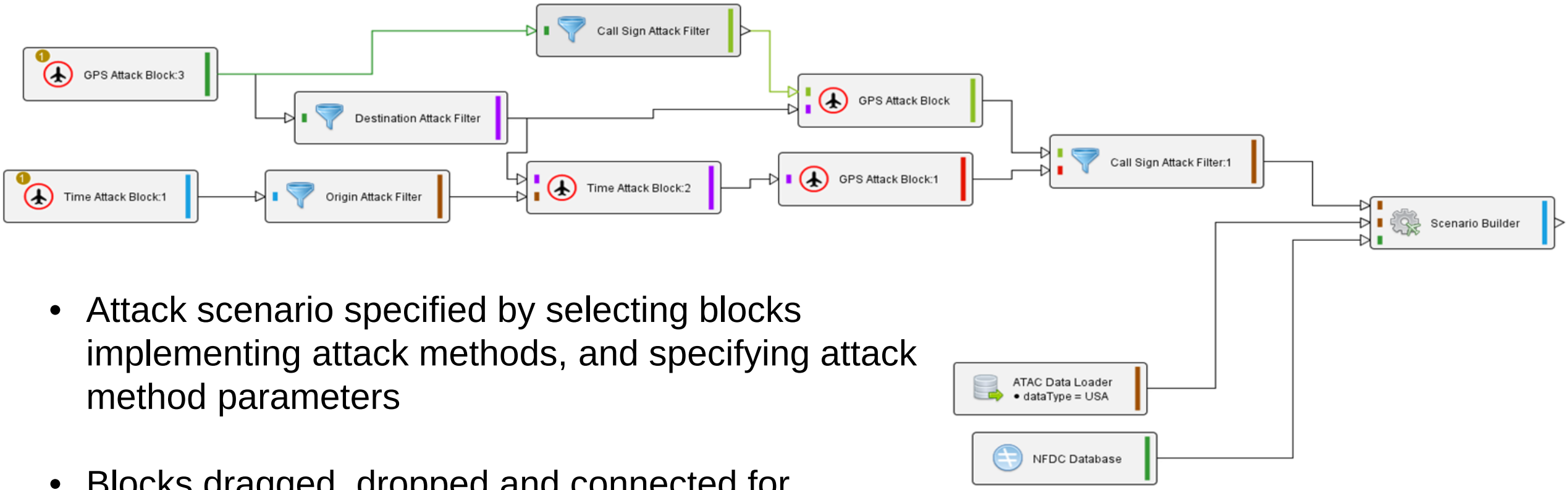
# Attack Methods Developed

| Attack Method | Outcome |
|---|---|
| Fake flight creation | • Stationary aircraft created at an airport<br>• Fake aircraft flying great-circle trajectory from origin to destination<br>• Fake aircraft created within a sector with destination airports<br>• Copies of actual flights flying with a random offset |
| Flight deletion | • Flight data of actual flights removed with a probability |
| Flight-plan change | • Flight-plan altered by altitude change, origin destination swap, route data shuffling, route reversal, and by waypoint addition and deletion |
| Surveillance data attack | • Altered position, heading, speed or rate of climb<br>• Drop data with a probability |
| Timestamp altered | • Timestamp altered by shuffling, reversing, replaying, modifying and dropping |

# Cyber Security Attack Emulation Procedure

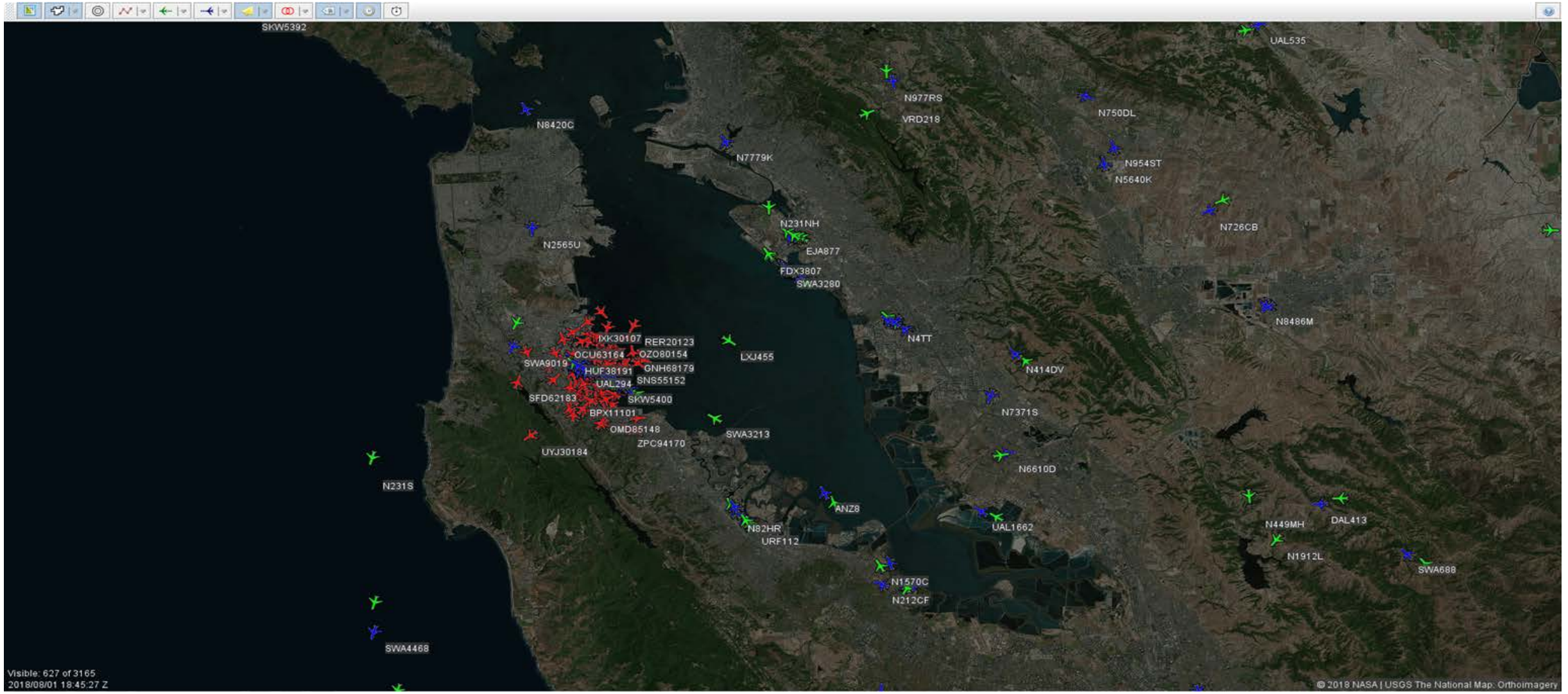


# Traffic Scenario Creation using ATM Testbed Scenario Generation Capability




- Attack scenario specified by selecting blocks implementing attack methods, and specifying attack method parameters
- Blocks dragged, dropped and connected for scenario configuration using Testbed Simulation-Architect tool

# Simulated Air Traffic on Testbed Viewer



# Future Work

- Technical
  - Integrate scenario generation with simulation in the Testbed GUI-based Simulation-Architect tool
  - Test with Multi-Aircraft Control System, which is used for Human-in-the-Loop evaluations
  - Emulate attacks by altering weather data once the Testbed Viewer supports weather display

- General
  - Develop detection and mitigation strategies to counter the emulated attack scenarios
  - Develop metrics and criteria for evaluating resiliency and robustness of the solutions
  - Improve understanding of the ATM system vulnerabilities

# The Big Picture for Future Work