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# Trusted System Development and Research Challenges

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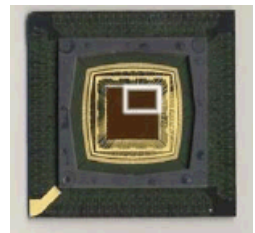
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# Trust in Microelectronics Based Systems

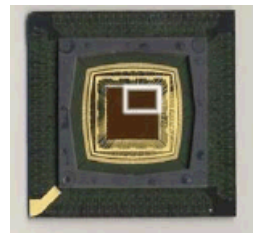
- The US Government and industries develop microelectronics-based systems for ensuring safety and security
  - Military systems, satellites, cyber infrastructure, critical infrastructure (e.g. power grid), etc.
- Can adversaries manipulate these systems as they are developed? What would the impact be?
- Can these systems be ***trusted*** to perform their intended function?



***How vulnerable are systems to development time manipulation?***

# Trust in Microelectronics Based Systems

- The USG develops microelectronics-based systems for ensuring safety and security
- Can these systems be ***trusted*** to perform their intended function?
- Trust is a system-level problem, and must consider the entire ***system-development lifecycle***



## System Development Lifecycle



# Reliability vs. Security vs. Trust

- **Reliability:** The probability that an item will perform a required function under stated conditions for a stated period of time

- Premature System Failure → Design for Reliability

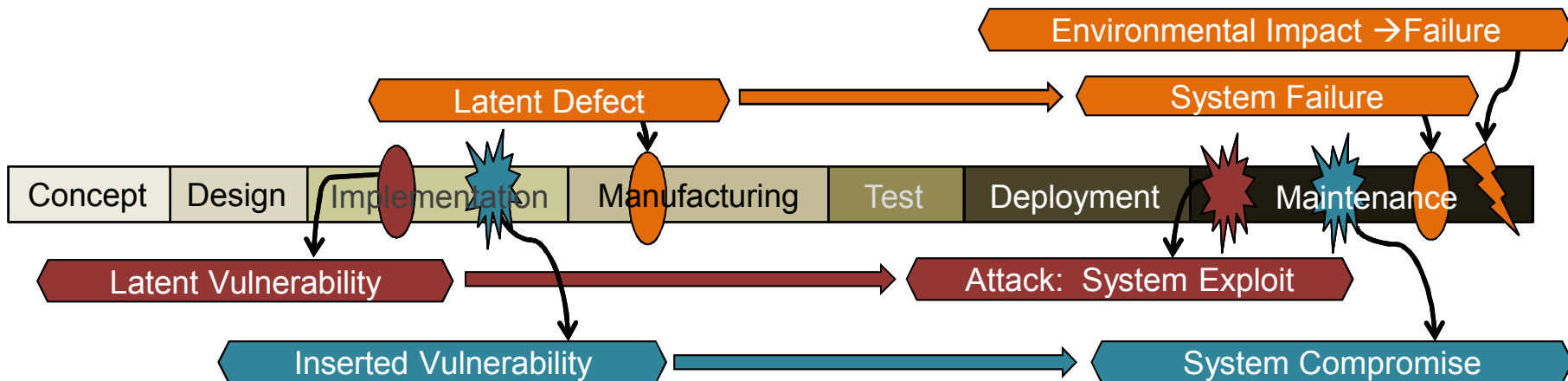
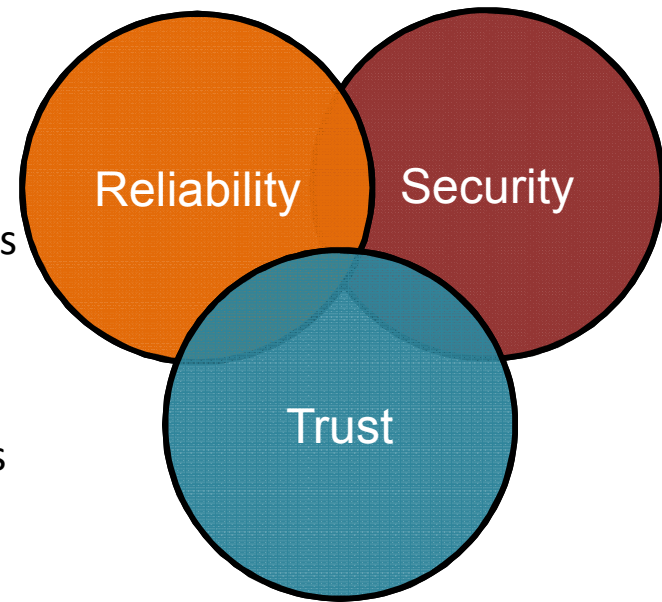
$$R \approx 1 - \left[ \left( 1 - \prod_{i=1}^5 (1 - J_i) \right) + \sum_{i=1}^7 K_i^2 + 2K_2 \left( K_3 + \sum_{i=5}^7 K_i \right) \right]$$

- **Security:** The protection of systems from theft or damage ..., as well as from disruption ... of the services they provide.

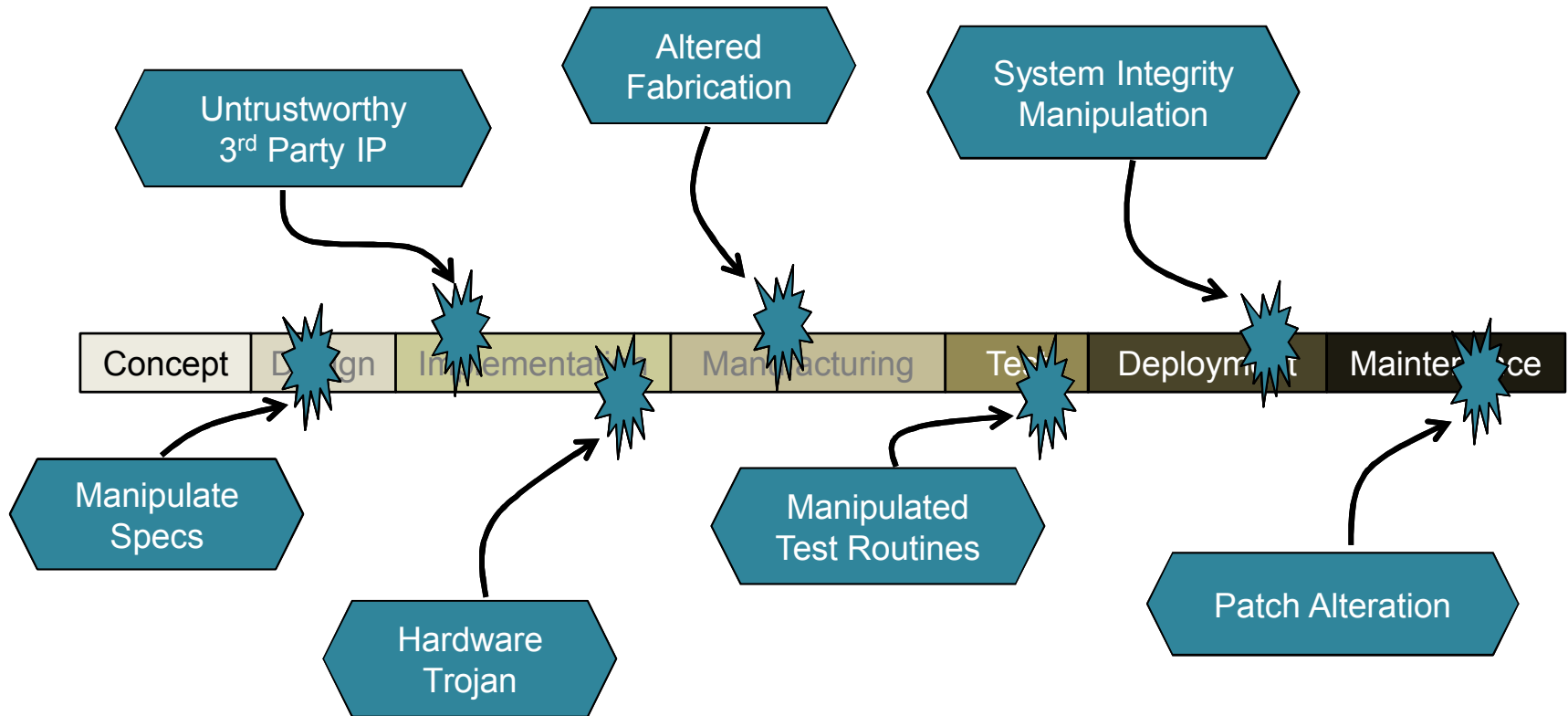
- System Exploitation → Design for Security

- **Trust:** The confidence in ... secur[ing] national security systems by assessing the integrity of the people and processes used to design, generate, manufacture, and distribute ... [systems]

- System Compromise → Design for Trust

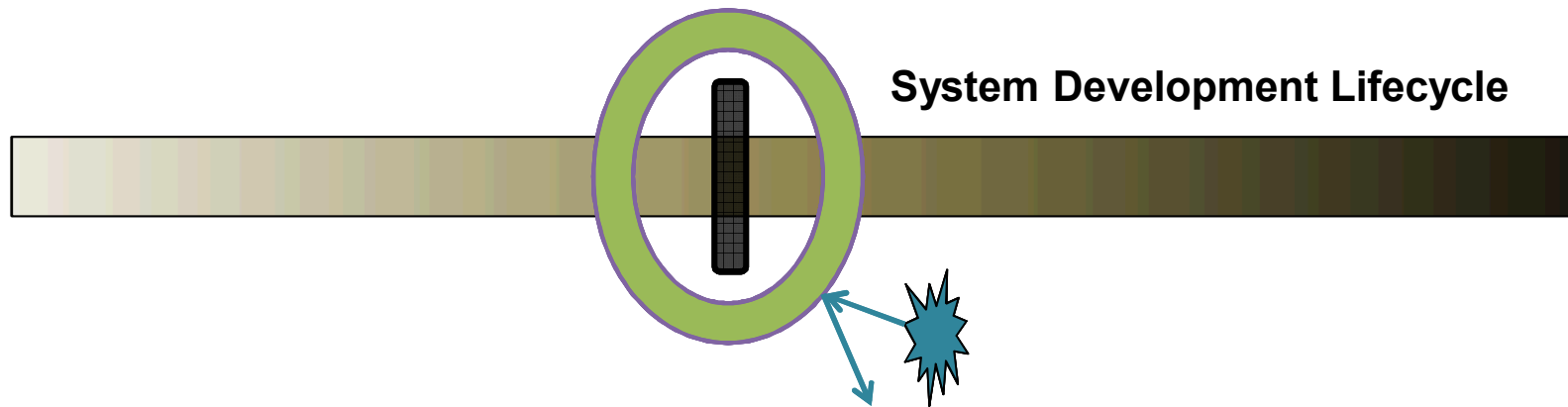


# Where Trust Breaks Down



**Adversaries can potentially manipulate development at any point**

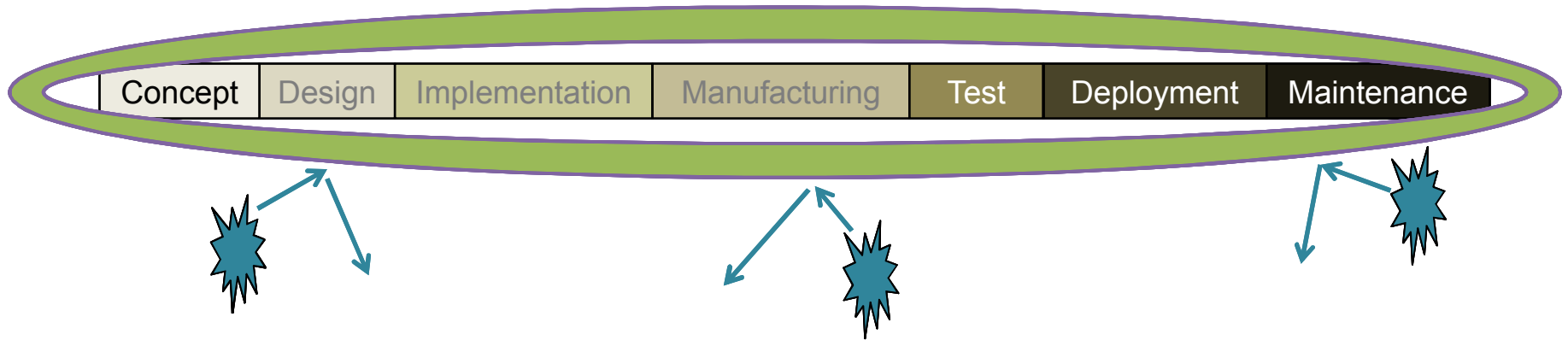
# Current Approach to Trusted System Development



## ***Isolate*** Development Process to Prevent Attacks

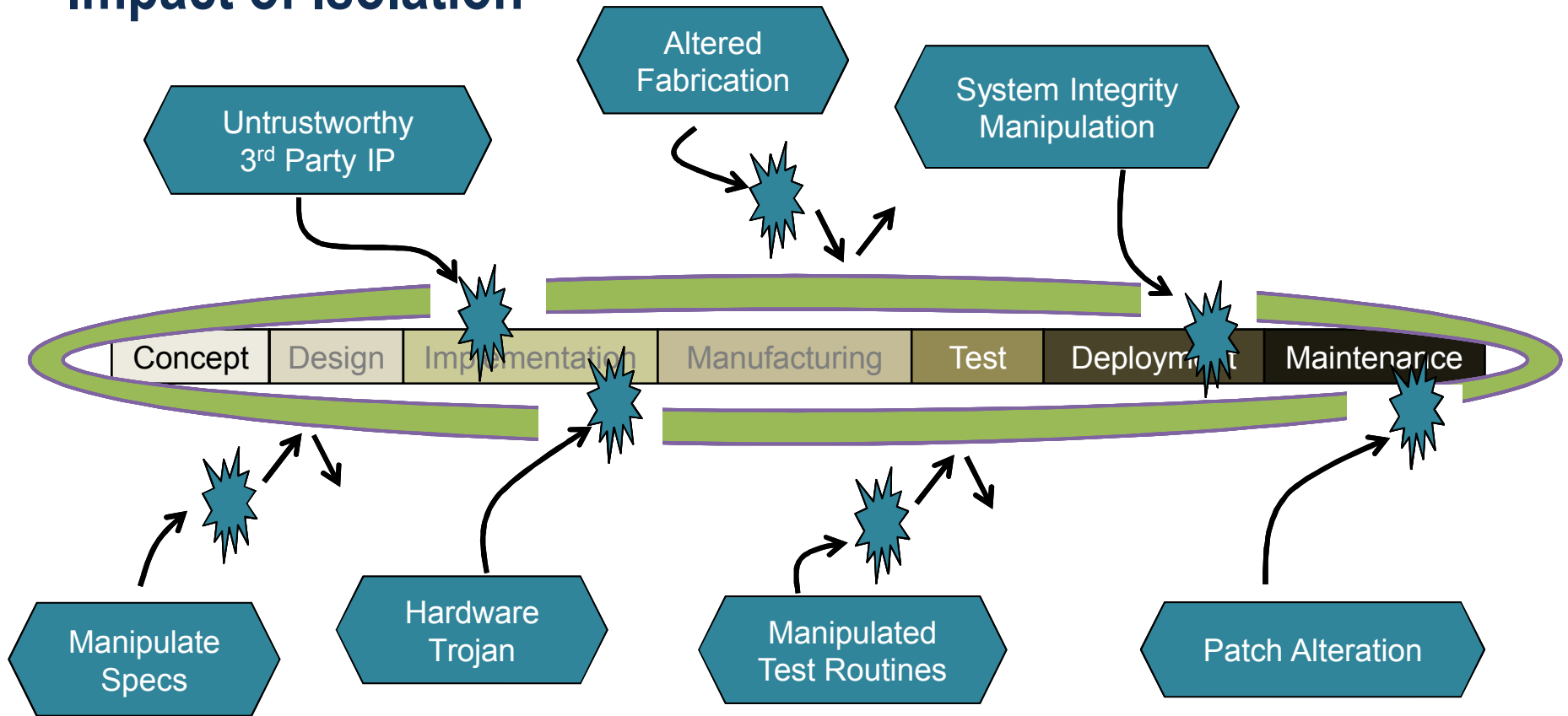
- Keep the attacker from manipulating the system / development process
- Process-based approaches: control information flow, control supply chain, government-owned manufacturing etc.
- Examples:
  - Trusted Foundry Program: Certification process to establish domestic, isolated microelectronics fabrication
    - Ensure integrity, availability of microelectronics fabrication
  - Isolated computer networks
  - Vetted design teams

# Impact of Isolation



- Isolation can be highly effective as an adversarial deterrent
- Can we fully isolate the complete system development lifecycle?
  - Captive fabrication (trusted foundry) addresses only one aspect of the development process
  - Completely isolated development processes are VERY expensive
    - Consider cost of leading edge microelectronics fabrication facility
  - Systems use COTS components, development tools
  - Insider threat?

# Impact of Isolation

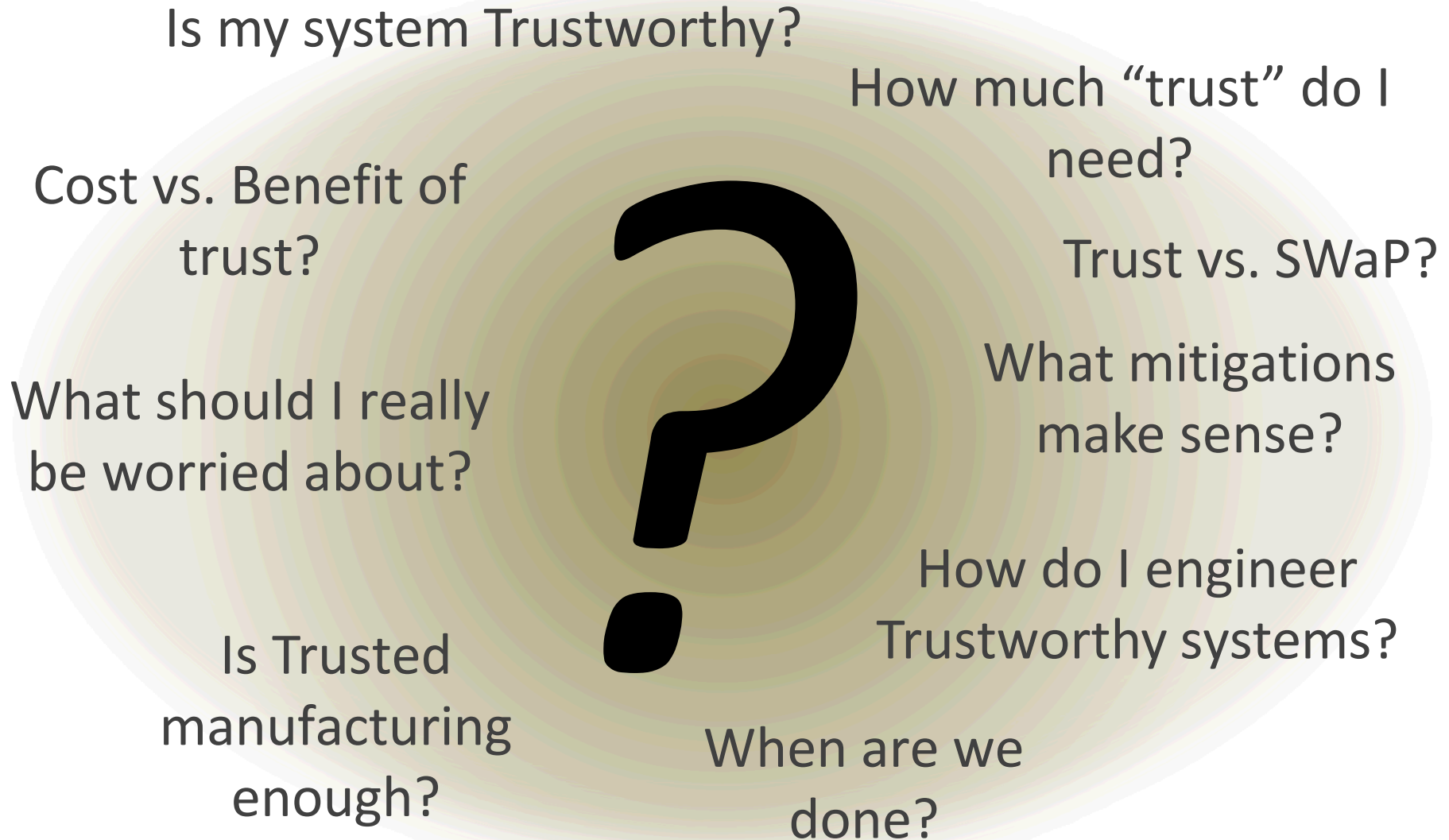


- Currently identified isolation techniques can be highly effective at deterring many paths of adversary access
- ***Gaps Remain: Practicality of real system development precludes complete isolation***





# The Challenge With Trust

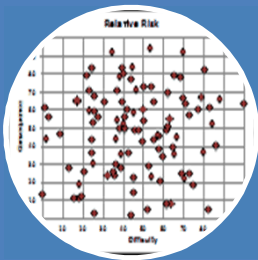


# Why is Sandia Interested in Trust Research?

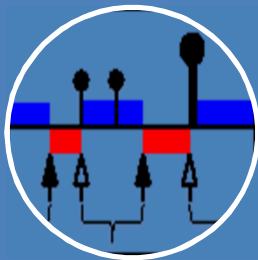
- National research problem with significant scope and complexity
- USG concern for trust codified in current policies, but
  - No approach exists for deriving, addressing quantitative trust requirements
- Research heritage studying advanced persistent threats (APTs)
- *Lack of comprehensive, cohesive solution for analyzing and developing trustworthy systems*

## USG Trust Policies:

- DoDI 5200.44
- DOE 452.1E, 452.4C
- NAP-24A, attachment 4



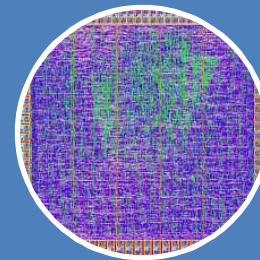
LDRD:  
Risk Assessment  
Methodology  
(ILS): Expert-  
based Risk  
Evaluation



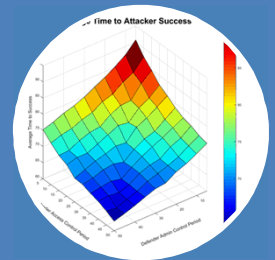
Moving Target  
Defense in Cyber  
Systems:  
Game Theory  
Analysis / PLADD



LDRD:  
Supply Chain  
Analytics:  
Modeling  
Development  
Attacks



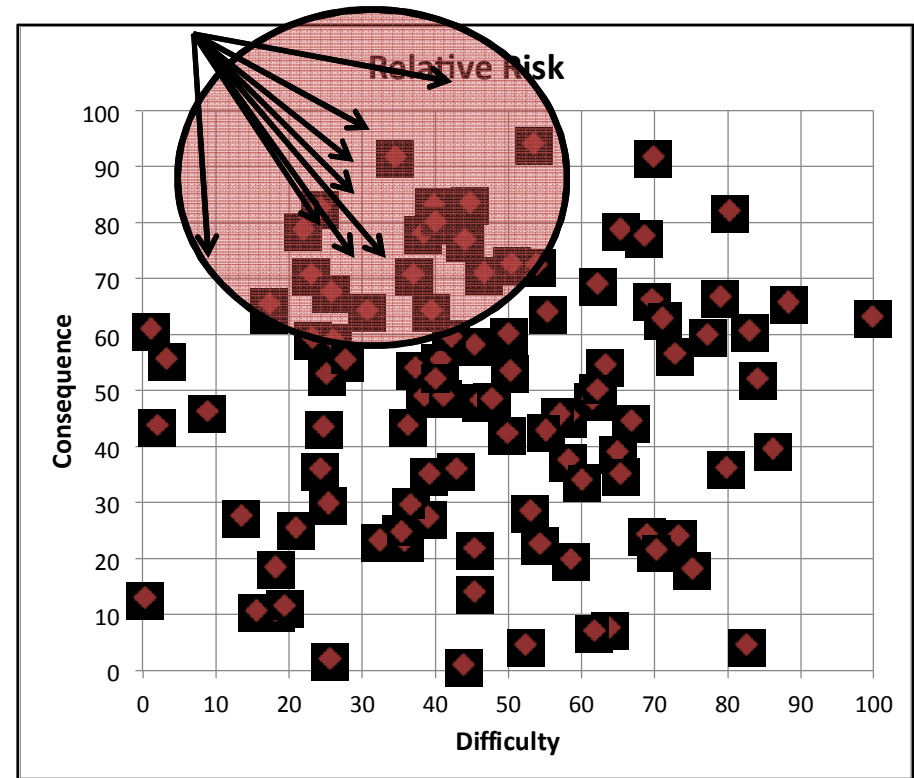
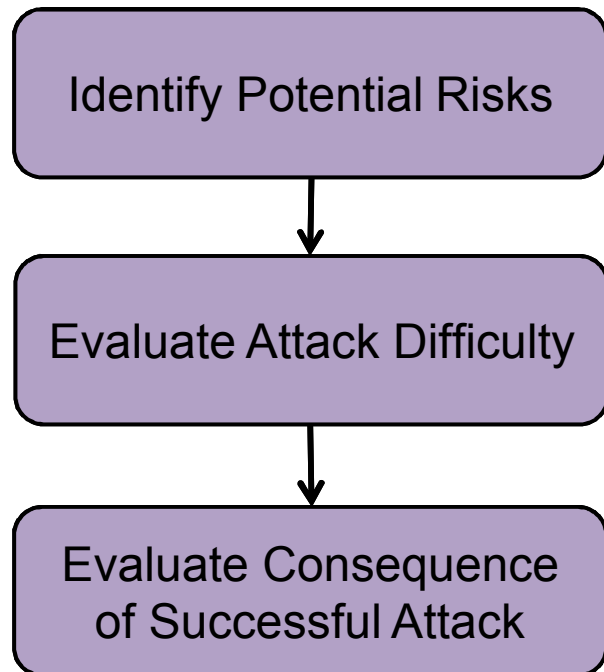
Trust in FPGAs  
Studies:  
Process Models,  
Trust Assessment,  
Attack Graphs



LDRD: FTA (FY16)  
Fundamental  
Trust Analysis:  
Game Theory for  
Trust

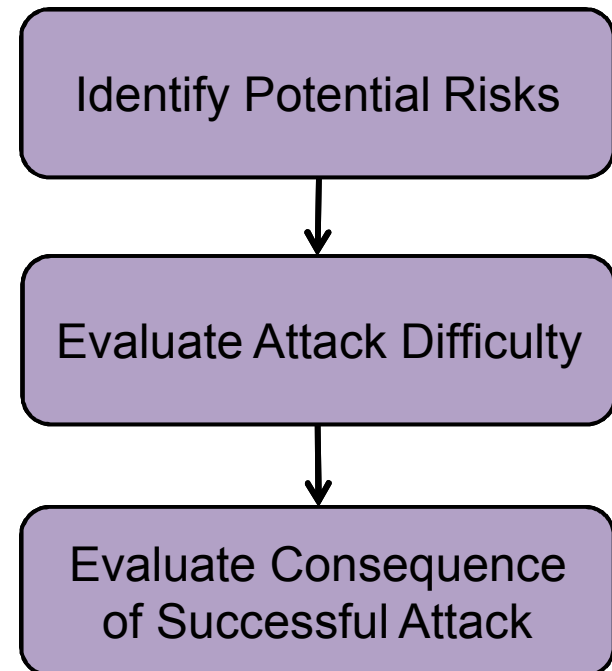
**RECENT/ONGOING TRUST RESEARCH AT SANDIA**

# Risk Analysis: Identify Areas of Highest Concern

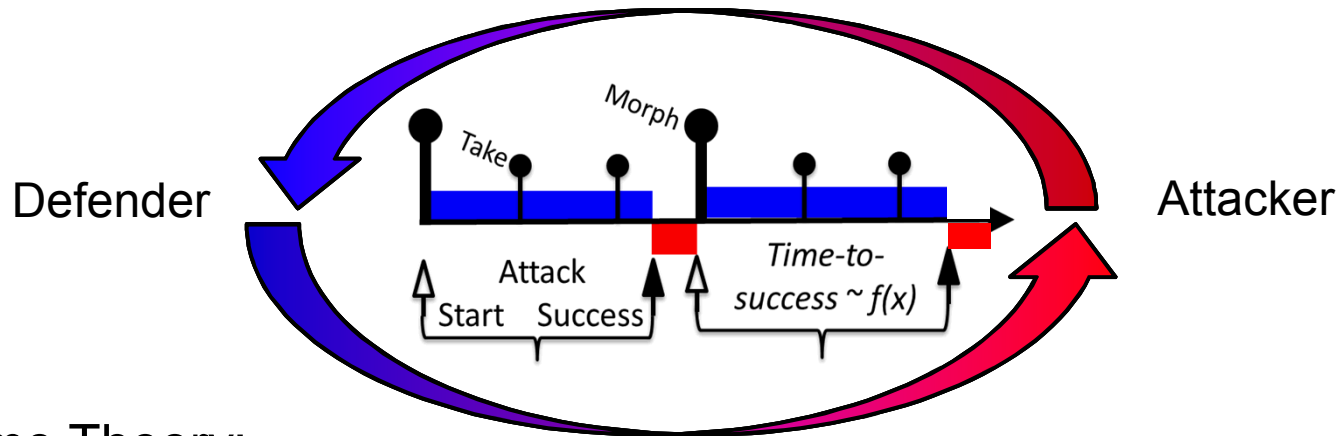


# Relative Risk Assessment

- Assessing Difficulty
  - Subject Matter Expert (SME)-based evaluation
  - Domain-agnostic rubric for supporting assessment
  - 13 different dimensions for difficulty assessment
    - E.g. Size of outsider team, level of stealth required, complexity of attack
    - SMEs assign 1-5 ranking in each category
- Challenge: subjective analysis
- Repeatability?
- Science-based assessment?

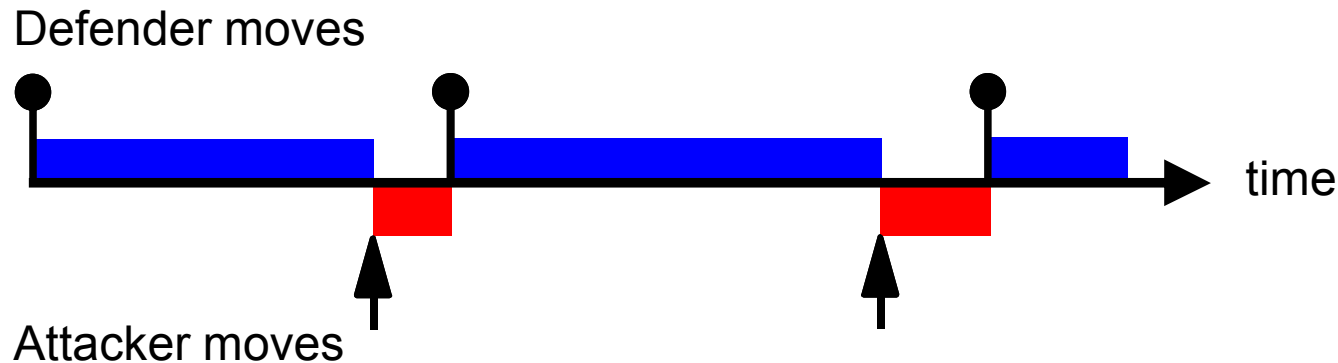




# Game Theoretic Analysis: Why?



- Game Theory:
  - “The study of ***mathematical models of conflict and cooperation*** between intelligent, rational decision-makers”<sup>1</sup>
  - Initially developed by von Neumann and Morgenstern in 1944
  - Nobel Prizes awarded for work on game theory: 2014, 2007, 2005, 1996, 1995, 1994, 1972, 1970
- Why Game Theory for Trust?
  - Trust is concerned with the **risk of potential interaction** between **adversaries and system developers** and development processes
  - Game Theory allows explicit representation and **evaluation of dynamic interaction** between attacker and defender

# Fliplt: A Game Theoretic Model to Investigate Cyber Defense Effectiveness

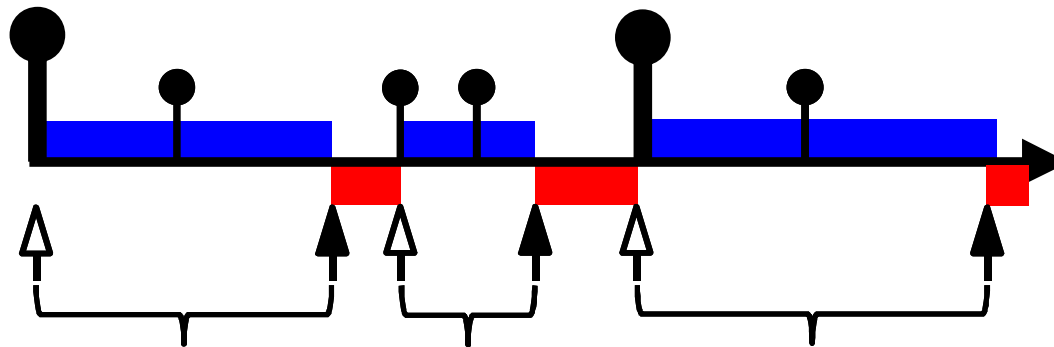


Control	
Defender	
Attacker	

## Fliplt Constructs

- Two players (defender and attacker)
- A single contested resource
- Player moves seize the resource
- Moves incur a cost
- Strategy consists of move timing
- Single defender move (take)
- Limited player information
- $Utility = Control\ Time - Cost$

# Probabilistic, Learning Attacker, Dynamic Defender (PLADD) Model



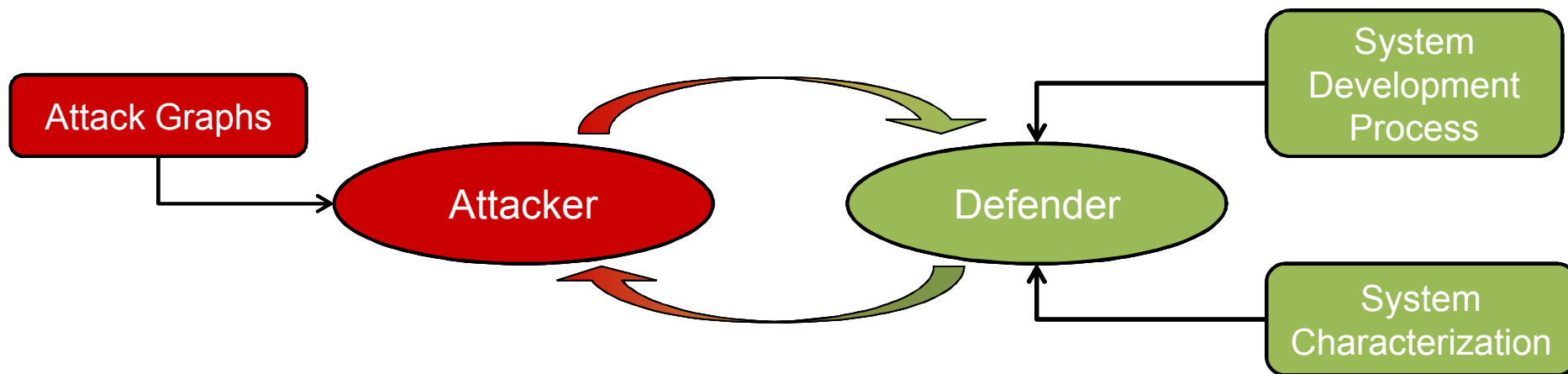
## PLADD Model for Analysis

- Represent Attacker-Defender interaction as contention for a single resource
- Defender executes periodic actions
  - Each action wrests control from attacker
- Attacker actions wrest control from defender, after a random period of time
- Attack cost: fixed to initiate + variable cost proportional to time-to-success
- As attacker repeats attacks, they become more efficient.
- Special defender “morph” move resets attacker learning
- Goal: determine defender strategies that drive attacker costs to be prohibitive



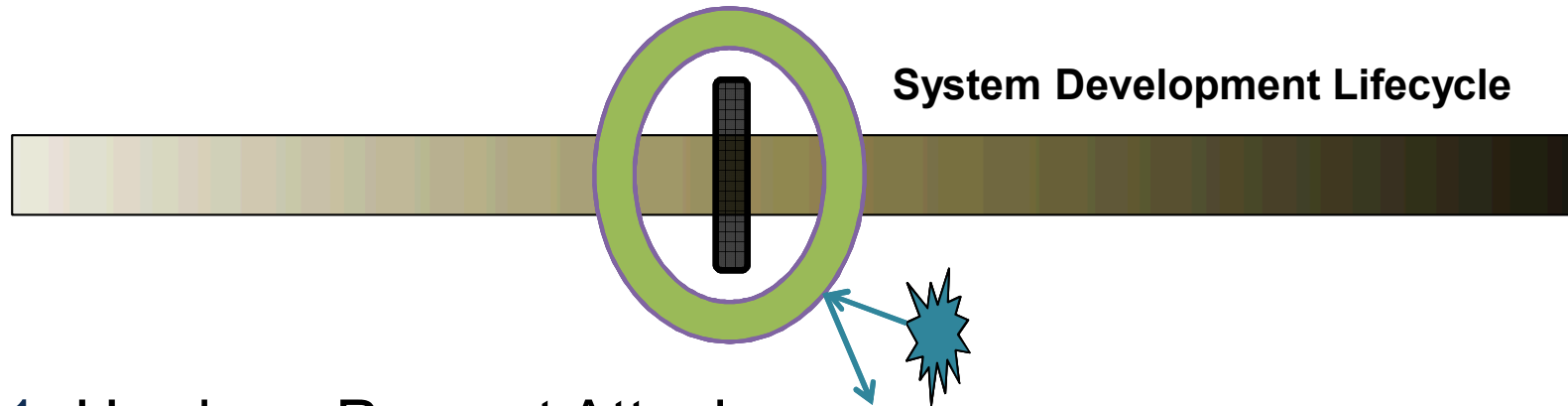
# Fundamental Trust Analysis

- Amalgamation of *game theory* with *relative risk assessment* to model full lifecycle trust concerns, and objectively evaluate system trustworthiness
  - Incorporate game theory, risk assessment, resiliency analysis, optimization and supply chain analytics
  - Apply PLADD to trust analysis
- Goal: Empower decision makers to make quantitative, science-based tradeoff decisions about trust



# Approaches to Trusted System Development

- At a given point in the development lifecycle, what can we do to address trust?

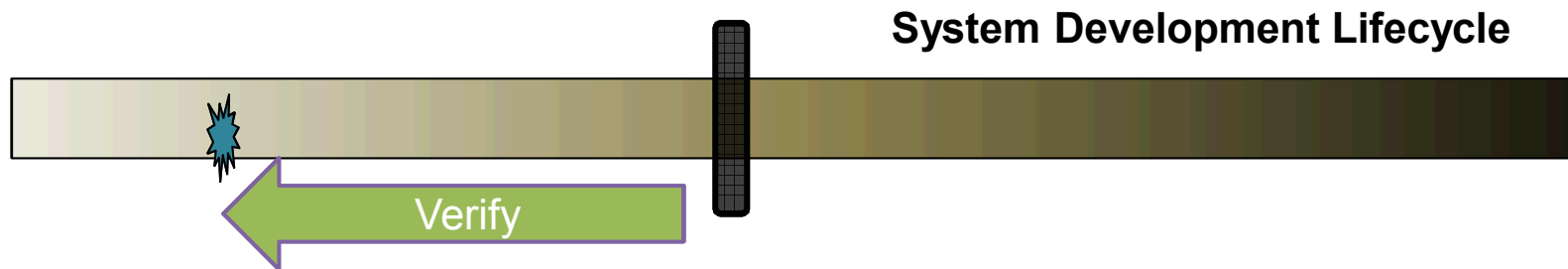


## 1. Harden: Prevent Attacks

- Strengthen development processes to prevent /mitigate attack vectors
- Isolate development networks, better materials, closed environments

# Approaches to Trusted System Development

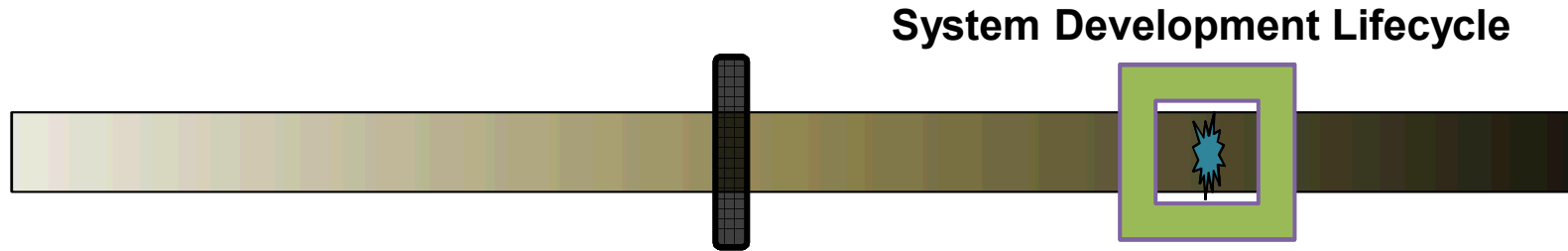
- At a given point in the development lifecycle, what can we do to address trust?



1. Harden: Prevent Attacks
2. Detect: Uncover previously deployed attacks
  - Trigger covert/stealthy attacks / killswitches
  - Discover manipulations of reliability

# Approaches to Trusted System Development

- At a given point in the development lifecycle, what can we do to address trust?



1. Harden: Prevent Attacks
2. Detect: Uncover previously deployed attacks
3. Deter: Integrate processes and structures that survive attack
  - For attacks that survive hardening, detection
  - Construct structures that are resilient to attack efforts
  - Can include *development process resiliency*
  - Can include *system resiliency*

# Open Discussion

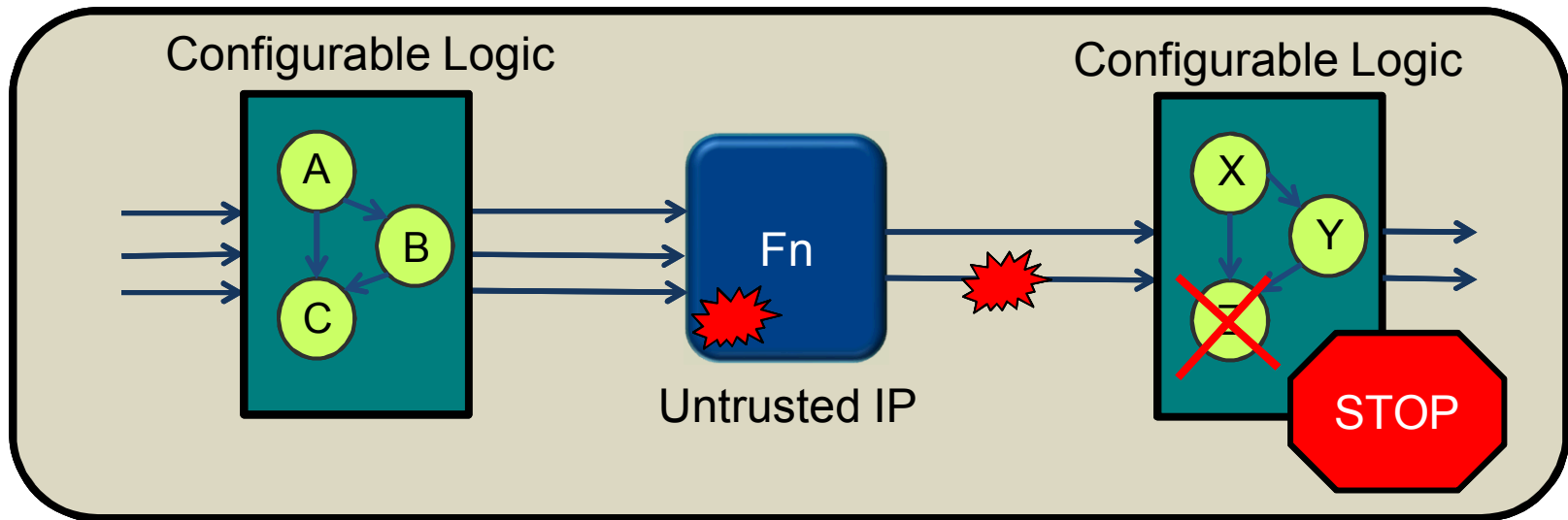
- What specific techniques can be developed to support Hardening, Detection and Deterrence for various types of systems?
  - Specific systems require unique solutions
- “Let the Punishment Fit the Crime” – How to quantify risk and determine the highest areas of risk? How to best address those risks?
- For each potential mitigation, how to predict quantitatively its effectiveness and impact on risk?
- How do we validate risk evaluation and risk reduction?
  - We will never have large data sets characterizing observations of attacks, and the effectiveness of deployed mitigations. Should we just ask the hackers....?

# Summary

- Trust is a complex issue. How do we prevent adversarial manipulation during development?
- Every system the US government and industry develops is faced with the challenge trust, and developers must determine how best to address risks
- Risks are inherently system-specific and must be addressed with knowledge of how the system is developed
- Research needed to address:
  - Risk quantification
  - How to mitigate risks for different systems (Harden, Detect, Deter)
  - Validation, and quantification/prediction of mitigation impact

# Backup Slides

# Example Detect Strategy: Hardware Isolation



- Dynamically monitor, verify untrusted circuit behavior
  - Specify and monitor for behaviors that result in trust failures
- Configurable logic: expose attacker to uncertainty
- Monitoring coverage vs. required monitoring resources
  - Formal methods-based analysis required for derivation of monitoring logic, offline proof that coverage is sufficient

***Allow Use of IP of Unknown Provenance in Trusted Systems***



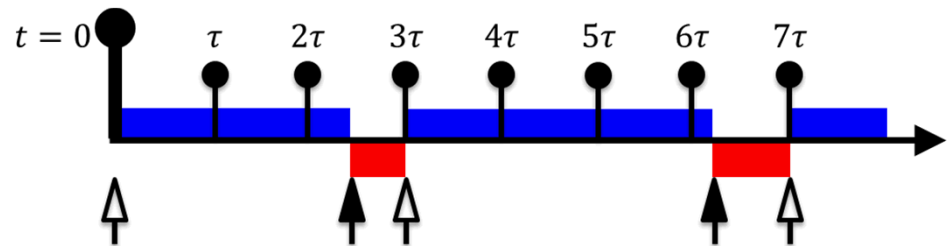
# PLADD Mathematical Formulation

## ■ Utility

$$u(x, S) = -\alpha - \beta x + \left( \min_{t_i \in S} (t_i : t_i \geq x) - x \right)$$

## ■ Infinite time horizon

$$S = \{t_0, t_1, \dots\}$$

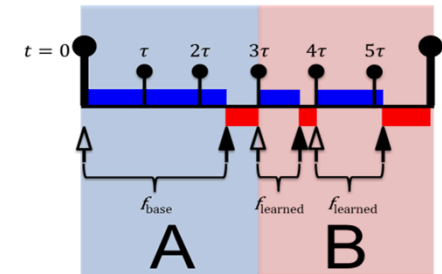


$$E[u(X, S)] = -\alpha - \beta \int_0^\infty x f(x) dx + \int_0^\infty \left( \min_{t_i \in S} (t_i : t_i \geq x) - x \right) f(x) dx$$

## ■ Finite time horizon

$$S = \{t_0, t_1, \dots, t_{N+1}\}$$

$$E_{N+1}[u(X, S)] = 0$$



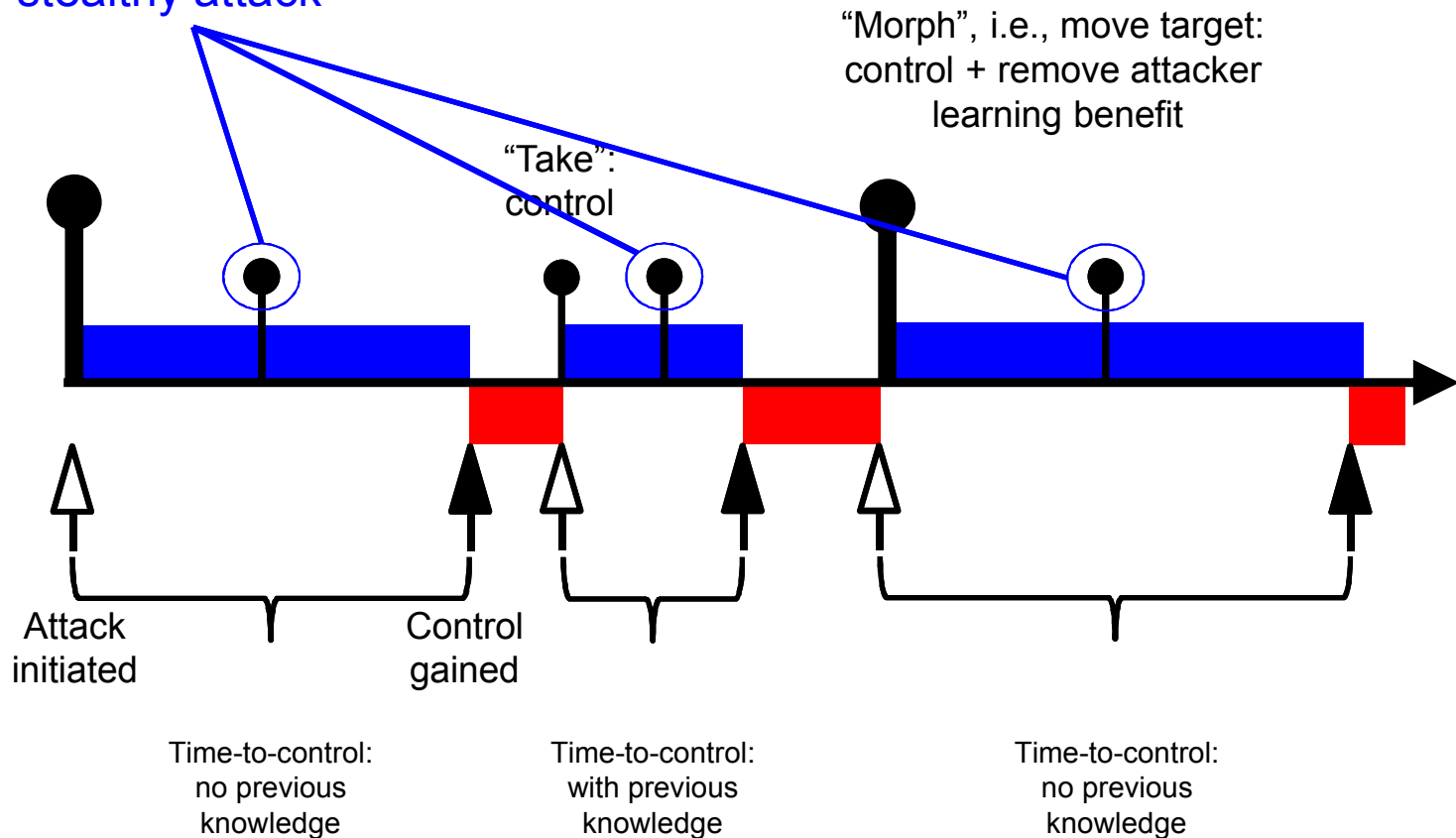
$$E_j[u(X, S)] = -\alpha - \beta(t_{N+1} - t_j) \int_{\tau_{N+1}}^\infty f_{\text{learned}}(x - t_j) dx + \sum_{i=j+1}^{N+1} \int_{t_{i-1}}^{t_i} f_{\text{learned}}(x - t_j) (t_i - x - \beta(x - t_j) + E_i[u(X, S)]) dx$$

$$E[u(X, S)] = -\alpha - \beta t_{N+1} \int_{t_{N+1}}^\infty f_{\text{base}}(x) dx + \sum_{j=1}^{N+1} \int_{t_{j-1}}^{t_j} f_{\text{base}}(x) (t_j - x - \beta x + E_j[u(X, S)]) dx$$

Mathematics-based analysis of attacker utility

# Probabilistic, Learning Attacker, Dynamic Defender (PLADD) Model

Consequence of  
stealthy attack



# Pillars of Microelectronics-Based System Development

