

Modeling Human-Technology Interaction as a Sociotechnical System of Systems

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Background and Purpose

- Many (if not all) Systems of Systems (SoS) are human-centric, but SoS models do not factor in human/HSI effects
 - Humans introduce greatest amount of uncertainty and potential for error (e.g., Y12, Three Mile Island)
 - Human-related uncertainty can lead to higher cost, greater logistics tail, increased vulnerability
- Potential exists for significant gained efficiencies and risk mitigation if human & human-system effects are understood and accounted for in the SoS engineering process
 - E.g., lower troop-to-task ratio, lower error rates, fewer cascading failures
- Research purpose: Develop an SoS modeling framework that includes human behavioral models with enough fidelity to understand interactions with technology, and resulting impacts on organizational performance
 - Enable more realistic assessment of SoS performance and efficiency under different circumstances
 - Understand impact of changes such as augmentation/automation, organizational/doctrinal revisions, improved technologies and interfaces, etc.

The Spectrum of Interest

- Fall asleep during task
- Failure to detect item during unaided visual search
- Human failure leading to loss of equipment capability
- Insider can disable/degrade equipment capabilities

- False alarm fatigue
- Failure to detect item via IR, cameras, etc.
- Over-reliance on technology; potential inability to adapt to equipment failure
- Equipment can degrade task performance (e.g. by reducing dexterity, endurance etc.)
- Technology interface affects cognitive load, usability etc., particularly in special situations (combat, sand storm, etc.)
- Semi-automated capabilities requiring human discretion

- Equipment failure leading to loss of human effectiveness
- Failure to maintain equipment
- Equipment failure leading to loss of
- False alarms



Human

Human-Technology
Interaction

Technology

Use Case Model: Layered Security at Forward Operating Base (FOB)

- Use case allows us to explore and exercise abstract, general ideas in a more concrete scenario
- Baseline model effort looks at small FOB and how human-technology interaction affects ability to complete tasks
 - Tractable but interesting
 - Lots of human & human-system factors
 - Layered security is relevant to multiple national security mission areas
 - Explicitly models interdependence between humans, technology, tasks and communication/response modes

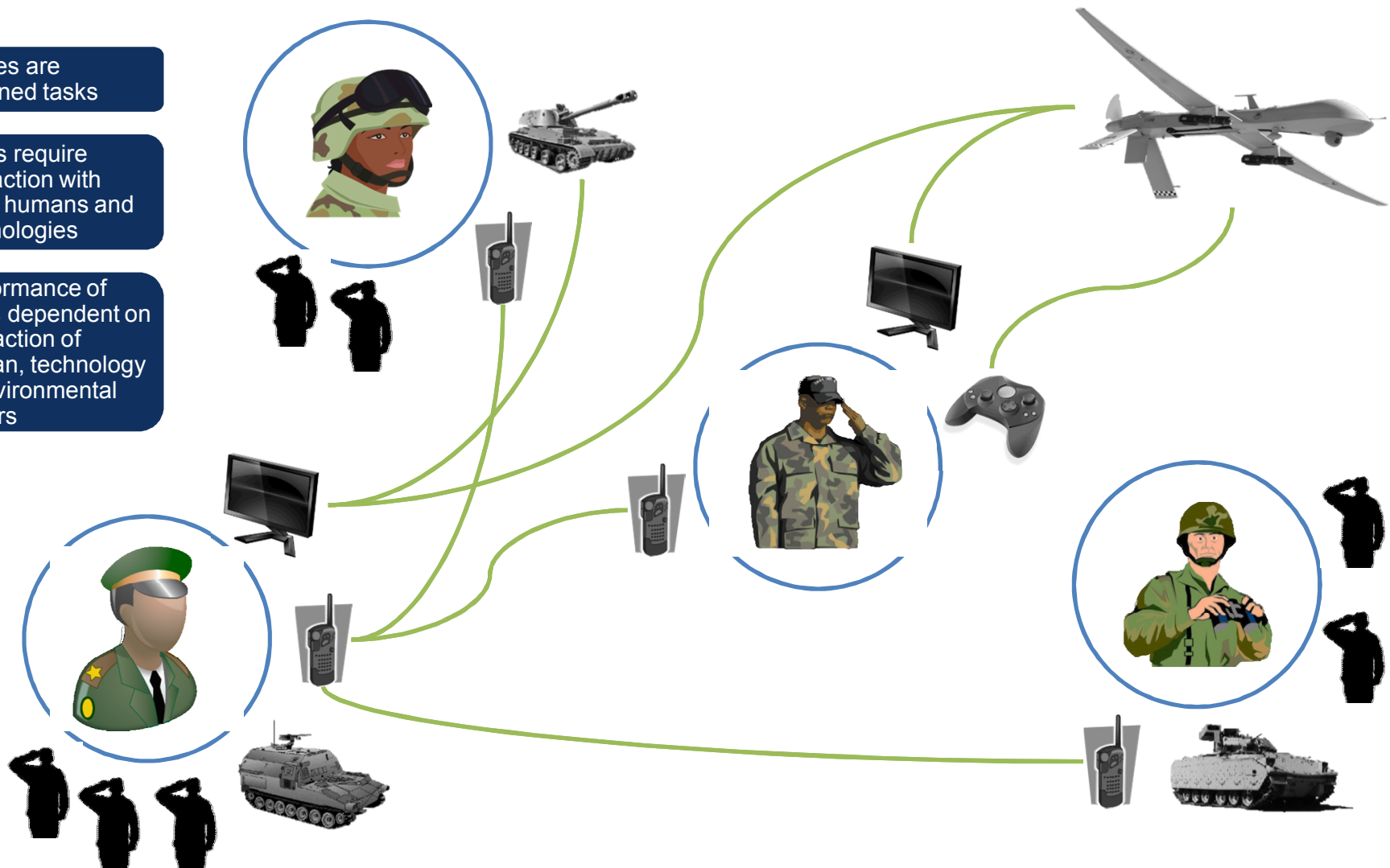


Mental Model of SoS Interactions

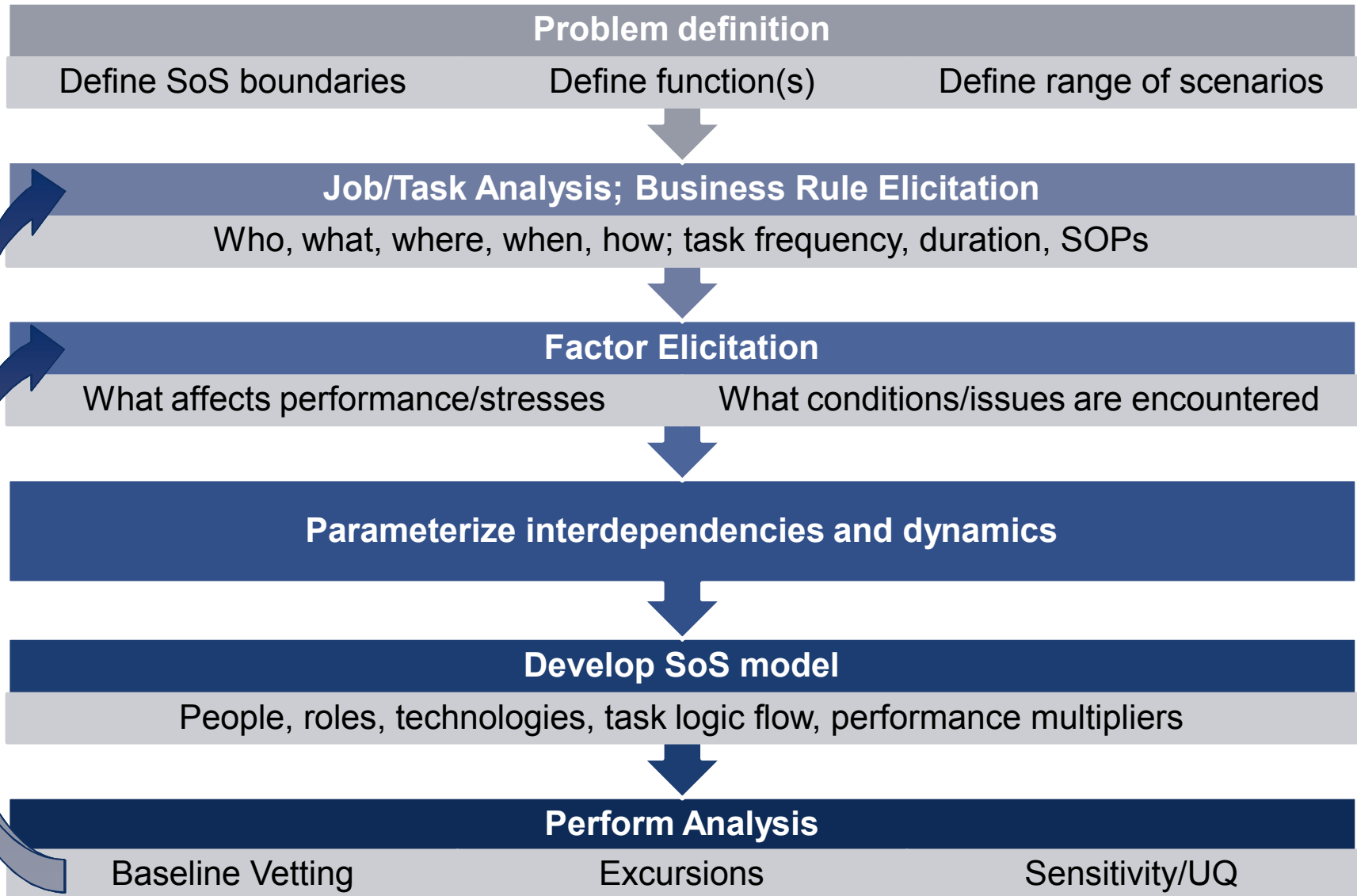
Entities are
assigned tasks

Tasks require
interaction with
other humans and
technologies

Performance of
tasks dependent on
interaction of
human, technology
& environmental
factors

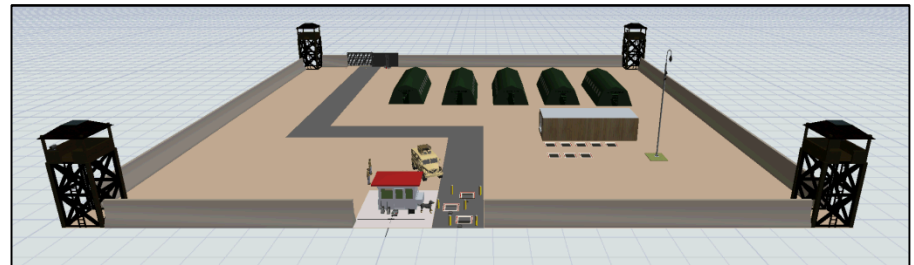


Methodology



FOB Layered Security Model Description Sandia National Laboratories

- Layered security requires completion of various jobs/tasks at various stations
 - tower guard, gate guard, TOC operator, sergeant, response team
- Task accomplishment requires resources, such as human personnel and technologies
- Duration and performance of task dependent on
 - state of human (e.g., training, exhaustion)
 - type of task (physically vs. cognitively demanding)
 - technology availability/usability
 - environmental conditions, etc.
- Includes interactive effects – e.g. some technologies are harder for human to use in certain environments
- Events/tasks can trigger other events/tasks
- Task failure can have different consequences
 - delay, retry, alternate process, mission failure



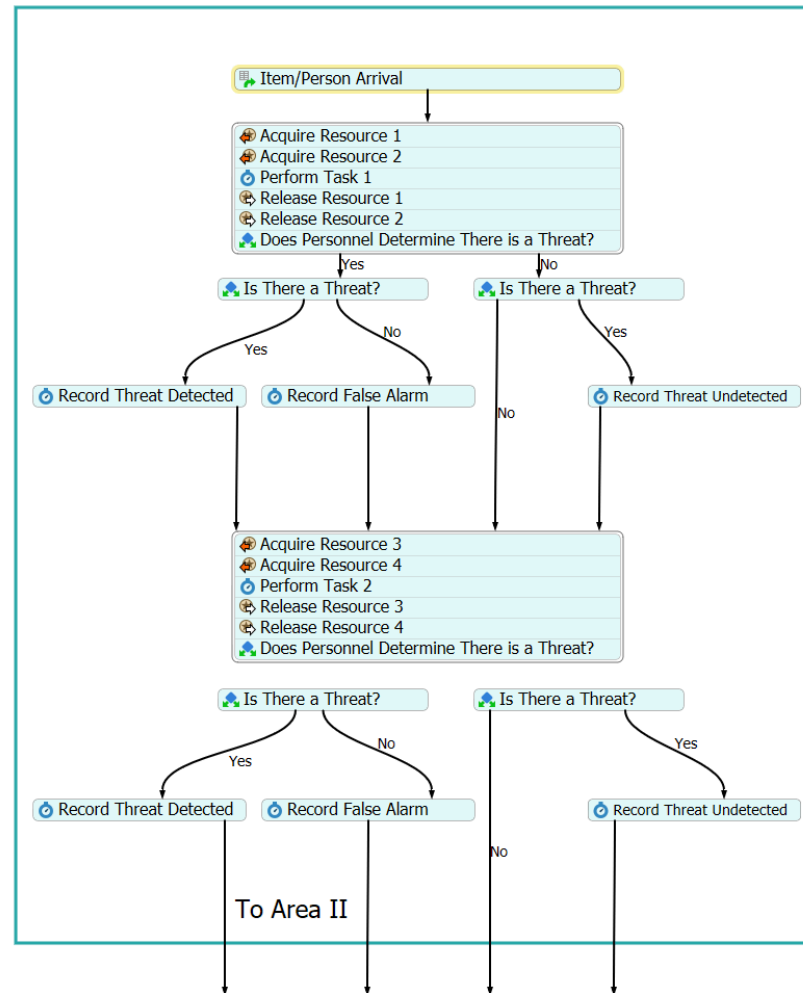
VBIED Scenario Example

- Model randomly assigns IED to some vehicles
- Tasks specified based on location (holding area, entry gate, TOC, etc.)
- Multiple technologies needed for tasks
 - Examples: radios, biometric scanners, security cameras, etc.
 - Failure modes with time to repair specified for each technology
- Probabilities defined for each threat type
 - Logic includes false positives and false negatives
 - Detailed communication modes determine how successfully threat is communicated and whether response is appropriate to threat type
- Ability to complete task based on interactions with required technology and affected by performance-modifying conditions such as weather and fatigue
- Jobs, tasks, and technologies obtained through SME input



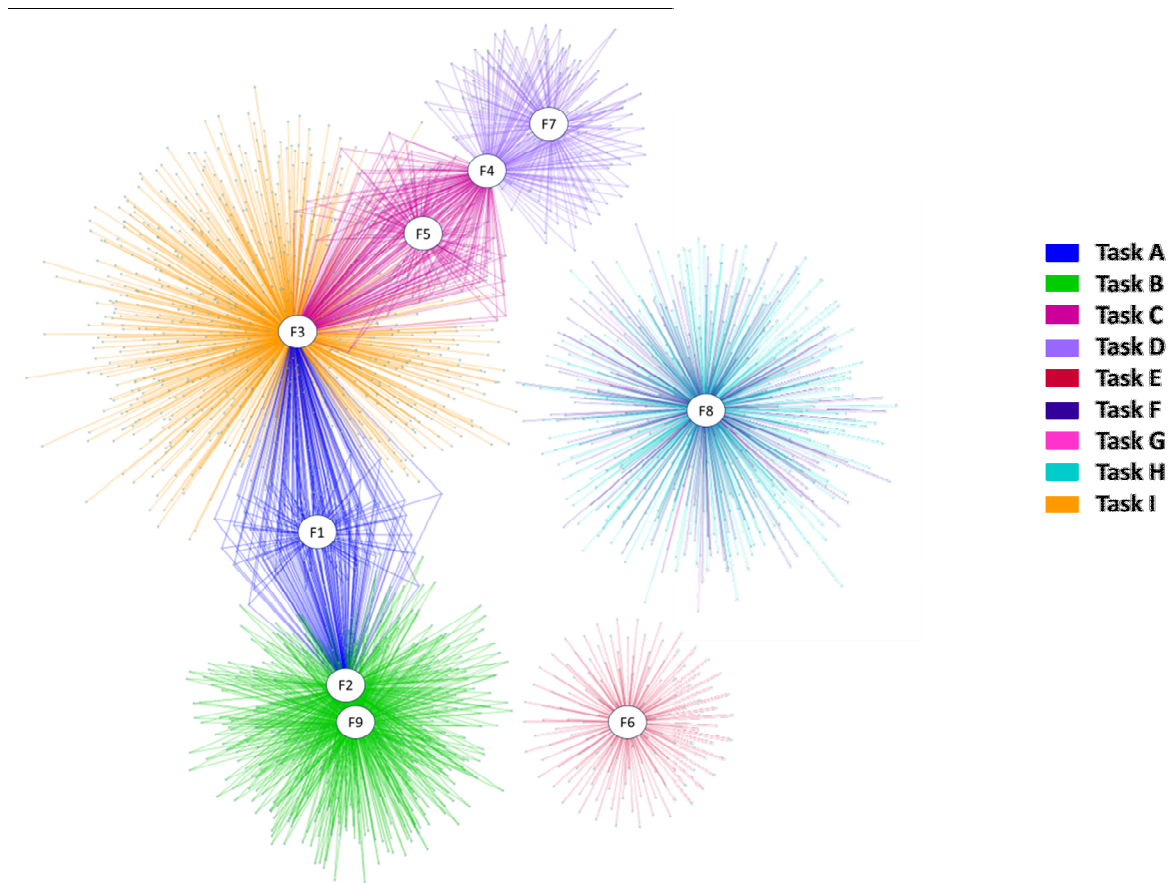
Notional Model Logic Example

Area I



Task Mapping to Cognitive Factors

- Many performance parameters in model—need way to combine similar parameters
- Focused on human-technology interaction so grouped tasks by cognitive factors used
- Graphic shows task instances for two month simulation and how they map to cognitive factors



Sensitivity (from Detection Theory)

- Extending concepts from detection theory to delay, communication, and response aspects of security
- Extending from single-system metrics to SoS metrics
- Key metrics:
 - $P(\text{hit})$
 - $P(\text{FA})$
 - $P(\text{miss})$
 - $d' = z(P(\text{hit})) - z(P(\text{FA}))$
- d' measures the *sensitivity* of a security technology; e.g., how well it distinguishes between true threats and false ones.
- In this domain, d' could, for example, be an indicator of whether personnel might eventually become susceptible to false alarm fatigue

Detection

- a “hit” occurs when an attacker is detected; a “false alarm” occurs when a detection occurs without an attack (shown below)

Delay

- a “hit” occurs when an attacker is delayed enough for a response; a “false alarm” occurs when a friendly is delayed

Comms

- a “hit” occurs when messages are properly communicated during an attack; a “false alarm” occurs during no attack when messages are misinterpreted to be related to an attack

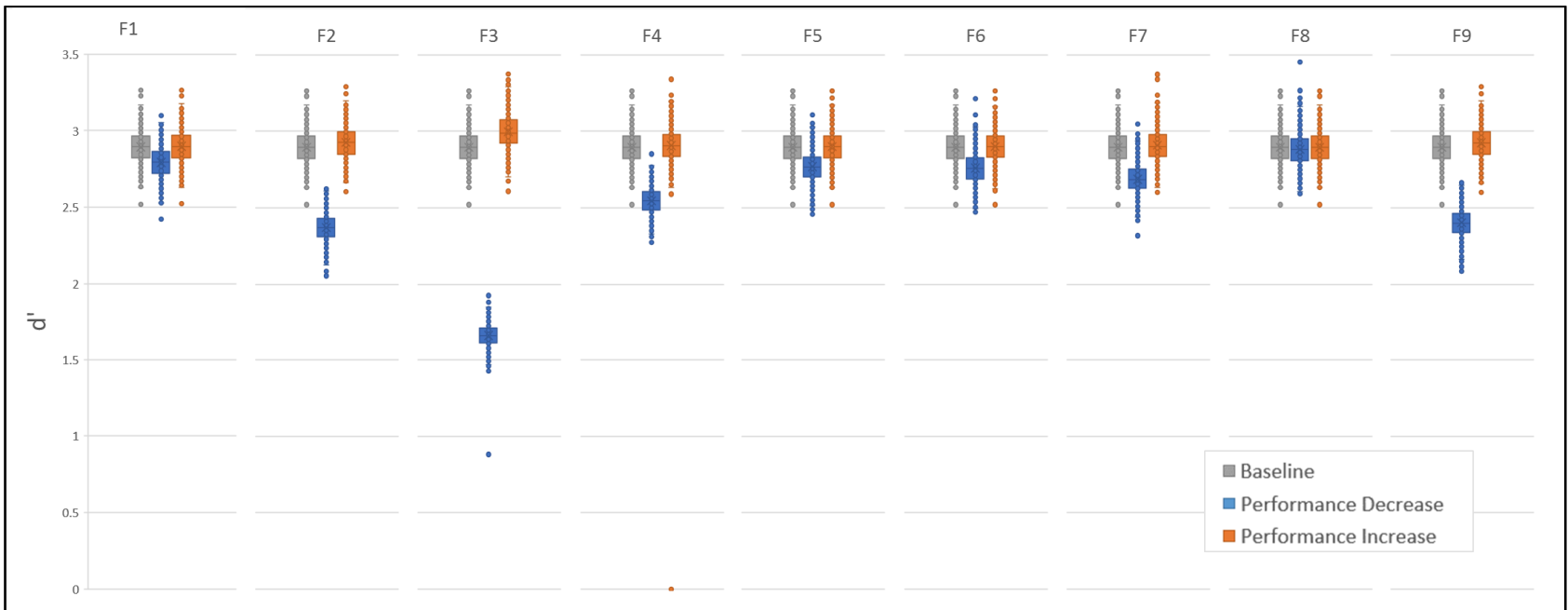
Response

- a “hit” occurs when the response stops an attack; a “false alarm” occurs when a response occurs to no attack

Attack	Response	
	Detected	Undetected
Yes	hit	miss (false neg)
No	false alarm (false pos)	correct rejection (true neg)

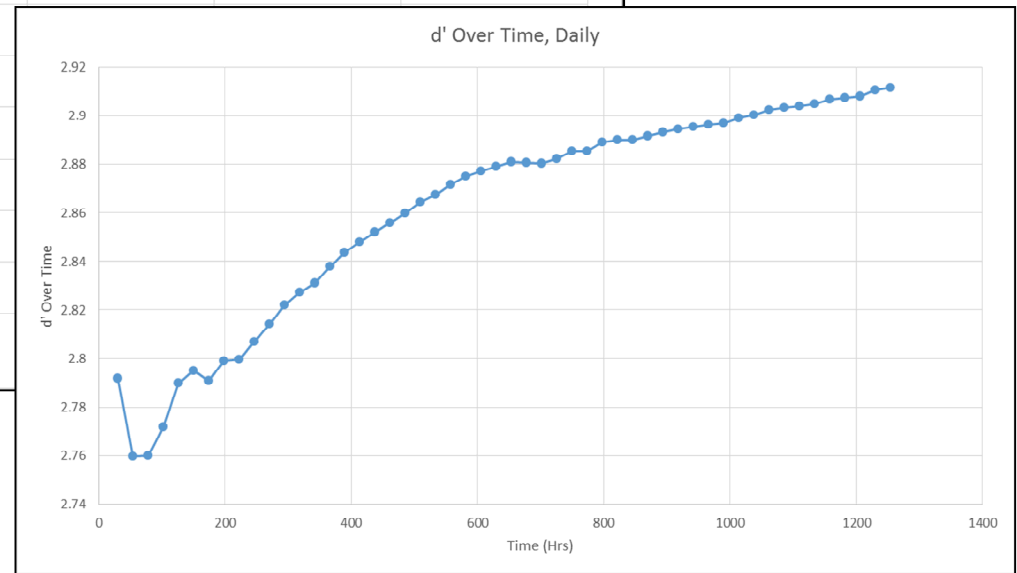
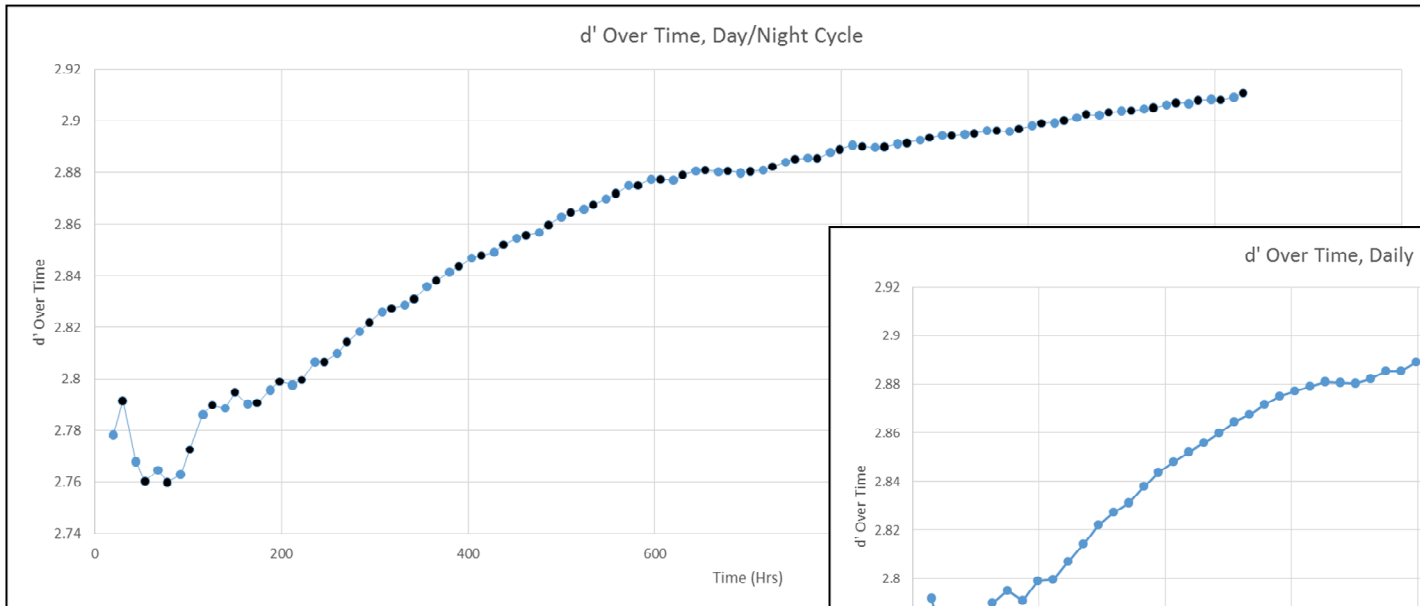
Cognitive Factor Sensitivity Analysis

- Grouped tasks based on cognitive factors employed in order to run sensitivity on groupings of parameters
- Changed one factor and its associated tasks at a time, either increasing or decreasing performance by 25%
- Kept other eight factors at baseline values
- Ran 1000 replications of each scenario for a 2-month duration
- Follow-on analysis to look at 2-way interactions



d' Over Time

- d' calculated over time for 2-month simulation
- Looked at d' for day/night cycle and daily
 - Wanted to see impact of tasks whose performance change based on time of day
 - Difference is diminished over time as the learning curve takes effect
- Also have ability to look at overall d' by area and for the SoS



Significance of Sensitivity Work

- Greatly extends concept of Sensitivity (from Signal Detection Theory*), from a metric for a single detection task, to a metric for the physical security system SoS
 - including all detection, delay, communication and response tasks required to effectively mitigate a given threat
 - now measures how well a security system (including human and technology elements) distinguishes between and reacts to true threats and false ones.
 - can capture two aspects of human involvement – human communications and human interaction with technology
- Shows how certain tasks can have cascading impacts on the performance of the entire SoS
 - Task instances and level of connectivity to other tasks determines strength of impact
 - Even if each task performed relatively well, interactions and dependencies can lead to lower SoS d'
- Reveals which cognitive factors have the largest impact on SoS d'
 - Identifies areas for future research or investment in training, new technologies, etc.
 - Maximizes impact of limited budgets for largest return on investment

*Macmillan, N.A., & Creelman, C.D. (2005). Detection Theory: A User's Guide (2nd Ed.). Lawrence Earlbaum Associates: New York.

Future Work

- Single Factor Excursions
 - Extreme fatigue, night vision goggle usability, sandstorm
 - More complex excursions with interactive effects will also be done
- Validation
 - Can use high-level metrics to verify baseline performance under “normal” conditions
 - SME face validation critical to understand validity of model behavior in less common operating conditions
- Further Applications
 - Methodology expected to be widely applicable to layered security problems
 - Need to explore applicability in other domains
 - Structure of some problems may dictate different types of simulation models and/or opportunities to use agent-based modeling, hybrid dynamical system modeling, etc. in conjunction with discrete event modeling

Questions?

Backup slides

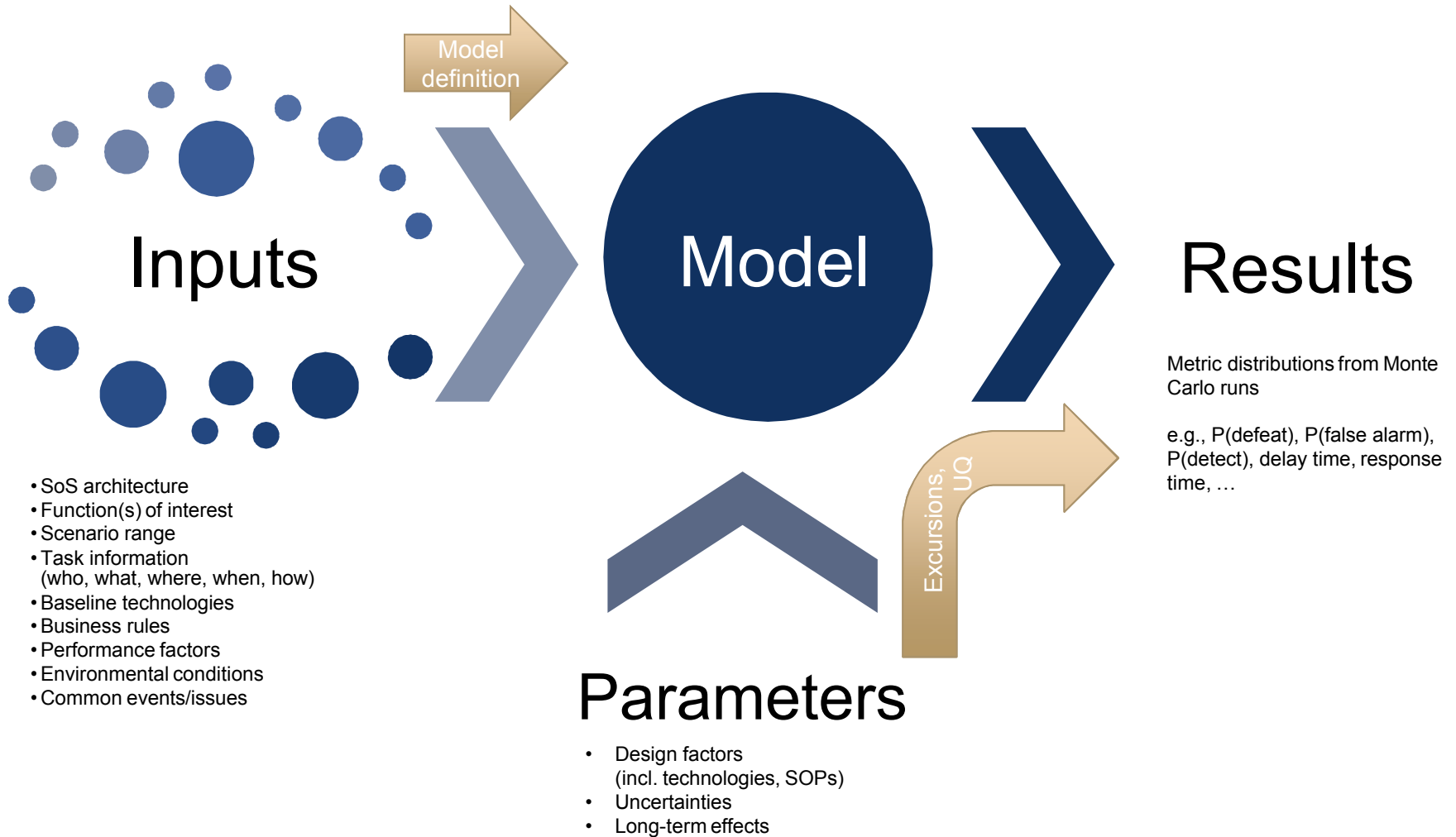
Example Study Questions

- Where are the greatest opportunities to increase human efficiency/ reduce manpower requirements? How do you do this without hurting performance/ adding major risk?
 - Improve technologies and/or interfaces
 - Augmentation or automation
 - Change processes, policies, training, structure
- Where should understanding of operators' skills, cognitive load, etc. play a greater role in the system design process?
- How does effectiveness & robustness change over time and under different conditions?
- What kinds of conditions/perturbations are likely to cause catastrophic failure?
- What are the relationships between layers of the SoS and where does currently assuming independence cause greatest problems?
- Under what conditions do humans have difficulty interacting with technology?
- Where might augmentation or automation be beneficial? Pros/cons? How does shifted human burden affect performance?
- How does use (or presence) of different technology affect human performance of tasks?
 - How does increasing technological sophistication impact human inefficiency and uncertainty? How does this impact overall SoS function?
- Example technology growth areas requiring greater understanding of Human-Technology interactions:
 - Semi/autonomous ISR and combat systems such as Unmanned Aerial Systems
 - Remote Operated Weapon System (ROWS) and automated targeting systems
 - Information and communication technologies
 - Security and Active Protection Systems

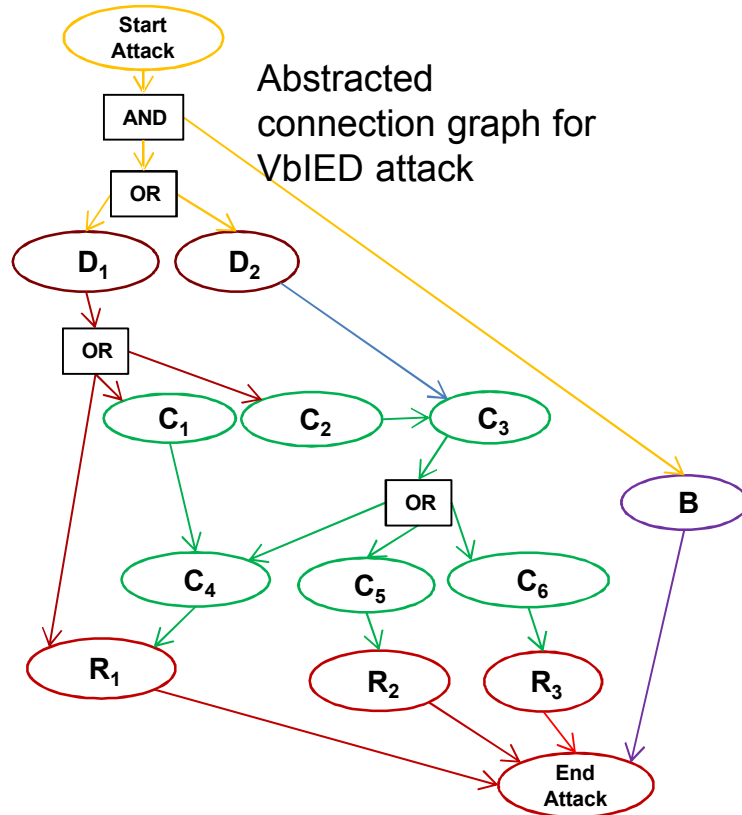
Example FOB Human/HSI concerns

- Fall asleep during task
- Failure to detect item during unaided visual search
- Equipment failure leading to loss of human effectiveness
- False alarm fatigue
- Failure to detect item via IR, cameras, etc.
- Over-reliance on technology; potential inability to adapt to equipment failure
- Equipment can degrade task performance (e.g., by reducing dexterity, endurance etc.)
- Technology interface affects cognitive load, usability etc., particularly in special situations (combat, sand storm, etc.)
- Semi-automated capabilities requiring human discretion
- CCTV and Eagle eye require human ability to discern threats, human discretion and successful communication to end point
- CROWS interfaces range from simple/intuitive to highly complex - the latter would be very difficult to use in cognitively demanding situations
- Under significant heat/humidity, weight of armor could degrade human performance
- Under cold/wet conditions, thicker gloves may be required, reducing dexterity
- EOD equipment affects dexterity
- Rifle/pistol may be more difficult to use under cold/wet conditions (thick gloves and/or stiff fingers)
- Effective use of physical barrier requires quick thinking; also freezing conditions etc. may make it more difficult to operate
- Radio failure could lead to human failure (due to loss of situational awareness)
- Under night conditions, failure of flashlight or IR goggles makes task impossible
- Under night conditions, combination of flashlight/mirror more effective (no shadows)
- Long duration, heat/cold can decrease effectiveness of both humans and dogs
- IR goggles cannot be worn for long periods of time; FLIR can be used for many hours but takes both hands and precludes weapon use
- Extreme exhaustion (to the point of hallucination)
- Undiagnosed traumatic brain injury
- Emotional trauma and PTSD

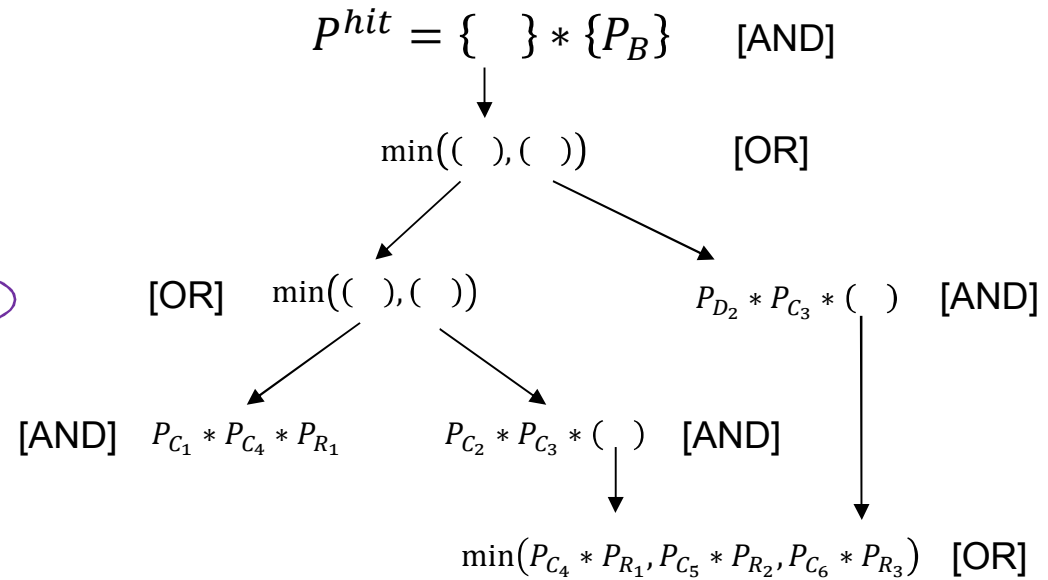
Inputs & Outputs



Calculating P(hit) and P(FA)



P^{hit} can be built mechanically:



$$P^{hit} = \{ \min(P_{D_1} * \min(P_{R_1}, P_{C_1} * P_{C_4} * P_{R_1}, P_{C_2} * P_{C_3} * \min(P_{C_4} * P_{R_1}, P_{C_5} * P_{R_2}, P_{C_6} * P_{R_3})), P_{D_2} * P_{C_3} * \min(P_{C_4} * P_{R_1}, P_{C_5} * P_{R_2}, P_{C_6} * P_{R_3})) \} * \{P_B\}$$

Note that a false alarm can occur anywhere in the system and propagate, therefore P^{FA} can be calculated as the ORed probabilities of the false alarms at all of the steps:

$$P^{FA} = 1 - (1 - P_{D_1})(1 - P_{D_2})(1 - P_{C_1}) \dots$$