

Autonomy for Hypersonics Field Day

Welcome and Introduction

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- Andrew Ng,
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Will AI tech be plug-n-play for defense?

The AI community is remarkably open, with most top researchers publishing and sharing ideas and even open-source code. In this world of open source, the scarce resources are therefore:

Data.

Among leading AI teams, many can likely replicate others' software in, at most, 1–2 years. But it is exceedingly difficult to get access to someone else's data. ***Thus data, rather than software, is the defensible barrier for many businesses.***

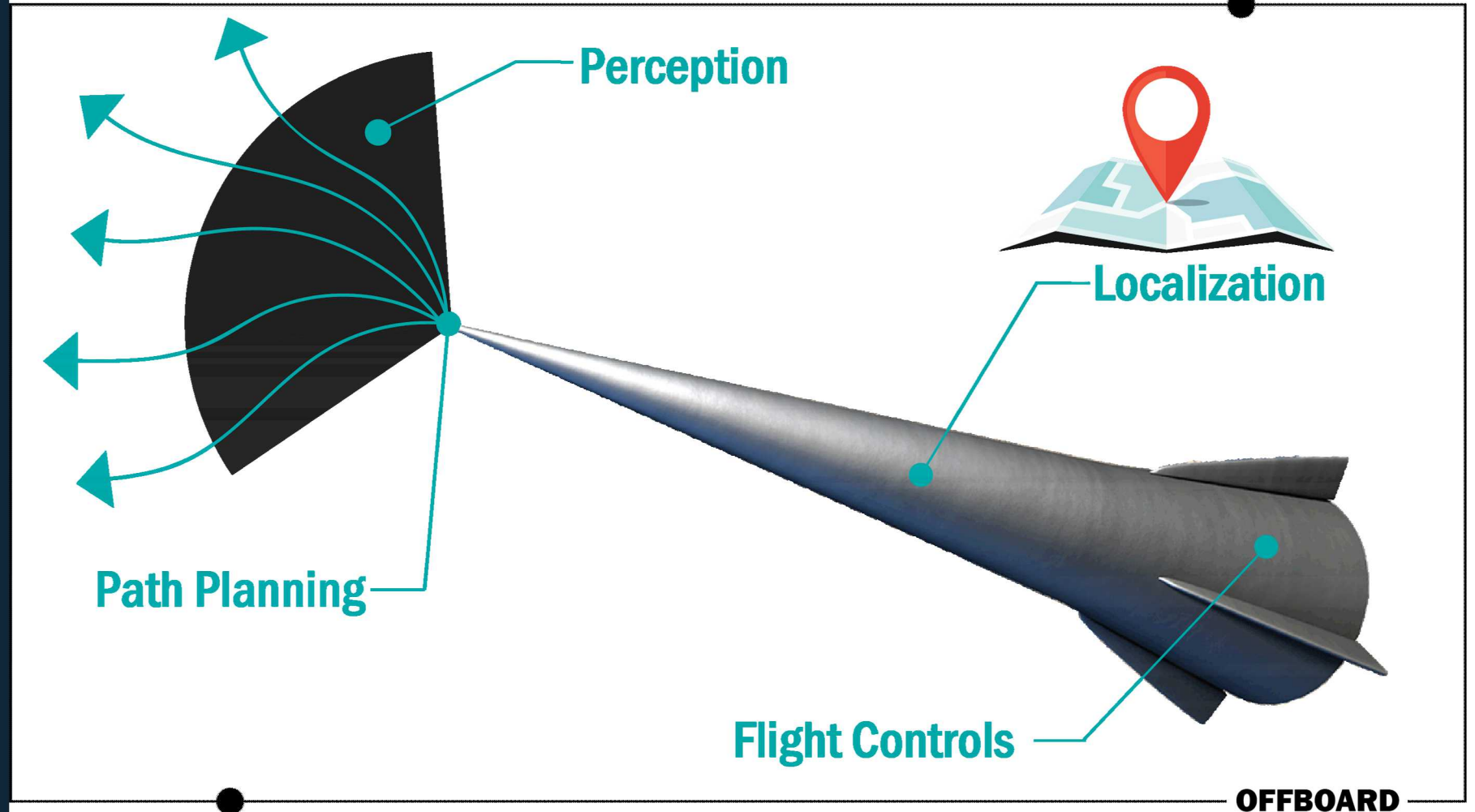
Talent.

Simply downloading and “applying” open-source software to your data won't work. ***AI needs to be customized to your business context and data.*** This is why there is currently a war for the scarce AI talent that can do this work.

A4H Research Areas

Mission Planning

Includes offline flight planner



Mission Analytics

Inform tactics & engagement strategies



Creating a mechanism to “spin-in” ideas that provide transformative autonomy solutions, opportunities for commercialization, and a pipeline of AI and autonomy talent





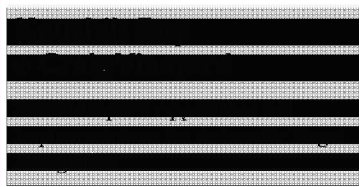
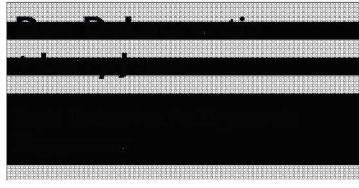
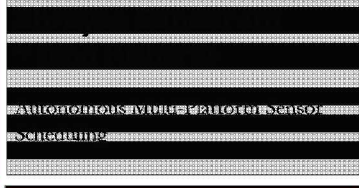




A4H initiated AutonomyNM, with the goal of promoting and attracting collaborative R&D with Academic Alliance (AA) and university partners

- Helps SNL expand its innovation network in this critical technology area
- Venture track for AA Collaborators: The program will allow SNL and AA researchers to work side-by-side to help university innovators transition their research into end-use applications
- Internship track: AutonomyNM is incorporated under TITANS and provide students an opportunity to research autonomy solutions for advanced flight and space systems
- AutonomyNM Facility: A cutting-edge, modern research environment will promote open communication and innovation, foster creativity, and enable agile creation of startups

External Partnership Plan: AutonomyNM

AutonomyNM Gauntlet

- A state-of-the-art research testbed that supports the spin-in and spin-out of autonomous flight and space system technologies, aka the AutonomyNM Gauntlet
- Incorporate Design Reference Missions (DRMs) and low-cost COTS technology
- Will allow users to prove performance of AI/autonomy algorithms – ultimately demonstrating utility for spin-in and spin-out
- Visiting faculty can use the testbed to support their research, and the testbed will help enable a “semester at the Labs” program with AA schools

Illinois 	Georgia Tech 	UT Austin 	Purdue 
Naresh Shanbhag + Craig Vineyard Neural-Inspired Approaches and Implementations for Automatic Target Recognition	Jennifer Hasler + Craig Vineyard Neural-Inspired Approaches and Implementations for Automatic Target Recognition	Renato Zanetti + Scott Jenkins SAR Image Formation and Feedback to Navigation Subsystem in GPS Denied and Degraded Environments	
Girish Chowdhary + David Kozlowski Optimal Elevon Control Allocation and Fault Detection/Recovery for Hypersonic Flight Vehicles	Ani Mazundar + Mary Rose Sena Using Generative Models to Generate Hypersonic Boost-Glide Vehicle Trajectories	Ufuk Topcu + David Kozlowski An Optimization and Robust Control Technique for use in Flight Control Design for Hypersonic Vehicles	
Alex Scwing + Josh Coon Synthetic High Forward Squint SAR Images Using Generative Adversarial Networks	Evangelos Theodorou + David Kozlowski An Optimization and Robust Control Technique for use in Flight Control Design for Hypersonic Vehicles	Maruthi Akella + Mike Grant Autonomy-Enabled, Real-Time, Rapid Trajectory Generation for Highly Dynamic Hypersonic Missions	
Rakesh Nagi + Keith LeGrand Autonomous Multi-Platform Sensor Scheduling	Jonathan Rogers + Julie Parish Robust, Rapid, Autonomous Mission Planning for Hypersonic Flight Vehicles	Karen Willcox + Kevin Carlberg Rapid High-Fidelity Aerothermal Responses with UQ via Reduced-Order Modeling	Stanford 
Kansas State 	UNM 	Texas A&M 	Stephen Boyd + Mike Grant Convex Optimization using Geometric Programming on Field-Programmable Gate Arrays
Bill Hsu + Jason Searcy Magnetometer-Aided GPS-Denied Navigation	Meeko Oishi + John Richards Autonomous Multi-Platform Sensor Scheduling	John Hurtado + Julie Parish Robust, Rapid, Autonomous Mission Planning for Hypersonic Flight Vehicles	Utah State 
		John Hurtado + Jason Searcy Magnetometer-Aided GPS-Denied Navigation	Randall Christensen + Scott Jenkins SAR Image Formation and Feedback to Navigation Subsystem in GPS Denied and Degraded Environments

Current University Research Partnerships



Desired Outcomes

- Build an enduring community: we seeks connections between the faculty at all universities (not just with SNL), for example to enable opportunities for students to go to graduate school at other partner institutions etc.
- We want enduring relationships that enable other partnership opportunities
- Transition A4H-funded research to other government programs
- Customizing autonomous system solutions for other national security platforms beyond hypersonics

DAY ONE:

THURSDAY, APRIL 18th

- 9:00-9:30 Opening Keynote *Mica Endsley, SA Technologies, Inc.*
- 9:30-9:50 Neural-Inspired Approaches for ATR *Craig Vineyard, SNL*
- 9:50-10:10 Deep In-Memory Architectures *Naresh R. Shanbhag, UIUC*
- 10:10-10:40 Networking Break**
- 10:40-11:00 Field Programmable Analog Arrays *Jennifer Olson Hasler, GT*
- 11:00-11:20 Rapid High-Fidelity Aerothermal Responses with UQ via Reduced-Order Modeling *Kevin Carlberg, SNL*
- 11:20-11:40 Closed-Loop Navigation Using SAR *Renato Zanetti, UT*
- 11:40-12:50 Lunch provided on-site**
- 12:50-1:10 Precision Nav for Challenging Operational Environments *John Hurtado, TAMU*
- 1:10-1:30 Autonomous Multi-Platform Sensor Scheduling *John Richards, SNL*
- 1:30-1:50 Reliability of Autonomous Systems via Stochastic Reachability *Meeko Oishi, UNM*
- 1:50-2:10 New Approaches to Resilient Distributed Hypothesis Testing with Networked Platforms *Shreyas Sundaram, Purdue*
- 2:10-2:30 Multi-Dimensional Assignment Problems in Multi-Sensor, Multi-Target Tracking & Data Association *Rakesh Nagi, UIUC*
- 2:30-2:50 **Networking Break**
- 2:50-3:20 Control-Oriented Learning on the Fly *Ufuk Topcu, UT*
- 3:20-3:40 Adaptive and Fault Tolerant Flight Control with Deep Learning *Girish Chowdhary, UIUC*
- 3:40-4:00 Physics-Based Control Algorithms for High Speed Autonomy *Evangelos Theodorou, GT*
- 4:00-4:20 Firestarter: Deep Learning Methods for Autonomous Hypersonics Guidance *Roberto Furfaro, UA*
- 5:00-7:00 Networking Reception at Glorieta Station**

Agenda

DAY TWO:

FRIDAY, APRIL 19TH

- 9:00-9:15 Firestarter: Learning-Based Predictive Control for Autonomous Vehicles *Hyeonjun Park, NMSU*
- 9:15-9:30 Firestarter: Payload & Mission Management for ISR Missions *John Valasek, TAMU*
- 9:30-9:50 Autonomous Trajectory Planning Based on Motion Primitives *Ani Mazumdar, GT*
- 9:50-10:10 Trajectory Generation using Indirect Methods & Machine Learning *Maruthi Akella, UT*
- 10:10-10:40 Networking Break**
- 10:40-10:55 Firestarter: Data-Driven Decision Making *Huiping Cao, NMSU*
- 10:55-11:10 Firestarter: Distributed Dynamic Task Allocation for Sensor Management *Liang Sun, NMSU*
- 11:10-11:30 Probabilistic Algorithms for Mission Planning *Jon Rogers, GT*
- 11:30-11:50 AI-Enabled Mission Analysis *Ali Raz, Purdue*
- 11:50-12:00 Closeout *Alex Roesler, SNL*
- 12:00-1:30 Lunch provided on-site**

Agenda