

# Autonomy for Hypersonics Field Day

## *Welcome and Introduction*

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- Andrew Ng,  
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**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.**

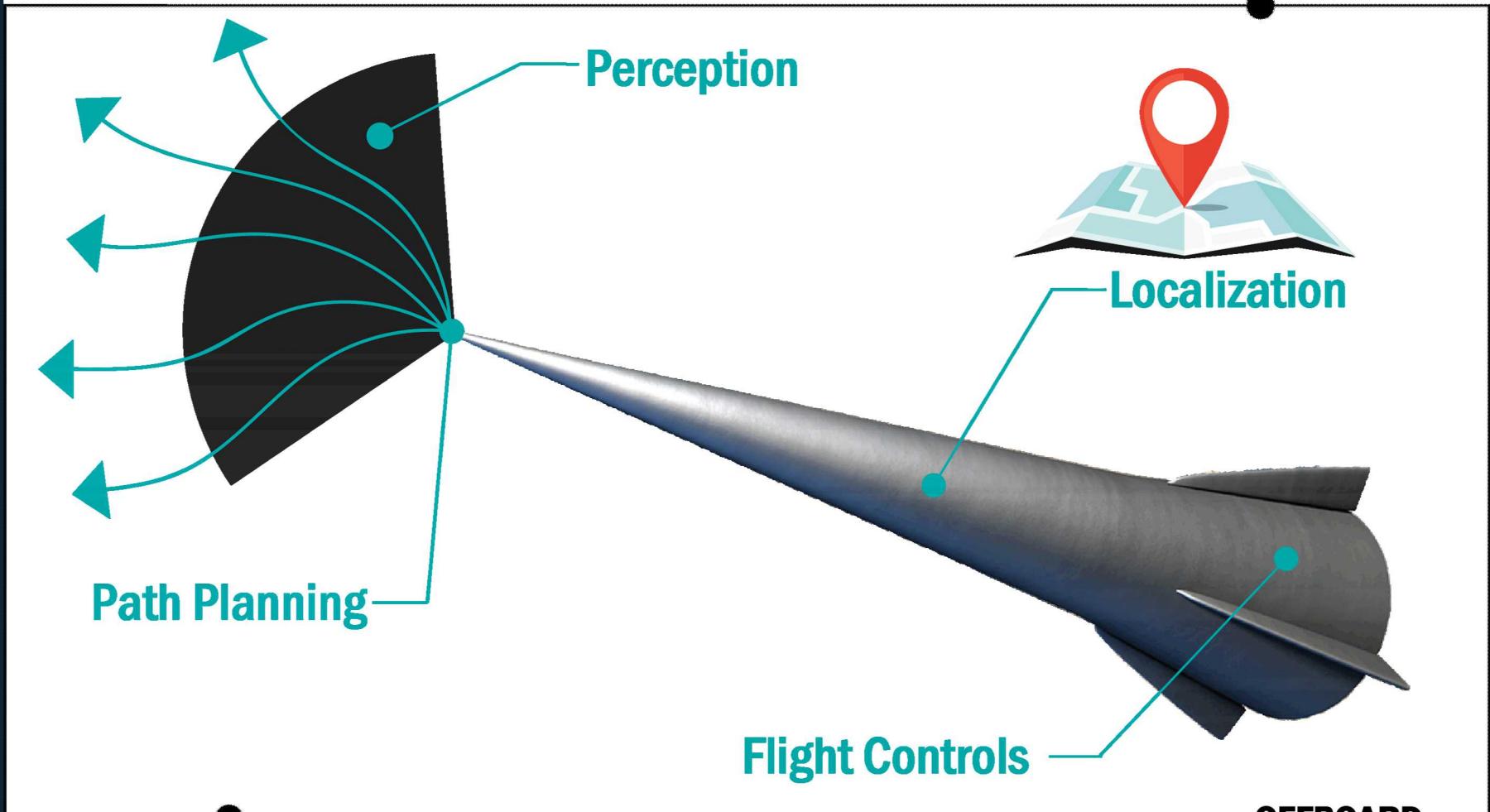
Simply downloading and “applying” open-source software to your data won’t work. ***AI needs to be customized to your business context and data.*** This is why there is currently a war for the scarce AI talent that can do this work.

# Will AI tech be plug-n-play for defense?

# 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

# Current University Research Partnerships

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

# 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 18<sup>th</sup>

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 19<sup>TH</sup>

9:00-9:15 Firestarter: Learning-Based Predictive Control for Autonomous Vehicles *Hyeongjun 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