

Human Performance Factors in OPCON Evaluation & Assessment

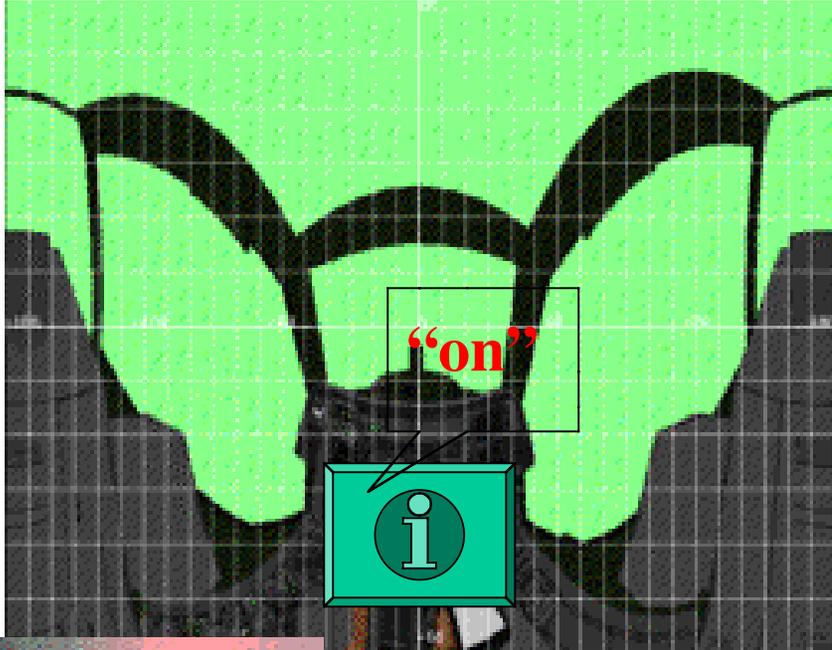
Kevin Corker

Martijn Mooij

Liza Tam

San Jose State University





Matters of Consequence in Human Performance in Operations

- Impact multiple operational entities in the airport/airspace
- Noticeable change in schedule, staffing, roles and responsibilities
- Change in scope of the range & span of decision making
- Change in fundamental informational characteristics of the system (displays, alerts, controls, communications, etc.)
- Changes in, or development of, new certification standards, MELs, etc
- Fundamental changes in airspace structure or use (segregated airspaces etc.)

Operational Concepts Community Evaluated

- AAC (1993)
- Data Link Communications CPDLC Oceanic Trails (1979, 1994)
- Terminal Productivity Concepts (PRM & TAP AILS) (1991, 1993)
- Reduced Vertical Separation Minima (1994)
- National Route Program (FAA 1994)
- Programme for Harmonized Air Transport Research in Europe (PHARE Demonstrations 1,2,3) (1995-2000)
- Free Flight RTCA (1995), FAA Response Action Plan (1996)
- Collaborative Decision Making (FAA, ATA, NASA, 1998)
- AATT Operational Concept Development (Boeing, Honeywell, Lockheed Martin, NASA LaRC, DAG) (1994-present)
- Surface Movement Advisor System (1997-8)
- ADS-B/CDTI Ohio Valley trials >> Safe Flight 21 (2000-2001)
- CAPSTONE (2001- present)
- CTAS TMA- Time-based Metering, PFAST (1995-present)
- URET (1995 – present)
- Free Flight Phase 1 (ancillary technologies)
- OEP (2001- present)

Dimensions of study for OPCONS

- **Reliability/Consistency/Predictability**
- **Coverage (range of operations, airspaces, operational characteristics—efficiency, safety, observability, predictability)**
- **Technical Complexity (what sensors, boxes, software, CNS requirements)**
- **Procedural Complexity (what selection, training, dynamic, memorial, documentation footprint)**
- **Cultural (national, corporate, practice) variability**
- **Information Flow**
 - **Timeliness, density, relevance, degree of interpretation, transformation, and integration**
- **Recoverability**
 - **Levels of safety**

Dependent Variables

- Airport/Airspace/Aircraft Variables
 - # of A/c per unit volume/unit time
 - Fuel use, aircraft life-cycle costs
 - Conflicts & configurations
 - Schedule deviations/million operations...
 - Number Operations
- System Level Variability
 - Stability
 - Predictability
 - Robustness
 - Environmental (noise, air, etc)
 - Distance of the proposed concept from the current ...

Dependent Variables

- Human Variables
 - Reaction Time
 - Performance Time
 - Performance Sequences
 - Training Footprint
 - Errors & performance profiles
 - Communication (frequency, duration, content analysis)
 - Eye Movement
 - Physiological Correlates of Behavior (EEG, Cardiac Arrhythmia, Pupillary Diameter, GSR, Blink Rate...)
 - Subjective workload, Situation awareness
 - Cooper-Harper Ratings (handling qualities of the opcon)
 - Usability assessments
 - (t)required/(t)available

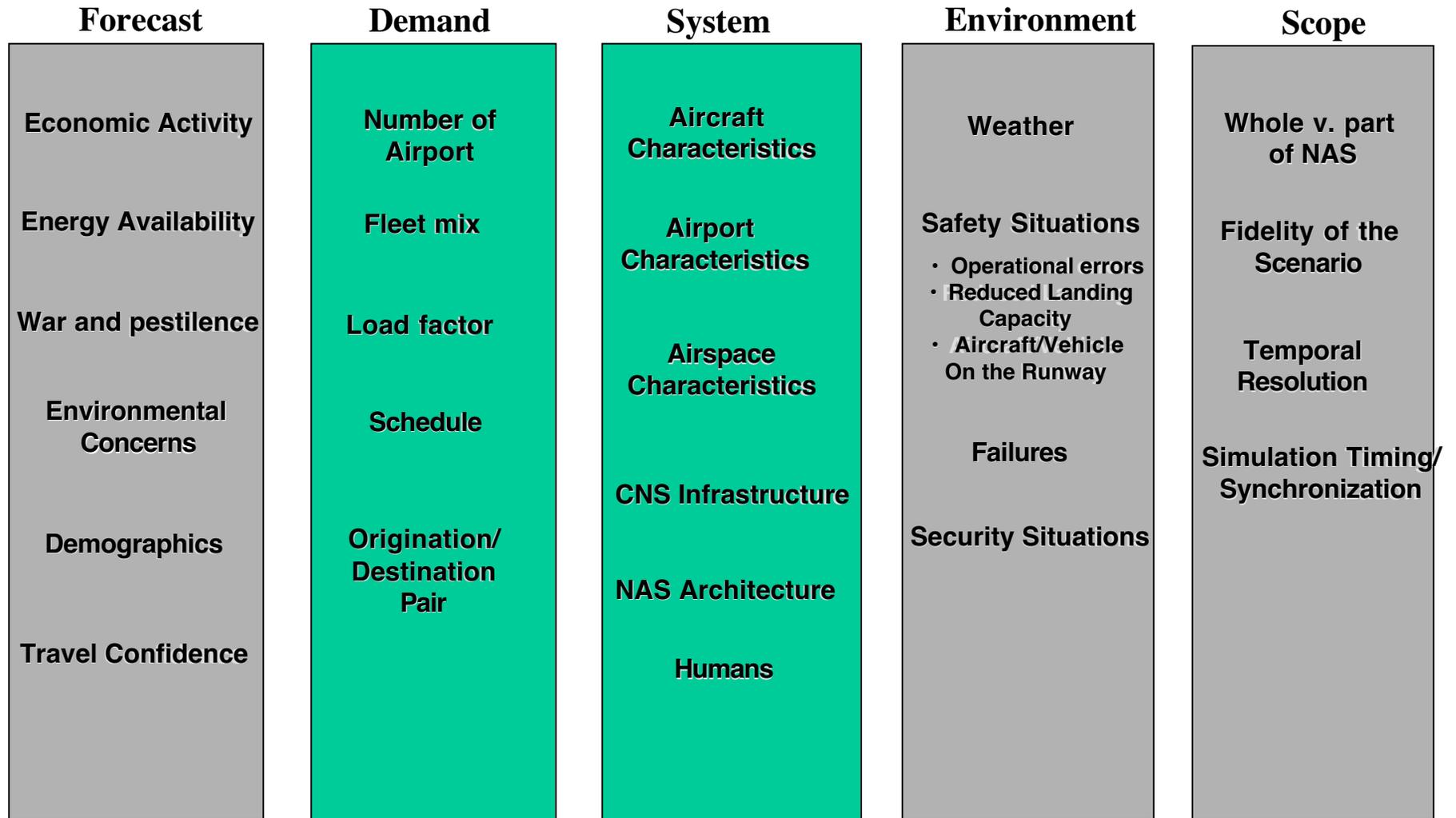
Scenario Development & Metrics Issues: Human Performance Perspective

- **Normal Operations occur at stable routinized level**
 - *OPCON's susceptibility to disruption needs to be measured at that operating point, and at transition to non-routine*
- **Level Of Specificity & Definition**
 - *All components, or many critical elements of an Operational Concept may be at a level of specificity wherein the measurable variables are not available*
- **Dependent and Response Variables**
 - *Those that are measurable are not the relevant diagnostic of system performance*
- **Scalability**
 - *Predictive performance scaling in fast time & real time simulations is unvalidated*

Possible Solution Paths

- Characteristic Response Method
 - Translate prior experience in joint human-artifact complex dynamic systems to current OPCON
 - Control by exception design for DST
 - Reversion for failure modes assuming a supervisory control paradigm
 - Gaming in operating modes governed by a minimax rule
- Define units of the OPCON
 - Analysis following the fault lines of human-system performance
- Cognitive Process and Information topology analysis
 - Bottlenecks and optimization opportunities based on state of system, control opportunity and distributed knowledge
 - Minimum information requirements and control requirements: Requisite Variety
- Models at varied and matched levels of aggregation

Scenario/Metric Parameters



- Concept Independent (stipulated by the SEA/VAMS)
- Concept Dependent

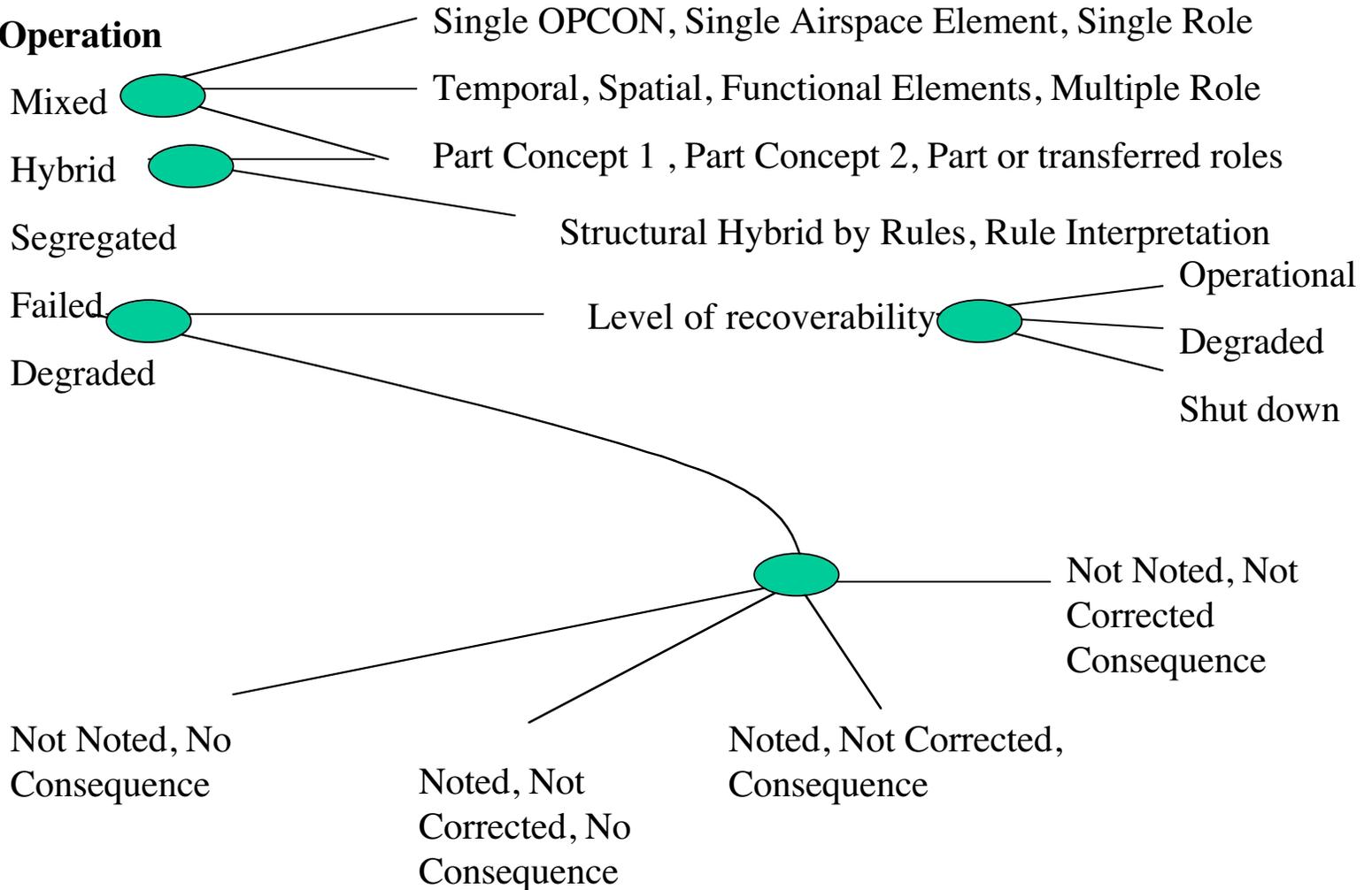
Note: Assume a multiple-day schedule of flights for these scenarios

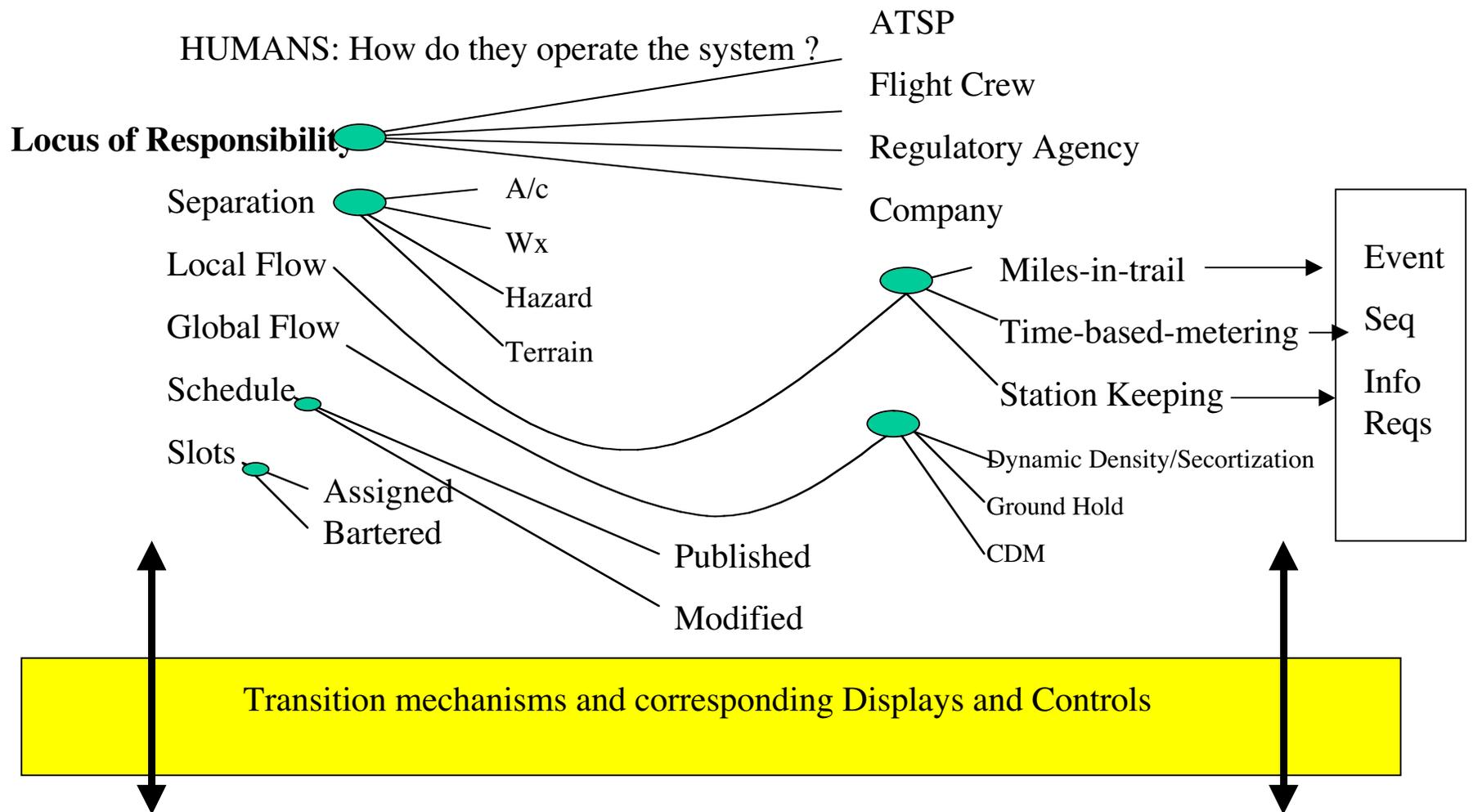
Characteristic Response Matrix of Measures and Perturbations

OPCON	Roles, Responsibilities & Information	Problem Solving Strategy Processes	System Constraints
Ambiguity			
Dynamically Changing Risk			
Organizational & Social Pressures			

Defining Units of the OPCON and Derivative Study Foci

Modes of Operation





Locus of Authority

- Separation
- Local Flow
- Schedule
- Slots

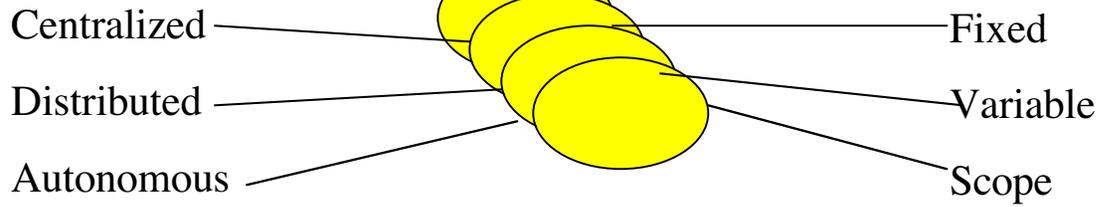
Issues of dynamic criteria

- Issues of ambiguity
- Variability in response
- Bias
- Adaptation

Span of Authority

- Separation
- Local Flow
- Schedule
- Slots

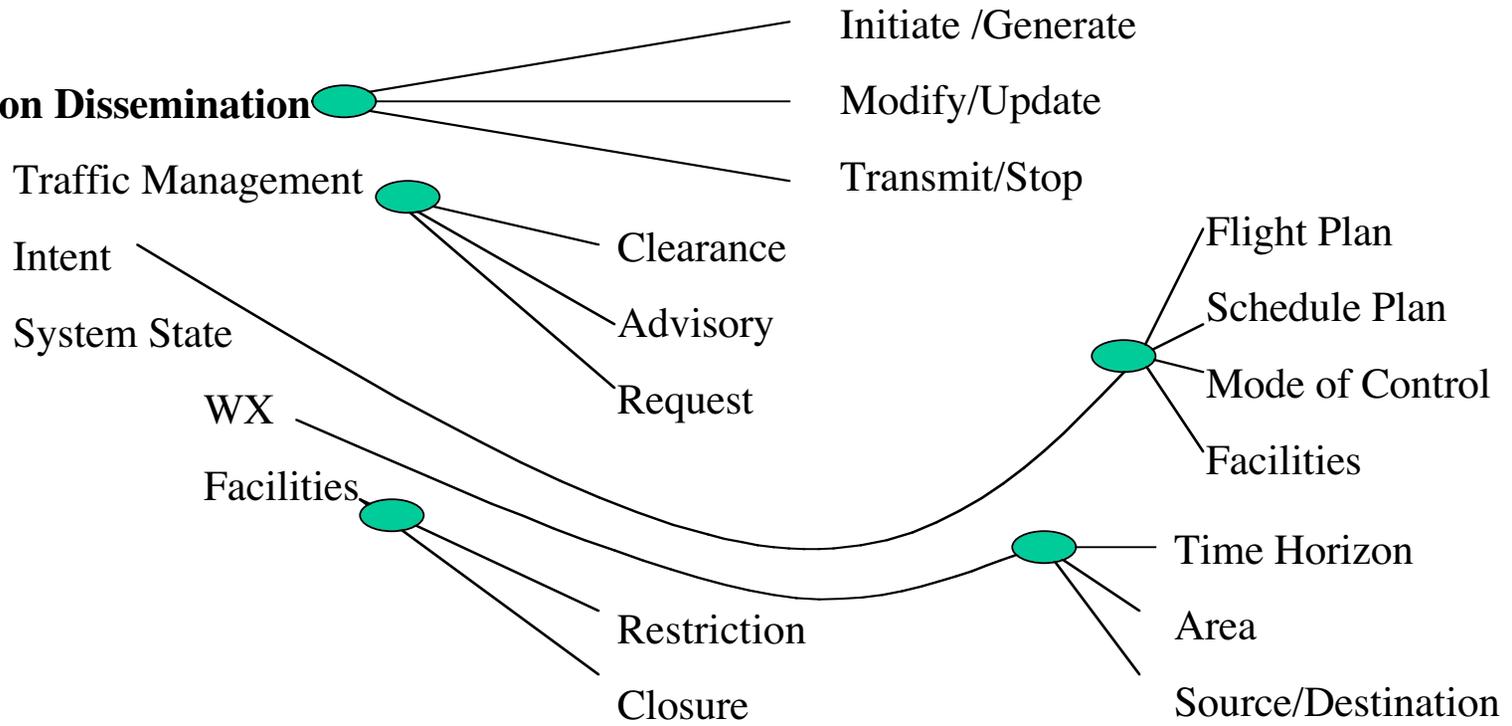
C³I Participation



extent
duration

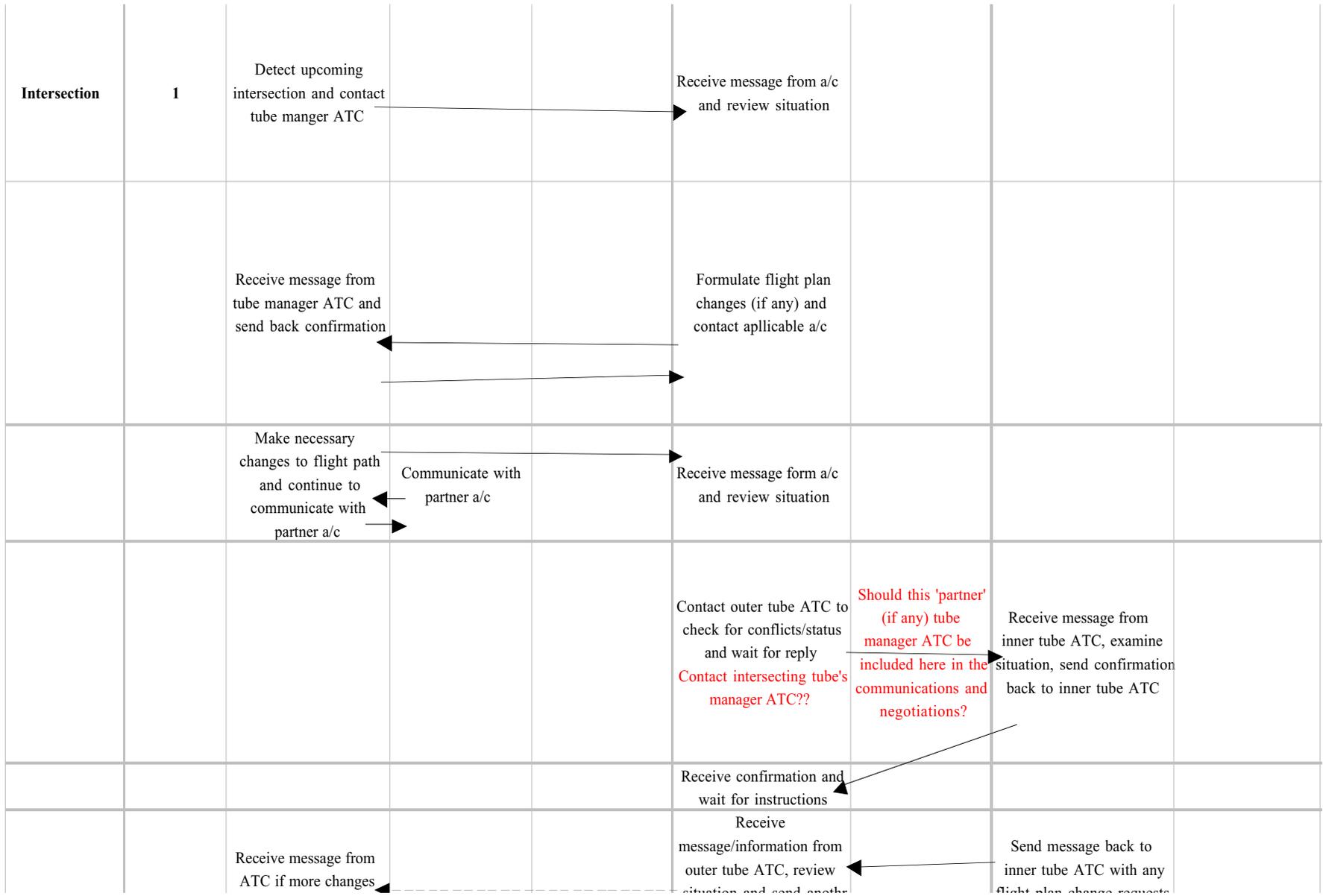


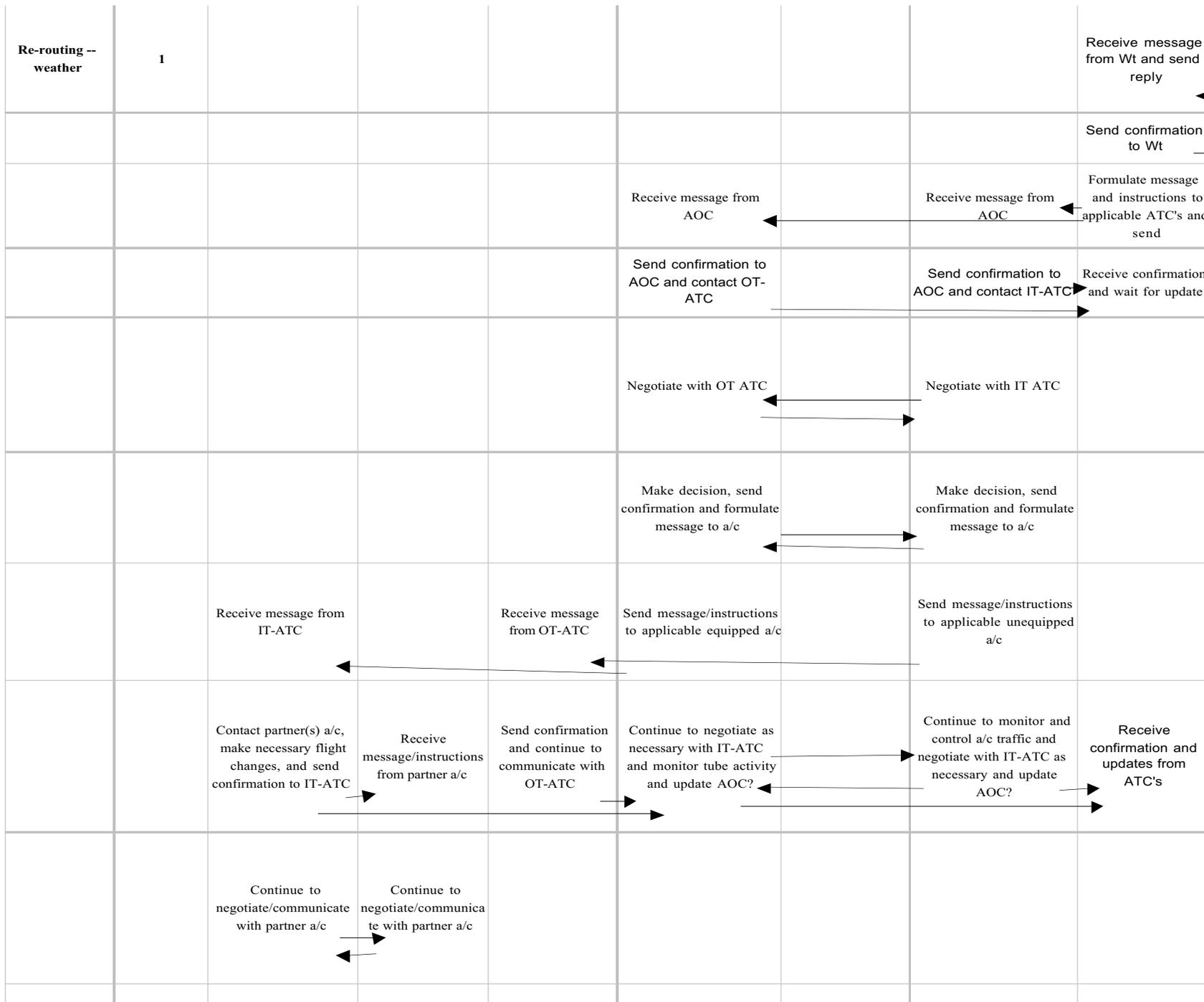
Information Dissemination

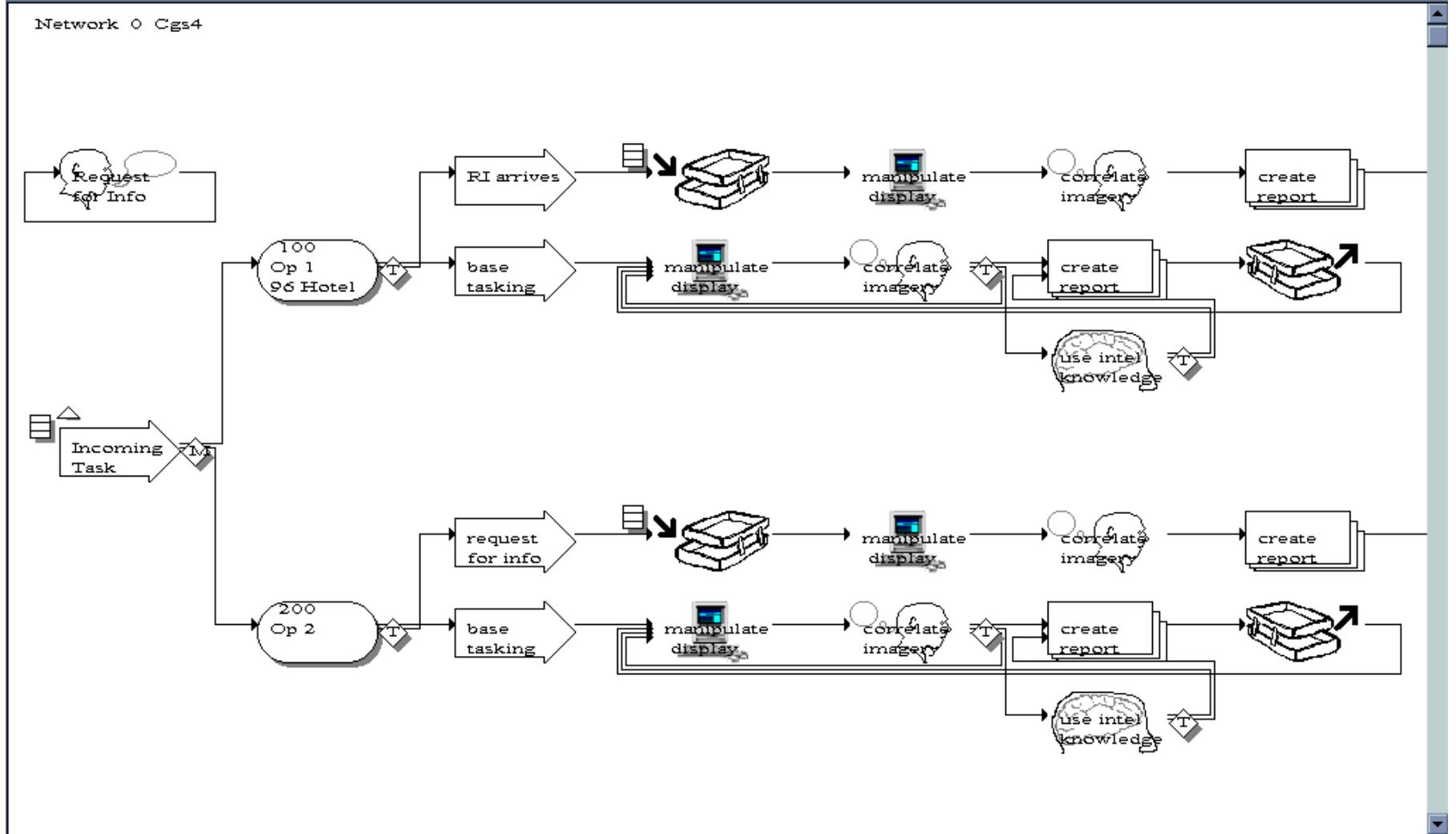


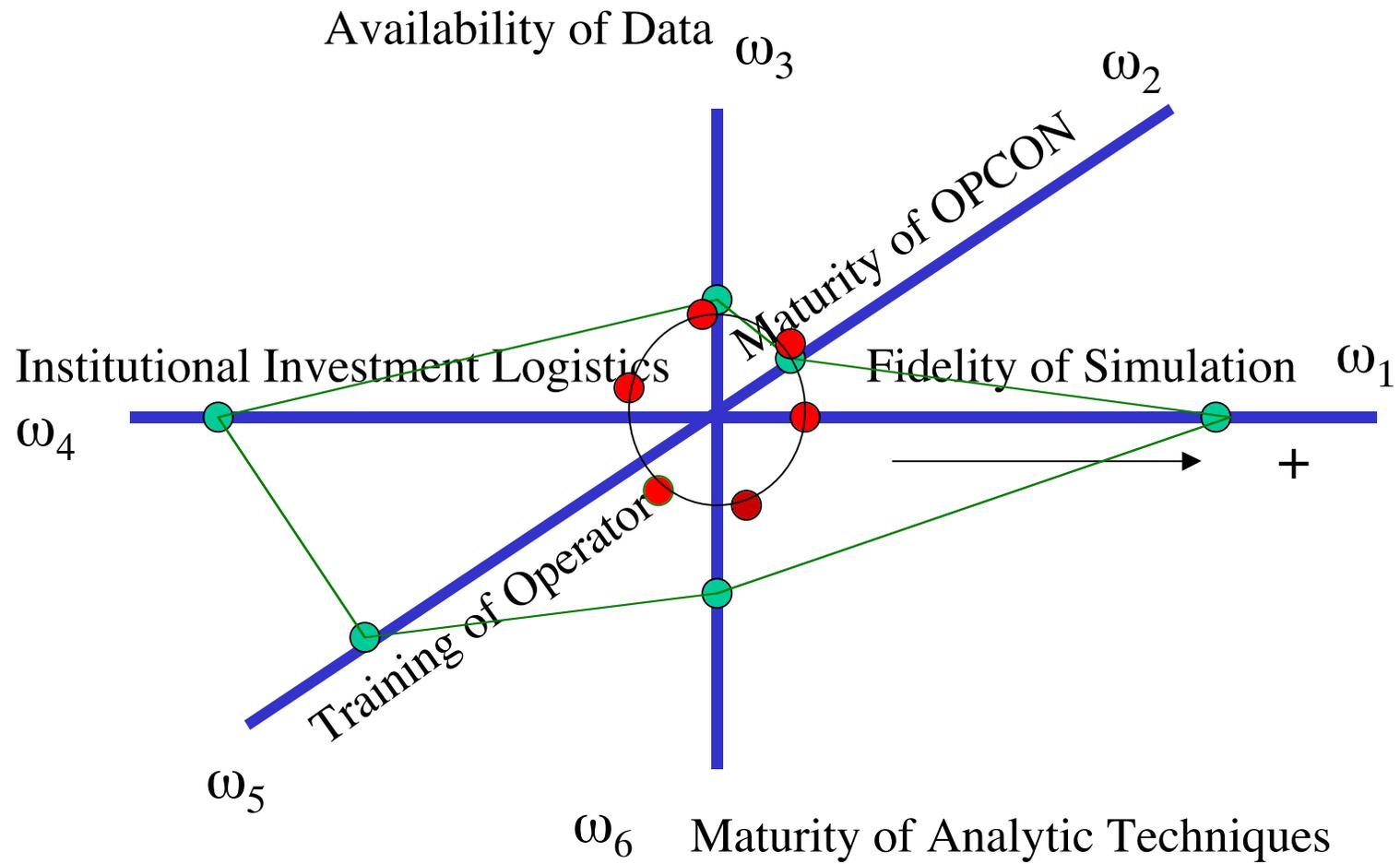
Cognitive Process and Information Topology Analysis

University Tube Operations		Key Players						
		AIRCRAFT EQUIPPED	PARTNER A/C (do we need this too?)	AIRCRAFT UNEQUIPPED	ATC INNER TUBE MANAGER	ATC partner TUBE MANAGER (do we need this too?)	ATC OUTER TUBE MANAGER	AOC
Conflicts								
	Modeling Priority							
Merge into tube	1						Receive flight schedule and sequence information	Set flight schedule and sequence and send to OT-ATC
		Receive flight information					Formulate message to a/c and send	
		Confirm flight plan to ATC and record information					Receive confirmation from a/c and give confirmation/update to AOC	Receive confirmation from OT-ATC
		Formulate message to IT-ATC and send flight information			Receive flight information/status from a/c entering tube			
		Receive confirmation/instructions and partner a/c frequency from inner tube ATC			Formulate message to a/c and send confirmation and any applicable instructions/flight plans and partner a/c flight information (radio frequency)			
		Formulate message to partner a/c and inner tube ATC and send flight information	Receive message from partner a/c and send confirmation					
		Send confirmation to			Receive confirmation from a/c and wait for next a/c			

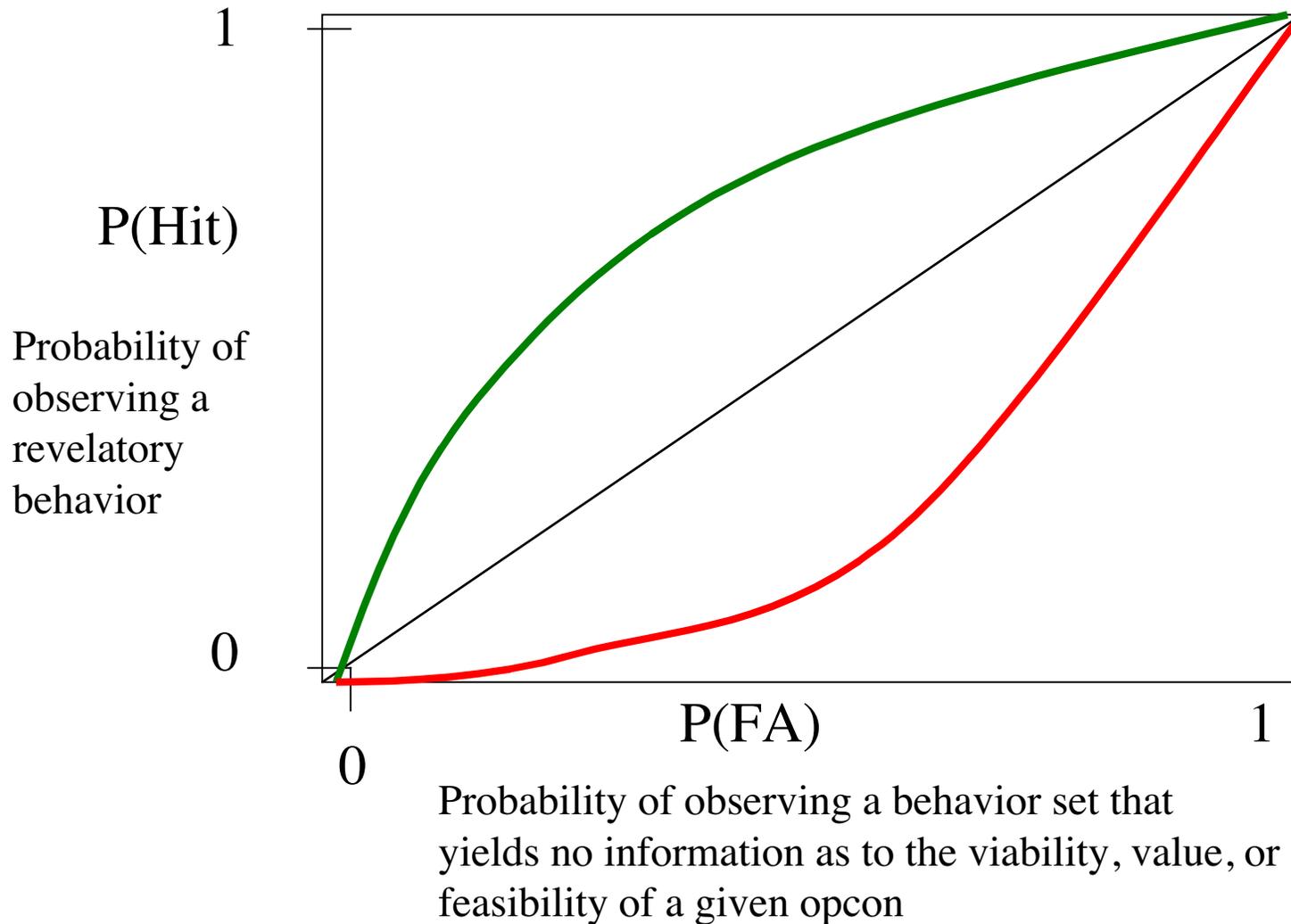








Data Operating Curve (DOC)



Fidelity of the analysis/simulation sets the lower limit of discriminability of significant behavior

Summary Perspective on OPCOn Evaluation and Assessment

- **Assertion:**

- Safety and Capacity of airspace operations is limited by the cognitive, perceptual, or attentive characteristics of the managers, controllers, operators in that airspace.
- Technical aiding systems (&/or procedures) can be designed to assist the human operators and offset the limitation(s)
 - Identified what and how the limit is manifest
 - Develop technologies that work to remove that limitation(s)

And don't impose others,

Only alter the limitation & otherwise don't change the airspace operation,

Enhancement will not be exploited to reach a new level of human constraint ,

Can revert to safe operations in case of all foreseeable failure modes