

Setting Strategic Requirements for Tradespace Tools

Abstract 18845: Tradespace exploration tools support the systems engineering process decision analysis by identifying compromises, revealing opportunities, and communicating impacts of decisions across a system's development lifecycle. Critical system decisions are made based on the outcome of trades related to technologies, available funding, processes, time, tools, etc. This presentation will discuss the results of a study conducted in support of the Engineered Resilient Systems (ERS) program for developing tradespace tools and products to support Department of Defense (DoD) acquisition efforts. The study was established to evaluate and identify key tradespace exploration tool requirements for facilitating the needs of analytical, operational, and science and technology (S&T) communities. Initially, stakeholder surveys involving the software developer and user communities were conducted to determine if tradespace exploration tools under development were fulfilling the tool users' requirements and satisfying tradespace exploration. The surveys served to identify a "best common practice" of capabilities for conducting tradespace analysis in support of other government agency research efforts. Additionally, the study facilitated documentation of high-level tradespace requirements to support the development and sustainment of a tradespace exploration analysis software tool. Results will guide future tradespace tool requirements generation, contribute toward establishing DoD standards for tradespace tools, and support the development of tradespace tools for use in system exploration and portfolio analysis in a wide variety of DoD projects and programs.

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Tradespace Tool Exploration for Engineered Resilient Systems

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NDIA – 19th Annual Systems Engineering Conference

October 2016

Springfield, VA

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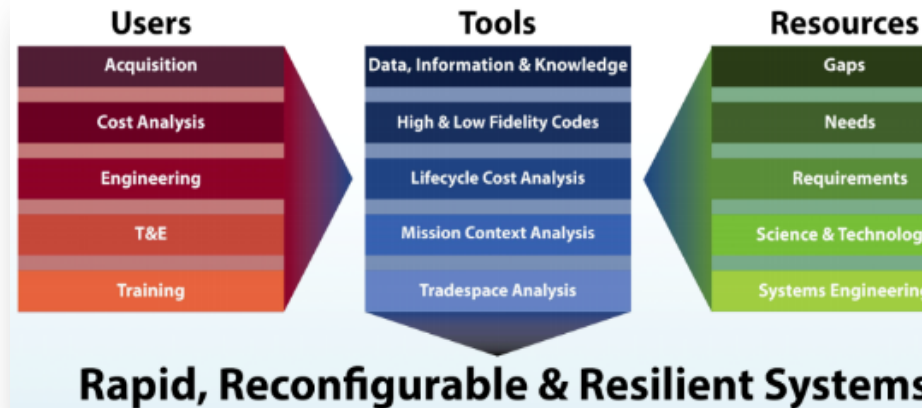
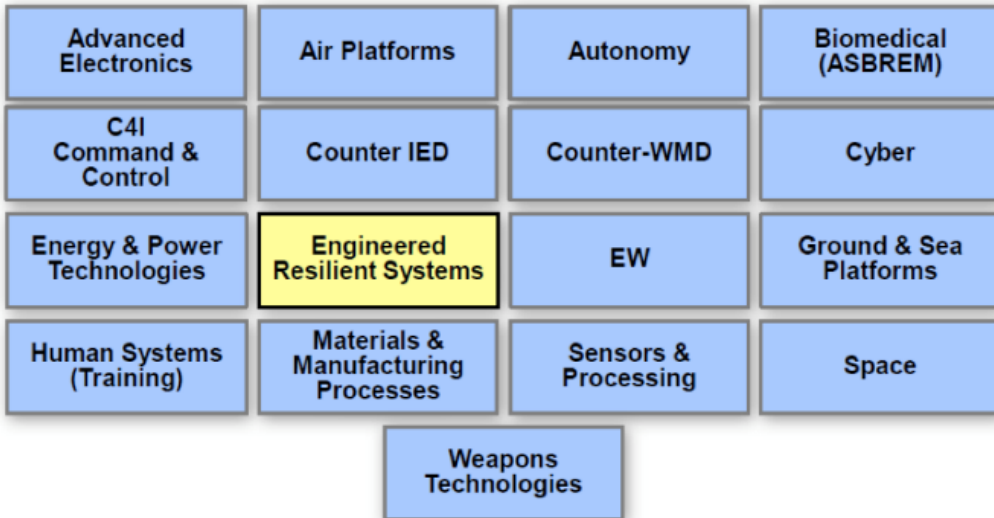
Outline

- Background & Motivation**
- Survey Objective**
- Participant Demographics**
- Sample Study Products**
- Conclusions and Future Work**

Engineered Resilient Systems (ERS)

RELIANCE 21

US Department of Defense
Seventeen Science & Technology Priorities



One of 17 Department of Defense (DoD) Communities of Interest (COI) Dedicated to providing the DoD with “Better Buying Power” through systems architecture, advanced M&S, tradespace tools and analytics, virtual prototyping, etc.

Eslinger, O. Engineered Resilient Systems COI Poster [pdf]. Retrieved from <http://www.acq.osd.mil/chieftechologist/COIs.html>.

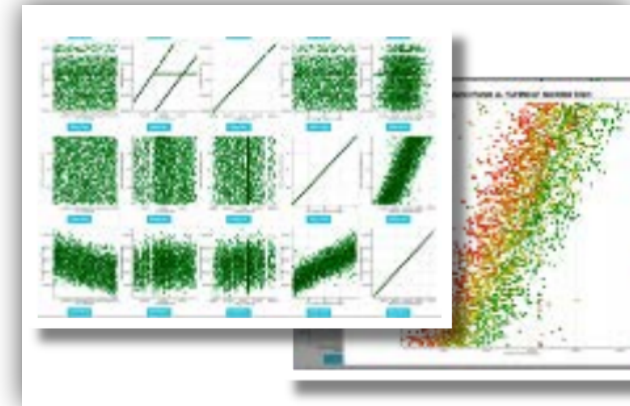
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Tradespace Exploration

The proposed ERS Tradespace is the set of program and system parameters, attributes, and characteristics required to satisfy performance standards. It is the potential solution space.

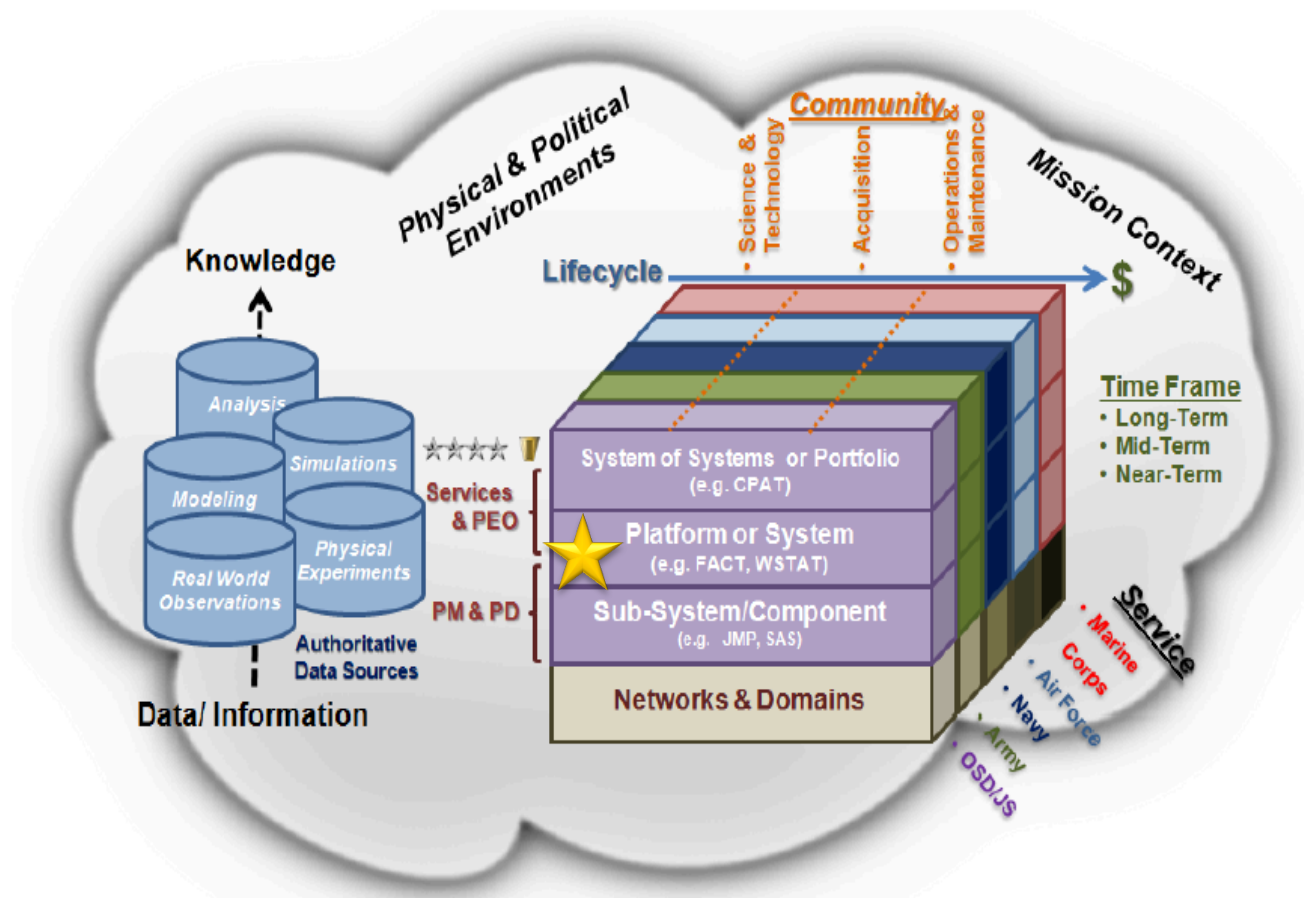
Development of a large tradespace of viable alternatives is essential for a set-based approach of design.



Tradespace exploration supports the systems engineering process for decision analysis by identifying compromises, revealing opportunities, and communicating impacts.

Spero, E., Avera, M.P., Valdez P.E., "Tradespace Exploration for the Engineering of Resilient Systems. Army Research Laboratory, January 2014.

ERS Tradespace Frontier



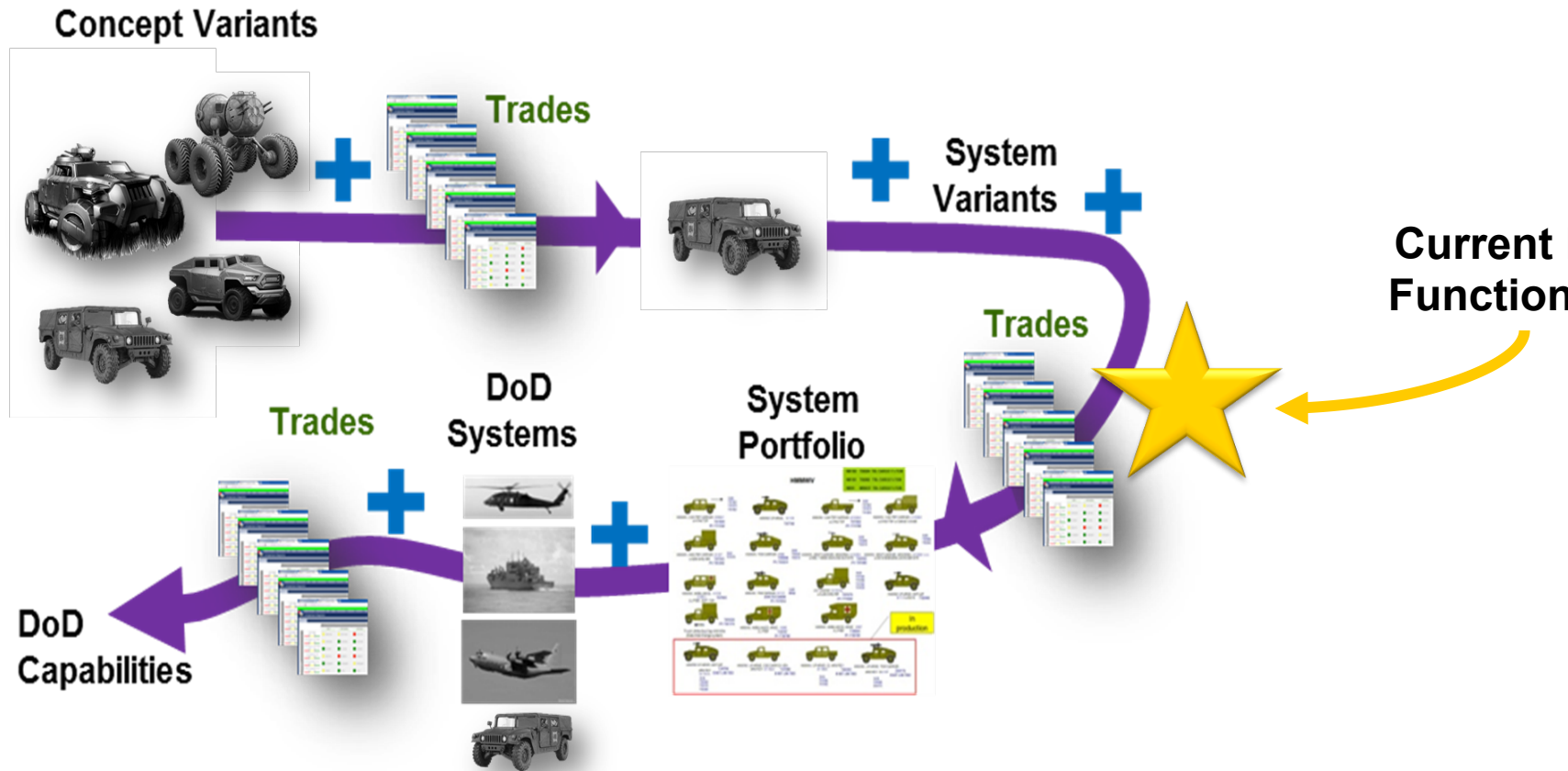
Focus on platform or system portion of the cube, as it applies across timeframes, bodies of knowledge and data, and the system lifecycle

E. Spero, M. P. Avera, P.E. Valdez, S. R. Goerger, "Tradespace Exploration for the Engineering of Resilient Systems", CSER 2014.

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ERS Tradespace Requirements Roadmap



Map represents exemplary method to enable analyzing DoD system, system portfolio, and capability portfolio trades

Kelley, D., Buchanan, R., and Goerger, S., "Tradespace Tool Requirements Exploration for Engineered Resilient Systems", ERDC-ISER 2016.

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Tradespace Tool and Exploration Research Background

Tool Sources and Surveys

- Army Research Laboratory ARL-TR-7288
- Operations Research and the Management Sciences (OR/MS) Today Decision Analysis Software (DAS) Survey
- Rexer Analytics Data Miner Survey
- ERS Demonstration Projects
- Internal organization research and experience

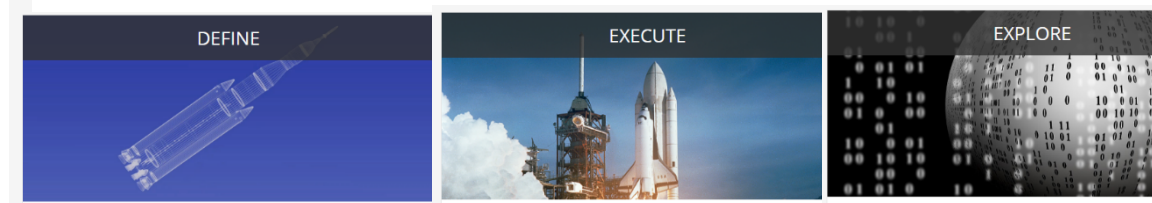


T R A D E B U I L D E R

Tool Reduction

Tool Attributes

Process Steps



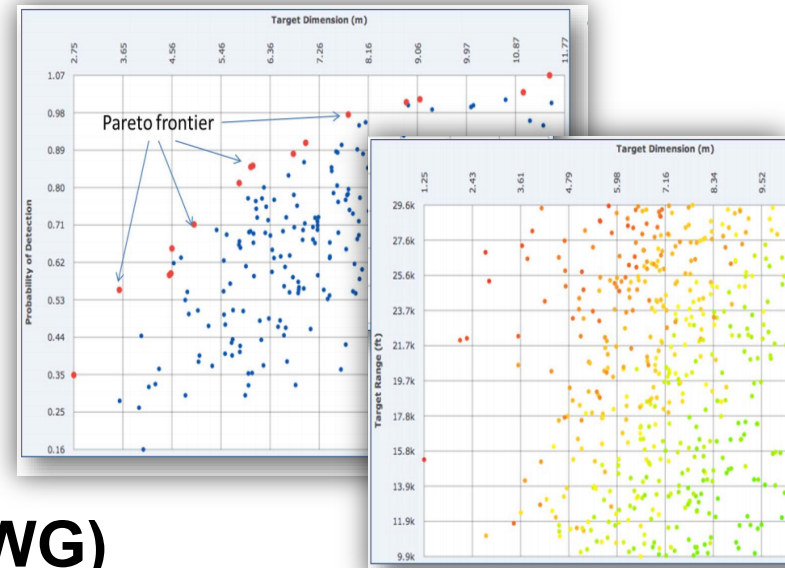
Motivation

Develop an understanding of how tradespace exploration (TSE) tools are used to support the decision analysis process

Leverage the paradigm shift towards common tradespace methods, tools, and steps

Enable the ERS Community of Interest (COI) Tradespace Requirements Working Group (WG) to better assess tools for their ability to accomplish TSE efforts

Inform stakeholders of existing functionality and tradespace tools enhancements under development to meet stakeholder TSE needs



Ender, T. R., et al. Engineered Resilient Systems Tradespace Tools Research RT-120. 6th Annual SERC Sponsor Research Review, 04 December 2014.

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Survey Objective & Analysis

Provides a deeper understanding of how a specific selection of tools is used when performing TSE in support of the systems engineering decision analysis process.

Enables users and developers to better assess if they possess the appropriate tools and capabilities for tradespace exploration and analysis (E&A).

Responses collected from a representative sample of both the software developer and user communities.

The screenshot shows the top portion of a survey titled "Tradespace Tool Survey" from the Institute for Systems Engineering Research (ISER). It includes a progress bar at 5%, a "Survey Information" section, a "Non-participation Statement", and a "Research Objective" section.

ISER INSTITUTE FOR SYSTEMS ENGINEERING RESEARCH

Tradespace Tool Survey

Survey Information

5%

You are being invited to participate in a research project conducted by Institute of Systems Engineering Research (ISER) at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Engineer Research and Development Center's (ERDC) Information Technology Laboratory (ITL). This research is being conducted under the supervision of Dr. Simon R. Goerger, ERDC ISER Director.

Non-participation Statement
Your participation is voluntary and you may refuse to participate or withdraw at any time without penalty or loss of benefits to which you are otherwise entitled.

Research Objective
This research seeks to support the Engineered Resilient Systems (ERS) Tradespace Working Group in the development of a "best common practice" process for their requirements, identifying a set of attributes that defines an ideal tradespace exploration tool, and surveying existing tools to satisfy these attributes. In this way, a set of tools can be selected to enable the ERS tradespace vision on a particular project. To aid the decision maker in performing effective tradespace exploration (TSE), the ERS effort involves providing the necessary engineering concepts, methods, processes, and tools. The goals of this research are to provide to engineering, war-fighting, and acquisition decision makers the needed capability to manage TSE activities

The screenshot shows the "Demographics" section of the survey. It includes a progress bar at 25%, a question about the local organization, and a question about the respondent's position within the organization.

ISER INSTITUTE FOR SYSTEMS ENGINEERING RESEARCH

Tradespace Tool Survey

Demographics

25%

* 2. What is the name of your local organization (ex. ITL, GTRI, TRAC Monterey, etc.)?

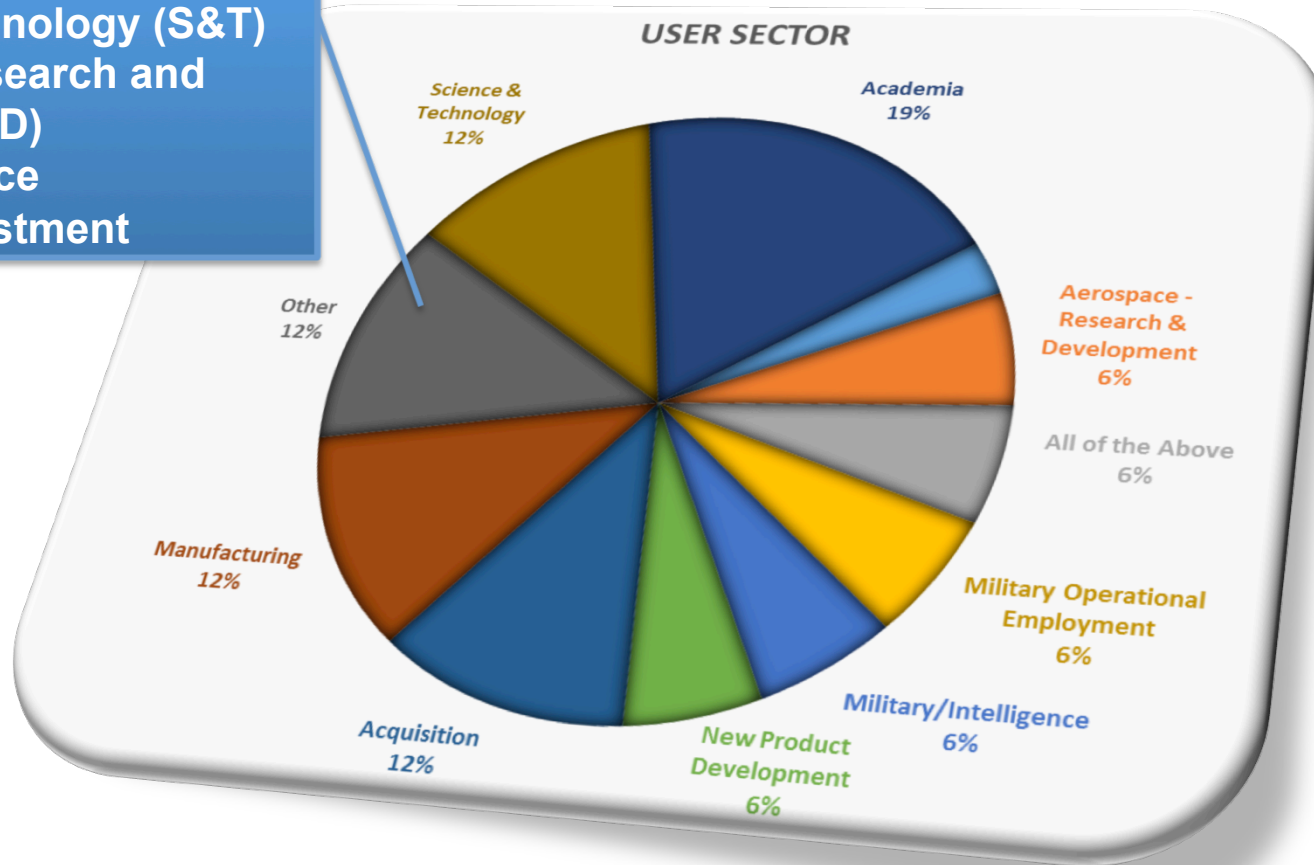
3. Select your position within your organization (choose the most appropriate response).

Analyst
 Manager
 Decision Maker
 Administrative Support
 Other (please specify)

Kelley, D., Goerger, S.R., and Buchanan, R.K., "2015 ERS Tradespace Tool Survey – Evaluating Tradespace Exploration for Engineered Resilient Systems," 2016 Conference on Systems Engineering Research (CSER16), Huntsville, AL, 22-24 March 2016.

Survey Results: Participant Demographics

Factors include:
Science and Technology (S&T)
Acquisition - Research and
Development (R&D)
Military Intelligence
Acquisition and Investment



Top four User Sectors represented 55% of participants:

- Academia
- Acquisition
- Manufacturing
- Science and Technology

Survey results indicate that TSE is applied across DoD analytical efforts

Kelley, D., Goerger, S.R., and Buchanan, R.K., "2015 ERS Tradespace Tool Survey – Evaluating Tradespace Exploration for Engineered Resilient Systems," 2016 Conference on Systems Engineering Research (CSER16), Huntsville, AL, 22-24 March 2016.

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Survey Results: Tradespace Tools

Tools in development:

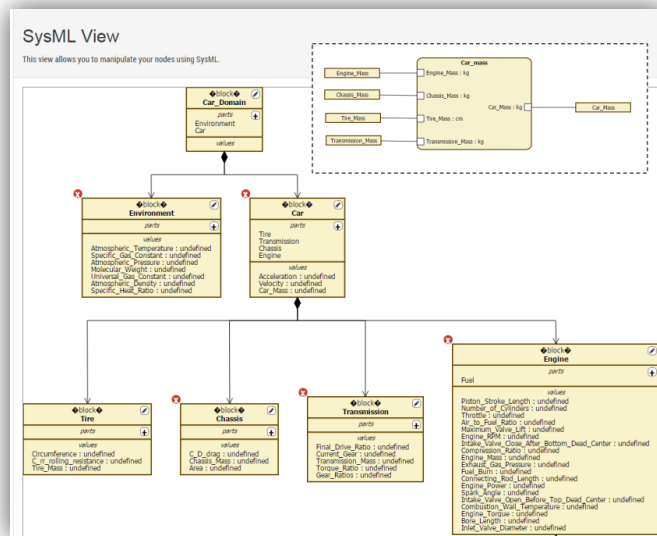
ATSV

ERS Tradespace Tool

IVTea Suite

JMP Statistical Package

MAT/Mercury



Tools in use:

- Any SysML Authoring Tool
- ATSV
- CPAT
- Excel
- FACT
- IVTea Suite (internal usage)
- JPAT
- JMP
- Matlab
- Mathematica
- ModelCenter
- OpenMDAO
- R
- WSTAT

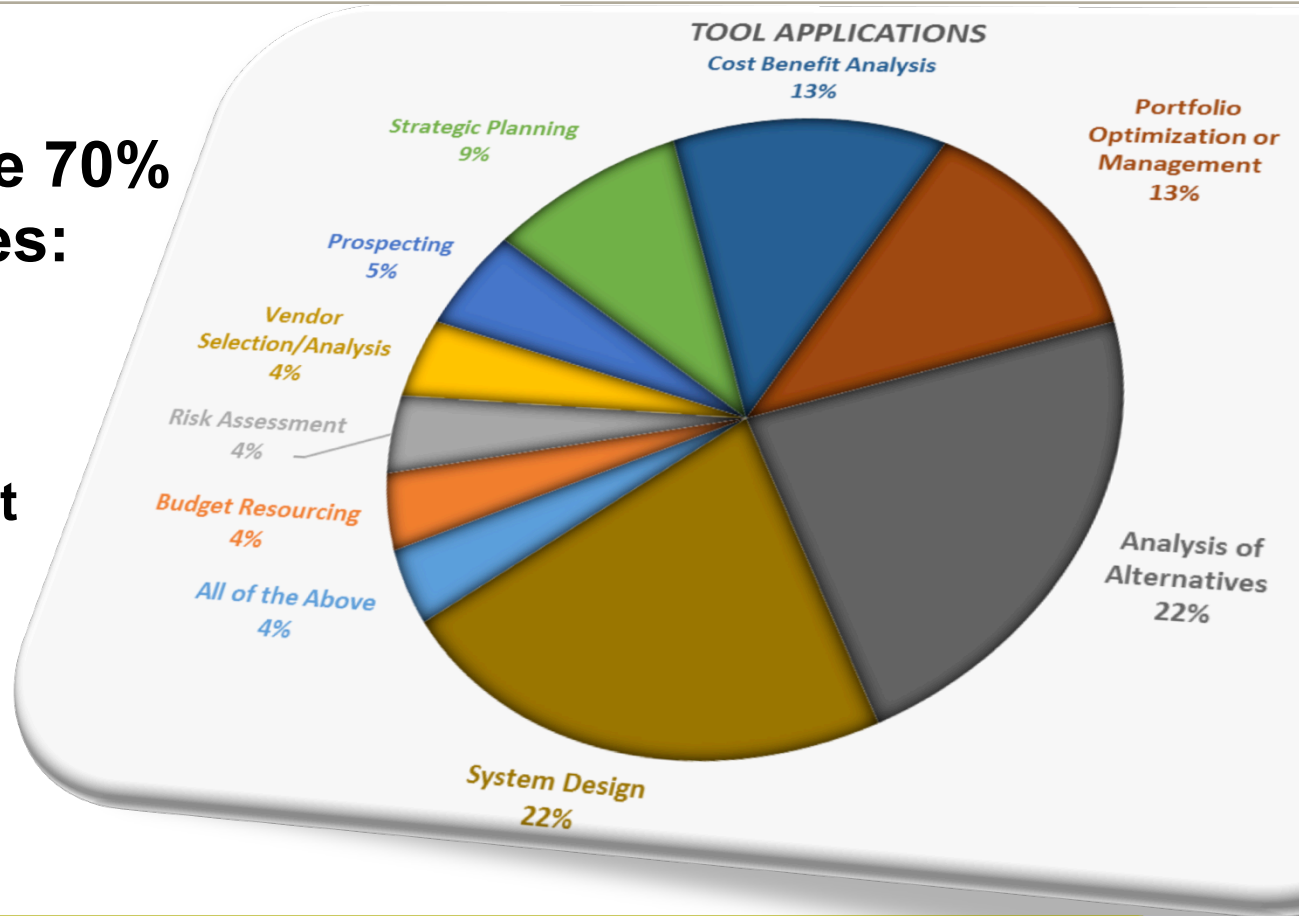
Kelley, D., Goerger, S.R., and Buchanan, R.K., "2015 ERS Tradespace Tool Survey – Evaluating Tradespace Exploration for Engineered Resilient Systems," 2016 Conference on Systems Engineering Research (CSER16), Huntsville, AL, 22-24 March 2016.

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Survey Results: Decision Analysis Efforts

Four Tool Applications were 70%
tradespace tool use cases:
Analysis of Alternatives
Systems Design
Cost Benefit Analysis
Portfolio Optimization/Management



**Survey results indicate that TSE is used most often in:
System Design, AoA, Cost Benefit Analysis, and Portfolio Management**

Kelley, D., Goerger, S.R., and Buchanan, R.K., "2015 ERS Tradespace Tool Survey – Evaluating Tradespace Exploration for Engineered Resilient Systems," 2016 Conference on Systems Engineering Research (CSER16), Huntsville, AL, 22-24 March 2016.

Requirements Breakdown Summary

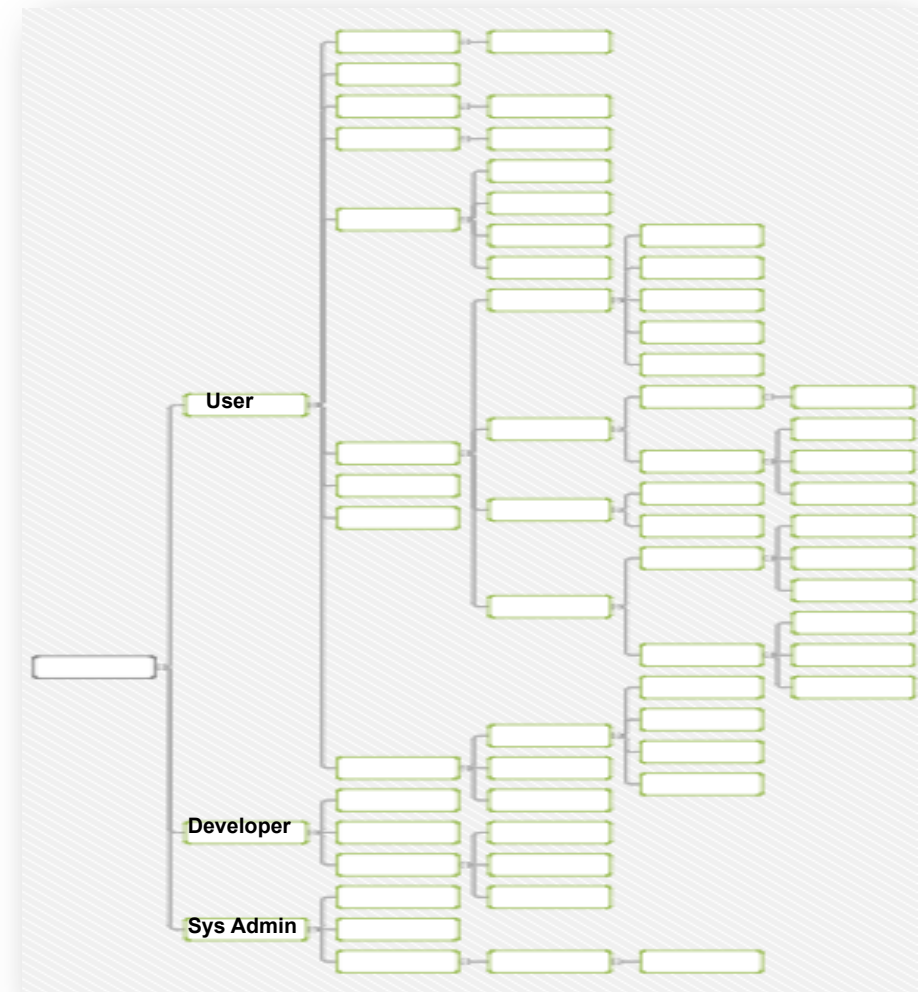
Total Requirements (96)

Capability Categories (17)

- Analysis of Alternatives
- Modeling and Simulation
- Decision Support
- Etc.

Roles (3)

- User
- Developer
- Systems Administration

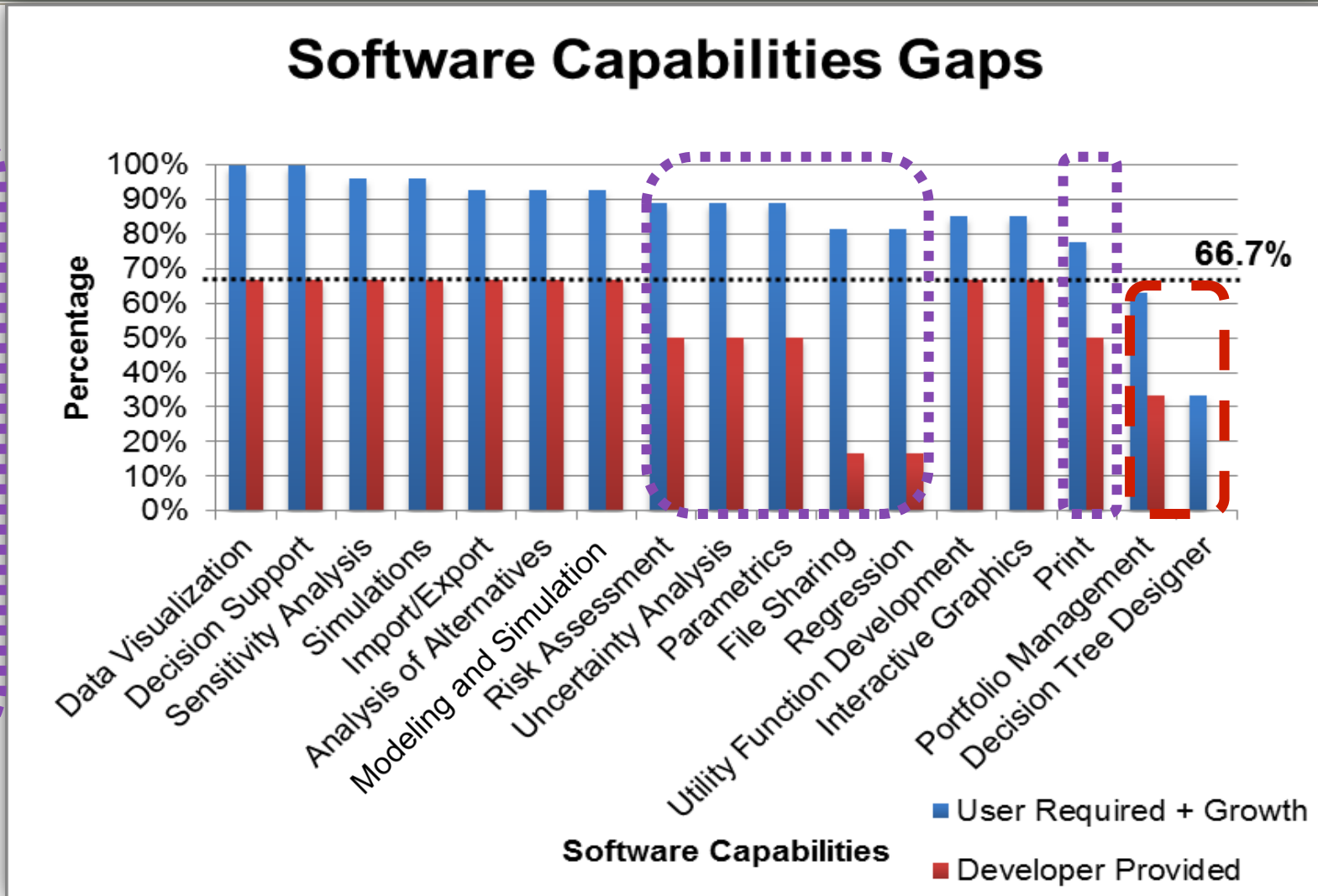


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Survey Results: Desired and Developed



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 Design

Kelley, D., Goerger, S.R., and Buchanan, R.K., "2015 ERS Tradespace Tool Survey – Evaluating Tradespace Exploration for Engineered Resilient Systems," 2016 Conference on Systems Engineering Research (CSER16), Huntsville, AL, 22-24 March 2016.

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Survey Results: Expanding Capabilities

Uncertainty Analysis:

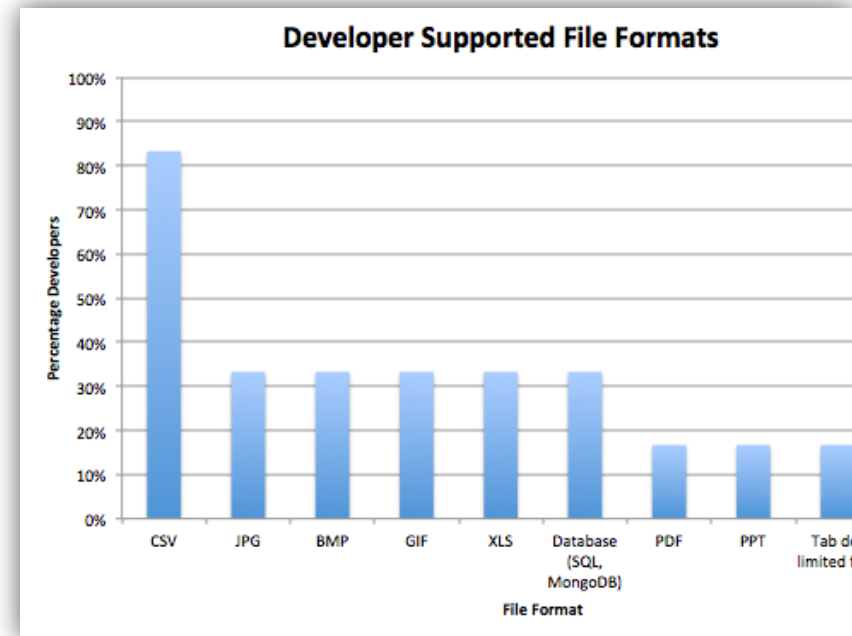
- Type A and Type B
- Propagation of Error
- Uncertainty Budgets
- Sensitivity Coefficients
- Standard and Expanded Uncertainties

Cost Estimating Resources:

- Excel Cost Models
- Automated Cost Estimation Integrated Tools (ACEIT)
- Planned for next version of software

Supported Programming Languages

- C
- Java
- JMP Script
- R
- HTML
- Java Script
- Python



Kelley, D., Goerger, S.R., and Buchanan, R.K., "2015 ERS Tradespace Tool Survey – Evaluating Tradespace Exploration for Engineered Resilient Systems," 2016 Conference on Systems Engineering Research (CSER16), Huntsville, AL, 22-24 March 2016.

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Conclusion and Next Steps

Identified, evaluated, and proposed 96 strategic and sub-level requirements for the ERS COI

**Established better understanding of tradespace exploration & analysis tools
Provided insight into the development of a standardized process to identify tradespace tools and tool requirements**

Inform stakeholders (including industry partners) of existing capabilities and critical strategic tradespace tool requirements in support of DoD tradespace efforts

Continued investigation to identify additional enhancements to tradespace tools in support of ERS and industry partner requirements to include:

Supported Programming Languages (for integration of new/enhanced models)

Uncertainty Analysis

Cost Estimating Resources

Acknowledgements

The authors would like to acknowledge the respondents of the 2015 Tradespace Tool Surveys whose participation and support allowed for successful survey analysis and tradespace evaluation. Finally, we would like to acknowledge all ERS COI Tradespace Tool Requirements Working Group members for their willingness to support and participate in defining, identifying, and discussing tool gaps and developing initial requirements for future ERS tradespace E&A tool development and assessment efforts.



Questions?

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