



Air Force Research Laboratory



100 YEARS OF U.S. AIR FORCE
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Integrity ★ Service ★ Excellence

AFRL Sensing Autonomy Vision for NDIA

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RY Autonomy Vision



Autonomy Vision: Timely Generation of knowledge to improve every AF decision

An autonomous sensing system can understand any multi-domain mission environment as a single integrated battlespace through a scalable combination of peer, task, and cognitive flexibilities, executes mission effects, and assesses them in a timely manner.

Flexibility is the key to defense autonomy!





The Need for Change



- **Currently USAF is good at generating knowledge using predefined meaning and specific tasks in a linear fashion**
 - Approach to knowledge generation is manual, slow and not scalable
 - Only a small percentage of the data is used to generate knowledge – limited by manpower
- **Goal of autonomy is to generate knowledge applicable across numerous tasks to break linearity**
 - Provides ability to utilize multi-domain knowledge for faster decisions and actions/effects
 - Applies at all levels of instantiations
- **Defense autonomy application requires flexibility**
 - Cognitive, peer, and task flexibilities



Sensing Autonomy Scenario

- Information requests and Tasking
- Coordinated Sensing and effects
- Decision-aids & Human-Machine Interaction

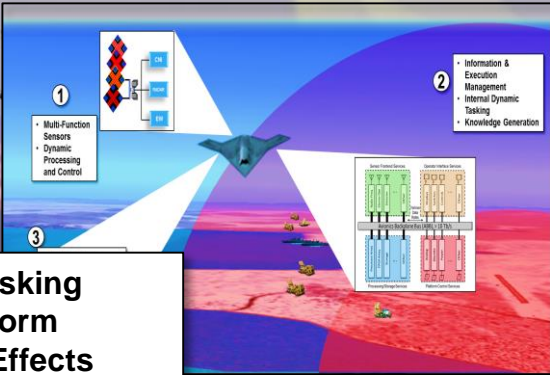
Knowledge Generation for Human-Based Decisions

- Inputs: Mission Objectives, ROEs, Tasks
- Multi-Domain Fusion
- Decision-aids & Human-Machine Interaction

- Dynamic Tasking
- Dynamic Networking
- Multi-Platform Sensing & Effects

Knowledge Generation for Multi-Domain Effects

- Dynamic Tasking
- Single-Platform Sensing & Effects
- Multi-Sensor Fusion



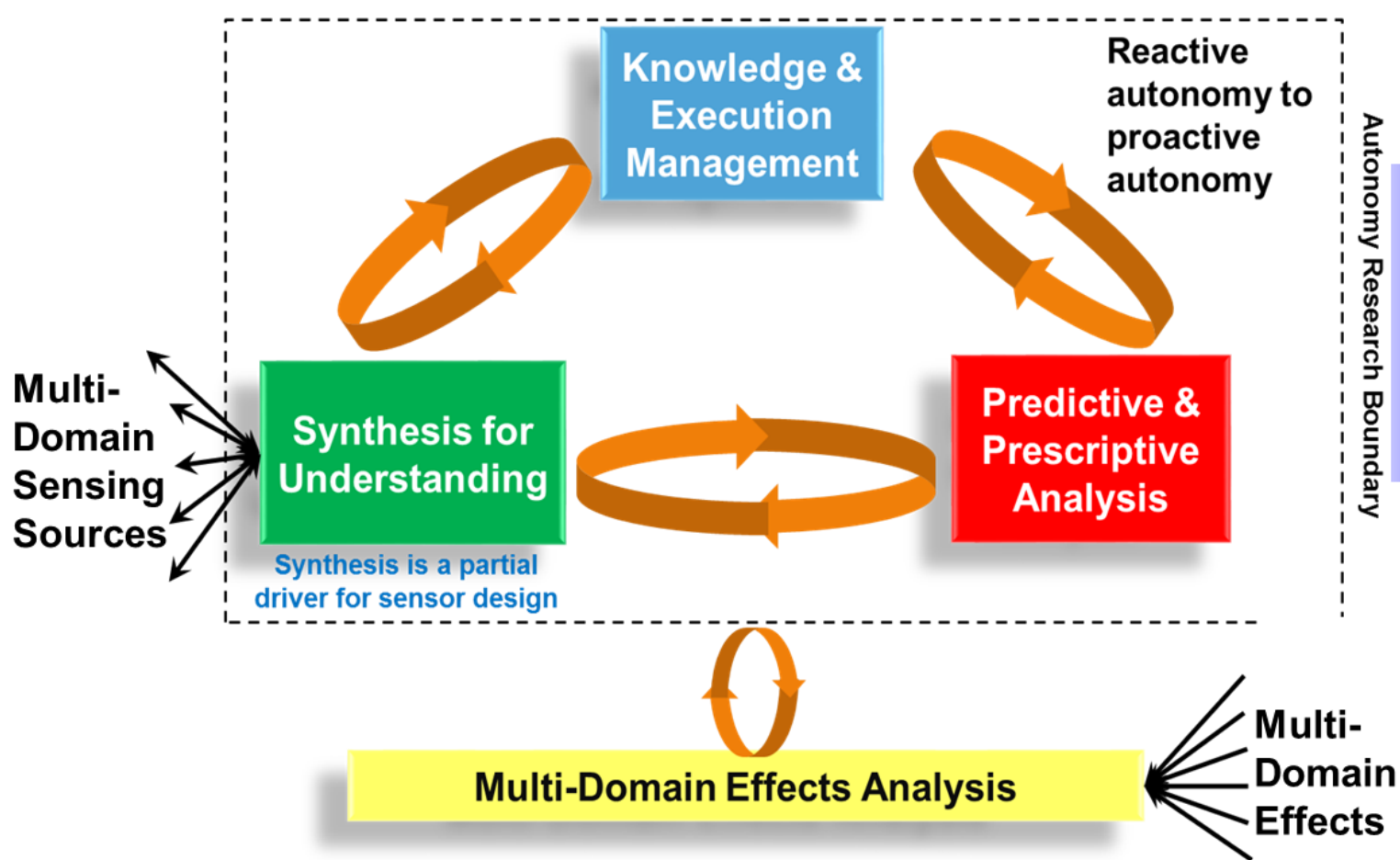
Sensing capabilities to generate knowledge for Multi-Domain SA and Effects



R/Y Autonomy Science Challenges



R/Y Autonomy Research Thrusts



Key Technologies

- Multi-phenomenology level machine learning
- Robust knowledge representation strategies
- Flexible resource management and architecture strategies
- Decision & game theory
- Advanced computing
- Dynamic optimization theory
- Joint inference and control
- Multi-domain constructive MS&A tools
- Cognitive EW



Thank You

