



Safety Management Challenges for Aviation Cyber Physical Systems

Prof. R. John Hansman & Roland Weibel

**MIT International Center for Air
Transportation**

rjhans@mit.edu, weibel@mit.edu



Challenges

- **Target Level of Safety Expectations**
- **System Complexity**
- **Prognostic vs Forensic Data Analysis**
- **Safety Assurance and Operational Approval**
 - New Systems and Procedures
 - Standards
- **Software Development and Certification**
- **High Confidence Human-Systems Integration**

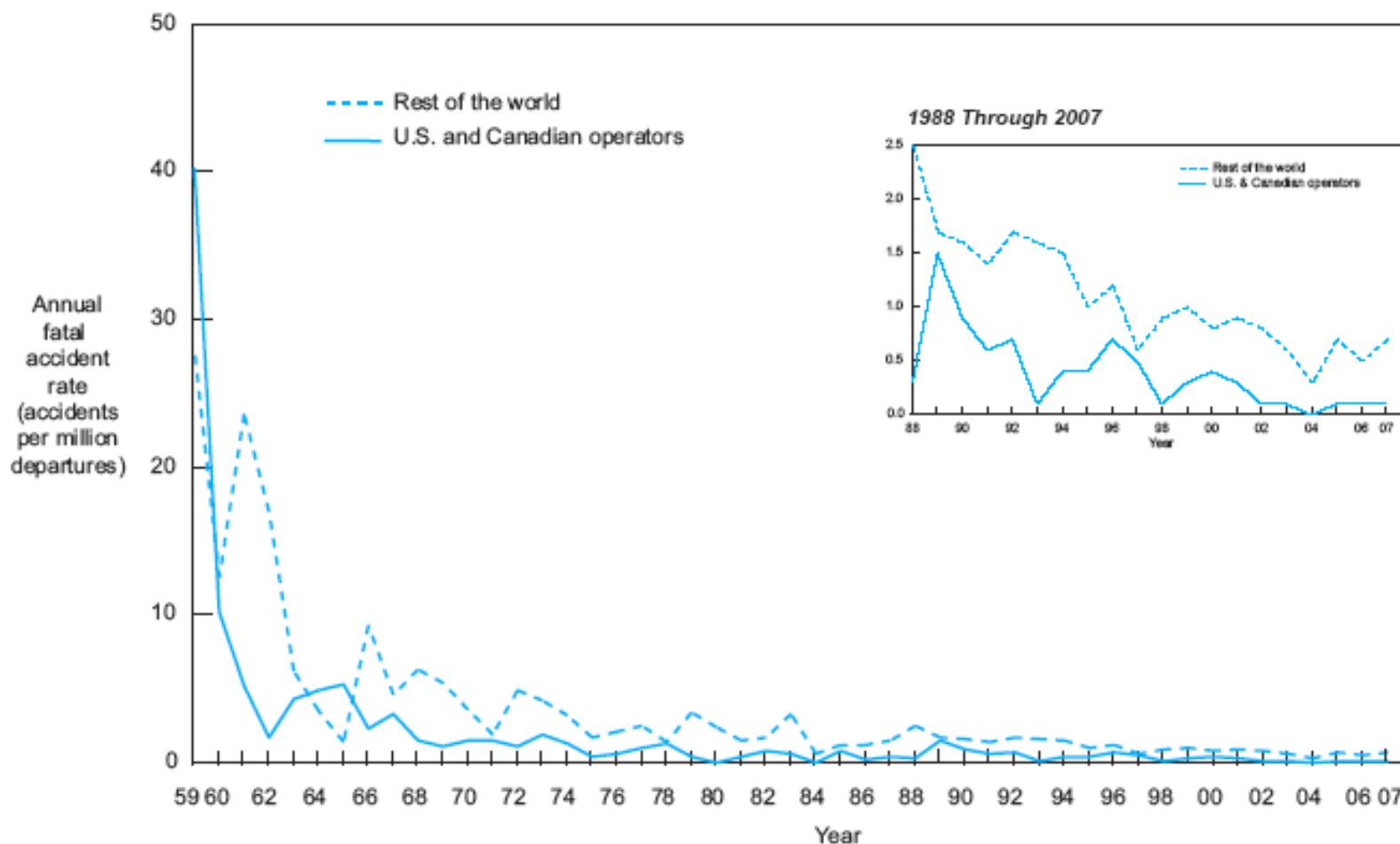


Challenges

- **Target Level of Safety Expectations**
- **System Complexity**
- **Prognostic vs Forensic Data Analysis**
- **Safety Assurance and Operational Approval**
 - New Systems and Procedures
 - Standards
- **Software Development and Certification**
- **High Confidence Human-Systems Integration**

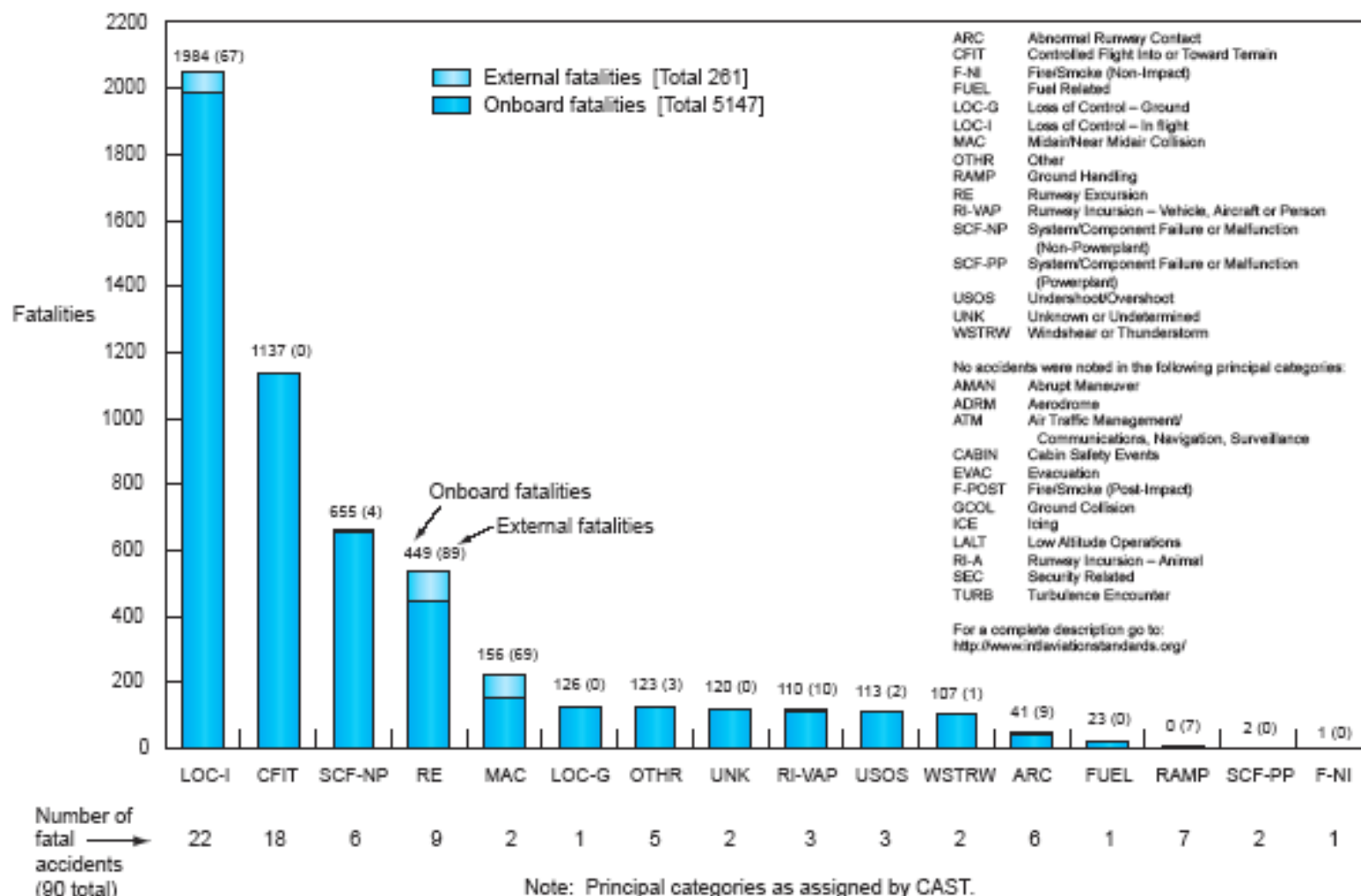
U.S. and Canadian Operators Accident Rates by Year

Fatal Accidents – Worldwide Commercial Jet Fleet – 1959 Through 2007



Fatalities by CAST/ICAO Common Taxonomy Team (CICTT) Aviation Occurrence Categories

Fatal Accidents – Worldwide Commercial Jet Fleet – 1998 Through 2007



- ARC Abnormal Runway Contact
- CFIT Controlled Flight Into or Toward Terrain
- F-NI Fire/Smoke (Non-Impact)
- FUEL Fuel Related
- LOC-G Loss of Control – Ground
- LOC-I Loss of Control – In flight
- MAC Midair/Near Midair Collision
- OTHR Other
- RAMP Ground Handling
- RE Runway Excursion
- RI-VAP Runway Incursion – Vehicle, Aircraft or Person
- SCF-NP System/Component Failure or Malfunction (Non-Powerplant)
- SCF-PP System/Component Failure or Malfunction (Powerplant)
- USOS Undershoot/Overshoot
- UNK Unknown or Undetermined
- WSTRW Windshear or Thunderstorm

No accidents were noted in the following principal categories:

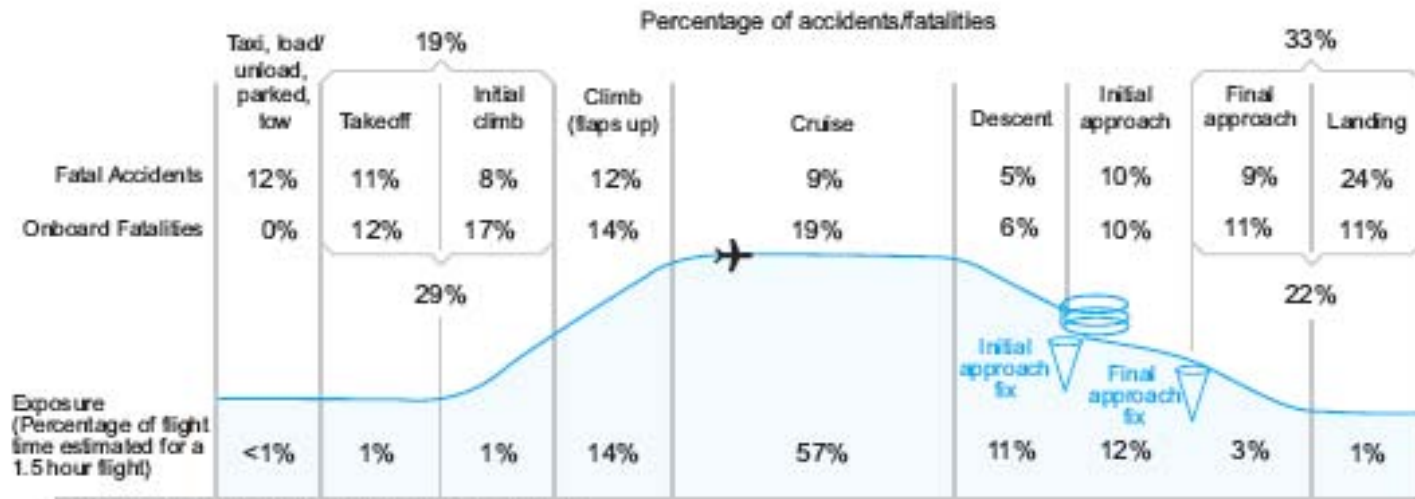
- AMAN Abrupt Maneuver
- ADRM Aerodrome
- ATM Air Traffic Management/ Communications, Navigation, Surveillance
- CABIN Cabin Safety Events
- EVAC Evacuation
- F-POST Fire/Smoke (Post-Impact)
- GCOL Ground Collision
- ICE Icing
- LALT Low Altitude Operations
- RI-A Runway Incursion – Animal
- SEC Security Related
- TURB Turbulence Encounter

For a complete description go to: <http://www.internationalstandards.org/>

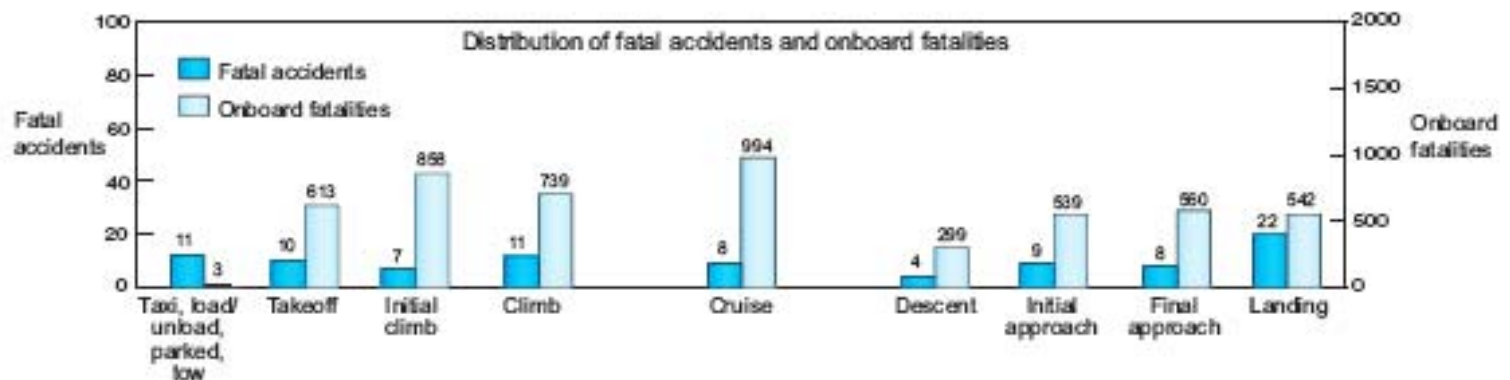


Fatal Accidents and Onboard Fatalities by Phase of Flight

Worldwide Commercial Jet Fleet – 1998 Through 2007



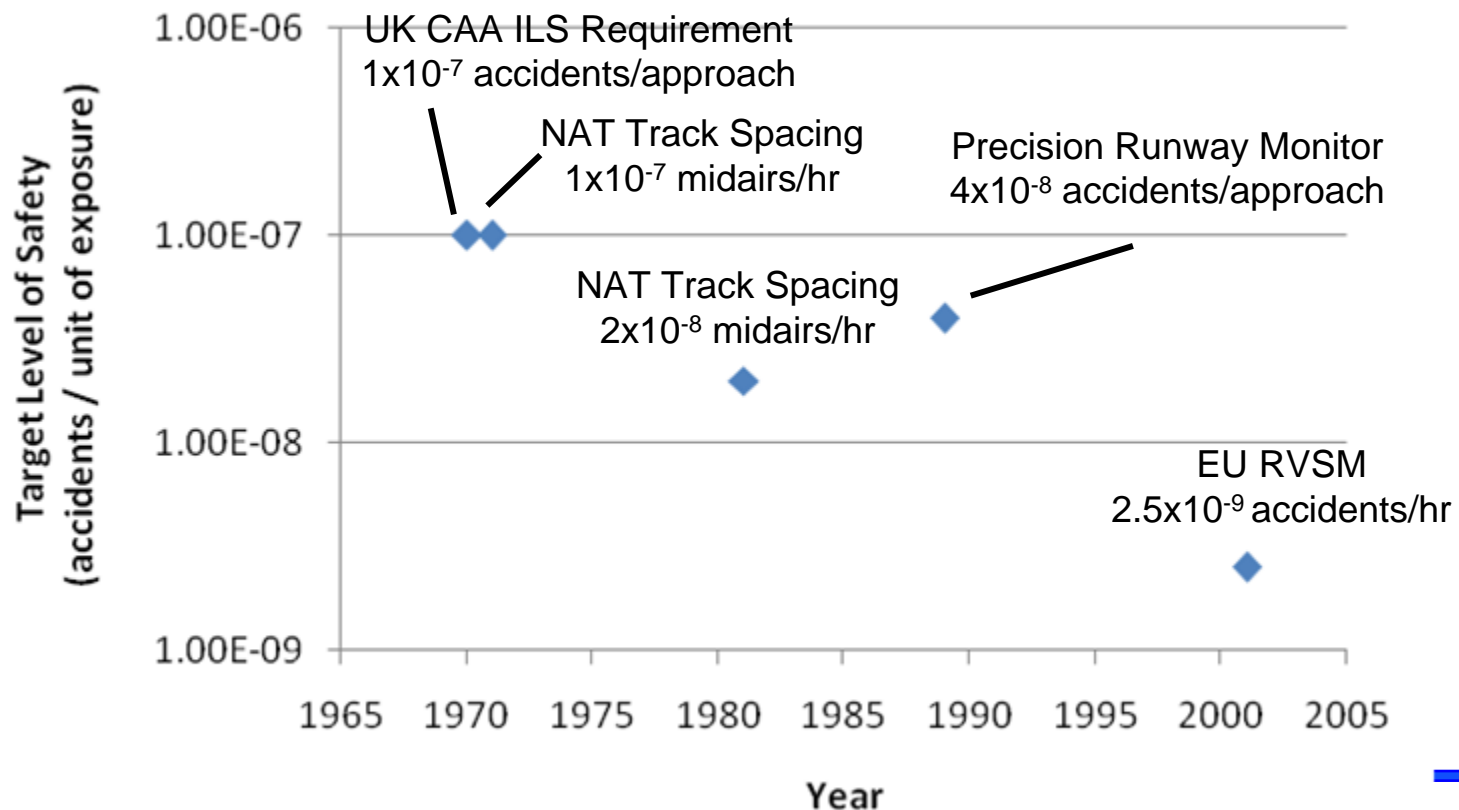
Percentages may not sum to 100% due to numerical rounding.





Increasing Stringency Of Safety Standards

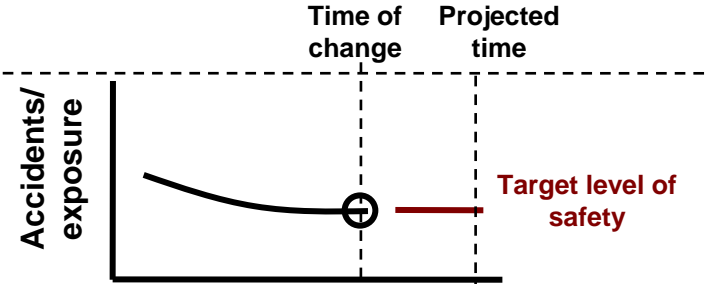
- **Safety targets and assessment process reviewed for past changes**
 - CAA ILS Requirements
 - EU Reduced Vertical Separation Minimums (RVSM)
 - North Atlantic Track (NAT) Separation – (2 cases)
 - Precision Runway Monitor (PRM)



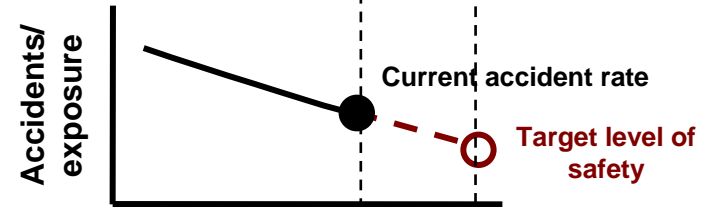


Approaches to Setting the Target Level of Safety

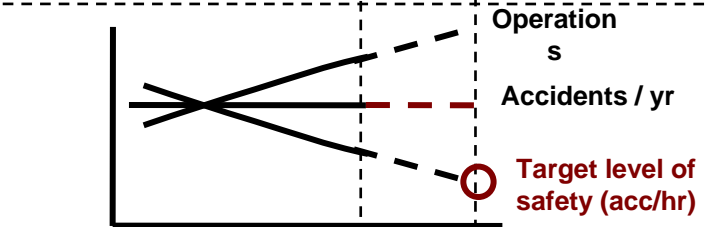
Parity: TLS set equal to the current accident rate
 Example: Precision Runway Monitor (PRM)



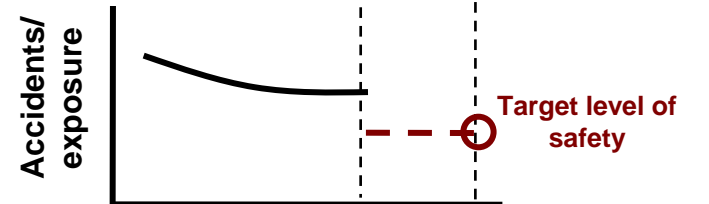
Extrapolation/Risk Ratio: TLS set by fixed improvement in risk, or continuance of extrapolated risk reduction
 Examples: North Atlantic Longitudinal Spacing, TCAS



Homeostasis: TLS calculated to maintain constant annual accident frequency
 Examples: Mineta Commission, SESAR targets



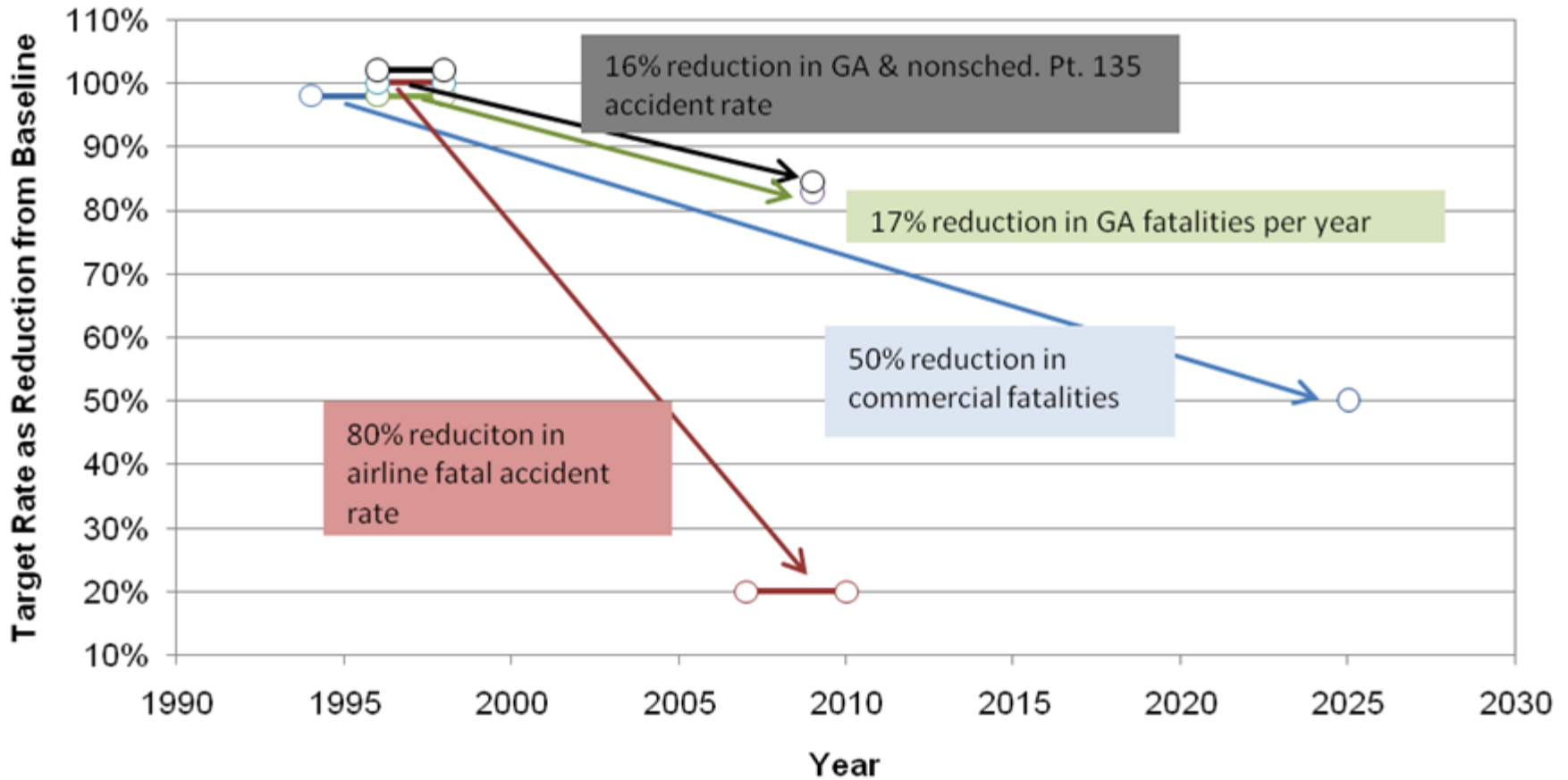
Absolute: TLS set regardless of accident frequencies
 Examples: ATO Safety Management System





Continued Target Reductions in Accident Rates

2008 AVS Business Plan



Safety Risk Management

Federal Aviation Administration Safety Management System Manual

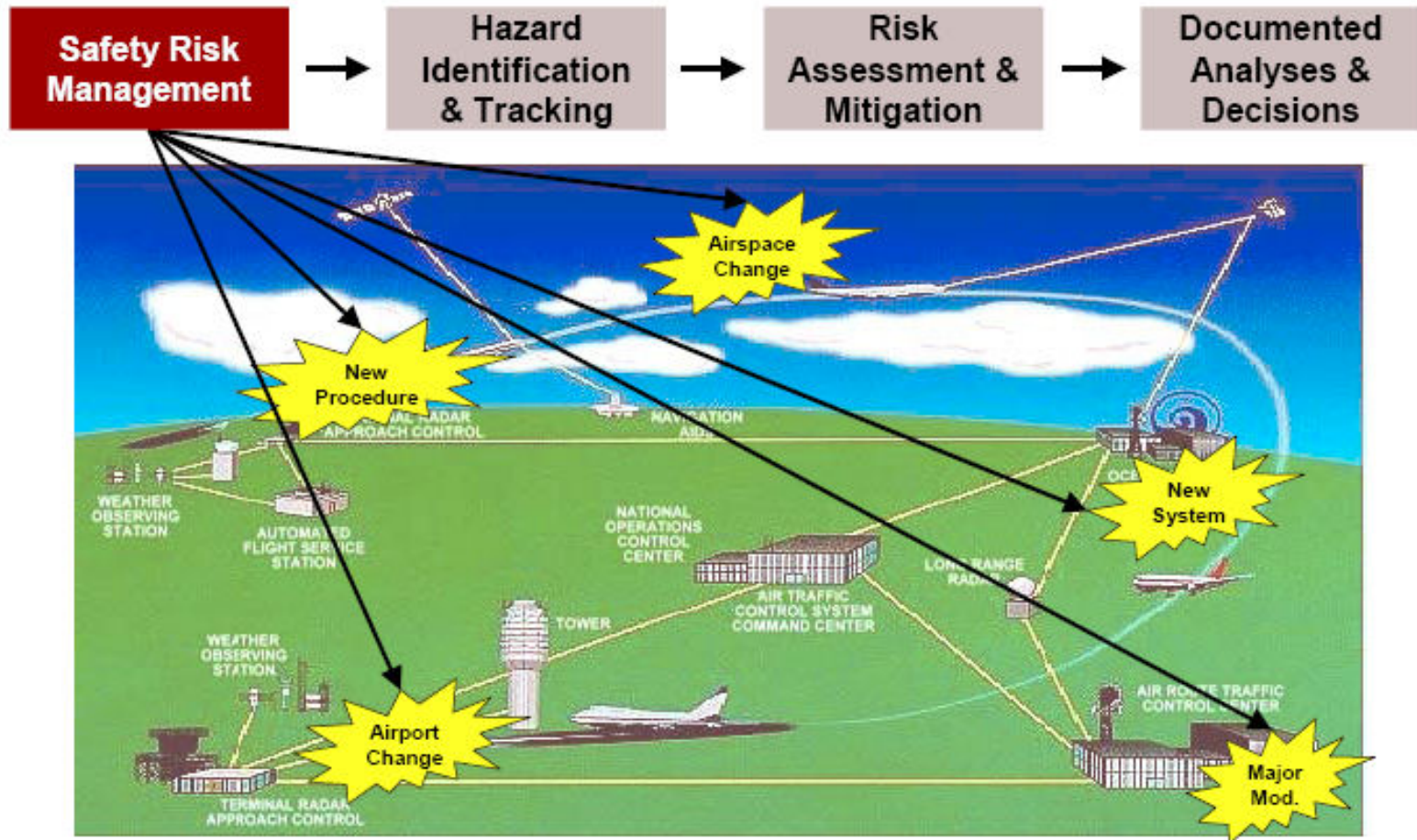


Version 1.1

May 21, 2004

- **FAA Safety Management System (SMS)**
- **Documented Guidelines for Performing Safety Risk Management**
- **Primarily Directed to ATO Personnel**
- **Stated Applicability to all systems related to ATC, navigation, and acquisition**
- **Purpose of Risk Management: A structured process to examine potential causes of accidents and prioritize requirements to mitigate risk to an acceptable level**

NAS Change Areas for Analysis of Safety Impacts



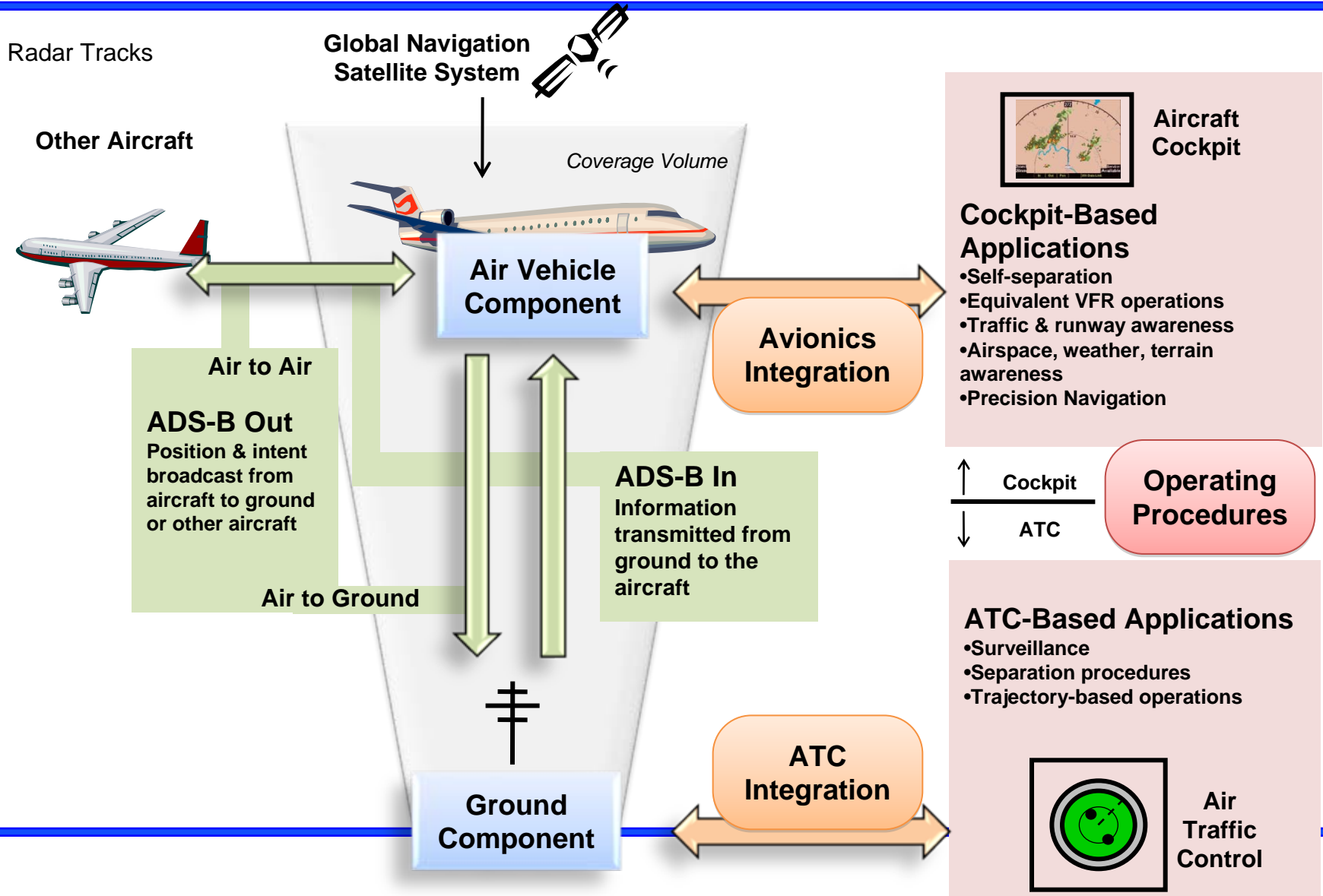


Challenges

- Target Level of Safety Expectations
- **System Complexity**
- Prognostic vs Forensic Data Analysis
- **Safety Assurance and Operational Approval**
 - New Systems and Procedures
 - Standards
- **Software Development and Certification**
- **High Confidence Human-Systems Integration**



Distributed Air-Ground Systems (eg ADS-B)





Challenges

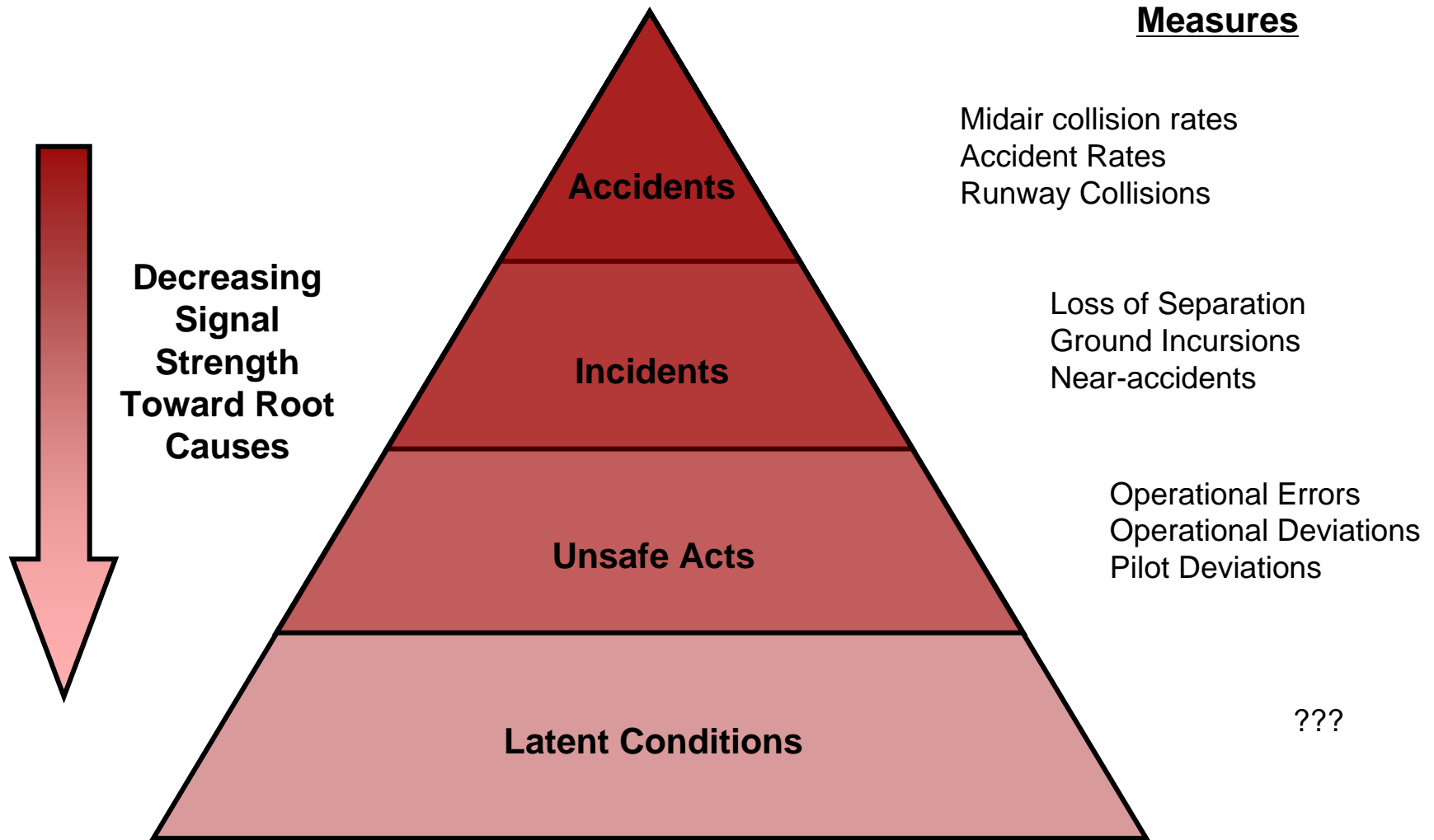
- **Target Level of Safety Expectations**
- **System Complexity**
- **Prognostic vs Forensic Data Analysis**
- **Safety Assurance and Operational Approval**
 - New Systems and Procedures
 - Standards
- **Software Development and Certification**
- **High Confidence Human-Systems Integration**



Need for New Approaches to Data Analysis

- **Forensic vs Prognostic Approaches**
- **As safety improves, signals of accident causes weaken**
 - “Paradox of Almost Totally Safe Transportation Systems” – Rene Amalberti
- **Current data approaches are generally based on simple exceedance parameters**
 - FOQA – envelope exceedance
 - Operations certificate – procedural non-compliance
- **Current data mining methods are not prognostic**
 - Require hypothesis or identified problem
 - Forensic: after-accident investigation

Accidents and Precursors





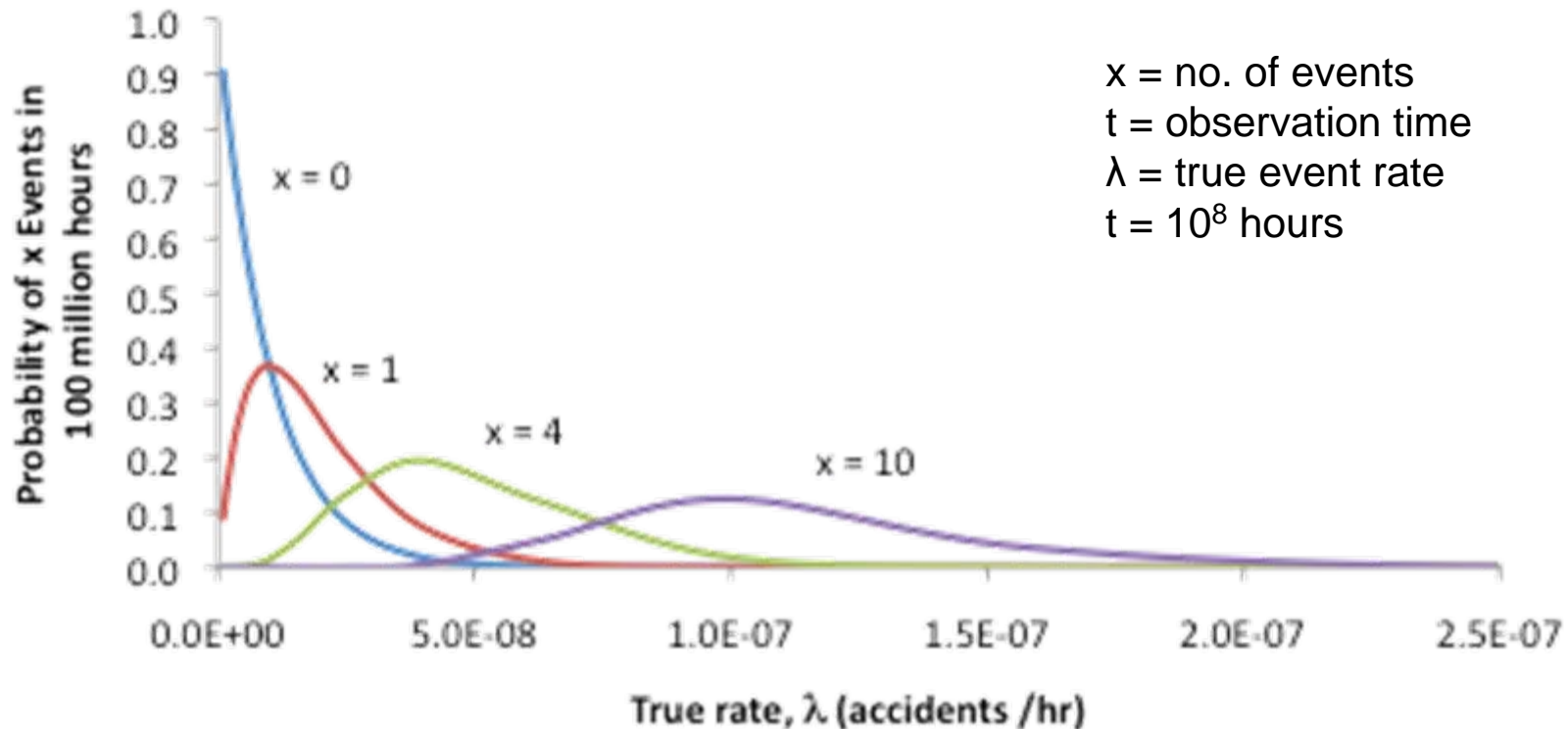
Confidence Intervals on Rate of Rare Event

- **Poisson Distribution:** probability f of observing x events over time t if true rate is λ
- **Alternate formulation** (after applying Bayes rule): given x observed events over time t , what is distribution g of true rate λ ?

$$f_x(x | \lambda, t) = \frac{(\lambda)^x e^{-\lambda}}{x!}$$

$$g(\lambda | x, t) = \frac{(\lambda t)^x e^{-\lambda t}}{x!}$$

x = no. of events
 t = observation time
 λ = true event rate
 $t = 10^8$ hours





Need for New Approaches to Data Analysis

- **Forensic vs Prognostic Approaches**
- **As safety improves, signals of accident causes weaken**
 - “Paradox of Almost Totally Safe Transportation Systems” – Rene Amalberti
- **Current data approaches are generally based on simple exceedance parameters**
 - FOQA – envelope exceedance
 - Operations certificate – procedural non-compliance
- **Current data mining methods are not prognostic**
 - Require hypothesis or identified problem
 - Forensic: after-accident investigation



Increasing Set of Potential Data Sources (Multiple Formats)

- **Flight Data Recorder (CVR)**
 - 300 to 1000 states
 - 1/5 to 30 hz
- **Other Electronic Recordings**
 - GPS, FMS, Instrumentation
- **Cockpit Voice Recorder (CVR)**
- **Air Ground Communications**
 - Voice, Data
- **Trajectory Data**
 - Radar, Multilateration, ADS-B
- **Self Reports**
 - Pilots, Controllers, Mechanics
 - ASAS, NASA ASRS
- **Accident, Incident Reports**
- **Dispatch and Weather Data**
- **Maintenance Data**
 - Performance Tracking Data
 - Logbook writeups
- **Aircrew Data**
 - Medical
 - Performance
 - Rest
- **Developmental Test Data**
- **Video**
- **Oversight**
 - Air Carrier Oversight (ATOS)



Challenges

- Target Level of Safety Expectations
- System Complexity
- Prognostic vs Forensic Data Analysis
- **Safety Assurance and Operational Approval**
 - New Systems and Procedures
 - Standards
- Software Development and Certification
- High Confidence Human-Systems Integration



Severity/Likelihood Measure of Risk

Severity \ Likelihood	No Safety Effect 5	Minor 4	Major 3	Hazardous 2	Catastrophic 1
Frequent A	Low Risk	Medium Risk	High Risk	High Risk	High Risk
Probable B	Low Risk	Medium Risk	High Risk	High Risk	High Risk
Remote C	Low Risk	Low Risk	Medium Risk	High Risk	High Risk
Extremely Remote D	Low Risk	Low Risk	Low Risk	Medium Risk	High Risk
Extremely Improbable E	Low Risk	Low Risk	Low Risk	Low Risk	High Risk*

* Unacceptable with Single Point and Common Cause Failures

High Risk
Medium Risk
Low Risk

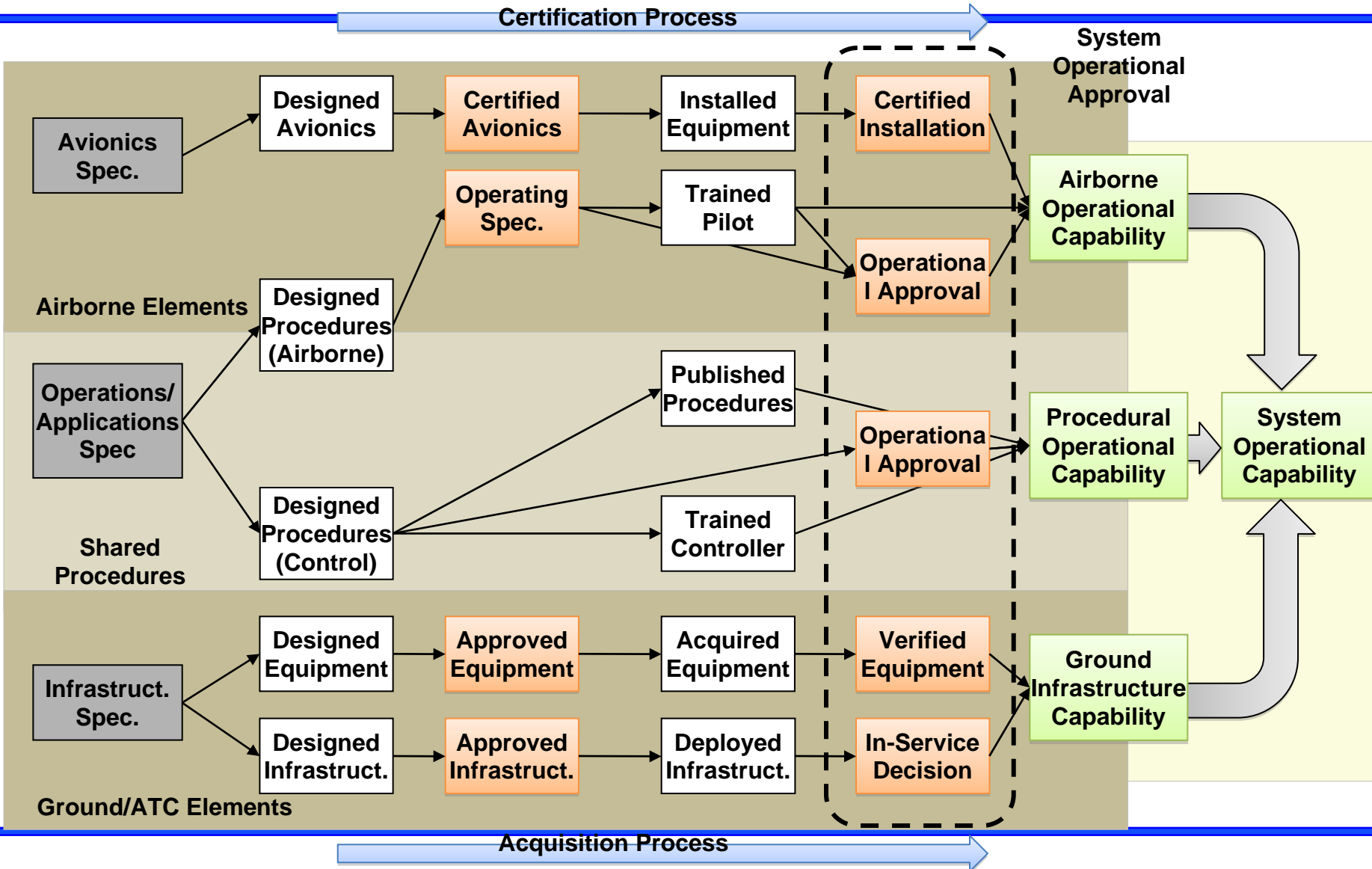
From SMS:

- **High Risk- Unacceptable**
- **Medium Risk- Minimum Acceptable**
- **Low Risk- Target**



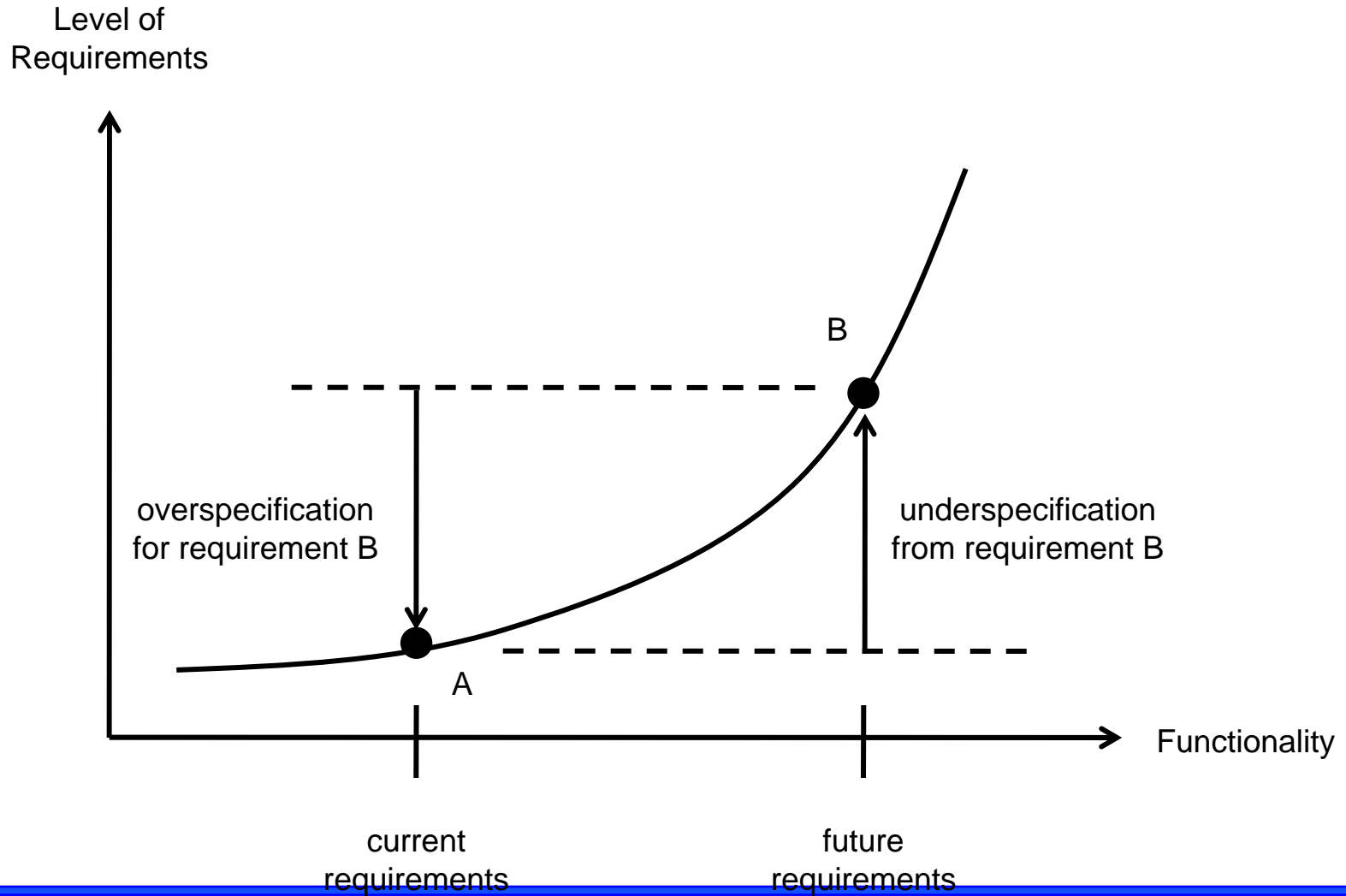
Simplified Set of States Required to Achieve Operational Capability

General Air/Ground Integrated System





Level of Requirements for Future Functionality





Challenges

- **Target Level of Safety Expectations**
- **System Complexity**
- **Prognostic vs Forensic Data Analysis**
- **Safety Assurance and Operational Approval**
 - New Systems and Procedures
 - Standards
- **Software Development and Certification**
- **High Confidence Human-Systems Integration**



CNS/ATM Software Assurance Based on Risk

CNS/ATM SWAL Assignment Matrix

LIKELIHOOD OF OCCURRENCE

		No Safety Effect	Minor	Major	Hazardous	Catastrophic
SEVERITY	Probable (Note: 2)	AL 6/E	AL 5/D	AL 3/C	AL 2/B	AL 1/A
	Frequent	AL 6/E	AL 5/D	AL 3/C	AL 2/B	AL 1/A
	Remote	AL 6	AL 5	AL 4	AL 3	AL 2
	Extremely Remote	AL 6	AL 5	AL 4	AL 4	AL 3
	Extremely Improbable	AL 6	AL 6	AL 5	AL 5	AL 4

- Software assurance is often used to control risk by mitigating anomalous software behavior.
- Software assurance provides the confidence and artifacts to ensure the system safety requirements implemented in software function as designed.

Note:

1. Minimally recommended SW assurance levels based on system risk, any deviation must be pre-approved by the appropriate approval/certification authority.
2. DO-278 equates to DO-178B for SW whose functionality has a direct impact on aircraft operations (e.g., ILS, WAAS).



DO-178B Software Design Assurance Levels (DALs)

Level	Failure condition	Objectives	With independence
A	Catastrophic	66	25
B	Hazardous	65	14
C	Major	57	2
D	Minor	28	2
E	No effect	0	0

- **De facto standard for certification of safety-critical software systems**
- **Currently in update: DO-178C**

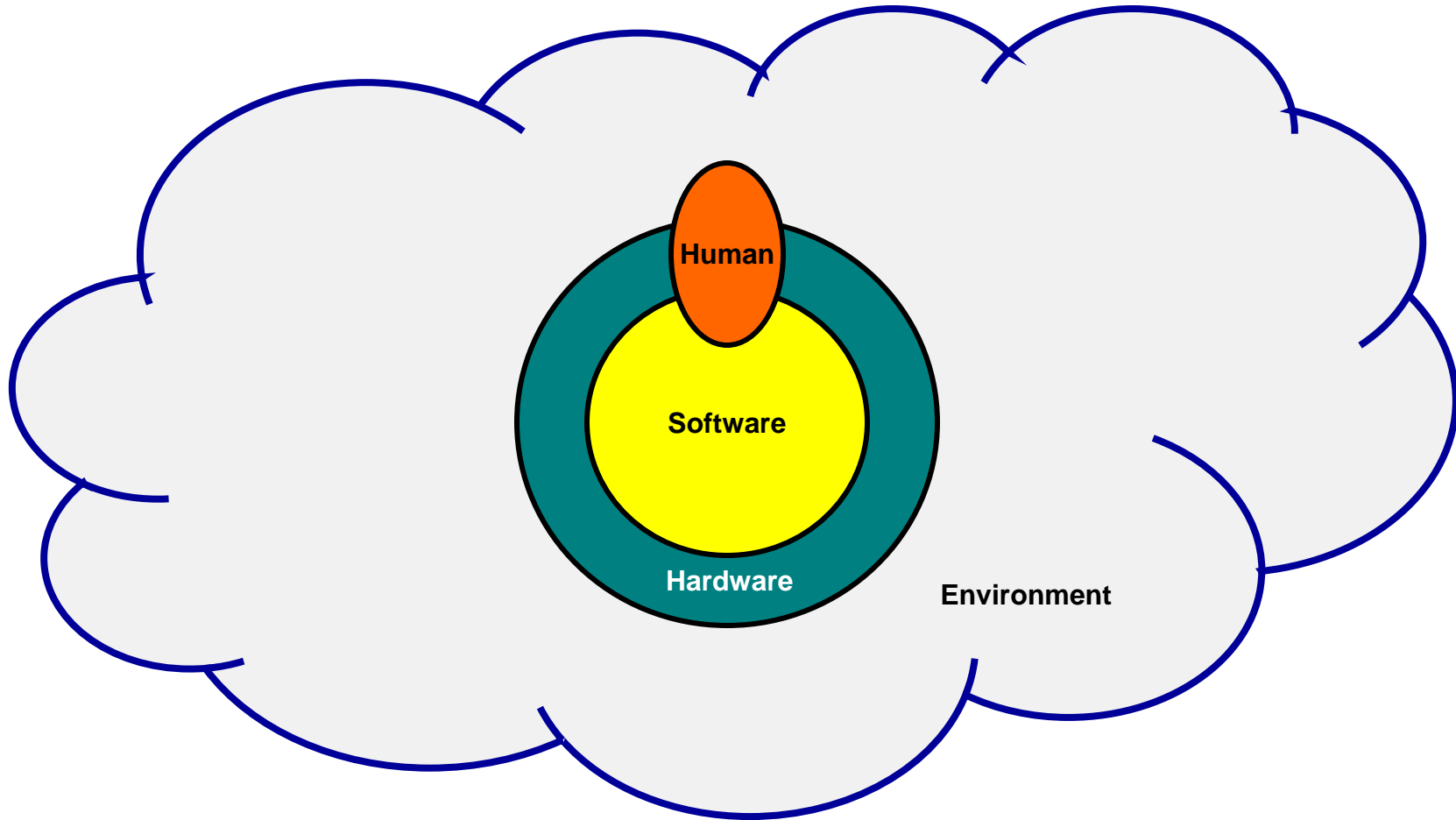


Challenges

- **Target Level of Safety Expectations**
- **System Complexity**
- **Prognostic vs Forensic Data Analysis**
- **Safety Assurance and Operational Approval**
 - New Systems and Procedures
 - Standards
- **Software Development and Certification**
- **High Confidence Human-Systems Integration**

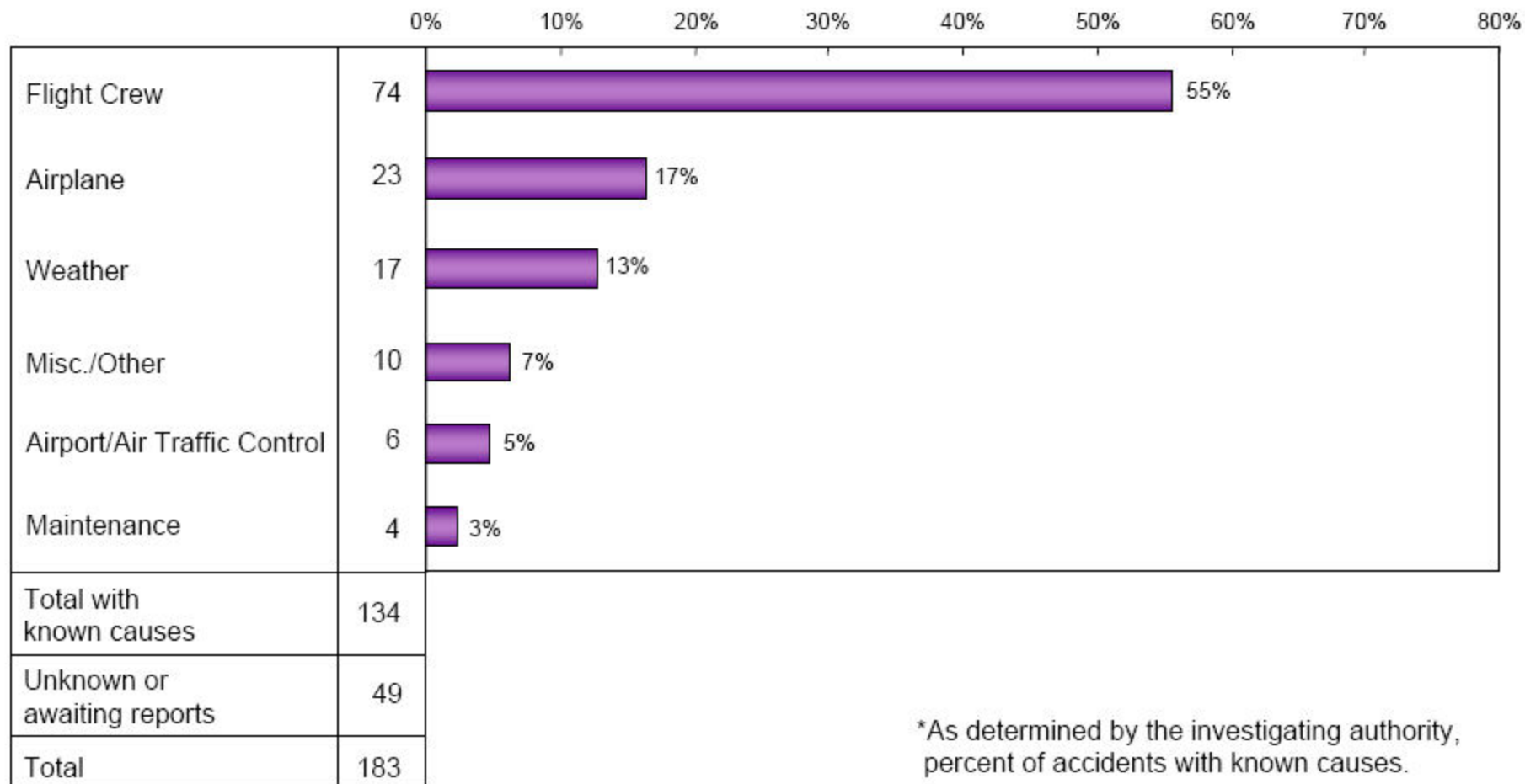


Need to Consider Entire System



Accidents by Primary Cause*

Hull Loss Accidents – Worldwide Commercial Jet Fleet – 1996 through 2005



*As determined by the investigating authority, percent of accidents with known causes.



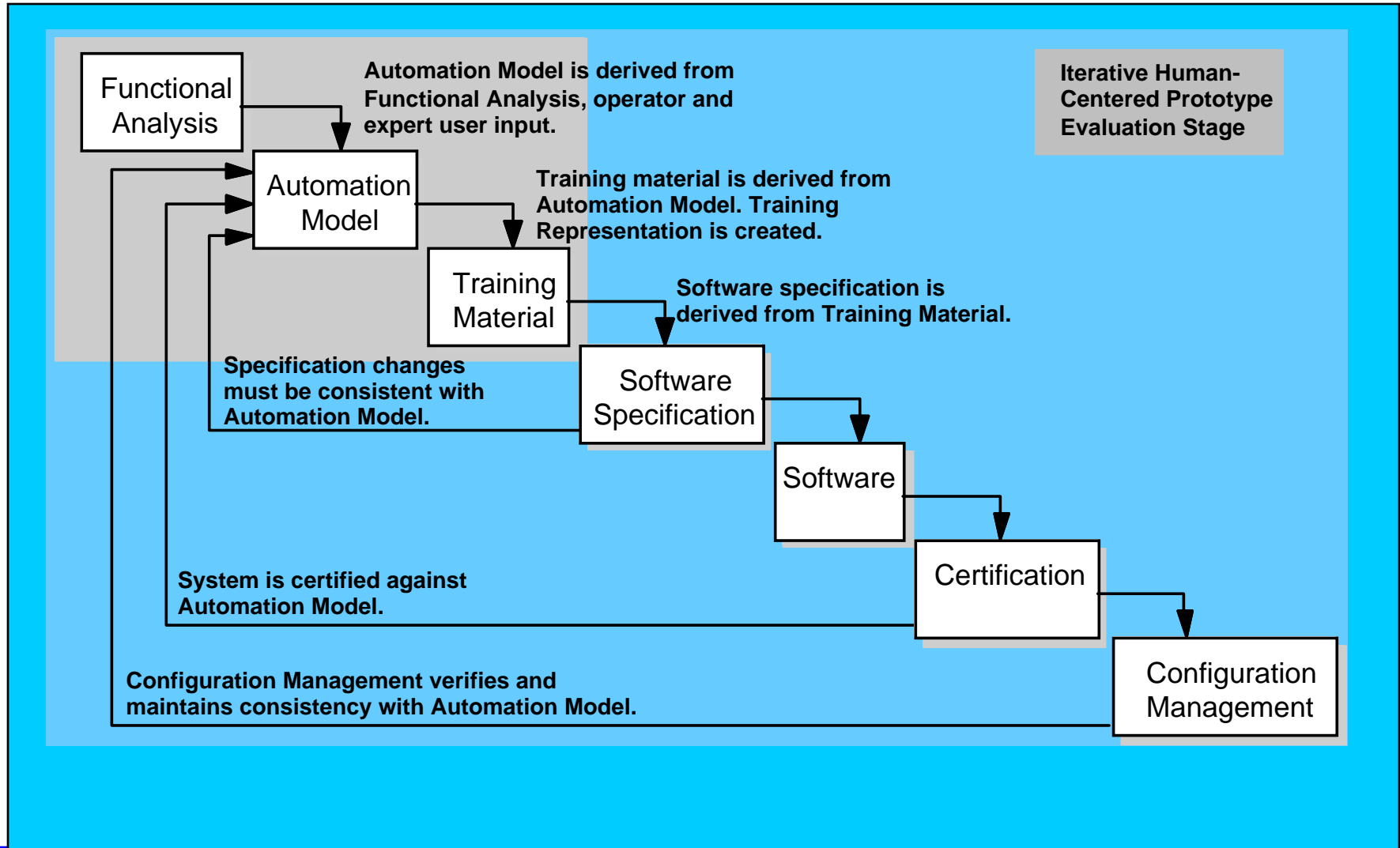
Mode Awareness

- **Mode Awareness is becoming a serious issues in Complex Automation Systems**
 - automation executes an unexpected action (commission), or fails to execute an action (omission) that is anticipated or expected by one or more of the pilots
- **Multiple accidents and incidents**
 - Strasbourg A320 crash: incorrect vertical mode selection
 - Orly A310 violent pitchup: flap overspeed
 - B757 speed violations: early leveloff conditions
- **Pilot needs to**
 - Identify current state of automation
 - Understand implications of current state
 - Predict future states of automation





Operator Directed Process





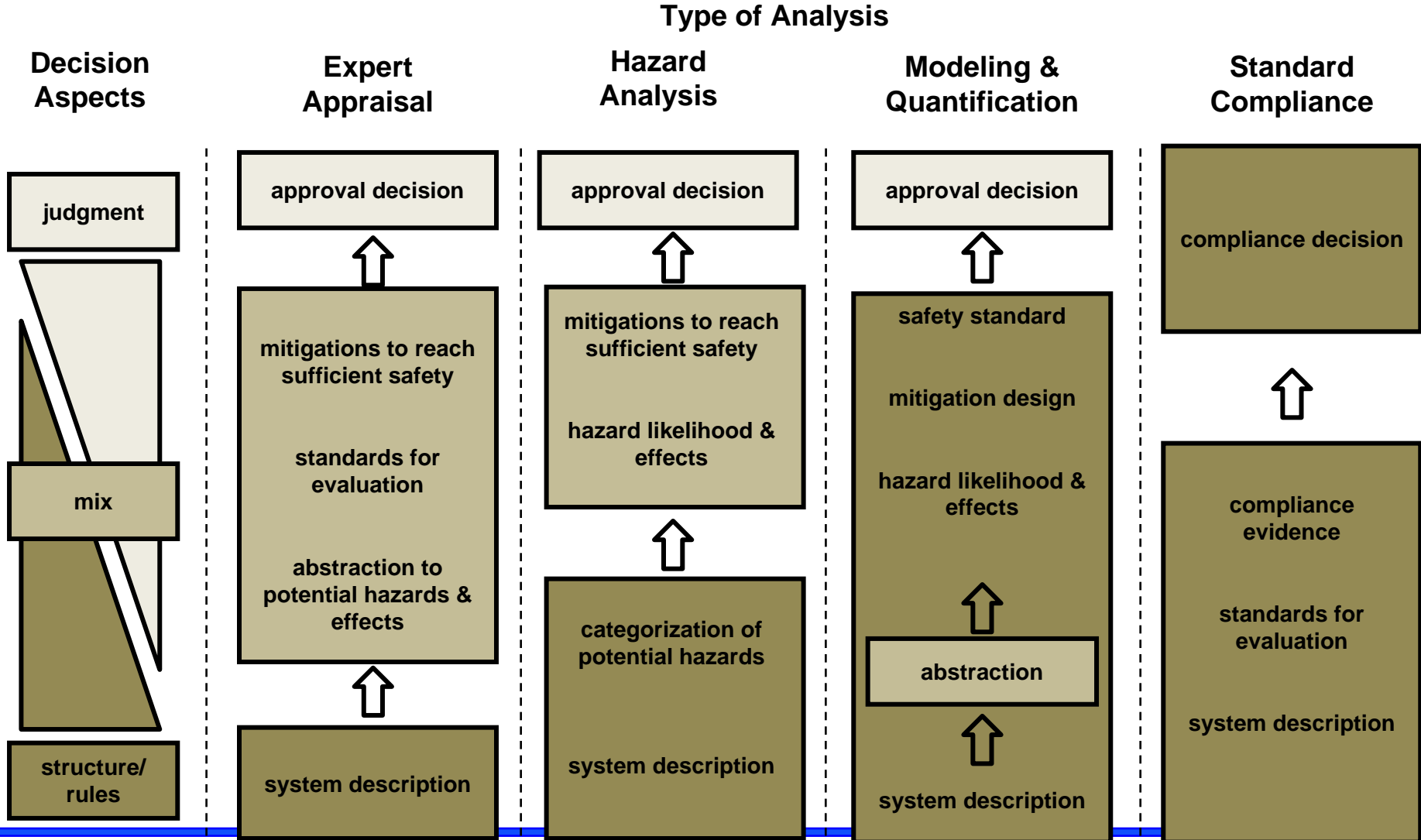
Challenges

- **Target Level of Safety Expectations**
- **System Complexity**
- **Prognostic vs Forensic Data Analysis**
- **Safety Assurance and Operational Approval**
 - New Systems and Procedures
 - Standards
- **Software Development and Certification**
- **High Confidence Human-Systems Integration**





Spectrum of Judgment in Approval Process Steps





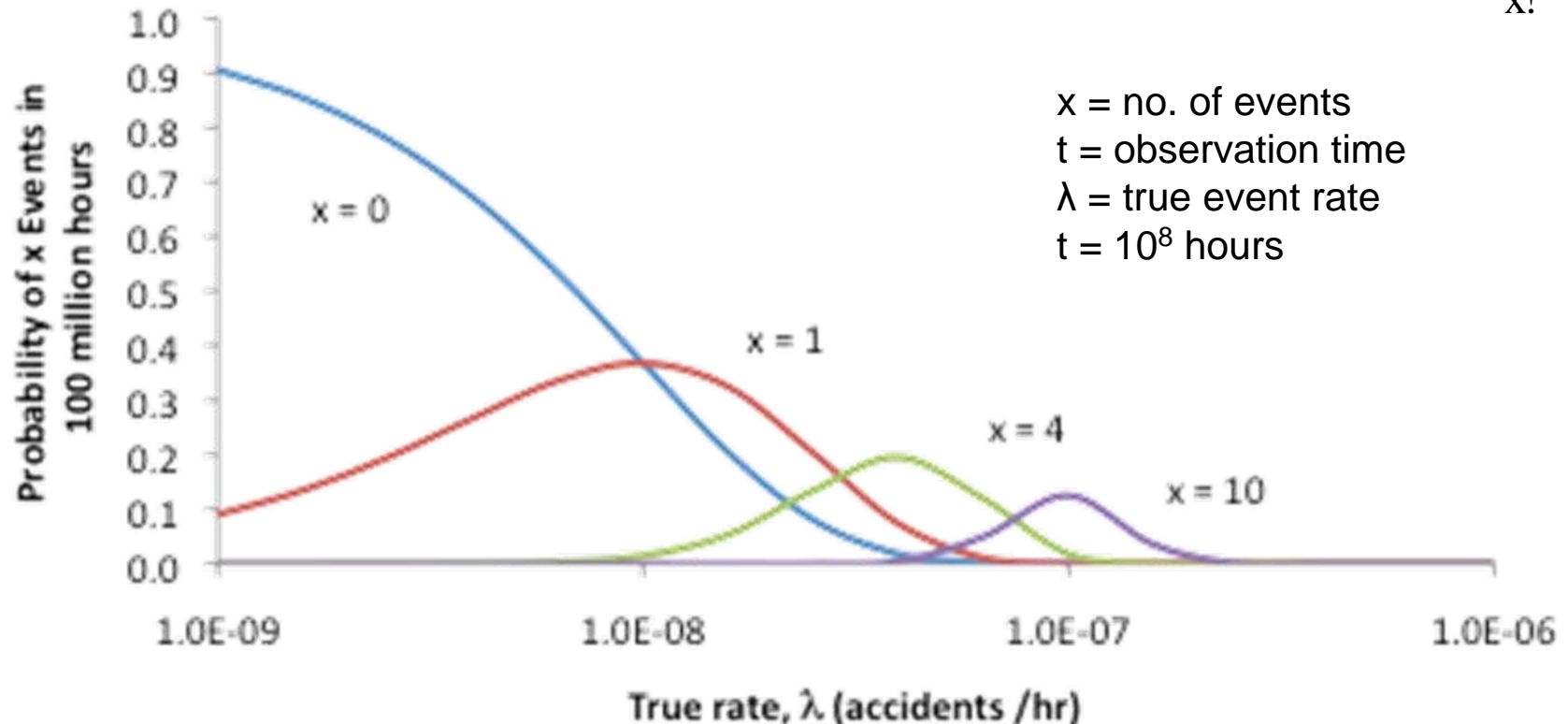
Confidence Intervals on Rate of Rare Event

- **Poisson Distribution:** probability f of observing x events over time t if true rate is λ
- **Alternate formulation** (after applying Bayes rule): given x observed events over time t , what is distribution g of true rate λ ?

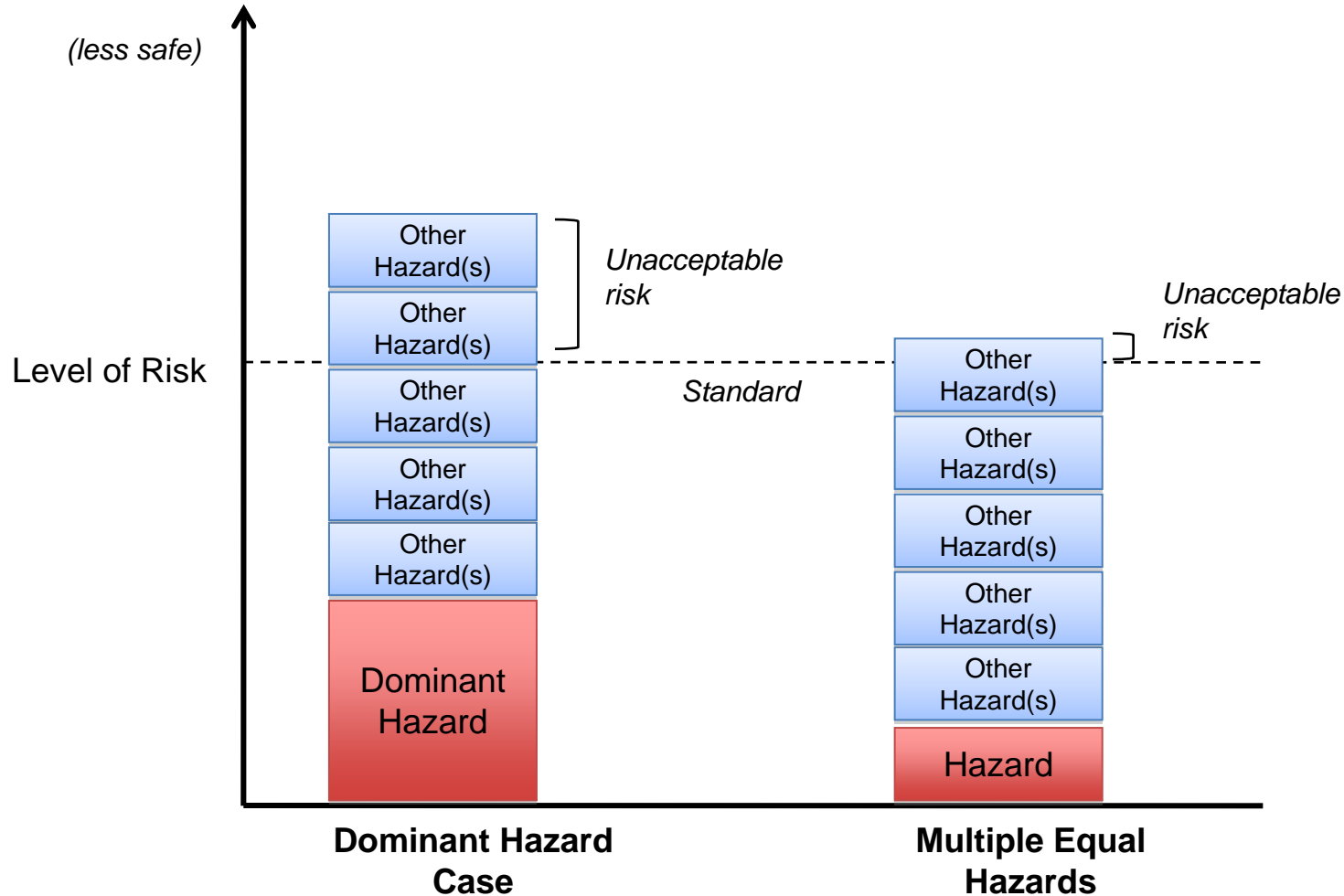
$$f_x(x | \lambda, t) = \frac{(\lambda)^x e^{-\lambda}}{x!}$$

$$g(\lambda | x, t) = \frac{(\lambda t)^x e^{-\lambda t}}{x!}$$

x = no. of events
 t = observation time
 λ = true event rate
 $t = 10^8$ hours



Addressing Multiple Hazards in System



All hazards of equal severity, therefore likelihood combines to overall level of risk