

NETWORK CENTRIC OPERATIONS WORKING GROUP INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY TAXONOMY

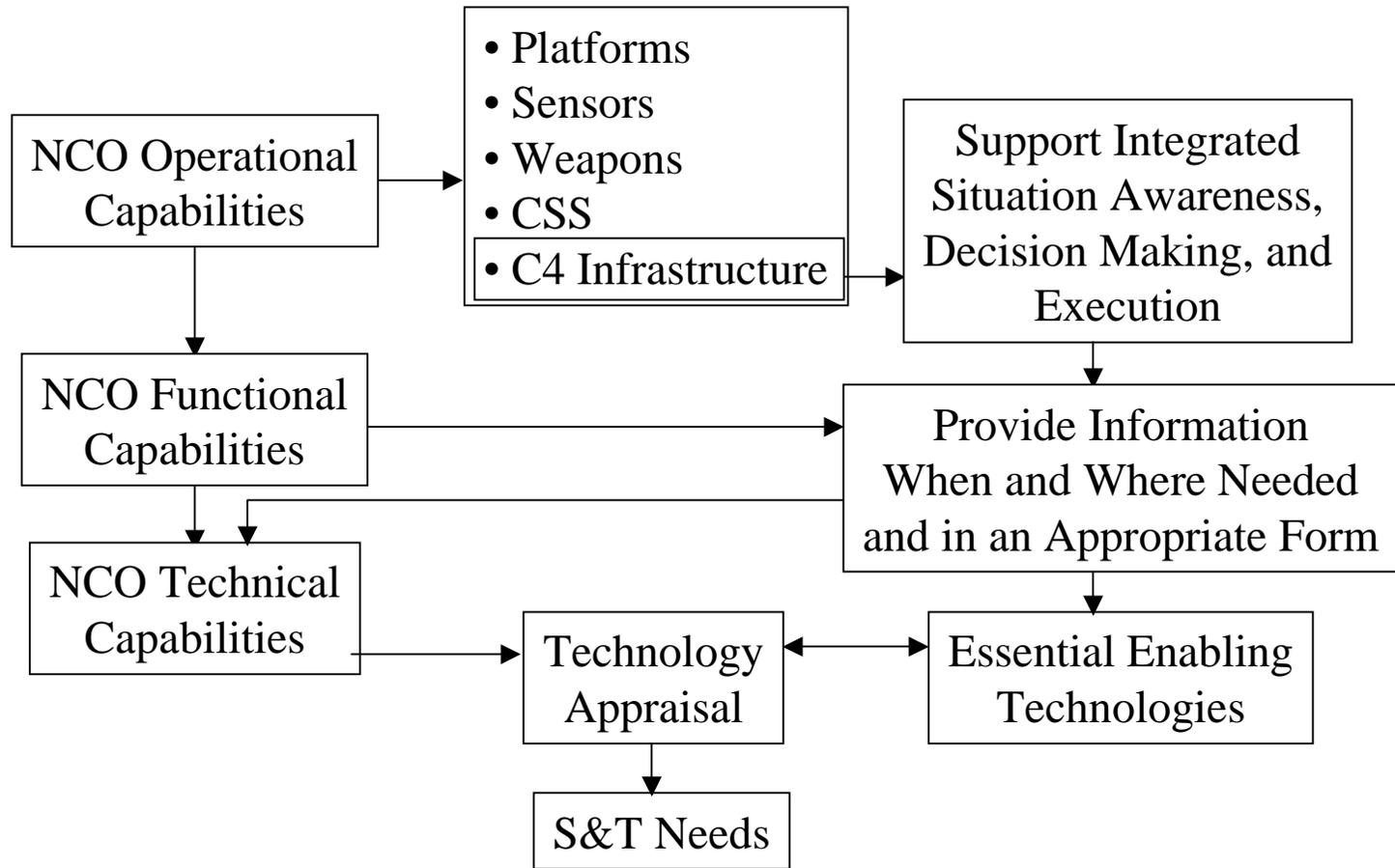
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Agenda

- Network Centric Operations (NCO) Infrastructure
- NCO and FORCEnet
- NCO Taxonomy of Technology Limitations

Defining the NCO Infrastructure Objectives and Required S&T



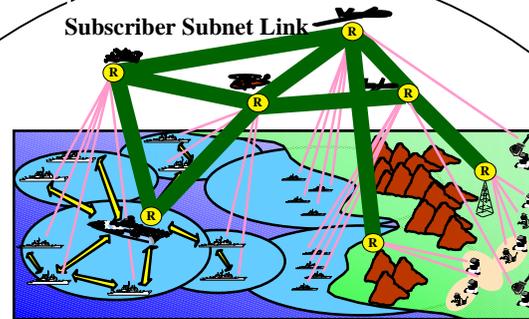
Network Centric Operations (NCO)

Situation Awareness and Understanding

- Consistent understanding of the situation by all elements of the force, with tailored views according to need

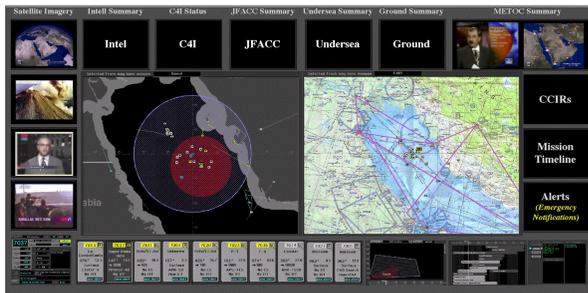


Taxonomy of Operational Level Functions



Planning and Force Management

- Development of courses of action for all warfighting and support functions, with force-wide deconfliction and coordination of intended actions and with continuous replanning and adjustment synchronized with ongoing execution

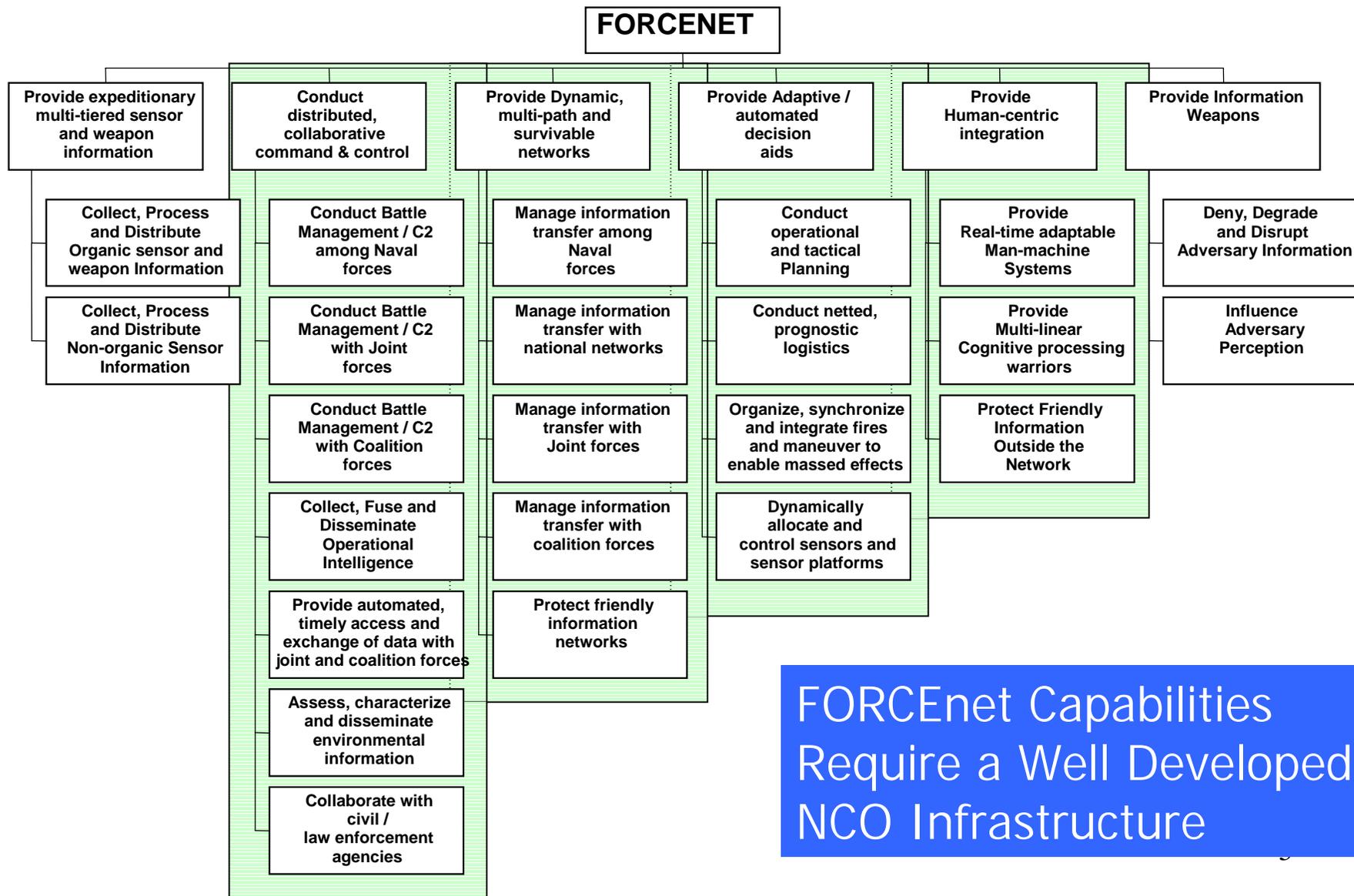


Direction, Action, Synchronization, and Control

- Execution of missions and tasks concurrently with planning and replanning, including self-synchronization of own actions with those of other elements of the force



FORCENet Capabilities Map



FORCENet Capabilities
Require a Well Developed
NCO Infrastructure

What Is The Taxonomy?

- A hierarchical taxonomy of the information technologies that support Network Centric Operations and FORCEnet. Associated with each technology is a short list of their current limitations that could inhibit achieving network centric and FORCEnet capabilities.
 - 202 limitations identified to date by the ONR Network Centric Operations Working Group

Purpose

- Provides an examination of *eight technology areas* that are required to support *five enabling functions* necessary for Network Centric Operations and FORCEnet. These five enabling functions are:
 - *Universal, seamless, robust communications, connectivity and network service management*
 - *Assured information integrity*
 - *Effective information processing assessment, sharing/collaboration, presentation, and navigation*
 - *User focused information management and dissemination/communications*
 - *Empowered disadvantaged personnel and systems*

Taxonomy Technology Areas

- The *eight technology areas* to support the enabling functions are:
 - *Reliable communications and infrastructure management*
 - *Information distribution management*
 - *Geographically distributed, computing infrastructure*
 - *Situation understanding*
 - *Automated adaptive dynamic planning*
 - *Human machine interface*
 - *Information assurance and information operations*
 - *Modeling and simulation*

Taxonomy Technology Areas Sub-Groups

- Reliable communications and infrastructure management
 - Data Transport and Transmission Systems/Data Links
 - Networking
 - Infrastructure and Computational Resource Management
- Information distribution management
 - Interoperability Software for (for legacy networks)
 - Information Access and Delivery Software
- Geographically distributed, computing infrastructure
 - Electronic Devices and Components (disadvantaged user and remote sensors)
 - Adaptive Network Computing Management and Services
 - Power Sources (disadvantaged user, autonomous vehicles and remote sensors)

Taxonomy Technology Areas

Sub-Groups (cont.)

- Situation Understanding
 - Information Integration Fusion and Correlation for current ISR systems, sensors and open sources
 - Computer Aided Inferencing and Reasoning
 - Autonomous Intelligent Vehicles and Platforms
 - Collaborative Environment
 - Pervasive Computing/Ubiquitous Computing
 - Remote Equipment Diagnostics
 - Augmented Reality
- Automated Adaptive Dynamic Planning
 - Decision Support Systems
 - Cooperative Software Agents
 - Autonomous Intelligent Vehicles and Platforms

Taxonomy Technology Areas Sub-Groups (cont'd)

- Human-Machine Interface (including disadvantaged users)
 - Visualization of Operational Situations and Plans
 - Explanation Agents
 - Alerting and Cueing Agents (for system monitoring and control)
 - Natural Language and Foreign Language Understanding
 - Hands-Free Human-System Interface
 - I/O in Stressing Environments (Noise, Motion, etc.) for Mobile Field Operators
 - Computer Aided Reasoning
 - Augmented Reality

Taxonomy Technology Areas Sub-Groups (cont'd)

- Information Assurance and Information Operations
 - Confidentiality
 - Authentication
 - Audit and Analysis of Network Activities
 - Integrity
 - Network Traffic Processing and Data Base Interaction Analysis
 - Ensuring Trusted Systems
 - Offensive Information Operations
 - Computer Aided Reasoning/Pervasive Computing
 - Detection of Covert Information
- Modeling and Simulation
 - Situation Awareness
 - Course of Action Evaluation
 - Interoperability

Example of Technology Area and Limitations

5.1 Decision Support Systems

Automated intelligent machine capabilities to work with operators, machines and sources of information to produce and adjust planning in support of Battle Management execution, Command and Control, resource allocation and logistics.

5.1.1 Current systems are manpower intensive and cannot adjust to changing operational conditions in a timely manner.

5.1.2 There is little feedback and little support for the discovery process.

5.1.3 Unable to coordinate distributed planning processes that automatically adapt to a changing operational scenario with current systems.

5.1.4 Current real time systems do not interface very well with near real time planning systems and validated M&S systems.

5.1.5 There are a number of S&T issues including limitations on computing platforms to perform deterministic operations research optimization algorithms as well as the real-time access to resource states in optimizing or dynamic repair of mission plans. Maintenance and resource allocation systems are typically unavailable to mission planners while performing alternative courses of action. Other issues are correlated to earlier sections of the technical taxonomy to include how mission planning data is transmitted or shared across platforms. In most cases, good metrics are required to determine operational success.

How The Taxonomy Is Used

- A S&T investment decision aid
 - Helps map operational capabilities to technology needs
- ONR Discovery and Invention (D&I) projects that relate to FORCEnet will be reviewed against the Taxonomy limitations in order to determine potential S&T solutions and future S&T investment

Making FORCEnet Real Requires Naval S&T Investments

- Relevant COTS technologies frequently offer desirable FORCEnet capabilities, but often they are intended for less stressing and severe commercial applications, resulting in unacceptable robustness and QoS for Naval operational settings.
- Substantial modification and tailoring (6.2 & 6.3 investments) of COTS technologies are usually required to make them suitable for Naval operational use.
- Relevant COTS technologies are often predicated on high-speed, physically-connected networks, not disadvantaged wireless links that Navy operates.

Making FORCEnet Real Requires Naval S&T Investments (cont.)

- Substantial S&T investments needed to integrate Naval legacy systems into FORCEnet are not likely to come from industry or other Government sources.
- Some key FORCEnet-required technologies (such as those that generate Common Picture) have small or non-existent commercial markets, thus requiring Naval S&T development effort.
- Science base for many FORCEnet-required technologies has historically been advanced primarily by DoD, not commercial, investments. Many commercial and DARPA-sponsored FORCEnet technologies were instigated by ONR investments.

Making FORCEnet Real Requires Naval S&T Investments (cont.)

- ONR-led research currently paces industry and Government in many key FORCEnet science and technology areas, e.g., :
 - Mobile, wireless, computer networks that integrate afloat and ashore components
 - Sensor image processing
 - Autonomous systems
 - Distributed resource optimization
 - Common Picture Interoperability
 - Time-sensitive decision-making with uncertainty constraints

Taxonomy Limitations

Information Distribution Management (including Processing & Presentation)

- Network-Centric Vision Objective
 - Automatically provide the right information at the right time
 - Eliminate unnecessary distribution and delivery of information
 - Assist user in dealing with information from a wide variety and large number of sources
- Functionality Shortfalls Due to Technology Limitations
 - Information systems usually do not understand context of user needs
 - Users get little help dealing with information diverse needs
 - Tendency toward information overload
 - Inability to manage user subscription to information in near real time
 - Inability to merge information across semantic differences
 - Diverse presentation methods of information from diverse sources inhibits understanding and correlation

Information Distribution Management (including Processing & Presentation)

- Some Critical S&T Needs
 - Interoperability software
 - Information access and delivery software
 - Computer aided reasoning for task-oriented information dissemination
 - Automatic association and merger of information for unified presentation
 - Automated recognition and cueing for significant patterns of information
 - Adaptable viewers and Human-Machine Interfaces

Reliable Communications & Infrastructure Management

- Network-Centric Vision Objective
 - Grid resources and services are dynamically optimized to meet current operational priorities
 - Management is achieved automatically by software agents that respond to policy, doctrine, and current operational status
- Functionality Shortfalls Due to Technology Limitations
 - Management is confined to the platform level. No ability to coordinate management across the grid
 - No ability to quickly reallocate grid resources in synch with Op tempo
- Critical S&T Needs
 - Software to Automatically reconfigure grid resources to meet current operational priorities
 - Automated adaptation of applications to contend with grid stress and degradation
 - Grid monitoring and assessment tools for manual oversight of QoS management

Situation Understanding

- Network-Centric Vision Objective
 - Provide coherent set of information services for the warfighter
 - Provide fault tolerant collaborative applications
 - Provide Multi-level and Multiple level access to collaborative sessions
- Functionality Shortfalls Due to Technology Limitations
 - Limited ability to support COTS collaborative applications in a Tactical Grid
 - Limited ability to accommodate semantic and application heterogeneity
- Critical S&T Needs
 - Timely, accurate information and sensor fusion from heterogeneous sources
 - Fault tolerant software appliquéés for COTS collaboration applications over tactical radio nets
 - Interoperability software to support sharing of information and applications across diverse systems
 - Software to support collaboration among users with different applications, different forms of presentation and I/O, and different security levels

S&T Investments to Enable FORCEnet

Science or Technology Need	D&I	E&D	Science or Technology Need	D&I	E&D
• Cheap, ubiquitous Phase Array comm antennas		X	• Real-time planning of ISR and comm priorities & tasking	X	
• Quality of Service for warrior control of comm use	X	X	• Advanced radar detection sensors		
• Advanced control of distributed sensor networks	X		• Network defense that won't interfere with warfighters	X	
• Absolute data integrity assurance	X		• Real-time cognitive-aiding display of info	X	
• Planning algorithms for real-time coordination of highly distributed forces	X	X	• Multi-sensor and multi-intelligence source data correlation, cross-cueing	X	
• Multi-hypothesis tracking algorithms	X	X	• Absolute Combat ID, maintain warfighter covertness		
• Augmented reality registered to world view	X		• Network real-time visibility and control	X	
• Rule sets to automatically meet evolving warfighter land warfare support network management priorities	X		• Automatic summary of multi-media info content (multi-language) presented in most useful form for individual		
• Over the horizon(320 km range) comm independent of satellites		X	• Automated management of electromagnetic radiation to eliminate Hazard of EM Radiation to Ordnance (HERO)	X	
• Low probability of detection, low probability of intercept			• Dynamic multi-casting of battlefield information		
• On-the fly network/subnetwork setup and mobility; dynamically mapped to mission needs in real time	X		• Improve speed and accuracy of Orient, Decide, Act part of OODA loop		X
• Software to infer warfighters' information needs	X		• Threat assessment, real time, for all types of threat	X	X
• Stochastic modeling of operation patterns to predict trends, coupled with data fusion & analysis tools	X		• Collaboration across multiple security domains, limiting collaborators' ability to their role and mission		X
• Stable operational platforms in situations of intermittent connectivity, supporting auto language translation & complex, nonlinear, interactive processes	X		• Agents to mediate uncertainty, cultural differences, situation differences		
• Automated launch of information & comm service based on situation	X		• Automated command center sync on land battlefield		
• Automated troop sync for dismounted troops			• Brilliant control of power demand to reduce power need		
• Automated reporting within echelon & up-echelon		X	• Distributed hierarchical processing to reduce comm needs		
• Auto target recognition, multi-media mapping	X		• Fast, automatic transfer of multi-media info among security enclaves	23	

"X" indicates ONR work in progress