



# STAMP

## Systems Theoretic Accident Model and Process

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# Content

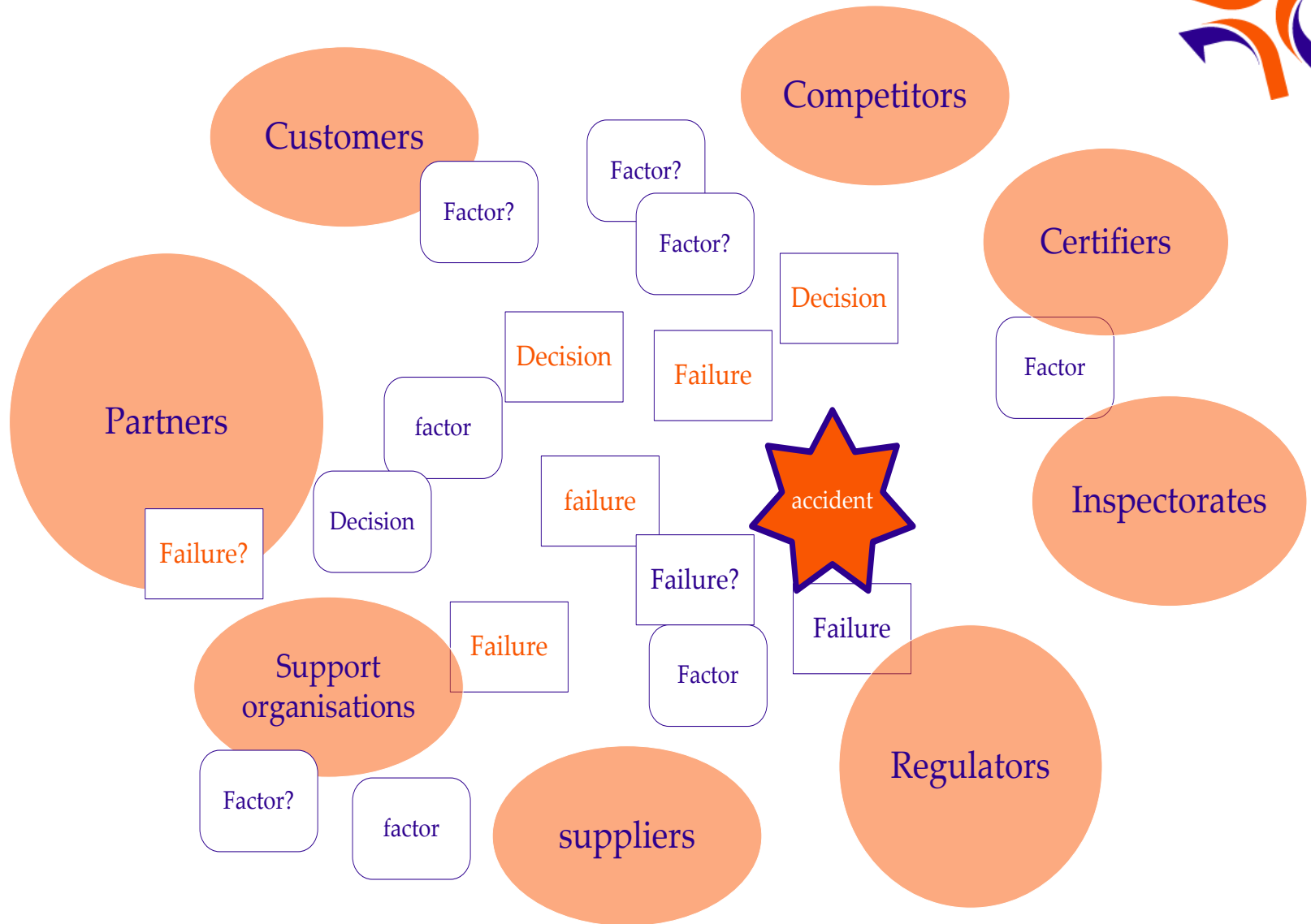


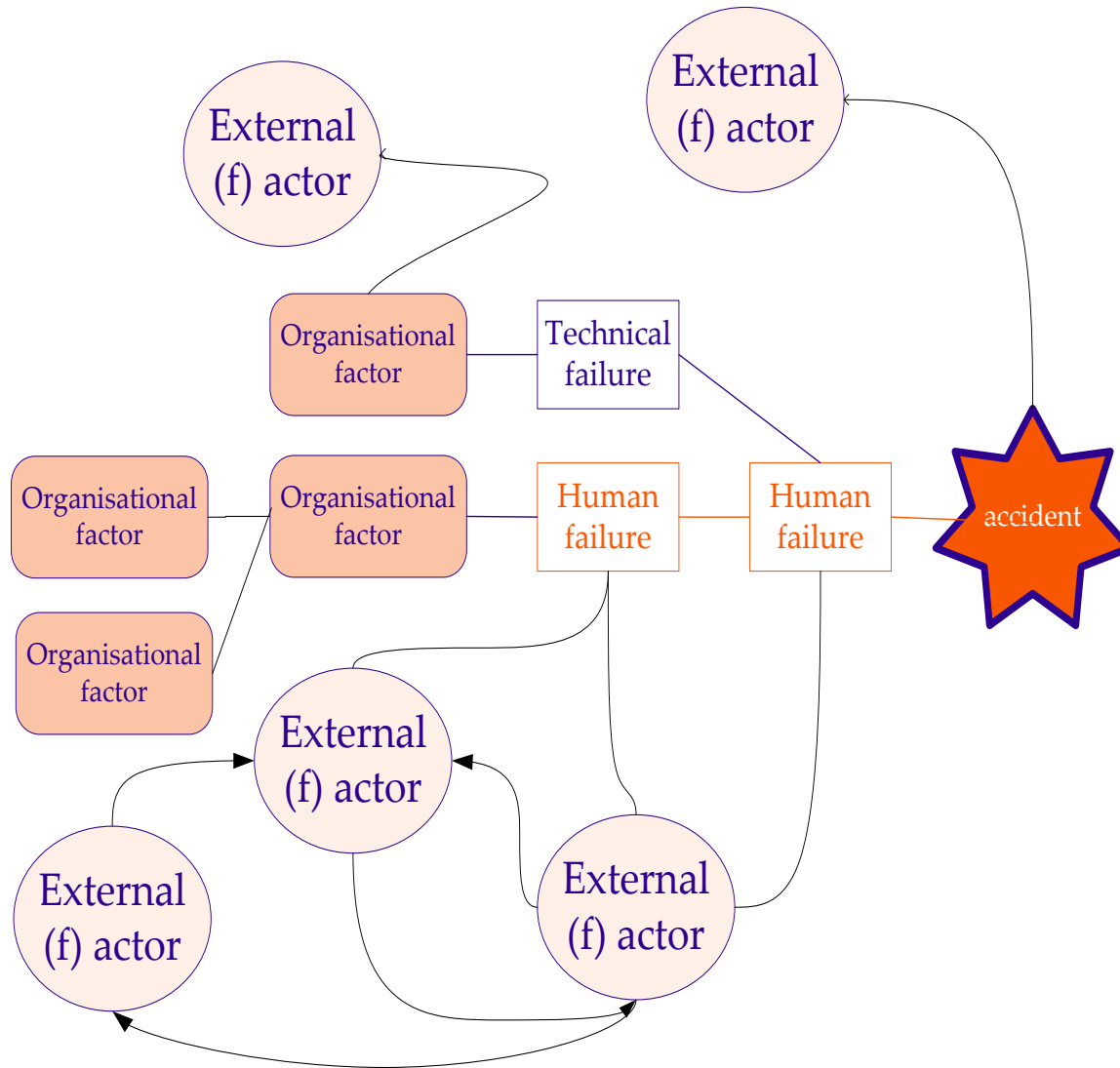
- Methods
  - Why use methods
  - Methods available
- STAMP
  - Theory of accident causation
  - How to apply
  - Macondo incident

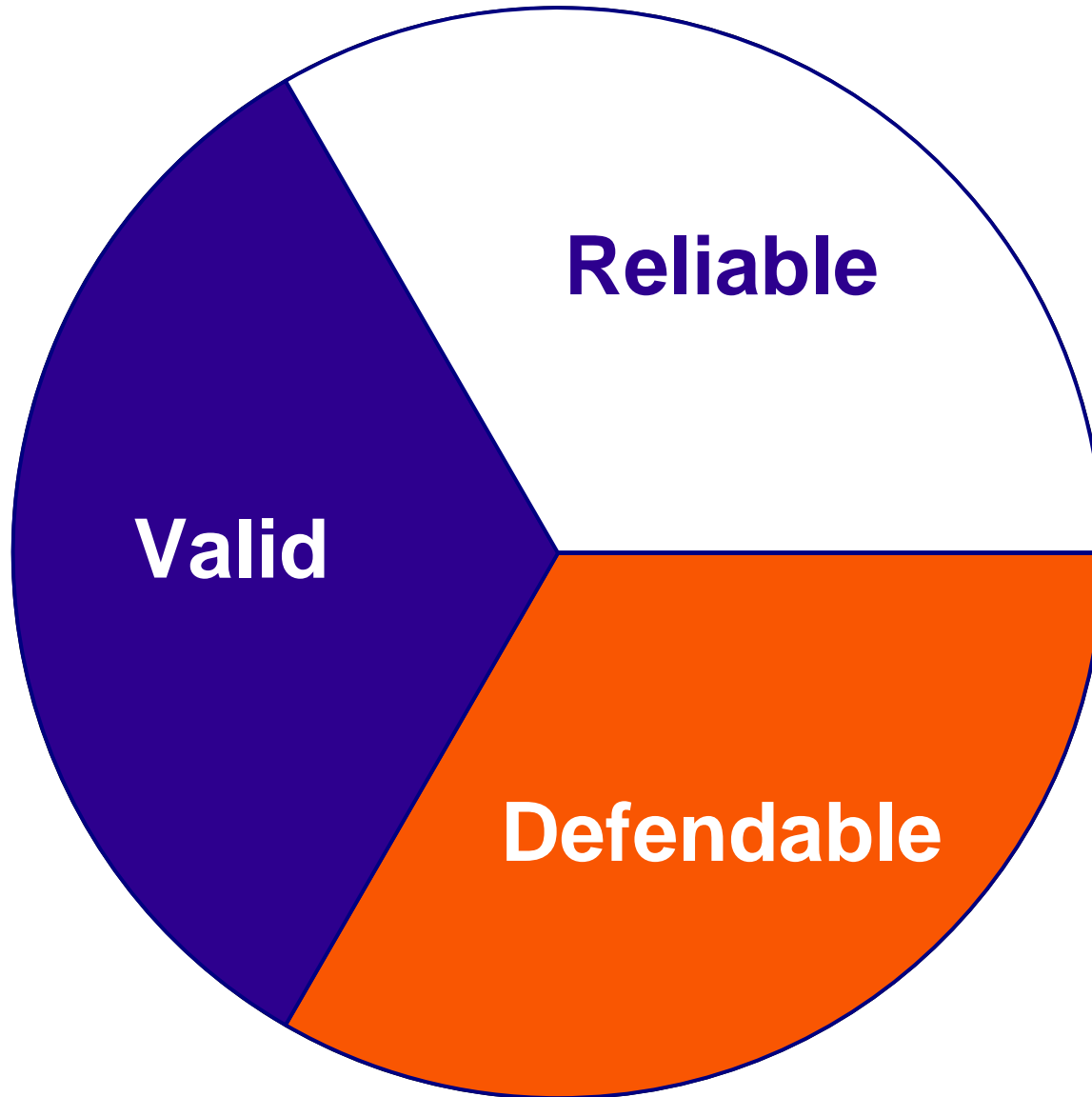


# Methods









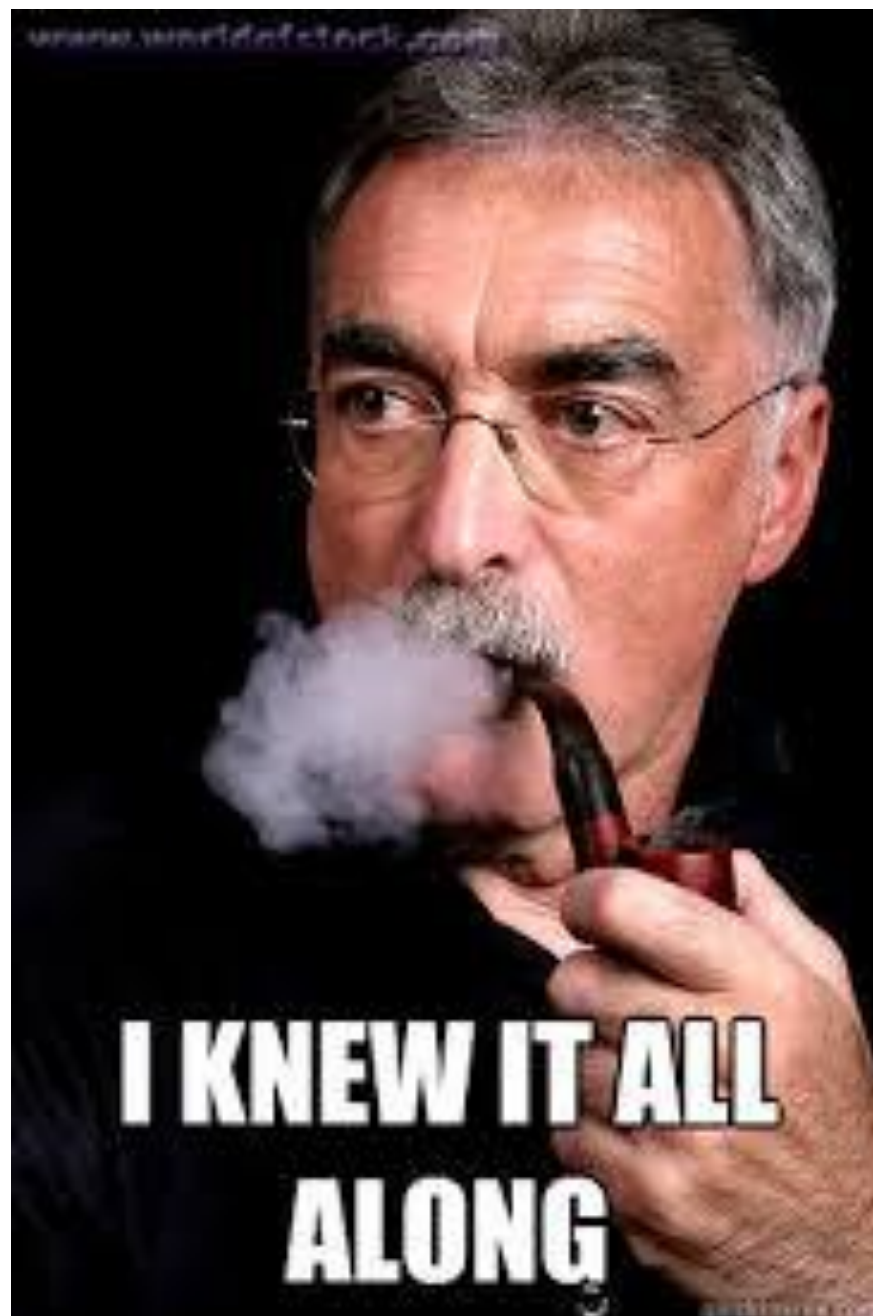






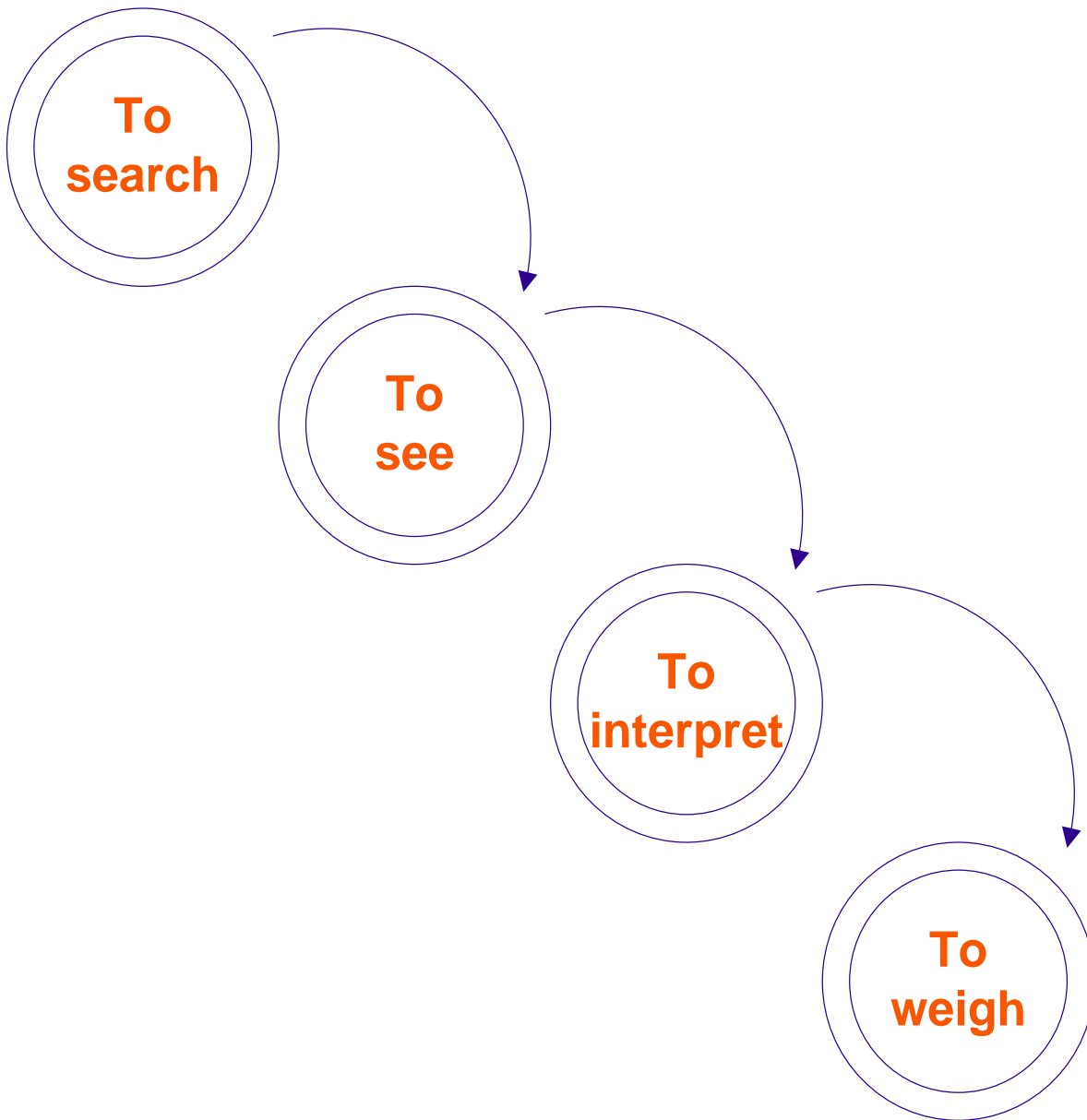
**I SEE EVERYTHING.  
THAT IS MY CURSE.**

- Sherlock Holmes In:  
*A Game of Shadows*

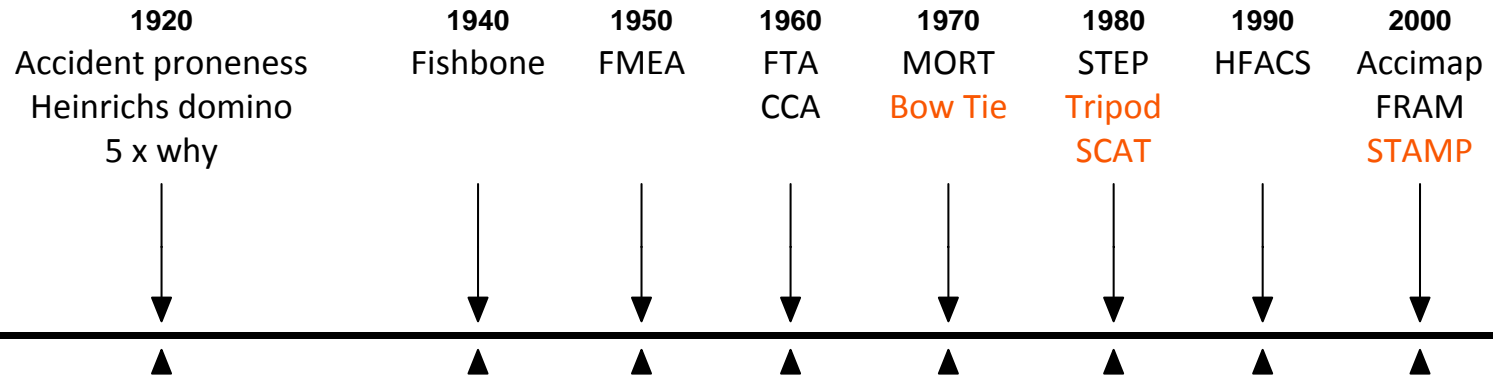




**YOU'RE STUPID!**

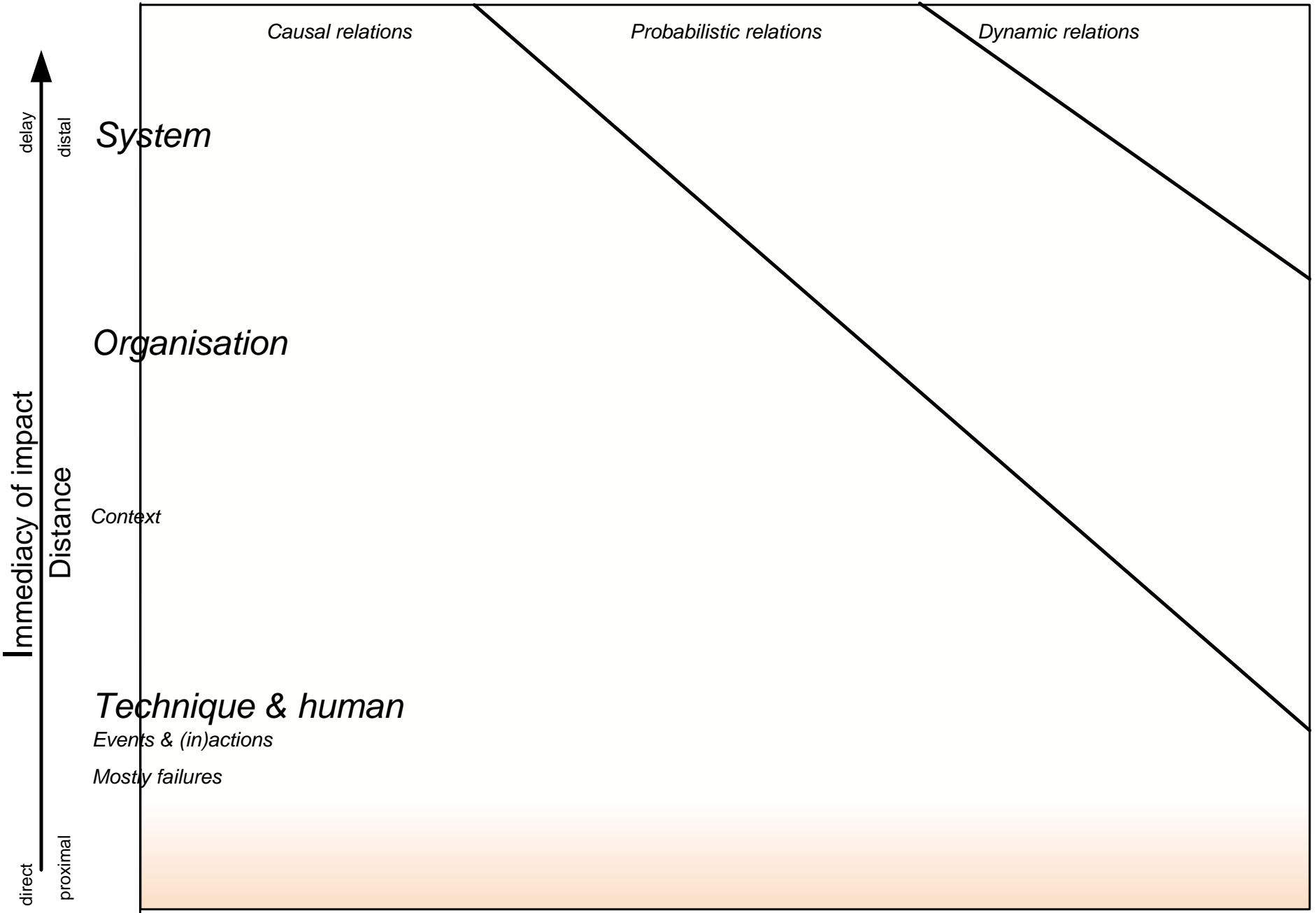


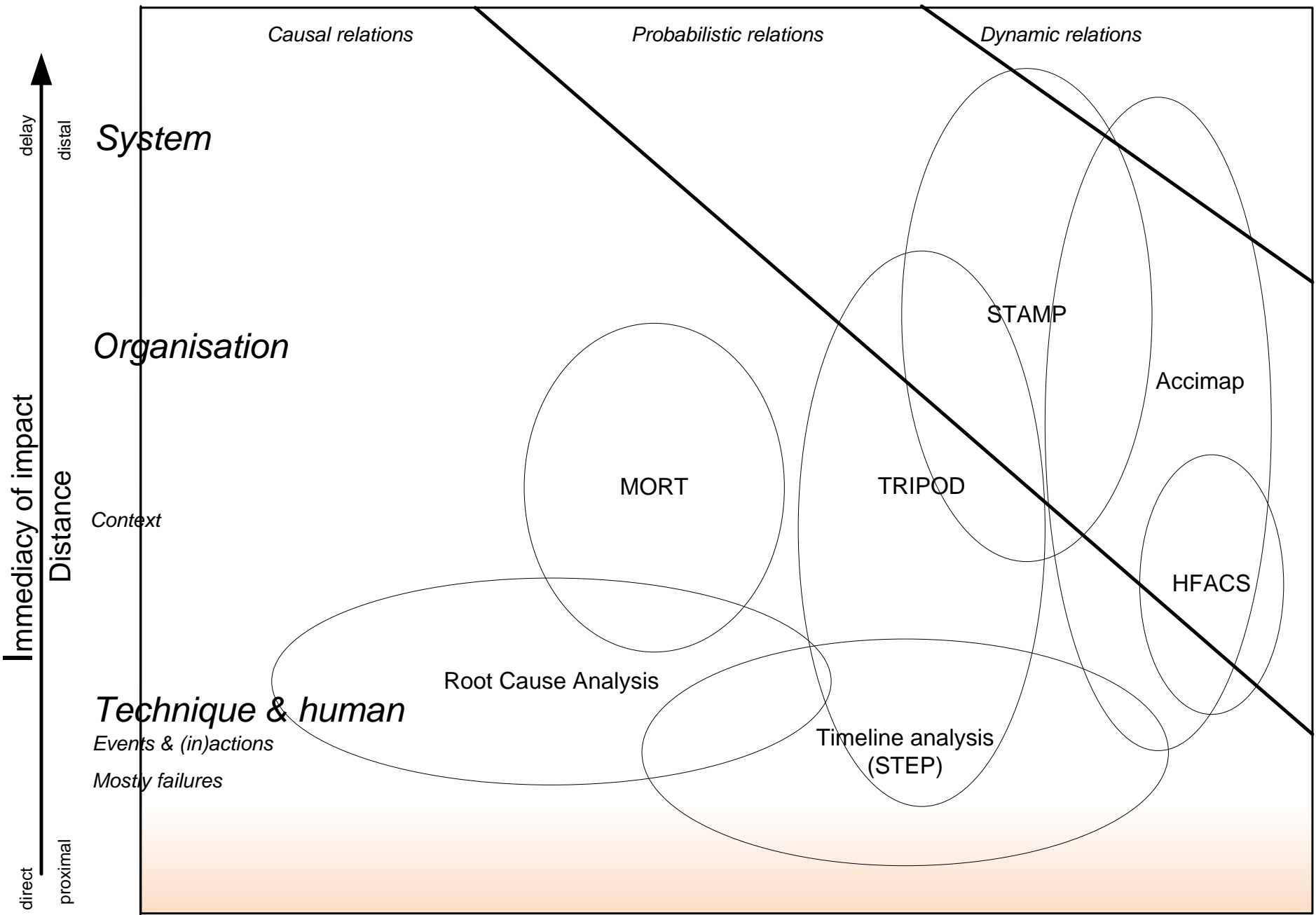
# Development of methods

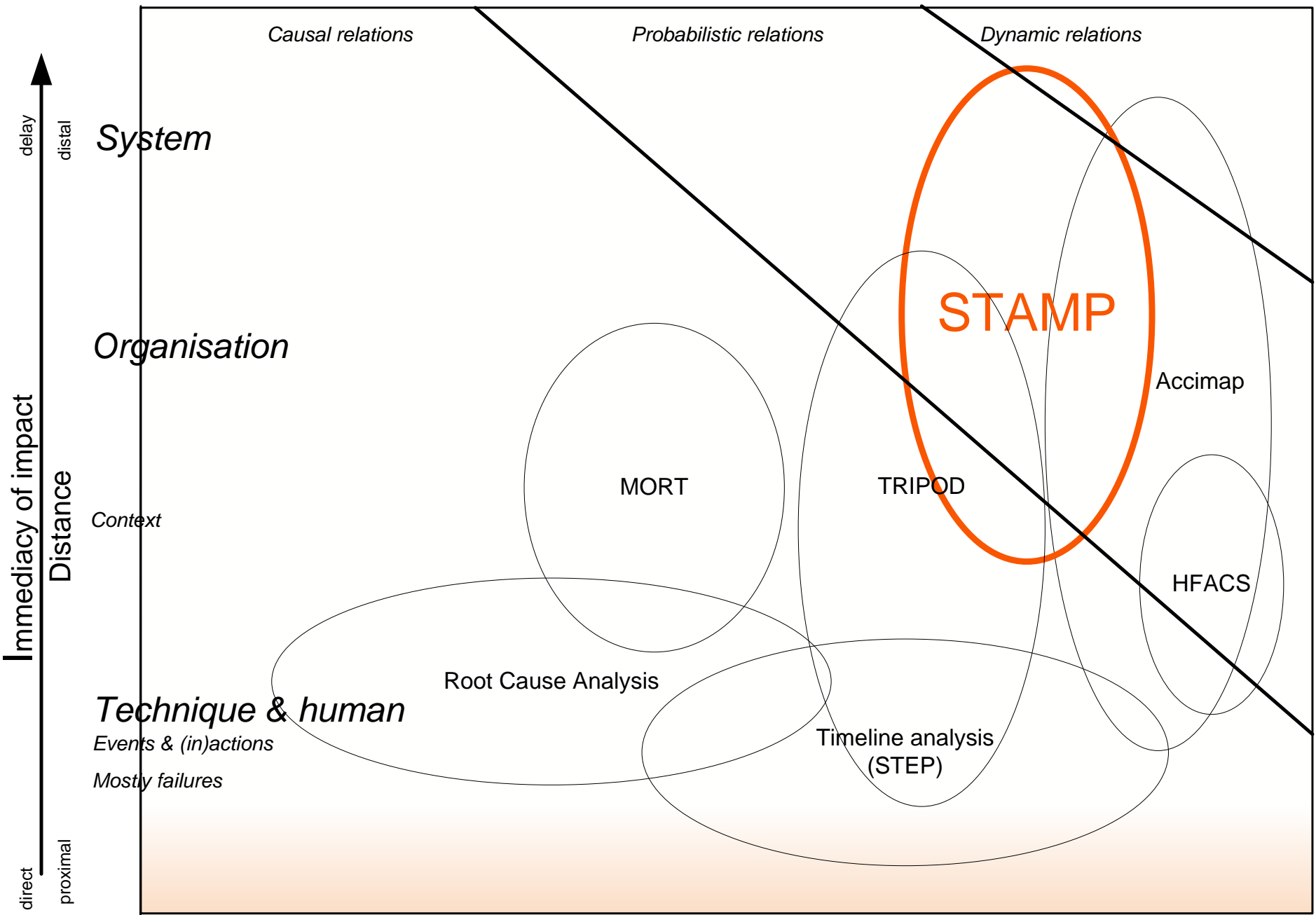


1900

2014











# STAMP

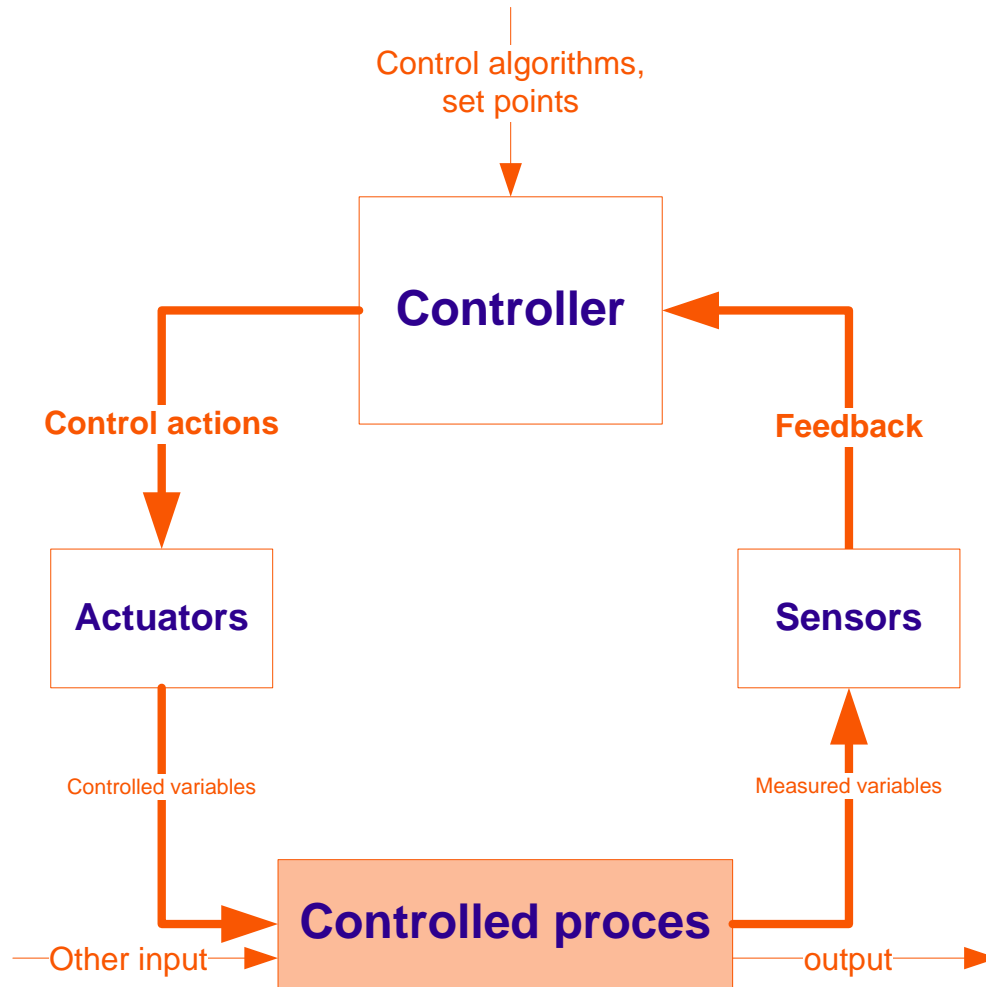
## Systems Theoretic Accident Model and Process

# Accident causation model

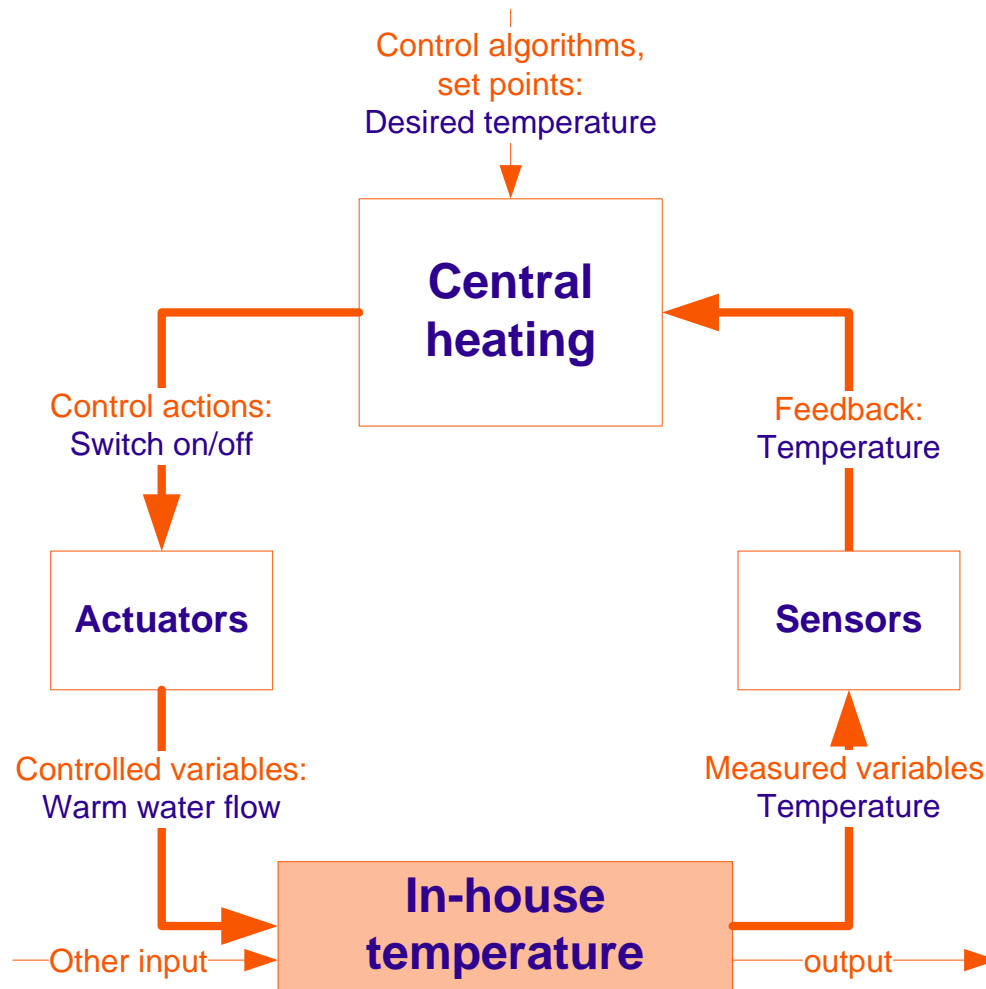


- Safety = a **control problem**
- Accident = system state + worstcase environmental conditions
- Focus on **system**, rather than components and failures

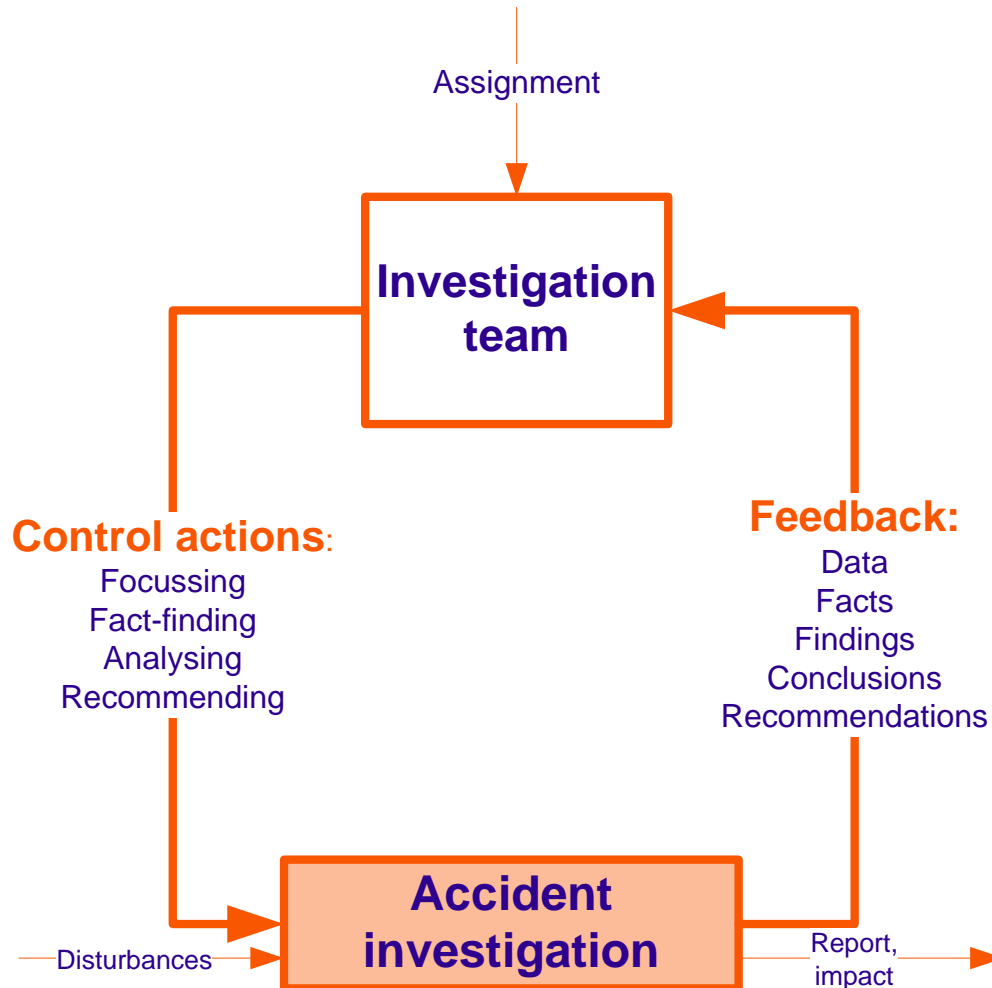
# Basic control structure



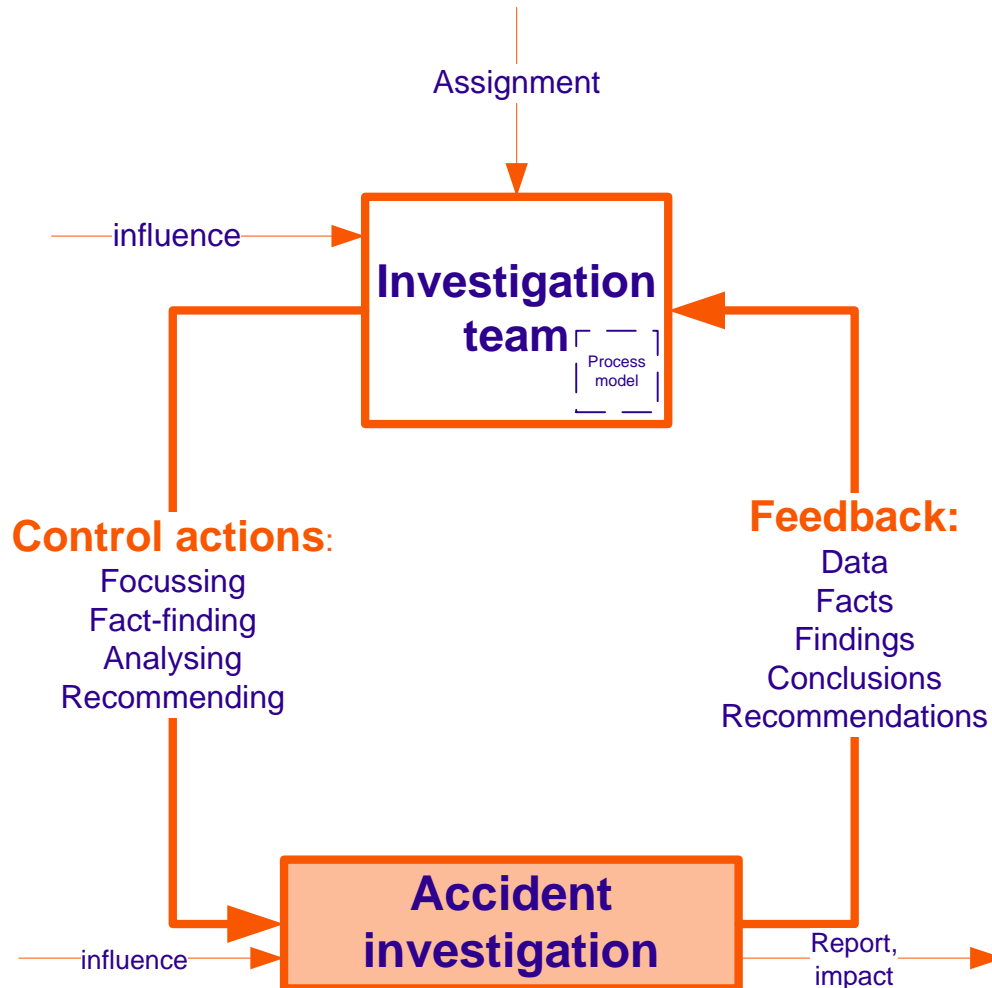
# Control structure: example

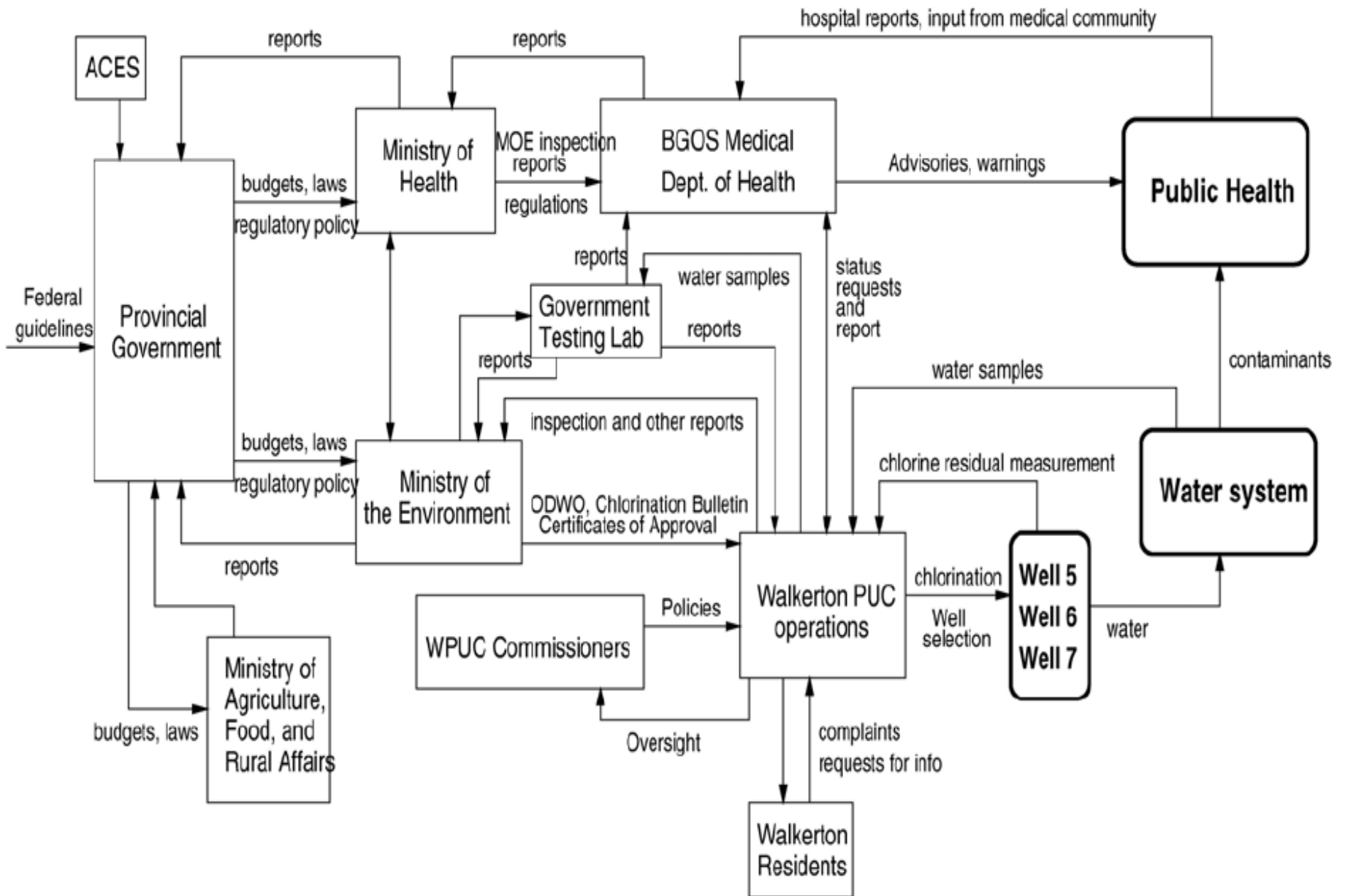


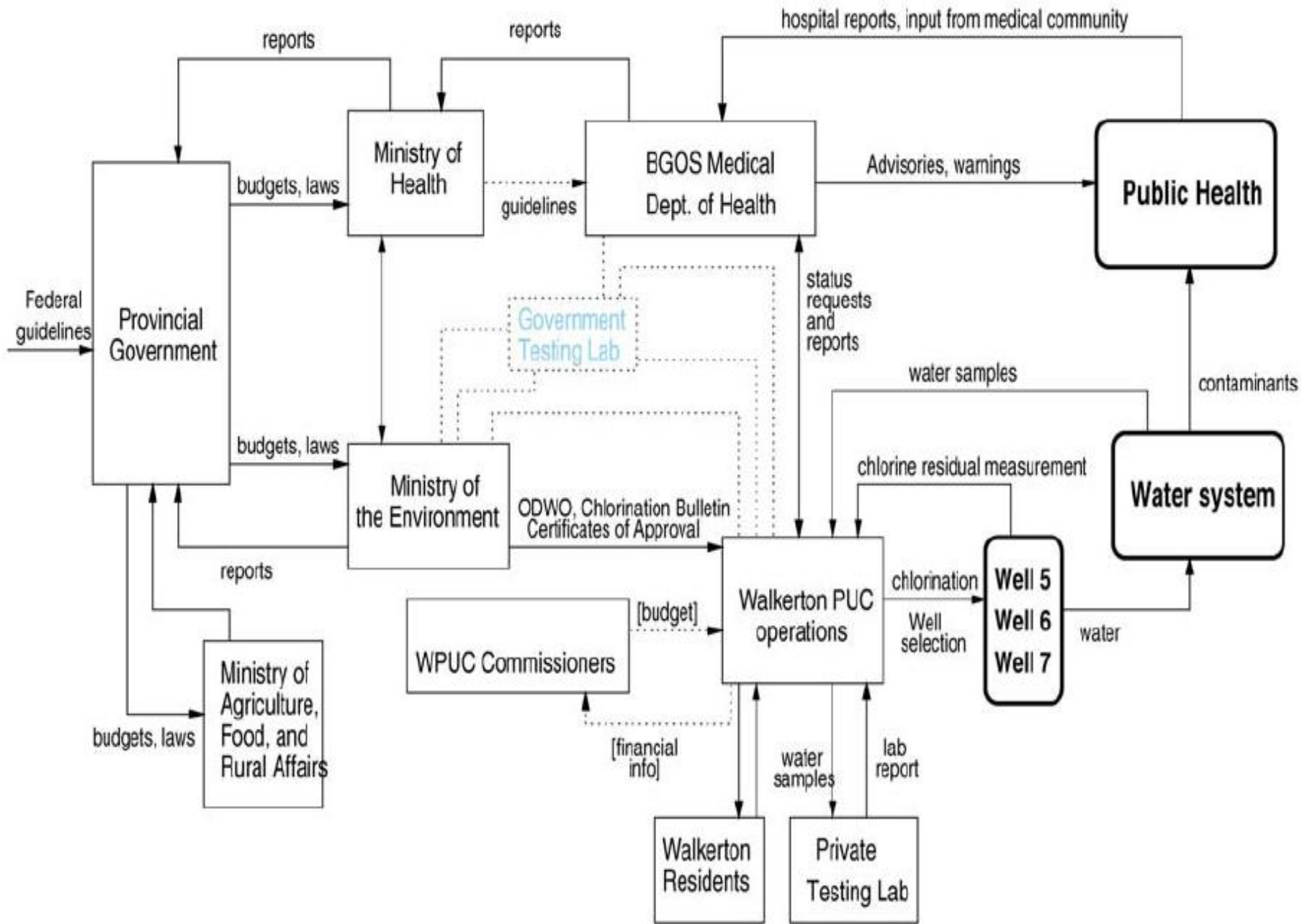
# Control structure: example



# Control structure: example







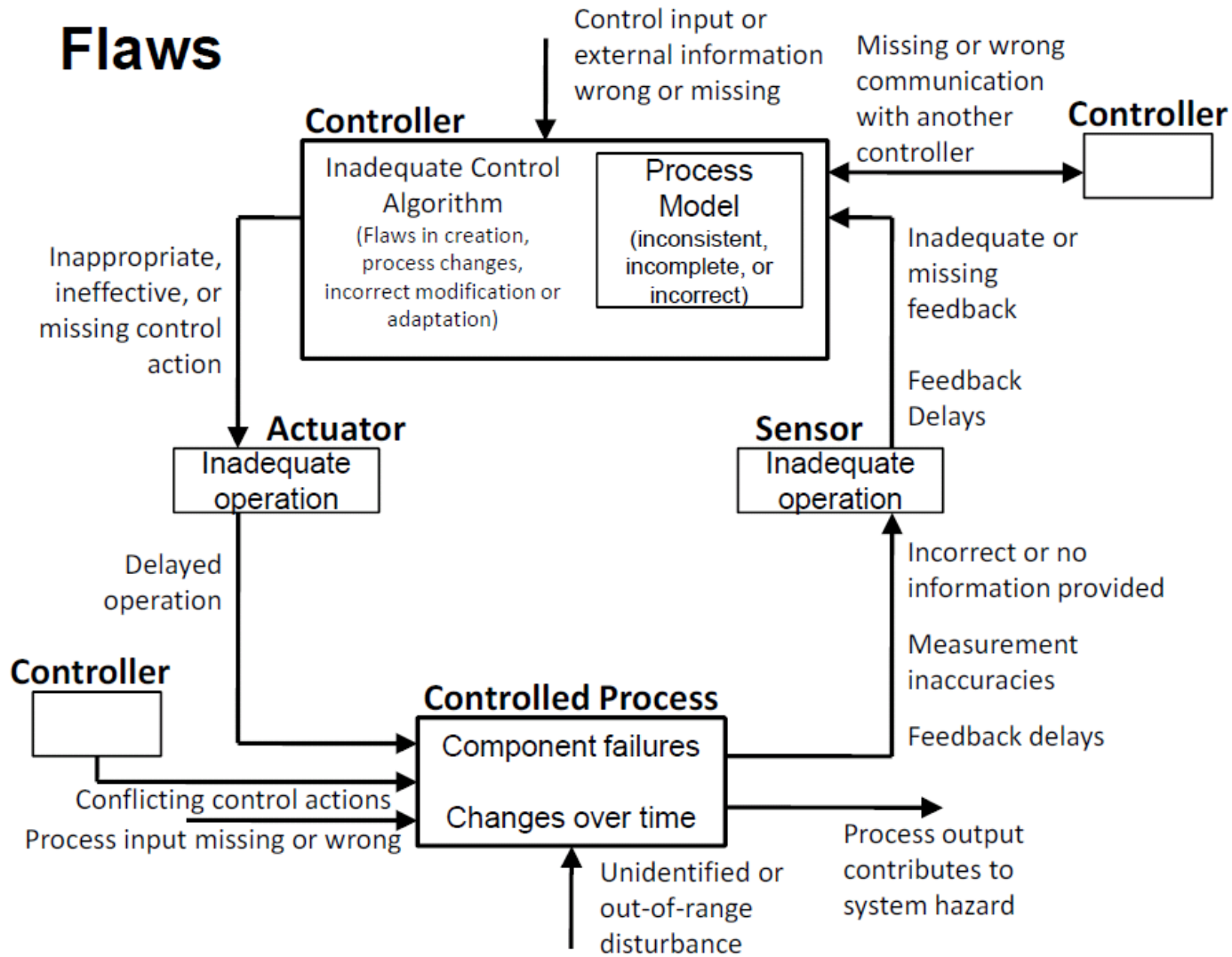


# STAMP– Step by step



1. **Reflect** on added value STAMP
  2. **Define** accident and system–hazards to be controlled
  3. **Identify** relevant controllers
  3. **Specify** for each controller
    - Safety responsibilities
    - Safety constraints
  4. **Evaluate** *control structure*: controllers & loops
  5. **Investigate** inadequate loops: absent, wrong, too late/early/long/short, ineffective
  6. **Recommend** on system improvement
- Result:  
*Control Structure*

# Potential Control Flaws



# Recommendations



- Avoid Process Model Flaws in the future?
- Change or remove Contextual factors?
- Add control & feedback paths?
- Remove or modify control & feedback paths?

# Macondo case



- STAMP analyses
  - Prof. Nancy Leveson
  - Rolf-Arne Haugen Syvertsen

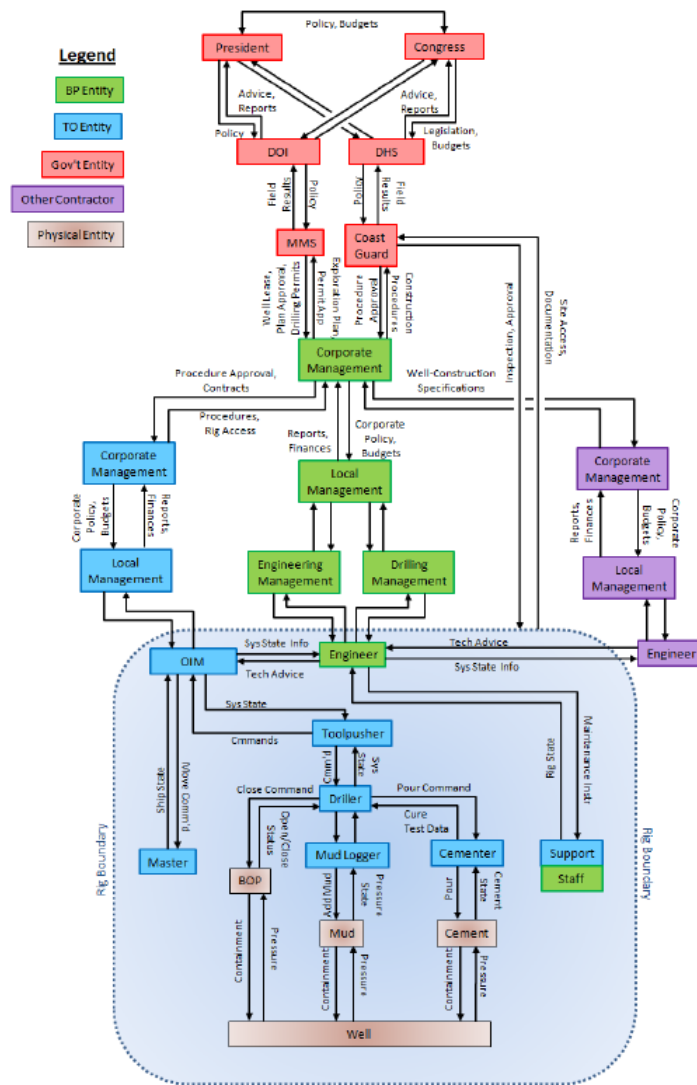
Next slides: selection & work in progress!

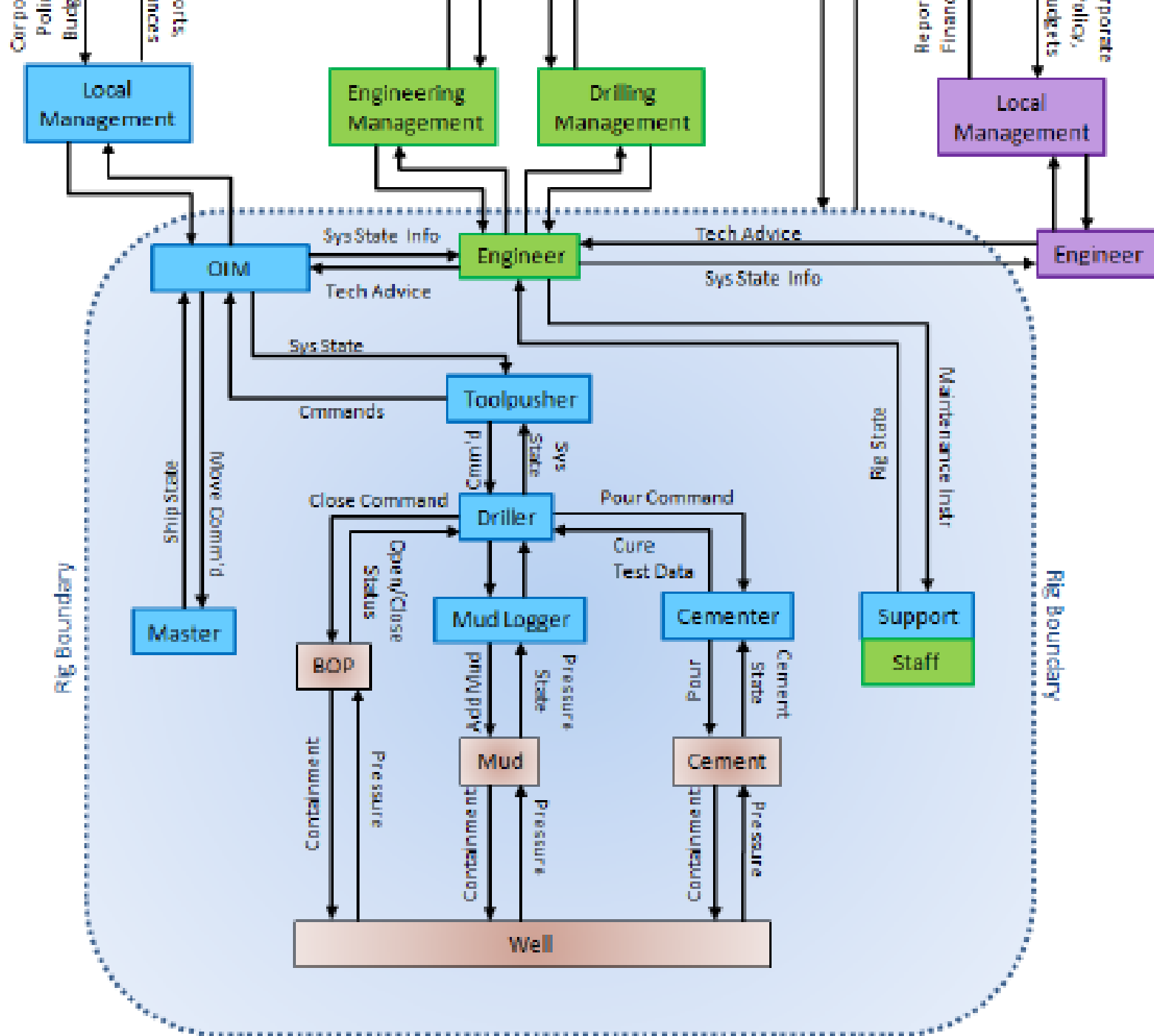
# Macondo: system Hazard



- Uncontrolled release of hydrocarbons from the well

# Macondo: control structure





# Legend

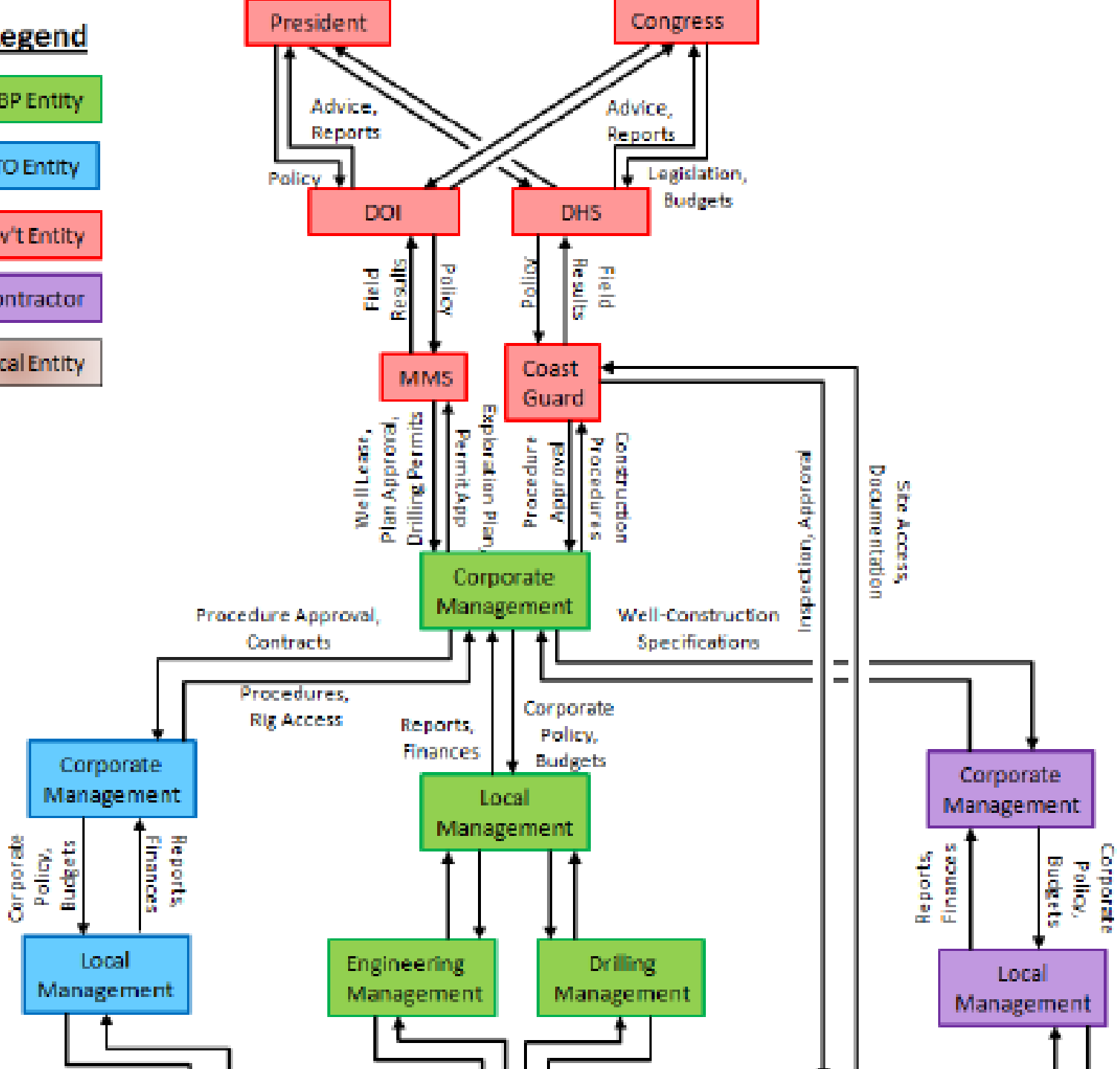
BP Entity

TO Entity

Gov't Entity

Other Contractor

Physical Entity





# For each controller



- Safety related responsibilities
- Safety constraints, control actions & feedback
- Inadequate control & feedback
- Context in which decisions were made
- Process model flaws

# Driller: safety-related responsibilities



- Monitor well control and report any potential loss of control situations
- Manually shut down all electrical equipment not rated for hazardous operation

# Driller: safety related MUD responsibilities



- Monitor mud weight
- Communication with Mudlogger
- Monitor for abnormal mud weight
- Monitor for abnormal mud composition
- Adjust mud weight if abnormal mud conditions arise
- Flush mud only after cement test certification

Also for BOP & Cement!

# Driller: inadequate control actions



- increase mud weight when mud composition abnormality was observed (gas in mud)
- recognize the influx of hydrocarbon
- recognize the excess flow from the drill pipe during negative pressure tests
- interpret pressure in the drill pipe
- monitor the well
- Recognize pipe pressure still increased when the mud pump was shut down



## Level 1: Deepwater Horizon Drill Crew

### Safety Requirements and Constraints

- Ensure well integrity
- Detect and identify a kick
- Respond appropriate to a well control situation (kick, blowout)

### Inadequate Control Actions

- Unusual pressure readings were continuously overseen
- Lack of vigilance of flow-out volume monitoring
- Poorly executed flow checks
- BOP activation

### Context In Which Decision Was Made

- The DWH was 6 weeks behind schedule
- The drilling had run 58 million dollars over budget
- Shift change
- Lack of training & standard procedures

### Process Model Flaws

- Believed the negative pressure test
- Bad habits



Level 2: Transocean OIM & senior toolpusher, and BP well site leaders

### Safety Requirements and Constraints

- Instruct rig crew of temporary abandonment procedures
- Perform calculations on expected pressure and flow
- Supervision of temporary abandonment procedures
- Engage EDS

### Inadequate Control Actions

- EDS
- Inadequate pressure and flow calculations
- BOP
- Inadequate supervision of drill crew and toolpusher

### Context In Which Decisions Made

- The DWH was 6 weeks behind schedule
- The drilling had run 58 million dollars over budget
- Inexperienced well site leader
- Lack of Training
- Lack of Standard procedures

### Process Model Flaws

- Unaware of differential pressure investigation
- Believed negative pressure test
- Believed in “bladder effect” explanation of pressure in drill pipe

# Recommendations

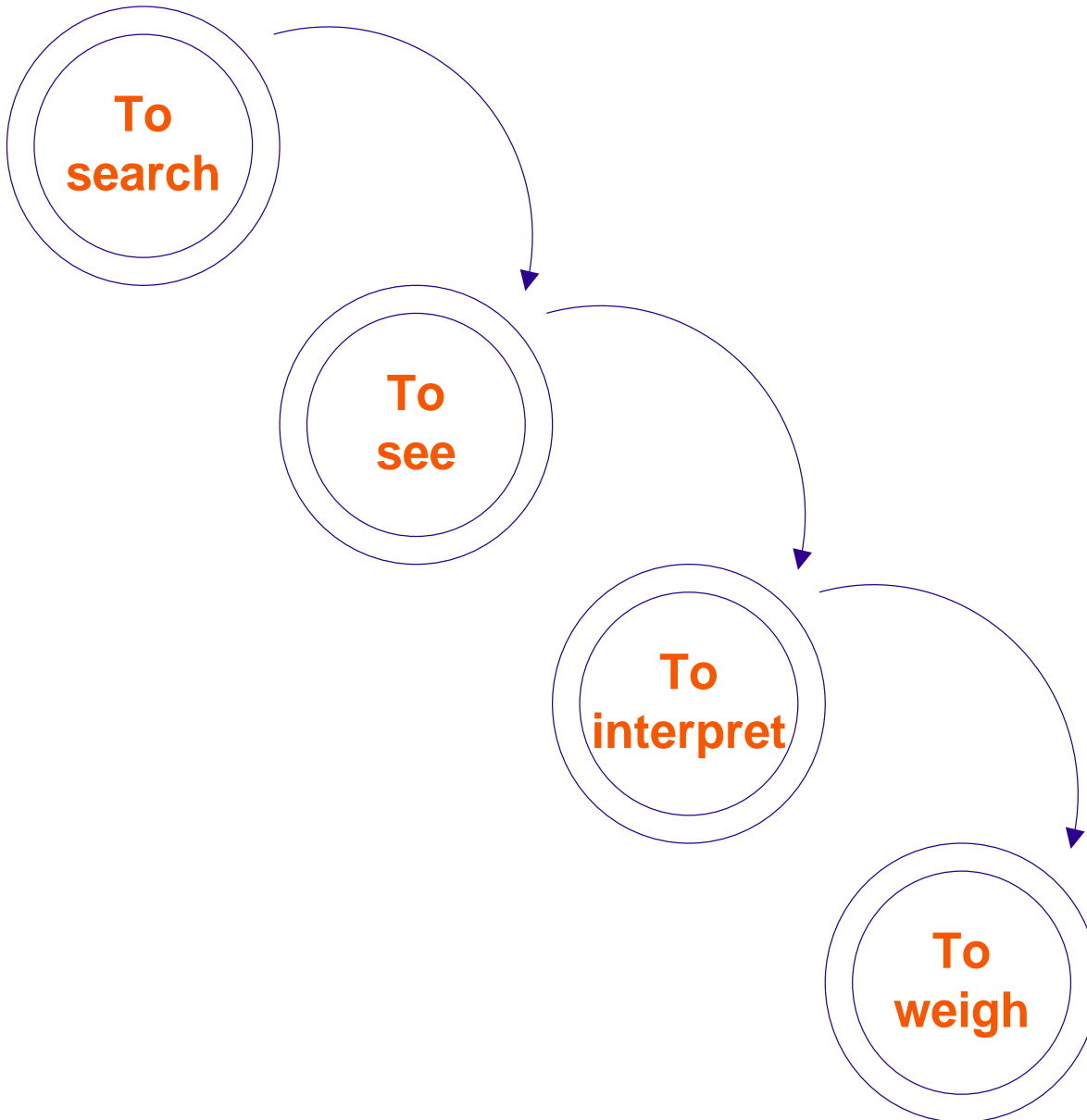


- Driller was overloaded, had too many things to do at once. Responsibilities should be allocated to prevent this.
- Well status monitored at all times
- All anomalies in pressure readings are logged and explained to next control level
- Safety professionals on site (?)
- More careful structure and assignment of responsibilities
- More careful design to make sure monitoring works
- Make a HF analysis of kind of information that people are given
  - E.g. data observability vs. availability
- Improve Change Management: development, stricter enforcement
- Design and test standards
- Multiple controllers
  - Needed clearer hierarchy in decision chain
  - Improved communication channels along this chain



To summarize





# STAMP – strenghts



- Focus on the system
- Development of control structure
- Evaluation of loops
- Recommendations on improving system performance

# STAMP – is not...



- an easy to comprehend, linear reconstruction of the accident
- a ‘cookbook–recipe’



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