

## Chapter 5: AI, Cybernetics, Automated Control and Reflexive Management

“We are living in a computer program reality” P. K. Dick 1977 (@ Metz conference in France)

### Introduction

The following section covers the topics of Computation, Cybernetics, and Control and how they can be used in Neuroweapons that are automated and fully autonomous. To begin it is important to go over the history of computers and how it directly relates to weapons research and how it is a direct outcome of war time needs and demands for fast and efficient mechanisms of execution and plan formulation.

The great advances in computer science that have occurred since the 1940s were greatly enhanced by the war effort in the Allied countries, specifically the Anglo allies: US, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and Great Britain. The race for computational superiority, which I would argue actually went to the Germans, could have been the deciding factor in the war if the German military had continued access to raw materials such as Oil to run their industries and machines. The early pioneers in this field were in the Allies: Alan Turing, and in Germany Konrad Zuse. Some of the first examples of computer controllers are found in the German military industrial production plants. Some of the first examples of “Machine Intelligence” were a direct outcome of the work of Alan Turing for the predecessor of GCHQ. However, before going into Turing and Zuse it is important to look at some of the more basic and predecessors to more advanced operations of computation in the form of management of the Holocaust by the Germans using IBM tabulating machines.

Everyone is familiar with the numbers written on Nazi inmates of Labor and Death camps. Those numbers were an index for the tabulation machines created by IBM for the German Government in 1937. International Business Machines (IBM), an American company founded by German Herman Hollerith and managed by American supporter of fascism, Thomas J. Watson, now popularly the name of the IBM Artificial Intelligence platform ‘IBM-Watson’ also IBM is involved in the development of Quantum Computing. IBM manages the extermination camps and mass categorization of Germany through a subsidiary in Germany:

Dehomag and other IBM subsidiaries custom-designed the applications. Its technicians sent mock-ups of punch cards back and forth to Reich offices until the data columns were acceptable, much as any software designer would today. Punch cards could only be designed, printed, and purchased from one source: IBM. The machines were not sold, they were leased, and regularly maintained and upgraded by only one source: IBM. IBM subsidiaries trained the Nazi officers and their surrogates throughout Europe, set up branch offices and local dealerships throughout Nazi Europe staffed by a revolving door of IBM employees, and scoured paper mills to produce as many as 1.5 billion punch cards a year in Germany alone. Moreover, the fragile machines were serviced on site about once per month, even when that site was in or near a concentration camp. IBM Germany's headquarters in Berlin maintained duplicates of many code books, much as any IBM service bureau today would maintain data backups for computers.

...IBM Germany's census operations and similar advanced people counting and registration technologies. IBM was founded in 1898 by German inventor Herman Hollerith as a census tabulating company. Census was its business. But when IBM Germany formed its philosophical and technologic alliance with Nazi Germany, census and registration took on a new mission. IBM Germany invented the racial census-listing not just religious affiliation, but bloodline going back generations. This was the Nazi data lust. Not just to count the Jews — but to identify them. (Black 2009)

As was seen in the section on the Science of Neuroweapons regarding Eugenics and tracing tribes and clans along genetic bloodlines, we see how the IBM tabulators were used to keep track, index and exploit these data points for the mass extermination of Jews, Poles, Gypsies, Homosexuals, and Leftists, among others. The diabolical methods created by such a Totalitarian regime are truly mind bending. The more scientific and military applications of the German Computer Scientists followed a more technical rather than sociological route in comparison to this utilization of IBM to manage the Holocaust.

Konrad Zuse is not known to be a devoted Nazi, rather he was known as a dedicated computer engineer who happened to be German and was later conscripted into service. However, it is known that one of his collaborators was a dedicated Nazi, Helmut Schreyer, who later went on to leave Germany like many former Nazis and resettled in Brazil where he set up a computing institute. Zuse began his development of his famous Z-series computers in the spare rooms of his parent's apartment. In 1938 he attempted to create his first computer, which never actually worked due to fabrication problems with the mechanical systems of his machine. The construction of the Z-series computers was oriented exclusively towards the mathematics of statistics and Zuse's encryption engine was never built, it was the S1, a special computer which was used in the Henschel factory between 1942 and 1944 to calculate wing measurements for remote control flying bombs, a predecessor to modern drones. Previously, in 1940, Zuse was able to complete his first working computer, the Z-2. In, 1941 he built the first programmable computer, the Z-3. After the war he also developed the first algorithmic programming language, Plankukul (Calculus Plan) in 1945-6.

Meanwhile, in Britain, the more famous Alan Turing, started working on his computational ideals, some of which were done in collaboration with Von Neumann, a Germanic Hungarian that taught at Princeton who was respected as one of the greatest mathematicians of his time. Turing became most famous for his breaking of the German Military encryption Enigma machine. Although, this work was actually pioneered by a Polish Intelligence decryption engineer at the Biuro Szyfrów (Cipher Bureau) , Marian Rejewski, who created the first version of the 'cryptologic bomb' (bomba kryptologiczna) before the Nazis defeated the Polish military and work had to be stopped in Poland. The computer as it became known was the 'Bombe'. The bombe was an electro-mechanical device used by British cryptologists to help decipher German Enigma-machine-encrypted secret messages during World War II. The US Navy and US Army later produced their own machines to the same functional specification, albeit engineered differently both from each other and from the British Bombe itself.

The initial design of the bombe was produced in 1939 at the UK Government Code and Cypher School (GC&CS), now known as GCHQ, at Bletchley Park by Alan Turing, with an

important refinement devised in 1940 by Gordon Welchman. The engineering design and construction was the work of Harold Keen of the British Tabulating Machine Company. It was a substantial development from the first bombe, code-named Victory, installed in March 1940 while the second version, Agnus Dei or Agnes, incorporating Welchman's new design, was working by August 1940. Another significant contribution from the British war effort was the development of the Colossus machines in 1944. Designed by British engineer Tommy Flowers working at Bletchley Park, the Colossus is designed to break the complex Lorenz ciphers used by the Nazis during World War II. A total of ten Colossi were delivered, each using as many as 2,500 vacuum tubes. A series of pulleys transported continuous rolls of punched paper tape containing possible solutions to a particular code. Colossus reduced the time to break Lorenz messages from weeks to hours. Most historians believe that the use of Colossus machines significantly shortened the war by providing evidence of enemy intentions and beliefs. The machine's existence was not made public until the 1970s.



Lorenz messages created by a cypher machine (image: Wikicommons)

Another important German computer engineer that came to attention shortly after the war, was Heinz Billing. Billing was heavily involved in the development of magnetic drum memory. This eventually converged in a meeting between British computer engineers and German computer engineers shortly after the war:

"... the question of an unknown potential meeting between the computer pioneers Alan Turing and Konrad Zuse. It is said to have taken place at Gottingen in 1947. Most historians of computing have no knowledge of Zuse's interrogation by Turing. So far, only one source is available which mentions this event, Heinz Billing's memoirs." [other participants include on the German side: Zuse, Heinz Billing, Helmut Schreyer who eventually went to Brazil, and Alwin Walther. On the English side, interrogators, Arthur Porter, Alan Turing, and John Womersley] After which electronic magnetic drum computing entered English computation designs.

Billing one of the inventors of the magnetic drum and designer of the first German sequence-controlled electronic digital computer as well as of the first German program-stored electronic digital computer.

Turing worked at NPL developing the modern stored-program electronic digital computer called 'ACE' (automatic computing engine). Oct. 1945 (Bruderer 2013)

Later, at NPL Zuse and Schreyer visit and exchange ideas with staff from 15 Feb 1948 - 4 March 1948  
(Bruderer 2013)

It is interesting that Britain was able to take the work of Billing after the war and create advances in computational abilities. Heinz Billing, he researched and worked at the Institute for Instrumentation in the Max Planck Society, which was located on the grounds of the AVA in Göttingen and where he developed in 1948 a magnetic drum memory and program-controlled computing machines. Billing mainly used amplifier tubes for this purpose. During this time he learned about the novel electronic computing machine ENIAC in the USA and its performance. In 1947, an exchange with senior English scientists and computer scientists from the National Physical Laboratory (NPL) took place in Teddington, where John Roland Womersley (1907-1958), Arthur Porter and Alan Turing were involved. In the form of a colloquium, the British experts interviewed German scientists such as Heinz Billing, Konrad Zuse, Alwin Walther and Helmut Schreyer. Billing was confronted for the first time with the idea of binary numbers and data storage. In contrast to the English, who worked with acoustic storage, Billing from 1948 intended for music recordings and glued on a rotating drum tapes for magnetophones to save numbers. Later, Billing was interested in Physics and was part of the research which was cited to disprove the discovery of Gravitational Waves by American Physicist, Weber. [See Ch. 6 Physics of Neuroweapons]. Also, later in life, 1967, Zuse became interested in Physics and created what was known as Digital Physics. Zuse suggested that the universe itself is running on a cellular automaton or similar computational structure (digital physics); in 1969, he published the book *Rechnender Raum* (translated into English as *Calculating Space*). This idea has attracted a lot of attention, since there is no physical evidence against Zuse's thesis.

One of the tragic stories of the development of computer technology involves that of Alan Turing after the war. After the war, Turing made great strides in developing proto-Artificial Intelligence ideas. In 1950, he created the Turing test which was a theoretical test to see if a human could tell if they were interacting with a computer or a person, if the computer could fool the human it had passed the test, as passing as human. He also was involved in researching new computational hardware to support his ideas in Artificial Intelligence. However, Turing was a homosexual, which at the time was a criminal offence in Great Britain. Whether, he was set up to cover up a burglary at his residence and where he conducted his research is an open question in conspiracy theories. Nonetheless, it was charged that his lover burgled his house leading to discovery of his homosexuality. Turing's conviction led to the removal of his security clearance and barred him from continuing with his cryptographic consultancy for GCHQ. He was denied entry into the United States after his conviction in 1952, but was free to visit other European countries. Turing was never accused of espionage but, in common with all who had worked at Bletchley Park, he was prevented by the Official Secrets Act from discussing his war work. On 8 June 1954, Turing's housekeeper found him dead. He had died the previous day. A post-mortem examination established that the cause of death was cyanide poisoning. When his body was discovered, an apple lay half-eaten beside his bed, and although the apple was not tested for cyanide, it was speculated that this was the means by which a fatal dose was

consumed.

As can be seen by this brief history of the development of computing from out of the need to break encryption during World War 2, we see the convergence of computation and Intelligence work. Jumping forward, we will see how the British Secret Intelligence Services used computers in the war with the Irish Republican Army.

### **History of British Computing in Intelligence**

Building on the earlier work of such great Intelligence computer engineers as Turing in Britain. The United Kingdom started turning to computers for active surveillance and tracking of Irish Republican Volunteers during the 'Troubles in Northern Ireland' which ended some 20 years ago as Neuroweapon computerized Thought Injection was becoming a viable platform for conducting irregular warfare, ironically Lockheed-Martin engineers used the IRA as an example in their early 2000s research on Game Theoretic Reflexive Control. It is interesting that in 1966, which was also the year that saw the creation of the Ulster Volunteer Force (UVF) in Northern Ireland which openly attacked Native Irish Catholics starting the 'Troubles', Great Britain developed it's first Intelligence Satellite, later, 1969, a series of satellites were launched ironically named 'Skynet', which is also a electronic surveillance system used by the NSA. Though this ironic in a chapter on Artificial Intelligence and Automated Systems, it does reveal a frame of mind in the British Intelligence Community, of desiring information. The question then becomes how to manage such information.

In Northern Ireland, MI-5, developed some of it's first surveillance systems based in visual data: cctv; and managing that data using Statistical Learning algorithms and computer networks. It is easy to see why they would want to use computers for surveillance and tracking with this brief account of what is involved in surveillance and the mass numbers of human agents involved:

The branch of MI5 in charge of static and mobile surveillance is and is A4, part of A branch (Operations & Intelligence) in a fast-growing empire that has at least fourteen main departments and many sub-units. The field officers of A4 are dedicated expert people who are often treated as a lesser breed by the desk analysts and policy-makers. Foot surveillance is taught to students of MI5 and military Intelligence officers using a drill known as the A-B-C system. At least three people are used to follow the target: A (for adjacent, also known as the 'Eyeball') is nearest; B (Back-up) is further back, preferably concealed from the quarry. Both usually stick to the same side of the road. C (Control) has a wide field of vision on the opposite side of the road, guiding the other two with concealed throat microphone and/or discreet hand signals. A guide for novice trackers suggests: 'Behave naturally; have a purpose for being there; be prepared with a cover story (ensure that it fits the situation); remember you are most vulnerable when coming from cover.' The guidance deals with distance from the target, anticipation, body language, local knowledge, concentration and teamwork.

Means by which the target is kept off-guard including 'boxing' and 'paralleling'. 'The subject is allowed to proceed on a route where there are a minimal number of surveillance officers. The idea is to let the subject 'run' from point to point to be checked

at various places [like polling in a video game] by surveillance officers on parallel routes or ahead.' Even if new faces are introduced into the surveillance team, close control deteriorates in this form of play. However, 'the most important factor about surveillance is the need to be honest about exposure. It is better to have a controlled loss rather than to hang on to the subject too long.'

The MI5 technique is manpower-intensive. Up to fifty Watchers might be needed to maintain twenty-four-hour cover on a single target. The result was a drive to recruit a large number of officers in a short time. (Geraghty 1998,144-5)

In the early 1970s to track movements of vehicles in Northern Ireland, the British military used a system of logs which recorded the drivers and vehicle tags. As technology developed in CCTV, the system became more and more computerized. Initially, the logs were replaced with computer terminals and a database. Then in the mid-1990s, the computer system started switching to Machine Intelligence to analyze data. They developed a system of hidden cameras deployed covertly, called Glutton.

Second only to the informer is the computer or, rather, the array of computers which act as the collating brains of this new style of warfare. In Northern Ireland, for example, the army uses two systems: 'Vengeful', dedicated to vehicles, and 'Crucible', for people. Crucible, one source explained, 'will hold a personal file containing a map/picture showing this is where a suspect lives as well as details of family and past.' Vengeful is linked to the Northern Ireland vehicle licensing office. The two systems provide total cover of a largely innocent population, the sea within which the terrorist fish still swim. Information management is handled by yet another Intelligence Corps team, the Joint Surveillance Group." (Geraghty 1998, 158-9)

Later, a new AI system was introduced called Caister, which was a knowledge based system to analyze IRA movements and personnel, this system replaced an earlier system, known as Crucible. Later, Caister was replaced by a system known as Calshot, which included AI analysis of data, bypassing human interaction, an automated autonomous system, which replaced an earlier attempt at using AI for automated analysis called Effigy, which was replaced in 1998 with a system known as 'Mannequin'.

Geraghty writes:

Another new Intelligence computer was 'Caister', a knowledge-based system (KBS) to replace the earlier Crucible [mid-90s] in sifting personal information about terrorists and their associates. Caister or its later variant 'Calshot', it was hoped, would be part of a process of analysis where the computer, rather than human mind, identified significant links between one suspect and another. The generic name given to this technique is Artificial Intelligence. Laden with personal files Caister, according to one document, would 'provide dual central processing suites at Theipval (military HQ) and Knock (RUC HQ) interconnected by megastream support up to 350 terminals over secure communications bearers. Data up to 'Secret'. Average response time of ten seconds for a single enquiry with 192 concurrent references.'

Artificial Intelligence was trialled and failed at an earlier stage under the code-name 'Effigy', but by 1997, under the code-name 'Mannequin', plans were virtually complete to have a second shot at this project, regarded as vital to a successful counter-terrorist campaign in the future. The key was integration, and an electronic spring-clean of the Military Intelligence cupboard in which, in 1994, there were no fewer than thirty-seven separate computer programs, virtually none of which was compatible with any other. " (Geraghty 1998, 160)

Obviously, this reveals the nature of surveillance to Secret Intelligence, in that it is not specific to known suspects but is a wide net cast across all sectors of a society, which was later confirmed in the Snowden NSA leaks. As Geraghty notes:

By 1996, the new culture of directed Intelligence had proliferated like some exotic plant inside a greenhouse in Bedfordshire, new home of the Defence Intelligence and Security School. The system could run effective surveillance on an entire population and, through the use of psychological warfare (reserved, so far, for use in Bosnia), shape popular perceptions of events to suit a military strategy. It gave enormous power to those in charge of the system in Northern Ireland... (Geraghty 1998, 131-2)

It is interesting to note that at that time, the mid-90s, that psychological warfare could be run through their computer systems and it's AI. Although the claim of psyops being limited to Bosnia and not employed in Northern Ireland is contradicted by historical accounts of such psychological warfare in Northern Ireland (Cadwallader 2013, 328, 348). Additionally, there is a cavalier attitude with such powers by those in authority. As exhibited by Michael Mates, Northern Ireland Secretary 1991-2:

"I never had to go looking for power. This is where Northern Ireland is different. You could have more than you could use.... There's no bloody democracy down there. That's why it works so well. I've never been happier. I had power. But one keeps very quiet about it." (Geraghty 1998, 132)

Indeed, it is noted by the author Richard Aldrich that the European Convention on Human Rights was viewed by the British secret state as a threat to its viability (Aldrich 2010, 485). That adhering to international treaties and laws, not to mention domestic laws would be a 'threat'. To what extent this attitude remains to the human administrators of the security establishment in Great Britain, it remains an interesting question as to whether the AI analysis also considers such laws a 'threat' and what its automated responses to such a threat might be. Clearly, when it comes to security agencies the law is not implemented against their own Intelligence. Professor Bill Rolston in his paper 'An Effective Mask for Terror: Democracy, Death Squads and Northern Ireland': 'Although the law was sometimes used against state forces, it was used leniently, even when they acted independently outside of their special units.' (Rolston 2005, 21). It is recorded that the Military Intelligence during the Troubles viewed those in civil authority with contempt as they referred to oversight as being 'betrayed and maligned' by 'flabby-faced men

with pop-eyes and fancy accents'. (Cadwallader 2013, 322). Even going further then contempt for the legal oversight is the outright applying fuel to the fire to achieve objectives:

If loyalist paramilitaries could not shoot the fish, they would poison the water. Eventually, they reasoned, this would ineluctably drive the nationalist community to pressurise the IRA to stop its campaign'. A spokesman explained the UVF strategy at that time: 'We believed, rightly or wrongly, that the only effective way to beat the terror machine was to employ greater terrorism against its operative ... By bombing the heart of Provisional enclaves we attempted to terrorize the nationalist community into demanding that the Provisionals either cease their campaign or move out ... we hoped to crack their morale and destroy their chain of command.' (Cadwallader 2013, 323)

This notion of using terrorism by members of the security state are echoed by Evelegh:

A third military strategist with experience in Ireland was Robin Evelegh, who served in Cyprus during the late 1960s. After service in Northern Ireland he wrote *Peace-Keeping in a Democratic Society: The Lessons of Northern Ireland*, which influenced later security operations. In his book, Evelegh bemoaned 'shortcomings in the laws governing the operation of the Security Forces [in Northern Ireland] to suppress terrorism and disorder' which –if only they could be corrected –could 'succeed in ending these horrors'. Echoing Kitson [directed psyops], he thought such limitations necessitated civil, policing and military powers being united to 'weld all the efforts of the Government into a machine directed at one end, the defeat of the insurrection' –a call, in effect, for martial law. Evelegh supported Kitson's lead on turning paramilitaries into allies who 'have to be consciously created' and then indemnified with immunity 'for the crimes he will have to commit'. On agents provocateurs infiltrating enemy ranks, Evelegh says openly that the agent should 'clearly play his part in terrorist activity which will almost inevitably involve him in committing further crimes'. He quotes Lord Widgeryad in a 1974 High Court appeal as also acknowledging this fact.(Cadwallader 2013, 352)

To what extent surveillance systems and it's management through Artificial Intelligence could go toward enforcing martial law, or of enabling Military Intelligence of running around oversight is an open question. Clearly, there is a very big opening for abuse for such systems. It is worrisome that the NSA does not consider passive automated systems of surveillance as 'surveillance', would this mean that an automated system of thought injection is also not 'neuroweapons' or 'mind control'? As journalist Jakob Applebaum explains:

According to Appelbaum, the NSA is running a two-stage data dragnet operation. The first stage is TURMOIL, which collects data traffic passively via satellite and cable taps and stores it – in some cases for up to 15 years – for future reference. The NSA does not consider this surveillance because no human operator is involved, just automatic systems." [1]



If it the NSA can collect data passively without a warrant what is to stop them from collecting passive neural data using automated systems? Is full automation just a legal workaround, but one which opens up unforeseen complex engineering problems?

Tracking and Surveillance are not the only areas in military operations that are automated and utilizing Artificial Intelligence. Information Operations is also an area that is utilizing automated and Machine Intelligence to achieve the aims of secret Intelligence organizations. Many are now familiar with the Cambridge Analytica data breach and exploitation story. An Influence Operation, a sub-specialty of Information Operations are becoming more and more automated. Cambridge Analytica, a British defense contractor, with many connections to far-right American business interests, such as billionaire Robert Mercer, who made his fortune in Image Recognition in Artificial Intelligence Systems, was owned by SCL Group. SCL Group conducted Information and Influence Operations research for the British Ministry of Defence. As explained by this news article:

The SCL project was carried out by the MoD's Defence Science and Technology Laboratory (DSTL), which is focused on maximising "the impact of science and technology for the defence and security of the UK".

According to a heavily redacted document released under freedom of information rules, Project Duco was part of the government's "human and social influence" work, and SCL was paid £150,000. The company was also paid £40,000 for work carried out in 2010-11.

The government team, which included psychologists and analysts, worked with SCL in 2014 to assess how "target audience analysis" could be used by the British government. (Watt 2018)

It is easy to see how such a company could be used to further a Secret Intelligence Agency's goals and plans, goals and plans which need not be the same as the democratically elected government. Another troubling aspect of Cambridge Analytica was it's complicity in influence operations during the UK's plans to exit the European Union, which as noted before Secret Intelligence viewed EU laws on human rights, such as the equality of the Irish with the British in Northern Ireland, as a 'threat'. Indeed, another company connected to Cambridge Analytica and SCL Group, Harris Media, conducts influence operations for far-right political organizations such as the AfD in Germany, and has a common cause with other far-right political causes.

The Defence Science and Technology Laboratory has as it's component areas of expertise such areas as counter-terrorism, under which category in America research into 'Thought Injection' was conducted as a counter-terrorism tactic. Another area of DSTL research and promotion of automation and machine autonomy is Influence Operations, and Cognitive Science. Recently it has offered financial support to researchers using machines in this endeavor.[2]

It is not just the 5 Eyes nations, such as the UK and USA, that have automated influence operations, virtually any well organized intelligence department of any nation could easily deploy such a system, and not just the bogeymen of Russia and China. So with such a plethora of potential operatives in Influence Operations one would think the United States would have developed counter-measures to such operations as Maj. Christopher Telley reminds us:

...the transformation of one industry in particular has grave implications for U.S. national security: influence. AI-guided information operations (IO) utilize tools that can shape a target audience's perceptions through the rapid and effective mimicry of human empathy with that audience. Machine speed influence operations are occurring right now, but future IO systems will be able to individually monitor and affect tens of thousands of people at once. Though the threat of automated influence exists quite literally on the smartphone in front of you, the Pentagon's current efforts to integrate AI do not appear to include any reasonably resourced IO response. (Telley, 2018)

It is noteworthy that the Defense Department tried to create a counter-measures department for Influence Operations, but it was closed down in 2002 by Donald Rumsfeld, SECDEF under George Bush, citing public outcry, which itself may have been an influence operation[3]. Maj. Telley, calls the automated machine intelligence implementation of Influence Operations, the Influence Machine, he elaborates on the problem with such Influence Machines:

The crux of the Influence Machine's value is the inherent vulnerability of Western democracy, that decision makers are beholden to a malleable selectorate. as senator Mark Warner noted, "We're increasingly in a world where cyber vulnerability, misinformation and disinformation may be the tools of conflict." By affecting the cognition—the will—of enough people, this machine can prevent or delay a democratic government's physical response to aggression; it is a defeat mechanism. The Influence Machine's objective comes down to changing the value of the target's strategic goal. Clausewitz knew that the political object, the original motive, in a conflict was the essential factor in any deterrence equation. The smaller the value demanded of an opponent, the less that competitor would be willing to try to deny it. This is the inverse of Fearon's "tying hands" findings that the increase of the perceived costs for an audience, a national population, tends to prevent a country from backing down when attempting to coerce an opponent. With automated influence, that opponent attempts to lower the expected benefits, on the part of the competitor's audiences, for the intervention action. The Influence Machine enables defeat before any shots are ever fired by removing "the physical means or the will to fight." in this condition, a defeated state's executive is unwilling or unable to respond to a threat action, thereby yielding to the opponent's will as fake news becomes frighteningly competitive with real news, the emergence of the Influence Machine presents a novel way to "hack" the unchanging human nature of war. (Telley, 2018, 7)

As we have learned Influence Operations are an integral part of any Intelligence Agency's strategic goals and policies. Another area that has developed directly out of Intelligence work is

that of Operations Research, which is most closely identified with the development of Cybernetics, which is a direct outgrowth of Operations Research.

## **Cybernetics**

Before discussing Cybernetics we need to understand the parent concept of Operations Research (OR).

According to the Operational Research Society of Great Britain (OPERATIONAL RESEARCH QUARTERLY, 13(3):282, 1962), Operational Research is the attack of modern science on complex problems arising in the direction and management of large systems of men, machines, materials and money in industry, business, government and defense. Its distinctive approach is to develop a scientific model of the system, incorporating measurements of factors such as change and risk, with which to predict and compare the outcomes of alternative decisions, strategies or controls. The purpose is to help management determine its policy and actions scientifically. (Anonymous, year unknown)

Operations Research began in Great Britain just before the war and was involved in the development of British Radar defenses. The Operational Research department was eventually placed under the command of Lord Dowding, in charge of Air Defenses and credited with saving Britain in the 'Battle of Britain' [he also believed in UFOs]. It is easy to see how this is important to a National Intelligence infrastructure. As it is also the task of the IC to monitor its nations fiscal and economic output and intakes, every IC has a department related to these affairs. Hence, the creation of a mathematically based scientific discipline for analysis of these most important aspects of national Intelligence.

Norbert Wiener coined the term 'Cybernetics' as a participant in the Macy Conferences, an early academic colloquia on automation and machine learning held at Dartmouth College in the 1950s. Wiener, who worked on controllers for Radar systems, during World War II for the United States Government. Later, he was interested in how controllers work in not just radar but in general terms. Cybernetics is a transdisciplinary approach for exploring regulatory systems—their structures, constraints, and possibilities. Norbert Wiener defined cybernetics in 1948 as "the scientific study of control and communication in the animal and the machine." In the 21st century, the term is often used in a rather loose way to imply "control of any system using technology." In other words, it is the scientific study of how humans, animals and machines control and communicate with each other. A colleague of Wiener was Stafford Beers, who during World War II he worked for British Military Intelligence in the area of Operations Research was a prominent figure in the development of Cybernetics. Eden Medina provides a digest of the interactions between Military Intelligence and Cybernetics:

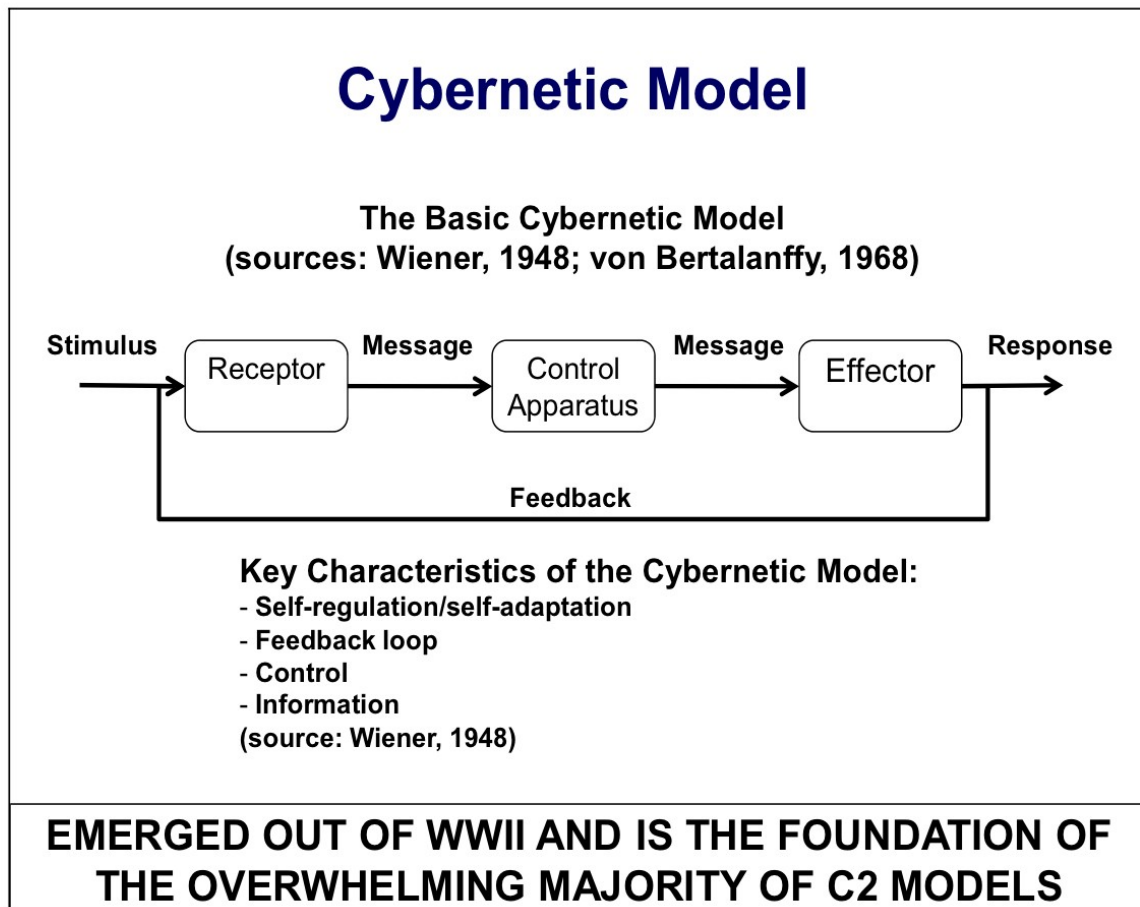
British cybernetics, as practiced by Beer, differed from the U.S. approach in significant ways. In his book the Cybernetic Brain, Andrew Pickering distinguishes British cybernetics (as represented by the careers of Beer, Ashby, Grey Walter, Gregory

Bateson, R.D. Laing, and Gordon Pask) from the better-known story of cybernetics in the United States, which is often tied to the career of Norbert Wiener and Wiener's military research at MIT during the Second World War. Pickering notes that British cybernetics was tied primarily to psychiatry, not military engineering, and focused on the brain. (Medina 2005, 36)

psychiatry and military engineering were not separate domains in the postwar era, and work in cybernetics spanned both fields in the U.S. and British contexts. For example, the British cybernetician Gordon Pask received fifteen years of funding for his work on decision making and adaptive training systems from the U.S. Office of Navy Research. Military funding also supported the work of psychologists such as George Miller, who promoted the use of cybernetic ideas and information theory in psychology. (Medina 2005, 36, Note 45)

The modeling of cybernetics on the Nervous System of vertebrate animals was done explicitly by Stafford Beers. In the sense of the Brain as commander of the body. This is a biological C2 system (command and control: C2). USAF Colonel Scherrer delineates the relationship of cybernetics to C2 [for similarity to discussion on Semiotic Cybernetics see 'Ch. 4']:

The cybernetic-system model is the dominant C2 paradigm for nearly all researchers and systems builders and either explicitly or implicitly informs all C2 models ( see Figure 5). A cybernetic system is composed of three fundamental components: sensors that accept input from the environment, processors that accept the input and transform it, and output mechanisms that take the processed information and use it to change the behavior of the system. The cybernetic aspect of military operations is readily apparent given these operations are a process by which a commander (sensor and processor) directs forces (people, processes/ors, and technology organized into a system to produce output) to achieve comparative advantage over an adversary (interaction with the environment) through maneuver and the application of firepower (output and feedback). The science of cybernetics studies internal and external interactions "guided by the principle that numerous different types of systems can be studied according to the principles of feedback, control, and communications." Also key to understanding the concept of cybernetics is the idea of self-regulation. When a system senses a change in the environment, that information is used to adjust the behavior according to the goal of the system. The system then monitors the environment to ascertain if either the internal or external change has successfully aligned with the system's goal. (Scherrer, 2009, 34)



**Figure 5: The Cybernetic Model. (Sources: Wiener, 1948 and Bertalanffy, 1968).**

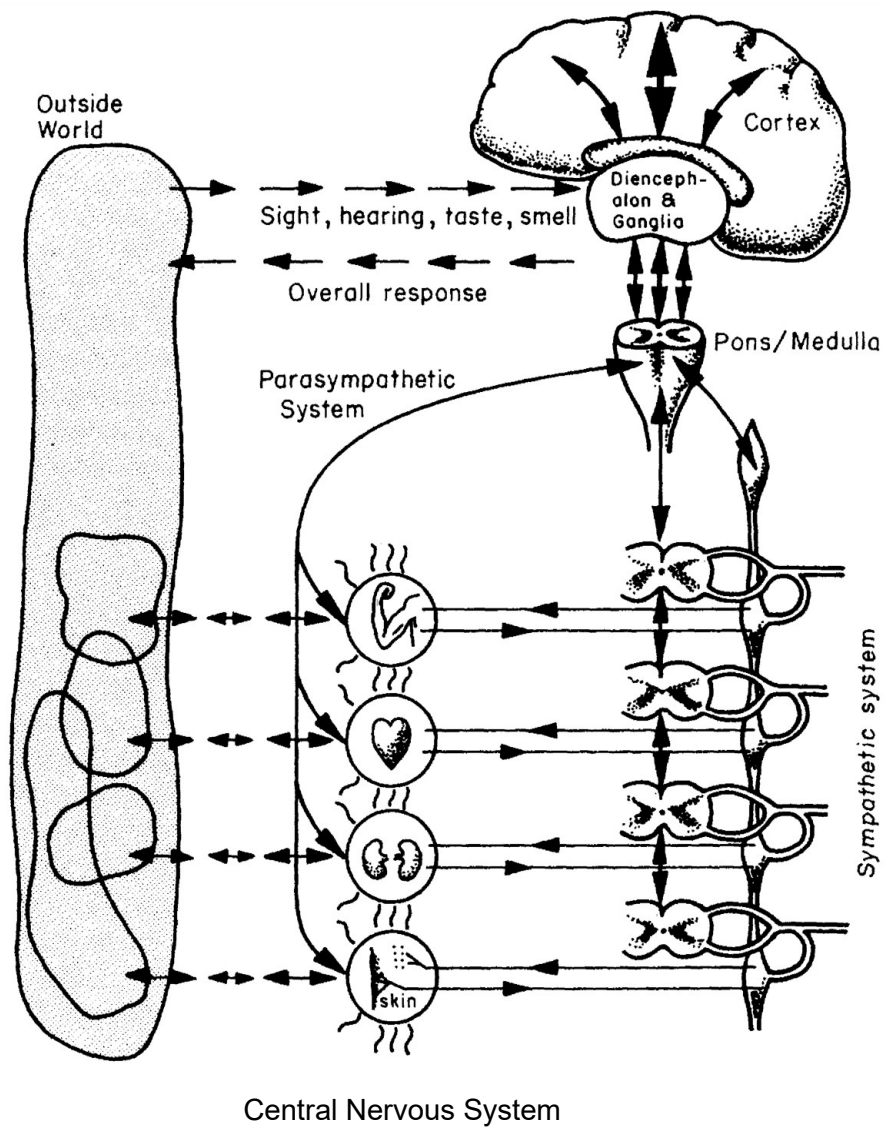
(Scherrer 2009)

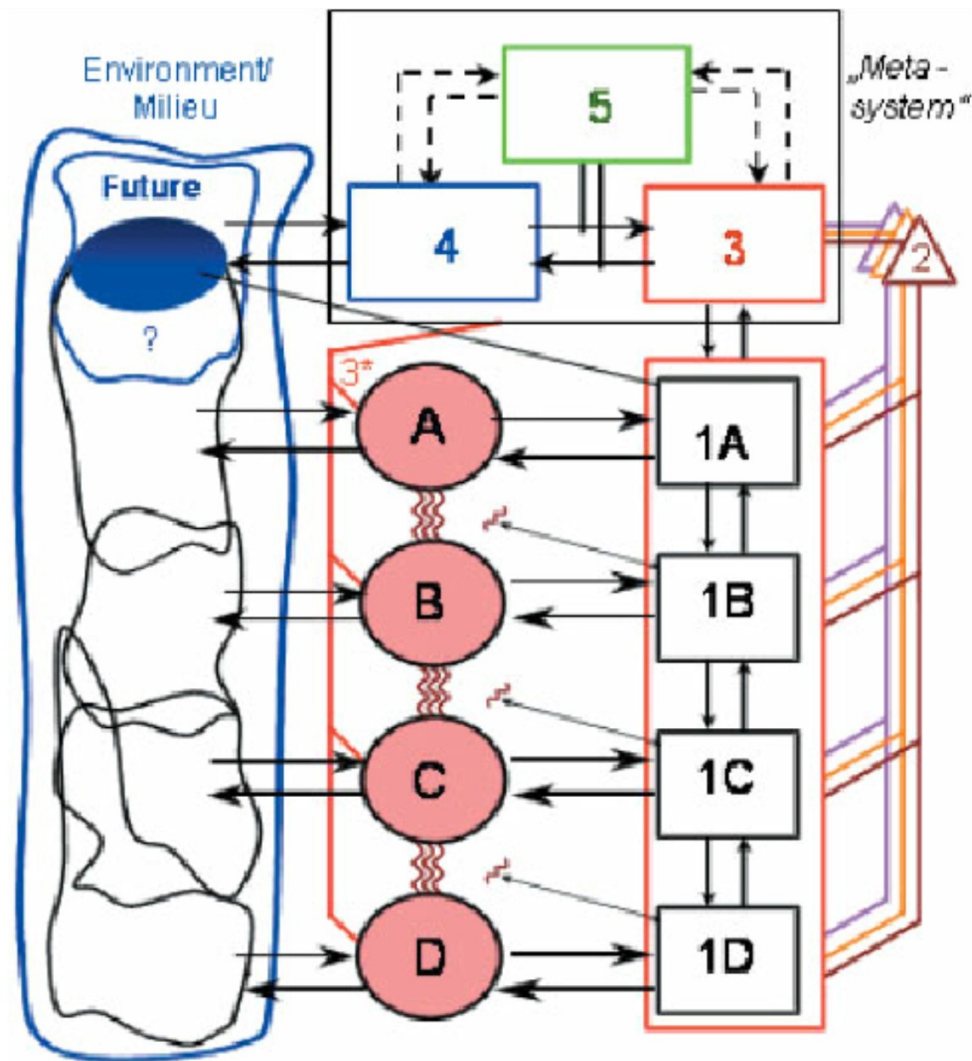
With this we see how similar and intrinsic the study of cybernetics is to military and intelligence command and control.

Stafford Beers, however, took this in a more interdisciplinary direction. Eventually, creating a cybernetic system that regulated the industries of Chile in 1972-73, with Project Cybersyn. Beers is the creator of what he termed the Viable Systems model, which was first postulated in 1972 in Beer's book, 'The Brain of the Firm'. Medina offers the following on the Viable System Model of Beers:

Beers defines a viable system as 'a system that survives. It coheres; it is integral. It is homeostatically balanced both internally and externally, but has none the less mechanisms and opportunities to grow and to learn, to evolve and to adapt—to become more and more potent in its environment.' ...a system that is 'capable of independent existence.' (Medina 2005, 50)

The Viable Systems model was based on Beers notion of the central nervous system.





Beers Viable System Model

Andrew Pickering explains Beers' view:

The spirit of the [Viable System Model] VSM is nicely expressed in the juxtaposition of two figures from *Brain of the Firm*: one a schematic of the human body; the other of the firm. Very briefly, Beer argued that one needs to distinguish, at minimum, five levels or system of control in any viable system. In this figure, System One consists of four subsidiaries of a larger organization, labelled A,B,C,D, analogous to arms and legs, the heart, kidneys, etc. System Two, the equivalent of the sympathetic nervous system, connects them to one another and to System Three, and seeks to damp out destructive interactions between the subsidiaries. System Three-- the pons and medulla of the VSM-- consists of a set of Operation Research (OR) models of production that enables management to react to fluctuations in Systems One and Two--by reallocating resources, for example. System Four--the base of the brain itself--was envisaged as a decision-making environment for higher management, modeled on the World War II

operations room. It would collect and display information from the lower systems and from the outside world and, very importantly, it would run a set of computer programs that higher management could consult on the possible future effects of major decisions. At the same time, this operations room was intended to function as a club-room for senior management--a place to hang out, even when major decisions were not at stake. Finally System Five, was the location of the most senior management whom Beer regarded as the cortex of the firm. Their vision of the firm and its future, whatever it was, was to be negotiated into reality in reciprocally vetoing homeostatic interactions with System 4. (Pickering 2006, 16)

As noted, cybernetics, and controllers or control are intrinsically linked. For Beer he defined control in a more open sense, for Beer control is self-regulation, or the ability of a system to adapt to internal and environmental changes and self-sustain itself. This was an important distinction for Beer, rather than trying to create a hierarchical system of total control, he was trying to create a system that is much more fractal in nature (Medina, 37). Indeed, for Beer an integral component of control is what he called 'variety', citing Ashby's Law of Requisite Variety: for a system to be stable, the number of states that its control mechanism is capable of attaining (its variety) must be greater than or equal to the number of states in the system being controlled, only variety can control variety. Medina has observed that "it is impossible to truly control another unless you can respond to all attempts at subversion." (Medina 2005, 39).

Another important aspect of Beer's cybernetics was the creation of inter-connected components within the system:

Beer emphasized creating lateral communication channels among the different subsystems so that the changes in one subsystem could be absorbed by changes in the others. This approach, he argued, took advantage of the flexibility of each subsystem. Instead of creating a regulator to fix the behaviour of each subsystem, he found ways to couple subsystems together so that they could respond to each other and adapt. Such adaptive couplings helped maintain the stability of the overall system. (Medina 2005, 39)

He viewed managers as system designers rather than as part of the system, he looked for ways to restructure systems so that it would tend toward homeostasis and desired behaviors. (Medina, 40). Another aspect of the interconnectedness was the creation of horizontal and vertical forms of communication and control. This allowed changes in one subsystem to be reacted to by other subsystems rather than waiting for a directive from the top (C2). Thus, cybernetic management approached the control with degrees of freedom and autonomy of subsystems, while preserving the overall system (Medina 2005, 40).

For those with a computer science background or those interested in how the architecture for AI simulations is conducted you should read **Appendix D** in the on-line supplemental materials at this point which gives an overview of AI, constructing simulations, using automated planning and other topics of interest to the geek at heart.



## **Reflexive Control: My Thinking About Your Lying To My Lies You Think About**

### **Part 1: Early Reflexive Control Research**

In the chapter “Lessons from an American Weapons Developer” we briefly introduced the topic of ‘Reflexive Control’, to quickly jog one’s memory, this is the doctrine created in the 1960s by Soviet military planners to enforce their will on other countries or entities by making others ‘choose’ their positions through coercion, negotiation and manipulation, it was related to the concept of military deception (maskirovka). Deception can be not always obvious, understanding the subtleties of the Russians we should observe the difference between ‘vranyo’ and ‘lozh’:

“...it is important to become familiar with the Russian terms lozh and vranyo, two of the most common terms of in-exactitude in the language. Lozh refers to actual lies and total untruths, whereas vranyo is a more subtle term referring to the dissemination of untruths which have some grounding in reality.” (Chotikul, 1986, 66)

Indeed, successful RC depends on camouflage and stealth, without which such operations become useless. The starting point of RC is a lie:

...facts will change this predetermined approach, in which the main aim is to create several alternative truths (instead of one truth), which by their very existence can give rise to doubts. Telling ‘tactical truths’ and lack of trust between the government and citizens provides a fertile ground for such activities: nobody expects to hear the objective truth from the official channel as people expect everybody to lie to some extent. The observations made over the past ten years show that Russia has, at least to a certain degree, managed to create such alternative narratives, independently of the objective truth. In the long term, systematic information operations carried out by Russia are also producing results: they create uncertainty and suspicion between citizens and the government. At the same time, efforts are made to steer the opinions of susceptible citizens in polarized societies. (Vasara, 2020, 79)

In a later section we shall review the polarization effect of the Boolean Algebra of RC. It is important to understand that the basis of effective RC is to create confusion in the adversary, to trick the enemy from the beginning.

The Soviet Union’s military was heavily invested in developing RC for military operations. It has also been suggested RC was first begun as a means of domestic influence in the SU:

...there was a need for reflexive control in the Soviet society, which prompted systematic research on ‘soft’ influence operations. This research and the influence operations may first have been directed at the country’s own citizens after which they were incorporated into the planning of military operations and the use of military force (Pynnöniemi, 2018, cf. Peters, 2016, p. 4). (Vasara, 2020, 32)

Deception (maskirovka), becomes an optimized tool of warfare under the Soviets. The reality is these concepts are ancient, simply read some ancient Asian Martial arts texts, though they took on a new calculated and computational nature in the Soviet Union during the Cold War.

“The political counterpart to maskirovka appears to lie in the concept of ‘Finlandization’. Briefly stated, Finlandization describes a process whereby the Soviet Union influences the domestic and foreign policy behavior of non-communist countries in a way that leads them to follow policies congenial to or approved by the Soviet Union,” (Chotikul, 1986,

And of course, as one traces back these notions we can back trace to Nazi doctrines as such originally inculcated by the German Black Reichswehr such as the military doctrine of 'poisoning'- perverting the intellectual space of your enemy or target group. A Russian military planner explains the use of deception in RC, in particular keying in on the tactic of diversions:

According to Karankevich, success requires a systemic approach in which, parallel to the actual operational plan, a diversion plan is prepared on the basis of which appropriate diversionary moves can be carried out. In that case, the commander must determine in advance which of the enemy's decisions are advantageous to his own side. Karankevich also discusses the use of information technology, which in his view, is connected with the use of reflexive control. He does not only emphasize the role of deceiving the enemy but also highlights the extreme complexity of carrying out deception operations in today's situation. In his view, deception lies at the core of information operations and deception measures must be planned at strategic level (Karankevich, 2006, p. 143).

Deception is a high level chain of command decision according to Karankevich. As can be seen the snow ball effect can become a fixture in the calculations of RC with the use of multiple layers of deception or Shannon Entropy. There are clear similarities between Karankevich's thoughts and Lefebvre's approach to modelling the information available to the enemy and shaping it in accordance with one's interests (discussed earlier). (Vasara, 2020, 48-9) However, as Russian military leaders warn because of the use of deception in the method of RC it can lead to a myopic closed circuit of misinformed facts:

Strict differentiation between methods and the need to find desired reflexions in all actions are additional weaknesses in this approach. This may lead to a situation (which existed during the Cold War) in which the mere possibility of doing something is interpreted as an intention of the other party: a neutral text assumes a different meaning when it is interpreted using the 'methods'. It is entirely possible that these methods only exist in researchers' imagination and their determination to find a deeper meaning in all human activities. (Vasara, 2020, 79)

As one could see that deception or camouflage is a source of Shannon Entropy in the equations of RC. In analyzing the effectiveness of RC you first must need to accurately assess the conditions of your target vectors. If you go against an adversary in RC that appears sophomoric in RC capabilities it may turn out to be deception.

Chotikul notes in her report that one of the key findings is that underestimating the enemy and its reflexion capacity may substantially undermine the effectiveness of reflexive control methods. It is also important to understand that a variety of different techniques should be applied, and the same technique should not be used repeatedly. This prevents the enemy from deducing which methods and techniques are used and from developing appropriate countermeasures (Chotikul, 1986, p. 83).

In Russia during the detente between the German Reichswehr and the Soviet Union N. Bernstein was the first to suggest the concept of a reflexive image, which would become essential to Lefebvre's theories, A Finnish military researcher writes of his contribution to RC:

In 1929, Nikolai Bernstein, a Soviet neurophysiologist, wrote for the first time that when

acting in a goal-oriented manner, human brain creates two models: the real world (the model describing what exists around us) and the goal (the model of what will exist around us in the future). Bernstein called the function linking these two models as the feedback arising from the joint impact of neurons and muscles. In 1934, he proposed that the concept 'reflex arc', according to which the stimulus-reaction link moves in a single direction should be replaced with the concept 'reflex circle', in which the stimulus and reaction also move in the opposite direction. Identical results were published by Norbert Wiener, one of the founders of cybernetics, 15 years later. However, Bernstein's theories were not appreciated as they ran counter to the Pavlovian physiology, and in the Soviet Union, he was marginalised. (Vasara, 2020, 11)

V. Lefebvre is the seminal reference in the West and to a great extent in his native Russia on Reflexive Control. As a Colonel in the Soviet Army he began his first mathematical formulations of RC, he is especially mentioned in connection to the creation of RC in a Game theoretic framework, with Reflexive Game Theory. He also discovered the science of 'Fast Reflexion' which allows one's subconscious to be over-ridden through the Amygdala via a controlling force. Reflexive Control is a sub-science of Cybernetics, which is the study of control in mechanical and biological systems. Specifically, RC grew out of Soviet Military Cybernetics, hence you see in the West the corollary in private Defense contractors. It is important to realize that RC is a part of cybernetics, and as such covered under cybersecurity threats. The Soviet conception of cybernetics, although as a scientific discipline was refuted as a Western Capitalist conspiracy under Stalin flourished under Krushchev. Lefebvre working as a military engineer in cybernetics first formulated the equations that would come to define RC.

Lockheed Martin engineer Dr. Ed Nozawa, who has studied in Russia RC, points out there are two types of reflexive schools of thought, or rather that RC is a subset of overall Reflexive Processes, of which RC is a subset, Nozawa created automated decision making systems for Lockheed-Martin. American studies dating to at least 1986 have systematically studied Soviet Reflexive Control, Diane Chotikul writing in her thesis for the Naval Postgraduate School notes the dual nature of Reflexive Control:

"In addition to being made up of two components—the psychological and cybernetic—reflexive control theory has other dual aspects. For one, it be conducted in two ways: 1. reflexive control through transformation the enemy's information processing (cognitive), and 2. reflexive control by selecting the messages (informational). Furthermore, reflexive control can be of two types: 1. constructive reflexive control in which the enemy is influenced to voluntarily [consciously or unconsciously] make a decision favorable to the controlling ... or 2) destructive reflexive control in which means are employed to destroy, paralyze, or neutralize the procedures and algorithms of the enemy's decision making processes. These varied aspects and applications of the theory add to its range and potential effectiveness, as well as to the difficulty of discerning it in use. (Chotikul, 1986, 81-2)

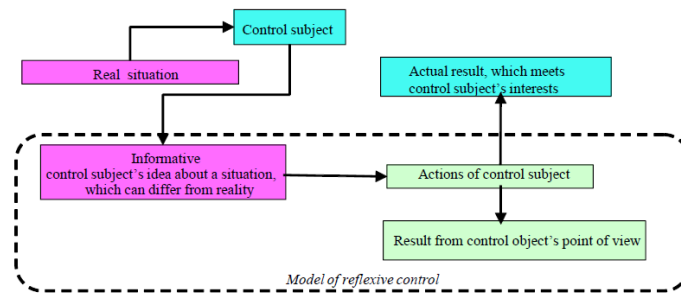


Figure 1: Model of Reflexive Control.

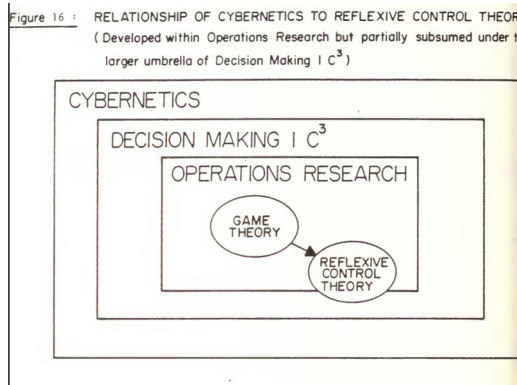
(Shemayev, 2007)

Constructive RC is also sometimes referred to as Creative RC. The mathematics of RC is expressed in Boolean Algebra, usually working with sets. Most RC methodologies incorporate the typical cybersecurity divisions of Red and Blue, Red attacks, Blue defends against attack. The algebra that Lefebvre created is expressed mathematically below, where the calculations become more complex in the case when a subject under control may realize they are being manipulated, even to the point of playing the Reflexive Game to their advantage if they have sufficient knowledge of the situation.

1. transferring false information about the real situation  
 $\pi_{yx} \rightarrow \pi_y$
  2. creating a goal for the opponent  
 $\mu_{yx} \rightarrow \mu_y$
  3. creating the doctrine for the opponent  
 $\Delta_{yx} \rightarrow \Delta_y$
  4. transferring a decision  
 $P_{yx} \rightarrow P_y$
  5. transferring an image of the stage  
 $\mu_{yx} \rightarrow \pi_{yx} \rightarrow \pi_y \rightarrow \mu_y$
  6. the transformation  $\pi_{yxy} \rightarrow \pi_{yx}$
  7. the transformation  $\mu_{yxy} \rightarrow \mu_{yx}$
  8. the transformation  $\Delta_{yxy} \rightarrow \Delta_{yx}$
  9. the chain  $\mu_{yxy} \rightarrow \pi_{yxy} \rightarrow \pi_{yx} \rightarrow \mu_{yx}$
  10. neutralization of an opponent's deductions
- When the rank of reflection (reflexive control ability/skill) is raised, these more complicated transformation chains can be used.

Lefebvre's equations for Reflexive Control.

Chotikul goes into the history of the development of Lefebvre's ideals regarding RC:



“Cybernetics was initially developed by the Soviets at the First Computer Center of the Ministry of Defense. One of the major tasks of the institute during the early 1960s was to develop methods of optimization of the decision making process. Lefebvre worked in a sub-unit of the institute developing algorithms for the automation of computers, under the leadership of Colonel Tkachenko. In 1963, Lefebvre proposed a different approach to the problem from the game theory methods being employed by the other scientists involved. He proposed that there was a need to organize a special ‘modeling system’ consisting of three subsystems: 1. a unit to simulate one’s own decisions, 2. a unit to simulate the adversary’s decisions, and 3. a decision making unit. In response to criticisms that the principle of guaranteed results must be followed and that decisions must be independent of the decisions of the adversary, he suggested the concept of reflexive control.” (Chotikul, 1986, 86-89)

Although RC work was begun by the military it was not immediately classified or taken into a covert layer of official defense work. However, a few short years after Lefebvre began formulating this concept it was taken by the KGB and according to Lefebvre became part of a hidden classified work space in the KGB:

“In 1968, a KGB agent named Panov published a classified report of Lefebvre’s work, and it is rumored that the KGB Organized its own laboratory of reflexive studies. According to Lefebvre himself, the theory of reflexive control became a classified subject shortly following the publication of Panov’s report, which lends support to the viewpoint that it is considered an extremely valuable concept by the Soviet leadership. Military interest heightened with the publication of K.V. Tarakanov’s book, *Mathematics and Armed Conflict* in 1974, and particularly with Druzhinin and Kontorov’s *Problems of Military Systems Engineering* in 1976. These highly ranked officers of the Soviet Army’s General Headquarters claim that it is widely used in pedagogical, political, diplomatic and administrative activities. In military affairs, they discuss the excellent results reflexive control engenders in the training and control of troops and the development of effective leadership, in addition to the obvious goal of control of the adversary.” (Chotikul, 1986, 90)

## Two Tiered RC

To focus more on the dual nature of RC, the cognitive and the informational approach is a good way to understand the underlying theories of RC and its combination with real world maneuvers. It is important to understand that along with exerting influence on minds and providing information to deceive, there is also the tandem actions of troop management along with RC deployments. In 1984, Lefebvre presented the concept of two different ways of exerting control for the first time: the cognitive way, in which the aim was to change the processing of the information possessed by the enemy; and the informational approach, in which the messages conveyed to the enemy were selected. (Vasara, 2020, 38). In the first model, the aim is to influence the known cognitive dissonance of the adversary, while in the second model, the enemy is provided with selective information. (Vasara, 2020, 48). Another factor in RC is its longitudinal nature, that is it is a long term 'long war' campaign according to western theoreticians Giles, Seaboyer and Sherr, the author decided to divide reflexive control into long-term constructive methods and short-term destructive methods that are applied in different ways. As a result, no limits have been set for the time span of reflexive control. (Vasara, 2020, 79). The main object is to create reflexive decisions in an adversary, that are in harmony with your intentions or goals. Reflexive Decisions are conveyed by Vasara:

'From Prediction to Reflexive Control'. According to the authors, in traditional decision-making theories, the adversary is considered an uncontrolled factor, which naturally leads to the paradigm of anticipation. This means that a decision maker attempts to anticipate the potential responses of the other side in different situations.

Correspondingly, by applying reflexive control, anticipation can be replaced by defining the future. The authors introduce a new term, reflexive decision, in referring to decisions that contain an informational message for the other side. (Vasara, 2020, 47)

RC is a means of controlling the future, orchestrating a reflexive decision, although it can also have deleterious effects from controlling the future, such as 'self-fulfilling prophecies', the process of RC is to predetermine the future, which may have unforeseen consequences since unless you know all events in the future you may end up engineering a bad result for yourself. As a RC theoretician notes regarding the process of controlling foresight or the future:

How does foresight become a "guide to action"? Foresight is committed to achieving by all parties involved *consensus* on the "vision of the future". Since, from the point the participants' point of view, the final option is chosen as the *best of set of all possible*, then deviations from it, generally speaking, anyone not beneficial. Respectively, every starts focus on this image and make efforts to ensure that exactly this version of the future was realized. This means that in that the extent to which it was possible to involve all or most stakeholders, starts up the mechanism of "self-fulfilling prophecies" (Nikateav, 2011)

The curating of futures is no easy task. It involves the calculated understanding of your adversary, especially their psychology, including 'information ambushes' as written about by military planner Chausov.

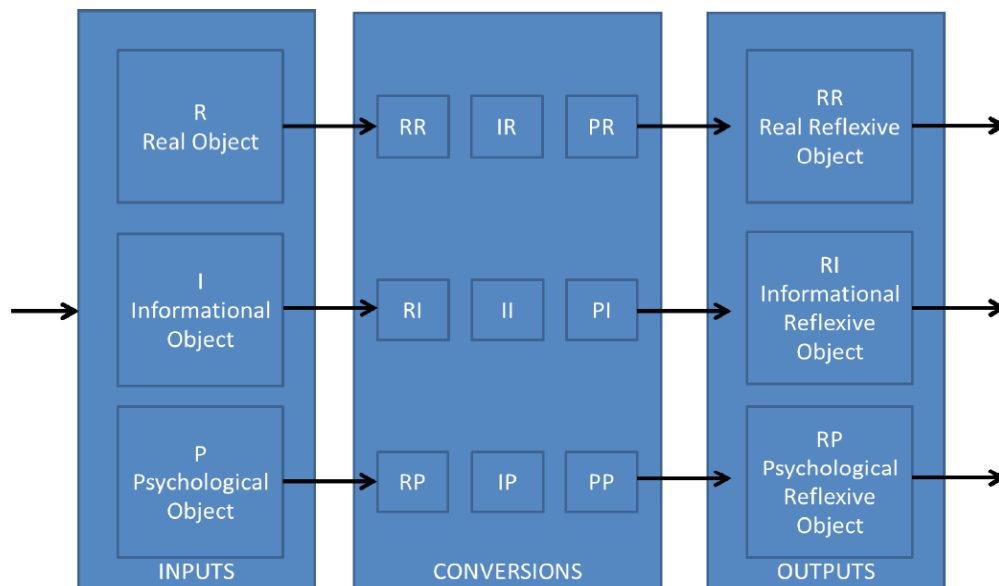
According to Chausov, the pervasive nature of information technology, especially in command and control systems, is a factor facilitating the use of reflexive control. This allows one's own side to infiltrate the enemy's information networks, filter information, block or restrict network access, set up 'information ambushes' and traps, distort information or replace information with lies. The capacity to create value based models of the way in which enemy leaders behave is especially important. These models are compilations of behaviour, thoughts and emotions. Such activities can be carried out by

broadcasting fabricated (but correctly presented) information directed against military and political leadership. At the same time, high-ranking officials are urged to betray their own country. This helps to create public support for one's own cause and weaken the adversary's will to fight. (Vasara, 2020, 49)

Chausov's war is a war over behaviour, thoughts and emotions. It may sound funny to break war down into a soap opera, but indeed that is the base underlying RC and Information Warfare, or combined Neurowarfare. The method used in RC to attack the psyche of the adversary is that of simulacrum, or targeted images, which can also be textual, into the mind of the adversary. The Russian military planners have based their ideal of simulacra ('influence images') on that of a sign, or what we know from Dr. John Norseen and Lockheed et al, that of the Semiotic (signs), the simulacra is a sign, a message. These signs can be from many different sensory inputs: images, thoughts, text, PR, Social Media, etc. Makhnin, a Russian enthusiast of simulacra has provided a basic outline of these methods:

With simulacrum, Makhnin refers to a stimulus arising from simulated influence produced by a reflexive system. Based on these stimuli, the adversary's battle system produces decisions and provides the system exerting reflexive control with the understanding that it needs to achieve its own goals. Organization of reflexive processes between battle systems manifests itself in the development and carrying out of measures (sending simulacra) that provide the controlled system with areas of interest, motivation and reasons as a result of which the controlled system makes decisions that are in the interests of the controlling system (Makhnin, 2013b, p. 34). (Vasara, 2020, 53)

Makhnin has three inputs into the Influence or RC Machine or System. 1. Real Objects, 2. Information Objects, 3. Psychological Objects.



**FIGURE 5:** Reflexive conversion of inputs (Makhnin, 2012)

In accordance with the figure above, different ways of producing variations can be defined.

Makhnin presents the variations of real-world objects, information world objects and variations of psychological impacts and the resulting categories of simulacra. By doing this, he expands the concept of reflexive control beyond the concept of information operations. (Vasara, 2020, 54)

In Makhnin's view, the key elements of reflexive influence are as follows: 1) the inputs creating the influence; 2) order of the inputs; and 3) the procedures used to create information packets. The fourth important thing is to identify the reflexive techniques used by the enemy and against which protective measures must be taken. Like Lefebvre et al., Makhnin also identifies two different principles for applying reflexive control: the first principle is to use predetermined simulacra so that the enemy can be induced to select the desired line of action. The second principle is to use simulacra with a vague chain of action [suggestibility not pre-definement]. This means that the enemy uses the information as a basis for its own action and can choose between a number of different options. One must be able to shape one's own action on the basis of the option selected by the enemy. (Vasara, 2020, 54) According to Makhnin, reflexive actions are at their most effective when replacing rational stereotypic algorithms with entirely new methods and tactics and take the enemy by surprise. Likewise, reflexive actions can disorientate the adversary's command and control system by paralyzing its components, one by one. (Vasara, 2020, 55)

Combining Lefebvre's theory and the ideas of Makhnin described above, Kazakov and Kiryushin note that in Makhnin's view, key to reflexive control is the chance to generate influences preventing the enemy from using new information, to paralyse the enemy's creativity and to prevent the enemy from making full use of its combat potential. They note, however, that it is equally important for a researcher of reflexive control to identify the messages essential to reflexive control (the information packets used by the enemy as a basis for its decision-making). Like Makhnin, they recommend that the term 'simulacrum' should be used. In their view, it provides an adequate theoretical basis for the information packets used for deceptive purposes. They note that such information packets should be divided into two general models: representational and non-representational. A representational information packet is a copy of a copy (pretending to be the real thing). In the context of reflexive control, such information packets are used when one wants to conceal one's intentions. The information is partially false but its sole purpose is to conceal the real information and to deceive the enemy. A non-representational information packet, on the other hand, does not pretend to be a copy of a real thing. Its purpose is to act as a cover for the original matter and to convey false information about a matter, action or an event. (Vasara, 2020, 56). As Vasara has noted it is also important to realize that there are two simultaneous processes going on, 1. the RC of the adversary and 2. mission management: moving around troops as RC is running to respond to the outcomes of forcing the adversary around the battlefield based on RC.



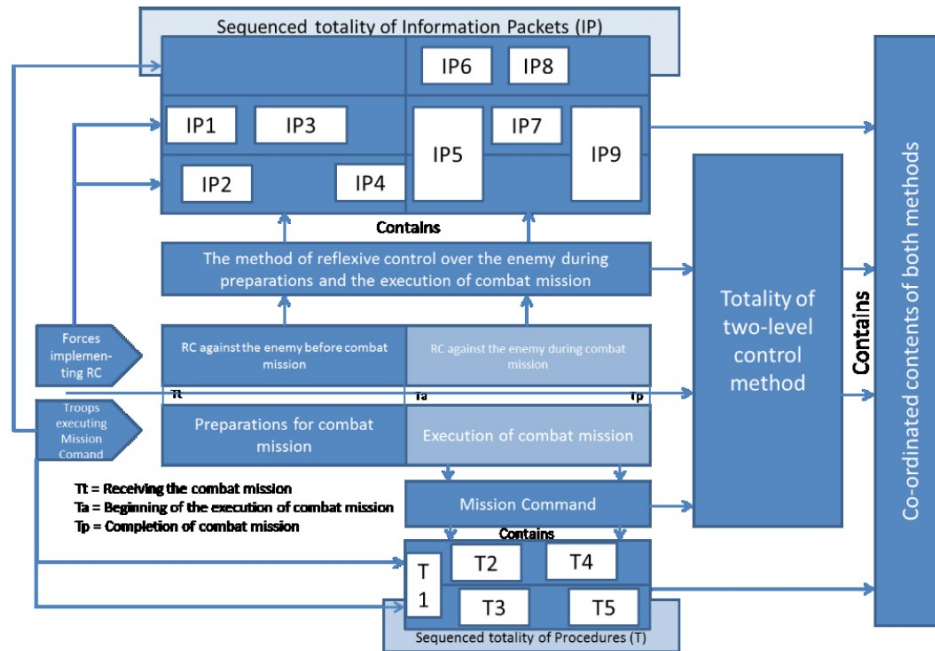
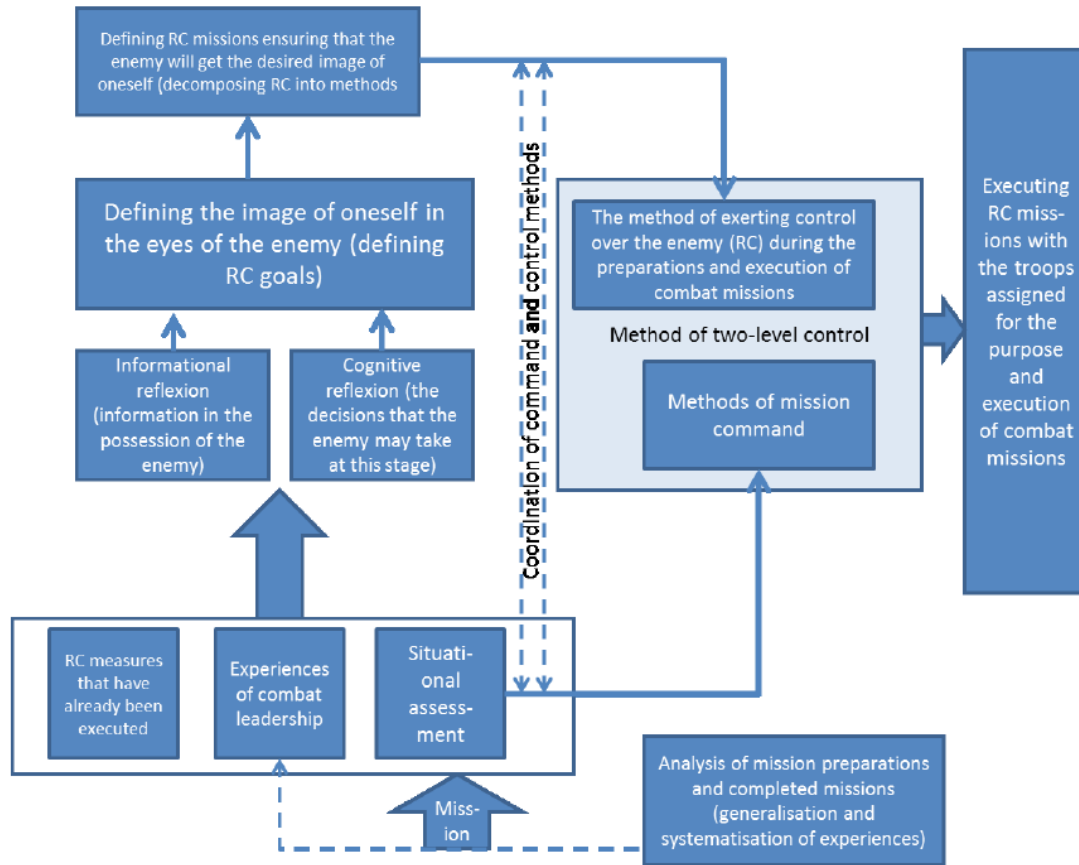


FIGURE 6: Chronological connection between reflexive control and mission command methods (Kazakov, Kiryushin & Lazukin, 2014b)



**FIGURE 7:** Cycle of two-level control (Kazakov, Kiryushin & Lazukin, 2014b)  
(graph from Vasara 2020)

The model described above shows that the implementation making use of constructive reflexive control can be based on any of the three inputs. The real inputs are based on the action of one's own troops, while the informational and psychological inputs are based on the starting point or situational data created for the enemy's decision makers that is advantageous to one's own side. Using these inputs as a basis, the enemy is expected to voluntarily make decisions that are advantageous to one's own side and that one's own side has been able to anticipate.

To complement this definition, a model has been prepared on the basis of the sources discussing reflexive control and presented above. It encompasses all aspects of reflexive control, from the methods of exercising it to its goals, using the division Ends-Ways-Means produced for strategy by Lykke. The essential feature of the model is that, in accordance with the ideas presented by Lefebvre and Makhnin, it is divided into two implementations: constructive (creative) implementation, employing procedures aimed at inducing the enemy to make desired decisions, and the destructive implementation, employing methods attempting to weaken and disrupt the enemy's decision-making (Ways). The model also features different types of reflexive control, different forms of control inputs and different methods for exerting reflexive control (Means). The model combines all these factors to illustrate the areas of the military command system targeted for the influencing efforts (Ends). (Vasara, 2020, 62)

There is one key element to remember in dealing with RC, that is that without a valid model of the adversary you have a useless tool that will continue to attack phantom targets rather than real targets.

This is because the whole concept is based on the assumption that the enemy's decision-making can be modelled so that using specific prepared inputs, the enemy can be persuaded to take the decisions anticipated and desired by the other side. (Vasara, 2020, 67). As the processes of RC become more and more AI driven and automated the question of a valid model becomes increasingly important. Another important understanding of the functionality of RC techniques is that of targeting the interpretation of objects, in Semiotics the Interpretant (Subject), this can be affected through various means, such as providing false interpretation of scientific data by paying experts to mislead with half-truths for instance to obfuscate military capabilities. Franke, gives a fuller understanding:

Ulrik Franke, a Swedish military researcher, has written a study of information warfare, which relies on Russian documents as source material. Like Makhnin, he highlights the use of real, informational, and psychological inputs in the conveying of information. According to Franke, the following measures can be used during peacetime: attempts can be made to discredit foreign politicians; messages can be sent by means of aggressive air operations; or Russian views on the world situation can be conveyed through suitable media. However, as required in the implementation of reflexive control, more importance is attached to the adversary's interpretation of the activities than to the activities themselves. (Vasara, 2020, 68)

One example of messing with interpretations is that of using social networks to plant fake news which is not totally fabricated usually but are half-truths. Social networks can be used to influence individuals' behaviour and their beliefs and such action provides a basis for the use of legal 'agents'. (Vasara, 2020, 61). It is telling that with the new technology of decentralized networking via computers that it has opened a new door to operations of RC, and that military planners view the members themselves of these networks as valuable 'agents' even if unknowing. This handling of these agents "can be applied using real and information inputs that mainly comprise surprise/deception by one's own troops or the feeding of information to the enemy's system and decision-makers that creates confusion on the enemy side or is otherwise harmful to the enemy. These inputs are expected to destroy, weaken or paralyze the enemy's decision-making capacity." (Vasara, 2020, 65). It should be noted by others that Russians do not allow their soldiers to actively participate in social networks, especially on deployment, one can also testify to the vulnerabilities of allowing social network access while on deployment in the many encounters of US servicemen being targeted by the likes of ISIS and al-Qaida operatives through these networks.

### **Cyber Influence of RC**

Operations Research as a part of Intelligence operations is a natural home for Reflexive Control, The intertwinement of Cybernetics and Reflexive Control is a long held combination, we can even see it's influence today in the work of Serge Kernbach, a Professor of Robotics who also studies Soviet remote influencing. Again, cybernetics, being the study of control in the animal and machine, it is not surprising that a binary logic such as Reflexive Control grew out of the section that developed computerized algorithms, such as V. A. Lefebvre. As those old enough to remember the Soviet Union it's dictatorship of the proletariat was a hierarchical directed graph. The notion of machine and man is not separate in Soviet culture. We look for instance at Soviet artistic expressions in 'Constructivism' which envisioned the mixing of man and machine, a new Soviet man. It is also expressed in the military organization of the Soviet

Union where it was not difficult to envision total automation of military units, for instance we could look at the Alpha class of Soviet submarines with a skeleton crew of commissioned officers only and cybernetic control of most systems. This extended into other spheres of the Soviet military:

“In Soviet economics we therefore see Five-Year and Ten-Year Plans; in the Soviet military, a trend toward a cybernetically based theory of troop control (upravlenie voyskami/silami, C<sup>2</sup>), and projection for the eventual total automation (ASUV) of the Command, Control, and Communications (C3) System.” (Chotikul, 1986, 29)

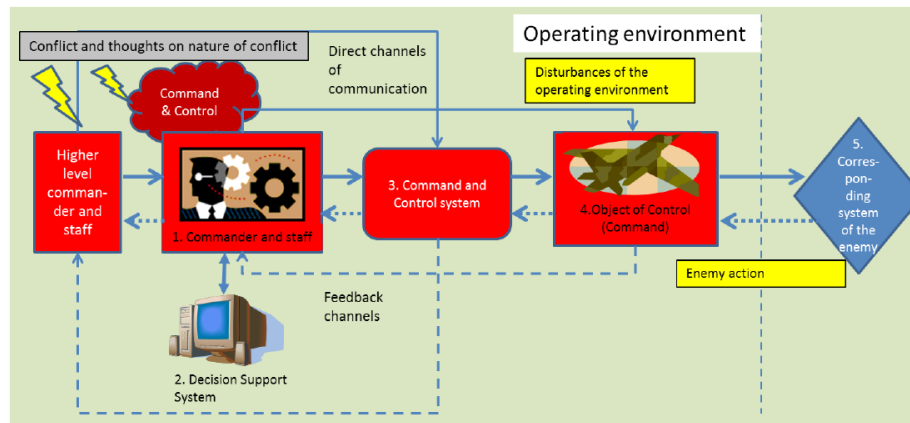
Finnish Military researcher Vasara dives down into the subtleties of Russian, a nuanced language, understanding of upravlenie voyskami (command and control) in his work on Reflexive Control:

However, ‘management of troops’ is not the correct translation for the Russian term either. This translation fails to convey the fact that the Russian term refers to a successive management process and not merely to the direct action of commanding troops. ‘Giving orders’ (командование) is an instrument implementing the directing function, whereas ‘management’ (управление) implements the action itself. The fact that the Russian translation for ‘reflexive control’ is ‘refleksivnoje upravlenie’ (‘reflexive management’) and not ‘kontrol’ is also relevant to this study. Management is a dynamic process, which includes both inputs and feedback. In Russian, the word ‘control’ (контроль) is used to describe feedback functions and supervision. Thus, directing and execution are seen as two separate though continuous and mutually dependent (dialectical) functions. (Vasara, 2020)

As we shall read later Soviet and later Russian military leaders viewed the connection of RC to operate in tandem with troop movements which necessitated not only RC of other troops but also as part of mission management to use cybernetics to command troops as Vasara notes:

Researchers studying the military applications of cybernetics proposed that computers and cybernetic control should not only be used in autonomous weapons systems but also in the command of military units. In fact, the first information technology centre operating under the auspices of the Soviet Ministry of Defence was the first facility to study automated command of troops. In the opinion of cyberneticians, computers can make more objective decisions than individual commanders because computers do not base their decision making on intuition but on collective information and on a broader operational-tactical view in specific areas. (Vasara, 2020, 15-6)

Vasara offered the following flow chart of command and control with cybernetic reflexive control, noting that #5 is a mirror image of the opposition to that showed in the flow chart as Red attacks Blue and vice versa.



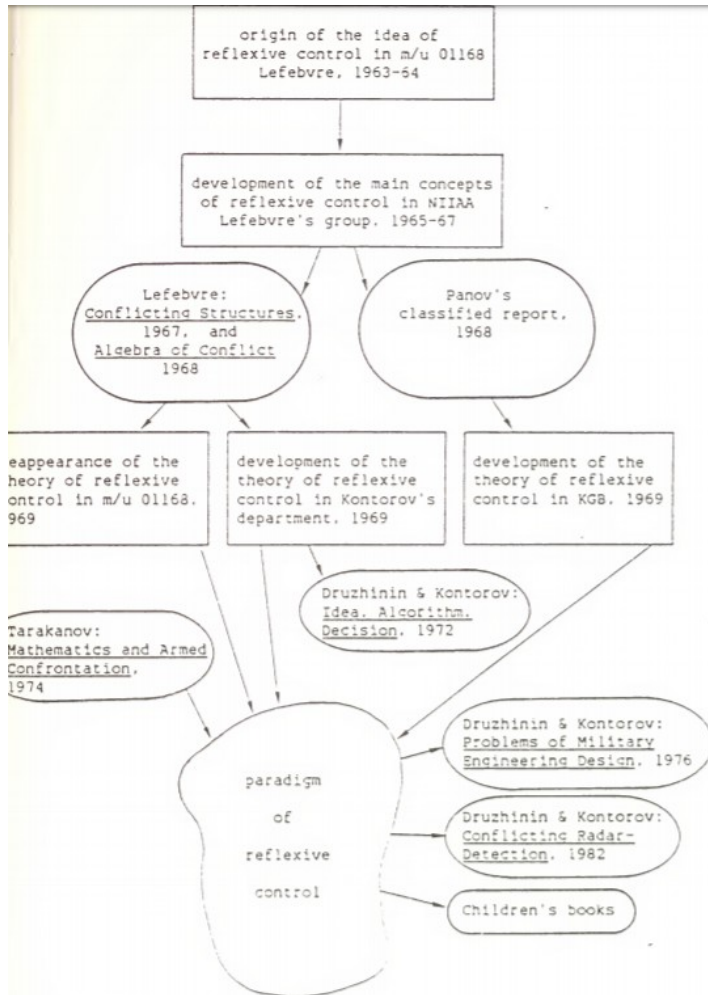
**FIGURE 3:** Reflexive model of the military command and control system prepared in this study

(Vasara, 2020, 27)

To further drill down into Russian understandings Vasara quotes a Russian General on command:

Volostnov and Golod put together earlier concepts in their search for the core idea of command and control. In their view, command is an intentional, creative, organizational and a technical process that is put into practice by commanders and their staffs. It creates impacts on the troops subordinated to them. The ultimate goal of command and control is to organize troops for their combat missions and to ensure that they can effectively carry out their combat missions within the time allocated to them and with minimum losses. Secondly, when examined through the cybernetic perspective, all command takes place in a closed cybernetic system, in which objects in contact with each other transmit information in an appropriate manner. Thirdly, the command process is part of the military system. In this connection, the principles defining the content of 'control' are those that define the functioning of complex military systems (Volostnov & Golod, 1992). (Vasara, 2020, 25)

It is an interesting difference between Western views and the Marxist dialectical view where everything is interconnected rather than viewed as having a more modular architecture.



from Lefebvre, V. A., Reflexive Control... (op. cit.), page 30

At least initially this willingness to trust cybernetics with management of troops themselves and automation of C3 was not shared in the West, for instance while serving on US submarines the main reason our Sonar system was not fully automated was this distrust of machine over human intuition, then again Sonar personnel are known for their deeper understanding of fluid natural situations then a machine could ever be capable of, but the move to Automation became inevitable.

Returning to the concept of hierarchical control, realizing we are dealing with Soviet architecture it is not surprising to see a main controller, the main controller of all controller classes, the concept of 'edononachalniye', one man control (Chotikul, 1986, 61), finds itself even imported to the west later after the fall of the Soviet Union in Lockheed-Martin engineer Ed Nozawa's 'Single Warrior Model' which is a closed loop self-management automated system based on Soviet research we see it previously, "...to the Soviet view of the leader as 'sole formulator and controller' of group decisions and actions." (Chotikul, 1986, 62). In fact,

according to the analysis of Vasara the prime target of Russian RC is the commander or leader:

In the context of this study, it is important to identify the potential targets for influence operations in this highly automated command system, which is designed for quick commander-centred decision-making. It can be concluded from the above that the commander is likely to be the prime target and the staff the secondary target. This is because influencing them will impact the whole system (in the same way as exerting influence on a higher-level commander). Influence on the commander and his staff can be exerted through their thoughts (command and control and thoughts about the conflict as background factors), through the plans that they have prepared (the aim is to influence the fundamentals of the plans), or through decision support systems (solutions advantageous to one's own side are fed into the decision-making process). Efforts may also be made to exert direct influence on individuals (especially the commander). Efforts may also be made to influence the command system, even though this will produce more limited results. The ultimate method of exerting influence on the enemy is to cause more disruption in the operating environment. All these options are discussed in the dual model of reflexive control. (Vasara, 2020, 28)

Softening up of a target of Reflexive Control, the subject, is another area that goes hand in hand with RC. In this battle between opposing RC agents the mind becomes the seat of conflict, the Russian Generals are very aware of this both in terms of counter-measures and in offense. Vasara citing the influence of Gen. Ryabchuk, "intellectual capability is the key weapon and crucial to achieving victory over a well-armed, well-equipped and well-trained enemy (Ryabchuk, 2001, pp. 14–15)." Another General, Makhnin reached similar conclusions. (Vasara, 2020, 26). One of the most important contributions from cybernetics to Command and Control in the SU was the creation of decision aides to guide commanders decisions. However, even with the added tool of automated data mining and simulations, the mental strength of the commander is the key according to Ryabchuk, Vasara notes:

Ryabchuk concludes his article by noting that today's military commanders have access to more systems helping them to select the best possible options when making decisions. Nevertheless, in his view, success in the battlefield is guaranteed by the personal characteristics of a military commander, which comprise a high intellectual capability, high ethical standards, and psychological and professional capabilities. When available in sufficient quantities, these characteristics provide a basis for an effective approach to command and control (Ryabchuk, 2001, p. 17). (Vasara, 2020, 26)

For a Commander when dealing with RC and it's necessary cybernetic underpinning one of the key attributes of success is maintaining an analytical mind as well as applying 'exploration' in tactics. Decisions are usually made according to the Recognition-Primed model of Klein which states that decision makers make quick decision based on previously experienced patterns, without analyzing different options. In such an automated system this would lead to being quickly out maneuvered. Another mentally weak strategy in RC for a commander is to too quickly make decisions, avoid knee-jerk responses which may even be conducted with RC psychological inputs to promote such knee jerk responses. It is important to understand the systems a commander is faced with, that these systems of complex reflective systems, taking into account decisions made by the adversary in their own actions and try to achieve a higher degree of reflex (Vasara, 2020, 22).

The notion of using PSYOPS to achieve this softening up the thinking of adversarial commanders is one of the processes of RC:

"And secondly by the Soviet study of the psychology of attention This academic discipline and, in particular, its research on the 'orienting reflex' has convinced the Soviets of the value of inducing psychological strain and inability to cope through inhibition of the ability to establish patterns. These repeating techniques, coupled with an emphasis on redundancy, would thus appear to be very effective tools in the attempt to reduce risk and create "right conditions' to gain advantage, and possibly even control, over an adversary. As Beaumont has noted, "The cross-links between Soviet psychology, the military and engineering are far more well developed than in the West and have been since the Revolution." (Chotikul, 1986, 76)

Although it is not true that the union of psychology and warfare is not found in the West [perhaps not mentioned do to a need to know restriction of the military author], it is important to understand the linkage. On the Battlefield, in this case a physical space, the Commander is going to establish full-spectrum dominance they are going to want to control the terrain, the heights, the valleys, the beach, etc. This is also a part of effective RC, hence the softening up

process is also a means of extending dominance of the environment, removing unknown factors or variables, thus controlling even the inputs to the Reflexive algorithm:

Important considerations to the Soviets when attempting to optimize a decision are: what is the nature of unknown factors, what is their origin, and who controls them. Measures of effectiveness (MOEs) in Soviet operations research take these unknown factors into account into their algorithms, and attempt to optimize effectiveness in spite of them. (Chotikul, 1986, 86)

The Soviet military put a lot of emphasis into Reflexive Control in the 1970s and 1980s, of course one questions it's validity considering the Soviet Union collapsed like Nazism, but nonetheless military planners in the Soviet Union and now the UKUSA have fully embraced the edicts of RC. The problem is that in militaries around the world, most will simply mimic each other, as the SU creates RC, then the UKUSA must also create RC and RC counter-measures. referencing the work of Lt. Col. Timothy Thomas (US Army Ret) currently a contractor for Defense Industry Company Mitre Corp, who has perhaps the deepest academic understanding on Soviet RC then anyone else a Soviet military leader Col. Leonenko explains the importance of knowing RC and applying it to the enemy:

If successfully achieved, reflexive control over the enemy makes it possible to influence his combat plans, his view of the situation, and how he fights. In other words, one side can impose its will on the enemy and cause him to make a decision inappropriate to a given situation. Reflexive control methods are varied and include camouflage (at all levels), disinformation, encouragement, blackmail by force, and the compromising of various officials and officers. Thus, the central focus of reflexive control is on the less tangible element of "military art" rather than more objective "military science." Achieving successful reflexive control requires in-depth study of the enemy's inner nature, his ideas, and concepts, which Leonenko referred to as the filter through which passes all data about the external world. Successful RC represents the culmination point of an information operation.

So defined, a filter is a collective image (termed "set" [see Bernstein above]) of the enemy's favorite combat techniques and methods for organizing combat actions, plus a psychological portrait of the enemy. Thus, reflex requires study of someone else's filter and the exploitation of it for one's own ends. In the information age, this filter is represented by human and machine (computer) data processors. The most important question then becomes, How does one side achieve this higher degree of reflex and, hence, more effective reflexive control over the enemy? It does so primarily by employing a broader range of means for achieving surprise. In turn, it achieves surprise by means of stealth, disinformation, and avoidance of stereotypes [*shablon*]. (Thomas 2004, 242-3)

You might compare the process of Reflexive Control to a normal war, except the Battlefield is of the Mind, wherein you use various tools for manipulation, intimidation, honeypotting, psychological torture, rewards, payoff, a combination of both positive and negative feedbacks even physical violence to steer your opponent to your will, while hiding your true will and goal from your opponent, it is a hidden war. This is all done in an effort to hamper, hinder and sabotage the opponents decision making process, time and methodology, to sow confusion at every turn.

Another Soviet military leader, Col. S. A. Komov, has presented the following list of elements of RC in military decision making:

- **Distraction**, by creating a real or imaginary threat to one of the enemy's most vital



locations (flanks, rear, etc.) during the preparatory stages of combat operations, thereby forcing him to reconsider the wisdom of his decisions to operate along this or that axis;

- **Overload**, by frequently sending the enemy a large amount of conflicting information;
- **Paralysis**, by creating the perception of a specific threat to a vital interest or weak spot;
- **Exhaustion**, by compelling the enemy to carry out useless operations, thereby entering combat with reduced resources;
- **Deception**, by forcing the enemy to reallocate forces to a threatened region during the preparatory stages of combat operations;
- **Division**, by convincing the enemy that he must operate in opposition to coalition interests;
- **Pacification**, by leading the enemy to believe that pre-planned operational training is occurring rather than offensive preparations, thus reducing his vigilance;
- **Deterrence**, by creating the perception of insurmountable superiority; RUSSIA'S REFLEXIVE CONTROL THEORY
- **Provocation**, by force him into taking action advantageous to your side;
- **Overload**, by dispatching an excessively large number of messages to the enemy during the preparatory period;
- **Suggestion**, by offering information that affects the enemy legally, morally, ideologically, or in other areas; and
- **Pressure**, by offering information that discredits the government in the eyes of its population.<sup>27</sup>

(Thomas, 2004, 248-9)

As one can see from this list a large amount of emotional and psychological pressures are formulated in the process of RC. One may think that only national leaders or Generals would be subject to this kind of campaign, however, it is noted that this is to be used against even local commanders in military operations, of course to psychologically manipulate someone you have to have solid information about their psyche, the inner world, their behaviours, the predicted responses, the methodology for achieving this psych profile has become increasingly invasive, see Quantum Consciousness chapter for how this achieved.

As mentioned earlier the primary difference between modern RC and ancient RC is that of technology. Since the creation of computational system in war fighting with the advent of the computer in combat during WW2, it has also come into play in RC with the automation of RC under the Soviets, who at one time enjoyed an almost 2 decade advantage in computer power compared to the United States in the 1980s, in other words the Soviets had far outpaced the UKUSA in terms of computational and psychotronics in the 1980s but still lost the Cold War, like the Nazis in Russia in WW2, natural power trumps artificial power, as the Russian winter defeated the Nazis. The use of big data in RC was first accomplished by the Soviets. Col. S. Leonenko was one of many architects behind the integration of early AI systems into processing RC. He has pointed out, "that the use of reflexive control by making it easier to process data and calculate options. This is so since an opponent can more easily 'see through' a reflexive control measure by an opposing force by simply using a computer. The computer's speed and accuracy in processing information can detect the reflexive control measure. On the other hand, in some cases, this may actually improve the chances for successful reflexive control, since a computer lacks the intuitive reasoning of a human being." (Thomas, 2004, 246). Leonenko draws attention to the problem of involving computer automation in such military operations as RC. He stated, "we live in a much more frightening existence then we care to believe if, in fact, decisions are in the hand of machines that are 'incapable of assessing what is occurring and do not perceive that a person reacts to'" (Thomas, 2004, 247). Automated Weapons researchers also note that computers also do not experience guilt and remorse regarding to their actions as

well it provides a layer of emotional insulation to human decision makers, when a machine is the main instrument of conducting wet operations. In a later section we will be reviewing the automated aspect of computer management systems of Reflexive Control.

### **Situational Awareness and Management**

As we shall read later regarding Western development of software that manages military simulations, situational awareness and management is a key to effective military operations regardless if they include an RC component, although it is safe to say that every modern military action includes RC. Managing situations becomes a cornerstone to the understanding of RC. Lefebvre viewed conflict no longer as between two physical armies rather the conflict was an interaction between two decision-making processes which have a feedback loop onto how the troops are managed and deployed (Vasara, 2020, 34). Lefebvre's definition accords that the other party gains leverage over the adversary's situational assessment, this in tandem with studying and knowing the highly probable moves of the adversary, it is possible to create an equation of the options available to decision-makers. Vasara notes it is particularly important to be able to influence the adversary's situational awareness, his goals or doctrine and to ensure that the adversary does not notice the influencing attempts (Lefebvre, according to Chotikul; 1986, p. 78)." (Vasara, 2020, 35)

Of course this then would necessitate the use of deception to hide one's own plans as well as a random use of randomness to offset the pattern of an equation.

Major General M. Ionov notes that influencing is possible if the plans and intentions of the enemy are revealed. According to Ionov, the enemy can be persuaded to make decisions that are to one's advantage based on the following conditions: the enemy is placed under pressure; influence is exerted on the enemy's situational assessment, decision-making algorithm, and the way in which it selects its goal; and influence is exerted on the timing of the enemy's decision-making. Placing the enemy under pressure is the easiest condition to understand. Its aim is to influence the psychological state of decision-makers and to persuade them to avoid combat. Disguise, deception, unexpected new instruments, and changes in troops are used to influence the enemy's situational assessment (Vasara, 2020, 36).

As it can be seen controlling the situation becomes one of the key parameters in a conflict. One western researcher has come to the following conclusions on the necessity to have the situational upper hand:

...goal setting can be influenced in three ways. One is a show of force to convince the enemy that a goal is unachievable. A second is to demonstrate a threat of such significance that its countering dominates the enemy's goals. The third way is to keep the enemy in a state of uncertainty concerning one's own actions to ensure that none of its goals can guarantee a satisfactory outcome in all plausible sets of events (Reid, 1987, p. 295). (Vasara, 2020, 39)

Vasara gives a list of successful tactics used in controlling the situation and setting the goal state:

- Transferring a situational picture to the enemy: in this method of reflexive control, the enemy is conveyed a wrong or incomplete situational picture by means of deception, disguise or decoys.
- Creating goals or a doctrine for the adversary: in this reflexive control method,

the aim is, by sharing one's own information, to put the enemy in a situation where its only options are also advantageous to one's own side .

- Transferring the desired decision: in this operating model (which requires trust and contacts between the parties), the aim is to force the enemy to make a decision that provides a basis for action on one's own side.

These three operating approaches are simple models, in which the aim is to directly influence the adversary's situational assessment at specific stages of decision-making. The operating models described below are more complex because in them, the aim is to shape one phase of the decision-making process by controlling the adversary's understanding

of another phase. Success in such actions requires extremely good understanding of how the adversary makes decisions.

- Influencing goal formation by feeding a false situational assessment: feigning weakness so that the enemy can be lured into a trap is one application of this method. This model can also be used by controlling specific 'indicators' identified in advance that the enemy uses as a basis for its decision-making.

- Feeding parts of one's own situational assessments to the enemy: for example, controlled leaks concerning matters presented as important to one's own operations.

- Feeding details of imaginary goals to the enemy: the purpose of this method is to shift the enemy's attention away from one's actual goal to the desired goal.

- Feeding a fake version of one's own doctrine to the enemy: exercises, in which the troops are deployed differently than in the real situation are an example of this method (ibid., p. 305).

- Modifying one's own action so that the enemy gets a wrong situational picture: in this method, one takes a controlled risk and moves troops to an area from where no attack is planned. The assumption is that the enemy expects an imminent attack.

- Reflexive control of bilateral engagement by a third party: in this method (which is directed at decision-makers), a third party attempts to get two other parties into a situation that is advantageous to it (ibid., p. 306).

- Reflexive control over an enemy applying reflexive control: in this operating model, it is assumed that the adversary is using reflexive control, and the aim is to uncover its stratagems and to use them against the other side.

- Reflexive control over an enemy relying on the game theory: in this method, which is based on the conservative nature and inflexibility of the game theory and answers known in advance, inputs in line with these characteristics are fed into the adversary's decision-making process.

(Vasara, 2020, 39-40)

### **A WOPR of a Decision Aides:**

In the Russian and earlier Soviet research regarding RC it is noted that automation and information technology greatly expand and also limit the effectiveness of RC. In terms of amplifying RC the sheer iterations that a machine can throw at an adversary can potentially paralyze their response do to the simple number of automated attack vectors, but for the same reasons of losing effectiveness do to automated detection of RC techniques the same machines can undo attacks along with making attacks of one's own more effective. This was not lost to Russian military planners such as Ionov as early as 1971:

Ionov concludes his article by noting that influencing the enemy's operations constitutes

a complex logical problem that can only be solved if a large amount of information is processed. This is beyond the capabilities of the commander and his staff and automated systems are required for the work (Vasara, 2020, 37)

Earlier we mentioned that in Russian Cybernetics there is a trust in full-cycle automation, that is there is no human in the loop of automated management, though not as popular as the form of having a human commander reference automated data procedures as a form of insight or recommendation, which is conducted by Decision Aides. Russian military planners write regarding Decision Aides:

Tikhonitsev, who works at the research department of the Russian military administration and actively contributes to the debate on research issues, has written about developing decision support systems for automated administration. He notes that in the context of the systems theory, the individual who decides to launch an operation (battle) merely adjusts the control parameters in order to construct a strategy allowing weapons systems and troops to achieve the goals set by the commander (within the limitations set). If there is only one solution to such a system-level problem, it can be determined by means of direct calculations. However, Tikhonitsev admits that in combat troops are rarely in such a situation. If there are not enough troops or weapons, the goal can rarely be achieved with the prerequisites set. In such cases, in order to achieve a solution, new values for the target function (goal) must be calculated or estimated or some of the limitations must be adjusted. In that case, a rational solution can be achieved but solving the equation involves a large number of changing parameters and producing the calculations is difficult. Reaching a solution may prove impossible unless the decision-makers use the capabilities offered by automated support. (Vasara, 2020, 23)

Although it is hard to imagine that human soldiers would just be moved around a battlefield like tin soldiers of competing machines, the reality is that is what warfare has become, whether the soldiers are directly controlled by a machine or still maintain their own consciousness in battle through the thin line of a human commander interacting with a machine, we are confronted with a situation in automated warfare where even the soldiers themselves are mere puppets to an automated system, as we have read in 'Lessons from an American Weapons Developer' it has already been investigated in the United States military of using EM to control soldiers body states and the use of Decision Aides in Lockheed Martin's work on Reflexive Games based on AI POMDP Algorithm competing agents of Red and Blue.

The downside of using automated decision support is that those decisions themselves could be based on disinformation, data poisoning, or just bad math. The article by Donskov, Nikitin and Besedin on intelligent decision support systems for electronic warfare is relevant to reflexive control. In their view, decision support systems used today are typically built as expert systems that support decision makers without them having to take any active measures. In the authors' view, the risk here is that the adversary can manipulate these automated systems with its signals. They note that as systems become more extensively automated, it becomes increasingly likely that there are attempts to control them on a reflexive basis. According to the authors, a decision support system may in itself exert reflexive control over the enemy and protect one's own system against the control attempts made by the adversary. (Vasara, 2020, 23). It is not trivial to realize that any group with appropriate knowledge can poison an automated system, for instance when Microsoft's AI came under attack from a Neo-Nazi styled attack which trained the AI to produce Nazi aligned beliefs in it's comments.

## Fast Reflexion: Overriding Individual Control

In the 1980s V. Lefebvre came up with a new concept in Reflexion studies that of Fast-Reflexion, reflexion that happens at an automatic unconscious level, operating at a rate faster than consciousness in the milliseconds range.

Fast Reflexion:

Our view of "reflexion" has been essentially broadened during the last twenty years. Traditionally we have considered it to consist of the conscious constructing of images of the self and others by human beings. Now we have evidence that there is a reflexion of another nature as well. It is as if an inborn informational processor is built in into human psyche whose function is to *automatically* create these images together with their subjective domains. This processor generates a specific specter of human responses not controlled consciously and running extremely fast (one-two milliseconds). This type of reflexion, as distinct from the traditional concept is called *fast reflexion* (Lefebvre, 1987) [not controlled by one's self-will, an entirely subconscious process] (Lefebvre & Webber, 2002 )

In Lefebvre's Algebra of Conscience he postulates a pole between liberal western values and authoritarian eastern values. Which are diametrically opposed to each other. Agents within these two systems are given their position by the pressures from others. An Agent creates an image of self and an image of other and even more complex images of reflexion.

"the image of the self plays the role of the subjects conscience, seeing oneself as 'bad' prevents one from choosing the negative pole." (Lefebvre & Webber, 2002, 3)

Ideally, global theoretical models ought to possess two properties: integrity and uniformity. Integrity means that the model must be able to reflect simultaneously the subject's perception, behavior, and inner domain. Uniformity requires that different aspects of the subject's activity must be described in terms of the same theoretical language. The general method for attaining these two properties is to represent the subject as a *composition of mathematical functions*. Various elements of this composition are interpreted as "inputs" and "outputs" and as images of the self and of other subjects. These images can have their own inner domain containing images of the next order. As a result, we succeed in producing a unified functional description of the subject's inner and external activity. A composition of mathematical functions is also a function. It describes the subject's behavior. Therefore, the composition's structure reflects not only the subject's inner domain, but also the macrostructure of a computational process generating behavior. In the simplest cases, when the "global" function of behavior is known in advance, information about the mental domain can be obtained from a purely mathematical analysis of the properties of the function. (Lefebvre & Webber, 2002, 1)

Lefebvre formula for images of self and others:

$X_1 = f(x_1, x_2, x_3)$  //values [0,1], describes the subject's readiness to choose the positive pole [willing to be controlled]

$$X_1 = F(x_1, F(x_2, x_3)) \quad // F(x_2, x_3)$$

$x^1$ : worlds pressure toward the positive alternative A at the precise moment of choice. [swarming seems to occur at this moment] Normalized utility- measures of the alternative Sets A,B

$x^2$ : worlds pressure toward A which is expected by the subject based on prior experience. Normalized expected utility measures.

$x^3$ : subjects intention to choose the positive pole. greater the  $x^3$  val; greater the desire (compliance) to make the choice.

Function  $F(x,y)$  describes subject from his perspective and external points of view [when targeted ignore external points of view since they are all manufactured and meant to mislead]

$x$  – image of the input

$y$ - secondary image 'model of the self' not just subjects intention from which obtain a formal analogue of the macrostructure of the subjects inner domain:

1.  $F(x^1, F(x^2, x^3))$  this structure describes the process involved in the cognitive computation of  $X$ :  
 $X^2 = F(x^2, x^3)$  is computed, and then
2.  $X^1 = F(x^1, X^2)$

So it becomes obvious from the above that in Reflexive Control the polluting the 'image of the self' becomes the focus of informational confrontation.

### Composition of Mathematical Functions (representation of subject or target)

describes the subjects behavior, therefore the compositions structure reflects not only the subjects inner domain, but also the macro-structure of a computational process generating behavior.

The hypothesis of existence of the inner processor for generating fast reflexion can be described as follows (Lefebvre, 1985):

(1) A person possesses an inner formal mechanism for modeling the self and others. This mechanism is universal and does not depend on the particular culture to which a person belongs.

(2) The models of the self and other are reflexive; that is, these models may themselves contain models of the self and other, and so on.

(3) The inner formal mechanism for modeling includes a computational process, which is automatic and does not depend on conscious will. This process predetermines a person's

responses in a situation of choice between “good” and “bad”, and it also generates his inner feelings, such as

guilt and condemnation.

(4) The models of the self and of the other also have this computational ability, which allows a person to model automatically his own and his partner’s inner feelings, providing information that is unavailable to direct observation.

#### Automatized and Deliberate Choice

deliberate- “a person sometimes [probability, random factor] consciously plans and then performs an action as planned”

automatized- while other times the phase of conscious planning is absent

mixed cases are possible in which intention  $x_3$  influences  $X_1$  but does not entirely determine it.

### **The Russian Allegation of Neurowarfare Attack by the West**

In the chapter “Quantum Consciousness and Neuroweapons” I review the work of Okatrin, noting a CIA interview with him regarding the ability of remote influencing. Okatrin noted to the CIA that he was only aware of Western attempts at such technological control or mass influencing. Which is probably dishonest but as a member of the Soviet Academic community he would as a Government employee of the Soviet Union disavow any such work. Apparently this is contradicted by memos regarding official Soviet interest in controlling biological objects. However, the claim that the west is interested in such technology is also brought forward by Brushlinsky’s replacement in charge of Russian Reflexive Control Vladimir Lepsky, in his work also claims that the west is interested in controlling the East, that is Russia, through such technology, creating an oligarchy, through a form of ‘organized chaos’ citing DoD funded researcher Mann’s chaos ideals in geopolitics, charging the west with the managed chaotic destruction of Russia. In 1992, “according to Lazarev, the United States uses information as a reflexive control instrument, and for this reason, information security of the state must be given a high priority.” (Vasara, 2020, 42) Then there is also the work of Sokolov that claims that the attacks on people in Russia working on these technologies has led to losing such talent to England who are now working against Russia. Then we can also look at the 2015 claim by the Russian Press Secretary Peskov that Russia was under ‘Anglo-Saxon’ information war as noted by one opinion piece author:

...Peskov also spoke about the information war “primarily with the Anglo-Saxons” on March 26 on the air of the TVC. And, as if by way of illustration, the Kremlin’s Russian Institute for Strategic Studies released a report “Foreign media in 2015 - an anti-Russian vector.” Information war will write off everything (Sinitsyn & Eppele 2016). If a country is in an information war, it means that the state does not need feedback from society, and socially significant facts are transformed into state significant ones. Their significance can only be determined by the ruling elite; a mobilized society must obey orders.

Yet, looking back in history it is important to note the Nazi plan to colonize Russia and displace the Slavs with Aryans, with those Nazis who were serving to that purpose during the war then after the war heading to western intelligence organizations set to defeat the Soviet Union, Russia. So the question is whether this is a cultural artifact or an actual reality that the Russians are under a form of neurowarfare, a soft form of open warfare?

Interest in the west in Russian Reflexive Control is known through the work of Miller and Sulcoski in 1999 who proposed application of a model based on multi-attribute utility function (MAUF) in automated decision support systems. The model represented a chain of binary choices, for each of which its own reflexive model can be built. Taran (2002) elaborated models of multi-criteria reflexive selection and researched conditions that create prerequisites for management of a subject's behavior under decision making. In collaboration with Shemayev (2005) she also proposed an approach to solution of problems of cognitive conflicts modeling, considering the influence of the external environment, psychological set and intentions of subjects. (Shemayev, 2017) Other Americans that have studied in Russia include Dr. John Norseen and Ed Nazawa both of Lockheed Martin. Earlier work in the American equivalent of RC:

...the focus in the Western approach to influencing opinions and impressions (perception management) is to steer the emotions, motives and objective deduction of foreign audiences and decision-makers by conveying to the target audiences selected information and indications or by preventing the target audiences from accessing information. This action is based on presenting the truth in a desired manner, operational security, deception and psychological operations. In addition to (or instead of) the term 'perception management' the term 'strategic communication' is now also used in the West (the concept originated in the United States). It is described as a government-level activity in which the aim is to reach target audiences, and create, strengthen or preserve conditions that are in one's own interests. Strategic communication is carried out using a variety of different methods and all channels available at government level. Analysis of the target audiences and decision-makers and of the way in which the emotions and motives of the target audiences should be understood (subjective background factors) is a key component of these methods. In the subjective (understanding) approach to target audiences and to selecting information, there is a need to use a feedback channel: measuring and assessing whether this action is creating the desired impacts or whether the action should be adjusted in accordance with the feedback has been part of the Western way of influencing opinions ever since the Second World War. (Vasara, 2020)

It is important to note a key difference here between the Russian model of control and the American model of control, with the American architecture including a feedback loop to measure the result of the action against the target. Whereas, the Russian system lacks such feedback loops. The use of feedback loops of this type can be also considered similar to the use of Polling in Video Game design to measure the game state, registering actions and results through an Agent. As Vasara has noted about this distinction:

This differs from the Russian approach described in this study: in it, the aim is to determine the situation in advance, and to plan one's own action and the sending of the information in such detail that there is no need for any feedback channel. (Vasara, 2020, 78)

It is important to remember that US contemporary influence technology is based in some degree to Russian designs that came to the west in the early 1990s after the collapse of the Soviet



Union, such as Igor Smirnov who worked with the FBI at Waco and also had partnerships with former US military officials, such as General Stubblebine. Parallel to the war against terrorism launched by the United States in 2001, Russia under Vladimir Putin was working to achieve rapprochement with the West. In those years, there was more public discussion of reflexive control and reflexivity, and Russian researchers were engaged in close cooperation with their US counterparts. In 2001, Vladimir Lepsky, who had collaborated with Lefebvre since the 1960s, launched the publication *Рефлексивные процессы и управление*. Between 2001 and 2004, it also appeared in English under the title 'Reflexive Processes and Control'. (Vasara, 2020, 45-6)

The question of the scope of Russian Cybernetics often comes up, with RC being designed in Russian engagements at the more command level rather than the geopolitical level, it is noted by Vasara that there was a sentiment of the US being interested in influence operations for this purpose:

In fact, the operational level only became a topic of discussion in the 1980s. This was prompted by American researchers who noted that reflexive control is a useful tool at strategic level and that the Soviet orientation is systemic-strategic compared with the technical-tactical approach favoured in the United States (Chotikul, 1986, 35). (Vasara, 2020, 67)

Vasara then cites US Army Lt. Col. Thomas regarding interest in higher levels of control:

In his book 'Kremlin Kontrol', Thomas notes that reflexive control can be applied at tactical, operational, strategic and geopolitical level (Thomas, 2017, p. 178). In fact, for the people behind the theory of reflexive control and for those responsible for its practical applications, the issue of operational levels has not been a prime concern. In their view, it should be applicable at all levels listed by Thomas when used in combination with different methods. The activities should be directed at the adversary's decision-makers regardless of whether they are heads of state, Members of Parliament or battalion commanders. (Vasara, 2020, 67)

Then there is the warning regarding future Behavior Wars, obviously between the US and Russia, which Vasara relates from the 2017 work of Kiselyov:

In Kiselyov's view, the focus should now be on warfare directed at behaviour. Such warfare has only become possible in recent years as methods have been developed to collect large amounts of data on human behaviour. Human behaviour is not only based on ideas, values, and beliefs, but it is also to some extent founded on stereotypes, habits, and behavioural models. At the same time, our behaviour is also shaped by official and unofficial institutions. Kiselyov goes on to note that there is indisputable scientific evidence that human behaviour largely takes place in semi-automatic mode and is based on habits and stereotypes. In his view, this not only applies to simple solutions, but the effect also manifests itself in complex decision-making situations involving choices that require in-depth thinking. (Vasara, 2020, 69)

Kiselyov then goes on to cite the US as pursuing behavior weapons:

Weapons influencing behaviour are the weapons of the future, and Kiselyov claims that Western countries, especially the United States, are already developing them.

Kiselyov notes that it is particularly important to conceal the personal data of senior officers to ensure the adversary is unable to anticipate their decisions in conflict. (Vasara, 2020, 70)

### **Would you like to play a Game?**

In the 1980s there was a cyberpunk movie called 'War Games' in which a machine intelligence takes the world to the brink of Nuclear War by running simulations of scenarios. RC finds it's most effective application in military planning and simulation programs. Games enter into RC thought and remain to this day to be used in military automated programs for conflict. RC grew directly out of reflections on Game Theory. Lefebvre later went on to found the concept of Reflexive Game Theory. Which is implemented in Military simulations in the former Soviet Union, and before in the SU. Remembering the cybersecurity Red (attacker) and Blue (defender) divisions we will see how Military planners via simulations and real world computer systems manage Reflexive Control, including the management of their own troops with algorithms based on RGT. Andrew Schumann an investigator into RGT defines it as:

The notion of reflexive games was first introduced by Vladimir Lefebvre in 1965. A game is called reflexive if to choose the action the agent has to model (predict) actions of his/her opponents. The game-theoretic mathematics for reflexive games has been developed by D.A. Novikov and A.G. Chkhartishvili. Notice that the ideas of Lefebvre are very close to ideas of metagame which were proposed by Nigel Howard. Level-k models are considered in. The difference between reflexive games and any bounded rational approach consists in that in reflexive games there is a massive-parallel logic [which may not be resolvable, always frustrated] that should be analyzed by the players for winning. In reflexive games both conflicting parties simulate decision making of each other and aspire to foresee them. This decision making (on the basis of reasoning as well as emotional reactions), which we expect from our interlocutor/opponent, are called perlocutionary effects of our dialogue. Let us recall that any dialogue has three levels: locutionary (information expressed in verbal or non-verbal ex-position of states of affairs), illocutionary (cognitive and emotional estimations of considered information), perlocutionary (effects of cognitive and emotional estimations of interlocutors/opponents). What will be the perlocutionary effects of our utterance, i.e. which decision will be made, we do not know, but we try to foresee them. The situation where my decision processes (cognitive estimations and feelings) are not transparent for the interlocutor, while his/her decision processes are transparent for me, shows that my level of reflexion is higher than my interlocutor's level. (Schumann, 2014)

Emotions, which are expressed in illocutions, are one of the main forms of reflexion. The interchanging of emotions is always a reflexive game, a method of manipulation of others. (Schumann, 2018, 49)

The use of RC and Games is not just limited to the military though, it is used extensively throughout the Business and Political worlds, indeed the methods of RC are object type agnostic, can be applied to many classes of objects:

London et al. (2006) suggested a reflexive capability conceptual model for the individual in relation to e-business is developed which relies upon merging economic and social practices through an industrial organization economic theoretical lens and social science

theories of communication. Studies of the reflexive approach in the sphere of market interaction of business entities are developing particularly actively. The researches deal with models of reflexive control of consumer demand, formation of supply chain and dealer network, influence on competitor behavior, seller-buyer interaction during business transaction. Hartmann et al. (2008) used the principles of reflexive control in modeling passive and active social interactions in marketing. Bettany and Woodruffe-Burton (2009) proposed a structured approach to the possibilities of critical reflexive practice in marketing and consumer research. (Shemayev, 2017)

From one such business implementation we could look at the work of S. Tarashenko, currently working for Mizuno Finance, a business of acquisitions and selling, regarding his research into the Reflexive Game Theory (RGT). Tarashenko defines RGT as “ model behavior of individuals in groups. It is possible to predict choices, which are likely to be made by each individual in the group, and influence each individuals decision making due to make this individual to make certain choices. Therefore it makes possible to control the individual in the groups by guiding their behavior by means of the corresponding influence” (Tarashenko, 2010, 1) The math behind RGT is based on Boolean Algebra and Set Theory, though some of questioned whether the math itself is flawed in RC and thus never truly workable, we will follow the Soviet lead and analyze RGT from a Boolean perspective as is the practice throughout the world’s military and intelligence fields. It is typical in RGT to assign all members of a population (individual humans or robotic autonomous agents) a Unique ID which is then represented on a fully connected directed graph, where each node is defined as either in ‘Alliance’ or in ‘Conflict’ with each other node on the graph. It is noted that mathematically conflicts are disjunction (summation) and Alliance is conjunction (multiplication), whereas the influences on a subject are held in a matrix. If a node views another node as a conflict, though the other node views them as ‘alliance’ the disjunction indicates a conflict relationship, which would suggest always a higher level of ‘conflict’ relationships. RGT- employs the fundamental principles of hierarchical organization on individuals and groups. To be able to control an entity in the RGT you put them in a group, and then try to influence the target by other group members and adversaries. The goal of the subjects in the groups is to choose the alternative from the set of alternatives under consideration through what is known as the Decision Equation, if one is not able to influence the targets Decision Equation the result is to put the target into a frustration state, although many targets or subjects are easy to influence there are some individuals and groups that are not easy to influence that are referred to as Super Active Groups (Tarashenko, 2010, 15), which would be outliers to the RC theory, when confronted with the inability to influence the subjects Decision Equation the alternative is to put the target into a ‘frustration state’-- neither a position of safety or of adverse influence.

To influence a subject or group it is necessary to formulate the Forward and Inverse tasks, as discussed regarding changing Brain states by Dr. John Norseen, here in the RC theory it is necessary to re-route the subject with these methodologies.

Forward Task: a task to find the possible choices of a subject of interest, when the influences on him from others subjects are given. [Target receives simulacrum to influence decisions as well as physical feedback from objects in the environment]

Inverse [Reverse] Task (Turning): a task to find all the simultaneous (or joint) influences of all the subjects together on the subject of interest that result in choice of a particular alternative or subset of alternatives. We call the subject of interest to be a controlled subject. [Target abandons own will and submits to the will of the influencing objects giving a win to the Controller, in normative robotics this would result in a successful trajectory or path being achieved.]



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Novikov discusses creating two principals (red/blue or alliance/conflict in our discussion) that sets up agents that control the game and make decisions based on RC rules. Including the use of 'phantoms' fake agents for various reasons like manipulation and disinfo. The winner in the contested space or game will be the one that controls the 'information equilibrium' the best. In this case he discusses controlling economics in a game.

“From the game-theoretic viewpoint, the control problem of an ecological-economic system whose elements can demonstrate a purposeful behavior consists in the following. A control subject (a Principal) has to design a game of controlled subjects (agents) with some rules so that its outcome appears most beneficial to the former. Therefore, a necessary step of such control problems concerns game-theoretic analysis allowing a Principal to forecast the response of a controlled system to certain control actions.

Reflexive games represent a method of game-theoretic modeling with due consideration of agents' complex awareness (particularly, their mutual awareness). Nowadays, reflexive games have found wide application in the description of awareness, joint decision-making of agents and solution of associated informational control problems (control of agents' awareness structures) in different fields, namely, corporate management, economics, marketing, political science, etc.

Agents' awareness in a reflexive game is defined by a structure comprising their beliefs about essential parameters of a current situation and the beliefs of their opponents (other agents). The solution of a reflexive game is an informational equilibrium, viz., a set of actions chosen by real and phantom agents (the ones existing in the minds of real agents), where each agent maximizes a goal function based on its awareness.” (Novikov, 2015, 1)

According to Novikov the key to a Reflexive Game is the Information Equilibrium whose important component is the maximization of a goal function which is based on the agents awareness. Alter awareness to a weakened position and you will achieve the upper hand in the Reflexive Game.

The conducted analysis indicates that the mutual awareness of the members of ecological-economic systems appreciably affects their decision-making. By exerting control actions (i.e., varying such awareness), one can modify the equilibrium states of these systems. (Novikov, 2015, 8-9)

As we have read before one way of altering the awareness is through the use of simulacrum, which is referred here as 'information package':

In the theory of reflexive games they operate with the concept of an information package, obviously investing in its content:

- a set of gradually or purposefully sent information about their troops (with a certain amount of misinformation, of course!);
- information about the number, condition, staffing level, moral and psychological state (!), etc. enemy troops;
- emotional reactions to actions and other aspects of the response of opponents to the information received;
- intelligence information about plans that have complex informational, value, emotional, etc. nature, and specific formalized and documented managerial decisions of the enemy (combat orders, decisions on military actions, etc.)

In such a representation of the concept of "information package", it appears not entirely "informational", but also filled with emotional and management content. Thus, we believe the concept of "reflexive game" as a mutual attempt to reflexive control of the conflicting parties. In this case, the problem arises of postulating a new term denoting confrontation carried out without the involvement of conventional weapons, directly and destructively affecting a person and military equipment. The specificity of this type of struggle lies in the indirect impact on the military man and equipment in order to organize obstacles to the adequate perception of information and the adoption of correct management decisions. This type of struggle is carried out at the level of human thinking (which, although it operates with information, is regulated and determined by a large number of non-informational factors), which is the basis of our actions and deeds. As a clarification and addition to the concept of "information confrontation" within the framework of its most effective methodological base - the theory of reflexive games, and in the context of a broader vision of indirectly influencing the enemy and causing damage to the adequacy of his thinking process, we propose to use the term **"reflexive confrontation"**.

By reflexive confrontation, we mean the rivalry of the opposing sides for the superiority of the implemented methods, means and methods of reflexive control. In this context of the proposed definition, the concepts of reflexive confrontation and reflexive play turn out to be synonymous. At the same time, the use of the factor of reflexive confrontation is justified for the analysis of military-applied problems, since it focuses on the exclusively hostile nature of the social interaction of combat systems.

At the same time, the state in which one of the opposing sides achieves success in applying its system, methods, methods and means of reflexive control that are linked in purpose, place and time, we will designate as reflexive superiority. (Kiryushin, 2013)

As a War Game RGT does not achieve Nash equilibrium, it is opposite of Nash Equilibrium, the ability in games or competition to cooperate where various agents get a partial reward rather than winner takes all:

Let us suppose now that rational agents are our enemies. They do not wish to help us to reach the equilibrium of our goal functions by means of an interchange. In every possible way they hinder us from having the usual interchange with other players (for

example, they use dumping practices so that we will go bankrupt). In this case the Nash equilibrium cannot be reached. We cannot wait for a simple mutually advantageous interchange of goods.

Competitiveness complicates any strategy of reaching a maximal guaranteed payoff. We should already deal with reflexive games in order to evaluate other actors, for example, to reconstruct their goal functions taking into account circumstances in which they can try to delude their environment concerning the original motives of their acts. The main task of reflexive games is to hide true motives and goals, not to be transparent for others, but to know everything important about them. (Schumann, 2018, 44)

This concept of the 'zero-sum' game with either total victory or total defeat is the end state of the Game. Which can become a problem when coupled with the power of Machines to run processes that will far outstrip any human mind, it could also mean that in a Reflexive Game that no end game state could be achieved due to the complexity of the interactions of the systems under study, leaving a cybernetic manager running endlessly since no end state can ever be achieved, there is no Path to victory for an overly complex reflexive game. Schumann describes this as a reflexive paradox:

It is an example of the *reflexivity paradox*, i.e. the impossibility of defining a true level of reflexion for a successful interaction with competitors. (Schumann, 2018, 47)

One example of the complexity one can be dealing with in trying to compute reflexivity is an example from the equation where red must think about blue at the fourth level of reflection:

*ThinkA(ThinkB(ThinkA(ThinkB(ThinkA))))*, *ThinkB(ThinkA(ThinkB(ThinkA(ThinkB))))*.  
(Schumann, 2018, 46)

Schumann explains that the game is to get more information about your enemy, while hiding our own actions in the game:

If at least one agent selects a game strategy assuming a non-zero level of reflexion, then this game is called a *reflexive game*. Its essence consists in finding the level of reflexion  $n$  of the competitor ( $n > 0$ ) to move onto reflexion level  $n$  (if I have advantages at the equal level of reflexivity) or  $n + 1$  (if I have no advantages) and to act on the basis of the given level. The task of a reflexive game is to have the opponent's actions become transparent for us, while our actions remain obscure for the competitor. (Schumann, 2018, 47)

Accordingly, the victory in a reflexive game is determined by who has managed in most cases to be in dialogues at a level of reflexion  $n$  or  $n+1$  while the interlocutor remained at level  $n$ . The more difficult the reflexive game, the more information we should give about ourselves to uncover all motivations and all predispositions of the interlocutor. There are too many examples of daily reflexive games. (Schumann, 2018, 47)

Agents in Reflexive Games according to Schumann come with four components: preferences, operations, knowledge and sequencing:

- *preferences of agents* (different goal functions and dependencies of their payoff on actions, e.g. when we know that each agent is interested in a maximization of payoff and for this purpose (s)he commits a minimal set of certain actions, and for different agents this set can be different);

- *set of admissible actions of agents* (there are actions which are unacceptable for all in the group of agents, and there are actions which are expected or not expected by other agents, but these actions are admissible for the entire group of agents);
- *knowledge of agents* (at the moment of decision making agents should be informed, probably falsely, about all preferences of other agents);
- *order of moves* (sequence of choices of actions, comprehensible to all in the group of agents).

Thus, preferences express what agents want, sets of admissible operations express what they can do, knowledge expresses what they know, and order of moves express when they select actions.  
(Schumann, 2018, 48)

Games can be 2 players or more, the more agents the more complex to win.

In RGT there is an implicit understanding that there is a form of mimicry involved in the game, with many theoreticians assuming that players will play the same play as the opponent in each given situation. This is also known in Game AI as 'shadow AI' where a game agent mimics the attacks of the player. This is played out in solving the game according to Schumann:

Insufficient knowledge (lack of common knowledge  $K^{in+1}A$ ) of agent  $i$  on reflexion level  $n$  leads to an actual vector of actions on reflexion level  $n$  that can differ from a vector expected by agent  $i$ . For reaching a performative equilibrium it is expedient to follow the following assumptions:

1. The finite number of real and phantom agents participate in a reflexive game.
2. Equally informed agents select identical actions according to reflexion level  $n$ .
3. The rational behavior of agents consists in that each of them aspires to maximize a goal function by a choice of appropriate actions, predicting which actions other agents will choose as rational agents from the point of view of knowledge of reflexion level  $n$  about other agents.

In case a reflexive game is carried out between agents belonging to the same organization (corporation, company, institute), success in a reflexive game can be reached by a purposeful modification of some components [structures, 'change the group'] of a controlled system. Such a modification for the guaranteed victory in a reflexive game is called *reflexive management*.

The principal kinds of reflexive management are as follows:

- *institutional management* (modification of admissible sets of actions of all groups of agents);
- *motivational management* (modification of goal functions of concrete agents);
- *informational management* (modification of information which agents use in decision making).

Informational management refers to the following kinds:

- *informational regulating* (purposeful influence on information about states of affairs);
- *expert management* (purposeful influence on information about models of decision making);
- *active prognosis* (purposeful spread of information about future values of parameters depending on states of affairs and actions of actors).

*The task of reflexive management* is formulated as follows: a controlling organ creates a knowledge structure of agents in a way such that a performative equilibrium satisfies the centre's goals (maximally favourable for this centre.) Management of an opponent's decision-making can be carried out by means of suggestions to him/her of some foundations from which (s)he could logically infer decisions favourable to us. Such a process of suggesting foundations for an opponent's decision-making is called *reflexive management*. Reflexive management can be performed by means of saying false information about a state of affairs (creation of false objects), by means of suggesting an opponent's purposes (provocations and intrigues, acts of terrorism and ideological diversions), or by means of suggesting decisions (false advice). (Schumann, 2018, 50)

In an interesting point regarding structure, whether and organization should be centralized or decentralized Schumann makes the point that decentralized organizations provide more complex reflexive games and through these games probably through constant refinement between the different moving parts a higher efficiency is gained because of the interactions.

The system, in which there is a delegation of powers, where the decision-making process is distributed throughout the entire system of management, is more rational than the centralised system. The higher tasks of organization are divided into many more detailed tasks for which solutions specific employees are responsible. Hence, each employee (1) surely knows what action (s)he is responsible for; (2) knows what resources (s)he can use independently and in what cases (s)he can ask the manager about additional resources; (3) knows how outcomes of activity are evaluated and knows the method of reward for success. These conditions provide the system with complex reflexive games making the system more stable performatively (Schumann, 2018, 51)

Having seen how reflexive games can be applied to economic and organizational structures it is also informative to analyze how a Reflexive Game is compiled for specifically military purposes. In a prototypical military simulation using Reflexive Gaming the Russian military research community has come up with one algorithmic depiction of such a game.

Rulko, Gertsev and Buloychik have set out the purpose of using mathematical models such as reflexive control for combat simulations:

...any specific battle is a unique, isolated phenomenon. As in every single phenomenon is common, inherent in all such processes, and is special, making this fight different from another. Therefore, on the one hand, the mathematical model should reflect the most general patterns of the modeled processes and its capabilities should allow taking into account changes in goals, objectives and conditions combat operations, on the other



hand, with its help it should be possible to studies of the influence of the characteristics of a specific situation and specific decisions, taken by the warring parties. The essence of such studies is in reproducing the commander's reasoning about the degree of influence of various parameters setting and quantifying this impact. Assuming reasonable behavior adversary, it is advisable to carry out such reasoning for him and also evaluate their influence.

Thus, the success in organizing a particular battle largely depends on the skill the commander to try to side with the enemy, to analyze the course of his thoughts, to understand his possible further actions, to predict their result and thus be able to act in anticipation, outsmarting it, to form in him false ideas about the real state of affairs by using masking (maskirovka, маскировки) or demonstrating false intentions (сформировать у него ложные представления о реальном положении дел путем использования маскировки или демонстрирования ложных намерений ).

In addition, in itself such a two-way process of analysis can provide additional information for thought about the best option for their actions in a combat, continuously changing situation. For a formal description of this type of mental activity of commanders of the opposing sides, the closest in fact is the apparatus of the theory reflexive control (hereinafter – TRU) рефлексивного управления (далее – ТРУ). As a rule, reflexive control means the use of results imitation of reasoning for the opposing side in the course of making your own decisions and the impact on the process of making it (the opposing party) decisions by forming in her the necessary (as a rule, false about us) idea of setting. The solution obtained in this way can be used for repeated imitating the reasoning of the enemy, taking into account the fact that this decision to one degree or another the enemy knows. In this regard, the concept of the rank of reflection is introduced.

(Rulko, 2017)

The purpose is to plan for battle, as well as play out possible scenarios for RC. However, without quantitative tools to measure the effectiveness of such influence one could be left in the lurch and deceiving oneself about the adequacy of the models used for behavioral modification of a target. Of course again we are in awareness (perception) management which according to the authors:

by managing intelligence processes and protection of information (extraction of someone else's or hiding their information) and the process disinformation of the enemy, we can influence the decisions he makes. However, until now since then there was no possibility of a **quantitative assessment of the effectiveness of** such an influence, which is essentially the basis for the reflexive control of the enemy. In this sense, the application of the SM developed by us is of interest. In [4], it is shown that the maximum appropriate rank of the reflexive management, which today should be considered when making decisions, is equal to two. When the chain of reflexive reasoning that needs to be reproduced looks like: "Determine what the enemy thinks about my behavior, based on this make a decision for him, then on the basis of the information received to make his

own decision. "Quantitative accounting for higher ranks of reflection is a formalization "Significant tricks". He is fraught with the danger of "outsmarting himself" and today it is difficult to implement, since it will require much more complex and accurate

predictive models of simulated processes and highly adequate models "Intellectual abilities" of specific decision-makers (commanders warring parties). And there are no such models yet. Moreover, on tactical level of decision-making, as a rule, there is no information on the counter standing commander, necessary for modeling his mental activity.

In this sense, it should be noted that in an example of constructing a model behavior of Saddam Hussein, obtained from the results of many years of observation. The use of such a model made it possible to quickly achieve success in the operation. (Rulko, 2017, 156-7)

It is interesting to note that Rulko et al put the limit of nested reflexive processes at 2 levels and that quantitative accounting for higher reflection levels would need 'significant tricks' and the operator of such tricks is in danger of 'outsmarting himself'. The system that Rulko et al came up with to simulate these rounds uses the standard Red vs. Blue architecture.

Consider an example of choosing behavior alternatives by Red and Blue using simulation of the process of their confrontation on the developed SM. Let, according to the results of battle planning, the Reds (we) have three ( $n = 3$ ) behavioral alternatives given in the form of appropriate behavior strategies (Table 1). The Reds also have some information about the BLU (enemy) and non- which probability can suggest their possible steps in the form of four alternatives ( $m = 4$ ). In this case, these are alternatives, figuratively speaking, a phantom agent, existing in the minds of the Reds. It is obvious that the degree of their identity with the real behavior is determined by the degree to which the Reds are aware of their opponent.

Blue, with some information about Red, will also build a system assumptions about their behavior and choose their strategy under the influence of how the Reds will act from their point of view.

(Rulko, 2017, 157)

The Red and Blue forces are given standard options of defense and offense in a typical infantry conflict. To calculate the various parameters of action and counter-action Rulko et al introduce some math:

It is obvious that each of the possible alternatives of the parties corresponds to a certain preference - the probability of its choice (choice of a given scenario of the development of events).

Let's introduce the notation:

$P_{xy}^i(j)$  - is the preference of the  $j$ -th option of actions of the side  $x$  in relation to the one  $y$  at the  $i$ -th rank of reflexive control.

For our example, you can write:

$P_{KC}^0(j)$  - the preference of the  $j$ -th,  $j = 1, 2, 3$ , option for Red's actions

with respect to blue at the zero rank of reflexive control (when, as a rule,

$P_{CK}^1(j)$  – the alternatives are equally likely); preference of the  $j$ -th,  $j = 1, 2, 3, 4$ , option of Blue's actions (phantom agent) in relation to Reds at the first rank of reflexive control, etc.

For a specific solution of one side with the chosen option behavior, another simulation system allows you to obtain values selected indicators of the effectiveness of each side of its combat mission: losses at a given moment in time, the line reached by one of the parties at that moment time, time of holding the boundary, etc. Given that there can be many such possible behaviors, for their comparative assessment, we introduce an indicator characterizing the effectiveness of actions one side for a given variant of behavior of the other  $p \in [-1; 1]$  and obtained by simulation results. Here, the index  $x$  defines the affiliation of the party, relative to which the indicator is calculated:  $p_C$  for the Blue side and  $p_K$  - for the Red ones.

Moreover, their extreme values  $-1$  and  $1$  correspond to the least and most favorable outcomes.

A measure of the effectiveness of behaviors is set up with values  $-1$  and  $1$  and then this is run against the possible variants of behavior giving the effectiveness of actions.

In a simulated scenario the authors give the following scenario:

Another example of synthesizing an expression for calculating the value of the exponent  $p$ . Let be the combat mission of the Blues (they are on the offensive) is to occupy the L C line, and the Reds (in both Rhône) - to prevent the achievement of a milestone Blue L K. We denote:

$\Delta L_C$  - depth of penetration of Blue;

$\Delta L_K$  - the depth of holding the line by the Reds.

From these and other calculations they are able to quantify the appropriate strategies in the Reflexive Game.

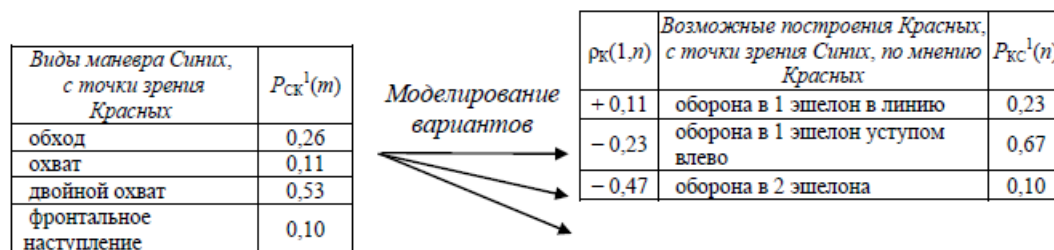


Рисунок 2. – Оценка показателя сравнительной эффективности для маневра Синих (с точки зрения Красных) «обход»

(Figure 2. - Assessment of the indicator of comparative efficiency for the BLU maneuver (in terms of Red) "bypass")

It is interesting to see how the concepts of RGT can be employed in combat. The boolean red and blue games could also be extended into other areas as previously noted, such as geopolitics, which of course we did portray during the cold war as Blue vs. Red. It is interesting to note that in this game of Rulko et al Blue is attacking and Red is defending, again we see the Russian psychology of being on the defense from the West.

### **Reflexive Contemporary Topics:**

In the previous section we have delved into the basics of Reflexive Control and Reflexive Game Theory. The research that was done in the 1960s and into the 2000s was conducted by one generation which has given way to a new generation with such authors as Tarashenko and Shemayev extending the work of Lefebvre, and Novikov as well. In the following section we shall be reviewing some recent developments of RC to see how it is becoming extended and in what direction research in this field is leading.

The first researcher to cover is that of Shemayev and the synthesis of RC with Cognitive Mapping.

### **Reflexive Control becomes Cognitive**

The initial ideals regarding the use of cognition was written about by Chotikul in the US in 1986 according to Vasara, RC could be used to exert influence on the adversary's activities, and it could be applied if the adversary's cognitive map was thoroughly understood. In this case, objective observations of the situation made by the adversary could be modified without the adversary noticing anything. To achieve the situation described above, the attention should be on psychological aspects and subjective factors characteristic of the adversary. (Chotikul, 1986, p. 79). (Vasara, 2020, 35-6)

From 2007 in the former Soviet Republic of Ukraine Shemayev has written of a synthesis of cognitive modeling and RC.

Volodymyr Shemayev is head of the Department of Economics and Finance of the National Defense Academy of Ukraine, Kyiv. His scientific interests include Reflexive Control, Information Security, Defense Planning and Budgeting, and Ukraine's Integration to NATO. Shemayev writes:

Another approach to modeling socio-economic systems is cognitive modeling. Cognitive modeling based on fuzzy cognitive maps is considered to be one of the best ways to formalize control processes in social-political and economic systems. Such a mathematical model allows both to analyze the situation in-system and to synthesize a control strategy. (Shemayev, 2007)

Formally, the task of information control can be presented with the following relation:

$$\Phi(t) = \Psi(D(F, W, M), G(t), X(t), U(t)),$$

where

- $D(F, W, M)$  represents the structure of the situation;
  - $G(t)$  – the set of objectives;
  - $X(t)$  – the set of situation conditions;
  - $U(t)$  – the set of controls
- Then,  $U^*(t)$  is the rational (optimal) set of controls given by;

$$U^*(t) = \text{Arg opt } \Phi(t) \quad U(t) \in U$$

(Shemayev, 2007)

In order to adequately model the set of controls it is necessary to have a good cognitive model of the target of RC.

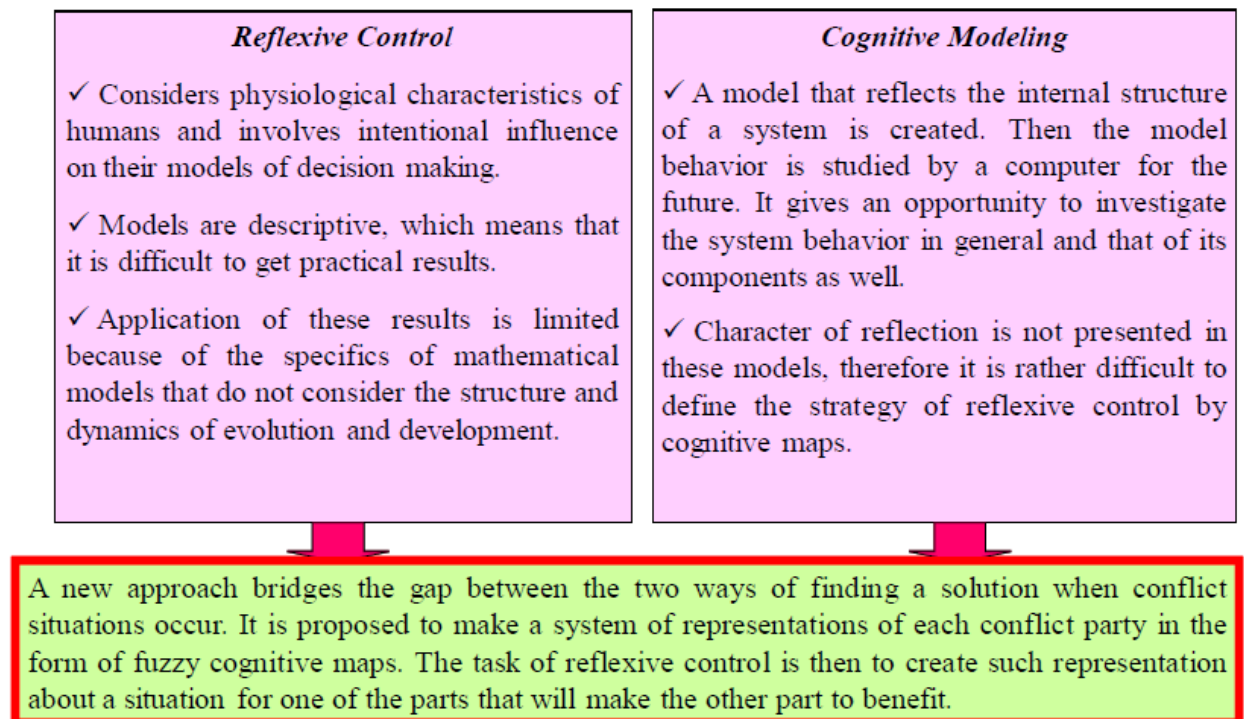
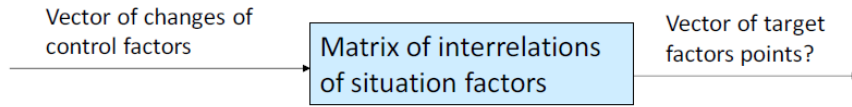


Figure 4: A cognitive Approach to Modeling Reflexive Control.

(Shemayev, 2007)

This synthesis of RC and Cognitive Mapping is more like western attempts at behavioral influencing which are covered in a separate chapter. However, it is interesting to compare the procedures of Shemayev compared to what is mentioned by Dr. John Norseen regarding the Inverse, sometimes also referred to as Reverse, and Direct Tasks, sometimes referred to as Forward, of Reflexive Control. Here Shemayev defines the synthesized Forward and Inverse Task:

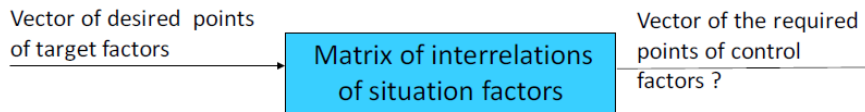
*Direct task – cognitive modeling*



$$X(t+1) = X(t) + P(t+1), \text{ where } P(t+1) = P(t) \circ W.$$

$(\circ)$  - max-product-composition.

*Reverse task – cognitive modeling*



$$U \circ W = G,$$

$$\Omega = \{U_1, U_2, \dots, U_k\},$$

Where  $U_1, U_2, \dots, U_k$  is the set of control factor points.

Direct and reverse tasks are used for cognitive analysis and reflexive control of situation development. Shemayev and Taran proposed a new method that bridges the gap between the two approaches to finding a solution when conflict situations occur. The authors propose to make a system of representations of each conflict party in the form of fuzzy cognitive maps. The task of reflexive management is to create such representation about a situation for one of the parts that will make the other part benefit.

### Controlling the Mob with Reflexive Control

In other more recent work in RC in Russia is the work of D. Novikov the head the Institute of Control Sciences & Moscow Institute of Physics and Technology of the Russian Academy of Sciences has looked into the issue of mass influencing mobs. Novikov works on the mathematical modeling of mob control in his work. This work can be traced back to earlier work in 1978 by Granovetter and his own work from at least 2008. Mathematical models of Mobs is of two types:

1. Models of Teams- joint adaptive decision-making by groups of people using information about uncertain factors, which is not considered by Novikov.
2. Conformity Threshold Collective Behavior (Granovetter 1978)- the decision of a given agent depends on the proportion or number of other agents making a corresponding decision (particularly, mob behavior). Which is considered in the work of Novikov here.

Novikov defines a mob:

“Mob is understood below as an active or aggressive gathering of people, i.e. an active or aggressive group, crowd, etc. In scientific literature, mob control has several stable and widespread interpretations.” (Novikov, 2017, 5)

Mobs are viewed as groups of agents, which can also be artificial agents or 'phantoms' in RC parlance. The study of agents involves such elements as:

'Control of agents' motion (goal achievement, collision avoidance, obstacle avoidance, formation control, etc.). This direction of group control demonstrates intensive development since the early 2000s, embracing two broad fields of research, namely, analytical and simulation (agent-based) models. ...A separate aspect concerns choosing a set of physical influence measures for a mob (prevention of jams, mass riots, and so on), which also represents a subject of many investigations. (Novikov, 2017, 5)

Novikov gives the basis for Mob stratification:

"Mobs are classified using several bases. This book proceeds from a substantial hypothesis that a mob can be united by a common object of attention (be organized in some sense), while its members-people (agents) may undertake certain actions or not. To put it tentatively, agents can be active (e.g. supporting some decision, participating in mass riots, etc.) or passive. Accordingly, mob control represents a purposeful impact (as a rule, informational influence exerted on a whole mob or separate agents for implementing their desired behavior.[74]. If the goal of control is to optimize the number or proportion of active agents, exactly this index [active,passive] forms a major control efficiency criterion.

As actions of agents and communications among them are both vital for mob analysis, a mob can be treated as a special case of an active network structure (ANS). Other special cases of ANSs are social groups, online social networks and so on. Some models developed in the book turn out applicable to wider classes of ANSs, not only to mob control problems. In such cases, the term ANS will be used." (Novikov, 2017, 5)

In short in this terminology a mob is an active network structure or ANS, which are more popularly known as social networks. According to Novikov there are 5 Levels of ANS:

#### ANS Levels

Level 5: game theory (reflexive) informational conflicts

Level 4: Control Problems

Level 3: informational interactions micro-model of ANS

Level 2: graph structure

Level 1: Macro-model of ANS

In much the same sense as a convolutional neural network as higher levels feed into lower levels. The main issue with ANS analysis and structure is the state of the agents whether they are active or passive.

Model of an ANS:

-each agent chooses between two states:

0- passive

1- active (participation in mob action)

"While making his decision, each agent demonstrates conformity behavior, taking into account the so-called social pressure as the observed or predicted behavior of the environment: if a definite number (or proportion) of his 'neighbors' [KNN clustering?] are active, then this agent chooses activity. The minimum number (or proportion) of neighbors that 'excites' a given agent is called his threshold. Note there also exist

models of anti-conformity behavior and 'mixture' of conformity and anti-conformity [26]. “ (Novikov, 2017, 7)

Threshold is the minimum number (or proportion of neighbors that influences a given agent. Equilibrium state of a mob is defined via the distribution function of agents' thresholds.

“If the relationship between the equilibrium state of a system (a social network, a mob) and the threshold distribution function is known, one can pose threshold control problems, e.e., find an appropriate control action modifying agents' threshold so that the system reaches a desired equilibrium. “ (Novikov, 2017, 8)

Each agent has an opinion Novikov offers the following iteration to determine threshold behavior.

Model of a mob  $N = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  of agents. Agent  $I$  in the set of  $N$  is characterized by:

1. influence (a certain 'weight' of his opinion for agent  $j$ )
2. the decision
3. the threshold, defining whether agent  $I$  acts under a certain opponent's action profile.

Formally, define the action  $x_i$  of agent  $I$  as the best response to the existing opponent's action profile.

“Therefore, given an initial state (the proportion of active agents at step 0), further dynamics of system (7) and its equilibrium states depend on the properties of the distribution functions of agent's thresholds. Hence, a goal-oriented modification of this function can be treated as mob control.

Although the following from Novikov is math intensive, for those interested it is important to understand the basics of how Thresholds are calculated as well as activations. Novikov gives the following equations for his mathematical model of mobs:



Consider the following discrete-time dynamic model of collective behavior [23]. At the initial (zero) step, all agents are passive. At each subsequent step, the agents act simultaneously and independently according to the best-response procedure (1).

Introduce the notation

$$(2) \quad Q_0 = \emptyset, Q_1 = \{i \in N \mid \theta_i = 0\},$$

$$Q_k = Q_{k-1} \cup \{i \in N \mid \sum_{j \in Q_{k-1}, j \neq i} t_{ij} \geq \theta_i\}, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, n-1.$$

Clearly,  $Q_0 \subseteq Q_1 \subseteq \dots \subseteq Q_n \subseteq N$ . Let  $T = \{t_{ij}\}$  be the influence matrix of the agents and  $\theta = (\theta_1, \theta_2, \dots, \theta_n)$  correspond to the vector of their thresholds. Evaluate the following index:

$$(3) \quad q(T, \theta) = \min \{k = \overline{0, n-1} \mid Q_{k+1} = Q_k\}.$$

Define the collective behavior equilibrium (CBE) [23]

$$(4) \quad x_i^*(T, \theta) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } i \in Q_{q(T, \theta)} \\ 0, & \text{if } i \in N \setminus Q_{q(T, \theta)}, i \in N. \end{cases}$$

The value

$$(5) \quad x^* = \frac{\#Q_{q(T, \theta)}}{n} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i \in N} x_i^*(T, \theta)$$

with  $\#$  denoting set power characterizes the proportion of active agents in the CBE.

Further exposition mostly deals with the *anonymous case* where the graph of agents' relations is complete:  $t_{ij} = 1/(n-1)$ . In the anonymous case, expression (1) takes the form

$$(6) \quad x_i = BR_i(\bar{x}_{-i}) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{j \neq i} x_j \geq \theta_i, \\ 0, & \text{if } \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{j \neq i} x_j < \theta_i. \end{cases}$$

Designate by  $F(\cdot): [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$  the distribution function of agents' thresholds, a nondecreasing function defined on the unit segment that is left continuous and possesses right limit at each point of its domain. Let  $\{x_t \in [0, 1]\}_{t \geq 0}$  be a discrete sequence of the proportions of active agents, where  $t$  indicates time step.

Assume that the proportion  $x_k$  of active agents at step  $k$  is known ( $k = 0, 1, \dots$ ). Then the following recurrent expression describes the dynamics of the proportion of active agents at the subsequent steps [19-27, 44, 56]:

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After establishing Collective Behavior Equilibrium (CBE) from above we arrive at mob control which is altering the threshold of agents with a goal-oriented modification [steering, cybernetics].

The Nash equilibrium is calculated as:

Denote by  $y = \inf \{x: x \in (0,1], F(x) = x\}$  the least nonzero root of equation (8). The collective behavior equilibrium (CBE) and, as shown in [23], a Nash equilibrium of the agents' game is the point

$$(9) \ x^* = \begin{cases} y, & \text{if } \forall z \in [0, y]: F(z) \geq z, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

According to the properties of the distribution function, for implementing a nonzero CBE a sufficient condition is  $F(0) > 0$ .

Novikov analyses mob control on two levels a micro and macro scale:

two approaches to the design and analysis of ANSs, namely, macro- and microdescriptions. According to the former approach, the structure of relations in a network is averaged, and agents' behavior is studied "in the mean." The latter approach takes into account the structural features of the influence graph of agents and their individual decision-making principles. The first and second approaches are compared using the threshold model of collective behavior with a common relative threshold. (Novikov, 2017, 10)

#### Threshold Model of Agents Behavior

As mentioned before the threshold of the agents, the influences of neighbors, is a key to the CBE. As mentioned each agent has an opinion which can be influenced. Novikov explains the model:

"The models of agent's opinions dynamics in ANSs involve a single characteristic of each agent-- his opinion-- and the rest parameters reflect the interaction of agents. The so-called behavioral models of ANSs are richer: in addition to 'internal' parameters, they incorporate variables describing agent's behavior (his decisions). Generally, these decisions depend on the internal parameters of an agent (his opinions, individual characteristics) and, may be, on the opinions and/or actions of other agents (all agents, neighbors or some group of agents). As an example of behavioral models, we choose the threshold model (the general game theoretic modeling approaches to collective threshold behavior were outlined in the publications" (Novikov, 2017, 15)

the *common relative threshold* of the agents is the consensus of the ANS, a common opinion.

Novikov applied his math models in simulation of social networks: Facebook, Twitter and LiveJournal, this work was done in collaboration with A. V. Batov. A social network is a directed graph, which one could use SRI's A\* search to crawl:

"The relations among agents in a real SN can be reflected by a directed graph G. The direction of an edge from one agent (node) to another shows the former's influence on the latter. The micromodels address explicitly the influence graph, whereas the macromodels operate it's macrocharacteristic, i.e., the distribution  $M(\cdot)$  of a number of neighbors" (Novikov, 2017, 20)

Novikov provides a simple illustration for the structure of influences on Facebook:

For instance, in *Facebook* an agent has connections to his friends, which can be interpreted as the influence relations of these friends on the agent. In *LiveJournal* and *Twitter*, directed influence relations are agent's subscriptions for viewing and commenting information posted by other agents. We will believe that all agents influencing a given agent in a network are his *neighbors*, see expression (1). (Novikov, 2017, 21)

#### 4.1. A Threshold Model of Mob Behavior

Consider the following model of a mob. There is a set  $N = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  of *agents* choosing between two *decisions*, “1” (being active, e.g., participating in mass riots) or “0” (being passive). Agent  $i \in N$  is characterized by

- the *influence* on agent  $j$ , denoted by  $t_{ji} \geq 0$  (a certain “weight” of his opinion for agent  $j$ ); for each agent  $j$ , we have the normalization conditions  $\sum_{i \neq j} t_{ji} = 1, t_{ii} = 0$ ;

- the decision  $x_i \in \{0; 1\}$ ;

- the *threshold*  $\theta_i \in [0, 1]$ , defining whether agent  $i$  acts under a certain *opponents’ action profile* (the vector  $x_{-i}$  comprising the decisions of

$$(4) \ x_i^*(T, \theta) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } i \in Q_{q(T, \theta)}, \\ 0, & \text{if } i \in N \setminus Q_{q(T, \theta)}, \ i \in N. \end{cases}$$

Assertion 4.1. For any influence matrix  $T$  and agents’ thresholds  $\theta$ , there exists a unique CBE (4) representing a Nash equilibrium in the game with the best response (1).

Proof of Assertion 4.1. To establish the existence, one should actually demonstrate the following: the set used for minimization in (3) is nonempty. By *argumentum ex contrario*, suppose emptiness of this set. In other words, the sequence of sets  $Q_0 \subseteq Q_1 \subseteq \dots \subseteq Q_{n-1} \subseteq Q_n$  is assumed to have no coinciding elements. This implies that each consequent set differs from the previous one (at least) by a single element. On the other hand, the sequence has  $n + 1$  sets, but there are  $n$  totally. We have arrived at a contradiction.

Uniqueness follows from the CBE definition—see (4)—and from uniqueness of index (3).

Let  $x^*(T, \theta)$  specify the CBE. And so, all agents belonging to the set  $Q_{q(T, \theta)}$  are active. However, according to formulas (1)–(2), this choice matches their best responses. All agents in the set  $N \setminus Q_{q(T, \theta)}$  turn out passive. By virtue of (2)–(3), these agents satisfy  $\sum_{j \in Q_{q(T, \theta)}} t_{ij} < \theta_i$ ,

$i \in N \setminus Q_{q(T, \theta)}$ . Then being passive is the best response (see expression (1)). Hence, for all  $i$  we obtain  $x_i = BR_i(x_{-i})$ , and  $x^*(T, \theta)$  represents a Nash equilibrium. Proof of Assertion 4.1 is complete. • (here and in the sequel, symbol • indicates the end of a proof, example, etc.).

We underline that the above CBE definition possesses constructive character, as its evaluation based on (2)–(4) seems easy. Moreover, a reader should observe an important fact: without agents having zero thresholds, passivity of all agents makes up the CBE. In the sense of control, this means that most attention should be paid to the so-called “*ringleaders*,” i.e., agents deciding “to be active” even when the rest remain passive.

**The model with reputation.** Denote by  $r_j = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{i \neq j} t_{ij}$  the average

## Reputation (Conformity) Control

Another component of mob control involves the reputation of an agent, which is the opinions of other agents of that agent, also their influences upon that agent. This is given mathematically by Novik in the following:

influence of agent  $j \in N$  on the rest agents. The quantity  $r_j$  is said to be the relative *reputation* of agent  $j$  (a certain "weight" of his opinion for the other agents). The other agents consider his opinion or actions according to this weight. Within the framework of the model with reputation, influence can be characterized by the vector  $r = \{r_j\}_{j \in N}$ . In this model, define the action  $x_i$  of agent  $i$  as the best response to the opponents' action profile:

A special case of the described model is the *anonymous case*, where all agents have the identical reputations  $r_i = \frac{1}{n-1}$ . Then choose integers  $m_1, m_2, \dots, m_n$  as the thresholds and construct the corresponding threshold vector  $m$ . Next, sort the agents in the nondecreasing order of their thresholds:  $m_1 \leq m_2 \leq \dots \leq m_n$ . Believing that  $m_0 = 0$  and  $m_{n+1} > n$ , define the number  $p(m) \in \{0, \dots, n\}$  by

$$p(m) = \min \{k \in N \cup \{0\} \mid m_k \leq k, m_{k+1} > k\}.$$

Consequently, the CBE acquires the following structure:  $x_i^* = 1$ ,  $i = \overline{1, p(m)}$ ;  $x_i^* = 0$ ,  $i = \overline{p(m)+1, n}$ . That is, the first  $p(m)$  agents are active (if  $p(m) = 0$ , suppose passivity of all agents).

In the anonymous model, a Nash equilibrium satisfies the equation [18]

$$(5) F(p) = p,$$

where  $F(p) = |\{i \in N : m_i < p\}|$  indicates the number of agents whose

thresholds are less than  $p$ . Let  $T^0$  and  $\theta^0$  be the vectors of initial values of influence matrices and agents' thresholds, respectively. Suppose that the following parameters are given: the admissible sets of the influences and thresholds of the agents ( $T$  and  $\Theta$ , respectively), the Principal's payoff  $H(K)$  from an achieved mob state  $K$  and his costs  $C(T, \theta, T^0, \theta^0)$  required for modifying the reputations and thresholds of the agents.

As a control efficiency criterion, select the Principal's goal function representing the difference between the payoff  $H(\cdot)$  and the costs  $C(\cdot)$ .

Then the control problem takes the form

$$(6) H(K(T, \theta)) - C(T, \theta, T^0, \theta^0) \rightarrow \max_{T \in T, \theta \in \Theta}.$$

In the anonymous case, the control problem (6) becomes

$$(7) H(p(m)) - C(m, m^0) \rightarrow \max_{m \in M},$$

where  $M$  is the admissible set of threshold vectors in the anonymous case, while  $m$  and  $m^0$  designate the terminal and initial threshold vectors, respectively.

Now, consider special cases of the general problem (6). The threshold control problem in the anonymous case is treated in subsection 4.2. And the reputation control problem in the non-anonymous case can be found in subsection 4.3.

## 4.2. Threshold Control

Some examples of the mathematical models considered by Novikov also includes Reflexive Control along with Reflexive Game models of competing Principals usually expressed by a bi-matrix in the considerations. A example of RC in Mob Control is where the Principal influences the beliefs of the agents about their parameters, the beliefs about beliefs. The non-cooperative Principals must control the informational equilibrium, possessing a certain awareness structure the agents choose their actions, here awareness would be the equivalent of an opinion (Novikov, 2017, 49). Novikov argues that the basis of altering awareness or opinions is best conducted through information control, or information warfare in military contexts.

...we believe that any result achievable via a real variation of thresholds can be implemented by informational control (an appropriate modification of the agents' beliefs about their thresholds). And so, information control for thresholds turns out equivalent to threshold control in a common sense. Apparently the former type of control is 'softer' than the latter." One property of 'good' informational control concerns its stability [75] when all agents observe the results they actually expected. (Novikov, 2017, 49)

"Among other things, informational control in the ANSs lies in a purposeful impact exerted on the initial opinions of agents, in order to ensure the required values of the final opinions (desired by the control subject)" (Novikov, 2017, 111)

One of the most important elements in information control is stability.

Stability is a substantial requirement for a long-term interaction between the Principal and agents. Indeed, under an unstable information control, the agents just once doubting the truth of Principal's information have good reason to do it later." (Novikov, 2017, 49-50)

#### Stochastic Models of Mob Control

In practice, a possible tool of such control consists in mass media [48, 75] or any other unified (information, motivational and/or institutional [74]) impacts on agents. pg. 50

"For instance, consider the following interpretations of potential control actions: the thresholds of a given proportion of randomly chosen agents are nullified (which matches 'excitation') or maximized (which matches 'immunization,' ie. complete in-susceptibility to social pressure). Or just believe that each agent can be excited or /and immunized with a given probability. Such transformations of agent's threshold cause a corresponding variation in the equilibrium state of an active network structure (a social network, a mob).

Another way for managing threshold behavior (not agents' thresholds) is staff control according to the control types classification introduced in [74]. Staff control implies embedding additional agents with zero and maximum threshold (provokers and immunizers, respectively) in an ANS. In this case, the resulting equilibrium of the ANS depends on the number of embedded agents having an appropriate type.

And finally, there may exist two control authorities (Principals) exerting opposite information impacts on the agents [red vs. blue sub-machines]. This situation of distributed control [43, 74] can be interpreted as *informational confrontation* [46, 48, 70, 72] between the Principals. Using the analysis results of the control problems for each separate Principal, one can describe their interaction in terms of **game theory**." (Novikov, 2017, 51)

Novikov also addresses such things as Provokers in Mobs, Excitation of Whole Mob and

Positional Control the main area of concern for this study is the use of Mob Control in Game Theory from normal-form games, to reflexive games to hierarchical games.

What makes Mob Control Game theoretic is the situation with non-cooperative Principals gaming the agents to influence them to achieve the Principals goal state. This is usually expressed in cybersecurity and military simulations as Red vs. Blue. A look at Novikov's models for Game theoretic considerations is very illuminating in understanding issues in cybersecurity dealing with influencing of masses.

#### Game-Theoretic Models of Mob Control

Problem description: Consider a set of interconnected agents having mutual influence on their decision-making. Variations in the states of some agents at an initial step accordingly modify the state of other agents. The nature and character of such dynamics depend on the practical interpretation of a corresponding network. Among possible interpretations, we mention the propagation of excitation in biological networks (e.g., neural networks) or in economic networks [49, 54], failure modes (in the general case, structural dynamics models) in information and control systems and complex engineering systems, models of innovation diffusion [controlling scientific consensus], information security models, penetration/infection models, consensus models and others, see an overview in [48]. (Novikov, 2017, 72)

“the control problem of the purposeful ‘excitation’ of a network is to find a set of agents for applying an initial control action so that the network reaches a required state. This abstract statement covers informational control in social networks [8, 48], collective threshold behavior control, etc. (Novikov, 2017, 72)

“The goal function of a control subject (Principal is the difference between the income and the costs. For the Principal, the centralized control problem lies in choosing a set of initially excited agents to maximize the goal function...” (Novikov, 2017, 74)

“Using relationship (4) between the final opinion of the agents and the control actions, one can suggest a game-theoretic interaction model of the agents performing these actions. To this end, it is necessary to define their goal functions. Suppose that the goal functions of the first and second agents... are calculated as the difference between their ‘income’ that depends on the final opinion of the agents and the control costs. “ (Novikov, 2017, 112)

“the aggregate... composed of the goal functions and feasible action sets of the two agents specifies the family of games. The distinctions among these games are induced by the awareness structure of the players and the sequence of functioning .” (Novikov, 2017, 112)



mitments [59, 74] and the following *contracts* are concluded (the “non-

#### 9.4. Reflexive Game

Consider the goal functions that differ from the ones explored in the previous subsection in the cost functions of the players:  $c_F(u) = u^2 / (2 q_F)$ , and  $c_S(v) = v^2 / (2 q_S)$ , where  $q_F = 1$  and denote the “efficiency levels” of the players. By assumption, each player knows his efficiency level, the first player believes that the common knowledge is  $q_S = 1$ , while the second player knows this fact and the real efficiency of the first player. The described reflexive game [75] has the graph  $2 \leftarrow 1 \leftrightarrow 12$ .

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According to expression (11), the first player chooses  $u^* = \frac{r_F - 2r_F(r_S)^2}{4(r_F)^2 + 2(r_S)^2 + 1}$ . Consequently, the second agent selects his best response  $v^* = \frac{0.5r_S(1 + 2(r_F)^2)(1 + 2(r_S)^2)}{(1 + (r_S)^2)(4(r_F)^2 + 2(r_S)^2 + 1)}$ . These actions lead to the final opinion  $X = \frac{(r_F)^2 + (r_S)^4 + 0.5(r_S)^2}{(1 + (r_S)^2)(4(r_F)^2 + 2(r_S)^2 + 1)}$  of the ANS; in the general case, it does not coincide with the opinion  $X^1 = \frac{(r_F)^2 + (r_S)^2}{4(r_F)^2 + 2(r_S)^2 + 1}$  expected by the first player. This means that the resulting informational equilibrium is unstable [75]. For this reflexive game graph, the informational equilibrium enjoys stability only in two situations: (1) the belief of the first agent about the opponent’s efficiency level is true, or (2) the total reputation of the impact agents of the second player makes up zero (however, the reputation is assumed strictly positive).



### 9.5. Secure Strategies Equilibrium

Consider the game where  $H_F(X(u, v)) = \begin{cases} h_F > 0, X \geq \hat{X} \\ 0, X < \hat{X} \end{cases}$ ,

$$H_S(X(u, v)) = \begin{cases} h_S > 0, X < \hat{X} \\ 0, X \geq \hat{X} \end{cases}, \quad c_F(u) = u, \quad \text{and} \quad c_S(v) = v, \quad \text{with}$$

$U = V = [d, D]$ ,  $d < -1 \leq 1 < D$ ,  $h_F > D$ , and  $h_S > |d|$ . In a corresponding practical interpretation, the first player is interested in the adoption of a certain decision, which requires that the opinion of the ANS members exceeds the threshold  $\hat{X}$ ; in contrast, the second player seeks for blocking this decision.

Let  $r_F D + r_S d + X^0 > \hat{X}$  for definiteness. There exists no Nash equilibria in this game, but it is possible to evaluate a *secure strategies' equilibrium* (SSE) [50, 51, 52] in the form  $((\hat{X} - r_S d - X^0) / r_F + \varepsilon; 0)$  where  $\varepsilon$  is an arbitrary small strictly positive constant. A practical inter-

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In this section, we have analyzed a series of specific examples illustrating the applicability of game theory to the description of informational confrontation in ANSs, both in terms of the process and result. Despite its simplicity, the stated model shows the diversity of possible gametheoretic formulations (dominant strategies' equilibrium, Nash equilibrium, "contract equilibrium," Stackelberg hierarchical games and hierarchical games of the type  $\Gamma 1$ , reflexive games, secure strategies' equilibrium).

Generally speaking, any specific model of informational confrontation should be developed taking into account, first, the features of an associated practical problem and, second, the identifiability of a modeled system (i.e., ANS parameters, the admissible actions of the players, as well as their preferences and awareness). Note that the game-theoretic models of informational confrontation over ANSs have several applications, namely, information security in telecommunication networks, counteraction to the destructive informational impacts on the social groups of different scale, prevention of their massive illegal actions, and others.

As for the promising directions of further investigations, we mention the design and study of the game-theoretic models of informational confrontation in ANSs under the following conditions:

- the sequential choice of the players' actions under the observed dynamics of the ANS state (the "defense-attack" games with the description of opinion dynamics (the distribution of information an epidemic or viruses [memes] within an ANS));
- the repeated choice of the players' actions under incomplete information on the

actions of the opponents and the ANS state. (Novikov, 2017, 117-8)

It is important to note that there is no Nash Equilibrium in a SSE game, which is exemplified in a war platform such as Lockheed-Martin's evolutionary games model of Lockheed's Senglaub which also uses SSE.

The issue of superstructuring games, or hierarchical games, is addressed by Novikov as well:

#### 10.4 Hierarchical Game

"In mob control problems, the players (principals) often make decisions sequentially, Here the essential factors are the awareness of each player at the moment of decision-making and the admissible strategy sets of the players. A certain hierarchical game can be 'superstructured' over each normal-form game [74]. Moreover, it is necessary to discriminate between two settings as followed:

1. one of the Principals chooses his strategy and then the other does so, being aware of the opponent's choice. After that, an informational impact is exerted on the agents. As a result, the distribution functions of the agent's thresholds takes form...
2. One of the Principals chooses his strategy and exerts his informational impact on the agents. After that, the other Principal chooses his strategy and exerts his informational impact on the agents, being aware of the opponent's choice. (Novikov, 2017, 131)

#### 10.5 Reflexive Game

"it is also possible to 'superstruct' reflexive games [75] over a normal-form game where the players possess nontrivial mutual awareness about some essential parameters. (Novikov, 2017, 131)

Novikov's work on Mob Control mathematical modeling gives us valuable insights into influence campaigns conducted on a daily basis on such social networks as Facebook, Twitter, and others. The need for mass education on influence machines is one that should be addressed by regulators at all levels of civil oversight with appropriate international laws applied to such use of mob control and cyber influencing. It is not hard to imagine why a military power might want to be able to control mobs in enemy areas which necessarily raises issues of the Geneva Conventions and other bans on prohibited weapons, making their use a war crime, but of course proving such a case in law may be a complete impossibility which would leave competing military powers to develop their own offensive and defensive influence machines.

## I, Robot Reflexion:

Another contemporary scientist working in the field of Reflexive Control is that of Serge Tarashenko. A younger researcher, who has written articles for the Journal of Reflexive Control as well as his own independently published results of applying RC in Games, applying Emotions to Agents, and socializing mixed groups of Robots and Humans for the purposes of steering the Humans with the Robots.

Earlier we encountered Tarashenko's work in terms of Alliance/Conflict groups or otherwise known as Red vs. Blue. In this section we will be mainly going over his research regarding using Robots to train Humans using Reflexive Control. Tarashenko introduces the subject of Robots into Reflexive Game Theory in 2010.

Robots – the goal of the robots in the mixed groups of humans and robots is to refrain human subjects from choosing risky actions. [inverted can be used to create terrorists, etc]

In a nod to Asimov, Tarashenko argues that the Robots should always observe the 3 Laws of Robotics. Introducing a certain assumption of moral responsibility behind the Robots actions, of course we know in a military or weaponized context these safeguards would be contradictory to using Robot agents when the goal of the Robot is to use force to stop an adversary, and hence not included in any war application.

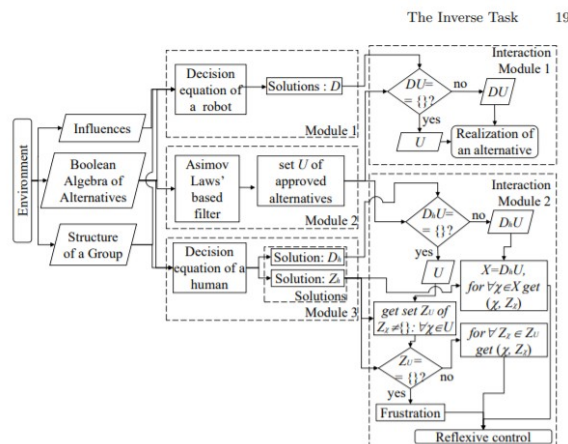


Fig. 5. The Basic Control Schema of a Robotic Agent (BCSRA).

(Tarashenko, 2010)

Tarashenko explains the flow diagram, where you take in a set of alternatives for the controlled

subject:

The output of the Module 1 is set D of alternatives, which robot has to choose under the given joint influences. In the Interaction Module 1, the conjunction of sets D and U is performed:  $D \cap U = DU$ . If set DU is not empty set, this means that there are approved alternatives among the alternatives that robot should choose in accordance with the joint influences. Therefore, robot can implement any alternative from the set DU. If set DU is empty, this means that under given joint influences robot cannot choose any approved alternative, therefore robot will choose an alternative from set U. This is how the Interaction Module 1 works.

The output of the Module 3 contains sets Dh and Zh. The goal of the robot is to refrain human subjects from choosing risky alternative. This can be done by convincing human subjects to choose alternatives from the set U. First, we check whether Dh contains any approved alternative. We do so by performing conjunction of sets Dh and U:  $Dh \cap U = DhU$ . If set DhU is not empty, then it means that it is possible to make a human subject to choose some non-risky alternative. Therefore, we should choose the corresponding reflexive control strategy from the set Zh. However, if set DhU is empty, we have to find the reflexive control strategy that will make human subject to select approved alternative from set U. For this purpose, we construct set ZU by including all the joint influences  $Z\chi$  for approved alternatives:  $Z\chi \in ZU \Leftrightarrow \chi \in U$ . Next we check whether set ZU is empty. If set ZU is empty this means it is impossible to convince a human subject to choose non-risky alternative. Therefore, the only option of reflexive control in this case is to put this subject into frustration state. However, if set ZU is not empty, this means that there exist at least one reflexive control strategy that results in selection of alternative from the set of the approved (non-risky) ones (Tarashenko, 2010)

In computing and robotics one method suggested to increase the robot or artificial agents ability to work in an environment is to add emotions. Tarashenko has proposed the use of the Pleasure-Arousal-Dominance (PAD) model to robotics. PAD is traced back to Mehrabian and Russell 1974 to assess environmental perception, experience and psychological responses. The three dimensions can be linked to the current ABC Model of Attitudes: pleasure, arousal and dominance can be respectively related to affective, cognitive and conative responses, ie. Affect (feeling), Cognition (thinking) and Behavior (acting) (ABC). (Mehrabian & Russell, 2014). Previous to this Kelly in 1955 came up with the Theory of Bipolar Constructs of Good (+) / Bad (-). The propensity of turning toward good and bad is estimated by V. Lefebvre that the positive pole is chosen by 61.8% of subjects and the negative pole by 38.2%. Later in 1957 Osgood proposed the semantic differential approach which characterizes a subjects personality as Evaluation, Activity, Potency. Which Mehrabian & Russell proposed the PAD on. In Neuromarketing, the business implementation of neurowarfare, uses the PAD model in Self-Assessment Manikin (SAM) Tests, emotional responses of consumers can be recorded through the SAM scale. This is a non-verbal pictorial assessment technique applicable for direct measurement of PAD associated with a persons affective reaction to a wide variety of stimuli.

In this study of Tarashenko he uses the PAD model along with Reflexive Game Theory (RGT) to emotionally color the interactions between humans and robots. The emotional research based on PAD model is transparent and clear. The models of robots exhibiting human like emotional behavior using only PAD has been successfully illustrated in recent book by Nishida et al. . Nishida, T., Jain, C. L., and Faucher, C.: Modelling Machine Emotions for Realizing Intelligence. Foundations and Application. Springer-Verlag Berlin Heidelberg (2010). The ideal of mixing emotions with AI agents, Affective Computing (see Nishida), can be traced back to

earlier work in the Soviet Union with Russian Pospolev's Psychonics theory of computation in the 1960s. The basics of PAD begin with a 3 axis layout, one axis for P, A, D.

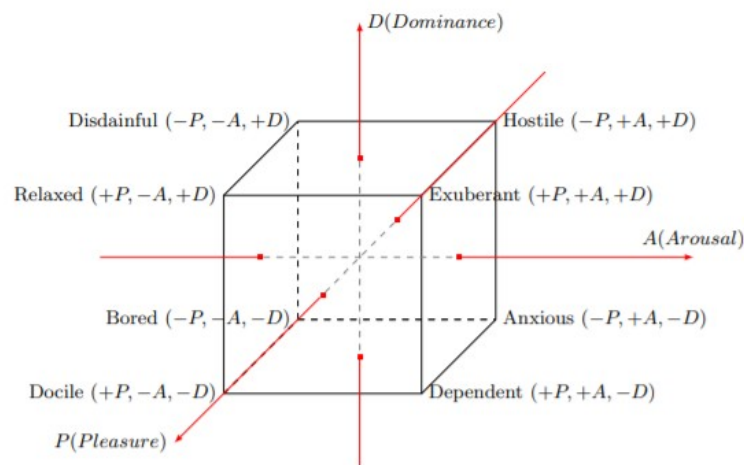
By definition, PAD model is spanned by three dimensions. The value of each component continuously ranges from -1 to 1. The notation in the PAD model space presented in Fig. 1 are as follows:

1) pair +P vs -P corresponds to Pleasure (positive pole: value 1) vs Displeasure (negative pole: value -1);

2) pair +A vs -A corresponds to Arousal (positive pole: value 1) vs Non-arousal (negative pole: value -1); and

3) pair +D vs -D corresponds to Dominance (positive pole: value 1) vs Submissiveness (negative pole: value -1).

According to Mehrabian, "pleasure vs displeasure" distinguishes the positive vs negative emotional states, "arousal vs non-arousal" refers to combination of physical activity and mental alertness, and "dominance vs submissiveness" is denied in terms of control vs lack of control. (Tarashenko, 2010b)



**Fig. 1.** The Pleasure-Arousal-Dominance (PAD) model's space.

Among eight basic states (hermetry 8), there are three special emotional states:

Docile (+P, -A, -D)  $\equiv \{1, 0, 0\}$ ,

Anxious (-P, +A, -D)  $\equiv \{0, 1, 0\}$  and

Disdainful (-P, -A, +D)  $\equiv \{0, 0, 1\}$ .

These three states are the basis of the 3d binary space. Thus, any other five emotional states can be considered as disjunction (notations OR/ $\cup$ /+) of these three basis vectors (emotional states). For example, emotional state Dependent (+P, +A, -D) is disjunction of basis states

Docile (+P, -A, -D) and Anxious (-P, +A, -D): Docile OR Anxious = (+P, -A, -D)  $\cup$  (-P, +A, -D) = {1, 0, 0}  $\cup$  {0, 1, 0} = {1, 1, 0} = (+P, +A, -D) = Dependent. (Tarashenko, 2010b, 3-4)

The complete set of emotional states represented as binary vectors is

Docile (+P, -A, -D) is coded as {1, 0, 0};  
Anxious (-P, +A, -D) is coded as {0, 1, 0};  
Disdainful (-P, -A, +D) is coded as {0, 0, 1};  
Hostile (-P, +A, +D) is coded as {0, 1, 1};  
Dependent (+P, +A, -D) is coded as {1, 1, 0};  
Relaxed (+P, -A, +D) is coded as {1, 0, 1};  
Exuberant (+P, +A, +D) is coded as {1, 1, 1};  
Bored (-P, -A, -D) is coded as {0, 0, 0}.

Tarashenko proposes through this model to alter emotions of the human subjects:

we note that PAD model provides description of how the emotional states of humans can be modeled, meaning that a certain emotional state of a particular person can be changed to the desired one. Furthermore, it is straightforward to see that the coding of the PAD emotional states and alternatives of Boolean algebra are identical. (Tarashenko, 2010b, 7)

often people directly express their emotions in actions in such cases a particular emotional state of a subject can be considered as the influence he is making on other subjects. (Tarashenko, 2010b,7)

Using the PAD one can alter the emotions of a group:

Alliance:

Example 1. Subjects a and b are in alliance relationship. Subject a makes influence Dependent {1, 1, 0}. Subject b makes influence Relaxed {1, 0, 1}. Their resultant influence will be  $(a \cdot b) = \{1, 1, 0\}\{1, 0, 1\} = \{1, 0, 0\}$  or Docile. Consequently, the influence of the group, including subjects in alliance with each other, on a given subject is considered as conjunction (defining compromise of all the subjects in alliance) of the influences of all the subjects' influences.

Conflict:

Example 2. Subjects a and b are in conflict relationship. Subject a makes influence Docile {1, 0, 0}. Subject b makes influence Disdainful {0, 0, 1}. Their resultant influence will be  $(a + b) = \{1, 0, 0\}\{0, 0, 1\} = \{1, 0, 1\}$  or Relaxed. Therefore, the influence of the group, including subjects in conflict with each other, on a given subject is considered as disjunction (defining overall influence since compromise is impossible) of the influences of all the subjects' influences

RC is an attack on the mind of a subject, usually cognitively, through using words to alter perception. However, with PAD-RGT one can have Reflexive Emotional Control: emotional states can appear to be the subject for the reflexive control, emotions being large impactors on motivation and what actions are chosen by a given controlled subject.

“...we have not only illustrated how to apply RGT to the control of subject’s emotions, but uncovered the entire cascade of human reflexion as a sequence of subconscious reflexion, which allows to trace emotional reflection of each reflexive image. This provides us with unique ability to unfold the sophisticated structure of reflexive decision making process, involving emotions.” (Tarashenko, 2010b,10).

It is known that the Amygdala is the manager of emotions, it is also the seat of Fast Reflexion as brought forward by Lefebvre, which is unconscious automatic processing. “According to Ekman, emotions should be regarded as highly automatics processing algorithms responsible for our everyday life survival. Being entire unconscious (automatic) regulators of the human body’s physiology, emotions bring the instantenous solutions of how to act in front of rapidly approaching possible threat. This instantenous activity is possible due to unconscious processing algorithms, which have been characterized by Lewicki et al. as highly non-linear by nature and extremely fast by performance” (Tarashenko, 2010b, 11)

Therefore, emotions are fast processors of the information coming apart from environment. Usually, the emotions are characterized by some physiological patterns of body activity on the one hand, and external expression by face mimic or gestures on the other hand. From this point of view, the fact that the reproduction by the self of physical part of emotional pattern, i.e., just making an angry face can elicit the anger as emotional state itself, is completely scientifically unexpected phenomenon. (Tarashenko, 2010b, 11). It is important to understand here that what is being said that just see a sad face can make one sad, or seeing an intimidating face puts one in a fear defense response. In this sense one can attempt Emotional RC on another just by frowning at them and change their emotional state, as well one could also control their muscles to put them into a frown, and the corollary sad emotion will be triggered as well. This kinesthetic trigger is able apply to affect a wide variety of motor actions, causing some emotional states to emerge “therefore, it is possible to control human emotions not directly, but making people perform particular actions.” (Tarashenko, 2010b, 11)

One can alter another’s image by simply mimick the emotions you want them to experience in your outward expression, which becomes important when modeling the self and others in the steps of RC:

“From this point of view, the self-mimicking is reflexive process. Thus, it is possible to elicit and understand the emotions of others by reflexion. Ekman et al. suggested that this is possible due to “... direct connections between motor cortex and hypothalamus that translates between emotion-prototypic expression in the face and the emotion-specific patterning in the autonomic nervous system”. (Tarashenko, 2010b, 11)

From the PAD model applied to AI Agents we now have a rough approximation, as statistics can only best provide at the most, of human emotions in AI algorithms, and developed for the purpose of more efficient Reflexive Control.

## **Robots in Networks of Humans**

Now having understood how robots can at least now mimic human emotions it is good to understand how they are to fit into the Red. vs. Blue architecture of Reflexive Game Theory. Tarashenko in 2015 wrote a paper addressing the issue of Network Acitivity of Robots including the communications protocols he envisioned for group collaboration in Alliance and Conflict teams of mixed groups of Robots and Humans.

First we need to have a better understanding of the term 'reflexia' and how it specifically is used:

The notion of reflexia in the psychological context was first introduced by Lefebvre in late 60s. Reflexia means projection of the external world on one's mental state. More specifically, if a human being stands in the field of barley he/she can imagine ones self standing in the field of barley from the 3rd person's perspective. Thus, preserving the egocentric point of view humans are capable of imagining their own allocentric representation. 1 Therefore, the gist of reflexia is an ability to imagine self perception in the allocentric reference frame (external 2 point of view) being operating in the one's egocentric reference frame. Reflexia is an ability to penetrate into the deeper layers of one's psychological state. An abstract example of penetration into the deeper layers is when subject a can imagine another person (subject b), who is imagining subject a, the world around and himself imagining it

There are two theoretical explanations for Reflexia brought up by Tarashenko aside from those originally proposed by Lefebvre:

A. "Mirror neuron system: The key concept of the Mirror Neuron System discovered by Rizzolatti and his colleagues, is that there are neurons in primate brain that activate in both cases when primate is doing a particular action itself or observe someone else doing the same action. Therefore mirror neuron system translates external state of another agent into the internal state of the current agent. Therefore primates can repeat the observed action. This functionality is very close to the notion of reflexia."  
(Tarashenko, 2015, 1)

B. Perception of Emotions – proposed based on facial recognition and emotional responses of face

The question that the paper addresses mainly is that of how to synch groups of agents, given their Alliance/Conflict value, so that they can coordinate actions in influencing humans to choose the positive pole of the Principal. Tarashenko employs Frequency Domain Multiplexing, that is each robot communications with each other via specific frequency based on alliance/conflict groups, which is also reminiscent of Kernbach's mapping of entangled objects, each has a unique frequency. In Tarashenko's proposal each robot has a uniqueID and frequency. Spiking is a part of such a communications network, you might imagine a spike wave crossing over a group, inhibitory/excitatory (active/passive) pulses are sent through the network, each series of pulses starts 1ms after the system onset. Pulsations are based on Resonate and Fire linear neural model proposed by Izhikevich.

Tarashenko explains how this works:

We present the sample dynamics of two resonate-and-fire neurons, described by system, with different eigenfrequencies  $\omega_1 = \pi/3$  and  $\omega_2 = \pi/4$  in Fig. 4. It is illustrated that neurons with eigen-frequency  $\omega_1$  spikes for the series of pulses with the same frequency and does not respond to the series of pulses with frequency  $\omega_2$ . The same is true for the second neurons regarding shift in roles of frequencies  $\omega_1$  and  $\omega_2$ . Thus, we have described the mechanism of frequency selectivity. This can be used to enable multiple neurons to talk to each other via the same medium by means of Frequency Domain Multiplexing. However, the linear model has other important properties. The inhibitory pulses can also make resonate-and-fire neurons to spike, if the



inhibitory pulses are applied with the eigenfrequency of the neuron. However, it is not the final feature of this model. It is possible to make the neuron fire with series of pulses of different magnitudes. For example, let the magnitudes of the first, second and third pulses are 0.1, 0.4 and 0.6, respectively. The same result will occur for the inhibitory pulses (Fig. 7). Since the neurons are selective to a certain frequency, it is possible to transfer signals of several frequencies through the same communication channel. (Tarashenko, 2015, 4)

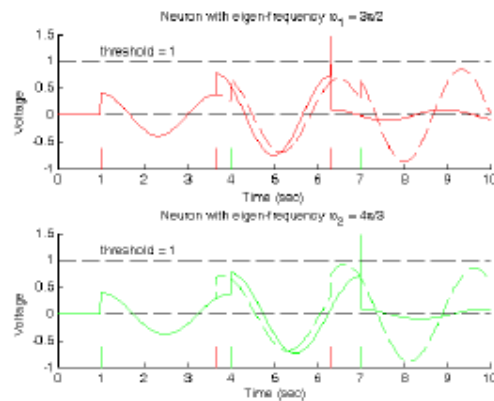


Fig. 4. The Resonate-and-Fire neurons. *Top*: solid line illustrates resonance with the input frequency  $\omega_1 = 3\pi/2$ , dashed line shows only subthreshold oscillations meaning that neuron does not respond to the frequency  $\omega_2 = 4\pi/3$ . *Bottom*: solid line illustrates resonance with the input frequency  $\omega_2 = 4\pi/3$ , dashed line shows only subthreshold oscillations meaning that neuron does not respond to the frequency  $\omega_1 = 3\pi/2$ . The green and red vertical lines indicate the equal input pulses of magnitude 0.4. Green and red pulses are provided with frequencies  $\omega_1 = 3\pi/2$  and  $\omega_2 = 4\pi/3$ , respectively. Each series of pulses starts 1 ms after the system onset. Threshold is set to 1. Parameter  $b$  is -0.1.

Information Coding- each autonomous unit has several resonators tuned to particular frequency.

- each unit corresponds to a resonators
- resonators = units (each unit has unique frequency)
- units send pulses with alliance or conflict values, if the series pulses contains the excitatory impulses, the sender/receiver = alliance, else in conflict message = {0.4, 0.4, 0.4} if an sender self frequency (resonator unique freq)

to send message to other agent:

1. sender transmits ID-code

- neuron spikes units b,c of which a is net or get member, and b,c understand a wants to transmit msg.
- after short delay 0.5sec after spike unit a sends a code to other frequency.

Options Polarity (see Lefebvre Algebra. Of Conscience.)

alliance = + polarity {0.4, 0.4, 0.4}

conflict = - polarity {-0.4, -0.4, -0.4}

TABLE III  
TRANSMITTED RELATIONSHIP CODES

	a	b	c
a	-	0	0
b	0	-	1
c	1	1	-

TABLE IV  
INFLUENCE MATRIX

	a	b	c
a	a	$\{\alpha\}$	$\{\}$
b	$\{\alpha\}$	b	$\{\beta\}$
c	$\{\beta\}$	$\{\}$	c

units  $b$  and  $c$  (Fig. 9). Unit  $b$  will send conflict code to unit  $a$  and alliance code to unit  $c$  (Fig. 10). Unit  $c$  will send alliance

The canonical form of decision equation for unit  $a$  is  $a = a + bc\bar{a}$  and the corresponding solution interval is  $1 \supseteq a \supseteq bc$ .

alliance relationship results if both units consense on relationship codes:

Influences: the second part of the algorithm then calculates influence matrix of each node in groups, in reflexive control, the influences are applied to a subject or target to inverse or feed forward way (backward and forward propagation).

The only difference is that instead of the alliance or conflict unit transmission some code associated with a particular alternative.

- units can make mutual influences in order to achieve a particular goal in a cooperative behavior task.

- once each unit receives information about the structure of the group and the mutual influences, each autonomous unit can apply algorithms of RGT inference. Thus, each unit can make both it's own choice and also predict the possible choices of other members of the group.

Serge Tarashenko also goes into Decision Making with his analysis and modeling of RGT in Multistage Decision Processes.

The Reflexive Game Theory (RGT) [1, 2] allows to predict choices of subjects in the group. To do so, the information about a group structure and mutual influences between subjects is needed. Formulation and development of RGT was possible due to fundamental psychological research in the field of reflexion, which had been conducted by Vladimir Lefebvre [3].

The group structure means the set of pair-wise relationships between subjects in the group. These relationships can be either of alliance or conflict type. The mutual influences are formulated in terms of elements of Boolean algebra, which is built upon the set of universal actions. The elements of Boolean algebra represent all possible choices. The mutual influences are presented in the form of Influence matrix. (Tarashenko, 2012)

#### RGT Inference Steps (Single Session)

1. formalize choices in terms of elements of Boolean Algebra of alternatives
2. presentation of a group in the form of a fully connected graph of alliance and conflict

3. if graph is decomposable: then it is polynomial: alliance is a conjunction operation; conflict is disjunctive operation
4. Diagonal Form transformation
5. Run the decision equations
6. input influence values into the decision equations for each subjects

each process of making a decision in a group is a 'session' (Tarashenko, 2012)

This study is dedicated to the matter of setting mutual influences in a group by means of reflexive control [4]. The influences, which subjects make on each other, could be considered as a result of a decision making session previous to ultimate decision making (final session). We will call the influences, obtained as a result of a previous session(s), a set-up influences. The set-up influences are intermediate result of the overall decision making process. The term set-up influences is related to the influences, which are used during the final session, only. (Tarashenko, 2012)



**Fig. 1.** The general schema of the two-stage decision making.

“...using the 2 stage decision making it is possible to make one’s opponents choose one’s point of view.” (Tarashenko, 2012, 5). How does one get this done, in this study Tarashenko offers up the exclusion or changing the structure of a group by node removal from the connected graph of a opposing viewpoint to the Principal seeking to push through their agenda in a decision making group. In decision making there are consecutive decisions, decisions regarding a single parameter, a secondary process is ‘parallel decision’ with distinct parameters.

### **A Game of Violence, Exclusion and Degradation**

When you play dodge ball and you are dodging, ducking, diving and dodging, you are play a game that seeks to knock you out of the arena. Well RC is no different. In the following section I review Tarashenko’s two examples of changing structure to your benefit, first excluding a member from a decision from Tarashenko 2012 and second, Reflexive Emotional Control to alter the opinions of a member of a group from Tarashenko 2010.

Excluding a Member from a Decision:

A Model of a multi-stage decision making: set-up parameters of the final session

Now we consider the two-stage model in more details. In the considered example, during the preliminary session only the decision regarding the influences has been under consideration. In general case, however, before the final session has begun, there can

be made decisions regarding any parameters of the final session. Such parameters include but are not limit to:

- 1) group structure (number of subjects and relationships between subjects in a group);
  - 2) points of view;
  - 3) decision to start a final session (a time when the final session should start),
- etc.

We call the decision regarding a single parameter to be consecutive decision, and decisions regarding distinct parameters to be parallel decisions. Therefore, during the first stage (before the final session) it is possible to make multiple decisions regarding various parameters of the final session. This decisions could be both parallel and consecutive ones. We call such model of decision making to be a multi-stage process of decision making (Fig.3).

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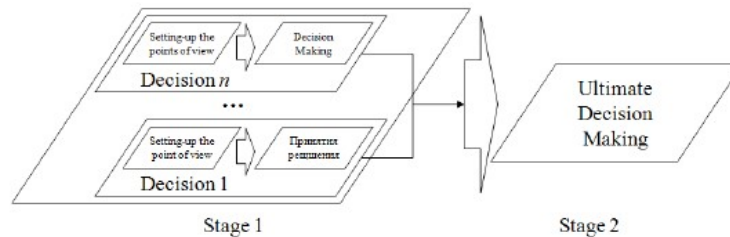


Fig. 3. Multi-stage decision making model.

#### 4 Modeling multi-stage decision making processes with RGT

Next we consider realization of multi-stage decision making with RGT. Example 2:

Change a group structure. Considering the subject from Example 1, we analyze the case when director wants to exclude the 3rd advisor from the group, which will make the final decision. In such a case, there is a single action 1 to exclude subject d from the group. Then Boolean algebra of alternatives includes only two elements: 1 and 0. Furthermore, it is enough that director just raise a question to exclude subject d from a group and make influence 1 on each subject: if  $a = 1$ , then  $a = 1$ ,  $b = 1$  and  $d = 1$  (Table 2). Thus the decision to exclude subject d from the group would be made automatically (Fig.4).

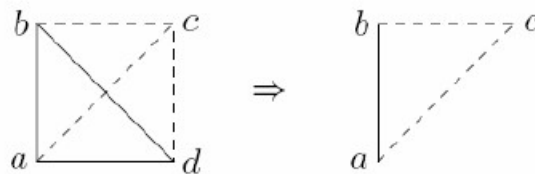


Fig. 4. Exclusion of a subject d from a group.

Example 3: Realization of a multi-stage decision making. Let the first decision discussed during the rst stage is a decision regarding influences (points of view). The next decision was about exclusion of a subject d from the group. Thus, during the first step the

formation (setting-up) of points of view has been implemented, then the structure of a group was changed. Therefore the group, which should make a nal decision is described by polynomial  $ab+c$ . The decision equations and their solutions are presented in Table 4. The overall multi-stage decision making process is presented in Fig.5.

We consider that the point of view cannot change without preliminary session regarding the parameter. Therefore we assume that the points of view do not change after the change of group structure.

Table 4. Decision intervals for Example 3

Subject	Decision Equations	Decision Intervals
a	$a = (b + c)a + c\bar{a}$	$(b + c) \supseteq a \supseteq c$
b	$b = (a + c)b + c\bar{b}$	$(a + c) \supseteq b \supseteq c$
c	$c = c + ab\bar{c}$	$1 \supseteq c \supseteq ab$

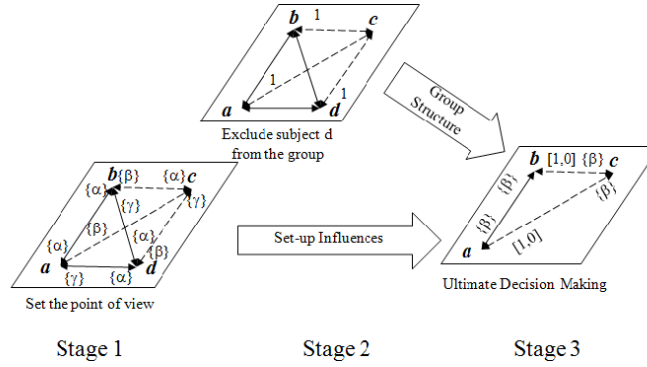


Fig. 5. Illustration of multi-stage decision making process. The influences are indicated by the arrow-ends of the ribs. The actual influence is presented near the arrow-end.

Therefore, during the final session the subjects would make the set-up influences derived from the preliminary session: subjects  $a$  and  $b$  will make influences  $\{\beta\}$  and subject  $c$  will have a choice from the interval  $1 \supseteq c \supseteq \{\beta\}$ .

Such process is introduced in Fig. 5. During the 1st stage (first step), the points of view of subjects have been formed. On the 2nd stage (second step), the decision to exclude subject  $d$  from a group has been made. Finally, during the 3rd stage the final decision regarding the marketing strategy has been made.

## Second, Reflexive Emotional Control:

### 3 Emotionally Colored Reflexive Games: Sample Situation

Consider a group of four subjects - the director  $d$  and his advisors  $a$ ,  $b$  and  $c$ . Let advisors  $a$ ,  $b$  and  $c$  are in alliance with each other and in conflict with director  $d$ . The graph of such group is presented in Fig. 4. This groups is described by polynomial  $abc + d$ .

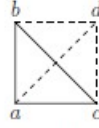


Fig. 4. Relationship graph of four subjects  $a$ ,  $b$ ,  $c$  and  $d$ .

The canonical form of decision equation for each subject are:

$$a = (bc + d)a + d\bar{a} \quad (8)$$

$$b = (ac + d)b + d\bar{b} \quad (9)$$

$$c = (ab + d)c + d\bar{c} \quad (10)$$

$$d = d + abc\bar{d} \quad (11)$$

The corresponding solution intervals are

$$(bc + d) \supseteq a \supseteq d \quad (12)$$

$$(ac + d) \supseteq b \supseteq d \quad (13)$$

$$(ab + d) \supseteq c \supseteq d \quad (14)$$

It is assumed that each subject is in a particular unique emotional state. Let director will be in Exuberant emotional state. The advisors  $a$ ,  $b$  and  $c$  are in *Relaxed* ( $\{1, 0, 1\}$ ), *Docile* ( $\{1, 0, 0\}$ ) and *Anxious* ( $\{0, 1, 0\}$ ) emotional states, respectively. This variety in emotional states refrains director and his advisors from reaching a fruitful decision. Understanding this emotional situation, director decides to apply reflexive control on emotional level. Let advisors' influence on all the other subjects coincides with their emotional state, while directly is in complete control and can decide, which emotional influence to on each particular subject.

Using RGT, we can predict the emotional states of each subject in the group after the *reflexive emotional interaction*:

for subject  $a$ :  $(\{1, 0, 0\}\{0, 1, 0\} + d) \supseteq a \supseteq d \Rightarrow a = d$ ;

for subject  $b$ :  $(\{1, 0, 1\}\{0, 1, 0\} + d) \supseteq b \supseteq d \Rightarrow a = d$ ;

for subject  $c$ :  $(\{1, 0, 1\}\{1, 0, 0\} + d) \supseteq c \Rightarrow \{1, 0, 0\} + d \supseteq c \supseteq d$ ;

for subject  $d$ :  $1 \supseteq d \supseteq \{1, 0, 1\}\{1, 0, 0\}\{0, 1, 0\} \Rightarrow 1 \supseteq d \supseteq 0 \Rightarrow d = d$ .

Therefore, under conditions of such group structure and influences, decision of advisors  $a$  and  $b$  is completely defined by the director's influence.

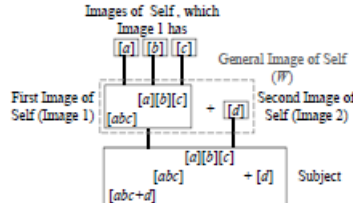


Fig. 5. Interpretation of the Diagonal form levels.

The entire diagonal form  $(P + \bar{W})$  represents the state of the subject. In Fig. 6, the diagonal form is marked as Subject. The term  $\bar{W}$  is called a general image of the self. On the next level, there are two images of Image 1 ( $[abc][a][b][c]$ ) and Images 2 ( $[d]$ ). The Images 1 and 2 are images of the self, which general image of the self  $\bar{W}$  has. Finally, there are the images  $[a]$ ,  $[b]$  and  $[c]$  are the images of the self, which Image 1 has.

Following this interpretation of the diagonal form [16, 17], we can calculate each emotional state in each image. We analyze the structure of reflexion for advisor  $c$ . His state is  $(\{1, 0, 0\} + d)$  or  $(Docile(+P, -A, -D)$  plus director's influence). The emotional state in the Image 1 is *Exuberant* ( $1 = \{1, 1, 1\}$ ), because  $[abc][abc] = [abc] + [abc] = 1$ . The Image 2 is  $[d]$  that means it is entirely defined by director's influence. Finally, the general images of the self  $\bar{W}$  is *Exuberant* ( $1 = \{1, 1, 1\}$ ).

In this simple example, we have illustrated how the emotional states can appear to be the subject for the reflexive control. We call such reflexive control to be *reflexive emotional control*. We have shown how the reflexive emotional control can be successfully implemented by means of the Reflexive Game Theory.

Besides, the RGT allows to unfold the entire sequence of reflexion in the human mind including its emotional aspects.

In the preceding we have traced out the history of cybernetics and its relationship to psychotronics or neuroweapons. We have also seen how cybernetics is combined with Reflexive Control and even the addition of robots into the RC cycle. The main point is that scientists have worked out how to control not just individuals but entire groups within society. In the hands of a benevolent agent there is good to be found in such influence, say a weather disaster and you need to influence people to safety, on the other hand we can see how in the wrong hands such mathematical precision combined with AI could lead to societies spinning out of control in a neurowar based in the information space, leading to alteration of the brain's neurons themselves.

### Notes:

[1] <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/100000-for-research-into-automation-and-machine-intelligence> (accessed 11/26/18)

[2] [https://www.theregister.co.uk/2013/12/31/nsa\\_weapons\\_catalogue\\_promises\\_pwnage\\_at\\_the\\_speed\\_of\\_light](https://www.theregister.co.uk/2013/12/31/nsa_weapons_catalogue_promises_pwnage_at_the_speed_of_light) (accessed 6/11/19)

[3] Rumsfeld shuts down Pentagon Influence Ops and Countermeasures, <https://m.govexec.com/defense/2002/02/pentagon-shuts-down-controversial-information-office/11149/> (accessed 3/13/19)

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