



Supreme
Allied
Commander
Transformation



# Multidimensional Risk Management at NASA and Its Potential Use at NATO Allied Command Transformation

**Operations Research and Analysis Conference 2021** 

Amie Johnson

Headquarters Supreme Allied Command Transformation 7857 Blandy Road, Suite 100, Norfolk, VIRGINIA, 23551-2490 UNITED STATES

ACT – Leading NATO Military Transformation



## OUTLINE



- 1 Who is NATO ACT?
  - 2 Risk Management at ACT
  - 3 Risk Management at NASA
- 4 Quick Review





# Who is Allied Command Transformation?

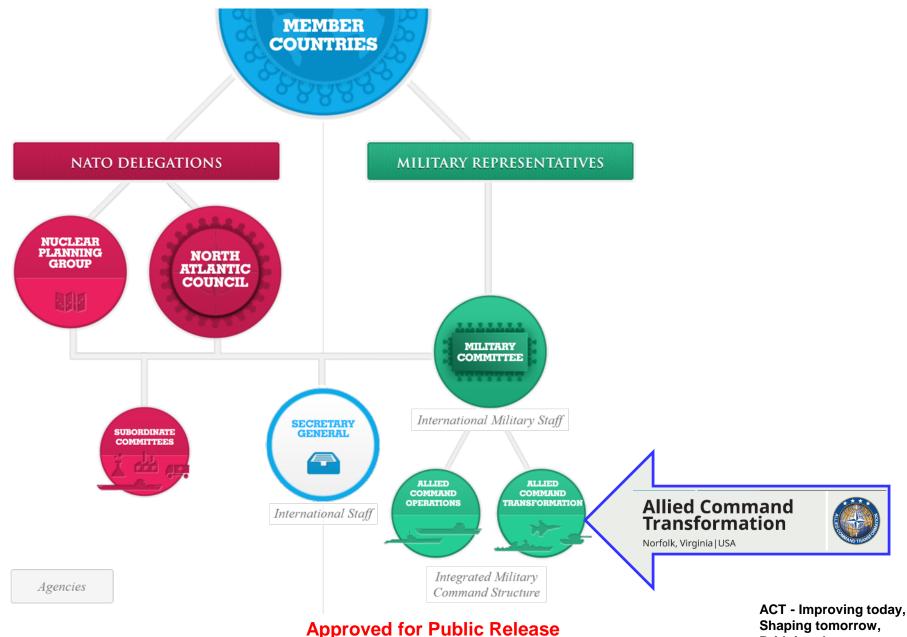




## **ACT in NATO**



Bridging the two





5

## **Warfare Development for NATO**

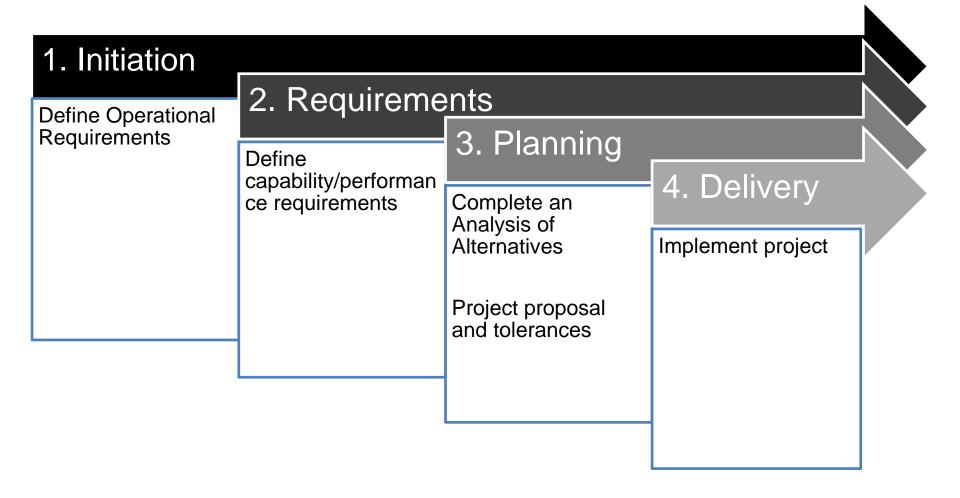






# Capability Development Process







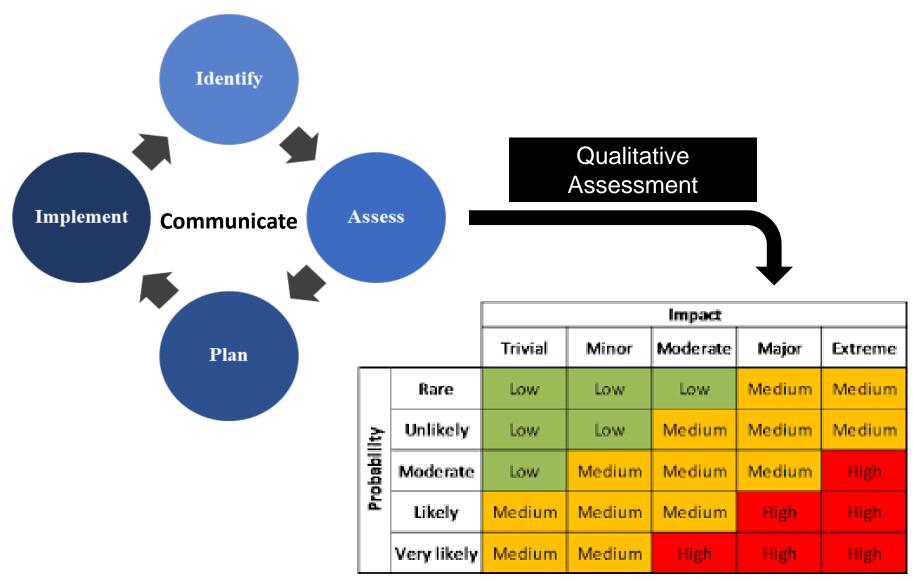


# Risk Management at ACT



## **Risk Management Process**







# Risk Register



Risk ID	Risk Title	Proximity	Probability	Impact	Risk Score
R_01	AAA	Medium-term	3	3	9
R_02	BBB	Short-term	3	3	9
R_03	CCC	Short-term	3	4	12
R_04	DDD	Short-term	3	4	12
R_05	EEE	Short-term	3	4	12
R_06	FFF	Short-term	3	5	15

#### **ISSUES:**

- Multiple risks with the same risk score
- Proximity is difficult to factor into prioritization



### Roles



#### **Project Co-ordinator**

- Owns individual project level risks
- Timely risk identification, management and reporting;

#### Risk Owner

- Management and control of all aspects
- of individual risks
- Similar to Project Co-ordinator

#### Risk Actionee

- Carry out the risk response action
- Usually same person as risk owner

#### Risk Specialist

Trained in Risk Management practice

Frequently, the above roles fall on the Project Co-Ordinator





# Risk Management at NASA





# **Quantitative vs Qualitative**



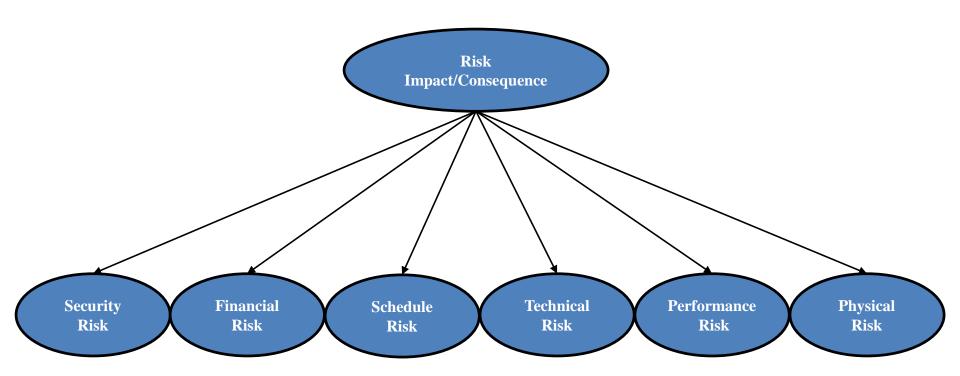
## **Risk Assessment**

<b>Quantitative Approaches</b>	Qualitative Approaches		
Results are based on objective measures	Results are based on subjective measures.		
Cost and benefit issues are important	Monetary value of assets is not important.		
Requires large amount of historical	Limited effort is required to develop		
information like threat frequency,	monetary value, threat frequency		
likelihood, etc.			
More complex process, mathematical tools	Relatively straight forward, mathematical		
are required	tools are not needed		
Mostly performed by technical and security	Can be performed by non-technical and		
staff	non-security staff		



## **Multidimensional Risk**

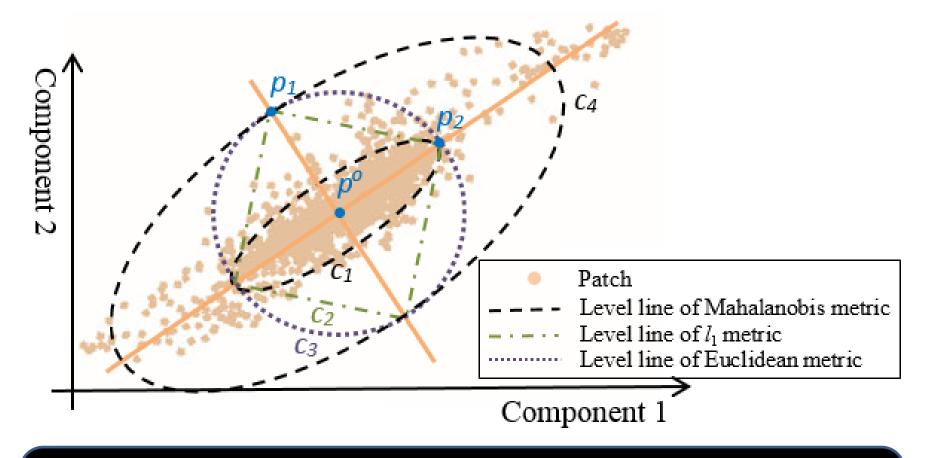






## Mahalanobis vs Euclidean





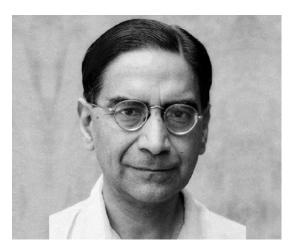
Euclidean: Measure of the distance between 2 points (p1 to p2)

**Mahalanobis:** Measure of the distance between a point P and a distribution D (p1 or p2 to p0)



## **Mahalanobis**





- Indian scientist/statistician
- Developed Mahalanobis distance in 1936

#### **Advantages:**

Accounting for correlation between variables

Using normalized Euclidean distance when correlation doesn't exist or when vectors occupy the same plane

Can be scaled to infinite dimensions, meaning the technique will never lose validity as the number of dimensions grow





## **Questions?**

**Contact info:** 

**Amie Johnson** 

amie.johnson@act.nato.int