

AUTONOMOUS LAUNCHERS WITH NEXT GENERATION GNC

14th ESA Workshop on Avionics, Data, Control and Software
Systems ~ ADCSS2020

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NEXT GENERATION LAUNCHERS



Ariane 6

Versatility

Reusability

Launch on demand

Smart Upper Stage

Space Logistics

Autonomous GNC



CALLISTO

Single
launch

Main
and
auxiliary
payloads



Dual
launch

Config.
2
payloads



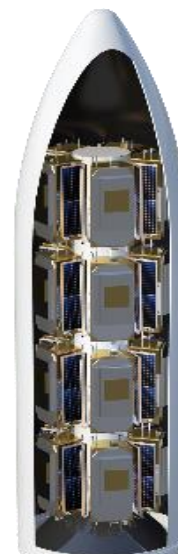
Heavy
LEO
missions



Large
science
satellites



LEO
constellations



LEO
Mega
constellations



Single
launch

Dual
launch

Heavy
LEO
mission

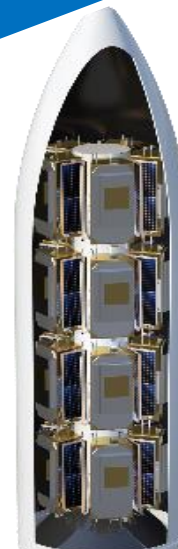
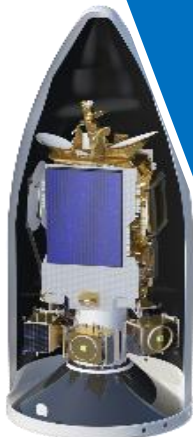
LEO
constellations

LEO
Mega
constellations

Main
and
auxiliary
payloads

Config

**NEW PARADIGM
SPACECRAFT NO MORE EFFORT FOR
BEING QUALIFIED FOR ALL LAUNCHERS**



GNC CHALLENGES - 1ST STAGE RETURN & LANDING

- Dissipate **energy**
- Minimize **consumption**
- Control **dispersions**
- Achieve **precision** landing
with **low velocity**
and **low maneuverability**



WHAT IS AUTONOMY ?

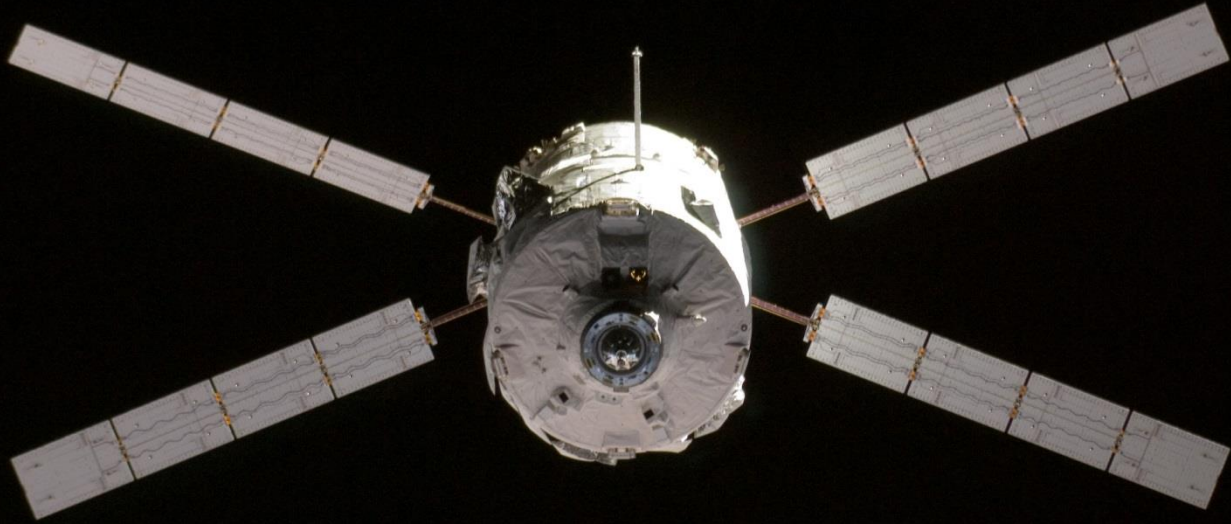
freedom, liberty, sovereignty,
self-government, independence,
self-rule, self-determination,
self-sufficiency, home rule



AUTOMATED



AUTONOMOUS



BEYOND ATV

GNC AUTONOMY IN SPACE

Ability to succeed given complexity
Combination of knowledge based and learning capacities

LESS

Mission preparation

Ground support

Constraining robustness

MORE

Perceive/Decide/Plan

Learn

FDIR

WHY NOW ?

NEEDS

MEANS

CONTEXT

MEANS

HARDWARE

SENSORS

ENGINES
SMART Upper Stage
&
PROMETHEUS

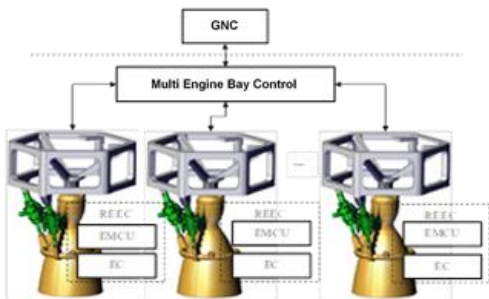
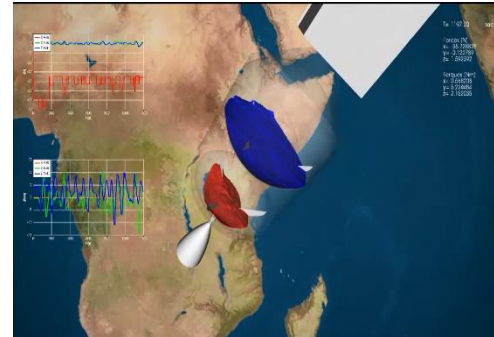
LAUNCHER
AUTONOMOUS GNC

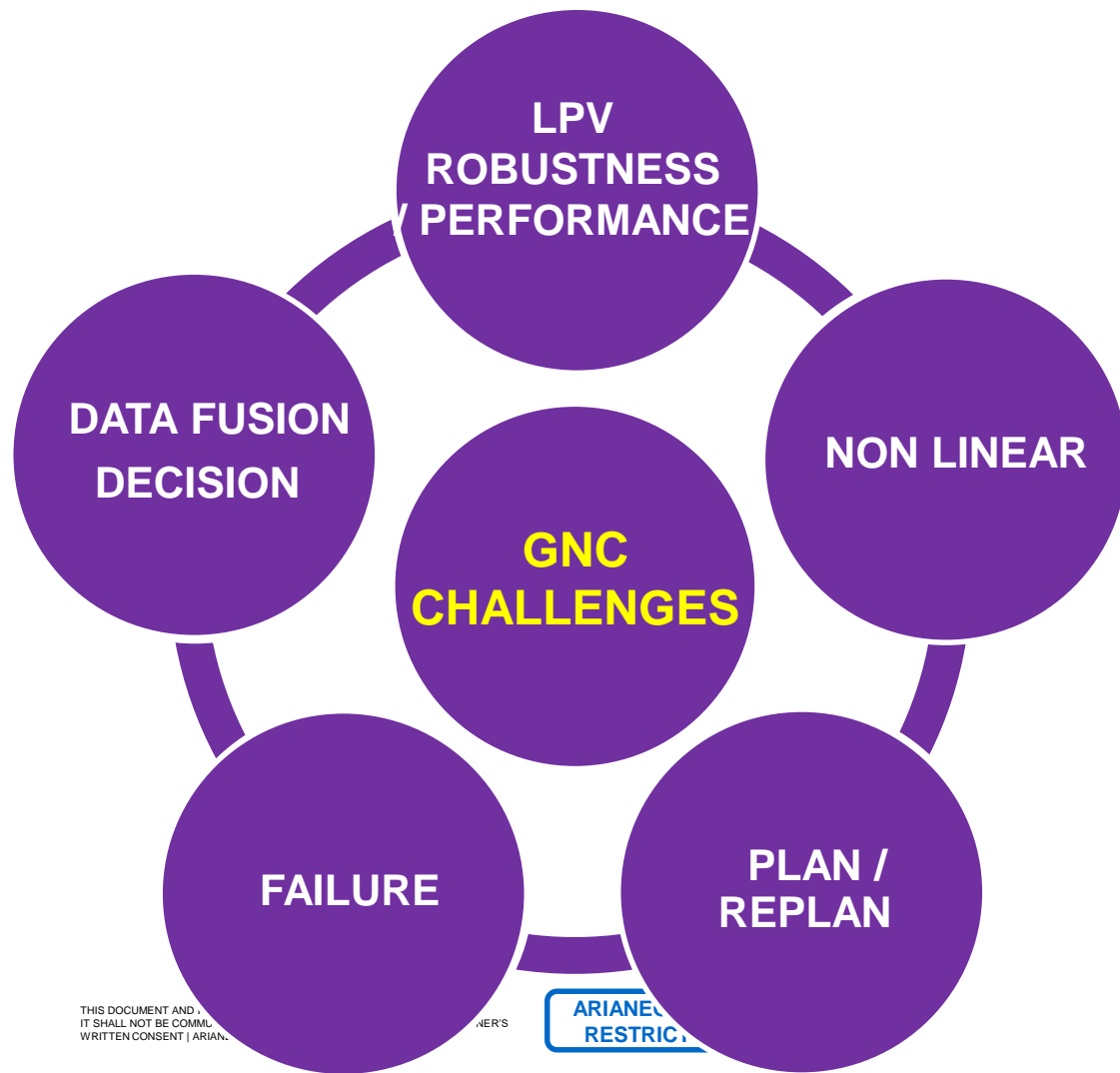
A REALITY



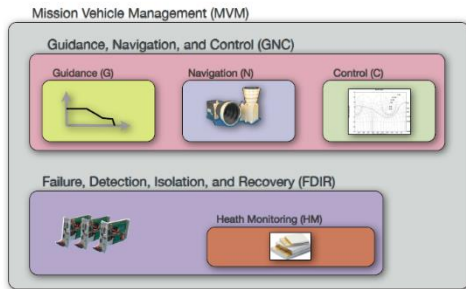
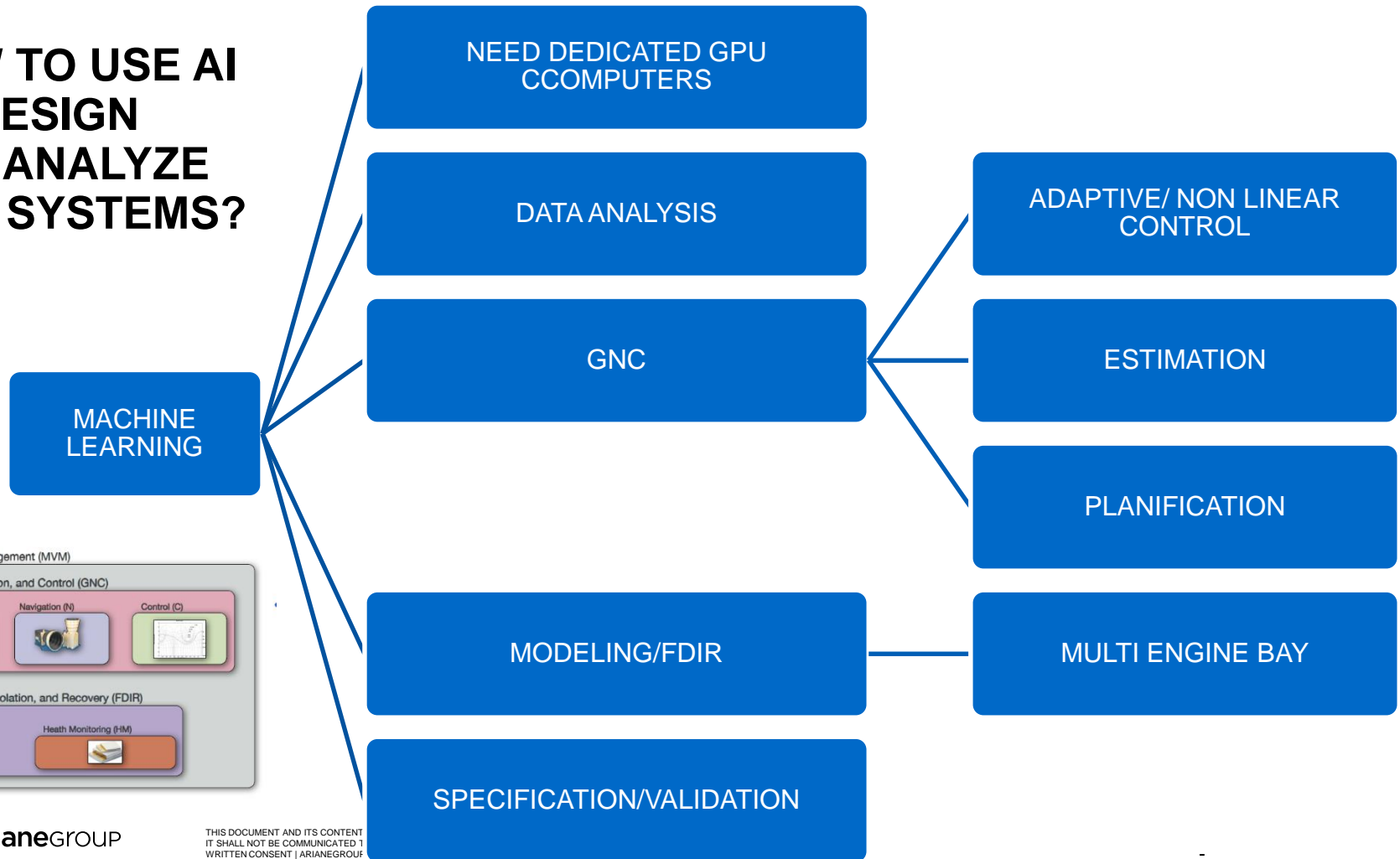
METHODS
INTELLIGENCE
&
LEARNING

CONCRETE ISSUES

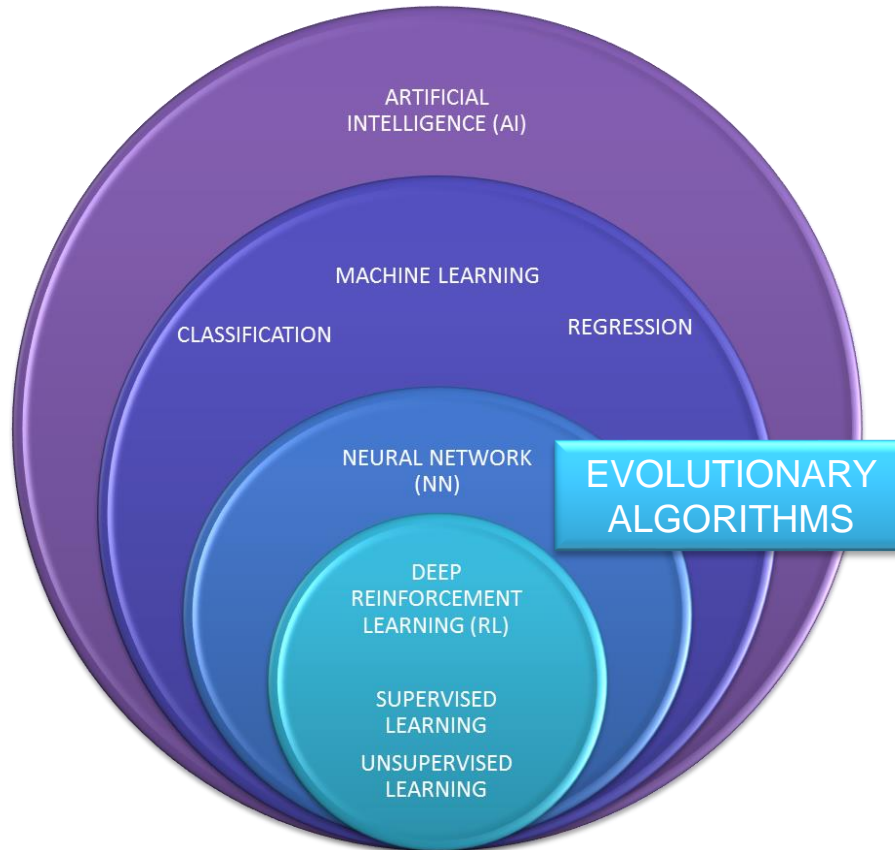




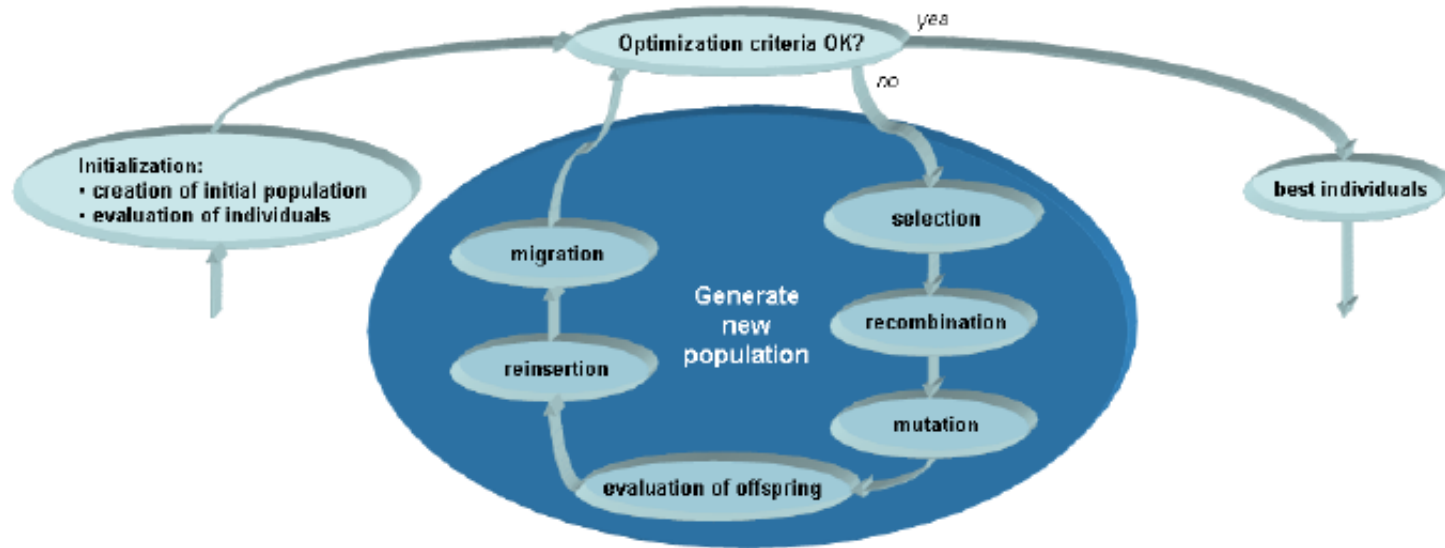
HOW TO USE AI TO DESIGN AND ANALYZE GNC SYSTEMS?



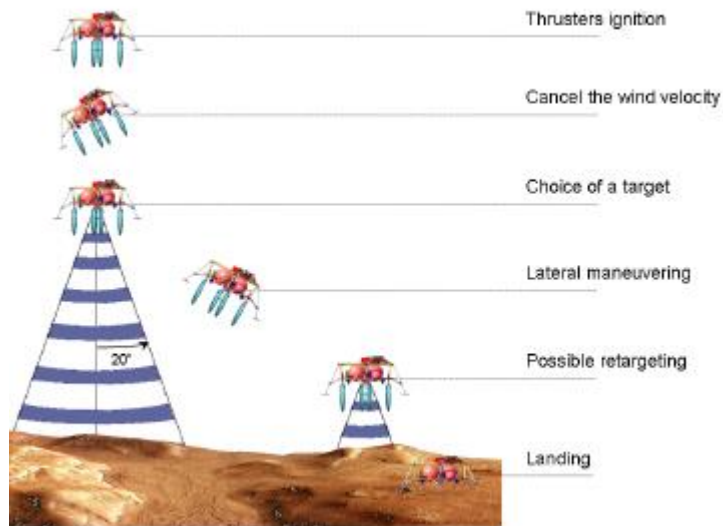
MACHINE LEARNING FOR GNC



GENETIC ALGORITHM EXAMPLE FOR LANDING GUIDANCE



NN TRAINED BY GA



AIAA 2009-5664

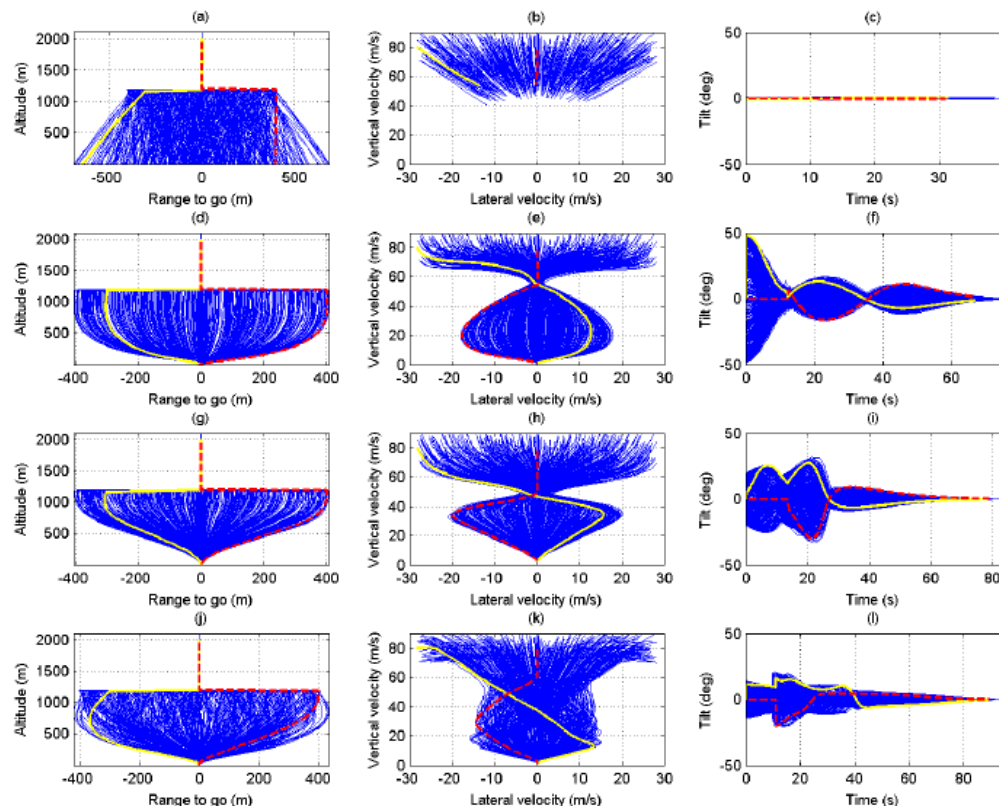
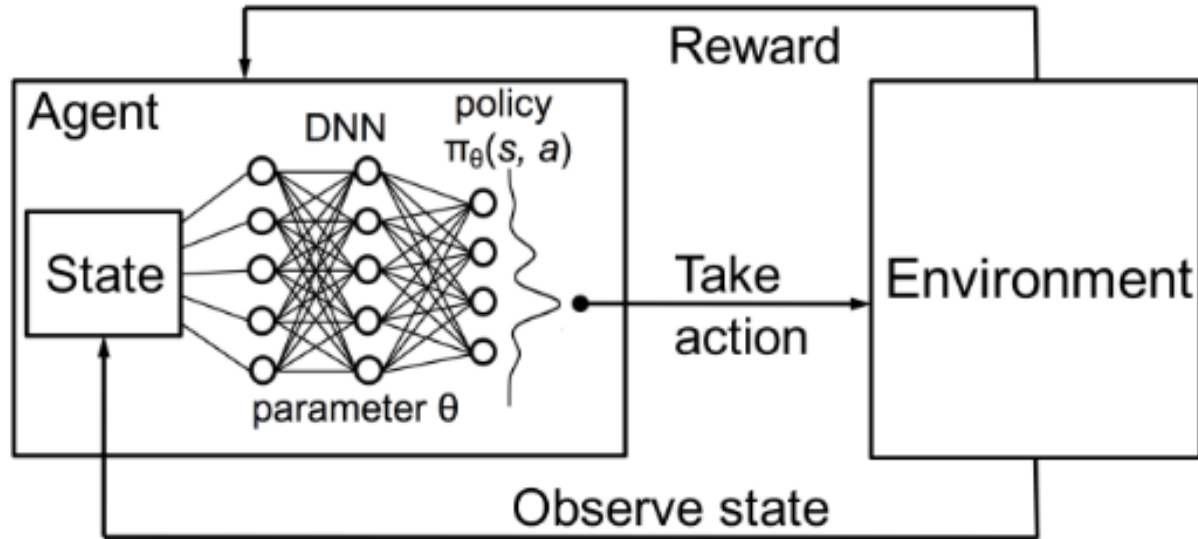


Figure 6. Training of the "low tilt" neural guidance with genetic algorithms. (a, b, c) Position evolution, velocity evolution and commanded tilt of the vehicle after 1 generation. (d, e, f) Position evolution, velocity evolution and commanded tilt of the vehicle after 50 generations. (g, h, i) Position evolution, velocity evolution and commanded tilt of the vehicle after 300 generations. (j, k, l) Position evolution, velocity evolution and commanded tilt of the vehicle after 600 generations.

REINFORCEMENT LEARNING GENERAL PRINCIPLE



LINK WITH CONTROL THEORY

RL	Control
Agent	Controller (K)
Environment	Controlled system (simulator G)
Action	Control signal (U)
State/Observations	State (X) /Measurements (Y)

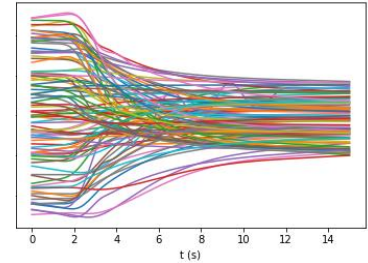
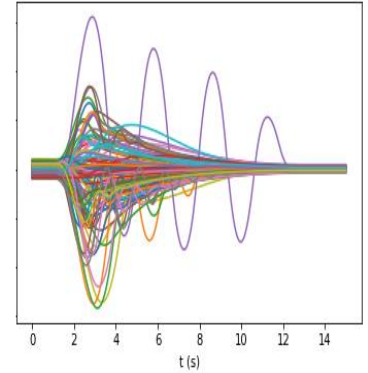
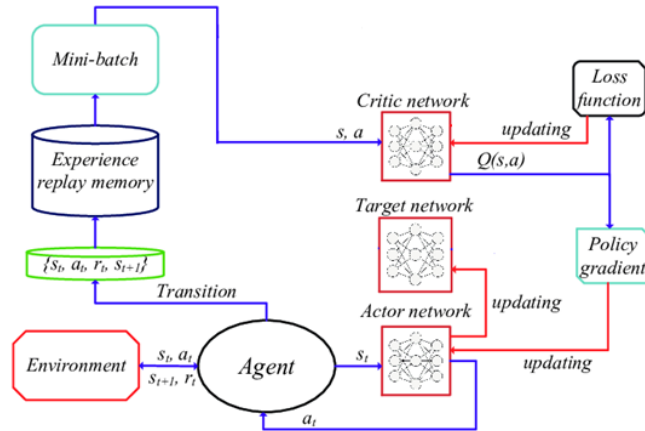
The most important feature distinguishing RL from other types of learning is that it uses information that **evaluates in real time the actions taken** rather than instructs by giving the correct actions.

KERAS-RL ALGORITHMS

As of today, the following algorithms have been implemented:

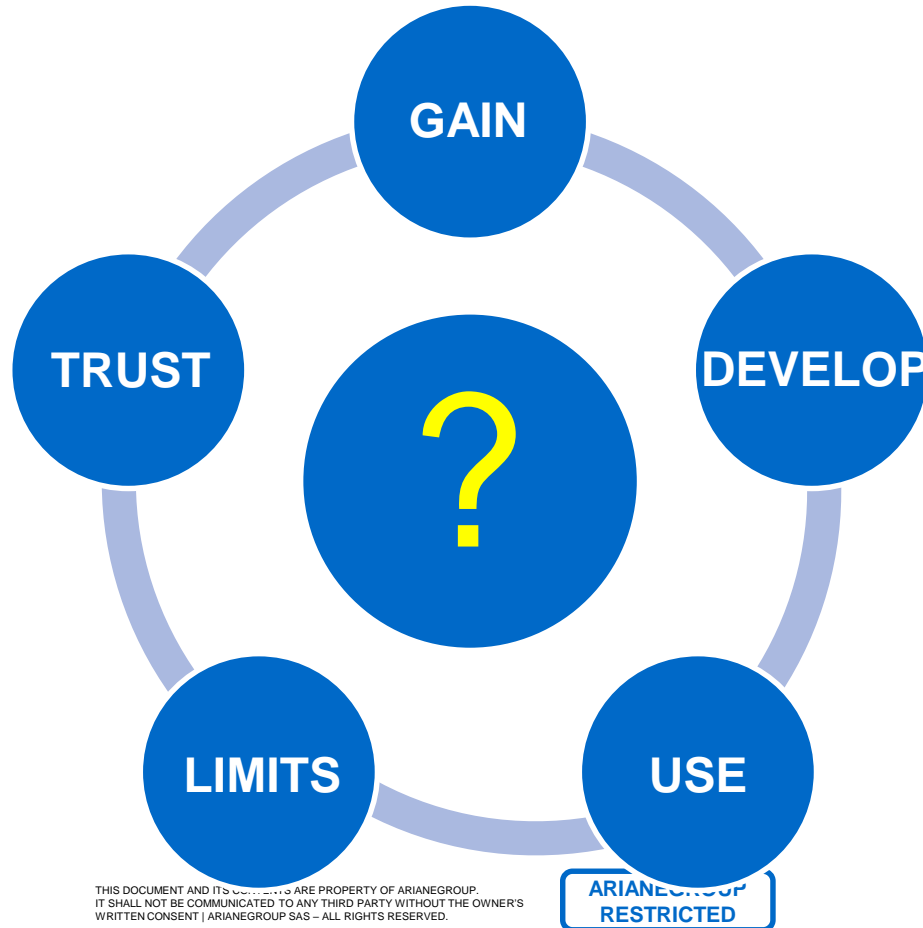
- ☒ Deep Q Learning (DQN) [1], [2]
- ☒ Double DQN [3]
- ☒ Deep Deterministic Policy Gradient (DDPG) [4]
- ☒ Continuous DQN (CDQN or NAF) [6]
- ☒ Cross-Entropy Method (CEM) [7], [8]
- ☒ Dueling network DQN (Dueling DQN) [9]
- ☒ Deep SARSA [10]
- ☐ Asynchronous Advantage Actor-Critic (A3C) [5]
- ☐ Proximal Policy Optimization Algorithms (PPO) [11]

NON LINEAR CONTROL – QUICK WINS EXAMPLE



Acknowledgments for AIRBUS group fruitful exchanges

WE SHALL USE ALL NEW TECHNOLOGIES



AND USE THEM WELL