Capturing Subject Matter Expertise for Automated Assisted Analysis

William F. Szewczyk

National Security Agency

Mathematics Research Group

Level Setting

Data science is the extraction of actionable knowledge directly from data through a process of discovery, or hypothesis formulation and hypothesis testing.

— NIST Big Data Interoperability Framework: Volume 1, Definitions (Sept. 2015)

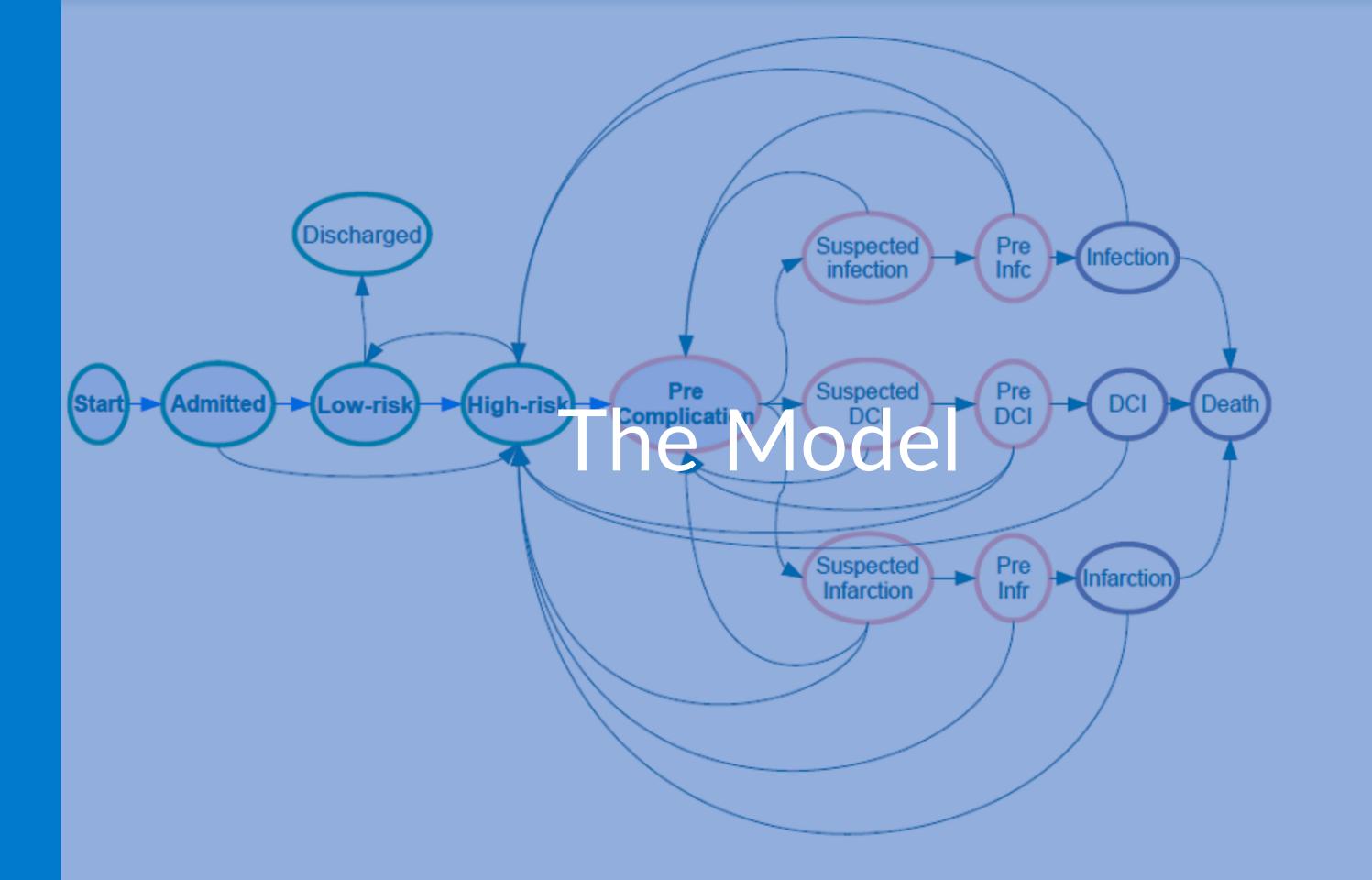
Level Setting (II)

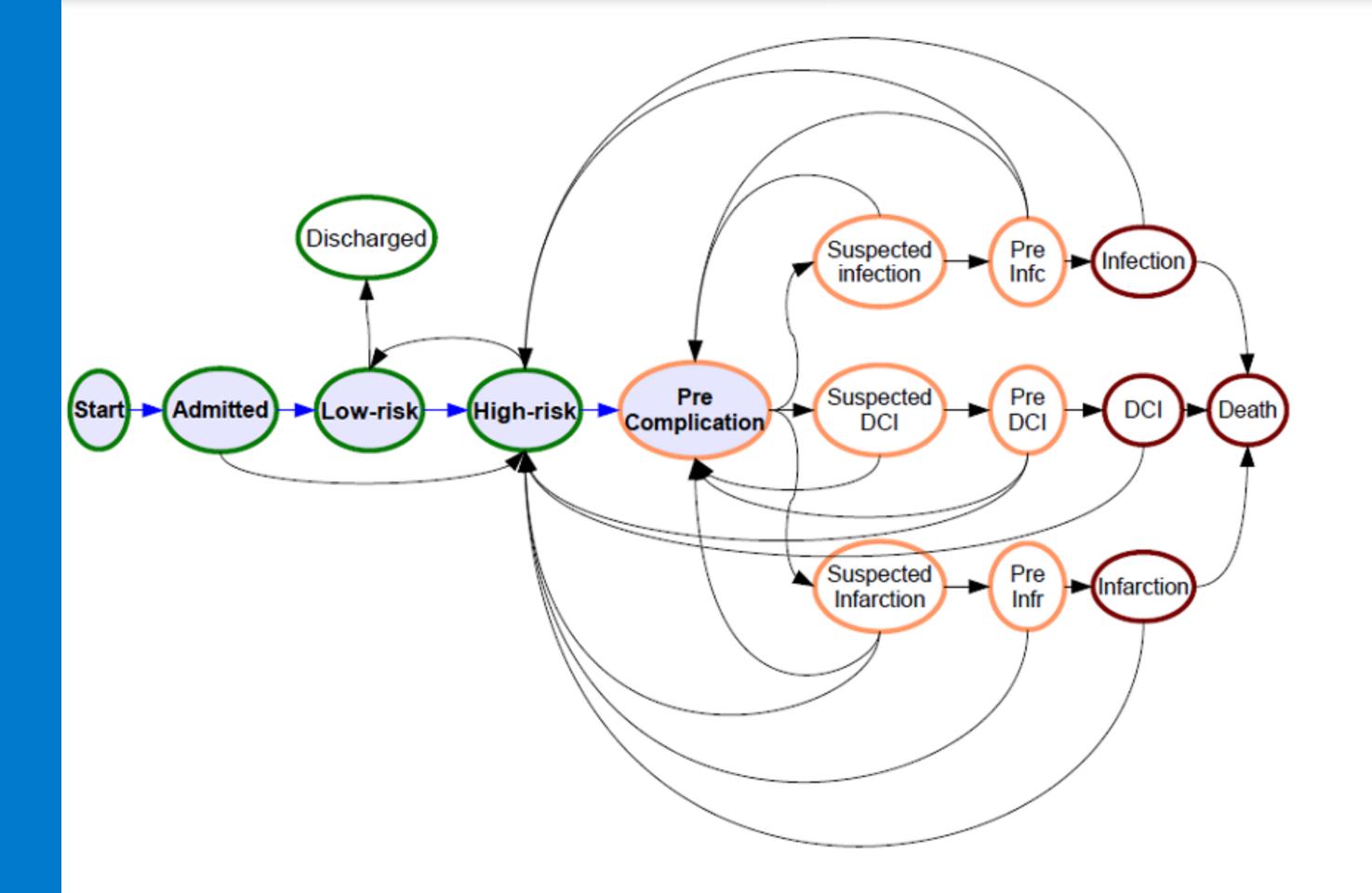
A data scientist is a practitioner who has sufficient knowledge in the overlapping regimes of business needs, domain knowledge, analytical skills, and software and systems engineering to manage the end-to-end data processes in the data life cycle.

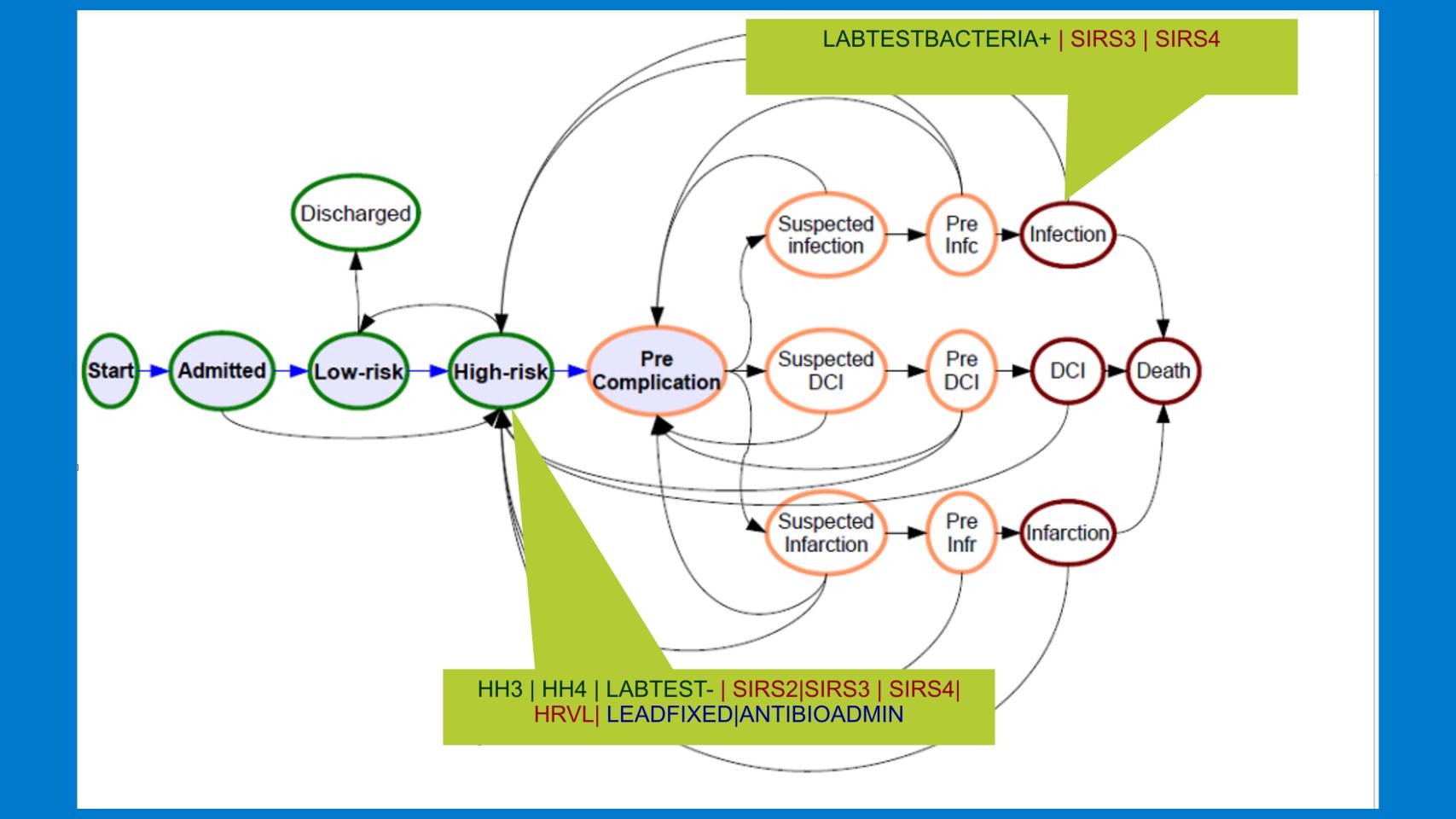
- Ibid.

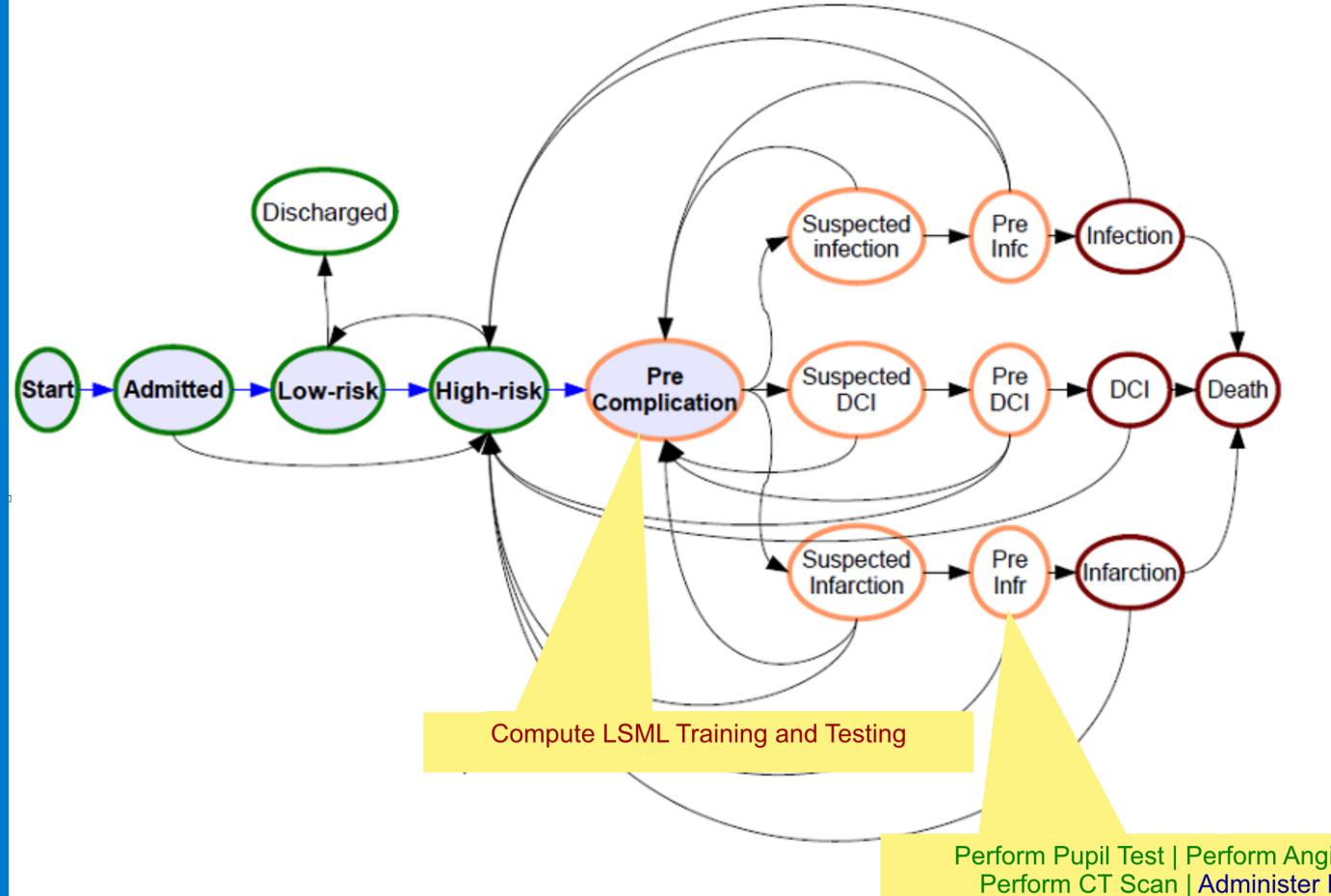
Let's Play a Game!

- I'll give you observations
- You give me states of reality
- I'll make it easy
 - I'll let you ask questions
 - I'll let you take actions
 - I'll even let show the possible states









Perform Pupil Test | Perform Angiogram | Perform CT Scan | Administer Drugs

Now multiply by about 10 or 20 and find places to automate

This works, but...

- It really doesn't scale
- It's hard to identify places for code reuse
- Finding design patterns is difficult

What is needed is a repeatable method for decomposing the analytic process into finer pieces, while avoiding the temptation to drop immediately into code.

What We Propose

- A process and artifacts for understanding, decomposing, and communicating the process of analysis for a specific problem.
- It provides a set of phases and artifacts designed to capture the analysis process, individual blocks of analysis, and decompose the individual components which assist in the analysis.
- Its output is intended to become input to a traditional systems analysis and design methodology for building systems.
- Specific focus is on systems that can codify the knowledge that analysts continuously adjust and apply to repetitive analysis tasks (e.g. anomaly detection, state change, prediction, etc).
 - Achieve agreement with analysts of analysis they perform and how it is being broken down and described (analysis dependencies)
 - Communicate complex analysis dependencies with System Designers
 - Identify and detail specific advanced analysis patterns for use by System Designers

Description

- Divided into three phases which promote a focus on the problem at hand, identifying where and what analysis is performed, and identifying the dependencies and details of the analysis
 - Phases:
 - Problem (Mission) Definition and Refinement

Define an unambiguous statement and definition of the analysis problem including specific outcomes expected. Capture constraints and assumptions of the mission

Conceptual Analysis Design

Capture a high level decomposition of the analysis that is performed to achieve the Mission problem Capture the Blocks of Analysis and their dependencies on one another.

Logical Analysis Design

Logical decomposition of conceptual analysis design. Logical blocks focus on the purpose of the logic, not the implementation.

Capture the flow of information and transformations that are observed to perform analysis and produce a resulting hypotheses and actions.

Phase One: Problem Definition

- Possibly the hardest part of the methodology
 - Specific and precise not general, broad or obscure
 - Concise Definition one or two sentences
 - Refinement provides supporting information and questions below
 - Clear not vague, ambiguous or confusing
 - Goal-oriented stated in terms of desired outcomes
 - Key Questions
 - 1 Who is the recipient of the analysis results
 - 2 What is the question you are trying to answer | What is the situation you are trying to be aware of
 - 3 What do the answers / results of this analysis look like?
 - 4 Why are you doing this? What is the benefit

Problem Definition

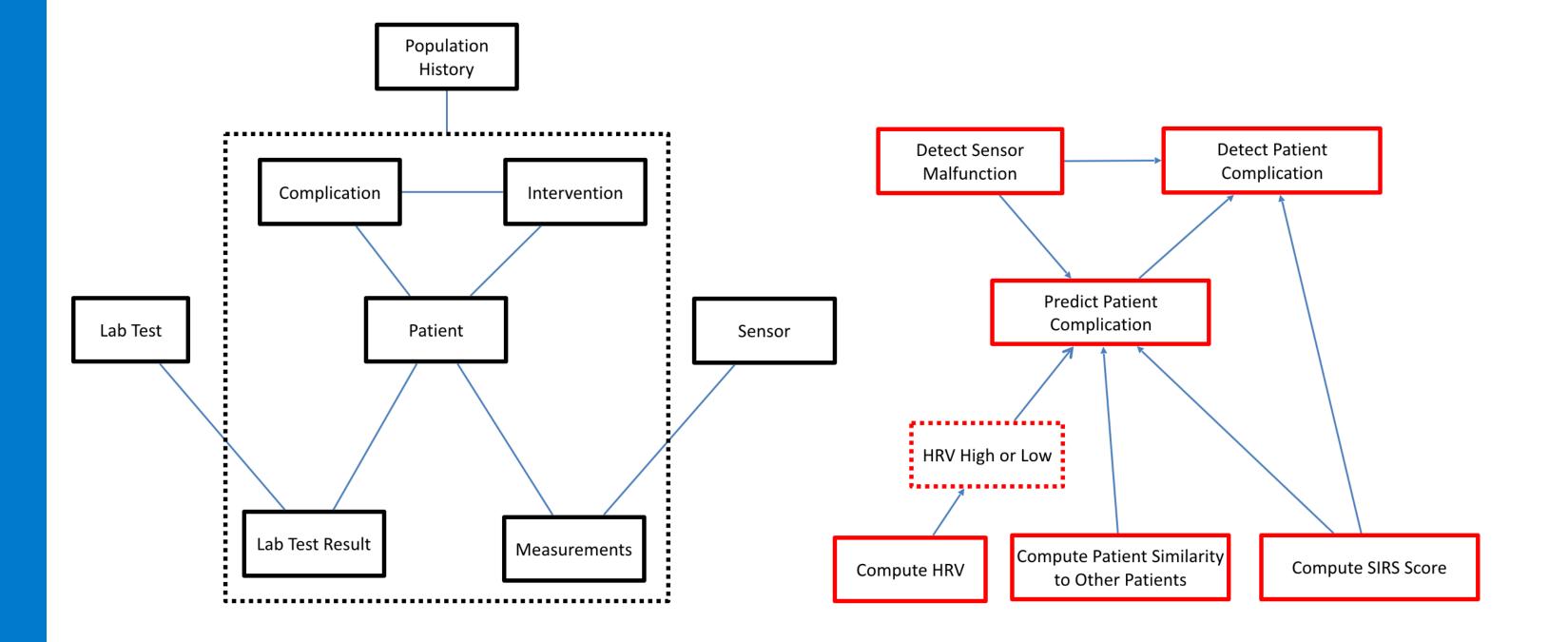
- Predict and Detect complications on patients in the Neuro-ICU as early as possible
- To support interventions
- Recipient: Health care providers (doctors/nurses)
- Report: likely complication with time frame

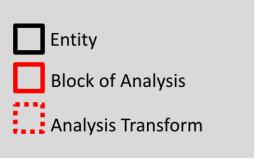
Phase 2: Conceptual Analysis Design

- Capture a high level decomposition of the analysis that is performed to achieve the Mission problem
 - Capture the subset of conceptual data design of the mission problem for the purpose of clarifying terms and grammar of the mission (Entity Types, Entity Relationships and their descriptions)
 - Capture the Blocks of Analysis, Analysis Result Dependencies (Conceptual Analysis Model) and descriptions of each (Conceptual Analysis Description Document)
 - Limit scope to that of the Problem Definition

Conceptual Analysis Design

- Candidate Entities:
 - Patient & demographics, sensor, infection, infarction, DCI, ECG, temperature, equipment alarms
- Candidate Blocks of Analysis:
 - Calculate SIRS score
 - Calculate Heart Rate Variability

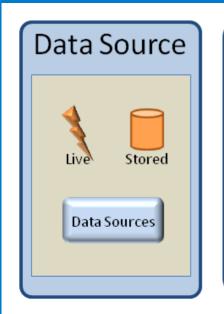


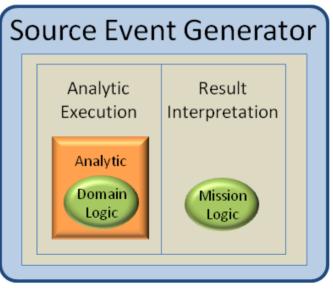


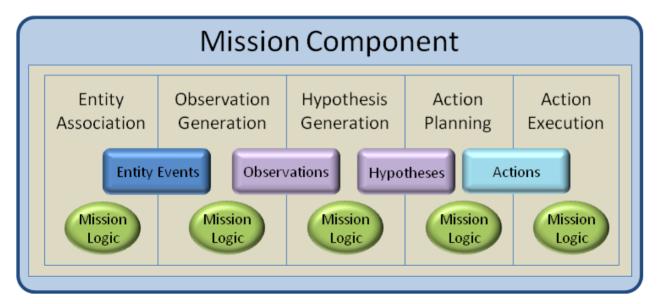
Phase 3: Logical Analysis Design

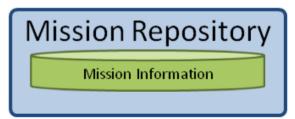
- Develop decompositions of the Blocks of Analysis to capture the flow of information and transformations that are observed to perform analysis and produce a resulting hypotheses and actions.
- Identify Data Sources, Source Object Generators, Mission Components, and their inter-dependencies
- Identify the Object of Analysis for each Mission Component
- Capture the Source Objects, Entity-Associated Objects,
 Observations, Hypotheses, and Actions for each Mission Component.

Logical Analysis Design Components



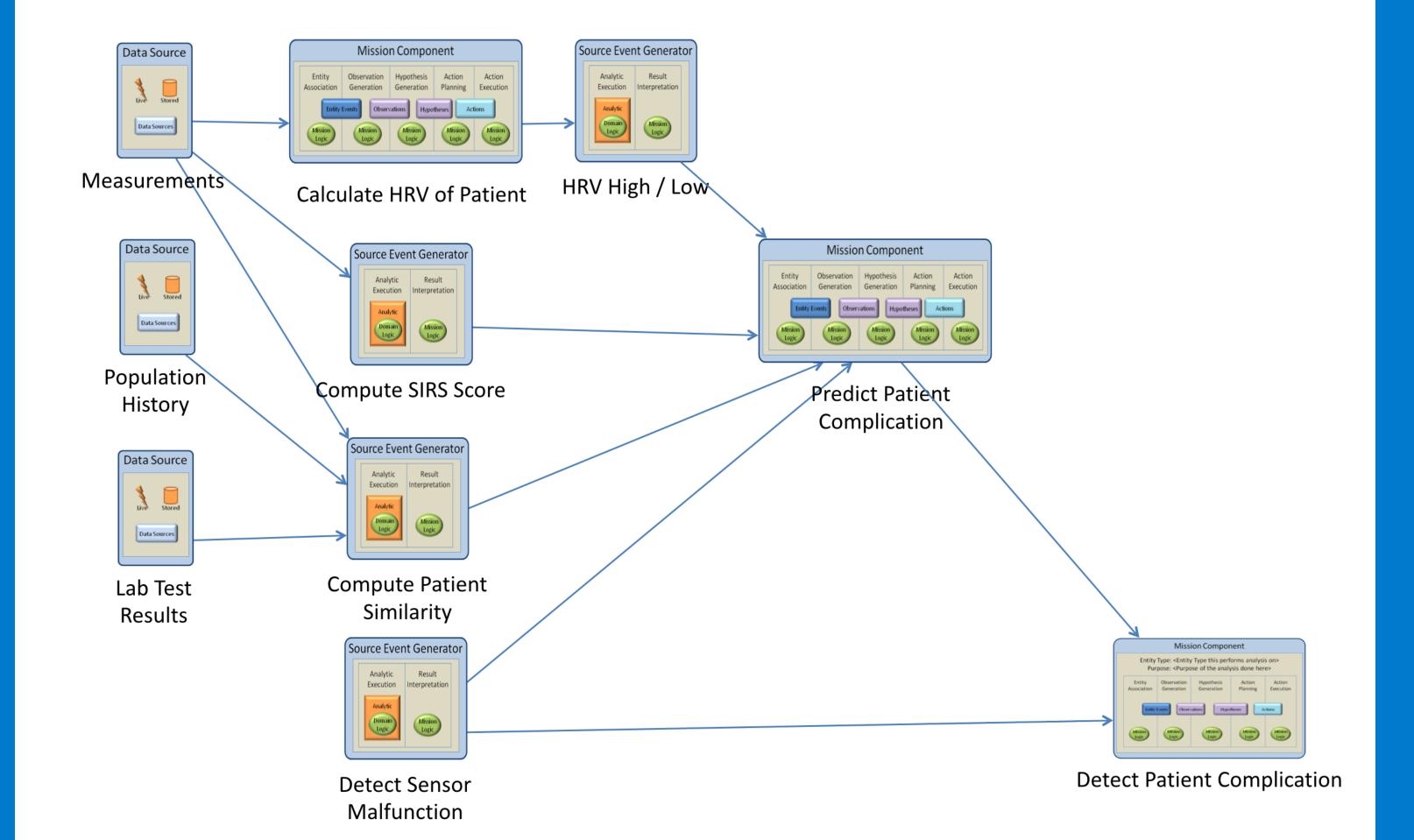




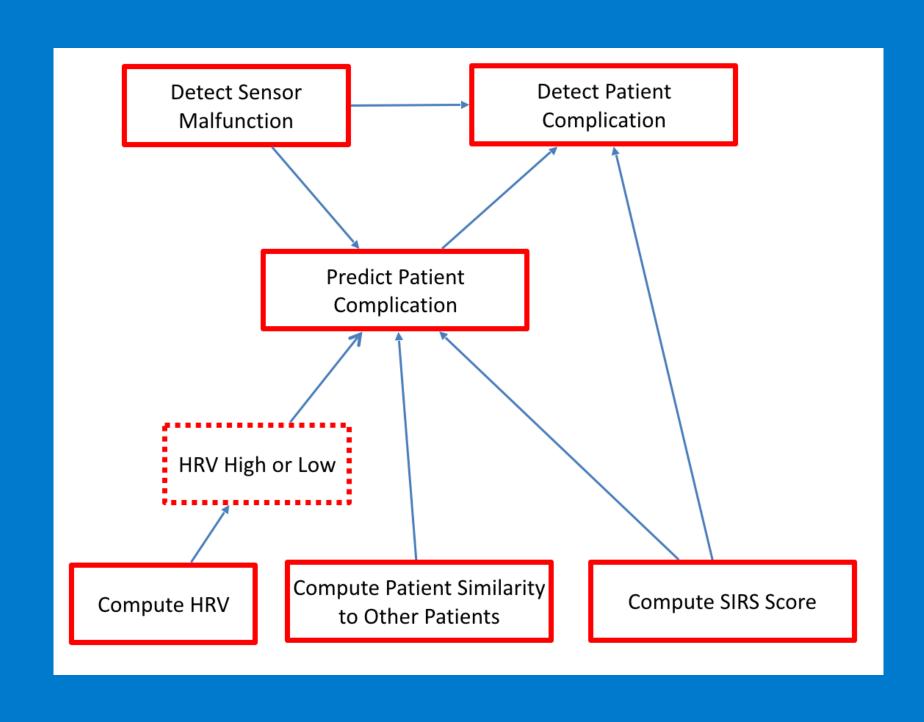








Pattern for Discovery



Takeaways

- Described a process to capture subject matter knowledge
- Demonstrated ability to switch domains with only minor modifications
- Easier to discover common patterns across applications