

# Chris McCorkle

**Data Science and Analysis Flight (DSAF) Flight Chief in the 418<sup>th</sup>  
Supply Chain Management Squadron at Tinker AFB, Oklahoma**



# USAF 448th Supply Chain Management Wing

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- Digital Transformation in United States Air Force Supply Chain Analytics



**NH-04, Mr. Chris McCorkle**  
**Data Science and Analysis Flight Chief**  
**USAF 418 SCMS/GUBB**  
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**Version 3.0**

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# Agenda

- **USAF 448<sup>th</sup> Supply Chain Overview**
- **DSAF Key Capabilities**
- **448<sup>th</sup> SCMW Analytics Strategic Vision**
- **USAF Supply Chain Analytics Journey**
- **ZTDF BOM 360**
- **Next Higher Assembly Graph Modeling**
- **Quantum Computing (QC)**
- **Robotics Process Automation (RPA)**
- **Future Plans**



# USAF 448<sup>th</sup> Supply Chain Overview

## 638 SCMG Robins AFB, Georgia



- ❖ C-5, C-130, F-15 Structural & Avionics
- ❖ Common Avionics, Electronic Warfare
- ❖ Special Operations Forces/Personnel Recovery
- ❖ Support Equipment (Automatic Test Systems & Vehicles)
- ❖ Armament Accessories
- ❖ Global Hawk



## 748 SCMG Hill AFB, Utah



- ❖ A-10, F-16, T-38 Structural & Avionics
- ❖ Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles
- ❖ Landing Gear, Secondary Power
- ❖ Space & Command, Control, Communications and Intelligence
- ❖ Sustainment and Support of Critical Items Associated with the Nation's Nuclear Enterprise



## 848 SCMG Tinker AFB, Oklahoma



- ❖ Propulsion
- ❖ Instruments
- ❖ Accessories
- ❖ KC-135, B-52, B-1, B-2, E-3 Structural
- ❖ KC-46, B-21 Weapon System Support



## 948 SCMG Tinker AFB, Oklahoma



- ❖ Enterprise Support for Performance Mgmt. Business Processes and Procedures
- ❖ Supply Chain Risk Management/Budget
- ❖ Data Sciences and Analysis ★
- ❖ Supply Chain Planning/Strategic Sourcing/Foreign Military Sales
- ❖ Workforce Development
- ❖ Category Mgmt., Performance Mgmt.





# Data Science and Analysis Flight Capabilities



## Mission

Provide objective, accurate, and timely information to Senior Leaders so they can make better/informed decisions

## Vision

DSAF is able to cut through anecdotes, conventional wisdom, and volumes of data to find and expose the truth

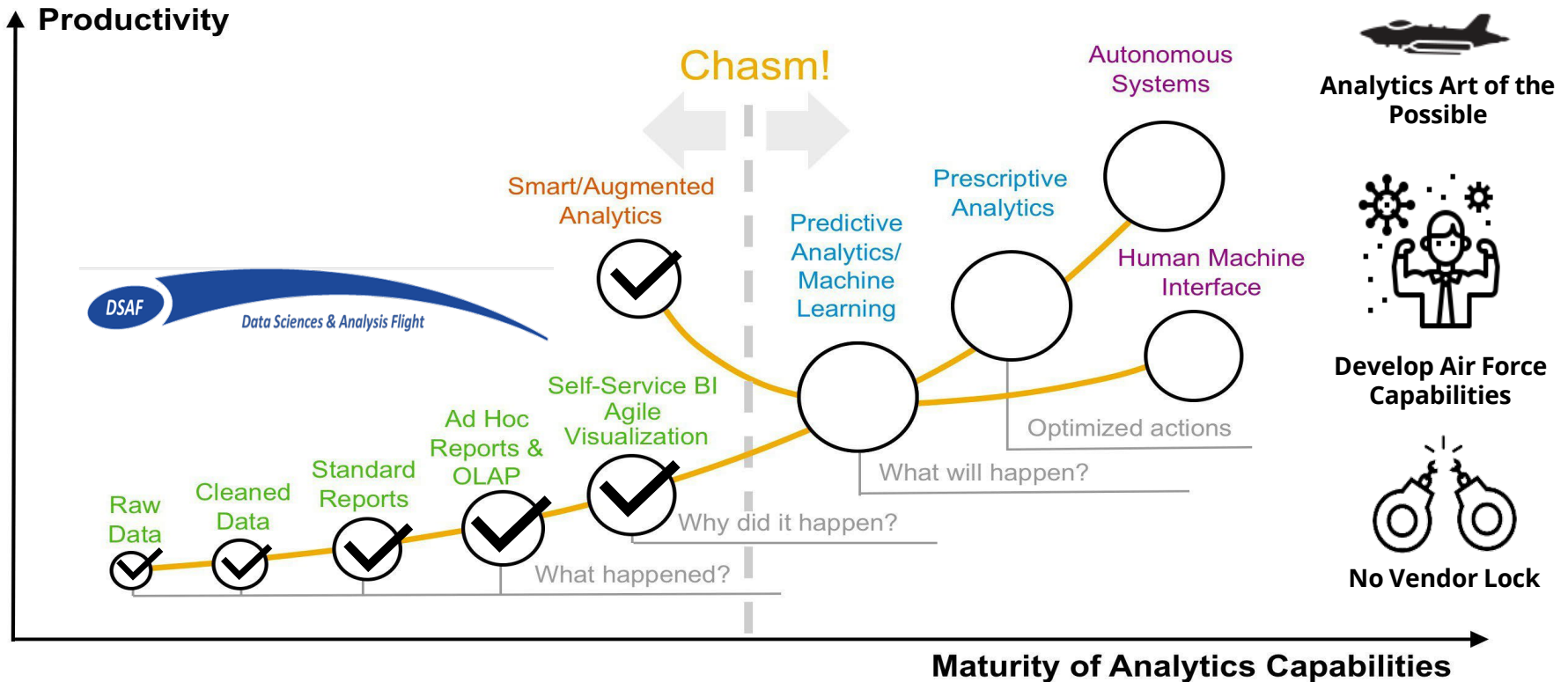


## Data Science and Analysis Flight (DSAF)

- Deliver Industry Standard Analysis Capabilities to SCM Enterprise
- Strategic Research, Studies, and Analysis
- Robotics Process Automation
- Mature Data Science and Advanced Analytics

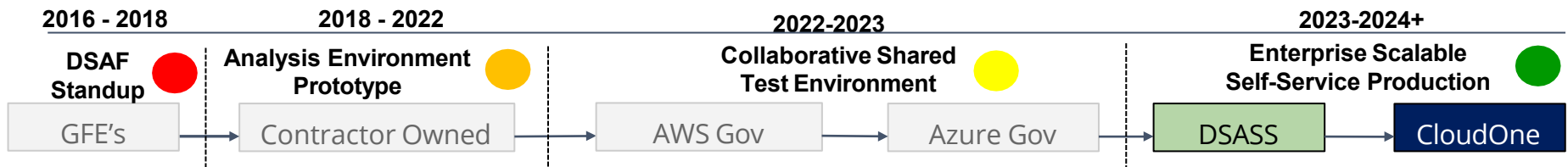
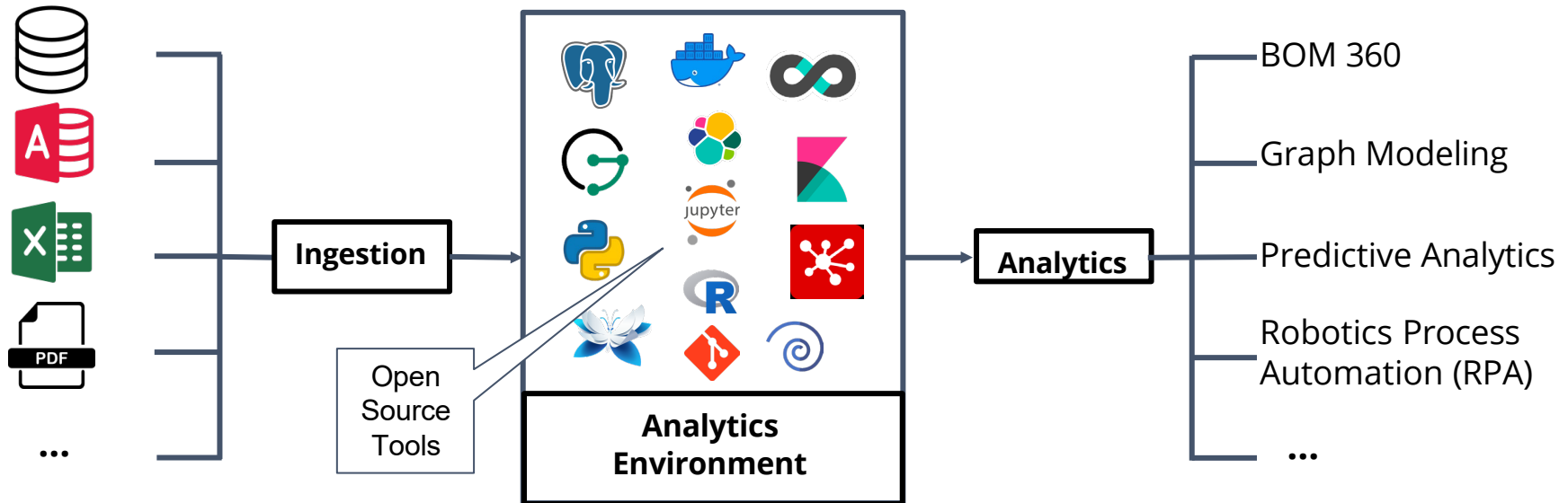


# 448<sup>th</sup> SCIMW Advanced Analytics Strategic Vision





# USAF Supply Chain Analytics Journey



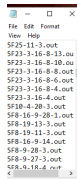




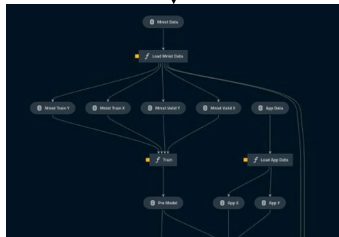
# ZTDF BOM360 Vision

- Manual effort for “Perfect BOM” estimated at 10Y/\$750M across all weapon systems – ***rethink approach***
- AFSC/EN vision for building a common, digital BOM across all weapons systems
  - Human out of the loop, 0% data loss, continuous data-driven improvements, automation at the heart of every action
  - All weapon systems with a “Good Enough” or “Getting Started” BOM over next 2-3 years

Ingest/sync with files or systems



**Kedro Pipeline**  
Ingestion, verification, validation and recommendation pipeline

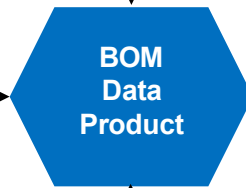


*J85: Extracted 21,000+ parts (9,600 unique) - 4 minutes*

**DSAF/Logistics**

- D043
- G005M

Logistics Data



Continuous Improvement

Consume

Sustainment Data

**MROi**

- REMIS
- PDMSS

**BOM Insights from different viewpoints**







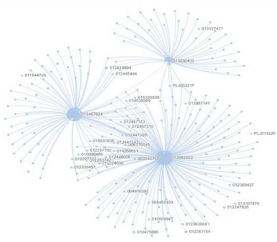
# Next Higher Assembly (NHA) Graph Modeling

## ML/AI Technology: Graph Modeling

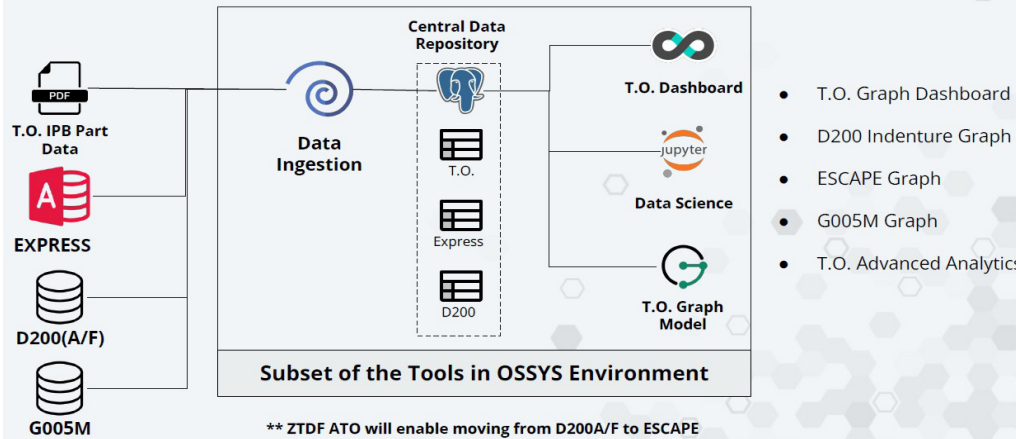
AFSC

### Business Need:

Modeled representation of indentured relationships to visualize and perform advanced analytics on connected dependencies

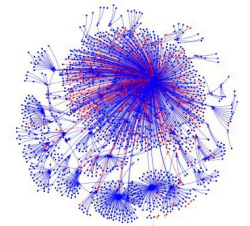


### Next Higher Assembly Graph Models



### Key Features:

Graph databases and models are an emerging technology and analytics space under active research



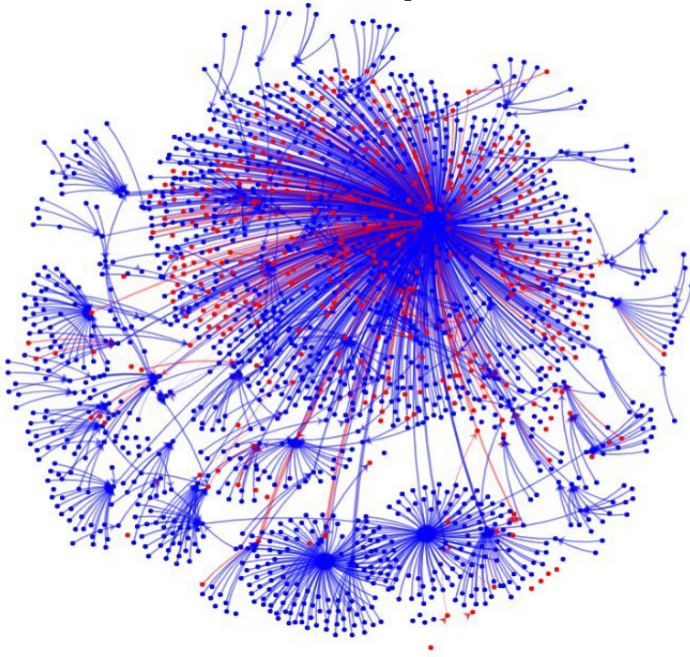
### Results:

Next Higher Assembly (NHA) graphs generated using Enterprise Supply Chain Analysis Planning Execution (ESCAPE) Bill of Materials (BOMs). Used to show supply chain interconnectivity and supply chain complexity. Used to identify Mission Impaired Capability Awaiting Parts (MICAP) items and connected relationships, as well as the combined impact on F-15E aircraft.



# Weapon System (WS) MICAP Blas Radius

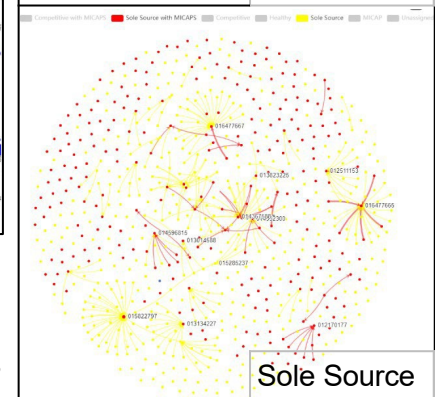
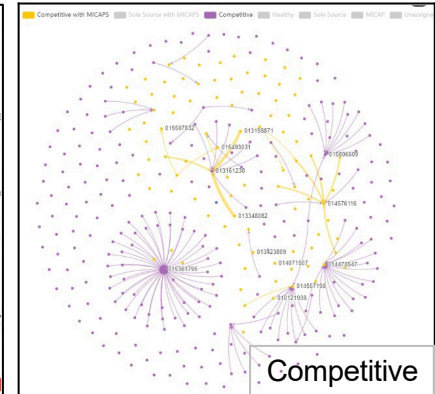
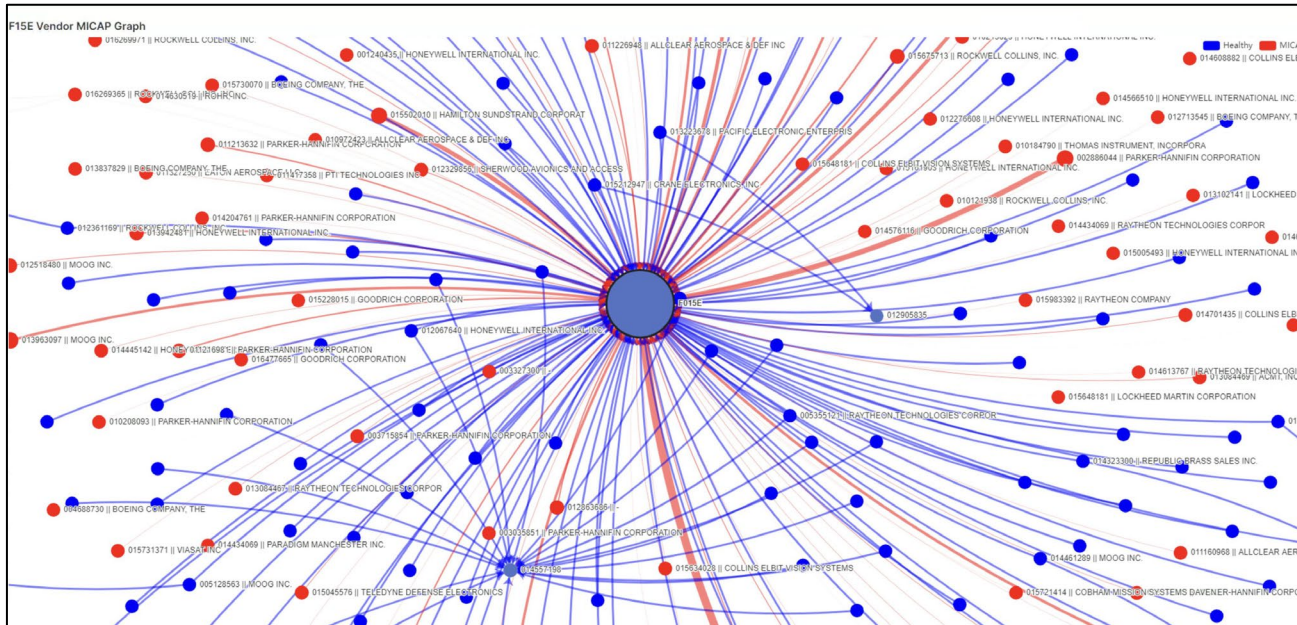
## WS NHA Graph Model



- For MICAP NIINs, what other parts up the indenture tree are affected?
- Each node is a NIIN or WS
  - Blue - No MICAP
  - Red - MICAP
- Each edge between nodes points from sub-component to Next Higher Assembly (NHA)
- Summary statistics over 10yrs MICAP data
  - 1,987 Nodes/NIINs in graph
  - 2,168 Edges
  - 530 unique MICAP'd NIINs
    - 1,352 MICAP Total Incidents
    - 518,126 MICAP Total Hours
    - 424 organically repaired MICAP'd NIINs



# F-15E MICAP Blast Radius with Contract (KTR) Suppliers



DSAF currently uses Graph Models to analyze relationships between WS MICAPs and USAF Managed Items repaired by KTRs to identify potential weaknesses in Supply Chain.

Future Implementation: Develop Machine Learning Predictions of KTR On Time Deliveries (OTD) Failures



# Quantum Computing (QC)

## ML/AI Technology: Quantum Computing Predictive Algorithms

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### Business Need:

Low Demand and Highly Variable Items are historically unforecastable using classical forecasting methods.



### Key Features:

Cutting-edge technology, learning curve with research and development

Combines Machine Learning with the power of Quantum Computing to improve supportability for low demand and highly variable items

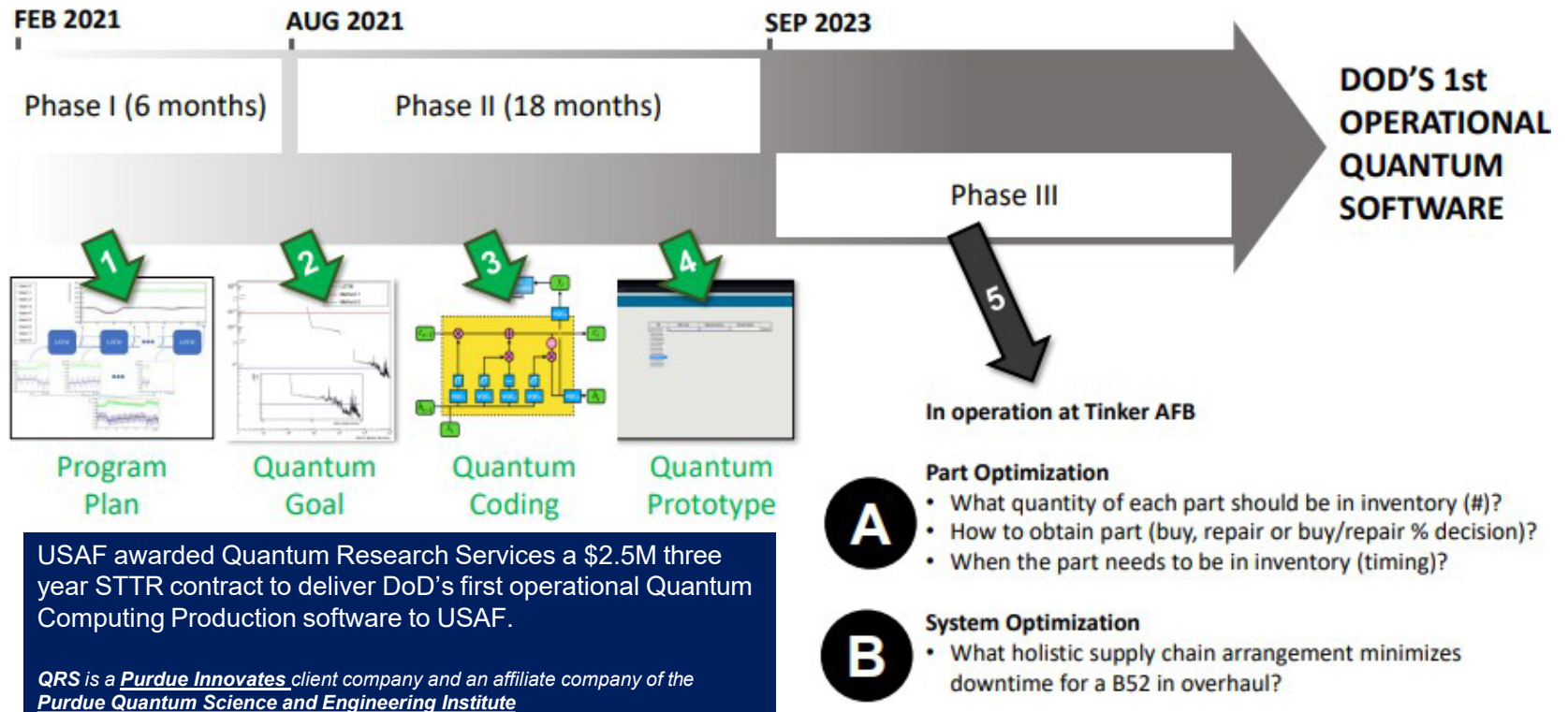
### Results:

Uses Quantum Computing with machine learning to generate the algorithms used for each item to recommend buy and repair requirements based on the unique demand history of an item. The tool is moving from theoretical models to production in FY24.





# Quantum Program At-A-Glance





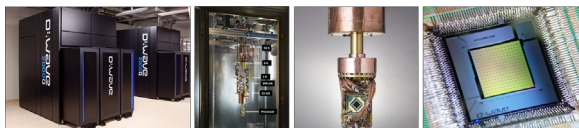
# Particle Physics & Quantum Computing



## The Jung research group @Purdue:

- Solve High Energy Physics "data challenges" by Quantum Annealing and gate-based QC

- D-Wave, IBM-Q, Quantinuum



- Harvest wealth of Large Hadron Collider data by Machine Learning & AI, Nov 2022

- Purdue physicists awarded DOE grant for high energy physics and AI [https://www.physics.purdue.edu/news/2022/1201\\_jung\\_liu\\_doe.html](https://www.physics.purdue.edu/news/2022/1201_jung_liu_doe.html)

- Apply developments for real-world problems

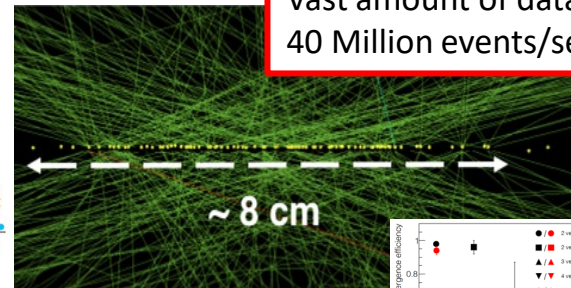
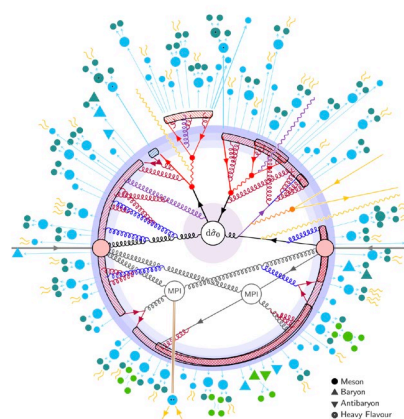
- Supply-Chain challenges: DoD Tinker AF

### Core team:

- Prof A. Jung, PhD cand. AJ Wildridge and E. Krimins (CEO, QRS)

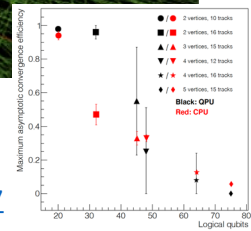


Department of Physics and Astronomy



Vast amount of data: 40 Million events/sec

Submitted o NIM A  
S.Das, AJ. Wildridge, A.Jung  
<https://arxiv.org/abs/1903.0887>  
9





# Robotics Process Automation (RPA)

## Technology: UI Path Automation

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### Business Need:

Repetitive, rules-based tasks consume a significant amount of manpower hours that can be allocated to more valuable efforts.



### Key Features

- Low to no-code Commercial Off the Shelf technology
- Automates repetitive, low-value workload

### Results:

Currently 10 RPAs are deployed into Production  
ROI Estimate: ~ 900+ Man Hrs





# RPA Program At-A-Glance

## Program Performance

**Bots in Production:**  
10

**Bots in Development:**  
3

**Bots in Queue:**  
8

## Time Savings

**Time Saved:**  
~ 900 Hours

**Average Development Time:**  
6 weeks

**Average Time Savings:**  
91%

*Supplying Warfighter  
Dominance*

## Top Automations

### Hiring Matrix

Saves an average of 10 hours per month; Expected to increase

\*Demo

### Mineral Bot

Saves 80 hours per month

\*Demo

### M024B

Saves contracting (RIPIT) and licensing costs (SAS)

\*Demo

### Gains Loss

Saves 4 hours per month

\*Demo

### FMS Daily Backorder

Saves 60 hours per month

### BusyBotty

Saves 4 hours per month per user



# Future Plans

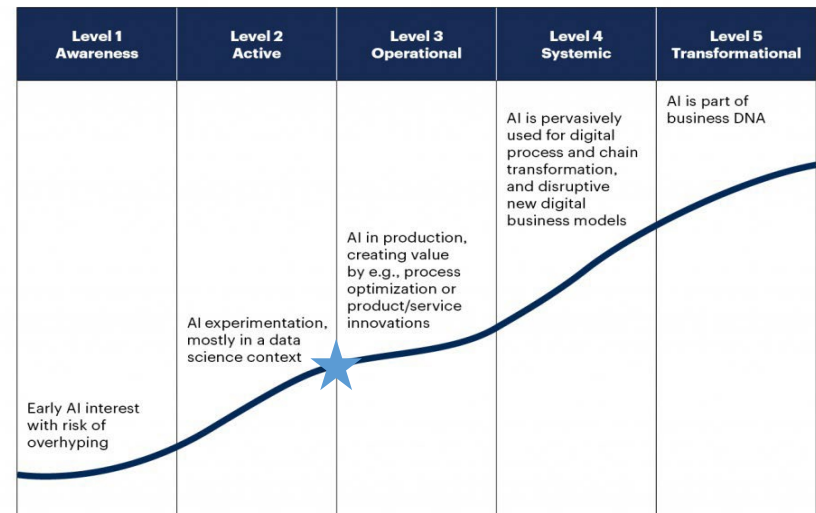
## ■ Advanced Analytics

- Continue USAF ML/AI Maturity
- Operationalize ZTDF
- Productionize Quantum Models
- Predictive/Prescriptive Analytics
- Generative AI Use Cases
- Neural Networks and Deep Learning

## ■ Robotics Process Automation (RPA)

- High ROI Enterprise Bots
- Productionize Unattended Bots
- SMART Bot (AI/ML) Integration

### AI Maturity Model



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# Questions ?



