

Collaboration opportunities for EW & NW in next generation warfare and defense

Ignus Swart

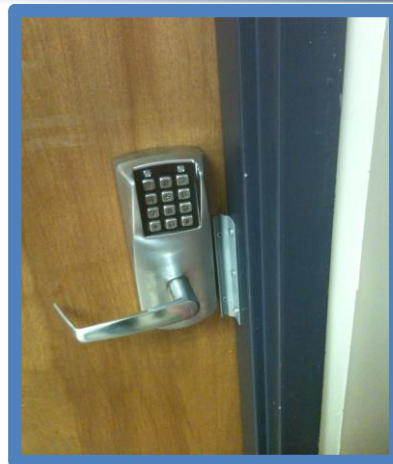
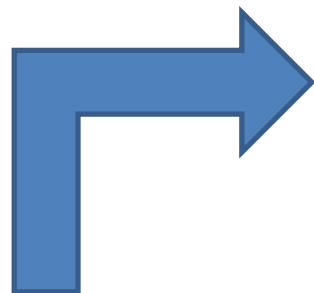


Agenda

- Flashback: How did we get here?
- Role of Electronic Warfare (EW) and Network Warfare (NW)
- Current EW and NW situation
- Collaboration opportunities
- A possible approach to start collaboration
- Conclusion



Flashback: How did we get here?



Role of EW and NW

- EW – Clear focus on the electromagnetic spectrum (EMS).
 - Deny the use of EMS for the enemy
 - Allow own forces free use
- NW – Clear focus on information systems
 - Exploitation of enemy information systems
 - Defence of own systems

Current situation

- EW has a formalized structure with clear constant capabilities
- NW has a formalized structure, but technology and capabilities are constantly changing
- Significant overlap between EW and NW, but hard to formally define
 - EMS is a common denominator
 - OSI layers also provides commonalities
- Both EW and NW see the possibility of collaboration but barrier to entry is high
 - Significant knowledge domain differences

Collaboration opportunities (1)

Enemy information systems will not always be remotely accessible:

- Requires closer proximity to attack
- Location detection is currently not a focus point in NW
- EW can assist with direction detection, range increase and domain knowledge





ZIMBABWE

NAMIBIA

BOTSWANA

MOZAMBIQUE

SWAZILAND

LESOTHO

ATLANTIC OCEAN

INDIAN OCEAN

Readiness:
23%
Operational: 60%

Readiness:
87%
Operational: 100%

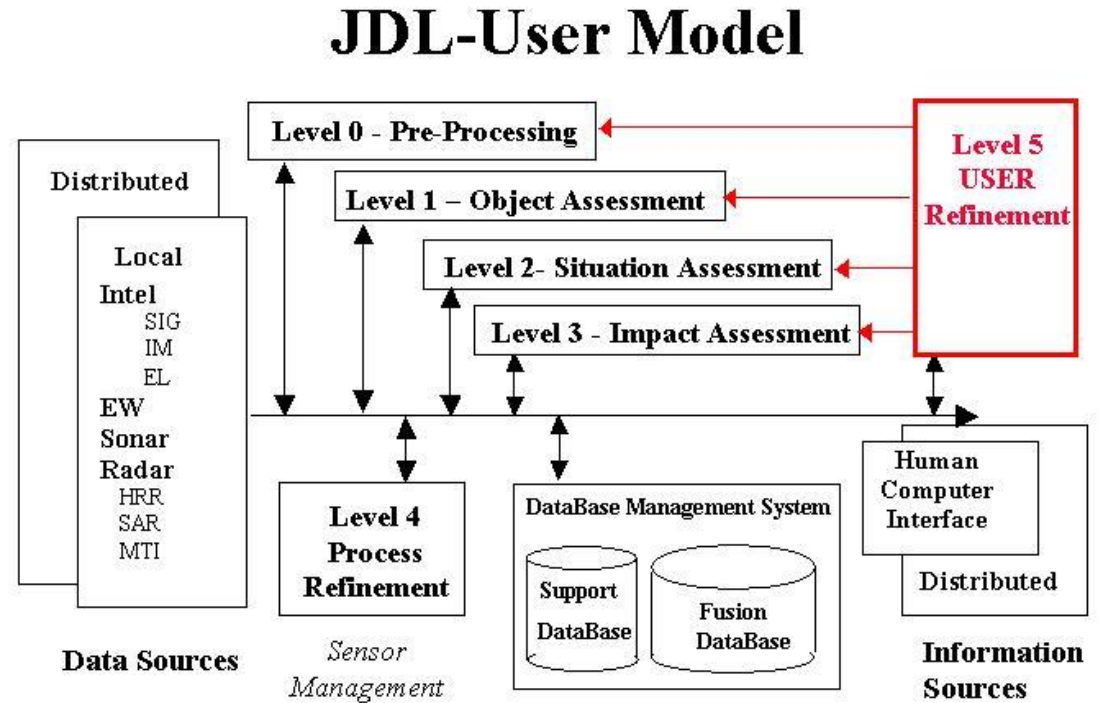
Readiness:
Unknown
Operational: 100%

Collaboration opportunities (2)

- Cyber ranges are used to test NW attacks e.g. Internet simulator but does not typically take EW capability into consideration
- Test operations prove EW capability, but does not typically take NW capability into consideration
- Consideration and inclusion of both fields in testing can stand to:
 - Extend the available attack surface for both EW and NW
 - Increase testing network fidelity

Collaboration opportunities (3)

- Multi sensor data fusion
 - Joint Directors of Laborator (JDL) model
 - Waltz model
- EW has a long history of successful data fusion
- NW has a volume of data that requires increased processing



Collaboration approaches

- Software Defined Radio (Prof Warren du Plessis)
 - Demonstrated decoding capability of commercial aircraft signals
 - Decoding of Automatic Identification Systems (AIS)
 - Decoding images from weather satellites
 - Decoding cellular signals, LTE included
 - Wi-Fi signal location and interception
- Low cost, cross platform and readily available

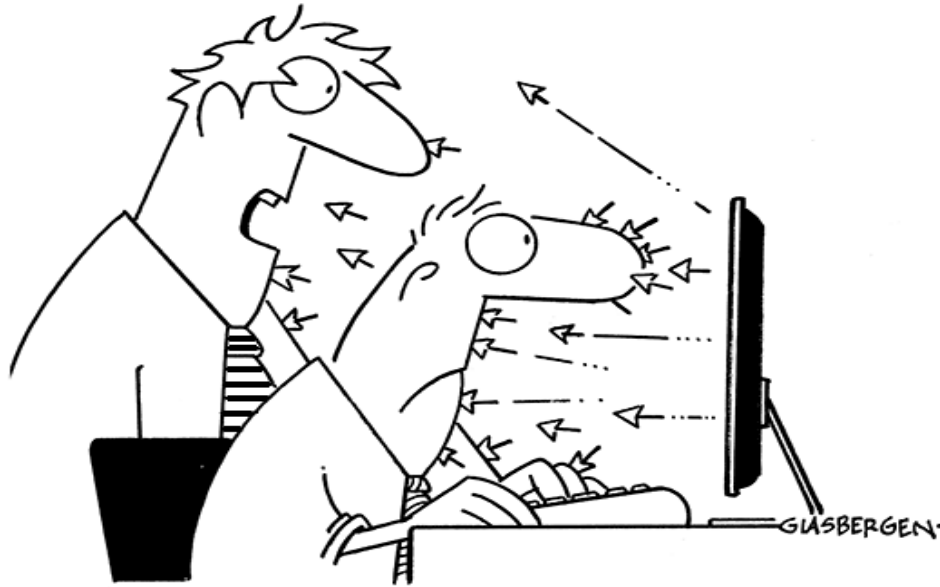


Conclusion

- The line between seemingly different domains are not always clearly defined
- It is however clear that the complexity present requires a multifaceted approach to effectively solve
- EW and NW have complementary roles, increased collaboration will only serve to enhance the effective capability of both pillars

Questions or comments?

© Randy Glasbergen
glasbergen.com



**“I’m no expert, but I think it’s
some kind of cyber attack!”**