UK Atomic Energy Authority

Functional Safety and Artificial Intelligence

Christopher Hume (UK Atomic Energy Authority) 20th Nov 2024



Auditority

Official

Regulation

UK AI Regulation Bill

- Al Authority
- Al Responsible Officers
- Regulatory Sandboxes
- Records Transparency

EU AI Act

- Within a four-tier system any use of AI in Safety Components or in Critical Infrastructure is to be considered High Risk.
- For High-Risk systems developers must:
 - o Ensure data quality
 - Systems capability assessment and limitations
 - Design to allow for effective Human Oversight





Standards

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- ISO/IEC TR 5469 (22440): Artificial intelligence Functional Safety and AI Systems.
 - Extends IEC 61508 defines terminology and considerations but not rules to achieve integrity levels.
- VDE-AR-E 2842-61: Development and Trustworthiness of Autonomous Cognitive Systems
 - Extends IEC 61508 addresses trustworthiness as an expansion of the safety concept to incorporate elements such as ethics
- UL4600: Standard for Safety for the Evaluation of Autonomous Products
 - Focused on Autonomous Vehicles and compatible with IEC 26262 and ISO/PAS 21448.



Figure 2: Aspects of Trustworthiness



Classification and Evaluation

- Technology Class The degree to which the AI technology can be developed and reviewed under existing Functional Safety Standards and frameworks.
- Usage Level Whether the AI technology is used within:
 - o Operation or Development
 - Primary Function or Diagnostics or Indirect impact (such as demand rate)
- Advanced Technology Class and Usage Level should not be Combined!
- Maximising Explainability and Transparency
 - Network Visualisation and Inspection
 - Input Masking

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- Environmental Complexity
 - Appropriate Requirements and Reward Function



Nuclear Decommissioning – Use for Al

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Decommissioning with human operators will always put human operators at risk Lots of protective equipment, high supervision, highly procedural, slow



Difficult tasks to automate, complex environments,



RAICo Glovebox

First of a kind Autonomous Glovebox Safety Case Development







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SACE

- Guidance on the Safety Assurance of Autonomous Systems in Complex Environments (SACE) by the Assuring Autonomy International Programme (AAIP) at the University of York.
- A safety framework utilising systems engineering principles to plan and carry out an AI safety case for complex systems.





Use case for AI in fusion



Fusion Tokamak

- Future global fusion opportunity
- Proven, but fusion at-scale inevitably requires enhanced use of technology
- Challenges involve:
 - Sense and control
 - Disruption mitigations
 - Big Data
 - Radiation (short-lived)
 - Complex System-of-Systems



Plasma Instabilities As A Hazard

- Plasma instabilities threaten the viability of fusion reactors due to significant:
 - o Reactor vessel damage
 - Damage to supporting systems and utilities particularly divertors
 - o Plasma Loss
 - Some risk to humans but lower than Fission applications.
- Difficult problem for safety problem and control as instabilities grow rapidly and chaotically from microscopic turbulence.





AI Addressing Plasma Instabilities

- We have used Neural Networks to form surrogate models for the partial differential equations which predict plasma behaviour.
- Gaussian processes give Uncertainty Quantification for model accuracy and the action results.

Temp Density Confin Flux



Design

- Use of Supervising Functions
- Uncertainty related failures as a third failure type connected to forseeable misbehaviour

Uncertainty Confidence Indicators





- Structured Approach
 - Al Blueprints & Design Patterns



Future of Plasma Control and Safety

• Virtual and Physical Testing (Shattered Pellet Injection)





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Any Questions?





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	13:25	Slot A-7: <i>Functional Safety and</i>	Slot B-7: CASS 61511 Workshop
		Artificial Intelligence (AI)	Andrew Derbyshire – ERM
		Chris Hume – UKAEA RACE	Deepti Chauhan – Sensia
		Jon Wiggins – ABD Solutions	
	14:00	Slot A-8: Black Box Testing for	
		Functional Safety	
		Dr. Silke Kuball – EDF Energy	
	14:35	Slot A-9: Machinery Functional	Slot B-9: Functional Safety Tool
		Safety with IEC 62061 and ISO 13849	Qualification
		Paul Reeve – SILMETRIC	Hassan El Sayed – UL Solutions