

# HIT Standards Committee

Identifying Implementation Specifications & Gaps

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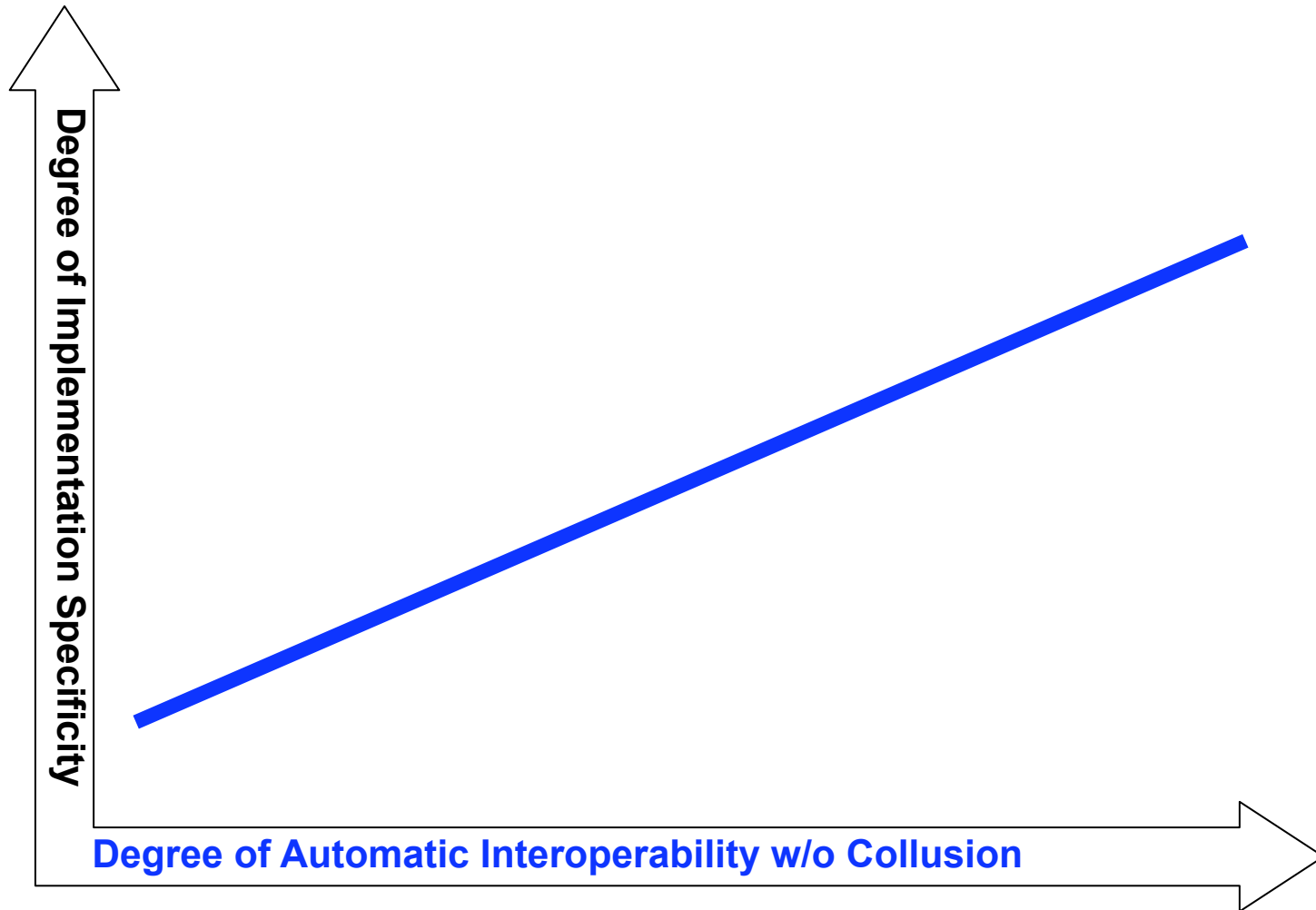
Healthcare Information Technology Standards Panel (HITSP)

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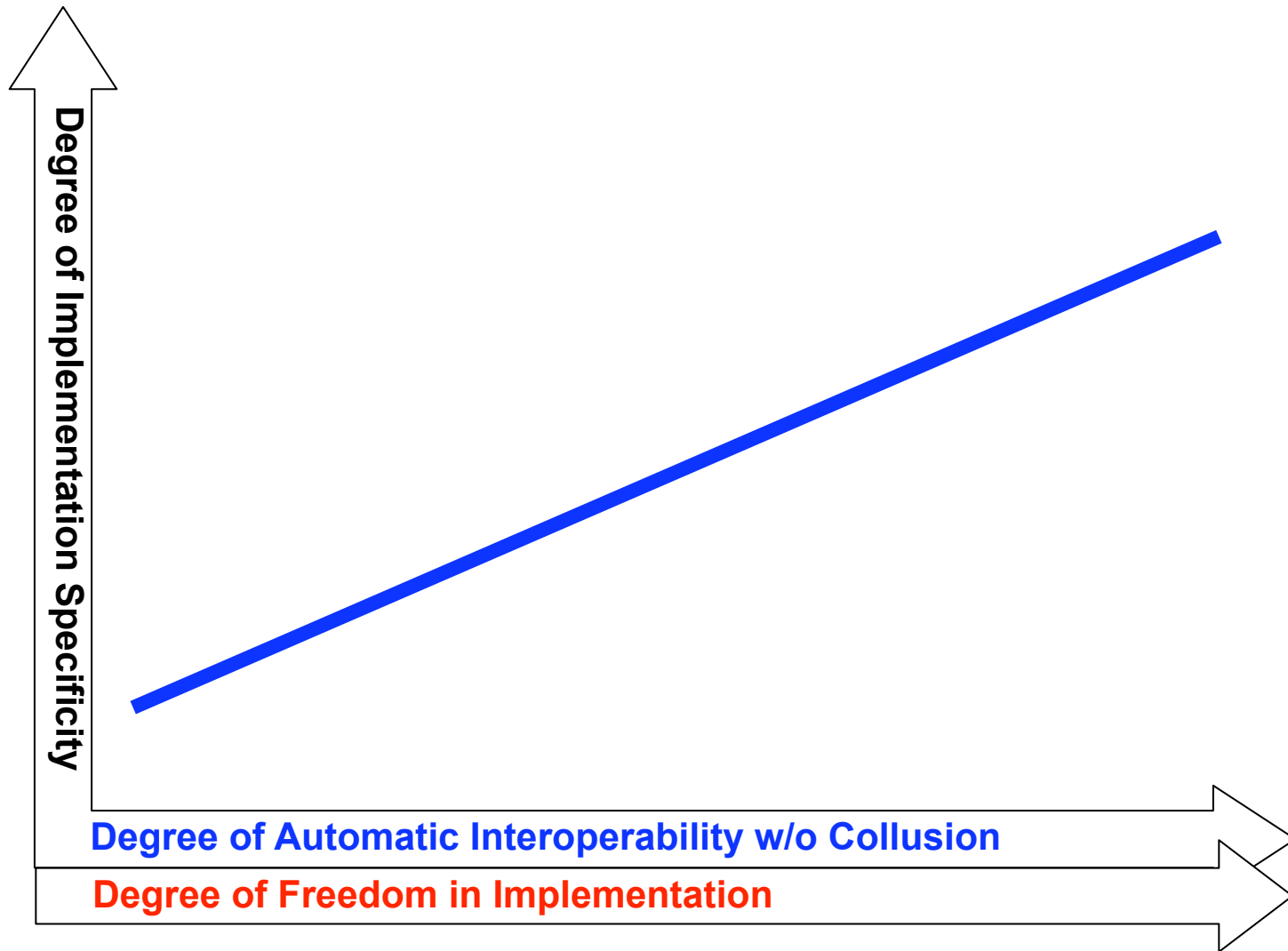
# What is Implementation Guidance?

- Implementation “guides” for standards come in many forms, and there is no universal definition
  - Can be as “simple” as the definition of the standard itself
  - Can be as “complex” as a full reference implementation
- Implementation guidance can span different areas of implementation, so it is a question of degree of guidance across the continuum
  - Format, content, encoding, technology, architecture, etc.
- Our useful definition of implementation should include the relationship to testing and/or certification for compliance determination

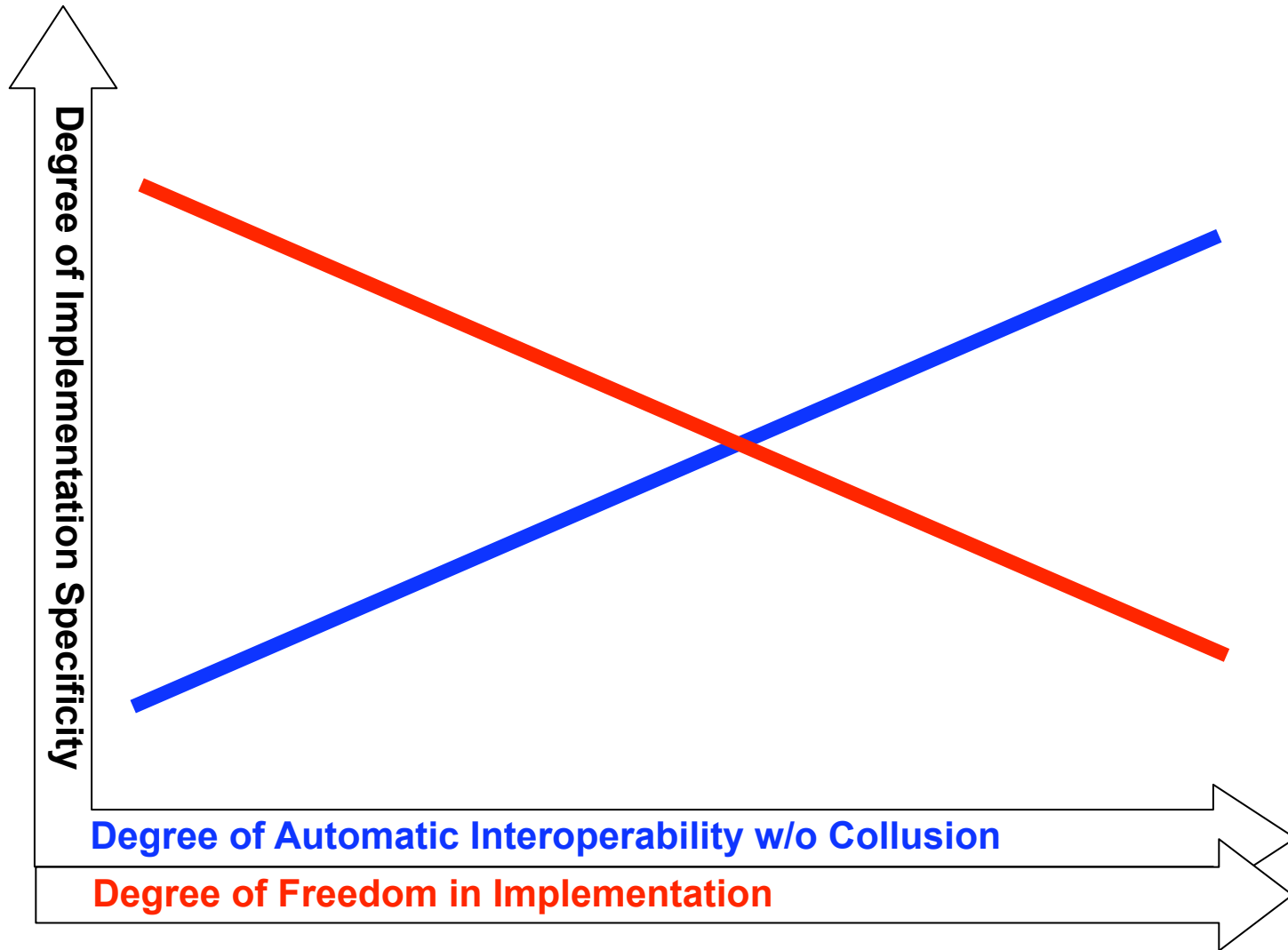
# Appropriate Level of Implementation Guidance



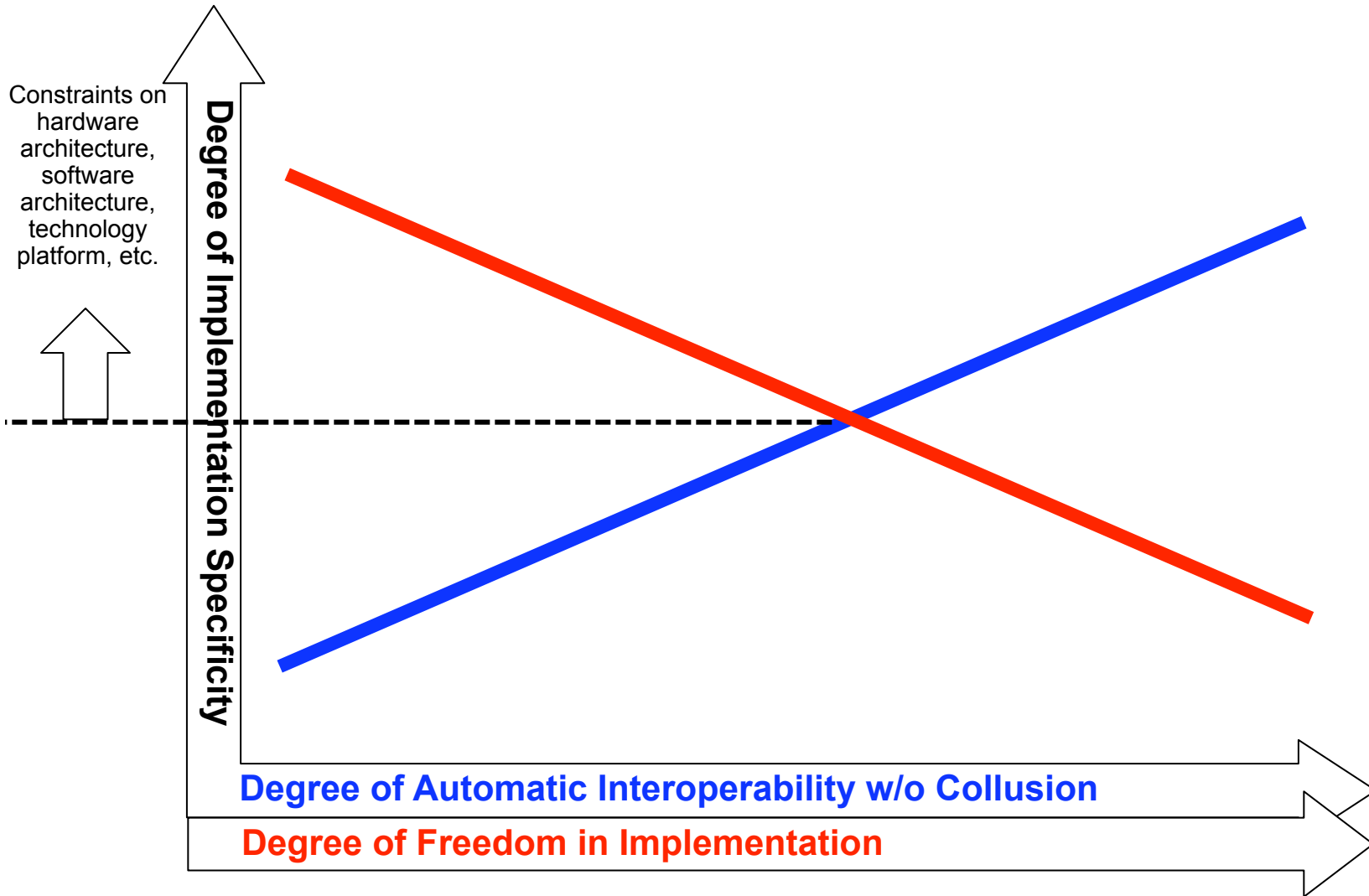
# Appropriate Level of Implementation Guidance



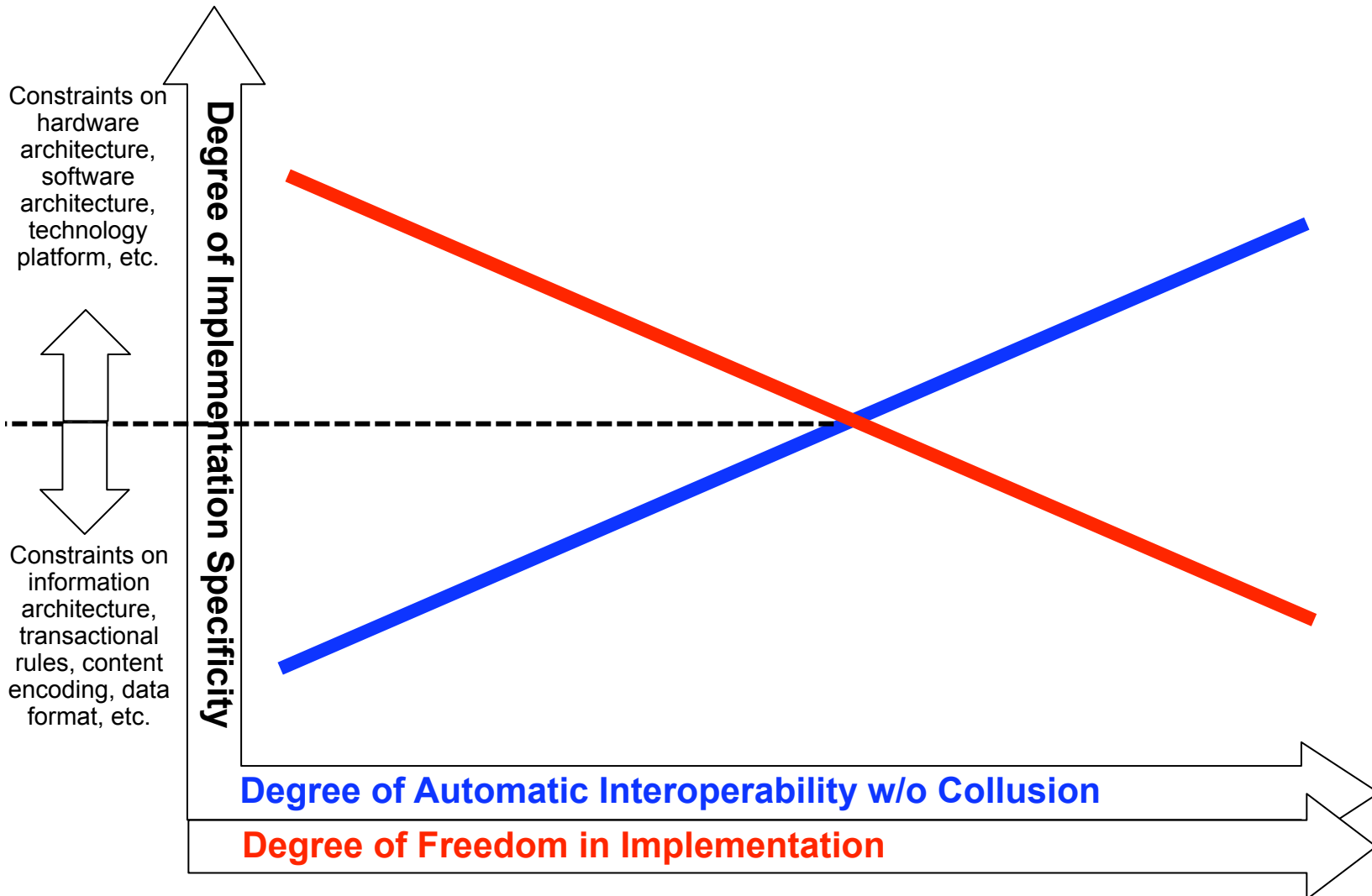
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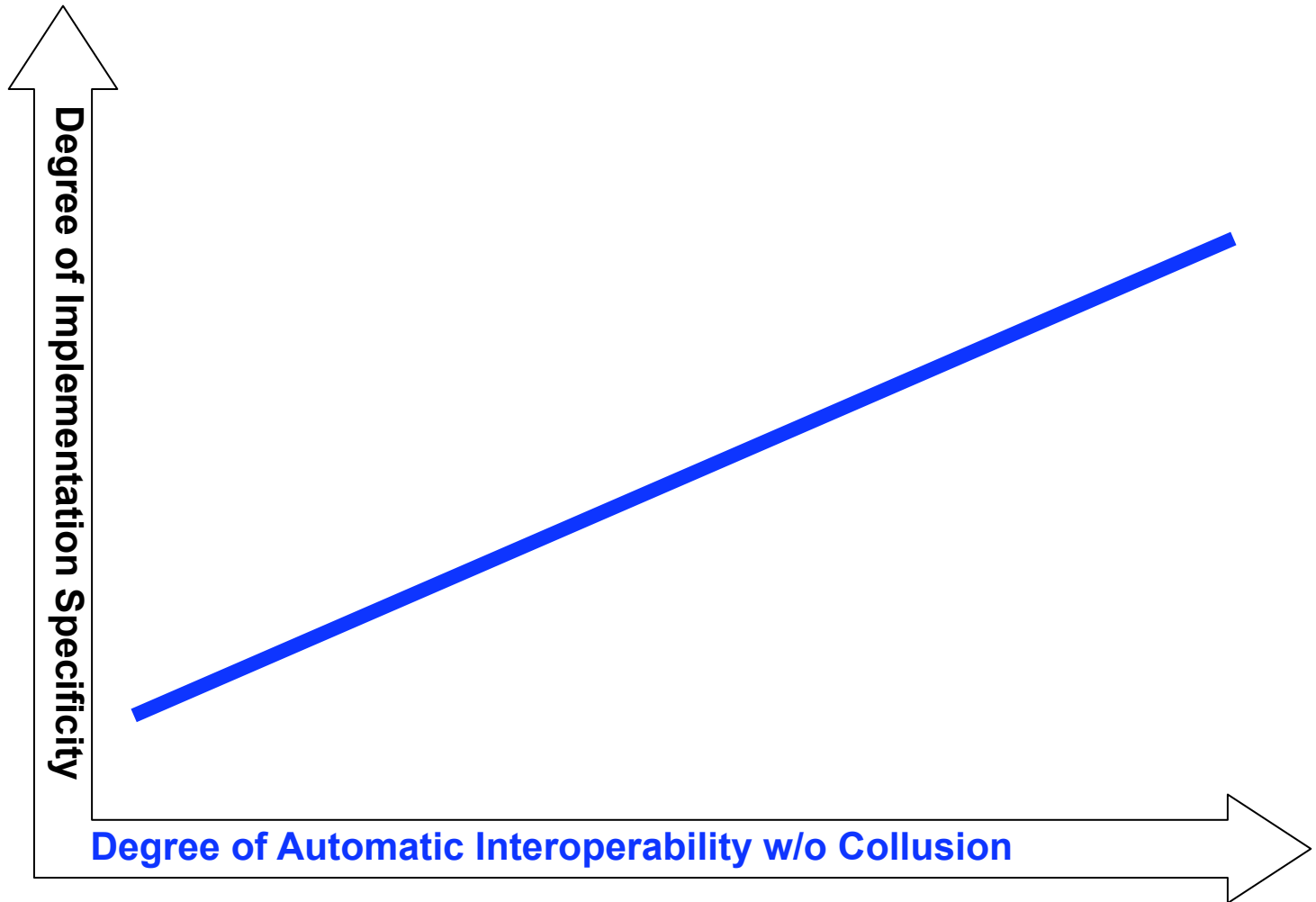
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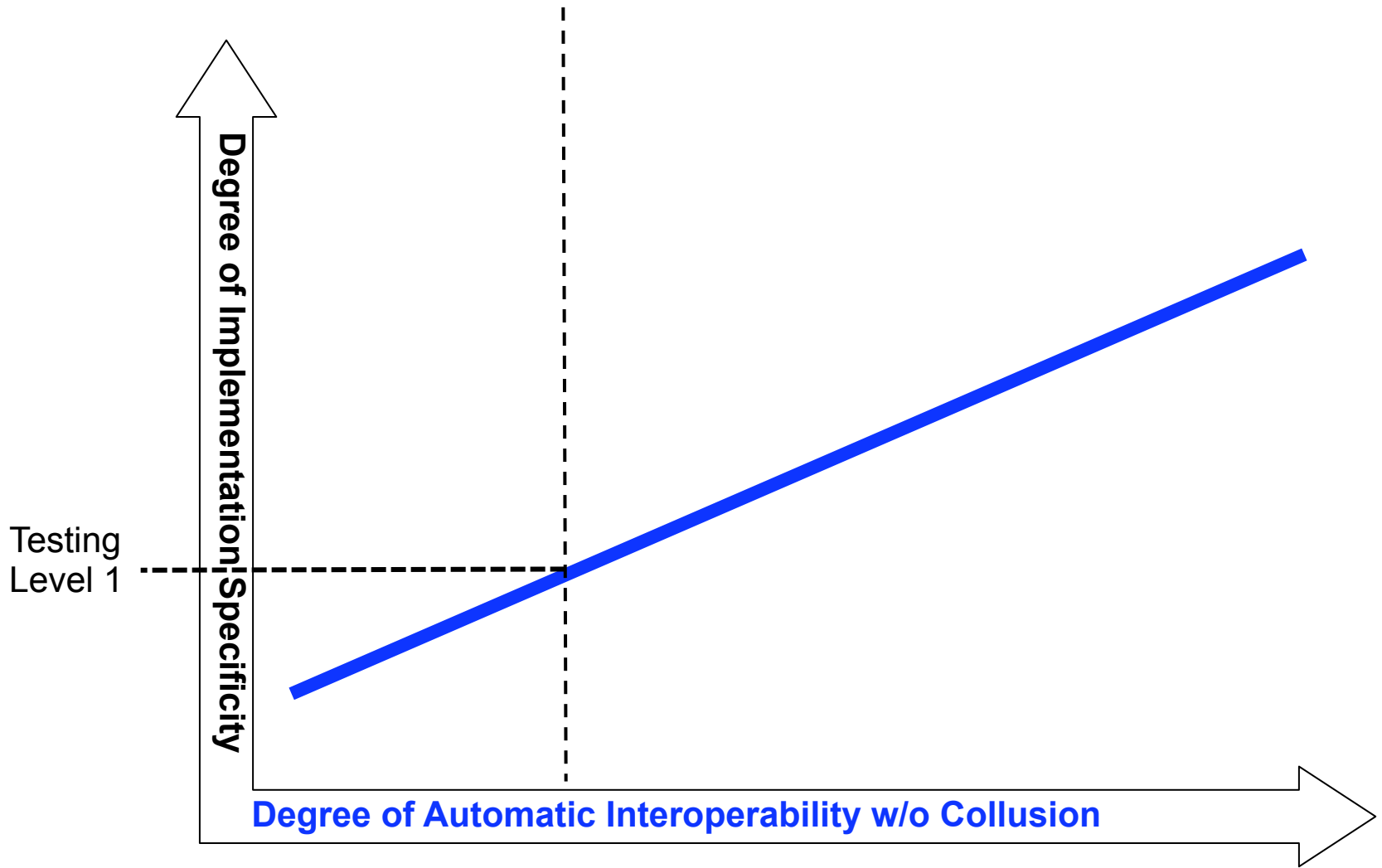


# Testing's Relationship to Implementation Guidance

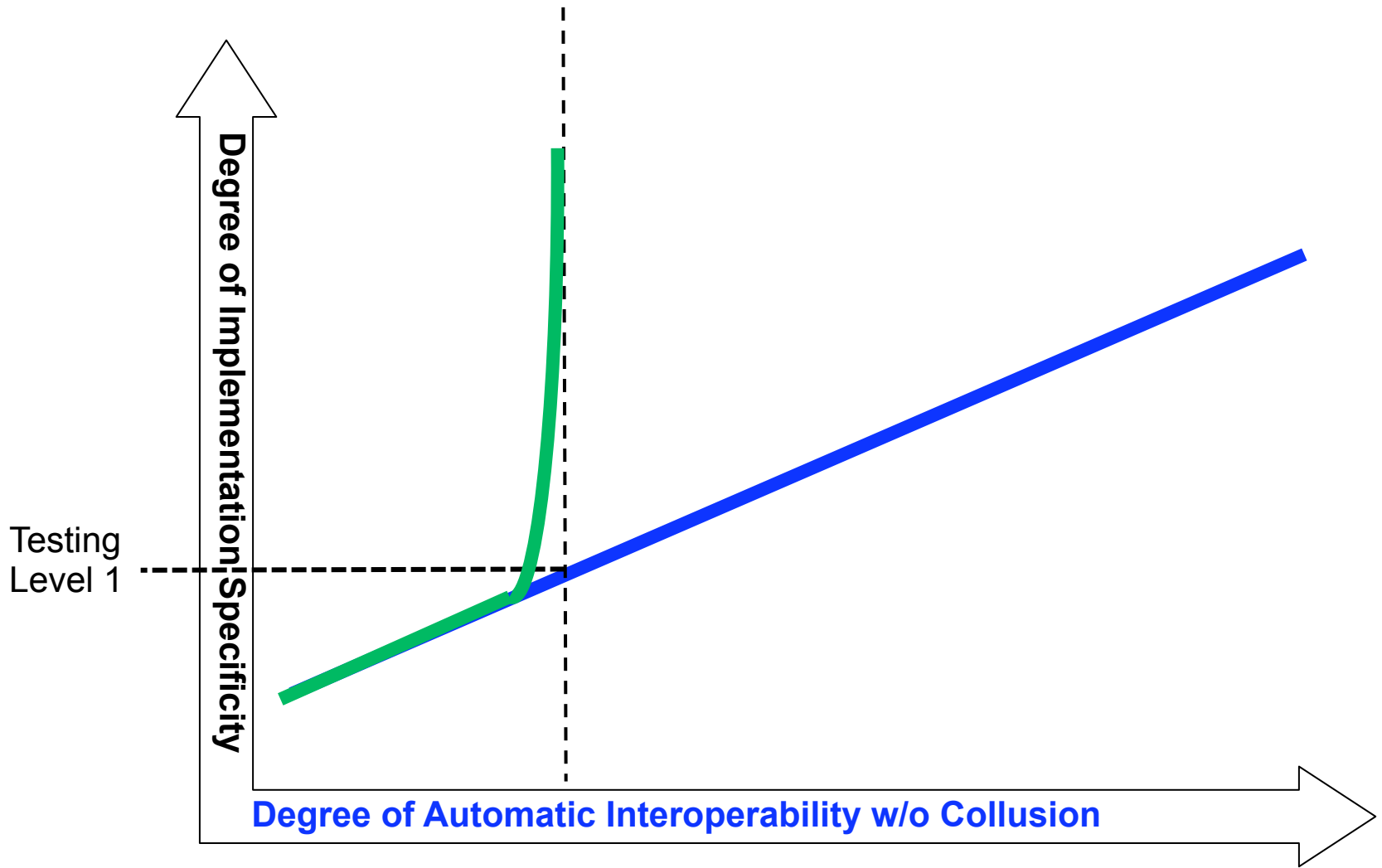




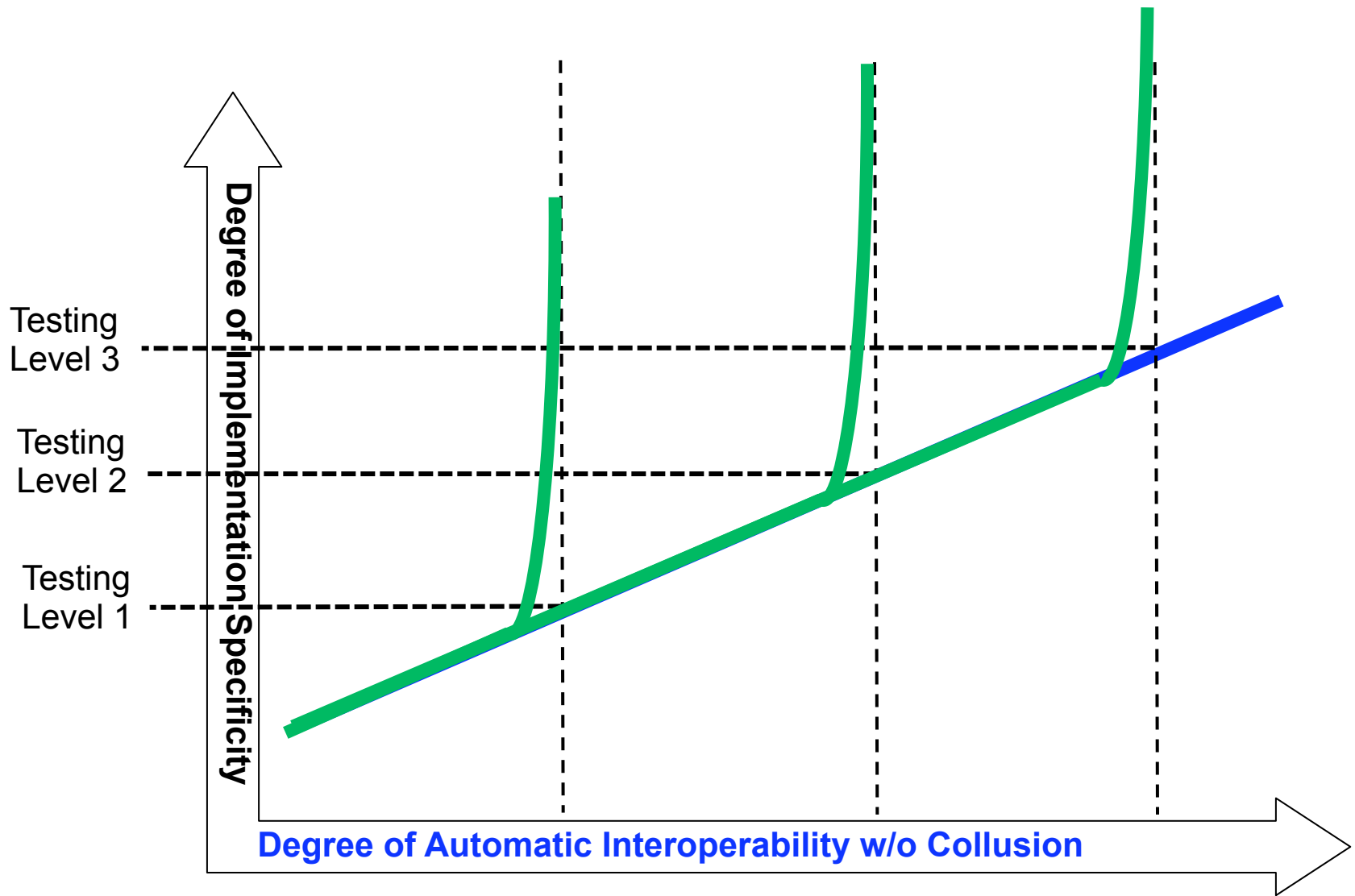
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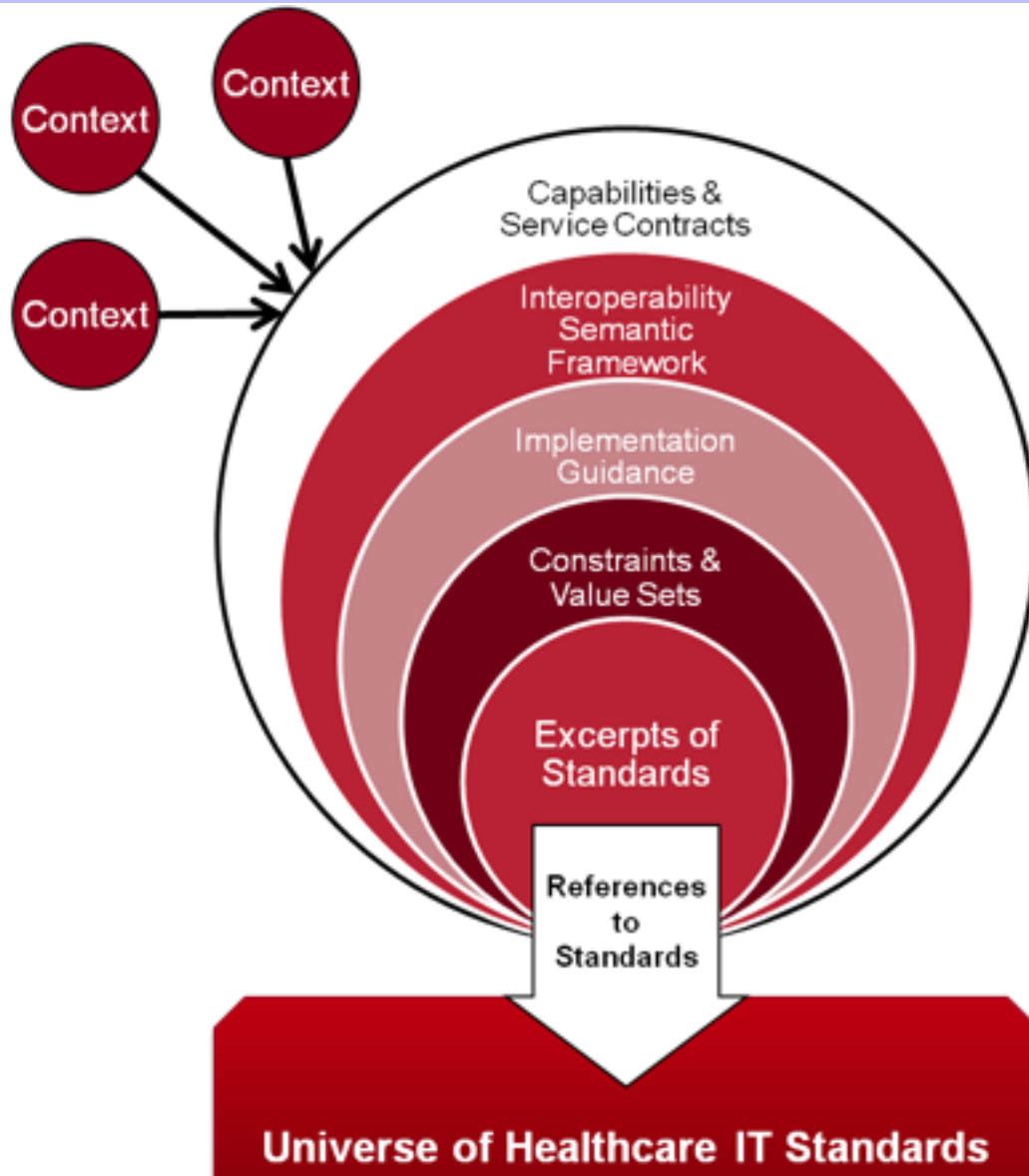
# Testing's Relationship to Implementation Guidance



# HITSP's Relationship to Implementation Guidance and Testing

- HITSP harmonizes standards by both:
  - identifying appropriate standards for interoperability *AND*
  - producing implementation guidance that is instructive on how to use the standards to produce solutions
- HITSP's goal is to produce a system of documentation that facilitates disparate implementers to create consistently implemented solutions, and thereby aid interoperability among systems
- HITSP's implementation guidance is testable, and NIST has testing materials for our body of work
- Therefore, in your selection of HITSP specifications as a part of your recommendations to ONC, you have enjoined implementation guidance already

# HITSP Does More Than Standards “Picking”



The HITSP system of documentation provides reusable and extensive implementation guidance, which grafts in implementation guides from multiple sources

# Comparison of Implementation Guidance Sources

Implementation Guidance Attribute	Base Standard	Base-Standard Implementation Guide	HITSP Implementation Guide
Data Format (e.g. message, document)	✓	✓	✓
Data Definition	✓	✓	✓
Baseline Transport Mechanisms	✓	✓	✓
Data Content Encoding (e.g. – vocabularies)		✓	✓
Data Encoding Value Sets			✓
Contextual Content Optionality		✓	✓
Universally-Defined Transactional Actors			✓
Required Additional Standards Enjoined (e.g. security)			✓
Contextual Conformance Requirements Enjoined			✓
Orchestrated Participation in Transaction			✓

# Conclusions

- It is important to tie the definition of testing and certification to the specific implementation guidance referenced
- The implementation guides available from HITSP unify several sources of implementation guidance into a consistent framework
- To the extent the HITSP work is referenced, the references should be to specific HITSP artifacts so all of the attendant implementation guidance is included