

# The Semantically Reflected Digital Twin

CAMPaM 2023 Tutorial

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## **Today**

- **Part I Digital Twins Introduction:  
Concepts and Engineering Perspectives**
- **Part II Modelling Knowledge using Semantic  
Technologies**
- **Part III Semantically Reflected Digital Twins**

# Digital Twins — The Hype

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## Success stories

1. GE experienced 5–7% increase of energy production from digitizing wind farms
2. Johns Hopkins Hospital's centre for clinical logistics reported 80% reduction of operating theatre holds due to delays
3. For the Johan Sverdrup oil field, digital twin innovations have boosted earnings by \$216 million in one year

# Digital Twins: Emerging Engineering Discipline

- DTs originally conceived at NASA for the space program.
- They have emerged as an engineering discipline, based on **best practices**



## NASA's definition of a DT

*"an **integrated multi-physics, multi-scale**, probabilistic simulation of a vehicle or system that uses the **best available** physical models, sensor updates, fleet history, etc., to **mirror the life of its flying twin**. It is **ultra-realistic** and may consider one or more important and interdependent vehicle systems"*

NASA Modeling, Simulation, Information Tech. & Processing Roadmap, 2010

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Is a digital twin just another word for “control system”?

# DTs & Models

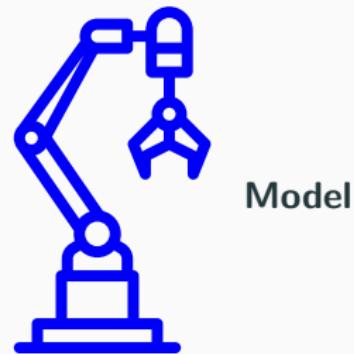
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A digital twin integrates aspects of models and control systems

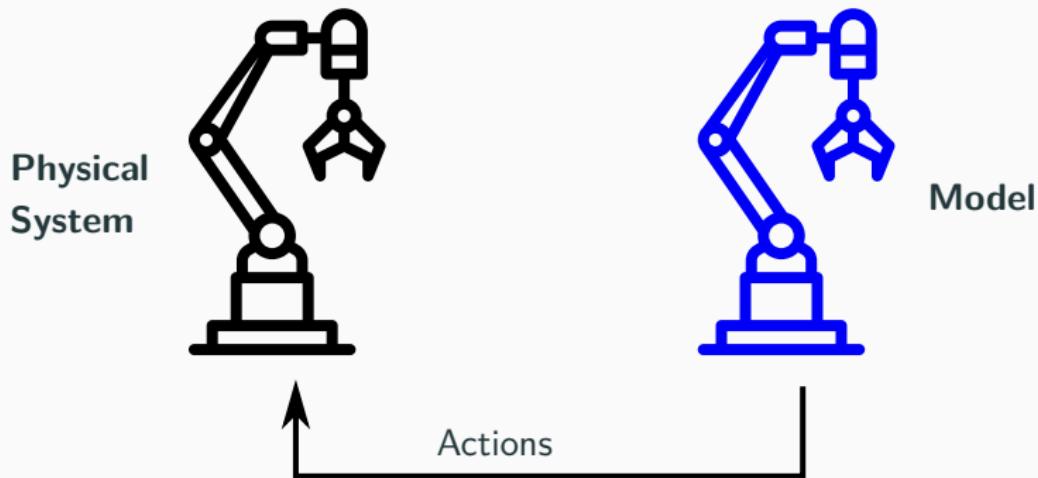
# What is a Digital Twin?



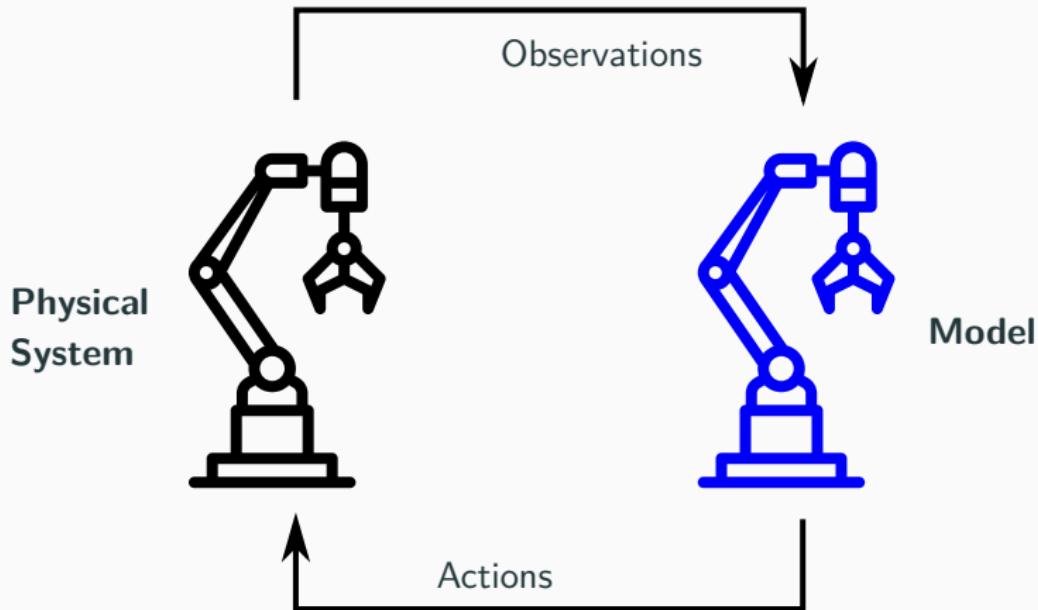
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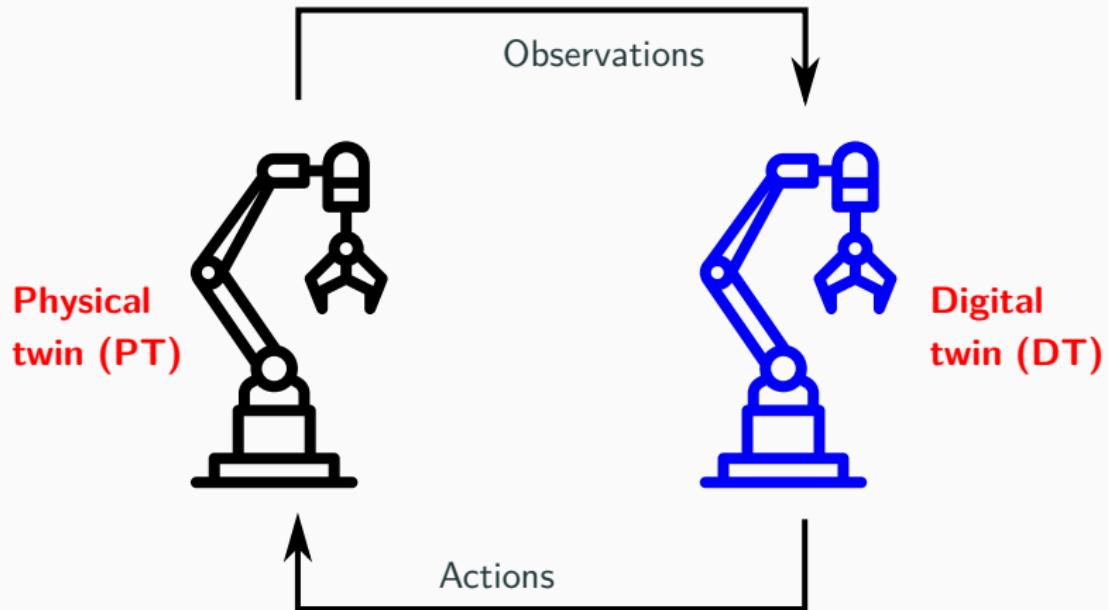
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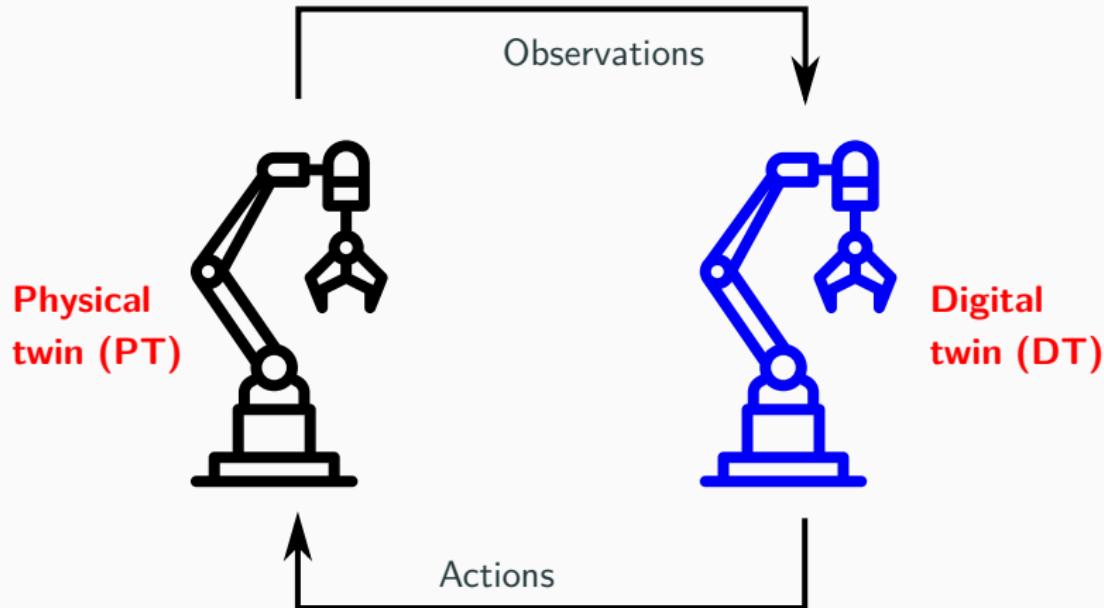
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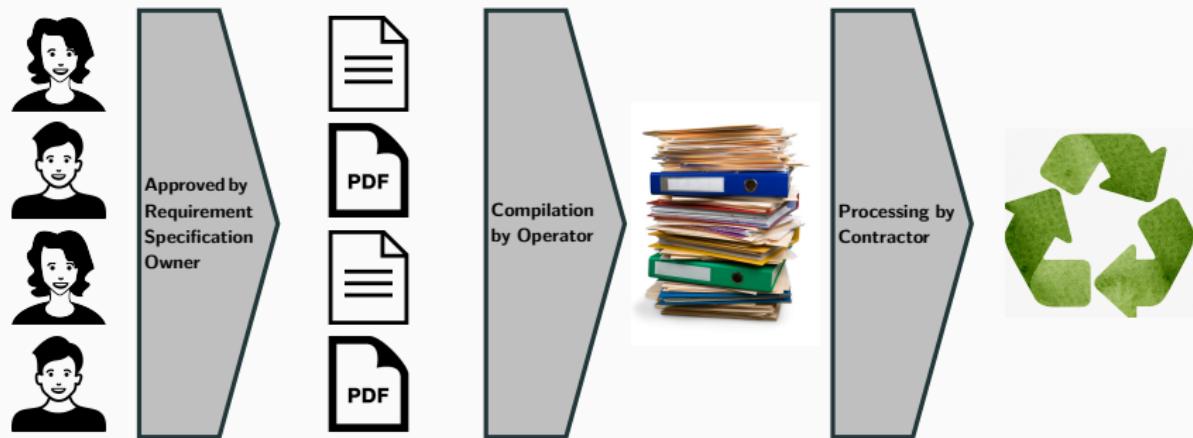
## Digital Twin

1. DT is a live replica of a physical system (PT)
2. DT is connected to PT in near real-time via data streams

# Lifecycle Management

## Digital Thread: The Digital Twin Evolves in Tandem with the Asset

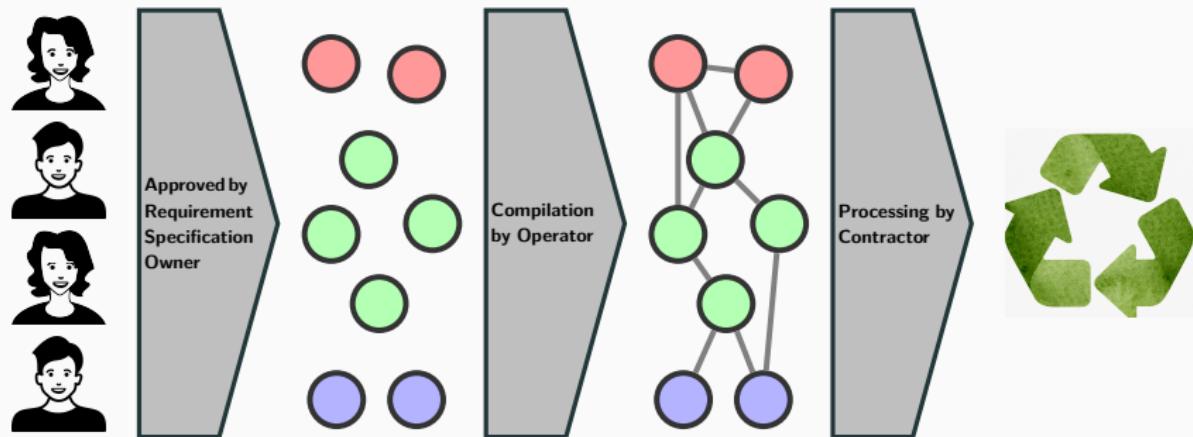
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2. Connects the different phases of the system to the DT: design, development, operation, decommissioning, ...



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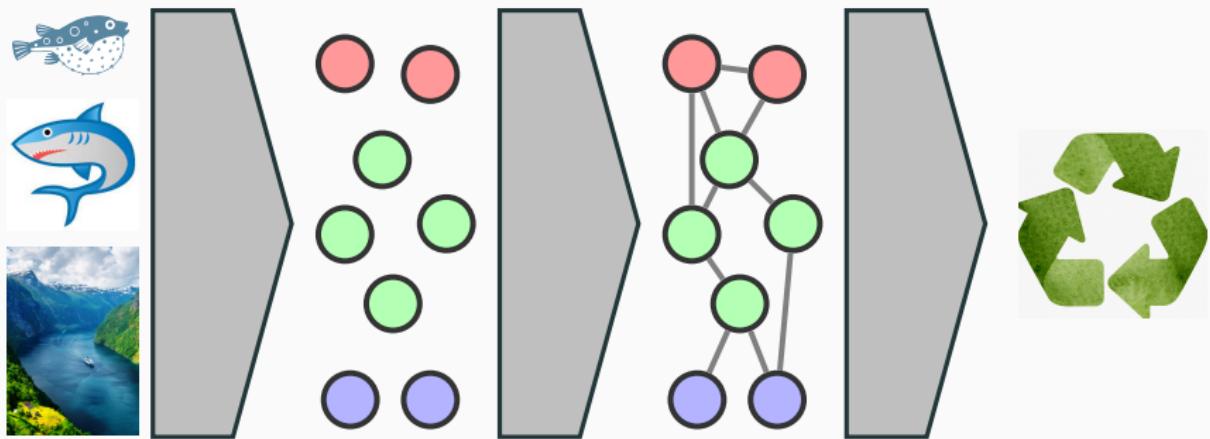
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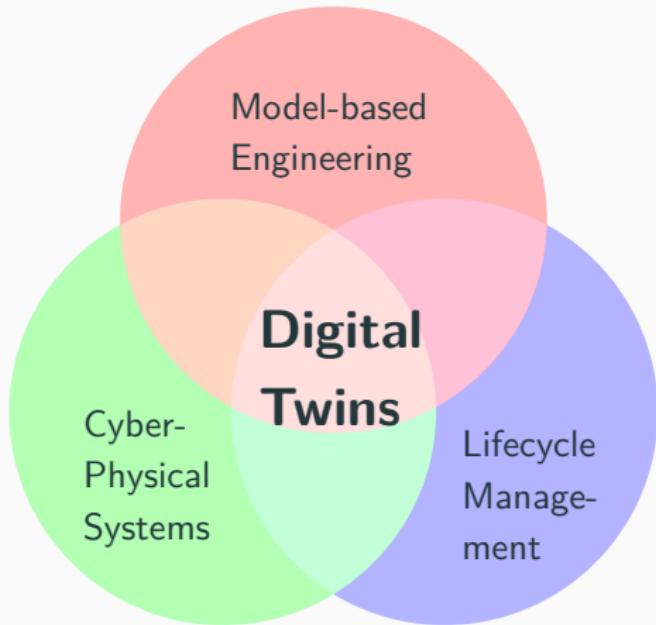
# Lifecycle Management

## Digital Thread: The Digital Twin Evolves in Tandem with the Asset

1. Connects the designs, requirements and software that go into the system represented by the DT
2. **What are the lifecycle events for operational systems?**



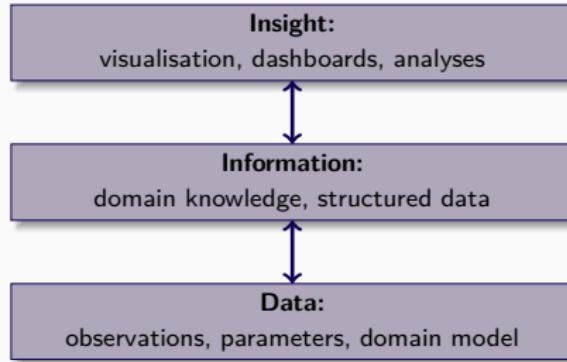
# Digital Twins: A New Paradigm in SE?



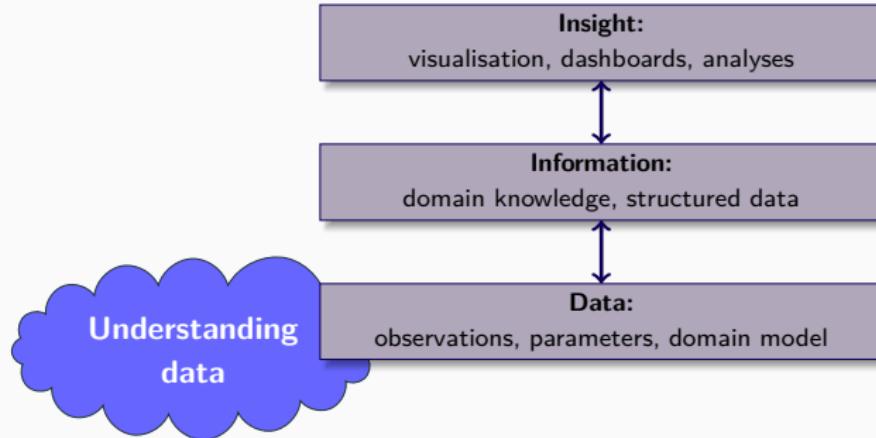
## DTs: a new paradigm in SE

- Models go beyond the system design phase
- **Model-centric systems**  
the purpose is not models to build software, but software to maintain models
- **Model evolution:**  
reflect changes to the asset (automatically) throughout its lifetime
- **CPS in-the-large:**  
distributed, heterogeneous

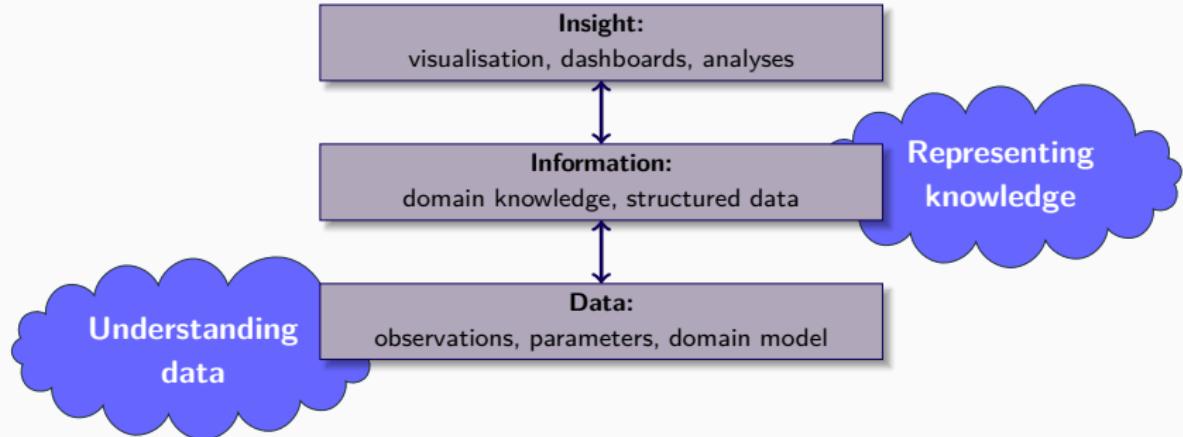
# The Conceptual Layers of a Digital Twin



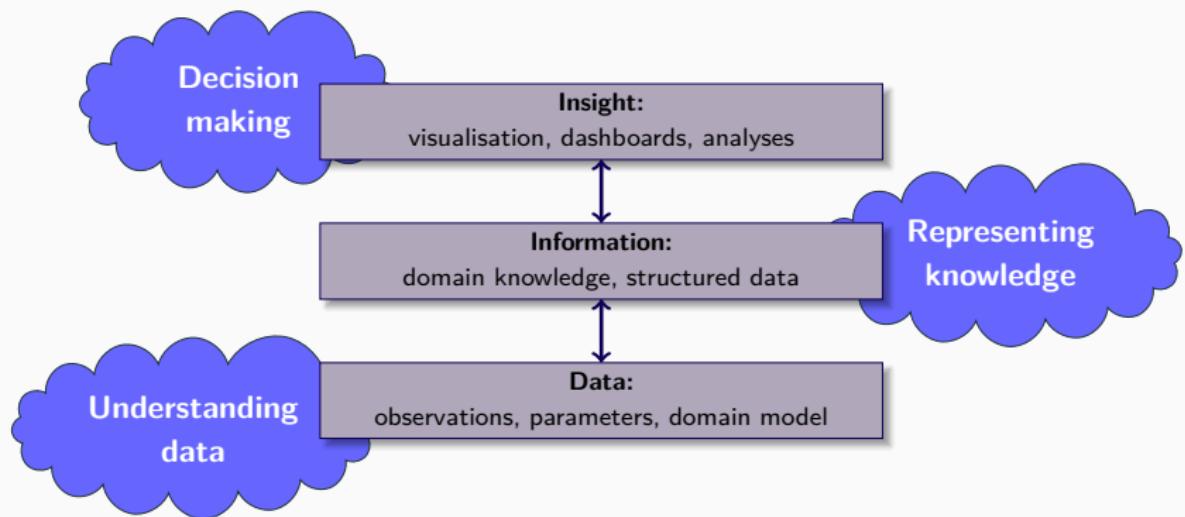
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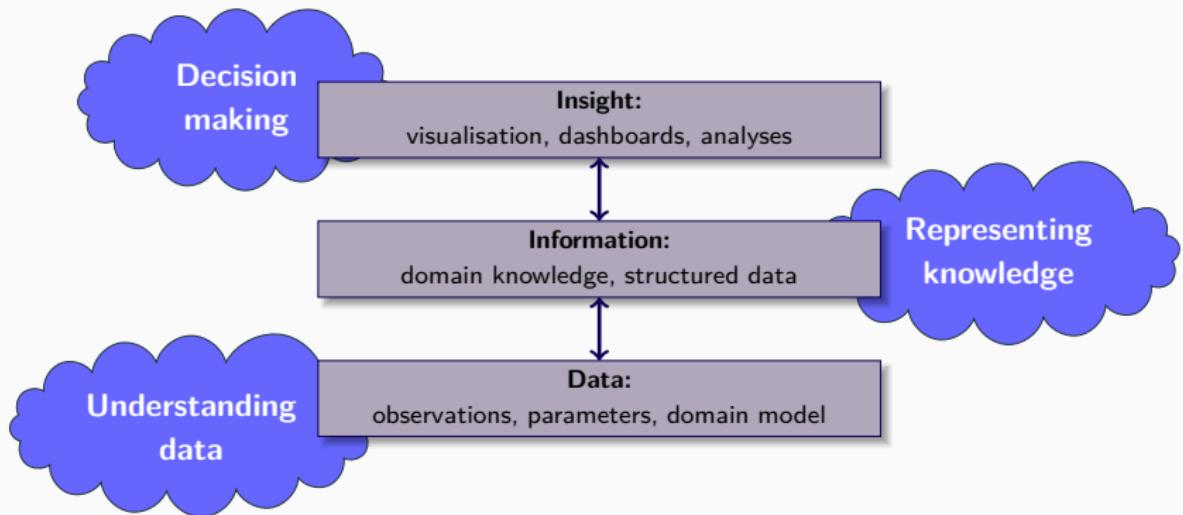
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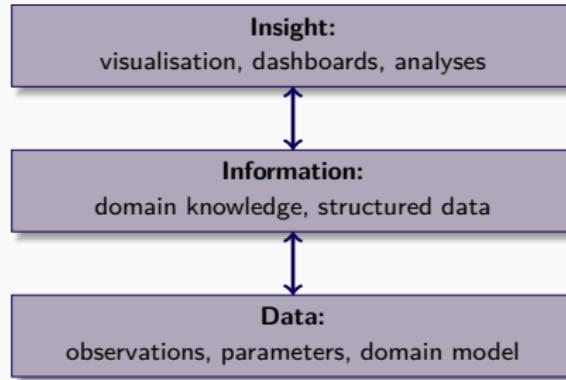


# The Conceptual Layers of a Digital Twin



- **Descriptive:** Insight into the past (“what happened” scenarios)
- **Predictive:** Understanding the future (“what may happen” scenarios)
- **Prescriptive:** Advise on possible outcomes (“what if” scenarios)
- **Reactive:** Automated decision making

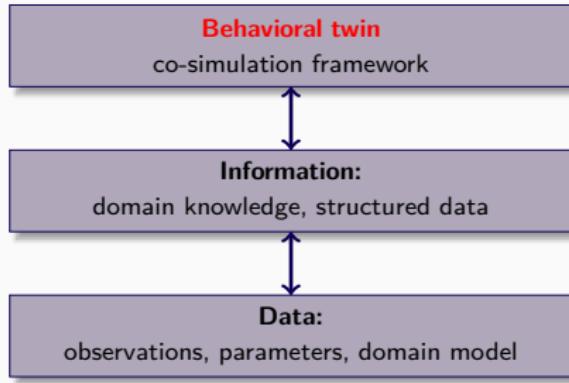
# From Information to Insight (and Back Again)



## Between information and insight

- Interesting to explore relations between the different layers: information and insight
- We are currently exploring connections between behavioral analyses (e.g., using simulators) and knowledge representation in the information layer

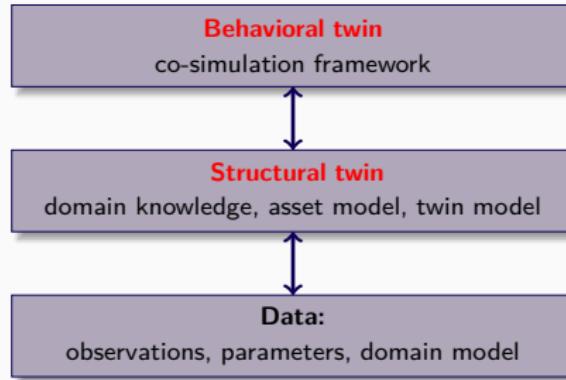
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- Conceptual clearness, semantics, compositionality
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## What is the role of knowledge representation in digital twins?

- Structural twin: uniformly represent knowledge about PT and DT
- Reasoning support that can exploit this knowledge
- Allows correctness properties to be expressed as relations between DT and PT

# Outline: The Semantically Reflected Digital Twin

In the following, we describe a digital twin architecture using formal methods based on three technologies/techniques.

## SWT

Semantic Web Technologies for uniform knowledge representation and integration of domain knowledge (part II).

## FMI

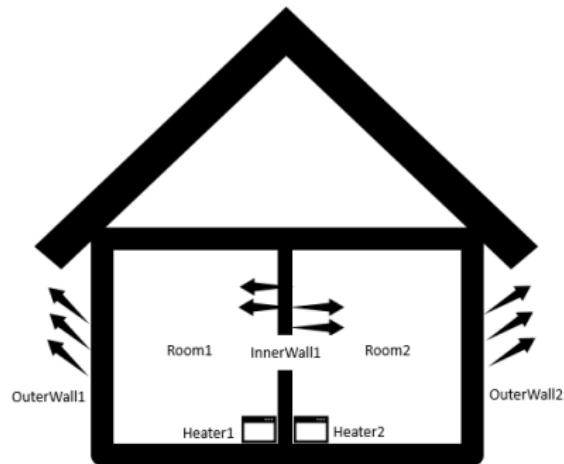
The Functional Mock-Up Interface standard for interfaces between PT and DT, as well as simulations (part III).

## SMOL

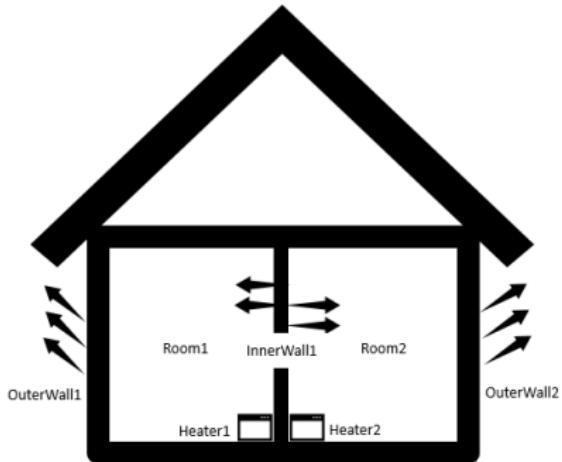
Semantic Reflection to reason about PT and DT through the integration of SWT and FMI into a programming language (part IV).

The system is implemented in **SMOL**, a unique language designed specifically for integration of SWT and programming.

## Example: House heating



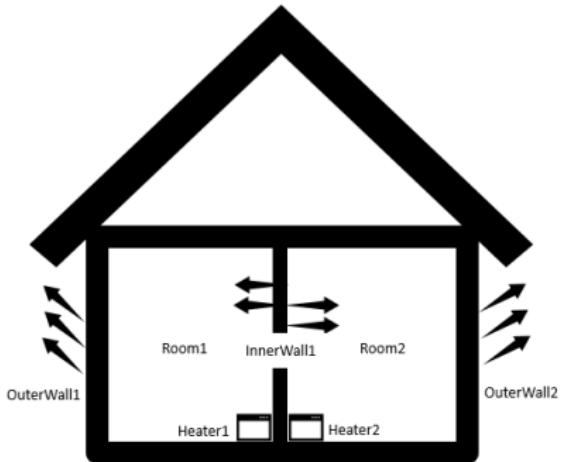
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## Structural twin

- **Asset model: Domain knowledge**  
connects the rooms, heaters, walls  
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- **Asset model: Instance**  
instance of the domain knowledge  
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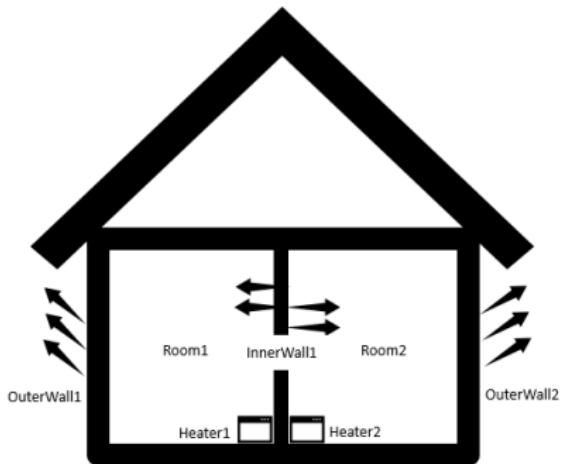
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1. **Digital twin infrastructure:** coordinates simulation units
2. **Twin configuration:** coupled simulation units

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- **Twin model: Domain & Instance**  
instance of the domain knowledge for the behavioral twin

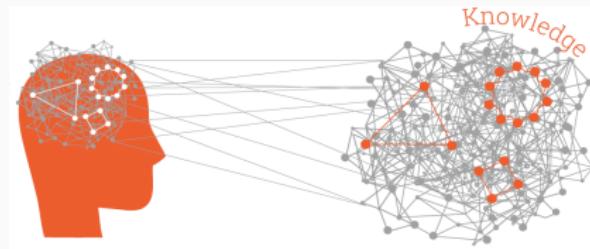
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# Semantic Technologies



- Knowledge can be described ad hoc or in a structural manner
- Semantic Technologies facilitate the description of structured knowledge, consistency checking and reasoning
- W3C standards and well known technologies:
  - For data: RDF (Resource description framework)
  - For knowledge: OWL (Web Ontology language)
  - For queries: SPARQL(an RDF query language)

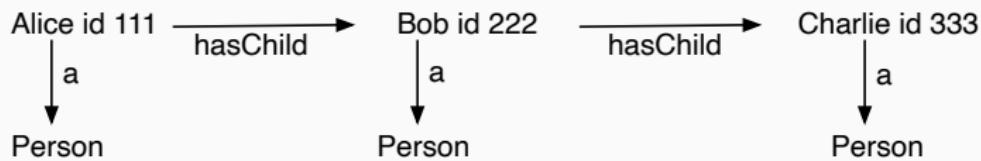
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Data in **RDF** is expressed using a triple pattern, which consists of a *subject*, a *predicate*, and an *object*

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**Example:**



Here 'Alice' is subject, 'a' is predicate, 'Person' is object,  
'Alice' is subject, 'id' is predicate, '111' is object, ....

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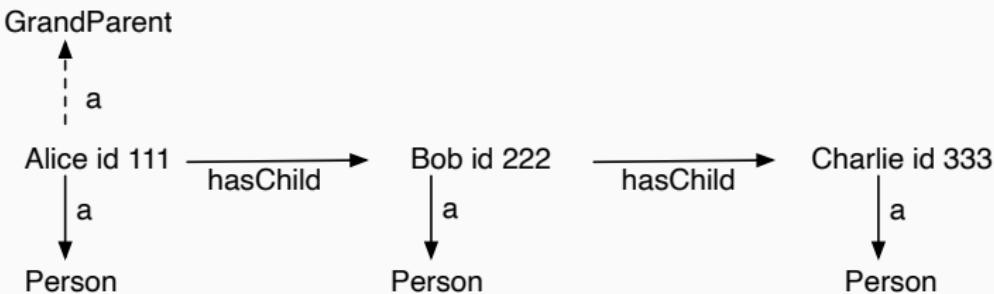
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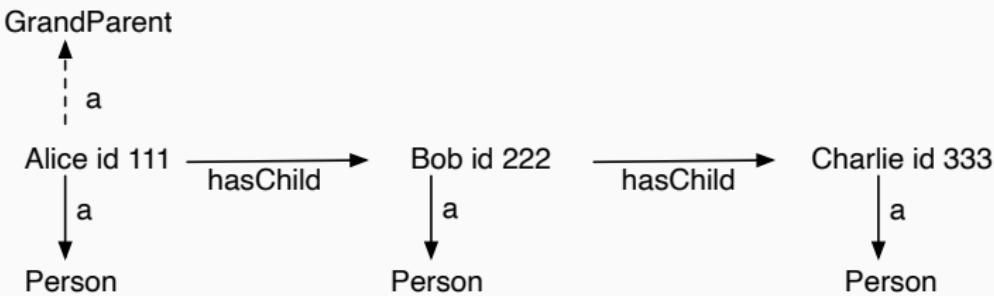
$$\forall x \exists y \exists z \cdot \text{hasChild}(x, y) \wedge \text{hasChild}(y, z) \wedge \text{Person}(z) \implies \text{GrandParent}(x)$$

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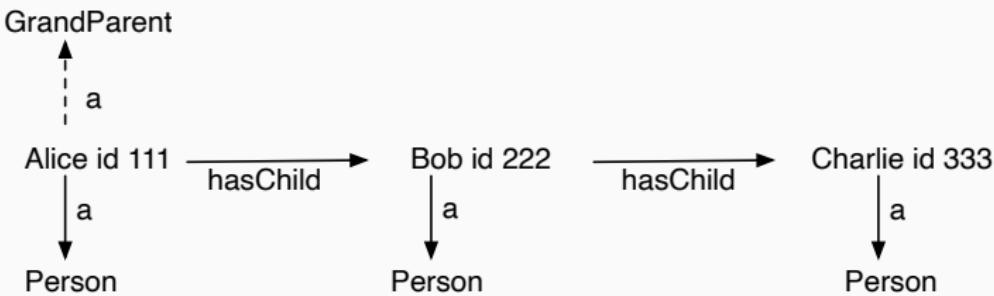
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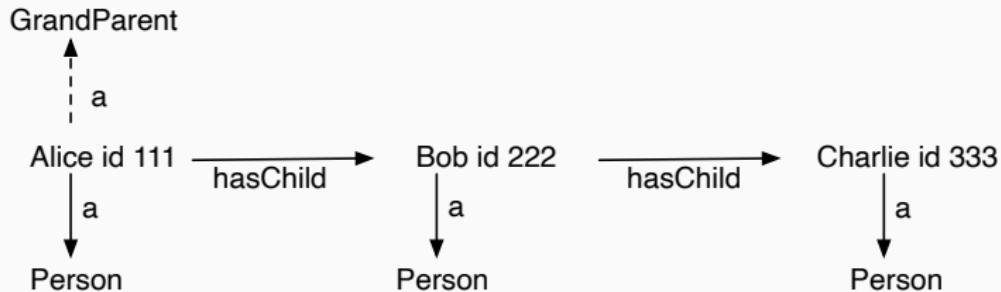
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- Ontologies represent knowledge that is incremented over time

# SPARQL

**SPARQL** is an RDF query language:  
a query language for databases stored in RDF format

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```
SELECT ?x WHERE { ?x a :Person }
```

```
SELECT ?x ?y WHERE { ?x a :Person. ?x :hasChild ?y }
```

```
SELECT ?x WHERE { ?x a :GrandParent }
```

# Example in Protégé

The screenshot shows the Protégé interface with two main panels:

**Object properties** panel (left):

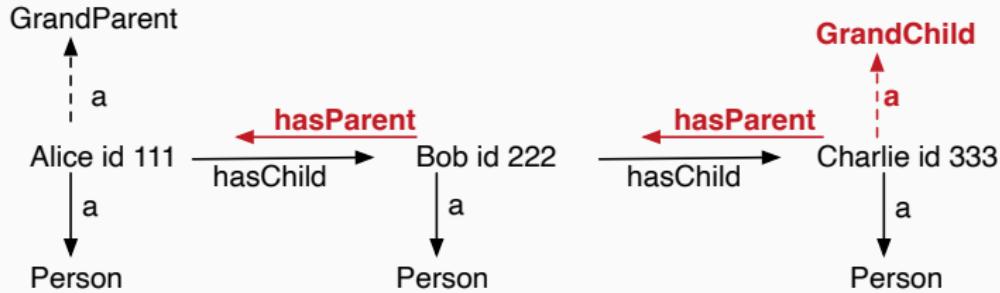
- Annotations
- Description: **hasChild**
- Equivalent To
- SubProperty Of **owl:topObjectProperty**
- Inverse Of
- Domains (intersection)  
● **Person**
- Ranges (intersection)  
● **Person**
- Disjoint With

**Classes** panel (right):

- Annotations
- Description: **Person**
- Equivalent To
- SubClass Of
- General class axioms  
● **hasChild some (hasChild some Person) SubClassOf GrandParent**
- SubClass Of (Anonymous Ancestor)
- Instances  
● **Maria**  
● **Paul**  
● **Peter**

# Exercise

Add the GrandChild Class and the hasParent property.



**Hint:**

$$\forall x \exists y \exists z \cdot \text{hasParent}(x, y) \wedge \text{hasParent}(y, z) \wedge \text{Person}(z) \implies \text{GrandChild}(x)$$

**Download the example from:** <https://github.com/smolang/SemanticObjects/blob/master/examples/tutorialfiles.zip>

**File:** example1a.ttl

# Asset modelling

## Asset model in the engineering domain

An asset model is an organized, digital description of the composition and properties of an asset

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- In the engineering domain it is common practice to build asset models to support, e.g., maintenance, operations, design etc.
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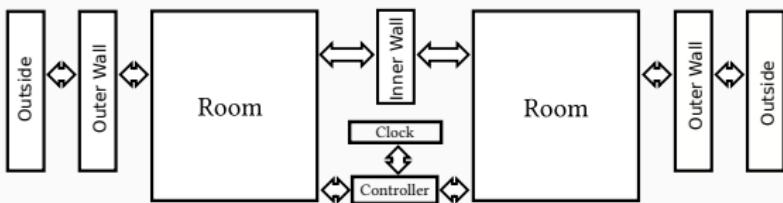
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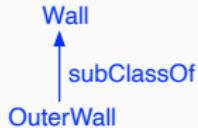
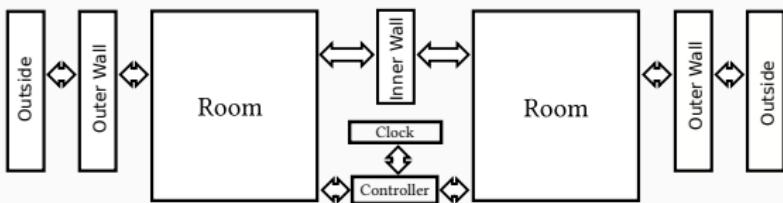
## Asset models & digital twins

Assets models are any object of interest in a digital twin. They provide the twin with knowledge about the static structure that can be used for the twin's simulation model

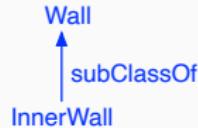
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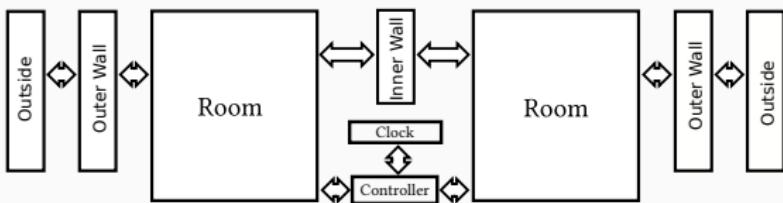
Room



Room



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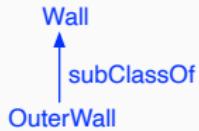
w1 id 21

r1 id 13

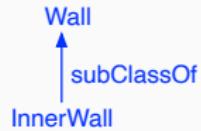
w2 id 22

r2 id 12

w3 id 23



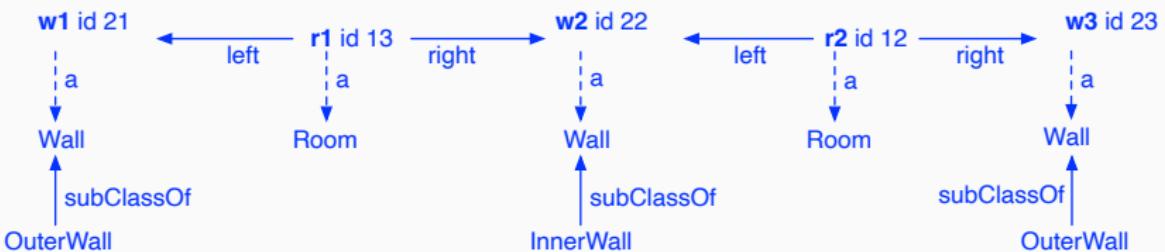
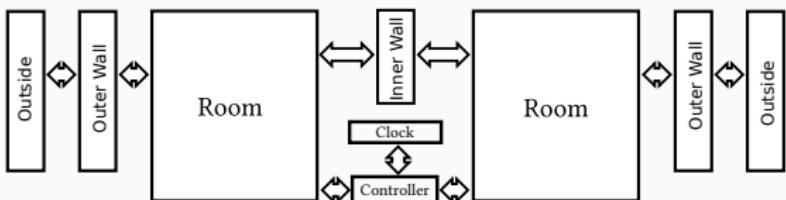
Room



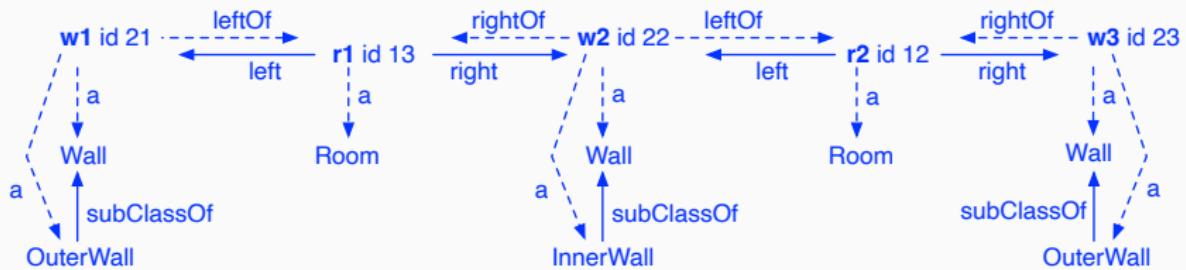
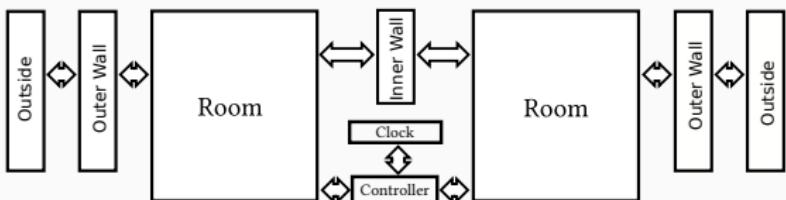
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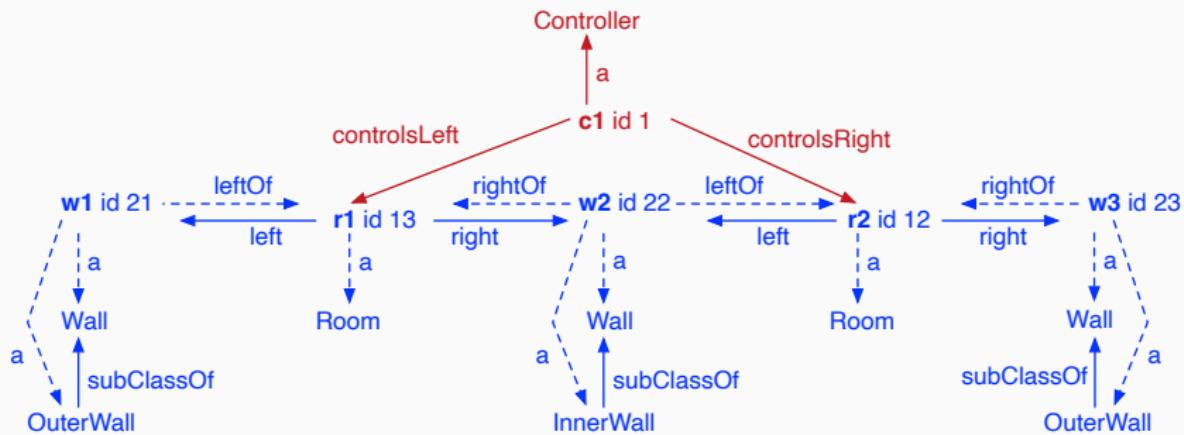
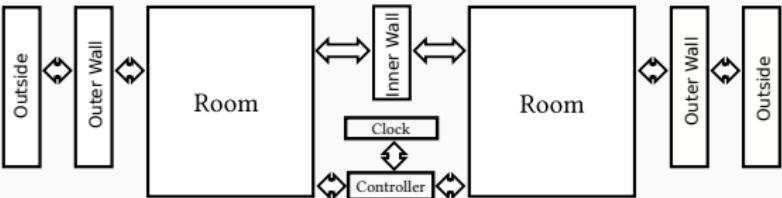
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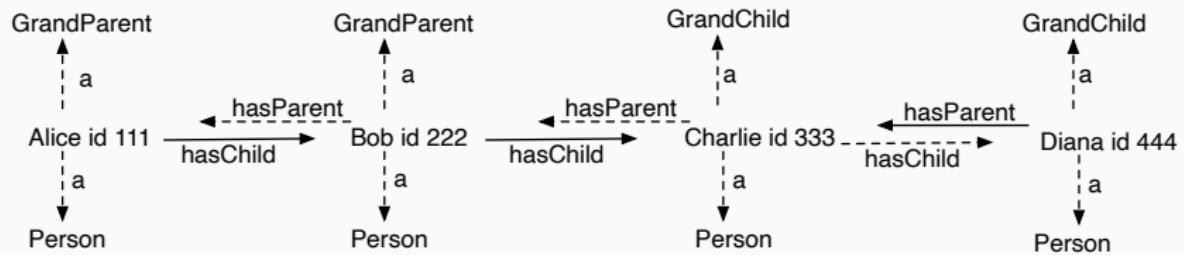


# Exercise: The House Asset Use Case



Download the house asset model from: <https://github.com/smolang/SemanticObjects/blob/master/examples/tutorialfiles.zip>  
File: house.ttl

# Homework: The Family Tree



# SPARQL in SMOL

```
main
    List<Int> results = access(
        "SELECT ?obj {?a a asset:Room.
                      ?a asset:id ?obj}");
    while results != null do
        Int current = results.content;
        results = results.next;
        print(current);
    end
end
```

## **Yesterday:**

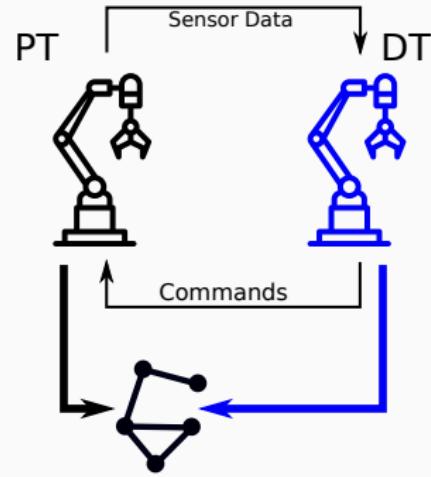
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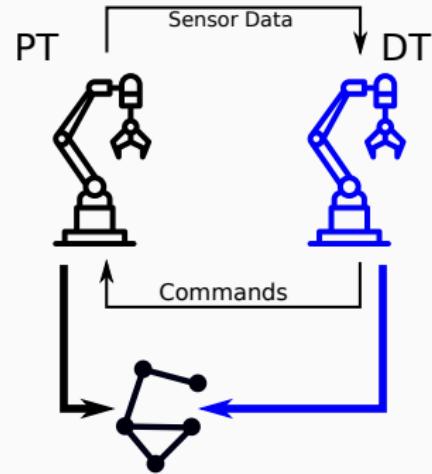


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## Putting it all together

- Compare simulations to sensors
- Compare digital with physical structure
- Self-adapt to changes in physical system

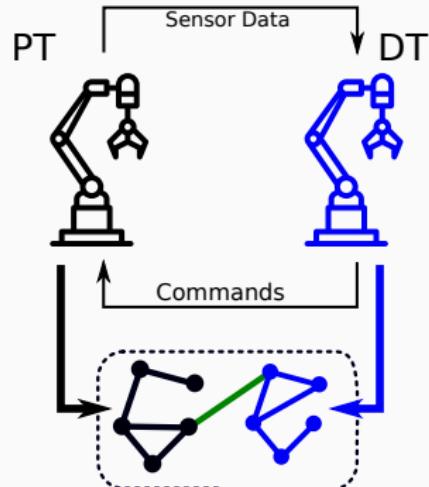


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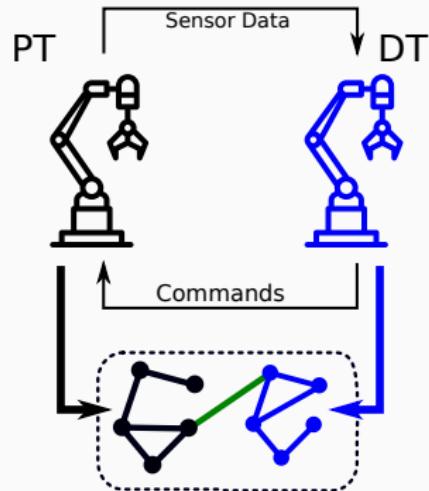


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**Self-adaptation?**



# Self-Adaptation (I)

## Digital Twins: Self-Adaptation

Self-adaptation means to *automatically* reestablish some property of a system, by reacting to outside stimuli. For Digital Twins, the “outside” is the physical system.

Two kinds of self-adaptation to reestablish the *twinning* property:

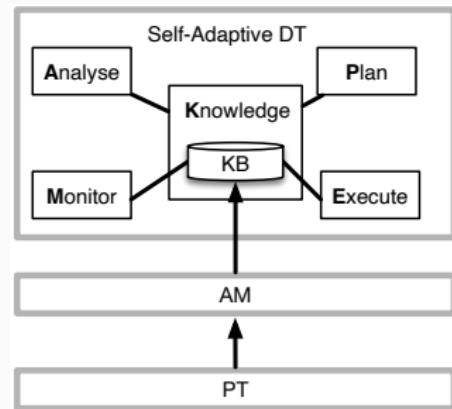
- Behavioral self-adaptation if sensors and simulators mismatch
- Structural self-adaptation if *structures* mismatch

# MAPE-K

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- A **K**nowledge component keeps track of information and goals for the self-adaptation loop:
- **M**onitor the situation
- **A**nalyze whether the situation requires adaptation
- **P**lan the adaptation
- **E**xecute the plan



## Self-Adaptation (II)

### Behavioral Self-Adaptation

Simulated (=expected) behavior of certain components does not match the real (=measured) behavior of the sensors.

- Monitor sensors
- Analyze the relation to simulation
- Plan repair by, e.g., finding new simulation parameters
- Exchange simulators or send signal to physical system

### Reasons

- Sensor drift
- Modeling errors
- Faults
- Unexpected events

## Self-Adaptation (III)

### Structural Self-Adaptation

Simulated structure of digital system does not match real (= expressed in asset model) structure.

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We need to express the program structure, so we can *uniformly* access it together with the asset model. How to apply semantic web technologies on programs? ⇒ Semantical lifting.

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**Semantical lifting is a mechanism to automatically generate the knowledge graph of a program state.**

# Self-Adaptation

## Repair

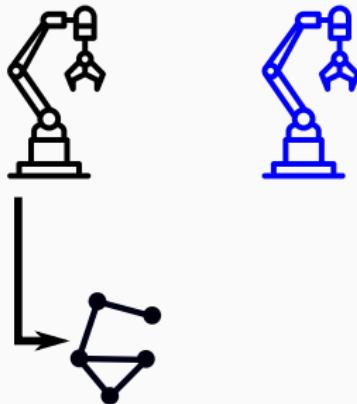
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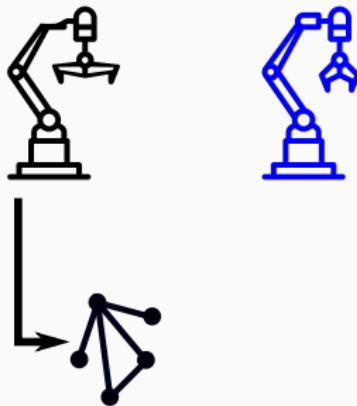


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To self-adapt we must (1) detect broken twinning and (2) repair it.

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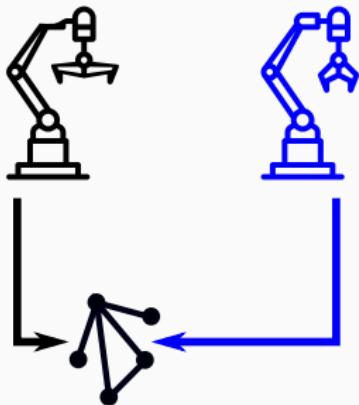


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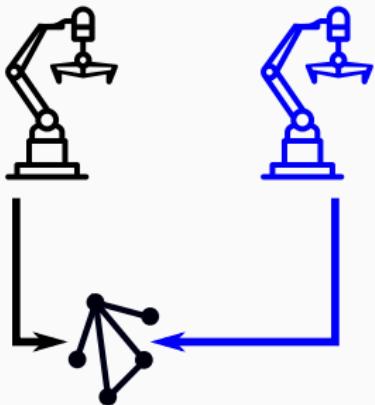


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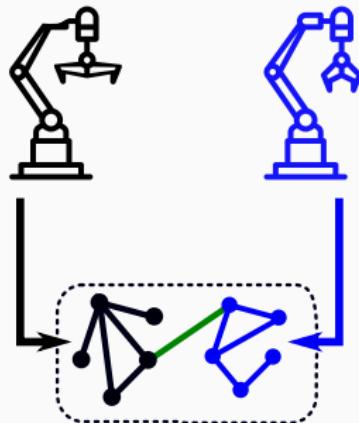


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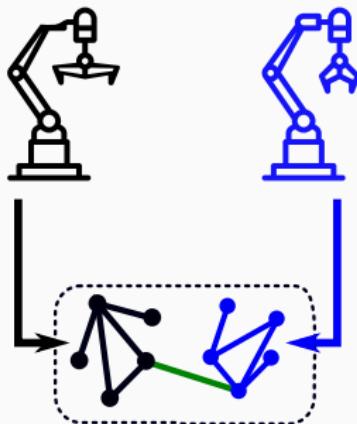


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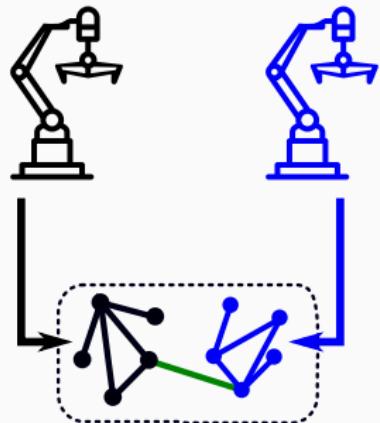


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To self-adapt we must (1) detect broken twinning and (2) repair it.

- Access PT structure through asset model
- Changes of PT are visible in asset model
- Asset model accessible directly to DT
- Detect changes through combined knowledge graph
- Information for repair available there!

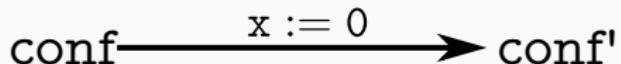


## Semantically Lifted States

A semantically lifted program can interpret its own program state as a knowledge graph and reflect on itself through it.

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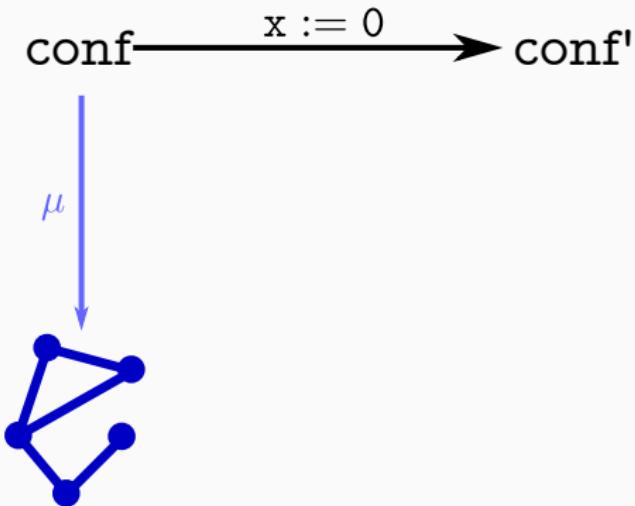
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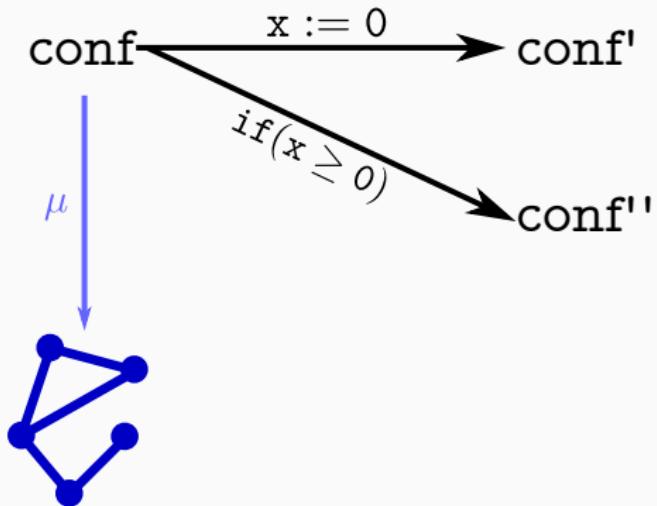
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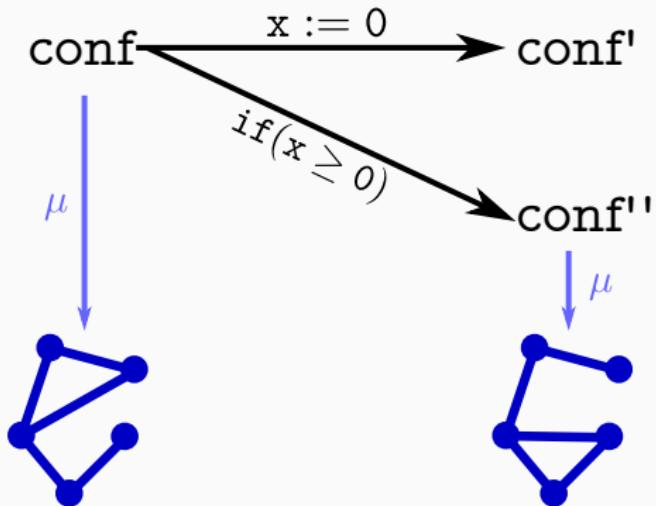
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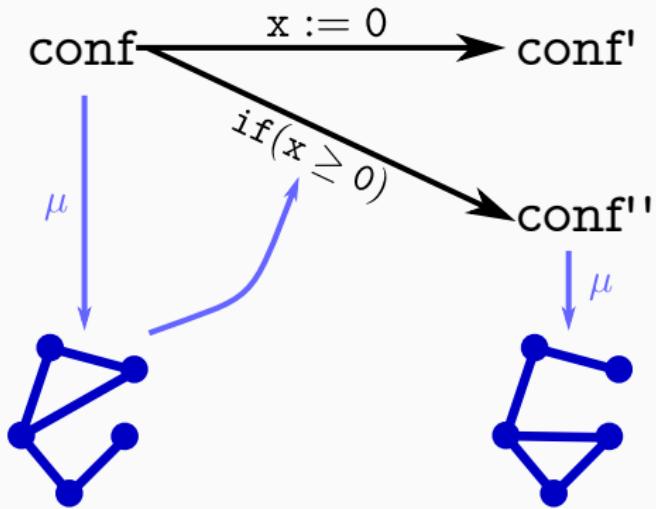
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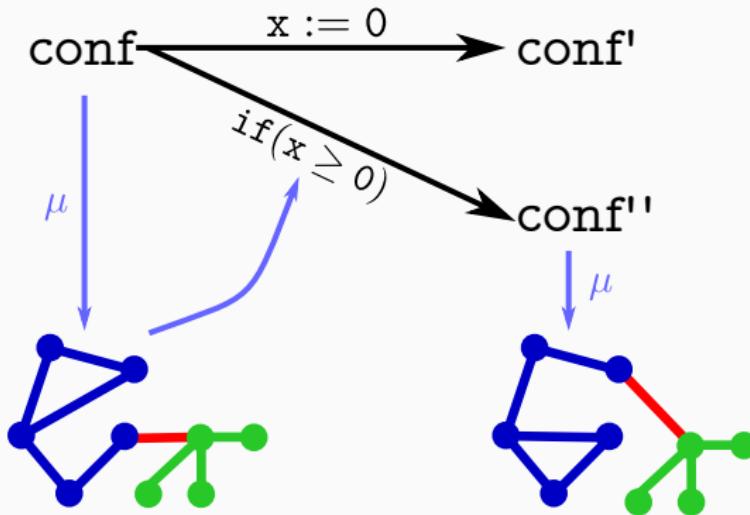
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A semantically lifted program can interpret its own program state as a knowledge graph and reflect on itself through it.



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## Example

```
1 class C (Int i)
2   Unit inc() this.i = this.i + 1; end
3 end
4 main
5   C c = new C(5);
6   Int i = c.inc();
7 end
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```

prog:C a prog:class. prog:C prog:hasField prog:C\_i.  
run:obj1 a prog:C. run:obj1 prog:C\_i 5.

...

prog:C prog:hasMethod prog:C\_inc.  
prog:inc prog:hasBody prog:s;

...

run:stack run:top run:frame1. run:frame1 run:executes prog:inc.

...

## Implementation

Semantical lifting and reflection is implemented in the **Semantic Micro Object Language**, [smolang.org](http://smolang.org).

Given the lifted state, we can use it for multiple operations.

- **Access it** to retrieve objects without traversing pointers.
- **Enrich it** with an ontology, perform logical reasoning and retrieve objects using a query *using the vocabulary of the domain*.
- **Combine it** with another knowledge graph and access external data based on information from the current program state.

# Semantic Programming

```
1 class Server(List<Task> taskList) ... end
2 class Scheduler(List<Platform> serverList)
3     Unit reschedule()
4         List<Server> l
5             := access("SELECT ?x WHERE {?x a :Overloaded}");
6             this.adapt(l);
7     end
8 end
```

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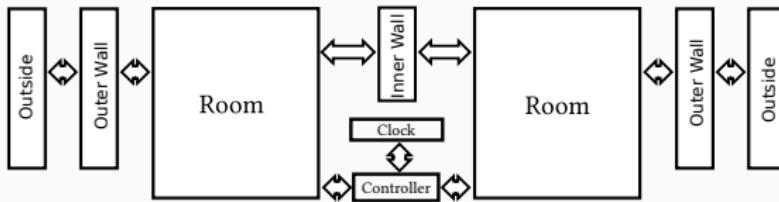
```
:Overloaded
owl:equivalentClass [
  owl:onProperty (:taskList, :length);
  owl:minValue 3;
].
```

# Demo

Semantic Reflection

# Example

## Back to digital twins



- Monitor consistency
- Monitor twinning
- Adapt to addition of new rooms

*Digital Twin Reconfiguration Using Asset Models, Kamburjan et al. [ISoLA'22]*

*Ensuring Correctness for Self-Adaptive Digital Twins, Kamburjan et al. [ISoLA'22]*

# Model Description

```
<fmiModelDescription fmiVersion="2.0" modelName="Example" ...>
  <CoSimulation needsExecutionTool="true" ... />
  <ModelVariables>
    <ScalarVariable name="p" variability="continuous"
      causality="parameter">
      <Real start="0.0"/>
    </ScalarVariable>
    <ScalarVariable name="input" variability="continuous"
      causality="input">
      <Real start="0.0"/>
    </ScalarVariable>
    <ScalarVariable name="val" variability="continuous"
      causality="output" initial="calculated">
      <Real/>
    </ModelVariables>
    <ModelStructure> ... </ModelStructure>
  </fmiModelDescription>
```

# SMOL and FMI

## Functional Mock-Up Objects (FMOs)

Tight integration of simulation units using FMI into programs.

```
1 //setup
2 Cont [out Double val] shadow =
3     simulate("Sim.fmu", input=sys.val, p=1.0);
4 Cont [out Double val] sys = simulate("Realsys.fmu");
5 Monitor m = new Monitor(sys,shadow); m.run(1.0);
```

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```

## Integration

- Type of FMO directly checked against model description
- Variables become fields, functions become methods
- Causality reflected in type

# SMOL and FMI

## Functional Mock-Up Interface (FMI)

Standard for (co-)simulation units, called function mock-up units (FMUs). Can also serve as interface to sensors and actuators.

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```
1 //simplified shadow
2 class Monitor(Cont[out Double val] sys,
3                 Cont[out Double val] shadow)
4     Unit run(Double threshold)
5     while shadow != null do
6         sys.doStep(1.0); shadow.doStep(1.0);
7         if(sys.val - shadow.val >= threshold) then ... end
8     end ...
```

Is this twinning something? Is this setup correctly?

# SMOL and FMI

## SMOL with FMOs

FMOs are objects, so they are part of the knowledge graph.

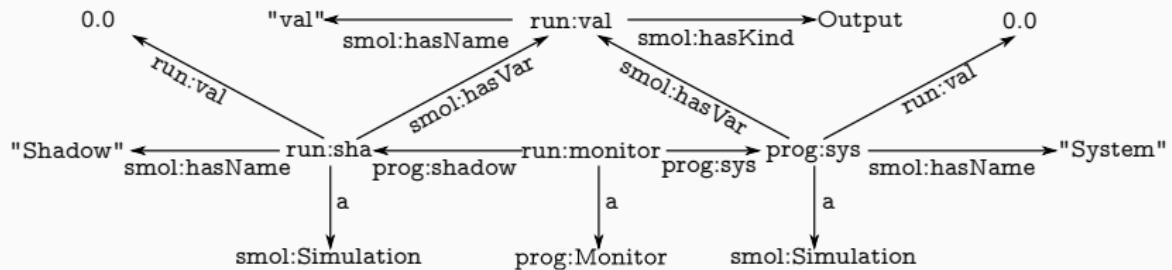
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# Using the Semantical Lifting

## SPARQL

Define structural requirements as queries in SPARQL on *combined* knowledge graph, to use domain constraints on digital twin.

Query to detect non-sensical setups:

```
SELECT ?room WHERE { ?ctrl a prog:Controller.  
                      ?ctrl prog:Controller_left ?room.  
                      ?ctrl prog:Controller_right ?room }
```

# Using the Semantical Lifting

## SPARQL

Define structural requirements as queries in SPARQL on *combined* knowledge graph, to use domain constraints on digital twin.

Query to check structural consistency for heaters:

```
SELECT * WHERE { ?o1 prog:Room_id ?id1. ?h1 asset:id ?id1.  
                  ?o2 prog:Room_id ?id2. ?h2 asset:id ?id2.  
                  ?h1 htLeftOf ?h2.  
                  ?c a prog:Controller.  
                  ?c prog:Controller_left ?o1.  
                  ?c prog:Controller_right ?o2}
```

# Demo

Inconsistent Twinning

# Self-Adapting to Structural Drift

## Detecting Structural Drift

The previous query can detect that some mismatch between asset model and program state exists.

How to detect where the mismatch is and how to repair it?

- Retrieve all assets, and their connections by id (**M**)
- Remove all ids present in the digital twin
- If any id is left, assets needs to be twinned (**A**)
- Find kind of defect to plan repair (**P**)
- Execute repair according to connections (**E**)
- Monitor connections using previous query
- (And v.v. to detect twins that must be removed)

## Example: Adding a New Room

- Get all (asset) rooms and their neighboring walls
- Remove all (twinned) rooms with the same id
- Use the information about walls to
- Assumption: at least one new room is next to an existing one

```
1 class RoomAsrt(String room, String wallLt, String wallRt) end
2 ....
3 List<RoomAsrt> newRooms =
4 construct(" SELECT ?room ?wallLt ?wallRt WHERE
5 { ?x a asset:Room;
6     asset:right [asset:Wall_id ?wallRt];
7     asset:left [asset:Wall_id ?wallLt]; asset:Room_id ?room.
8 FILTER NOT EXISTS {?y a prog:Room; prog:Room_id ?room.} }");
```

# **Demo**

Repair

# Remarks

## Assumptions

- We know all the possible modifications up-front  
E.g., how to deal with a heater getting new features?
- We know how to always correct structural drift
- Changes do not happen faster than we can repair

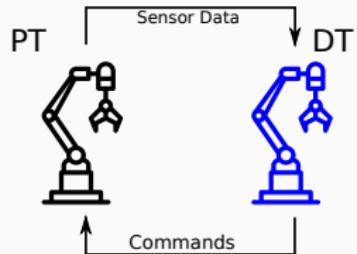
Monitoring is still needed to (a) ensure that repairs work correctly, and (b) detect loss of twinning due to, e.g., unexpected structural drift.

## Wrap-Up

---



# Summary

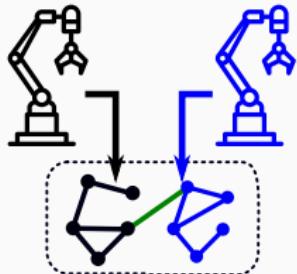
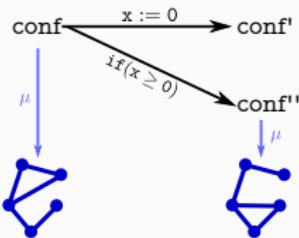


## Digital Twins and the FMI

Modern systems with interconnected physical asset and digital model.

## Semantic Lifting and Asset Models

Interpret program state as knowledge graph to connect with asset model – use industrial standards.



## Structural Self-Adaptation

Use semantic technologies to query and monitor combined knowledge graph from asset model and program state.

## What have we used to construct a self-adaptive, semantically reflected Digital Twin?

### Technologies

- Semantic Web technologies
  - OWL/Protege
  - RDF, SPARQL
- Physical modeling, interfacing
  - Modelica, FMI
- SMOL

### Concepts

- Digital Twins
- Self-Adaptation through MAPE-K loop
- Semantically lifted programs
- Asset models

# Current Research Questions

## Digital Twins and Formal Methods

- How to use the fully formal setting for static analysis?
- How to generate digital twins automatically?
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Thank you for your attention