



**Jet Propulsion Laboratory**  
California Institute of Technology

# Multi-Engine Executable Modeling at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory: System Level Execution Paradigm

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**MODELS 20/MLE, Oct 19 2020, Virtual**

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# Who is Robert?

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- CAE Systems and Software Environment  
Chief Engineer at JPL
- Member of INCOSE, SysML RTF, SysMLv2
- Formerly Control System/Software Engineer and Architect at:
  - European Southern Observatory (ESO)
    - Germany, Chile
  - CERN – Switzerland/France
  - Siemens Healthcare - Austria
- M.Sc. Computer Science (Austria)



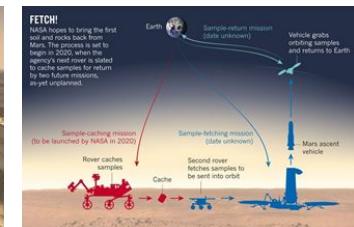
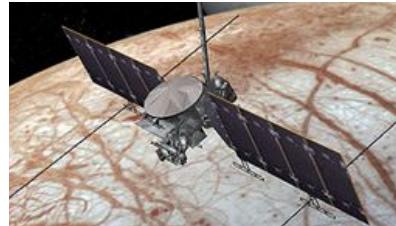
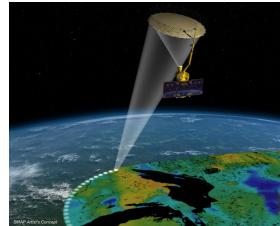
# Telescopes and Instruments Robert worked on

- 4 x Very Large Telescope – 8m
- 4 x Auxiliary Telescope – 1.8m
- 1 x Very Large Interferometer – 130m - 200m
- 2 x Survey Telescope – 4m
- 55 x Radio Telescope – 12m - 15m
- 1 x 3.6m Telescope – 3.6m
- PRIMA and APE instruments
- 1 x NTT – 4m
- 1 x ELT – 39m
- 1 x TMT – 30m



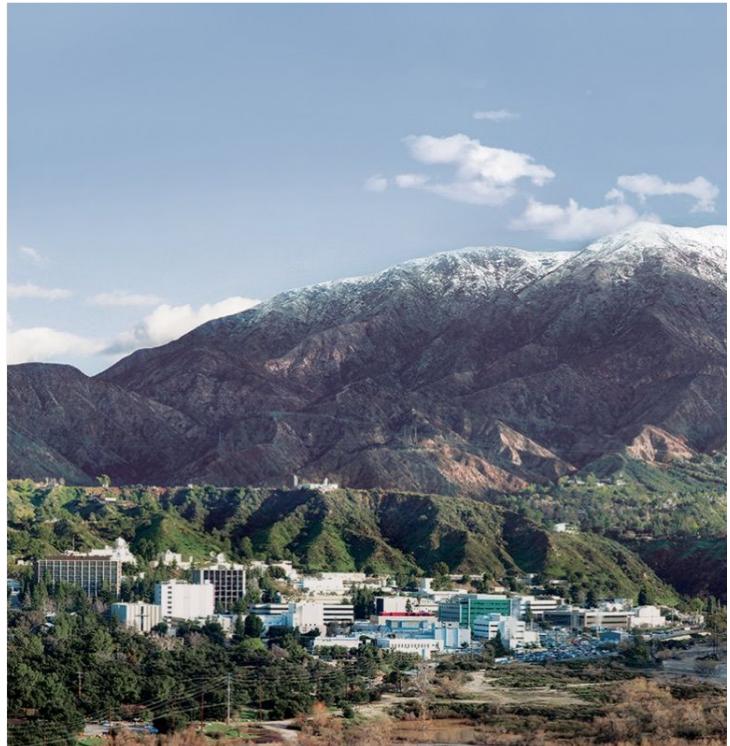
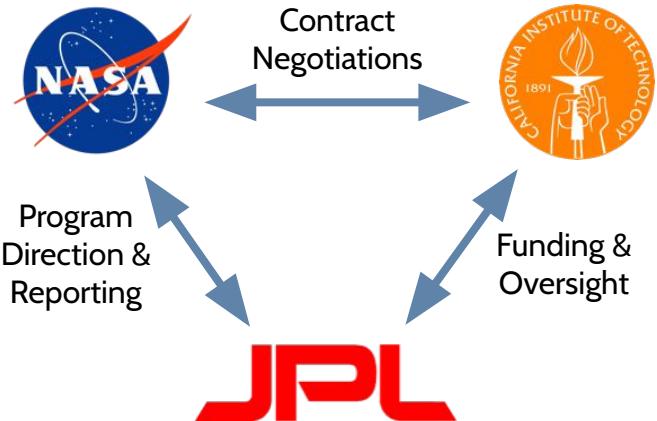
# Space Missions Robert contributed to

- Europa Clipper
- Europa Lander Mission Concept
- Mars 2020
- Mars Sample Return
- Psyche
- SMAP



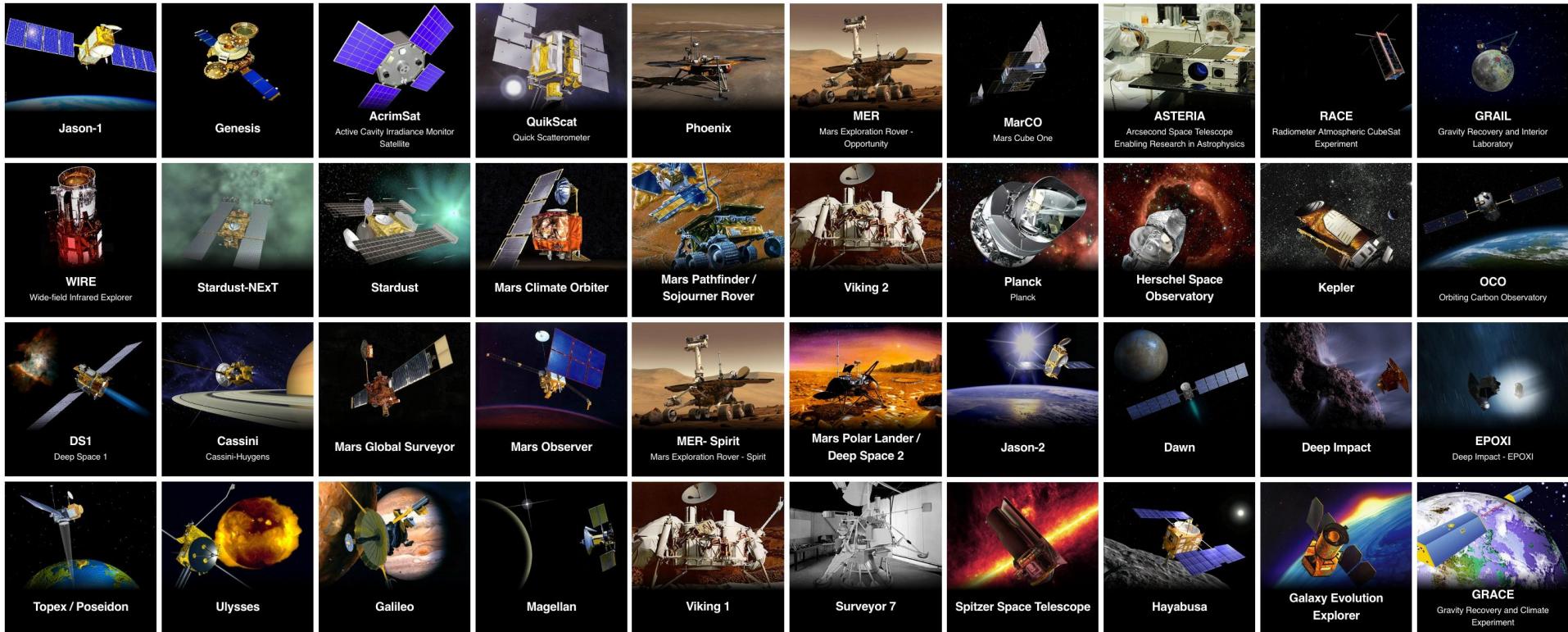
# NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory

- Located in Pasadena, CA
- NASA-owned “*Federally-Funded Research and Development Center*”
- University-operated
- ~6,000 employees



JPL Campus in Pasadena, CA

# Past Missions



# Current Missions





# Topic: The practitioner perspective

System and Software – the driver for executability



# Why an executable Model (at System Level)?

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**Describe a domain or system under study or to specify a (business, software and/or hardware) system to be built.**

- Gain system **understanding** before or while building the system
- Specify parameters and behavior based on requirements and **validate** them in a System Model
- Express requirements more **precisely**
- **Analyze** how the as-designed system reacts to user interaction, predefined testing data and execution scenarios, timing and dynamic resource budgets

# Why an executable Model (at System Level)?

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- **Explore** desirable and undesirable behaviors of a system
- **Check** consistency and logic of design
- **Understand** roles of the different components
- Enable (semantic) **consistency** across different **transformed** artifacts such as code, documentation, simulation, and analysis

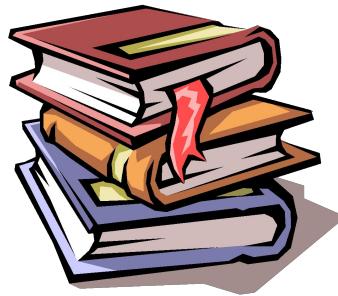
# Model Based Systems Engineering (MBSE)

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- MBSE is the formalized application of modeling techniques to support system requirements, design, analysis, verification, validation and documentation activities
- MBSE expresses a system using a Systems Modeling Language (e.g. SysML, Modelica)
- MBSE is often applied with a method like Object Oriented System Engineering Method (OOSEM)

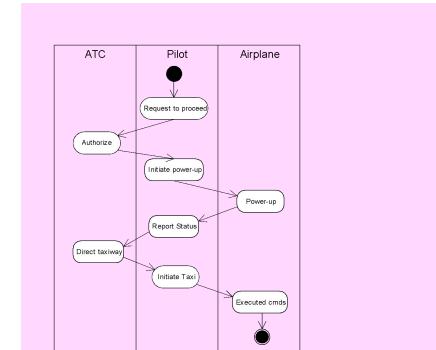
# Vision from early 2000's

Present



- Specifications
- Interface requirements
- System design
- Analysis & Trade-off

Future



Moving from Document centric to Model centric



# Topic: Archeology

Experiences with Executable Models at System Level



## 1990 Geode at Alcatel – Verilog France

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- Based on **SDL'88** (SDL-92, SDL-2000, SDL-2010)
- Abstract grammar, concrete grammar and a full formal definition, uses ASN.1 data types
- Graphical editor, translator between **textual** representation (SDL-PR) to **graphical** representation (SDL-GR), semantic checker, simple **report** generators, some **code generation** (C).
- **System is specified as a set of interconnected abstract machines which were extensions of finite state machines (FSM)**
- Used for specifying **telecom systems**
- openGeode is still around

# 1994 Foresight at CERN - Nu Thena Systems

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## System design environment

- Capture **system requirements and designs** into graphical **executable** system models.
- Models could be **analyzed and simulated** to ensure requirements correctness
- **Discrete Event simulator**, modeling network communications and distributed computer systems
- Underlying textual action language (derived from Ada)
- Proprietary language features and provider of tools for the environment and language variant.
- Used for **simulations of particle physics experiments** with 10000s of channels

Not around anymore



1997



2007



SCXML

2015 (2010 draft)

fUML  
2011

PSCS  
2015

PSSM  
2019

# 2011 (2008) - 3DS CAMEO SIMULATION TOOLKIT

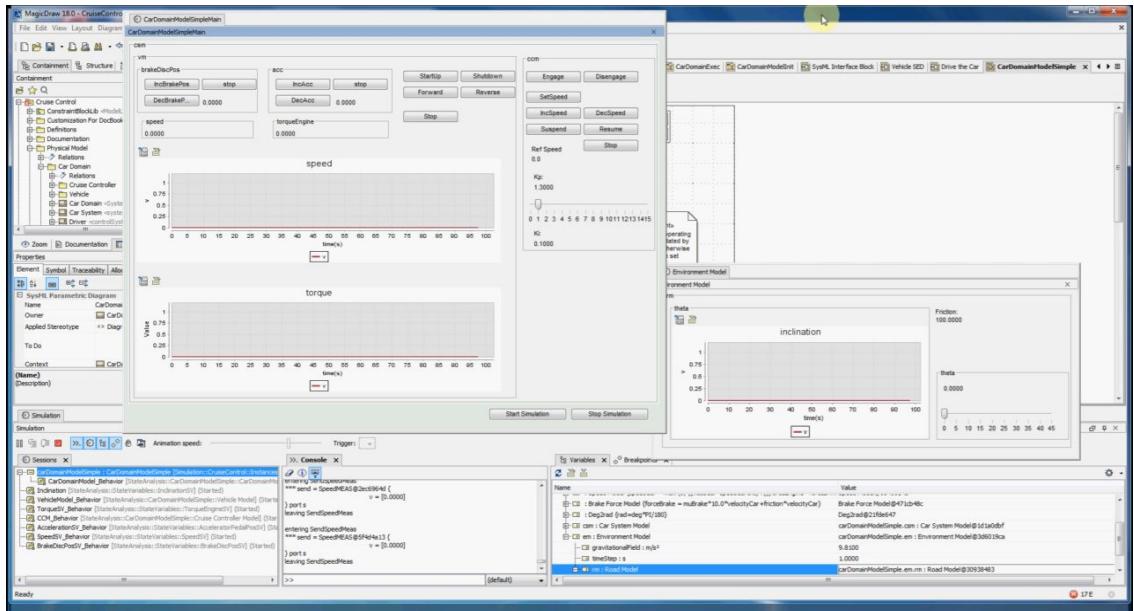
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Model execution framework and infrastructure (2020):

- Model **debugging** and animation
- **Multi-engine**, pluggable engines, languages and evaluators
- Engines are independent, **integration** is part of the toolkit
- User Interface **prototyping**
- Model driven **configurations** and test cases
- Open **Standards based**  
(W3C SCXML, OMG PSSM, OMG fUML, OMG SysML)

# Cruise Control Model (2011)

- Modeling for control systems with collaborating state machines
- Demonstrate integration of state machines, parametric, activity, interaction models for a car and its environment





# Topic: Current state of practice

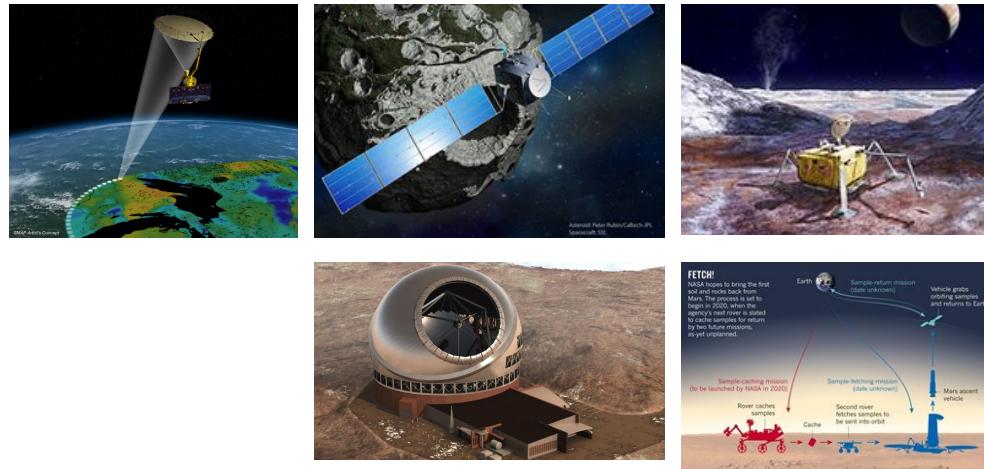
Today's solutions and issues



# Selected JPL Applications

- Capture
  - Operational Scenarios
  - Fault Protection
  - Flight Software Behavior
- Model
  - Activities, State Machines, Parametrics, Sequence diagrams
- Produce
  - Interface Control Documents
  - Functional Design Documents
  - Analysis reports (e.g. Timelines)
  - Code

Thirty Meter Telescope, SMAP, Psyche,  
Europa Lander Mission Concept, Mars Sample Return



# TMT applies “Hybrid” Systems Engineering Approach

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## Traditional SE

- Clear, defined deliverables
- Easily accessible
- Shallow learning curve
- Simple traceability

## MBSE

- Understanding behaviors of a system
- “Rich” capability to represent complex systems

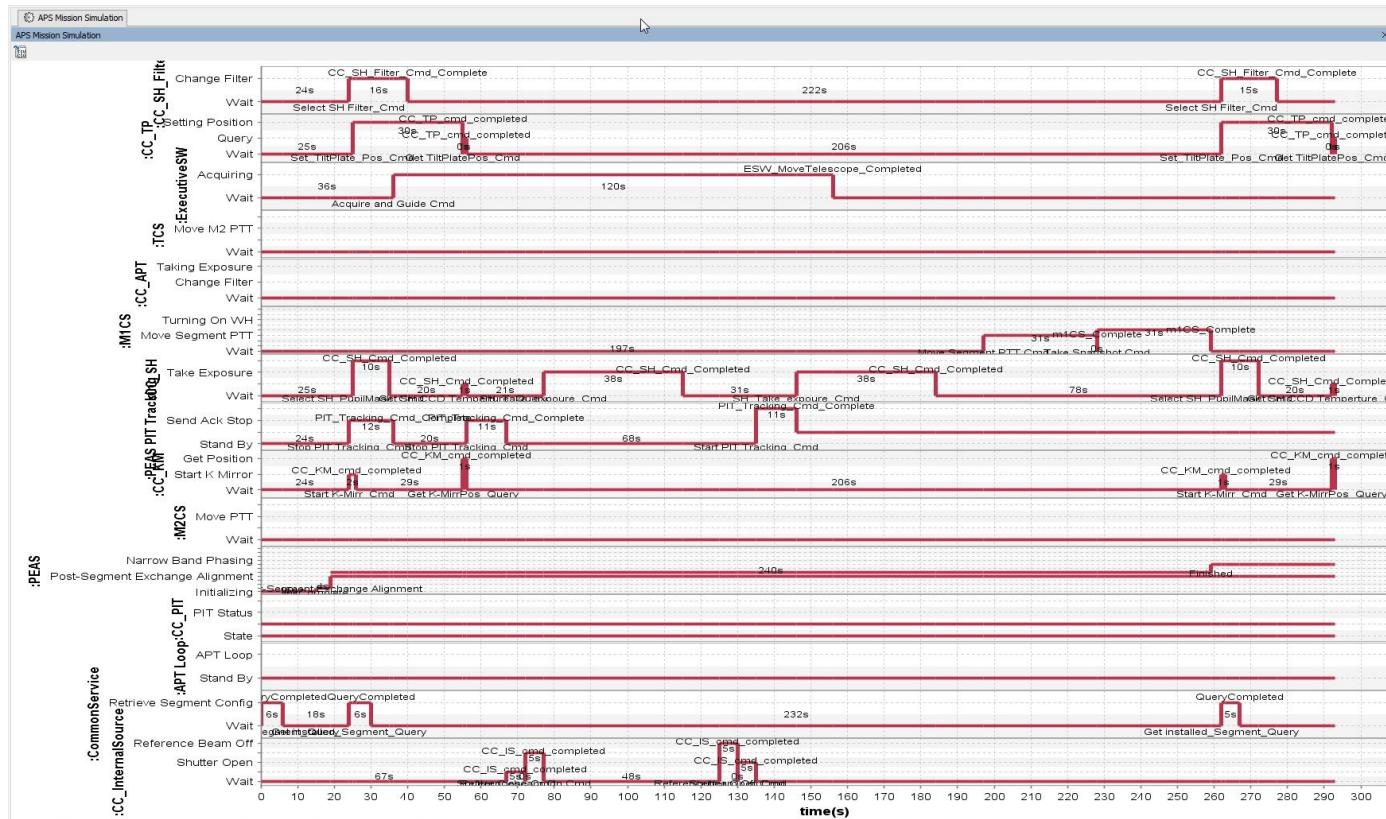
Exploit the advantages of each approach

# TMT MBSE Objectives

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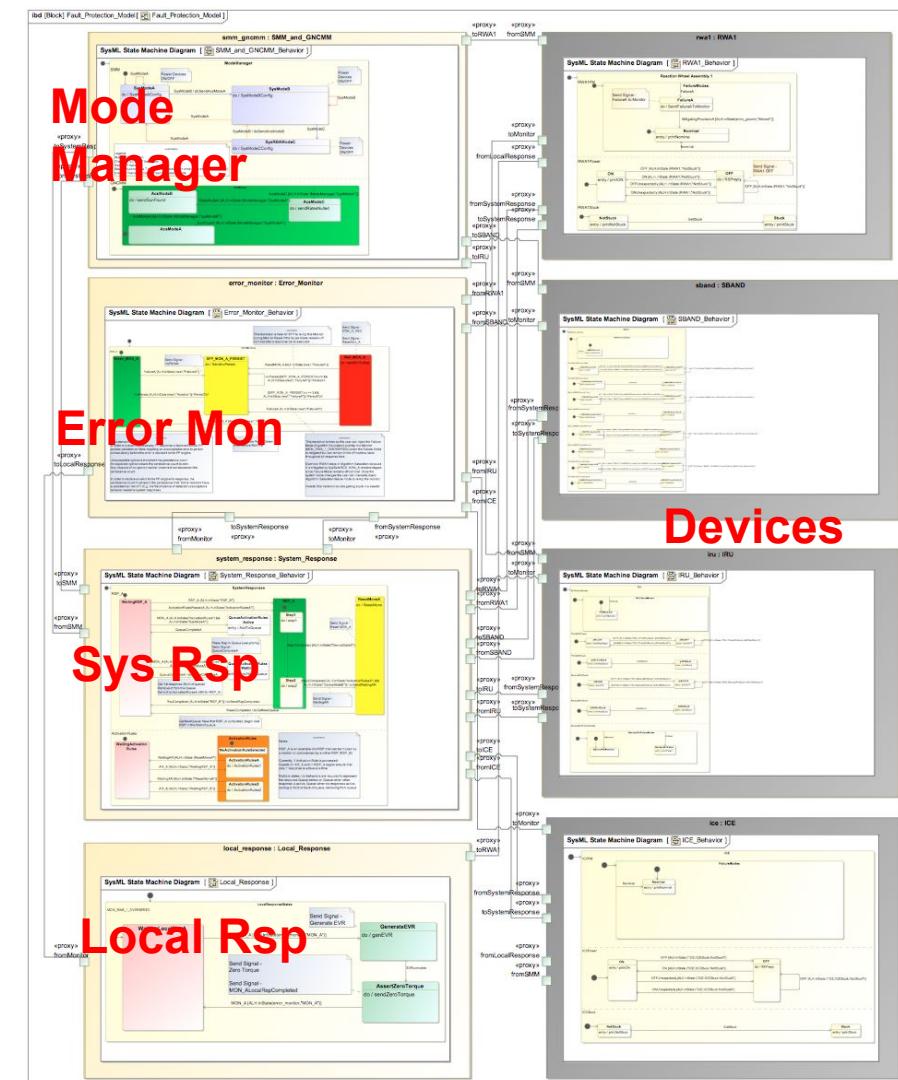
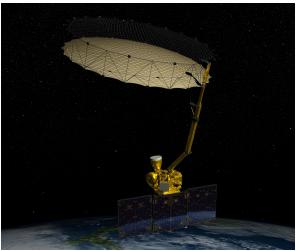
- Capture operational behavior, Identify involved subsystems, Identify interfaces and interactions among subsystems
- Develop/refine timing requirements for algorithms and external interface commands
- Create an **executable SysML model** with state machines and activities to specify behavior
- Use the model to **analyze the system design and verify requirements** on power consumption, mass, duration, pointing errors, ...
- Produce **engineering documents**
- Use **standard languages and techniques, and COTS tools where practical** to avoid custom software development

# Sample TMT timeline



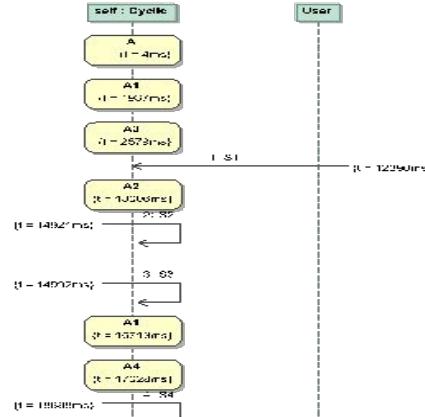
# SMAP SysML Model

- Model of SMAP Fault Protection logical design in terms of structure and behavior.
- Behavior is modeled as network of collaborating Statecharts.
- Design Patterns for Fault Protections are identified.
- Model Checking



# Automatic Generation of Sequence Diagram

- Post-run behavior verification
- Goal is to run a handful of test cases for the different failure modes
- Verify that the correct responses that occur and that proper actions were taken to mitigate the fault



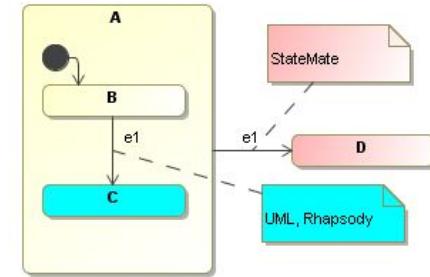
# Practitioner challenges with Adoption

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Semantic variations across standards and tools. For example:

- Regions, Run to completion, Null transitions, Time
  - Ambiguous or incomplete language specification
  - Tool problems - Standard Test Suite
- 
- Bug or feature of specification or tool?
  - User misunderstanding?
  - Model wrong?
  - Impacts model re-use



Select a (standard) execution semantic and stick to it in the whole tool-chain.

# 3-D Print - Model rendering on the target

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- Execute model **directly** vs. generating code
- **Preserve** behavior and **render** it into the actual system
- Transformation of format
- Similarly to shaping a 3-D printed item you enable **modifying Behaviour@Runtime**  
W3C SCXML is a step in that direction
- Libraries and **execution engines** vs.  
arbitrary model, arbitrary transformation, arbitrary code

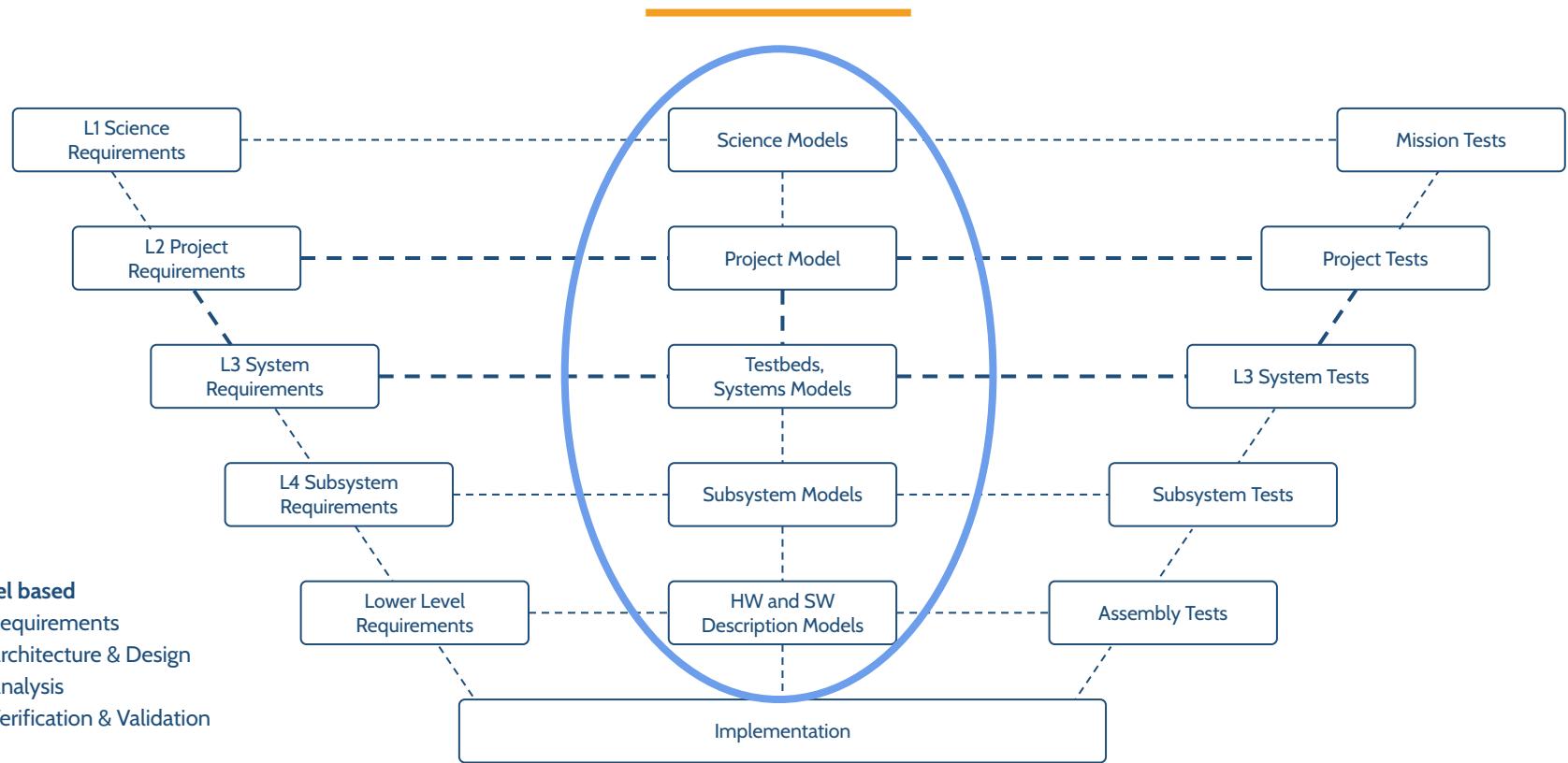


# Topic: Enabling Technology

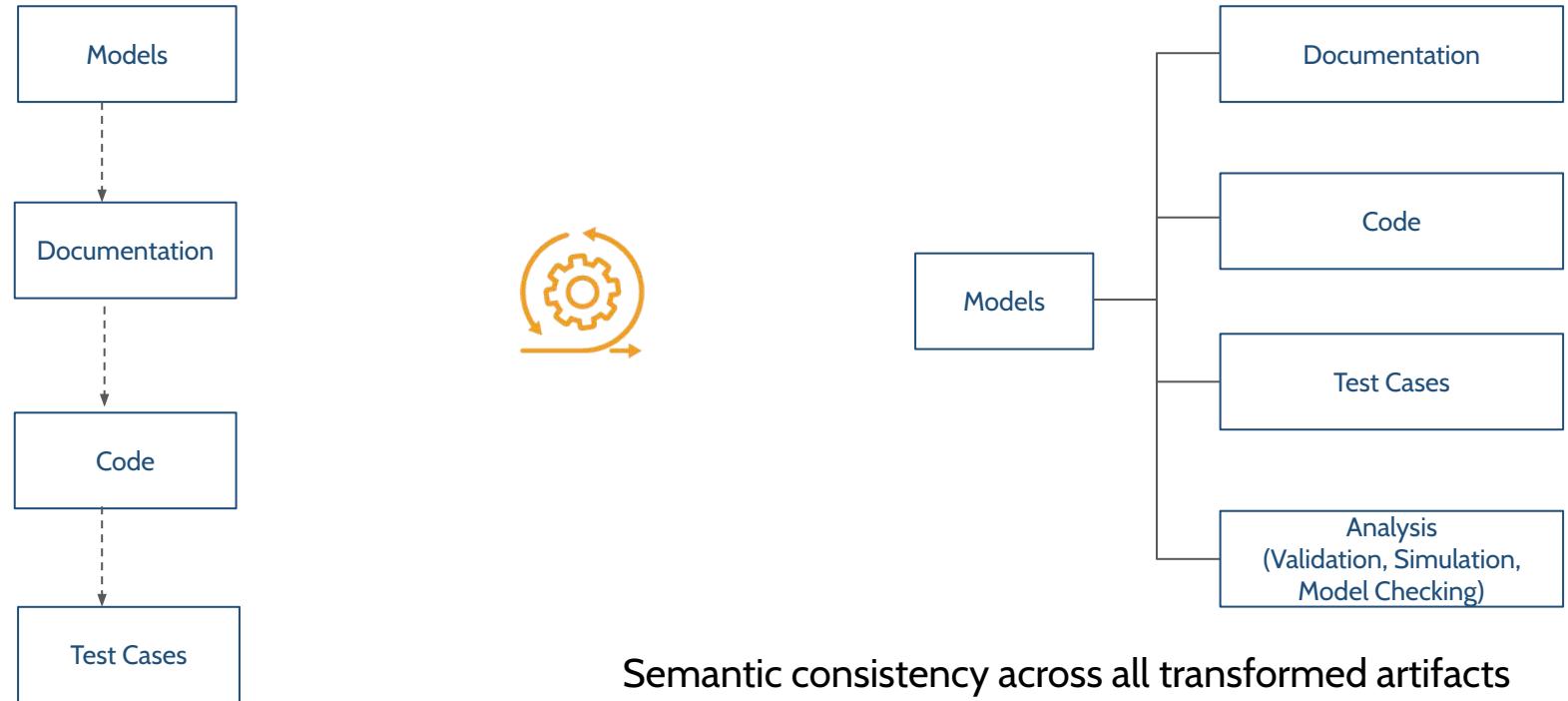
What is the future holding?



# Model Driven V



# Model Driven instead of Document Driven - from System to Software



Semantic consistency across all transformed artifacts

# Objectives of an End-to-End Goal Based Executability Framework

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- Produce a system **model** of the control architecture enabling **autonomy**
- Capture an **executable set of requirements**
- Clarify the understanding of **control architecture and operations**
- Perform **analysis** of operational scenarios and component behavior
- Enable **transformation**

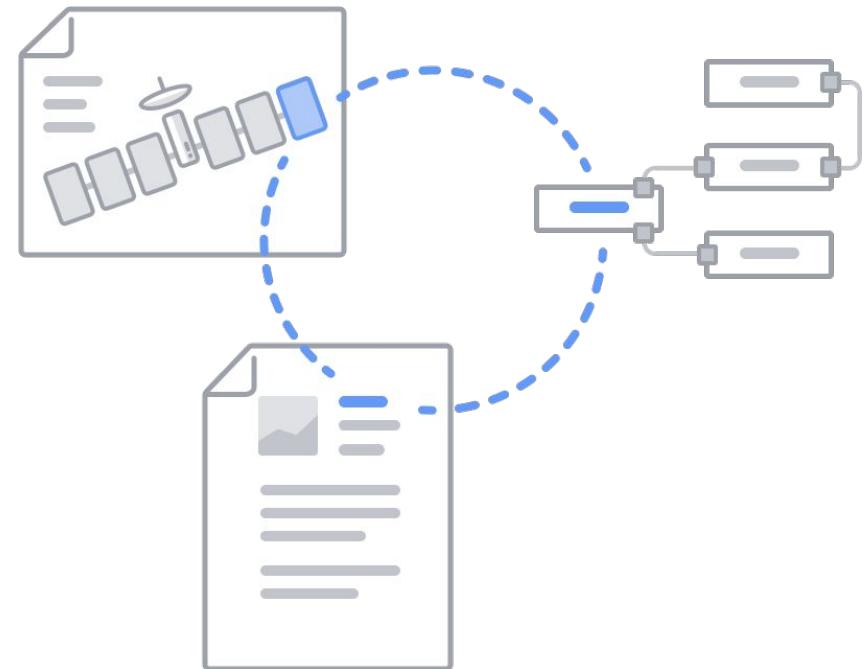


# Open Model-Based Engineering Environment

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- OpenMBEE is a **community** for open source modeling software and models
  - Open source software activities
  - Open source models
  - Open source exchange of ideas
- Participants and adopters:  
JPL, Boeing, Lockheed Martin, OMG, NavAir, Ford, Stevens, Georgia Tech, ESO, ...
- > 400 members



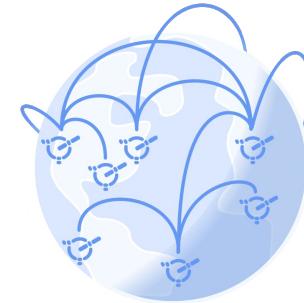
Linked Data Documents with OpenMBEE

# OpenMBEE Vision

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- Augment Jupyter's **multi-language analysis** capabilities with modeling and connected engineering
- Enable novel data-driven analyses with advanced capabilities, as a **service**
- Unlock value through **commoditization**
- **Standards** powered engineering **platform** using SysML v2 + API & Services



Global Engineering Ecosystem

Join the community in making this vision  
into a reality @ [openmbee.org](http://openmbee.org)

# Jupyter as Analysis and Visualization hub for Models



Interactive, exploratory,  
browser-based computing  
environment for:

- engineering
- data science
- scientific computing
- ML/AI
- and so much more...

The screenshot displays the Jupyter Notebook interface. On the left, a sidebar shows a file tree with notebooks like 'None', 'audio', 'Cata.ipynb', 'Data.ipynb', 'Fasta.ipynb', 'Lorenz.ipynb', and 'Linear Regression.ipynb'. The main area contains several open notebooks:

- Linear Regression.ipynb:** A Markdown cell titled "In Depth: Linear Regression" discusses linear regression models. Below it, a code cell uses matplotlib to create a scatter plot of data points.
- Lorenz.ipynb:** A code cell imports numpy and plots a Lorenz attractor using a 3D scatter plot.
- R.ipynb:** A code cell uses ggplot2 to create a scatter plot of Seattle weather data from 2012-2015.
- Data.ipynb:** A code cell imports pandas and performs data analysis on the Iris dataset.
- Fasta.ipynb:** A code cell imports Bio.SeqIO and reads a FASTA file.
- Julia.ipynb:** A code cell uses Gadfly to plot the Iris dataset.
- python notebook:** A code cell imports matplotlib and plots a scatter plot of Sepal.Length vs Sepal.Width.
- R.ipynb:** A code cell imports ggplot2 and plots the Iris dataset.

A central dashboard area shows a launcher with icons for Python 3, C++11, C++14, C++17, Julia 1.10, phylogenetics, R, and C. It also features a "Console" section with a bar chart of record counts for various categories (size, top, rain, snow, sun).

# SysML v2 Key Elements

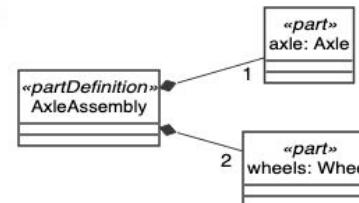


- New metamodel that is not constrained by UML
  - Grounded in formal semantics
- Robust visualizations based on flexible view & viewpoint specification and execution
  - graphical, tabular, textual
- Standardized API to access the model

```
In [1]: 1 import ISQ::TorqueValue;
2
3 part def Axle;
4
5 ▼ part def Wheel {
6   ▼ part lugbolt {
7     attribute torque : TorqueValue;
8   }
9 }
10
11 ▼ part def AxleAssembly {
12   ▼ part axle : Axle[1];
13   ▼ part wheels : Wheel[2];
14
15   connection : Mounting connect axle to wheels;
16 }
17
18 ▼ connection def Mounting {
19   ▼ end axle: Axle[1];
20   ▼ end wheel: Wheel[*];
21 }
22
23 attribute def FuelCmd;
24
25 action def providePower (
26   in fuelCmd : FuelCmd,
27   out wheelTorque : TorqueValue[2]
28 );
29
30 part axle : AxleAssembly;
```

```
In [2]: 1 %viz AxleAssembly --style lr
```

```
Out[2]:
```



# Functional Mock Up Interface

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- Supported by more than 100+ tools (<https://fmi-standard.org/>)
- Custom IP protection
- Cost-effective deployment
- Compiled models
- Parameters can be changed
- Structure cannot be changed

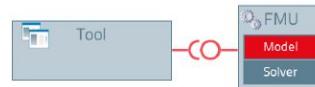


FUNCTIONAL  
MOCK-UP  
INTERFACE

Tool agnostic model encapsulation

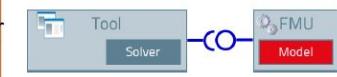
The FMI (Functional Mock-up Interface) standard allows for the creation of tool agnostic models, FMU's (Functional Mock-up Units).

Co-Simulation (CS) FMU



and/or

Model Exchange (ME) FMU



# Conda

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- Package and **dependency management** for models
- Enable sharing **distribution** of models as self-contained packages
- Model **re-use**



# The Next Generation Systems Engineer's Dream Car

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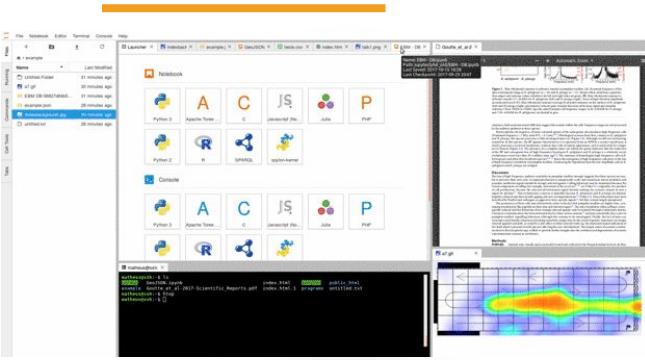
# Questions?

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# Backup

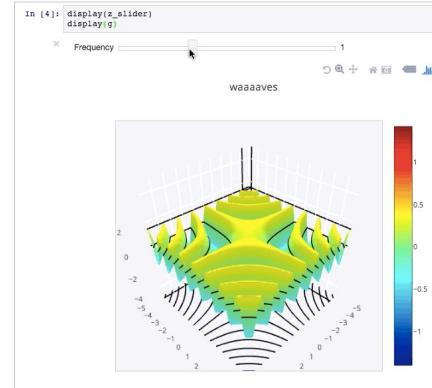
# JupyterLab Features



## Rich engineering narrative

Feature rich and integrated computational environment

Notebooks as reproducible and executable reports



## Interactive & visual

Live code, narrative text, equations (LaTeX), images, visualizations, audio, video, widgets

A screenshot of a JupyterLab notebook cell. It shows the input 'from IPython.display import Math' and the output '
$$F(k) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x)e^{2\pi ikx} dx$$
'. To the right, there's a grid of icons representing various supported languages and frameworks.

## Widely popular & supported

~100 programming languages supported

Millions of public notebooks on GitHub to find inspiration