

# Tackling Complexity by Modelling

## a short introduction

**Hans Vangheluwe**

<http://msdl.cs.mcgill.ca/>

CUSO Winter School in Computer Science

Modelling of knowledge and the cyber-physical systems

5 – 9 February 2018  
Champéry, Switzerland

Herbert Stachowiak

*Allgemeine  
Modelltheorie*

Springer-Verlag  
Wien New York



## Model Features

<b>mapping feature</b>	A model is based on an original. <sup>4</sup>
<b>reduction feature</b>	A model only reflects a (relevant) selection of an original's properties.
<b>pragmatic feature</b>	A model needs to be usable in place of an original with respect to some purpose.

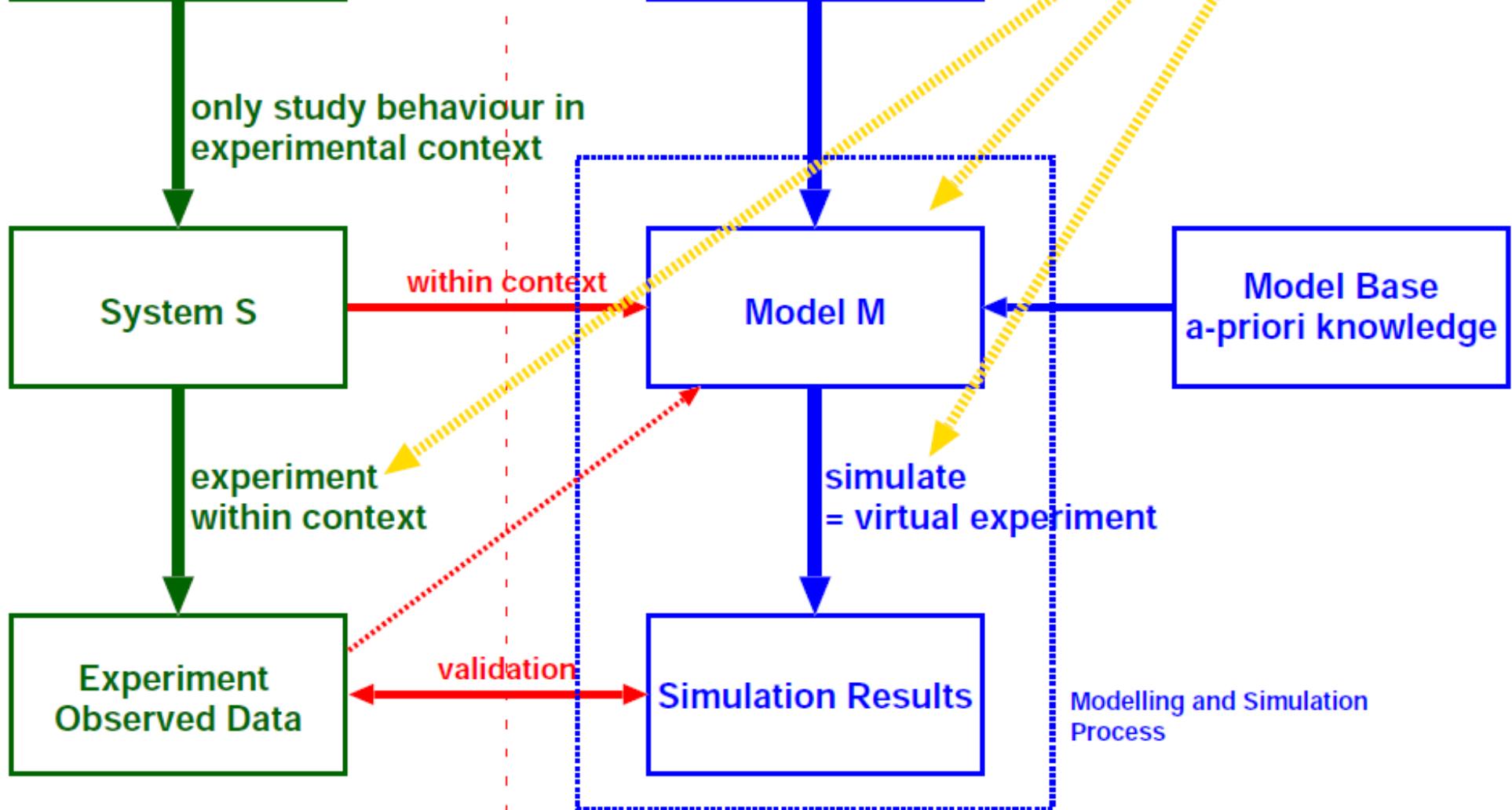
# REALITY



# MODEL



# GOALS



# “System”

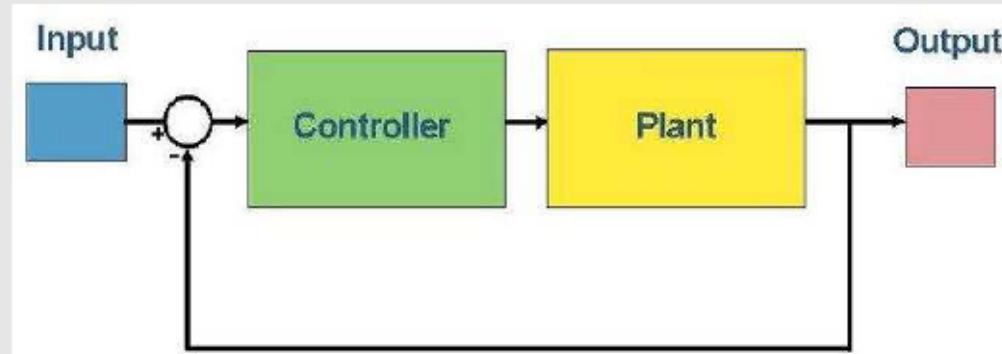
## System Boundaries

- **System** to be built/studied
- **Environment** with which the system interacts



# “System”

## System vs. “Plant”



## “Plant”?!



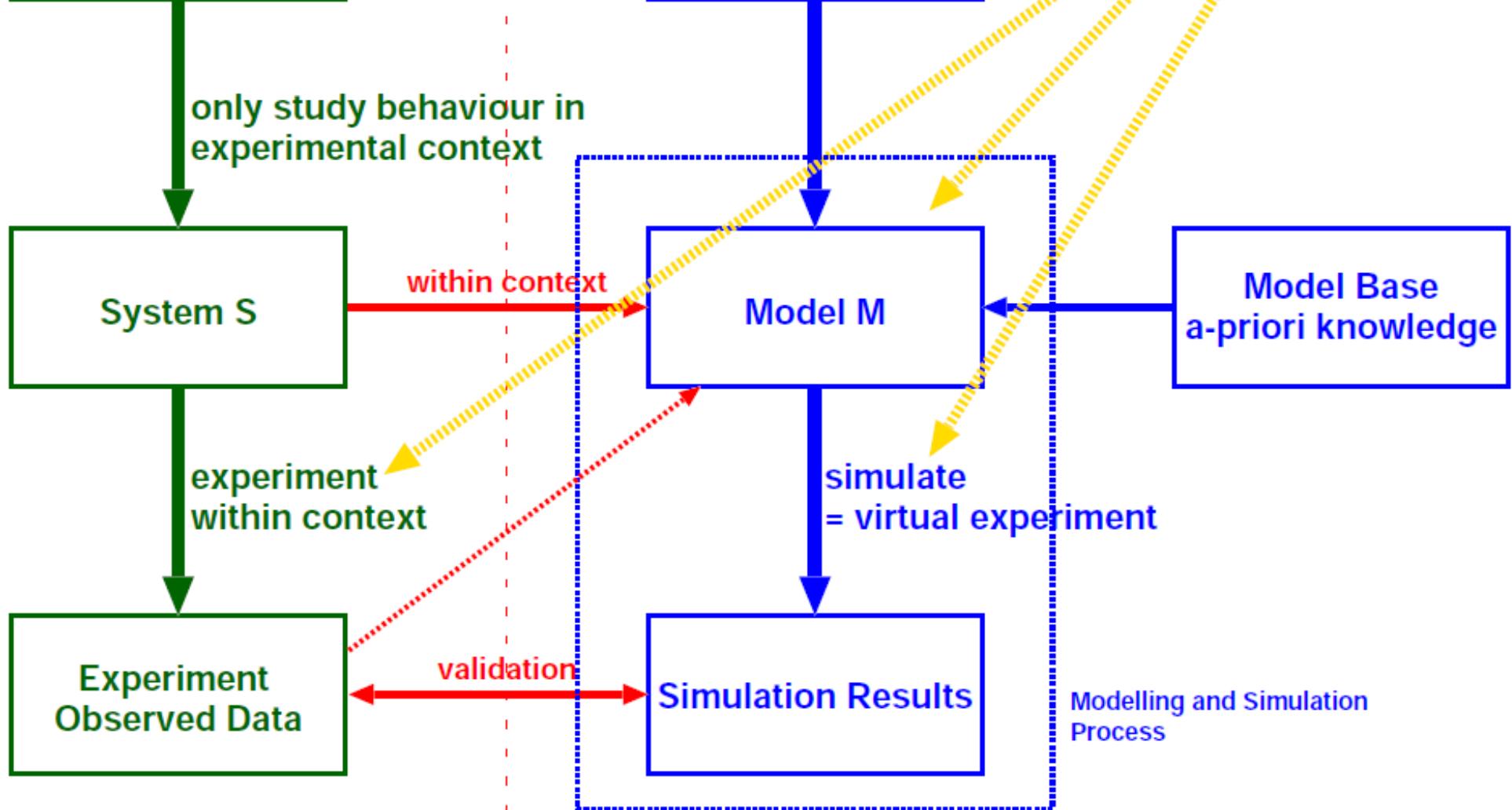
# REALITY

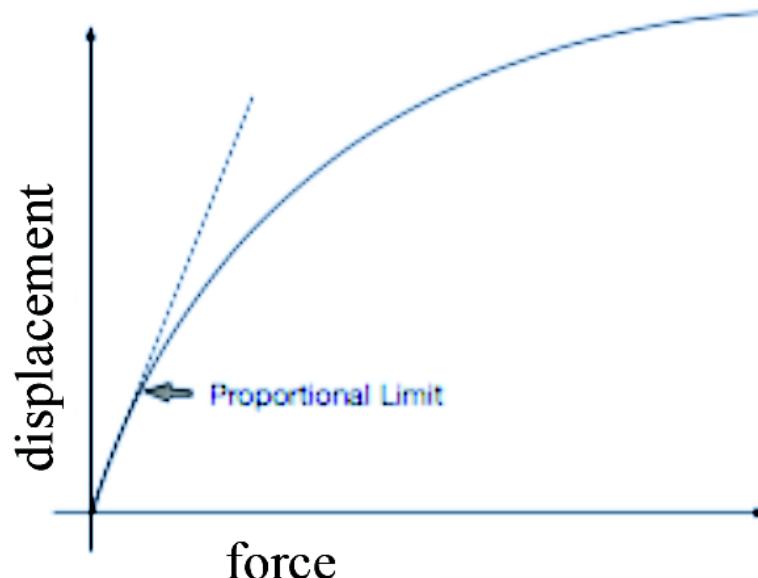


# MODEL



# GOALS





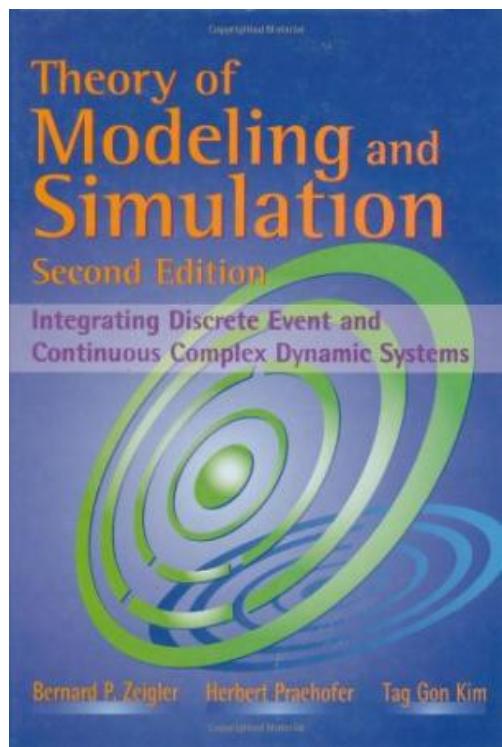
$$F = -kx$$



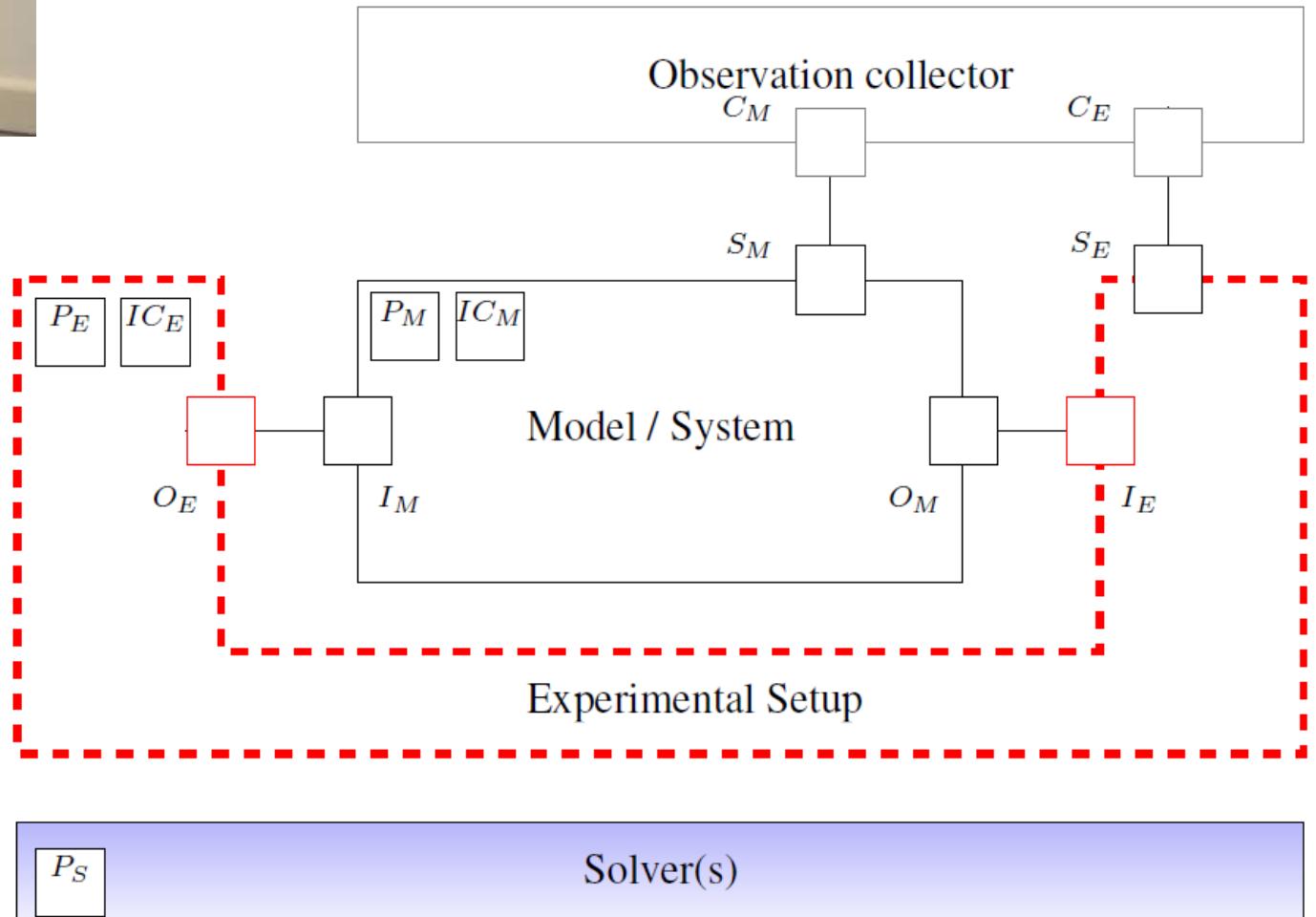
## Model Validity Range



O.D. Inches mm	CENTURY STOCK NUMBER	FREE LENGTH Inches mm	I.D. Inches mm	RATE Lbs./In. N/mm	SUGG. MAX. DEF'L. Inches mm	SUGG. MAX. LOAD Lbs. N	SOLID LENGTH Inches mm	WIRE DIA. Inches mm	TOTAL COILS	MAT'L END'S	E NSH
0.036 .91	10075	.59 15.1	.022 .6	2.6 .46	.15 3.8	.39 1.7	.35 8.9	0.007 0.2	49.0	SST	C N
0.036 .91	JJ-7	.63 15.9	.024 .6	1.6 .28	.16 4.1	.25 1.1	.25 6.2	0.006 0.2	40.0	SST	C N
0.040 1.02	2924	.66 16.8	.020 .5	11 2.0	.13 3.2	1.4 6.4	.50 12.6	0.010 0.3	48.5	MW	C N
0.040 1.02	10778	.69 17.5	.028 .7	1.0 .17	.35 8.9	.35 1.6	.30 7.7	0.006 0.2	49.5	MW	C N
0.054 1.37	RR-6	.25 6.4	.036 .9	6.2 1.1	.09 2.2	.56 2.5	.16 4.1	0.009 0.2	16.5	SST	C N
0.054 1.37	10619	.72 18.3	.038 1.0	1.6 .29	.37 9.3	.60 2.7	.32 8.1	0.008 0.2	39.0	MW	C N
0.057 1.45	70000	.13 3.3	.045 1.1	3.7 .66	.07 1.7	.25 1.1	.04 1.0	0.006 0.2	5.75	MW	C N
0.057 1.45	70000S	.13 3.3	.045 1.1	3.3 .57	.05 1.3	.17 .74	.04 1.0	0.006 0.2	5.75	SST	C N
0.057 1.45	70009	.13 3.3	.043 1.1	6.9 1.2	.06 1.5	.40 1.8	.05 1.2	0.007 0.2	6.00	MW	C N
0.057 1.45	70009S	.13 3.3	.043 1.1	6.0 1.1	.04 1.1	.26 1.2	.05 1.2	0.007 0.2	6.00	SST	C N
0.057 1.45	70018	.13 3.3	.041 1.0	12 2.1	.05 1.2	.57 2.5	.06 1.4	0.008 0.2	6.13	MW	C N
0.057 1.45	70018S	.13 3.3	.041 1.0	11 1.8	.03 .88	.37 1.6	.06 1.4	0.008 0.2	6.13	SST	C N
0.057 1.45	70001	.19 4.8	.045 1.1	2.3 .40	.11 2.8	.25 1.1	.06 1.4	0.006 0.2	8.13	MW	C N
0.057 1.45	70001S	.19 4.8	.045 1.1	2.0 .35	.08 2.1	.17 .74	.06 1.4	0.006 0.2	8.13	SST	C N
0.057 1.45	70010	.19 4.8	.043 1.1	4.0 .70	.10 2.5	.40 1.8	.07 1.8	0.007 0.2	8.88	MW	C N
0.057 1.45	70010S	.19 4.8	.043 1.1	3.5 .61	.07 1.9	.26 1.2	.07 1.8	0.007 0.2	8.88	SST	C N
0.057 1.45	70019	.19 4.8	.041 1.0	7.4 1.3	.08 2.0	.57 2.5	.08 2.0	0.008 0.2	8.75	MW	C N
0.057 1.45	70019S	.19 4.8	.041 1.0	6.4 1.1	.06 1.4	.37 1.6	.08 2.0	0.008 0.2	8.75	SST	C N
0.057 1.45	70002	.25 6.4	.045 1.1	1.7 .30	.15 3.8	.25 1.1	.07 1.7	0.006 0.2	10.3	MW	C N
0.057 1.45	70002S	.25 6.4	.045 1.1	1.5 .26	.11 2.8	.17 .74	.07 1.7	0.006 0.2	10.3	SST	C N
0.057 1.45	70011	.25 6.4	.043 1.1	3.1 .54	.13 3.3	.40 1.8	.08 2.1	0.007 0.2	11.0	MW	C N
0.057 1.45	70011S	.25 6.4	.043 1.1	2.7 .47	.10 2.5	.26 1.2	.08 2.1	0.007 0.2	11.0	SST	C N
0.057 1.45	70020	.25 6.4	.041 1.0	5.3 .92	.11 2.8	.57 2.5	.10 2.5	0.008 0.2	11.5	MW	C N
0.057 1.45	70020S	.25 6.4	.041 1.0	4.6 .80	.08 2.0	.37 1.6	.10 2.5	0.008 0.2	11.5	SST	C N
0.057 1.45	70003	.31 7.9	.045 1.1	1.4 .24	.19 4.7	.25 1.1	.08 2.0	0.006 0.2	12.4	MW	C N
0.057 1.45	70003S	.31 7.9	.045 1.1	1.2 .21	.14 3.6	.17 .74	.08 2.0	0.006 0.2	12.4	SST	C N
0.057 1.45	70012	.31 7.9	.043 1.1	2.4 .42	.17 4.2	.40 1.8	.10 2.6	0.007 0.2	13.5	MW	C N
0.057 1.45	70012S	.31 7.9	.043 1.1	2.1 .37	.12 3.2	.26 1.2	.10 2.6	0.007 0.2	13.5	SST	C N
0.057 1.45	70021	.31 7.9	.041 1.0	4.1 .72	.14 3.6	.57 2.5	.12 3.1	0.008 0.2	14.3	MW	C N
0.057 1.45	70021S	.31 7.9	.041 1.0	2.6 .62	.10 2.6	.27 1.6	.12 3.1	0.008 0.2	14.3	SST	C N



# Experimental (Validity) Frame



Joachim Denil, Stefan Klikovits, Pieter J. Mosterman, Antonio Vallecillo, and Hans Vangheluwe. The experiment model and validity frame in M&S. In Proceedings of the 2017 Symposium on Theory of Modeling and Simulation - DEVS , TMS/DEVS '17, part of the Spring Simulation Multi-Conference, pages 1085 – 1096. Society for Computer Simulation International, April 2017.

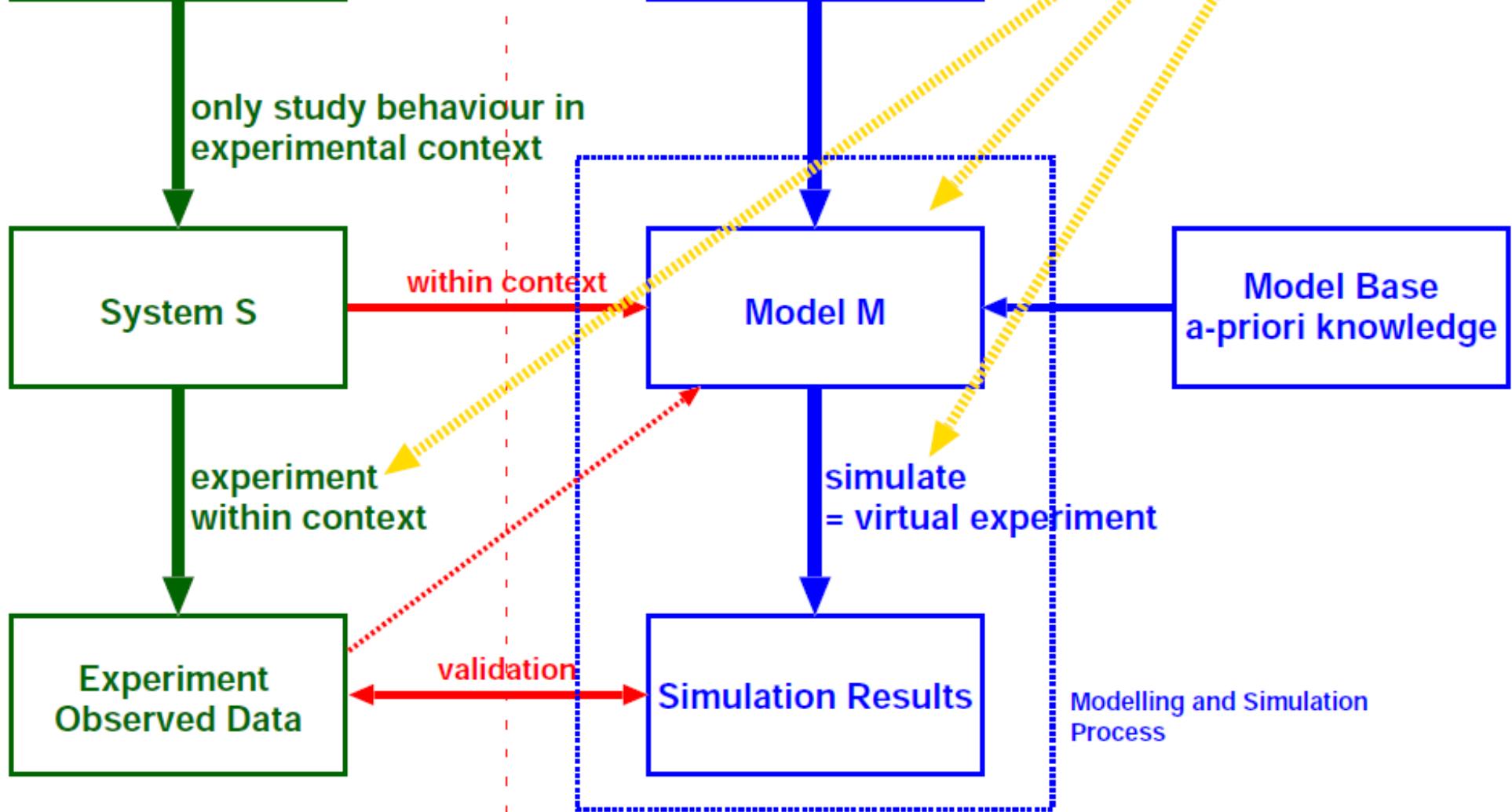
# REALITY



# MODEL



# GOALS

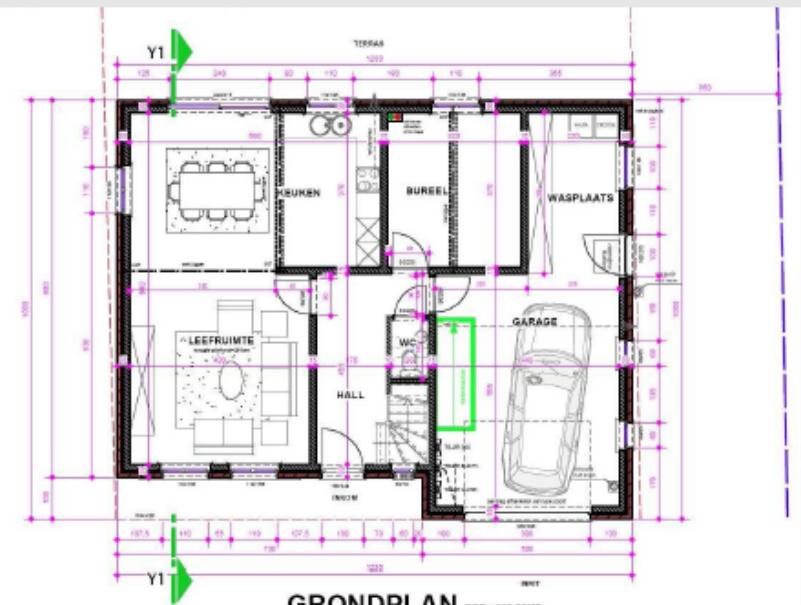


# Engineered Systems: What vs. How

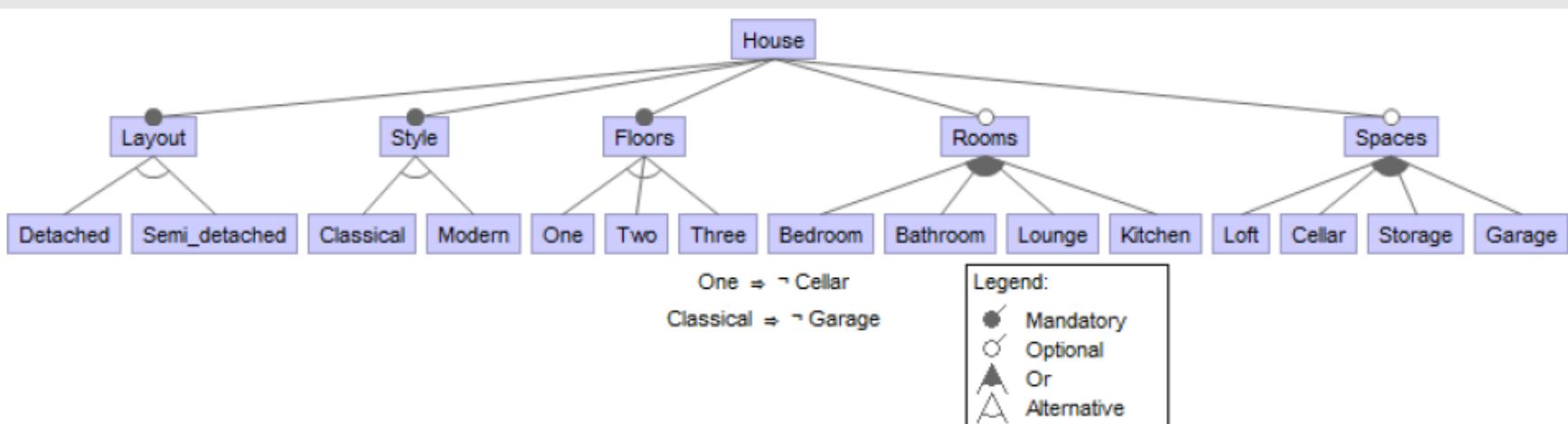
## Design (“How?”)

### Requirements (“What?”)

- Detached or Semi-detached
- Style (classical, modern, ...)
- Number of Floors
- Number of rooms of different types (bedrooms, bathrooms, ...)
- Garage, Storage, ...
- Cellar
- ...



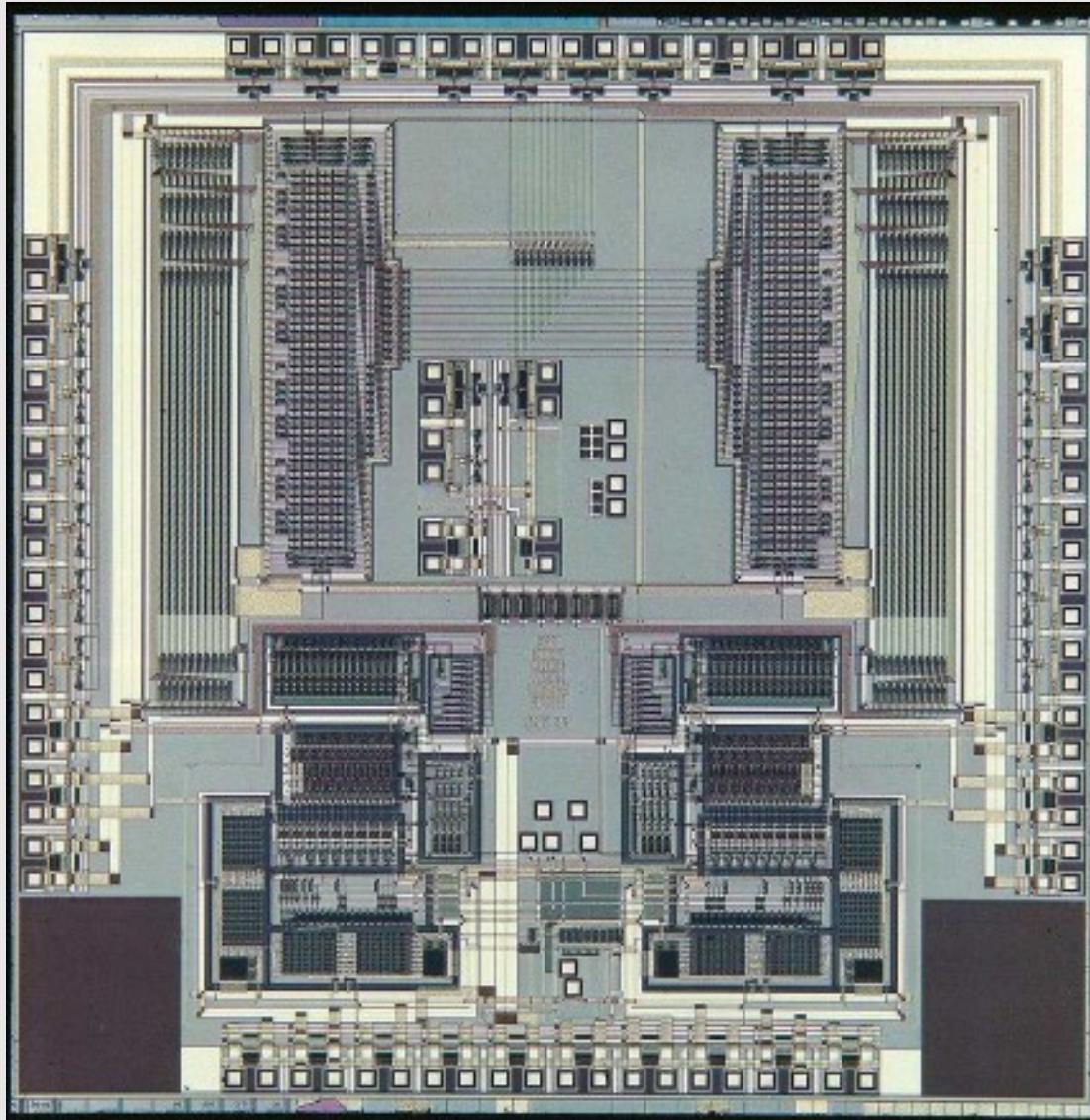
### Requirements (“What?”): Feature Model of a Product Family



# Causes of Complexity

# Causes of Complexity

Number of Components – hierarchical (de-)composition



# Causes of Complexity

## Diversity of Components: Power Window



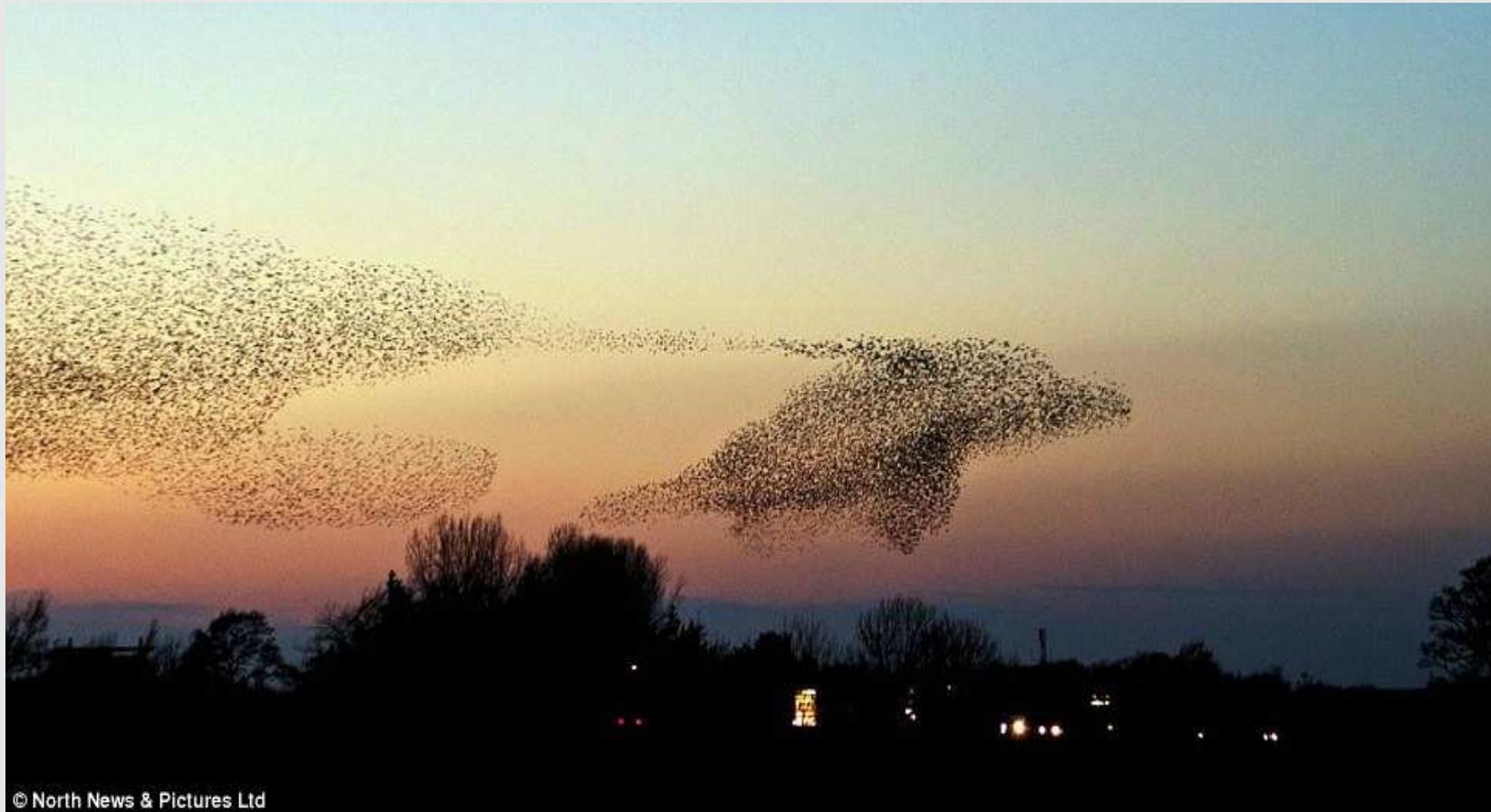
# Causes of Complexity

Crowds: diversity, interaction



# Causes of Complexity

## Emergent Behaviour



© North News & Pictures Ltd

# Causes of Complexity

## Non-compositional/Emergent Behaviour

The diagram shows a flock of birds flying in a V-shape against a grey background. A text box in the upper right corner states: "non-compositionality of networks leads to emergent behaviour". Below the flock, three labels with corresponding diagrams illustrate the rules:

- separation**: A circular diagram showing several blue triangular shapes (boids) with green arrows indicating their movement. A red arrow points away from the center, representing the repulsive force of separation.
- cohesion**: A circular diagram showing several blue triangular shapes with green arrows. A green central node is connected to each boid by a green line, with a red arrow pointing towards the center, representing the attractive force of cohesion.
- alignment**: A circular diagram showing several blue triangular shapes with green arrows. A green central node is connected to each boid by a green line, with a red arrow pointing in the same direction as the boid's movement, representing the alignment force.

[www.red3d.com/cwr/boids/](http://www.red3d.com/cwr/boids/) (Craig Reynolds)

# Causes of Complexity

## Engineered Emergent Behaviour



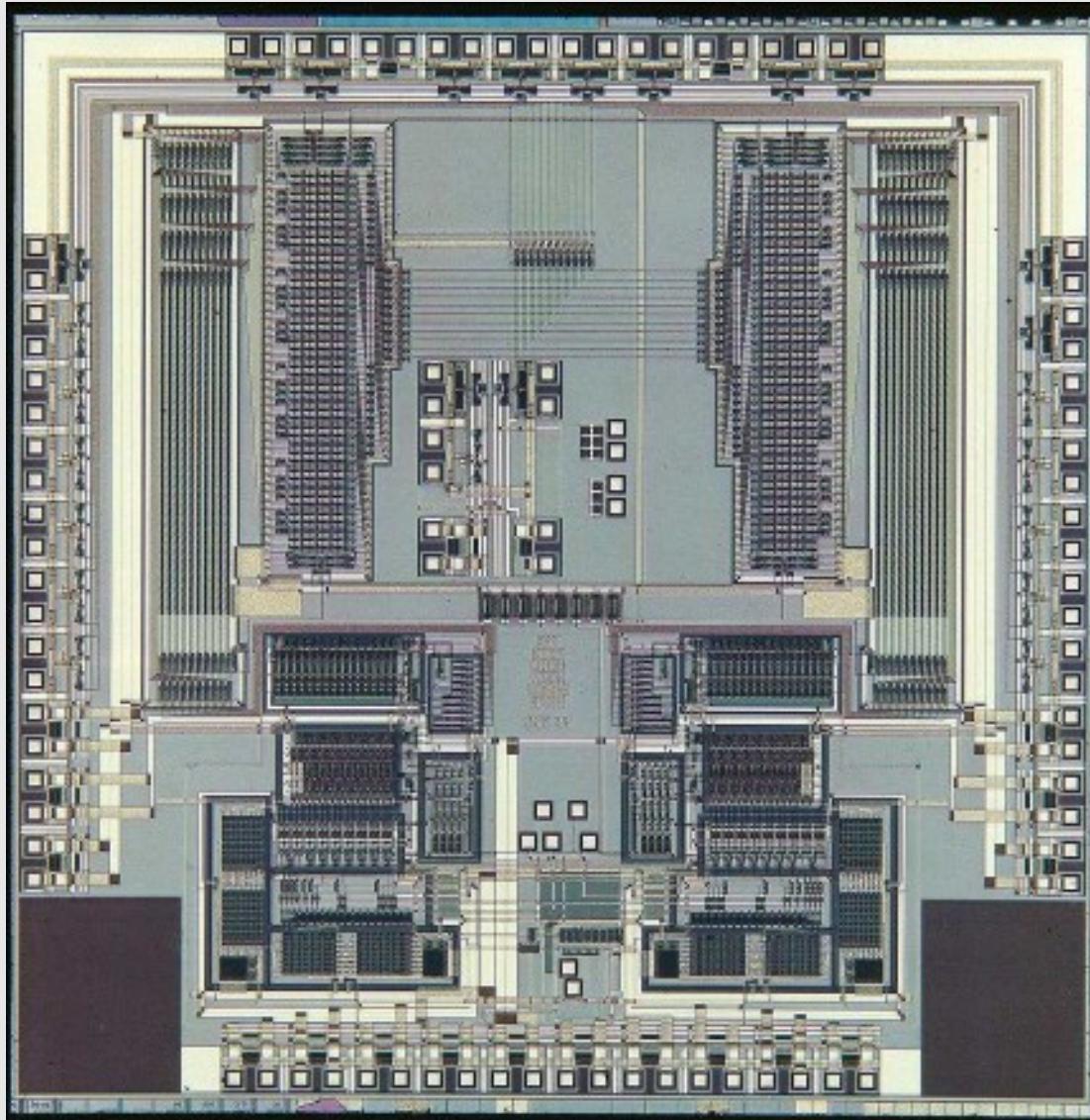
Robert Bogue. *Swarm intelligence and robotics*.  
Industrial Robot: An International Journal.  
35(6):488 - 495, 2008.



# Dealing with Complexity!

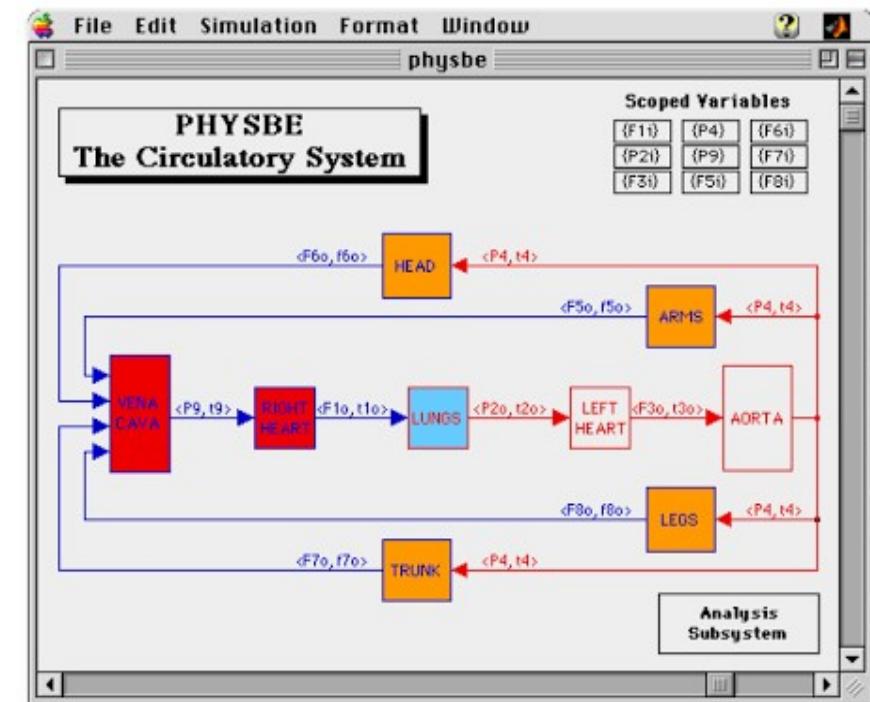
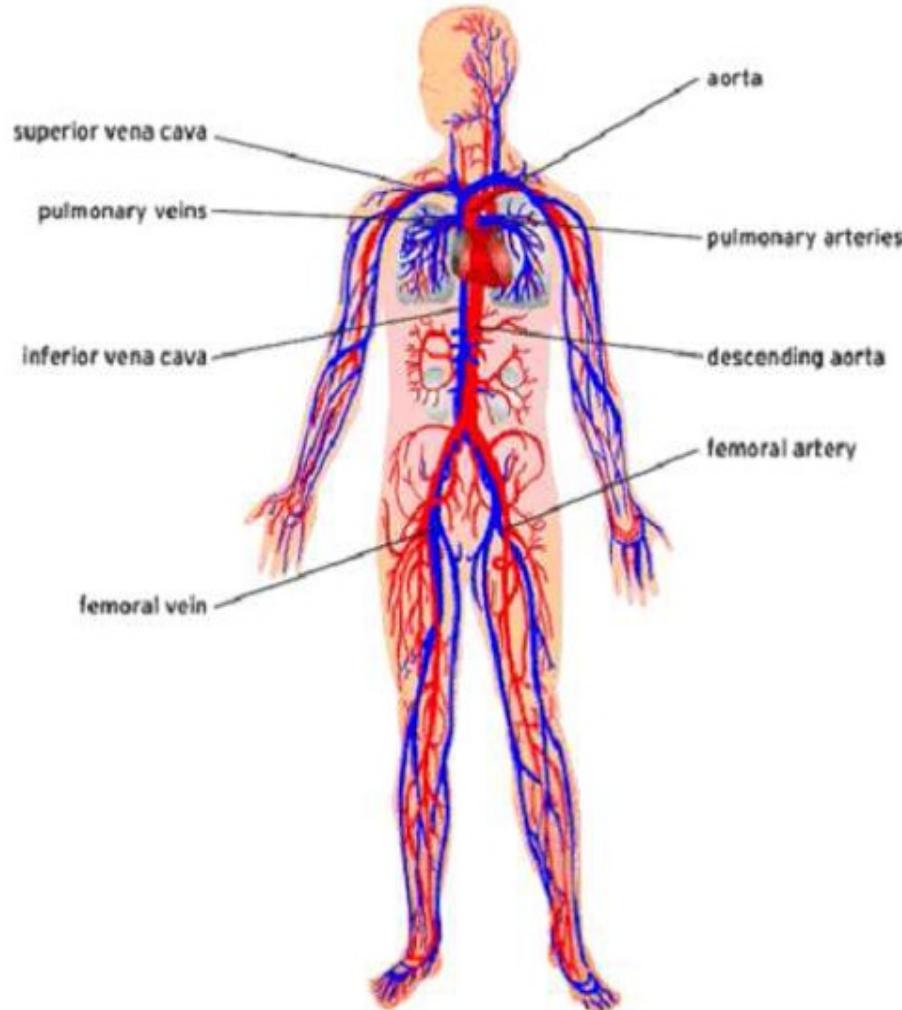
# Dealing with Complexity

Number of Components – hierarchical (de-)composition



# Dealing with Complexity

## Different Abstraction Levels – properties preserved



# Dealing with Complexity

## Abstraction Relationship

*foundation:* the *information* contained in a model  $M$ .

Different *questions* (properties)  $P = I(M)$  which can be asked concerning the model.

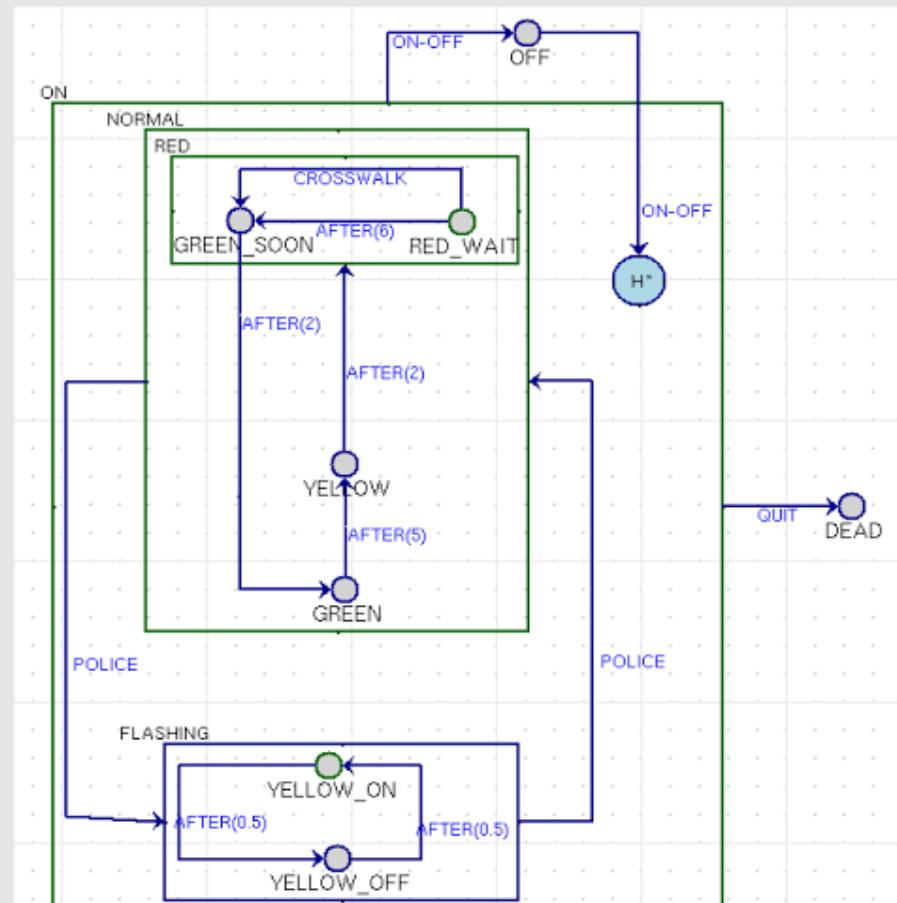
These questions either result in true or false.

*Abstraction* and its opposite, *refinement* are relative to a non-empty set of questions (properties)  $P$ .

- If  $M_1$  is an *abstraction* of  $M_2$  with respect to  $P$ , for all  $p \in P$ :  
 $M_1 \models p \Rightarrow M_2 \models p$ . This is written  $M_1 \sqsupseteq_P M_2$ .
- $M_1$  is said to be a *refinement* of  $M_2$  iff  $M_2$  is an *abstraction* of  $M_1$ . This is written  $M_1 \sqsubseteq_P M_2$ .

# Dealing with Complexity

## Most Appropriate Formalism



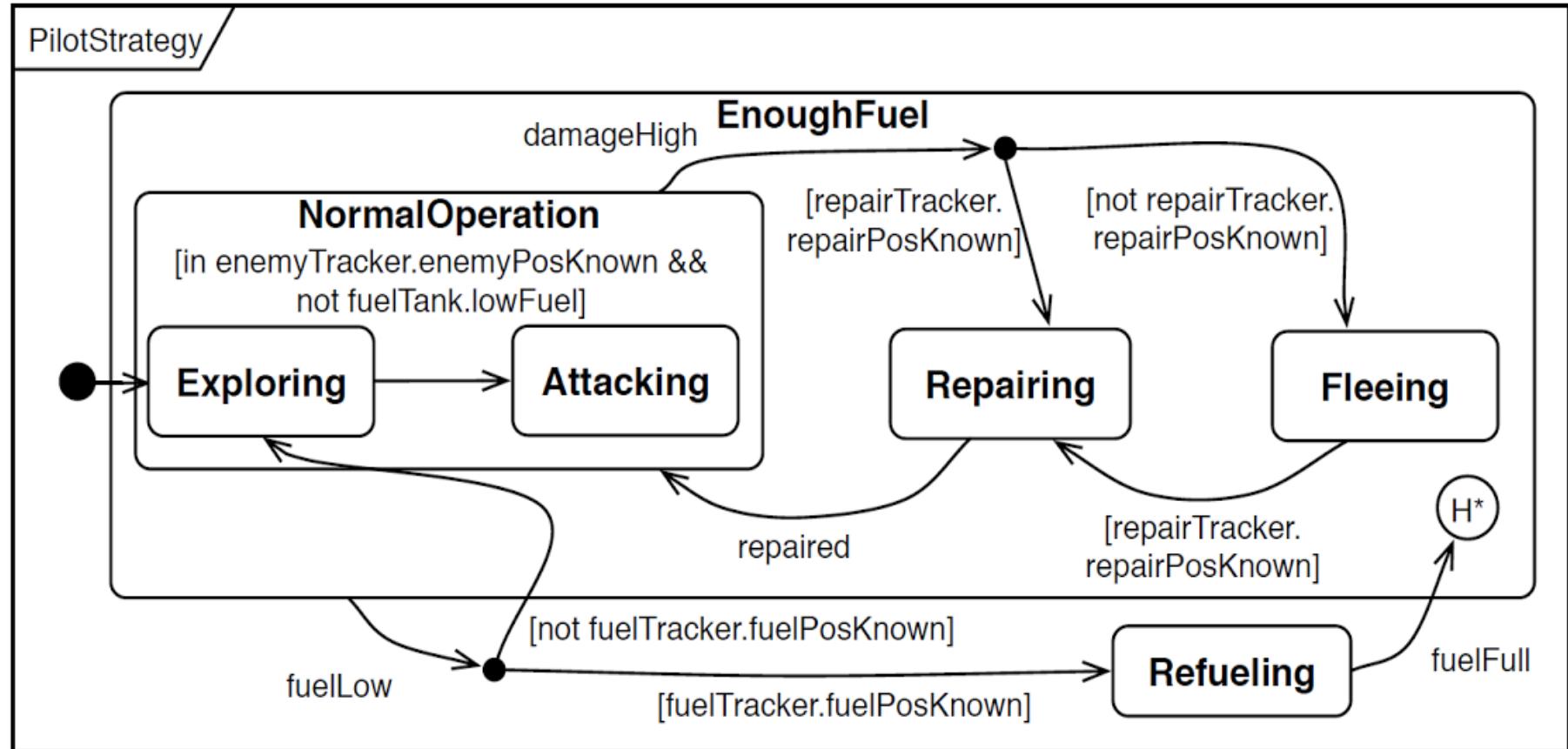
# Dealing with Complexity



[www.planeshift.it](http://www.planeshift.it)

Massively Multiplayer Online Role Playing games  
need Non-Player Characters (NPCs)

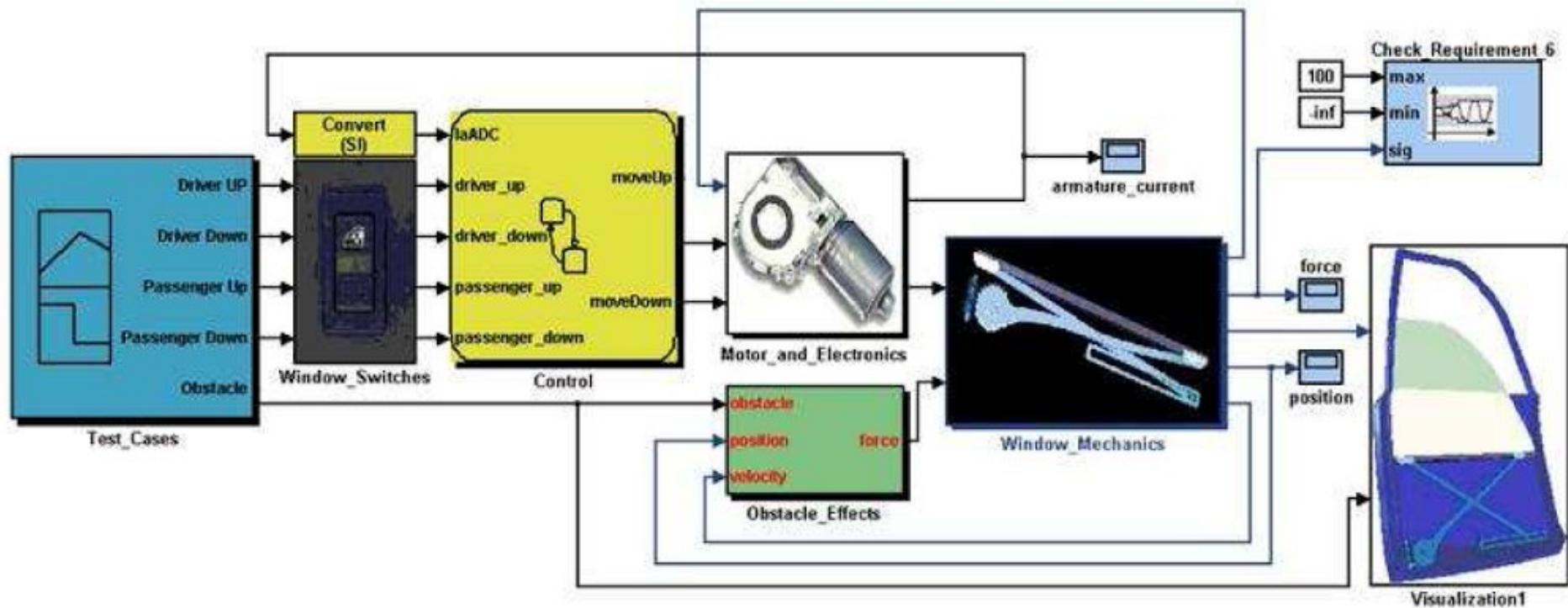
# Dealing with Complexity



Jörg Kienzle, Alexandre Denault, Hans Vangheluwe. Model-Based Design of Computer-Controlled Game Character Behavior. MoDELS 2007: 650-665

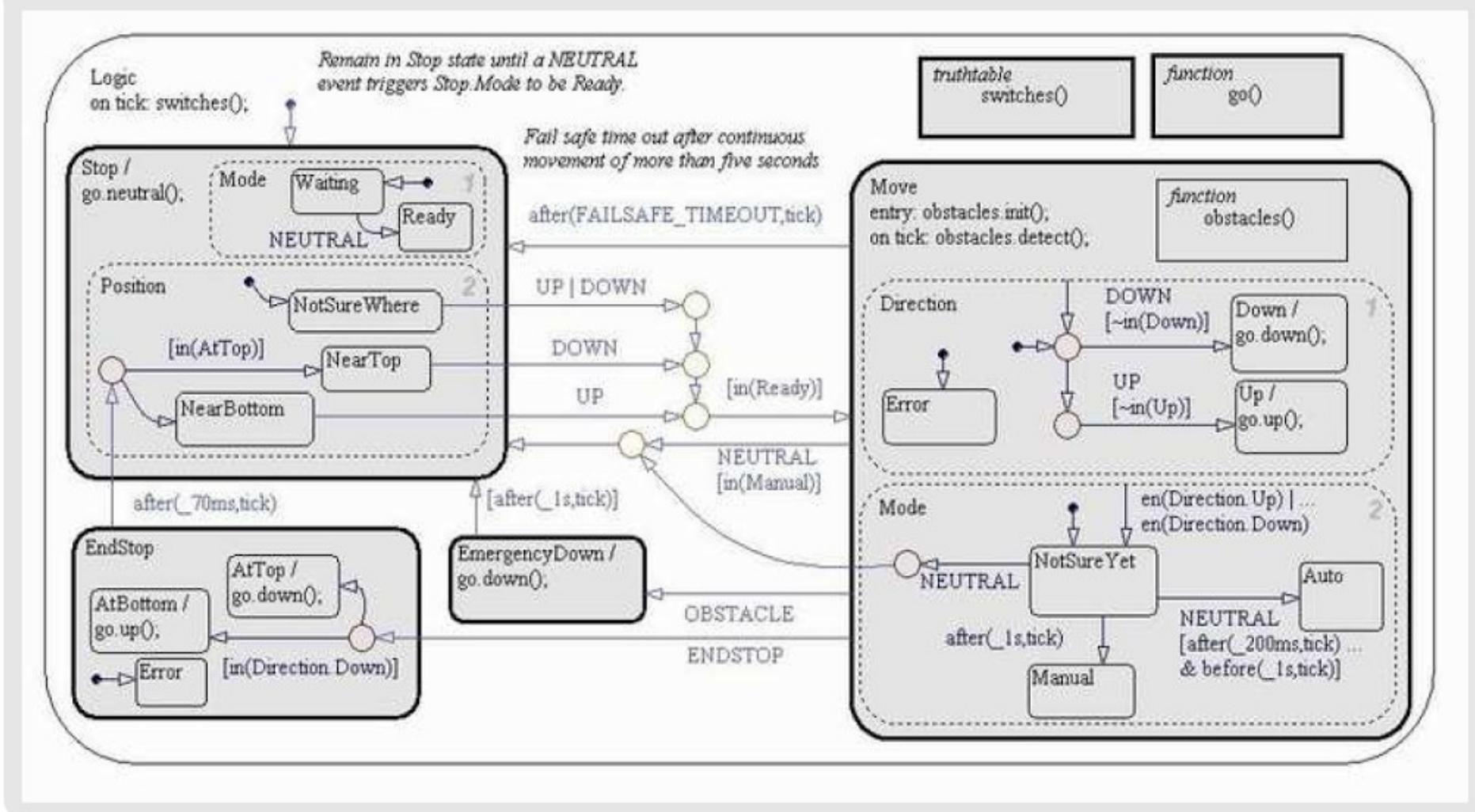
# Dealing with Complexity

## Components in Different Formalisms



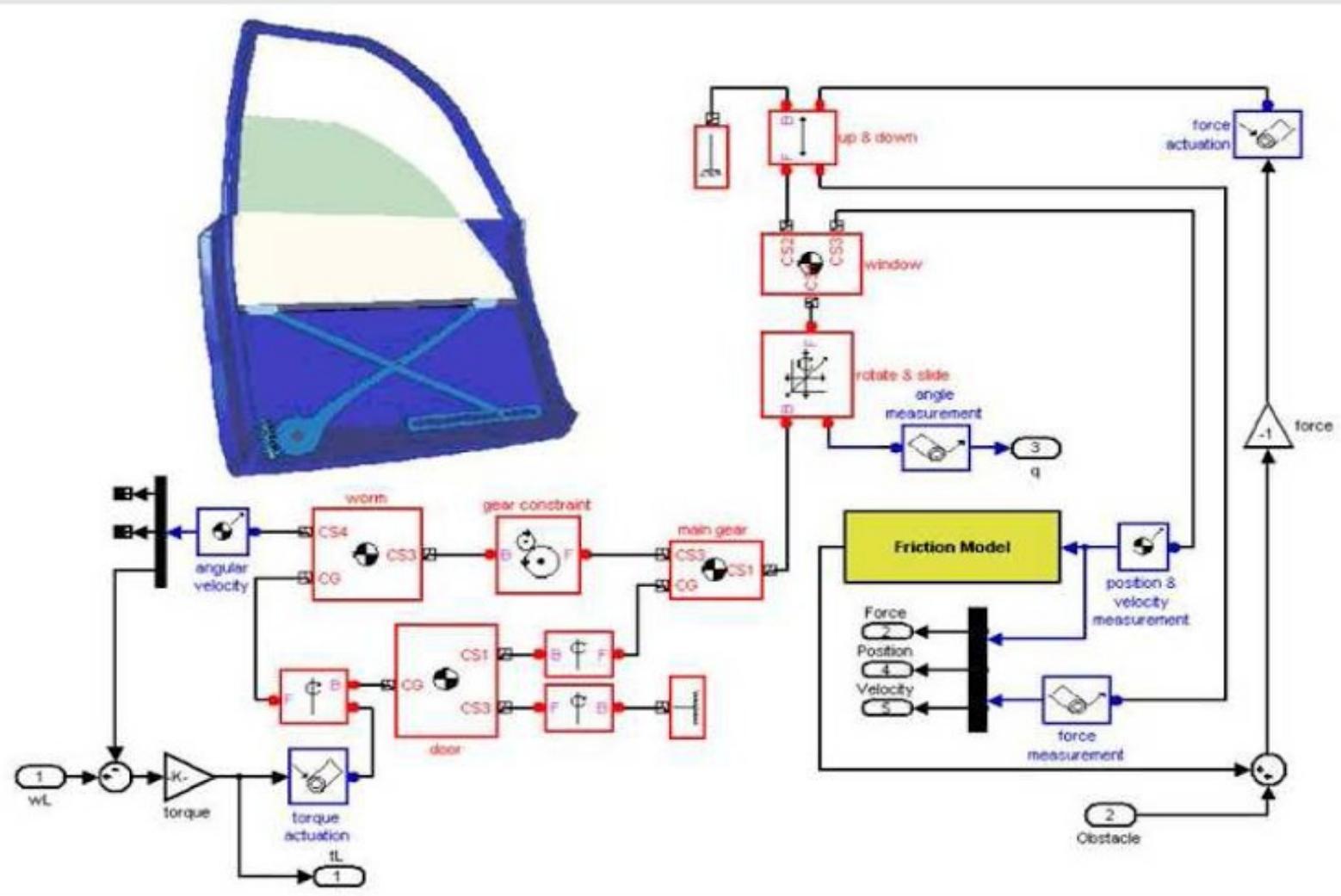
# Dealing with Complexity

## Controller, using Statechart(StateFlow) formalism



# Dealing with Complexity

## Mechanics subsystem



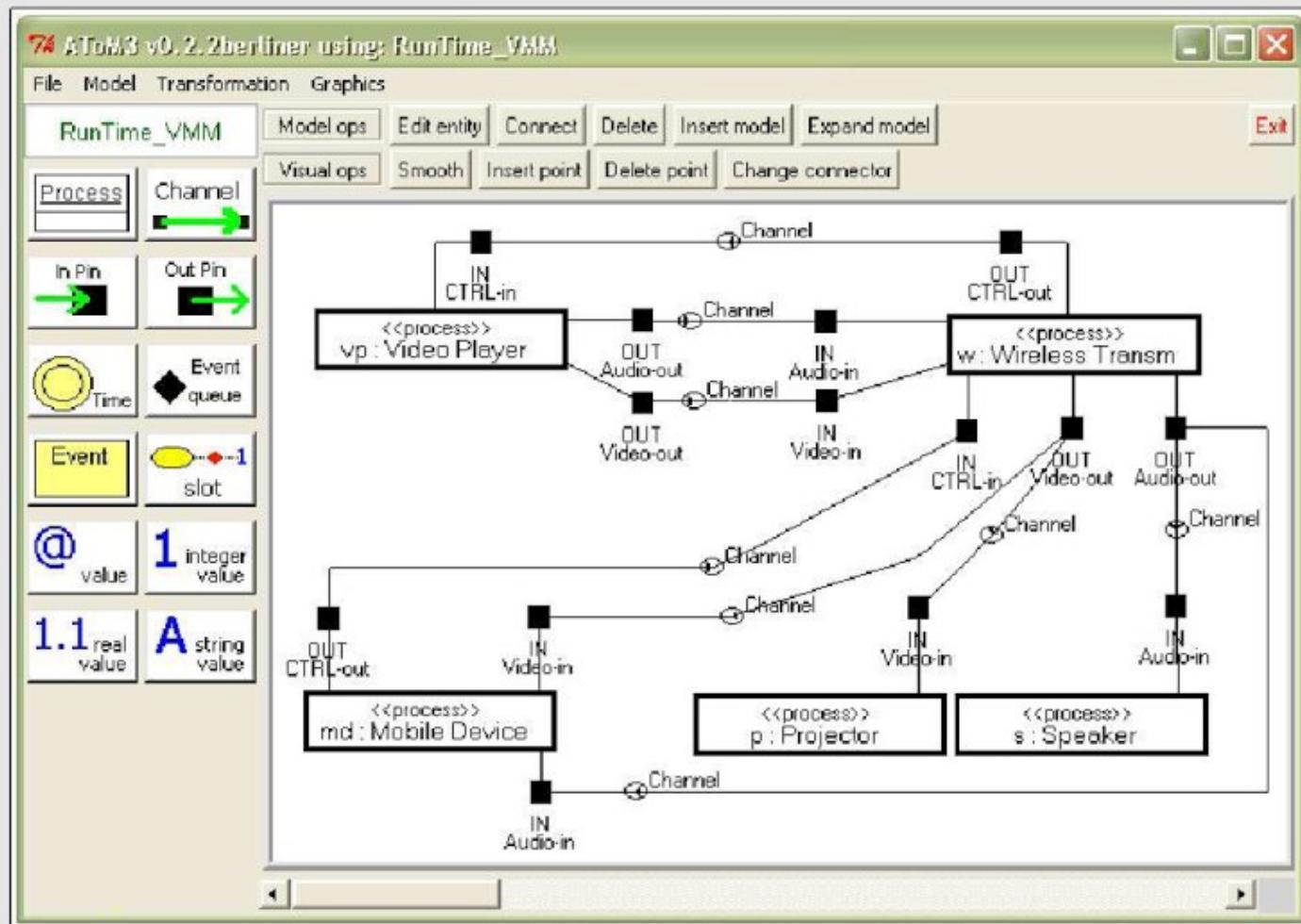
# Dealing with Complexity

## Wireless Home Entertainment System



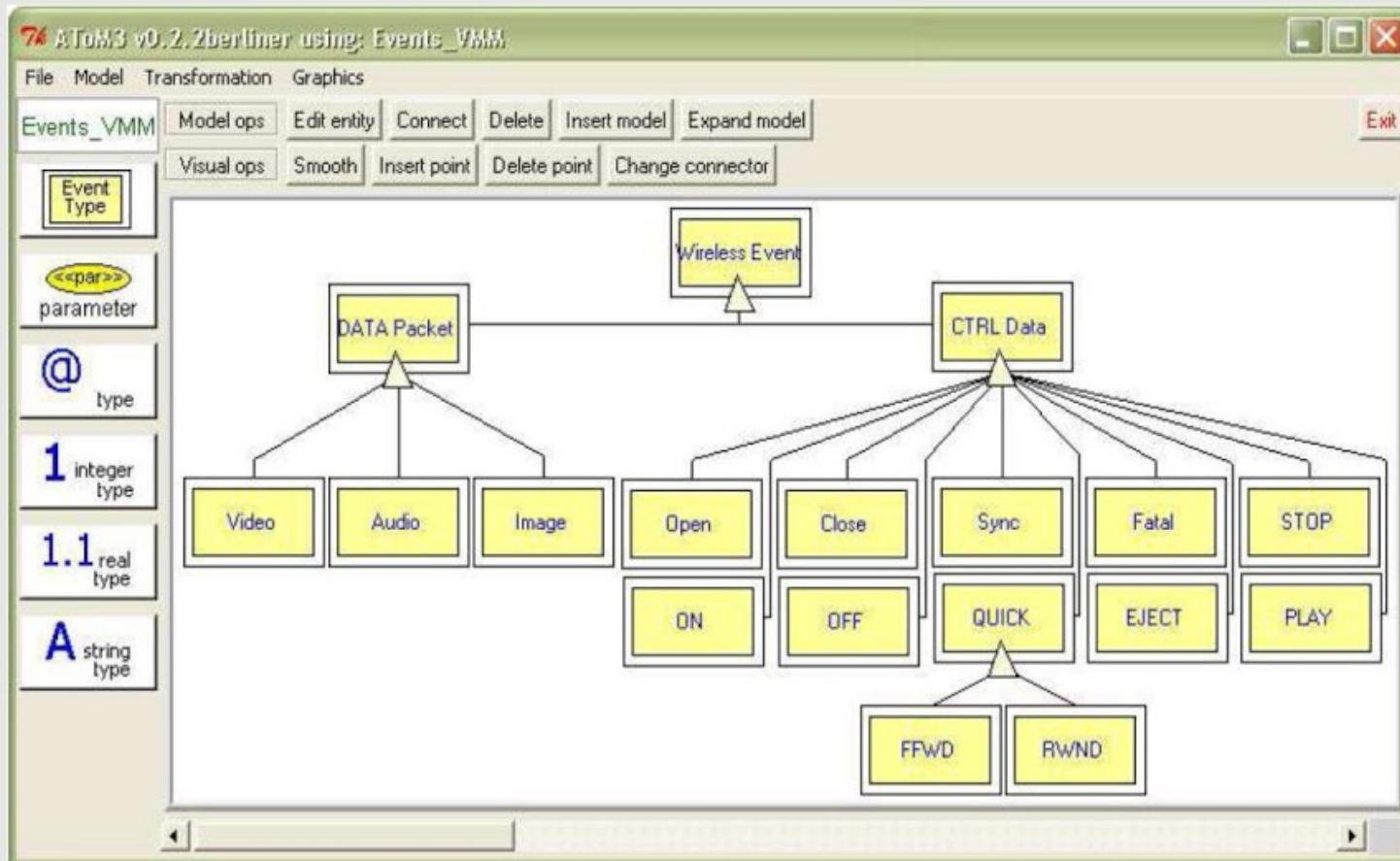
# Dealing with Complexity

## Multiple (consistent !) Views (in ≠ Formalisms)



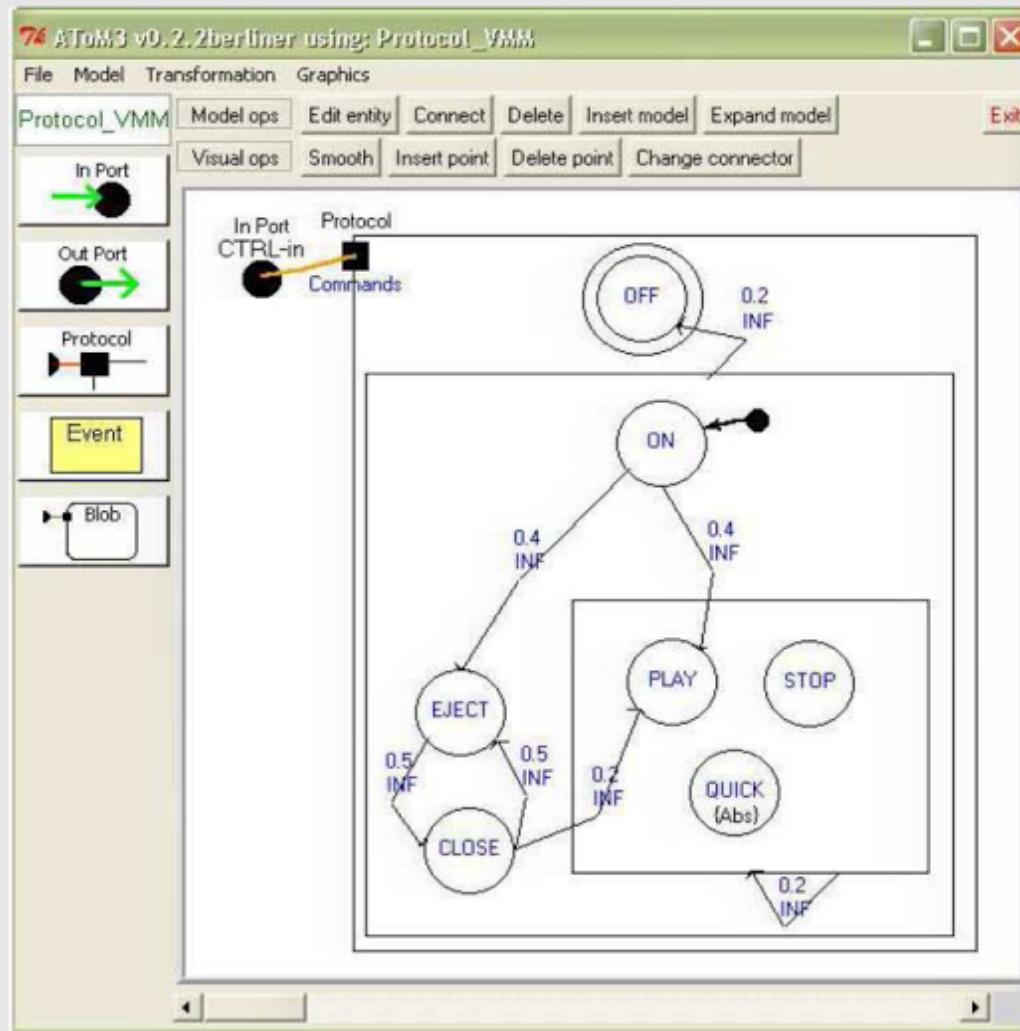
# Dealing with Complexity

## View: Events Diagram



# Dealing with Complexity

## View: Protocol Statechart



# Dealing with Complexity

## No Free Lunch!

**Solutions** often introduce  
their own **accidental complexity**

- multiple abstraction levels (need **morphism**)
- optimal formalism (need **precise meaning**)
- multiple formalisms (need **relationship**)
- multiple views (need **consistency**)



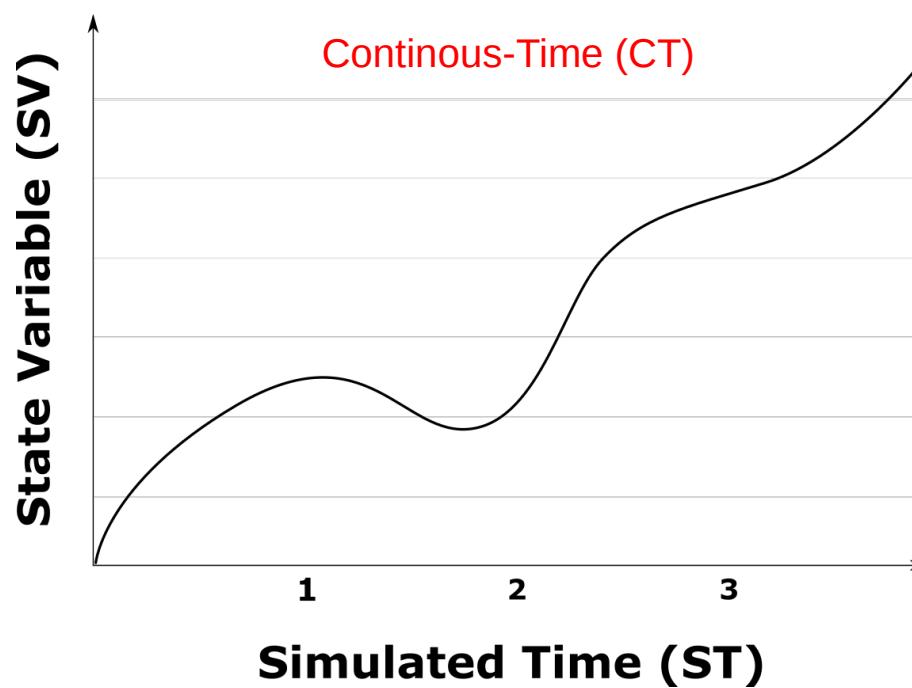
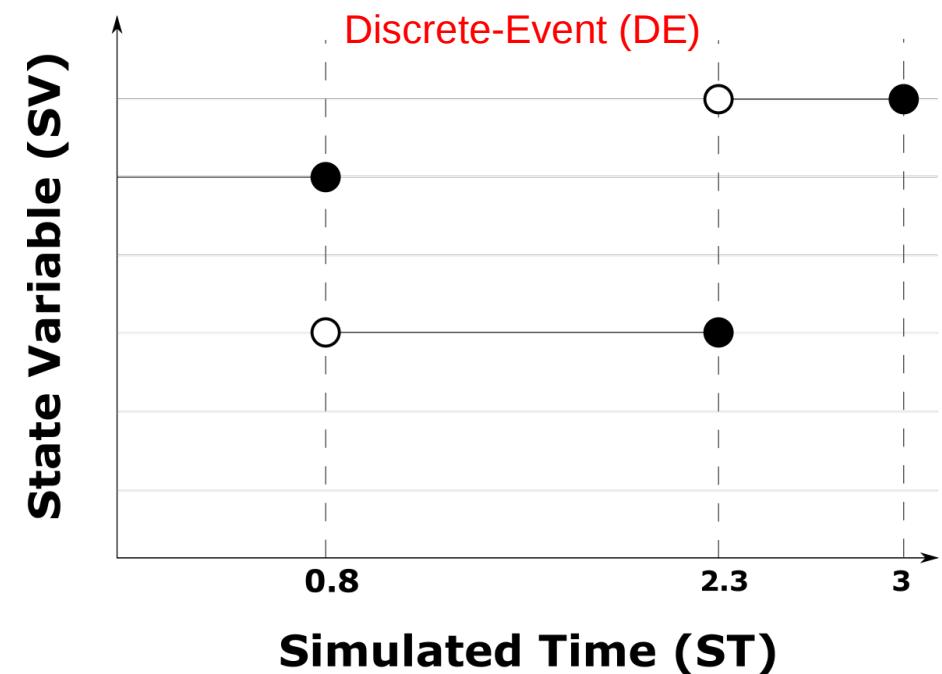
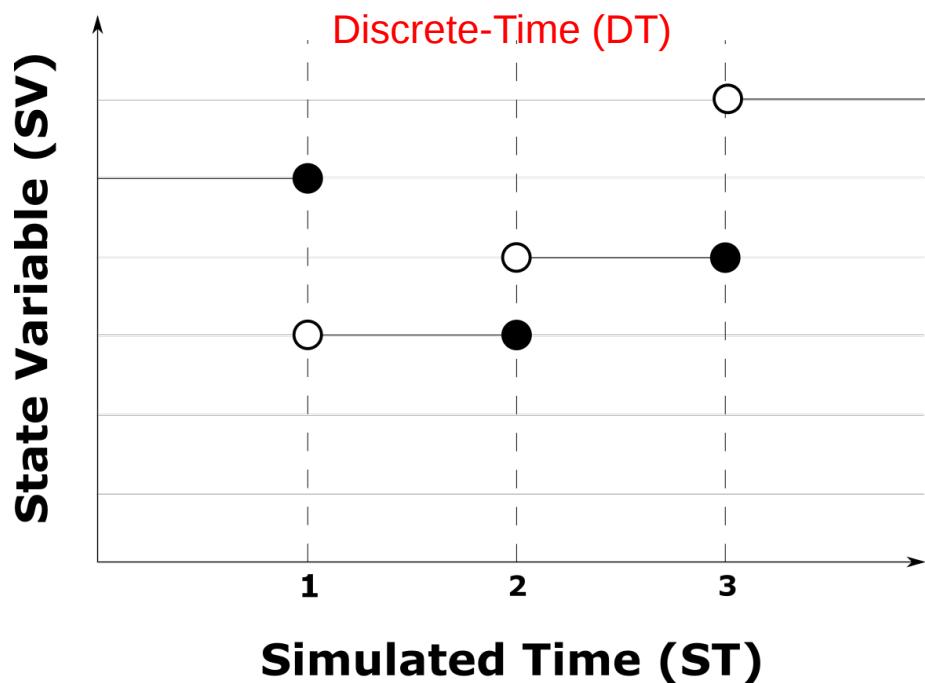
# **MODEL EVERYTHING!**

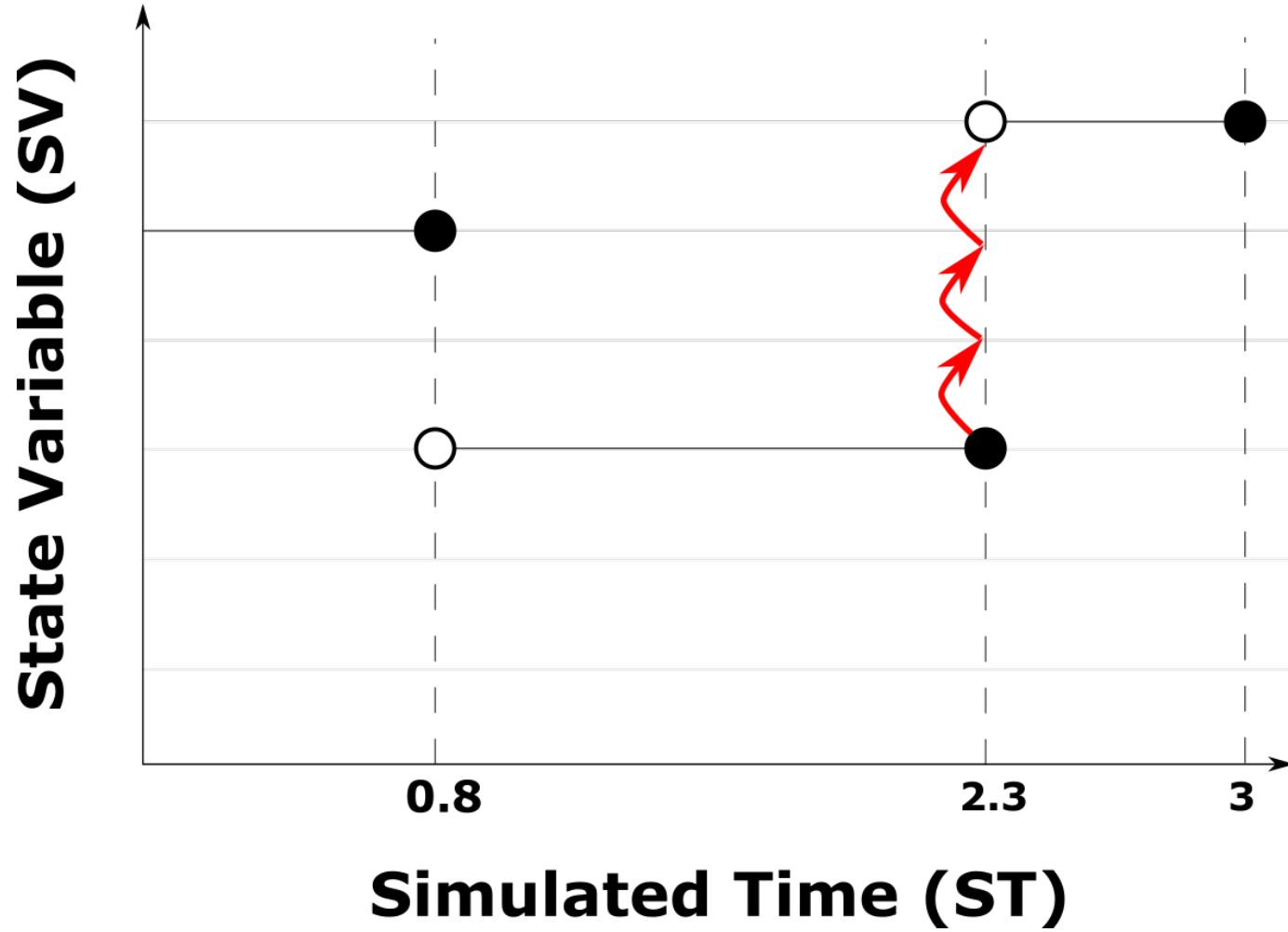
**at the most appropriate level(s) of abstraction  
using the most appropriate formalism(s)  
explicitly modelling processes**

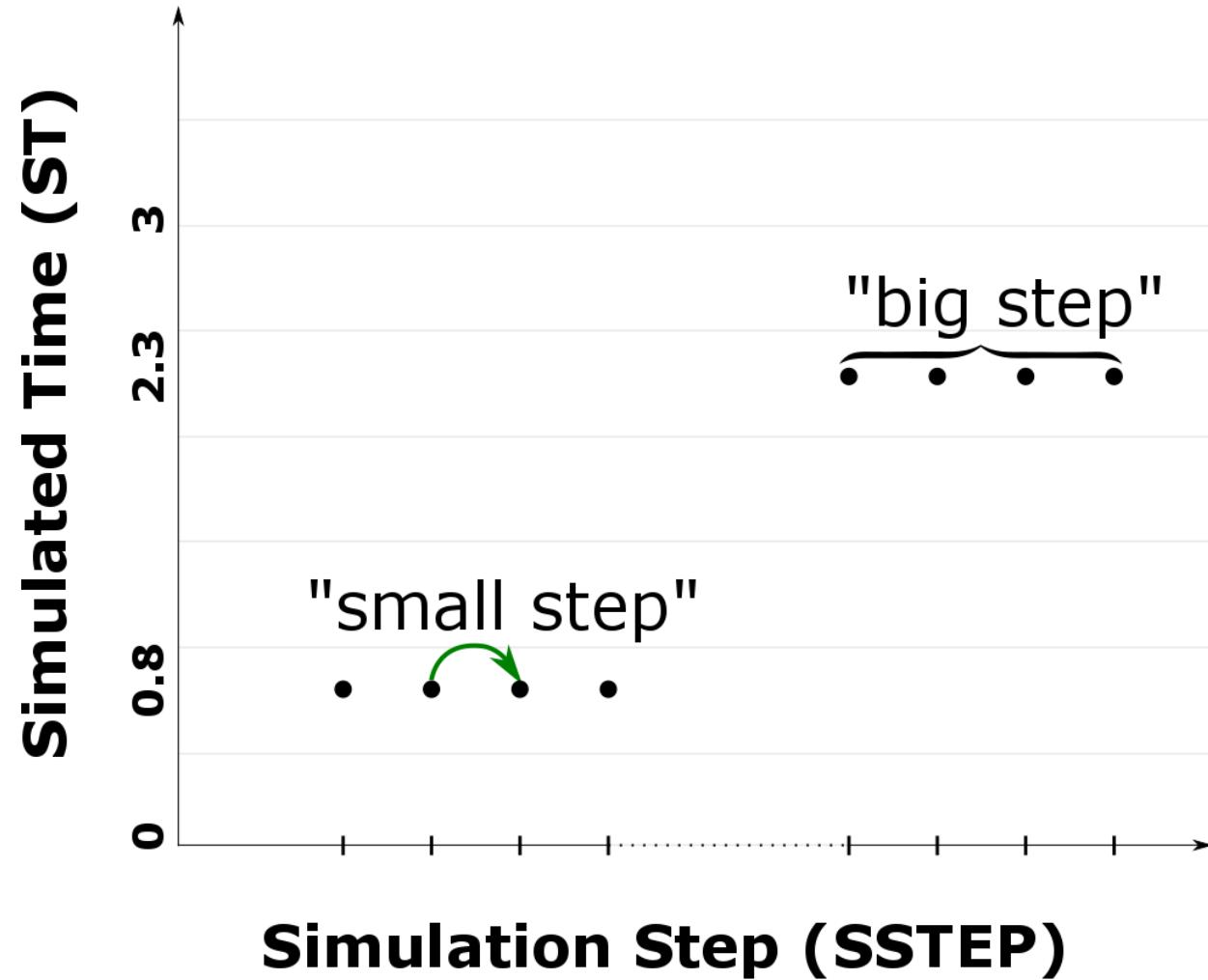
**Enabler: (domain-specific) modelling language engineering,  
including model transformation**



**simulation** of a **model** of the **dynamics** of a system produces **behaviour traces**

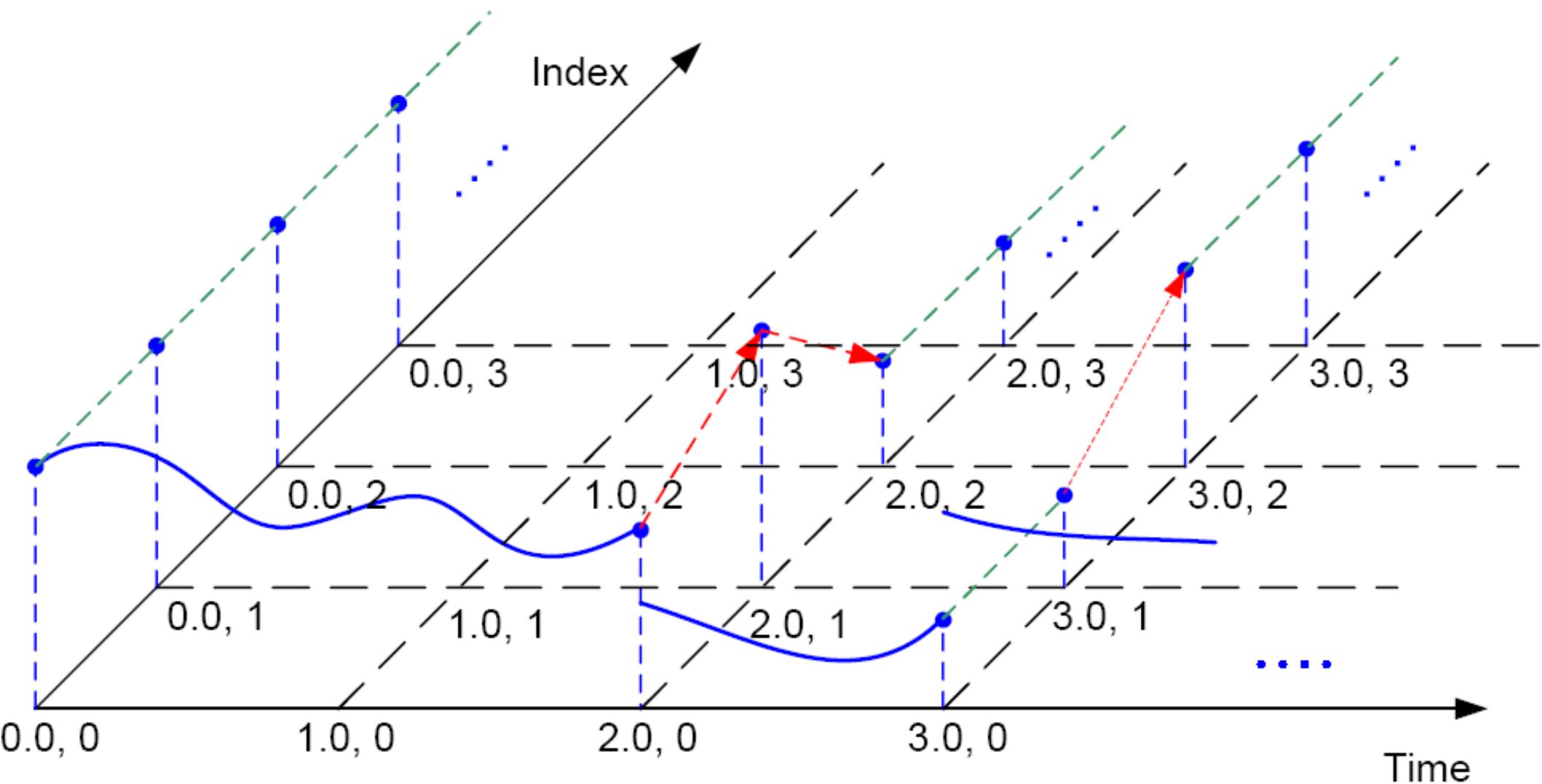


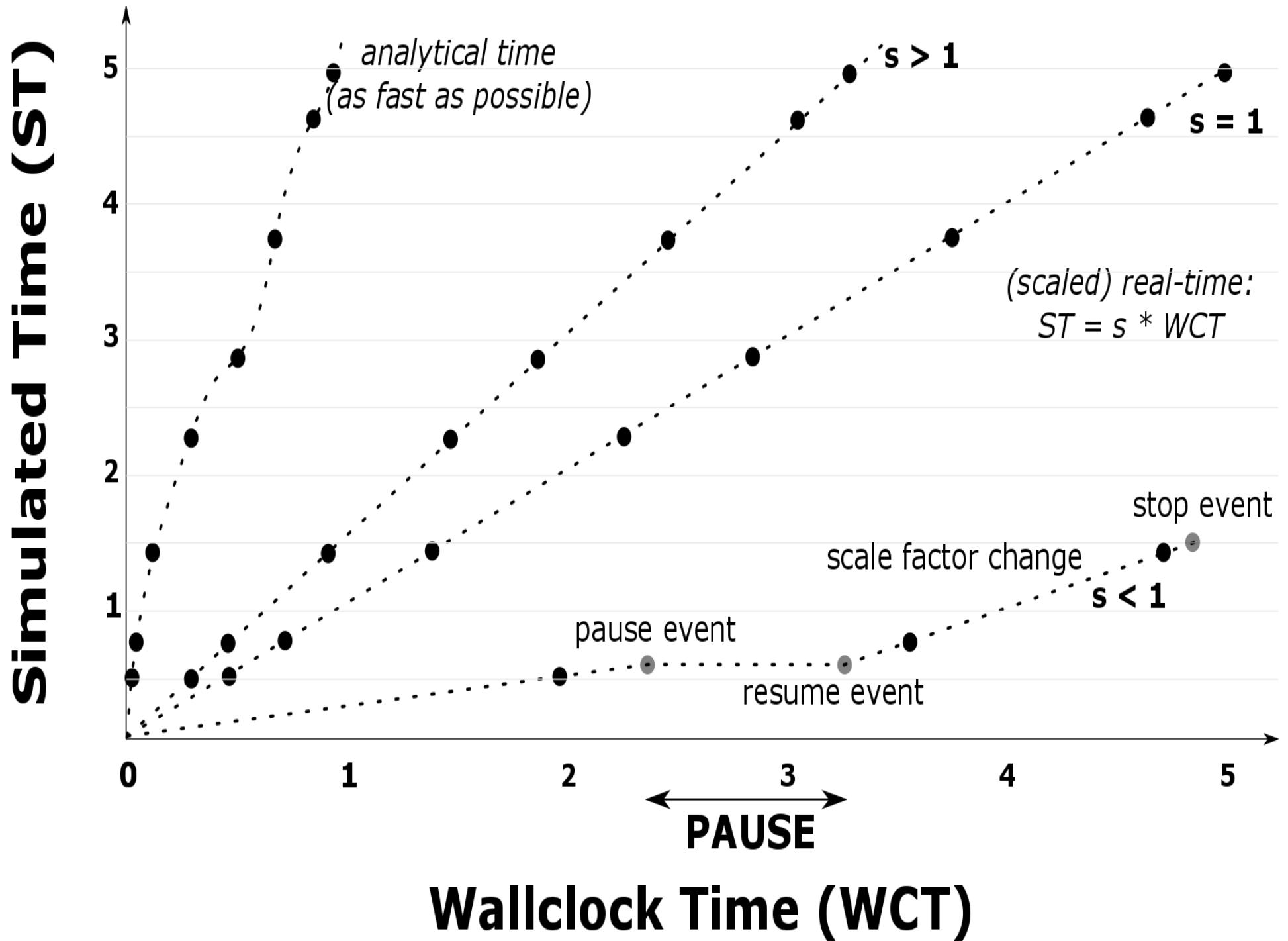




Superdense Time (Edward Lee)

$$T = \mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{N}$$

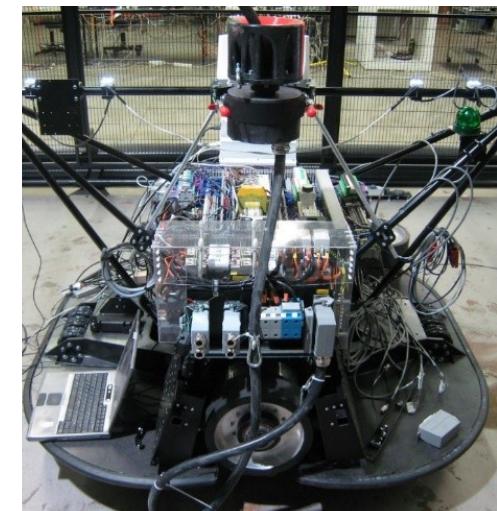
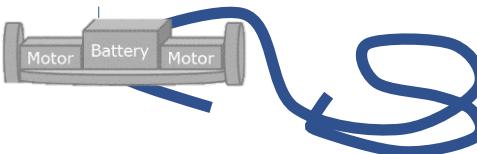




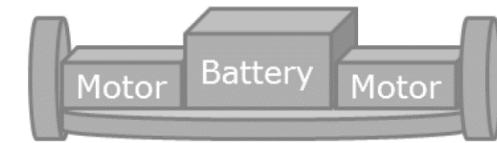
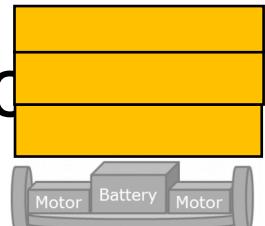
# AGV example

requirements:

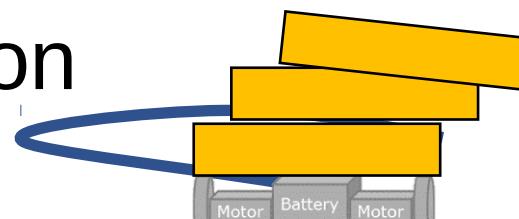
- Max. autonomy



- Max. load capacity



- Max. acceleration



- Min. task duration



[1] Case Study by Kristof Berx , Davy Maes, and Klaas Gadeyne, from Flanders Make  
[2] Dávid, I., Syriani, E., Verbrugge, C., Buchs, D., Blouin, D., Cicchetti, A., & Vanherpen, K. (2016). Towards inconsistency tolerance by quantification of semantic inconsistencies. In *1st International Workshop on Collaborative Modelling in MDE* (Vol. 1717, pp. 35–44).

## co-simulation (and co-modelling)

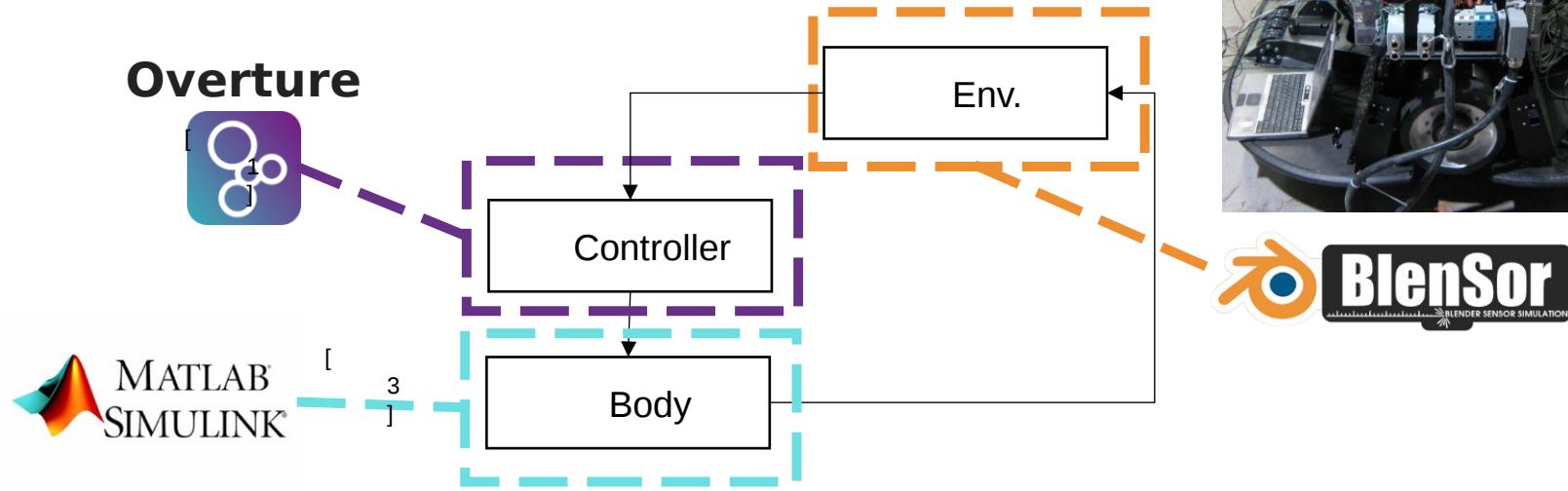
In co-simulation the different **subsystems** which form a **coupled** problem are **modeled** and **simulated** in a **distributed** manner (in space and/or time).

Hence, the modeling is done on the subsystem level **without** having the coupled problem in mind.

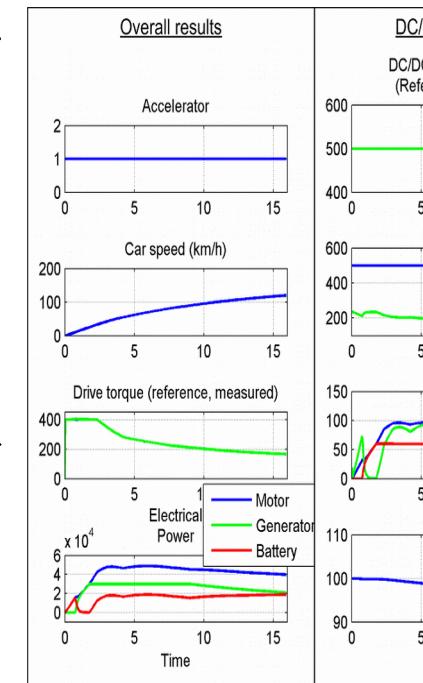
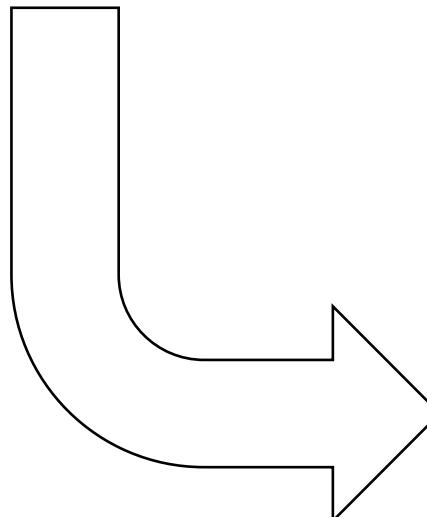
Furthermore, the coupled simulation is carried out by running the subsystems in a **black-box** manner.

Sicklinger, S.; Belsky, V.; Engelmann, B.; Elmquist, H.; Olsson, H.; Wüchner, R.; Bletzinger, K.-U. . Interface Jacobian-based Co-Simulation. International Journal for Numerical Methods in Engineering 98 (6): 418–444. (11 May 2014)

# Co-simulation (the essence)



a technique  
to combine  
sub-system  
simulators



[1]

<http://overturetool.org/>

[2]

<http://www.blensor.com/products/simulink.html>

[3]