

A photograph of a woman wearing a black VR headset with the brand name "VIVE" visible on the side. She is looking down and to the right, possibly interacting with a virtual environment. A solid blue rectangular overlay covers the bottom right portion of the image.

**VALI-CPPS**

Verification And Large-scale Integration  
for Cyber-Physical Production Systems

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# The Challenges of Cyber-Physical Production Systems

## 1. Heterogeneity & Interdisciplinarity

- > Production systems use lots of different physical effects at the same time (electromagnetism, heat, pressure, mechanics, ...)
- > Equipment manufacturers force you to use certain tools/languages

## 2. Customisation

- > Most production lines are one-of-a-kind, no economy of scales

## 3. Evolution and Legacy Components

- > Production systems change over their regular lifetime
- > Systems run for decades, parts may exist for more than a century

## 4. Safety (and increasingly, Security)

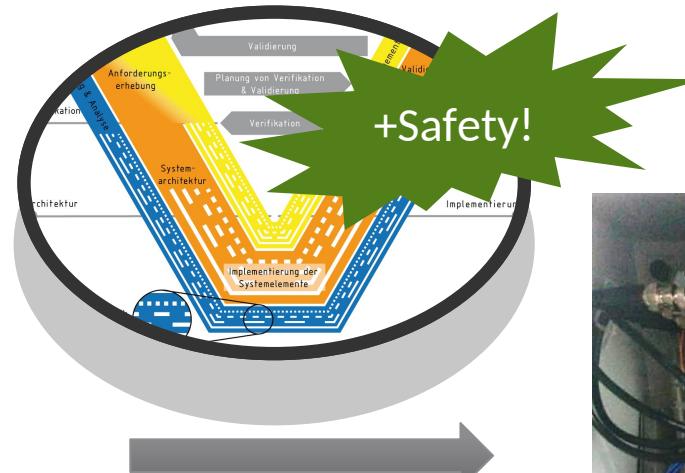
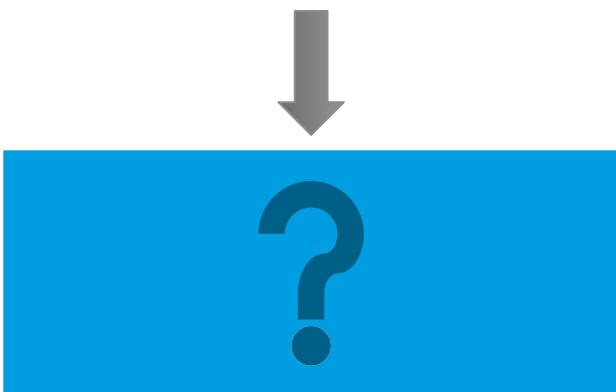
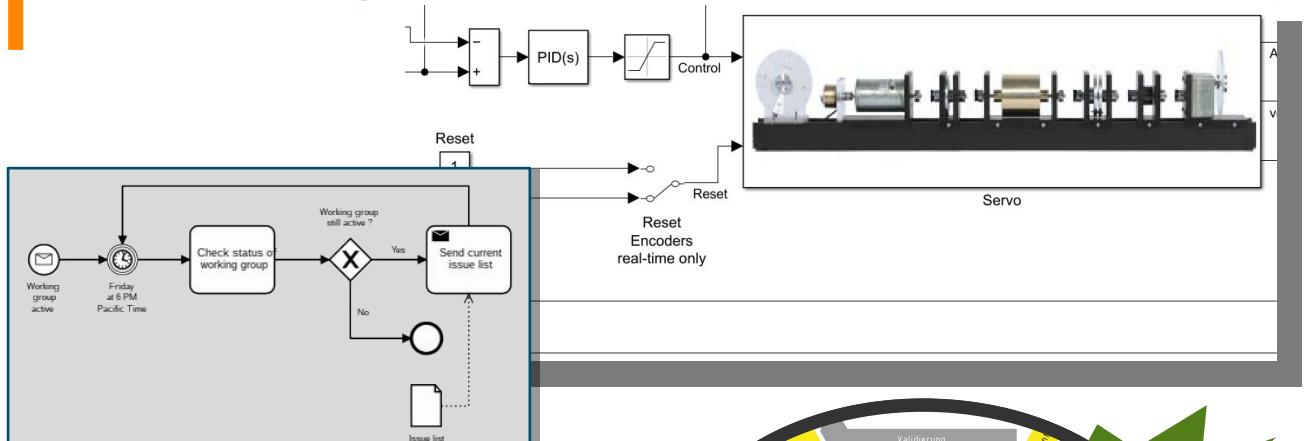
- > Failures can be expensive, cause injury, and cascade to other systems

## 5. Task Complexity

- > Industry 4.0 creates computation and interaction requirements like never before



# Desired Design Flow



# The Problem with the State of the Art

Control systems are developed with tools and languages from 30 years ago

- > IEC 61131 defines programming languages that incorporate the latest trends from the 80s
- > Examples (in decreasing order of usability):

Structural

No system

Market for  
methodology

- > Individual
- > PLC program change

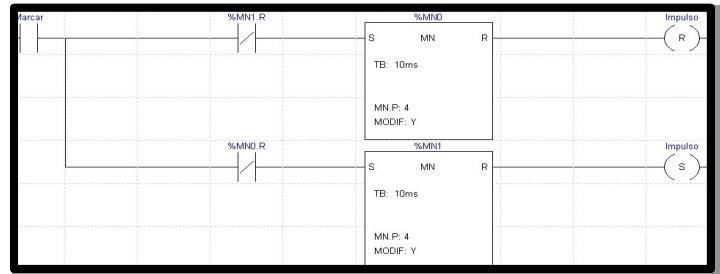
How can we improve the design process of control systems for emerging cyber-physical production systems under these constraints?

- > Protection of business models through closed ecosystems
- > Chicken-and-egg problem with new tools/languages

```
(* simple state machine *)
TxtState := STATES[StateMachine];

CASE StateMachine OF
  1: ClosingValve();
  StateMachine := 2;
  2: OpeningValve();
ELSE
  BadCase();
END_CASE;
```

```
LD      Speed
GT      2000
JMPCN VOLTS_OK
LD      Volts
VOLTS_OK LD 1
ST      %Q75
```



Source: Wikipedia

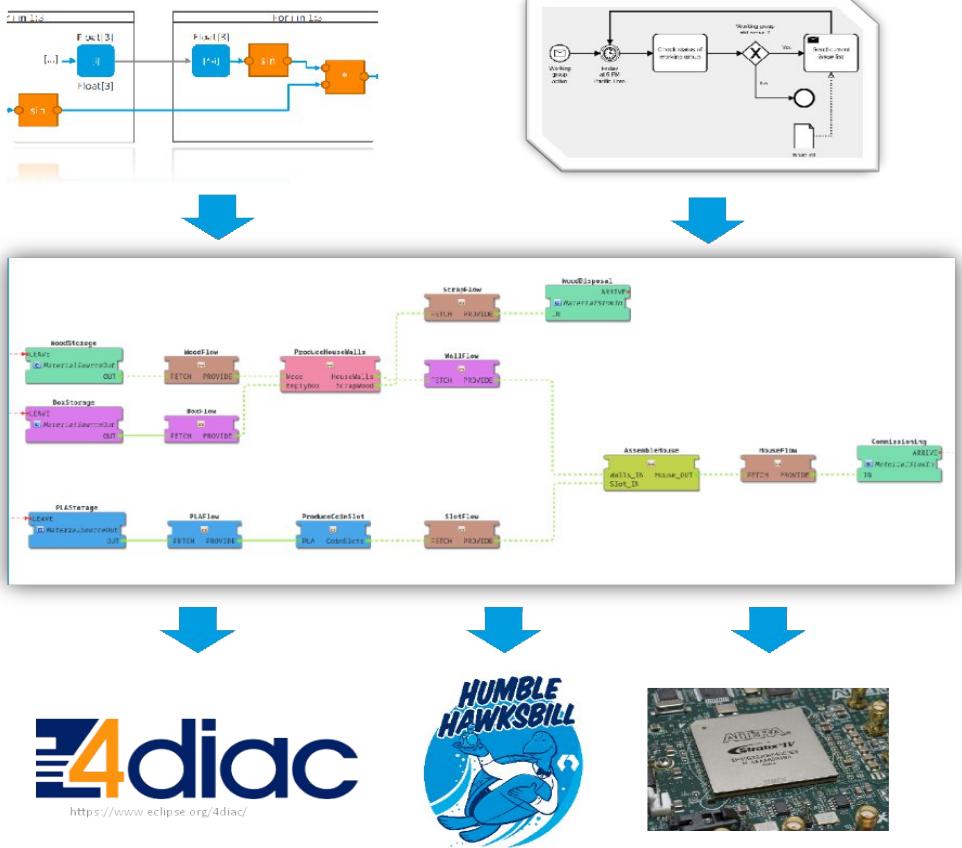
# The Idea

## Proposal: IEC 61499 as intermediate implementation/integration model

- > Unified view on control software
- > Model-based design flow from the top down to this model
- > Iterative refinement
- > Complexity management

## Advantages:

- > Traceability!
- > Support for heterogeneous CPPS
- > Reduced developer effort (low code?)
- > Extension to DevOps possible

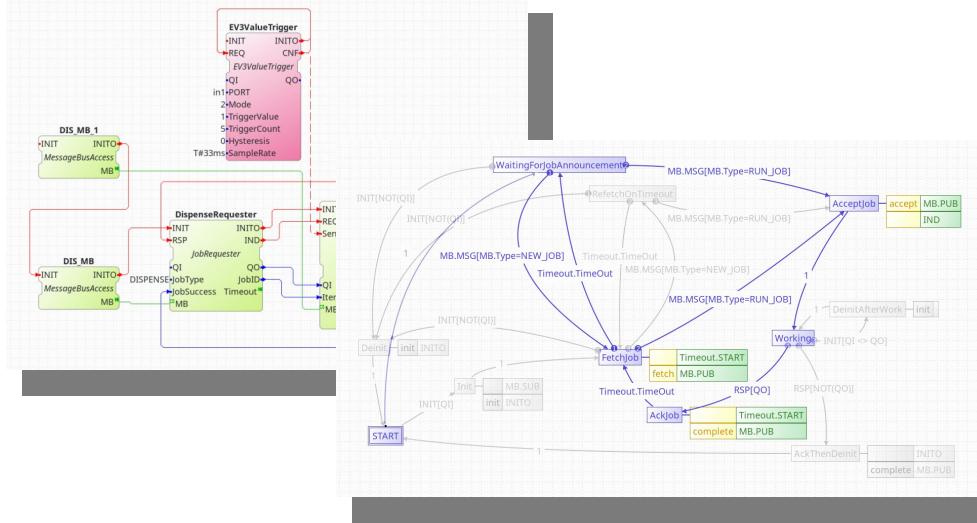


# What the Integration Model Buys Us

# IEC 61499 as Integration Model

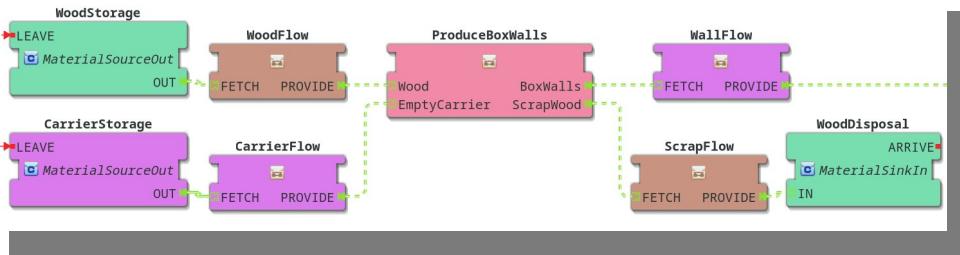
## Model-based

- > Multiple modelling styles
- > Semantics compatible with popular source model languages
- > Component model accommodates wide range of targets
- > Suitable abstraction level range



## Executable

- > Early Simulation
  - > Virtual integration testing
  - > Extrafunctional Properties



# Implementation Refinement

## Use hierarchy to change viewpoint

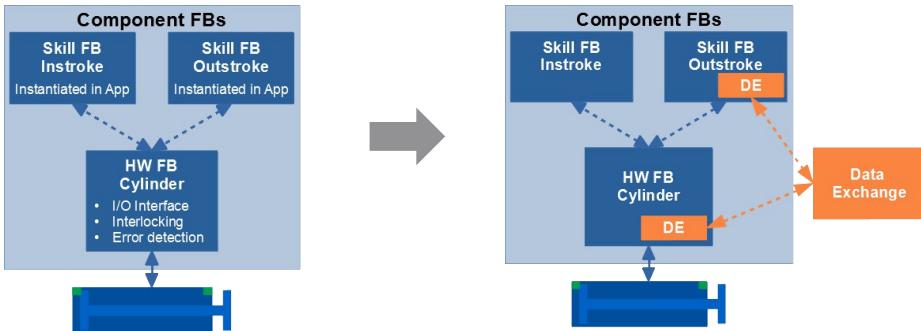
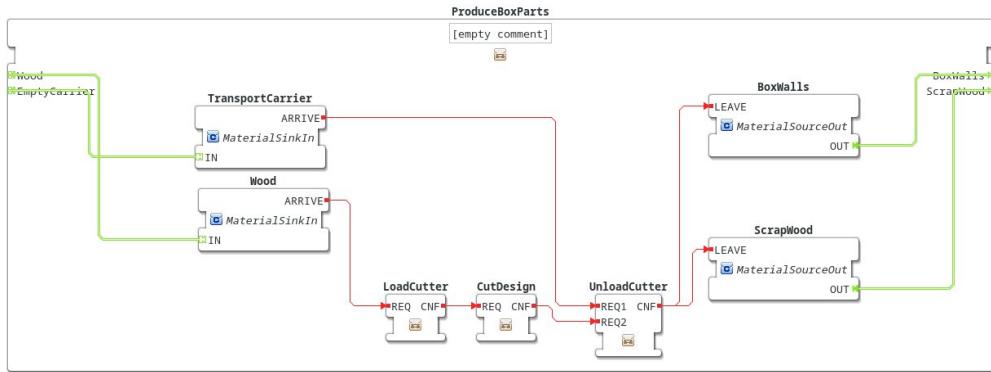
- > Goal: Control program
- > Basic program unit: skill

## Skills orthogonalize secondary aspects

- > Monitoring, HMI, error recovery, ...
- > Even scheduling/MES is changeable
  - > Self-organized? Central control?

## Skills allow black-box specialisation

- > Manually optimised implementations
- > Custom hardware w/o code generation
- > Generated code from other tools
- > Skills from other run-time environments (e.g. ROS2)



Architectural Concepts for IEC 61499-based Machine Controls: Beyond Normal Operation Handling,  
Sonnieithner et al., ETFA 2022

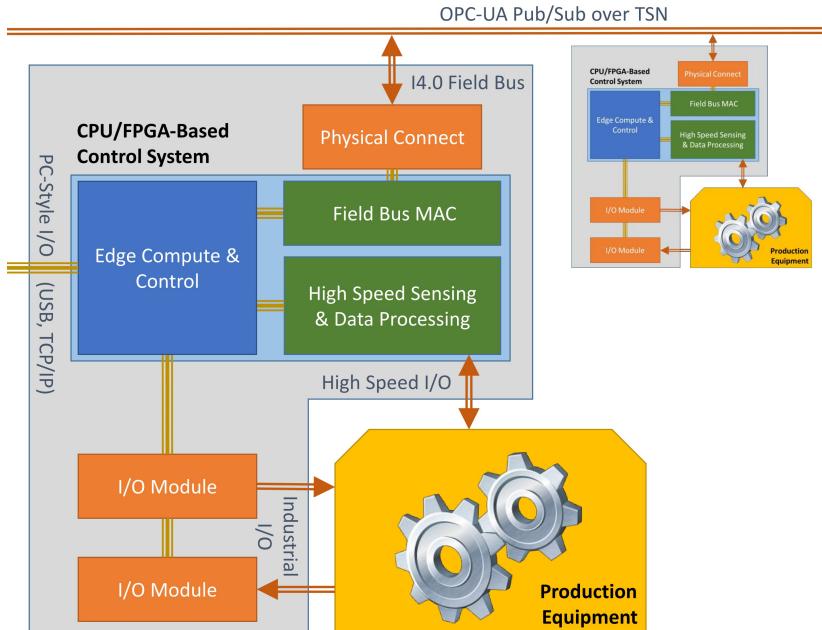
# Target Variability

## Platform-based approach: meet-in-the-middle

- > Local distribution
  - > AI accelerators, GPGPU, FPGA, DSP, ASIP
  - > Run-time environments (4diac, ROS, plain C++, ...)
- > Non-local distribution
  - > Legacy devices
  - > Device sharing
  - > Virtual PLC

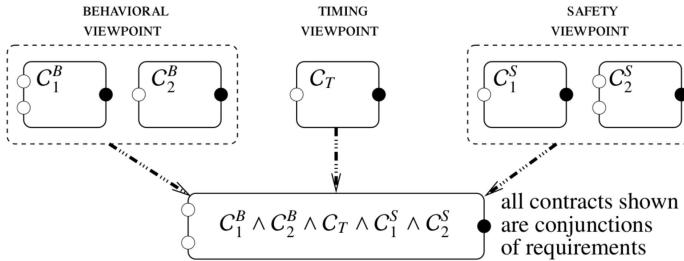
## Multi-objective design space exploration

- > Latency
- > Throughput
- > Energy



# Safety for Model-Based CPPS

# Assume-Guarantee Contracts in a Nutshell

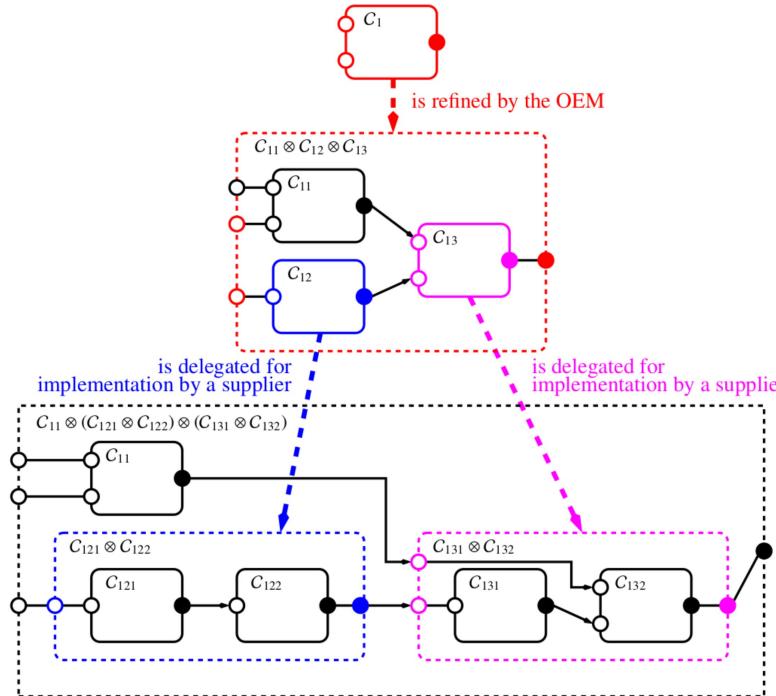


## Contract: pair $C=(A, G)$

- > Assumptions on environment
- > Guarantees of the system under those assumptions

## Operations for hierarchical design

- > Refinement (vertical)
- > Composition (horizontal)



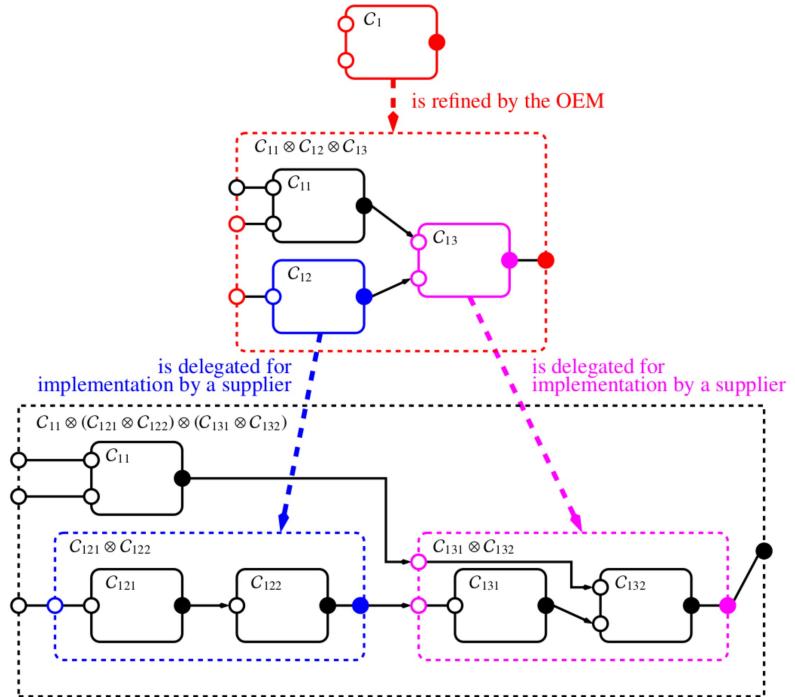
# Verification and Validation

## Composition & Refinement formally defined

- > Model-checking for small systems  
(e.g. Unit Testing)
- > Simulation for large systems  
(e.g. Integration Testing)
- > Virtual Integration Testing

## Advantages for complex systems

- > Fusing multiple viewpoints
- > Traceability of contracts to origin specification
- > Independent component development (and updating!)



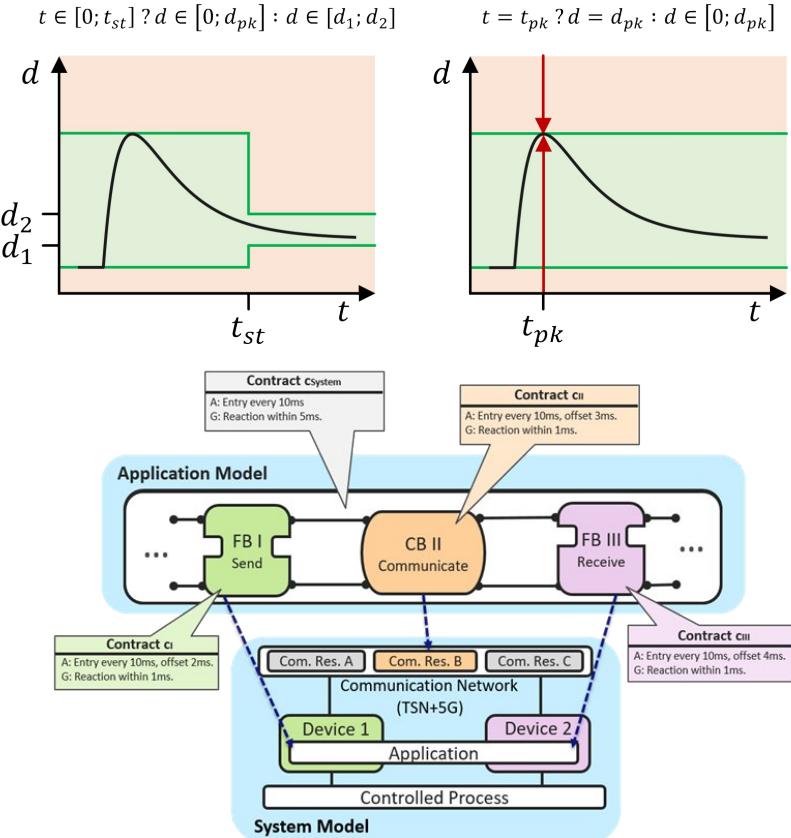
# Contract Language Examples

## TSBC – Time-Sensitive Behavioural Contracts

- > Functional (value) constraints
- > Restriction to time intervals

## MTSL - MULTIC Time Specification Language

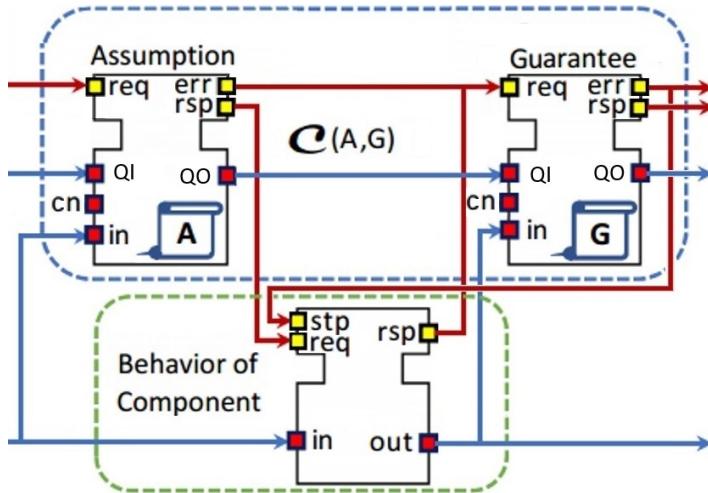
- > Huge amount of timing properties
- > Latency, Jitter, Causality, Duplication, Exclusion, ...
- > Well researched



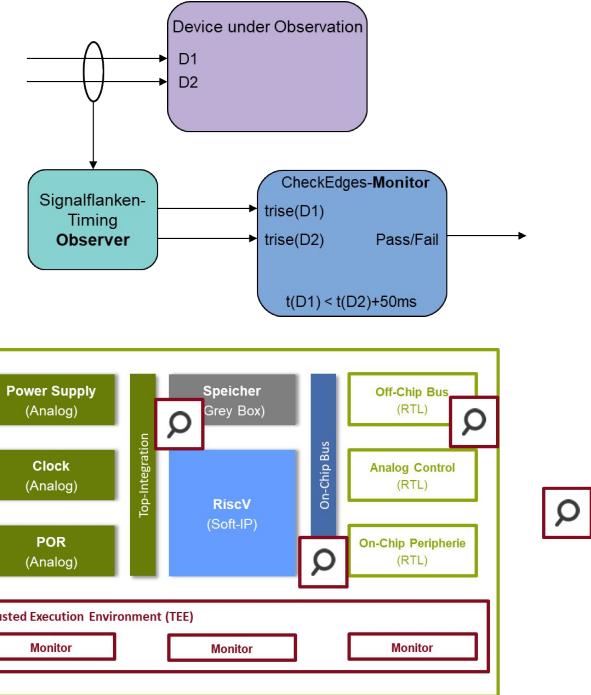
# Safety at Run Time and Beyond

# Contract-Based Run-Time Monitoring

End-to-end safety checks in Software...



...and Hardware

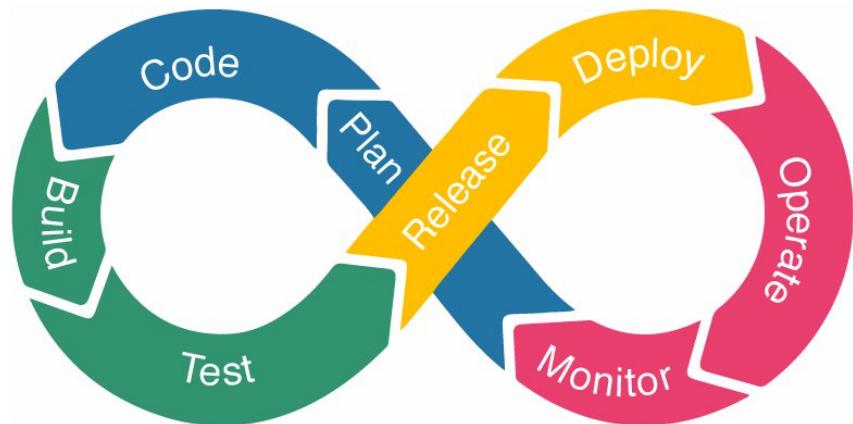


## Revision possible at any model level

- > Contracts define and limit scope of re-testing
- > Evolution of contracts possible

## Monitoring gives required insight

- > Auto-generation reduces effort
- > Traceability closes the loop



# Conclusion

## Model-based engineering is the way to go

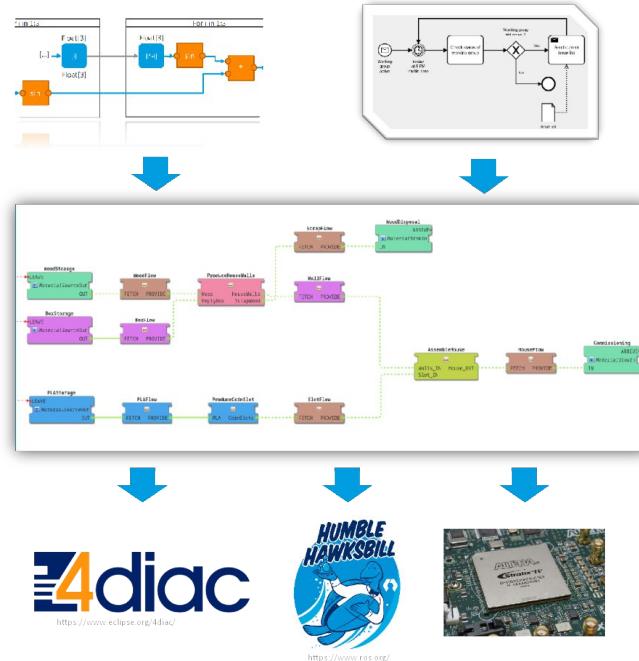
- > Formal contracts are a perfect extension

## Unified implementation model decouples models from targets/capabilities

- > Implementation details can be changed
- > Impact of changes can be contained
- > IEC 61499 & 4diac give flexibility

## Ultimately allows end-to-end safety checks

- > Run-time monitoring
- > DevOps



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