


# Application of Systems Engineering to Simulation

*Notes on simulation needs and simulation validation*

DR. HENRI SOHIER

09/10/2023

UNIVERSITY OF ANTWERP

- 
- 1. Who we are**
  - 2. Scope**
  - 3. Introduction to specification**
  - 4. Introduction to complex simulations**
  - 5. Simulation needs and validation**
  - 6. Applications**
  - 7. Conclusion**

# IRT SystemX



**Institute of Research and Technology (IRT)**  
Non-profit Scientific Cooperation Foundation

Paris-Saclay • Lyon • Singapour



**100**

Economic partners  
of which **1/3** are large groups  
and **2/3** are SMEs



**36**

Academic partners

Leads market-driven and applied research projects for the digital transformation of industry, services and territories:

- 1 Expertise: analysis, modeling, simulation and decision management
- 2 Own skills
- 3 Own assets: software, cyber-physical and tool-based platforms

**4** main application domains



Mobility and autonomous transport



Industry of the future

**8** scientific and technical fields



Data science and AI



Human-machine interaction



Scientific computing



Optimization



System engineering and software design



Safety of critical systems



Digital security and blockchain



IoT and future networks



Defense and security



Environment and sustainable development

Founding members



# Simulation at SystemX

## ■ Examples of projects in simulation

- **Decarbonized City**: Impact evaluation of city projects (e.g. installation of a district heating network) thanks to data management and digital twins
- **JNI**: Development, instantiation and deployment of digital twins for complex industrial systems
- **HSA**: Simulation and machine learning hybrid models and benchmarks
- **openPISCO**: Open-source topological optimization platform driven by the level set method
- **AMC**: Complex simulation architecture based on MBSE (needs, reuse, traceability)
- **AFS**: Exchange of simulation models with sufficient fidelity

# Simulation at SystemX

## AFS project

- Develop a methodology to improve the **collaboration between a system manufacturer and a supplier** in terms of simulation
- Integrate this collaboration in new **simulation architecture tools** for better **agility**
- Develop a methodology to **manage simulation model fidelity** and guarantee simulation results credibility
- Develop new AI-based approaches to **improve physical models fidelity**
- **Standardize** information exchanges in simulation-based development processes



Industrial partners:

**GROUPE RENAULT**

**esi**  
get it right®


**STELLANTIS**

**op**  
PLASTIC OMNIUM



Academic partners:

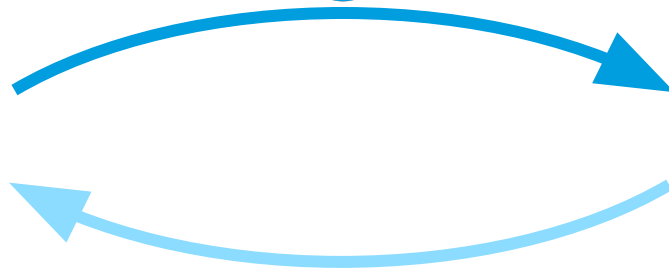
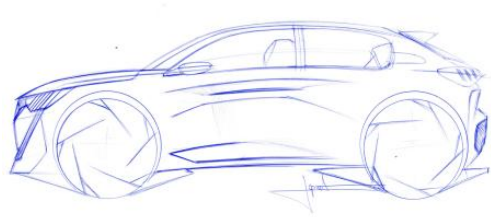
**Arts et Métiers** Sciences et Technologies TBC

- 
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# Simulation-based design



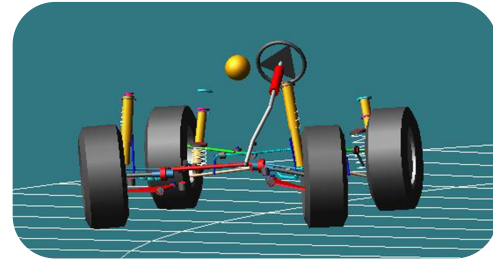
**System**



Simulation results

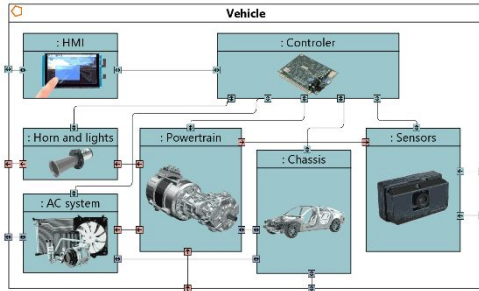


**Simulation**

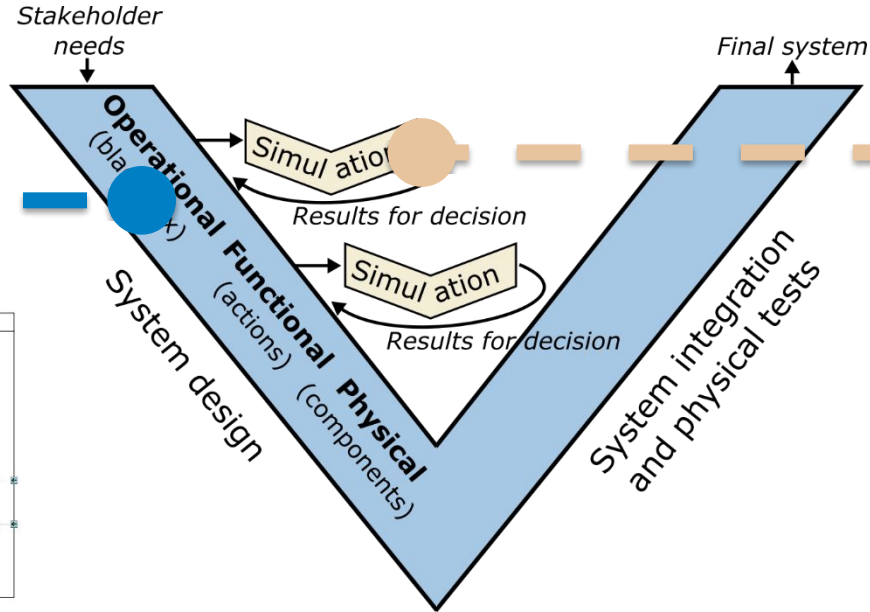


# V-shaped processes

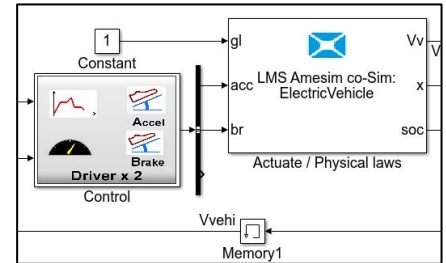
**System architecture**



- How fast should the car be?
- How much gas should it consume?
- How much should it cost?
- What are its components ?
- ...



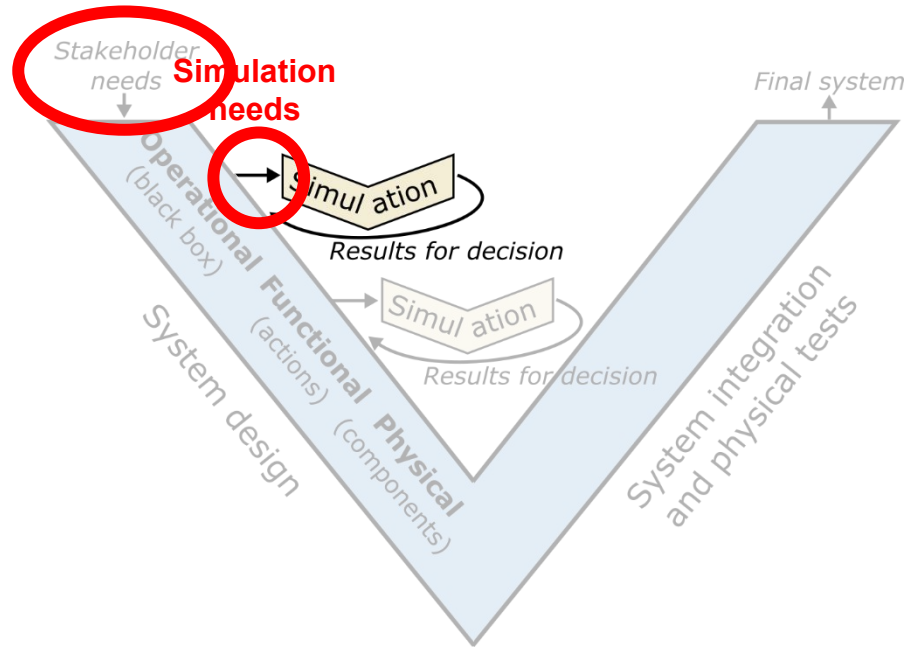
**Simulation architecture**



- How fast should the simulation be?
- How accurate should the simulation be?
- What are the simplifying assumptions?
- What are the simulation tools?
- ...



# Simulation needs



Necessary to get a simulation that meets the needs

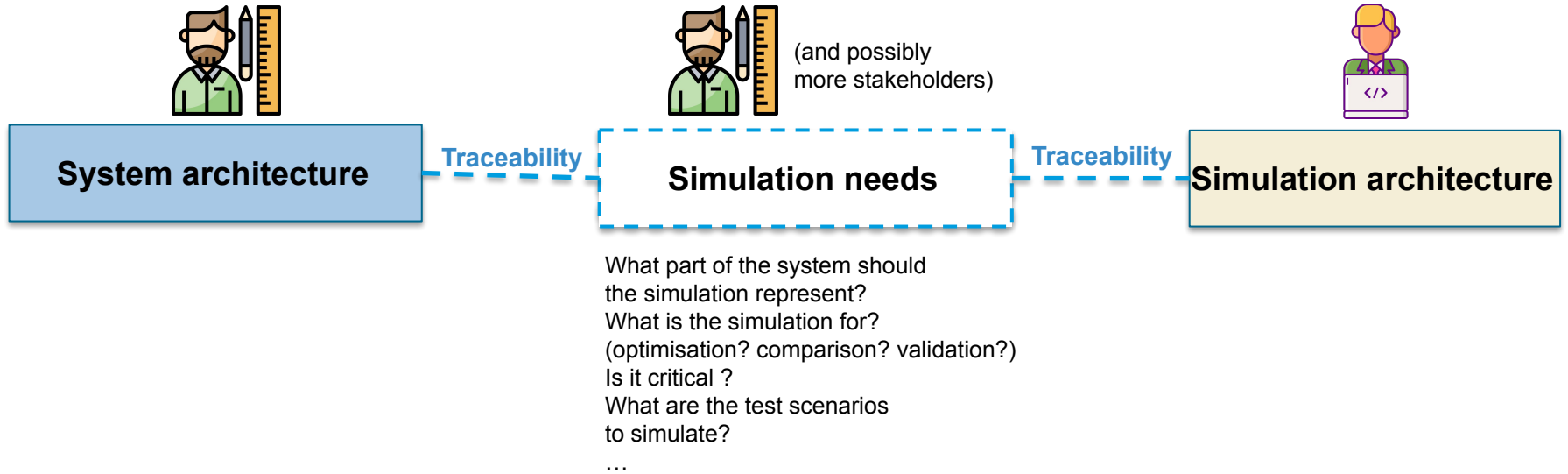


Necessary to simulation validation




Necessary to simulation reuse

# Process artefacts



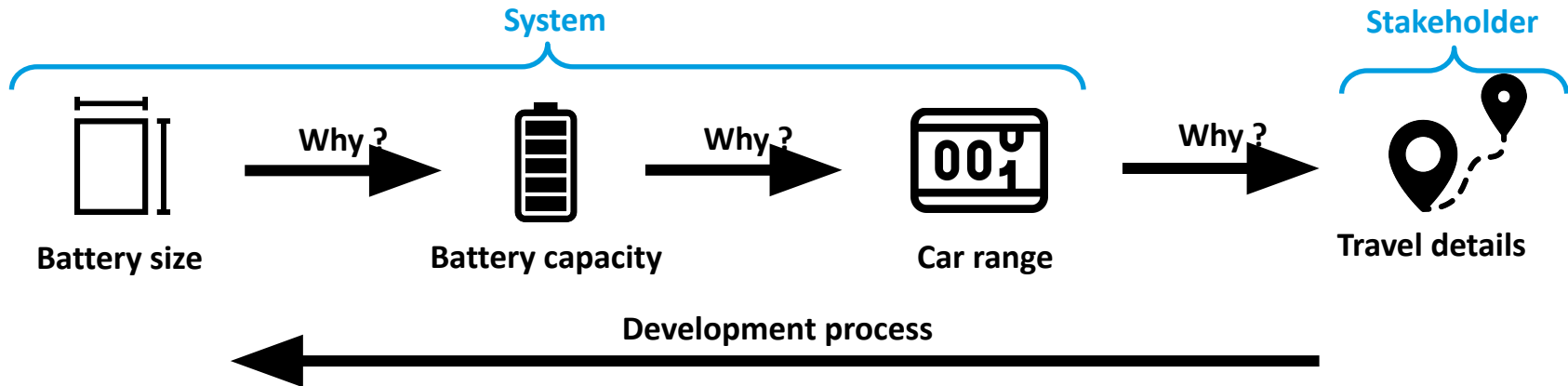
## ■ Traceability for:

- High data quality (consistency, clarity, ...)
- Easy data processing (verification, recommendation, ...)

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# Requirements

- Objective (ideally): Keep a traceability of every design choice and every test



- Stakeholder needs are sometimes similar to system requirements
  - Ex. 1: The customer wants a blue car
  - Ex. 2: The marketing department says that the car range must be higher than what the competitor offers

# Stakeholder needs

- **Involve everyone...**



Users



Programmers



Field workers

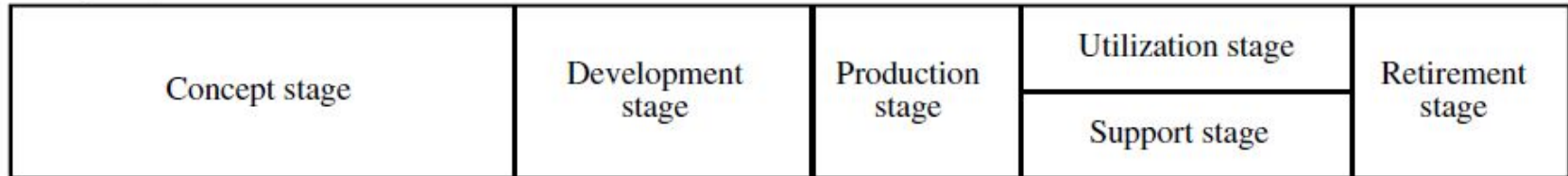


Regulators



Political  
associations

- **... and the whole lifecycle**



## References

- ISO/IEC/IEEE 15288:2015

# Requirements quality

- **Good requirements**

1. Necessary

2. Implementation independent

3. Unambiguous

4. Complete

5. Singular

6. Achievable

7. Verifiable

8. Conforming

- **Good set of requirements**

1. Complete

2. Consistent

3. Feasible/affordable

4. Bounded



## References

- INCOSE Systems Engineering Handbook (4th ed.)
- ISO/IEC/IEEE 29148:2018
- INCOSE Guide for writing requirements

# Quality requirements

- « Ilities »,  
« Quality requirements »,  
« Non-Functional requirements »


Functional Suitability	Performance efficiency	Compatibility	Usability	Reliability	Security	Maintainability	Portability
Functional completeness Functional correctness Functional appropriateness	<u>Time-behaviour</u> <u>Resource utilisation</u> Capacity	Co-existence <u>Interoperability</u>	Appropriateness recognisability <u>Learnability</u> Operability User error protection <u>User interface aesthetics</u> Accessibility	Maturity <u>Availability</u> Fault tolerance Recoverability	<u>Confidentiality</u> Integrity Non-repudiation Accountability Authenticity	Modularity <u>Reusability</u> Analysability Modifiability Testability	Adaptability Installability Replaceability

*ISO/IEC 25010:2011 System and software quality models*

# Requirements nature

	Structure « Constructional »	States « Behavior », « Functional »	Dynamics « Behavioral », « Functional », « Temporal », « Scenarios »	Performance « Non-functional »
<b>Black box</b> Why? « Operational » « System »				$time \leq t_{lim}$
<b>Internal actions</b> How? « Functional » « Logical »				
<b>Components</b> What? « Physical »				

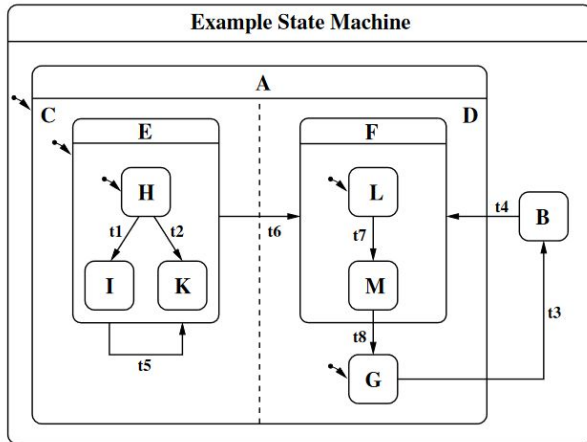


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# Specification execution in software engineering

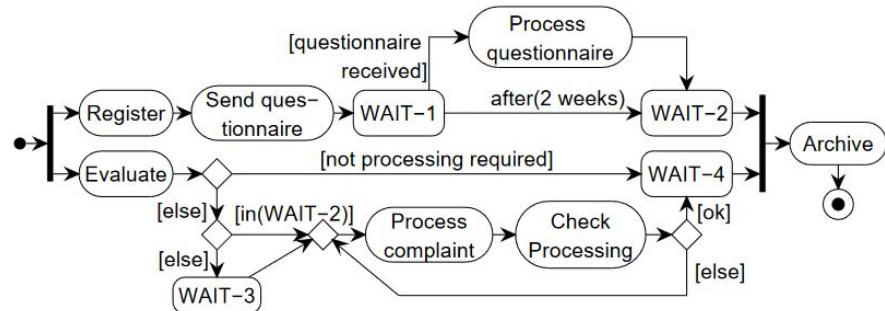
## ■ Model-based testing

- Execute and test the model
- Requires a formal specification



Santen et al. Executing UML State Machines. 2006.

Example of runnable UML state machine

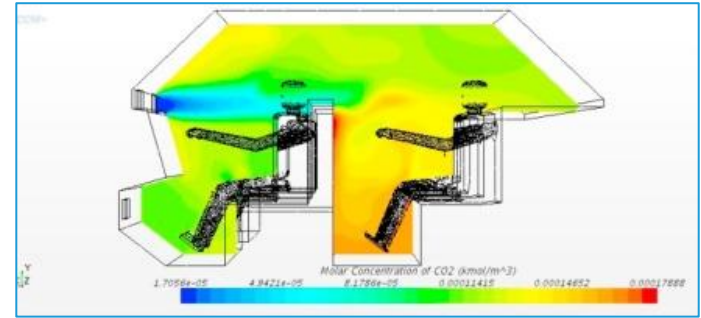


Eshuis et al. An Execution Algorithm for UML Activity Graphs. 2001.

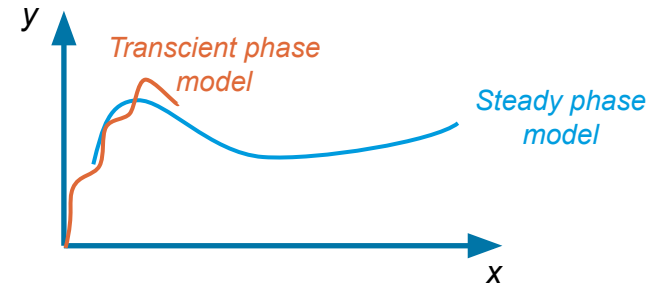
Example of runnable UML activity graph

# Simulation as a product

- A simulation is always fit for specific needs:  
It's never good at everything

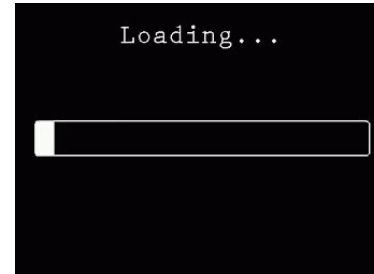


<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S1361920917309744>

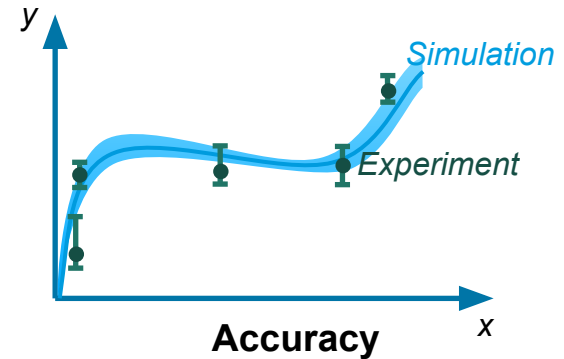


# Simulation as a product

- A simulation is always fit for specific needs:  
It's never good at everything
- A simulation has its own requirements

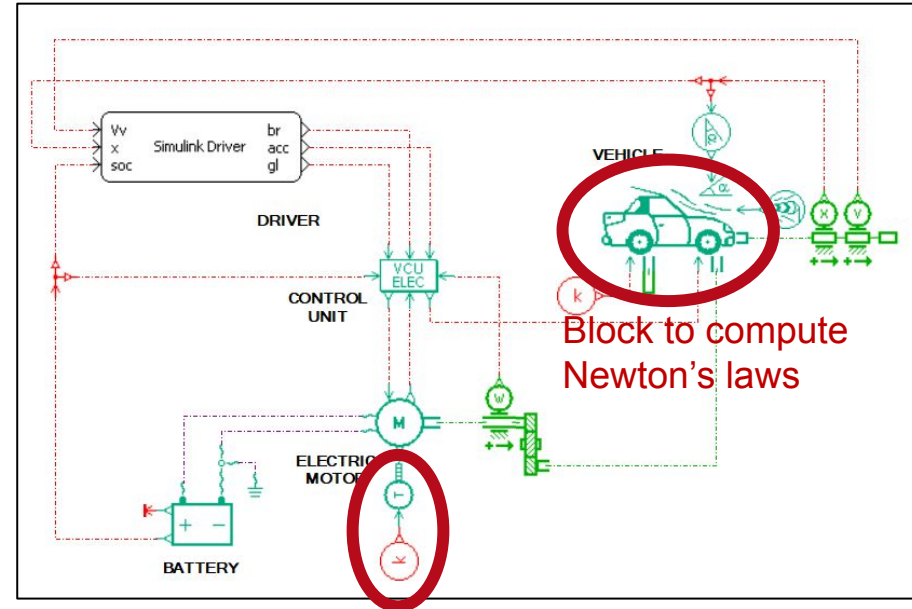


Execution time



# Simulation as a product

- A simulation is always fit for specific needs: It's never good at everything
- A simulation has its own requirements
- A simulation has its own topology

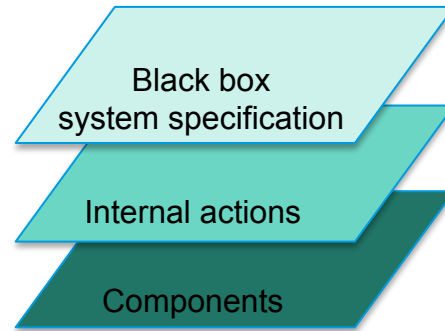


Block to compute Newton's laws

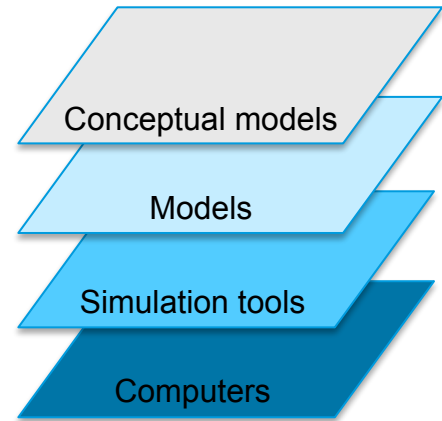
Blocks to set a temperature

# Simulation as a product

- A simulation is always fit for specific needs:  
It's never good at everything
- A simulation has its own requirements
- A simulation has its own topology
- A simulation has its own architecture



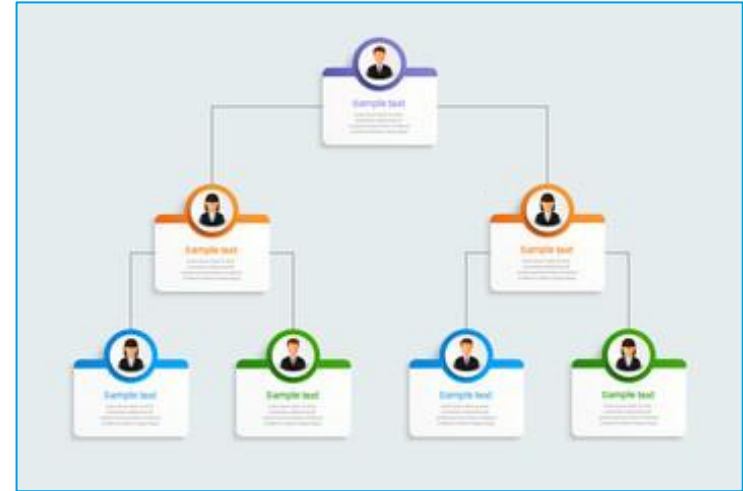
**System architecture**



**Simulation architecture**

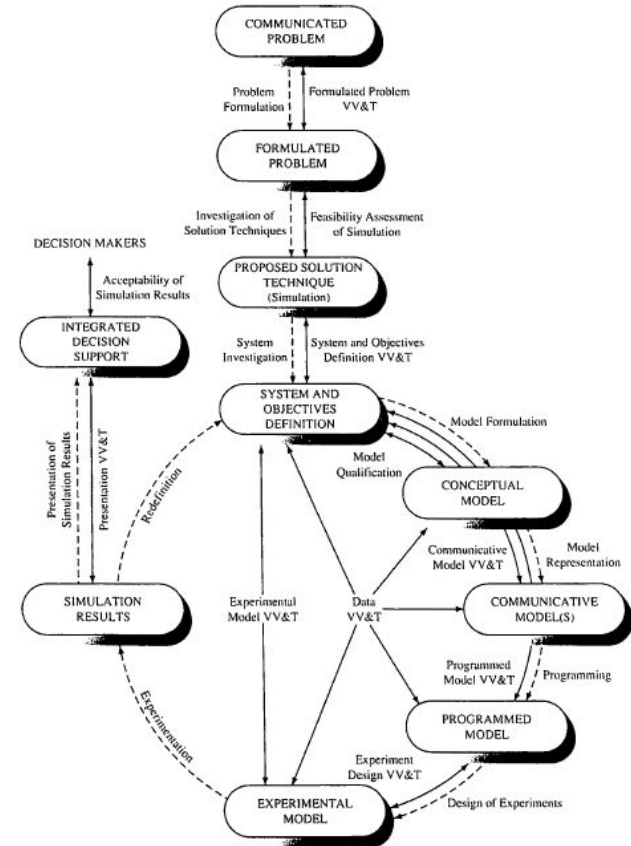
# Simulation as a product

- A simulation is always fit for specific needs:  
It's never good at everything
- A simulation has its own requirements
- A simulation has its own topology
- A simulation has its own architecture
- A simulation often has its own development team,  
with specific skills




# Simulation as a product

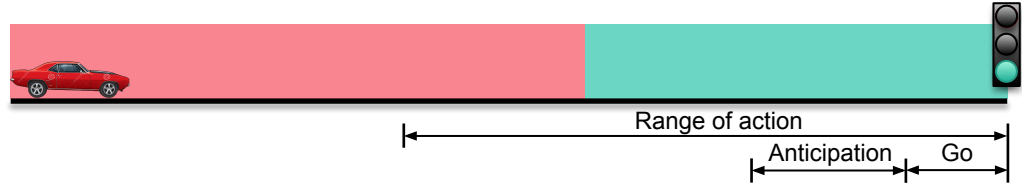
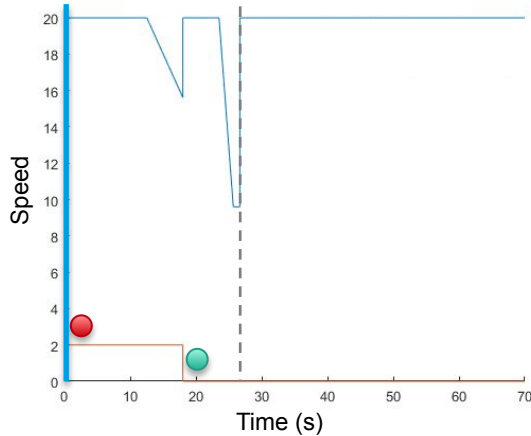
- A simulation is always fit for specific needs: It's never good at everything
- A simulation has its own requirements
- A simulation has its own topology
- A simulation has its own architecture
- A simulation often has its own development team, with specific skills
- A simulation has its own life cycle





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# Example of simulation



Example of sequence of events :

- 1) Vehicle cruising
- 2) Decision to slow down because of the red traffic light
- 3) The traffic light turns green
- 4) Decision to slow down to anticipate a possible color change
- 5) The vehicle passes the traffic light, even if it turns orange

## Control parameters :

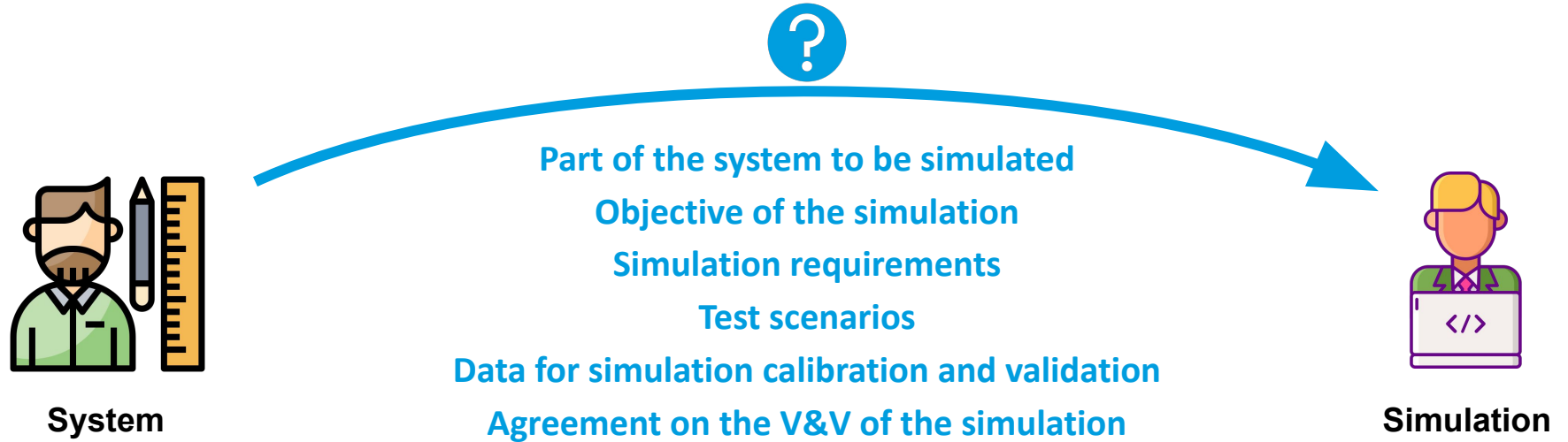
- Range of action
- Deceleration in anticipation of a color change

## Sensor subject to an uncertainty :

- Detection range

**Question: What are the best parameters and sensor to minimize both the energy consumption and the sensor cost?**

# Simulation needs



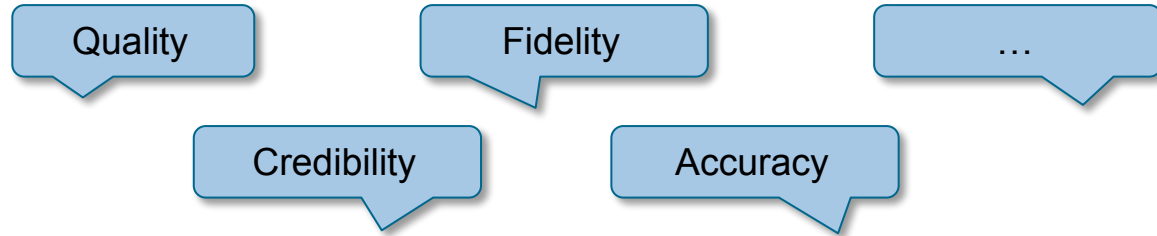
Sohier, H, Lamothe, P, Guerhazi, S, Yagoubi, M, Menegazzi, P, Maddaloni, A.  
**Improving simulation specification with MBSE for better simulation validation and reuse.**  
*Systems Engineering*. 2021; 1– 14.

Available at <https://doi.org/10.1002/sys.21594>

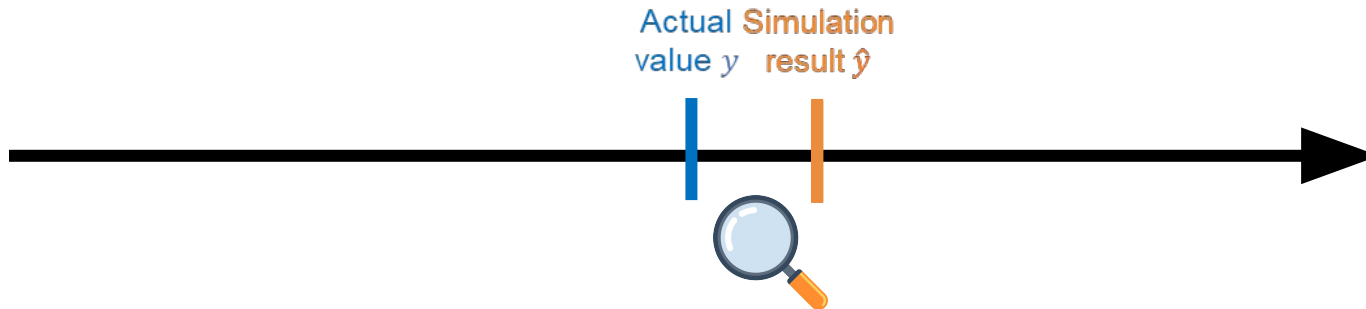


WILEY

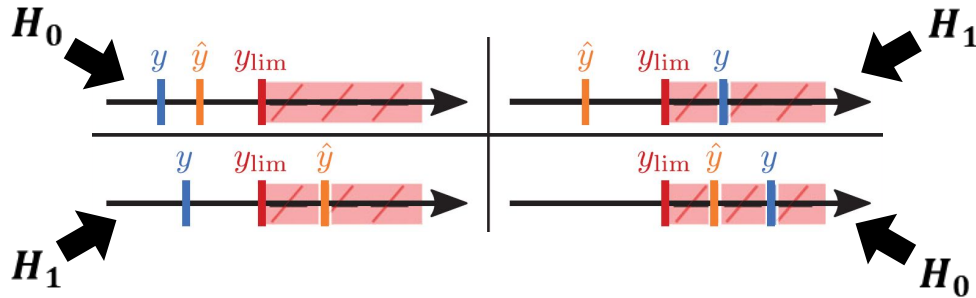
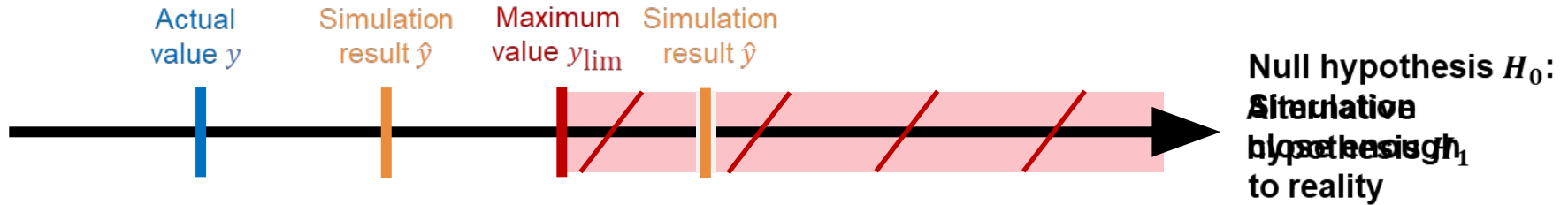
# Simulation requirements



When is a simulation accurate enough ?



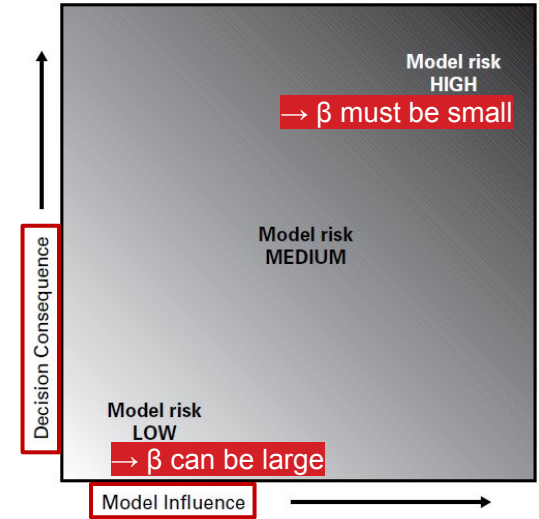
# Simulation requirements



	$H_0$ is true	$H_1$ is true
Believe $H_0$	Valid results	Invalid results
Believe $H_1$	Over-engineering	Under improvement

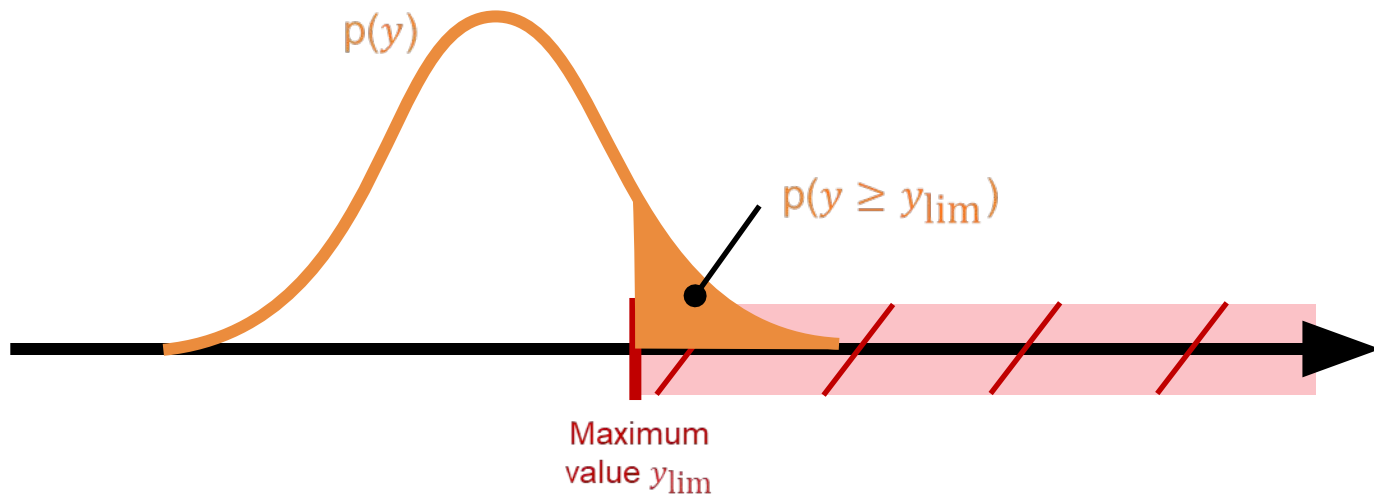
# Simulation requirements

- Overengineering = Type I error
- Invalid results = Type II error
  - $\beta = P(\text{believe } H_0 \mid H_1 \text{ is true})$
- What probability  $\beta$  of type II error can you accept ?
  - Linked to the criticality of the simulation (see V&V 40)
  - Linked to the decision you need the simulation for
    - Can the decision have serious consequences ?
    - Will the decision only be based on this simulation ?
- Qualitative approach :  
“improbable type II error”, “possible type II error”...
- Reducing the risk of type II error statistically increases the risk of type I error
- **The risk of type II error is not easy to estimate,**



ASME V&V 40-2018  
(Assessing Credibility of Computational Modeling  
Through Verification and Validation:  
Application to Medical Devices)

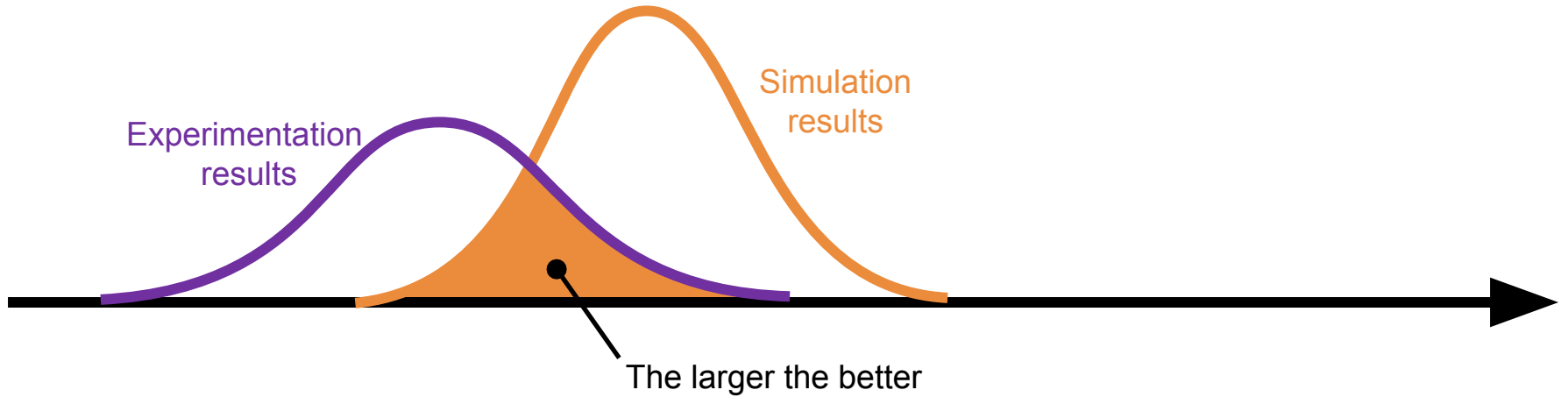
# Simulation requirements



- Ideally, simulation should not provide a simple estimator  $\hat{y}$ , but an exact probability density function  $p(y)$
- The criticality of the simulation then simply constrains  $p(y \geq y_{\text{lim}})$
- $p(y)$  = Holy Grail of simulation
- $p(y)$  is a function of neglected physics, solver approximations, code errors, ...
- $p(y)$  is not a simple propagation of input uncertainties



# Simulation requirements



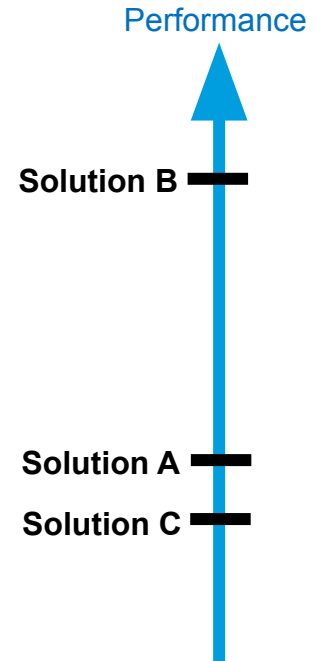
- The comparison of simulation and experimentation results is not an end in itself (how close should the results be?)
- Be careful to:
  - What simulation uncertainties cover
  - How accurate the experimentation results are
  - How many experimentation results are available
  - How to deal with time dependency
  - ...





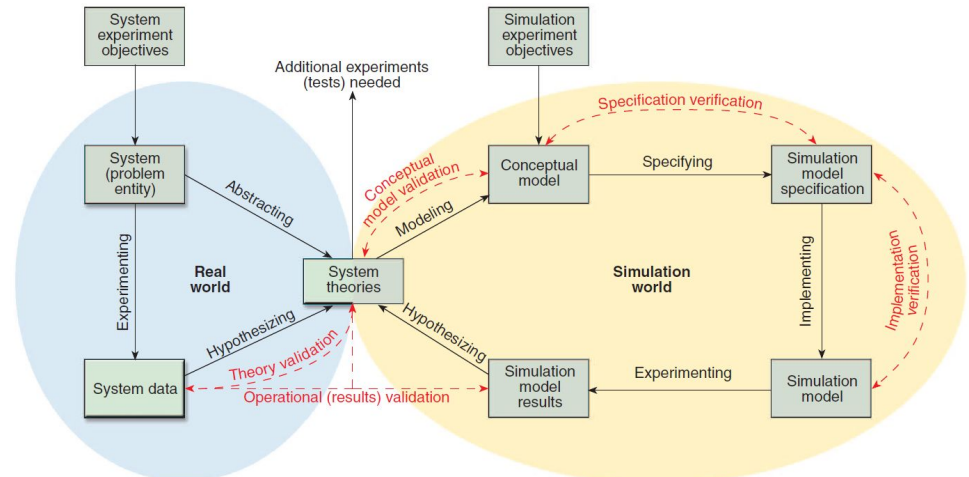
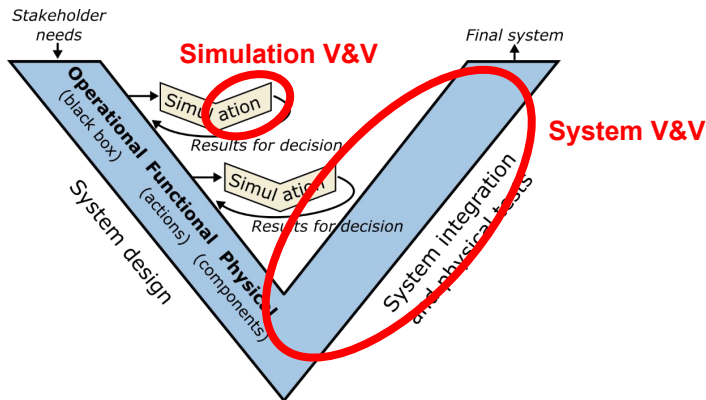
# Simulation requirements

- Ranking solutions also requires a discrimination threshold
- If the difference between Solution A and solution C is greater than the discrimination threshold, A can be considered as better than C
- Probability  $\beta$  of type II error (A is actually not better)
- The simulation may be specific to solutions A, B and C (and not able to rank other solutions)



# Verification and validation of the simulation

- Verification = Did I build the thing right ?
- Validation = Did I build the right thing ?
- Covers various aspects: Correct representation of the system (conceptual model validation) ? Accurate enough (operational validation) ? No programming errors (implementation verification) ?...
- Often not well distinguished in simulation



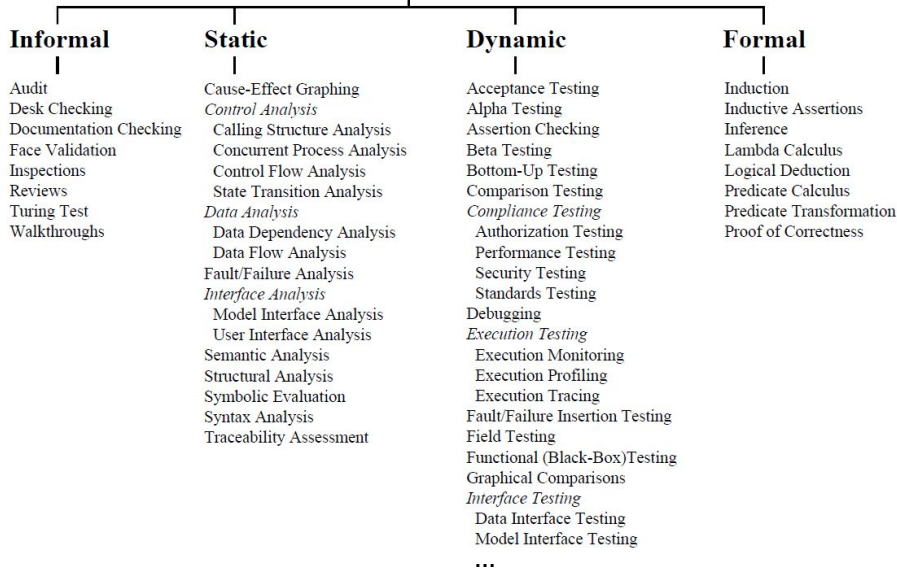
Pace. *Modeling and Simulation Verification and Validation Challenges*. 2004.  
(from Balci)

# Verification and validation of the simulation

- Various techniques:

- Process oriented considerations

## V&V Techniques for Simulation Models



Credibility elements		Credibility levels			
		1	2	3	4
Simulation Management	Data				
	Processes				
	Competences				
	Methods & Tools				
Modeling & VVUQ	Model fidelity				
	Solution verification				
	Code verification				
	Validation				
	UQ/SA				

Requirement

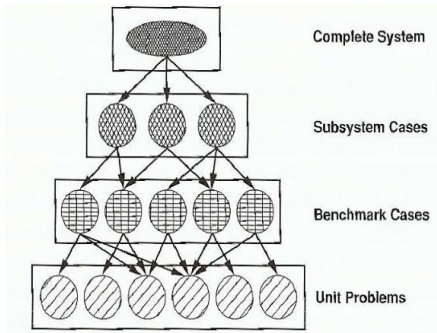
←

Balci. *Verification, Validation and Accreditation of Simulation Models*. 1997.

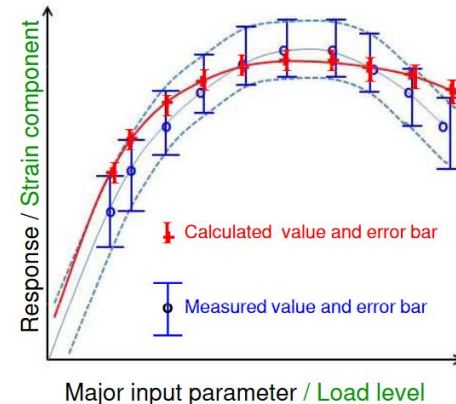
*Building simulation credibility in an industrial context (2022 NAFEMS training by Imbert and Pasquet)*

# Verification and validation of the simulation


- To take into account:
  - Simulation V&V is difficult
  - It is often done without clear process and with limited budget
  - Simulation V&V is often less progressive than system V&V (where the upward phase of the V-model is more carefully respected)
  - The simple comparison of simulation and experimental results is often difficult



*AIAA Guide for the Verification and Validation of Computational Fluid Dynamics Simulations*



*Building simulation credibility in an industrial context (2022 NAFEMS training by Imbert and Pasquet)*

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# Tool for simulation specification

runtime-EclipseApplication - PhiSystem - AMC\_stage/EcoAutonomousVehicle.di - PhiSystem

File Edit Diagram Search Papyrus Solicitation for simulation Window Help

75%

Quick Access

Project Explorer

- > > CSS
- > Images
- style\_part.css
- > CSM&S
- > EcoAutonomousVehicle
- marains.profile

Model Explorer

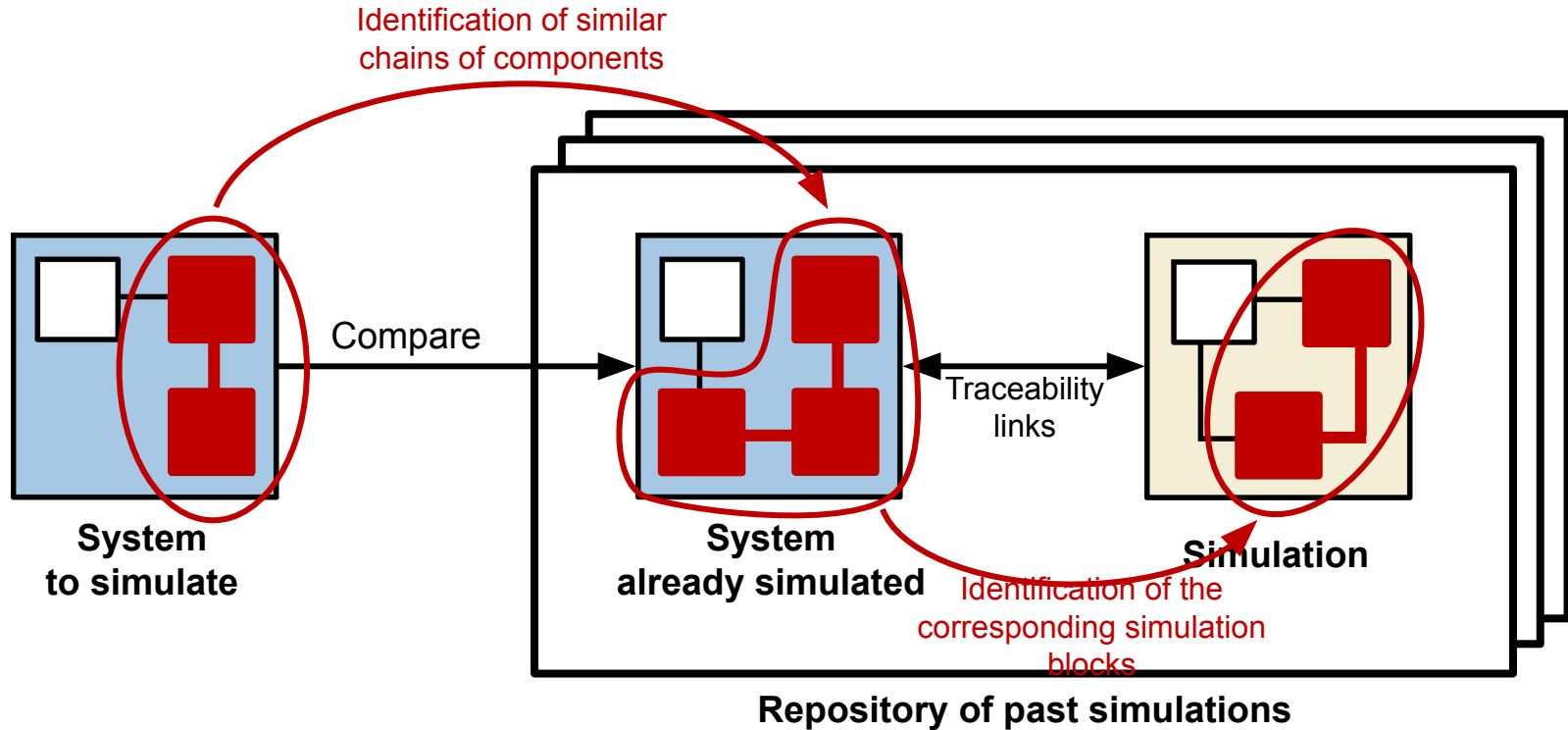
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- <Realization> Unselect the a
- <Realization> Activate the a
- <Realization> Display "Unat
- «Satisfy» <Abstraction> Sat
- > Vehicle
- > TJC
- «Block, CyberPhysicalSystem
- > TJC\_State
- > TJC\_Scenario
- > TJC\_Activity
- > TJC\_UseCase
- > V1
- > V2
- It is chosen not to selec
- Autonomy - Use cases
  - A subset of use case:
  - This use case is selec
  - «UseCaseWithSequei
  - Pouvoir passer les fe
  - «UseCaseWithSequei

The diagram shows a use case 'To drive autonomously' (orange oval) connected to a 'Driver' actor (person icon). Inside a grey box labeled 'Autonomy - Use cases', there are several sub-use cases: 'To stay on a lane', 'To pass traffic lights', 'To follow a car', 'To avoid obstacles', and an ellipsis. Solid lines connect 'To pass traffic lights' to 'Signalling (Traffic light)', 'To follow a car' to 'Traffic', 'To avoid obstacles' to 'Obstacles', and 'To stay on a lane' to 'Road'. Dashed lines connect 'Signalling (Traffic light)', 'Traffic', 'Obstacles', and 'Road' to a 'Climate conditi...' actor (cloud and sun icon).

**Selection of a use case (operational level)**  
Automatically identifies related elements

Welcome Demo - System Autonomy - Use cases

# Tool for simulation reuse



Sohier, H., Petidemange, L., & Lamothe, P.

**Identification of Systems With Similar Chains of Components for Simulation Reuse.**

*2021 IEEE International Conference on Recent Advances in Systems Science and Engineering (RASSE)*

# Tool for simulation reuse

SystemX  
 Vue.js - Comparateur de sollicitations

Rafraîchir Résolution optimale 3 Sélectionné : 3

### Simulation request

Objective : Considering the system ability to pass traffic light and stay on its lane check that the consumption requirement is satisfied

Mass 1847 kg Top speed 203 km/h  
 Autonomie 538 km  
 Length 4.60 m Width 1.81 m Height 1.44 m  
 0-100 km/h 4.5 s

#### Autonomous Electrical Vehicle

**Sensors**

- Triple camera
- Wide forward camera: 1.2 MP, Sensor: CMOS, Field of view: 100°
- Main forward camera: 1.2 MP, Sensor: CMOS, Field of view: 90°
- Narrow forward camera: 1.2 MP, Sensor: CMOS, Field of view: 35°
- PCB: 1.2 MP, Sensor: CMOS, Output

**Computer Unit**

- Autopilot ECU: 2 NN accelerator, 12 CPU, 1 GPU, Redundant power supplies

**TRAFFIC LIGHT**

**ROAD**

**Actuators:** Brake wheel, Rear drive unit (Rear inverter, Rear motor, Trans. single-speed, Differentials), Battery penthouse (High voltage controller, 12 V battery, Power conversion system, EDC-DC converter, Battery pack), Front drive unit (Front inverter, Front motor, Transmisión single-speed), Steering system.

Reposito

### Past simulation request (score : 0.34)

Objetif : Etant donné la capacité du système à accélérer, freiner et tourner, vérifier que son exigence de consommation est satisfaite

Autonomie 300 km - Vitesse max 50 km/h - Masse 3000 kg  
 Longueur 4.20 m - Largeur 1.50 m - Hauteur 1.50 m

#### Voiture électrique

**UTILISATEUR**

**Interface:** Pedale de frein, Pedale de l'accélérateur, Volet

**Calculateurs:** Restituteur d'effort, Calculateur URP (Uncoupled Braking Pedal), Calculateur d'accélération, Calculateur de direction

**Actionneur frein:** Accumulateur de pression - actionneur, Bloc ABS-ESC

**Batterie de traction:** 12 kWh, 200 V, Charge à 20-80: 30 min, 12 Modules, 300 kg

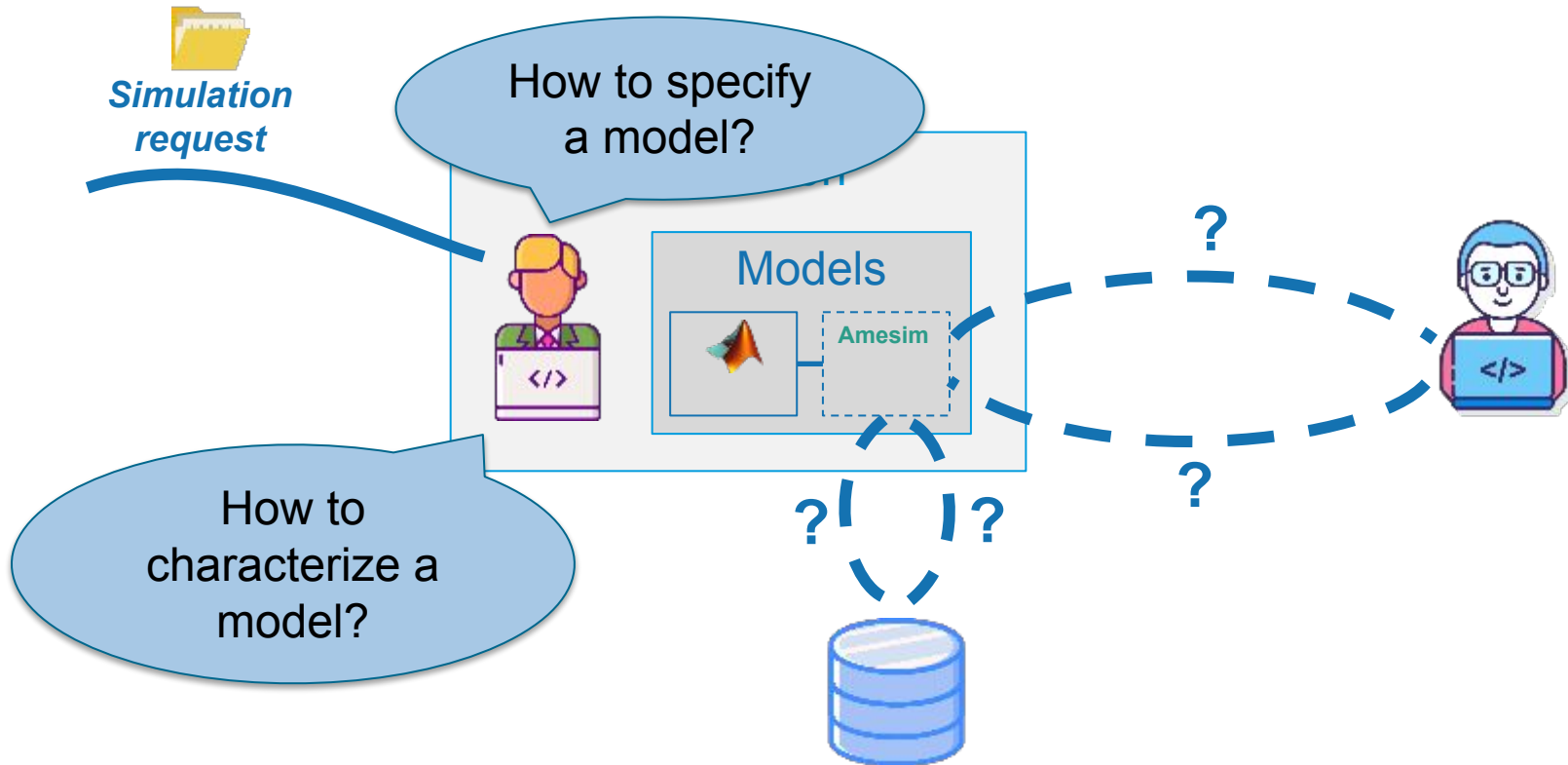
**Hacheur:** 3.9 kW, 35 V

**Batterie secondaire**

**Frein/Roue:** Frein, Roue



# Characterization of simulation models



# Model Identity Card (MIC)

- **Model Identity Card (MIC)**
- **Metadata for the characterization of simulation models**
- **Can be used for specification, search, integration, ...**
- **MIC-Core: Standardization lead by IRT SystemX, Prostep and ATLAS**
  - ID, name and description
  - Modelled entity and model purpose
  - Modelling choices and model limitations
  - Software and hardware requirements
  - Confidentiality
  - Verification and validation
  - ...
- **Let us know if you are interested!**

# MIC-Core

**July 2023 : Common publication of MIC-Core,  
A core set of metadata to characterize simulation models**

<https://mic-core.github.io/MIC-Core/main>

**To augment simulation engineering with interoperable tools  
To be used for simulation specification/reuse/integration/exchange/..**



X



AFS & AMC projects  
(Renault, Stellantis,  
ESI, Plastic Omnium, ...)



SmartSE project  
(Bosch, Dassault Systèmes,  
dSPACE, Siemens, ...)



More info:

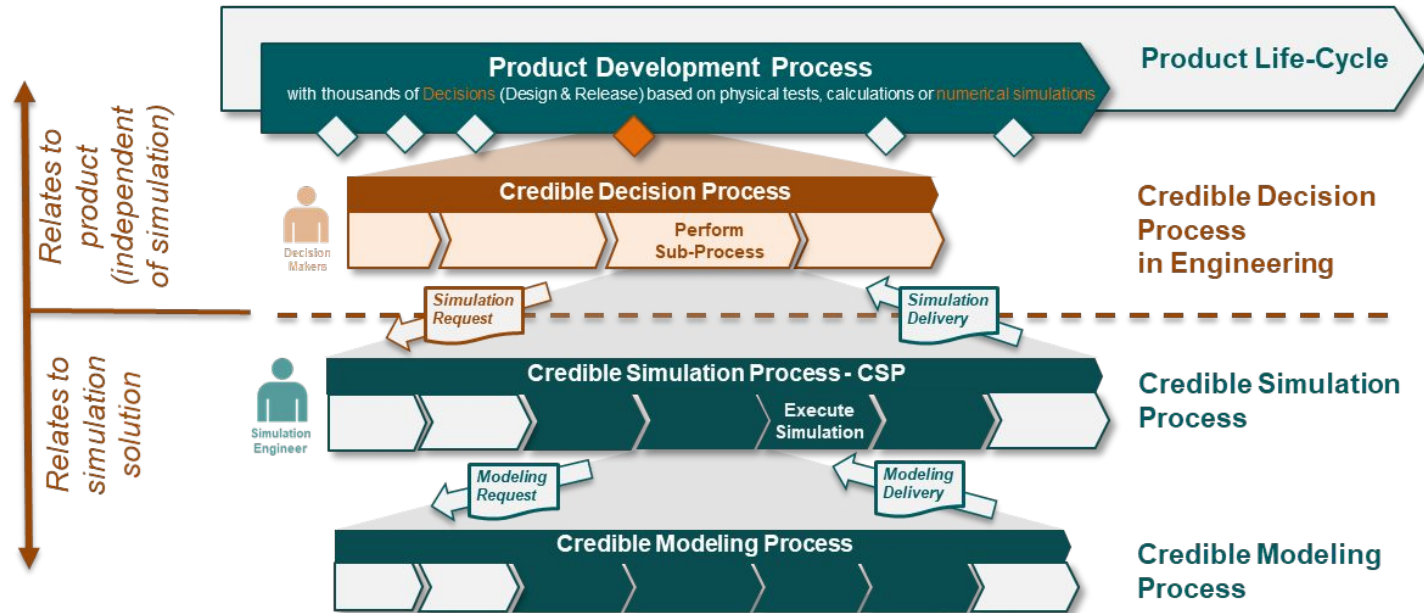


Renault  
Group

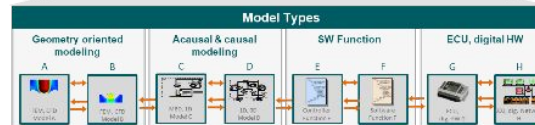
STELLANTIS

# Methods and processes

## Credible decision process from Prostep SmartSE



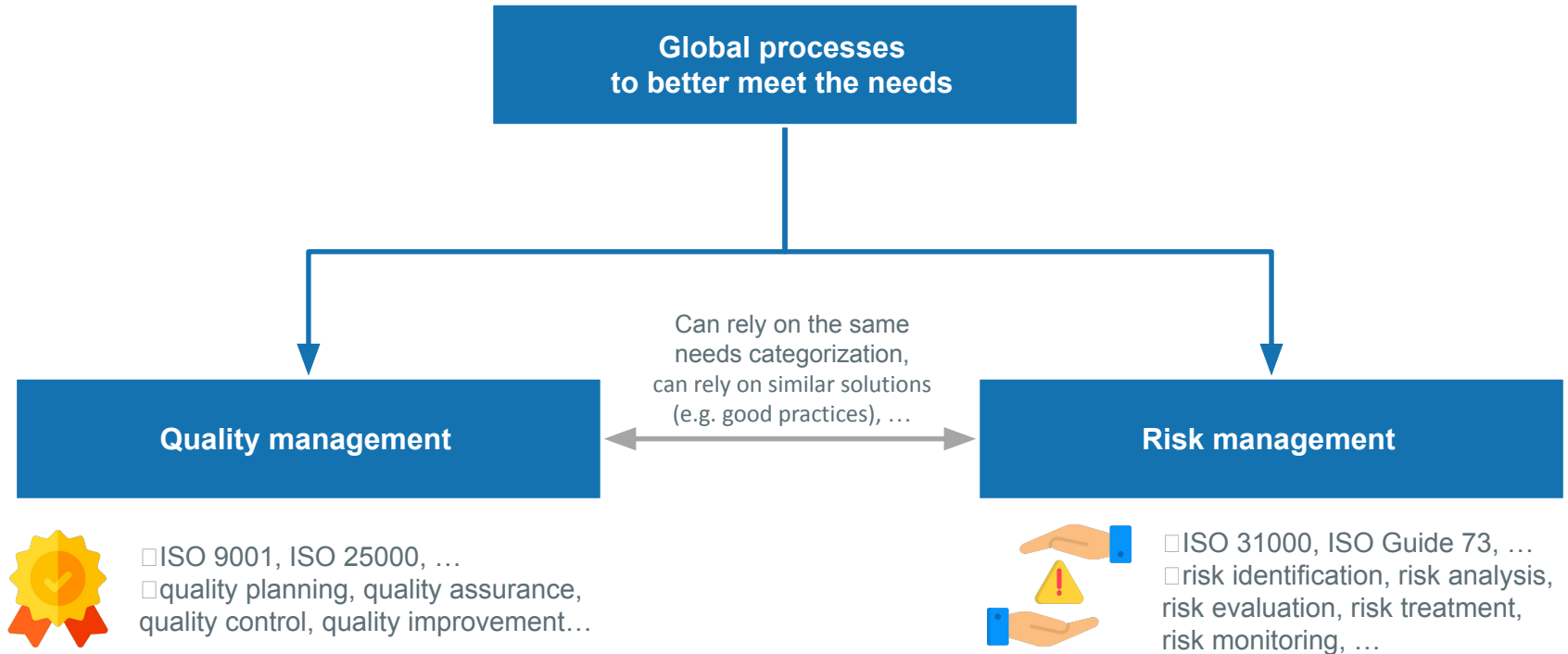
Range of Models used for Simulation




# Methods and processes

- **MIL-STD-3022** Documentation of Verification, Validation, and Accreditation (VV&A) for models and simulations
  - Templates for documentation
  - Some paragraphs regarding the simulation needs:
    - “Problem statement”
    - “M&S requirements and acceptability criteria”
    - “Basis of comparison.”
  - Standard vocabulary
- **NASA-STD-7009** Standard for Models and Simulations
- **PCMM** (Predictive Capability Maturity Model)
- **V V 10** (Standard for Verification and Validation in Computational Solid Mechanics) by ASME
- **V V 40** (Assessing Credibility of Computational Modeling through Verification and Validation) by ASME
- **Simulation Verification and Validation for Managers** by NAFEMS
- **Verification and Validation in Scientific Computing** by Oberkampf

# Methods and processes



**Simulation is a (digital) product in its own right**

- 1. Who we are**
- 2. Scope**
- 3. Introduction to specification**
- 4. Introduction to complex simulations**
- 5. Simulation needs and validation**
- 6. Applications**
-  **7. Conclusion**

# Conclusion

- **A simulation is a digital product in its own right**
- **Simulation development should start with clear needs**
  - Improves validation
  - Improves reuse
- **Traceability improves data consistency and data processing**
- **Simulation should be subject to quality and risk management**
- **Challenges**
  - How to ensure traceability, in particular during the whole simulation development?
  - What are the new software functions required by simulation engineering?
  - How to further improve the management of digital twins and AI-based simulations ?
- **Towards a better standardization ?**



THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION



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