

V O L V O

A Modular Approach to Physical Modeling Using MATLAB, Simulink, and Simscape for Automobile System Modeling At Volvo Cars

A blue Volvo SUV is shown from a front-three-quarter view, parked in a dark blue studio environment with geometric shapes and soft lighting.

Sriram Mandayam
on behalf of VSim Team
Integration and Prototype at Volvo Cars

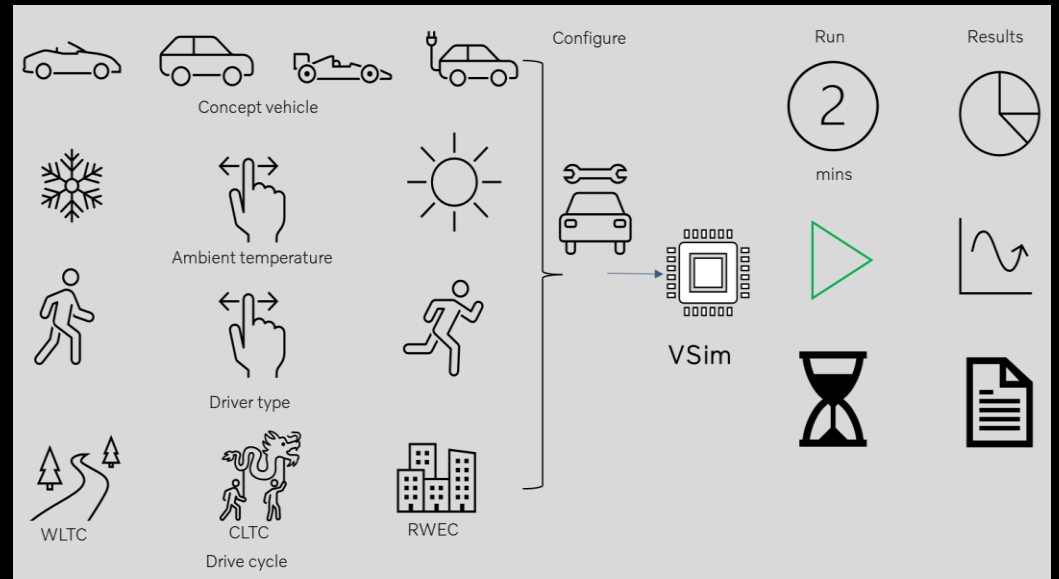
2022.10.20

VSim is a physical simulation platform at Volvo Cars

What is the purpose of VSim?

Engineers use VSim to:

- Reduce energy consumed by the vehicle
- Balance target performance with efficiency requirements
- Build “just accurate enough” physical models
- Increase sharing of expertise between departments
- Shorten development time



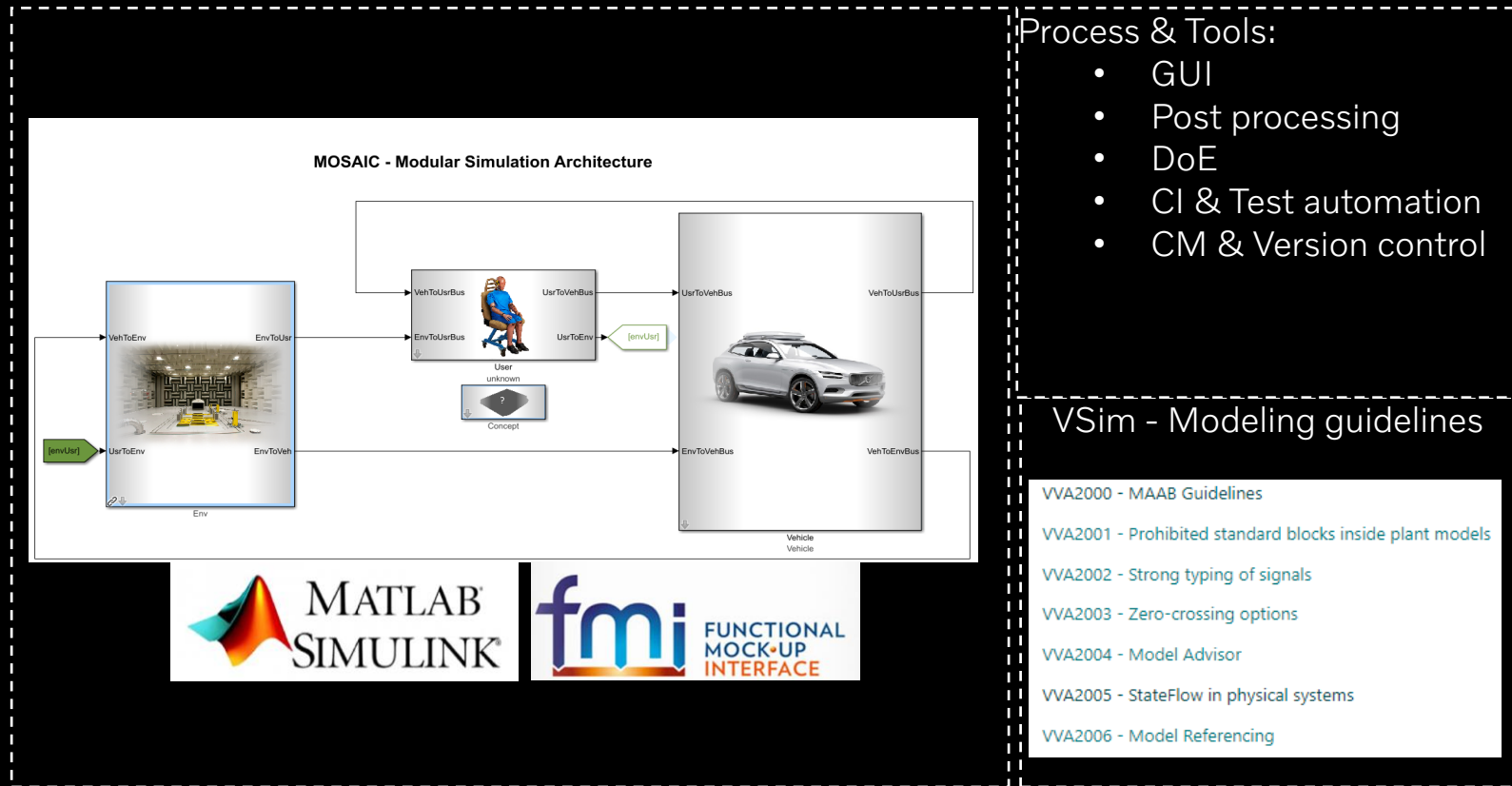
WLTC : Worldwide harmonized light vehicles test cycles.

CLTC : China light-duty vehicle test cycle.

RWEC : Real world energy consumption cycles.

VSim in detail

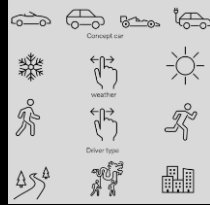
VSim is a Modular simulation architecture (MOSAIC)



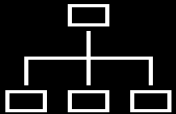
VSim enables



Vehicle system configuration



Automatic results and report generation stored in common database.



Parallel solver capabilities to design new functions for every concept car.



Large data generation for ML and AI tools.



VSim community



Advanced engineering projects, concept development, function developers and certification responsibilities

VSim Users

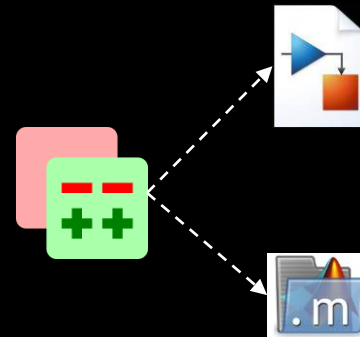
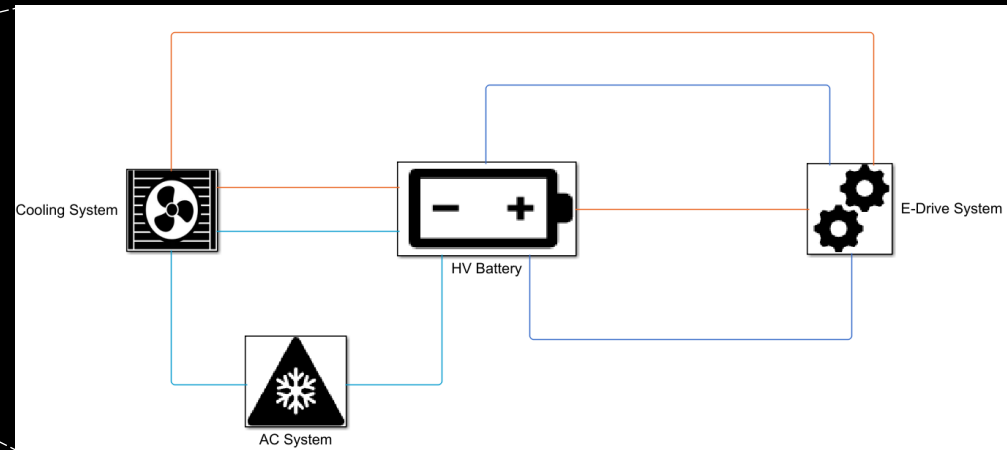
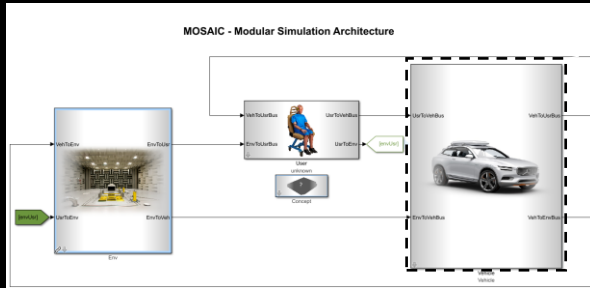
Top-model integration, development
Platform Maintenance and Gateway keeping
Enabling Automated Testing and CI

VSim Integrators

Physical & control model developers within the respective departments

VSim Model Developers

VSim simulation layout & features

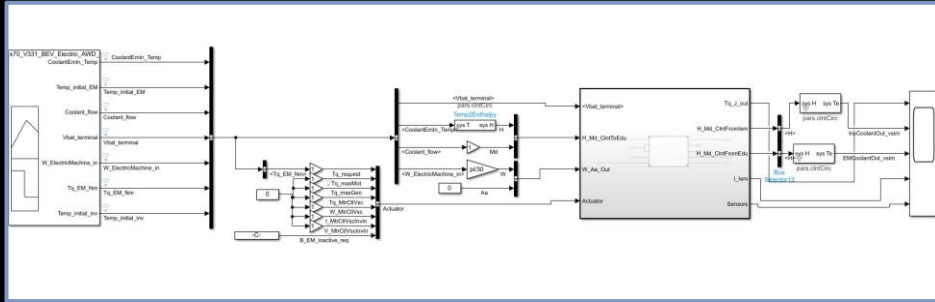


- Vehicle configuration model
- Component plant model
- Protected component plant model
- Component control model
- Component plant datafile
- Component control calibration datafile
- Initialization file
- VSim global parameter files
- GUI scripts
- Post-processing scripts

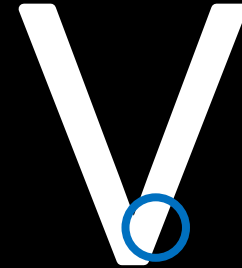
VSim development process and ensuring quality

Testing @unit or component

Electric Machine Plant



Testing life cycle

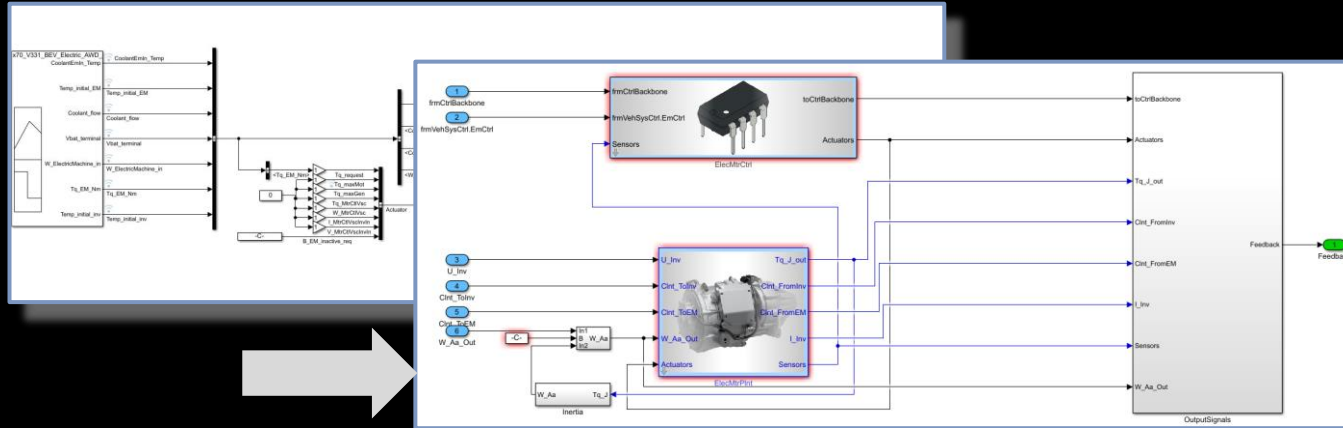


Verification and validation model

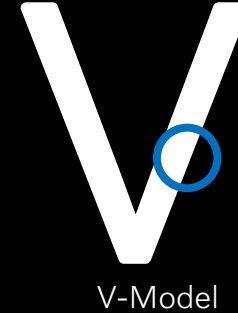
Gateway tests for component

- Open-loop testing
- Modeling guidelines check
- Component validation

Component Testing @Subsystem



Testing life cycle



Subsystem tests

- Control + plant in a loop with simulated bus
- Subsystem validation

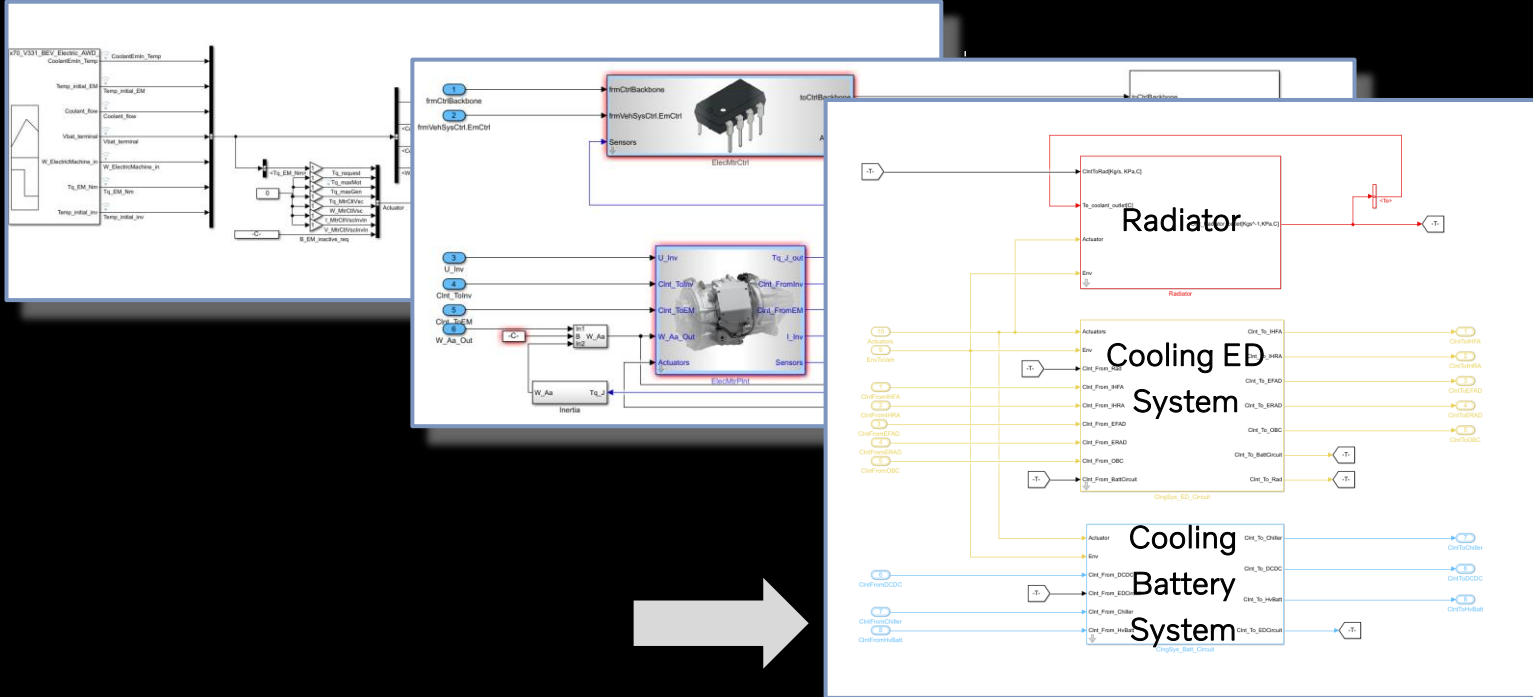
Component

Subsystem

Testing @system integration

Testing life cycle

Electric Machine Plant



System integration tests

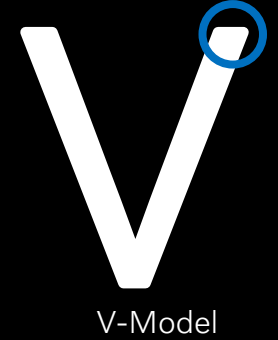
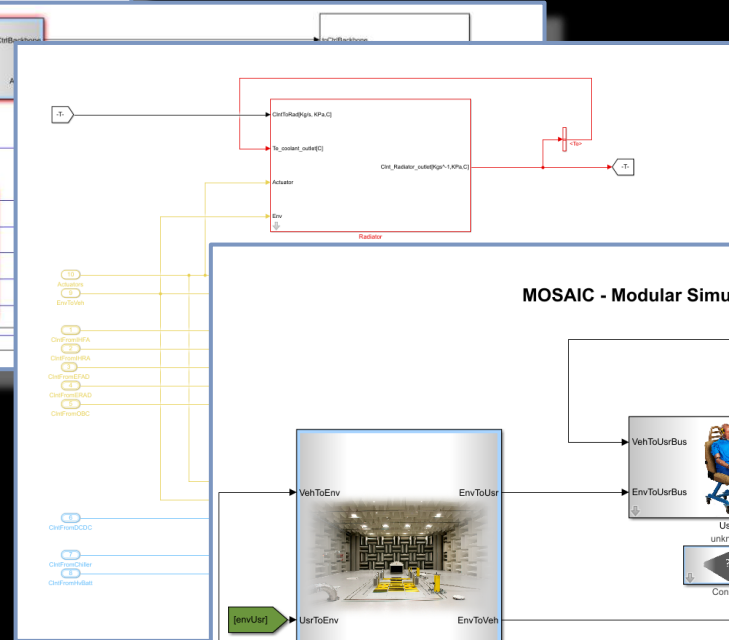
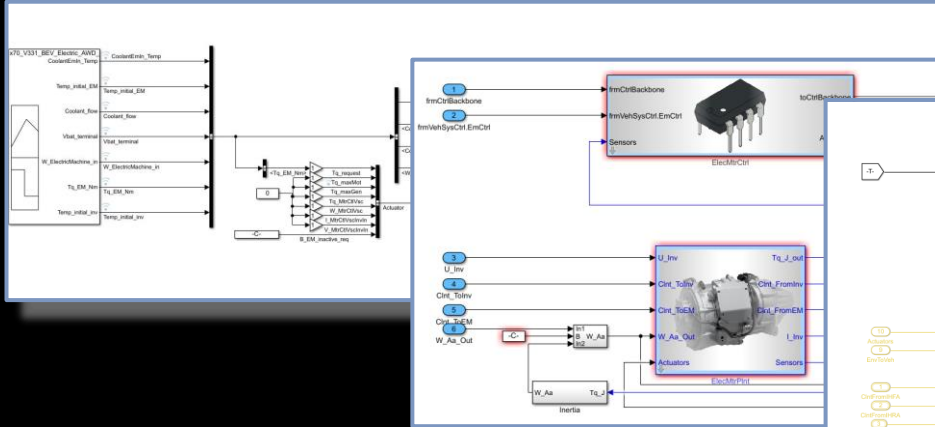
Component

Subsystem

System integration

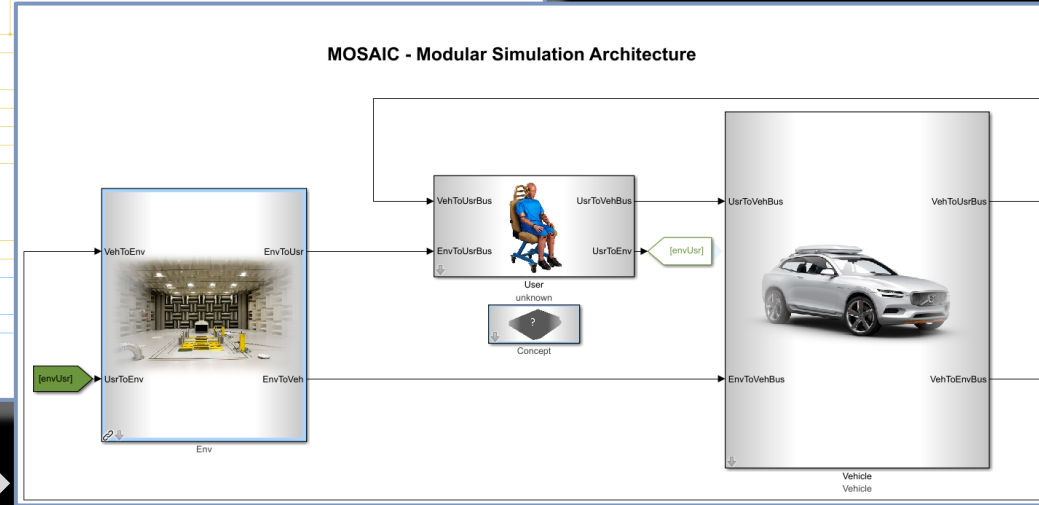
Testing @virtual vehicle

Electric Machine Plant



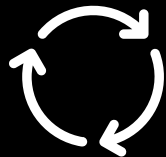
V-Model

MOSAIC - Modular Simulation Architecture



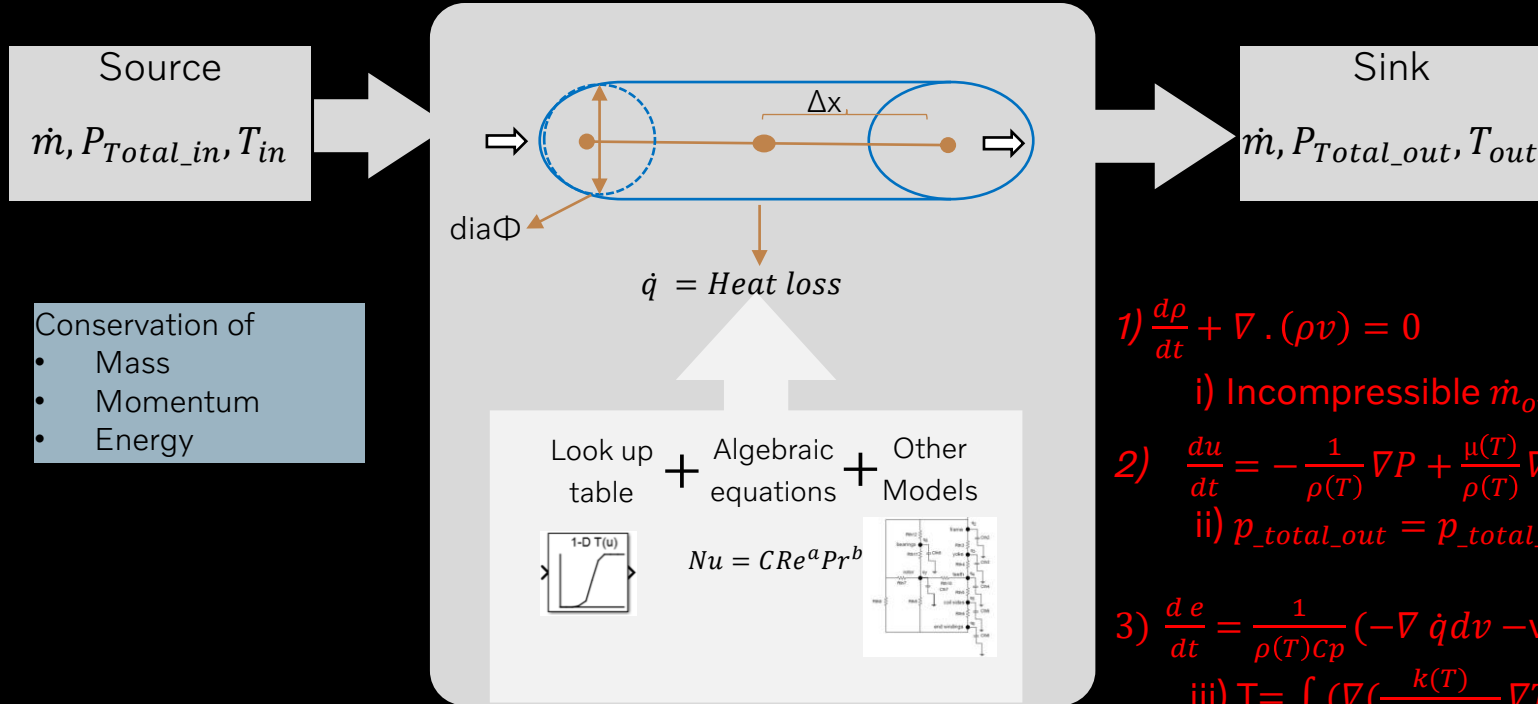
Complete integration & release

- Verification against RW data
- Running certification cycles (such as WLTC, CLTC, RVEC)



How to build modular physical components?

An example of 1D thermal system – standard HEX overview



$$1) \frac{d\rho}{dt} + \nabla \cdot (\rho v) = 0$$

i) Incompressible $\dot{m}_{out} = \dot{m}_{in}, u = \frac{\dot{m}_{in}}{\rho(T) \cdot \text{area}}$

$$2) \frac{du}{dt} = -\frac{1}{\rho(T)} \nabla P + \frac{\mu(T)}{\rho(T)} \nabla^2(u)$$

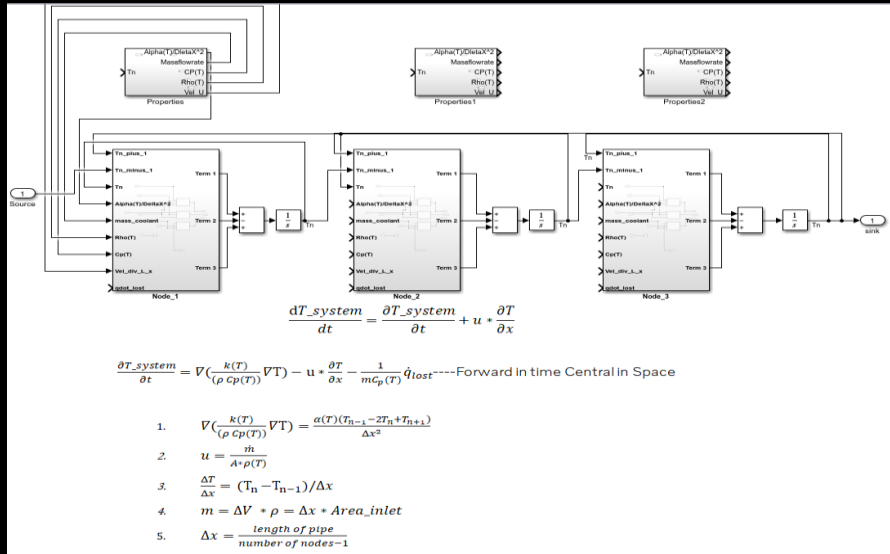
ii) $p_{total_out} = p_{total_in} - P_{loss}(T, \dot{m})$..CFD table

$$3) \frac{de}{dt} = \frac{1}{\rho(T)c_p} (-\nabla \dot{q} dv - \text{work rate done})$$

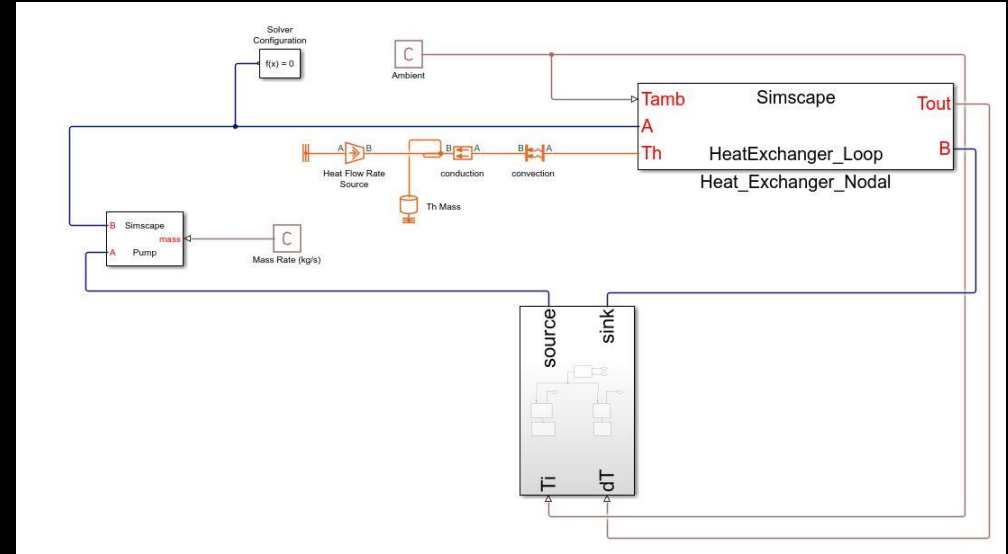
$$\text{iii) } T = \int (\nabla \left(\frac{k(T)}{\rho c_p(T)} \nabla T \right) - u * \frac{\partial T}{\partial x} - \frac{1}{m c_p(T)} \dot{q}_{lost}) dt$$

Overview of models in VSim using MATLAB, Simulink and Simscape

A 1D MATLAB and Simulink model using Forward in time central in space (FTCS) method



A 1D Simscape model

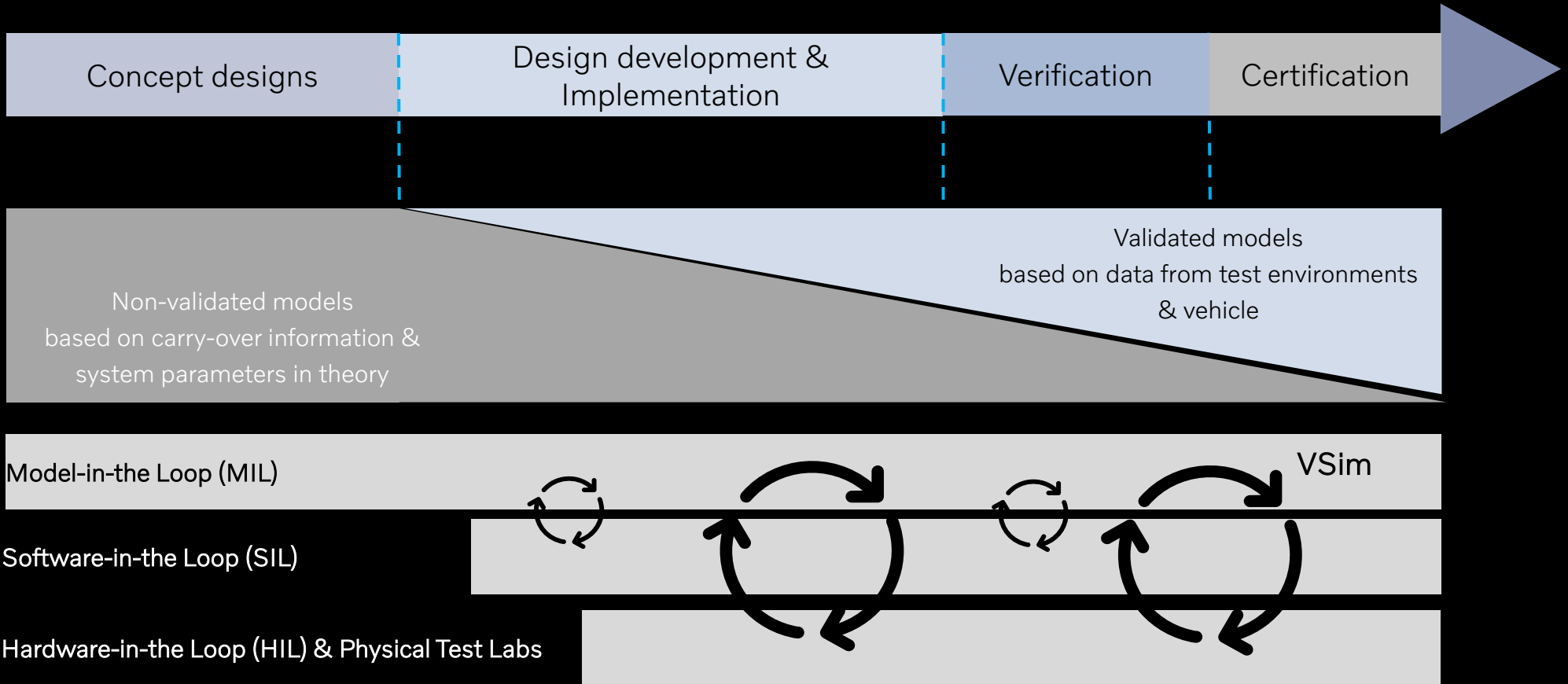


`opts = odeset('RelTol',1e-4,'AbsTol',1e-3); % Set Tolerances in MATLAB`

`[time,T] = ode45(@(t,T) HexTherm(t,T,T_Source,T_Sink,M_dot,Q_lost,Tcycle),tspan,IC0,opts); % Solve ODE in MATLAB`

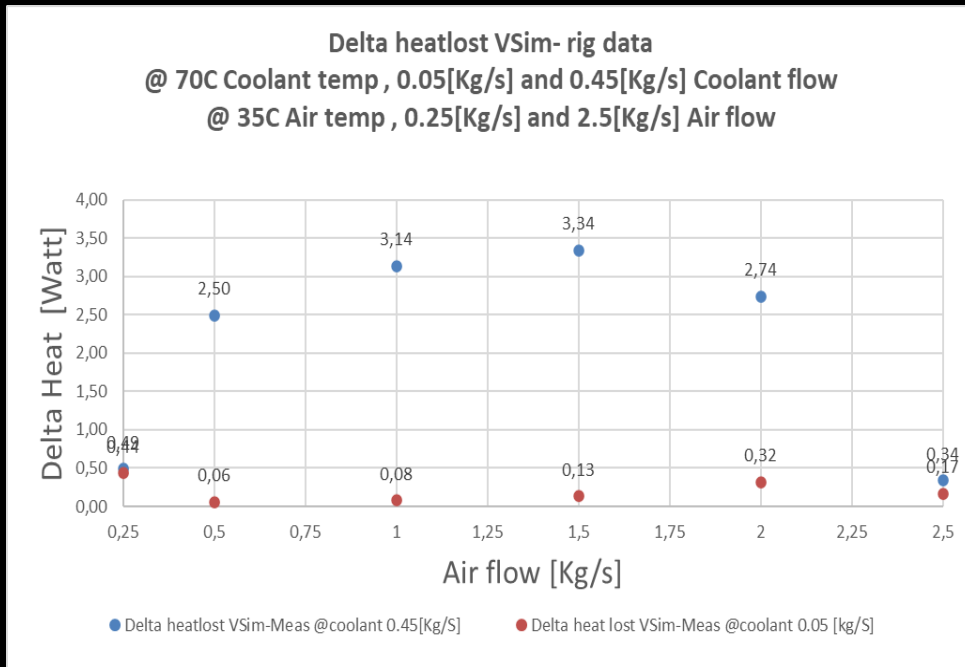
`function dTdt = HexTherm(t,T,T_in,T_out,M_dot,Q_lost,Tcycle); % function to call the FTCS in MATLAB`

How to utilize and validate models?

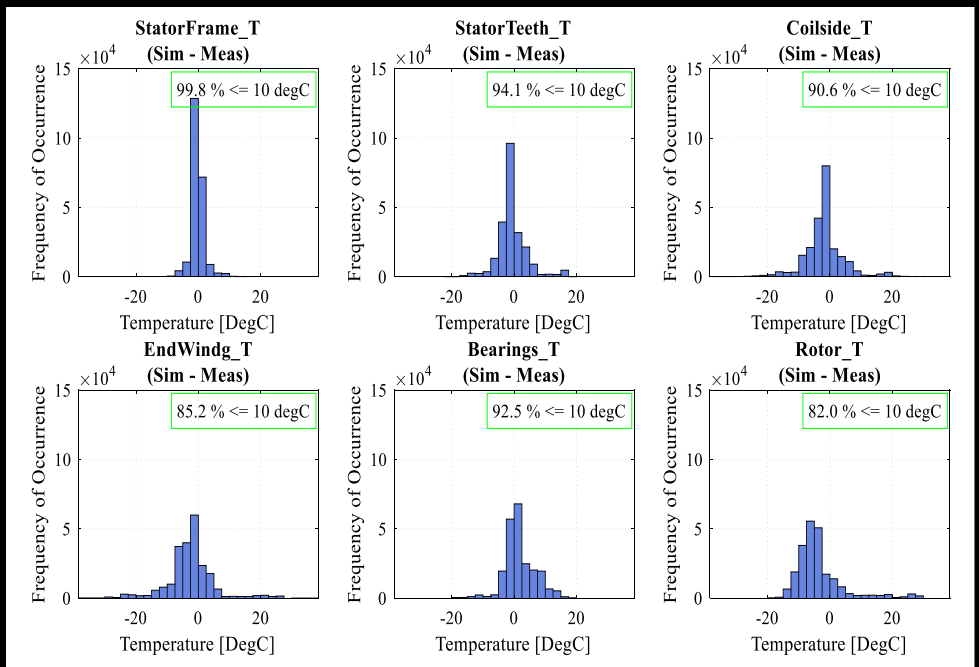


Component testing and validation with rig data

Validation on a standard radiator



Validation on a standard electric machine

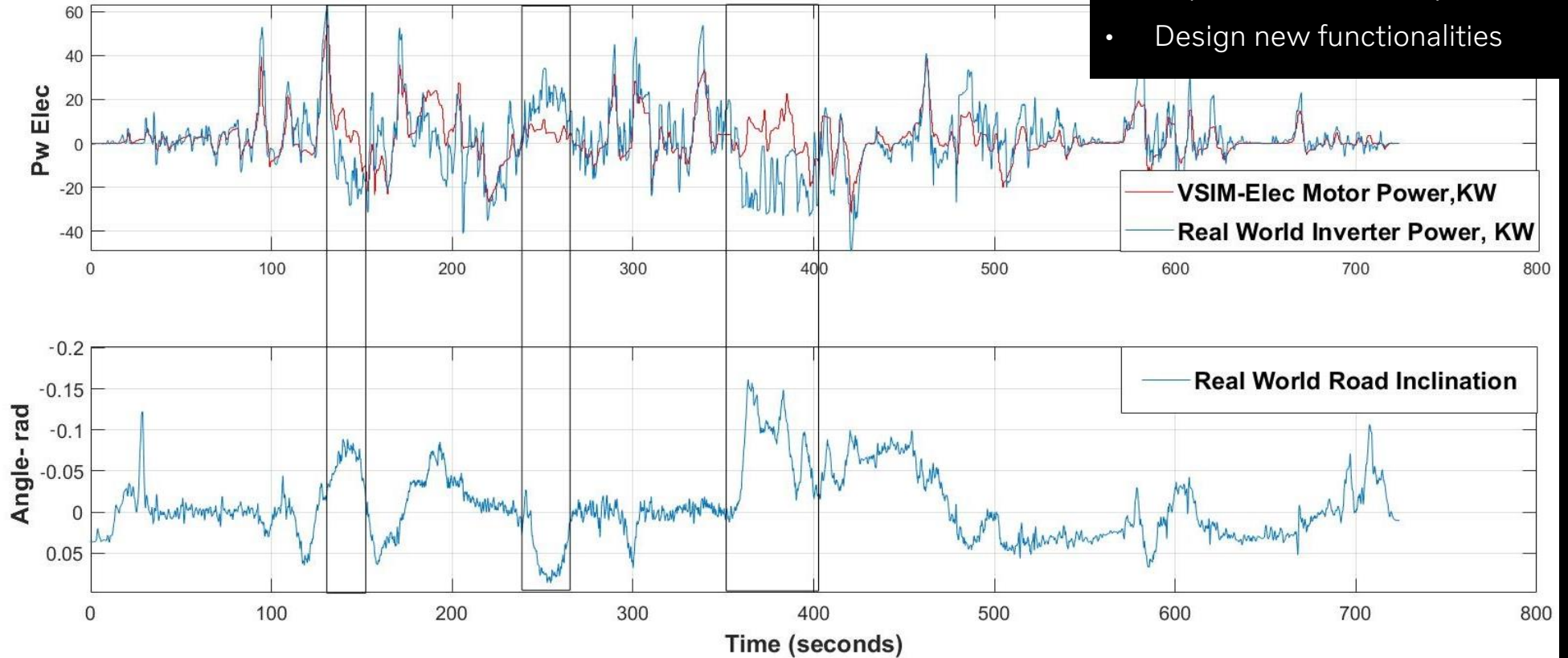


Comparison with Real-World data

Utilize the Real-World data

- Improve model fidelity
- Design new functionalities

Velocity profile from RW to VSim : Time series Power Electric machine



Final remarks

VSim is :

- built to improving vehicle energy efficiency and performance
- component-based and has modular model architecture
- based on physical system modeling of domains (electrical, thermal, mechanical)
- an enabler to build virtual fleets
- not only a simulation platform but also a community within VCC (Volvo Legacy)

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