



2017

annual **INCOSE**
international workshop

Los Angeles, CA, USA

January 28 - 31, 2017

System and Analysis Integration for Production & Logistics Systems

Conrad Bock^a, Leon McGinnis^b, & Timothy Sprock^a

^a National Institute of Standards and Technology, ^b Georgia Tech



Outline

- Digital Thread
- What are the fundamental challenges?
- Why & What are DELS
 - Commonalities First, Specifics Later
- Why is this interesting to the MBSE Initiative
- What do we want?



Digital Thread

- Digital Thread: platform for information to integrate product design, production and logistics systems design, and later stages of product lifecycle (sustainment)
- Design for Manufacturing: product/production design integration
- Production System Design Methodology: Processes, decision-making support, and analysis tools
 - Without a reference model you can't do it right today in a non ad-hoc way. Even with a reference model, you can't do it throughout the product's lifecycle since all of the analysis models have to be built by hand.



The SE “Vee” for both product & process

System Development	System Process Development
Con Ops	Global supply chain concept
Requirements/ Architecture	Technical capabilities and capacities, SC architecture
Detailed Design	Sourcing plan, facility design, planning/control concepts
Implement	Virtualize, test concepts, program roll-out
Integrate, Test, Verify	Global SC simulation, contingency analyses, standards, ...
System V&V	Deployment
Operations & Maintenance	Operations



Computational support

CAD, FEA, CFD, PDM/PLM, REQUIREMENTS, SysML, and many more; increasing levels of integration and interoperability

Use models to specify, analyze, integrate, simulate, verify, validate—virtually, across disciplines

Excel, Visio, some CAD, optimization, simulation; not integrated, not interoperable

Use documents to specify and communicate, independent *ad hoc* models to support decision making

Development	System Process Development
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Integrate, Test, Verify	Global SC simulation, contingency analyses
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Fundamental Challenges

- (Lack of) Common semantics & syntax for specifying production systems (*reference model*)
 - Difficulty of integration in PDM/PLM systems
- Time and expense of hand-coding analysis models (imagine if every FEA/CFD required a simulation engineer to hand-code the model)
 - Very limited decision support to production system engineers
- (Lack of) An engineering design methodology for production systems
 - Very difficult to capture/re-use learnings from experience—lots of tacit rather than explicit knowledge



What are DELS?

Discrete event logistics systems (DELS) are a class of dynamic systems that are defined by the transformation of discrete flows through a network of interconnected subsystems.

- These systems share a common abstraction, i.e. *products* flowing through *processes* being executed by *resources* configured in a *facility* (PPRF).

Examples include:

- Supply chains
 - Manufacturing systems
 - Transportation
 - Material handling systems
 - Storage systems
 - Humanitarian logistics
 - Healthcare logistics
 - Semiconductor manufacturing
 - Reverse and Remanufacturing Logistics
 - And many more ...
- Fundamentally, these systems are very similar, and often DELS are actually composed of other DELS.
 - This similarity (and integration) produces a common set of analysis approaches that are applicable across the many systems in the DELS domain.



Interest to MBSE Community

- Bring a different domain into the INCOSE community
 - In the design of logistics systems, we don't have good SE tools and practices
- Why can INCOSE have a big impact on this domain?
 - In addition to the SE best practices, MBSE has been transformative!
 - Explicit modeling and design methods
 - Consensus on how we talk about our artifacts and design them
 - Want to learn from MBSE community
- What are the things we need to do to have an impact:
 - Reference models, common design process, conforming and supporting analysis models and tools.
 - Build a community around a shared vision of DELS MBSE



It's (long past) time to bring the power of (model based) systems engineering to production systems and global supply chains!

What does it take to do that?

Where are we in the journey?

Tuesday @ 8:10am in MBX/Ecosystems

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MBSE for Discrete Event Logistics Systems (DELS)

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- What are the fundamental challenges for DELS?
- Why do we need system models and MBSE?
 - What are the types of analysis models and problems we're interested in for DELS (SAI)?
- Where are we now?
 - What is contained in the DELS reference model?
 - System-Analysis Integration Use Case
- Where do we want to go?



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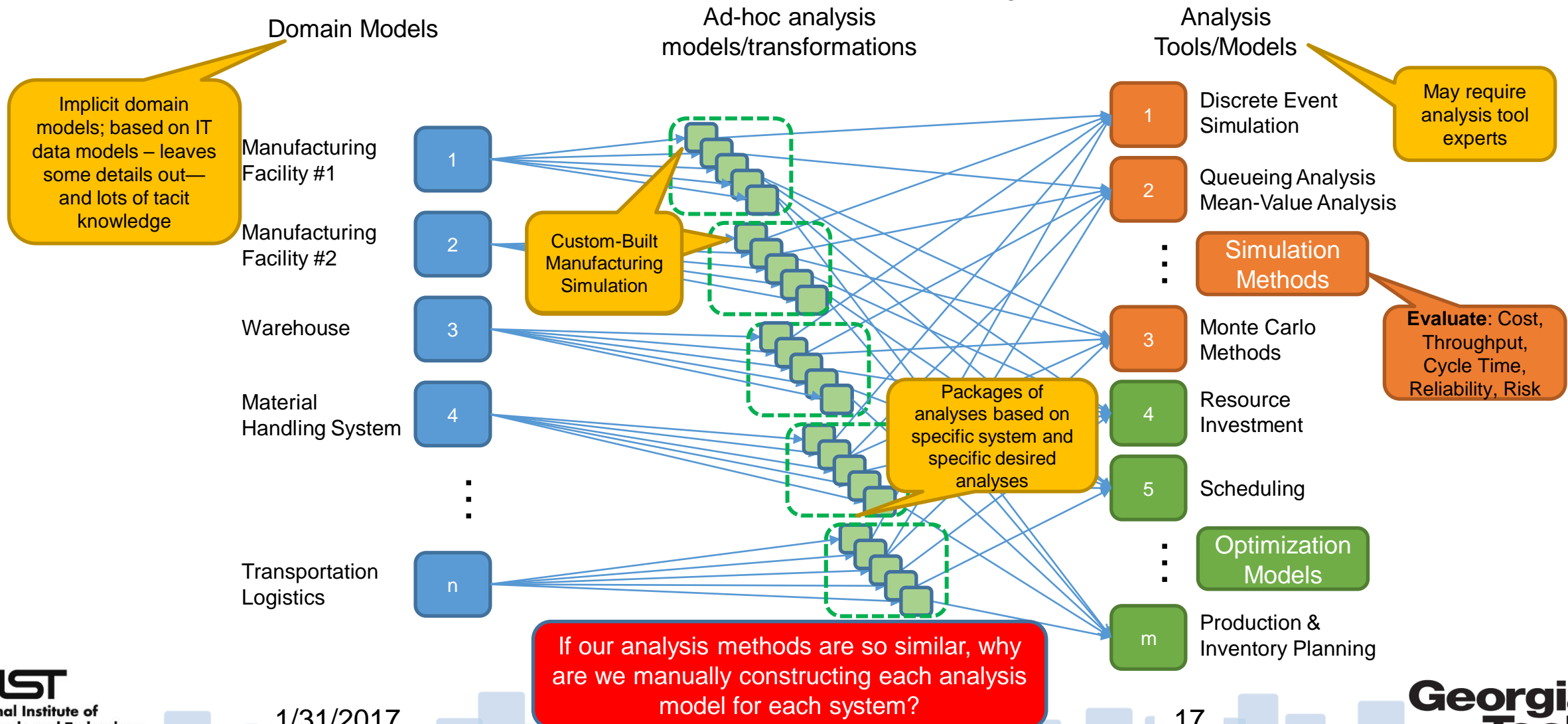


Need for Model-Based Methods

- Model-based methods: design, formal specification, and analysis
- Teaching, designing, automation
- Documentation & Organization of Knowledge
 - Existing Systems Models (industry)
 - We've had industrial partners tell us that the system model we built was the first time a particular system had been document, or most complete documentation of a particular system.
 - Existing Analysis Models (academia)
 - Why do we make particular assumptions or abstractions?
 - Why can't one method be applied to a different but similar problem?
 - Taxonomy of extensions and mapping to applicable use cases
- SAI – Bridge between system and analysis models
 - Interoperability between different analysis models of the same system

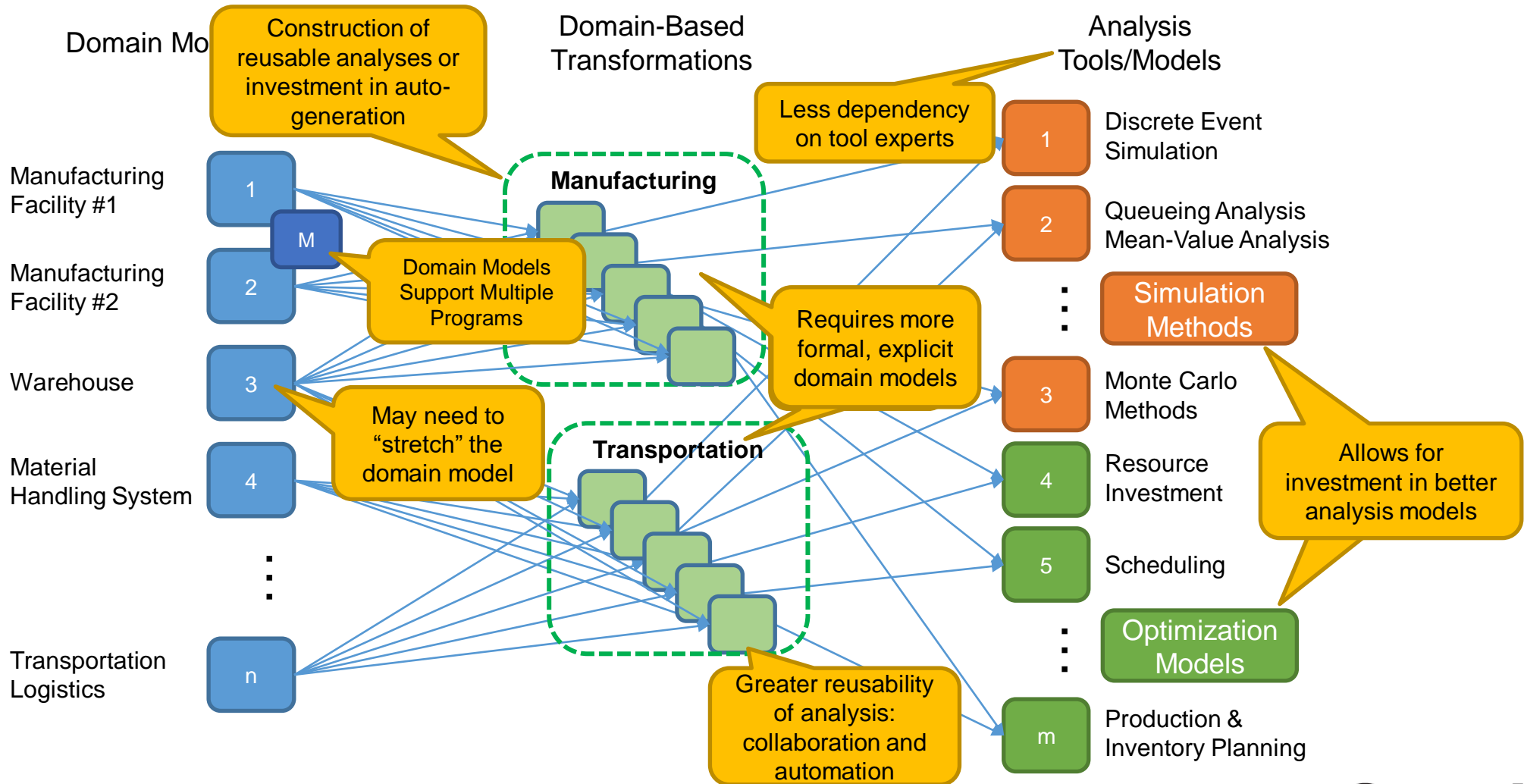


System Model to Analysis Model Transformation: Status Quo – Manual Ad-Hoc Analysis Generation



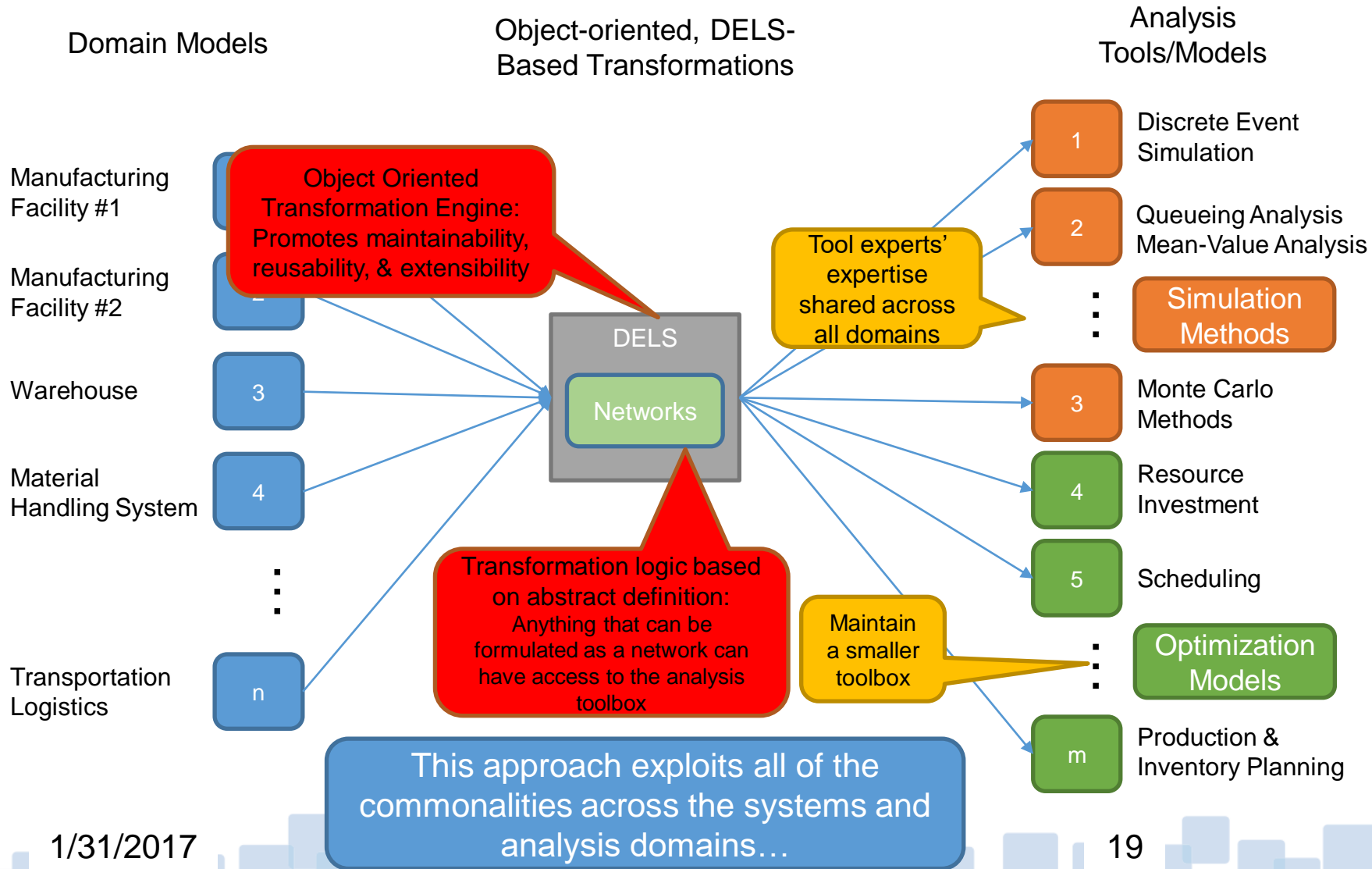


System Model to Analysis Model Transformation: M2M Methods Based on Domain Models



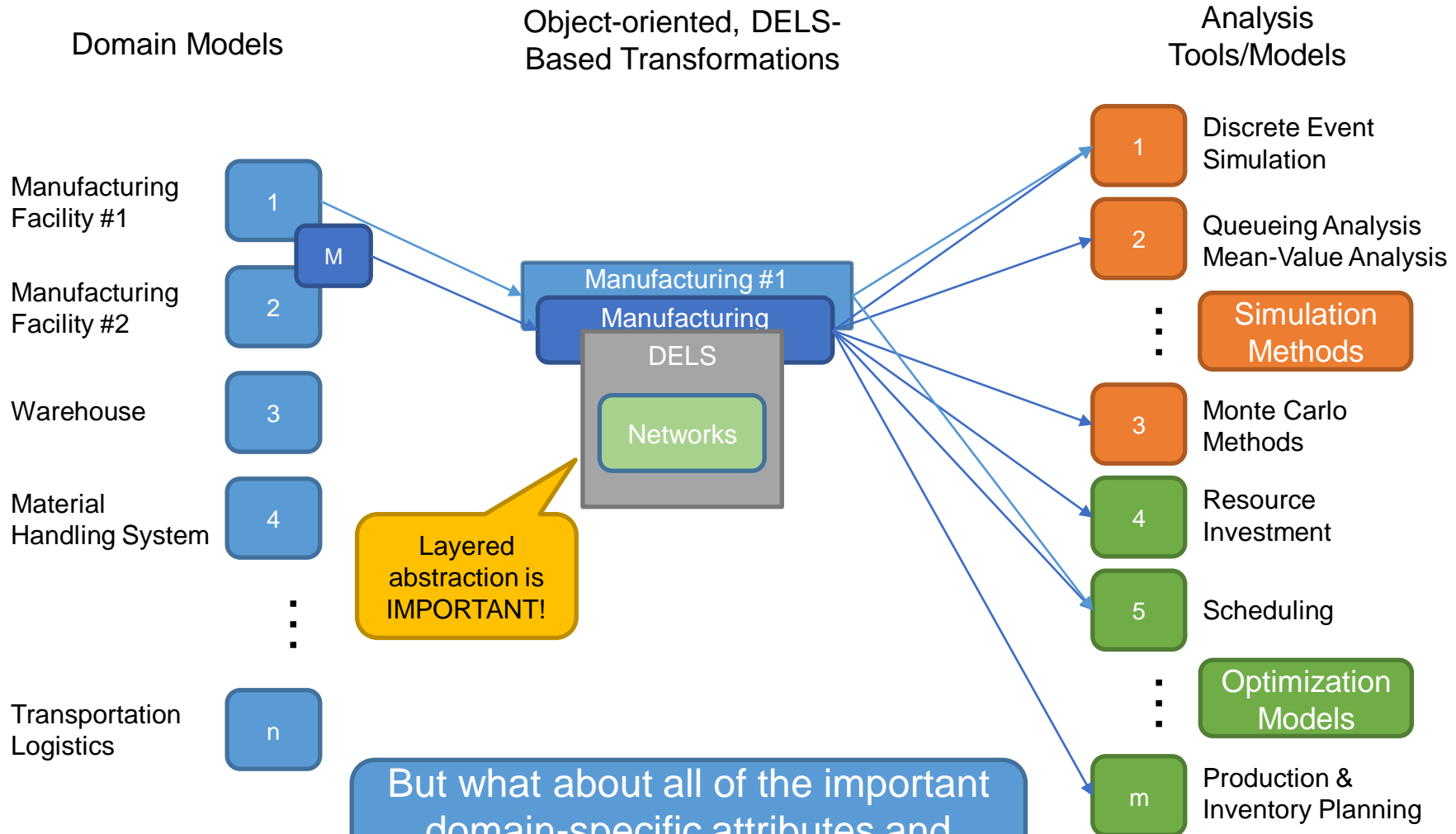


System Model to Analysis Model Transformation: M2M Methods Based on DELS Abstraction





System Model to Analysis Model Transformation: *Extending* M2M Methods Based on DELS Abstraction





Outline

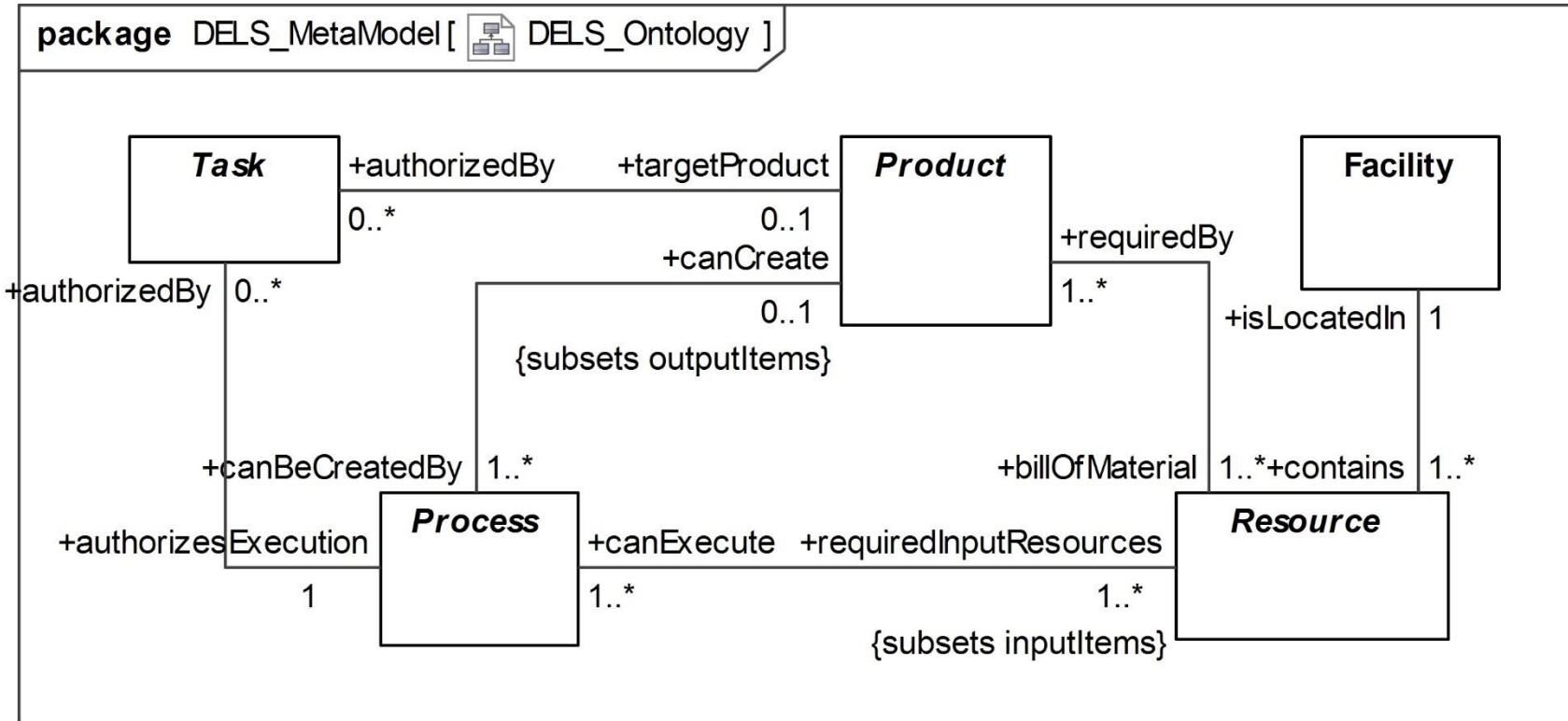
- What are DELS?
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DELS Reference Model

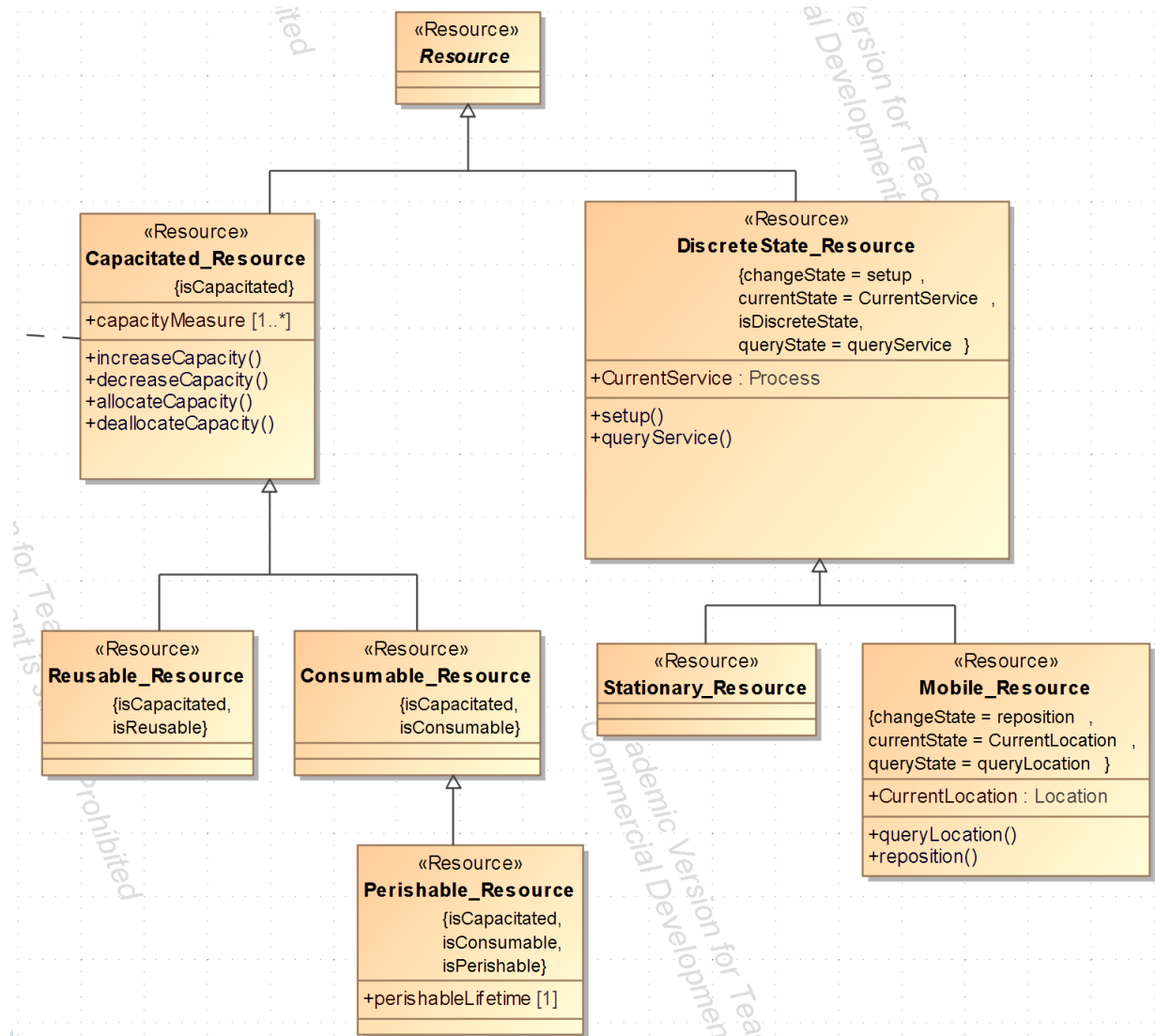
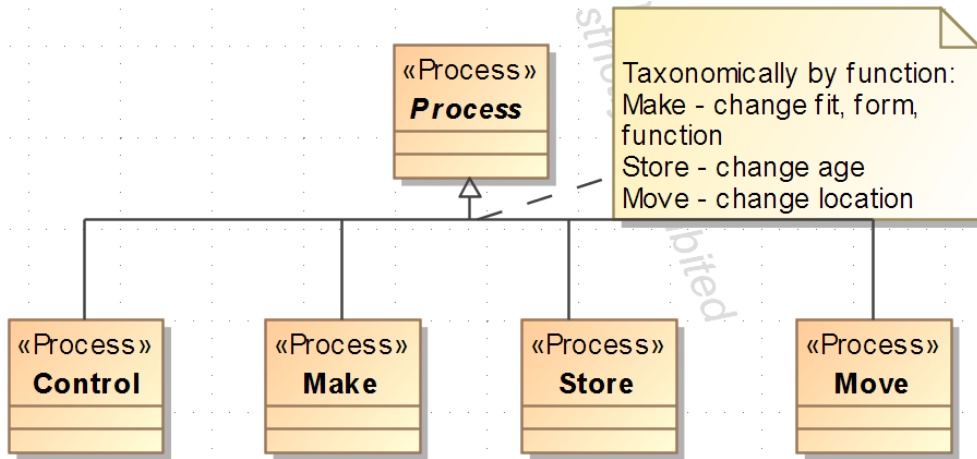
- Network Abstraction (Structural)
 - Abstraction: Networks, Flow Networks, Process Networks
- System Behavior (Plant)
 - Abstraction: Product, Process, Resource, Facility + Task
- Control
 - Admission, Sequencing, Resource Assignment, Routing, & Resource State
- Domain-specific Reference Models
 - Production (Make), Warehousing (Store), Transportation (Move)
 - Supply Chains, Healthcare Logistics, etc.

DELS Behavior – Product, Process, Resource Facility



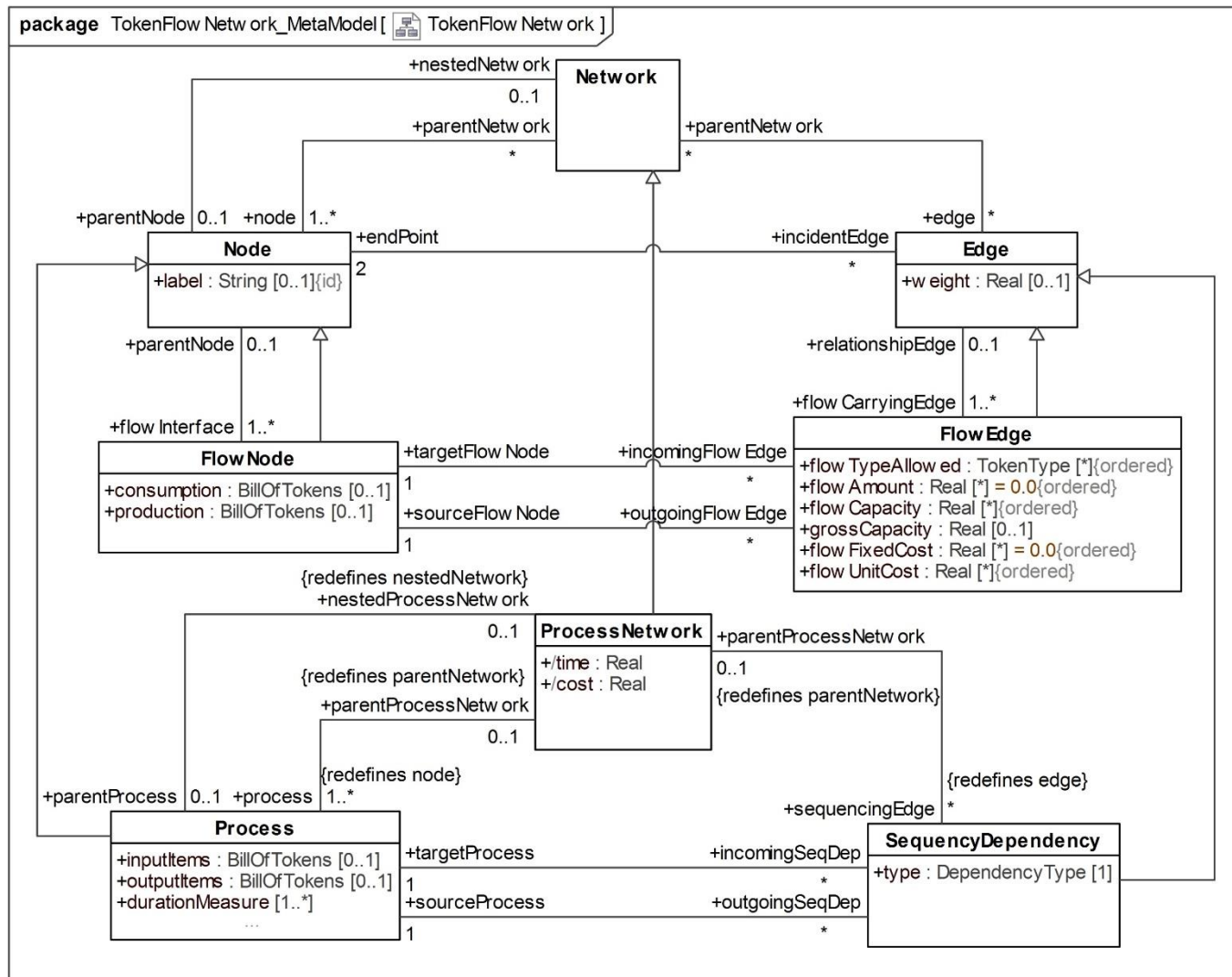


Taxonomies of DELS Behavior





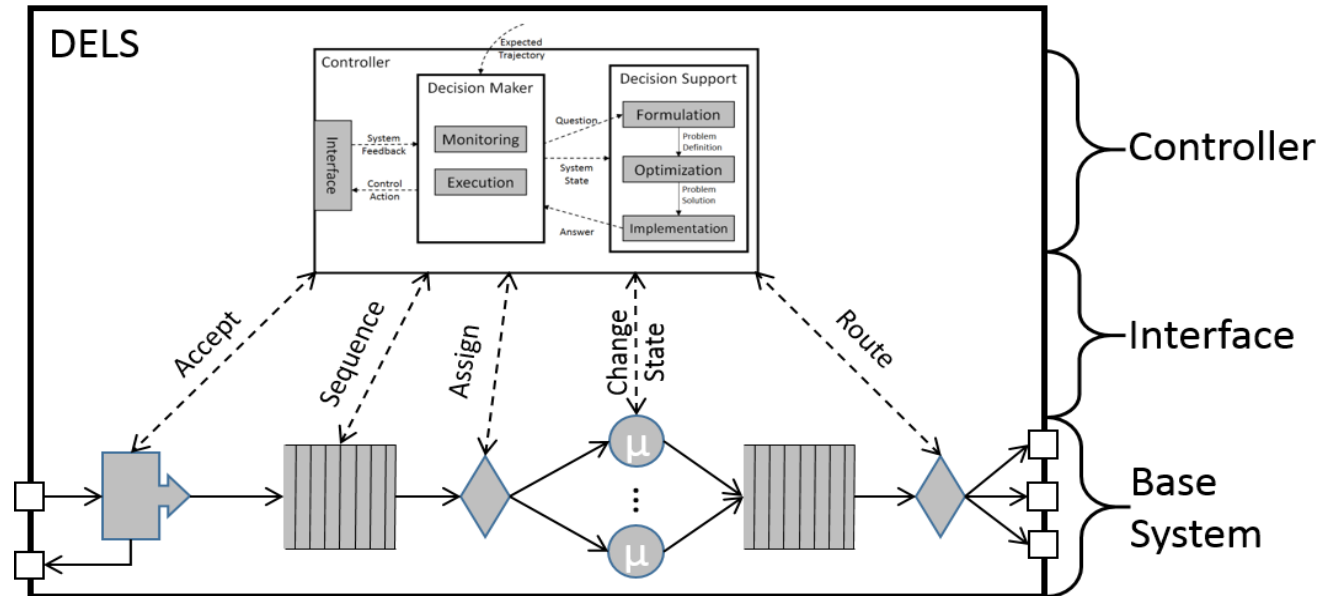
Network Abstraction





Operational Control

Functional mechanisms that **manipulate flows of tasks and resources** through a system in real-time, or near real-time.

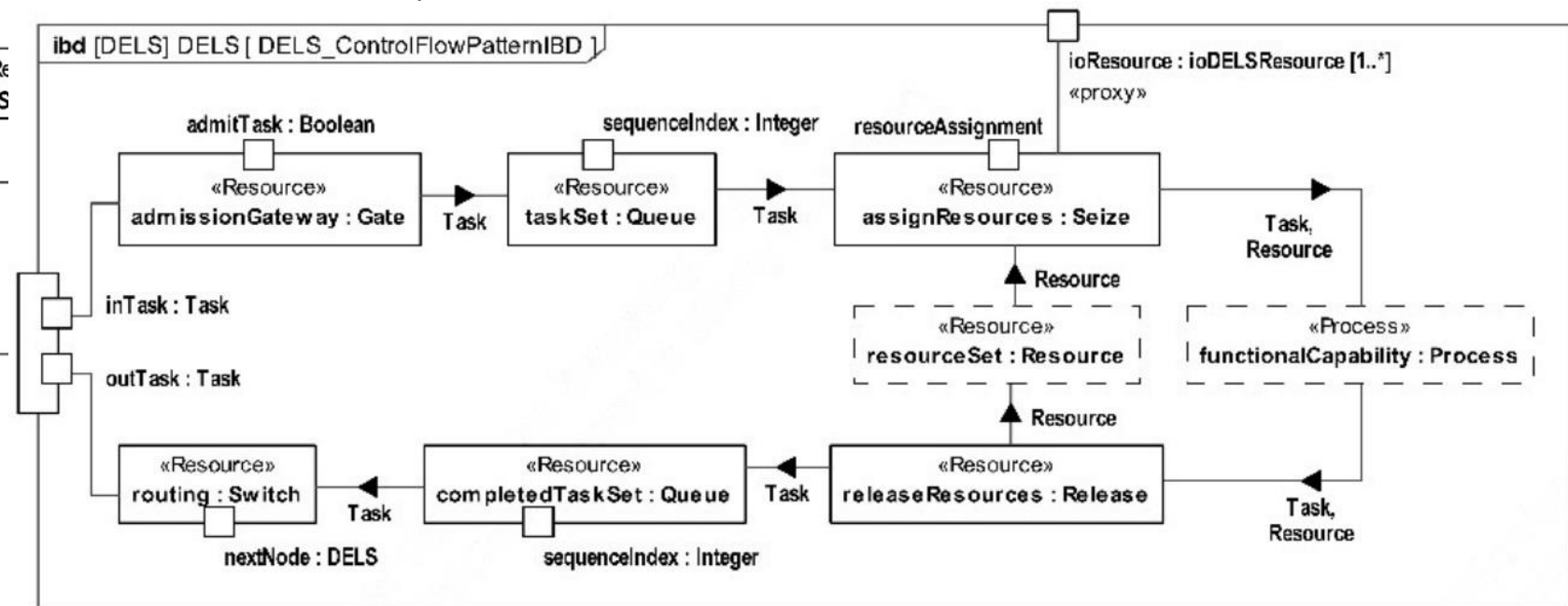
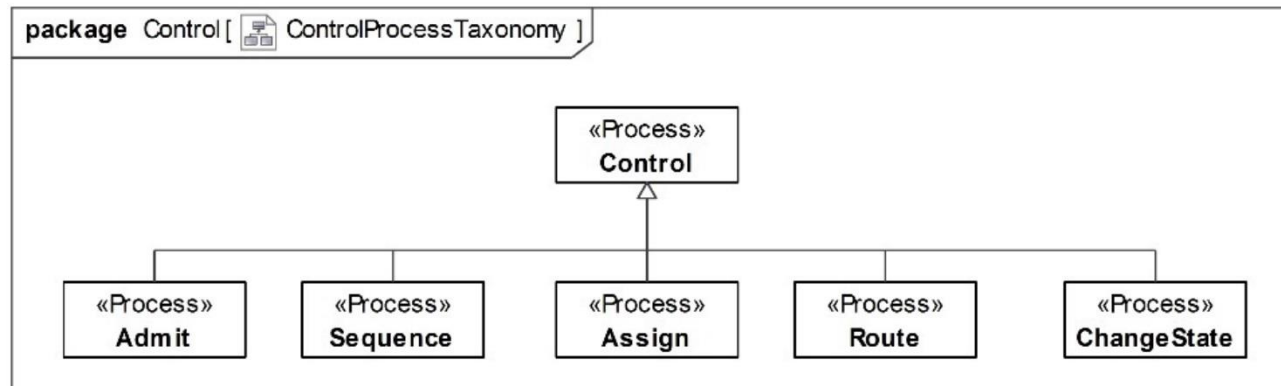


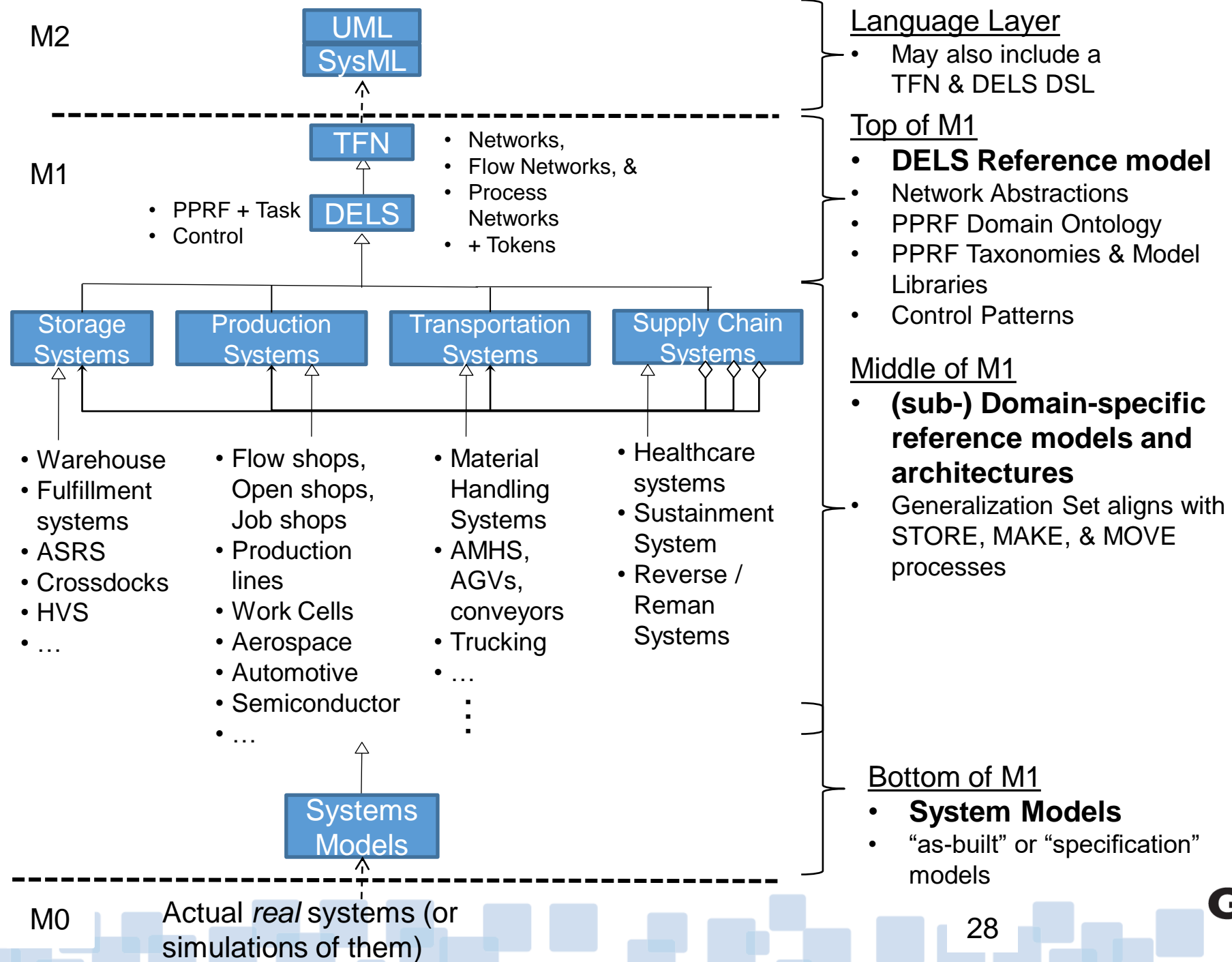
- Which tasks get serviced? (Admission/Induction)
- When {sequence, time} does a task get serviced? (Sequencing/Scheduling)
- Which resource services a task? (Assignment/Scheduling)
- Where does a task go after service? (Routing)
- What is the state of a resource? (task/services can it service/provide)



Operational Control

Maps the **decision variables** in the controller's decision problem to a particular **actuator function** and **execution mechanism** in the plant





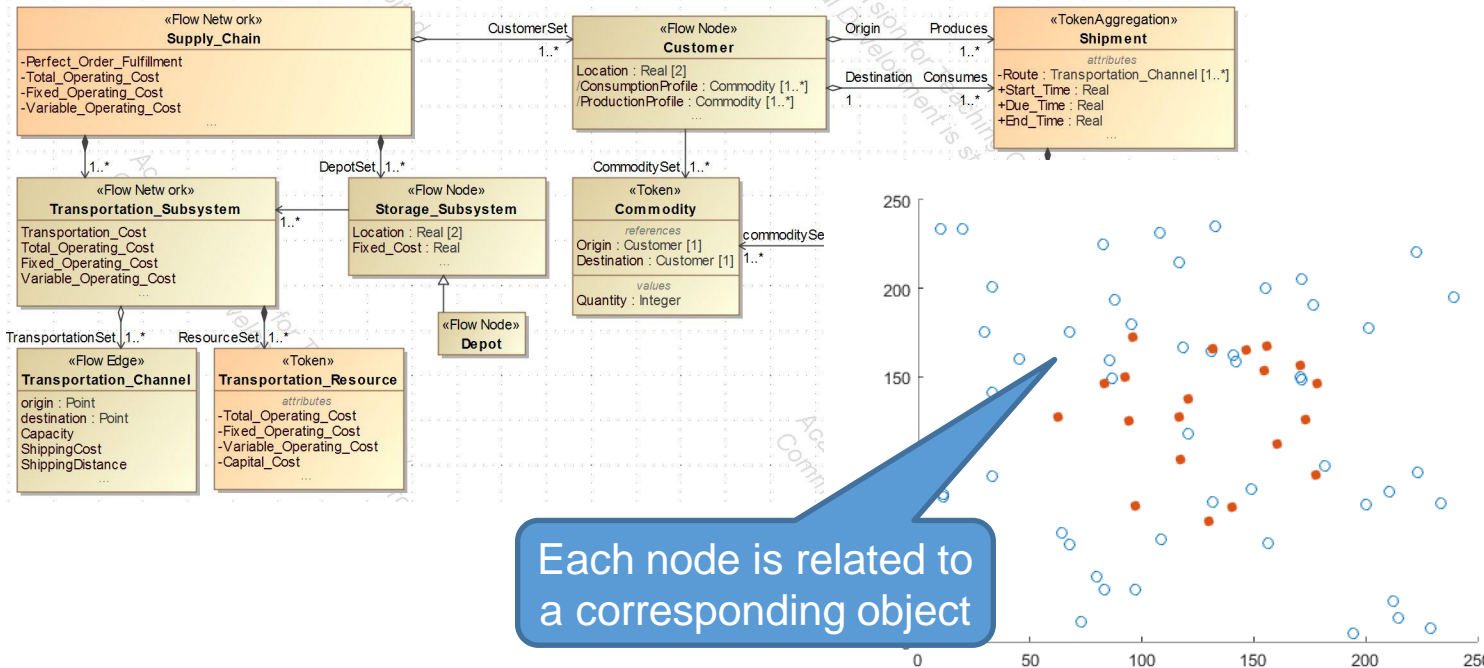


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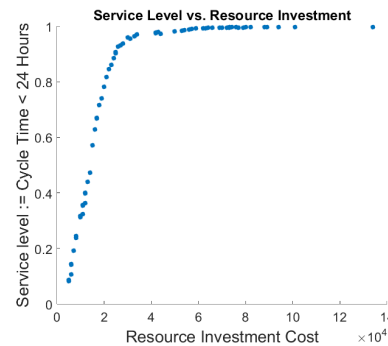
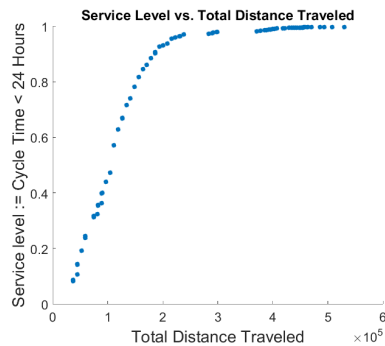
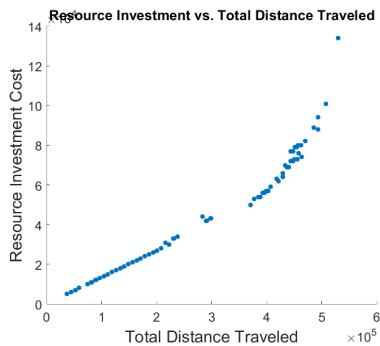


System-Analysis Integration – Use Case



Strategy:

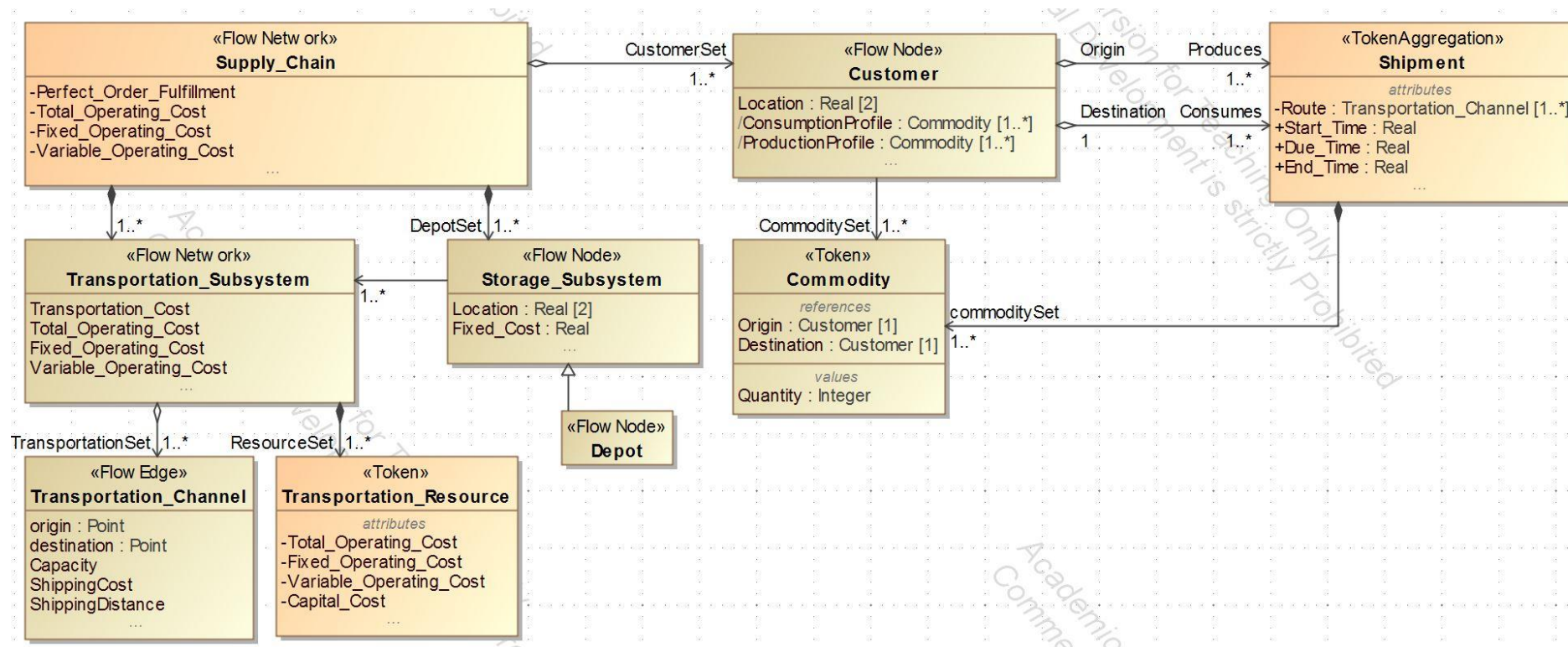
- Start with a system model or a reference model
- Generate an analysis model from the system model
- Use analysis model to support design decision making
- OR connect to an optimization model and search for candidate designs





Reference Models

Domain-specific (supply chain) reference model provides a pattern for constructing conforming system instance models and analysis models.

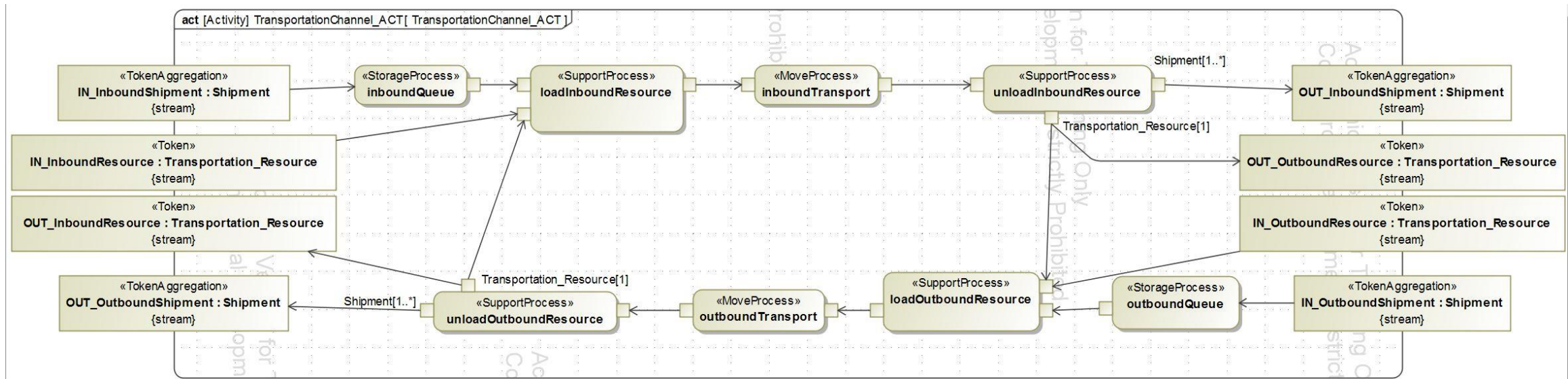


➤ The system of interest for the use case presented is a distribution supply chain.



Transportation Channel Behavior

A formal specification of the behavior of the transportation channel provides a template for constructing the corresponding (simulation) analysis component.

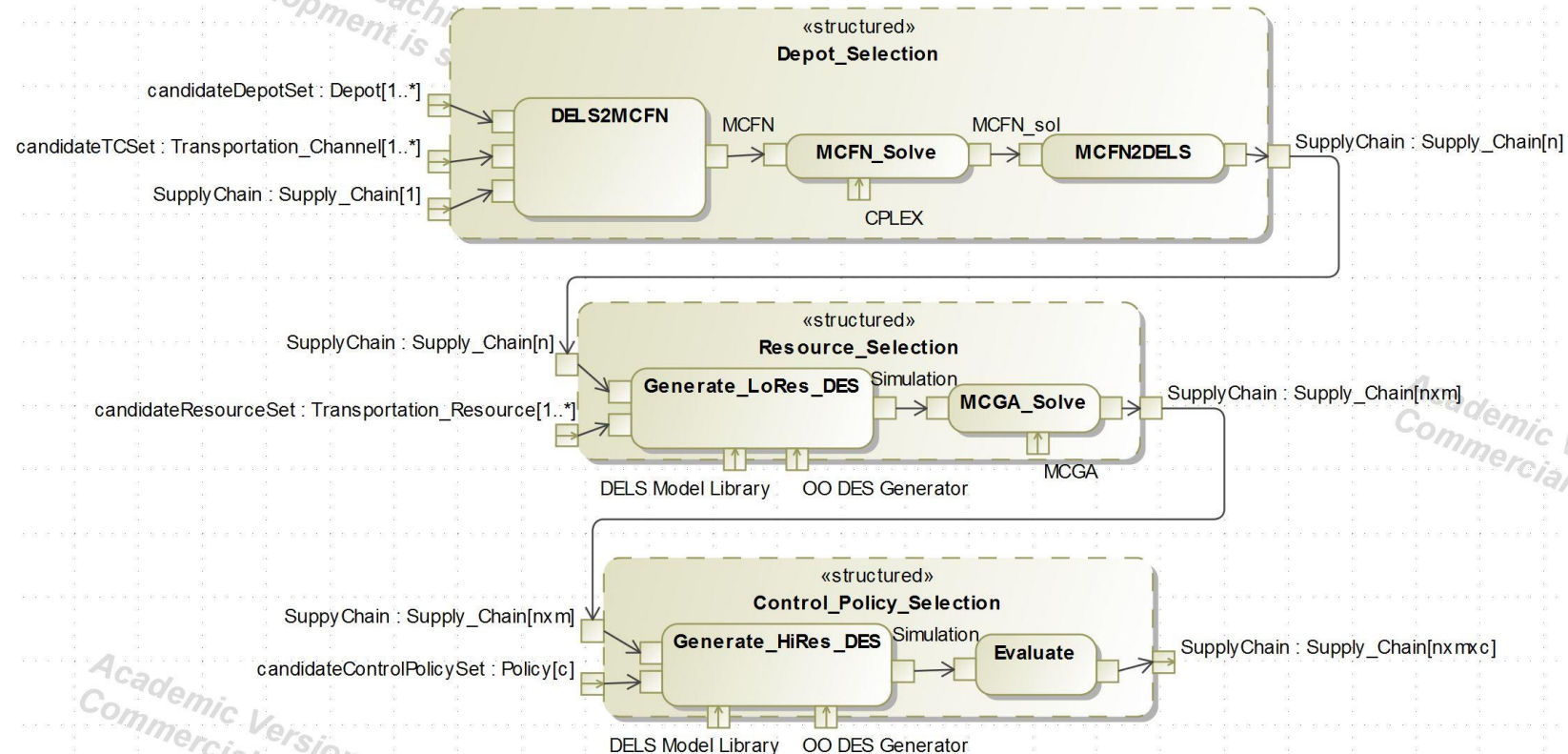


Component-based generative methods for analysis models
V&V of components, compose models from model library components (bottom up)



Analysis Methodology overview

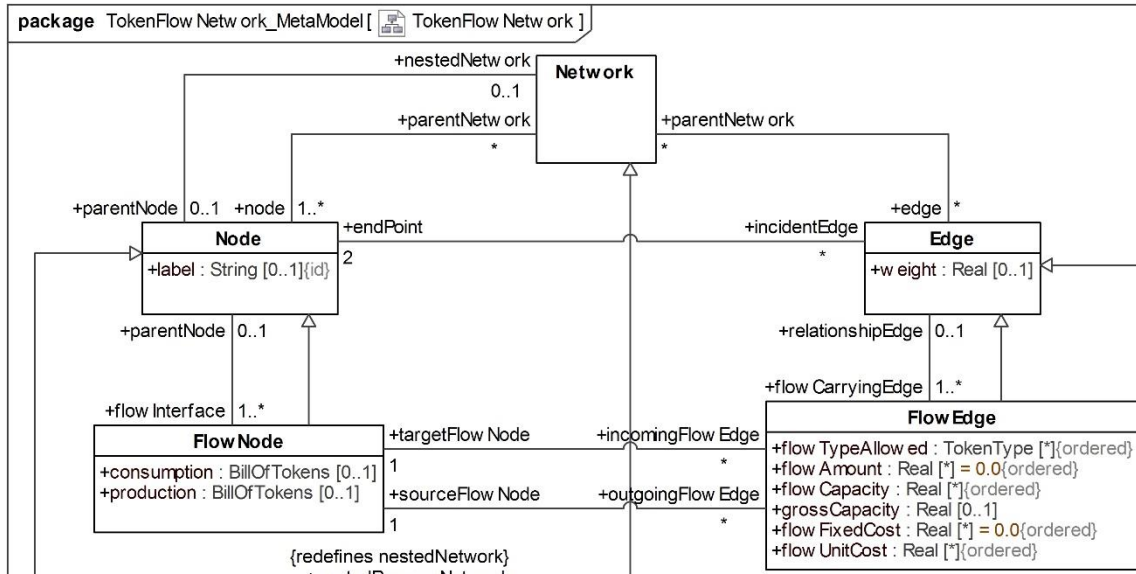
Hierarchical design methodology that uses tailored simulation optimization methods at each level to optimize the structure, behavior, and control of the DELS



- Generate a large number of candidate solutions with corresponding simulation models specified at varying levels of aggregate, approximation, and resolution



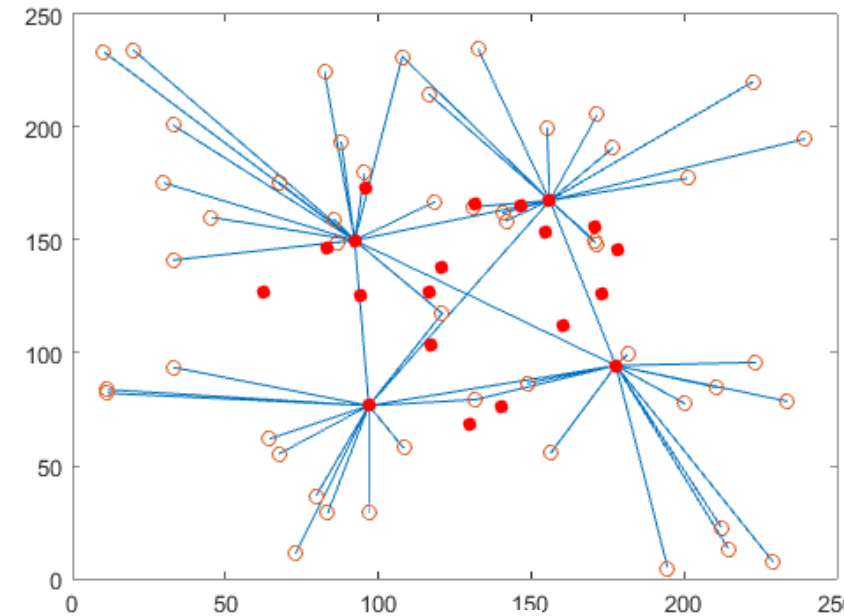
Structure: Depot Selection via MCFN



Goal: Reduce the computational requirements of optimizing the distribution network structure.

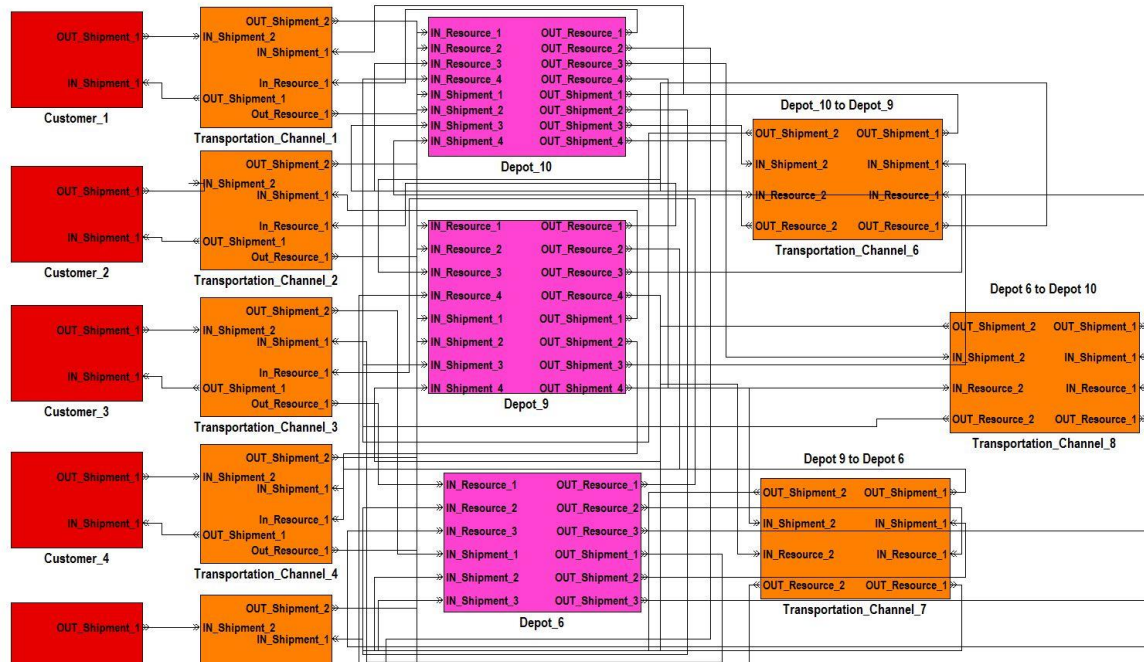
Strategy: Formulate and solve a corresponding multi-commodity flow network and facility location problem.

- Aggregate and approximate the flows and costs
- Solve MCFN using a COTS solver (CPLEX)
- Apply a “leave one out” strategy to generating several feasible candidate network structures.





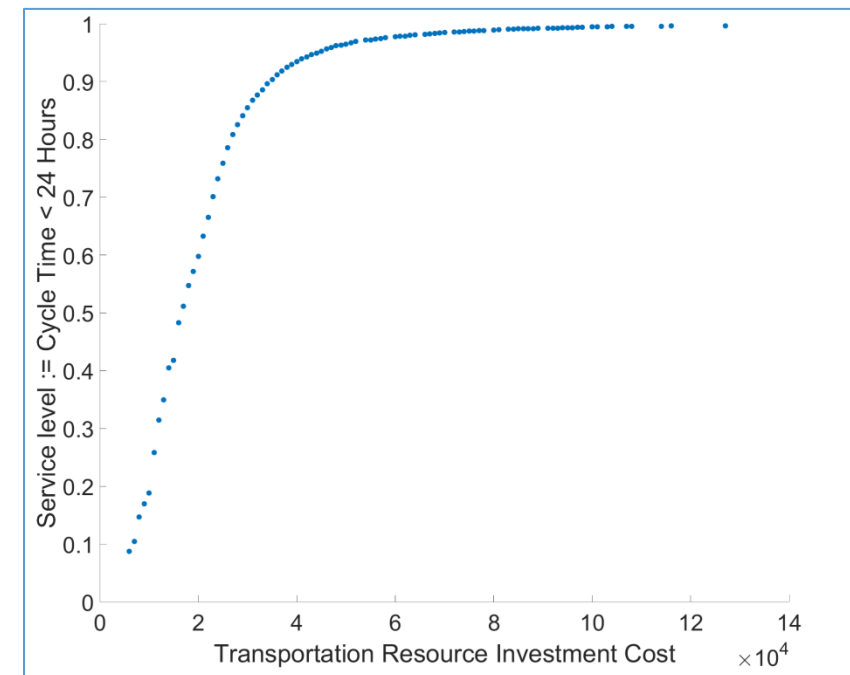
Behavior: Resource Selection



Goal: Capture and evaluate the behavioral aspects of the system using discrete event simulation.

Strategy: Generate a DES that simulates a probabilistic flow of commodities through the system.

- For each candidate supply chain network structure, generate a portfolio of solutions to the fleet sizing problem
- Trade-off cycle time/service level and resource investment cost



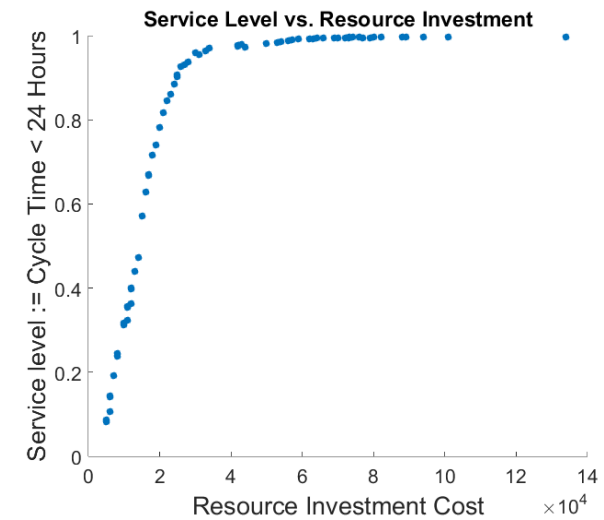
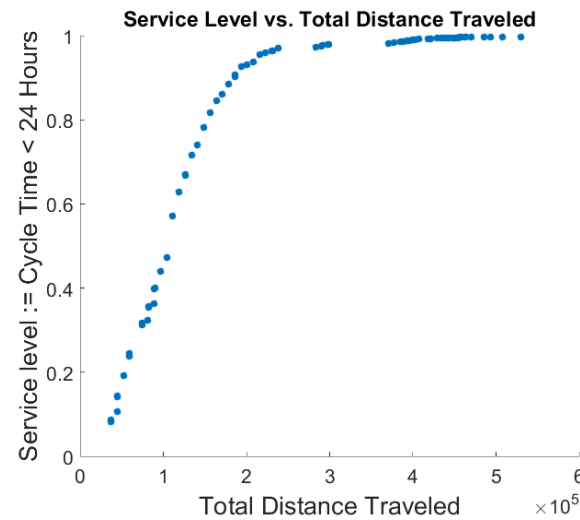
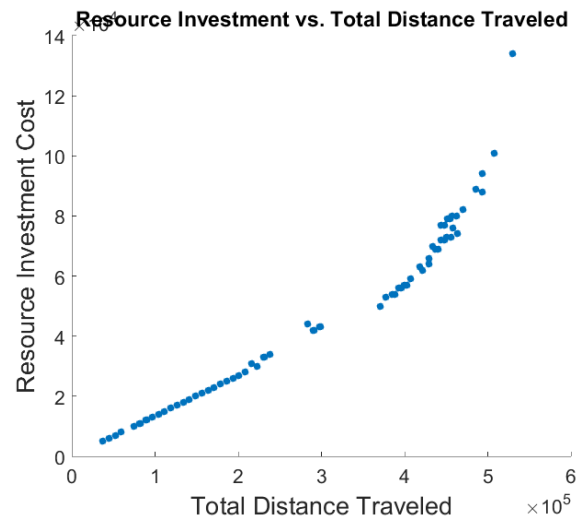
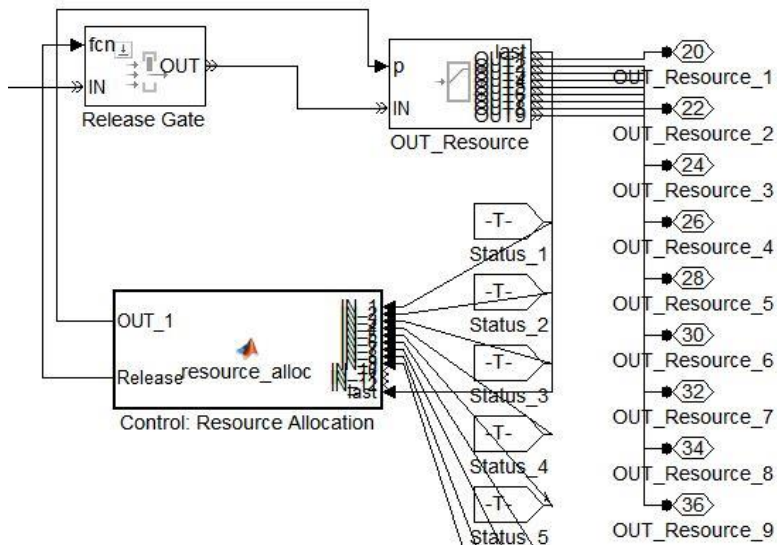


Control: Resource Assignment

Goal: Select and design a detailed specification of the control policies for assigning trucks to pickup/dropoff tasks at customers.

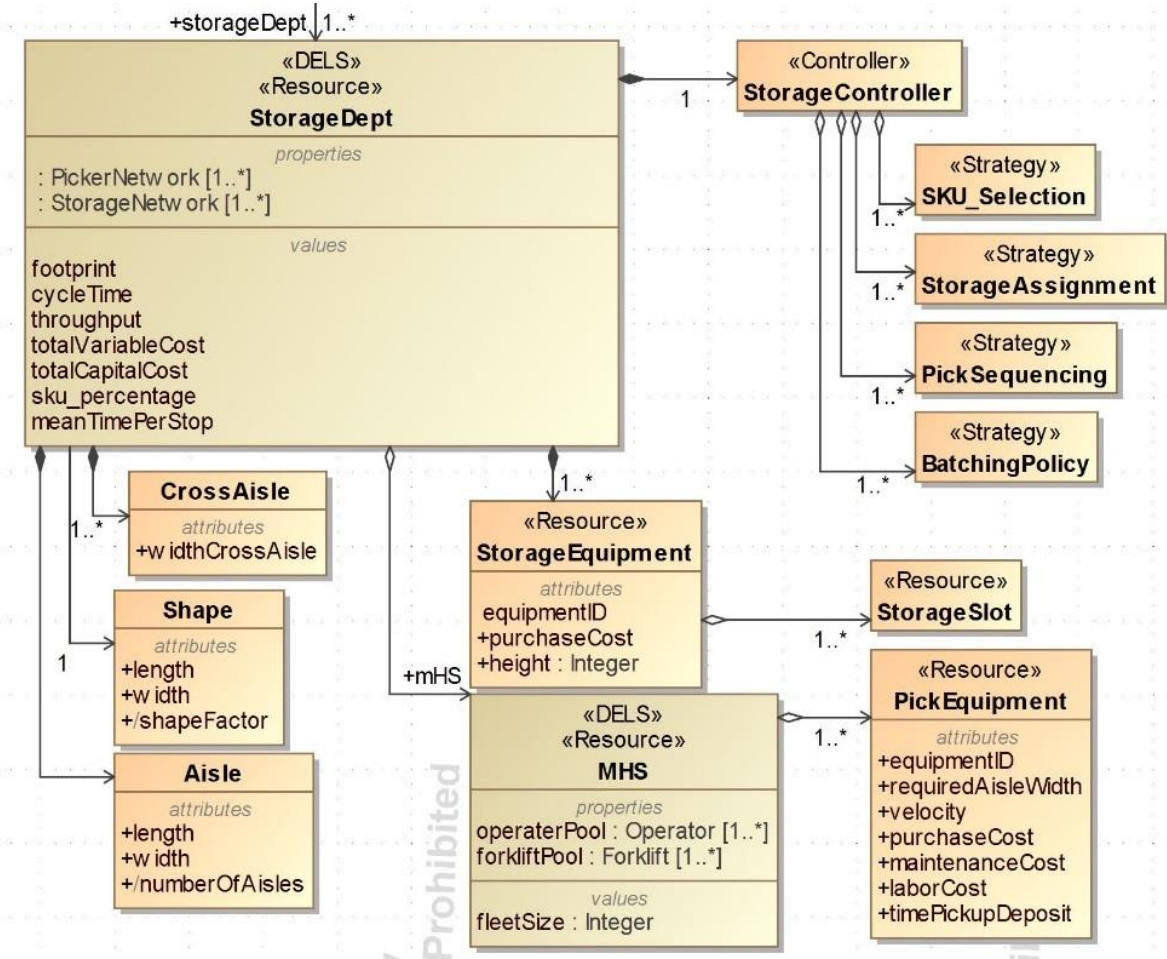
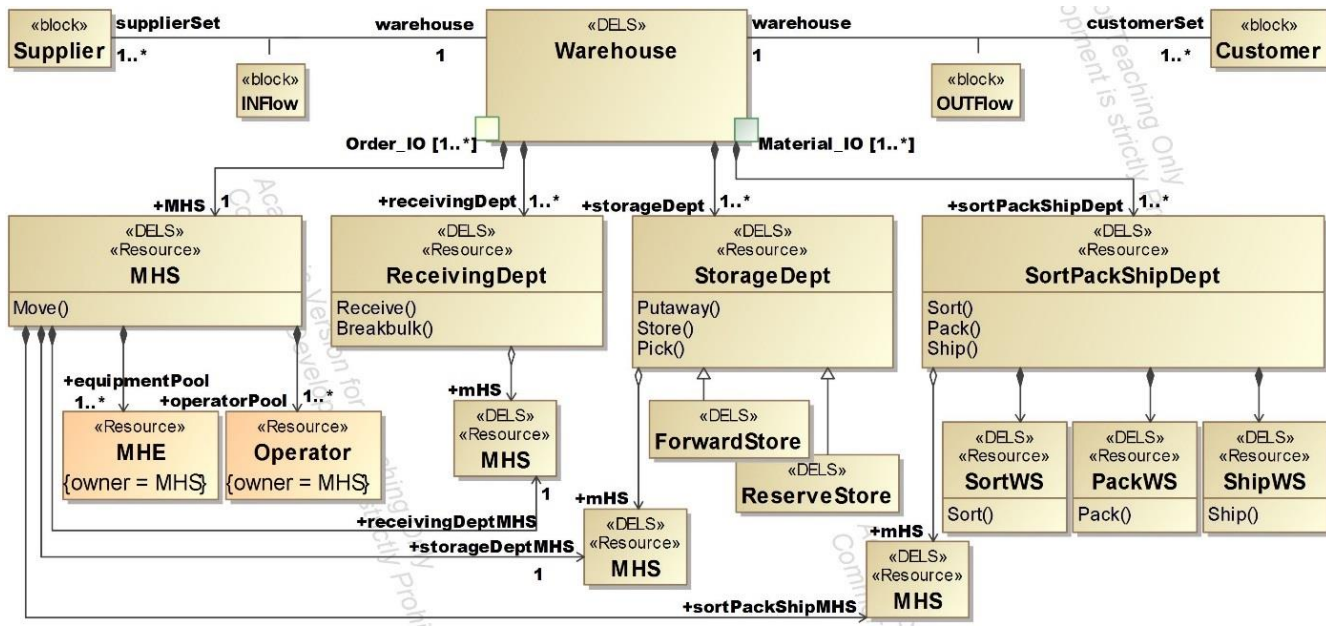
Strategy: Generate a high-fidelity simulation that is detailed enough to fine-tune resource and control behavior.

Trade-off Service Level, Capital Costs, and Travel Distance



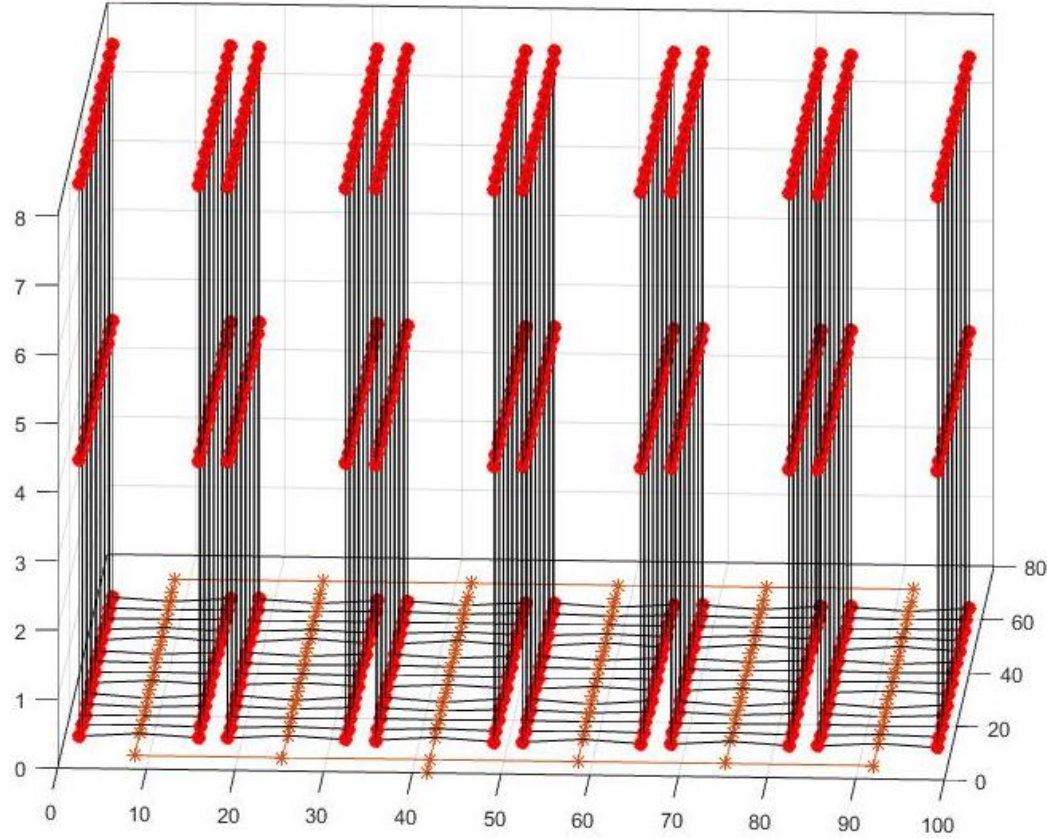


Warehouses



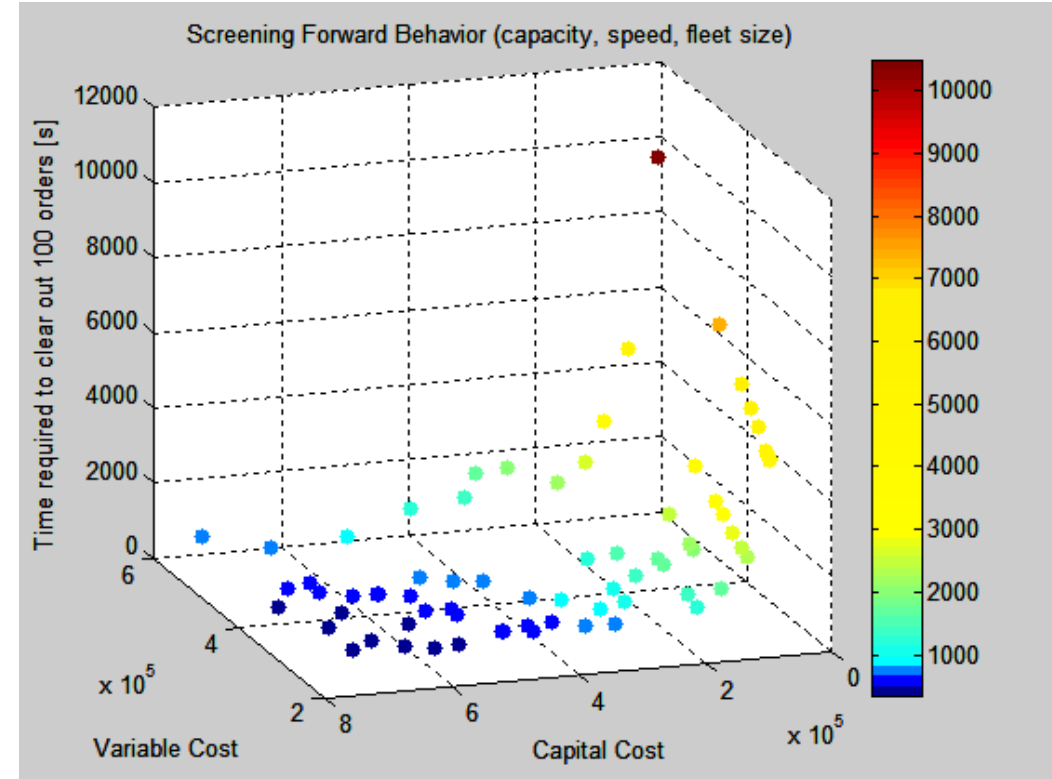


Analysis Model Generation



Metrics to support decision making:

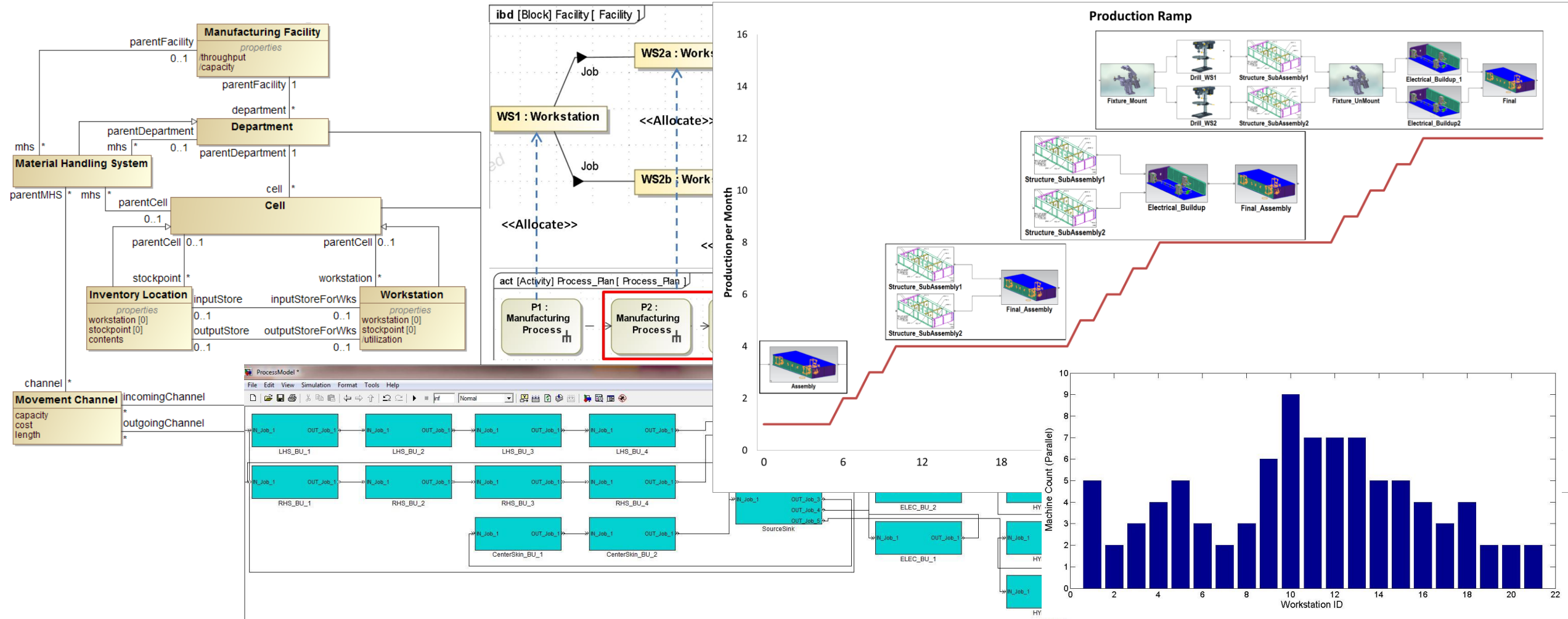
- time required to clear out 100 orders (proxy for throughput),
- average time per tour (proxy for cycle time),
- capital cost,
- variable cost



For each layout, simulation model evaluates the performance of the storage and retrieval behavior and control



Manufacturing Facilities





Why do it this way?

- The design and analysis of these systems tends to reuse common components
 - Extensible to support DELS domain
- Generate many simulation models from the system model at varying degrees of fidelity, aggregation, and approximation
- Interoperability based on a formal domain model allows tailoring of analysis methods to take advantage of domain-specific strategies.
 - Optimization heuristics
 - Advances in simulation and computing technology
 - Integrate with information systems for real-time data, providing decision-support, and executing operational control



Ongoing Work: What problem are we trying to solve?

- Mediate simulation and optimization tools with an explicit system model
 - A formal system model enables a greater degree of (semantic) interoperability
- Good progress so far on modeling the network structure and behavior of DELS
 - Structure: Networks, Flow Networks, & Process Networks
 - Behavior: Product, Process, Resource, & Facility models
- Leaves an unmet requirement for a formal specification and conforming analysis methods for operational control.
- What we need: An agreed upon and explicit definition of operational control for DELS



Where do we want to go?

- INCOSE MBSE Initiative WG on DELS Modeling
 - Single community for modeling DELS
 - Investigate crossover with transportation and healthcare WGs
- Connect to and engage with production system and logistics organizations
 - For every company that would like to see the benefits of MBSE in their manufacturing and supply chain organizations



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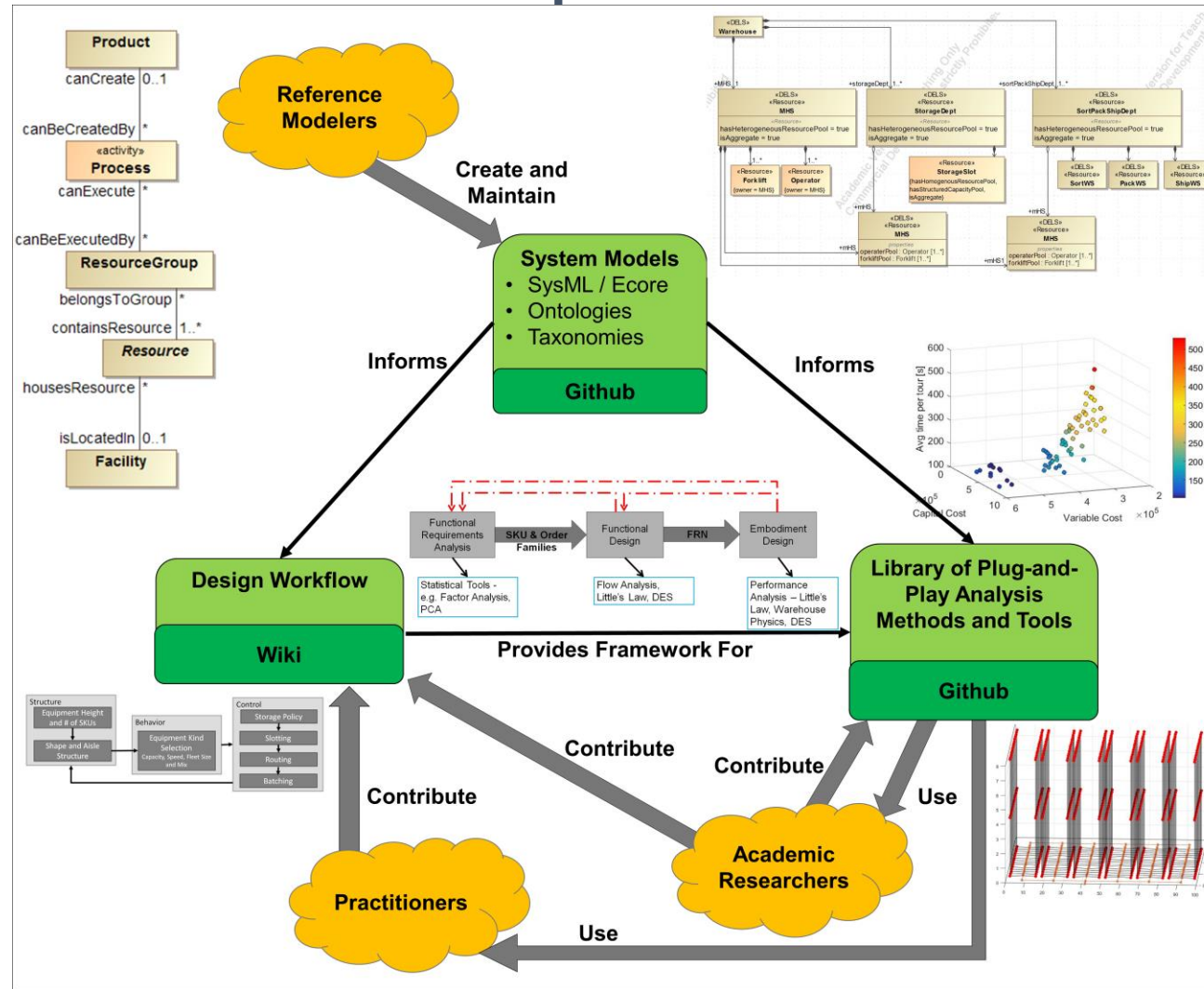
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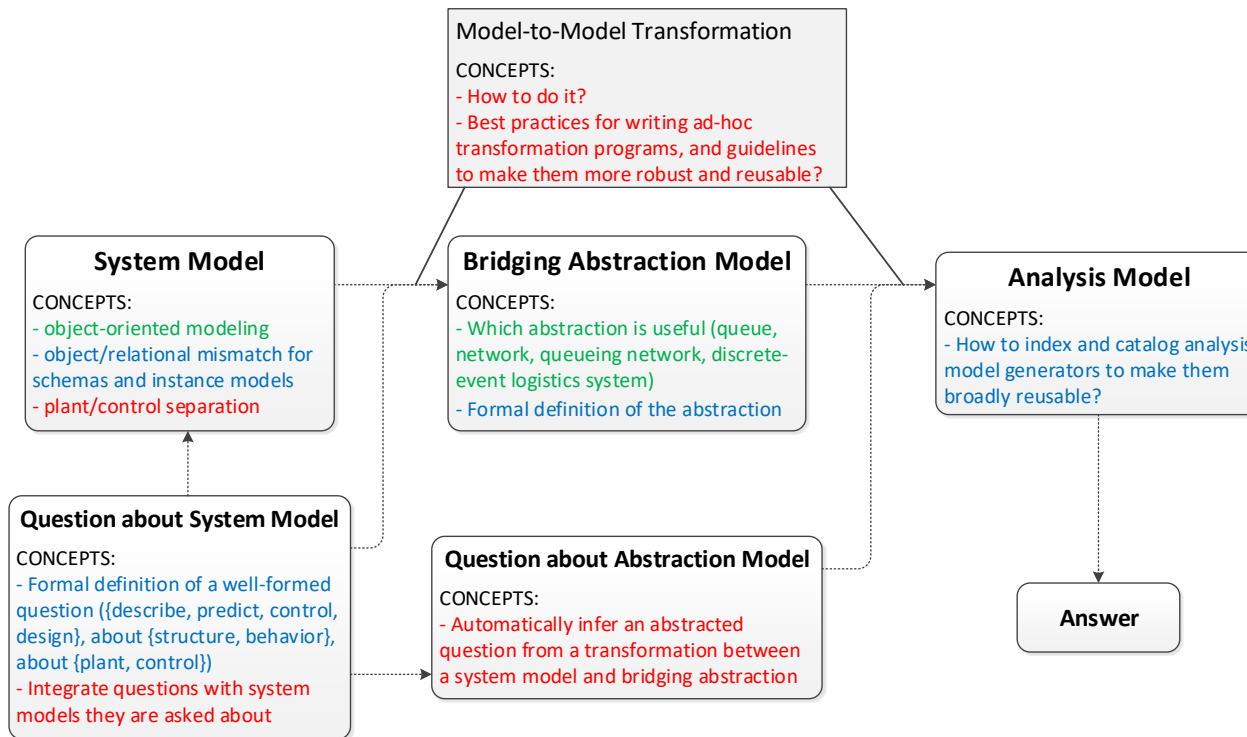
www.incose.org/IW2017



Mechanisms for development collaboration



What are DELS? And Research Goals

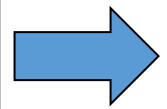
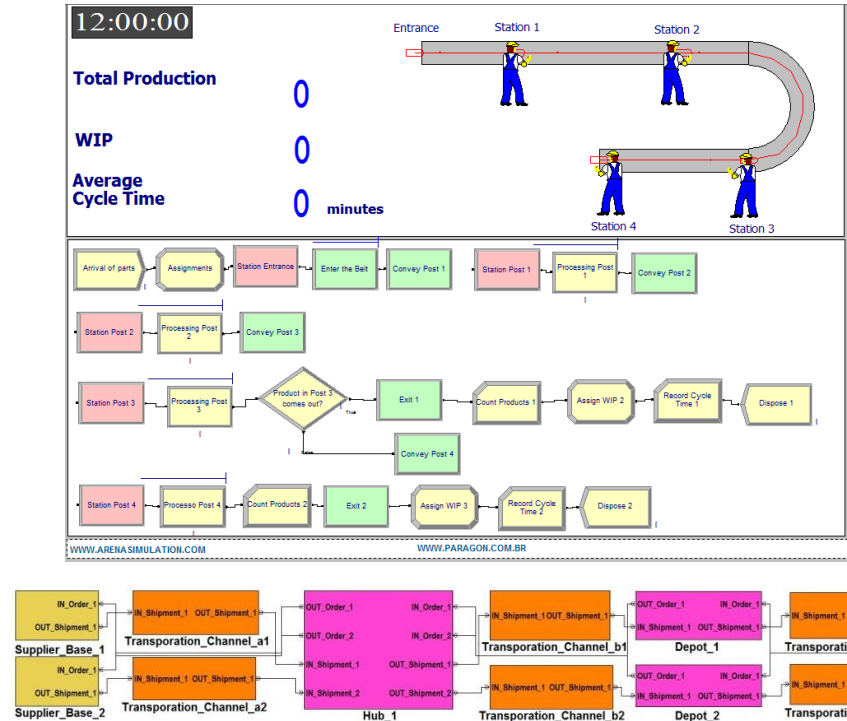




Domain Specific Challenges

Difficulties arise in applying current M2M methodologies for code generation to generating discrete event simulation.

Many popular simulation tools fail to store their models in a well-structured and accessible format, for which there is a published schema.



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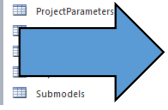
All Access Objects
Search:
Tables
AdvancedTransferAccess
AdvancedTransferConvey
AdvancedTransferConveyor
AdvancedTransferExit
AdvancedTransferSegment
AdvancedTransferSegment[N...
AdvancedTransferStation
System 1
AdvancedTransferStationSta...
BasicProcessAssign
BasicProcessAssignAssignm...
BasicProcessAttribute
BasicProcessAttribute[Initial ...
BasicProcessCreate
BasicProcessDecide
BasicProcessDecide[Conditio...
BasicProcessDispose
BasicProcessEntity
BasicProcessProcess
BasicProcessProcess[Resources
BasicProcessQueue
BasicProcessRecord
BasicProcessResource
BasicProcessResource[Failures
BasicProcessVariable
BasicProcessVariable[Initial V...
Connections
ModelLevels
ModuleTables
NamedViews
ProjectParameters
Submodels

```

```

1294 Block
1295 BlockType
1296 Name "Type 1 Resource Pool"
1297 SID "13"
1298 Ports {0, 2, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1}
1299 Position {140, 14, 90, 94}
1300 ZOrder -4
1301
1302 MultiGroupOwnership off
1303 ProgramConnectContextInSystem off
1304 RTWSystemCode "Auto"
1305 FunctionMatchSeparateData off
1306 Queue off
1307 RequestExecContextInheritance off
1308 HeadLineContents off
1309 System 1
1310
1311 Name "Type 1 Resource Pool"
1312 Location {59, 57, 103, 474}
1313 Open off
1314 ModelBrowseVisibility off
1315 ModelBrowseWidth 200
1316 ScreenColor "white"
1317 PaperOrientation "Landscape"
1318 PaperFunctionCode "none"
1319 PaperType "wselect"
1320 PaperStyle "Lobos"
1321 TitlePageScale 1
1322 ShowPageNumber off
1323 ZoomFactor "100"
1324
1325 Block 1
1326 BlockType EventBasedEntityGenerator
1327 Name "Event-Based-Entity Generator"
1328 SID "13"
1329 Ports {0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1}
1330 Position {140, 77, 225, 133}
1331 ZOrder -1
1332 InputPortMap "n0"
1333 OutputPortMap ""
1334 GeneralEventInMap "Function call from port for"
1335 Port 1
1336 PortType 3
1337 PortNumber 1
1338 ConnectionType "SimEventsDvJ_SEPortOut"
1339 }
1340 }
1341
1342 Block 1
1343 BlockType FIFOQueue
1344 Name "FIFO Queue"
1345 SID "13"
1346 Ports {0, 2, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1}
1347 Position {453, 82, 575, 138}
1348 ZOrder -1
1349 InputPortMap "n0"
1350 OutputPortMap "n1,n3"
1351 Capacity 1000
1352 StartWhenInBlock on
1353 StartAverageQueueLength on
1354 Port 1
1355 PortType 2
1356 PortNumber 1
1357 ConnectionType "SimEventsDvJ_SEPortIn"
1358 }
1359 }
1360
1361 Block 1
1362 BlockType PatchCombiner
1363 Name "Patch Combiner"
1364 SID "14"
1365 Ports {0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 2, 1}
1366 Position {325, 85, 425, 135}
1367 ZOrder -8
1368

```

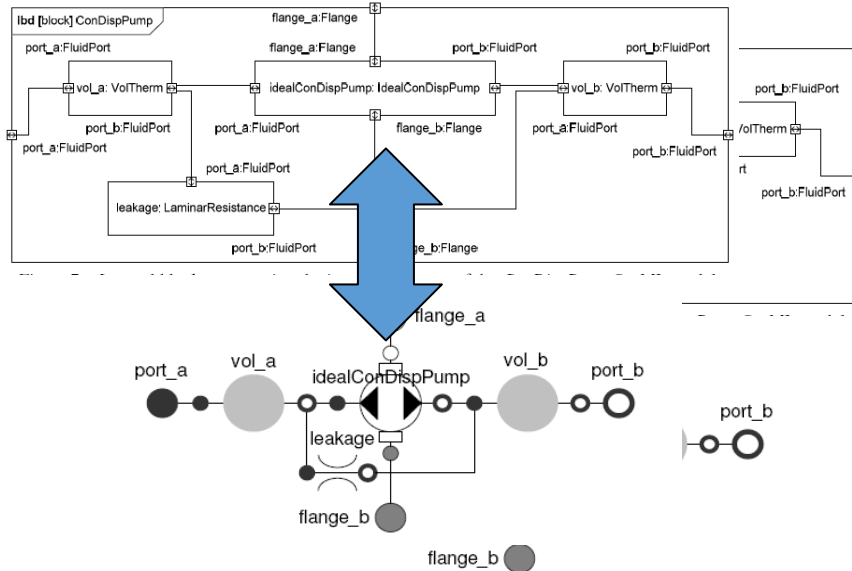


Similar issues with Tecnomatix PlantSim, FlexSim, etc.



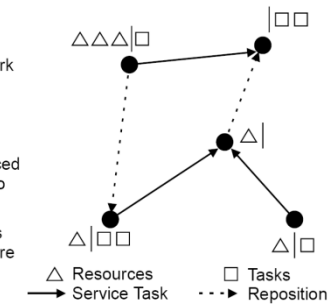
Why is Discrete Event Simulation Hard?

OMG's SysML-Modelica Transformation (SyM), Version 1.0



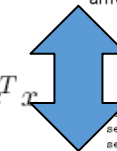
Discrete Optimization has a canonical set-based abstraction (Thiers, 2014)

- Queues of tasks and resources at each location in the network
- Resources move to service a task or reposition
- Tasks must be serviced within time window to receive full revenue
- Over time, new tasks arrive, old tasks expire



min

$$c^T x$$



s.t.

$$Ax = b$$

$$x \geq 0$$

Physical Depiction of Dynamic Resource Allocation Problem

```

set FlowNode;
set FlowEdge within (FlowNode cross FlowNode);
set TokenType;

#Sign convention for netFlow: Demand is positive, Supply is negative
param netFlow (FlowNode, TokenType);
param flowUnitCost (FlowEdge, TokenType);
param typeCapacity (FlowEdge, TokenType);
param grossCapacity (FlowEdge);

var flowAmount (FlowEdge, TokenType);

minimize netFlowCost:
sum {(i,j) in FlowEdge, c in TokenType}
flowUnitCost[(i,j),c] * flowAmount[(i,j),c];

subject to flowBalance (n in FlowNode, c in TokenType):
sum {(i,n) in FlowEdge} flowAmount[(i,n),c]
= netFlow[n,c] + sum{(n,j) in FlowEdge} flowAmount[(n,j),c];

subject to flowBounds {(i,j) in FlowEdge, c in TokenType}:
0 <= flowAmount[(i,j),c] <= typeCapacity[(i,j),c];

subject to edgeGrossCapacity {(i,j) in FlowEdge}:
sum [c in TokenType] flowAmount[(i,j),c] <= grossCapacity[(i,j)];
    
```

COTS Discrete Event Simulation languages lack a common abstraction and implementation

