



Modular Systems Simulation Using SSP, FMI and OPC UA

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Background

- Established in 2007
- Located in Espoo, Finland
- VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland background

Expertise

- Highly skilled, **multidisciplinary team** of software developers, automation and system engineers, as well as modeling and simulation specialists
- A third of the company holds a PhD degree

Focus areas

- Development and maintenance of **system simulation tools** for process industry such as Apros
- **Industrial Simulation-Based Digital Twins**
 - Cloud-based simulation turn-key solutions
- Engineering **automation solutions**
- **Life Cycle Assessment** solutions

Trusted by

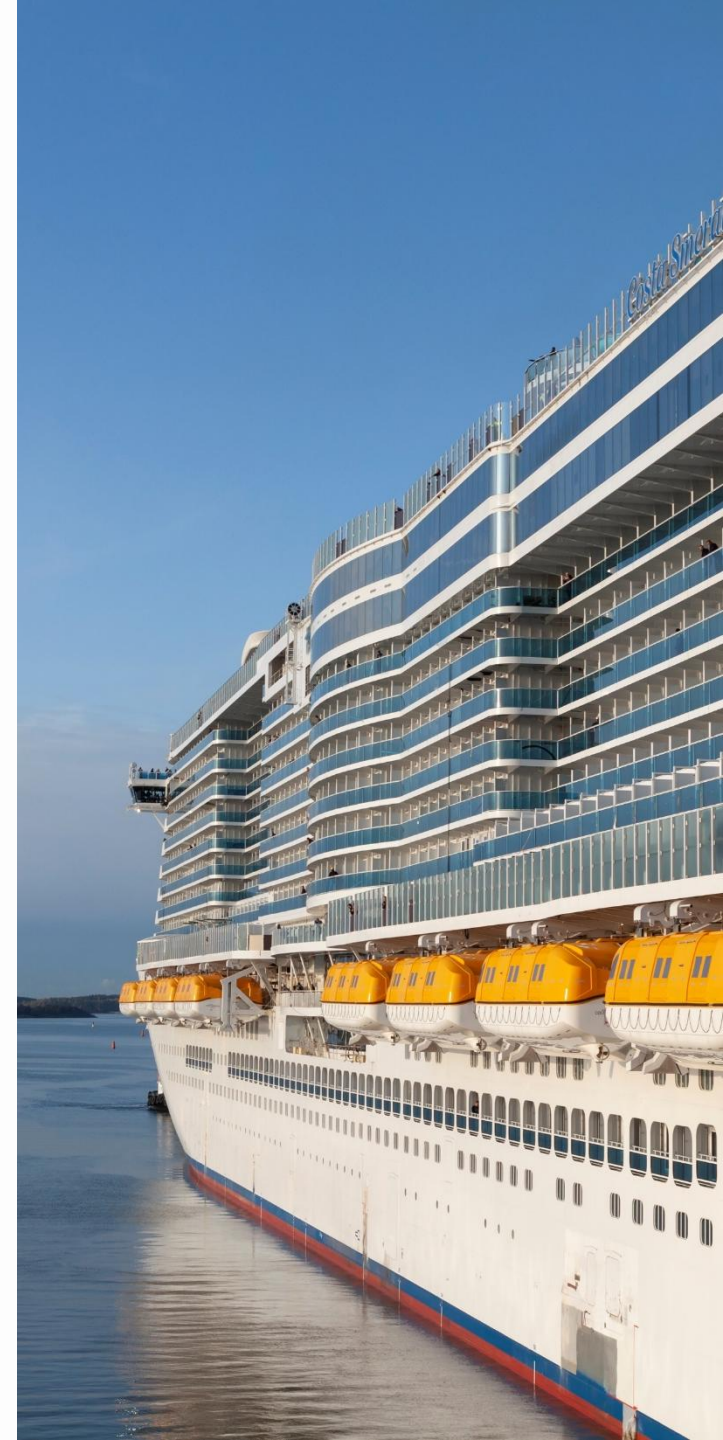




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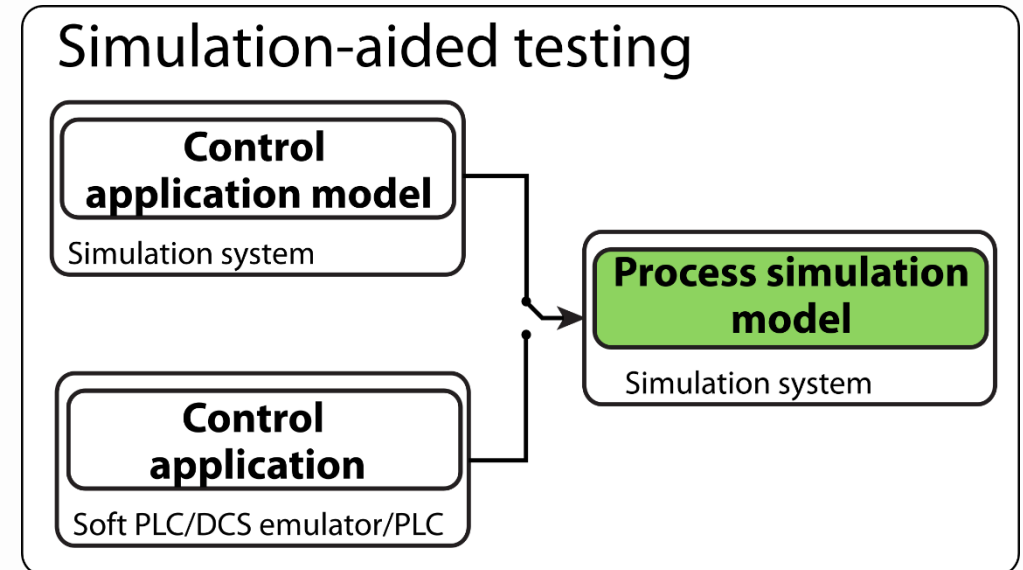
Modularization

- Meyer Turku shipyard is a large system integrator
- Modularization is a trend in shipbuilding
 - Ships are assembled using physical structural modules built outside of the shipyard
 - Allows components to be built in different locations
 - Allows companies to rely on their expertise to deliver sub-components



Modular virtual testing

- Beyond structural modularization
 - Build a ship's processes and automation systems from modules
 - Includes equipment from various companies
- Benefits of modular virtual testing
 - Validate the process and its automation systems in a co-simulation environment
 - Verify system correctness
 - Before purchase and physical installation
 - Can be done before sea trials

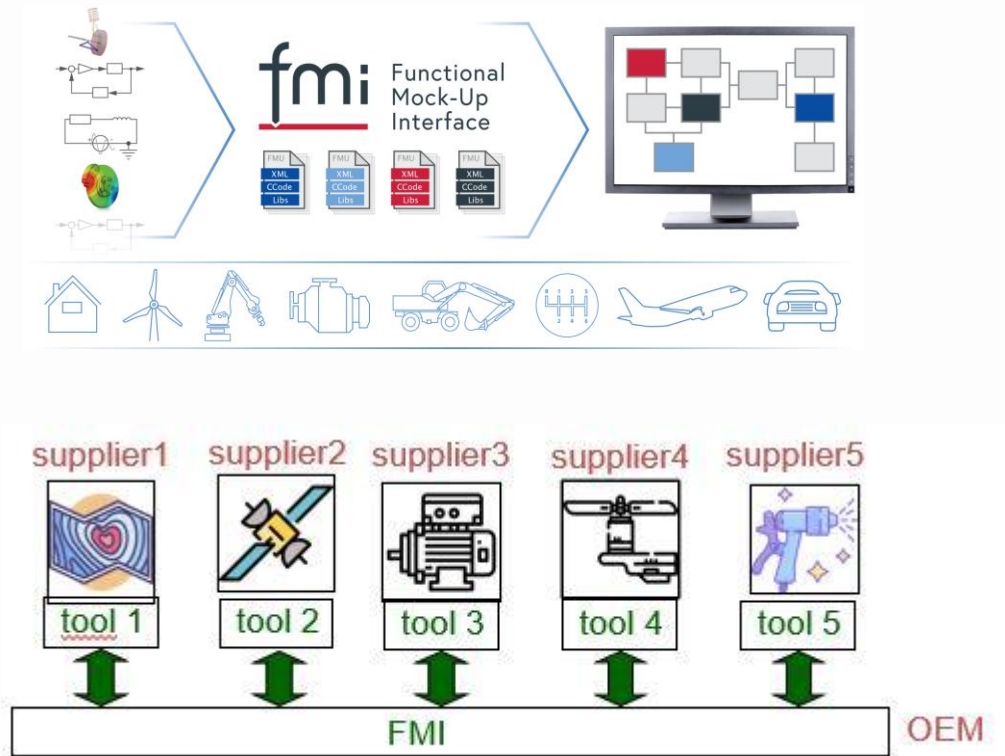




Modular simulation: Background Technology

Functional Mock-Up Interface (FMI)

- Functional Mock-Up Interface
 - A model implementing FMI is called an “FMU” (Functional Mock-Up Unit)
 - A self-contained package containing a virtual version of a component
 - Typically, an archive-file containing:
 - A .dll (Windows) or a .so (Linux) file (the code part)
 - A modelDescription.xml (the model’s capabilities listed in XML format)
- FMI standard demands that a model is on the same ‘local’ server
 - IP Protection not as robust as in OPC UA
 - But communication overhead is completely gone: Faster simulation for tightly coupled systems with smaller step-sizes



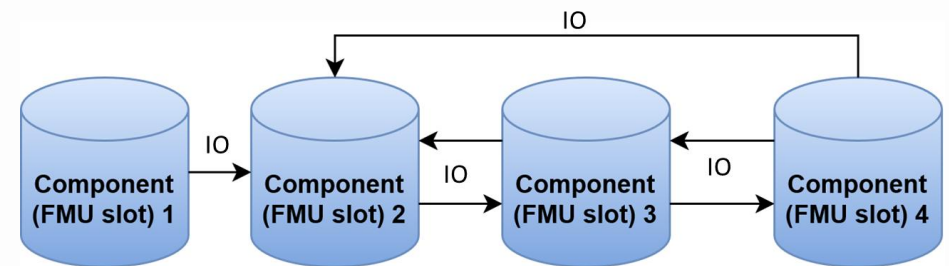
System Structure & Parameterization (SSP)

An ‘extension’ of the FMI standard

- Describes in XML format how multiple components connect
- Input / Output mapping
- Initial conditions (parameters)

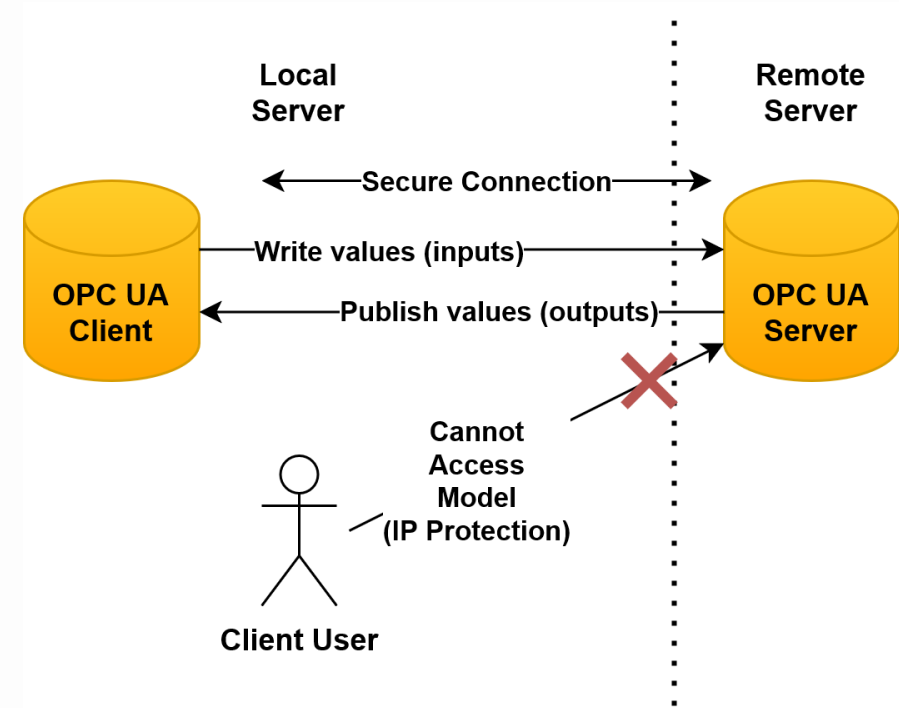
An SSP model has “slots” for FMI models called *Components*

- Pre-defined inputs and outputs for each “slot”, defined in the SSP model. The FMU models must implement the same inputs and outputs



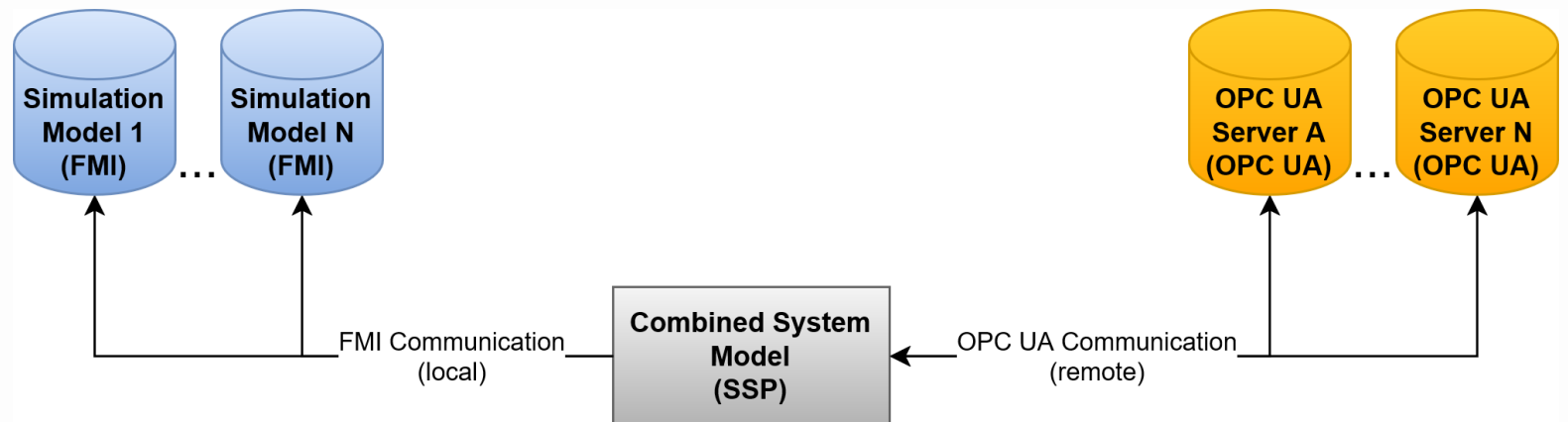
OPC UA

- Client-Server architecture
 - Publish / Subscribe data
 - Platform independent
 - Client and server can be different operating systems
 - Distributed computations
 - Model does not have to be on the same server as the client
 - IP protection



Modular simulation

- Individual simulation models are either
 - FMI models
 - OPC UA Servers
- Combined system model is an SSP model



Waste heat recovery (WHR) circuit of a cruise ship

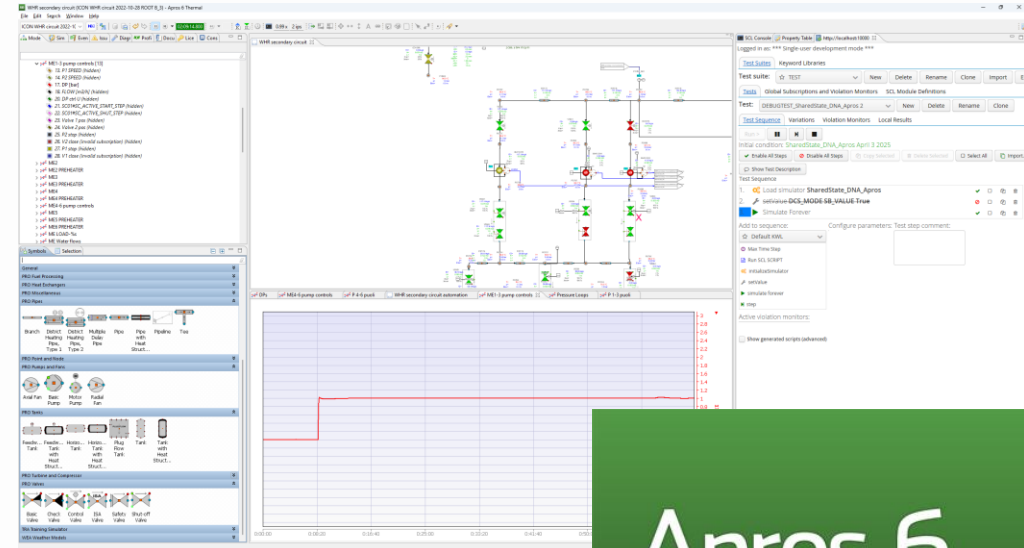
WHR Circuit

- Waste heat produced by engines is used by different equipment onboard for different hotel functions
 - Production of drinkable water, HVAC, laundry, etc.
- WHR circuit transfers heat from producers to consumers
 - Hot water flows from producers to consumers
 - Consumers extract some of the heat → water cools
 - Cold(er) water returns to producers
- Process DCS delivered by Valmet
 - DNA



WHR simulation model

- Semantum and Meyer Turku have developed a dynamic simulation model of the WHR circuit of the ship.
 - Including process and automation system
- OEMs develop a detailed simulation models of other equipment
 - For example, evaporator and absorption chiller
- Simulated in Apros



Apros 6

— Enhanced efficiency of dynamic process simulation

A6

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WHR modular simulation system

WHR Circuit + Absorption Chiller + Evaporator

Absorption chiller produces chilled water for, e.g., HVAC

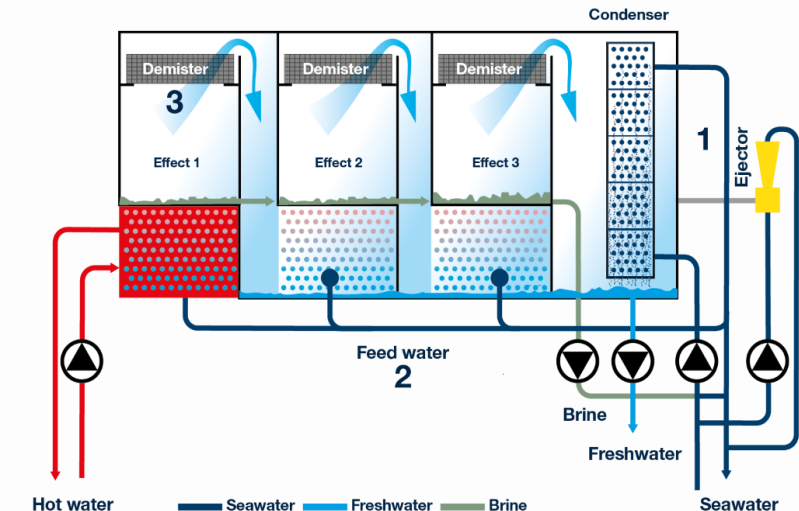
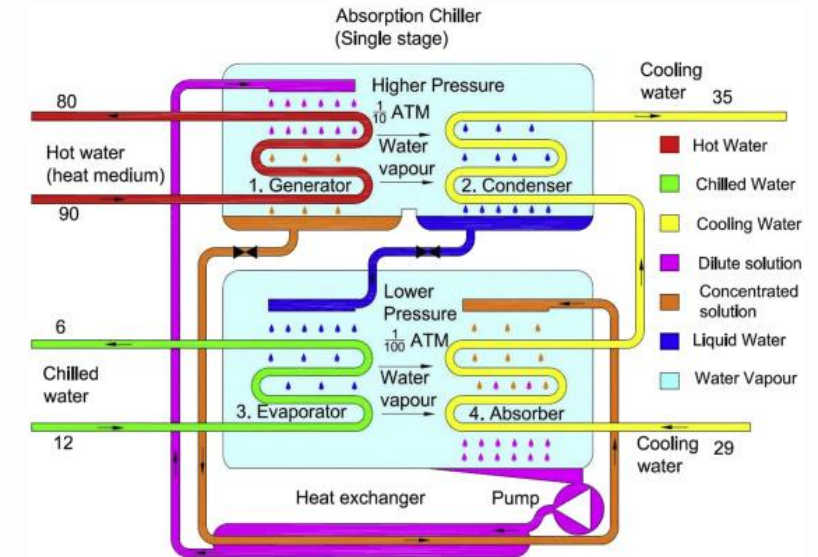
- Utilizes waste heat to achieve this

Evaporator produces fresh water from seawater

- Achieves this by evaporating the water using waste heat
- Resulting vapor is later condensed back to water

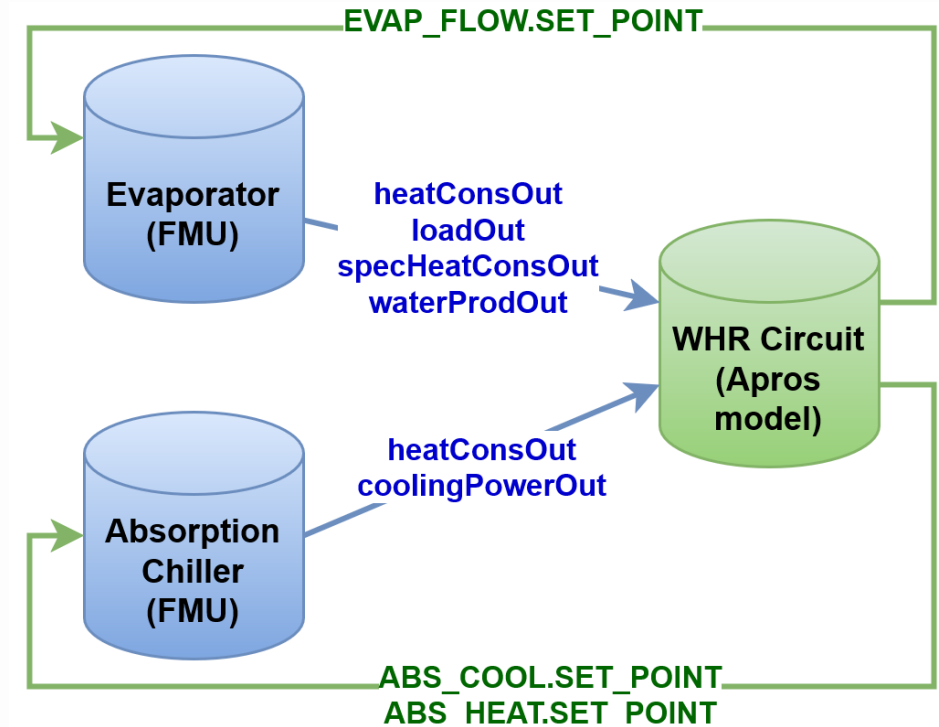
Absorption chiller and Evaporator FMUs were developed for this use case

- The FMUs take in certain equipment dimensioning parameters and inputs relating to the prevailing operating conditions
 - As outputs we get how many kW of waste heat they require from the WHR system
 - This value is then fed to the Apros WHR model as boundary condition



Simantics SSP Studio

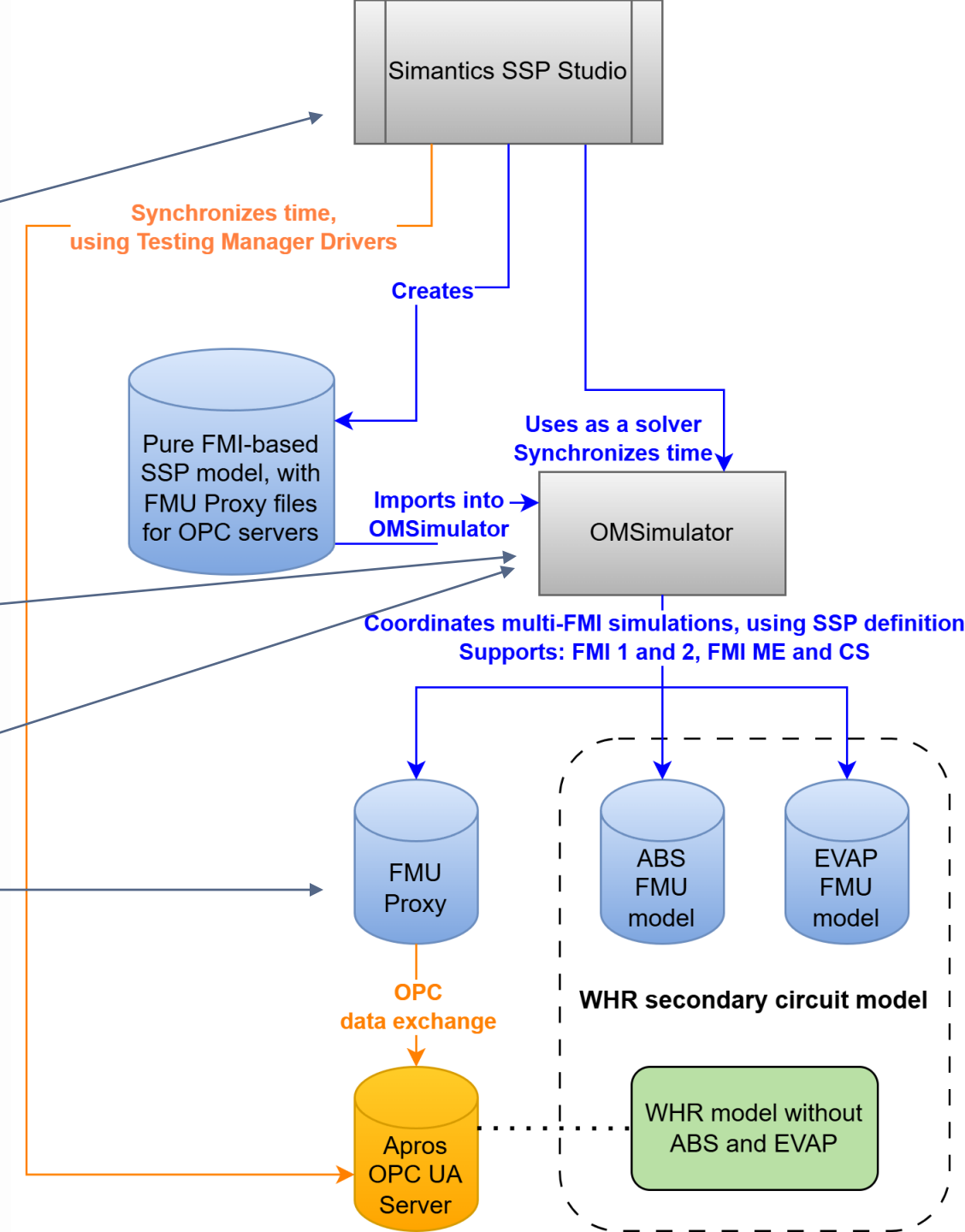
- A co-simulation environment that allows connecting virtual system modules that implement FMI (Functional Mock-up Interface) and OPC UA interfaces.
 - SSP Standard is used to define how individual models are connected to form the whole system
- THE WHR demonstration:
 - WHR circuit in Apros (OPC UA Server)
 - Evaporator (FMU)
 - Absorption Chiller (FMU)



WHR Case: Architecture

- “Simantics SSP Studio” is capable of co-simulating FMU models and OPC UA Servers together

- Underlying mathematical solver is “OMSimulator”, an open modelica open-source project
- OMSimulator’s solver handles pure FMI systems
 - Simantics SSP Studio contains an FMU proxy implementation that handles FMI<->OPC UA communication



Demo video

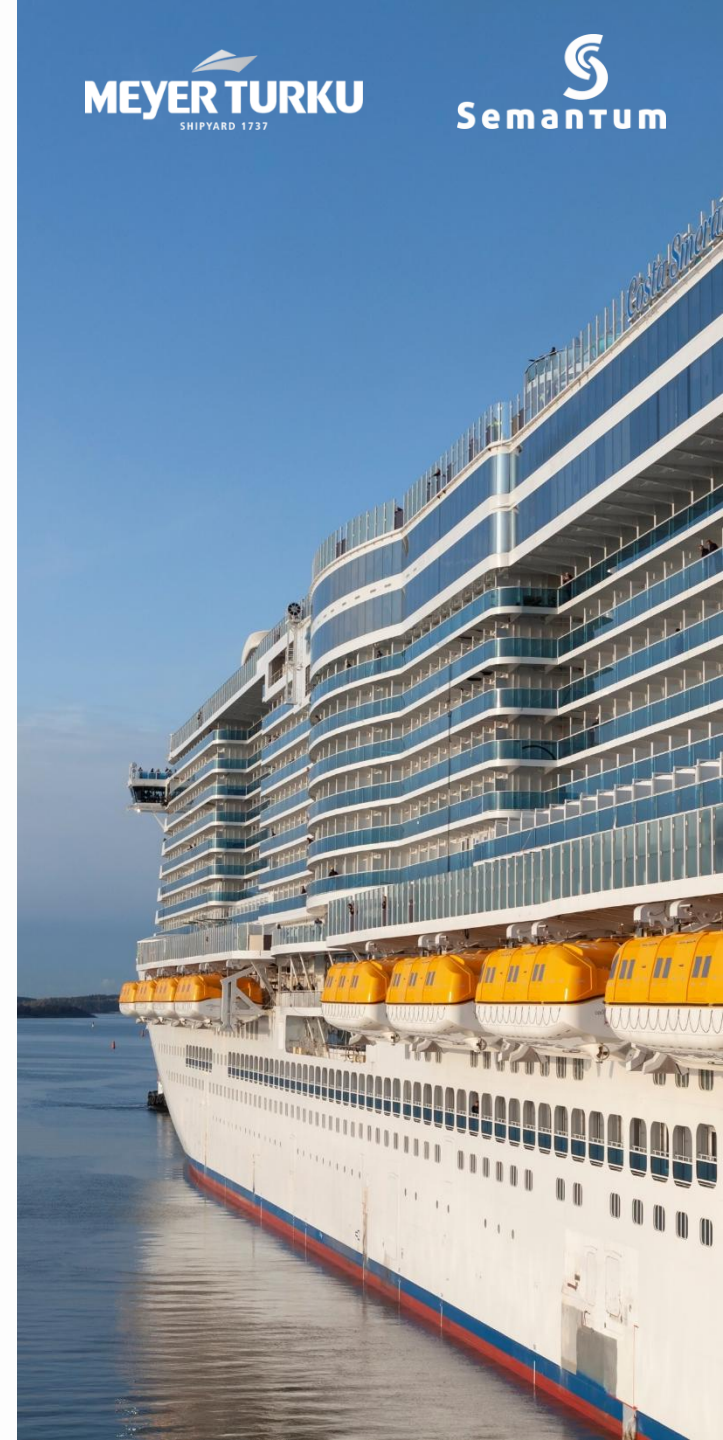




Concluussions

Conclusions

- FMI enables co-simulation of heterogeneous systems in a modular manner
- OPC UA is important for this use case
 - Control systems, SCADA and ERP systems are an important source of information for simulation studies
 - Data from these systems is usually available as OPC UA servers
- Interaction of FMUs with OPC UA modules is important
- Rigorousness of SSP enables scalability and repeatability of these type of implementations
 - Simantics SSP Studio and similar tools help reducing implementation time and work
- Modular simulations is highly important for simulation-aided testing





Thank you!

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