

Technology & Society Lab
Lab day 29th August 2013

Introduction:

The Role of computational models in MFA

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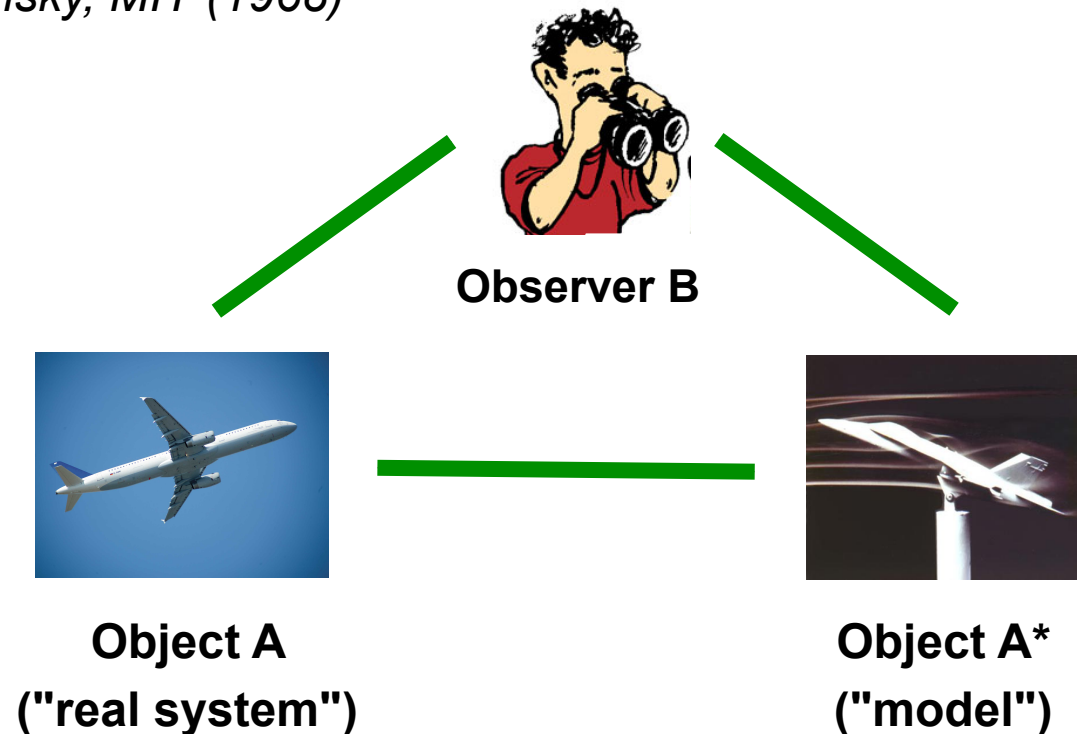
Status and innovative developments in Material Flow Assessment (MFA) methodologies

- Esther Müller
Modeling metal stocks and flows - a review of dynamic material flow analysis methods
 - Klaus Bornhöft
Material flow modeling for environmental exposure assessment – a critical review of four approaches
 - Fabiano Piccinno
A decision support method to find sustainable applications of new materials – the case of cellulose nanofibre reinforced composites
 - Sun Tianyin
Comprehensive modeling of environmental emissions of engineered nanomaterial
-

What is a model?

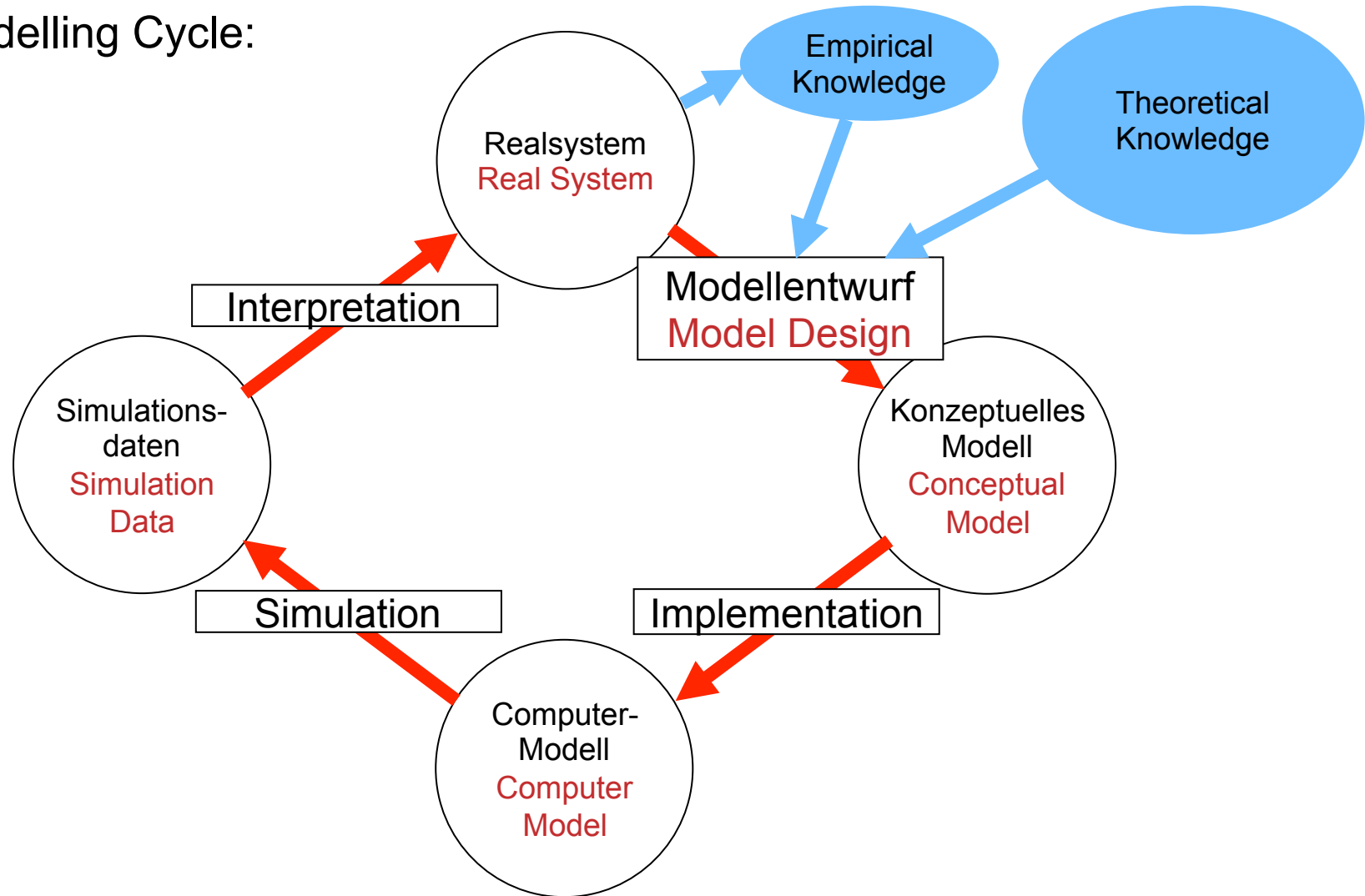
"To an observer B, an object A* is a model of an object A to the extent that B can use A* to answer questions that interest him about A."

Marvin Minsky, MIT (1968)



How are computational models built?

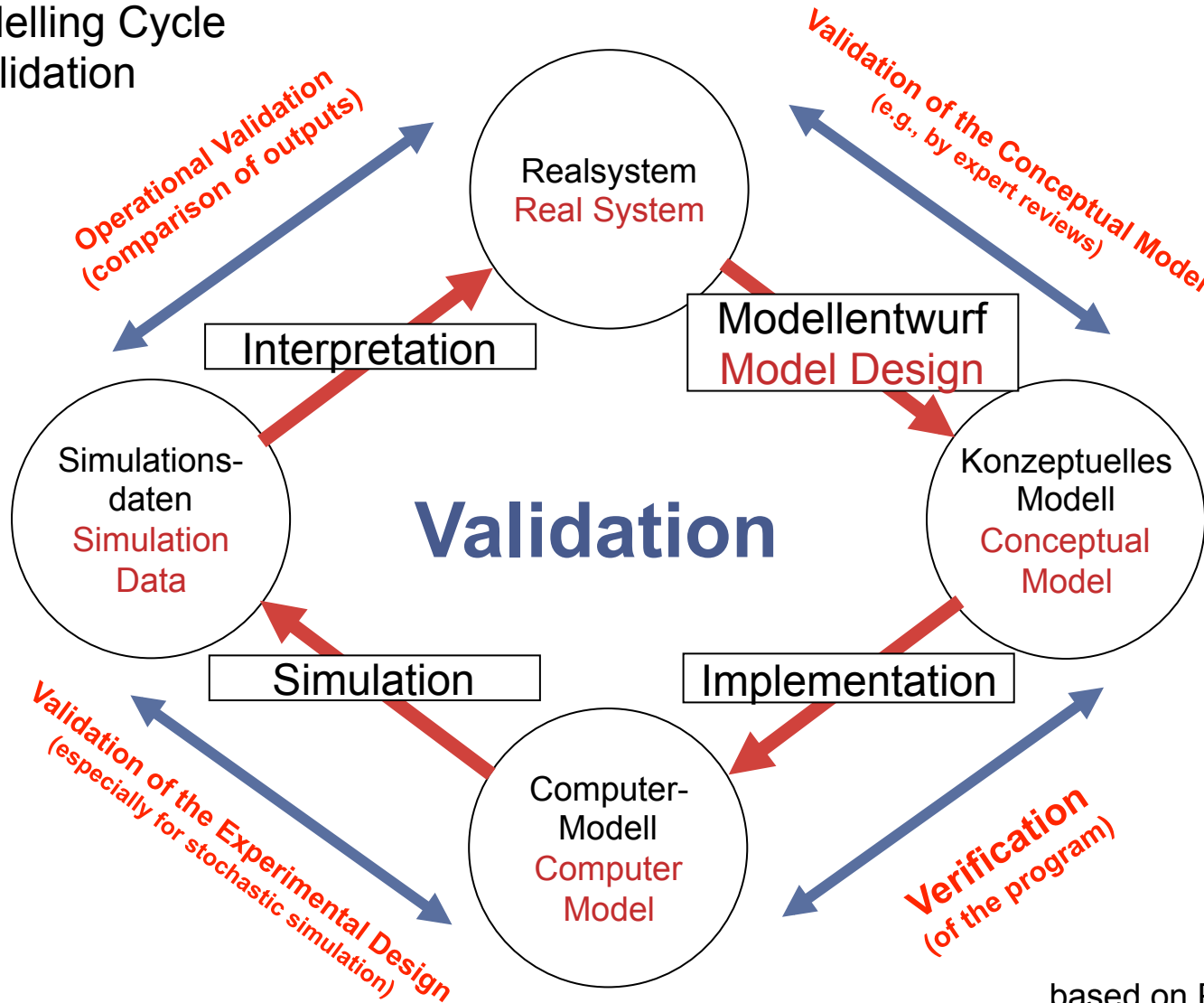
The Modelling Cycle:



based on Page (1991)

How are computational models validated?

The Modelling Cycle
is the Validation
Cycle!



based on Page (1991)

- Comparison of the "System Dynamics" and "Agent-Based Modelling" paradigms for modelling socio-economic transitions
(PhD project Mohammad Ahmadi Achachlouei, KTH/Empa)
 - An agent-based model of the Swiss wood market
NFP 66 "Resource Wood"
(PhD project Stefan Holm, UZH/WSL/Empa)
 - Submitted SNF project:
Material transition networks: A conceptual framework for the assessment of the accessibility of material resources
(Patrick Wäger, Xiaoyue Du, Rolf Widmer, Lorenz Hilty, Empa/UZH)
-

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Thank you for your attention



Prof. Dr. Lorenz Hilty

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