



# The CarOLO Project



TECHNISCHE UNIVERSITÄT  
CAROLO-WILHELMINA  
ZU BRAUNSCHWEIG

## Intelligent Simulations for Quality Assurance



Christian Berger



Stadt der Wissenschaft 2007



# Contents

- **Software & System Development Process**

*How will we achieve the goal of developing an autonomous vehicle?*

- **Design Decisions**

*What do we have to consider?*

- **Quality Assurance Activities**

*Are we still on the right way?*



# Contents

- **Software & System Development Process**

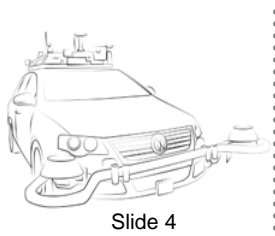
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# Software & System Development Process ▪ Design Decisions ▪ Quality Assurance Activities

- June 2006. *Hey, there's an interesting upcoming competition:  
Let's build an autonomous vehicle. ☺*

Traffic Scenarios

Agile Software Engineering

Requirements

Extreme Programming

Waterfall-Model

V-Model

Configuration-Management

Release-Management

But, how?

Iterative Development Cycles

Quality Assurance

Unit Tests

Real Vehicle Tests

Bug Tracking

Record Raw Data

Tight Schedule

Visualization

Fixed Deadlines



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# Software & System Development Process ▪ Design Decisions ▪ Quality Assurance Activities

## Important basic conditions:

- fixed and tight schedule by DARPA → **NO** re-negotiation
- collaboration of five institutes of the faculties for mechanical and electrical engineering as well as computer science
- vehicle is the bottleneck

## Important implications:

- planning backwards
- early integration of hardware and software modules
- early escalation of arising problems

➔ „Ensure the software is running in the lab before changing it on the vehicle!“

based on:

▪ Beck, K. et al., *Manifesto for Agile Software Development*, <http://www.agilemanifesto.org>, 2008-04-03.



# Software & System Development Process ▪ Design Decisions ▪ Quality Assurance Activities

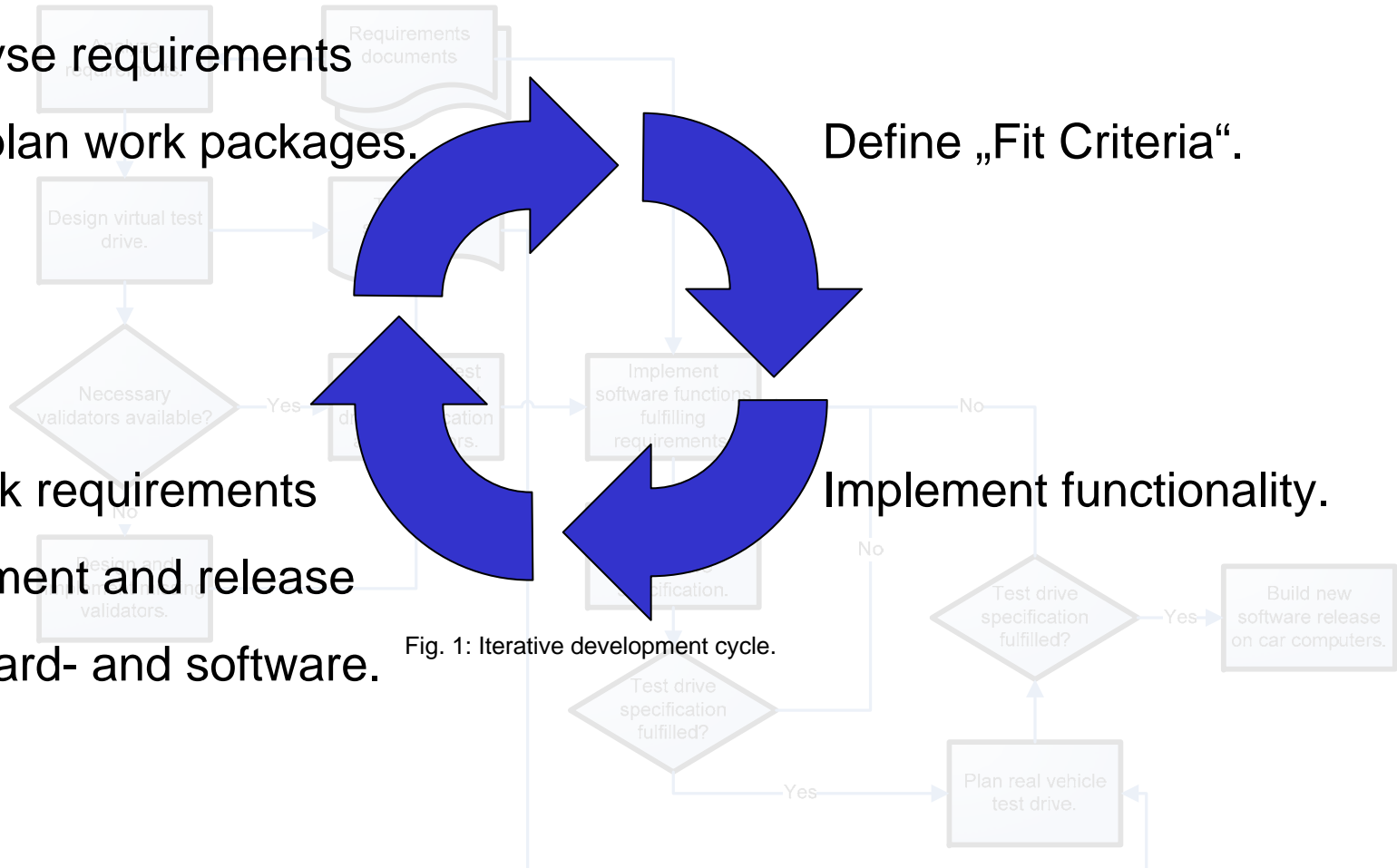
Main principles behind our iterative development cycle:

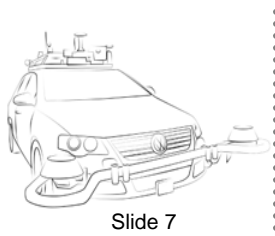
Analyse requirements  
and plan work packages.

Define „Fit Criteria“.

Check requirements  
fulfillment and release  
the hard- and software.

Fig. 1: Iterative development cycle.





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# Software & System Development Process ▪ Design Decisions ▪ Quality Assurance Activities

## Engineering principles – used in hardware AND software:

- **DOs:**
  - *prefer simple and robust solutions*
  - *use standards where possible*
  - *modularize tasks and reuse parts*
  - *integrate continuously and release often*
  - *document your changes for traceability*
- **DON'Ts:**
  - *reinvent the wheel*
  - *„Premature optimization is the root of all evil.“*



Fig. 2: Caroline's trunk.

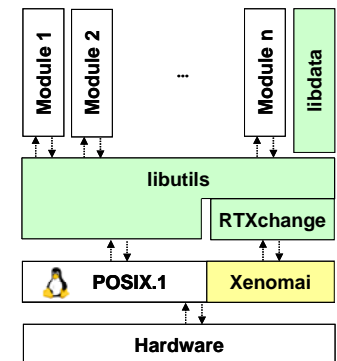


Fig. 3: Caroline's layered software architecture.

based on:

- Broy, M., *Automotive Software and Systems Engineering*, in: Proceedings of the 2nd ACM/IEEE International Conference on Formal Methods and Models for Co-Design, 2005.
- Gamma, E. et al., *Design Patterns. Elements of Reusable Object-Oriented Software.*, Addison-Wesley, 1995.
- Raymond, E., *The Art of UNIX Programming*, Addison-Wesley, 2004.
- Raymond, E., *The Cathedral and the Bazaar*, O'Reilly, 2001.





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# Software & System Development Process ▪ Design Decisions ▪ Quality Assurance Activities

## Main software architecture traits:

- lean middleware (threading, template module patterns, transparent communication using different media,...)
- concurrent thread-safe pipeline concept (parallelized producer/consumer)
- separation of concerns (layered modules for abstraction & encapsulation)
- composable code (stand-alone applications & linkable libraries)

based on:

- ISO/IEC 14882:1998.
- ISO/IEC 9945-1:1990.
- Buschmann, F. et al., *Pattern-oriented Software Architecture*, John Wiley & Sons, 2001.
- Dijkstra, E., *Selected writings on computing: A personal perspective*, Springer, 1982.
- Fowler, M., *Writing Software Patterns*, <http://www.martinfowler.com/articles/writingPatterns.html>, 2007-04-02.
- Hughes, C. and Hughes, T., *Parallel and Distributed Programming Using C++*, Addison-Wesley, 2003.
- Langer, A. and Kreft, K., *Standard C++ IOStreams and Locales.*, Addison-Wesley, 2005.

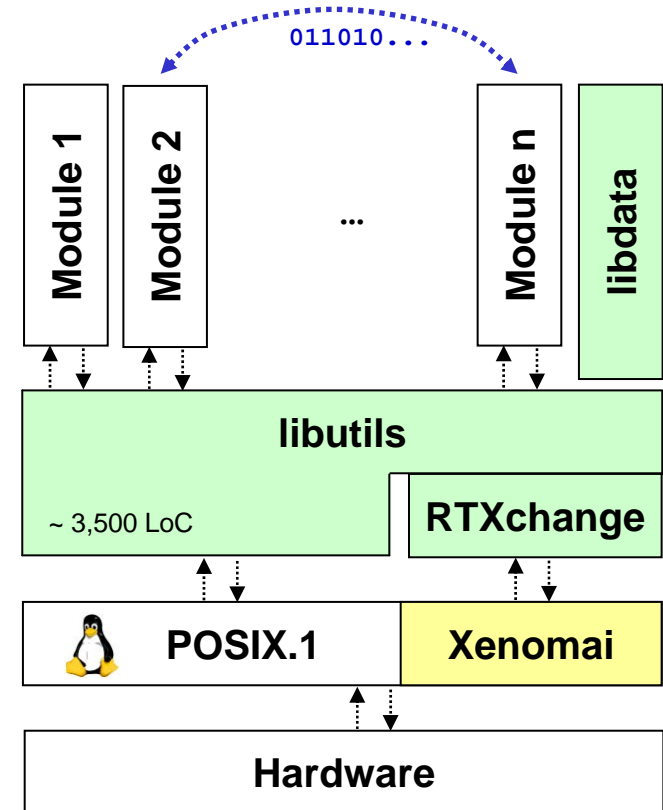
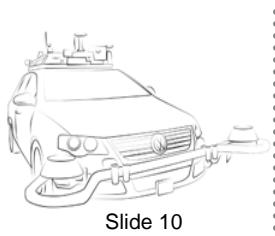


Fig. 4: Caroline's layered software architecture in detail.



# Contents

- **Software & System Development Process**

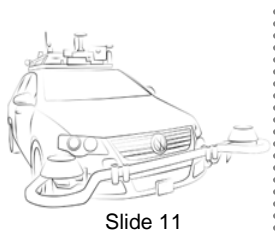
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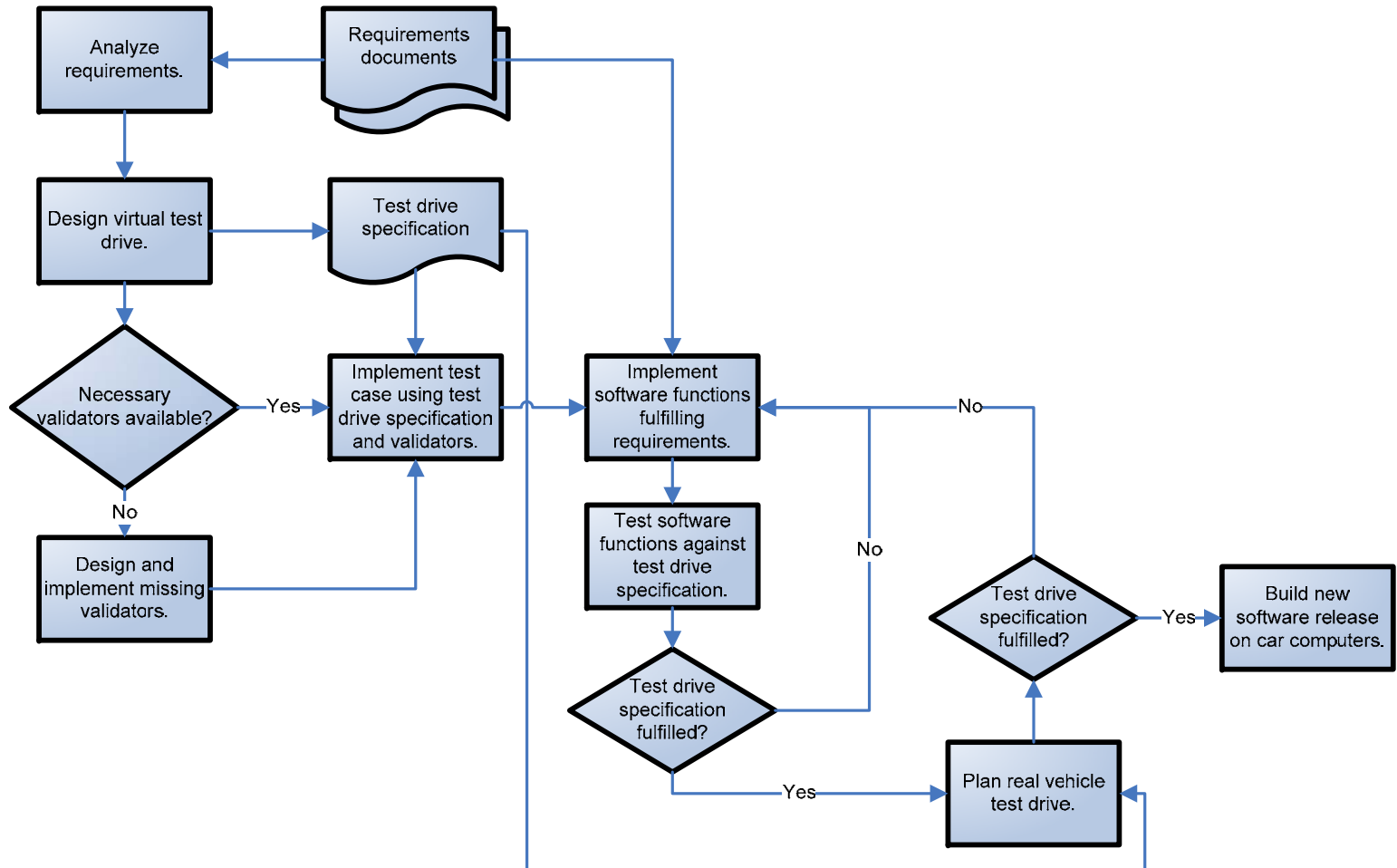


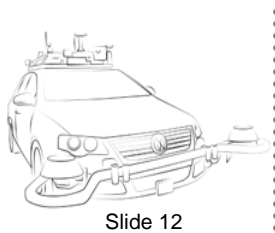
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# Software & System Development Process ▪

## Design Decisions ▪ Quality Assurance Activities

### Overview of an iterative development cycle:





# Software & System Development Process ▪ Design Decisions ▪ Quality Assurance Activities

## Setting up system simulation:

*Analyze requirements.*

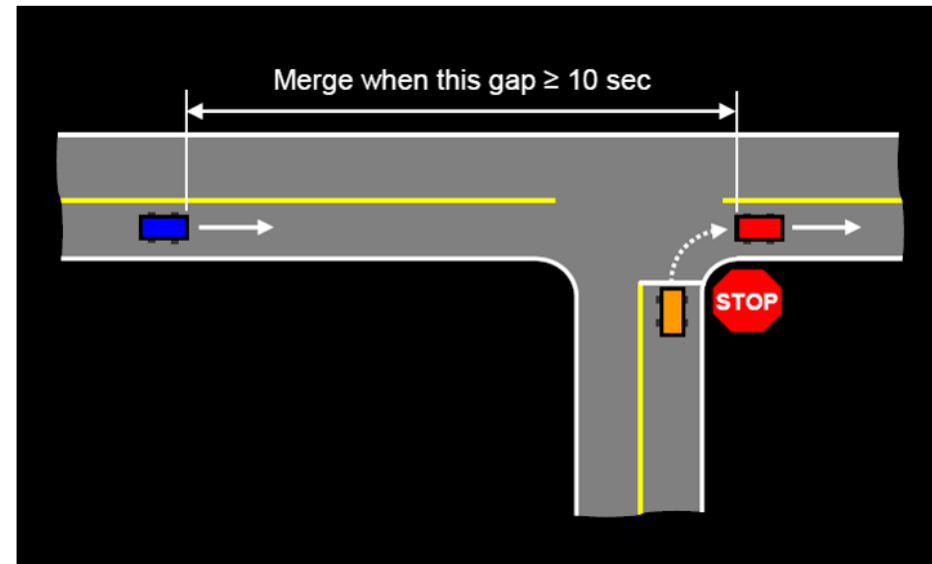
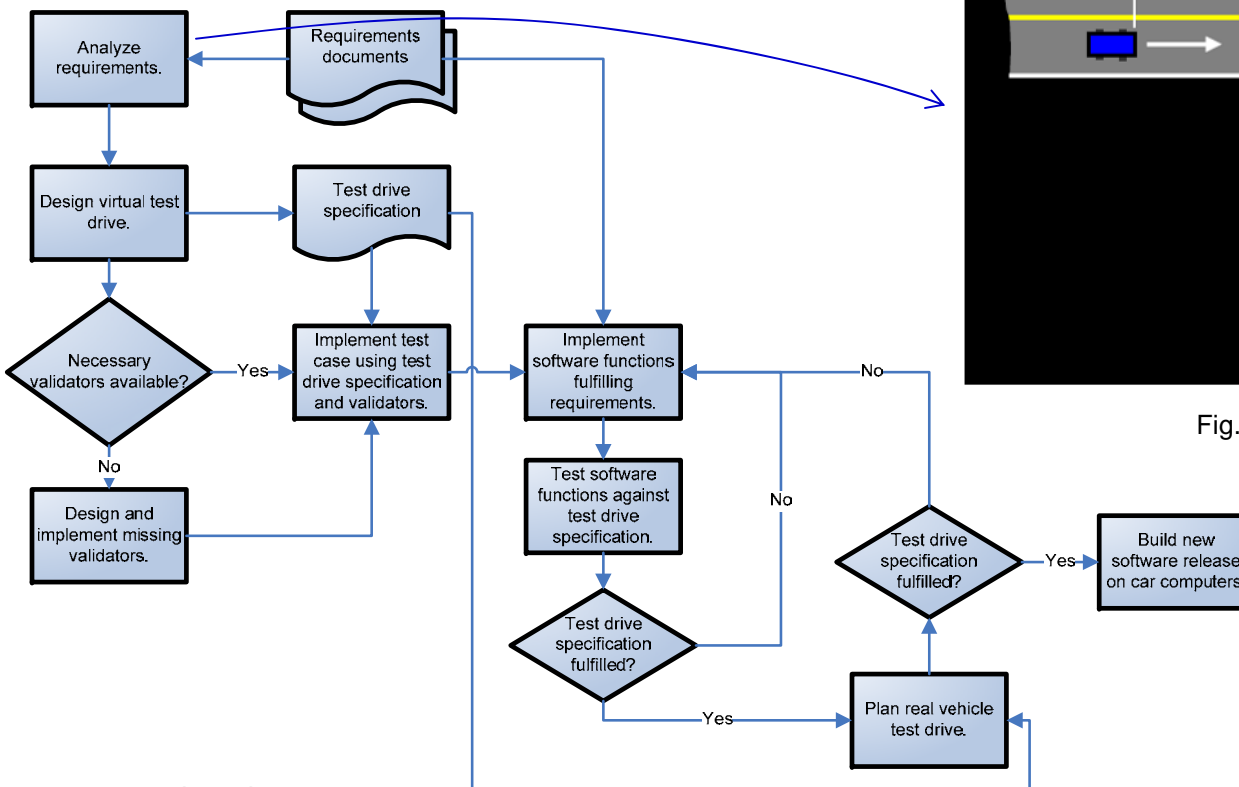


Fig. 5: Requirement set by DARPA.

based on:

▪ Basarke, C. et al., *Design and quality assurance of intelligent vehicle functions in the “virtual vehicle”*, in: Proceedings of the 11th Automotive Technology Conference, 2007.



# Software & System Development Process ▪ Design Decisions ▪ **Quality Assurance Activities**

Setting up system simulation:

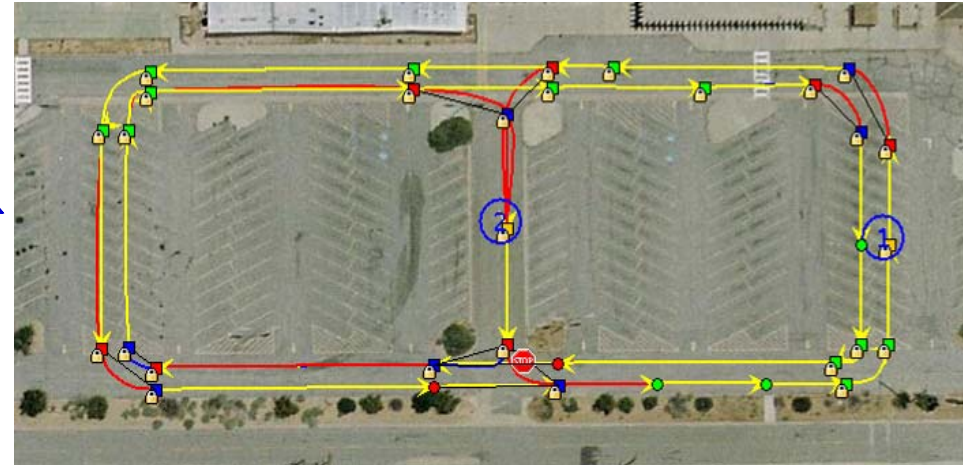
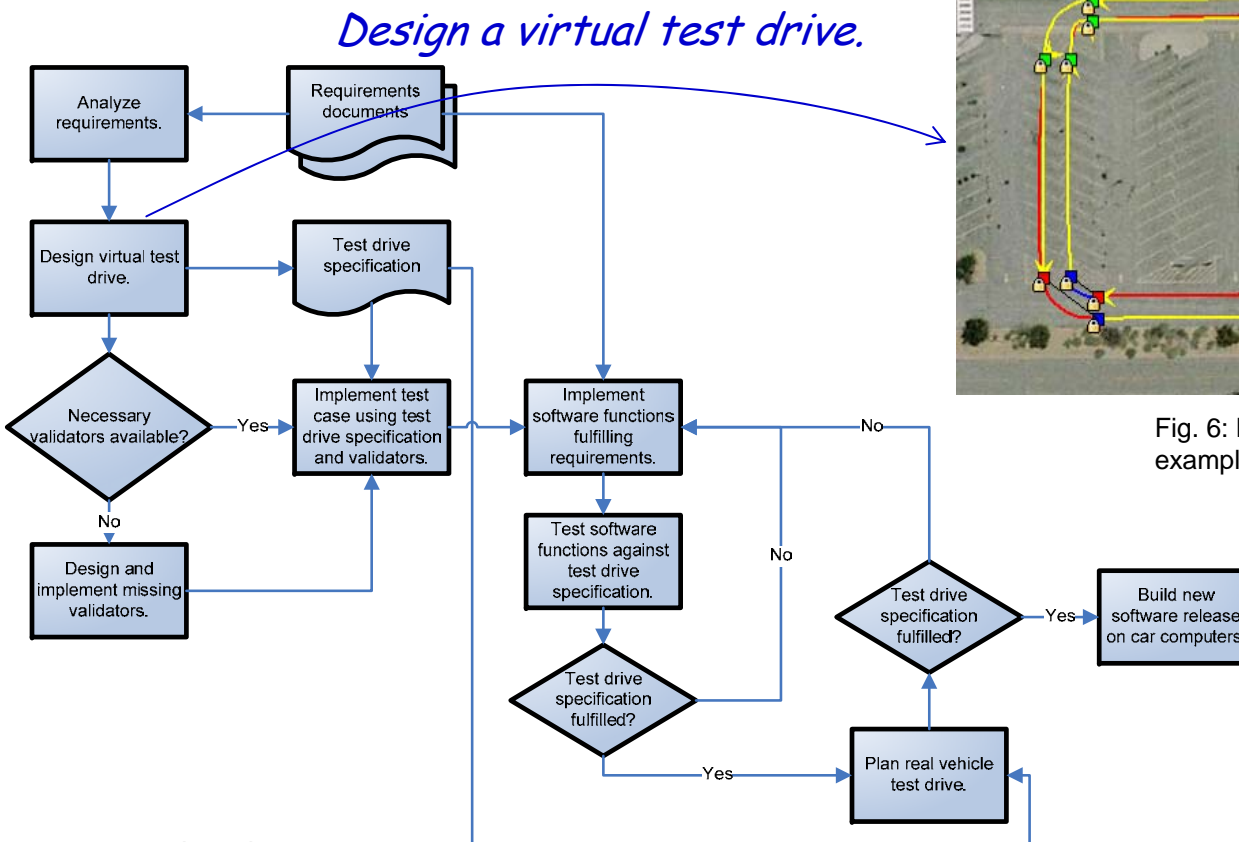
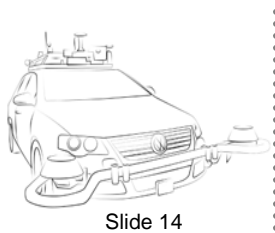


Fig. 6: Design virtual test drive (RNDF+MDFs). In this example: Test area A.

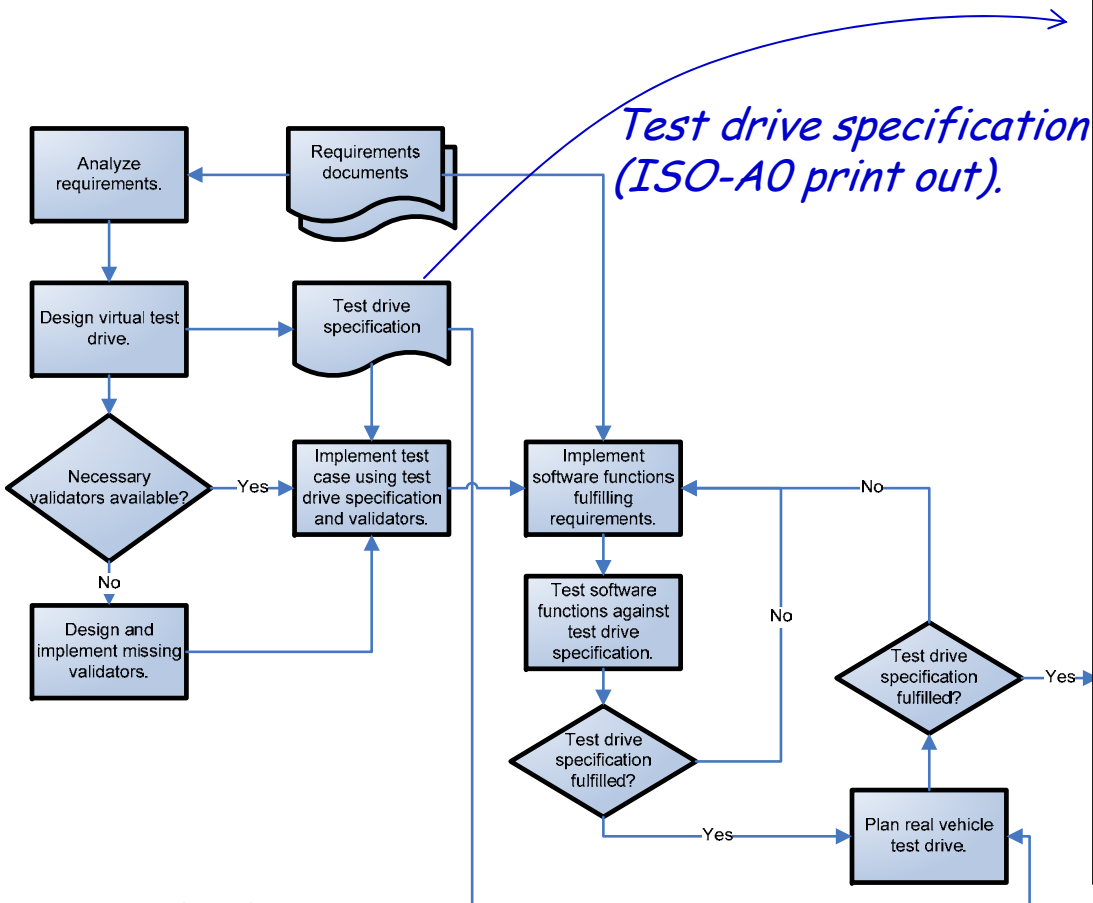
*based on:*

- Basarke, C. et al., *Design and quality assurance of intelligent vehicle functions in the “virtual vehicle”*, in: Proceedings of the 11th Automotive Technology Conference, 2007.



# Software & System Development Process ▪ Design Decisions ▪ Quality Assurance Activities

## Setting up system simulation:



based on:

▪ Basarke, C. et al., *Design and quality assurance of intelligent vehicle functions in the “virtual vehicle”*, in: Proceedings of the 11th Automotive Technology Conference, 2007.

**CarOLO – Übersicht StoryCards (MS13-SC01, MS13-SC02 und MS13-SC03)**

**Beschreibung:** Meilenstein 13

**Termin:** 13. März 2007

**Titel:** Kameragestützte Fahrt auf Rundkurs, sensorgestütztes Ausweichen und E-Stop

**Ort:** Campus Süd

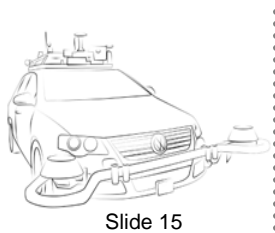
**Beschreibung:** Voraussetzung ist das Bestehen des vorigen Szenarios!

- Caroline fährt autonom mit einer Geschwindigkeit von 8 – 15 km/h kameragestützt in der äußeren Fahrspur den kompletten Rundkurs, ohne die Fahrspur zu verlassen.
- Caroline fährt autonom mit einer Geschwindigkeit von 08 – 15 km/h ohne Fahrspurenkennung nach RNDP auf ein Hindernis zu und weicht diesem aus.
- E-Stop funktioniert gemäß Anforderungen

Modul	#	MS	Beschreibung	Verantwortlich	Fr	Sa	So	Mo	Di	Mi	Do	Fr	Sa	So
Interf.	AK-1	8	Regler muss stabil mit. Benutz. fahren können.	Wille	5.3	10.3	11.3	12.3	13.3	14.3	15.3	16.3	17.3	18.3
	AK-2	8	Regler muss Kurven stabil abfahren können.	Wille										
	AK-3	8	Tragplattensteuerung funktionstüchtig.	Wille										
	AK-4	8	Falls keine Tragplatte vorhanden ist → Notbremung	Wille										
API	AP-1	8	alle Funktionen in der Applikation werden durch Scylla abgefragt. Die Messungen müssen abgefragt werden und Abweichungen ermittelt werden.	moegenroth										
	CV-1	8	Darstellung Rpfahrplan.	ipke										
	CV-2	8	Darstellung RNDP/Rundkurs.	ipke										
	CV-3	8	Darstellung Landeskarte.	ipke										
Digitalmap	DM-1	8	Einlesen, dass ein USB-Stick eingeschoben worden ist und Abfragen eines Verzeichnisses der Daten drauf.	rothluft										
	DM-2	8	Einlesen der Hindernisse in VUK.	rothluft										
	DM-3	13	Konstruktion der Map. Interpretation der Belegungskarte und Weitergabe von Fahrzeugpositionen (in Form von VUK) an die KI.	rothluft										
	E-Stop	5-1	Durchführung und Erläuterung E-Stop mit Video-Aufnahmen mit H&K am 08.03.	corssen										
Infrastruktur	E-2	8	Wireless E-Stop	corssen										
	I-1	8	Erstellen einer Liste, welcher Service auf welcher IP, Portnummer und Beschreibung läuft.	doering										
	I-2	8	Erstellen einer effizienten Backup- und Restore-Lösung.	doering										
	I-3	9	Erstellung Headspaters am Campus Süd (Tafel, Stühle, WLAN, Steckdosen, etc.)	doering										
IMU	IMU-1	8	Anbindung Odometrie.	rothluft										
	IMU-2	8	GPS-Zeit steht über NTP an allen Rechnern zur Verfügung.	rothluft										
	KI	42-1	RNDP Carplan Nord erstellen, wobei keine waypoints zwischen den Fahrzeugmarkierungen liegen.	homer										
	KI-2	8	RNDP für RNDP erstellen, um eine Route im Norden zu beginnen, anschließend gegen den Uhrzeigersinn um die Halle herumzufahren.	homer										
Q	KI-3	8	Landeskarte erstellen, um auf Landeskarte Objekte Daten gesteuert Tragplanen herauszugeben.	homer										
	KI-4	8	Mindestgeschwindigkeit einstellen, um nicht unter die Mindestgeschwindigkeit zu fallen.	homer										
	KI-5	8	Beim Beenden des Kurses soll Carline regular Anhalten.	homer										
	KI-6	8	Fahrerwechselplan erstellen.	homer										
Simulator	KI-7	13	Ausweichplan erstellen zum Ausweichen statischer Hindernisse.	homer										
	Q-1	8	Durchführung Fahrzeugtest am 08.03.07.	gaffke										
	Q-2	13	Durchführung Fahrzeugtest am 13.03.07.	gaffke										
	S-1	8	Die Broadcasts werden aktuell sequenziell, müssen aber parallel senden.	basarke										
Vision	S-2	8	TimeOutValidator.	basarke										
	S-3	8	ArrivalValidator.	basarke										
	S-4	8	StopValidator.	basarke										
	S-5	8	ChangeLaneValidator.	basarke										
V	S-6	8	FahrerwechselValidator.	basarke										
	S-7	8	ReichweitenValidator.	basarke										
	S-8	8	SpeedValidator.	basarke										
	S-9	8	CorrectLaneValidator (nicht halten).	basarke										
V	S-10	13	CorrectLaneValidator (nicht halten).	basarke										
	S-11	13	MaximalReichweitenValidator.	basarke										
	VI-1	8	Kalibrierung der zu verwendenden Kameras.	ipke										
	VI-2	8	Interkalibrierung der CarPis im Fahrzeug.	ipke										
V	VI-3	8	Parameterisierung des LandProcessors in die Kamera und örtlichen Gegebenheiten (Kontextinformationen).	ipke										
	VI-4	8	Belegung des LandeskarteObjekts mit den Daten des Algorithmus der Fahrspurenkennung.	ipke										
	VI-5	8	Kontinuierlicher Versand von LandeskarteObjekten an die KI und CarOLOIVA.	ipke										
	VI-6	8	Kontinuierlicher Versand von LandeskarteObjekten an die KI und CarOLOIVA.	ipke										

0 = Nicht angefragt, 1 = Konzipiert, 2 = Implementiert, 3 = Gütecheck im Testnetz, 4 = im Fahrzeug in Betrieb genommen, 5 = 100% erfolgreich im Fahrzeug getestet

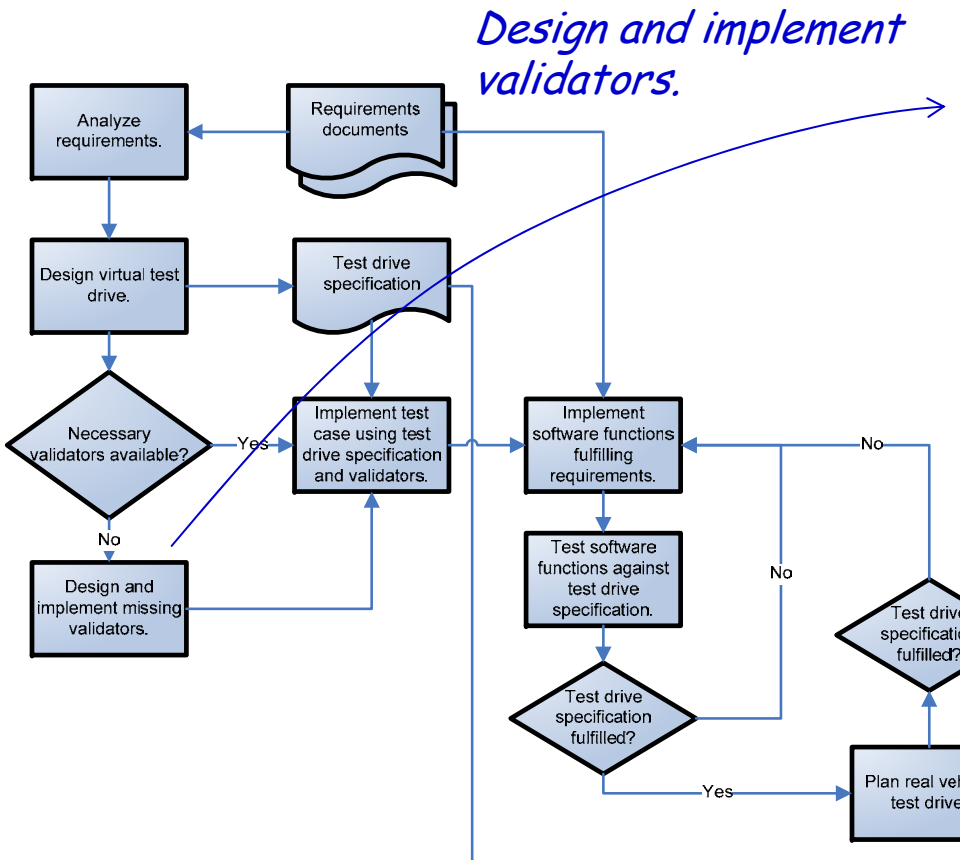
Fig. 7: ISO-A0 print out of test drive specification.



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# Software & System Development Process ▪ Design Decisions ▪ **Quality Assurance Activities**

## Setting up system simulation:



## What are validators?

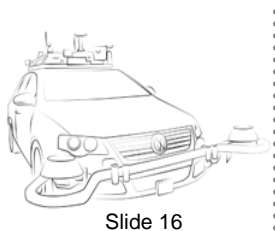
Imagine they are *virtual* DARPA referees:

- They check compliance with traffic rules.
- They measure distances to obstacles.
- They check timings.
- They evaluate using penalty points.

## What is the difference to an a priori defined optimal route the robot should follow?

based on:

▪ Basarke, C. et al., *Design and quality assurance of intelligent vehicle functions in the “virtual vehicle”*, in: Proceedings of the 11th Automotive Technology Conference, 2007.



# Software & System Development Process ▪ Design Decisions ▪ **Quality Assurance Activities**

## Setting up system simulation:

Imagine the following situation:

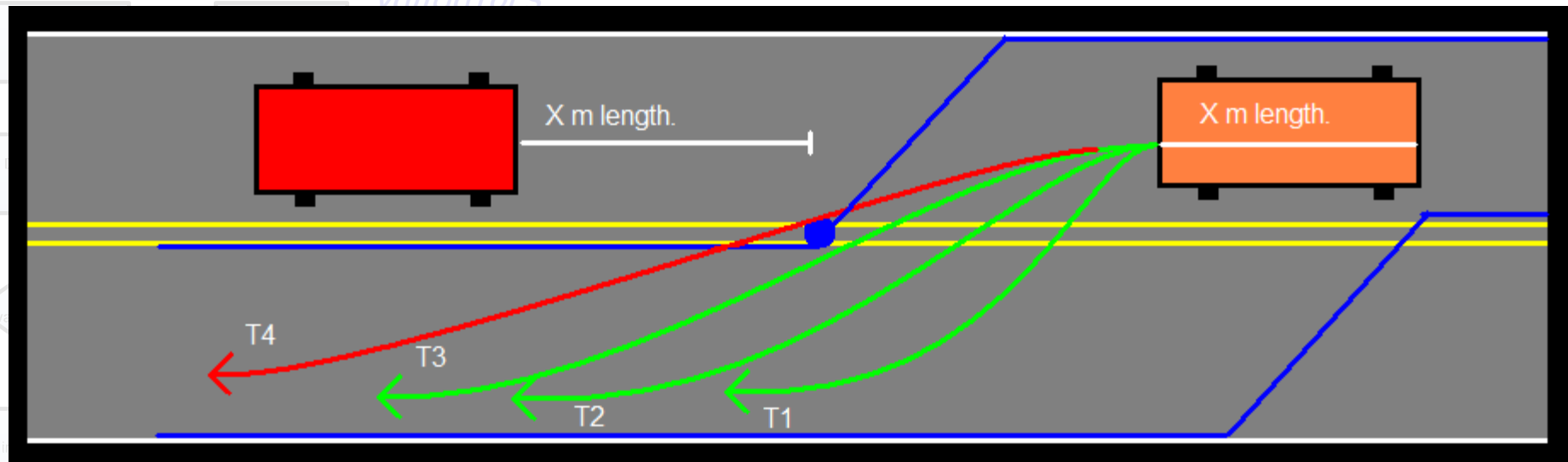


Fig. 8: Passing a stationary obstacle.

Even if T3 is the optimal route due to the smallest lateral forces, T1 and T2 are allowed as well. This example could alternatively be checked using thresholds (indicated by blue lines).

based on:

▪ Basarke, C. et al., *Design and quality assurance of intelligent vehicle functions in the “virtual vehicle”*, in: Proceedings of the 11th Automotive Technology Conference, 2007.





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# Software & System Development Process ▪ Design Decisions ▪ **Quality Assurance Activities**

## Setting up system simulation:

But, imagine another situation:

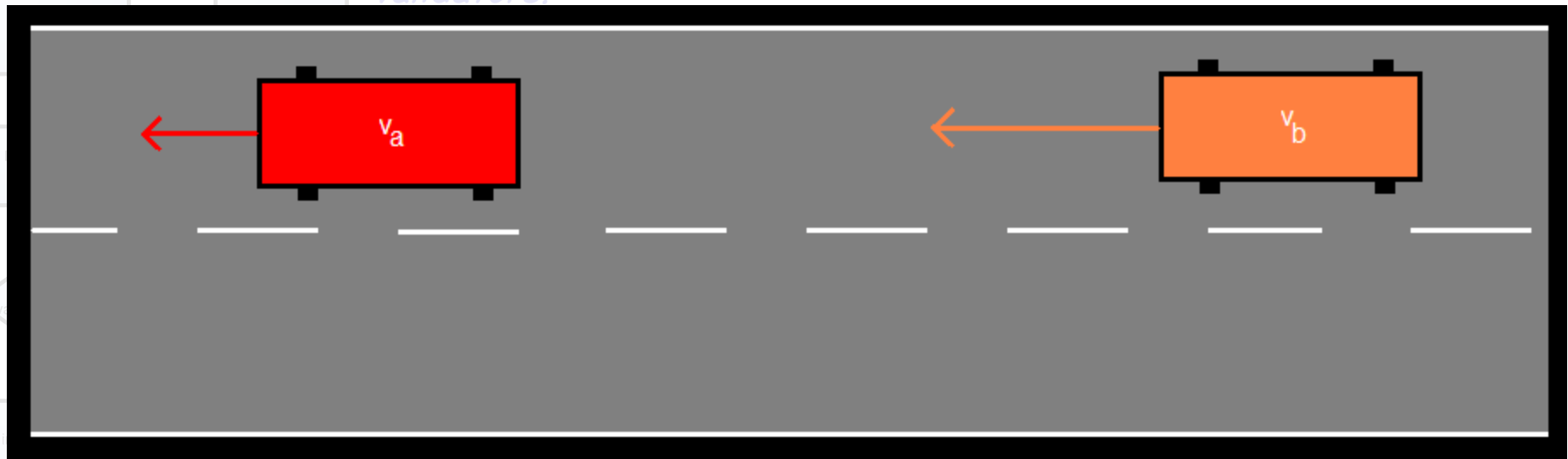
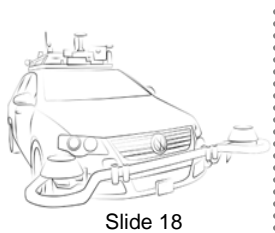


Fig. 9: Following or passing another vehicle.

In this example,  $v_a < v_b$ . Thus, the robot can either overtake the other vehicle, simply follow the car or choose a completely different route by dynamic re-planning. In this case, many solutions are suitable.

based on:

▪ Basarke, C. et al., *Design and quality assurance of intelligent vehicle functions in the “virtual vehicle”*, in: Proceedings of the 11th Automotive Technology Conference, 2007.



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# Software & System Development Process ▪ Design Decisions ▪ Quality Assurance Activities

## Setting up system simulation:

### Validators...

- can be used to check compliance with a given set of constraints  $\Gamma$  (timing, geometrical relations, logical constraints, ...).

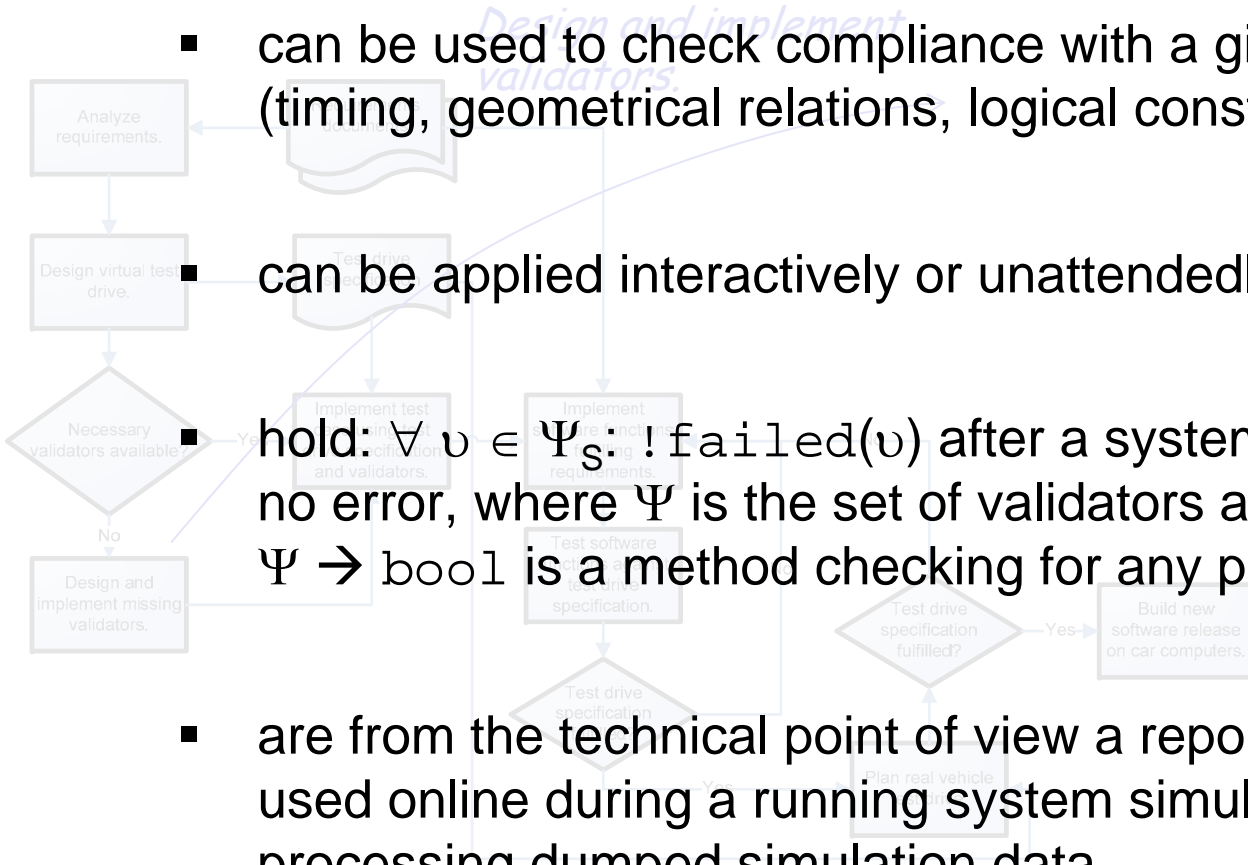
- can be applied interactively or unattendedly.

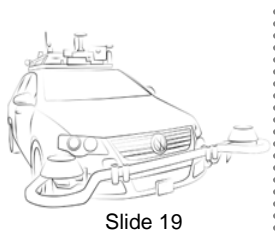
- hold:  $\forall v \in \Psi_S: !\text{failed}(v)$  after a system simulation  $S$  in case of no error, where  $\Psi$  is the set of validators applied to  $S$  and  $\text{failed}: \Psi \rightarrow \text{bool}$  is a method checking for any penalties for evaluation.

- are from the technical point of view a reporting interface that can be used online during a running system simulation or offline by post-processing dumped simulation data.

based on:

▪ Basarke, C. et al., *Design and quality assurance of intelligent vehicle functions in the “virtual vehicle”*, in: Proceedings of the 11th Automotive Technology Conference, 2007.





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# Software & System Development Process ▪ Design Decisions ▪ **Quality Assurance Activities**

## Setting up system simulation:

### „Intelligent Simulations“...

*Here is the intelligent part of the naïve simulation component.*

- need a kind of *intelligent* components. Imagine following scenario:

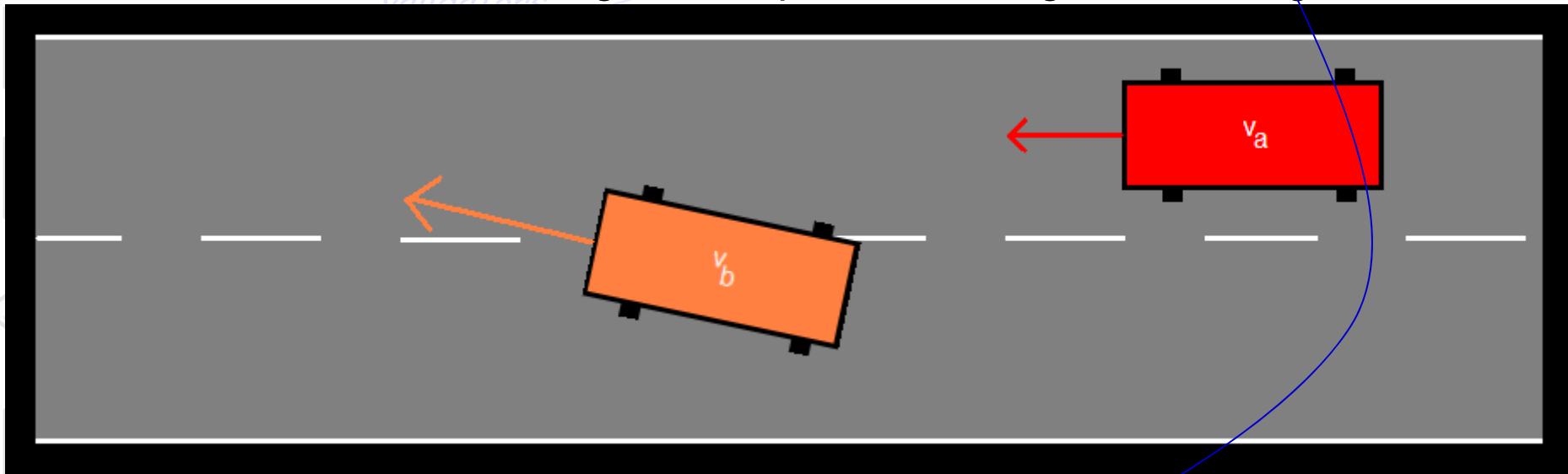


Fig. 10: Robot has passed dynamic vehicle A.

- Robot B has passed vehicle A. A should follow its own behavior rule set but must consider the behavior of robot B: It must not collide and must switch to follow-mode if necessary.

based on:

▪ Basarke, C. et al., *Design and quality assurance of intelligent vehicle functions in the “virtual vehicle”*, in: Proceedings of the 11th Automotive Technology Conference, 2007.

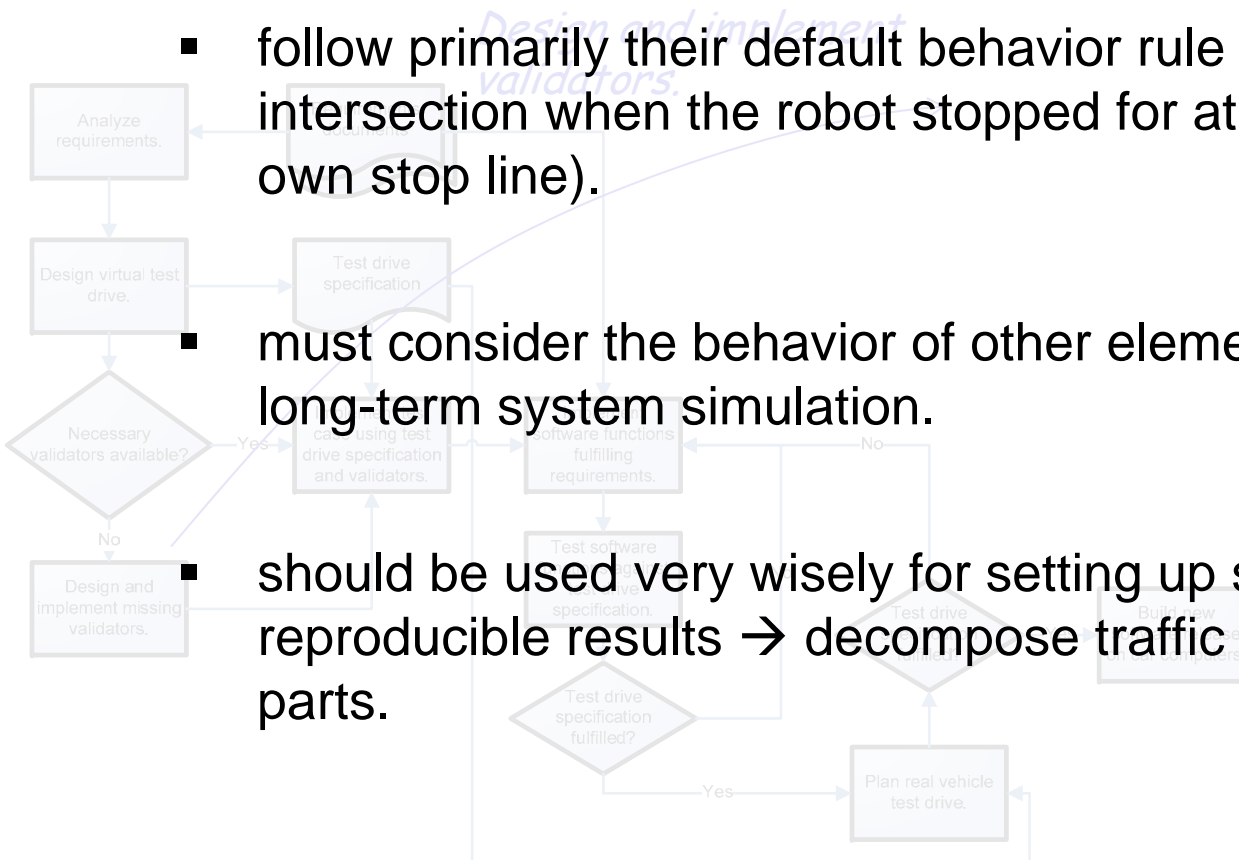


# Software & System Development Process ▪ Design Decisions ▪ **Quality Assurance Activities**

## Setting up system simulation:

### Intelligent components...

- follow primarily their default behavior rule set (e.g. arrive at intersection when the robot stopped for at least five seconds at its own stop line).
- must consider the behavior of other elements if they are part of a long-term system simulation.
- should be used very wisely for setting up system simulations with reproducible results → decompose traffic scenario into smaller parts.



based on:

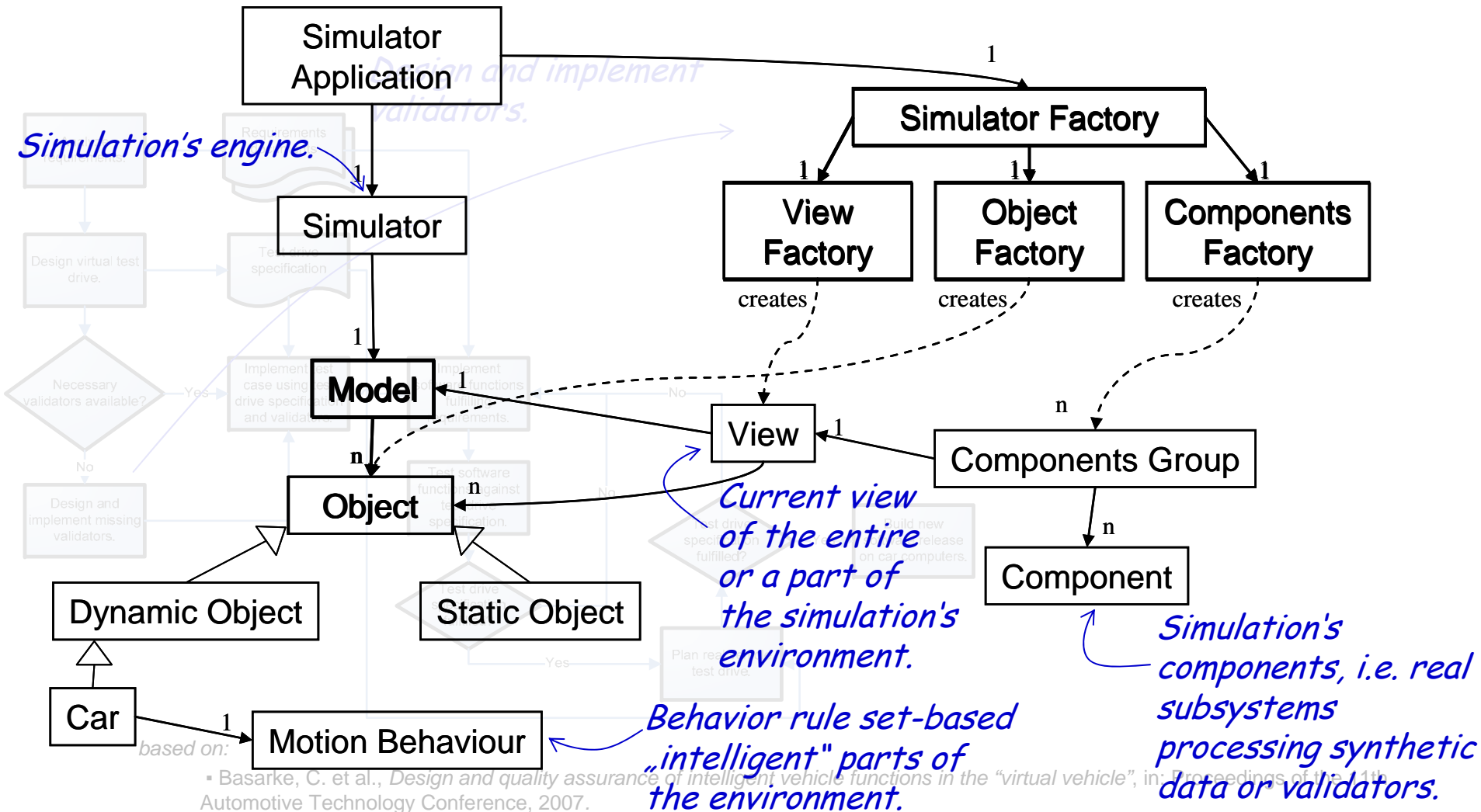
▪ Basarke, C. et al., *Design and quality assurance of intelligent vehicle functions in the “virtual vehicle”*, in: Proceedings of the 11th Automotive Technology Conference, 2007.



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# Software & System Development Process ▪ Design Decisions ▪ Quality Assurance Activities

## Components of a system simulation:



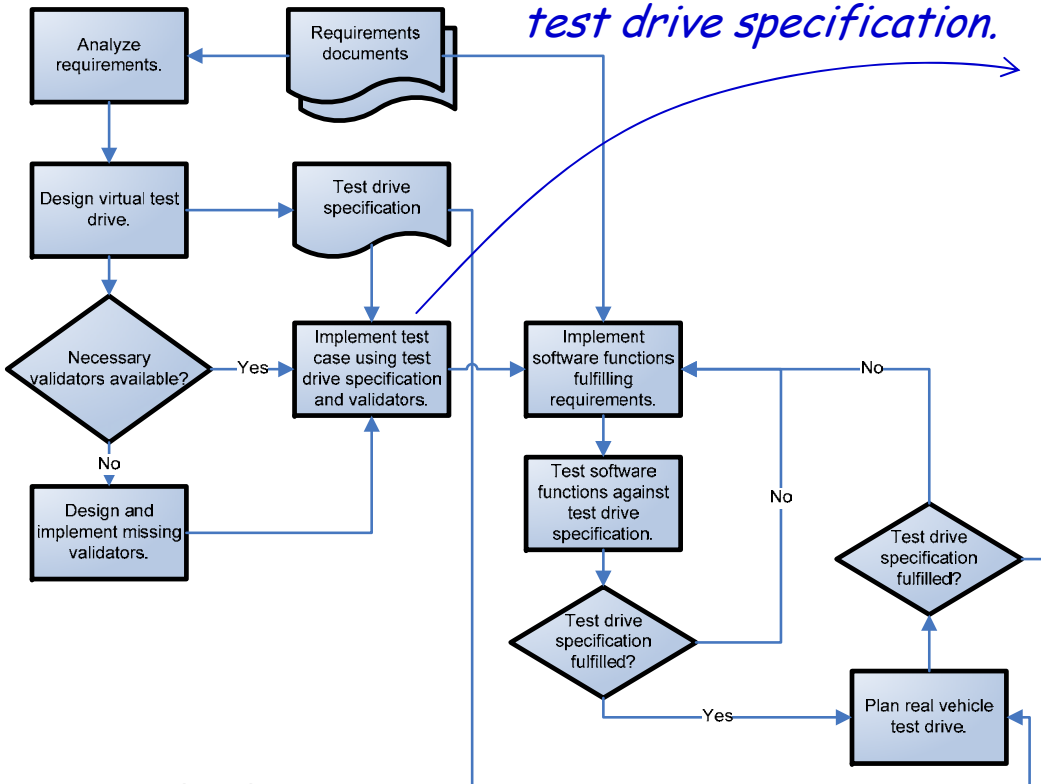


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# Software & System Development Process ▪ Design Decisions ▪ Quality Assurance Activities

## Setting up system simulation:

*Putting everything  
together: Executable  
test drive specification.*



based on:

▪ Basarke, C. et al., *Design and quality assurance of intelligent vehicles*, Automotive Technology Conference, 2007.

```

// Prepare "USB stick" for getting RNDF and MDF.
Acceptance_USBStickService *usbstick = new
    Acceptance_USBStickService(sRNDF.str(), sMDF.str(), 1);
TS_ASSERT(!usbstick->isRunning());

// Create AI service.
Acceptance_AIService *aiservice = new
    Acceptance_AIService(m_argc, m_argv);
TS_ASSERT(!aiservice->isRunning());

// Create Simulator service.
Acceptance_SimulatorService *simservice = new
    Acceptance_SimulatorService(m_argc, m_argv);
TS_ASSERT(!simservice->isRunning());
////////////////////////////////////
// Timeout validator.
Validator_TimeOut *valTimeOut = new Validator_TimeOut(2350);
valTimeOut->startService();
simservice->getSimulatorObjectValidatorObserver()
    ->addValidator("SimulatorView-0", valTimeOut);

// Checkpoint validator.
Validator_PassCheckpoint *valPassCheckpoint = new
    Validator_PassCheckpoint(sMDF.str(), sRNDF.str(), 2);
simservice->getSimulatorObjectValidatorObserver()
    ->addValidator("SimulatorView-0", valPassCheckpoint);

// Start simulation.
simservice->startService();
...
  
```

*Sort of requirements-  
and constraints-DSL.*

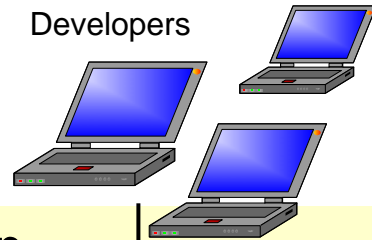


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# Software & System Development Process ▪ Design Decisions ▪ Quality Assurance Activities

## Setting up system simulation:

*Now, every developer can work independently and safely implementing the software function for the required traffic scenario.*



## System simulation

run interactively

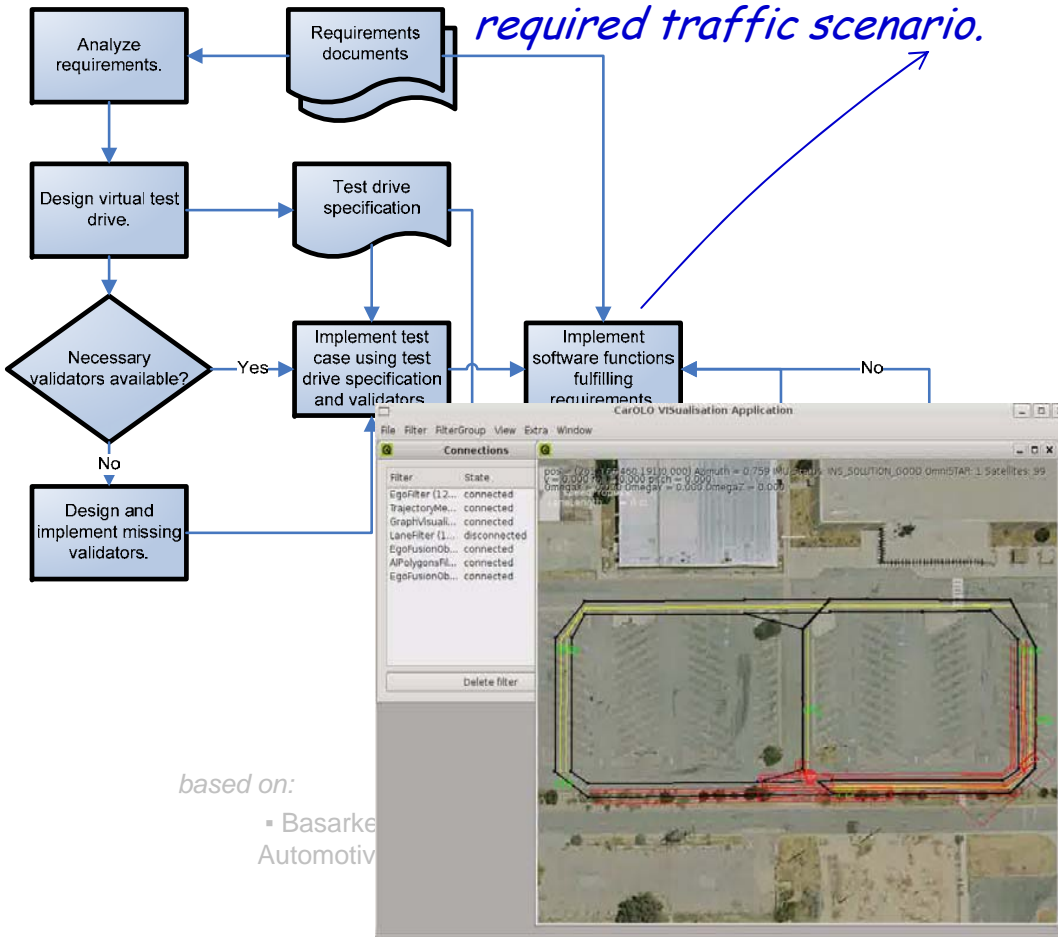
```

terminal
Datei Bearbeiten Ansicht Terminal Beiter Hilfe
berger@zelos:~$ cd CarOLO-old/CarOLO
berger@zelos:~/CarOLO-old/CarOLO$ nice -n 19 cook STVOIYSIC=1 acceptance
/* /home/berger/CarOLO-old/CarOLO/Howto.list */
Compiling
Revision: 9119
doing valgrind testrun
strip actorics deploy
Link Library libactorics.a
strip libactorics.a
strip nightvision deploy
Link Library libnightvision.a
strip libnightvision.a
Build simulator acceptanceTest.cxx
Link simulator acceptanceTest
  
```

sof  
on c

Visualization data (can be viewed by independent GUI application).

the functions in the “virtual vehicle”, in: Proceedings of the 11th



based on:

- Basarke  
Automotiv



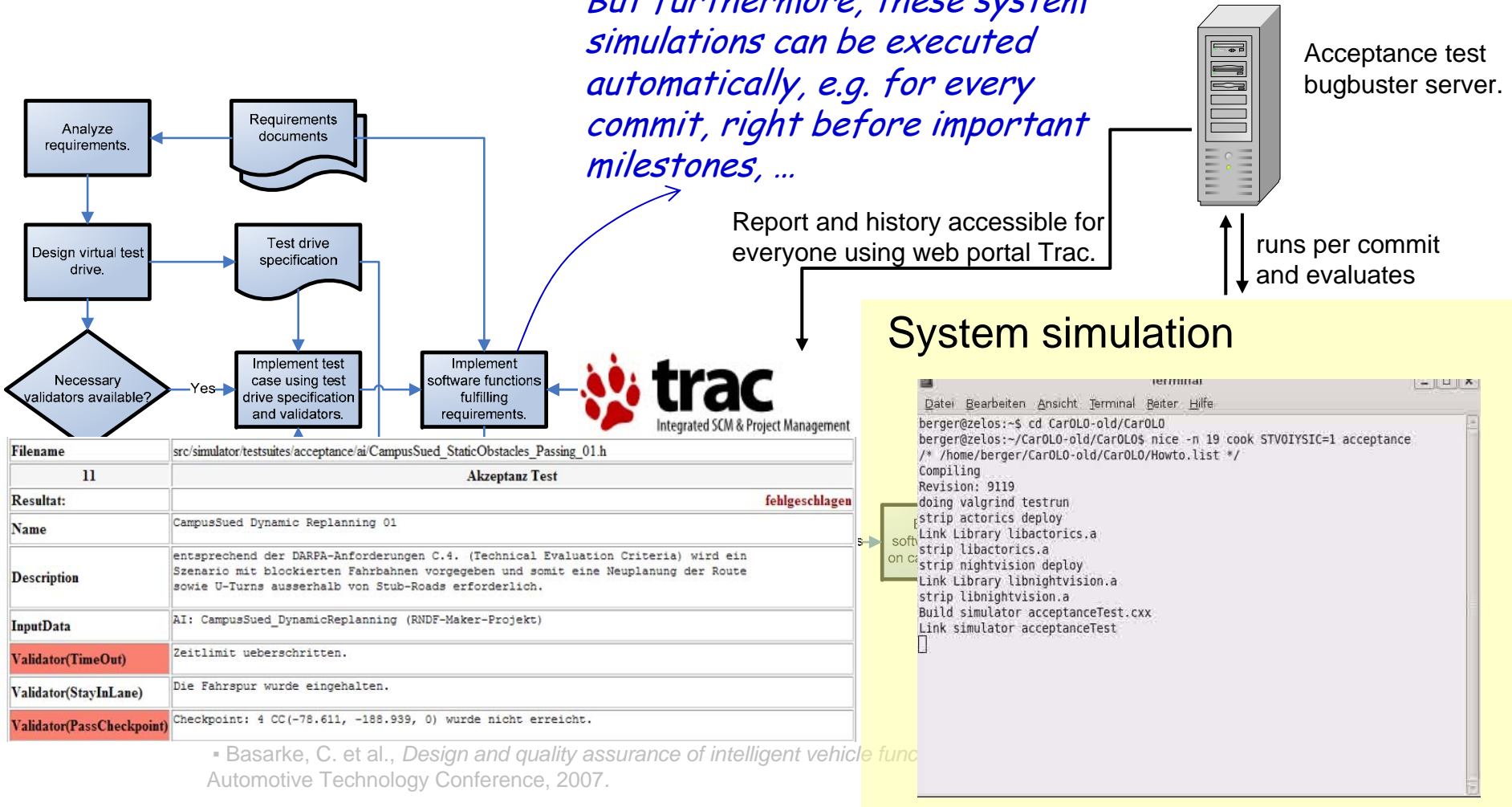


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# Software & System Development Process ▪ Design Decisions ▪ Quality Assurance Activities

## Setting up system simulation:

*But furthermore, these system simulations can be executed automatically, e.g. for every commit, right before important milestones, ...*





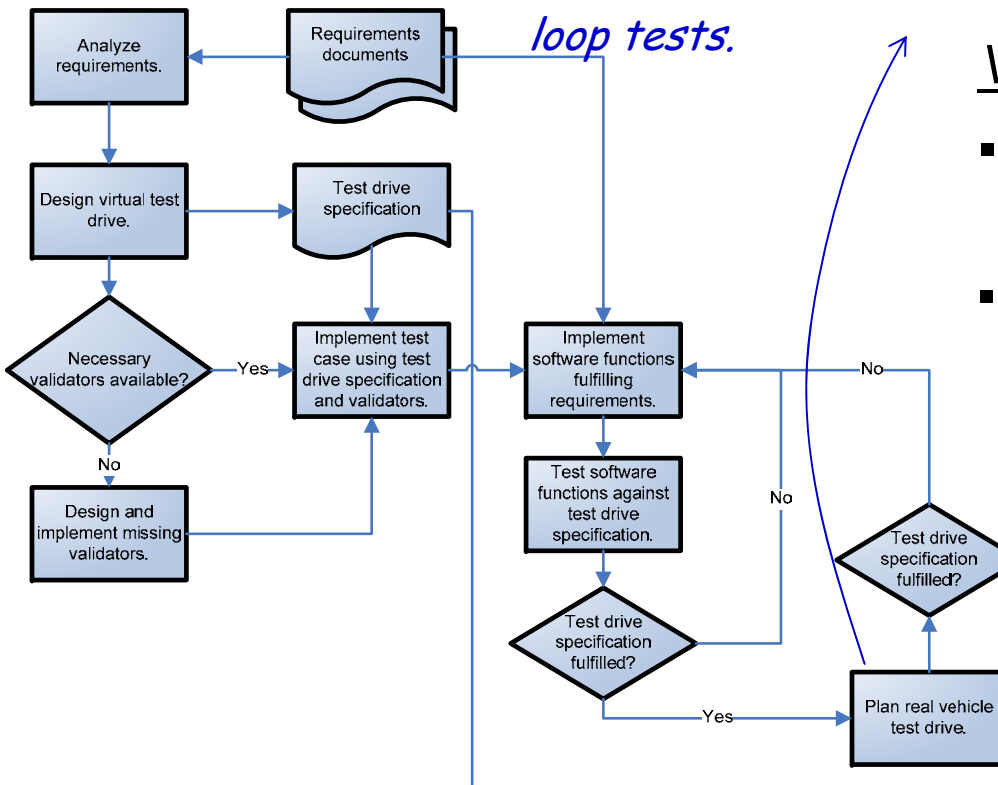


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# Software & System Development Process ▪ Design Decisions ▪ **Quality Assurance Activities**

## Setting up system simulation:

*Finally: Use system simulation with real-time data in vehicle-in-the-loop tests.*



Would be nice, but unfortunately not used in the DARPA Urban Challenge...

## Vehicle-in-the-loop:

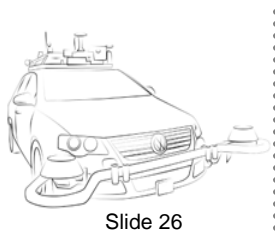
- Reuse validators for measuring distances to obstacles, ...
- Enrich real environment with virtual obstacles or vehicles for generating more complex traffic situations.



based on:

▪ Basarke, C. et al., *Design and quality assurance of intelligent vehicles*, Automotive Technology Conference, 2007.

Fig. 11: Caroline in test area A → real vehicle test drive.



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# Software & System Development Process ▪ Design Decisions ▪ Quality Assurance Activities

## Conclusion and outlook:

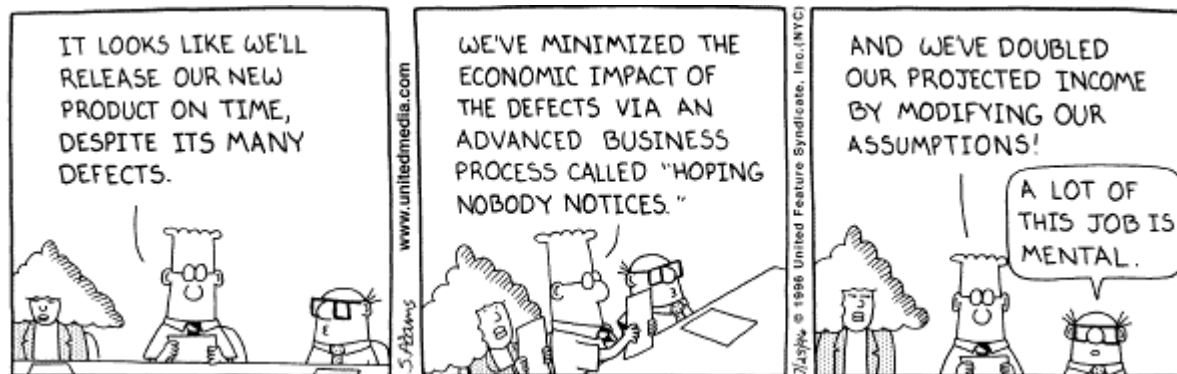
- Simple and robust solutions should be preferred – for processes, tools, hard- and software.
- For testing the quality of software, an extensible software architecture is mandatory for reusing software modules as stand-alone applications or as part of an integrated system simulation.
- „Intelligent Simulations“ are only one part of an integrated quality assurance process → real vehicle tests can not be substituted but complemented and improved.
- Further work should elaborate the requirements- and constraints-DSL besides design patterns for embedded system simulations.



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Questions?

Dilbert on software quality:





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