

Computer Graphics Course Wrap-Up

Philipp Slusallek

German Research Center for Artificial Intelligence (DFKI)
Saarland University, Computer Graphics Lab (UdS-CGL)

Saarland Informatics Campus
slusallek@dfki.de



Saarland Informatics Campus



SIC Saarland Informatics
Campus



UNIVERSITÄT
DES
SAARLANDES



CISPA
HELMHOLTZ CENTER FOR
INFORMATION SECURITY

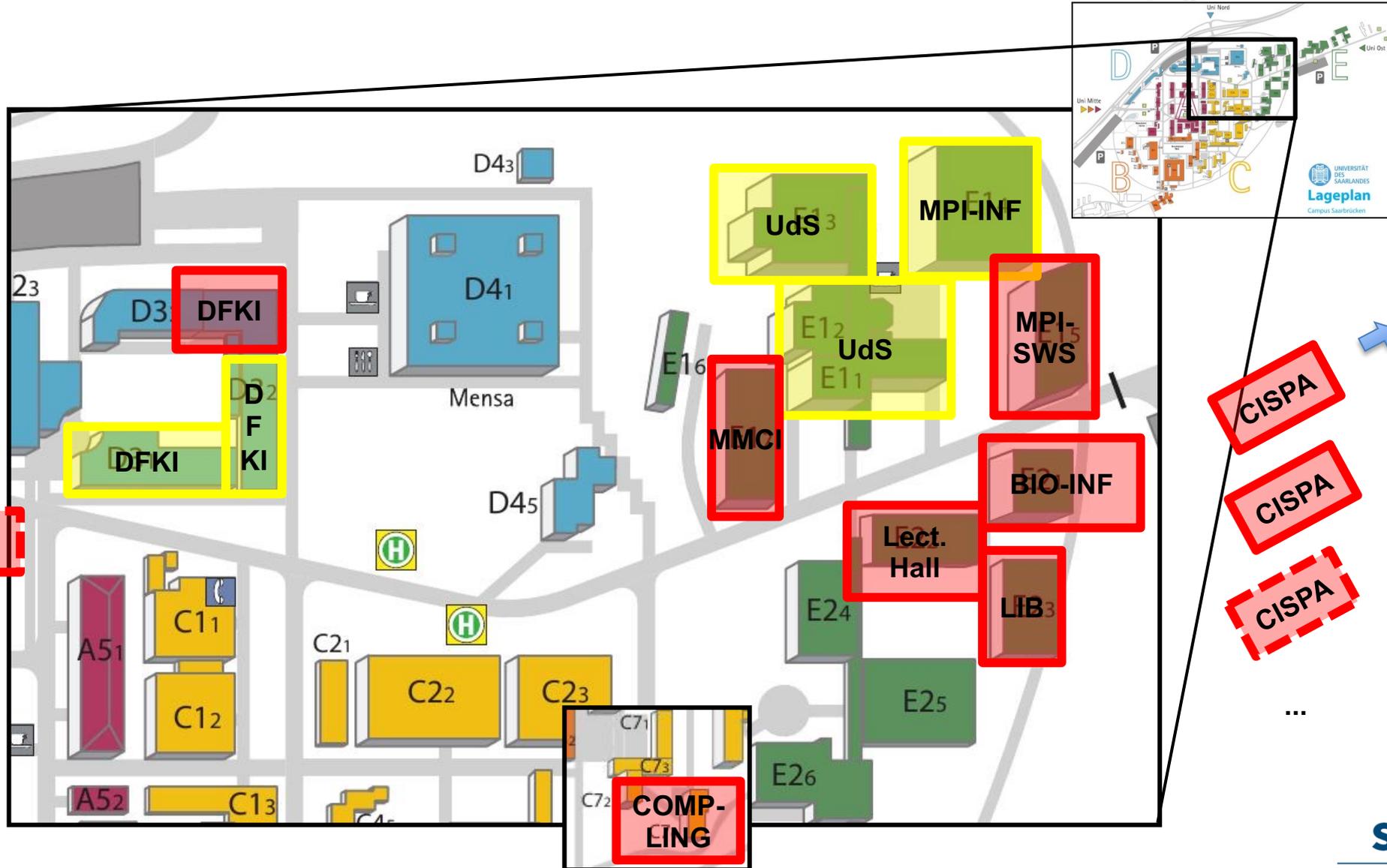


max planck institut
informatik



Max
Planck
Institute
for
Software Systems

Computer Science on the Saarland Campus





DFKI: An Overview

German Research Center for Artificial Intelligence (DFKI)



- **Overview**

- Largest independent AI research center worldwide (founded in 1988)
- Germany's leading research center for innovative software technologies
- Multiple sites across Germany
 - Saarbrücken, Kaiserslautern, Bremen, Osnabrück/Oldenburg
 - Labs in Berlin, Darmstadt; Offices in Lübeck, Trier
- 27 research areas, 9 competence centers, 8 demonstration centers (living labs)
- More than 1400 research staff & support
- Research funding: ~83 M€ (2022, LAV)
 - Almost 50% growth over three years: 76 M€ (+19%, 2021), 64 M€ (+12%, 2020), 57 M€ (2019)
- More than 100 spin-offs, more than 2500 new high-tech jobs

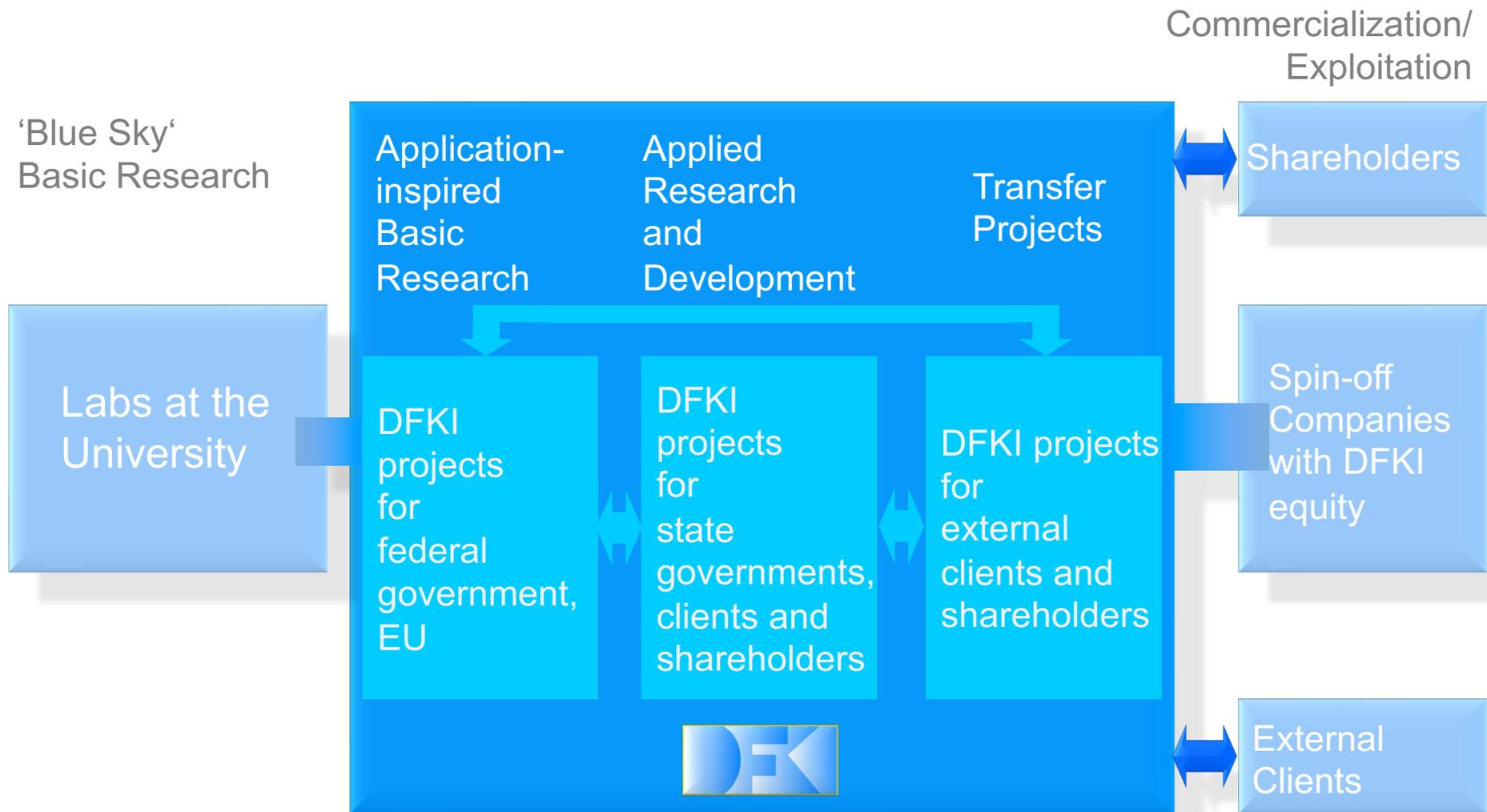


Germany Has a Head-Start

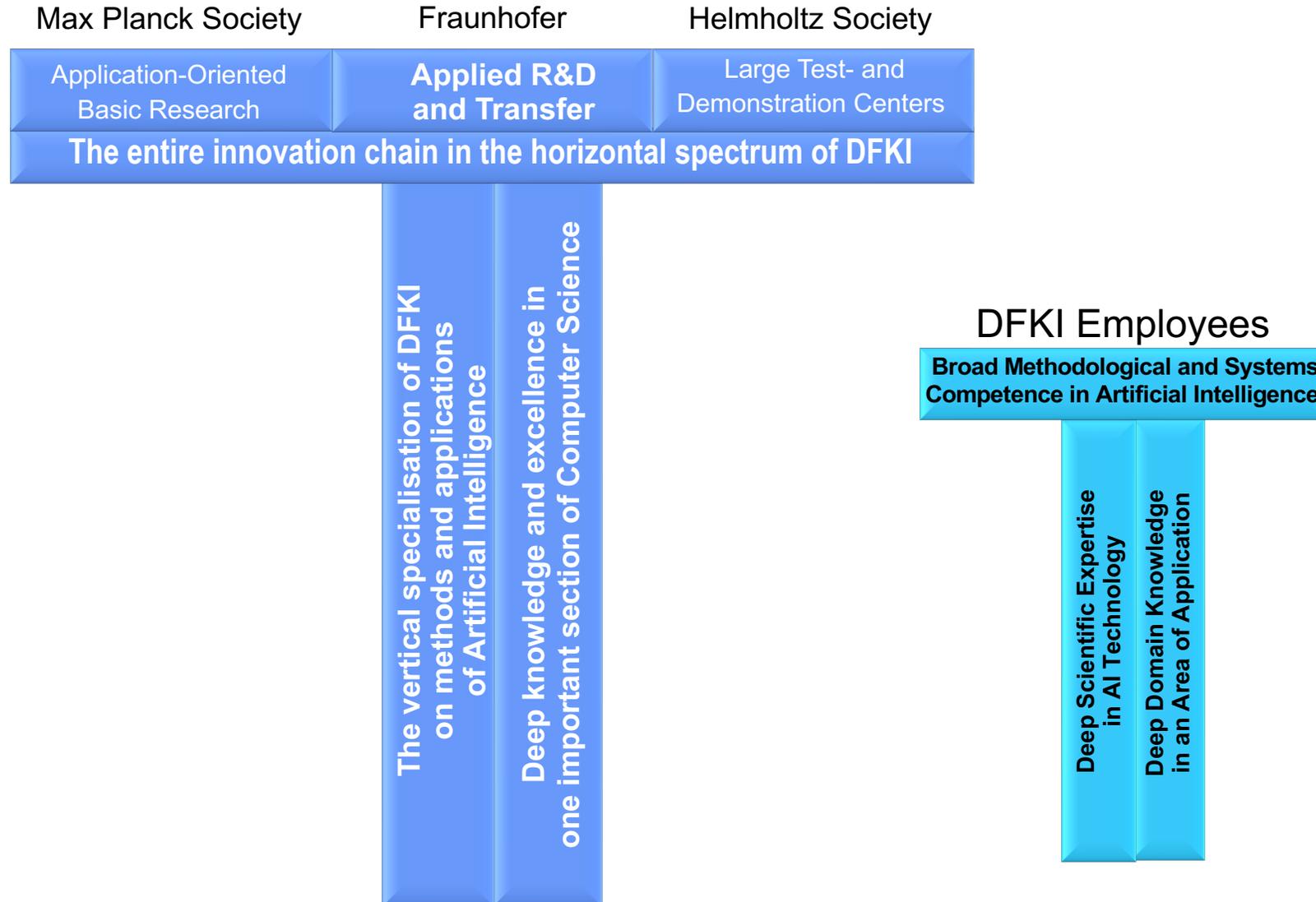
DFKI: The World's Largest Center for Research & Application in AI



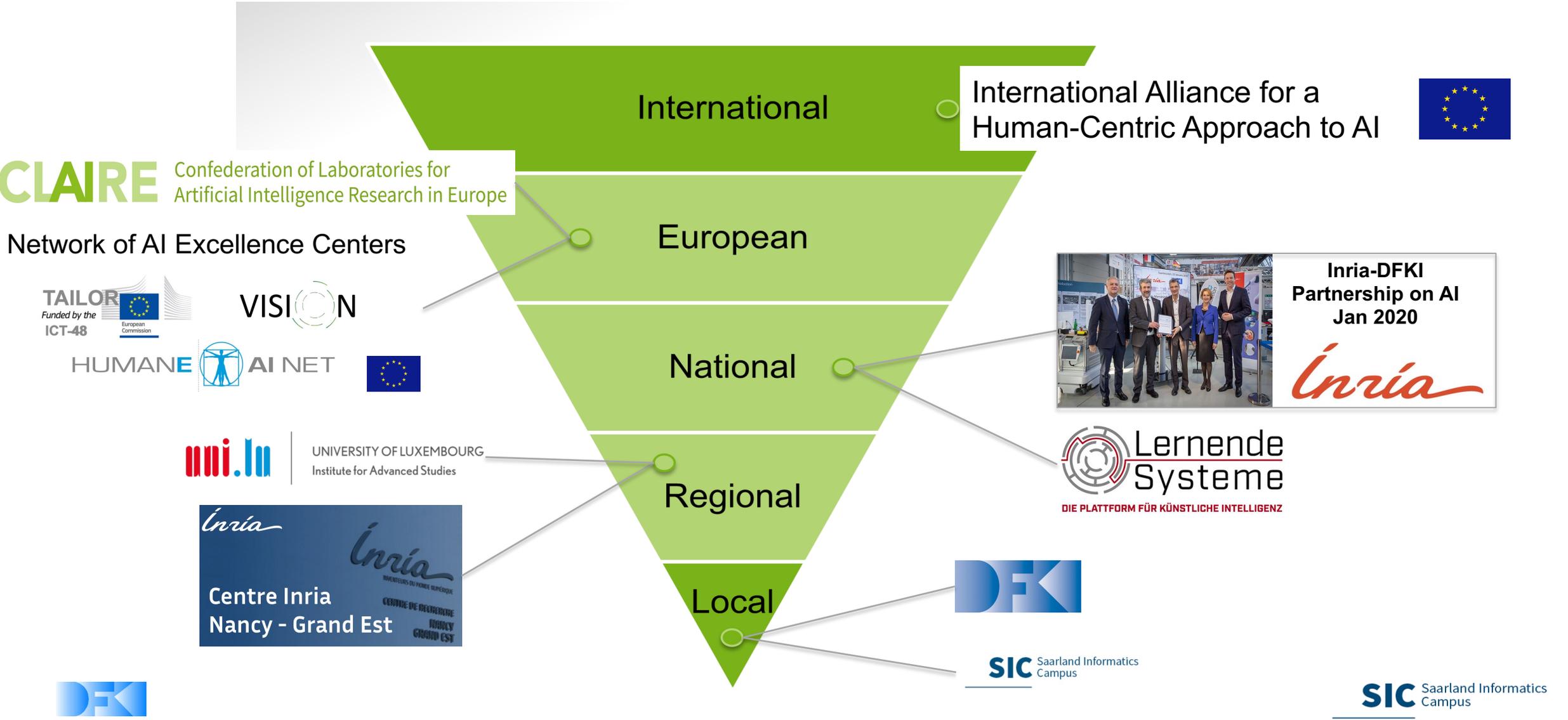
DFKI Covers the Complete Innovation Cycle



DFKI-Portfolio: Deep Expertise in AI for a Broad Innovation Spectrum



DFKI-SB: From Local Strengths to a European Strategy



SIC Saarland Informatics Campus

SIC Saarland Informatics Campus

Strategic Cooperation with INRIA & France



- Five Application-Oriented Projects (Total Investment: ~6 M€ @ DFKI only, similar @ INRIA)

2020	<p>MePheSTO</p> <p>Digital Phenotyping for Psychiatric Disorders from Social Interaction</p> 	<p>IMPRESS</p> <p>Improving Language Embeddings with Semantic Knowledge</p> 	<p>Moveon</p> <p>Towards robust spatial scene understanding in dynamic environments using intermediate representations</p>
2021	<p>ENGAGE</p> <p>Next Generation High-Performance Computing for Hybrid AI (→ LEAM-Initiative)</p>	<p>R4Agri</p> <p>Reasoning on Agricultural Data: Integrating Metrics and Qualitative Perspectives</p>	<p>Other Projects already in Preparation (e.g. Green-AI)</p>

- Joint Activities

<p>Weekly Coordination Meetings & Regular Alignment with Executive Level</p>	<p>DFKI-INRIA Summer-School (IDESSAI 2021, 2022, ...)</p>	<p>At least one joint workshop per year</p>
--	--	--

- Tight Collaboration at European Level



CLAIRE-Network & "CERN for AI"



Worldwide Largest Research Network for AI

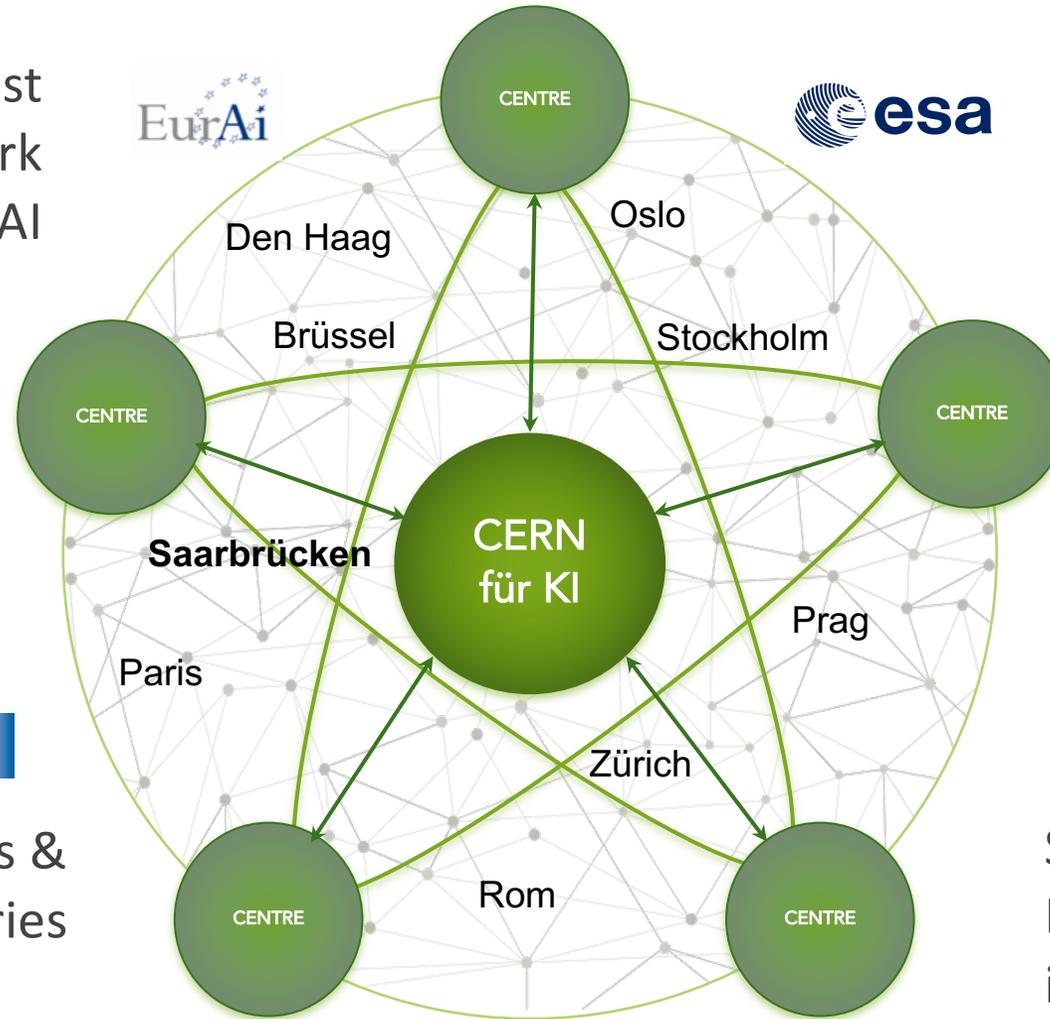


Inria

>440 Research Groups and Organizations from Across All of Europe



24.000+ AI Researchers & Staff from 37 Countries



Global Attractor for Talents from across the Globe



„Place to be“ for AI Talents, for Interaction & Innovation



Symbol for European Excellence & Ambition in AI



CLAIRE Confederation of Laboratories for Artificial Intelligence Research in Europe



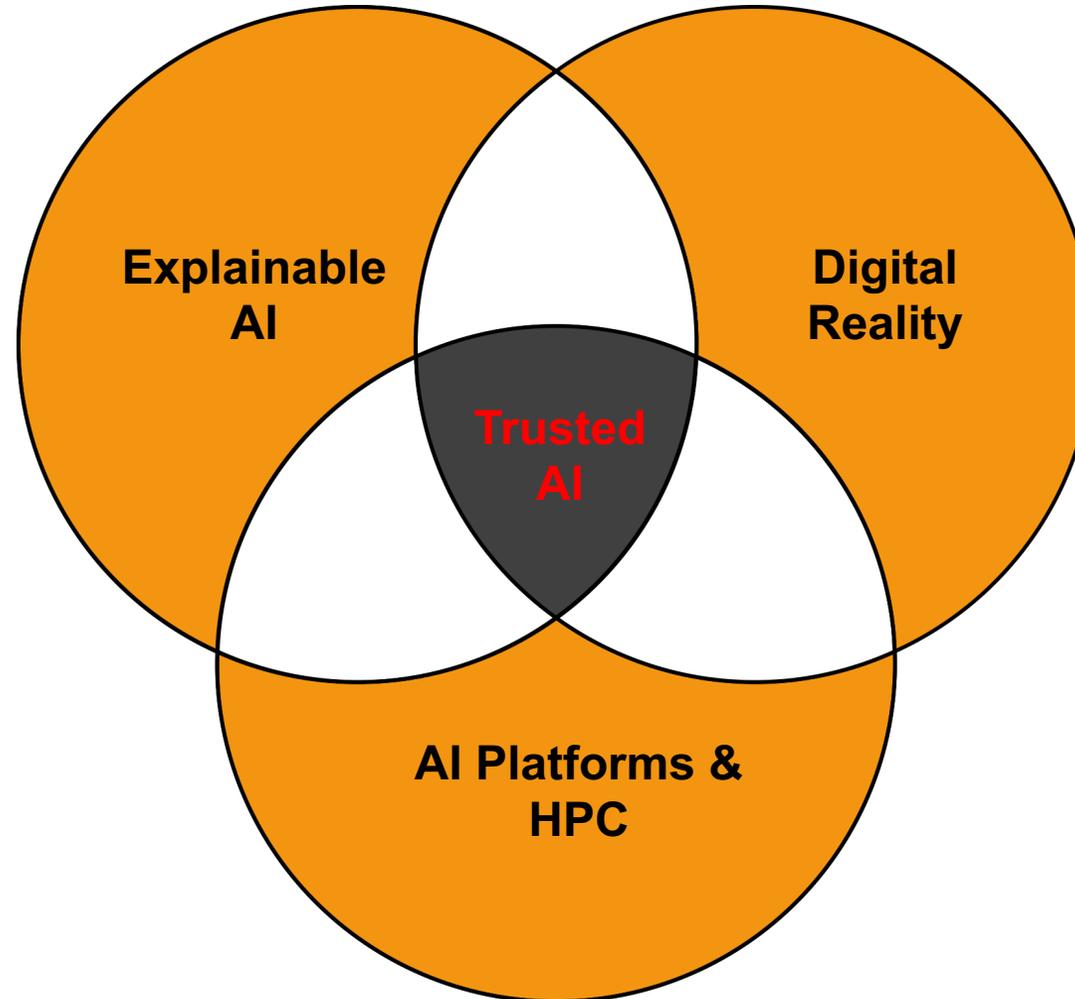


DFKI Research Area: Agents and Simulated Reality (ASR)

DFKI-ASR: Agents and Simulated Reality



How to design AI systems that can provide guarantees and that humans can understand and trust?



How can synthetic data from parametric models and simulations be used for training, validating, and certifying AI systems?

How can AI-systems be realized technically in a *reliable and efficient way*?

Flexible Production Control Using Multiagent Systems at Saarstahl, Völklingen

A large industrial crane is positioned in a steel mill. The crane is a complex mechanical structure with a large cylindrical body and a hook at the end. The background is dominated by a bright, intense orange glow, likely from a furnace or a large fire, which illuminates the scene. The overall atmosphere is industrial and high-temperature.

DFKI multi-agent technology is running the steelworks, 24/7 for >12 years, 5 researchers transferred

Physically-Based Image Synthesis with Real-Time Ray Tracing

**RT-HW in EVERY
GPU now**

**Technical Oscar,
Feb 2021**

Key product offered now by all major GPU/HW vendors:
e.g. Intel (Embree), Nvidia (OptiX), AMD (Radeon Rays) , ...

Efficient Simulation of Illumination: Light Propagation and Sensor Models

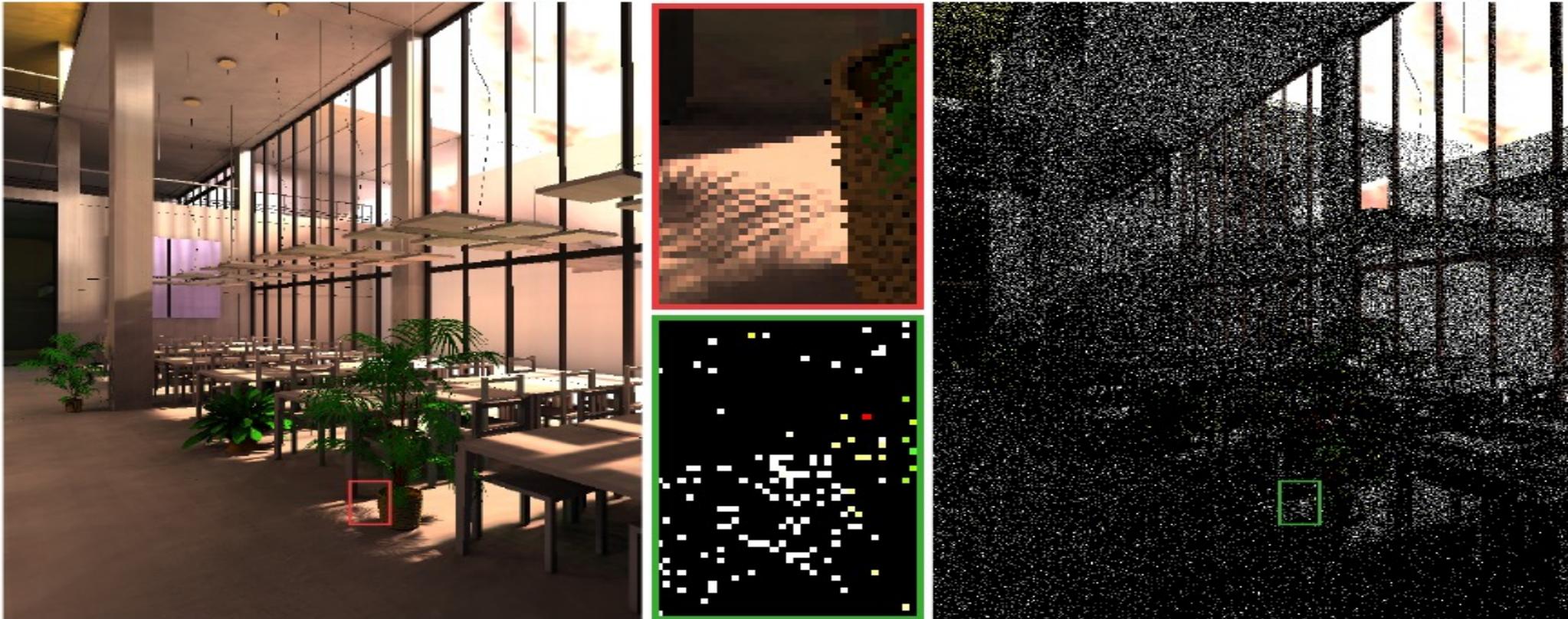
VCM/MC now part of most commercial renderers:
e.g. RenderMan, V-Ray, ... + Radar Simulation



Recent Advances in Lighting Sim.



- Importance Caching for Complex Illumination
 - By Iliyan Georgiev et al., Eurographics 2012



Recent Advances in Lighting Sim.



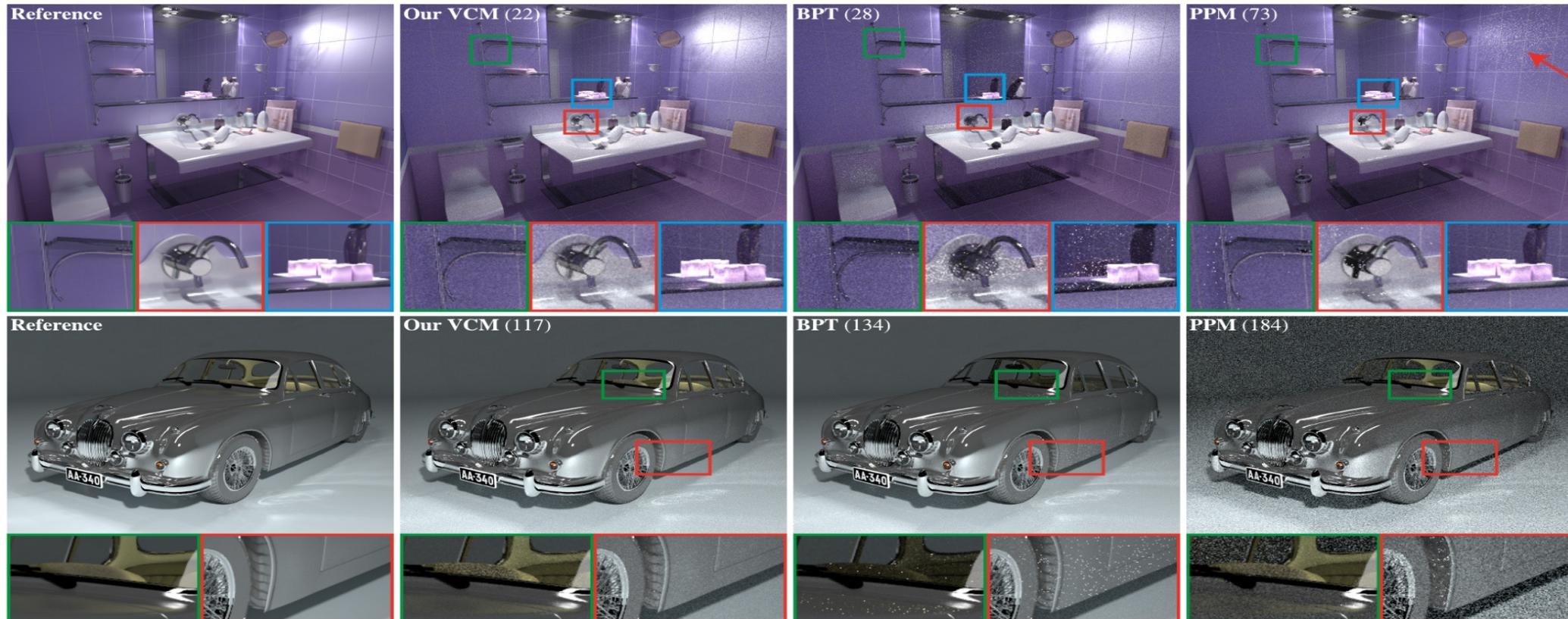
- Light Transport Simulation with Vertex Connection and Merging (VCM)
 - By Iliyan Georgiev et al., Siggraph 2012



Recent Advances in Lighting Sim.



- Light Transport Simulation with Vertex Connection and Merging (VCM)
 - By Iliyan Georgiev et al., Siggraph 2012

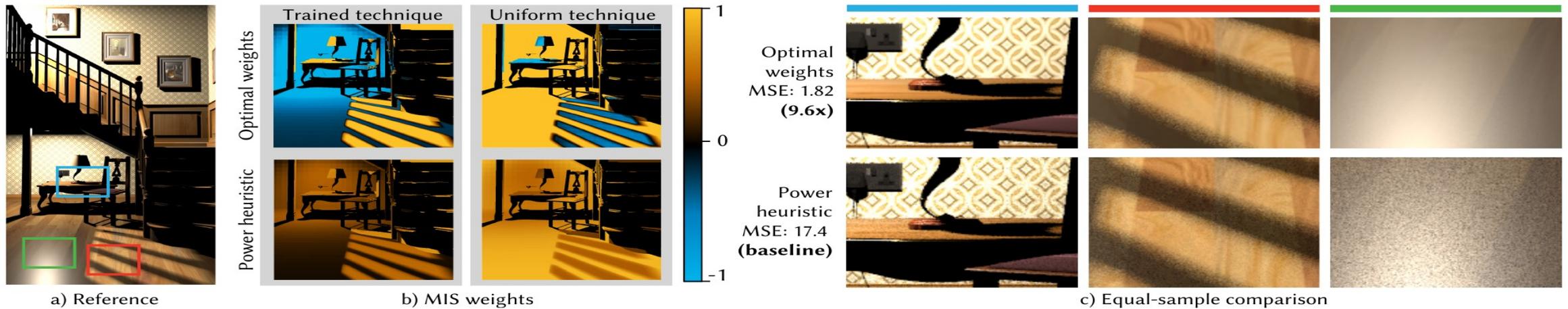


Recent Advances in Lighting Sim.



- **Optimal Multiple Importance Sampling**

- By I. Kondapaneni, P. Vévoda, P. Grittmann, et al., Siggraph 2019



Recent Advances in Lighting Sim.

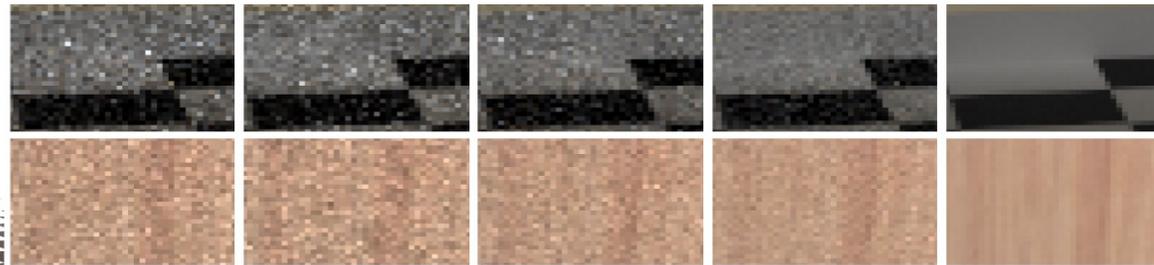


- Variance-Aware Path Guiding

- By A. Rath, P. Grittmann, S. Herholz, P. Vévoda, et al., Siggraph 2020



VEACH DOOR



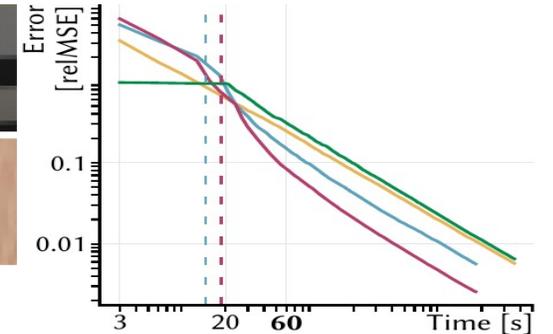
PT
0.245 (0.6x)

VCM+MLT
0.306 (0.5x)

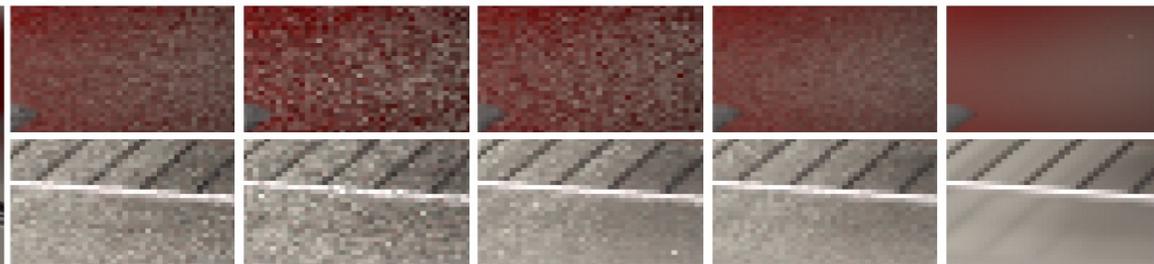
Müller et al.
0.149 (baseline)

Ours
0.084 (**1.8x**)

Reference
relMSE (60s)



GLOSSY KITCHEN



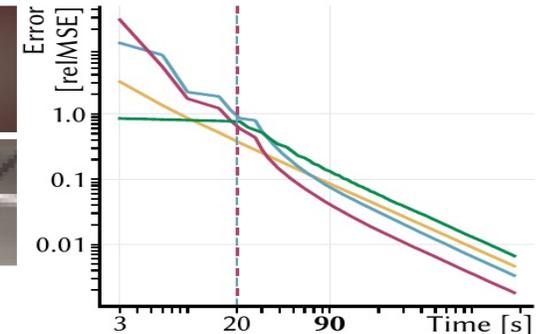
PT
0.086 (0.9x)

VCM+MLT
0.134 (0.6x)

Müller et al.
0.076 (baseline)

Ours
0.041 (**1.8x**)

Reference
relMSE (90s)

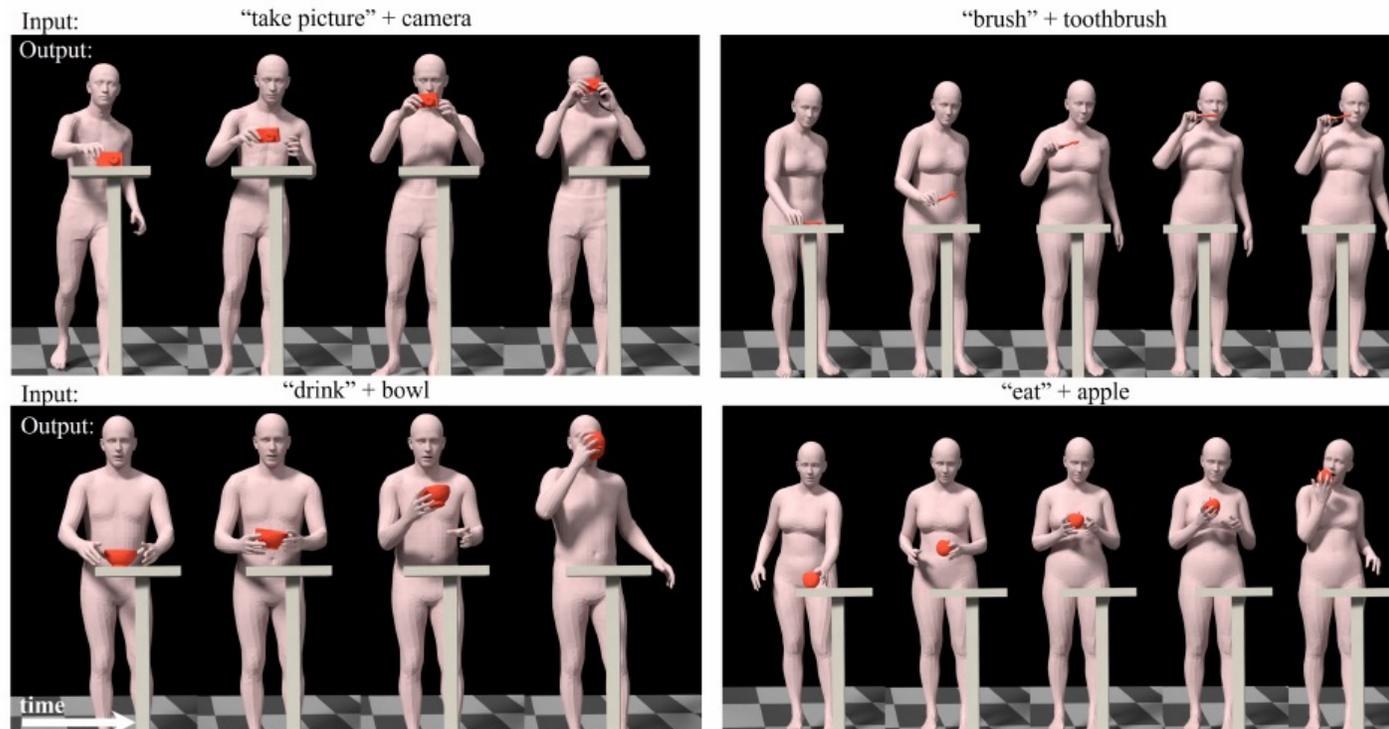


Recent Advances in Motion Synthesis

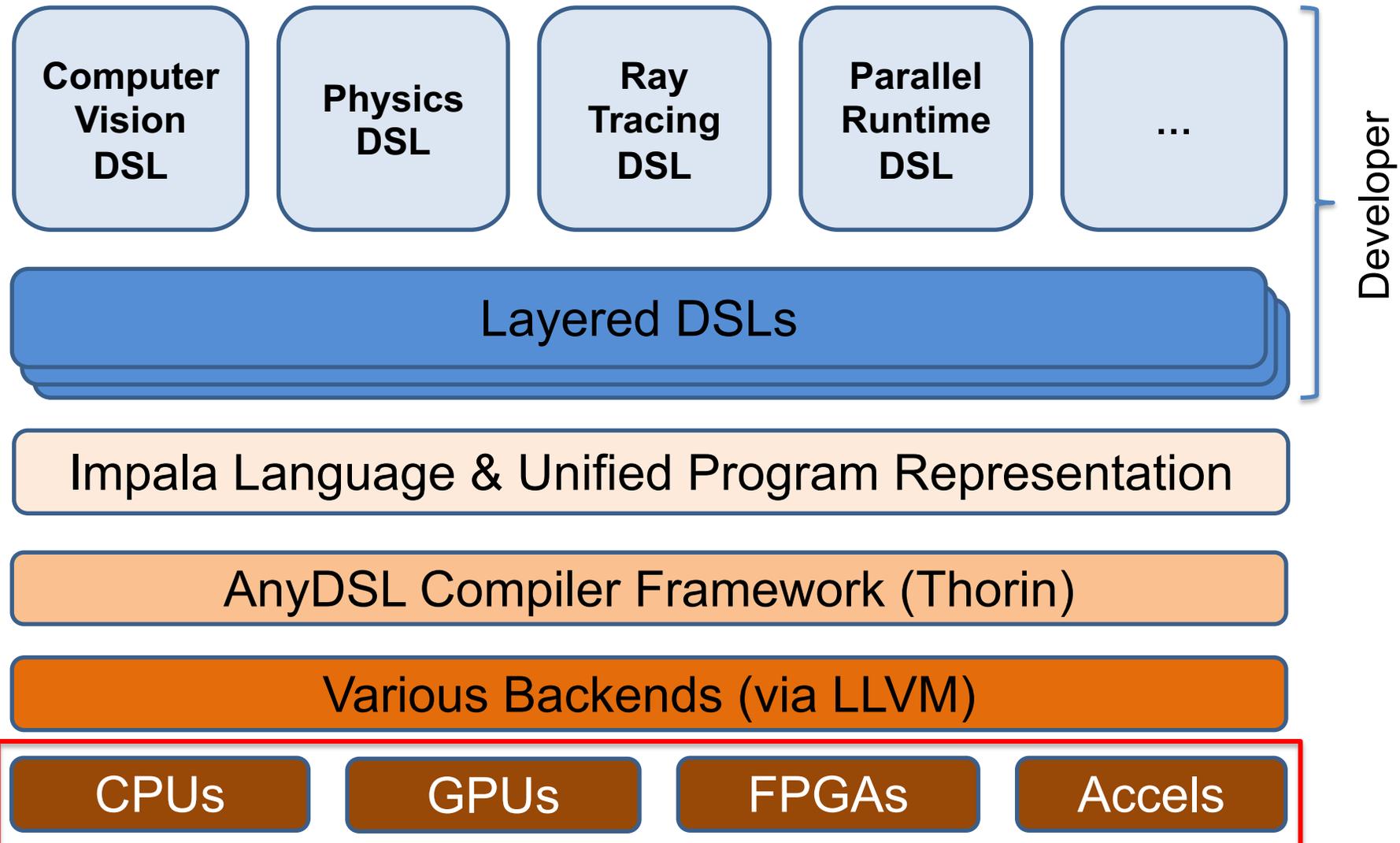


- **IMoS: Intent-Driven Full-Body Motion Synthesis for Human-Object Interactions**

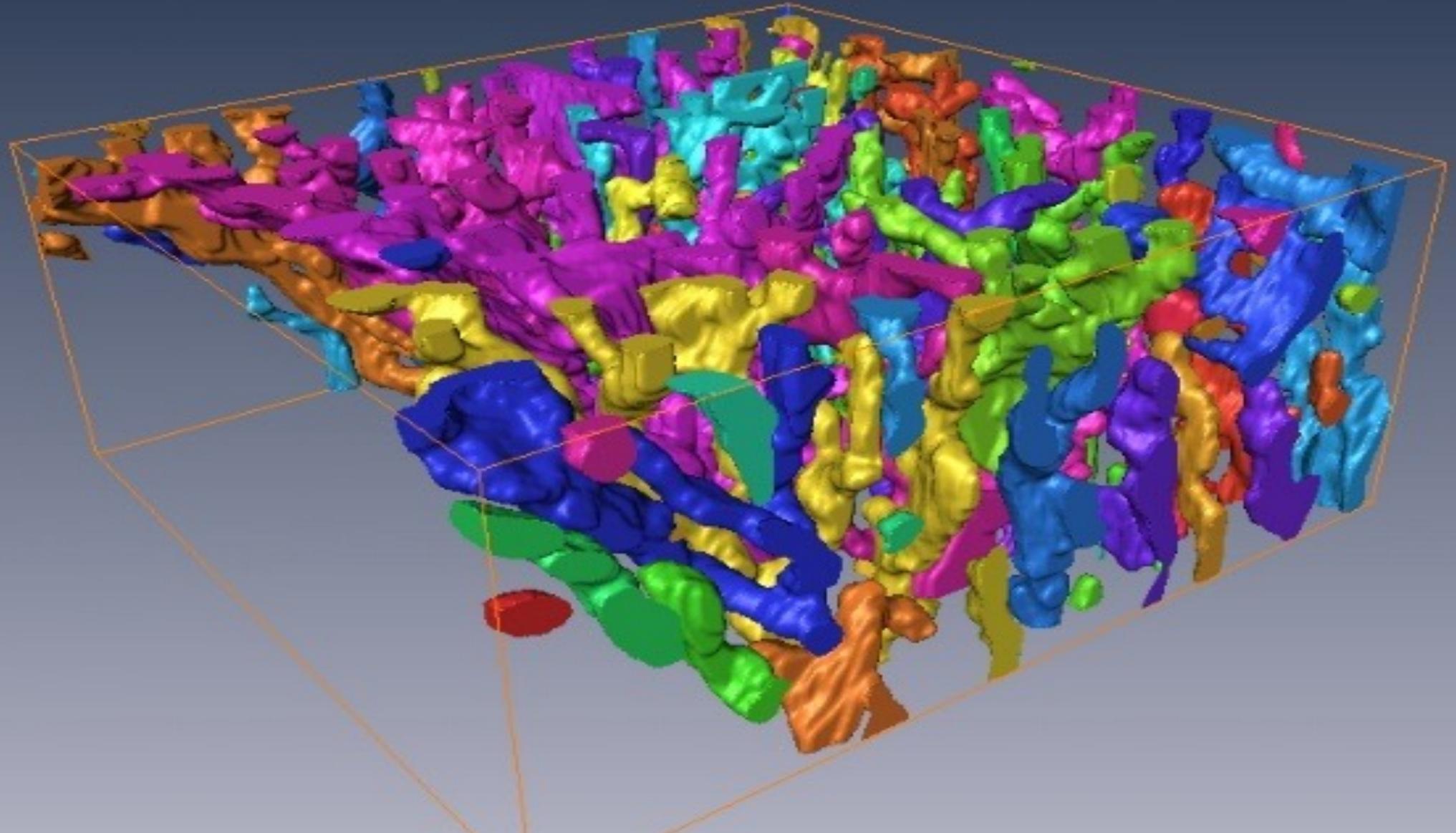
- By Anindita Ghosh, Rishabh Dabral, Vladislav Golyanik, Christian Theobalt, Philipp Slusallek, at Eurographics 2023



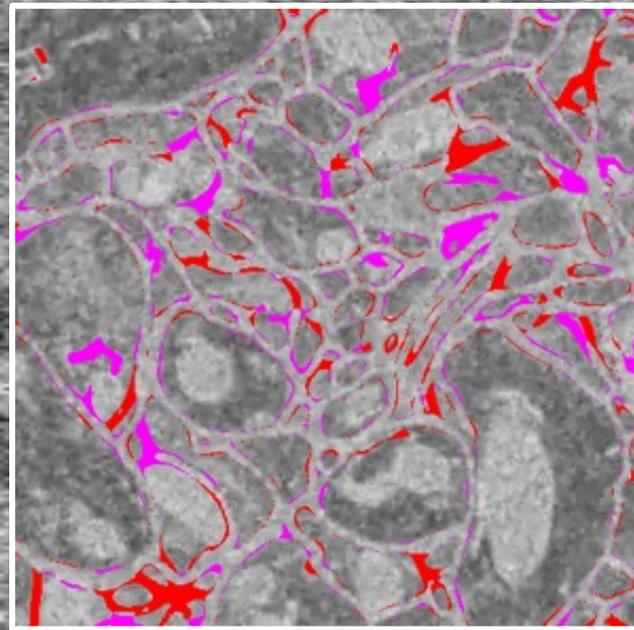
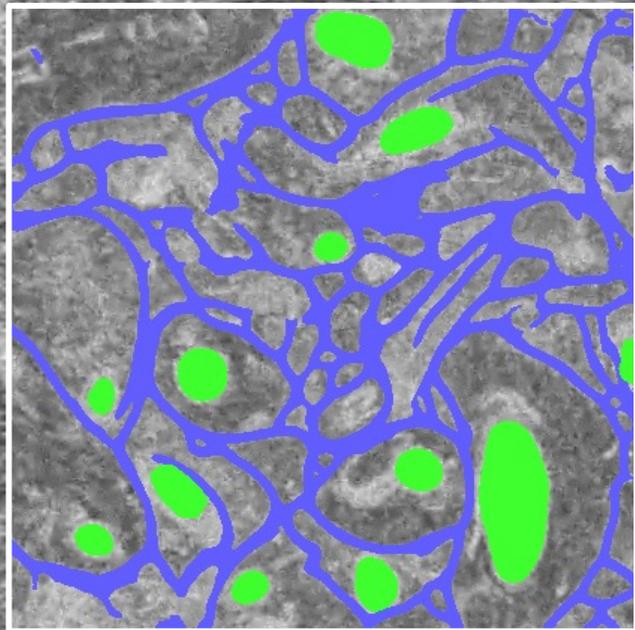
AnyDSL Compiler Framework



Material Science: Understanding & Predicting Effects of 3D Structures Across Scales



Efficient Use of AI in Health and Life Sciences



Collaborative Robotics and Simulated Reality (VW, Airbus, ...)



Autonomous Driving: Training using Synthetic Sensor Data and Realistic Models (TÜV, VDA, ZF, Conti, ...)



Challenge: Better Simulation (e.g. Radar Rendering)



- **Key Differences**

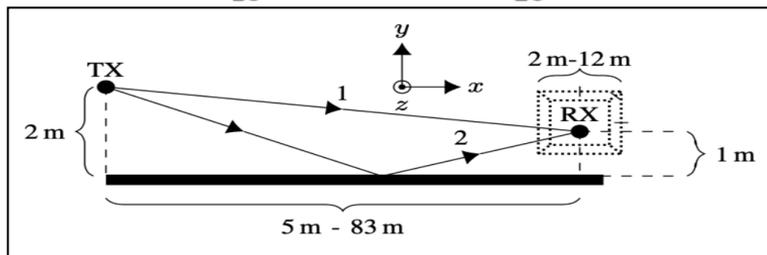
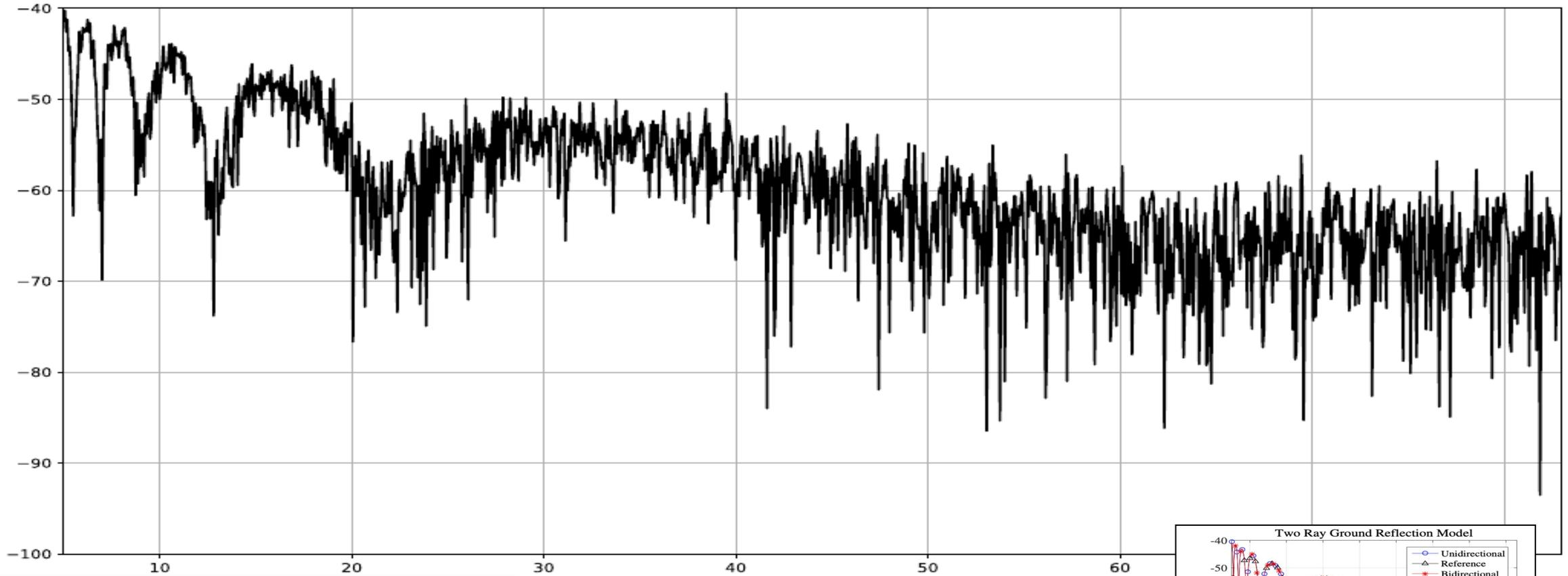
- Longer wavelength: Geometric optics (rays) not sufficient
- Need for *some* wave optics
 - Interference of multi-path interactions (coherent radiation, GO/PO)
 - Need for polarization and phase information
 - Diffraction from rough surfaces and edges
- Highly different goals
 - Optical: Focus on *diffuse* effects (+ some highlights, reflections, etc.)
 - Radar: Focus on *specular* transport only (i.e. caustic paths)

- **Completely novel approach (beyond ray tracing)**

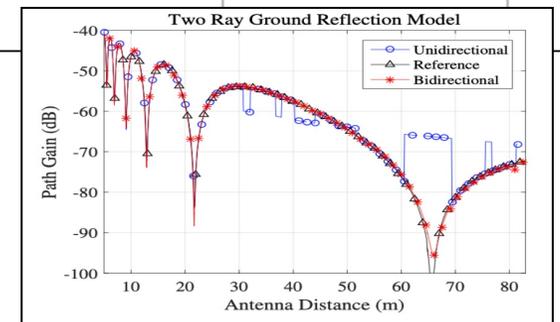
- Using latest Monte-Carlo techniques (BiDir, MIS, VCM, ...)
- Using recent work on Path Guiding [Rath et al., Siggraph '19]

- **Bringing together radar & latest research on MC rendering**

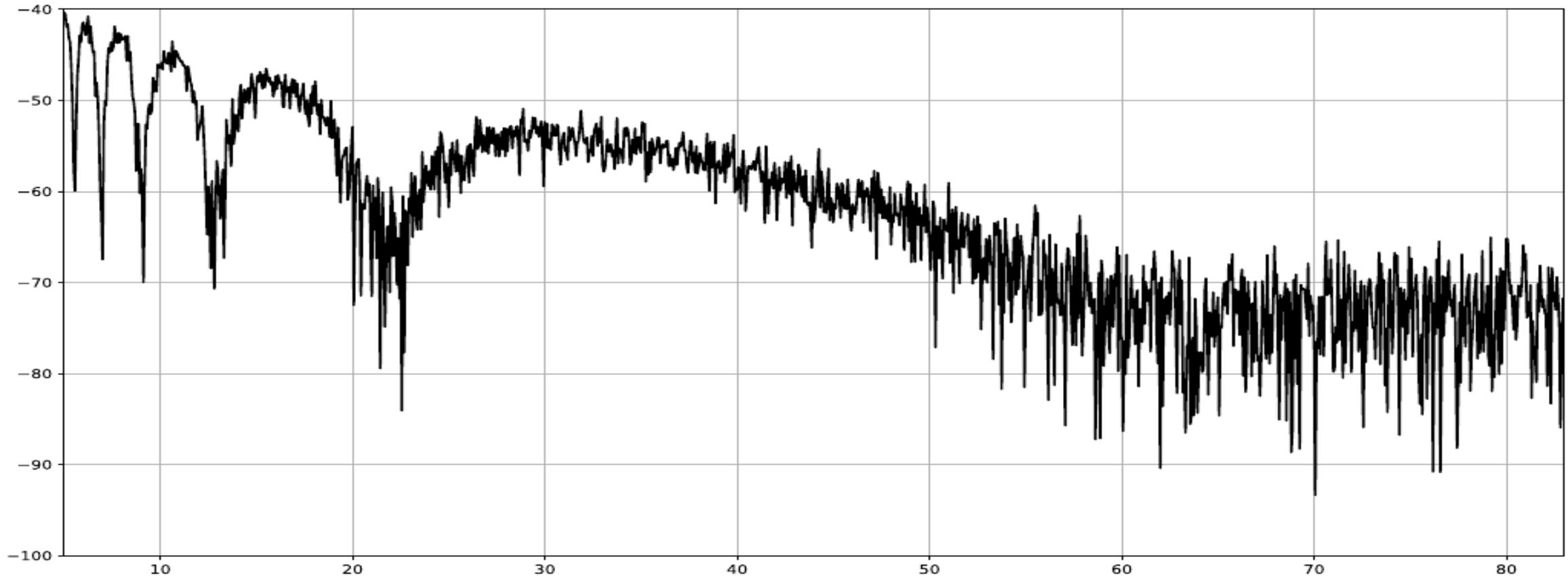
Radar Simulation Using Modern Monte-Carlo Algorithms



Path Tracing

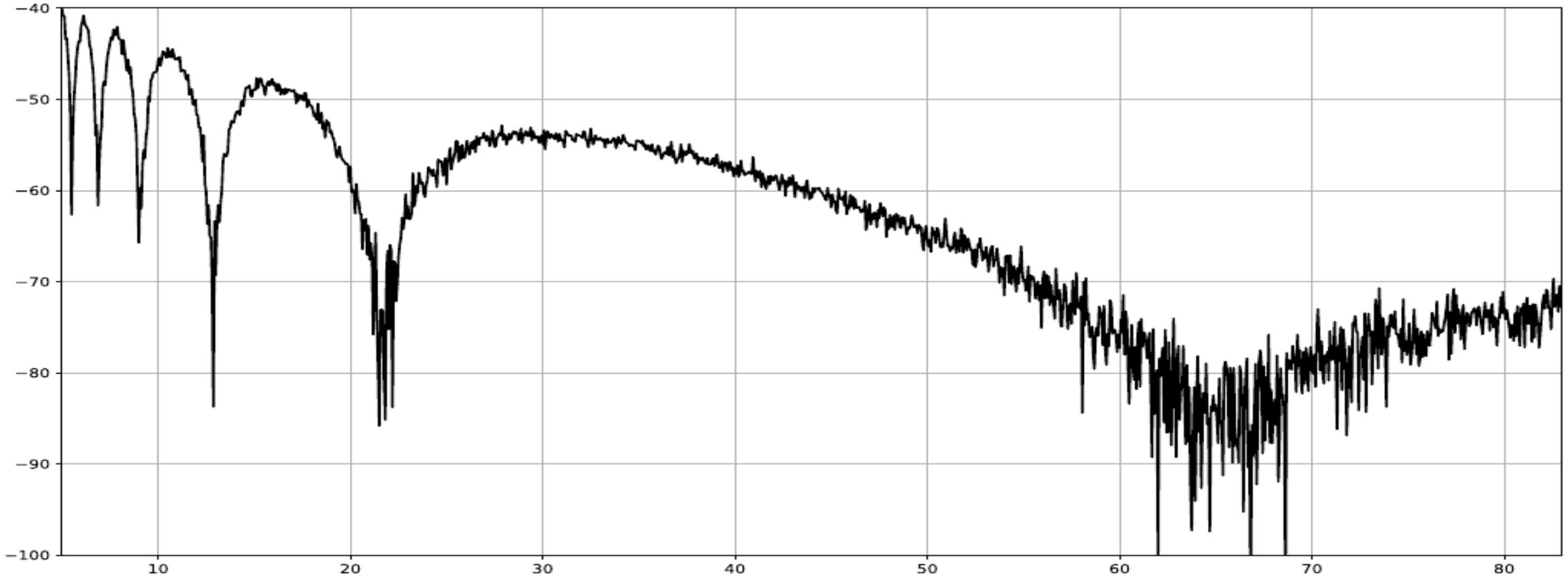


Radar Simulation Using Modern Monte-Carlo Algorithms



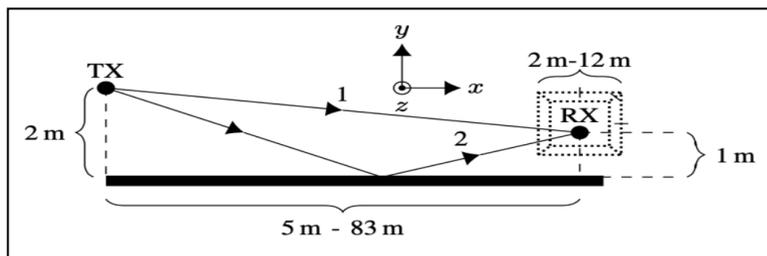
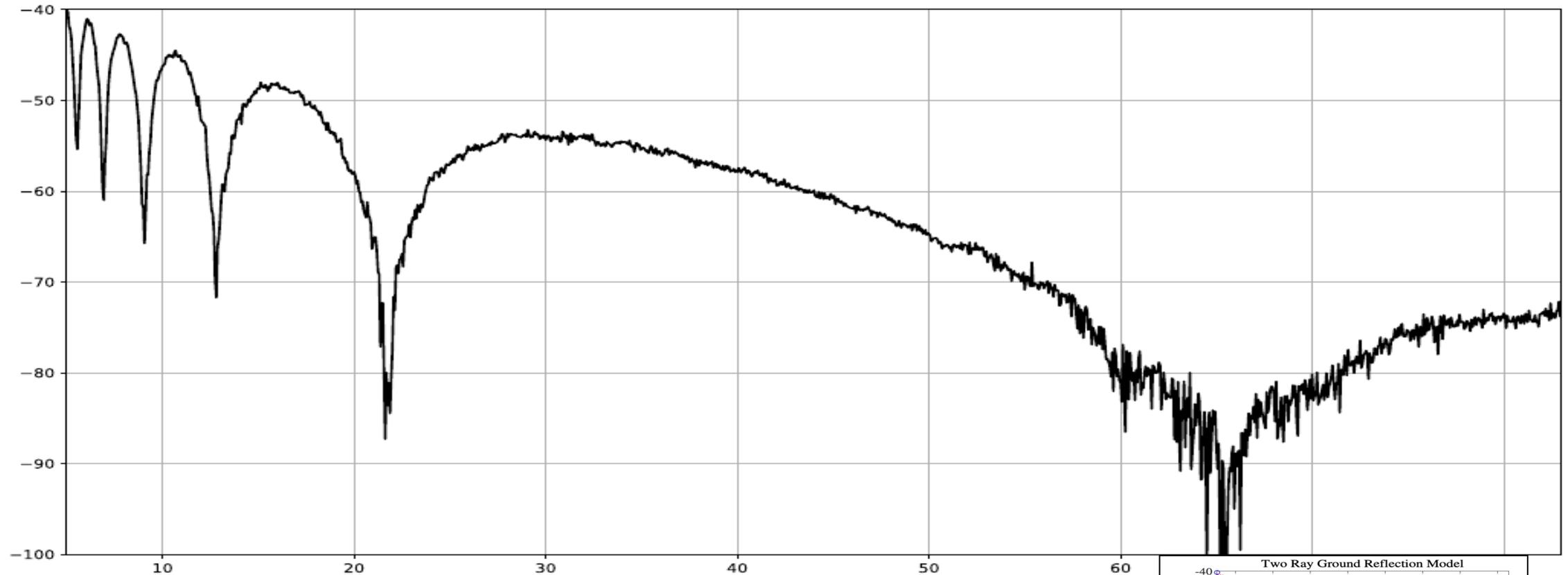
Path Tracing + "Texture Filtering"

Radar Simulation Using Modern Monte-Carlo Algorithms

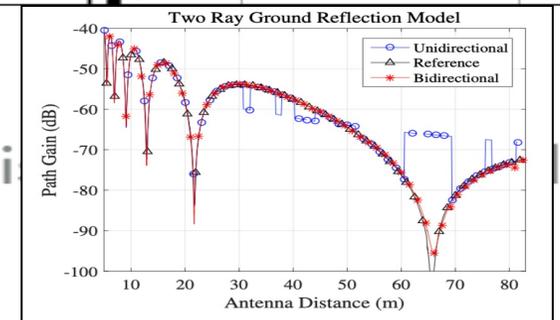


Path Tracing + "Texture Filtering" + Guiding

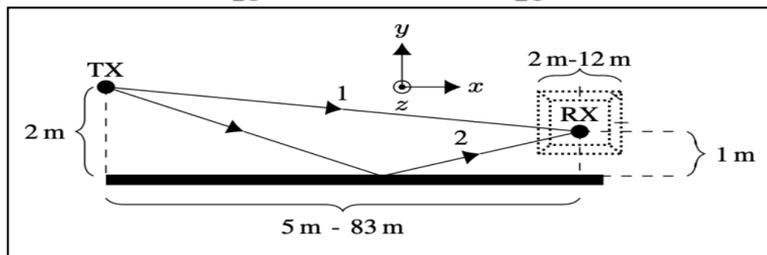
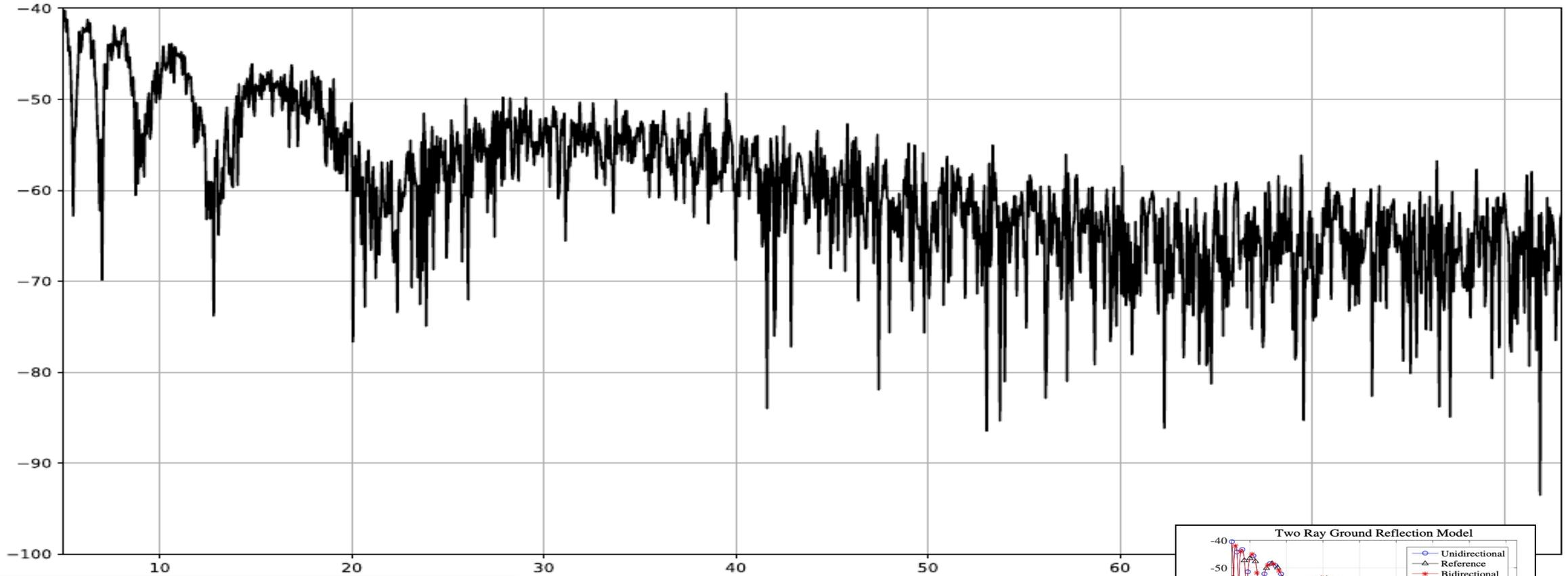
Two-Way Ground Reflection



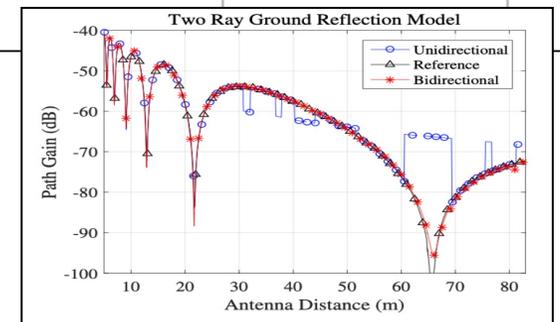
Filtering" + Guiding + Low Di ling



Radar Simulation Using Modern Monte-Carlo Algorithms



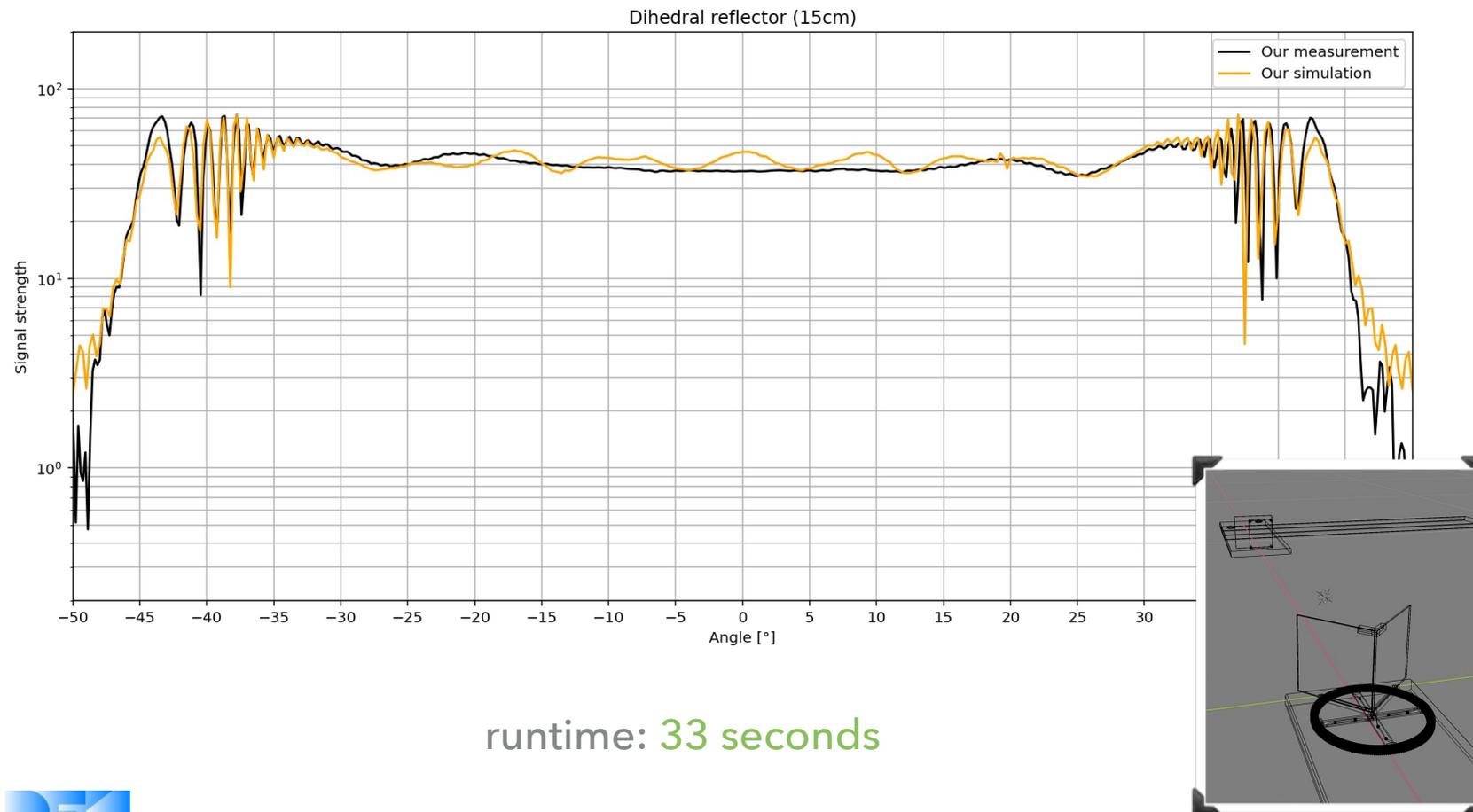
Path Tracing



Our Simulation



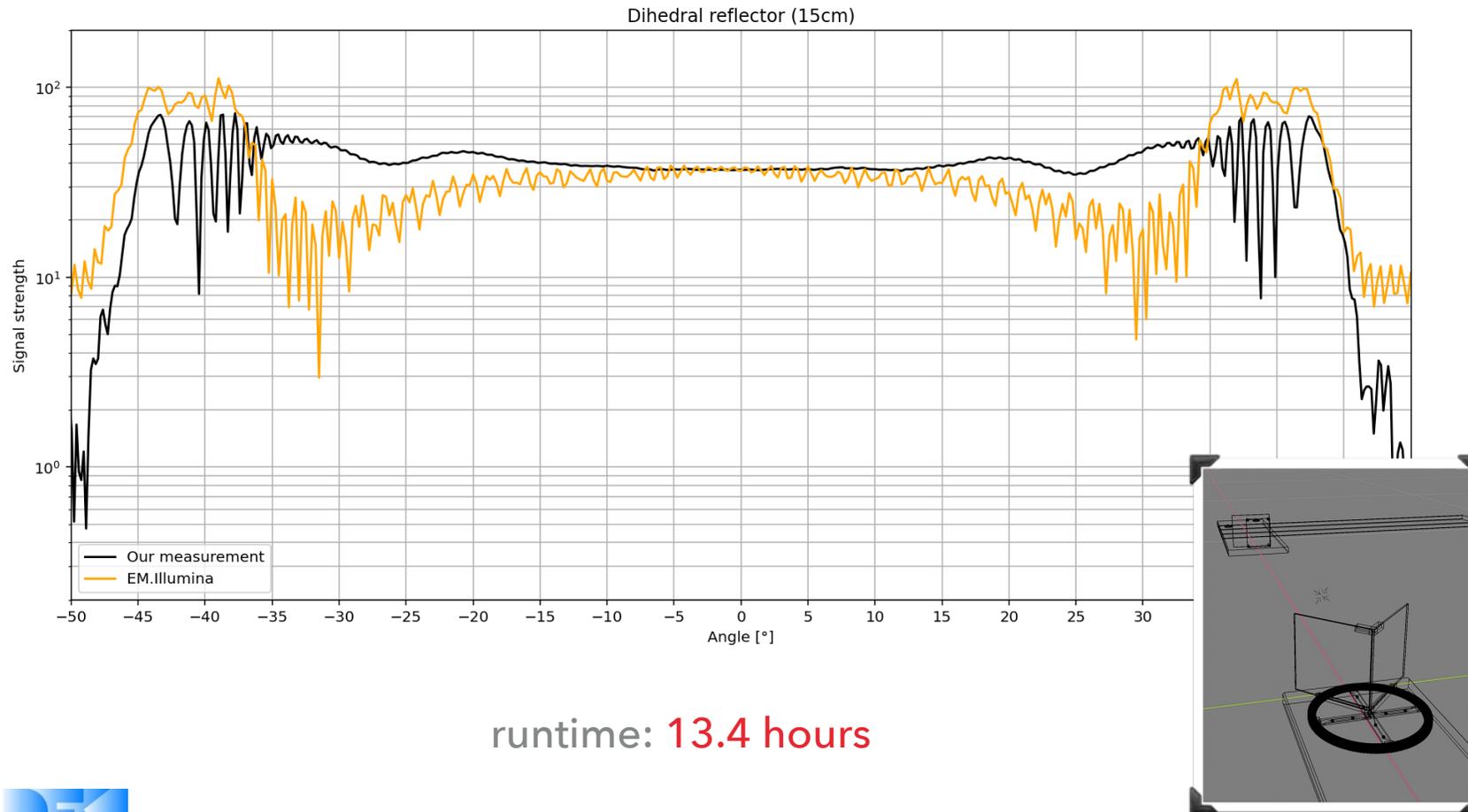
Ours (Physical Optics + Monte Carlo)



Commercial Software



EM.Illumina (Physical Optics + Finite Elements)

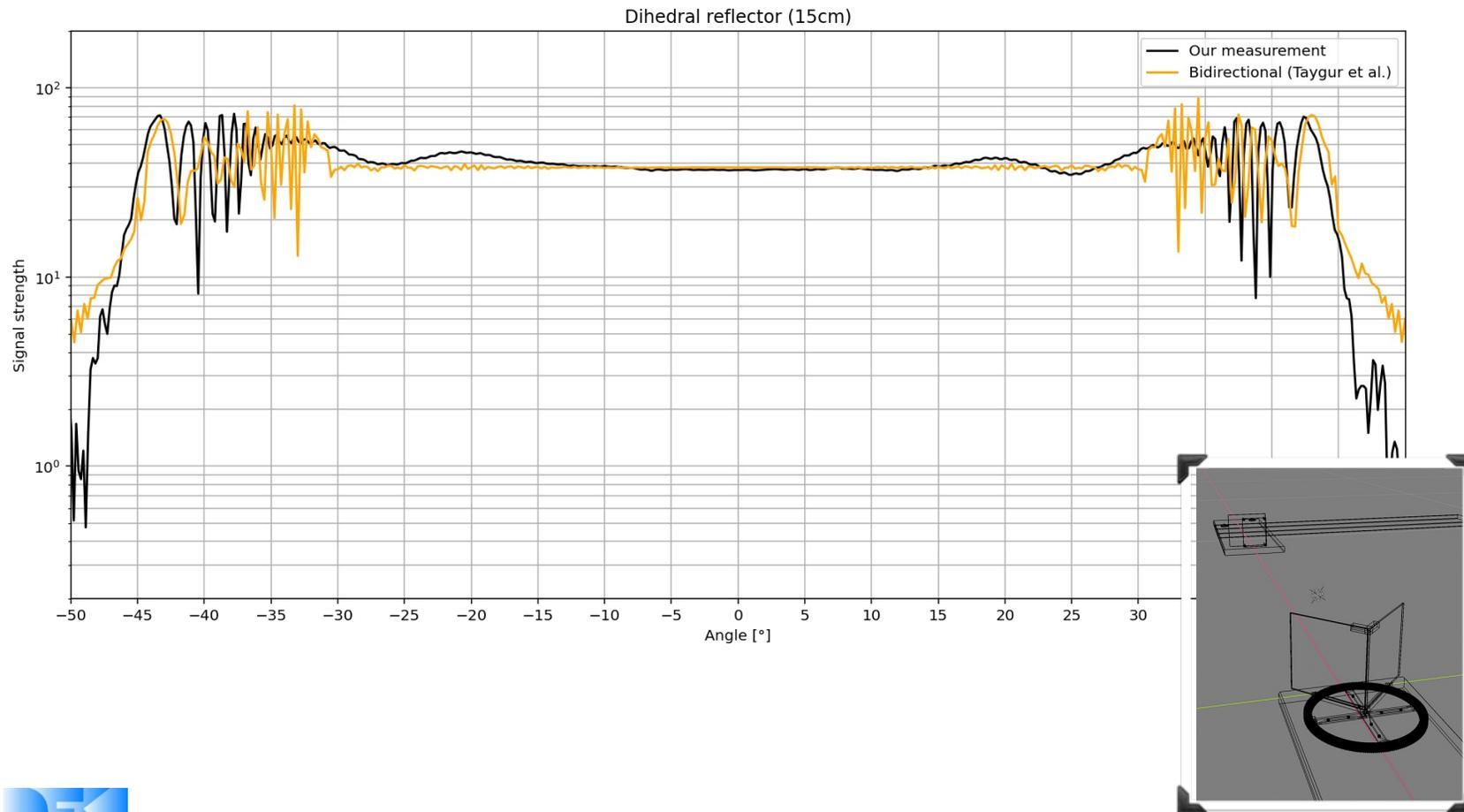


- *EM.Illumina is based on the same physical model (physical optics), but – like virtually all available simulators – uses Finite Elements instead of Monte Carlo*
- *This makes it a lot slower than our method (by a factor of 1,400) and produces results that are not as accurate*

Other Results from Academia



Bidirectional Antenna Coupling (Taygur et al.)



- *Bidirectional Antenna Coupling* (Taygur et al.) is a state-of-the-art algorithm that find connections between RX and TX antenna by starting paths from both sides and connecting them in the middle
- Unfortunately, it makes asymptotic assumptions and is therefore also less accurate for smaller features

Challenge: Do we Need a Better Basis for our Simulation?



- **In the past: Two big markets, focused on nice images**
 - *Gaming*: Very nice images (at 60+ Hz)
 - Must compromise realism for frame rate
 - *Film & Marketing*: Even nicer images (at hours per image)
 - Will compromise realism for the story and artistic expression
 - Both are being used for simulations for Autonomous Driving
- **But: Strong need for *correct* images**
 - Lidar, radar, multi-spectral, polarization, measured materials, ...
 - Need for “error bar per pixel” & validation
 - Existing engines unlikely to adapt to these fundamental changes
- **Towards “Predictive Rendering” engine**
 - Focused on physical accuracy (“sensor realistic”) & high throughput
 - Based on latest graphics research results (and GPU-HW)



Digital Reality:

Using AI to Optimize and Certify AI (using autonomous driving as an example)

State of AI



- **Success stories**

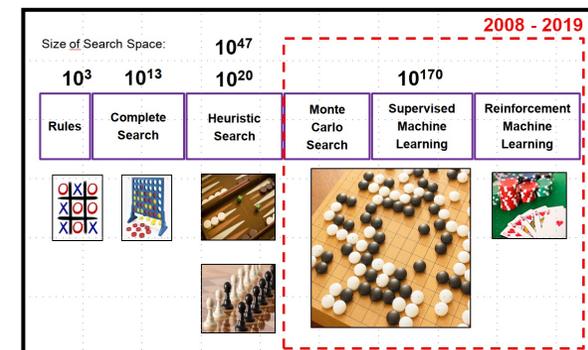
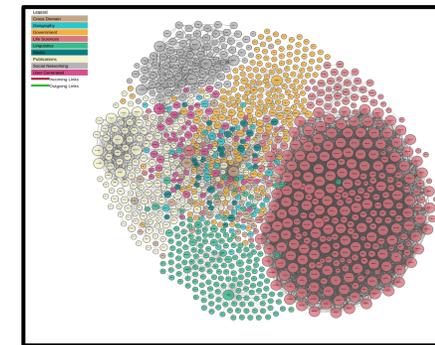
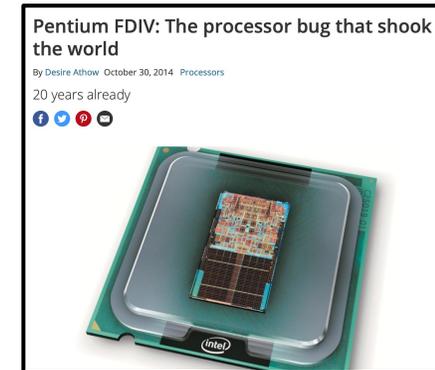
- HW Verification, Knowledge Graphs, Search & Optimization, ...
- Perception: Vision, Speech, ...
- Game playing: Chess, Go, video games, ...
- Some complex tasks: translation, autonomous driving, ...

- **Amazing progress in recent years**

- Most visible due to Deep Neural Networks (DNNs)
- Focus shifting to hybrid/neuro-symbolic/neuro-explicit approaches

- **Still many fundamental challenges**

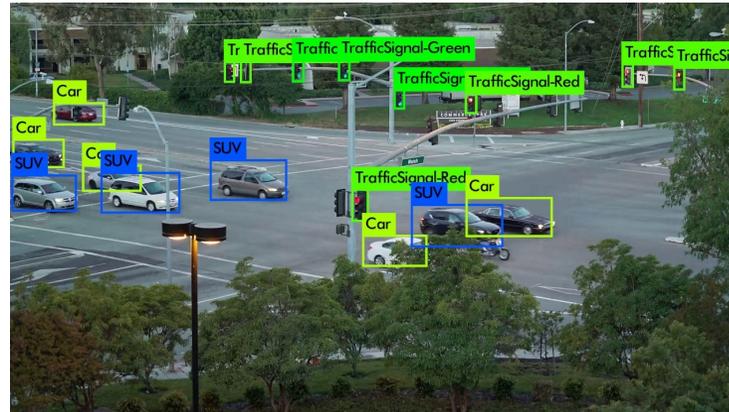
- With severe consequences to the practical use of AI



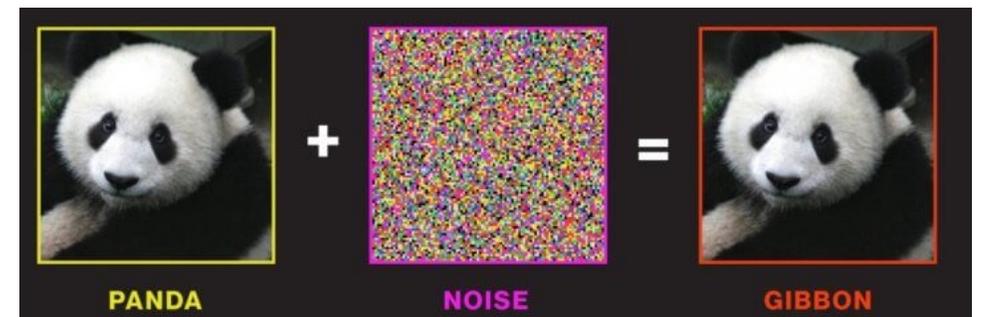
Challenges: Functionality vs. Robustness



- AI/DL is highly capable already ...



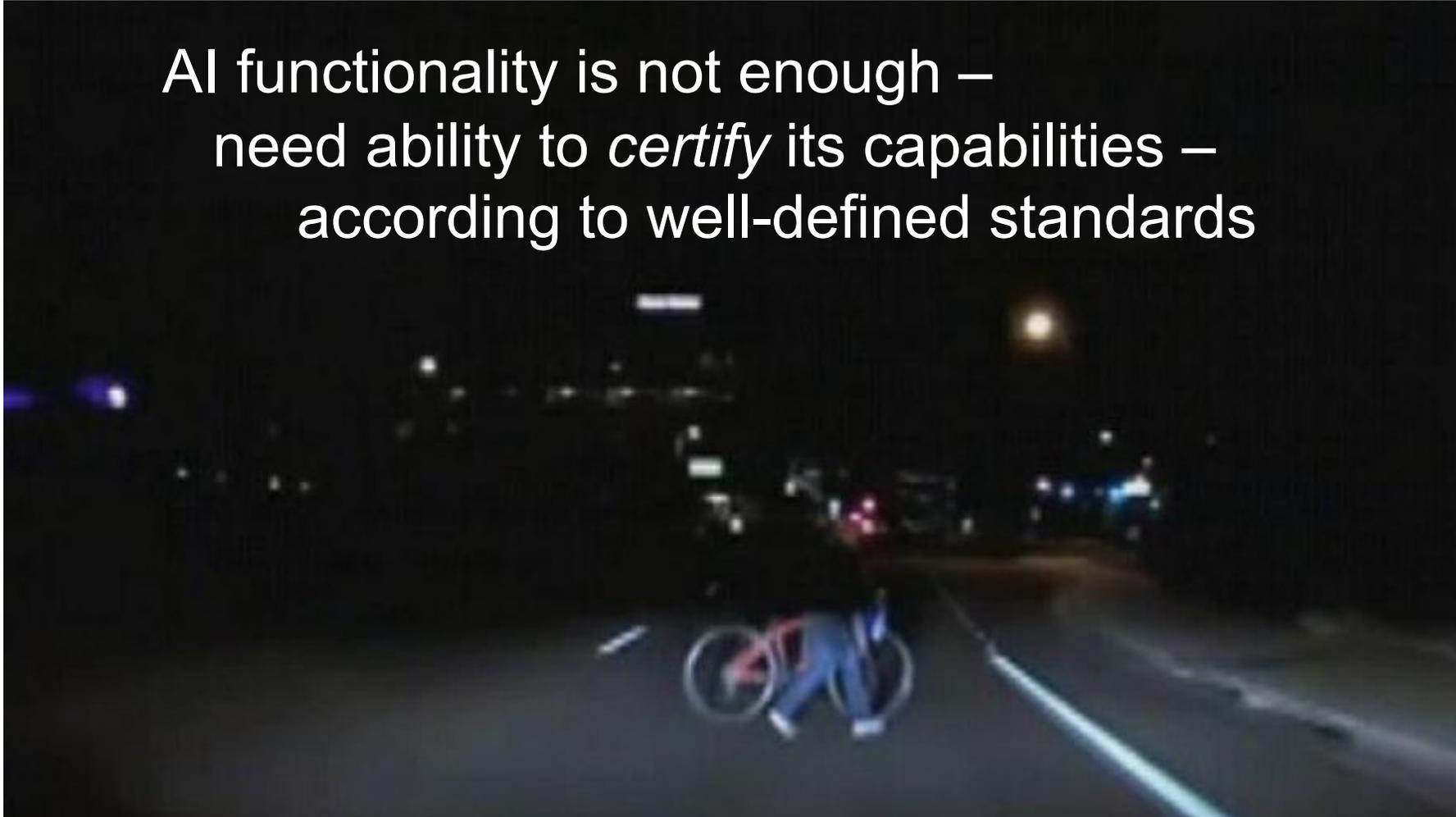
- ... but we often cannot guarantee even basic functionality



Trusted AI via Digital Reality: Using AI to Optimize & Certify AI



AI functionality is not enough –
need ability to *certify* its capabilities –
according to well-defined standards



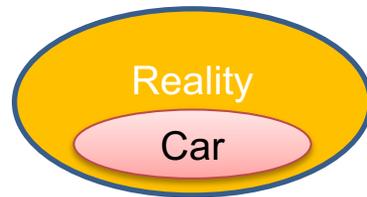
Autonomous Systems: The Problem



- **Our World is extremely complex**
 - Geometry/Shape, Appearance, Motion, Weather, Environment, ...
 - **Systems must make accurate and reliable decisions**
 - Especially in *Critical Situations*
 - Increasingly making use of (deep) machine learning
 - **Learning of critical situations is essentially impossible**
 - Often little (good) data even for “normal” situations
 - Critical situations rarely happen in reality – per definition!
 - Extremely high-dimensional models
- ➔ **Goal: Scalable Learning from *synthetic* input data**
- Continuous benchmarking & validation (“Virtual Crash-Test”)

Reality

- **Training and Validation in Reality**
 - E.g. driving millions of miles to gather data
 - Difficult, costly, and non-scalable

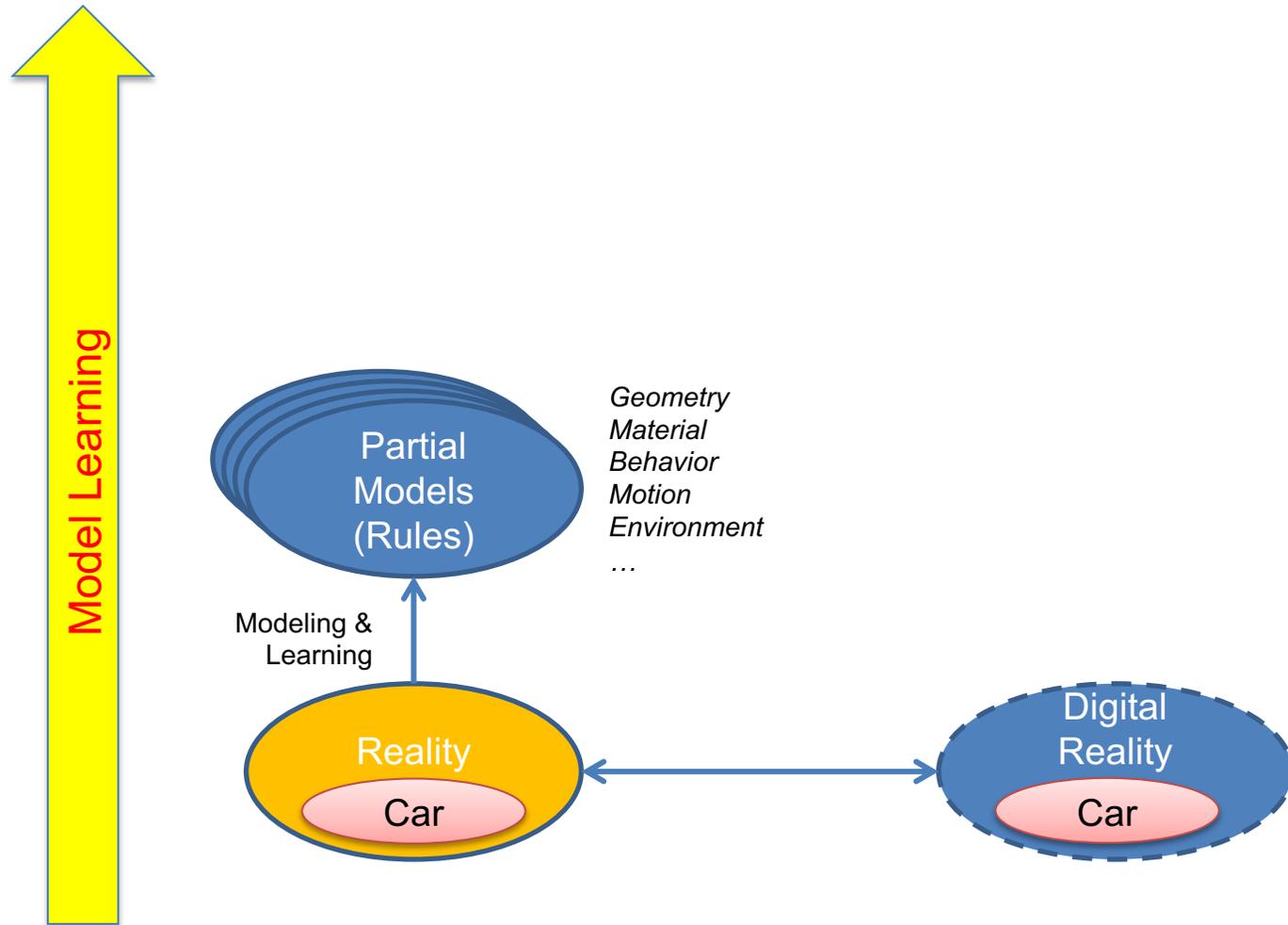


Digital Reality

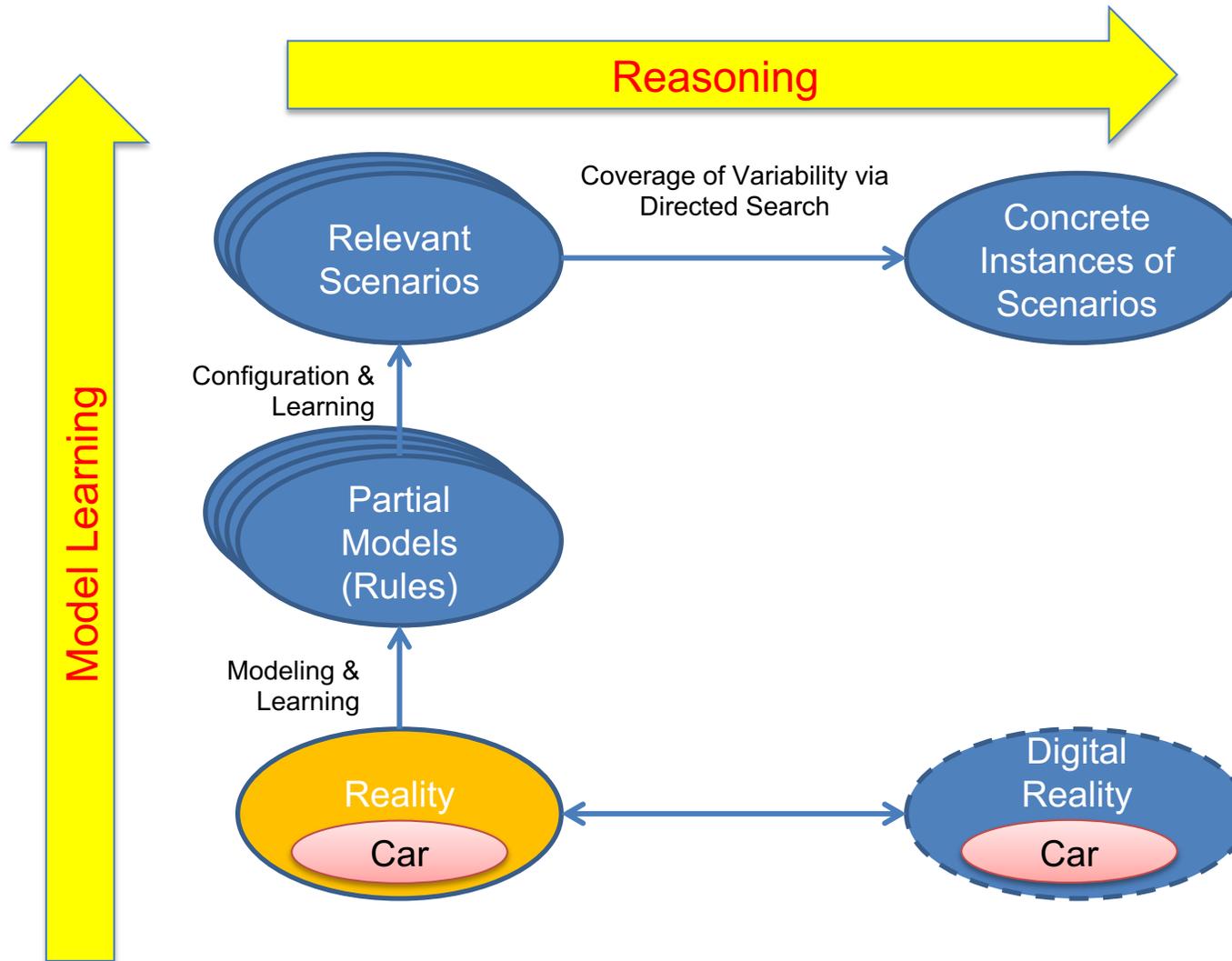
- **Training and Validation in the *Digital Reality***
 - Arbitrarily scalable (given the right platform)
 - But: Where to get the models and the training data from?



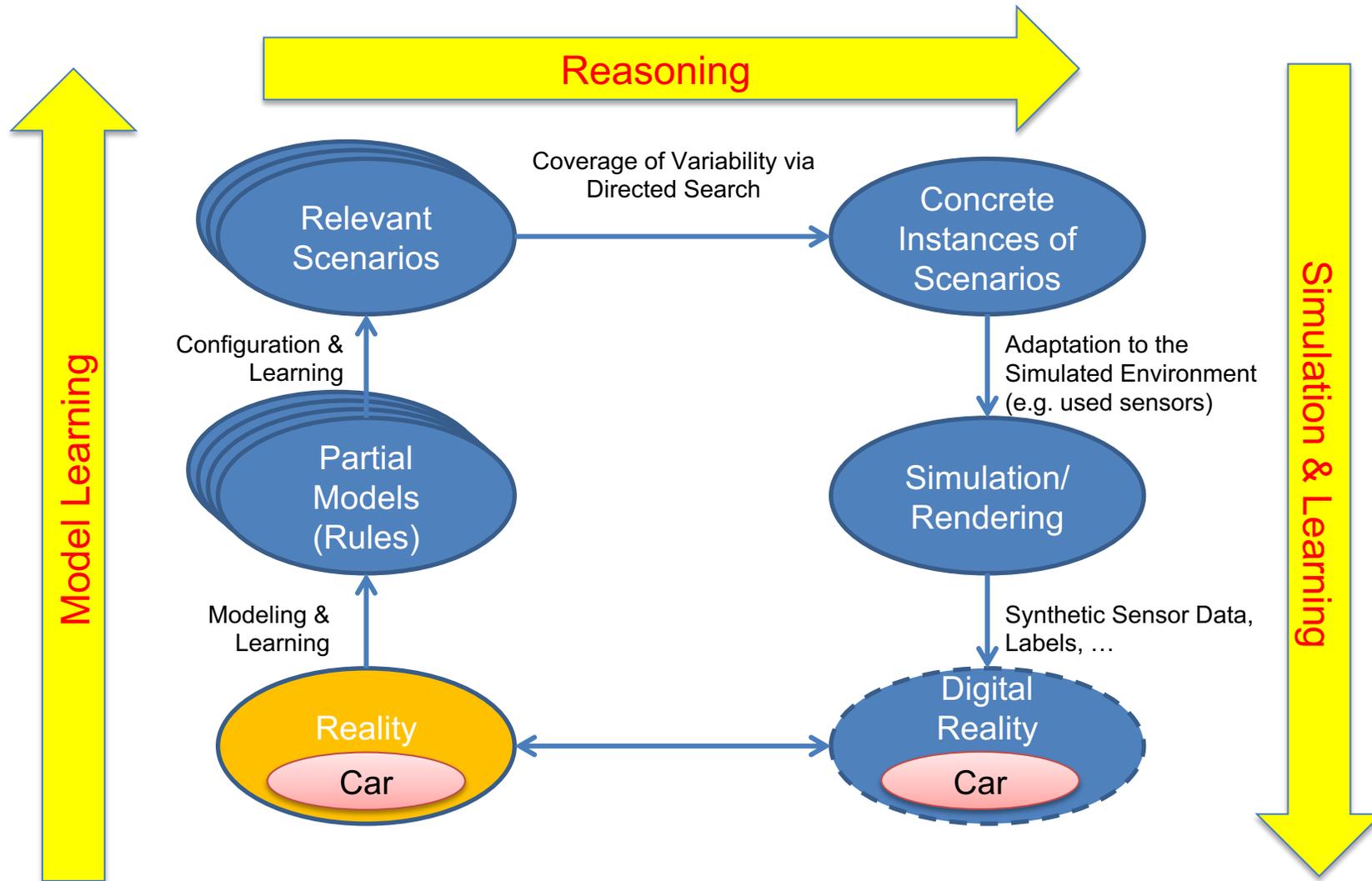
Digital Reality: AI to Optimize and Certify AI



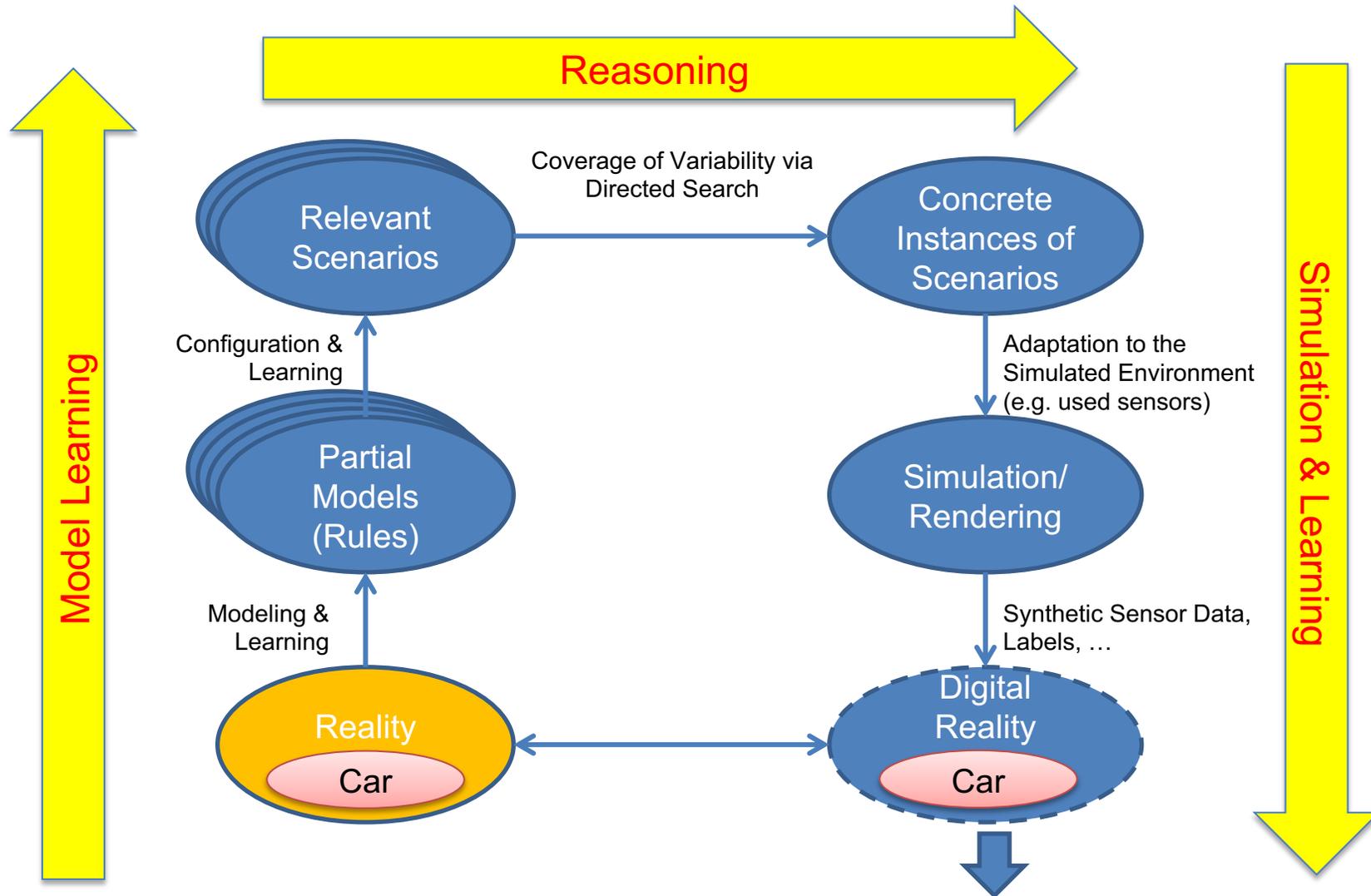
Digital Reality: AI to Optimize and Certify AI



Digital Reality: AI to Optimize and Certify AI

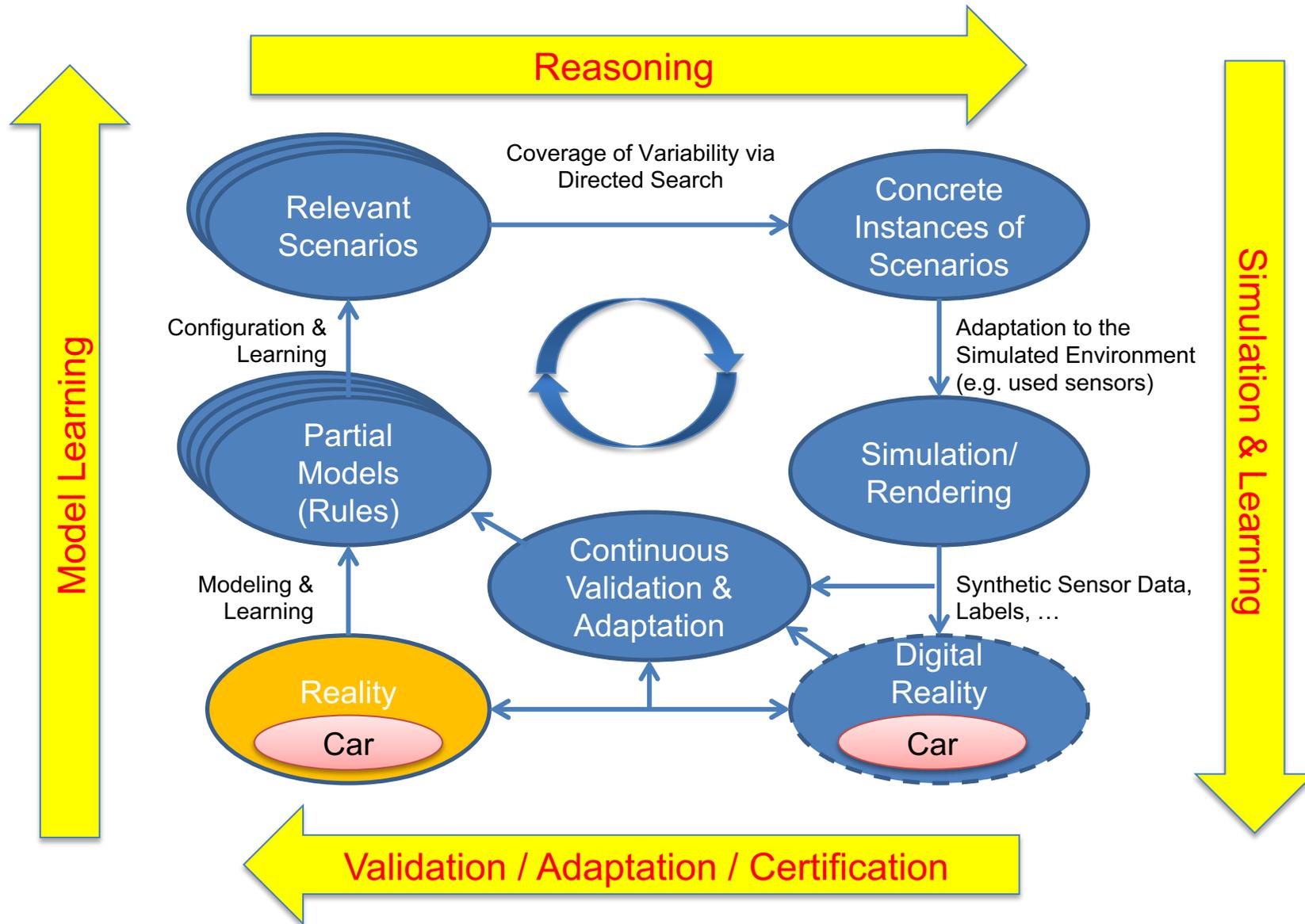


Digital Reality: AI to Optimize and Certify AI

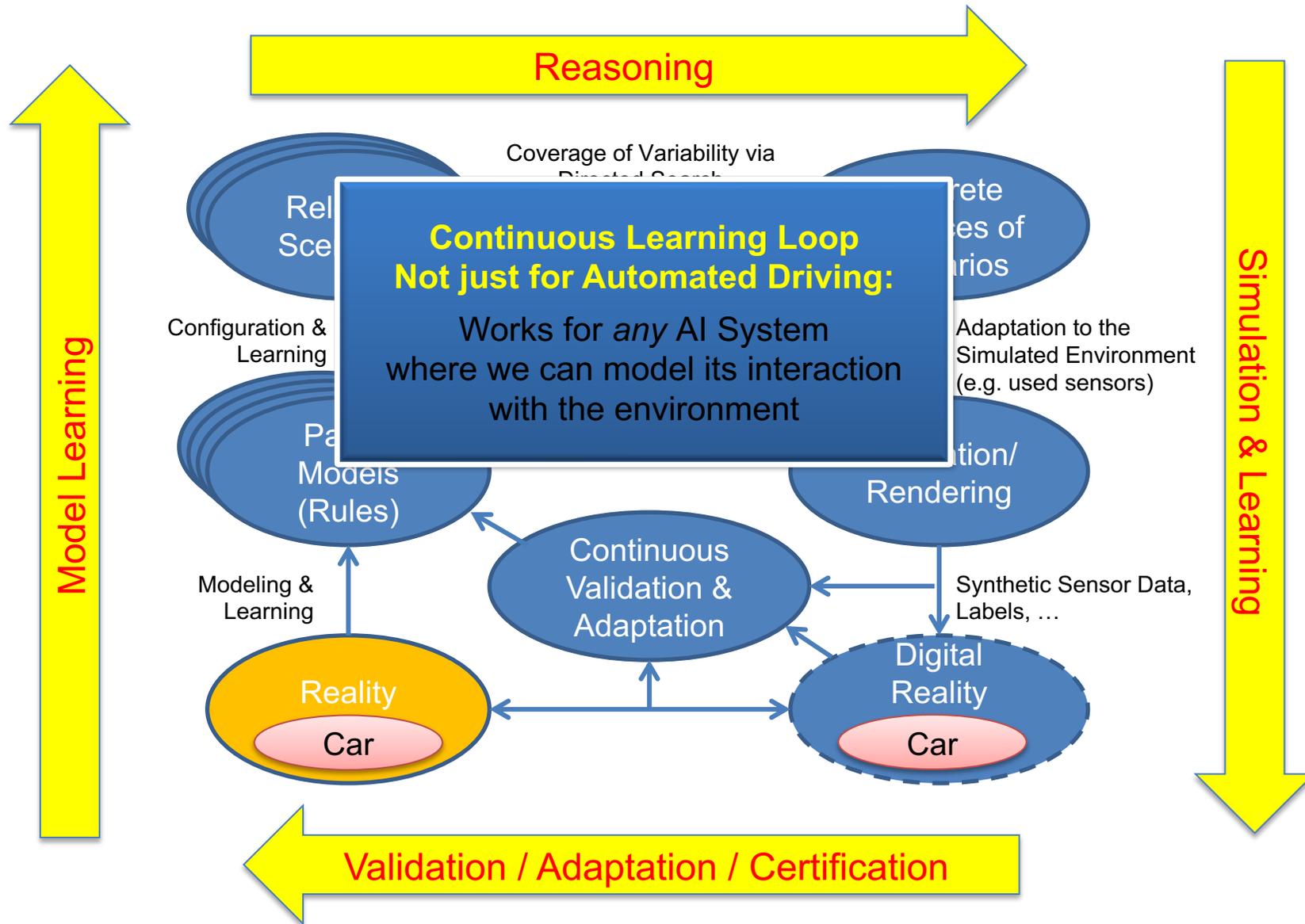


Training, Validation, and Certification of AI Systems → **Trusted AI**

Digital Reality: AI to Optimize and Certify AI



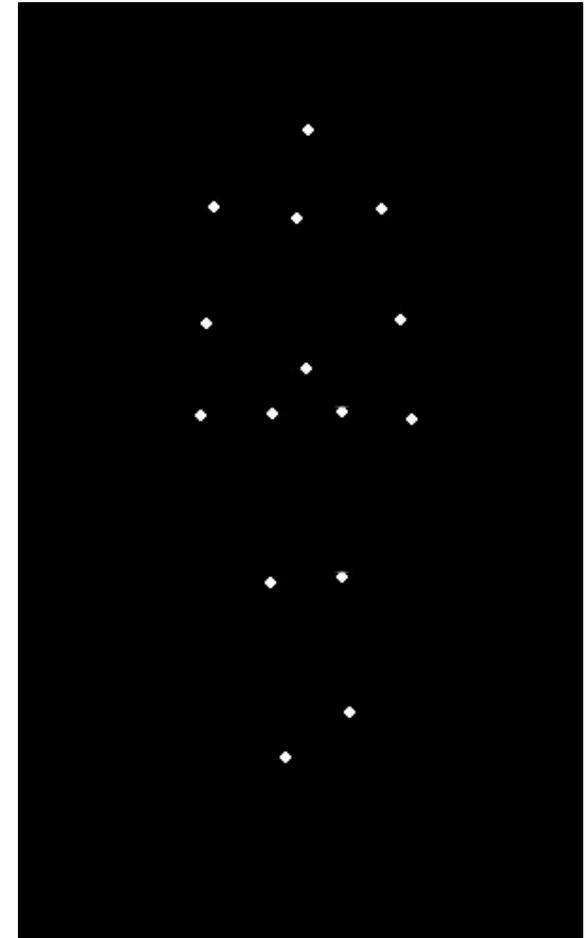
Digital Reality: AI to Optimize and Certify AI



Challenge: Better Models of the World (e.g. Pedestrians)



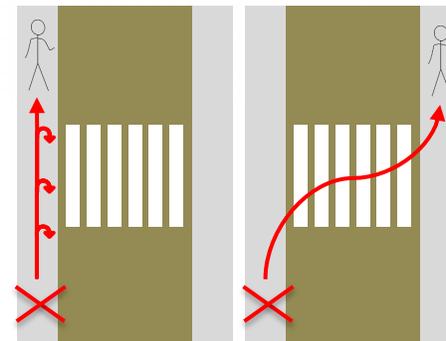
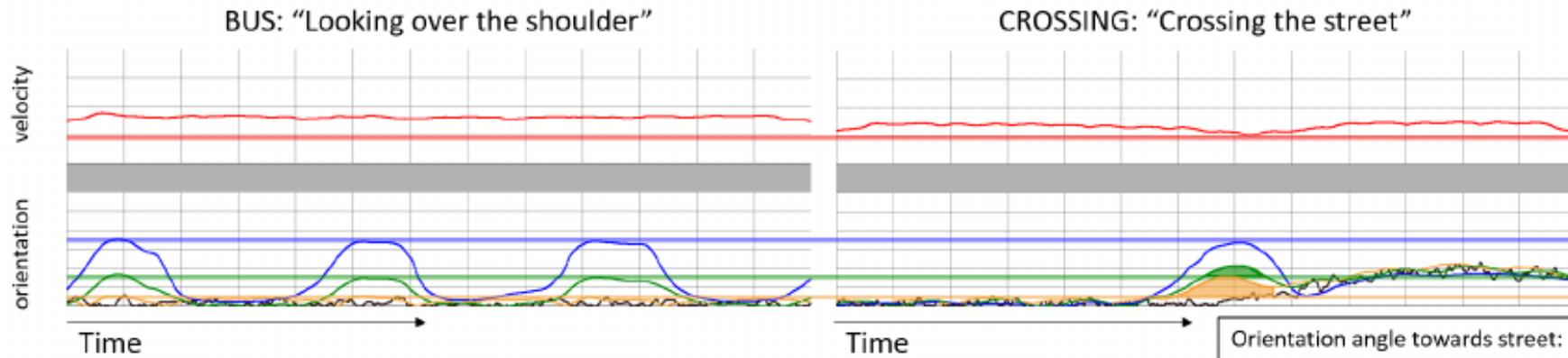
- **Long history in motion research (>40 years)**
 - E.g. Gunnar Johansson's Point Light Walkers (1974)
 - Significant interdisciplinary research (e.g. psychology)
- **Humans can easily discriminate different styles**
 - E.g. gender, age, weight, mood, ...
 - Based on minimal information
- **Can we teach machines the same?**
 - Detect if pedestrian will cross the street
 - Parameterized motion model & style transfer
 - Predictive models & physical limits



Challenge: Pedestrian Motion



- **Characterizing Pedestrian Motion**
 - Clear motion differences when crossing the street



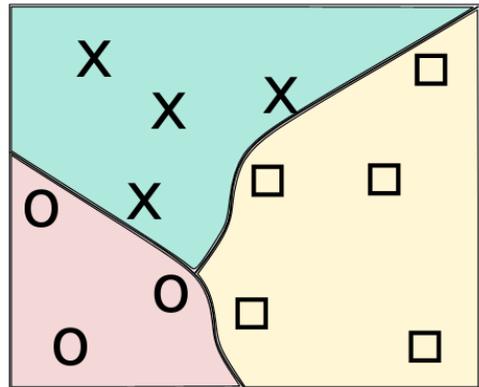
Bus

Crossing

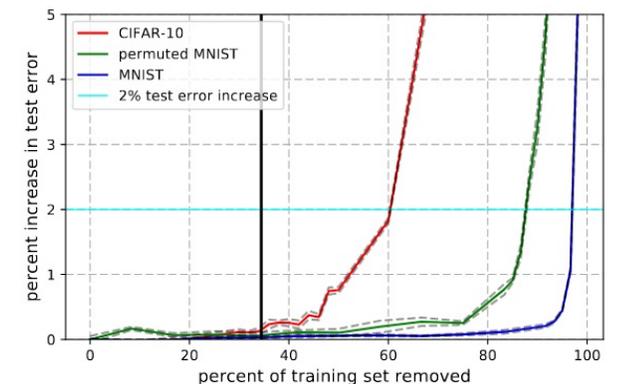
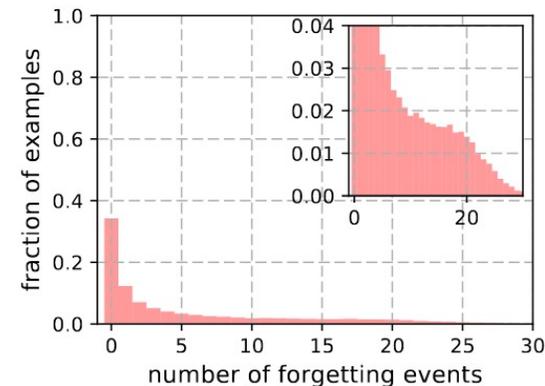
Improved Sampling Strategies for NN Training in Sparse Environments



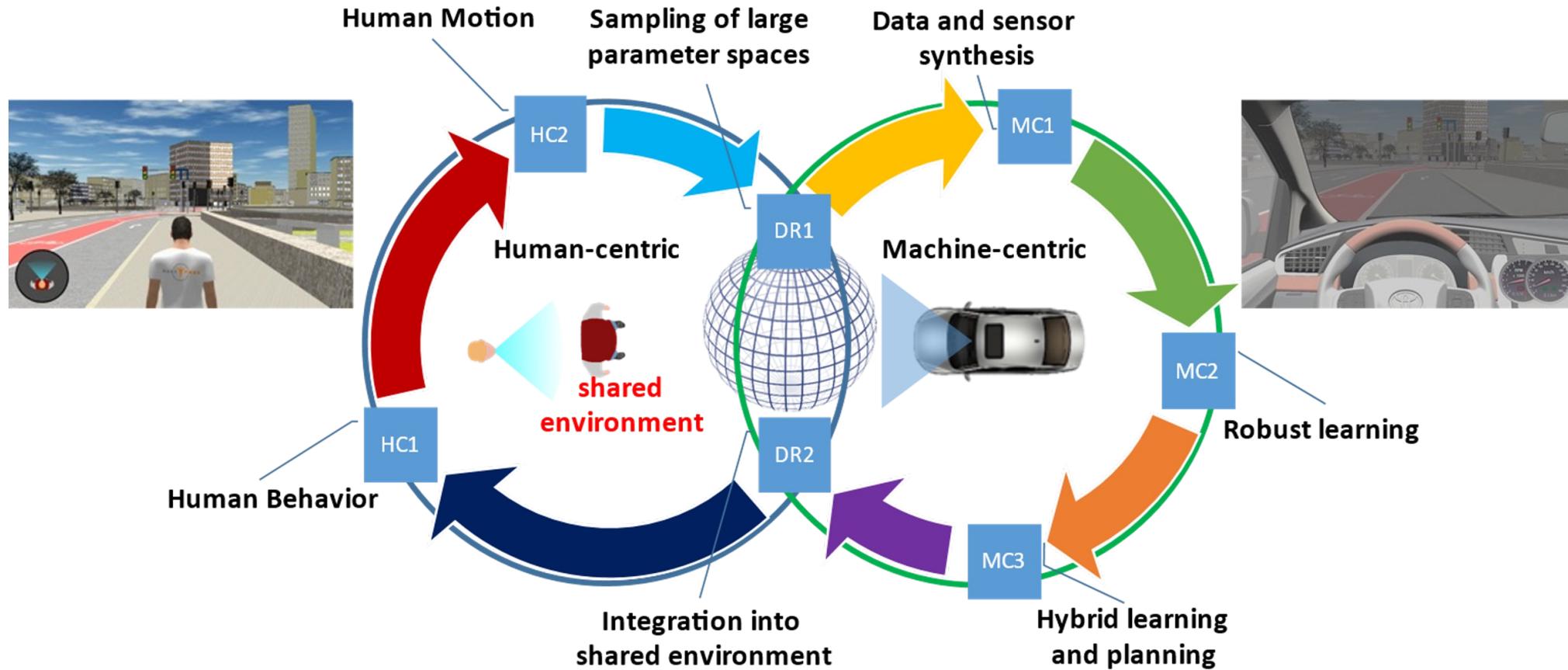
- How can we train more efficiently
 - by focusing on the most relevant training data
 - particularly near decision boundaries



- How can we train more robustly by adversarial perturbations?



Structure of MOMENTUM

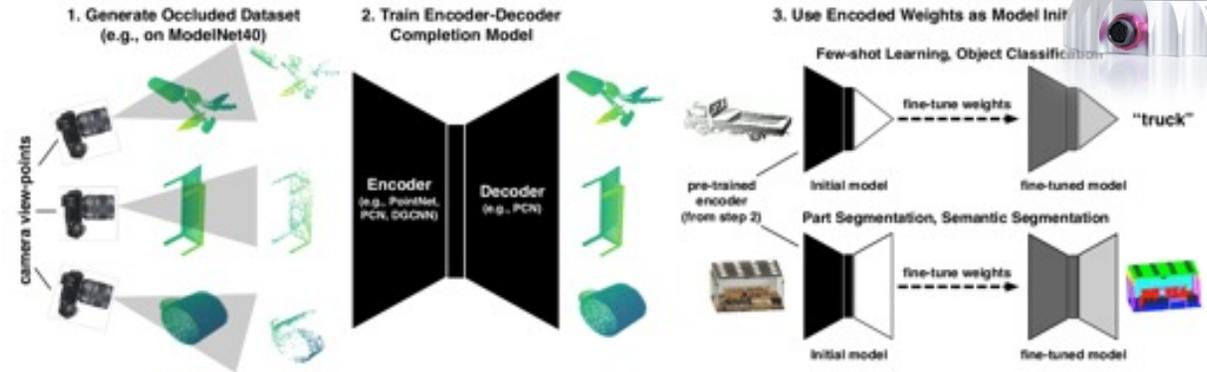


HC: Human-Centric
 MC: Machine-Centric
 DR: Digital Reality (Integration)

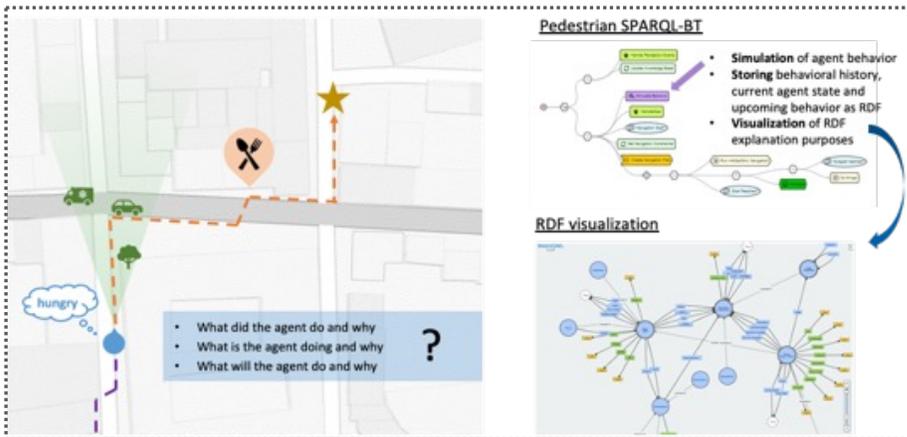
Key Research Questions (Selection)



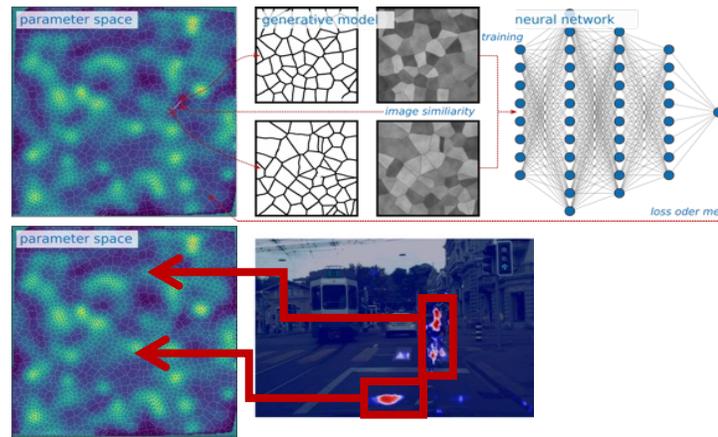
Cross-Cultural (JA-DE) VR-Study of Pedestrian Behavior & Motion in the Real World



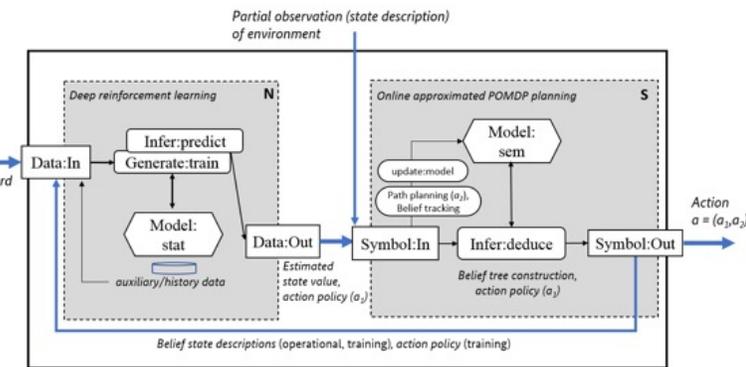
Robust Semi- & Self-Supervised Learning and Unsupervised Domain Adaptation for Improving Difficult Object Detection from Varying Sensor Data (Lidar, Radar, ...)



Novel Agent Framework for Modelling and Synthesizing Realistic High-Level Behavior



Directed and Adaptive Sampling of High-Dimensional Parameter Spaces



Neuro-Explicit AI Approaches: e.g. Hybrid Planning and Learning

Cross-Cultural Pedestrian Models

Studying Motion, Behavior & Intentions in VR



- **CrossCDR user study in Germany**

- DFKI Saarbrücken, room „Reuse“

11.11.2021 – 16.12.2021



with Japanese participants, researchers from a Japanese professional company

- COVID-19-induced hygienic concept and entry restrictions for Japan
- Data privacy and ethical issues checked for JP
- Instructors: **Janis Sprenger, Saori Ohtani, André Antakli**, Shoma Kudo

Coordination: Matthias Klusch (DFKI), Yoshi Kobayashi (AIST)



Thank you very much
for your attention !



Human Centric AI.

