

11<sup>e</sup> Conférence internationale  
LYON 2023 — L'eau dans la ville | Urban water

Organisée par



nôvatech  
L'eau dans la ville | Urban water

## A Digital Twin platform for purpose-driven modelling

### *Une plateforme jumeau digital pour une modélisation axée sur ses objectifs*

Manfred Schütze, Leonie Förster, Christian Hübner, Jens Alex  
Ifak e. V. Magdeburg

## Context: ZwillE research project

nôva  
TECH  
L'eau dans la ville | Urban water

“ZwillE – Digital twin for an AI-assisted management of extreme water events  
in urban areas”

- <https://zwillE-projekt.de/>



Project partners:

Stadtentwässerung  
Hannover  
Wir klären das.



hydro & meteo

IAB  
Institut für Angewandte  
Bauforschung Weimar

ifak Atos

- Funding (02/2022 – 01/2025):

SPONSORED BY THE  
Federal Ministry  
of Education  
and Research

FONA  
Nachhaltiges Wassermanagement

WaXo  
Wasser-Extremereignisse

## Context: ZwiIE research project



### Objectives of ZwiIE project:

- Resilient and sustainable urban wastewater infrastructure systems
- Assuring safe wastewater management also under hydrologically extreme conditions

### To be achieved by:

- Improved prediction of extreme situations
- Proactive reduction of impacts of extreme events (short-term control in acute situations; long-term planning for adaptation of infrastructure)
- ...
- Example case: Wastewater system of city of Hannover/Germany

## Context: ZwiIE research project



### Selected aspects:

#### • Rainfall nowcasting and prediction:

Tuesday, Poster Session:

„Advanced real-time precipitation components for urban hydrological applications as part of a digital twin for the city of Hanover“

Thomas Einfalt, Alrun Jasper-Tönnies, Manfred Schütze, Erik Ristenpart, Alexander Strehz

#### • Setting up a Digital Twin:

- Covers many different aspects
- Focus here: implications for sewer system modelling

# The ZwiLE Digital Twin use cases

## Use Case 1

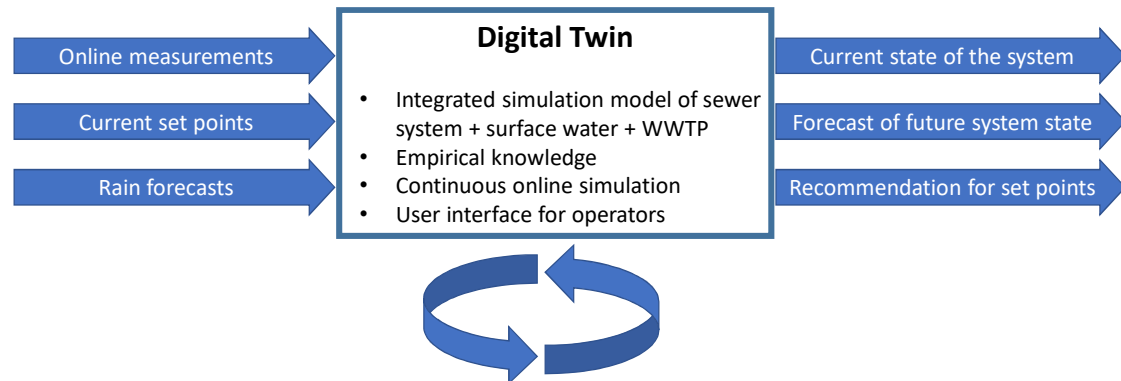
Online modelling (representation of current state of the wastewater system)

## Use Case 2

Short-term planning during acute events (e.g. control)

## Use Case 3

Long-term strategic planning (to prepare for future)  
(e.g. infrastructure: sewer system, WWTPs)



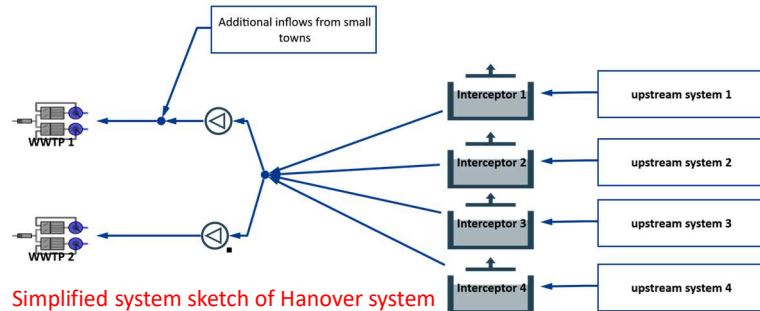
# The ZwiLE Digital Twin: Challenge No. 1: Modelling requirements

- Different use cases have different requirements, for example with regard to:
  - Simulation speed
  - Degree of detail
  - Visualisation
- Traditional approach: Use of different types of simulation models, e.g. (for sewer systems):
  - Hydrological sewer models
  - Hydrodynamic sewer models
 -> Maintaining two different models (usually in different software packages)

## Case study: Hanover/Germany

- Hanover region: approx. 750000 inhabitants
- Flat sewer system, 4 main interceptor sewers
- 2 WWTPs (jointly: 1.25 million PE)
- Relatively small receiving water (flooding; affecting CSO options)

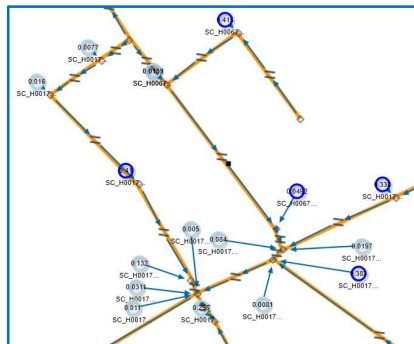
Fully dynamic (IWA ASM3-based)  
models of WWTP1 and WWTP2



## Modelling base

### I. Detailed hydrodynamic model

- Implemented in Simba# simulator
- Set up/combined with GIS features



#### Detailed hydrodynamic model:

33446 Subcatchments

41139 Pipes

38565 Junctions

...

+ Weirs


+ Pumps

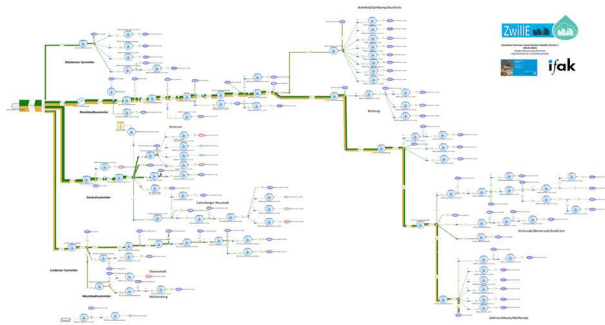
+ Orifices

+ Outlets

# Modelling base

## II. Hydrological (simplified) model,

- Implemented in Simba# simulator 
- DWA A102-compatible



### Hydrological model:

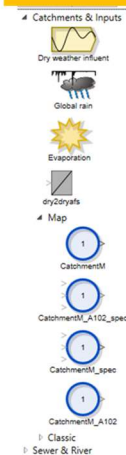
- 92 Subcatchments, each with 4 subcategories (acc. to DWA A102-2 runoff-pollution)
- 95 Tanks and CSO structures
- 84 Collectors

# Modelling base: Simba# simulator

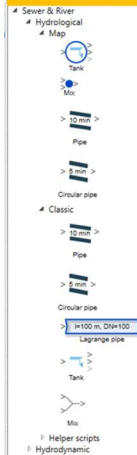
## The Simba# simulator

- Sewer systems:
  - Rainfall-runoff processes
  - Hydrologic modelling
  - Hydrodynamic modelling
  - Combinations thereof
  - Control  
(arbitrary control concepts, e.g., IEC 61131-ST, MBPC)
  - Optional: pollutants
- Integrability with WWTP and river
- ifakFAST (open source) interface for connection with SCADA and PCS

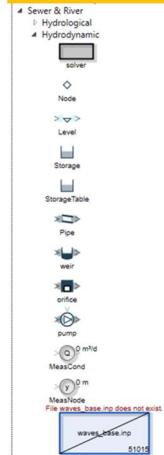
### Catchments&Inputs



### Hydrologic blocks



### Hydrodynamic blocks

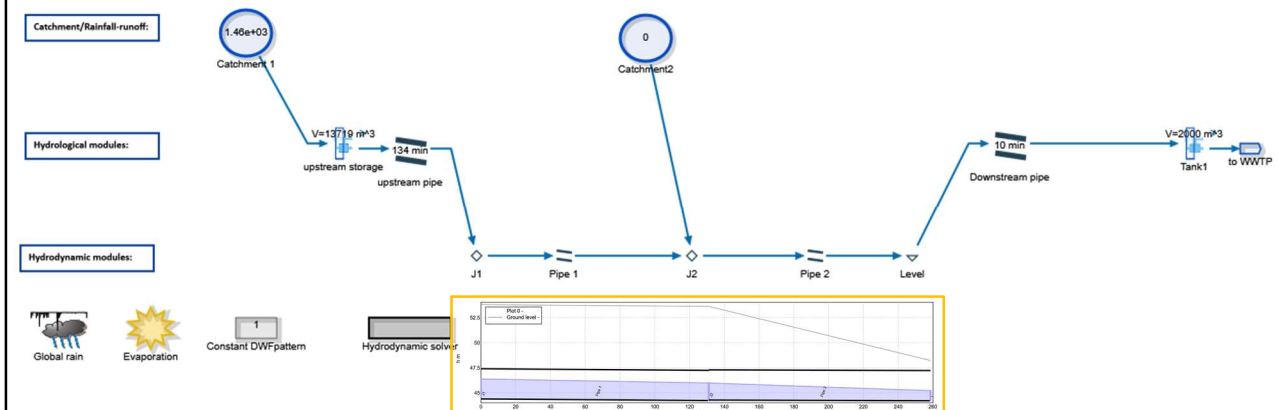


# Modelling base

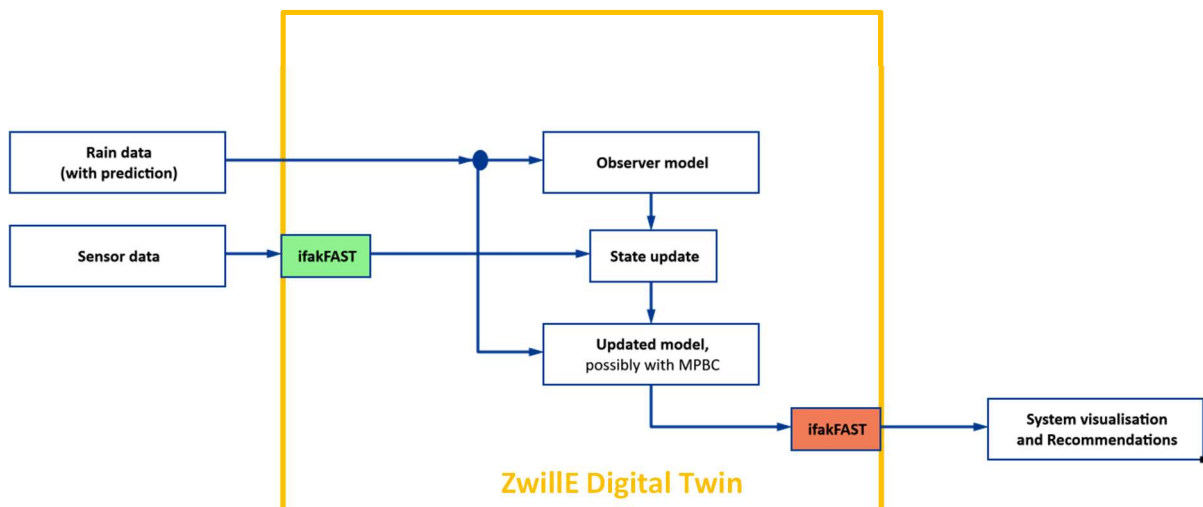
## Challenge: Importance of flat interceptors

- one model too complex, one model too simple

-> **Solution: Combining modelling approaches within one model**



# Draft model architecture of the Digital Twin



# The ZwillE Digital Twin: Challenge No. 2: Data access/management

## Challenge: Wastewater system = Critical infrastructure:

- Data security is of very high importance
- Municipal wastewater company is careful about providing data access

## Solution: Data for the Digital Twin written to external server

- See next slide

# The ZwillE Digital Twin: Data access/management

## ZwillE Coordinator (ATOS)

### Central ZwillE-Server

- MQTT broker receives data from SEH
- Database with time series
- SIMBA simulator
- Rain forecasts from h&m
- Measurement data from ifs

## Municipal wastewater company (SEH)

- OPC UA Client reads data
- MQTT publisher sends the data to the central ZwillE server
- Can be implemented e.g. with **ifakFAST (free, open source)**

Virtual Machine

### OPC UA Server

Reading access to selected tags / measured values

Encrypted MQTT

OPC UA

Demilitarized Zone (DMZ)

## Some pitfalls in model evaluation

### Some discussions in the development process of the Digital Twin:

- Individual events vs. continuous simulation
- Assessment criteria for model fitting

## Some pitfalls in model evaluation: Event-based evaluation vs. Long-series

- Modelling example: Evaluation of RTC potential over 1 year:
  - MPC as compared to local control: 10 % Reduction of CSO volume
- Event-based evaluation (using following – simplified – event definition):
  - Start: if at least one rainage > 0 mm
  - End: if all rainages = 0 for at least 6 hours
  - Overflow event: if CSO in base case
- -> 54 CSO events (on average: 34 % reduction of CSO volume)
- Event-based evaluation:

% Reduction	Reduction of CSO volume	% of 54 events
< 0	getting worse	1,9
0 bis 0.1	practically same as before	7,4
0.1 - 5	very slight reduction	14,8
5 - 20	slight reduction	25,9
20 - 50	significant reduction	22,2
50 - 99	very significant reduction	16,7
100	No CSO overflow at all by control	11,1
		100,0

10 %

40 %

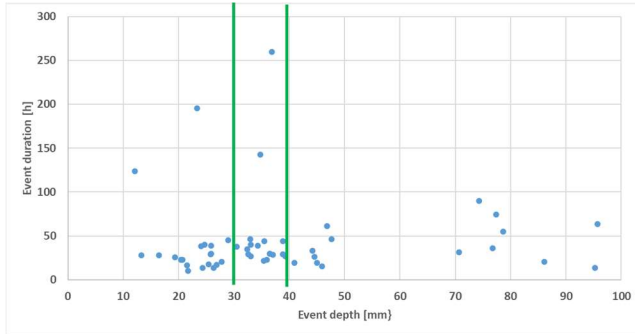
50 %



# Some pitfalls in model evaluation: Event-based evaluation vs. Long-series



- Evaluation over (deliberately) selected events:



- Caution: Event-based evaluation can be misleading
- Besser: Langzeitauswertung!

- Grouping of events into 6 subgroups
- Selecting one event per subgroup
- Results with regard to this selection:

a) Deliberately „against control“

Events with SMALL %CSO Volume reduction	
Event #	% Reduction (MBPC)
43	0
36	22
26	17
37	3
41	6
6	14
Average of these 6:	10

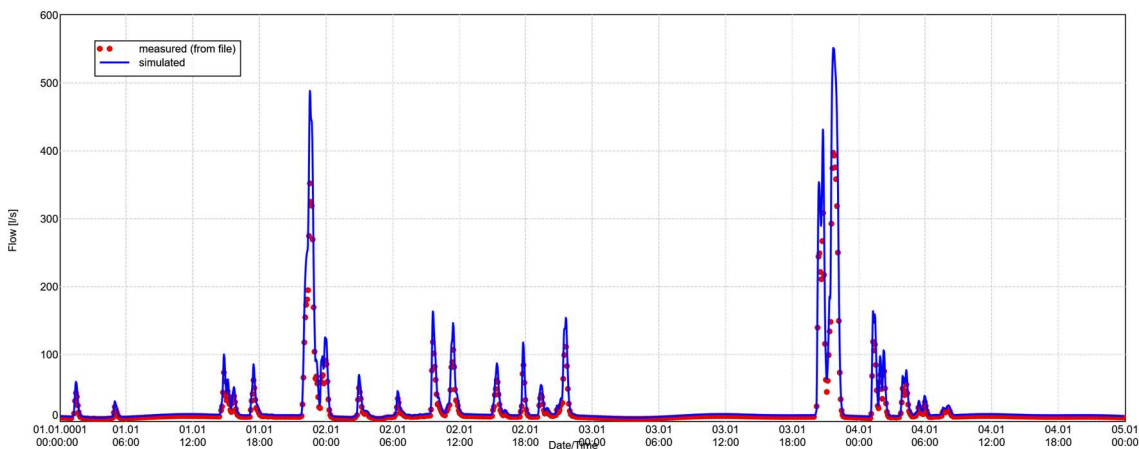
b) Deliberately „for control“

Events with LARGE %CSO Volume reduction	
Event #	% Reduction (MBPC)
2	100
8	100
17	66
15	100
24	6
3	27
Average of these 6:	67

# Some pitfalls in model evaluation: Assessment of model fitting



- How would you assess this fit between measured and simulated data?



# Some pitfalls in model evaluation: Assessment of model fitting

- How would you assess this fit between measured and simulated data?

Explanation table (according to Zior (1987))

ID	Name	Unit	Very good	good	satisfactory	not satisfactory
DEVS	Hydrologic Deviation	[%]	0.3	3..10	10..30	> 18
DEVM	Modified Hydrologic Deviation	[%]	0.15	15..30	30..50	> 50
STAN (=NSE)	Modified Standard Deviation (Nash-Sutcliffe Efficiency)	[-]	1.0..0.85	0.85..0.65	0.65..0.45	< 0.35
VOL	Volume balance	[-]	abs < 0.5	abs < 5..10	abs < 10..15	abs > 15
HScore	Henrichs' score	[-]	1..1.5	1.5..2.5	2.5..4.5	> 4.5
MAE	Mean Absolute Error	[-]				
RMSE	Root Mean Square Error	[-]				
NNSE	Normalised NSE	[-]				
DYMAX	Difference in maximum value	[%]				
Pears-R	Pearson correlation coefficient	[-]				
KGE_SD	Kling-Gupta Efficiency 2009 (using alpha)	[-]				
KGE_CV	Kling-Gupta Efficiency 2012 (using gamma)	[-]				

Name	Unit	Value	Interpretation
DEVS	[%]	1.12	very good
DEVM	[%]	24.19	good
STAN (=NSE)	[-]	0.97	very good
VOL	[%]	-28.29	not satisfactory
H-Score	[-]	2.51	unsatisfactory
MAE	[-]	623.61	
RMSE	[-]	1601.32	
NNSE	[%]	0.97	
DYMAX		-28.09	
Pears-R	[-]	1	
KGE_SD	[-]	0.44	
KGE_CV	[-]	-0.02	

# Assessment in model fitting: Some commonly applied criteria:

With  $y_i$  ( $i=1, \dots, n$ ) the simulated values (equidistant),  
 $z_i$  ( $i=1, \dots, n$ ) the measured values (equidistant),  
 $n$ : number of values to be compared  
 $Y_{mean}$  := Mean ( $y_i$ )  
 $Z_{max}$  := Max ( $z_i$ );  $Z_{mean}$  := Mean ( $z_i$ )

**Hydrologic Deviation DEVS:**

$$DEVS := 200 \frac{\sum |y_i - z_i| * z_i}{n * z_{max}^2}$$

**Volume balance VOL:**

With  
 $V_y$ : Volume (Integral) of simulated values,  
 $V_z$ : Volume (integral) of measured values  
 $VOL := 100 \frac{V_z - V_y}{V_y}$

**Root Mean Square Error RMSE:**

$$RMSE := \sqrt{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - z_i)^2}$$

**Modified Standard Deviation after Maniak (STAN); Nash-Sutcliffe Efficiency (NSE):**

With

$$R_0^2 := \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (z_i - z_{mean})^2 \quad \text{and} \quad R^2 := \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (z_i - y_i)^2$$

$$STAN := NSE := \frac{R_0^2 - R^2}{R_0^2} = 1 - \frac{R^2}{R_0^2}$$

NSE has a value within the interval  $[-\infty; 1]$  with  
 NSE = 1 indicating a perfect match,  
 NSE = 0: simulated value corresponds to mean of measured values  
 NSE < 0: mean of measured values representing a better prediction than the results of the simulation

**Henrich's Score (Henrichs, 2015):**

- Combination of *NSE, VOL, DYMAX*
- German school marks
- (1=very good; 5=complete failure)

**Implemented criteria**

ID	Name of hydrologic error criteria	Unit
DEVS	Hydrologic Deviation	[%]
DEVM	Modified Hydrologic Deviation	[%]
STAN (=NSE)	Modified Standard Deviation (Nash-Sutcliffe Efficiency)	[-]
VOL	Volume balance	[-]
MAE	Mean Absolute Error	[-]
RMSE	Root Mean Square Error	[-]
NNSE	Normalised NSE	[-]
DYMAX	Difference in maximum value	[%]
HScore	Henrichs' score (combined from NSE, VOL, DYMAX)	[-]
Pears-R	Pearson correlation coefficient	[-]
KGE_SD	Kling-Gupta Efficiency 2009 (using alpha)	[-]
KGE_CV	Kling-Gupta Efficiency 2012 (using gamma)	[-]
alpha	for KGE: alpha [Stddev(simul)/Stddev(meas)]	[-]
beta	for KGE: beta [Mean(simul)/Mean(meas)]	[-]
gamma	for KGE: gamma [Var(simul)/Var(meas)]	[-]

## Conclusions / Key issues

- Different use cases might require different digital twins.
- Models of different degree of complexity can be “merged”.
- A concept for safe data processing and for connection of the model to the world has been proposed.
- A unified model setup supports development and application of digital twins.
  
- Some work still needs to be done for the ZwillE Digital Twin.
- Exciting potential extensions:
  - Besides coupling with pumping stations and WWTP models, also other Simba# models (e.g. drinking water networks) could be integrated
  - Integration of RTC concepts (e.g. MBPC, as any Simba# model can be used as an internal model for MBPC).

## Thank you!

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