

# Digital twin as a Service (DTaaS) Software Platform

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# PRESENTATION OUTLINE

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- 1) Requirements for Digital Twin Platforms
- 2) A Conceptual Framework
- 3) DTaaS software platform
- 4) Implementation Status

# PRESENTATION OUTLINE

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## *1) Requirements for Digital Twin Platforms*

### *1) User Requirements*

2) Technical Requirements

3) Example

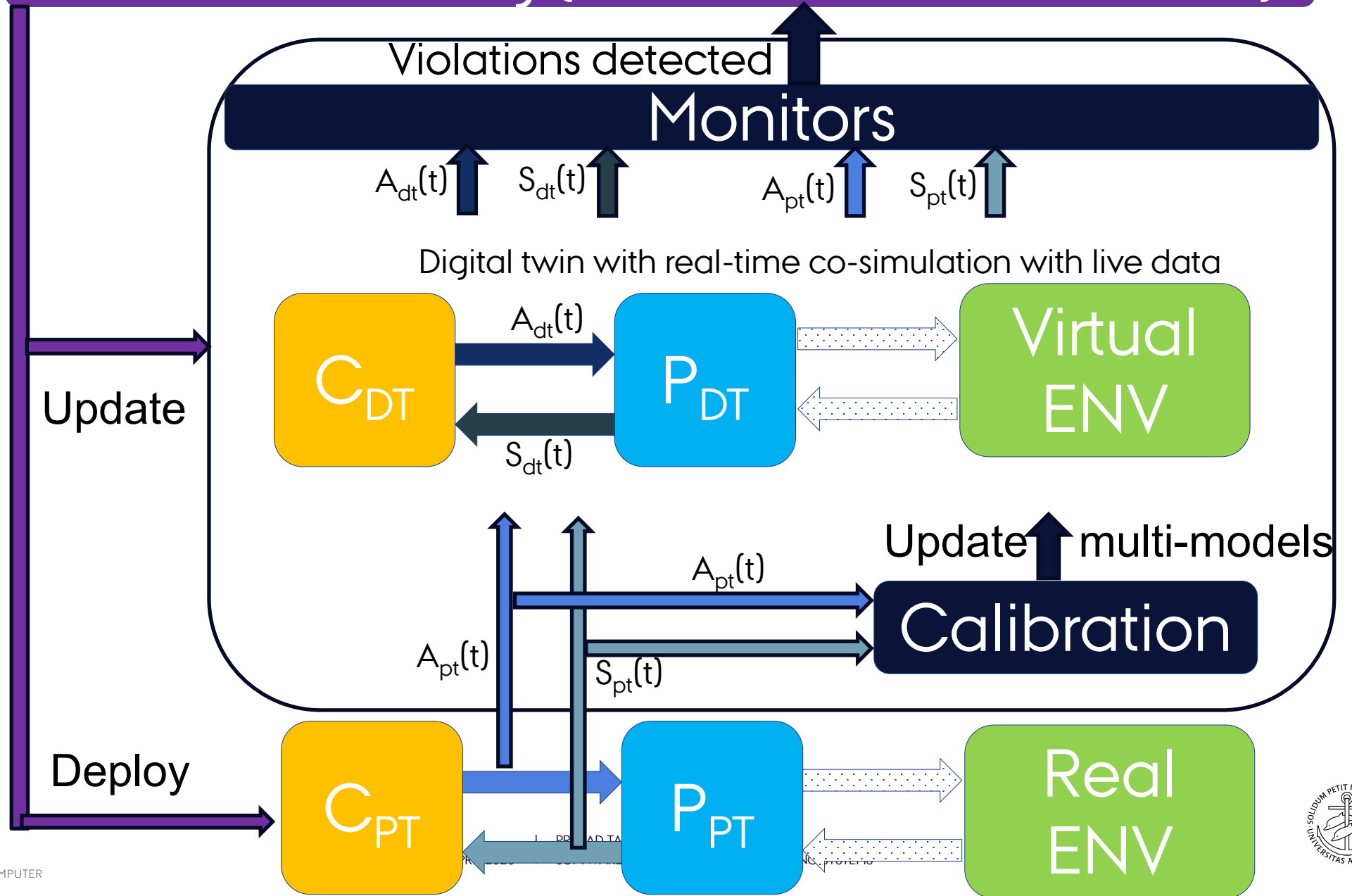
2) A Conceptual Framework

3) DTaaS software platform

4) Implementation Status

# Decision making (autonomous or human)

## Schematic View of A Digital Twin



C – Cyber P – Physical  
DT – Digital Twin  
PT – Physical Twin

# A PEEK INTO USER ROLES?

*DT User*

Type of User	Create DT Assets	Configure DT	Reconfigure DT	Execute DT	Analyze Results	Save DT
SME Manufacturers	✓	✓				✓
SME Customers			✓	✓	✓	✓
Software Consultants	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Researchers	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

*DT Asset Provider*

*DT Creator*



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# Decision making (autonomous or human)

Violations detected

## Monitors

$A_{dt}(t)$

$S_{dt}(t)$

$A_{pt}(t)$

$S_{pt}(t)$

Digital twin with real-time co-simulation with live data

Update



$A_{dt}(t)$



$S_{dt}(t)$

Virtual ENV

**Have Reusable Assets**

Update multi-models

## Calibration

$A_{pt}(t)$

$S_{pt}(t)$

Deploy



Real ENV

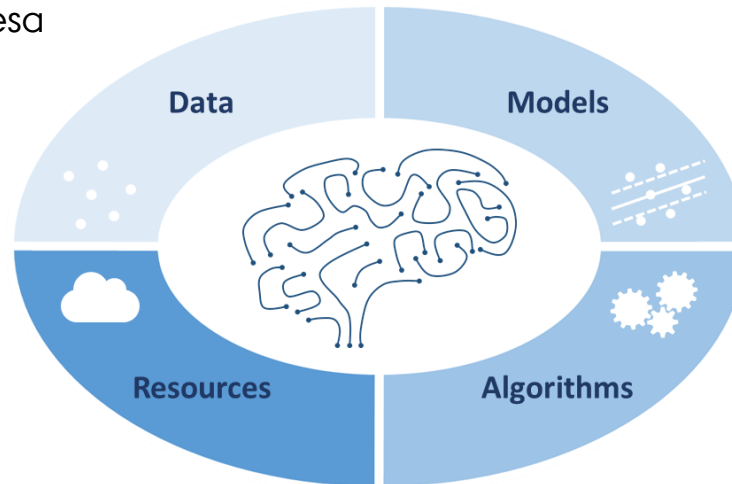
# Four Categories of Reusable Assets

## Data: (users)

Farmers using Agrobot  
Customers of FabMetrics  
Wood drying plants using Prodesa equipment

## Models: (manufacturers)

Agrobot (agricultural robot manufacturing factory and 3D CAD of agricultural robot)  
Prodesa (manufacturer of wood pellet dryers)  
FabMetrics (manufacturer of glass making equipment)



## Execution Platform and Infrastructure:

University of Westminister (MiCADO)  
SZTAKI (CloudBroker)  
EGI (Distributed Cluster Computing Infrastructure)  
Public Cloud Services (Azure, AWS)  
On-premises (FabMetrics)

## Microservice and Algorithms: (software vendors)

**Maestro** - co-simulation orchestration engine by Aarhus University  
**CAELIA** -ROM solver and Data Analysis by ITA-INNOVA  
**DDDSimulator** - discrete event simulator and 3D visualizer by TTS  
**Ristra** - Numerical simulator for mechanical structures by IGD, Fraunhofer  
**SAS** a lifecycle assessment tool by SUPSI



# Decision making (autonomous or human)

Violations detected

## Monitors

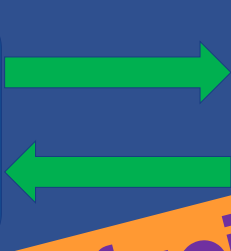
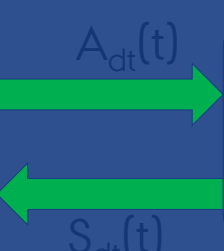
$A_{dt}(t)$

$S_{dt}(t)$

$A_{pt}(t)$

$S_{pt}(t)$

Digital twin with real-time co-simulation with live data



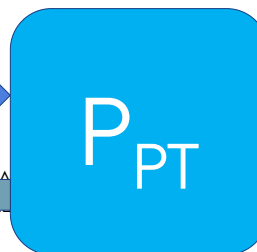
**Communication facilities**

Update multi-models

## Calibration

Update

Deploy



External communication

Internal communication

# Decision making (autonomous or human)

Violations detected

Monitors

Digital twin with real-time co-simulation with live data

C<sub>DT</sub>

P<sub>DT</sub>

Virtual ENV

Update

Update multi-models

Calibration

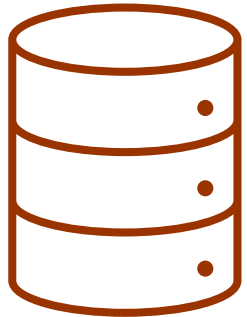
App

Deploy

C<sub>PT</sub>

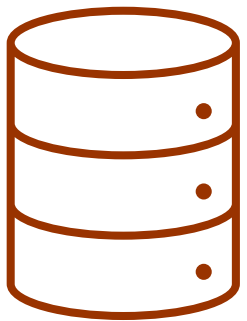
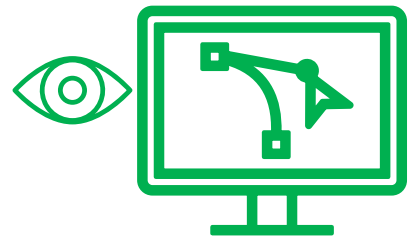
P<sub>PT</sub>

Real ENV

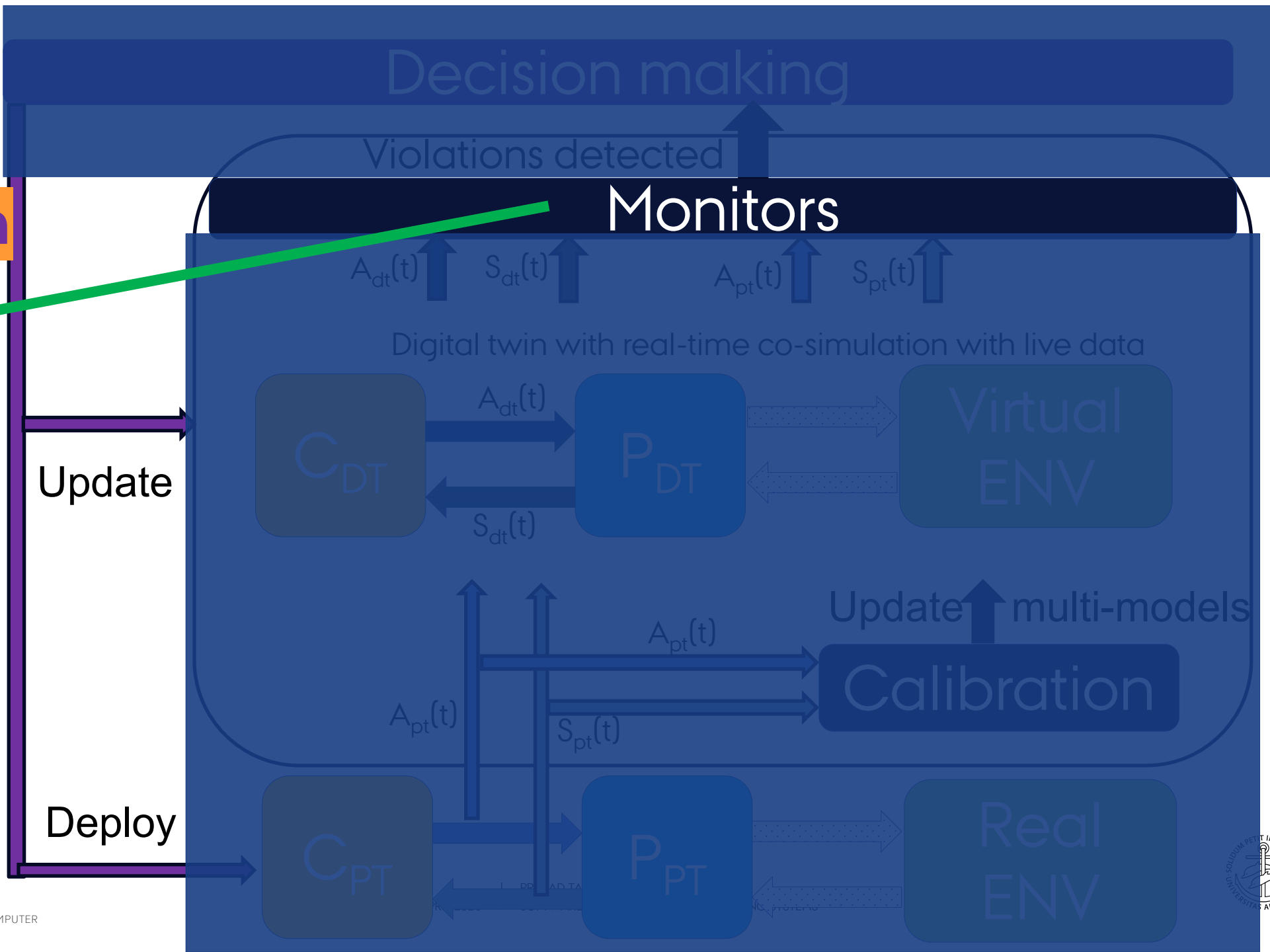


database

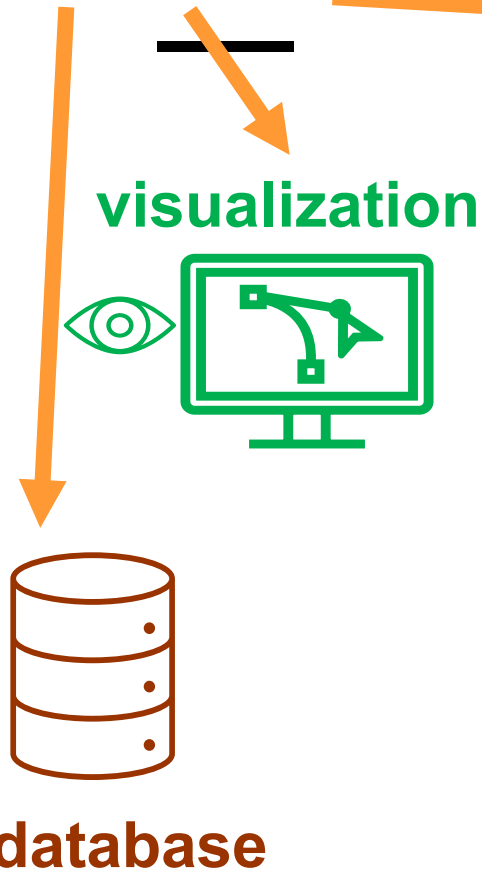
visualization



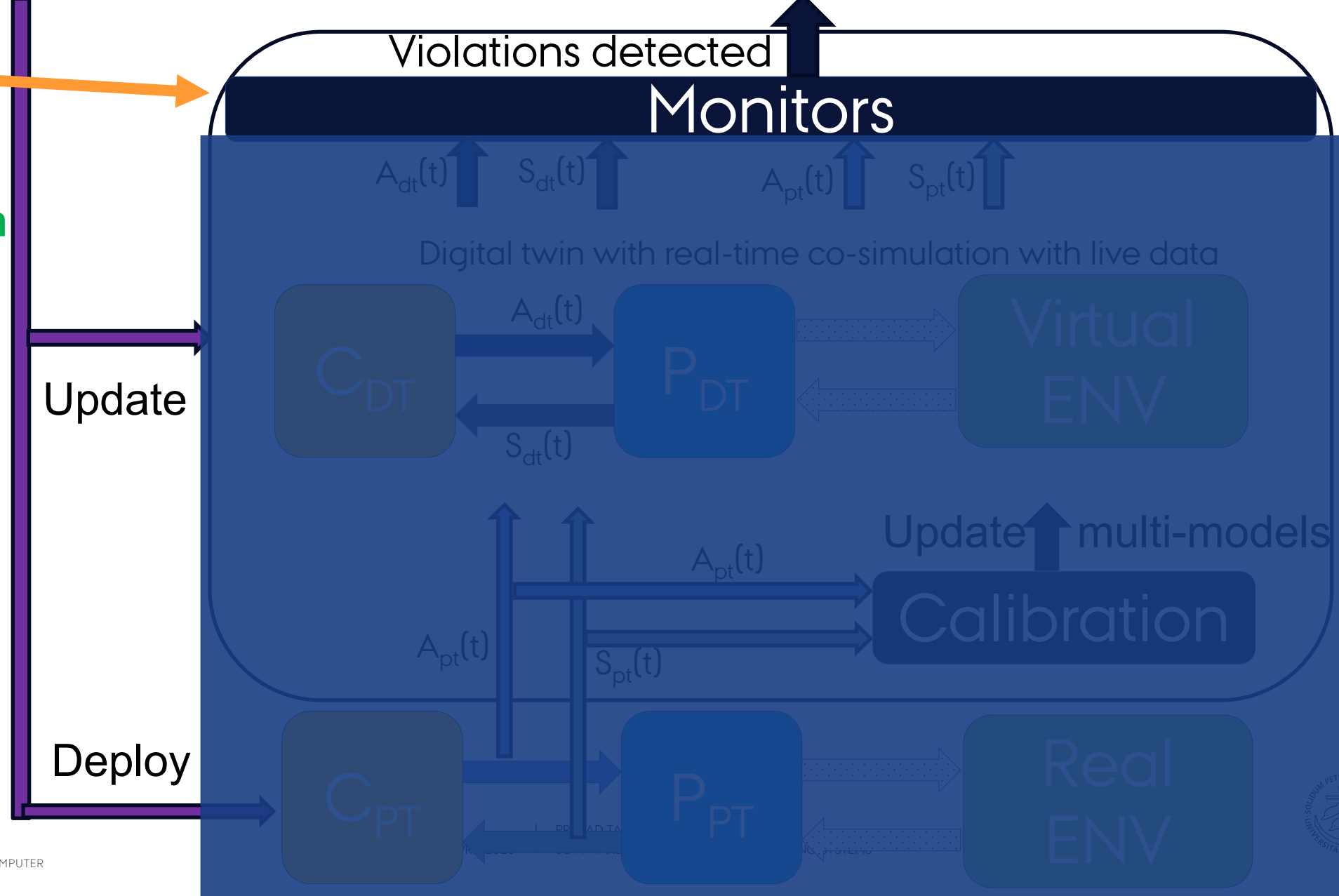
database



# Internal Services



# Decision making (external service)



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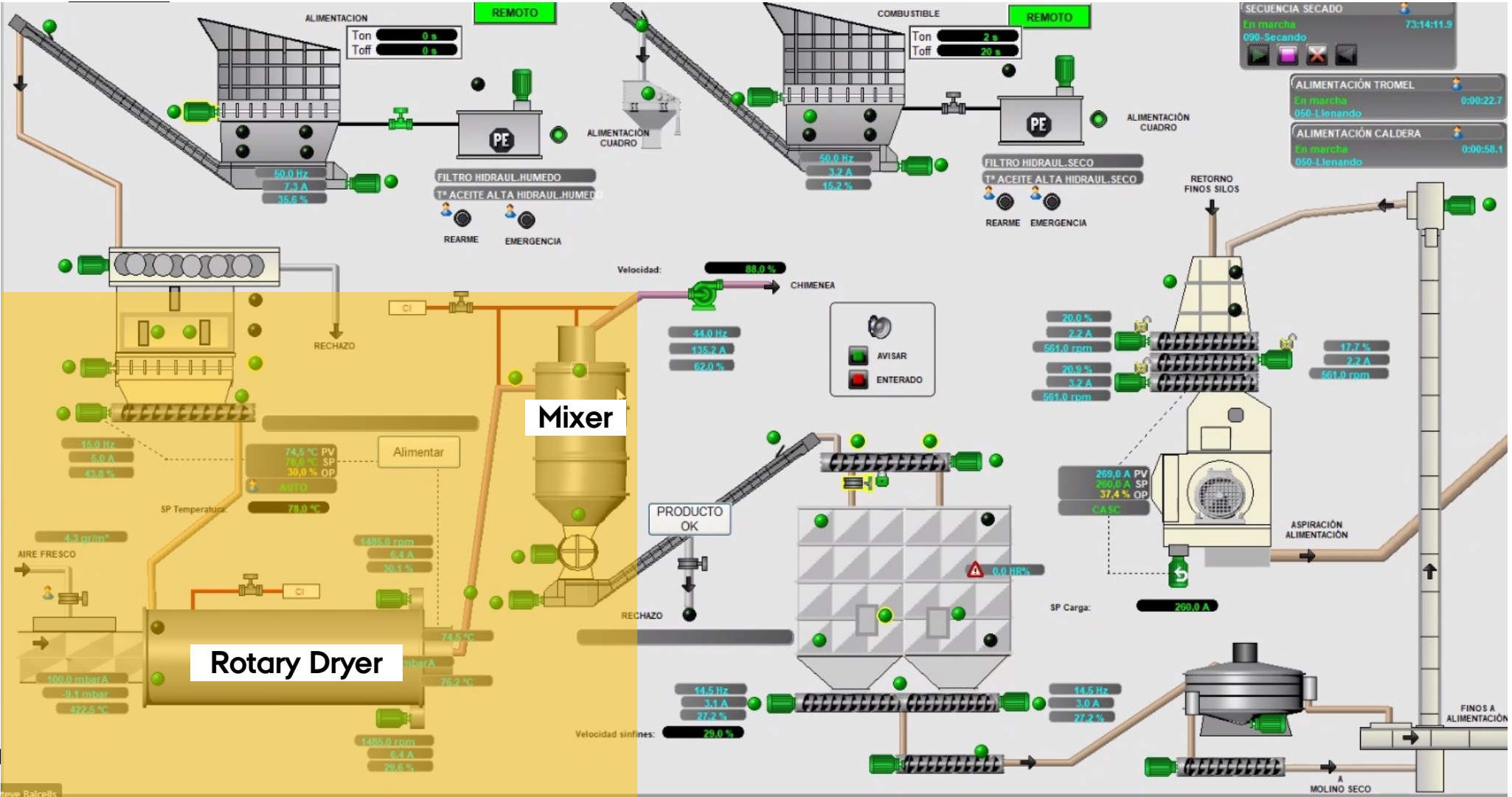
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- 2) Technical Requirements

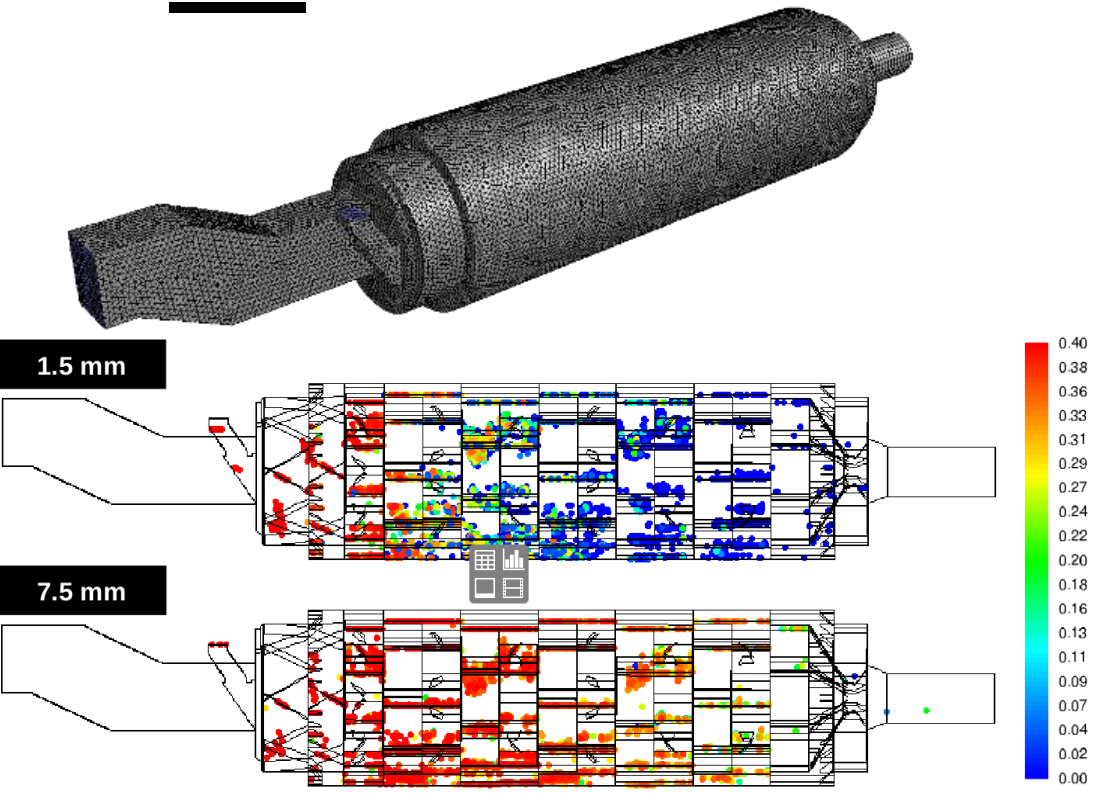
## *3) Example*

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# WOOD PELLET DRYING PLANT - PRODUCTION OPTIMIZATION

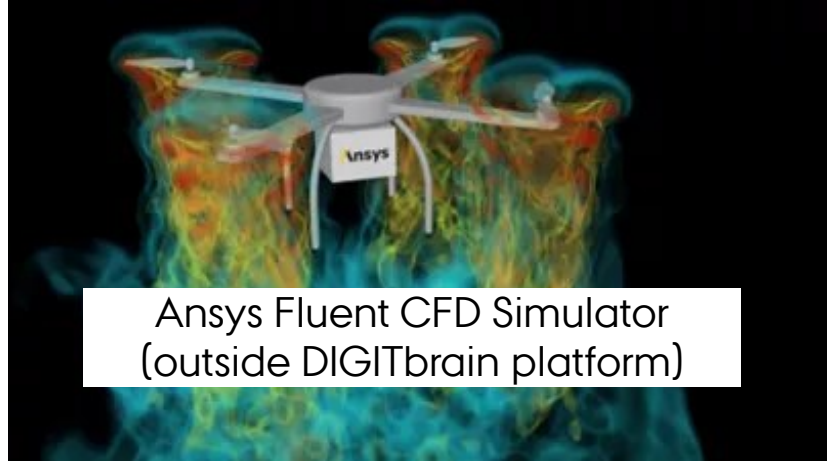


# WOOD PELLET DRYING PLANT – COMPETING MODELS: CFD MODEL



Rotary Dryer CFD Model

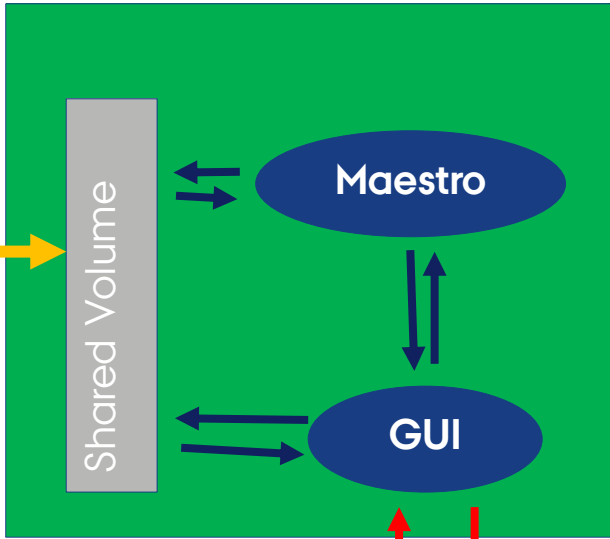
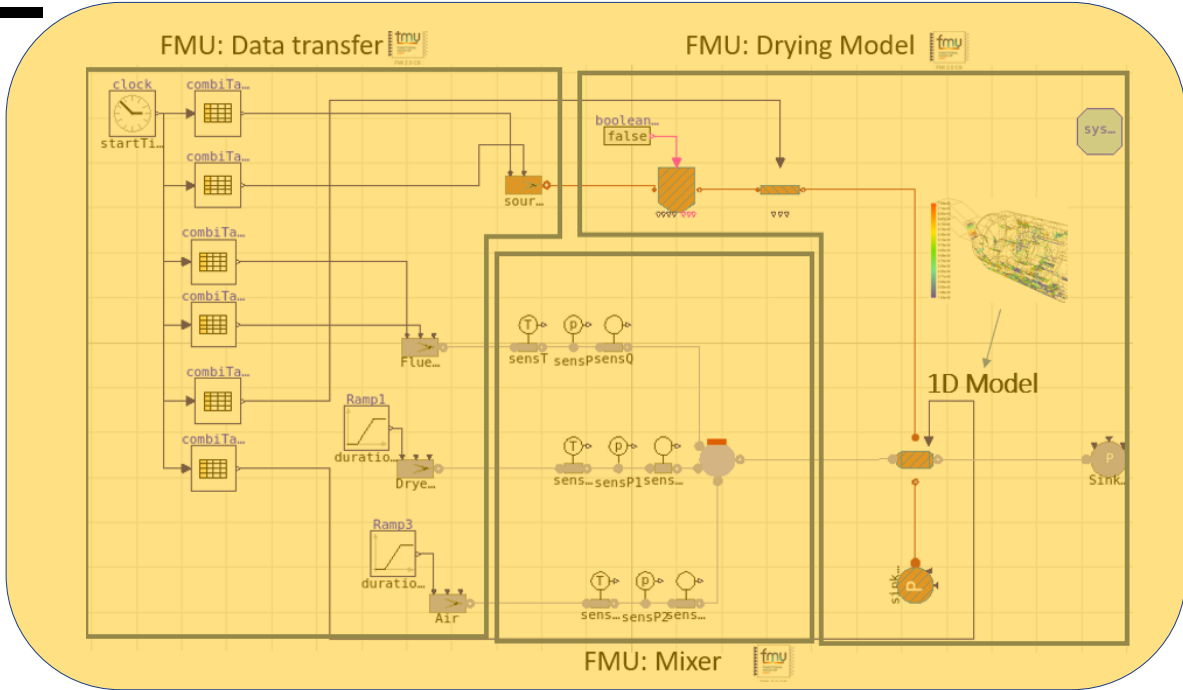
Plant data



Simulation Results

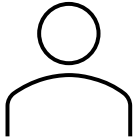


# WOOD PELLET DRYING PLANT - COMPETING MODELS: CO-SIMULATION MODELS



Plant data

Optimized production plan



Production Planner

- Model
- Data
- Microservice
- Algorithm





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# DIGITAL TWIN LAYERS: A PROPOSAL



***NOTE: This is not a strictly layered architecture***

# WHAT IS INSIDE THE DIGITAL TWIN LAYERS?

Twin Management

Configuration of DT      Analysis/queries capabilities      Decision support      Selection of what to visualise

Service Management

Actual model simulation      Experimental model simulation      Monitors      Calibration

Reconfiguration      Trend analysis      2D visualisation      3D visualisation

Asset Management

 Data       Models       Functions       Tools

Data Ingestion & Processing

Data collection      Data transmission      Data storage      Data processing      Data fusion      Data visualization

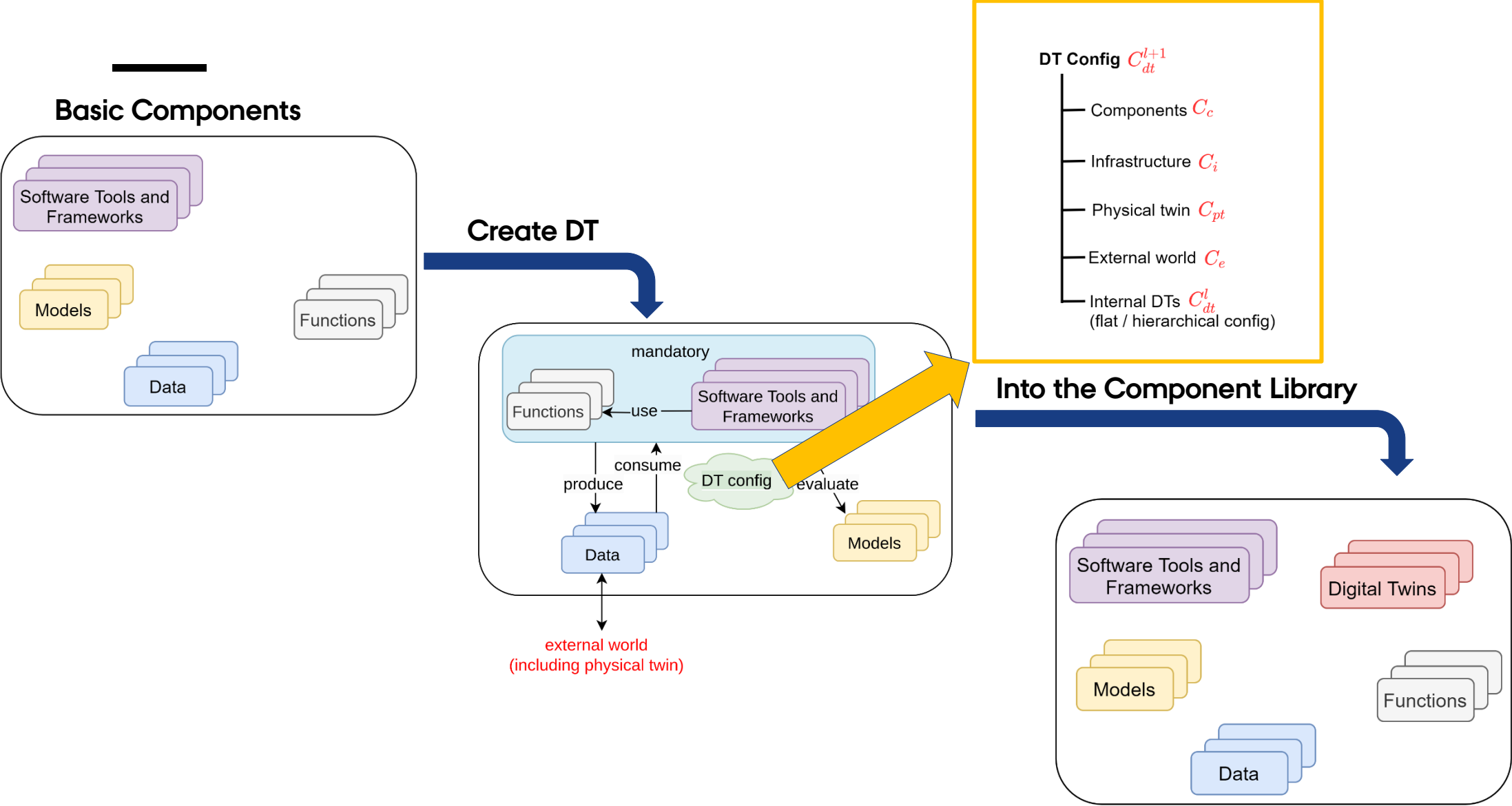
Adapters and brokers

Physical Entities

System of Systems      System      Subsystem      Component      Part

User Interaction

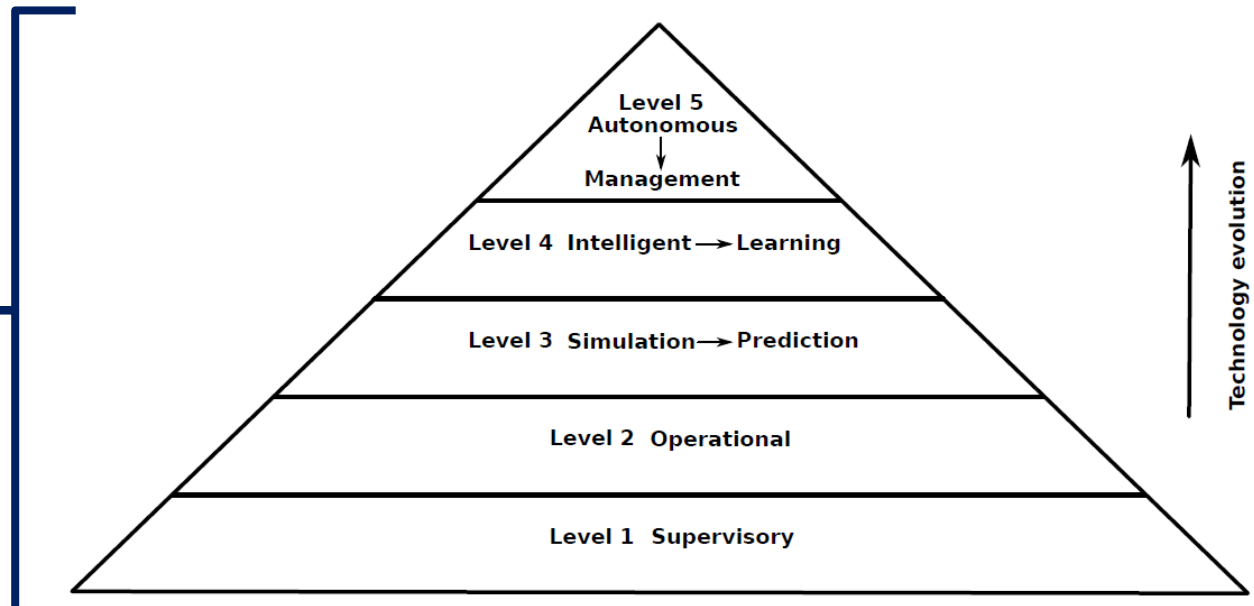
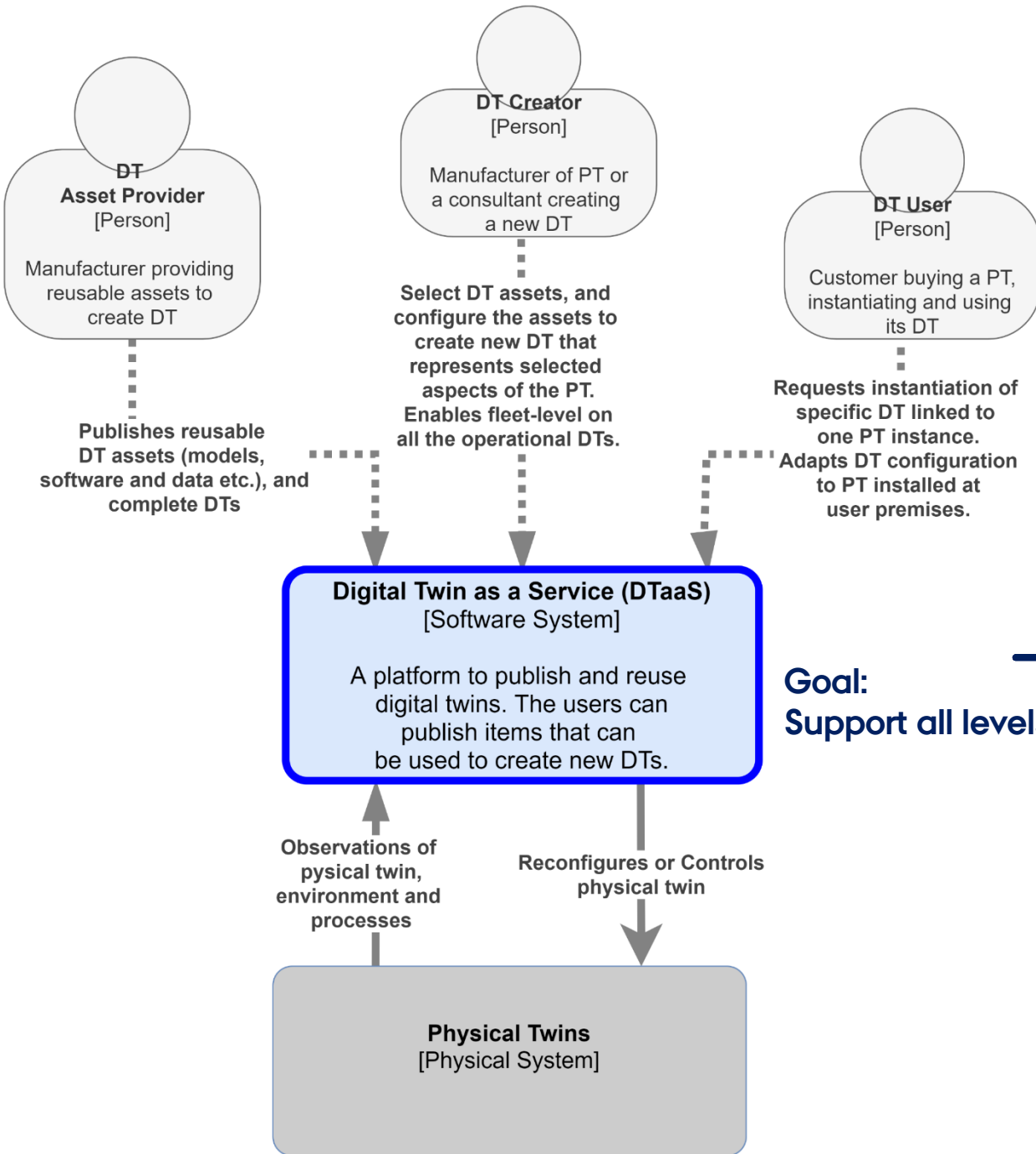
# A STEP TOWARDS DEFINING DIGITAL TWINS...



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    - 1) *System Architecture and Design***
    - 2) Digital Twin Lifecycle Manager
  - 4) Implementation Status

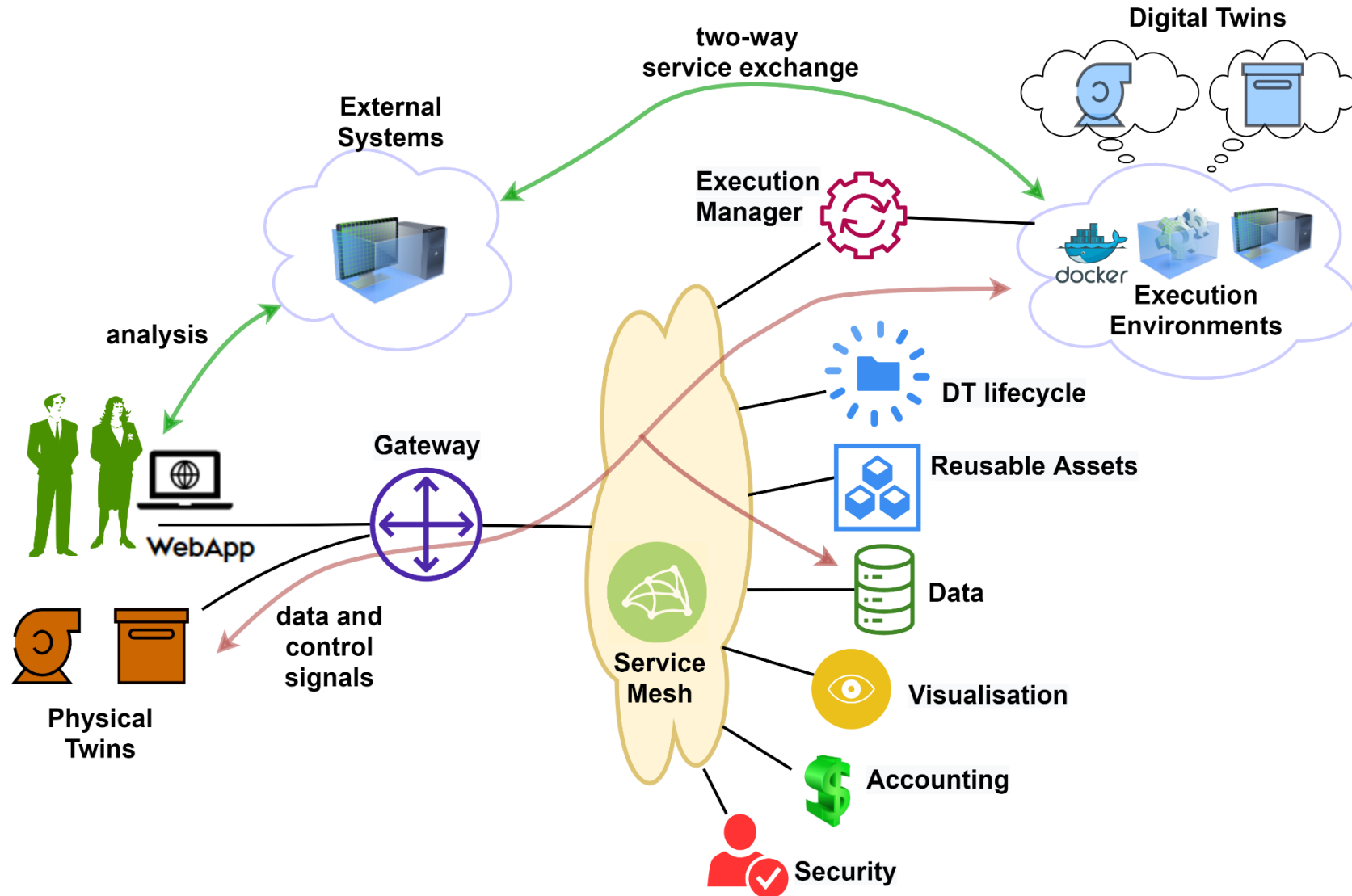
# VERY HIGH LEVEL SYSTEM CONTEXT DIAGRAM



Hierarchy of DT Capabilities



# SYSTEM ARCHITECTURE



# WHAT DO EACH OF THE SYSTEM COMPONENTS DO?

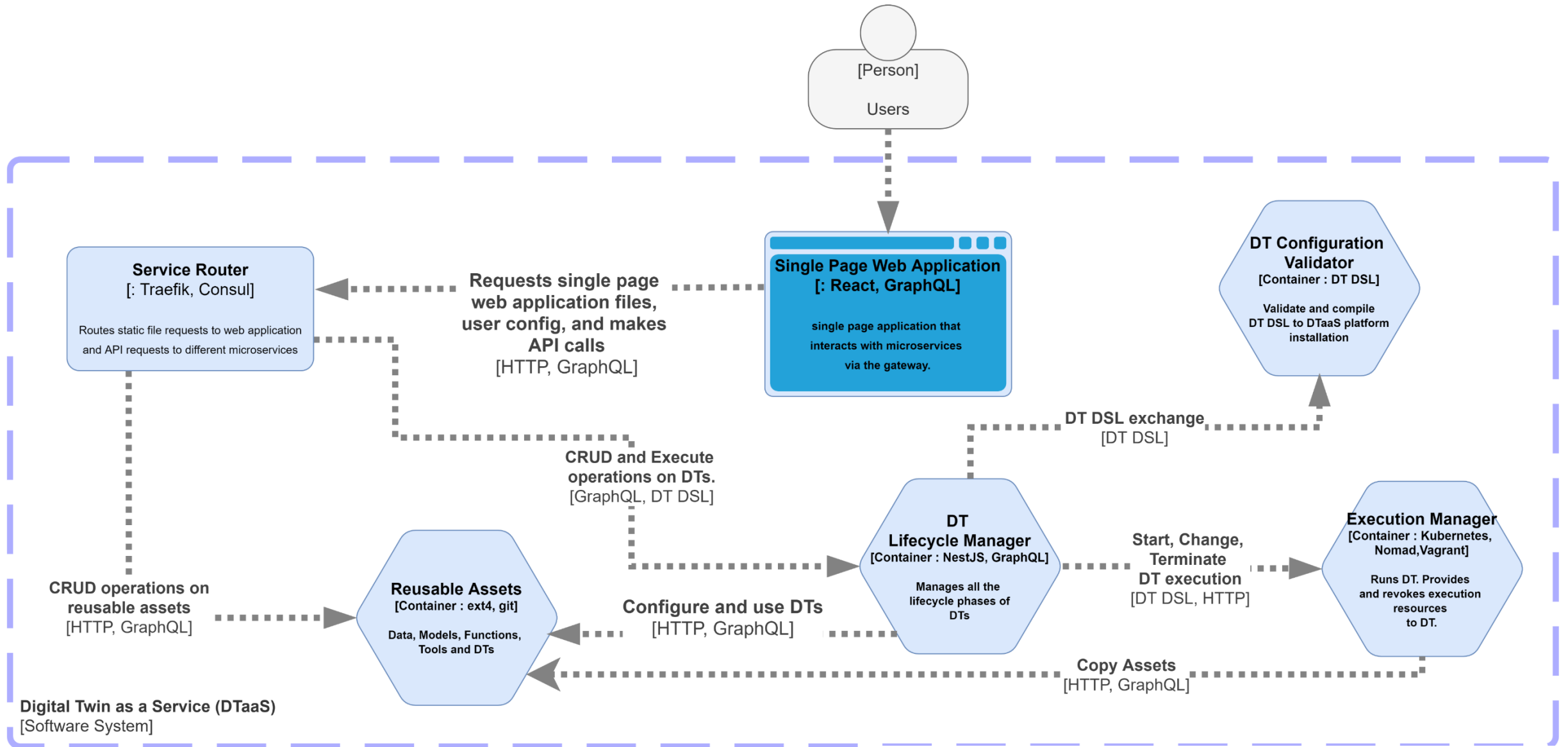
System Component	Responsibilities
security	Authentication and authorization
Accounting	Use of reusable assets and the platform resources
Visualization	Pre-defined or custom visualizations, dashboards etc.
Data	Data archives, Databases etc.
Reusable Assets	Models, Tools, Functions and Digital Twins available for reuse



# WHAT DO EACH OF THE SYSTEM COMPONENTS DO? (2)

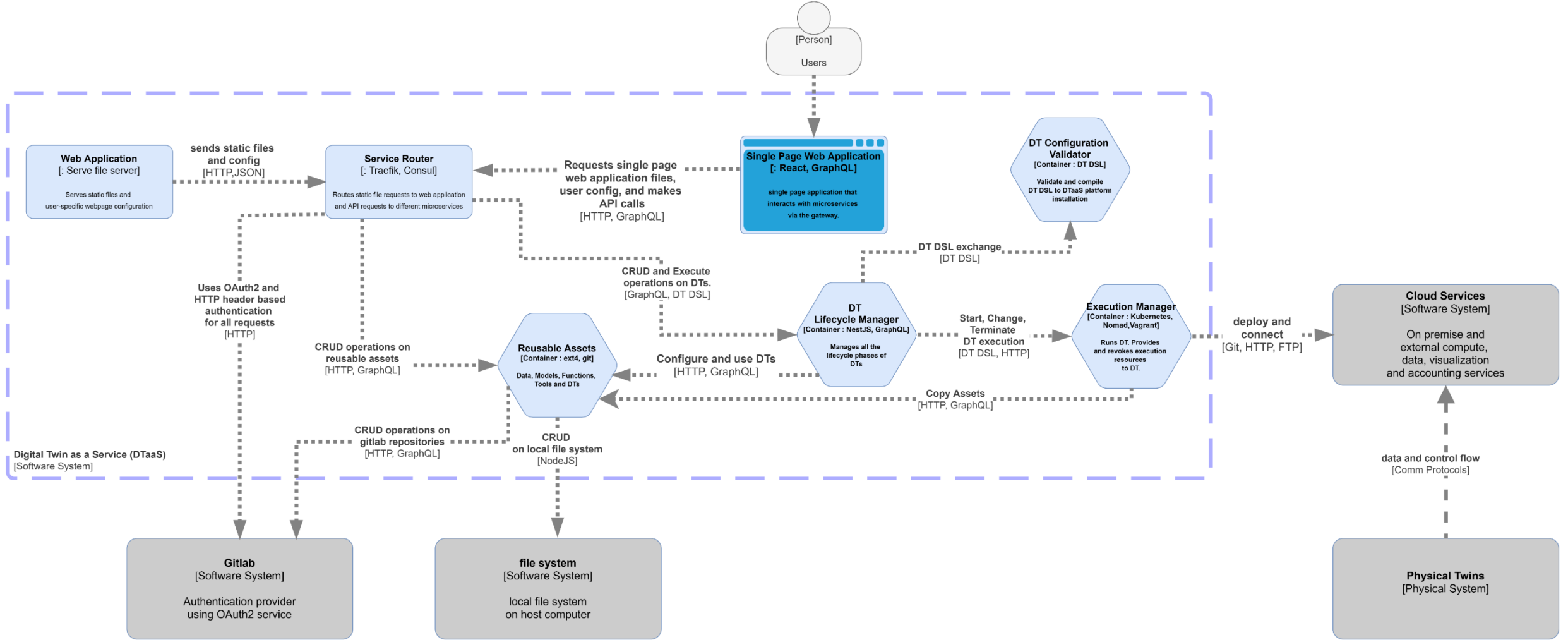
System Component	Responsibilities
DT Lifecycle Manager	Manage digital twins through all their lifecycle stages
Execution Manager	Instantiate and execute digital twins on selected virtualized environments like docker containers, virtual machines, cloud infrastructure.

# C4 Level 2 Diagram for Reusable Assets, DT Lifecycle Manager and Execution Manager



*NOTE: This diagram hides interactions with external systems*

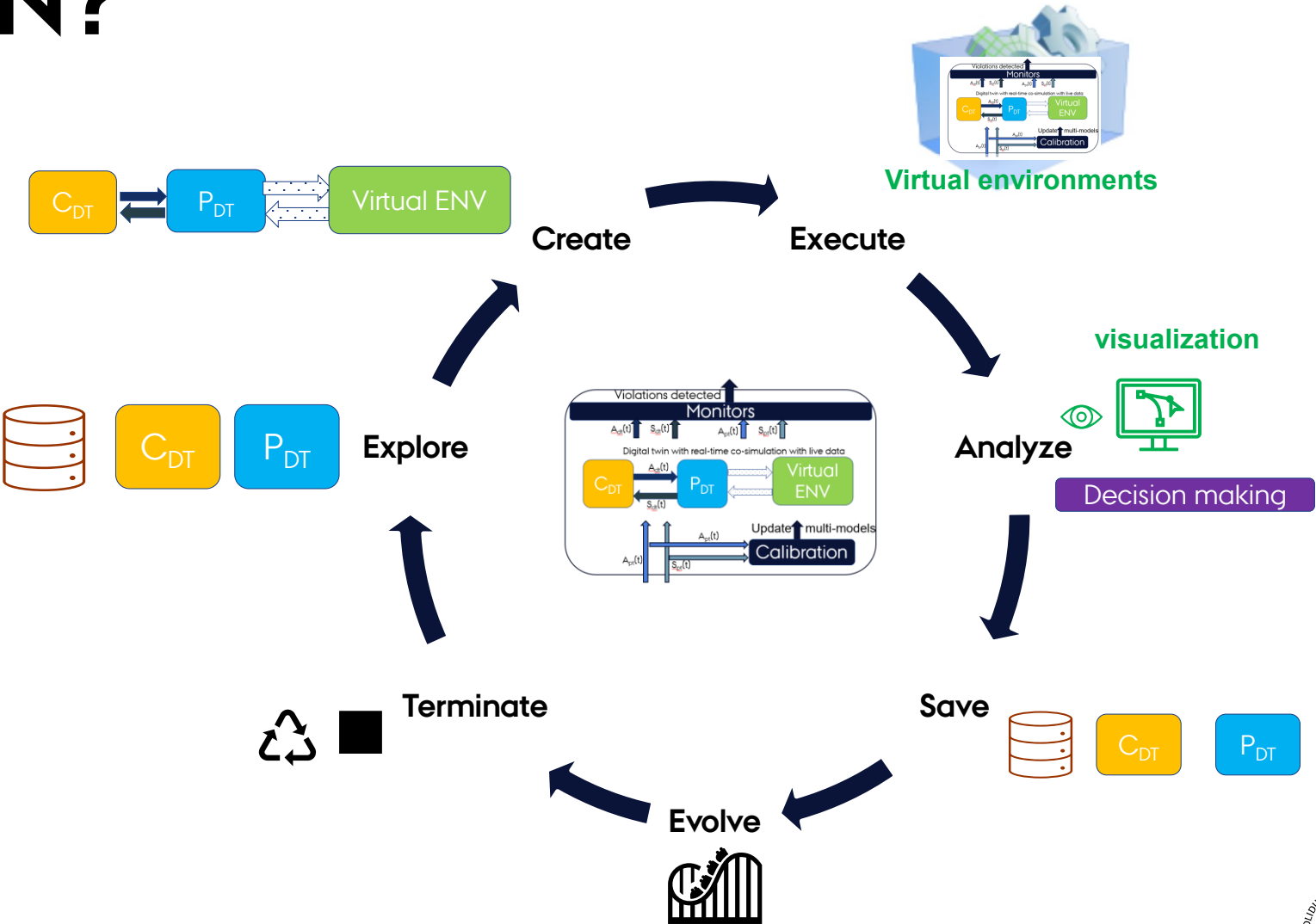
# C4 Level 2 Diagram for Reusable Assets, DT Lifecycle Manager and Execution Manager



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# WHAT ARE DIFFERENT LIFECYCLE PHASES A DIGITAL TWIN?



# IN DEPTH LOOK AT DIGITAL TWIN LIFECYCLE

Author DT Components (on or off platform)

Consolidate and Explore DT Components (like a market place)

Create / Configure new DT (like a Lego playground)

Execute one DT  
(with a click)

Analyze (using data science tools)

Save(any of DT components)

Evolve

Terminate

Scenario Analysis  
(execute many DTs with a click)

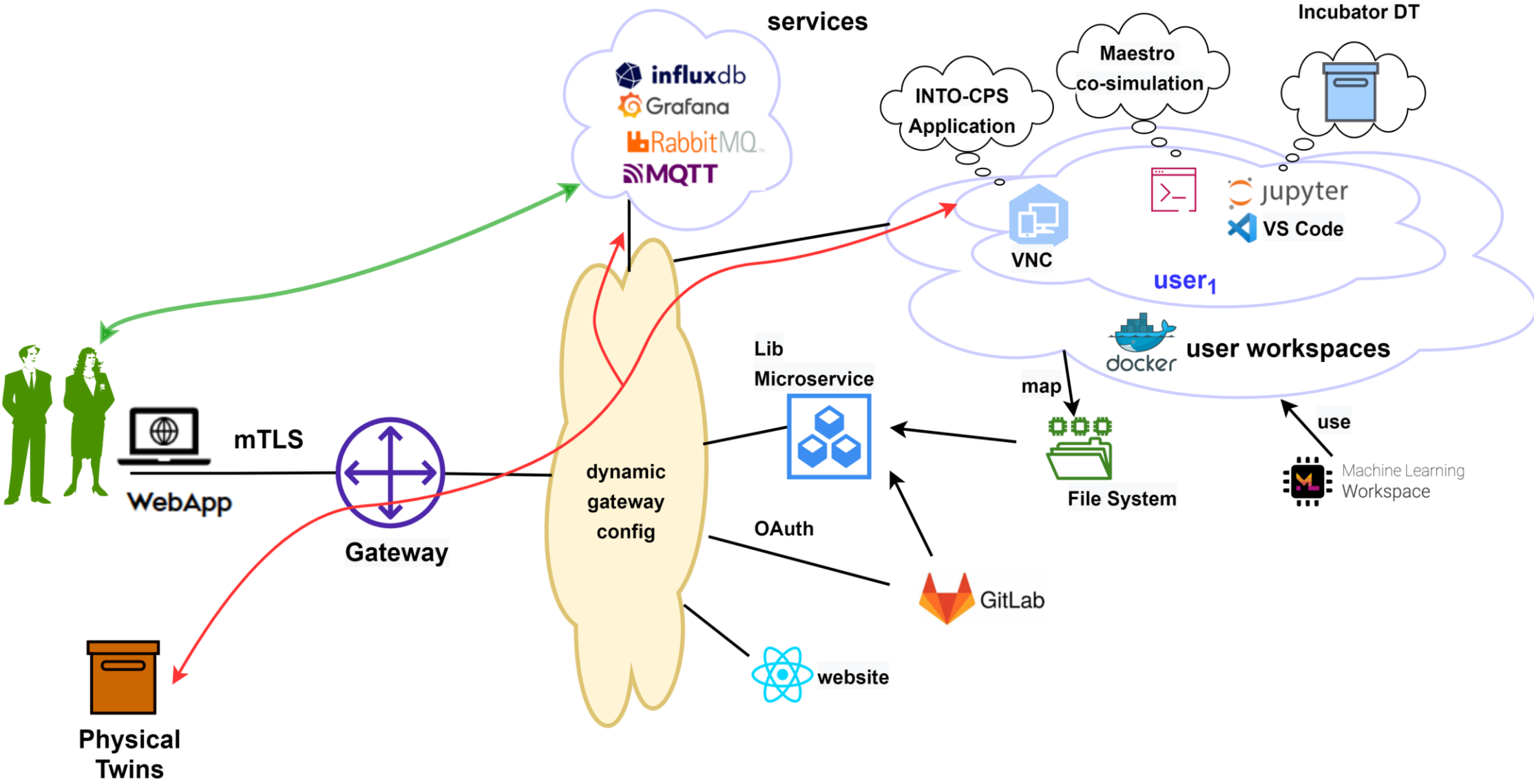
What's the cache?  
Not so linear transition



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# WHAT IS THE CURRENT STATUS?



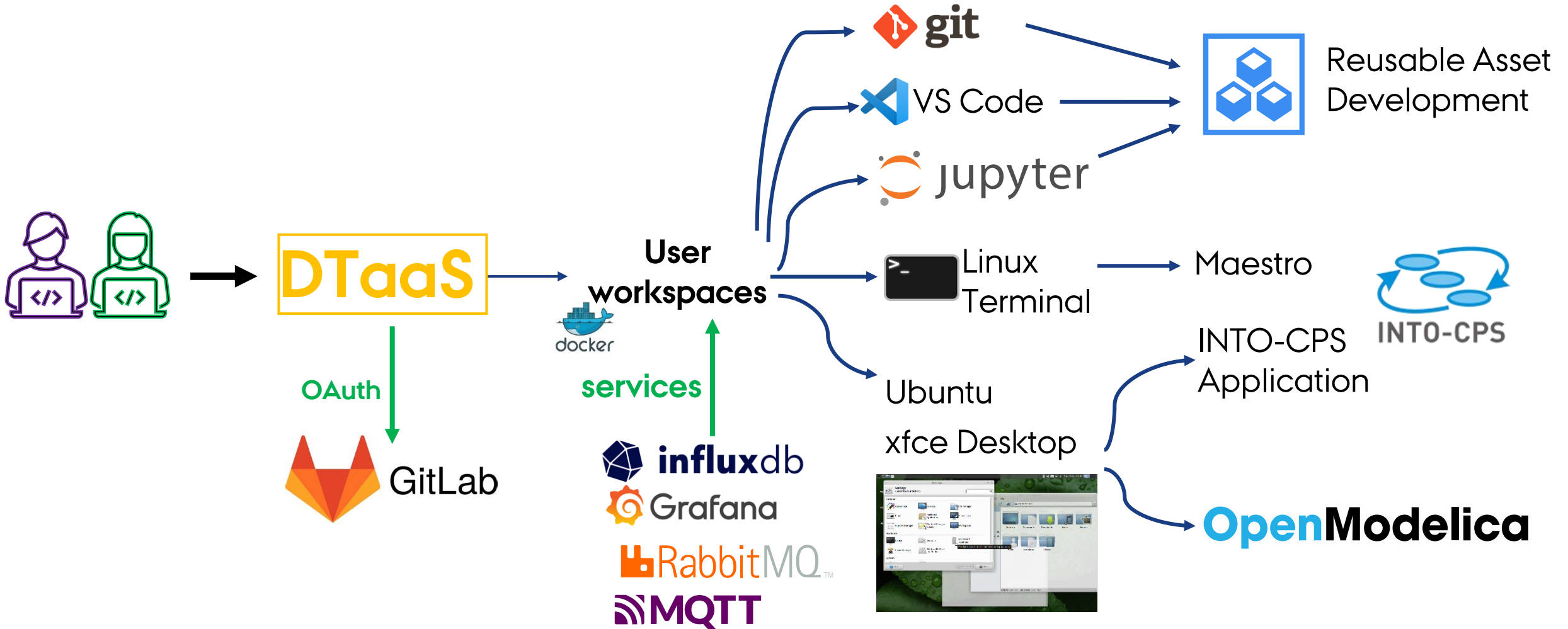


# WHAT IS THE CURRENT STATUS?

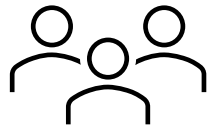
Component	Current Status of Microservice	Off the Shelf Software	Temporary Replacement
Web Application	Under Development		
Reusable Components	Under Development		local files, gitlab
Security		Gitlab Oauth	
Gateway		Traefik	
Execution Manager	Under Development	MiCADO, Ansible, Vagrant	Static Scripts
Communication Facilities	Integrated into Execution Manager, , Microservice Discovery (Mesh / Consul)	TCP Gateway servicing SSH, RabbitMQ, MQTT	SSH, RabbitMQ, MQTT
Databases	Not Started		InfluxDB
Visualization	Not Started		Grafana
Accounting	Not Started		
DT Lifecycle	Under Development		



# EXISTING FEATURES OF DTAAAS



# DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES IN IN DTAAS PROJECT



**DTaaS**

Active



- ❖ Multi-user and microservice security
- ❖ DT Configuration DSL (YAML schema)
- ❖ UI for DT creation
- ❖ REST Interface to DT
- ❖ DT examples

# REFERNCES

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- ❖ Wagg, D., Worden, K. [orcid.org/0000-0002-1035-238X](https://orcid.org/0000-0002-1035-238X), Barthorpe, R. et al. (1 more author) (2020) Digital twins: State-of-the-art future directions for modelling and simulation in engineering dynamics applications. ASCE - ASME Journal of Risk and Uncertainty in Engineering Systems, Part B. Mechanical Engineering, 6 (3). 030901. ISSN 2332-9017.
- ❖ [https://accord-global.com/software\\_engineering\\_services.html](https://accord-global.com/software_engineering_services.html) (system software development processes), accessed: 26-April-2023
- ❖ INCOSE Systems Engineering Handbook, 4th Edition, 2015.
- ❖ Images: [Docker](#), [InfluxDB](#), [Grafana](#), [RabbitMQ](#), [MQTT](#), [VSCode](#), [Jupyter](#), [xfce desktop](#), [Linux Terminal](#), [git](#), [OpenModelica](#), [Matlab](#), [Gitlab](#)
- ❖ DIGITbrain deliverables – A EU Horizon 2020 project under grant number 952071.
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Qi, Q., Tao, F., Hu, T., Anwer, N., Liu, A., Wei, Y., Wang, L., & Nee, A. Y. (2021). Enabling technologies and tools for digital twin. Journal of Manufacturing Systems, 58 (PB), 3–21. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jmsy.2019.10.001>
- ❖ Fei Tao, Meng Zhang, Yushan Liu, A.Y.C. Nee, Digital twin driven prognostics and health management for complex equipment, CIRP Annals, Volume 67, Issue 1, 2018, Pages 169-172, ISSN 0007-8506 (5 dimensional digital twin)
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