

# Reliability of Smart Systems

**Daniel Straub**

Engineering Risk Analysis Group  
Technische Universität München



What is the reliability gain achieved by the health monitoring system?

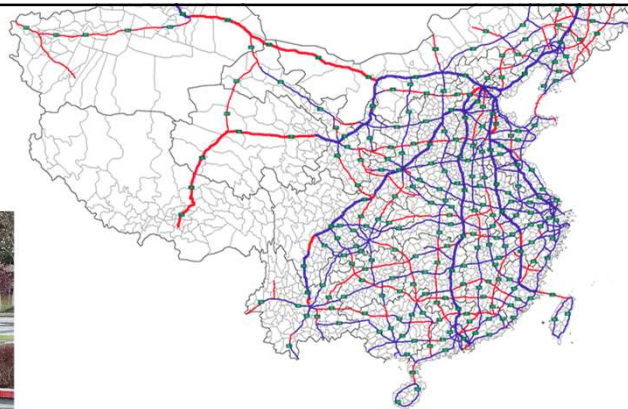
[Question asked by an aircraft manufacturer]



## What is a smart system?

A system that can utilize *information* to optimize its operation

### Smart systems

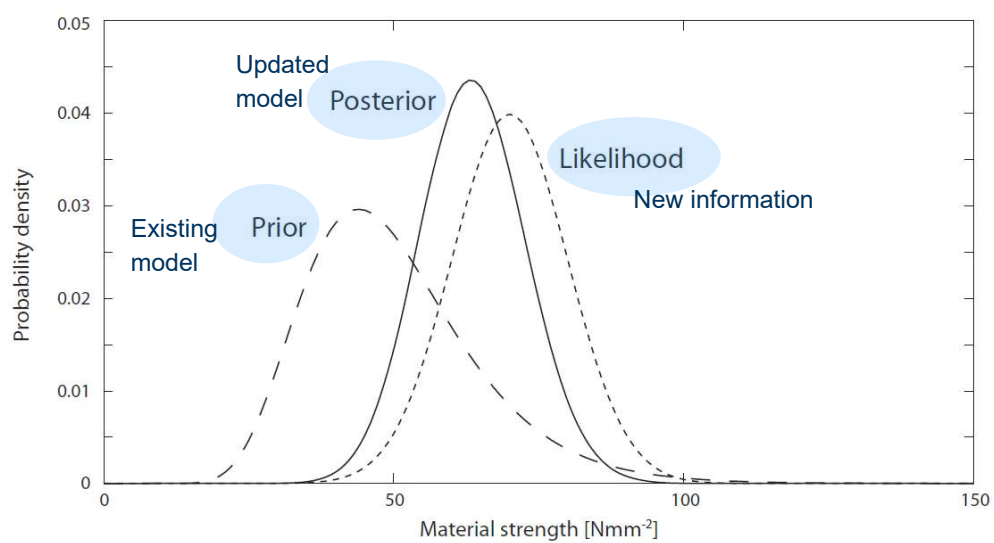


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4

## Information in reliability: Bayesian toolbox

### Bayesian analysis



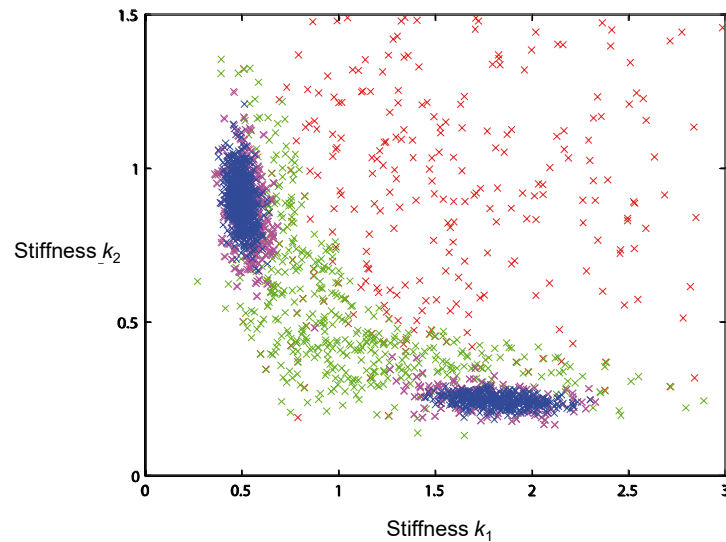
## Bayesian analysis: learning as an inverse problem



Advanced Monte Carlo methods  
for Bayesian analysis

Straub D., Papaioannou I., (2015). *Journal of Engineering Mechanics*, **314**: 538–556.

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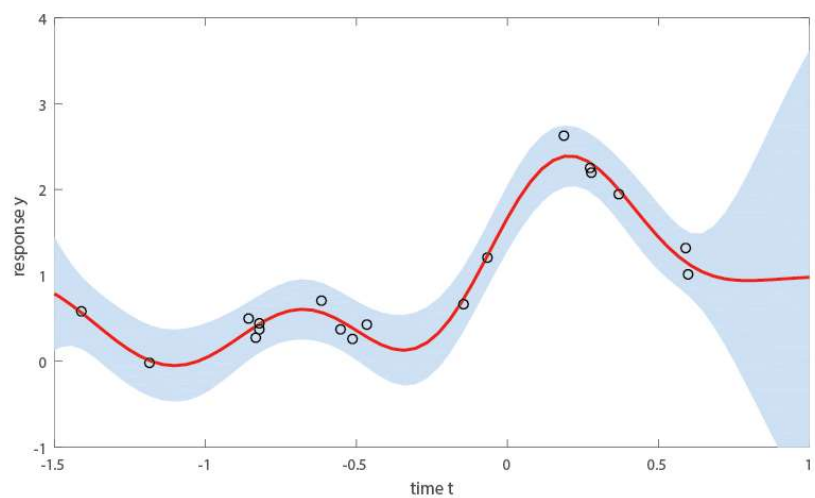
7

## Bayesian analysis: sequential learning



Methods such as:

- Kalman filters
  - Kriging
  - Gaussian processes
  - Dynamic Bayesian networks
- are all special instances of a Bayesian analysis



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8

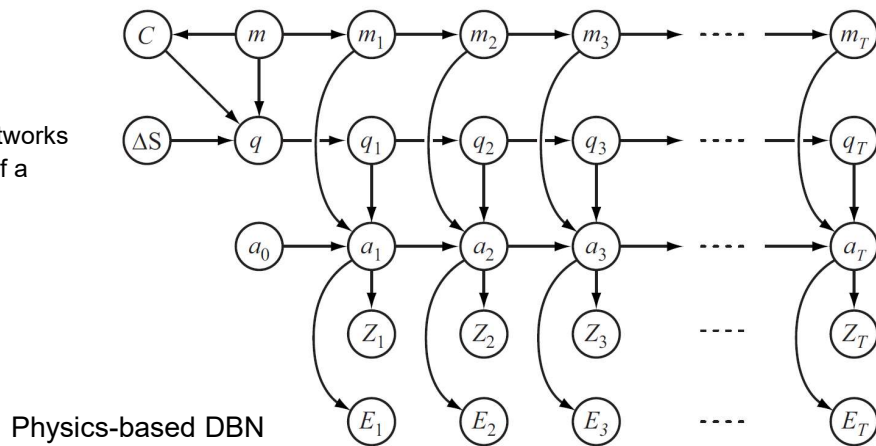


## Bayesian analysis: sequential learning



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- Kalman filters
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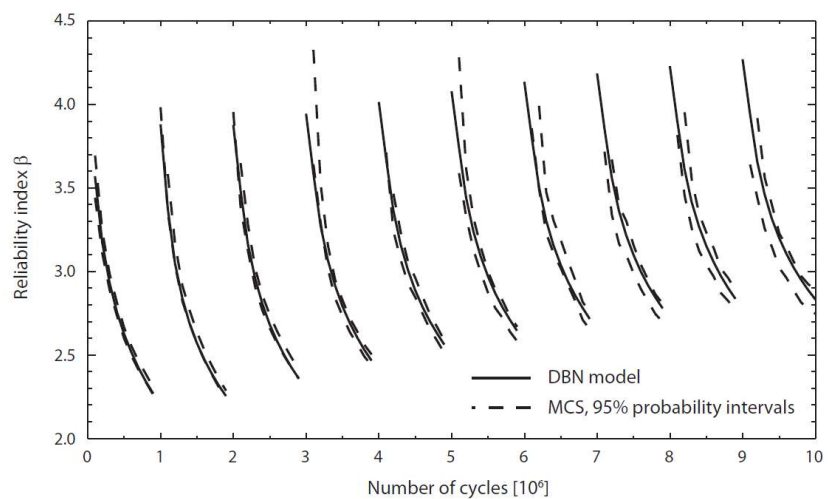
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9

## Bayesian analysis: sequential learning



Reduced uncertainty translates to a change in reliability



Straub D. (2009). *Journal of Engineering Mechanics*, **135**(10): 1089-1099.

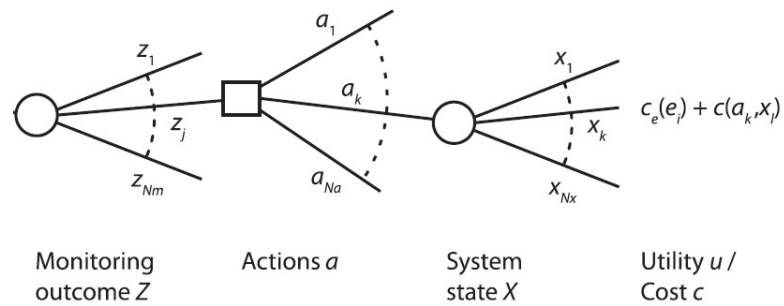
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10

## Bayesian decision making



Provides a formal approach to assessing the effect of information on the operation of the system  
In autonomous systems, it can be used (but seldomly is) for optimizing the decisions



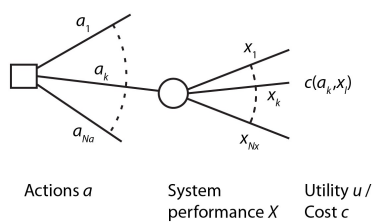
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11

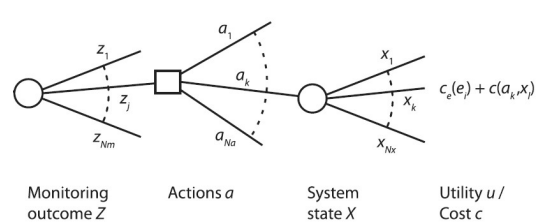
## Value of information



without additional information:



with additional information:

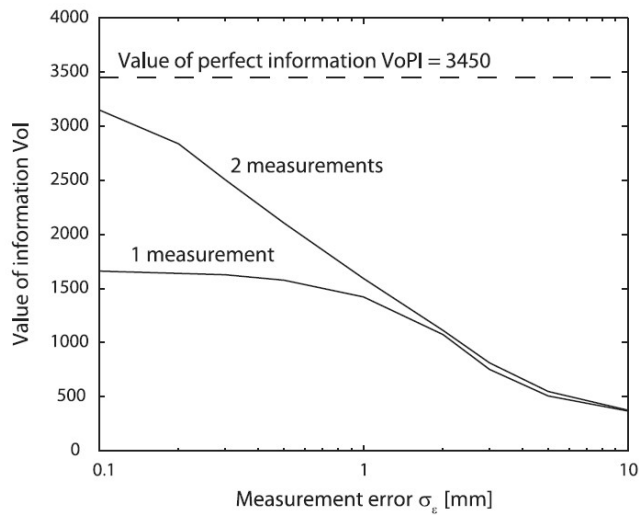


$$\max_a \int_X u(x, a) f(x|a) dx \quad \xleftrightarrow{\text{Vol}} \quad \int_Z f(z|e) \left[ \max_a \int_X u(x, a) f(x|a, z, e) dx \right] dz$$

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12

## Value of information

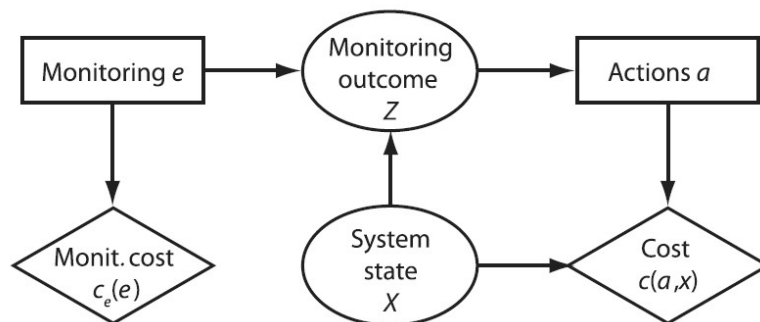
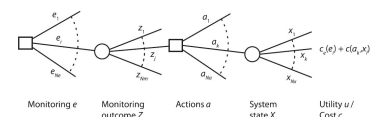


Straub D. (2014). *Structural Safety* **49**: 75-86

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13

## Influence diagrams as concise graphical representations of decision problems



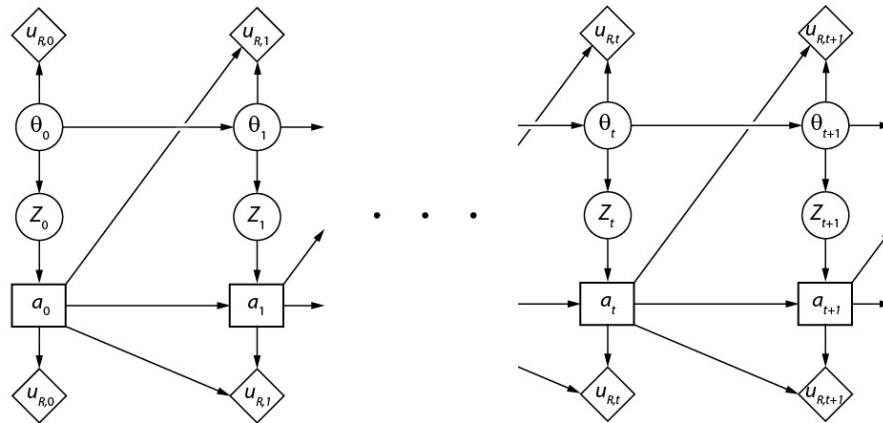
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14

## Sequential decision making



e.g. Partially observable Markovian decision processes (POMDP)



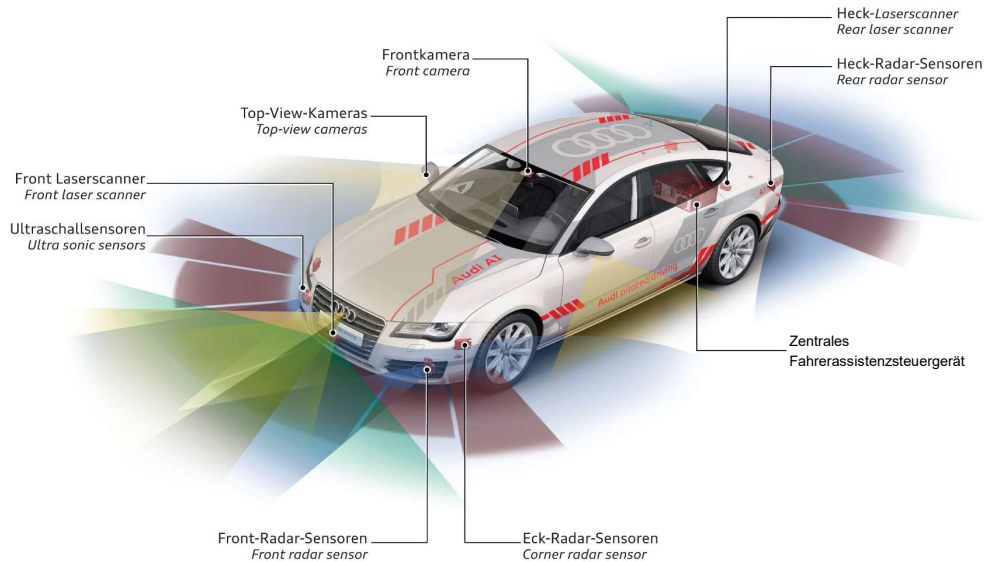
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15



Autonomous systems:  
Reliability of environment sensing

## Sensor systems in autonomous cars



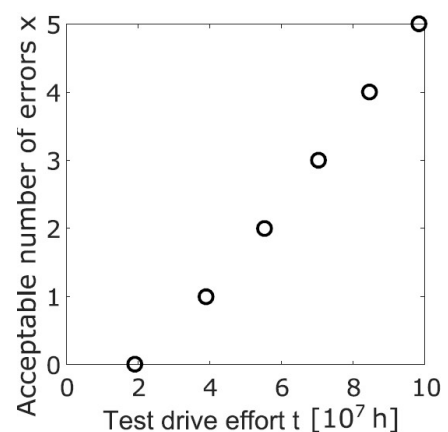
Adapted from: <https://www.audi-mediacycenter.com/de/fotos/album/audi-a7-piloted-driving-concept-646> (28.09.2016)

17

## Reliability of environment sensing



- Existing standards (e.g. ISO 26262) not directly applicable
- Reliability of sensors is highly dependent on environment
- Model-based approaches require long development times
- Classical testing requires reference truth
- High reliability requirements necessitate large test efforts



Berk M. et al. (2017). WCX17: SAE World Congress, Detroit.



## Assess sensor reliability in service (shadow mode)



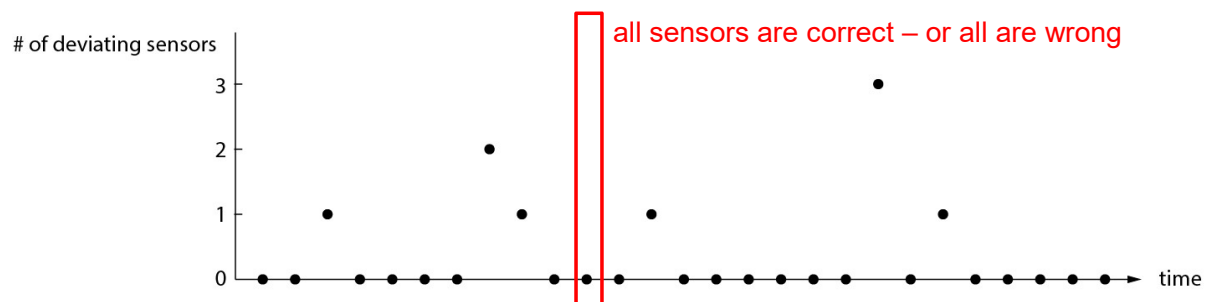
19

## Assess sensor reliability in service (shadow mode)



Challenge: No reference truth is available

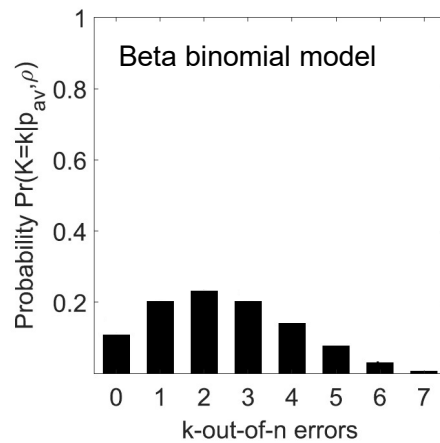
7 sensors installed on a vehicle:



## Assessing sensor reliability without ground truth



Incomplete knowledge can be represented by a likelihood function



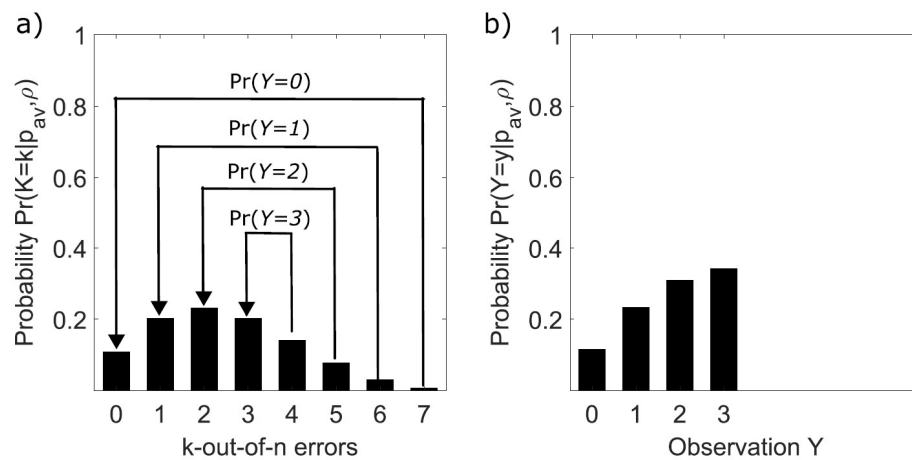
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21

## Assessing sensor reliability without ground truth



Incomplete knowledge can be represented by a likelihood function



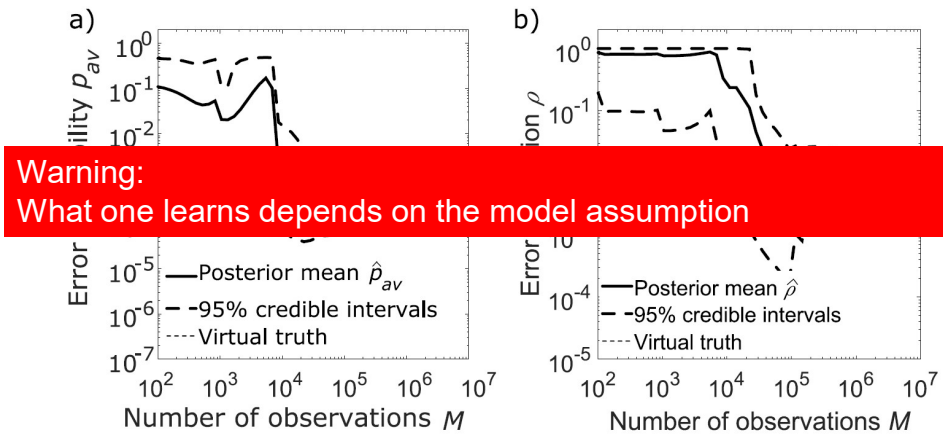
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22

## Assessing sensor reliability without ground truth



Model parameters can be learned with partial information



Berk M. et al.  
(in preparation)

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23



Structural health monitoring:  
Smart integrity management

## What is the reliability gain achieved by the health monitoring system?

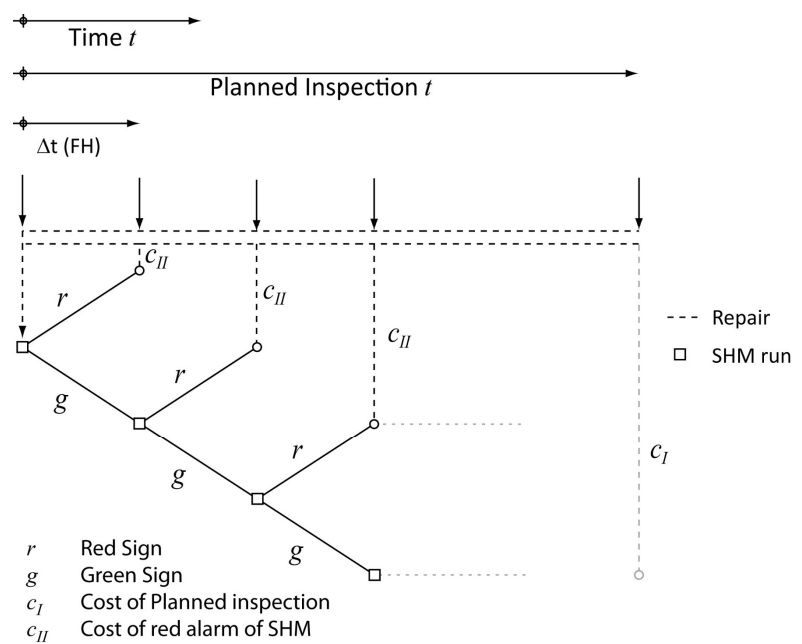
[Question asked by an aircraft manufacturer]



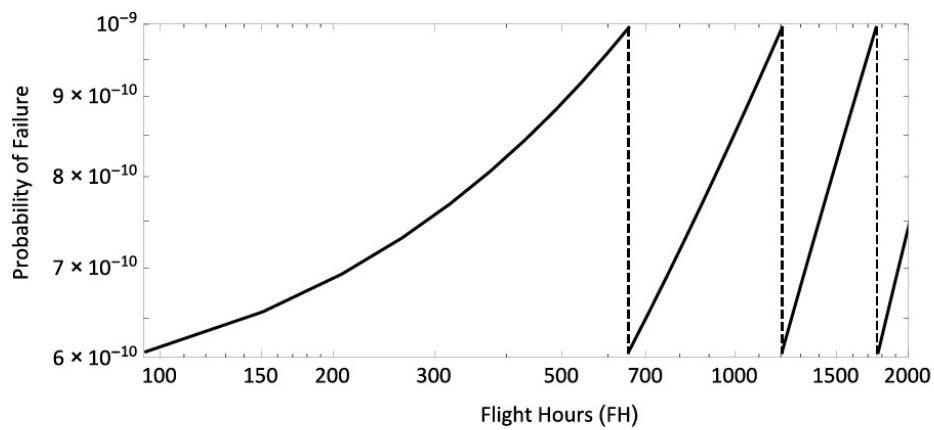
### Model of aircraft operation

Monitoring data is used to updated reliability

Whenever reliability threshold is exceeded, an inspection is required



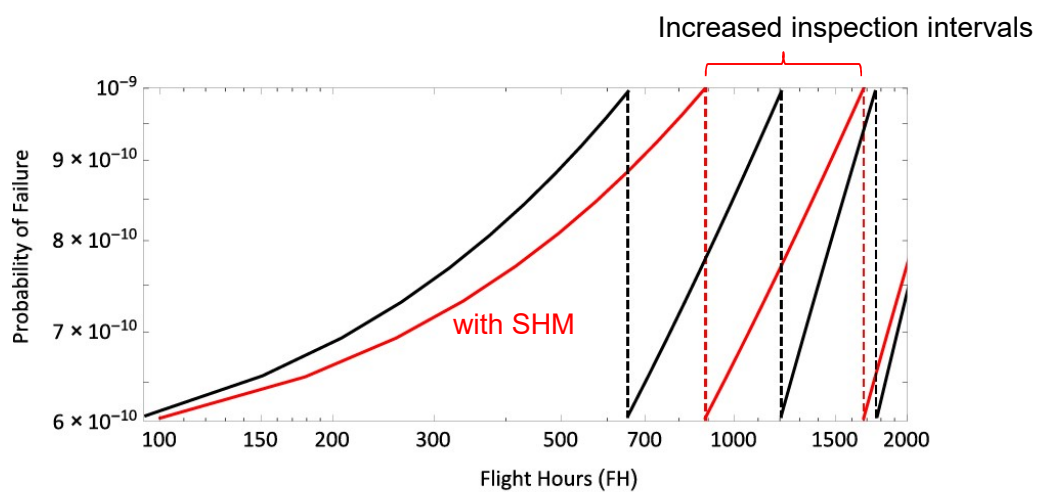
## Reliability without monitoring information



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27

## Reliability with monitoring information

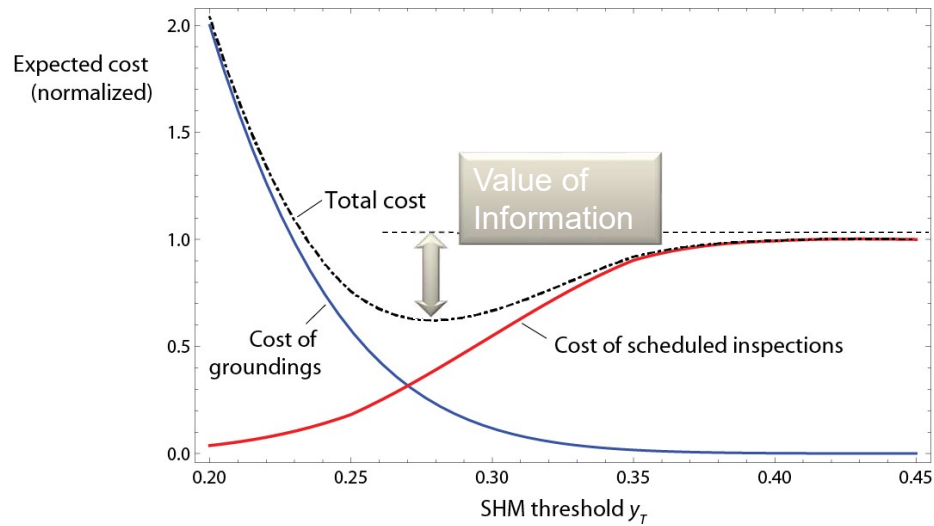


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28



## Optimal calibration of monitoring-based decisions



Cottone G., Gollwitzer S.,  
Heckenberger U., Straub D.  
(2013). *Proc. IWSHM 9*,  
Stanford University.

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29

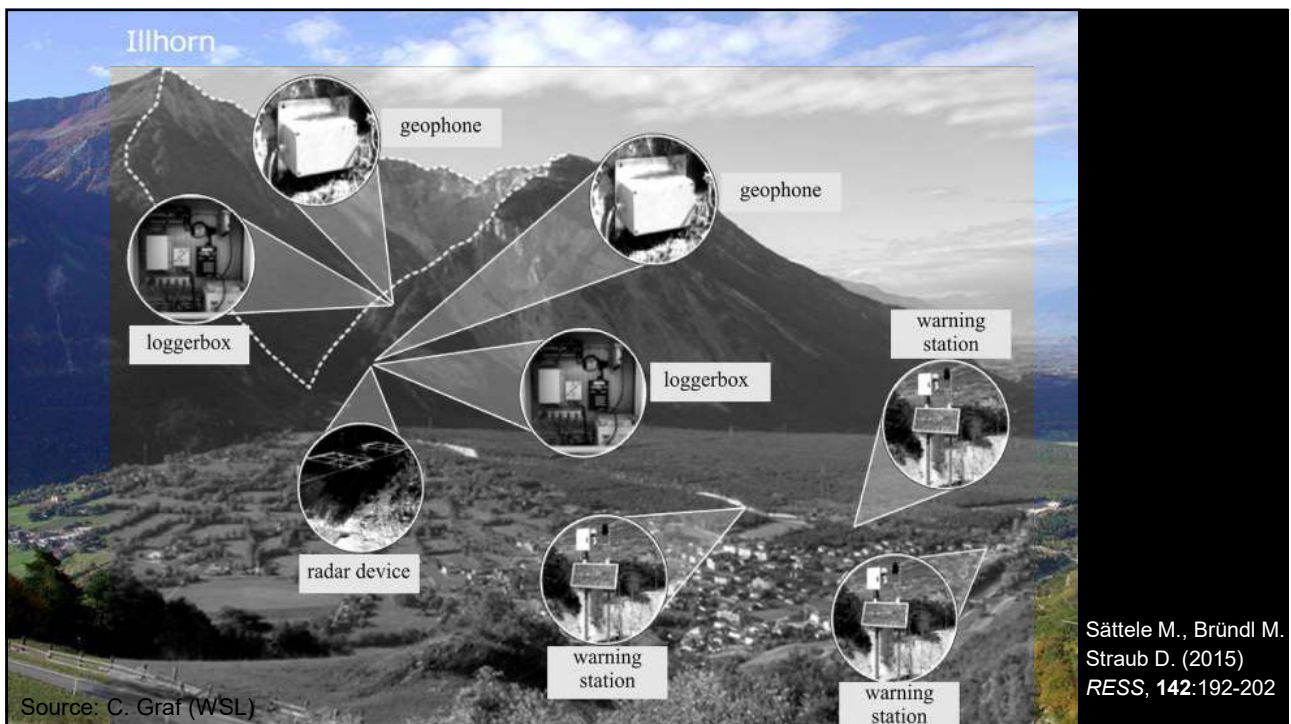
## SHM is frequently applied in infrastructure systems



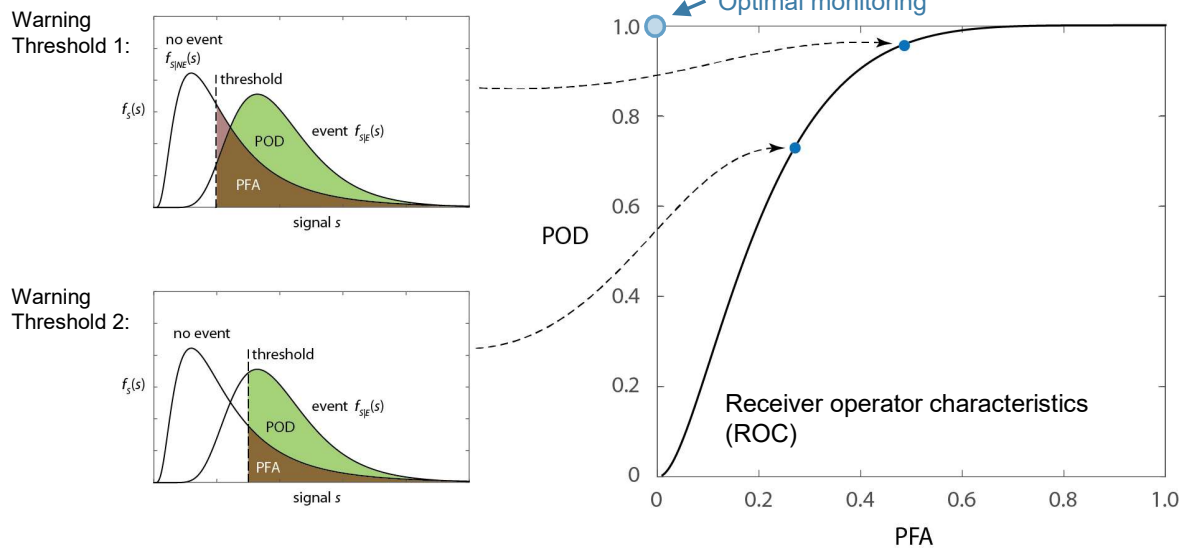
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30

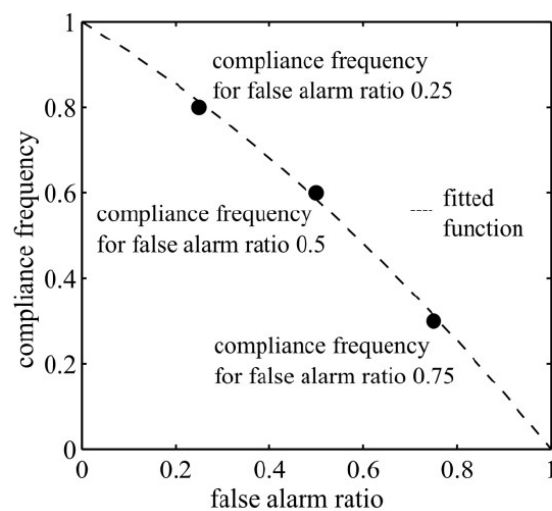
## Monitoring and sensors for risk control: Reliability of warning systems



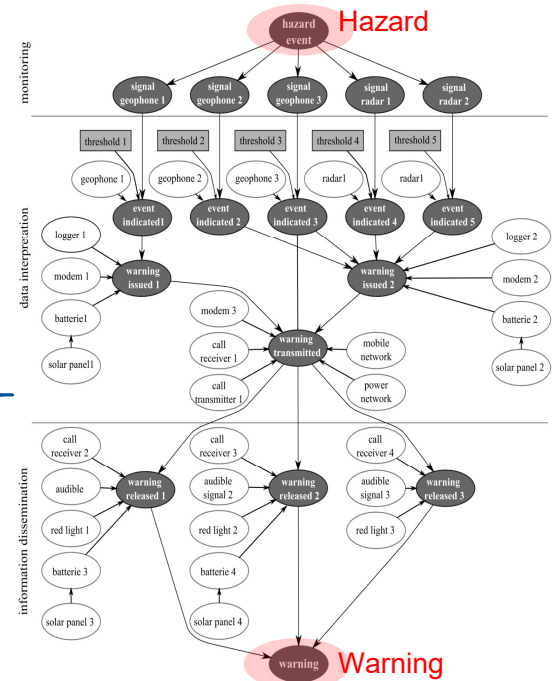
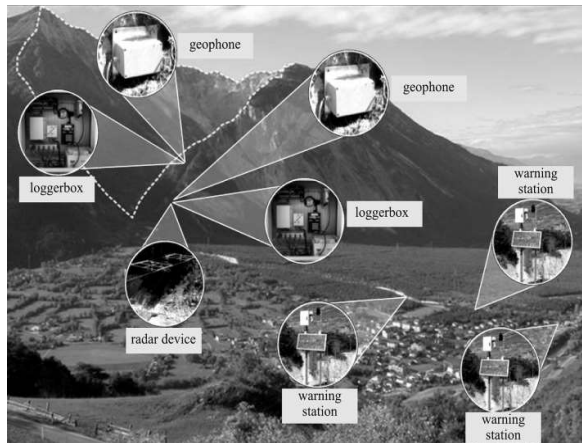
## Warning and alarm systems: POD vs PFA



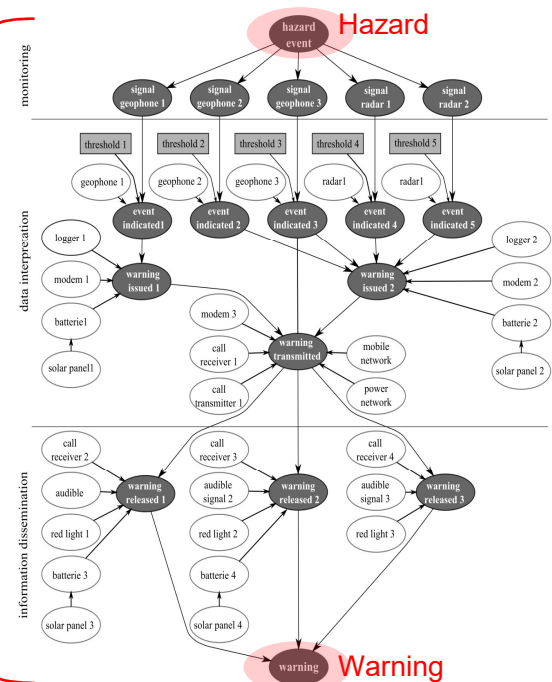
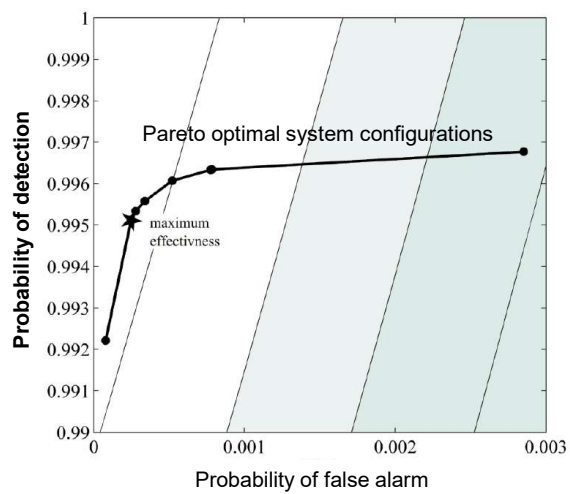
## Smart users: The cry wolf effect



## Bayesian network model of the warning system



## Optimization of sensor interpretation through influence diagram





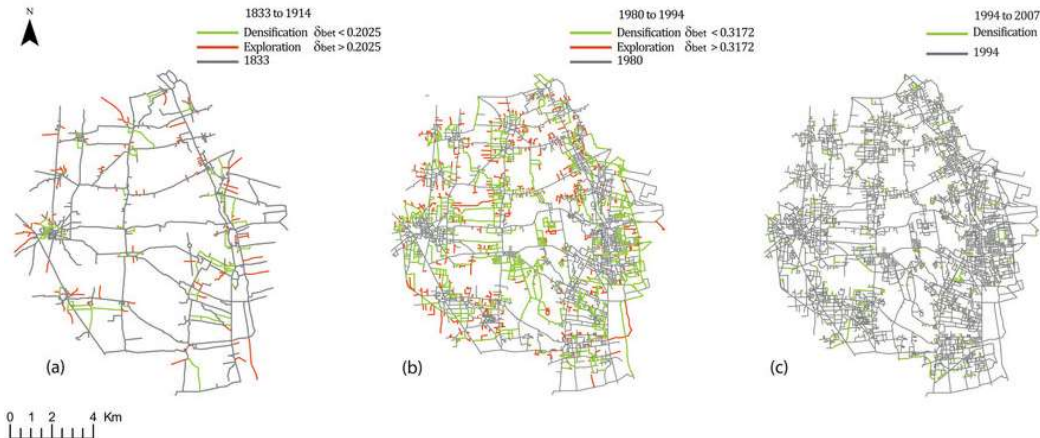
Smart society:  
Planning in flexible infrastructure systems  
under large scale uncertainties



How much capacity do we need in the  
face of large scale uncertainties?



## Infrastructure planning and management is a sequential decision process



Source: Strano, E., V. Nicosia, V. Latora, S. Porta and M. Barthélemy (2012). Elementary processes governing the evolution of road networks. *Nature Scientific Reports* 2: 296.

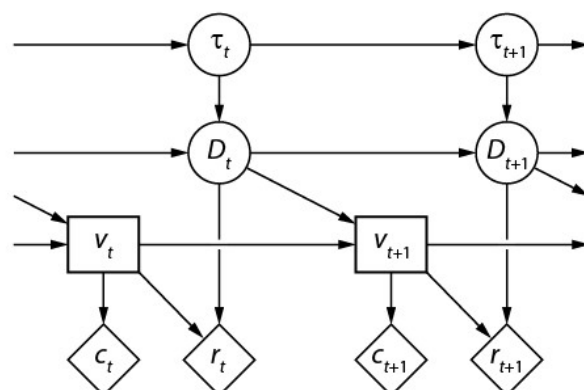
39

## Infrastructure planning and management is a sequential decision process



Smart management considers future information and potential for adaptation in current decisions about infrastructure investments

POMDP models allow investigating this effect



Špačková O., Straub D. (2017). *Sustainable and Resilient Infrastructure*, 2(1): 37-58.

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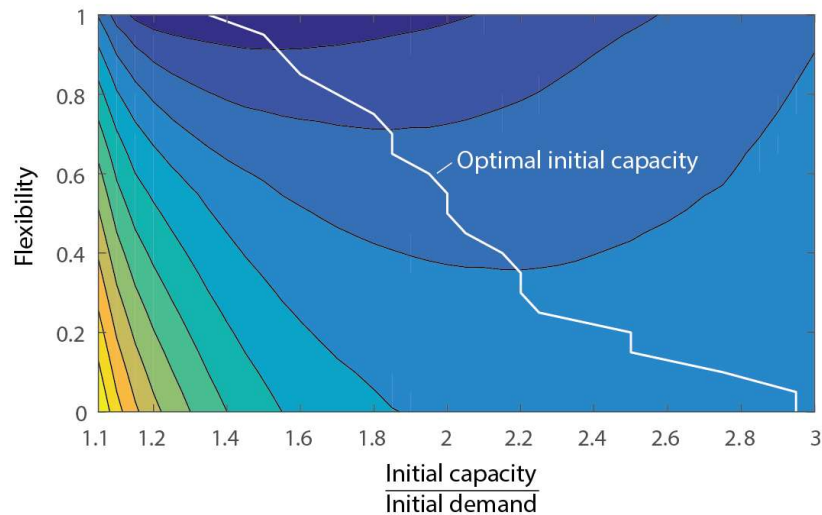
40

## Decisions on current capacity should consider future ability for adaptation



Infrastructure planning example

Optimal initial overdemand in function of system flexibility



Straub and Špačková (2016).

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41



## Reliability of smart systems: Challenges & opportunities

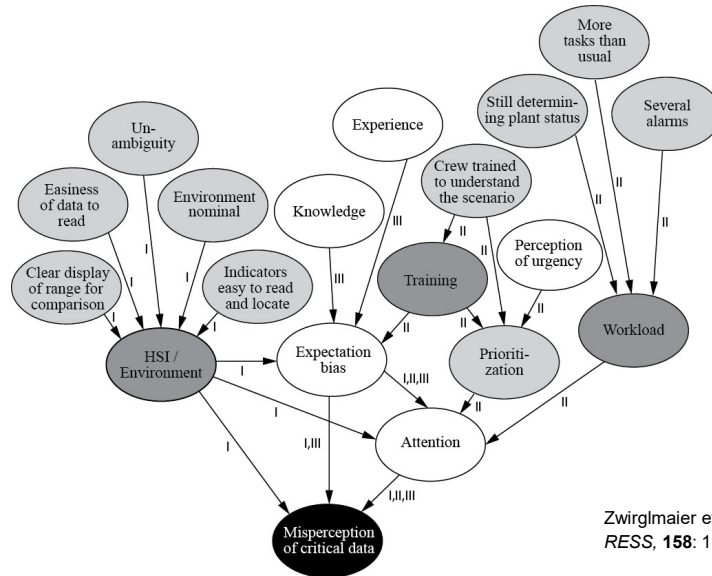
## Up to what degree can smart systems be modelled explicitly?



Consider human reliability:

Smart systems based on AI may become equally complex

The performance can be strongly dependent on environment & situation



Zwirlmaier et al. (2017).  
RESS, 158: 117–129.

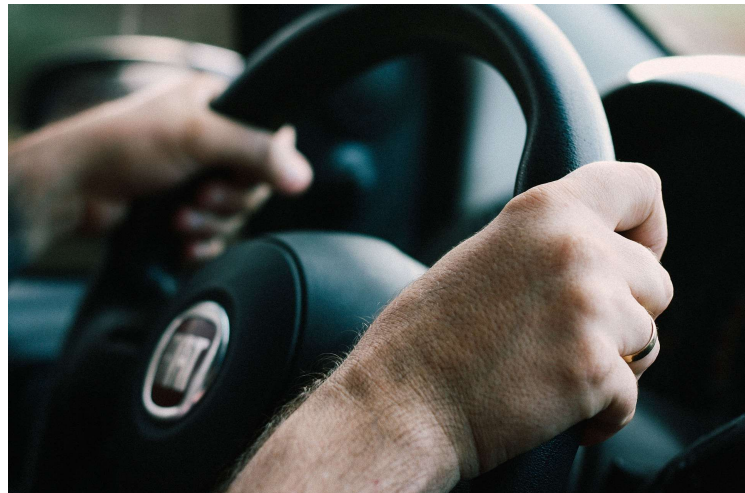
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43

## Need for explicit and quantitative demonstration of reliability of complex processes currently carried out by engineers or users



... and with much higher reliability



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44

## Blackbox approach

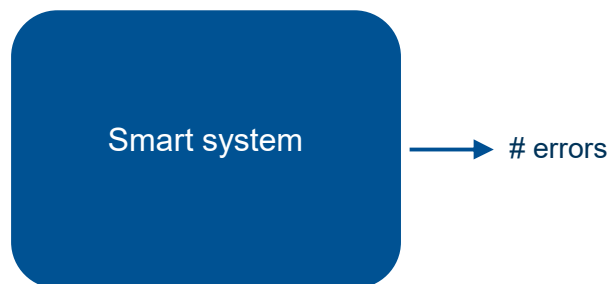


### Opportunities:

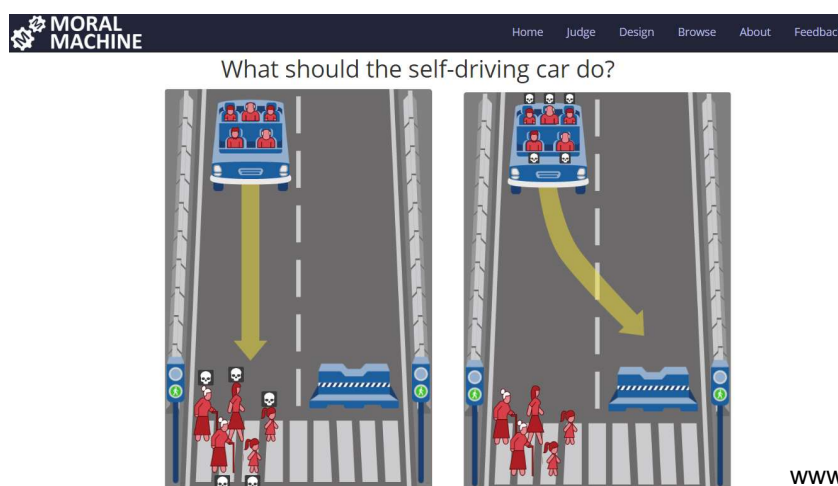
- Shadow mode
- Virtual testing and verification

### Challenges:

- High reliability levels
- Data protection



## Implicit choices have to be made explicit



[www.moralmachine.mit.edu](http://www.moralmachine.mit.edu)

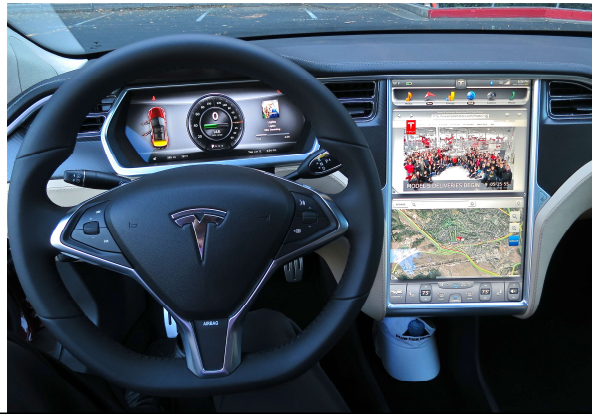


## Smart systems allow for adaptation



Decision rules can be changed much easier than hardware updates

Reliability can be increased over the life-time of a system



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47



48



## Selected references



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