

# Data-driven and automated Damage Diagnostics from High-dimensional Data

*Towards Learning Technical Systems and Sensor Data Science*

PD Dr. rer. nat. Stefan Bosse

# Overview



Self-organising and intelligent systems applied to sensor data.

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1. Introduction to complex and self-organising Systems
2. Material-integrates Intelligent Systems
3. Multi-agent Systems: From distributed computing to data-driven methods
4. **Internal Sensors:** Distributed Machine Learning for damage prediction and optimisation with Sensor Networks
5. **External Sensors:** Damage diagnostics with data from laboratory equipment and measurements

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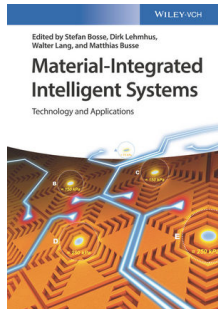
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Integration of sensors, analogue and digital signal processing, and networking created a paradigm shift: From passive sensors to **active intelligent communicating and interacting sensor networks** and clouds.

Sensors are now integrated in every thing and device. The next step: **Material-integrated sensing and actuation systems measuring and changing the physical state of structures and materials.**

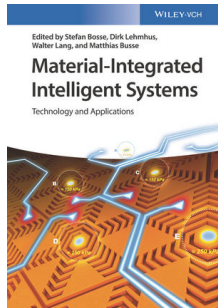
## The book behind:

S. Bosse, D. Lehmhus, W. Lang, M. Busse (Ed. & Auth.),  
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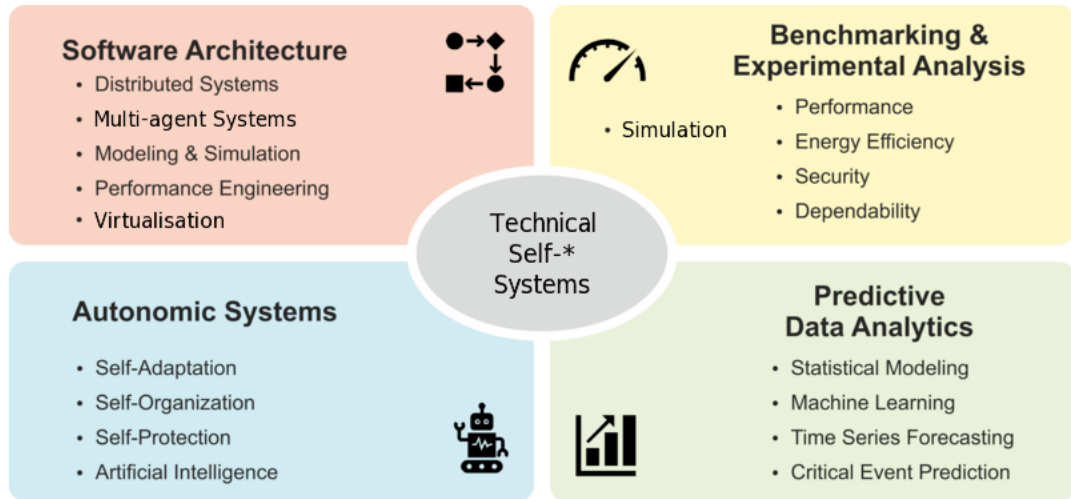
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### Interdisciplinary Research

- Materials Science
- Computer Science
- Electrical Engineering and Electronics
- Fabrication and Integration
- Micro-system Technologies

# Introduction



# Complex Systems

## Distributed Systems

- Sensor Networks: Phys. undirected graph of sensor nodes
- Sensor node: Core cell
- Communication: Messages (IP, IoT, Internet)
- Input: Local sensor data
- Output: Global state (e.g., in SHM)
- Data reduction (dimension, size)

## Computational Systems

- High-volume data processing
- Virt. directed graphs of functions (functional graphs)
- Communication: Function arguments, shared memory
- Input: Global (sensor) data
- Output: Any target variables
- Data reduction (dimension, size)
- Organisation: Cellular Automata, Agents

## Complex Systems



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These are **individual systems** that act upon their environment in response to events they sense or experience. They **interact with each other** or the environment.

## Complex Systems

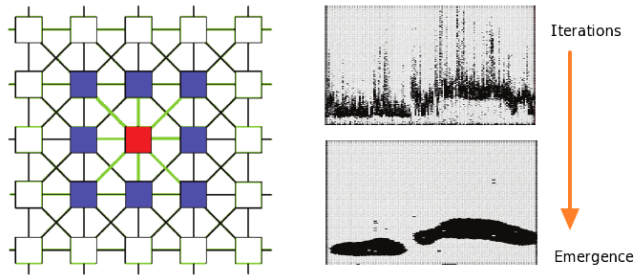


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[Barszcz et al.,2013]

Fig. 1. Emergence in a Cellular Automaton with Moore Neighbourhood after an iterative run (Initialisation: Signal frequency spectrum) for detecting anomalies in sensor signals

## Self-Organising Systems

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"It is a system where a collection of interacting elements gives rise to **patterns of behaviour** that the individual elements are not capable of when they don't interact"

- A system which changes its basic structure as a function of its experience and environment [Farley and Clark, 1954]
  - **Emergence** and **Emergent properties**
  - Organization can be defined as **structure with function**: the components (agents) of the system are arranged in an orderly way (structure) so as to achieve a certain goal (function).
- Absence of external control (**autonomy**)
- **Decentralised** control
- **Dynamic** operation (evolution over time)
- Strongly related to the concept of agent-based systems
- **Resilience** (Failure of some elements do not effect system behaviour)

# Self-organisation Concepts

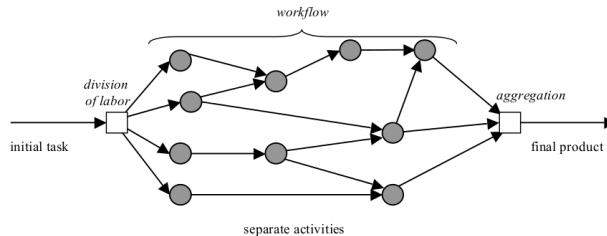
## Self-organisation as a problem of coordination and communication

- Self-organization by **Alignment**
- Concept of **Division of Labor** - coordinates activities that happen simultaneously—in parallel.
- **Workflow** is its complement: it coordinates activities that take place one after the other—sequentially.
- **Aggregation**

# Self-organisation Concepts

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[Francis Heylighen (Vrije Universiteit Brussel)]

Fig. 2. Flow in coordination with different concepts

## Strong and Weak Self-Organising Systems

**Strong self-organising systems** are those systems where there is no explicit central control neither internal nor external.

**Weak self-organising systems** are those systems where, from an internal point of view, there is re-organisation maybe under an internal (central) or external control or planning.

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Self-organisation in technical and digital systems is mostly data-driven.

# Knowledge



How can we derive knowledge from data and how can we understand data? What is the spatial and temporal context of data?

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## **Deductive Knowledge**

Semantic- and ontology-driven methods (semantic schemas).

## **Inductive Knowledge**

Data-driven methods like Statistical Modelling and Machine Learning.

## **Information Mapping**

Knowledge Graphs, e.g., can provide a relational mapping of data on knowledge and reasoning.

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*Machines do not have a-priori access to deductive knowledge!*

# Self-organisation in technical and digital systems

- **Dynamic Communication Structures** (Networks)
  - Mobile and ad-hoc network formations
  - Resilient network graphs
  - Load balancing
- **Distributed Sensor Fusion**
  - Local sensor processing
  - Virtual sensors: Aggregates
- **Distributed Sensor Networks**
  - Local interaction based on context
  - Damage Diagnostics
  - Structural Health Monitoring

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- **Distributed Learning and Adaptivity**
  - Multi-model inference (Ensemble Learning)
  - Local models using local data
  - Global model fusion
  - Incremental Update Learning
  - Reinforcement Learning
  - Concept Drift compensation
- **Distributed Solving of Optimisation Problems**
  - Adaptive Robotic Structures
  - Energy Management
  - Manufacturing Processes

## Applications and Research

In the next sections an overview of different applications and use-cases is given:

1. **Agent-based Pattern Recognition**
2. **Distributed Damage Diagnostics in Sensor Networks**
3. **Incremental Distributed Learning for SHM**
4. **Multi-domain simulation combining learning agents and multi-body physics**
5. **Data-driven Damage Diagnostics and Prediction**

## Data-driven State Estimation



The aim of data-driven state estimation is to derive approximated model functions  $m(s):s \rightarrow \sigma$  that map sensor data on mechanical or structural states (or probabilities) incl. damages.

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Examples of target states (attributes/properties) of materials and structures:

- Damage (class, position, propagation)
- Load (static, dynamic, cyclic)
- Vibration
- Bending and strain
- Fatigue, Breakage

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But data-driven methods in engineering suffer from low experimental data variance resulting in specialised rather than generalised state estimation models.

# Material-integrated Sensor Networks



Sensor data is processed locally by autonomous low-resource embedded systems (local state) and fused globally to relevant information (global state).

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Sensor data is processed locally by autonomous low-resource embedded systems (local state) and fused globally to relevant information (global state).

The single network nodes are simple and low-level, but their connection creates complex high-level capabilities by self-organisation.

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S. Bosse, D. Lehmhus, W. Lang, M. Busse (Ed.), Material-Integrated Intelligent Systems: Technology and Applications, Wiley, ISBN: 978-3-527-33606-7 (2018)

# Concept of Material-integrated Intelligent Systems

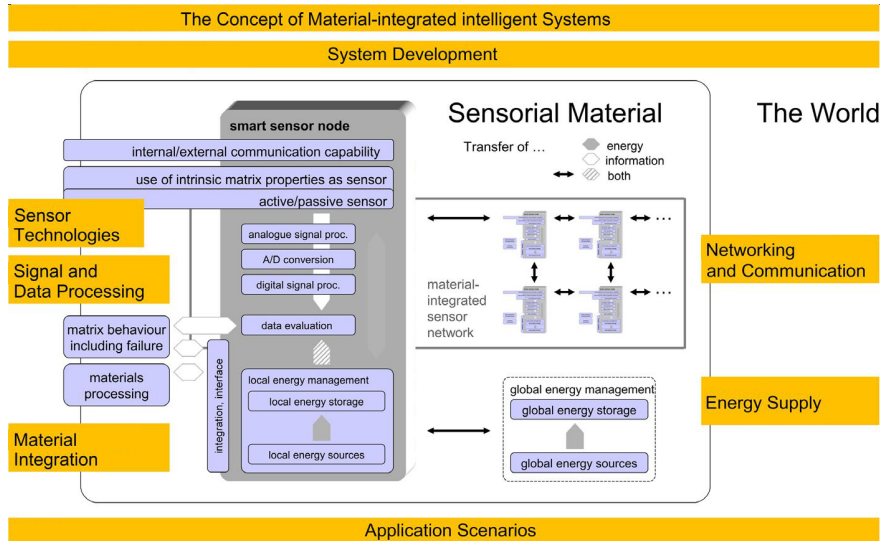


Fig. 3. The fundamental elements of a material-integrated intelligent system

## Intelligent Objects



An intelligent object  $O$  is defined by its interaction with the environment and its state  $\sigma$ :

World  $\Rightarrow$  Sensing  $\Rightarrow O:\sigma \rightarrow \sigma' \Rightarrow$  Actuation  $\Rightarrow$  World

World := { Environment, Machines, Devices, Humans, Data }.

- An intelligent object can be considered as an **agent** that is coupled loosely to its environment and poses self-☆ capabilities:
  - Self-adaptivity
  - Self-organisation
  - Self-connectivity
  - Self-learning
  - Self-mobility
  - Self-management
  - Self-improvement
  - Self-diagnosis and awareness

## Intelligent Objects



Self-☆ capabilities are considered as enablers for future computing systems that will have to deal with unprecedented complexity, heterogeneity, and dynamics.

- Self-☆ refers to the capability of a system to modify its own behaviour or structure without any external control in reaction to or even in anticipation of system dynamics.
- Intelligent objects are not limited to a sensing system - they are data analytic and mechatronic systems.

## Structural Health Monitoring: Information Mining

*Different integration levels: Sensors, full sensor nodes, full sensor networks*

[Qing, Li, Wang, Sun, 2019; Chen et al. 2020]

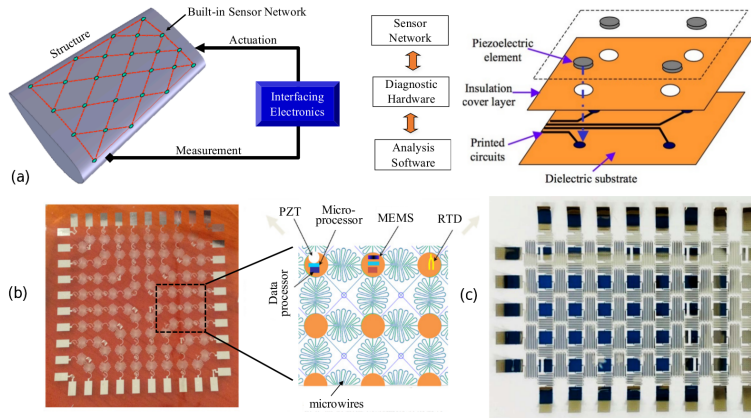
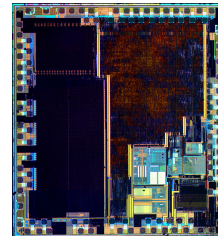


Fig. 4. (a) Ultrasonic sensors integrated in a wing (b) Expandable multifunctional SN (c) Multi-modal stretchable SN

## Computers and Data Processing

- Even a square millimetre computer provides today enough capabilities to perform Machine Learning!

- About 100 MIPS/mm<sup>2</sup>
- About 100 kbit/mm<sup>2</sup>
- About 100  $\mu$ W/mm<sup>2</sup>
- About 100 kbit/s

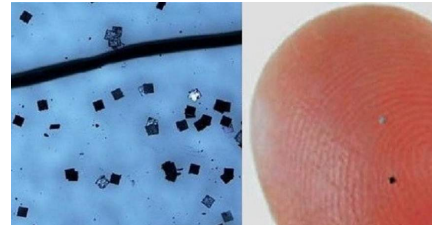
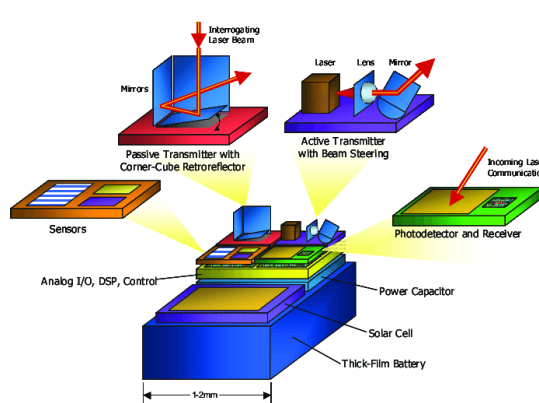


Example: Arm Cortex M0(+): 1MIPS/MHz, 10-100 $\mu$ W/MHz, 8kB RAM, 32kB ROM, 0.01-0.1mm<sup>2</sup> (depends on silicon process)

## Smart Dust: Large-scale Networks

### Autonomous sensing and communication in a cubic millimeter

[Warneke et al, 2002; Hitachi]



(Left) Arm Cortex M0, 740kHz, 4kB RAM, S:Temperature+Light,  
C:900MHz+optical,  $P=70\text{mW}$ ,  $V\approx 10\text{mm}^3$

(Right) read-only tracking, 128 Bit UID, S:Ø, C:RFID/2.4GHz,  
 $V=0.0002\text{mm}^3$ !

Fig. 5. (Left) Conceptual diagram of a smart dust mote, one example of a tiny, autonomous, wireless sensor node / 2002 (Right) Hitachi "Smart Dust" / 2008

# Multi-agent Systems and Cellular Automata

**ABM.** Agent-based Modelling

**ABS.** Agent-based Simulation

**ABC. Agent-based Computation** ① **Mobile and autonomous computational processes** ② **Numerical Processes (Functions)**

**ABL.** Agent-supported and Agent-based Learning

**ABX.** ABC+ABS/ABM

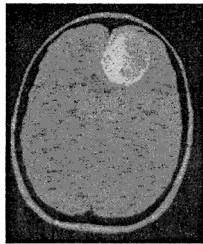
**ABCA. Hybrid Agents + Cellular Automata**

## Agent-based Pattern Recognition

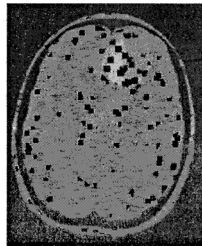
### Self-organised Autonomy and Distributed Search // ABCA



Feature Marking in Images  $\Rightarrow$  Searching Regions-of-Interest (ROI)  $\Rightarrow$  Finding Anomalies



( $t = 0$ )



( $t = 5$ )



( $t = 10$ )



( $t = 20$ )

Fig. 6. Region growing and border feature detection for a brain-scan image [Liu,2001]

## ROI Marking and Segmentation in Time Signals with Agents

**Goal.** Find ROI containing relevant damage feature information **without** knowing anything about damage (i.e., anomaly indeed).

**System.** Pure computational system applied to GUW time signals using functional agents  $\Rightarrow$  **Linear Cellular Automata.**

**Methods & Algorithms.** Time signal is segmented and discretised. ROI (start and end time point) is marked by agents searching local features (population density). Reproduction, diffusion, and termination of agents creating marking distributions.

## ROI Marking and Segmentation in Time Signals with Agents

- The Multi-agent System consists of simple agents (just computational functions) with different behaviour:
  - Master agent
  - Segmentation agent partitioning signal in small segments
  - Explorer agents finding features by amplification



Agent strategies: Self-organisation by reproduction and diffusion based on neighbourhood signal comparison (feature amplification and damping) delivering a feature estimation  $\varphi \in [0,1] \Rightarrow$  Constrained by parameter set  $P$

# ROI Marking and Segmentation in Time Signals with Agents

## Algorithm

- The signal segmentation algorithm bases on a divide-and-conquer approach:
  - The time-resolved signal vector  $\vec{x}(t)$  is reduced to a segment set  $\{s(n)\}$  by using a data filter algorithm (peak, arithmetic average, or exponential filter).
  - A segment agent can create explorer agents (at place  $i$ ) to investigate the segment neighbourhood within a given radius (places  $i \pm \delta \in r$ ).
  - Neighbouring agents communicate with each other by using signals  $\Rightarrow$  **Linear Cellular Automata**
  - The explorer agent  $e(i)$  has the goal to collect data from the current left and right side neighbourhood within a given radius. The neighbourhood data values are compared with the current associated data value  $\Rightarrow \varphi$
  - *If  $\varphi \in [a, b] \Rightarrow \text{Reproduction} + \text{Marking}$  else Diffusion ( $i \rightarrow i'$ )*
  - *If lifetime (number of iterations) is reached  $\Rightarrow \text{Terminate}$ .*

## ROI Marking and Segmentation in Time Signals with Agents

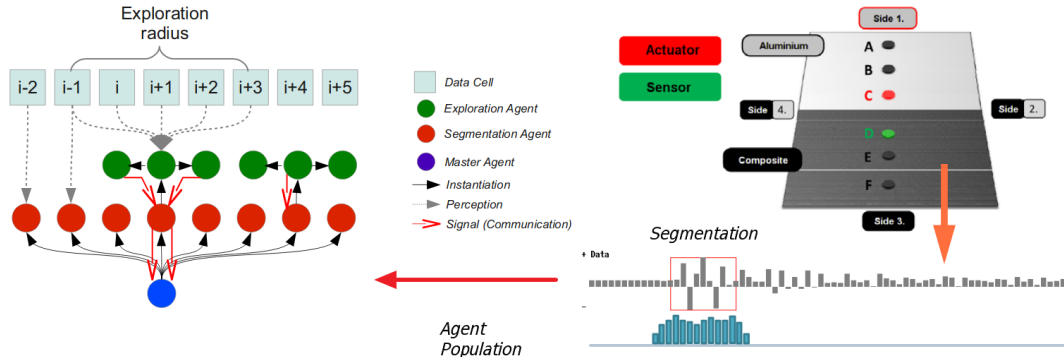


Fig. 7. The MAS: Perception; Event-based instantiation of explorer agents; Diffusion and Reproduction based on neighbourhood signal comparison; Communication via signals

## ROI Marking and Segmentation in Time Signals with Agents

- Signal records from acoustic measurements can differ significantly with respect to amplitudes, frequency spectrum, and noise
- MAS parameter set  $P$  cannot be chosen a-priori; selection based on evolutionary or data-driven prediction algorithms (ANN)
  - Hybrid approach combining ANN with MAS
  - ANN:  $(s_0, s_1, f_1, \dots) \rightarrow P$
  - MAS:  $(\vec{x}(t), P) \rightarrow \text{ROI } [i_a, i_b]$



Automated data-driven parameter estimation and parameter space exploration is required!

## ROI Marking and Segmentation in Time Signals with Agents

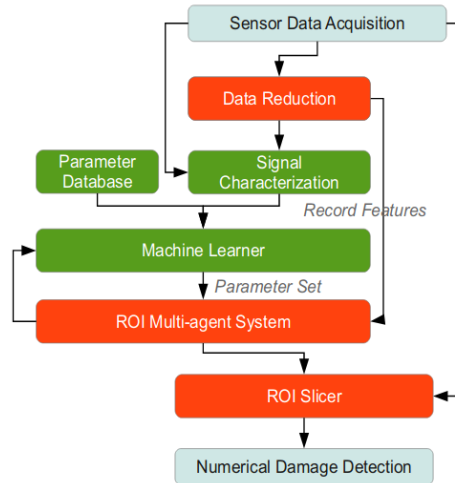


Fig. 8. Sensor data pre-processing using a multi-level architecture and Machine Learning providing an automatic and adaptive MAS parameter selection.

# Distributed Machine Learning and Agents

## **DML**

Multi-model ML with local inference and global fusion (global state estimation from local states)

## **STMP**

Single-instance Training with Multi-instance Prediction  
(Training of one model with global data → Model replication  
→ Prediction with local data)

## **MTMP**

Multi-instance Training with Multi-instance Prediction  
(Training of multiple local models → Prediction with local data only, )

## Distributed Damage Diagnostics in Sensor Networks

**Goal.** Robust detection of hidden damages in hybrid materials using guided ultrasonic waves (GUW) and a distributed sensor network.

**System.** Hybrid material plate with embedded or applied GUW sensors and actuators (transducers). Two set-ups: A) 12 discrete transducers B) one transducer and 2D air US scanning providing  $250 \times 250$  virtual sensors  $\Rightarrow$  time-dependent sensor signals.

**Algorithms and Methods.** Multi-model instance ensemble learning and model fusion. Global fusion: Negotiation, voting, point density clustering, centre of mass. Feature extraction: Discrete Wavelet Transformation (DWT), Predictor: sequential state-based LSTM ANN or parallel CNN.

## Concept



Method: **Holonic** principle with decomposition of large complex problems in multiple simple problems (Divide&Conquer principle) **and** distributed local data processing.

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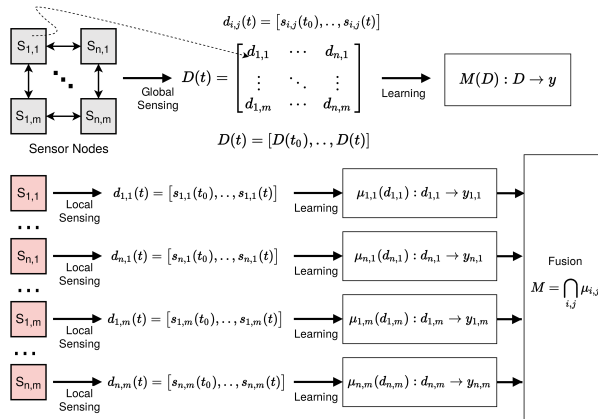


Fig. 9. From off-line and centralised single-model ML to distributed multi-model ML with global model fusion

## Architecture & Results

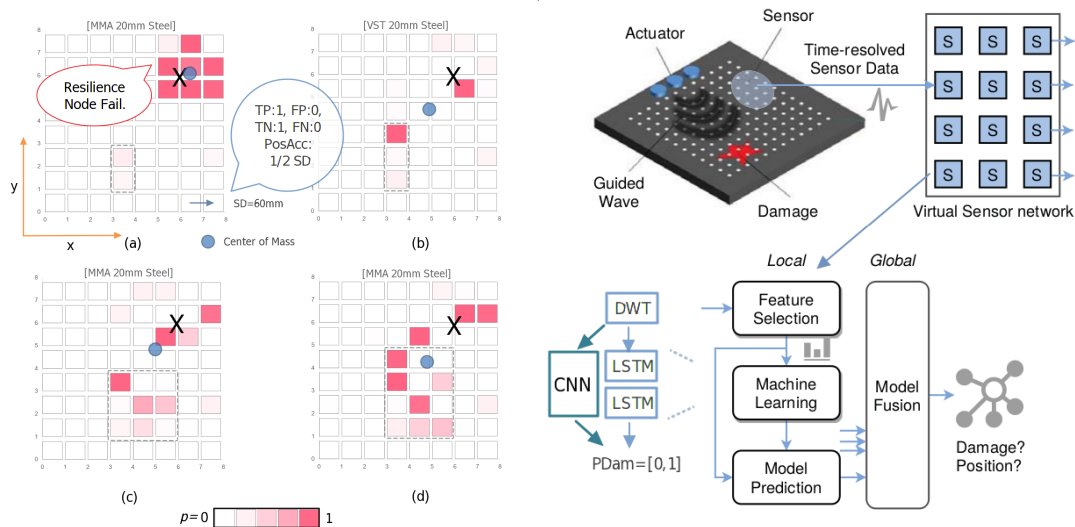


Fig. 10. Each sensor node performs damage prediction based on local sensor data (GUW) → Global fusion by density clustering and probabilistic filtering

## Distributed Learning Agents and Simulation

**Goal.** Damage prediction and localisation with learning interacting agents with noisy and unreliable strain gauge sensor data (time series)

**System.** Multi-agent System with simple learning agents posing low complexity, network of virtual sensors from simulation.

**Algorithms & Methods.** Multi-domain simulation combining Multi-agent processing and Multi-body Physics (MBP) delivering virtual sensor data (JavaScript Agent Machine platform). Damage location computed by global fusion from local predictions.

## Multi-body Physics Model

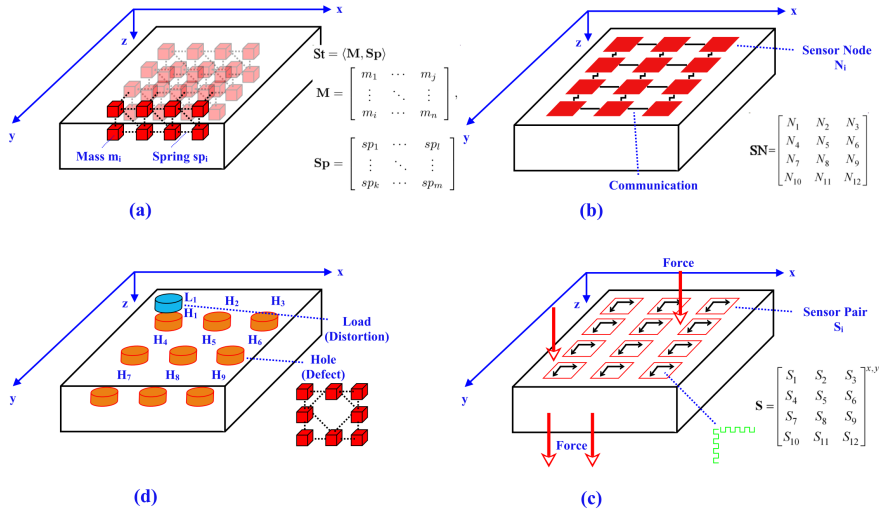


Fig. 11. (a) Mass-spring model of structure (b) Sensor Node Network (c) Strain Sensors (d) Virtual defects and disturbing loads

## Concept

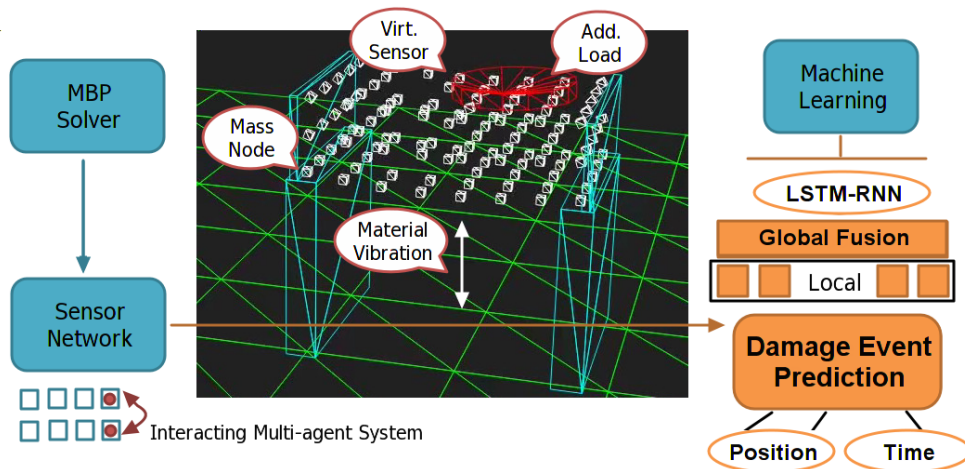


Fig. 12. The sensor processing and damage prediction concept: Local sensor processing, learning, inference  $\Rightarrow$  Global fusion and prediction of position and time of damage event

## Training Data Variance

- One major issue in training of machine learned models is **specialisation of the model!**
- Broad variance of training data samples are required for **generalised models!**
- Experimental collection of large sensor data bases with **high variance** is difficult to achieve!
- **Simulation** can overcome this limitation:
  - Using **Monte Carlo methods** applied to sensor signals and experimental parameters create a broad variance of data samples!

## Algorithmic Scaling

How to fit in embedded systems? Main principles:

1. **Decomposition and Distribution:** Localised sensor data processing → distributed information inference → hierarchical architectures.
2. **Down Scaling:** Data complexity, data accuracy, algorithmic complexity, algorithmic substitution, approximation.
3. **Model-driven** approaches: Feature selection, model fusion, model-reduction, model-substitution.
4. **Accelerators:** HW(SW) co-processors, HL synthesis of algorithms/SW → HW (RTL)

## Algorithmic Scaling

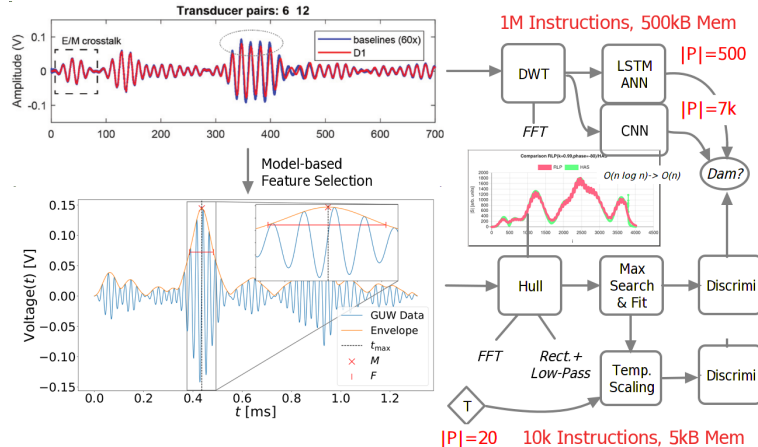


Fig. 13. (Left) **Data-driven** complex time-series prediction on GUV signal with DWT features using LSTM networks [Bosse, Schmidt, Weiss: Sensors 2019] and CNN (Right) **Model-based** feature extraction and simple numerical damage prediction [Polle, Bosse: SysInt 2022]

# Damage Diagnostics with Laboratory Equipment

## **Non-destructive Testing**

X-ray or US computer tomography for damage and material characterisation

## **Destructive Testing**

Tensile tests for material characterisation; Micrographs for damage and material characterisation

## Data Series Prediction in Tensile Tests

**Goal.** ① Predict material breakage by early data recorded in the linear and pre-non-linear material data ② Predict material curves by data series prediction

**System.** Tensile test equipment, data series recording.

**Methods.** Feedforward ANN, Recurrent and state-based ANN.

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S. Bosse, E. Kalwait, Damage and Material-state Diagnostics with Predictor Functions using Data Series Prediction and Artificial Neural Networks, ECSA 2020 MDPI, 15.11 -30.11.2020, Basel, Switzerland

## Methods



Three different methods were used to predict the material behaviour of a device under test (DUT) from tensile test data  $\langle F, x \rangle$  ( $F$ : load force,  $x$ : strain length):

1. Feed-forward Artificial Neural Networks (FFNN) predicting the damage fracture point (breakage  $x_{\text{dam}} \in x$ , strain length) of DUT from the first data points  $\mathbf{F}_0$  of a tensile test, i.e., with data series  $\mathbf{F}$  of the load forces

$$\Gamma(\vec{F}_0, P) : \vec{F}_0 \rightarrow x_{\text{dam}},$$
$$\vec{F}_0 \subset \vec{F} = [F(x) | x = 0, \epsilon, 2\epsilon, \dots, n\epsilon]$$

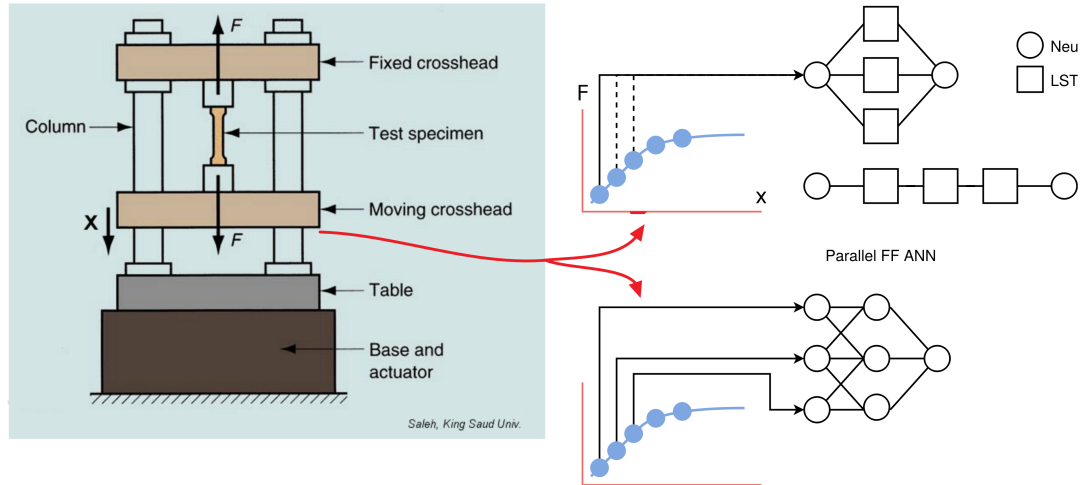
2. State-based Recurrent ANN (RNN) performing the same prediction of the damage strain length point by early tensile data.
3. State-based RNN performing data series prediction, i.e., the force-strain curves from tensile tests to predict the start of the inelastic range of the material:

$$\Gamma(F(\delta, \vec{F}_{i0}), P) : F_i \rightarrow F_{i+\delta},$$
$$\vec{F}_{i0} = [F_j | j < i]$$



$\Gamma$  is a parametrized (P) predictor function hypothesis derived from ML and training.

## Experiments



## Damage point Prediction

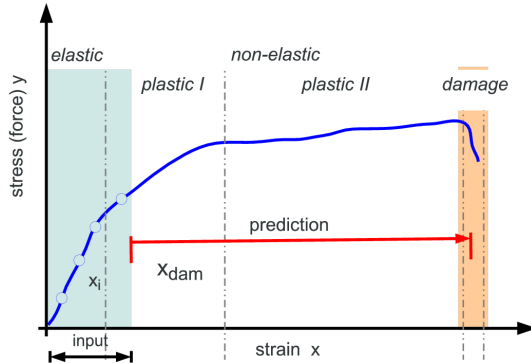


Fig. 14. Damage fracture point prediction (maximal strain length  $x_{dam}$  until damage) from measured data of the first segments of the strain-force diagram from tensile tests

## Material State Prediction

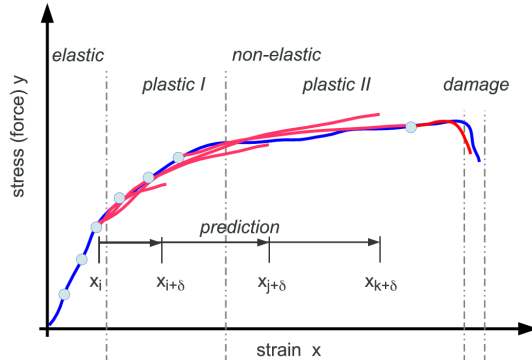


Fig. 15. A typical measured strain-force curve from a tensile test (blue line) and forward predictions (red line segments)

$x_{i+\delta}$

## ROI and Anomaly Detection in CT Data

**Goal.** Detect regions of interest in CT data volumes automatically. A ROI bases on anomaly detection and is a candidate for a damages: Breakage, impurity, delamination, cracks.

**System.** Micro X-ray CT devices providing different resolutions and X-ray energies, prepared composite plates (e.g., GLARE).

**Methods and Algorithms.** Edge detection using kernel filters and gradient algorithms, Z-profiling slicing the CT volume along z-axis (depth), anomaly marking by LSTM, CNN, and SOM, threshold discrimination.

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Chirag Shah, Stefan Bosse, and Axel von Hehl. Taxonomy of Damage Patterns in Composite Materials, Measuring Signals, and Methods for Automated Damage Diagnostics, Materials 15 (MDPI), no. 13 (2022): 4645

## Supervised CNN

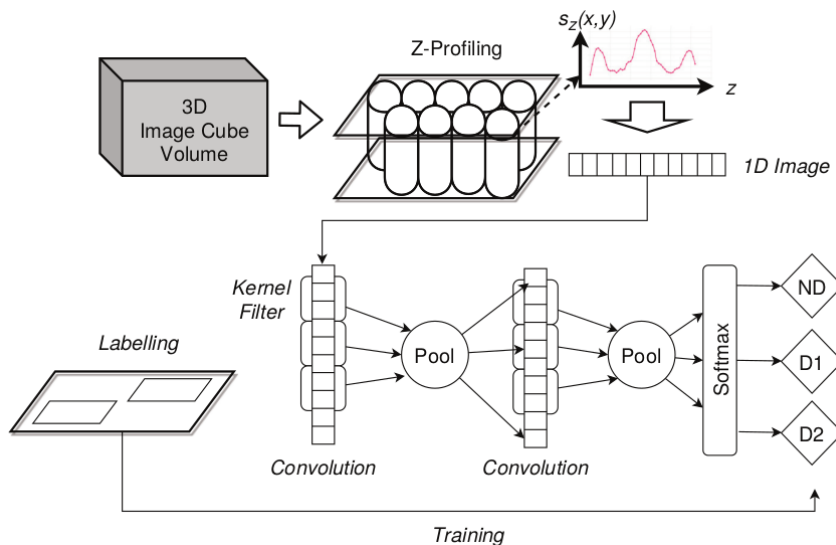


Fig. 16. Z-profile signals as 1D images as input for a CNN damage classifier (ND: No damage class, D1: Damage 1, D2: Damage 2, and so on)

## Supervised CNN

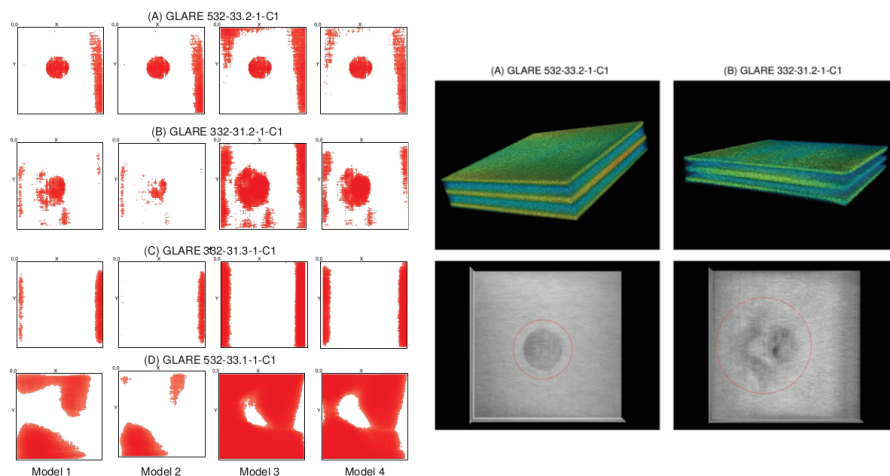


Fig. 17. (Left) Damage feature maps retrieved from four different CNN classifiers and for the specimen A (training and prediction), B, C, and D) (Right) CT image volume and selected x-y slice visualization (A-B) With centred resin defect in the PREG layer

## Unsupervised SOM

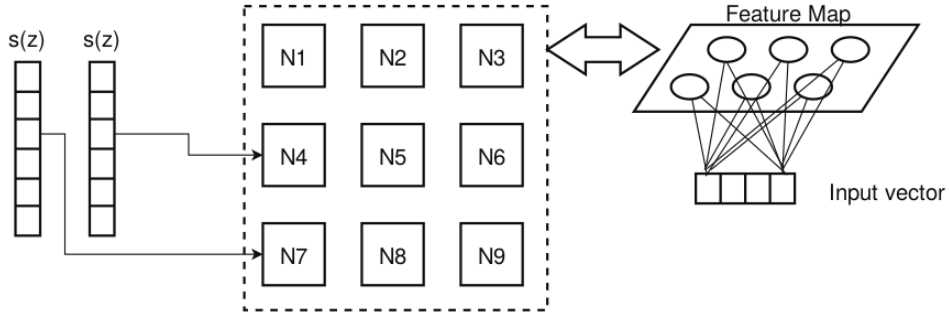


Fig. 18. Principle concept of Self-organising Maps (SOM). The neural node set  $\{n\}$  (squares, left side) represents a feature map  $\{f\}$  (circles, right side)

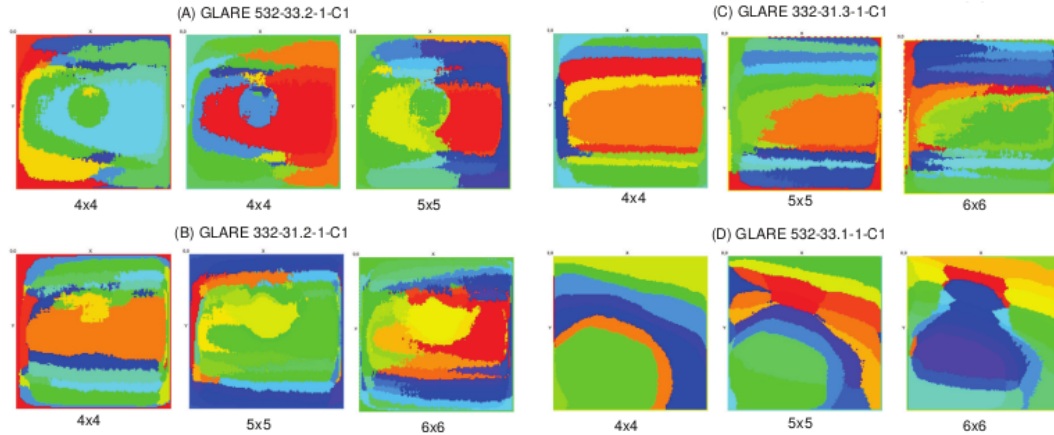


Fig. 19. SOM feature maps of the z-signal volumes for different specimen and with different SOM network sizes (rows × columns); Specimen A: Sharp resin washout, B: fuzzy resin washout; C: base-line; D: large area delamination

# Conclusion



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Distributed algorithms used in sensor networks process sensor data locally (including ML-based local state estimation) and derives a global state by fusion  $\Rightarrow$  Robustness (noise)!