



33rd Annual **INCOSE**
international symposium

hybrid event

Honolulu, HI, USA
July 15 - 20, 2023



Validation of Digital System Models: A Framework and SysML Profile for Model-Based Systems Engineering

James Winton, John Colombi, Kip Johnson, David Jaques (AFIT)

Overview

- Introduction and Motivation
- Related Work – DE, MBSE, and Validation
- Methodology – Framework, Process, and SysML Profile
- Application of the Validation Profile
- Conclusions and Future Work



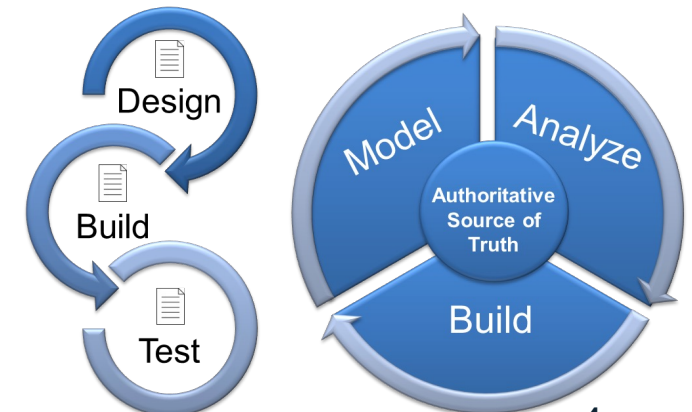


Introduction and Motivation

Introduction

Digital Systems are the future of DoD Acquisition

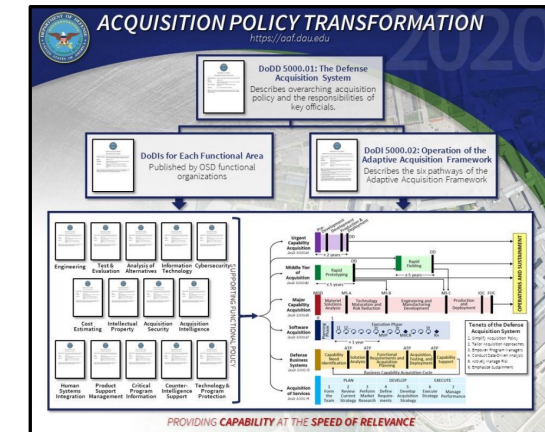
- Defense programs will be “born-digital”
- Digital models will replace documents and static artifacts
- The Authoritative Source of Truth (ASoT) will be leveraged from cradle to grave
- Development will be via a Model-Analyze-Build methodology
- Digital twins developed and tested prior to the build of a physical system
- **Digital Transformation (DT) will drive Digital Engineering (DE), Model-Based Systems Engineering (MBSE), and Digital Materiel Management (DMM) in the development of DoD weapons systems via an ASoT and digital twin**



Motivation

Potential impact to all DoD acquisition programs

- Applies to Systems-in-Sustainment (SiS) and Systems-in-Development (SiD)
- Facilitate the Adaptive Acquisition Framework (AAF)
- Digital lifecycle models will allow for agility and rapid prototyping



- Certified ASoT is the foundation of DT/DE
- Certification via Validation, Verification, and Accreditation (VV&A)

How can a fully-digital design be trusted? The answer may lie in VV&A.

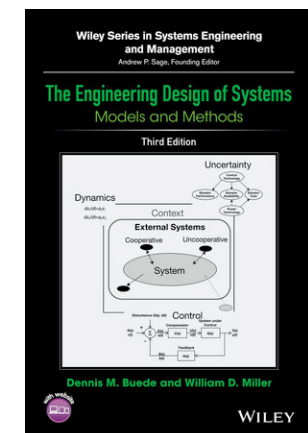
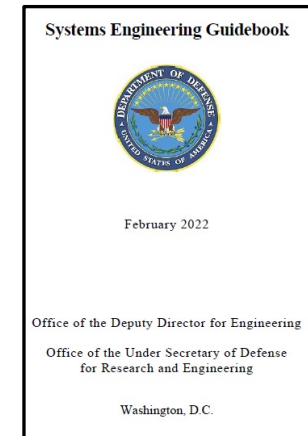


Related Work – DE, MBSE, and Validation

System Validation

Validation in DoD Acquisition is synonymous with Validation of Systems

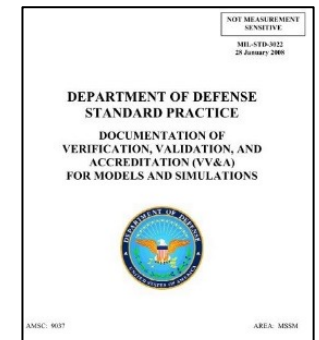
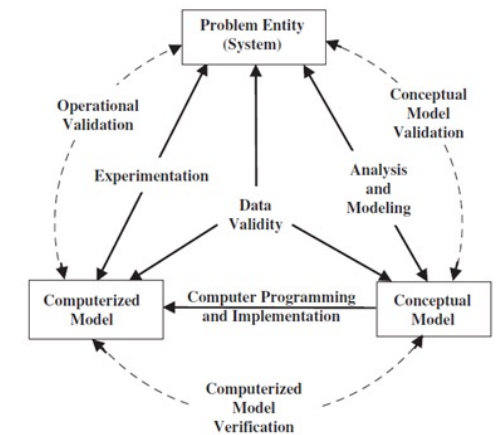
- **DoD SE Guidebook and Defense Acquisition University**
 - Validation provides objective evidence that the system **capability complies with stakeholder performance requirements**, achieving its use in its **intended operational environment**.
 - **“Was the right system built?”** is typically answered during Operational Test and Evaluation
- **The Engineering Design of Systems – Buede and Miller**
 - A system’s validity addresses whether we have **built the right system**. By extension **model validity** concerns whether we have **built the right model**.



Model Validation

Validation of Modeling and Simulation (M&S)

- **Definition 1.** Validation is the process of determining the **degree to which** a model and its associated data are an **accurate representation of the real world** from the perspective of the **intended uses** of the model (Bair and Tolk, Cook and Skinner, DoD M&S Glossary).
- **Definition 2:** Model validation is substantiating that within its domain of applicability the model behaves with **satisfactory accuracy** consistent with the study **objectives** (Balci).
- **Definition 3:** The process of determining the degree to which a **model, simulation, or federation of models and simulations, and their associated data** are accurate representations of the real world from the perspective of the intended use(s) (MIL-STD-3022).



Three core elements of M&S model validation: the model, the real world, a bounding principle

MBSE Model Validation

Validation of MBSE System Models

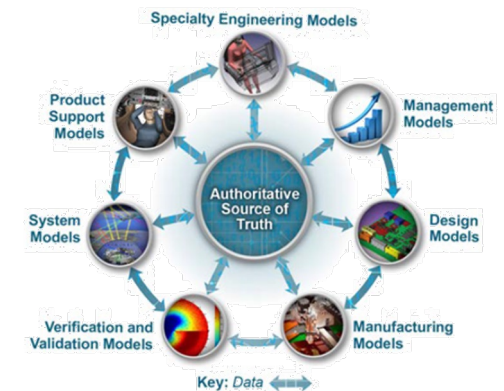
- Inherently different than both systems and M&S validation
- Reality (real-world instantiation or data) not guaranteed for comparison / referent
- Occurs continuously throughout life cycle, not just during OT&E
- Existing system and M&S validation guidance could be applied, but not a seamless transition

Why is MBSE validation required?

- For a given scenario (use case) model credibility must be established
- MBSE model is pedigreed data in the ASoT – must be validated prior to acceptance
- Guidance underdeveloped in comparison to M&S

What is needed for MBSE validation?

- Model use cases, model requirements, model validation test cases, and validation relationships
- Requires guidance, methodology, and best practices



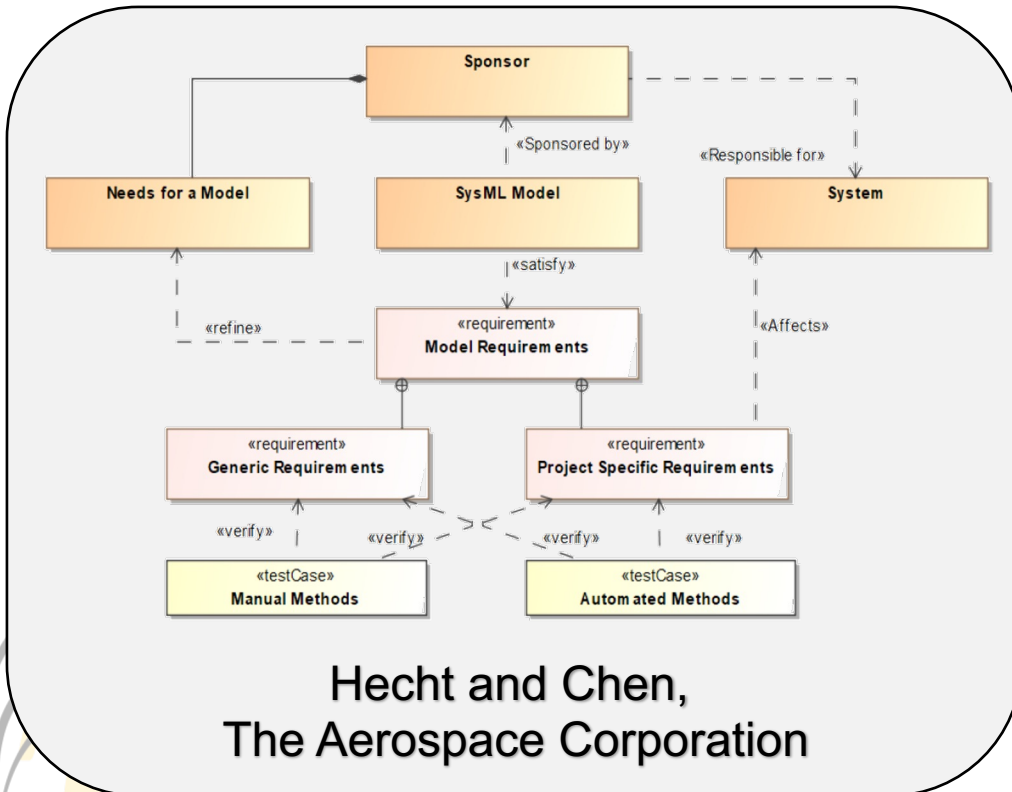
MBSE will not succeed without correct and complete systems engineering models (Hecht and Chen)



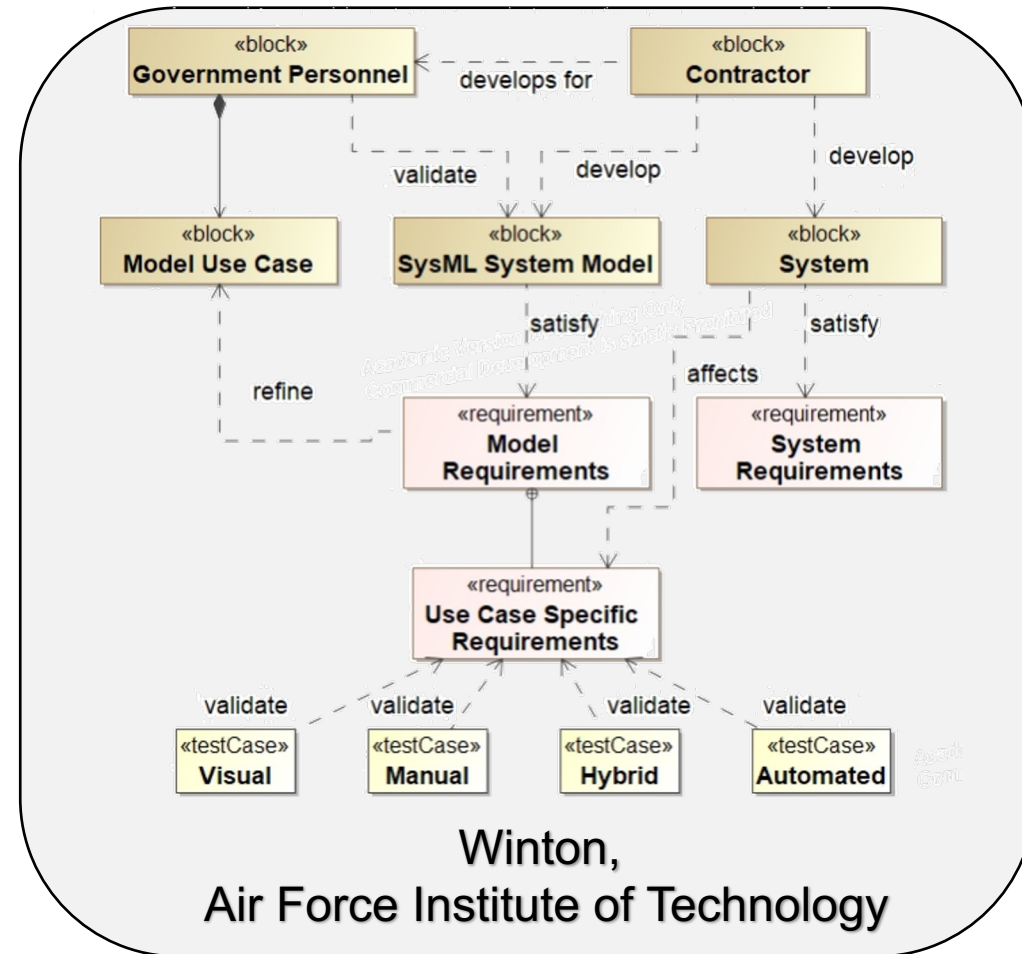
Methodology – Framework, Process, and SysML Profile

Methodology – Metamodel

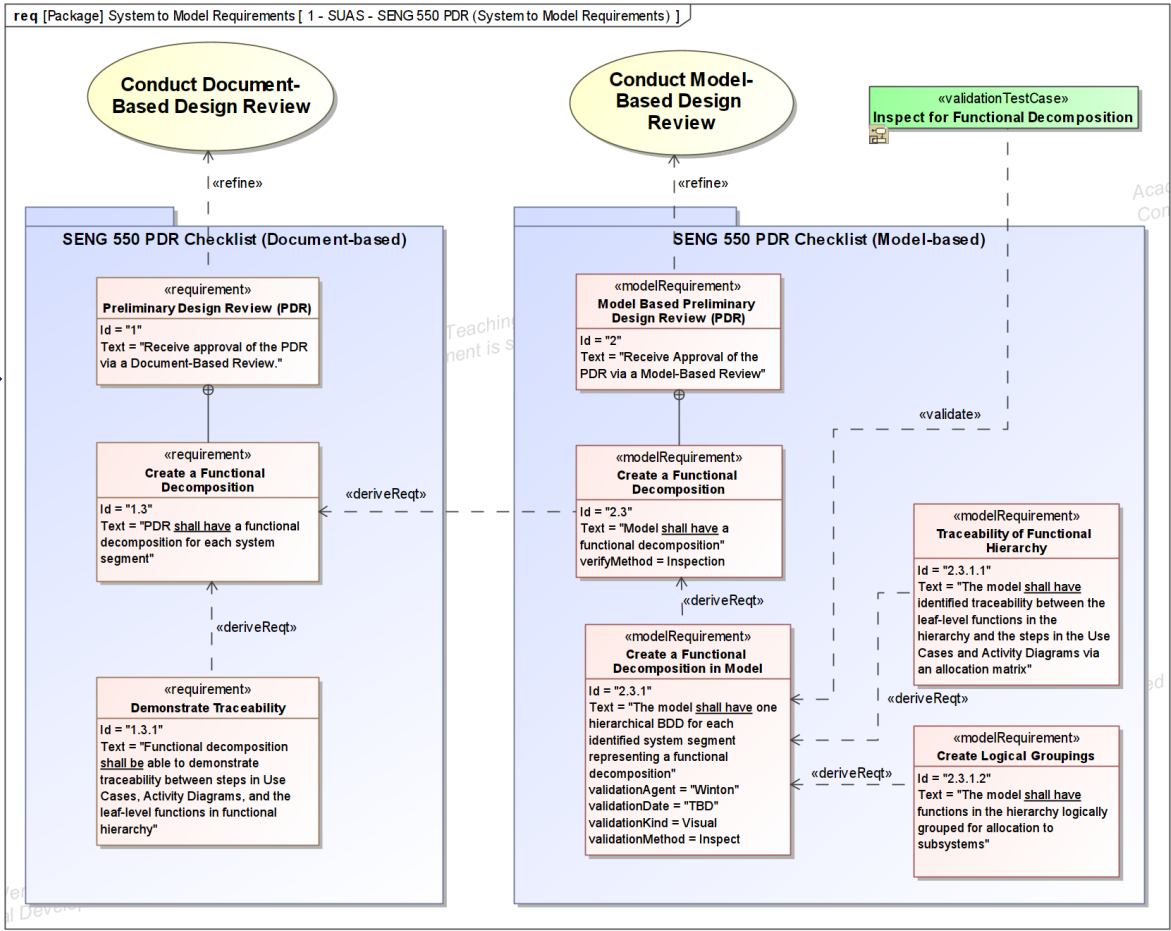
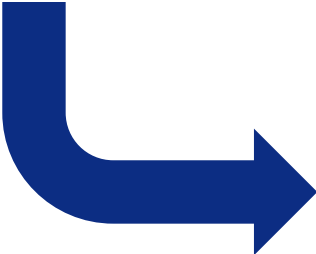
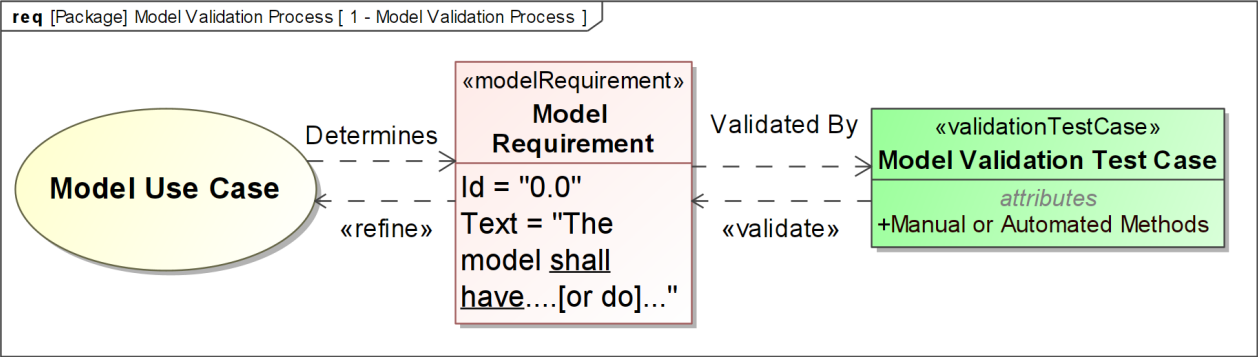
Metamodel for Verification and Validation



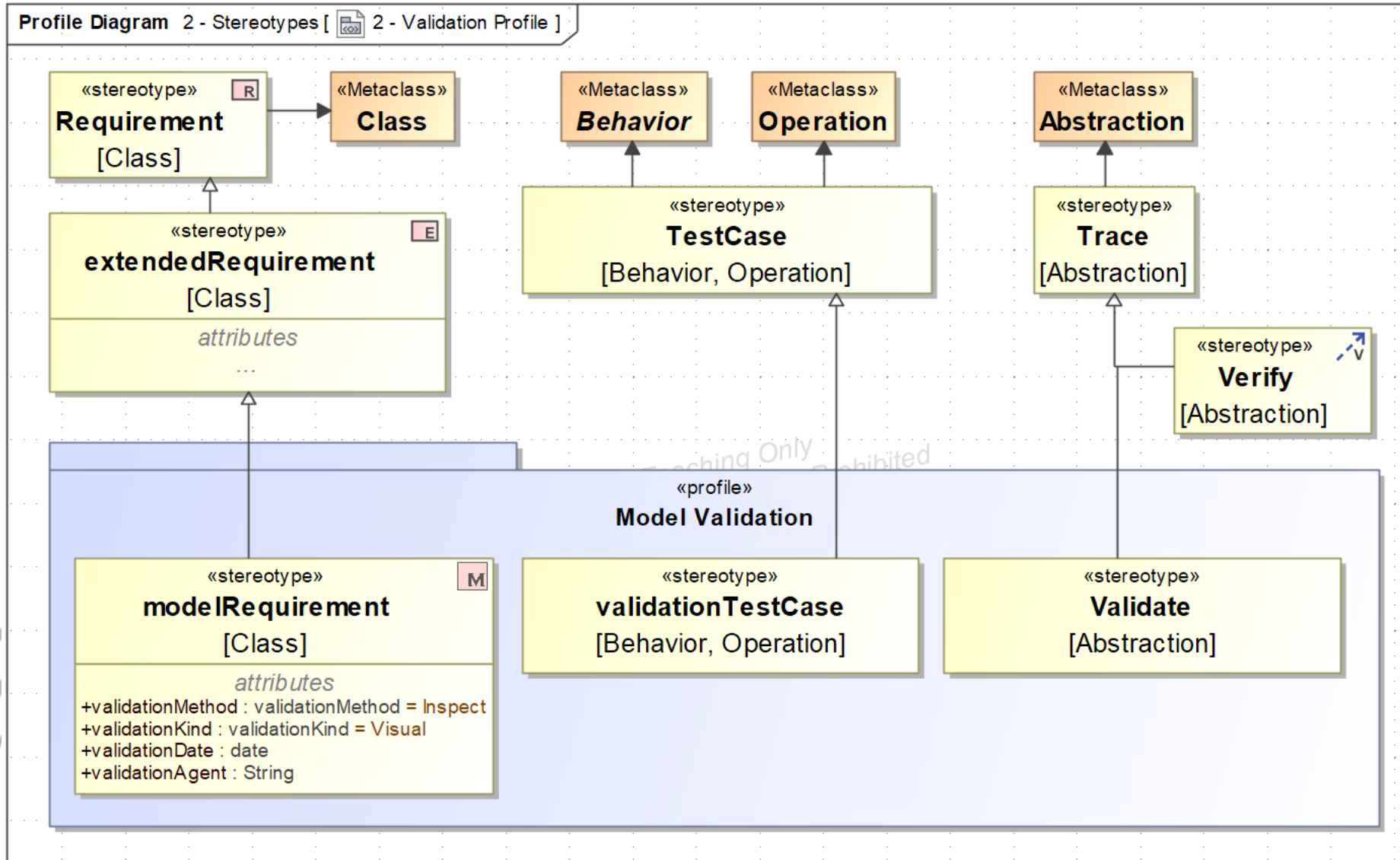
Metamodel for Validation of Government Digital System Models



Methodology – Framework



Methodology – SysML Validation Profile



Methodology – Framework Execution



Model Based

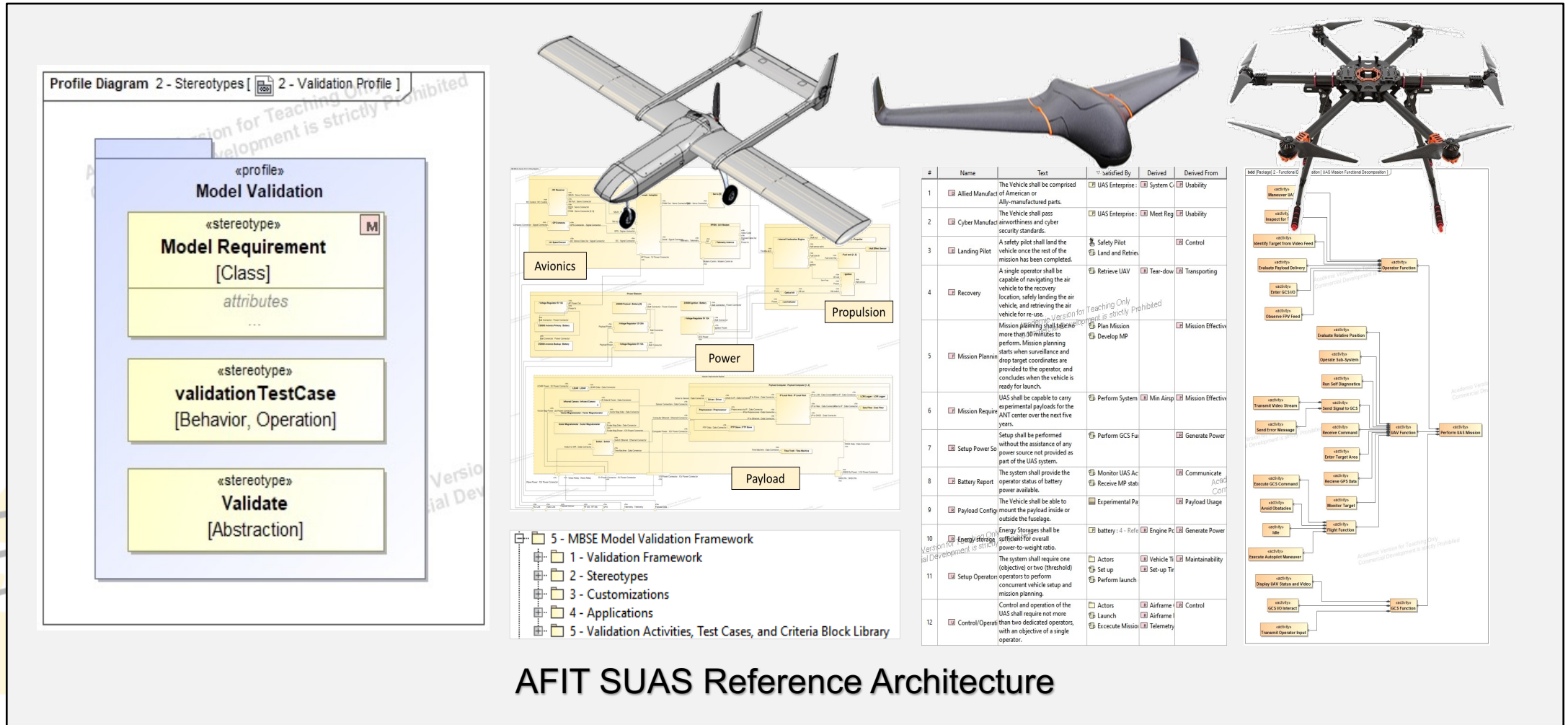
SYSTEMS ENGINEERING

Activate Windows
Go to Settings to activate Windows.



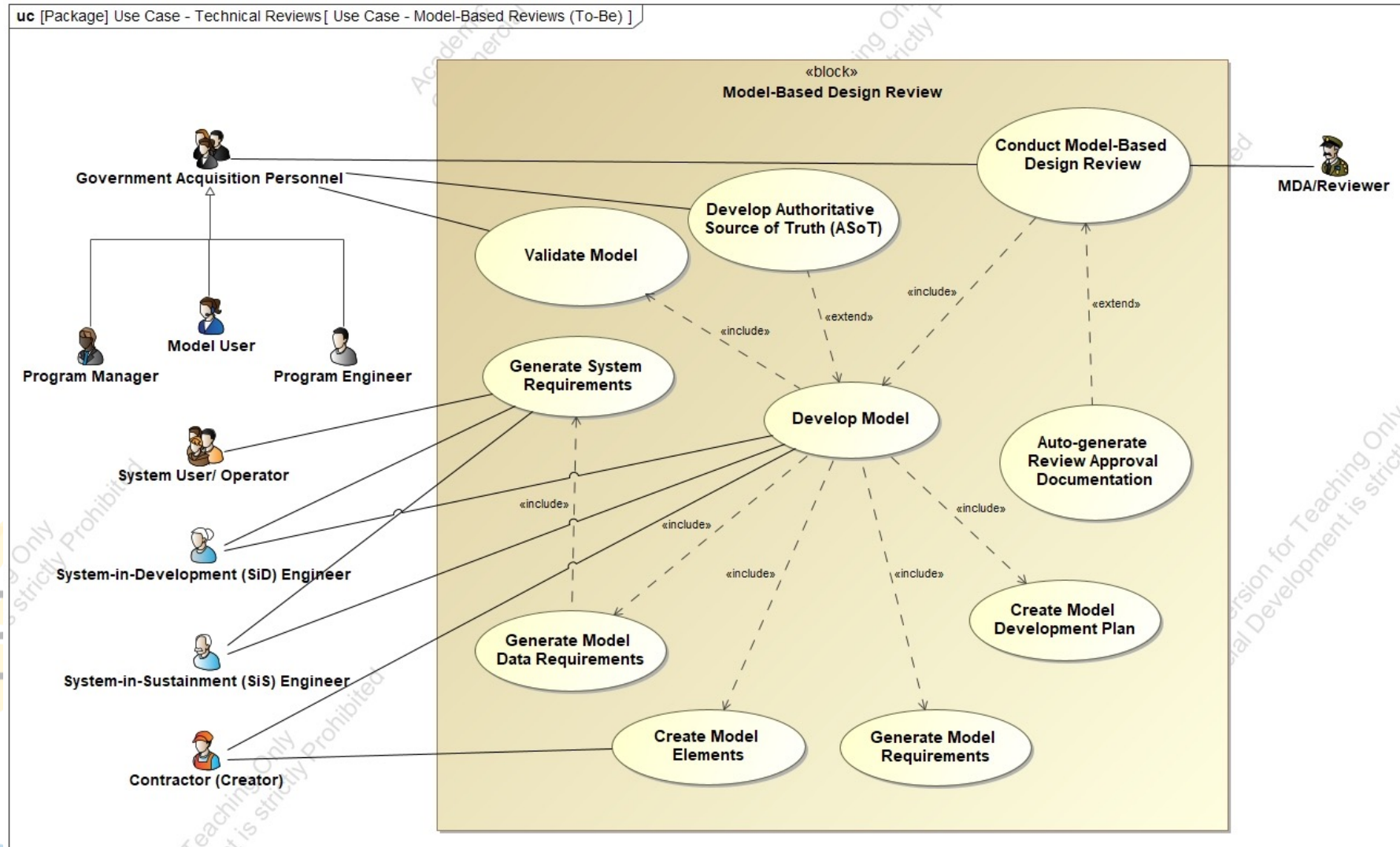
Application of the Validation Profile

Application – AFIT SUAS Reference Architecture



AFIT SUAS Reference Architecture

Application – Use Cases



Application – Document-to-Model Translation

AFIT SENG 550

Allocated Baseline and Preliminary Design Review (PDR) Winter 2022

Due: Wed, 11 Mar 2022

The assignment is as follows:

- Update all portions of your Group Assignment #1 based on instructor feedback and any additional information you have uncovered since then. To be clear, you have an opportunity to correct any problems you may have had with that assignment, but it will be re-graded in full as part of this PDR.
- Identify the system nodes that you are proposing for your solution. These will represent the system elements; at a minimum, your nodes should include air vehicle, ground station(s), and operator(s). If you are proposing multiple ground stations, this distinction should be indicated.
- Provide a functional decomposition for each of your system nodes and demonstrate traceability between the steps in your Use Cases and Activity Diagrams and the leaf level functions in your hierarchy (which should be done from a systems perspective). All leaf level functions should be traceable to one or more activities, and all activities should have one or more functions traceable to them. Use logical groupings for your functional hierarchy, as you will be allocating these functions to subsystems that will either be purchased, modified, or developed by your group, and you want to identify what functionality is required by the various subsystems.
- Complete the physical hierarchy for your UAS system that is traceable to and consistent with your functional decomposition. Your hierarchy should clearly identify not only the system elements, but should identify the subsystems of those system segments. A good reference is Appendix H of the MIL-HDBK-881A, which provides a candidate Work Breakdown Structure (WBS) for an Unmanned Air Vehicle. I expect your group to tailor the hardware/software elements of the WBS to the rapid response project for this course, so not all WBS elements listed in MIL-HDBK-881A will be required. Also, I urge you to take advantage of the SUAS Reference Architecture both for block definitions and example builds.
- Further refine your Activity Diagrams to reflect your allocation decisions. Use proper diagramming standards to provide traceability between operational activities and system nodes (e.g., swim lanes in Activity Diagrams).

- Provide preliminary sizing analysis based on projected weights, motor configuration, and battery capacity.
- Provide preliminary analysis of sensor and operating parameter tradeoffs.

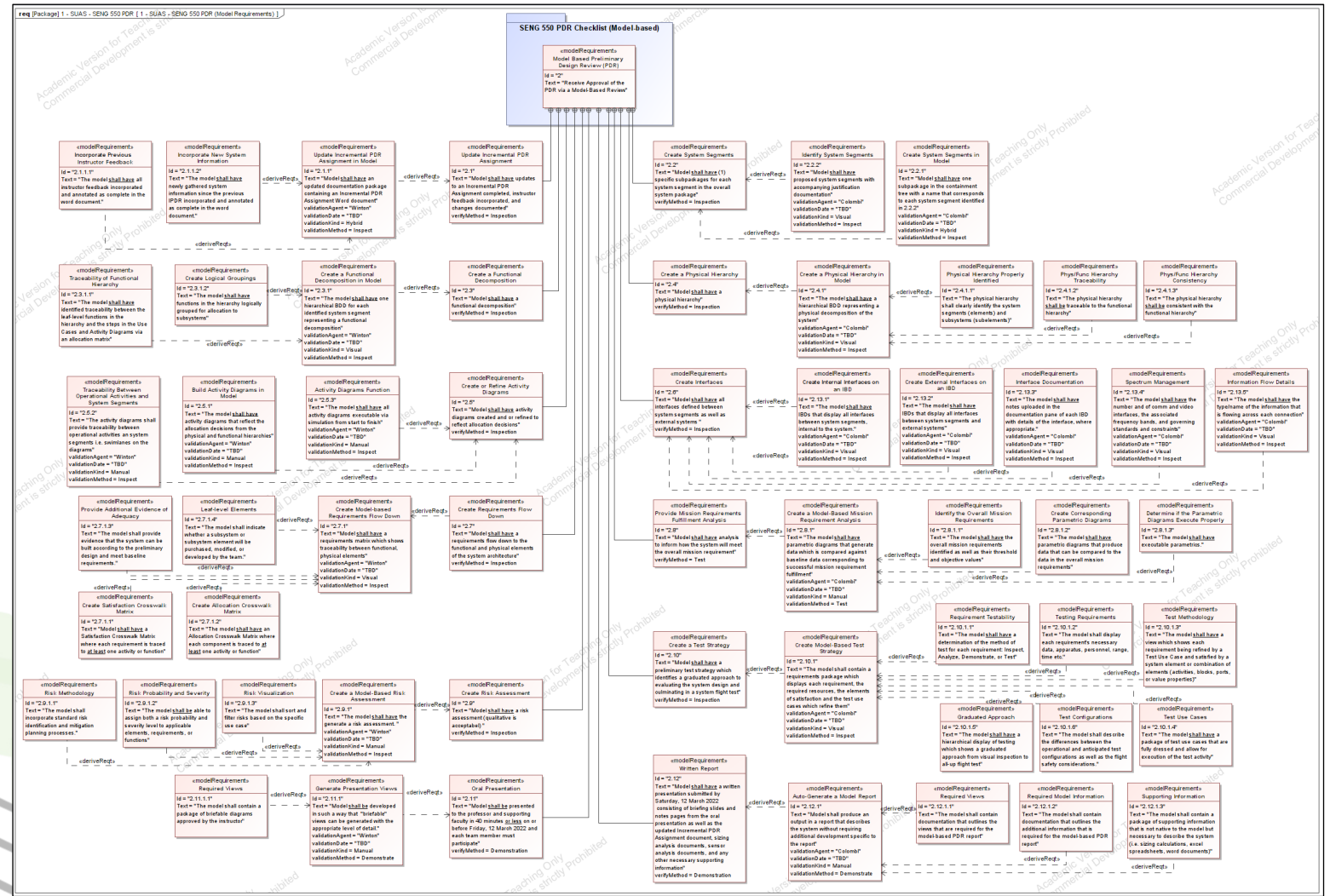
- Provide a risk assessment for your group's approach. A qualitative risk assessment is sufficient – I want to know what you think are the 5-8 issues most likely to cause delays and/or shortfalls in meeting requirements. You may omit cost as a consideration.
- Provide a test strategy that identifies a graduated approach to evaluating your system design, culminating in an all-up flight test. Major test events should be identified, and discussion should include the expected hardware/software configuration to be tested, how it will be tested, where it will be tested and when the tests need to be completed. For the final flight test, differences between the operational and the anticipated test configurations should be identified. The test configuration should include flight safety considerations. Test specific instrumentation, where needed, should be identified.

Note:

There will be both a written and an oral presentation for the PDR. The oral presentation will be in class Friday, 12 March. Each group will have 30-40 minutes, and all group members should participate in the oral presentation. The written presentation will consist of the slides/notes pages from the oral presentation, and any necessary supporting documents. The written presentation must be turned in COB Friday, 11 March 2022.

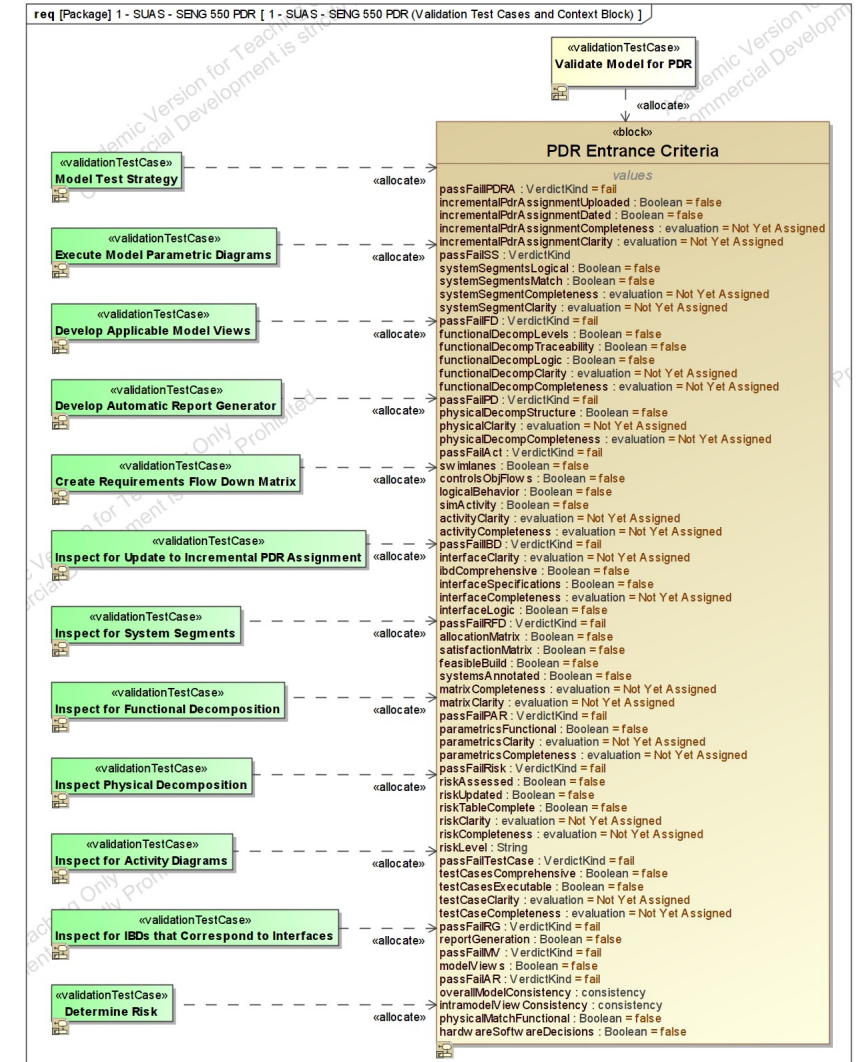
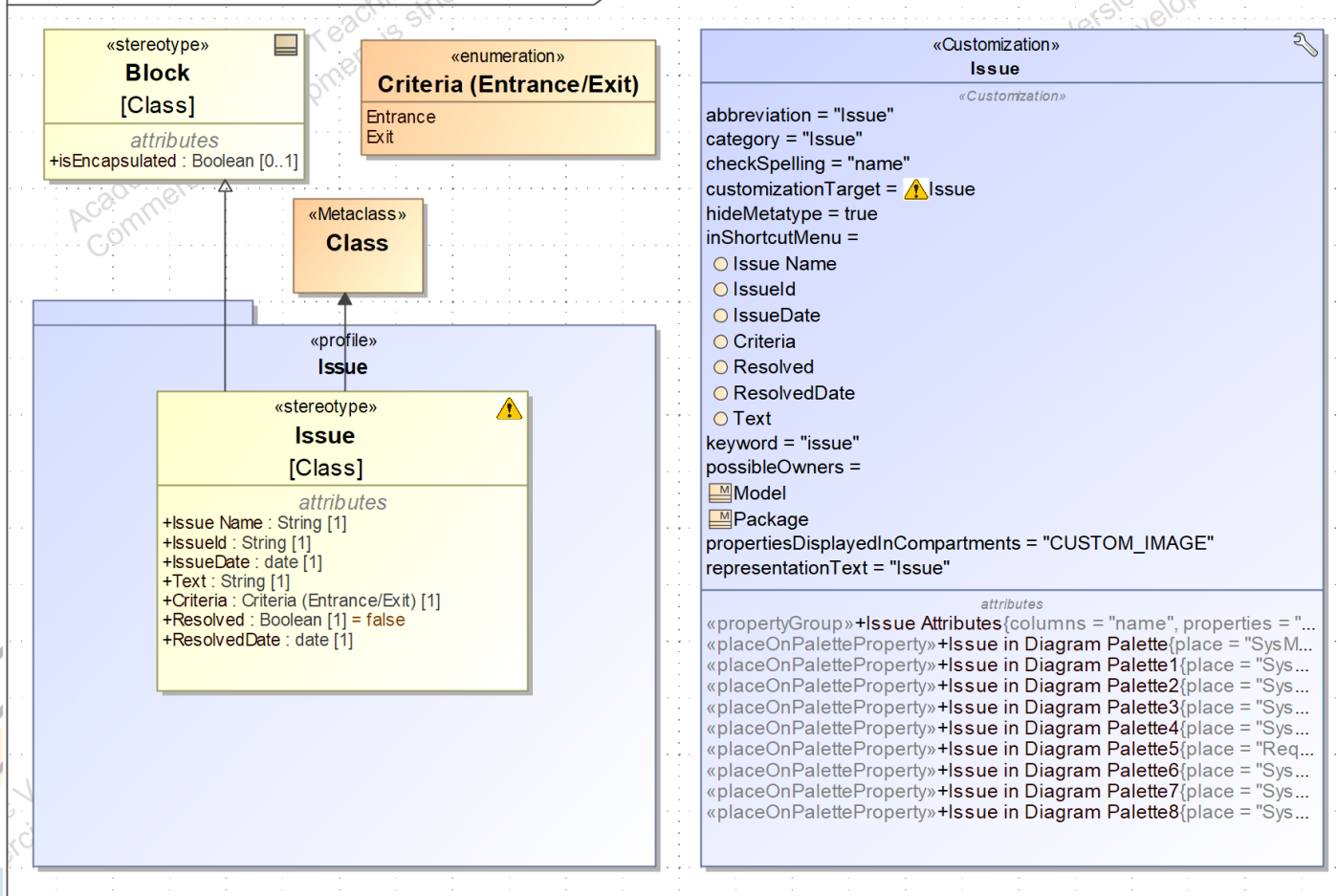
12 Requirements

2



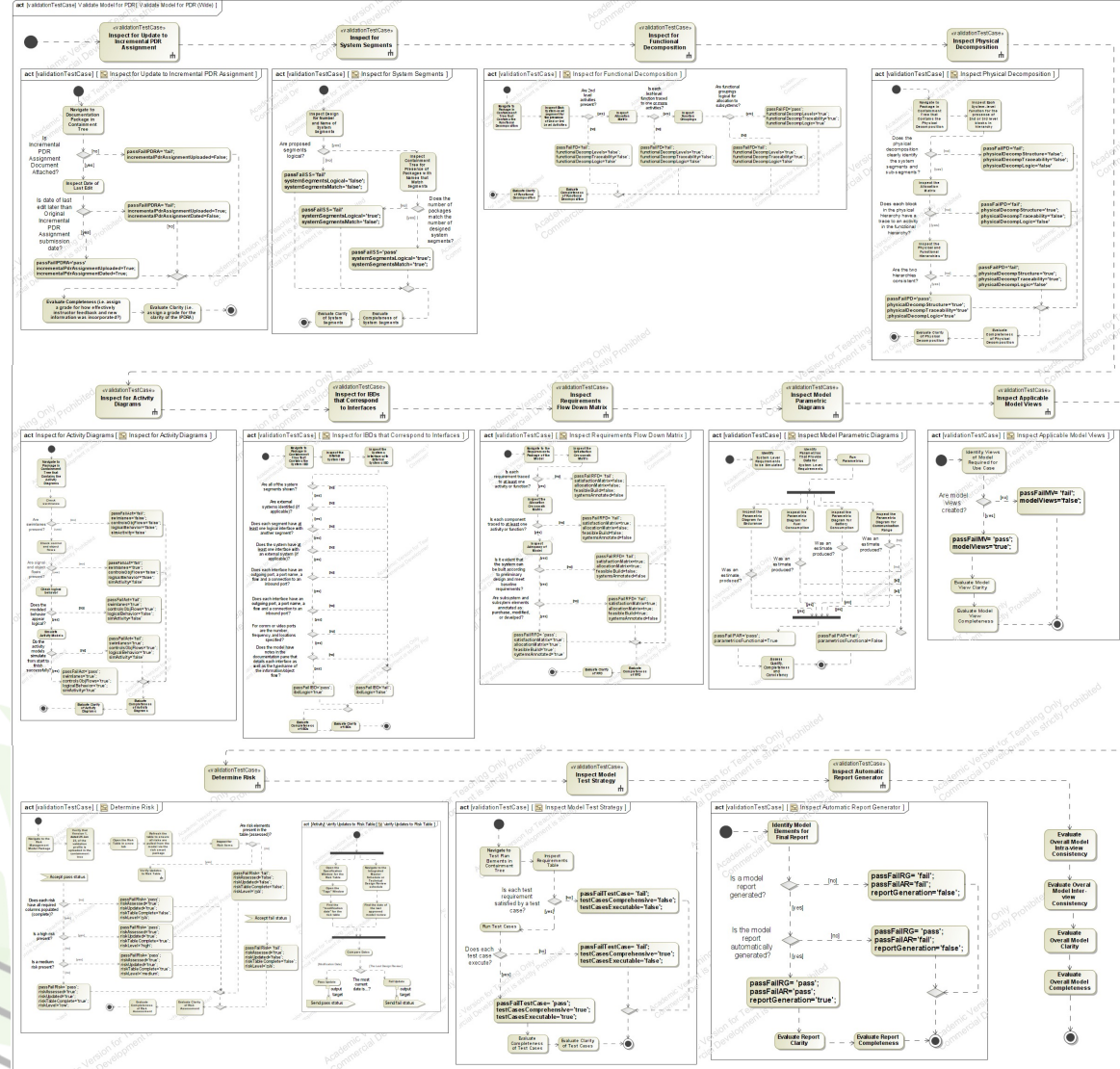
Application – Custom Elements and Validation Context Block

Profile Diagram 2 - Stereotypes [2 - Stereotypes (Issue and Risk)]

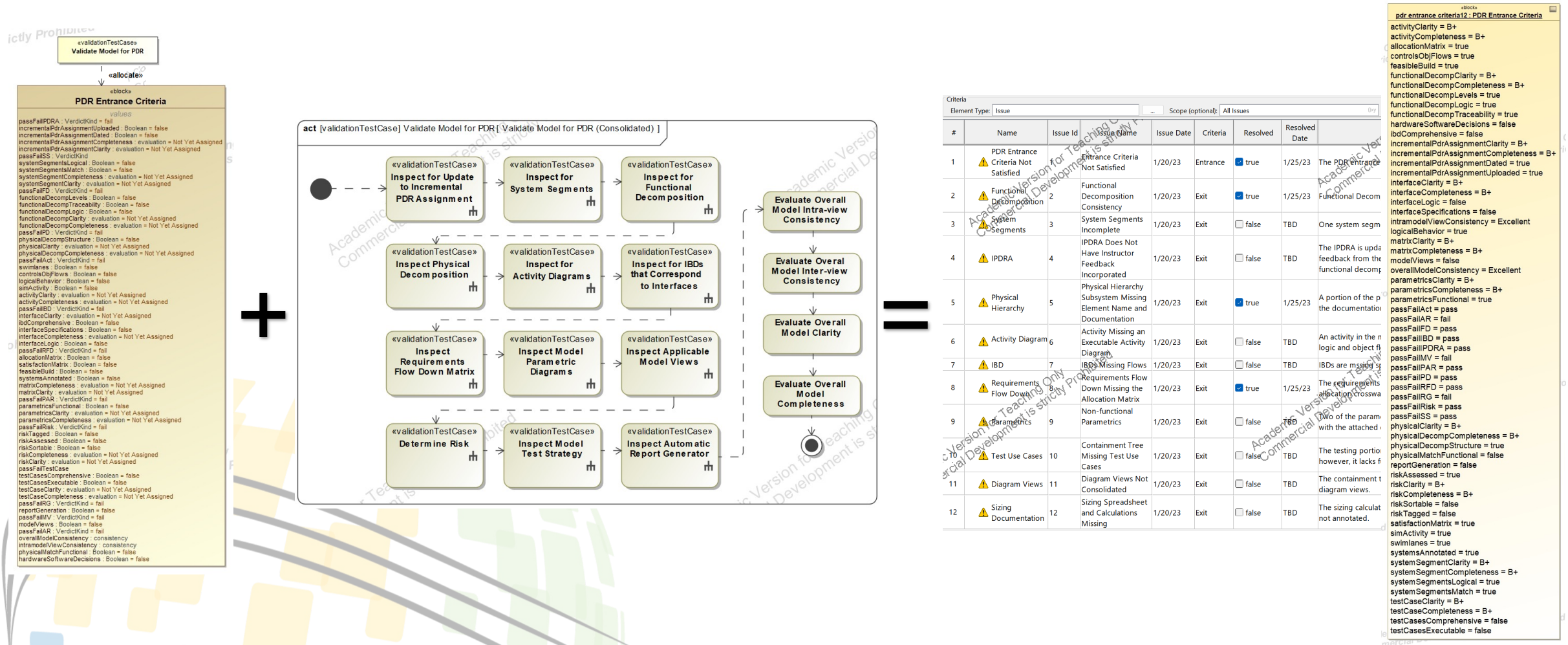


Application – Activity Diagram for Validation Test Cases

12 Validation Test Cases:
One for each of the 12
SENG 550 PDR
Assignment Items



Application – Instantiated Context Block



Application – Validation Results

■ Successes:

- Use case to perform academic model-based PDR
- 12 translated Model Requirements (and derivations) satisfied through Validation Test Cases
- Activity Diagrams executed and populated Criteria scoresheet with “measures of closeness”
- Issues and entrance/exit criteria captured in the custom issue table

■ Failures:

- None

■ Validation Determination: **FULLY VALID**

- Model **VALID** for executing a model-based PDR

```
pdr-entrance.criteria12: PDR Entrance Criteria
activityClarity = B+
activityCompleteness = B+
allocationMatrix = true
controlsObjFlows = true
feasibleBuild = true
functionalDecompClarity = B+
functionalDecompCompleteness = B+
functionalDecompLevels = true
functionalDecompLogic = true
functionalDecompTraceability = true
hardwareSoftwareDecisions = false
lbdComprehensive = false
incrementalPdAssignmentClarity = B+
incrementalPdAssignmentCompleteness = B+
incrementalPdAssignmentDated = true
incrementalPdAssignmentUploaded = true
interfaceClarity = B+
interfaceCompleteness = B+
interfaceLogic = false
interfaceSpecifications = false
intramodelViewConsistency = Excellent
logicalBehavior = true
matrixClarity = B+
matrixCompleteness = B+
modelViews = false
overallModelConsistency = Excellent
parametersClarity = B+
parametersCompleteness = B+
parametersFunctional = true
passFailAct = pass
passFailAR = fail
passFailFD = pass
passFailIBD = pass
passFailIPDR = pass
passFailIMV = fail
passFailIPAR = pass
passFailIPD = pass
passFailIPDR = pass
passFailIPRG = fail
passFailIPR = pass
passFailIPSS = pass
physicalClarity = B+
physicalDecompCompleteness = B+
physicalDecompStructure = true
physicalMatchFunctional = false
reportGeneration = false
riskAssessed = true
riskClarity = B+
riskCompleteness = B+
riskSortable = false
riskTagged = false
satisfactionMatrix = true
simActivity = true
swimlanes = true
systemsAnnotated = true
systemSegmentClarity = B+
systemSegmentCompleteness = B+
systemSegmentsLogical = true
systemSegmentsMatch = true
testCaseClarity = B+
testCaseCompleteness = B+
testCaseComprehensive = false
testCaseExecutable = false
```



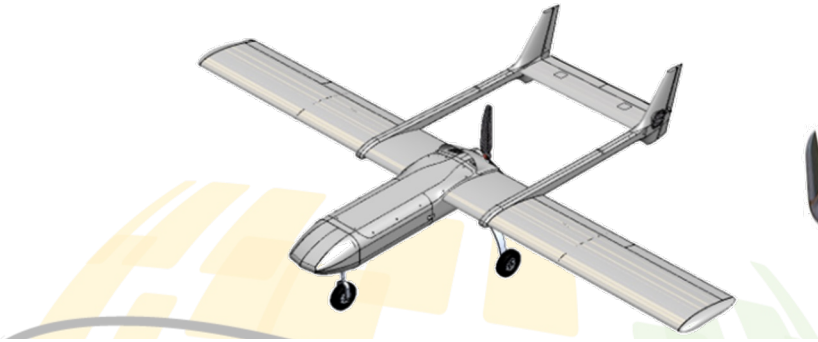
Issue		Scope (Optional)		All Issues		Filter	
Name	Issue Id	Issue Name	Issue Date	Criteria	Resolved	Resolved Date	Test
PDR Entrance Criteria Not Satisfied	1	PDR Entrance Criteria Not Satisfied	1/20/23	Entrance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1/25/23	The PDR entrance criteria were not adequately met to transition into the PDR.
Functional Decomposition	2	Functional Decomposition Consistency	1/20/23	Exit	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1/25/23	Functional Decomposition is not consistent with the physical decomposition.
System Segments	3	System Segments Incomplete	1/20/23	Exit	<input type="checkbox"/>	TBD	One system segment has an incomplete description in the documentation.
IPDR	4	IPDR Does Not Have Instructor Feedback Incorporated	1/20/23	Exit	<input type="checkbox"/>	TBD	The IPDR is updated with knowledge since the last review however, key feedback from the instructor was not included: system segment clarity, functional decomp consistency with the physical decomp.
Physical Hierarchy	5	Physical Hierarchy Subsystem Missing Element Name and Documentation	1/20/23	Exit	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1/25/23	A portion of the physical hierarchy is missing a logical element name as well as the documentation explaining the subsystem.
Activity Diagram	6	Activity Missing an Executable Activity Diagram	1/20/23	Exit	<input type="checkbox"/>	TBD	An activity in the model is missing an executable activity diagram to show the logic and object flow between a critical subsystem.
IBD	7	IBD Missing Flows	1/20/23	Exit	<input type="checkbox"/>	TBD	IBDs are missing specific information descriptions for the information flows.
Requirements Flow Down	8	Requirements Flow Down Missing the Allocation Matrix	1/20/23	Exit	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1/25/23	The requirements flow down package of the containment tree is missing an allocation matrix.
Parametric Diagrams	9	Non-functional Parametric Diagrams	1/20/23	Exit	<input type="checkbox"/>	TBD	One of the parametric diagrams does not produce a data output in accordance with the attached documentation.
Test Use Cases	10	Containment Tree Missing Test Use Cases	1/20/23	Exit	<input type="checkbox"/>	TBD	The testing portion of the model contains a draft test plan and test activities, however, it lacks fully dressed test use cases.
Diagram Views	11	Diagram Views Not Consolidated	1/20/23	Exit	<input type="checkbox"/>	TBD	The containment tree does not have a consolidated package for presentable diagram views.
Sizing Documentation	12	Sizing Spreadsheet and Calculations Missing	1/20/23	Exit	<input type="checkbox"/>	TBD	The sizing calculations supporting information is not attached and a reason is not annotated.

The Osprey model can be validated but in its current form, would not pass a PDR

Additional Use Case Demonstrations



- **Use Case 1:** Osprey Mark IV - Academic PDR with Criteria and Issue Element
- **Use Case 2:** Osprey Mark IV - DoD PDR with Automated Risk Analysis
- **Use Case 3:** Skywalker X-8 - Simulated Operations Scenario with Born-Digital Model Requirements
- **Use Case 4:** Tarot 960 Hexframe Pixhawk 2 Autopilot - Simulated Sustainment Scenario

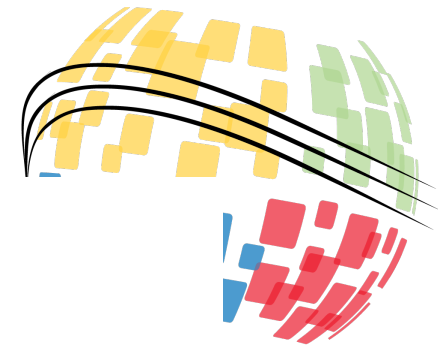


- A full analysis is contained in the AFIT School of Engineering and Management thesis titled “Validation of Digital System Models” which can be found at <https://scholar.afit.edu/> or <https://discover.dtic.mil/>



Conclusions and Future Work

Results – Observations



1. SiD versus SiS interact in a continuous cycle

- SiD can integrate models into ASoT at inception
- SiS require additional translation and development to convert document-based to model-based
- Both rely on models and ASoT

2. Perspective differences:

- Model developers versus model users
- Students versus instructors, developers versus reviewers
- All roles use model requirements in a different way
 - Rubric versus evaluation, design choices versus evaluation criteria

3. Criteria for validation must be established early

- Contractors will want and need
- Early application increases effectiveness

Conclusions



1. MBSE Model Validation Framework with SysML Profile and Customizations

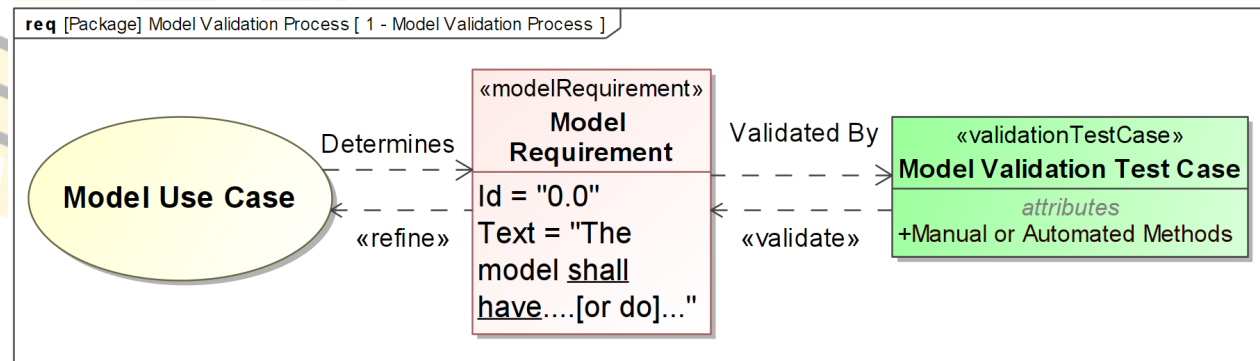
2. Newly Proposed MBSE Model Validation Definition

- **Definition 4:** MBSE model validation is the structured process of demonstrating that a model is a suitable representation of a real system-in-sustainment or a conceptual system-in-development that satisfies model requirements derived from the intended use case(s).

3. Use cases bridge academic and real-world implementation of validation profile

- Proof-of-concept on academic RA with academic and simulated real-world use cases

4. A validated need for validation of MBSE digital system models



Future Work

1. Increase capability of automated methods

- Size of future models will likely make manual and inspection methods difficult or impossible
- Efficiency gains through opaque actions (Jython, Javascript), Alf, adaption of verification suite to validation suite

2. Demonstrate on a real system, like the F-16 fuel subsystem structure

- Validation of a model prior to OT&E can generate substantial cost and schedule savings for a program

3. Prototype on SiS modification, ACAT III, or rapid acquisition program

- Integration of model-based, digital validation practices from the inception of a born-digital program
- Cradle-to-grave validation is key

4. Pursue application areas in AFOTEC and MAJCOM T&E

- Cost savings to programs
- Manpower savings to T&E efforts
- Scheduling savings for MRTFB





Questions

References

Sources:

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2. Roper, W. (2020). *There is No Spoon: _The New Digital Acquisition Reality*.
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11. MSCO. (2012). *Department Of Defense Standard Practice Documentation Of Verification, Validation, And Accreditation (VV&A) For Models And Simulations (Modeling and Simulation Office)*. <https://assist.daps.dla.mil/online/start/>.
12. Sargent, R. G. (1979). Validation of simulation models. *Proceedings - Winter Simulation Conference*, 2, 497–503. <https://doi.org/10.1109/WSC.2004.1371298>

Images:

1. F-16: <https://media.defense.gov/2021/Sep/29/2002864183/-1/-1/0/200317-F-AI558-9202.JPG>
2. B-52: <https://www.af.mil/About-Us/Fact-Sheets/Display/Article/104465/b-52h-stratofortress/>
3. JDAM: <https://media.defense.gov/2021/Oct/03/2002866609/-1/-1/0/180222-F-MQ799-9078.JPG>
4. T-7: <https://www.boeing.com/defense/t-7a/index.page>
5. NGAD: <https://www.defensenews.com/air/2022/06/01/the-air-forces-next-gen-fighter-has-moved-into-a-critical-new-phase/>
6. GBSD: <https://www.janes.com/defence-news/news-detail/boeing-believes-gbsd-team-with-northrop-grumman-could-beat-pentagon-cost-estimate>
7. Digital: <https://media.defense.gov/2019/Dec/19/2002228693/-1/-1/0/191219-F-F3456-1001.JPG>
8. Digital Twin: <https://www.raytheonintelligenceandspace.com/news/2021/01/11/fast-tracking-innovation>