

Very Advanced Systems Engineering with FAS (PART II of II)

Tim Weilkiens, Jesko G. Lamm

FAS Working Group of the German Chapter of INCOSE (GfSE)



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Jesko G. Lamm, Tim Weilkiens

**Working group “Functional Architecture for Systems” (FAS)
of the German INCOSE chapter (fas@gfse.de)**

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FAS = Functional Architectures for Systems

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About the Title

Very Advanced Systems Engineering with FAS

Why “very advanced”?

Just a little side joke about the Advanced Systems Engineering project inspired by the VLT and ELT.

What we do not intend

We would **not** like to offend those many of you who work on more advanced theories and practices than we show here.

FAS = Functional Architectures for Systems

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Speakers

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Jesko Lamm

- Systems Engineer in the field of hearing healthcare technology
- Active INCOSE member with focus on the Swiss and German chapter
- Co-Chair FAS @ GfSE



Tim Weilkiens - <https://www.linkedin.com/in/timweilkiens/>

- MBSE Consultant & Trainer & Executive Board Member @ oose
- Co-Chair FAS @ GfSE
- Co-Chair SysML v2 FTF @ OMG
- Founder @ MBSE4U
- Co-Host @ MBSE-Podcast.Rocks

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FAS History – some milestones...

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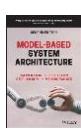
2008/2009
Jesko and Tim
found the FAS Method



2010
TdSE Conference



2011
Charter FAS WG @ GfSE



2022
FAS in a Book
2nd edition

10
2020
10 years FAS
Online Presentation



2015
FAS in a Book



2015
5 years FAS



2014
International Publication
of the FAS Method
(Volume 17, Issue 2)

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FAS Working Group of GfSE (=German chapter of INCOSE)



- Chartered as GfSE working group in 2011
- The working group shares experiences in working with functional architectures and aims to improve the available methods, especially FAS.
- Online meetings around 7x per year
- Webinars (like today)



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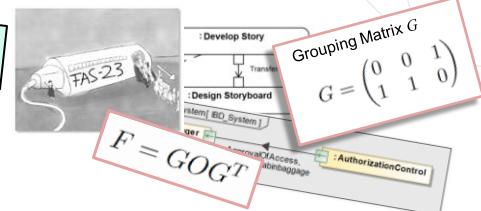
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Content of the Webinars



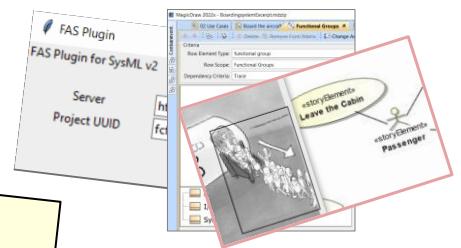
- **PART I: Concepts / theory**
 - Overview Functional Architectures
 - The FAS Method
 - Introducing an example system
 - Different representations content when working with the FAS Method
 - The so-called „SAMS Method“ as add-on

DONE (Oct 11th)



- **PART II: Application in practice / demos**
 - Recap
 - Working with the above on paper and in tools
 - Recommendations for daily work in workshops and in the back-office

TODAY



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Patient Information

Risks and side effects

As a Systems Engineer, you should first clarify how you will contribute to the success of the company.

Accordingly, the methods in systems engineering should be chosen. These can then be supported by tools if required.

If you use the methods and tools mentioned here without evidence of their contribution to your company's success, you run the risk of an ulcer.

Prescription
for Happy Engineering team

3 Use Case Analyses
by Workshops of 1h

Apply before solution design.

22.1.2020

Th Dr.

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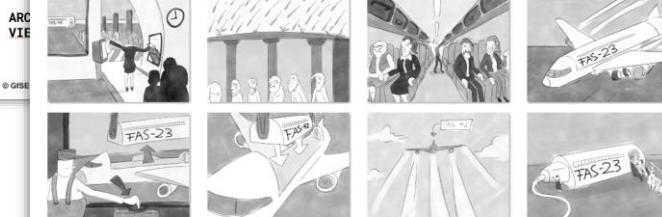
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Recap of Part I

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The www.FAS-Method.org

SAMS Method
Storyboard for the Example System



FAS-as-a-formula

act [Activity] Board the aircraft| Board the air

«I/O» Passenger

Object Flow Matrix O

$$O = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \text{CabinBaggageRequirements} & \text{ApprovalOfAccess} \\ 0 & 0 & \text{ApprovalOfCabinbaggage} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$F = GOGT$

See
<https://github.com/GfSE/fas4systems2/blob/main/doc/tech-docsfas/FAS-as-a-formula-2022.odt>

Functional Architecture F

$$= \begin{pmatrix} \text{CabinBaggageRequirements} & \text{ApprovalOfAccess} + \text{ApprovalOfCabinbaggage} \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

ibd [System] System[ibd_System]

: I/O Passenger

ApprovalOfAccess, ApprovalOfCabinbaggage

: AuthorizationControl

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Card Technique for Workshops



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Card Technique for Workshops

1. Identify use cases with steps
2. Do the functional grouping (rearrange the cards)
3. Sketch the functional architecture on a whiteboard

Use case a number for identification

USE CASE
1 Get Access

ACTIVITY
1.1 Check Booking Data
Approval of Access

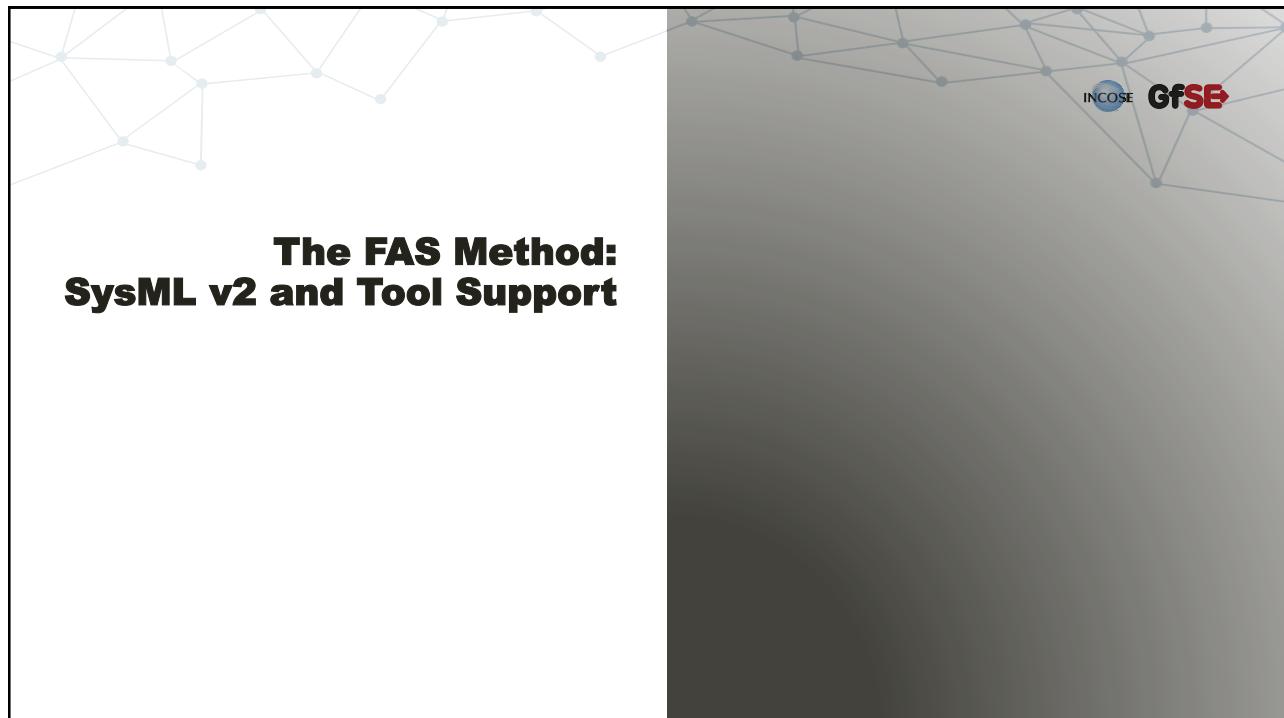
ACTIVITY
1.2 Check Cabin Baggage Data
Approval of Cabin Baggage

ACTIVITY
1.3 Grant Access
Approval of Cabin Baggage

Use case steps with a number (#uc.#step) and input objects and output objects

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The FAS Method: SysML v2 and Tool Support

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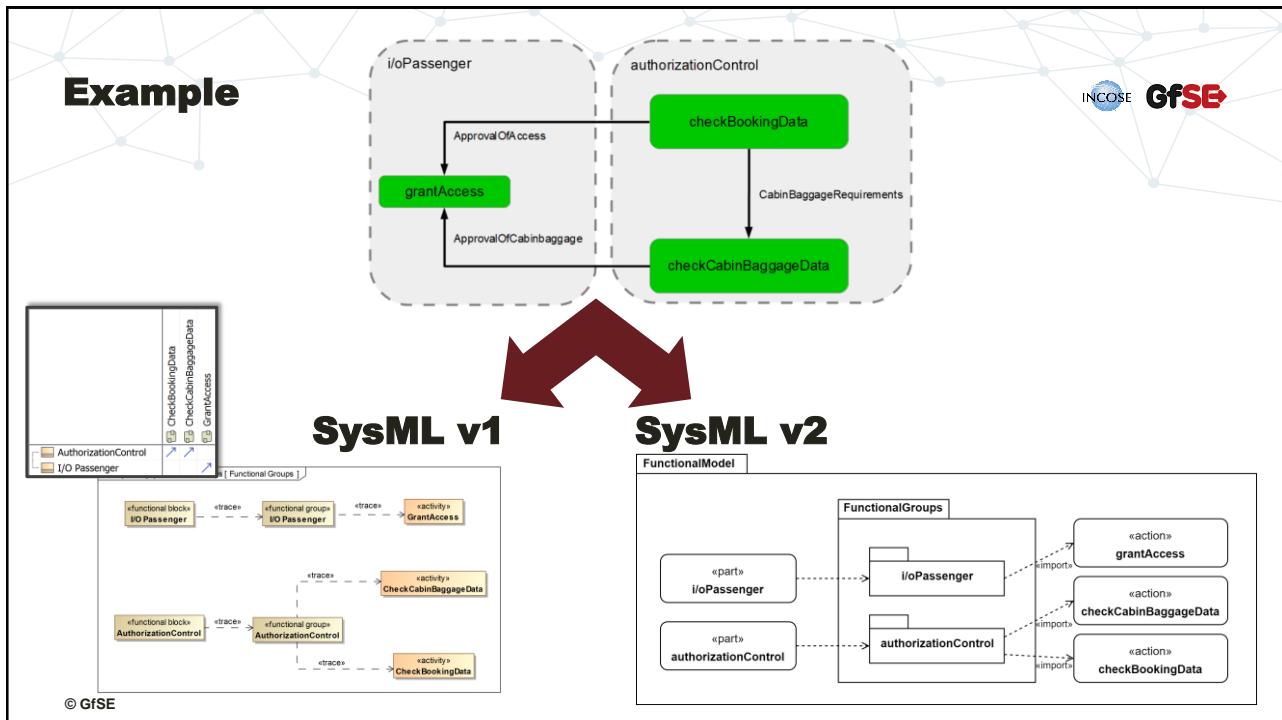
FAS Method: Recommended mapping to SysML



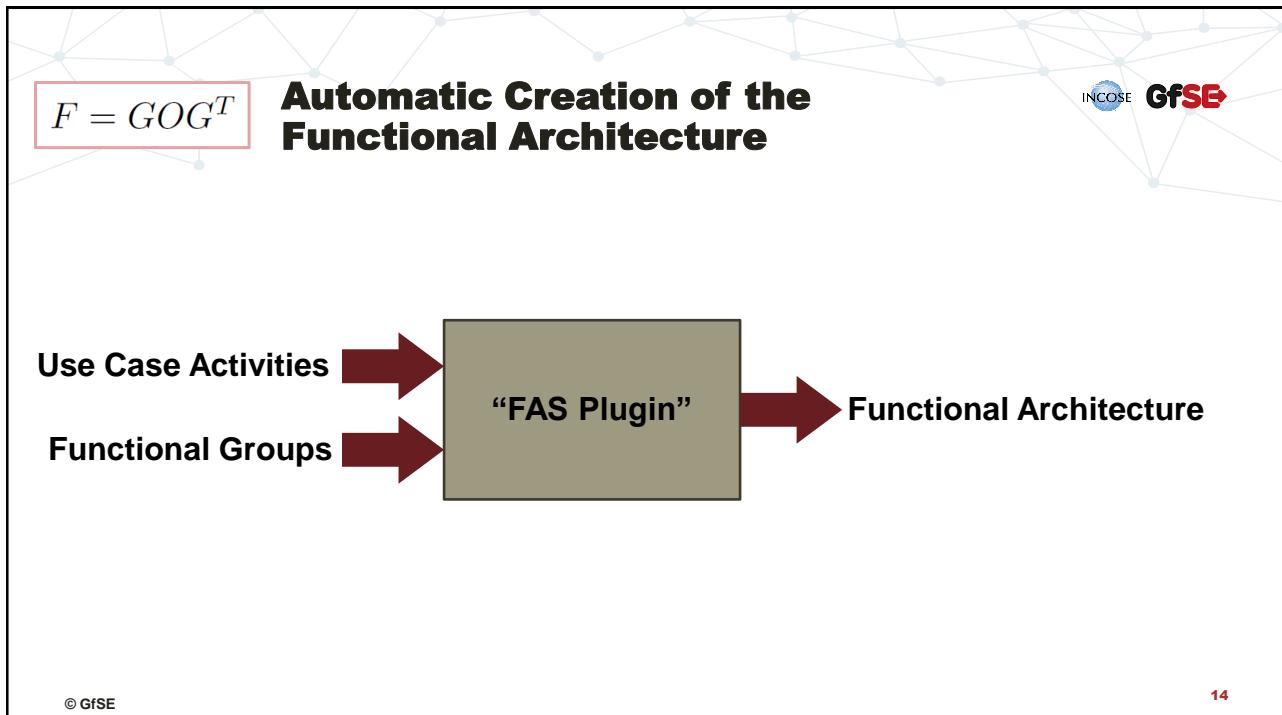
Artifact in the context of the FAS Method	Representation in SysML v1	Representation in SysML v2
Use Case	(Optionally: Use case) Activity of same name as the use case.	UseCaseUsage
Use Case Activity	Created as an Activity Called by Call Behavior Actions	ActionUsage
Functional Group	Block with stereotype «functionalGroup» with «trace» relationships to the Activities that should be grouped (one may re-use the block that represents the Functional Block)	Package with import relationships to the ActionUsages for the functional grouping (one may instead import directly into the PartUsages that represent Functional Blocks)
Functional Block	Block with stereotype «functionalBlock» used in the functional architecture as type of the Part Properties .	PartUsage (specified by a PartDefinition only if a functional block shall be re-used in multiple locations)

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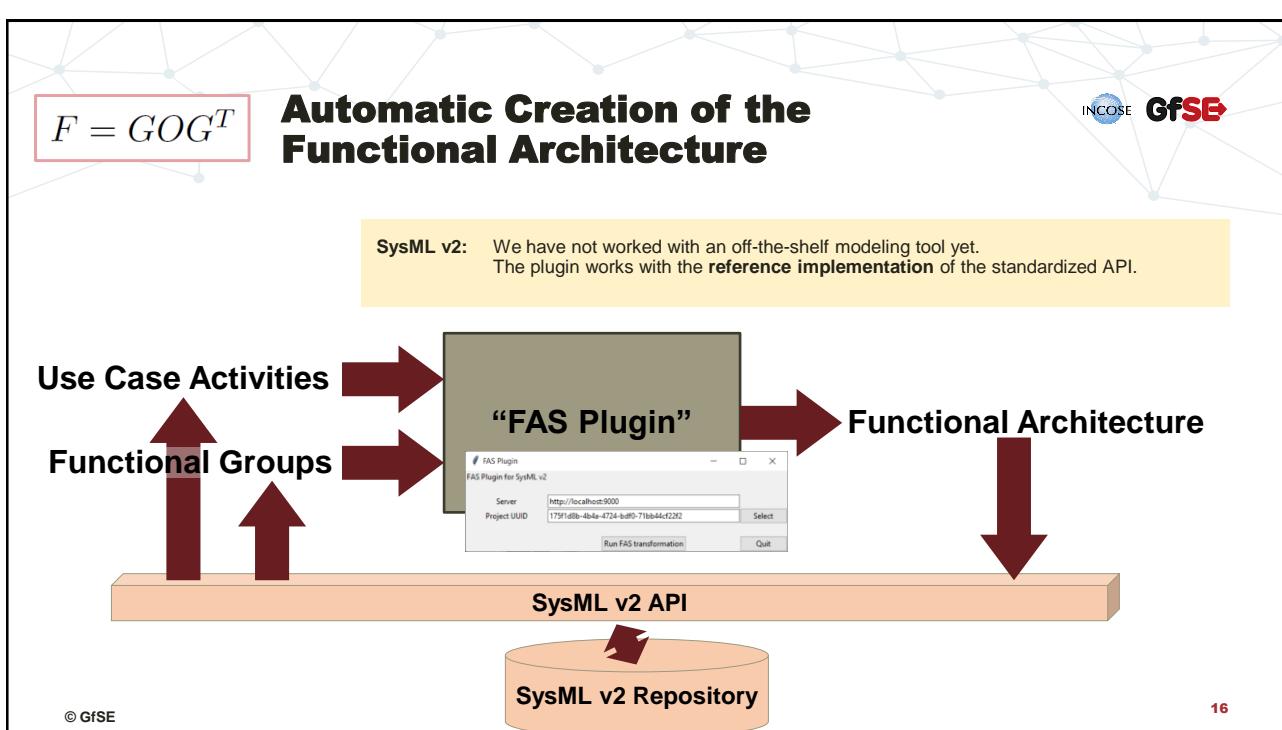
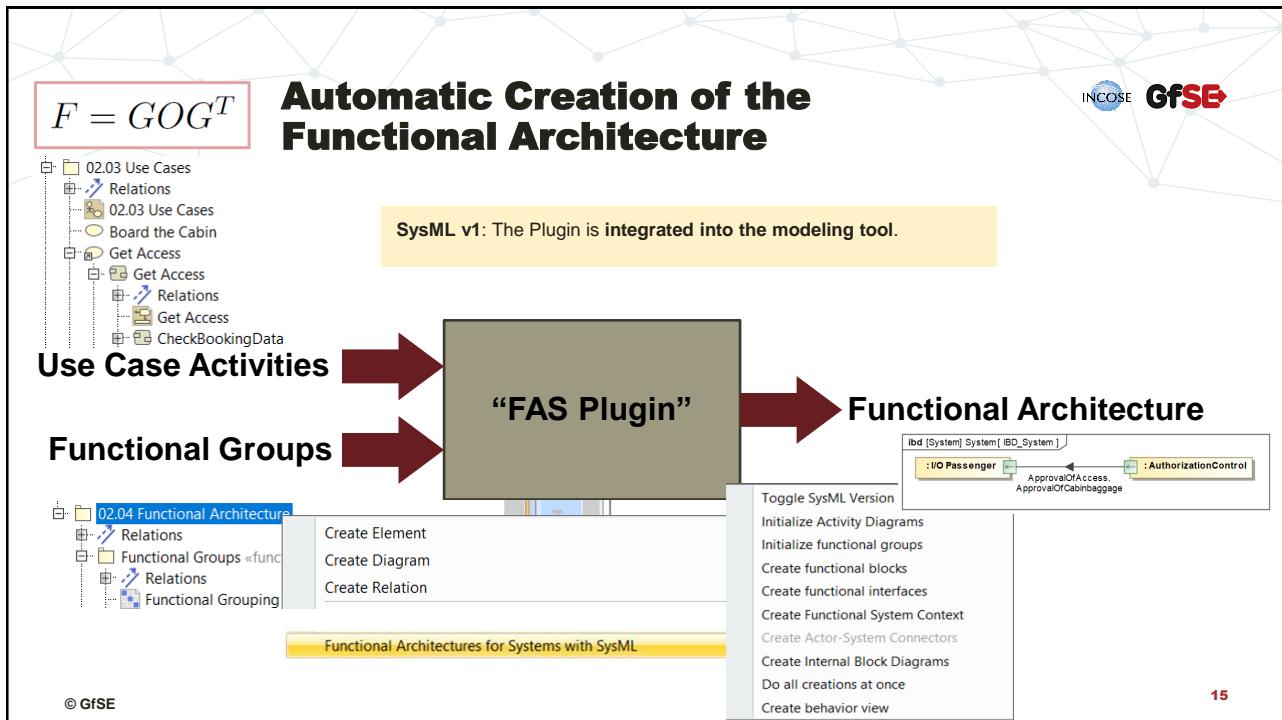
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FAS Plugin Implementations

▪ SysML v1

FAS Plugin for MagicDraw: <https://sourceforge.net/projects/fas4md/>
FAS Plugin for Enterprise Architect: <https://sourceforge.net/projects/fas4ea/>

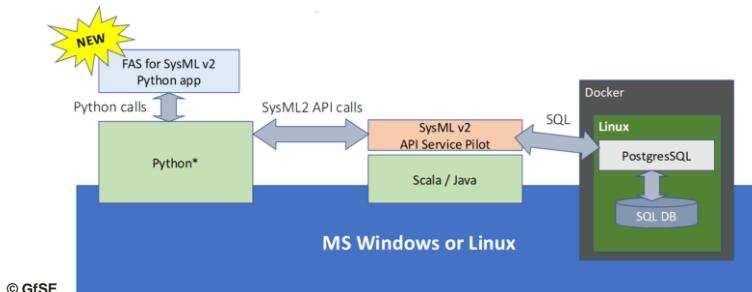
The FAS Plugin for **SysML v1** is based on **dedicated implementations per tool**.



Toggle SysML Version (current: 1.3)
Initialize Activity Diagrams
Initialize functional groups
Create functional blocks
Create functional interfaces
Create Functional System Context
Create Actor-System Connectors
Create Internal Block Diagrams
Do all creations at once
Create behavior view

▪ SysML v2

First prototype of the FAS Plugin for SysML v2: <https://github.com/GfSE/fas4sysmlv2> or <https://sourceforge.net/projects/fas4sysmlv2/>



The FAS Plugin for **SysML v2** is intended to be **tool-independent**. It supports visualization of its operation in the **FAS-as-a-formula** notation. It is accompanied by some OpenOffice macros + some scripts for filling the repository with input data and for visualizing output data.



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Demo

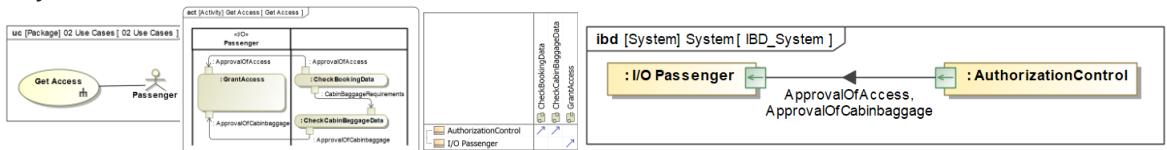
You can reproduce all demos yourself, with freely available resources.

Here is a link to the used model files and to presenter notes, describing how to execute the demos:

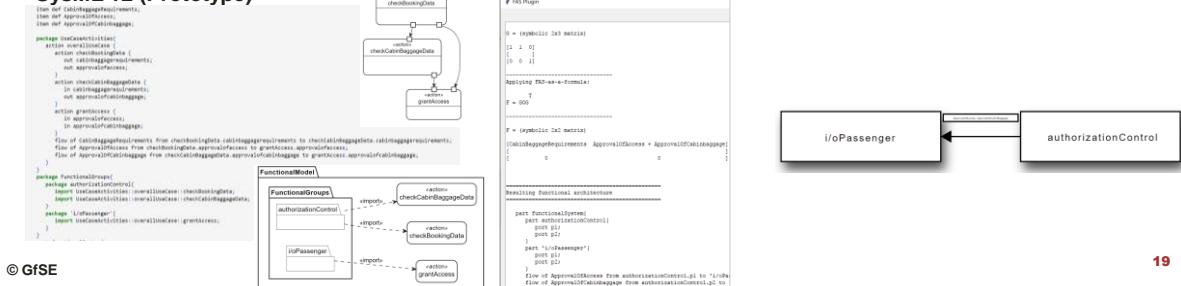
https://fas-method.org/content/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/2023-11-08_Webinar_Demo.zip

Demo: Automatic Creation of the Functional Architecture

SysML v1



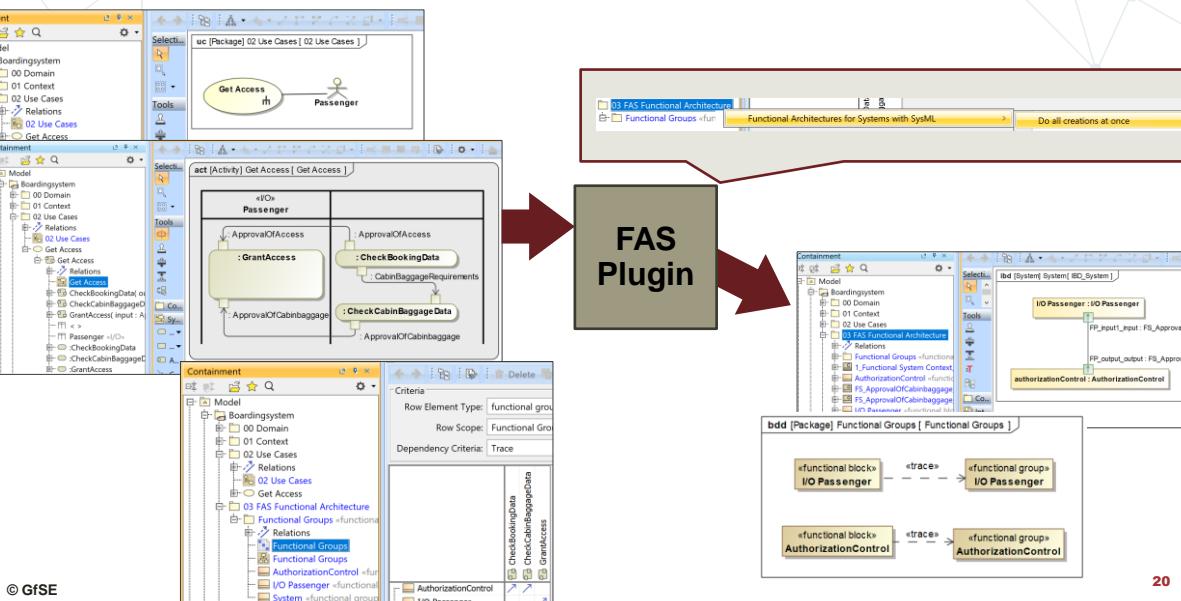
SysML v2 (Prototype)



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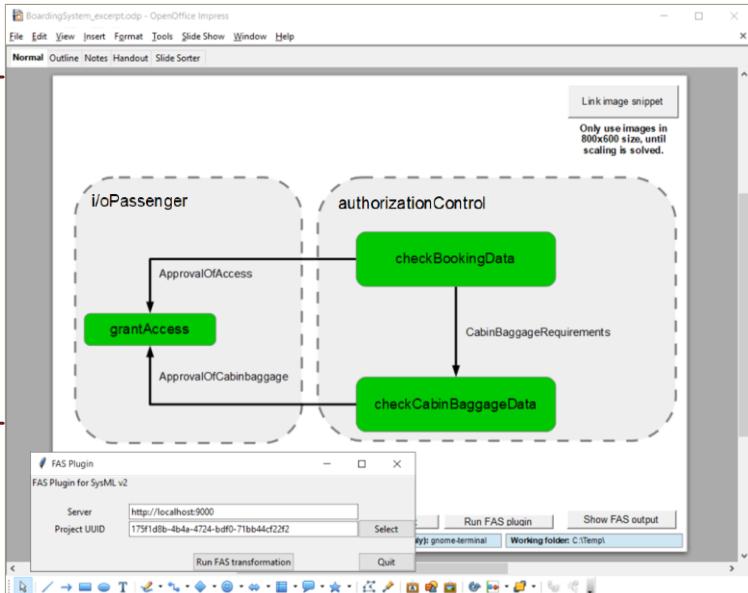
Demo: FAS Plugin for SysML v1



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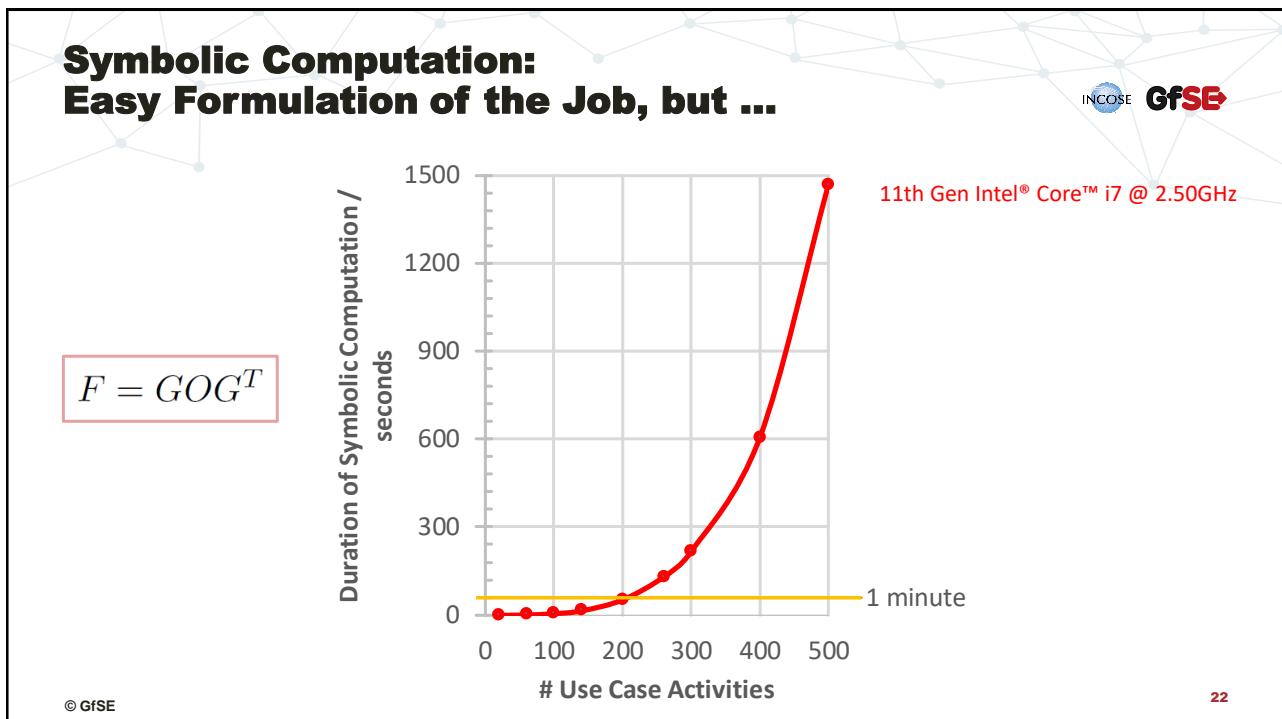
Demo: FAS Plugin for SysML v2



The graphical parts of our demo implementation will hopefully be replaced by off-the-shelf SysML v2 tools.

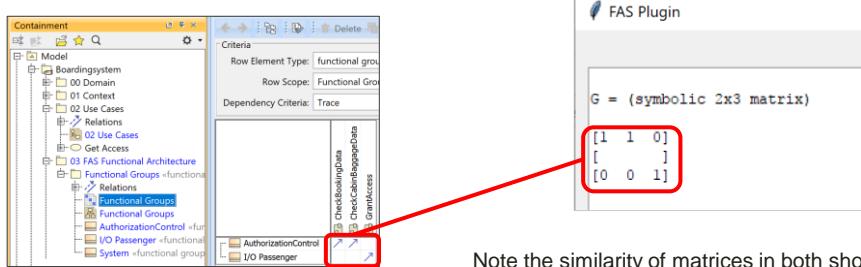
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Final Remark About the FAS Method



Note the similarity of matrices in both shown implementations (which is there, because row and column elements are sorted alphabetically in both implementations).

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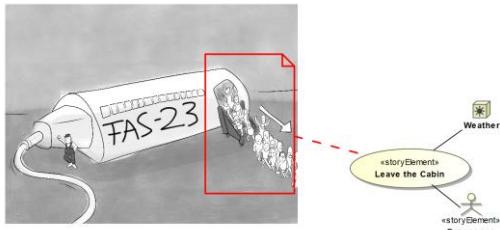
The SAMS Method

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Tool Support for the SAMS Method

SysML v1

Option #1: Transparent comments on the diagram

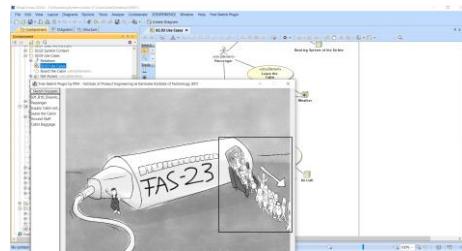


+: Persisted in the repository

-: Only works on diagrams and not in direct connection with the described model element

Option #2: Dedicated plugin

<http://sourceforge.net/projects/freesketches-for-magicdraw/>



+: Direct linking with model elements

+: Full compliance with the data model of the SAMS method

-: No implementation yet for persisting images in the repository

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Tool Support for the SAMS Method

SysML v2

A first solution has been prototyped, including persistence in the repository.

Since use cases are not yet implemented in the SysML v2 prototype, we temporarily link image snippets directly to use case activities.

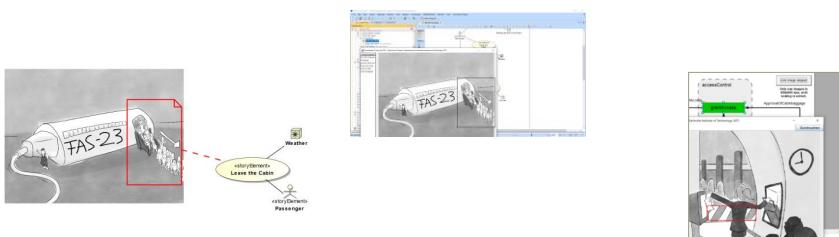


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Demo of Tool Support for the SAMS Method



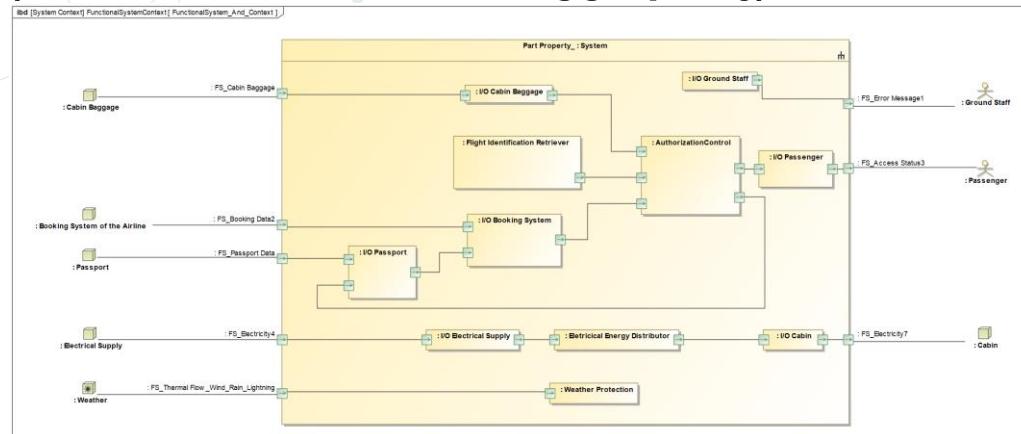
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Functional Models with Higher Complexity

An Example of Automation Benefits with MBSE

Boarding System's Full Functional Architecture (as far as modeled in our little working group study)



- This simple example is already quite complex to overlook.
- Real-world systems are usually considerably more complex.
- Overlooking everything at once may not be needed. Usually, the model will be viewed regarding one concern at a time.
=> It is the strength of MBSE to support the generation of the corresponding views

Example Concerns



Concern #1: We like to see all functional blocks we are responsible for

Concern #2: We like to see all interfaces to functional blocks we are not responsible for

Adapted from: Gerritsen W., Lamm J.G., Neitzel K.E., Scheithauer A., Weibel C., Weilkiens T.: "Zielgerichtete Modellierung und stets aktuelle Views durch ein präzises Viewpoint-Konzept im MBSE", in Schulze, S.-O.; Tschirner, C.; Kaffenberger, R.; Ackva, S. (Eds.): Tag des Systems Engineering 2019 München 6.-8. November 2019, Gesellschaft für Systems Engineering e.V., Bremen, Germany, 2019, pp. 23-32

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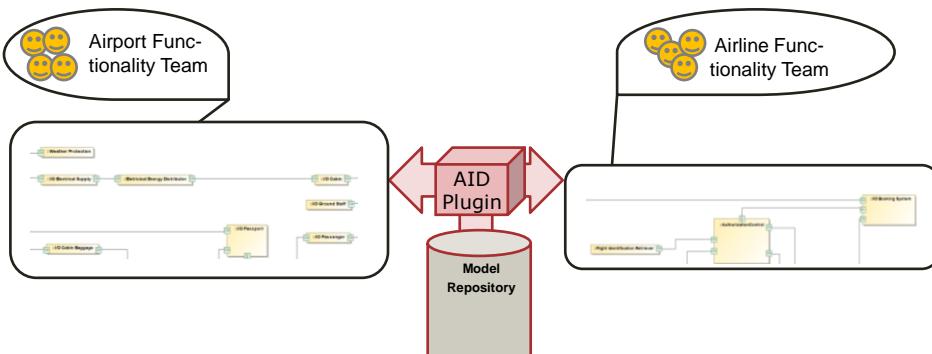
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AID Plugin

<https://sourceforge.net/projects/aid4md/>

INCOSE GfSE

AID = Automated Instrument for Diagrams



■ = Functionality within the team's responsibility [Concern #1]

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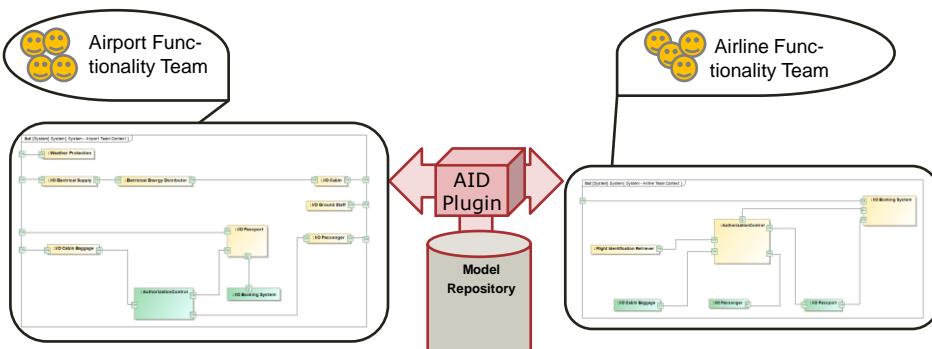
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AID Plugin

<https://sourceforge.net/projects/aid4md/>

INCOSE GfSE

AID = Automated Instrument for Diagrams



■ = Functionality within the team's responsibility [Concern #1]

■ = Functionality outside the team's responsibility with an interface to the above functionality [Concern #2]

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The AID Plugin

Demo ...

INCOSE GfSE

The screenshot shows the AID Plugin interface. On the left is a tree view of 'Team responsibilities' under 'Team - Airline Team' and 'Team - Airport Team'. A red arrow points to a 'System - Airline Team' icon. Below it, a yellow box says 'Auto-populate Main IBD...'. A red arrow points down to a 'Bid (System) System - Airline Team Scope' diagram. This diagram shows a 'Flight Identification Retriever' connected to an 'AuthorizationControl' block, which is connected to an 'I/O Booking System' block. A red arrow points down to another yellow box 'Auto-populate Extended IBD'. A red arrow points down to a 'Bid (System) System - Airline Team Context' diagram. This diagram shows the same components but with additional 'I/O Cabin Baggage', 'I/O Passenger', and 'I/O Passport' blocks, each connected to the 'AuthorizationControl' block. A red arrow points down to a 'Toggle strict context (current: Off)' button. A yellow box contains 'Configurable context handling:' with two bullet points: '- "on" means: Show connectors between the context elements (green symbols)' and '- "on" means: Do **not** show these connectors'. The number '33' is in the bottom right corner.

Team responsibilities

- Team - Airline Team
 - AuthorizationControl
 - Flight Identification Retriever
 - I/O Booking System
- Team - Airport Team
 - Electrical Energy Distributor
 - I/O Cabin
 - I/O Cabin Baggage
 - I/O Electrical Supply
 - I/O Ground Staff
 - I/O Passenger
 - I/O Passport
 - Weather Protection

System - Airline Team

Auto-populate Main IBD...

Bid (System) System - Airline Team Scope

:Flight Identification Retriever

:AuthorizationControl

:I/O Booking System

Toggle strict context (current: Off)

Configurable context handling:

- "on" means: Show connectors between the context elements (green symbols)
- "on" means: Do **not** show these connectors

Auto-populate Extended IBD

Bid (System) System - Airline Team Context

:Flight Identification Retriever

:AuthorizationControl

:I/O Booking System

:I/O Cabin Baggage

:I/O Passenger

:I/O Passport

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Summary

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Summary



- Pencil and paper (or its virtual counterpart) are well suited for developing functional architectures together as a team
- SysML and its successor, SysML v2, offer a good way of formally recording the results of work on the functional architecture.
- Traceability and consistency in larger functional models can be maintained well with a modeling tool.
- Once a model has been recorded in a model, automation can help to master the complexity.

THANK YOU!

Contact us: fas@gfse.de



Selected References

www.fas-method.org

with links to publications and the shown modeling tool plugins

Link to the used model files and to presenter notes, describing how to execute the shown demos:

https://fas-method.org/content/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/2023-11-08_Webinar_Demo.zip

Acknowledgements

We like to thank many volunteers from science, industry and working groups who have worked on the modeling tool plug-ins we have demonstrated.

Special thanks go to Technical University of Hamburg, KIT Karlsruhe, Technical University of Munich, Viewpoints and FAS working group of the German chapter of INCOSE and several industry collaborators and student workers who have all contributed.