

# Lidar-assisted model predictive turbine control

Challenges on the way to an industrial reality

Dr. Axel Schild, February 2023



IAV is More ...

23

Locations worldwide

7,600

Employees

39

Years of Experience

863

Million Euros Annual Sales

# What Can We Do for You?

01100100  
01100001  
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## Software Systems & Connectivity

Because connected mobility knows no boundaries.



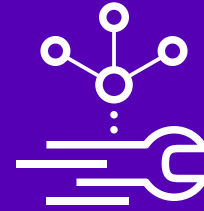
## Vehicle Solutions & Autonomous Driving

Because the vehicle must be thought of as a whole.



## Future Powertrain

Because the powertrain of the future has more than one solution in store.



## Solutions & Products

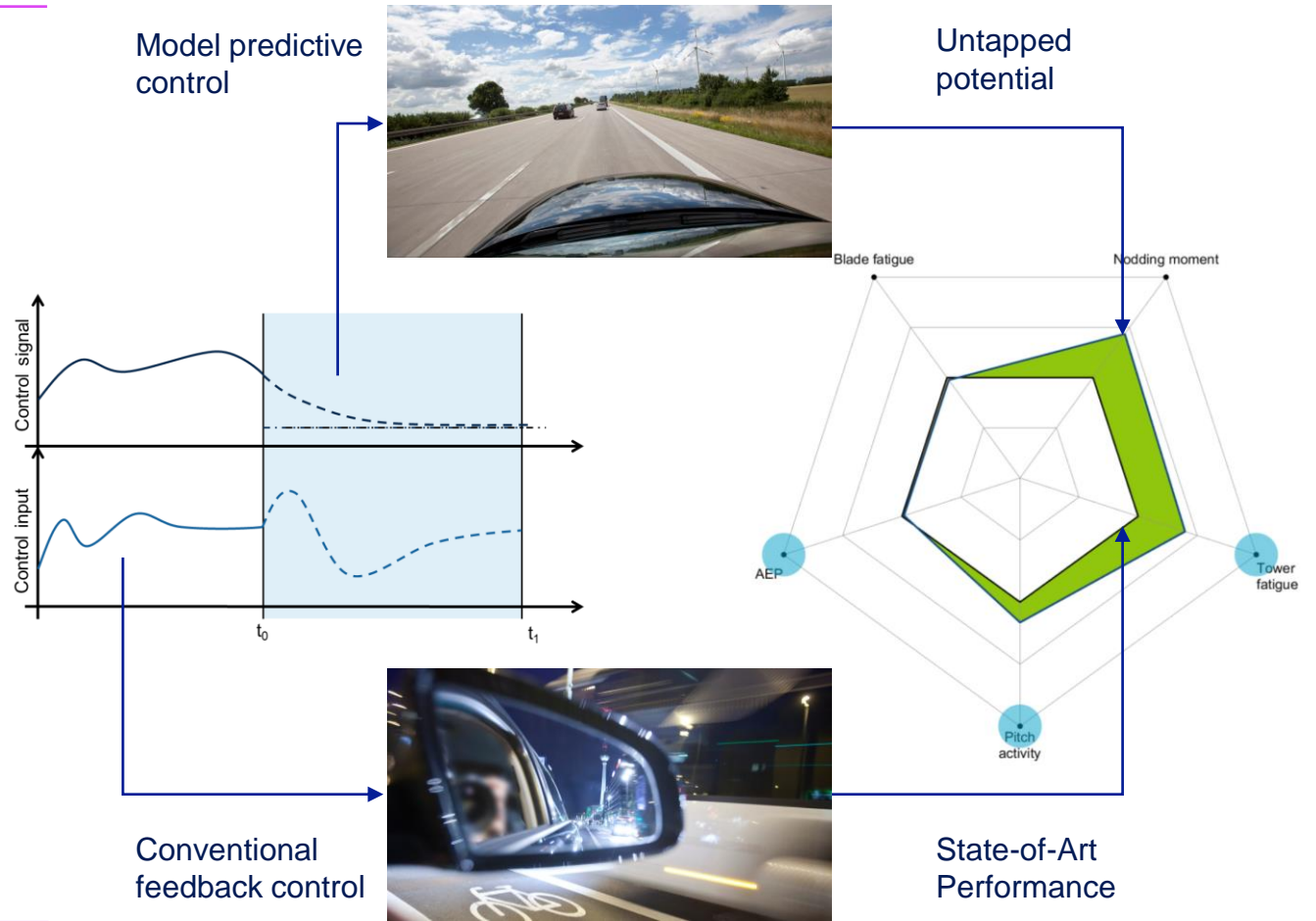
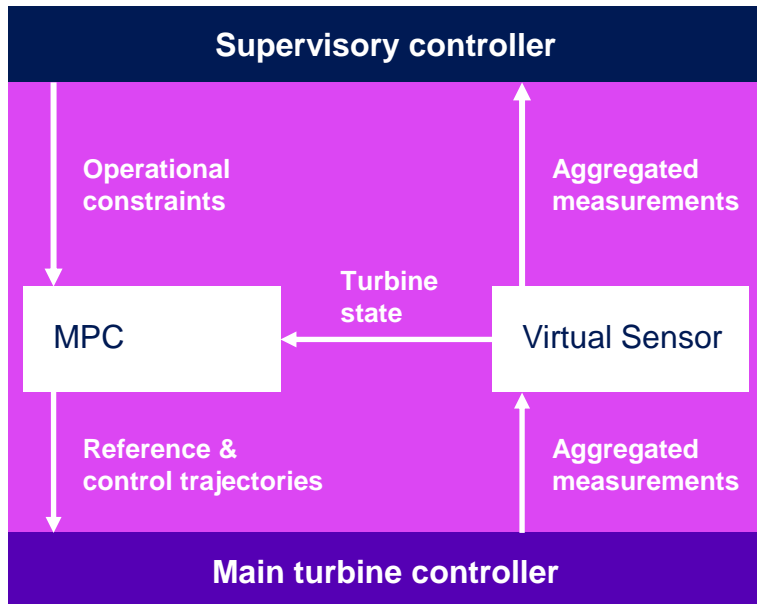
Because innovative solutions are in our blood – even beyond mobility.

# That's me



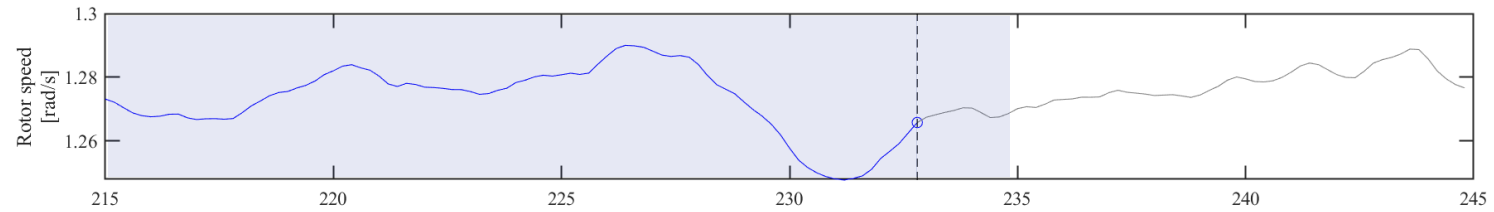
- Axel Schild, 45 years old
- Senior Technical Consultant, Automation Solutions Energy Sector @ IAV
- Phd. in control theory, Expert in nonlinear model predictive control (**nMPC**)
- >15 years of industrial experience in **nMPC** across diverse sectors
  - Chemical/process industry
  - Automotive
  - Wind Energy
  - Energy management / infrastructure

# MPC vs. conventional control – a matter of performance

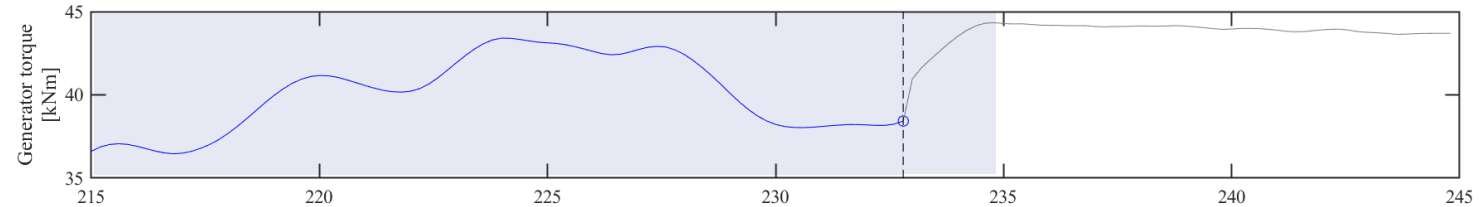
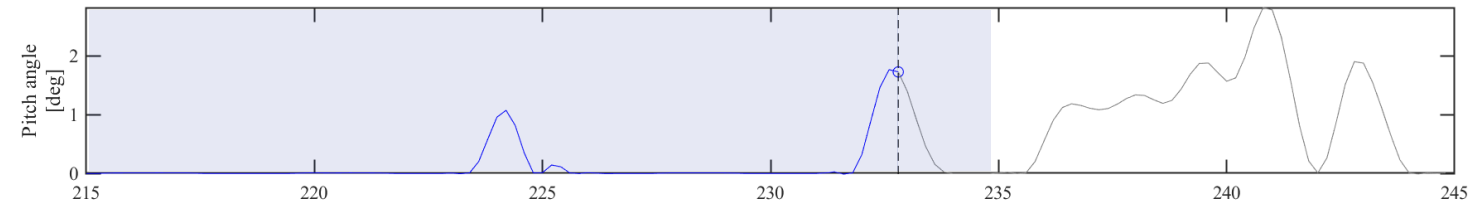


# The MPC iteration illustrated at NREL 5MW turbine

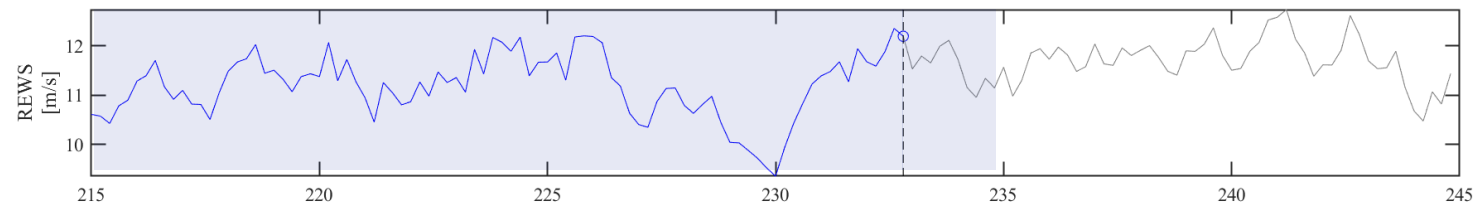
State



Controls



Disturbance



# “Technical ingredients” for formulating a model predictive controller

Performance  
metric

$$\min_{\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{U}} J(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{U}) = \sum_0^{N-1} L(\mathbf{x}_k, \mathbf{u}_k, \mathbf{w}_k) + M(\mathbf{x}_N)$$

Formalizes an  
economically good  
system operation

Dynamic  
system model

Lidar-based rotor-effective  
wind speed prediction

$$\begin{aligned} \text{s.t.} \quad \mathbf{x}_{k+1} &= \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}_k, \mathbf{u}_k, \mathbf{d}_k) \\ \mathbf{x}_0 &= \mathbf{x}(t_s) \end{aligned}$$

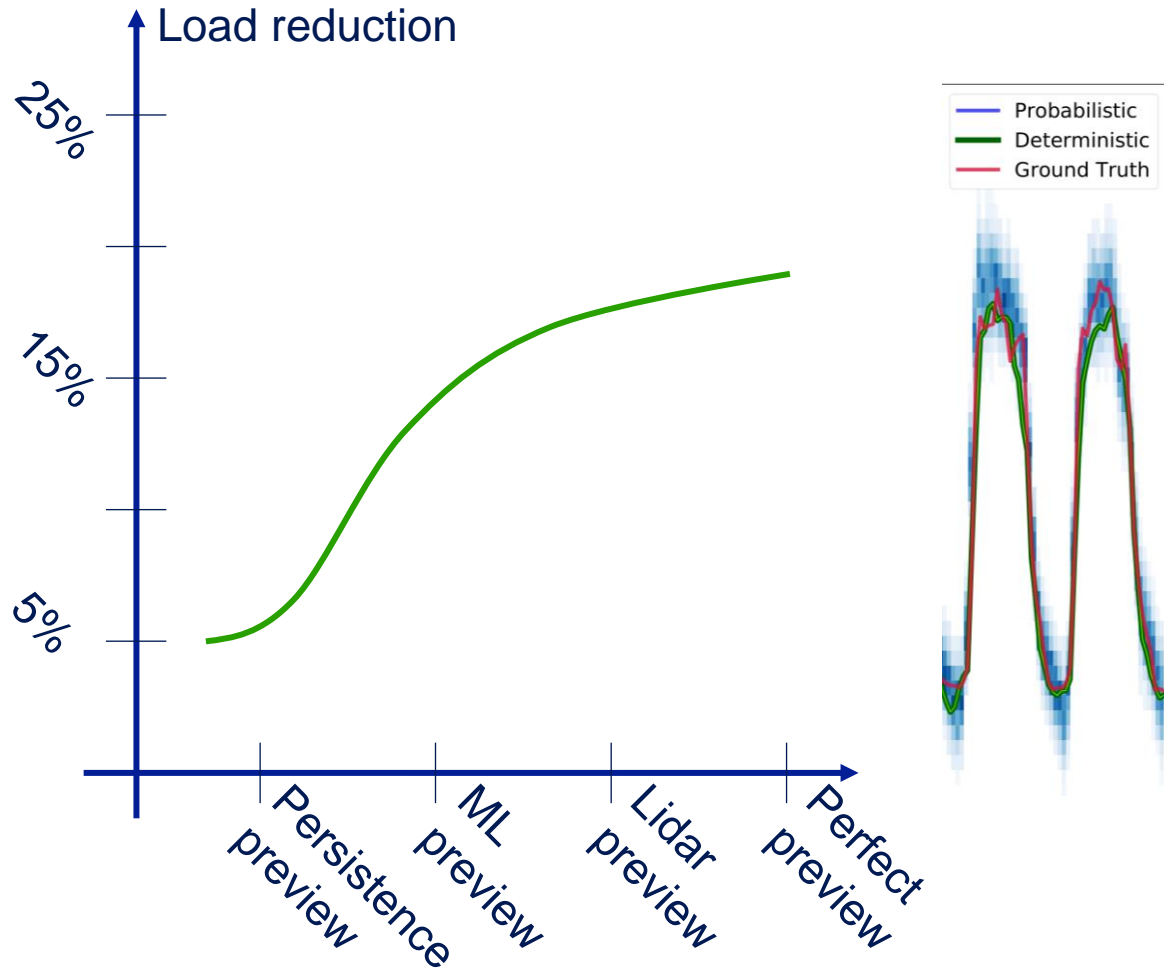
Captures relevant  
plant physics to  
forecast system  
behavior

Safe operating  
regime

$$\begin{aligned} \underline{\mathbf{u}} &\leq \mathbf{u}_k \leq \bar{\mathbf{u}} : \forall k \\ \underline{\mathbf{x}} &\leq \mathbf{x}_k \leq \bar{\mathbf{x}} : \forall k \end{aligned}$$

Constrain  
admissible value  
ranges for relevant  
variables

# Importance of preview knowledge



- Effective preventive control actions require a good short-term inflow preview
- At the upper quality-end, the performance improvement is limited by turbine equipment
- At the lower quality-end a predictive controller cannot outperform a conventional controller by far
- Aggressiveness of MPC should be scheduled according to certainty of preview information

**Lidar data processing units** should provide

- Short-term REWS prediction
- Certainty indicator, e.g. stochastic moments




# One technology – different perspectives

## Academical focus

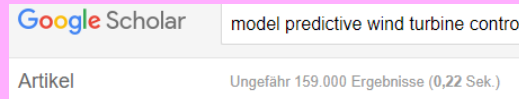
## Industrial requirements

Objective formulation 

Modeling: accuracy vs. complexity 

Algorithms & numerics 

Potential assessment 



# > 15 years of research, but no deployment at scale, yet...

Going beyond the 18MW threshold, MySE 18.X-28X is the epitome of Mingyang's consistent innovations and comprehensive upgrade on the proven hybrid-drive technology. The modular and lightweight design, as well as the **use of holographic sensing MPC** and digital twin DTC technology, serve as the basis for MySE18.X-28X's reliable operations against the most extreme ocean conditions such as typhoon winds > 56.1 m/s.

With the new MySE 18.X-28X, Mingyang has taken a major step in the offshore wind energy transition by driving LCoE reductions and technological innovation in the wind industry.

#offshorewind #HybridDrivestheWorld #myse18

= LA-MPC

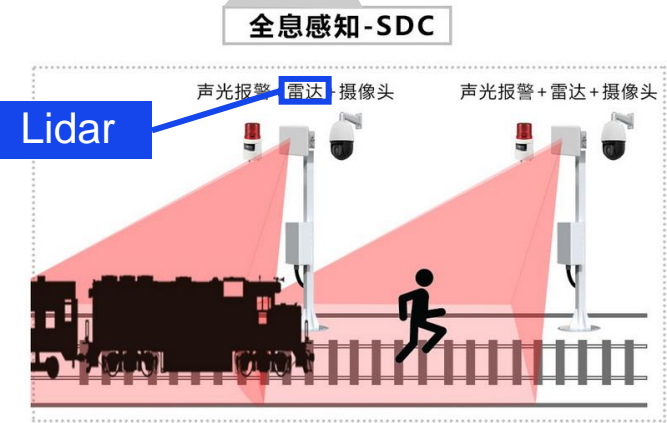
## Milestone: Official press release on **January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

- To personal knowledge, first time that lidar-assisted MPC is announced to be a standard turbine equipment

MySE 18.X-28X机组在延续明阳半直驱技术路线的基础上进行了创新和突破，具有“模块化、轻量化、高效率、高可靠”的特点，使机组性能发挥到极致的同时降低了关键部件的重量、成本以及零部件制造工艺难度。研发团队采用基于跨领域融合叶片气动创新技术，使得该机组叶片可提升2%发电效率，还能避免失稳，且极端工况下可降低整机载荷。

全新发布的MySE 18.X-28X机组继承了一系列智慧化的设计基因。该风电机组采用**全息感知** MPC技术和数字孪生DTC技术，可实现激光雷达感知超1000米，摄像头感知超600米，使测量数据更精确，机组更安全。基于场群尾

发布当天，鉴衡认证中心为明阳技术团队颁发证书，证明该机组设计方案已获得行业认可。



https://www.linkedin.com/posts/mingyangsmarterenergy\_offshorewind-hybriddrivesthe-world-myse18-activity-7019568517867872256-YJ5X/

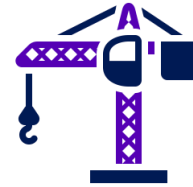


# Question at hand

What are the main obstacles for an **introduction at scale**, if

- MPC & Lidar processing theory are mature and publicly available
- MPC & Lidar are market-proven technologies
- Irrefutable benefits in terms of fatigue and ultimate loads are quantitatively known
- Hardware prices have dropped sharply

# Turbine life-cycle



Objective formulation

Modeling: accuracy  
vs. complexity

Algorithm & numerics

Potential assessment

# One technology – different perspectives

## Academical focus

Objective formulation

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Algorithms & numerics

Potential assessment

## Industrial requirements

Availability,  
Robustness &  
Reliability → high TRL



“Brown field” integration

Certification

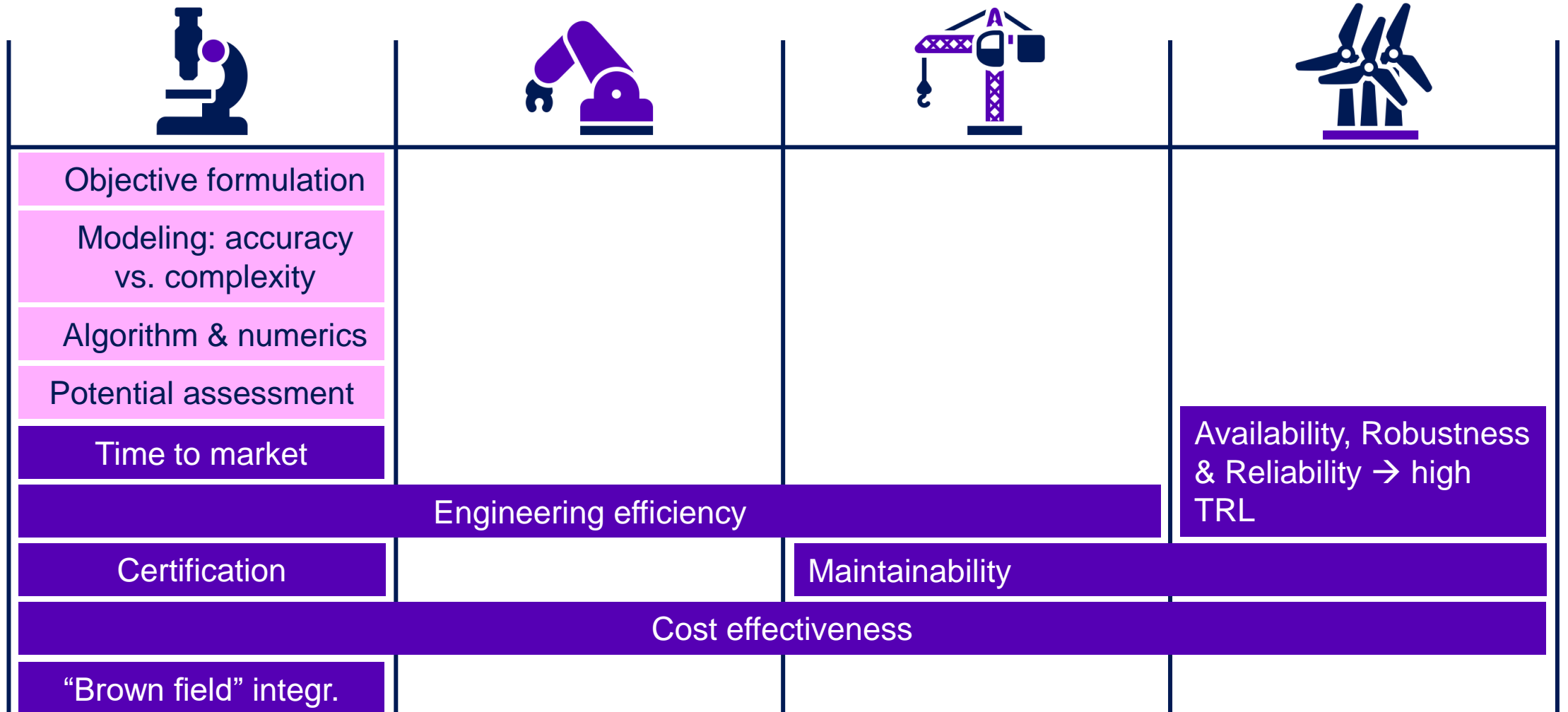
Maintainability

Engineering efficiency

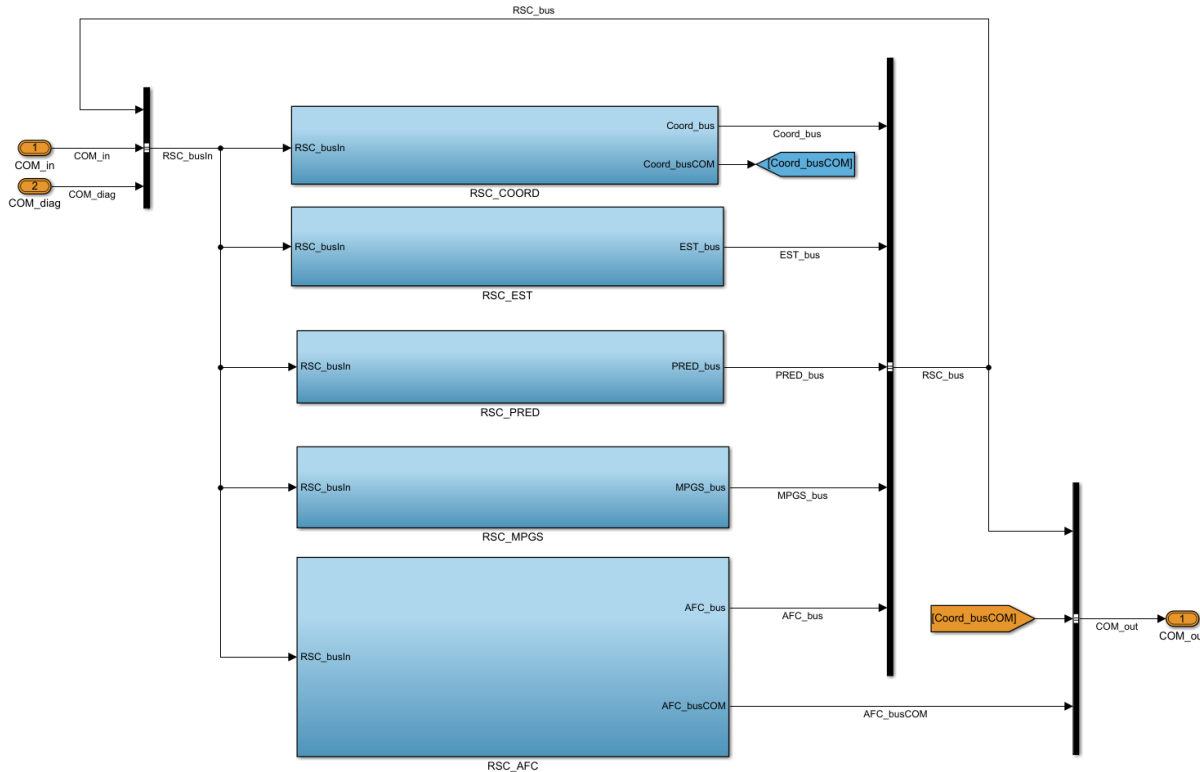
Cost effectiveness

Time to market

# Turbine life-cycle

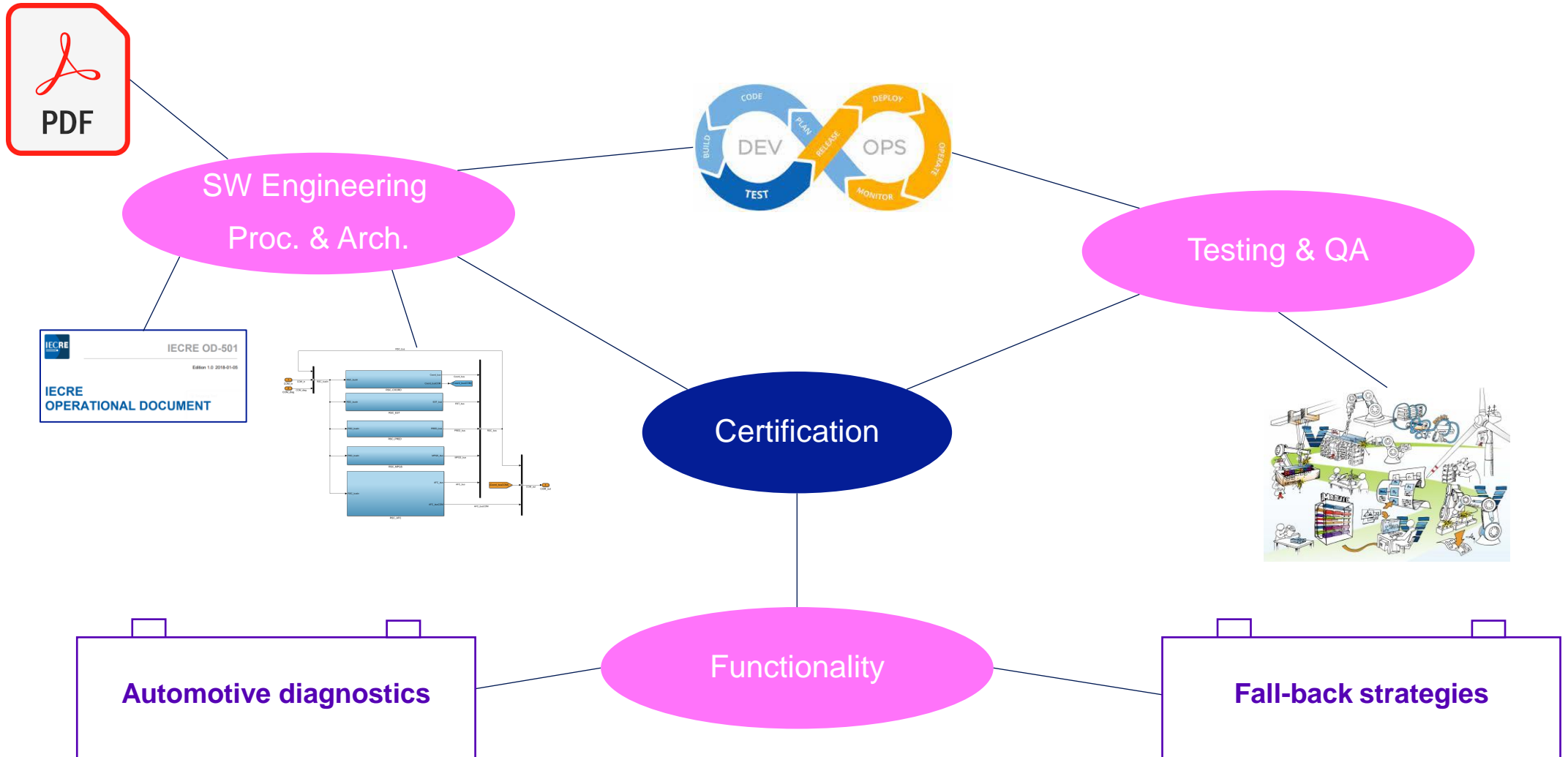


# “Brown-Field” integration by “adding” not “replacing” functionality



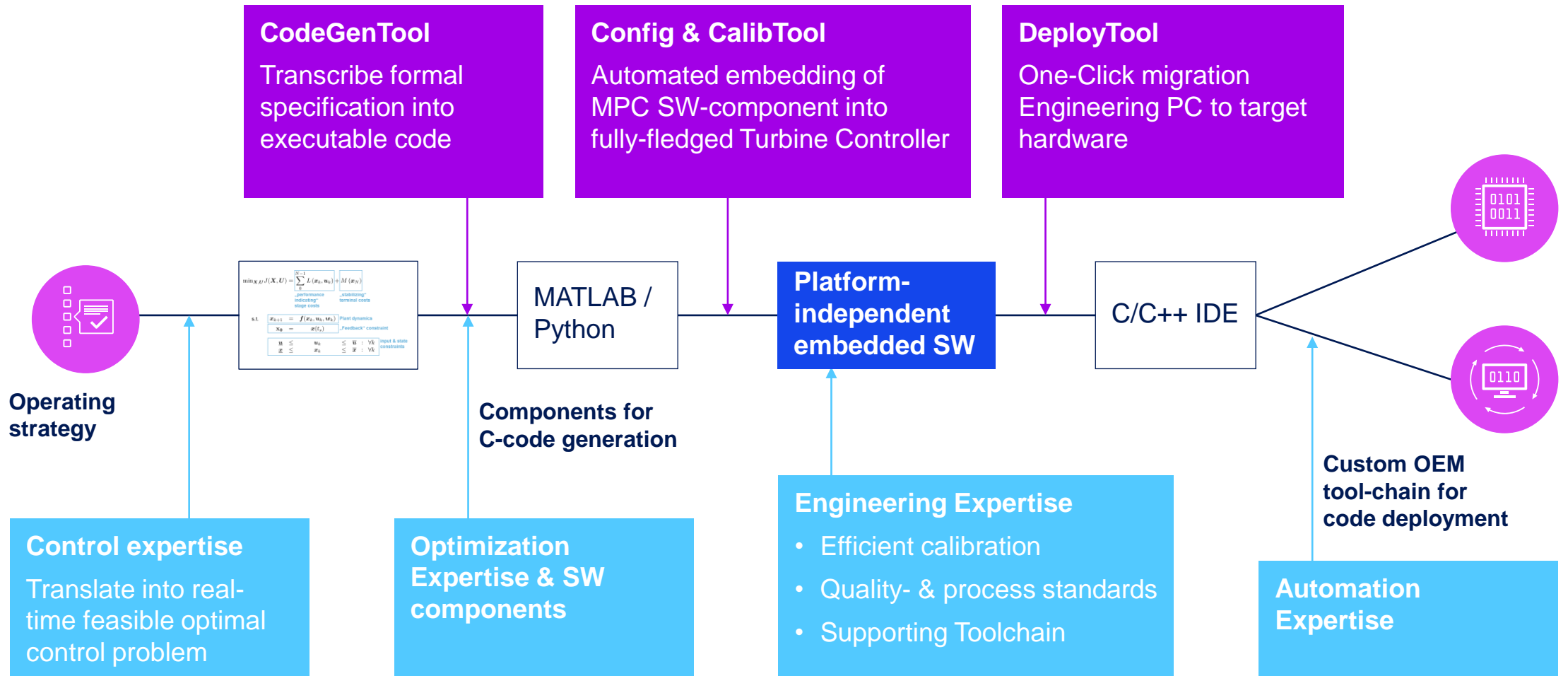
- **LA-MPC** design has to **assist** the conventional **MC** instead of substituting “its” decades of experience
  - Optimal gain scheduler approach
  - Optimal reference + FF generator approach
- Focus **LA-MPC** on operating modes with untapped potential

# Certification requires more than certification rules





# Engineering efficiency & cost effectiveness demand for a highly automated Engineering Framework



# Conclusions

- MPC and Lidar technology are mature and available on the market
- Making LA-MPC (holographic sensing) an industrial reality **goes beyond** mastering MPC and Lidar technology and just the R&D phase
- A good turbine operation starts with an excellent operating strategy → ability to implement is nice, but not differentiating
- Optimal results require “sufficiently good” preview information
- For complex technologies, cost-effectiveness requires to make use of every bit of synergy available

## The way to success requires:

- Tech-solution components with open, standardized interfaces
- moving away from the lone warrior attitude
- bringing together strengths, expertise and experiences of many

# Contact

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