22 Requirements for Generating Learning Environments for Autonomous Systems Behavior in a Digital Continuum

Anike Murrenhoff Fraunhofer-Institute for Material Flow and Logistics IML



BACKGROUND AND MOTIVATION

- Autonomous systems are increasingly prevalent in logistics, offering benefits such as flexibility, adaptability, robustness, and sustainability [1] [2]
- Challenges of the paradigm shift from centralized organizations towards autonomous systems:
- > New methods of artificial intelligence (AI) are seen as a solution, but:
 - Example autonomous mobile robots (AMR): current approaches of deep reinforcement learning in robotics are far from being able to train robots that can handle the complexity of environments in the real world [4]

- Development of truly autonomous systems [3]
- Requirement of new methods and concepts to find overall system behavior [1]

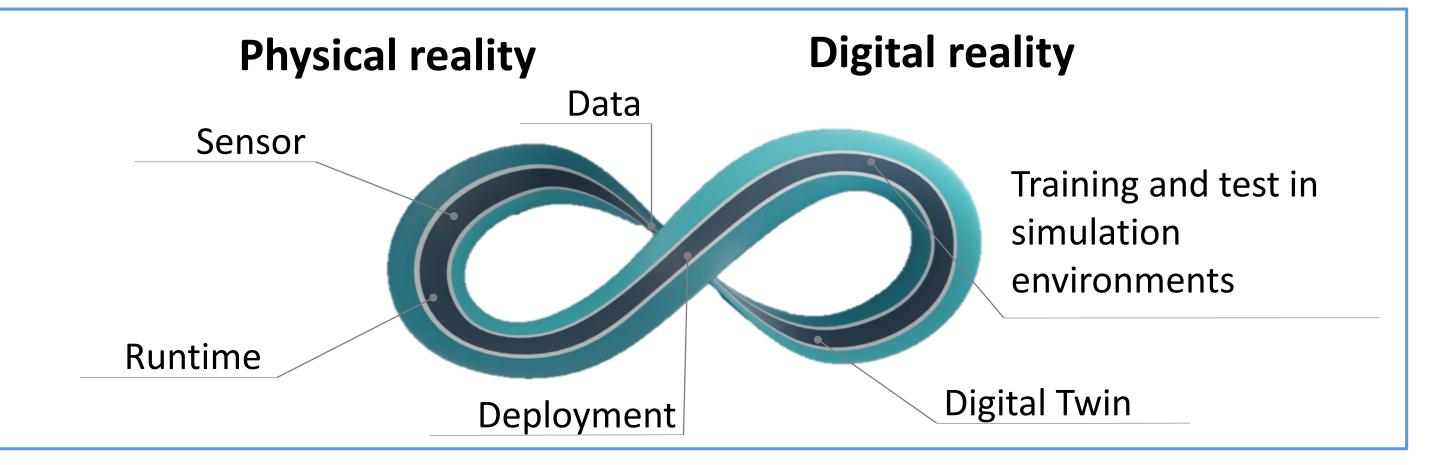
> The alignment problem in AI needs to be addressed [5]

RESEARCH QUESTION 1

> How does a concept emerge that enables the development and operation of truly autonomous systems based on methods of AI?

DIGITAL CONTINUA

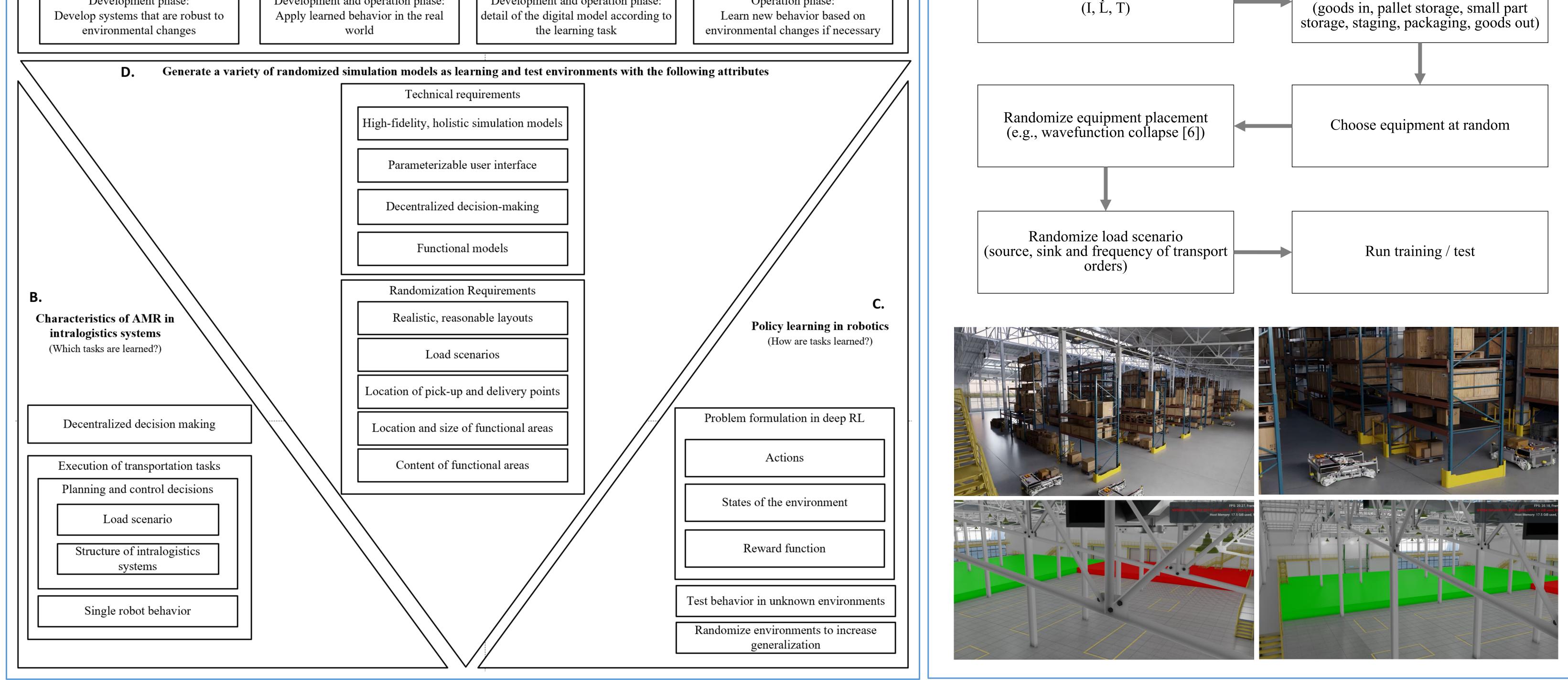
- In arise when physical and digital reality combine to form a self-optimizing control loop of AI and interact with each other.
- ... accelerate planning, development and implementation processes.
- In the second second
- In lead to highly adaptive systems that adapt resiliently to changing requirements.



RESEARCH QUESTION 2

> How can the required great variety of learning environments for autonomous behavior in intralogistics be generated automatically?

| REQUIREMENTS F | OR A GENERATION APPROACH | GENERATION APPROACH |
|-----------------------|---|--|
| | A. Development continuity of Digital Continua | Randomize functional areas in location |
| Development phase: | Development and operation phase: Development and operation phase: Operation | Choose shape at random and size |



CONCLUSION AND OUTLOOK

- The Digital Continuum paradigm offers a promising approach by leveraging the seamless fusion of physical and digital reality to achieve a new level of autonomy through AI-based methods.
- Digital learning and testing environments will become the central tool to revolutionize the continuous development of intralogistics systems even during operation.

LITERATURE

- M. ten Hompel and S. Kerner, "Logistik 4.0: Die Vision vom Internet der [4]
 S. Risi and J. Togeliu autonomen Dinge," Inform.-Spektrum, vol. 38, no. 3, pp. 176–182, Jun. 2015.
- [2] G. Fragapane, R. de Koster, F. Sgarbossa, and J. O. Strandhagen, [5] "Planning and control of autonomous mobile robots for intralogistics: Literature review and research agenda," Eur. J. Oper. Res., vol. 294, no. 2,[6] pp. 405–426, Oct. 2021.
- [3] J. Fottner et al., "Autonomous Systems in Intralogistics State of the Art and Future Research Challenges," LogisticsResearch, vol. 14, no. 2, Feb. 2021.
- [4] S. Risi and J. Togelius, "Increasing generality in machine learning through procedural content generation," Nat. Mach. Intell., vol. 2, no. 8, pp. 428-436, Aug. 2020.
- [5] Greg Brockman [@gdb], "The underlying spirit in many debates about the pace of AI progress...," Twitter, Apr. 12, 2023.
- [6] NVIDIA, "8. Replicator SceneBlox tutorial Omniverse Robotics documentation," Mar. 23, 2023. https://docs.omniverse.nvidia.com/ app_isaacsim/app_isaacsim/tutorial_replicator_sceneblox.html (accessed Mar. 23, 23)



16th International Material Handling Research Colloquium Dresden, Saxony, Germany, June 20-23, 2023



THE INDUSTRY THAT MAKES SUPPLY CHAINS WORK™