

# SESSION CONTENT

- Water supply system modeling projects
- Demo of some more *Fluidit Water* features
- Modeling project kick-off
  - This is your graded homework project



# WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM MODELING

Aalto University – 2018-03-18

# LEARNING OUTCOMES

- List the different phases of modeling project and describe their importance
- List the most important input data
- Calculate water balance, estimate leakage
- List the most important model results and state their accepted/problematic values

# CONTENT

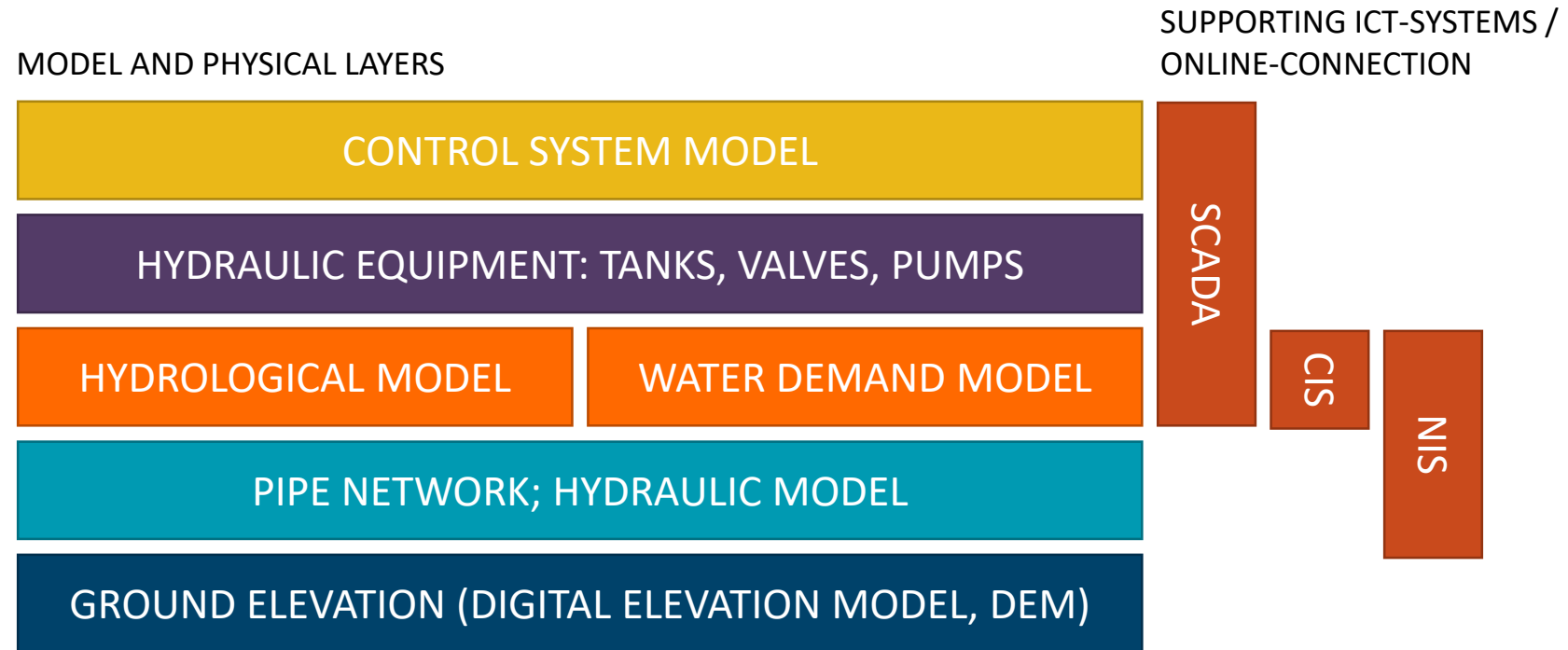
- Introduction
- Modeling project structure/phases
- Model preparation & input data processing
- Result analysis and reporting
- Conclusions

# QUESTION TIME

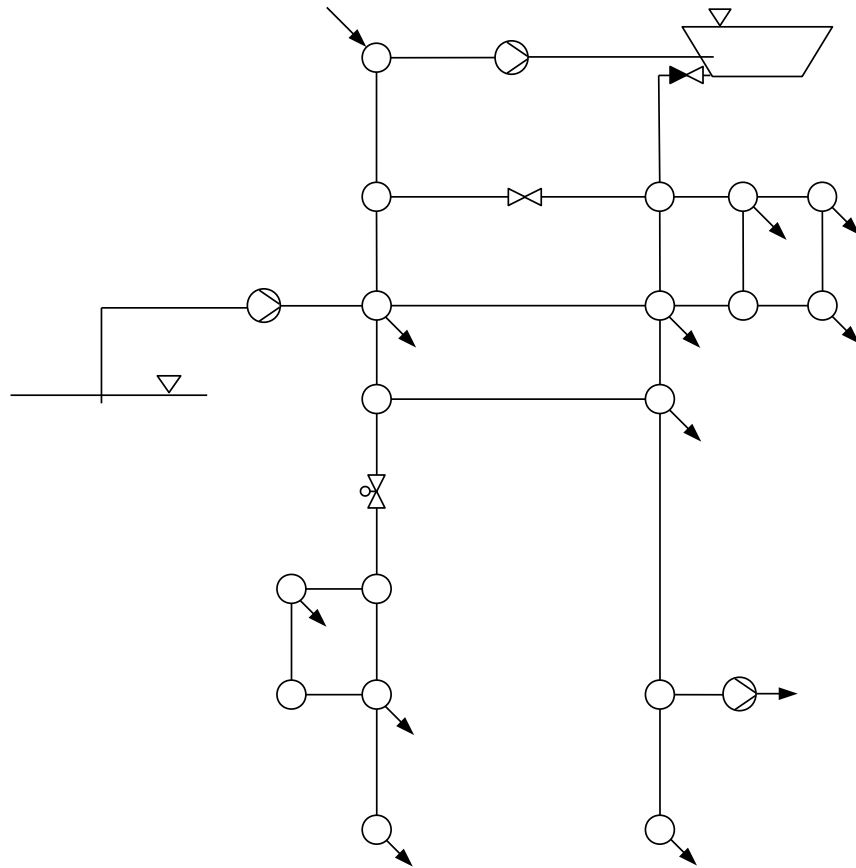
*Wakey-wakey! Ponder together with your (physically) closest colleagues:*

*What are the water supply system model layers and the **main components** and their function in model building?*

# MODEL STRUCTURE



# WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM MODEL STRUCTURE



- EPANET supports practically all equipment and components present in water supply systems
- Demands, flows into the system, storage and pressure are modeled and solved as **node** component classes: junctions, tanks and reservoirs (graph theory's vertices)
- Flow, velocity and head loss (or gain) are modeled and solved as **link** component classes, that connect two nodes: pipes, pumps and valves (graph theory's edges)

# PHYSICAL MODEL COMPONENTS

- **Nodes – head**
  - **Reservoir** is an infinite tank: head does not change no matter what the flow
  - **Tank** is an finite tank: flow into or out of tank changes the head (level and volume)
  - **Junction** is link crossing, a point where pressure is calculated and a point where water is drawn out of the system
  - Each model requires at least one node with known head: reservoir or tank
- **Link – flow**
  - **Pipe** allows flow between nodes. Head losses are modeled based on length, roughness and diameter.
  - **Pump** produces energy into system; *supports setting relative speed*
  - **Pump battery** produces energy into system; *supports setting flow or outlet pressure setting*
  - **Valve** throttles flow to meet the setting. PRV tries to keep outlet pressure at setting and FCV tries to limit flow to given setting



# INTRODUCTION

- Modeling is done in order to gain insight into the target system
- The most important things are the results the model gives
  - Often not the simulation results *per se*, but the analysis based on those
- Define the goal of the project with the client before the modeling starts – quite likely, that more needs arise, when the possibilities are demonstrated
- Because a lot of assumptions, approximation and questimates are done during the modeling process, they need to be properly documented

# MODELING PROJECT

- Collecting the input data – all in digital, *machine readable*, formats
- Model preparation
  - Building the network model
  - Building the water consumer model – find the coordinates and billed use
  - Water balance analysis and modeling
  - Modeling stations and pumps
  - Modeling control system
  - First run and presentation of preliminary results to client. Discussion on model performance, problems, doubts, questimates...

# MODELING PROJECT

- Constructing other scenarios as per client's needs
  - Maximum demand day
  - Future water demand (remember neighboring utilities)
  - New areas
  - New stations, tanks, sources, pipe lines
  - Decommissioning of pipes, sources etc.
- Reporting – produce a proper written report, and append maps and tables
  - Introduction: goals, stakeholders etc.
  - Modeling principles used in the project
  - **Input data, its analysis, water balance calculations, assumptions and questimates made, system structure**
  - Description of other scenarios
  - Current system performance
  - Performance under the other scenarios
  - Suggested improvements, their costs and cost benefit analysis, scheduling
  - Conclusions

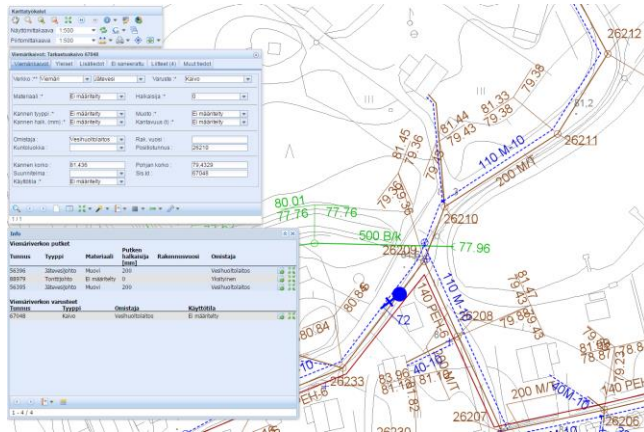
# MODELING PROJECT

- Delivering all data, including the model, resulting from the project digitally to the client
- Any further tasks given by the client during and after the project
- Model upkeep, updates
- Model utilization at the utility?
- Other uses and integrations for model and its results?

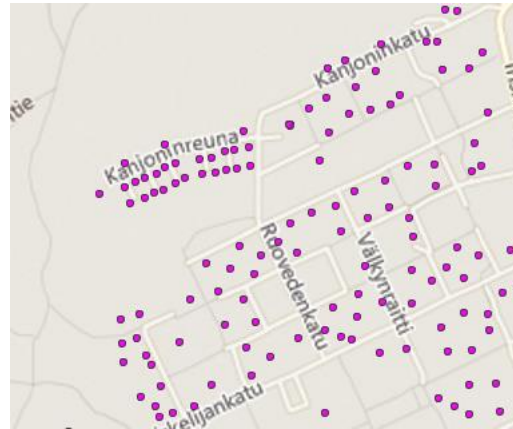
# MODEL PREPARATION



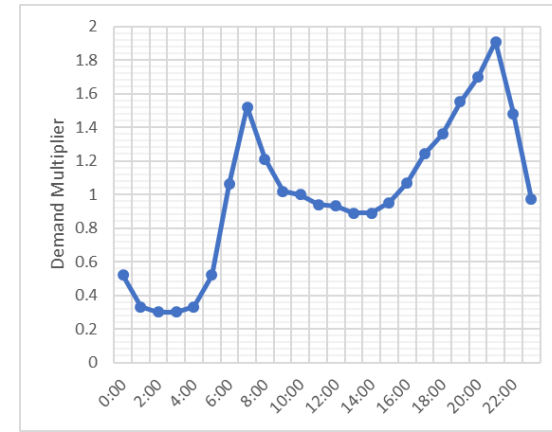
# INPUT DATA



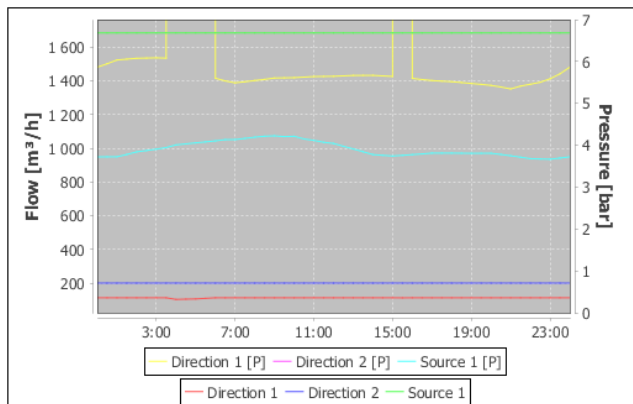
NETWORK MAP(S)



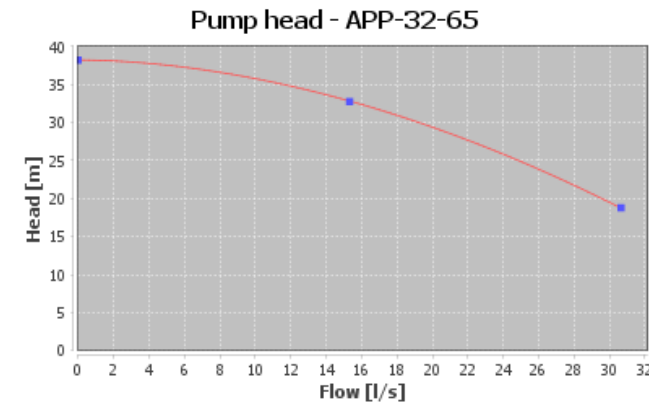
WATER USERS & USAGE



WATER USAGE PATTERNS



MEASUREMENTS



PUMP CURVES

```
@T = TEMP:PA11
#IF %T> 90 #THEN #BLOCK
#SET C:PBO2=0
#PRINT 2 OVERHEAT
#BLOCK_END
#ELSE_IF %T< 70 #THEN #SET C:PBO2=1
```

CONTROL SYSTEM CODE

# INPUT DATA

- Collecting input data is labor intensive for the client and takes time – typically most of the time is spent waiting for the data
  - Network maps – DWG, DXF, DGN, SHP, MIF, GML, WFS...
  - Customer (billing) data – Excel, Access, \*SQL, CSV...
  - WSS schematic drawings: logical structure, stations, water sources, tanks
  - Control system behavior: algorithms, parameters, settings, P&IDs... – often screenshots from all SCADA views
  - Pump curves & other info, motor information: the measured or catalogue curves, pump model and manufacturer
  - Data from **all measurements at hourly resolution** for at least a year, preferably three to five year period: most important info is the amount of water pumped into system, followed by tank volume or level measurements, other flow measurements and finally pressure measurements
  - Yearly reports, water safety plans, urban general and master plans, water utility strategic plans, info on leakage measurements and network construction methods etc.
- It's advisable to wait for all data to arrive before starting the modeling work (the pipe network model construction can begin right after receiving the map(s))
- Changes in input data can result in extensive (and expensive!) changes in the model

# CALCULATING WATER BALANCE

- Some people mistakenly mix calculating and modeling water balance with calibration – they are different things – water balance is essential part of model building
- Total demand, billed demand (revenue water) and non-revenue water (or leakage), and demand pattern
- Without water balance calculation results, the model cannot perform right
- Calculate water balance for the smallest possible geographical areas: on a pressure zone level or on a district metering area (DMA) level



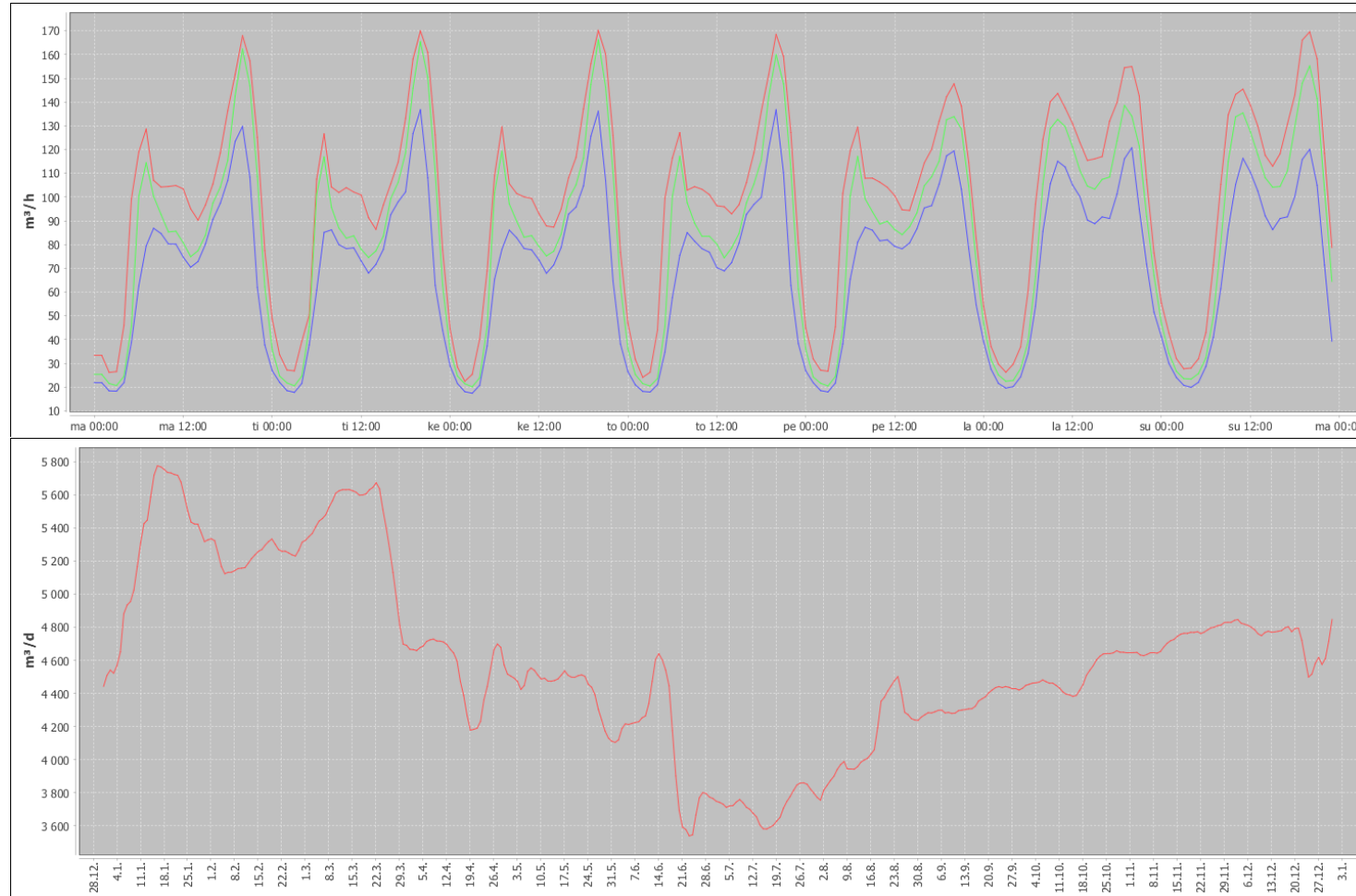
# CALCULATING WATER BALANCE

- Start by processing the customer billing data
  - Find out coordinates for each client based on address
  - Import the demands into the modeling or GIS software
- Calculate average billed (revenue water, RW) for each zone in the network
- While at it, calculate network length and number of inhabitants, too

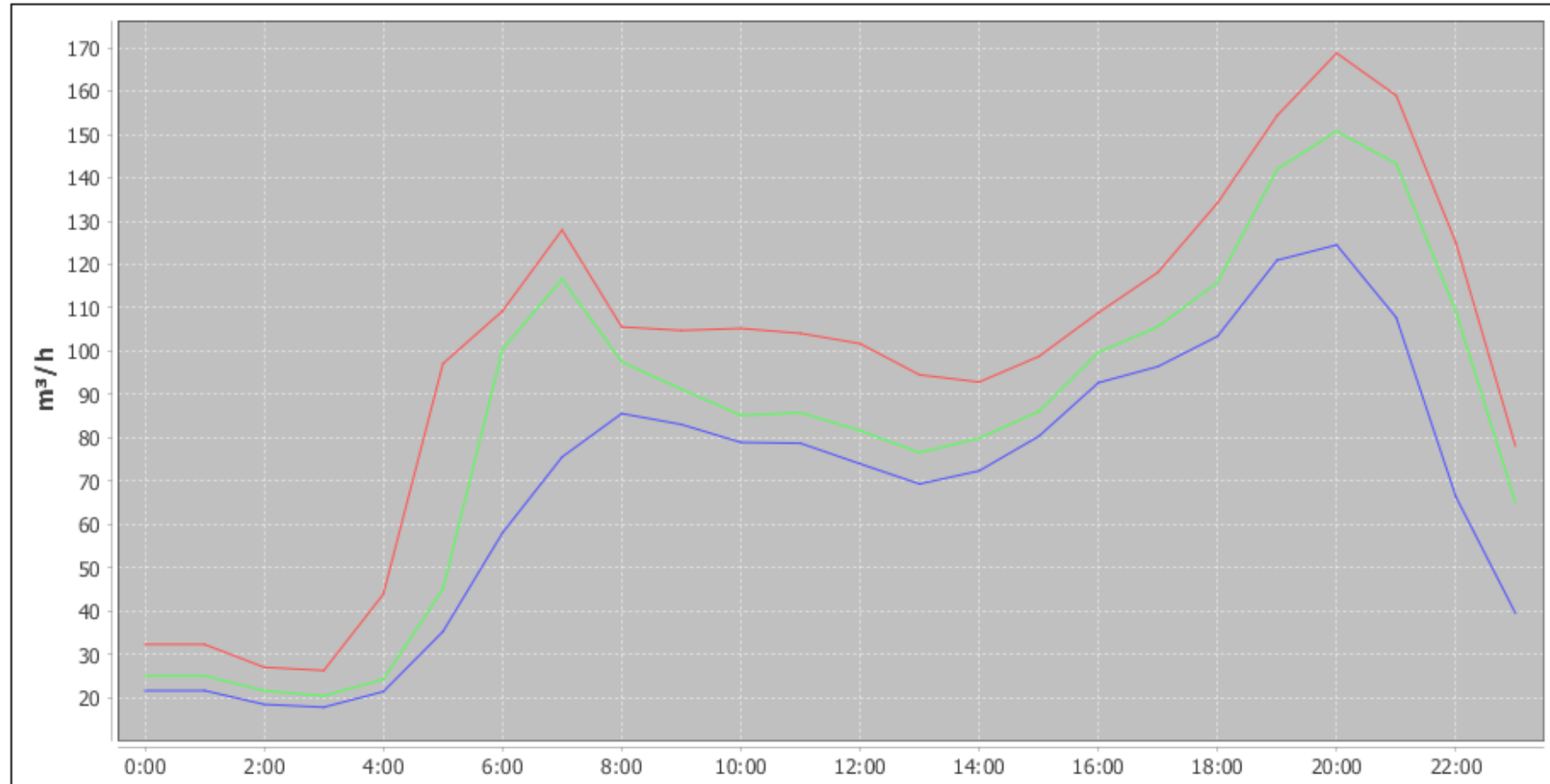
# CALCULATING WATER BALANCE

- Calculate the hourly demand for each area for as long time period as you can
- Sum **flows in**, subtract **flows out** and the sum of **tank volume change** (positive volume change -> water flows into tank from the system)
  - $D = \sum Q_{in} - \sum Q_{out} - \sum \Delta V$
  - Calculate daily water use, analyze seven day moving average
  - Use hourly median values for week days from a few month period, when water usage is “normal”
  - Subtract **revenue water** (billed amount) from the daily use to give you the **non-revenue water (NRW)**. Usually whole NRW is modeled as leakage.
- Often it is still useful to try to estimate **leakage** from total non-revenue water
  - Typically each inhabitant uses about 1 l/h·person during the minimum hour (around 03:00–05:00) – excess demand is probably leakage
  - Leakage can be estimated assuming that 0.3 x average hourly demand is used during the minimum hour – demand exceeding this is probably leakage
  - Finally it can be estimated that 30–60 % of minimum usage is leakage
  - Calibration, statistical methods, pressure analysis...

# EXAMPLE OF WATER BALANCE



# EXAMPLE OF WATER BALANCE



# EXAMPLE OF WATER BALANCE

2015

Area	Pipe Length [km]	Billed [m <sup>3</sup> /d]	Total [m <sup>3</sup> /d]	NRW [m <sup>3</sup> /d]	Leakage [l·s/km]	Inhabitants	Spec.demand [l/d·pers]
Zone 1	27	339	338	0	0.000	1 452	233
Zone 2	18	133	148	15	0.234	677	218
Zone 3	74	630	802	171	0.644	4 179	192
Zone 4	294	6 113	7 039	926	0.876	32 048	220
Zone 5	184	2 927	3 648	720	1.089	19 051	191
Zone 6	172	1 085	1 137	52	0.084	7 577	150
Sum	775	11 264	13 159	1 895	0.679	65 155	202

Area	Max Day Coefficient
Whole WDS	1.2
Zone 1	1.3
Zone 2	1.6
Zone 3	1.4
Zone 4	2.1
Zone 5	1.6
Zone 6	3.0

2035

Area	Pipe Length [km]	Billed [m <sup>3</sup> /d]	Total [m <sup>3</sup> /d]	NRW [m <sup>3</sup> /d]	Leakage [l·s/km]	Inhabitants	Spec.demand [l/d·pers]
Zone 1	27	299	306	7	0.003		211
Zone 2	18	117	143	26	0.017		211
Zone 3	77	861	1 115	253	0.038		267
Zone 4	303	5 985	7 722	1 737	0.066		240
Zone 5	187	2 816	4 003	1 187	0.074		210
Zone 6	236	1 059	1 173	114	0.006		147
Sum	854	11 174	14 514	3 340	0.045		221

# CALCULATING WATER BALANCE

- Subtract non-revenue water (or leakage) from total water demand
- If and when big consumers are modeled separately, subtract their hourly usage from the total demand too
- The resulting time series can be used for calculating **demand pattern for billed demand** – divide each hourly value by the average demand
- Each area has it's own demand profile – set the demands in the model accordingly

# MODELING NON-REVENUE WATER AND LEAKAGE

- Divide NRW equally to all junctions in area as normal, constant demand – it is advisable to use separate pattern (named *leakage* or something similar) with all values set to one for NRW
- Divide the total NRW to junctions relative to the average pressure, pipe diameter, length / 2 and optionally pipe material and age – use constant demand
- The best and most accurate way without actual calibration
  - Use **junction emitters** – divide the total NRW to junctions relative to the average pressure, pipe diameter, length / 2 and optionally pipe material and age
  - Emitter values are coefficients  $E$  in equation  $Q_{emitter} = E \cdot p^\gamma$ , where  $p$  is pressure [mvp] and  $\gamma$  is globally set emitter exponent (File->Model Properties) – in range of 0.5 ... 2.0, typically 1.0 ... 1.5
  - Requires few iterations as changing emitter coefficients changes pressure, which changes the emitter flows...
- Calibration or leak location
  - Put the computer to work: find leak sizes and locations that minimize the difference between pressure measurements and model results
  - Hard to do (right)

# MODELING WATER SOURCES

- Model water sources by using combination of a **reservoir** and a **pump battery** (any flow or pressure control) or a **set pumps** (on-off control, pumps running at nominal speed)
  - Reservoir can represent either clear well or ground water table, if water is pumped directly into the network
  - Reservoir elevation / head is the average water level
  - Model the pump and efficiency curves along with pump motor and VSD information, and select the right curves for pump batteries and pumps
- If an accurate model of raw water extraction and treatment process is needed, then the reservoirs are used only for the points of extraction



# MODELING TANKS

- Set tank elevation to *NW*, *minimum level* and *minimum volume* to 0 and *maximum level* to  $HW-NW$ =maximum depth
  - This way tank pressure = water level in tank
  - Setting minimum volume to value other than 0 causes tank to transform into a reservoir when empty (endless supply of water – wrong results!)
- If tank is right, use the diameter to specify the cross-sectional area, otherwise set *diameter* to 1 and model a *volume curve* (water level – volume curve)
  - $A = \pi r^2 \rightarrow D=2r$
- If tank level stays constant, a reservoir can be used instead

# MODELING STATIONS

- Valve stations can be modeled using valve component
  - FCV for flow control – (maximum) flow setting in l/s
  - PRV for pressure control (pressure reducing valve) – (max.) pressure setting in meters
  - PSV for inlet pressure control (pressure sustaining valve) – setting in meters
- Pressure booster stations
  - Use **pump batteries** for boosters with constant pressure or flow control
  - **Pumps** can be used, if pumps run only at nominal speed or are on-off controlled
- Some time a station can have both valve (for letting water into one direction) and pumps (for lifting water to the other direction)
  - Model both directions separately – they are two different stations logically

# MODELING CONTROL SYSTEM

- Constant pressure and flow settings can be modeled by setting the initial type and setting field values in pump batteries
- The best way is to code the control system algorithms using Python modules
  - Create some fancy system to read settings and parameters from Excel sheets, for example
  - Create classes to present different station types and control types, using the previously read values
  - Create instances for all stations in the system
- Sometimes, if the system only has time and or on-off controls (based on tank levels), EPANET's built-in Controls and Rules can suffice – they can be used for simple IF ... THEN ... rules

# ANALYSIS & REPORTING



# GENERAL

- The best way to present values is to use thematic maps
  - Usually only minimum, maximum and daily total values are interesting
  - Color and size links according to different results
  - Use calculated layers for junction results, some times coloring and sizing junctions can improve readability
- Time series are useful, but typically should be used sparingly
  - Provide some pressure, flow, head loss etc. data for few representing points in the network
  - Tank levels and source & station flows are interesting
- Provide general network level overviews, more detailed analysis for each zone and focused analysis for any problematic locations you find
- Use scenarios
  - Use maximum day (set global inflow coefficient for scenario), when performing capacity analysis and sizing pipes and pumps
  - Other analyses, especially energy analyses, should be performed using average or normal day

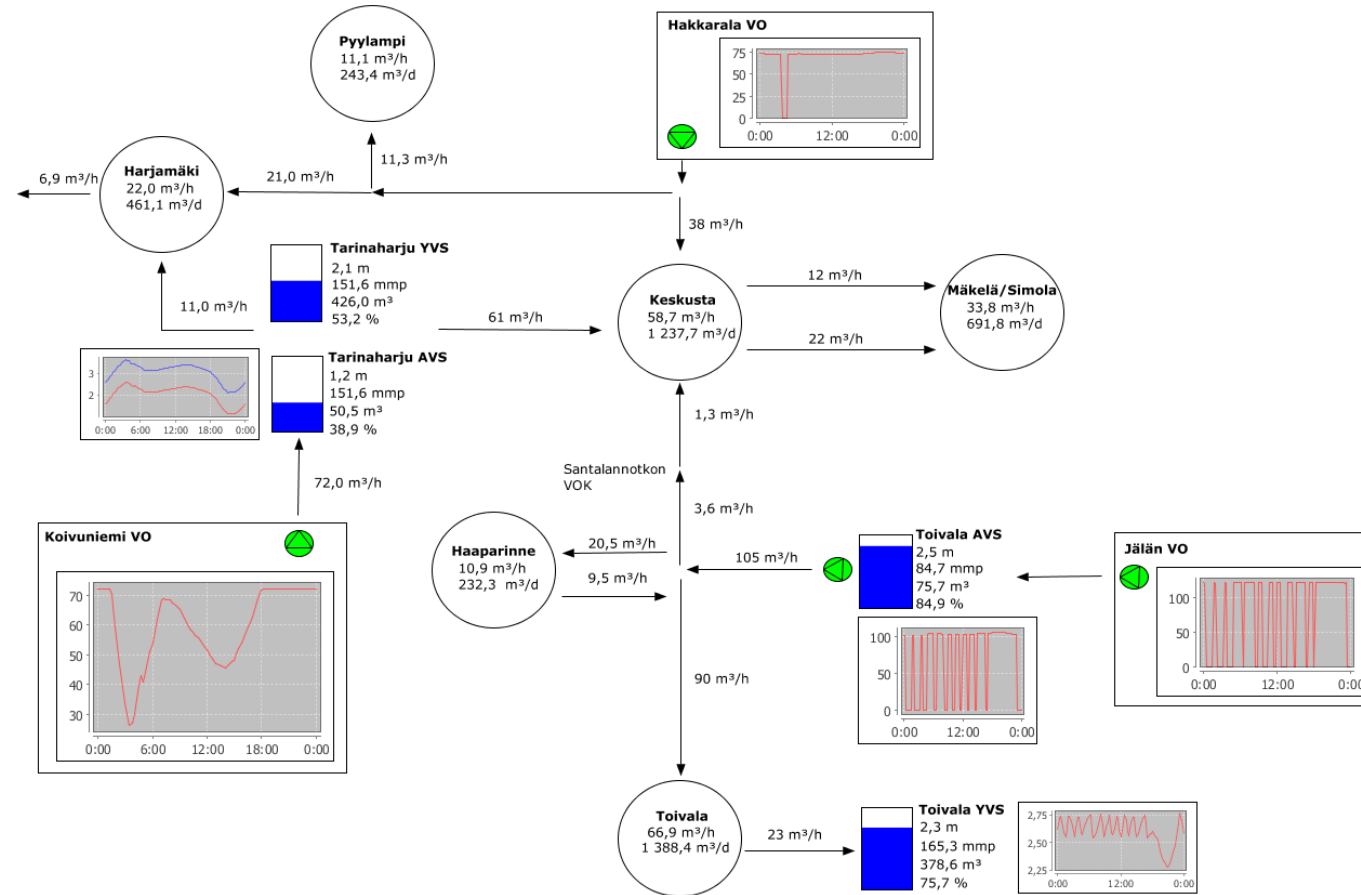
# VISUALIZATION

- Remember that color-blindness, especially red-green, is common – avoid using red, green and gray colors close together
- When classifying data, use meaningful limits, and limit the number of classes  $< 10$
- When using time series, avoid presenting more than 3–5 series in one chart and don't mix data with many different units (sometimes it's ok to use the second axis)
- Highlight problems, visualize changes

# ENSURING MODEL WORKS

- You should build a *schematic view* that shows you, at least
  - Time serieses of flows pumped into network
  - Flows between different zones
  - Tank levels
- Total demand and pumped volume values along with pressure time serieses are also very useful
- This enables you to quickly control the **model works** correctly after **every single simulation**
  - Changes you make can break the model unintentionally
  - *Completely emptying or filling tanks*, too low (<10 m) and too high (>80 m) pressures and too small or large pumped volumes hint to problems
- Ensure the flows, pressures and tank level behavior (including timing) match the measurements before starting to use the model for analysis

# GLANCE VIEW





# REPORTING AND ANALYZING RESULTS

- Typically capacity assessment is done in order to find too small pipes (bottle-necks), too low and high pressures, and circular flows between zones etc.
- The most important things to analyze are
  - Minimum pressure
  - Maximum pressure
  - Pressure difference
  - Gross and net flow
  - Maximum unit head loss
  - Maximum velocity
  - Energy usage, total pumped volumes at the stations
  - Quality parameters: water source, age, chlorine content...
- Prepare thematic maps of the values for each zone
- Describe the **range of each parameter** in every zone and **focus more on extremes**, eg. provide more detailed maps and descriptions of the locations with too low pressures or too small pipes, analyze the severity, effect and potential solutions

# PIPES

- Velocity range
  - Typically velocities are 0.1–0.3 m/s for most parts of the network
  - For big transmission lines velocities can be higher
  - Anything over 0.5 m/s starts to be a bit suspicious
  - Velocities over 0.8 and especially over 1.0 m/s are too high, but may be acceptable in big trunk mains pipe lines
- Unit head loss range
  - Typically unit head losses are <math>1.0\text{--}3.0\text{ m/km}</math>
  - Unit head losses over 5 m/km start to be on the high side
  - Over 8 and especially over 10 m/km are too high

# JUNCTIONS

- Minimum and maximum pressures
  - Pressure must be over 10 m (5 m hard limit) everywhere in network
  - Pressure must be below 80 m (100 m hard limit) everywhere in network
  - Required minimum pressure depends on client (number of floors, technical requirements, sprinkler etc.): typically 20 m is minimum for single floor villas, 30 m is enough for four-storey building
  - Pressures over 50 m already waste energy, over 60–70 m start to cause problems (leakage and probability of pipe bursts high)
- Pressure difference
  - Pressure differences are typically  $<5$  m/d – mostly caused by tank level changes and changes in station flows
  - Differences of  $<5$  m/d are not noticeable, unless minimum pressure is too low
  - Differences over 10 m/s are too large and hint towards too small pipes or bad control system behavior

# OTHER ANALYSES TO CONSIDER

- Water age
- Water source tracing
- Energy use, pumping efficiency
- Possibilities are unlimited

# PROVIDE ANALYSIS AND SOLUTIONS

- Don't just state problems
- Analyze the importance
- Analyze reasons
- Provide the client with all relevant information
- Propose and test solutions – estimate costs and benefits

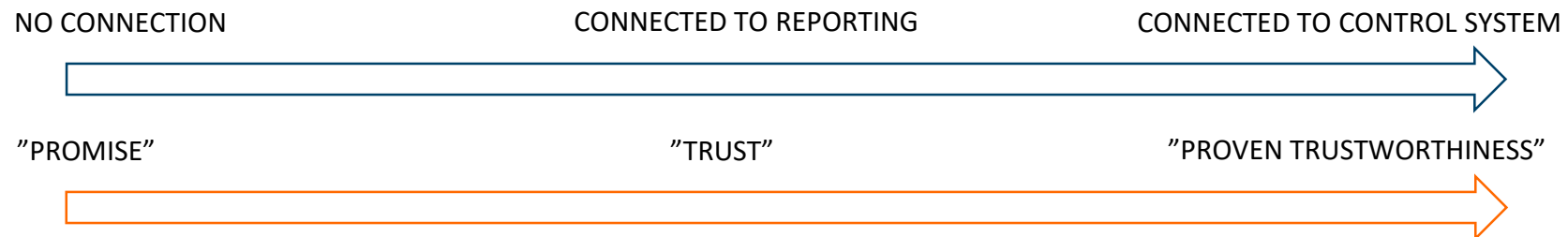
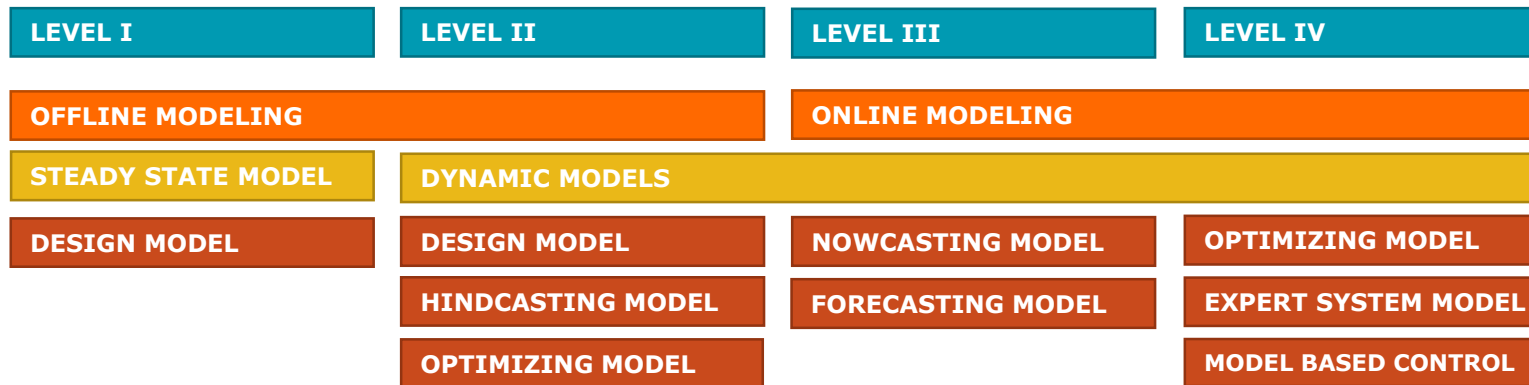
# CONCLUSION



# SURPRISE YOUR CLIENT (POSITIVELY)

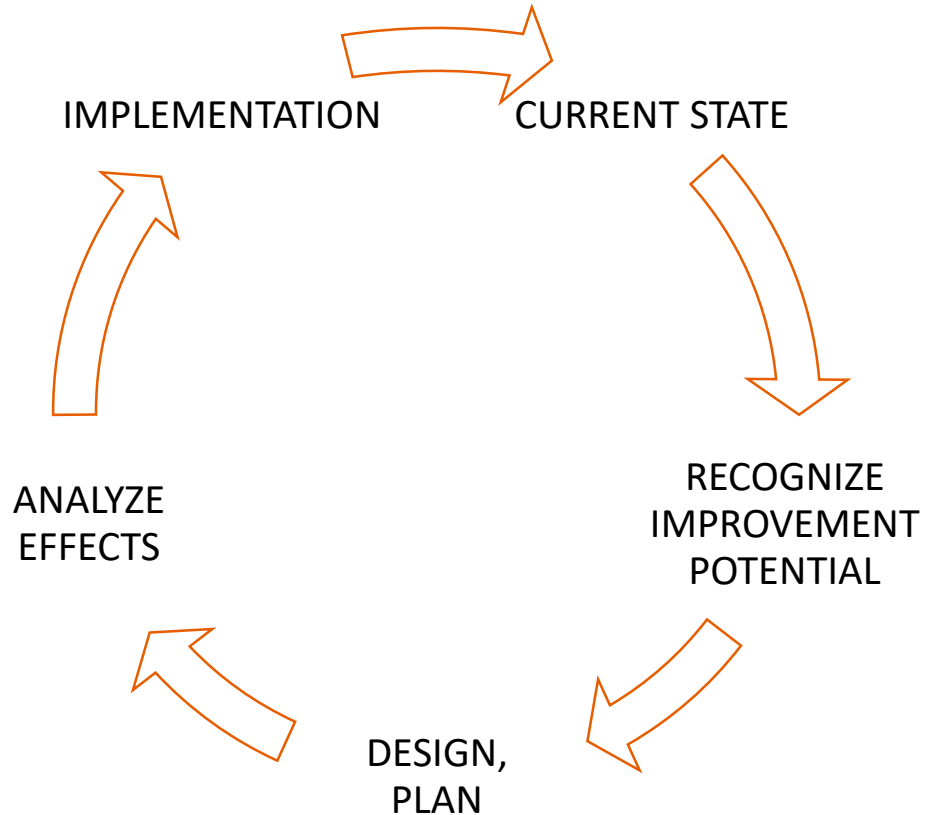
- You, as an outside modeler, know the client's WSS more intimately and from different angle that they do – share the things you discover
- Always think of something new and interesting you can come with using the model
- Think of new ways to use model and integrate information together
- Share your knowledge, insights, doubts, questions and ideas – and your data

# THINK FORWARD





# CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT



- There are always endless possibilities for improvement
- Analyze the current state
- Recognize the potential improvements
- Design ways to improve
- Test and analyze the outcomes
- Implement

# THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME

EUR ING PhD Markus Sunela  
CTO, Co-founder, Chairman

+358 40 768 5165  
[markus.sunela@fluidit.fi](mailto:markus.sunela@fluidit.fi)

Fluidit Ltd.  
[www.fluidit.fi](http://www.fluidit.fi)

