

# A Digital Twin for process resilience of WWTP

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Digitale Zwillinge zum Schutz kritischer Infrastruktur



Physical Twin pilot plant

Pilot plant

## Aim for the setup of the Digital Twin

Being able to act and recover from stress situation is a key aspect for resilience of critical infrastructure. To enhance the resilience of wastewater treatment plants (WWTP) modelling can provide a strong support. A powerful tool for improved response during stress situations is the connection of real-time data with models in form of a Digital Twin (DT). This research shows a possible setup for such a DT from the built up of the physical twin up to the model. The main steps for the setup of the DT were:

*Establishment of a Pilot Plant to collect data and test different stress scenarios*

- The pilot plant is designed for COD and nitrogen removal for a population equivalent of 2 (300 L/d).
- The static dimensioning of the pilot plant was calculated with the guideline DWA-A 131. With state-of-the-art measuring and control technology the plant produces over 40,000 data values per day.

*System for data storage and visualization*

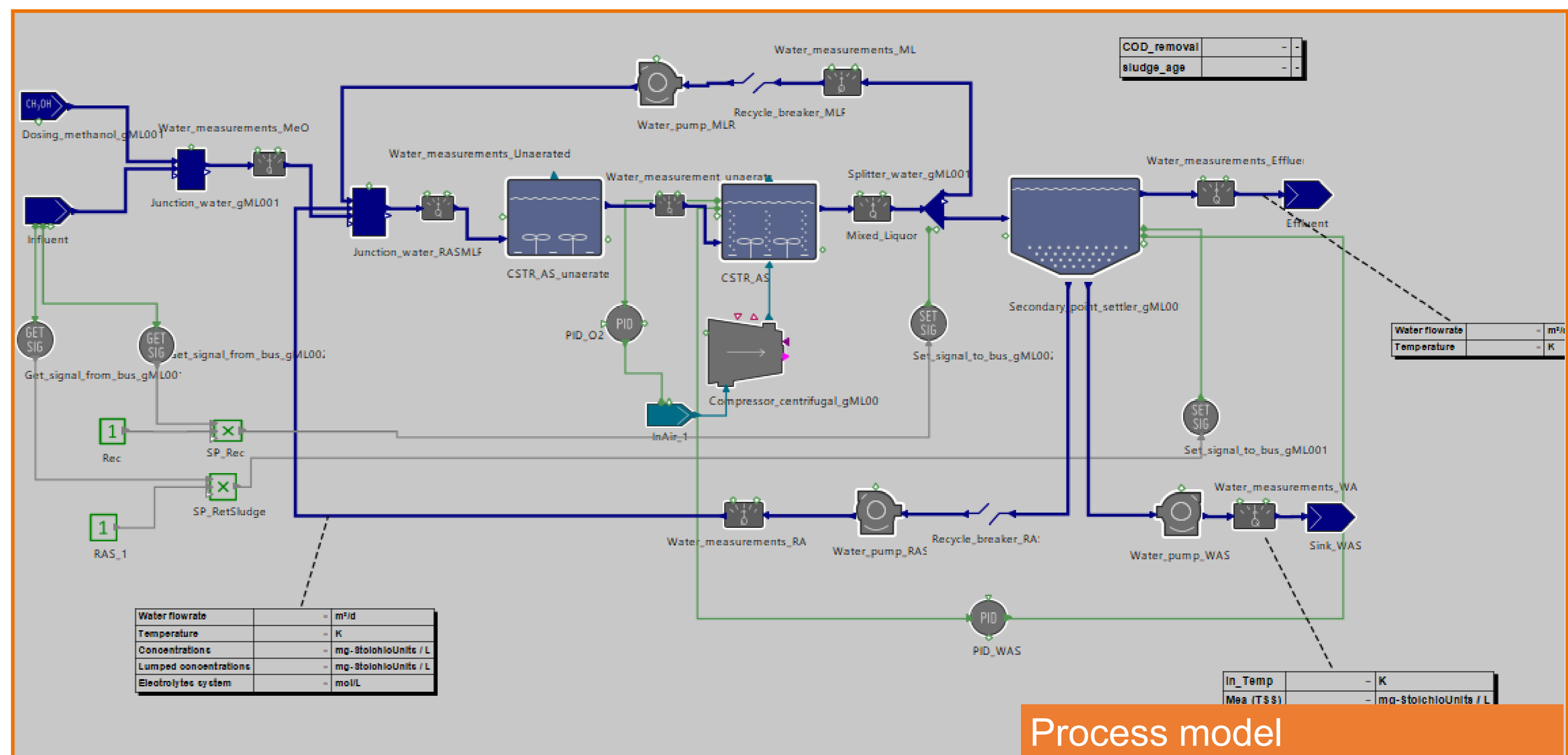
- setup system collects process and laboratory data as well.

*Modelling of biological treatment process*

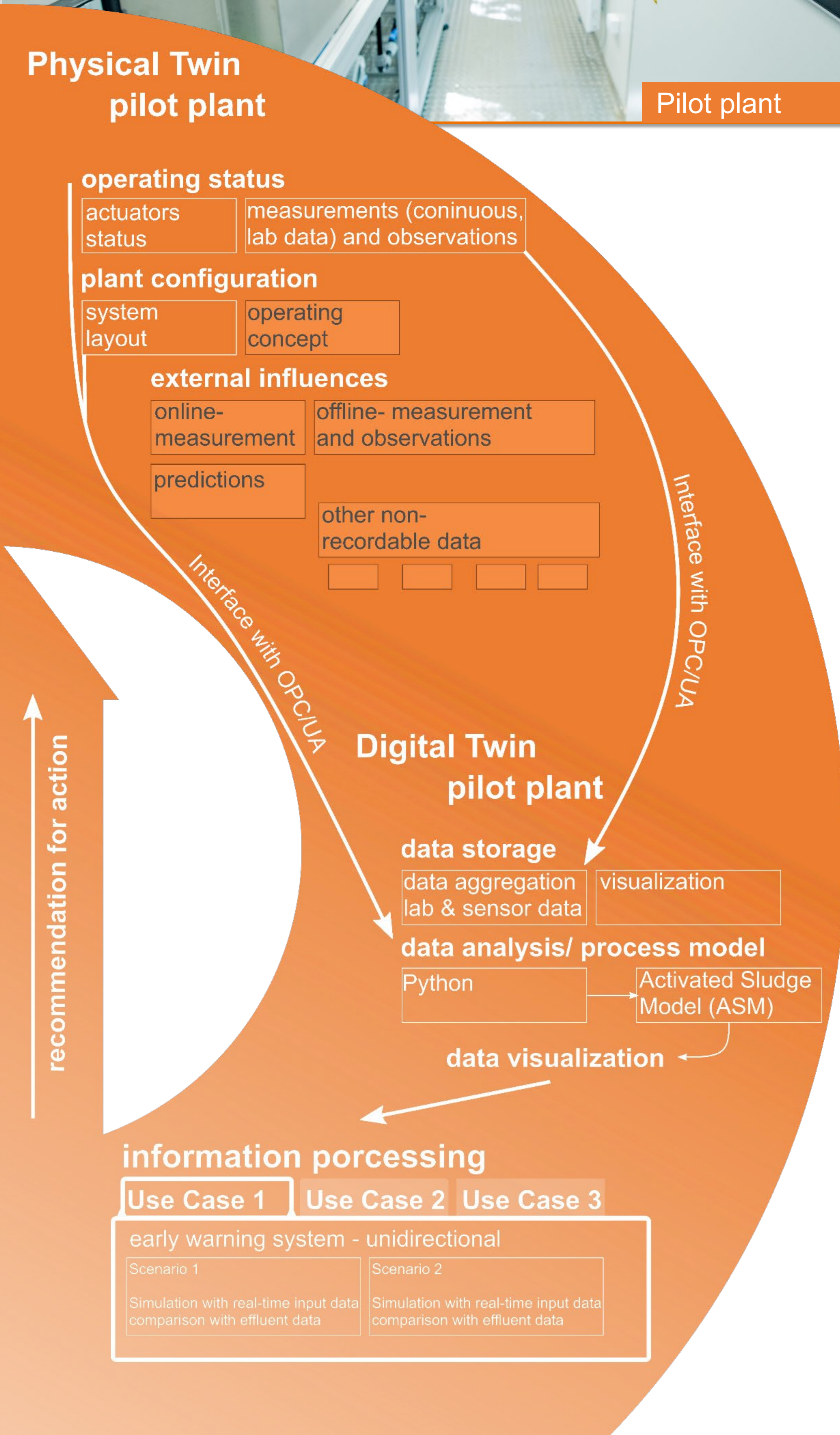
- The process is modelled with the activated sludge model (ASM) a mechanistic model that simplifies the biological processes in the WWTP



Data storage and visualization



Process model



## Example risk scenario

<b>Name of scenario</b>	Shock load of ammonium in the inlet of the pilot plant
<b>Aim of scenario</b>	detect increased ammonium values and prevent/reduce impairment of the effluent criteria
<b>Input variables</b>	Sensor data of NH <sub>4</sub> -N in Denitrification <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• effluent quality</li> <li>- NH<sub>4</sub>-N</li> <li>- NO<sub>3</sub>-N</li> <li>- pH-value</li> <li>- COD</li> </ul>
<b>Relevant Output variables gPROMS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• pH-value effluent of nitrification</li> </ul>

## WHAT'S NEXT

After the successful establishment of the individual systems the systems have to be connected and tested:

*Next steps for interface between Physical and Digital Twin*

- Connecting the process variables in the pilot plant with the variables in the model and vice versa

*Next step for data analysis and process modelling*

- Develop adequate data validation for the automatic transfer of process variables to the model
- The model needs to be validated with process data of the pilot plant

*Next steps for data collection*

- The pilot plant needs to be tested with different stress scenarios

