



Funded by
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Towards, Competitive, Reliable, Safe and Sustainable Concentrated Solar Power (CSP) Plants

Midterm meeting REA, 18-19 April 2024

DC1: Universal flux density measurement system for large-scale external and cavity receivers with high-performance image processing

Author: Sergio Díaz Alonso

Supervisor: Christian Raeder

Institution: DLR

- **Education**

- Bachelor's Degree in Industrial Technologies Engineering (UC3M)
- Master's Degree in Industrial Engineering (UC3M)
- Honours in:
 - Master's thesis: Optimization of a baby feeding bottle using CAE techniques
 - Applied Thermal Engineering
 - Electronic Engineering Fundamentals
 - Material Technologies



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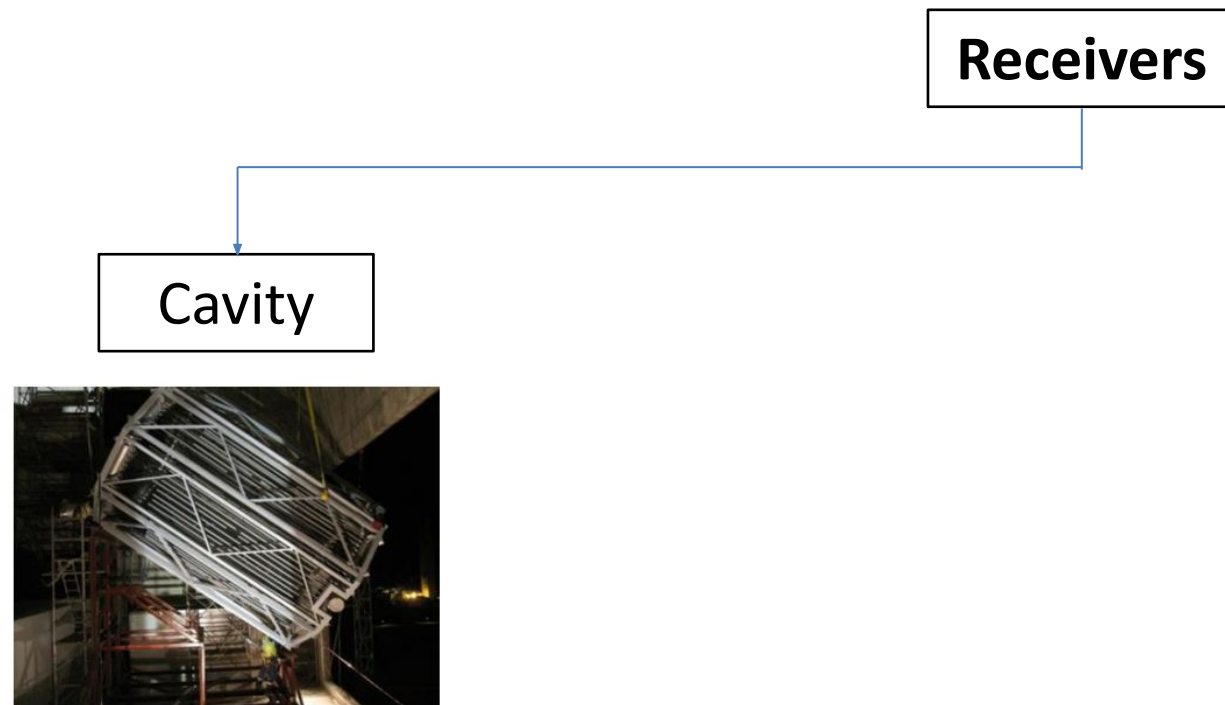
• Experience

- Research fellow (UC3M) ☐ Proceeding in CNIT12 + paper in "Results in Engineering"
- Process Engineer in Exera
- CAE Engineer in Andaltec ☐ R&D of automotive lighting devices
- PhD candidate in DLR

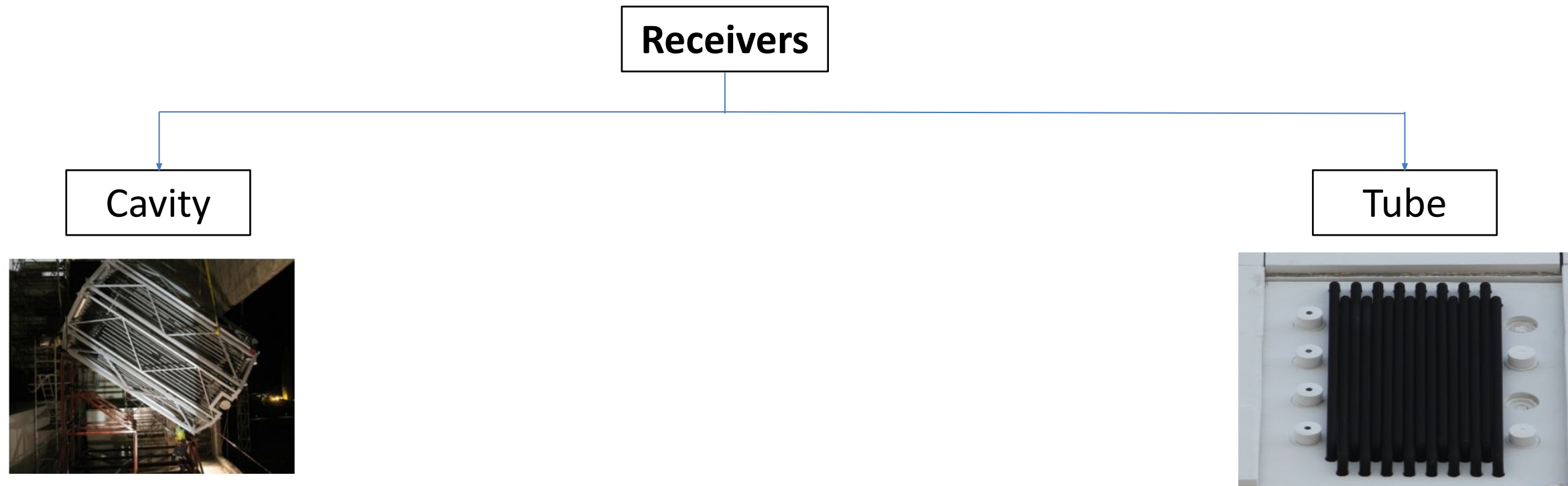
- Introduction to the task and changes proposed
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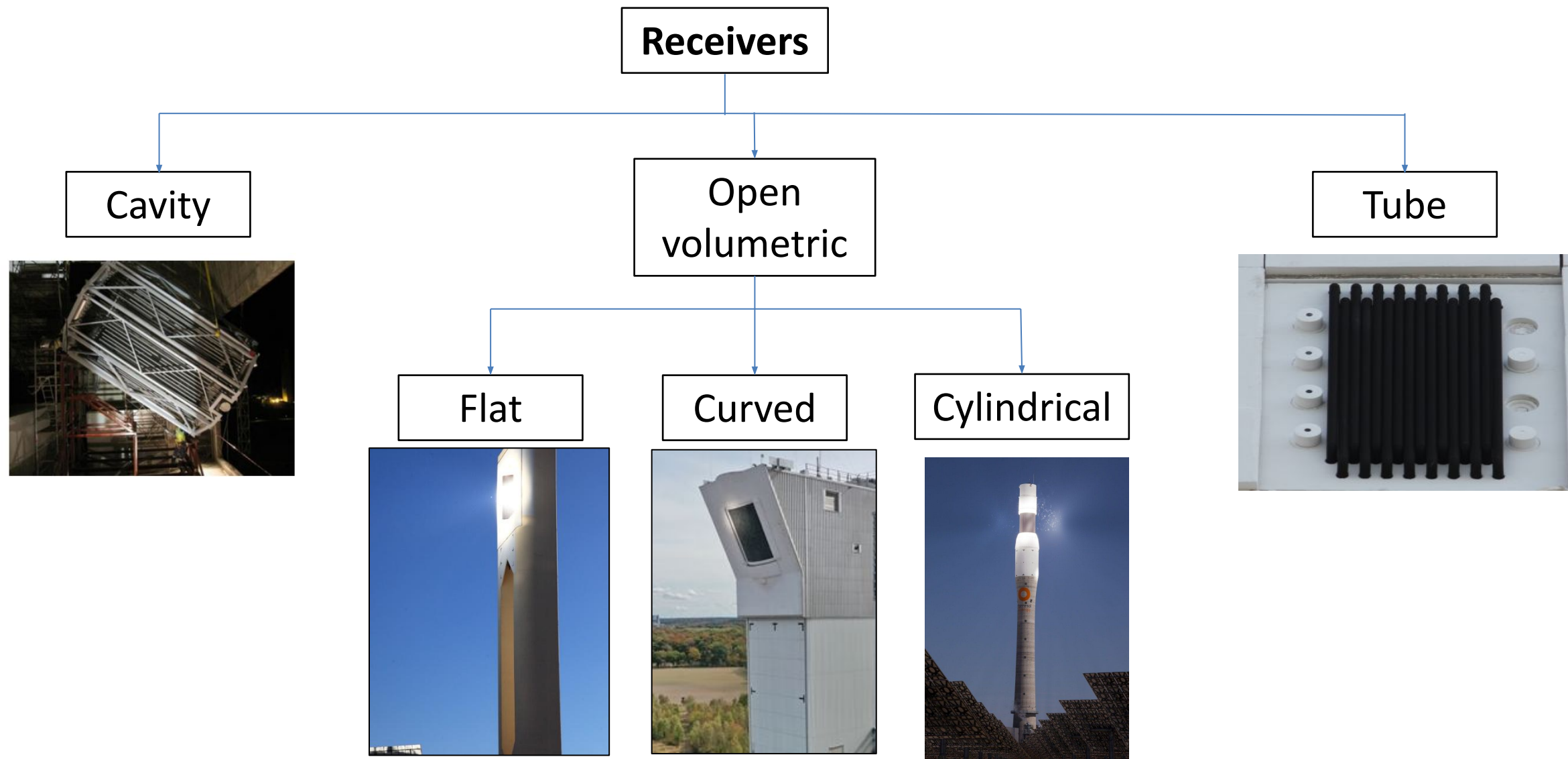
- **Introduction to the task and changes proposed**
 - Increasing variety of central receivers in CSP systems



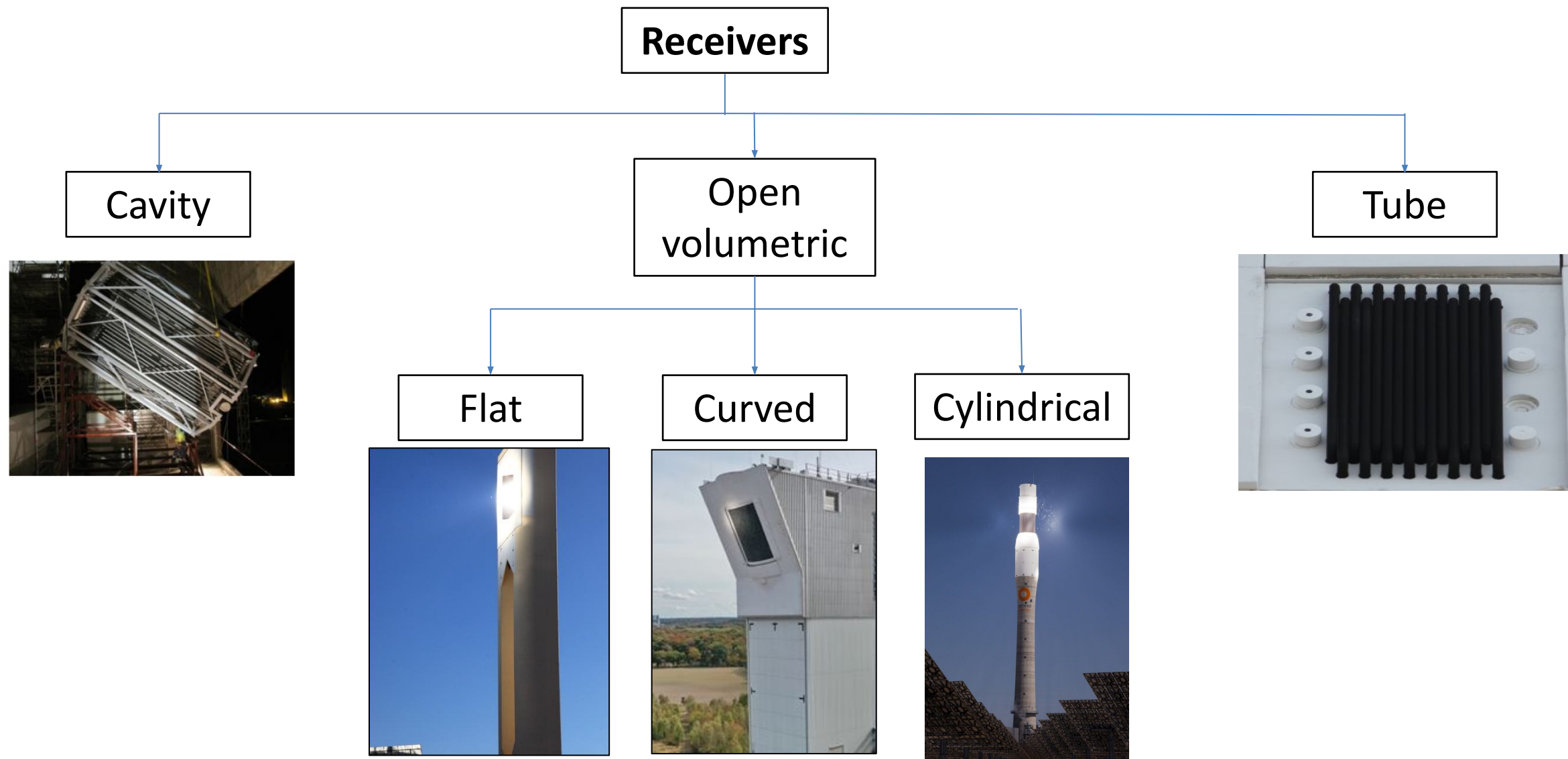
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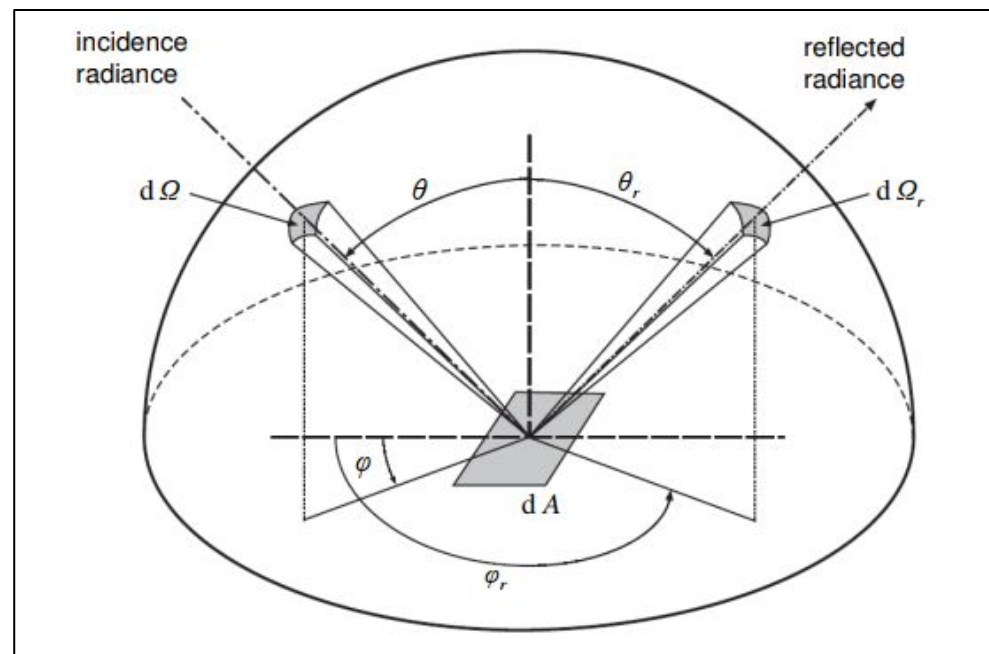


- **Introduction to the task and changes proposed**
 - Increasing variety of central receivers in CSP systems



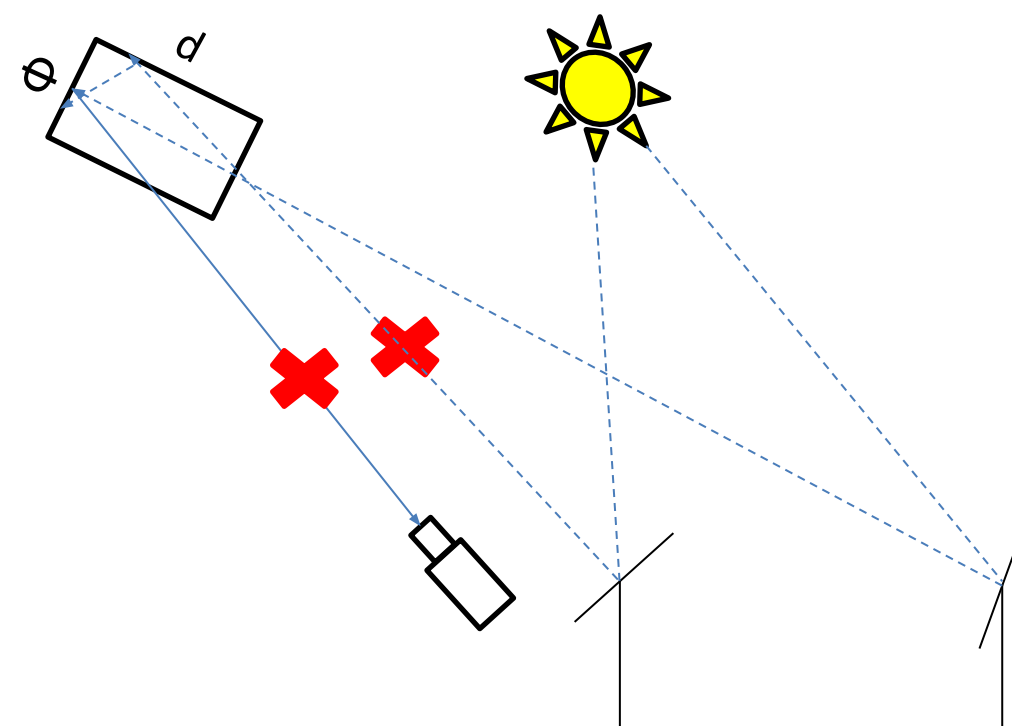
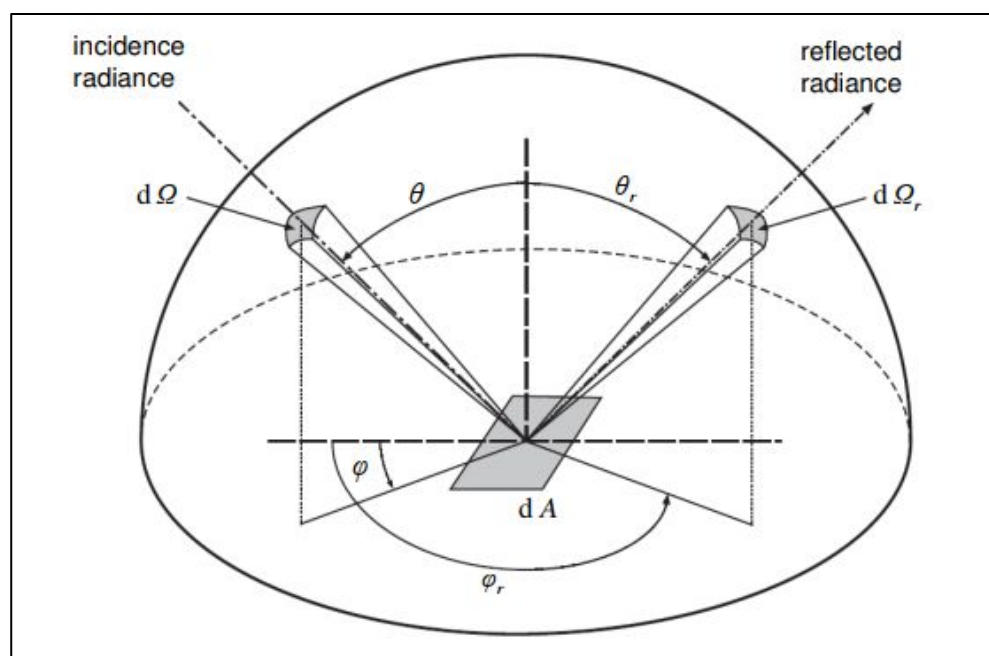
- **Motivation:** universal flux density measurement (FDM)
- **Ad-hoc approach**

- Introduction to the task and changes proposed



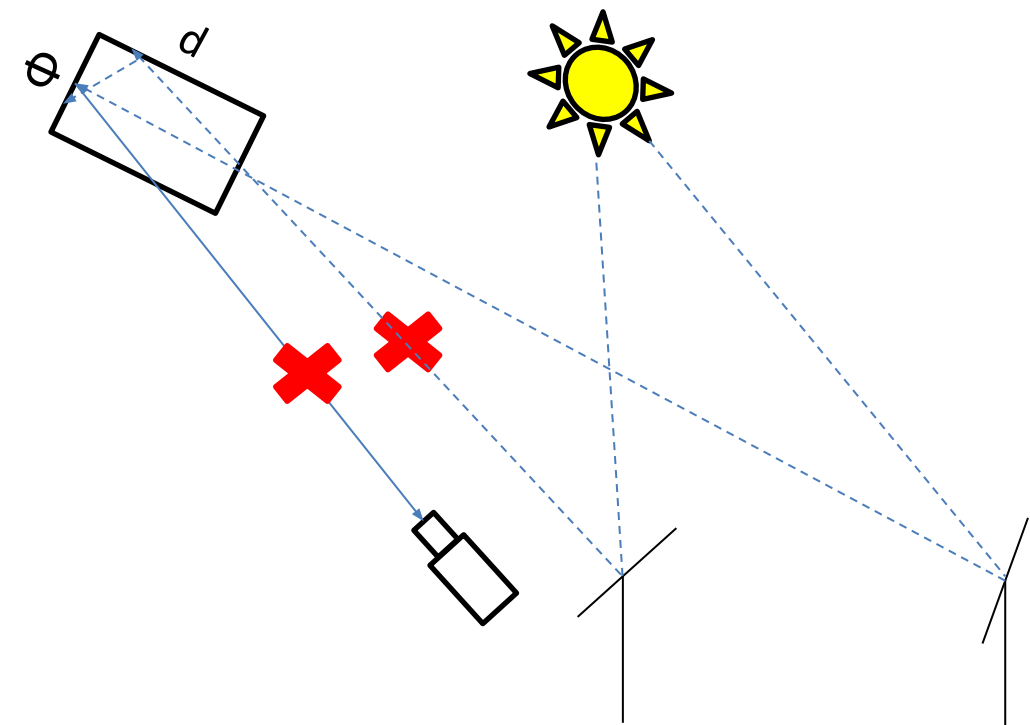
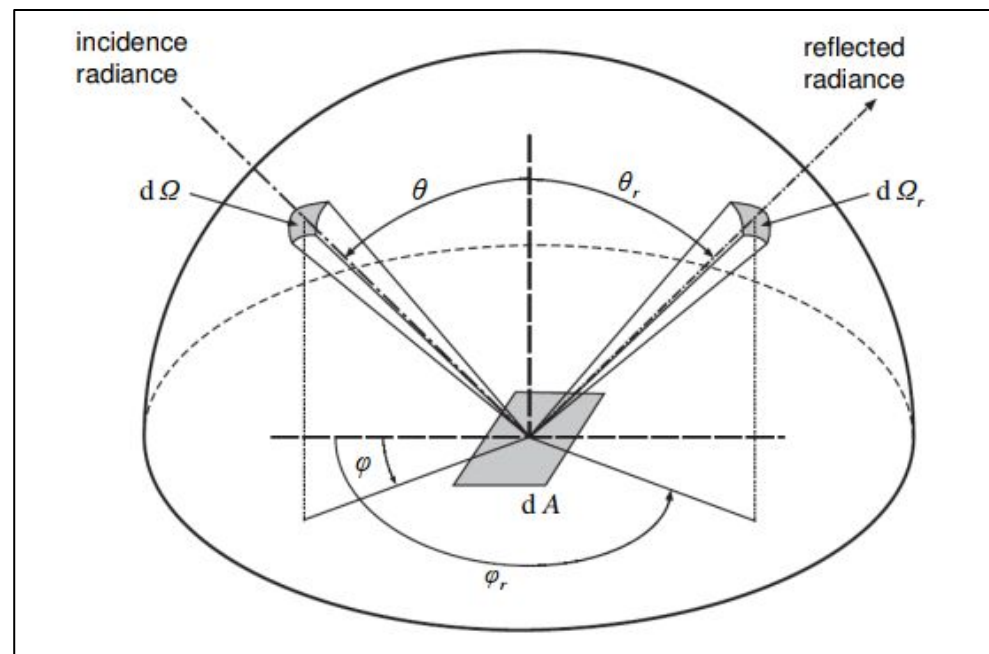
$$\rho(\theta, \varphi, \theta_r, \varphi_r) = \frac{L_r(\theta, \varphi, \theta_r, \varphi_r)}{L(\theta, \varphi) \cos \theta d\Omega}$$

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$$\rho(\theta, \varphi, \theta_r, \varphi_r) = \frac{L_r(\theta, \varphi, \theta_r, \varphi_r)}{L(\theta, \varphi) \cos \theta d\Omega} \longrightarrow \rho(\theta, \varphi, \theta_r, \varphi_r, d, \phi) = \frac{L_r(\theta, \varphi, \theta_r, \varphi_r, \boxed{d, \phi})}{L(\theta, \varphi) \cos \theta d\Omega}$$

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Now the BRDF is also a function of the geometry of the cavity (depth, aperture diameter) $\square$
Discarded use, difficult characterisation

- Inherent perspective problems: most of the fraction reflected can't be captured in camera
- Some heliostat reflection is reabsorbed by other walls

Design principles

- Real-time measurement

Design principles

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- Non-disruptive

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- Connection between conventional measurements and possible future trends (data-driven models)

Design principles

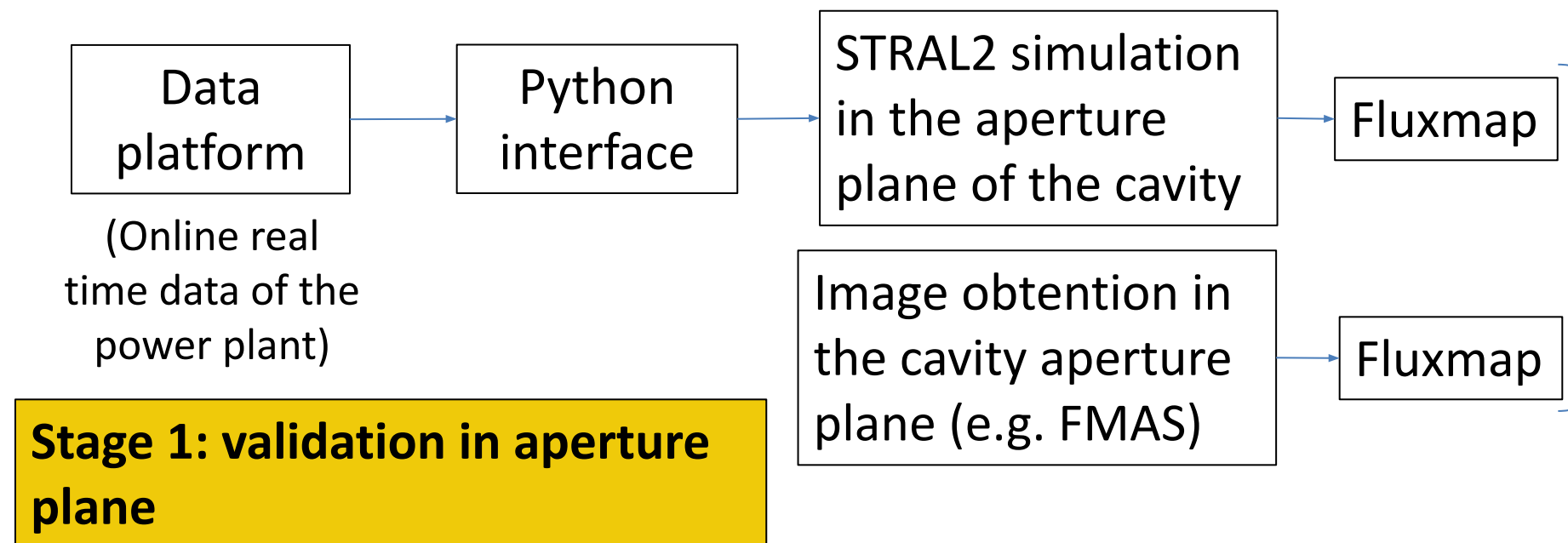
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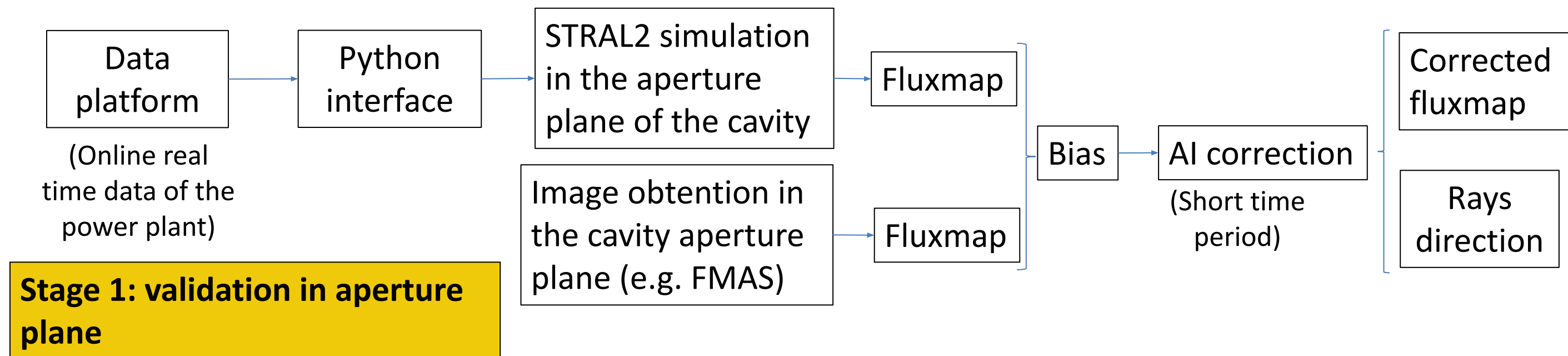
- Real-time measurement
- Non-disruptive
- Connection between conventional measurements and possible future trends (data-driven models) □ “Stepping on the shoulders of giants”
- Self-corrected with AI enhancement
- *Towards Smart CSP*

- Introduction to the task and changes proposed
- **Current status**
- Future steps

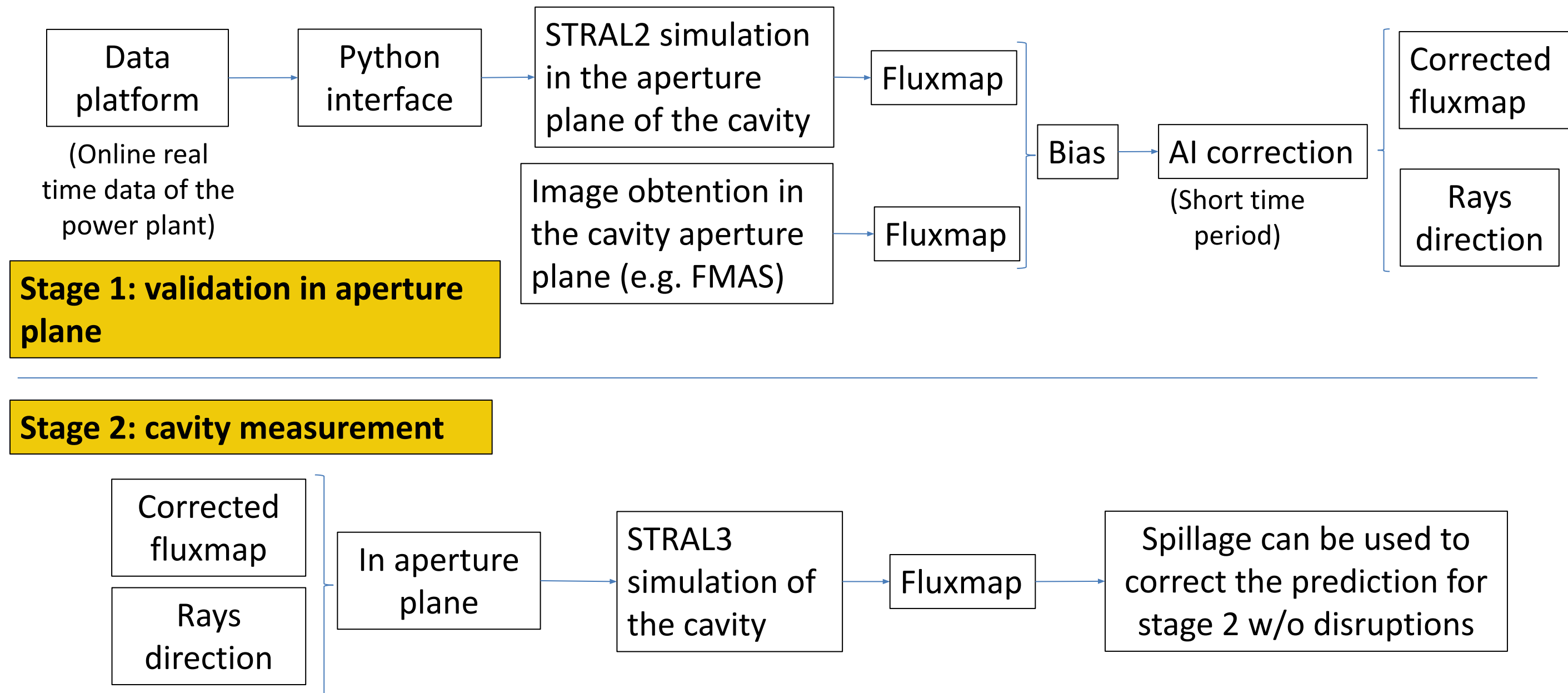
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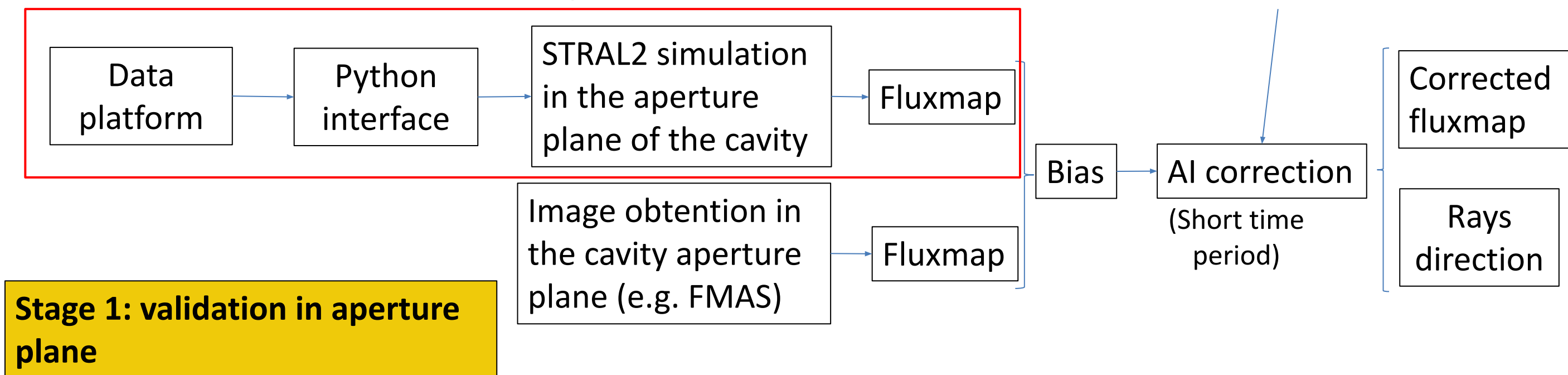


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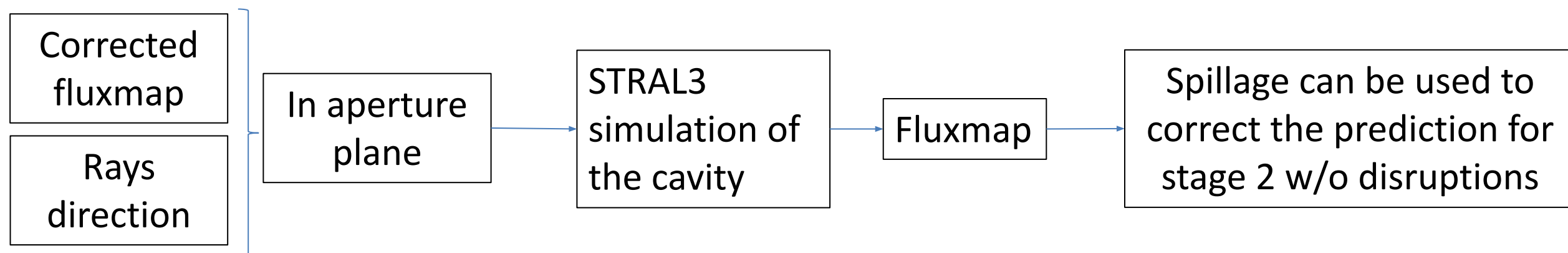
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Data-driven digital twin

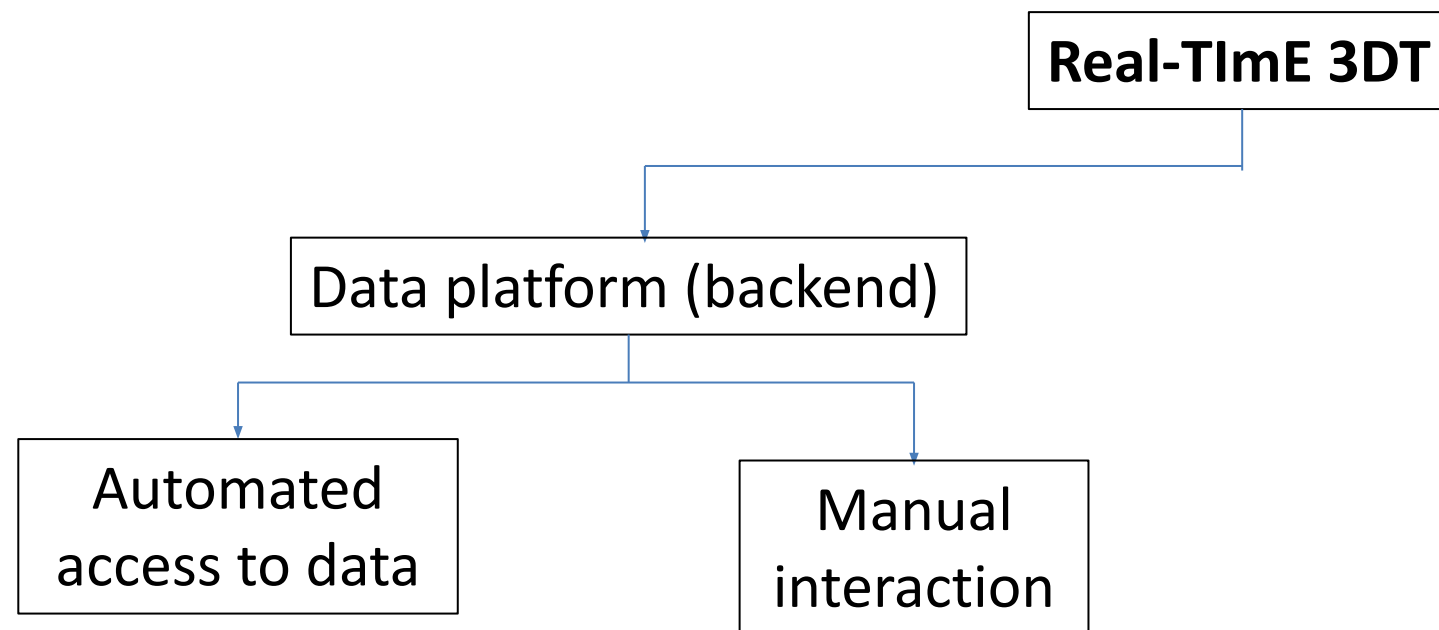


Stage 2: cavity measurement

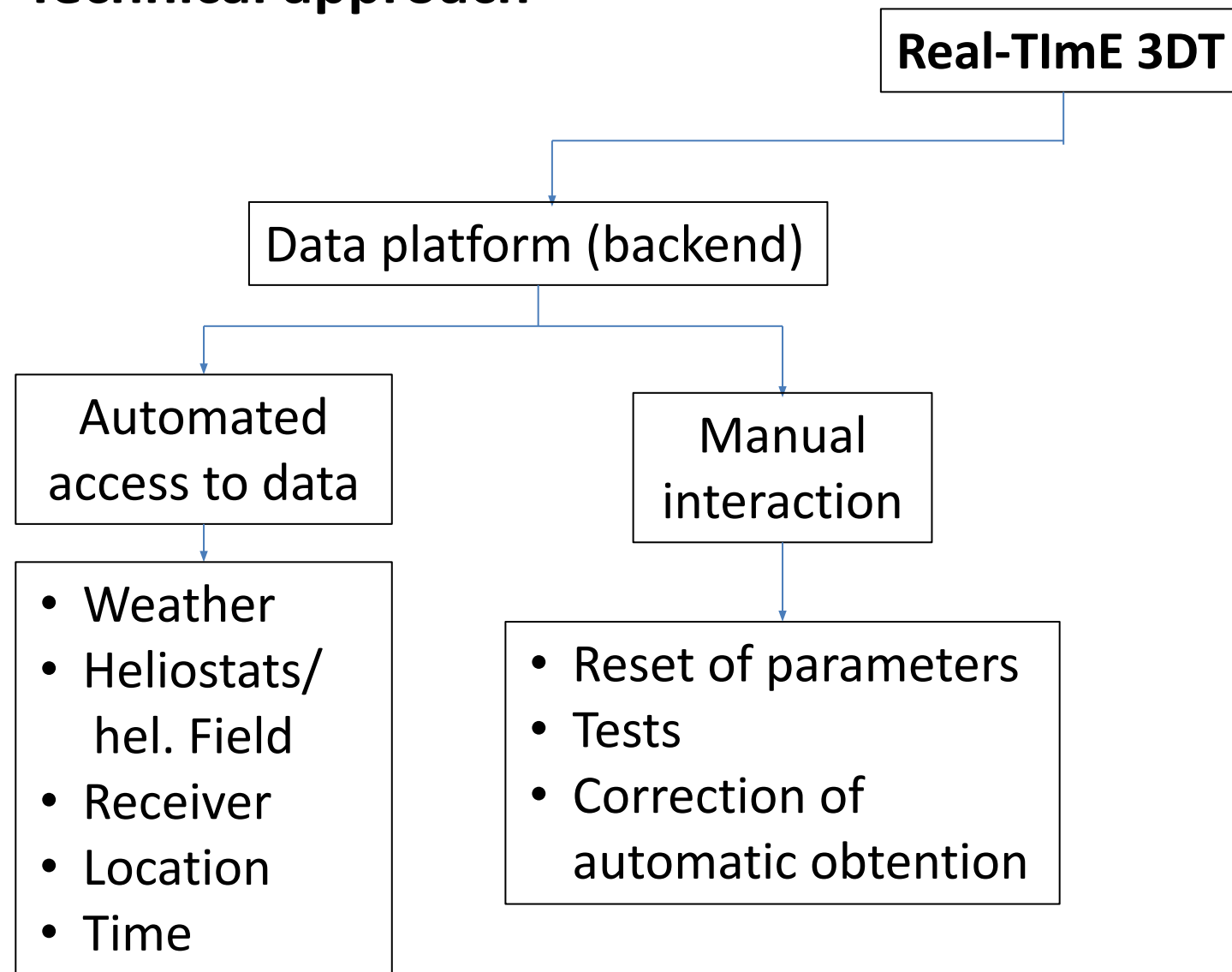
Only necessary for cavity receivers



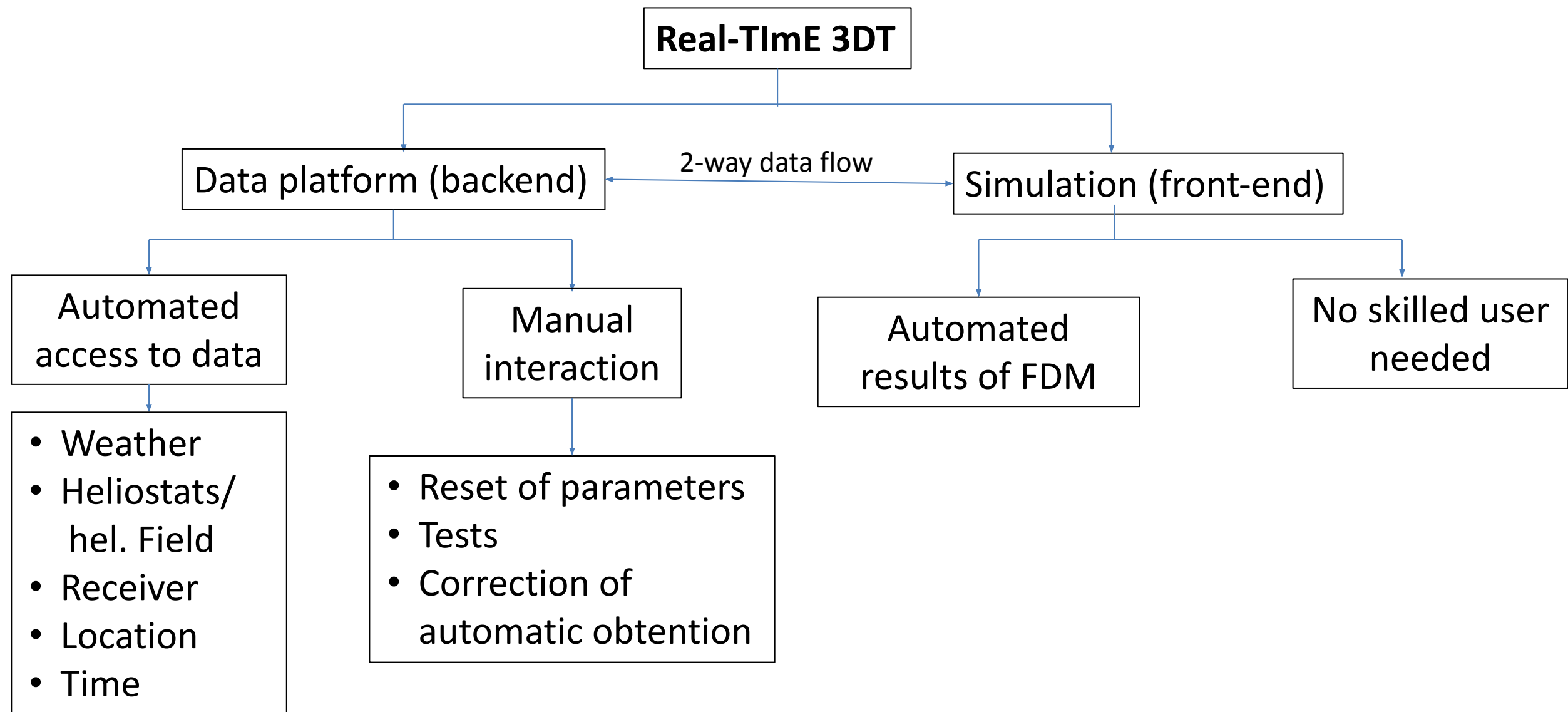
- **Technical approach**



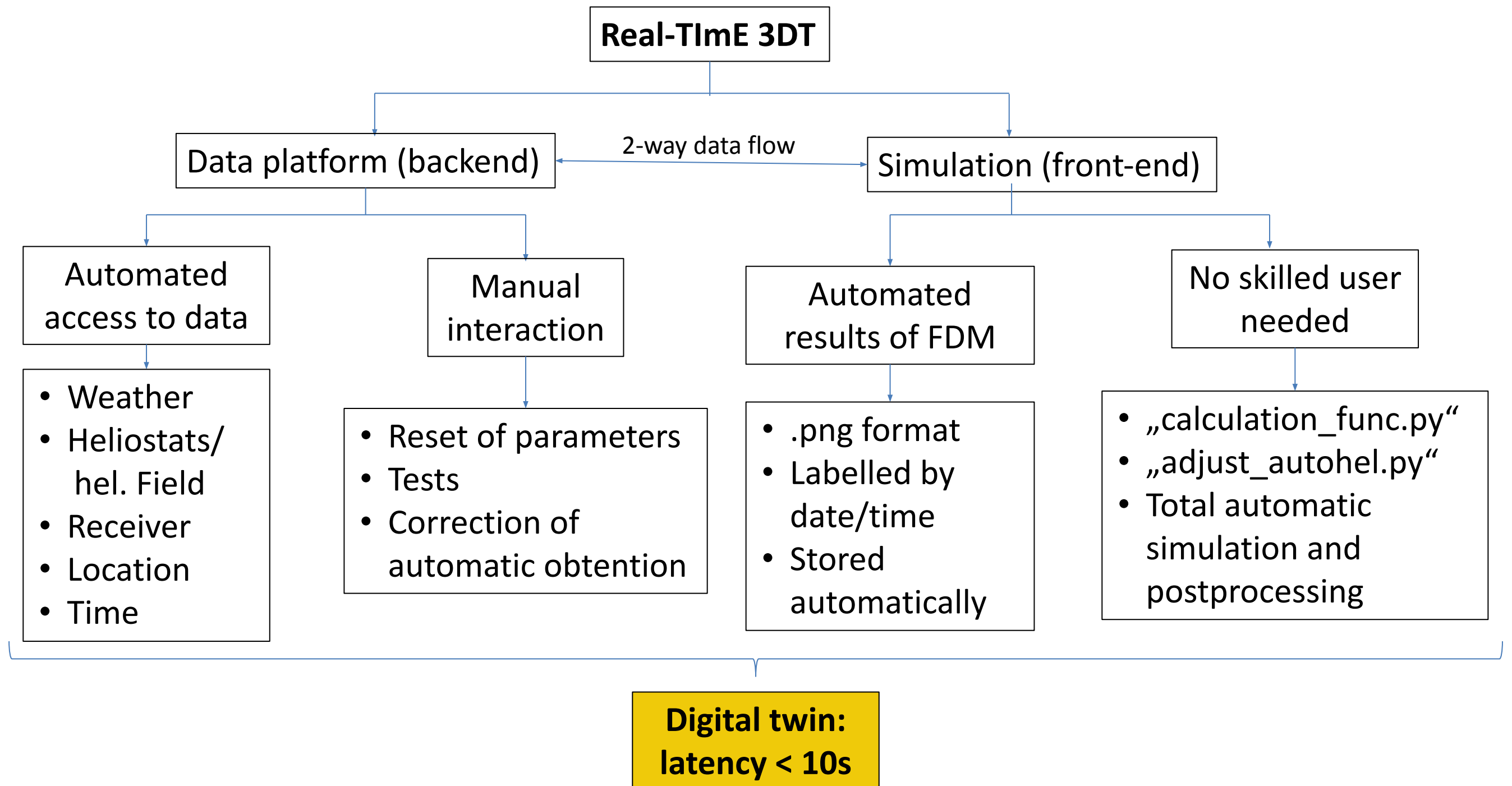
• Technical approach



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• Results (DT)

Adjustment

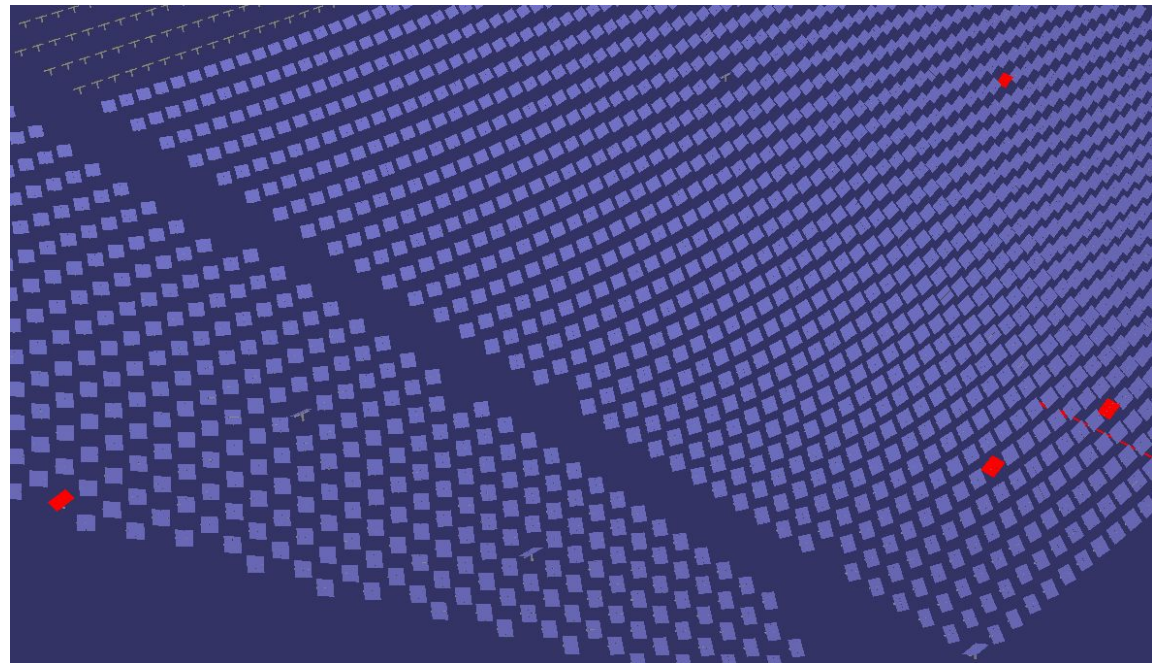
- List of heliostats to be modified
- Modification
 - Live defocus
 - Live change of tracking error
 - New aimpoint
- Time auto adjustment

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Real time influence

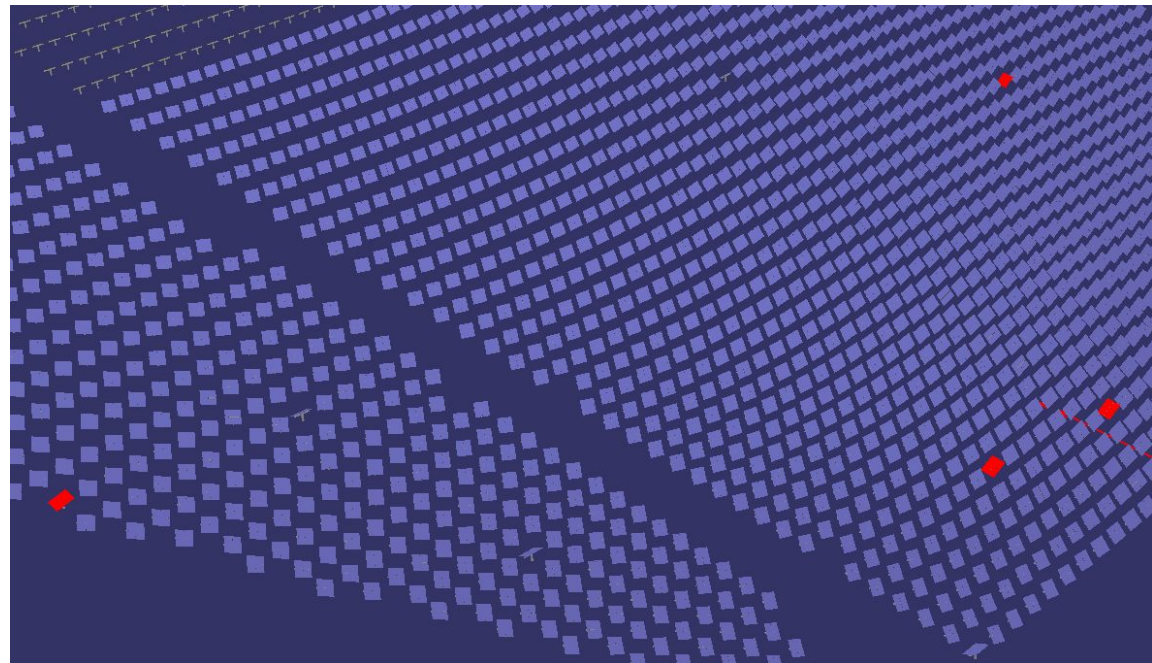


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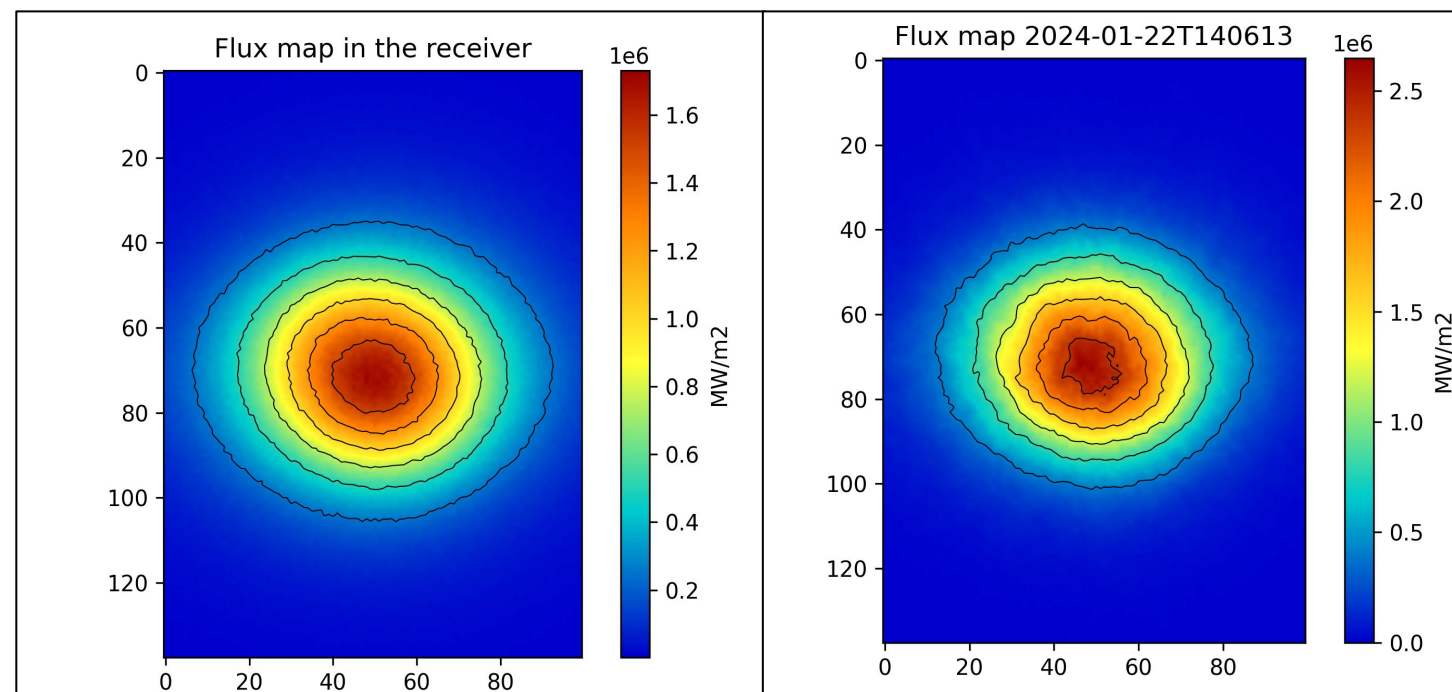
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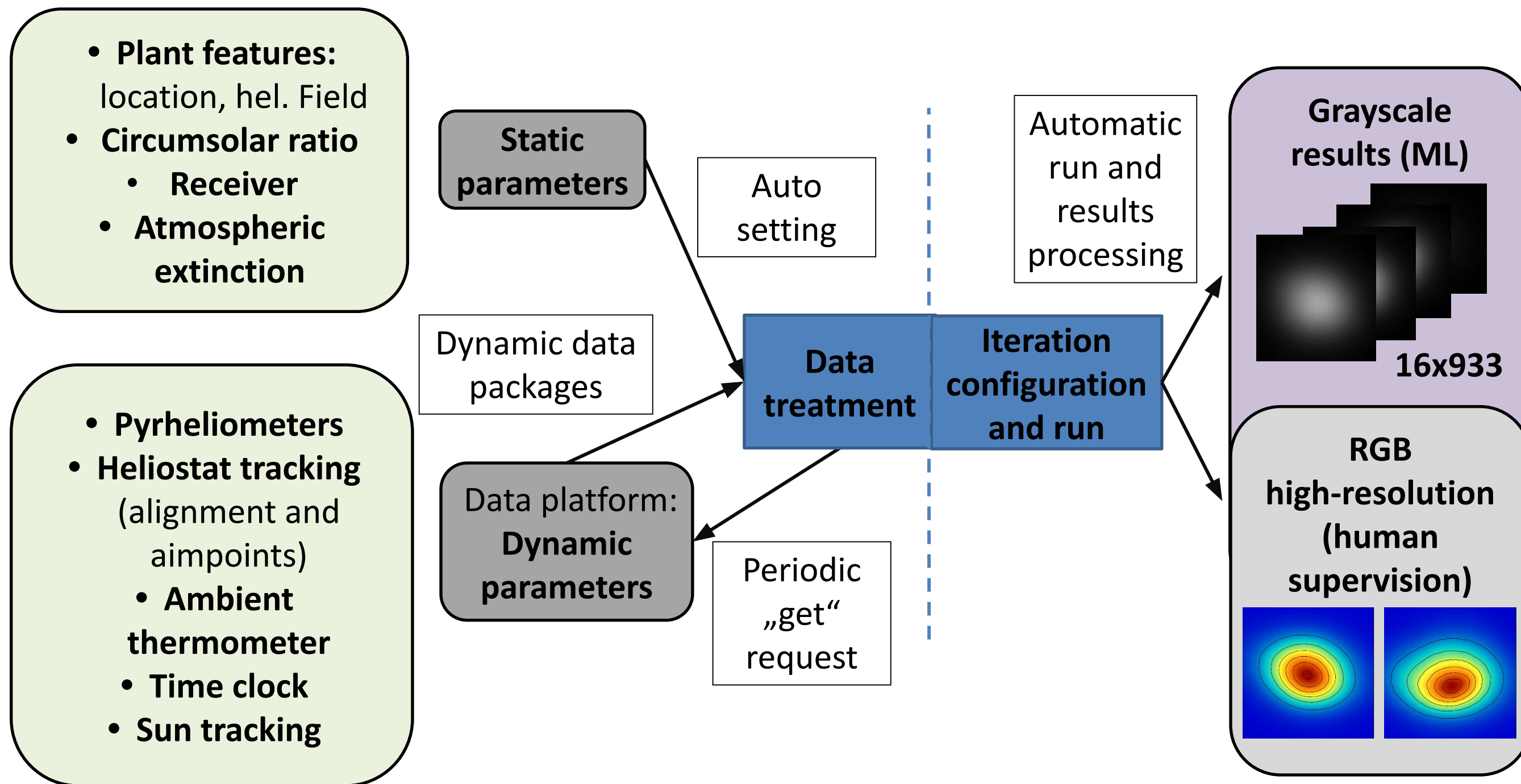
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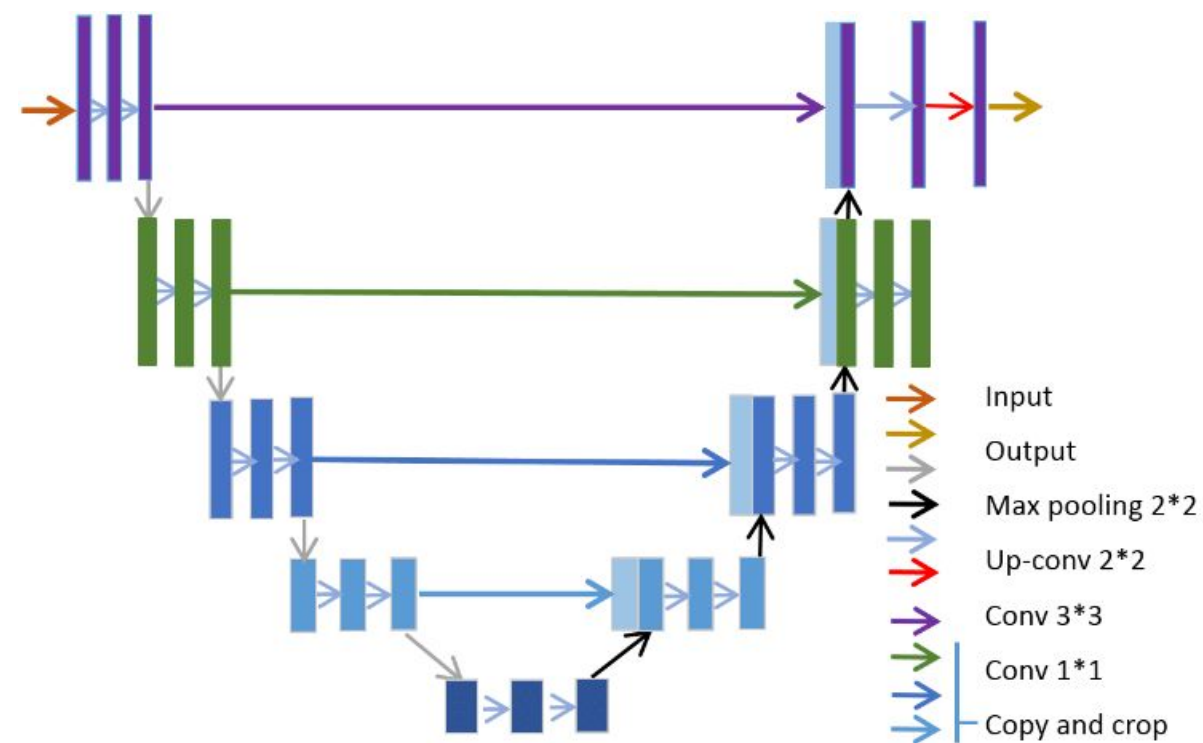
• Results (DT)



• Neural network module

• UNet3+

- Mapping from image space to image space
- Real values known (from image processing methods) □ Generate predicted value
- Real data batch known from past experiments in STJ (w/ ambient conditions and heliostats)



- **Training □ Using the digital twin**

- Two stages:

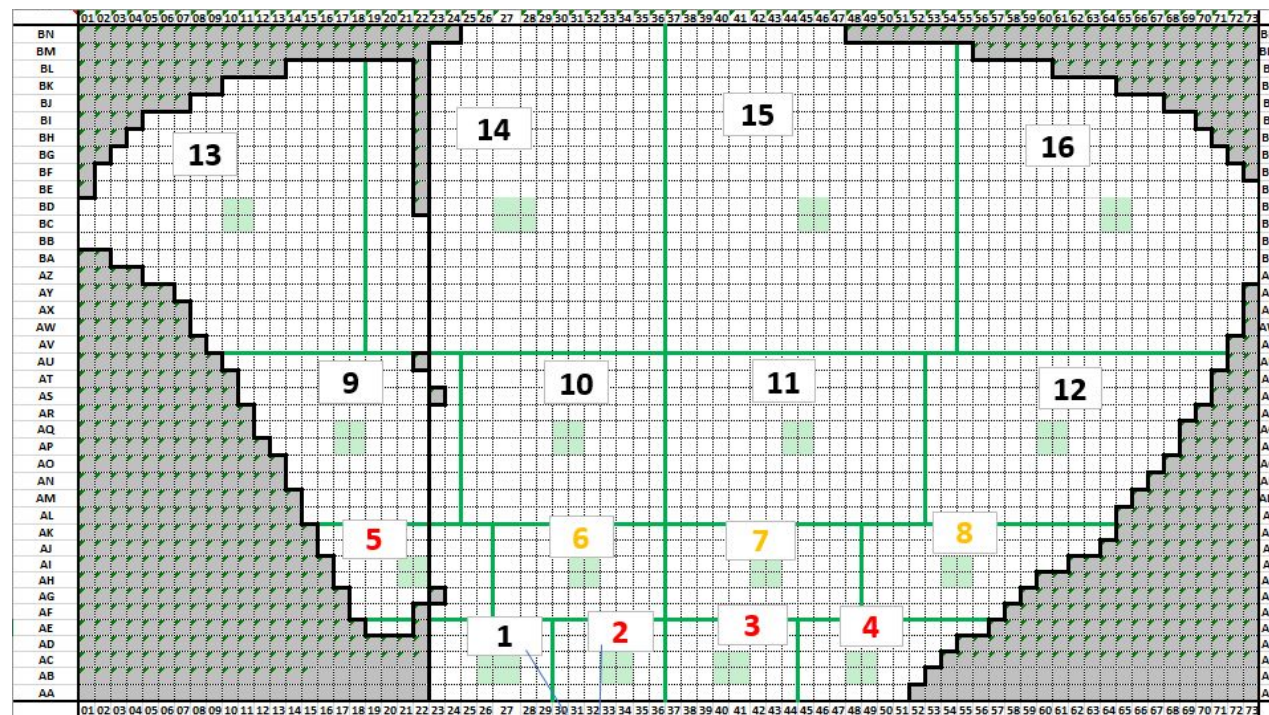
- Pre-training with synthetic normalized augmented data □ Refine the neural net (933 cases in 16 combinations)
 - Compensation of the lack of data
 - Mapping from an ideal simulation to a realistic simulation w/ all errors

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Augmentation technique



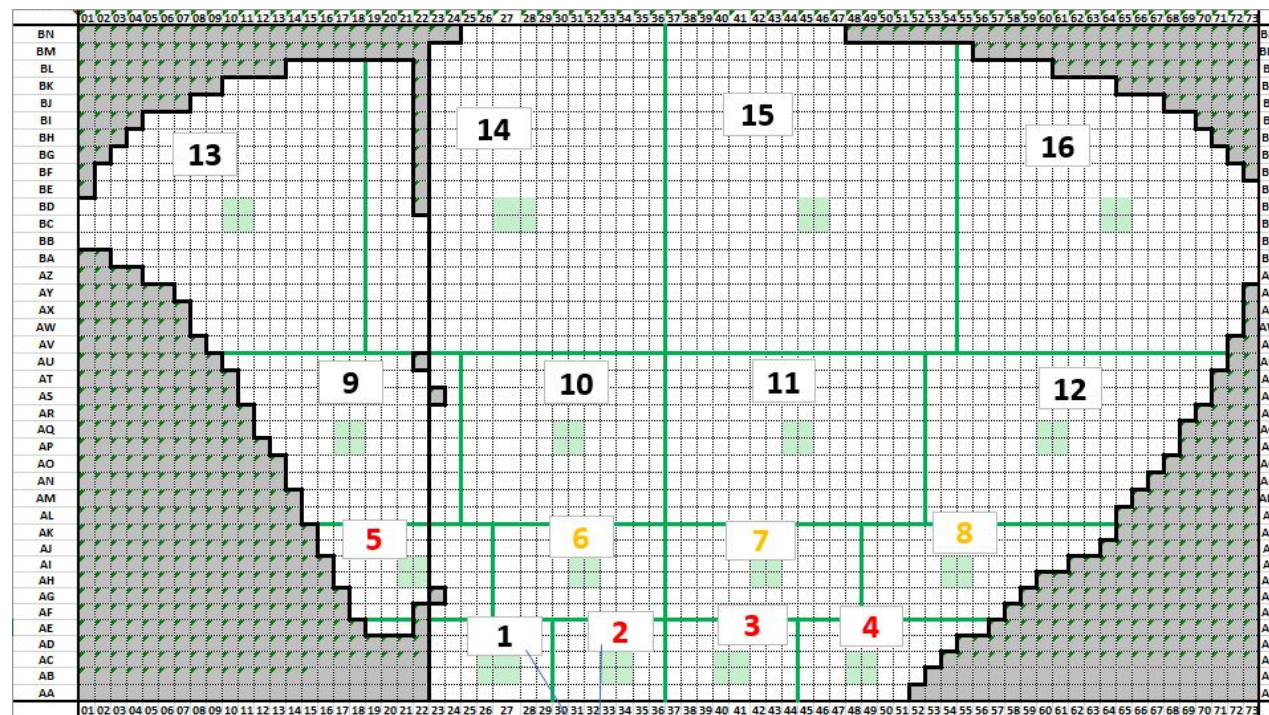
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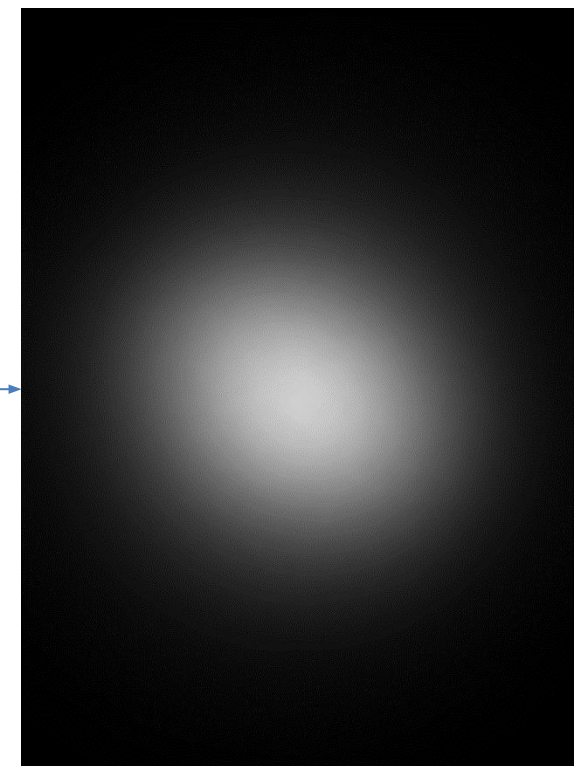
Augmentation technique



Input (prediction)



Label („real“ image)



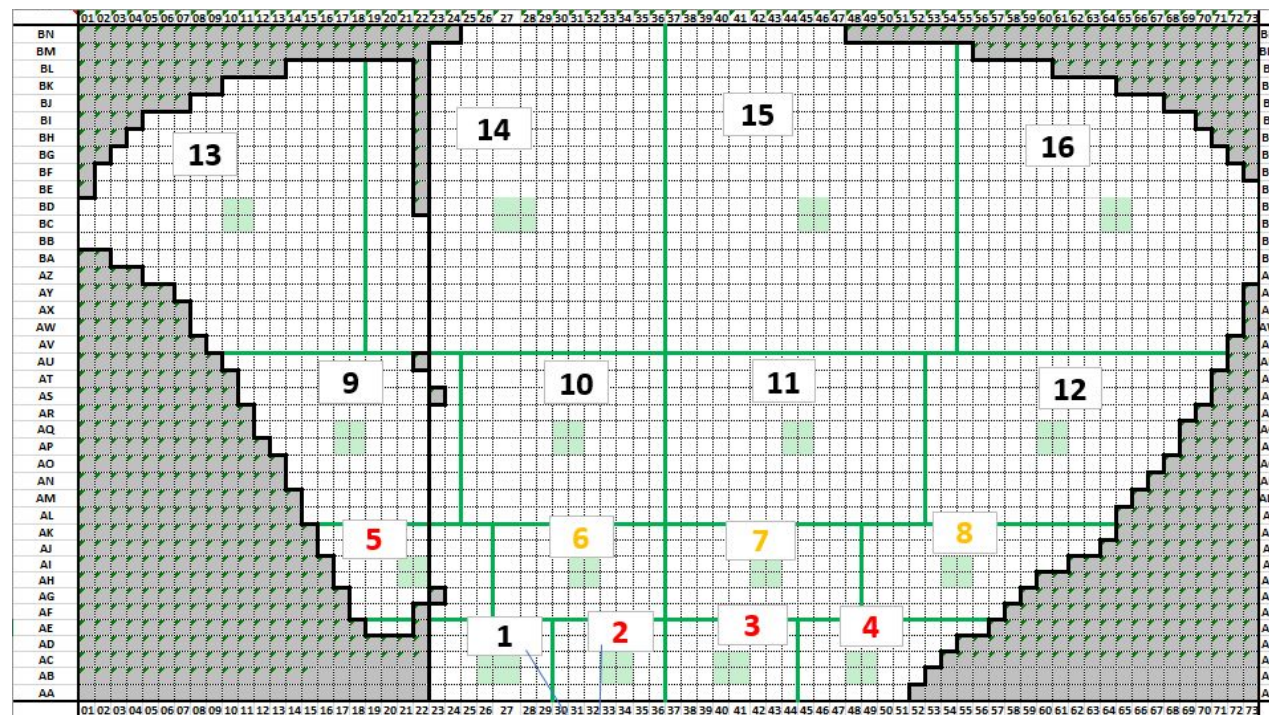
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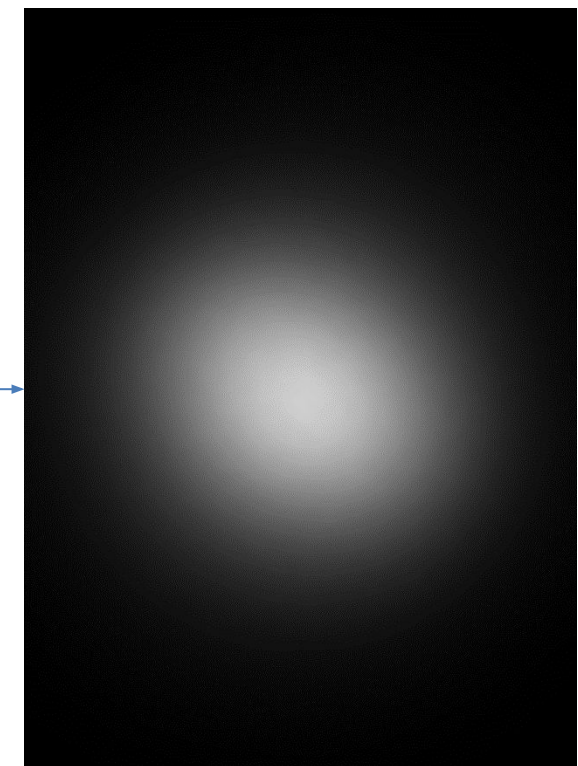
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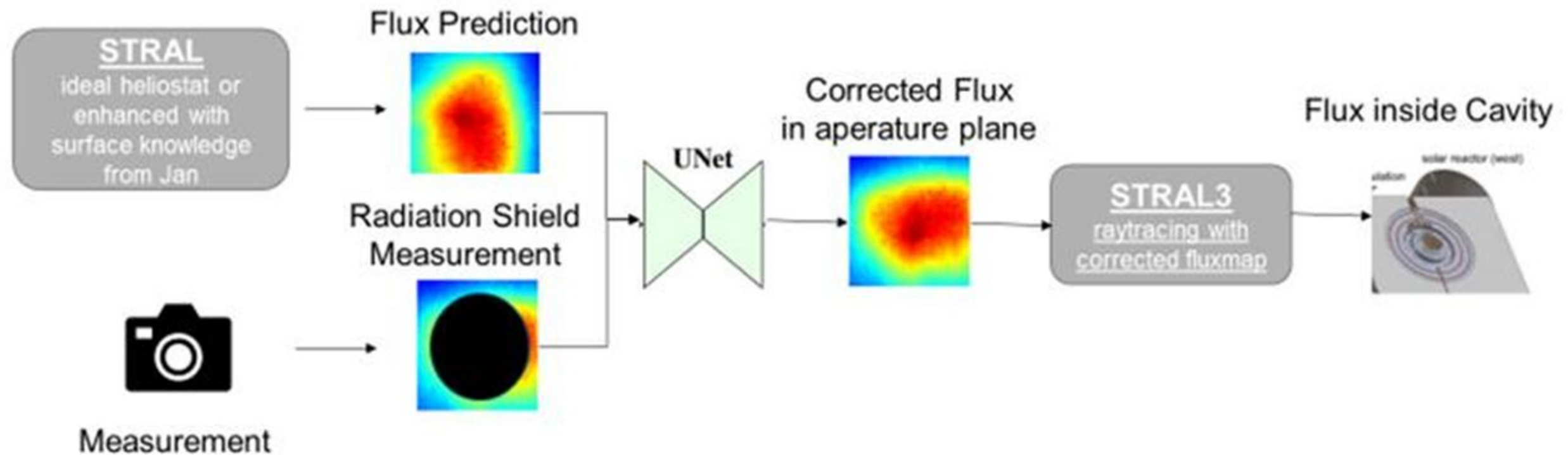
- Training with old experiments

Summary

- Current synergies with S2L2 project and HEHTRES
- New intern hosted from 2nd may □ Master's thesis: "Pre-training of a Graphic Neural Network with Synthetic Data on CSP context"
- 1st paper on-going □ "CSP data-driven digital-twin for FDM"
- Planned participation in SOLLAB and SolarPACES

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• On-duty control strategy



Thanks to the hybrid focus between data driven models and state-of-the-art measurement technologies, two key points are achieved:

- FDM without operation disruption
- FDM inside of a cavity receiver

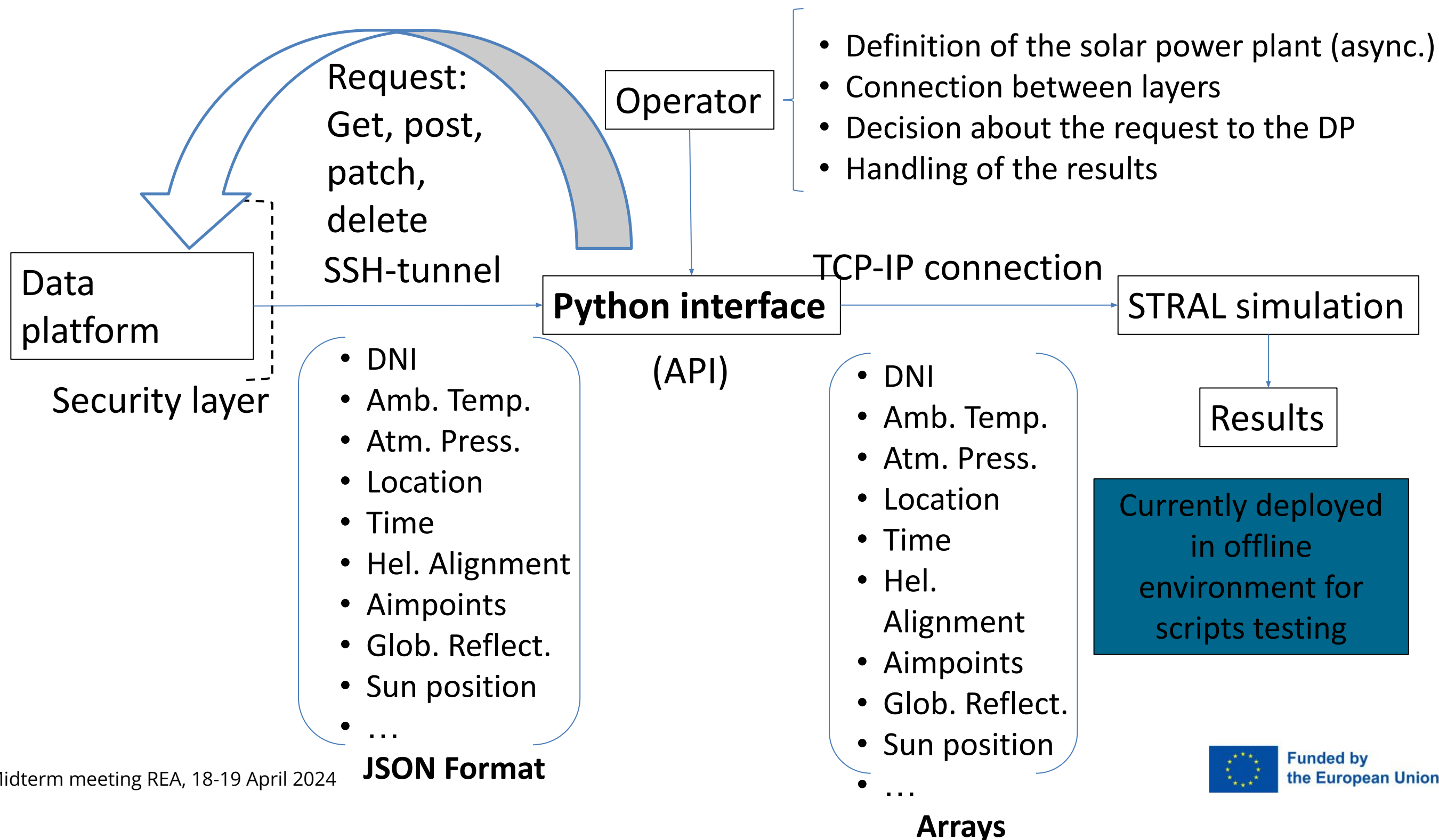
THE END

Thanks for listening!

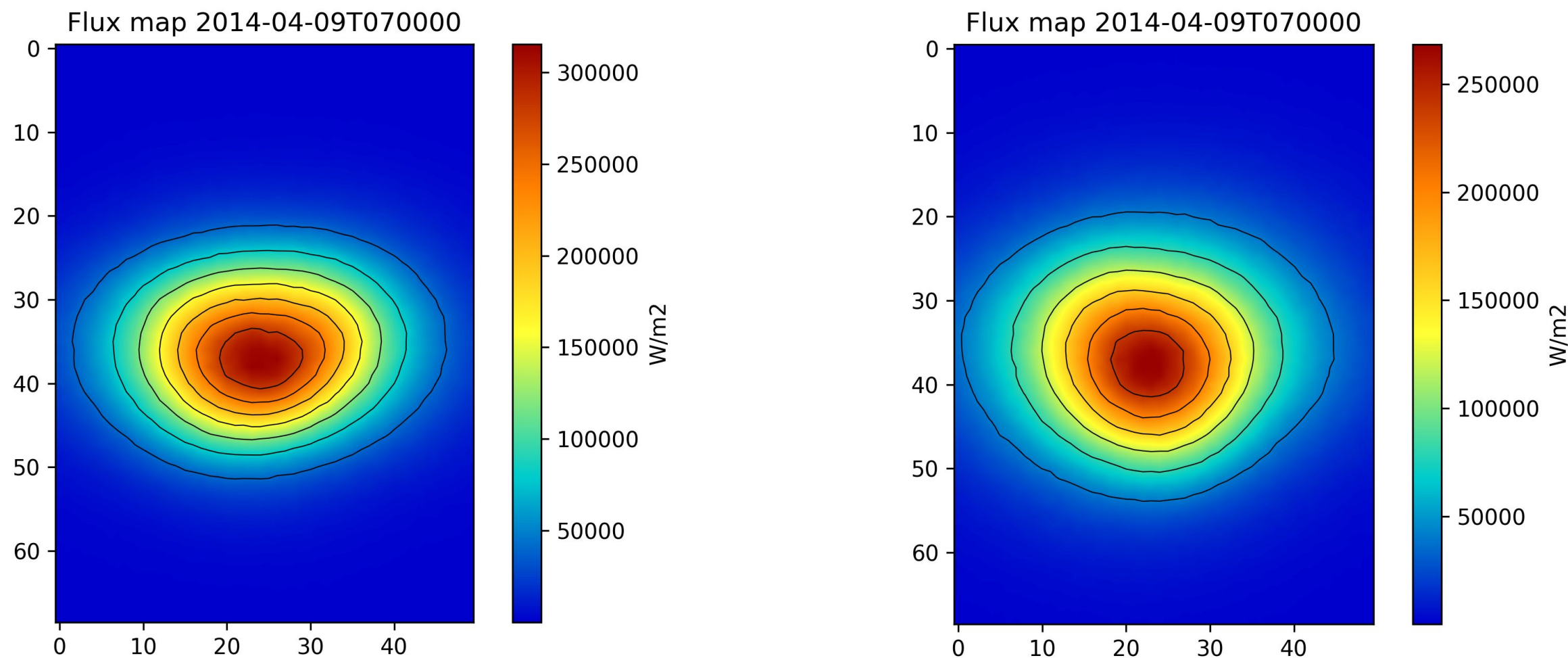
Funded by the European Union
(HORIZON MSCA Doctoral Network,
Project number 101072537).



CURRENT STATUS: DT WORKFLOW



- RGB images ☐ Grayscale images for ML



Scale adapts to the peak value ☐ Need to adapt the scale to the intensity ☐ Normalization w/ peak value

Max DNI	Conditions			
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