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# Simulation-Based Verification of Autonomous Controllers via Livingstone PathFinder

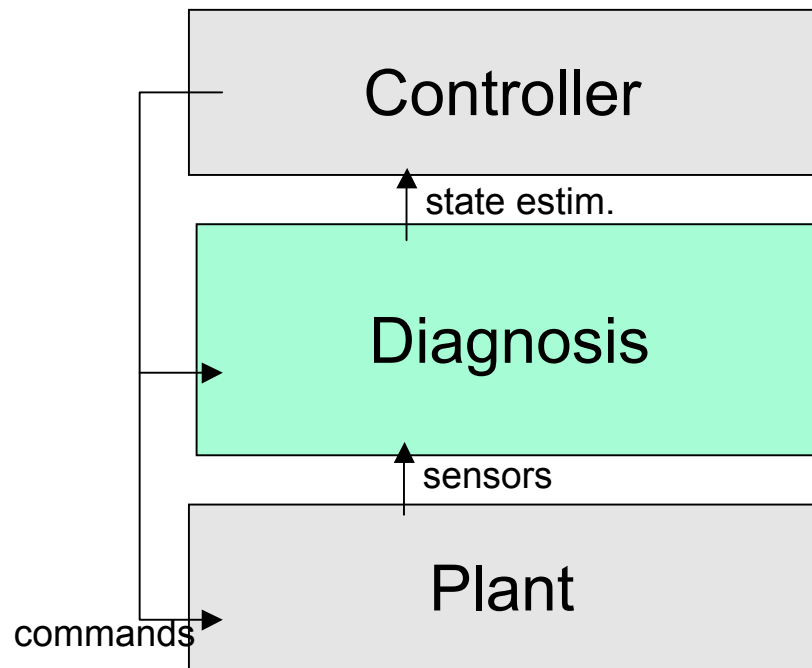
Tony Lindsey (QSS Group, NASA Ames)

Charles Pecheur (RIACS, NASA Ames)

# Diagnosis



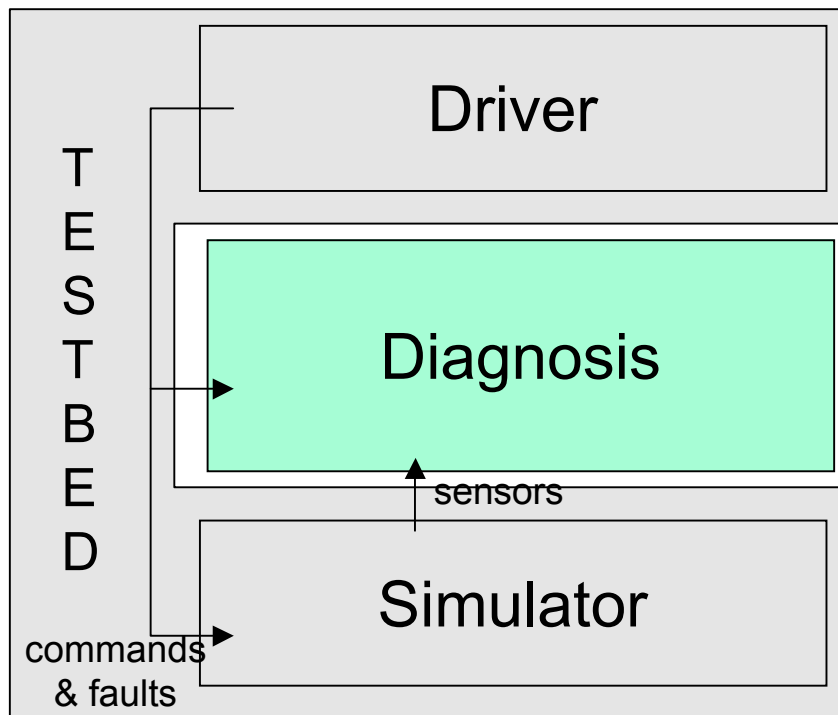
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# Diagnosis + Testbed



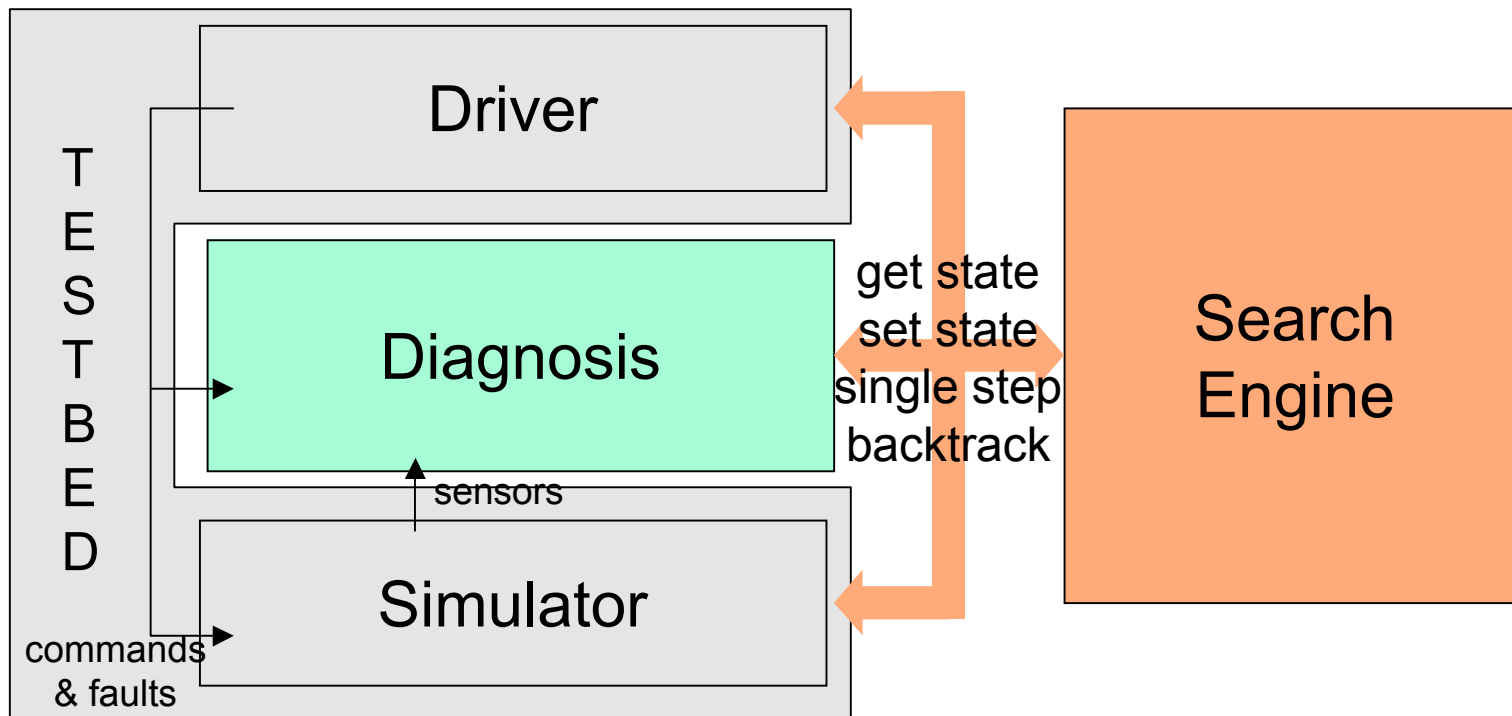
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# Diagnosis + Testbed + Search



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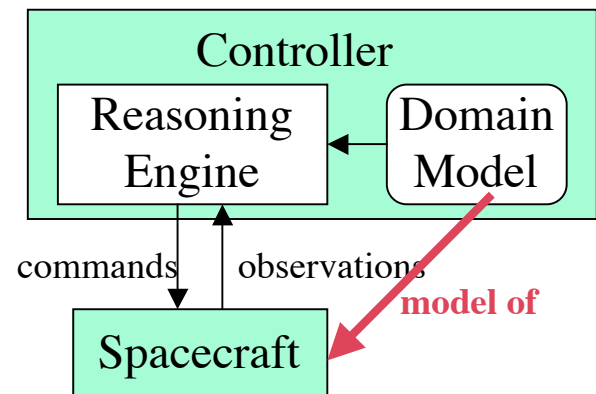
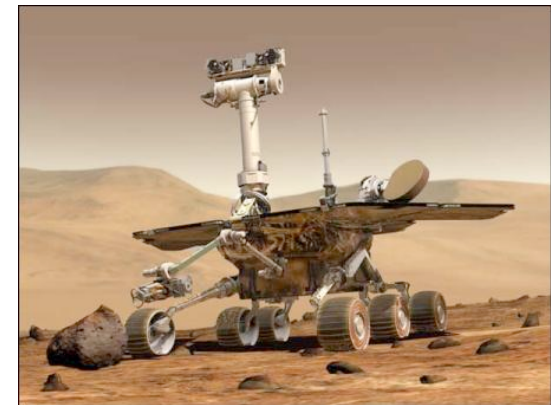
# Autonomy at NASA



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## Autonomous spacecraft = on-board intelligence (AI)

- **Goal:** Unattended operation in an unpredictable environment
- **Approach:** model-based reasoning
- **Pros:** smaller mission control crews, no communication delays/blackouts
- **Cons:** **Verification and Validation ???**  
Much more complex, huge state space
- **Better verification is critical for adoption**

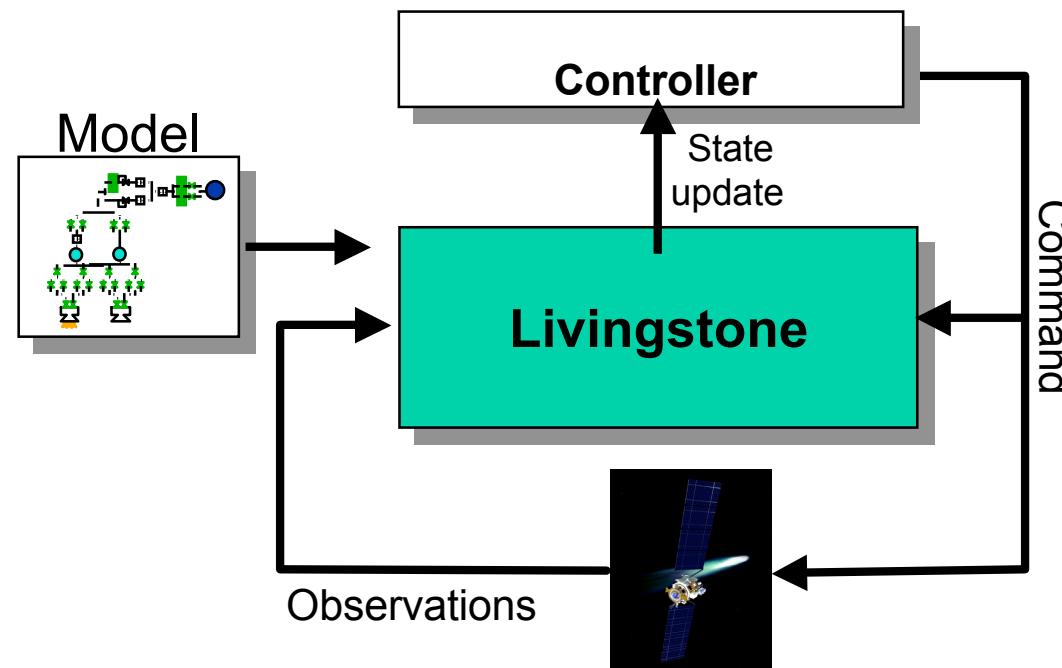




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# Model-Based Diagnosis

- Focus on **Livingstone** system from NASA Ames.
- Uses a discrete, qualitative model to reason about faults

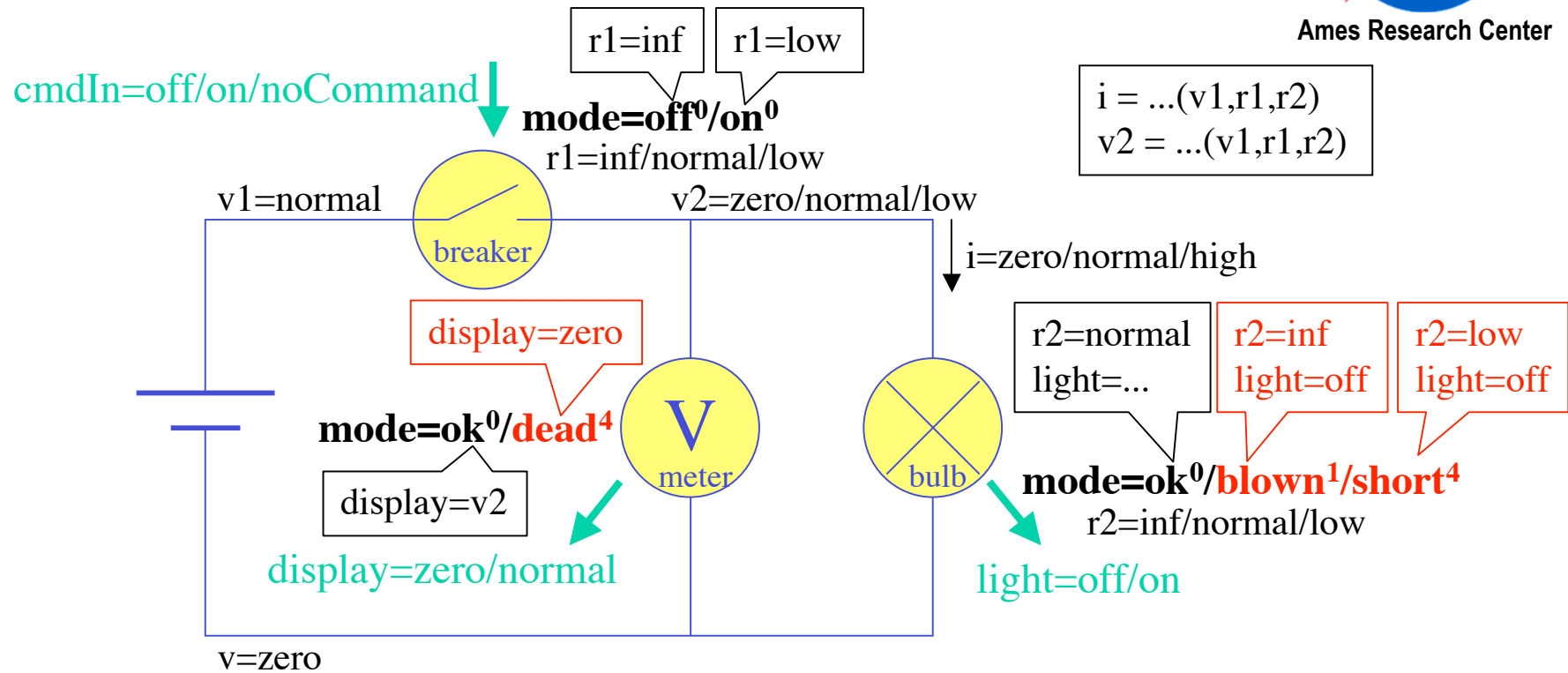


*Courtesy Autonomous Systems Group, NASA Ames*



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# A Simple Diagnosis Model



Goal: determine **modes** from **observations**  
 Generates and tracks *candidates*

| breaker                | bulb                    | meter                    | rank     |
|------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|----------|
| <b>off<sup>0</sup></b> | <b>ok<sup>0</sup></b>   | <b>ok<sup>0</sup></b>    | <b>0</b> |
| <b>off<sup>0</sup></b> | <b>ok<sup>0</sup></b>   | <b>blown<sup>1</sup></b> | <b>1</b> |
| <b>on<sup>0</sup></b>  | <b>dead<sup>4</sup></b> | <b>short<sup>4</sup></b> | <b>8</b> |

# Faults vs. Errors



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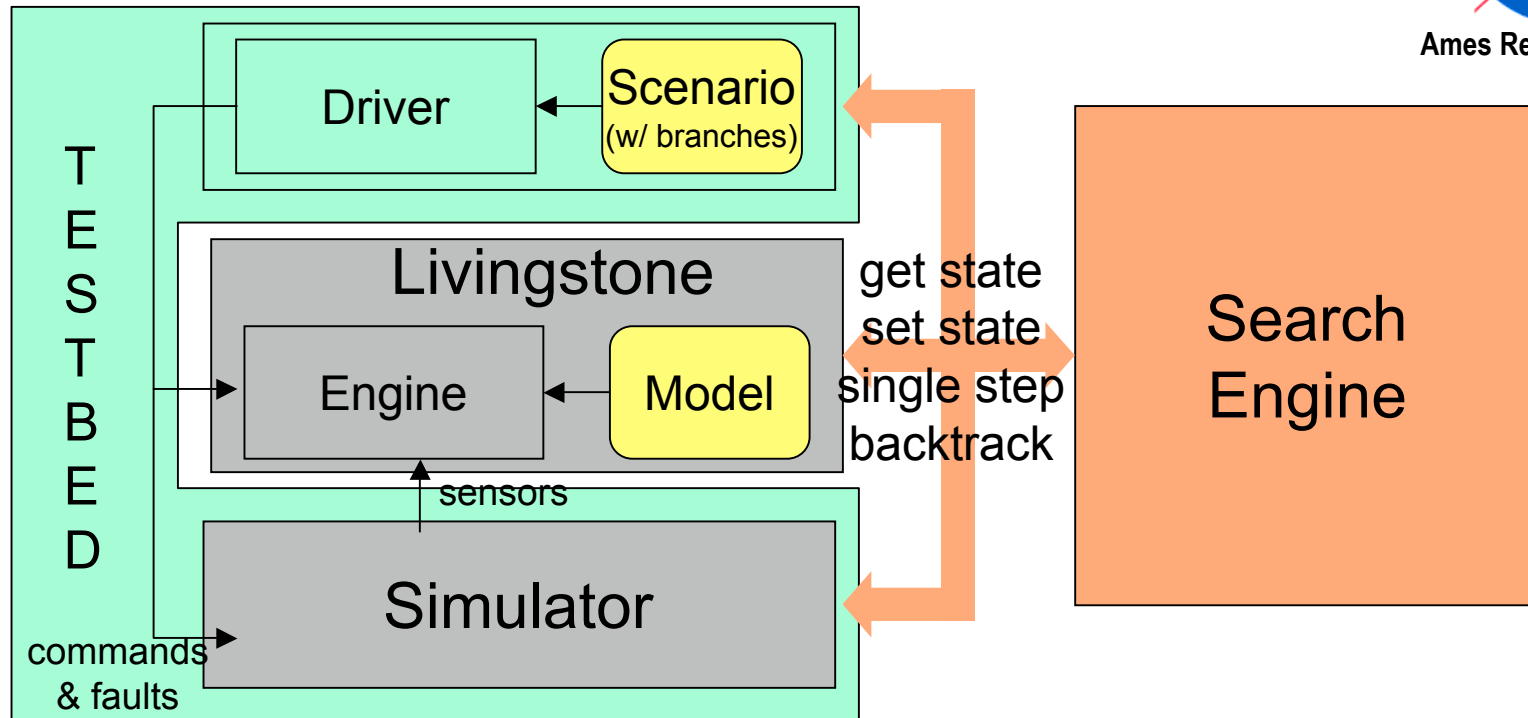
| <b>Faults</b>               | <b>Errors</b>                         |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Ex: valve is stuck          | Ex: fault not detected                |
| in Plant/Simulator          | in Diagnosis/Design                   |
| Spontaneous physical event  | Human design flaw                     |
| To be detected by Diagnosis | <b>To be detected by Verification</b> |



# Livingstone PathFinder (LPF)



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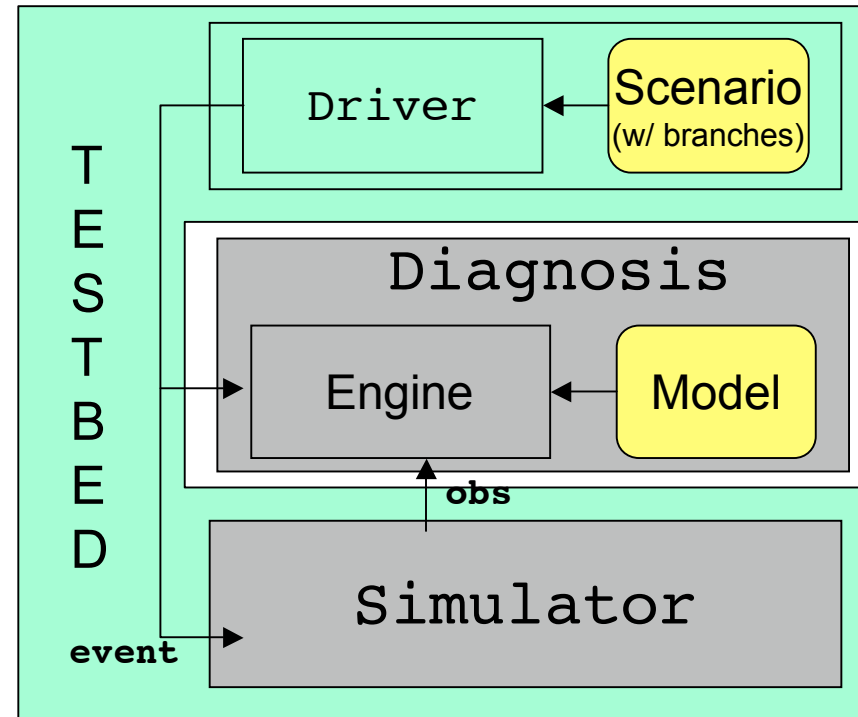
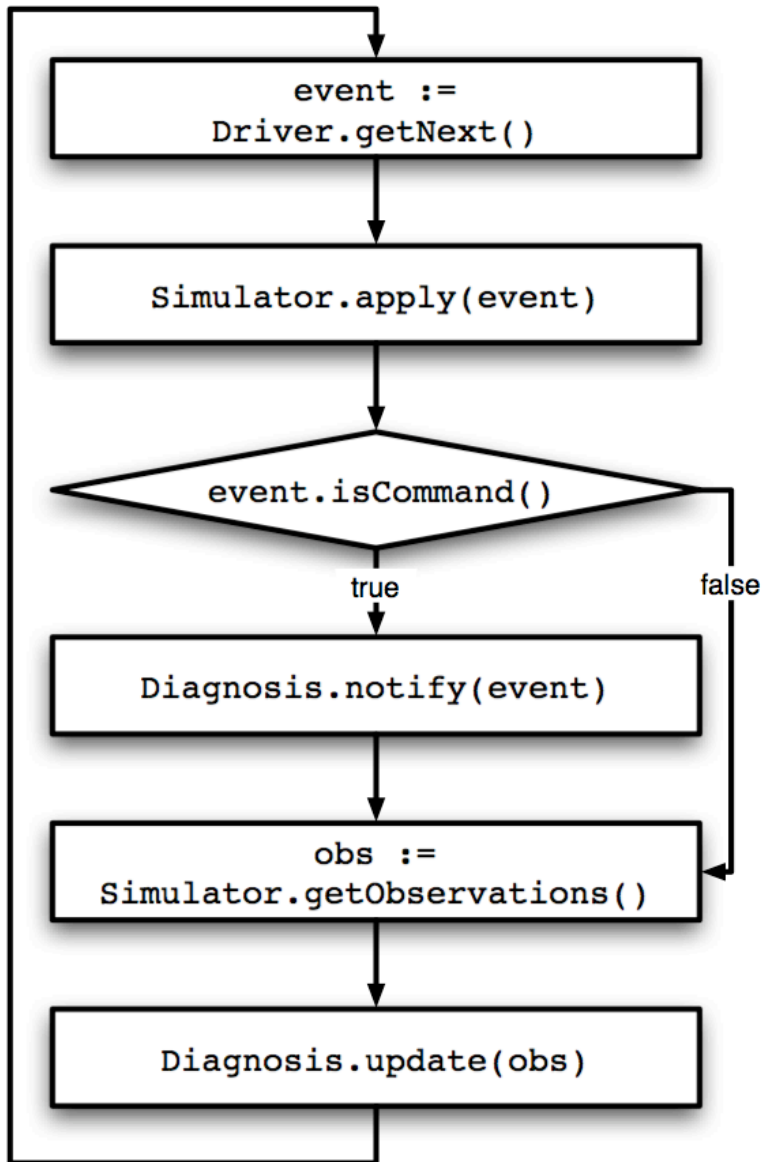


- Similar to VeriSoft<sup>[Godefroid 97]</sup>
- Uses checkpointing implemented in Livingstone
- In Java, accesses Livingstone (C++) through JNI



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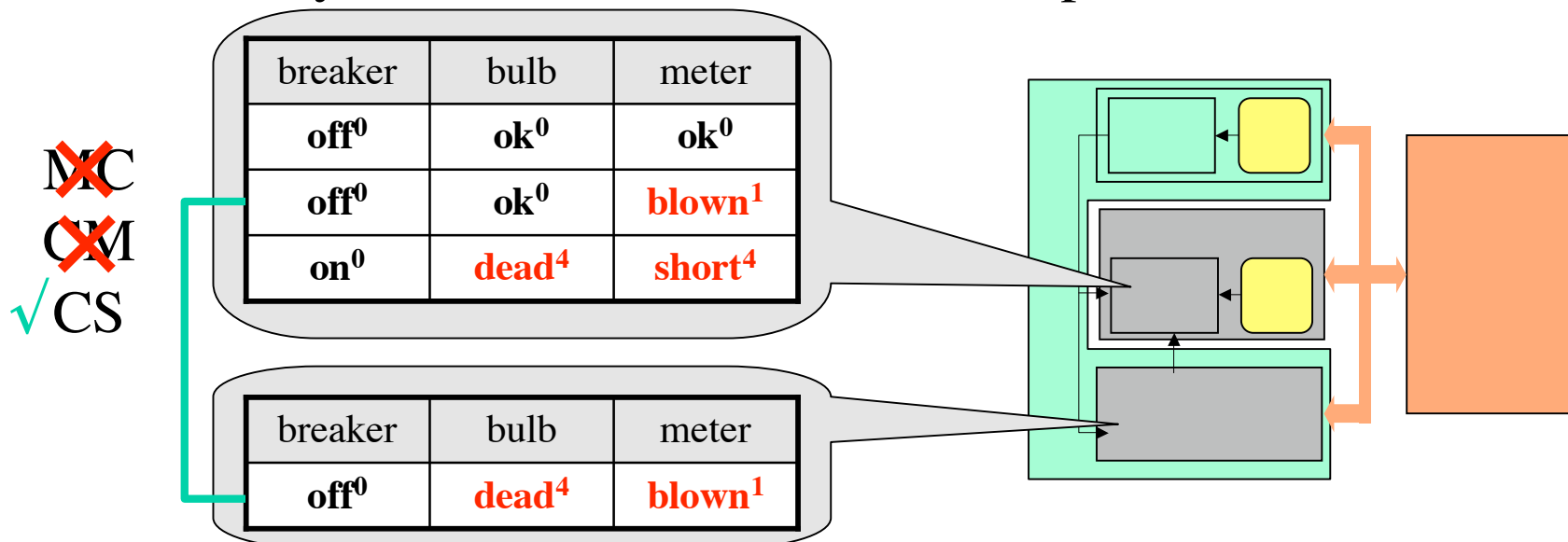
# One Diagnosis Step





# LPF Error Conditions

- Diagnosis candidates are "correct" w.r.t. Simulator modes
  - Mode Comparison (MC): first candidate is correct
  - Candidate Matching (CM): some candidate is correct
  - Candidate Subsumption (CS): some candidate's faults are included
- CS may miss errors but works best in practice



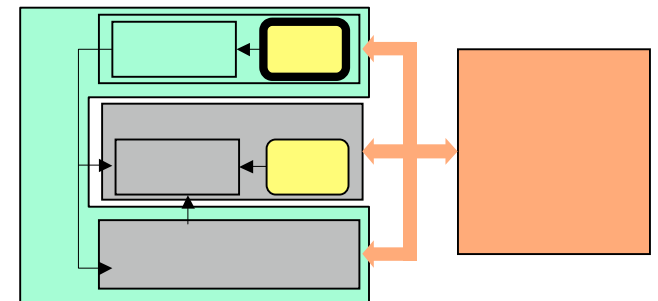


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# LPF Simulation Scenarios

- Defines the tree of executions to be explored
- Described as a non-deterministic program using a simple scripting language

```
stmt ::= " event " ;           single event  
      | { stmt* }             sequence  
      | mix stmt (and stmt)*  interleaving  
      | choose stmt (or stmt)* choice
```



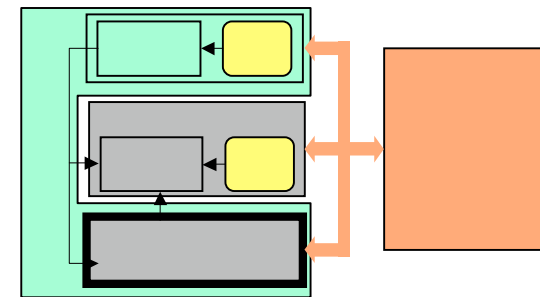
- Implemented as a hierarchy of automata objects matching the scenario script structure



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# LPF Simulators

- Framework allows to use any (suitably instrumented) simulation software
  - Trade-off: higher-fidelity simulators may restrict instrumentation
- Current implementation uses second Livingstone engine as simulator
  - Same or different model
  - Different mode of operation:
    - Diagnosis** : cmds, obs → modes
    - Simulator** : cmds, modes → obs
  - Simulator comes "for free"
  - Rationale: verify diagnosis assuming the model is correct
- Also considered: CONFIG (hybrid, NASA JSC)

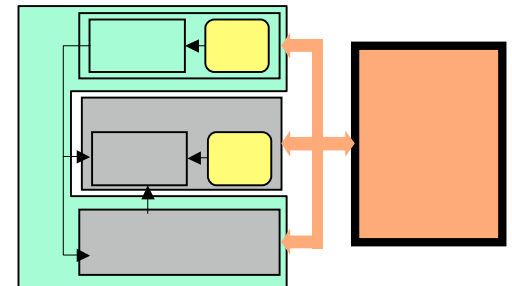


# LPF Search



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- The whole testbed is seen as a transition system
- API to enumerate transitions, backtrack, get/set state
  - Shared with Java PathFinder<sup>[Visser et al. 00]</sup>
  - Principle inspired from OPEN/CAESAR<sup>[Garavel 98]</sup>
- Search engine fixes exploration strategy
  - Depth-First: simplest, most efficient
  - Heuristic: valuation function on states (e.g. number of diagnosis candidates)
  - Breadth-First
  - Others are possible (random, pattern-based, interactive)

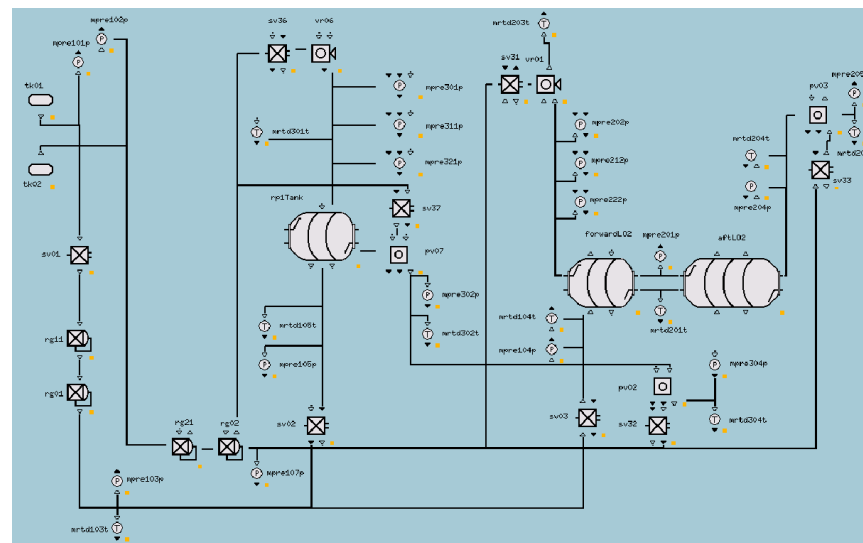




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# Application: PITEX

- Propulsion feed system of space vehicle
- Livingstone model: 2300 lines, 823 vars,  $\approx 10^{33}$  states (SMV)
- Two scenarios:
  - Random Scenario (10216 states):  
sequence of commands || choice of faults
  - PITEX Scenario (89 states):  
combines 29 test cases used by application team





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# LPF on PITEX: Results

| scenario | strategy | search | condition | errors | non-trivial | states | states/min |
|----------|----------|--------|-----------|--------|-------------|--------|------------|
| baseline | DFS      | all    | CM        | 27     | 4           | 89     | 44         |
| baseline | DFS      | all    | CS        | 0      | 0           | 89     | 67         |
| random   | DFS      | all    | CM        | 9621   | 137         | 10216  | 51         |
| random   | DFS      | all    | CS        | 5      | 5           | 10216  | 52         |

| scenario | strategy | search | condition | max. depth | states | states/min |
|----------|----------|--------|-----------|------------|--------|------------|
| random   | DFS      | one    | CS        | 16         | 8648   | 49         |
| random   | BFS      | one    | CS        | 3          | 154    | 38         |
| random   | CC       | one    | CS        | 5          | 154    | 38         |

DFS=depth-first, BFS=breadth-first, CC=candidate-count

all=all errors, one=first error, min=shortest trace

CM=candidate matching, CS=candidate subsumption

trivial error=no fault reported



# Perspectives



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- Extend search options
  - More heuristics (including application-specific)
  - New search strategies (randomized, coverage-based)
- Improve usability
  - GUI, post-process and display results
- Generalize to reactive control
  - From fault detection to fault recovery
  - In progress: adapt LPF to Titan (MIT)
- Other approach: apply SMV (and BMC) to Livingstone models, verify diagnosability<sup>[Cimatti et al. 03]</sup>
  - using Livingstone-to-SMV translator<sup>[Pecheur et al. 00]</sup>

# Extra Slides



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# Verification of Diagnosis systems



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## Verify what?

1. Model Correctness: the model is OK  
i.e. the model is a valid abstraction of the plant
2. Engine Correctness: the software is OK  
i.e. all that can be diagnosed is correctly diagnosed
3. **Diagnosability: the design is OK**  
**i.e. all that needs to be diagnosed can be diagnosed**

In principle,  $1+2+3 \Rightarrow$  diagnosis will be correct

**Here we look at 3 only!**

# PITEX Scenarios



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```
mix {
  "command test.sv02.valveCmdIn=close";
  "command test.sv02.valveCmdIn=open";
  ...
} and {
  choose
    "fault test.forwardLO2.mode=unknownFault"; or
    "fault test.mpre101p.mode=faulty"; or
    ...
}
```

```
{
  choose { "fault test.mpre202p.mode=biased"; }
  or { "fault test.mpre212p.mode=biased"; }
  or {
    "command test.sv31.valveCmdIn=open";
    choose {
      "fault test.sv31.sv.mode=stuckOpen";
      "command test.sv31.valveCmdIn=close";
    } or {
      "command test.sv31.valveCmdIn=close";
      ...
    }
  }
}
```