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Ministero  
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Italiadomani  
PIANO NAZIONALE  
DI RIPRESA E RESILIENZA



Seminario Online  
25 Giugno 2024 ore 10:30

# Introduzione al Digital Twin: Obiettivi e soluzioni

## Digital Twins and Biomedical Technologies

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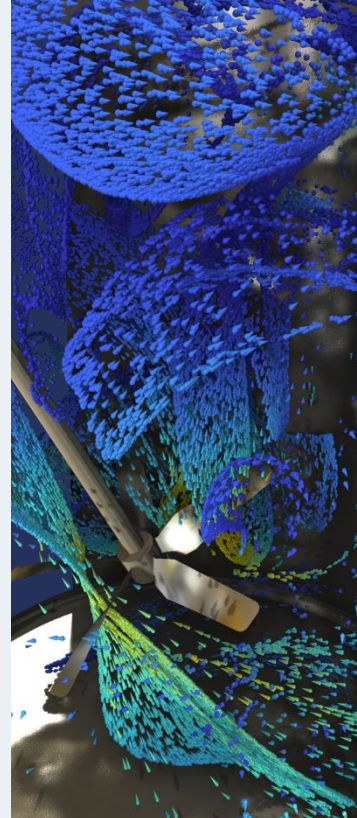
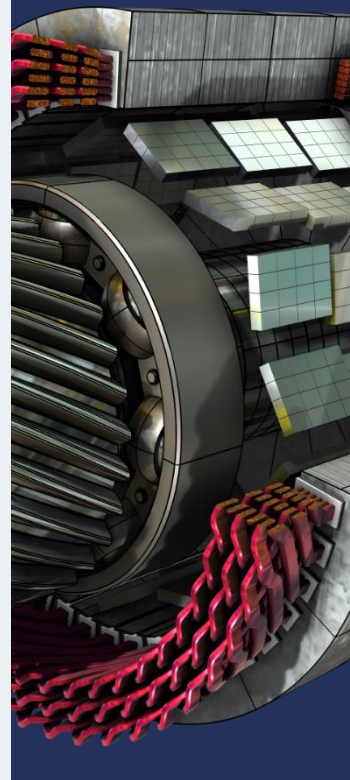
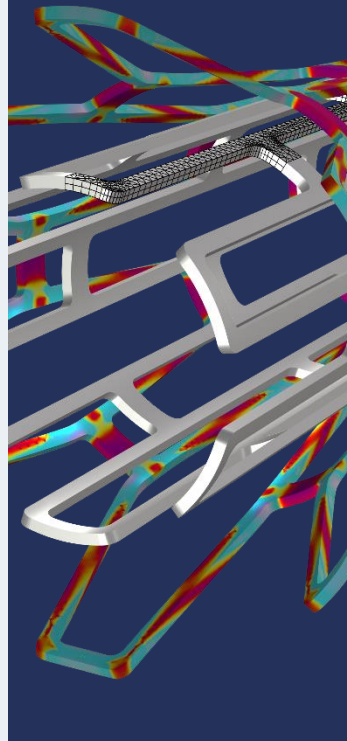
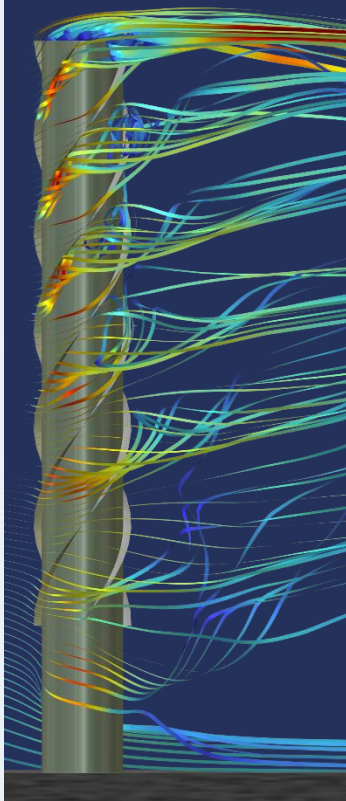
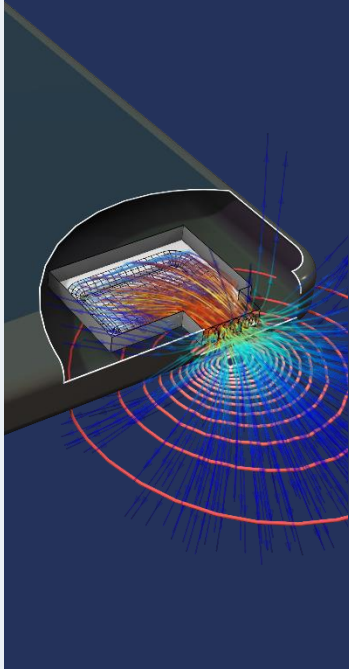
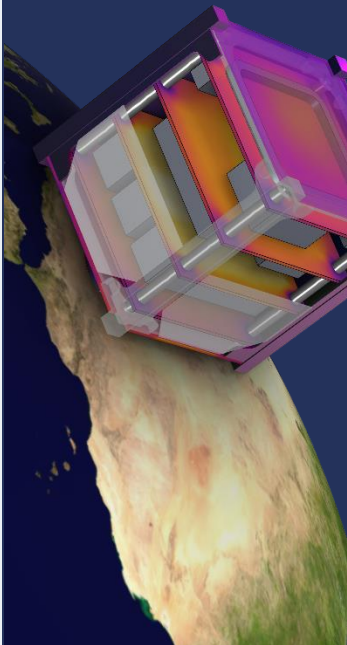
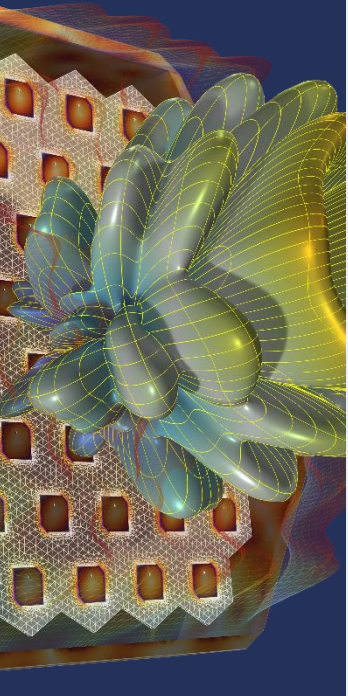


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# Digital Twins and Biomedical Technologies





# About COMSOL

17 offices world wide & 450+ employees

We develop modeling and simulation software that drives new breakthroughs in physics and engineering.

**1986**

Stockholm, Sweden

COMSOL was founded.

**1998**

Version 1.0

First platform product release.

**2010**

Version 4.0

New graphical user interface.

**2014**

Version 5.0

New feature: Application Builder  
New product: COMSOL Server™

**2018**

Version 5.4

New product: COMSOL Compiler™

**2021**

Version 6.0

New feature: Model Manager

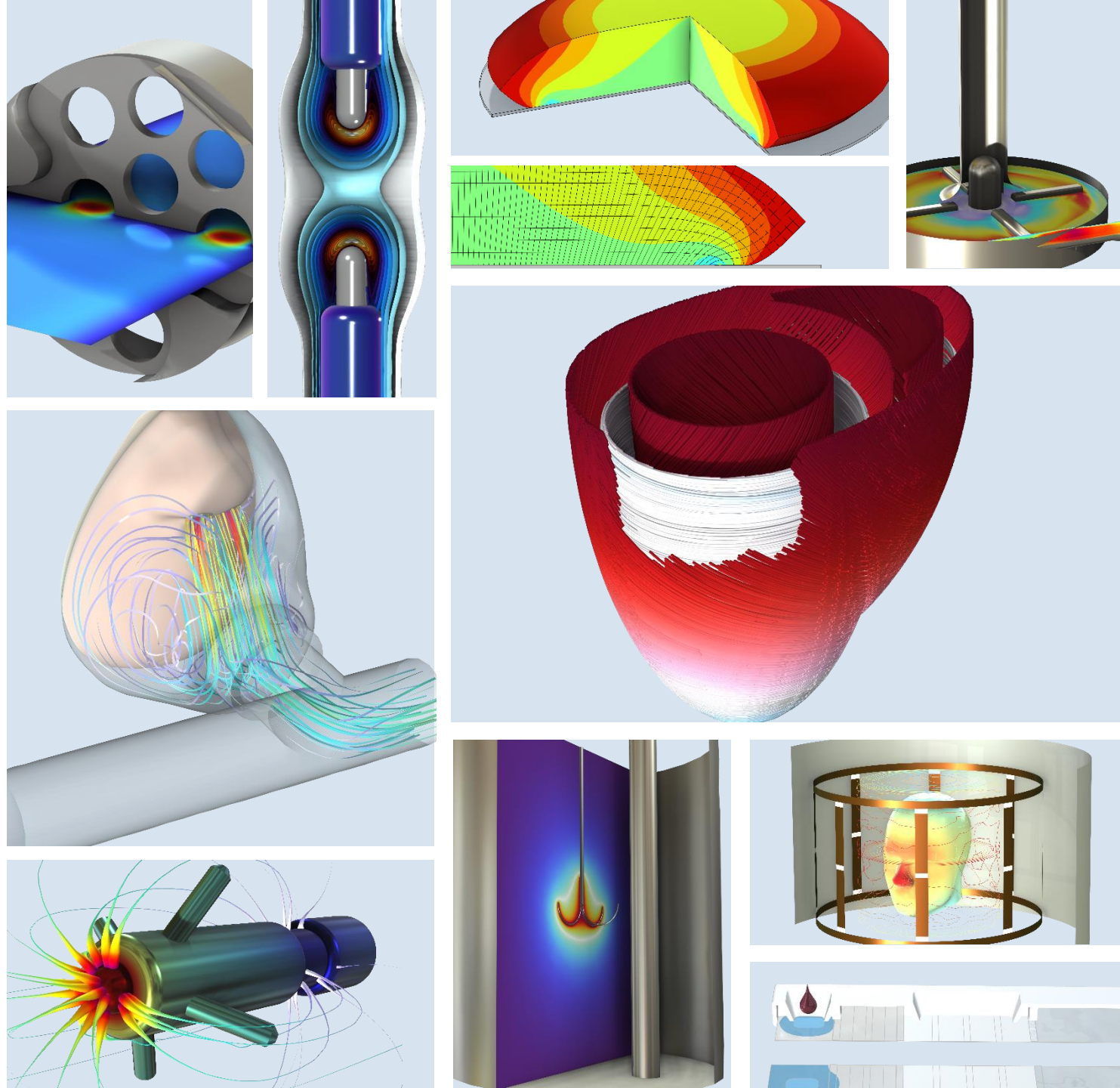




# Simulation Accelerates the R&D Process

*Medical devices and Biomedical applications:*

- Biomaterials & Tissue Biomechanics
- Pacemakers
- Hydrogels
- Blood pumps
- Oxygen masks
- Rapid tests
- MRI technology

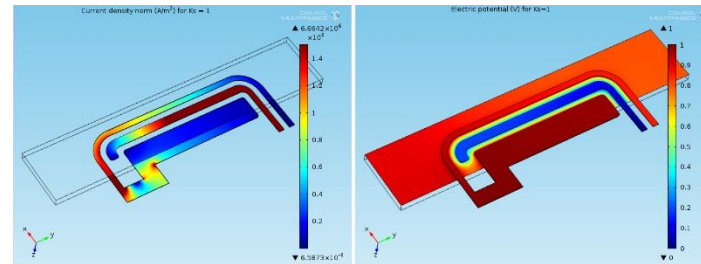
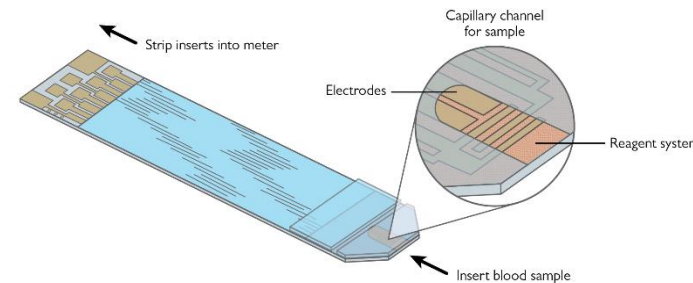


INNOVATION AT Roche  
Diagnostics

# Glucose Sensor Development

Diabetes care relies on accurately monitoring glucose levels using sensing strips. Improper storage of these glucose sensors can lead to inaccurate results, posing direct risks to the person using the device. Roche takes real-world conditions into account when developing glucose monitor designs.

During blood sample analysis, a DC voltage is applied at the electrodes in the monitor, yielding a current response that predicts the glucose concentration in the sample to be displayed to the user. Configuration and manufacturing of the test strip affect the response accuracy, and the chemical reactions are sensitive to environmental conditions.



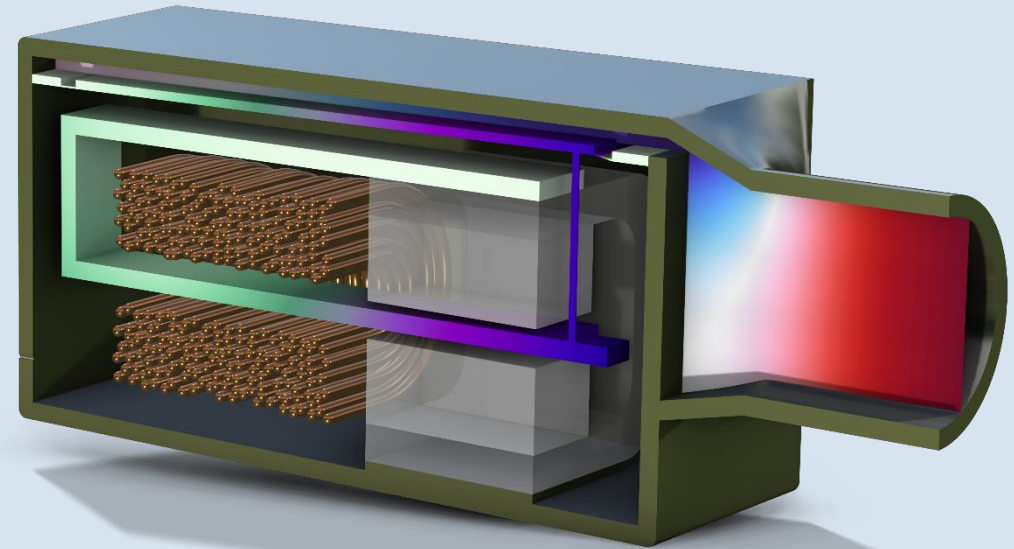
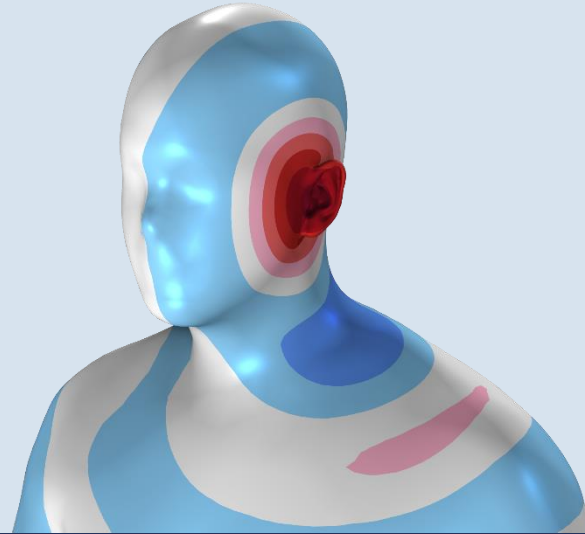
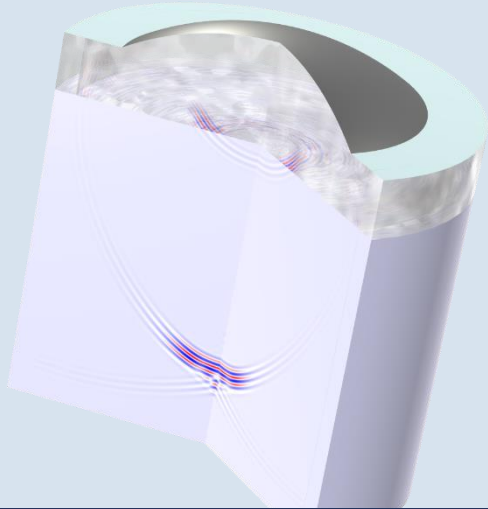
It is impossible to measure the potential drop across the electrodes or within the electrolyte in the measurement cell without physically disturbing the system. Modeling enabled the Roche team to isolate the chemical reactions from the electrical, mechanical, and temperature conditions so that they could analyze the voltage response.



Using multiphysics simulation alongside experiments and calculations, the team optimized its test strip design and measurement methods to develop a device that survives various environments, delivers accurate results, and detects conditions that would cause errors.

The Roche team's innovative system sets a new standard for biosensing devices, and its work is leading to the production of these new sensors, ultimately bringing better care to people with diabetes.





# Acoustics Examples for Biomedical Applications

## Treatments

- High-intensity focused ultrasound (HIFU)
- Ultrasound-induced heating

## Devices

- Hearing aids
- Sensors & piezoelectric transducers

## Measurements

- Head-related transfer function (HRTF)
- Telephonometry

## Purposes of M&S<sup>1</sup>

- Understand, design, and optimize
- Estimate risks
- Simulation before clinical tests
- Assist in the registration and approval process

<sup>1</sup>M&S = modeling and simulation

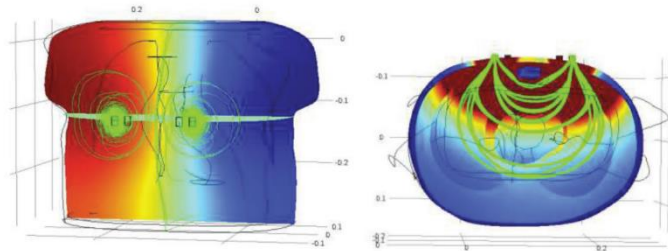
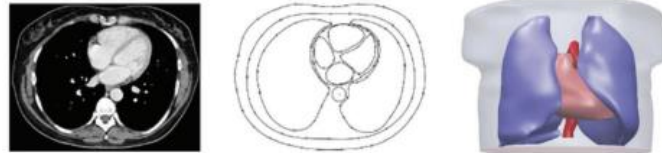
INNOVATION AT  
STMicroelectronics

# Wearable Medical Monitoring

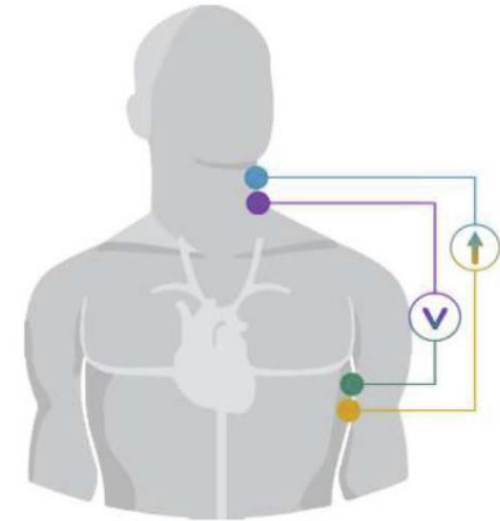
Wearable technology provides real-time monitoring of patients' cardiac activity. Engineers at STMicroelectronics use numerical simulation to optimize their semiconductor solutions for a wide range of applications, including medical uses.

In one prototype project, a patch was designed to measure the bioimpedance of an organ, such as the heart, inside the human body.

Working from medical imaging of human organs, researchers created a 3D low-frequency electromagnetics model to assess the effect of the electrode shape and position on the measured physiological parameters.



“Compared to physical testing, we can implement new solutions and verify them at zero cost. Simulation is one of the key tools that drives innovation.” — *Lucia Zullino, technology R&D engineer at STMicroelectronics*



The simulation results correlated closely to real-life measurements and enabled the development of a wearable configurable patch capable of indicating physiological changes. These sensors will enable doctors monitoring various heart conditions to get real-time data to provide patients with the best possible care.

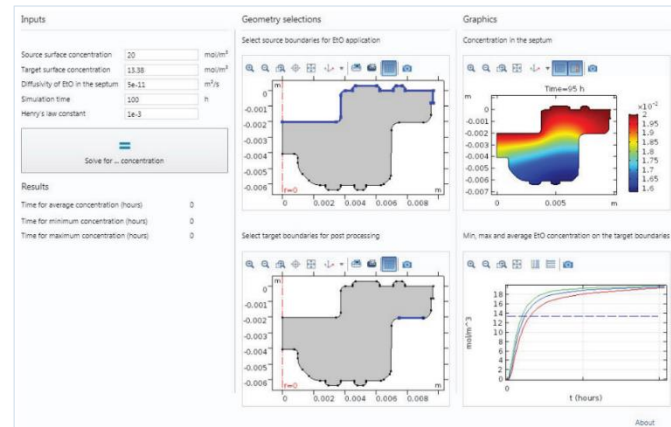


## INNOVATION AT Amgen

# Modeling in Biopharma

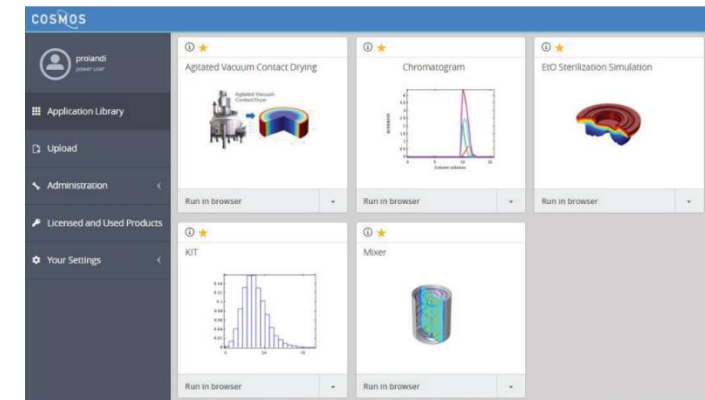
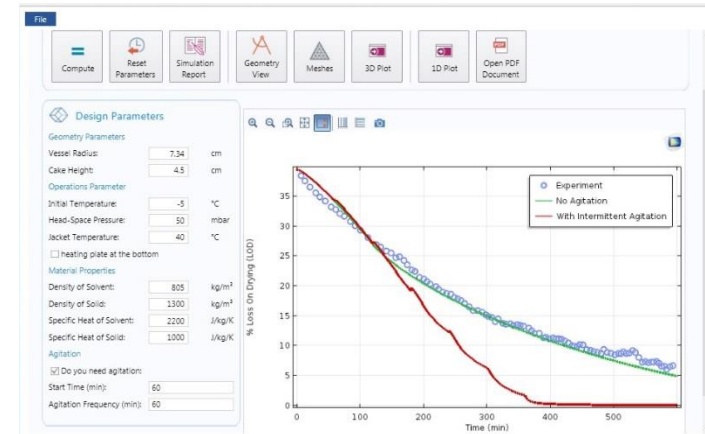
Amgen produces various drug products that have treated serious illnesses in millions of people around the world. To enhance its workflow, Amgen employs a diverse portfolio of process models and builds custom simulation apps.

As various problems in the development phase arise, the Amgen team turns to multiphysics modeling for solutions. In many cases, these solutions are also accompanied by custom simulation apps.



In one situation, to meet sterilization standards for classification of vials as novel containers, modeling ethylene oxide diffusion throughout the vials made it possible to adjust the required sterilization process without costly iterations.

A simulation app created from the model made it possible for process engineers to determine if concentration levels were high enough to warrant sufficient sterilization.

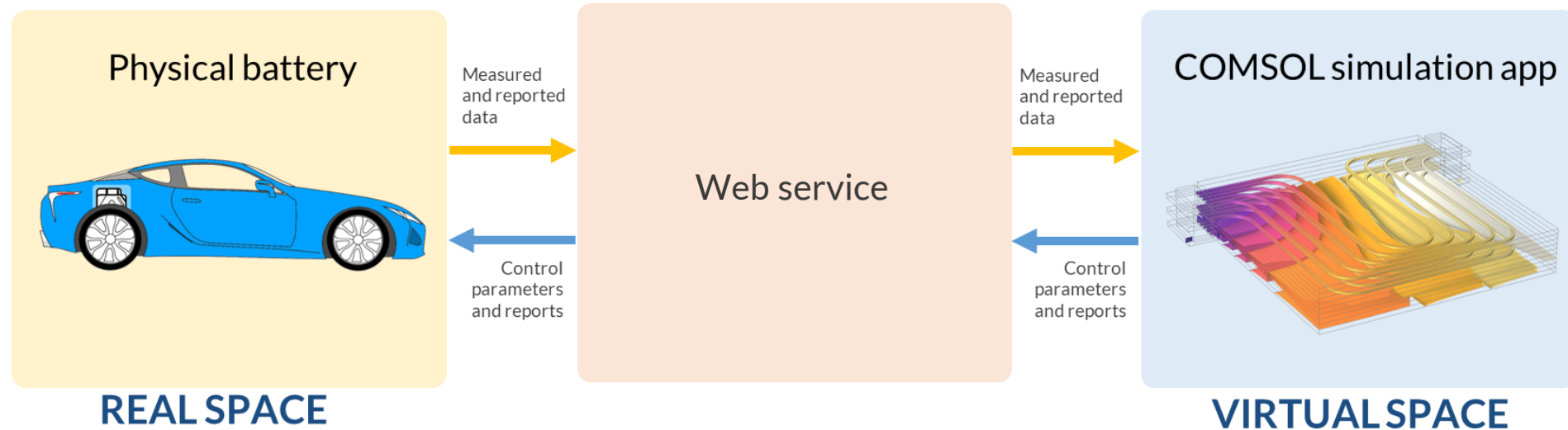


By working with models and simulation apps, Amgen is able to eliminate bottlenecks in production, ensure sterilization standards are met, and integrate uncertainty in operating conditions into drug time-of-delivery calculations.

# Model or Digital Twin?

- Model:
  - Often validated by comparing to experimental data during the design and development of a product, device, or process
  - May be connected to a real device during operation for control and system identification purposes, but often using a limited set of data
- Digital twin (DT):
  - Tightly connected to the real device
  - Follows a device or process throughout its life cycle, from development to disposal
  - May contain and process a vast amount of data, not only for modeling
  - Is specific to a certain unit of a product, i.e., not to all units of the make and model





## Example: Digital Twin Implementation in COMSOL®

- The simulation app is created in the Application Builder.
- The simulation app can use *Timer* events to trigger the execution of methods, for example, to download sensor data, run simulations, and send data to an external server.
- The COMSOL API\* can be used from a web service.





## SIMULATION APP HETT<sup>22</sup>

A leading global cement supplier provides its customers with a standalone simulation app that predicts curing times for concrete casting at construction sites. Since launch, it has been downloaded 1500 times!



## SIMULATION APP HETT<sup>22</sup>

- The app user chooses the concrete and cement mixture based on weather and construction structure
- Uses data from weather stations to determine the conditions for the curing process in real time
- The output from the simulation app:
  - Predicts temperature, degree of curing, and structural properties
  - Warns if the structural integrity of the structure is at risk

Developed by Deflexional AB  
(COMSOL Certified Consultant)

deflexional 



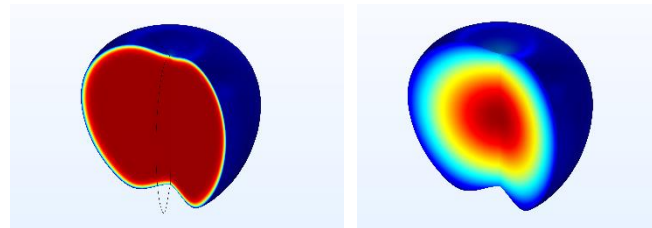
## INNOVATION AT Empa

# Forecasting Produce Shelf Life

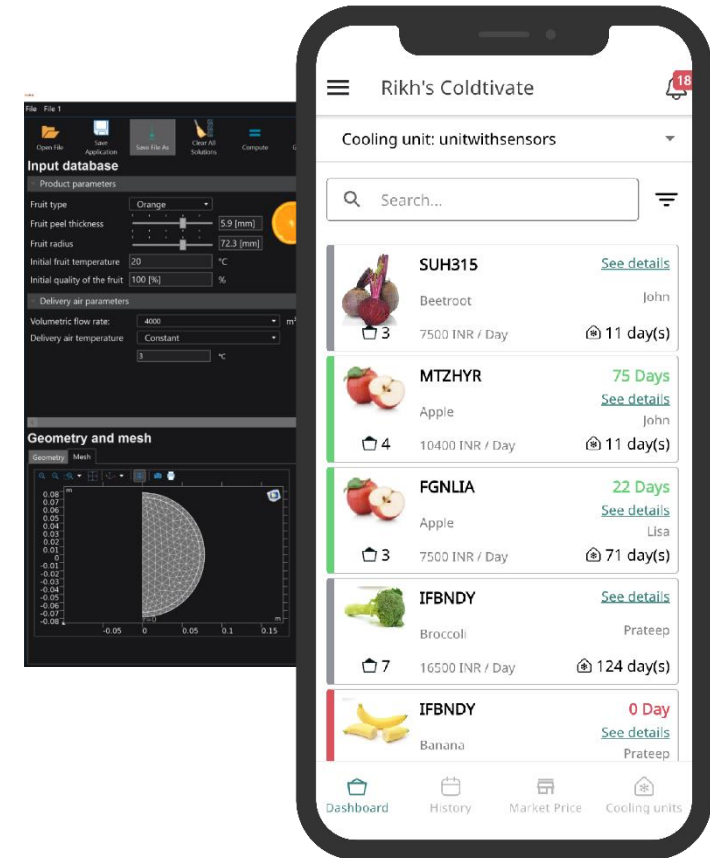
Each year, approximately one-third of the food produced for human consumption worldwide is lost or wasted. To optimize the use of refrigerated food storage in developing countries, farmers and traders need to be able to predict the shelf life of fresh fruits and vegetables.

Minimizing post-harvest losses with limited refrigerated space available requires insight into how ambient temperatures directly influence the shelf life of fresh produce.

The EMPA team compiled a simulation app from their multiphysics models to provide data-driven forecasts on the freshness of produce in a cold room. Results from the simulation app are fed into a smartphone app.



The Coldtivate mobile app informs farmers and cold storage operators of the cooling and decay process of different types of produce in real time. The values shown in the app are recalculated every 6 hours based on the latest cold room temperature data.



In August 2022, the simulation-powered app was released to 17 cold rooms, serving more than 300 farmers, who are reporting a 20% increase in their incomes and reduction of their post-harvest food losses.

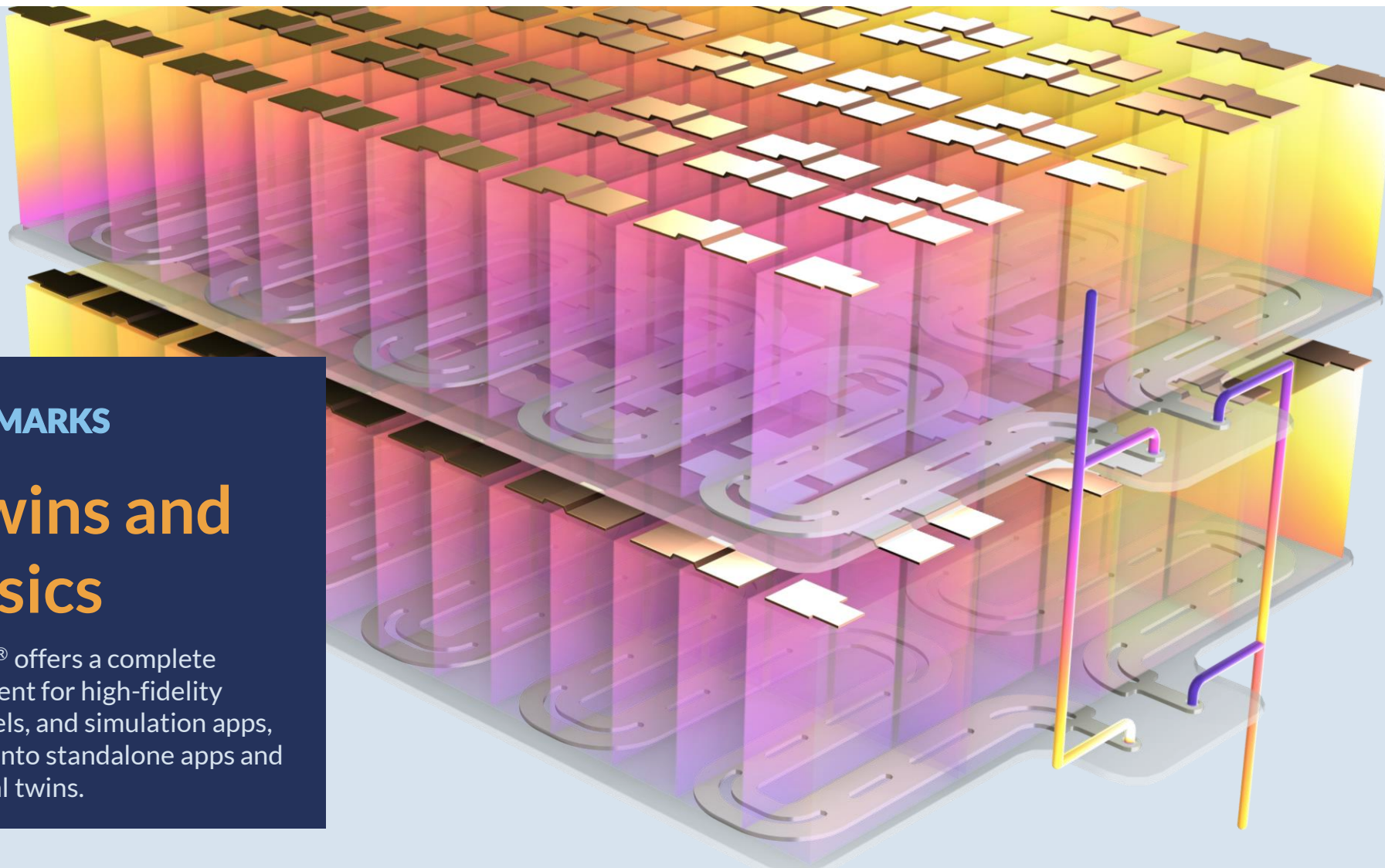
Empa and its partners are now working to expand Coldtivate's impact.



## CONCLUDING REMARKS

# Digital Twins and Multiphysics

COMSOL Multiphysics® offers a complete development environment for high-fidelity models, surrogate models, and simulation apps, which can be compiled into standalone apps and incorporated into digital twins.



# Optimize Your Workflow

A simulation-driven R&D workflow is most successful when collaborators across teams, departments, organizations, and enterprises are able to access and contribute to the modeling results.

- Combine physics phenomena in one model and with the Model Builder.
- Create custom simulation apps from models with the Application Builder.
- Collaborate and organize models and apps with the Model Manager.
- Deploy and run apps in digital twins as standalone apps or run them from a web browser UI with COMSOL Server™.



# COMSOL MULTIPHYSICS®

The platform product for simulating real-world designs, devices, and processes. One user interface for all engineering applications.

- **MODEL BUILDER:** Combine physics phenomena in one model
- **APPLICATION BUILDER:** Build simulation apps from models
- **MODEL MANAGER:** Collaborate and organize models and apps

## COMSOL Compiler™

Compile simulation apps into executable files. Run them freely on any computer.

## COMSOL Server™

Host and administrate your simulation apps. Run them through a web interface.

## ADD-ON PRODUCTS

### ELECTROMAGNETICS

- AC/DC Module
- RF Module
- Wave Optics Module
- Ray Optics Module
- Plasma Module
- Semiconductor Module

### FLUID & HEAT

- CFD Module
  - Mixer Module
- Polymer Flow Module
- Microfluidics Module
- Porous Media Flow Module
- Subsurface Flow Module
- Pipe Flow Module
- Molecular Flow Module
- Metal Processing Module
- Heat Transfer Module

### STRUCTURAL & ACOUSTICS

- Structural Mechanics Module
  - Nonlinear Structural Materials Module
  - Composite Materials Module
  - Geomechanics Module
  - Fatigue Module
  - Rotordynamics Module
- Multibody Dynamics Module
- MEMS Module
- Acoustics Module

### CHEMICAL

- Chemical Reaction Engineering Module
- Battery Design Module
- Fuel Cell & Electrolyzer Module
- Electrodeposition Module
- Corrosion Module
- Electrochemistry Module

### MULTIPURPOSE

- Optimization Module
- Uncertainty Quantification Module
- Material Library
- Particle Tracing Module
- Liquid & Gas Properties Module

### INTERFACING

- LiveLink™ for MATLAB®
- LiveLink™ for Simulink®
- LiveLink™ for Excel®
- CAD Import Module
- Design Module
- ECAD Import Module
- LiveLink™ for SOLIDWORKS®
- LiveLink™ for Inventor®
- LiveLink™ for AutoCAD®
- LiveLink™ for Revit®
- LiveLink™ for PTC® Creo® Parametric™
- LiveLink™ for PTC® Pro/ENGINEER®
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