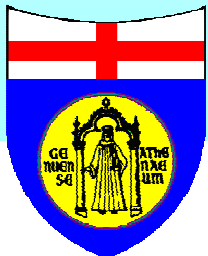


Object-oriented modelling applied to hybrid unit operations

Paolo Greppi, Barbara Bosio, Elisabetta Arato
Department of Civil Environmental Architectural Engineering
Università degli Studi di Genova

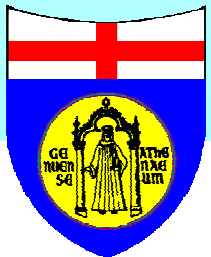
ICheaP-8 - The eight International Conference on Chemical & Process
Engineering

ISCHIA Island Gulf of Naples, Italy - June 24-27th 2007

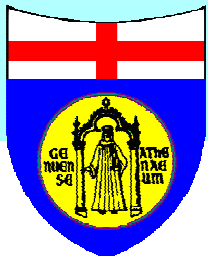
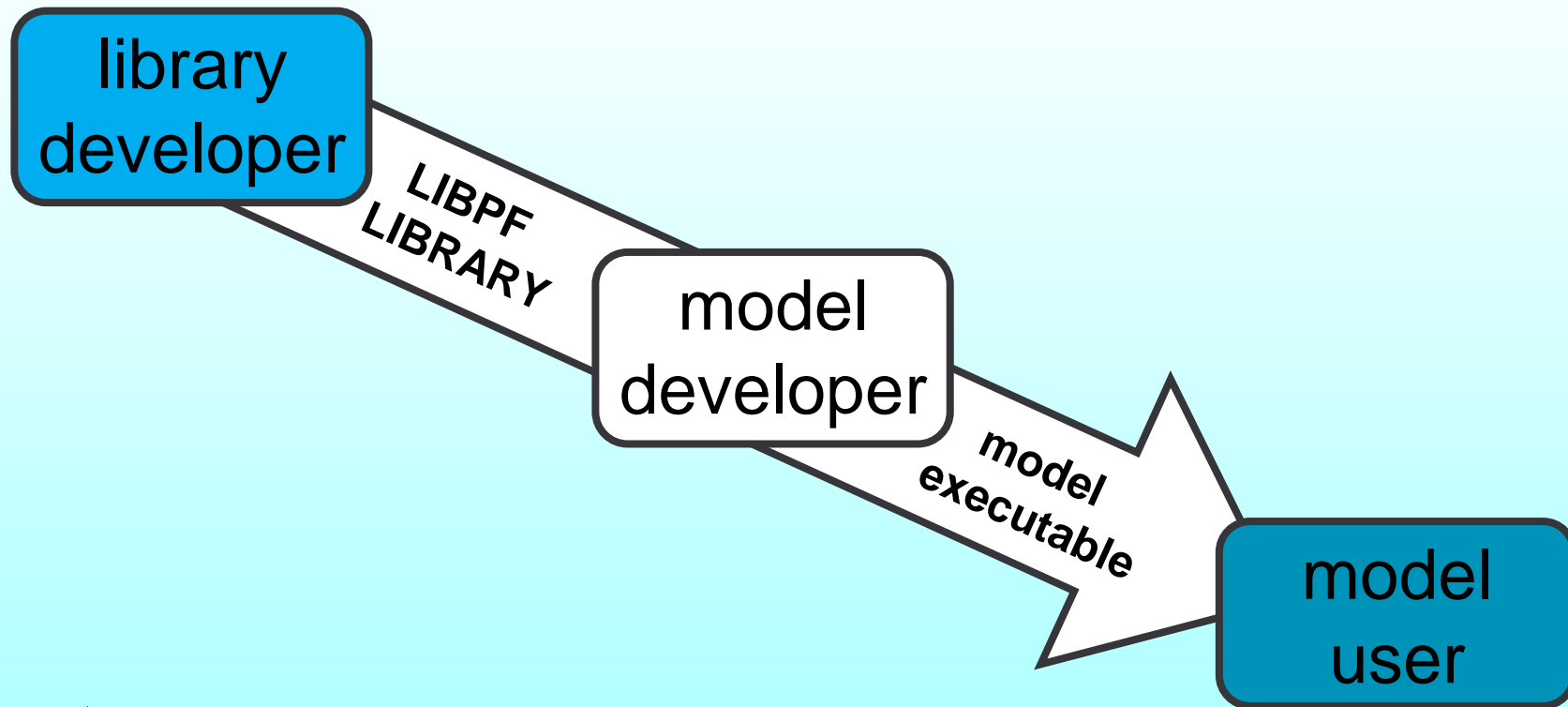


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- Introduction
- Streams, flashes, connectivity, multistage arrangements
- Applications
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Introduction: model workflow



Model development

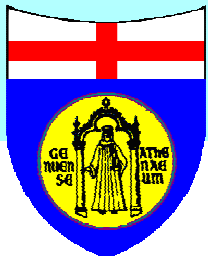
library
developer

- map process simulation entities to
 - **abstract** C++ class types
 - **mixins**: reusable partial classes
 - **concrete** classes

= **LIB**rary for **P**rocess **F**lowsheeting

model
developer

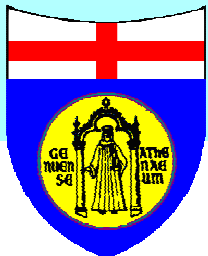
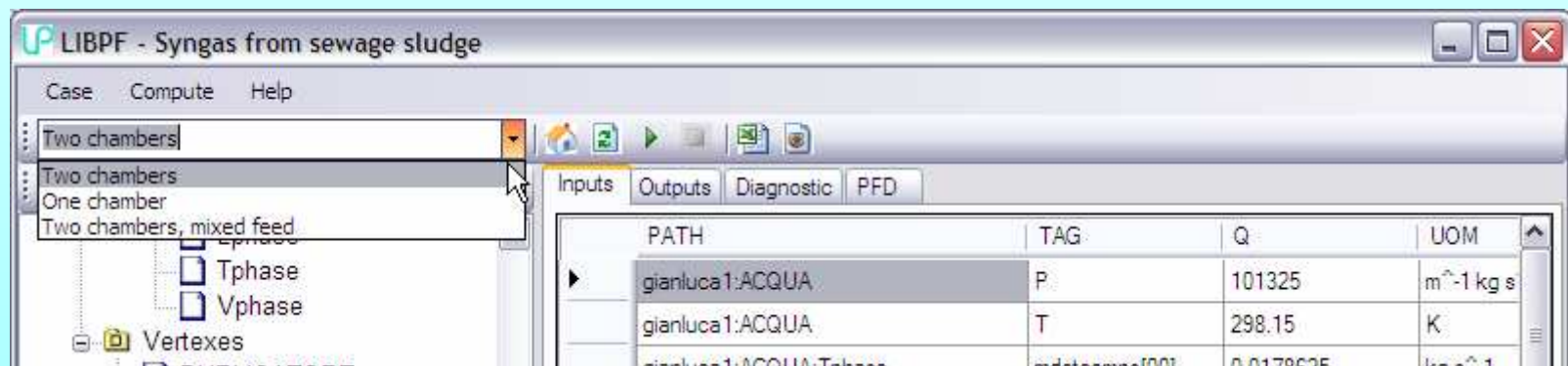
- pick up concrete classes from **LIBPF**
- write a C++ program representing the system model
- compile it to a standalone executable



Model deployment

model
user

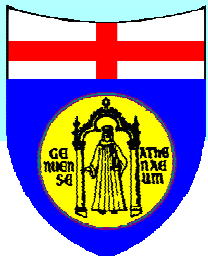
- receives system model as an executable
- access via **user interface**
- can change inputs or switch configuration
- each model configuration has a fixed structure




Contents

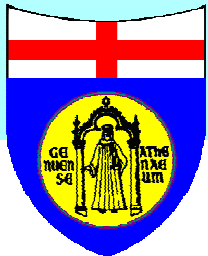
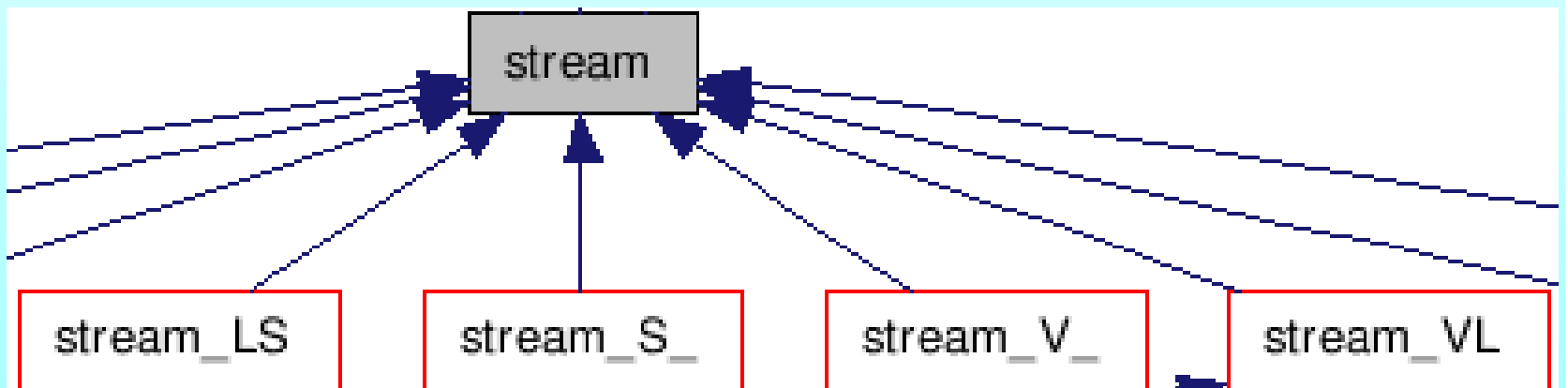
■ Introduction

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The simplest object: `stream`

- abstract `stream` type 
- specialized mixin classes are derived from abstract `stream` type



Concrete stream types

- every concrete stream type contains at least one **total** phase

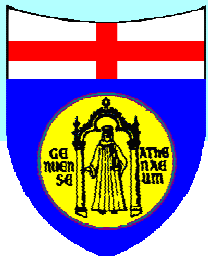


- multi-phase streams can have explicit representations of the phases

- ◆ `stream_VLe...`

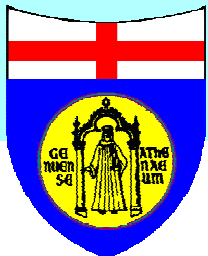
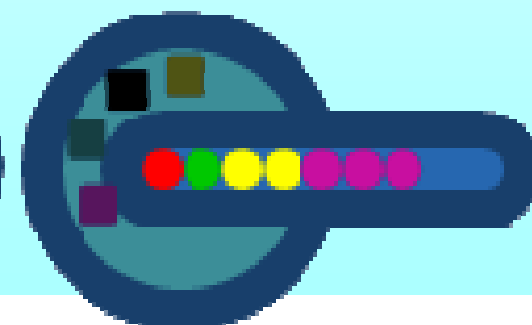
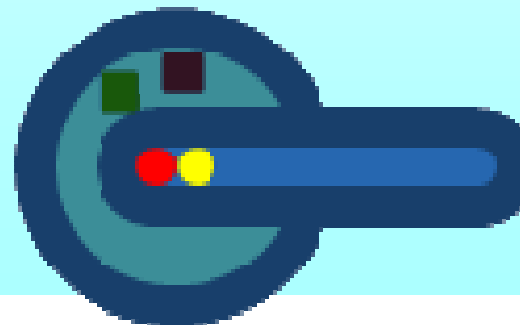
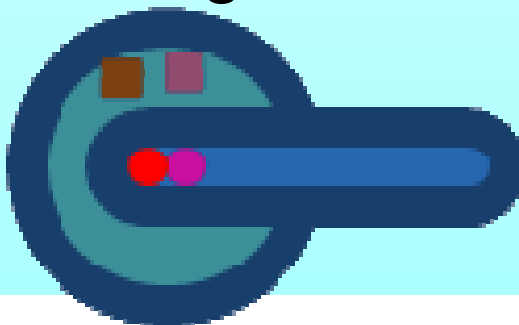


- ◆ `stream_VLLSSSe...`



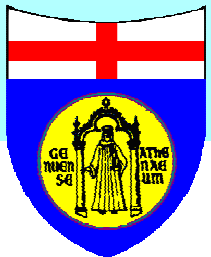
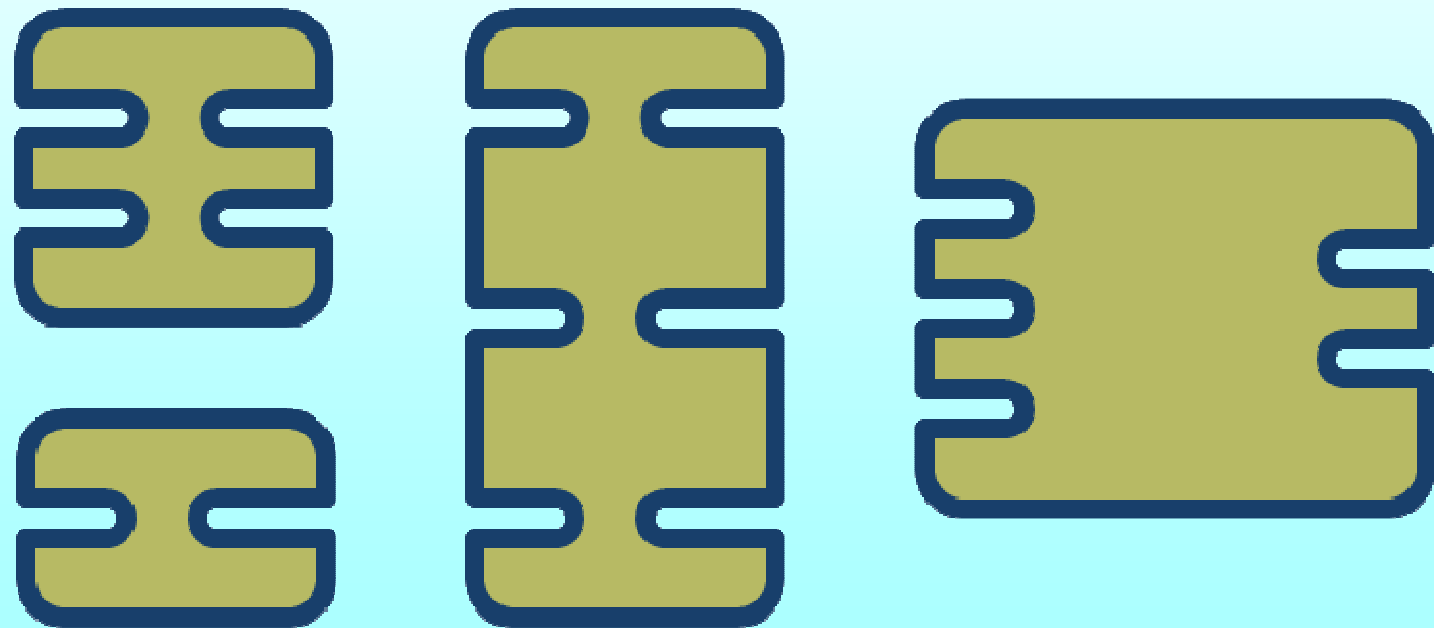
Enter reactions

- Take a generic flash (`genflash`) mixin class instance
- add reactions ...
- ... get reactive flashes



Enter connectivity

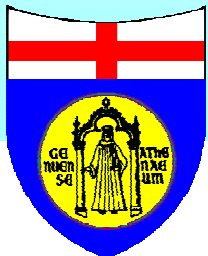
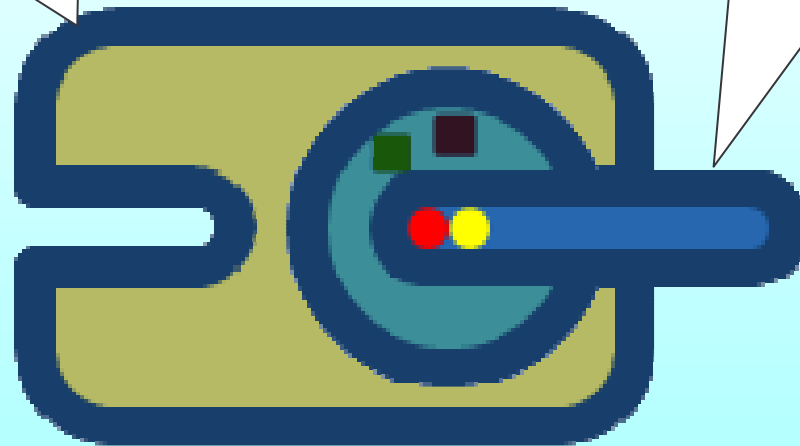
Special mixin types represent the capability of units to **connect** to streams



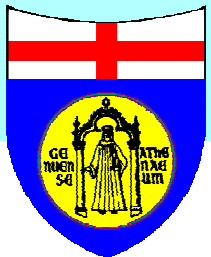
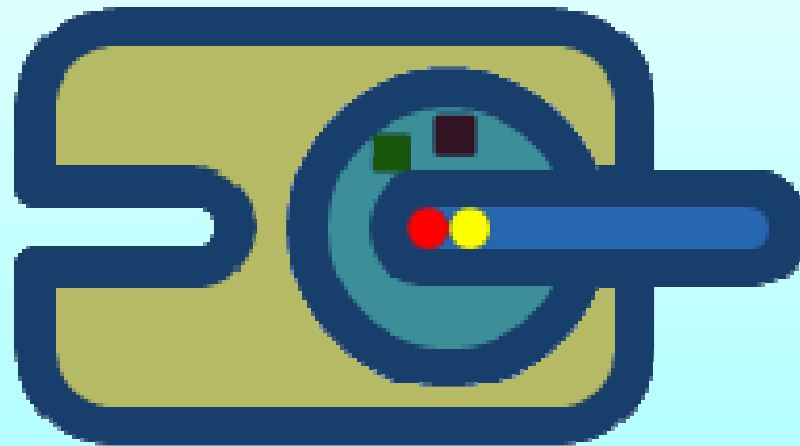
Compose mixins ...

connectivity
mixin

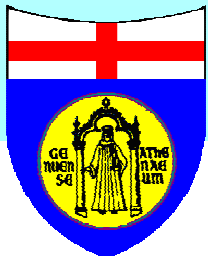
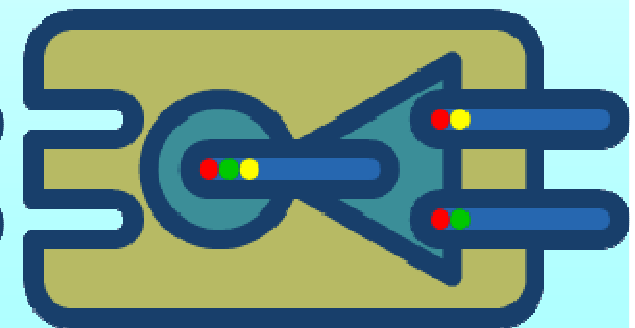
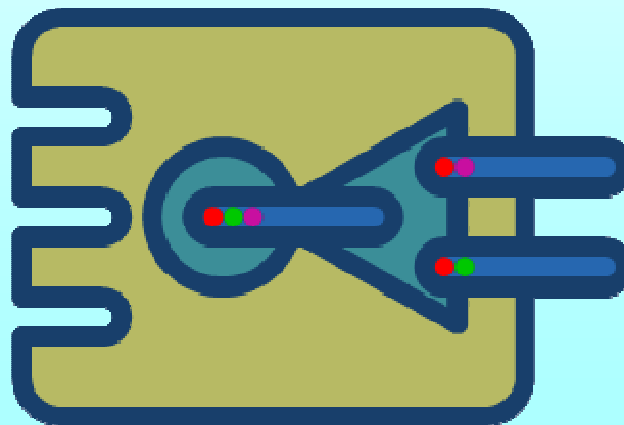
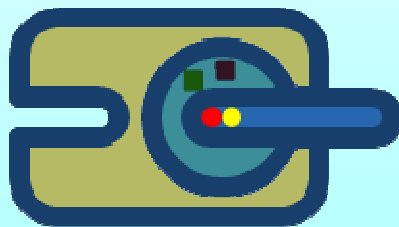
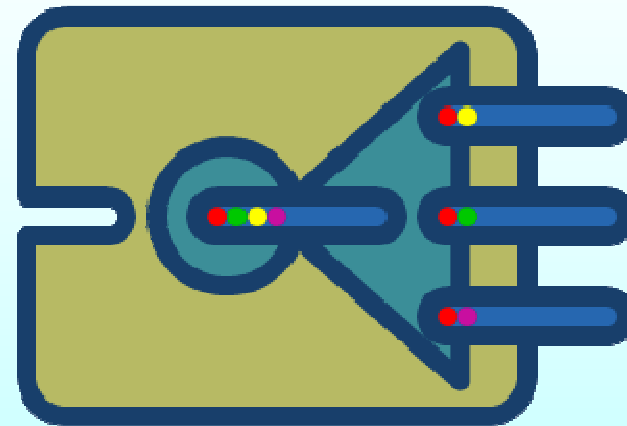
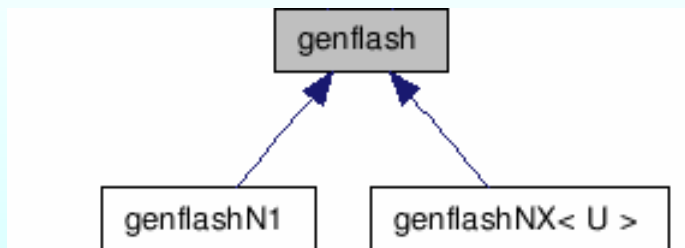
process
mixin



.. get a concrete class

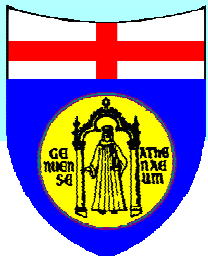
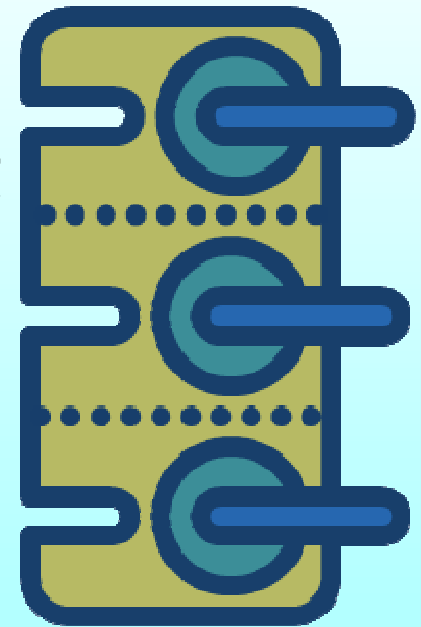


Variations of genflash with connectivity



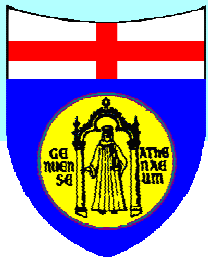
Combinations of generic flashes

- flexible multistream concentrated parameters model: **multihx**
- N reactive streams exchanging heat or mass:
 - ◆ (reactive) multi-stream heat exchanger
 - ◆ (reactive) membrane unit
 - ◆ fuel cell



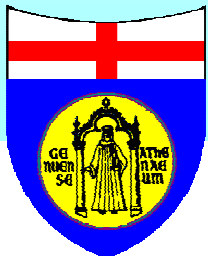
Multistage arrangements

- Concentrated parameter objects are combined to yield distributed parameter models:
 - ◆ 1-D arrangements:
 - ◆ columns
 - ◆ pipes
 - ◆ 2-D arrangements:
 - ◆ fuel cells
 - ◆ reactive heat exchangers



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Application 1: Simple distillation column

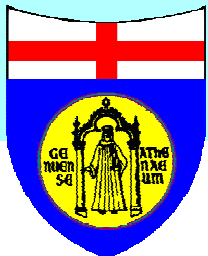
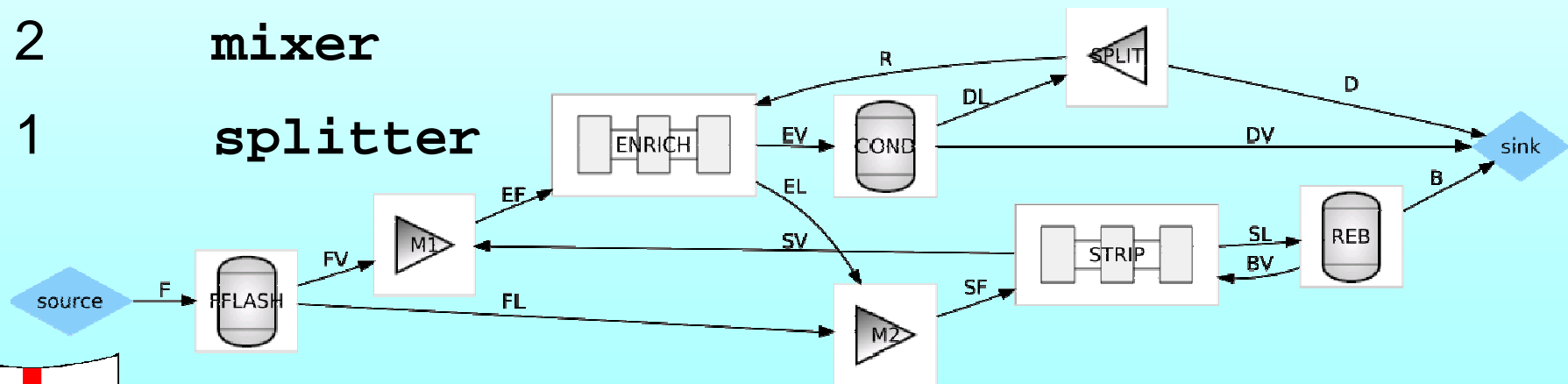
The column was broken down into 8 subunits:

2 `multistage1D<genflashNX<stream_VL>>`

3 `genflashNX<stream_VL>`

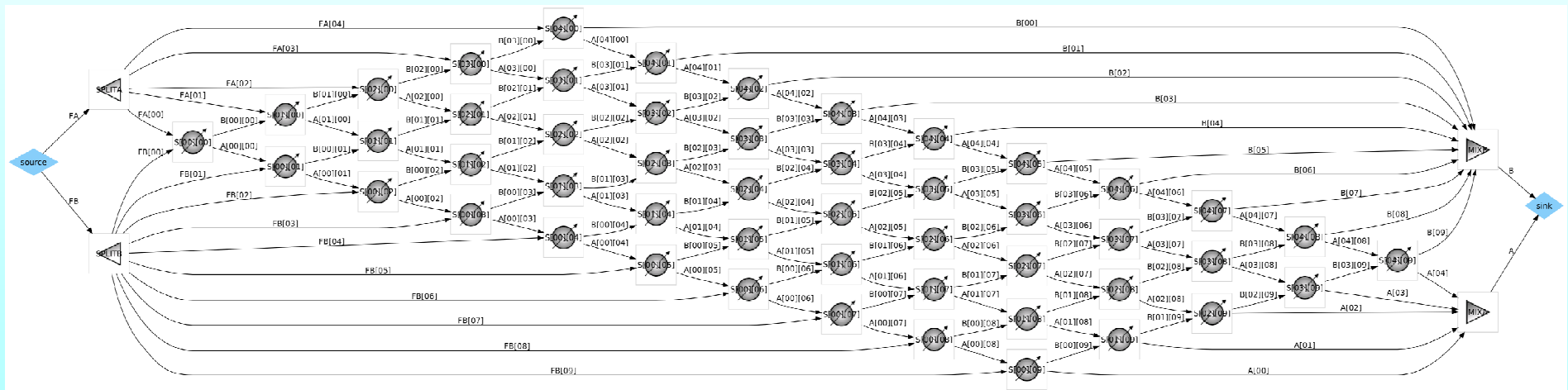
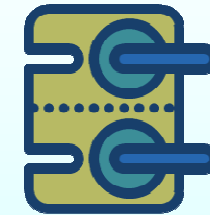
2 `mixer`

1 `splitter`

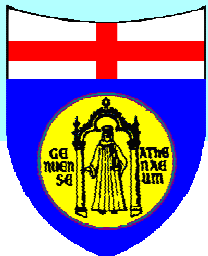


Application 2: Distributed parameter planar Fuel Cell

■ 5 x 10 multihx objects

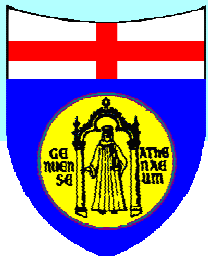
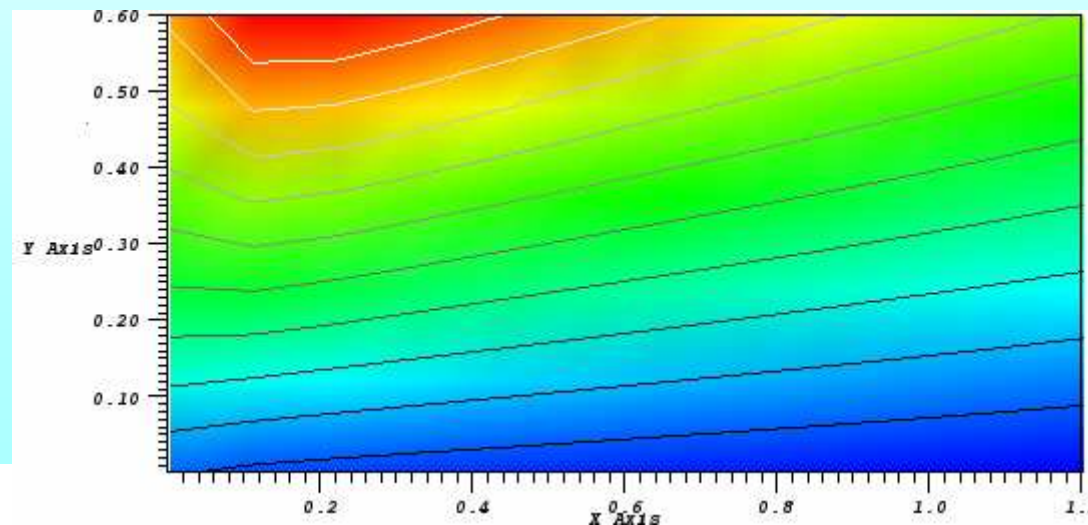


■ flowsheet for **cross-flow** arrangement



Application 2: Distributed parameter planar Fuel Cell

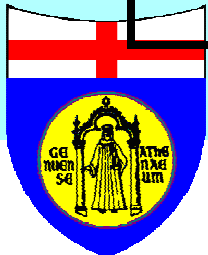
- Results match proven tools
- Example: solid temperature plot for MCFC (Molten Carbonate Fuel Cell)



Applications: simulation run duration

LIBPF slower than special-purpose tools

Test case	Reference tool (benchmark)	Benchmark	LIBPF
		Timing, s	Timing, s
Simple distillation column	Commercial process simulator X	1	10
Planar Fuel Cell	Special purpose 2-D finite differences code	2	60



Applications: modelling project duration

modelling of hybrid / complex unit operations

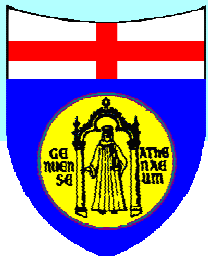
- conventional approach:

3 man-months

- new approach with model reuse:

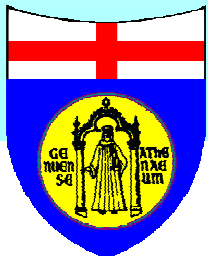
1 man-month

(estimates)



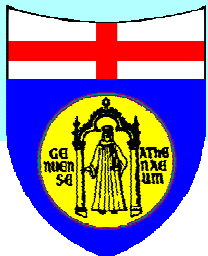
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Conclusions

- **C++** can be used for process simulation using **LIBPF** library
- **Run-time** is slower than with conventional approaches ...
- ... but **project duration** is shorter for hybrid unit operations modelling



Visit libpf.com

- Get C++ header files with the **classes hierarchy**
- Get and run **demos**
- **Request** the LIBPF library by mail

