

***Pantograph  
developments with  
special regard to the  
catanery-pantograph  
contact***

# Pantograph developments with special regard to the catanery-pantograph contact

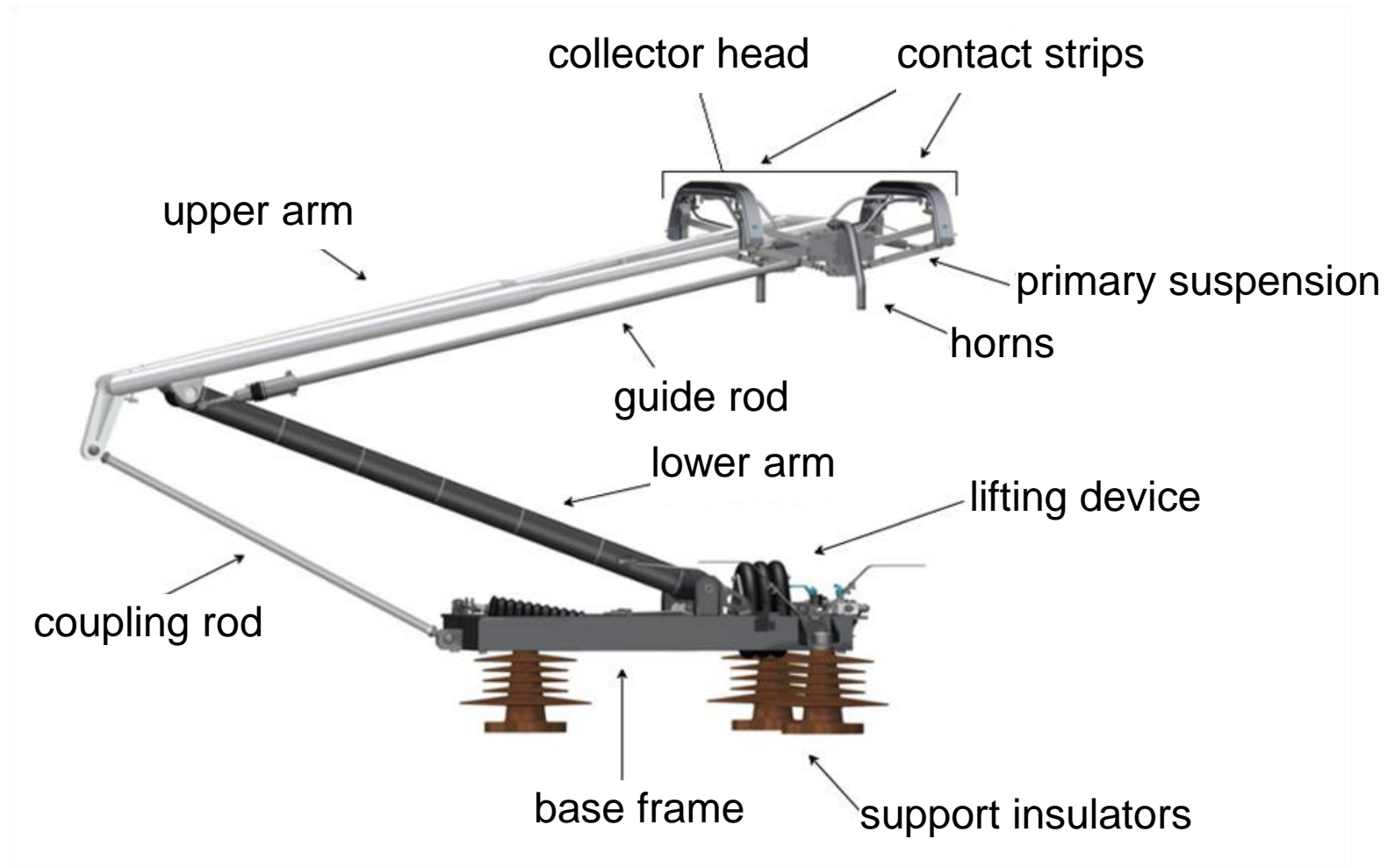


- Introduction
- Challenges
- Trends to improve the pantograph / OCL interaction
- Monitoring
- Advancements in Simulation and Emulation

# Introduction

A short introduction to pantographs and overhead contact lines

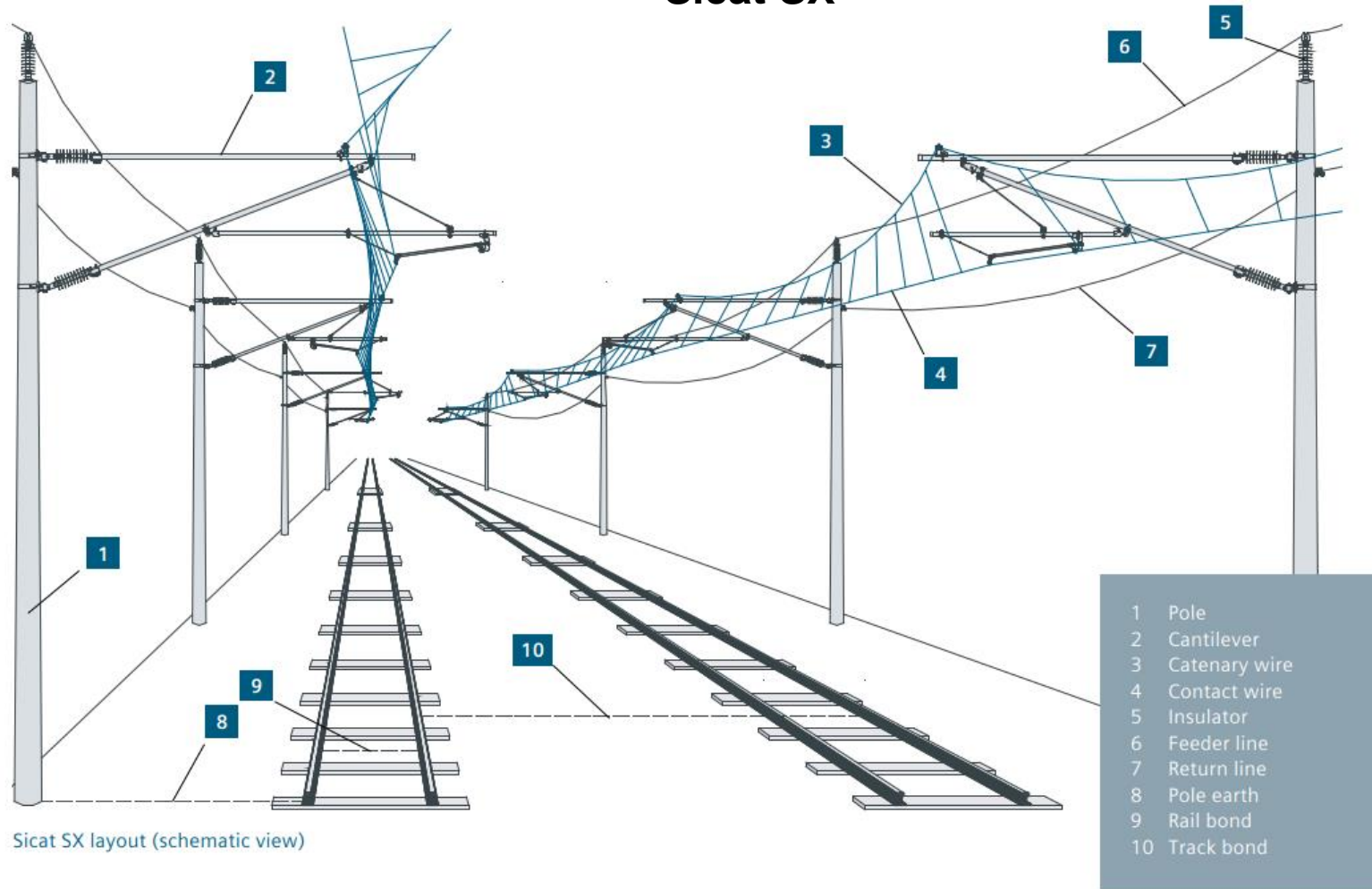
# Pantograph main components





# Main overhead contact line (OCL) / catenary components

## Sicat SX



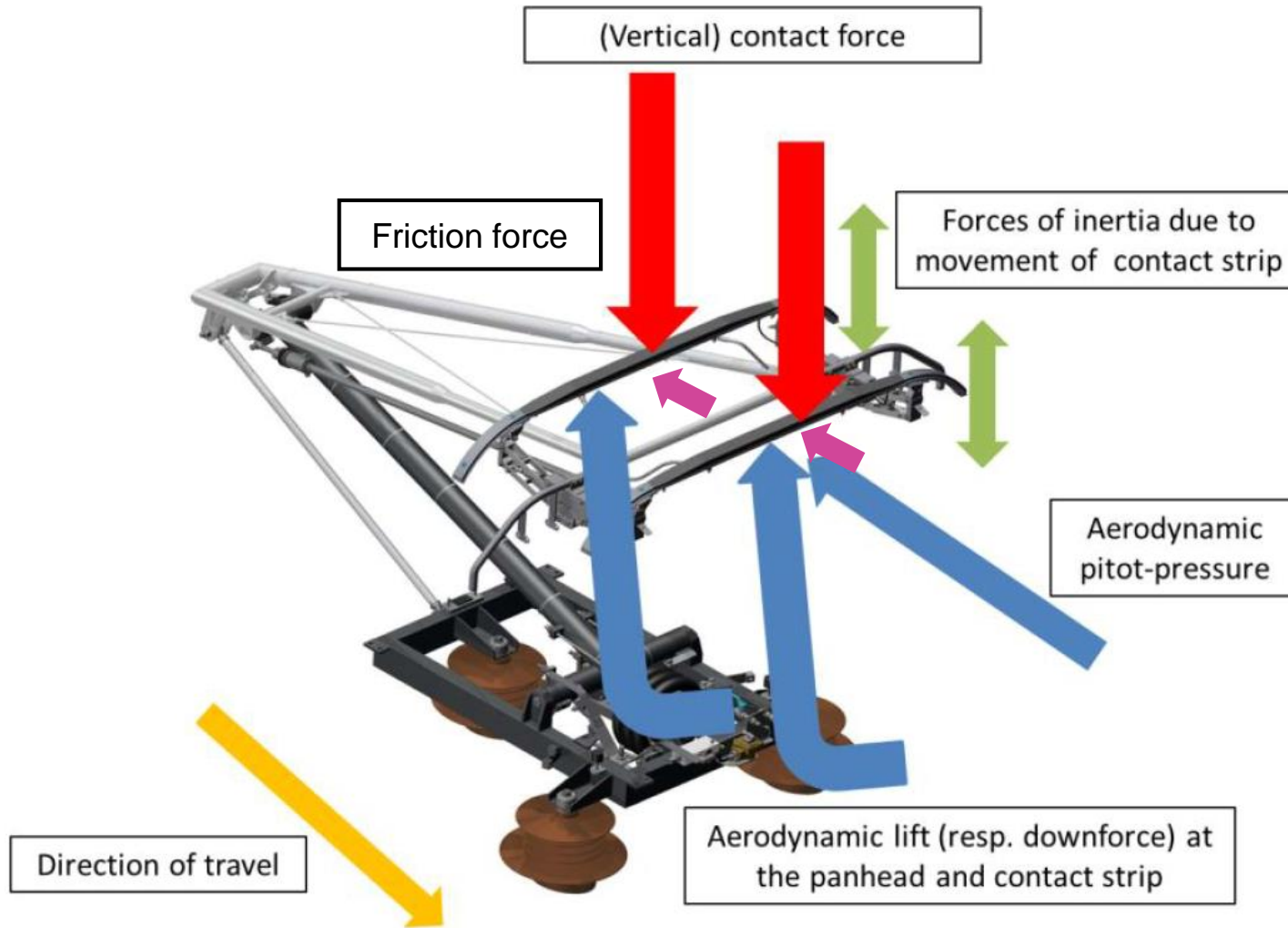
Sicat SX layout (schematic view)

The shown example of a modern OCL system is already in use on the following routes:

- Bajánsenye-Boba, HU, since 2010
- Banedanmark, Denmark, ~1,300 km until 2026



# Operating conditions for pantographs



## Single arm pantographs

Modern single arm pantographs require less space on vehicle roofs and incorporate better dynamic characteristics

Despite their asymmetric shape they must ensure safe and reliable operation in both running directions

# Challenges

Challenges of interoperability in cross border operations throughout Europe

# European railway networks

a multitude of systems



# European railway corridors

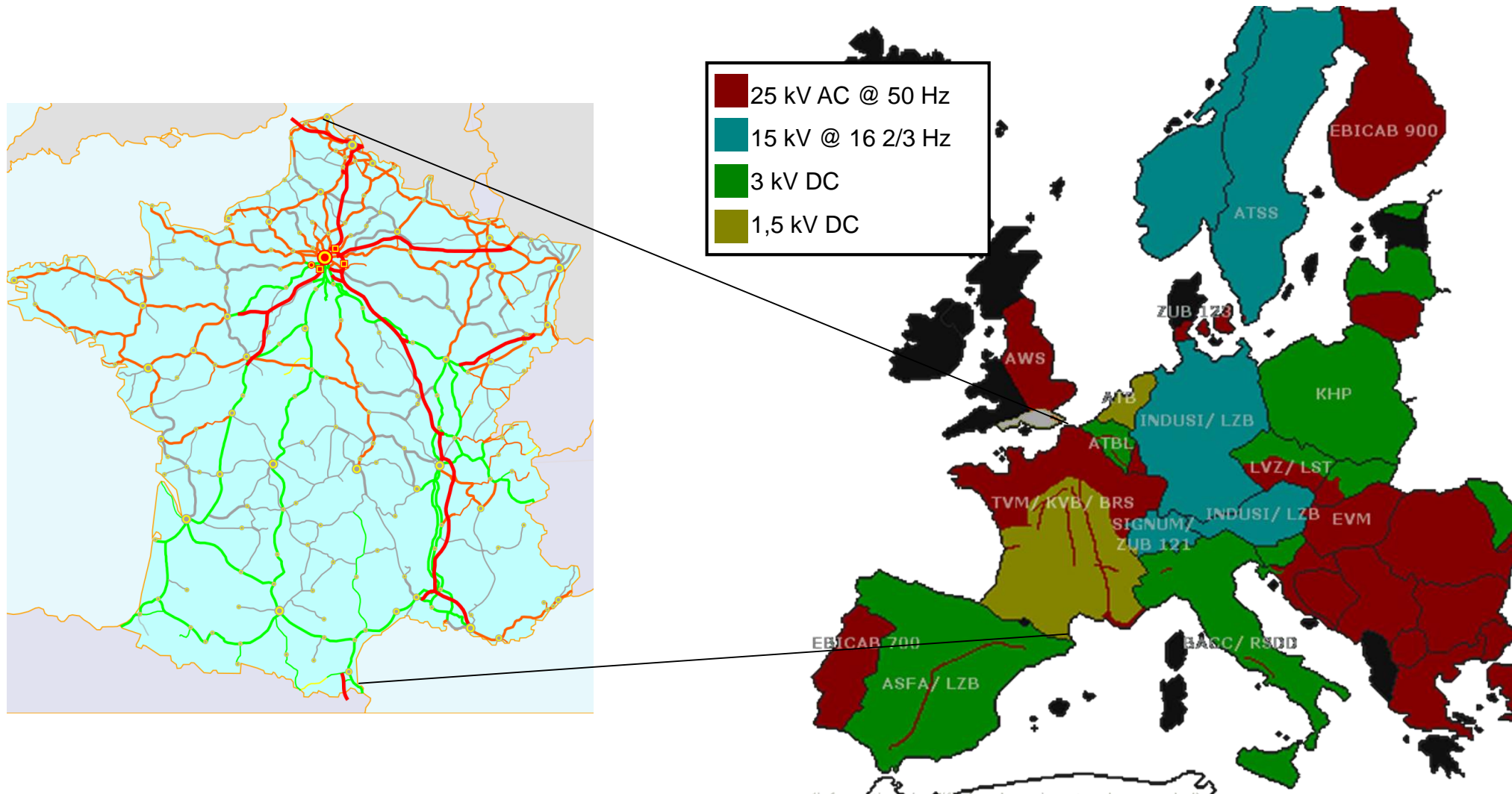


## Core TEN-T network corridors

Corridor	Route
1.	Baltic-Adriatic: includes the Semmering base tunnel and Koralmbahn.
2.	North Sea-Baltic: the most important element of this corridor is Rail Baltica.
3.	Mediterranean: rail projects include Lyon – Torino and Venezia – Ljubljana.
4.	Orient/East-Med.
5.	Scandinavian-Mediterranean: includes Fehmarn Belt fixed link and Brenner base tunnel.
6.	Rhine-Alpine: includes Swiss base tunnels and access routes in Germany and Italy.
7.	Atlantic: includes high speed and conventional rail.
8.	North Sea-Mediterranean.
9.	Rhine-Danube Corridor







# European railway networks – a multitude of systems

## Focus: Overhead contact line current





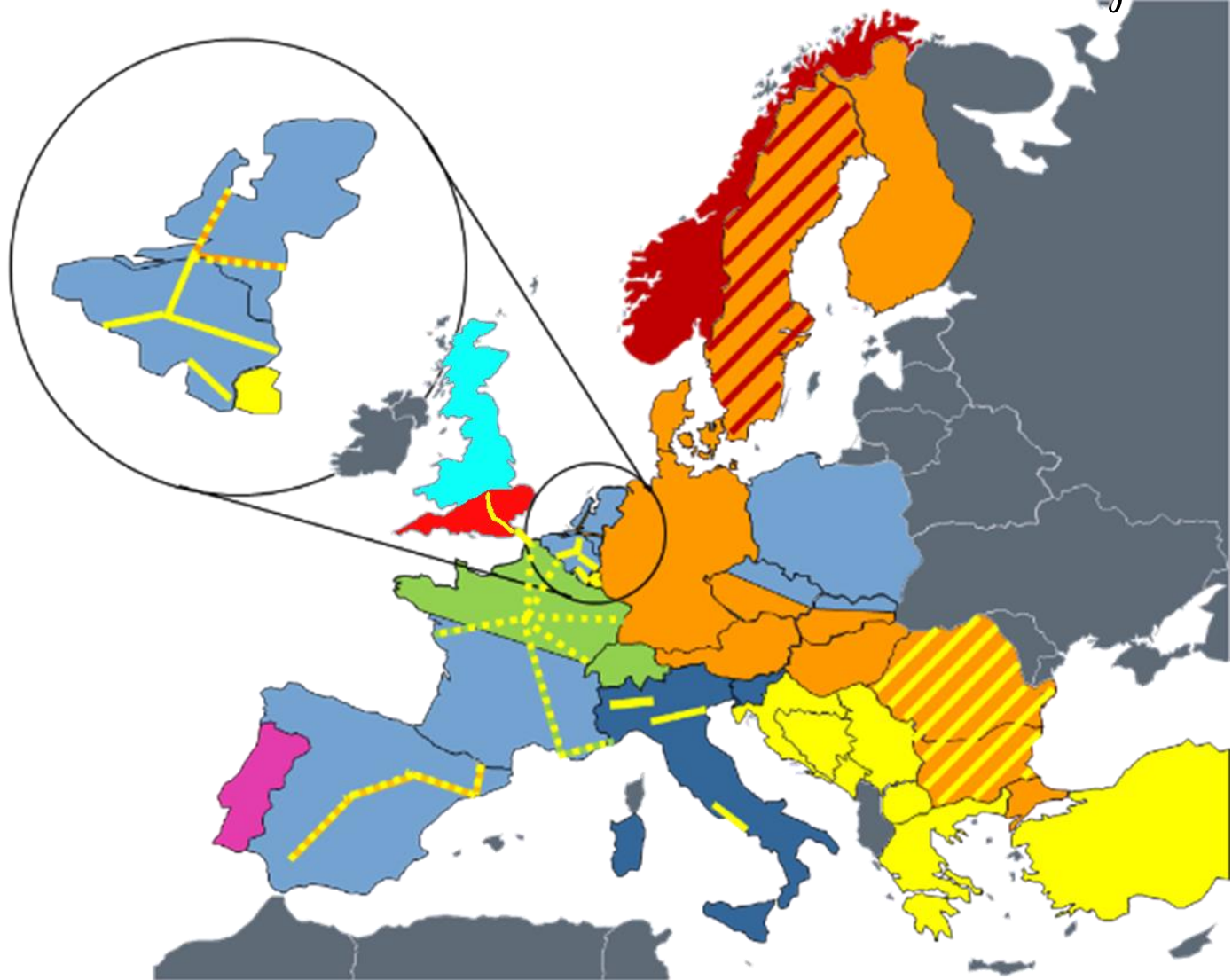
# Collector head profiles in accordance to EN 50367 2017

## AC Networks:

-  Profile A.7 – 1950 mm
-  Profile B.1 – 1450 mm
-  Profile A.6 – 1600 mm
-  Profile B.5 – 1800 mm
-  Profile X.Y – 1450 mm (PT)
-  Profile B.6 – 1600 mm (GB)

## DC Networks:

-  Profile B.1 – 1450 mm
-  Profile A.7 – 1950 mm





# Collector heads for operating all across Europe

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# OCL sections

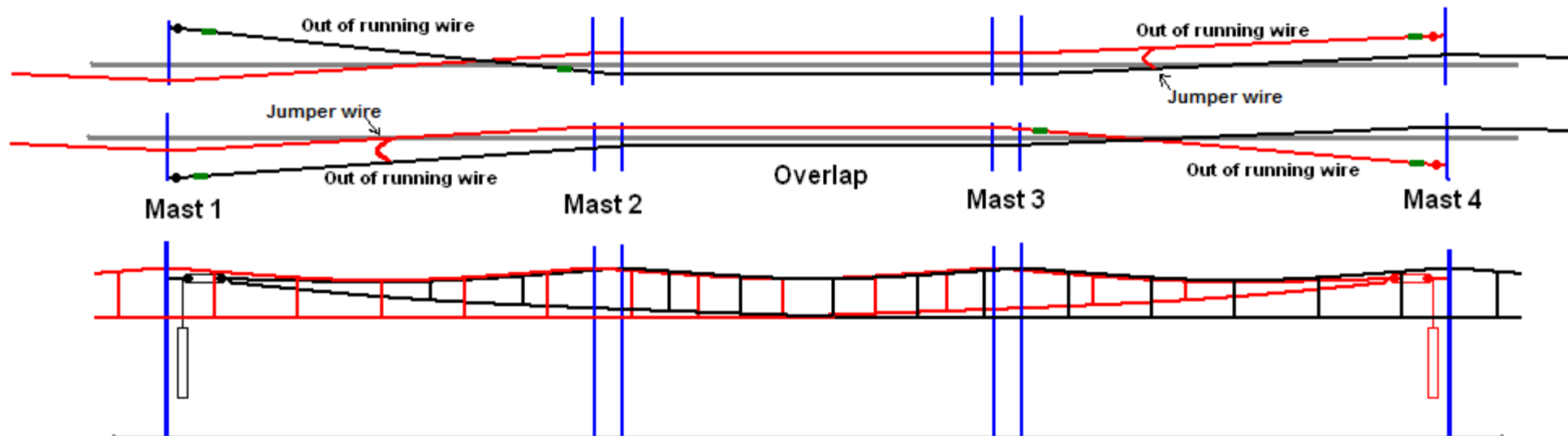
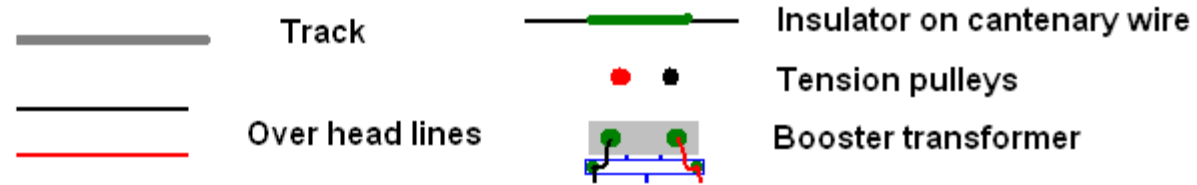
traversing overhead contact line section  
overlap



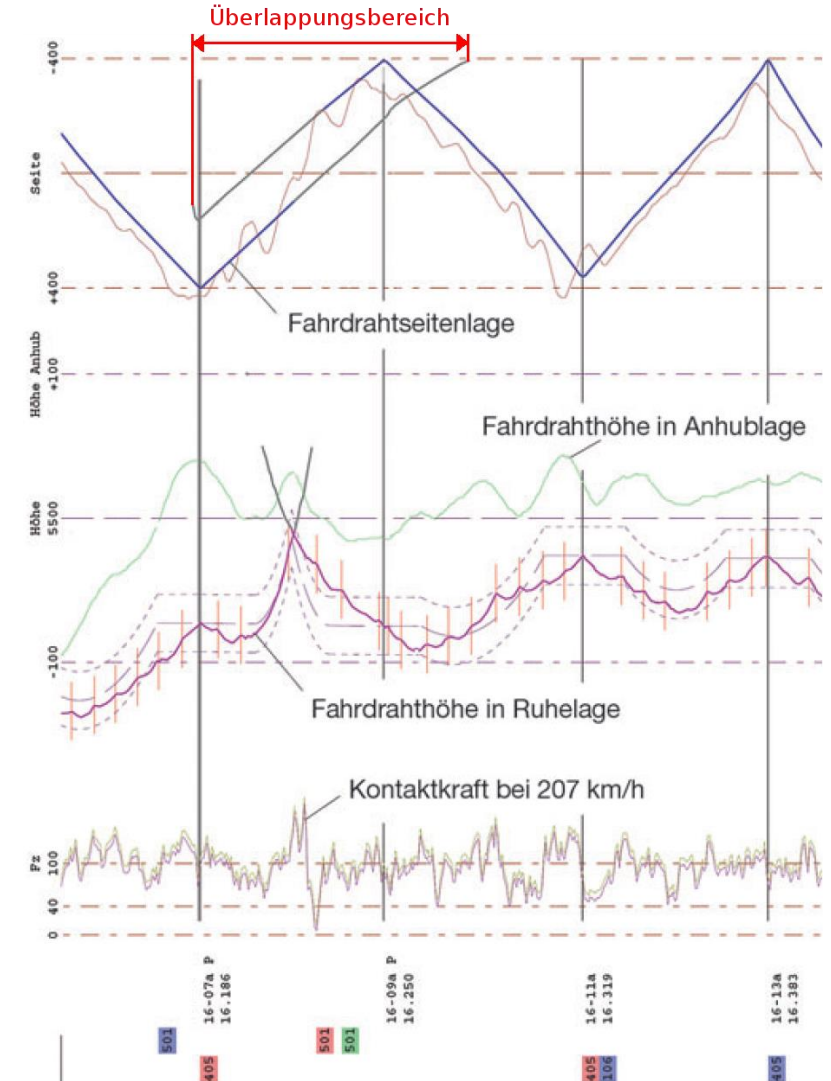
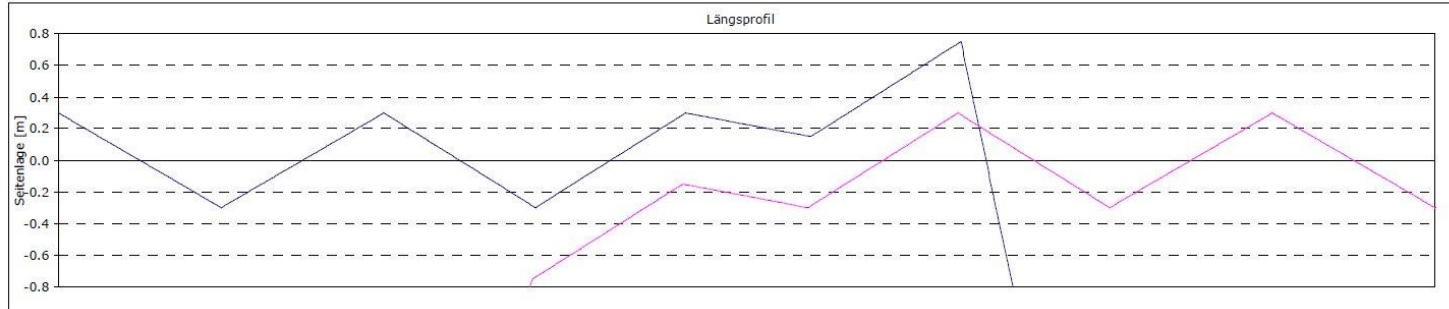
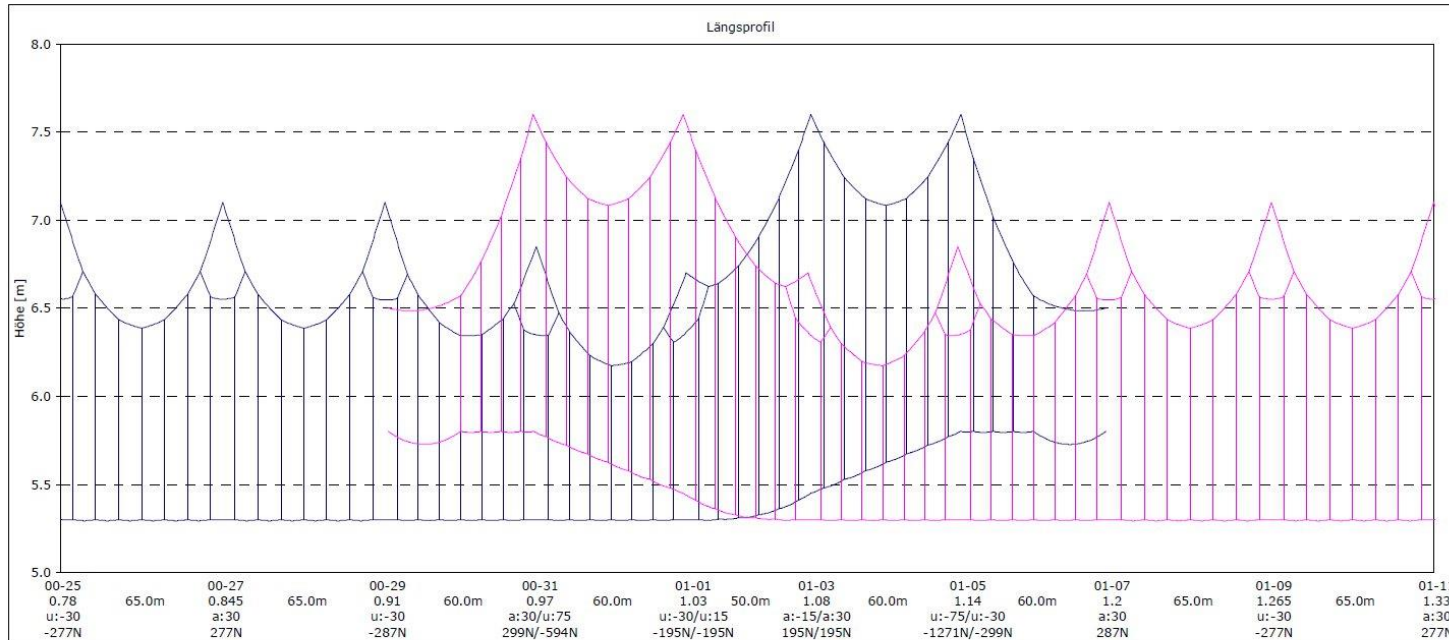
# Example of 25 kV overhead contact line overlap section

## 25kv Overhead Equipment Overlap Wiring

By Clive Mortimore



# Challenge of traversing OCL overlap sections

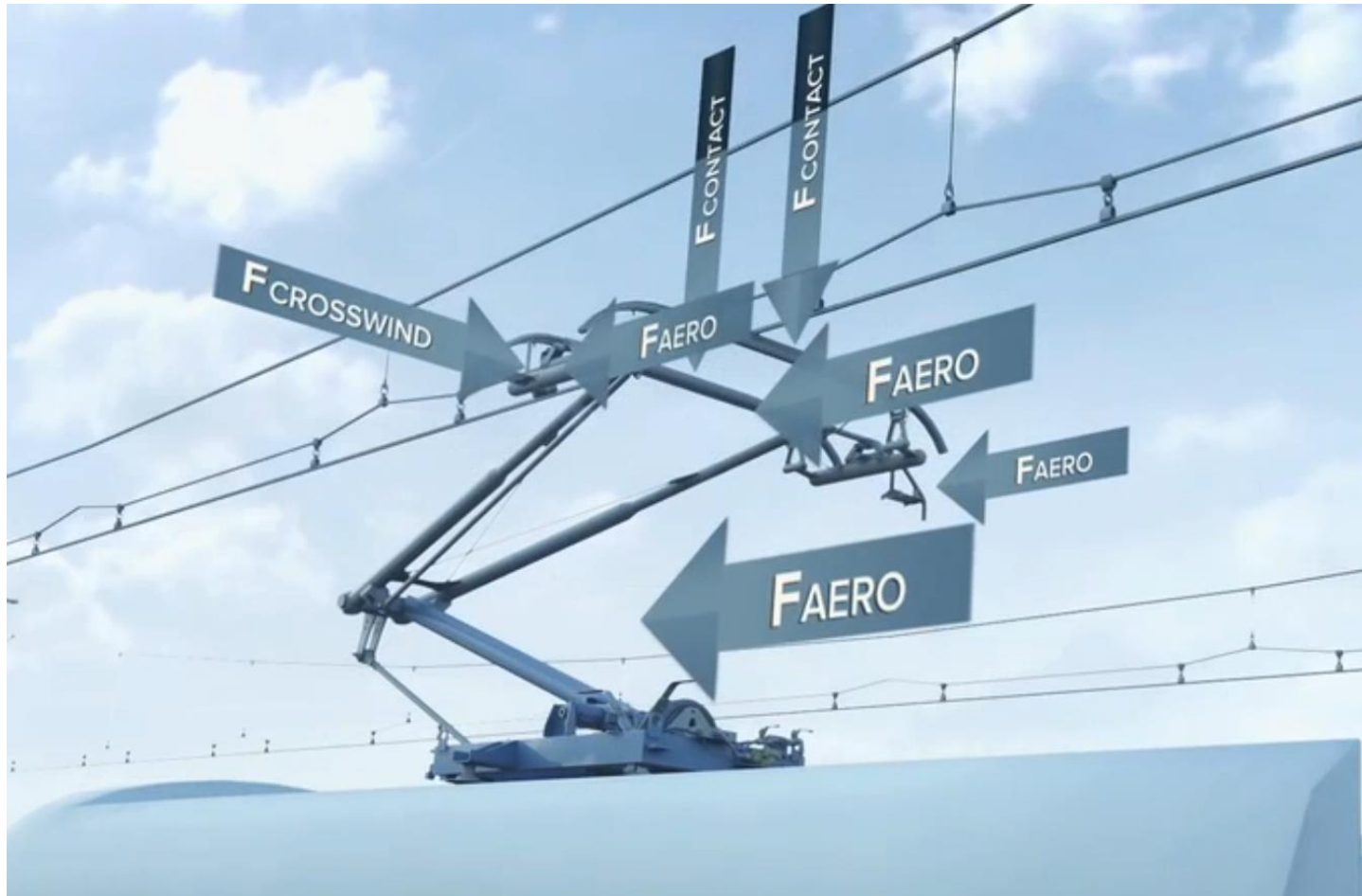


# Contact quality and wear

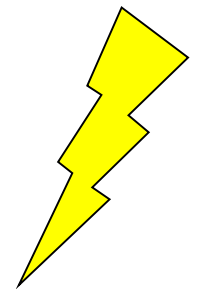
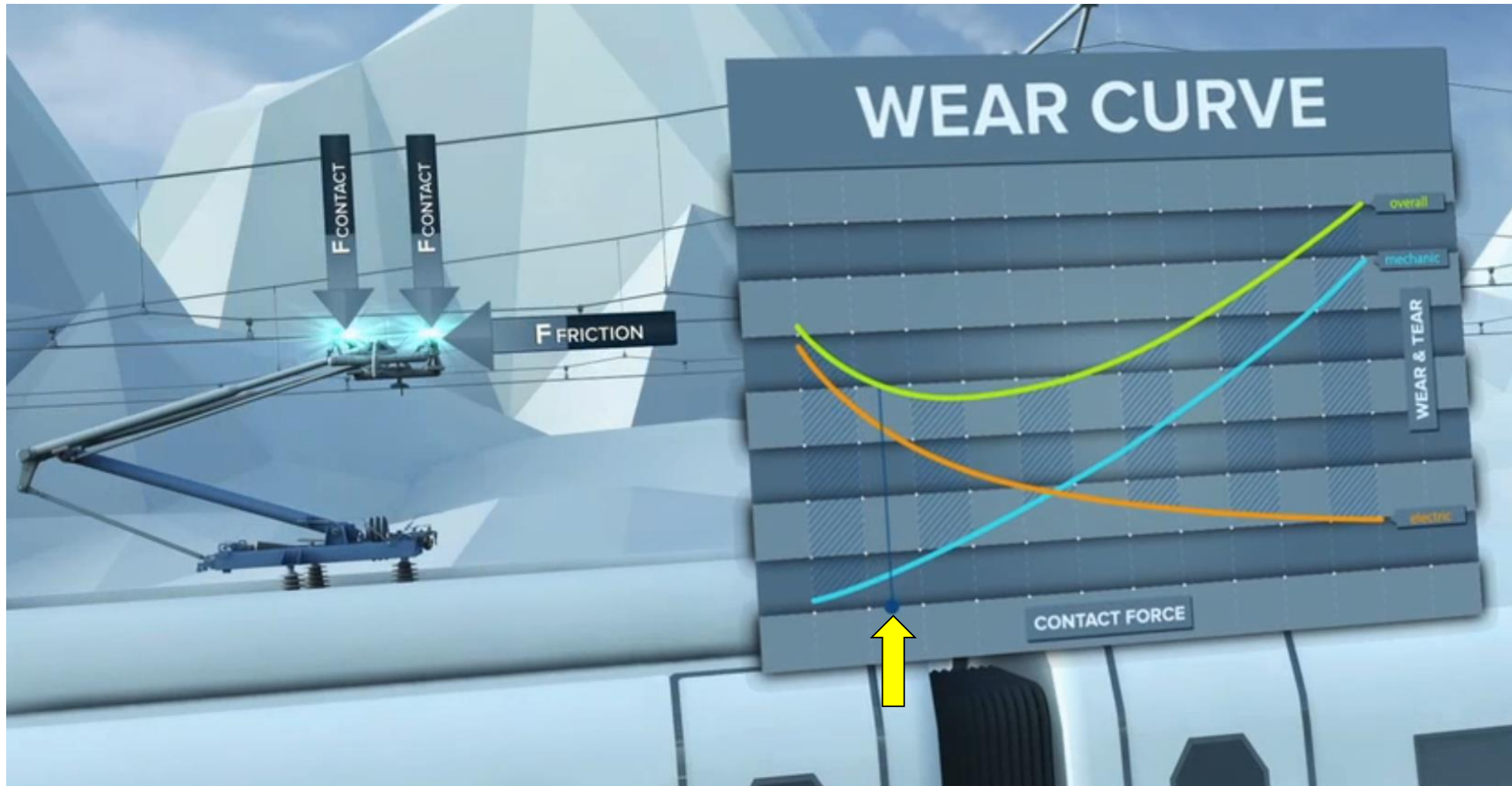
Finding the sweet spot

# Operating conditions for pantographs

## Video 1: Forces on the pantograph and contact strip wear

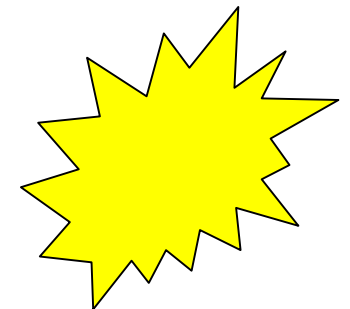
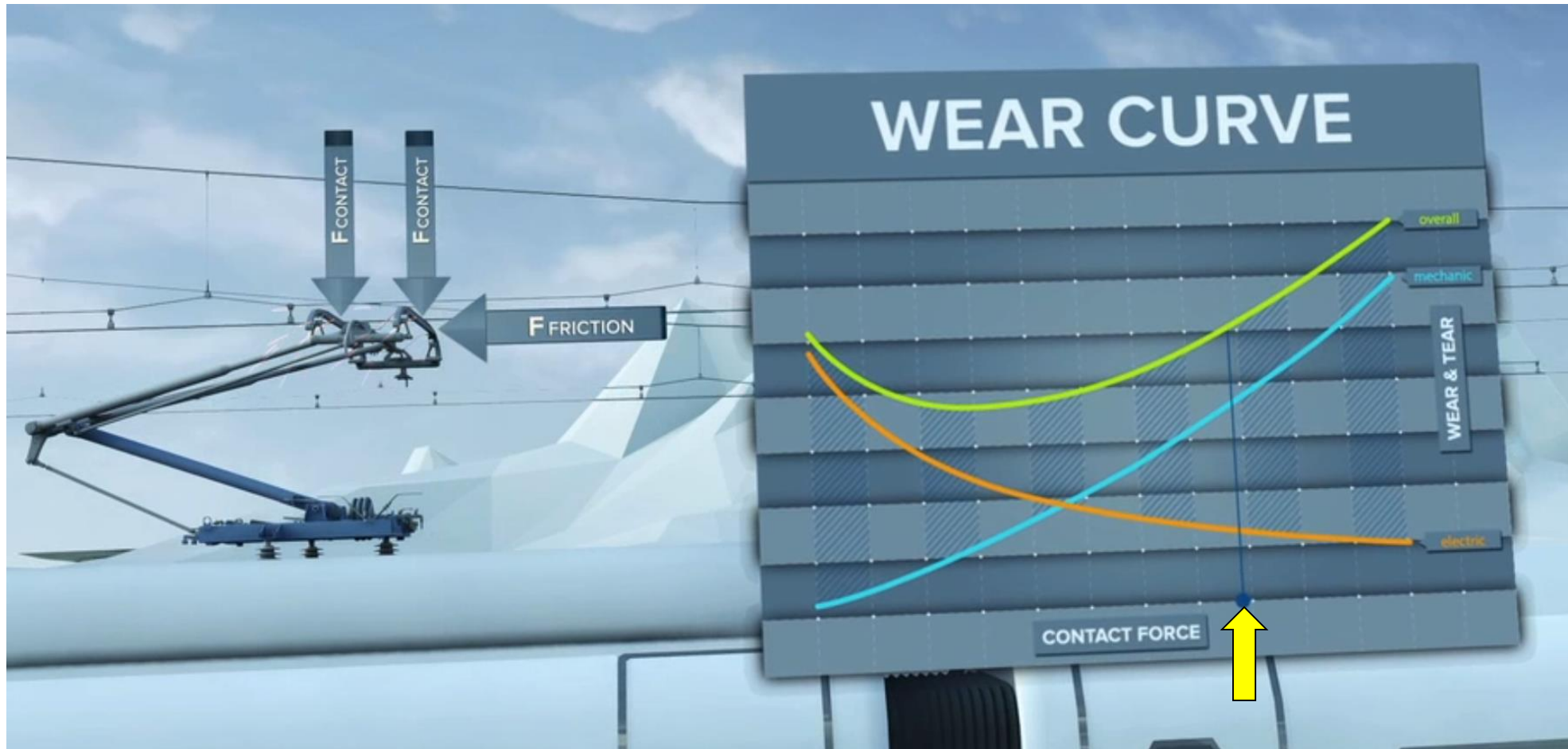


# Pantograph contact strip wear

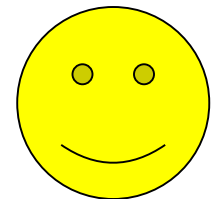
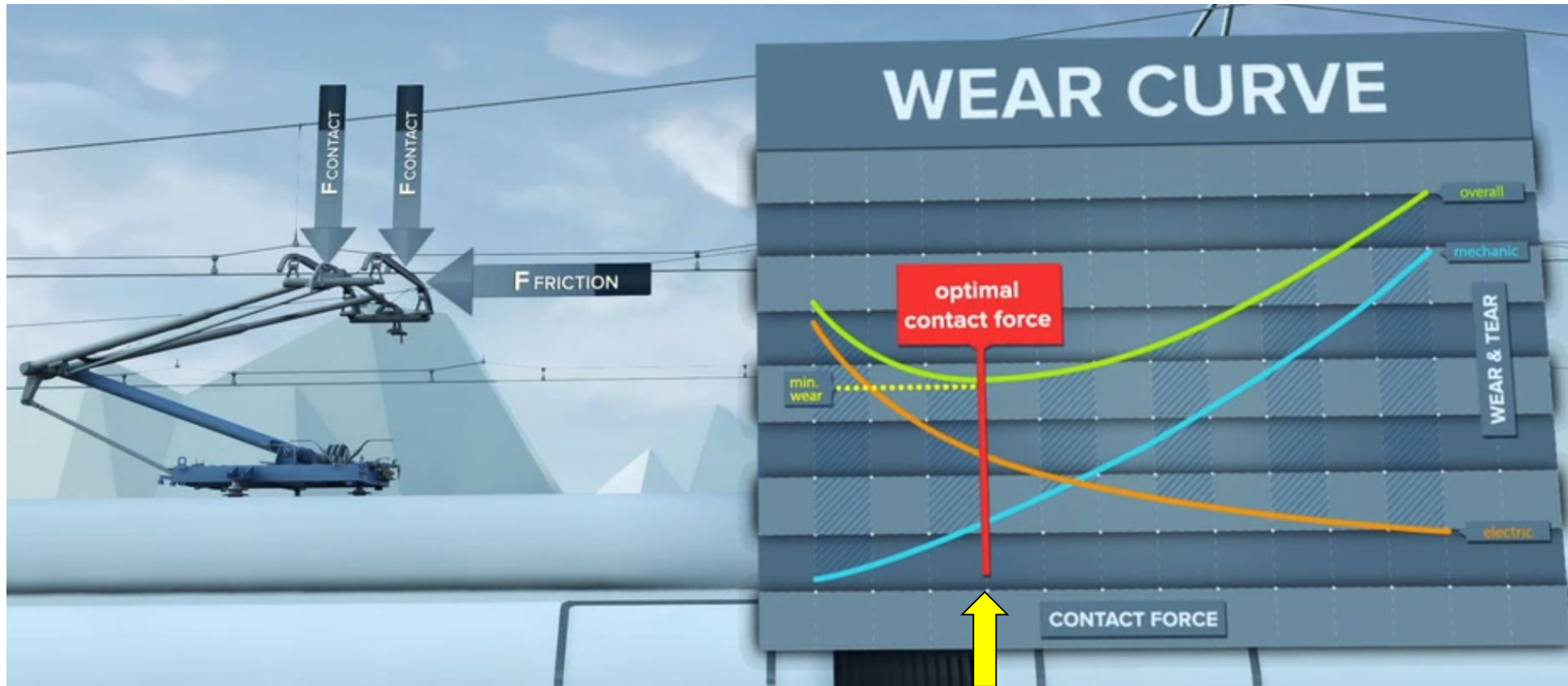




# Pantograph contact strip wear



# Pantograph contact strip wear



# Multiple traction

operating with multiple pantographs  
simultaneously

# Multiple pantograph operation

## Video 2: Multi traction test runs



### Multiple traction

New challenges arise when more than one pantograph is interacting with the overhead contact line

Multiple traction can occur if

- Higher currents or higher power demand
- Coupling multiple, individually powered rolling stock units to a single train

Appropriate pantograph spacing is critical

# Trends for improvement

of pantograph / overhead contact line interaction



## General trends for improving pantograph / OCL interaction

The following trends can be observed in the railway industry to improve the contact quality and reduce wear regarding the pantograph / catenary interaction

- Lightweight design
- Actively influencing the contact force
- Monitoring pantograph / OCL interaction
- Improvements in simulation and emulation

} Focus for today

# Monitoring

Improving safety and overall operations via methods of pantograph and overhead contact line monitoring

# Monitoring pantograph / OCL condition and interaction via specially equipped pantographs

$$F_c = \sum_{i=1}^{k_f} F_{Sensor,i} + \frac{m_{above}}{k_a} \sum_{i=1}^{k_a} a_{Sensor,i} + F_{corr,aero}$$

$F_c$  = contact force

$F_{Sensor,i}$  = measured force at sensor  $i$

$a_{Sensor,i}$  = measured acceleration at sensor  $i$

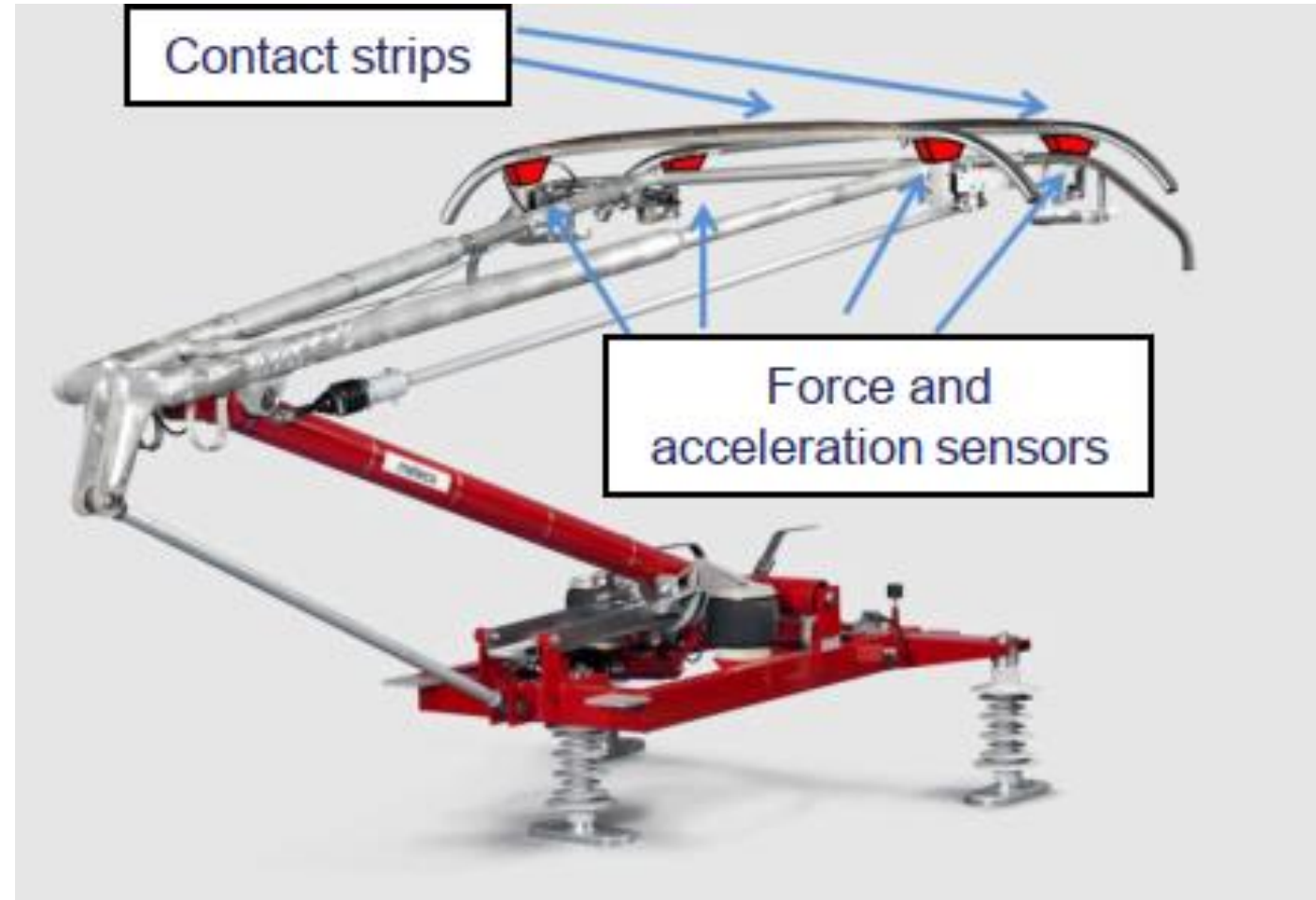
$k_f$  = number of force sensors

$k_a$  = number of acceleration sensors

$m_{above}$  = mass of the panhead located above the force sensors

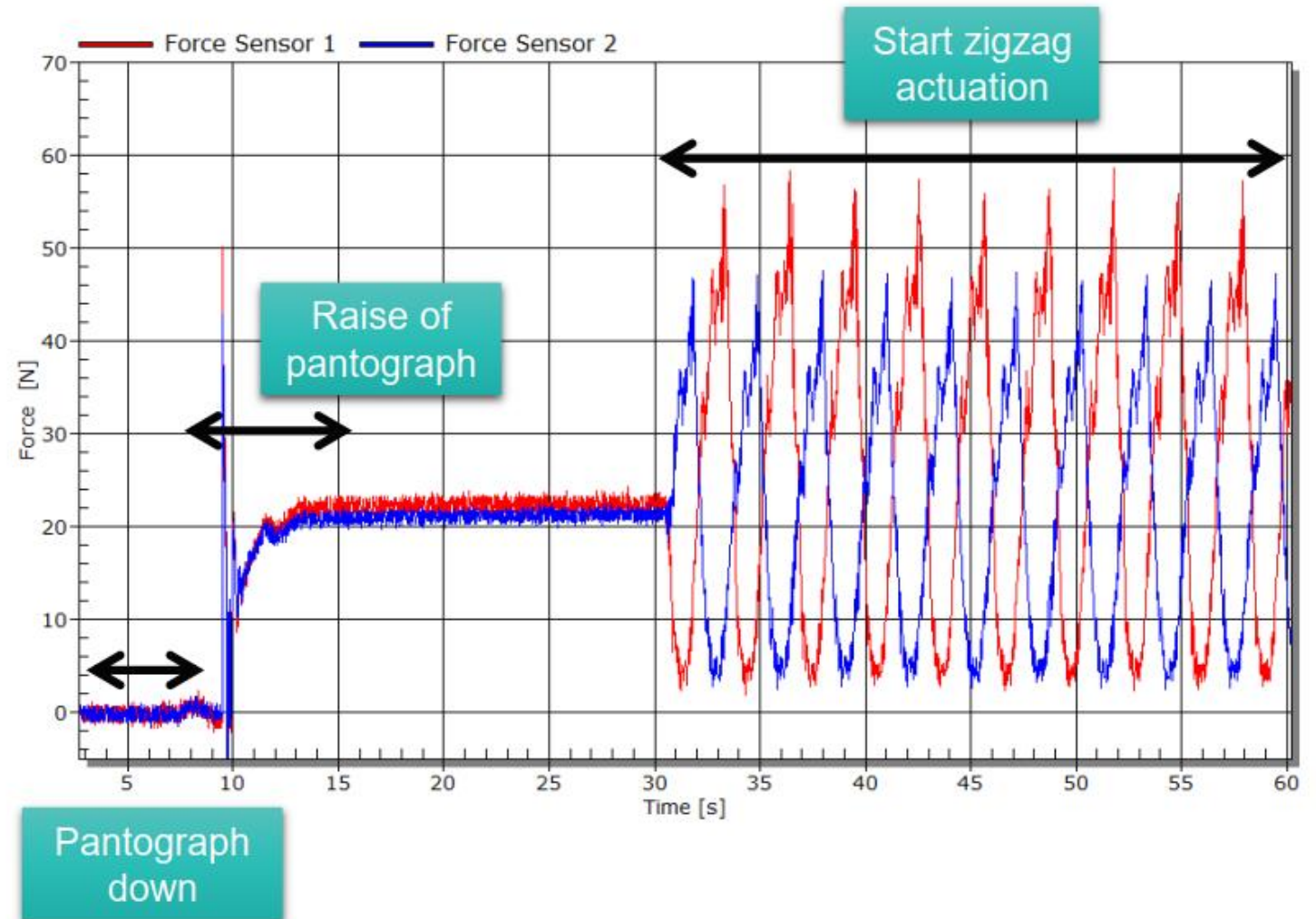
$F_{corr,aero}$  = aerodynamic correction force

(velocity dependent, retrieved from lookup table)

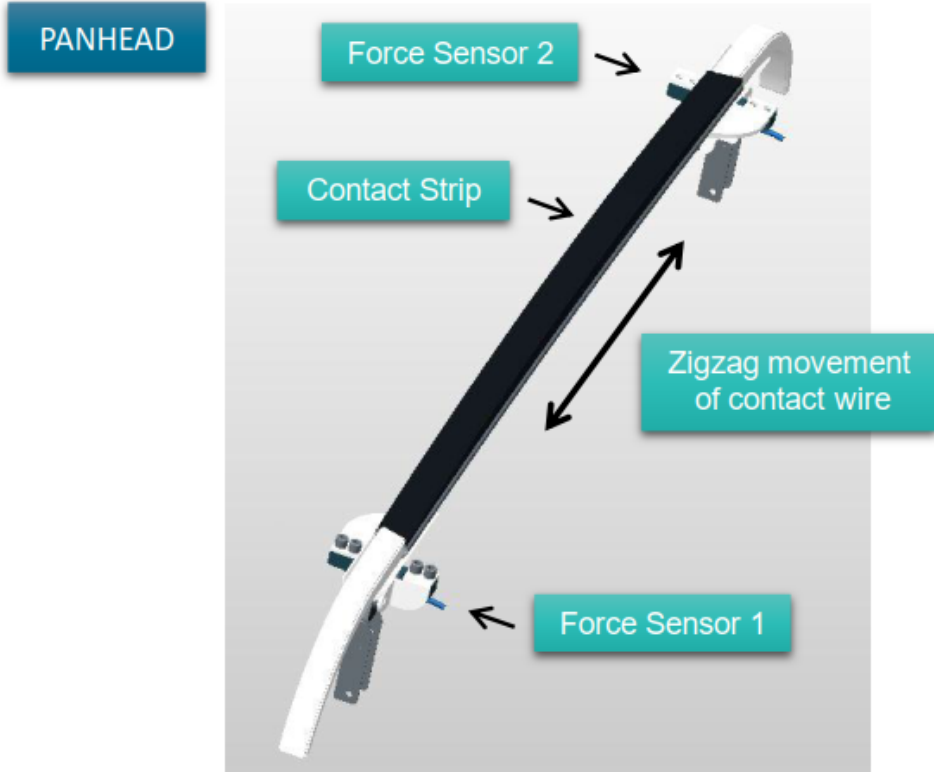


# Monitoring pantograph / OCL condition and interaction via specially equipped pantographs

- Force under zigzag actuation scenario



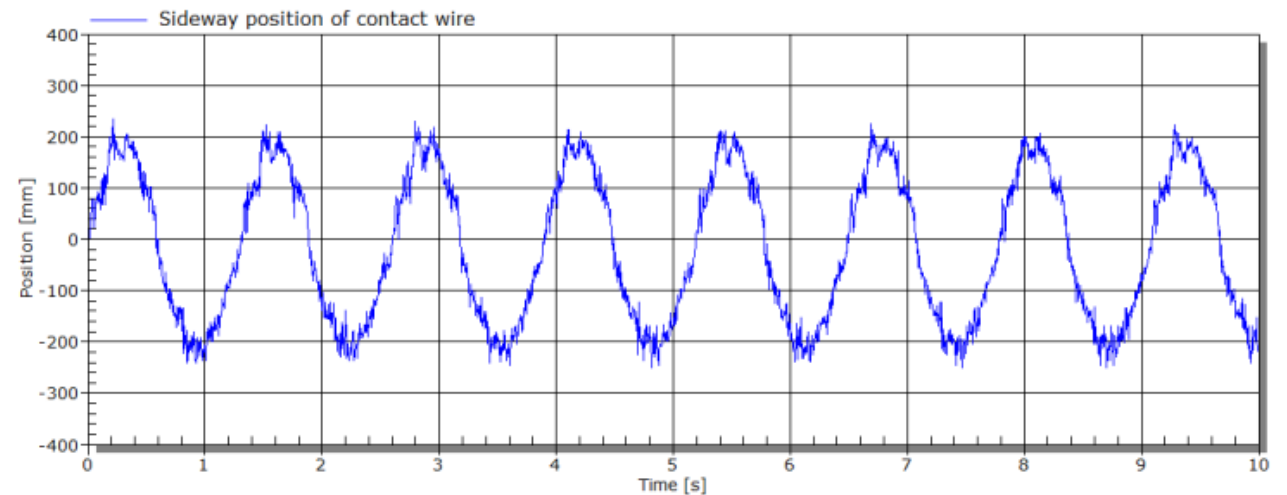
# Monitoring pantograph / OCL condition and interaction via specially equipped pantographs



$$x = \frac{F_2}{F_1 + F_2} L - L/2$$

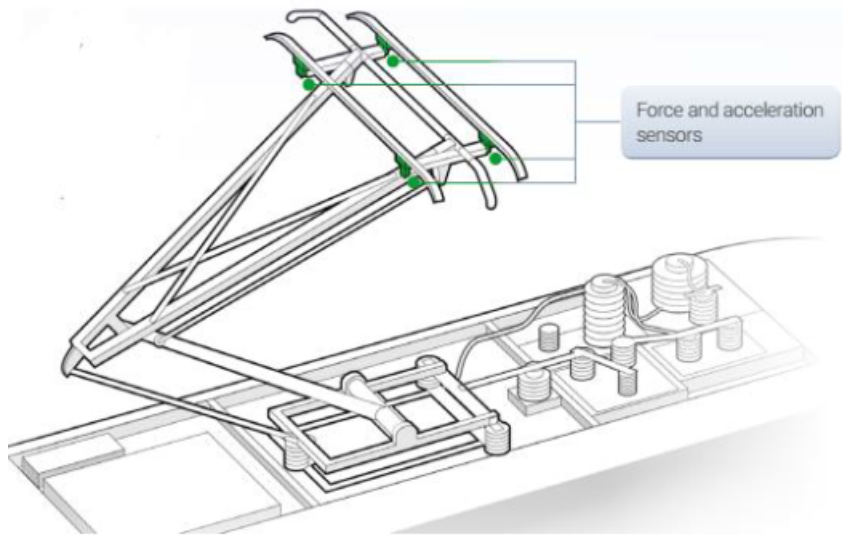
With:

$x = 0$  middle position  
 $L$  distance between force sensors

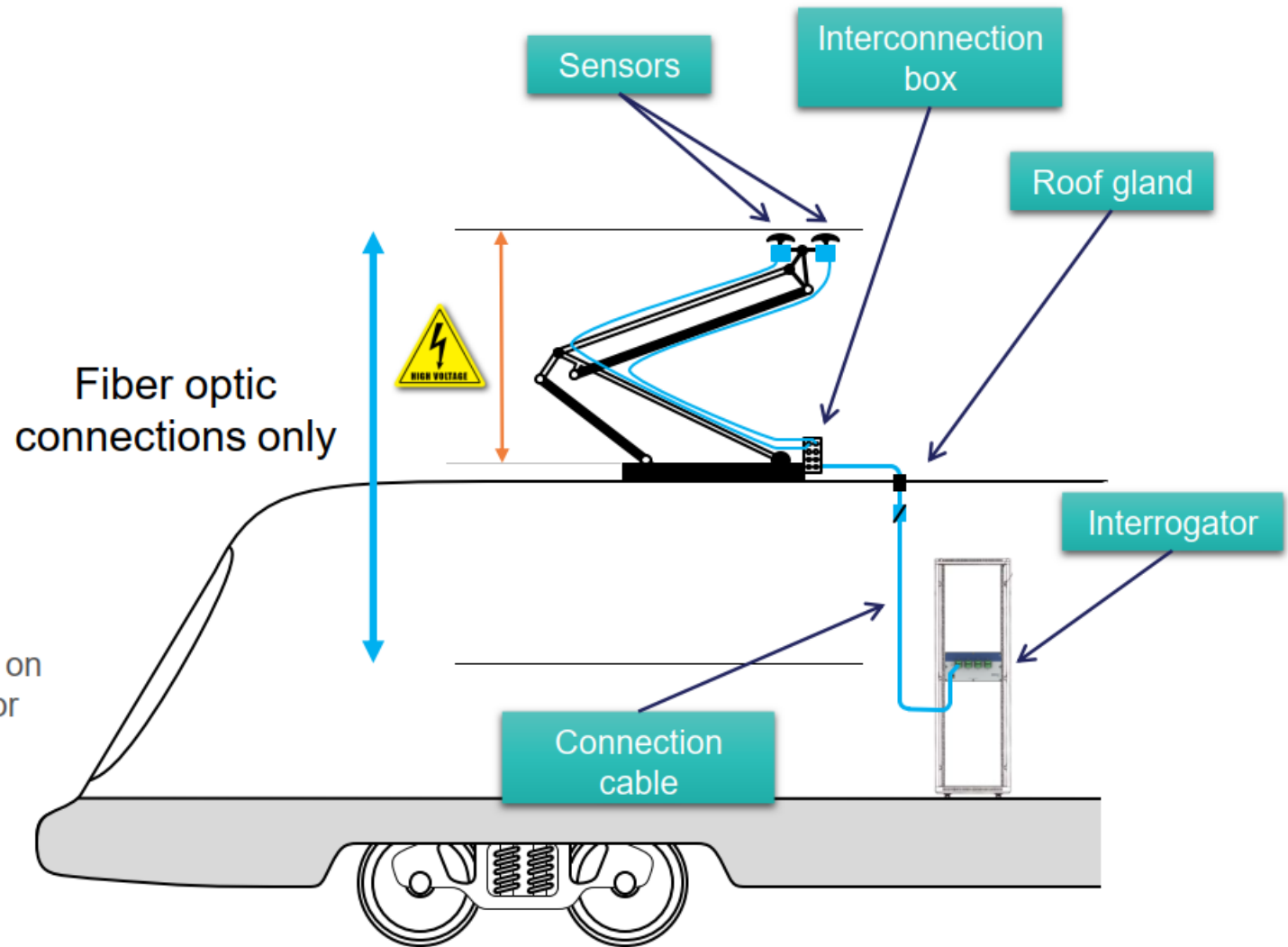




# Monitoring pantograph / OCL condition and interaction via specially equipped pantographs

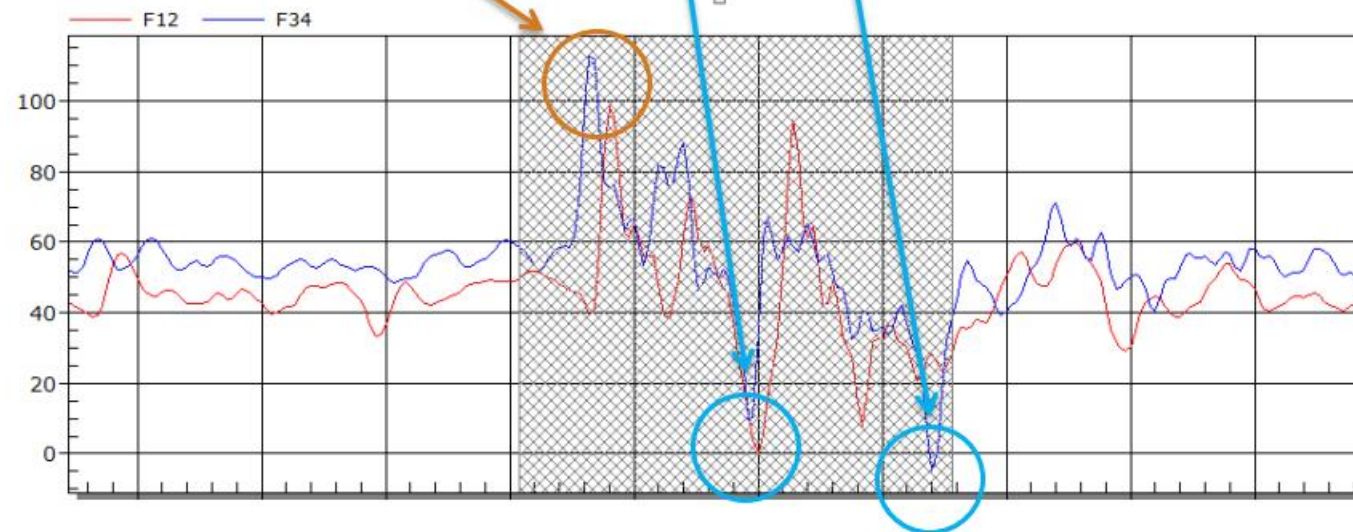


All cables, including on sensors, are rated for railway applications (manufactured by Huber+Suhner)



# Monitoring pantograph / OCL condition and interaction via specially equipped pantographs

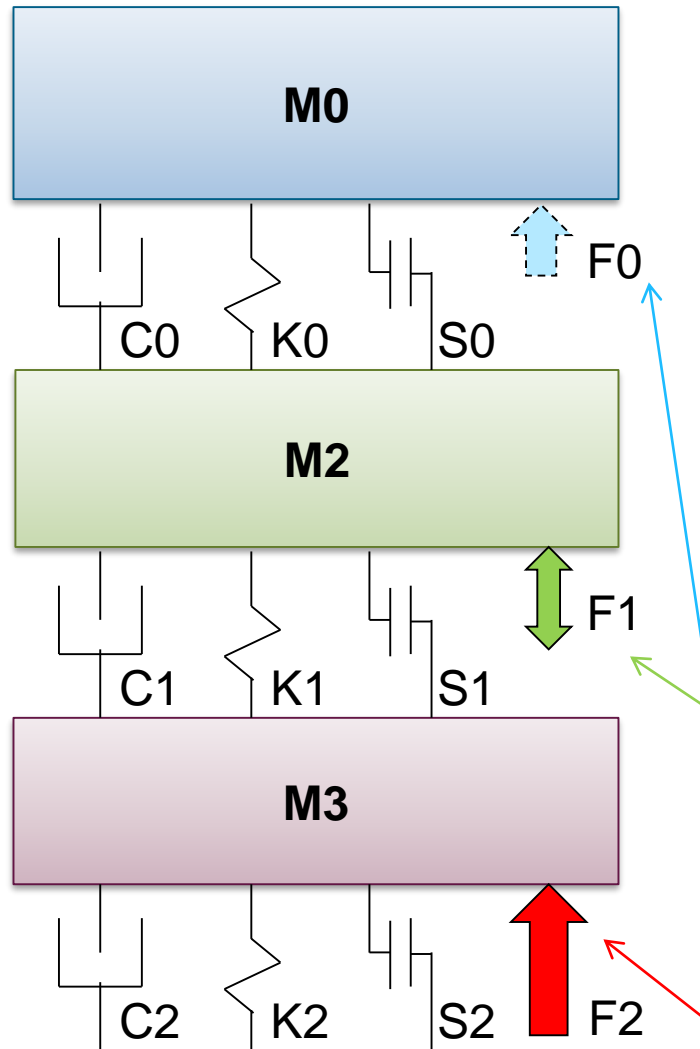
- Sum force per contact strip in red and blue
- Bigger impact
- followed by lose of contact (force $\leq$ 0)



# Simulation / Emulation

Improvement in pantograph and overhead contact line interaction via advanced simulation and introduction of emulation

# Status quo of simulating pantograph / OCL interaction



Current theoretical simulations of pantograph / catenary interaction are based on **simplified lumped mass models** of the pantographs in question. Such detailed simulations take hours or even days to deliver results for a certain combination of overhead contact line and pantograph model, for a limited scope of a certain amount of spans (e.g. 10) including one overlap section.

Lumped mass models generally consist of:

- M ... Mass (x3)
- C ... Damping (x3)
- K ... Spring rate (x3)
- S ... Damping (x3)
- F ... Force (x3)

## External forces

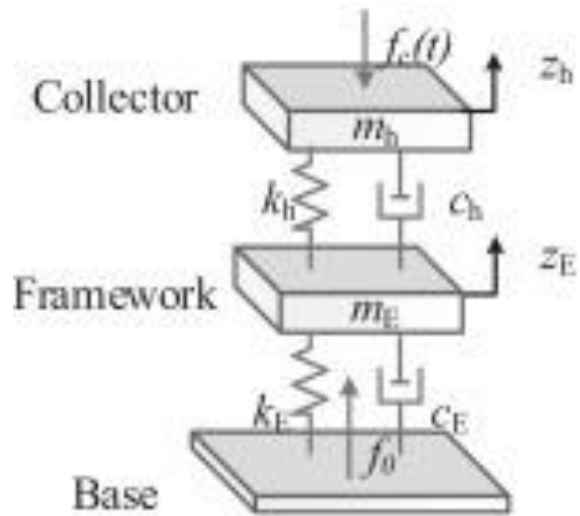
Mainly aerodynamic influences depending on running speed and direction

## Static contact force

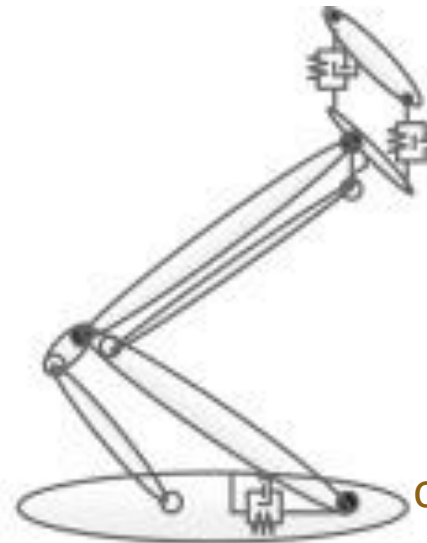
As provided by the actuator

# Multiple-body simulation

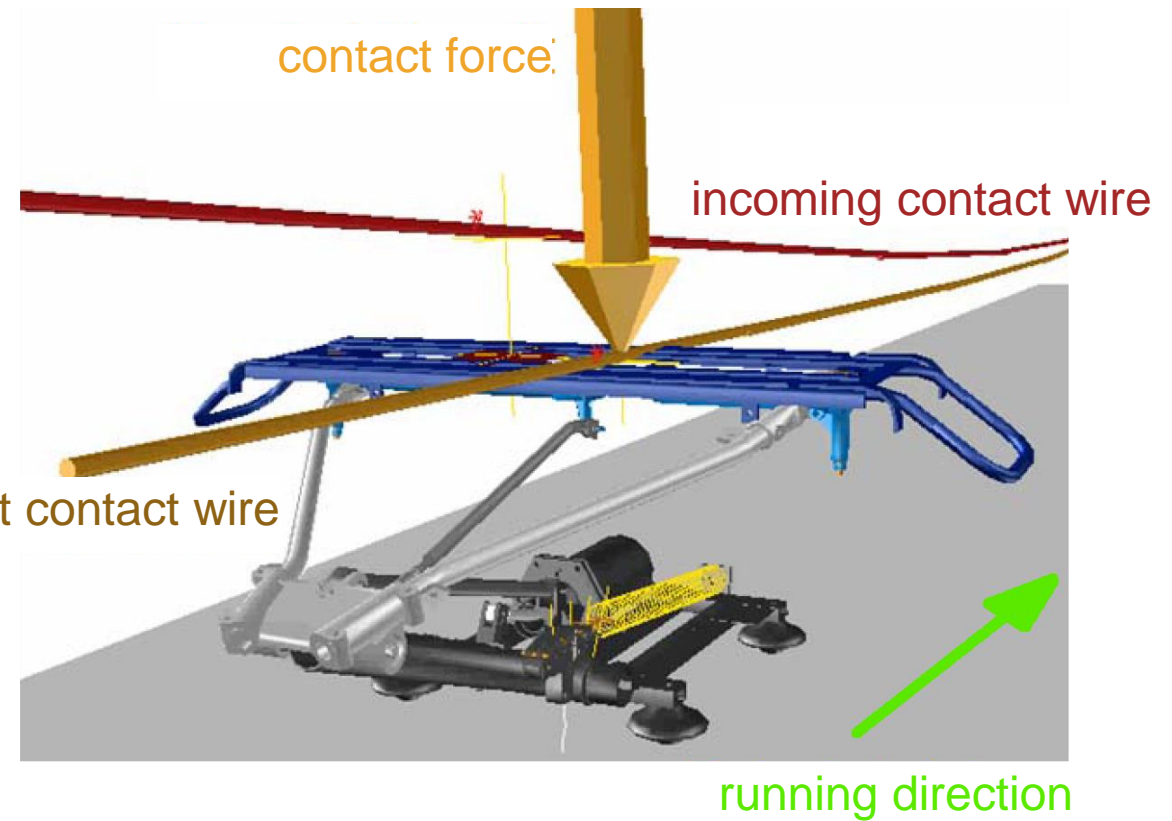
Introducing multi body simulation can greatly improve the predictability of pantograph characteristics and pantograph / OCL behaviour



(a) Lumped-mass model

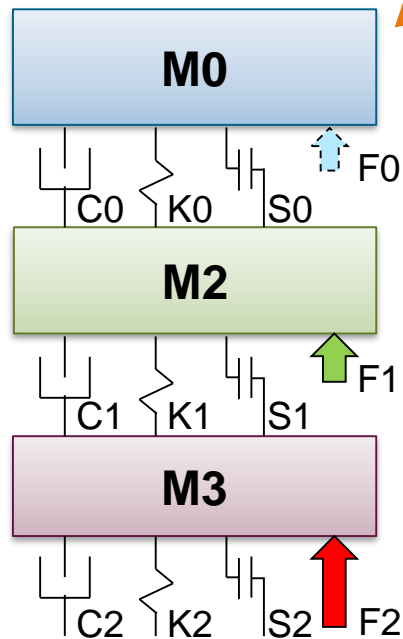
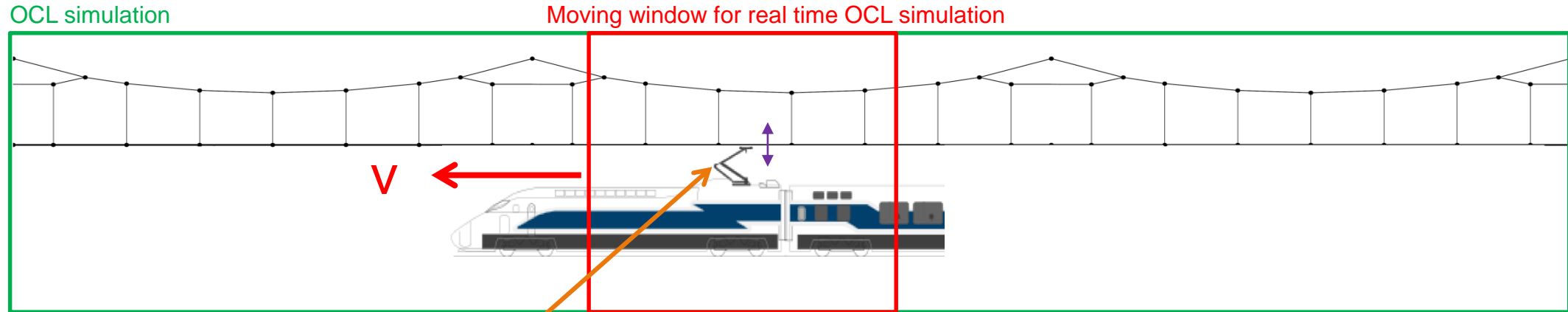


(b) Multi-body model





# Real time simulation of pantograph / OCL interaction

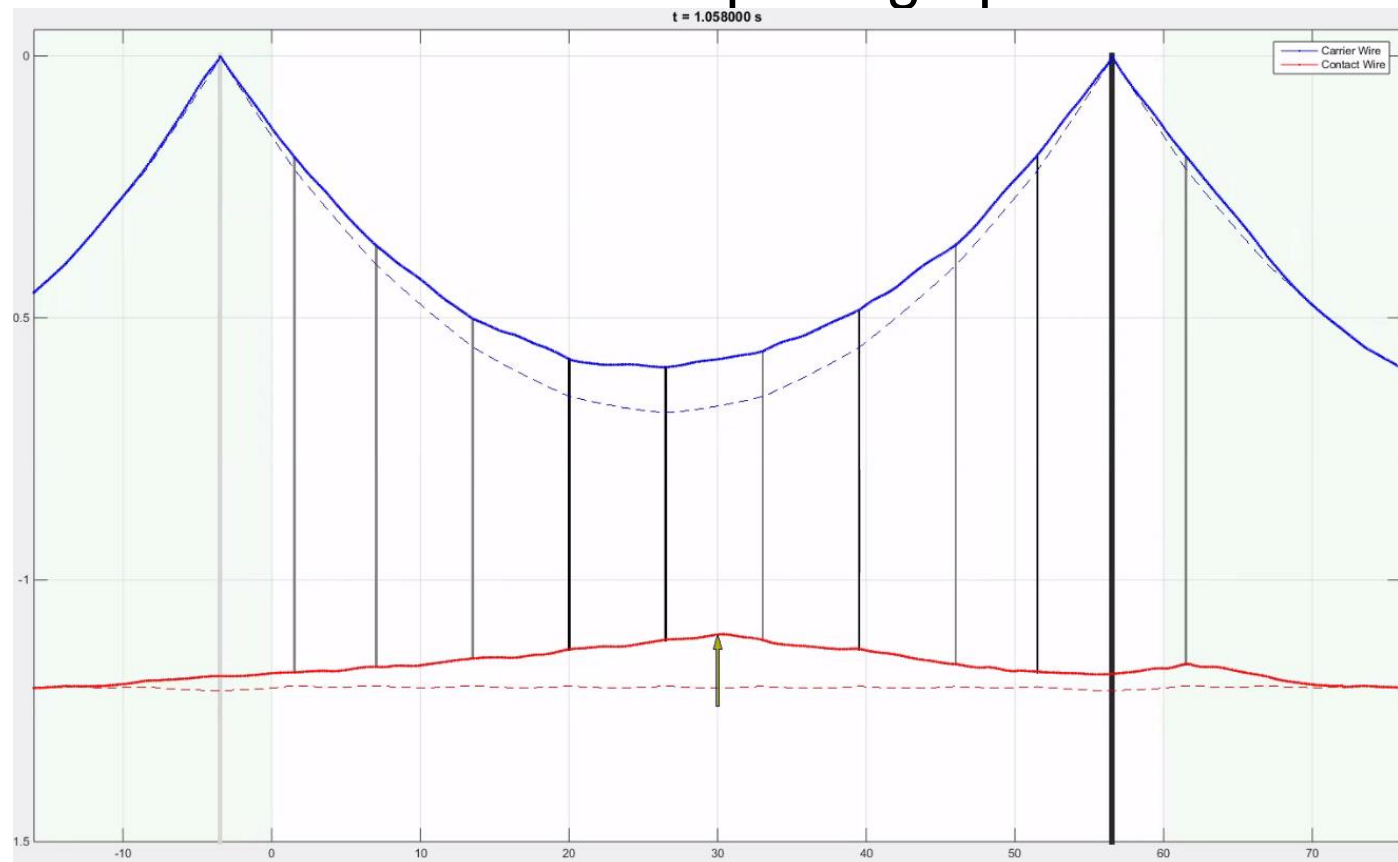


In case of our method of **real time OCL simulation** a window moves along the simulation model of the overhead contact line and solves all necessary equations around the pantograph model in real time

# Real time simulation of pantograph/OCL interaction

Introducing real time simulation methods of pantograph/OCL interaction enables new methods for hardware-in-the-loop testing

## Video 3: Interaction pantograph/OCL



# Emulation

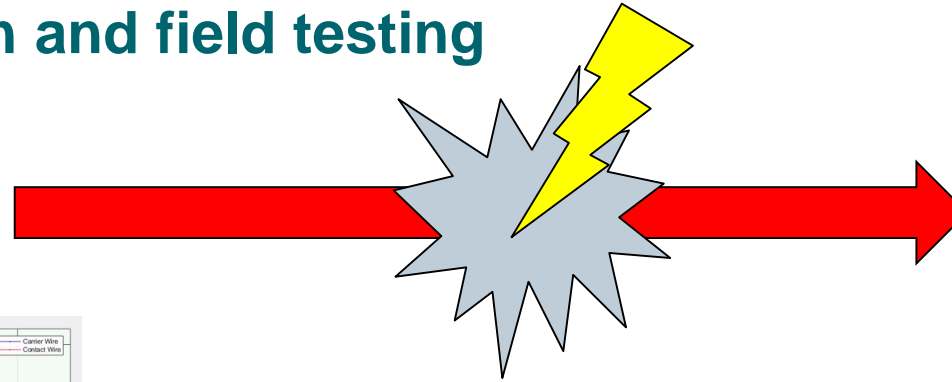
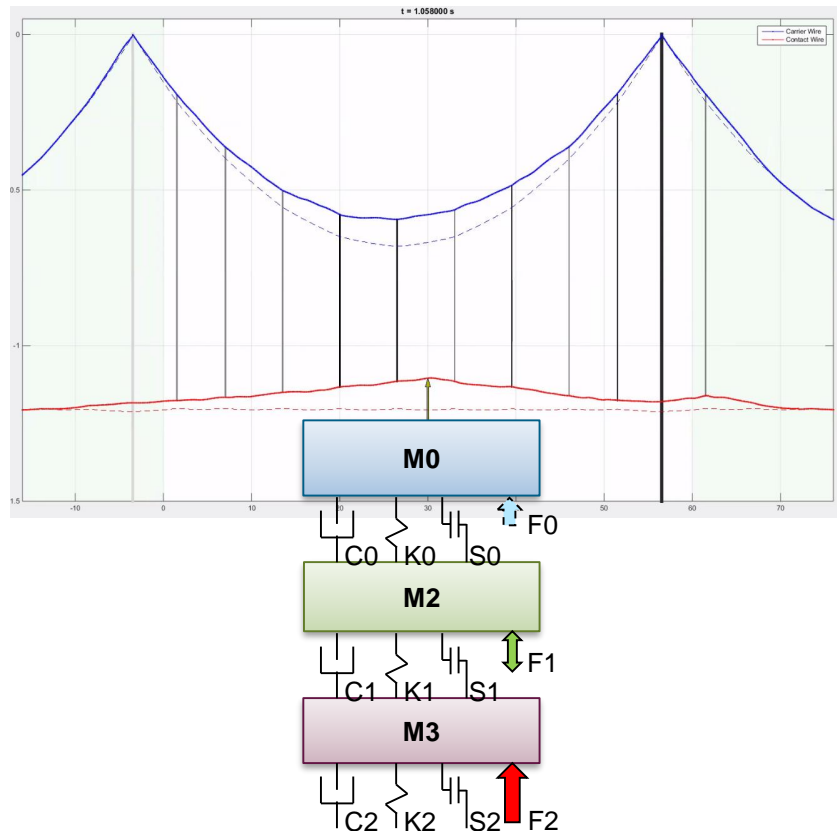
Incorporating hardware-in-the-loop  
testing to aid the development  
homologation process

# Status quo

## Gap between simulation and field testing

### Simulation

- Lumped mass



### Field tests

- Vehicle test runs under operating conditions



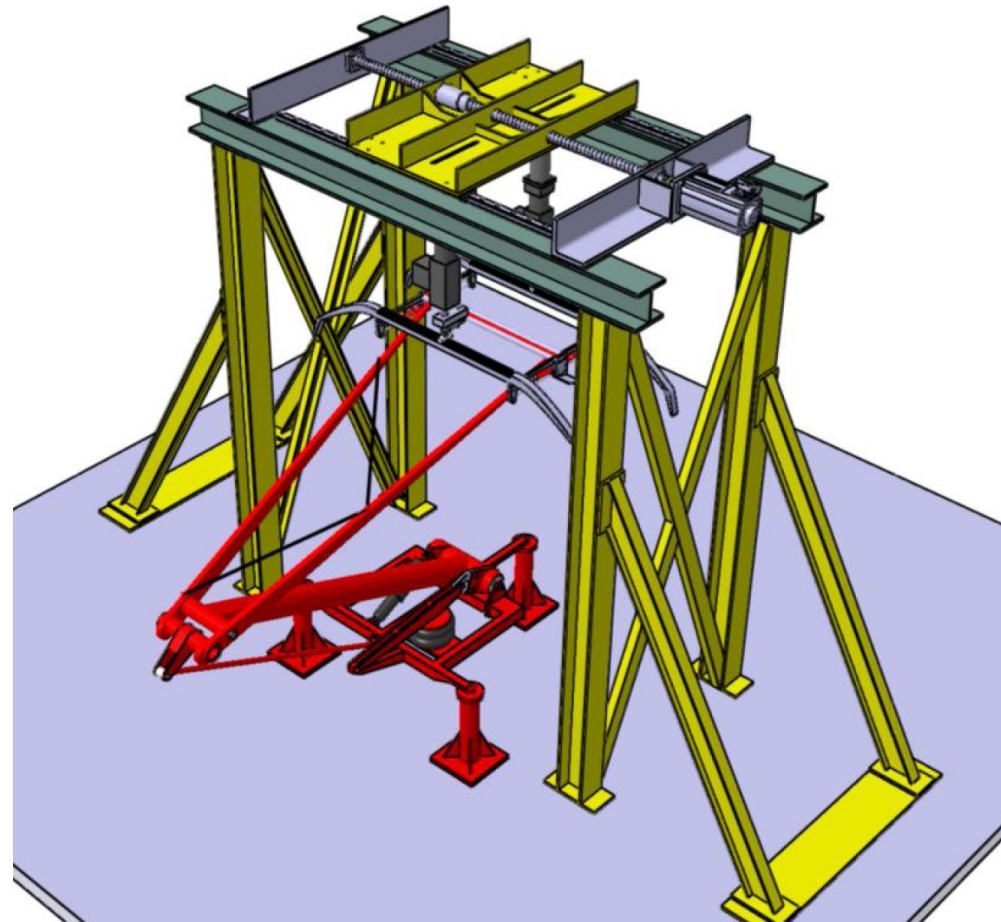
Transitioning from OCL simulations with simplified pantograph models to field tests can entail the following risks:

- **Safety risks** (can it be done safely?)
- **Technical risks** (can it be done at all?)
- **Deadline risks** (can it be done in time?)
- **Economical risks** (can it be done on budget?)

# Examples of pantograph test rigs for hardware-in-the-loop (HIL) testing



DB Systemtechnik

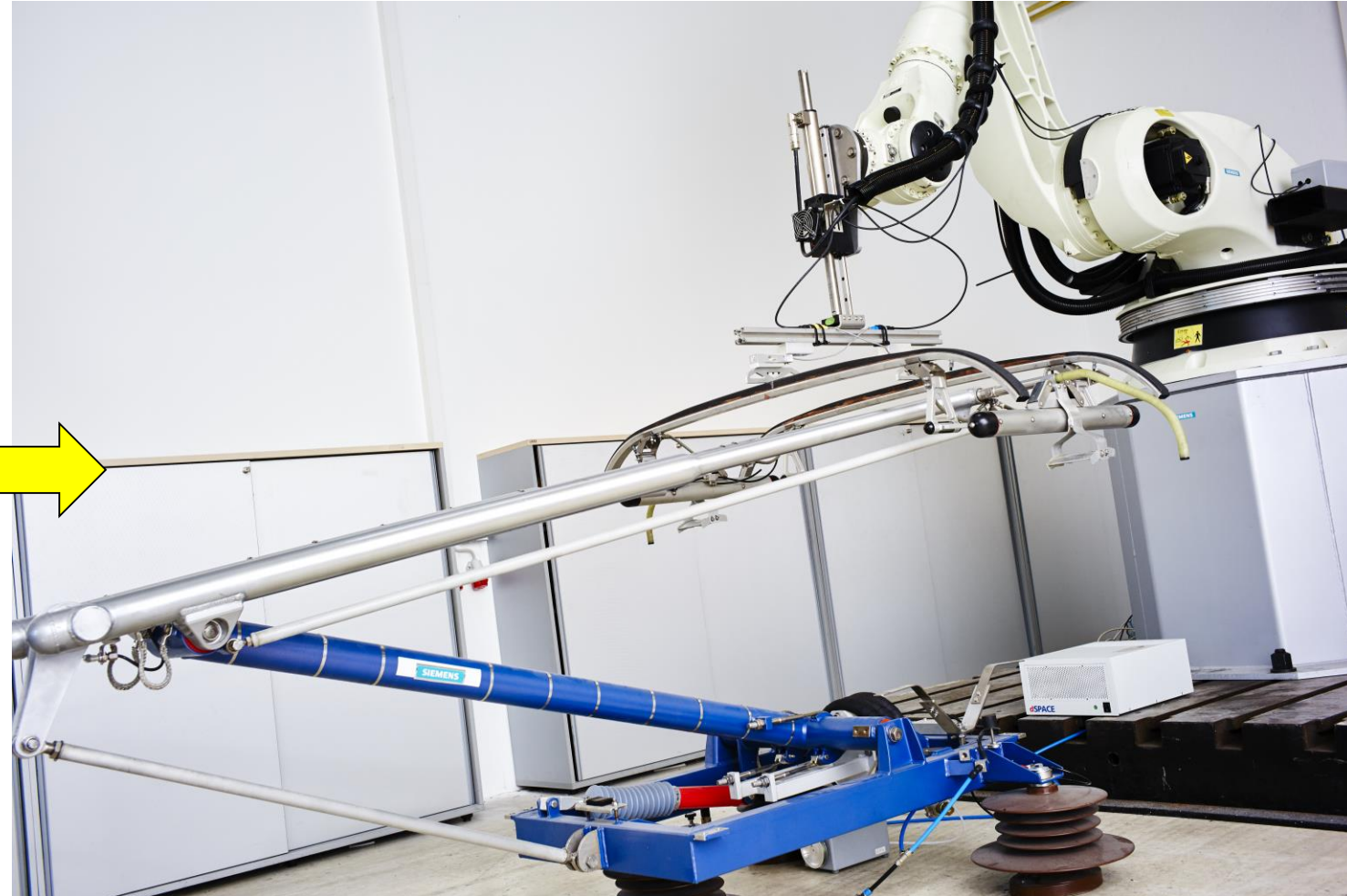
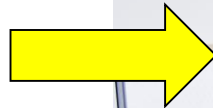
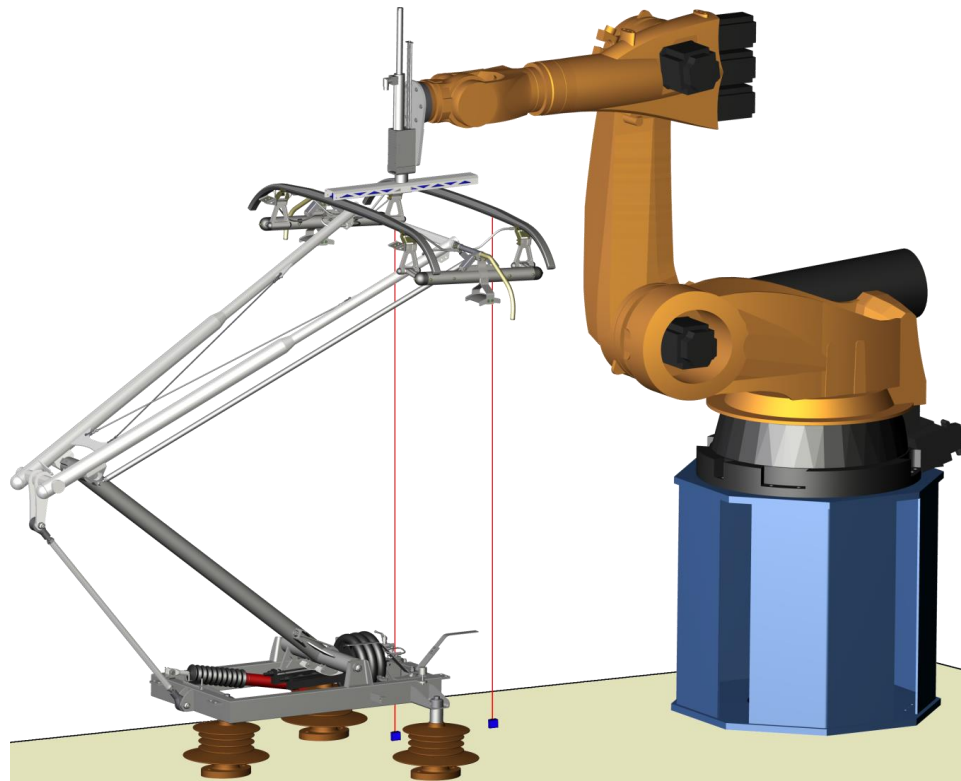


PoLiMi



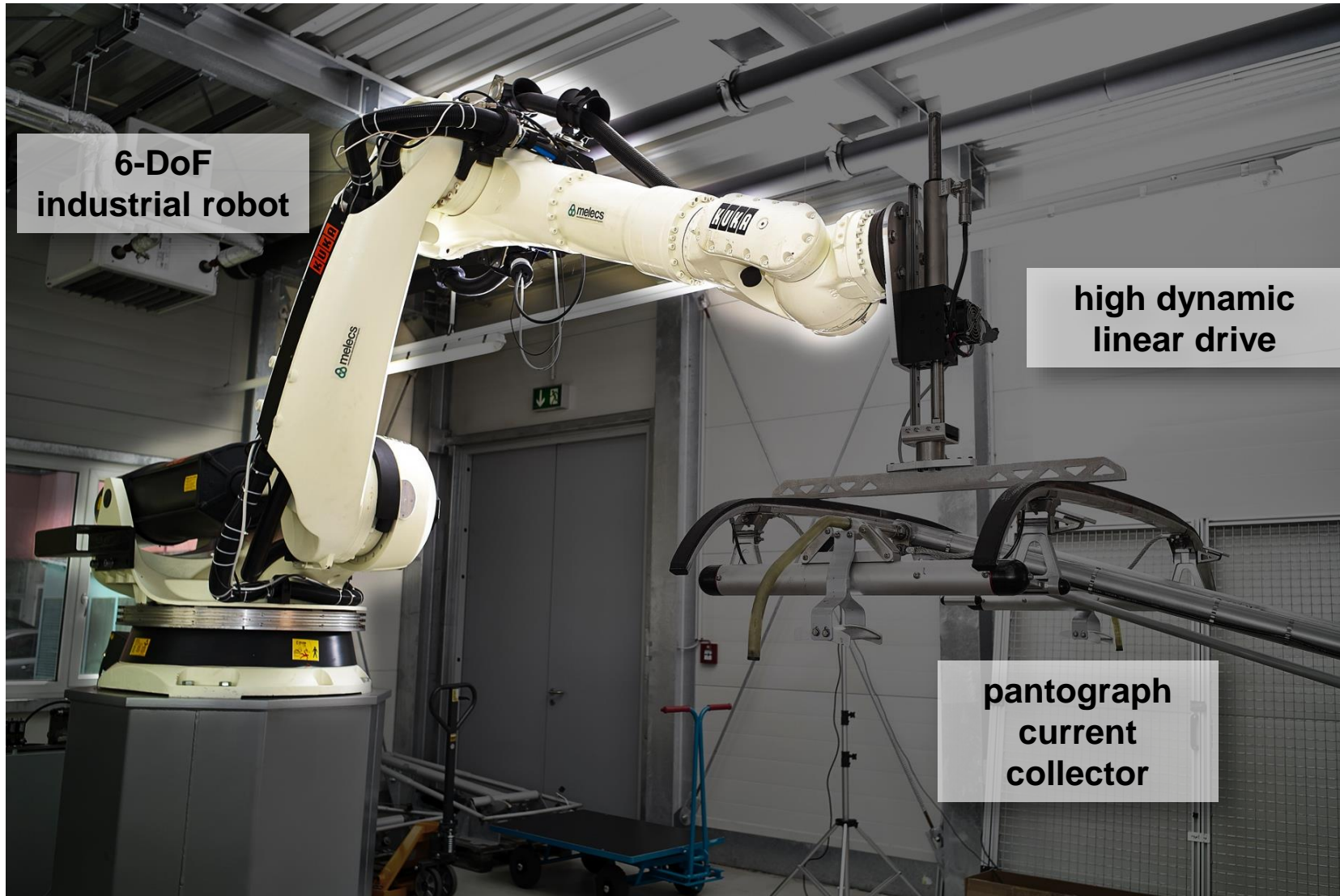
# SIEMENS pantograph test rig

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# SIEMENS pantograph test rig

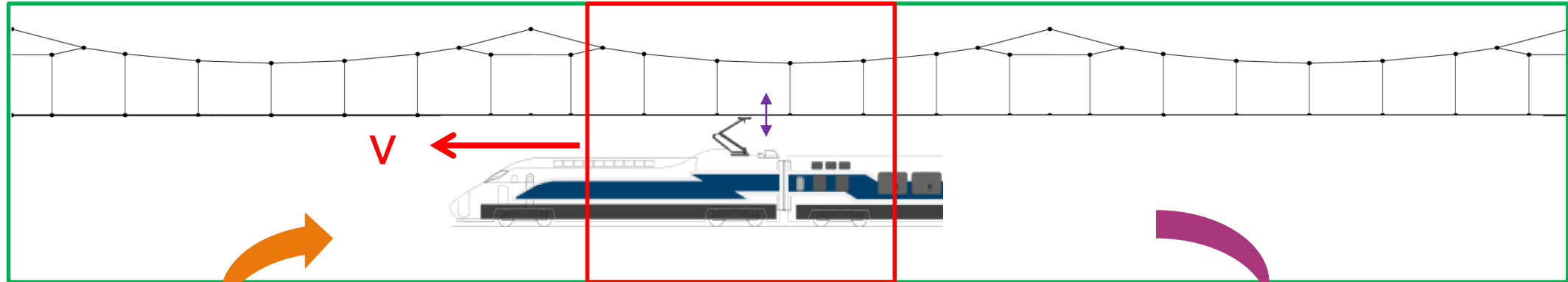
**SIEMENS**  
*Ingenuity for life*



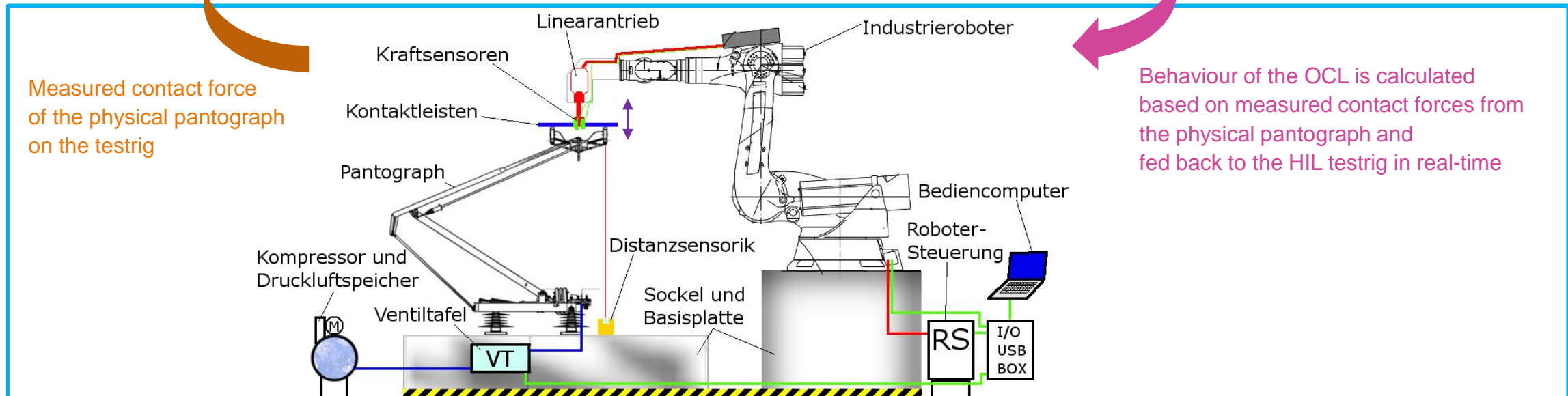
# High-end hardware-in-the-loop testing by combining real time simulation with hardware-in-the-loop testrigs

OCL simulation

Moving window for real time OCL simulation

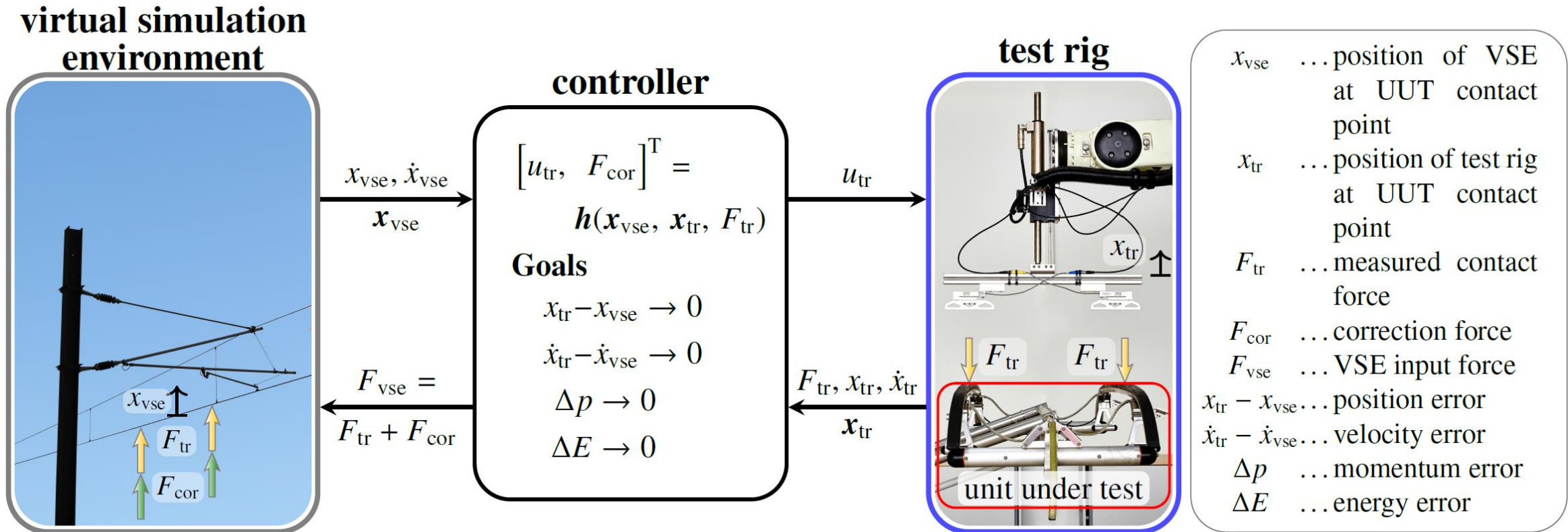


Emulation

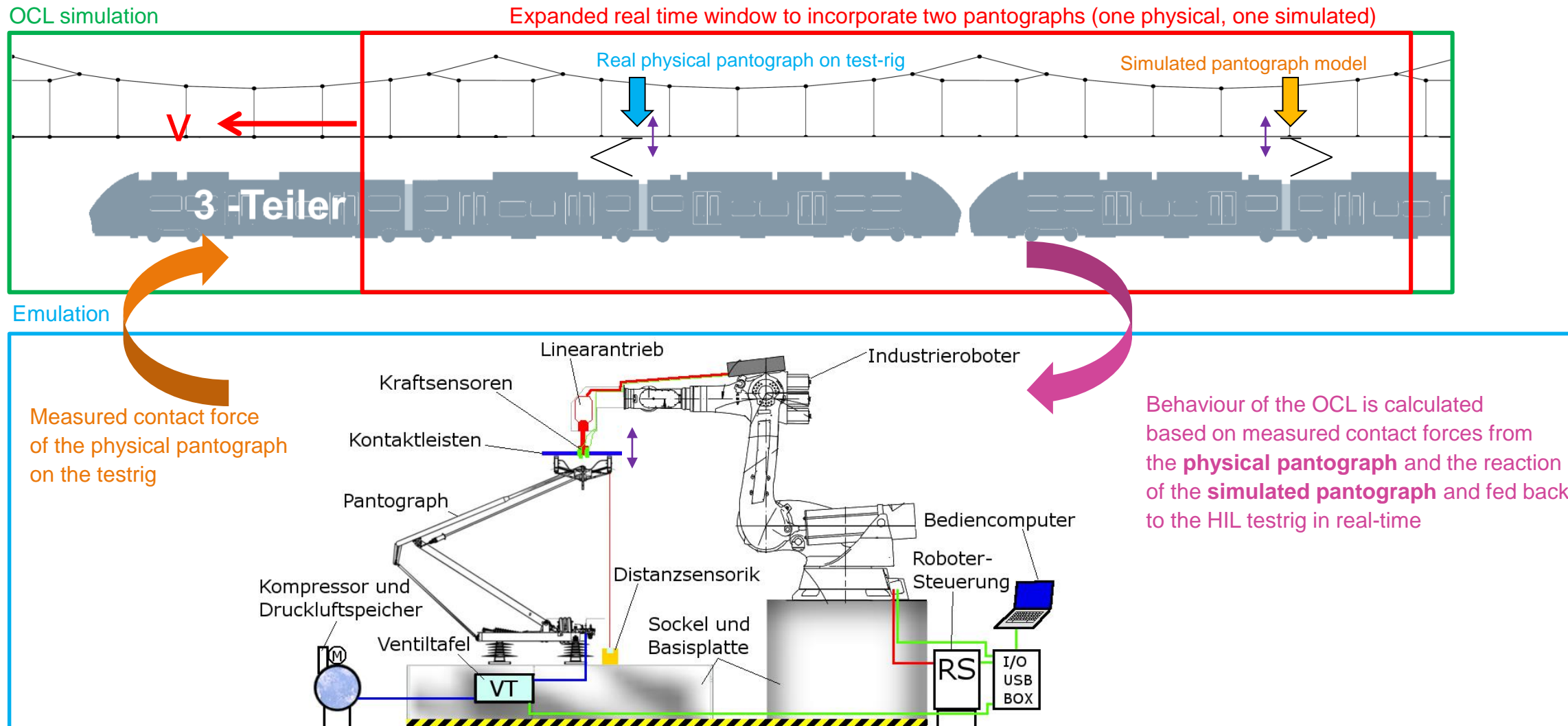




# High-end hardware-in-the-loop testing by combining real time simulation with hardware-in-the-loop testrigs

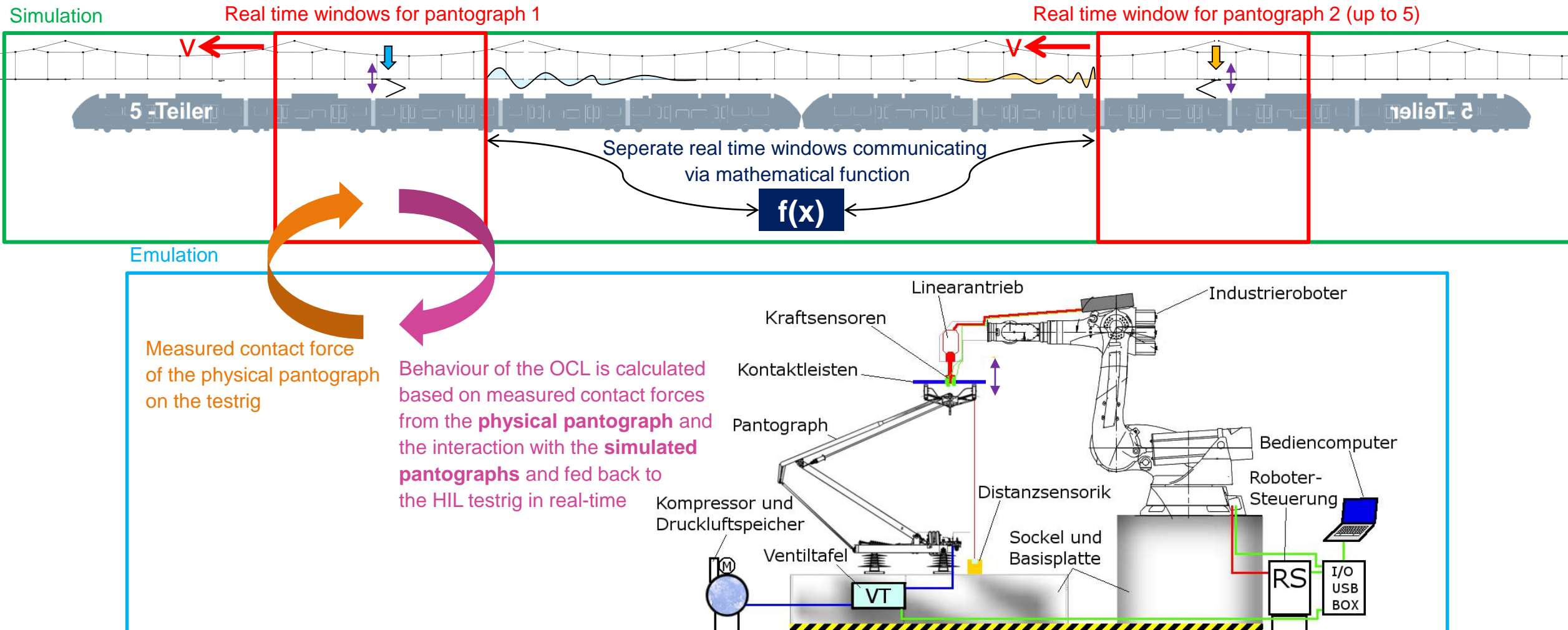


# Expanding the scope for multi traction





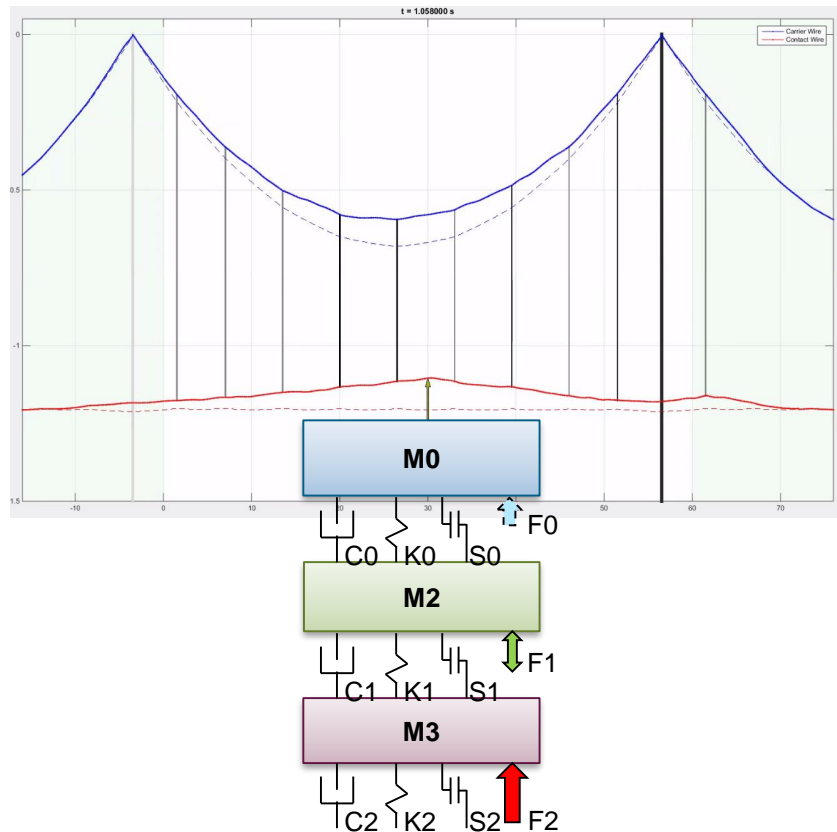
# Scalable scope expansion via multiple real time windows



# Hardware-in-the-loop-testing closing the gap between simulation and field testing

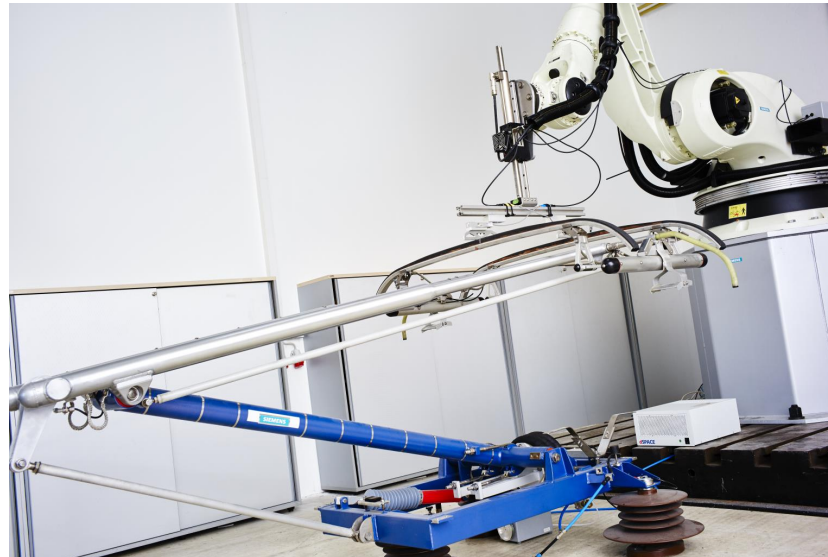
## Simulation

- Lumped mass
- Multi body



## Emulation

- Hardware-in-the-loop testruns



## Field tests

- Vehicle test runs under operating conditions



Introducing **hardware-in-the-loop testing** to bridge the gap between theoretical simulations and field tests

- **Minimizes risks (technical and economical)**
- **Improves safety**

Thank you very much for your attention

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