

ICT COST Action IC1404

# Systematic Literature Review on Multi-Paradigm Modelling for Cyber-Physical Systems

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# 1 Introduction

This document reports on the Systematic Literature Review (SLR) of Multi-Paradigm modelling for Cyber-Physical Systems (MPM4CPS) of Working Group4 on Education and Dissemination of the ICT COST Action IC1404. The goal of this SLR is to systematically describe the latest original research studies on MPM4CPS, and in particular the models, meta-models, languages, tools, and processes that enable MPM4CPS.

In this chapter, the report describes the major underlying concepts that support multi-paradigm modelling of CPS, explains our research method, and gives an overview of the related work.

In the following chapters, we give a detailed description of our study protocol (chapter 2), of the platform and the process behind the study (chapter 3), and of the study results (chapter 4). The conclusion of the report can be found in chapter 5, followed by Appendix A with the description and the results of the protocol validation survey.

## 1.1 Keywords and definitions

A model is an abstraction of a system that highlights the system's relevant aspects, and is often used in place of the system under development (Kühne (2006)). Thus, a model can be considered a simplified representation (or view) of a system. Modelling is a fundamental technique used in various Engineering fields, as well as other areas such as Physics, Mathematics, Biology, Economy, Politics and Philosophy (Favre (2005)).

The act of modelling involves three distinct concepts (Lee (2015)): the subject that is being modeled, the model itself, and the modelling paradigm (also known as the *formalism*). The subject of modelling is typically either present (or potentially present) in the world — as in the case of scientific disciplines — or is intentionally designed to be deployed in the world — as in the case of engineering disciplines. Models differ in the levels of abstraction. A more abstract model omits more information about the subject being modeled.

*Formalisms* are mathematical approaches to describing models, consisting of an abstract syntax and a formal semantics (Broman et al. (2012)). *Modelling languages* are concrete implementations of formalisms, expressing systems in a formal and precise way by using diagrams, rules, symbols, signs, letters, numerals, and so on. A modelling language may implement more than one formalism by combining their syntax and semantics. Finally, a language is associated with tools to support it, such as parsers, simulators, model-checkers, and code generators. A *meta-model* is a definition of a modelling language, which should be defined in a more abstract language to describe new modelling languages themselves. The meta-modelling language is a modelling language in its own right, and its meta-model is referred to as a meta-meta-model<sup>1</sup>.

*Model-Driven Development (MDD)* is a software development approach that uses models as specifications of software and relies on transformations of those models to source code for software development<sup>2</sup>. MDD is successfully applied in software engineering, and it has been advocated as an effective way to deal with software complexity. In MDD, models are first-class artifacts used by the developers at multiple levels of abstraction. The source code for the system's implementation is primarily generated from models, and sometimes can be not edited by

<sup>1</sup>A. Kleppe, S. Warmer, and W. Bast. MDA Explained - The Model Driven Architecture: Practice and Promise. Addison-Wesley, Boston, 2003

<sup>2</sup>A. Kleppe, S. Warmer, and W. Bast. MDA Explained - The Model Driven Architecture: Practice and Promise. Addison-Wesley, Boston, 2003



the developers. Therefore, creation, debugging, and testing of models are the primary activities in this approach to software development.

*Cyber-Physical Systems (CPS)* are systems that integrate computation, networking, and physical processes. The key characteristic of CPS is their seamless integration of both hardware and software resources for computational, communication and control purposes, all of them co-designed with the physical engineered components (Lun et al. (2016)). The term cyber-physical systems was coined in 2006 in a workshop organized by the National Science Foundation<sup>3</sup> whose participants were selected experts from the USA and European Union who advocated to use this term in order to emphasize importance the integration of digital computation with physical processes. Over the last decade, CPS have also been referred to as embedded or mechatronic systems.

The intellectual challenge of CPS lies in the intersection (not the union) of the physical and the cyber domains of engineering. CPS combines engineering methods from mechanical, environmental, civil, electrical, bio-medical, chemical, aeronautical, and industrial engineering with the models and methods of computer science (Lee (2015)). Therefore, engineering CPS requires trans-disciplinary approaches merging different engineering disciplines. An important challenge of CPS is to conjoin the classic models from computer science (programs, graphs, object models) with the abstractions typically used for physical processes including (differential equations and stochastic processes). Currently, while many research efforts are in progress, there is no common modelling approach yet to all of the involved disciplines in CPS.

CPS technology is typically based on the foundations of embedded systems, sensor technology, and network technology. Depending on the context of a particular CPS, the following requirements may be relevant (Liu et al. (2017)):

- Reliability and fault-tolerance
- Safe concurrency and distributed computing
- Real-time schedulability
- Efficiency of information processing
- Autonomous operation.
- Physical and cyber security
- Dynamic reorganization and adaptation
- Interoperability of heterogeneous components and systems

A model of a CPS comprises models of physical processes as well as models of the software, computation, and networks. Physical processes are typically viewed as multiple parallel processes related to mechanical motion, energy exchange, electrical dynamics, and so on. Measuring and controlling the dynamics of these processes by orchestrating actions that influence the processes are the main tasks of CPS (Derler et al. (2012a)). Digital computation and communication is characterized by discretization errors and delays in time, which are major modelling concerns for CPS software and networks.

A common model for CPS is a *hybrid system*, where physical processes are represented as continuous-time models, and computations are described as discrete-transition models such as state machines, dataflow models, synchronous/reactive models, and/or discrete event models. Continuous-time models are typically analyzed with solvers that numerically approximate the solutions to differential equations (Derler et al. (2012a)). There are many challenges in defining good hybrid systems modelling languages. These challenges include ensuring that

<sup>3</sup>NSF Workshop on Cyber-Physical Systems, Austin, Texas, <http://varma.ece.cmu.edu/cps/>



models of deterministic systems are indeed determinate. It is also challenging to accurately represent distinct events that are causally related but occur at the same time (Derler et al. (2012a)).

The development activities for modern complex systems, and in particular CPS, encompass multiple technical domains and teams, where each team is using its own set of modelling languages for the aspects of the system that are relevant to that team. Thus, it is required to properly integrate these languages. Indeed, the experience shows that using a single language to cover all domains would lead to very large monolithic languages, not easily customized for the development environment and tools needed by development organizations. These considerations lead to *Multi-Paradigm Modelling (MPM)* of CPS — a school of thought that advocates the combination of reusable *modular* modelling languages with different paradigms, using a single monolithic language for the whole system (Vangheluwe et al. (2002)).

MPM proposes to model every relevant part and aspect of a system explicitly, at the most appropriate level(s) of abstraction, using the most appropriate modelling formalism(s). The current approaches to MPM offer somewhat modular and incremental treatment of a single aspect of modelling languages or model operations. However, support for modelling large-scale complex CPS in a modular and incremental fashion, as required for industrial and practical contexts, is not offered so far. The literature review described in the rest of this document aims to survey and assess the state-of-the-art of MPM for CPS.

One of the recent efforts in MPM for CPS was the EU-based ICT COST Action IC1404 Multi-Paradigm modelling for Cyber-Physical Systems In the context of WG1 of this action, Al-Ali et al. (2017b) developed an ontology for the major concepts of CPS and CPS models has been developed by in the report on the the Framework to Relate / Combine Modelling Languages and Techniques (WG 1.2). In particular, this report presents three related ontologies: an ontology of CPS concepts (such as computational and physical components), an ontology of MPM concepts (such as formalism and logic), and finally an MPM for CPS ontology that combines the previous two. This literature review relies on these ontologies for definitions of MPM for CPS concepts.

For definition and interpretation of terms related to CPS and MPM, this literature review relies on three guiding documents, two of which are the deliverables of the aforementioned COST Action. The documents, referred to as D1, D2, and D3, are as follows:

- **D1:** State-of-the-Art on Current Formalisms used in Cyber-Physical Systems Development (WG 1.1, by Al-Ali et al.). This document provides a comprehensive collection of formalisms, languages, and tools used in CPS engineering. This document includes such formalisms as Bayesian networks and hybrid automata.
- **D2:** A Survey on Concepts, Applications, and Challenges in Cyber-Physical Systems (KSII Transactions on Internet and Information Systems, Gunes et al. (2014)). This document is used as a reference for the definition of domains of application for CPS. The document includes such domains as smart manufacturing and air transportation.
- **D3:** CPS Profile - Pilot Assessment (WG 4.3, by Goulão et al. (2016a)). This document describes an ontology of expert knowledge in CPS that applies to CPS engineers. The concepts both from formalisms and application domains are used to characterize the knowledge of CPS engineers. The document includes topics such as DSL foundations, Simulink, smart cities, and automotive systems.

More details on how these documents inform our research questions can be found in chapter 2.

## 1.2 Research Method

Systematic Literature Review (SLR) is a research method to obtain, evaluate, and interpret information related to a research question. A SLR provides an objective reliable, rigorous, and methodological manner to conduct some study. In this report, we conduct a SLR of multi-paradigm modelling of Cyber-Physical Systems (CPS). This research aim requires accumulating a body of knowledge for various reasons, which are: 1) justifying the basis for future research, 2) learning as much as possible from other domains related to the topic, and 3) providing a basis for other researchers as well as students who consider learning about and contributing to this area.

The research objective of this SLR is to **identify and analyze multi-paradigm modelling approaches for CPS**. The expected results of the study will give an overview of the existing literature on multi-paradigm modelling of CPS. With this objective, we systematically investigate the research literature of this topic in the period between 2006-2017. The quest is to identify models, and implementations in a model-driven formal way that lends itself to a more systematic development of CPSs. Next is to summarize the state-of-the-art research trends, as well as to categorize proposed approaches, techniques, tools and methods for assessing and improving a multi-paradigm modelling of CPS.

The findings in the literature are to be mapped to the ontologies and their individuals that were introduced in a deliverable of WG1 (Al-Ali et al. (2017a)), in addition to identifying the topics that cover the interests of MPM4CPS engineers (Goulão et al. (2016b)). In context of WG4, it is necessary to map the capabilities that should be mastered by the CPS engineer, in particular: Map of fundamental CPS engineering knowledge; Map MPM4CPS knowledge; and Organize different profiles for the CPS Experts. The all-over result will contribute to construction of a course on MPM4CPS, which is expected to serve for education purpose.

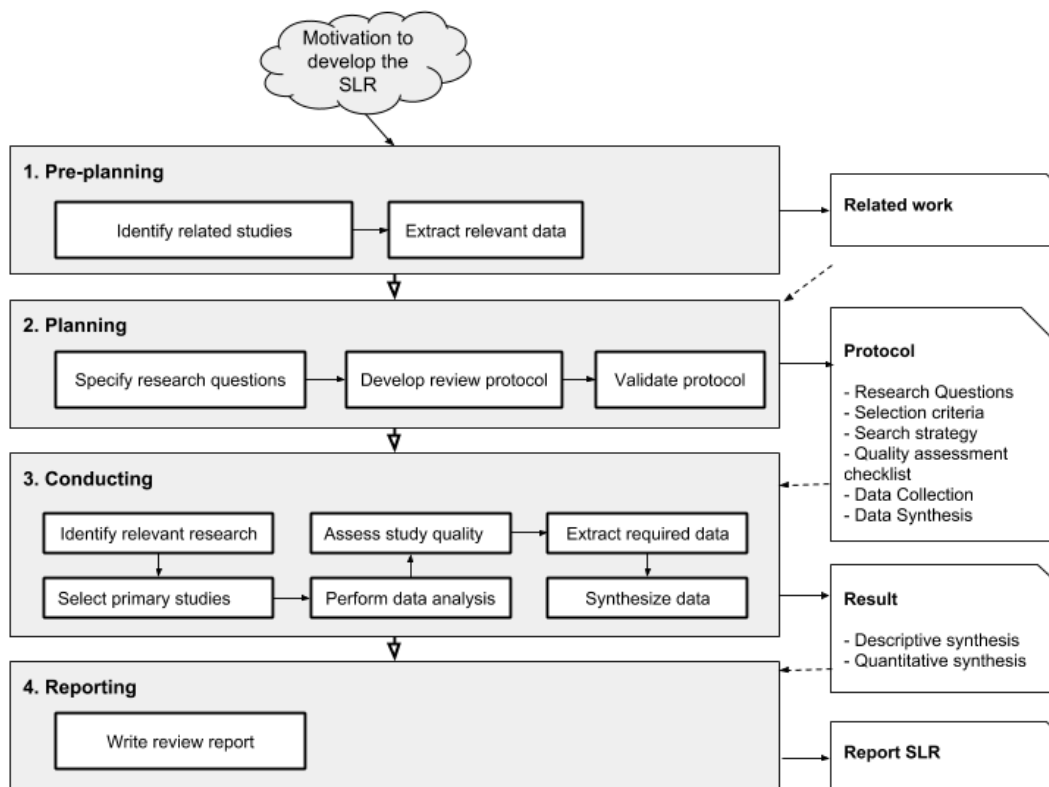


Figure 1.1: Review Process Overview based on Kitchenham (2007)





In this SLR, we planned our SLR process as suggested by Kitchenham (2007) (See Figure 1.1). During pre-planning we identified related studies, relevant keywords and definitions, which we further use to define our protocol. In the planning phase, reported in Chapter 2, the review protocol is developed as well as research strategy. The protocol was validated through a survey which was provided to members of COST action, and through pilot review session with some of reviewers. During conducting phase, which is reported in Chapter 5, the relevant research was identified two fold; (1) through automatic search over digital databases defined in protocol, and , (2) from the SLR on sustainability in modelling of CPS reported in Barišić and Cunha (2017). Articles obtained by automatic search passed screening phase, after which reviewers extracted required data. The data was further synthesized and quantitative results are reported in Chapter 4.

### 1.3 Related Work

Multiple systematic literature reviews have been produced on different topics in software engineering, but so far none has been conducted that investigates the multi-paradigm modelling of CPS. An original contribution of our effort is that for the first time in this research field, we have followed an SLR method to be as objective as possible in our selection of primary studies. However, we examine in detail SLR protocol from related work. Related studies provide the necessary instruments to replicate the study, or in our case to extend them to cover new research.

Lun et al. (2016) published *Cyber-Physical Systems Security: a Systematic Mapping Study*. This study aim at identifying, classifying, and analyzing existing research on CPS security in order to better understand how security is actually addressed when dealing with CPS. Authors empirically define a comparison framework for classifying methods or techniques for CPS security. From the collected data authors observe that even if solutions for CPS security has emerged only recently, in the last years they are gaining a sharply increasing scientific interest across heterogeneous publication venues. The systematic map of research on CPS security provided here is based on, for instance, application fields, various system components, related algorithms and models, attacks characteristics and defense strategies. Following string was used to obtain a primary studies: (('cyber physical' OR 'cyber-physical' OR cyberphysical OR 'networked control') AND system\*) OR CPS OR NCS) AND (attack\* OR secur\* OR protect\*)

Gunes et al. (2014), presents *A Survey on Concepts, Applications, and Challenges in Cyber-Physical Systems*. In order to shed some light on the origins, the terminology, relatively similar concepts, and today's challenges in CPS, authors presented a survey on related literature discussing practical applications and dominant research domains. Since CPS is a very broad research area, CPSs span diverse applications in different scales. Therefore, each application necessitates strong reasoning capabilities with respect to unique system-level requirements/challenges, the integration of cutting-edge technologies into the related application, and overall impact on the real world. Authors conclude that existing legacy systems have limited awareness of the CPS requirements, and that revolutionary design approaches are necessary to achieve the overall system objectives.

Derler et al. (2012b), focused on the challenges of modelling CPSs that arise from the heterogeneity, concurrency, and sensitivity to timing of such systems. A model of a CPS comprises models of physical processes as well as models of the software, computation platforms, and networks. One of the main challenges is to keep model components consistent and to check for correctness of connections between components. As the model grows, the possibility of error is also growing. In this paper, authors identified three types of errors: 1) unit errors, 2) semantic errors, and 3) transposition errors. Also, authors analyzed the state of the art in existing tools and methods.



Hehenberger et al. (2016) discussed the importance of design, modelling, simulation and integration of CPS and focused on methods and applications. The authors emphasized that designing CPS requires a multi-disciplinary development process during which designers should focus on integration and interaction physical and computational components. Further, in this paper the authors presented case studies and current best practice from industry.

Al-Ali (2017) conducted a systematic mapping review to find the domains and the challenges related to collective behavior only that industry targets nowadays. The primary studies that they used are EU projects since 2007. The results of the study showed that the most targeted domain is automation and the most addressed challenge is resources. Moreover, domains such as transport, cloud, energy, and smart grids lack variety of challenges, while many other domains do not target any challenges (telecommunication, medical and manufacturing domains).



## 2 Protocol

In this chapter we identify the main research questions and we produce a well-defined review protocol that describes in detail the various steps we had to follow. The produced protocol has been further evaluated and refined according to the obtained feedback and is presented in this section in the same form that was used in the conduction phase.

### 2.1 Protocol Definition

#### 2.1.1 Research Questions

The overall objective of our study is to *provide an overview of the current state of the art of approaches supporting the modelling of CPS and identify ones which apply a multi-paradigm modelling approach*. The main research questions are the following:

- **RQ1** Which modelling approaches exist for building CPS?
- **RQ2** What are the existing approaches that combine different multi-modelling formalism for CPS?
- **RQ3** Which application domains have been considered?
- **RQ4** What is profile of person which perform modelling of CPS?

Furthermore, we performed PICOC analysis which specified in detail our search for evidence:

*Population:* The population is composed of studies in which we found reports about works for modelling CPS and/or approaches for multi-paradigm modelling. No specific industry, system or application domain were considered.

*Intervention:* The review searches for reports of methodologies for multi-paradigm modelling, namely focusing on two important factors, which are: Reported for CPS; and Reported for similar products and applicable to CPS. We also search for the methodology/tool/technology/procedure that support the modelling of CPS.

*Comparison:* Not applicable.

*Outcomes:* Outcomes should point to techniques, methods and metrics that can be used to address the multi-paradigm modelling of CPS.

*Context:*All practitioners: Academy and Industry.

The objective of **RQ1** is to analyze and classify primary studies, which report on modelling of CPS, and to find among existing approaches if there are ones which take sustainability of CPS into account. It is expected to involve retrieving the type of models used to describe the approach or the system, a list of modelling languages and tools which were developed to support the approach or were used by the reported approach, and determine if they report a systematic process for application of the given approach.

The objective of **RQ2** is to analyze and classify among the studies which report on modelling of CPS ones which report multi-paradigm modelling. It is expected to retrieve the information to which extend is MDD approach complete, which part of CPS is modeled, which MPM formalism are used and what are integration mechanisms for the given models.

The objective of **RQ3** is to analyze the application domains of modelling approaches for CPS. We find approach to be general if they are applicable to CPS in general, while in most cases we expect to find the domain-specific solutions (e.g. smart grid, intelligent transport).

Finally, the **RQ4** objective is to extract the profile of the person(s) that perform the modelling for the CPSs. It is necessary to identify if the study report the stakeholders involved in modelling and identify their background knowledge, as well as technical background of the authors.

Defining research questions was started during the 1st STSM while Dusan Savic, visited Universidade Nova de Lisboa, in period from 16th to 25th December 2015 Savic (2015).

After that, during the Vienna Working Group Meeting <sup>1</sup> (15-16 April 2016) these research questions was presented to participants.

### 2.1.2 Data sources and search strategy

We obtained data for this SLR twofold:

- Using automatic search over digital libraries the period from **2006-2017** as it is indicated within related research that interest on topic of CPS development boosted from 2006.
- Manually extracting the primary studies from another SLR reported in Barišić and Cunha (2017) for period **2011-2017**. This study intersect with ours by heaving the same RQ1 and RQ3, however the search string was more wide and included the sustainability concern. We selected the studies which reported modelling approaches for building CPS (RQ1).

Data sources for automatic search were selected in order to include the most relevant journal, conferences and international peer-reviewed workshops that are concerned with the topic of multi-paradigm modelling or CPS. For the automated we selected the following digital libraries:

1. ACM Digital Library (ACM)
2. IEEEXplore (IEEE)
3. Science Direct (SD)
4. Springer Link (SL)
5. Scopus

We used the following research string to obtain primary studies:

***("multi-paradigm" OR "multi-formalism" OR "heterogeneous formalism" OR "unified modelling formalism" OR "multi-model language") AND ((("cyber physical" OR CPS OR "cyber-physical" OR cyberphysical OR smart) AND system\*) OR CPS) AND ("modelling approach" OR "modeling approach" OR "integrate modelling" OR "integrate modeling" OR "model driven" OR "model-driven") AND ("software engineering" OR "software system")***

### 2.1.3 Study selection criteria

**Table 2.1:** Inclusion criteria

| <b>Id</b> | <b>Criteria</b>  |
|-----------|--|
| I1        | Publication date from 1/1/2006 - 31/12/2017                                |
| I2        | Relevance with respect to research questions                               |
| I3        | Explicit mentioning of modelling of cyber-physical system                  |
| I4        | Papers that report a methodology, metric or formalism for modelling of CPS |
| I5        | Analysis of relevant application domains for modelling of CPS              |

To find the right publications, which answer our research questions, we define the Inclusion Criteria as presented in Table 2.1. The criteria are to include peer-reviewed articles, reporting on modelling of CPS and which are reported from 2006 till the end of 2017. The Exclusion Criteria are presented in Table 2.2. The studies that are not considered could be: part of informal literature, present duplicated work or its extension, or not written in English. The

<sup>1</sup><http://mpm4cps.eu/workshops/16.04.15-16.Vienna>



**Table 2.2:** Exclusion criteria

| <b>Id</b> | <b>Criteria</b>  |
|-----------|--|
| E1        | Informal literature (powerpoint slides, conference reviews, informal reports) and secondary/tertiary studies (reviews, editorials, abstracts, keynotes, posters, surveys, books) |
| E2        | Duplicated papers  |
| E3        | Papers that did not apply to research questions i.e. they did not report the method for modelling approach for CPS   |
| E4        | Papers with the same content in different paper versions   |
| E5        | Papers written a language other than English   |
| E6        | Purely hardware, or electrical engineering perspective papers  |
| E7        | Secondary study  |

inclusion and exclusion criteria are applied during selecting primary studies obtained by automatic search over digital databases (the screening phase) to the titles, keywords and abstract of primary studies which were identified by the search strategy. This studies were temporarily included but might be excluded during the data analysis (the classification phase) when the whole publication had been read.

#### 2.1.4 Study quality assessment

We reused quality assessment criteria from the related work Barišić and Cunha (2017). To have means to reflect a confidence of the reviewer, we used two self-assessment points (see Table 2.3). In a case that a reviewer is not very confident about the paper, the additional reviewer was asked to make revision and the assessment scores will be discussed.

**Table 2.3:** Self Assessment Criteria

| <b>Id</b> | <b>Self-Assessment Criteria</b>                 | <b>Score</b>                          |
|-----------|---|---------------------------------------|
| SA1       | Reviewers confidence about content of the study | 1 = Very confident<br>0.5 = Confident |
| SA2       | Reviewers confidence about quality of the study | 0 = Not very confident                |

The quality assessment list presented in Table 2.4 has been used to assess the quality of studies after the data analysis. We did not define any exclusion criteria regarding the quality of the study, but we find it meaningful to present statistics and observe the impact of the study. Therefore, the list served as a compliment to extracted data related to the research questions and was used later in result analysis.

To characterize a first criteria (relevance of journal or conference), we decided to use **CORE2018**<sup>2, 3</sup> ranks list. Venues which were not registered at the portal we marked as '0-Not relevant'.

For the second criteria, we took a number of citations reported by *Google Scholar*<sup>4</sup>. \* apply for paper published before 2014; while \*\* for paper published 2014 and after. We did not define any exclusion criteria regarding the quality of study, but we find it meaningful to present statistics at the end and observe if it does make any impact.

<sup>2</sup><http://portal.core.edu.au/conf-ranks/>

<sup>3</sup><http://portal.core.edu.au/jnl-ranks/>

<sup>4</sup><https://scholar.google.pt/>

**Table 2.4:** Quality Assessment Criteria (\*published before 2014, \*\*published 2014 and after)

| <b>Id</b> | <b>Assessment Criteria</b>   | <b>Scale</b>   |
|-----------|--|--|
| QA1       | What is the relevance of the paper according to the conference/journal where it was published? | 1 = Very relevant (A)<br>0.5 = Relevant (B)<br>0 = Not so relevant                           |
| QA2       | What is the relevance of the citation according to its related citations?                      | 1 = High (*>5; **>0)<br>0.5 = Medium (*>0; **=0)<br>0 = Low (*=0)                            |
| QA3       | How clearly is the problem of study described?   | 1 = Explicitly<br>0.5 = Vaguely<br>0 = No description  |
| QA4       | How clearly is the research context stated?  | 1 = With references<br>0.5 = Generally<br>0 = Vaguely  |
| QA5       | How rigorously is the method evaluated?  | 1 = Empirical foundation<br>0.66 = Case study<br>0.33 = Lessons Learned<br>0 = No evaluation |
| QA6       | How explicitly are the contributions presented?  | 1 = Explicitly<br>0.5 = Generally<br>0 = No presentation                                     |
| QA7       | How explicitly are the insights and issues for future work stated?                             | 1 = With recommendations<br>0.5 = Generally<br>0 = No statement                              |

### 2.1.5 Data Extraction Form

Data Extraction Form is defined in a way to collect the information in the primary study which can present the answer to the four research questions defined in Section 2.1.1 (See Table 2.5).

For all questions defined in data extraction for, reviewers were instructed that if the answer to the question is 'Yes' it is necessary to write the description in text box 'What it is?'. For questions which have an answer only TextBox (TB) field it was necessary to fill it in. Specific suggestions for filling the TB were given under each question. Reviewers were also provided with following documents to assist them while answering the questions: D1 (Al-Ali et al. (2017a)); D2 (Gunes et al. (2014)); D3 (Goulão et al. (2016a)).

For **RQ1** *Which modelling approaches exist for building CPS?*, we are identifying if the paper report modelling approach for building CPS, and if it does we register if it reports a model/meta-model, a tool or a process. The **Q1** *Does the paper report modelling approaches for building CPS?* is answered by selecting Yes/No (Y/N), and the TextBox (TB) is provided so the reviewer can report in more details which modelling approach is provided. It can be any model for any phase of building the CPS. If the answer to this question is NO then the paper should be excluded from the classification so it is not necessary to proceed with the classification. Following question, **Q1.1** *Does the paper report a model/meta-model?*, has Y/N single choice option and a TB. The reviewer is expected to report if meta-model or instance model is presented for approach or for the use case, as well as to specify which kind of model is presented. Further, the **Q1.2** *Does the paper report a tool/language?* has Y/N single choice option and a TB. It is possible that paper reports on (1) tool/language which was built to support the approach OR/AND (2) tool/language(s) which are used in the approach. It was necessary to report on both, by categorizing them with (1)/(2) option. Catalog of modelling tools and languages was given in Section


**Table 2.5:** Data Extraction Questions

|            |  |
|------------|--|
| <b>RQ1</b> | <b>Which modelling approaches exist for building CPS?</b>  |
| Q1         | Does the paper report modelling approaches for building CPS?   |
| Q1.1       | Does the paper report a model/meta-model?  |
| Q1.2       | Does the paper report a tool/language?   |
| Q1.3       | Does the paper report the model of the adopted process?  |
| <b>RQ2</b> | <b>Which modelling approaches for addressing multi-paradigm modelling of CPS are presented?</b>        |
| Q2         | Does the paper report a multi-paradigm modelling approach?   |
| Q2.1       | To which extent the paper present a complete model-driven development approach?                        |
| Q2.2       | Which part of the CPS is modeled?  |
| Q2.3       | Which formalism(s) is(are) used for modelling the CPS?   |
| Q2.4       | What is the integration mechanism for the presented models?  |
| <b>RQ3</b> | <b>Which application domains have been considered?</b>   |
| Q3         | Is the approach domain-specific?   |
| Q3.1       | Which application domain is addressed?   |
| <b>RQ4</b> | <b>What can be inferred to be the profile of the person(s) that perform the modelling for the CPS?</b> |
| Q4         | Does the paper report the actors/stakeholders involved in modelling of the CPS?                        |
| Q4.1       | Does the paper report the modeler's background knowledge?  |
| Q4.2       | What is(are) the technical background of the authors?  |

2.3 and Section 2.4 of document D1 Al-Ali et al. (2017a). Reviewers were also expected to report if the used tool/language already belongs to a list by indicate the section number if it was part of the Catalog. Finally, the **Q1.3** *Does the paper report the model of the adopted process?* has as well Y/N single choice option and a TB. It was expected to report if modelling was performed in a structured way and is that way described (preferably in a formal fashion, using languages such as BPMN or is provided in narrative form (step by step manner)).

For **RQ2** *Which modelling approaches for addressing multi-paradigm modelling of CPS are presented?*, we identify if the paper report approach which fits in multi-paradigm modelling, and identify scope of approach, modeled CPS parts, used formalisms, and integration mechanisms. For **Q2** *Does the paper report a multi-paradigm modelling approach?*, we identify if the approach using different views of same model or provide ones for different models, is it using DEVS, Statecharts, Petri-nets, or other formalisms all together. The question **Q2.1** *To which extent the paper present a complete model-driven development approach?* requires to choose the component of supporting tools: editors, generators and/or transformations to artifacts (prone to be used for simulation platforms, or execution environments). The next question **Q2.2** *Which part of the CPS is modeled?* requires from the reviewer to select certain component of CPS, for which the modelling approach is applied or offered in the research, e.g. Hardware, Network, Environment, or Software. Further question **Q2.3** *Which formalism(s) is(are) used for modelling the CPS?* is mandatory to be filled if the answer to Q2 is YES and requires to select the formalism from the list of formalisms given in Section 2.2. of document D1 Al-Ali et al. (2017a). Reviewers are asked to indicate the name of the formalism and the section. Finally, the question **Q2.4** *What is the integration mechanism for the presented models?* requires to identify is the integration achieved by using for instance mega-modelling approach, models merge, links, or other.

For **RQ3** *Which application domains have been considered?*, we register if the approach is domain-specific, and if it is, we want to know which application domain is addressed. The





**Q3** *Is the approach domain-specific?* is answered by selecting Yes/No (Y/N). In our case the approach is general if it is applicable to CPS in general, however sometimes the approach is built for a specific domain (e.g. for smart grid, train transport etc., therefore, in the TextBox reviewer should specify the domain by the exact wording used in the paper for approach specification, or the case studies in which approach was applied (e.g. smart grid, self-driving vehicle etc.) In the text box **Q3.1** *Which application domain is addressed?* the reviewer can select the domain from the following:

- Smart Manufacturing
- Emergency Response
- Air Transportation
- Critical Infrastructure
- Health Care and Medicine
- Intelligent Transportation
- Robotic for Service
- Other

If Other is selected, it is necessary to specify how reviewer would name this new domain category in the separate text box. It is possible that approach can be applicable to several domains, therefore it is possible to make maximum 4 choices, as well as to add new domain suggestions.

Finally, for **RQ4** *What can be inferred to be the profile of the person(s) that perform the modelling for the CPS?*, we explicitly register if the paper reports who is involved in the modelling of CPS and what is the profile. The question **Q4** *Does the paper report the actors/stakeholders involved in modelling of the CPS?* is answered by selecting Yes/No (Y/N) based on the information in the paper about people reported to be involved in the development of approach (analysis, design, implementation, evaluation...) for instance end user of approach, or the CPS system. Reviewer should categorize the participants, by following:

- CPS engineer
- CPS user
- Domain expert
- Evaluation expert
- Other

The provided categorization is general and it is possible to select several categories and suggest new ones by selecting the Other. It is possible to choose 3 options, but also suggest additional category in a separate TextBox. The question **Q4.1** *Does the paper report the modelers background knowledge?* is answered by selecting Yes/No (Y/N) and reviewer is asked to report on background knowledge topics and try to relate them to the ontology presented in the CPS Profile study in document (D3) Goulão et al. (2016a). For **Q4.2** *What is(are) the technical background of the authors?* the technical background should be specified for each author from their public profile (e.g. University/Institute official page, Google Scholar, Research Gate, LinkedIn). Reviewers are asked to provide areas of expertise for authors, selecting them from the following:

- Electrical Engineering
- Mechanical Engineering
- Physics





- Software Engineering
- Other

The provided categorization is general and it was possible to select several categories and suggest new ones by selecting the Other. It was possible to choose 3 options from drop down menu, but also suggest more in TextBox.

## 2.2 Protocol Validation

This section describes how the proposed protocol has been validated with three techniques:

- *Query testing:*
- *Validation survey:*
- *Pilot session:*

### 2.2.1 Query testing

The research goal of this SLR (section 1.2) and the concepts behind it (section 1.1) were used as a basis for the creation of a search string in which to identify primary studies. In order to clearly define keywords, we analyzed all of our research questions separately, and divided the keywords into three main groups:

- Cyber-physical systems
- modelling approaches for cyber-physical systems
- Combination of modelling approaches for cyber-physical systems

For each of these groups we created a search sub-string, and then integrated the sub-strings into the final search query.

The first group is consisted of terms referring to cyber-physical system such as cyber-physical system, embedded system, real-time system, hybrid system, sensor networks system, smart system, critical system and we created a first part of the our research string is a combination of the main item.

The second group was included the keywords that referred to modelling and simulation terms (modelling and simulation, model-driven, modelling approach, model-approach) which we obtained the second part from our research string.

Finally, the third group were referred to formalism and paradigm like multi-paradigm, multi-formalism, heterogeneous formalism, unified modelling formalism, multi-model language.

In order to find the final, most appropriate combination of these sub-strings that presents our final search query, we defined several versions of query strings and conducted searching process in all the selected databases reported in Section 2.1.2. These versions were evaluated in a survey discussed in the next section.

Testing these search queries was one of the tasks that we performed from April 14-30, 2018 during the 3rd STSM while Ankica Barisic (Barišić (2018)) visited University of Belgrade, Faculty of Organizational Sciences.

The three versions of search queries that we chose are given below:

**Q1** - *"( ("cyber physical" OR "cyber-physical" OR CPS OR cyberphysical OR smart OR critical) AND ( ("integrate model\*" OR "composable model\*") OR ("integrate simulation" OR "composable simulation"))) AND ("model driven" OR model-driven OR "model based" OR model-based) "*.

**Table 2.6:** Primary studies obtained using automatic search

| <b>Database</b> | <b>Q1</b>  | <b>Q2</b>  | <b>Q3</b>  |
|-----------------|------------|------------|------------|
| ACM             | 44         | 4          | 200        |
| IEEE            | 42         | 0          | 48         |
| SD              | 80         | 8          | 25         |
| SL              | 294        | 25         | 39         |
| SCOPUS          | 66         | 97         | 33         |
| <b>Total</b>    | <b>526</b> | <b>134</b> | <b>345</b> |

**Q2** - ("*multi-paradigm*" OR "*multi-formalism*" OR "*heterogeneous formalism*" OR "*unified modelling formalism*" OR "*multi-model language*") AND ("*cyber physical*" OR "*cyber-physical*" OR "*cyberphysical*" OR "*smart*") AND "*system\**") AND ("*modelling approach*" OR "*modeling approach*" OR "*integrate modelling*" OR "*integrate modeling*" OR "*model driven*" OR "*model-driven*") AND ("*software engineering*" OR "*software system*").

**Q3** - ("*multi-paradigm*" OR "*multi-formalism*" OR "*heterogeneous formalism*") AND ("*Modeling and Simulation*" OR "*Integrate modeling*") AND ("*cyber-physical system*" OR "*hybrid system*" OR "*embedded system*" OR "*real-time system*" OR "*smart system*").

Table 2.6 presents the results of the final set of relevant papers selected from the data sources obtained by the **Q1**, **Q2** and **Q3** research queries. Each row shows the number of papers obtained from a particular source that resulted from each search query. From **Q1**, we got 526 total papers, from **Q3** 345 total papers, and from **Q2** 134 total papers.

Next, we discuss the survey in which the protocol was validated and the query was selected.

### 2.2.2 Validation survey with a COST action members

The purpose of this survey is to evaluate the protocol proposed to conduct a SLR study on Multi-Paradigm modelling of Cyber-Physical Systems.

We performed the internal validation of protocol and announced the survey during a meeting session with our group members during COST Action meeting in Riga on April, 26-27 2018<sup>5</sup>. Before inviting all members of COST action to participate in this survey, we introduced the participants to the SLR objective. For this purpose, we created a Google sheets survey<sup>6</sup> that describes the key aspects of SLR (presented in Section 2.1).

For each of these aspects we created a separate Google sheet. The *SLR Basic Data* sheet contained information about SLR objective, SLR requirements, SLR team and list of defined activities and users who are responsible for these activities. The *Research Questions* sheet contains information by following PICOC criteria: Population, Intervention, Comparison, Outcomes and Context. The *SLR Search Sources* sheet contains information about database library, while search keywords and queries are presented in the sheet with the same name. The other three sheets present inclusion and exclusion criteria, quality assessment strategy and data extraction strategy, respectively. Each question in survey was linked with particular Google sheet.

A survey form was created with several parts. The first part provides general information about the participants and their expertise concerning the SLR. The main part of survey is related to the key aspects of SLR such as *Research questions*, *Search sources*, *Search keywords and queries*, *Inclusion and exclusion criteria*, *Data extraction strategy* and *Quality assessment strategy* that we want to validate.

<sup>5</sup><http://mpm4cps.eu/workshops/18.04.26-27.Riga>

<sup>6</sup><https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1X0B7G1RqNWvsNYILY6UPRPq34V8btbk-EVts-pVltgM>



A total of 10 participants participated in this survey. Five participants chose the answer of *I am knowledgeable in SLRs, though not an expert*, three of them selected the answer *I am a lecturer and/or publisher of SLR*, while the remaining two participants chose the answer *I am not an expert. My evaluation is that of an informed outsider* on the question about their overall expertise concerning the SLRs (see Figure 2.1 for an illustration). Figure 2.2 shows the names of the participants.



Figure 2.1: What is your overall expertise concerning the SLRs?

Reviewer complete name:  
10 одговора

|                    |
|--------------------|
| Ivan Ruchkin       |
| Paulo Carreira     |
| Antonio Cicchetti  |
| Claudio Gomes      |
| Vasco Amaral       |
| Dominique Blouin   |
| Ferhat Erata       |
| Mauro Iacono       |
| Bedir Tekinerdogan |
| Miguel Goulão      |

Figure 2.2: Participants of the validation survey

Here we focus on the part of the validation survey for *Search keywords and queries*. The remaining detailed information about the validation survey can be found in Appendix A.

This query-related section of the survey contains five questions. Four of them are related to the question which search query best fits the objective of SLR, while the last question is open-ended, and allows participants to give us some suggestions regarding proposed search queries. For question Q1<sup>7</sup>: (Figure 2.3) using the Likert 5-point scale, one participant disagreed (point 2), and one neither agreed or disagreed (point 3), three participants agreed (point 4), while 5 participants strongly agreed with this question.

The results for questions Q1, Q2<sup>8</sup> and Q3<sup>9</sup> are given in Figure 2.3.

The results in Figure 2.3 show that participants gave the greatest importance to query string **Q2** (45), while **Q1** and **Q3** had the same importance (42). These answers indicate that there is no significant difference in the importance of queries. However, if we look the result for the next question "Which query in your opinion is a best fit for SLR objectives" the difference is more noticeable. The results for this question (see Figure 2.4) shows the participants in survey; 7 participants proposed using **Q2**, while **Q1** proposed 2 participants, and 1 participant proposed **Q3**.

<sup>7</sup>Does the query S1 have the sufficient keywords to achieve SLR objectives?

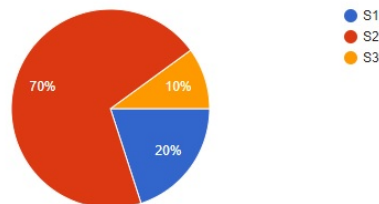
<sup>8</sup>Does the query S2 have the sufficient keywords to achieve SLR objectives?

<sup>9</sup>Does the query S3 have the sufficient keywords to achieve SLR objectives?

| Scale | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 |
|-------|----|----|----|
| (1)   | 0  | 0  | 0  |
| (2)   | 1  | 0  | 0  |
| (3)   | 1  | 1  | 2  |
| (4)   | 3  | 3  | 4  |
| (5)   | 5  | 6  | 4  |
| Score | 42 | 45 | 42 |

**Figure 2.3:** The validation survey answers for importance and fit assessment of search queries

What query in your opinion is a best fit for SLR objectives  
10 одговора



**Figure 2.4:** Choices of survey participants of the most fitting query for the SLR objectives

### 2.2.3 Pilot session with reviewers

After the survey was concluded, we refined the protocol in accordance to the obtained feedback. However, we found it was necessary to provide additional descriptions regarding answering each question related to data extraction. In order to provide comprehensive descriptions, we organized the special session dedicated to this task in context of WG4 during MPM4CPS workshop in Izmir, Turkey<sup>10</sup>, which took place between 17 and 19 of September 2018. All meeting participants helped in providing the appropriate descriptions to be provided to reviewers, regarding each question presented in Table 2.5.

As a follow up to the workshop meeting, we organized the pilot session with three reviewers, namely Raheleh Eslampanah, Moharram Challenger, and Mustafa Abshir, who volunteered to perform a pilot session following the protocol. Each reviewer was assigned to read and classify two primary studies. The complete protocol, with a special answer sheet, was provided to reviewers in the form of a Google Sheet document. After completing their assignments, reviewers had a live session with the SLR project lead, Ankica Barisic. During this session, each of the questions was re-evaluated, and reviewers expressed their doubts and eventual problems which they encountered while providing their answers. The completeness of the answers given in text boxes was also evaluated and discussed.

Several necessary clarifications were identified as a result of this session. For instance, it was not trivial for the reviewers to understand that it was necessary to provide the description for the different types of instance models and meta-models which they found in primary studies, as some were provided for a case study which was used to illustrate the approach, while others were provided for approach itself. Further, it was not clear to reviewers that text box descriptions were mandatory to be filled in the case if the Boolean answer to the question is marked with 'Yes'. Finally, one of the reviewers found it confusing which information should be ex-

<sup>10</sup><http://mpm4cps.eu>

tracted from what source when they were collecting data on the technical background of the authors.

Once all the concerns were discussed, we updated the descriptions for each affected question. The final forms of question descriptions are presented in Table 2.7.



**Table 2.7:** Data Extraction Descriptions

|      |   |
|------|---|
|      | For all questions, if the answer to the question is (YES), it is necessary to write the description in text box 'What is it?'. For questions which have an answer only text box field, it is necessary to fill it in. Specific suggestions for filling the text box are given under each question.  |
| Q1   | It can be any model for any phase of building the CPS. If the answer to this question is (NO) then the paper should be excluded from the classification so it is not necessary to proceed with the classification.  |
| Q1.1 | The model/meta-model can be given for the approach or for the use case (or for both).   |
| Q1.2 | We can find (1) tool/language which was built to support the approach OR/AND (2) tool(s)/language(s) which are used in the approach. It is necessary to report on both, categorizing them with (1)/(2). You can find examples in the document D1 - Section 2.3 and Section 2.4 [This is not a complete list]. If the used tool/language is already belonging to a list please indicate the section. |
| Q1.3 | Is modelling performed in a structured way and is that way described (preferably in a formal fashion, using, e.g. such as BPM, but it can be provided also in textual form (step by step manner)).  |
| Q2   | E.g. using DEVS, Statecharts, Petri-nets, or other formalisms all together (Check Section 2.2 of D1).   |
| Q2.1 | With supporting tools: editors, generators and/or transformations to artifacts (prone to be used for simulation platforms, or execution environments)   |
| Q2.2 | Hardware, Network, Environment, Software  |
| Q2.3 | This question is mandatory to be filled if the answer to Q2 is YES. Check the list of formalisms in D1, Section 2.2. If the used formalism(s) is(are) already belonging to a list please indicate the section.  |
| Q2.4 | Is the integration achieved by using, for instance, mega modelling approach, models merge, links, other?  |
| Q3   | In our case the approach is general if it is applicable to CPS in general, however sometimes the approach is built for a specific domain (e.g. for the smart grid, train transport etc.).   |
| Q3.1 | The description of the domains is given by D2. Please see if the addressed domain fits in some or more offered in the list. If you select 'Other' it is necessary to specify how you would name this new domain category. It is possible that an approach can be applied to several domains. Not only it is possible to choose 3 from the drop-down menu, but also to suggest more in the text box. |
| List | In the text box specify the domain by exact the wording used in a paper (e.g. smart grid)   |
| Q4   | Are the people reported to be involved in the development of approach (analysis, design, implementation, evaluation...) for instance end user of approach, or the CPS system  |
| List | The provided categorization is general and it is possible to select several categories and suggest new ones by selecting the 'Other'. It is possible to choose 3 options from the drop-down menu, but also suggest more in the text box.  |
| Q4.1 | Background knowledge topics should be based on the ontology presented in the CPS Profile study (D3)   |
| Q4.2 | The technical background should be found for each author from their public profile (e.g. University/Institute official page, Google Scholar, Research Gate, LinkedIn)   |
| List | The provided categorization is general and it is possible to select several categories and suggest new ones by selecting the 'Other'. It is possible to choose 3 options from the drop-down menu, but also suggest more in the text box.  |



## 3 Performing the SLR

### 3.1 ReLiS platform

An SLR follows a well-defined method to identify, analyze, synthesize, evaluate, and compare all available literature works relevant to a specific research topic (Kitchenham (2007)). The SLR process consists of several discrete activities, of which four are essential:

1. Defining research questions that the SLR is expecting to answer
2. Defining a search strategy (paper selection procedure, resources to be searched, and inclusion and exclusion criteria)
3. Conducting the search to identify the relevant research works
4. Analyzing, synthesizing, and comparing the related work

Therefore, the SLR process requires a substantial amount of effort and usually requires several iterations in order to set the process up correctly. In order to support this process, various authors use different tools for this purpose, develop their own tools, or customize general-purpose platforms (such as spreadsheets) for collecting papers and facilitating the reviewing process.

#### 3.1.1 Motivation and Description of ReLiS

A recent study by Marshall and Brereton (2013) has provided insight into the current state of research regarding tools to support SLRs in software engineering. They selected 14 papers that describe tools to support SLRs. The results show an encouraging growth of tools to support the SLR process, and most of the tools identified are in the early stages of development and usage (at the time of that study).

The results from another study by Al-Zubidy et al. (2017) show that, while recent tools cover more of the requirements (activities in SLR), there are a number of high-priority requirements that are not yet fully covered by any of the existing tools.

ReLiS<sup>1</sup> is one of the tools not covered in these two studies, perhaps because of its emergence later in 2017. We chose to use the ReLiS platform primarily because it supports the entire end-to-end SLR process. It is the only tool that uses a Model-Driven Development approach to adopt a specific SLR. It features a domain-specific modelling editor tailored for researchers who perform SLR and an architecture that enables live installation and deployment of multiple concurrently running projects (Bigendako and Syriani (2017)). ReLiS is a framework to automatically install systematic review projects on the cloud. Its generic and dynamic architecture allows users to install projects during the process without manual intervention (Bigendako and Syriani (2017)). Another reason for our use of ReLiS is that it allows researchers to conduct SLR collaboratively.

The main page in ReLiS acts as a navigational hub and presents a user with the SLR-related tasks that this user can perform. A screenshot of the main page is presented in Figure 3.1.

In order to better understand the ReLiS platform and ReLiS process, it is recommended for users to try the platform as the 'demo user', and later create their profile.

The ReLiS platform contains three example projects (Model transformation, Model Transformations for Concrete Problems, and Template-based Code Generation). Before deciding whether to use this platform, a user can see how the process is supported and what they can expect as a result by starting these sample projects. Before starting to use the ReLiS platform for its own SLR, a new user needs to be registered.

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<sup>1</sup><http://relis.iro.umontreal.ca>



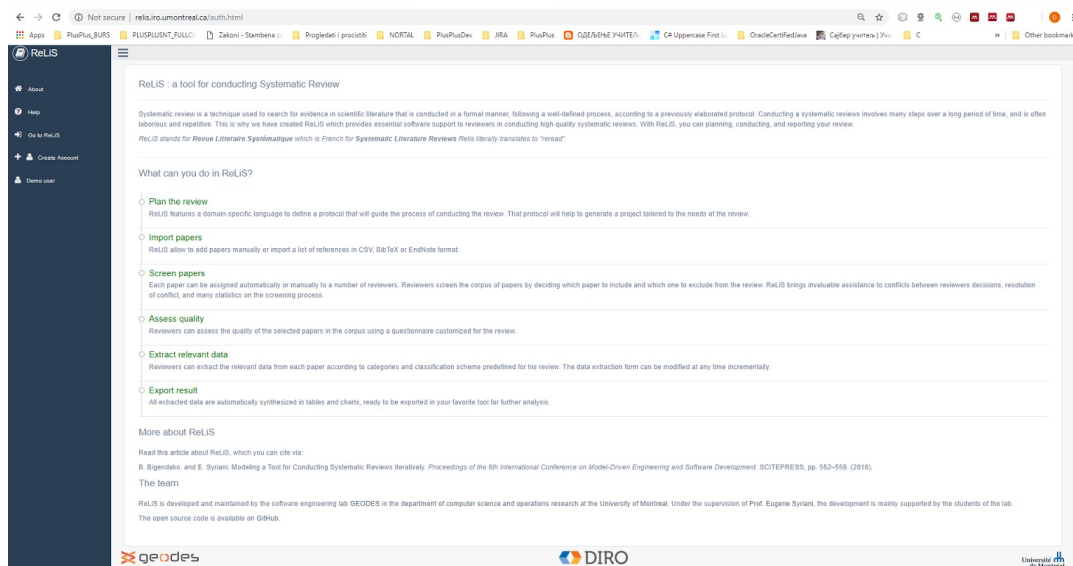


Figure 3.1: The main page of ReLiS

#### 3.1.2 ReLiS-supported process

A typical workflow to conduct SLR in ReLiS is described in Figure 3.3. Some of these actions are performed by the user (manually), while some are conducted automatically within the tool.

The user starts by planning the SLR and sets up a project in ReLiS. Setting up a project means defining a configuration model using the appropriate editor. According to the definition, ReLiS platform will automatically install the project on the cloud: a web application on the web server and a dedicated database. In this model, the user defines participants who will conduct the review. Different roles can be assigned (such as reviewers, validators, or project managers) to each participant.

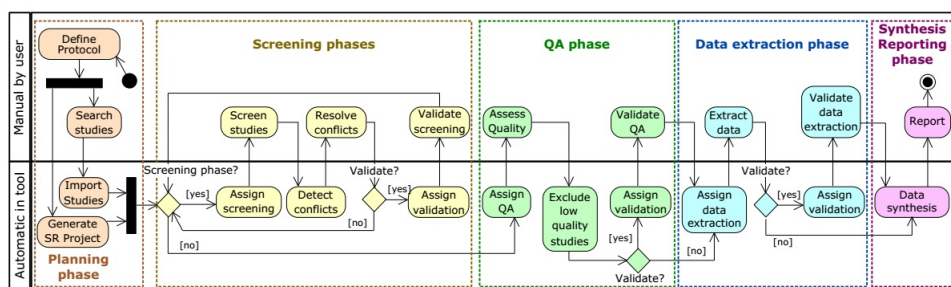


Figure 3.2: A diagram of the SLR process in ReLiS. Each box represents an SLR activity

Researchers search for primary studies outside ReLiS, and later import them into ReLiS in the appropriate format (BibTeX, EndNote or CSV). ReLiS stores the meta information of each paper, such as title, abstract, author, venue, year and etc, and a link to the full text. As soon as papers are added into ReLiS, each paper can be assigned automatically and randomly to a fixed number of reviewers, after which the participants can start screening and decide which paper to include or exclude. One of the main benefits of using this system is that ReLiS automatically detects conflicting decisions between reviewers of the same paper, and notifies the reviewers that they need to resolve this conflict according to the strategy defined in the protocol.

The configuration model contains a section for quality assessment. Reading this configuration section, ReLiS generates forms for participants with the validator role to assess the quality of each paper, and automatically calculates the score of each study.





In addition to quality assessment, ReLiS generates the data extraction forms from the configuration model. Reviewers read through each paper and fill the online form to classify or highlight relevant information of each retained paper (Bigendako and Syriani (2017)). Figure 3.3 shows an automatically generated data extraction form.

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Paper *   | Murguzur2013 - Multi-perspective Process Variability: A Case for Smart Green Buildings (Short Paper)  |
| Q1: Does the paper report modelling approaches for building CPS? (It can be any model for any phase of building the CPS.) [This is inclusion question for papers, if the answer is NO, paper should be excluded and there is no need to proceed with the classification. Check instructions for exclusion in the e-mail] *  | YES   |
| Q1: Describe the modelling approach in short *  | Multi-perspective process variability management for sustainability governance of Smart Green Buildings.  |
| Q1.1: Does paper report a model/meta-model? [If the answer is YES please provide the description] *   | YES   |
| Q1.1: Describe a model/meta-model (The model/meta-model can be given for the approach or for the use case (or for both). Report on what was modelled.)  | Interaction diagram of Main stakeholders and their possible interactions in Smart Green Buildings, Conceptual Model of Multi-perspective process variability in Smart Green Buildings solutions represented as class diagram          |
| Q1.2: Does the paper report a tool/language? [If the answer is YES please provide the description] *  | YES   |
| Q1.2: We can find (1) tool/language which was built to support the approach OR/AND (2) tool/language(s) which are used in the approach. It is necessary to report on both, categorising them with (1)/(2). You can find examples in the document D1 - Section 2.3 and Section 2.4 [This is not a complete list]. If the used tool/language is already belonging to a list please indicate the name and the section. | (2) LateVa toolkit - conceptual model has been implemented atop of this toolkit   |
| Q1.3: Does the paper report the model of the adopted process? [If the answer is YES please provide the description] *   | NO  |
| Q1.3: Is modelling performed in a structured way and is that way described (preferably in a formal fashion, using, e.g. such as BPM, but it can be provided also in textual form (step by step manner)).  |   |
| Q2: Does the paper report a multi-paradigm modelling approach? [If the answer is YES please answer following subquestions:] *   | YES   |
| Q2: Describe the MPM approach. E.g. is it using different views of same model or provide ones for different models, is it using DEVS, Statecharts, Petri-nets, or other formalisms all together (Check Section 2.2 of D1).  | multi-perspective process variability represents the set of all possible perspectives of people (e.g. stakeholders, roles and operation contracts) in a particular domain, which includes different process variants to deal with the |

Figure 3.3: The data extraction form for this SLR in ReLiS

All the extracted data can then be exported to a CSV file to be used in more advanced statistical tools, such as SPSS. ReLiS allows validators to check results of the screening, quality assessment or data extraction. Also, the tool tracks the progress and reports basic statistics for each phase, rendered as tables and plots. ReLiS supports an iterative process, meaning the configuration model can be modified at any time (new participants or new papers can be added, exclusion criteria can be modified and etc).

### 3.2 Roles and Responsibilities

This SLR involved 15 researchers, as listed in Table 3.1. The researchers include members of universities and research institutions and one from a company. The academic participants include PhD candidates, Post-Docs, Lecturers, Professors, and Research Engineers. The researchers participated from 10 different countries, including Portugal, Serbia, Sweden, France, Turkey, The Netherlands, The United States, Belgium, Latvia, and the Czech Republic. The researchers' table includes the abbreviations that will be used to refer to them for the sake of brevity.

Different activities related to various phases of the SLR are assigned to the researchers according to the Table 3.2. The activities cover all the tasks performed in the SLR related to defining the

**Table 3.1:** The reviewers of this SLR

|           | <b>Name</b>         | <b>E-mail</b>                         | <b>Institution</b>                 | <b>Country</b> |
|-----------|---------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------|
| <b>AB</b> | Ankica Barisic      | a.barisic@campus.fct.unl.pt           | University NOVA of Lisbon          | Portugal       |
| <b>DS</b> | Dusan Savic         | dules@fon.bg.ac.rs                    | Faculty of Organizational Sciences | Serbia         |
| <b>VA</b> | Vasco Amaral        | vma@fct.unl.pt                        | University NOVA of Lisbon          | Portugal       |
| <b>MG</b> | Miguel Goulao       | mgoul@fct.unl.pt                      | University NOVA of Lisbon          | Portugal       |
| <b>AC</b> | Antonio Cicchetti   | antonio.cicchetti@mdh.se              | Mälardalen University              | Sweden         |
| <b>DB</b> | Dominique Blouin    | dominique.blouin@telecom-paristech.fr | Telecom ParisTech                  | France         |
| <b>FE</b> | Ferhat Erata        | ferhat@computer.org                   | UNIT Information Technologies      | Turkey         |
| <b>BT</b> | Bedir Tekinerdogan  | bedir06@gmail.com                     | Wageningen University              | Netherlands    |
| <b>IR</b> | Ivan Ruchkin        | iruchkin@cs.cmu.edu                   | Carnegie Mellon University         | US             |
| <b>CG</b> | Claudio Gomes       | claudio.goncalvesgomes@uantwerpen.be  | University of Antwerp              | Belgium        |
| <b>MA</b> | Mustafa Abshir      | mustafaxoodiye@gmail.com              | EGE University                     | Turkey         |
| <b>MC</b> | Moharram Challenger | m.challenger@gmail.com                | University of Antwerp              | Belgium        |
| <b>RE</b> | Raheleh Eslampanah  | raheleh.eslampanah@ie.u.edu.tr        | Izmir University of Economics      | Turkey         |
| <b>ON</b> | Oksana Nikiforova   | oksana.nikiforova@rtu.lv              | Riga Technical University          | Latvia         |
| <b>RA</b> | Rima Al-Ali         | alali@d3s.mff.cuni.cz                 | Charles University in Prague       | Czech Republic |

protocol, searching, screening, data extraction, validation, and reporting. This table includes a heading column for activities and a heading row for the abbreviations of the researchers first and last name. The activities in which the researcher participated is marked with an 'X' in the table. Some of the activities have been realized in the context of MPM4CPS COST action meetings which are represented in the last column (C).

The data extraction, as one of the main activities, was assigned to all researchers involved in the study. Also, most of the participants were involved in the screening phase, another critical task of the SLR, where mainly the inclusion and exclusion of the papers were decided. Ankica Barisic and Dusan Savic, as principal researchers of this SLR, had the highest workload. The tasks are described as follows:

1. Develop Protocol: The SLR started with defining the overall research question and methodology, as described in Section 2.
2. Research Question Definition: The four main research questions, presented in Section 2.1.1 were defined to realize our main objective of finding approaches for developing CPS.



**Table 3.2:** Roles and Responsibilities

| Activities                           | AB | DS | VA | MG | AC | DB | FE | BT | IR | CG | MA | MC | RE | ON | RA | C |
|--------------------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|---|
| Develop protocol                     | X  | X  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |   |
| Research Question definition         | X  | X  | X  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |   |
| Research Question validation         |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | X |
| Query testing                        | X  | X  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |   |
| Define search string                 | X  | X  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |   |
| Define classification scheme         | X  | X  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |   |
| Define data extraction form          | X  | X  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | X |
| Internal review of protocol          |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |   |
| Prepare review questionnaire         | X  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | X |
| External review of protocol          |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |   |
| Create intermediate technical report | X  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |   |
| Internal Review of technical report  |    | X  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | X |
| External Review of technical report  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |   |
| Revise protocol                      | X  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |   |
| Identify primary research            | X  | X  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |   |
| Retrieve primary research            | X  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |   |
| Setup ReLis project                  | X  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |   |
| Import automatic search studies      | X  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |   |
| Screening                            |    |    | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  |    |    |    | X  |    |    |   |
| Import from Barišić and Cunha (2017) | X  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | X |
| Review of extraction form            |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |   |
| Pilot session                        |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | X  | X  | X  |    |    |   |
| Data extraction                      | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  |   |
| Data synthesis                       | X  | X  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | X  |    |    |    |    |   |
| Complete technical report            | X  | X  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | X  | X  | X  |    |   |
| Review technical report              | X  | X  |    |    | X  | X  |    |    | X  |    |    | X  | X  |    | X  |   |



3. Research questions and keywords validation: RQ validation was performed at MPM4CPS COST action meeting in Vienna<sup>2</sup> held on April 15-16 of 2016, where all participants discussed and finalized the direction of the SLR.
4. Query Testing: Based on predefined keywords, the researchers constructed several research queries which were tested over search sources. This activity was described in detail in Section 2.2.1.
5. Define Search String: The queries were refined into several search strings, used to find the publications relevant to the SLR.
6. Define classification scheme: The evaluation criteria, inclusion and exclusion criteria, and quality criteria were defined in this phase and are given in Section 2.1.3 and 2.1.4.
7. Define data extraction form: The data extraction form was defined, including all the sub-questions which can help in finding answers to the main research questions, as well as the classifications scales which can help in the characterization of collected data. The extraction form is described in Section 2.1.5.
8. Internal review of protocol: The protocol was evaluated by all members at the MPM4CPS COST action meeting in Riga<sup>3</sup> held on April 25-26 of 2018.
9. Prepare review questionnaire: A survey was prepared in order to have external participants evaluate the protocol. The details of the survey are described in Appendix A.
10. External review of protocol: All members of the MPM4CPS COST action were invited to participate in the survey on April 27 of 2018. The results of this review are presented in Section 2.2.2
11. Create Intermediate technical report: The intermediate technical report Barišić (2018) was created as a part of the Short-Term Scientific Mission (STSM) awarded to Ankica Barisic in the context of MPM4CPS COST action.
12. Internal Review of technical report: Dusan Savic reviewed the preliminary report.
13. External Review of technical report: The external review of the technical report (Barišić (2018)) was carried out by the STSM committee of MPM4CPS COST action in May 2018.
14. Revise protocol: Based on the comments provided during the review, the protocol was modified.
15. Identify primary research: In this phase, the primary studies were identified using the search query over scientific databases.
16. Retrieve primary research: Primary studies were imported to the Mendeley database group.
17. Setup ReLis project: The ReLis project was created and the reviewers were instructed how to create their accounts. We described the ReLis platform in Section 3.1.
18. Import automatic search studies: Primary studies retrieved using the search strings were imported into ReLis. The duplicates were identified and removed. The imported studies are presented in Section 3.3.
19. Screening: In this phase, the reviewers made a decision which of the studies obtained by search strings should be classified. This phase is described in Section 3.3.
20. Import from Barišić and Cunha (2017): Papers from related SLR were analyzed and then added to Mandalay Group, and imported into the ReLis platform.
21. Review of extraction form: The data extraction form was reviewed and validated by participants of the MPM4CPS COST action meeting in Izmir held from September 17-19 of 2018.
22. Pilot session: A preliminary pilot session with 3 participants, as described in Section 2.2.3, involved each researcher carrying out classification on two papers, and then discussing

<sup>2</sup><http://mpm4cps.eu/workshops/16.04.15-16.Vienna>

<sup>3</sup><http://mpm4cps.eu/workshops/18.04.26-27.Riga>



their uncertainties with the data extraction form. Those ambiguous questions were then clarified and revised.

23. Data extraction: All participants took part in classifying the studies and completing the quality assessment and data extraction forms, as reported in Section 3.4.
24. Data synthesis: The results of data extraction were analyzed and summarized, such as in the form of graphs and data tables, as we will show in Section 4.
25. Complete technical report: In this phase, the technical report was written.
26. Review technical report: Finally, the technical report was reviewed and submitted to the WG4 leaders of MPM4CPS COST action.

### 3.3 Screening phase

In this Section, we describe the process and result of the screening phase which was performed by using the Relis platform (Section 3.1). In this phase, the relevant primary studies obtained by the automatic search were selected by reviewers (see Table 3.2) for classification phase where the required data was extracted.

**Table 3.3:** Retrieved studies using automatic search

| Database     | Retrieved Studies |
|--------------|-------------------|
| ACM          | 4                 |
| IEEE         | 44                |
| SD           | 25                |
| SL           | 35                |
| SCOPUS       | 103               |
| <b>TOTAL</b> | <b>211</b>        |

The number of retrieved studies from several databases (ACM, IEEE, SD, SL, and SCOPUS) which have been used in this SLR is listed in Table 3.3. The publications are selected by automatic search methods, as explained in Section 2.1.2. The total number of retrieved studies by using automatic search was 211. SCOPUS with 103 studies has the highest and ACM with 4 studies has the lowest number of papers among the used databases.

#### Decision per user

| User               | Included | Excluded | In conflict |
|--------------------|----------|----------|-------------|
| Ivan Ruchkin       | 21       | 27       | 0           |
| Raheleh            | 21       | 25       | 0           |
| Vasco              | 21       | 25       | 0           |
| Miguel Goulão      | 19       | 28       | 0           |
| Antonio Cicchetti  | 25       | 21       | 0           |
| Bedir Tekinerdogan | 28       | 19       | 0           |
| Ferhat Erata       | 24       | 24       | 0           |
| Dominique Blouin   | 25       | 23       | 0           |

**Figure 3.4:** Screening Decision

After removing duplicates, 188 primary studies<sup>4</sup> were imported into the ReLis system on June 29, 2018. The reviewers were assigned screening tasks and instructed to log in to the ReLis platform in which they were expected to read the abstract of around 47 primary studies (for each reviewer) and decide if the study reports on modelling of CPS. Each study was assigned to two reviewers to make a decision regarding if the study should be included or excluded.

Figure 3.4 demonstrates the screening decision by the reviewers and the number of reviewed papers whether included or excluded. In case of conflict, the reviewers had a chance to communicate. If there was a conflict between the reviewers' decisions, the reviewers were notified to discuss the conflicting decision between themselves in such a way that at the final stage, all the conflicts were resolved and no level of conflict was reported. This is also illustrated in Fig.3.5 which shows there were conflicts at the end. Reviewers were instructed to be more inclusive in this phase, as there was an option to make the exclusion of the study in the next phase.

| Conflict resolution               |     |
|-----------------------------------|-----|
| Decision                          | Nbr |
| <a href="#">Resolved included</a> | 27  |
| <a href="#">Resolved excluded</a> | 35  |
| <a href="#">Pending conflicts</a> | 0   |

**Figure 3.5:** Screening Conflicts

If a paper was excluded, it was necessary to select the exclusion criteria defined in Table 2.2. Statistics on exclusion criteria are reported in Figure 3.6. Most of the papers (64.58%) are excluded since they did not respond to the research questions. About a quarter of the papers (25.52%) belonged to the informal literature studies and secondary studies. The study also excludes 6.25% of the papers which were out of the date range (1/1/2006 - 31/12/2017). The details of the exclusion criteria are explained in Section 2.1.3.

| Statistics on Exclusion Criteria                              |     |       |
|---|-----|-------|
| Criteria  | Nbr | %     |
| Papers that did not apply to research questions               | 124 | 64.58 |
| Informal literature and secondary/tertiary studies            | 35  | 18.23 |
| Purely hardware, or electrical engineering perspective papers | 3   | 1.56  |
| Outside of the SLR date range                                 | 12  | 6.25  |
| Secondary study   | 14  | 7.29  |
| Papers written in other than English language                 | 4   | 2.08  |

**Figure 3.6:** Screening Exclusion

This phase was concluded on October 20th, with the final results shown in Figure 3.7. This figure reports the final screening phase with 48.94 % of the all papers included and 51.06%

<sup>4</sup>Imported library: <https://goo.gl/DmJMJs>



excluded. There are no papers remaining in conflict, in review, or pending. Based on the final decision result, from the 188 total papers, 92 are included and 96 are excluded<sup>5</sup>.

| Result       |            |       |
|--------------|------------|-------|
| Decision     | Papers     | %     |
| Included     | 92         | 48.94 |
| Excluded     | 96         | 51.06 |
| In conflict  | 0          | 0     |
| In review    | 0          | 0     |
| Pending      | 0          | 0     |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>188</b> |       |

Figure 3.7: Screening Result

### 3.4 Data Extraction phase

In this Section we describe how the data extraction process was performed, highlighting the classification preparation, assignments and the classification status.

#### 3.4.1 Classification preparation

For the classification phase, we had two different sources of primary studies<sup>6</sup>:

- 1 Studies which we obtained by automatic search using the search string presented in Section 2.1.2. These studies passed the screening phase and we obtained **92** papers to be reviewed during this phase
- 2 Studies which were reviewed in Barišić and Cunha (2017), and which were reported to present a modelling approach for CPS. We obtained **215** studies from this source

After the screening phase was finished, we imported 215 studies from the 2nd source, and the ReLis system automatically identified 7 duplicates. There were 300 papers in total to be sent for review.

We created a private shared group in Mendeley library<sup>7</sup>, named 'SLR MPM4CPS COST IC1404'. All bibliographic meta-data for primary studies were imported to this group and were set to have the same citation key as in the ReLis system. Reviewers were invited to join this group and were asked to upload the paper's .pdf to its reference.

In the ReLis system, the data extraction form from Section 2.1.5 was generated by using the integrated domain-specific language for specifying forms. The form consisted of the questions and descriptions from data extraction form, as well as from the quality assessment questions. All the Boolean questions were mandatory to be answered by reviewers before they were able to submit their classification. After submitting the classification, reviewers were able to edit their answers if necessary. They could follow their progress, as well as progress of other reviewers and competition status in the Relis 'Data Extraction' dashboard. However, statistics were presented

<sup>5</sup>Excluded papers: <https://goo.gl/oggEd8>

<sup>6</sup>All papers: <https://goo.gl/oA3Jx8>

<sup>7</sup>[www.mendeley.com](http://www.mendeley.com)





only for classified papers, meaning that if the paper was excluded in this phase, then it was removed from the overall summary.

Usually, the quality assessment phase is performed before the paper classification, and can serve as an additional criteria based on which the decision is made if the paper will be sent for classification. However, in our case, we decided to merge the quality assessment form to the classification form, because of limitations of the ReLis platform and lack of time to carry out this phase separately.

#### 3.4.1.1 Classification assignments

Each reviewer was randomly assigned to classify a set of primary studies. Each study was expected to be classified by one reviewer. This phase started on October 22, 2018. The reviewers were provided with the following instructions:

*'In the **ReLis system**, you will find papers which are assigned to you when you select the 'Classify' action from your dashboard. Please note during the classification that we are extracting the information which is reported by authors - so we don't judge what paper claim. For example, if the paper report on modelling we don't judge if it is true or not but we have sub-questions and textual notes to stress this. Regarding CPS, if the paper report to model just part of the system it should be also considered - we stress in sub-questions which part of system authors model. For **data extraction** use the comments which we defined in 'Data Extraction Strategy' sheet of the official protocol (<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1X0B7G1RqNWvsNYILY6UPRPq34V8btbk-EVts-pVltgM/edit?usp=sharing>). For all questions (Q1-Q4), if the answer to the question is (YES) it is necessary to write the description in text box 'What it is?'. For questions which have an answer only textbox field, it is necessary to fill it in. Specific suggestions for filling the text box are given under each question. Documents which should be consulted were provided in attachment: D1 (WG1 delivery: <https://v2.overleaf.com/7464136733wzrcmhkcfndd>) - Dominique can update us if there is a newer version; D2 (Gunes, Volkan; Peter, Steffen; Givargis, Tony; Vahid, Frank: 'A Survey on Concepts, Applications, and Challenges in Cyber-Physical Systems'); D3 (WG4 delivery: <https://zenodo.org/record/223900#.W6T04maB1Zo>)*

*If you find that answer to our first question is NO, instead of 'Adding Classification' it is necessary to **Exclude** paper. While Excluding paper, it is mandatory to select the exclusion criteria and ADD justification as a Note.*

*For '**Quality Assessment**' questions (marked with QA) we need the following external information to be extracted: 1. Number of citations based on Google Scholar (<https://scholar.google.com>) 2. CORE ranking of the journal (<http://portal.core.edu.au/jnl-ranks/>) OR conference (<http://portal.core.edu.au/conf-ranks/>). NOTE: if there are papers which you can not find in CORE, please select 0 and ADD paper to the sheet 'Missing Conference/Journal Ranking' - <https://goo.gl/4GNd5i>*

*For '**Self Assessment**' questions - it is necessary to express your own confidence about classification. Note that the papers for which you select '0-Not Confident' option, will need to be assigned to the other reviewer.*

*Finally, we have a **Mendeley Group** to which you all should receive an invitation to access (<https://www.mendeley.com/community/slr-mpm4cps-cost-ic1404/>). Although there is an online version, I highly recommend that you download the desktop application. Just remember to SYNC when starting or finishing working in the Mendeley desktop app. You should find the bibliographic data which is extracted from the databases for the papers assigned to you in folder 'IncludedPapers'. It is necessary to download and attach the publication with data (ADD FILE option). Also, if you notice that some relevant information is missing or is wrong, please correct it. If you are not having the access to the paper which is assigned to you,*





please register it in sheet 'Missing Articles' of help document: <https://goo.gl/4GNd5i> For the papers which will be excluded as a secondary study, but they still report on relevant related work, please add the paper to 'RelatedWork' folder in Mendeley.

Here are small videos which show how to start with the classification in ReLis and using the Mendeley desktop app:

ReLis: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1KjJp-VGUG9zmhUC-Hj2pxcE80iAb5WhX/view?usp=sharing>

Mendeley: [https://drive.google.com/file/d/13xLOU\\_A5DMMfHIPXwqob5OS0oj8H7cGc/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/13xLOU_A5DMMfHIPXwqob5OS0oj8H7cGc/view?usp=sharing).

Thank you all for your effort and participation, and feel free to ask any questions if there are some doubts.'

### 3.4.1.2 Classification status

According to the ReLis system, as shown in Figure 3.8, 160 papers<sup>8</sup> out of 300 have been classified and 81 papers are pending classification. It is worth noting that 59 papers<sup>9</sup> have been excluded during the classification phase and they do not count by ReLis system as 'All' and are not presented in individual reviewers progress.

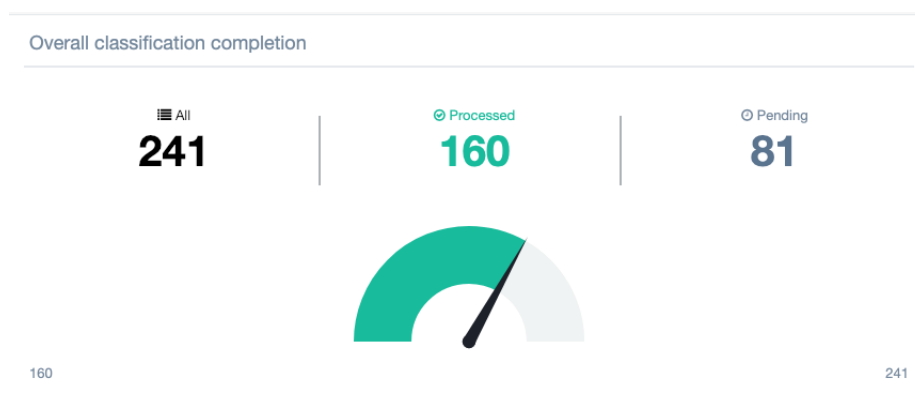


Figure 3.8: Classification Status

The details of classification completion statistics for each reviewer is extracted from the ReLis system, as shown in Figure 3.9. According to this figure, most of the reviewers have finished the classification. It is worth noting that some reviewers did not reach 100% due to unavailability of the full text for some of their assignments (for instance from IGI Global publisher). On another hand, some of the reviewers didn't manage to complete their task due to the relatively short classification period. Altogether, 66% of the papers have been reviewed until now and will be analyzed in the following section. However, the idea is to continue with classifications until its completion later on.

<sup>8</sup>Data Extraction: <https://goo.gl/VXj33a>

<sup>9</sup>Excluded papers: <https://goo.gl/aSbf6n>



**Figure 3.9:** Completion by reviewer

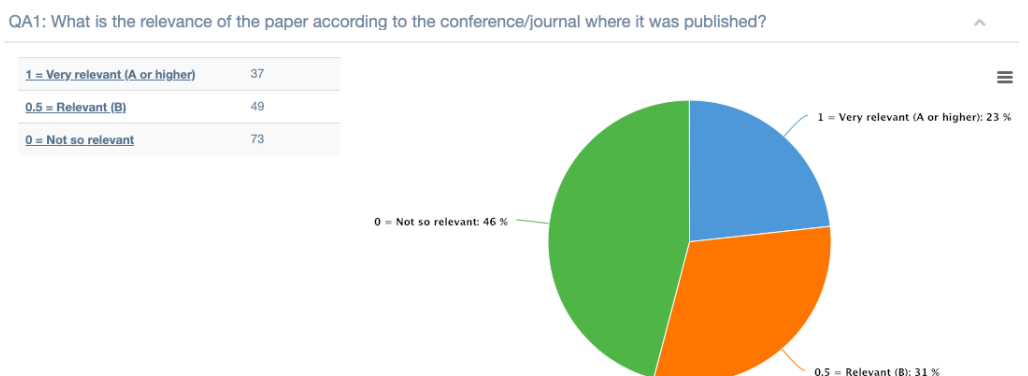
## 4 Results

This section discusses the findings of this SLR. We begin with describing the *Quality assessment of classified studies* for the selected works. After that we present our findings for each research question.

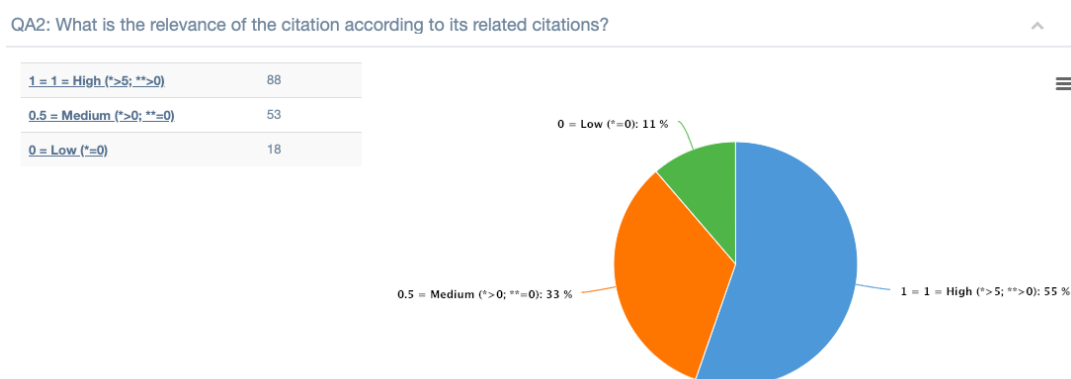
After analysis of the obtained set of classified papers, we identified one duplicate study. Of the obtained 159 papers, 28 papers are registered as obtained by search string, while the rest came from Barišić and Cunha (2017). However, as we had duplicate papers, this number is incomplete as the ReLis platform did not allow us to register various search strategies. For the same reason, we are not reporting the number of papers from different search databases.

### 4.1 Quality assessment of classified studies

To begin, Figure 4.1 displays descriptive statistics concerning quality assessment criteria QA1, which reports on the relevance of conference/journal where the paper was published. For this purpose we used the CORE ranking of the journals and conferences obtained from the following links: <http://portal.core.edu.au/jnl-ranks> and <http://portal.core.edu.au/conf-ranks>. The venues which reviewers did not find in this ranking list were marked as 'O-Not so relevant'.



**Figure 4.1:** Relevance of papers according to the conference/journal where they are published



**Figure 4.2:** Relevance of papers according to their citations

The highest number of papers belong to the papers that were published on conferences/journals that were not so relevant (46% of the papers). On the other hand, 31% of the papers are

relevant and 23% are very relevant to the domain - indicating that we reviewed 54% of primary studies published in relevant venues, which are ranked as A or B.

In Figure 4.2 we present results related to the relevance of citations, respectively, following the scale defined in Section 2.1.4. For this purpose, we used the number of citations obtained from Google Scholar in November and December of 2018. According to the obtained results, over half of the papers (55%) belong to the group that has a high ranking factor. 33% of the papers belong to the group with medium ranking factor, while only 11% have low importance.

In total, we can conclude that around 55% of primary studies have a very good ranking - meaning that they were published in high ranked venues and are cited.

Furthermore, we highlight the quality assessment regarding the content of the papers, namely the clarity of motivation and research context for the approach presented in the papers, the completeness of the evaluation of the presented approaches, the explicitness of how contributions and future work were stated.

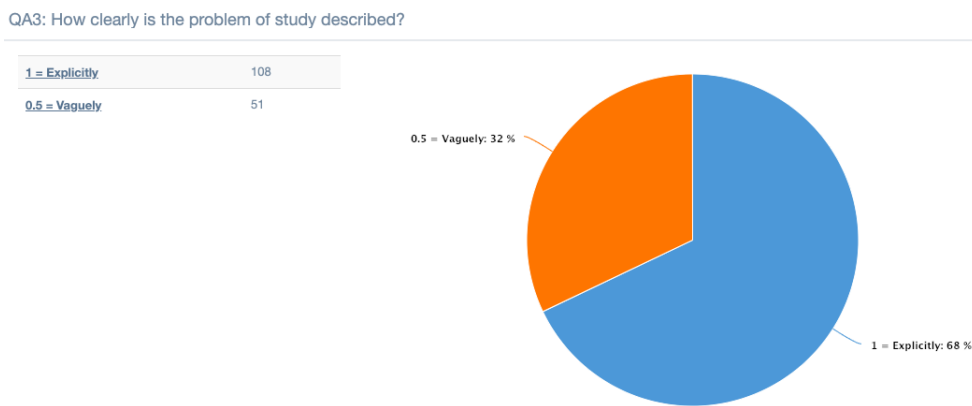


Figure 4.3: Clarity of the problem description

Figure 4.3 shows the results of how clearly the problem of study is described. Almost two-thirds of the selected papers (68%) clearly and accurately describe the problem and 32% of the papers describe problem vaguely. This indicates that reviewers found that all primary studies present the motivation for their approach, and in most of cases this motivation is clear and specific to the problem which the study tries to address.

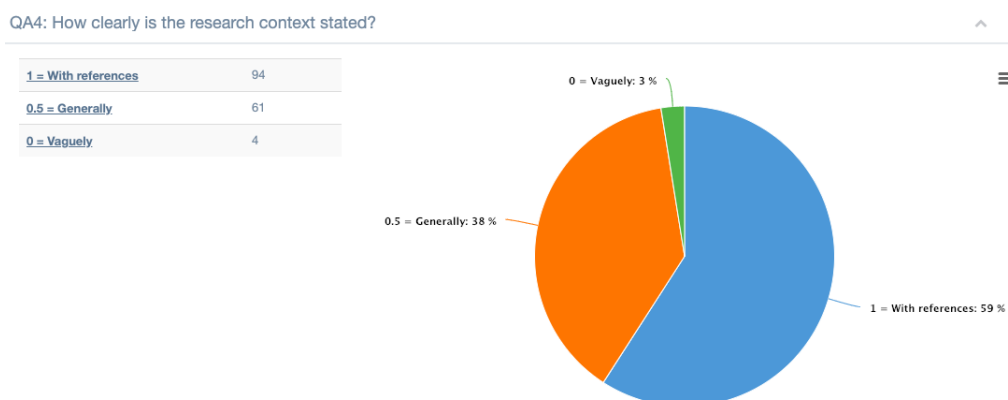


Figure 4.4: Clarity of the research context

We can see in Figure 4.4 that reviewers found that a negligible number of studies have focused on the research context vaguely (only 4 papers). Most convincingly, the largest number of the papers described research context with references (94 papers), meaning that the related work was reported, the lacks and advantages of related work were identified and compared with the

proposed approach. Finally, 61 primary studies are classified to describe the research context in a general way.

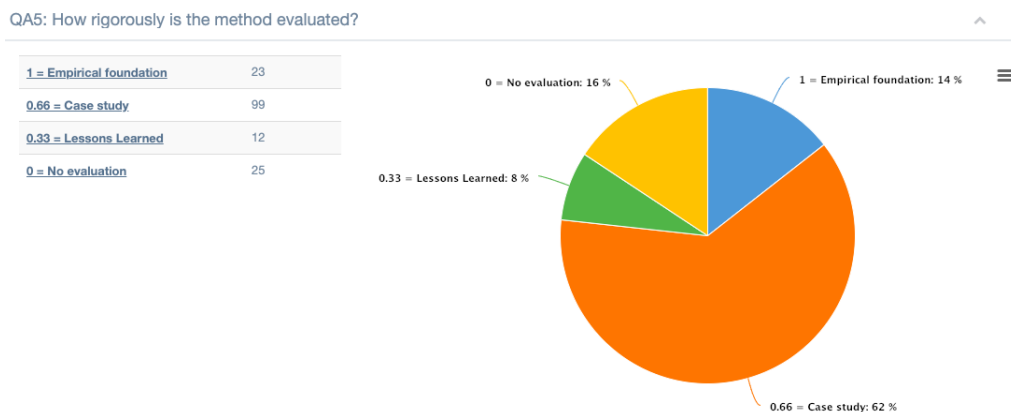


Figure 4.5: Rigor of method evaluation

We judge the rigor of evaluation method used in the primary studies based on their evaluation types. We categorized the evaluation types into four groups: 1) Empirical foundation, 2) Case study, 3) Lessons learned and 4) No evaluation. Figure 4.5 shows the evaluation types used to validate the proposed solution. From the total of 159 papers, more than half primary studies (99 papers) proposed solutions that are evaluated by applying small case studies. 25 papers do not report any evaluation. Furthermore, 23 studies are evaluated empirically, while the remaining 21 papers show the applicability of the proposal using some illustrative examples. In order to make the modelling approaches better understood and accepted, more empirical studies need to be carried out.

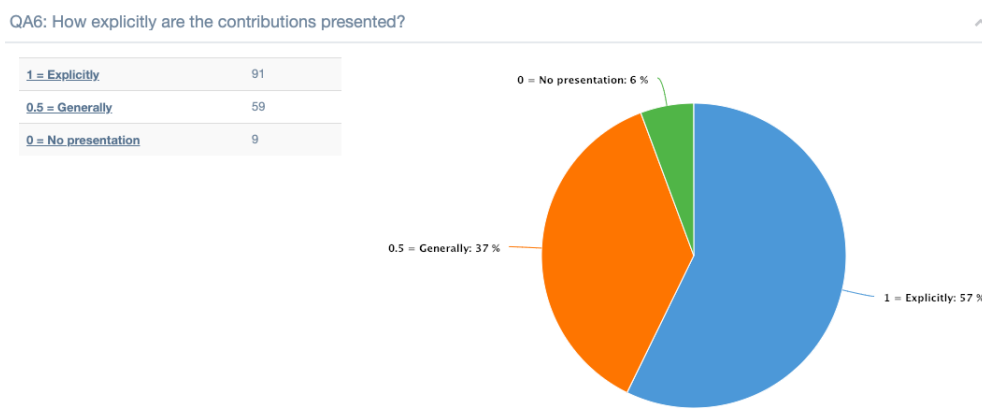
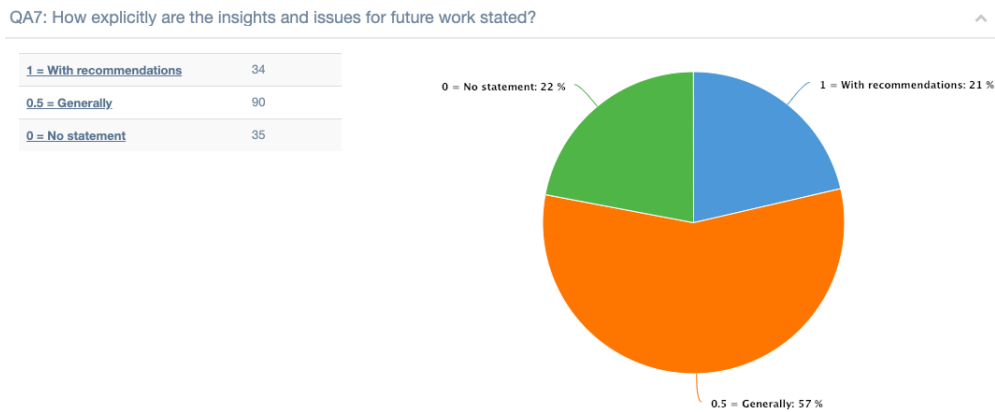


Figure 4.6: Explicitness of presenting contributions

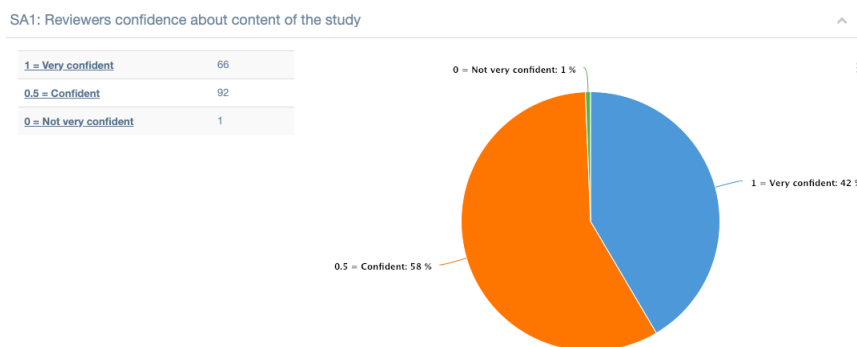
We measured the contributions claimed by the obtained articles based on how explicit they address the problem solution. More than half of the papers (57%) explicitly presented contribution, meaning they contribute with concrete solution and highlight the scope of their contribution clearly in the conclusions. A negligible number of papers do not present contributions (6%), while the remaining 37% of the papers describe their contributions in a general way. Figure 4.6 shows these results.

Finally, almost one quarter of the papers do not present any direction for future work (22%), which is almost the same as the number of papers that emphasized the future directions (21%). In the remaining papers, more than a half (57%), issues for future work are presented in a generalized manner (Figure 4.7).

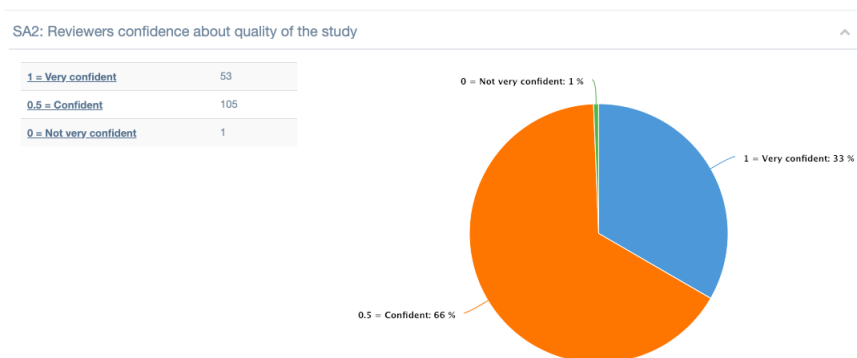


**Figure 4.7:** How explicitly are the insights and issues for future work stated?

We can conclude that most of the primary studies motivate their problems and provide the research context. About 80% of the approaches reported by primary studies are evaluated by a case study or empirical foundations. Although in most of cases the contributions are explicit, the future work is either very general or lacking and rarely reported with a concrete road-map.



**Figure 4.8:** Reviewer confidence about the study content

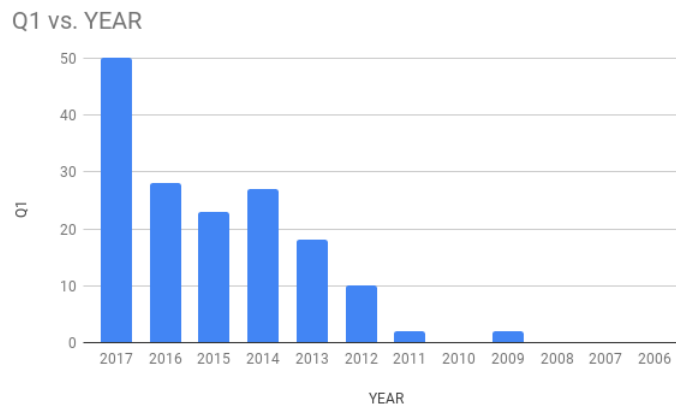


**Figure 4.9:** Reviewer confidence about the study quality

In order to make the review process more objective, the reviewers were asked to make a statement about their confidence about the content and quality of the study (see Figures 4.8 and 4.9). We used this information to decide whether to accept the reviewer opinion or to give the same paper to another reviewer, increasing the overall confidence. Confident response was dominant in both questions (58% and 66% respectively). A negligible number of the responses, approximately 1%, was *Not Very Confident*. This statistic is important because it can be concluded that the reviewers were appropriately selected.

## 4.2 Modelling approaches for building CPS

In this section, we present the findings for our first research question **RQ1: Which modelling approaches exist for building CPS?**. The reviewers addressed this question by asking themselves if the primary study reports modelling approaches for building CPS. All the studies for which reviewers found that answer to this question was 'No' were excluded.



**Figure 4.10:** Modelling approaches for CPS over time

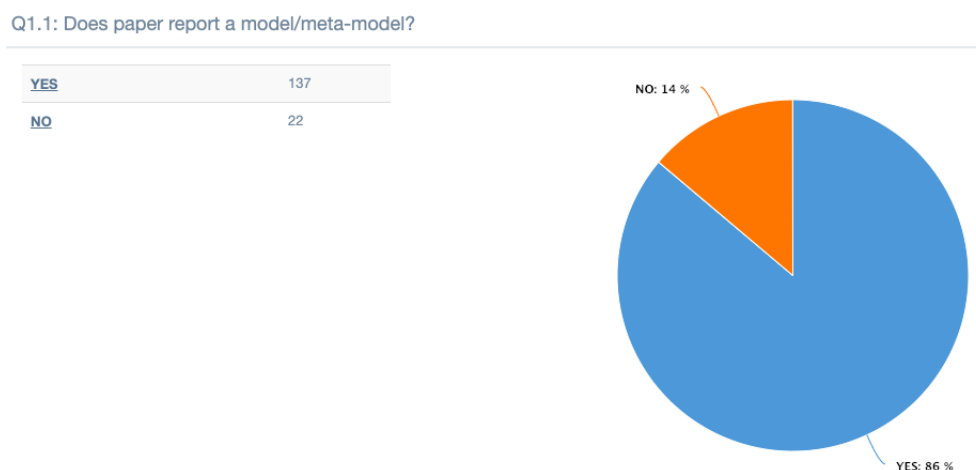
In total 159 primary studies were classified to report modelling approaches for building a CPS. We can observe that the number of these reports is increasing from 2009 towards the year 2017, for which almost one third of the primary studies were published as shown in Figure 4.10. The selected studies are listed below:

Attarzadeh-Niaki and Sander (2016); Barišić et al. (2017); Basile et al. (2016); Dang and Gogolla (2009); Fitzgerald et al. (2015); Zhang and Feng (2014); Walch (2017); Latombe et al. (2015); Casella et al. (2017); Fitzgerald et al. (2014); Denil et al. (2017); Herrera et al. (2015); Juhász et al. (2015); Lickly et al. (2011); Vara Larsen et al. (2015); Bergmann et al. (2017); Tomašević et al. (2015); Magureanu et al. (2013); Antal et al. (2017); Asensio et al. (2017); Bloomfield et al. (2017); Burillo et al. (2017); Canadas et al. (2018); Chaki and Edmondson (2014); Cicirelli et al. (2017); de Farias et al. (2017); Dillon et al. (2012); Gonçalves et al. (2016); Hackenberg et al. (2016); Heinze et al. (2012); Bujorianu and Piterman (2015); Combaz et al. (2015); Marrone and Gentile (2016); Gerostathopoulos et al. (2016); Kokolaki et al. (2014); Novák et al. (2017); Pazzi and Pellicciari (2017); Shuja et al. (2014); Sobottka et al. (2017); Um et al. (2017); Zhang et al. (2017a); Carnevali et al. (2014); Giese and Schäfer (2013); Gunes et al. (2015); Hartmann et al. (2014); Jiang et al. (2014); Sztipanovits et al. (2017); Törngren et al. (2014); Zhang (2014); Ciccozzi et al. (2016); Moyano et al. (2014); Premm and Kirn (2015); Sztipanovits et al. (2014); Tao et al. (2017); Tendeloo and Vangheluwe (2017); Murguzur et al. (2013); Calinescu (2013); Chiaradonna et al. (2012); Mertins et al. (2012); Son et al. (2012); Woodard and Sedigh (2013); Ni and Broenink (2014); Dávid et al. (2016); Durak et al. (2017); Lerm et al. (2015); Weissnegger et al. (2016); Kusmenko et al. (2017); Alhafidh and Allen (2017); Apvrille and Roudier (2015); Mallet (2015); Rovers and Kuper (2013); von Hanxleden et al. (2012); Nejati et al. (2012); Pournaras et al. (2013); Neisse et al. (2015); Huang et al. (2014); Eusgeld et al. (2011); Excoffon et al. (2016); Francalanza et al. (2017); Bernard and Chenouard (2014); Gauthier et al. (2015); Caramihai and Dumitrache (2013); Hecht (2016); Montecchi et al. (2012); Arrieta et al. (2017); i Casas and i Casas (2017); Greenyer et al. (2014); Basile et al. (2017); Holden et al.

(2013); Uva et al. (2017); Hu et al. (2015); Garcia et al. (2012); Myers and Atkinson (2013); Dubois and Pohl (2017); Seiger et al. (2015); Sharaf et al. (2017); Canedo and Richter (2014); Dávid (2016); Simko et al. (2013); Van Der Auweraer et al. (2013); Méry and Singh (2013); Fernández-Isabel and Fuentes-Fernández (2016); Zhang (2013); Cicirellia et al. (2017); Wehrmeister et al. (2014); Di Alesio and Sen (2017); Faschang et al. (2016); Franchin and Cavalieri (2013); Zhang et al. (2017b); Frtunikj et al. (2014); Heinzemann et al. (2017); Dávid et al. (2018); Bliudze et al. (2017); Stiel et al. (2016); Khan et al. (2017); Cho (2017); King et al. (2014); Delicato et al. (2017); Zhang and Koutsoukos (2013); Dragule et al. (2017); Legat and Vogel-Heuser (2017); Giles and Giammarco (2017); Gräßler et al. (2017); Grüttner et al. (2017); Neema et al. (2016); Ruiz et al. (2016); Albert and Christian (2013); Thramboulidis and Christoulakis (2016); van den Berg et al. (2015); Wang et al. (2015); Amgai et al. (2014); Appel et al. (2014); Armentia et al. (2014); Seiger et al. (2017); Tóth et al. (2012); Dayal et al. (2015); Liu et al. (2017); Lollini et al. (2016); Baumgartner et al. (2014); Yin et al. (2016); Hoffmann et al. (2017); Brocanelli et al. (2015); Herrmann and Blech (2016); Liu et al. (2013); Mallet et al. (2017); ZHU et al. (2014); Vellaithurai et al. (2015); Gribaudo and Remke (2016); Kacem et al. (2017); Mazzolini et al. (2017); Ribeiro et al. (2017); Troubitsyna et al. (2016); Drago et al. (2016); Yu et al. (2014); Vanherpen et al. (2015); Lin et al. (2016); Varró et al. (2016); Leung et al. (2009)

#### 4.2.1 Reported models and meta-models

A key part of a modelling approach is a model or a meta-model: among the 159 selected papers, 137 papers report a model or a meta-model. The remaining 22 papers do not report any model (see Figure 4.11). The selected studies that report a model or a meta-model are listed below:



**Figure 4.11:** Reported models or meta-models

Attarzadeh-Niaki and Sander (2016); Barišić et al. (2017); Basile et al. (2016); Dang and Gogolla (2009); Latombe et al. (2015); Denil et al. (2017); Herrera et al. (2015); Juhász et al. (2015); Lickly et al. (2011); Vara Larsen et al. (2015); Zhang and Feng (2014); Bergmann et al. (2017); Magureanu et al. (2013); Antal et al. (2017); Asensio et al. (2017); Bloomfield et al. (2017); Burillo et al. (2017); Canadas et al. (2018); Chaki and Edmondson (2014); Cicirelli et al. (2017); de Farias et al. (2017); Gonçalves et al. (2016); Hackenberg et al. (2016); Heinze et al. (2012); Bujorianu and Piterman (2015); Combaz et al. (2015); Marrone and Gentile (2016);





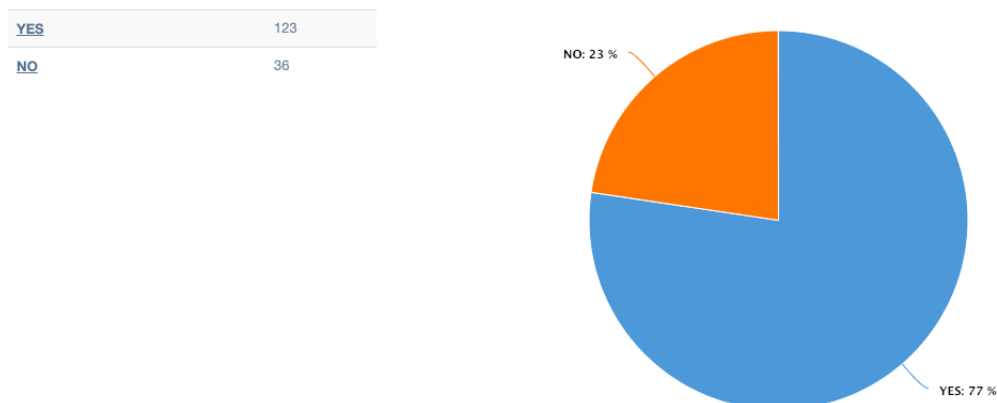
Gerostathopoulos et al. (2016); Kokolaki et al. (2014); Novák et al. (2017); Pazzi and Pellicciari (2017); Shuja et al. (2014); Sobottka et al. (2017); Um et al. (2017); Zhang et al. (2017a); Carnevali et al. (2014); Giese and Schäfer (2013); Hartmann et al. (2014); Jiang et al. (2014); Törngren et al. (2014); Zhang (2014); Ciccozzi et al. (2016); Moyano et al. (2014); Premm and Kirn (2015); Sztipanovits et al. (2014); Tao et al. (2017); Tendeloo and Vangheluwe (2017); Murguzur et al. (2013); Calinescu (2013); Chiaradonna et al. (2012); Son et al. (2012); Woodard and Sedigh (2013); Ni and Broenink (2014); Dávid et al. (2016); Durak et al. (2017); Lerm et al. (2015); Weissnegger et al. (2016); Kusmenko et al. (2017); Apvrille and Roudier (2015); Mallet (2015); von Hanxleden et al. (2012); Nejati et al. (2012); Pournaras et al. (2013); Neisse et al. (2015); Huang et al. (2014); Eusgeld et al. (2011); Excoffon et al. (2016); Francalanza et al. (2017); Gauthier et al. (2015); Caramihai and Dumitrache (2013); Hecht (2016); Montecchi et al. (2012); Arrieta et al. (2017); Greenyer et al. (2014); Basile et al. (2017); Holden et al. (2013); Hu et al. (2015); Garcia et al. (2012); Myers and Atkinson (2013); Dubois and Pohl (2017); Seiger et al. (2015); Sharaf et al. (2017); Canedo and Richter (2014); Dávid (2016); Simko et al. (2013); Méry and Singh (2013); Fernández-Isabel and Fuentes-Fernández (2016); Cicirellia et al. (2017); Wehrmeister et al. (2014); Di Alesio and Sen (2017); Faschang et al. (2016); Franchin and Cavalieri (2013); Zhang et al. (2017b); Frtunikj et al. (2014); Heinze-mann et al. (2017); Dávid et al. (2018); Bliudze et al. (2017); Stiel et al. (2016); Khan et al. (2017); Cho (2017); King et al. (2014); Zhang and Koutsoukos (2013); Dragule et al. (2017); Legat and Vogel-Heuser (2017); Giles and Giammarco (2017); Grütner et al. (2017); Neema et al. (2016); Albert and Christian (2013); Thramboulidis and Christoulakis (2016); van den Berg et al. (2015); Wang et al. (2015); Amgai et al. (2014); Appel et al. (2014); Armentia et al. (2014); Seiger et al. (2017); Tóth et al. (2012); Liu et al. (2017); Lollini et al. (2016); Baumgartner et al. (2014); Yin et al. (2016); Hoffmann et al. (2017); Brocanelli et al. (2015); Herrmann and Blech (2016); Liu et al. (2013); Mallet et al. (2017); ZHU et al. (2014); Vellaithurai et al. (2015); Gribaudo and Remke (2016); Kacem et al. (2017); Mazzolini et al. (2017); Ribeiro et al. (2017); Troubitsyna et al. (2016); Drago et al. (2016); Vanherpen et al. (2015); Lin et al. (2016); Varró et al. (2016); Leung et al. (2009); Nam et al. (2016)

#### 4.2.2 Reported tools and modelling languages

Further, we analyzed whether there is a tool or modelling languages that supports integrated modelling of CPS systems (*Q1.2 Does the paper report a tool/language?*). Figure 4.12 shows the results. 77% of primary studies report tools or modelling languages which were developed to support the approach or were used by the approach, while 23% do not. The selected studies that report tools/languages are listed as follows:

Attarzadeh-Niaki and Sander (2016); Barišić et al. (2017); Basile et al. (2016); Dang and Gogolla (2009); Fitzgerald et al. (2015); Walch (2017); Latombe et al. (2015); Casella et al. (2017); Fitzgerald et al. (2014); Denil et al. (2017); Herrera et al. (2015); Juhász et al. (2015); Lickly et al. (2011); Vara Larsen et al. (2015); Zhang and Feng (2014); Bergmann et al. (2017); Tomašević et al. (2015); Magureanu et al. (2013); Asensio et al. (2017); Canadas et al. (2018); Chaki and Edmondson (2014); de Farias et al. (2017); Dillon et al. (2012); Gonçalves et al. (2016); Hackenberg et al. (2016); Heinze et al. (2012); Combaz et al. (2015); Marrone and Gentile (2016); Gerostathopoulos et al. (2016); Novák et al. (2017); Sobottka et al. (2017); Zhang et al. (2017a); Carnevali et al. (2014); Giese and Schäfer (2013); Gunes et al. (2015); Jiang et al. (2014); Sztipanovits et al. (2017); Törngren et al. (2014); Ciccozzi et al. (2016); Moyano et al. (2014); Sztipanovits et al. (2014); Tendeloo and Vangheluwe

Q1.2: Does the paper report a tool/language?



**Figure 4.12:** Reported modelling tools or languages

(2017); Murguzur et al. (2013); Chiaradonna et al. (2012); Son et al. (2012); Ni and Broenink (2014); Durak et al. (2017); Lerm et al. (2015); Weissnegger et al. (2016); Kusmenko et al. (2017); Alhafidh and Allen (2017); Apvrille and Roudier (2015); Mallet (2015); Rovers and Kuper (2013); von Hanxleden et al. (2012); Nejati et al. (2012); Neisse et al. (2015); Huang et al. (2014); Eusgeld et al. (2011); Francalanza et al. (2017); Bernard and Chenouard (2014); Gauthier et al. (2015); Hecht (2016); Montecchi et al. (2012); Arrieta et al. (2017); i Casas and i Casas (2017); Greenyer et al. (2014); Basile et al. (2017); Holden et al. (2013); Hu et al. (2015); Garcia et al. (2012); Myers and Atkinson (2013); Dubois and Pohl (2017); Seiger et al. (2015); Sharaf et al. (2017); Canedo and Richter (2014); Dávid (2016); Simko et al. (2013); Van Der Auweraer et al. (2013); Méry and Singh (2013); Fernández-Isabel and Fuentes-Fernández (2016); Zhang (2013); Cicirellia et al. (2017); Wehrmeister et al. (2014); Di Alesio and Sen (2017); Franchin and Cavalieri (2013); Zhang et al. (2017b); Heinzemann et al. (2017); Dávid et al. (2018); Stiel et al. (2016); Khan et al. (2017); King et al. (2014); Zhang and Koutsoukos (2013); Dragule et al. (2017); Legat and Vogel-Heuser (2017); Giles and Giammarco (2017); Grüttner et al. (2017); Neema et al. (2016); Ruiz et al. (2016); Albert and Christian (2013); Thramboulidis and Christoulakis (2016); van den Berg et al. (2015); Wang et al. (2015); Amgai et al. (2014); Appel et al. (2014); Tóth et al. (2012); Dayal et al. (2015); Lollini et al. (2016); Baumgartner et al. (2014); Yin et al. (2016); Herrmann and Blech (2016); Liu et al. (2013); Mallet et al. (2017); Vellaithurai et al. (2015); Gribaudo and Remke (2016); Kacem et al. (2017); Ribeiro et al. (2017); Drago et al. (2016); Yu et al. (2014); Vanherpen et al. (2015); Lin et al. (2016); Varró et al. (2016); Leung et al. (2009); Nam et al. (2016)

#### 4.2.3 Reported processes

Finally, in regard to RQ1, we analyzed whether the papers propose any process for engineering CPS (*Q1.3 Does the paper report the model of the adopted process?*). Less than half of the selected papers (43%) presented an explicit process, while most of the papers (57%) did not. The list below presents the papers that reported a process:

Denil et al. (2017); Herrera et al. (2015); Magureanu et al. (2013); Bloomfield et al. (2017); Canadas et al. (2018); Cicirelli et al. (2017); de Farias et al. (2017); Gonçalves et al. (2016); Hackenberg et al. (2016); Marrone and Gentile (2016); Gerostathopoulos et al. (2016); Törngren et al. (2014); Sztipanovits et al. (2014); Tendeloo and



Q1.3: Does the paper report the model of the adopted process?

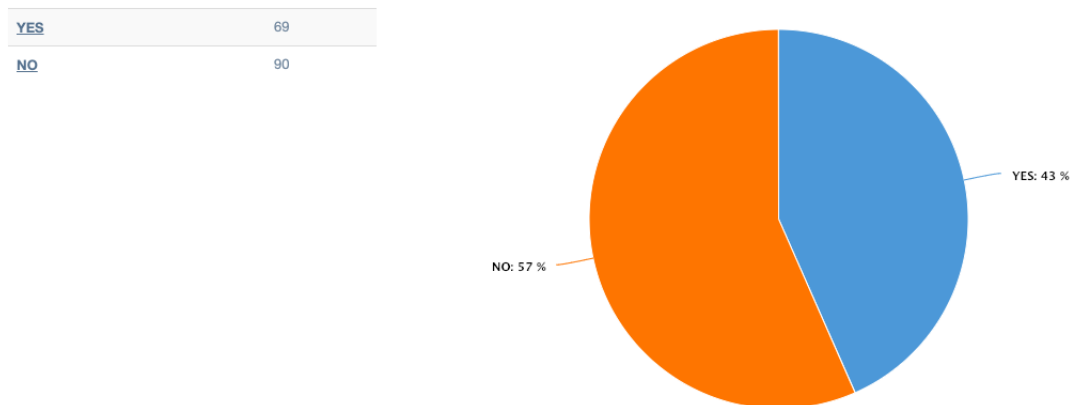


Figure 4.13: Reported processes

Vangheluwe (2017); Chiaradonna et al. (2012); Ni and Broenink (2014); Lerm et al. (2015); Weissnegger et al. (2016); Apvrille and Roudier (2015); Nejati et al. (2012); Neisse et al. (2015); Huang et al. (2014); Francalanza et al. (2017); Bernard and Chenouard (2014); Gauthier et al. (2015); Hecht (2016); Arrieta et al. (2017); Greenyer et al. (2014); Basile et al. (2017); Holden et al. (2013); Uva et al. (2017); Hu et al. (2015); Garcia et al. (2012); Dubois and Pohl (2017); Seiger et al. (2015); Sharaf et al. (2017); Dávid (2016); Van Der Auweraer et al. (2013); Cicirellia et al. (2017); Wehrmeister et al. (2014); Di Alesio and Sen (2017); Zhang et al. (2017b); Heinzemann et al. (2017); Dávid et al. (2018); Bliudze et al. (2017); Zhang and Koutsoukos (2013); Dragule et al. (2017); Legat and Vogel-Heuser (2017); Giles and Giammarco (2017); Gräßler et al. (2017); Grüttner et al. (2017); Albert and Christian (2013); van den Berg et al. (2015); Wang et al. (2015); Amgai et al. (2014); Appel et al. (2014); Seiger et al. (2017); Lollini et al. (2016); Hoffmann et al. (2017); Brocanelli et al. (2015); Herrmann and Blech (2016); Liu et al. (2013); Mallet et al. (2017); ZHU et al. (2014); Vellaithurai et al. (2015); Kacem et al. (2017); Ribeiro et al. (2017); Vanherpen et al. (2015); Nam et al. (2016)

Regarding the modelling approaches for building CPS, the following is observed: most of primary studies report model or meta-model (83%), a large number of papers referred to tools or modelling languages (77%), while less than half of the papers presented the modelling process.

### 4.3 Multi-paradigm modelling approaches

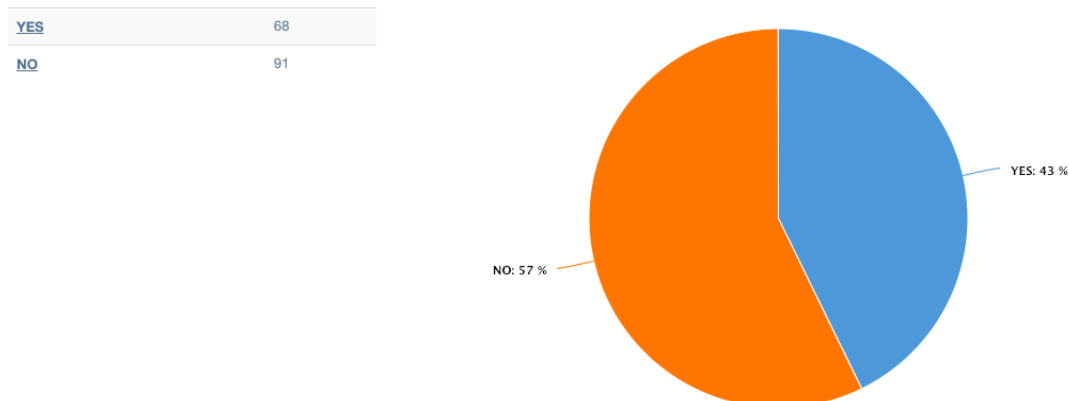
In this section, we present the findings for **RQ2: Does the paper report a multi-paradigm modelling approach?**

As shown in Figure 4.14, almost half of the papers (43%) support some multi-paradigm modelling approach, while the rest 57% support modelling of a particular part of the CPS (physical, network, communication, or software). Thus, a substantial part of CPS modelling research is involved in MPM.

The list below presents papers that reported a multi-paradigm modelling approach:

Basile et al. (2016); Zhang and Feng (2014); Fitzgerald et al. (2014); Denil et al. (2017); Herrera et al. (2015); Lickly et al. (2011); Vara Larsen et al. (2015); Magureanu et al. (2013); Bloomfield et al. (2017); Cicirelli et al. (2017); Gonçalves et al. (2016); Hackenberg et al. (2016); Heinze et al. (2012); Bujorianu and Piterman (2015); Mar-

Q2: Does the paper report a multi-paradigm modelling approach?



**Figure 4.14:** Reported multi-paradigm modelling approaches

rone and Gentile (2016); Novák et al. (2017); Sobottka et al. (2017); Carnevali et al. (2014); Giese and Schäfer (2013); Sztipanovits et al. (2017); Törngren et al. (2014); Zhang and Feng (2014); Sztipanovits et al. (2014); Tendeloo and Vangheluwe (2017); Murguzur et al. (2013); Chiaradonna et al. (2012); Son et al. (2012); Ni and Broenink (2014); Dávid et al. (2016); Lerm et al. (2015); Weissnegger et al. (2016); Apvrille and Roudier (2015); von Hanxleden et al. (2012); Neisse et al. (2015); Huang et al. (2014); Eusgeld et al. (2011); Francalanza et al. (2017); Hecht (2016); Arrieta et al. (2017); i Casas and i Casas (2017); Garcia et al. (2012); Sharaf et al. (2017); Dávid (2016); Van Der Auweraer et al. (2013); Fernández-Isabel and Fuentes-Fernández (2016); Zhang (2013); Cicirellia et al. (2017); Wehrmeister et al. (2014); Zhang et al. (2017b); Heinzemann et al. (2017); Dávid et al. (2018); Bliudze et al. (2017); Khan et al. (2017); King et al. (2014); Grüttner et al. (2017); Tóth et al. (2012); Liu et al. (2017); Lollini et al. (2016); Baumgartner et al. (2014); Hoffmann et al. (2017); Mallet et al. (2017); Vellaithurai et al. (2015); Kacem et al. (2017); Drago et al. (2016); Yu et al. (2014); Vanherpen et al. (2015); Varró et al. (2016); Nam et al. (2016)

#### 4.3.1 Extent of reported model-driven development

From the papers that report a multi-paradigm modelling approach, approximately one-third (23 studies) present a complete model-driven development approach:

Fitzgerald et al. (2014); Denil et al. (2017); Hackenberg et al. (2016); Heinze et al. (2012); Marrone and Gentile (2016); Törngren et al. (2014); Sztipanovits et al. (2014); Murguzur et al. (2013); Ni and Broenink (2014); Dávid et al. (2016); Lerm et al. (2015); Weissnegger et al. (2016); Apvrille and Roudier (2015); Huang et al. (2014); Eusgeld et al. (2011); i Casas and i Casas (2017); Garcia et al. (2012); Dávid (2016); Zhang (2013); Cicirellia et al. (2017); Wehrmeister et al. (2014); Zhang et al. (2017b); Grüttner et al. (2017)

For example, Sztipanovits et al. (2014) proposed an approach based on several consecutive phases of development, with increasing levels of fidelity, that is complete from modelling to simulation, with appropriate tools. Furthermore, Lerm et al. (2015) proposed an approach that use the XMI from SysML/UML models to extract task graph (TG) and Processing Unit graph. They provide an editor for modelling SysML, transformation to task graph and Processing Unit graph, from which they generate code.



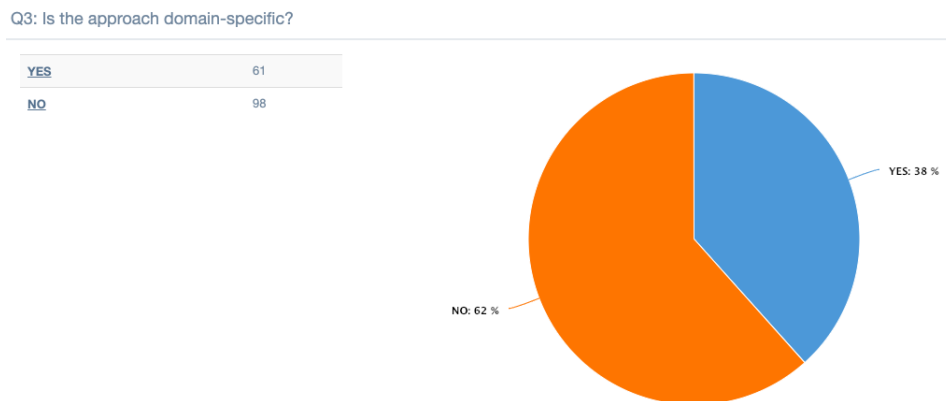
A wide spectrum of formalisms is used for modelling CPS, with the following common examples:

- Discrete events: Fitzgerald et al. (2014); Denil et al. (2017); Vara Larsen et al. (2015); Sobottka et al. (2017); Ni and Broenink (2014).
- Various UML and SysML diagrams: Herrera et al. (2015); Heinze et al. (2012); Tendeloo and Vangheluwe (2017); Zhang et al. (2017b); Hoffmann et al. (2017); Kacem et al. (2017).
- Formalisms based on dataflows: Bliudze et al. (2017); Grüttner et al. (2017); Baumgartner et al. (2014); Herrera et al. (2015).
- Petri nets: Carnevali et al. (2014); Marrone and Gentile (2016); Tendeloo and Vangheluwe (2017); Eusgeld et al. (2011); King et al. (2014).
- Various types of mathematical equations: Hecht (2016); Van Der Auweraer et al. (2013); Bliudze et al. (2017); Grüttner et al. (2017); Sobottka et al. (2017); Carnevali et al. (2014).

According to the integration mechanisms, the dominant approach used to integrate the model is *semantic anchoring* (such as Denil et al. (2017); Herrera et al. (2015); Vara Larsen et al. (2015); Hackenberg et al. (2016); Heinze et al. (2012)) as well as *co-modelling and co-simulation* (Carnevali et al. (2014); Ni and Broenink (2014); Fernández-Isabel and Fuentes-Fernández (2016)). However, there is an approach which uses a language to describe how two models are integrated (Sztipanovits et al. (2017)).

#### 4.4 Domain-specificity of modelling approaches

In this section, we present the findings for **RQ3: Which application domains have been considered?** Figure 4.15 shows that over one third of the papers (38%) presented approaches that are domain-specific, while a majority of the papers are domain-independent (62%) - meaning that they are applicable to CPS in general.



**Figure 4.15:** Domain-specificity of modelling approaches

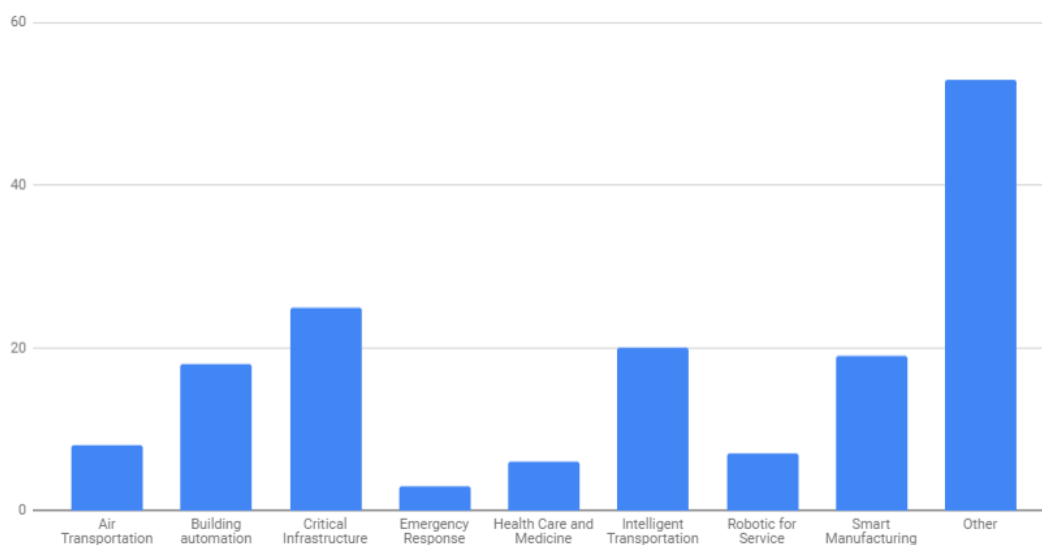
The list below presents the papers that reported that the proposed modelling approach is domain-specific:

Basile et al. (2016); Casella et al. (2017); Denil et al. (2017); Antal et al. (2017); Asensio et al. (2017); de Farias et al. (2017); Gonçalves et al. (2016); Hackenberg et al. (2016); Heinze et al. (2012); Marrone and Gentile (2016); Shuja et al. (2014); Zhang et al. (2017a); Carnevali et al. (2014); Ciccocozzi et al. (2016); Premm and Kirn (2015); Murguzur et al. (2013); Calinescu (2013); Chiaradonna et al. (2012); Woodard and Sedigh (2013); Weissnegger et al. (2016); Alhafidh and Allen (2017); Nejati et al. (2012); Pournaras et al. (2013); Francalanza et al. (2017); Bernard and

Chenouard (2014); Caramihai and Dumitrache (2013); Hecht (2016); Montecchi et al. (2012); i Casas and i Casas (2017); Greenyer et al. (2014); Dubois and Pohl (2017); Sharaf et al. (2017); Van Der Auweraer et al. (2013); Méry and Singh (2013); Fernández-Isabel and Fuentes-Fernández (2016); Zhang (2013); Cicirellia et al. (2017); Wehrmeister et al. (2014); Faschang et al. (2016); Franchin and Cavalieri (2013); Frtunikj et al. (2014); Stiel et al. (2016); Khan et al. (2017); Cho (2017); King et al. (2014); Dragule et al. (2017); Legat and Vogel-Heuser (2017); Giles and Giammarco (2017); Gräßler et al. (2017); Grüttner et al. (2017); Neema et al. (2016); Thramboulidis and Christoulakis (2016); van den Berg et al. (2015); Wang et al. (2015); Amgai et al. (2014); Tóth et al. (2012); Hoffmann et al. (2017); ZHU et al. (2014); Gribaudo and Remke (2016); Ribeiro et al. (2017); Vanherpen et al. (2015)

#### 4.4.1 Application domains

According to the characterization of application domain to which the proposed approaches can be/ or were applied, Figure 4.16 shows that approximately the same number of papers address Critical Infrastructure, Intelligent Transportation, Smart Manufacturing and Building Automation domains. Most of the reviewed papers refer to some other domain that is not listed for the reviewers, demonstrating the diversity of CPS domains. We allowed the reviewers to characterize the domain using up to three choices, independently if the approach was reported as domain-specific or not. The reasoning behind this was that even for general approaches, the application is illustrated using one or more domains.



**Figure 4.16:** Reported application domains

The list below presents papers by the application domains that are addressed:

- Air Transportation: Herrera et al. (2015); Lickly et al. (2011); Chaki and Edmondson (2014); Gonçalves et al. (2016); Zhang and Feng (2014); Mertins et al. (2012); Mallet (2015); Gauthier et al. (2015)
- Building Automation: Asensio et al. (2017); Cicirelli et al. (2017); de Farias et al. (2017); Marrone and Gentile (2016); Pazzi and Pellicciari (2017); Zhang et al. (2017a); Gunes et al. (2015); Tao et al. (2017); Murguzur et al. (2013); Lerm et al. (2015); i Casas and i Casas (2017); Faschang et al. (2016); Zhang et al. (2017b); Khan et al. (2017); Legat and Vogel-Heuser (2017); Albert and Christian (2013); Armentia et al. (2014); Herrmann and Blech (2016)





- Critical Infrastructure: Casella et al. (2017); Antal et al. (2017); Bloomfield et al. (2017); Burillo et al. (2017); Shuja et al. (2014); Hartmann et al. (2014); Moyano et al. (2014); Chiaradonna et al. (2012); Eusgeld et al. (2011); Holden et al. (2013); Hu et al. (2015); Garcia et al. (2012); Sharaf et al. (2017); Di Alesio and Sen (2017); Grüttner et al. (2017); Amgai et al. (2014); Seiger et al. (2017); Dayal et al. (2015); Liu et al. (2017); Brocanelli et al. (2015); Liu et al. (2013); Mallet et al. (2017); Vellaithurai et al. (2015); Gribaudo and Remke (2016); Drago et al. (2016)
- Emergency Response: Gerostathopoulos et al. (2016); Hecht (2016); Wang et al. (2015)
- Health Care and Medicine: Heinze et al. (2012); Jiang et al. (2014); Neisse et al. (2015); Méry and Singh (2013); King et al. (2014); van den Berg et al. (2015)
- Intelligent Transportation: Basile et al. (2016); Kokolaki et al. (2014); Giese and Schäfer (2013); Sztipanovits et al. (2014); Tendeloo and Vangheluwe (2017); Weissnegger et al. (2016); Apville and Roudier (2015); Huang et al. (2014); Bernard and Chenouard (2014); Greenyer et al. (2014); Canedo and Richter (2014); Fernández-Isabel and Fuentes-Fernández (2016); Frtunikj et al. (2014); Heinzemann et al. (2017); Appel et al. (2014); Baumgartner et al. (2014); Yin et al. (2016); Yu et al. (2014); Leung et al. (2009); Nam et al. (2016)
- Robotic for Service: Fitzgerald et al. (2014); Törngren et al. (2014); Dávid (2016); Zhang (2013); Dragule et al. (2017); Kacem et al. (2017); Ribeiro et al. (2017)
- Smart Manufacturing: Canadas et al. (2018); Hackenberg et al. (2016); Novák et al. (2017); Sobottka et al. (2017); Um et al. (2017); Ni and Broenink (2014); Excoffon et al. (2016); Uva et al. (2017); Dubois and Pohl (2017); Cicirellia et al. (2017); Wehrmeister et al. (2014); Franchin and Cavalieri (2013); Stiel et al. (2016); Cho (2017); Gräßler et al. (2017); Neema et al. (2016); Thramboulidis and Christoulakis (2016); Hoffmann et al. (2017); ZHU et al. (2014)
- Other: Attarzadeh-Niaki and Sander (2016); Barišić et al. (2017); Dang and Gogolla (2009); Fitzgerald et al. (2015); Walch (2017); Latombe et al. (2015); Denil et al. (2017); Juhász et al. (2015); Vara Larsen et al. (2015); Zhang (2014); Bergmann et al. (2017); Tomašević et al. (2015); Magureanu et al. (2013); Dillon et al. (2012); Bujorianu and Piterman (2015); Combaz et al. (2015); Carnevali et al. (2014); Sztipanovits et al. (2017); Ciccoczi et al. (2016); Premm and Kirn (2015); Calinescu (2013); Son et al. (2012); Woodard and Sedigh (2013); Dávid et al. (2016); Durak et al. (2017); Kusmenko et al. (2017); Alhafidh and Allen (2017); Rovers and Kuper (2013); von Hanxleden et al. (2012); Nejati et al. (2012); Pournaras et al. (2013); Francalanza et al. (2017); Caramihai and Dumitrache (2013); Montecchi et al. (2012); Arrieta et al. (2017); Basile et al. (2017); Myers and Atkinson (2013); Seiger et al. (2015); Simko et al. (2013); Van Der Auweraer et al. (2013); Dávid et al. (2018); Bliudze et al. (2017); Delicato et al. (2017); Zhang and Koutsoukos (2013); Giles and Giammarco (2017); Ruiz et al. (2016); Tóth et al. (2012); Lollini et al. (2016); Mazzolini et al. (2017); Troubitsyna et al. (2016); Vanherpen et al. (2015); Lin et al. (2016); Varró et al. (2016)

#### 4.5 Profiles of stakeholders involved in modelling of the CPS

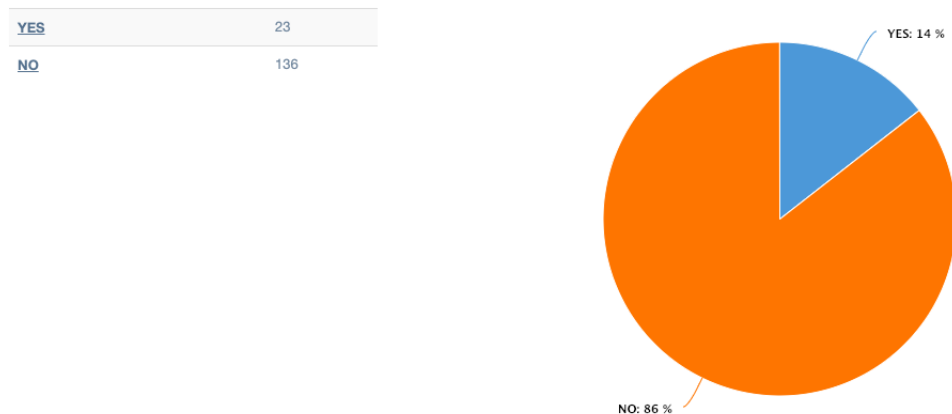
In this section, we present the findings for **RQ4: What is the profile of the person which perform modelling of CPS?**

Figure 4.17 shows a concerning fact that only 14% of the papers report the actors/stakeholders involved in modelling of the CPS. We conclude that research papers need to present the expected profiles of engineers or users for their CPS modelling methods.

The list below presents papers that described the actors/stakeholders involved in modelling of the CPS:



Q4: Does the paper report the actors/stakeholders involved in modelling of the CPS?



**Figure 4.17:** Reported actors or stakeholders involved in modelling of CPS

Denil et al. (2017); Vara Larsen et al. (2015); Asensio et al. (2017); Combaz et al. (2015); Kokolaki et al. (2014); Zhang et al. (2017a); Hartmann et al. (2014); Törngren et al. (2014); Moyano et al. (2014); Premm and Kirn (2015); Weissnegger et al. (2016); Apvrille and Roudier (2015); Neisse et al. (2015); Francalanza et al. (2017); Di Alesio and Sen (2017); Zhang et al. (2017b); Khan et al. (2017); Wang et al. (2015); Tóth et al. (2012); Baumgartner et al. (2014); Drago et al. (2016); Yu et al. (2014); Nam et al. (2016)

The reviewers categorized them as follows (it was possible to select several options):

- CPS engineer (13): Vara Larsen et al. (2015); Antal et al. (2017); Bloomfield et al. (2017); de Farias et al. (2017); Combaz et al. (2015); Weissnegger et al. (2016); Apvrille and Roudier (2015); Di Alesio and Sen (2017); Zhang et al. (2017b); Tóth et al. (2012); Drago et al. (2016); Yu et al. (2014); Nam et al. (2016)
- CPS user (6): Asensio et al. (2017); Kokolaki et al. (2014); Zhang et al. (2017a); Moyano et al. (2014); Premm and Kirn (2015); Neisse et al. (2015)
- Domain expert (5): Barišić et al. (2017); Denil et al. (2017); Magureanu et al. (2013); Hartmann et al. (2014); Törngren et al. (2014)
- Evaluation expert (1): Baumgartner et al. (2014)
- Other (8): Basile et al. (2016); Dang and Gogolla (2009); Fitzgerald et al. (2015); Zhang and Feng (2014); Walch (2017); Latombe et al. (2015); Bergmann et al. (2017); Francalanza et al. (2017)

#### 4.5.1 Modeler's background knowledge

A similar situation to the above (perhaps even worse) is observed in terms of reporting the modeler's background knowledge. Figure 4.18 shows that a negligible number of papers (only 5%) report the modeler's background knowledge.

#### 4.5.2 Technical background of the authors

During the review process, the reviewers were able to select several categories and suggest new ones by selecting the *Other* for the technical background of the authors. It was possible to choose 3 options from a drop down menu, but also to suggest more options in a text box.



Q4.1: Does the paper report the modellers background knowledge?

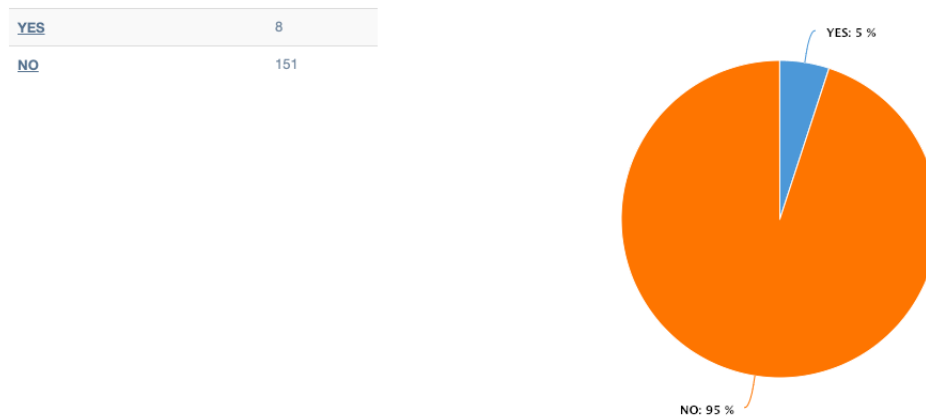


Figure 4.18: Reported background knowledge of CPS modelers

Figure 4.19 shows the technical background of the authors. Almost half of the authors (48%) are software engineers. The electrical engineers constitute 18.9%, while the authors with mechanical engineering and physics background are far smaller number. This leads us to conclude that the research on CPS is mostly pursued in the fields of computer science, software engineering, and electrical engineering.

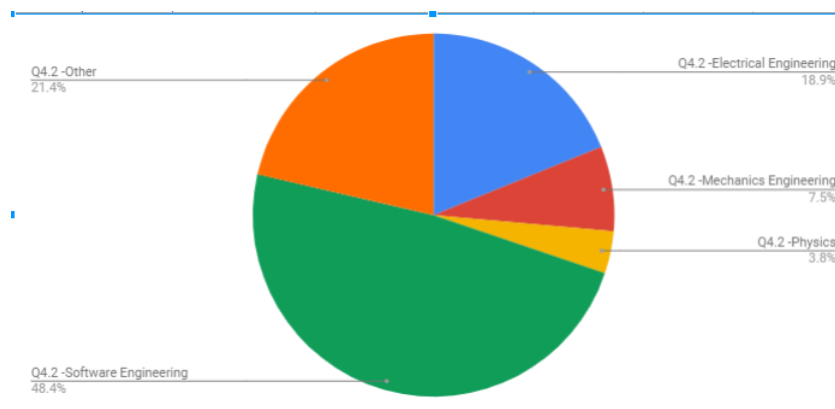


Figure 4.19: Reported technical background of the authors

The list below presents papers by the authors backgrounds:

- Electrical Engineering (30): Casella et al. (2017); Herrera et al. (2015); Antal et al. (2017); Hackenberg et al. (2016); Sobottka et al. (2017); Jiang et al. (2014); Sztipanovits et al. (2017, 2014); Tao et al. (2017); Ni and Broenink (2014); Weissnegger et al. (2016); Huang et al. (2014); Arrieta et al. (2017); Hu et al. (2015); Garcia et al. (2012); Simko et al. (2013); Méry and Singh (2013); Zhang and Koutsoukos (2013); Dragule et al. (2017); Grüttner et al. (2017); Neema et al. (2016); Amgai et al. (2014); Armentia et al. (2014); Dayal et al. (2015); Hoffmann et al. (2017); Brocanelli et al. (2015); Vellaithurai et al. (2015); Kacem et al. (2017); Mazzolini et al. (2017); Ribeiro et al. (2017)
- Mechanics Engineering (12): Canadas et al. (2018); Gonçalves et al. (2016); Zhang et al. (2017a); Eusgeld et al. (2011); Bernard and Chenouard (2014); Uva et al. (2017); Van Der Auweraer et al. (2013); Bliudze et al. (2017); Gräßler et al. (2017); Albert and Christian (2013); Thramboulidis and Christoulakis (2016); Troubitsyna et al. (2016)
- Physics (6): Fitzgerald et al. (2014); Denil et al. (2017); Hecht (2016); Tóth et al. (2012); Liu et al. (2017); ZHU et al. (2014)

- Software Engineering (77): Attarzadeh-Niaki and Sander (2016); Barišić et al. (2017); Basile et al. (2016); Dang and Gogolla (2009); Fitzgerald et al. (2015); Latombe et al. (2015); Lickly et al. (2011); Vara Larsen et al. (2015); Zhang and Feng (2014); Bergmann et al. (2017); Magureanu et al. (2013); Bloomfield et al. (2017); Dillon et al. (2012); Marrone and Gentile (2016); Gerostathopoulos et al. (2016); Novák et al. (2017); Giese and Schäfer (2013); Gunes et al. (2015); Hartmann et al. (2014); Zhang (2014); Ciccozzi et al. (2016); Moyano et al. (2014); Son et al. (2012); Woodard and Sedigh (2013); Dávid et al. (2016); Durak et al. (2017); Kusmenko et al. (2017); Alhafidh and Allen (2017); Apvrille and Roudier (2015); Mallet (2015); von Hanxleden et al. (2012); Nejati et al. (2012); Excoffon et al. (2016); Francalanza et al. (2017); Gauthier et al. (2015); Caramihai and Dumitrache (2013); Montecchi et al. (2012); Greenyer et al. (2014); Basile et al. (2017); Holden et al. (2013); Myers and Atkinson (2013); Dubois and Pohl (2017); Seiger et al. (2015); Sharaf et al. (2017); Canedo and Richter (2014); Dávid (2016); Fernández-Isabel and Fuentes-Fernández (2016); Zhang (2013); Cicirellia et al. (2017); Wehrmeister et al. (2014); Faschang et al. (2016); Franchin and Cavalieri (2013); Zhang et al. (2017b); Frtunikj et al. (2014); Heinzemann et al. (2017); Dávid et al. (2018); Stiel et al. (2016); Khan et al. (2017); Cho (2017); Giles and Giammarco (2017); Ruiz et al. (2016); van den Berg et al. (2015); Wang et al. (2015); Appel et al. (2014); Seiger et al. (2017); Lollini et al. (2016); Baumgartner et al. (2014); Yin et al. (2016); Herrmann and Blech (2016); Liu et al. (2013); Gribaudo and Remke (2016); Drago et al. (2016); Yu et al. (2014); Vanherpen et al. (2015); Lin et al. (2016); Varró et al. (2016); Leung et al. (2009); Nam et al. (2016)
- Other (34): Zhang and Feng (2014); Walch (2017); Juhász et al. (2015); Tomašević et al. (2015); Asensio et al. (2017); Burillo et al. (2017); Chaki and Edmondson (2014); Cicirelli et al. (2017); de Farias et al. (2017); Heinze et al. (2012); Bujorianu and Piterman (2015); Combaz et al. (2015); Kokolaki et al. (2014); Pazzi and Pellicciari (2017); Shuja et al. (2014); Um et al. (2017); Carnevali et al. (2014); Törngren et al. (2014); Premm and Kirn (2015); Tendeloo and Vangheluwe (2017); Murguzur et al. (2013); Calinescu (2013); Chiaradonna et al. (2012); Mertins et al. (2012); Lerm et al. (2015); Rovers and Kuper (2013); Pournaras et al. (2013); Nisse et al. (2015); i Casas and i Casas (2017); Di Alesio and Sen (2017); King et al. (2014); Delicato et al. (2017); Legat and Vogel-Heuser (2017); Mallet et al. (2017)



## 5 Conclusion and Future Work

This report presents a systematic literature review on multi-paradigm modelling of cyber-physical systems. This systematic study was performed in the context of the *ICT COST Action IC1404 Multi-Paradigm Modelling for Cyber-Physical Systems (MPM4CPS) – Working Group 4 (WG1) on Education and Dissemination of MPM4CPS*.

In total, 315 of considered 396 primary studies was reviewed by 15 researchers from different universities. The SLR present the analysis based on a quantitative synthesis of data extracted from 160 primary studies and reports on

- modelling approaches for building CPS by indicating studies which report models and meta-models, tools and modelling languages and reported processes
- multi-paradigm modelling approaches by indicating studies which use a specific kind of modelling formalism
- domain-specificity of modelling approaches by indicating the studies which were applied in certain classification domain
- profiles of stakeholders involved in modelling.

Based on current results we could observe that the most of the approaches report models or meta-models and modelling tools and languages which were used, however, less than half of them report on the process which is applied during modelling. Surprisingly, it is shown that almost 43% of approaches do report multi-paradigm modelling approach, however, only 23 studies present a complete model-driven development approach. Further, most of the approaches (62%) are proposed for the modelling of any CPS, while rest was domain-specific. Finally, only 14% of studies report actors or stakeholder which were involved in modelling, and only 5% report on modellers background knowledge.

As a future work, we plan to complete the classification of the remaining 81 primary studies. Further, it will be necessary to perform the extensive descriptive synthesis of the results. We expect to obtain a complete list of the tools, modelling languages and formalism which were used by the CPS modelling approaches. Next, we expect to obtain an insight regarding which part of the CPS modelling certain tools and formalism were used. Finally, it is expected to obtain more sound classification of the application domain and profiles of stakeholders involved in modelling of the CPS.



## 6 Acknowledgements

We would like to thank prof. Paulo Carreira, prof. Geylani Kardas, prof. Ivan Lukovic and prof. Mauro Iacono for their feedback during construction of protocol. We thank Letitia W. Li for her contribution with classification of primary studies and revision of report. Finally, we thank to prof. Eugene Syriani and Brice Bigendako for their constant support with ReLis platform.



## A Protocol Validation Survey

This appendix describes the details of the protocol validation survey. A high-level overview is provided above, in Section 2.2.

### A.1 Survey Solicitation

The following request to participate in the validation survey was sent to the MPM members of the COST action IC1404 ([announcements@mpm4cps.eu](mailto:announcements@mpm4cps.eu)) and the department of Computer Sciences and Languages of the University of Malaga ([allmembers.mpm4cps@lcc.uma.es](mailto:allmembers.mpm4cps@lcc.uma.es)):

*Title:* SLR MPM4CPS Survey form

*Body:* Survey fill-in form: <https://goo.gl/forms/E1HNz0feAQTmitN53>

This survey intends to evaluate the protocol proposed for the conduction of the Systematic Literature Review (SLR) study on Multi-Paradigm Modelling of Cyber-Physical Systems (CPSs) in the scope of WG4.

A. Please the analyze the Google Sheets document <https://goo.gl/DJx9wa>, which details the SLR study planning (including search criteria and research questions).

B. Please answer the survey below.

Please take in consideration that you will be asked in the end to give an estimated time needed to fill this form.

If you have any doubt, feel free to contact me: Ankica Barisic ([a.barisic@campus.fct.unl.pt](mailto:a.barisic@campus.fct.unl.pt))  
Dusan Savic ([dules@fon.bg.ac.rs](mailto:dules@fon.bg.ac.rs))

The survey form "*Multi-paradigm modelling for CPSs SLR*" contained 9 sections:

1. "*Participant Information*"
2. "*SLR Basic Data*"
3. "*Research Questions*"
4. "*Search Sources*"
5. "*Search Keywords and Queries*"
6. "*Inclusion and Exclusion Criteria*"
7. "*Data Extraction Strategy*"
8. "*Quality Assessment Strategy*"
9. "*Final Considerations*"

### A.2 Survey Results

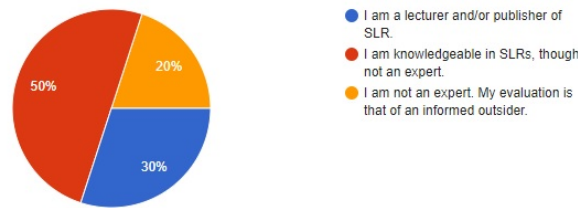
Here we describe the responses obtained from 10 participants on the survey. These results were used for protocol validation that was conducted during Working Group Meetings in Riga (26-27 April 2018). The responses are described in the order of sections.

Most questions about the SLR itself are phrased using the Likert 5-point scale: strongly disagree (1), disagree (2), neither agree or disagree (3), agree (4), strongly agree (5). Unless otherwise indicated, this interpretation of the horizontal scale applies to the figures in this section.

The first section contains general information and question about participants expertise concerning the SLR. Figure A.1 shows that more than two-thirds of the respondents have some expertise in conducting SLRs.

What is your overall expertise concerning the SLRs?

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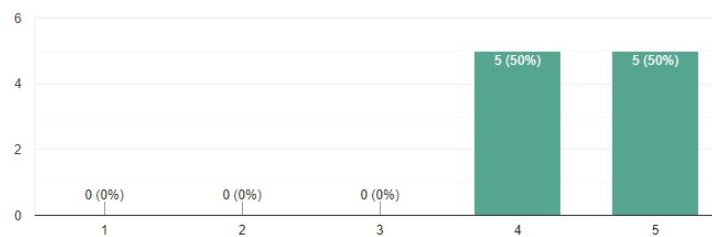


**Figure A.1:** Expertise of survey participants in SLRs

Section "*SLR Basic Data*" contains questions about the goals and motivation of this SLR. According to Figure A.2, the participants were in agreement that studying literature on MPM for CPS is a sound objective. According to Figure A.3, there exists a need for such a SLR.

Is the definition of SLR's Objective sound?

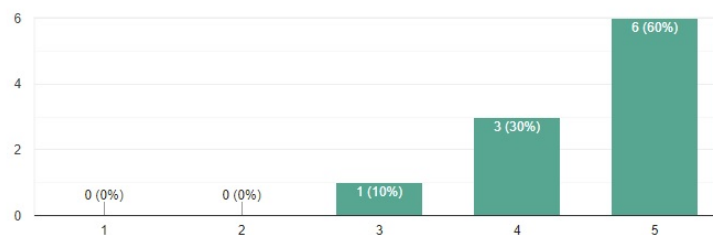
10 одговора



**Figure A.2:** Responses regarding the SLR goal soundness

Is the need for a SLR justified?

10 одговора



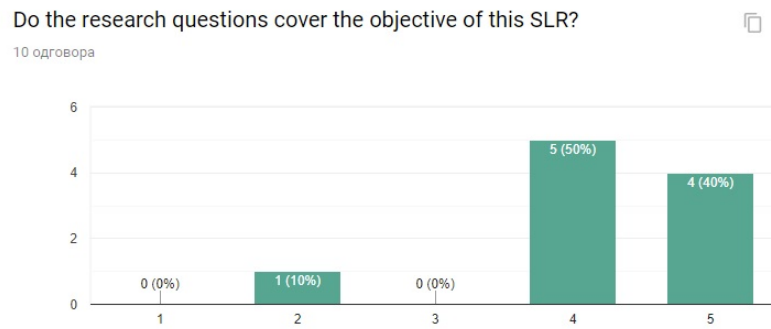
**Figure A.3:** Responses regarding the SLR justification

The section "*Research Questions*" contains surveys the participants about the SLR research questions. Most participants agreed that the search research questions covered the objectives of the SLR (Figure A.4) and were clear (Figure A.5). The outlier responses were followed up with to improve the wording of the research questions.

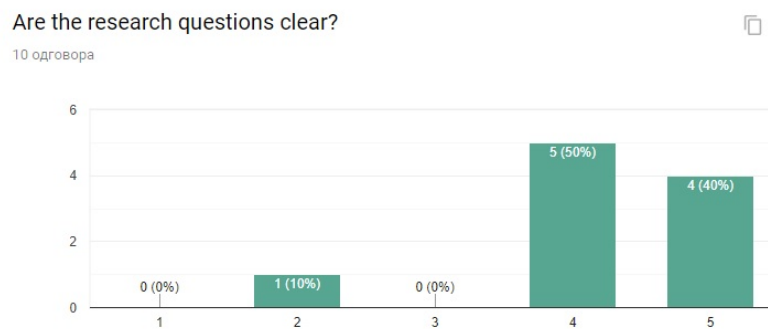
The next section, "*Search Sources*", asked whether the indicated sources were representative. It was concluded that the source are highly representative of the literature on modelling CPS, as shown in Figure A.6

Section 5 of the survey, "*Search Keywords and Queries*", asked the participants about three potential queries for retrieving the primary studies. The queries and their results were summarized above, in Section 2.2.1. While all the queries in general were deemed to have somewhat

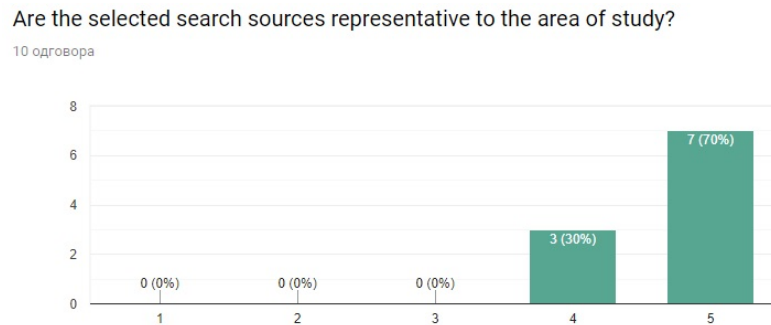




**Figure A.4:** Responses regarding the SLR research questions covering the objectives



**Figure A.5:** Responses regarding the clarity of the SLR questions



**Figure A.6:** Responses regarding representativeness of search sources

sufficient keywords, Figures (A.7, A.8, A.9) show that Query **Q1** had the least agreement between the respondents, while Query **Q3** had the most agreement. In terms of fit, the participants indicated that Query **Q2** was the best-fitting, as shown in Figure A.10.

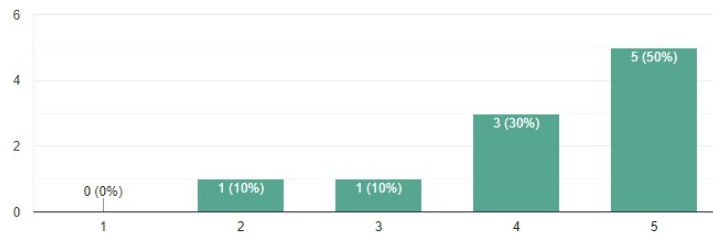
The sixth section, "*Inclusion and Exclusion Criteria*", contained the question, "*Are the inclusion/exclusion criteria complete enough to achieve the study objectives?*" and asked for recommendations on improving the criteria ("*Write recommendation to add/delete or improve inclusion or exclusion criteria*"). The results indicated that the participants considered the criteria complete, as indicated in Figure A.11.

The section "*Data Extraction Strategy*" contains question "*Is the data extraction Form complete enough to achieve SLR objectives?*" and asks for recommendations on the improve data extraction strategy. According to the results that are presented on the Figure A.12, the participants found the strategy mostly complete, but in need of some improvement. The provided suggestions helped in making the strategy more comprehensive and reliable.




Do the query S1 have the sufficient keywords to achieve SLR objectives?

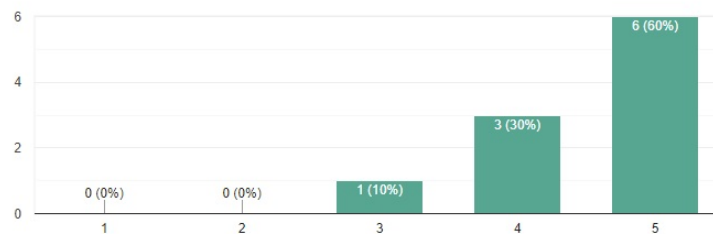
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**Figure A.7:** Responses about keyword sufficiency of Query Q1

Do the query S2 have the sufficient keywords to achieve SLR objectives? 

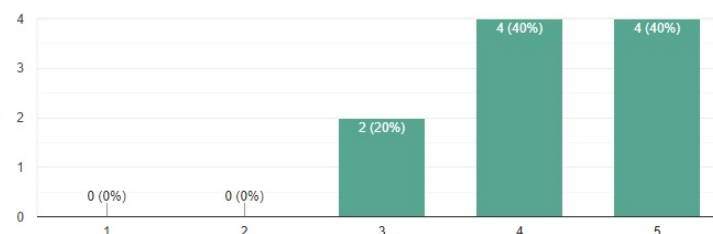
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**Figure A.8:** Responses about keyword sufficiency of Query Q2

Do the query S3 have the sufficient keywords to achieve SLR objectives?

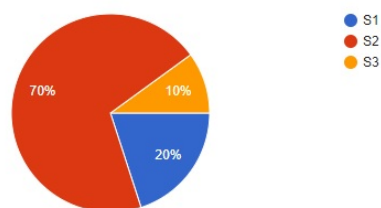
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**Figure A.9:** Responses about keyword sufficiency of Query Q3

What query in your opinion is a best fit for SLR objectives

10 одговора



**Figure A.10:** Responses regarding the best-fitting query for the SLR objectives

The section eight is "Quality Assessment Strategy", asking the participants of whether the quality assessment criteria were complete. Figure A.13 indicates that most participants agreed that the



Are the inclusion/exclusion criteria complete enough to achieve the study objectives?

10 одговора

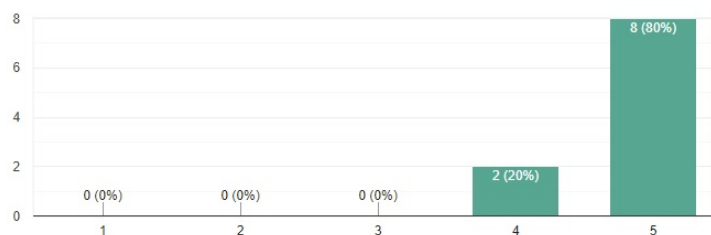


Figure A.11: Responses regarding the completeness of the inclusion and exclusion criteria

Is the data extraction Form complete enough to achieve SLR objectives?

10 одговора

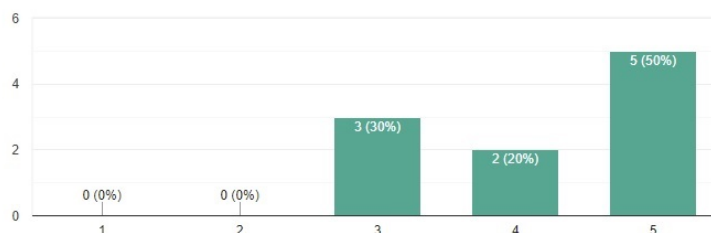


Figure A.12: Responses regarding the completeness of the data extraction strategy

criteria were mostly complete. The outlier responder provided valuable feedback to improve the quality assessment strategy.

Are the quality assessment criteria complete enough to achieve SLR objectives?

10 одговора

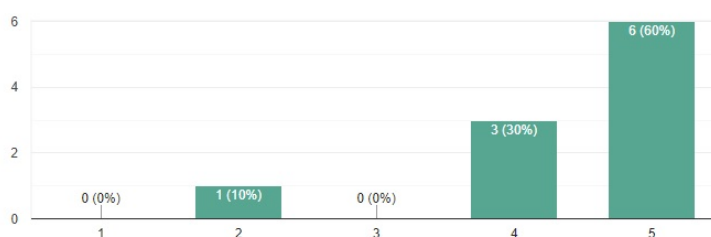


Figure A.13: Responses regarding the completeness of the quality assessment criteria

The last section, "Final Considerations", asked the participants if they were interesting in performing the SLR or had access to the online publications. Most participants indicated their willingness (Figures A.14 and A.15). The survey also asked the participants for the time required to fill out the form. The distribution of times follows the bell curve with the mean of approximately 25 minutes, as indicated in Figure A.16.

To summarize, the survey indicated that the goals of the SLR were well-motivated, and most of the protocol elements were considered appropriate for those goals. Multiple recommendations of the survey participants helped further improve the SLR protocol.



Would you be interested to contribute to this SLR?

10 одговора

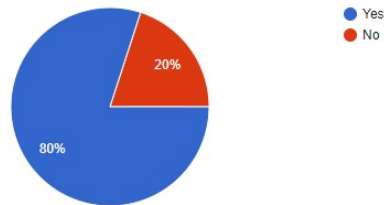


Figure A.14: Responses regarding willingness to contribute to this SLR

Do you have full access online to Springer's publications and can help with obtaining primary studies?

9 одговора

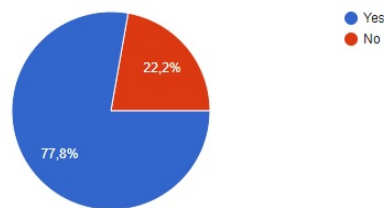


Figure A.15: Responses regarding the full access to Springer's publications

Time spent (in minutes) with this survey:

10 одговора

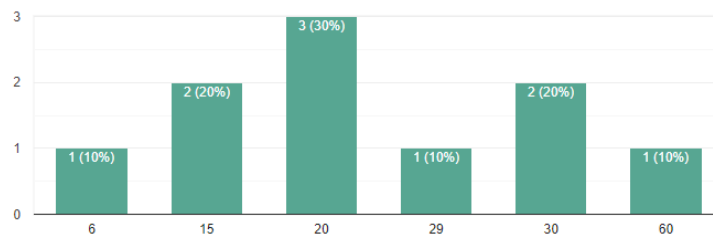


Figure A.16: Responses regarding the time spent on the protocol validation survey



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