Boundary Objects in Agile Practices: Continuous Management of Systems Engineering Artifacts in the Automotive Domain

Rebekka Wohlrab^{1,2}, Patrizio Pelliccione¹, Eric Knauss¹, Mats Larsson²
¹ Chalmers | University of Gothenburg, ² Systemite AB, Gothenburg

Description:

The adoption of agile methods impacts not only the way individuals collaborate, but also the management of artifacts like requirements, test cases, safety documentation, and models.

While practitioners aim to reduce unnecessary documentation, there is a lack of guidance for automotive companies w.r.t. what artifacts are

needed and how to manage them.

To close this knowledge gap and create practical guidelines, we conducted a design-science study together with 53 practitioners from six automotive companies. We analyzed artifacts and challenges to create guidelines to manage artifacts in agile automotive contexts.

Our findings indicate that different practices are required to manage artifacts that are <u>shared</u> <u>among different teams</u> within a company (boundary objects) and <u>those that are relevant</u> <u>within a specific team</u> (locally relevant artifacts).

Research Goals and Questions

RQ1: What are **practices** to manage artifacts

in agile automotive systems engineering?

RQ2: What practical challenges exist with

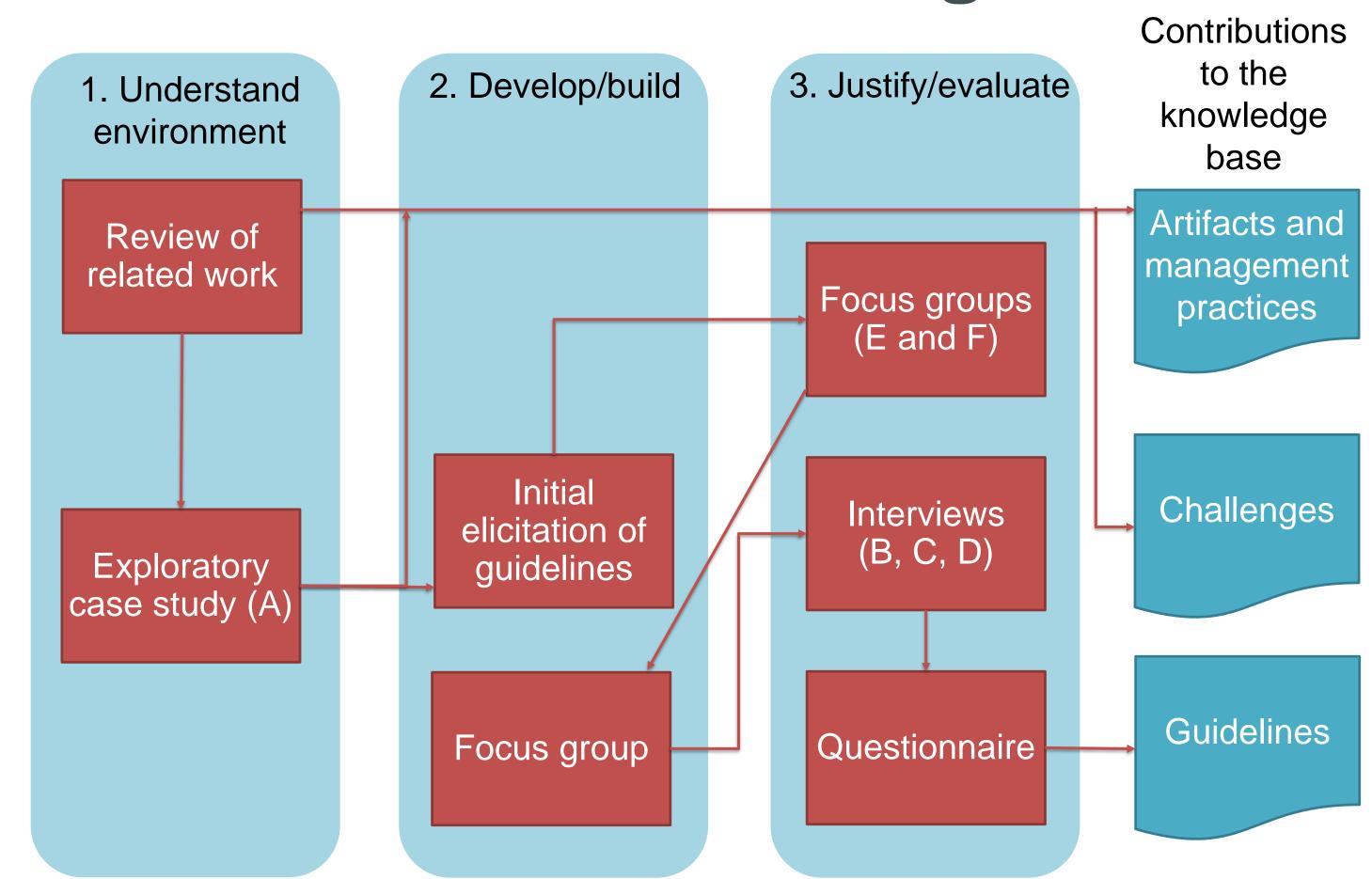
managing systems engineering artifacts

in agile automotive contexts?

Based on RQs: Design **guidelines** for practitioners to

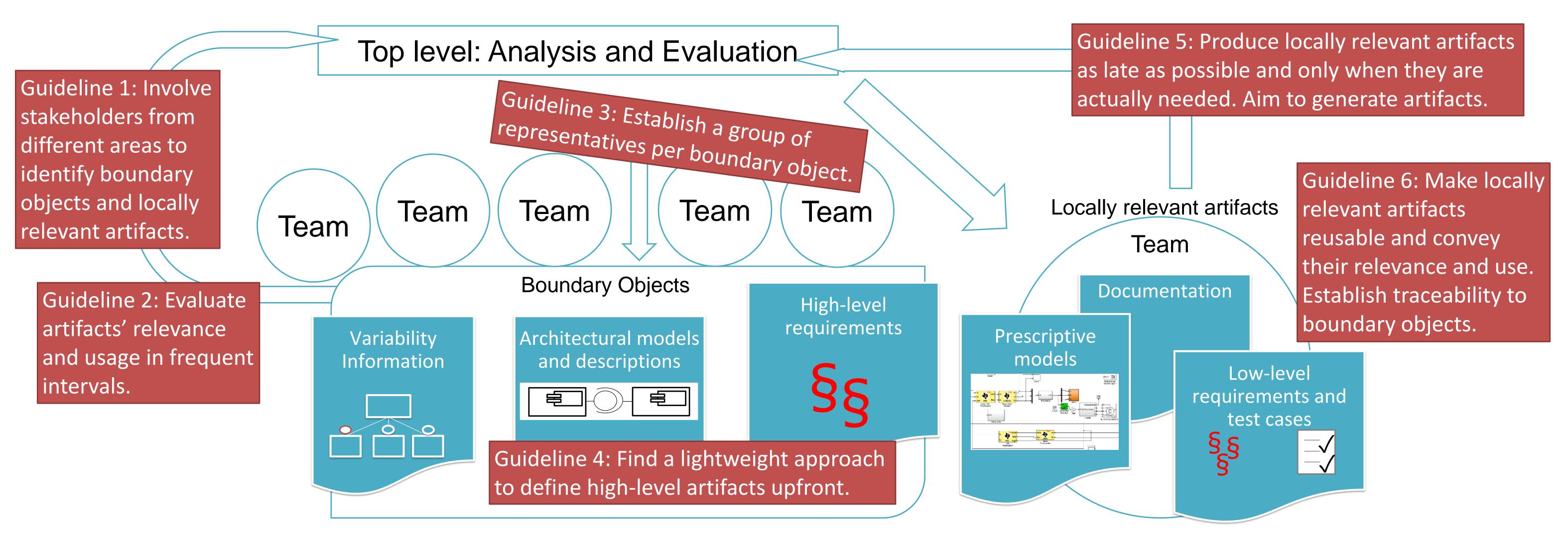
manage artifacts in systems engineering

Research Method: Design Science

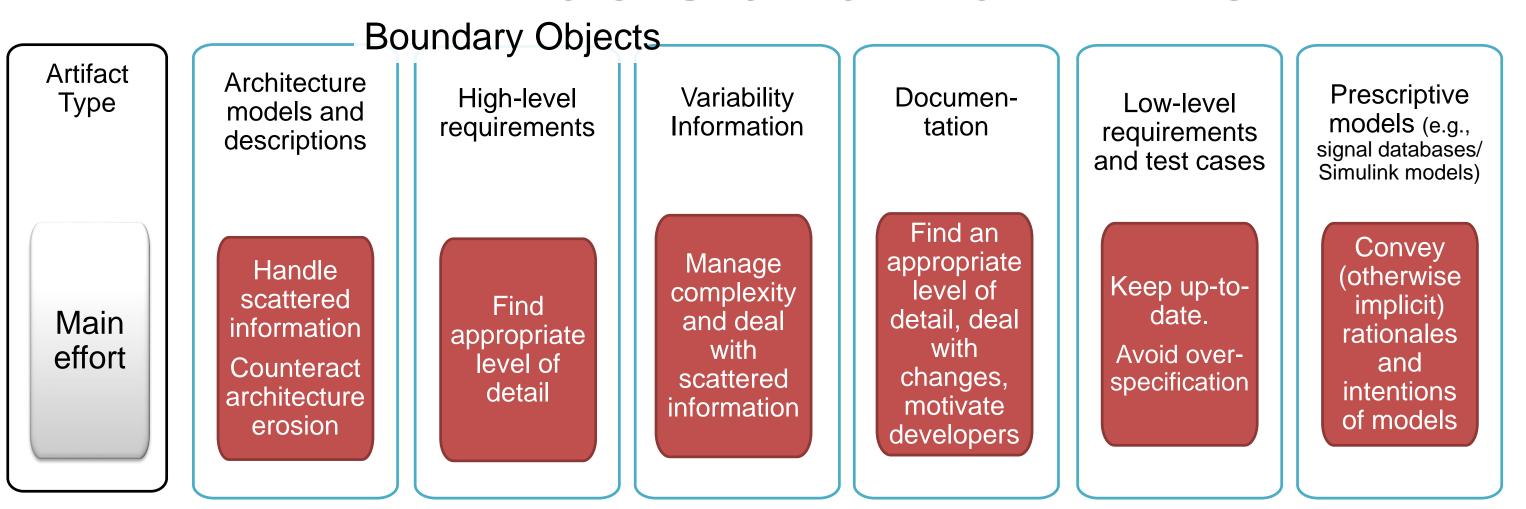


A, B, C, E: automotive OEMs, F: automotive supplier, D: supplier of an information management tool used in automotive

Guidelines



Artifacts and Main Effort



Do you want more information?

Check out our ICSSP'18 paper! https://tinyurl.com/boundaryObjects18

Contact us: wohlrab@chalmers.se