



Mobility, Advanced™



Thermal Management Systems Symposium



Co-located with SAE Energy & Propulsion Conference & Exhibition

October 14-15, 2025 | Ypsilanti, Michigan

sae.org/tmss



Thermal Management Systems Symposium

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Thermal Management & HVAC

PFAS Ban: Impact on Thermal System Development

Agenda

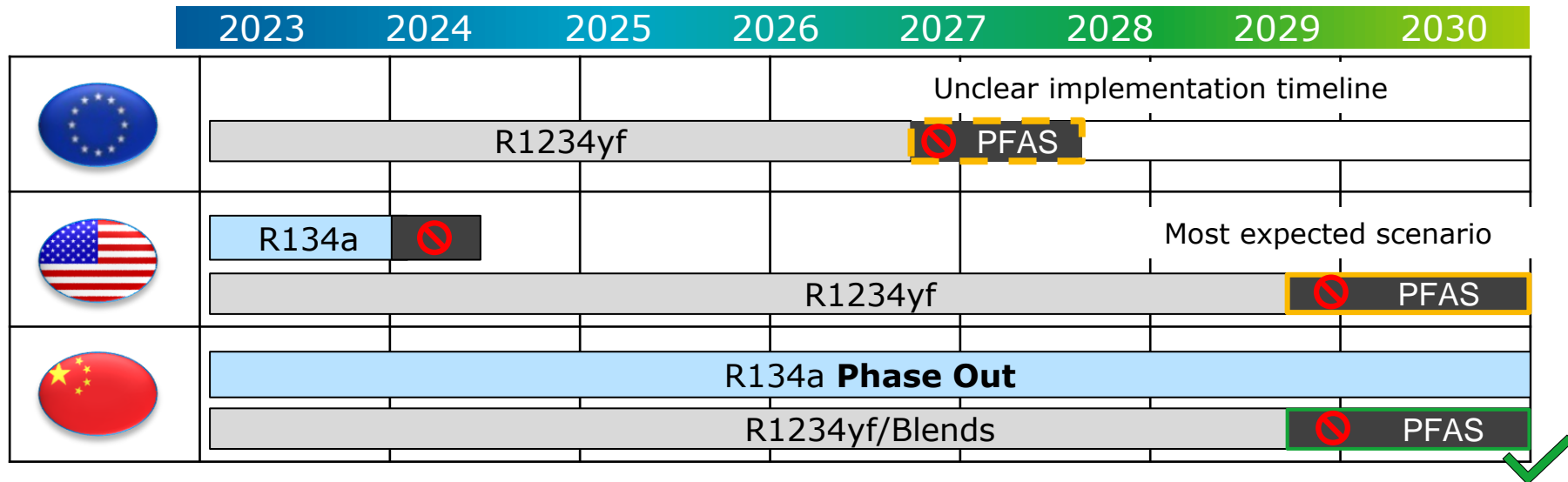
1. Overview PFAS BAN
2. Challenges with Alternative Refrigerant
3. R1234yf vs. R290 vs. R744
4. Benchmark and ID4 Vehicle Model
5. Control Software: Predictive Cabin Thermal Management

Chapter 1

Overview PFAS BAN

PFAS Restrictions / ban

Overview – (expected) timeline



PFAS ban not 100% clear.

- China legislation already implemented PFAS ban from 2029
- in US seems to be similar like China
- in EU – still a risk of earlier implementation

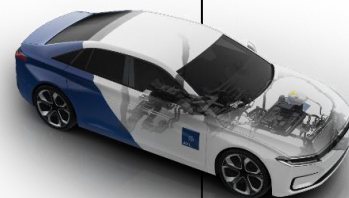


Chapter 2

Challenge PFAS Restriction

Challenges With Alternative Refrigerants

- Extreme **challenging timing**
- Definitive **enforcement in China**
 - US seems to follow
 - EU still risk of earlier implementation
- **Component** Challenge
 - adaptation of components due to new refrigerant.
- **Integration** Challenge
 - high potential for entire system change/development – similar to completely new system integration
 - Vehicle integration boundaries – NVH, safety – crash



Challenges Alternative Refrigerants



Supercritical > 31°C

The supercritical process required the control on optimum high pressure instead of subcooling or superheating. No high-pressure receiver possible. Heat cannot be transferred a constant temperature to other sinks.



≈ 30% lower efficiency at > 35°C

Internal heat exchanger is a must. Suage for hot markets to be evaluated in detail.



Flammability >2% vol% at 470°C

Low ignition energy leads to high risk. Only low amount of filling mas expected but no clear limit yet defined. Currently just indirect system under detailed evaluation.



Compressor EXV Pipes and Sealings

Especially for CO₂ are new components required which could handle operating pressure up to 120 bar.

Safety Concept

R744

- Pressure release valve at low- and high-pressure side of compressor
- Pyrotechnical element to isolate cabin heat exchanger from rest of system to avoid CO₂ inflow to cabin in case of crash scenario
- CO2 sensor in co-driver footwell area

R290

- IEC 60335-2-89: Standard for commercial refrigerant circuits → max. 150g filling mass without any additional legal required safety measures such as forced air flushing and leakage detection
- Integrity against crash → pure indirect system with less critical crash area within the vehicle

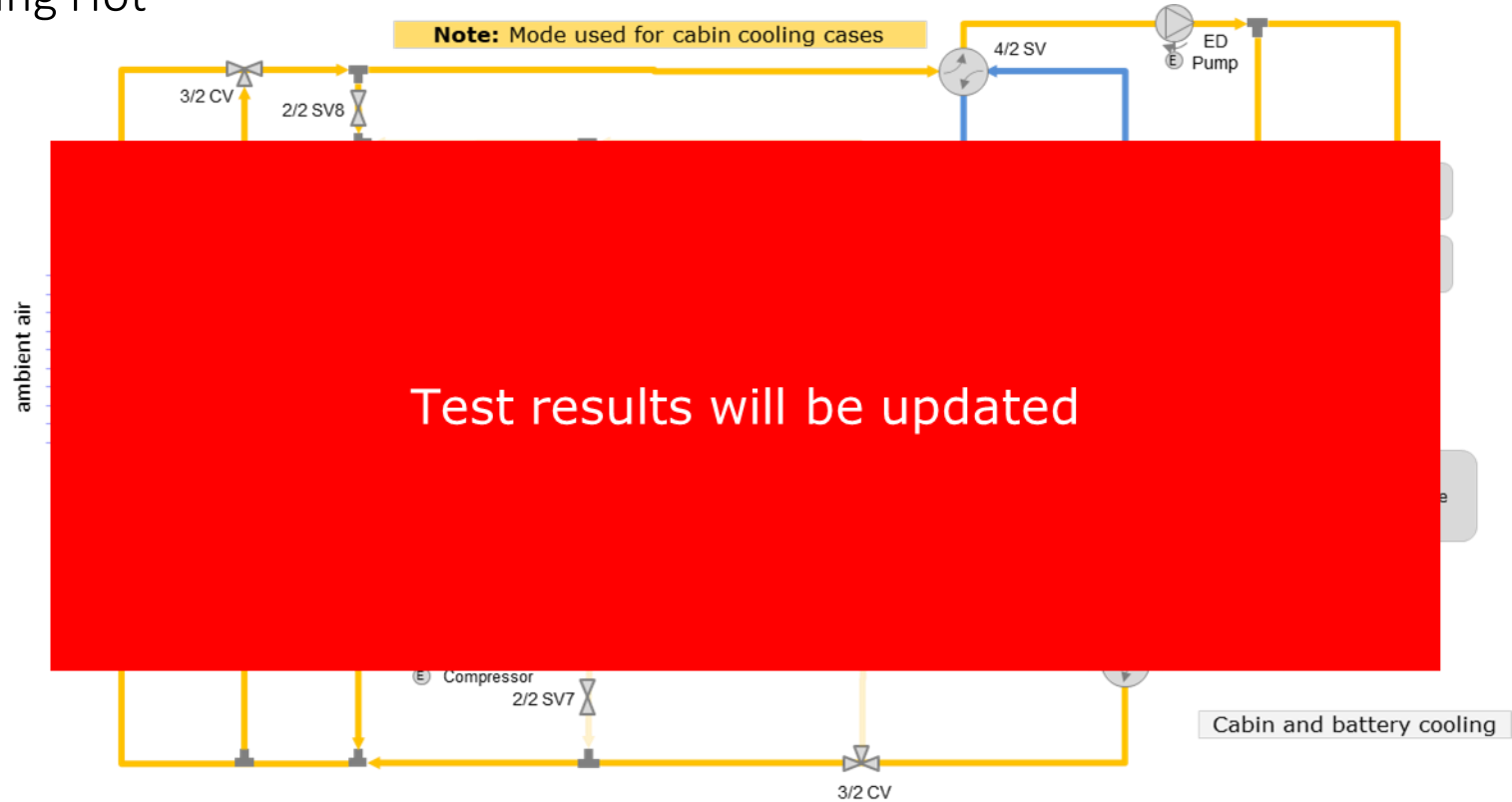
Chapter 3

R1234yf vs. R290 vs. R744

R290 Thermal Architecture

Cooling Hot

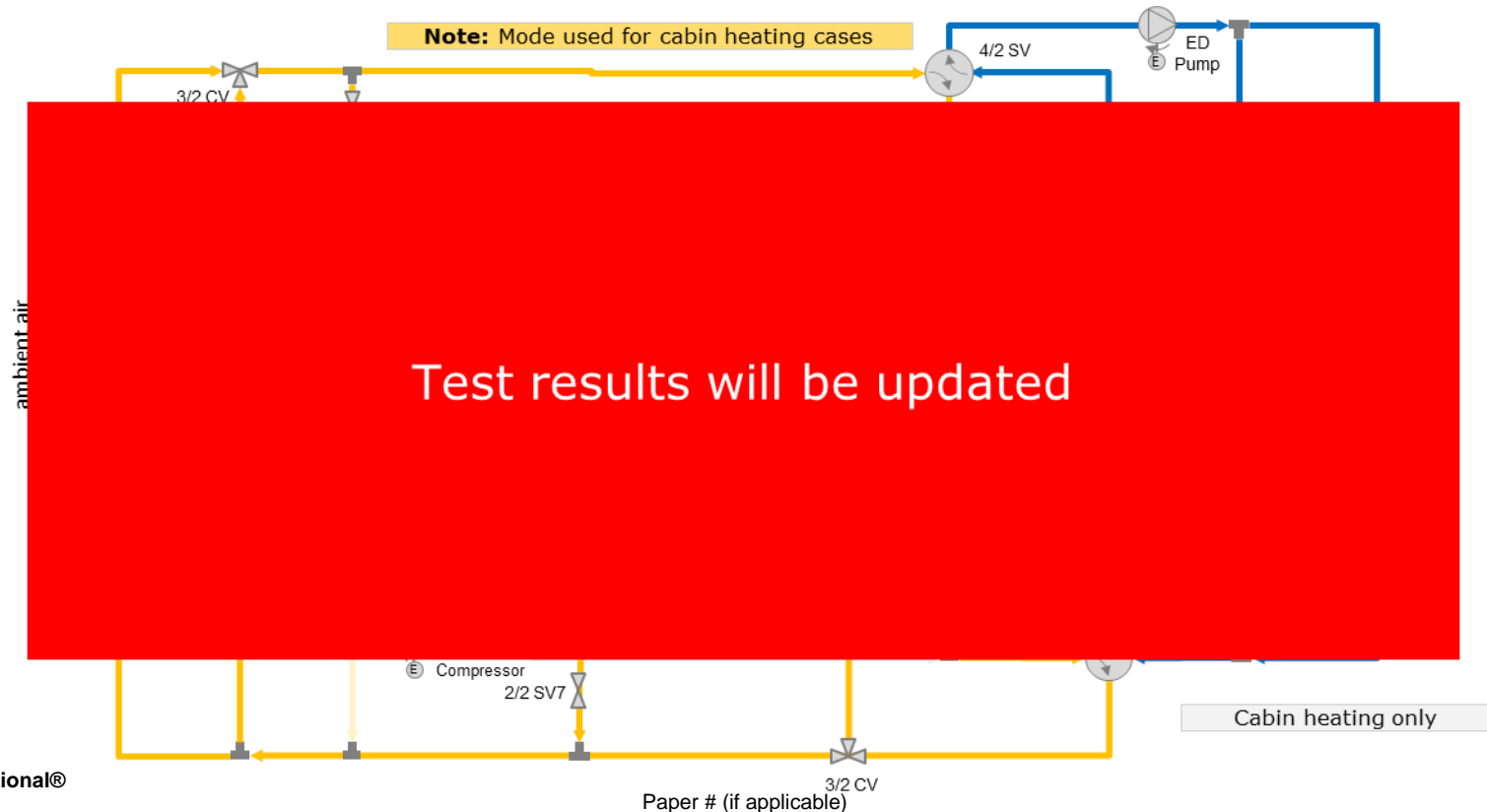
- Battery coolant circuit
- E-drive coolant circuit
- Heating coolant circuit
- A/C refrigerant circuit



R290 Thermal Architecture

Cabin Heating HP Ambient

- Battery coolant circuit
- E-drive coolant circuit
- Heating coolant circuit
- A/C refrigerant circuit

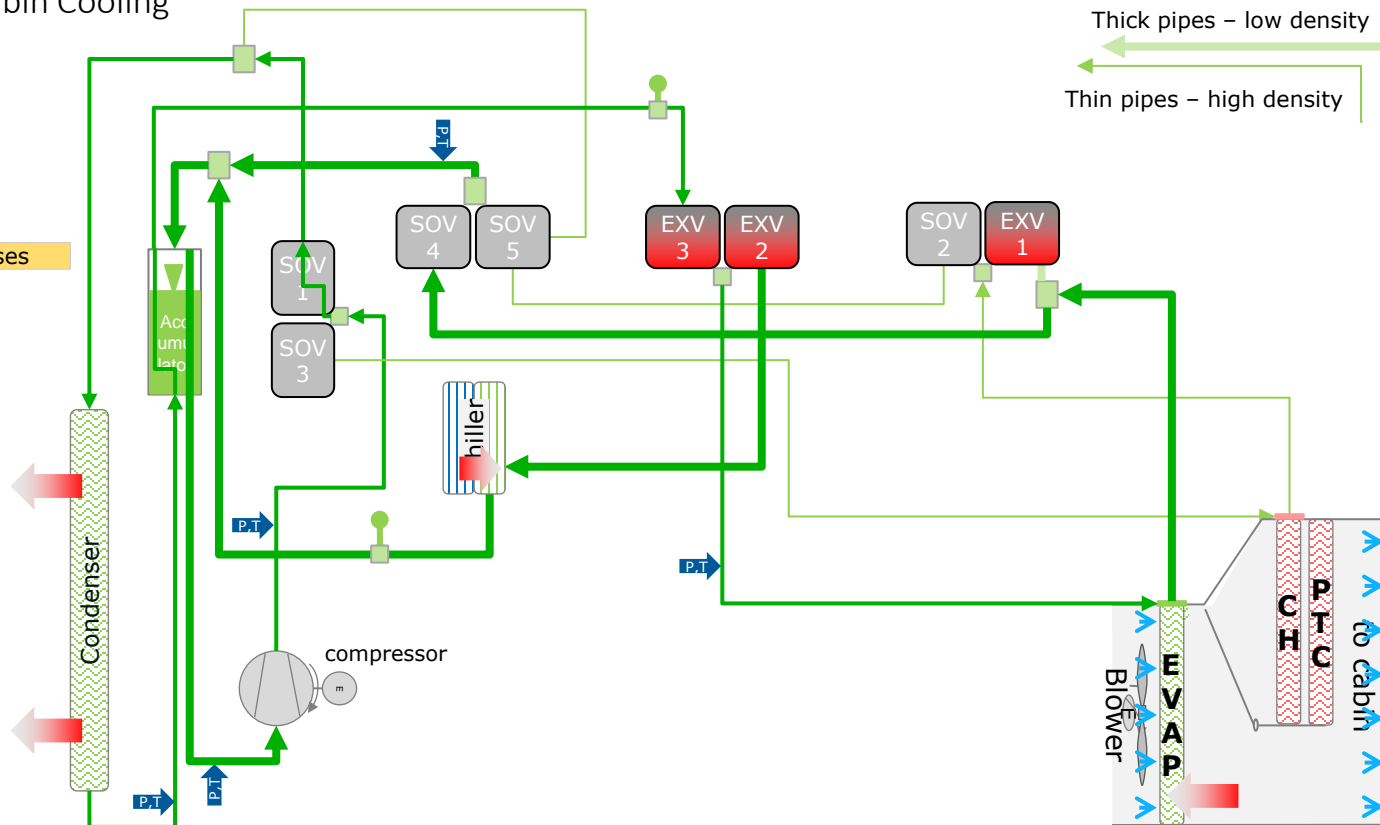


Thermal Management Functionalities

A/C System: Battery and Cabin Cooling

Both cabin and chiller cooling are active in combination. Expansion is operated by EXV 2 and EXV 3 and heat is rejected to ambient in the outer condenser/gas cooler.

Note: Mode used for cabin cooling cases



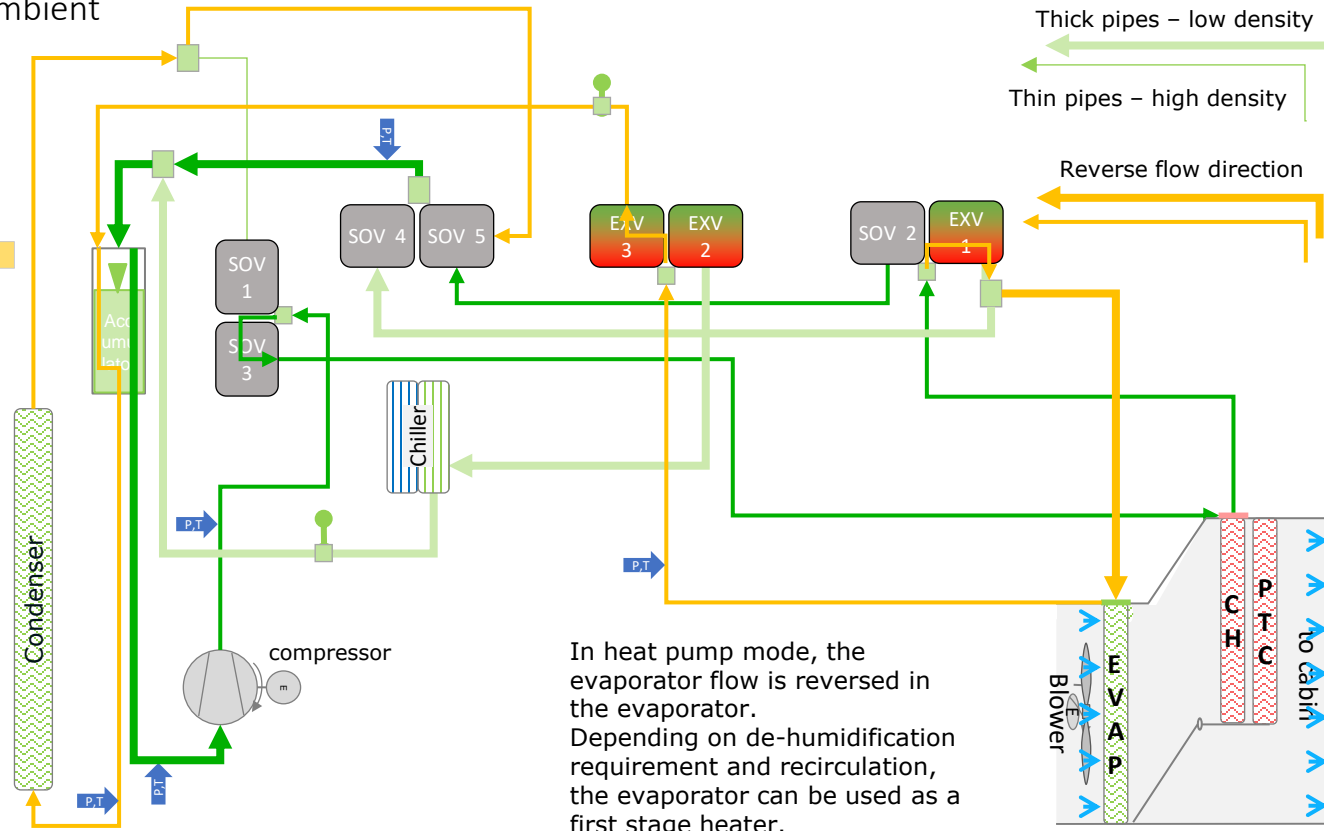
Thermal Management Functionalities

A/C System: Heat Pump with ambient

Heat pump is active for heating the cabin with heat recovered from ambient.
Heat first generated in the compressor is released to the cabin by the cabin air heater.

Note: Mode used for cabin heating cases

For heat recuperation from the ambient, flow through the outer heat exchanger is reversed.



In heat pump mode, the evaporator flow is reversed in the evaporator. Depending on de-humidification requirement and recirculation, the evaporator can be used as a first stage heater.

Cooling Cabin + HV Battery



Heat Pump using Ambience



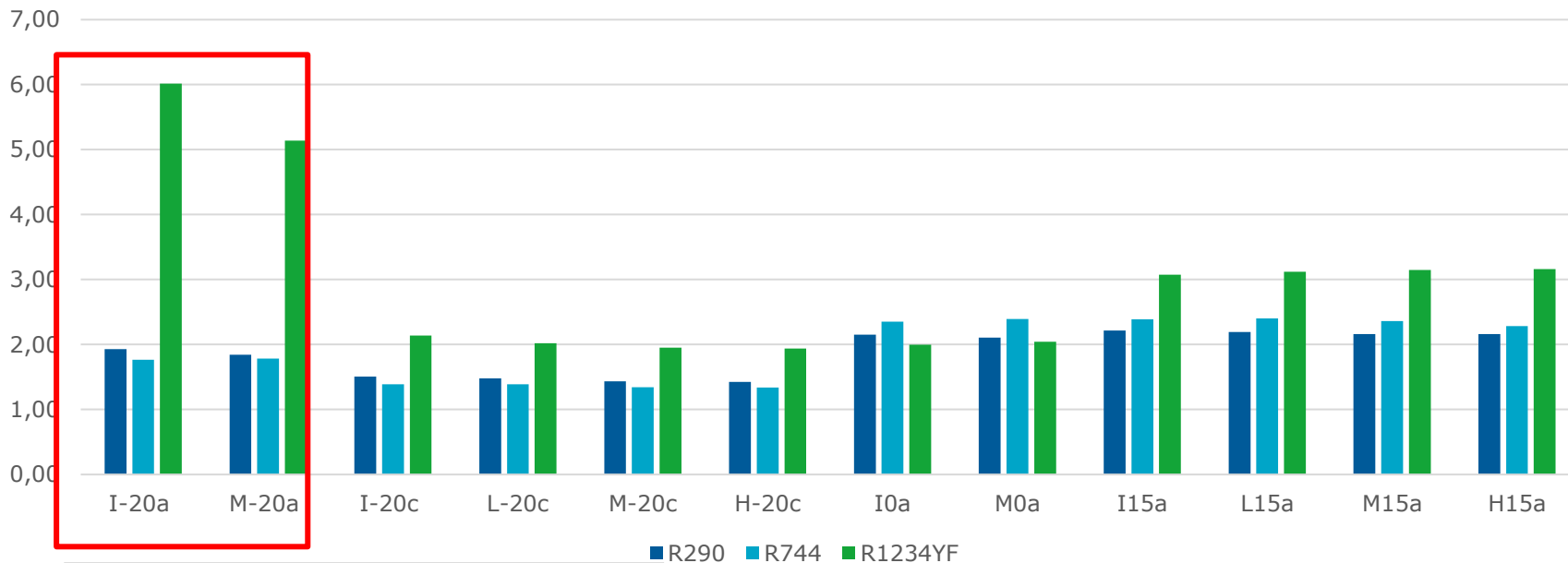
Boundary Conditions - Cabin Cooling

Test Name	Outdoor Conditions				Indoor Conditions				HV Battery	E-Motor
	Amb Temp	Vehicle Speed	HX Temp Air In	Max Air Velocity	HX Temp Air In	Relative Humidity	Air Flow Rate	Target Temp at HX Air Off	Heat Generated	Heat Generated
	[°C]	[km/h]	[°C]	[m/s]	[°C]	[%]	[kg/min]	[°C]	[kW]	[kW]
I25c	25	0	25	1.5	30	50	6.5	3	0.1	0
M25c	25	80	25	3	30	50	6.5	3	1	1
H25c	25	120	25	4	30	50	6.5	3	1.5	2
I35a	35	0	35	1.5	35	40	9	3	0.1	0
M35a	35	80	35	3	35	40	9	3	1	1
H35a	35	120	35	4	35	40	9	3	2	2
I45	45	0	45	1.5	35	25	9	3	0.1	0
M45	45	80	45	3	35	25	9	3	1	1
H45	45	120	45	4	35	25	9	3	2	2

Same humidity for outdoor conditions considered as prescribed for indoor conditions.

Cabin Heating - COP [-]

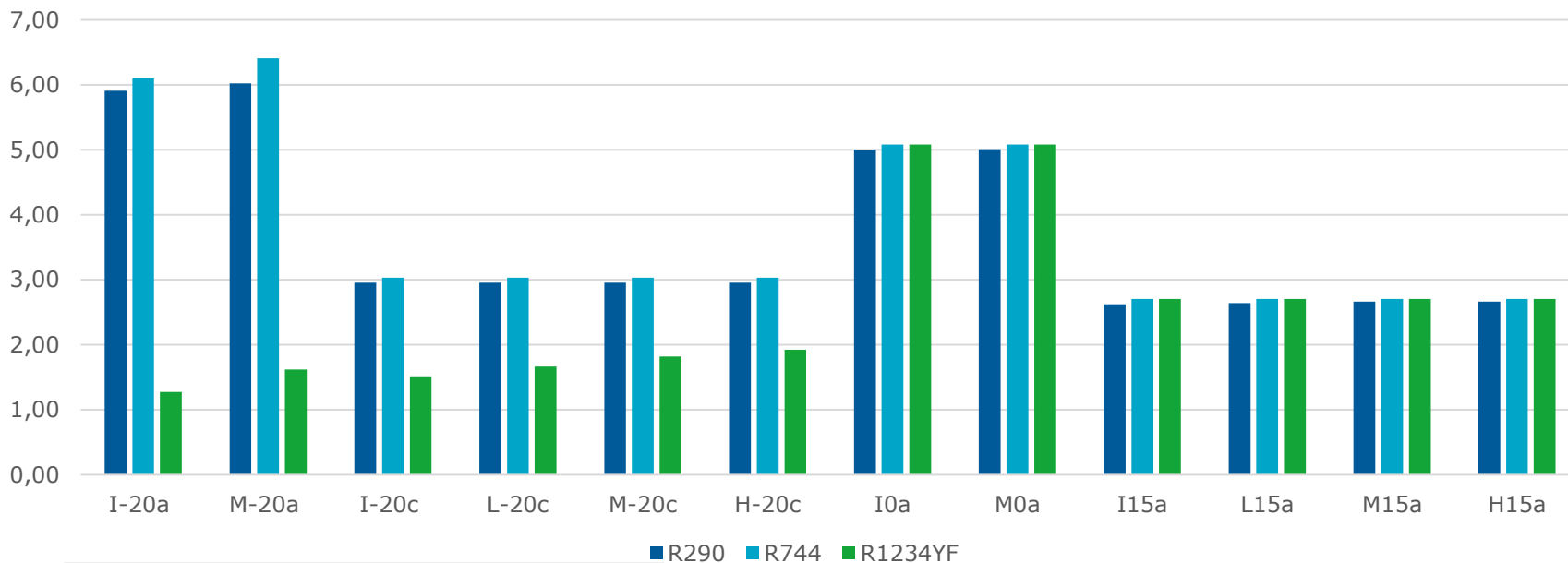
COP



R1234YF barely functional in I-20a and M-20a cases, it also does not achieve the target air to cabin temperature in rest of the -20°C cases.

Cabin Heating - Heating Power [kW]

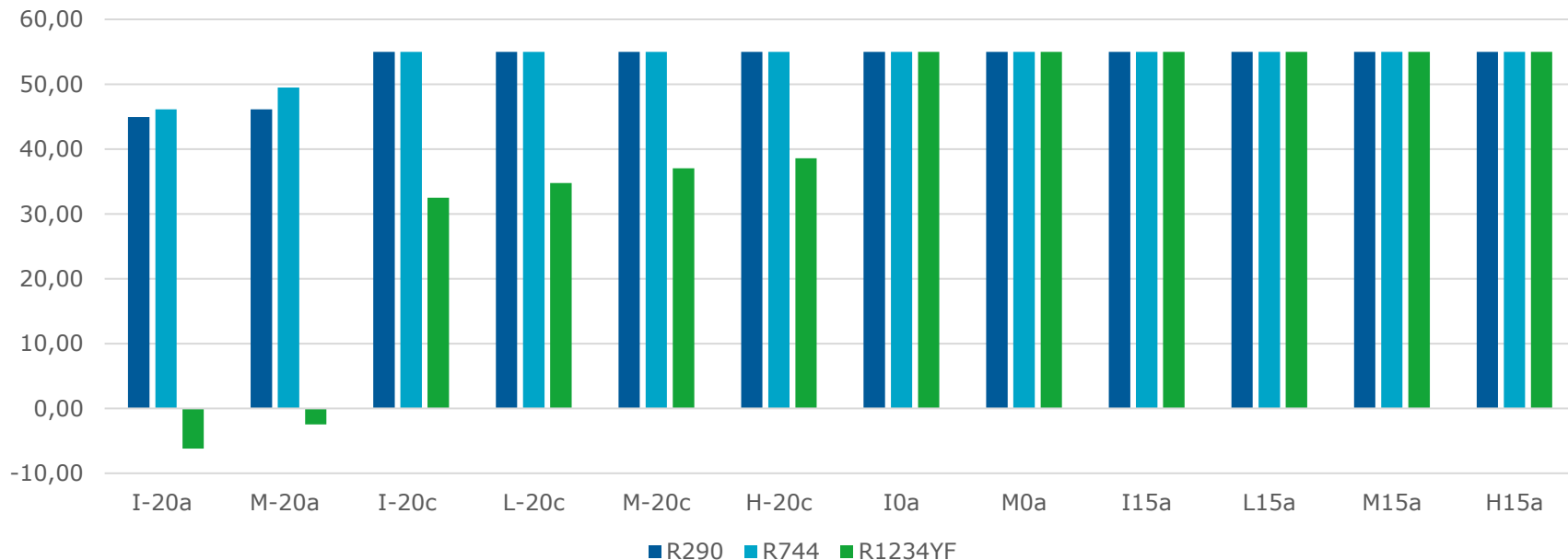
Heating Power



R1234YF barely functional in I-20a and M-20a cases, it also does not achieve the target air to cabin temperature in rest of the -20°C cases.

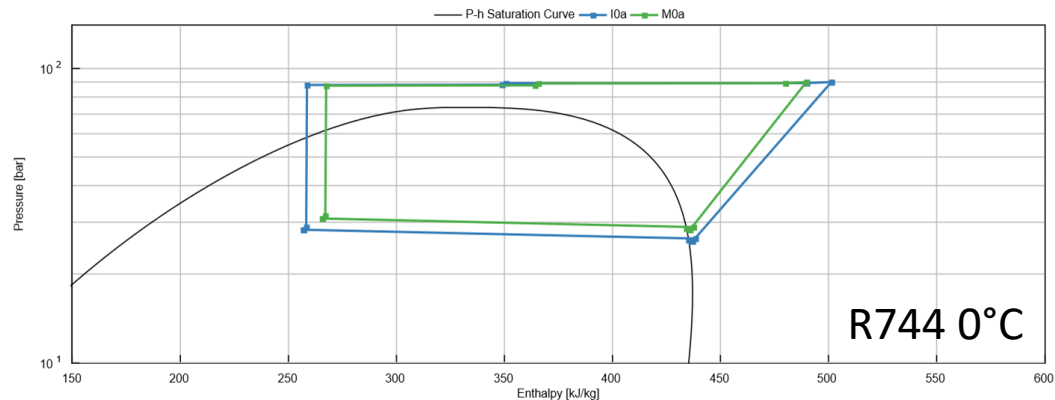
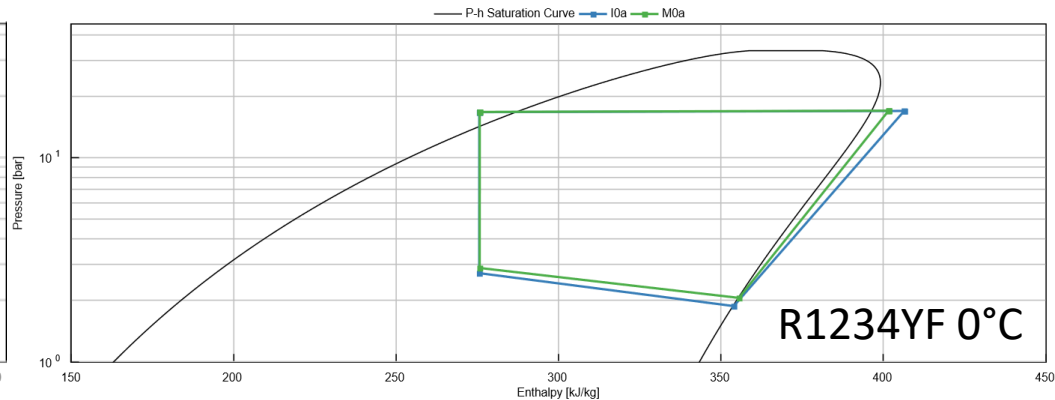
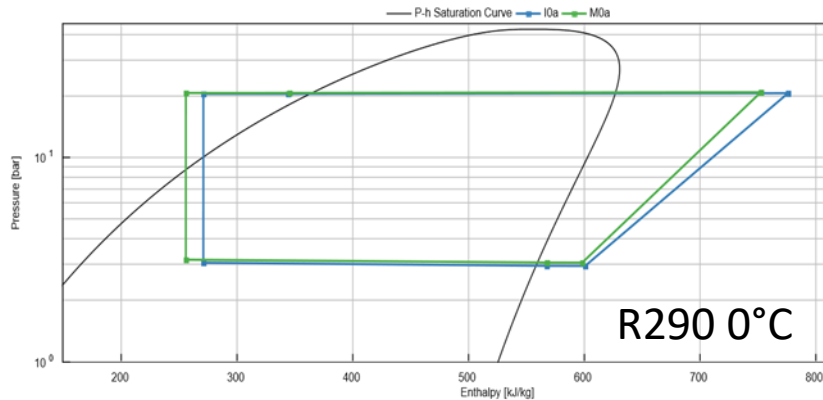
Cabin Heating - Air To Cabin Temperature [°C]

Air to Cabin



R1234YF barely functional in I-20a and M-20a cases, it also does not achieve the target air to cabin temperature in rest of the -20°C cases.

R290 vs. R744 vs. R1234YF at 0°C



Chapter 4

Benchmark and ID4 Vehicle Model

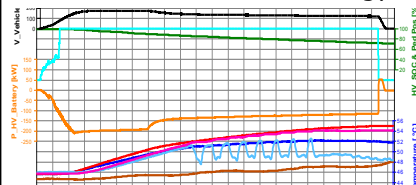
VTMS Simulation Methodology

based on Benchmark and Simulation Studies

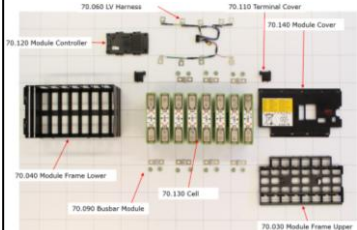
WP2: Powertrain and Thermal



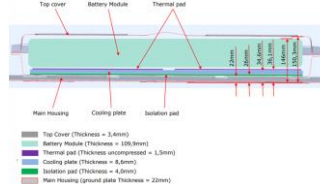
- Cell temperature traces
- Current limitation strategy



WP6: Tear Down



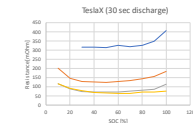
- Detailed Geometry
- Material Data



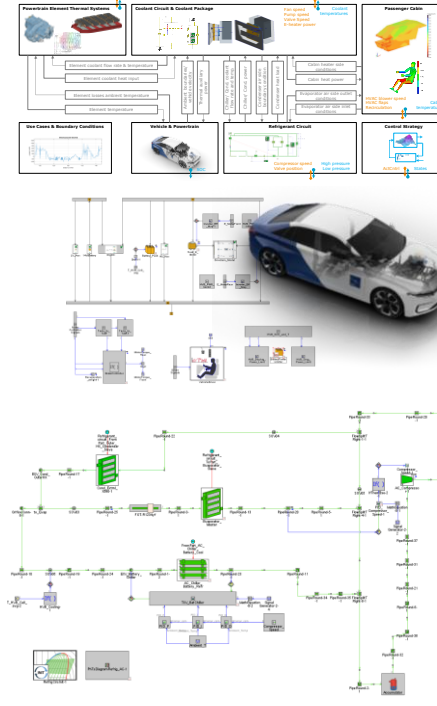
WP8: Cell Testing



- Open Circuit Voltage
- Cell Resistance



Simulation Model



Reuse of models in customer projects for cooling system development

Vehicle Main Data

VW ID.4 GTX 2021

SUV

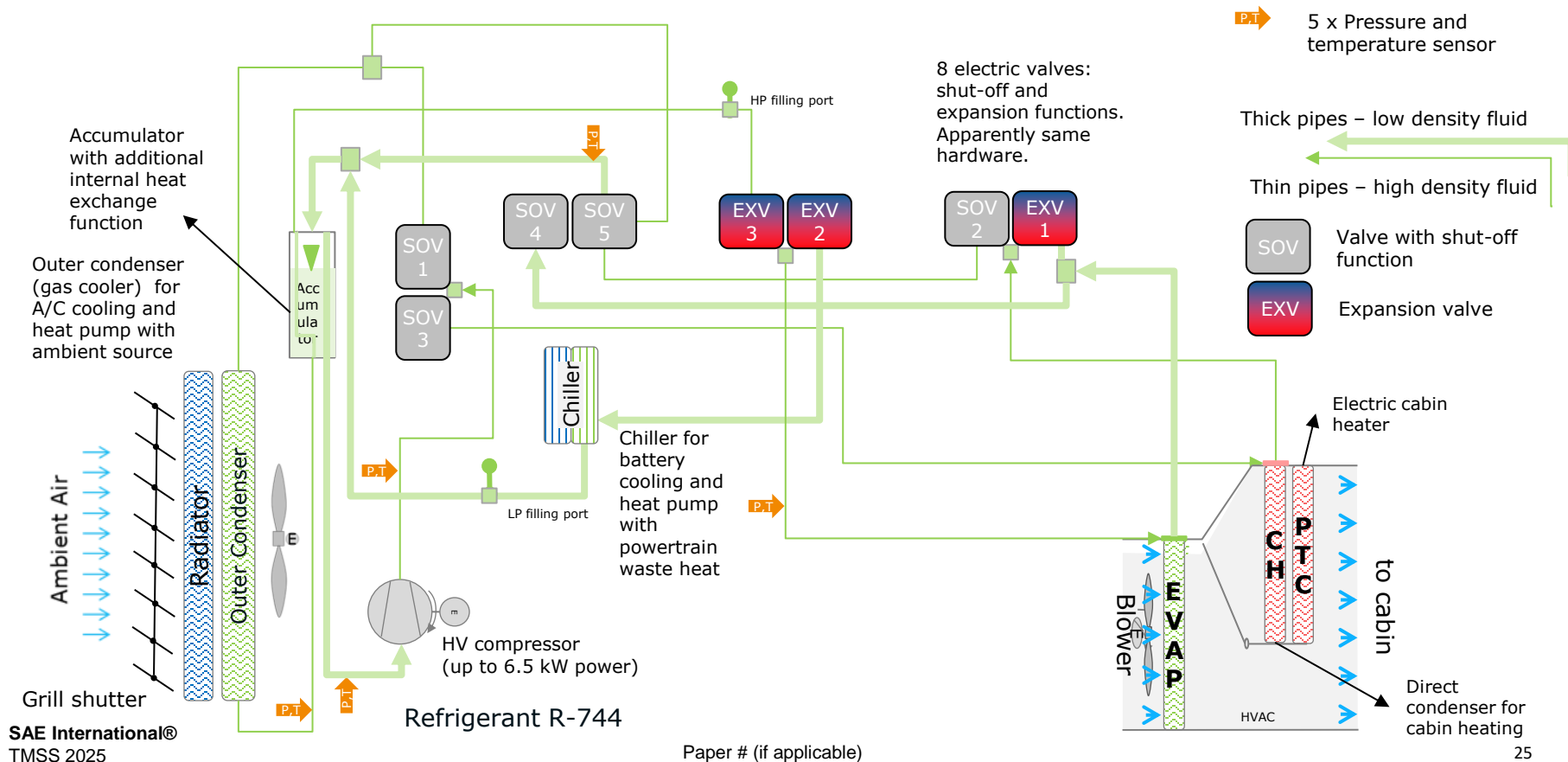
All wheel drive

With Heat-pump



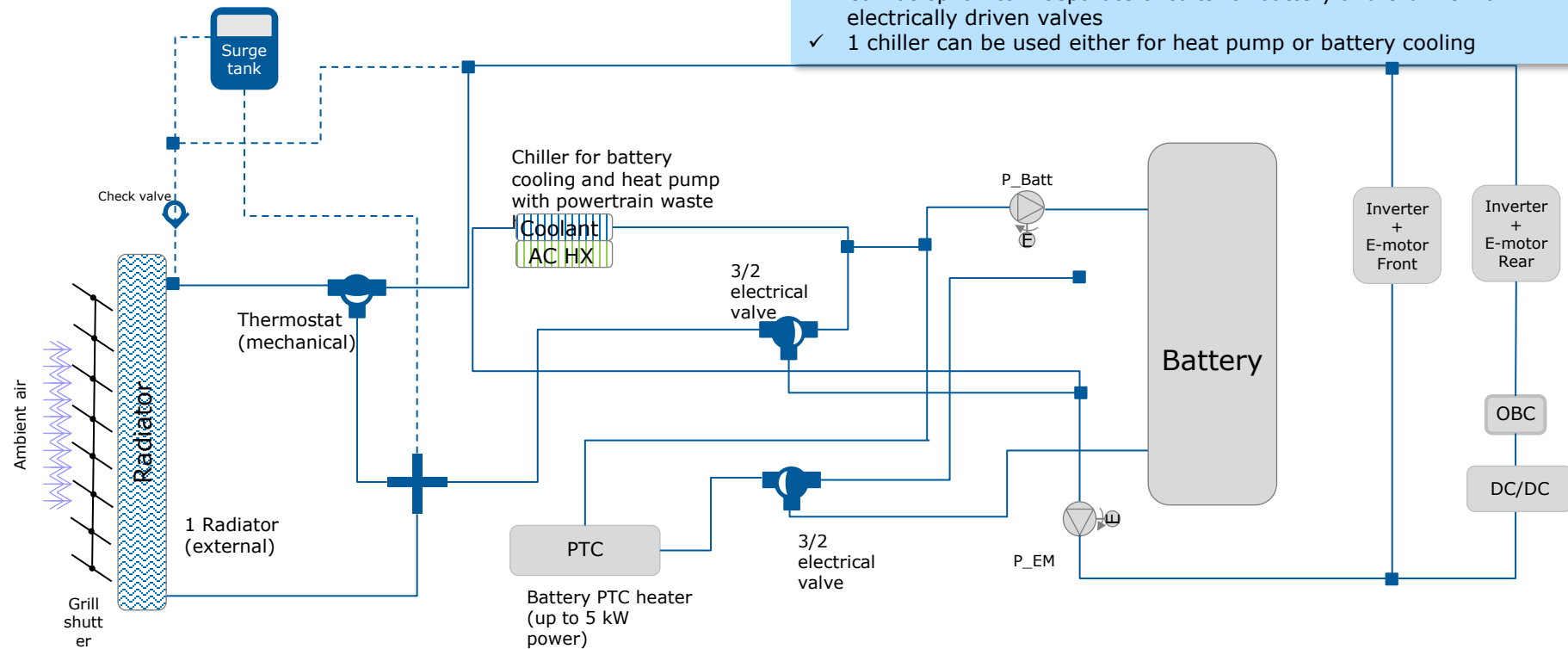
Vehicle Data	Max. System Power/Torque	kW/Nm	220/460
	Max. Power/Torque, front	kW/Nm	80/162
	Max. Power/Torque, rear	kW/Nm	150/310
	Top Speed	Kph	180
	Acceleration 0-100 kph	s	6.2
	Range WLTP (CoC)	Km	466 km
	Official Battery Cons. (CoC)	kWh/100km	16.3
	Official Grid Cons. (CoC)	kWh/100km	18.9
	Wheelbase (CoC)	mm	2769
	Curb Weight (CoC)	kg	2311
Battery Data	Official Capacity (installed/usable)	kWh	82/76.6
	Battery Voltage (nominal)	V	394.2
	Battery Weight	kg	495
	Module Weight	kg	370
	Cell type		Pouch
	Cell chemistry		Graphite/NMC712
	Cell number		288, 12 modules x 24cells
	Cell configuration		96s3p
	Thermal Layout		Liquid Cooling
	Max. DC Charging Power	kW	125
Thermal System	Number of coolant circuits		1
	Coolant Radiator		1
	Heat Pump w/ ambient		Yes
	Heat Pump w/ waste heat		Yes
	Battery Heating		PTC
	Cabin Heating		Direct gas cooler + PTC
	Coolant Type		WG 50/50 9.3 kg
	Refrigerant type		R744 (CO2) (420g)
	Max. HV Compressor Power	kW	6.5

A/C circuit

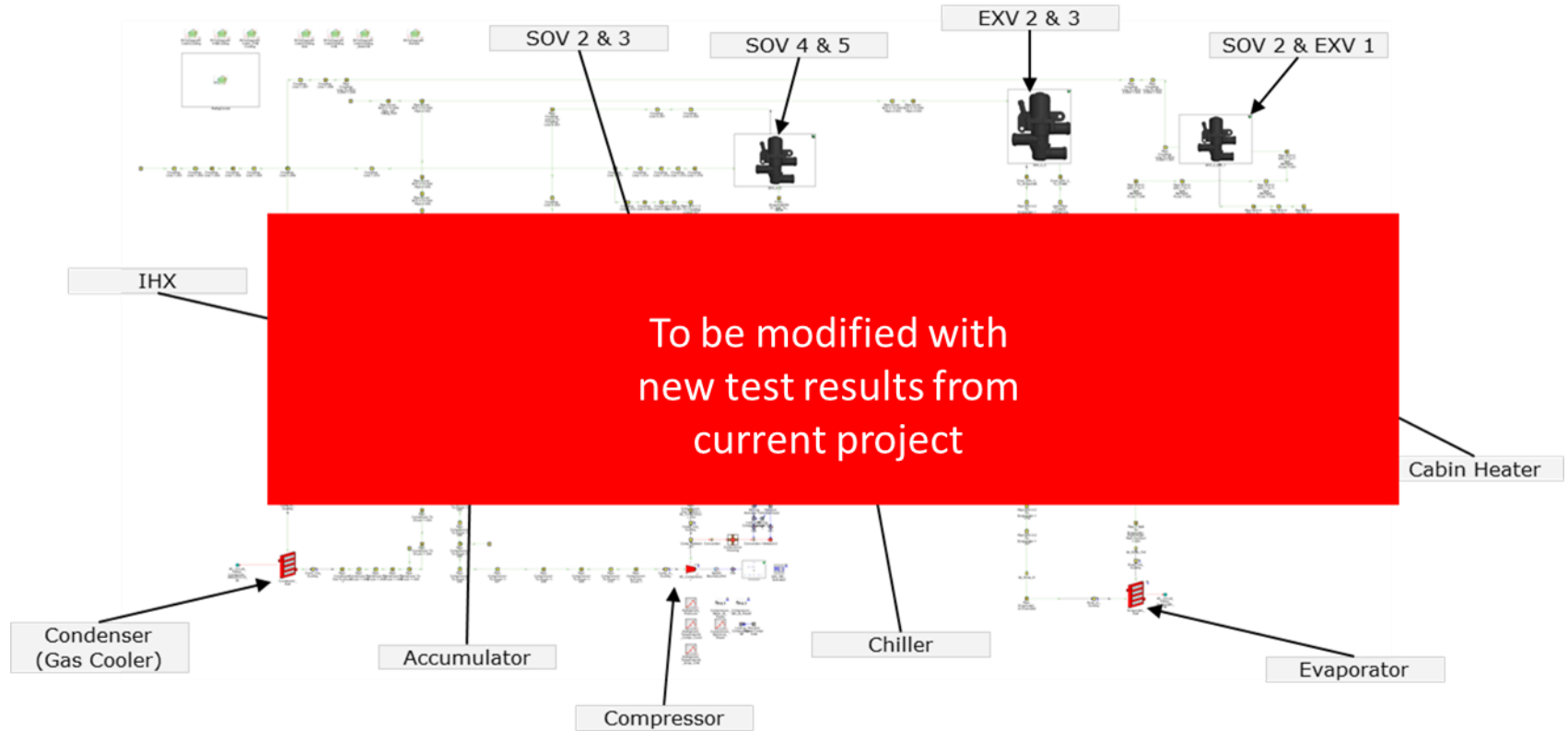


Coolant circuit

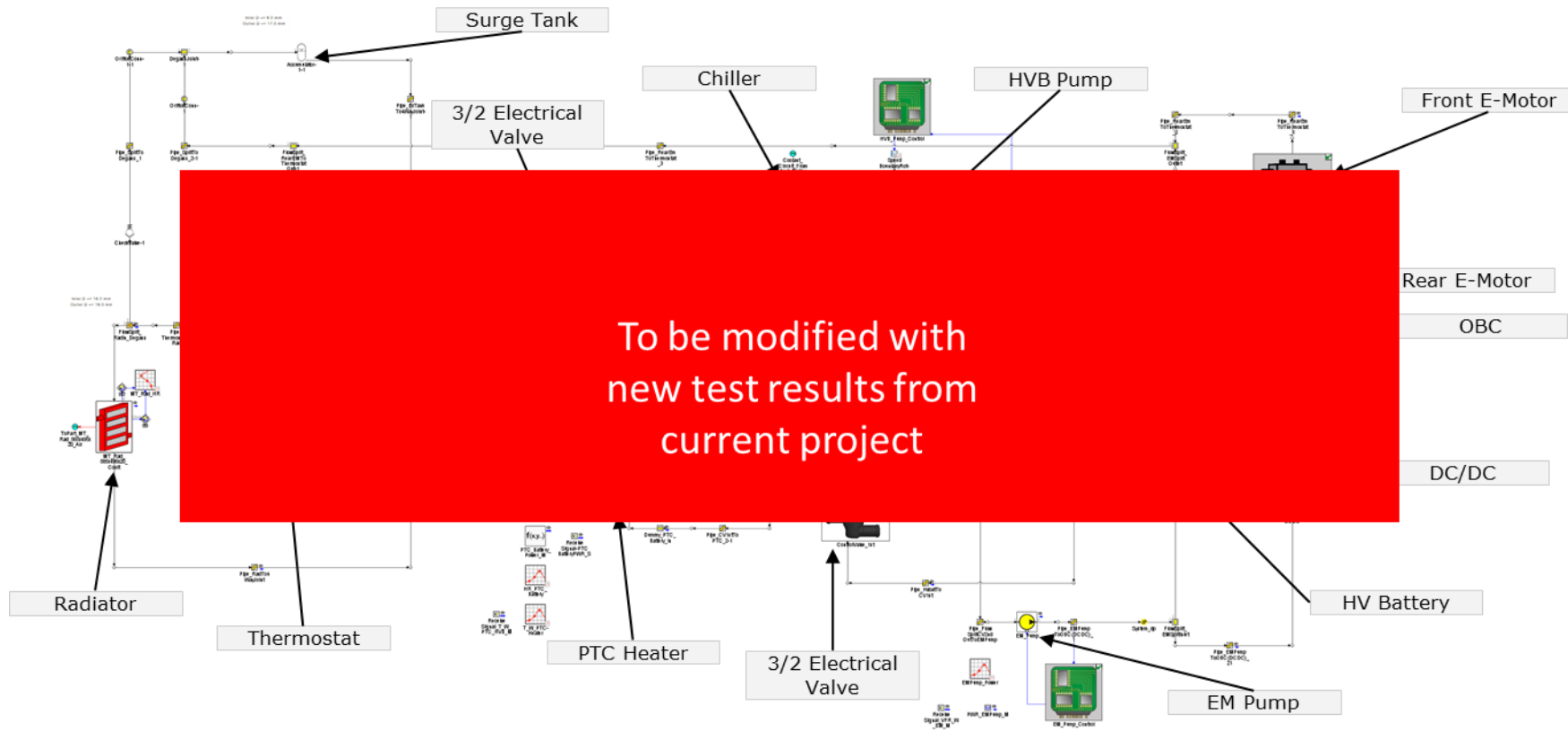
- ✓ 1 circuit, 1 surge tank, 1 radiator
- ✓ Can be split into 2 separate circuits for battery and e-drive via 2 electrically driven valves
- ✓ 1 chiller can be used either for heat pump or battery cooling



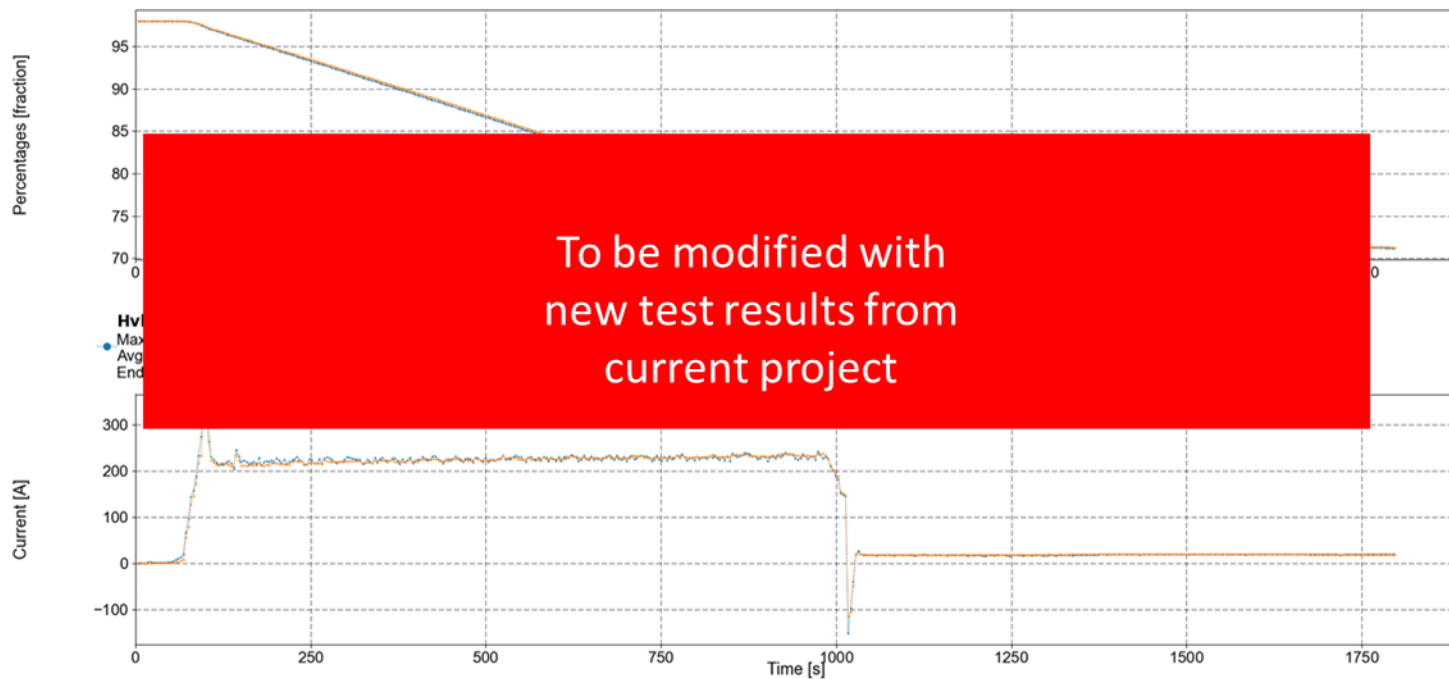
Overall Simulation Model Refrigerant Circuit



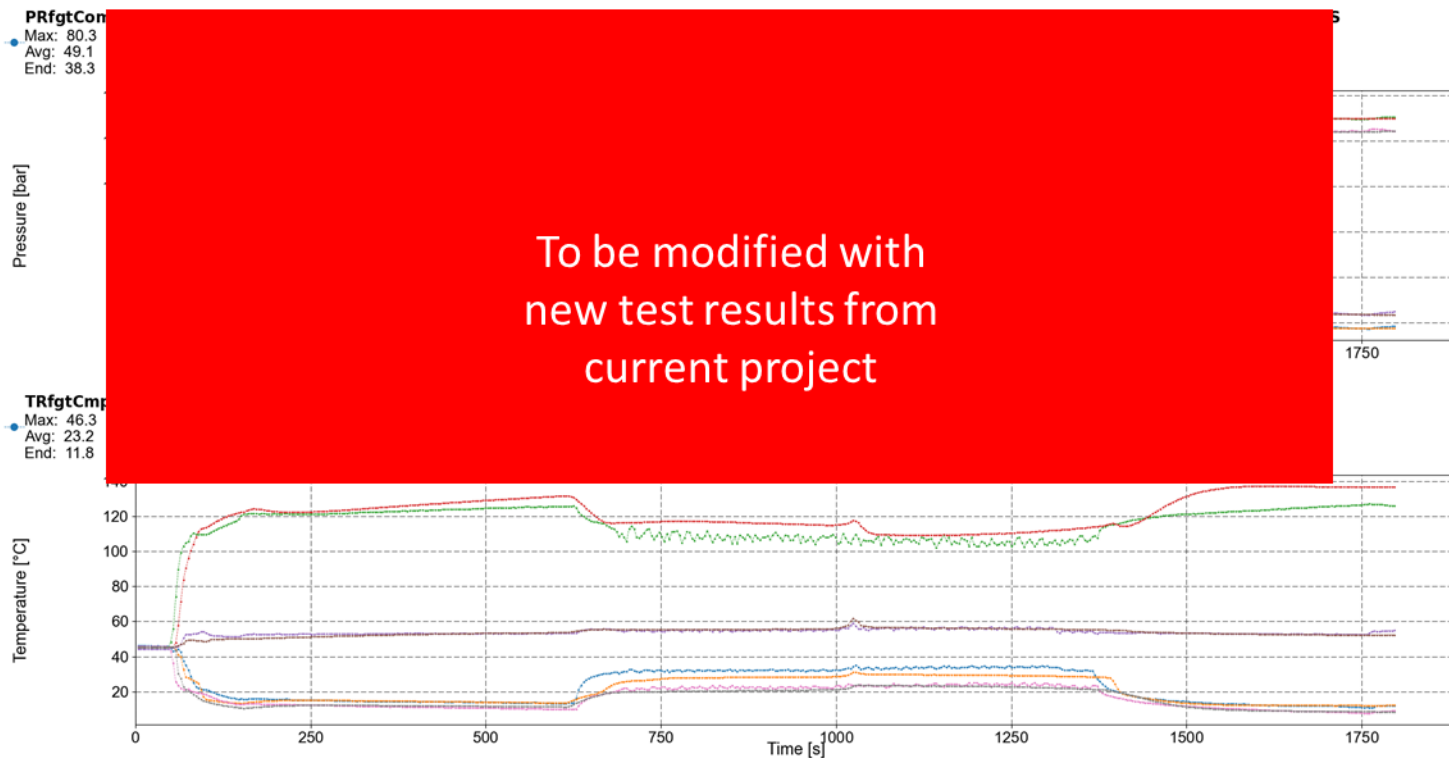
Overall Simulation Model Coolant Circuit



Case 1 MaxHVB@45°C



Case 1 MaxHVB@45°C



Accuracy Overview

Num.	Control unit	Criteria
2		Compared with test data
3	Cabin cool	er time for average head
4	Battery in	verage over time
5	EDU inle	verage over time
6	Refrigerant o	age accuracy absolute
7	R477 side o	absolute value < 10 bar in
8		oints nts
Refrigerant circuit: total flow rate < 5% in average over all operating points		

To be modified with
new test results from
current project

Chapter 5

Control Software: Predictive Cabin Thermal Management

Predictive Overview and Example applications

Pre warm the battery before drive starts.
→ Store heat in the battery

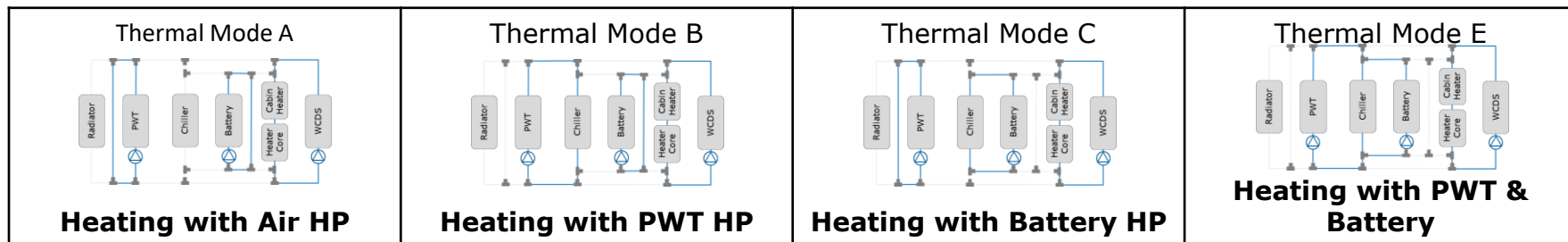
- 1) Use battery as heat source
- 2) Use powertrain as heat source
- 3) In City: Use ambient as heat source



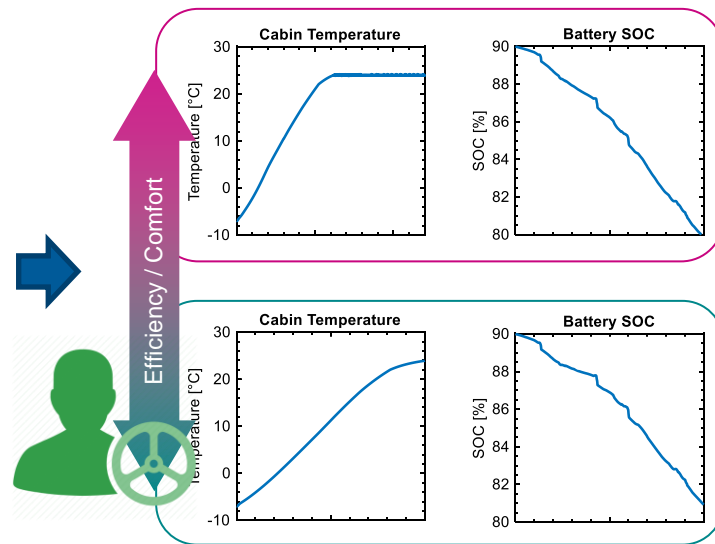
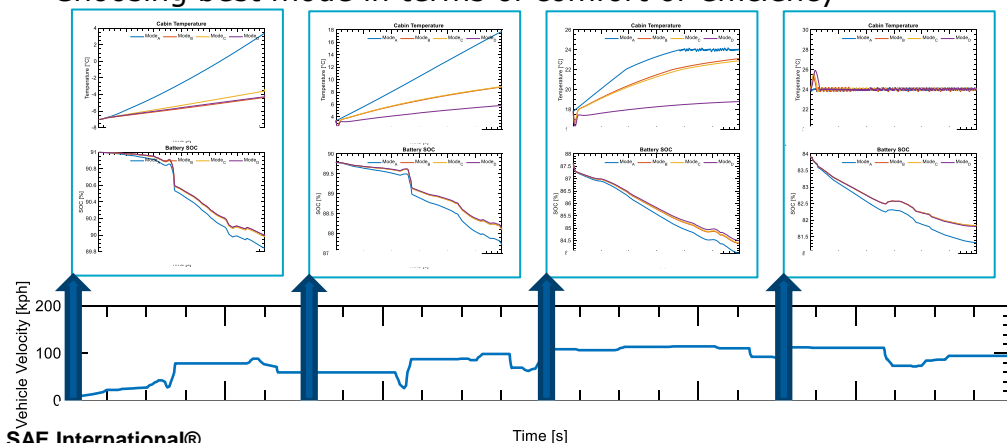
Heating or cooling depending on battery temperature and predicted load
→ Reduce energy demand for heating and cooling

- Heating or cooling depending on battery temperature and predicted load and charging power
 - Reduce charge time
 - Prevent overheating

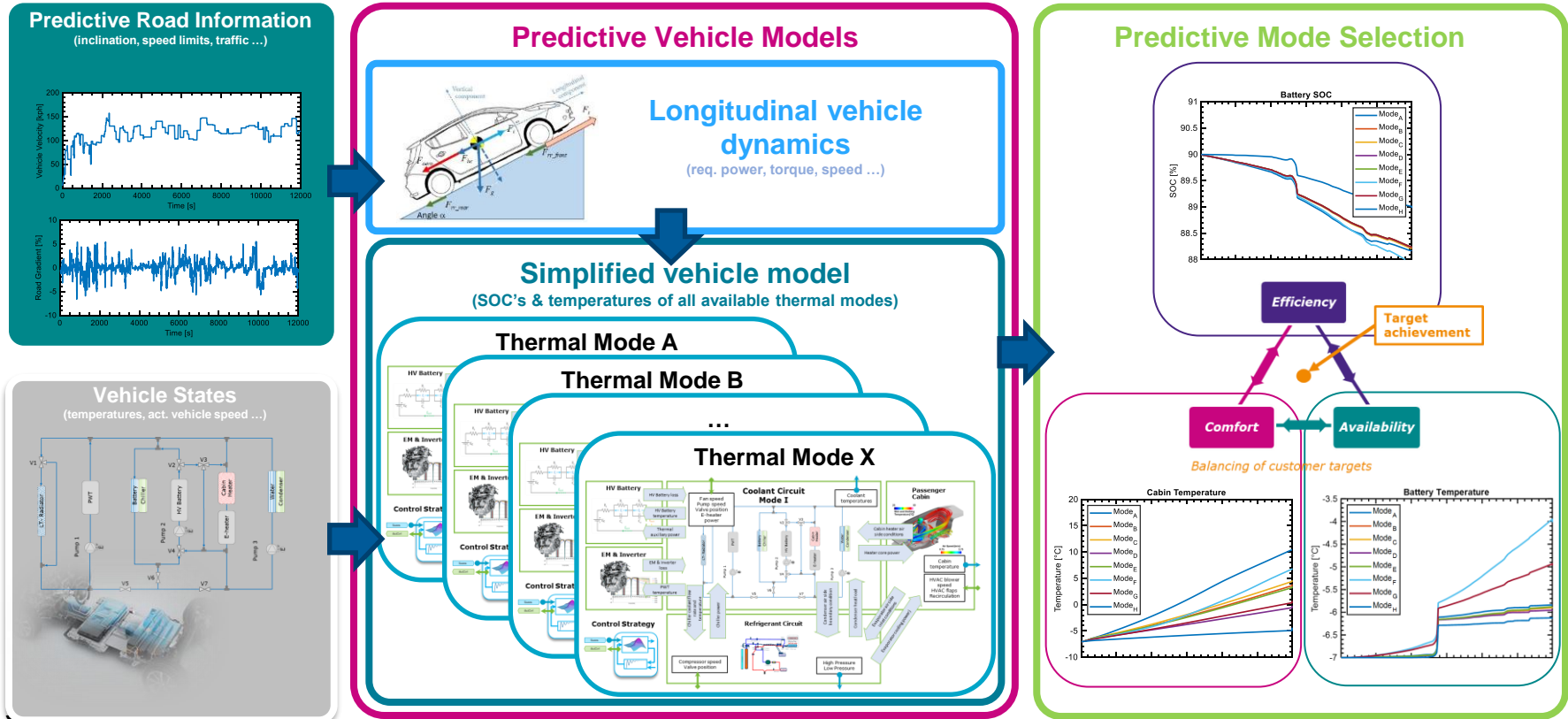
Predictive Cabin Objective



- Multiple modes and heat sources for cabin heating
- Calculation of system behavior for all available modes
- Choosing best mode in terms of comfort or efficiency



Predictive Cabin Methodology



Contact Info

Thank you for your Attention!



AVL List



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