



Model-Based Systems Engineering

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Presentation Overview

- Context: What is Model-Based Systems Engineering? Why MBSE?
- A simple model of knowledge and information in MBSE
- Which kinds of knowledge and information?
 - Information schema
 - Language mappings
 - Abstractions and idealizations
 - Analysis patterns
 - Synthesis patterns
 - Design Workflow
- Challenges and Summary



A Systems Approach for Product Development

Technology Trends

- Miniaturization
- Embedded intelligence
- Networked connectivity

Modularization

- One subsystem per function
- Standardized interfaces

Systems Approach

- Increased number of functions
- New functions by integrating multiple subsystems
- New architectures







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Traditional Design Approaches

- Document-centric, systematic information transformations
- Generally, information is transferred manually between design steps and team members
- Output is large set of documents
- → Inadequate for contemporary SE





Challenges in Systems Engineering

- Multiple integrated functions
- Multiple engineering disciplines
- Multiple stakeholders
- Globally distributed, heterogeneous design teams
- Complex, emergent system behavior
- Large quantities of design knowledge and information
- → Need Formal, Model-Based Approach



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Knowledge & Information in Systems Engineering



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A Workflow Perspective





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Knowledge & Information in Systems Engineering





Information Economics

Information is only valuable to the extent that it leads to better decisions



Design Research: Models, Methods, Tools for Shifting the Balance towards Higher Value



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Information Schema

- Traditionally: tool-specific proprietary schema
 - CAD
 - Finite element modeling
 - Discrete event simulation
 - Few formal representations in SE
- Standardization
 - e.g.: STEP (ISO 10303) Standard for the Exchange of Product data
 - Intent: Reduce the number of translators from N² to N
 - Always lagging behind
 - Overlap and inconsistencies

Not all types of information have been modeled formally. The models are changing over time.







Example of Standardization: STEP

ISO TC184 SC4

STEP on a Page

ISO 10303









Federated Model (Russell Peak et al.)



One single master model is impossible / impractical

- Evolution
- Different levels of abstraction
- Relationships must be *fine*grained
 - Not file-based

SysML as a Federated Model for MBSE

- Visual information modeling for systems engineering
- Based on UML 2
- Used to support system specification, analysis, design, verification and validation



GIT Testbed: Tools and Models



Authoring in native tools

- Integration in SysML
 - Different levels of abstraction
- Language Mapping
 - Graph transformations (e.g., Modelica)
 - Direct interface (e.g., Excel)



Related Work: Model Integration with SysML

- "...SysML is intended to unify the diverse modeling languages used by systems engineers." (SysML Specification, 2007)
- Constrained Objects (Peak et al., 2001, 2005)
- ModelicaML (Pop et al., 2007)
- UML^H (Nytsch-Geusen, 2007)



Relevant SysML Modeling Constructs

- Blocks
- Value types
- Part properties
- Value properties
- Stereotypes





The SysML Metamodel





The Modelica Metamodel





The Correspondence Metamodel





Implementation in RSD/Eclipse

- Created Java software that ...
 - Queries Embedded Plus (E+) SysML CD model
 - Transforms model in VIATRA2 framework

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 Generates Modelica code & simulates in Dymola



MSDSystem

- Created Java mat
 - Queries Embedd SysML CD mode
 - **Transforms mod** framework
 - Generates Mode simulates in Dym

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mass : Mass	force : Force	
: MechanicalJunction	j : MechanicalJunction	
	/	
node2 : Mech	anicalNode4	
j1 : MechanicalJunction	j2 : MechanicalJunction	
j3 : MechanicalJunction	j4 : MechanicalJunction	
spring : Spring	damper Damper	
j1 : MechanicalJunction	j1 : MechanicalJunction	
j2 : MechanicalJunction	j2 : MechanicalJunction	
node1 : MechanicalNode3		
j1 : Mechanical Junction	j2 : MechanicalJunction	
j3 : MechanicalJunction		
ground : j : Mechanical	Fixed Dunction	

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- SvsML-Modelica MATEA Correspondence. Model Modelica Representation

Created Java that

- Queries Embed
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- Generates Mod simulates in Dv

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- Queries Embedd SysML CD mode Transforms mode framework
- Generates Mode simulates in Dym

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Representation

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M *MSDExample.mo 🗙

package MSDExample

package MSDDefinition

class MSDSystem

MSDExample.MSDDefinition.Components.Mass mass(m = massParameter); MSDExample.MSDDefinition.Components.Spring spring; MSDExample.MSDDefinition.Components.Damper damper; MSDExample.MSDDefinition.Components.Fixed ground; MSDExample.MSDDefinition.Components.Force force; MSDExample.MSDDefinition.Interfaces.MechanicalNode node1; MSDExample.MSDDefinition.Interfaces.MechanicalNode4 node2; MSDExample.MSDDefinition.ValueTypes.Mass massParameter;

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equation

```
connect(ground.j, node1.j3);
connect(node1.j1, spring.j2);
connect(damper.j2, node1.j2);
connect(spring.j1, node2.j3);
connect(damper.j1, node2.j4);
connect(node2.j2, force.j);
connect(node2.j1, mass.j);
end MSDSystem;
```

end MSDDefinition;

end MSDExample;



The Hydraulically Powered Excavator Example



The Hydraulically Powered Excavator Example



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Federated Model (Russell Peak et al.)



Decomposability \rightarrow coupling between detailed models is limited

Abstraction \rightarrow hide the details

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Abstraction: Integrating "Black Box" Models

- Represents a pre-existing model using SysML constructs
- Hides details of the model & only exposes important aspects of model
- The «external» stereotype
- Modelica-specific system nodes & the «connectClause» stereotype





Integrating "Black Box" Models



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Idealizations



Idealizations

- Different from just abstraction:
 - Additional knowledge is necessary
 - Appropriate idealization is context dependent
- Most common for finite element modeling: Transform design model into corresponding analysis model
 - Modify geometry
 - Eliminate details
 - Impose symmetry
 - Determine dimensionality
 - Define materials model
 - Model loading conditions
 - Generate mesh



Methods for Generating Finite Element Models

Direct FEA model creation

- Import design from CAD tool
- Modify geometry (as per idealizations)
- Select elements to mesh (as per idealizations)
- Mesh

Script-based FEA model structure creation

- Author a solver-specific script
 - Idealized geometry, material properties, load, boundary (and/or initial conditions)
 - Element, mesh size, ...
- Run script for different instances



Methods for Generating Finite Element Models

Multi-representation architecture-based method

- 4 stepping-stone model structures
- Models related by parametric constraints (per idealization) \rightarrow static
- Analysis model = assembly of reusable building blocks
- Solution-approach and method specific analysis models



Transform Design Model into Analysis Model



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Scope of the Problem



Can we reduce the cost of modeling through model composition?



Analysis Patterns

- System is composition/configuration of subsystems or components
- The subsystems and components are reusable building blocks
- We need to predict the behavior of every configuration considered in design



Composition of Behavior Model

System Architecture



Corresponding System-level Dynamic Model



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Multi-Aspect Component Models

MAsCoMs

- Define relationships between all the models related to a particular component or subsystem
- Model context

Aspects

- Discipline
- Lifecycle phase
- Discretization
 - Time
 - Space
- Math Formalism

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Representation Syntax



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Composition Process



Multi-Aspect Component Models in SysML



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System Synthesis Patterns



- The system consists of a series of transformation of power variables
- Power is either converted to another useful form or waste heat
- Impedance is modified (unit force/unit flow)
- Power is controlled
- Function is achieved



Different Architectures



• Key issues:

- Hardware + Controllers
- Compatibility constraints
- Hidden dependencies
- Best solution depends on the preferences of the designer
- Each concept is a large set of design alternatives







Graph Grammars

- Capture application domain knowledge in a formal grammar
- Grammar describes *plausible* configurations
 - Ideally optimal configurations
 - Even feasible configurations may too complex to define in grammar
- Explore design space by applying transformation rules in some randomized fashion
- Which knowledge to model in terms of transformations? Which knowledge to model in terms of analyses?



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Design Workflow

- Ideally all models would always be consistent
- In practice, changes need to be propagated carefully
 - e.g., large parametric assembly model, ECAD-MCAD integration
 - Traceability is crucial, but automated propagation is not desirable
- Propagation is controlled at decision points
 - Human decision-maker needs to remain in the loop
 - But in the end, all models should be consistent
- How does one model the application of transformations?



Challenges and Summary

- Evolving representations
 → maintenance of transformations, schema, instances
- Maintaining multiple views bi-directional
- Modeling idealizations as graph transformations
- Capturing knowledge context of synthesis rules
- Hidden dependencies
 - \rightarrow system-level interfaces are only models
- Workflow and consistency management

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