

Exploring “Activity Tracking” a Language Engineering perspective

Hans Vangheluwe



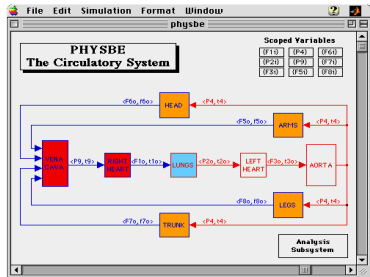
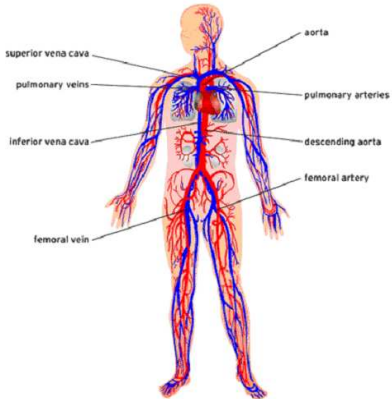
Modelling, Simulation and Design Lab (MSDL)
School of Computer Science, McGill University,
Montréal, Canada

Interdisciplinary Colloquium on Activity-based Systems
21 April 2009
Cargèse, Corsica

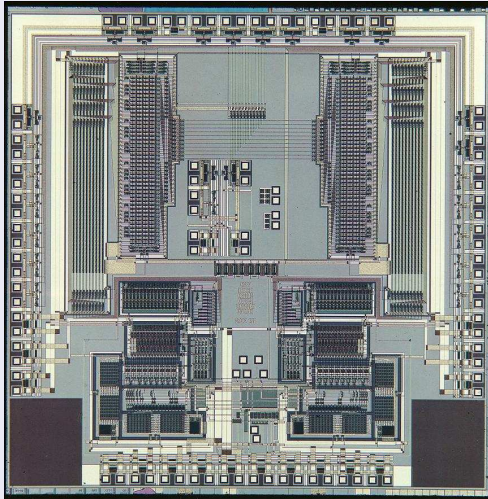
Dealing with Complexity



Different Abstraction Levels – properties preserved

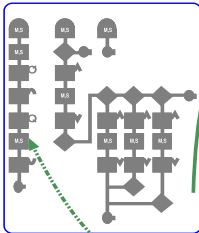


Number of Components – hierarchical (de-)composition

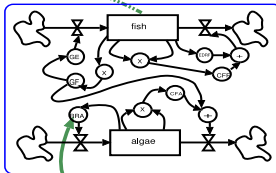
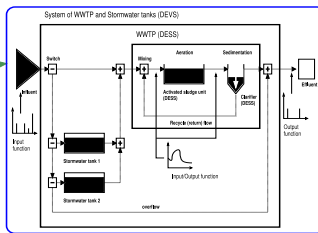


Components in Different Formalisms

PaperPulp mill

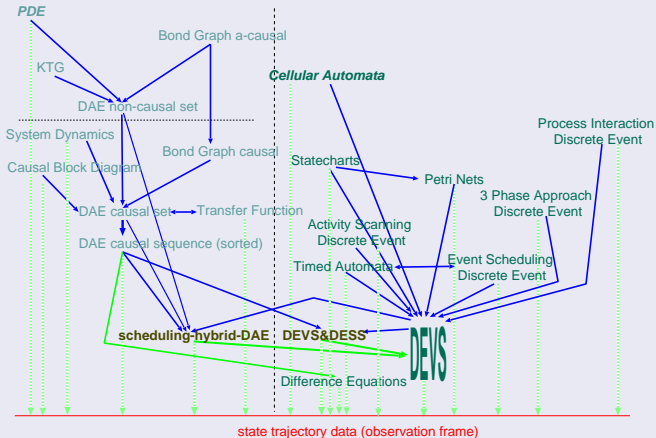


Waste Water Treatment Plant




Fish Farm

Formalism Transformation Graph co-simulation vs. transformation

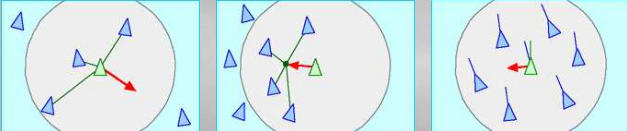


Non-compositional/Emergent Behaviour



non-compositionality of networks
leads to **emergent behaviour**

separation cohesion alignment



www.red3d.com/cwr/boids/ (Craig Reynolds)

Multi-Paradigm Modelling (minimize *accidental complexity*)

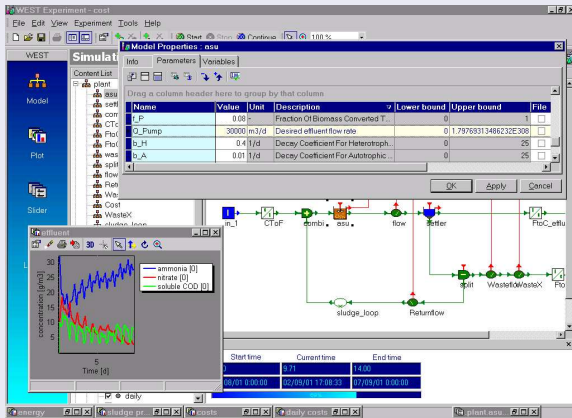
- at the most appropriate **level of abstraction**
- using the most appropriate **formalism(s)**
Differential Algebraic Equations, Petri Nets, Bond Graphs,
Statecharts, CSP, Queueing Networks, Lustre/Esterel, . . .
- with **transformations** as first-class models

Pieter J. Mosterman and Hans Vangheluwe.

Computer Automated Multi-Paradigm Modeling: An Introduction. Simulation 80(9):433–450, September 2004.

Special Issue: Grand Challenges for Modeling and Simulation.

WWTP Domain-Specific Modelling Environment



www.hemmis.com/products/west/

Henk Vanhooren, Jurgen Meirlaen, Youri Amerlinck, Filip Claeys, Hans Vangheluwe, and Peter A. Vanrolleghem.

WEST: Modelling biological wastewater treatment. Journal of Hydroinformatics, 5(1):27-50, 2003.

Why DS(V)M ? (as opposed to General Purpose modelling)

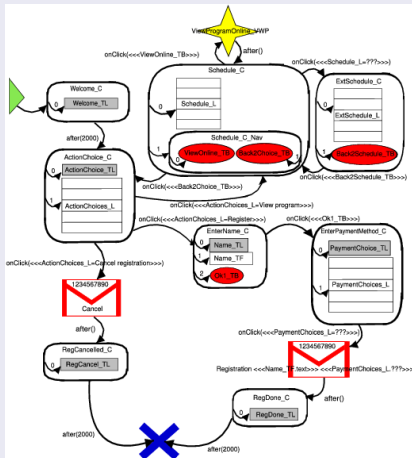
- **match the user's mental model** of the problem domain
- **maximally constrain** the user (to the problem at hand)
 - ⇒ easier to learn
 - ⇒ avoid errors
- **separate** domain-expert's work
from analysis/transformation expert's work

Anecdotal evidence of 5 to 10 times speedup

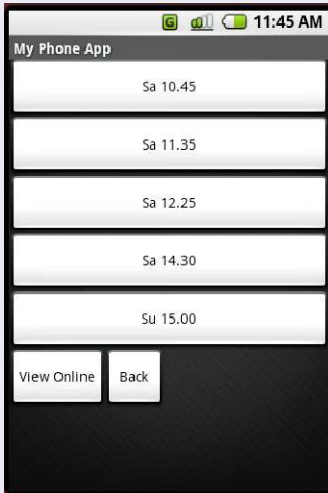
Steven Kelly and Juha-Pekka Tolvanen.

Domain-Specific Modeling: Enabling Full Code Generation. Wiley 2008.

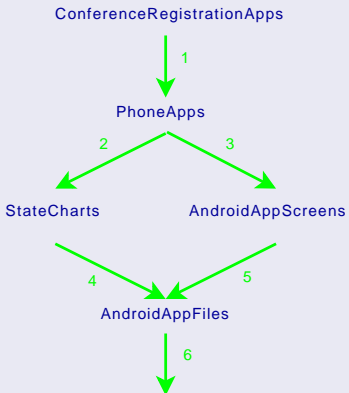
DS(V)M example application, the PhoneApps Domain-Specific model



DS(V)M example application: conference registration (Google Android)

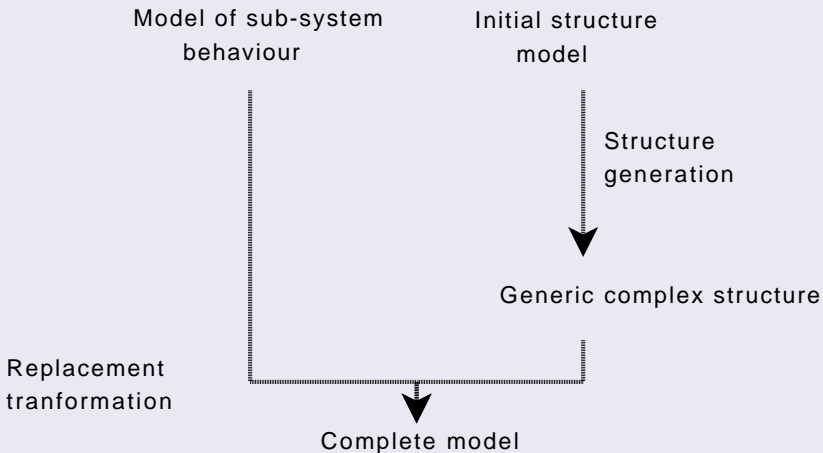


Only transform ...

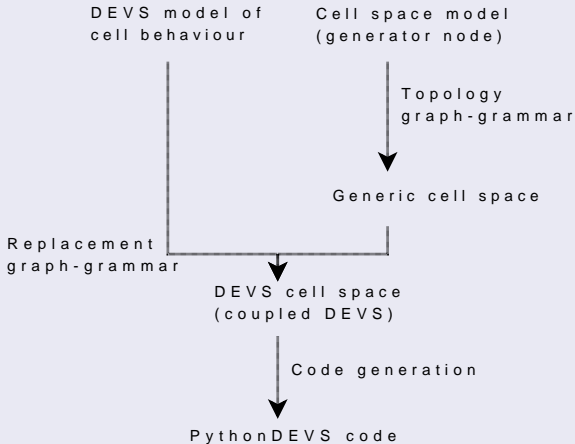


Actual files (AndroidManifest.xml, PhoneApp.java, PhoneAppStateChart.java, screen_*.xml)

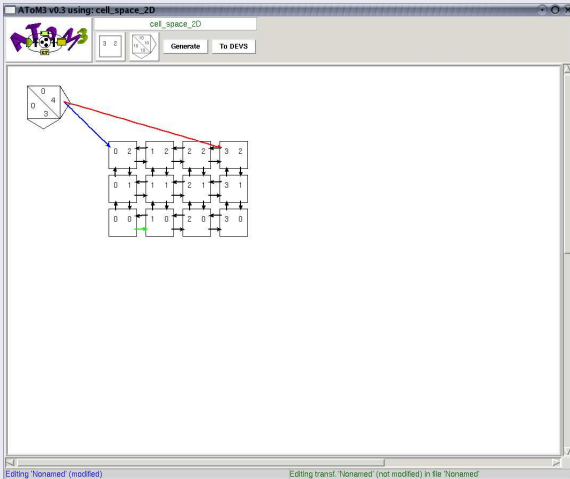
Weaving of Formalisms



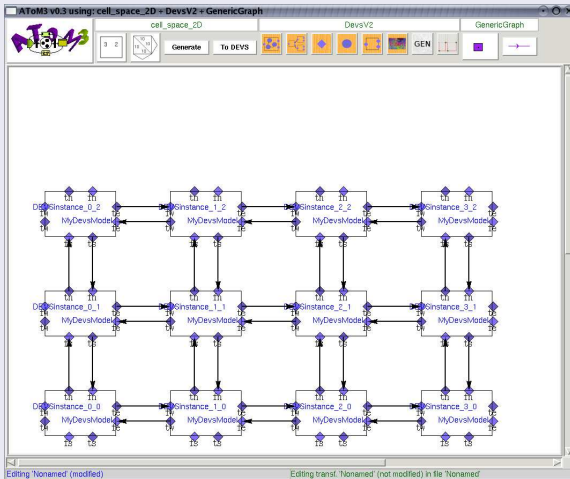
Concrete Example: DEVS + cellular structure



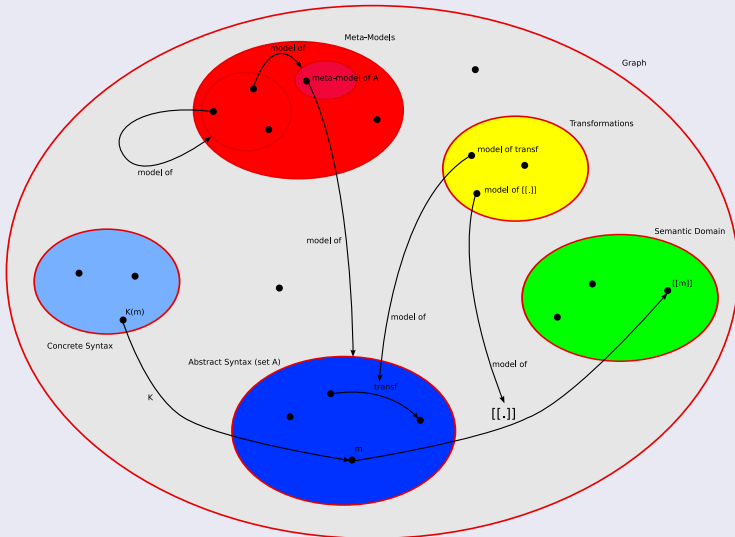
Cellspace generation



DEVS models (behaviour) woven in

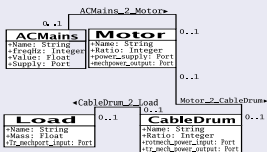


HOW TO do Modelling Language Engineering

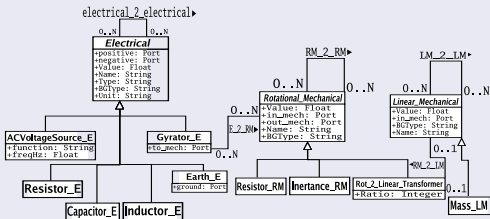


Metamodel

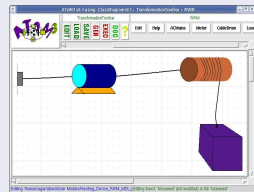
Real World Visual Modeling Formalism



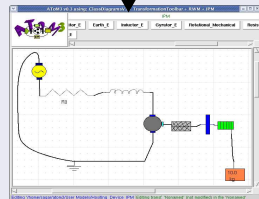
Idealized Physical Modeling Formalism



Generated Visual Modeling Environment



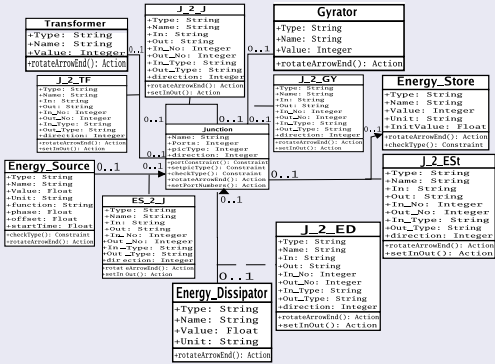
1: GG: RWVM_2_IPM



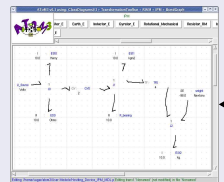
2: GG: IPM_2_ABG

Exploration

Bond Graph Modeling Formalism



2: GG: IPM_2_ABG



3: GG: ABG_2_CBG



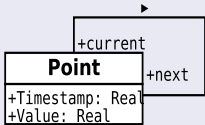
4: GG: CBG_2_Modelica

Modelica Code

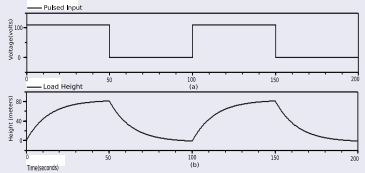
Modelica Object-Oriented Modeling Formalism

BNF Grammar of Modelica 2.2

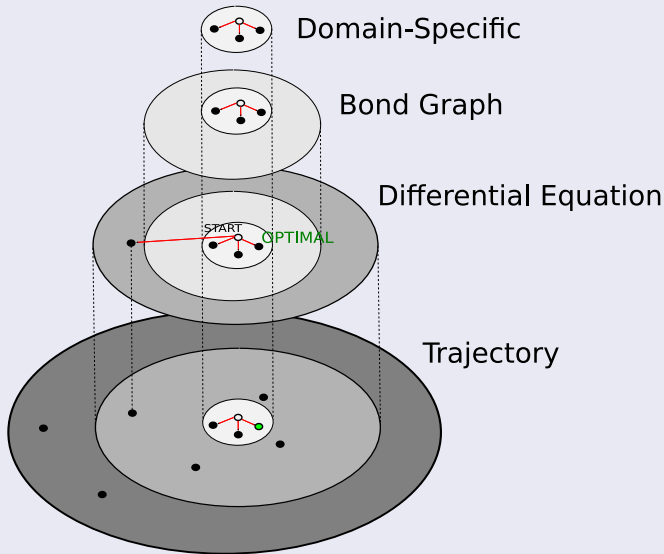
Trajectory Formalism



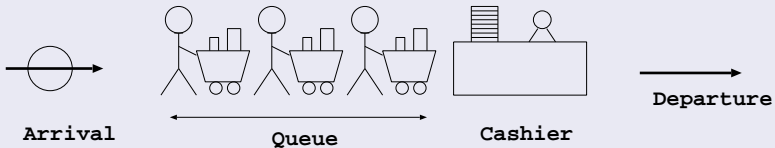
5: Simulation



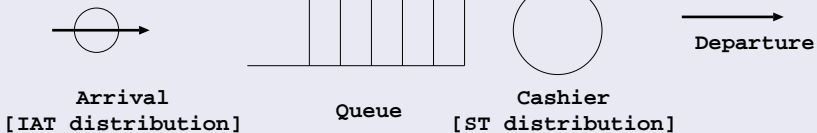
Exploring the Model Space



Activity Tracking? Single Server Queuing System

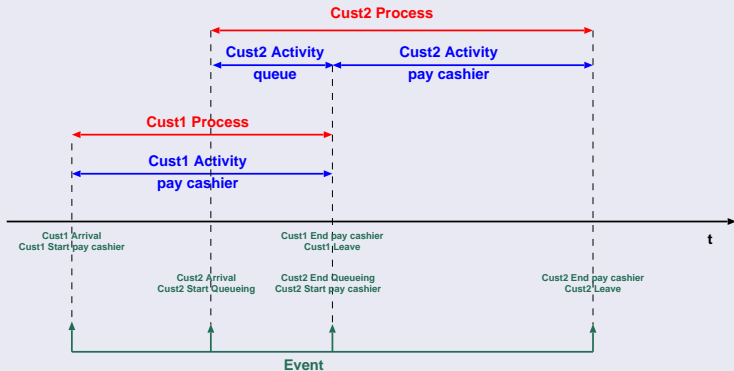


Physical View



Abstract View

World Views



Event Scheduling

- Identify *objects* and their *attributes*
- Identify *system attributes* (global)
- Define what causes *changes* in attribute value as *event*
- Write *event routine* for each event:
 - *modify state* (attributes)
 - *schedule event(s)* at $t + \Delta t, \Delta t \geq 0$
- Priorities for *tie-breaking*
- Event scheduling logic

Activity Scanning (rule-based)

Activity:

- condition: must be satisfied for activity to take place.
Becomes true *only* at event times.
- actions: operations performed when condition becomes true

Time-advance mechanism:

- fixed time-step

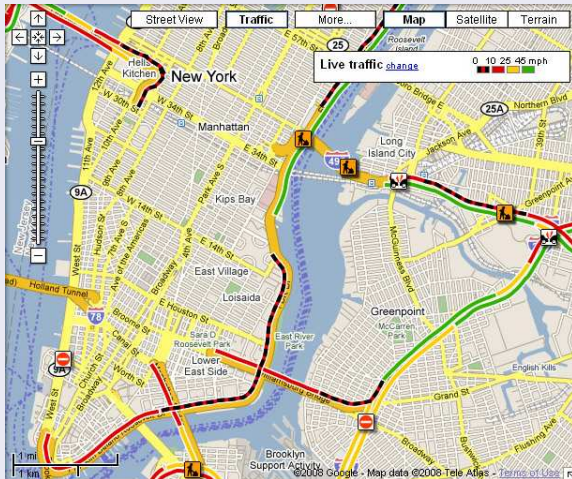
Also known as Two Phase Approach

Applications: Fire Spread



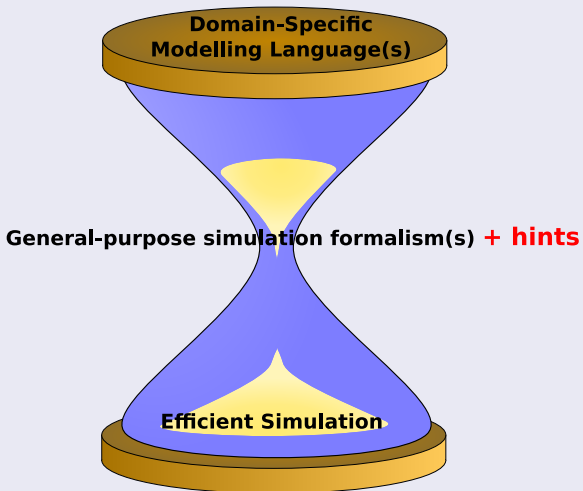
locality of activity in space and time

Domains: Population Dynamics



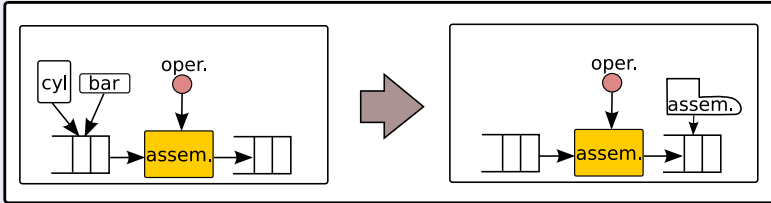
locality of activity in space and time

Having your cake and eat it ...

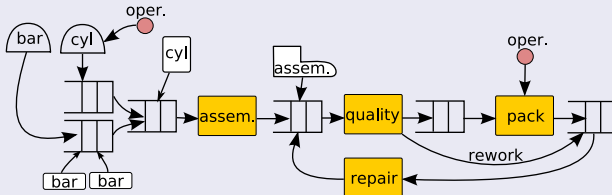


Use of Patterns/Rules to describe change

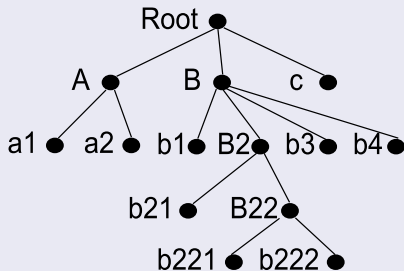
assemble



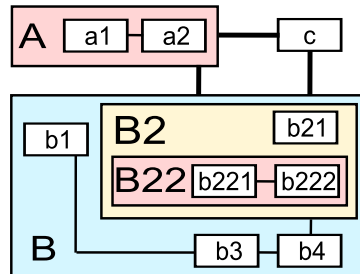
Note the use of **concrete** syntax !



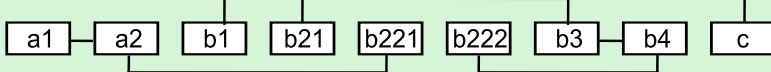
Minimizing computation cost: Flattening



Original



Direct Connected



Conclusion: defining Activity Scanning

- from the modelling point of view
- from the simulation (computation) point of view
spatio-temporal heterogeneity/locality
- language engineering viewpoint?

