Modelica Library for Spacecraft Resource Budgeting

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Introduction

- Resource budgeting is one of the preliminary design phases in which system level requirements are specified.
 - Efficiently achieved using rapid prototyping
- We implemented the library in Modelica because it is well suited to hybrid, multidisciplinary modeling, it is modular and easy to use

Presentation Overview

- Why?
 - I will demonstrate why this tool is needed and the advantages it offers
- What?
 - I will explain what the tool consists of
- How?
 - I will show how parts of this tool were built and examples of complete spacecraft built using this tool

Why?

- Rapid prototyping offers (some of) the advantages of a full simulator while remaining flexible and easy to use
 - Time dependant simulation
 - Accuracy
 - Ease of assembly, use and modification
- SpacecraftLib allows the user to easily customize the level of complexity of the model to suit the task at hand
- There are currently no widely available, easy to use rapid prototyping libraries for spacecraft

What? (1)

- Multidisciplinary tool, 4 sections dealing with:
 - Power
 - Command and data handling
 - Mechanics
 - Orbital mechanics
- The user can follow the interactions between the different subsystems



What? (2)

- Device concept. Multiple subsystems are modeled together in a *device* which:
 - Consumes power
 - Generates data
 - Responds to commands
 - Has mass and inertia
- The idea behind this was to model the physical device as opposed to the behaviour of the device



What? (3)

- Devices are combined into a complete spacecraft which:
 - Is initialized into an orbit
 - Can be commanded to take pictures, transmit data, change attitude and/or orbit etc...
 - Interacts with the ground station
- The spacecraft and GS models can be easily modified in order to test and compare different designs/specifications

How?

DataBudget section

- Data treated as a sort of physical quantity
- Data may be generated, stored, compressed, transmitted
- Bit rates, memory capacities are set by the user

Command Network

- 'Plug and Play' behavior
- Built with a combination of C and Modelica
- The user writes a list of time tagged commands in a text file which are executed during the simulation (we will upgrade this system to a GUI eventually)

How? (command network)





Examples of spacecraft built using SpacecraftLib



Thank you for attending!