Safe Design of High-Performance Embedded Systems in an MDE framework

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Introduction

Repetitive computation and control modeling

Formal application validation and a case study

Conclusions





Introduction

High-performance embedded systems (HPES)

- High-performance computing in embedded systems
- Examples: signal/image/video processing
 - High-definition TV, Personal Digital Assistant, digital camera, multimedia cellular phone, etc.
- **Motivations**: need of design environment to address issues of increasing system complexity and design reliability
 - Automatic code generation, performance evaluation, validation, etc.





Gaspard2 framework for the design of HPES

Characteristics

- Hardware/software co-design
- Model-Driven Engineering approach
 - High-level modeling, automatic code generation, etc.
- MARTE profile
- Core formalism for high-performance computing
 - System regularity
 - Multidimensional array
- Performance evaluation, etc.

Needs

- Control mechanism and profile
- Application validation



Gaspard2 repetitive computation and control modeling





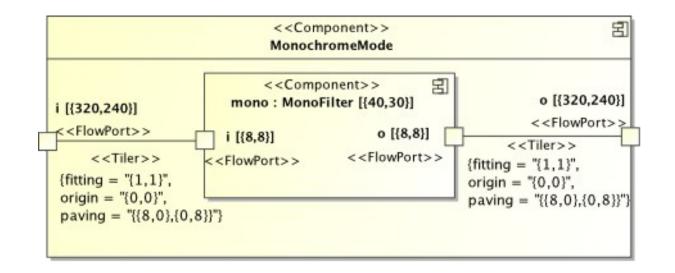
An example of Gaspard2 application

Gaspard2 basic concepts

- Elementary components: atomic functions
- Hierarchical components: task parallelism

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• Repetitive components: data parallelism





Gaspard2 control

Requirements

- High-level state-based control
- Partial regularity preservation
- Verifiable and safe control
- Compatibility with MARTE

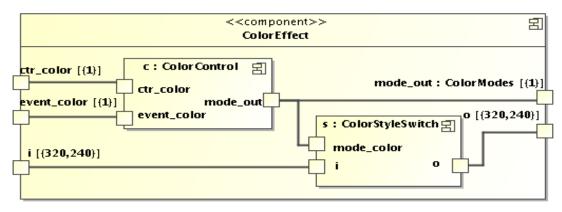




Control profile in accord with MARTE (1)

Main control concepts

- Computation mode
- Controller
 - Determine which computation is chosen according to its internal state
- Switch
 - Chose the right computation according to controller's decision



Two UML concepts for behavioral modeling:

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- State machines
- Collaborations



Control profile in accord with MARTE (2)

UML State machines

- An object-oriented variant of State charts
- Explicit description of the behavior of systems

Main concepts of State machines

• StateMachine, Region, Vertex, State, Pseudostate, Transition, Trigger, Event, Expression, etc.

Usage specialization of state machines

- Event
 - ChangeEvent (prefixed by when) and AnyEvent (all)
- State
 - DoActivity

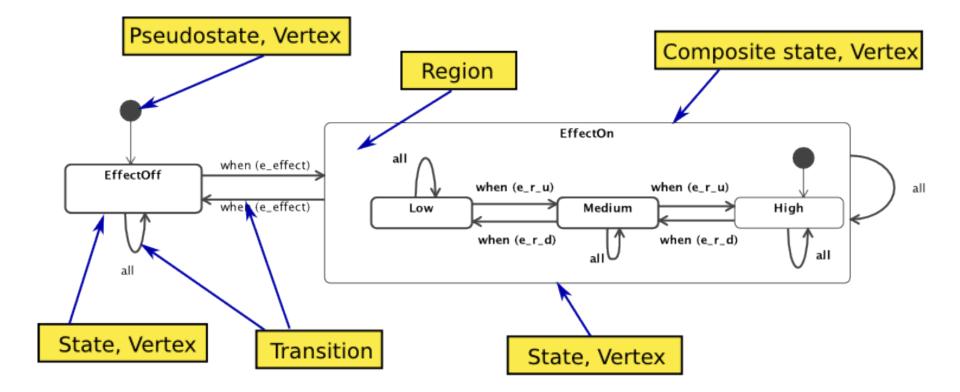
- Expressions for the specification of an *OpaqueBehavior*





Control profile in accord with MARTE (3)

An example of State machine:

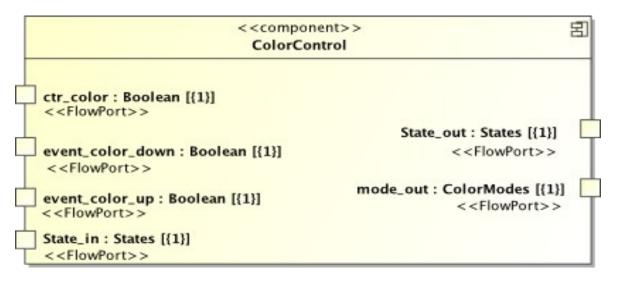


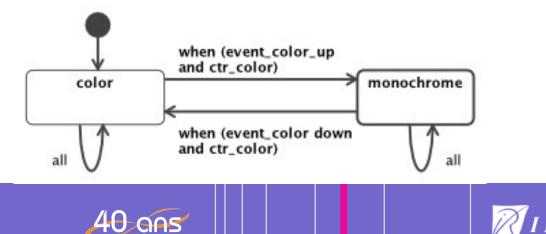




Control profile in accord with MARTE (4)

State machine component: an example





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Control profile in accord with MARTE (5)

UML collaborations

• A collaboration specifies the relationship between collaborating elements from a certain point of view

Mode switch component

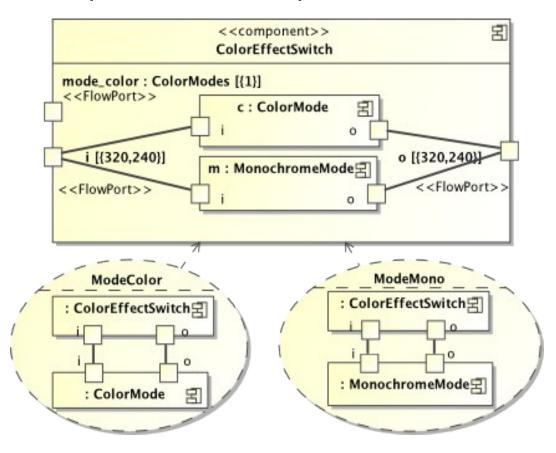
- Two types of ports
 - Mode port (receive mode values, a UML behavior port)
 - Data port (receive or send data)
- Change of its internal computations according to received mode values
- Correspondence between mode, mode value and collaboration
 - A collaboration specifies a mode, which is identified by a mode value
 - A collaboration is named according to a mode value





Control profile in accord with MARTE (6)

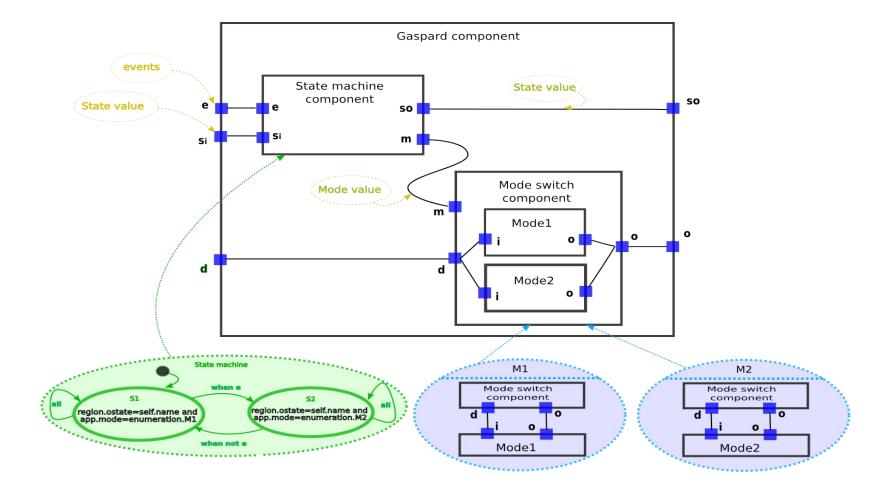
Mode switch component: an example



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A typical composition







Validation requirements

UML-related verifications

Gaspard2-related verifications

• Safe array assignment, data dependency analysis, etc.

Application-related verifications

- Properties to be verified
 - Functional properties
 - Non-functional properties





Formal validation and a case study





Synchronous languages for validation

Synchronous languages

- Strong mathematical foundations
- Unambiguous specifications
- Languages: Esterel, Lustre, Signal, etc.
- Large number of associated validation tools
- Platforms: Esterel Studio, Scade, RT-Builder, etc.

Model transformation

- From the Gaspard2 model towards the synchronous equational model
- Prototype tool as an Eclipse plugin





Model checking

Model checking of functional properties

- Properties to be verified
 - Reachability, safety, ...
- Reachability verification example
 - Black & white state and color state

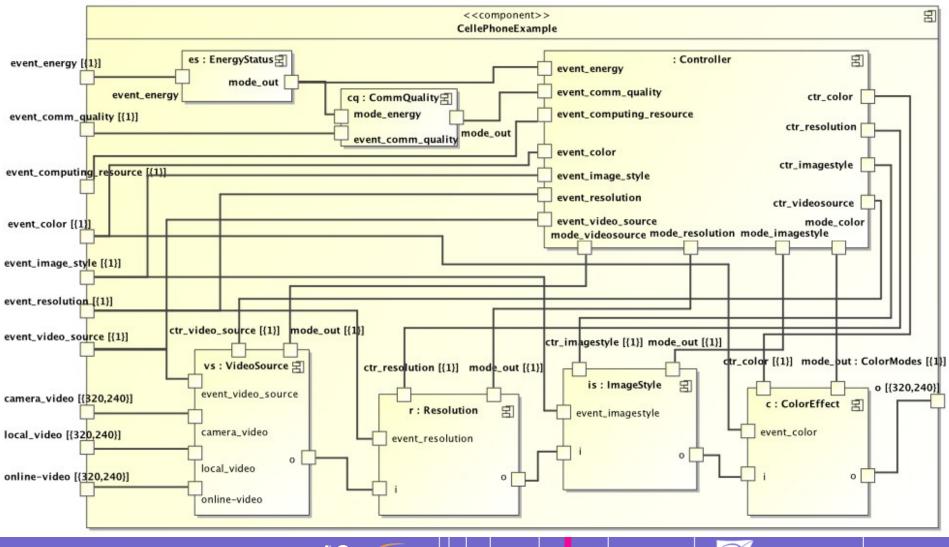
Model checking of non-functional properties

- Non-functional properties
 - Energy, communication quality, processor load, memory usage, etc.
- Properties to be verified
 - Reachability, ...
- Verification example
 - Reachability verification under energy constraints





A case study



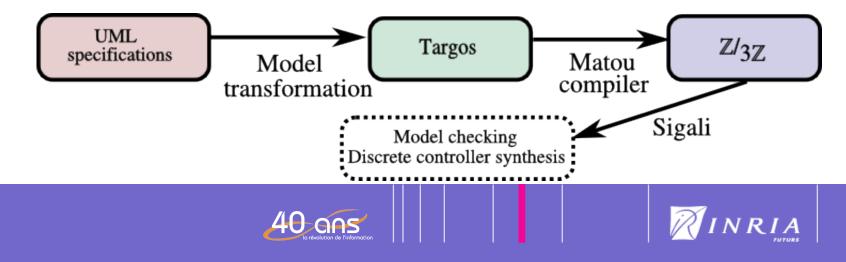


Model checking

An example of model checking

```
CE_Color: a_var(Color, 0, 30, 0);
CE_Monochrome: a_var(Monochrome, 0, 20, 0);
CE_ColorEffect: CE_Color + CE_Monochrome;
CE_GL: CE_ColorEffect + CE_ImageStyle + ...;
MAX_En: 110;
CE_Limitation: a_sup(CE_GL, CE_MAX);
Reachable(S , CE Limitation);
```

Tools used in the model checking



Conclusions





Conclusions

A MARTE-compatible control profile

• On the basis of UML state machines and collaborations

Model transformation into synchronous languages

- Manual transformation of the control into synchronous languages
- Extension of the synchronous model
- Extension in consideration of the presented control mechanism

Formal validation

- In consideration of non-functional properties
- Illustration through a case study





Thank you for your attention!



