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Execution of Heterogeneous Models for Thermal Analysis with a Multi-view Approach

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Abstract—To deal with the high complexity of embedded systems, engineers rely on high-level heterogeneous models that combine functional and non-functional aspects, hardware/software artifacts, structural and behavioral descriptions. *PRISMSYS* is a system-level multi-view modeling framework, which provides a means to specify functional and non-functional aspects in interrelated views. Each concern/view is addressed separately with a dedicated set of models and correspondence rules, maintaining the semantic consistency between those different views. The behavioral specification mixes UML state machines with equational models defined as SYSML parametric diagrams. To supply a complete non-functional property-aware simulation environment, it is mandatory to formalize 1) the execution semantics of the UML state machines, 2) the SYSML parametric diagrams and 3) the coordination between them. This is achieved by using CCSL, the Clock Constraint Specification Language, to provide an event-based semantics for each model and their coordination. The proposed co-simulation framework combines *TIMESQUARE*, a discrete event simulator for CCSL, and *Scilab*, a tool for numerical computation. The framework is illustrated on a CPU thermal manager case study with a joint simulation of both its functional and non-functional models.

Keywords-Multi-View, Heterogeneous Models, UML.

I. INTRODUCTION

The design of embedded systems requires a strict conformance to the non-functional requirements, such as heat dissipation, energy consumption, safety or time performance. These properties are usually addressed (*i.e.*, modeled and analyzed) by experts of different domains. Experts have their own languages and tools to describe the system modeled from their own point of view. Nevertheless, these expert's models are strongly connected; the behavior of a model could impact the behavior of the other ones. For instance, powering a component off in a power management model affects the functional behavior and the performances of the component in a functional description model.

The recent IEEE 42010 standard [1] proposes a common vocabulary to capture the different *views* of heterogeneous models. *Correspondences* are used to associate domain elements from different views. For instance, in a thermal view, if the temperature of a CPU is reaching the maximum acceptable temperature, the controller may reduce the clock frequency and voltage level (or turn the CPU off) to avoid damaging the CPU. This syntactic link between a non-functional property in a specific view and its impact on the other view should also be considered from a semantic point of view.

More generally, the behavior specification of an embedded system should explicitly take the non-functional properties into account to provide a correct representation of the system behavior. While it may eventually be implemented by using specific sensors, there is a need for early modeling and co-simulation of two types of behavior: one based on a discrete (logical) time representing the functional behavior of the system; and another one based on continuous time representing the evolution of non-functional properties and/or other physical phenomenon.

PRISMSYS [2] proposes to tack the semantics of the MoCs on top of traditional engineering models based on the UML (Unified Modeling Language [3]) or one of its specializations like SYSML [4] or MARTE [5]. *PRISMSYS* [2] also proposes to keep the semantics of the MoC explicit and separate from the functional model to ease its extraction, modification and analysis. *PRISMSYS* implements the IEEE 42010 standard. It relies on UML and SYSML to capture both functional and non-functional properties [6].

In this paper, we propose an operational framework for the joint simulation of both the discrete and continuous parts of the *PRISMSYS* model. The semantics of *PRISMSYS* models is described using the Clock Constraint Specification Language (CCSL [7], [8]). CCSL is a formal declarative language for discrete logical time specification amenable to analysis and simulation in the associated tool *TIMESQUARE* [9]. We have built a dedicated backend for *TIMESQUARE* to drive, not only the execution of the discrete part of the model, but also of the continuous part. This particular aspect is delegated to *Scilab* tool [10]. We illustrate the approach on a thermal manager and we present the model, explain the way the backend is built and give some execution results.

The paper starts with discussing related works (Section II) on both heterogeneous modeling and modeling of thermal aspects. Then, Section III briefly recalls the fundamentals of *PRISMSYS*. Section IV describes the execution semantic of *PRISMSYS* for heterogeneous execution based on CCSL. CCSL is introduced on-the-fly, with only the minimum material required. Finally, the implementation of *TIMESQUARE*'s backend for *Scilab* is described in Section V and illustrated on a case study in Section VI. Section VII concludes with possible extensions.

II. BACKGROUND AND RELATED WORK

A. Heterogeneous Modeling

The joint use of different Models of Computation (MoCs) [11], [12], [13] for a single system is known as *Heterogeneous Modeling*. A MoC (e.g., Synchronous Data Flow, Finite State Machine or Continuous Time) makes explicit the execution semantics applied to a specific syntactic model. Several approaches and tools address the problem of modeling and simulation of heterogeneous models.

Hybrid automata [14] offer a theoretical framework to combine discrete and continuous phenomena. An attempt to mix Hybrid Automata and CCSL has been conducted [15]. However, hybrid automata do not offer any specific support for combining heterogeneous syntactic models (dataflow, equations, control) or for a clean separation of preoccupations or views. This is addressed here.

Ptolemy II [16] relies on a generic actor model to capture hierarchical heterogeneous models. The model of computation (MoC) and its interactions with other MoCs are described in a so-called director that conforms to a predefined Java API. *Ptolemy II* is widely used and has inspired many derived products or evolutions. There are two main differences with our proposal. First, we rely on UML and SYSML to capture the structural information instead of a pure actor model. Second, the synchronization and scheduling constraints are given explicitly in CCSL rather than being hidden inside the Java code and mixed with the functional description. Making the MoC explicit and separate allows for reasoning on its properties.

BIP [17] is an interesting alternative that supports explicit heterogeneous interaction models. The behavior is described using timed automata, then several interaction schemes can be used. Contrary to *BIP*, *PRISMSYS* does not require to use state-based representation and may also rely on data flow models or equational models to capture continuous aspects. This increase of expressiveness comes at the cost of decidability results.

There are several works that focus on the interactions between discrete and continuous time, like MatLab/Simulink or Scilab/Scicos. Amongst the solutions that support synchronous models of computation, *Zelus* [18] provides a nice integration with Lustre. However, in all these solutions, the functional and interaction models are intertwined and hidden as design choices inside the tool. Our proposal is to make the choices explicit in the model (like using a fixed-step solver with a given step) and use the model to drive the tools.

On the engineering side, SYSML [4] introduces the notion of parametrics to capture *acausal* models. This is adequate to describe continuous functions or relations and *PRISMSYS* heavily rely on this new construct to capture the thermal and power-related information. Our proposal is to define an execution framework to execute such models.

B. Non-Functional (Thermal) Modeling

Non-functional properties are more and more important in many embedded systems, they must be consequently taken into account during the design process.

Most of the time, non-functional properties are modeled (and analyzed) by using specific tools. For instance, to analyze the impact of temporal properties on the system schedulability, experts in time performance use tools such as *Cheddar* [19] where the focus is made on specific temporal properties while the other aspects of the application and its architecture are largely abstract away. Additionally, to study the thermal aspects of a system, temperature experts employ tools like *Hotspot* [20] or *Aceplorer* [21]. Once again, the tools give many details on the properties that deal with their specificity (in this case, the thermal equations), but the other parts of the system remains largely abstract.

In consequence, the study of several non-functional properties requires the duplication of some parts of the system model in these dedicated tools. Due to the strong abstraction of specific parts, these tools cannot be used standalone. For instance, since *Aceplorer* does not model the system functional behavior, it needs an execution scenario, generated from a functional system simulation, to activate the elements of its power model and consequently evaluate the power consumption of the system. In the same way, *Hotspot* is based on the *Compact Thermal Model* [22], which defines the model of a the thermal features of the system component and their thermal influence over their neighbors. This model does not represent the system activity needed by *Hotspot* to generate the temperature layout of the system.

One current problem comes from the use of dedicated controller (e.g., the power manager of an OMAP platform [23]) whose goal is to change the functional behavior in reaction to non-functional property evolution. For instance, because the power consumption of a chip is exponentially increasing with its temperature, a power controller can choose to slow down (or to stop) a chip when its temperature is exceeding a specific threshold. In this case, the functional simulation sets the chip activity according to the chip temperature, but the chip temperature in tools like *Aceplorer* or *Hotspot* requires the chip activity. Therefore, there is a cyclic dependency between the execution of the tools that can be solved by a co-simulation of the domain specific models (or tools).

As a consequence, it is important to define a central (multi-view) model where the behavioral dependencies are made explicit. The semantics of these dependencies can thus be taken into account to coordinate the domain specific models. To specify these dependencies, we define a system-level framework where the behavioral semantics of each part takes into account its links to the other parts of the system. We focused here on the co-simulation of these models to show the benefits of the approach. This framework is named *PRISMSYS*.

III. PRISMSYS: A MODELING MULTI-VIEW FRAMEWORK FOR SYSTEMS

PRISMSYS is a multi-view framework for modeling systems, focused on the description and analysis of functional and non-functional aspects. In this framework, a view characterizes the aspects of a specific domain relevant for the system. For instance, time performance model, power model and

temperature model are different views of the same system, and they characterize aspects such as time, power consumption and temperature evolution.

Figure 1 depicts the main elements of *PRISMSYS*. A *PRISMSYS* view contains up to three sub-views: *Control*, *Structural* and *Equational*. The structural sub-view states domain specific elements, which can possibly be an abstraction of elements that exist in another view. These elements define the non-functional properties relevant from the domain point of view. The behavior of these elements is described by Finite State Machine (FSM). The FSM abstracts the operation modes of the element in a specific domain and the transitions are sensitive to events generated from the control sub-view. We use UML components to represent these elements and MARTE Non-Functional Properties (NFP) to type the properties defined in the sub-view elements. The equational sub-view specifies the equations that characterize the properties stated in the structural sub-view. We use SysML Parametric Diagram to represent the equational sub-view. The control sub-view commands the execution of the elements specified in the structural sub-view. A way to specify these views is to use *controllers*, elements which behavior is stated as a FSM. In contrast to the structural sub-view FSM, the transitions of the controller FSM are sensitive to the evaluation of a condition, *i.e.*, to a guard. Once the transition is fired, an effect is produced, sending an event to the corresponding FSM in the structural sub-view. To distinguish between both FSMs, we employ the term *mode-FSM* to reference the FSM specified in structural sub-view.

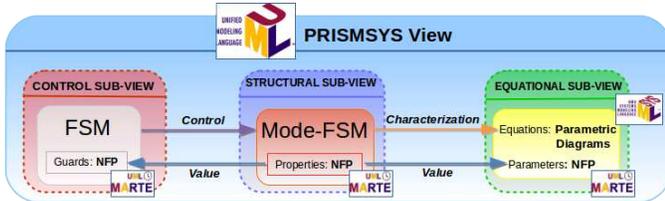


Fig. 1. *PRISMSYS* View

The consistence between different views is defined through *correspondences*. A correspondence is a syntactic association between elements of two different views, *e.g.*, the abstraction of an element from a first view characterizes this element from another point of view. Besides specifying associations between views, sub-views also own relationships between them. We named them *sub-correspondences*. For instance, *PRISMSYS* provides a state-equation association through the *characterization* sub-correspondence. This sub-correspondence was defined since it is not possible to specify when a SysML equation is active or not by activating a state in a FSM. *Equivalence* is another sub-correspondence used to bind the structural sub-views properties to the value calculated on the equational sub-view. To address the control events of the mode-FSMs explicitly, a *control* sub-correspondence must be specified. Values tested in the FSM guards are extracted from the structural sub-view properties by using the *data* sub-

correspondence.

A *PRISMSYS* view combines the execution of two kinds of MoCs: FSMs based on a discrete (logical) time, and the equations based on a Continuous Time. This MoC combination could be *homogeneous* (FSM and Mode-FSM) or *heterogeneous* (Mode-FSM and Continuous Time). To give an execution semantics to FSM, Mode-FSM, Continuous Time and the coordination between them, *PRISMSYS* defines the relevant events of the models together with constraints that specify the causal relations and synchronizations. Each relevant action in a MoC is expressed as an event and we use CCSL [24], an event constraint language, to represent the allowed sequences of actions conforming to the selected MoC.

IV. *PRISMSYS* EXECUTION SEMANTICS

PRISMSYS behaviors, which initially are described by a static definition (meta-model), need a formal way to express their actions associated with their static elements. CCSL provides the needed concepts to express the actions of these behaviors allowing the association action-element and the behavioral analysis by simulation. First, we define the FSM execution semantics. Second, we state the execution semantics in Continuous Time. Finally, we describe the coordination between FSMs and Continuous Time.

A. Constraint Clock Specification Language

Execution Semantics of *PRISMSYS* relies on the CCSL formalism. We recall briefly the basic facts on CCSL, which is presented at large in [7], [8].

In CCSL, it is possible to define *Clocks*, which are possibly infinite ordered sets of instants. These clocks represent relevant changes in a system, on which constraints can be specified. A clock can be either *chronometric* or *logical*. The former is employed to specify a constraint associated with a physical dimension like the physical time or distance. The latter defines a terminology referring to events (if events are sequences of event occurrences, as clocks are sequences of clock ticks). Distinct clocks can be independent (fully asynchronous), or partially ordered. The goal is that, after completion of design the specification represents a set of partially ordered clocks and eventually, at runtime, all clocks are mapped onto a single, most fundamental and totally ordered master clock representation simulation/execution step, but before that, designing with independent logical clocks is usually highly beneficial.

Clocks (and clock ticks) may enjoy two basic types of ordering relations: a clock is faster than another one (based on tick precedence), or a clock may be subclock of another one (based on tick simultaneity). The former relation is denoted $a \prec b$, the latter $a \sqsubset b$, where a and b are clocks. Relations, $a \equiv b$ (all ticks are simultaneous) or $a \# b$ (no ticks are common), can also be stated.

Based on those types of relations, more sophisticated constraints may be introduced. A sample is given:

- $a \sim b$: a and b tick once in turn,
- $a \blacktriangledown b$: defines a new clock that ticks with b if there was a tick of a after the preceding tick of b ,

- $a \blacktriangledown mask$: defines a new clock that is subclock of a but only ticks in a place where $mask$, a periodic binary word, reads 1.

We employ these CCSL relations and expressions to define the execution semantics of FSM, the evaluation of equations (Continuous Time) and the coordination between them. The execution semantics of finite state machine are defined on the UML metamodel by an ECL (Event Constraint Language [25]) specification. Consequently, the CCSL specification can be automatically generated for a specific FSM model.

B. Finite State Machine Semantics

In a FSM, there are various relevant events that occur during its execution. Most of the FSM concepts are associated with one or more events that describe a particular FSM execution change, *e.g.*, the entering in a state or the firing of a transition. These events are represented in CCSL by clocks. Table I summarizes the clocks defined to represent the relevant actions of a FSM.

Clock	Action
$init$	Initializing the execution of FSM
s_{enter}	Entering state s
s_{leave}	Leaving state s
$fire_{t_{ij}}$	Firing transition t_{ij} from s_i to s_j
$guard_{ij}$	Ticking once the t_{ij} guard evaluation is true
$trigger_{ij}$	Receiving a trigger event on t_{ij}
$effect_{ij}$	Generating an Event once t_{ij} is fired

TABLE I
CLOCKS REPRESENTING THE RELEVANT ACTIONS IN A FINITE STATE MACHINE.

We give a precision about the FSM model, we constrain that a transition t_{ij} is sensitive to either a $guard_{ij}$ or a $trigger_{ij}$, however not both of them. If a guard is defined, then $guard_{ij}$ clock is stated, else $trigger_{ij}$ is specified.

Once the FSM clocks are defined, we identify the constraints on these clocks to describe the FSM execution semantics. We start defining the activation of a specific state. A state is active between the corresponding entering and leaving occurrences. In other words, the state s is active when the k^{th} occurrence of s_{enter} clock ticks and it stops being active when the k^{th} occurrence of s_{leave} ticks. A state cannot be transitory, *i.e.*, the s_{enter} and s_{leave} ticks cannot be simultaneous. Moreover, a state cannot be activated if it is already active. Consequently, we use an *Alternate* relation between s_{enter} and s_{leave} in CCSL for all the states of FSM as follows:

$$s_{enter} \boxed{\sim} s_{leave} \quad (1)$$

Equation 1 is specified in ECL by an event invariant on the concepts of UML State Machine as illustrated in Figure 2.

This ECL constraint defines two properties whose type is *Event* (*enter* and *leave*) specified in the context of the *State* UML concept. The relation between both events is *Alternate*, *i.e.*, this ECL specification represents s_{enter} , s_{leave} and their relation for all the State instances in a model. While not

```

context State
def : enter : Event
def : leave : Event
inv enterOnceBeforeToLeave:
Relation Alternates(self.enter , self.leave)

```

Fig. 2. ECL specification of the UML State activation.

detailed in this paper, all the CCSL constraints were also specified in ECL in order to automate the generation of the CCSL specification for any FSM model.

According to the execution semantics of FSM [26], a transition t_{ij} from a state s_i to a state s_j is fired if two conditions are achieved: s_i is active, and either the t_{ij} guard evaluation is true or $trigger_{ij}$ ticks. However, the instant when the guard is evaluated is not specified. Because it affects the timing properties, it is of primary importance for a state machine of an embedded system to define when the guard is evaluated. In *PRISMSYS*, we explicitly define a *chronometric clock* named *eval* that specifies the period when the guard is evaluated. This clock is the same for all the guards in the system and its period must be chosen according the non-functional property dynamic (see section IV-D). Hence, when the evaluation of the t_{ij} guard condition returns true, $guard_{ij}$ occurs. Considering that s_i is active and $guard_{ij}$ ticks, then the t_{ij} transition is fired. In contrast, if a transition is sensitive to a trigger event, the t_{ij} transition is fired when $trigger_{ij}$ ticks. We specify the relationship of these clocks by using CCSL expressions. We present the CCSL constraints that define when to fire the t_{ij} transition by $guard_{ij}$:

$$fire_{t_{ij}} \boxed{=} [(s_{i_{enter}} \blacktriangledown guard_{ij}) \blacktriangleleft s_{i_{leave}}] \bullet fire_{t_{ij}}$$

this expression can be read as: a transition t_{ij} is fired if $guard_{ij}$ ticks while the state is active (*i.e.*, after a $s_{i_{enter}}$ occurrence and up to an occurrence of $s_{i_{leave}}$).

The state s_i stops being active (*i.e.*, $s_{i_{leave}}$ ticks) when one of its outgoing transitions occurs. The relationship between the leaving of a state and the firing of the outgoing transitions is specified as follows:

$$s_{i_{leave}} \boxed{=} \bigcup_{t \in t_{out_{s_i}}} fire_t$$

where $t_{out_{s_i}}$ is the set of outgoing transitions from s_i .

When a transition is fired, the targeted state is entered simultaneously, *i.e.*, entering state s_j coincides with the firing of all the incoming transitions. This is specified as follows:

$$s_{j_{enter}} \boxed{=} \bigcup_{t \in t_{in_{s_j}}} fire_t$$

where $t_{in_{s_j}}$ is the set of incoming transitions to s_j .

If the transition t_{ij} has an action, the $effect_{ij}$ clock occurs simultaneously with the transition firing. This relationship is specified by:

$$effect_{ij} \boxed{=} fire_{t_{ij}}$$

The UML state machines must have at least one initial state. We constrain them to have one and only one initial state. The clock $init$ is specified to start the FSM execution by activating

the initial state. We only need one tick in *init* to activate the initial state. Thus, we state *init* in CCSL as follows:

$$init \sqsubseteq init \blacktriangledown 1(0)^w$$

this equation forces *init* to tick only once.

The *init* clock must be associated with the initial state. Considering that s_{init} is the initial state of the FSM, we define its activation as follows:

$$s_{init_{enter}} \sqsubseteq init$$

By using these rules, we defined the event based semantics of the UML state machine. It is then possible to reason about a specific state machine and to simulate it in TIMESQUARE, obtaining a timing diagram and/or a diagram animation. It is now mandatory to define the continuous time execution semantics.

C. Continuous Time Execution Semantics

In the considered systems, non-functional properties evolution often depend on physical time. There are two main families of continuous time solvers, the fixed-step solvers and the variable step solvers. A fixed-step solver evaluates the equation of the modeled process periodically with a predefined step size. The disadvantage of such solvers is that they can hide some discontinuities in the modeled process if the step size is too big. The variable step solvers adapt the step size to the dynamic of the modeled process in order to avoid hiding such discontinuities. This is of great importance when the goal is to provide an accurate representation of the modeled process.

In our case, we model by equations the evolution of non-functional properties according to time. One important goal of this work is to allow the prototyping of non-functional property managers. Eventually, these managers will retrieve the value of the corresponding non-functional properties by using (periodic) sensors. Consequently, we do not try to obtain the best representation of the non-functional property evolution, but rather a representative view of the process at specific points in time, as seen by the managers. Therefore, we can use either fixed-step or variable-step solvers but we do not use zero crossing functionality and we explicitly specify in the UML model the point in time when the value from the process are retrieved. To ease the implementation we used for now only fixed-step solvers so that the points in time when the value from the process are retrieved are periodic and correspond to the solver fix step.

In the model, to specify the step size used by the solver, we employ a *chronometric clock* from MARTE. In CCSL, this is encoded by discretizing a dense clock (*i.e.*, a clock in which whatever pair of two instants you choose, there exists always one instant between these two instants). We use the physical time dense clock defined in CCSL and we name the discretized clock *step*. At each occurrence of *step*, the active equations specified in the model are evaluated by the continuous time solver. In CCSL, the *step* clock is defined by:

$$step \triangleq physicalTime \text{ discretizedBy } \Delta t \quad (2)$$

where Δt is the step size as defined in the UML model and used by the fixed-step solver.

Once the FSM and Continuous Time execution semantics are defined, we must coordinate the actions of both semantics to achieve a complete execution of a *PRISMSYS* view.

D. FSM and Continuous Time Coordination

We provided the event based semantics for the UML state machine (FSM) and for the SYSML parametric diagram (Continuous Time). Control and structural sub-views follow the FSM semantics and the equational sub-view follows a Continuous Time semantics. Instead of providing a tailored semantics for a new model mixing both semantics, such as in an hybrid automata [26], we propose to define the semantics of the syntactic association between the different sub-views (named sub-correspondences in *PRISMSYS*). The coordination semantics is also specified in CCSL.

In the structural sub-view, the FSM are representing some mode automata. The transition between two modes is caused by the reception of an event sent from the control sub-view. Therefore, there is a correspondence between the output events generated from the control sub-view and the events associated with the mode transitions. This correspondence is syntactically represented by control connectors between control and structural sub-views.

From the behavioral semantic perspective, a control event generated from the FSM of the control sub-view can *cause* a mode transition in the mode automata of an element in the structural sub-view. This relation can be tailored to be synchronous, purely causal or even timed. Here we chose that the sending and the reception of an event occurrence is simultaneous. By using CCSL, if an event occurrence is transferred by a control connector from a transition t_{ij} to the trigger of a mode automata ($trigger_{mode_automata}$) we enforce the following coincidence relation:

$$effect_{ij} \sqsubseteq trigger_{mode_automata}$$

we read this expression as a control event, produced during the transition in a control FSM ($effect_{ij}$), coincides with the trigger of a transition in the mode automata ($trigger_{mode_automata}$).

In *PRISMSYS*, the mode automata are used to specify the modes under which there are different distributions that govern the evolution of a non-functional property. For instance the instantaneous consumption of a CPU depends on its activity (*e.g.*, sleep, idle or active). These evolutions are specified by different equations that are enabled or not according to the active state of a mode-FSM (see section III). To represent this semantics, a mode-FSM and an equation are syntactically linked by a *characterization* sub-correspondence. When a mode becomes active (*i.e.*, clock s_{enter} ticks), the associated equation is enabled. When the mode is left, (*i.e.*, clock s_{leave} ticks), the corresponding equation is disabled. Of course, for the model to be consistent, a non-functional property should be at least defined by one equation during a run.

We have two chronometric clocks in the system. The one used for the evaluation of the guard and the one that defines the fix step of the solver. To avoid the evaluation of the guards without a new value computed by the equation, the chronometric clock used for the solver step must be the same or faster than the one used to evaluate the guards. We express this coordination in CCSL as:

$$step \boxplus eval \quad (3)$$

where *eval* is the clock whose instants command the evaluation of the guards and *step* is the fix step of the solver. If these two clocks are simultaneous, it is mandatory to evaluate the equations before the evaluation of the guards to respect the causality (even if instantaneous in this case). It guarantees that the non-functional properties used in the guards have the latest value resulting from equation evaluation.

Now that the execution semantics of *PRISMSYS* is specified, the remainder of the paper presents the associated implementation.

V. PRISMSYS MODEL CO-SIMULATION

TIMESQUARE is an Eclipse and model-based environment for the specification, analysis and verification of causal and temporal constraints. Particularly, TIMESQUARE allows defining, analyzing and verifying a CCSL specification. Nevertheless, this tool is not adapted to evaluate equations (e.g., power and temperature equations). Therefore, we use *Scilab* [10], an open source tool for numerical computation, as a fixed-step solver for the evaluation of the equations. To coordinate the TIMESQUARE solver with the *Scilab* solver, we implemented a TIMESQUARE backend that acts like a “connector” between these tools. We named it T2 BACKEND FOR SCILAB.

Figure 3 depicts an overview of this implementation. It shows three dependent domains: the one on top is the *PRISMSYS* model, detailed in Section III. The one at bottom describes the TIMESQUARE and *Scilab* co-simulation and the one in the middle defines the *PRISMSYS* semantics to execute and to coordinate the behavior of the *PRISMSYS* model. We focus in this section on the block at the bottom, the T2 BACKEND FOR SCILAB.

TIMESQUARE offers the possibility to add user-defined backends that trigger specific actions on selected event occurrences or relations. These new backends can be added to the *backend manager* by using an eclipse extension point. During a simulation, the backend manager receives the status of each clock (it ticks or not) at each simulation step. It also receives the status of relations (causality and coincidence) as well as the status of the assertions (violated or not). A developer can create its own backend that subscribes to some of these events. TIMESQUARE is already distributed with some backends like the *VCD backend* that draws the timing diagram of the clocks during the simulation and the *Papyrus Animator* that animates the elements of an UML model specified in *Papyrus*¹. Alike, by using the backend manager and connecting to the specific

extension point, we implement T2 BACKEND FOR SCILAB as an *Eclipse* Plug-in to bind the TIMESQUARE solver module with the *Scilab* solver. This back-end receives the status of the clock (it ticks or not) at each simulation *step* and consequently configures the *Scilab* solver according to the information in the UML *PRISMSYS* model and drives the *Scilab* solver to evaluate the equations during the simulation. The user can visualize the value of the non-functional properties thanks to the *Scilab* graphic window called by the *Scilab* solver.

The solver configuration consists in the extraction of different equations from the model as well as the extraction of the chronometric clock that defines the solver step size. It is mandatory for the backend to register to the entering and leaving clock of all the mode-FSM states linked to an equation in order to add or remove it from the *Scilab* solver accordingly. This backend also commands the evaluation of the guards, therefore such pieces of information must also be extracted from the *PRISMSYS* model. During the simulation, the T2 BACKEND FOR SCILAB receives the status of each relevant clocks. When an entering state (s_{i_enter}) clock ticks, T2 BACKEND FOR SCILAB adds the equation(s) associated with the active state. When the *step* clock ticks, the active equations are evaluated by the *Scilab* solver. The result of the evaluation is plotted in a *Scilab* plot window and stored in the backend. For each *step* occurrence, the guards are evaluated. If a guard is evaluated to true, T2 BACKEND FOR SCILAB forces the associated guard clock occurrence in the TIMESQUARE solver (see $guard_{ij}$ in Section IV). Such occurrences can cause a change of the *controller* state, and then a mode change. We can note that the guard evaluation is done for each *step* occurrence and not necessarily immediately when the parameter exceeds the thresholds. It emphasizes the importance to select the appropriated solver step size in order to react soon enough to the evolution of the non-functional properties.

VI. CASE STUDY: CPU THERMAL CONTROLLER

The case study shows how a thermal controller can be prototyped by using *PRISMSYS*. The temperature, a non-functional property, must be monitored in order to reduce the power consumption, extending the battery charge and fulfilling the temperature requirements. The CPU is the component on which we focus in this case study. We define a CPU multi-view model by using *PRISMSYS*. In Figure 4, we present a simplified version of the thermal view model. The figure depicts the three *PRISMSYS* behaviors (control, modes and equations).

The structural sub-view of this figure represents the abstraction of a CPU from a thermal point of view. It describes a non-functional property representing the temperature (T). The equational sub-view defines the equations that characterize the evolution of the CPU temperature. The Control sub-view specifies a *thermal controller*, which changes the activity of the CPU according to its temperature to avoid damages.

The CPU thermal behavior is represented by two modes: *COOLING* and *HEATING*. Each mode corresponds to a different temperature evolution. *COOLING* indicates the CPU

¹<http://www.eclipse.org/papyrus/>

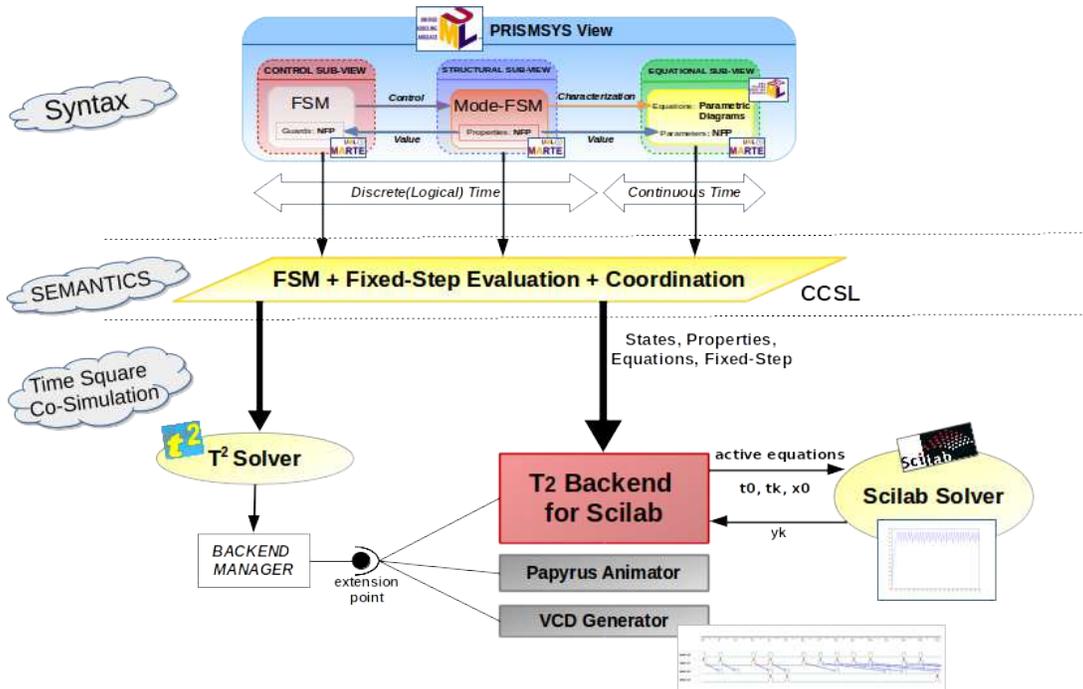


Fig. 3. T2 BACKEND FOR SCILAB Overview on a PRISMSYS thermal view case study.

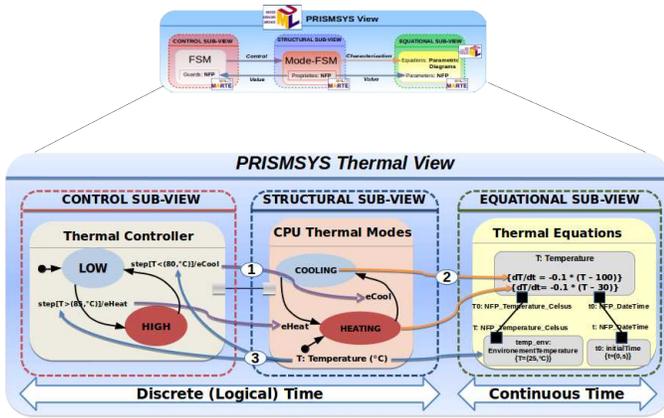


Fig. 4. Case Study: CPU Thermal Controller

temperature is decreasing. In contrast, *HEATING* means that the CPU temperature is increasing. In order to define the evolution of the temperature, an equation, specified in the equational sub-view, is associated (point 2 in Figure 4). Thus, we associate the *HEATING* mode with the equation $dT/dt = -0.1 * (T - 100)$ and the *COOLING* mode with the equation $dT/dt = -0.1 * (T - 30)$ where 100 is the temperature maximum for the CPU and 30 is its minimal idle temperature. The unit of both temperatures is $^{\circ}C$.

The change between two modes occurs when the transition between them is fired. Transitions are sensitive to associated events sent from the control sub-view (point 1 in Figure 4). The control sub-view contains a *thermal controller* whose task is to manage the temperature evolution of the CPU. The

controller behavior is another state machine of two states: *LOW* and *HIGH*. *LOW* represents that the CPU temperature is below the recommended temperature. *HIGH* expresses the temperature exceeds the maximum recommended value. In contrast to the CPU thermal FSM, the transition of the controller is sensitive to the evaluation of guards. In this case study, guards evaluate if the temperature surpasses $85^{\circ}C$ or is lower than $80^{\circ}C$ (point 3 in Figure 4). Once a transition is fired, a specific event is sent to the CPU thermal FSM in order to change its mode and thus activate the equation to be evaluated.

Figure 5 depicts the evolution (plotted in *Scilab*) of the temperature T according to the time t . When the simulation starts, *i.e.*, at $t=0$, T2 BACKEND FOR SCILAB extracts the clocks associated with modes *COOLING* and *HEATING* and the step clock. T2 BACKEND FOR SCILAB also identifies and extracts the thermal equations. In our thermal model, we assume that the ambient temperature is $25^{\circ}C$. Thus, the TIMESQUARE simulation starts at $25^{\circ}C$ and the activating *LOW* and *HEATING* states (which are the initial states) are activated. When the temperature exceeds $85^{\circ}C$, the corresponding transition is fired, the state changes to *HIGH* and the *eCool* event is sent to the CPU Thermal Modes (other events, which set the CPU activity to idle in other views, are also sent but not represented here). Such an event causes the leaving of the *HEATING* mode to enter in the *COOLING* mode, consequently deactivating the equation $dT/dt = -0.6 * (T - 100)$ and activating the equation $dT/dt = -0.6 * (T - 30)$. In the next simulation steps, the associated *COOLING* equation is evaluated and the temperature decreases. When the temperature is lower than $80^{\circ}C$, the *controller* state machine changes to the *LOW* state

and the cycle is repeated.

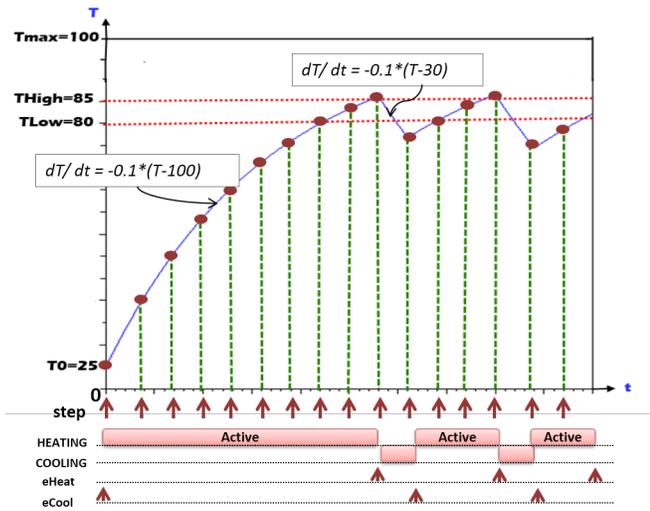


Fig. 5. PRISMSYS ThermalView simulation in Scilab by using T2 BACKEND FOR SCILAB.

In Figure 5, we note that the temperature actually exceeds somehow the threshold defined in the guard. This is due to the periodic monitoring of the temperature and the periodic evaluation of the guard. To limit such phenomenon, one could decrease the step size. However, this phenomenon has to be taken into account during the development of the system.

VII. CONCLUSION AND FUTURE WORK

In this paper, we have presented a simulation framework based on PRISMSYS to execute heterogeneous models that combine functional and non-functional views. We have focused on the execution semantics of the PRISMSYS discrete (logical) time (FSM) and its coordination with the Continuous Time model of the non-functional property equations. We have also described the implementation, T2 BACKEND FOR SCILAB, a connector between TIMESQUARE and Scilab to enable the co-simulation of discrete (logical) time and Continuous Time. A simple thermal view model is used to illustrate PRISMSYS and the execution framework. As a future work, we intend to explore further the different correspondence rules between views. Some correspondence rules are mere importation of elements from one view to another one. Other ones are closer to coordination/synchronization rules.

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