Integrating Tools: Co-Simulation in UPPAAL using FMI-FMU

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Abstract—While standalone tools for verification and modeling have proven useful, their chosen formalism and description-language can at times be restrictive. We demonstrate how to use UPPAAL SMC to analyze controller systems consisting of Function Mockup Units (FMU) modeled in other tools, such as Matlab and Modelica. Apart from supporting FMI-FMU modules the newly added C interface can call any external function. The only requirement for sound analysis is statelessness and determinism of the external function. We demonstrate the expressive power by implementing the FMI-FMU master algorithm as a timed automata, interfacing with external, non-native and non-trivial Function Mockup Units (FMU). We also model two components in UPPAAL SMC exporting one of them as an FMU while keeping the other as a native component. Furthermore we demonstrate the first simulation environment for the Function Mockup Units, capable of checking bounded MITL properties.

I. INTRODUCTION

Model-checking tools often come with support for a specific formalism, imposing restrictions on the behavior of the modeled system. Such formalisms serve the purpose of giving the system a semantics such that the behaviour of the system carries a sound and consistent meaning. In particular without a semantics, investigating the accuracy or probabilistic behavior of a system is nonsensical. At the same time, a variety of formalisms have emerged in different domains, each well suited for a specific task (eg. digital, mechanical or thermodynamic modeling), but incapable of co-simulating — that is, to obtain joint results. To remedy this, the Function Mockup Interface-standard (FMI) \cite{15} was proposed to enable domain-specific modeling tools to be used side by side when encapsulated in a Function Mockup Unit (FMU). In particular, the FMI-standard defines a protocol for how values can be communicated between FMUs by standardizing the interface-description and giving a common C-api.

However, while the FMI standard only specifies how values can be communicated, it purposely does not specify the details of how they will be communicated, calling for the development of so-called Master Algorithms (MA) for coordinating the interaction between several FMUs.

As previously demonstrated \cite{9}, the MA has an impact on the semantics of the overall system, and is thus of great importance to the overall meaning of the measures obtained. We demonstrate that our implementation of the MA will give enough simulations eventually explore all possible executions. This ensures that we will also discover cases where the ordering of events has a great impact on the outcome.

We will be implementing our approach as an extension of the statistical model checking tool UPPAAL SMC \cite{13}, thus ensuring that we have a formally defined semantics. We show that meaningful probabilistic measures can be obtained, and in particular that we can statistically verify MITL (Metric Interval Temporal Logic) properties. The work presented here extends beyond applications within the FMI-standard – we propose and implement an extension of UPPAAL that allows for calling arbitrary C-libraries during the statistical simulation. This effectively opens up UPPAAL SMC to a great number of applications – and we will argue that under statelessness of the external library, that doing so is semantically sound. By statelessness, we do not mean that the components cannot change their state, but that all relevant state information should be communicated through the FMI-FMU interface such that it is controlled by the MA. This is also required in order to retain the semantics in future settings such as classical model checking, as demonstrated in \cite{9}. External FMUs can contain stochastic behavior, but they should not contain unresolved non-determinism, as such non-determinism would not have a meaningful interpretation when simulating the system.

Notice that for FMUs we embrace the argument of Bromman et. al. \cite{6} – that it is sane to expect that components only can give a maximum delay and must accept all smaller delays.

A. Interleaving Semantics

While the work of Bogolomov et. al.\cite{9} work showcased UPPAAL as an FMU alongside SpaceEx with Ptolemy as MA, it also exposed inconsistencies in the semantics of timed automata when recomposed via the MA as opposed to internally in UPPAAL. Let us recall the example provided by Bogolomov et. al; consider the four TAs presented in Figure \ref{fig:example}. If the four TAs communicate in a pipeline pattern s.t. $A1$ outputs to $A2$, $A2$ to $A3$ and $A3$ to $A4$. Given that all TAs start in their initial location (marked by double-circle) and with clock-value $x1=x2=x3=x4=0$ nothing will happen until a single unit of time has elapsed ($x1==1$, $x2==1$, $x3==1$ and $x4==1$). After exactly one time unit (enforced by the invariants $x1<=1$, $x2<=1$, $x3<=1$ and $x4<=1$), all the automata are able to output – however, as TAs synchronize on channels ($a$, $b$, $c$, $d$, output marked by ! and input by ?), it becomes important in which order the automata synchronize. Notice here that even though all the synchronizations happen at the same instance of time, it is important to track the “happened before” relationship. Keeping this in mind, we can observe that only a single deterministic trace of the system can occur given the pipeline communication-pattern, namely that an $a!$ always will be observed followed by $c!$, implying that on all traces, eventually the product-state $A1.A & A2.AB & A3.C & A4.CD$ is reached. However, one can easily verify using UPPAAL that this is not the case. In fact, all possible permutations with at least one winner is possible, as UPPAAL implements interleaving semantics – which most definitions of NTA (Networks of Timed Automata) require.

We argue that such behavior is also important in real-life models, for instance due to a too coarse granularity on the observation of time. In particular in a probabilistic context, such under-approximation of the behavior of the system leads to erroneous probability estimates. While we do not address channel-based synchronization between FMUs in this paper, we note that similar erroneous behavior can be achieved using only integer-valued variables. For the specifics of channel based synchronization between FMUs, we refer the reader to \cite{9}.

Another known problem in modeling and simulation is that of zero-crossing; namely that it is impossible in a simulation setting to detect the exact time when a certain value crosses a zero threshold.
As mentioned in [10] this is also a problem in the context of FMI-FMU models. This is a problem that we are aware of, but that our current solution does not try to address.

B. Contributions

We demonstrate the ease with which already existing system models from Modelica can be exported as FMUs and used for verifying statistical properties of the model in UPPAAL SMC. In particular, the ability to specify a MA within a sound semantical framework facilitating probabilistic and temporal reasoning is a strength of the methods proposed in this paper. These features are essential to modeling real-world scenarios where behavior is inherently uncertain and time-dependent – such scenarios include signal noise, human interaction and general natural phenomena. As we base our approach on top of a tool that already supports the notions of time and interaction and general natural phenomena. As we base our approach on top of a tool that already supports the notions of time and probabilities, we automatically gain the analytical capabilities of this tool. While we only demonstrate the Statistical Modelchecking features of UPPAAL SMC in this paper, our proposed method of embedding FMUs as timed automata also enables classical model-checking, controller synthesis and controller learning on composed models using the more complex features of UPPAAL, UPPAAL TIGA and UPPAAL STRATEGO under some reasonable restrictions on the FMUs.

The contributions of the paper can be summarized as follows:

- Implementation of direct call of FMI-FMU modules from inside a statistical model checking tool that supports time and probabilities.
- Discussion on different semantics for FMI-FMU implementations.
- Flexible modeling of the master algorithm as a timed automaton template.
- Statistical model checking of bounded reachability of temporal logics (MITL).

C. Related Work

FMI-FMU has its origin in the European research project MOD-ELISAR. It was created specifically for integrating a wide variety of modeling tools. Industry tools that support the FMI-FMU standard include: MATLAB/Simulink, MapleSim and AUTOSAR Simulation.

In the following we try to cover recent and relevant related work that take a practical approach to co-simulating industrial systems. Pazold et al. [24] compare different approaches for simulating a HVAC system for a complete building. They conclude that a weak coupling using a co-simulation strategy using sub-models exported as FMUs is a reasonable approach. A case-study by Pedersen et. al. [23] describes how to integrate a special purpose maritime embedded system into an FMI-FMU co-simulation setting at the company MAN Diesel & Turbo.

We also find that it is relevant to look at related work that considers the semantics of the complete co-simulation system and Master Algorithm (MA).

In [18] Guermazi et al. provide a framework for co-simulating the UML models specified in Papyrus (the open-source UML/SysML modeler of the Eclipse foundation) in an FMI-FMU context. The work is build on top of the formal semantics foundation of UML (FUML [21]).

In [6] Broman et al. argue for a number of sanity conditions for a MA. In this work we deviate by 1. allowing the order of FMI/FMU-definition determine the outcome of the simulation and 2. not requiring an order on the input/output-relation. However, both properties can be ensured by modifying the proposed timed automaton template for a MA. At the same time, Broman et al. propose the getMaxStepSize-extension of the FMI-FMU standard to enable step-size negotiation between FMUs.

In [5] Bogomolov et al. argue for allowing Zero-delay step-sizes in the doStep-procedure to enable timed automata style synchronizations across FMUs – a value which is otherwise strictly disallowed by the FMI-FMU standard. This paper also discusses using Hybrid- and timed automata as FMUs and the related semantic difficulties and utilizes the step-negotiation strategy introduced in [6].

In [10] Cremona et al. introduce the concept of step revision, similar to that presented in [6], as a method for ensuring the accuracy of modeling a mix of continuous-time and discrete-event systems in an attempt to address the Zero-crossing problem.

Statistical modelchecking of Priced Timed Automata and Stochastic Hybrid Systems was introduced into the UPPAAL tool-chain by Bulychev et al. in [7], [11]. In their work they present methods and algorithms for obtaining various statistical measures over stochastic systems using expressive logics [13], [8]. While the UPPAAL SMC tool has been used in a number of case-studies [17], [12], [20], [3], [11] it previously did not facilitate co-simulation as master-algorithm using the FMI-FMU standard.

The PLASMA statistical model-checking tool [19] supports statistical analysis over a System of Systems composed of FMUs [2]. However, their work does not provide a formal semantics of the composed system or individual components, nor does it allow C-functions to be embedded directly in the model. Furthermore, the integration of FMUs in C allows for analysis, synthesis and learning using the more complex features of classical UPPAAL [4] and UPPAAL STRATEGO [13] – features that are out of the scope of this paper.

II. Semantics

We shall here describe the semantics of Timed Automata (TA), Network Of Timed Automata (NTA), Stochastic Timed Automata (STA) and Function Mockup Units (FMUs). We will then discuss a semantical embedding of FMUs into the the STA framework.
A. Stochastic Timed Automata

Formally, a TA is a finite automaton extended with a set of real-valued, time-progress-measuring counters ($\lambda$) called clocks. In addition, a TA allows for synchronization with other TAs over a finite set of so-called channels ($\Sigma$). For a set of channels $\Sigma$ we let $\Sigma_0 = \{a! | a \in \Sigma\}$ be the set of output actions over $\lambda$, while we let $\Sigma_1 = \{a? | a \in \Sigma\}$ be the set of input actions. For a set of clocks $X$ we call an element $c \in \mathbb{N}$ where $c \in X$ and $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and $\in \{ \geq, > \}$ ($\in \{ \leq, < \}$) an upper (lower) bound over $X$. Let $B^{\leq}(X) \times (B^{\geq}(X))$ be the set of all upper (lower) bounds over $X$.

We call a mapping $\nu : X \to \mathbb{R}$ for a valuation over $X$ and denote all valuations over $X$ by $V(X)$.

Definition 1 (Timed Automaton): A Timed Automaton (TA) is a tuple $A = (L, \ell_0, X, \Sigma, \to, I, R)$, where
1) $L$ is a finite set of control locations,
2) $\ell_0 \in L$ is the initial location,
3) $X$ is a finite set of clocks,
4) $\Sigma$ is a finite set of channels,
5) $A : \subseteq L \times B^{\leq}(X) \times (\Sigma_0 \cup \Sigma_1) \times 2^X \times L$ is a set of edges. We write $\ell \xrightarrow{a, \nu, d} \ell'$ for an edge where $\ell'$ is the target location, $a \in \Sigma_0 \cup \Sigma_1$ is a label, and $U \in V(X) \to V(X)$ is a partial function giving the discrete-clock updates,
6) $I : L \to B^{\leq}(X)$ is an invariant function, mapping locations to a set of invariant constraints and
7) $R : L \to X \to \mathbb{R}$ assign rates to the individual clocks in each location

Let $\nu \in V(X)$ be a valuation, $R : X \to \mathbb{R}$ give clock rates, $d \in \mathbb{R}$ be a real-valued number and let $U \in V(X) \to V(X)$ be an update-function; then we let $\nu' = U(\nu)$ where $\nu'(x) = \nu(x) + d \cdot R(x)$ and we let $\nu'' = U(\nu')$. If $g = c \geq n$ is a clock bound over $X$ and $\nu \in V(X)$ then $\nu$ satisfies $g(\nu \geq g)$ if $\nu(c) > n$. This generalizes in a natural way to a set of clock bounds.

The state of TA $A = (L, \ell_0, X, \Sigma, \to, I, R)$ is a tuple $(\ell, \nu)$ where $\ell \in L$ and $\nu \in V(X)$. From a state $(\ell, \nu)$ the TA may
1) do a timed transition $(\ell, \nu) \xrightarrow{a} (\ell, \nu')$ if $\nu' = (\nu + d \cdot R(\ell))$ and $\nu' \vdash I(\ell)$ or
2) do a discrete transitions $(\ell, \nu) \xrightarrow{a} (\ell', \nu')$ if there exists $\ell' \xrightarrow{a, \nu, d} \ell''$ such that $\nu \vdash g$, $\nu' = U(\nu')$ and $\nu' \vdash I(\ell')$.

We define a partition over the clocks of a TA into time-independent, real-valued variables ($X^a$) and time-dependent clocks ($X^d$) s.t. $X^a = \{ x \in X | \forall \ell \in L$ we have $R(\ell)(x) = 0$ and $x$ is not restricted by $I(\ell) \}$ and $X^d = X \setminus X^a$.

We define the infix-operator valuation-merge operator $\nu \odot \nu = V(\nu) \times V(Y) \to V(X) \times V(Y)$ as
$$\nu \odot \nu'' = \begin{cases} \nu'(x) & \text{if } x \in Y \\ \nu(x) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

We shall simply write $\odot$ for this operation and let $X, Y$ be implicitly defined by the given valuations.

Following the compositional framework of [13] we require that a TA for any state $s$ is
1) input-enabled i.e. for any $a! \in \Sigma_0$ there exists some $s'$ such that $s \xrightarrow{a} s'$ and
2) action-deterministic i.e. if $s \xrightarrow{a} s'$ and $s \xrightarrow{a} s''$ then $s' = s''$

Let us now define a Network of Timed Automata (NTA) with shared clocks.

a) Network Of Timed Automata: Let $A_1, A_2, \ldots, A_n$ be a TA where $A_i = (L_i, \ell_i, (X_i^a \cup X_i^d), \Sigma_i, \to_i, I_i, R_i)$ with the implicit indices ordering $1 < 2 < \ldots < n$. Let $X^a = \bigcup_{i=1}^{n} X_i^a$ be the set of shared clocks, then it holds for all $i \in \mathbb{1}, \ldots, n$ that $X_i^a = X^a$ and for all $j \in \mathbb{1}, \ldots, n$ where $i \neq j$ that $X_i^a \cap X_j^a = \emptyset$. Also let $S(A_i) = L_i \times V(X_i^d) \times V(X_i^a)$; then we define the states of the network $A_1 \parallel A_2 \parallel \ldots A_n$ to be a pair $((s_1, s_2, \ldots, s_n), \nu)$ where $(\ell_i, \nu_i) = s_i$ then $(\ell_i, \nu_i \odot \nu) \in S(A_i)$. A network may transit from $(s_1, s_2, \ldots, s_n, \nu)$ by
- a timed transition $((s_1, s_2, \ldots, s_n), \nu) \xrightarrow{a} ((s_1', \ldots, s_n'), \nu)$ if for all $i$, $(\ell_i, \nu_i \odot \nu) \xrightarrow{a} (\ell_i, \nu_i', \nu)$ where $(\ell_i, \nu_i) = s_i$, $(\ell_i, \nu_i') = s_2$, and
- a discrete transition $((((\ell_1, \nu_1), \ldots, (\ell_n, \nu_n)), \nu)) \xrightarrow{a} ((((\ell_1', \nu_1'), \ldots, (\ell_n', \nu_n')), \nu))$ if (assuming w.log. that $i = 1$)
  - $(\ell_1, \nu_1 \odot \nu) \xrightarrow{a} (\ell_1', \nu_1', \nu)$, and
  - for $j \in \{2, \ldots, n\}$ we have $(\ell_j, \nu_j \odot \nu^{-1}) \xrightarrow{a} (\ell_j', \nu_j' \odot \nu')$

Notice that the discrete transition-rule can be generalized beyond $i = 1$ by a temporary reordering of the indices.

B. Stochastic Semantics

David et al. provides the full stochastic semantics of Stochastic Timed Automata in [14]. Here the semantics is given as a series of repeated races among components making up the network. In essence, each sub-component will choose a delay in accordance with the probability distributions defined locally to that component. The component with the smallest delay will then win the race and gets to do a discrete step – again chosen according to a local distribution. However, this discrete step can synchronize with neighboring components, possibly altering their internal state. This procedure is then repeated over and over.

In the semantics the delays are chosen as follows: if the possible delays are bounded, the distribution is a uniform distribution between the minimal delay before some action is possible and the maximal delay where a delay is still possible.

Formally, we assume there for any state $s$ of any TA $A$ exists a delay-density $\delta^a : R \to \mathbb{R}$ and a probability mass function $\gamma^a : \Sigma_0 \to \mathbb{R}$. Naturally we will require these functions to be “sane” in the sense that they do not assign probability mass (density) to impossible actions (delays) i.e. $\gamma^a(a! \neq 0$ $\delta^a(a!) \neq 0$ implies $s \xrightarrow{a} s'$ ($s \xrightarrow{a} s'$).

Let $\omega = a_1 a_2 \ldots a_n$ be a finite sequence of output-actions: then we define the probability of a network $A_1 \parallel \ldots A_n$, generating the sequence from state $s = (s_1, \ldots, s_n)$ recursively by Equation [1] where $s_i \xrightarrow{d} s_i$, $s \xrightarrow{i} s'$, $\omega^1 = a_1 \ldots a_n$ and base case $F_i(\epsilon) = 1$.

C. Function Mockup Unit

Similar to Broman et al. [6], we shall here define the semantics of a single FMU as a (timed) state machine. For simplicity, we shall in the definition ignore the types of the variables, and assume wlog. that they all are reals.

Definition 2: An FMU is a tuple $F = (S, \text{init}, V, \text{set}, \text{get}, \text{doStep})$ where
- $S$ is a set of states,
\[ F_s(\omega) = \sum_{i=0}^{m} \left( \int_{t>0} \delta_{s}^{A_i}(t) \cdot \prod_{j \neq i} \left( \int_{t>\tau} \delta_{s}^{A_j}(t) d\tau \right) \cdot \gamma_{s}^{A_i}(\alpha_{s}^{A_i} \cdot F_{s'}(\omega') dt) \right) \]  

(1)

- \( init \in S \) is the initial state,
- \( V \) is a set of variable names,
- \( set : S \times \mathbb{R}^\mathbb{D} \rightarrow S \) is a value-setter function,
- \( get : S \times V \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \) is a value-getter function and
- \( doStep : S \times \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \rightarrow S \) is the time-progression function.

For a given FMU \( F_s \), the exact semantics is defined by the underlying implementation, and we shall hence only focus on the interaction with STAs.

**Definition 3:** A stochastic FMU is a tuple \( F_s = (S, V, set, get, doStep, P) \) s.t.

- \( S, V, set, get, doStep \) are defined as for a regular FMU and
- \( P : S \rightarrow \{0,1\} \) is the probability that \( F_s \) starts in \( s \in S \) and we have that \( 1 = \sum_{s \in S} P(s) \).

Let \( F_s \) be a stochastic FMU, then we let \( \text{pick}(F_s) = (S, init, V, set, get, doStep) \) where \( init \in init_s \) is the initial state chosen according to \( P \) – by agreement for a non-stochastic FMU we let \( \text{pick}(s) = 1 \) where \( init_s = \{s\} \) and \( P(s') = 0 \) for all other \( s' \neq s \).

Notice here that our extension of FMUs with stochastic has the probabilistic choices resolved once; this construction is both practically and theoretically sound. In practice, such a construction can be ensured by using seeded pseudo-random number generators. Here the seed is chosen at random initially, leading to a subsequent determined execution. In a theoretical setting, similar generative constructions have been used to define the semantics of probabilistic programs – for instance for the semantics of the IBAL language as proposed by Pfeffer et al. in [24].

It is easy to see that the semantics of an FMU fits well within the stochastic semantics for NTA as the standard specifies a collection of (complex) update-functions over a state – which in turn can be encoded as a real. However, as FMUs have no notion of discrete-update labels, to correctly embed an FMU into an NTA, we shall in the next section describe one way of encapsulating an FMU within a single STA, such as to make it compatible with the NTA framework.

III. EXTENSION OF UPPAAL

To facilitate the import of FMUs in UPPAAL, we have extended UPPAAL with a construct for loading dynamic C libraries at runtime. External C functions in UPPAAL look and act exactly like regular functions in UPPAAL and only their declaration differ by the additional import environment – an example of the new syntax can be seen in Figure 2. We shall here discuss the type-conversions between the C-like language in UPPAAL and actual C. Furthermore we introduced the type string for string constants and the type ptr_t for holding pointers to external data—a type with its binary defined by, and dependent on, the hardware platform UPPAAL is executing on and functionally equivalent to size_t known from regular C. Lastly, to facilitate single-initialization of external libraries, we have introduced the void __ON_CONSTRUCT__() and void __ON_DESTRUCT__() – that if existing, will be called upon model-initialization and de-initialization respectively, but not for each proposition given to UPPAAL. These can be defined at a global scope as well as in the scope of each individual TA.

### TABLE 1: The type-conversion between UPPAAL and C.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UPPAAL type</th>
<th>C type</th>
<th>By Value</th>
<th>Return</th>
<th>Array</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>bool</td>
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<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<tr>
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<td>const char</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>double</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<tr>
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<td>double</td>
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<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>int</td>
<td>int32_t</td>
<td>✓</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>string</td>
<td>const char</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>&lt;type&gt;[]</td>
<td>&lt;type&gt;</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A. Type Conversion

To maintain sanity during simulation some restrictions on the types being transferable between UPPAAL and external functions are in place. Currently, the types bool, chan, clock, double, ptr_t int and string can be used in external functions, omitting complex types constructed using the struct keyword as well as two, and more, level arrays. A chart of the type-conversion to C and other restrictions are given in Table 1. We further emphasize some significant differences from linking directly between C programs and working calling external functions from UPPAAL.

- A bool variable in UPPAAL is either zero or one—as such, any function returning bool will return 0 if the C-function called returned 0, and 1 otherwise.
- const is enforced, implying that any variable sent as const, even if sent as an array or by reference, will not have its value changed in the UPPAAL environment—regardless of the behavior of the C-function called.
- Each import-statement has a private scope, as exemplified by Figure 2.
- Integers in UPPAAL can be given a bounded range. If this range is violated – either when values are sent by reference or returned – the model is said to have violated model-sanity, causing a runtime error.

Utilizing this extension of UPPAAL and the FMI-standard, we will implement a co-simulation-algorithm directly as a timed automaton.

IV. FMI/FMU IN UPPAAL

The FMI/FMU standard, version 2.0 is a standard for conducting co-simulation between different simulation environments. While the standard also supports “Model Exchange”, we shall here focus only on co-simulation.

To conduct co-simulation using the FMI/FMU standard, one needs only two components: (1) A master algorithm controlling the overview and coordination of the composed simulation and (2) one or more FMUs for the master-algorithm to coordinate and facilitate communication between. This approach shows its strength by outsourcing the heavy computation of the simulation to specialized tools while maintaining a global overview and coordination of the
stepping from FindMin delay synchronize on either by Bogolomov et. al [5]), after which it will wait for the MA to
could be computed by more complex functions, such as proposed
Ready synchronizing with all FMUs at once, s.t. each FMU moves from
...

Fig. 2: Scoping rules of external libraries when loading into UPPAAL. Each import-statement creates a new environment – this implies that
the variable a has two logical instances, a_{left} and a_{right} where incleft and getleft references a_{left} while incright, getright and
getright2 references a_{right}.

composed system at any time. An example of such a composed
system, using UPPAAL as a FMU for timed automata, was presented
by Bogolomov et. al [5]. In general the MA is imposed on top of
the system, enforcing a semantics particular to the given MA. In our
work, we instead embed the external FMUs as timed automata. This
allows us to reuse standard, well-defined, timed automata semantics,
allowing us to construct a shallow MA, ensuring only that the
FMI/FMU communication protocol is respected. In particular, from
this approach, we adopt the so-called Interleaving Semantics.

A. Master Algorithm and FMUs as Timed Automata

The TAs used for implementing the MA in UPPAAL and importing
FMUs into UPPAAL are shown in Figure 3a and Figure 3b respectively.
Let us walk through the computation of a single simulation
step in the composed model. Initially, observe that
• the state of each FMU is encoded in the comp variable,
• time is a variable tracking the time progressed since the beginning
of the simulation,
• x is a variable tracking the time since the last simulation step,
• step is an array containing all the proposed step-sizes and
• cnt is a variable tracking the number of FMUs that have
completed a given stage of the MA – initially set to zero.

Initially the MA (depicted in Figure 3a) and each FMU (depicted
in Figure 3b) Negotiate and Initial-states. As the MA is waiting for
ready signals from the FMUs, all the FMUs will (in random
order), call the initialize-function, abbreviating the setup function
calls specified in the FMU standard. After initialization, each FMU
will move from the OK location to the Ready location – and while
doing so, synchronize with the MA on the ready channel. This forces
the MA to wait until all FMUs have reached the Ready-located. At
this point, the MA is forced to move from Negotiate to FindMin,
synchronizing with all FMUs at once, s.t. each FMU moves from
Ready to Delay. This makes each FMU propose the step-size (which
could be computed by more complex functions, such as proposed
by Bogolomov et. al [5]), after which it will wait for the MA to
synchronize on either delay, won[1d] or get. The MA will now,
stepping from FindMin to Waiting, choose the minimal proposed
step-size and let time progress by the given amount. Whenever
time has progressed exactly \( \text{minstep} \) time-units, the MA will with
even probability determine a “winner” in between FMUs proposing
exactly \( \text{minstep} \) time-units as the delay. If the delay is non-zero,
the MA will synchronize on the delay channel, in which case all
the FMUs will end up in the Delayed location, ready to receive a
synchronization on get. If the delay is zero, only the winning FMU
will progress to the Delayed location while the remaining FMUs will
await further synchronization. From the Delayed location, each FMU,
upon synchronization with the MA on get, will call the appropriate
getter-functions defined in the FMU-standard, synchronizing the data-
arrays in UPPAAL with those in the external FMU. Notice here that if
a zero-delay occurred, some FMU will have won, and all the losing
FMUs will at this point in time move from the Delay to the ZeroDelay
location – implying that data is not fetched from the losing FMUs
as it cannot have changed since the last call to GetValues(). At this
point in a simulation-step the MA has reached the Transfer location
while all the FMUs are in the Got location. Here each FMU will,
in random order according to a uniform distribution, transfer their
local values (synchronized with the external FMU) to other FMUs in
the system. The randomness here plays a key part in implementing
interleaving semantics, as two FMUs can write to the same variable
in a third FMU, effectively yielding a race-condition. Again, if we
are in the special case of a zero-delay, only the winning FMU will
transfer its values. Until all FMUs have moved to the Transferred
location, the MA will wait in the Transfer location. Eventually the
MA will be able to move from Transfer to the Negotiate location,
triggering all the FMUs to move from Transferred to OK, pushing
the updated values to the individual FMUs. This completes the cycle
of a single step in the total simulation.

While our implementation here focuses on a specific MA, one can
easily extend and test different MA algorithms within this framework.
In [5], the authors restrict their MA to impose an ordering of the
value-transfers between the FMUs – such a restriction could be
implemented by imposing an order on each FMU, and checking if
this order is respected for each FMU when synchronizing on dosync.
In a similar manner, interoperability between different versions of the
FMU/FMI standard can be achieved by adapting the general template in
Figure 3b.
V. CASE STUDY

To demonstrate our approach we shall construct a model of three small houses sharing a single heating unit. Each house is composed of two rooms which each individually can be heated. Heat can be transferred between the two rooms, but as the houses are placed apart, heat is not transferred between the houses. The shared heating unit is only capable of heating a single room at any point in time – furthermore, it takes some time for the heating unit to be transferred from one house to another.

A. How to model one house

Each single house is modeled using OPENMODELICA and entirely composed of standard components. The entire model of a house can be seen in Figure 4. Here each of the rooms have a heat-capacity of 2649600 J K and the wall between the rooms have a thermal conductivity of 6.4 W K. At the same time, each of the rooms are affected by the outside temperature, here separated by slightly better insulated walls but with a larger surface-area with a thermal conductivity of 27.20 W K in total. As it can be seen from Figure 4, the house receives three inputs; in_room1, in_room2, and in_outside for the influence of the heater in either of the rooms and the influence of the (ever changing) outside temperature. As outputs, the two temperature-converters troom1 and troom2 give us the variables out_room1 and out_room2. We will not consider the inner dynamics of the room, but simply view a room as a single mass with a heat-capacity. OPENMODELICA supports the export of models as Co-Simulation FMUs – in the case of our model from Figure 4, we get an FMU with three real-valued inputs in_room1, in_room2 and in_outside (in Watts, Watts and degrees Celsius respectively) as well as the two outputs in degrees Celsius.

B. A Controller as a Timed Automaton

The controller is implemented using UPPAAL timed automata and can be seen in Figure 5. Let us informally introduce the notation used for UPPAAL timed automata; circles denote locations and arrows denote edges. The key feature of the timed automata is the clock construction; variables that all progress at the same rate and track time. Each location can be labeled with an invariant, colored purple – a predicate that must evaluate true when the TA is in the given location. Locations can also be marked with U or C for urgency and committed urgency – forcing immediacy (and prioritized immediacy), implying that time cannot elapse when the TA is in the given location. In Figure 5 we can see that the Heating location is marked by a double-circle, indicating that it is the initial location. Edges can be labeled with select-statements (yellow), guards (green), updates (blue) and synchronizations (turquoise) where

- select-labels duplicate the single edge into multiple instances, one for each value possible in the declared type,
- guard-labels must evaluate to true for the edge to be admissible,
- update-labels can reset clocks and update variables declared using the C-language,
- synchronization-labels allows two or more TAs in the same system to move in unison when one is outputting (eg. a!) and multiple are inputting (a?) on the channel a.

Notice here that we only use the broadcast synchronization – for a given channel a, any TA is free to output a! (if allowed by a guard), and all other TAs which can receive a? must do so.

Aside from standard TA features, UPPAAL supports a C-like language for complex constructions – including variable-declarations, function-calls and such.

The controller shown acts in a bang-bang manner; given a target-temperature for each room (the tgt array), it randomly assigns the heating unit (the heat array) to any room with a temperature (the temp array) lower than or equal the target-temperature (right edge). If all rooms have reached their target-temperature, we can take the left edge, heating no room. When taking the right edge, if the controller...
The bang-bang controller implemented in UPPAAL. The controller samples the values of the system each 60 time units and chooses at random to heat a room in a house where the measured temperature is lower than the set-temperature of the given room (right-hand side transition). If no such exist, no room is heated (left-hand side transition). Whenever a room and house is chosen, if the house differs from previous choice, the controller will wait TRANS TIME between heating one room and another.

decides to change the house being heated, a delay will incur between turning of the heater in one house and turning on the heater in another house. This is controlled by the variable wt which forces our controller to let time progress in the Wait-location (due to the combination of the invariant $t = wt$ and the guard $t = 0$) – but only if the chosen house differs, determined by the in-line if $wt = (oh = h)?0 : TRANS TIME$. Here one can also see the select-statement in action; an edge is created for each value in the type $\text{house}_t (h \in \{1, 2, 3\})$ and each value in $\text{room}_t (r \in \{1, 2\})$ – allowing for a concise description.

C. Composition of models

With the house and controller modeled, we can now focus on composing the entire system. Our system, as illustrated by Figure 6, aside from three houses and the controller includes the weather – giving the outside temperature. For simulating the weather, we here assume a simple sinus-curve with a frequency of 24 hours, oscillating between 4 and 20 degrees Celsius. We can also see from Figure 6 that the houses have no direct interaction with each other, and are only indirectly communicating via the temperatures they report and the choices of the controller.

Each of these individual components (even UPPAAL models [5]) can be exported as Co-Simulation FMU’s – and thus composed into our system from Figure 6 using existing tools. However, as our initial controller exhibits randomness, we would like to answer the questions: What is the expected minimal and maximal temperatures of any room? and: If a room becomes too cold, will it become heated again within two hours?

These questions both contain probabilistic measures over continuous time – and thus are not answerable by current tools. To remedy this, we below propose an extension of the Statistical Modelchecker UPPAAL SMC that allows for dynamically linking and calling arbitrary C-functions from inside the tool – a feature that facilitates Co-Simulation of FMU’s.

VI. EXPERIMENTS

This section presents the experiments that we perform on our case study when using the controller presented in Figure 5. In this example, all the components are exported into FMUs and recomposed in UPPAAL given the framework presented in Section IV – including the controller. We shall consider the model presented in Section V and demonstrating three different features of UPPAAL SMC; Simulation, Estimation and Statistical Modelchecking.

The composed model, FMUs and extended version of UPPAAL SMC for 64-bit Linux-systems can be found at [http://people.cs.aau.dk/~pgj/UPPAAL_FMIFMU.zip](http://people.cs.aau.dk/~pgj/UPPAAL_FMIFMU.zip). Notice that the extended version of UPPAAL SMC includes functionality to export timed automata as FMUs as presented by Bogolomov et al. [5]. We also provide a prototype tool for embedding FMUs into a UPPAAL-importable timed automata for ease of use.

A. Simulation

In Figure 7 one can observe the results of executing following query in UPPAAL

\[
\text{simulate } 1 [\leq 3600 * 24 + 7] \{ h1\_output[0], h1\_output[1], \\
h2\_output[0], h2\_output[1], \\
h3\_output[0], h3\_output[1] \}
\]

This proposition monitors the temperatures of each house over a period of seven days for a single simulation. As expected, initially our controller rapidly heats the coldest rooms in all of the houses. We can also observe that the temperature of the rooms after the first day is kept within a 19 to 22 degrees window in the current setting.

B. Estimation

However, such a single simulation does not quantify over the probabilistic behavior of our system – one might be interested in knowing
the expected maximal and minimal temperatures (disregarding the 
first day as our rooms are in an abnormal state).

Such a measure can be achieved by the following propositions.

\[
E[<=3600\times24\times7;100] \text{(min: mintemp())}
\]

\[
E[<=3600\times24\times7;100] \text{(max: maxtemp())}
\]

Here mintemp and maxtemp are functions defined in UPPAAL 
C computing the minimum and maximum of the temperatures of 
all the rooms. The proposition computes the estimated minimal 
(resp. maximal) value of the expression over the course of a weeks 
simulation – and it does so on the basis of 100 simulations.

As we can see in Figure 8, the performance of our constructed 
controller is fairly stable. Both the minimal and maximal temperature 
of any room stays (on average) within 18.9 degrees and 21.3 degrees 
Celsius. However, while the average peak temperature is stable at 
21.3 degrees with less than a tenth of a degree span on the observed 
values, the minimal temperature over a week was observed to vary 
by more than a degree across all runs.

C. Statistical Modelchecking

While the estimation and simulation propositions provide some 
quantitative measure on different metrics of the system, we can use 
the statistical model-checking features of UPPAAL SMC to reason on 
the probabilistic behavior of our system.

Let us try to quantify the fairness of our controller; what is the 
probability that the temperature difference between the coldest room 
and the hottest room is greater than two degrees Celsius after the 
first day? This we can express as follows.

\[
\Pr (<=3600\times24+7) \text{ } (\langle \rangle \text{time } > 3600\times24 \& \& 
\text{maxtemp() – mintemp()} >= 2)
\]

As we can observe in Figure 9 there is a fairly high chance (more 
than 50%) that the temperature difference between the coldest and 
hottest room will grow beyond two degrees within a week.

We can also construct more complex propositions using the tem-
poral MITL-logic. As we already know, the set-temperature cannot 
be respected in general in our example – however, we might be able 
to accept deviations as long as they are not for extended periods of 
time. We therefore construct the following proposition capturing: 
after the first day, can it ever happen that if the second room of the 
first house has a temperature below 20 degrees for more than two 
hours at a given time.

\[
\Pr (<=[86400,604800](\text{1}[0,7200](h1_\text{output}[1] < 20)))
\]

We can observe in Figure 10 that this property is not surely 
satisfiable. Already in the second day of the simulation there is more 
than 10% chance that the controller will not be able to recover from 
a threshold-violation within two hours. We can also observe that this 
tendency seems to be repeating every night of our simulation.

VII. CONCLUSION

In this paper we demonstrated the ease with which FMI-FMU 
models exported from other tools can be integrated into the setting of
Uppaal SMC. We provide the flexibility of modeling different Master Algorithms (MAs) in a sound semantical framework facilitating probabilistic and temporal reasoning.

We believe that the possibility of using already existing domain models is essential in order to facilitate the use of formal methods in industrial systems, as the correct re-modeling of entire systems is a very time consuming exercise. The expressiveness of the modeling language available in Uppaal SMC allows for the efficient modeling of real-world scenarios with inherently uncertain and time-dependent behaviour – such as signal noise, human interaction and general natural phenomena. Thus this paper aims to make recent advances in statistical model checking and statistical validation of systems available for use in an industrial setting.

VIII. Future Work

Adding the possibility of calling arbitrary C-libraries during statistical simulation opens up for a number of new applications. This is true both for Uppaal SMC and the related tool Uppaal STRATEGO.

We consider the option of utilizing Uppaal STRATEGO to perform controller synthesis for heterogeneous FMI-FMU systems as the most promising direction. This would make it much easier to generate optimized controllers using machine learning for systems being developed using other modeling tools. With the current approach all components in the system must be re-modeled in Uppaal STRATEGO.

Calling external C-libraries can also be applied within the domain of classical model-checking in Uppaal. Here there is the added restriction that the external calls can only be used to update the discrete variables and not the clock variables. On top of statelessness we also require that the external FMUs are strictly deterministic for the model checking to be semantically sound. For application of this in a non FMI-FMU setting see [9].

REFERENCES


