

Quality Assurance in Model-Driven Software Engineering for Spacecraft

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Knowledge for Tomorrow

Motivation and Outline of the Study

Motivation

- Improve S/W PA for model-driven development by measuring model quality with model metrics
- Early evaluation/detection of:
 - Flaws in specification
 - Functional requirements
 - Non-functional requirements (Maintainability, Reusability etc.)

Outline of the PATAS study

- One year study
- Development of product quality model with software and model metrics
- Implementation of an end-to-end model-driven software engineering lifecycle demonstrator, based on TASTE [6]
- Evaluation of the demonstrator with mission-critical parts of the onboard S/W of a satellite mission, being modelled and subsequently coded
- Improvement of model-driven S/W PA at ESA





Workflow of PATAS study



MBSD Lifecycle Demonstrator Design

Workflow

- 1. Define computation independent PUS, communication data and communication test model
- 2. Refine platform independent model in TASTE Interface View
- 3. Generate code skeletons from TASTE Deployment View
- 4. Test-driven implementation of OBSW

Applied standards and methodologies

• ECSS PUS [9], OMG Model-driven Architecture standard [7], Modelbased testing taxonomy [8], TASTE inherent standards [10]

Use case

- Parts of ACS, ONS and CDH of an actual small satellite mission of DLR
- Targeting lab quality (x86), no flight H/W
- Project lifecycle from S/W-PDR to S/W-CDR



Model Metrics





ID	Model Metric Name	Applicable Sub-characteristic
MM-01*	Adherence to Modelling Conventions	Modularity, Completeness, Self-descriptiveness, Conciseness, Balance, Correctness
MM-02	Interaction Diagram Coverage	Completeness, Balance
MM-03*	Model Type Instance Weight	Complexity, Balance
MM-04*	Model Coupling	Modularity, Complexity, Balance
MM-05*	Model Type Instances per Use Case	Modularity, Complexity, Balance, Conciseness
MM-06*	Use Cases per Model Type Instance	Modularity, Complexity, Balance, Conciseness
MM-07*	Lines of model code	Complexity, Balance, Self-descriptiveness
MM-08*	Model comment frequency	Complexity, Balance, Self-descriptiveness
MM-09*	Low of Functional Cohesion	Modularity, Complexity, Balance
MM-10	Module Fan-in / Fan-out	Modularity, Balance

PaTaS model metrics overview



*Detailed description can be found in the appendix of this presentation

Model Metrics Interaction Diagram Coverage MM-02

Description

• Evaluation of coverage by counting of model type instances of a system model, used in a behavioral test model [2]

Purpose

- Supports requirements implementation coverage and structural coverage S/W metric with test case generation
- Provides support to increase the fault tolerance of the S/W, by showing the coverage of fault handling components
- A high *IDC* value can indicate low functional cohesion
- *IDC* = 0 raises the question about the general purpose of the component

Α	В	С	D
>=1	>=1	>=1	>=1

IDC threshold per criticality level*



Model Type Instance	IDC Value
Function1	3
Function2	1
Function3	3

IDC results for above example



Model Metrics Interaction Diagram Coverage MM-02

All Mission Scenarios	Used Model Type Instance	Usage value	
PUS Application	ACS	208	
PUS Service	ACS-Service-1	125 🧹	
PUS SubService	s1-1-acceptance	52	Increased usage of service 1
PUS SubService	s1-2-acceptance-failure	12	
PUS SubService	s1-3-execution-started	9	
PUS SubService	s1-4-execution-started-failure	2	
PUS SubService	s1-7-execution-complete	39	
PUS SubService	s1-8-execution-complete-failure	11	
PUS Service	ACS-Service-2	36	
PUS SubService	s2-2-parameter-load-command	12	Reveals fault tolerance test
PUS SubService	s2-5-parameter-dump-command	12	
PUS SubService	s2-6-parameter-dump-report	12	case coverage
PUS Service	ACS-Service-3	15	
PUS SubService	s3-2-defining-new-diagnostics-parameter-reports	1	
PUS SubService	s3-4-clear-diagnostics-parameter-report-definitions	1	
PUS SubService	s3-7-enable-diagnostics-parameter-report-generation	1	
PUS SubService	s3-8-disable-diagnostics-parameter-report-generation	1	
PUS SubService	s3-11-request-diagnostic-parameter-report-definitions	1	
PUS SubService	s3-18-select-periodic-diagnostic-parameter-report-generation- mode	1	
PUS SubService	s3-20-select-filtered-diagnostic-parameter-report-generation- mode	1	All model type instances are use
PUS SubService	s3-129-select-triggered-diagnostic-parameter-report- generation-mode	1	at least once
PUS SubService	s3-2-aocs-diagnostic-report	1	
PUS SubService	s3-26-aocs-diagnostic-data-report	1	
PUS SubService	s3-12-diagnostic-parameter-report-definitions-report	1	
PUS SubService	s3-25-aocs-housekeeping-report	4	
PUS Service	ACS-Service-8	32	
PUS SubService	s8-1-aocs-tc-set-pwr	8	
PUS SubService	s8-1-aocs-tc-unlock-pwr	8	
		1	

Excerpt of IDC metric result of ACS*







Model Metrics Module Fan-in / Fan-out MM-10

Description

- Fan-in: local flows into a model type instance [4]
- Fan-out: local flows out of the specific model type instance
- Expressiveness can be further improved when combined with other metrics, e.g. Model Type Instance Weight

Purpose

- High *FIN or FOUT* indicates high complexity of the system and monolithic design, making it hard to maintain and reuse
- Complexity of a procedure depends on the complexity of the control flow in the procedure and of the procedure's connection

Α	В	С	D
<20	<25	<25	<30

Module FIN / FOUT threshold per criticality level*



Small TASTE IV example function

Model Type Instance	FIN Value	Model Type Instance	FOUT Value
Func_1	2	Func_1	3
Func_2	1	Func_2	2
Func_3	2	Func_3	0
FIN res	sult	FOUT res	ult





Model Metrics Module Fan-in / Fan-out MM-10

						Weight
PUS_Application	Module Fan-In	PUS_Application	Module Fan-Out	Reveals	ACS	392.0
ACS	11.0	ACS	21.0			
ONS	15.0		32.0	Service 1 only		/2.0
CDH	8.0	CDH	3.0	has TM		Madula
				capabilities		Type
PUS_Service	Module Fan-In	PUS_Service	Module Fan-Out		PUS_Service	Instances Weight
ACS-Service-1	0.0	ACS-Service-1	6.0		ACS-Service-1	33.0
ACS-Service-2	2.0	ACS-Service-2	1.0		ACS-Service-2	15.0
ACS-Service-3	8.0	ACS-Service-3	4.0	Combination	ACS-Service-3	308.0
ACS-Service-8	11.0	ACS-Service-8	0.0	reveals high	ACS-Service-8	36.0
ONS-Service-1	0.0	ONS-Service-1	6.0		ONS-Service-1	33.0
ONS-Service-3	0.0	ONS-Service-3	2.0	complexity	ONS-Service-3	72.0
ONS-Service-8	32.0	ONS-Service-8	3.0		ONS-Service-8	172.0
ONS-Service-150	0.0	ONS-Service-150	3.0	Combination	ONS Service 150	
ONS-Service-5	0.0	ONS-Service-5	1.0	Combination		<u> </u>
CDH-Service-1	0.0	CDH-Service-1	6.0	reveals high		
CDH-Service-3	0.0	CDH-Service-3	1.0	complexity		
CDH-Service-8	3.0	CDH-Service-8	1.0		CDH-Service-3	3.0
		[1		CDH-Service-8	36.0

Result of Fan-in and Fan-out metrics*



Reveals overall data flow direction and correlating message sizes Result of Model Type Instance Weight metric*

PUS Application

* All results are preliminary and represent the state at the 22. August 2017



Module Type

Instances

Quality Model and Mapping of Metrics

- Quality Model is a factor-criteria-metrics model
- Mapping formulae for model to S/W metrics
 - **Nested** A software metric is nested in a model metric, determining and subsequent handling special points of interest

- Complementary Combination of model and S/W metric to derive a quality verdict
- Independent Model and S/W metric are alone standing
- Further formulae possible
- Also combinations of model and model metrics or S/W and S/W metrics possible

Req. ID	Characteristic	Sub-	Model Metric (ID)			Software Metric (ID)				Mapping	
		characteristic	Α	В	С	D	Α	В	С	D	Formulae
REU-01	Reusability	Modularity	Model Coupling C (MM-04) (\$		Cyclomatic Complexity (SWM-04)			Nested			
			<10	<15	<20	<25	<10	<10	<15	<20	
MAN-06	AN-06 Maintainability Modularity M		Model Type Instances per Use Case (MM-05)		Modularity Size Profile (SWM-06)			e	Complementary		
			<9	<11	<13	<15	<5	<5	<5	<7	





Conclusion

P#T#S

Remarks

- *Finding optimal thresholds* for model metrics takes further evaluation/usage
- The *balance* of the model metric result is already a *strong indicator*
- *Model metrics have to be tailored* under consideration of the used standards and modelling methods/tools
- Model metrics shall also measure requirements/constraints coverage
- *Automatic evaluation* mostly requires the usage/definition of a computation independent model, targeting the problem domain
- **Single-view model metrics are not meaningful** when conducting model-driven development, as the source code can also be evaluated with existing tools



Workflow of PATAS study

Further Steps

- Try to *define a generic model metric notation* to describe (model) metrics
- *Investigate the collected use-case data* to find beneficial model and S/W metric combinations
- Write *final recommendations* for ECSS standards



Thank you for your Attention









References



[1]	S. R. Chidamber and C. F. Kemerer, "A Metrics Suite for Object Oriented Design," IEEE Trans. Softw. Eng., vol. 20, no. 6, pp. 476-493, #jun# 1994.
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[4]	S. Henry and D. Kafura, "Software Structure Metrics Based on Information Flow," IEEE Transactions on Software Engineering, Vols. SE-7, no. 5, pp. 510-518, Sept 1981.
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[7]	J. M. Joaquin Miller, MDA Guide Version, 2003.
[8]	J. Zander, Model-based testing for embedded systems, Boca Raton, FL: CRC Press, 2012.
[9]	ECSS E-70-41C APRIL 2016, SPACE ENGINEERING - TELEMETRY AND TELECOMMAND PACKET UTILIZATION (HTTP://WWW.ECSS.NL)
[10]	TASTE framework (https://taste.tuxfamily.org)



Appendix

Content

- Adherence to Modelling Conventions MM-01
- Model Type Instance Weight MM-03
- Model Coupling MM-04
- Model Type Instances per Use Case MM-05
- Use Cases per Model Type Instance MM-06
- Lines of model code MM-07
- Model comment frequency MM-08
- Low of Functional Cohesion MM-09
- Overview of used S/W metrics







Model Metrics

Adherence to Modelling Conventions MM-01

Description

- Guidelines for the model, like naming conventions, consistency rules etc. [5]
- Such conventions are equivalent to coding guidelines
- Have to be adapted to the modelling tools, as some conventions are fulfilled by default (e.g. each message corresponds to method in TASTE)
- Difficult to get tool-support for automatic evaluation

Purpose

- Increases maintainability as well as reusability
- Especially good for graphical modelling languages, as it creates overview

А	В	С	D
100%	100%	100%	100%

Adherence to Modelling Conventions threshold per criticality level*

Sub Characteristic	ID	Convention	Checked [Date]
Conciseness	1	Every model type instance has to have a unique name.	TBD
Conciseness	2	The name of model type instance should explain its functionality.	TBD
Balance	3	All use-cases should cover a similar amount of functionality.	TBD
Completeness	4	All model type instances that interact with other model type instances shall be covered by at least one sequence diagram.	TBD
Completeness	5	Each use case must be described by at least one sequence diagram.	TBD
Consistency	6	Each message must correspond to a method (operation).	TBD

Example model convention list



Model Metrics Model Type Instance Weight MM-03

Description

• Accumulation of all model type instances, "owned" by a model type instance, considering a model type specific weight factor, determined by any indicator of complexity [1]

Purpose

- A high *MTIW* value, indicates complexity, which complicates testing, maintaining and reusing
- Threshold value depends on the used indicator to determine complexity of the "owned" model type instances
- Could be improved when considering also the range of an ASN.1 datatype

Model Type	А	В	С	D
PUS Application	<250	<350	<450	<550
PUS Service	<50	<70	<90	<110

MTIW threshold per criticality level*



Small TASTE IV example function with correlating ASN.1 interface parameters

Specific model element	Weight-factor ω_k
Sequence/Choice (ASN.1)	2
Simple Datatype (ASN.1)	1

Applied weight-factor and formula

Interfaces	MTIW value of Function_1
Interface1	2+1 = 3
Interface2	2+(2+1+1)+(2+1) = 9
Total	12
	MTIW result





Model Metrics Model Coupling MM-04

Description

- Coupling of a model type instance is determined by the count of other coupled model type instances [1]
- A coupling weight can be introduced in case communication can be differentiated in the model

Purpose

- Evaluation of complexity, reveals complexity hot spots for later software implementation
- High coupling results in monolithic misbalanced model/software, hindering re-usage and effective maintenance, due to side effects among components

Α	В	С	D
<10	<15	<20	<25

Model Coupling threshold per criticality level*



Small TASTE IV example function

Func_1	
Connected Model Type Instance	Model Coupling Value
Func_2	3
Func_3	2
Total	5

Model Coupling result investigating Func_1



Model Metrics Model Type Instances per Use Case MM-05

Description

• Amount of model type instances per use case has to be counted. Here, a use case is the implementation of a test for a software requirement [3]

Purpose

- Determines complexity, modularity, balance and conciseness of the system
- In case of a high *MTIpUC* count, a change in the requirement has a great impact on the system design and implementation; And it indicates low functional cohesion, as functionality is spread over many model elements.
- It also determines how well balanced and detailed the requirements are and how good the specification fits to the requirements

Α	В	С	D
<9	<11	<13	<15





MTIpUC threshold per criticality level*





Model Metrics Use Cases per Model Type Instance MM-06

Description

• Counting the amount of use cases per model type instance. Here, a use case is the implementation of a test for a software requirement [3]

Purpose

- A high *UCpMTI* count, the cohesion of the model type instance might be low and errors in the software implementation might have a broad effect on the overall system
- Helps to focus on heavily used components of the onboard software, which can then be further analyzed manually or with specific software complexity metrics

UCpMTI threshold per criticality level*



2

Function1

Function2

Function3

UCpMTI result

TASTE MSC use_case2

msg from function1





Model Metrics Lines of model code MM-07

Description

• Counting the number of model lines per model file (excluding comments and blank lines)

Purpose

- Indication of the model complexity, balance and selfdescriptiveness
- Too large model files reduce the overview and therefore maintainability and reusability

Α	В	С	D
<300	<350	<400	<500

LOMC threshold per criticality level*



Example Data Testing and Verification Language model





Model Metrics Model comment frequency MM-08

Description

- Ratio between number of model comment lines and lines of model code plus number of model comment lines
- In case of model-driven S/W development with readable source code as output, comments could be transferred additionally

Purpose

• To increase the self-descriptiveness, maintainability, reusability of the model



Model comment frequency threshold per criticality level*



Example PUS model with comments





Model Metrics Low of Functional Cohesion MM-09

Description

• Determining the similarity of instances of a specific type, by investigating the model type instance's interfaces, through which it is communicating [1]

Purpose

- High similarity of model type instances of a specific type, indicates high functional cohesion of that type
- High functional cohesion increases the maintainability and reusability
- *LoFC* values can range between 1.0 and 2.0



LoFC threshold per criticality level*



Small TASTE IV example, displaying three service instances

Application #	Α	В	X=A/B
1	5	3	1.67
2	5	4	1.25
3	5	4	1.25
Mean (X)		1.39	
1 - 50			

LoFC result



Software Metrics Overview of the measured software metrics



PaTaS software metrics overview





Preliminary Model Metrics Formula





Preliminary Model Metrics Formula Cont'd

Model Metric	Description of Formula
Module Fan-in	It is necessary to count the used references of a specific model type instance owned by a module. Consider a module A and a global set of <i>i</i> references to model type instances R of a specific model type; Let $\{UR_j\}$ = set of used model type instances of a module A_j . Then, the Fan-in value FIN_x for a specific module A_x is: $FIN_x = \{\sum_{k=0}^{i} R_k \mid R_k = \{ \begin{array}{c} 1 \ if \ R_k \in UR_x \\ else \ 0 \end{array} \} \}$
Module Fan-out	Consider a module A and a global set of <i>i</i> references to model type instances R; Let $\{UR_j\}$ = set of referenced model type instances of a specific module A_j . Then, the Fan-out value $FOUT_x$ for a specific module A_x is: $FOUT_x = \{\sum_{k=0}^{i} R_k \mid R_k = \{ \begin{array}{c} 1 \text{ if } R_k \in UR_x \\ else 0 \end{array} \} \}$
Interaction Diagram Coverage	Consider a model type instance <i>E</i> of a specific model type and <i>n</i> mission scenario <i>MS</i> ; Let $\{UE_j\}$ = set of used model type instances of mission scenario <i>MS</i> _j . There are <i>n</i> such sets $\{UE_1\}$,, $\{UE_n\}$. Let $P = \{(UE_i, E) UE_i \cap E \neq \emptyset\}$ if all <i>n</i> sets $\{UE_1\}$,, $\{UE_n\}$ are \emptyset then let $P = \emptyset$. $IDC_E = \sum_{k=1}^{n} P_k $ with <i>n</i> being all mission scenarios; Informal, this means that the usage of model type instances of a specific type, have to be counted in all mission scenarios.

PXTXS



Preliminary Model Metrics Formula Cont'd







