



VDM Tutorial

John Fitzgerald, Newcastle University



AARHUS
UNIVERSITY



VDM Background

- Our goal: well-founded but accessible modelling & analysis technology
- VDMTools → Overture → Crescendo → Symphony
 - Pragmatic development methodologies
 - Industry applications
- VDM: Model-oriented specification language
 - Extended with objects and real time.
 - Basic tools for static analysis
 - Strong simulation support
 - Model-based test



INTO-CPS



VDM (Vienna Development Method)



- A formal method for specification of software
- Three flavours
 - VDM-SL (Specification Language)
 - VDM++ adds object-orientation
 - VDM-RT adds real-time features (clock and deployment)
- Model-oriented specification language
 - Simple, abstract data types
 - Invariants to restrict membership
 - Functional specification:
 - Implicit specification (pre/post)
 - Explicit specification (functional or imperative)

VDM-SL Module Outline

```
module <module-name>
```

```
imports
```

```
exports
```

```
...
```

Interface

```
definitions
```

```
state
```

```
types
```

```
values
```

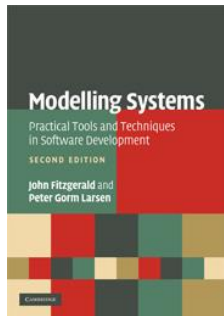
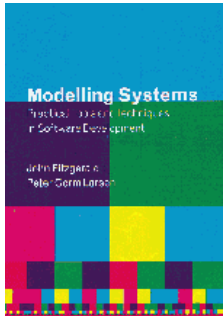
```
functions
```

```
operations
```

```
...
```

Definitions

```
end <module-name>
```



VDM++ Class Outline

```
class <class-name>
```

```
instance variables
```

```
...
```

} Internal object state

```
types
```

```
values
```

```
functions
```

```
operations
```

} Definitions

```
thread
```

```
...
```

} Dynamic behaviour

```
sync
```

```
...
```

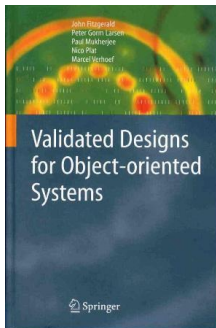
} Synchronization control

```
traces
```

```
...
```

} Test automation support

```
end <class-name>
```





Data Types

• Basic types

- Boolean
- Numeric
- Tokens
- Quote types
- Characters / String

```

Type      Values
flag: bool := false;
nat1 := 1, 2, 3, ...
nat      0, 1, 2, ...
id: token := mk_token (5);
int      mk_token(1, ken")
<RED>
real     seq of int
letter: char := 'a', 'b', 'c', ...
name: (seq of char) := "verify"

```

• Compound types

- Set types
- Sequence types
- Map types
- Product types
- Record types
- Union types
- Optional types

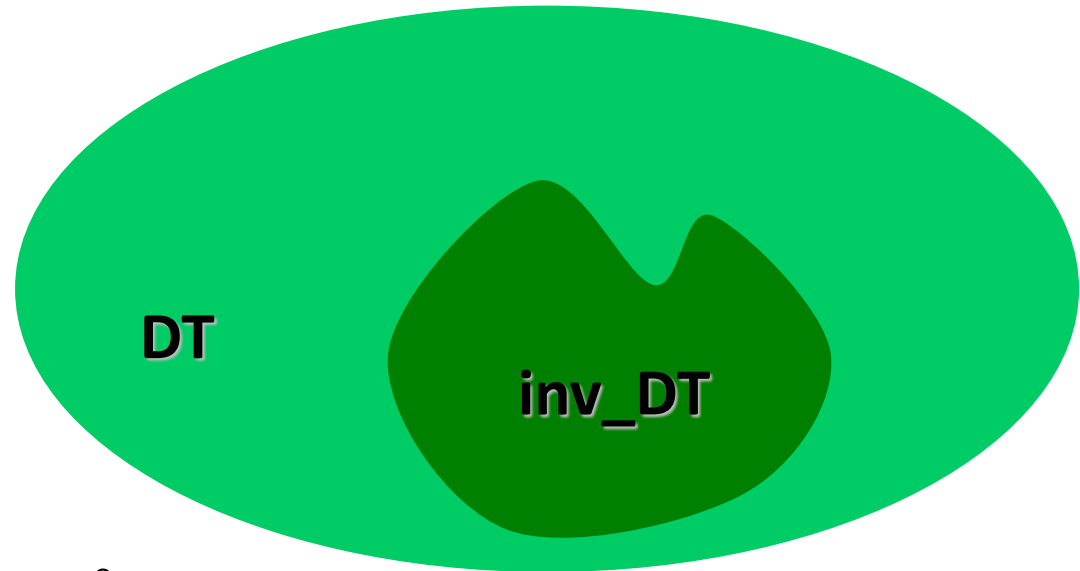
```

s: set of int := {1, 5, 8, 3};
1: in set s int true
s: seq of int := [1, 5, 5, 8, 3];
m: map int to real := {1 |-> 3.14};
m(1) = 3.14
Pair := nat real;
Pair := mk (1, 3.14);
x: Pair := mk (1, 3.14);
x.#1 = 1
x.#2 = 3.14
Colour := mk <RED> | <GREEN> | <BLUE>;
x: Colour := <RED>
Type = nat | nil

```



Type Invariants



Even = **nat**

inv $n == n \bmod 2 = 0$

SpecialPair = **nat** * **real** - the first is smallest

inv $mk_ (n, r) == n < r$

DisjointSets = **set of set of** A

inv $ss == \text{forall } s1, s2 \text{ in set } ss \ \& \ s1 <> s2 \Rightarrow s1 \text{ inter } s2 = \{\}$



Set Types

- Unordered collections of elements
- One copy of each element
- The elements themselves can any type
- e.g.
 - `set of int`
 - `{1, 5, 8, 3};`
 - `{}`



Overview of Set Operators

<code>e in set s1</code>	Membership (\in)	<code>A * set of A -> bool</code>
<code>e not in set s1</code>	Not membership (\notin)	<code>A * set of A -> bool</code>
<code>s1 union s2</code>	Union (\cup)	<code>set of A * set of A -> set of A</code>
<code>s1 inter s2</code>	Intersection (\cap)	<code>set of A * set of A -> set of A</code>
<code>s1 \ s2</code>	Difference (\setminus)	<code>set of A * set of A -> set of A</code>
<code>s1 subset s2</code>	Subset (\subseteq)	<code>set of A * set of A -> bool</code>
<code>s1 psubset s2</code>	Proper subset (\subset)	<code>set of A * set of A -> bool</code>
<code>s1 = s2</code>	Equality ($=$)	<code>set of A * set of A -> bool</code>
<code>s1 <> s2</code>	Inequality (\neq)	<code>set of A * set of A -> bool</code>
<code>card s1</code>	Cardinality	<code>set of A -> nat</code>
<code>dunion s1</code>	Distr. Union (\cup)	<code>set of set of A -> set of A</code>
<code>dinter s1</code>	Distr. Intersection (\cap)	<code>set1 of set of A -> set1 of A</code>
<code>power s1</code>	Finite power set (\mathbb{P})	<code>set of A -> set of set of A</code>



Sequence Types

- Could also be called lists
 - Not fixed length like Java arrays
- Ordered collections of elements
- Numbered from 1 (not 0 like Java)
 - Access element with () and not [], e.g. `list(1)`
- Multiple copies of each element allowed
- The elements themselves can be any type
- e.g.
 - **`seq of int; seq1 of int`** (non-empty)
 - `[1, 5, 5, 8, 1, 3]; []`

Overview of Sequence Operators



<code>hd l</code>	Head	<code>seq1 of A -> A</code>
<code>tl l</code>	Tail	<code>seq1 of A -> seq of A</code>
<code>len l</code>	Length	<code>seq of A -> nat</code>
<code>elems l</code>	Elements	<code>seq of A -> set of A</code>
<code>inds l</code>	Indexes	<code>seq of A -> set of nat1</code>
<code>l1 ^ l2</code>	Concatenation	<code>seq of A * seq of A -> seq of A</code>
<code>conc l1</code>	Distr. conc.	<code>seq of seq of A -> seq of A</code>
<code>l(i)</code>	Seq. application	<code>seq1 of A * nat1 -> A</code>
<code>l ++ m</code>	Seq. modification	<code>seq1 of A * map nat1 to A -> seq1 of A</code>
<code>l1 = l2</code>	Equality	<code>seq of A * seq of A -> bool</code>
<code>l1 <> l2</code>	Inequality	<code>seq of A * seq of A -> bool</code>



Mapping Types

- Unordered collections of pairs of elements (maplets) with a unique relationship
 - mapping keys to values
 - like Python dictionary
- The elements themselves can be any type
- e.g.
 - `map int to real`



Overview of Mapping Operators

dom m	Domain	$(\text{map } A \text{ to } B) \rightarrow \text{set of } A$
rng m	Range	$(\text{map } A \text{ to } B) \rightarrow \text{set of } B$
m1 munion m2	Merge	$(\text{map } A \text{ to } B) * (\text{map } A \text{ to } B) \rightarrow$ $(\text{map } A \text{ to } B)$
m1 ++ m2	Override	$(\text{map } A \text{ to } B) * (\text{map } A \text{ to } B) \rightarrow$ $(\text{map } A \text{ to } B)$
merge ms	Distr. merge	$\text{set of } (\text{map } A \text{ to } B) \rightarrow \text{map } A \text{ to } B$
s <: m	Dom. restr. to	$\text{set of } A * (\text{map } A \text{ to } B) \rightarrow \text{map } A \text{ to } B$
s <-: m	Dom. restr. by	$\text{set of } A * (\text{map } A \text{ to } B) \rightarrow \text{map } A \text{ to } B$
m :> s	Rng. restr. to	$(\text{map } A \text{ to } B) * \text{set of } A \rightarrow \text{map } A \text{ to } B$
m :-> s	Rng. restr. by	$(\text{map } A \text{ to } B) * \text{set of } A \rightarrow \text{map } A \text{ to } B$
m(d)	Map apply	$(\text{map } A \text{ to } B) * A \rightarrow B$
inverse m	Map inverse	$\text{inmap } A \text{ to } B \rightarrow \text{inmap } B \text{ to } A$
m1 = m2	Equality	$(\text{map } A \text{ to } B) * (\text{map } A \text{ to } B) \rightarrow \text{bool}$
m1 <> m2	Inequality	$(\text{map } A \text{ to } B) * (\text{map } A \text{ to } B) \rightarrow \text{bool}$



Specifying Behaviour

- Specifications in terms of post-conditions define a contract

```
sqrt(x: nat) r: real
post x = r * r
```

← Implicit definition, not executable

- Explicit version

```
sqrt: nat -> real
sqrt(x) == Math.sqrt(x)
```

← Explicit definition can be executed

- Pre-condition and post-conditions

```
sqrt: int -> real
sqrt(x) == Math.sqrt(x)
pre x > 0
post x = RESULT * RESULT
```

A Simple Controller Class

```

class Controller

instance variables

private measured: RealPort;
public setpoint: real;
protected err: real;
output: RealPort;

operations

public Step: () ==> ()
Step() == (
  m := measured.getValue();
  err := setpoint - m;
  output.setValue(P(err));
);

functions

private P: real -> real
P(err) == err * Kp

values

Kp = 2.0

thread

periodic(2E7, 0 , 0 , 0)(Step);

end Controller
  
```

COE
synchronises
these to
other models

- Divided into sections (e.g. instance variables, operations, etc.)
- Inheritance supported
 - `class Controller is subclass of Parent`
- Objects created with
 - `new Controller`
- Constructors also similar to Java
 - `public Controller: real * real ==> Controller`
`Controller(a,b) == (`
 `x:= a;`
 `y := b`
`);`
- Sections can be repeated and mixed
- Comments are
 - Two dashes: `-- comment`
 - Or: `/* block comment */`



Instance Variables

```
class Controller

instance variables

private measured: RealPort;
public setpoint: real;
protected err: real;
output: RealPort;

operations

public Step: () ==> ()
Step() == (
  m := measured.getValue();
  err := setpoint - m;
  output.setValue(P(err));
);

functions

private P: real -> real
P(err) == err * Kp

values

Kp = 2.0

thread

periodic(2E7, 0 , 0 , 0)(Step);

end Controller
```

- Give the state of the object
- Note syntax for giving the type
 - `private double measured;`
 - `private measured: real;`
- Visibility similar to Java (added here for illustration only)
 - Defaults is private is no visibility given
- Can be assigned when defined



Functions

```
class Controller

instance variables

private measured: RealPort;
public setpoint: real;
protected err: real;
output: RealPort;

operations

public Step: () ==> ()
Step() == (
  m := measured.getValue();
  err := setpoint - m;
  output.setValue(P(err));
);

functions

private P: real -> real
P(err) == err * Kp

values

Kp = 2.0

thread

periodic(2E7, 0 , 0 , 0)(Step);

end Controller
```

- Are pure
 - No side effects
 - Cannot access instance variables
- No return keyword, defined with expressions that return the correct type
- Useful for auxiliary / helper calculations
- Note signature above definition
 - `real * int * bool -> real`
- No loops, must use functional programming techniques
 - Can call other functions



Operations

```

class Controller

instance variables

private measured: RealPort;
public setpoint: real;
protected err: real;
output: RealPort;

operations

public Step: () ==> ()
Step() == (
  m := measured.getValue();
  err := setpoint - m;
  output.setValue(P(err));
);

functions

private P: real -> real
P(err) == err * Kp

values

Kp = 2.0

thread

periodic(2E7, 0 , 0 , 0)(Step);

end Controller

```

- Similar to functions, but...
 - Can access instance variables / have side effects
 - Are imperative like Java
 - Can use while, for loops etc.
 - Must use **return** keyword when returning a value
- Can call other operations and functions
- Can define local variables but only at the start
 - Step() == (
 - dcl** x: **real** := 0;
- Note parentheses () not {}
- Note different arrow to function
 - **real** * **int** * **bool** ==> **real**



Values

```

class Controller

instance variables

private measured: RealPort;
public setpoint: real;
protected err: real;
output: RealPort;

operations

public Step: () ==> ()
Step() == (
  m := measured.getValue();
  err := setpoint - m;
  output.setValue(P(err));
);

functions

private P: real -> real
P(err) == err * Kp

values

Kp = 2.0

thread

periodic(2E7, 0 , 0 , 0)(Step);

end Controller

```

- Used to define constants
- Note = is used, not :=
- Do not need a type
 - but can have one
Kp: real = 1.24;
- Can be set as *Shared Design Parameters*
- Are static, can be accessed from other classes (if public)
 - Controller`Kp



Threads

```

class Controller

instance variables

private measured: RealPort;
public setpoint: real;
protected err: real;
output: RealPort;

operations

public Step: () ==> ()
Step() == (
  m := measured.getValue();
  err := setpoint - m;
  output.setValue(P(err));
);

functions

private P: real -> real
P(err) == err * Kp

values

Kp = 2.0

thread

periodic(2E7, 0 , 0 , 0)(Step);

end Controller

```

- Threads are defined in the class
- Definition could be operation call; will run once
 - thread
Step();
- Or a loop
 - thread
while true do Step();
- Starting
 - ctrl: Controller := new Controller();
start(ctrl)
- Or a special, periodic definition (as on the left)
 - will call Step operation once every 2e7 nanoseconds (20 milliseconds; 0.02 seconds; 50Hz)



The HardwareInterface Class

```
class HardwareInterface
```

```
values
```

```
-- @ interface: type = parameter, name="minlevel";
```

```
public minlevel : RealPort = new RealPort(1.0);
```

```
-- @ interface: type = parameter, name="maxlevel";
```

```
public maxlevel : RealPort = new RealPort(2.0);
```

```
instance variables
```

```
-- @ interface: type = input, name="level";
```

```
public level : RealPort := new RealPort(0.0);
```

```
instance variables
```

```
-- @ interface: type = output, name="valveState";
```

```
public valveState : BoolPort := new BoolPort(false);
```

```
end HardwareInterface
```



The System Class

```
system MySystem

instance variables

-- controller
public static ctrl: Controller;

-- Hardware interface variable required
-- by FMU Import/Export
public static hwi: HardwareInterface :=
    new HardwareInterface();
-- CPU
private cpu: CPU; := new CPU(<FP>, 1E6)

operations

public MySystem: () ==> MySystem
MySystem() == (
    ctrl := new Controller();
    cpu.deploy(ctrl)
)

end MySystem
```

- Special class for CPU and deployment
- Can only define instance variables and a constructor
- CPU speed in (simulated) MIPS
 - getting a model within ~20% of the real thing is typically “good enough”



The World Class

```
class World

operations

-- run a simulation
public run: () ==> ()
run() == (
    start(System`ctrl);
    block();
);

-- wait for simulation to finish
block: () ==> ()
block() == skip;
sync per block => false;

end World
```

- Entry point for code execution
- Start threads and wait for end of simulation



Concurrency

- Concurrency in VDM-RT is based on threads
- Threads communicate using shared objects
- Synchronization on shared objects is specified using permission predicates
 - **sync**
per <operation name> => predicate
 - Operation is blocked when the predicate is false
 - **mutex** (A, B)
 - History counters

#req op	The number of times that op has been requested
#act op	The number of times that op has been activated
#fin op	The number of times that op has been completed
#active op	The number of active executions of op
#waiting op	The number of waiting executions of op

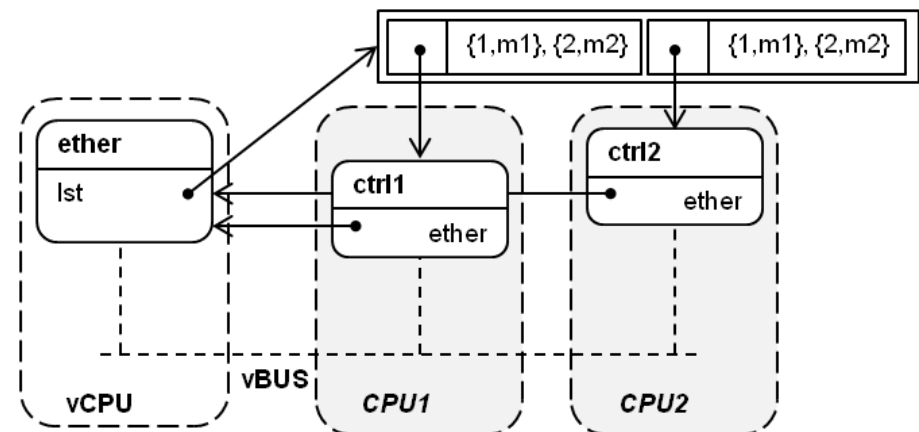
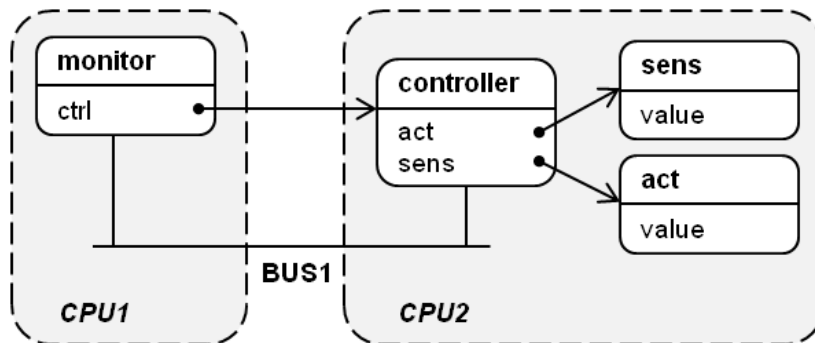


VDM-RT Features (1)

- VDM-RT has extensions for modelling real-time systems
- An internal clock
 - in nanoseconds from simulation start
 - accessible with the **time** keyword, e.g.
 - **dcl** now: **real** := **time**/1e9 -- time in seconds
- **All** expressions advance the clock
 - default is two simulated cycles
 - Can be altered with **cycles**(number) (expression) or **duration**(number) (expression)
 - Cycles used to compute duration

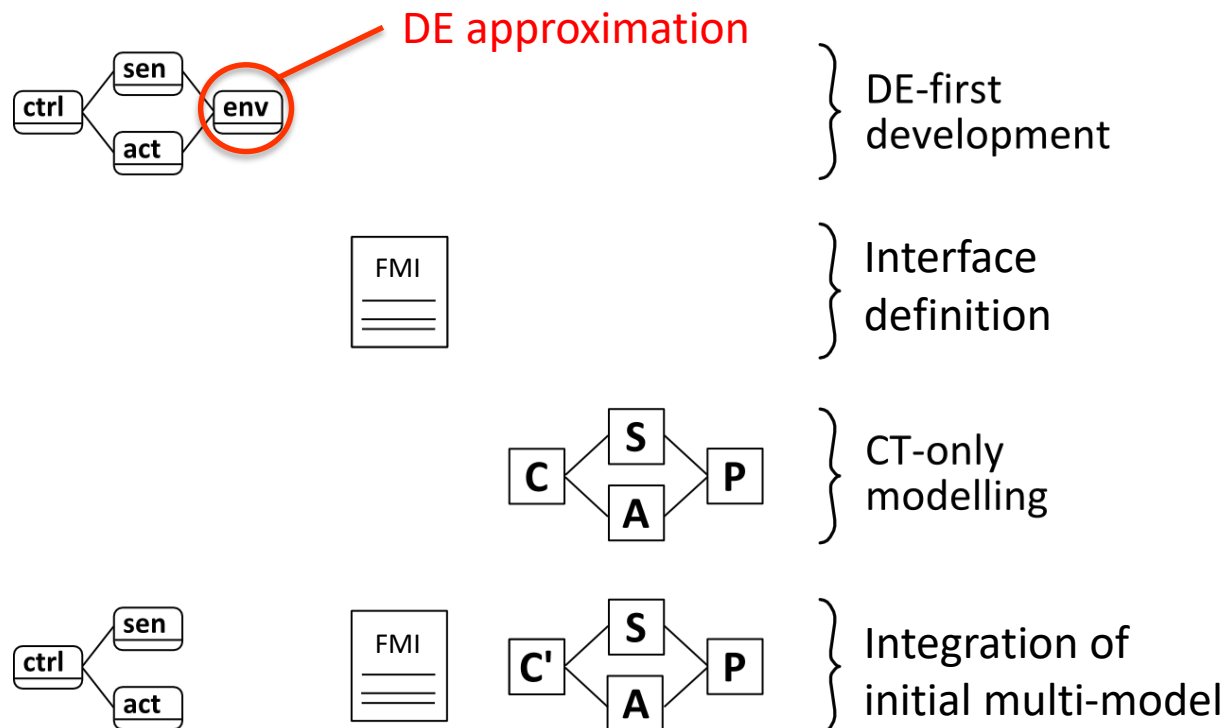
VDM-RT Features (2)

- Also models of CPUs and BUSES to try to model real code execution
 - objects are “deployed” to CPU with a given speed
 - execution duration depends on the modelled CPU speed
 - also a virtual CPU that doesn’t advance the clock



DE-first Modelling

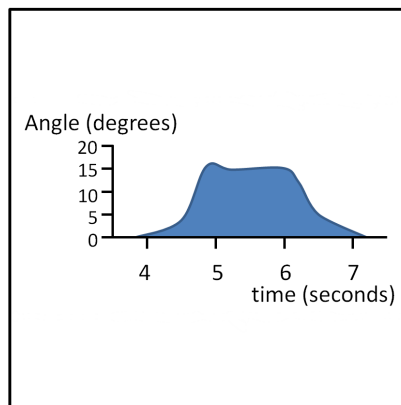
- DE-first (DE-only) model:
 - Controller, sensor and actuator classes
 - *Environment model*



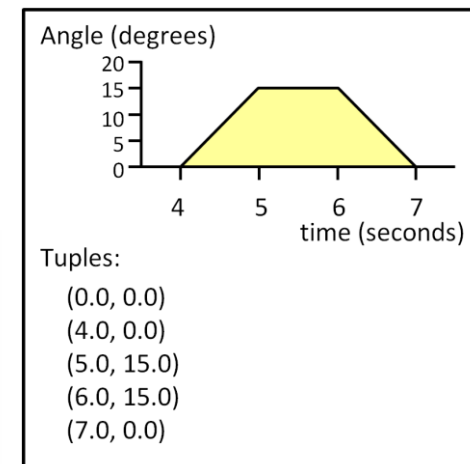
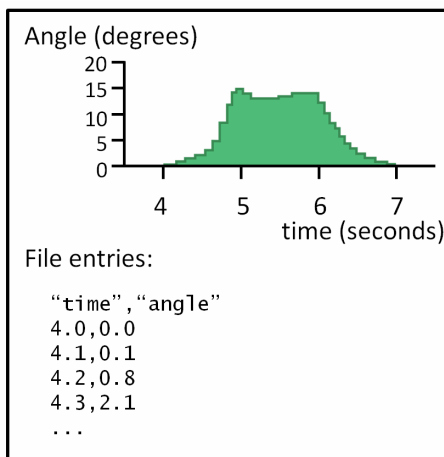
Approximating CT Behaviour

- Linear approximations
- Simple integration:


```
position = position + velocity * dt;
velocity = velocity + acceleration * dt;
```
- Approximation of non-linear behaviour



Data input

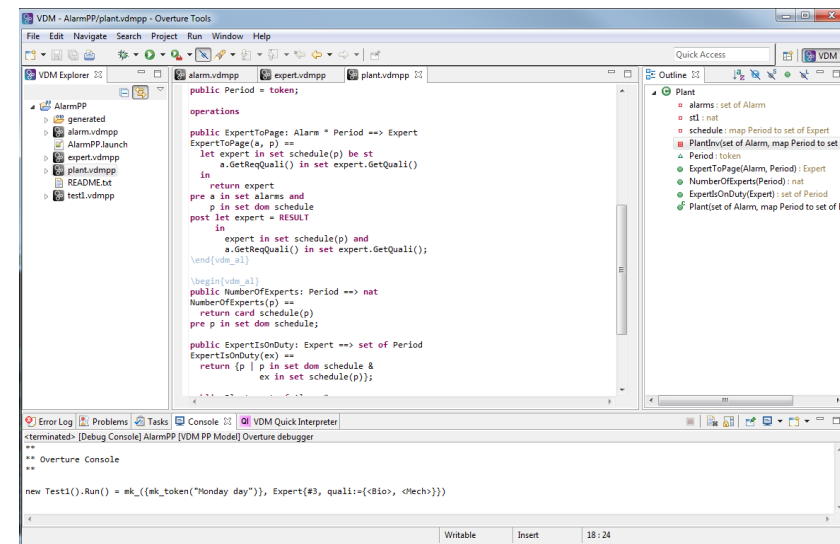


Tuples



The Overture Tool

- Open-source tool for analysing VDM models
- Eclipse/Java based
- Current stable version 2.5.4 (November 2017)
- Visit us at <http://overturetool.org/>
 - Useful references
 - Examples can be imported
 - Language manual
 - Tool users manual
 - Install the FMI Exporter
 - Install the C code generator



Overview of the Tool Features (1)

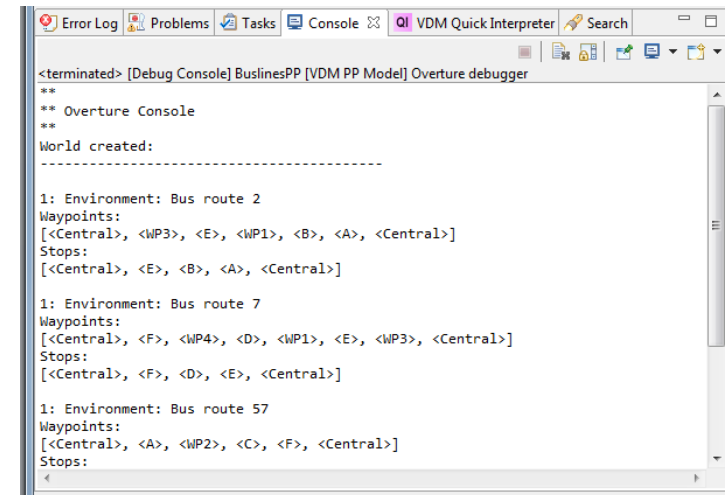


- Simulation of VDM models
 - Debugging
 - Combining VDM with executable code
- Model validation
 - Static analysis (e.g. type-checking)
 - Unit testing
 - Adding visualisation to a VDM model
 - System-level timing constraints (VDM-RT trace viewer)
- Realising a VDM model
 - Generate Java, C from subsets of VDM dialects

Overview of the Tool Features (2)



- VDM standard libraries
 - IO: For file and console input/output
 - CSV: For working with CSV-based data
 - MATH: Provides commonly used math functions
 - VDMUnit: A unit testing framework for VDM
 - VDMUtil: For converting between VDM values

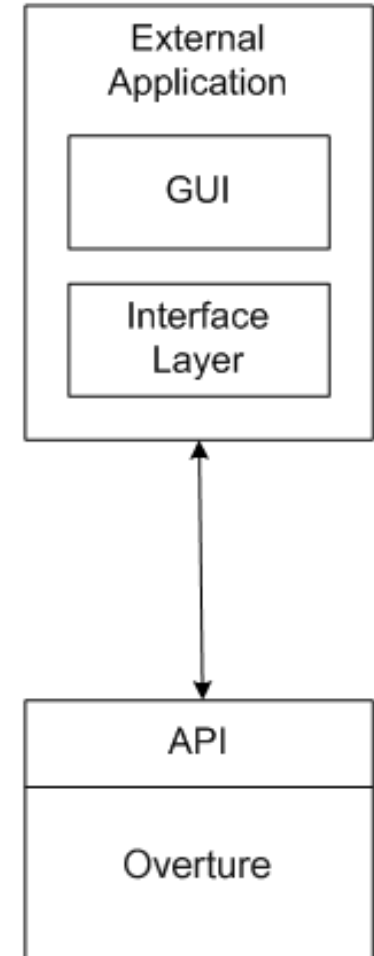
A screenshot of the 'VDM Quick Interpreter' window in a software application. The window has a title bar with 'VDM Quick Interpreter' and a search icon. Below the title bar is a toolbar with icons for Error Log, Problems, Tasks, Console, and VDM Quick Interpreter. The main area displays a text-based output from a debugger. The text starts with '<terminated> [Debug Console] BuslinesPP [VDM PP Model] Overture debugger' followed by '*** Overture Console ***'. It then shows 'World created:' followed by a dashed line. Below this, it lists three environments: '1: Environment: Bus route 2', '1: Environment: Bus route 7', and '1: Environment: Bus route 57'. Each environment entry includes 'Waypoints:' and 'Stops:' followed by lists of identifiers in angle brackets, such as '<Central>', '<WP3>', '<E>', '<WP1>', '', '<A>', and '<Central>'.

Combining VDM with Executable Code



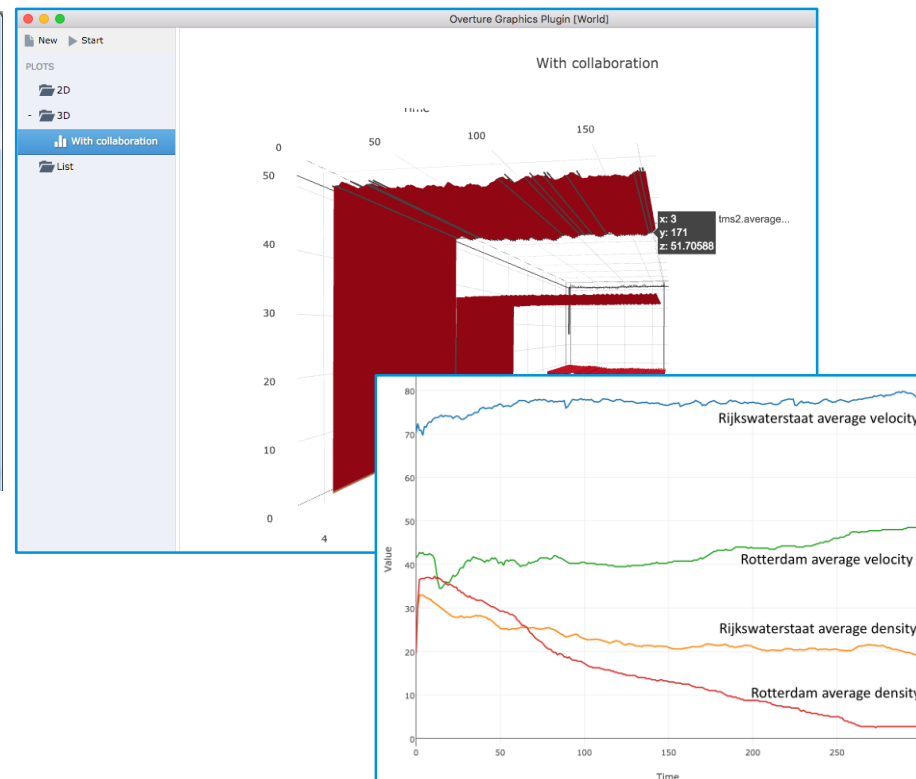
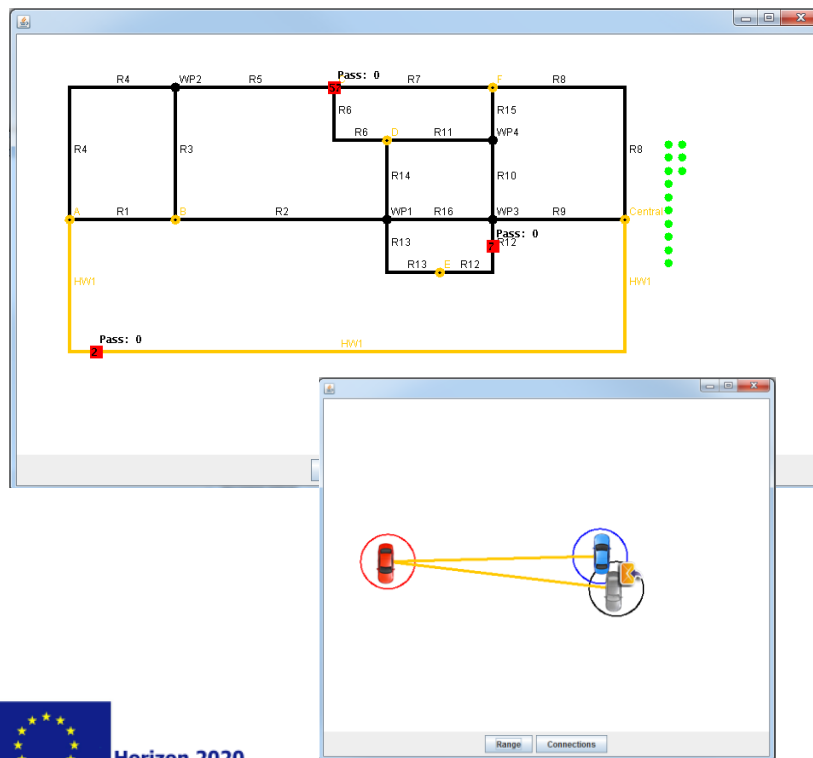
- Two types of external interfacing
 - External Call Interface
 - From the VDM model to an external interface
 - Remote Control Interface
 - Allows for external calls into a VDM Model
- Used to implement the VDM libraries

```
public static sqrt: real -> real
sqrt(a) ==
is not yet specified
pre a >= 0;
```



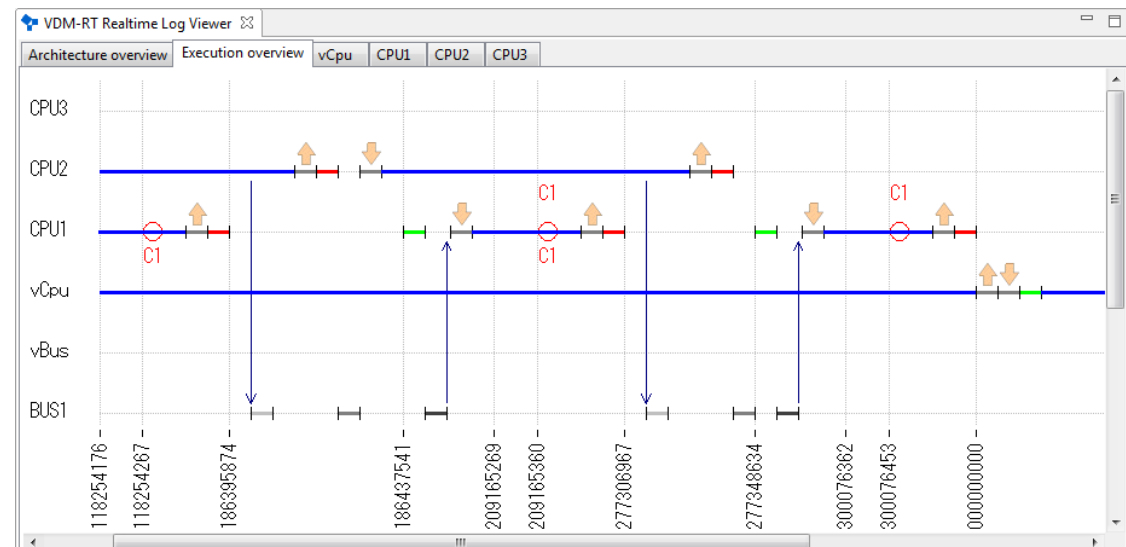
Visualising a VDM model

- Understanding a formal model can itself be difficult
 - Especially for a non-technical stakeholder
- Validating a model with a domain expert



VDM-RT trace viewer

- VDM-RT models a distributed architecture
 - CPUs are connected via buses
 - Objects are deployed on CPUs
- A trace records the VDM-RT model execution
 - Message exchange between objects
- Validation of system-level timing constraints



Functional Mockup Units (FMUs)



- Import model description to make skeleton model
 - Creates system class
 - Creates World class
 - Creates HardwareInterface class
- Export to FMU
 - Tool wrapper
 - Source code (in C)

