The Kmelia Multi-Service Component Model

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General Description

Kmelia is a component model based on services: an elementary Kmelia component encapsulates several services. The service behaviours are captured with specific labelled transition systems that enables optional transitions. Kmelia makes it possible to specify abstract components, to compose them and to check various properties. A Kmelia abstract component is a mathematical model of an open multi-service system that supports synchronous communication with its environment.

A component specification language named Kmelia and a prototype toolbox (COSTO) support the Kmelia model. The toolbox already enables formal analysis via Lotos/CADP and Mec.

Main Features of Kmelia

Component Description Style

Component C1		
Interface	<interface descr=""></interface>	Provided aService ()
Types	<type defs=""></type>	Pre <predicate></predicate>
Variables	<var list=""></var>	Post <predicate></predicate>
Invariant	<predicate></predicate>	Behaviour
Initialisation		init aState
Services		final aState
		{ state_ilabel> state_j
		}
		end
end // component		

Service Description

A service s of a component C is defined with an interface I_s and a (dynamic) behaviour \mathcal{B}_s : $\langle I_s, \mathcal{B}_s \rangle$. The interface I_s of a service s is defined by a 5-tuple $\langle \sigma, P, Q, V_s, S_s \rangle$ where σ is the service signature (name, arguments, result), P is a precondition, Q is a postcondition, V_s is a set of local declarations and the service dependency S_s is a 4-tuple $S_s = \langle sub_s, cal_s, req_s, int_s \rangle$ of disjoint sets where sub_s (resp. cal_s, req_s, int_s) contains the provided services names (resp. the services required from the caller, the services required from any component, the internal services) in the s scope.

The behaviour \mathcal{B}_s of a service s is an extended labelled transition system (eLTS) defined by a 6-tuple $\langle S, L, \delta, \Phi, S_0, S_F \rangle$ with S the set of the states of s; L is the set of transition labels and δ is the transition relation ($\delta \in S \times L \to S$). S_0 is the initial state ($S_0 \in S$), S_F is the finite set of final states ($S_F \subseteq S$), Φ is a state annotation function ($\Phi \in S \to sub_s$). An eLTS is obtained when we allow nested states and transitions. This provides a means to reduce the LTS size and a flexible description with optional behaviours accesible via the state annotation mechanism.

Component Description

A component (C) is a 8-tuple $\langle \mathcal{W}, Init, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{N}, I, \mathcal{D}_S, \nu, \mathcal{C}_S \rangle$ with:

- $\mathcal{W} = \langle T, V, V_T, Inv \rangle$ the state space where T is a set of types, V a set of variables, $V_T \subseteq V \times T$ a set of typed variables, and Inv is the state invariant;
- Init the initialisation of the V_T variables;
- *A* a finite set of elementary actions;
- \mathcal{N} a finite set of service names;
- I the component interface which is the union of two disjoints finite sets: I_p the set of names of the provided services that are visible in the component environment and I_r the names of required services.
- \mathcal{D}_S is the set of service descriptions which is partitioned into the provided services (\mathcal{D}_{S_p}) and the required services (\mathcal{D}_{S_r}) .
- $\nu : \mathcal{N} \to \mathcal{D}_S$ is the function that maps service names to service descriptions. Moreover there is a projection of the *I* partition on its image by ν : $n \in I_p \Rightarrow \nu(n) \in \mathcal{D}_{S_p} \land n \in I_r \Rightarrow \nu(n) \in \mathcal{D}_{S_r}$
- C_S is a constraint related to the services of the interface of C in order to control the usage of the services.

The component relies on the behaviours of its services. Assembly, Composition and Formal Analysis

The Kmelia components are composable via the interfaces of the involved services. Interface-compatible and behaviour-compatible services are composed at various levels to form larger components: *assemblies*. Assemblies and services may be encapsulated into a component to form a composition.

Among the possible analysis, behavioural compatibility analysis is performed by considering the correct interaction between the LTS of the involved services.

An overview of the COSTO toolbox

The figure 1 gives an overview of the main parts of the COSTO toolbox.

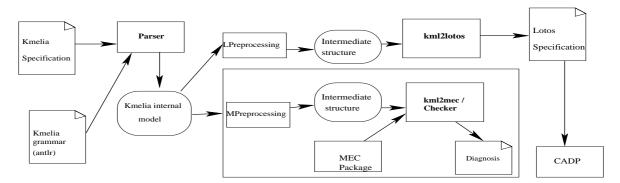


Figure 1: An overview of the COSTO

Some references

Please see [2, 1] for more details on the Kmelia models.

References

- Pascal André, Gilles Ardourel, and Christian Attiogbé. Coordination and Adaptation for Hierarchical Components and Services. In *Third International ECOOP Workshop on Coordination and Adaptation Techniquesfor Software Entities (WCAT'06)*, 2006. to appear.
- [2] Christian Attiogbé, Pascal André, and Gilles Ardourel. Checking Component Composability. In 5th International Symposium on Software Composition, SC'06, volume 4089 of LNCS. Springer, 2006.