Requirements
Are Properties
of System Behaviours

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UCL CREST Workshop
11-12 February 2013
A view of requirements for cyber-physical systems (and some others)
Cyber-physical systems

- A computer monitors and controls parts of the human and material world
- For example:
  - Control a radiation therapy machine
  - Control passenger lifts in a building
  - Control the Rotterdam storm barrier
  - Control vehicle speed on a highway
  - Control operation of an industrial press
  - Control road traffic at a complex junction
Here’s the proposed view in one slide
Controlling lifts in a building

Does the system behaviour satisfy our requirements?

- Machine M controlling problem world W
  - System = \{M, W\} (W includes users &c)
  - Formally: M, W |\models R
  - M installed in W evokes behaviour R

The development task
- Design a feasible behaviour R ...
- ... satisfying stakeholder requirements
There are many stakeholders and they have diverse requirements
Lift Is Easy to Use!

Lift Comes when I Request and Goes to the Floor I Want!

Service I can Define to Meet the Varying Usage Demands!

System Complies with All Safety Regulations!

Efficiency Means Fewer Lifts, More Rentable Space!

Special Mode for Operation by Firefighters!

Helpful Operational Procedures for Monthly Maintenance!

Graceful Service Degradation on Minor Failures!

No Lower Classes Allowed on the Tycoon Floor!

Don’t Wear Out the Equipment by Misuse!

System Complies with All Safety Regulations!
System behaviour is loosely decomposed to simple projections of machine effects (‘governed behaviours’).
Loose decomposition

Interactions are ignored
- Closed ‘subproblems’
Interaction may be complex
- Recombining a later task

Simple behaviour projections

‘Governed behaviours’
- System behaviour projected by time, problem domains, functions, conditions, ...

2/12/2013
Here are some candidate examples of governed behaviours of the lift system
Some candidate governed behaviours

- Fault-free normal lift service
- Firefighter lift service
- Test mode behaviour
- Maintenance mode
- Failure-reduced service
- Maintain lobby display
- Door open and close
- Overloaded travel prevention (?)
- Fault detection and diagnosis
- Free fall prevention
- Editing priority scheme
- Managing priority schemes
- Safe lift parking
- Tycoon floor security (?)
- ... ??
Loosely decomposed behaviours must be designed, scheduled and reconciled
Scheduling and reconciling behaviours

- Specifying behaviour time-span relationships
  - Overlapping, disjoint, consecutive, nested, ...
- Scheduling behaviours
  - Begin, end, conditional
  - Running & Halted states

- Reconciling behaviour interactions
  - Behaviours interact at common problem domains
  - cf telecoms feature-interaction problems
Stakeholder requirements are properties of the relevant behaviours
A governed behaviour and its requirements — 1

Normal lift service
• Requirements
  • Lift Comes on Request
  • Lift Service is Efficient
  • ...

Behaviour design
• Which transitions?
• When?
Request states
• Pending, ignored, ...

Behaviour design
• Which transitions?
• When?
Request states
• Pending, ignored, ...

Lift Comes on Request
Lift Service is Efficient
A governed behaviour and its requirements — 2

Normal lift service

- Requirements
  - Lift Is Easy to Use (eg Lift Use Case)
  - ...

1. Press UP hall button on floor f
2. (Lift arrives full or going DOWN)*
3. Lift arrives not full and going UP
4. Enter lift car
5. (Lift stops at intermediate floor f<h<g)*
6. Press car button for destination g>f
7. (Lift stops at intermediate floor f<h<g)*
8. Lift stops at destination floor g
9. Exit from lift car

This is an ‘afforded’ behaviour
Use-case approved as ‘Easy to Use’ by stakeholder

- More detail needed
  - Button deadline?
  - Rescind button press?
  - Failed behaviours?
A governed behaviour and its requirements — 3

Normal lift service
• Requirements
  • No Motor Abuse (eg Only Idle Reverse)
  • ...

This is a required ‘motor use-case’
Approved by equipment engineers as satisfying ‘No Motor Abuse’
• No motor reverse unless idle
This requirement constrains many governed behaviours
• eg: Park at ground floor
• eg: Switch to firefighter lift service
Most requirements are local to (sets of) current behaviours
Local requirements: no global invariants

Examples from three systems

- Access control system
  - “In_Room (p,r)” => “Authorised(p,r)”
  - Forbidden by fire regulations!

- Train control system
  - “Never 2 trains in one segment”
  - Assembling a train? Crash rescue?

- Lift control system
  - “Door_Open => Car_At_Floor”
  - Firefighter mode? Maintenance mode?
  - “Car_Stopped => Car_At_Floor”
  - Free-fall prevention on broken cable?
A final summary
A summary

1. System behaviour is complex..
   .. embodying governed behaviours

2. Behaviours satisfy requirements..
   .. which are properties of behaviours

3. Most requirements are local..
   .. to specific governed behaviours

4. The vital requirements context..
   .. is behaviour design and structure
Thank you