Motivatior Overviev Prototype Generation Evaluatior Conclusion and Future Work

Automated Prototype Generation from Requirements Model

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May 23, 2019

Contents

- 1 Motivation
- Overview
- 3 Prototype Generation
- 4 Evaluation
- 5 Conclusion and Future Work

Contents

- 1 Motivation
- Overview
- 3 Prototype Generation
- 4 Evaluation
- (5) Conclusion and Future Work

Motivation

- Rapid prototyping is an effective and efficient way for requirements validation.
- However, manually developing a prototype would increase the overall cost of software development.
- It is very desirable to have an approach and a CASE tool that can automatically generate prototypes directly from requirements.

Related Work

- Current UML modeling tools can only generate skeleton code, where classes only contain attributes and operation signatures, not their implementations.
- To generate prototypes, a design model is required, which contains how to encapsulate system operations into classes and how to collaborate objects to fulfill system operations.
- They lack the mechanism to deal with the non-executable elements in the requirements model.
- The generated prototype does not provide the automatic mechanisms in run-time to consistency checking and state observations for requirements validation.

Contribution

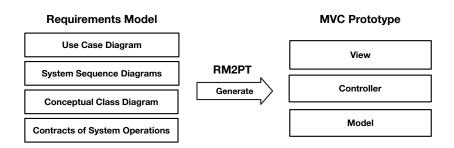
We introduce an approach and a CASE tool for generating prototypes automatically, which

- do not require design models but only rely on a requirements model
- provide a mechanism to identify the non-executable parts of a contract and wrap them into an interface, which can be fulfilled by developers manually or third-party APIs
- contain validity and consistency checking as well as state observation in the generated prototypes

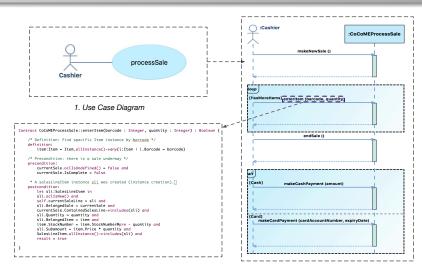
Contents

- 1 Motivation
- Overview
- 3 Prototype Generation
- 4 Evaluation
- 5 Conclusion and Future Work

Overview



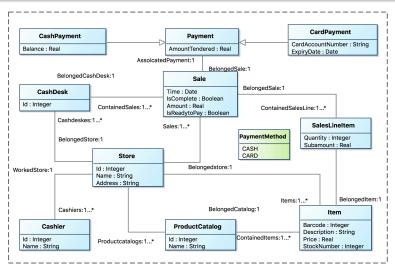
Requirements Model



3. Contracts of System Operations

2. System Sequence Diagrams

Requirements Model



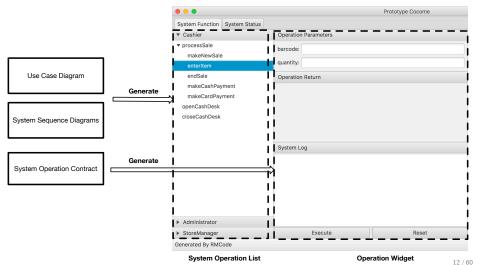
4. Conceptual Class Diagram

Contents

- 1 Motivation
- Overview
- 3 Prototype Generation
- 4 Evaluation
- 5 Conclusion and Future Work

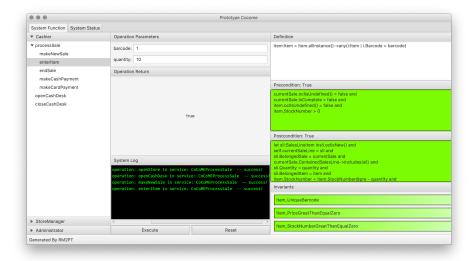
Prototype GUI (Execution)

Prototype GUI (Part 1)



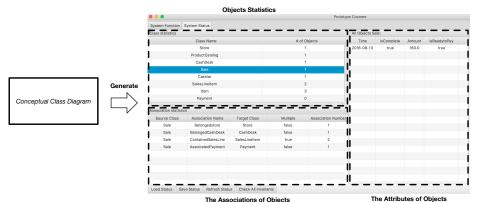
Prototype GUI System Operation Decomposition Fabricated and Entity Classes Generation EntityManager Generation

Prototype GUI (Execution)

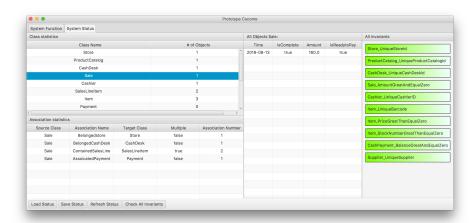


Prototype GUI (Observation)

Prototype GUI (Part 2)



Prototype GUI (Observation)



Terminology

- System operation. System operation is an operation that the system executes in response to a system input event in system sequence diagrams.
- *Primitive operation*. Primitive operations are the operations introduced to covers all primitive actions of object-oriented system to manipulate a) objects, b) the attributes of objects, and c) the links of objects.

Primitive Operations

Table 1: Primitive Operations

	Primitive Operation	Return Type
Object	<pre>findObject(ClassName:String, condition:String)</pre>	Object
	<pre>findObjects(ClassName:String, condition:String)</pre>	Set(Object)
	<pre>createObject(ClassName:String)</pre>	Object
	addObject(ClassName:String, ob:Class)	Boolean
	<pre>releaseObject(ClassName:String, ob:Class)</pre>	Boolean
Attribute	getAttribute(ob:Class, attriName:String)	PrimeType
	${\bf setAttribute} (\textit{ob:Class, attriName:String, mathExp:String})$	Boolean
Link	findLinkedObject(o:Class, assoName:String, condition:String)	Object
	<pre>findLinkedObjects(o:Class, assoName:String, condition:String)</pre>	Set(Object)
	addLinkOnetoMany(ob:Class, assoName:String, addOb:Class)	Boolean
	addLinkOnetoOne(ob:Class, assoName:String, addOb:Class)	Boolean
	removeLinkOnetoMany(ob:Class, assoName:String, removeOb:Class)	Boolean
	removeLinkOnetoOne(ob:Class, assoName:String)	Boolean

System Operation Decomposition

Main taskes:

- Transform the contracts of system operations into primitive operations.
- Encapsulate system operation into classes.

Contract of System Operation

```
//Signature
Contract CoCoMEProcessSale::enterItem
    (barcode : String, quantity : Real) : Boolean {
//Definition Section
definition:
   //Find Object
   item:Item = Item.allInstance()->any(i:Item | i.Barcode = barcode)
//Pre-condition Section
precondition:
   currentSale.oclIsUndefined() = false and
   currentSale.IsComplete = false and
   item.oclIsUndefined() = false and
   item_StockNumber > 0
//Post-condition Section
```

Contract of System Operation

```
postcondition:
   //Create an Object
   let sli:SalesLineItem in
   sli.oclIsNew() and
   //Add Links
   self currentSaleLine = sli and
   sli.BelongedSale = currentSale and
   currentSale.ContainedSalesLine->includes(sli) and
   sli.BelongedItem = item and
   //Modify Attributes
   sli.Quantity = quantity and
   sli.Subamount = item.Price * quantity and
   item.StockNumber = item.StockNumber@pre - quantity and
   //Add an Object
   SalesLineItem.allInstance()->includes(sli) and
   result = true
}
```

Transformation rules

Transformation rules:

 $Rule: \frac{\textit{OCL Expression}}{\textit{Primitive Operation in Java code}}$

Definition Section Transformation

```
R_1: \frac{obs:Set(ClassName) = ClassName.allInstances()}{List < ClassName > obs = EM.findObjects(ClassName:String)}
R_2: \frac{\textit{obs:} Set(\textit{ClassName}) = \textit{ClassName}. allInstances() \rightarrow select(\textit{o} \mid conditions(\textit{o}))}{\textit{List} < \textit{ClassName} > \textit{obs} = EM.findObjects(\textit{ClassName}. String, conditions(\textit{o}): String)}
R_3: \frac{ob: ClassName = ClassName.allInstances() \rightarrow any(o \mid conditions(o))}{ClassName ob = EM.findObject(ClassName:String, conditions(o):String)}
R_4: \frac{o:ClassName = ob.assoName}{ClassNameo = EM.findLinkedObject(ob:Class.assoName:String)}
R_5: \frac{\textit{obs:Set(ClassName)} = \textit{ob.assoName}}{\textit{List} < \textit{ClassName} > \textit{obs} = \textit{EM.findLinkedObjects}(\textit{ob:Class.assoName:String})}
R_6: \frac{obs:Set(ClassName) = ob.assoName \rightarrow select(o \mid conditions(o))}{List < ClassName > obs = EM.findLinkedObjects(ob:Class.assoName:String.preconditions(o):String)}
R_7: \frac{o:ClassName = ob.assoName \rightarrow any(o \mid conditions(o))}{ClassNameob = EM.findLinkedObject(ob:Class.assoName:String.conditions(o):String)}
```

Pre-condition Transformation

```
R<sub>8</sub>: 
\[ \frac{ob.ocllsUndefined() = bool}{\text{StandardOPs.ocllsUndefined(ob:Class.bool:Boolean)}} \]
R_9: \frac{\textit{var.ocllsTypeOf(type)}}{\mathsf{StandardOPs.ocllsTypeOf}(@\textit{var}...type:String)}
R_{10}: \frac{\textit{obs.isEmpty}() = \textit{bool}}{\textit{StandardOPs.isEmpty}(\textit{obs:Set(Class}),\textit{bool:Boolean})}
R_{11}: \frac{obs.size() op \ mathExp}{StandardOPs.size(obs:Set(Class)) \ll op \gg \ll mathExp \gg}
R_{12}: \frac{ob.AttriName\ op\ varPM}{getAttribute(\ ob:\ Class,\ attriName:\ String)\ \ll op\gg \ll varPM\gg}
                                    ClassName.allInstances() \rightarrow includes(ob)
\mathsf{R}_{13}: \frac{\mathsf{ClassName}(\mathsf{ClassName}), ob: \mathsf{Class})}{\mathsf{StandardOPs.includes}(\mathsf{EM.findObjects}(\mathsf{ClassName}), ob: \mathsf{Class})}
                                    ClassName.allInstances()→excludes(ob)
R_{14}: \frac{\text{ClassName}(ClassName)}{\text{StandardOPs.excludes}(\textit{EM.findObjects}(\textit{ClassName}), ob: \textit{Class})}
R_{15}: \frac{\textit{ClassName.allInstance}() \rightarrow isUnique(o:\textit{ClassName} \mid o.\textit{AttriName})}{StandardOPs.isUnique(\textit{ClassName}:String}, \\ \textit{AttriName}:String)}
```

Post-condition Transformation

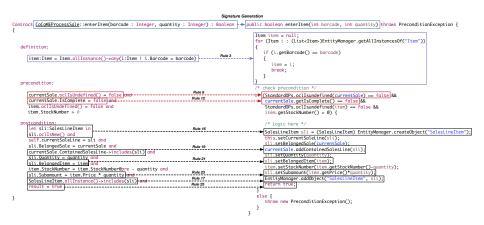
```
R_{16}: \frac{\text{let } \textit{ob:ClassName in ob.ocllsNew()}}{\textit{ClassNameob} = \textit{EM.createObject(ClassName:String)}}
R_{17}: \frac{\textit{ClassName.allInstances}() \rightarrow \textit{includes}(ob)}{\textit{EM.addObject}(\textit{ClassName:String.ob:Class})}
                  ClassName.allInstances() \rightarrow excludes(ob)
R_{18}: \frac{1}{EM.releaseObject(ClassName:String,ob:Class)}
                                    ob.assoName→includes(addOb)
R_{19}: \frac{1}{\text{addLinkOnetoMany}(ob:Class,assoName:String,addOb:Class)}
R_{20}: \frac{\textit{ob.assoName} \rightarrow \textit{excludes}(\textit{removeOb})}{\textit{removeLinkOnetoMany}(\textit{ob:Class,assoName:String,removeOb:Class})}
                                                                                                                                 R_{25}: \frac{\text{return} = var}{\text{return} \ll var}
R_{21}: \frac{\textit{ob.assoName} = \textit{addOb}}{\textit{addLinkOnetoOne}(\textit{ob:Class,assoName:String,addOb:Class})}
                                                                                                                     R_{26}: \frac{\text{ThirdPartyServices.}opName(vars)}{\text{service.}opName(\ll vars\gg)}
                                     ob.assoName = null
R<sub>22</sub>: removeLinkOnetoOne(ob:Class,assoName:String)
R_{23}: \frac{\textit{ob.attriName} = \textit{mathExp}}{\textit{setAttribute}(\textit{ob:Class.attriName:String}, \ll \textit{mathExp} \gg : \textit{PrimeType})}
                                             obs \rightarrow forAll(o:ClassName \mid o.AttriName = mathExp)
R_{24}: \frac{1}{\text{for (ClassName o:obs) } \{\text{setAttribute}(o:Class, AttriName:String, &mathExp}):PrimeType);}\}
```

Transformation Algorithm

```
Input : OCLExpression, Tag
Output: Primitive Operations
begin
    rs \leftarrow \emptyset:
    i \leftarrow 0
    sub-formulas \leftarrow parse(OCLExpression);
    connectors ← parseConnector(OCLExpression);
    lastn \leftarrow len(sub-formulas) - 1;
    for s \in sub-formulas do
        num \leftarrow 0
        switch Tag do
            case definition do
                num \leftarrow matchRule1to7(s);
            end
            case pre-condition do
                num \leftarrow matchRule8to15(s);
            end
            case post-condition do
                num \leftarrow matchRule16to26(s);
            end
```

```
if num = 0 then
       r \leftarrow transform(s, num, Tag):
       if tag == "pre-condition" and i != lastn then
           rs.append(r, connectors[i]);
       else
           rs.append(r, "linebreaks"):
       end
   else
       rs.append("transformation error for sub-formula:", s);
   end
   i++:
end
return rs:
```

Example: enterItem()

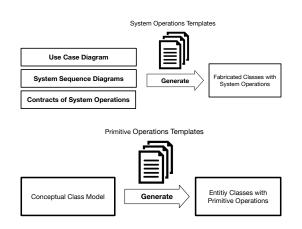


Fabricated and Entity Classes

To indicate the classes are from domain concepts or fabrications in the prototype, we divide classes into two types:

- Entity class. Entity classes are Java classes generated in prototypes from conceptual class diagrams, the others are fabricated classes.
- Fabricated class. Fabricated classes are the classes not generated from conceptual class diagrams.

Fabricated and Entity Classes Generation



Fabricated Class Generation Algorithm

```
Input: ucd - Use Case Diagram,
         ssds - System Sequence Diagrams,
         contracts - Contracts.
         tso - System Operation Template
Output: Fabrication Classes
/* Initialize ucClasses as empty set
                                                                     */
for uc \in ucd do
   /* generate fabrication uc class
                                                                     */
   ucClass \leftarrow generateClassSkeleton(uc);
   /* find uc related system sequence diagram
                                                                     */
   ssd \leftarrow findSSD(uc, ssds);
   for op \in ssd do
       /* find system operation contract
                                                                     */
       opCtr \leftarrow findContract(op, contracts);
       /* generate system operation sysOp()
                                                                     */
       generate systemOperation() by t_{so} with opCtr;
       encapsulate systemOperation() to class ucClass;
   end
end
```

System Operation Template

```
/* operation signature */
public «c.opSign.returnType» «c.opSign.name»(
«FOR para : c.opSign.parameters SEPARATOR '.'>
   «para.tvpe» «para.name»
≪ENDFOR≫) throws PreconditionException {
/* contract definition */
≪IF c.definition != null≫
   ≪c.definition.mapping≫
≪ENDIF≫
/* check precondition */
if («c.precondition.mapping») {
   /* contract post-condition*/
   «c.postcondition.mapping»
/* result return */
«IF c.opSign.returnType != null»
   return «returnName»:
≪ENDIF≫
else {
   throw new PreconditionException():
}}
```

Entity Class Generation Algorithm

```
Input: ccd - Conceptual Class Diagram
         tec - Entity Class Template
         t_{po} - Primitive Operation Templates
Output: Entity Classes
for entity \in ccd do
   generate entity class skeleton by t_{ec};
   for attribute ∈ entity do
       genereate getAttribute() by t_{po};
       genereate setAttribute() by t_{no};
   end
   for association \in entity do
       if Is-Multiple(association) == true then
           genereate findLinkedObjects() by t_{po};
           genereate addLinkOnetoMany() by t_{po};
           genereate removeLinkOnetoMany() by t_{po};
       else
           genereate findLinkedObject() by t_{po};
           genereate addLinkOnetoOne() by t_{po};
           genereate removeLinkOnetoOne() by t_{po};
       end
```

Entity Class Template

```
/* Class Skeleton */
public class «c.name»
/* Class Inheritance */
«IF c.superClass != null»
   extends <c.superClass.Name>>
≪ENDIF≫ {
/* Attributes */
≪FOR attribute · c attributes≫
   private «attribute.type» «attribute.name»;
«FNDFOR»
/* Associations */
«FOR assoc : c.associations»
   private
   «IF assoc.isIsmultiple»
       List<<assoc class>> <assoc name> =
          new LinkedList<\assoc.class>>();
   ≪ELSE≫
       «assoc.class.name» «assoc.name»:
   ≪ENDIF≫
«FNDFOR»
/* primitive operations templates */
```

Primitive Operation Templates

```
//Getting Attribute
public «attribute.type» get«attribute.name»() {
    return «attribute.name»;
}

//Setting Attribute
public void set«attribute.name»(«attribute.type» «attribute.name») {
    this.«attribute.name» = «attribute.name»;
}
```

Primitive Operation Templates

```
//findLinkedObjects()
public List<@assoc.class>> get@assoc.name>() {
   return <assoc.name>>;
//addLinkOnetoMany()
public void add<assoc.name>(<assoc.class> ob) {
   this. <assoc.name</pre>.add(ob);
//removeLinkOnetoMany()
public void remove assoc.name (assoc.class ob) {
   this. <assoc.name>>.remove(ob):
//findLinkedObject
public «assoc.class» get«assoc.name»() {
   return «assoc.name»:
//addLinkOnetoOne() removeLinkOnetoOne()
public void set assoc.name (assoc.class ob) {
   this. <assoc.name>> = ob:
```

EntityManager Generation Algorithm

```
Input: ccd - Conceptual Class Diagram
         tem - EntityManager Template
         to - Primitive Operation Templates for Object
Output: EntityManager Class
begin
   /* Generate EntityManager Skeleton
                                                                      */
   generate EntityManager skeleton by ccd, t<sub>em</sub>;
   /* Generation Primitive Operations
                                                                      */
   generate findObject() by to;
   generate findObjects() by t_o;
   generate createObject() by t_o;
   generate addObject() by t_o;
   generate releaseObject() by t_o;
end
```

EntityManager Template

```
/* EntityManager Template */
public class EntityManager {
   /* HashMap Object Records*/
   private static Map<String. List> AllInstance = new HashMap<String. List>():
   /* create object reference list */
   ≪FOR c : classes≫
   private static List<<c.name>> <c.name>Instances =
       new LinkedList<<c.name>>():
   ≪ENDFOR≫
   /* Put object reference list into Map */
   static {
   ≪FOR c · classes≫
       AllInstance.put("«c.name»", «c.name»Instances):
   ≪ENDFOR≫
   /* Get all objects of the class */
   public static List getAllInstancesOf
       (String ClassName) {
       return AllInstance.get(ClassName);
```

Primitive Operation Templates for Finding Objects

```
/* find object template */
«cName» target = null; //initialize target object
for (≪cName≫ o:
   EntityManager.getAllInstancesOf(@cName>>)) {
   //finding the object satisfies the condition
   if (≪precondtion(o)≫) {
       target = o;
       return target;
/* find objects template */
List<«c.name»> targets = = new LinkedList<>(); //initialize target object lists
for (≪c.name≫ o:
   EntityManager.getAllInstancesOf(«c.name»)) {
   //finding the object satisfies the condition
   if («precondtion(o)») {
       targets.add(o);
return targets;
```

Templates for Creating, Adding and Releasing Object

```
/* create object template */
public static Object createObject(String cName) {
   Class c = Class.forName("EntityManager");
   Method m = c.getDeclaredMethod("create" + cName + "Object"):
   return m.invoke(c):
≪FOR c · classes≫
public static «c.name» create«c.name»Object() {
   \llc.name\gg o = new \llc.name\gg();
   return o;
«FNDFOR»
/* add object template */
public static Object addObject(String cName, Object ob) {
   Class c = Class.forName("EntityManager");
   Method m = c.getDeclaredMethod("add" + cName + "Object", Class.forName(cName));
   return (boolean) m.invoke(c, ob);
≪FOR c : classes≫
public static boolean add<c.name>Object(<c.name> o) {
   return <c.name>Instances.add(o):
«FNDFOR»
```

Templates for Creating, Adding and Releasing Object

```
/* release object template */
public static boolean deleteObject(String cName, Object ob) {
    Class c = Class.forName("EntityManager");
    Method m = c.getDeclaredMethod("delete" + cName + "Object", Class.forName(cName));
    return (boolean) m.invoke(c, ob);
}

«FOR c : classes»
public static boolean delete«c.name»Object
    («c.name» o) {
    return «c.name»Instances.remove(o);
}
«ENDFOR»
```

Contents

- 1 Motivation
- Overview
- 3 Prototype Generation
- 4 Evaluation
- 5 Conclusion and Future Work

Motivation
Overview
Prototype Generation
Evaluation
Conclusion and Future Work

Case Studies
Results of Prototype Generation
Results of Requirement Validation
Automated Prototyping vs Manual Prototyping

Case Studies

- ATM Automated Teller Machine
- CoCoME Supermarket System
- LibMS Library Management System
- LoanPS Loan Processing System

Complexity of Requirements Models

Table 2: The Complexity of Requirements Models

Case Study	Actor	Use Case	SO	AO	Entity Class	Association	INV
ATM	2	6	15	103	3	4	5
CoCoME	3	16	43	273	13	20	10
LibMS	7	19	45	433	11	17	25
LoanPS	5	10	34	171	12	8	12
Sum	17	51	137	980	39	49	52

^{*} Above table shows the number of elements in the requirements model. SO and AO are the abbreviations of system and primitive operations respectively. INV is the abbreviation of invariant.

Cost of Requirements Modeling

Table 3: Cost of Requirements Modeling

Case Study	UML Diagram	OCL Contracts	Total (hours)
ATM	1.01	1.32	2.33
CoCoME	4.55	4.91	9.46
LibMS	4.64	6.37	11.01
LoanPS	5.51	6.94	12.45
Average	3.92	4.88	8.81

^{*} UML diagram contains a use case diagram, system sequence diagrams, and a conceptual class diagram.

Generation Result of System Operations

Table 4: The Generation Result of System Operations

Case Study	NumSO	MSuccess	GenSuccess	SuccessRate (%)
ATM	15	15	15	100
CoCoME	43	41	40	93.02
LibMS	45	43	42	93.33
LoanPS	34	30	30	88.23
Average	34.25	32.25	31.75	93.65

^{*} MSuccess is the number of SO which is modeled correctly without external eventcall, GenSuccess is the number of SO which is successfully generated, SuccessRate = GenSuccess / NumSO.

Results of Requirement Validation

Table 5: Requirements Errors

	Requirements Errors				
Name	Pre-condition	Post-condition	Invariant		
ATM	5	12	1		
CoCoME	8	23	3		
Library	12	26	2		
Loan	6	21	2		
Total	31	68	8		

Results of Requirement Validation

Table 6: Requirements Missing

	Requirements Missing					
Name	Actor	UseCase	SO	Entity Class	Association	INV
ATM	1	3	9	1	2	3
CoCoME	1	11	22	5	10	5
LibMS	4	12	14	11	15	12
LoanPS	2	3	15	4	2	8
Total	8	29	60	21	29	28

Automated Prototyping vs Manual Prototyping

Table 7: Manual Prototyping

Case Study	Implementation	Testing	Debugging	Total (hr)
ATM	6.09	4.63	3.90	14.62
CoCoME	15.08	8.80	8.31	32.19
LibMS	18.28	9.18	7.29	34.74
LoanPS	13.23	8.96	8.79	30.98
Average	13.17	7.89	7.07	28.13

Automated Prototyping vs Manual Prototyping

Table 8: Automated Prototyping

Name	Line of Code	Automated Prototype (ms)	System Operation (ms)
ATM	3897	309.74	2.26
CoCoME	9572	788.99	9.78
LibMS	12017	1443.39	18.22
LoanPS	7814	832.78	5.52
Average	8325	843.73	8.95

Discussion

- Auto-prototyping is much more efficient than manual prototyping (~1 second vs ~28 hours) without introducing inconsistency between the requirements model and prototype.
- The spending time of system operations(~9 ms) is much less than the prototyping (~850 ms).

Scope and Limitation

Our approach has the scopes of application for practical problems.

- The requirements model and the generated prototypes of our approach are object-oriented.
- Our approach suitable for modeling and validating object-oriented information systems, enterprise systems, and interactive systems.
 The batching systems have heavy internal workloads are not suited for.
- Moreover, our approach focuses on functional requirements but not non-functional requirements such as time, dependability, security, and space. That means the real-time systems, embedding systems, and cyber-physical systems are not suitable for our approach.

Scope and Limitation

Our approach has the following limitations.

- The first one is that 6.91% system operations cannot be successfully generated without introducing third-party services, but this limitation has been solved by invoking the third-part services.
- The second limitation that is although the formal specification OCL has short learning cure than other formal specification, it still needs time for learning to specify the correct contract.
- The third limitation is the performance of generation, and it can be further optimized in the future.

Contents

- 1 Motivation
- Overview
- 3 Prototype Generation
- 4 Evaluation
- 5 Conclusion and Future Work

Conclusion

This thesis presents an approach and a CASE tool to automated prototype generation from a requirements model.

- The executable parts of the contract are translated into Java source code. The non-executable parts of a contract can be identified and wrapped by an interface, which can be fulfilled by third-party APIs.
- Four cases studies have been investigated, and the experiment result is satisfactory that the 93% of system operations of use cases can be generated successfully in 1 second.

Future Work

- Improve the current transformation algorithm to cover the more substantial subset of the executable specification.
- Integrate current prototyping tool with our another work on automated translating use case definitions in natural language into their corresponding formal contract in OCL.
- Furthermore, after a system requirements model is validated by prototyping, we plan to generate the prototype into its corresponding real system.

CASE tool - RM2PT

- RM2PT is available as free software: http://rm2pt.yilong.io
- Auto-Prototyping Demos https://youtu.be/rDdpXsjSq8A
- Requirements Validation Demos https://youtu.be/Y7GNa57WGfA

Publication

- Yilong Yang, Xiaoshan Li, Zhiming Liu, Wei Ke. "RM2PT: A Tool for Automated Prototype Generation from Requirements Model". presented at the 41th International Conferences on Software Engineering (ICSE'19), Montreal, Canada, May 2019. (CCF A).
- Yilong Yang, Xiaoshan Li, Wei Ke, Zhiming Liu. "Automated Prototype Generation from Formal Requirements Model". IEEE Transactions on Reliability (JCR - Q1).

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- Yilong Yang, Jing Yang, Xiaoshan Li, Weiru Wang. "An Integrated Framework for Semantic Service Composition using Answer Set Programming". International Journal of Web Services Research. 11(4), pp. 47-61 (2014) (SCI Indexed).

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Motivation Overview Prototype Generation Evaluation Conclusion and Future Work

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