Python to modelica translation guidelines draft

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Type correspondences A table showing which types should be translated to which.

Python type	Modelica type
float	Real
int	Integer

Function parameters and return values For each parameter in the python function, we create a corresponding input entry in the modelica code with the same name. Python function parameters are not strictly typed and the type cannot be inferred in general. We will be dealing mainly with arithmetical a numerical calculations and for this reason and sake of simplicity, we well assume that the type is Real in cases where it cannot be inferred. We won't translate functions with unknown numbers of parameters now. (The * and ** operators in python.)

Example: test_0008

Return values: Python functions return one value of unspecified type. Thus, the type must be inferred. (Taking the chosen parameter types into account.) We'll assume it's a Real as long as the computation is valid. If the return value is a local variable (but nut parameter!), we shall make a corresponding output entry in the translation for this variable. If it's an expression or parameter, we make a new variable. This variable is called return_value in the tests, another name may be chosen but note that it's necessary to check whether this is not also a name of a local variable or a parameter. In this case, another name must be chosen.

Examples: test_0001, test_0002

Local variables In modelica, there is an ambiguity, where values of local variables can be first assigned. It can be either in the protected or the algorithm section. I decided to only declare the names in protected and assign them in algorithm. This makes the code a bit longer, but I thought it could make the translation of the algorithm: bit more straightforward.

Example: test_0006

Side effects In contrast to modelica, functions in python may normally have side effects. A notable example is assignment to arrays. I suggest to solve this by tracking which parameters might be potentially affected by this and adding extra output value to the translated function containing the modified parameter. In the tests, the prefix modified for the variable name, but again it must be checked that the name is not used elsewhere. In the context outside the single function, the translator must also take this into consideration. In the tests, the variable is tracked up to redefinition and then assigned the current value there. If it's not redefined or there is no return value, it's tracked in the whole body of the function.

Examples: test_0014, test_0015

Important note. The arithmetic-assignment operators in python cause side-effects. But assignment to an arithmetic expression does not. For example: If a is an array and a parameter of a function in Python which was not redefined, the code a = a + x does not change it's original value (but redefines values), but the code a += x does change original and doesn't redefine locally!

Example: test_0018

Array size inference When the translator recognizes a variable as array (or simply assumes that it's one), it needs to decide it't dimensions and sizes in each dimmension. In Python, if a operation works on an array of n dimmensions, it may also work on array of any higher dimension. But in basic modelica

array semantics, it's not easily possible to handle arrays with dynamic number of dimmensions. Thus, the translation assumes the lowes possible dimension that makes sense according to arithmetical operations found in the algorithm (but at least one, zero dimmension only in explicit cases like numpy.array([]) or numpy.empty((0,)).) If the arithmetical operations do not provide any evidence, that the variable (or parameter) is an array, it should be assumed to be a scalar number. If sizes of the array in some dimensions cannot be inferred from arithmetical operations, they shall be unknown (i.e. [:] in Modelica).

One important things to note is that some arithmetical operations on arrays cannot be translated in a straightforward way, for example, modelica does not support addition of arrays of different dimensions but in pyhton it's possible under ceratin conditions. The translator must take care of this. For example: numpy.array([[1,2],[3,4]]) + numpy.array([7,5]) results to array([[8,7],[10,9]]). In the translation, I solve it with a for loop.

Examples: test_0017, test_0019

Examples: test_0007, test_0013.

Built-in functions This table shows correspondence between builtin functions and basic language

constructs used in the tests.			
Python	Modelica	Notes	
range(a,b,c)	(a:c:b+1)		
range(a,b)	(a:b+1)		
range(a)	(0:a+1)		
numpy.arange		same as range	
for x in z:	for x in z loop end for;	x, z and the block must be translated	
while b:	while b loop end while;	b and the block must be translated	
if b1: elseif b2: else:	if b1 then elseif b2 then else end if;	b1, b2 and the corresponding blocks must be translated	
<pre>numpy.ones((a,b,c,))</pre>	ones(a,b,c,)		
<pre>numpy.ones([a,b,c,])</pre>	ones(a,b,c,)	Alternative syntax.	
<pre>numpy.zeros((a,b,c,))</pre>	zeros(a,b,c,)		
<pre>numpy.zeros([a,b,c,])</pre>	zeros(a,b,c,)	Alternative syntax.	
<pre>numpy.empty((a,b,c,))</pre>		Array of given dimensions is only	
		declared!	
<pre>numpy.empty([a,b,c,])</pre>		Alternative syntax.	
numpy.dot(a,b)	a*b	Matrix product.	
a.dot(b)	a*b	Alternative syntax.	
numpy.array		array constructor	
<pre>numpy.concatenate((a,b,), z)</pre>	cat(z,a,b,)	parameter z may be omitted in	
		python or given as axis=z	
<pre>numpy.concatenate([a,b,], z)</pre>	cat(z,a,b,)	Alternative syntax.	
m.fill(v)	m := fill(v, a,b,)	Where a,b, are dimensions	
		of array m.	
numpy.sum(x)	sum(x)		
numpy.product(x)	product(x)		
[x][y]	[x,y]	Indexing (general)	
[x,y]	[x,y]	Indexing (numpy arrays only)	
:a	1:a	Array slice indexing	
a:	(a+1):end	Array slice indexing	
a:b	(a+1):b	Array slice indexing	
numpy.identity(n)	identity(n)		
numpy.linspace(a,b,c)	linspace(a,b,c)		
m.shape	size(m)		
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Questions Arrays of arbitrary dimensions as parameters. Is it possible in modelica?