

Some Methodology Issues

And Methodology Experiments in the OSA Project

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A selected number of issues and possible solutions:

- How to code discrete time ?
- How to Ensure Reproduce-ability, Trace-ability and Durability?
- How to Instrument a Simulation?

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 - ★ Our solution: The OSIF Framework

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How to Code Discrete Time?

What Coding Options Do We Have?

- Floating Point Numbers?
 - 32 (1+8+23) bits ? 64 (1+11+52) bits ? 128 (1+15+112) bits?
 - Accurate?
 - SURE! 32 bits seems accurate enough for ANY duration.
- Integers ?

Conclusion: Floating point seems a good idea...

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Let's experiment a bit with FP numbers.

- Assume time unit is second.
- Assume after 1 hour (virtual/sim time)
 - one event is scheduled after 50 nanosec
 - other events start to be scheduled every nanosec
- (eg. python)

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from random import random
import time

def random_event():
    return random() * 1000000000.0

def main():
    t = 0
    while t < 3600:
        t += random_event()
    print t
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In an ideal world:

- Results of experiments are published
- Publication was reviewed
- Reviewers were able to reproduce experiments
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How to Build an Ideal World?

Publishing a result is a **process**

- Start from an initial state (OS release, system config, ...)
- (possibly) Build tools for experiment
- Experiment consist in multiple tasks, eg.:
 - Installing software
 - Running a test
 - Collecting data
 - Processing data
 - Writing a report
 - Generating plots, animation
 - Writing a paper
- Idea: What about formalizing experimental workflows?

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Assuming workflows have been identified, what else do we need?

- Dependencies support management
- Archiving facilities
- Versioning, branch support
- Automation
- Most of these, we already have!
- But none of these is the panacea :-)
- We still have a lot of work to do... :-)

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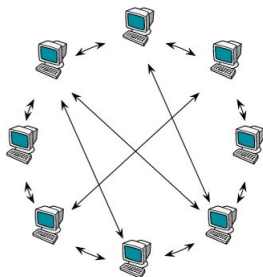
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How to Instrument a Simulation?

The P2P use case



- Looking for parameters effects or validation ?
 - Edit source file, add instrumentation code, recompile
 - Run simulation/experiment
 - Grab all the observed/sampled data into one place
 - Post-process data

Common Instrumentation and Statistical Analyses Usage

The P2P use case

- Looking for parameters effects or validation ?
 - Edit source file, add instrumentation code, recompile
 - Run application
 - Grab all the instrumented data into one place
 - Post-process data
- Issues raised:
 - instrumentation and modeling concerns are mixed together
 - hard to maintain
 - issue when mixing with previous/other instrumentation
 - breaks model validation
 - loose some of the reuse benefits
 - bandwidth and memory overhead

The OSIF Framework

Our Proposed Solution to Improve Methodology

- Separate instrumentation concern from modeling concern
 - ⇒ Aspect-Oriented Programming
- Process data during the simulation runs
 - ⇒ COSMOS
- Reusable data processing
 - ⇒ COSMOS is component-based
- Compose complex instrumentation and data processing
 - ⇒ Architecture Description Language with multiple inheritance and overloading capability
- Validation results
 - ⇒ use the same data processing both in simulations and experimentations

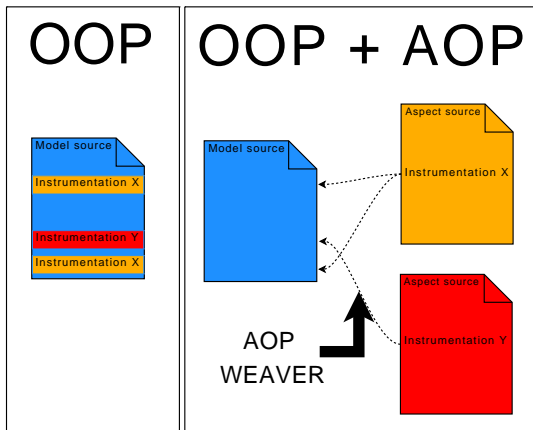
Separation of Concerns

(Using Aspect-Oriented Programming)

- Paradigm for modularizing applications with many concerns
- Aspect Oriented Programming
 - Instructions are placed in separate source files
- Identify particular instructions in an existing code (pointcut)
 - To apply pre/post/replacement processings
 - To enrich/extend existing code
- Apply aspect at compile-time or at run-time
- AOP exists for most programming languages:
 - C / C++, Java, C#, Perl, PHP, Python, Ruby, etc.
- Instrument your model and send values to COSMOS

Separation of Concerns

Aspect-oriented programming



Functional Code

Code to instrument variable X

Code to instrument variable Y

Separation of Concerns

Aspect-oriented programming

- AspectJ example:

```
after (com.example.Peer peer) :  
execution (void com.example.Peer.boot()) && this (peer)  
{  
    System.out.println(peer.getName() + " boot at time: "  
                        + peer.getTime())  
}
```

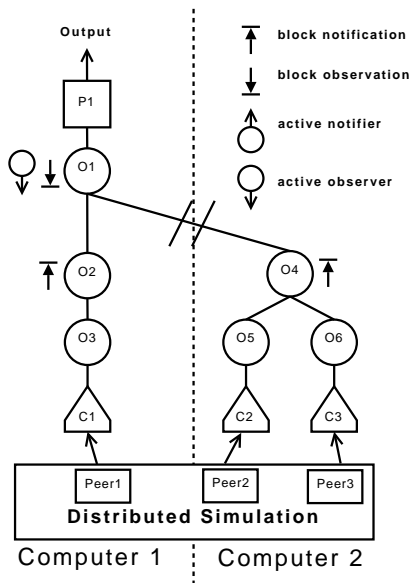
COSMOS

Context entities composition and Sharing

- Component-based framework for managing context data in ubiquitous applications
- Data processing built as a graph of processing nodes
- 3 COSMOS entities: collector, processor, policy
- Based on the Fractal component framework
 - Fractal ADL allows composition by inheritance and overloading
 - Fractal-BF turns components into services

- COSMOS context node
 - Hierarchical, with sharing
 - Parameterized
 - Passive or active
 - Observation or notification
 - Blocking or not
 - Input: message(s)
 - Output: compute new message
 - Message can contain sub-messages
 - Message chunks are typed
 - Ensure compatibility between context node

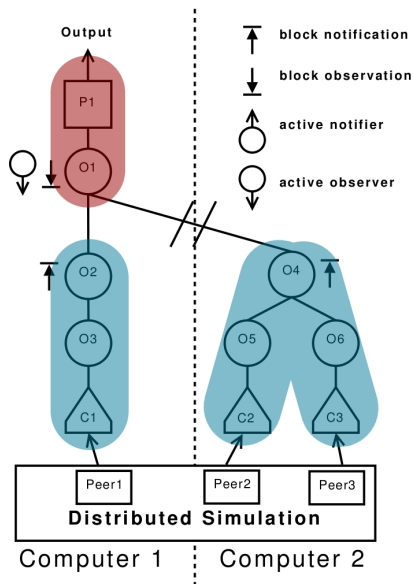
Live processing of data



Live processing of data

- COSMOS data processors and policies
 - Live analysis
 - Reduce bandwidth and memory overhead
 - Logging
 - Scave (OMNet++ post-processing tool)
 - Take into account the real topology of the simulation application and optimize the data flow

Composition



Composition

- Keep it simple
 - ⇒ Easier to manage and maintain
 - ⇒ More chance of reuse
- But build complex composition easily

Real experiments processing

- COSMOS is used for context observation in smart environments
 - We successfully use COSMOS for instrumentation and data processing in simulation
- Apply the same data processing on real experiment and simulation
 - Validation of simulation results
 - Sharing data processing \implies more confidence in validation results

Conclusion on OSIF

- Separation of concerns
 - Favor reuse of models
 - Favor comparisons across simulators and platforms
- Live processing
 - Save disk space / bandwidth
- Composition
 - Build / manage / maintain simple instrumentation and data processing
 - Reuse data processing
 - Build complex data processing by composition of processors
- Apply data processing on real experiment
 - Reuse data processing
 - Validate simulation
 - Increase confidence

Questions ?

Thank you for your attention