

Distributed Co-Simulation of Embedded Control Software with Exhaust Gas Recirculation Water Handling System using INTO-CPS

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Abstract: Engineering complex Cyber-Physical Systems, such as emission reduction control systems for large two-stroke engines, require advanced modelling of both the cyber and physical aspects. Different tools are specialised for each of these domains and a combination of tools validating different properties is often desirable. However, it is non-trivial to be able to combine such different models of different constituent elements. In order to reduce the need for expensive tests on the real system it is advantageous to be able to combine such heterogeneous models in a joint co-simulation in order to reduce the overall costs of validation. This paper demonstrates how this can be achieved for a commercial system developed by MAN Diesel & Turbo using a newly developed tool chain based on the Functional Mock-up Interface standard for co-simulation supporting different operating systems. The generality of the suggested approach also enables future scenarios incorporating constituent models supplied by sub-suppliers while protecting their Intellectual Property.

1 INTRODUCTION

With increased complexity in physical dynamics, control and communication, the development of Cyber-Physical Systems (CPS) require more advanced modelling and specialized tools. For differential-equation based continuous models, multiple tools are available (MathWorks, 2011; SYSTÈMES, 2017; Kleijn, 2006), each with their specific specialization and validity. Discrete event models are often developed within companies own software frameworks, or created in one of the many tools available. The interconnection between the physical and cyber parts of CPS is becoming more dependent and dynamical influences have to be considered. The main challenge connecting these models comes from the fundamental differences in the underlying mathematical frameworks, their simulation tools and how they are developed. In this regard one typically distinguishes between Discrete Event (DE) models based on discrete mathematics and Continuous-Time (CT) models that are based on differential equations. Many initiatives for connection tools in a so called co-simulation have been published (Fitzgerald et al., 2014; ITEA Office

Association, 2015). However, connecting the specific tools making up the holistic simulation is often not the only issue. Deviations in development platforms and performance is as often the issue. A solution for this is a distributed co-simulation, where models can be executed, not only in the tool where they were developed, but also on the correct platform. Furthermore, a distribution of the simulation makes it possible to increase performance by utilizing additional hardware, given that the models are prepared for it.

At MAN Diesel & Turbo (MDT) the conventional approach for developing two-stroke combustion engines with a distributed embedded control system is being challenged. In particular for diesel engines pollution is a key element that it is desirable to reduce from a competitive perspective. New emission legislation focuses on the reduction of especially NO_x emission. Widely known emission reduction technologies for reducing NO_x are selective catalytic reduction and Exhaust Gas Recirculation (EGR), both being developed at MDT (MAN Diesel & Turbo, 2016). These systems require advanced algorithms to control the complexity of the physical dynamics of large engines. Historically, in the same way as

many other large organisations, MDT is divided into different departments with different responsibilities. In the control department at MDT, control algorithms are created directly in the target software framework with the possibility of performing Software In the Loop (SIL) simulation during development. Models of the physical behaviour are created in other departments of MDT using the tools most suitable for the specific constituent system. For control system development, the physical dynamics models are implemented in an internally developed tool for CT simulation called Dynamic Simulation Environment (DSE) which is part of the software framework. The primary focus in DSE is SIL/Hardware In the Loop (HIL), and the physics models implemented here are often an abstraction of high-fidelity models. Historically it has been challenging inside MDT to enable heterogeneous collaborations between the different teams producing models in different departments.

The software framework and DSE are based on C++ and run on a 32-bit Linux platform while the physical modelling tools often require Windows. In this paper the current simulation process at MDT is compared with an alternative using co-simulation utilizing the Functional Mock-up Interface (FMI) standard and the Co-simulation Orchestration Engine (COE) from the Integrated Tool Chain for Model-based Design of Cyber-Physical Systems (INTO-CPS) project. The aim with the approach suggested in this paper is to reduce redundancy in the development process and reuse models from different departments. One of the main challenges is to enable co-simulation across different hardware architectures and Operating System (OS) platforms due to constraints from software frameworks, physical simulation tools and version compatibility.

In section 2 the overall system is presented. section 3 describes the previous simulation of a specific subsystem for EGR, and section 4 describes the approach taken to enable co-simulation. Afterwards, section 5 describes the co-simulation results for the EGR system. Finally, the paper concludes with section 6.

2 EXHAUST GAS RECIRCULATION WATER HANDLING SYSTEM

The EGR system presented in this paper recirculates exhaust gas to the intake manifold thereby reducing environmental impact while maintaining efficient combustion. The unclean exhaust gas is potentially

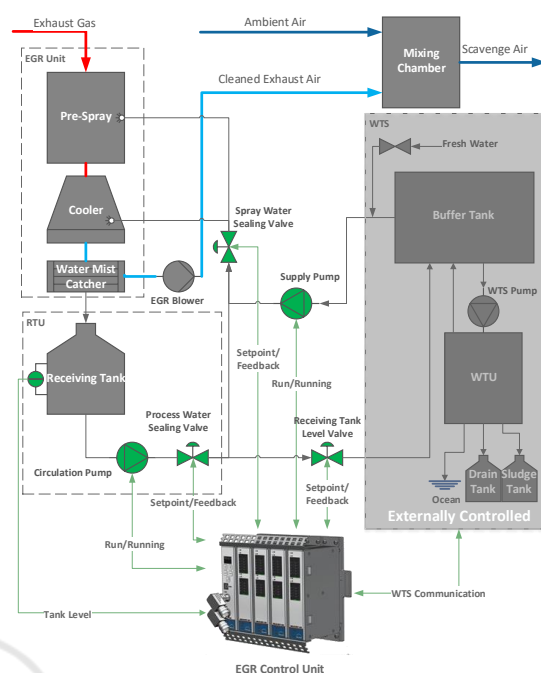


Figure 1: Water Handling System Setup.

damaging to the engine and has to be cleaned before return, which is the purpose of the Water Handling System (WHS). The system is shown in Figure 1 where the exhaust gas is drawn into the *EGR Unit* using an EGR blower, it is then sprayed with water and cooled so that a Water Mist Catcher (WMC) can collect the damaging particles. Before the gas is returned, the water is collected in the WMC and led to a receiving tank. The water level in this tank is one of the important variables that the WHS controls, as discussed in section 3.4. The water is pumped from the receiving tank to an external constituent system (Water Treatment System (WTS)) for processing where the water is either cleaned and pumped back to the EGR Unit, pumped overboard or stored for treatment at a harbour.

At the chemical level, EGR is based on exchange of the in-cylinder oxygen (O_2) with carbon dioxide (CO_2) from the exhaust gas, which is re-circulated into the scavenged air. The exchange of O_2 with CO_2 leads to a decrease of combustion speed, resulting in lower peak temperatures during combustion. Furthermore the exchange of O_2 with CO_2 results in a higher in-cylinder heat capacity of the gas which also lowers the combustion temperature. Lower combustion temperatures and especially lower peak temperatures result in lower formation of thermal NO_x during the combustion process. The recirculated exhaust gas is hotter and not as clean as the residual ambient scavenge-air. To prevent Sulphur (SO_2) and other par-

ticles from damaging the engine, cleaning and cooling of the recirculated exhaust gas is required. A WHS provides the water used for cleaning the exhaust gas in the EGR unit. To control the flow of exhaust gas to the mixing chamber, an EGR blower is installed. Water from the EGR unit is drained to the Receiving Tank Unit (RTU) and recirculated to the EGR unit. Part of the recirculated water is led to the WTS to be cleaned and returned to the EGR unit. The surplus of water originating from the combustion process is drained from the WTS as bleed-off water and discharged to the sea. The residuals from the cleaning process are discharged to the sludge tank. Depending on engine load and ambient conditions the combustion process will accumulate water in the system, which must be discharged as bleed-off water. If discharged to the sea, the bleed-off water must meet the quality criteria required by International Maritime Organization (IMO)¹, presently defined in the 2015 Guidelines for Exhaust Gas Cleaning Systems, MEPC 259 (68). Bleed-off water, which does not meet the discharge criteria or cannot be discharged to sea due to local restrictions, is drained to a drain tank for delivery at port.

Vessels operating within an emission control area have to comply with the Tier III emission requirements (IMO, 2015). This is achieved by activating EGR, at which point the water handling system is required to run. The control system for the WHS is divided into two parts, the EGR control which is part of the distributed engine control system and the WTS control which is delegated to the producer of the auxiliary system. The engine control system consists of several multi-purpose controllers. Each controller is composed of a power module, multiple I/O chassis and an Field-Programmable Gate Array (FPGA). All controllers on the engine are identical but the software running on the FPGA determines the specific control objective. The controller controlling the WHS is called the EGR Control Unit (EGRCU) and is seen in Figure 1, with the connections relevant for this simulation. This paper focuses on the control of the WHS. The remaining control of the EGR system will not be covered.

The WHS is controlled and monitored by the EGR control, so that water can be provided to clean and cool the exhaust gas. There are two main water loops that can be distinguished. The recirculation loop where the water from the EGR unit is sent to the RTU and back again by the 'Circulation pump' via the 'Process Water Sealing Valve' and 'Spray Water Sealing Valve'. The other loop is where part of the water from the recirculation loop is sent via the

'Receiving Tank Level Valve' to the externally controlled system, the WTS. The water from the WTS is sent back to the recirculation loop with the 'Supply Pump'. The WTS receives the processed water from the RTU and is collected in the buffer tank. A separate system in the WTS treats the water of the buffer tank. Any excess of water is either sent to the sludge/drain tank or, if the water quality parameters are met, the water can be sent overboard.

The objective of the control loop discussed in this paper is to maintain the water level of the 'Receiving Tank' within specified limits. During start up and shutdown of the WHS the actuation timing of the components has a direct impact on the water level. During running mode, the water level is controlled by the 'Receiving Tank Level Valve' and compensates for deviations in the water flow due to e.g. engine load, exhaust gas and scavenge air pressure changes.

3 WHS SIMULATION

This section describes the development process of the primary WHS control strategy. The approach and tools used for the first edition of the control system are described and the solution is evaluated.

3.1 Software Application Framework

Application development at MDT is carried out in a comprehensive in-house C++ software application framework. The framework is developed to enable development of DE control models. The main advantage of the software application framework is the possibility of cross compiling the same application to both SIL, HIL and target platform, see Figure 2. SIL simulation of target code is made possible by compiling the Board Support Package (BSP) and the Real Time Operating System (RTOS) to an x86 platform. With the SIL simulation, engineers are able to test their application on their own PC. When moving to HIL or target, the same application code, the BSP and the RTOS, are simply cross-compiled to the embedded core of the controller. The primary focus of the framework is control development, where algorithms are directly implemented in C++ with a vast amount of reusable components and macros available, aiding engineers. For CT models, an extension to the framework can be utilized, called DSE. DSE includes a kernel for execution, an ODE solver and a model library of physical components. Models created in DSE are executable on both PC (SIL) and the HIL platform, given that the abstraction of the models allow for real-time execution.

¹<http://www.imo.org>.

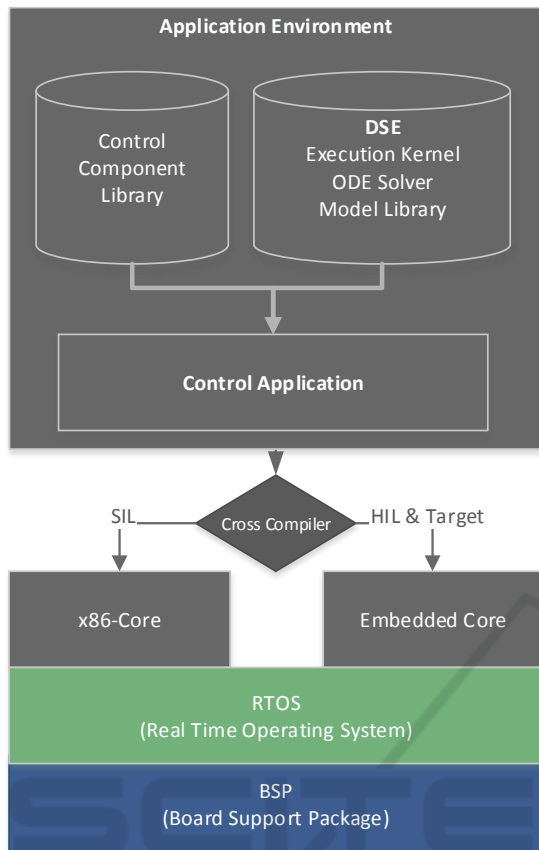


Figure 2: Software Application Framework.

When challenged with a new application, control engineers at MDT often start studying the physical dynamical challenges of the system in MATLAB/Simulink. When a sufficient understanding of the system is achieved, the control strategy is formulated in the software application framework and tested against a DSE model implementation of the MATLAB model. DSE is designed with HIL execution in mind, and while it can simulate complex CT systems, the models implemented are often at a lower abstraction level than e.g. the MATLAB models.

3.2 WHS Model

The WHS model is divided into a control algorithm created in the software application framework and a model of the physical components in DSE. The control algorithm is created as a component in the controller EGRCU along side the additional components that comprise the entire engine control. The control model consists of a Proportional Integral (PI)-controller regulating the 'Receiving Tank Level Valve' set-point from the 'Process Water Receiving Tank' level sensor feedback. Besides controlling the

receiving tank level, the control algorithm also has to ensure that transitions between states in the system is possible, according to signals from engine operators and the WTS control system. This control strategy is formulated in a state-machine running in the EGRCU. The DSE model describes the pressures and flow of all the components illustrated in Figure 1. The model resembles the preliminary model developed in MATLAB but without details such as pressure build-up in piping, water accumulation in components and pressure loss over valves. The main purpose of the DSE is to test the control strategy, ensuring that all state transitions are possible and that the regulator works correctly. To prepare for HIL simulation, the DSE model is placed in a separate controller called the Engine Simulation Unit (ESU), shown in Figure 3. The ESU controller is installed in the HIL platform as a representation of the real engine. Data exchange between the EGRCU and ESU imitate the actual communication with the real engine through analog and digital IOs. In SIL, a software implementation of virtual IOs and network simulate the communication.

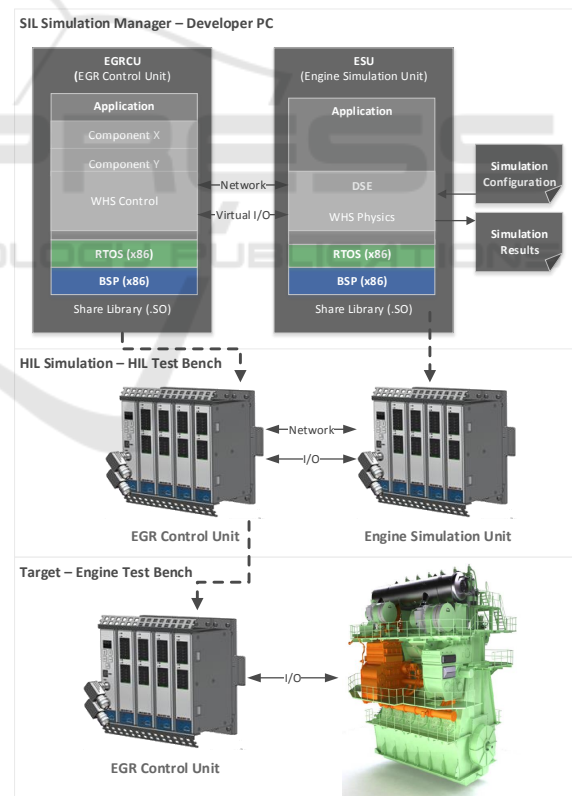


Figure 3: SIL WHS Simulation setup.

3.3 Simulation and Verification Process

SIL simulation is achieved by compiling controllers to an x86 platform and into shared libraries. The

shared libraries are executed by a simulation manager ensuring temporal execution and correct data exchange between controllers. How the embedded control software has been adapted to enable deterministic simulation has been described in (Pedersen et al., 2016) and will not be further explained in this paper. A simulation scenario is provided to the DSE model through a simulation configuration file and the results are delivered in a simulation results file.

When the system has been properly tested in the SIL environment, the models are moved to the HIL platform by cross-compiling to the embedded system. On the HIL test bench additional tests of computation overhead, communication and additional temporal issues are performed.

For final testing, an engine test bench is physically available at the MDT research center in Copenhagen. Only a single test bench is available due to the immense cost and sheer size of the engine. Available time-slots on the test engine are very limited and extremely costly, due to the fuel consumption and amount of operators required, so the proper modelling and testing of the previous steps is desirable.

3.4 Simulation Evaluation

The SIL simulation was used to develop a functioning PI controller that regulates the process water tank level and a state machine for actuating valves and pumps according to a number of states for starting and stopping the WHS system. The system was tested on the HIL test bench, ensuring that the systems worked properly on the controller hardware. Finally, a test session was performed on the engine test bench. This test showed that the PI controller worked as intended, however, an unsuspected situation occurred when stopping the WHS system.

Figure 4 shows the results of running the initial control strategy on the real system. After 100 seconds the EGR control system ordered the WHS system to prepare for EGR operation. Then after 50 seconds the state-machine was finished starting different pumps and opening of valves. At this point the Process Water Receiving Tank (PWRT) control is fully engaged. The bottom figure in 4 shows how the Receiving Tank Level Valve (RTLTV) is regulated to redirect water from the process circuit to the WTS for cleaning and stabilizing the PWRT level. The top figure in Figure 4 shows the water level in the PWRT and how it became stable after a transient period, proving that the PWRT control worked correctly during WHS operation. Vessels are not always required to use EGR, so shut-down of the system should be possible during engine operation. After 600 seconds a command from the engine

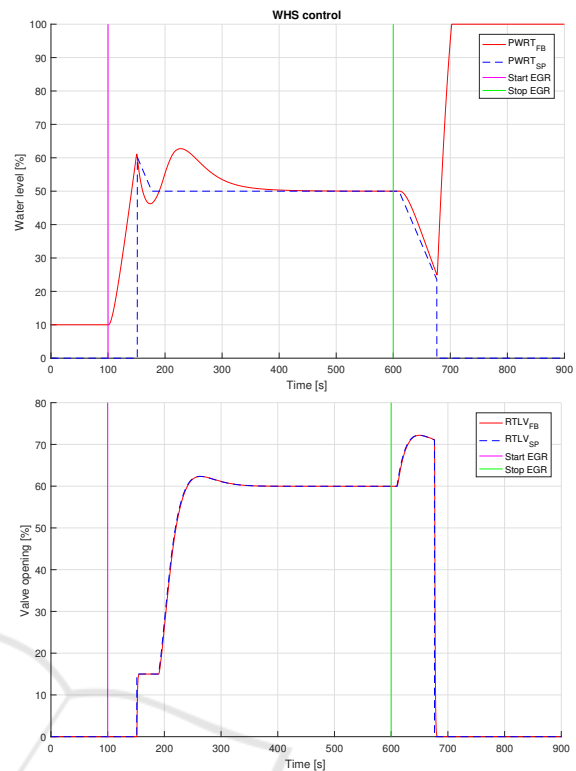


Figure 4: WHS Control results.

operator was ordered, from an operating panel, for the EGR system to shutdown and WHS to stop operation. The state machine started emptying the tank to reach a stable offline level around 20-25% in the tank. At 676 seconds a behaviour not seen in either the SIL or HIL simulation was observed. When the WHS system started, water in the WMC started to accumulate gradually. At a point in time an equilibrium was achieved due to increased water pressure resulting in a consistent flow through the WMC (without increased water accumulation in the WMC as a consequence). During shutdown, when the desired water level in the PWRT was achieved and RTLTV control stopped, the accumulated water in the WMC started to flow to the PWRT tank. As seen in Figure 4, the amount of residual water in the WMC is so large that it overfills the PWRT.

From the engine test bench it was discovered that the controller actuating the RTLTV was working properly, but the state-machine was not properly handling the emptying of the WMC. Engine tests are very costly and MDT would like to investigate if a more efficient development process can be achieved. In the DSE model used for development of the state-machine, the accumulation of water in the WMC had not been modelled. To improve the control strategy of the WHS, a higher-fidelity model should be used. Instead of simply extending the DSE model to include a

more detailed WMC model, a co-simulation solution was chosen (Gomes et al., 2017). The co-simulation should not only include a detailed WMC model but be so generic that changes to the system layout and more advanced models of components can be easily implemented. The argument for the choice of co-simulation is given in the following section.

4 TARGETING CO-SIMULATION

The software application framework and DSE is central for development because they are designed for the target platform of the final system, and directly enable validation through both SIL and HIL. Keeping this in mind it is rational to keep the control systems in the framework. However, there are a number of options for enhancing physics modelling that would be beneficial:

- Porting the controller software to a notation that can be used in the MATLAB environment, where it is easier to express the physical model. This would however, just shift the issue to the controller, that then needs to be ported back to the software application framework.
- Enhancing the physical model in DSE, while the standard approach, it is more time consuming than using a dedicated modelling tool like MATLAB, but it enables faster simulation speeds.
- Use a generic solution that enables co-simulation between the control system expressed in the software application framework and a physical modelling tool like MATLAB. This will not require any changes to software development at MDT, but would enable physical models to be created using the desired modelling tool. It would potentially run slower than a complete model expressed in DSE but would be more flexible. This solution would make the representation of the physical dynamics more detailed in SIL simulation. The co-simulation model would not be able to run on the HIL platform, however. The purpose of the HIL test is not to test functionality already verified in the SIL simulation, but to ensure computational overhead and investigate temporal aspects.

The latter approach was chosen because it is generic and it allows well known modelling tools in the physical domain to be used. To interface between models, the FMI is used, which provides a standardised model interface. The last constraint on the co-simulation is that it needs to be performed across architectures and platforms. The software application

framework is required to run as a Linux 32bit process. The reason for this is, as previously mentioned, because the framework is developed to build directly to the embedded system which is a 32bit architecture. It is also a requirement that the physical modelling environment be a Windows 64bit application. The control developers working in e.g. MATLAB do so in Windows 64bit and management-wise, introducing co-simulation to the current tool-chain would be preferable. Another reason for the choice of deviation in platform is the lack of 32bit support for MATLAB on Linux.

It must be possible to run the simulation using Linux 32bit for the software application framework and Windows 64bit for MATLAB. Therefore a solution is to use the free FMI COE from the INTO-CPS research project since it supports both. However, the co-simulation cannot span architectures or platforms. Therefore an extension is presented in section 5.1 that enables co-simulation in a distributed setting, spanning both architectures and platforms.

4.1 Functional Mock-up Interface

FMI is a tool independent standard developed within the MODELISAR project (ITEA Office Association, 2015). It supports both model exchange and co-simulation and exists as Version 1, released in 2010 and Version 2, released in 2014. It was developed to improve exchange of simulation models between suppliers and Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEM). The standard describes how simulation units are to be exchanged as ZIP archives called a *Functional Mock-up Unit (FMU)* and how the model interface is described in an XML file named *modelDescription.xml*. The functional interface of the model is described as a number of C functions that must be exported by the library that implements the model inside the FMU. Since the FMU only contains a binary implementation of the model it offers some level of intellectual property protection. The focus of this work is on co-simulation, where each FMU is capable of participating in a co-simulation without the need of an external solver, i.e. each FMU includes the required solvers needed for simulation.

4.2 The INTO-CPS Tool Chain

While individual tools and formalisms for the development of controllers, including simulation, testing and code generation, are very mature, the design workflow is only partially integrated. The Horizon 2020 project INTO-CPS (Fitzgerald et al., 2015; Fitzgerald et al., 2016) aims at closing this gap, by

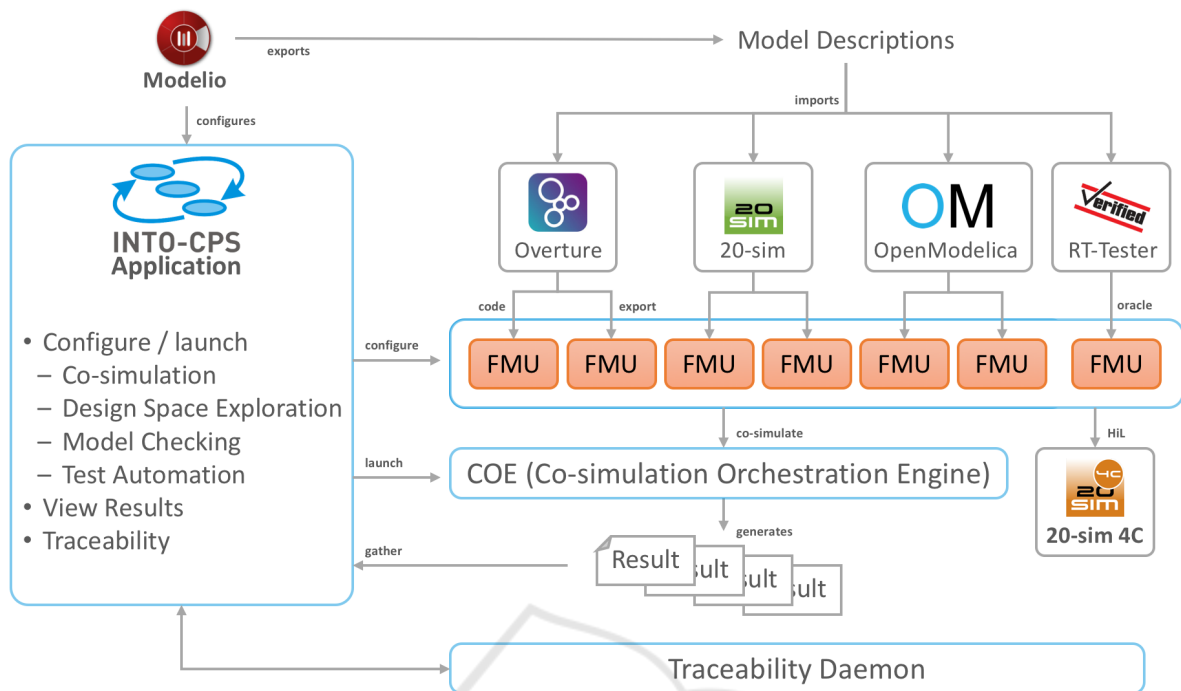


Figure 5: The INTO-CPS Tool Chain.

creating an Integrated Tool-chain for the model-based design of Cyber-Physical Systems (Larsen et al., 2016). The chain of tools are connected as illustrated in Figure 5, moving all the way from requirements to final realisations (Bandur et al., 2016). One of the core tools of this chain is a newly developed COE, which is a fully FMI 2.0 co-simulation compliant Master supporting both fixed and variable step size simulations. It was decided to use FMI as the interface for the different simulation and testing tools, since it is a mature standard² created in the MODELISAR project (ITEA Office Association, 2015) with an active community.

The COE is developed in a combination of Java and Scala, which makes it multi-platform and provides the simulation service through HTTP. Currently, two methods for time-stepping are implemented; one for fixed time steps, and one for variable time steps. The COE is capable of switching on stability checking as well as using parallelism (Thule and Larsen, 2016). In addition to the baseline tools incorporated inside the tool chain, a number of other modelling and simulation tools have been tested with the COE. This includes both commercial tools such as Dymola, Modelon, SimulationX and Unity as well as additional open source tools such as 4Diac. While the COE is multi-platform it does not directly support mixed-architecture (combinations of 32bit and

²<http://fmi-standard.org>

64bit architectures) or mixed-platform (combinations of e.g. Windows and Linux) simulations as required for the WHS system as discussed next in section 5.

5 WHS CO-SIMULATION

To co-simulate the WHS from section 3 using FMI, it is required that both constituent models must support FMI, and that a suitable orchestration engine that supports FMI and the required platform and architecture combination is available. Since no such simulator is available an extension to the COE is described in section 5.1. To enable FMI for the constituent models, an extension was developed for the MDT software application framework which has been published in (Pedersen et al., 2016; Pedersen et al., 2015). The model of the WHS is exported from MATLAB to an FMU using the Modelon FMI Toolbox for MATLAB/Simulink (Modelon, 2015). The complete co-simulation model is shown in section 5.2, and evaluated in section 5.3.

5.1 Distributed COE Extension

To enable multi-architecture co-simulation, the challenge of mixing 32bit and 64bit code needs to be addressed. Essentially, two processes with inter-process

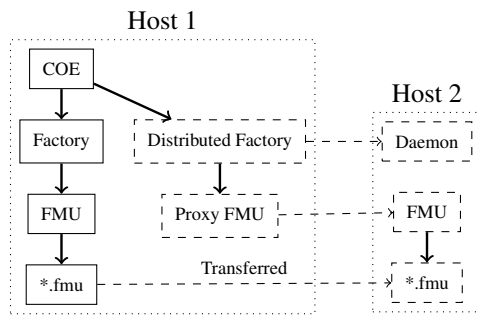


Figure 6: Distributed Extension Overview.

communication are required by the host system to realize this, where one of them acts as the simulation master. A similar challenge arises when different platforms need to interact in a co-simulation.

An extension to the COE was developed that is capable of both simulating across architectures and platforms. The solution chosen was to utilize an extension point in the COE that allows a custom factory to be used for FMU instantiation. An overview of the extension is realized and shown in in Figure 6. The COE uses the distributed factory to instantiate FMUs that require execution with a different host configuration, either architecture or platform deviation.

The extension is realized using Java-Remote Method Invocation (JAVA-RMI) to provide cross-platform communication (JavaRMI, 2004). It consists of a distribution factory and an FMU proxy that is plugged into the COE. It uses a daemon that must run on the remote host to provide a service that enables the COE to remotely load and control FMUs. The COE configuration is also extended to specify which remote daemon a specific FMU should be executed by. When a co-simulation is started the COE will communicate with the specified remote daemons to configure the co-simulation by first pushing FMUs to the remote daemons that then in turn load and setup a communication channel for the loaded FMUs. These will then be connected to the FMU proxy in the COE, which is responsible for handling remote communication.

5.2 Co-Simulation Setup

The co-simulation setup is illustrated in Figure 7. The master COE is running on the Windows host, and the COE-daemon on the Linux host. A JSON configuration file describes the co-simulation setup to the COE. The configuration file tells the COE where the FMU-archives are located and on which host-ip they should be executed. The configuration file also contains information about connections between the inputs and outputs of the FMUs, parameters and simulation al-

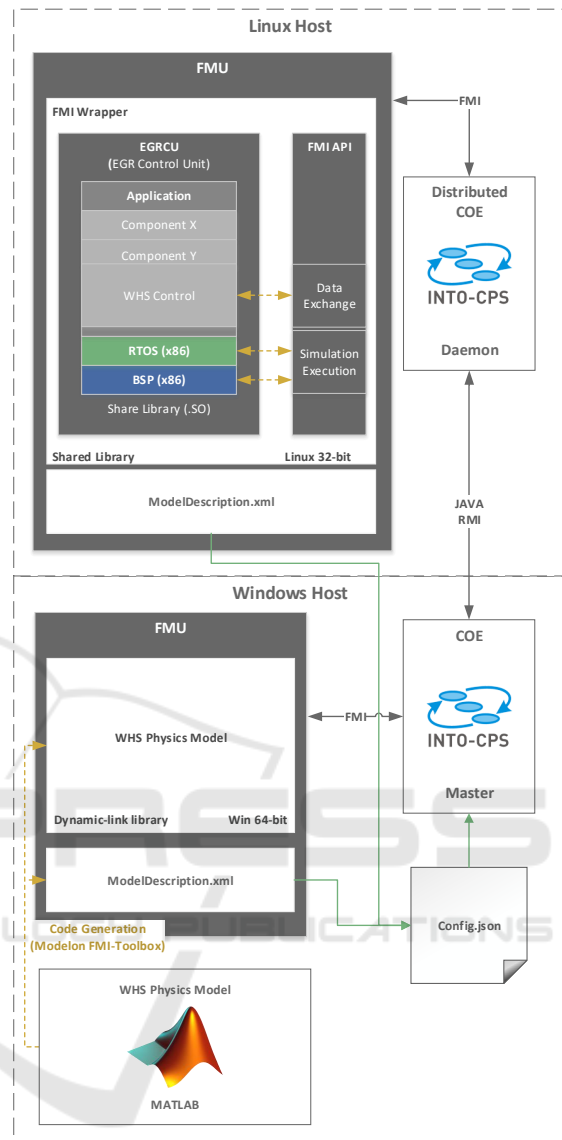


Figure 7: Co-Simulation Configuration.

gorithm: variable/fixed time step.

The WHS MATLAB model is code generated into an FMU using the Modelon FMI toolbox for MATLAB/simulink. The toolbox compiles the MATLAB model to a 64-bit DLL including the FMI-API and auto-generates the model description XML defining the interface to the FMU. The control system FMU has been created by wrapping the FMI Application Programming Interface (API) around the SIL simulation and compiling it to a Linux 32-bit shared library. The simulation can access the RTOS for scheduling and a hook to the clock in the BSP, all described in (Pedersen et al., 2016). Accessing the variables of the WHS control is done through a proxy interface that provides pointers to internal variables to be manipu-

lated. Furthermore, the proxy interface introduces a conversion layer between internal types such as FIX-POINT16 and FMI-types. The SIL simulation only includes the EGRCU controller, which contains the WHS control. The ESU controller, containing the DSE models, has been replaced with the MATLAB model in the co-simulation.

The simulation is initiated through the COE and results delivered in Comma-Separated Values (CSV) format on the Windows host.

5.3 Co-Simulation Evaluation

Figure 8 shows the simulation results with the proposed Co-Simulation setup, where the DSE physical model has been replaced with the more detailed MATLAB model. Being able to anticipate the behaviour of the accumulated water in the Water Mist Catcher, it is now possible to address it and to modify the state machine accordingly to control the components in a more appropriate way during WHS shutdown. The first 600 seconds show the same response as in Figure 1. However, the new state machine now ensures

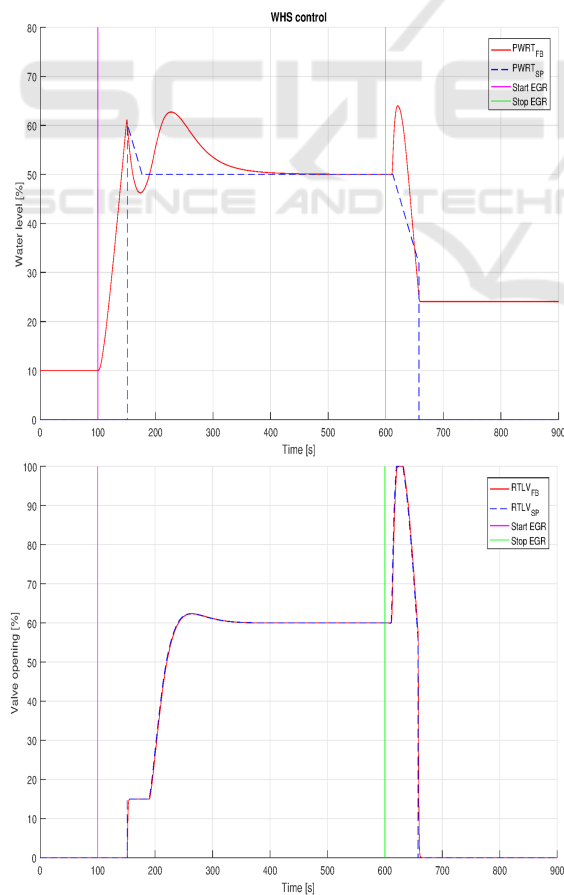


Figure 8: WHS Control results.

that the WMC is drained before shutting down RTL_V control. This prevents the water level in the PWRT from overflowing, but instead stabilize at a desired level of approximately 20-25%.

6 CONCLUDING REMARKS

This paper shows how the control development process at MAN Diesel & Turbo could benefit from introducing co-simulation. The conventional approach, where control algorithms and strategy are formulated using simplified models of the physical dynamics, is not always able to properly represent the complexity of the system. Importantly, with this approach, defects are typically not found before moving to the expensive engine test bench. With the co-simulation approach proposed in this paper, higher-fidelity constituent models of physical dynamics, formulated in dedicated tools, can be simulated together with a SIL simulation of the control software, at an earlier stage of development. In the example presented, the accumulation of water in a water mist catcher was neglected in the initial model, essentially resulting in a water tank overflow during shutdown. With the co-simulation, a more detailed model, formulated in MATLAB, could be used for developing a working control strategy. Had the co-simulation been used for initial control development, the issues seen on the test engine would likely have been discovered at an earlier stage, saving money and time.

The main challenge enabling co-simulation at MDT was the deviation in both OS platform and hardware architecture of the simulation tools used. The SIL simulation of the control software is constrained to a 32-bit Linux platform and the MATLAB environment was required to run on a 64-bit Windows platform due to change management concerns. In cooperation with the INTO-CPS-project, the INTO-CPS Co-simulation Orchestration Engine for executing co-simulations complying with the Functional Mock-up Interface standard was adapted to enable distributed co-simulation. With the distributed COE it was possible to conduct the co-simulation despite the platform and architecture deviation.

Besides the promising results shown in this paper, additional benefits from the INTO-CPS co-simulation tool chain are anticipated. The extensions developed to the MDT frameworks and development processes enable not only co-simulation of the EGR system, but also of any other system to be developed in the future by MDT, with minimal effort. In the future it will be explored when it makes sense to also make use of more capabilities from the INTO-CPS tool chain.

In the EGR Water Handling System presented here, a subsystem called Water Treatment System is delivered by an MDT OEM and neither modelled nor controlled by MDT. One of the main advantages of the Functional Mock-up Interface standard used by INTO-CPS is that models are exchanged on a binary level offering protection of intellectual property. One of the future ambitions is to be able to share models with OEMs so systems like the WHS and WTS can be simulated together, improving both companies products. Part of the high-fidelity models developed at MDT are very complex and require time to simulate, especially if co-simulated with several other models. One of the additional advantages of the distributed co-simulation is that the simulation process can be parallelized and perhaps distributed to centralized high-performance hardware. This could potentially speed up simulation execution times and enable more advanced system investigations, previously deemed too time consuming. Initial work on using the COE in a cloud setting has already been initiated, in particular in relation to design space exploration in situations where there is large room for different alternative solutions.

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