FORMAL SPECIFICATION IN “Z” LANGUAGE BY SOFTWARE Z/EVES

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Summary The paper shows a short overview of representation formalisms, which can be used for specification of technical system functional requirements. Some basic model schemas of function called User Identification of ITS are presented by formal specification “Z” language and software Z/EVES.

1. INTRODUCTION

Design of easy and usable models is process, which verifies human ability to understand problem and also it allows understanding to other. Operations in the system can be analyzed and improved more effectively by process modeling. Design of models is also used in transport applications [4], 5]. Functional requirements specification can be realized through following representation formalisms:
- informal: optional graphic representation, natural language, example description, animations, and so on;
- semi-formal: state machine diagrams, entity-relational diagrams, unified modeling language and so on;
- formal: specification languages or knowledge representation languages.

1.1. Informal specification

Informal specification is markedly oriented to user – it is akin to him, well-know and it has big expressive ability (include polyvalence expression, inconsistent and opposite propositions).

1.2. Semi-formal specification

Semi-formal specification is based on structured visualization of the system – it’s easy, presents good system overview and it’s usually used as a quasi-standard in industry. Unlike informal specification, semi-formal specification has partly formal defined semantic. The following diagrams (object oriented model, data flows diagrams, entity-relational diagrams, Petri nets, etc.) can be included to the semi-formal specification.

1.3. Formal specification

Formal specification is expression of traced attributes list, which is expressed by formal specification language and with specific abstraction level. Formal specification languages have better defined semantic. Based on these language attributes it is possible to conclude about most of represented knowledge including entire or partial code generation. Formal specification language creates mathematic basis for formal method. This method shows, what specification has to say. Language shows in detail how reality involved in specification can be expressed. Languages like VDM, Z, B, EVES, LOTOS should be included to this language group.

2. FORMAL SPECIFICATION “Z” LANGUAGE

“Z” language is a formal specification language, which is used for description and functions modelling of computer systems. This language enables to write formal specification of computer programs and to formulate evidences of system behaviour. Specification languages are situated between natural and program languages. These types of languages enable to eliminate internal ambiguity, which is characteristic for natural languages. “Z” language specification is organized into specific units, which are reciprocally re-bounded by structural relations. Each of these units has a declaration and prepositional part. State schema, operating schema and axiomatic definition are the most frequent used schemas. Software pack called Z/EVES, and other software packs, also serves for “Z” language schema design support. Software pack Z/EVES enables writing, developing and analysing of “Z” language specification. Z/EVES consists of two parts. First part is virtual server, which insures syntactic propriety revision and activities for execution of theorems and paragraphs logic validation. Second part is graphical interface, which enables work with specification. Transcription from informal specification to “Z” language is realized by schema design. There are six basic types of schemas (Free Type Definition, Axiomatic Definition, Vertical Definition of State Schema, State Initialization, Operating Schema and Horizontal Schema). Other schemas can be applied on this six basic schema types. Schemas in next part are shifted from application model example of Identifikácia používateľa (User Identification) function in ITS.
Free Type Definition
This type of definition implements set of all system states. Individual elements (constants) differ from each other, and their sequel in definition is arbitrary.

State :: basic \ detection \ identification \ record
PresenceOfUser :: present \ absent
TypeOfUser :: passenger \ driver \ vehicle
IdentificationRequest :: sent_to_PSG \ sent_to_DRV \ sent_to_VHC
Identification :: received_from_PSG \ received_from_DRV \ received_from_VHC
not_recieved_from_PSG \ not_recieved_from_DRV \ not_recieved_from_VHC

State Initialization
This type of schema has to be in each specification and it serves to system initialization by some way.

The schema title is System in this concrete event. The system from its definition should gain elements from type State and these elements are: basic, detection, identification and record.

State Schema
State Schema describes state of system. It consists of the schema title, declaration (name:type) and predicates (boundary conditions). This schema type specifies all allowed states of the system. System state is allowed, if all conditions from axiomatic part are fulfilled.

State Schema
System
\ state: State

Operating Schema
Operating Schema specifies situations, in which the system state is changed (\Delta) or unchanged (\Xi). Schema also specifies operations including state variables, main state variables and input and output variables.

Operating Schema (fig. 4.) characterizes a situation, in which the state is not changed after user detection. Title of this operating schema is Detection. Input to schema is user?. This input could have two elements present, absent, which are defined by type PresenceOfUser. Before operation the initial state, in which the system occurs, is basic. If input user? will gain element absent, than the system will stay in previous state (state basic). This is represented by title with apostrophe state', which gain element basic.
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PSGDetection

\[ \Delta \text{System} \]

- user?: PresenceOfUser
- type_of_user?: TypeOfUser
- request!: IdentificationRequest

\[ \text{state} = \text{basic} \]

\[ \text{user?} = \text{present} \]

\[ \text{type_of_user?} = \text{passenger} \]

\[ \text{state'} = \text{detection} \]

\[ \text{request!} = \text{sent_to_PSG} \]

Fig. 5. Operating Schema – change of system state

Operating schema in fig. 5., in contrast to previous schema (fig. 4.), defines the change of the system state, in which the system was before operation. The title of schema is PSGDetection. Schema includes two inputs to operation. First of them is user?. This input could gain two elements present, absent, which are defined by type PresenceOfUser. Second input to operation is type_of_user?. This input could gain three elements (passenger, driver and vehicle) from type TypeOfUser. Schema also includes one output from operation, which is represented by title request!. This output represents sending of identification requests to user. It could gain elements from type IdentificationRequest. These elements are sent_to_PSG, sent_to_DRV, sent_to_VHC. Before operation the system is in the basic state. If input to operation user? will gain element present and input type_of_user? will gain element passenger, then system will transfer to after operation state. This after operation state is represented by title with apostrophe state’. This state has title detection. Output from operation request!, which gains element sent_to_PSG, is sent at the same time, representing sending of identification request to user.

Horizontal Schema

This type of schema is used for development of new combinations from existing schemas, by the using of schematic count operations. This schema type is not shown in the application example.

3. CONTRIBUTION

The main purpose of this paper is to show how it is possible to apply formal specification “Z” language and Z/EVES software pack on modeling of service User identification that was created based on defined functional requirements specification.

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