

Higher-Order Acausal Models

**2nd International Workshop on Equation-Based Object-Oriented
Languages and Tools (EOOLT)**

Paphos, Cyprus, July 8, 2008

David Broman

Department of Computer and
Information Science

Linköping University, Sweden

davbr@ida.liu.se

Peter Fritzson

Department of Computer and
Information Science

Linköping University, Sweden

petfr@ida.liu.se



Linköpings universitet

The idea of Higher-Order Acausal Models...



Higher-Order Functions

I.e. first class citizens, can be passed around as any value

+

Acausal Models

Models in EOO languages, composing DAEs and other interconnected models.

=

Higher-Order Acausal Models

I.e., first class acausal models.

Part I

The Basic Idea of Higher-Order

Part II

Higher-Order Modeling in MKL

Part III

Related Work and Future Perspective



Modeling Kernel Language (MKL)

Modeling Kernel Language (MKL)

- A **research language** with similar modeling capabilities as a subset of the Modelica language.
- Primarily aimed at investigating **novel language construct**.
- An **formal operation semantics** of the dynamic elaboration process exists. (Broman, 2007, Tech. Report “Flow Lambda Calculus for Declarative Physical Connection Semantics”)

Here we will use MKL to demonstrate the concept of HOAMs, but...

- ...the concept is not limited to this language and can of course be considered in other languages as well...

Part I

The Basic Idea
of Higher-Order

Part II

Higher-Order
Modeling in MKL

Part III

Related Work and
Future Perspective



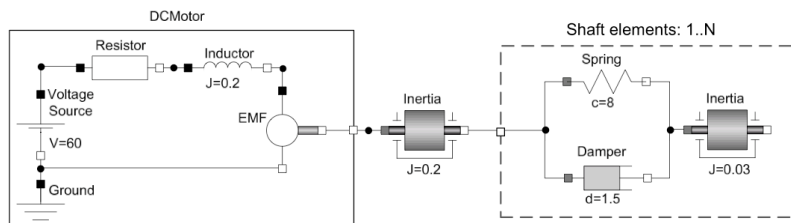
Agenda



Part I The Basic Idea of Higher-Order



Part II Higher-Order Modeling in MKL



Part III Related Work and Future Perspective



Part I
The Basic Idea
of Higher-Order

Part II
Higher-Order
Modeling in MKL

Part III
Related Work and
Future Perspective



Part I

The Basic Idea of Higher-Order

**Part I**

The Basic Idea
of Higher-Order

Part II

Higher-Order
Modeling in MKL

Part III

Related Work and
Future Perspective



What is an Anonymous Function?

Anonymous functions (lambda abstractions) exist in ordinary functional languages (e.g. SML, Haskell, LISP etc.)

An anonymous function **do not** have a **defined name**.

```
func(x) {x*x}
```

Parameters within parathesis.

Function body.

An anonymous function can then be **applied** to an argument.

```
func(x) {x*x} (3)
→ 3*3
→ 9
```

Evaluation steps

Anonymous functions are treated as **values**. It is convenient to give them **names**.

```
def pi = 3.14
def power2 = func(x) {x*x}
```

The named values can then be used in a new expressen.

```
power2(pi)
→ power2(3.14)
→ 3.14 * 3.14
→ 9.8596
```



Part I

The Basic Idea
of Higher-Order

Part II

Higher-Order
Modeling in MKL

Part III

Related Work and
Future Perspective



What is a Higher-Order Function? (1/3)



DEFINITION 1 (Higher-Order Function).

A higher-order function is a function that

- 1. takes another function as argument, and/or*
- 2. returns a function as the result.*

Also, a higher-order function is said to be **first-class citizens**, e.g. the function is **treated as a value** and can be passed around freely.



Part I

The Basic Idea
of Higher-Order

Part II

Higher-Order
Modeling in MKL

Part III

Related Work and
Future Perspective



What is a Higher-Order Function? (2/3)

DEFINITION 1 (Higher-Order Function).

A higher-order function is a function that

1. takes another function as argument, and/or
2. returns a function as the result.

Define a function `twice` with a function parameter `f`.

```
def twice = func(f,y){
    f(f(y))
};
```

Apply `twice` to `power2` and constant 3.

```
twice(power2,3)
→ power2(power2(3))
→ power2(3*3)
→ power2(9)
→ 9*9
→ 81
```

We can also have an anonymous function as argument.

```
twice(func(x){2*x-3},5)
→ func(x){2*x-3}(func(x){2*x-3}(5))
→ func(x){2*x-3}(2*5-3)
→ func(x){2*x-3}(7)
→ 2*7-3
→ 11
```



Part I

The Basic Idea
of Higher-Order

Part II

Higher-Order
Modeling in MKL

Part III

Related Work and
Future Perspective



What is a Higher-Order Function? (3/3)

DEFINITION 1 (Higher-Order Function).

A higher-order function is a function that

1. *takes another function as argument, and/or*
2. *returns a function as the result.*

In mathematics, functional composition is normally expressed using the infix operator \circ . Two functions $f : X \rightarrow Y$ and $g : Y \rightarrow Z$ can be composed to $g \circ f : X \rightarrow Z$, by using the definition $(g \circ f)(x) = g(f(x))$.

The same definition can be given as a higher-order function:

```
def compose = func(g,f){
  func(x){g(f(x))}
};
```

The compose function can then be used as follows:

```
def add7 = func(x){7+x};

def foo = compose(power2,add7);
→ def foo = func(x){power2(add7(x))};

foo(4)
→ func(x){power2(add7(x))}(4)
→ power2(add7(4))
→ power2(7+4)
→ power2(11)
→ 11*11
→ 121
```



Part I

The Basic Idea
of Higher-Order

Part II

Higher-Order
Modeling in MKL

Part III

Related Work and
Future Perspective



Elaboration and Simulation of Acausal Models

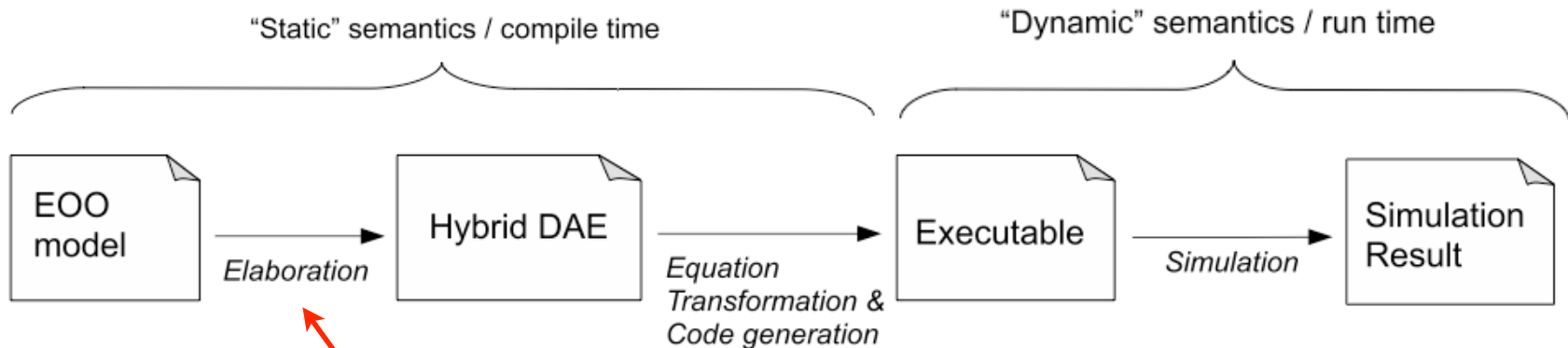
DEFINITION 2 (Acausal Model).

An acausal model is an abstraction that encapsulates and composes

1. *continuous-time behavior in form of differential algebraic equations (DAEs).*
2. *other interconnected acausal models, where the direction of information flow between sub-models is not specified.*

Also common in EOOL

- Connections between models can typically both express potential connections (across) and flow (also called through).
- Possibility to express discrete events



Our semantic in this work concerns the elaboration phase.



Part I

The Basic Idea
of Higher-Order

Part II

Higher-Order
Modeling in MKL

Part III

Related Work and
Future Perspective



Higher-Order Acausal Models

DEFINITION 3 (Higher-Order Acausal Model (HOAM)).
A higher-order acausal model is an acausal model, which can be

- 1. parametrized with other HOAMs.*
- 2. recursively composed to generate new HOAMs.*
- 3. passed as argument to, or returned as result from functions.*

Emphasizes that HOAMs are first-class citizens, i.e., values that can be passed around.



Part I

The Basic Idea
of Higher-Order

Part II

Higher-Order
Modeling in MKL

Part III

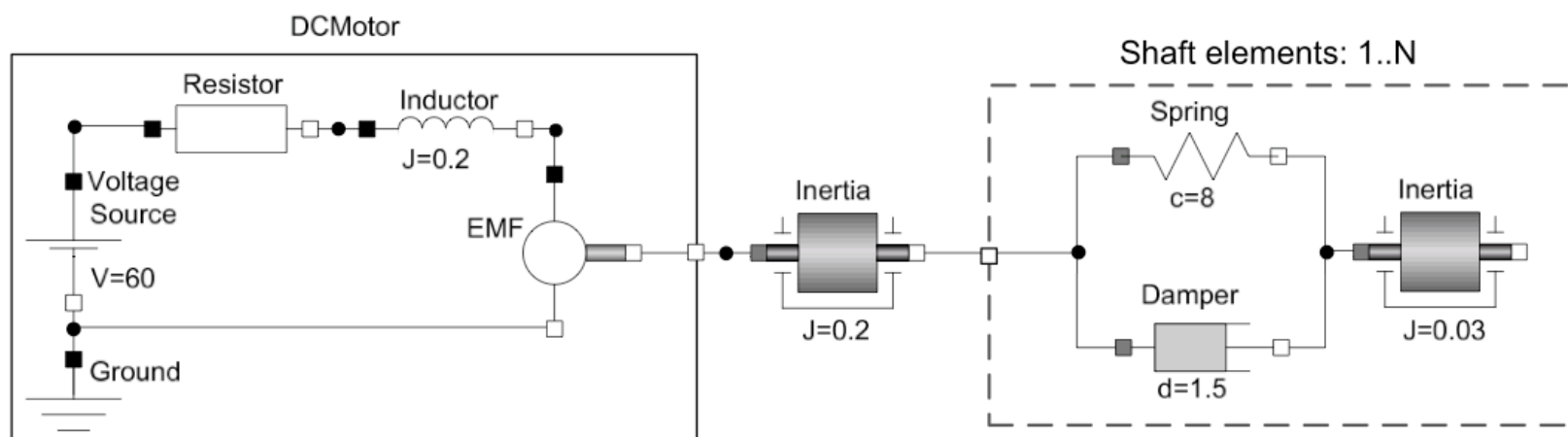
Related Work and
Future Perspective





Part II

Higher Order Modeling in MKL



Part I

The Basic Idea
of Higher-Order



Part II

Higher-Order
Modeling in MKL

Part III

Related Work and
Future Perspective

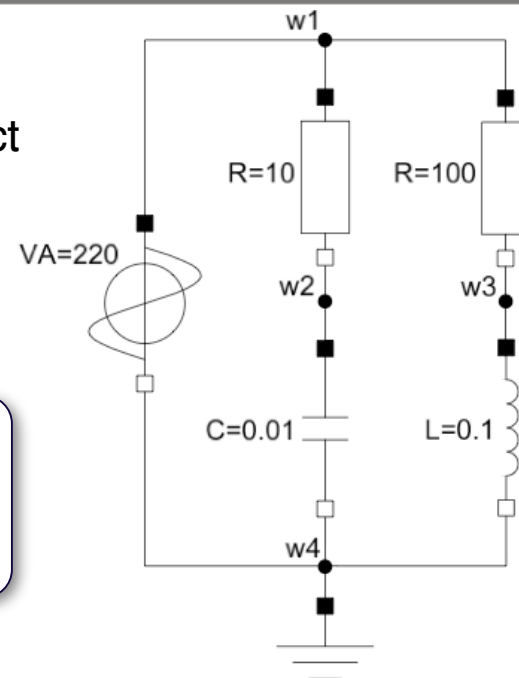


Basic Physical Modeling in MKL

```
def Circuit = model(){
  def w1 = Wire();
  def w2 = Wire();
  def w3 = Wire();
  def w4 = Wire();
  Resistor(w1,w2,10);
  Capacitor(w2,w4,0.01);
  Resistor(w1,w3,100);
  Inductor(w3,w4,0.1);
  VSourceAC(w1,w4,220);
  Ground(w4);
};
```

Wires are used to connect model instances.

```
def Wire = func(){
  (var(),flow())
};
```



```
def TwoPin = model((pv,pi),(nv,ni),v){
  v = pv - nv;
  0 = pi + ni;
};
```

TwoPin is used by composition.

Differential equations

```
def Inductor = model(p,n,L){
  def (_,pi) = p;
  def v = var(0);
  TwoPin(p,n,v);
  L*der(pi) = v;
};
```

Part I

The Basic Idea
of Higher-Order



Part II

Higher-Order
Modeling in MKL

Part III

Related Work and
Future Perspective



Higher-Order Acausal Models



DEFINITION 3 (Higher-Order Acausal Model (HOAM)).
A higher-order acausal model is an acausal model, which can be

- 1. parametrized with other HOAMs.*
- 2. recursively composed to generate new HOAMs.*
- 3. passed as argument to, or returned as result from functions.*

Part I

The Basic Idea
of Higher-Order



Part II

Higher-Order
Modeling in MKL

Part III

Related Work and
Future Perspective



1. Parameterized with other HOAMs

```
def Automobile = model(Engine, Tire){
  def c1 = Connection();
  def c2 = Connection();
  Engine(c1);
  Gearbox(c1,c2);
  Tire(c2); Tire(c2); Tire(c2); Tire(c2)
};
```

Two formal parameters:
Engine and Tire

Creating automobile
instances with different
engines

`Automobile(EngineV6, TireTypeA);`

`Automobile(EngineV8, TireTypeA);`

Note: Similar to the Modelica
declare construct.

Part I

The Basic Idea
of Higher-Order



Part II

Higher-Order
Modeling in MKL

Part III

Related Work and
Future Perspective



Higher-Order Acausal Models



DEFINITION 3 (Higher-Order Acausal Model (HOAM)).
A higher-order acausal model is an acausal model, which can be

- 1. parametrized with other HOAMs.*
- 2. recursively composed to generate new HOAMs.*
- 3. passed as argument to, or returned as result from functions.*

Part I

The Basic Idea
of Higher-Order



Part II

Higher-Order
Modeling in MKL

Part III

Related Work and
Future Perspective

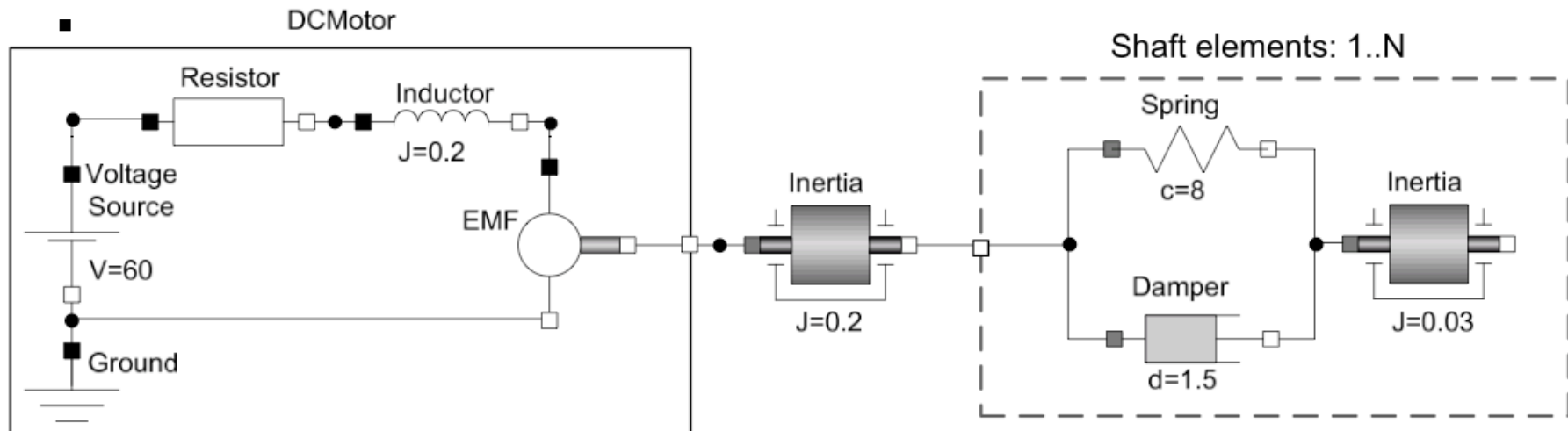


2. Recursively composed to generate new HOAMs

17

id Broman
@ida.liu.se

Example of a Mechatronic system with a DC motor and a flexible shaft



```
def MechSys = model(){  
  def c1 = RotCon();  
  def c2 = RotCon();  
  DCMotor(c1);  
  Inertia(c1,c2,0.2);  
  FlexibleShaft(c2, RotCon(), 120);  
};
```

A rotational connector in the mechanical domain.

Creates a flexible shaft with 120 shaft elements.

How is this model defined?

Part I

The Basic Idea of Higher-Order



Part II

Higher-Order Modeling in MKL

Part III

Related Work and Future Perspective



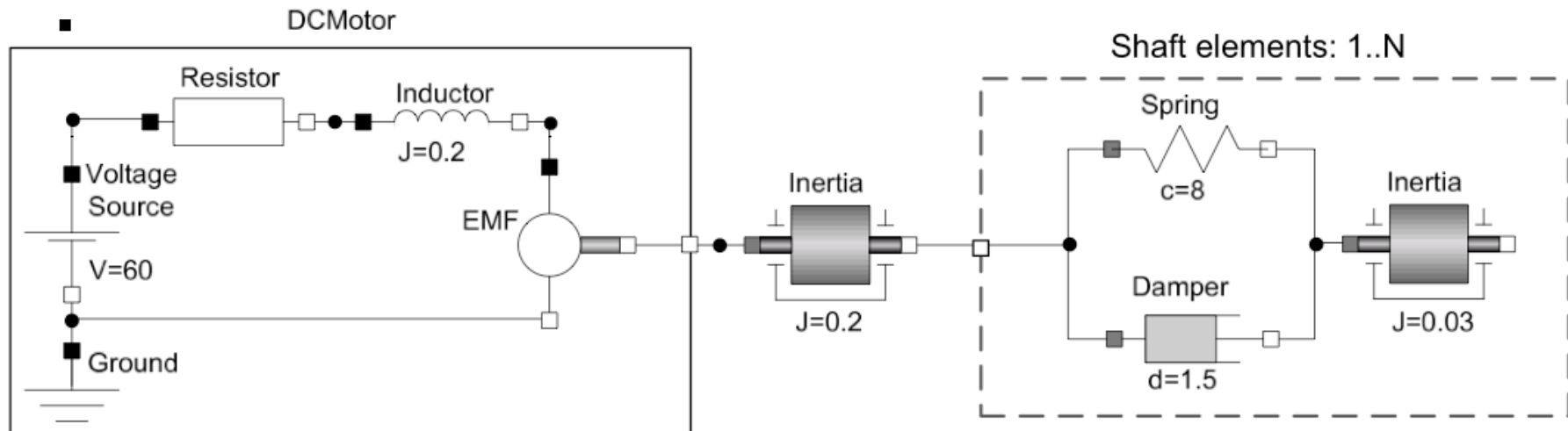
Linköpings universitet

2. Recursively composed to generate new HOAMs

18

id Broman
@ida.liu.se

Example of a Mechatronic system with a DC motor and a flexible shaft



One shaft element is created by standard components.

```
def ShaftElement = model(ca,cb){  
  def c1 = RotCon();  
  Spring(ca,c1,8);  
  Damper(ca,c1,1.5);  
  Inertia(c1,cb,0.03);  
};
```

Part I

The Basic Idea
of Higher-Order



Part II

Higher-Order
Modeling in MKL

Part III

Related Work and
Future Perspective



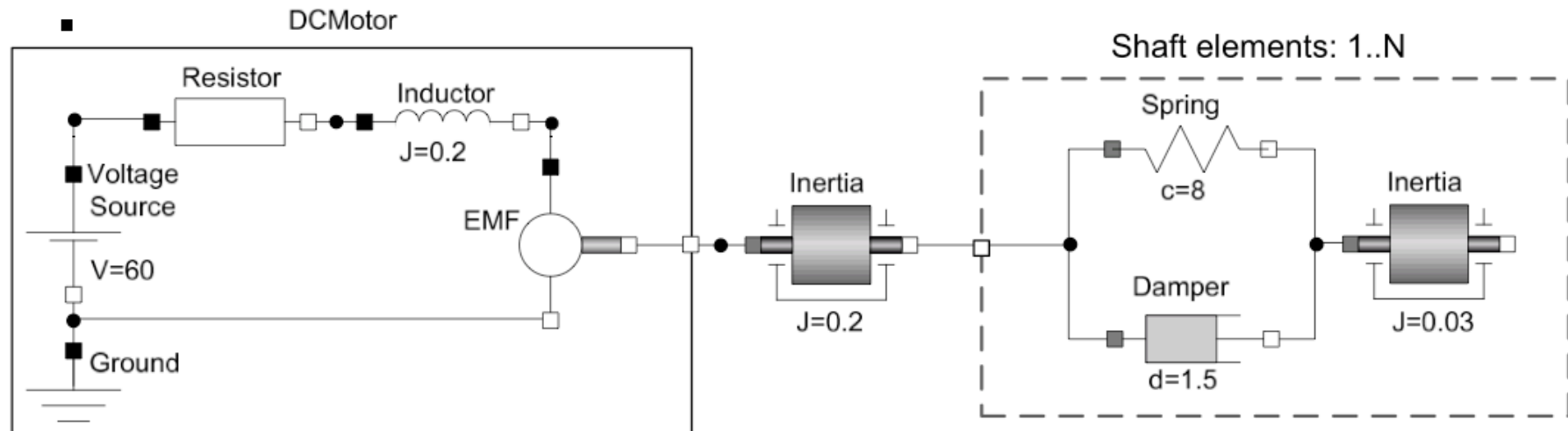
Linköpings universitet

2. Recursively composed to generate new HOAMs

19

id Broman
@ida.liu.se

Example of a Mechatronic system with a DC motor and a flexible shaft



```
defrec FlexibleShaft = model(ca,cb,n){  
  if(n==1)  
    ShaftElement(ca,cb)  
  else{  
    def c1 = RotCon();  
    ShaftElement(ca,c1);  
    FlexibleShaft(c1,cb,n-1);  
  };  
};
```

The flexible shaft is recursively defined by creating ShaftElements.

The recursion terminates after n steps (in the example 120 steps)

Part I

The Basic Idea
of Higher-Order



Part II

Higher-Order
Modeling in MKL

Part III

Related Work and
Future Perspective



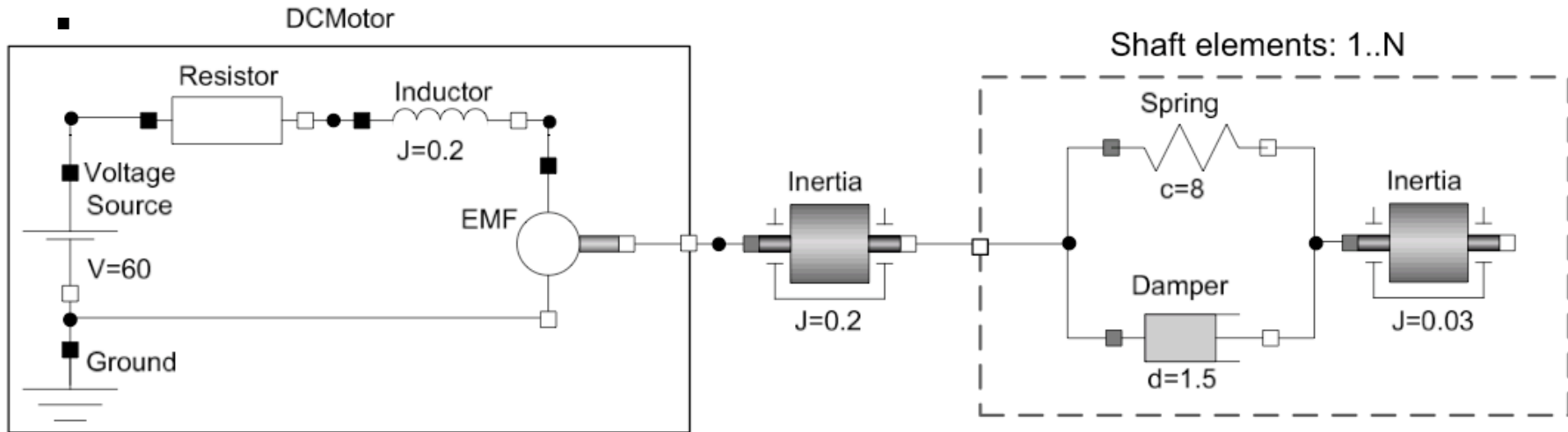
Linköpings universitet

2. Recursively composed to generate new HOAMs

20

id Broman
@ida.liu.se

Example of a Mechatronic system with a DC motor and a flexible shaft



```
defrec FlexibleShaft = model(ca,cb,n){  
  if(n==1)  
    ShaftElement(ca,cb)  
  else{  
    def c1 = RotCon();  
    ShaftElement(ca,c1);  
    FlexibleShaft(c1,cb,n-1);  
  };  
};
```

The flexible shaft is recursively defined by creating ShaftElements.

Do we always need to write a new recursive definition of a model when we for example want to serialize a number of models?

Part I

The Basic Idea
of Higher-Order



Part II

Higher-Order
Modeling in MKL

Part III

Related Work and
Future Perspective



Linköpings universitet

Higher-Order Acausal Models



DEFINITION 3 (Higher-Order Acausal Model (HOAM)).
A higher-order acausal model is an acausal model, which can be

- 1. parametrized with other HOAMs.*
- 2. recursively composed to generate new HOAMs.*
- 3. passed as argument to, or returned as result from functions.*

Part I

The Basic Idea
of Higher-Order



Part II

Higher-Order
Modeling in MKL

Part III

Related Work and
Future Perspective



3. Passed as argument to, or as result from functions

```
def composeparallel = func(M1,M2){
  model(p,n){
    M1(p,n);
    M2(p,n);
  }
};
```

Composes model M1 and M2 in parallel and returns a new model.

However, e.g. an inductor takes 3 arguments!

```
def Inductor = model(p,n,L){
```

```
def set = func(M,val){
  model(p,n){
    M(p,n,val);
  }
};
```

We can use a set function that defines e.g. the resistance or inductance.

We can now create a new composed model Foo.

```
def Foo = composeparallel(set(Resistor, 100),
  set(Inductor, 0.1));
```

Part I

The Basic Idea
of Higher-Order



Part II

Higher-Order
Modeling in MKL

Part III

Related Work and
Future Perspective



3. Passed as argument to, or as result from functions

```
def composeparallel = func(M1,M2){
  model(p,n){
    M1(p,n);
    M2(p,n);
  }
};
```

Composes model M1 and M2 in parallel and returns a new model.

However, e.g. an inductor takes 3 arguments!

```
def Inductor = model(p,n,L){
```

```
def set = func(M,val){
  model(p,n){
    M(p,n,val);
  }
};
```

We can use a set function that defines e.g. the

Why is this more expressive than defining the composed model directly?

```
def Foo = composeparallel(set(Inductor, 100),
  set(Inductor, 100))
```

It's not, but imagine that you should compose 120 elements...

Part I

The Basic Idea of Higher-Order



Part II

Higher-Order Modeling in MKL

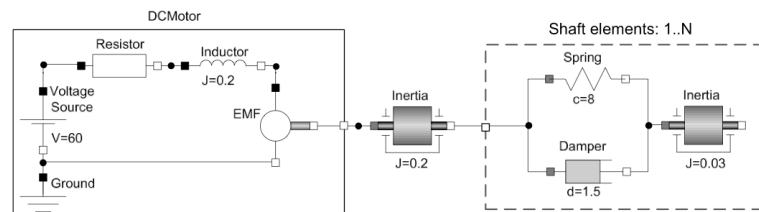
Part III

Related Work and Future Perspective



3. Passed as argument to, or as result from functions

```
defrec recmodel = model(M,C,ca,cb,n){
  if(n==1)
    M(ca,cb)
  else{
    def c1 = C();
    M(ca,c1);
    recmodel(M,C,c1,cb,n-1);
  };
};
```



Similar to the flexibleshaft model, but now with an arbitrary **model M** and connection **constructor C**.

After encapsulation, we have a **transformation function** that returns a new serialized model with two pins.

```
def serialize = func(M,C,n){
  model(ca,cb){
    recmodel(M,C,ca,cb,n);
  }
};
```

Part I

The Basic Idea
of Higher-Order



Part II

Higher-Order
Modeling in MKL

Part III

Related Work and
Future Perspective



3. Passed as argument to, or as result from functions

```
def MekSys2 = model(){  
  def c1 = RotCon();  
  def c2 = RotCon();  
  DCMotor(c1);  
  Inertia(c1,c2,0.2);  
  def FlexibleShaft =  
    serialize(ShaftElement, RotCon, 120);  
  FlexibleShaft(c2, RotCon());  
};
```

We can now use the generic function to serialize 120 shaftelements.

The good news is that once the serialize transformation function is defined, it can be reused with arbitrary model which has two pins.

```
def Res50 =  
  serialize(set(Resistor, 100), Wire, 50);
```

Part I

The Basic Idea
of Higher-Order



Part II

Higher-Order
Modeling in MKL

Part III

Related Work and
Future Perspective





Part III

Related Work and Future Perspective



Part I

The Basic Idea
of Higher-Order

Part II

Higher-Order
Modeling in MKL



Part III

Related Work and
Future Perspective



Related Work (1/2)

Functional Hybrid Modeling (FHM)

(Nilsson, Peterson, and Hudak, 2007)

- Have a similar concept called *first-class relations on signals*.
- Similarity: First-class and can be recursively defined.
- Difference: MKL models can be **parameterized** on any type, where first-class relations on signals in FHM are parameterized using ordinary function abstraction.
- Compared to MKL, FHM has yet no published formal semantics.

Metaprogramming and Metamodeling

E.g. MetaML and Template Haskell

- Metaprograms are programs that take other **programs / models as data** and produces new programs / models as output.
- Approach of HOAMs enables access to **transform models direct in the language** without representing models as data.
- Metaprogramming can on the other hand enables **greater generality** of model transformations.

Part I

The Basic Idea
of Higher-Order

Part II

Higher-Order
Modeling in MKL



Part III

Related Work and
Future Perspective



Related Work (2/2)

Modelica semantics

(Modelica Association, 2007)

- The **redeclare construct** have similar ability as passing HOAMs to other HOAMs.
- **For-equations** can be used to create sequences of connected models, i.e. same as recursive HOAMs.
- It is **not yet possible to create model transformation functions** in Modelica (such as the serialize function), since models cannot be passed into functions.
- The Modelica semantics are **informally defined** using natural language. It's semantics are complex and large. MKL on the other hand has a very **small formal semantics**.

Part I

The Basic Idea
of Higher-Order

Part II

Higher-Order
Modeling in MKL



Part III

Related Work and
Future Perspective



Future Perspective

Current Limitations

- HOAMs as presented here are limited to the **elaboration phase**.

Interesting Future Research

- HOAMs as part part of the **run-time (simulation-time)**, i.e., run-time creation of models, composition of models.
- A general approach to **structurally variable systems**, i.e. models can be transformed, instantiated and destroyed at run-time.

Research challenges

- How can we guarantee static type-safety?
- How can we preserve high performance? E.g. how do we handle index reduction?
- Is it possible to define a formal sound semantics of such a language?

Part I

The Basic Idea
of Higher-Order

Part II

Higher-Order
Modeling in MKL



Part III

Related Work and
Future Perspective



Conclusions



Higher-Order
Functions

+

Acausal Models

=

Higher-Order
Acausal Models
(HOAMs)

DEFINITION 3 (Higher-Order Acausal Model (HOAM)).
A higher-order acausal model is an acausal model, which can be

- 1. parametrized with other HOAMs.*
- 2. recursively composed to generate new HOAMs.*
- 3. passed as argument to, or returned as result from functions.*

Thanks for listening!

Part I

The Basic Idea
of Higher-Order

Part II

Higher-Order
Modeling in MKL

Part III

Related Work and
Future Perspective

