Utilizing the CoRE Behavioral Model for CubeSat Software Requirements

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What Makes CubeSats Different?

Two factors separating CubeSats from other aerospace projects:

1. Project timeline
2. Organizational Scale
CoRE Method

• Stands for Consortium Requirements Engineering method
  • Developed by the Software Productivity Consortium
• Based on principles of object-oriented programming
• Two model structure
  • Behavioral
  • Class
• Requires precise description of acceptable software behaviors
• Requires familiar language for easy understanding
Behavioral Model

• Requires software to be viewed within the environment context
  • What affects the software
  • What interfaces with the software

• Two environmental quantities
  • NAT – based on nature
  • REQ – based on what the system must enforce
Modifying CoRE for CubeSats

1. Utilize behavioral model to collect data on environmental quantities
2. Separate the monitored and controlled variables
3. Formalize the requirements into statements
Collect Environment Quantities

• Determine quantities
  • NAT and REQ

• Collect information on each quantity.
  • Name- name of quantity
  • Type- what is measured
  • Value- potential ranges
  • Description- importance for either monitoring or controlling

Example: temperature

• Name- Temperature
• Type- volts
• Value- 0.4-2.4 volts
• Description- Measures temperature of the spacecraft for health purposes
Separate Environmental Quantities

• Determine whether the quantity is monitored or controlled
  • How is the quantity being used on the spacecraft?

• Example: Temperature is being measured for health purposes
  • Monitored quantity
Formalize Requirements

• Compile information into formal statements
  • “shall” statements

• Organize formal statements
  • Keep controlled and monitored separate

• Example: The system shall measure the temperature within a range of 0.4 to 2.4 volts to track the health of the spacecraft.
Future Work

• Integrate and modify the class model
  • Allows for requirements or portions of requirements to be reused.
  • Saves time for future requirement development

• Integrate the use of Computer-Aided Software Engineering (CASE) tools
  • Further streamline requirements development process
Questions?