Formal Development of Cyber-Physical Systems: The Event-B Approach

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- Junior Research Assistant (2014-16) on the SafeCap project: formal methods for a safe and optimum railway,
- PhD work (2016-20, iCase w. Siemens Rail Automation) on formal engineering of heterogeneous railway signalling systems,
- Post-doctoral work (2020-) on the integration of hybridised Event-B and reachability analysis, real-time reachability analysis of autonomous systems and safe AI.

Cyber-Physical Systems

What are Cyber-Physical Systems (CPS)?

- integrate computation and physical processes,
- networked computers control physical systems.

Examples of CPS can be found in many industry sectors¹, ²:





 $¹_{\rm https://www.phillymag.com/healthcare-news/2019/07/15/medcrypt-hack-proof-medical-devices/}$

 $[\]mathbf{2}_{https://sites.rmit.edu.au/cyber-physical-systems/}$

What are Cyber-Physical Systems (CPS)?

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- networked computers control physical systems.

Examples of CPS can be found in many industry sectors. Importantly many of these systems are **safety-critical**.



 $[\]mathbf{2}_{Photo\ taken\ from\ https://www.networkrail-training.co.uk/media/Signaller_Training_01.jpeg}$

Railway signalling systems are safety-critical cyber-physical systems:

 European Train Control System (ETCS L0-3, part of ERTMS), Communication-based Train Control (CBTC),



Trains are hybrid systems (discrete and continuous behaviour)

Railway signalling systems are safety-critical cyber-physical systems:

- European Train Control System (ETCS L0-3, part of ERTMS), Communication-based Train Control (CBTC),
- Heterogeneous railway signalling networks (Crossrail, Thameslink).



Trains are hybrid systems (discrete and continuous behaviour)

Trains are hybrid systems (discrete and continuous behaviour)³.

 European Vital Computed (EVC) computes braking curves and intervenes if braking curves are breached.



 $[\]mathbf{3}_{https://www.graffica.co.uk/case-studies/hermes-etcs-modelling/}$

Formal Methods for Railway Signalling Systems

Formal methods have been used in the railway domain, for example:

- The **B** method Paris Metro, Paris Roissy Airport shuttle.

Formal Verification of control tables and interlocking software (Solid State Interlocking (SSI)):

- push-button model-checking approaches.

		INTERLOCKING			CONTROL					
R	UTE	REQUIRES	SET & LOCKS POINTS		REQUIRES			REQUIRES TC		
		100.000.0000.0			KEYLOCK	ASPECT	SIGNAL AHEAD		AT TIME OF	
From	Te	ROUTE NORMAL	NORMAL	REVERSE	NORMAL			CLEAR	CLEARIN TO OLEAR	CCC FOR
1	3				-	Y	3 AT R#			
	1.1333		· · · · ·			G	3 AT Y# OR G#	1	1	
2	4					Y.	4 AT R#		1	
	1555					G	4 AT Y# OR G#		1000	
3(1)	23	16,24,4(1),4(2),3(2)		103,104	201,202, 203,204	Y+JI	23 AT Re	3T,9T,103T,24T,41T, 23T,104T,8T,4T	42	60 sec
3(2)	15	16,24,4(1),4(2),3(1)	103,104		12013191019	Ŷ	15 AT R# 15 AT G#	3T,9T,103T,16T,42T, 15T,104T,8T,4T	41	41 FOR 60 sec
4(1)	16	15,23,3(1),3(2),4(2)	104,103		10	ğ	16 AT Rd 16 AT G#	4T,8T,104T,15T,42T, 16T,103T,9T,3T	41	41 FOR 56 sec
4(2)	24	15,23,3(1),3(2),4(1)		104,103	201,202, 203,204	YeJI	24 AT RØ	4T,8T,104T,23T,41T, 24T,103T,9T,3T	42	42 FOR
15	UP BLOCK SECTION	20,4(1),4(2)	104,103			G		15T,104T,8T,4T,2T,TOL		0
23	UP BLOCK SECTION	15,4(1),4(2)		104,163		G		23T,104T,8T,4T,2T,TOL		
15	BLOCK SECTION	24,3(1),3(2)	103,104			G		181,1031,91,31,11,10L		0
24	DOWN BLOCK SECTION	16,3(1),3(2)		103,104		6		241,1031,91,31,11,10L		

³Control Table example from S. Vanit-Anunchai: Verification of Railway Interlocking Tables Using Coloured Petri Nets. COORDINATION, 2010.

Formal methods have been used in the railway domain, for example:

- The **B** method Paris Metro, Paris Roissy Airport shuttle.

Formal Verification of control tables and the **interlocking software** (Solid State Interlocking (SSI)):

- automated theorem provers (e.g., The Formal Route company).

```
+QR117B(M)
                             / route request block for route R117B(M)
 if R117B(M) a
                             / route R117B(M) is available
            USD-CA f.OSC-BA f.OSV-BA f / sub-route and sub-overlaps are free
         then if OSL-AC 1. / sub-overlap is OSL-AC locked
                P223 fr , P224 fr / points P223, P224 free to move reverse
              then @P223QR \ / call subroutine P223QR
            if OSD-BC f
                           / sub-overlap is OSD-BC is free
               LTR04 xs / latch (boolean flag) not set (false)
               P224 crf / point P224 commanded reverse or free to move reverse
            then R117B(M) s / set route set flag for R117B(M)
               USD-AC 1 , USC-AB 1 , USB-AB 1 , OSA-AB 1 / set sub-routes/overlaps
               P224 cr
                           / command point P224 reverse
               LARR XS
                             / clear latch LARR
               S117 clear bpull / clear signal button pull flag
               if P223 xcr , P223 rf then / check point states
               @P223QR / point command subroutine
                   EP230 = 0 \ / reset timer EP230
```

³SSI example from Iliasov et al.: Formal Verification of Signalling Programs with SafeCap. SAFECOMP, 2018.

Formal CPS development framework which utilises abstraction and refinement.

Enables a **multifaceted** CPS design:

- simulation-based system validation and analysis,
- model constraints and safe parameter values via reachability analysis.

Improves **scalability** of formal verification:

- automation of formal verification of hybrid systems,
- challenge of deriving differential invariant.

State-based pivot model (A)



Framework for CPS Design and Analysis

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Framework for CPS Design and Analysis

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- challenge of deriving differential invariant.



From Event-B to Hybridised Event-B

The ${f B}$ method:

- formal software development method proposed by J.-R. Abrial.

The Event-B method:

- evolution of the B method for formal system-level modelling and verification.
- key features of the **Event-B** method:
 - set-theoretic modelling notation,
 - refinement- and proof- driven approach,
 - good tool support (Eclipse-based Rodin platform, ProB model checker, Theory plug-in, SMT solvers).

Both methods are used in academia and industry (e.g., Siemens Transportation, ALSTOM, CLEARSY and others)

The structure of Event-B models:

- a context holds static information about the system,
- a *machine* describes dynamic system aspects,
- properties about the system can be expressed as invariants (e.g. inv₂),
- 10 different types of possible proof obligations,
- (discrete) Event-B model verification automation has been significantly improved.

CONTEX	T ctx0
SETS	
CRS	
CONSTA	NTS
m	
AXIOMS	
$a \times m_0$	finite(CRS)
$a \times m_0$	$m\in\mathbb{N}1$
$a \times m_0$	$m \leq card(CRS)$
END	

From Event-B to Hybrid Event-B

The structure of Event-B models:

- a *context* holds static information about the system,
- a machine describes dynamic system aspects,
- properties about the system can be expressed as invariants (e.g. inv_2),
- 10 different types of possible proof obligations,
- (discrete) Event-B model verification automation has been significantly improved.

MACHINE m0
VARIABLES
х
INVARIANTS
$inv_1 x \in \mathbb{N}$
$inv_2 x \leq 11$
EVENTS
INITIALISATION
THEN
$act_1: x \coloneqq 0$
END
Increment
WHERE
$grd_1: x \leq 10$
THEN
$act_1: x := x + 1$
END
END

MACHINE m0 VARIABLES X INVARIANTS inv₁ $x \in \mathbb{N}$ inv₂ x < 11**EVENTS** INITIALISATION THEN $act_1 : x \coloneqq 0$ FND Increment WHERE grd_1 : $x \leq 10$ THEN $act_1 : x := x + 1$ END END

Invariant Preservation Rule

Axioms Invariants Event Guards Event BAP \vdash Modified Specific Invariant $\mathsf{x} \in \mathbb{N}$ $x \in \mathbb{N}$ x < 10 $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$ \vdash \vdash $x + 1 \le 11$ $x \le 11$

MACHINE m0	Feasibility			
VARIABLES	-			
х				
INVARIANTS				
$inv_1 x \in \mathbb{N}$	Avions			
$inv_2 x \leq 11$	AXIOIIIS			
EVENTS	Invariants			
INITIALISATION	Event Guards			
THEN				
$act_1: x \coloneqq 0$	\vdash			
END	$\exists v' \cdot Event R A P$			
Increment				
WHERE				
grd_1 : $ op$				
THEN				
$act_1: \ \ x: \ \ x' = x + 1 \land x' + 1 \leq 11$				
END				
END				

Note: Rewriting act_1 with *such that* and strengthening before-after predicate we can automatically prove inv_2 but need to prove feasibility.

The Rodin Theory plug-in allows extending the $\ensuremath{\text{Event-B}}\xspace$ mathematical language:⁴

```
THEORY Sea
TYPE PARAMETERS A
OPERATORS
  seq expression seq(a : \mathbb{P}(A))
    direct definition
    seq(a: \mathbb{P}(A)) \triangleq \{n, f \cdot n \in \mathbb{N} \land f \in 1..n \to a | f\}
AXIOMS
  seaslsFinite \forall s, a \cdot a \subseteq A \land s \in sea(a) \Rightarrow finite(s)
PROOF RULES
FND
```

⁴Event-B theory example based on

https://wiki.event-b.org/index.php/Theory_Plug-in

Hybrid systems are dynamical systems that exhibit discrete and continuous behaviour:

- a hybrid automaton model is used for describing hybrid systems.

The **Event-B** method for hybrid systems:

- Banach et al. Hybrid Event-B: Core Hybrid Event-B I: Single Hybrid Event-B machines
 - new *pliant* events for continuous actions,
 - approach is not tool supported.
- Dupont et al. Correct-by-Construction Design of Hybrid Systems Based on Refinement and Proof (PhD thesis)
 - new Event-B theories (Reals, continuous functions, differential equations, theory of approximations),
 - hybrid system modelling and refinement patterns (generic hybrid Event-B model).

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```
THEORY DiffEq IMPORT Functions
TYPE PARAMETERS E. F
DATATYPES
 DE(F) constructors ode(f, \eta_0, t_0), \ldots
OPERATORS
 solutionOf predicate (D : \mathbb{P}(\mathbb{R}), \eta : \mathbb{R} \to F, \mathcal{E} : \mathsf{DE}(F)) \dots
 Solvable predicate (D : \mathbb{P}(\mathbb{R}), \mathcal{E} : DE(F)) \dots
 CBAP predicate (t, t' : \mathbb{R}^+, x_p, x'_p : \mathbb{R} \to F, \mathcal{P} : \mathbb{P}((\mathbb{R} \to F) \times (\mathbb{R} \to F)), H : \mathbb{P}(F))
 :~ predicate (t, t' : \mathbb{R}^+, x_p, x'_p : \mathbb{R} \to F, \mathcal{E} : \mathsf{DE}(F), H : \mathbb{P}(F))
      well-definedness condition Solvable([t, t'], \mathcal{E})
      direct definition solutionOf([t, t'], x'_{p}, \mathcal{E}) \land \ldots
AXIOMS
  CauchyLipschitz: --- external
     \forall \mathcal{E}, D, D_F \cdot \mathcal{E} \in \mathsf{DE}(F) \land \ldots \Rightarrow \mathsf{Solvable}(D, \mathcal{E})
```

- use of theories to integrate continuous features
 - \Rightarrow e.g. continuous behaviour using differential equations
- exploit WD to ensure the correct use of operators/theorems

Continuous state variables = functions of time ($\in \mathbb{R} \leftrightarrow S$) \Rightarrow continuous evolution as CBAP

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{CBAP}(t, t', x_p, x'_p, \mathcal{P}, H) &\equiv \\ x_p : |_{t \to t'} \mathcal{P}(x_p, x'_p) & \mathcal{U}H &\equiv \\ & [0, t[\lhd x'_p = [0, t[\lhd x_p \qquad (Past \ Preservation) \\ & \land \mathcal{P}([0, t] \lhd x_p, [t, t'] \lhd x'_p) \qquad (Predicate) \\ & \land \forall t^* \in [t, t'], x_p(t^*) \in H \qquad (Evolution \ Dom.) \end{aligned}$$

Note: shorthand for differential equations:

 $x_p: \sim_{t \to t'} \mathcal{E} \& H \equiv x_p: |_{t \to t'}$ solution $Of([t, t'], \mathcal{E}, x'_p) \& H$

Hybridised **Event-B** patterns formalise a generic controller-plant-loop hybrid system as Event-B model:



Hybridised Event-B machine modelling pattern:

```
MACHINE Generic<br/>EXTENDS DiffEquations- use developed theories (e.g.,<br/>differential equations),VARIABLES t, x_s, x_p<br/>INVARIANTS<br/>inv_1: t \in \mathbb{R}^+<br/>inv_2: x_s \in STATES<br/>inv_3: x_p \in \mathbb{R} \rightarrow S<br/>inv_4: <math>[0, t] \subseteq dom(x_p)- explicit time (t),<br/>- discrete state (x_s) +<br/>continuous state (x_p, function<br/>of time).
```

From Event-B to Hybridised Event-B

Generic events of hybridised Event-B modelling pattern:

```
Actuate
ANY \mathcal{P}, s. H. t'
                                                                                                   Sense
WHFRF
                                                                                                  ANY s, p
     \operatorname{grd}_0: t' > t
      \operatorname{grd}_1: \mathcal{P} \in (\mathbb{R}^+ \twoheadrightarrow S) \times (\mathbb{R}^+ \twoheadrightarrow S)
                                                                                                  WHERE
                                                                                                   \operatorname{grd}_1: s \in \mathbb{P}1(\operatorname{STATES})
      \operatorname{grd}_2: Feasible([t, t'], x_p, \mathcal{P}, H)
                                                                                                   \operatorname{grd}_2: p \in \mathbb{P}(\operatorname{STATES} \times \mathbb{R} \times S)
      \operatorname{grd}_3: s \subset \operatorname{STATES} \land x_s \in s
                                                                                                   \operatorname{grd}_3: (x_s \mapsto t \mapsto x_p(t)) \in p
      \operatorname{grd}_4: H \subseteq S \wedge x_p(t) \in H
                                                                                                  THEN
THEN
      act<sub>1</sub>: x_p : |_{t \to t'} \mathcal{P}(x_p, x'_p) \& H
                                                                                                        act_1: x_s:\in s
                                                                                                  FND
END
```

- discrete event Sense + continuous event Actuate (passing of time),
- Actuate based on CBAP, WD in guard (proved in refinement with guard strengthening),
- Additional generic events Behave and Transition model changes induced by environment and user.

New types of proof obligations:

 Continuous invariant preservation: if the invariant is true on [0, t], then it must be true on [t, t'], i.e., on the whole duration of the continuous event:

$$\Gamma, \mathcal{I}([0,t] \triangleleft x_p), \ CBAP(t,t',x_p,x'_p,\mathcal{P},\mathcal{H}) \quad \vdash \mathcal{I}([t,t'] \triangleleft x'_p)$$
(CINV)

 Continuous feasibility requires to prove that, if the event is triggered, then its action can be performed:

$$\Gamma \vdash \exists t' \cdot t' \in \mathbb{R}^+ \land t' > t \land \mathsf{Feasible}([t, t'], x_p, \mathcal{P}, \mathcal{H}_{saf}) \tag{CFIS}$$

Important: Proof-obligations related to continuous system behaviour of the model are generally complex and proved interactively.

Hybridised Event-B for CPS Design Framework

Theories



The following slides present the framework application for developing a cyber-physical railway signalling system.

- $\mathbf{1}^{st}$ refinement of the generic introduces rolling stock.
 - A driver (or ATO system) controls a train engine power (tractive force) *f* which yields an acceleration,
 - Davis Resistance equation in Equation (1), where A, B, C are fixed parameters and v(t) is the speed of a train at time t:

$$\begin{cases} \dot{v}(t) = \pm (f - (A + B \cdot v(t) + C \cdot v(t)^2))/M_{train} \\ \dot{p}(t) = v(t) \end{cases}$$
(1)

- The hybrid automaton model of the train speed controller:

$$\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline & & & \\ \hline \hline & & & \\ \hline & & & \\ \hline \hline \\ \hline & & & \\ \hline \hline \hline \hline \hline \\ \hline \hline \hline \hline \\ \hline \hline \hline \hline \hline \hline \hline \hline \hline \\ \hline \hline$$

- Properties of the train are gathered in the Train domain theory,
- This theory mainly defines the Davis equation and its properties

```
THEORY Trains

OPERATORS

DavisResistance expression (a: \mathbb{R}, b: \mathbb{R}, c: \mathbb{R})

well-definedness condition a \ge 0, b \ge 0, c \ge 0

direct definition (\lambda v \cdot v \in \mathbb{R} \mid a + bv + cv^2)

...

THEOREMS

...
```

END

The context defines the constants of the system:

- Davis coefficients (a, b, c), traction power limits (f_{min} , f_{max})

Also, the context introduces the stopping distance function **StopDist** and controller models.

CONTEXT TrainCtx CONSTANTS

free_move, restricted_move

StopDist

 $a, b, c, f_{min}, f_{max}, f_{dec_min}$

AXIOMS

- $\mathsf{axm}_1: a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}^+$
- $\mathsf{axm}_2: \ f_{\min}, f_{\max}, f_{dec_min} \in \mathbb{R}$
- $\mathsf{axm}_3\colon \ \mathsf{StopDist} \in (\mathbb{R}\times\mathbb{R}^+) \twoheadrightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$
- $axm_5: partition(STATES, \{free_move\}, \{restricted_move\})$

Cyber-Physical Railway Signalling System: Proof Statistic

MACHINE TrainMach **REFINES** Generic **VARIABLES** t, x_{st} tp, tv, ta, f, EoA **INVARIANTS**

 $\begin{array}{ll} \operatorname{inv}_1: & tp, tv, ta \in \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R} \\ \operatorname{inv}_2: & [0,t] \subseteq \operatorname{dom}(tp), \dots \\ \operatorname{inv}_3: & \operatorname{EoA} \in \mathbb{R}^+ \\ \operatorname{inv}_4: & f_{\min} \leq f \wedge f \leq f_{\max} \\ \operatorname{inv}_5: & x_p = [ta \ tv \ tp]^\top \\ \operatorname{saf}_1: & \forall t^* \cdot t^* \in [0,t] \Rightarrow tp(t^*) \leq \operatorname{EoA} \\ \operatorname{phy}_1: & \forall t^* \cdot t^* \in [0,t] \Rightarrow tv(t^*) \geq 0 \end{array}$

Safety property as: at all times the train must remain within the issued movement authority:

- expressed as Event-B invariant saf₁,
- an additional physics property phy₁.

Sense_to_restricted

REFINES Sense

WHERE

 $\operatorname{grd}_1: tp(t) + \operatorname{StopDist}(ta(t) \mapsto tv(t))) \geq \operatorname{EoA}$

WITH

 $st: st = {restricted_move}$

 $p: p = \mathsf{STATES} \times \mathbb{R} \times \{v^* \mapsto p^* \mid p^* + \mathsf{StopDist}(f_{\textit{dec_min}} \mapsto v^*) \ge \mathsf{EoA}\}$

THEN

 $act_1: x_{st} := restricted_move$ END

Actuate_move REFINES Actuate

ANY t'

WHERE

 $ext{grd}_1: tp(t) + ext{StopDist}(ta(t) \mapsto tv(t)) \leq ext{EoA} \\ ext{grd}_2: t < t' \end{aligned}$

WITH

 $\begin{aligned} x'_p: & x'_p = [ta \ tv \ tp]^\top \\ \mathcal{P}: & \mathcal{P} = \dots \\ H: & H = \dots \\ st: & st = \mathsf{STATES} \end{aligned}$

THEN

act₁: $ta, tv, tp:|_{t \to t'}$ solutionOf($[t, t'], [tv tp]^{\top}$, DavisEquation(a, b, c, f, t, tv(t), tp(t))) \land

$$ta = t\dot{v}$$

& $tp + \text{StopDist}(ta \mapsto tv) \leq \text{EoA} \land tv \geq 0$
END

Cyber-Physical Railway Signalling System: Proof Statistic

Refinement	РО Туре	POs	Auto.	Inter.
Speed Controller		55	36	19
	WD	12	12	0
	GRD	11	11	0
	INV	18	10	8
	FIS	8	0	8
	SIM	6	3	3
Communication		85	71	14
	WD	31	31	0
	GRD	12	7	5
	INV	42	33	9
	FIS	0	0	0
	SIM	0	0	0
Total		140	119	21

Can **reachability analysis** help to address verification automation challenges of hybridised Event-B models (similar to how ProB model checker is used for discrete systems)?



Computing reachable states of a **hybrid automaton** requires computing *runs* of the hybrid system.

Reachability enabled verification tactic of CINV:

- 1. Strengthen actuation events actions such that $H \subseteq \mathcal{I}$,
- 2. Generating proof-obligation (automatically),
 - 2 CFIS proof obligations were generated (for the free and restricted modes).
- 3. Translate proof-obligations to reachability analysis tool (JuliaReach, manually),
 - translate other related functions StopDist.
- 4. Define initial values \mathcal{X}_0 for the reachability problem,
- 5. Compute and check solution produced reachability tool,
 - check existence of an interval [0, t'] for which reachset R of continuous x_p with initial values X₀ satisfies a strengthened local invariant H.

Cyber-Physical Railway Signalling System: Proof Statistic

Refinement	РО Туре	POs	Auto.	Inter.
Speed Controller		55	36 (48)	19 (7)
	WD	12	12	0
	GRD	11	11	0
	INV	18	10 (14)	8 (4)
	FIS	8	0 (8)	8 (<mark>0</mark>)
	SIM	6	3	3
Communication		85	71	14
	WD	31	31	0
	GRD	12	7	5
	INV	42	33	9
	FIS	0	0	0
	SIM	0	0	0
Total		140	119	21

To enable model animation and validation we aim to connect hybridised **Event-B** with Simulink/Stateflow.

To validate the speed controller model we (manually) translated it to Simulink/Stateflow.



Figure 4: TGV train simulation with Davis equation coefficients for TGV: a = 25, b = 1.188 and c = 0.0703728

 2^{nd} refinement introduces other sub-systems of the signalling system:

- communication centres, interlocking and infrastructure,
- communication protocol.

The **generic** railway signalling is based on ETCS Level 3 and CBTC systems.



Communication protocol was modelled by using developed **Event-B** communication modelling patterns.

To formally demonstrate that the generic signalling system issues safe movement authority and ensures safe point crossing.

Cyber-Physical Railway Signalling System: Proof Statistic

Refinement	РО Туре	POs	Auto.	Inter.
Speed Controller		55	36 (48)	19 (7)
	WD	12	12	0
	GRD	11	11	0
	INV	18	10 (14)	8 (4)
	FIS	8	0 (8)	8 (<mark>0</mark>)
	SIM	6	3	3
Communication		85	71	14
	WD	31	31	0
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	INV	42	33	9
	FIS	0	0	0
	SIM	0	0	0
Total		140	119	21

In summary:

- The complexity of developing complex CPS can be reduced by using refinement and abstraction.
- Our proposed framework provides a more comprehensive formal CPS development.
- Reachability analysis can help to improve verification automation of hybridised Event-B models.

Next steps in the short-term:

- Facilitate an automatic translation of hybridised Event-B models to JuliaReach,
- develop new Event-B theories.

Explore synergies between proof and reachability analysis for CPS system verification and code generation:

- proving single CINV/CFIS proof-obligations (still many open questions),
- proving CPS Event-B sub-models,
- discovering model constraints and safe parameter values,
- discretisation of continuous model and code generation (discovering t').

I would like to thank my colleagues:

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Alexander Romanovsky (Newcastle University and The Formal Route)
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Alexei Iliasov (The Formal Route)

Sergiy Bogomolov (Newcastle University)

Guillaume Dupont (INPT-ENSEEIHT)

Yamine Aït-Ameur (INPT-ENSEEIHT)

Neeraj Kumar Singh (INPT-ENSEEIHT)

Dominic Taylor and Milo Lloyd (Systra Scott Lister)

Cliff Jones (Newcastle University)

Simon Chadwick (Siemens Rail Automation)

2nd International Workshop on Formal Engineering of Cyber-Physical Systems (FE-CPS) collocated with TASE 2023 (Bristol, UK), 4-6 July.

Website with CfP: https://www.irit.fr/FE-CPS-2023/

Invited talks: Ana Cavalcanti (University of York, UK) and Claudio Gomes (Aarhus University, Denmark)

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