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The need for system modeling of wind power

Mohamed Najeh Lakhoua^{1*}, Mohamed Fathi Karoui¹

¹ Research Laboratory Smart Electricity & ICT, SEICT
National Engineering School of Carthage, ENICarthage
University of Carthage

*Corresponding author :
Mohamednajeh.lakhoua@enicarthage.rnu.tn

ABSTRACT

Nowadays, to further help the environment and to sustain our increasing demand, we need to move to renewable sources of our energy generation. Next, it is necessary to provide simple but powerful description for modeling wind turbine system. Then, we present a system modeling the behavior with sequence diagram and a structural modeling. Finally, we present a modeling with state machine diagram. The aim of this paper is to achieve a functional, structural, and behavior description of a wind turbine using the systems modeling language SysML.

KEYWORDS

Wind power; systemic modeling; SysML method.

INTRODUCTION

Nowadays, increasing dependency over electricity has led to the increasing unabated of the energy demand observed worldwide. Meanwhile, the fossil fuels which still the dominant source of energy production draw on finite and non-renewable resources, which they will be finished someday. Moreover, they are already dwindling and thus becoming more expensive or their retrieval is becoming ever more environmentally damaging. To further help the environment and to sustain our increasing demand, we need to move to renewable sources of our energy generation. It may come as a surprise to learn that the harnessing of natural phenomena such as sunlight, wind, for some form of productivity use has always been part of the human activity for centuries.

One of the alternative ways of generating electricity is harvesting wind power [1]. However, this latter has been used since early history to provide mechanical power to pump water or to grind grain. However, windmills and water driven mills were the only the only power generators for

over 1.200 years predating the 18th Industrial Revolution. Later, evolution and perfection of these systems was performed step by step in Denmark, France, Germany, and the UK [2]. Although, harvesting wind power isn't exactly a new idea, contemporary societies are essentially based on fossil fuels for covering their increasing electrical energy demand. But actually, during the last decade of the twentieth century, security of energy supply, increasing demand and environmental issues has captivated the interest for renewable sources of energy such as wind turbine system.

In order to understand the overall operation of the wind turbine system, we propose in this paper a high level graphical description based on SysML diagrams.

The outline of this paper is as follows. An overview of wind turbine generator systems is given in section II. Systems modeling language SysML is presented in section III. Functional, structural, and behavior description of a wind turbine using SysML diagrams is shown in

section VI. Finally, section V concludes this paper with some prospects.

MATERIALS AND METHOD

Wind Power System

Wind energy has reemerged as one of the most important sustainable energy resources, partly because it is free from pollution as there are no greenhouse gas or heat emissions. Moreover, the wind is a clean, sustainable, free and renewable source of energy, so it will never run out [3-4].

Wind turbine is a device that converts the wind's kinetic energy into electrical power [5]. It falls into one of two basic categories: Horizontal axis wind turbines (HAWTs) and vertical axis wind turbines (VAWTs). HAWTs, is the more common type currently used [6].

Today's wind turbines are manufactured in a wide range of small and large types [7-8]. The smallest turbines are used for applications such as battery charging for auxiliary power for boats or caravans or to power traffic warning signs. Slightly larger turbines can be used for making contributions to a domestic power supply while selling unused power back to the utility supplier via the electrical grid. Arrays of large turbines, known as wind farms, are becoming an increasingly important source of renewable energy and are used by many countries as part of a strategy to reduce their reliance on fossil fuels.

Regardless of the type of design, the main components that can and often times will be found in wind turbine systems [9] are a nacelle which contains the key components of the wind turbine, including the gearbox, and the electrical generator which uses electromagnetic to generate electricity, propellers-like blades rotates when wind is blown over them, causing the rotor to spin. Most turbines have either two or three blades, a tower which carries the nacelle and the rotor.

Generally, it is an advantage to have a high tower, because winds are stronger higher from the ground. All those components serve a purpose in delivering electricity where it is

intended to go. Thus it is clearly that the wind turbine has a complicated structure. However, not only by a large number of components, but also by the diversity of these components, their relationships and interactions in an organized manner to accomplish a common goal which is harnessing the wind to produce electrical power, wind turbine system has the characteristics of complex systems. Moreover, the introduction of such a renewable energy sources and system decentralization in what we called now smart grids has increased its degree of complexity in terms of interactions and communications [10].

In the aims of better understand and analyze the complex structure of wind turbine system we present in the next section one of the tools for modeling complex system: SysML.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

System Modeling Language SysML

In order to master the understanding, development and exploitation of complex systems, approaches such as system engineering have proposed methodological approaches associated with tools that give simplified representations of reality. These simplified visions are called models which are based on graphical languages.

Structured Analysis Design Technique (SADT), classic tools of fundamental analysis (APTE, FAST...) and GRAFCET are already part of these languages. However, all these disparate tools, powerful they are, will never give a coherent overall description of the thing represented. So, the idea is to feeder several specialized languages within a meta-language giving a pertinent vision to the system. That is what we are always looking for by using SysML language [11].

In a manner similar to how UML unified the modeling languages used in the software industry, the OMG defines a general-purpose modeling language for systems engineering applications, called SysML, which is intended to unify the diverse modeling languages currently used by systems engineers. SysML supports the specification, analysis, design, verification and

validation of a broad range of complex systems. These systems may include hardware, software, information, processes, personnel, and facilities.

SysML diagrams can be divided into three types [12-14]:

Diagrams that capture system requirements (requirements diagram) and physical constraints (parametric diagram).

Diagrams that describe the structure of the system (internal block diagram and block definition diagram).

Diagrams that describe the behavior of the system (use case diagrams, sequence diagram, activity diagram, and state machine diagrams).

In the literature, we find many applications that have been used to develop design of renewable systems. We present here some studies that have been presented in various researches:

Researchers Neureiter et al., have explained that the current integration of decentralized, renewable energies is a main challenge for today's power system. In order to control the volatile behaviour of these Distributed Energy Resources (DER), the electricity system has to develop towards a Smart Grid. The development of this critical and complex System-of-Systems involves different stakeholder from different disciplines. Thus, domain specific engineering concepts on system level are wanted. To foster the interdisciplinary development, the proposed approach presents a standards-based architecture framework, implemented as Domain Specific Language (DSL). Moreover, the DSL is used to develop a reference architecture on basis of the NIST Logical Reference Model. To evaluate the applicability of the reference architecture model it is used for instantiation of a particular system solution.

Researchers Gezer et al., have described a methodology and a case study through which system architecture and dynamic models of related system components are gathered in order to design and simulate the SCADA system of a new hydro turbine test laboratory. System architecture model is prepared in SysML, a system modeling language based on UML, while

the dynamic model of the laboratory is formed in Matlab/Simulink. Some simulations are performed in order to verify the preliminary system design studies and system requirements.

After showing an overview of SysML, this language is chosen, in section VI in order to obtain high level graphical description of the functionality of a wind turbine system. These descriptions identify interactions and flow of data and control between parts of the system which is necessary to understand the overall operation of the wind turbine [15-20]

Results Of Wind Turbine Modeling

In this section, SysML is used to provide simple but powerful description for modeling wind turbine system. In fact, we present a functional modeling with use case diagram. Next, a complement to functional modeling with requirements diagram. Then, we present a modeling the behavior with sequence diagram and a structural modeling with BDD and IBD. Finally, we present a modeling with state machine diagram.

a. Functionnal modeling with use case diagram

A use case diagram lists the usage functions that the system offers to each of its user actors in order to satisfy their needs. It represents the external functional behavior of the system (Fig.1). In other words, a use case represents a service offered by the system to one or more actors in its environment. It is defined by a function in an ellipse connected to the actor concerned.

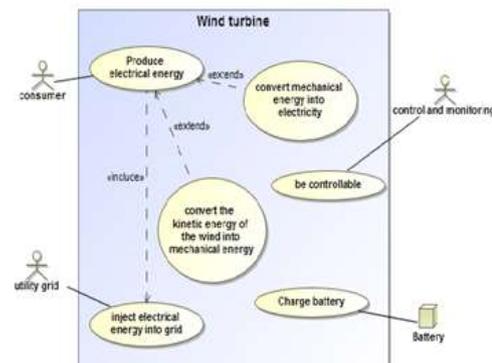


Fig. 1. Use case diagram.

b. Complements to functional modeling with requirements diagram

Remember that a requirements diagram is a new diagram and it is different type of behavior diagrams and structure diagrams. Its role is to specify the needs of the system.

Figure 2 presents the functional requirement diagram figure 3 presents the performance requirement diagram.

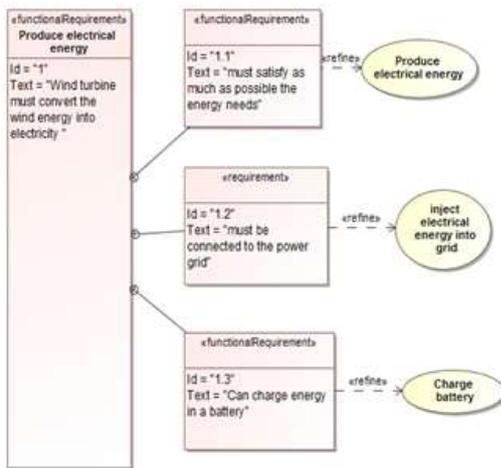


Fig. 2. Functional requirement diagram.

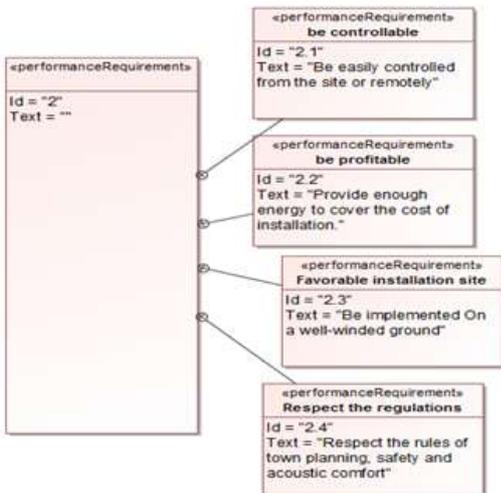


Fig. 3. Performance requirement diagram.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

In this paper, we have presented the graphical modeling language SysML for systems engineering. The latter is using then to describe the functionality of a wind turbine system. These descriptions identify interactions and flow of data and control between parts of the system which is

necessary to understand the overall operation of the wind turbine.

Starting from this case study of analysis and modeling of wind turbine based on the systems modeling language SysML discussed in this paper, work is in progress to develop simulations of wind system.

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