Implications of accepting electronic theses

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Contents

• Where do we keep them?
• How are they deposited?
• The submission process
• Changes to regulations
Where do we keep electronic theses?

- In an institutional repository (IR)
  - “a set of services a university offers the members of its community for the management and dissemination of digital materials” – Clifford Lynch
  - Saves space (?)
  - Improves accessibility
  - Supports “non-book” content
What might be in an IR?

- Doctoral theses and Masters dissertations
- Articles that have been published in peer-reviewed journals
- Research reports
- Book chapters
- Pre-prints of papers
- Scientific data sets
- Learning materials
Repository software

- DSpace
  - MIT libraries and Hewlett Packard (HP)
  - [http://www.dspace.org/](http://www.dspace.org/)
- EPrints
  - Southampton University
  - [http://www.eprints.org/](http://www.eprints.org/)
- Fedora
  - Cornell University Information Science and the University of Virginia Library
  - [http://www.fedora.info/](http://www.fedora.info/)
- All open-source
Aberystwyth’s institutional repository
http://cadair.aber.ac.uk/

- Uses DSpace
  - Chosen over EPrints because:
    - Collection based vs. subject-based architecture
    - Supports full-text item searching
- Primarily aimed at supporting research
Title: Interpretation of simulation for model-based design analysis of engineered systems

Authors: Bell, Jonathan

Supervisor: Snooks, Noel

Keywords: functional representation, design analysis

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Abstract: This thesis attempts to answer the question “Can we devise a language for interpretation of behavioural simulation of engineered systems (of arbitrary complexity) in terms of the systems purpose?” It does so by presenting a language that represents a device’s function as achieving some purpose if the device is in a state that is intended to trigger the function and the function’s expected effect is present. While much work in the qualitative and model-based reasoning community has been concerned with simulation, this language is presented as a basis for interpreting the results of the simulation of a system, enabling these results to be expressed in terms of the system’s purpose. This, in turn, enables the automatic production of draft design analysis reports using model-based analysis of the subject system. The increasing behavioural complexity of modern systems (resulting from the increasing use of microprocessors and software) has led to a need to interpret the results of simulation in cases beyond the capabilities of earlier functional modelling languages. The present work is concerned with such cases and presents a functional modelling language that enables these complex systems to be analysed. Specifically, the language presented herein allows functional description and interpretation of the following: 

- Cases where it is desired to distinguish between partial and complete failure of a function.
- Systems whose functionality depends on achieving a sequence of intermittent effects.
- Systems with functions (such as warming functions) that depend upon the state of some other system function. This offers significant increases both in the range of systems and of design analysis tasks for which the language can be used, compared to earlier work.

URL: http://hdl.handle.net/2160/177

Appears in Collections: PhD Theses

Files in This Item:

- File: Thesi43-5-06.pdf
  - Description: 1820kb
  - Format: Adobe PDF
  - View/Open
Theses in a repository

Library
- published papers
  - MPhil
  - PhD
- theses
  - thesis.pdf

Repository
- Computer Science
  - robotics
  - taught masters
- mbsg
  - theses
  - working papers
  - masters
  - mapping

NLW
Who deposits?

• Student?
• Departmental representative?
• Information professional?

Probably easiest if student deposits and deposit is verified by a library admin
  • Only student can verify things like copyright
Deposit workflow

- User Deposits item
- Metadata checked
- Item enters repository
• Items organised by subject and type
• Easy to export all PhD theses
• Also has deposit checked
• Problems with other theses and dissertations?
• Can we trust a (student) depositor to file correctly?
Electronic submission

Option One: Accept additional electronic deposit

- Must ensure it matches examined content
  - Get depositing student to declare this is so
- Easy to amend regulations
- Doesn’t solve the space problem!
Electronic submission

Option Two: Compel electronic deposit

• Integrate into submission process
• Which is master copy?
• Could student submit electronically and college arrange printing?
• Need to keep track of versions
Option Three: Electronic submission

• Student submits electronically and if examiners want paper copy they print it themselves
• Supports non-book content and format
• Cultural shift
• Version control problems
Regulations

In all cases
- Gain non-exclusive licence
- Ensure depositor is aware that thesis is open access
- Include permission for deposit in external repositories (NLW)
- Permit changes for archival storage
- Verify that content matches corrected content
- Verify that copyright clearance has been obtained for any third party materials
Embargoed theses

- Could accept them and make them restricted access
  - Where will you keep them?
  - What about freedom of information inquiries?
- Easiest not to accept them!
  - Could accept a CD and paper licence agreement and deposit when embargo expires
Thank you for listening

Any Questions?