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# Formal development method of automated systems using the temporal logic of 

## Actions TLA+

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#### Abstract

The paper presents a method for control systems formal development. We focus on the refinement process used for the development of a control part controlling an operative part of an automated (controlled) system satisfying requirements. We first build an abstract model of both operative and control parts and complete this model to get a model of the automated system. The next steps consists in refining the control part and the operative one to get a model of the automated system capturing every important feature. The method is developed through a case study : a parcel sorting system. We use the temporal logic of actions TLA+ which deals with refinement and proved usufull for the specification and the verification of safety and liveness properties.


Key-Words : Modelling, Model checking, Refinement, Automated systems, TLA+, Validation.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

Reactive systems are systems that react continuously to their environment and require description of allowed patterns of behaviour for their specification, rather than a simple input/output relation. Reactive systems often involve concurrent execution of processes (in order to achieve responsiveness requirements, or because of inherent distribution in the application) and requirements on system states that must not arise (safety constraints), the reachability of some states (liveness constraints) and timing constraints between system responses to events. Among reactive systems are most of the industrial real-time and embedded systems, such as control and supervision systems. They are critical systems and require a high level of safety and reliability. To reach a necessary degree of reliability and safety, it would be quite interesting to lay out a specification approach which simplifies the requirement description, deals with mathematical notations inducing verification and validation.

In this paper, we propose a development method of automated (controlled) systems. In such systems, we distinguishe a software part : the "controller" and an operative part formed by a physical device and its environment which the behavior can be observed through variables and on which it is possible to re-
act with effectors. The controller and the operative part form what is called the controlled (or automated) system. The goal is that the controller acts on the operative part such as the controlled system satisfies required properties. So, we are concerned with the correctness of the controller. The usual way to deal with the correctness of a program is to prove that the interaction with its operative part satisfies some required properties.

We take a different point of view and notice that the user is satisfied by the behaviour of the controller as soon as the automated system behaves in the expected way. Our development method consists in building an abstract discrete model of both operative and control parts. The model of the operative part is completed to obtain a controlled or automated system. Correctness concerns the controlled system, provided the model of the operative part is accurate. Successive refinements are used to produce final model for each of the control and the operative parts. At each refinement level new required properties are added to the model and have to be verified by the automated system. The last refinement step shall verify all requirements. These insures that the final model will be correct since all required properties have been verify (Figure 2). The quality of the last refinement suposed to model the controlled system depends on the first abstract models of both of
the control and operative parts.
Several formal methods have been proposed for the development of control systems, most of them relay on set theory such as B, VDM and Z other ones relay on temporal logic such as PLTL and TLA. To build our models we use the temporal logic of actions TLA+ which has been proved usefull for the specification and the verification of safety,liveness and fairenss properties (Lamport 2002, Lamport 1998, Lamport 1993), deals with refinement process, wich we need in our approach, and is provided with a powerfull model checker TLC (Lamport 2002) which can be used to simulate the automated system and to prove the correctness of the development. The expected behaviour of the controlled system is expressed by means of invariants and temporal properties. The model is then refined such that its operative part gets closer to the real operative one.

The paper is organized as follows : section 1 presents an overview of the temporal logic of actions, section 2 a description of the development method that we propose. In section 3 the method is illustrated by a parcel sorting case study and the model checker TLC is used.

## 2 TLA+ : THE TEMPORAL LOGIC OF ACTIONS

TLA + is a language intended for the high level specification of reactive, distributed, and in particular asynchronous systems. It combines the lineartime temporal logic of actions TLA (Lamport 1991, Lamport 1994), and mathematical set theory. The language has a mechanism for structuring in the form of modules, either by extension, or by instance.

The semantics of TLA is based on state behaviors of variables. It can be viewed as a logic built in an incremental manner in three stages :

1. predicates having as free variables rigid and flexible variables and whose semantics is based on states. A state $s$ satisfies the predicate $P$ if and only if $s[|P|]$ is true. $s[|P|]$ is the value obtained by substituting in $P$ variables by its values in the state $s$ (for instance $s[|x=0|] \equiv s[|x|]^{1}=0$ ),
2. actions which are logical formulas having primed flexible variables as well as free variables and whose semantics is based on pairs of states. A pair of state $<s, t>$ satisfies the action $A$ if and only if $s[|A|] t$ is true. $s[|A|] t$ is the value obtained by substituing in $A$ imprimed variables
by its value in the state $s$ and primed variables by its values in the state $t$. (for instance $\left.s\left[\left|x^{\prime}=x+1\right|\right] t \equiv t[|x|]=s[|x|]+1\right)$. As predicates are actions we thus have $s[|P|] t \equiv s[|P|]$ and $s\left[\left|P^{\prime}\right|\right] t \equiv t[|P|]$,
3. temporal formulas of actions (addition of the operator $\square$ ) whose semantics is based on state behaviors of variables. $<s_{0}, s_{1}, \ldots>[|\square T|]$ (a behavior $<s_{0}, s_{1}, \ldots>$ satisfies $\left.\square T\right)$ is true if and only if $\forall n \in N a t:<s_{n}, s_{n+1}, \ldots>[|T|]$. As an action is a temporal formula we have $<s_{0}, s_{1}, \ldots>[|A|] \equiv s_{0}[|A|] s_{1}$.

A TLA specification looks like : Init $\wedge \square[N e x t]_{x} \wedge L$ Where :

1. Init is the predicate which specifies initial states $\left(s_{0}[\mid\right.$ Init $\left.\mid]\right)$,
2. $\square[N e x t]_{x}$ means that either two consecutive states are equal on $x, x^{\prime}=x$ (stuttering), or Next is an action (a relation) which binds two consecutive states by using the variable (not primed) for the first state and the primed variable for the second state $\left(\forall n \in N a t: s_{n}[|N e x t|] s_{n+1}\right)$,
3. $L$ is a fairness assumption (strong or weak) on actions $A: A \Rightarrow$ Next. WF umprimed variables $[|S|](s)$ defines the condition of weak fairness over the system S and $S F_{\text {umprimed variables }[|S|]}(s)$ defines the condition of strong fairness over the system S.

We use TLA to prove invariance properties (Spec $\Rightarrow$ $\square I)$, eventuality properties $(S p e c \Rightarrow \diamond F)$ or $S p e c \Rightarrow$ $(P \leadsto Q)$ ) and refinement properties (Spec_ref $\Rightarrow$ Spec_abs). Unlike most other temporal logics, TLA is intended to support stepwise system development by refinement of specifications. The basic idea of refinement consists in successively adding implementation detail while preserving the properties required at an abstract level. In a refinement-based approach to system development, one proceeds by writing successive models, each of which introduces some additional datail while preserving the properties of the preceding model. Fundamental properties of a system can thus be established at high levels of abstraction, errors can be detected in early phases, and the complexity of formal assurance is spread over the entire development process. A system $S_{1}$ is refined by a system $S_{2}$, when : $\operatorname{Specification}\left(S_{2}\right) \Rightarrow \operatorname{Specification}\left(S_{1}\right)$. A refinement $S_{2}$ preserves all TLA properties of an abstract specification $S_{1}$ if and only if for every formula $F$, if $S_{1} \Rightarrow F$ is valid, then so is $S_{2} \Rightarrow F$. This condition is in turn equivalent to requiring the validity of $S_{2} \Rightarrow S_{1}$.

Because $S_{2}$ will contain extra variables to represent the lower-level detail, and because these variables will change in transitions that have no counter-part at the abstract level, stuttering invariance of TLA formulas is essentiel to make validity of implication a reasonable definition of refinement.

Proofs in TLA (can be found in (Lamport 1991)) are carried out using proof rules and rules of the classical logic. It is clear that the main advantage is that every thing is stated as a logical object and relations as probability or refinement are stated using the logical implication. The refinement states a property between logical formulae interpreted over external behaviour.

TLA + (Lamport 2002, Lamport 1998) is an extension of TLA including predicate calculus and ZF set theory and mechanisms for structuring a specification in a module. A module is a text containing a name, a list of definitions (constants, variables, operators, functions, predicates, assumptions, theorems, proofs). A specification is made up of several modules that are combined using clauses EXTENDS and INSTANCE. The clause EXTENDS imports the definitions of specified modules by a macro expansion mechanism; the clause INSTANCE provides the mechanism of parametrization and a bloc-like structure. A module TLA+ is represented as follows :

```
MODULE <Name>
CONSTANTS < List of contants>
VARIABLES < List of variables>
ASSUME < properties of constants>
TYPE INVARIANT
INIT <initialization of variables>
SPEC <SpecInit }\wedge\square[Next\mp@subsup{]}{x}{}\wedgeL
INVARIANT <Safety properties>
LIVENESS <Liveness properties>
THEOREM
END
```


## 3 THE DEVELOPMENT METHOD OF AUTOMATED SYSTEMS

In this section we present a development method of automated systems. The problem can be stated as follows: being given an operative part (physical device and an environment) which behavior is observed through a number of variables and on which it is possible to act by means of effectors. Some of the variables are controllable, they correspond to the results of some actuators, other are not controllable and their

changes correspond to the effect of some physical process we do not control. The behavior of the automated system can be represented by a closed loop expressing relation between operative and control parts (Figure 1). We have to develop a control program which ob-serves the operative part and change controllable variables such that the automated system meets some requirements . The modeling method that we propose uses the temporal logic of actions (TLA + ) and consists on the following steps:

1. First of all, we build an abstract model of the operative part, an abstract model of minimal controller in defining its actions with guards as weak as possible, just taking into account safety requirements. The resulting system is a "permissive" controlled system, it is likely not the case that all behaviors meet the automated system requirements but some should.
2. We have to prove the last part of this assertion, if not we can deduce that it is not possible to achieve the expected system. This point is similar to the notion of controllability in control theory (Ramadge \& Wonham 1989). Then, we constrain the permissive controlled system as a module TLA + and we use the model checker TLC to verify some safety requirements.
3. Successive refinements can be used to produce the concrete model of the automated system formed by physical device and its environment and the concrete control system through the addition of expected behaviour with the addition of new actions, variables and new properties for each of the operative and the control parts (Figure 2). Related verifications are discharged. At each refinement step, new module modeling operative and control parts is shown to satisfy new automated system requirements. The refinement process stops when the automated system model meets the desired properties. The quality of the last refinement supposed to model the controlled


Figure 2. Development method of automated systems
system depends on the first operative part model.
4. The last step consists in separating what concerns the operative component from what concerns the controller in order to build a program of the controller,

## 4 CASE STUDY : A PARCEL SORTING DEVICE

Our method is illustrated by a case study : the development of a parcel sorting system (JARAY \& A.Mahjoub 1994). We start with an informal description of the problem and then apply our method.

### 4.1 Informal description of the problem

The problem is to sort parcels into sorting baskets according to an address written on the parcel. In order to achieve such a sorting function we are provided with a device made of a feeder connected to the root of a binary tree made of switches and pipes as shown Figure 3. The switches are the nodes of the tree, pipes


Figure 3. Sorting plant
are the edges and leaves are the baskets. A parcel, thanks to gravity, can slide down through switches and pipes to reach a basket. A switch is connected to an entry pipe and two exit pipes, a parcel crossing the switch is directed to an exit pipe depending on the switch position. The feeder releases a parcel at once in the router, the feeder contains a device to read the address of the parcel to be released. When released, a parcel enters a first switch (the root of the binary tree) and slides down the router to reach a basket. The controller can activate the feeder and change the switches position. For security reasons, it is required that switch change should not occur when a parcel is crossing it. In order to check this condition, sensors are placed at the entry and the exits of each switch.

### 4.2 Abstract model of the system

The controller extends the operative part in order to produce the controlled system. The first step of the method is to build an abstract model of the operative part and an abstract model of the control part using inputs from the informal presentation. The operative part is formed by the sorting device and the parcel behaviour.

The sorting device. The sorting device consists of a feeder and a sorting layout. The feeder has two functions : selection of the next parcel to introduce into the sorting layout and opening the gate (releasing a parcel in the sorting layout). We introduce the actions select and release to capture the two functions. In order to produce the abstract model of the sorting layout, we have to notice that a given state of the switches forms a channel linking the entrance to only one sorting basket. A basket is an element of a set named Basket. In future refinements, the tree structure of the sorting device will be introduced and the sorting baskets will be classed as nodes of the tree (leaves). Therefore, we introduce the set Nodes having Basket as a proper subset. Channels and sorting baskets are in a one to one correspondence. Therefore, the abstract model of the sorting device can be
reduced to a single variable channel taking the value of the sorting basket it leads to，namely a value in the set Basket．The channel value is changed by the action set＿channel，defined in the control part． The full description of the actions will be given in the controller section．It is worth noticing that the abstraction forces a＂sequential functionning＂of the sorting device，i．e．the value of the channel remains unchanged as long as the parcel released in the sort－ ing device has not reached a sorting basket．Up to a point，it is indeed possible to sort more than one parcel simultaneously．The chosen abstraction does not allow such a concurrency．

Parcels．Parcels，as part of the environment，are components of the operative part and are represented as elements of a set we name $P A R C E L S$ ．We use a total function（ $a d r$ ）from PARCELS to the interval Baskets to refer to the parcels address．The action concerning a selected parcel to sort is the crossing of the sorting device up to the basket the channel leads to．We give the status＂arrived＂to the parcel which has reached a sorting basket．The variable（arrived） is a total function from $P A R C E L S$ to Baskets．The goal of the sorting system is to decrease the set of the parcels to sort．The variable sorted represents the set of sorted parcels．The remaining parcels are defined by the expression PARCELS－sorted named UNSORTED．pe describes an entry parcel．As pe is undefined when the sorting device is empty，we have introduced a set PPARCELS of which PARCELS is a proper subset；pe is an element of PPARCELS and assignment of any value in PPARCELS－PARCELS stands for＂undefined＂．The expression PPARCELS－ $P A R C E L S$ will be referred as $N O P A R C E L S$ ．The ac－ tion select＿parcel is introduced and is activated once the device is free and the variable pe is undefined， which means it does not exist a parcel being sorted．

```
select_parcel \(\triangleq \wedge\) sorting \(=\) free
\(\wedge p e \in\) NOPARCELS
\(\wedge \exists p \in\) UNSORTED : \(\wedge p e^{\prime}=p\)
\(\wedge\) UNCHANGED 〈channel, arrived,
    sorted, sorting, ready_to_sort \(\rangle\)
```

Moving parcels．In our abstraction，a parcel takes no time to travel from the feeder to a basket．A parcel arrives in the basket to which the channel leads up． When the action cross＿parcel occurs，the current par－ cel sorting is finished and then，of course，the current parcel becomes undefined．

```
cross_parcel \(\triangleq \wedge\) sorting \(=\) busy
\(\wedge\) arrived \(^{\prime}=[\) arrived EXCEPT ! \([p e]=\) channel \(]\)
\(\wedge\) sorted \(^{\prime}=\) sorted \(\cup\{p e\}\)
\(\wedge p e^{\prime} \in\) NOPARCELS \(\wedge\) sorting \(^{\prime}=\) free
\(\wedge\) UNCHANGED \(\langle\) channel, ready_to_sort \(\rangle\)
```

The safe operating physical layout．From the existing（physical）layout，it is possible to build dif－ ferent controlled systems having different behaviors． It is natural to dismiss systems having unsafe behav－ iors．The controlled system which respects only these safety constraints，is called the permissive controlled system．In this automated system，permissive con－ troller system actions are the set and release．

```
set_channel \(\triangleq \wedge\) sorting \(=\) free \(\wedge\) pe \(\notin\) NOPARCELS
\(\wedge\) ready_to_sort \(=\) FALSE \(\wedge\) channel \(^{\prime} \in\) Baskets
\(\wedge\) ready_to_sort \({ }^{\prime}=\) TRUE
\(\wedge\) UNCHANGED 〈arrived, sorted, pe, sorting〉
```

Here，the value assigned to the variable channel is randomly determined．This justifies the＂permissive＂ qualification．The guard fulfills a safety constraint in preventing a change of the channel when a parcel crosses the sorting device，preventing the parcel to be damaged．

```
release \ ^ ready_to_sort = TRUE
^ sorting = free ^ pe\in PARCELS
^ sorting' = busy ^ ready_to_sort' = FALSE
^ UNCHANGED <channel, arrived, sorted, pe\rangle
```

The first part of the guard ensures that a single parcel， at once，is being sorted，the second that a parcel may be selected before being released．

## 4．3 The permissive controlled system

The actions section of the TLA system modelling the permissive controlled system is obtained by merging the controller actions．The action select＿parcel as－ signs the（next）current parcel to the variable $p e$ ． Once selected this parcel remains the current one as long as it has not reached a sorting basket．This cap－ tures a non explicit property of the feeder in which the parcels are stored in a first out order．

## 4．3．1 Controllability

The permissive controller behavior will likely not sat－ isfy user＇s needs，in the sense that we can not certify that every parcel arrives in the right basket．Con－ versely，if we can verify that it is never the case that a parcel arrives in the expected basket，we assert that the system is not controllable with respect of the fol－ lowing requirement $\mathbf{P}$ and the development process stops here．
$\forall p \in P A R C E L S: p \in$ DOMAIN arrived $\leadsto \operatorname{arrived}[p]=\operatorname{adr}[p]$

## 4．3．2 The first abstract controlled system

As far as we did not take into account the destina－ tion address of the parcel we can not expect a parcel to reach the right basket．The expected behavior of the automated system is defined in the requirement P．We add it to the invariant part of the TLA model． When attempting to verify the model，we expect a failure and use the report to find out what should be changed to satisfy the requirements．We deduce that it is necessary to change channel ${ }^{\prime} \in$ Baskets into channel ${ }^{\prime}=a d r[p e]$ in the action set＿channel in or－ der to transform the permissive controlled system into an abstract model of the expected controlled system． The technique may seem less convincing as the case study at the level of abstraction is rather simple，but we claim its interest when we are faced to combi－ natorial situations．The parcel routing is a particu－ lar routing，obtained while making the control action more deterministic．At this abstract level，we have to prove the property asserting that any parcel which is presented in entry will arrive at the destination bin expressed by the following property：

```
\forallp.(p \inPARCELS ^p\indom(arrived (p)) =>
arrived(p) = adr(p))
```

The abstract model of the automated system will be presented in the annexe A．

## 4．4 First refinement

In the proposed method，we refine in parallel each of the operative and the control parts adding new vari－ ables，properties，actions or redefining some of them．

Refinement of the operative part．In the ab－ stract model，the physical device of the system is re－ duced to a single variable channel．A channel value corresponds to a setting of node switches．In order to represent a more concrete sorting device，we in－ troduce the nodes Node as elements in an interval of integers，the level of the nodes in the sorting device tree structure（the root node corresponding to the level 0）Level，a function adr＿level which gives at a given level the node to be visited to reach a given bas－ ket，a variable function path＿level which associates to each level the node visited．The left successor of the node $i$ is labelled $2 * i+1$ and the right one is $2 * i+2$ ． The root node is labelled 0 ．A pipe has the label of the node it＂feeds＂．The leaves（terminal nodes）of the tree correspond to the baskets introduced in the abstract model．

The action cross＿parcel1 was extended by strengthen－
ing its guard with the condition $(l=n)$ ，meaning that the variable $l$ has reached the baskets level and the action has been modified．arrived（pe）is assigned the value adr＿level［adr［pe］，n］］，the（basket）node where the current parcel ends its run．The actions cross＿ parcel and select＿parcel are redefined as follows ：

```
cross_parcel \(1 \triangleq \wedge\) sorting \(=\) busy \(\wedge l=n\)
\(\wedge\) arrived \(^{\prime}=[\) arrived EXCEPT ! \([p e]=\) adr_level \([a d r[p e], n]\)
\(\wedge\) sorted \(^{\prime}=\) sorted \(\cup\{p e\} \wedge p e^{\prime} \in\) NOPARCELS
\(\wedge\) sorting \(^{\prime}=\) free
\(\wedge\) UNCHANGED 〈channel, ready_to_sort,
        path_level, i, l, ctrl_cross \(\rangle\)
select_parcel \(1 \triangleq \wedge\) select_parcel \(\wedge i^{\prime}=0\)
\(\wedge l^{\prime}=0 \wedge\) path_level \({ }^{\prime}=[\) path_level ExCEPT \(![0]=0]\)
\(\wedge\) UNCHANGED \(\langle\) ctrl_cross \(\rangle\)
```

In the abstract model，the crossing of the current par－ cel concerned a single action cross＿parcel，here we are concerned by the passing of the parcel through dif－ ferent nodes．Two nex actions cross＿right and cross＿ left are introduced to determine the next node to be visited which mean updating the variable $i$ represent－ ing the current node．The variable $l$ representing the current level is updated as well．Updating the current node variable depends on the value of path＿level $(l+1)$ ． If the value is odd the next node to reach is the left son otherwise it is the right son．The coding of the nodes makes the computation of the left or right son easy．

```
cross_left \(\triangleq \wedge l l<=n \wedge i \in\) Internal_ \(N\)
\(\wedge\) sorting \(=\) busy \(\wedge\) ctrl_cross \(=\) TRUE
\(\wedge\) path_level \([l+1]=2 * i+1 \wedge l^{\prime}=l+1\)
\(\wedge i^{\prime}=2 * i+1 \wedge\) ctrl_cross \(^{\prime}=\) FALSE
\(\wedge\) UNCHANGED〈channel, sorting, pe, arrived,
                sorted, ready_to_sort, path_level \(\rangle\)
cross_right \(\triangleq \wedge l l<=n-1 \wedge i \in\) Internal_ \(N\)
\(\wedge\) sorting \(=\) busy \(\wedge\) ctrl_cross \(=\) TRUE
\(\wedge\) path_level \([l+1]=2 * i+2 \wedge l^{\prime}=l+1\)
\(\wedge i^{\prime}=2 * i+2 \wedge\) ctrl_cross \(^{\prime}=\mathrm{FALSE}\)
\(\wedge\) UNCHANGED 〈channel, sorting, ready_to_sort,
    pe, arrived, sorted, path_level \(\rangle\)
```

The actions select＿parcel1，cross＿left，cross＿right and cross＿parcel1 form the operative part of the auto－ mated system．

Refinement of the control part．In this refine－ ment，we have added two new actions path＿right and path＿left．The actions path＿right，path＿left，set＿chan－ nel1 and release1 form the control part of the au－ tomated system．The function path＿level concerning the current parcel is updated＂on the fly＂by two ac－ tions ：path＿right，path＿left．The select＿parcel gives the opportunity to initialize path＿level（0）with 0.

```
path_left \(\triangleq \wedge i i \in\) Internal_ \(N \wedge l l<=n\)
    \(\wedge p e \in P A R C E L S \wedge\) sorting \(=\) busy \(\wedge\) ctrl_cross \(=\) FALSE
    \(\wedge\) adr_level \([a d r[p e], l+1]=2 * i+1\)
    \(\wedge\) path_level \({ }^{\prime}=[\) path_level EXCEPT \(![l+1]=2 * i+1]\)
    \(\wedge\) ctrl_cross \(^{\prime}=\) TRUE
    \(\wedge\) UNCHANGED 〈channel, ready_to_sort,
        sorting, pe, arrived, sorted, \(i, l\rangle\)
path_right \(\triangleq \wedge i i \in\) Internal_ \(N \wedge l l<=n\)
    \(\wedge p e \in P A R C E L S \wedge\) sorting \(=\) busy
\(\wedge\) ctrl_cross \(=\) FALSE
    \(\wedge\) adr_level \([\) adr \([p e], l+1]=2 * i+2\)
    \(\wedge\) path_level \({ }^{\prime}=[\) path_level EXCEPT \(![l+1]=2 * i+2]\)
    \(\wedge\) ctrl_cross \(^{\prime}=\) TRUE
    \(\wedge\) UNCHANGED 〈channel, ready_to_sort ,
        sorting, pe, arrived, sorted, \(i, l\rangle\)
```

The automated system has to verify the following property ：
$\forall p \in$ PARCELS ：$p \in$ DOMAIN arrived
$\leadsto \operatorname{arrived}[p]=\operatorname{adr} r_{-} l e v e l[\operatorname{adr}[p], n]$
The automated system has been processed by the model checker TLC and all properties were verified by the model．The first refinement model of the au－ tomated system will be presented in the annexe B．

## 4．5 Second refinement

This refinement consists in adding details to the nodes．A node is provided with the following sen－ sors ：an input sensor，two outputs sensors and a gate which can be set to open the exit to the left pipe or to the right pipe．

Refinement of the operative part ：an even more concrete model of the operative part． The position of the gates is represented by a func－ tion gate returning for each node a value in ：\｛ L ， $\mathrm{R}\}$ ．The input sensor of a node is represented by a boolean variable in which is initially set to false．The output sensors are represented by the Boolean vari－ ables out＿l and out＿r．These variables become true when a parcel is detected and as we cannot have two outputs at the same time，the output sensors must verify the property $\neg($ out＿l $l \wedge$ out＿r $r)$ ．

Two new actions were added to the operative part ：crossing＿right and crossing＿left modelling the node crossing to go towards the left pipe，respectively right pipe，resulting from this node．The action cross＿ parcel1，concerning the operative part is refined by adding to the level of each node the sensor which de－ tects the entry of parcels．

```
crossing_left \(\triangleq \wedge i \in\) Internal_N
\(\wedge i n[i]=\operatorname{TRUE} \wedge\) gate \([i]=L\)
\(\wedge\) out_l \(l^{\prime}=[\) out_l \(\operatorname{EXCEPT}![i]=\) TRUE \(]\)
\(\wedge\) out_ \(r^{\prime}=[\) out_ \(r\) EXCEPT ! \([i]=\) FALSE \(]\)
\(\wedge i n^{\prime}=[\) in EXCEPT \(![i]=\) FALSE \(]\)
\(\wedge\) UNCHANGED 〈channel, pe, arrived, sorted, sorting,
ready_to_sort, i, l, path_level, ctrl_cross, gate, gate_set〉
cross_left \(2 \triangleq \wedge\) cross_left
\(\wedge(\) gate_set \(=\operatorname{TRUE} \vee l \geq n-2) \wedge\) out_l \(l[i]=\) TRUE
\(\wedge i n^{\prime}=[\) in EXCEPT \(![2 * i+1]=\) TRUE \(]\)
\(\wedge\) gate_set \({ }^{\prime}=\) FALSE \(\wedge\) UNCHANGED \(\langle\) out_l \(l\), out_r, gate〉
crossing_right \(\triangleq \wedge i \in\) Internal_N
\(\wedge i n[i]=\operatorname{TRUE} \wedge\) gate \([i]=R\)
\(\wedge\) out_l \(l^{\prime}=[\) out_l \(l\) EXCEPT \(![i]=\) FALSE \(]\)
\(\wedge\) out_r \(r^{\prime}=[\) out_ \(r\) EXCEPT \(![i i]=\) TRUE \(]\)
\(\wedge\) in \({ }^{\prime}=[\) in EXCEPT ! \([i]=\) FALSE \(]\)
\(\wedge\) UNCHANGED 〈channel, pe, arrived, sorted, sorting,
ready_to_sort, i, l, gate, path_level, ctrl_cross, gate_set>
cross_right \(2 \triangleq \wedge\) cross_right
\(\wedge(\) gate_set \(=\) TRUE \(\vee l l \geq n-2) \wedge\) out_r \([i]=\) TRUE
\(\wedge i n^{\prime}=[\) in EXCEPT \(![2 * i+2]=\) TRUE \(]\)
\(\wedge\) gate_set \({ }^{\prime}=\) FALSE \(\wedge\) UNCHANGED \(\left\langle o u t_{-} l\right.\) l, out_r, gate \(\rangle\)
```

The actions cross＿right2，respectively cross＿left2 model the pipe crossing，indicating that the parcel passed towards the next left node，respectively to－ wards the right following node．The variable gate＿set， is used to guarantee that the parcel crossing is possi－ ble only if the node gate is positioned in advance．It is assigned the value TRUE by the actions cross＿left2 and FALSE by the action cross＿right2．

Refinement of the control part．Two new ac－ tions were added to refine control part，set＿gate＿right and set＿gate＿left．The action set＿gate＿left model gate opening on the left，by putting gate（adr＿level（adr（pe）， $l l+2)):=L$ ，where adr＿level（adr（pe），$l l+2)$ indicates the current node．The same behavior but towards right side is modelled by the action set＿gate＿right．

```
set_gate_left \(\triangleq \wedge l l<=n-1 \wedge p e \in\) PARCELS
\(\wedge\) adr_level \([a d r[p e], l+1]=2 *\) adr_level \([a d r[p e], l]+1\)
\(\wedge\) gate_set \({ }^{\prime}=\) TRUE
\(\wedge\) gate \({ }^{\prime}=\left[\right.\) gate EXCEPT \(\left.!\left[a d r_{-} l e v e l[a d r[p e], l]\right]=L\right]\)
\(\wedge\) UNCHANGED 〈channel, pe, arrived, sorted, sorting,
ready_to_sort, i, l, path_level, ctrl_cross, in,
out_l, out_r〉
set_gate_right \(\triangleq \wedge l l<=n-1 \wedge p e \in P A R C E L S\)
\(\wedge\) adr_level \([\) adr \([p e], l+1]=2 *\) adr_level \([\) adr \([p e], l]+2\)
\(\wedge\) gate_set \({ }^{\prime}=\) TRUE
\(\wedge\) gate \({ }^{\prime}=[\) gate EXCEPT ! \([\) adr_level \([\) adr \([p e], l]]=R]\)
\(\wedge\) UNCHANGED 〈channel, pe, arrived, sorted, sorting,
ready_to_sort, \(i, l\), path_level, ctrl_cross, in,
out_l, out_r〉
```

The actions path＿left2，respectively path＿right2 hav－ ing for effect to calculate，the next node to be visited by checking that the gate is opened in the good ori－ entation $($ gate $(i)=L($ left $)$ ，gate $(i)=R($ right $))$ ．The
action select_parcel1, is also refined en select_parcel2 by taking into account the sensor which models the parcel presence on the level of the first entry basket.

```
path_left \(2 \triangleq \wedge\) path_left
\(\wedge i n[i]=\operatorname{TRUE} \wedge\) gate \([i]=L\)
\(\wedge\) UNCHANGED \(\langle\) in, out_l, out_r, gate, gate_set〉
path_right \(2 \triangleq \wedge\) path_right
\(\wedge i n[i]=\operatorname{TRUE} \wedge\) gate \([i]=R\)
\(\wedge\) UNCHANGED \(\langle\) in, out_l, out_r, gate, gate_set \(\rangle\)
```

Once the parcel is in a node, three actions can be started consecutively, the first is set_gate_left, which models gate opening on the left. The same behavior but towards right side is modelled by the action set_ gate_right. The second executed action is crossing_ left, respectively crossing_right, modelling the node crossing to go towards the left pipe, respectively right pipe, resulting from this node. The third action concerns the pipe crossing and it is modelled by cross_ right2, respectively cross_left2.

The automated system has been processed by the model checker TLC and all properties were verified by the model. These properties are fairness asserting that each action able to be executed is activated at least one time and safety represented as invariant and asserting that we cannot have two outputs at the same time $(\neg($ out_l $\wedge \wedge$ out_r $))$. The second refinement model of the automated system will be presented in the annexe C. As our goal in the proposed method is to develop a control system, we separate what concerns the operative component from what concerns the controller in order to build a program of the controller,

## 5 Conclusion

In this paper, we have proposed the first steps of a formal method for the development of automated systems using the temporal logic of actions TLA+. The main contribution of the paper consists in building a model of the expected automated system starting from an abstract model of the operative part. In the stepwise approach, the first model consists of an abstract model of the operative part with the guards of the action kept as week as possible to prevent unsafe behaviors. The only property one can expect from a system, we have called permissive, is that it does not prevent the expected behaviour of the final automated system to occur. If it is the case, we deduce that the system is controllable and that is is possible to strengthen the guards in order to obtain an abstract model of the required controlled system. The controlled system is then refined in the usual way.

The refinement, indeed, concerns the operative part and the control part. At the end of the process, we have a detailed model of the automated system. The validation of the operative part, using the animator has been experienced in another work. The proposed method has been illustrated by the example of a parcel sorting system and our approach has simplified the specification of an automated system which meets desired properties.

We have specified also this example with the event based B approach (Abrial 1996b, Abrial 1996a, Abrial \& Mussat 1998) and we have verified all proof obligations with the powerful tool AtelierB. In the event based B approach, only invariance and safety properties are considered but fairness and eventuality properties are not considered. The temporal Logic of Actions TLA+, in the other hand, expresses well eventuality and fairness and supports refinement and this is why we have used it in our method. In future works we will develop a method using in the same approach the B method and TLA + to take benefits of the powerful tool of B and to formulate in TLA+ more natural properties that are not straightforward to express with B and to verify them with the model checker TLC.

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## Annexe A

$\wedge$ UNCHANGED 〈channel，ready＿to＿sort〉
Next $\triangleq \vee$ select＿parcel $\vee$ set＿channel $\vee$ release $\vee$ cross＿parcel

trvars $\triangleq$ 〈channel, sorting, pe, arrived, sorted, ready_to_sort〉
TrFairness $\triangleq \mathrm{WF}_{\text {trvars }}($ Next $)$
Spec $\triangleq \quad \triangleq \quad$ Init $\wedge \square\left[\right.$ Next $_{\text {trvars }} \wedge$ TrFairness
Invariant $\triangleq \wedge$ sorting $=$ busy $\Rightarrow$ channel $=\operatorname{adr}[p e]$
$\wedge$ sorting $\neq$ free $\Rightarrow$ pe $\in P A R C E L S \wedge$ sorting $=$ busy $\Rightarrow$ ready_to_sort $=$ FALSE
$\wedge$ ready_to_sort $=$ TRUE $\Rightarrow$ channel $=a d r[p e]$
$\wedge$ ready_to_sort $=$ TRUE $\Rightarrow p e \in P A R C E L S$
Liveness $\triangleq \wedge \forall p \in \operatorname{PARCELS}: p \in$ DOMAIN arrived $\leadsto \operatorname{arrived}[p]=\operatorname{adr}[p]$
$\wedge \forall p \in P A R C E L S: p \in \operatorname{DOMAIN}$ arrived $\leadsto \diamond$ arrived $[p] \in$ Baskets
$\longmapsto 1$
THEOREM Spec $\Rightarrow \square$ Init THEOREM $\quad$ Spec $\Rightarrow \square$ TypeInvariant
THEOREM Spec $\Rightarrow \square$ Invariant THEOREM $\quad$ Spec $\Rightarrow$ Liveness
$\qquad$

## Annexe B

```
ExtEnds Trieuse, TLC
    CONSTANTS adr_level, n, Level, Node, noNode, Internal_N
    variables path_level, i, l, ctrl_cross
    ASSUME Level \subseteqNat ^ Level }\not=Nat^\mathrm{ adr_level }\in[(Baskets * Level ) -> Node
    Baskets}\subseteq\mathrm{ Node ^Baskets }\not=\mathrm{ Node ^Node }\not={}\wedge Internal_N \subseteq Node
    ^ Internal_N # Node ^ noNode }\not\inNod
    \wedge \forallp\inPARCELS:adr_level[adr[p],n]=adr[p]
\longmapsto
    TypeInvariant 1 \triangleq ^ TypeInvariant ^path_level }\in[\mathrm{ Level }->\mathrm{ Node }\cup{noNode}
    ^ii \inNat ^ii \in Node ^ll \inNat ^ll \inLevel ^ctrl_cross }\in\mathrm{ bOolean
\longmapsto
    Init1 }\triangleq| Init ^i=0^ll=
        path_level = [i & Level }\mapsto\mathrm{ noNode }]\wedge\mathrm{ ctrl_cross = FALSE
    select_parcel1 \triangleq}\triangleq^\mathrm{ select_parcel }\wedge\mp@subsup{i}{}{\prime}=0\wedge\mp@subsup{l}{}{\prime}=
    ^ path_level'}=[\mathrm{ path_level EXCEPT ![0] = 0] ^ UNCHANGED <ctrl_cross>
    set_channel1 \triangleq ^ set_channel ^ UNCHANGED <path_level,i,l,ctrl_cross\rangle
    release1 \triangleq ^release ^ UNCHANGED <i, l, path_level, ctrl_cross\rangle
    path_left \triangleq^pe\inPARCELS^sorting=busy^ctrl_cross = FALSE
    ^adr_level[adr[pe],l+1]=2*i+1\wedgeii}\in\mathrm{ Internal_N
    ^ path_level'}=[\mathrm{ path_level EXCEPT ! [l+1]=2*i+1]^ ctrl_cross' }=\mathrm{ (RUE ^ll < = n
    ^ UNCHANGED <channel, ready_to_sort, sorting, pe, arrived, sorted, i, l\rangle
    cross_left }\triangleq\wedgell<=n\wedgei\inInternal_N
    ^sorting = busy ^ctrl_cross = TRUE ^ path_level[l+1] = 2*i+1
    \wedge l' = l + 1^ i' = 2*i+1^ctrl_cross' = FALSE
    ^ UNCHANGED <channel, sorting, pe, arrived, sorted, ready_to_sort, path_level\rangle
    path_right }\triangleq\triangleq^ii \inInternal_N^ll<=n
```



