Introduction to ORCAN

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Department of Materials Science 6, University of Erlangen-Nuremberg

ORCAN Workshop, 26. April 2005



Outline

Open Reflective Component Architecture Motivation ORCAN Overview

ORCAN Design

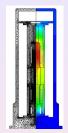
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Software for Simulation of Crystal Growth

Crystal Growth Laboratory

- Development of simulation software since years.
- CrysVUn, STHAMAS/-3D licensed to industry.
- 2D or axisymmetric complex geometries.
- User friendly interface.



Research Project (CrysVUn3D)

- Fully 3D simulation in complex geometries.
- Focus on realistic modelling of thermal radiation.
- Completely new development of simulation software.



Why ORCAN?

Example (Thermal Radiation)

- Geometry import and management.
- Mesh generation and management.
- Heat conduction simulation.
- Linear equation system solver.
- Coupling between (different) meshes.
- Visualization.
- Graphical user interface.
- Parallelization.

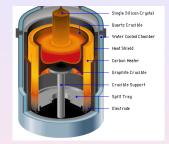


Figure: Czochralski furnace.

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Drawback

A good deal of the time must be spend in preparation for the real task.



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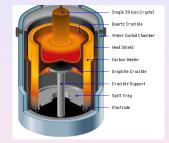


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Why ORCAN?

Example (Large-Scale Software)

- Not all can be developed anew.
- Reuse of existing software packages.
- Integration of a specific product is critical.
- Highly interwoven application modules.
- Increasing efforts on modifications.
- Replacements more and more expensive.

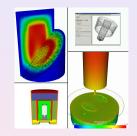


Figure: CrysVUn3D.

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Drawback

Large application may fail if they reach a specific level of complexity.



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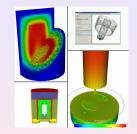


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Goals

We are looking for a framework which

- allows the decomposition of software in manageable modules.
 ⇒ components
- allows a clear functional specification of a module.
 ⇒ interfaces
- forces the developer to use the specification of a module.
 ⇒ data hiding
- allows replacement of a module with a minimum of effort.
 ⇒ 3rd party products
- allows easy extension of the software by new modules.
 ⇒ plug-in mechanism





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Idea

void * module; string name;



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void * module;

string name;



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void * module;

string **name**;





void * module;

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Methods

Representative





Components with Interfaces and a

PropertyMap



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Outline



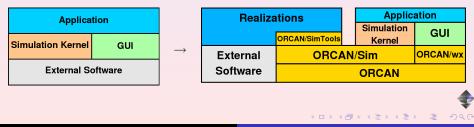




What is ORCAN?

Traits

- Collection of C++ libraries.
- Self contained.
- Middleware: Service between application modules.
- Decomposition of software complexity.



ORCAN

Specification

- Component model (Placeholder for implementation)
- Interfaces
- Load implementation on demand

Application

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Realiza	tions	Applic	ation
	ORCAN/SimTools	Simulation	GUI
External	ORCAN	Kernel I/Sim	ORCAN/wx
Software		ORCAN	



ORCAN

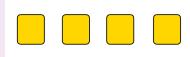
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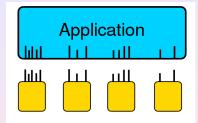
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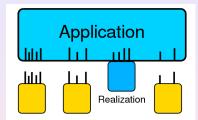
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ORCAN/Sim

Motivation ORCAN Overview ORCAN Design

Specification

- Based on ORCAN.
- Simulation related components.

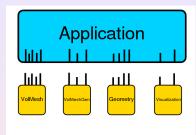
Example

VolMesh

VolMeshGen

Geometry

Visualization



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Realiza	ations		Application	
			Simulation	GUI
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ORCAN/Sim

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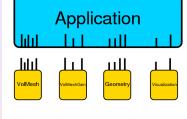
Specification

- Based on ORCAN.
- Simulation related components.

ORCAN/SimTools

- Based on ORCAN/Sim.
- Collection of useful tools.

Realizations		Application		
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	ORCAN/SimTools		Kernel	GUI
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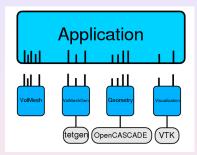
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Realizations

Specification

- Based on ORCAN/Sim.
- Implementation of components.
- Not all interfaces necessary.
- May use external software.
- Loaded on demand.

• Exchangeable, even at runtime.



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Realizations			Application	
			Simulation	GUI
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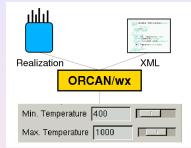
Motivation

ORCAN Overview ORCAN Design

ORCAN/wx

Specification

- Based on ORCAN.
- Automatic GUI generation.
- Display parameters of realization.
- XML description of GUI.
- Based on *wxWidgets*.



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Realizations			Application	
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Motivation

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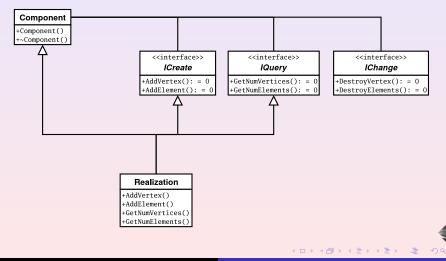


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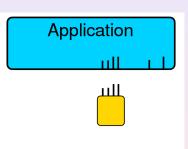
Component, Interfaces, Realization



Object Creation Process

ObjectBroker

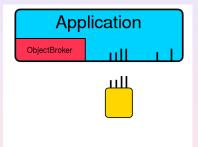
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- Calls ObjectBroker internally.
- Load appropriated library file.
- Instantiates realization.
- Returns reference to application.
 VolMeshRef



Object Creation Process

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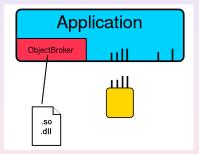
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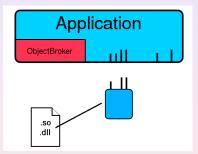




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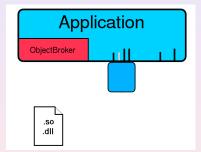




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Object Reference

- Access point to realization.
- Query and usage of component interfaces.
- Destroy of realization.

Example (Query interface)

Component with query interface IQuery:

```
VolMeshRef ref = VolMesh::New();
if( ref && ref.I.QueryPtr ) {
  int num = ref.I.QueryPtr->GetNumVertices();
}
ref.Delete();
```

Reflectivity

Problem

Realizations of the same component may have different parameters.

Example (VolMeshGen)

• Gmsh float characteristic_length; float max_element_size;

Tetgen

float global_max_volume;

float min_angle;

Reflectivity support

Ability to query a component for its intrinsic parameters at runtime.



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PropertyMap

A parameter of a realization is encapsulated in a property.

A property consists of a key/value pair:

string <name>, type <value>

Example			
	"MinAngle" "MaxVolume" "SubdivideBdry"	(float) 15.3 (float) 0.12 (bool) true	

- All properties are stored in a map: PropertyMap
- The property map can be queried by HasProperty() GetProperty()

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ORCAN/Sim Components for Simulation

