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is about ...

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ensembles

- achieve an overall system's goal
- have a massive number of nodes
- operate in open and non-deterministic environments
- are built from self-aware components
- adapt dynamically to new conditions

engineering ensembles

- language for autonomic behavior
- knowledge representation of self-aware components
- mechanisms for adaptation
- verification using formal methods
- set of tools and tool integration platform

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a utonomic
S ervice
C omponent
ens embles

a software engineering approach

based on formal methods



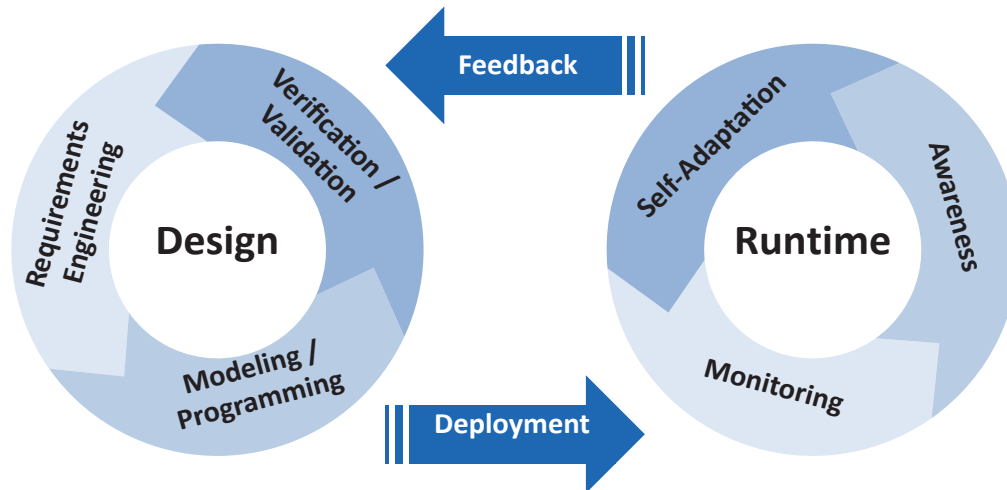
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Ensemble Development Life Cycle

The EDLC is an iterative process that proposes a doubly connected design-runtime life cycle for the development of service component ensembles (SCE) characterized by self-* properties like self-awareness and self-adaptation.



Requirements Engineering

In this phase a conceptual and operational framework is provided to elicit and rationally represent adaptation and awareness requirements of ensembles.

⇒ ARE, SOTA

Modeling/Programming

For the specification and coding of self-* properties of ensembles a set of languages were designed. They address how different components interact to form ensembles, their behavior, and knowledge manipulation according to specific policies.

⇒ ARGoS, BIP, DEECO/JDEECO, FACPL, Helena, IRM, JRESP, KnowLang, SCEL/MISSCEL

Verification/Validation

Formal proofs of ensembles' models and code are proposed for planning and controlling execution.

⇒ BIP D-Finder, GMC, Iliad, jSAM, MESSI, MISSCEL

Deployment

Static and hot deployment is supported.

⇒ ARGoS, BIP, DEECO/JDEECO, JRESP

Monitoring

Both individual components of an ensemble and their environment are monitored using mechanisms at runtime to collect data for the purpose of awareness.

⇒ ARGoS, SPL (performance monitoring)

Awareness

This phase comprises the knowledge of the system and its environment as well as the reasoning mechanisms that an ensemble can employ at runtime.

⇒ ARGoS, KnowLang, MATSim, POEM/Iliad

Self-Adaptation

In case of awareness of malfunctions, contingencies or performance issues, the system evaluates possibilities of adaptation in form of re-configuration or self-expression.

⇒ SOTA patterns

Feedback

The feedback transition takes data collected during monitoring back to the design phases.

⇒ IRM

Case Studies

Science Cloud

The cloud computing scenario is designed as a Platform as a Service (PaaS) solution composed by autonomous nodes that are (self-)aware of

- ⇒ changes in load;
- ⇒ the network structure (i.e. nodes coming and going);
- ⇒ the need of self-healing properties (network resilience).



The Science Cloud provides fail-over solution, i.e. self-adaptation or what we may call application execution resilience.

Swarm Robots

In the disaster recovery scenario a robot swarm is used to perform dangerous activities.



Part of the building has collapsed, trapping a number of victims inside. The autonomous robots must explore, search for victims, and collaborate for the rescue.

The robots must build a wall to screen themselves from a harmful radiation source.

Cooperative Vehicles

The e-Mobility scenario focuses on avoiding contingency situations in an open-ended and highly dynamic system.

The main components are the user, the electric vehicle, the parking lot and charging stations. Through-out runtime, contingency situations may occur. Components and ensembles require self-adaptive actions to resolve these situations.

