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Project-Team dream

*Diagnosing, REcommending Actions and
Modelling*

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Theme : Knowledge and Data Representation and Management

Activity
R *eport*

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Table of contents

1. Team	1
2. Overall Objectives	1
2.1. Introduction	1
2.2. On-line monitoring issues	2
2.3. Design and model acquisition issues	2
2.4. Application domains	2
3. Scientific Foundations	3
3.1. Computer assisted monitoring and diagnosis of physical systems	3
3.2. Machine learning and data mining	5
3.2.1. Temporal and spatial data representation	5
3.2.2. Learning from structured data	6
4. Application Domains	7
4.1. Software components monitoring	7
4.2. Telecommunication and electrical distribution network monitoring	8
4.3. Environmental decision making	8
5. Software	9
5.1. Introduction	9
5.2. Calicot: intelligent cardiac monitoring	9
5.3. CarDeCRS and Matrac: two chronicle-based distributed diagnosis platforms	10
5.4. LogAnalyzer: a workbench for analyzing log streams	10
5.5. QTempIntMiner: quantitative temporal sequence mining	11
5.6. Sacadeau: qualitative modeling and decision-aid to preserve the water quality from pollutants as herbicides	11
5.7. Ecomata	11
6. New Results	12
6.1. Diagnosis of large scale discrete event systems	12
6.1.1. Distributed and incremental diagnosis of discrete-event systems	12
6.1.2. Distributed monitoring with chronicles	12
6.1.3. Interleaving diagnosis and repair	13
6.1.4. Diagnosability and self-healability of discrete-event systems	13
6.1.5. Scenario patterns for exploring qualitative ecosystems	14
6.2. Machine learning for model acquisition	14
6.2.1. Learning and mining from sequential and temporal data	14
6.2.2. Learning decision-oriented rules from simulation data	15
6.3. Diagnostic and causal reasoning	17
7. Contracts and Grants with Industry	17
7.1. SACADEAU-APPEAU: Decision-aid to improve streamwater quality	17
7.2. ACCASYA: Supporting the agro ecological evolution of breeding systems in coastal watersheds	18
7.3. ManageYourSelf: diagnosis and monitoring of embedded platforms	18
8. Dissemination	19
8.1. Services to the Scientific Community	19
8.1.1. Journal editorial board	19
8.1.2. Conference program committees and organizations	19
8.1.3. Scientific and administrative boards	19
8.2. Academic teaching	19
8.3. PhD supervision	19
9. Bibliography	19

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2. Overall Objectives

2.1. Introduction

The research goals of the Dream project-team concern monitoring complex systems. The challenge is to design smart systems, both adaptable and dependable, to answer the demand for self-healing embedded systems. The considered systems meet a fixed common goal (or contract), possibly expressed by a set of QoS (Quality of Service) constraints. The Dream team investigates and develops model-based approaches. Dealing with dynamic systems, a central role is given to temporal information and the model specification uses event-based formalisms such as discrete-event systems (mainly described by automata), or sets of chronicles (a chronicle is a temporally constrained set of events). We investigate two main research questions. Firstly, we design and develop distributed architectures and efficient diagnosis/repair algorithms for highly distributed systems. Secondly, we study the automatic acquisition of models from data using symbolic machine learning and data mining methods, with a particular focus on data streams processing. Target applications are of two kinds: large component-based system monitoring applications, like telecommunication networks, and software systems like web services and environmental protection with development of decision support systems to help managing agricultural plots and support high water quality threatened by pollution.

In this context, the research questions we are investigating are the following. Even though they are clearly highly related, we have chosen for the sake of clarity to present them in two distinct paragraphs. The first one deals with on-line monitoring issues and the second one with design and model acquisition issues. Finally, we present some application domains.

2.2. On-line monitoring issues

Classical model-based diagnosis methodologies appear to be inadequate for complex systems due to the intractable size of the model and the computational complexity of the process. It is especially true when one considers on-line diagnosis or when many interacting components (or agents) make up the system. This is why we focus on decentralized approaches which relies on computing local diagnoses from local models and synchronizing them to get a global view of the current state of the system. The problems we are investigating are: Which strategy to select for synchronizing in an optimal way the local diagnoses to keep the efficiency and the completeness of the process? Which kind of communication protocols to use? How to improve the efficiency of the computation by using adequate symbolic representations? How to guarantee an efficient incremental process, in an on-line diagnosis context where observations are incrementally collected?

More recently, we enlarge our interest and consider in the same view both monitoring, deficiency detection, diagnosis and the consequent system adaptation or repair. We extended diagnosability to self-healability and investigated how to weave diagnosis and repair, to get adaptive systems maintaining a good QoS, even in unexpected, and even abnormal conditions.

2.3. Design and model acquisition issues

When designing a dependable and adaptive system, a main point is to formally characterize the intended properties of the system such as the diagnosability (i.e. whether, given the system specifications, it is possible to detect and explain an error in due time), or the reparability (i.e. whether it is possible to get the system back to correctness, in due time). Moreover, these two properties must be joined to get the best compromise for building real self-healing systems. Some of these concepts have been defined, but in a centralized context. We aim at extending the solutions proposed so far for discrete-event systems in the decentralized context.

It is well-recognized that model-based approaches suffer from the difficulty of model acquisition. The first issue we have studied is the automatic acquisition of models from data with symbolic learning methods and data mining methods. We list the investigated problems here. How to improve relational learning methods to cope efficiently with data coming from signals (as an electrocardiogram in the medical domain) or alarm logs (in the telecommunication domain)? How to integrate signal processing algorithms to the learning or diagnosis tasks when these latter ones rely on a qualitative description of signals? How to adapt the learning process to deal with multiple sources of information (multi-sensor learning)? How to apply learning techniques to spatiotemporal data? How to combine data mining and visualization to help experts build their models?

Concerning evolving context management and adaptive systems, an emerging issue is to detect when a model is becoming obsolete and to update it by taking advantage of the current data. This difficult and new issue has strong connections with data streams processing. This is a big challenge in the monitoring research area where the model serves as a reference for the diagnosis task.

The last point we consider is the decision part itself, mainly having abilities to propose repair policies to restore the functionalities of the system or the expected quality of service. A first direction is to interleave diagnosis and repair and to design some decision-theoretic procedure to dynamically choose the best action to undertake. Another direction concerns how to automatically build the recommending actions from simulation or recorded data.

2.4. Application domains

Our application domains have links with funds and contracts we have got thanks to long-term relations with academic and industrial partners. These application domains serve us both as providers of real challenging problems and as test-beds for our research development. One should not consider them as distinct research areas but as distinct experimentation fields, for confronting similar methodologies and techniques on various application contexts. We investigate following application domains:

- large component-based system monitoring applications, the two focused ones being telecommunication networks, and software systems as those found in embedded systems or web services.

- surveillance systems for monitoring interaction data in telecommunication networks (internet) or electrical consumption data.
- environmental protection, and more precisely decision support system development to help managing agricultural plots with the goal of preserving water quality threatened by pollution.

3. Scientific Foundations

3.1. Computer assisted monitoring and diagnosis of physical systems

Our work on monitoring and diagnosis relies on model-based approaches developed by the Artificial Intelligence community since the founding studies by R. Reiter and J. de Kleer [78], [91]. Our project investigates the on-line monitoring and diagnosis of systems, which are modeled as discrete events systems, focusing more precisely on monitoring by alarms management [24]. Computational efficiency is a crucial issue for real size problems. We are developing two approaches. The first one relies on diagnoser techniques [83], for which we have proposed a decentralized and generic approach. The second one uses chronicle recognition techniques, focusing on learning chronicles.

Early work on model-based diagnosis dates back to the 70-80's by R. Reiter, the reference papers on the logical theory of diagnosis being [78], [91]. In the same years was constituted the community known as DX, named after the *workshop on the principles of diagnosis*. Research in these areas is still very active and the workshop gathers about fifty people in the field every year. As opposed to the expert system approach, which has been the leading approach for diagnosis (medical diagnosis for instance) before 1990, the model-based approach lies on a deep model representing the expected correct behavior of the system to be supervised or on a fault model. Instead of acquiring and representing an expertise from experts, the model-based approach uses the design models of industrial systems. The approach has been initially developed for electronic circuits repair [92], focusing on off-line diagnosis of so-called static systems. Two main approaches have been proposed then: (i) the consistency-based approach, relying on a model of the expected correct behavior, which aims at detecting the components responsible for a discrepancy between the expected observations and the ones actually observed ; (ii) the abductive approach which relies on a model of the failures that might affect the system, and which identifies the failures or the faulty behavior explaining the anomalous observations. See the references [16], [18] for a detailed exposition of these investigations.

Since 1990, the researchers in the field have studied dynamic system monitoring and diagnosis, in a similar way as researchers in control theory do. What characterizes the AI approach is the use of qualitative models instead of quantitative ones and the importance given to the search for the actual source/causes of the faulty behavior. Model-based diagnosis approaches rely on qualitative simulation or on causal graphs in order to look for the causes of the observed deviations. The links between the two communities have been enforced, in particular for what concerns the work about discrete events systems and hybrid systems. Used formalisms are often similar (automata, Petri nets ,...) [29], [24].

Our team focuses on monitoring and on-line diagnosis of discrete events systems and in particular on monitoring by alarm management. In this context, a human operator is generally in charge of the system monitoring and receives time-stamped events (the alarms) which are emitted by the components themselves, in reaction to external events. These observations on the system are discrete pieces of information, corresponding to an instantaneous event or to a property associated to a time interval. The main difficulties for analyzing this flow of alarms are the following:

- the huge number of received alarms: the supervisor may receive up to several hundreds of messages per second, many of which being insignificant,
- the alarm overlapping: the order in which alarms are received may be different from the order in which alarms were emitted. Moreover, various sequences of alarms resulting from concurrent failures may overlap. The propagating delays, and sometimes the ways the alarms are transmitted, must be taken into account, not only for event reordering, but also to decide at what time all the useful messages can be considered as being received.

- the redundancy of received alarms: some alarms are only routine consequence of other alarms. This can provoke a phenomenon known as cascading alarms.
- the alarm loss or alarm masking: some alarms can be lost or masked to the supervisor when an intermediate component in charge of the transmission is faulty. The absence of an alarm must be taken into account, since it can give a useful information about the state of the system.

There are two cases focusing on very different issues. In the first one, the alarms must be dealt with *on-line* by the operator. In this case, alarm analysis must be done in real time. The operator must react in a very short period of time to keep the system working at best in spite of the inputs variability and the natural evolution of the processes. Consequently, the natural system damages (components wear, slow modification of the components properties, etc.) are not directly taken into account but are corrected by tuning some parameters.

This *reactive* treatment withstands the treatment of alarms maintenance. In this second case, a deeper *off line* analysis of the system is performed, by foreseeing the possible difficulties, by planning the maintenance operations in order to minimize significantly the failures and interruptions of the system.

The major part of our work focuses on on-line monitoring aid and it is assumed that the correct behavior model or the fault models of the supervised systems are available. However, an on-line use of the models is rarely possible because of its complexity with respect to real time constraints. This is especially true when temporal models are under concern. A way to tackle this problem is to make an off-line transformation (or compilation) of the models and to extract, in an adapted way, the useful elements for diagnosis.

We study two different methods:

- In the first method, the automaton used as a model is transformed off-line into an automaton adapted to diagnosis. This automaton is called a *diagnoser*. The transitions of the automaton are only triggered by observable events and the states contain only information on the failures that occurred in the system. Diagnosing the system consists in going through all the different states of the diagnoser as observable events become available. This method has been proposed by M. Sampath and colleagues [83]. We have extended this method to the communicating automata formalism [81] (see also [79]). We have also developed a more generic method which takes advantage of the symmetries in the architecture of the system [80].

The main drawback of centralized approaches is that they require to explicitly build the global model of the system which is unrealistic for large and complex systems as telecommunication networks. It is why our more recent work deals with a decentralized approach [74]. This approach can be compared with R. Debouk and colleagues [46] and also to P. Baroni and colleagues [28]. Our method, unlike R. Debouk et al., relies on local models. We do not need to construct a global model. Indeed, the size of the global model would have been too large in our applications. Even if the methods are very close, P. Baroni et al. are concerned with an *a posteriori* diagnosis (off-line) whereas we propose an on-line diagnosis. Each time an alarm comes, it is analyzed and the diagnosis hypotheses are incrementally computed and given to the operator. Our main theme of study is close to E. Fabre and colleagues [53], [21]. The main difference is that they propose a multi-agent approach where the diagnoses are computed locally at the component level using message exchanges, whereas we construct a global diagnosis which is given to the operator at the supervisor level.

- In the second method, the idea is to associate each failure that we want to detect with a *chronicle* (or a scenario), i.e. a set of observable events interlinked by time constraints. The chronicle recognition approach consists in monitoring and diagnosing dynamic systems by recognizing those chronicles on-line [50], [77], [48].

One of our research focus is to extend the chronicle recognition methods to a distributed context. Local chronicle bases and local recognizers are used to detect and diagnose each component. However, it is important to take into account the interaction model (messages exchanged by the components). Computing a global diagnosis requires then to check the synchronisation constraints between local diagnoses.

Another issue is the chronicle base acquisition. A chronicle base must contain all the chronicles characterizing the behaviors to monitor. Moreover, the base must be updated each time the supervised system evolves physically or structurally. An expert is often needed to create the chronicle base, and that makes the creation and the maintenance of the base very expensive. That is why we are working on an automatic method to acquire the base.

Applications generally deal with system monitoring (telecommunication network) and video-surveillance (underground, bank, etc...).

Developing diagnosis methodologies is not enough, especially when on-line monitoring is required. Two related concerns must be tackled, and are the topics of current research in the team:

- The ultimate goal is usually not merely to diagnose, but to put back the system in some acceptable state after the occurrence of a fault. That calls for considering the repair capabilities of a system and designing the diagnoser in such a way that the diagnoses are sufficiently discriminating to be able to trigger a valid repair procedure.
- When designing a system and equipping it with diagnosis capabilities, it may be crucial to be able to check off-line that the system will behave correctly, i.e., that the system is actually 'diagnosable'. Diagnosability is checked when two distinct faults (or one fault and the correct behavior) can never produce the same set of observations. A lot of techniques have been developed in the past (see Lafortune and colleagues [82]), essentially in automata models. Extending them to deal with temporal patterns, permanent faults, multiple faults, fault sequences and some problems of intermittent faults, or trying to relate such techniques with diagnosability of continuous systems, has been the main focus of our studies up to now. We intend now to study diagnosability and reparability capabilities together, in order to build self-healing systems.

3.2. Machine learning and data mining

The machine learning and data mining techniques investigated in the group aim at acquiring and improving models automatically. They belong to the field of machine or artificial learning [44]. In this domain, the goal is the induction or the discovery of hidden objects characterizations from their descriptions by a set of features or attributes. For several years we investigated Inductive Logic Programming (ILP) but now we are also working on data-mining techniques.

We are especially interested in structural learning which aims at making explicit dependencies among data where such links are not known. The relational (temporal or spatial) dimension is of particular importance in applications we are dealing with, such as process monitoring in health-care, environment or telecommunications. Being strongly related to the dynamics of the observed processes, attributes related to temporal or spatial information must be treated in a special way. Additionally, we consider that the legibility of the learned results is of crucial importance as domain experts must be able to evaluate and assess these results.

The discovery of spatial patterns or temporal relations in sequences of events involve two main steps: the choice of a data representation and the choice of a learning technique.

3.2.1. Temporal and spatial data representation

Temporal data comes mainly in two forms: time series and temporal sequences. Time series are sequences of real values which are often the result of sampling a signal at a regular rate. Temporal sequences are series of symbolic events being either ordered lists of simple events denoting the simple precedence temporal relation or list of time stamped events which give more precise temporal information.

Temporal sequences come often from abstracting time series data. This is especially true for monitoring data recorded by sensors on the observed system. For example, an ECG can be viewed as a time series of real values, i.e., the raw sampled signal, or as a series of time stamped events describing the waves that appears on the raw signal, e.g., P-waves, QRS complexes, T-waves, etc. The main issue of data abstraction is to select the relevant features that will represent the raw data and the abstraction granularity that are the most convenient

for the particular task. On the one hand, data should be sufficiently abstracted to enable an efficient (learning) computation, and on the other hand, they should be precise enough to avoid omitting essential information that could affect the accuracy of learned models.

Since they are often noisy and some features are difficult to detect, we have investigated signal processing techniques for abstracting health-care data. With the LTSI University of Rennes 1, we have studied, such techniques as wavelets transforms and neural networks for wave detection and classification [2]. For telecommunication data, where the semantics were not so obvious, we have enhanced discretization methods transforming a time series into a sequence of linear segments which are next associated to specific symbols [75].

Generally, simple sequences of symbolic locations are not enough to model spatial information. This is why graphs are often used to represent spatial data. In this model, nodes represent a geographic area and edges spatial relations between these areas. Sometimes the data are such that trees, which are specific graphs, can be used. This is the case for hydrological modeling, for instance. The considered area is split into sub-areas whose granularity can be adapted to particular tasks. In our case, the relationships between sub-areas model the runoff transfer from an area to a lower one. This kind of representation is used to compute simulations of water and pesticides transfer, in tight collaboration with the SAS-INRA research group.

3.2.2. Learning from structured data

We distinguish supervised and unsupervised learning methods. A supervised learning method involve samples of objects that are labeled by the class they belong to. Such samples are often called *learning examples*. If the examples cannot be classified a priori, the learning method is unsupervised. Kohonen maps, association rule extraction in data mining or reinforcement learning are typical unsupervised learning methods. From another point of view, learning methods can be symbolic, such as inductive rule or decision tree learning, or numerical, such as artificial neural networks. We are mainly interested in symbolic supervised and unsupervised methods. Furthermore, we are investigating methods that can cope with temporal relationships in data. In the sequel, we will give some details about relational learning, relational data-mining and data streams mining.

Relational learning

Relational learning, also called inductive logic programming (ILP), lies at the intersection of machine learning, logic programming and automated deduction. Relational learning aims at inducing classification or prediction rules from examples and from domain knowledge. As relational learning relies on first order logic, it provides a very expressive and powerful language for representing learning hypotheses especially those learnt from temporal data. Furthermore, domain knowledge represented in the same language, can also be used. This is a very interesting feature which enables taking into account already available knowledge and avoids starting learning from scratch.

Concerning temporal data, our work is more concerned with applying relational learning rather than developing or improving the techniques. Nevertheless, as noticed by Page and Srinivasan [73], the target application domains (such as signal processing in health-care) can benefit from adapting relational learning scheme to the particular features of the application data. Therefore, relational learning makes use of constraint programming to infer numerical values efficiently [84]. Extensions, such as QSIM [60], have also been used for learning a model of the behavior of a dynamic system [52]. Precisely, we investigate how to associate temporal abstraction methods to learning and to chronicle recognition. We are also interested in constraint clause induction, particularly for managing temporal aspects. In this setting, the representation of temporal phenomena uses specific variables managed by a constraint system [76] in order to deal efficiently with the associated computations (such as the covering tests).

For environmental data, we have investigated tree structures where a set of attributes describe nodes. Our goal is to find patterns expressed as sub-trees [38] with attribute selectors associated to nodes.

Data mining

Data mining is an unsupervised learning method which aims at discovering interesting knowledge from data. Association rule extraction is one of the most popular approach and has deserved a lot of interest in the last 10 years. For instance, many enhancements have been proposed to the well-known Apriori algorithm [22]. It is based on a level-wise generation of candidate patterns and on efficient candidate pruning having a sufficient relevance, usually related to the frequency of the candidate pattern in the data-set (i.e., the support): the most frequent patterns should be the most interesting. Later, Agrawal and Srikant proposed a framework for "mining sequential patterns" [23], which extends Apriori by coping with the order of elements in patterns.

In [70], Mannila and Toivonen extended the work of Aggrawal et al. by introducing an algorithm for mining patterns involving temporal episodes with a distinction between parallel and sequential event patterns. Later, in [49], Dousson and Vu Duong introduced an algorithm for mining chronicles. Chronicles are sets of events associated with temporal constraints on their occurrences. They generalize the temporal patterns of Mannila and Toivonen. The candidate generation is an Apriori-like algorithm. The chronicle recognizer CRS [47] is used to compute the support of patterns. Then, the temporal constraints are computed as an interval whose bounds are the minimal and the maximal temporal extent of the delay separating the occurrences of two given events in the data-set. Chronicles are very interesting because they can model a system behavior with sufficient precision to compute fine diagnoses. Their extraction from a data-set is reasonably efficient. They can be efficiently recognized on an input data stream.

Relational data-mining [17] can be seen as generalizing these works to first order patterns. In this field, the work of Dehaspe for extracting first-order association rules have strong links with chronicles. Another interesting research concerns inductive databases which aim at giving a theoretical and logical framework to data-mining [61], [45]. In this view, the mining process means to query a database containing raw data as well as patterns that are implicitly coded in the data. The answer to a query is, either the solution patterns that are already present in the database, or computed by a mining algorithm, e.g., Apriori. The original work concerns sequential patterns only [68]. We have investigated an extension of inductive database where patterns are very close to chronicles [88].

Mining data streams

During the last years, a new challenge has appeared in the data mining community: mining from data streams [20]. Data coming for example from monitoring systems observing patients or from telecommunication systems arrive in such huge volumes that they cannot be stored in totality for further processing: the key feature is that "you get only one look at the data" [55]. Many investigations have been made to adapt existing mining algorithms to this particular context or to propose new solutions: for example, methods for building synopses of past data in the form of or summaries have been proposed, as well as representation models taking advantage of the most recent data. Sequential pattern stream mining is still an issue [72]. At present, research topics such as, sampling, summarizing, clustering and mining data streams are actively investigated.

A major issue in data streams is to take into account the dynamics of process generating data, i.e., the underlying model is evolving and, so, the extracted patterns have to be adapted constantly. This feature, known as *concept drift* [90], [63], occurs within an evolving system when the state of some hidden system variables changes. This is the source of important challenges for data stream mining [54] because it is impossible to store all the data for off-line processing or learning. Thus, changes must be detected on-line and the current mined models must be updated on line as well.

4. Application Domains

4.1. Software components monitoring

Web-services, i.e., services that are provided, controlled and managed through Internet, cover nowadays more and more application areas, from travel booking to goods supplying in supermarkets or the management of

an e-learning platform. Such applications need to process requests from users and other services on line, and respond accurately in real time. Anyway, errors may occur, which need to be addressed in order to still be able to provide the correct response with a satisfactory quality of service (QoS): on-line monitoring, especially diagnosis and repair capabilities, become then a crucial concern.

We have been working on this problem within the WS-DIAMOND project [19], a large European funded project involving eight partners in Italy, France, Austria and Netherlands <http://wsdiamond.di.unito.it/>. Our own work consisted in two distinct contributions.

The first issue has been to extend the decentralized component-oriented approach, initially developed for monitoring telecommunication networks [4] to this new domain. To this end we have proposed the concept of distributed chronicles, with synchronization events, and the design of an architecture consisting of distributed CRSs (Chronicle Recognition Systems) communicating their local diagnoses to a broker agent which is in charge of merging them to compute a global diagnosis. During his thesis, X. Le Guillou developed two approaches before solving this problem [66], [65], [67].

We are also involved in formally characterizing the intended system properties such as the diagnosability (i.e. the capability to detect and explain an error in due time) and repairability (i.e. the capability to get the system back to correctness, in due time), managing to relate them in order to define a so-called 'self-healability' property which will ensure the system is self-healing, i.e. it can always match a set of observations to an adequate repair procedure, which will resolve any of the faults which are consistent with the observations [41].

4.2. Telecommunication and electrical distribution network monitoring

Telecommunication and electrical distribution network are a good example of large-scale complex systems. Moreover, monitoring such networks is an important task to predict future behavior, e.g., to forecast load and consumption, and to ensure a good quality of service. Observation data are collected either from monitored devices (e.g., telecommunication network routers, web servers, etc.) or by sensors (e.g., individual counters for recording electricity load curves such as those that EDF will install in a near future).

We are focusing on an important issue: how to detect relevant changes in observed networks or clients. Two main techniques have been used so far: signature-based and anomaly based detection. The first one makes use of a signature database which contains specific patterns that can be related to fault events. The second one makes use of a model representing the normal behavior of the observed system (local network, web server, isolated client or group of clients, etc.). Within the first method, any deviation from the behavior inferred by the model can be associated with a faulty state. Data mining is widely used to extract signatures from data. Concerning the second method data stream mining, e.g., dynamic clustering [89], can be used for detecting discrepancies between the system actual behavior and a normal one.

Another important issue for network monitoring is adaptive modeling. If many false alarms are generated or many faults are missed during monitoring, new diagnostic knowledge must be acquired, i.e., the models should be updated. Furthermore, in the context of data streams new data arrive continuously and cannot be stored in totality. Thus, the model used for diagnosis must be continuously adapted and knowledge acquisition must be performed *on the fly* concurrently with diagnosis [58].

4.3. Environmental decision making

The need of decision support systems in the environmental domain is now well-recognized. It is especially true in the domain of water quality. For instance the program, named Bretagne Eau Pure, was launched a few years ago in order to help regional managers to protect this important resource in Brittany. The challenge is to preserve the water quality from pollutants as nitrates and herbicides, when these pollutants are massively used by farmers to weed their agricultural plots and improve the quality and increase the quantity of their crops. The difficulty is then to find solutions which satisfy contradictory interests and to get a better knowledge on pollutant transfer.

In this context, we are cooperating with INRA (Institut National de Recherche Agronomique) and developing decision support systems to help regional managers in preserving the river water quality. The approach we advocate is to rely on a qualitative modeling, in order to model biophysical processes in an explicative and understandable way. The SACADEAU model associates a qualitative biophysical model, able to simulate the biophysical process, and a management model, able to simulate the farmer decisions. One of our main contribution is the use of qualitative spatial modeling, based on runoff trees, to simulate the pollutant transfer through agricultural catchments.

The second issue is the use of learning/data mining techniques to discover, from model simulation results, the discriminant variables and automatically acquire rules relating these variables. One of the main challenges is that we are faced with spatiotemporal data. The learned rules are then analyzed in order to recommend actions to improve a current situation.

This work is currently done in the framework of the APPEAU project, funded by ANR and of the ACCASYA project, funded by ANR, having started at the beginning of 2009. We are also involved in the PSDR GO CLIMASTER project, that started in september 2008 and will end in 2011. CLIMASTER stands for “Change-ment climatique, systèmes agricoles, ressources naturelles et développement territorial” and is dedicated to the impact of climate changes on the agronomical behaviors in west of France (Grand Ouest). PSDR GO stands for “Programme Pour et Sur le Développement Régional Grand Ouest”.

Our main partners are the SAS INRA research group, located in Rennes and the BIA INRA and AGIR INRA research groups in Toulouse.

5. Software

5.1. Introduction

The pieces of software described in this section are prototypes implemented by members of the project. They are not available through the APP. Any interested person should contact relevant members of the project.

5.2. Calicot: intelligent cardiac monitoring

Participant: René Quiniou [Correspondant].

CALICOT (Cardiac Arrhythmias Learning for Intelligent Classification of On-line Tracks) is a software that takes as input several signals coming from sensors and that delivers as output fault states or diseases that were diagnosed by recognizing characteristic temporal patterns on the monitored signals. CALICOT is devoted to monitoring cardiac patients and diagnosing cardiac arrhythmia. The software is mainly implemented in Java with a few modules in Prolog. The main features of CALICOT are:

- a base of signal processing algorithms for abstracting signals into time-stamped symbolic events,
- a base of chronicles that are used on line by the chronicle recognizer¹. Chronicles are discriminant temporal patterns related to arrhythmia. They are learned automatically off line from signal examples by using ILP techniques,
- a pilot that adapts the behavior of the system to the monitoring context: noise on signals, patient's state, relevant arrhythmia, etc,
- a graphical interface that displays the recognized patterns on the signal curves and shows the related diagnoses.

The following website gives many details about the goals, the conception and the implementation of Calicot: <http://www.irisa.fr/dream/Calicot/>.

¹CRS (Chronicle Recognition System) from France Telecom R & D.

5.3. CarDeCRS and Matrac: two chronicle-based distributed diagnosis platforms

Participants: Xavier Le Guillou, Laurence Rozé [Correspondant].

CARDECERS [66] and MATRAC are two generic diagnosis platforms which have been developed within the DREAM project.

Those platforms aim at monitoring complex systems, thanks to specifically designed distributed chronicles. Their goal is to establish an end-to-end system, acting from the acquisition of the chronicles to the final diagnosis, with no need for extra software.

The implementation mainly relies on a chronicle recognition system called CRS, developed by C. Dousson and his team, from France Telecom Recherche & Developpement Lannion (for the diagnosis part), and an RMI/multithreaded based environment (for the low level part).

The main difference between those two approaches reflects the potentially dynamic aspect of the system to monitor:

- MATRAC uses an interaction model that lists all the exchanges between the participants of a topologically static distributed system;
- CARDECERS is interaction model-free and is adapted to topologically dynamic distributed systems.

The platforms were experimented in the framework of the WS-Diamond European project for monitoring web services between 2005 and 2008. New perspectives for those platforms consist in:

- enriching them with repair capabilities, which is currently the main research interest of the participants;
- making the software more user-friendly, by developing a new GUI capable of generating skeletons of web services and chronicles automatically.

5.4. LogAnalyzer: a workbench for analyzing log streams

LOGANALYZER is an experimental workbench for validating our scientific results on adaptive intrusion detection [15]. This software offers two possible uses: off-line and interactive computation of intrusion diagnosis, and on-line intrusion detection dedicated to the processing of massive data streams.

The software is organized in three layers:

- the adaptive intrusion detection layers: it constitutes the core API which implements the multi-diagnoser adaptive diagnosis approach (see 6.2.1).
- the applicative layer: it applies the core API to the structure of the log data. In our software, we developed this layer to detect intrusions in Apache HTTP logs,
- the graphic user interface layer for off-line and interactive analysis.

The adaptive diagnosis layer is not dedicated to Apache HTTP logs processing. This layer is stand alone and can be easily instantiated to other kinds of streams of structured data. A multi-threaded framework organizes multi-diagnosers and meta-diagnoser processing and adaptations triggering. The concrete implementations of diagnosers are components of an application layer dedicated to a specific kind of data stream.

The GUI the software provides several applicative features:

- anonymization: logs may be anonymized to cope with (client and server) privacy issues,
- server activity reporting: a module draws the curves of the evolution of the web server activity (number of requests per time unit, number of bot requests, ...),
- access logs browsing and annotating: three log views (sequential view, transactional view and server image view) are provided to aid the user browse huge amount of data. In particular, this tool can help her/him to identify intrusions manually and to label them.

The software has been developed in C++/Qt4 and is still under improvement. The following website is devoted to the presentation of the LOGANALYZER: <http://www.irisa.fr/dream/LogAnalyzer/>.

5.5. QTempIntMiner: quantitative temporal sequence mining

QTEMPINTMINER (Quantitative Temporal Interval Miner) is a software that implements the QTEMPINTMINER algorithm presented in section 1.

The software is mainly implemented in Matlab. It uses the Mixmod toolbox [35] to compute multi-dimensional Gaussian distributions. The main features of QTEMPINTMINER are:

- a generator of synthetic noisy sequences of temporal events,
- an implementation of the QTEMPINTMINER algorithm,
- a graphical interface that enables the user to generate or import data set and to define the parameters of the algorithm. The interfaces although displays the extracted temporal patterns.

This year, the software has been updated to mine long sequences of temporal events such as cardiac monitoring annotations. Long sequences are transformed into short temporal sequences that are used as instances of the QTEMPINTMINER algorithm. The software is currently applied to the characterization of cardiac arrhythmia.

The following website gives many details about the algorithm and provides the latest stable implementation of QTEMPINTMINER: <http://www.irisa.fr/dream/QTempIntMiner/>.

5.6. Sacadeau: qualitative modeling and decision-aid to preserve the water quality from pollutants as herbicides

SACADEAU is a software that implements the SACADEAU transfer model presented in section 7.1. The SACADEAU simulation model couples two qualitative models, a transfer model describing the pesticide transfer through the catchment and a management model describing the farmer decisions. Giving as inputs a climate file, a topological description of a catchment, and a cadastral repartition of the plots, the SACADEAU model simulates the application of herbicides by the farmers on the maize plots, and the transfer of these pollutants through the catchment until the river. The two main simulated processes are the runoff and the leaching. The output of the model simulation is the quantity of herbicides arriving daily to the stream and its concentration at the outlets. The originality of the model is the representation of water and pesticide runoffs with tree structures where leaves and roots are respectively up-streams and down-streams of the catchment.

The software allows the user to see the relationships between these tree structures and the rules learnt from simulations. This year, we have developed a more elaborated version that allows to launch simulations and to learn rules on-line. The software is mainly implemented in Java.

5.7. Ecomata

We propose a new qualitative approach for ecosystem modeling based on timed automata (TA) formalism combined to a high-level query language for exploring scenarios. EcoMata is a tool-box for modeling and exploring qualitatively trophic-food web using this approach ². To date, it is dedicated to ecosystems that can be modeled as a collection of species (prey-predator systems) under various human pressures and to environmental disturbances. This tool is made of two main parts: the Network Editor and the Query Launcher. The Network Editor let a stakeholder describe the trophic food web in a graphical way (the species icons and interactions between them). Only few ecological parameters are required and the user can save species in a library. The number of qualitative biomass levels is set as desired. An efficient algorithm generates automatically the network of timed automata. EcoMata provides also a dedicated window to help the user to define different fishing pressures, a nice way being by using chronograms. In the Query Launcher, the user selects the kind of query and the needed parameters (for example the species biomass levels to define a

²Ecomata is available at <http://oban.agrocampus-ouest.fr/ecomata>

situation). Results are provided in a control panel or in files that can be exploited later. Several additional features are proposed in EcoMata: building a species library, import/export of ecosystem model, batch processing for long queries, etc. EcoMata is developed in Java (Swing for the GUI) and the model-checker called for the timed properties verification is UPPAAL.

6. New Results

6.1. Diagnosis of large scale discrete event systems

Participants: Marie-Odile Cordier, Christine Largouët, Xavier Le Guillou, Sophie Robin, Laurence Rozé, Yulong Zhao.

The problem we deal with is monitoring complex and large discrete-event systems (DES) such as telecommunication networks or web services. Two approaches are used in our research group. The first one consists in representing the system model as a discrete-event system by an automaton. The diagnostic task consists in determining the trajectories (a sequence of states and events) compatible with the sequence of observations. From these trajectories, it is then easy to determine (identify and localize) the possible faults. In the second approach, the model consists in a set of predefined characteristic patterns. We use temporal patterns, called chronicles, represented by a set of temporally constrained events. The diagnostic task consists in recognizing these patterns by analyzing the flow of observed events.

More recently, we started research on interacting with large-scale systems in a decision-oriented way. Scenario patterns were defined for exploring complex systems, based on the use of model-checking techniques.

6.1.1. Distributed and incremental diagnosis of discrete-event systems

One of the main difficulties of discrete event system modeling is the intractable size of the model and the huge number of states and trajectories to be explored. To cope with this problem, we proposed to use a decentralized approach [4] which allows us to compute on-line diagnosis without requiring the computation of the global model. Given a decentralized model of the system and a flow of observations, the program computes the diagnosis by combining local diagnoses built from local models (or local diagnosers).

In real systems, generally the observed events do not exactly correspond to the emitted events. Thus, instead of only considering partially ordered observations (as in [4]), we proposed to represent the uncertainty on emitted observations by an automaton and extended the decentralized approach to cope with this new representation. In order to deal with on-line diagnosis, we then proposed to slice the observation flow into temporal windows, introduced the concept of automata chains to represent the successive observation slices, and proposed an algorithm to compute the diagnosis in an incremental way from these diagnosis slices [57]. A revised version of a paper, written on this issue in collaboration with A. Grastien, currently researcher at ANU (Australian National University), is currently submitted to AIJ (Artificial Intelligence Journal).

6.1.2. Distributed monitoring with chronicles

The formalism of chronicles has been proposed a few years ago by C. Dousson in order to monitor dynamic systems in real time [50]. A chronicle, defined as a set of temporally constrained events, describes the situations to monitor. Efficient algorithms for on-the-fly chronicle recognition exist, but only in a centralized way up to now. Our main contribution is an extension of the chronicle-based approach to deal with distributed systems.

First, we have extended the formalism proposed by C. Dousson by defining a distributed chronicle model [67]. The standard chronicle description language is enriched with synchronization constraints. Then, we have proposed a decentralized monitoring architecture in which each component is equipped with a local diagnoser. A global diagnoser (also called *broker*) is in charge of merging the local diagnoses, by checking the synchronization constraints of the local diagnoses.

This work began in the context of the WS-DIAMOND European project where the overall goal of the project was to monitor and diagnose the processing of a request sent to a web service, which in turn usually requests other services to complete the task: it is common that a fault, occurring in a service, propagates to other services. A new formalism for describing distributed chronicles has been designed. It extends the classical chronicle formalism and is well-suited to describe both the normal or abnormal behaviors of each web service and the communication with the other services.

Each local diagnoser relies on a chronicle recognition system engine based on the CRS application developed by C. Dousson [47], and a chronicle base representing the local scenarios which are of interest with respect to the diagnostic task. Concerning the global diagnoser, two approaches have been developed depending on the availability of a model of interactions between services. In the first one [43], the global diagnoser itself relies on a chronicle recognition system, its chronicle base being built off-line from the interaction model. In the second approach, when no model of interactions is available, for instance in case of a dynamic choreography, the global diagnoser itself has to ensure on-line the correspondence between the synchronization variables from different services and to build the diagnosis tree [65]. A paper comparing the two approaches has been published in a special issue of the french RIA journal [7] and an english version of this paper is in preparation. Two platforms corresponding to the two approaches have been developed (cf. section 5.3).

We are currently working in two directions. The first one consists in tackling the difficult problem of chronicle acquisition by addressing firstly the automatic construction of chronicle skeletons from the workflow of the different web services. The second one consists in connecting the diagnosis and the repair tasks by integrating distributed repair processes within our decentralized diagnosis architecture as explained in the next paragraph.

6.1.3. Interleaving diagnosis and repair

To continue the work we did on web services monitoring in the context of the WS-DIAMOND European project, we begin to deal with the problem of adapting web services for maintaining the QoS even when faults occur. This work is done in collaboration with Roberto Micalizio from University of Torino and aims at exploring a solution which falls amidst the two main approaches widely proposed : the first one based on a global manager, the second one based on local adapters. In our framework, we do not allow to change the initial composition. We enrich each activity with the ability to select the best way to reach its local goal among different alternative methods; these alternative execution modalities make each activity very flexible and able to solve part of the adaptation problem locally. However, an activity can locally select the best execution modality only by having a global view of the composition. So, we attach a context to the user's request, initialized and updated by a global manager which conveys global pieces of information about the composition, the user and the QoS. This context helps the activities in selecting the most right execution modality to overcome the problem but can also provide the services with some high-level guidelines to make the re-execution phase more efficient. A paper is in preparation.

6.1.4. Diagnosability and self-healability of discrete-event systems

After having addressed the problem of diagnosability of complex supervision patterns by [62], and proposed a common theoretical paradigm for diagnosability of both discrete and continuous systems, based on the common concept of signature [42], we started a new line of collaborative work with the Disco/Laas research group, within our common participation in the WS-DIAMOND project. Based on the signature-based definition of diagnosability alone, and introducing the concept of repairability (i.e., the existence of at least one applicable repair procedure for each fault that may occur in the system), our goal was now to consider jointly diagnosis and repair capabilities in complex, discrete-event or continuous, systems. That led us to define formally the "self-healability" property of such systems [40], [41]: a system is said to be self-healable if and only if there exists a set of 'macro-faults' (i.e., identified situations in which several candidate faults may still not be discriminated) which can be matched to at least one repair procedure. These results have still to be fully published. We intend to extend this first work which focuses on a centralized system, to deal with distributed systems, and with temporally related events (expressed as chronicles).

6.1.5. Scenario patterns for exploring qualitative ecosystems

This work aims at giving means of exploring complex systems (in our case, ecosystems). We propose to transform environmental questions about future evolution of ecosystems into queries that could be submitted to a simulation model. When dealing with environmental problems, scenarios are widely used tools for evaluating future evolution of ecosystems given policy options, potential climatic changes or impacts of catastrophic events. If the scenarios are generally expressed in natural language, when working with a model describing the ecosystem, it is necessary to transform them into formalized queries that can be given as input to the model.

We propose to model the system in a distributed qualitative way and we define a high-level language to query the model. The system behavior is represented as a discrete-event system, described by a set of interacting timed automata. The ecosystem is represented as interacting subsystems and the global model obtained by composition on shared events. This technique is particularly suited to representing large-scale systems such as ecosystems. The motivating application concerns the impact of a fishery growing policy on the ecosystem [64].

To explore the system, we define generic patterns, associated to the most usual types of scenarios, and translate them into temporal logic formula. The answer is computed thanks to model-checking techniques, that are efficient for analyzing large-scale systems. Five generic patterns have been defined using TCTL (Timed Computation Tree Logic) : *WhichStates*, *WhichDate*, *WhichStates-Si*, *Stability*, *Safety*, three of these patterns have been implemented using the model-checker UPPAAL [13]. This work has been published [13] and a long paper is submitted to the Environmental Modelling & Software Journal. A software tool named *Ecomata* has been developed (see section 5.7) and a paper has been submitted to au Numéro spécial of "Systèmes d'Information et de Décision pour l'Environnement". An english version of this paper is in preparation.

Thanks to a close cooperation with experts, we validated our approach on a real application concerning a marine ecosystem under fishing pressure. The model describes the tropho-dynamic interactions between fish trophic groups as well as interactions with the fishery activities and with an environmental context. A paper describing the ecological model development is in preparation.

6.2. Machine learning for model acquisition

Participants: Tassadit Bouadi, Marie-Odile Cordier, Thomas Guyet, Christine Largouët, Alice Marascu, Véronique Masson, René Quiniou.

Model acquisition is an important issue for model-based diagnosis, especially as modeling dynamic systems. We investigate machine learning methods for temporal data recorded by sensors or spatial data resulting from simulation processes.

6.2.1. Learning and mining from sequential and temporal data

Our main interest is extracting knowledge, especially sequential and temporal patterns or prediction rules, from static or dynamic data (data streams). We are particularly interested in detecting and dealing with concept change in data stream mining in order to be able to adapt on-line the models used for diagnosis.

Mining temporal patterns with numerical information

This work aims at exploring new solutions to learn the temporal extents of events. Mining sequential patterns as well as extracting frequent temporal episodes has been widely explored. However, in a monitoring context, numerical information associated to event duration or to the delay between event occurrences is very meaningful for discriminating between faults or diseases. Due to the added complexity of such patterns, numerical temporal pattern mining methods have been less explored than methods for mining sequential patterns using the simpler notion of precedence.

We focus on mining temporal interval patterns from time-series or sequence databases where a temporal sequence is a set of events with time-stamped begin and end. Our first proposition [59] relied on an algorithm that processes temporal sequences represented by hyper-cubes. The candidate generation used the classical *Apriori* schema [22] associated with algorithm EM for characterizing meaningful interval temporal extents.

This year, we have been working on improving the formal setting of the approach as well as its efficiency [12]. From a formal point of view, we have introduced the notion of ϵ -covering of a temporal pattern by a sequence to cope with the dual nature, symbolic and numerical, of temporal patterns. The ϵ parameter can be used to specify the tightness of the similarity used for matching numerical intervals. We have extended algorithms Apriori and PrefixSpan with a temporal interval characterization step that infers relevant temporal extents for items (events) in patterns. We have used two clustering methods, KMeans and Affinity Propagation, for interval characterization. Concerning the implementation, we have proposed an efficient data structure for storing interesting patterns and their locations in mined sequences. The two algorithms have been implemented in Matlab. We have evaluated their performances for mining generated sequences and compared them with the performances of the previous implementation. The new implementations outperform the older one without sacrificing the quality of extracted patterns.

Mining sequential patterns from data streams

During her thesis [71], Alice Marascu has proposed methods for data stream processing and analysis. Precisely, she has devised CLUSO, a method that computes clusters from a sequence stream and extracts frequent sequential patterns from the clusters and maintain their history in order to summarize the stream. Our aim is to extend CLUSO to cope with temporal patterns composed of events and numerical temporal intervals describing the delay between events.

To this end we have investigated a method for clustering for temporal sequences based on an alignment technique coming from bioinformatics [25]. This method evaluates the similarity between two sequences by maximizing their contact map overlap (CMO). We have extended the method to cope with distances representing numerical delays in temporal patterns. We are now evaluating the method for on consumption data provided by EDF (Électricité de France).

We have also began a study of data quality in the context of data streams analysis and sequential pattern stream mining. Such problems as missing data, erroneous data, duplicated data, obsolete data, noisy data can greatly affect the analysis process. Furthermore, data processing must be chosen according to the data quality and the problems they suffer from. Our goal is to design decision rules for choosing operations that will enhance data quality in a streaming context, to extend data stream algorithms so as they can adapt to the quality of the data and to elaborate method for detecting relevant data quality changes on a data stream. This work is performed in cooperation with BILab (<http://bilab.enst.fr/wakka.php>) which associates EDF and Telecom ParisTech. A paper is in preparation on the two points above.

Change detection: detecting hyperthermias in young bulls Bovine respiratory diseases are the most frequent health disorder in fattening bulls. Effectiveness of the treatment depends on the ability to early detect new episodes of the disease. To infer the internal temperature, young bulls ingest a sensor that will record and transmit the rumen temperature every 15 mn. After eliminating noise and artifacts due to water drinking, the internal temperature is reconstructed. Then, hyperthermia episodes can be detected in real time by using an adaptation of the CUSUM test [6]. Whenever the cumulated difference between the observed value and some reference becomes too big an alarm is raised. We have used an adaptive reference computed as the mean of the temperature values during the 4 preceding days. The performance of the detection algorithm has been evaluated on a population of 21 young bulls showing 36 episodes of respiratory disease diagnosed by a veterinary [11], [10]. The results show that our technique leads to an earlier and more sensitive detection of respiratory diseases in comparison to visual appraisal.

6.2.2. Learning decision-oriented rules from simulation data

In the framework of the SACADEAU project, our aim is to build decision support systems to help catchment managers to preserve stream-water quality [3]. In collaboration with INRA researchers, three actions have been conducted in parallel [39].

- The first one consisted in *building a qualitative model* to simulate the pesticide transfer through the catchment from the time of its application by the farmers to the arrival at the stream. The originality of the model is the representation of water and pesticide runoffs with tree structures where leaves and roots are respectively up-streams and down-streams of the catchment. Though INRA is the main contributor, we have participated actively to its realization. This model has been implemented and used for simulation. An in-depth analysis of many simulation results leads us to refine the model. A paper on the SACADEAU model appeared in [26].
- The second action consisted in *identifying some of the input variables* as main pollution factors and in learning rules relating these pollution factors to the stream pesticide concentration. During the learning process, we focus on actionable factors, in order to get helpful rules for decision-makers. Moreover, we take a particular interest in spatial relations between the cultivated plots and in the characteristics of crop management practices [86]. To deal with the complex spatial relations existing between the catchment plots, we experimented two learning approaches. The first one consisted in extending Inductive Learning Programming to tree structured patterns. The choice of ILP has been motivated by the aim to get easy-to-read and explicative rules. This was done using the Aleph software (after a first experiment with ICL). The second approach consisted in propositionalizing the learning examples and using a propositional learning process, namely CN2. A comparison of these two approaches and an analysis of the results can be found in R. Trepos's PhD thesis [87]. A paper has been submitted to the "Computers and electronics in agriculture (COMPAG)" journal.
- The final aim is to go beyond the simple use of classification rules for prediction, by assisting the user in the post-analysis and in the exploitation of a large set of rules. The goal is then to find advices in order to reduce pollution whereas the learned rules are classification rules predicting if a given farmer strategy or climate leads to a polluted or not polluted situation. The propositional rules learned in the second step are automatically analyzed by the algorithm DAKAR (Discovery of Actionable Knowledge And Recommendations) [85] to propose actions well-suited to improve a given situation. Another way to help the experts in dealing with a large set of rules is using visualization techniques which have been developed. The two approaches to learn rules, the algorithm DAKAR and visualization techniques are fully described in [87]. A paper has been submitted to the "Knowledge and Information Systems(KAIS)" journal.

In the APPEAU context, the idea is to study how the SACADEAU-style model can be used in a more generic way and to compare, and possibly unify, our work with what is done by our partners from SAS/INRA concerning nitrate transfer. The main difference between the two contexts, pesticide in one hand, nitrate in the other hand, is that the spatial issues (water paths, connected plots) are the most important one in the first case, when the temporal issues are the important ones in the second case. A synthesis paper has been submitted to the "Environmental Modelling and Software" journal.

In the ACCASYA context, the challenge is to transform these simulation models into decision-aid tools, able to answer queries about future evolution of ecosystems. Two issues are studied :

- When dealing with environmental problems, scenarios are widely used tools for evaluating future evolution of ecosystems given policy options, potential climatic changes or catastrophic event impacts. If the scenarios are generally expressed in natural language (especially in the field of environmental sciences), when using ecological model simulators, it is necessary to transform them into formalized queries that can be given as input to the model. A first step in this direction is described in 6.1.5 (see also [64]). It concerns halieutic ecosystems but we intend to use a similar approach in the context of catchment management.

Complex models, such as TNT2 or Sacadeau, tend to produce huge amounts of numerical values as results of simulations. Furthermore, though some modelled phenomenon may be well understood at a local or micro level, it may be difficult to apprehend at a global or macro level. For example, nitrogen transfer and transformation is well known at the plot level but is more difficult to understand at the global catchment level when such an area is composed of thousands plots. In addition, performing simulations of a complex model is time consuming and, consequently, the simulation data-set may

be largely incomplete. So, users need efficient tools for exploring, not only recorded simulation data, but also the whole simulation space in order to plan the most promising future simulations for completing the data-set. A thesis funded thanks to the ANR/ADD Accassya project have started at the beginning of 2010 which aims at designing a tool that will help the user to explore interactively recorded simulation data as well as the simulation space. In a first step, a data warehouse dedicated to storing spatiotemporal data have been designed. We are now investigated how to enhance classical data warehouse operators with data mining methods for exploring efficiently stored simulation data.

6.3. Diagnostic and causal reasoning

Participants: Philippe Besnard, Marie-Odile Cordier, Yves Moinard.

This work stems on [30], [31], [32], [33], [34] and is related to diagnosis where observed symptoms have to be explained by faults. The previously existing proposals were ad-hoc or, as in [36], [56], they were too close to standard logic in order to make a satisfactory diagnosis. Our proposal starts from a restricted first order logic (of the Datalog kind: no function symbols, and other restrictions) and introduces *causal formulas*, built on causal atoms such as $(\alpha \text{ causes } \beta)$ intended to mean: “ α causes β ”. Here, α, \dots stand for instantiated atoms such as $Q(a1, a2)$. There are also *taxonomy atoms* such as $(\alpha \text{ IS_A } \beta)$ (α is of kind β). The user describes the system thanks to classical formulas, causal formulas, and taxonomy atoms. The system produces *explanation atoms* of the kind $(\alpha \text{ explains } \beta \text{ if_possible } \{\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_n\})$, meaning that β can be explained by α if all the γ_i 's are possible together in the context of the given data. The simplest generating rule states that if $(\alpha \text{ causes } \beta)$ then $(\alpha \text{ explains } \beta \text{ if_possible } \{\alpha\})$. One rule states that $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ if $(\alpha \text{ causes } \beta)$, thus here “if_possible $\{\alpha\}$ ” is equivalent to “if_possible $\{\alpha, \beta\}$ ”. Despite this rule, the connexions between *causes* and \rightarrow are rather loose. These connexions are a known difficulty in causal formalisms. Our solution avoids too much connexions between these two operators, while keeping the formalism simple and natural enough. Our system includes now predicates with various kinds of parameters which increases its expressive power, and needs serious adaptations in order to keep the computation manageable [8].

This kind of formalism is well fitted for an implementation in logic programming, precisely in the Answer Set Programming (ASP) [27] version. Indeed, not only ASP is close to classical logic, thus allowing an immediate translation of the rules, but also ASP is known to be good in finding paths in graphs. ASP is a fast evolving area and the systems (e.g. DLV [69] and gringo/clasp/claspD [51]) are becoming more and more efficient and user friendly. The “user friendly” aspect is important since, even if an ASP program is written in a language allowing to express directly rules of the kind of our formalism, writing an ASP program generally happens to be more bothering than expected due to some limitations of the systems: reduced kind of objects (till recently: no lists or sets,...) and difficulty in writing real “sub programs” (generally, a specific part of program should be rewritten differently for each occurrence). These two limitations are not crucial from a theoretical point of view, but they are crucial in practice. They are in the way of being overcome. In particular, DLV-Complex [37] allows lists, sets and function symbols.

We have improved of our ASP programs, particularly their efficiency [9]. Besides the previously mentioned improvements for DLV, gringo 3 has been released in july 2010 and it constitutes a major improvement of the gringo/clasp family. The clasp family can now advantageously compete with the DLV family for our problem, which requires some modifications of our programs. This has been partially done. Some work remains, in particular in order to take advantage of the new faculty introduced in gringo 3 for writing small “scripts” allowing to overcome some limitations about the size of the problems. With a few improvements, our program can deal with small real-world problems. Notice an advantage of using ASP: the direct correspondence between the formal rules and the ASP rules makes that any evolution of the formal theory can be translated easily into its ASP translation.

7. Contracts and Grants with Industry

7.1. SACADEAU-APPEAU: Decision-aid to improve streamwater quality

Participants: Marie-Odile Cordier, Véronique Masson, Christine Largouët.

The SACADEAU project (Système d'Acquisition de Connaissances pour l'Aide à la Décision pour la qualité de l'Eau - Knowledge Acquisition System for Decision-Aid to Improve Streamwater Quality) was funded by INRA (French institute for agronomy research) from October 2002 to October 2005. The main partners were from INRA (SAS from Rennes and BIA from Toulouse) and from IRISA. We have continued to develop the SACADEAU model with our partners until now and a PdD thesis has been funded by INRA (ASC).

We are now involved in a new project, named APPEAU and funded by ANR/ADD, which started in February 2007. The APPEAU project aims at studying which politics, for which agronomic systems, are best adapted to improve water management. It includes our previous partners as well as new ones, mainly from INRA.

In this framework, our work aims at building a decision-aid tool to help specialists in charge of the catchment management to preserve the streamwater quality. The SACADEAU simulation model couples two qualitative models, a transfer model describing the pesticide transfer through the catchment and a management model describing the farmer decisions. The simulation results are analyzed, thanks to classification and symbolic learning techniques, in order to discover rules explaining the pesticide concentration in the stream by the climate, the farmer strategy, the catchment topology, etc., and, finally, in order to build recommendation actions for a given situation. In the APPEAU context, the idea is to study how this kind of model can be used to simulate scenarios in a more generic way and to compare, and possibly unify, our work with what is done by our partners from SAS concerning nitrate transfer.

7.2. ACCASYA: Supporting the agro ecological evolution of breeding systems in coastal watersheds

Participants: Marie-Odile Cordier, Véronique Masson, René Quiniou, Christine Largouët.

The ACCASYA project (ACcompagner l'évolution Agro-écologique deS SYstèmes d'élevage dans les bassins versants côtiers) is funded by ANR/ADD and started at the beginning of 2009. The main partners are our colleagues from INRA (SAS from Rennes). One of the objectives is to develop modeling tools supporting the management of ecosystems, and more precisely the agro ecological evolution of breeding systems in coastal watersheds. In this context, the challenge is to transform existing simulation tools (as SACADEAU or TNT2 into decision-aid tools, able to answer queries or scenarios about the future evolution of ecosystems.

We are also involved in a PS DR GO (programmes de recherche "Pour et Sur le Développement Régional Grand Ouest") project, named CLIMASTER that started in 2009. Our participation in this project is planned to begin in 2011.

7.3. ManageYourSelf: diagnosis and monitoring of embedded platforms

Participants: Marie-Odile Cordier, Xavier Le Guillou, Sophie Robin, Laurence Rozé.

ManageYourSelf is a project that deals with the diagnosis and monitoring of embedded platforms, in the framework of a collaboration with Telelogos, a French company expert in mobile management and data synchronization. ManageYourSelf aims to perform diagnostic and repair on a fleet of mobile smartphones and PDAs. The idea is to embed on the mobile devices a rule-based expert system and its set of politics, for example "if memory full then delete (directory). recognition is performed, using the parameters of the phones as the fact base. Of course, it is impossible to foresee all the rules in advance. Upon detection of a non anticipated problem, a report containing all the system's information prior to the problem is sent to a server and a learning step, using decision trees, aims at updating the global knowledge base and its distributed instances. We are currently working on an incremental version of this learning step. Another current issue is to deal with a dynamic set of attributes.

8. Dissemination

8.1. Services to the Scientific Community

8.1.1. Journal editorial board

- *AAI: Applied Artificial Intelligence* (M.-O. Cordier).
- *ARIMA: Revue Africaine de la Recherche en Informatique et en Mathématiques Appliquées* (M.-O. Cordier).
- *Revue I3* (M.-O. Cordier).
- *Revue JESA (Journal Européen des Systèmes automatisés)* (M.-O. Cordier).

8.1.2. Conference program committees and organizations

- Program committee chair RFIA'2010 (M.-O. Cordier).
- Program committee member for RFIA'2010 and EGC 2011 (R. Quiniou).

8.1.3. Scientific and administrative boards

- ECCAI (European Coordinating Committee for Artificial Intelligence) vice-chair, in charge of the new ECCAI fellows nomination: M.-O. Cordier (until august 2010)
- ECCAI fellow + Honorary member of AFIA (Association Française d'Intelligence Artificielle): M.-O. Cordier
- Member of the AFIA board: Thomas Guyet.
- Member of "Agrocampus Rennes (ENSAR)" scientific board: M.-O. Cordier.
- Member of "Conseil de l'IFSIC", "Comité scientifique de l'IFSIC", "Comité d'orientation scientifique de l'Irisa": M.-O. Cordier
- Member of the selection committee for the "Prix de thèse AFIA 2010" (selecting the best French PhD thesis in the Artificial Intelligence domain): M.-O. Cordier.
- Member of the INRA DR1 and CR1 selection committee in 2010 : M.-O. Cordier. .

8.2. Academic teaching

Many members of the DREAM team are also faculty members and are actively involved in computer science teaching programs in IFSIC, INSA and ENSAR. Besides these usual teachings DREAM is involved in the following programs:

- Master2 in computer science (IFSIC): *Module DSS: Apprentissage sur des données séquentielles symboliques* (M.-O. Cordier (coordinator), R. Quiniou).
- Master 2 in computer science (IFSIC). *Module OCI : Interfaces graphiques en C++/GTKMM* (T. Guyet)

8.3. PhD supervision

- PdD advisor of Tassadit Bouadi (Marie-Odile Cordier, René Quiniou with Ch. Gascuel, Inra)
- PdD advisor of Yulong Zhao (Marie-Odile Cordier, Christine Largouët with Ch. Gascuel, Inra)
- PhD advisor of Philippe Rannou (Marie-Odile Cordier, with Fabrice Lamarche)

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Major publications by the team in recent years

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- [2] G. CARRAULT, MARIE-ODILE. CORDIER, R. QUINIOU, F. WANG. *Temporal abstraction and Inductive Logic Programming for arrhythmia recognition from electrocardiograms*, in "Artificial Intelligence in Medicine", 2003, vol. 28, p. 231-263.
- [3] C. GASCUEL ODOUX, P. AUROUSSEAU, M.-O. CORDIER, P. DURAND, F. GARCIA, V. MASSON, J. SALMON-MONVIOLA, F. TORTRAT, R. TRÉPOS. *A decision-oriented model to evaluate the effect of land use and agricultural management on herbicide contamination in stream water*, in "Environmental modelling & software", 2009, vol. 24, p. 1433-1446, <http://hal.inria.fr/hal-00544122/en>.
- [4] Y. PENCOLÉ, M.-O. CORDIER. *A formal framework for the decentralised diagnosis of large scale discrete event systems and its application to telecommunication networks*, in "Artificial Intelligence Journal", 2005, vol. 164, n^o 1-2, p. 121-170.

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- [7] X. LE GUILLOU, M.-O. CORDIER, S. ROBIN, L. ROZÉ. *Surveillance de compositions de web services - Deux approches distribuées à base de chroniques pour la surveillance et le diagnostic*, in "RSTI-RIA", Apr 2010, vol. 24, n^o 2, p. 189-225, <http://hal.inria.fr/inria-00482948/en>.

International Peer-Reviewed Conference/Proceedings

- [8] Y. MOINARD. *A formalism for causal explanations with an Answer Set Programming translation*, in "4th International Conference on Knowledge Science, Engineering & Management (KSEM 2010)", United Kingdom Belfast, B. SCOTNEY, Z. JIN (editors), LNCS, Springer-Verlag, Aug 2010, <http://hal.inria.fr/inria-00511093/en>.
- [9] Y. MOINARD. *Using ASP with recent extensions for causal explanations*, in "ASPOCP10, Answer Set Programming and Other Computing Paradigms Workshop, associated with ICLP", United Kingdom Edinburgh, M. BALDUCCINI, S. WOLTRAN (editors), Jul 2010, <http://hal.inria.fr/inria-00542880/en>.
- [10] E. TIMSIT, S. ASSIÉ, R. QUINIOU, H. SEEGER, N. BAREILLE. *Early detection of bovine respiratory disease in young bulls using reticulo-rumen temperature boluses*, in "26th World Buiatric Congress", Chile Santiago, Nov 2010, Poster, <http://hal.inria.fr/inria-00543826/en>.
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