

Software Role in Future Space Missions A Critical Software View

Paulo Guedes Business Development Manager



Agenda



1962 – Mariner I Space Probe



"The most expensive hyphen in history" – Arthur C. Clarke

Top 10 History's Worst Software Bugs - Wired Magazine

- A bug in the flight software for the Mariner 1 causes the rocket to divert from its intended path on launch
- A formula written on paper in pencil was improperly transcribed into computer code, causing the computer to miscalculate the rocket's trajectory
- Mission control destroys the rocket over the Atlantic Ocean

JHL



1988 - Phobos 1

- Loss of communication and failure to regain contact
- De-activation of attitude thursters
- Error in the uploaded software – routine coded in PROMs

"Why would a spacecraft have instructions that turn off the attitude control, normally a fatal operation?"





1996 - Ariane 501

- Inappropriate reuse of a component in Ariane 4's inertial reference frame software
- Lack of sufficient documentation describing the operating constraints of the software
- Unprotected conversion from a 64-bit floating point to a 16bit signed integer value overflowed
- Top 10 History's Worst Software Bugs *



1997 - Mars Pathfinder



- Loss of science data caused by infrequent, mysterious, unexplained system resets experienced by the Rover
- Priority inversion bug in simultaneously executing processes
- Anomaly impossible to detect with black box testing



1999 - Mars Polar Lander



Programme "was under funded by at least 30%."

"The software—intended to ignore touchdown indications prior to the enabling of the touchdown sensing logic—was not properly implemented [...]"

- Landed at 22 meters per second
- Shutdown of descent engines 40 meters above the surface
- Software identified vibrations as surface touchdown
- Altough known, software did not account for it

2006 – Mars Global Surveyor



"The loss of the spacecraft was the result of a series of events linked to a computer error made five months before the likely battery failure" "We are making an end-to-end review of all our missions to be sure that we apply the lessons learned from Mars Global Surveyor to all our ongoing missions"

- Loss of contact after command do adjust power panels
- Overheating batteries led to complete power deplition
- Failure to relay communications
- Flaw in software parameter update



Lessons Learnt

Lessons...

- Software errors are latent design errors
- Complexity of software
- Performance optimizations
- Reuse qualified software is not necessarly safe
- The human coding component still has a huge wheight in the process
- Budget and schedule constraints are enemies of "perfection"



Learnt?



Future Space Missions

Space in the 21st Century



Human Exploration

Year	Mission
2020	Landing Moon
2030	Landing NEO
2035	Permanent Lunar Base
2040	Landing Mars
2040	SSTO Launcher
2070	Landing Europa (Jupiter)
2090	Permanent Martoan Base
2090	Landing Enceladus (Saturn)

Human Exploration

- Longer missions
- Science-Astronaut roles
- Robotic support
- Independant initiative

Mix-initiative Environments



Human-Centered Computing

- More potential execution paths dependant on continuous stream of human inputs
- Understandable and predictable
- Current Development and V&V methods are inadequate

Autonomous Spacecraft and Rovers

 Adaptable (smarter) and self-reliant (independent) in harsh and unpredictable environments



- Robust and autonomous software
- Highly responsive
- Complex navigation skills



- More "execution paths"
- Increasing "behavior" possibilities



- Autonomous onboard science capability
- Communication
 requirements



- Increasing processing power and capability
- Complexity increase

Influencing (and Risk) Factors

- Cost-effectiveness
 - Increased complexity
 - Tightly coupled
- Human-Centered Computing
 - Paradigm shift
- Software already poses considerable risks
 - Reluctance in adoption
 - Hurdle in deploying new technologies
 - Need for V&V in specific contexts



The Future of Software Role

Exponential Growth

Mission	Launch Year	Thousands SLOC
Voyager	1977	3
Galileo	1989	8
Cassini	1997	32
Mars Pathfinder	1997	160
Space Shuttle	2000	430
ISS	2000	1700















Objective





Software Development

Improve Cost and Schedule

- Software Contruction Technology
 - Autocoders
 - Rapid Development Environments
- Approach breaks down for Mission-Critical or Safety-Critical Software
 - Certification costs dominate development costs
 - Certification needs to be done at a higher level and then translated to lower level

Improve Cost and Schedule

- Building Block (Software)
 - Clear; Performant; Self-contained; Quality;
 Applicability; Repeatability; Relevant; Reuse;
 COTS
- Based on well-defined Specification & Interfaces based on an agreed Reference Architectures
 - Streamlined development
 - Stimulate development
 - Standardize avionics

Increase Reliability

- Increase Reliability as Complexity Increases
 - Development for Certification
 - Technology that ensures reliability and addresses certification issues
- Changing Software Contruction
 Technology
- Changing Software Development
 Processes and Approaches



Software Testing

Software Testing



Engineering Techniques





RAMS



- Set of techniques and analyses to assess the safety and dependability of a system
- When applied early enough in the development life cycle, can have a major impact on decisions regarding the design of sub-systems contributing to a more dependable and safe system that can be designed and developed at a lower cost
- Great engineering support during requirements and architecture phases
 - Input for requirements completeness and coherence

Verification & Validation

- Involve the final user, system, hardware and software development, and are present from the planning of a system to the acceptance of the functional system against the intended system functionality
- Guarantee system free of faults and performs according to the respective specifications
- Applicable to all levels / early error detection



Formal Methods

 The use of mathematical techniques to ensure that a design conforms to some precisely express notion of functional correctness



- Requirements and early system prototypes can all be represented in rigorous notations which are amenable to automatic verification techniques/tools
- The added cost is compensated by a much more powerful verification







CORPORATE PRESENTATION CRITICAL SOFTWARE AT A GLANCE

- Spin-off of the University of Coimbra, July 1998
- Military and Civil Markets with customers around the globe
- Offices in Europe, US, South America and Africa with more than 450 engineers
- Fast growth achieving USD 26M annual turnover in 2009









CORPORATE PRESENTATION OFFICE LOCATIONS



Coimbra, Portugal



Lisboa, Portugal



Porto, Portugal



Southampton, UK



Yeovil, UK



San Jose, CA, USA



Sao Paulo, Brazil





CORPORATE PRESENTATION CUSTOMERS AND GEOGRAPHICAL MARKETS



CORPORATE PRESENTATION FINANCIAL FIGURES

- High-growth profile (organic)
 - -26M in 2010
- Good capacity to generate wealth
 - -EBITDA: between 7% and 21% from year one
 - -Re-investment of all generated wealth
- Strong investment in R&D
 - -10% of turnover





CORPORATE PRESENTATION THE COMPANY'S STRATEGIC PILLARS





CORPORATE PRESENTATION MARKETS





Space Space Segment and Launchers, Ground Segment, User Segment

SPACE SEGMENT AND LAUNCHERS

Supplier of software solutions, certifiable services and products for subsystems and interfaces since 1998.



- Safety Critical development of software solutions (real time and embedded, satellite on-board software), real-time systems (specification, design and development, distributed architectures, IMA and data distribution services) and advanced engineering (parallel computing, control engineering and programmable logic);
- Safety Critical Validation: system/software V&V and RAMS, safety critical assessment (on-board and airborne systems); software certification (ARP4754/ARP4761 for airborne and ECSS Q-40 and NASA STD-8719.13 for on-board systems) and software certification support (D0-178B);
- Critical track record includes work with the four main space agencies: ESA, NASA, JAXA, CASC.

esa



SPACE SEGMENT AND LAUNCHERS ESA SENTINEL MISSIONS











GROUND SEGMENT

Supplier of software solutions for mission control, modelling, simulation and control and intelligence (C2I).



- Mission Control Systems (SCOS-2000 Monitoring & Control System);
- Mission Planning Systems;
- Payload Data Processing;
- Simulation systems, particularly Operational Simulators and Validation Facilities, to support the validation of both Spacecraft Instruments and subsystems as well as Ground Control Systems
- Critical track record includes work with ESA and main European primes in the Ground Segment Domain.



GROUND SEGMENT

TECHNOLOGY HARMONISATION – REFA GS SW

Challenge

 Reduce diversity of products used in the ground segment and improve interoperability

Solution

- Specify standard functions, interfaces and services using a methodology which combines RM-ODP, SOA and MDA
- Usage of Platform Independent Models (PIM) and Platform Specific Models (PSM)

Benefit

- High Level Requirements for the Ground Systems Software.
- Reference Architecture for Ground Segment Systems encompassing Information, Service and Interface Model
- Standard ICDs which can be reused in a wide variety of ESA Missions





USER SEGMENT

Supplier of Earth Observation solution and Downstream and User Segment services.



- Earth Observation Emergency Services: fire monitoring, burned areas, lanslides and flooding mapping;
- Earth Observation Land Services: land cover and land use, desertification monitoring, forestry management, spatial planning (forecast and urban land use planning); water monitoring (water balance, flow rates and depths of rivers and lakes, soil moisture level);
- Critical track record includes work with the Portuguese Ministry of the Interior, pulp and paper producers, ESA, the Portuguese Navy, the European Community and the World Bank.





② 2010 Critical Software S.A.

USER SEGMENT

RIO DE JANEIRO LANDSLIDE PREVENTION

Challenge

- Demonstrate the usage of VHR imagery in the identification and classification of housing built in order to:
 - Improve Urban development (identify vacant, under-utilized or industrial areas - along new transport investments - for housing development;
 - Define flooding scenarios on low-lying areas;
 - Support the identification of housing built on areas at risk of floods (low-lying areas) or landslides (steep hills).
- Integrated in EO World initiative for the State of Rio de Janeiro

Solution

- Provision of high resolution DEM and Slope maps
- Production of VHR Land Use with hierarchical nomenclature for multi-scale analysis and applications
- Floods Risk Scenarios based on Land Use, DEM and historical meteorological data
- Land Slide Risk areas

Benefit

- Actuate preventively to discourage informal settlement on risk areas
- Identification of land for further urban development









Specialized Engineering



SPECIALISED ENGINEERING OVERVIEW

VERIFICATION AND

VALIDATION

SPECIALIZED ENGINEERING

SAFETY CRITICAL SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT SAFETY CRITICAL VALIDATION

RELIABILITY, AVAILABILITY, MAINTAINABILITY AND SAFETY ANALYSIS SIMULATION SYSTEMS







SPECIALISED ENGINEERING SERVICES OUR APPROACH





Paulo Guedes – Business Development Manager pguedes@criticalsoftware.com

Rua Eng. Frederico Ulrich, nº 2650 4470-605 Moreira da Maia Portugal

www.criticalsoftware.com