



Thermal simulation in functional analysis

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Introduction

- **Besides the classical geometrical approaches used to model the thermal behaviour of spacecraft, there is also a need to perform simpler analysis :**
 - Development of a tool adapted to perform preliminary thermal design
- **Moreover, a geometrical approach doesn't fit the modelling needs for sub-system performances analysis like Power, Propulsion, etc. :**
 - Development of *functional* tools to perform Power and Propulsion analysis
- **The chosen approach is to describe the problem with a set of differential equations that are solved by a numerical solver**
 - The model can be coupled with a geometrical simulation to compute flux, radiative coupling, etc

Software concepts

- These software are organised under the same basis :
- They are based on an common toolkit aimed to describe and solve the problems that can be modelled with a network of equations
- Each component of the network is described by a mathematical model of its behaviour
- The model can support different types of node : thermal, fluid, control, electric
- Each tool is integrated in a same graphical interface :
 - Schematic editor
 - Visualisation tool (text editor, 2D plot visualisation)
 - Post-processing : interface with Excel

Tools description

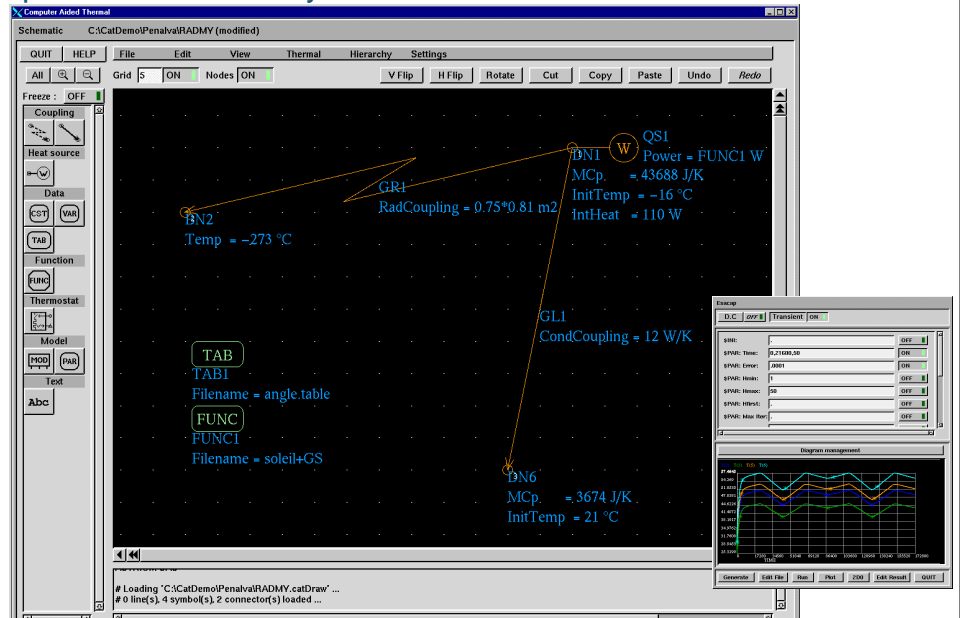
- **CAT**
Conception d'Architecture Thermique in French
 - For thermal pre-dimensioning adapted for small models
 - Easy to use and easy to understand
- **CAP**
Computer Aided Propulsion
 - For quick design of propulsion systems
 - Detailed performances analysis of propulsion systems
 - Exploitation of in-orbit data
 - Ventilation and venting analysis
- **POWER**
 - For quick design of power systems
 - Detailed performances analysis of power systems

CAT

- **CAT : a software tool for thermal preliminary design (pré-dimensionnement)**

- Use of the schematic approach
- Automatic link to Esacap solver : stationary & transient routines

- Post-processing :
 - Quick 2D curves
 - Excel file
 - 2D0 Systema file
 - Results on scheme



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CAT

- **Suited to a small number of nodes (up to 40 – 50)**
- **Easy to use**
- **An alternative approach between Excel-based tools and detailed analysis software**
 - A key for software harmonisation inside Astrium
 - Typical users :
 - system engineers
 - thermal analysts (quick preliminary design)

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Power & Propulsion : coupling with thermal tools

- For some problems it is necessary to perform a coupling between the functional analysis tools and other tools like Systema/Thermica or ESATAN

In particular for :

- **Power analysis to compute the :**
 - Solar flux during the mission
 - Radiative coupling between surfaces when there is a strong coupling between power performances and thermal environment (e.g. battery temperature)

→Application : Power system performances analysis
- **Propulsion analysis when there is a strong coupling between the thermal environment and the fluid behaviour**

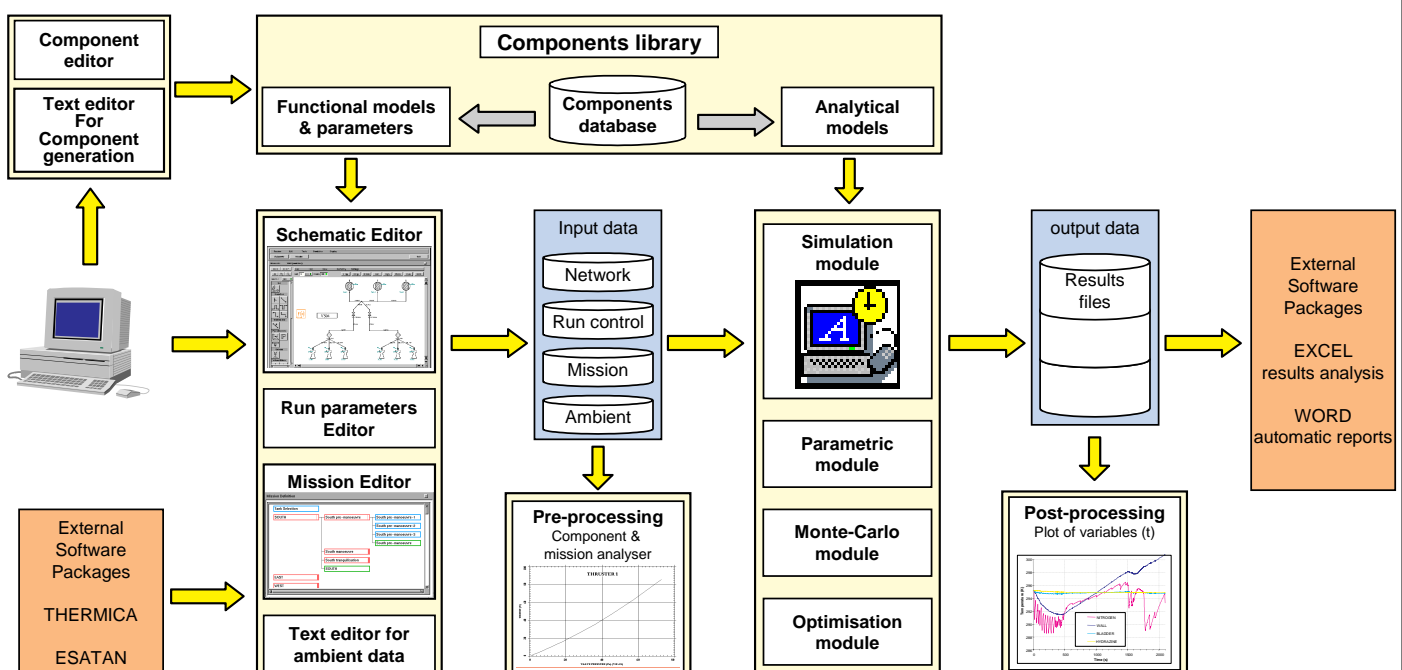
→Application : hydrazine temperature calculation on Ariane 5

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Power & Propulsion : Software architecture



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Power : Power systems analysis

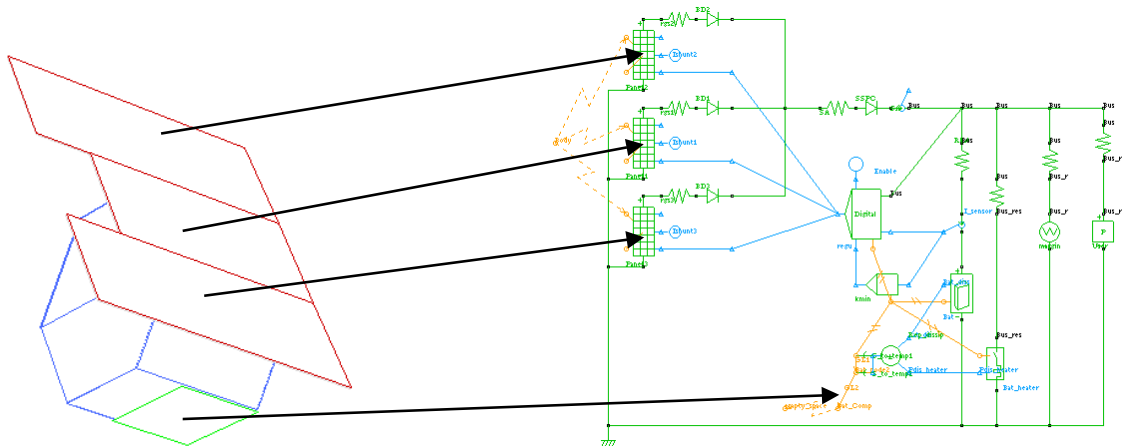
- **Power uses different models to define a PSS architecture**
 - solar arrays (with definition of thermal fluxes on orbit)
 - battery
 - regulation elements
 - electrical elements : resistance, diode, capacitance, ...
 - thermal elements : conductive coupling, radiating coupling,...
- Use of the mission module of **Thermica** and geometry to define the environment of the solar arrays (thermal)
- **Typical outputs of the software :**
 - current and voltage values at each node of the network
 - all the parameters specified by the models

Power – Interface with Thermica

- **Evaluation of power sub-system performances requires the knowledge of the solar fluxes on the solar panels**
 - For any missions, the solar fluxes cannot be easily computed and require a geometrical description of the spacecraft, its mission and pointing
 - Moreover, for a detailed analysis, thermal and power behaviour are strongly coupled
 - E.g. the solar cell performances depend on the solar panel temperature and the solar panel temperature depends on the power converted in the solar cell
- **Need to implement an analysis tool coupling the power and thermal aspects**
- **Well interfaced with Thermica for an easy use**

Interface between Thermica and Power

- The tool allows to manage a correspondence between the geometrical objects and the network components

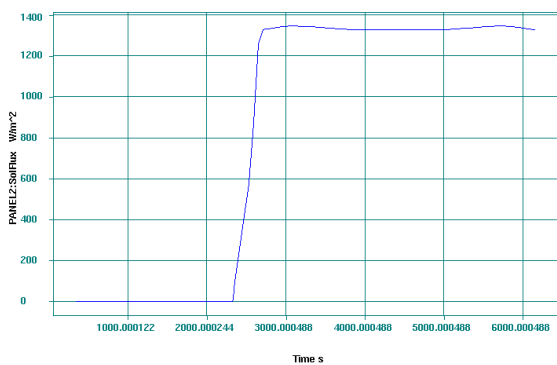


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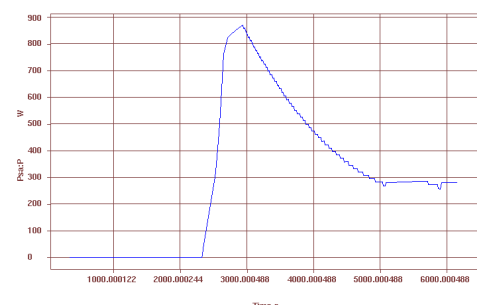
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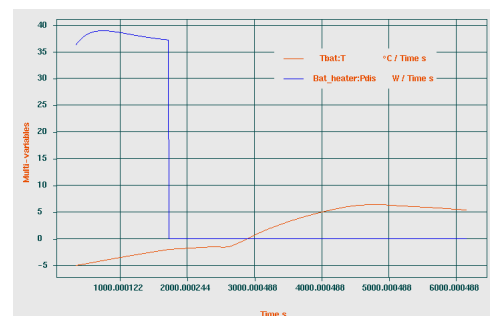
Power : Examples of results



Solar flux along the orbit



Total power from SA



Battery temperature and heater power

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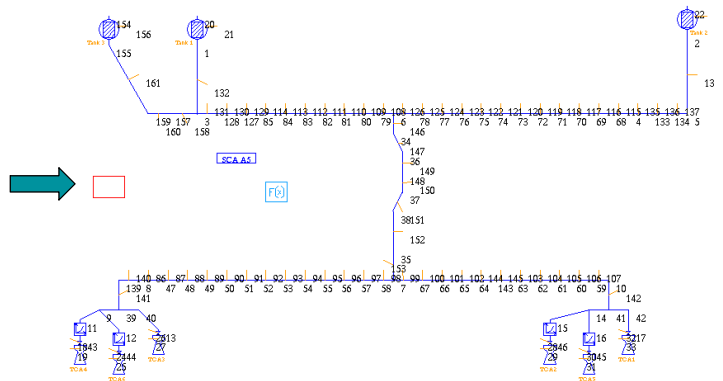
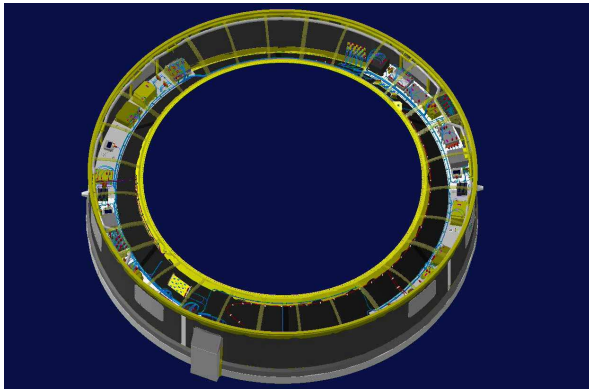
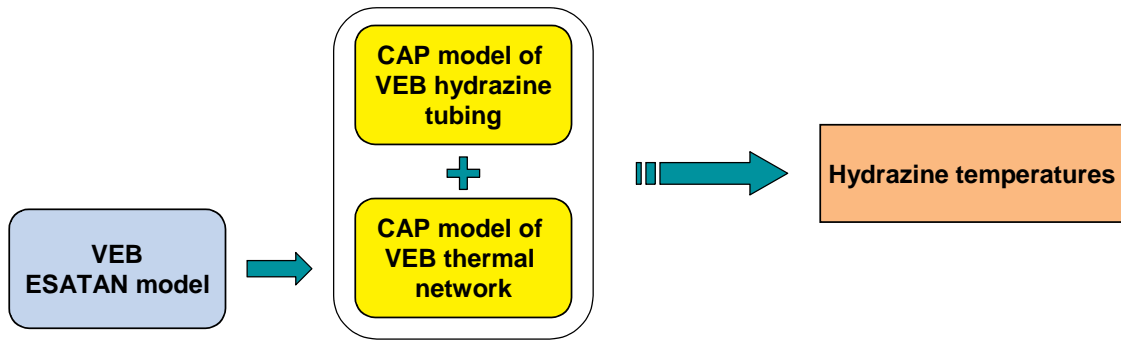
CAP : Propulsion systems analysis

- **CAP uses different models to define the propulsion system**
 - Thrusters (monopropellant, bipropellant, cold gas...) and nozzles
 - Tank (blow down and pressurised)
 - Vanes
 - Pipes
- Interfaced with ESATAN to handle coupled thermal / fluid system
- **Typical outputs of the software :**
 - Overall performances of the propulsion system (impulse, consumed mass)
 - Temperature of the fluid in the lines

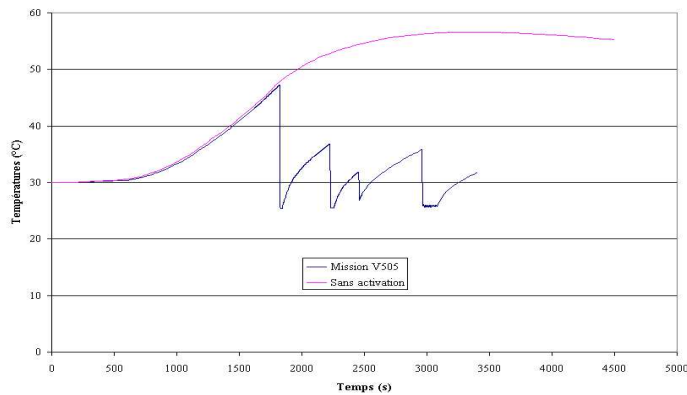
CAP : Example of application Hydrazine temperature in the lines

- **The hydrazine temperature in the Ariane 5 Vehicle Equipment Bay (VEB) shall remain in a specified range**
- **Modelling of hydrazine temperature involved :**
 - A thermal model of the temperature in the tubing :
 - Conducto/convective flux in the fluid
 - Conducto/convective flux between the fluid and the line wall
 - Radiative flux between the line wall and the environment
 - Conductive flux between the the wall and the structure
- **The overall thermal network of the VEB environment and the coupling with the lines come from an ESATAN model of the VEB**

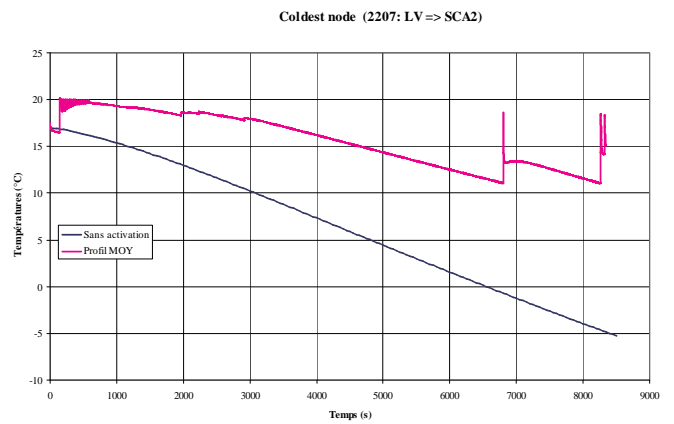
Computation of hydrazine temperature



CAP : Examples of results



Hot case



Cold case