

# ADVANCED SOFTWARE ENGINEERING: Verified Software Development with B-Method

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# About

**This Course**  
**B-Method**

# This Course

- Advanced software engineering:  
Verified Software Development with the B-Method
- A practical introduction to the formal software developments
  - ▣ specification,
  - ▣ verification,
  - ▣ refinement
- On an example from the railway domain
- Evaluation
  - ▣ on the basis of practical tasks elaboration
  - ▣ during the course

# This Course :: Downloads

- Book chapter

- ▣ [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-42833-3\\_4](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-42833-3_4)

- Course package

- ▣ <https://hron.fei.tuke.sk/~korecko/VVS/coursePackage.zip>

- BKPI Compiler

- ▣ <https://hron.fei.tuke.sk/~korecko/VVS/BKPICompiler.zip>

- TS2JavaConn/TrainDirector Toolset

- ▣ <https://hron.fei.tuke.sk/~korecko/VVS/allInOneTDTS2J.zip>

- Atelier B

- ▣ <https://www.atelierb.eu/en/download/>

- Java JDK

- ▣ <https://www.oracle.com/java/technologies/downloads/>

# B-Method

- State based, model-oriented
- For software development
- Based on
  - ▣ Zermelo-Fraenkel set theory
  - ▣ Dijkstra's weakest precondition calculus
- Sophisticated development process
  - ▣ abstract formal specification -> implementation (code)
  - ▣ proof of correctness
- Specification components = B-machines (refinements, implementations)
  - ▣ Concept: close to class in OOP
  - ▣ state variables + invariant (restricts the variables) + operations (modify the variables) + constants, sets ...
- Online B-Method course
  - ▣ <https://mooc.imd.ufrr.br/course/the-b-method>

# TS2JavaConn/TrainDirector Toolset

**Train Director**

**TS2JavaConn**

**How it works**

**Scenarios for the course**

# Train Director

- Centralised traffic control simulator

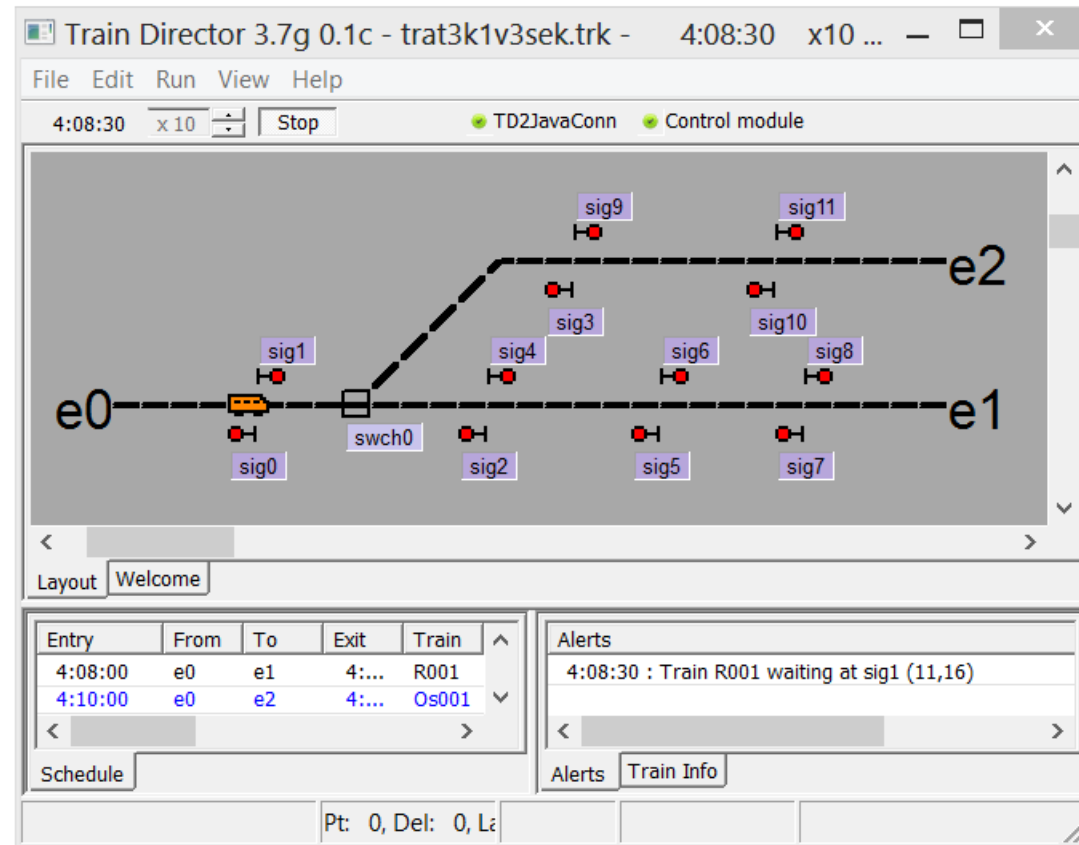
- Modified by us

- ▣ Enhanced communication interface

- ▣ Internal logic disabled

- to create and simulate scenarios

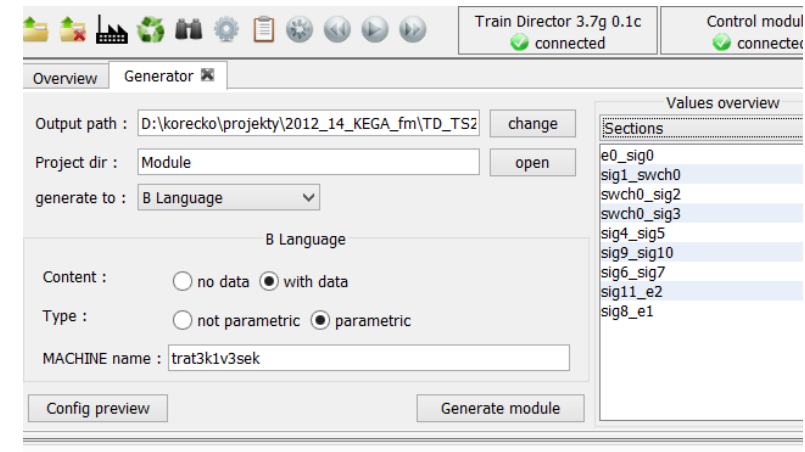
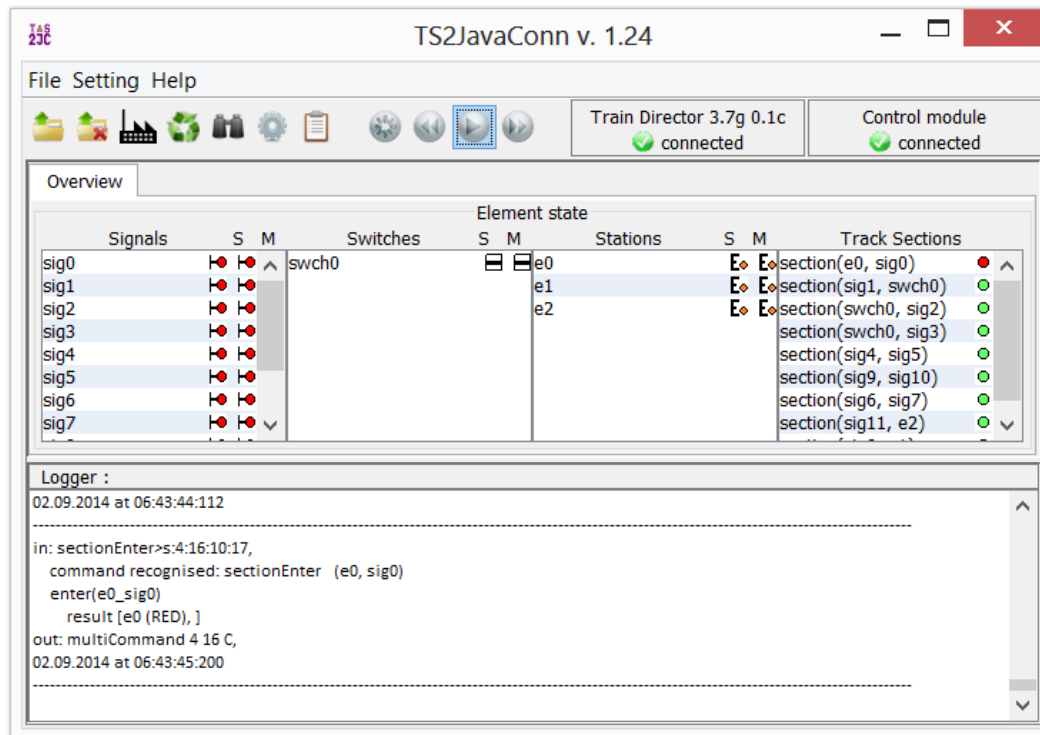
- ▣ layout + schedule





# TS2JavaConn

- Communication between Train Director and control modules
- Generation of control module templates
  - ▣ Java, B language, Perfect

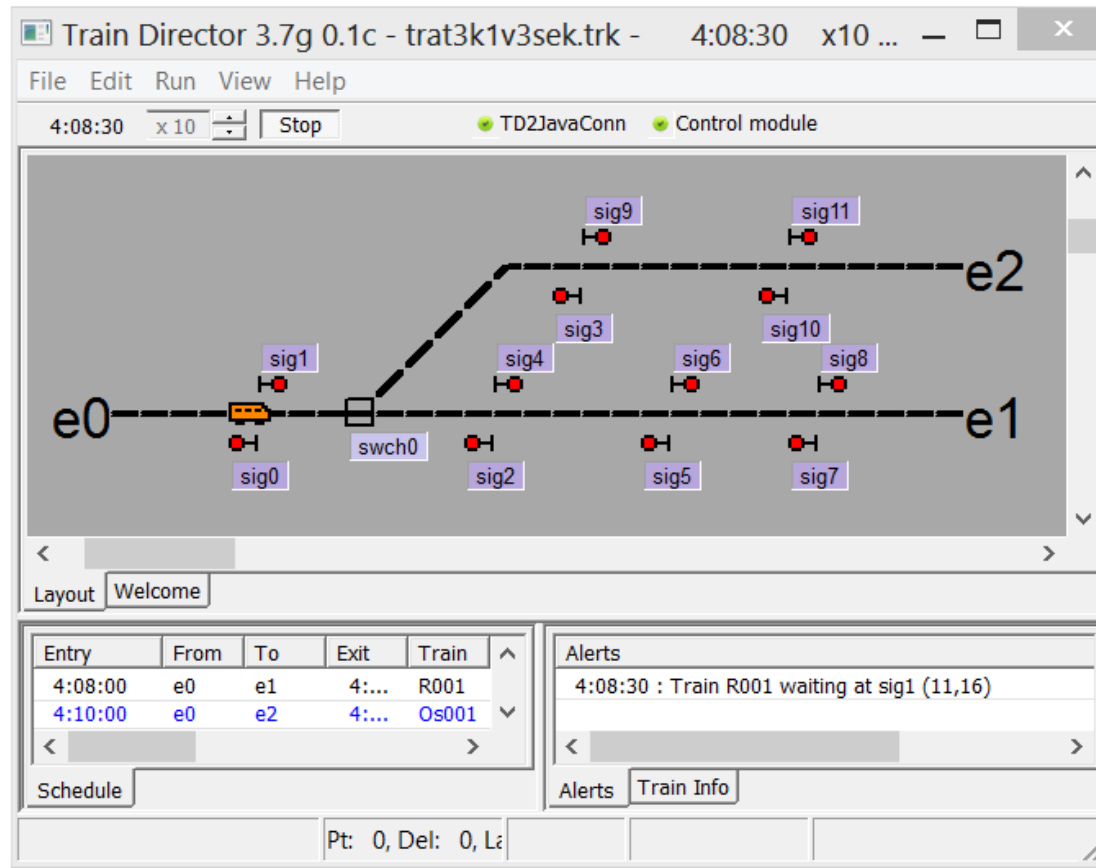


# Control module

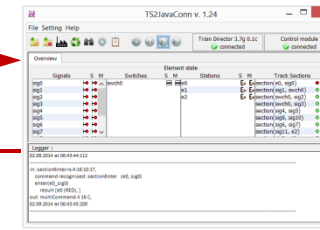
- reactive system
- Java application (developed using FM) + configuration file
- getters
  - ▣ signals, switches, (sections)
- methods responding to events from TD
  - requestEnter
  - requestGreen
  - sectionLeave
  - sectionEnter

# How it works

## Train Director



## TS2JavaConn

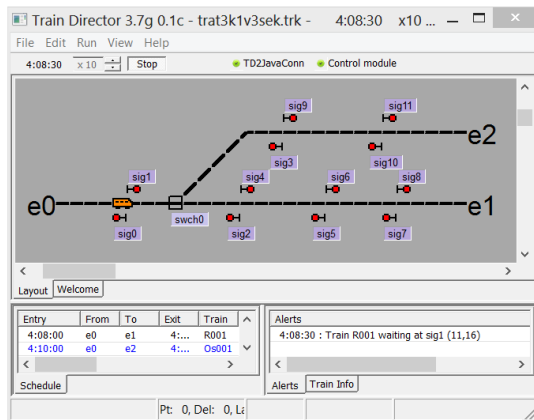


## Control module

```
public class Controller3way3secTr {  
    ...  
    public Controller3way3secTr() {  
        this.trN = new CntrlSimpleTrack(1);  
        this.trD = new CntrlSimpleTrack(2);  
        this.trS = new CntrlSimpleTrack(3);  
        this.cntrl3waytrack = new  
        Cntrl3WayTrack();  
    }  
    ...  
}
```

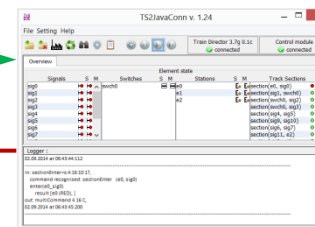
# How it works

Train Director



requestGreen  
sig1, e1, R001

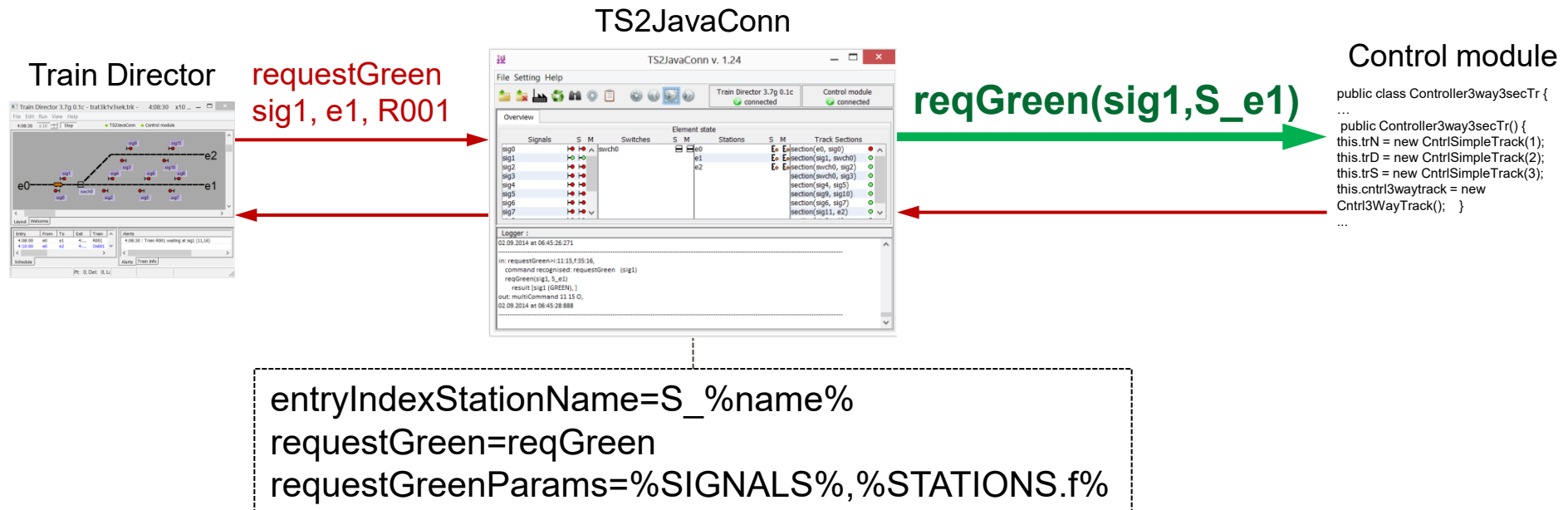
TS2JavaConn



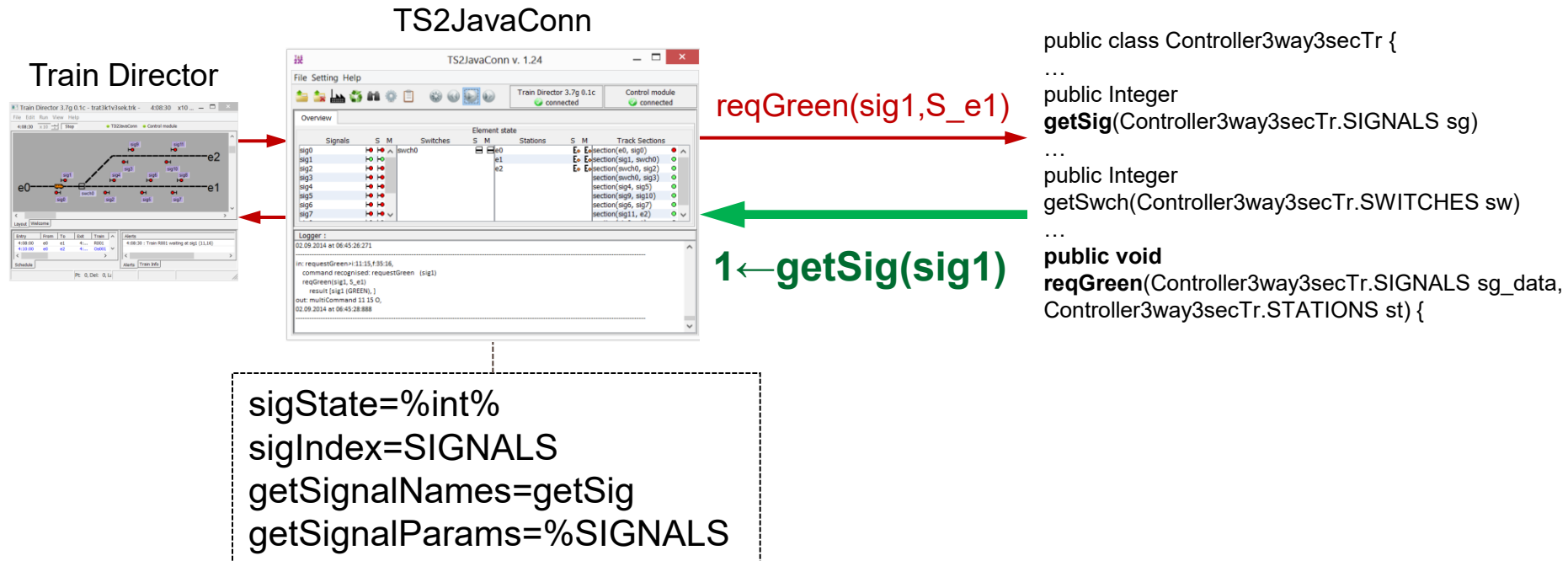
Control module

```
public class Controller3way3secTr {  
    ...  
    public Controller3way3secTr() {  
        this.trN = new CntrlSimpleTrack(1);  
        this.trD = new CntrlSimpleTrack(2);  
        this.trS = new CntrlSimpleTrack(3);  
        this.cntrl3waytrack = new  
        Cntrl3WayTrack();  
    }  
    ...  
}
```

# How it works

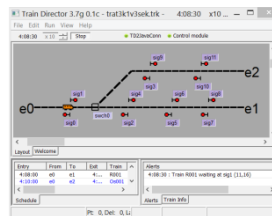


# How it works

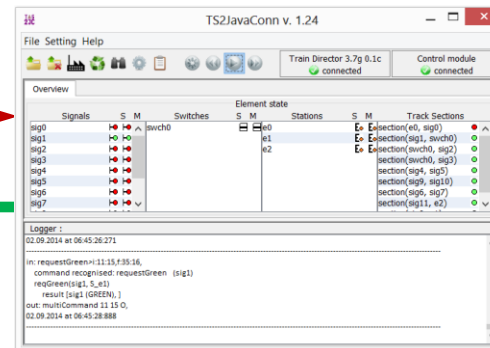


# How it works

Train Director



TS2JavaConn



Control module

```
public class Controller3way3secTr {  
    ...  
    public Controller3way3secTr() {  
        this.trN = new CntrlSimpleTrack(1);  
        this.trD = new CntrlSimpleTrack(2);  
        this.trS = new CntrlSimpleTrack(3);  
        this.cntrl3waytrack = new  
        Cntrl3WayTrack();  
    }  
    ...  
}
```

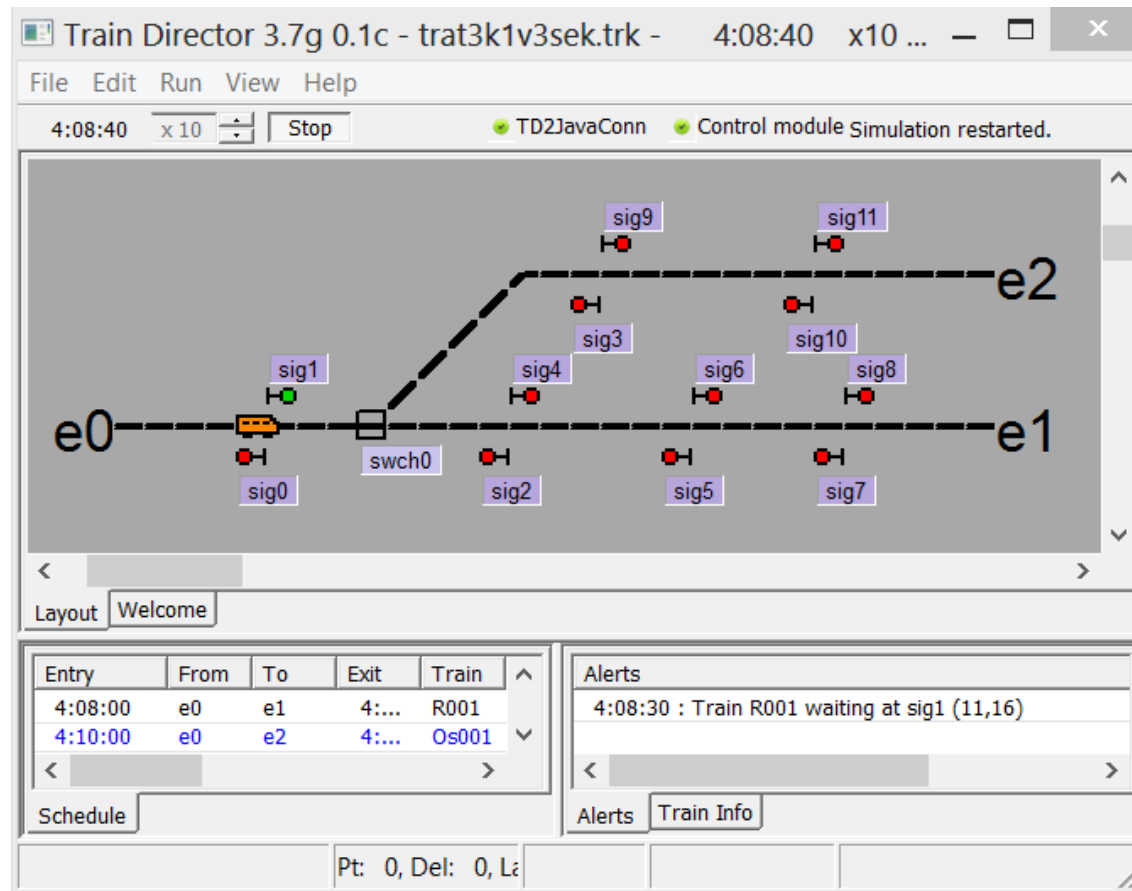
multiCommand  
11 15 0

1 ← getSig(sig1)

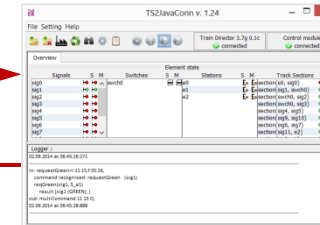
sigState=%int%  
signalGreenState=1  
sigIndex=SIGNALS

# How it works

## Train Director



## TS2JavaConn



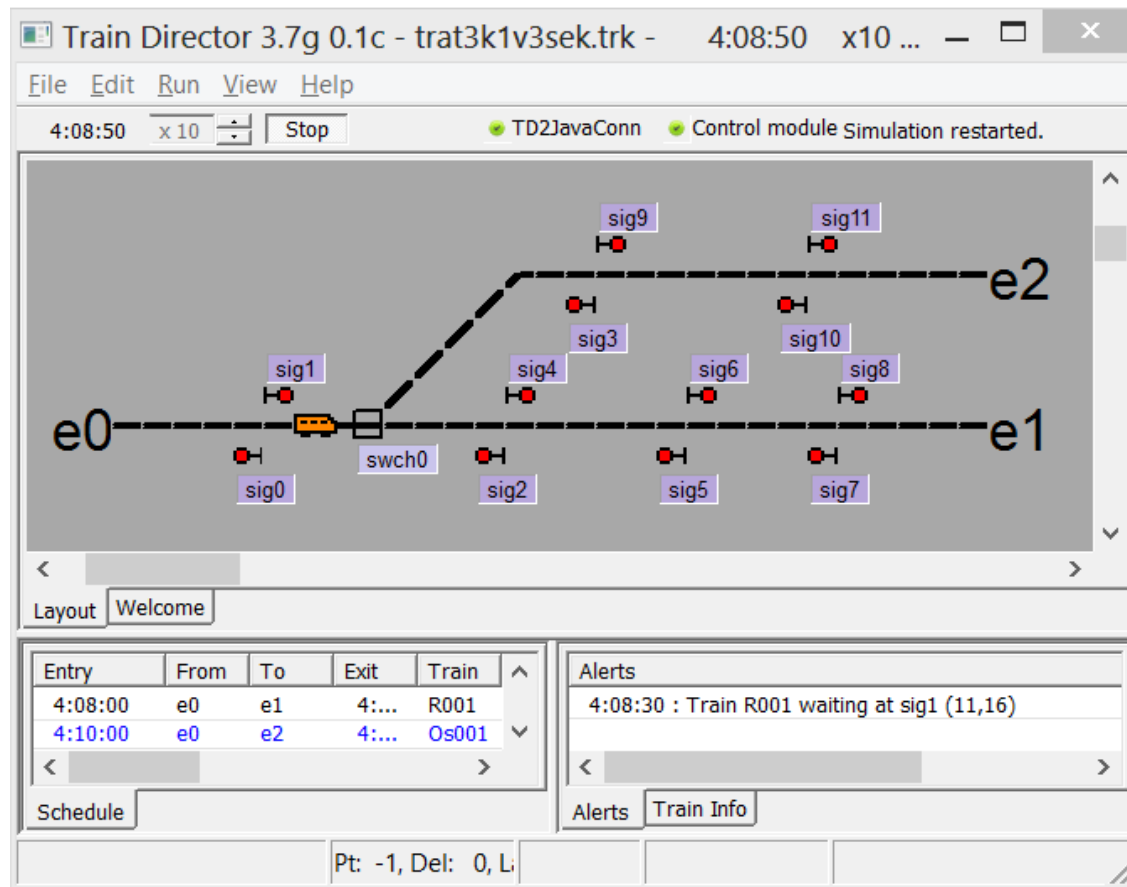
## Control module

```
public class Controller3way3secTr {  
    ...  
    public Controller3way3secTr() {  
        this.trN = new CntrlSimpleTrack(1);  
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        this.trS = new CntrlSimpleTrack(3);  
        this.cntrl3waytrack = new  
        Cntrl3WayTrack();  
    }  
    ...  
}
```

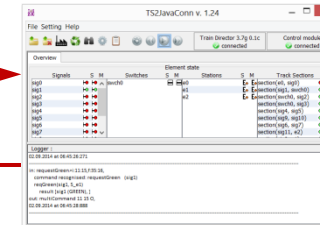


# How it works

## Train Director



## TS2JavaConn

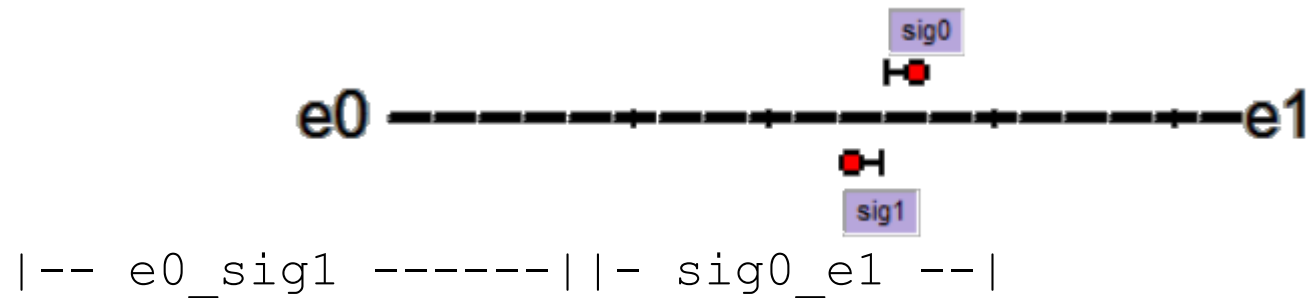


## Control module

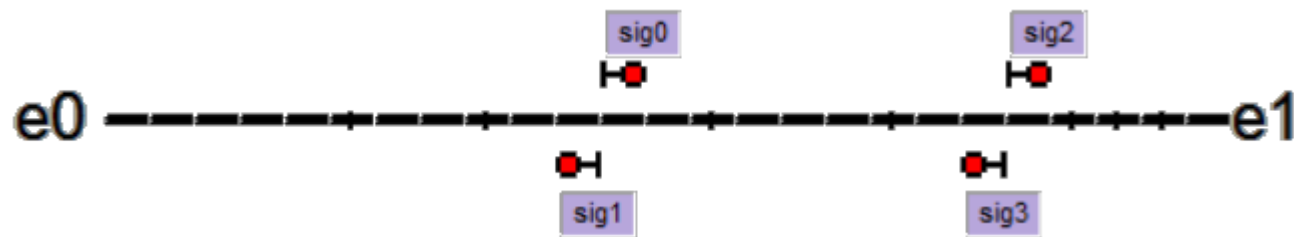
```
public class Controller3way3secTr {  
    ...  
    public Controller3way3secTr() {  
        this.trN = new CntrlSimpleTrack(1);  
        this.trD = new CntrlSimpleTrack(2);  
        this.trS = new CntrlSimpleTrack(3);  
        this.cntrl3waytrack = new  
        Cntrl3WayTrack();  
    }  
    ...  
}
```

# Our scenarios

## □ route2sec/route2sec\_deadlock



## □ route3sec/route3sec\_deadlock



□ `|-- e0_sig1 -----||- sig0_sig3-||-sig2_e1-|`

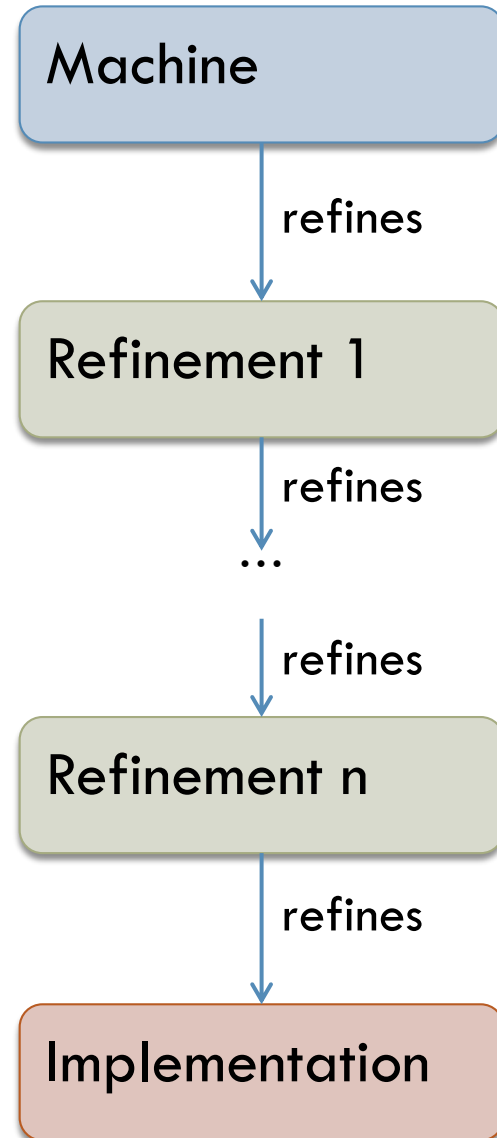
# Formal Specification and Verification in B-Method

**Development process**

**B-language**

**B-machine**

# Development in B-method



# B-language

- Expressions and Predicates
  - ▣ mathematical notation
  - ▣ based on first-order logic and Zermelo-Fraenkel set theory
- Operations
  - ▣ Generalized Substitution Language (GSL)
  - ▣ based on E.W. Dijkstra's Guarded commands and Weakest Precondition Calculus
- Documentation supplied with Atelier-B
  - ▣ **B Language Reference Manual**
    - Detailed description
  - ▣ B Language Keywords and Operators (**B Symbols**)
    - ASCII vs. mathematical notation

# GS :: Syntax

| GS                                                                       | meaning of GS                                              |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>skip</b>                                                              | Empty GS (do nothing).                                     |
| <b><math>x := e</math></b>                                               | Assignment of value of expression $e$ to variable $x$ .    |
| <b><math>S_1 ; S_2</math></b>                                            | Sequential composition (do GS $S_1$ , then GS $S_2$ ).     |
| <b><math>S_1 \parallel S_2</math></b>                                    | Parallel composition (do $S_1$ and $S_2$ at once).         |
| <b>PRE <math>E</math> THEN <math>S_1</math> END</b>                      | If predicate $E$ holds, do $S_1$ . Otherwise, do anything. |
| <b>SELECT <math>E</math> THEN <math>S_1</math> END</b>                   | If $E$ holds, do $S_1$ . Otherwise, do not execute.        |
| <b>IF <math>E</math> THEN <math>S_1</math> ELSE <math>S_2</math> END</b> | If $E$ holds, do $S_1$ . Otherwise, do $S_2$ .             |

*(selected)*

# GS :: Semantics

|                                                                     |                                                               |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| $[\text{skip}]P$                                                    | $= P$                                                         |
| $[x := e]P$                                                         | $= P[x:=e]$                                                   |
| $[\text{PRE } E \text{ THEN } S \text{ END } ]P$                    | $= E \wedge [S]P$                                             |
| $[\text{SELECT } E \text{ THEN } S \text{ END } ]P$                 | $= E \Rightarrow [S]P$                                        |
| $[S_1 ; S_2 ]P$                                                     | $= [S_1][S_2]P$                                               |
| $[\text{IF } E \text{ THEN } S_1 \text{ ELSE } S_2 \text{ END } ]P$ | $= (E \Rightarrow [S_1]P) \wedge (\neg E \Rightarrow [S_2]P)$ |

*(selected)*

# GS :: Semantics of Simultaneous Substitution

|                                                         |                                                              |      |
|---------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| skip    T                                               | = T                                                          |      |
| x := E    y := F                                        | = x, y := E, F                                               |      |
| (PRE P THEN S END)    T                                 | = PRE P THEN S    T END                                      |      |
| (SELECT E THEN S END)    T                              | = SELECT E THEN S    T END                                   | (*)  |
| (IF E THEN S <sub>1</sub> ELSE S <sub>2</sub> END)    T | = IF E THEN S <sub>1</sub>    T ELSE S <sub>2</sub>    T END | (**) |

(\*) holds if S always terminates.

(\*) holds if S<sub>1</sub> and S<sub>2</sub> always terminate.

(selected)



# B-machine :: Syntax

```
MACHINE M(p)
CONSTRAINTS C
SETS St
CONSTANTS k
PROPERTIES Bh
VARIABLES v
DEFINITIONS D
INVARIANT I
INITIALISATION T
OPERATIONS
  y ← op(x) =
    PRE P THEN S END
...
END
```

- VARIABLES is  
ABSTRACT\_VARIABLES
  - ▣ we can also have CONCRETE\_VARIABLES
- CONSTANTS is  
CONCRETE\_CONSTANTS
  - ▣ we can also have ABSTRACT\_CONSTANTS

# Task 1: Machine Specification

1. Get familiar with the B-machine `route2sec.mch` from

- ▣ in `\controllers\route2sec\B` in the course package

`route2sec.mch`

2. Create a new B-machine `route3sec.mch` for the scenario `route3sec`

- ▣ in `scenarios` in the course package

`route3sec.mch`

- ▣ Do the steps in separate Atelier B projects.
- ▣ Don't forget about the **safety properties**.

# B-machine :: Proof Obligations

```
MACHINE M(p)
CONSTRAINTS C
SETS St
CONSTANTS k
PROPERTIES Bh
VARIABLES v
DEFINITIONS D
INVARIANT I
INITIALISATION T
OPERATIONS
  y ← op(x) =
    PRE P THEN S END
  ...
END
```

- Initialisation establishes the invariant
  - ▣  $(\mathbf{C} \wedge \mathbf{Bh}) \Rightarrow [\mathbf{T}] \mathbf{I}$
- Each operation preserves the invariant
  - ▣  $(\mathbf{C} \wedge \mathbf{Bh} \wedge \mathbf{I} \wedge \mathbf{P}) \Rightarrow [\mathbf{S}] \mathbf{I}$

*(selected, simplified)*

## Task 2: Machine Verification

1. Prove both `route2sec.mch` and `route3sec.mch` in Atelier B.
2. Do the proof obligation for one of the `reqGreen` operations manually.

`route2sec.mch`

`route3sec.mch`

# Verified Refinement

**Implementation**

**GS allowed in components**

**Refinement proof obligations**

# From machine to Implementation

MACHINE  $M(p)$   
CONSTRAINTS  $C$   
SETS  $S_t$   
CONSTANTS  $k$   
PROPERTIES  $B_h$   
VARIABLES  $v$   
DEFINITIONS  $D$   
INVARIANT  $I$   
INITIALISATION  $T$   
OPERATIONS  
     $y \leftarrow op(x) =$   
        PRE  $P$  THEN  $S$  END  
    ...  
END

IMPLEMENTATION  $M_i(p)$   
REFINES  $M$   
SETS  $S_{t1}$   
CONCRETE\_CONSTANTS  $k1$   
VALUES  $V_{k1}$   
PROPERTIES  $B_{h1}$   
VARIABLES  $w$   
DEFINITIONS  $D1$   
INVARIANT  $J$   
INITIALISATION  $T1$   
OPERATIONS  
     $y \leftarrow op(x) =$   
        BEGIN  $S1$  END  
    ...  
END

# GS in components

| GS                               | Machine | Refinement | Implementation |
|----------------------------------|---------|------------|----------------|
| skip                             | yes     | yes        | yes            |
| $x := e$                         | yes     | yes        | yes            |
| $S_1 ; S_2$                      | no      | yes        | yes            |
| $S_1 \parallel S_2$              | yes     | yes        | no             |
| PRE $E$ THEN $S_1$ END           | yes     | yes        | no             |
| SELECT $E$ THEN $S_1$ END        | yes     | yes        | no             |
| IF $E$ THEN $S_1$ ELSE $S_2$ END | yes     | yes        | yes            |
| WHILE $E$ DO $S \dots$ END       | no      | no         | yes            |

*(selected)*

# Refinement Proof Obligations

MACHINE  $M(p)$   
CONSTRAINTS  $C$   
PROPERTIES  $Bh$   
VARIABLES  $v$   
INVARIANT  $I$   
INITIALISATION  $T$   
OPERATIONS  
     $y \leftarrow op(x) =$   
        PRE  $P$  THEN  $S$  END  
END

IMPLEMENTATION  $M_i(p)$   
PROPERTIES  $Bh1$   
VARIABLES  $w$   
INVARIANT  $J$   
INITIALISATION  $T1$   
OPERATIONS  
     $y \leftarrow op(x) =$   
        BEGIN  $S1$  END  
    ...  
END

- Initialisation establishes the invariant

- ▣  $(C \wedge Bh \wedge Bh1) \Rightarrow [T1] (\neg([T] \neg J))$

- Each operation preserves the invariant

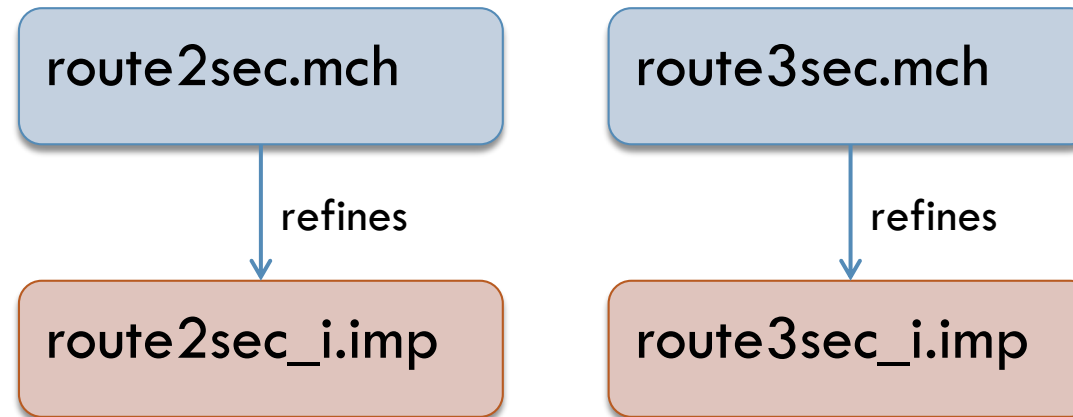
- ▣  $(C \wedge Bh \wedge Bh1 \wedge I \wedge J \wedge P) \Rightarrow [S1'] (\neg([S] \neg (J \wedge y' = y)))$

(selected, simplified)



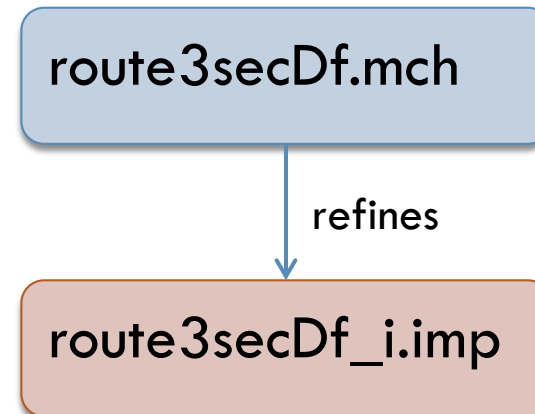
# Task 3: Machine Refinement

1. Get familiar with the implementation `route2sec_i.imp`.
  - ▣ in `\controllers\route2sec\B` in the course package
2. Refine the B-machine `route3sec.mch` for the scenario `route3sec` in a similar way.
  - ▣ in `scenarios` in the course package
3. Verify the implementation.
4. Compile the implementation with BKPI Compiler and try with `TS2JavaConn/TrainDirector`



# Task 4: Deadlock Free Controller

1. Specify and verify a deadlock free version of the controller for the scenarios `route3sec` and `route3sec_deadlock`.
2. Refine it to an implementation and verify the implementation.
3. Compile the implementation with BKPI Compiler and try with TS2JavaConn/TrainDirector



# Modular Specification

...

# Composition Mechanisms

- To access one component from another
- Only machines can be accessed

| Mech.           | Access type                                                                                                              |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>SEES</b>     | Read only to data elements. Seen variables cannot be used in I of the seeing component. Getter operations can be called. |
| <b>USES</b>     | Read only but the used variables are allowed in the using invariant                                                      |
| <b>INCLUDES</b> | Read/write. <i>Promoted</i> operations become operations of the including component                                      |
| <b>EXTENDS</b>  | INCLUDES with all operations promoted.                                                                                   |
| <b>IMPORTS</b>  | As INCLUDES, but in implementations                                                                                      |

# Composition Mechanisms Usability

| Mechanism | Machine | Refinement | Implementation |
|-----------|---------|------------|----------------|
| SEES      | yes     | yes        | yes            |
| USES      | yes     | no         | no             |
| INCLUDES  | yes     | yes        | no             |
| EXTENDS   | yes     | yes        | no             |
| IMPORTS   | no      | no         | yes            |

# Task 5: Universal Controller

1. Specify, refine and verify a universal version controller component for a straight track of  $n$  sections.
  - It should use
    - 1 instead of green
    - 0 instead of red
    - 0 instead of free
    - 1 instead of occup
  - Number of sections is given as its parameter `length`
  - partial specification is in `\controllers\route3secComp\B` in the course package

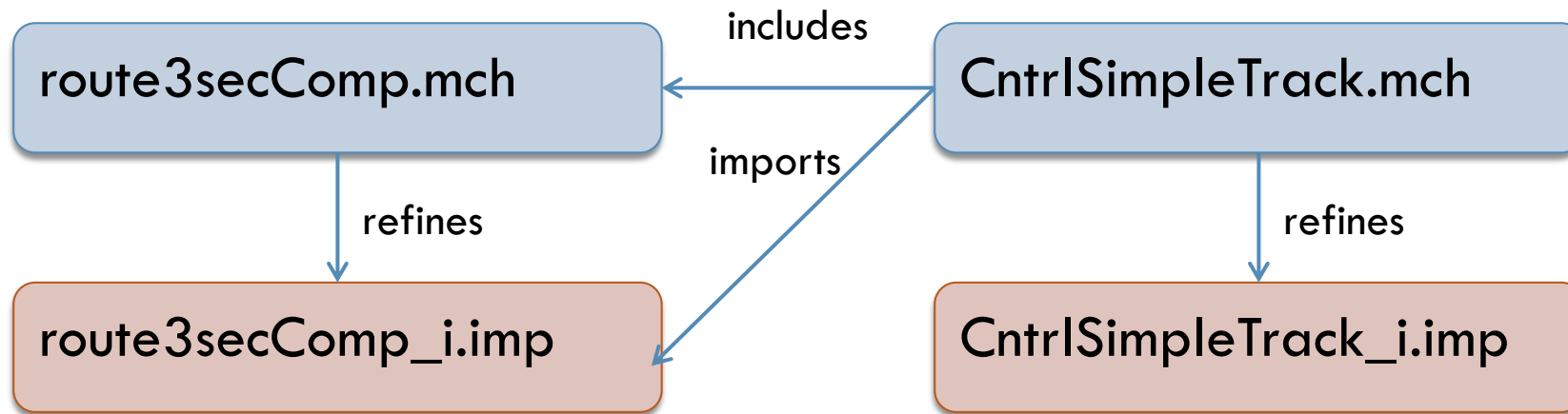
CntrlSimpleTrack.mch

refines

CntrlSimpleTrack\_i.imp

## Task 6: Universal Controller for route3sec

1. Use the developed universal controller to control the scenario `route3sec`.



# On TS2JavaConn / TD / OR

- Korečko, Š., Sorád, J. (2014). Using simulation games in teaching formal methods for software development. *Innovative Teaching Strategies and New Learning Paradigms in Computer Programming*, in Innovative Teaching Strategies and New Learning Paradigms in Computer Programming, R. Queirós, Ed., IGI Global, 2015, pp. 106–130. (draft version available [here](#)).
- Korečko, Š., Sorád, J., Dudláková, Z., Sobota, B. (2014, September). A toolset for support of teaching formal software development. In *International Conference on Software Engineering and Formal Methods* (pp. 278-283). Springer
- Korečko, Š., Sobota, B. (2017). Computer Games as Virtual Environments for Safety-Critical Software Validation. *Journal of Information and Organizational Sciences*, 41(2), 197-212.
- Korečko, Š. (2023). Utilizing Rail Traffic Control Simulator in Verified Software Development Courses. In: Porkoláb, Z., Zsók, V. (eds) *Composability, Comprehensibility and Correctness of Working Software*. CFP 2019. Lecture Notes in Computer Science, vol 11950. Springer, Cham. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-42833-3\\_4](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-42833-3_4)