



# Toward a design model-oriented methodology to ensure QoS of a cyber-physical healthcare system

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## Abstract

The aging of the world population and its serious consequences have made the development of systems adapted to the needs of seniors an absolute necessity. In recent years, technological improvements have favored the development of efficient healthcare systems, comprising several tiny and very efficient devices that can collect several data (videos, images, scalars, etc.) related to the activity and health of older adults. However, deploying such critical and complex systems raises some crucial issues, particularly security and reliability. Because they handle sensitive data, and a failure in the functioning of the process could lead to the loss of human lives. Within our developed system, named Family Heroes, we present in this paper a methodology for verifying its security and reliability in terms of correct functioning. Our proposed methodology is based on the CATWOE method for analyzing, UML and UML profile MARTE for modeling, and finally UPPAAL model checker for verification. The formal verification results of our Family Heroes System properties guarantee its security and reliability.

**Keywords** Healthcare system · CATWOE method · UML modeling · MARTE · Formal verification · UPPAAL · Timed automata

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## 1 Introduction

Globally, demographic projections show a 7% increase in the world's population for people over 65 by 2050 (from 9 in 2019 to 16% in 2050) [40]. These percentages are seen as a clear early warning sign of an aging population. According to WHO<sup>1</sup> [2], aging is characterized by a deterioration of physical and mental capacities. These changes often lead to loss of independence and chronic disease with time. They considerably limit autonomy and increase the risk of domestic accidents in the elderly. These risks can have serious consequences (fractures, loss of self-confidence, and even death). Improving and guaranteeing good aging has become an urgent social and ethical issue in our society.

Furthermore, falls and chronic illnesses pose severe problems for elders and their families (Fig. 1). These two complicated issues are known to be responsible for significant mortality and morbidity in most countries [8, 26, 37]. It has to be noted that two-thirds of falls occur at home [28]. Hence, being immobilized for an hour or more on the ground increases the risk of death and leads to severe physical and psychological consequences. In practice, chronic diseases hamper the autonomy of the elderly daily and cause or contribute to falls [23]. So, the development of technological systems adapted to the needs of seniors has now become a necessity.

Another important point that has to be highlighted is the relatively high cost of retirement homes for the elderly and even for their relatives. The objective here is to allow the elderly to stay at their home as long as possible with the possibility of providing them with smart healthcare monitoring platforms, able to report as early and as precisely as possible any *unease situation*. By doing so, such platforms contribute in providing early help and hence preventing further aggravations.

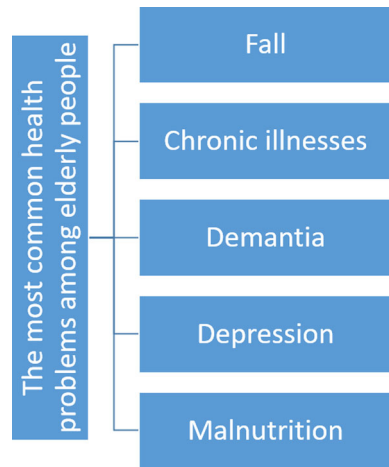
The development of such smart healthcare monitoring systems could take advantage of the recent technological advances in several domains, in particular the availability of very affordable tiny sensors. The latter are in fact able to collect vital data and analyze them, to a certain extent, in order to *help* the monitored elderly person. The usage of sensors covers several applications: falls detection [29], reminders of medication and medical visits [34], remote monitoring of vital signals [19, 30], home assistance [10], etc.

It is worth to notice that such systems have gained in complexity since they are gathering data from several heterogeneous sensors (videos, images and scalar) in addition to the fact that the captured data remains very sensitive and could be critical to a certain extent. Consequently, system reliability and security remain fundamental requirements for the development of these systems, through analysis, modeling and verification. The analysis and modeling allow identifying a complete characterization of the system whereas the formal verification guarantees its conformity with its specifications. These methods make it possible to increase the system's quality by respecting the requirements of the critical system and avoiding possible errors that can impact people's lives.

In this context, we have developed our solution, named Family Heroes system, which detects both falls and abnormal vital signals, more precisely the heart rate [20,

<sup>1</sup> World Health Organization.

**Fig. 1** The most common health problems among elderly people [2]



21]. Based on a set of several sensors (video motion, on-body, presence, etc.), our system alerts the elderly’s entourage (neighbors, family members, volunteers) when a critical situation occurs and allows them to monitor/manage the raised alert. The ultimate objective of our proposal is to ensure good aging of the elderly person by preserving/re-enforcing her/his social interactions with their relatives.

To our knowledge, this is the first research work dealing with both analysis, modeling, and formal verification of a remote health care system designed explicitly for dependent and vulnerable elderly persons. The originality of our system resides in the fact that it takes into account both the health as well as the psychological side of the elderly. The contributions of our research work can be summarized as follows:

- The use of CATWOE<sup>2</sup> method for the analysis of the proposed system.
- Its modeling and temporal specification with the Unified Modeling Language (UML) and the Modeling and Analysis of Real-Time and Embedded systems (MARTE).
- And finally its verification with UPPAAL model checker.

The remainder of this paper is organized as follows. Section 2 presents related works to our proposition. Section 3 presents the tools deployed in our approach (CATWOE, UML, MARTE, and UPPAAL). Section 4 presents the system design architecture of Family Heroes. Our CATWOE application to our system is explained in Sect. 5. Section 6 details the UML modeling based sequence diagram, component diagram, and MARTE profile. The obtained formal verification results are presented and commented on in Sect. 7. Section 8 concerns the security aspect of our system in the event of a cyber-attack. Finally, Sect. 9 concludes the article with future work.

<sup>2</sup> CATWOE is the abbreviation of 6 elements of thought reflection (Customers, Actors, Transformation, Weltanschauung, Owner, Environmental constraints).

## 83 2 Related work

84 Several studies in the literature relate to elderly people's health to ensure their safety  
85 when aging. The scientific community has taken advantage of technological advances  
86 in information, communication, and smart sensors sectors. Indeed, they develop remote  
87 healthcare systems for dependent and vulnerable seniors. The studies concentrate on  
88 the two major issues facing the elderly and their families, falls, and chronic diseases.  
89 We consider it unfair to compare them to each other in terms of efficiency because the  
90 technologies used are appropriate for each proposed solution. From this point, we will  
91 present the trend solutions in healthcare for elderly people. Dinh et al. [18] present  
92 the design and implementation of a system for monitoring activity and heart rate in  
93 the elderly. Their system distinguishes movements by collecting data from a 3-axis  
94 accelerometer and a 2-axis gyroscope. In the event of an anomaly (fall or fainting),  
95 it triggers an alert signal to the personnel concerned. Although the foot pod can be  
96 placed in sleep mode if necessary, the gyroscope and heart rate circuit continuously use  
97 power. Experimental results of the battery's performance show that it can run for 70 h  
98 when fully charged. This performance is acceptable. The fall detection accuracy with  
99 the accelerometer and gyroscope is 97% higher than with the accelerometer alone,  
100 only 90%.

101 Bourouis et al. [11] proposed a mobile health system, UMHMSE, for continuous  
102 monitoring of older adults in indoor or outdoor environments. UMHMSE analyzes the  
103 mobility, location, and vital parameters (blood oxygen, heart rate) data of the elderly to  
104 predict risk in real-time. To perform this task, the authors exploit a logical regression  
105 technique. The data collected can be consulted via web application by the family and  
106 the medical staff. However, in an abnormal situation, the alert is sent directly to the  
107 emergency department, disturbing them in the event of false alarms. In [39] daily  
108 activities are deployed to assess the health of an elderly person. Their monitoring  
109 system anticipates emergency conditions and sends them without user intervention to  
110 a nearby nursing center. Indeed, this system does not need to store and transfer the  
111 personal information of the elderly. Three daily tasks directly involved in maintaining  
112 a healthy lifestyle are monitored: urination, kitchen work, and physical cleanliness  
113 practices.

114 Horta et al. proposed [25] a mobile-based system to detect and prevent falls and  
115 monitor health status. Their system is made up of 4 main modules. The fall detection  
116 module analyzes acceleration data transferred in G forces to detect falls and recognizes  
117 user movements. The period of inactivity is also deployed to judge the type of move-  
118 ment. Body sensors attached to the user collect essential body parameters and several  
119 vital signs (ECG, respiration, EDA, BVP, EMG). This data is sent to the receiving  
120 node and then to a mobile device (the mobile gateway) via the Bluetooth connection.  
121 All modules' tasks are synchronized so that if a fall is confirmed and the user's vital  
122 signals become abnormal, the system generates an alert. Indeed, their solution allows  
123 access to data via a browser by the user or by the medical staff. The Rest web service  
124 is used to send the collected data to a remote database using the HTTP protocol. After  
125 receiving an alert notification, the senior can ignore it if there is a false alert or if no  
126 help is needed. However, he must press an emergency button to contact the emergency  
127 service.

128 Chuang et al. [15] presented an intelligent system, SilverLink, for remote lifestyle  
129 monitoring and care. Their system deploys object and human sensors. Object sensors,  
130 placed in the user's home, are fixed to appropriate household items (casetate, refrig-  
131 erator, bathroom, entrance door, etc.). They help to show the behavior or the health's  
132 state according to the choice and the lifestyle of the elderly. The human sensor is  
133 a wearable device based on a tri-axial accelerometer, and it detects any movement  
134 abnormalities, including daily activities and falls. Also, the SilverLink provides a web  
135 portal to display the data collected by the sensors. But, the alert module forces the  
136 person to press a push button to send an alert. Upon receipt of an alert, the emergency  
137 response team calls the elderly person to verify their emergency state and reduce false  
138 alarms.

139 Pinto et al. [30] presented We-Care system based on IoT technology capable of mon-  
140 itoring, alerting, and recording vital data (body and ambient temperature) of elderly  
141 people. Their prototype consists of a We-Watch bracelet, a We-Care card, and a We-  
142 Watch gateway. Besides, the accelerometer data is processed to detect falls and track  
143 the movement activities of the elderly. The body presence detector module triggers  
144 an alarm if the bracelet is detached to ensure the process's proper functioning. On the  
145 other hand, the user must press a button when he needs help. The system's evaluation  
146 showed good performance in autonomy, which lasted approximately 12 days without  
147 needing to be replaced or recharged. the we-care system is always effective within a  
148 radius of 60m.

149 Saraubon et al. [35] presented a healthcare monitoring system for the elderly based  
150 on IoT and mobile technologies. The proposed system consists of a home unit and  
151 portable devices. It enables fall detection, remote video monitoring on mobile devices  
152 in real-time, voice commands, and monitoring of vital signals (heart rate). The authors  
153 use two approaches to detect a fall: (1) the acoustic approach, which uses the sound  
154 picked up by the microphone and the sound card. (2) In the accelerometer-based  
155 approach, the system deploys the G force and movement speed, collected from the  
156 smartwatch and the accelerometer. However, their solution requires older adults to  
157 press a button or speak a keyword or voice command to alert the caregivers.

158 Rachakonda et al. [31] proposed the Good-eye system, which combines computer  
159 vision and physiological data (acceleration and heart rate) to predict and detect falls  
160 in the elderly. Their solution analyzes the change in acceleration along the y axis, the  
161 sudden change in heart rate variability, and the change in pixels to detect a fall. If one of  
162 the three features does not exceed the predefined threshold, the system predicts a fall.  
163 The alert module is composed of 3 LED indicators are for the user notified. The authors  
164 did not specify the design flow, who will respond to an emergency. Nevertheless, from  
165 an operational point of view, this technique is not relevant enough for a critical system  
166 that considers the lives of the elderly.

167 These different systems grouped under the name of gerontechnology improve peo-  
168 ple's quality of life as they age. They perform various functions to meet basic needs,  
169 such as protecting the environment of the elderly, improving their well-being, and  
170 reducing mobility and health problems. However, one of the weak points in some  
171 research is that the person is forced to react manually to solicit help. We are convinced  
172 that the alert process must be automatic and rapid. Also, the authors did not focus  
173 on their solutions for maintaining the social link with seniors. It is essential to pro-

174 mote exchange and social integration in those systems to guarantee peace of mind.  
 175 Compared to the existing solutions, we can say that the steps of analysis, modeling,  
 176 and formal verification are absent in most healthcare systems for the elderly. Indeed,  
 177 these steps are considered essential, precedes the development and evaluation of criti-  
 178 cal systems. The difficulty of understanding and applying the technical aspects of the  
 179 methodology of software systems (SSM) predisposes scientists to move directly to  
 180 developing and evaluating their systems. In systems thinking, the SSM engineering  
 181 approach is considered the most commonly used application [5]. This approach has  
 182 been deployed in the healthcare field for some healthcare applications [12, 41]. SSM  
 183 focuses on defining the relevant elements to model, unlike UML-based methods [7,  
 184 42]. The complementarity of the CATWOE technique of SSM with UML provides  
 185 a good clear definition of the system used for efficient modeling. As a result, these  
 186 systems react in increasingly complex contexts, leading them to face the risk of losing  
 187 people's lives in critical situations. Therefore, improving the security of the system  
 188 and the operating process's safety is essential.

### 189 **3 Background: CATWOE, UML, MARTE, and UPPAAL**

190 For the easiness of presentation, we introduce the tools used to ensure the correct  
 191 functioning of our critical system. First, we start with the CATWOE approach, then  
 192 the UML tool and its MARTE extension, and the UPPAAL model checker.

#### 193 **3.1 CATWOE**

194 In the 1960s, Peter Checkland defined the CATWOE method as part of his Soft System  
 195 (SSM) methodology [13, 14]. The SSM identifies a rich picture of the context in which  
 196 the problematic situation exists. It deploys the stakeholders of the system from several  
 197 points of view [5]. CATWOE is one of the specific techniques established in the SSM  
 198 to analyze and define the topic to be modeled [7]. Indeed, its application in the analysis  
 199 stage helps to identify the relevant factors of a solution and to guarantee the correct  
 200 practice of the other stages (modeling, verification, development, and deployment).  
 201 The 6 elements to be examined in the CATWOE method are as follows:

- 202 ● C, customers, represent the main targets (beneficiaries or victims) of the system's  
 203 resulting transformation. Thus, this element is concerned with defining consumers'  
 204 problems and the impact of problems and solutions on them.
- 205 ● A, actors, are the different people who react to the process and ensure that the  
 206 solution occurs. It thus determines their impacts and their ways of reacting to the  
 207 solution process.
- 208 ● T, transformation, represents the activity required to provide a service to the sys-  
 209 tem's beneficiaries. This step consists of understanding the intermediate steps to  
 210 be taken before carrying out the process.
- 211 ● W, weltanschauung (worldview), is the most significant element of the method.  
 212 This step defines the nature of the problem and explains the real causes of the  
 213 system.

- 214 • O, owner, is the owner of the system. In the business context, this element consists
- 215 of the people who decide on the product's continuity.
- 216 • E, Environmental constraints, refer to the different constraints that imply the sys-
- 217 tem process's realization and restriction. It also concerns their influences on the
- 218 proposed solution.

### 219 3.2 UML and MARTE profile

220 In the 1990s, James Rumbaugh's OMT (Object Modeling Technique) methods, Grady  
 221 Booch's Booch, and Ivar Jacobson's OOSE (Object-Oriented Software Engineering)  
 222 influenced object modeling. These three experts merged their methods to develop the  
 223 unified method, which becomes UML (Unified Modeling Language) from version 0.9  
 224 [33]. UML is the reference for object-oriented modeling of real-time systems [22].  
 225 It consists of diagrams that give a filtered view of the global model which allows to  
 226 understand the system better. In general, UML 2 provides 14 types of diagrams [38],  
 227 each of them dedicated to modeling, visualizing, and specifying static or dynamic  
 228 system concepts. UML facilitates the translation of the system process from a graphical  
 229 syntax (sequence diagram) to a formal structure (networks of communicating timed  
 230 automata) under UPPAAL to validate properties.

231 To model real-time and embedded systems, the OMG group has introduced  
 232 MARTE, the UML profile intended to model time constraints intrinsic to real-time  
 233 systems [4, 24]. Indeed, MARTE defines an expressive time model to provide a generic  
 234 time interpretation for UML models. MARTE does not impose any particular execu-  
 235 tion model, analysis technique, or implementation technology. Figure 2 shows the  
 236 MARTE architecture, which comprises four packages: MARTE foundation, design  
 237 model, analysis model, and annexes. The foundation package is the core of MARTE  
 238 profile. Time constraints are represented in the time profile. It is composed of 4 sub-  
 239 domains [36]. (1) The TimeStructure is made up of a set of instants that can be discrete  
 240 or dense. (2) TimeAccess defines, in particular, the concept of the clock, which gives  
 241 access to the logical/physical time structure. (3) TimeValueSpecification, which allows  
 242 the indication of instants and durations, and (4) TimeUsage brings together the most  
 243 widely used modeling concepts: temporal events, temporal behaviors, and temporal  
 244 constraints.

### 245 3.3 UPPAAL

246 UPPAAL is a general tool environment developed in collaboration between Uppsala  
 247 University in Sweden and Aalborg University in Denmark [1, 6]. It is used to model,  
 248 validate, and verify critical real time systems. In UPPAAL, a system is modeled as a  
 249 network of timed automata. These latter constitute one of the models of continuous-  
 250 time reactive systems proposed by Alur and Dill [3]. They communicate with each  
 251 other via channel synchronization using the transmitter/receiver principle or shared  
 252 data. Indeed, on a synchronization channel  $s$ , the transmitter model sends the  $s!$  signal,  
 253 and the receiver synchronizes with it via the  $s?$  signal. A timed automaton is a finite-  
 254 state machine extended with clock variables, used to specify time constraints. Figure

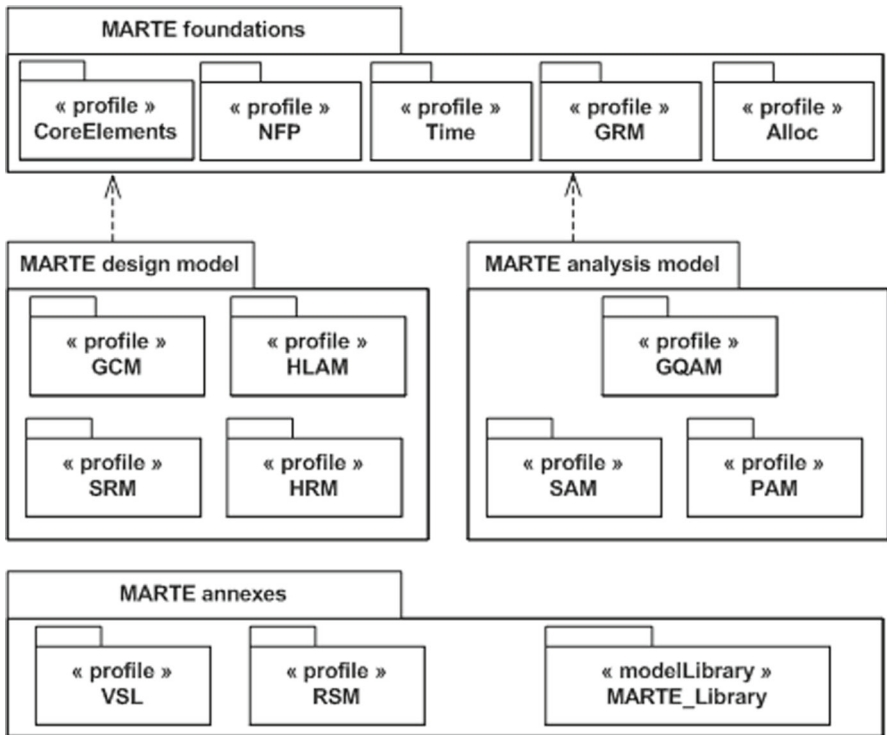
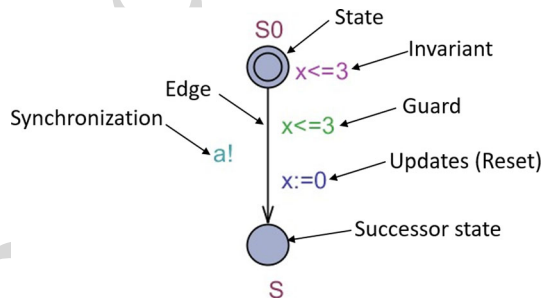


Fig. 2 Architecture of the UML MARTE profile [24]

Fig. 3 A simple timed automaton in UPPAAL



3 represents a simple timed automaton in UPPAAL, composed of two states, a clock variable  $x$ , and one transition.

States are generally characterized by invariants, which specify conditions on clocks. Thus, all the time spent in a state must satisfy the defined invariant. The model moves from one state to another through the transition (edge). The edges are annotated with:

- *Guard* which is the condition to be fulfilled to enable the transition between states. This condition on the values of the variables must be compatible with the invariant of the original state.

- 263 • *Synchronization* the processes of the different automata are synchronized on com-  
264 mon synchronization channels. The absence of this element indicates that the  
265 actions are internal to the model.
- 266 • *Updates* they represent the evaluation of variables or the resetting of particular  
267 clocks after enabling a transition.

268 Formally, a timed automaton is defined as a n-tuple structure  $\langle \mathbf{L}, \mathbf{L}_0, \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{A}, \mathbf{I}, \mathbf{T} \rangle$   
269 [3] such as:

- 270 •  $\mathbf{L}$  a finite set of states (locations);
- 271 •  $\mathbf{L}_0 \subseteq \mathbf{L}$  an initial state;
- 272 •  $\mathbf{X}$  a finite set of clocks (variables) with non-negative real values;
- 273 •  $\mathbf{A}$  a finite set of transition labels;
- 274 •  $\mathbf{I} : \mathbf{L} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}(\mathbf{X})$  associates an invariant to each state ( $\mathcal{C}$  is a set of conjunctions  
275 over simple conditions on  $\mathbf{X}$ );
- 276 •  $\mathbf{T} \subseteq \mathbf{L} \times \mathbf{A} \times \mathcal{C}(\mathbf{X}) \times 2^{\mathbf{X}} \times \mathbf{L}$  a set of action transitions.

277 Each  $e = \langle l, a, \Phi, \lambda, l' \rangle \in T$  corresponds to a transition between the states  $l$  and  
278  $l'$ , guarded by the constraint  $\Phi$ , labeled by  $a$ , and which resets the variables  $\lambda$  in  
279  $X$  to zero.

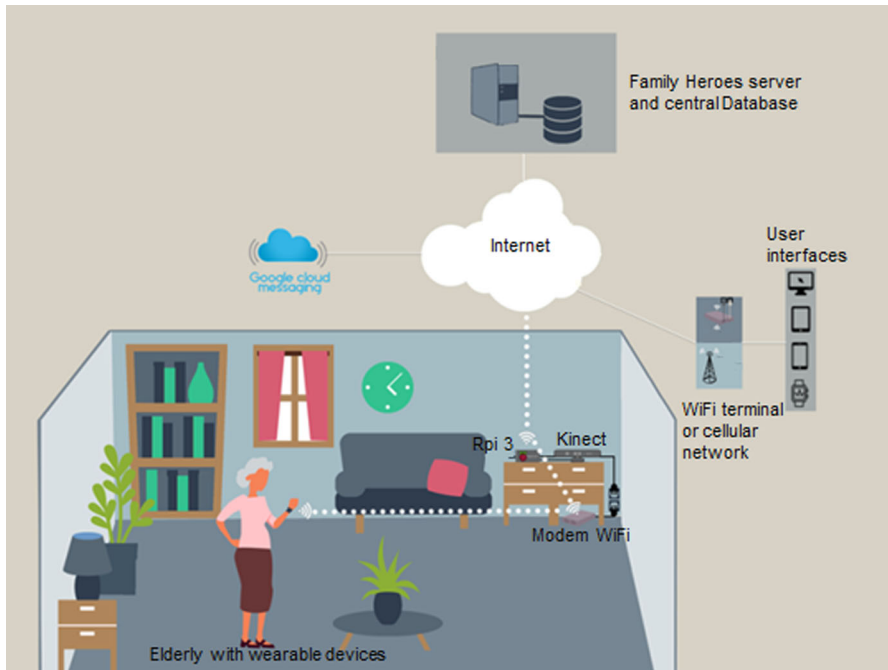
280 The UPPAAL tool integrates three fundamental parts: a graphical interface for the  
281 system's visual design, a simulator to examine its dynamic behavior, and a command-  
282 line verification server to verify its properties.

283 This tool allows to verify temporal properties : reachability, safety, liveness, and  
284 absence of deadlocks. UPPAAL exploits an extended subset of Timed Computation  
285 Tree Logic (TCTL) to specify and verify temporal properties. To explain the semantics  
286 and formal expression of these properties, we admit  $p$  and  $q$  as two-state formulas. In  
287 TCTL, the letters A and E mean "all paths" and "one path," respectively.

- 288 1. The absence of deadlock: the formula  $A[] \text{not deadlock}$ , is used to check that there  
289 is no deadlock in the system behavior.
- 290 2. Reachability: it allows to check consistency in the system. It is expressed by  $E \langle \rangle$   
291  $p$  to verify the existence of a path starting from the initial state such that  $p$  is satisfied  
292 along this path.
- 293 3. Safety: it shows that the system will never reach a critical state; in other words,  
294 something bad will never happen in the system. It is expressed by  $A[]p$  ( $p$  must be  
295 satisfied in all the accessible states), or by  $E[]p$  (there is at least one path in which  
296 all states satisfy the property  $p$ ).
- 297 4. Liveness: which expresses that something will eventually happen, it is expressed by  
298  $A \langle \rangle p$  (all the execution paths eventually lead to a state satisfying the property  
299  $p$ ) or by  $p \text{ -- } \rangle q$  ( $p$  always leads to  $q$ : any path beginning with a state where  
300  $p$  is satisfied, eventually reaches a state which necessarily satisfy  $q$ ).

## 301 4 Family heroes system

302 The objectives of the Family Heroes system are based on the concept that mental and  
303 social health are as important as physical health in aging as at any other time in life. Our



**Fig. 4** Global view of family heroes system

system meets the needs of vulnerable seniors by promoting aging at home in a secure environment. Indeed, the network of heroes (family members, neighbors, volunteers) is the leading actor in the functioning of our system. Each member connects to the profile of an older adult via a mobile application to monitor their state in real-time, plan social events, and receive alerts. Consequently, it ensures rapid intervention after a critical situation (fall, health problem) and avoids social isolation.

Family Heroes system comprises reliable and inexpensive devices to collect information about seniors' posture and vital signals. Figure 4 presents the overall architecture of our solution. From a technical point of view, our healthcare system is characterized by: (a) its multi-source of data (Kinect, Huawei watch 2 4G), and (b) its open modular architecture (which allows the integration of different types of sensors for future applications related to the behavioral analysis of seniors, such as a passive infrared sensor). Furthermore, our system is mainly based on 2 efficient technologies:

1. Microsoft Kinect: Kinect technology generates 3D data of people's skeletal joints in its field of vision. It respects the intimacy and privacy of the older person. Microsoft has produced three generations of Kinect V1, V2, and Kinect azure recently. We showed the results of fall detection with V2 in previous work [20]. The latest prototype of Family Heroes will deploy Kinect azure.
2. Huawei 2 4G: We will deploy it for heart rate monitoring and motion detection from embedded sensors. This technology equipped with 4G and LTE does not need to be paired with a mobile device to connect to the network, make calls and receive

325 notifications thanks to integrating a speaker and a microphone. We can also directly  
326 access the data collected thanks to the possibility of integrating an e-sim [17].

327 An essential point of our solution is the management of alarms. For this reason,  
328 we have analyzed several alarm scenarios to provide the fastest possible intervention  
329 and minimize the time spent by the elderly on the ground. Because, the secondary  
330 consequences of prolonged immobilization on the ground after an accident, a fall, or  
331 health problems are as severe as the direct physical and psychological consequences.

332 Indeed, immobilization on the ground for a long time leads to poor blood circulation  
333 in the veins and increases the risk of metabolic disorders [9]. The disturbance of  
334 normal blood flow is manifested by the appearance of blood clots in the veins. This  
335 phenomenon is known as phlebitis, which in some cases can cause a fatal complication  
336 of fatal pulmonary embolism. Therefore, hard flooring gradually produces poor tissue  
337 oxygenation due to the pressure of a person's weight in one place. The skin will begin  
338 to deteriorate more or less quickly to form skin lesions. Similarly, the older adult's  
339 muscular crushing causes rhabdomyolysis, leading to heart dysfunction and significant  
340 kidney problems due to the sudden increase of potassium in the blood. Falling into  
341 an uncomfortable, unheated place will cause a gradual drop in body temperature. The  
342 person will lose consciousness if he or she stays in the cold for a long time. Also,  
343 seniors often take treatments regularly (anticoagulants, antiarrhythmics, etc.). The  
344 involuntary difficulty of taking their medication risks severe consequences on their  
345 lives.

346 For this, an older adult's immediate care avoids serious consequences and reduces  
347 the risk of mortality. The key criterion for selecting the alert scenario is the expected  
348 time spent lying on the ground. In our solution, the elderly person's entourages are  
349 the main actors who will react after receiving an alarm. Moreover, in some cases,  
350 the emergency service intervenes to help. In Table 1, we describe each scenario's  
351 weakness below and the level of immobilization on the ground. We have excluded the  
352 manual process of sending an alarm (pressing a button or voice communication). The  
353 alarm triggering in our system is entirely automatic.

354 1. Scenario A: The alert is sent to members in order of preference defined during  
355 registration in the Family Heroes system. The system must wait for each member's  
356 response and then resend the alert to the next member in case of refusal or no  
357 response within a certain time frame.

**Table 1** Comparison of alert process scenarios

| Scenario | Weakness   | Time of staying on the ground |
|----------|--|-------------------------------|
| A        | Waiting time for response from each member   | High                          |
| B        | The system must wait for the distance calculation. If a member refuses, it repeats this intermediate step. | High                          |
| C        | Obstruct the emergency service if there is no danger to the senior's life.                                 | Medium                        |
| D        | –  | Low                           |

- 358 2. Scenario B: The system calculates the distance between the senior's home and each  
359 member in real-time. Then, it sends the alarm to the nearest member.
- 360 3. Scenario C: The system sends the alert to all connected members and the emergency  
361 service simultaneously. The emergency service is disrupted by the older adult's trip  
362 home if his/her situation does not require hospitalization.
- 363 4. Scenario D: The system sends the alarm simultaneously to the members registered  
364 to the profiles, then in 5 minutes, if it does not receive a validation response. A  
365 message is sent to the emergency service with the necessary elderly's personal  
366 information.

367 Thus, we adopt scenario D because we guarantee that the time to stay on the ground  
368 after an accident is low. Besides, the volunteer has the complete freedom to notify the  
369 emergency service as needed. We will detail this scenario in the system's behavior in  
370 case of fall detection with the UML sequence diagram.

## 371 **5 CATWOE application**

372 The proposition of a reliable solution that decides in a complex and critical situation  
373 requires remarkable analysis. For that, we apply CATWOE, a generic and expressive  
374 method, in the context of gerontechnology to give a comprehensive image and root  
375 definition of our solution. Indeed, we explore all the stakeholders, essential informa-  
376 tion, and different perspectives to organize and optimize thinking to solve complex  
377 problems related to aging (fall, chronic illnesses, and social isolation).

378 Our CATWOE application explained in Table 2 allowed us to have the definition  
379 below adapted to thought by design. Thus, we had a global picture of our system after  
380 identifying: (a) the beneficiaries, (b) the actors involved in the transformation of the  
381 Family Heroes, (c) the actions to be taken, (d) the worldview justifying its reason  
382 of existence, (e) the owners, and finally, (f) the consideration of the constraints and  
383 shared challenges. Furthermore, we initialized the modeling process by enriching the  
384 relational logic between the conceptual and real worlds.

385 So, the Family Heroes system is part of the remote healthcare monitoring system  
386 used primarily by those around the elderly to take care of people with a physical  
387 problem (fall and irregular health situation) or social isolation as quickly as possi-  
388 ble. The process is applied through a sequence of acts, taking into account health  
389 recommendations and caregivers' and resources' availability.

## 390 **6 Description and modeling of family heroes system**

391 This section presents the UML models that describe the system architecture (compo-  
392 nent diagram) and its behaviors (sequence diagram). These models will be exploited  
393 in the formal verification step to specify and verify system properties.

**Table 2** CATWOE method

| Elements       | Main reflection questions                             |   |
|----------------|---|---|
| Customers      | Who are the beneficiaries of Family Heroes?           | The beneficiaries of the Family Heroes system are the Dependent and Fragile Elderly   |
|                | What problems do they face?                           | At this age, the problems often encountered are: falls, discomfort and social isolation.  |
|                | How are they affected by the problems?                | These problems lead to physical and psychological injuries.   |
|                | How will they be impacted by the Family Heroes system | Our system guarantees rapid support in the event of a problem and the strengthening of social ties  |
| Actors         | Who are the actors involved in the process?           | The main actors are the entourage of the elderly person (neighbor, family member) who form a network of Heroes. The emergency department and employees of Family Heroes systems are also involved   |
|                | Which actors will be responsible for intervening?     | A hero will be responsible for applying the solution on the front line. If necessary, the emergency service intervenes  |
|                | How will the actors react?                            | They manage the situation by providing rehabilitation actions.  |
|                | How will the solution process go?                     | Each connected actor is authorized to receive an alert, consult vital data and schedule tasks. If there is no response from the Heroes or the situation is dangerous, the emergency service intervenes/Family Heroes employees take care of the administrative and technical part |
| Transformation | What are the goals of the Family Heroes system?       | Avoid serious consequences and break social isolation.  |
|                | How will the solution process go?                     | The system devices collect vital data, positioning and tasks (social activities or medical appointments). Then, it synchronizes and processes the data to generate alerts and calls   |
|                | What is the purpose of the Family Heroes system?      | The purpose of our system is to have well aged elderly people at home and to integrate better socially.   |
| Worldview      | What is the overall source of the problem?            | Demographic aging in the world is very visible on the age pyramid.  |

Table 2 continued

| Elements                  | Main reflection questions   |   |
|---------------------------|---|---|
| Owners                    | What are the solutions envisaged to deal with aging?              | Faced with the challenges linked to aging, the creation of intelligent environments adapted to the needs and expectations of the elderly is a necessity.  |
|                           | What are the criteria for solutions?                              | These systems must be reliable and at low cost to promote aging in good moral and physical health   |
|                           | What is the impact of the Family Heroes system?                   | Our system makes a positive contribution to society   |
|                           | Who will own the proposed system?                                 | Family Heroes system is owned by the Family Heroes services business in the future  |
| Environmental constraints | What are the constraints that impact the success of our solution? | Our system is not a remote assistance system since the main players are committed to provide real help when available. It respects the privacy and anonymity of the user. The constraints related to data security, the timing of the alert and the minimum false alarm are taken into account in the development |

## 6.1 UML component diagram

We represent the architecture of our system via the UML component diagram. This architecture includes a set of functionality to be respected during construction but does not describe the components' dynamic behavior. Figure 5 details the UML component diagram of our system. The different components fill each other to provide the services required for other components. The local PC uses the kinematic and health data acquisition services provided by the two technologies, smartwatch, and Kinect. The Family Heroes server and database also deploy the fall-problem health detection services and data storage provided by the PC. It also carries out the registration of the older adult and the user's connection to the Family Heroes system. The user connector fills the server interface to use the different services (alert, real-time data consultation, task planning, and availability declaration). In turn, the emergency service uses the alert generation service to take care of the elderly person in critical situations.

## 6.2 UML sequence diagram modeling of fall detection subsystem

To describe the interactions between different devices and actors in our Family Heroes system, we propose to use the UML sequence diagram. Figure 6 represents the behavior of our system in the scenario of monitoring elderly's activities to detect a fall

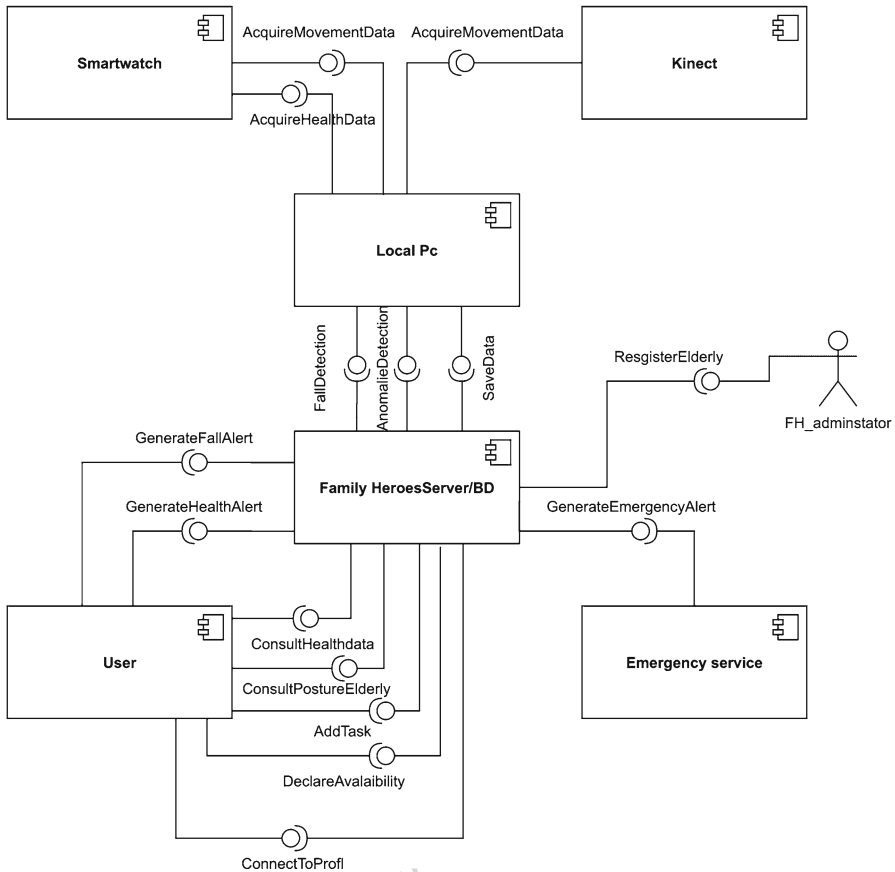


Fig. 5 UML components diagram of family heroes system

411 in chronological order. The arrows show the flow of data and messages circulating  
 412 between the different elements of our system.

- 413 1. The Kinect and the smartwatch continuously acquire the positioning data of the  
 414 elderly person. The data collected is sent to the local PC processing unit.  
 415 2. On receiving the data, the pc performs the preprocessing step, the synchroniza-  
 416 tion. Then it analyzes them by calculating the characteristics to judge the type of  
 417 movement.  
 418 3. In the event of a fall, the detection algorithm records posture frames. The server  
 419 then triggers an alert and prepares the images for viewing in the Family Heroes  
 420 mobile application.  
 421 4. The system informs all members connected to the older person’s profile by simul-  
 422 taneously sending him a fall alert.

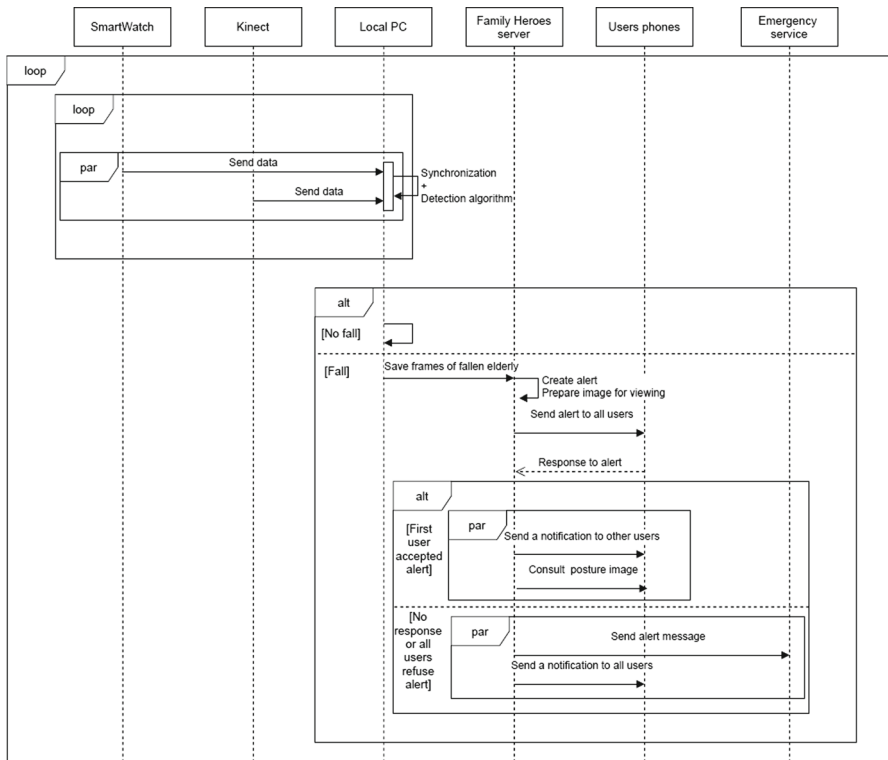


Fig. 6 UML sequence diagram describing the interactions in family heroes system

- 423 5. Members can accept or refuse the alert. After receiving an acceptance, the system  
 424 sends a new notification to the other members to indicate that the situation will  
 425 be treated; And allows him to view the image after adequate security because it is  
 426 about the dignity of the elderly.  
 427 6. The refusal of an alert or the absence of response allows the system to send an alert  
 428 message to the emergency department with the necessary information (personal,  
 429 medical, geolocation, and contact of family members). It also sends a notification  
 430 to all members.

### 431 6.3 Modeling of system real time constraints with MARTE

432 In this section, we model the real-time constraints in the fall detection scenario. So,  
 433 we enrich the UML sequence diagram described in Fig. 6 by time constraints thanks  
 434 by exploiting MARTE profile. Indeed, MARTE allows through the VSL (Value Spec-  
 435 ification Language) to define and specify constraints on dates and durations.

436 We consider that the alert must be sent 1s (one s) after the detection of the fall  
 437 event, and the users' answers must be received no later that 5 min after. Figure 7  
 438 shows the interaction after a detected fall with observations of time constraints. The

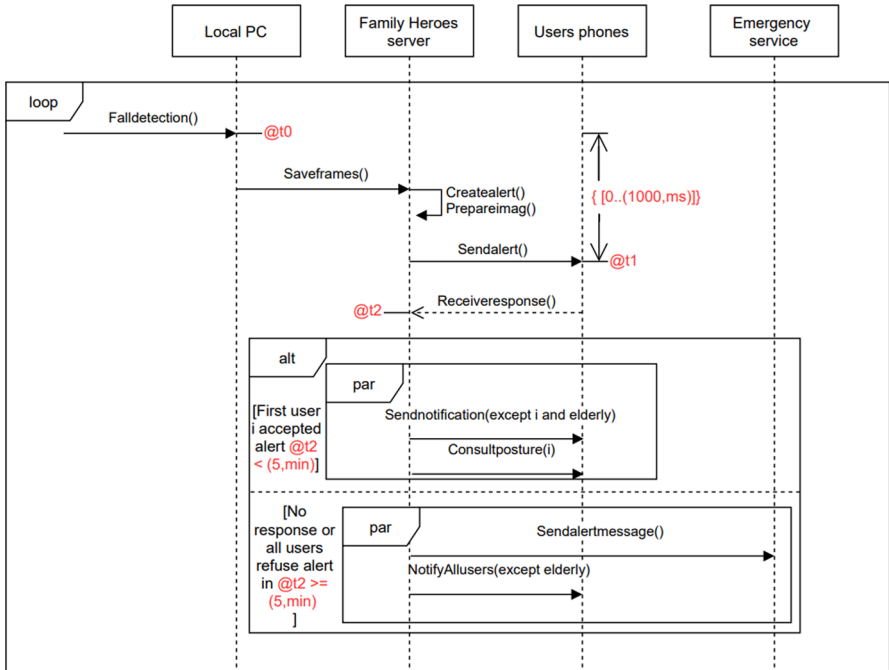


Fig. 7 UML sequence diagram with time constraints of the Family Heroes system

439 time observation @t0 denotes the instant of detection of a fall. The time constraint  
 440 specified between braces specifies that the set of processes executed by the action  
 441 initiated at @t0 must be performed in 1s @t1. @t2 marks the instant of reception of  
 442 the responses to the alert. The user has a duration of 5min to respond to the alert. In  
 443 other cases (refusal or time exceeds 5min without response), the system sends an alert  
 444 to the emergency service. We point out that technically the time constraints considered  
 445 in our scenario are acceptable, but we will validate them with medical professionals  
 446 before system development.

447 **7 Formal verification**

448 In this section we propose to model the behavior of Family Heroes system with the  
 449 network of timed automata. To guarantee the safety of our system (its correct function-  
 450 ing), we propose to verify formally its temporal properties using the model-checker  
 451 UPPAAL.

452 **7.1 Timed automata description**

453 According to the UML component diagram presented in Fig. 5, our system is composed  
 454 of 6 interacting devices (Smartwatch, Kinect, local Pc, server, mobile applications  
 455 for users, and emergency service). We specify each system device with one timed

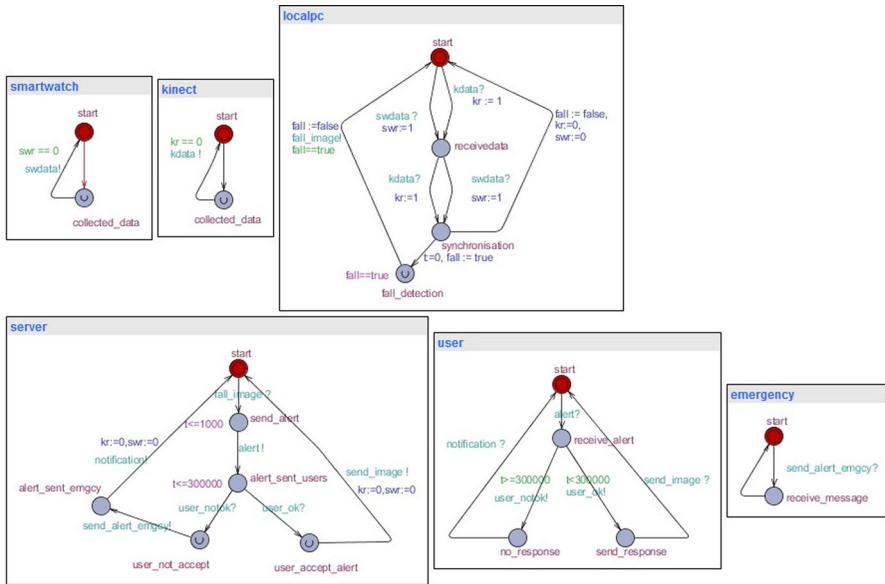


Fig. 8 Timed automata specifying family heroes components

456 automaton to describe its behavior. Our model of timed automata is consistent with the  
 457 modeling diagrams and time constraints defined previously in Sects. 7.1–7.3. Indeed,  
 458 these automata are defined by considering the sequence diagrams defined previously .

459 The set of timed automata specifying our system are described in Fig. 8. We point  
 460 out that by default, in the UPPAAL tool, the display color allows us to understand  
 461 the different elements in an automaton. In a transition, light green corresponds to the  
 462 guard, light blue for the synchronization chain, and dark blue for updates. The color  
 463 of a state with its invariant is purple. The state of transitions with the letter U is called  
 464 a state of urgency, and it forces the process to make an instant transition from one state  
 465 to another.

466 To understand the specification with UPPAAL timed automata of our system, we  
 467 propose, in the following, to describe the automata that specify the behaviors of two  
 468 main system components: the server and the users' phones. For example, the formal  
 469 definition of server automaton template is :

- 470 •  $L = \{L_0 = start, send\_alert, alert\_sent\_users,$   
 471  $user\_accept\_alert, user\_not\_accept, alert\_sent\_emergency\}.$
- 472 •  $T = \{fall\_image, alert, user\_ok, send\_image, user\_notok,$   
 473  $send\_alert\_emgcy, notification\}.$
- 474 • **Variables** =  $\{t, kr, swr\}.$

475 Moreover, the user automaton that models the user's phone process is characterized  
 476 by 4 states (*start*, *receive\_alert*, *send\_response*, *no\_response*). The user phone  
 477 process is enabled when the user's phone receive an alert (*alert?*). This reception  
 478 switches it to the send response state (*send\_response*) by sending the accept signal  
 479 (*user\_ok!*) if the clock is strictly less than 5 min ( $t < 300000$ ). Then he returns the

**Table 3** Formal verification of temporal properties

| Name | Property  | Meaning  | Satisfied |
|------|---|--|-----------|
| R1   | A [ ] not deadlock  | The system never reach any deadlock state  | Yes       |
| R2   | (localpc.fall_detection && fall == true) - -> ((server.user_accept_alert && t < 300000) or (server.alert_sent_emgcy && t ≥ 300000)) | Always after a fall detection event, the system will behave with one of these two possibilities: the users will respond to the alert within a maximum period of 5 minutes, or the server will immediately inform the emergency service to handle the alert | Yes       |
| R3   | localpc.fall_detection - -> server.send_alert && t ≤ 1000   | Always when local pc detects a fall, the server will eventually send the alert within a maximum period of 1 s  | Yes       |
| R4   | localpc.fall_detection - -> server.send_alert && t > 1000   | Always when local pc detects a fall, the server will eventually send the alert within a period exceeding 1 s   | No        |
| R5   | A [ ] (server.alert_sent_emgcy imply t < 300000)  | Always when the server reaches the alert_sent_emgcy state implies that t is strictly less than 5 minutes   | No        |
| R6   | A [ ] (server.alert_sent_emgcy imply t ≥ 300000)  | Always when the server reaches the alert_sent_emgcy location implies that t is greater than or equal to 5 minutes  | Yes       |
| R7   | A [ ] (server.user_accept_alert imply t < 300000)   | Always when the server reaches the user_accept_alert location implies that t is strictly less than 5 minutes   | Yes       |
| R8   | A [ ] (server.user_accept_alert imply t ≥ 300000)   | Always when the server reaches the location user_accept_alert implies that t greater than or equal to 5 minutes  | No        |
| R9   | A [ ] (server.send_alert imply server.t ≤ 1000)   | Always when the server send_alert implies that process server respects t is less than or equal to 1 s  | Yes       |
| R10  | A [ ] (localpc.fall_detection imply localpc.fall == true)   | Always when the local pc reaches the fall_detection location implies that the fall is detected (true)  | Yes       |

480 initial state after receiving the image of the fall (*send\_image?*). In the other case,  
 481 the process goes to the no response state (*no\_response*) if the time exceeds 5 min  
 482 ( $t \geq 300000$ ), by sending the signal (*user\_notok!*). After that the server alerts the  
 483 emergency service. Subsequently, the system returns to the initial state by receiving  
 484 a notification (that the alert is handled by the emergency service) from the server  
 485 (*notification?*).

486 **7.2 Temporal properties verification**

487 In this section we specify ten temporal safety and liveness properties (formalized with  
 488 UPPAAL syntax)described in Table 3, divided into two groups: those which should



- 519 ● Putting data at risk with the aim of corrupting, stealing or destroying it: in the  
520 healthcare sector, data are particularly sensitive and confidential. Cybercriminals  
521 often infiltrate to get their hands on various computerized data to exploit them  
522 maliciously.
- 523 ● Control devices: Numerous loopholes in the control protocol favor the hackers'  
524 motive to remotely manipulate devices for criminal interests.

525 Therefore, the cyber-attack constraint must be considered at the design level to prevent  
526 the aforementioned consequences.

527 To deal with cyber-attacks in the context of Family Heroes system, we propose to  
528 focus on system architecture. In other words, we propose an approach which consists  
529 in designing systems with reconfigurable architecture. That is, the system architecture  
530 must guarantee the smooth running of services by switching to a rescue configuration  
531 in the event of a cyber-attack. Moreover, it should be noted that the variety of connected  
532 technologies in Family Heroes system exposes it to the cyber security risk zone. In  
533 this research, we will not detail the security techniques to be deployed in our system  
534 (authentication security, encryption of sensitive data, network protection) but rather  
535 the alternative solution. This solution will guarantee the continuity of sending alerts  
536 when a cyber-attack occurs.

537 Indeed, it is essential to quickly detect a computer intrusion to reduce the cyber-  
538 attack consequences. There are two categories of techniques used to fight against a  
539 cyber-attack [32]:

- 540 ● *Identification of unusual behavior in the system* the cyber-attack manifests itself  
541 by receiving many password reset requests, and an unusual flow of mail (spam and  
542 phishing) comes out of the system.
- 543 ● *Analyze the network traffic of the system* the cyber-attack appears by a slowdown  
544 in the network speed due to spikes in network traffic.

545 Therefore, we propose an approach that allows reconfiguring the system, when a cyber-  
546 attack occurs, while ensuring the availability of system services. To achieve this, we  
547 adopt the approach related to slow network traffic to switch to the alternative solution  
548 by reassuring the operation of sending emergency alerts. That is, the system must:

- 549 1. Disconnect all members because the cyber-attack could come from the users.
- 550 2. Connect the processing unit to the cloud.
- 551 3. Isolate the server/database.

## 552 8.2 Architecture of a reconfigurable system

553 We represent the architecture of our system and the organization of its components  
554 after a cyber-attack using the UML component diagram in Fig. 10. We show in detail  
555 the new connections between the different components during the execution of the  
556 alternative solution. The connections in red correspond to the temporal interruption  
557 of the functionalities and the bright green to the new communication. Indeed, the  
558 new organization of the components (connected watch, Kinect, local PC, Cloud and  
559 emergency service) still satisfies the requirement to send alarms in case of fall or  
560 unwellness. The cloud replaces the server of Family Heroes, to use the services of

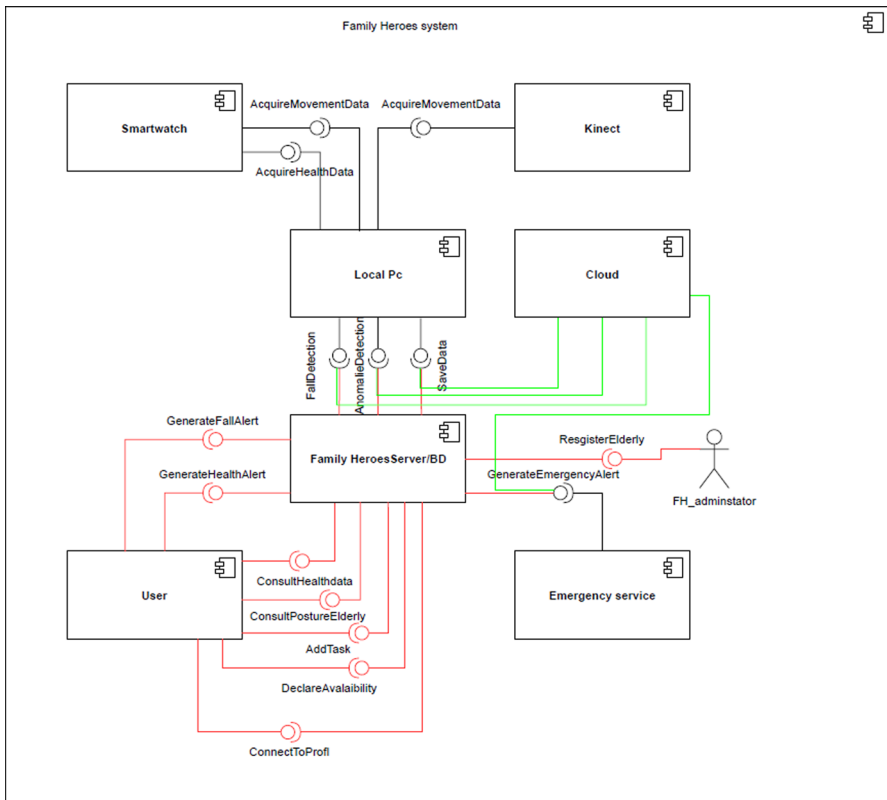


Fig. 10 UML components diagram of the alternative solution

561 critical situation detection and data storage provided by the local PC. The emergency  
 562 service then uses the alarm generation service hosted in the cloud.

### 563 8.3 System behaviors modeling

564 We model the system behaviors with the sequence diagram with the temporal constraints  
 565 of the MARTE profile, as detailed in Fig. 11. This models used the elderly  
 566 activity monitoring scenario for fall detection. The temporal observation @t0 represents  
 567 the instant when the server detects a cyber-attack. Then, all processes executed  
 568 by the initialized action @t0 must be executed in 1s @t1, @t2 and @t3. These processes  
 569 include: (1) switching communication to the cloud, (2) disconnecting users,  
 570 and (3) disconnecting the server from the network. @t'0 marks the timed observation  
 571 of the detection of a fall. Then, within 1s (one s) after receiving the image of the fallen  
 572 person from the local PC, the cloud sends the alarm to the emergency services.

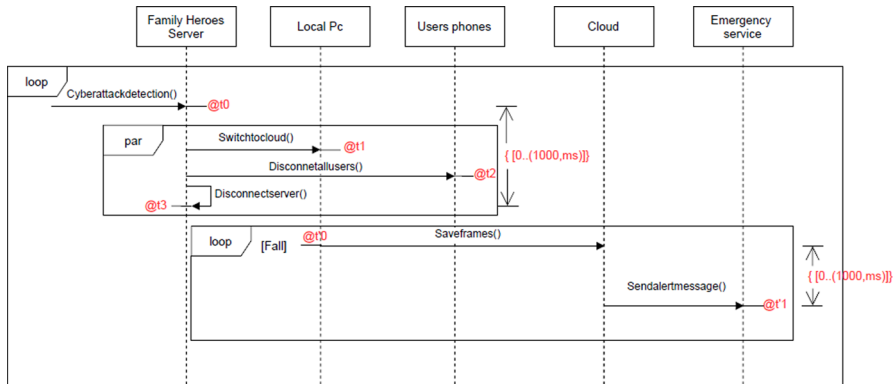


Fig. 11 UML sequence diagram in fall and cyber-attack scenario

### 8.4 Timed automata modelisation

Compared to the automata in Sect. 8, we have added the states corresponding to the alternative solution as detailed in Fig. 12.

- Local PC model* the local PC is modeled by a timed automaton synchronized with the smartwatch (*swdata?*), the Kinect (*kdata?*) and the server (*requestcyberemergency?*). In case of a cyber-attack, it sends synchronization messages to the cloud (*cloud\_ready!*) when it reaches the position (*Switchcommunication\_tocloud*). It also has 2 possibilities of communication in case of a fall (*fall == true*), either with the cloud (*fall\_image\_cloud! && cyberattack == true*) in the alternative solution, or with the server (*fall\_image!&&cyberattack == false*) if there is no cyber danger. The automaton thus modifies the values of the corresponding variables (*kr, swr, fall, t*) according to its planned execution in order to avoid deadlock.
- Cloud model* the cloud automaton describes its communication with the local PC and the emergency service in case of a critical situation in a second. Initially its model starts from the state (*start*). Then, when the local PC establishes its communication with the cloud (*cloud\_ready?*), the cloud reaches the next state (*cloud\_ready\_communication*). The detection of a fall activates its transition to the *send\_alert* state after receiving the image of the elderly person lying on the ground (*fall\_image\_cloud?*). In the last transition, the cloud sends the alarm to the emergency service (*send\_alertcloudEmergency!*) respecting the defined time property.

### 8.5 Formal verification of properties

To guarantee the proposed system reconfiguration ensures the availability of critical system services during a cyber-attack, we propose to verify formally, with the model-checker UPPAAL, the following temporal properties that concern system security:

1. The absence of deadlocks for all possible executions of our model (R1);

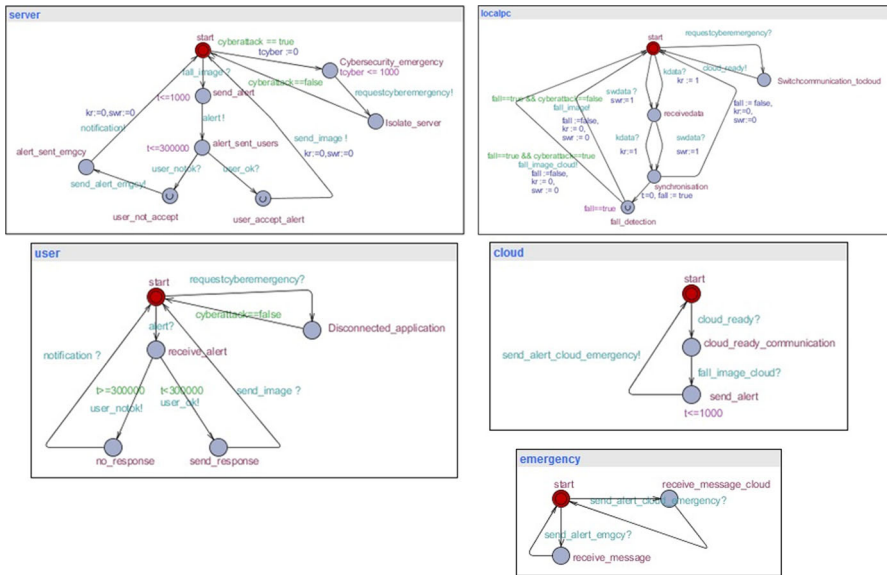


Fig. 12 Timed automata specifying the cyber-attack scenario

- 600 2. The detection of a cyber-attack by the server causes the switching of communication
- 601 to the cloud, the disconnection of all users and the disconnection of the server from
- 602 the network in 1s (R2);
- 603 3. Users cannot receive alerts during the cyber-attack (R3);
- 604 4. Users receive alerts whether there is no cyber-attack (R4);
- 605 5. After a fall, the cloud sends the alert to the emergency services in 1 s (R5);
- 606 6. The cloud does not communicate with emergency services in the absence of a cyber
- 607 attack (R6).

608 As shown in Table 4, the properties that are expected to be satisfied (R1, R2, R4,

609 R5) are satisfied, and those that are expected to be violated (R3, R6) are violated.

610 Consequently, the security of our system is guaranteed when a cyber-attack occurs,

611 which show the soundness of our approach.

## 612 9 Conclusion

613 The development of a critical healthcare CPS for the elderly is a real challenge that

614 can only be met by ensuring their reliability and their high performance. We pre-

615 sented a three-step approach for analysis, modeling and verification of a system for

616 the elderly; Family Heroes. This study's originality is the precise application of these

617 three steps in our system development cycle, to ensure its correctness. We used the

618 CATWOE method to analyze and understand the general context of our system. UML

619 and MARTE to model the behaviors and interactions of Family Heroes components,

620 as well as their temporal constraints. We also checked our model against the time

621 requirements and properties defined in the modeling steps using the UPPAAL tool,

**Table 4** Formal verification of properties

| Name | Property  | Satisfied |
|------|---|-----------|
| R1   | A[ ] not deadlock   | Yes       |
| R2   | server.Cybersecurity_emergency - -> ((localpc.Switchcommunication_tocloud && tcyber <= 1000) and (user.Disconnected_application && tcyber <= 1000) and (server.Isolate_server && tcyber <= 1000)) | Yes       |
| R3   | A[ ]user.receive_alert imply cyberattack==true  | No        |
| R4   | A[ ]user.receive_alert imply cyberattack==false   | Yes       |
| R5   | localpc.fall_detection && cyberattack==true - -> cloud.send_alert && t <= 1000  | Yes       |
| R6   | localpc.fall_detection && cyberattack==false - -> cloud.send_alert && t <= 1000   | No        |

622 which allows us to ensure its reliability. We have also studied the security aspect of  
 623 our system in the event of a cyber-attack. Our future work will concern issues related  
 624 to security aspects related to health data managed by our system.

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