Modeling with UML

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Modeling

- Definition
- Why Modeling?
- Which language to use?
- Software=Code?
What is Modeling?

Building an abstract representation of reality

**Abstraction** =

- Ignoring the insignificant details (depending on the *aspects/viewpoint* we are interested in)
- Bringing out the most important details
  - **Important** = What it is important or not depends on the *purpose of the model* (is it just for communication? Code generation? Verification?) and which aspect of the system you want to capture?
Modeling: an other definition!

Modeling, in the broadest sense, is the cost-effective use of something in place of something else for some cognitive purpose. It allows us to use something that is simpler, safer or cheaper than reality instead of reality for some purpose.

A Model represents reality for the given purpose; the model is an abstraction of reality in the sense that it cannot represent all aspects of reality. This allows us to deal with the world in a simplified manner, avoiding the complexity, danger and irreversibility of reality.

Par Jeff Rothenberg, « The nature of modeling »

- Attention : abstraction != simplification?
  - Modeling may ease understanding the problem, communicating around its different aspects but it never simplifies the problem itself.
Model: Example

- The pipe example according to Magritte
  - “This is not a Pipe.”

Ceci n'est pas une pipe.
Model: Example

The system represents The Model

Ceci n’est pas une pipe.
Definition 1. A directed multigraph $G = (N_G, E_G, \Gamma_G)$ consists of a set of distinct nodes $N_G$, a set of edges $E_G$ and a mapping function $\Gamma_G : E_G \rightarrow N_G \times N_G$

Definition 2. A model $M = (G, \omega, \mu)$ is a triple where:
- $G = (N_G, E_G, \Gamma_G)$ is a directed multigraph
- $\omega$ is itself a model, called the reference model of $M$, associated to a graph $G_\omega = (N_\omega, E_\omega, \Gamma_\omega)$
- $\mu : N_G \cup E_G \rightarrow N_\omega$ is a function associating elements (nodes and edges) of $G$ to nodes of $G_\omega$ (metaElements)
Abstraction Vs Viewpoint
Example: Google Maps

• Different levels of abstractions
• Different viewpoints
Why Modeling?

To communicate

- Many stakeholders may participate in the development process
  - Clients, managers, marketing, engineers, developers etc.

- Big projects may involve hundreds of people working in different locations
  - Example: the IBM Jazz project (more than 400 developers around the world)

- Code is not abstract enough to be used for communication!
  - Computer science history:
    - raising the level of abstraction away from machine-centered representation and towards human-centred representations
    - today’s models are tomorrow’s programs

- Outsourcing, offshore ...Etc
Why Modeling?

**To manage complexity**

- Examples: Google
  - More than 1.7 Million servers (2012), a huge processing capacity
  - 4 billions of requests per day!, 40 000 request per second!

- Models allow you to think about your design more easily than digging into the code (very often, not your code!)

- **Separation of concerns**
  - The system is viewed by different viewpoints
  - Code (except for Aspect-Oriented Programming) tend to mix all concerns of a software together in the same place (*i.e.*, file, sections in a file)
Why Modeling?
a multi-dimensional representation
Why Modeling?

To sustain the company’s know-how and assets

- Some projects may last for years
  - Not always the same persons working on the project (turnover)
  - Need to capitalize the know-how in a language-independent way
  - Capture the business without dealing with the technological details

- Example
  - Air Trafic control system (Thalès): Project ~8 years, estimated usability 40 years
  - Building an Aircraft (Airbus): Project ~10 years, estimated maintenance period 50 years
Why Modeling?

For a better productivity

- Code generation from models
  - The MDE vision (Model-Driven Engineering)
  - 100% of code being generated in some domains
    - Exp. CMS, configuration files, databases, etc.

- Playing with Variability
  - The Software Line Product (SPL) vision
    - One generic model, multiple features possible to extend the product

- Example: Nokia
  - 3 Billions of cellphones sold (250 Millions/year, 2013, 450 M, in 2010)
  - Hundreds of software versions
  - Time-to-market ~3 months
**Software = Code ?**

- **Do you really still think that?**

- **Not the case anymore:**
  - Software = Documentation + Models + Code
  - Several models, views for the same Software
  - Documentation can be partially generated from Models
  - Code can be partially generated from Models (100% in some cases)

- **With Models today we can have**
  - A better productivity, better communication and a better specification of the problem/system under study
Which language to use for Modeling?

- Many languages and notations in the literature

- For Object Oriented systems, only one language succeeded to become the De Facto standard for system modeling

- **UML (Unified Modeling Language): Why to learn it, use it?**
  - World wide used (**80%** of the projects used it (at least one of its diagrams))
  - It’s a Standard, by OMG (Open Management Group) and validated by ISO
  - Very well documented and tooled (books, tuto, forums, etc.)
UML

- History
- Possible ways of using UML
- The development process with UML
- UML diagrams/Viewpoints
Birth of UML

• Between 89 and 94: the number of OO methods went from 10 to 50

• Every method used its own notation, although they shared many common points

• In the mid 90, G. Booch, I. Jacobson & J. Rumbaugh, known as los 3 amigos, collaborated to create UML
UML: Principal influences

- **Booch**: notion of sub systems
- **Fusion**: sequence diagrams (numbering messages, operations)
- **Gamma, et al.**: *Frameworks, patterns, et notes*
- **Harel**: *Statecharts*
- **Jacobson**: *use cases*
- **Bertand Meyer**: Pre- et post-conditions
- **Odell**: notion of events
- **OMT**: Associations
- **Shlaer-Mellor**: object lifecycle
UML Today

- **Widely used**
- In many domains
  - OO, Real Time, Deployment, Requirement, ...
- **UML IS NOT A METHOD**
  - RUP (Rational Unified Process) is a method
- **Only few people really know the standard**
  - 5% strong comprehension
- **UML is criticized because it is not enough formal**
UML Today

- Paradigms:
  - Structural: Object-oriented + relational + component-based
  - Behavioral: Imperative + event-based + concurrent
- General purpose (as opposed to Domain Specific Modeling Language)
- Visual (Diagram Interchange) and textual (OCL, AFL)
- Subset with formalized semantics: Foundation UML (fUML)
- Modularly structured in packages
- Self-extensible: profiles
- No competitor
- Very large:
  - DI: 86p.
  - OCL: 238p.
  - AFL: 441p.
- Lacks a library of built-in classes
3 possible ways of using UML

(1) As a sketching, brainstorming language... (to explore)

- To quickly communicate and brainstorm
- Models not specially sound or complete
- **Objectives:** to analyze the problem, **think**, decide (brainstorming)
- Probably the way most people use UML
3 possible ways of using UML

(2) As a language for model specification... (to design)

- Sound and complete models, ready to be used for code generation/implementation

- Models used for advanced design choices

- Can be models obtained through Reverse Engineering
  - To improve the design,
  - To detect package dependencies and cycles, applying design patterns, etc.

- Ability to use Round trip Engineering

- **Objectives:** (1)+ design, sustain the business, to generate partially the code

- The way UML is used in complex and big projects
3 possible ways of using UML

(3) As a programming language (better productivity)

- Not mature enough

« It’s worth using UML as a programming language only if it results in something that’s significantly more productive than using another programming language »

- Martin Fowler, UML Distilled

- To put everything in the model, even operations code: Productivity Vs Readability
  - Some initiatives Executable UML, J, xOCL, etc.

- The ability to simulate and to execute Models

- The tooling is not mature enough!!!

- Objectives: (2) + 100% code generation
In this Course

• We will use UML like in (1) and (2) Options

• We will demonstrate why (3) is not mature enough
The development process with UML

- UML is process/method independent

- However the process development with UML is viewed as:
  - Iterative & Incremental
  - Use case driven
  - Architecture oriented
Different development phases covered by UML

- Requirement
- Analysis
- Design
- Implementation
- Testing
- Deployment
- Maintenance

Well covered by UML

Arguable:

- **Implementation**: if UML is used with option (3). If you have good code generators

- **Testing**: some test cases can be generated from sequence diagrams….but not sufficient

- **Deployment**: UML provides a diagram for that but no automation for this step

- **Maintenance**: through round trip engineering reverse engineering, the application of design patterns.
UML: a set of diagrams and viewpoints
UML: diagrams and viewpoints

Activity diagram

Use Case Diagram

Class Diagram

State Machines Diagram
UML: Viewpoints

**Functional aspects of the system**
- Use Case diagram
- Scenarios
- Sequence diagram
- Activity diagram
- State machines diagram (if needed)

**Behavioral aspects of the system**
- Sequence/collaboration diagrams
- State machines diagram
- Activity diagram
- Time diagram

**Static/architectural aspects**
- Class diagram
- Object and package diagrams
- Component and composite structure diagrams

**Deployment aspects**
- Deployment diagram
- Component diagram

*In Red:* will be used in this course
UML: Functional viewpoint

- Use case diagram
- Scenarios
UML: Functional viewpoint

• Many UML diagrams can be used to capture what the system is supposed to offer in terms of services/functionalities
  – Use case diagram is one of the most used one!

• Use cases can be documented with:
  – Scenarios (natural language),
  – Sequence diagrams as a graphical representation of scenarios
  – Activity diagrams to express in more details the workflow, data and artifact created/exchanged to realize a service

• A very important starting point a UML-based development process
  – Use case driven!
Use Case Diagram

A user-oriented diagram

- A system is built to answer user’s needs:
  - They know what the system is expected to do but not how
  - Some of them know part of the expected services

- You should pay attention to their requirements!! (otherwise => see next slide)
Otherwise!

1. How the customer explained it
2. How the Project Leader understood it
3. How the Analyst designed it
4. How the Programmer wrote it
5. How the Business Consultant described it
6. How the project was documented
7. What operations installed
8. How the customer was billed
9. How it was supported
10. What the customer really needed
Use Case Diagram

**Use Case diagram constituents:**
- Actors
- Use Cases
- The system being modeled
- Relations
  - Associations, Generalization, dependencies

**Goals:**
- To communicate around the system’s expected services
- Identify System’s functionalities (in a graphical way)
- To highlight the system’s boundaries
- Can be used to specify some functional tests
Use Case: Actor

- An Actor represents a role undertaken by an external entity that interacts (directly) with the system (UML2.° Spec, OMG)

- Can be a human (ex. Agent, cashier, client, etc.), a machine (ex. server, printer, etc.) or another software (ex. Stock management, etc.);

- Graphical notations
To help find actors in your system you should ask the following questions:

- Who is the main customer of the system?
- Who obtains information from this system?
- Who provides information to the system?
- Who installs the system?
- Who operates the system?
- Who shuts down the system?
- What other objects interact with the system?
- Who will supply, use, or remove information from the system?
- Where does the system get information?

The system itself can also be an actor
- For tasks that happen regularly or at a preset time
- Indicated with an no actor, or an actor named “system”
Use Case

• **A Use Case** represents a set of actions executed by the system and which produces an observable result of interest to a specific actor (def. UML2.0, OMG)

• Each use case **specifies an end-to-end expected service**

• Indicates what the systems is expected to do, **without specifying how**

• **Graphical notation**

Withdraw cash

Verb + noun
How to identify use cases?

- What are the functionalities proposed by the system?
  - Each functionality is represented as a use case.

- What are the interactions Actor-System?
  For each identified actor
  - Identify the functionalities used by this actor.
  - Who maintain the system

- What are the events received by the system?
Use Case: System’s boundary box

• The system’s boundary box represents the limits of the system. Everything outside this box, is supposed to be provided or designed in the context of another system.

• Graphical notation

![Diagram of a Use Case](image)
Use Case: Relations

• Between Actors
  - Generalization
  - Client
  - Client de la banque

• Between Actors and UC
  - Association
  - Client de la banque
  - Retirer Argent
Use Case: Relations

Between Use cases: 3 kinds of relations

- **Generalization**: the sub-UC extends the super-UC with more action. Source of ambiguity À Please avoid using this relation (not allowed in this course)

- **Inclusion (<<include>>)**: the source UC **necessarily** needs the target use case for its execution!
  - Use it to factorize common actions between different use cases
  - To highlight an important sub-functionality

- **Extension (<<extend>>)**: a base UC can be **Optionally** extended by another UC for its execution.

- If you want to be precise, when the inclusion or the extension happens, you can add an **Extension Point**
Use Case Diagrams

Some advices

• Granularity of UC  =>  2 UC Vs.15 UC
  - « There is a magic number:7, plus or minus 2. This refers to the number of concepts that we humans can keep in mind at any one time »  (H.A. Miller, 1958)
  - Many UC may reduce readability of your diagram. More details can be specified in scenarios instead
  - Some people can go for hierarchical decomposition=> not advised by the standard

• Please avoid the misuse (abuse) of <<include>>, <<extend>>

• Remember that the UML dev. Process is UC oriented
Use Case Diagram: Conclusion

• **Used very often in software projects**
  – Gives an abstract description of what it is expected from the system (the **WHAT**)
  – Very easy to learn, to read

• **UC describes the WHAT and Never the HOW!!**

• **The HOW can be described using Scenario, to specify how each UC is realized**
Scenarios
Scenarios

• They represent instances of UC
  - A scenario describes the actors interaction with the system

• In natural language but usually represented using Sequence Diag.

• Very used and useful for requirements specification (can hardly do without)

• They can help you identifying other UC
Scenarios

• Every UC will be specified using several scenarios

• First with a Happy Path scenario (the world is perfect ;))

• Secondary scenarios (exceptions, alternatives)

• UC + Detailed scenarios for each UC ⇒ Functional requirement specification
Scenarios: Example

Name: Enroll in seminar
Identifier: UC03
Description: Enroll an existing student in a seminar for which she is eligible. In case of a schedule conflict or insufficient prerequisites, she will not be allowed to enroll.
Preconditions: The student is registered at the university
Postconditions: The student is enrolled in the seminar or the system is unchanged.
Basic course of action:
1. The UC begins when a student indicates she wants to enroll in a seminar.
2. The student identifies him or herself. Include UC04 « Connect to the system »
3. The system verifies that the student has not yet reached the number of seminars he has paid for.
4. The system checks the seminars that the student has already followed, displays the list of seminars for which he satisfies the prerequisites.
5. The student selects the seminar in which she wants to enroll.
6. The system displays the student’s current timetable superimposed with the new seminar.
7. The system asks if the student still wants to enroll.
8. The student confirms.
9. The system updates the student’s timetable with the new seminar and publishes it.
10. The system asks if the student wants a printed copy of his new timetable.
11. The student indicates yes.
12. The system prints the new timetable for the semester.
13. The student takes the timetable
14. The UC ends when the student takes her timetable.
Scenarios: Example (continued)

Name: Enroll in seminar
Identifier: UC03
Description: Enroll an existing student in a seminar for which she is eligible. In case of a schedule conflict or insufficient prerequisites, she will not be allowed to enroll.
Preconditions: The student is registered at the university
Postconditions: The student is enrolled in the seminar or the system is unchanged.

Alternate course A: The student has already enrolled in all the seminars she has paid for.
A4. The system informs the student that she cannot enroll in any more seminars unless she pays more fees.
A5. The system invites the student to return after paying new fees.
A6. This UC ends.

Alternate course B: The student does not have sufficient pre requisites for any seminar
B4. The system informs the student that she does not have sufficient pre requisites to follow any more seminars.
B5. The UC ends.

Alternate course C: The student does not like the new timetable and decides not to enroll
C8. The student cancels the enrolment process.
C9. The UC ends.
Scenarios: Example

- Try the Withdraw cash HP scenario
Sequence and Activity Diagrams

- They can also be used to describe UC actions and to visually represent scenarios

- Can describe some complex behavior (Activity Diagram)

- We will introduce them in the behavioral viewpoint
Lectures

- Software Engineering,
- The Mythical Man-Month
  - Frederick P. Brooks JR., Addison-Wesley, 1995
- Cours de Software Engineering du Prof. Bertrand Meyer à cette @:
  - http://se.ethz.ch/teaching/ss2007/252-0204-00/lecture.html
- Cours d’Antoine Beugnard à cette @:
  - http://public.enst-bretagne.fr/~beugnard/

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- UML Distilled 3rd édition, a brief guide to the standard object modeling language
- UML2 pour les développeurs, cours avec exercices et corrigés
- UML 2 par la pratique, études de cas et exercices corrigés,
  - Pascal Roques, 6ème édition, Edition Eyrolles, 2008
- Cours très intéressant du Prof. Jean-Marc Jézéquel à cette @:
- La page de l’OMG dédiée à UML: http://www.uml.org/

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- Design patterns. Catalogue des modèles de conception réutilisables
  - Richard Helm (Auteur), Ralph Johnson (Auteur), John Vlissides (Auteur), Eric Gamma (Auteur), Vuibert informatique (5 juillet 1999), ISBN-10: 2711786447

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