The Aspect-oriented User Requirements Notation (AoURN): Aspects, Goals, and Scenarios

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Acknowledgements

- As this tutorials builds on several others, a special acknowledgement is due to the following people:
 - Daniel Amyot (University of Ottawa, Canada)
 - João Araújo, Ana Moreira (Universidade Nova de Lisboa, Portugal)
 - Jon Whittle (Lancaster University, UK)

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Overview of the User Requirements Notation (URN)



URN

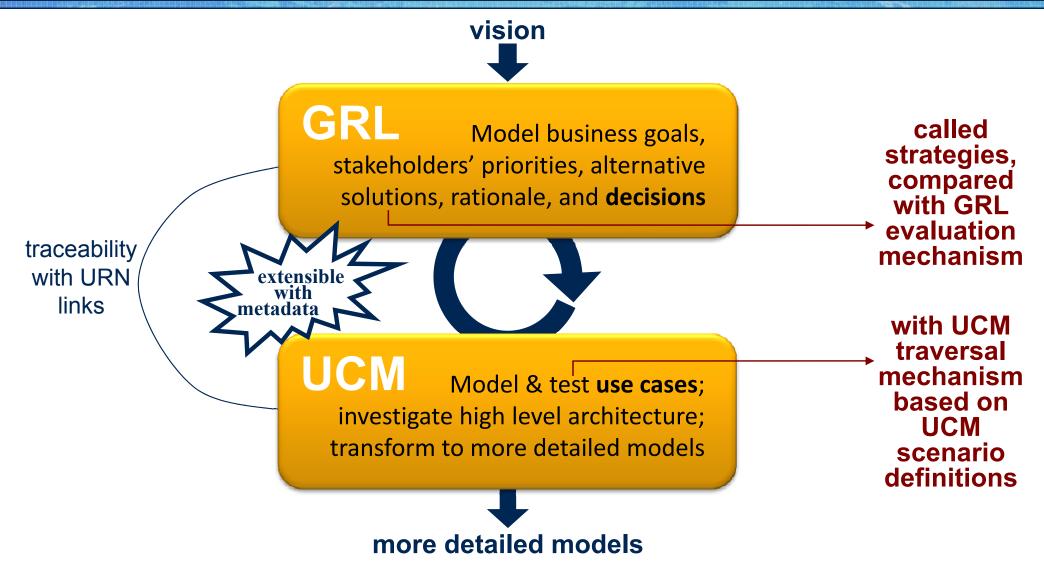
User Requirements Notation (URN): Overview (1)

- URN is a semi-formal, lightweight graphical language for modeling and analyzing requirements in the form of goals and scenarios
- Combines two existing notations
 - Goal-oriented Requirement Language (GRL) (based on i* & NFR Framework)
 - Use Case Maps (UCMs)
- Support for the elicitation, analysis, specification, and validation of requirements
- Allows systems/software/requirements engineers to discover and specify requirements for a proposed or an evolving system, and analyse such requirements for correctness and completeness
- URN models can be used to specify and analyze various types of reactive systems, business processes, and telecommunications standards
- jUCMNav: URN editor & analysis tool, Eclipse plugin, open source project





User Requirements Notation (URN): Overview (2)



 A GRL / UCM model visually communicates business objectives and constraints / high-level functional requirements to all stakeholders

URN

ITU-T Z.151: URN – Language Definition

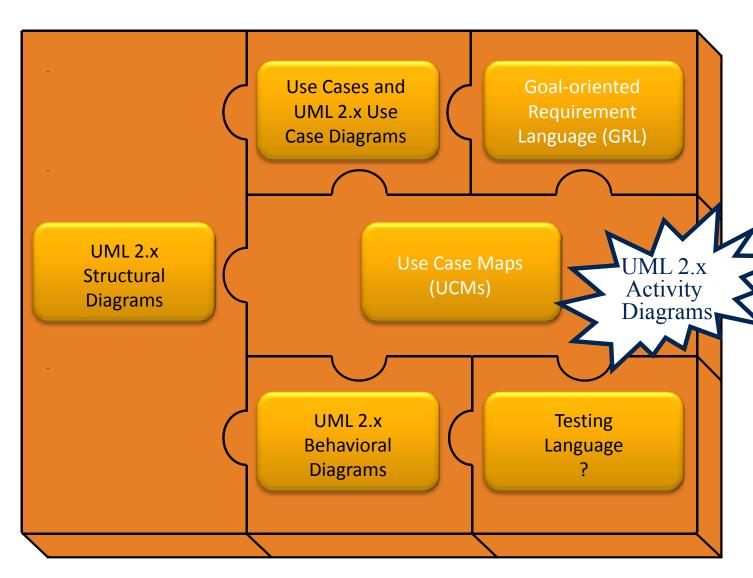
- URN is the first and currently only standard which explicitly addresses goals (non-functional requirements with GRL) in addition to scenarios (functional requirements with UCMs) in a graphical way in one unified language
 - International Telecommunication Union (ITU-T Z.150 series)

URN++ Motivation AORE

- ITU-T Z.150 (02/03): User Requirements Notation (URN) - Language requirements and framework
- ITU-T Z.151 (11/08): User requirements notation (URN) - Language definition
- Part of the ITU family of languages: SDL, MSC, TTCN-3, ASN.1...
- Definition of URN in Recommendation Z.151 (approved November 2008)
 - Metamodel, abstract/concrete syntaxes, semantics...



User Requirements Notation: UML Puzzle



GRL captures stakeholders' busines's goals, alternatives, decisions, and rationales.

Alternatives in GRL are linked with more detailed models described as UCMs.

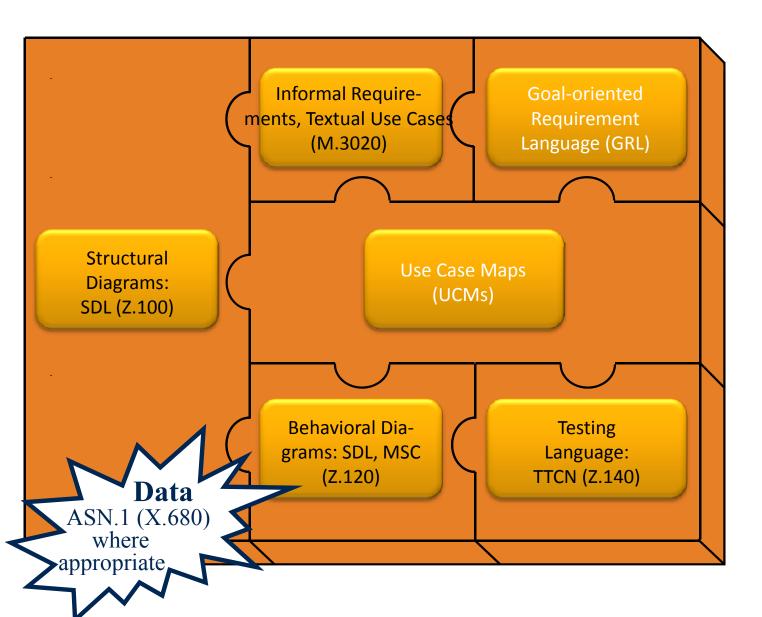
UCMs represent visually use cases in terms of causal responsibilities.

UCMs provide a framework for making high level and detailed design decisions.

UCMs visually associate behavior with structure at the system level.

UCMs enable functional testing and allow the generation of test purposes.

User Requirements Notation: ITU Puzzle



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Introduction to the Goal-oriented Requirement Language (GRL)

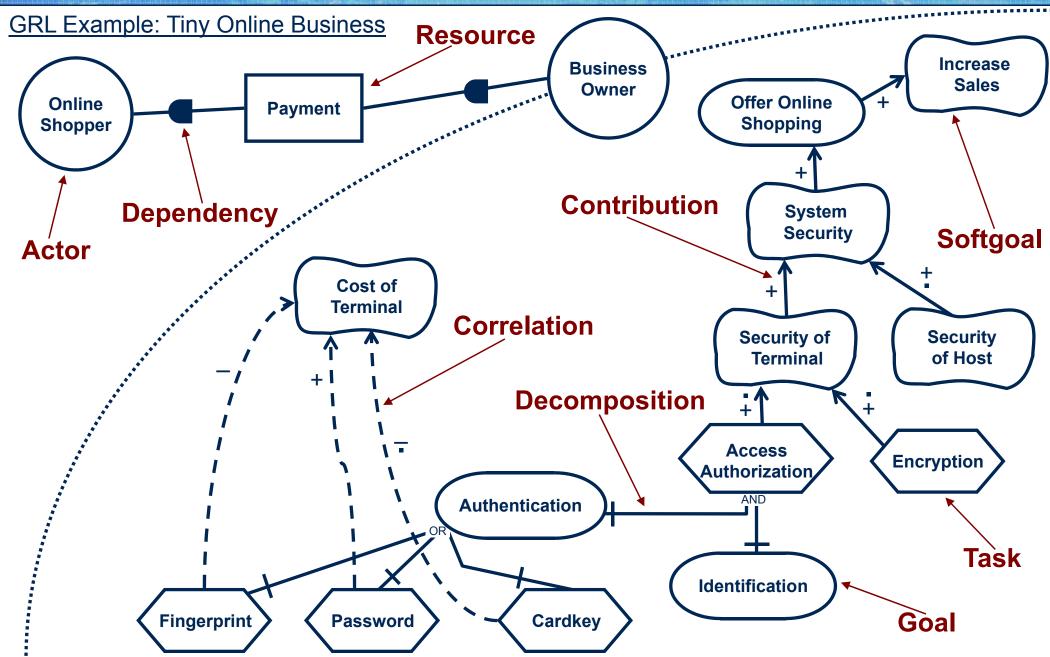


- The Goal-oriented Requirement Language (GRL) is based on ...
 - i* (concepts / syntax)
 - NFR Framework (evaluation mechanism)
- Model goals and other intentional concepts mainly for non-functional requirements, quality attributes, rationale documentation, and reasoning about alternatives and tradeoffs
- GRL is used to ...
 - Visually describe business goals, stakeholders' priorities, alternative solutions, rationale, and decisions
 - Decompose high-level goals into alternative solutions called tasks (this process is called operationalization)
 - Model positive and negative influences of goals and tasks on each other
 - Capture dependencies between actors (i.e. stakeholders)



URN++ Motivation AORE

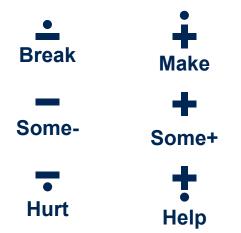
Goal-oriented Requirement Language: Notation (1)





- Intentional elements
 - Softgoal, goal, task ,resource, belief
- Achievement of softgoal is qualifiable but not measurable; it is quantifiable for goals
- Task is a proposed solution that achieves a goal or satisfies (satisfices) a softgoal
- Belief captures rationale

GRL Contributions Types: (qualitative)



Unknown

- Contribution and Correlation Links
 - · Contribution describes desired impact, correlation shows side effects
 - Qualitative or quantitative contribution types are used for these links
- Dependency Link
 - An actor (the depender) depends on another actor (the dependee) for something (the dependum), e.g. the business owner depends on the online shopper for payment (the dependum is optional)



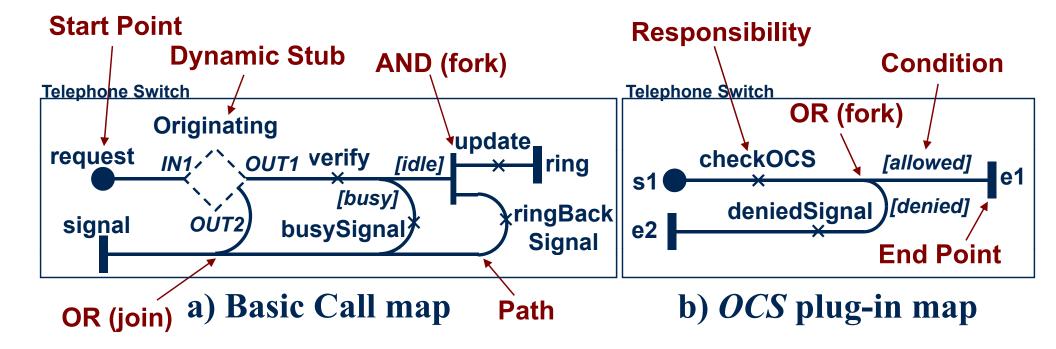
Introduction to Use Case Maps (UCMs)

Use Case Maps: Overview

- Model scenario concepts mainly for operational requirements, functional requirements, and performance and architectural reasoning
- Use Case Maps (UCMs) provide ...
 - Visual description of behavior superimposed over entities (from software architecture to actors to hardware)
 - Easy graphical manipulation of use cases/scenarios
 - Single use case/scenario view
 - Combined system view
 - Enhanced consistency and completeness
 - Smooth transition to design models (e.g. message sequence charts)
 - Connections to performance models and testing models

Use Case Maps: Notation (1)

UCM Example: Tiny Telephone System







Static Stub (at most one plug-in map)

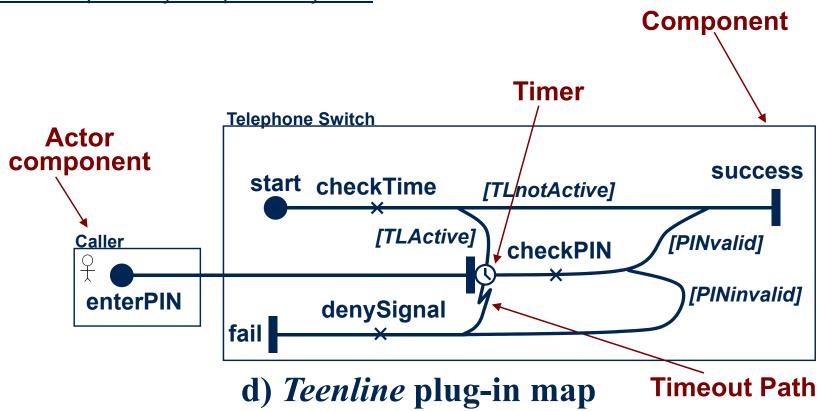


Telephone Switch

s1

Use Case Maps: Notation (2)

UCM Example: Tiny Telephone System



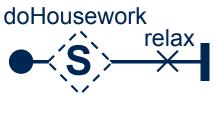
waiting place

Use Case Maps: Notation (3)

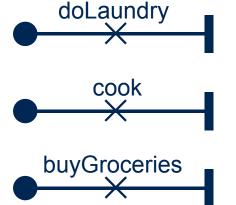
URN++ Motivation AORE

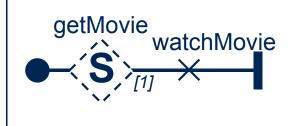
UCM Examples: Advanced Types of Stubs





Plug-in Maps:

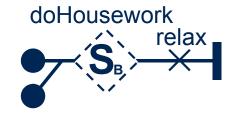




Plug-in Maps:



requestMovieAtLibrary_



Plug-in Maps:





buyGroceries



Plug-in Map: (three times)





Synchronizing Stub with synchronization threshold



Blocking Stub with replication indicator



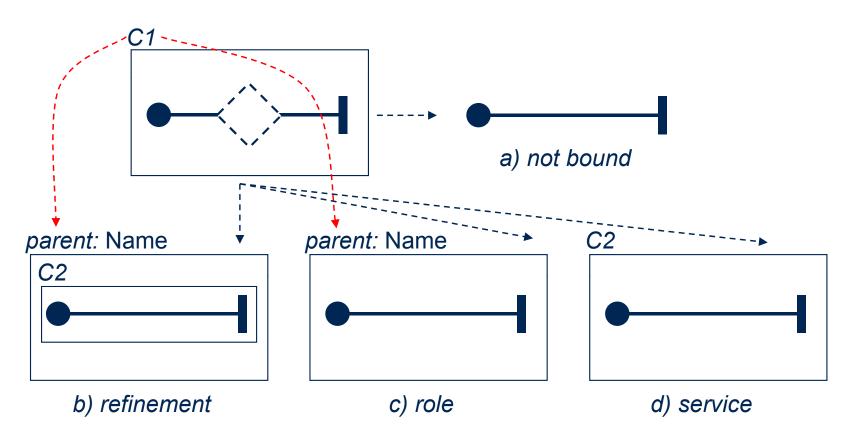


URN++: Motivation AORE

Use Case Maps: Notation – Component Plug-in Bindings

Establishes a relationship of a component on a parent map with a component on a plug-in map (in addition to bindings of in/out-paths of a stub with start/end points on a plug-in map)





Option c: the parent component plays a role e.g. in an architectural or behavioral pattern



Use Case Maps: Notation – Singleton Maps

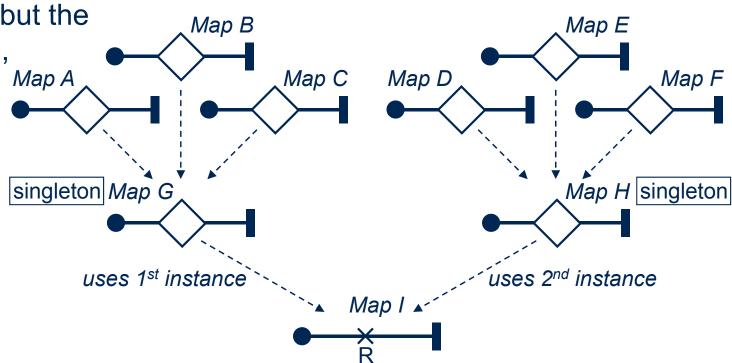
 Case 1: Map G is a singleton and therefore the stubs on Map A, B, and C use the same instance of Map G



- Case 2: Map I is not a singleton and therefore the stubs on Map G and Map H use different instances of Map I
- Case 3: A groups of stubs may want to use the same instance of a plug-in map but a different instance than other stubs. Achieved with an intermediate layer (e.g., the stubs on Map A, B, and C use the same

instance of Map I, but the stubs on Map D, E, and F use a different instance

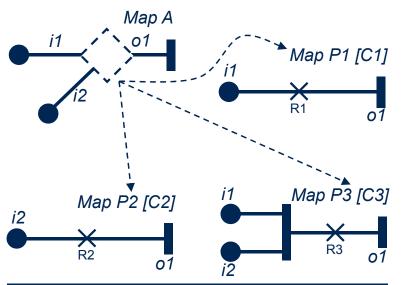
of Map I)

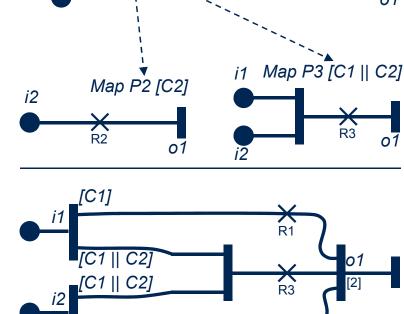




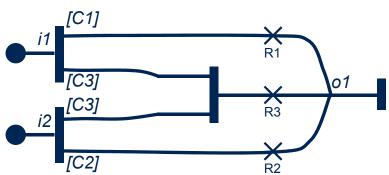
Map P1 [C1]

- OR-fork: exclusive OR
- AND-fork: always all paths
- Protected component: only one active path at a time
- Dynamic and synchronizing stubs:





Map A









Use Case Maps: Semantics (2)

- Waiting place and timer
 - Transient = a trigger is counted only if a scenario is already waiting
 - Persistent = all triggers are counted (i.e., remembered)
- Waiting place
 - Scenario is allowed to continue if CW = true or the trigger counter > 0
 - Warning is issued if CW = false and the trigger counter = 0
- Timer: Scenario is allowed to continue along ...
 - Regular path if CT = true
 - Regular path if CT = false and CTO = false and trigger counter > 0
 - Timeout path if CT = false and CTO = true
 - Timeout path if CT = false and CTO = false and trigger counter = 0





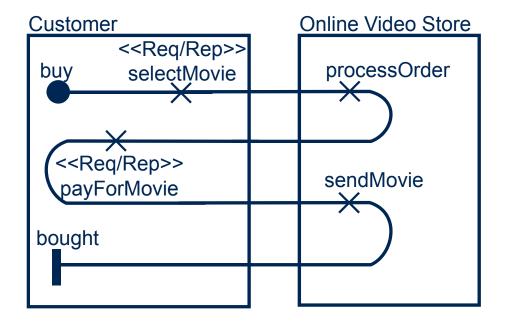


Beyond the Basic Notations of URN



Extensibility: Metadata

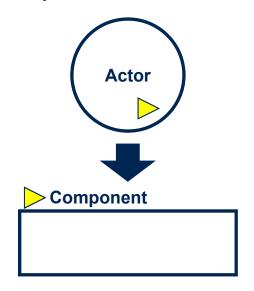
- URN can be extended with metadata (name/value pairs)
 - Can be attached to any URN model element and exploited by specialized tools

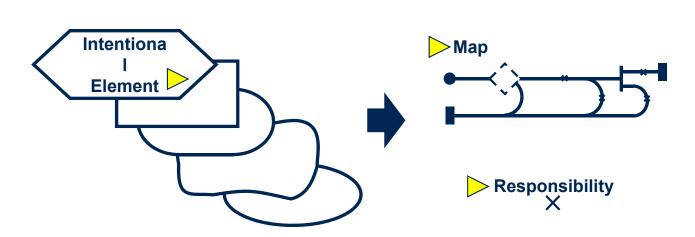


- For example, <<Req/Rep>> indicates that the communication between the Customer and the Online Video Store adheres to the Request/Reply pattern
- The metadata definition (name = value) is: Communication = Req/Rep

Traceability: URN Links

- URN allows traceability relationships to be established with URN links
 - Typed links
 - Connect any pair of URN model elements
 - Most frequently, URN links are used to trace ...
 - Actors in GRL models to components in UCM models
 - Tasks in GRL models to maps or responsibilities in UCM models
- jUCMNav also allows other intentional elements to be linked to responsibilities or maps - other links are currently restricted in the tool

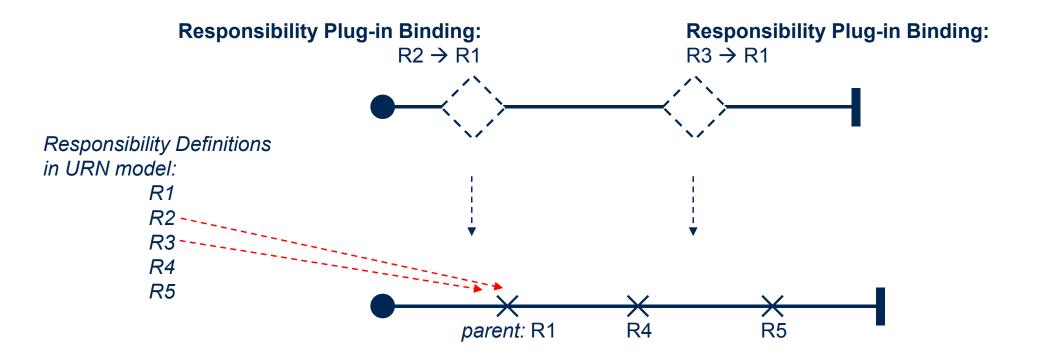






Use Case Maps: Notation - Responsibility Plug-in Bindings

 Establishes a relationship of a responsibility in the URN model with a responsibility on a plug-in map (in addition to bindings of in/out-paths of a stub with start/end points on a plug-in map and in addition to component plug-in bindings)





RF

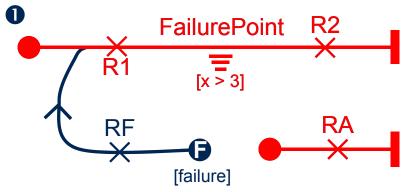
FailurePoint

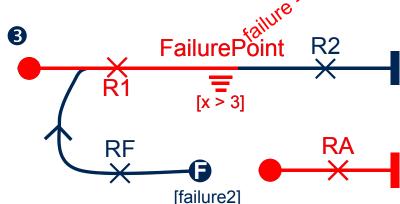
KIENSJON

R2

Use Case Maps: Notation – Failures and Aborts (1)

- **Explicit** approach with Failure Points
 - Indicates location of failure on scenario path
 - Failure condition
 - Sets failure variable to indicate which failure occurred
- Failure Start Point
 - Activated if guard evaluates to true
- Examples
 - RF sets X to 0; failure = false; failure2 = false
 - $\mathbf{0} \dots x = 1$; $\mathbf{2} \dots x = 5$; $\mathbf{3} \dots x = 5$;
 - The path with RA is not impacted by the failure





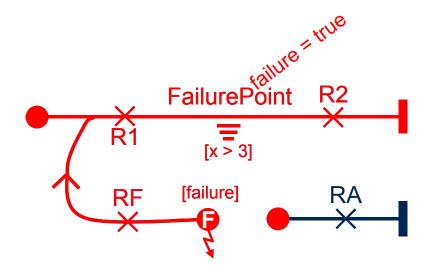
[failure]





Use Case Maps: Notation - Failures and Aborts (2)

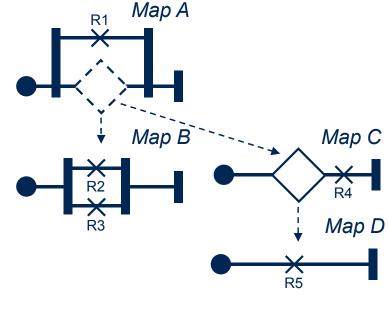
- **Abort Start Points**
 - Activated if guard evaluates to true
 - KIENSJON Aborts all other paths in the abort scope (all concurrent branches that are active on the same or lower level maps)



TENSJON

Use Case Maps: Notation - Failures and Aborts (3)

- Implicit approach without Failure Points
 - · Location and failure variable defined by scenario definition
 - Greater flexibility in defining location (path node, map, component reference, component/responsibility definition)
- Example
 - Failure occurs above map with the abort path
 - → not caught, scenario terminates with error
 - Failure occurs on or below map with abort path
 - Scenario ends with end point of abort path (unless end point is bound to out-path of a stub)
 - Abort path specified on map A → all paths on all maps are aborted
 - Specified on B → only the two concurrent paths on B are aborted





 Specified on C → all paths on C and D are aborted; Specified on D → only the path on D is aborted



User Requirements Notation: Transformations

- Transformations connect URN models to other models
- Some transformations discussed in publications or implemented in jUCMNav's predecessor UCMNav have not yet been implemented in **jUCMNav**
 - Test Cases (Fitnesse, TTCN)
 - UML activity/sequence/state/use case diagrams
 - SDL

Textual Use Cases (UCEd *)

User Requirements Notation (jUCMNav)

Core Scenario Model (CSM)

Requirements **Management**

(Telelogic DOORS)

(for performance modeling)

Message Sequence Charts (MSC Viewer)

* Stéphane Somé's UCEd: https://sourceforge.net/projects/uced/

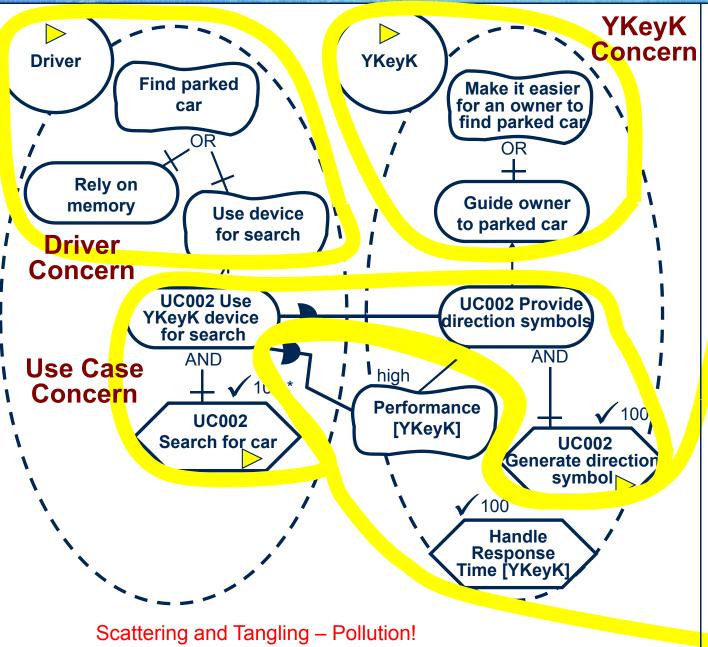




Motivating Example

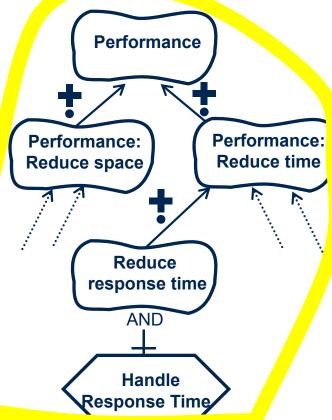


Goal-oriented Requirement Language: Concerns

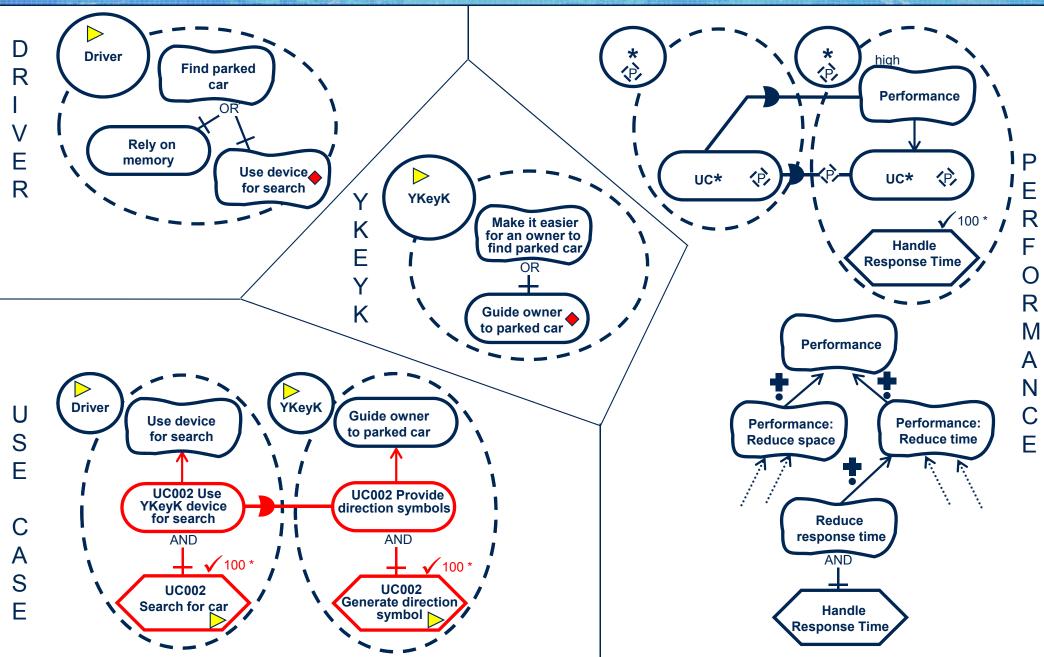


Goal graphs can become very complex (due to number of concerns)!

NFR Performance Concern

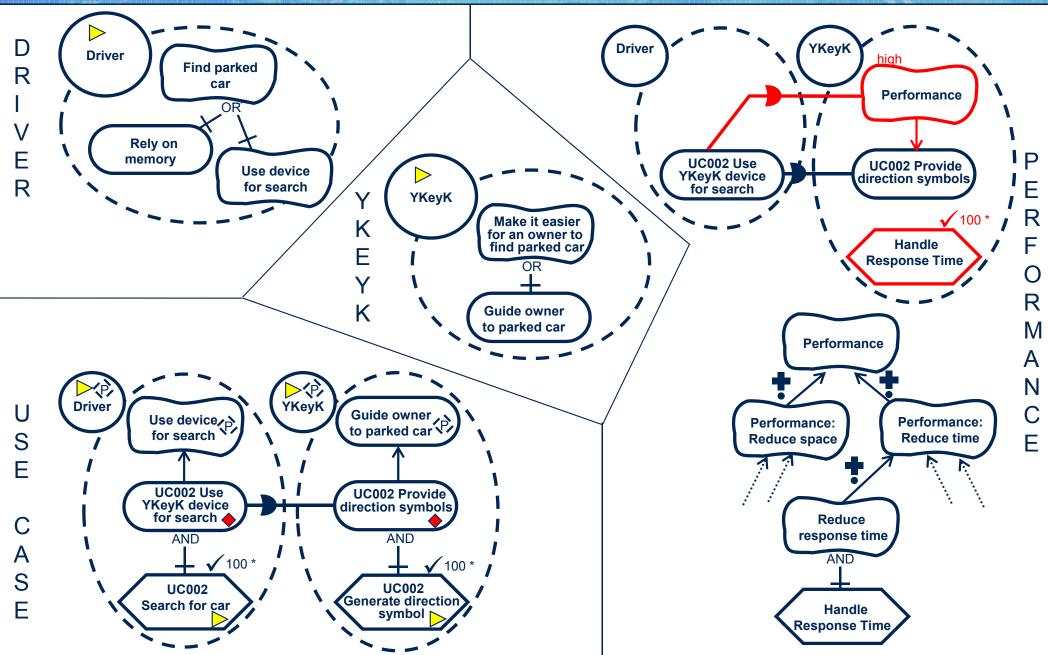








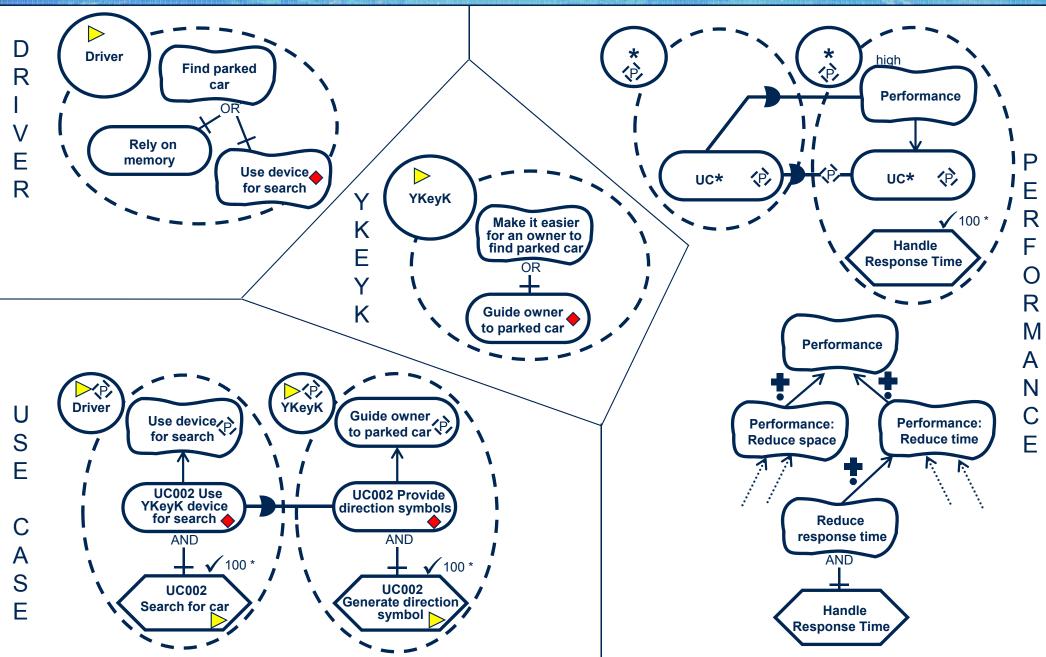
Aspect-Oriented GRL (2)





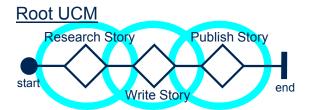


Aspect-Oriented GRL (3)





Use Case Maps: Concerns



Maps can become very complex (due to number of NFRs, features, and fail cases)!

Research Story UCM

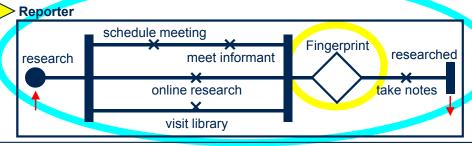
Write Story UCM

Shelf Story

Fingerprint

Reporter

write



[didNotMakeTheCut]

write story

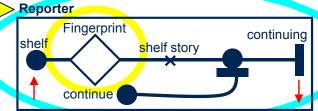
Use Case Concerns

Webmaster

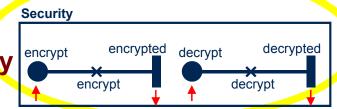
Decrypt

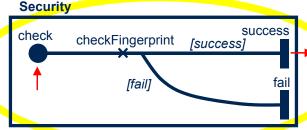
NFR Security Concerns

Shelf Story UCM

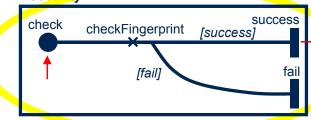


Encrypt/Decrypt UCM

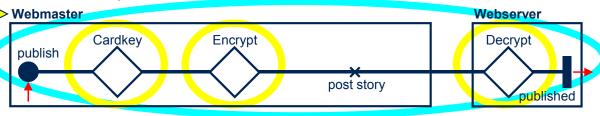




Authentication UCM: Fingerprint



Publish Story UCM



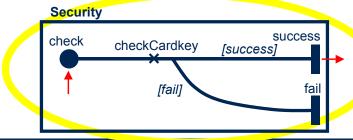
[selectedFor Publication

Encrypt

send

Scattering and Tangling – Pollution!

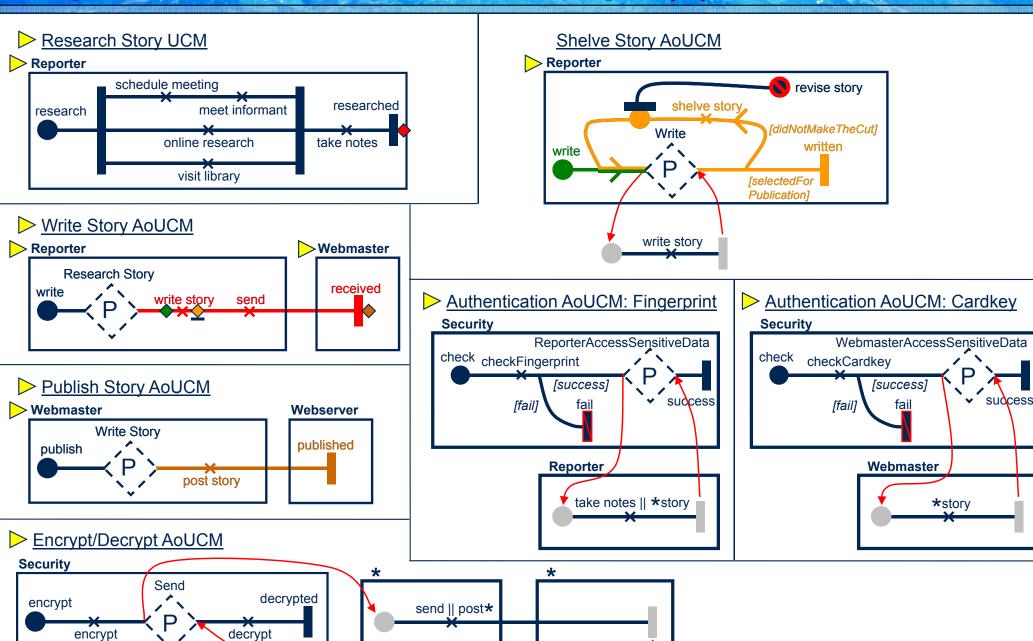
Authentication UCM: Cardkey







Aspect-Oriented Use Case Maps (1)







Aspect-Oriented Use Case Maps (2) Research Story UCM Shelve Story AoUCM Reporter Reporter schedule meeting revise story shelve story researched meet informant research [didNotMakeTheCut] Write online research take notes written write visit library Publication] Write Story AoUCM write story Reporter Webmaster Research Story received > Authentication AoUCM: Fingerprint write story **Authentication AoUCM: Cardkey** send Security Security ReporterAccessSensitiveData WebmasterAccessSensitiveData check checkFingerprint check checkCardkey [success] > Publish Story AoUCM [success] success success [fail] fail [fail] fail Webmaster Webserver Write Story published publish Reporter Webmaster post story take notes | *story *story Encrypt/Decrypt AoUCM Security

send || post*



encrypt

encrypt

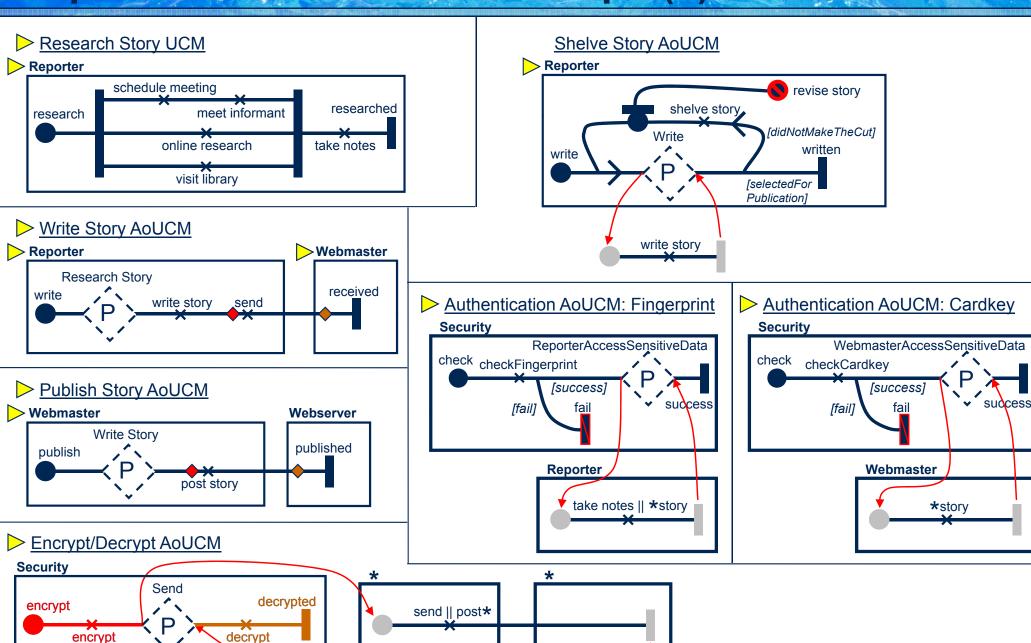


decrypted

decrypt

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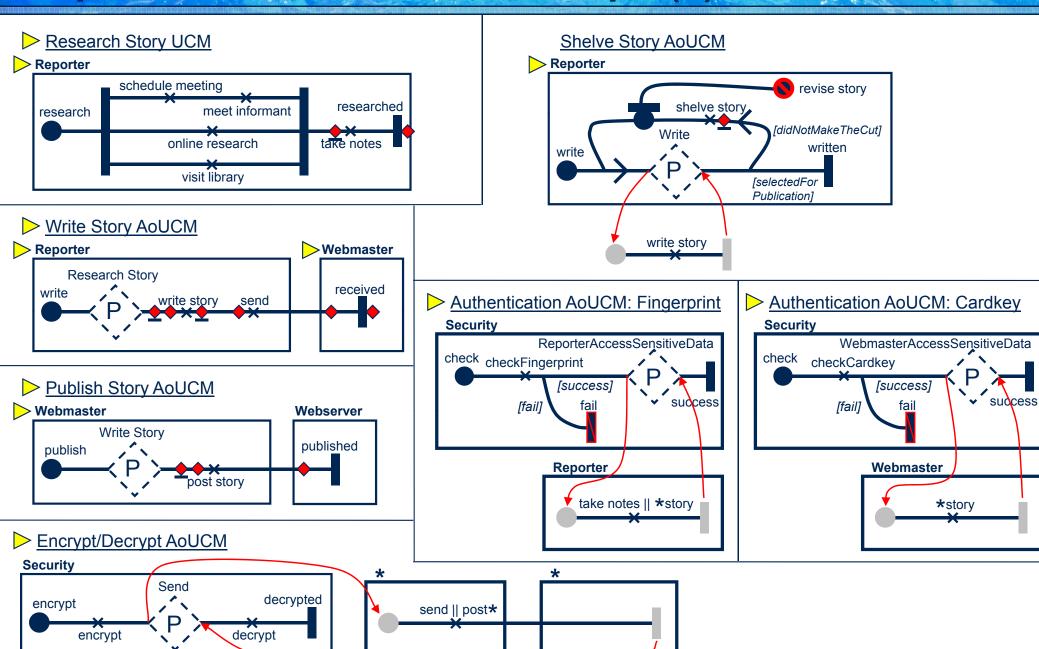
Aspect-Oriented Use Case Maps (3)







URN++







Motivation

- Aspects have the potential to significantly influence the future of software development like no other software engineering concept since the emergence of object-oriented techniques
- The User Requirements Notation (URN) is the first and currently only standard (ITU-T Z.151) which explicitly combines goals (non-functional requirements – GRL) with scenarios (functional requirements – UCMs)
- Aspects can improve the modularity, reusability, scalability, maintainability and other properties of URN models
- Aspects can help bridge the gap between goals and operational scenarios
- Aspects can benefit from a standardized way of modeling NFRs and use cases with URN, considering the strong overlap between ...
 - Non-functional requirements (NFRs) and concerns encapsulated by aspects as well as use cases / stakeholder goals and concerns encapsulated by aspects



Objective

The objective is to deliver a notation and process which unify URN concepts and aspect concepts in one framework in order to encapsulate concerns from the early requirements stage in the software development life cycle

AoURN = AoUCM + AoGRL

AoGRL Model business goals, stakeholders' priorities, alternative solutions, rationale, and decisions

vision



more detailed models

AoUCM Model/test use cases; investigate high level architecture; transform to more detailed models

Plus AOM

AOM ... Aspect-oriented Modeling



Introduction to Aspect-oriented Requirements Engineering (AORE)



Separation of Concerns

This is what I mean by focusing one's attention upon a certain aspect; it does not mean completely ignoring the other ones, but temporarily forgetting them to the extend that they are irrelevant for the current topic.

Such a separation, even if not perfectly possible, is yet the only available technique for effective ordering of one's thoughts that I know of. I usually refer to it as

"a separation of concerns" [...]."



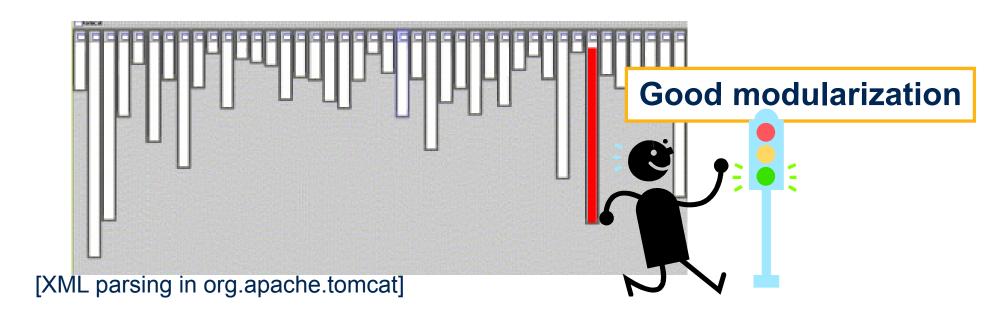
Edsger Dijkstra 1930-2002

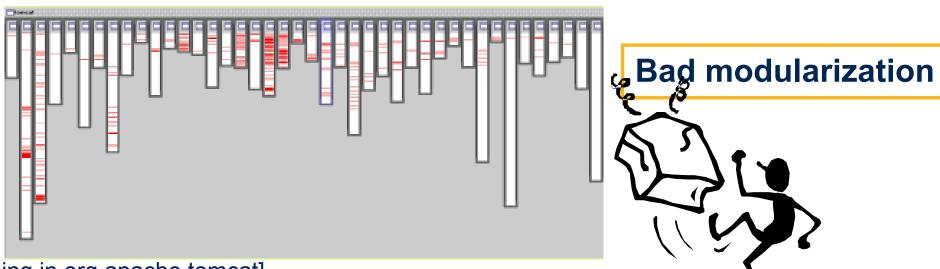
Source: E. Dijkstra, A Discipline of Programming, Prentice Hall, 1976, pp. 210





Crosscutting Concerns Affect Modularization





[logging in org.apache.tomcat]

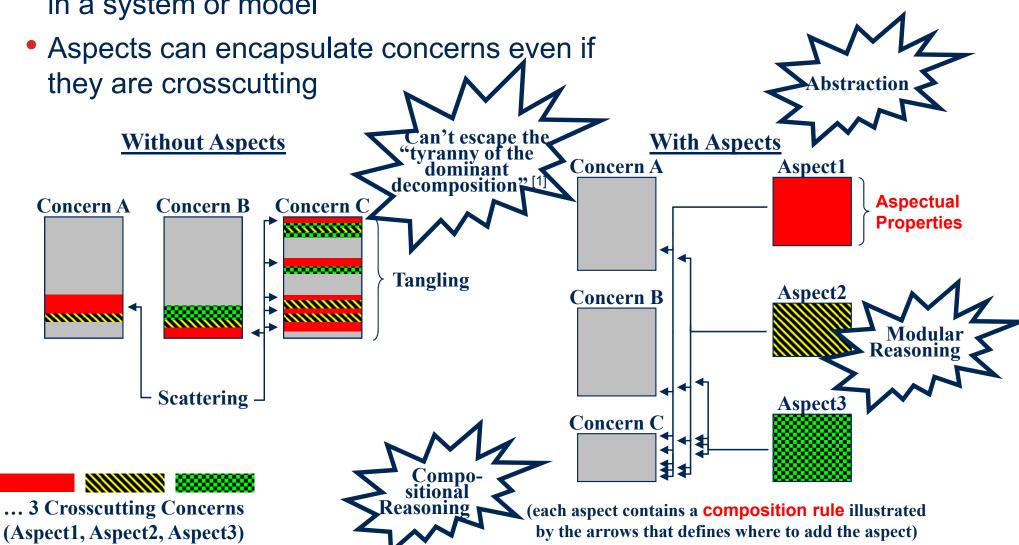




- Poor modularization
 - Scattering and Tangling
 - Limits modular reasoning
- Lack of composability
 - Missing systematic mechanism to describe concern influences
- Lack of crosscutting concern identification
- Lack of impact analysis
 - Evaluation mechanisms for goal models offer some support for high level goals (often NFRs) though

Overview of Aspect-oriented Modeling (AOM)

 Aspects address the problem of one concern crosscutting other concerns in a system or model



[1] Tarr, P., Ossher, H., Harrison, W., and Sutton, S.M.: N degrees of separation: Multidimensional separation of concerns. ICSE 99





Main Value of Aspect-Orientation

- Abstraction: abstract away from the details of how crosscutting concerns, or aspects, might be scattered and tangled with the functionality of other modules in the system
- Modularization: keep crosscutting concerns separated regardless of how they affect or influence various other modules in the system, so that we can reason about each module in isolation – Modular Reasoning
- Composition: the various modules need to relate to each other in a systematic and coherent fashion so that one may reason about the global or emergent properties of the system – Compositional Reasoning

Source: A. Rashid, A. Moreira, Domain Models are NOT Aspect Free, Proceedings of MoDELS Conference 2006, Springer.





What is AORE About?

- Leverage the benefits of aspect-orientation in terms of
 - Abstraction
 - Modularity
 - Composability
- To improve modular and compositional reasoning about stakeholders' requirements, and
- To address scattering, tangling, and composability issues during requirements engineering

- Improved support for separation of crosscutting functional and nonfunctional properties during requirements engineering
 - A better means to identify and manage conflicts arising due to tangled representations
- Identify the mapping and influence of requirements-level aspects on artefacts at later development stages
 - Establish critical trade-offs even before the architecture is derived
- Trace aspectual requirements and their trade-offs to architecture and subsequently all the way to implementation

Improved understanding of the problem and ability to reason about it



Managing Crosscutting Concerns in Requirements (1)

- To find crosscutting in requirements, look for behavioural terms or concepts that are mentioned in more than one location
- 1. Pay interest of a certain percent on each account making sure that the transaction is fully completed and an audit history is kept.
- 2. Allow customers to withdraw from their accounts, making sure that the transaction is fully completed and an audit history is kept.

Separate each of those concepts into a section of their own

- 1. Pay interest of a certain percent on each account
- 2. Allow customers to withdraw from their accounts

3. To fully complete a transaction...

4. To maintain an audit history...

Managing Crosscutting Concerns in Requirements (3)

Composition specifies the crosscutting relationship, showing how crosscutting concerns affect base concerns

- 1. Pay interest of a certain percent on each account
- 2. Allow customers to withdraw from their accounts

Fully complete pay interest and withdraw

3. To fully complete a transaction...

Audit pay interest and withdraw

4. To maintain an audit history...



Modeling Techniques for Aspect-oriented Requirements

Theme/DOC

 Identifies themes in textual requirements documents and their potentially crosscutting relationships

MATA

- Transformation-based approach
- May be applied to any modeling technique with a well-defined meta-model

AOSD with Use Cases

- A methodology that allows use cases to be encapsulated throughout the whole development process with the help of aspect-oriented techniques
- and many more...

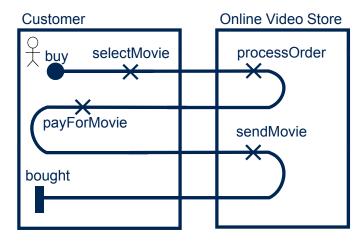


The Aspect-oriented User Requirements Notation (AoURN) in a Nutshell

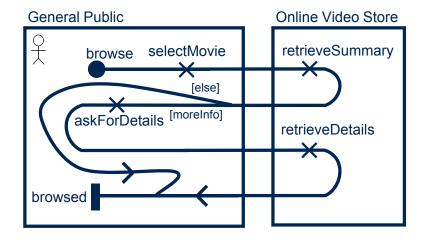


AoURN: Learning by Example (1)

Buy Movie Concern



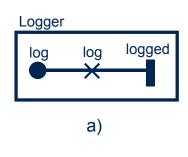
Browse Movie Concern

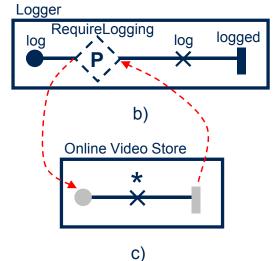




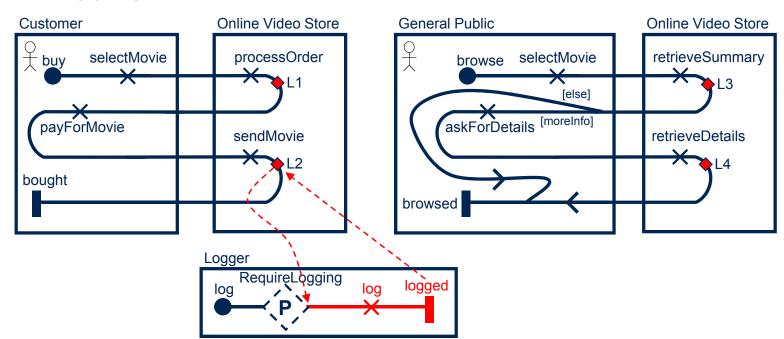
AoURN: Learning by Example (2)

Logging Concern (b + c)

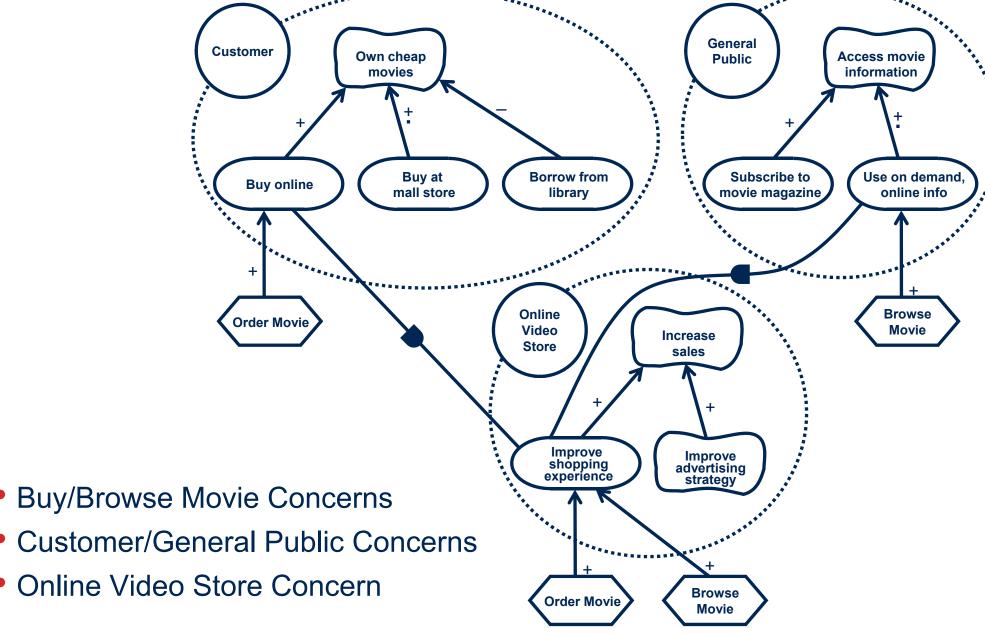




Applied Logging Concern

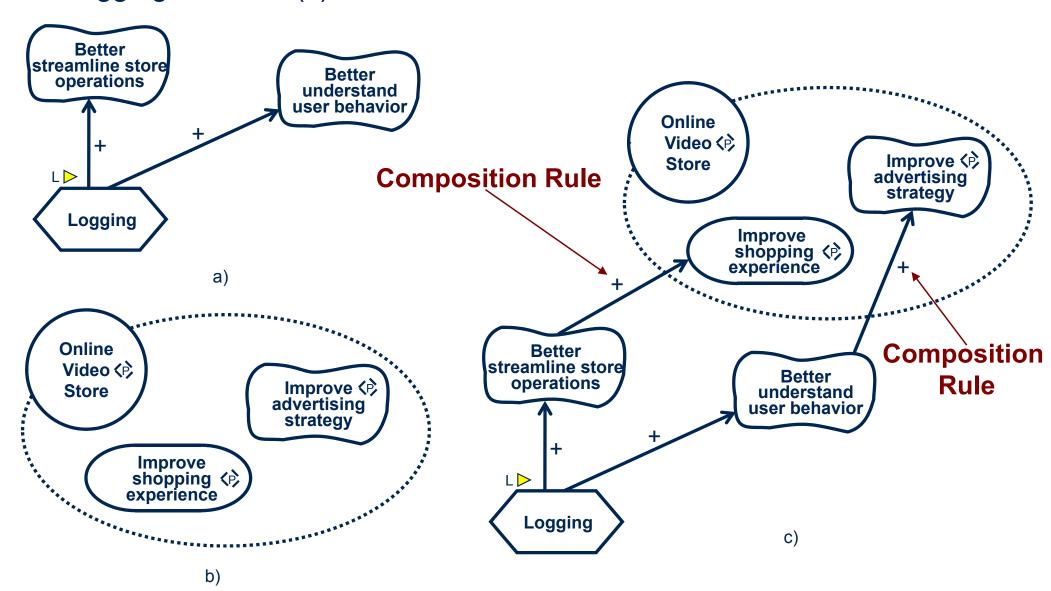






AoURN: Learning by Example (4)

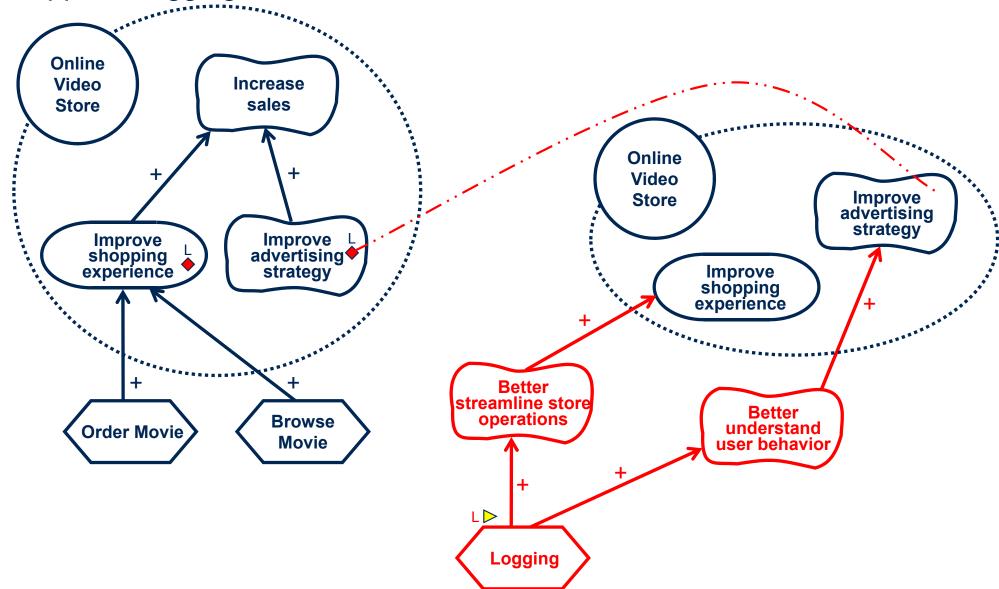
Logging Concern (c)





AoURN: Learning by Example (5)

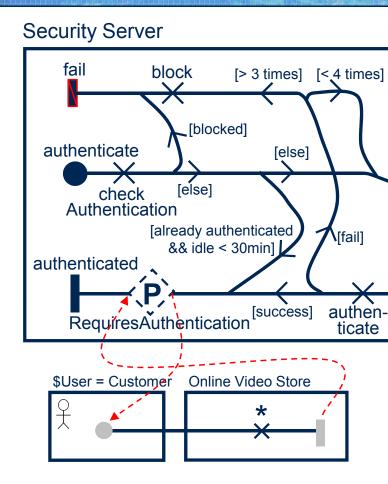
Applied Logging Concern



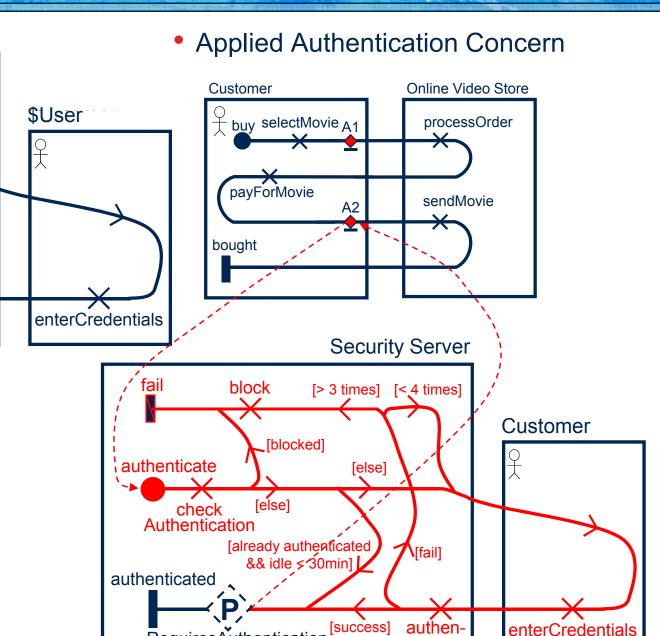




AoURN: Learning by Example (6)



Authentication Concern





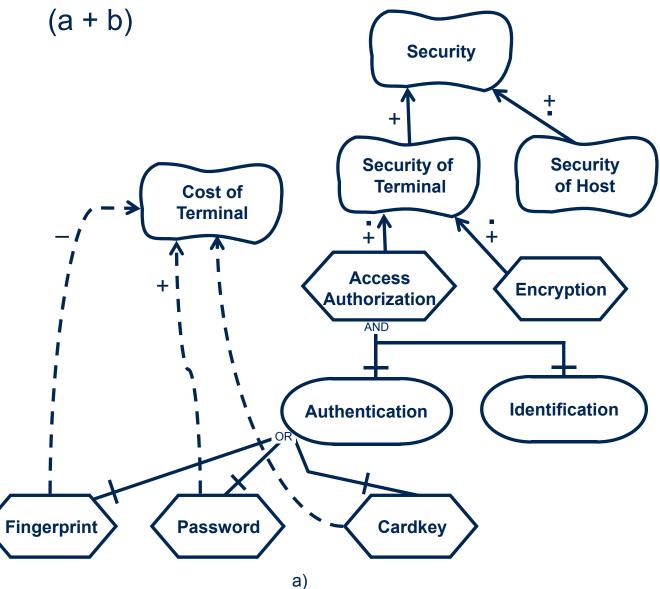


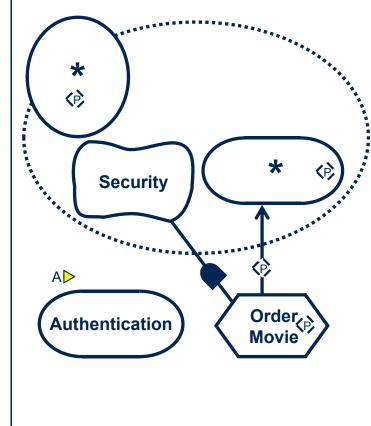
ticate

RequiresAuthentication

AoURN: Learning by Example (7)

Authentication Concern



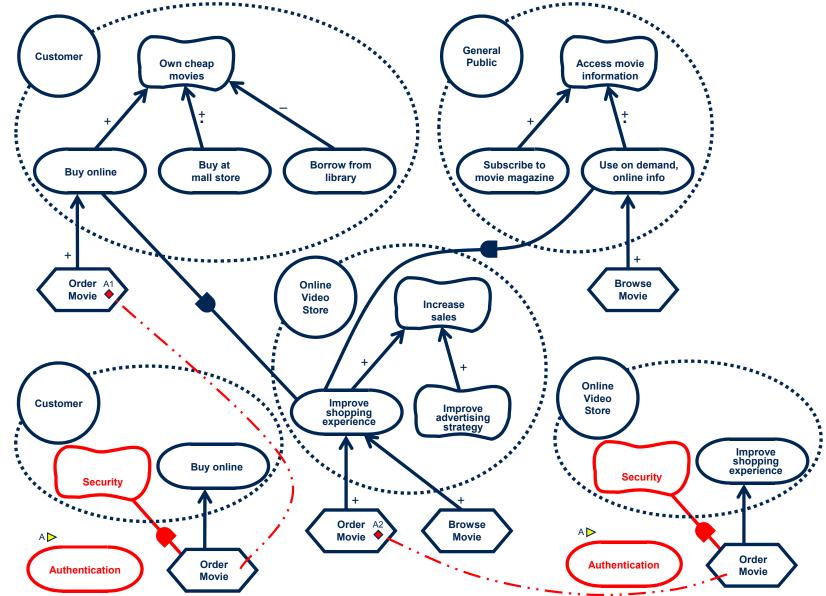


b)



AoURN: Learning by Example (8)

Applied Authentication Concern

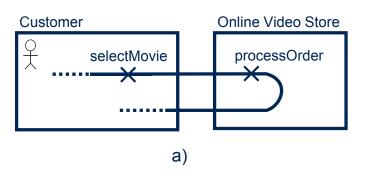


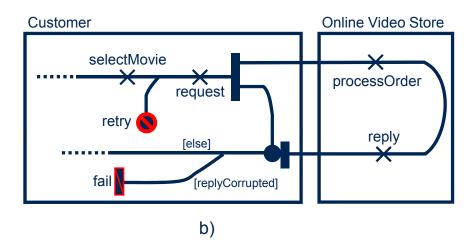


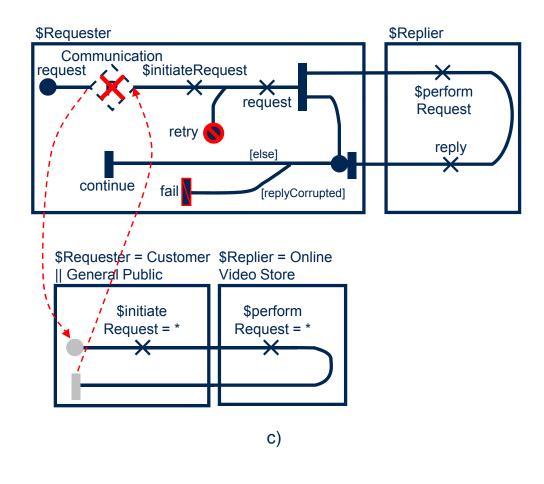


AoURN: Learning by Example (9)

Communication Concern (c)





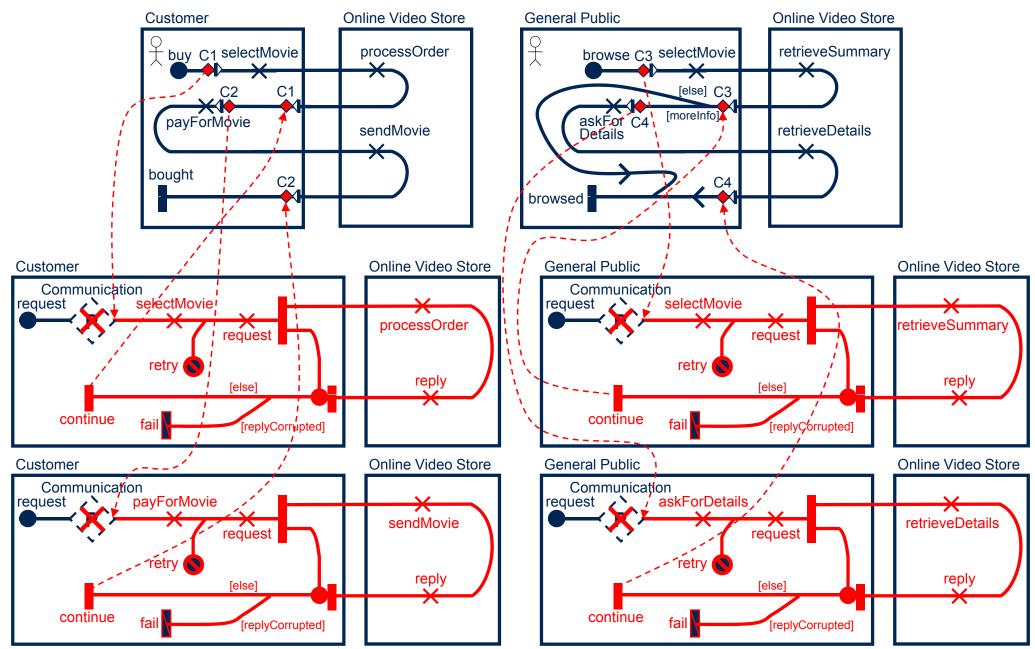


- Applied Communication Concern (on next slide)
- Applied Logging / Authentication / Communication Concern (on slide after next slide)





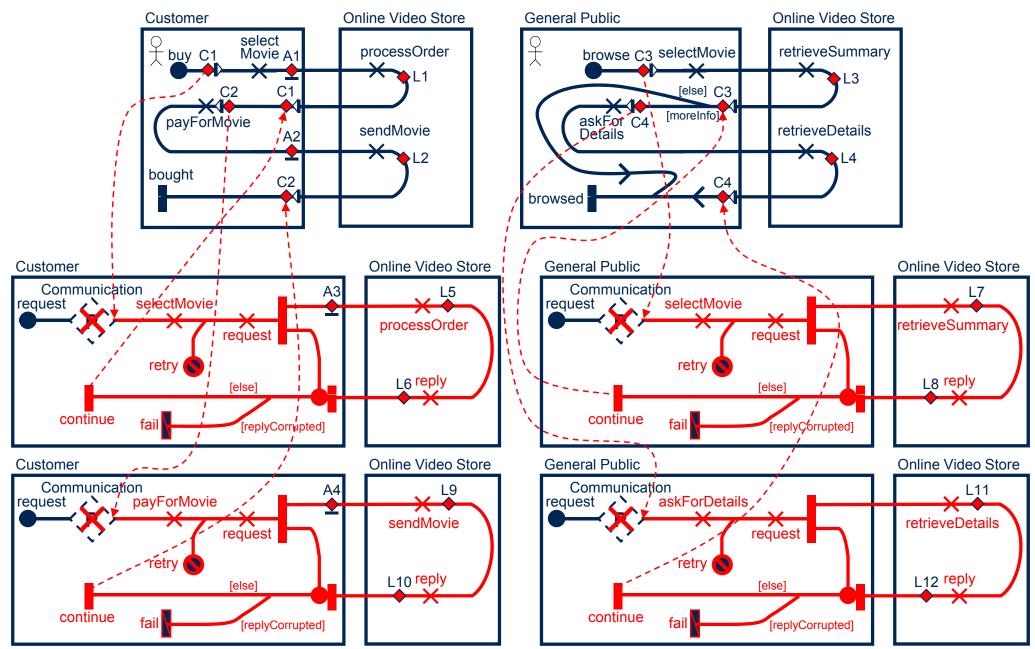
AoURN: Learning by Example (10)







AoURN: Learning by Example (11)

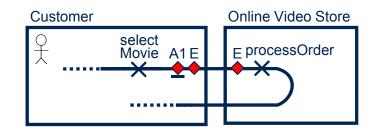






AoURN: Learning by Example (12)

Encryption Concern

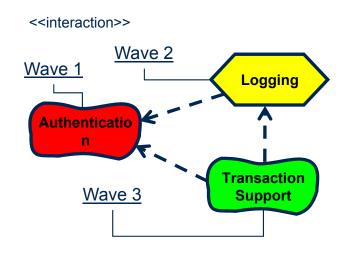


Concern Interaction Graph

<<interaction>>



Waves



First Wave (add authentication before/after join point)



Second Wave (add logging before/after join point)



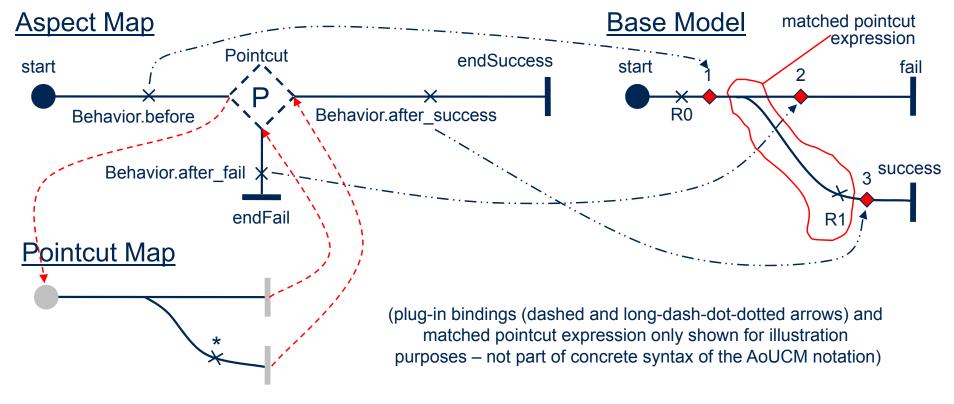
Third Wave (add transaction support before/after join point)





Aspect-oriented Use Case Maps: In a Nutshell (1)

 An aspect defines its structure/behavior (= aspect map) and a pattern called pointcut expression (= pointcut map) for its composition rule stating where the aspect is to be applied in a model



Pointcut stub:



Aspect marker:



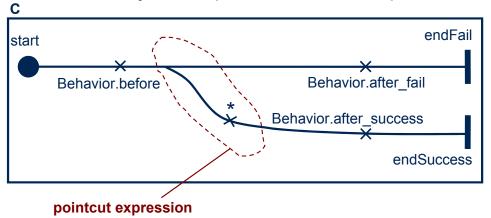
Aspect-oriented Use Case Maps: In a Nutshell (2)

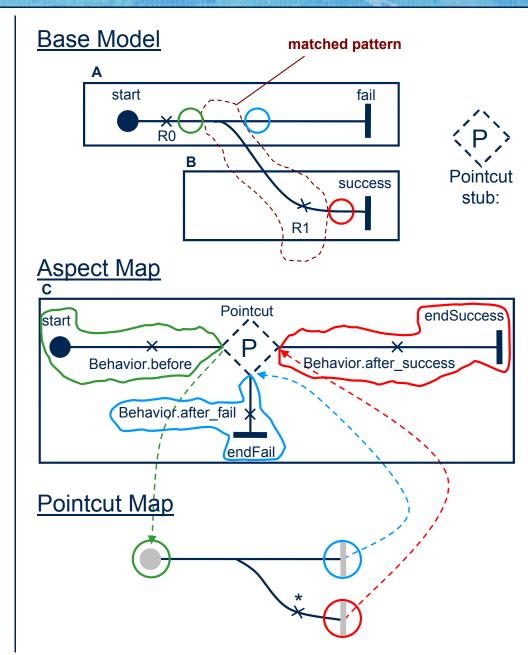
All-in-One style not used because it hinders separate reuse of aspectual properties and pointcut expressions

URN++ Motivation AORE

All-in-One style leads to duplication if the same aspect needs to be applied at various locations that cannot be described with one pattern

All-in-One Style - Aspect/Pointcut Map





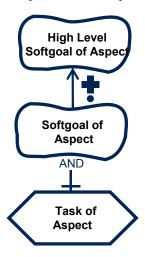


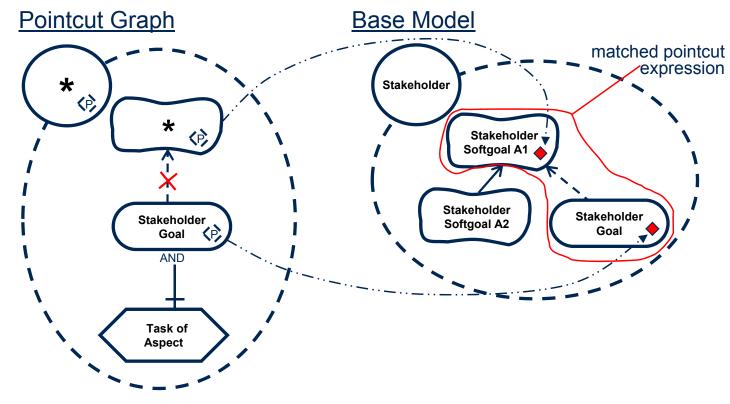


Aspect-oriented GRL: In a Nutshell

An aspect defines its structure/behavior (= aspect graph + non-marked pointcut graph) and a pattern called pointcut expression (= marked pointcut graph) for its composition rule stating where the aspect is to be applied in a model

Aspect Graph





Pointcut marker:



Pointcut deletion marker:



Aspect marker:

(mapping of pointcut expression to base model (long-dash-dot-dotted arrows) and matched pointcut expression only shown for illustration purposes – not part of AoGRL notation)





Aspect-oriented URN: Introduction (1)

- AoURN (Aspect-oriented User Requirements Notation)
 - Unifies goal-oriented, scenario-based, and aspect-oriented concepts in a scalable framework
 - Extends the abstract syntax, the concrete syntax, and the semantics of URN with aspect-oriented concepts
 - Requires almost no changes to the familiar URN notation (syntax remains virtually the same but the existing semantics are clarified and extended)
- AoURN models each use case, each stakeholder's goals, and each NFR as an aspect
 - NFRs fundamentally are aspectual in nature
 - Most use cases are not aspectual but are peers (aspects, however, can also be used to sufficiently separated such concerns)
 - Most stakeholder goals are not aspectual but are peers (aspects, however, can also be used to sufficiently separated such concerns)
- AoURN models all concerns as aspects and therefore follows a more symmetrical, multi-dimensional approach to aspects





Aspect-oriented URN: Introduction (2)

- Features of AoURN
 - Aspects (including pointcut expressions) are fully described in a graphical way
 - Exhaustive composition of aspects is only limited by the expressive power of URN itself (as opposed to a particular pointcut or composition language)
 - Aspectual properties and pointcut expressions are defined separately
- AoURN defines for each aspect at least a goal model or a scenario model (or both)
 - Behavioral/structural dimensions of an aspect are modeled with AoUCM
 - Reasons for an aspect are modeled with AoGRL
 - Aspects in GRL models can be traced to aspects in UCM models

Concern in Goal Model

0..1 (possibly *)

0..*

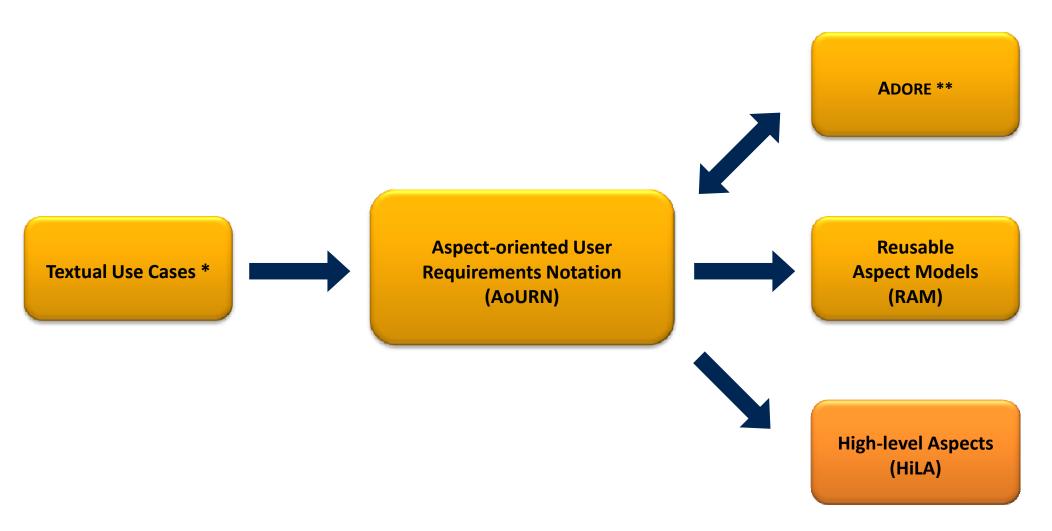
Concern in Scenario Model



Aspect-oriented URN: Transformations

URN++ Motivation AORE

Transformations to other models are being investigated for AoURN models



^{*} Stéphane Somé's UCEd: https://sourceforge.net/projects/uced/

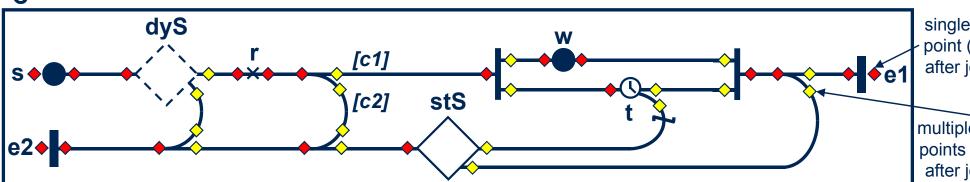
^{**} see presentation at AOSD'11

Aspect-oriented Use Case Maps (AoUCM)



URNHAM Motivation AORE

- In order to unify aspect concepts with UCM concepts, join points, aspects, and pointcuts have to be defined in UCM terms
- In AOP, a join point is a point in the dynamic flow of a program
 - Method call, execution of a method, initialization of object, set method, get method, exception handling...
 - A join point has a behavioral and structural dimension
- Advice occurs before/after/around something at the granularity of methods
- In UCM terms, translates to responsibility optionally bound to component
- Responsibilities are just one kind of path node (like many other)
 - Thus, the AoUCM join point model includes all path nodes (i.e., any (un)bound location on a path) except for purely visual nodes (e.g., direction arrow)



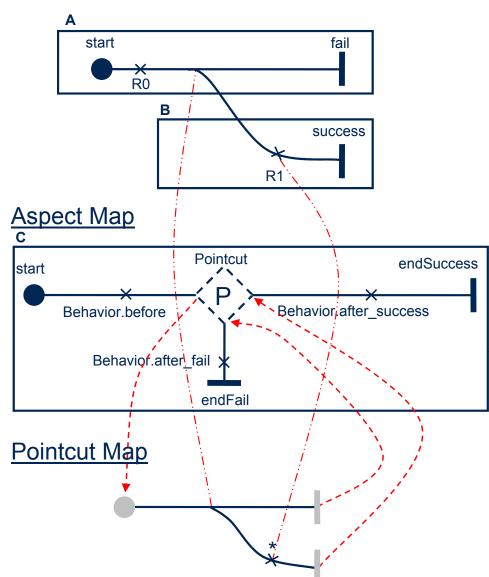
single insertion point (before or after join point)

multiple insertion points (before or after join point)



Introduction to AoUCM: Aspect and Pointcut Maps

Base Model



- An aspect is a group of UCMs (some may be aspect maps)
- An aspect map visually describes the aspectual properties
- An aspect map contains one (zero) or more pointcut stubs (other than that it is a standard UCM)
- A pointcut stub contains one or more pointcut maps (other than that it is a standard stub)
- A pointcut map visually describes a pointcut expression (other than that it is a standard UCM)
- A pointcut map is matched against the base model in order to identify the join points that are affected by the aspect

(mapping of pointcut expression to base model (long-dash-dot-dotted lines without arrowheads) and plug-in bindings (dashed arrows) only shown for illustration purposes – not part of AoUCM notation

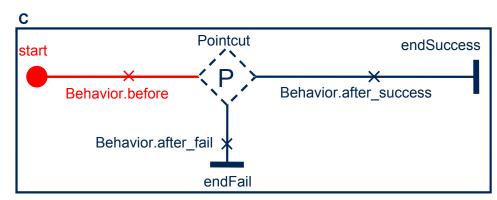


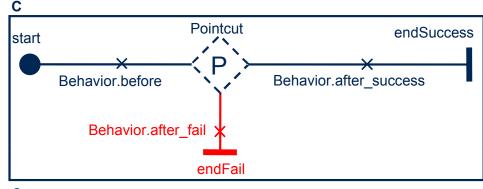


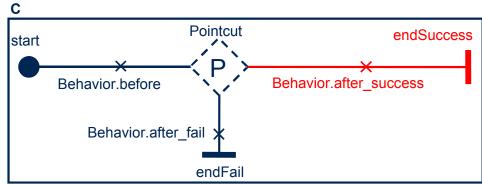
Introduction to AoUCM: AoView

Base Model fail start 1a 1b success Aspect Map Pointcut endSuccess start Behavior.before Behavior after success Behavior.after fail endFail Pointcut Map Aspect marker: Pointcut stub:

AoViews









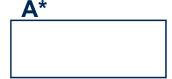
- A pointcut defines a set of join points in a parameterized way
 - Defines structural context and behavioral context for the execution of aspect
 - A pointcut map represents a partial map which identifies join points when matched against all other maps in the UCM model
- Semantics of wildcard *, logical expressions, and empty start/end points
 - A named element on a pointcut map may contain a * or logical expressions
 - Operators for logical expressions are AND (&&), OR (||), and NOT (!)
 - Start/end points without a name (indicated by gray color) denote only the start/end of the partial map and are therefore not matched against the base model
- Variables for responsibilities or components (indicated by \$)







JRN++ Motivation AORE









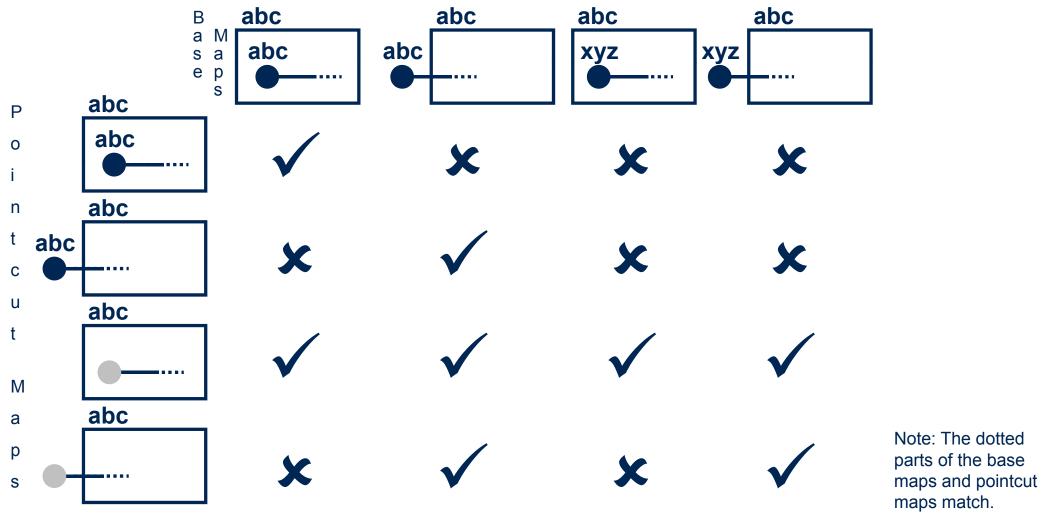
all start points starting with s; all responsibilities; all waiting places named ready or starting with w; all components starting with A note: naming conventions are crucially important

unnamed (gray) start or end points are not matched against the base model



Introduction to AoUCM: Pointcut Expressions (2)

- The location of start (end) points relative to components is important for the meaning of the pointcut map
- Boundary crossings of a path are preserved when matching a UCM

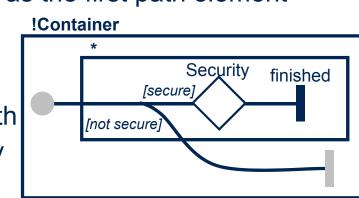






Introduction to AoUCM: Pointcut Expressions (3)

- Example 1
 - Matches all <u>responsibilities</u> with a name starting with "Get" and bound to the component "Reservation"
- Example 2:
 - Matches all responsibilities with a name starting with "Confirm ", immediately followed by an end point called "confirmed", both bound to any or no component
- Example 3:
 - Matches all <u>responsibilities</u> with a name starting with "Set" or "Get" and bound to any component as the first path element
- Example 4:
 - Matches all <u>OR-forks</u> bound to any component not inside component "Container" as the first path element, immediately followed on one branch by a stub ("Security") and an end point ("finished"), and followed by nothing on the other branch before exiting the component



Reservation

Confirm*

Set* || Get*

Get*

confirmed





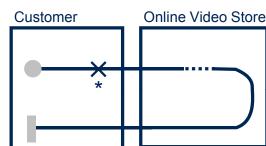
Customer

<<Reg/Rep>>*

Online Video Store

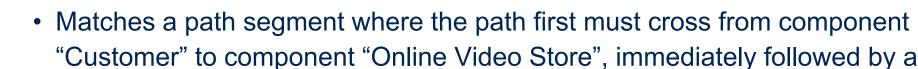
Introduction to AoUCM: Pointcut Expressions (4)

- Example 5 Anything Pointcut Element:
 - Matches all <u>responsibilities</u> bound to the component "Customer", immediately followed by any sequence of path elements bound to the component "Online Video Store" before the path returns to the "Customer" component

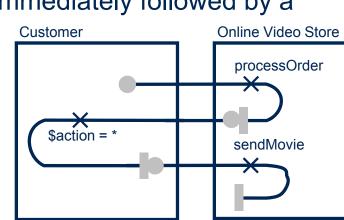


- Example 6 Metadata Matching:
 - The same as in example 5 but the responsibilities must additionally be annotated with <<Req/Rep>>





series of three responsibilities: "processOrder" bound to component "Online Video Store", variable "*" bound to component "Customer", and "sendMovie" bound to component "Online Video Store" (see interleaved composition)







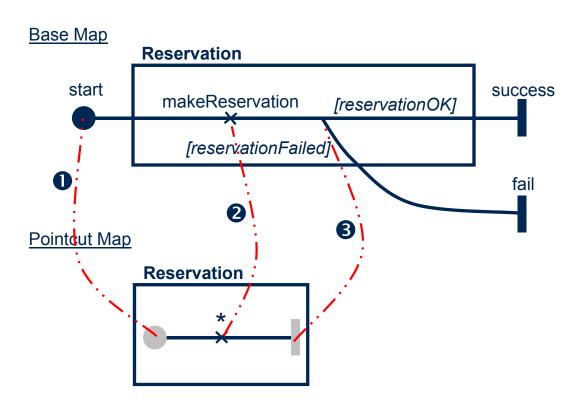
Matching of AoUCM: Criteria

- Criteria for matching AoUCM pointcut expression
 - Type of model element must match
 - Name of the model element must match
 - Names of conditions, if applicable, must match (if the pointcut expression does not specify conditions, any condition may be matched)
 - Path direction between model elements and type of connection between model elements (regular or timeout branch) must match
 - Location of the model element in its component must match (either first, last, or any location in the component)
 - Component hierarchy must be compatible
 - Metadata of the pointcut element must be a subset of the metadata of the base element

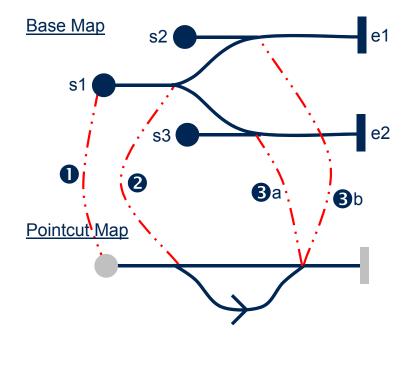


Matching of AoUCM: Examples (1)

Successful match



Contradiction at same step



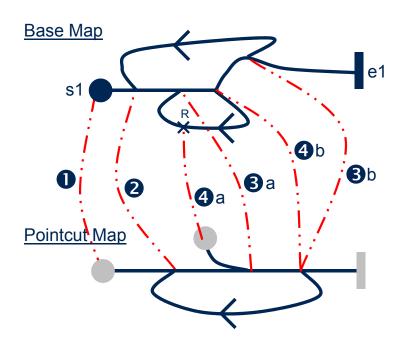
- The contradiction occurs at step 3 of the matching process because the same node cannot be matched to two different nodes
- The base map does therefore not match the pointcut expression and the aspect will not be applied to the base map



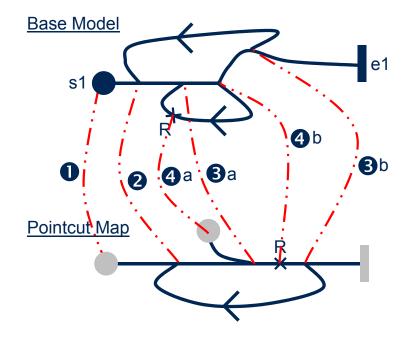


Matching of AoUCM: Examples (2)

Contradiction at different steps



Failed Match (type mismatch)



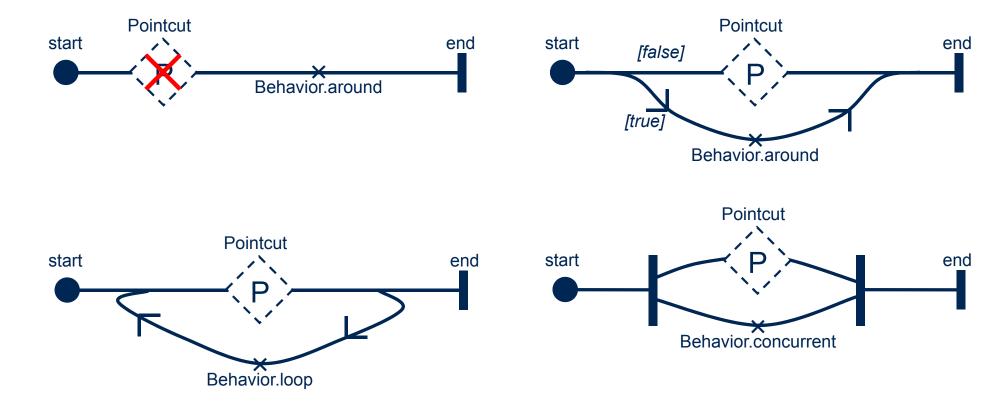
- The contradiction occurs between step 3b and 4b of the matching process because the same node cannot be matched to two different nodes
- The failed match occurs because the responsibility in the pointcut map cannot be matched against the OR-fork in the base map at step 4 of the matching process



Composition of AoUCM: Composition Rules

- AoUCM can use any composition rule that can be described with the UCM notation, not just simple before and after composition rules
- The examples show replacement (around), loops, and concurrency

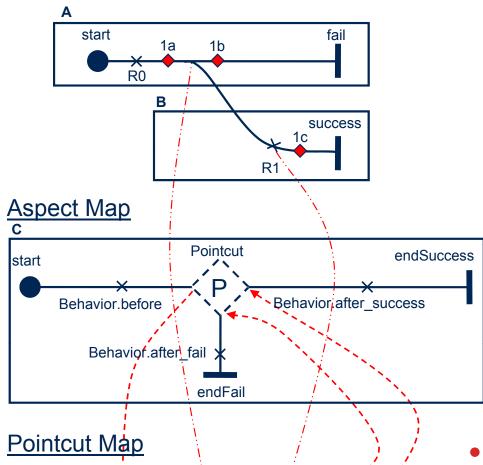
Four Aspect Maps



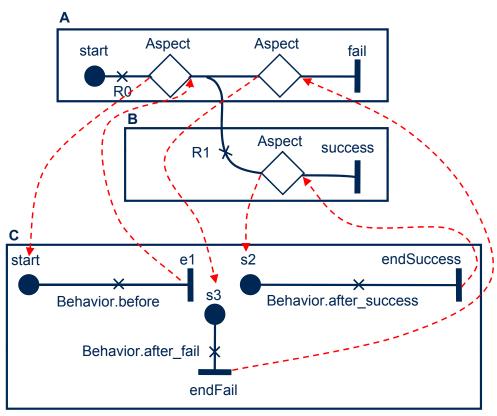


Composition of AoUCM: AO or Traditional Stubs

Base Model



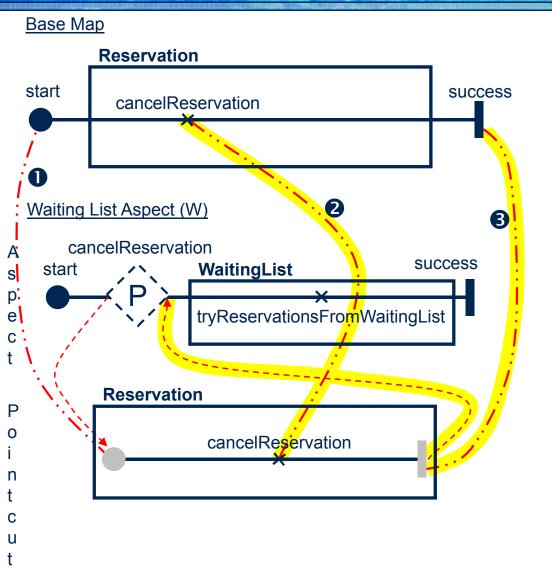
Composed Traditional System

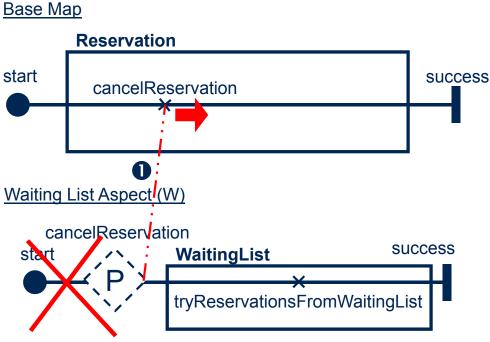


Composition is achieved by inserting aspect markers or traditional stubs at the insertion points in the base model identified by the mapped pointcut expression



Composition of AoUCM: Step 1

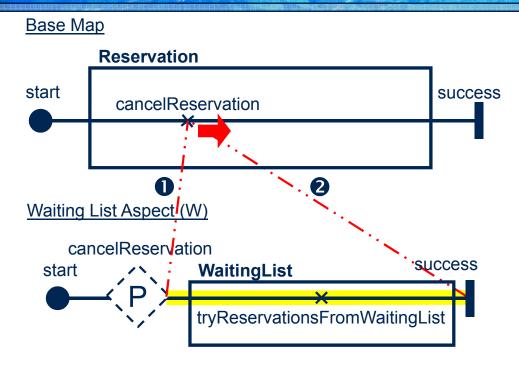


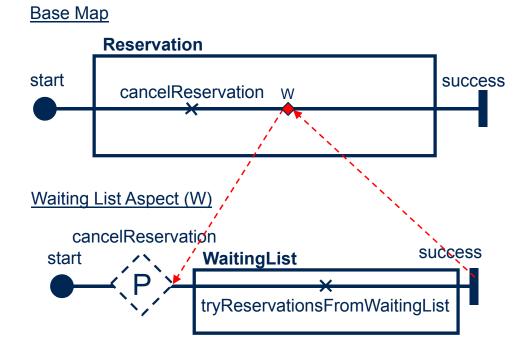


- Composition Step 1
 - Do not consider empty path segments
 - Retain mappings
 - Retain insertion point arrows



Composition of AoUCM: Steps 2 and 3





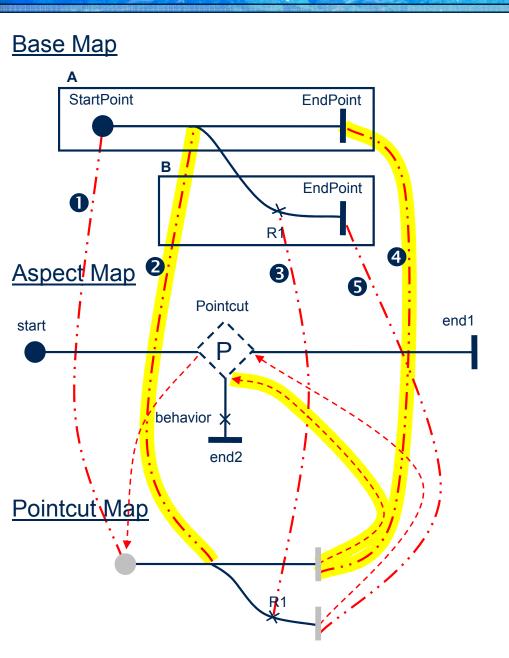
- Composition Step 2
 - Scan for start/end points

- Composition Step 3
 - Insertion of aspect marker (conditional aspect marker if scenario may not continue)
 - Convert mappings into plug-in bindings

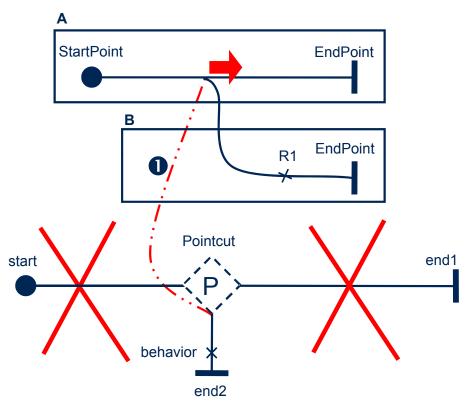




Composition of AoUCM: Insertion Point Arrow



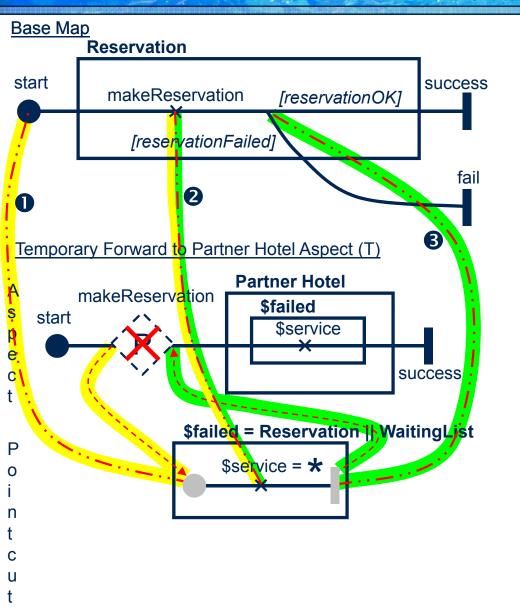
Composition Step 1

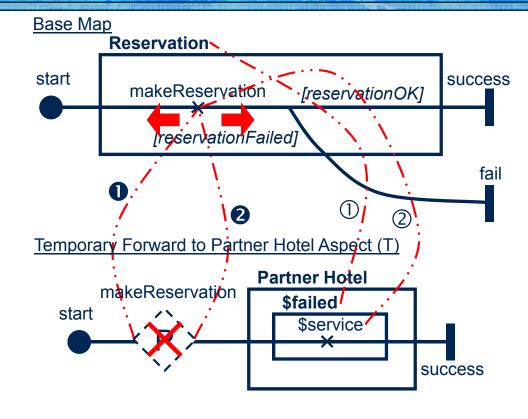


 The insertion point arrow unambiguously identifies one of the insertion points of a join point



Composition of AoUCM: Tunnels & Variables - Step 1

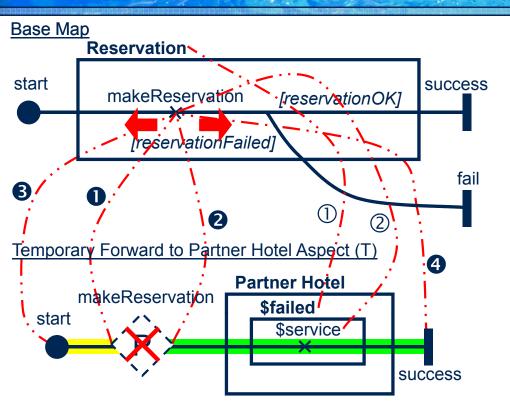




- Composition Step 1
 - Use empty path segments because of replacement
 - Retain mappings
 - Retain insertion point arrows



Composition of AoUCM: Tunnels & Variables - Step 2 and 3



Base Map Reservation · start success makeReservation **IreservationOK1 IreservationFailed** fail Temporary Forward to Partner Hotel Aspect (T) **Partner Hotel** makeReservation \$failed start \$service success

- Composition Step 2
 - Scan for start/end points
- Composition Step 3

responsibility plug-in binding (both T):

makeReservation → \$service

component plug-in binding (both T):

Reservation → \$failed

tunnel entrance T metadata: 14 group 133 tunnel exit T metadata: 14 group 133

(<aspect map ID> group <number>)

- Insertion of tunnel entrance and tunnel exit aspect marker
- Convert mappings into plug-in bindings
- Establish metadata





Composition of AoUCM: Interleaved

Scenario One



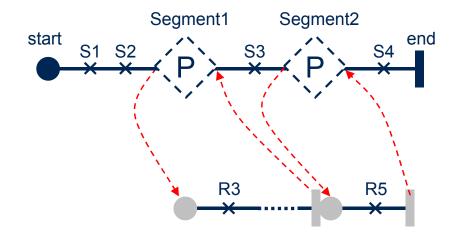
Scenario Two

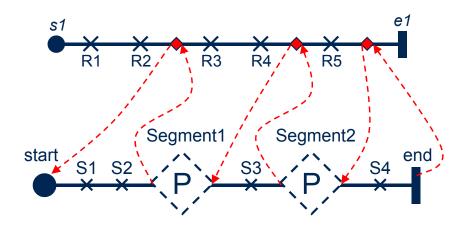


Interleaved Scenario



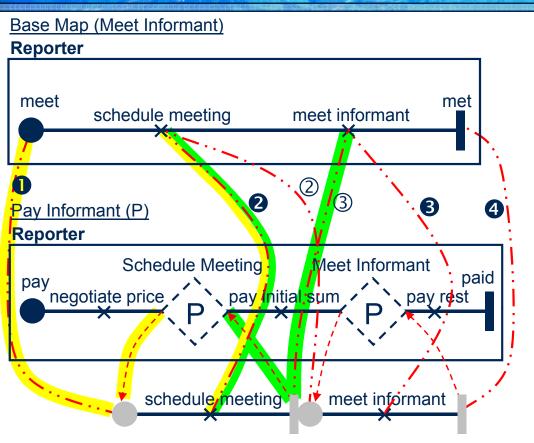
Interleaved Aspect (I)



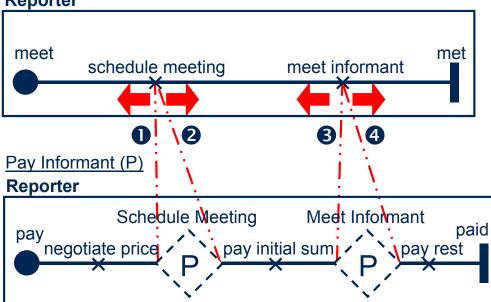




Composition of AoUCM: Interleaved - Step 1



- Base Map (Meet Informant)
- Reporter

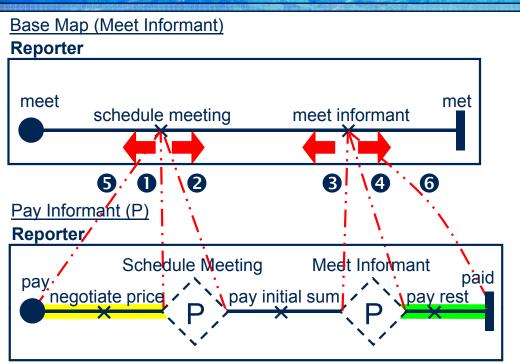


- Composition Step 1
 - Do not consider empty path segments
 - Retain mappings
 - Retain insertion point arrows

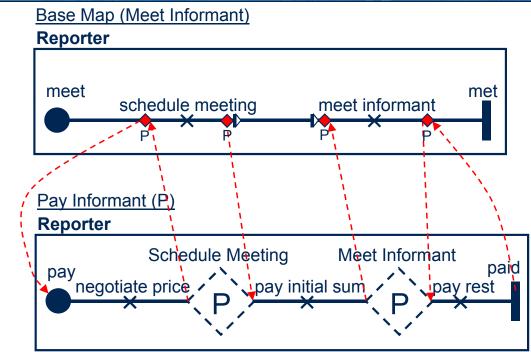
- Prepare for Composition
 - Duplicate mappings for end/start point pair



Composition of AoUCM: Interleaved - Step 2 and 3



URN++:: Motivation AORE



regular P metadata (both times): 89 group 14 tunnel entrance P metadata: 89 group 14 tunnel exit P metadata: 89 group 14

- Composition Step 3
 - Insertion of aspect markers
 - Convert mappings into plug-in bindings
 - Establish metadata

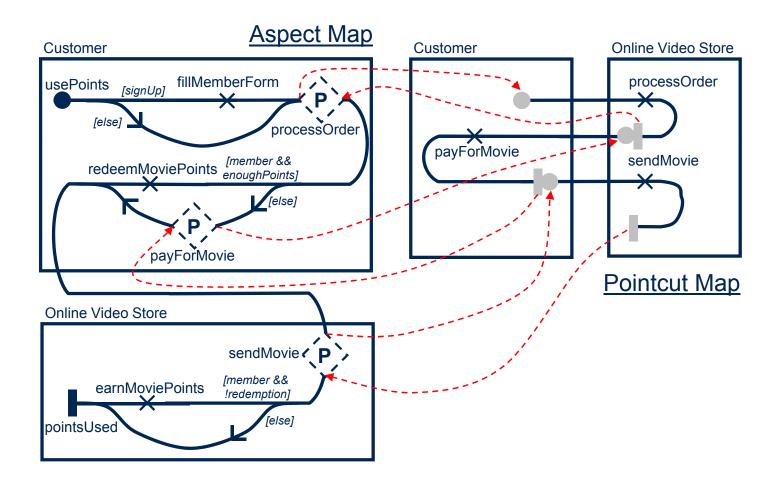
Composition Step 2

Scan for start/end points

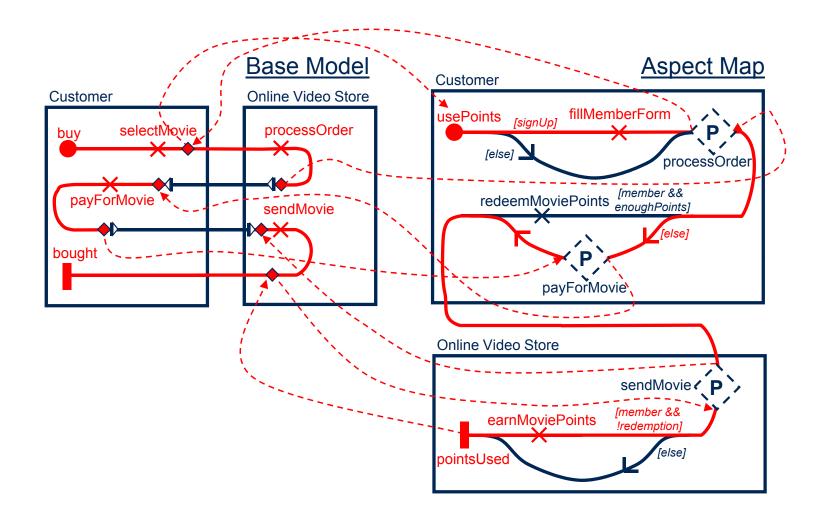




Composition of AoUCM: Example - Interleaved (1)

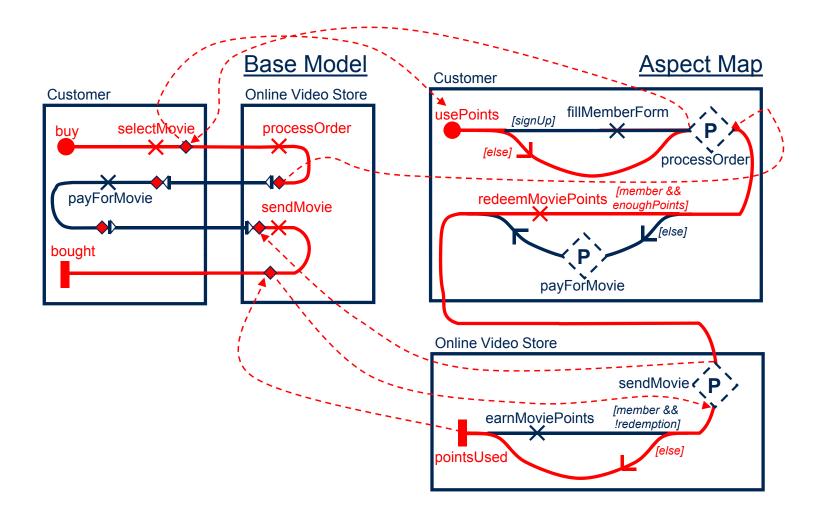


Composition of AoUCM: Example - Interleaved (2)





Composition of AoUCM: Example - Interleaved (3)





Enhanced Matching Based on Semantics

"Whitespace" in the base model is not matched

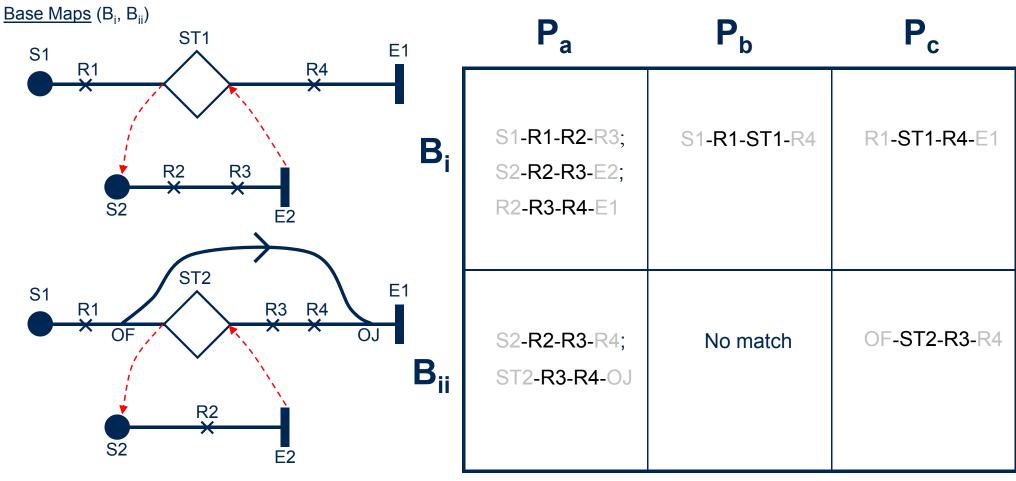
JRN Has Mofivation AORE

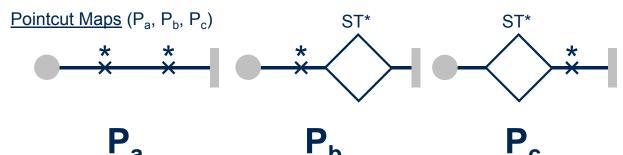
- Empty point
- Direction arrow
- OR-join
- End point connected to a start point without a condition
- Static stub/aspect marker including the start and end points used in its plug-in bindings (in some cases, the stubs and start/end points are taken into account)
 - Start points must not have conditions
- Dynamic stubs, synchronizing stubs, and dynamic aspect markers are interpreted as their flattened equivalent
 - Allows AND-forks as well as OR/AND-joins to be matched against these model elements
- Waiting place with condition is equivalent to start point with condition





Enhanced Matching Based on Semantics: Example





If a stub without plug-in map exists on the pointcut map, then it must be matched with a stub in the base

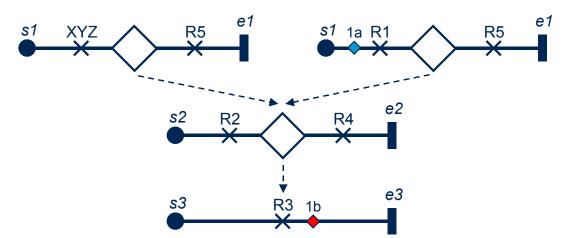




Enhanced Composition Based on Semantics: Issues

Composition with shared plug-in maps **UCM Model**

URN++ Motivation AORE



Aspect Map / AoView



1a metadata: provides group 23 **1b metadata:** requires group 23

Pointcut Map



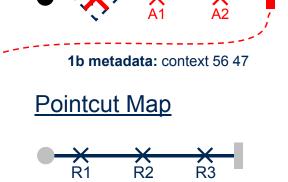
Composition with lost hierarchies

UCM Model

def: 32 R5 e1 R1 **XYZ** R5 s2 Note: For illustration purposes, IDs for definitions (def) are *e*3 shown next to stubs. s3

Aspect Map / AoView

eA





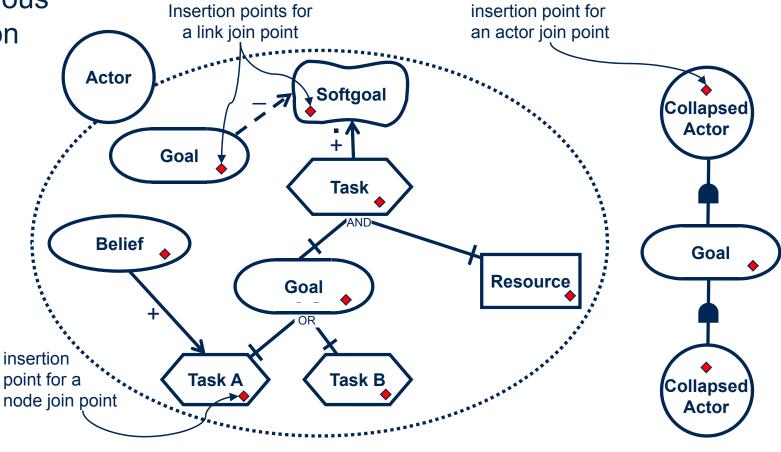
Aspect-oriented GRL (AoGRL)



Introduction to AoGRL: Join Point Model

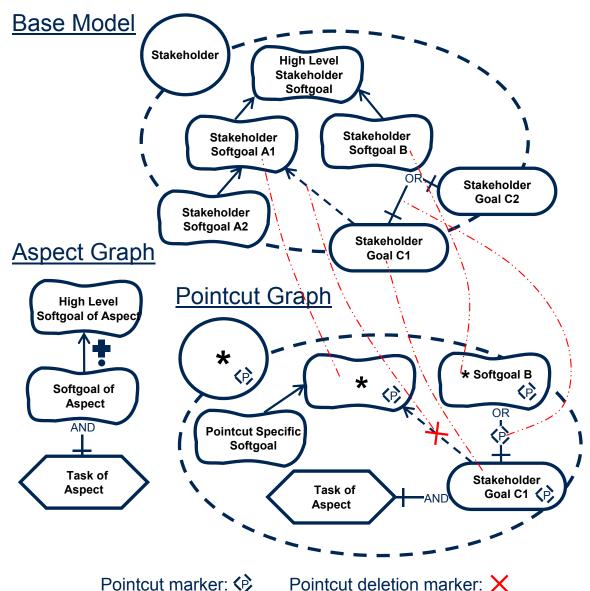
- In order to unify aspect concepts with GRL concepts, join points, aspects, and pointcuts have to be defined in GRL terms
- The AoGRL join point model includes all GRL nodes (i.e. intentional elements) and links optionally residing within the boundary of an actor

 This is analogous to the definition of join points for AoUCM





Introduction to AoGRL: Aspect & Pointcut Graphs



- An aspect is a group of goal graphs (some may be aspect graphs, some pointcut graphs)
- An aspect graph is a standard GRL graph that visually describes the aspectual properties
- An aspect graph focuses on one concern only (e.g. security)
- A pointcut graph is an annotated standard GRL graph that visually describes a parameterized pointcut expression
- The pointcut expression is matched against the base model in order to identify the join points that the aspect affects

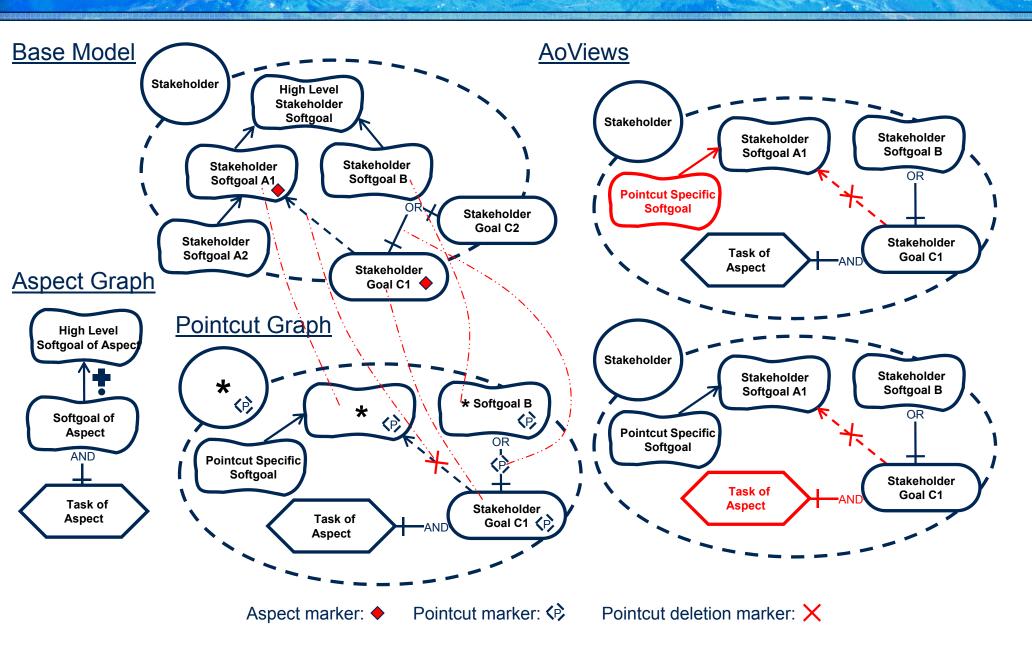
(mapping of pointcut expression to base model (long-dash-dot-dotted lines without arrowheads) only shown for illustration purposes – not part of AoGRL notation)



Introduction to AoGRL: Pointcut Graphs vs. Maps

- Pointcut Map
 - Completely separate from aspect map contains only pointcut expression
 - Allows for reuse of pointcut expression and aspectual properties
- Pointcut Graph
 - Contains pointcut expressions and some aspectual properties to specify the composition rule
 - Harder to reuse pointcut expression and aspectual properties
 - More inspired by graph transformation-based approaches such as MATA
 - Due to the nature of GRL models highly interconnected









Matching of AoGRL

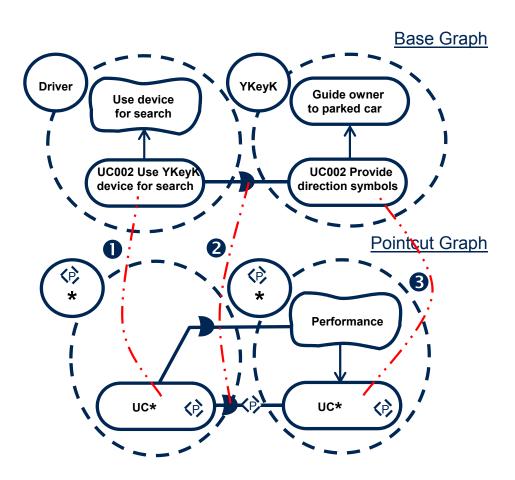
- The matching of pointcut graphs with the base model is analogous to **AoUCM**
 - Parameterized pointcut expressions can contain the wildcard * and logical operators for AND (&&), OR (||), and NOT (!)
 - More restrictive version of anything element in AoUCM
 - <<anytype>> element for intentional element or link
 - Decomposition chains are taken into account
- Criteria (also analogous to AoUCM)
 - Type of model element must match
 - Name of the model element must match
 - Type of link and link direction between model elements must match
 - GRL actor of the model element must be compatible
 - Metadata of the pointcut element must be a subset of the metadata of the base element



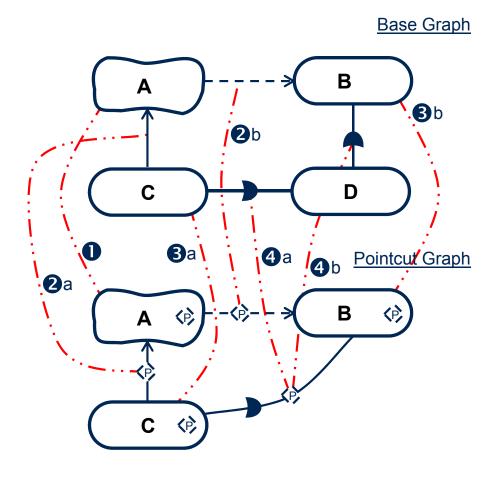


Matching of AoGRL: Examples

Successful match



Contradiction at same step

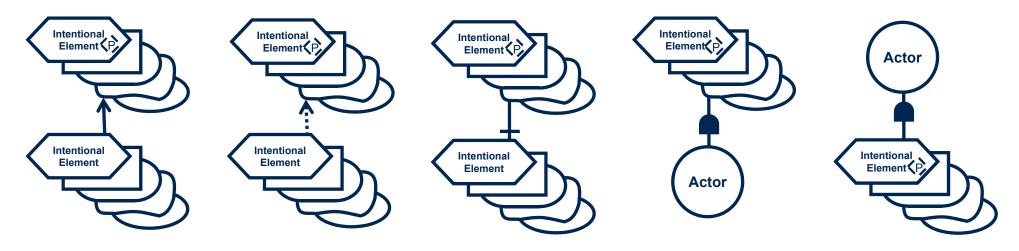


 The contradiction occurs at step 4 of the matching process because the same link cannot be matched to two different links

Composition of AoGRL: Composition Rules

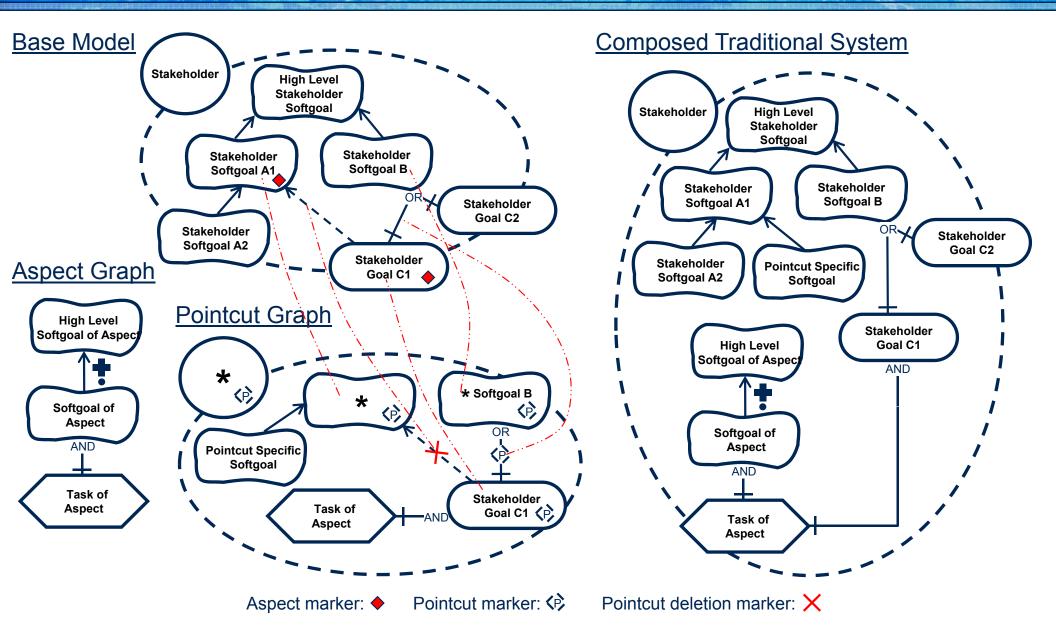
 AoGRL can use any composition rule that can be described with the GRL notation (i.e. all four link types – contribution, correlation, decomposition, and dependency – can be used in a composition rule)

Five Pointcut Graphs





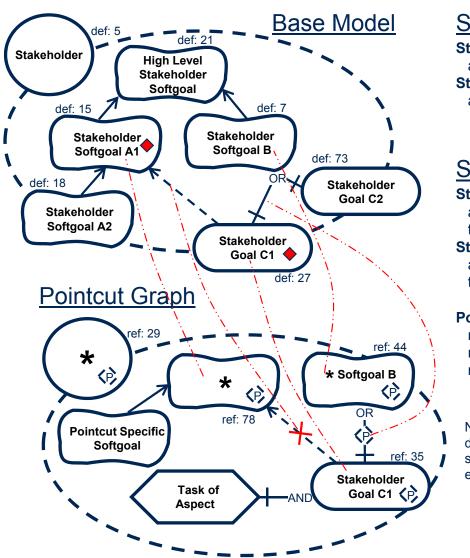
Composition of AoGRL: AO or Traditional GRL





Composition of AoGRL: Step 1 and 2

Result of composition is encoded with metadata



Step 1

Stakeholder Softgoal A1 metadata: aspect marker Stakeholder Goal C1 metadata: aspect marker

Step 2

Stakeholder Softgoal A1 metadata:

aspect marker to 78 match 1

Stakeholder Goal C1 metadata:

aspect marker to 35 match 1

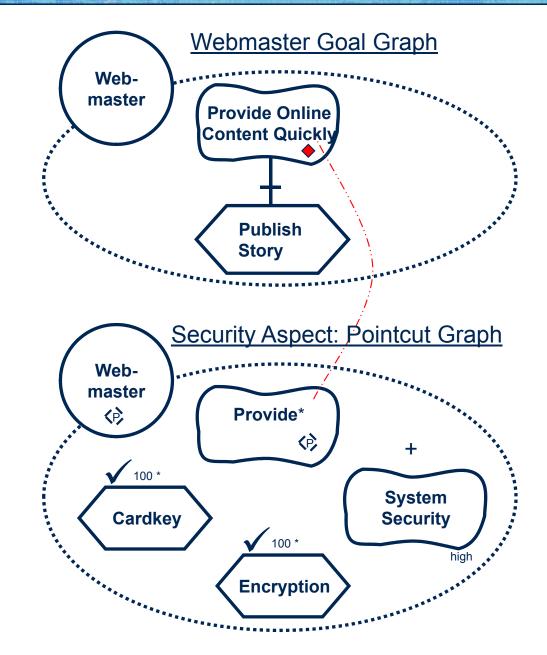
Pointcut Graph metadata:

match 1 78 = 15 match 1 44 = 7 match 1 29 = 5

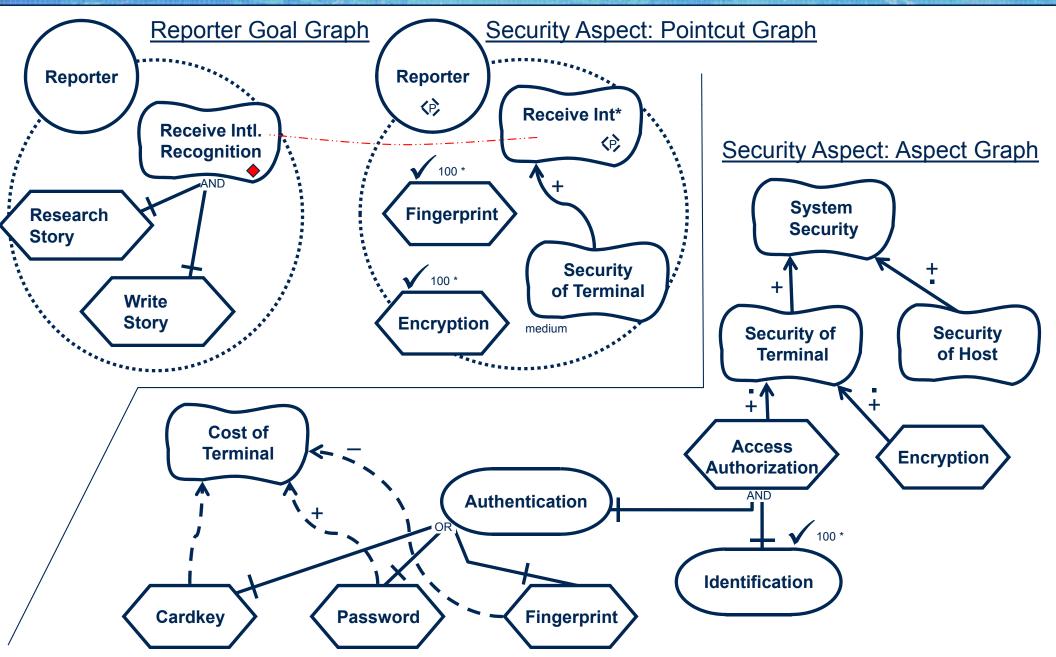
Note: For illustration purposes, IDs for definitions (def) and references (ref) are shown next to actors and intentional elements.

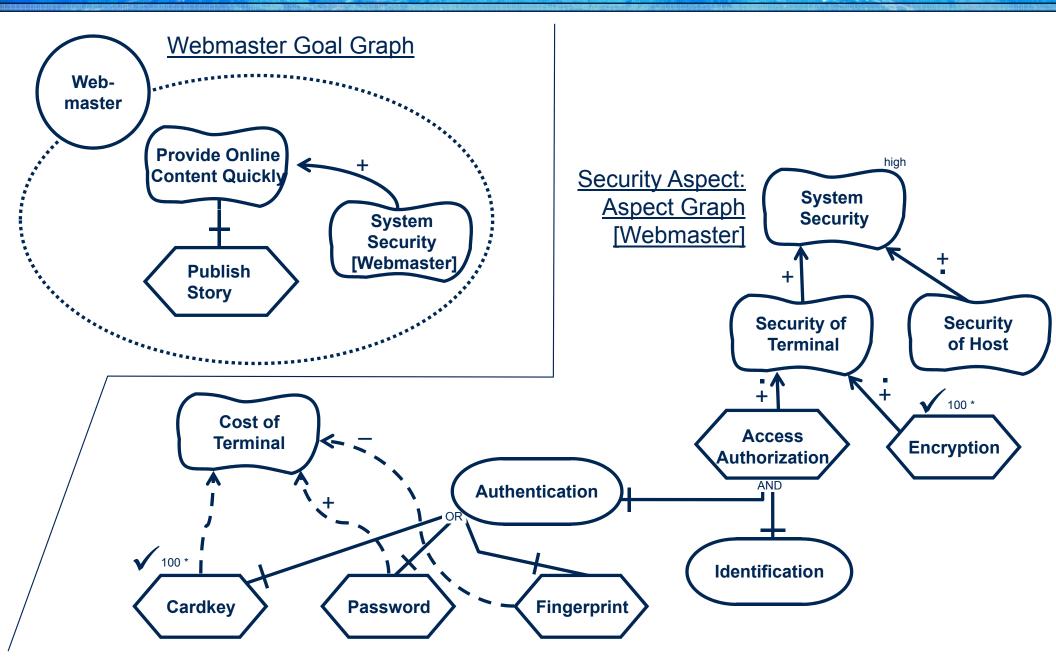


Composition of AoGRL: Example (1)



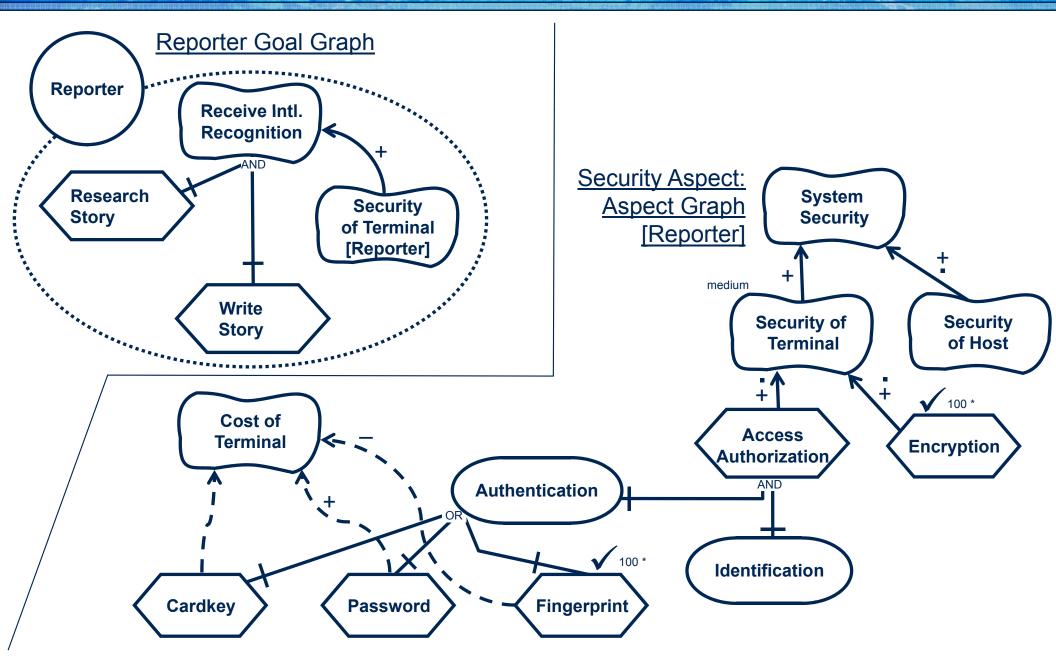
















Aspect-oriented Analysis and Validation with AoURN



GRL: Strategies and Evaluation Mechanism

- GRL allows a particular configuration of intentional elements to be defined in a strategy (i.e. one possible solution)
 - Captures the initial, user-defined satisfaction levels for these elements separately from the GRL graphs
 - Strategies can be compared with each other for trade-off analyses
- In order to analyze the goal model and compare solutions with each other, jUCMNav's customizable evaluation mechanism executes the strategies
 - Propagating levels to the other elements and to actors shows impact of proposed solution on high level goals for each stakeholder
 - Propagation starts at user-defined satisfaction levels of intentional elements (usually bottom-up)
 - Takes into consideration
 - Initial satisfaction levels of intentional elements
 - Links and contribution types
 - Importance defined for intentional elements





GRL: Qualitative or Quantitative Approach

- Qualitative Approach
 - Contribution types: from Make to Break
 - Importance: High, Medium, Low, or None
 - Qualitative satisfaction levels
- Quantitative Approach
 - Contribution types: [-100, 100]
 - Importance: [0, 100]
 - Quantitative satisfaction levels: [-100, 100]
- Hybrid Approach is also possible
 - Qualitative contribution types
 - Quantitative importance
 - Quantitative satisfaction levels

GRL Satisfaction Levels: (qualitative)









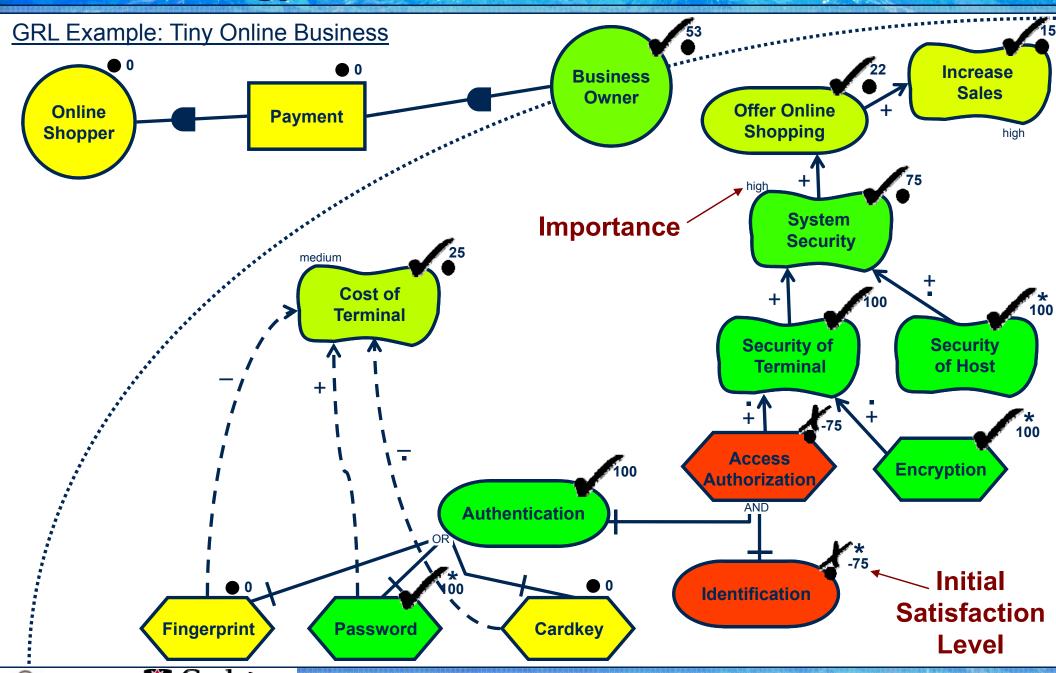




None



GRL: Strategy Execution



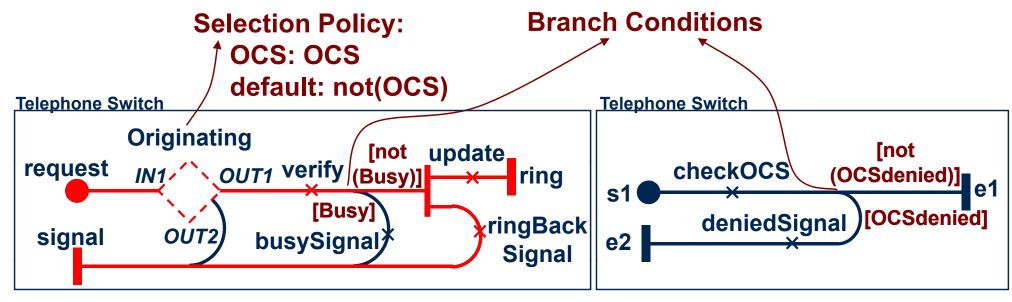
- UCM scenarios describe one path through the UCM model (only one alternative at any choice point is taken)
 - Set of initial values for the variables used in conditions and responsibilities
 - Start points triggered, end points reached
 - Possibly pre/post conditions
- jUCMNav's traversal mechanism executes the UCM model given UCM scenario description(s) (i.e., test suite for UCM model)
 - Intuitive interpretation aligned with UCM semantics except for dynamic stubs which are deemed to contain an XOR for the selection of a single plug-in map
- Two options
 - Deterministic (only one alternative at any choice point can be enabled)
 - Non-deterministic (randomly choose an alternative from all enabled ones)
- Boolean, Integer, and Enumeration variables are evaluated and can be changed by responsibilities during the traversal of the UCM model
 - These variables are used in expressions for any alternative of a choice point





Use Case Maps: Scenario Execution (1)

UCM Example: Tiny Telephone System



a) Basic Call map

JRN++ Motivation AORE

- Scenario Definition "Simple Basic Call"
 - Start point: req
 - OCS = false
 - Busy = false
 - End points: ring, sig

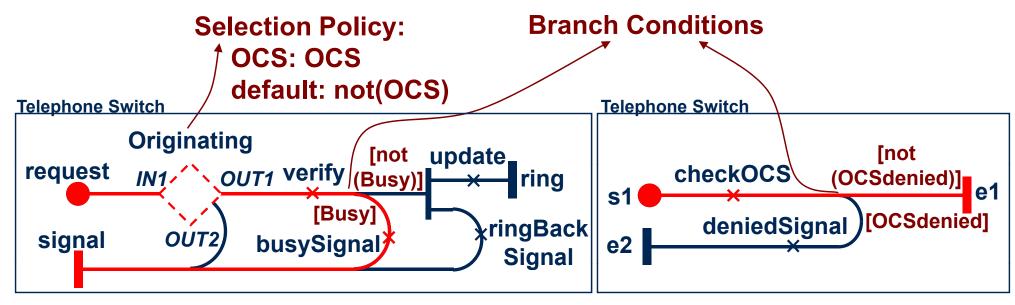
b) OCS plug-in map



c) default plug-in map



UCM Example: Tiny Telephone System



a) Basic Call map

- Scenario Definition "Busy Call + OCS"
 - · Start point: req
 - OCS = true
 - OCSdenied = false
 - Busy = true
 - End point: sig

b) OCS plug-in map



c) default plug-in map



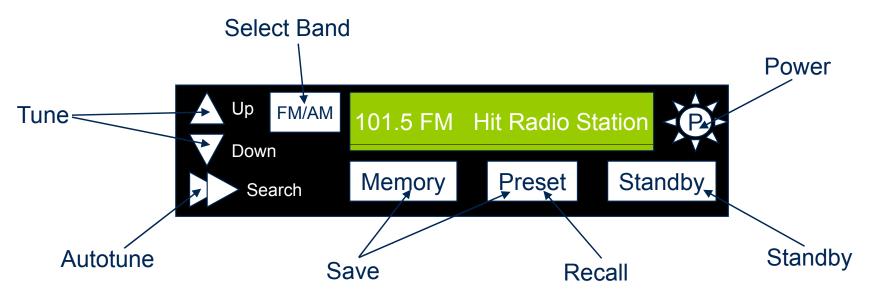
Overview of Approach for AoUCM

- Step 1: Model each feature as a concern (aspect)
- Step 2: Create scenario definitions (= validation model)
 - Complete branch coverage for each feature
 - Global variables, formalization of conditions for choice points, pseudo-code for responsibilities
- Step 3: Model FI resolutions with aspects
 - Model as part of existing feature concerns
- Step 4: Create scenario definitions for FI resolutions
 - Reuse scenario definitions of individual features as much as possible
 - Requires composition rules for aspect-oriented scenario definitions

A similar approach with similar results may be established for the evaluation of AoGRL models

10 Features

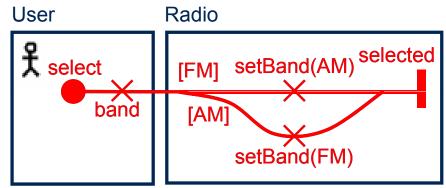
 Select Band, Tune, Autotune, Save, Recall, Traffic News, Power On / Off, Standby On / Off



- Update Display
- Remember Settings
 - Radio device remembers last band and frequency settings when turned off, defaults to these settings when turned on



Step 1: Model feature



- Step 2: Create scenario definitions
 - Global enumeration variable: Band = { AM , FM }
 - Formalize conditions: [FM] ... Band == FM, [AM] ... Band == AM

Select Band	Scenario One	Scenario Two
Included Scenarios	n/a	n/a
Start Points	select	select
Initialization	Band = FM	Band = AM
End Points	selected	Selected
Postcondition	Band == AM	Band == FM

- Code for responsibilities changes the value of variable Band
 - setBand(AM) ... Band = AM; setBand(FM) ... Band = FM

- Scenario definitions may be included in other scenario definitions
 - Union of start points, end points, and pre/postconditions
 - Start points ordered by scenario include order
 - Initializations: applied in scenario include order before scenario starts later ones may override earlier ones

Scenario Definition	Scenario One	Scenario Two	Combined Scenario
Included Scenarios	n/a	n/a	One, Two
Start Points	start1	start2	start1, start2
Initialization	var1 = X, var2 = Y	var1 = Z	var1 = Z, var2 = Y
End Points	end1	end2	end1, end2
Postcondition	var2 = A	var1 = B	var1 = B, var2 = A

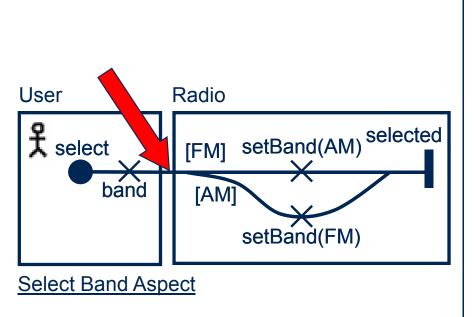
- Elements may be added to combined scenario definitions
- Next start point of scenario definition is only considered if the traversal of the previous start point is finished or stuck

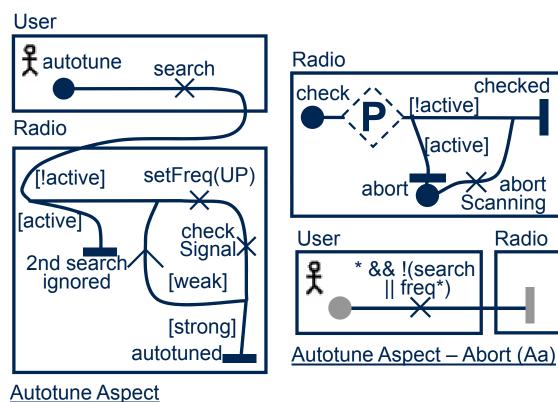


- Requires extensions to the current scenario definitions
- Control variables for loops (counters)
 - **NEW** Traversal mechanism exposes element hit count (_hitCount)
- Changes to scenario definition
 - **NEW** Elements may be deleted from scenario definitions
- Interrupting a scenario
 - NEW Allow interruption of a scenario before/after a path element if a condition evaluates to true
- There are more extensions...

Example of Feature Interaction: Abort Autotune (1)

- Step 3: Model FI resolution
 - Autotune must be aborted when Select Band, Save, Recall, Power Off, or Standby Off are activated
 - Modeled as part of the Autotune feature concern







Example of Feature Interaction: Abort Autotune (2)

- Step 4: Create scenario definitions for FI resolution
 - Interaction Scenario Definition:

include Autotune, Select Band interrupt after OR-join in Autotune if _hitCount == 50 delete OR-join; add abort

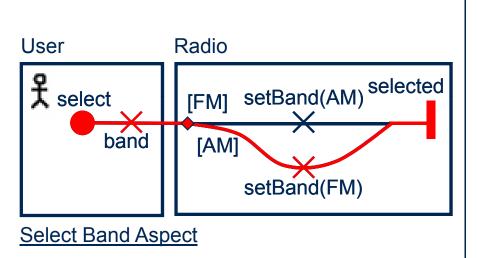
Scenario Definition	Autotune	Select Band	Interaction
Included Scenarios	n/a	n/a	Autotune, Select Band
Start Points	autotune	select	autotune, select
Initialization	Freq = 32, StrongFreq = -1	Band = AM	Freq = 32, StrongFreq = -1 Band = AM
End Points	OR-join	selected	OR-join, abort, selected
Postcondition	Freq != StrongFreq	Band == FM	Freq != StrongFreq, Band = FM

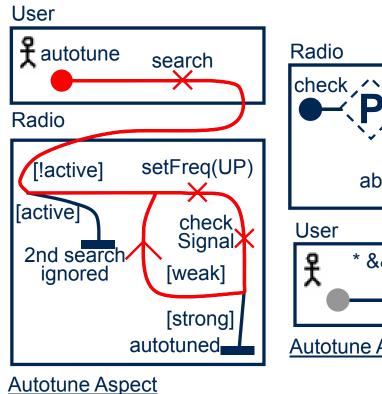


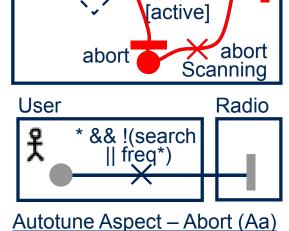
Example of Feature Interaction: Abort Autotune (3)

Scenario Definition	Interaction	
Included Scenarios	Autotune, Select Band	
Start Points	autotune, select	
Initialization	Freq = 32, StrongFreq = -1, Band = AM	
End Points	OR-join, abort, selected	
Postcondition	Freq != StrongFreq, Band = FM	

interrupt after OR-join
in Autotune if _hitCount
== 50







[!active]

checked

- Integrated aspect-oriented specification and validation scenario models at the requirements stage
- Incremental development of features
- Composition rules for aspect-oriented validation models
 - Include, add, delete, interrupt, redundant
- Reduced complexity of AoUCMs
- Improved scalability
- Feature concerns and FI resolution concerns are properly encapsulated
- Specification model is kept strictly separate from the validation model (thus further improving separation of concerns)
- It may be possible to
 - Infer composition rules for the validation model from the aspect-oriented composition rules of the specification model
 - Provide more internal information of the path traversal mechanism





AoURN Tool: jUCMNav - Juice Up Your Modeling!

- **GRL**
- **Strategies**
- **Evaluation**
- **UCMs**
- **Scenario Definition**
- Scenario Execution
- **Test Suite**
- Support for AoURN
- Support for BPM
- **MSC** Generation
- Export to DOORS / CSM



Pronounced: juicy – em – nav

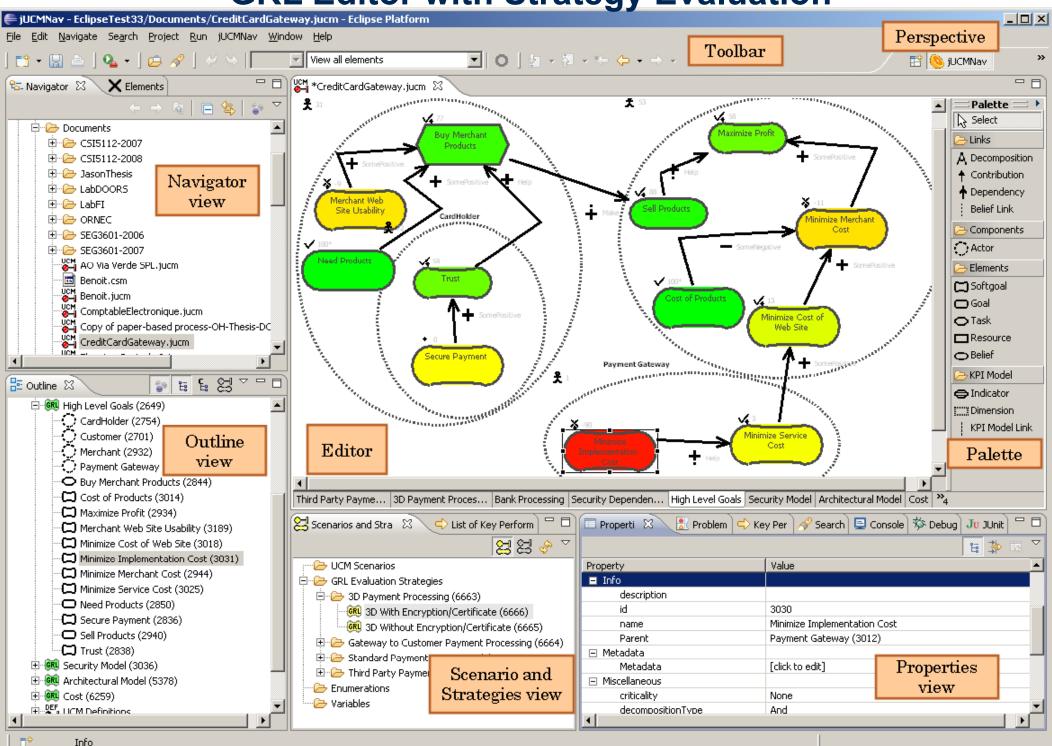
http://jucmnav.softwareengineering.ca



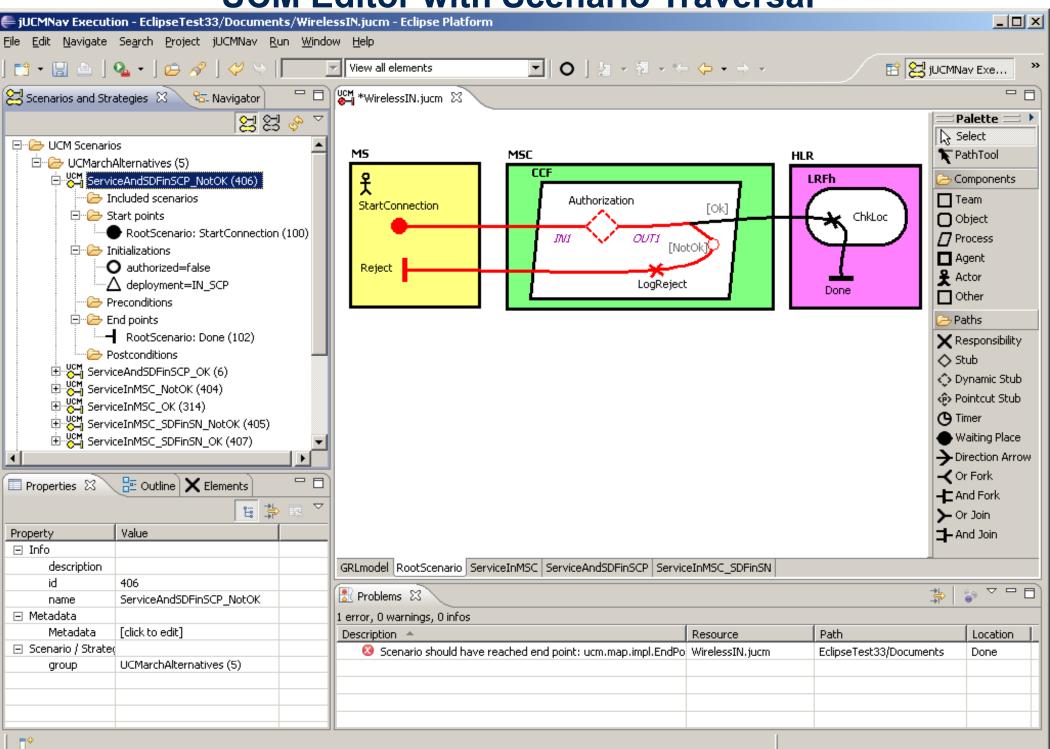
- Free (EPL), open-source plug-in for Eclipse
 - Based on Eclipse Modeling Framework (EMF) and the Graphical Editing Framework (GEF)
- Supports most of GRL and UCM notation elements
- Extensible architecture for customized GRL and UCM analysis techniques
- 4 GRL evaluation algorithms, with color highlight
- 1 UCM path traversal mechanism, with export to flat UCMs and MSCs
 - Integrated MSC viewer
- Other features
 - Export performance models to CSM
 - Integration with DOORS for requirements management
 - Extensions for Business Process Modeling, Monitoring, and Adaptation
 - Extensions for aspect-oriented modeling with AoURN
 - Verification of user-defined (OCL) rules
 - Report generation (PDF, HTML)
 - Export of diagrams to various bitmap formats



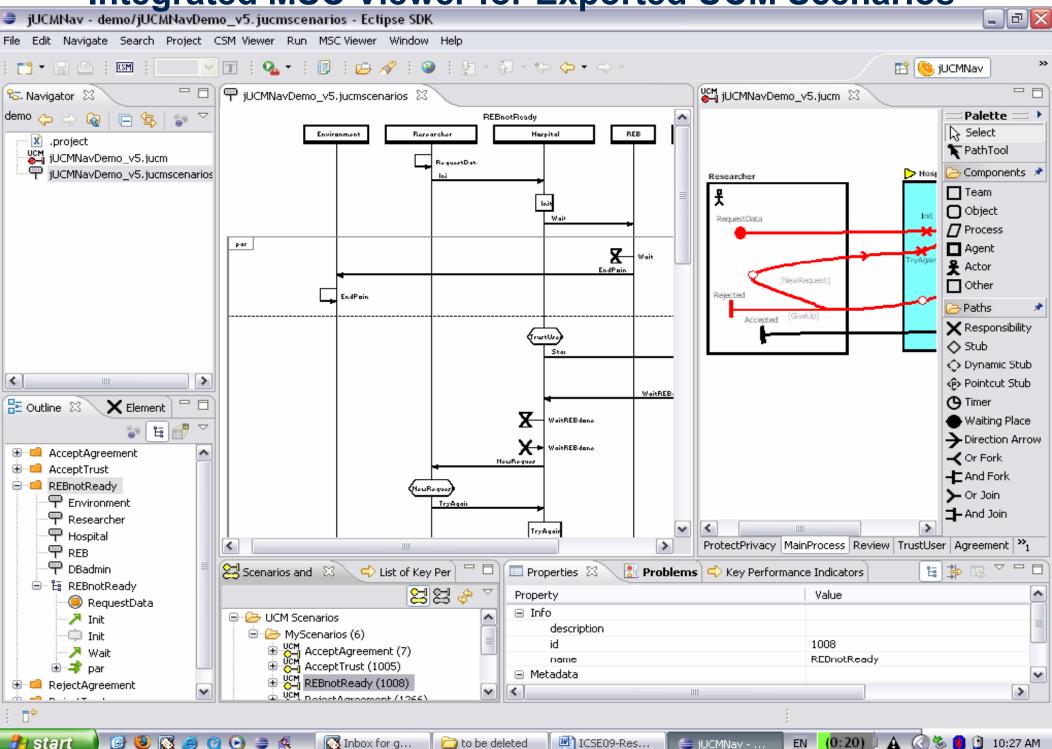
GRL Editor with Strategy Evaluation



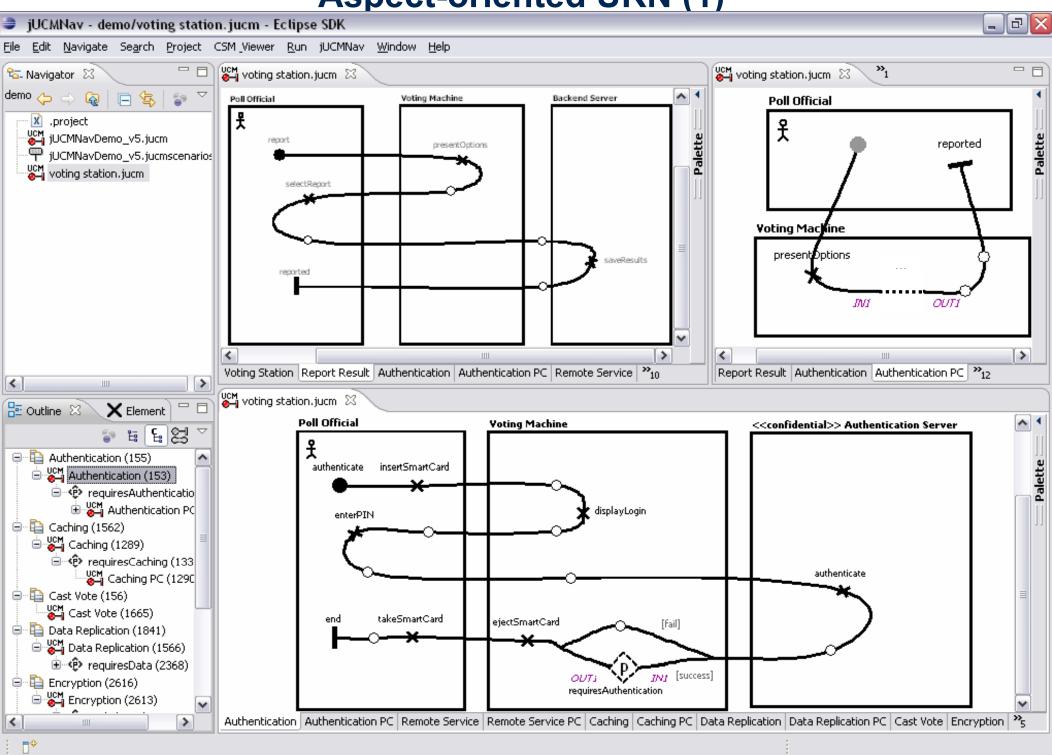
UCM Editor with Scenario Traversal



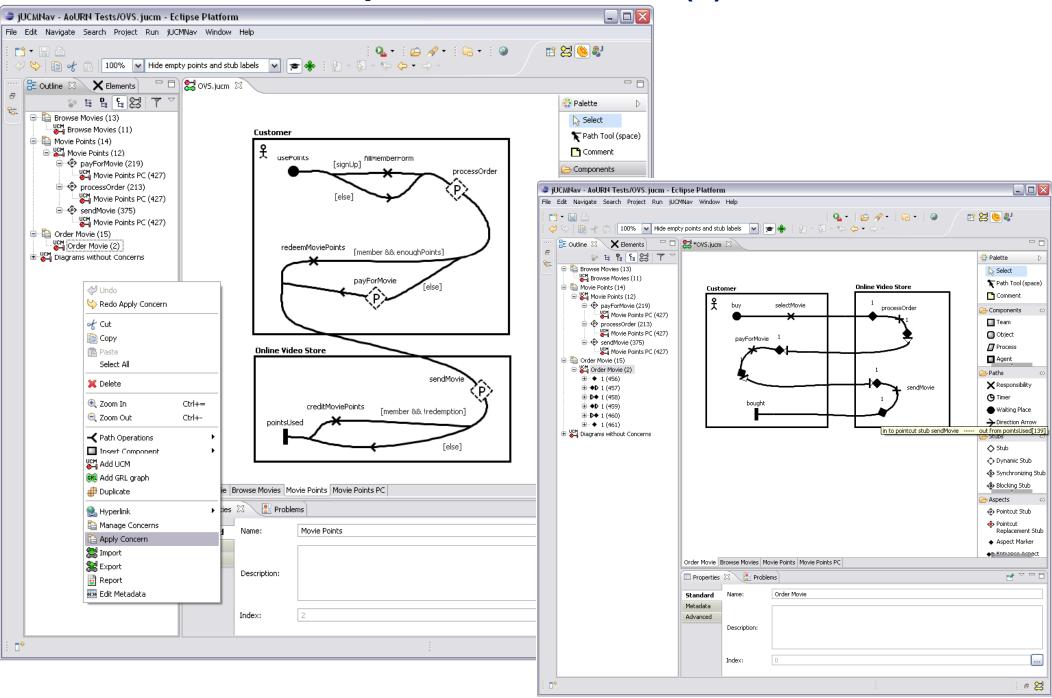
Integrated MSC Viewer for Exported UCM Scenarios



Aspect-oriented URN (1)



Aspect-oriented URN (2)



Summary, References, and Appendix (Notation Overview)



- The User Requirements Notation (URN) is an ITU-T standard
- Modeling with the Goal-oriented Requirement Language (GRL)
 - Focuses on answering "why" questions
 - Intentions, functional / non-functional requirements, rationales
- Modeling with Use Case Maps (UCM)
 - Focuses on answering "what" questions
 - Scenarios, services, architectures
- While modeling with URN as a whole, goals are operationalized into tasks, and tasks are elaborated in (mapped to) UCM path elements and scenarios
 - Moving towards answering "how" questions
 - Can guide the selection of an architecture or scenarios
- Enables the elicitation/specification of systems, standards, and products, their analysis from various angles, and transformations

- The Aspect-oriented User Requirements Notation (AoURN) combines goal-modeling, scenario-modeling, and aspect-oriented modeling at the requirements level in one framework
- Graphical and familiar
- Better encapsulation of concerns in URN models (goals and scenarios)
- URN models are more easily maintained and reused
- A standardized way of modeling non-functional requirements and use cases
- Enhanced matching mechanism based on semantics
- **Tool Support**
 - Some support for AoURN has already been added to the jUCMNav tool
 - More to come...

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References (2)

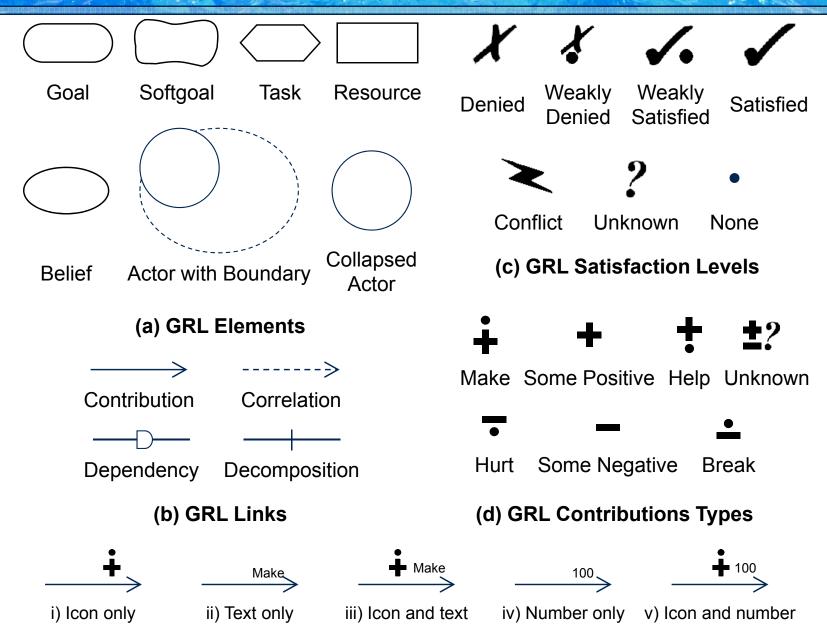
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References (3)

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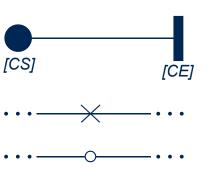
Appendix: Notation Overview – GRL



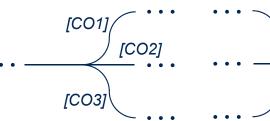
(e) Representations of Qualitative and Quantitative Contributions



Appendix: Notation Overview – UCM (Behavior)



Path with Start Point with Precondition CS and End Point with Postcondition CE





Responsibility

Empty Point

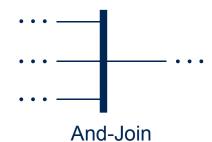
Or-Fork with Conditions

Or-Join

•••

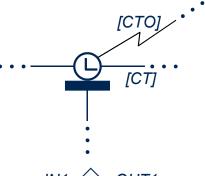
Direction Arrow







Waiting Place with Condition and Asynchronous Trigger

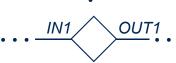


Timer with Timeout Path, Conditions, and Synchronous Release



And-Fork

Synchronizing Stub with In-Path ID, Out-Path ID, and Synchronization Threshold



Static Stub with In-Path ID and Out-Path ID

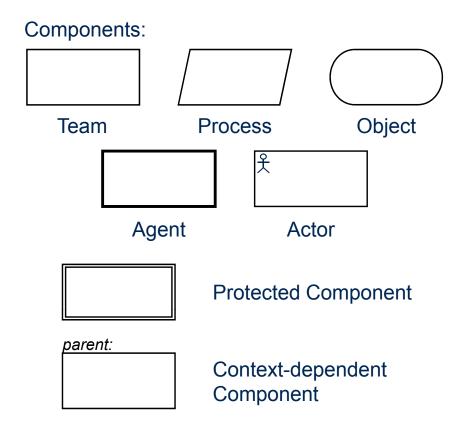


Blocking Stub with In-Path ID, Out-Path ID, Synchronization Threshold, and Replication Indicator

··· IN1 OUT1

Carleton

Appendix: Notation Overview – UCM (Structure)



Appendix: Notation Overview - AoURN

Concern Interaction Graph:

models conflicts and dependencies between concerns

Aspect Graph:

models aspectual properties

Pointcut Graph:

models pointcut expression and composition rule

Aspect Map:

models aspectual properties and composition rule

Pointcut Map:

models pointcut expression

(a) AoURN Diagrams



Aspect Marker



Pointcut Marker



Pointcut Deletion Marker

<<anytype>>

Anytype Pointcut Element

(b) AoGRL Elements



Aspect Marker

Tunnel Entrance Aspect Marker

Tunnel Exit Aspect Marker

Conditional **Aspect Marker**



Local Start / **End Points**

Pointcut Stub

Replacement Pointcut Stub

Start / End of Pointcut Expression Pointcut Element

Anything

(C) AoUCM Elements



