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**Information technology — Object  
Management Group Unified Modeling  
Language (OMG UML) —**

**Part 2:  
Superstructure**

*Technologies de l'information — Langage de modélisation unifié OMG  
(OMG UML) —*

*Partie 2: Superstructure*

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## Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

The main task of technical committees is to prepare International Standards. Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this part of ISO/IEC 19505 may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

This International Standard was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/IEC/JTC1, Information technology, in collaboration with the Object Management Group (OMG), following the submission and processing as a Publicly Available Specification (PAS) of the OMG Unified Modeling Language (UML) specification.

This International Standard is related to:

- ITU-T Recommendations X.901-904 | ISO/IEC 10746, the Reference Model of Open Distributed Processing (RM-ODP).

This International Standard consists of the following parts, under the general title *Information technology - Open distributed processing - UML specification*:

- Part 1: Infrastructure
- Part 2: Superstructure

Apart from this Foreword, the text of this International Standard is identical with that for the OMG specification for UML, v2.4.1, Part 2.

## Introduction

The rapid growth of distributed processing has led to a need for a coordinating framework for this standardization and ITU-T Recommendations X.901-904 | ISO/IEC 10746, the Reference Model of Open Distributed Processing (RM-ODP) provides such a framework. It defines an architecture within which support of distribution, interoperability, and portability can be integrated.

RM-ODP Part 2 (ISO/IEC 10746-2) defines the foundational concepts and modeling framework for describing distributed systems. The scopes and objectives of the RM-ODP Part 2 and the UML, while related, are not the same and, in a number of cases, the RM-ODP Part 2 and the UML specification use the same term for concepts that are related but not identical (e.g., interface). Nevertheless, a specification using the Part 2 modeling concepts can be expressed using UML with appropriate extensions (using stereotypes, tags, and constraints).

RM-ODP Part 3 (ISO/IEC 10746-3) specifies a generic architecture of open distributed systems, expressed using the foundational concepts and framework defined in Part 2. Given the relation between UML as a modeling language and Part 2 of the RM ODP standard, it is easy to show that UML is suitable as a notation for the individual viewpoint specifications defined by the RM-ODP.

The Unified Modeling Language (UML) is a general-purpose modeling language with a semantic specification, a graphical notation, an interchange format, and a repository query interface. It is designed for use in object-oriented software applications, including those based on technologies recommended by the Object Management Group (OMG). As such, it serves a variety of purposes including, but not limited to, the following:

- a means for communicating requirements and design intent,
- a basis for implementation (including automated code generation),
- a reverse engineering and documentation facility.

As an international standard, the various components of UML provide a common foundation for model and metadata interchange:

- between software development tools,
- between software developers, and
- between repositories and other object management facilities.

The existence of such a standard facilitates the communication between standardized UML environments and other environments.

While not limited to this context, the UML standard is closely related to work on the standardization of Open Distributed Processing (ODP).

# Information technology - Object Management Group Unified Modeling Language (OMG UML), Superstructure

## 1 Scope

### 1.1 General

This International Standard defines the Unified Modeling Language (UML), revision 2. The objective of UML is to provide system architects, software engineers, and software developers with tools for analysis, design, and implementation of software-based systems as well as for modeling business and similar processes.

The initial versions of UML (UML 1) originated with three leading object-oriented methods (Booch, OMT, and OOSE), and incorporated a number of best practices from modeling language design, object-oriented programming, and architectural description languages. Relative to UML 1, this revision of UML has been enhanced with significantly more precise definitions of its abstract syntax rules and semantics, a more modular language structure, and a greatly improved capability for modeling large-scale systems.

One of the primary goals of UML is to advance the state of the industry by enabling object visual modeling tool interoperability. However, to enable meaningful exchange of model information between tools, agreement on semantics and notation is required. UML meets the following requirements:

- A formal definition of a common MOF-based metamodel that specifies the abstract syntax of the UML. The abstract syntax defines the set of UML modeling concepts, their attributes and their relationships, as well as the rules for combining these concepts to construct partial or complete UML models.
- A detailed explanation of the semantics of each UML modeling concept. The semantics define, in a technology-independent manner, how the UML concepts are to be realized by computers.
- A specification of the human-readable notation elements for representing the individual UML modeling concepts as well as rules for combining them into a variety of different diagram types corresponding to different aspects of modeled systems.
- A detailed definition of ways in which UML tools can be made compliant with this International Standard. This is supported (in a separate specification) with an XML-based specification of corresponding model interchange formats (XMI) that must be realized by compliant tools.

## 2 Conformance

### 2.1 General

UML is a language with a very broad scope that covers a large and diverse set of application domains. Not all of its modeling capabilities are necessarily useful in all domains or applications. This suggests that the language should be structured modularly, with the ability to select only those parts of the language that are of direct interest. On the other hand, an excess of this type of flexibility increases the likelihood that two different UML tools will be supporting different subsets of the language, leading to interchange problems between them. Consequently, the definition of compliance for UML requires a balance to be drawn between modularity and ease of interchange.

Experience with previous versions of UML has indicated that the ability to exchange models between tools is of paramount interest to a large community of users. For that reason, this International Standard defines a small number of *compliance levels* thereby increasing the likelihood that two or more compliant tools will support the same or compatible language subsets. However, in recognition of the need for flexibility in learning and using the language, UML also provides the concept of *language units*.

## 2.2 Language Units

The modeling concepts of UML are grouped into *language units*. A language unit consists of a collection of tightly-coupled modeling concepts that provide users with the power to represent aspects of the system under study according to a particular paradigm or formalism. For example, the State Machines language unit enables modelers to specify discrete event-driven behavior using a variant of the well-known statecharts formalism, while the Activities language unit provides for modeling behavior based on a workflow-like paradigm. From the user's perspective, this partitioning of UML means that they need only be concerned with those parts of the language that they consider necessary for their models. If those needs change over time, further language units can be added to the user's repertoire as required. Hence, a UML user does not have to know the full language to use it effectively.

In addition, most language units are partitioned into multiple increments, each adding more modeling capabilities to the previous ones. This fine-grained decomposition of UML serves to make the language easier to learn and use, but the individual segments within this structure do not represent separate compliance points. The latter strategy would lead to an excess of compliance points and result to the interoperability problems described above. Nevertheless, the groupings provided by language units and their increments do serve to simplify the definition of UML compliance as explained below.

## 2.3 Compliance Levels

The stratification of language units is used as the foundation for defining compliance in UML. Namely, the set of modeling concepts of UML is partitioned into horizontal layers of increasing capability called *compliance levels*. Compliance levels cut across the various language units, although some language units are only present in the upper levels. As their name suggests, each compliance level is a distinct compliance point.

For ease of model interchange, there are just four compliance levels defined for the whole of UML:

- *Level 0 (L0)*. This compliance level is formally defined in the UML Infrastructure. It contains a single language unit that provides for modeling the kinds of class-based structures encountered in most popular object-oriented programming languages. As such, it provides an entry-level modeling capability. More importantly, it represents a low-cost common denominator that can serve as a basis for interoperability between different categories of modeling tools.
- *Level 1 (L1)*. This level adds new language units and extends the capabilities provided by Level 0. Specifically, it adds language units for use cases, interactions, structures, actions, and activities.
- *Level 2 (L2)*. This level extends the language units already provided in Level 1 and adds language units for deployment, state machine modeling, and profiles.
- *Level 3 (L3)*. This level represents the complete UML. It extends the language units provided by Level 2 and adds new language units for modeling information flows, templates, and model packaging.

The contents of language units are defined by corresponding top-tier packages of the UML metamodel, while the contents of their various increments are defined by second-tier packages within language unit packages. Therefore, the contents of a compliance level are defined by the set of metamodel packages that belong to that level.

As noted, compliance levels build on supporting compliance levels. The principal mechanism used in this International Standard for achieving this is *package merge* (see “PackageMerge (from Kernel)” on page 118). Package merge allows modeling concepts defined at one level to be extended with new features. Most importantly, this is achieved *in the context of the same namespace*, which enables interchange of models at different levels of compliance as described in ““Meaning and Types of Compliance” on page 6.

For this reason, all compliance levels are ultimately merged into a single core “UML” model package that defines the common namespace shared by all the compliance levels. Level 0 is defined by the top-level metamodel shown in Figure 2.1. In this model, “L0” is originally an empty package that simply merges in the contents of the *Basic* package from the *UML Infrastructure*. This package is then merged into the UML model. Package L0 contains elementary concepts such as Class, Package, DataType, Operation, etc. merged in from *Basic* (see the *Unified Modeling Language: Infrastructure specification* for the complete list of contents of this package).

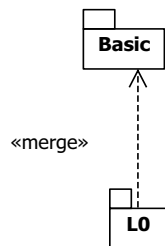
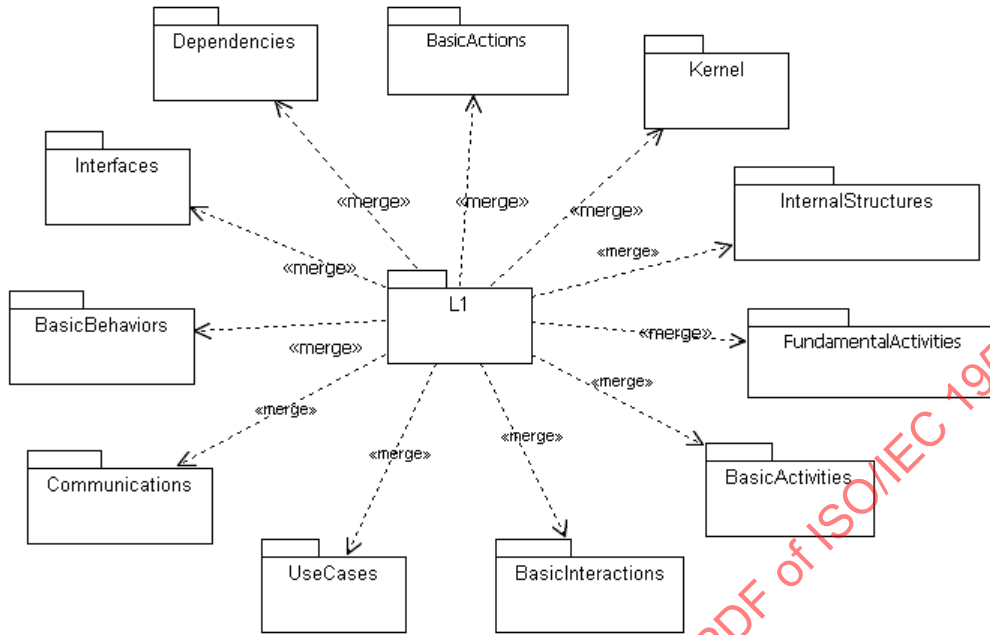


Figure 2.1 - Level 0 package diagram

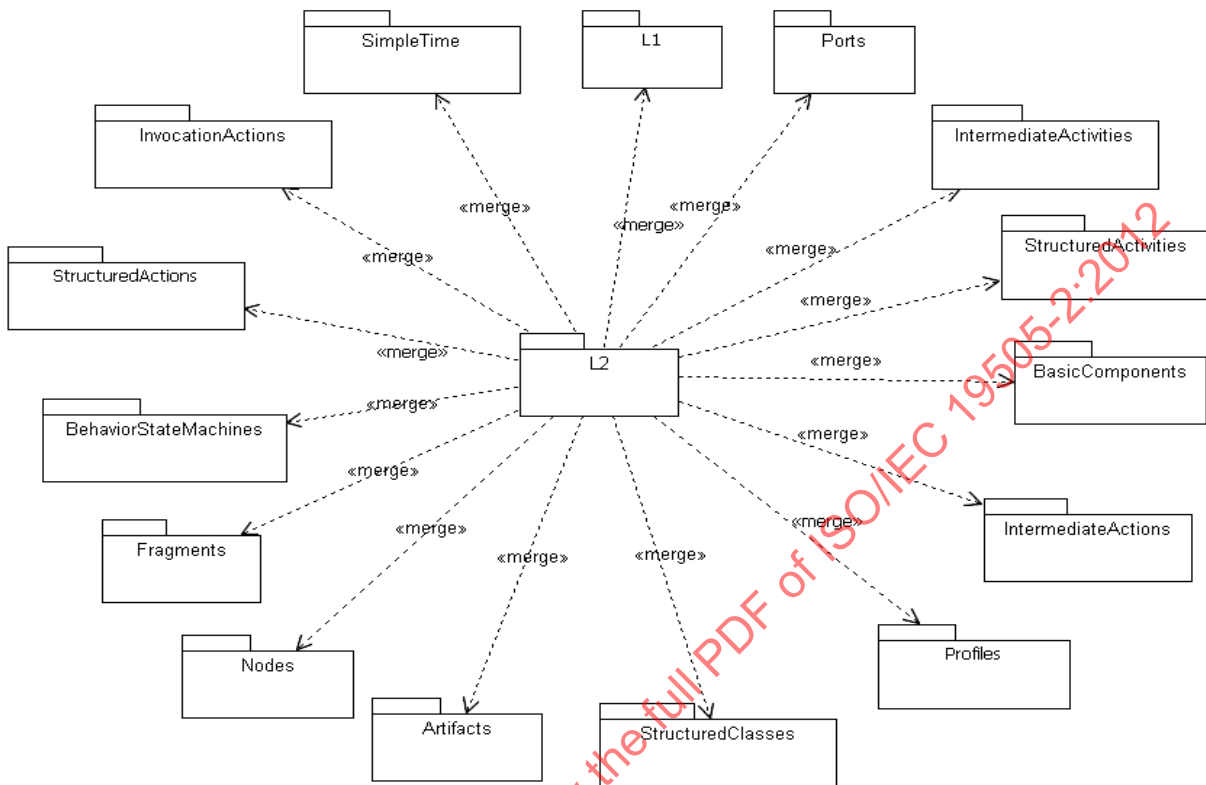
At the next level (Level 1) the packages merged into Level 0 and their contents are extended with additional packages as shown in Figure 2.2 on page 4. Note that each of the four packages shown in the figure merges in additional packages that are not shown in the diagram. They are defined in the corresponding package diagrams in this Part of ISO/IEC 19505. Consequently, the set of language units that results from this model is more than is indicated by the top-level model in the diagram. The specific packages included at this level are listed in Table 2.3 on page 8.



**Figure 2.2 - Level 1 top-level package merges**

Level 2 adds further language units and extensions to those provided by the Level 1. The actual language units and packages included at this level of compliance are listed in Table 2.4 on page 8.

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**Figure 2.3 - Level 2 top-level package merges**

Finally, Level3, incorporating the full UML definition, is shown in Figure 2.4 on page 6. Its contents are described in Table 2.5 on page 9.

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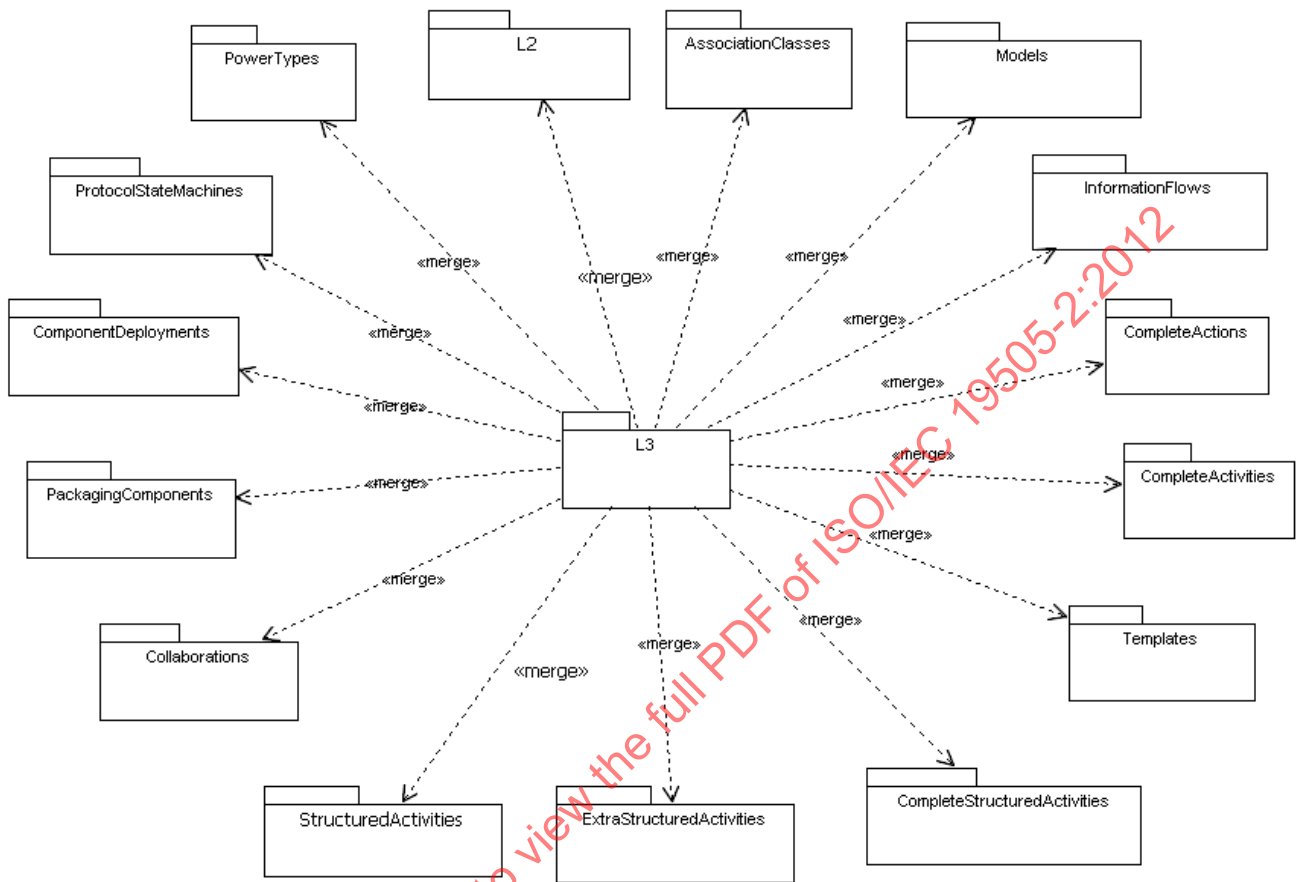


Figure 2.4 - Level 3 top-level package merges

## 2.4 Meaning and Types of Compliance

Compliance to a given level entails full realization of *all language units* that are defined for that compliance level. This also implies full realization of all language units in all the levels below that level. “Full realization” for a language unit at a given level means supporting the *complete set of modeling concepts* defined for that language unit *at that level*.

Thus, it is not meaningful to claim compliance to, say, Level 2 without also being compliant with the Level 0 and Level 1. A tool that is compliant at a given level must be able to import models from tools that are compliant to lower levels without loss of information.

There are two distinct types of compliance. They are:

1. *Abstract syntax compliance*. For a given compliance level, this entails:
  - compliance with the metaclasses, their structural relationships, and any constraints defined as part of the merged UML metamodel for that compliance level and,
  - the ability to output models and to read in models based on the XMI schema corresponding to that compliance level.

2. *Concrete syntax compliance.* For a given compliance level, this entails:

- Compliance to the notation defined in the “Notation” sub clauses in this part of ISO/IEC 19505 for those metamodel elements that are defined as part of the merged metamodel for that compliance level and, by implication, the diagram types in which those elements may appear. And, optionally:
- the ability to output diagrams and to read in diagrams based on the XMI schema defined by the Diagram Interchange specification for notation at that level. This option requires abstract syntax and concrete syntax compliance.

Concrete syntax compliance does not require compliance to any presentation options that are defined as part of the notation.

Compliance for a given level can be expressed as:

- abstract syntax compliance
- concrete syntax compliance
- abstract syntax with concrete syntax compliance
- abstract syntax with concrete syntax and diagram interchange compliance

**Table 2.1 - Example compliance statement**

Compliance Summary			
Compliance level	Abstract Syntax	Concrete Syntax	Diagram Interchange Option
Level 0	YES	YES	YES
Level 1	YES	YES	NO
Level 2	YES	NO	NO

In case of tools that generate program code from models or those that are capable of executing models, it is also useful to understand the level of support for the run-time semantics described in the various “Semantics” sub clauses of the specification. However, the presence of numerous variation points in these semantics (and the fact that they are defined informally using natural language), make it impractical to define this as a formal compliance type, since the number of possible combinations is very large.

A similar situation exists with presentation options, since different implementors may make different choices on which ones to support. Finally, it is recognized that some implementors and profile designers may want to support only a subset of features from levels that are above their formal compliance level. (Note, however, that they can only claim compliance to the level that they fully support, even if they implement significant parts of the capabilities of higher levels.) Given this potential variability, it is useful to be able to specify clearly and efficiently, which capabilities are supported by a given implementation. To this end, in addition to a formal statement of compliance, implementors and profile designers may also provide informal *feature support statements*. These statements identify support for additional features in terms of language units and/or individual metamodel packages, as well as for less precisely defined dimensions such as presentation options and semantic variation points.

An example feature support statement is shown in Table 2.2 for an implementation whose compliance statement is given in Table 2.1. In this case, the implementation adds two new language units from higher levels.

**Table 2.2 - Example feature support statement**

Feature Support Statement					
Language Unit	Packages	Abstract Syntax	Concrete Syntax	Semantics	Presentation Options
Deployments	Deployments::Artifacts (L2) Deployments::Nodes (L2)	YES	YES	Note (4)	Note (5)
State Machines	StateMachines::BehaviorStateMachines (L2) StateMachines::ProtocolStateMachines (L3)	Note (1)	YES	Note (2)	Note (3)

Note (1): States and state machines are limited to a single region  
Shallow history pseudostates not supported

Note (2): FIFO queueing in event pool

Note (3): Inherited elements indicated using grey-toned lines, etc.

## 2.5 Compliance Level Contents

**Table 2.3 - Metamodel packages added in Level 1**

Language Unit	Metamodel Packages
Actions	Actions::BasicActions
Activities	Activities::FundamentalActivities
	Activities::BasicActivities
Classes	Classes::Kernel
	Classes::Dependencies
	Classes::Interfaces
General Behavior	CommonBehaviors::BasicBehaviors
	CommonBehaviors::Communications
Structures	CompositeStructure::InternalStructures
Interactions	Interactions::BasicInteractions
UseCases	UseCases

**Table 2.4 - Metamodel packages added in Level 2**

Language Unit	Metamodel Packages
Actions	Actions::StructuredActions
	Actions::IntermediateActions
Activities	Activities::IntermediateActivities
	Activities::StructuredActivities
Components	Components::BasicComponents

**Table 2.4 - Metamodel packages added in Level 2**

Language Unit	Metamodel Packages
Deployments	Deployments::Artifacts
	Deployments::Nodes
General Behavior	CommonBehaviors::SimpleTime
Interactions	Interactions::Fragments
Profiles	AuxilliaryConstructs::Profiles
Structures	CompositeStructures::InvocationActions
	CompositeStructures::Ports
	CompositeStructures::StructuredClasses
State Machines	StateMachines::BehaviorStateMachines

**Table 2.5 - Metamodel packages added in Level 3**

Language Unit	Metamodel Packages
Action	Actions::CompleteActions
Activities	Activities::CompleteActivities
	Activities::CompleteStructuredActivities
	Activities::ExtraStructuredActivities
Classes	Classes::AssociationClasses
	Classes::PowerTypes
Components	Components::PackagingComponents
Deployments	Deployments::ComponentDeployments
Information Flows	AuxilliaryConstructs::InformationFlows
Models	AuxilliaryConstructs::Models
State Machines	StateMachines::ProtocolStateMachines
Structures	CompositeStructures::Collaborations
	CompositeStructures::StructuredActivities
Templates	AuxilliaryConstructs::Templates

### 3 Normative References

The following normative documents contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this part of ISO/IEC 19505. For dated references, subsequent amendments to, or revisions of, any of these publications do not apply.

- RFC2119, <http://ietf.org/rfc/rfc2119>, Key words for use in RFCs to Indicate Requirement Levels, S. Bradner, March 1997.

- ISO/IEC 19505-1, Information technology — OMG Unified Modeling Language (OMG UML) Version 2.4.1 — Part 1: Infrastructure (pas/2011-08-11)
- OMG Specification formal/2011-08-05, UML Infrastructure, v2.4.1
- OMG Specification formal/2010-02-01, Object Constraint Language, v2.2
- OMG Specification formal/2011-08-07, Meta Object Facility (MOF) Core, v2.4.1
- OMG Specification formal/2011-08-09, XML Metadata Interchange (XMI), v2.4.1
- OMG Specification formal/2006-04-04, UML 2.0 Diagram Interchange

**Note** – UML 2 is based on a different generation of MOF and XMI than that specified in ISO/IEC 19502:2005 Information technology - Meta Object Facility (MOF) and ISO/IEC 19503:2005 Information technology - XML Metadata Interchange (XMI) which are compatible with ISO/IEC 19501 UML version 1.4.1.

## 4 Terms and Definitions

There are no formal definitions in this part of ISO/IEC 19505 that are taken from other documents.

## 5 Notational Conventions

### 5.1 Keywords for Requirement Statements

The keywords “must,” “must not,” “shall,” “shall not,” “should,” “should not,” and “may” in this part of ISO/IEC 19505 are to be interpreted as described in RFC 2119.

### 5.2 Annotations on Example Diagrams

Some of the diagram examples in this part of ISO/IEC 19505 include explanatory annotations, which should not be confused as being part of the formal UML graphical notation.

In these cases, the explanatory text originates outside the UML diagram boundary, and has an arrow pointing at the feature of the diagram which is being explained by the annotation. The color rendition of this part of ISO/IEC 19505 shows these annotations in red.

## 6 Additional Information

### 6.1 Architectural Alignment and MDA Support

Clause 1, “Language Architecture” of the *Unified Modeling Language: Infrastructure* explains how the *Unified Modeling Language: Infrastructure* is architecturally aligned with the *Unified Modeling Language: Superstructure* that complements it. It also explains how the InfrastructureLibrary defined in the *Unified Modeling Language: Infrastructure* can be strictly reused by MOF 2 specifications.

It is the intent that the unified MOF 2 Core specification must be architecturally aligned with the *Unified Modeling Language: Infrastructure* part of this International Standard. Similarly, the unified UML 2.0 Diagram Interchange specification must be architecturally aligned with the *Unified Modeling Language: Superstructure* part of this International Standard.

The OMG's Model Driven Architecture (MDA) initiative is an evolving conceptual architecture for a set of industry-wide technology specifications that will support a model-driven approach to software development. Although MDA is not itself a technology specification, it represents an important approach and a plan to achieve a cohesive set of model-driven technology specifications. This International Standard's support for MDA is discussed in the *Unified Modeling Language: Infrastructure Annex B*, "Support for Model Driven Architecture."

## 6.2 On the Run-Time Semantics of UML

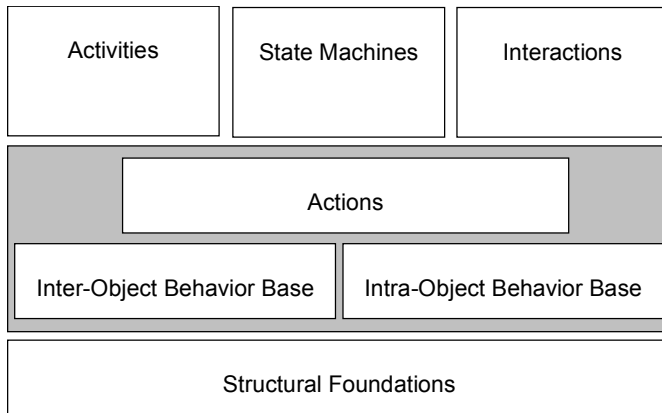
The purpose of this sub clause is to provide a very high-level view of the *run-time semantics* of UML and to point out where the various elements of that view are covered in the specification. The term "run-time" is used to refer to the execution environment. Run-time semantics, therefore, are specified as a mapping of modeling concepts into corresponding program execution phenomena. There are, of course, other semantics relevant to UML specifications, such as the *repository semantics*, that is, how a UML model behaves in a model repository. However, those semantics are really part of the definition of the MOF. Still, it is worth remarking that not every concept in UML models a run-time phenomenon (e.g., the "package" concept).

### 6.2.1 The Basic Premises

There are two fundamental premises regarding the nature of UML semantics. The first is the assumption that all behavior in a modeled system is ultimately caused by actions executed by so-called "active" objects (see "Class (from Communications)" on page 459). This includes behaviors, which are objects in UML 2, which can be active and coordinate other behaviors. The second is that UML behavioral semantics only deal with *event-driven*, or discrete, behaviors. However, UML does not dictate the amount of time between events, which can be as small as needed by the application, for example, when simulating continuous behaviors.

### 6.2.2 The Semantics Architecture

Figure 6.1 identifies the key semantic areas covered by the current standard and how they relate to each other. The items in the upper layers depend on the items in the lower layers but not the other way around. (Note that the structure of metamodel package dependencies is somewhat similar to the dependency structure indicated here. However, they are not the same and should be distinguished. This is because package dependencies specify repository dependencies not necessarily run-time dependencies.)



**Figure 6.1 - A schematic of the UML semantic areas and their dependencies**

At the highest level of abstraction, it is possible to distinguish three distinct composite layers of semantic definitions. The foundational layer is structural. This reflects the premise that there is no disembodied behavior in UML – all behavior is the consequence of the actions of structural entities. The next layer is behavioral and provides the foundation for the semantic description of all the higher-level behavioral formalisms (the term “behavioral formalism” refers to a formalized framework for describing behavior, such as state machines, Petri nets, data flow graphs, etc.). This layer, represented by the shaded box in Figure 6.1, is the behavioral semantic base and consists of three separate sub areas arranged into two sub layers. The bottom sub layer consists of the *inter-object behavior base*, which deals with how structural entities communicate with each other, and the *intra-object behavior base*, which addresses the behavior occurring within structural entities. The *actions* sub layer is placed on top of these two. It defines the semantics of individual actions. Actions are the fundamental units of behavior in UML and are used to define fine-grained behaviors. Their resolution and expressive power are comparable to the executable instructions in traditional programming languages. Actions in this sub layer are available to any of the higher-level formalisms to be used for describing detailed behaviors. The topmost layer in the semantics hierarchy defines the semantics of the higher-level behavioral formalisms of UML: *activities*, *state machines*, and *interactions*. Other behavioral formalisms may be added to this layer in the future.

### 6.2.3 The Basic Causality Model

The “causality model” is a specification of how things happen at run time and is described in detail in “Common Behaviors” on page 441. It is briefly summarized here for convenience, using the example depicted in the communication diagram in Figure 6.2. The example shows two independent and possibly concurrent threads of causally chained interactions. The first, identified by the thread prefix ‘A’ consists of a sequence of events that commence with activeObject-1 sending signal s1 to activeObject-2. In turn, activeObject-2 responds by invoking operation op1( ) on passiveObject-1 after which it sends signal s2 to activeObject-3. The second thread, distinguished by the thread prefix ‘B,’ starts with activeObject-4 invoking operation op2( ) on passiveObject-1. The latter responds by executing the method that realizes this operation in which it sends signal s3 to activeObject-2.

The causality model is quite straightforward: Objects respond to messages that are generated by objects executing communication actions. When these messages arrive, the receiving objects eventually respond by executing the behavior that is matched to that message. The dispatching method by which a particular behavior is associated with a given message depends on the higher-level formalism used and is not defined in the UML specification (i.e., it is a semantic variation point).

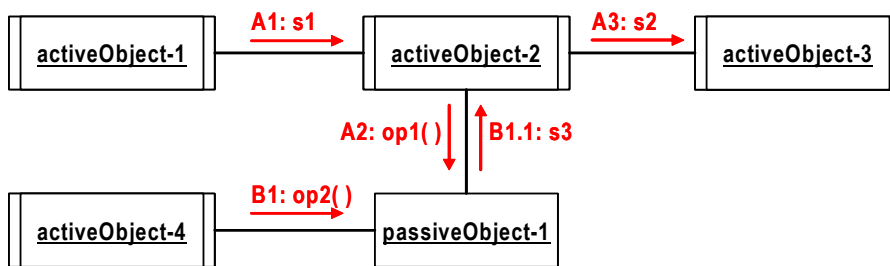


Figure 6.2 - Example illustrating the basic causality model of UML

The causality model also subsumes behaviors invoking each other and passing information to each other through arguments to parameters of the invoked behavior, as enabled by CallBehaviorAction (see “CallBehaviorAction (from BasicActions)” on page 257). This purely “procedural” or “process” model can be used by itself or in conjunction with the object-oriented model of the previous example.

## 6.2.4 Semantics Descriptions in the Specification

The general causality model is described in the introductory part of Clause 13 (CommonBehaviors) and also, in part, in the introduction to Clause 14 (Interactions) and the sub clause on Interaction (14.3.11) and Message (14.3.18).

The structural foundations are mostly covered in two clauses. The elementary level is mostly covered in Clause 7, where the root concepts of UML are specified. In particular, the sub clauses on InstanceSpecifications (7.3.22), Classes (7.3.7), Associations (7.3.3), and Features (7.3.19). The composites level is described primarily in Clause 9 (Composite Structures), with most of the information related to semantics contained in sub clauses 9.3.13 (Property concept) and 9.3.14 (StructuredClassifier). In addition, the introduction to this clause contains a high-level view of some aspects of composite structures.

The relationship between structure and behavior and the general properties of the Behavior concept, which are at the core of the behavioral base are described in CommonBehaviors (in the introduction to Clause 13 and in sub clause 13.3.2 in particular).

Inter-object behavior is covered in three separate clauses. The basic semantics of communications actions are described in the introduction to Clause 11 (Actions) and, in more detail, in the clauses describing the specific actions. These can potentially be used by an object on itself, so can be inter- or intra-object. The read/write actions can also be used by one object to access other objects, so are potentially inter- or intra-object. These actions can be used by any of the behavior formalisms in UML, so all are potentially inter-object behaviors. However, the interactions diagram is designed specifically to highlight inter-object behavior, under its concept of message. These are defined in the Interactions clause (sub clauses 14.3.18 and 14.3.19), while the concepts of events and triggers are defined in the Communications package of CommonBehaviors (Clause 13). Occurrence specifications are defined in sub clause 14.3.23 of the Interactions clause. The other two behavior formalisms can be translated to interactions when they use inter-object actions.

All the behavior formalisms are potentially intra-object, if they are specified to be executed by and access only one object. However, state machines are designed specifically to model the state of a single object and respond to events arriving at that object. Activities can be used in a similar way, but also highlight input and output dependency between behaviors, which may reside in multiple objects. Interactions are potentially intra-object, but generally not designed for that purpose.

The various shared actions and their semantics are described in Clause 13. Finally, the higher-level behavioral formalisms are each described in their own clauses: Activities in Clause 12, Interactions in Clause 14, and State Machines in Clause 15.

## 6.3 The UML Metamodel

### 6.3.1 Models and What They Model

A model contains three major categories of elements: Classifiers, events, and behaviors. Each major category models individuals in an incarnation of the system being modeled. A classifier describes a set of objects; an object is an individual thing with a state and relationships to other objects. An event describes a set of possible occurrences; an occurrence is something that happens that has some consequence within the system. A behavior describes a set of possible executions; an execution is the performance of an algorithm according to a set of rules. Models do not contain objects, occurrences, and executions, because those things are the subject of models, not their content. Classes, events, and behaviors model sets of objects, occurrences, and executions with similar properties. Value specifications, occurrence specifications, and execution specifications model individual objects, occurrences, and executions within a particular context. The distinction between objects and models of objects, for example, may appear subtle, but it is important. Objects (and occurrences and executions) are the domain of a model and, as such, are always complete, precise, and concrete. Models of objects (such as value specifications) can be incomplete, imprecise, and abstract according to their purpose in the model.

### 6.3.2 Semantic Levels and Naming

A large number of UML metaclasses can be arranged into 4 levels with metasemantic relationships among the metaclasses in the different levels that transcend different semantic categories (e.g., classifiers, events, behaviors). We have tried (with incomplete success) to provide a consistent naming pattern across the various categories to place elements into levels and emphasize metarelations among related elements in different levels. The following 4 levels are important:

*Type level* – Represents generic types of entities in models, such as classes, states, activities, events, etc. These are the most common constituents of models because models are primarily about making generic specifications.

*Instance level* – These are the things that models represent at runtime. They don't appear in models directly (except very occasionally as detailed examples), but they are necessary to explain the semantics of what models mean. These classes do not appear at all in the UML2 metamodel or in UML models, but they underlie the meaning of models. We provide a brief runtime metamodel in the Common Behavior clause, but we do not formally define the semantics of UML using the runtime metamodel. Such a formal definition would be a major amount of work.

*Value specifications* – A realization of UML2, compared to UML, is that values can be specified at various levels of precision. The specification of a value is not necessarily an instance; it might be a large set of possible instances consistent with certain conditions. What appears in models is usually not instances (individual values) but specifications of values that may or may not be limited to a single value. In any case, models contain specifications of values, not values themselves, which are runtime entities.

*Individual appearances of a type within a context* – These are roles within a generic, reusable context. When their context is instantiated, they are also bound to contained instances, but as model elements they are reusable structural parts of their context; they are not instances themselves. A realization of UML2 was that the things called instances in UML1 were mostly roles: they map to instances in an instance of their container, but they are model elements, not instances, because they are generic and can be used many times to generate many different instances.

We have established the following naming patterns:

Types : Instances : Values : Uses

Classifier, Class : Instance, Object : InstanceSpecification : Part, Role, Attribute, XXXUse (e.g., CollaborationUse)

Event : Occurrence : OccurrenceSpecification : various (e.g., Trigger)

Behavior : Execution : ExecutionSpecification : various (e.g., ActivityNode, State), XXXUse (e.g., InteractionUse)

The appearances category has too wide a variety of elements to reduce to a single pattern, although the form XXXUse is suggested for simple cases where an appearance of an element is contained in a definition of the same kind of element.

In particular, the word “event” has been used inconsistently in the past to mean both type and instance. The word “event” now means the type and the word “occurrence” means the instance. When necessary, the phrases “event type” (for event) and “event occurrence” (for occurrence) may be used. Note that this is consistent with the frequent English usage “an event occurs” = the occurrence of an event of a given type; so to describe a runtime situation, one could say “event X occurs” or “an occurrence of event X” depending on which form is more convenient in a sentence. It is redundant and incorrect to say “an event occurrence occurs.”

## 6.4 How to Proceed

The rest of this part is ISO/IEC 19505 contains the technical context. As background for this part of ISO/IEC 19505, readers are encouraged to first read the *UML: Infrastructure* specification that complements this text. Subpart I, “Introduction” of *UML: Infrastructure* explains the language architecture structure and the formal approach used for its specification. Afterwards the reader may choose to either explore the InfrastructureLibrary, described in Subpart II, “Infrastructure Library,” or the Classes::Kernel package that reuses it, described in Clause 7, “Classes.” The former specifies the flexible metamodel library that is reused by the latter; the latter defines the basic constructs used to define the UML metamodel. See the *UML:Infrastructure* specification, sub clause ‘6.2.2 Contents of Subparts’ for more information.

With that background the reader should be well prepared to explore the user level constructs defined in this *UML: Superstructure* specification. These concepts are organized into three subparts: see 6.4.3.1, ‘Contents of Subpart I - Structure,’ 6.4.3.2, ‘Contents of Subpart II - Behavior,’ and 6.4.3.3, ‘Contents of Subpart III - Supplement.’

Although the clauses are organized in a logical manner and can be read sequentially, this is a reference specification and is intended to be read in a non-sequential manner. Consequently, extensive cross-references are provided to facilitate browsing and search.

### 6.4.1 Specification format

The concepts of UML are grouped into three major subparts:

- Subpart I: Concepts related to the modeling of structure
- Subpart II: Concepts related to the modeling of behavior
- Subpart III: Supplementary concepts

Within each subpart, the concepts are grouped into clauses according to modeling *capability*. A capability typically covers a specific modeling formalism. For instance, all concepts related to the state machine modeling capability are gathered in the State Machines clause and all concepts related to the activities modeling capability are in the Activities clause. The Capability clauses in each subpart are presented in alphabetical order.

Within each clause, there is first a brief informal description of the capability described in that clause. This is followed by a sub clause describing the *abstract syntax* for that capability. The abstract syntax is defined by a CMOF model (i.e., the UML metamodel) with each modeling concept represented by an instance of a MOF class or association. The model is decomposed into packages according to capabilities. In the specification, this model is described by a set of UML class and package diagrams showing the concepts and their relationships. The diagrams were designed to provide comprehensive information about a related set of concepts, but it should be noted that, in many cases, the representation of a concept in a given diagram displays only a subset of its features (the subset that is relevant in that context). The same concept may appear in multiple diagrams with different feature subsets. For a complete specification of the features of a concept, readers should refer to its formal concept description (explained below). When the concepts in the capability are grouped into sub packages, the diagrams are also grouped accordingly with a heading identifying the sub package preceding each group of diagrams. In addition, the name of the owning package is included in each figure caption.

The “Concept Definitions” clause follows the abstract syntax clause. This clause includes formal specifications of all concepts belonging to that capability, listed in alphabetical order. Each concept is described separately according to the format explained below.

The final sub clause in most clauses gives an overview of the diagrams, diagram elements, and notational rules and conventions that are specific to that capability.

The formal concept descriptions of individual concepts are broken down into sub clauses corresponding to different aspects. In cases where a given aspect does not apply, its sub clause may be omitted entirely from the class description. The following sub clauses and conventions are used to specify a concept:

- The *heading* gives the formal name of the concept and indicates, in parentheses, the sub package in which the concept is defined. In some cases, there may be more than one sub package name listed. This occurs when a concept is defined in multiple package merge increments – one per package. In a few instances, there is no package name, but the phrase “as specialized” appears in parentheses. This indicates a “semantic” increment, which does not involve a new increment in the metamodel and which, therefore, does not change the abstract syntax, but which adds new semantics to previous increments (e.g., additional constraints).
- In some cases, following the heading is a brief, one- or two-sentence informal description of the meaning of a concept. This is intended as a quick reference for those who want only the basic information about a concept.
- All the direct generalizations of a concept are listed, alphabetically, in the “Generalizations” sub clause. A “direct” generalization of a concept is a concept (e.g., a class) that is immediately above it in the hierarchy of its ancestors (i.e., its “parent”). Note that these items are hyperlinked in electronic versions of the document to facilitate navigation through the metamodel class hierarchy. Readers of hardcopy versions can use the page numbers listed with the names to rapidly locate the description of the superclass. This sub clause is omitted for enumerations.
- A more detailed description of the purpose, nature, and potential usage of the concept may be provided in the “Description” sub clause. This too is informal. If a concept is defined in multiple increments, then the first part of the description covers the top-level package and is followed, in turn, by successive description increments for each sub package. The individual increments are identified by a sub package heading such as

*Package PowerTypes*

This indicates that the text that follows the heading describes the increment that was added in the PowerTypes sub package.

The description continues either until the end of the sub clause or until the next sub package increment heading is encountered.

- This convention for describing sub package increments is applied to all other sub clauses related to the concept.
- The “Attributes” sub clause of a concept description lists each of the attributes that are defined for that metaclass. Each attribute is specified by its formal name, its type, and multiplicity. If no multiplicity is listed, it defaults to 1..1 (the default in UML). This is followed by a textual description of the purpose and meaning of the attribute. If an attribute is derived, the name will be preceded by a slash. For example:

- `body: String[1]` Specifies a string that is the comment

specifies an attribute called “body” whose type is “String” and whose multiplicity is 1.

- If an attribute is derived, where possible, the definition will also include a specification (usually expressed as an OCL constraint) specifying how that attribute is derived. For instance:

- `/isComposite : Boolean` A state with `isComposite = true` is said to be a *composite state*. A composite state is a state that contains at least one region>

```
isComposite = (region > 1)
```

- The “Associations” sub clause lists all the association ends owned by the concept. Note that this sub clause does not list the association-owned association ends. The format for concept-owned association ends is the same as the one for attributes described above. Association ends that are subsets or redefinitions of other association ends owned by super type concepts are appropriately noted in the text. Note that this association end notation specifically excludes the notation for the subsetting or redefinition of association-owned association ends. For example:

- `lowerValue: ValueSpecification[0..1]` {subsets *Element*: *ownedElement*} The specification of the lower bound for this multiplicity.

specifies an association end called “lowerValue” that is connected to the “ValueSpecification” class and whose multiplicity is 0..1. Furthermore, it is a specialization of the “ownedElement” association end of the class “Element.”

- As with derived attributes, if an association end is derived, where possible, the definition will also include a specification (usually expressed as an OCL constraint) specifying how that association end is derived.
- The “Constraints” sub clause contains a numerical list of all the constraints that define additional well-formedness rules that apply to this concept. Each constraint consists of a textual description and may be followed by a formal constraint expressed in OCL. Note that in a few cases, it may not be possible to express the constraint in OCL, in which case the formal expression is omitted.
- “Additional Operations” contains a numerical list of operations that are applicable to the concept. These may be queries or utility operations that are used to define constraints or other operations. Where possible, operations are specified using OCL.
- The “Semantics” sub clause describes the meaning of the concept in terms of its concrete manifestation. This is a specification of the set of things that the concept models (represents) including, where appropriate, a description of the behavior of those things (i.e., the dynamic semantics of the concept).
- “Semantic Variation Points” explicitly identifies the areas where the semantics are intentionally under specified to provide leeway for domain-specific refinements of the general UML semantics (e.g., by using stereotypes and profiles).
- The “Notation” sub clause gives the basic notational forms used to represent a concept and its features in diagrams. Only concepts that can appear in diagrams will have a notation specified. This typically includes a simple example illustrating the basic notation. For textual notations a variant of the Backus-Naur Form (BNF) is often used to specify the legal formats. The conventions of this BNF are:
  - All non-terminals are in italics and enclosed between angle brackets (e.g., *<non-terminal>*).

- All terminals (keywords, strings, etc.), are enclosed between single quotes (e.g., 'or').
- Non-terminal production rule definitions are signified with the '::=' operator.
- Repetition of an item is signified by an asterisk placed after that item: '\*'.  
• Alternative choices in a production are separated by the '|' symbol (e.g., <alternative-A> | <alternative-B>).
- Items that are optional are enclosed in square brackets (e.g., [<item-x>]).
- Where items need to be grouped they are enclosed in simple parenthesis; for example:

(<item-1> | <item-2>) \*

signifies a sequence of one or more items, each of which is <item-1> or <item-2>.

- The "Presentation Options" sub clause supplements the "Notation" clause by providing alternative representations for the concept or its parts. Users have the choice to use either the forms described in this sub clause or the forms described in the "Notation" sub clause.
- "Style Guidelines" identifies notational conventions recommended by the specification. These are not normative but, if applied consistently, will facilitate communication and understanding. For example, there is a style guideline that suggests that the names of classes should be capitalized and another one that recommends that the names of abstract classes be written out in italic font. (Note that these specific recommendations only make sense in certain writing systems, which is why they cannot be normative.)
- The "Examples" sub clause, if present, includes additional illustrations of the application of the concept and its notation.
- "Changes from previous UML" identifies the main differences in the specification of the concept relative to UML versions 1.5 and earlier.

## 6.4.2 Diagram format

The following conventions are adopted for all metamodel diagrams throughout this part of ISO/IEC 19505:

- An association with one end marked by a navigability arrow means that:
  - the association is navigable in the direction of that end,
  - the marked association end is owned by the classifier, and
  - the opposite (unmarked) association end is owned by the association.

**Note** – This convention was inherited from UML 1.x and was used in the initial versions of the specification because there was no explicit notation for indicating association end ownership. Such a notation was introduced in revision 2.1.1 (see the notation sub clause of the Association metaclass on page 40) but was not applied to the diagrams in the specification due to lack of tool support. In accord with the new notation, the ownership of an association end by the association would continue to be shown by leaving the end unmarked, but the ownership of an end by the classifier would be shown by marking that classifier-owned end with a dot.

- An association with neither end marked by navigability arrows means that:
  - the association is navigable in both directions,
  - each association end is owned by the classifier at the opposite end (i.e., neither end is owned by the association).

- Association specialization and redefinition are indicated by appropriate constraints situated in the proximity of the association ends to which they apply. Thus:
  - The constraint {subsets endA} means that the association end to which this constraint is applied is a specialization of association end endA that is part of the association being specialized.
  - A constraint {redefines endA} means that the association end to which this constraint is applied redefines the association end endA that is part of the association being specialized.
- If no multiplicity is shown on an association end, it implies a multiplicity of exactly 1.
- If an association end is unlabeled, the default name for that end is the name of the class to which the end is attached, modified such that the first letter is a lowercase letter. (Note that, by convention, non-navigable association ends are often left unlabeled since, in general, there is no need to refer to them explicitly either in the text or in formal constraints - although they may be needed for other purposes, such as MOF language bindings that use the metamodel.)
- Associations that are not explicitly named, are given names that are constructed according to the following production rule:
 

```
"A_" <association-end-name1> "_" <association-end-name2>
```

where <association-end-name1> is the name of the first association end and <association-end-name2> is the name of the second association end.
- An unlabeled dependency between two packages is interpreted as a package import relationship.

Note that some of these conventions were adopted to contend with practical issues related to the mechanics of producing this part of ISO/IEC 19505, such as the unavailability of conforming modeling tools at the time the specification itself was being defined. Therefore, they should not necessarily be deemed as recommendations for general use.

### 6.4.3 Contents of Subparts I, II, and III

#### 6.4.3.1 Contents of Subpart I - Structure

This subpart includes the following clauses:

- 7 - Classes
- 8 - Components
- 9 - Composites
- 10 - Deployments

This subpart defines the static, structural constructs (e.g., classes, components, nodes, artifacts) used in various structural diagrams, such as class diagrams, component diagrams, and deployment diagrams. The UML packages that support structural modeling are shown in the figure below.

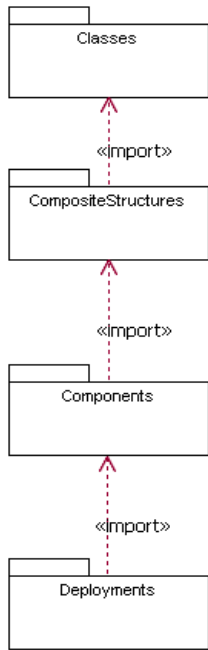


Figure 6.3 - UML packages that support structural modeling

#### 6.4.3.2 Contents of Subpart II - Behavior

This subpart includes the following clauses:

- 11 - Actions
- 12 - Activities
- 13 - CommonBehaviors
- 14 - Interactions
- 15 - StateMachines
- 16 - Use Cases

This subpart specifies the dynamic, behavioral constructs (e.g., activities, interactions, state machines) used in various behavioral diagrams, such as activity diagrams, sequence diagrams, and state machine diagrams. The UML packages that support behavioral modeling, along with the structure packages they depend upon (CompositeStructures and Classes) are shown in the figure below.

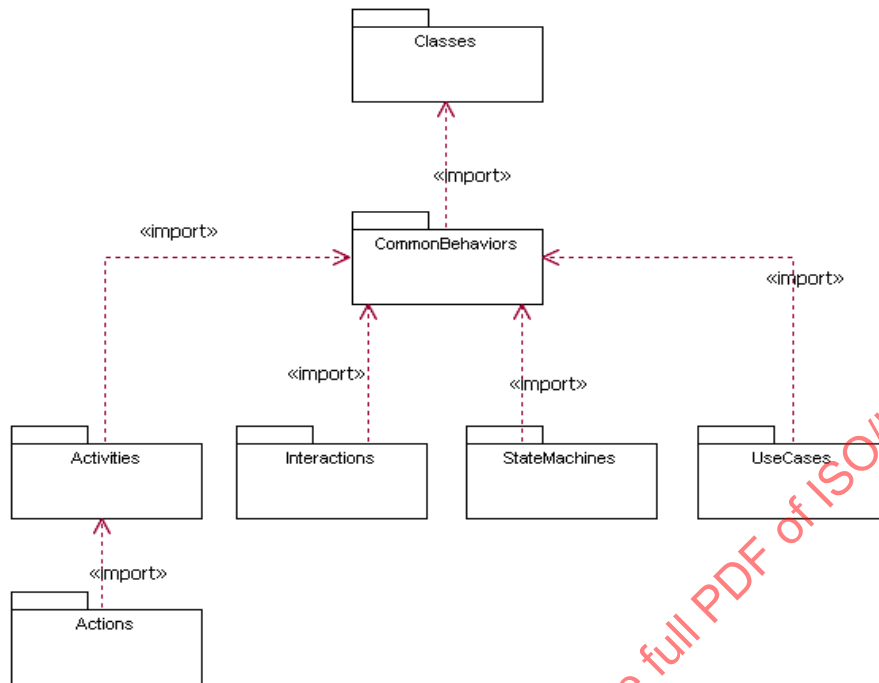


Figure 6.4 - UML packages that support behavioral modeling

#### 6.4.3.3 Contents of Subpart III - Supplement

This subpart includes the following clauses:

17 - AuxiliaryConstructs

18 - Profiles

This part defines auxiliary constructs (e.g., information flows, models, templates) and the profiles used to customize UML for various domains, platforms, and methods. The UML packages that support auxiliary constructs, along with the structure packages they depend upon (InternalStructures, Dependencies, and Kernel) are shown in the figure below.

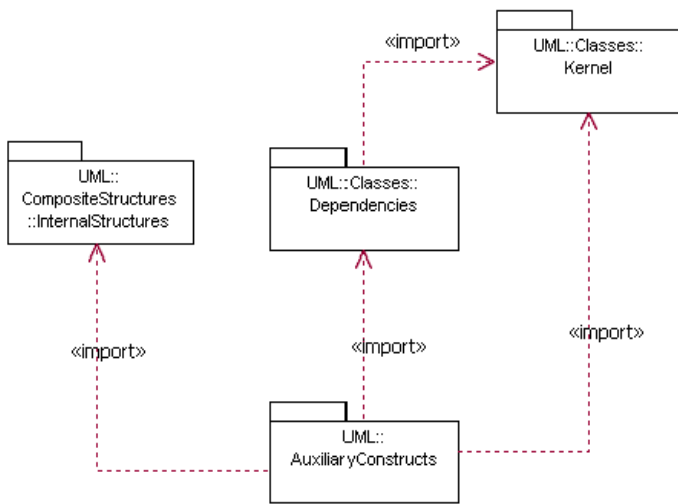


Figure 6.5 - UML packages that support auxiliary constructs

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## ***Subpart I - Structure***

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## 7 Classes

### 7.1 Overview

The Classes package contains sub packages that deal with the basic modeling concepts of UML, and in particular classes and their relationships.

#### Reusing packages from UML 2 Infrastructure

The *Kernel* package represents the core modeling concepts of the UML, including classes, associations, and packages. This part is mostly reused from the infrastructure library, since many of these concepts are the same as those that are used in, for example, MOF. The *Kernel* package is the central part of the UML, and merges the *Constructs* package of the InfrastructureLibrary.

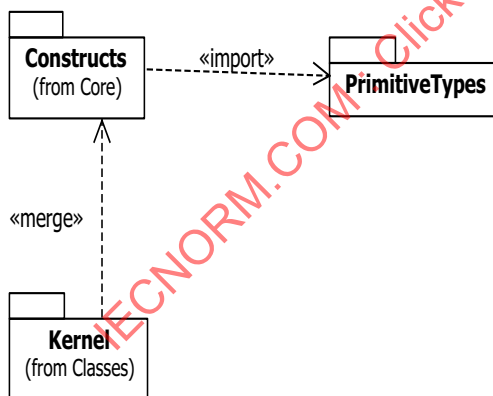
In many cases, the reused classes are extended in the *Kernel* with additional features, associations, or superclasses. In subsequent diagrams showing abstract syntax, the subclassing of elements from the infrastructure library is always elided since this information only adds to the complexity without increasing understandability. Each metaclass is completely described as part of this clause; the text from the infrastructure library is repeated here.

It should also be noted that *Kernel* is a flat structure that like *Constructs* only contains metaclasses and no sub-packages. The reason for this distinction is that parts of the infrastructure library have been designed for flexibility and reuse, while the *Kernel* in reusing the infrastructure library has to bring together the different aspects of the reused metaclasses.

The packages that are explicitly merged from the InfrastructureLibrary are the following:

- Constructs

All other packages of the InfrastructureLibrary::Core are implicitly merged through the ones that are explicitly merged.



**Figure 7.1 - InfrastructureLibrary packages that are merged by Kernel (all dependencies in the picture represent package merges)**

## 7.2 Abstract Syntax

Figure 7.2 shows the package dependencies of the Kernel packages.

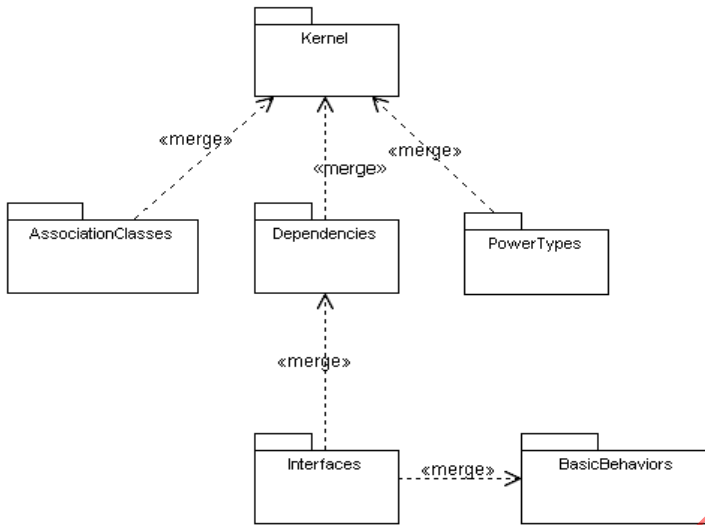


Figure 7.2 - Subpackages of the Classes package and their dependencies

Package Kernel

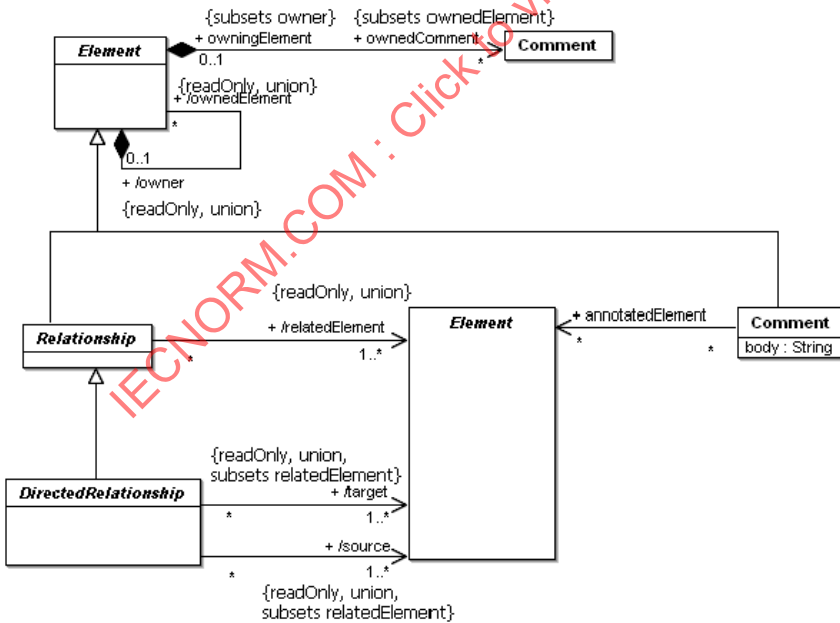


Figure 7.3 - Root diagram of the Kernel package

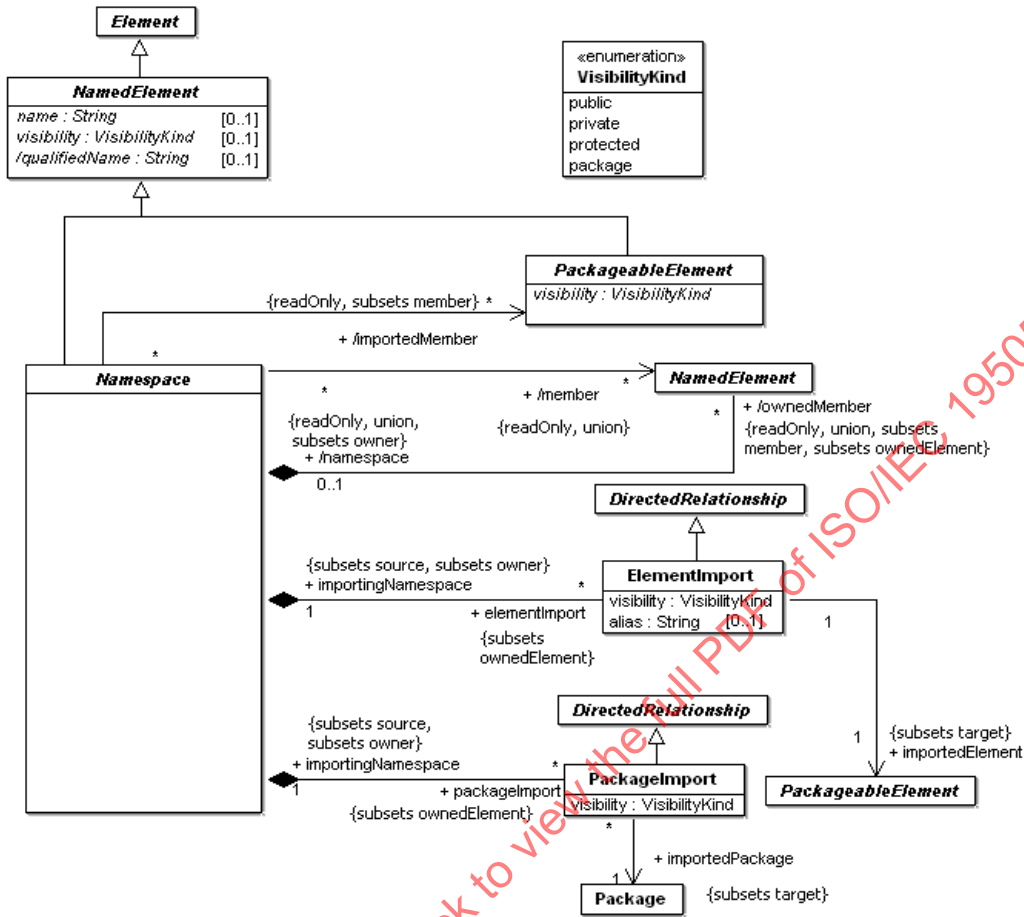


Figure 7.4 - Namespaces diagram of the Kernel package

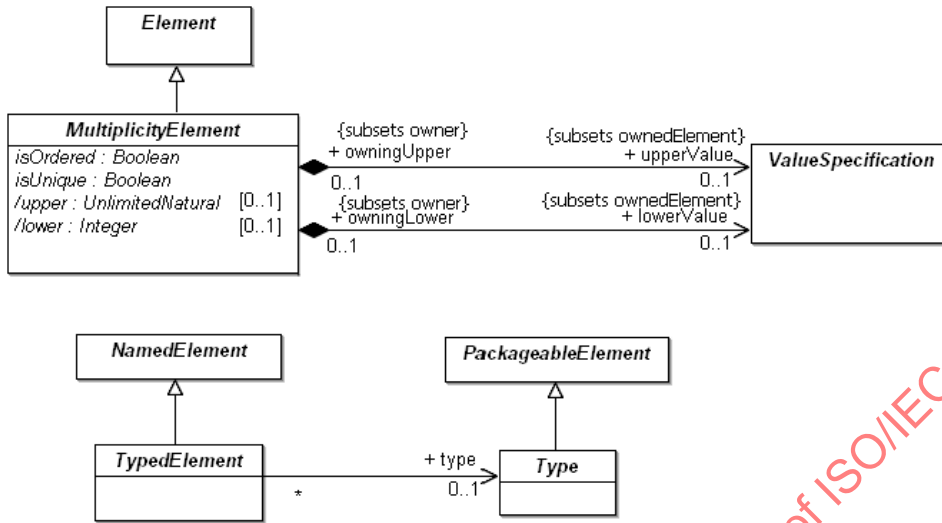


Figure 7.5 - Multiplicities diagram of the Kernel package

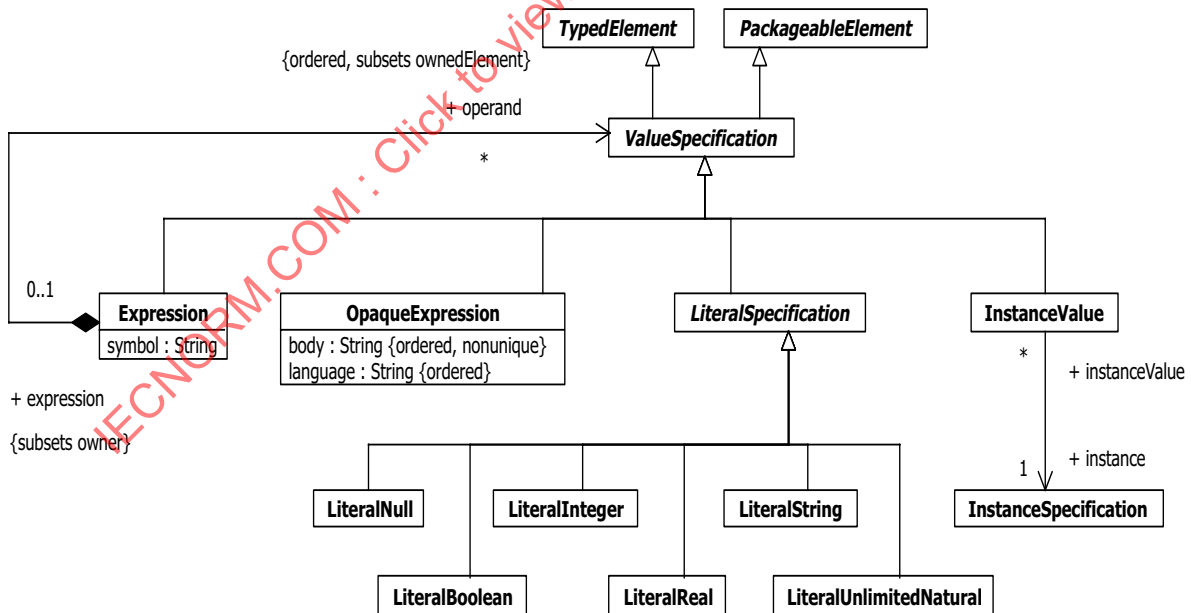


Figure 7.6 - Expressions diagram of the Kernel package

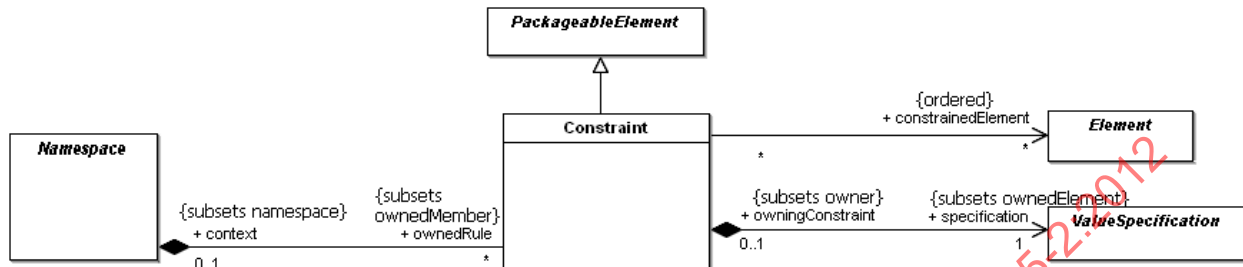


Figure 7.7 - Constraints diagram of the Kernel package

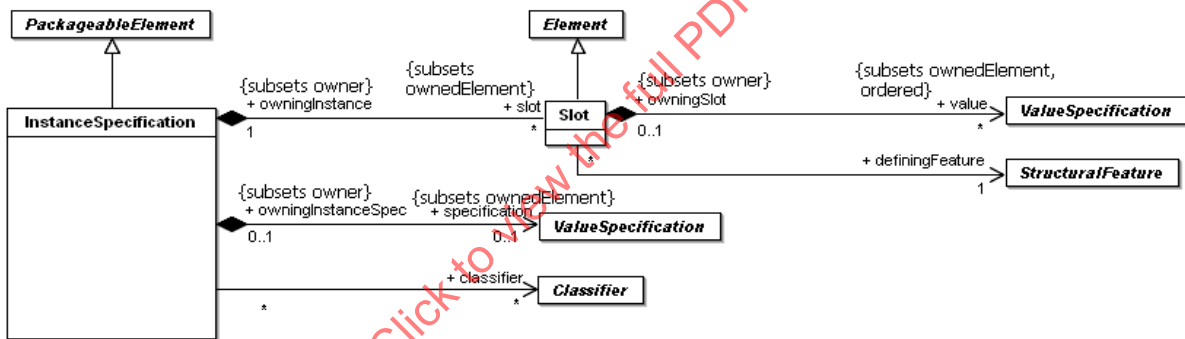


Figure 7.8 - Instances diagram of the Kernel package

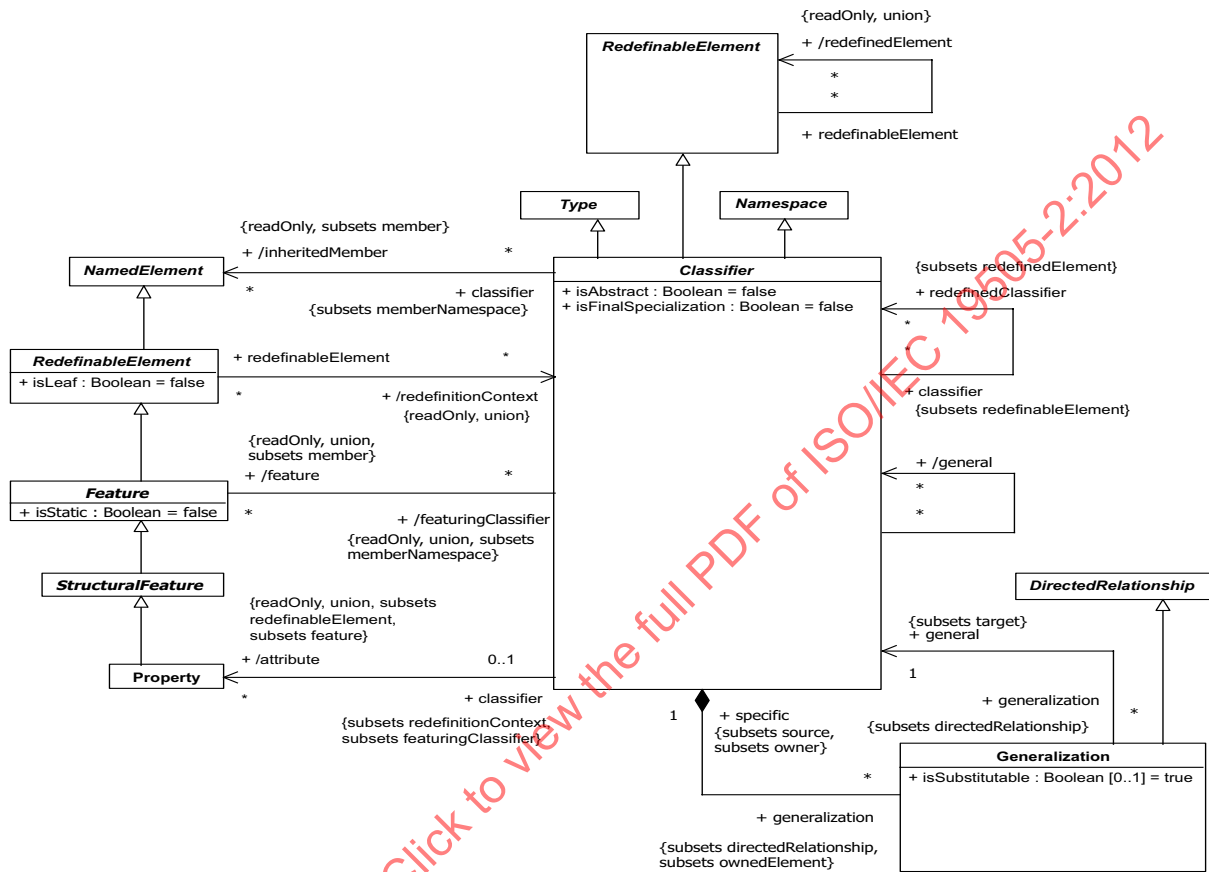


Figure 7.9 - Classifiers diagram of the Kernel package

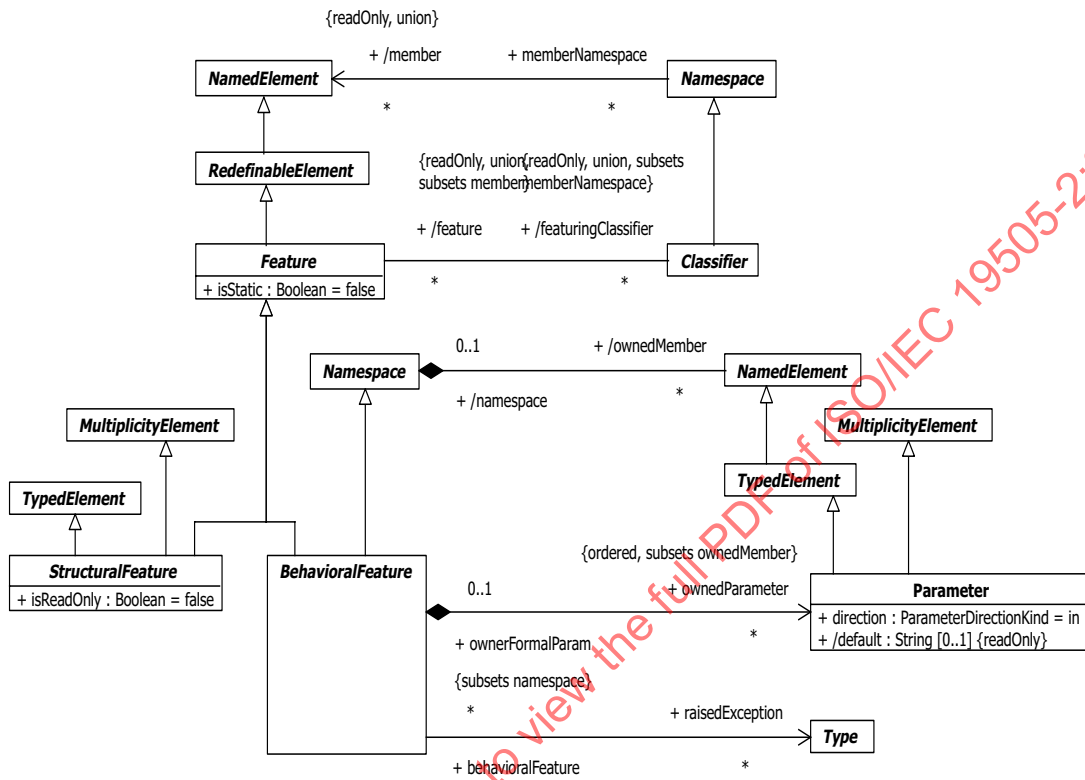


Figure 7.10 - Features diagram of the Kernel package

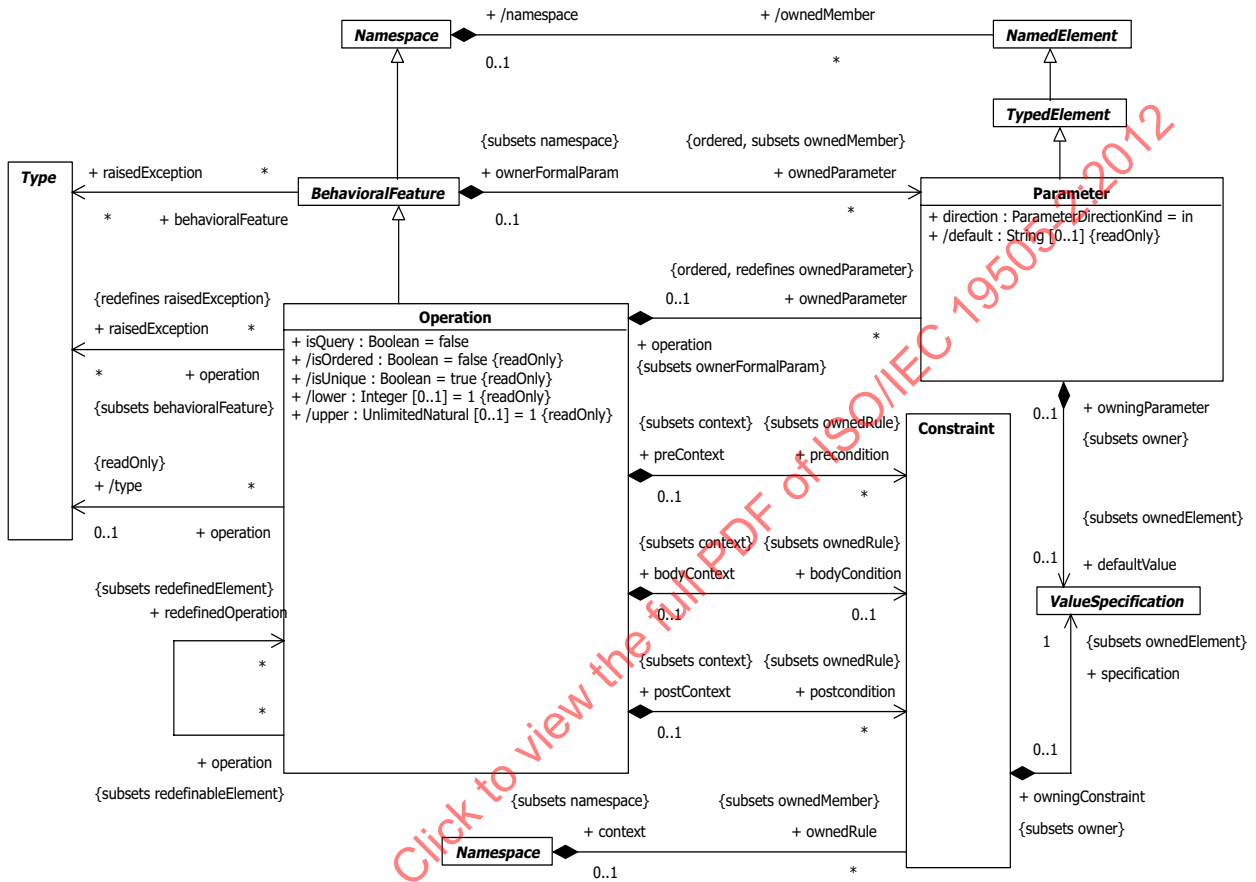


Figure 7.11 - Operations diagram of the Kernel package

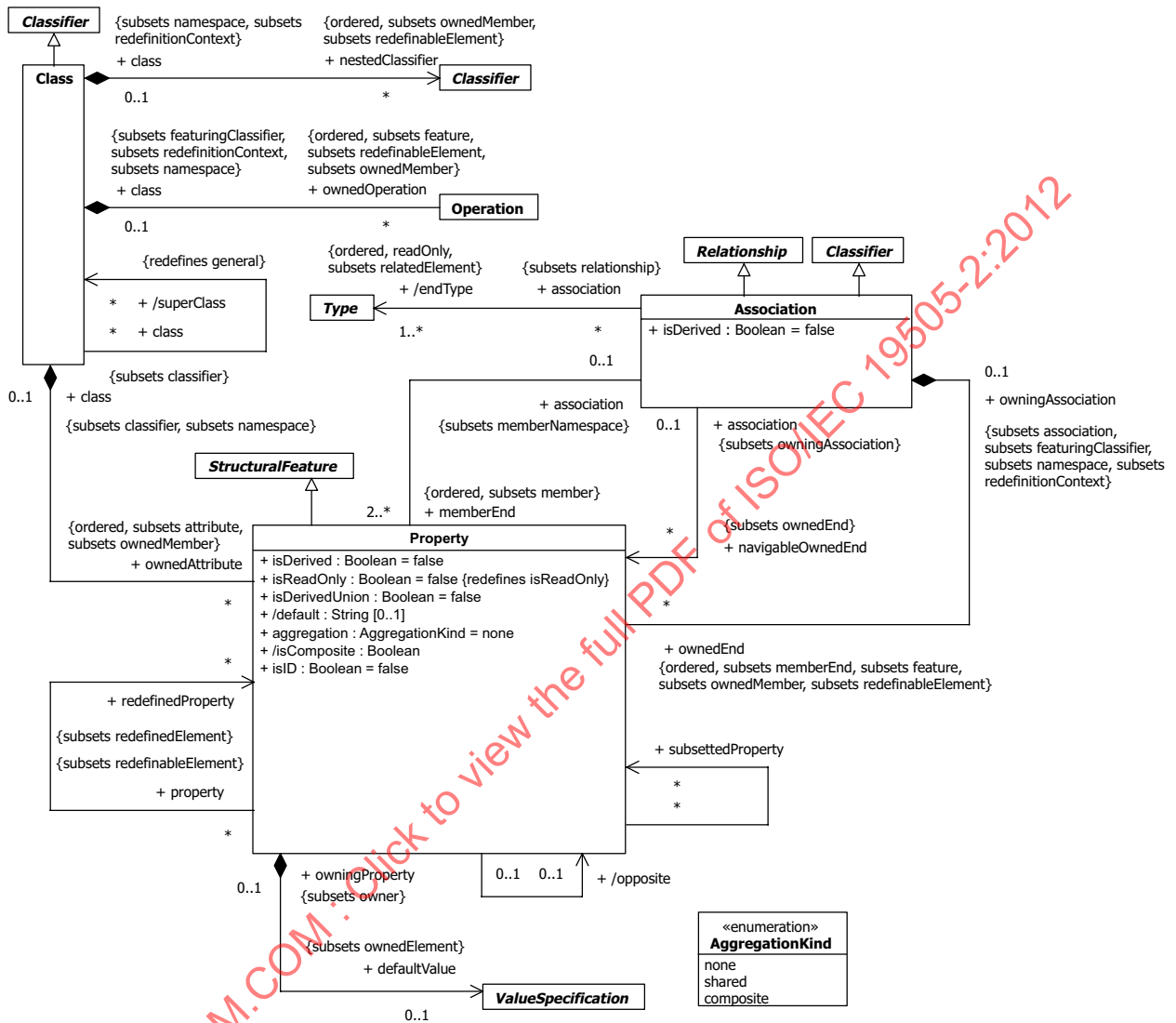


Figure 7.12 - Classes diagram of the Kernel package

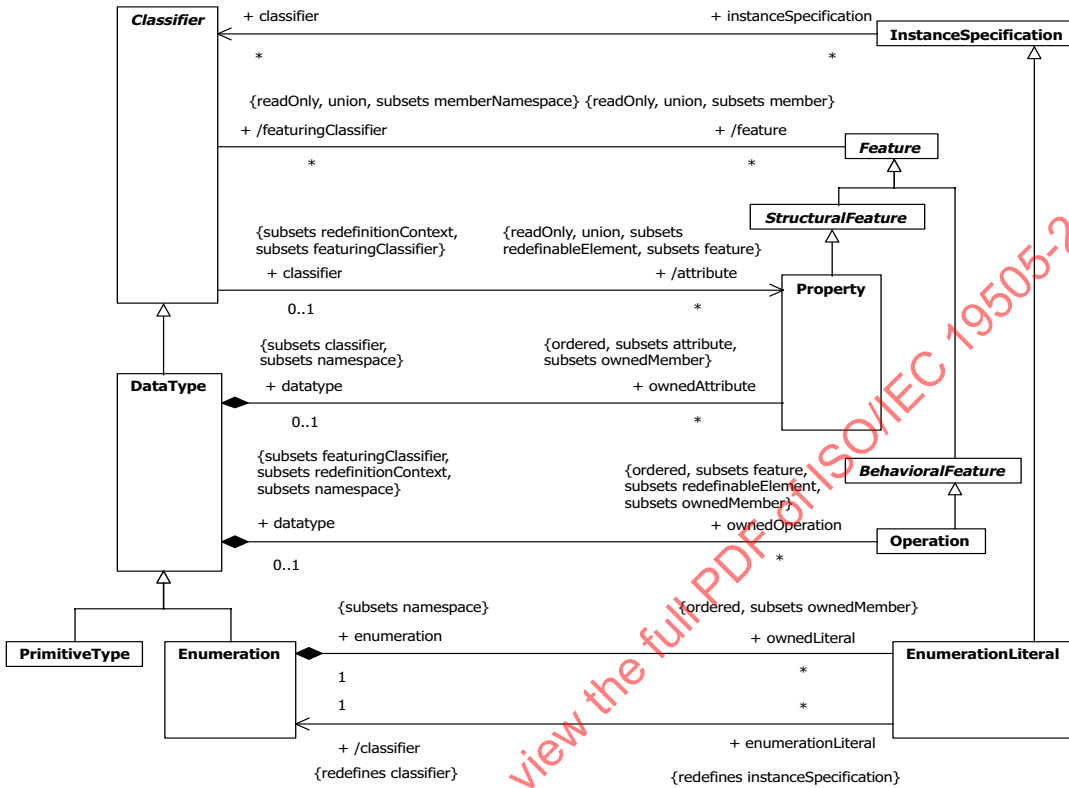


Figure 7.13 - DataTypes diagram of the Kernel package

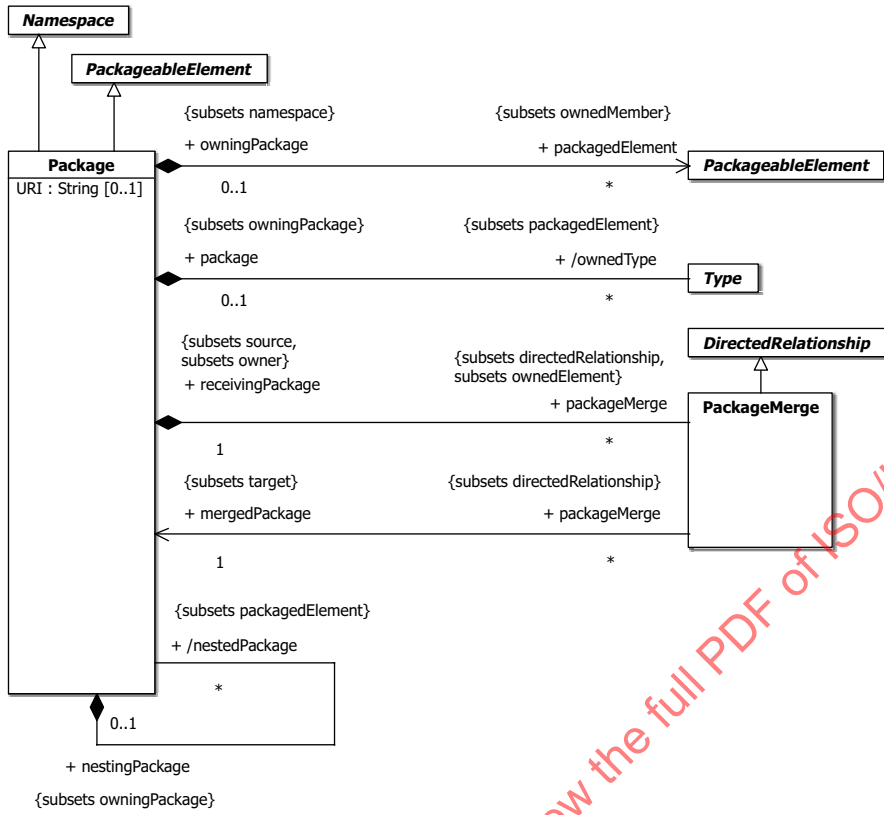


Figure 7.14 - The Packages diagram of the Kernel package

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Package Dependencies

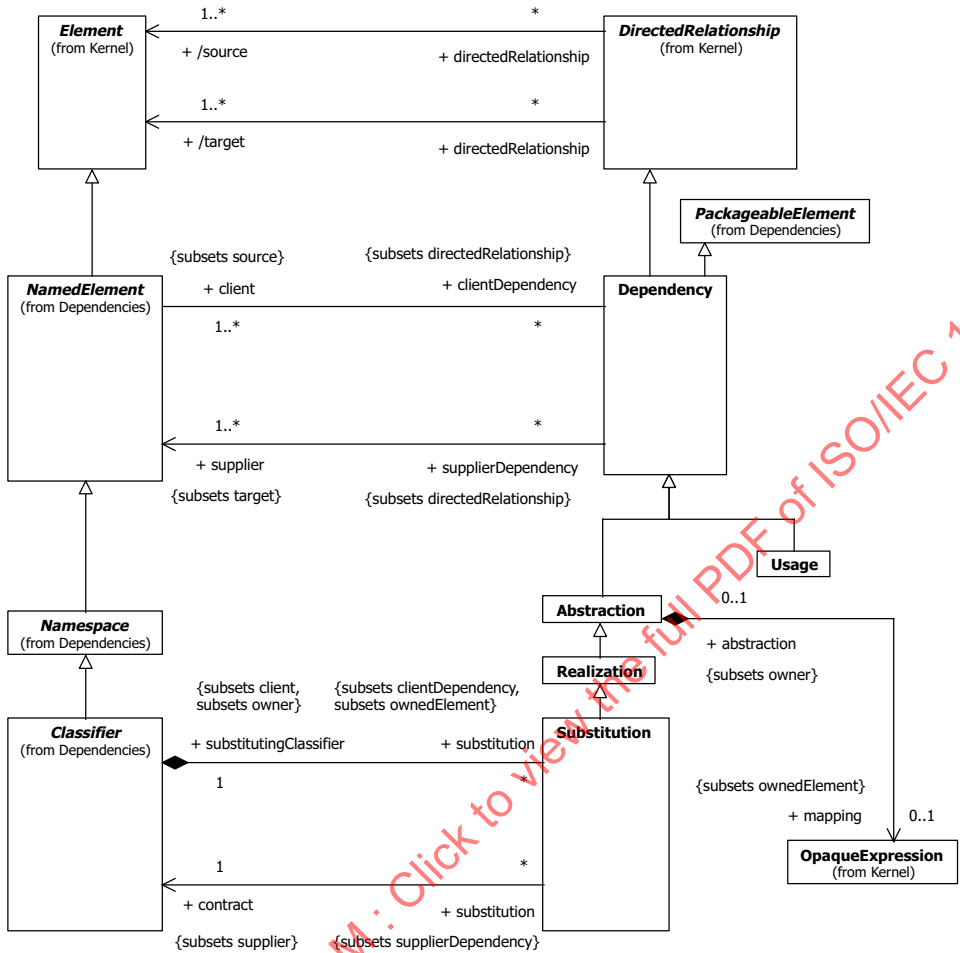


Figure 7.15 - Contents of Dependencies package

Package Interfaces

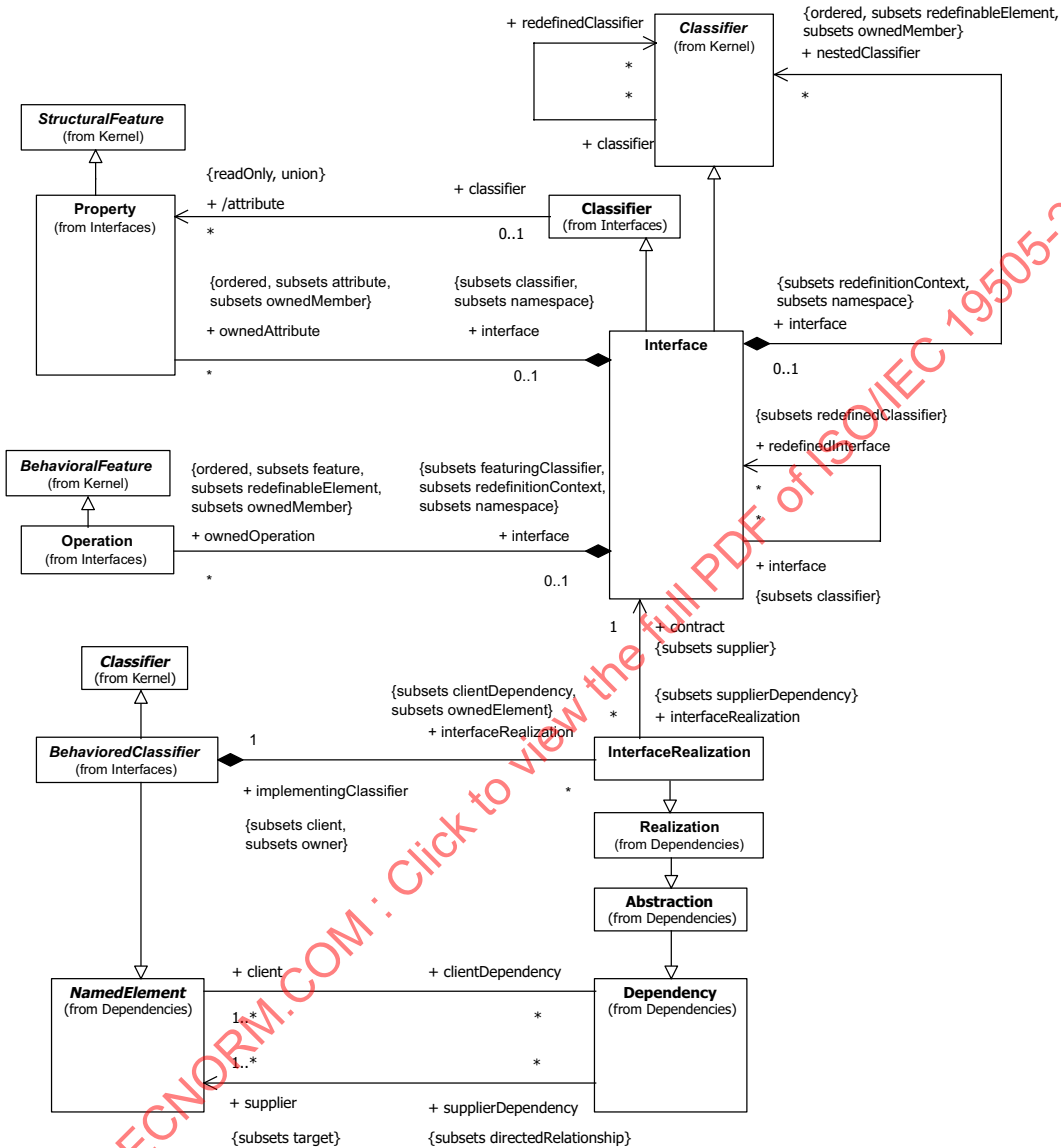


Figure 7.16 - Contents of Interfaces package

Package AssociationClasses

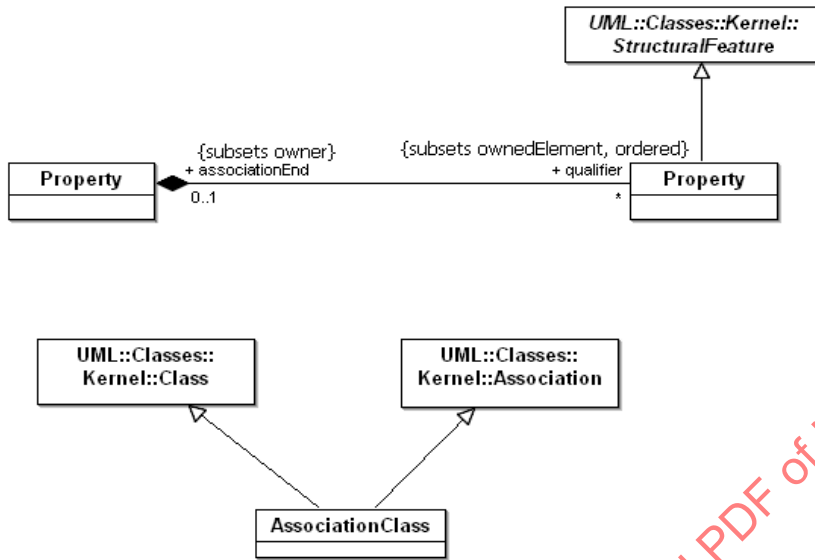


Figure 7.17 - Contents of AssociationClasses package

Package PowerTypes

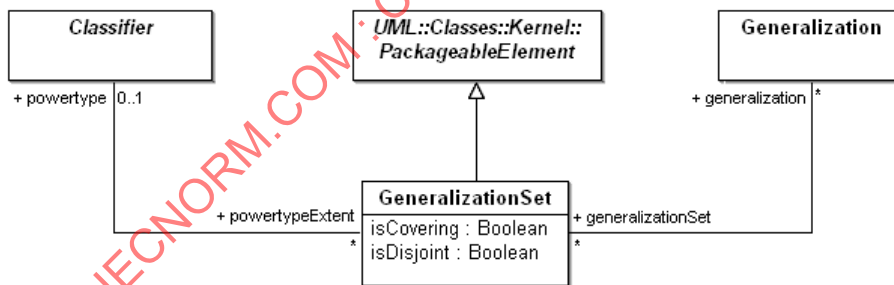


Figure 7.18 - Contents of PowerTypes package

## 7.3 Class Descriptions

### 7.3.1 Abstraction (from Dependencies)

#### Generalizations

- “Dependency (from Dependencies)” on page 65

#### Description

An abstraction is a relationship that relates two elements or sets of elements that represent the same concept at different levels of abstraction or from different viewpoints. In the metamodel, an Abstraction is a Dependency in which there is a mapping between the supplier and the client.

#### Attributes

No additional attributes

#### Associations

- mapping: Expression[0..1]  
A composition of an Expression that states the abstraction relationship between the supplier and the client. In some cases, such as Derivation, it is usually formal and unidirectional. In other cases, such as Trace, it is usually informal and bidirectional. The mapping expression is optional and may be omitted if the precise relationship between the elements is not specified.

#### Constraints

No additional constraints

#### Semantics

Depending on the specific stereotype of Abstraction, the mapping may be formal or informal, and it may be unidirectional or bidirectional. Abstraction has predefined stereotypes (such as «derive», «refine», and «trace») that are defined in the Standard Profiles clause. If an Abstraction element has more than one client element, the supplier element maps into the set of client elements as a group. For example, an analysis-level class might be split into several design-level classes. The situation is similar if there is more than one supplier element.

#### Notation

An abstraction relationship is shown as a dependency with an «abstraction» keyword attached to it or the specific predefined stereotype name.

### 7.3.2 AggregationKind (from Kernel)

AggregationKind is an enumeration type that specifies the literals for defining the kind of aggregation of a property.

#### Generalizations

None

## Description

AggregationKind is an enumeration of the following literal values:

- none  
Indicates that the property has no aggregation.
- shared  
Indicates that the property has a shared aggregation.
- composite  
Indicates that the property is aggregated compositely, i.e., the composite object has responsibility for the existence and storage of the composed objects (parts).

## Semantic Variation Points

Precise semantics of shared aggregation varies by application area and modeler.

The order and way in which part instances are created is not defined.

### 7.3.3 Association (from Kernel)

An association describes a set of tuples whose values refer to typed instances. An instance of an association is called a link. A link is a tuple with one value for each end of the association, where each value is an instance of the type of the end.

## Generalizations

- “Classifier (from Kernel, Dependencies, Power Types, Interfaces)” on page 55
- “Relationship (from Kernel)” on page 139

## Description

An association specifies a semantic relationship that can occur between typed instances. It has at least two ends represented by properties, each of which is connected to the type of the end. More than one end of the association may have the same type.

An end property of an association that is owned by an end class or that is a navigable owned end of the association indicates that the association is navigable from the opposite ends; otherwise, the association is not navigable from the opposite ends.

## Attributes

- isDerived : Boolean  
Specifies whether the association is derived from other model elements such as other associations or constraints. The default value is *false*.

## Associations

- memberEnd : Property [2..\*]  
Each end represents participation of instances of the classifier connected to the end in links of the association. This is an ordered association. Subsets *Namespace::member*.

- `ownedEnd` : Property [\*]  
The ends that are owned by the association itself. This is an ordered association. Subsets *Association::memberEnd*, *Classifier::feature*, and *Namespace::ownedMember*.
- `navigableOwnedEnd` : Property [\*]  
The navigable ends that are owned by the association itself. Subsets *Association::ownedEnd*
- `/endType`: Type [1..\*]  
References the classifiers that are used as types of the ends of the association. Subsets *Relationship::relatedElement*

### Constraints

- [1] An association specializing another association has the same number of ends as the other association.
- ```
parents()->select(oclIsKindOf(Association)).oclAsType(Association)->
  forAll(p | p.memberEnd->size() = self.memberEnd->size())
```
- [2] When an association specializes another association, every end of the specific association corresponds to an end of the general association, and the specific end reaches the same type or a subtype of the more general end.
- ```
Sequence{1..self.memberEnd->size()->
  forAll(i | self.general->select(oclIsKindOf(Association)).oclAsType(Association)->
    forAll(ga |self.memberEnd->at(i).type.conformsTo(ga.memberEnd->at(i).type)))
```
- [3] `endType` is derived from the types of the member ends.
- ```
self.endType = self.memberEnd->collect(e | e.type)
```
- [4] Only binary associations can be aggregations.
- ```
self.memberEnd->exists(aggregation <> Aggregation::none) implies self.memberEnd->size() = 2
```
- [5] Association ends of associations with more than two ends must be owned by the association.
- ```
if memberEnd->size() > 2 then ownedEnd->includesAll(memberEnd)
```

### Semantics

An association declares that there can be links between instances of the associated types. A link is a tuple with one value for each end of the association, where each value is an instance of the type of the end.

When one or more ends of the association have `isUnique=false`, it is possible to have several links associating the same set of instances. In such a case, links carry an additional identifier apart from their end values.

When one or more ends of the association are ordered, links carry ordering information in addition to their end values.

For an association with  $N$  ends, choose any  $N-1$  ends and associate specific instances with those ends. Then the collection of links of the association that refer to these specific instances will identify a collection of instances at the other end. The multiplicity of the association end constrains the size of this collection. If the end is marked as ordered, this collection will be ordered. If the end is marked as unique, this collection is a set; otherwise, it allows duplicate elements.

Subsetting represents the familiar set-theoretic concept. It is applicable to the collections represented by association ends, not to the association itself. It means that the subsetting association end is a collection that is either equal to the collection that it is subsetting or a proper subset of that collection. (Proper subsetting implies that the superset is not empty and that the subset has fewer members.) Subsetting is a relationship in the domain of extensional semantics.

*Specialization* is, in contrast to subsetting, a relationship in the domain of intentional semantics, which is to say it characterizes the criteria whereby membership in the collection is defined, not by the membership. One classifier may specialize another by adding or redefining features; a set cannot specialize another set. A naïve but popular and useful view has it that as the classifier becomes more specialized, the extent of the collection(s) of classified objects narrows. In

the case of associations, subsetting ends, according to this view, correlates positively with specializing the association. This view falls down because it ignores the case of classifiers which, for whatever reason, denote the empty set. Adding new criteria for membership does not narrow the extent if the classifier already has a null denotation.

*Redefinition* is a relationship between features of classifiers within a specialization hierarchy. Redefinition may be used to change the definition of a feature, and thereby introduce a specialized classifier in place of the original featuring classifier, but this usage is incidental. The difference in domain (that redefinition applies to features) differentiates redefinition from specialization.

The combination of constraints [1,2] above with the semantics of property subsetting and redefinition specified in section 7.3.45 in constraints [3,4,5] imply that any association end that subsets or redefines another association end forces the association of the subsetting or redefining association end to be a specialization of the association of the subsetted or redefined association end respectively.

**Note –** For n-ary associations, the lower multiplicity of an end is typically 0. A lower multiplicity for an end of an n-ary association of 1 (or more) implies that one link (or more) must exist for every possible combination of values for the other ends.

An association may represent a composite aggregation (i.e., a whole/part relationship). Only binary associations can be aggregations. Composite aggregation is a strong form of aggregation that requires a part instance be included in at most one composite at a time. If a composite is deleted, all of its parts are normally deleted with it. Note that a part can (where allowed) be removed from a composite before the composite is deleted, and thus not be deleted as part of the composite. Compositions may be linked in a directed acyclic graph with transitive deletion characteristics; that is, deleting an element in one part of the graph will also result in the deletion of all elements of the subgraph below that element. Composition is represented by the `isComposite` attribute on the part end of the association being set to true.

Navigability means instances participating in links at runtime (instances of an association) can be accessed efficiently from instances participating in links at the other ends of the association. The precise mechanism by which such access is achieved is implementation specific. If an end is not navigable, access from the other ends may or may not be possible, and if it is, it might not be efficient. Note that tools operating on UML models are not prevented from navigating associations from non-navigable ends.

### Semantic Variation Points

- The order and way in which part instances in a composite are created is not defined.
- The logical relationship between the derivation of an association and the derivation of its ends is not defined.

### Notation

Any association may be drawn as a diamond (larger than a terminator on a line) with a solid line for each association end connecting the diamond to the classifier that is the end's type. An association with more than two ends can only be drawn this way.

A binary association is normally drawn as a solid line connecting two classifiers, or a solid line connecting a single classifier to itself (the two ends are distinct). A line may consist of one or more connected segments. The individual segments of the line itself have no semantic significance, but they may be graphically meaningful to a tool in dragging or resizing an association symbol.

An association symbol may be adorned as follows:

- The association's name can be shown as a name string near the association symbol, but not near enough to an end to be confused with the end's name.
- A slash appearing in front of the name of an association, or in place of the name if no name is shown, marks the association as being derived.
- A property string may be placed near the association symbol, but far enough from any end to not be confused with a property string on an end.

On a binary association drawn as a solid line, a solid triangular arrowhead next to or in place of the name of the association and pointing along the line in the direction of one end indicates that end to be the last in the order of the ends of the association. The arrow indicates that the association is to be read as associating the end away from the direction of the arrow with the end to which the arrow is pointing (see Figure 7.21). This notation is for documentation purposes only and has no general semantic interpretation. It is used to capture some application-specific detail of the relationship between the associated classifiers.

- Generalizations between associations can be shown using a generalization arrow between the association symbols.

An association end is the connection between the line depicting an association and the icon (often a box) depicting the connected classifier. A name string may be placed near the end of the line to show the name of the association end. The name is optional and suppressible.

Various other notations can be placed near the end of the line as follows:

- A multiplicity
- A property string enclosed in curly braces. The following property strings can be applied to an association end:
  - {subsets <property-name>} to show that the end is a subset of the property called <property-name>.
  - {redefines <end-name>} to show that the end redefines the one named <end-name>.
  - {union} to show that the end is derived by being the union of its subsets.
  - {ordered} to show that the end represents an ordered set.
  - {nonunique} to show that the end represents a collection that permits the same element to appear more than once.
  - {sequence} or {seq} to show that the end represents a sequence (an ordered bag).
  - If the end is navigable, any property strings that apply to an attribute.

Note that by default an association end represents a set.

An open arrowhead on the end of an association indicates the end is navigable. A small x on the end of an association indicates the end is not navigable. A visibility symbol can be added as an adornment on a navigable end to show the end's visibility as an attribute of the featuring classifier.

If the association end is derived, this may be shown by putting a slash in front of the name, or in place of the name if no name is shown.

The notation for an attribute can be applied to a navigable end name as specified in the Notation sub clause of "Property (from Kernel, AssociationClasses, Interfaces)" on page 130.

An association with *aggregationKind = shared* differs in notation from binary associations in adding a hollow diamond as a terminal adornment at the aggregate end of the association line. The diamond shall be noticeably smaller than the diamond notation for associations. An association with *aggregationKind = composite* likewise has a diamond at the aggregate end, but differs in having the diamond filled in.

Ownership of association ends by an associated Classifier may be indicated graphically by a small filled circle, which for brevity we will term a dot. The dot is to be drawn integral to the graphic path of the line, at the point where it meets the classifier, inserted between the end of the line and the side of the node representing the Classifier. The diameter of the dot shall not exceed half the height of the aggregation diamond, and shall be larger than the width of the line. This avoids visual confusion with the filled diamond notation while ensuring that it can be distinguished from the line.

This standard does not mandate the use of explicit end-ownership notation, but defines a notation which shall apply in models where such use is elected. The dot notation must be applied at the level of complete associations or higher, so that the absence of the dot signifies ownership by the association. Stated otherwise, when applying this notation to a binary association in a user model, the dot will be omitted only for ends which are not owned by a classifier. In this way, in contexts where the notation is used, the absence of the dot on certain ends does not leave the ownership of those ends ambiguous.

This notation may only be used on association ends which may, consistent with the metamodel, be owned by classifiers. Users may conceptualize the dot as showing that the model includes a property of the type represented by the classifier touched by the dot. This property is owned by the classifier at the other end.

The dot may be used in combination with the other graphic line-path notations for properties of associations and association ends. These include aggregation type and navigability.

The dot is illustrated in Figure 7.19, at the maximum allowed size. The diagram shows endA to be owned by classifier B, and because of the rule requiring that the notation be applied at the level of complete associations (or above), this diagram also shows unambiguously that endB is owned by BinaryAssociationAB.



**Figure 7.19 - Graphic notation indicating exactly one association end owned by the association**

Navigability notation was often used in the past according to an informal convention, whereby non-navigable ends were assumed to be owned by the association whereas navigable ends were assumed to be owned by the classifier at the opposite end. This convention is now deprecated.

Aggregation type, navigability, and end ownership are orthogonal concepts, each with their own explicit notation. The notational standard now provides for combining these notations as shown in Figure 7.20, where the associated nodes use the default rectangular notation for Classifiers. The dot is outside the perimeter of the rectangle. If non-rectangular notations represent the associated Classifiers, the rule is to put the dot just outside the boundary of the node.

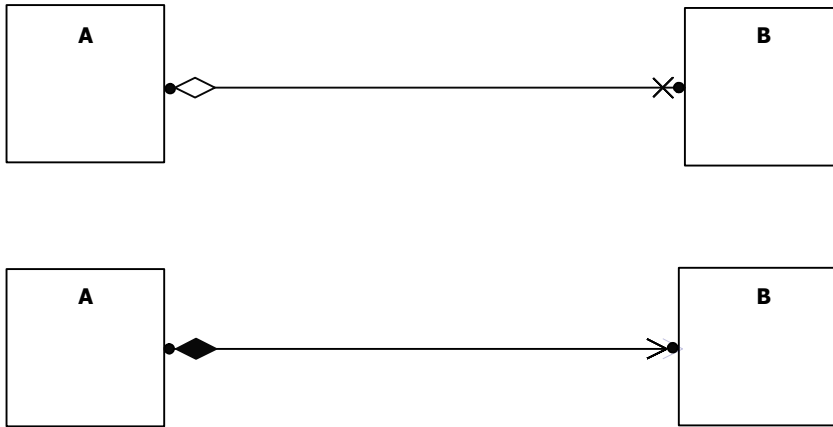


Figure 7.20 - Combining line path graphics

### Presentation Options

When two lines cross, the crossing may optionally be shown with a small semicircular jog to indicate that the lines do not intersect (as in electrical circuit diagrams).

Various options may be chosen for showing navigation arrows on a diagram. In practice, it is often convenient to suppress some of the arrows and crosses and just show exceptional situations:

- Show all arrows and x's. Navigation and its absence are made completely explicit.
- Suppress all arrows and x's. No inference can be drawn about navigation. This is similar to any situation in which information is suppressed from a view.
- Suppress arrows for associations with navigability in both directions, and show arrows only for associations with one-way navigability. In this case, the two-way navigability cannot be distinguished from situations where there is no navigation at all; however, the latter case occurs rarely in practice.

If there are two or more aggregations to the same aggregate, they may be drawn as a tree by merging the aggregation ends into a single segment. Any adornments on that single segment apply to all of the aggregation ends.

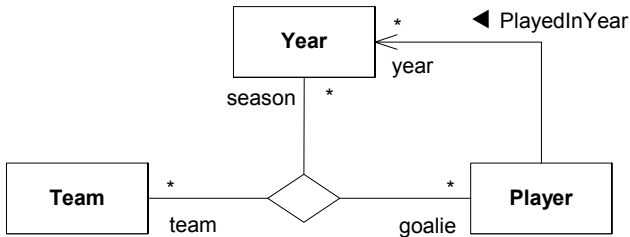
### Style Guidelines

Lines may be drawn using various styles, including orthogonal segments, oblique segments, and curved segments. The choice of a particular set of line styles is a user choice.

Generalizations between associations are best drawn using a different color or line width than what is used for the associations.

**Examples**

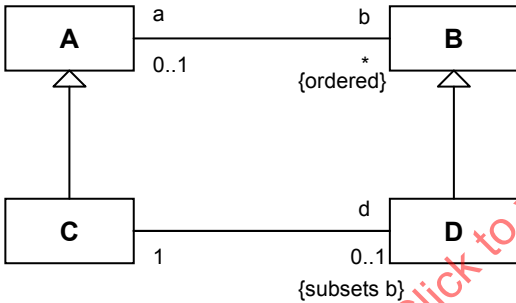
Figure 7.21 shows a binary association from *Player* to *Year* named *PlayedInYear*.



**Figure 7.21 - Binary and ternary associations**

The solid triangle indicates the order of reading: *Player PlayedInYear Year*. The figure further shows a ternary association between *Team*, *Year*, and *Player* with ends named *team*, *season*, and *goalie* respectively.

The following example shows association ends with various adornments.



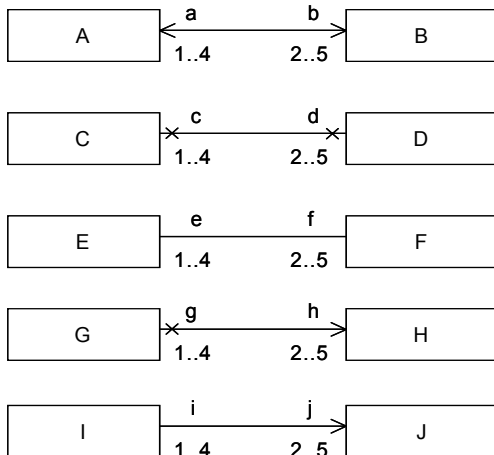
**Figure 7.22 - Association ends with various adornments**

The following adornments are shown on the four association ends in Figure 7.22.

- Names *a*, *b*, and *d* on three of the ends.
- Multiplicities 0..1 on *a*, \* on *b*, 1 on the unnamed end, and 0..1 on *d*.
- Specification of ordering on *b*.
- Subsetting on *d*. For an instance of class *C*, the collection *d* is a subset of the collection *b*. This is equivalent to the OCL constraint:

```
context C inv: b->includesAll(d)
```

The following examples show notation for navigable ends.

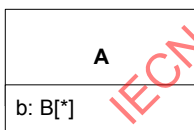


**Figure 7.23 - Examples of navigable ends**

In Figure 7.23:

- The top pair AB shows a binary association with two navigable ends.
- The second pair CD shows a binary association with two non-navigable ends.
- The third pair EF shows a binary association with unspecified navigability.
- The fourth pair GH shows a binary association with one end navigable and the other non-navigable.
- The fifth pair IJ shows a binary association with one end navigable and the other having unspecified navigability.

Figure 7.24 shows that the attribute notation can be used for an association end owned by a class, because an association end owned by a class is also an attribute. This notation may be used in conjunction with the line-arrow notation to make it perfectly clear that the attribute is also an association end.



**Figure 7.24 - Example of attribute notation for navigable end owned by an end class**

Figure 7.25 shows the notation for a derived union. The attribute A::b is derived by being the strict union of all of the attributes that subset it. In this case there is just one of these, A1::b1. So for an instance of the class A1, b1 is a subset of b, and b is derived from b1.

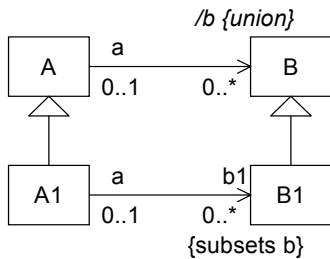


Figure 7.25 - Derived supersets (union)

Figure 7.26 shows the black diamond notation for composite aggregation.

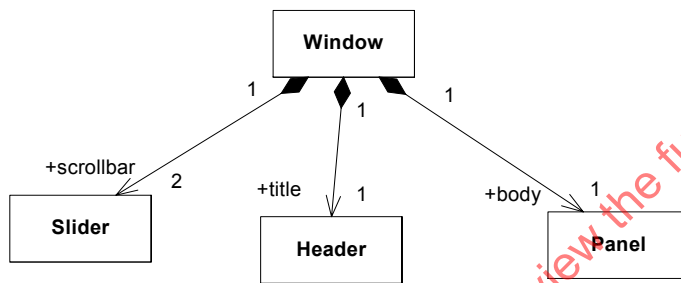


Figure 7.26 - Composite aggregation is depicted as a black diamond

### Changes from previous UML

AssociationEnd was a metaclass in prior UML, now demoted to a member of Association. The metaattribute *targetScope* that characterized AssociationEnd in prior UML is no longer supported. Fundamental changes in the abstract syntax make it impossible to continue *targetScope* or replace it by a new metaattribute, or even a standard tag, there being no appropriate model element to tag. In UML 2, the type of the property determines the nature of the values represented by the members of an Association.

### 7.3.4 AssociationClass (from AssociationClasses)

A model element that has both association and class properties. An AssociationClass can be seen as an association that also has class properties, or as a class that also has association properties. It not only connects a set of classifiers but also defines a set of features that belong to the relationship itself and not to any of the classifiers.

#### Generalizations

- “Association (from Kernel)” on page 40
- “Class (from Kernel)” on page 52

## Description

An AssociationClass is a declaration of a semantic relationship between Classifiers, which has a set of features of its own. AssociationClass is both an Association and a Class. An AssociationClass describes a set of objects that each share the same specifications of features, constraints, and semantics entailed by the AssociationClass as a kind of Class, and correspond to a unique link instantiating the AssociationClass as a kind of Association. An AssociationClass specifies a Class whose instances are in 1-1 correspondence with a semantic relationship that can occur between typed instances. An AssociationClass preserves the static and dynamic semantics of both an Association and of a Class.

## Attributes

No additional attributes

## Associations

No additional associations

## Constraints

- [1] An AssociationClass cannot be defined between itself and something else.  
`self.endType->excludes(self) and self.endType>collect(et|et.allparents()->excludes(self))`
- [2] The owned attributes and owned ends of an AssociationClass are disjoint.  
`ownedAttribute->intersection(ownedEnd)->isEmpty()`

## Semantics

An association may be refined to have its own set of features; that is, features that do not belong to any of the connected classifiers but rather to the association itself. Such an association is called an association class. It will be both an association, connecting a set of classifiers and a class, and as such have features and be included in other associations. The semantics of an association class is a combination of the semantics of an ordinary association and of a class.

An association class is both a kind of association and kind of a class. Both of these constructs are classifiers and hence have a set of common properties, like being able to have features, having a name, etc. As these properties are inherited from the same construct (Classifier), they will not be duplicated. Therefore, an association class has only one name, and has the set of features that are defined for classes and associations. The constraints defined for class and association also are applicable for association class, which implies for example that the attributes of the association class, the ends of the association class, and the opposite ends of associations connected to the association class must all have distinct names. Moreover, the specialization and refinement rules defined for class and association are also applicable to association class. Redefinition is applicable to an association class nested in the context of a classifier just as it is applicable to a nested class.

An AssociationClass inherits the composite properties `Class::ownedAttribute` and `Association::ownedEnd`, which cannot share values. Values of `ownedAttribute` are properties that are attributes of the class, not ends of the association class owned through `Association::ownedEnd`. Values of `Association::ownedEnd` are the ends of the association owned by the association class, not attributes of the association class. This means the ends of the association class that it owns cannot be used to navigate from instances of the association class to the objects on their ends. As association ends, they can be used for navigation between end objects, as in all associations, depending on whether they are navigable (see Navigability in the semantics of Association in 7.3.3).

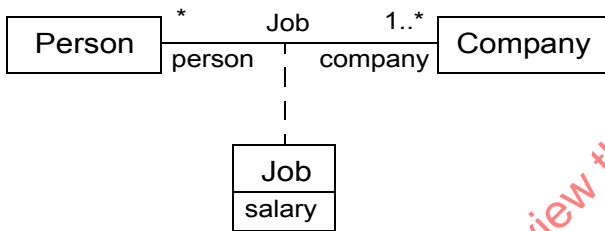
An object instance of an association class is in 1-1 correspondence with a unique link representing an instantiation of the association class as a kind of association. When one or more ends of the association class have isUnique=false, it is possible to have several links associating the same set of instances of the end classes. In such a case, the links of an association class instance carry their corresponding association class instance as their unique identifier apart from their end values.

An association class cannot be the general classifier of an association or a class.

**Notation**

An association class is shown as a class symbol attached to the association path by a dashed line. The association path and the association class symbol represent the same underlying model element, which has a single name. The name may be placed on the path, in the class symbol, or on both, but they must be the same name. Association end names appear in the same position as regular associations, not in the attribute compartment of the association class.

Logically, the association class and the association are the same semantic entity; however, they are graphically distinct. The association class symbol can be dragged away from the line, but the dashed line must remain attached to both the path and the class symbol.



**Figure 7.27 - An AssociationClass is depicted by an association symbol (a line) and a class symbol (a box) connected with a dashed line. The diagram shows the association class Job, which is defined between the two classes Person and Company.**

**Changes from previous UML**

AssociationClass was underspecified in prior UML. The guiding principle used for improving the specification of association class is that of preserving the static and dynamic semantics of both associations and classes in clarifying the static and dynamic semantics of association class. This guiding principle has important implications on the changes made in this clause as explained below. The changes are:

- [1] Constraint [1] in 7.3.3 Association changed to accommodate the fact that an AssociationClass can legitimately specialize a regular Class.
- [2] Constraint [2] in 7.3.3 Association has an OCL specification that applies for both Association and AssociationClass.
- [3] Two constraints are added to AssociationClass, the first for the allowed specializations of AssociationClasses, and the second for disjointness of ownedEnd and ownedAttribute.
- [4] The previous semantic variation point about the interaction between association specialization and association end redefinition and subsetting is removed because the semantics of subsetting and redefinition for association end properties have been sufficiently clarified.

[5] The operation `AssociationClass::allConnections()` is removed, because it is redundant with constraints [1,2] specified in 7.3.3 for Association and constraints [3,4,5] specified in 7.3.44 for Property as explained in the semantics of 7.3.3 for Association. It also inadvertently removed ordering of association ends.

### 7.3.5 BehavioralFeature (from Kernel)

A behavioral feature is a feature of a classifier that specifies an aspect of the behavior of its instances.

#### Generalizations

- “Feature (from Kernel)” on page 74
- “Namespace (from Kernel)” on page 106

#### Description

A behavioral feature specifies that an instance of a classifier will respond to a designated request by invoking a behavior. `BehavioralFeature` is an abstract metaclass specializing `Feature` and `Namespace`. Kinds of behavioral aspects are modeled by subclasses of `BehavioralFeature`.

#### Attributes

No additional attributes

#### Associations

- `ownedParameter`: `Parameter[*]`  
Specifies the ordered set of formal parameters owned by this `BehavioralFeature`. The parameter direction can be ‘in,’ ‘inout,’ ‘out,’ or ‘return’ to specify input, output, or return parameters. Subsets `Namespace::ownedMember`
- `raisedException`: `Type[*]`  
References the Types representing exceptions that may be raised during an invocation of this operation.

#### Constraints

No additional constraints

#### Additional Operations

[1] The query `isDistinguishableFrom()` determines whether two `BehavioralFeatures` may coexist in the same `Namespace`. It specifies that they have to have different signatures.

`BehavioralFeature::isDistinguishableFrom(n: NamedElement, ns: Namespace): Boolean;`

`isDistinguishableFrom =`

```

if n.oclsKindOf(BehavioralFeature)
then
    if ns.getNamesOfMember(self)->intersection(ns.getNamesOfMember(n))->notEmpty()
    then Set{}->including(self)->including(n)->isUnique(bf | bf.ownedParameter->collect(type))
    else true
    endif
else true
endif

```

## Semantics

The list of owned parameters describes the order, type, and direction of arguments that can be given when the BehavioralFeature is invoked or which are returned when the BehavioralFeature terminates.

The owned parameters with direction in or inout define the type, and number of arguments that must be provided when invoking the BehavioralFeature. An owned parameter with direction out, inout, or return defines the type of the argument that will be returned from a successful invocation. A BehavioralFeature may raise an exception during its invocation.

## Notation

No additional notation

### 7.3.6 BehavoredClassifier (from Interfaces)

#### Generalizations

- “BehavoredClassifier (from BasicBehaviors, Communications)” on page 455 (*merge increment*)

#### Description

A BehavoredClassifier may have an interface realization.

#### Associations

- interfaceRealization: InterfaceRealization [\*]  
(Subsets *Element::ownedElement* and *Realization::clientDependency*.)

### 7.3.7 Class (from Kernel)

A class describes a set of objects that share the same specifications of features, constraints, and semantics.

#### Generalizations

- “Classifier (from Kernel, Dependencies, PowerTypes, Interfaces)” on page 55

#### Description

Class is a kind of classifier whose features are attributes and operations. Attributes of a class are represented by instances of Property that are owned by the class. Some of these attributes may represent the navigable ends of binary associations.

#### Attributes

No additional attributes

#### Associations

- nestedClassifier: Classifier [\*]  
References all the Classifiers that are defined (nested) within the Class. Subsets *Namespace::ownedMember*
- ownedAttribute : Property [\*]  
The attributes (i.e., the properties) owned by the class. The association is ordered. Subsets *Classifier::attribute* and *Namespace::ownedMember*

- `ownedOperation : Operation [*]`  
The operations owned by the class. The association is ordered. Subsets *Classifier::feature* and *Namespace::ownedMember*
- `/ superClass : Class [*]`  
This gives the superclasses of a class. It redefines *Classifier::general*. This is derived.

### Constraints

No additional constraints

### Additional Operations

[1] The inherit operation is overridden to exclude redefined properties.

```
Class::inherit(inhs: Set(NamedElement)) : Set(NamedElement);
```

```
inherit = inhs->excluding(inh |
```

```
ownedMember->select(oclIsKindOf(RedefinableElement))->select(redefinedElement->includes(inh)))
```

### Semantics

The purpose of a class is to specify a classification of objects and to specify the features that characterize the structure and behavior of those objects.

Objects of a class must contain values for each attribute that is a member of that class, in accordance with the characteristics of the attribute, for example its type and multiplicity.

When an object is instantiated in a class, for every attribute of the class that has a specified default, if an initial value of the attribute is not specified explicitly for the instantiation, then the default value specification is evaluated to set the initial value of the attribute for the object.

Operations of a class can be invoked on an object, given a particular set of substitutions for the parameters of the operation. An operation invocation may cause changes to the values of the attributes of that object. It may also return a value as a result, where a result type for the operation has been defined. Operation invocations may also cause changes in value to the attributes of other objects that can be navigated to, directly or indirectly, from the object on which the operation is invoked, to its output parameters, to objects navigable from its parameters, or to other objects in the scope of the operation's execution. Operation invocations may also cause the creation and deletion of objects.

A class cannot access private features of another class, or protected features on another class that is not its supertype. When creating and deleting associations, at least one end must allow access to the class.

### Notation

A class is shown using the classifier symbol. As class is the most widely used classifier, the keyword "class" need not be shown in guillemets above the name. A classifier symbol without a metaclass shown in guillemets indicates a class.

### Presentation Options

A class is often shown with three compartments. The middle compartment holds a list of attributes while the bottom compartment holds a list of operations.

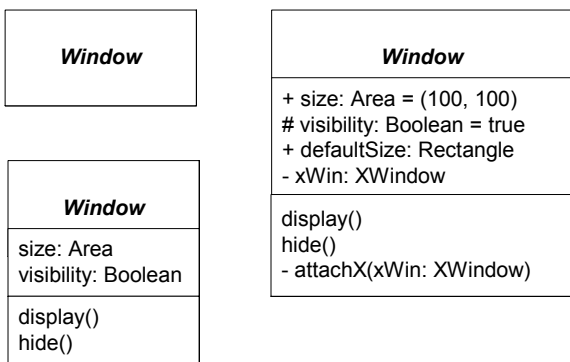
Attributes or operations may be presented grouped by visibility. A visibility keyword or symbol can then be given once for multiple features with the same visibility.

Additional compartments may be supplied to show other details, such as constraints, or to divide features.

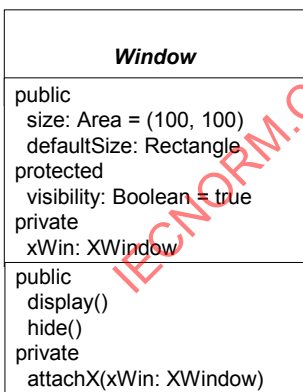
**Style Guidelines**

- Center class name in boldface.
- Capitalize the first letter of class names (if the character set supports uppercase).
- Left justify attributes and operations in plain face.
- Begin attribute and operation names with a lowercase letter.
- Put the class name in italics if the class is abstract.
- Show full attributes and operations when needed and suppress them in other contexts or when merely referring to a class.

**Examples**



**Figure 7.28 - Class notation: details suppressed, analysis-level details, implementation-level details**



**Figure 7.29 - Class notation: attributes and operations grouped according to visibility**

### 7.3.8 Classifier (from Kernel, Dependencies, PowerTypes, Interfaces)

A classifier is a classification of instances, it describes a set of instances that have features in common.

#### Generalizations

- “Namespace (from Kernel)” on page 106
- “RedefinableElement (from Kernel)” on page 137
- “Type (from Kernel)” on page 142

#### Description

A classifier is a namespace whose members can include features. Classifier is an abstract metaclass.

A classifier is a type and can own generalizations, thereby making it possible to define generalization relationships to other classifiers. A classifier can specify a generalization hierarchy by referencing its general classifiers.

A classifier is a redefinable element, meaning that it is possible to redefine nested classifiers.

#### Attributes

##### Package Kernel

- **isAbstract**: Boolean  
If *true*, the Classifier does not provide a complete declaration and can typically not be instantiated. An abstract classifier is intended to be used by other classifiers (e.g., as the target of general metarelations or generalization relationships). Default value is *false*.
- **isFinalSpecialization**: Boolean  
If *true*, the Classifier cannot be specialized by generalization. Note that this property is preserved through package merge operations; that is, the capability to specialize a Classifier (i.e., *isFinalSpecialization = false*) must be preserved in the resulting Classifier of a package merge operation where a Classifier with *isFinalSpecialization = false* is merged with a matching Classifier with *isFinalSpecialization = true*: the resulting Classifier will have *isFinalSpecialization = false*. Default is *false*.

#### Associations

##### Package Kernel

- **/attribute**: Property [\*]  
Refers to all of the Properties that are direct (i.e., not inherited or imported) attributes of the classifier. Subsets *Classifier::feature* and is a derived union.
- **/feature**: Feature [\*]  
Specifies each feature defined in the classifier. Subsets *Namespace::member*. This is a derived union.
- **/general**: Classifier[\*]  
Specifies the general Classifiers for this Classifier. This is derived.
- **generalization**: Generalization[\*]  
Specifies the Generalization relationships for this Classifier. These Generalizations navigate to more general classifiers in the generalization hierarchy. Subsets *Element::ownedElement*

## ISO/IEC 19505-2:2012(E)

- `/inheritedMember: NamedElement[*]`  
Specifies all elements inherited by this classifier from the general classifiers. Subsets *Namespace::member*. This is derived.
- `redefinedClassifier: Classifier [*]`  
References the Classifiers that are redefined by this Classifier. Subsets *RedefinableElement::redefinedElement*

### Package Dependencies

- `substitution : Substitution`  
References the substitutions that are owned by this Classifier. Subsets *Element::ownedElement* and *NamedElement::clientDependency*.)

### Package PowerTypes

- `powertypeExtent : GeneralizationSet`  
Designates the GeneralizationSet of which the associated Classifier is a power type.

## Constraints

### Package Kernel

- [1] The general classifiers are the classifiers referenced by the generalization relationships.  
`general = self.parents()`
- [2] Generalization hierarchies must be directed and acyclical. A classifier cannot be both a transitively general and transitively specific classifier of the same classifier.  
`not self.allParents()->includes(self)`
- [3] A classifier may only specialize classifiers of a valid type.  
`self.parents()->forall(c | self.maySpecializeType(c))`
- [4] The inheritedMember association is derived by inheriting the inheritable members of the parents.  
`self.inheritedMember = self.inherit( self.parents()->collect(p | p.inheritableMembers(self))->asSet() )`
- [5] The parents of a classifier must be non-final.  
`self.parents()->forall(not isFinalSpecialization)`

### Package PowerTypes

- [6] The Classifier that maps to a GeneralizationSet may neither be a specific nor a general Classifier in any of the Generalization relationships defined for that GeneralizationSet. In other words, a power type may not be an instance of itself nor may its instances also be its subclasses.

## Additional Operations

### Package Kernel

- [1] The query `allFeatures()` gives all of the features in the namespace of the classifier. In general, through mechanisms such as inheritance, this will be a larger set than feature.  
`Classifier::allFeatures(): Set(Feature);`  
`allFeatures = member->select(oclIsKindOf(Feature))`
- [2] The query `parents()` gives all of the immediate ancestors of a generalized Classifier.  
`Classifier::parents(): Set(Classifier);`  
`parents = generalization.general`

- [3] The query `allParents()` gives all of the direct and indirect ancestors of a generalized Classifier.
- ```
Classifier::allParents(): Set(Classifier);
allParents = self.parents()->union(self.parents()->collect(p | p.allParents()))
```
- [4] The query `inheritableMembers()` gives all of the members of a classifier that may be inherited in one of its descendants, subject to whatever visibility restrictions apply.
- ```
Classifier::inheritableMembers(c: Classifier): Set(NamedElement);
pre: c.allParents()->includes(self)
inheritableMembers = member->select(m | c.hasVisibilityOf(m))
```
- [5] The query `hasVisibilityOf()` determines whether a named element is visible in the classifier. It is only called when the argument is something owned by a parent.
- ```
Classifier::hasVisibilityOf(n: NamedElement) : Boolean;
pre: self.allParents()->collect(c | c.member)->includes(n)
hasVisibilityOf = (n.visibility <> #private)
```
- [6] The query `conformsTo()` gives true for a classifier that defines a type that conforms to another. This is used, for example, in the specification of signature conformance for operations.
- ```
Classifier::conformsTo(other: Classifier): Boolean;
conformsTo = (self=other) or (self.allParents()->includes(other))
```
- [7] The query `inherit()` defines how to inherit a set of elements. Here the operation is defined to inherit them all. It is intended to be redefined in circumstances where inheritance is affected by redefinition.
- ```
Classifier::inherit(inhs: Set(NamedElement)): Set(NamedElement);
inherit = inhs
```
- [8] The query `maySpecializeType()` determines whether this classifier may have a generalization relationship to classifiers of the specified type. By default a classifier may specialize classifiers of the same or a more general type. It is intended to be redefined by classifiers that have different specialization constraints.
- ```
Classifier::maySpecializeType(c : Classifier) : Boolean;
maySpecializeType = self.oclIsKindOf(c.oclType)
```

## Semantics

A classifier is a classification of instances according to their features.

A Classifier may participate in generalization relationships with other Classifiers. An instance of a specific Classifier is also an (indirect) instance of each of the general Classifiers. Therefore, features specified for instances of the general classifier are implicitly specified for instances of the specific classifier. Any constraint applying to instances of the general classifier also applies to instances of the specific classifier.

The specific semantics of how generalization affects each concrete subtype of Classifier varies. All instances of a classifier have values corresponding to the classifier's attributes.

A Classifier defines a type. Type conformance between generalizable Classifiers is defined so that a Classifier conforms to itself and to all of its ancestors in the generalization hierarchy.

### Package PowerTypes

The notion of power type was inspired by the notion of power set. A power set is defined as a set whose instances are subsets. In essence, then, a power type is a class whose instances are subclasses. The `powertypeExtent` association relates a Classifier with a set of generalizations that a) have a common specific Classifier, and b) represent a collection of subsets for that class.

### Semantic Variation Points

The precise lifecycle semantics of aggregation is a semantic variation point.

### Notation

Classifier is an abstract model element, and so properly speaking has no notation. It is nevertheless convenient to define in one place a default notation available for any concrete subclass of Classifier for which this notation is suitable. The default notation for a classifier is a solid-outline rectangle containing the classifier's name, and optionally with compartments separated by horizontal lines containing features or other members of the classifier. The specific type of classifier can be shown in guillemets above the name. Some specializations of Classifier have their own distinct notations.

The name of an abstract Classifier is shown in italics.

An attribute can be shown as a text string. The format of this string is specified in the Notation sub clause of "Property (from Kernel, AssociationClasses, Interfaces)" on page 130.

### Presentation Options

Any compartment may be suppressed. A separator line is not drawn for a suppressed compartment. If a compartment is suppressed, no inference can be drawn about the presence or absence of elements in it. Compartment names can be used to remove ambiguity, if necessary.

An abstract Classifier can be shown using the keyword `{abstract}` after or below the name of the Classifier.

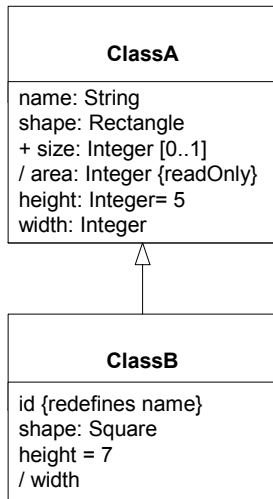
The type, visibility, default, multiplicity, property string may be suppressed from being displayed, even if there are values in the model.

The individual properties of an attribute can be shown in columns rather than as a continuous string.

### Style Guidelines

- Attribute names typically begin with a lowercase letter. Multi-word names are often formed by concatenating the words and using lowercase for all letters except for upcasing the first letter of each word but the first.
- Center the name of the classifier in boldface.
- Center keyword (including stereotype names) in plain face within guillemets above the classifier name.
- For those languages that distinguish between uppercase and lowercase characters, capitalize names (i.e, begin them with an uppercase character).
- Left justify attributes and operations in plain face.
- Begin attribute and operation names with a lowercase letter.
- Show full attributes and operations when needed and suppress them in other contexts or references.

## Examples



**Figure 7.30 - Examples of attributes**

The attributes in Figure 7.30 are explained below.

- ClassA::name is an attribute with type String.
- ClassA::shape is an attribute with type Rectangle.
- ClassA::size is a public attribute of type Integer with multiplicity 0..1.
- ClassA::area is a derived attribute with type Integer. It is marked as read-only.
- ClassA::height is an attribute of type Integer with a default initial value of 5.
- ClassA::width is an attribute of type Integer.
- ClassB::id is an attribute that redefines ClassA::name.
- ClassB::shape is an attribute that redefines ClassA::shape. It has type Square, a specialization of Rectangle.
- ClassB::height is an attribute that redefines ClassA::height. It has a default of 7 for ClassB instances that overrides the ClassA default of 5.
- ClassB::width is a derived attribute that redefines ClassA::width, which is not derived.

An attribute may also be shown using association notation, with no adornments at the tail of the arrow as shown in Figure 7.31.

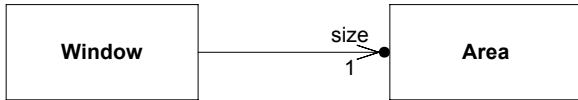


Figure 7.31 - Association-like notation for attribute

*Package PowerTypes*

For example, a Bank Account Type classifier could have a powertype association with a GeneralizationSet. This GeneralizationSet could then associate with two Generalizations where the class (i.e., general Classifier) Bank Account has two specific subclasses (i.e., Classifiers): Checking Account and Savings Account. Checking Account and Savings Account, then, are instances of the power type: Bank Account Type. In other words, Checking Account and Savings Account are *both*: instances of Bank Account Type, as well as subclasses of Bank Account. (For more explanation and examples, see Examples in the GeneralizationSet sub clause, below.)

**7.3.9 Comment (from Kernel)**

A comment is a textual annotation that can be attached to a set of elements.

**Generalizations**

- “Element (from Kernel)” on page 68.

**Description**

A comment gives the ability to attach various remarks to elements. A comment carries no semantic force, but may contain information that is useful to a modeler.

A comment can be owned by any element.

**Attributes**

- body: String [0..1]  
Specifies a string that is the comment.

**Associations**

- annotatedElement: Element[\*]  
References the Element(s) being commented.

**Constraints**

No additional constraints

**Semantics**

A Comment adds no semantics to the annotated elements, but may represent information useful to the reader of the model.

## Notation

A Comment is shown as a rectangle with the upper right corner bent (this is also known as a “note symbol”). The rectangle contains the body of the Comment. The connection to each annotated element is shown by a separate dashed line.

## Presentation Options

The dashed line connecting the note to the annotated element(s) may be suppressed if it is clear from the context, or not important in this diagram.

## Examples

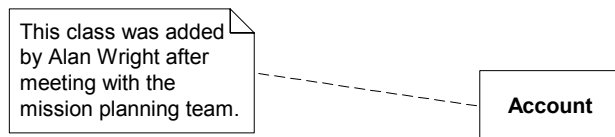


Figure 7.32 - Comment notation

## 7.3.10 Constraint (from Kernel)

A constraint is a condition or restriction expressed in natural language text or in a machine readable language for the purpose of declaring some of the semantics of an element.

### Generalizations

- “PackageableElement (from Kernel)” on page 116

### Description

Constraint contains a ValueSpecification that specifies additional semantics for one or more elements. Certain kinds of constraints are predefined in UML, others may be user-defined. A user-defined Constraint is described using a specified language, whose syntax and interpretation is a tool responsibility. One predefined language for writing constraints is OCL. In some situations, a programming language such as Java may be appropriate for expressing a constraint. In other situations natural language may be used.

Constraint is a condition (a Boolean expression) that restricts the extension of the associated element beyond what is imposed by the other language constructs applied to that element.

Constraint contains an optional name, although they are commonly unnamed.

### Attributes

No additional attributes

### Associations

- constrainedElement: Element[\*]  
The ordered set of Elements referenced by this Constraint.

- context: Namespace [0..1]  
Specifies the Namespace that is the context for evaluating this constraint. Subsets *NamedElement::namespace*.
- specification: ValueSpecification[1]  
A condition that must be true when evaluated in order for the constraint to be satisfied. Subsets *Element::ownedElement*.

### Constraints

- [1] The value specification for a constraint must evaluate to a Boolean value.  
Cannot be expressed in OCL.
- [2] Evaluating the value specification for a constraint must not have side effects.  
Cannot be expressed in OCL.
- [3] A constraint cannot be applied to itself.  
**not** constrainedElement->includes(self)

### Semantics

A Constraint represents additional semantic information attached to the constrained elements. A constraint is an assertion that indicates a restriction that must be satisfied by a correct design of the system. The constrained elements are those elements required to evaluate the constraint specification. In addition, the context of the Constraint may be accessed, and may be used as the namespace for interpreting names used in the specification. For example, in OCL 'self' is used to refer to the context element.

Constraints are often expressed as a text string in some language. If a formal language such as OCL is used, then tools may be able to verify some aspects of the constraints.

In general there are many possible kinds of owners for a Constraint. The only restriction is that the owning element must have access to the constrainedElements.

The owner of the Constraint will determine when the constraint specification is evaluated. For example, this allows an Operation to specify if a Constraint represents a precondition or a postcondition.

### Notation

A Constraint is shown as a text string in braces ({} ) according to the following BNF:

$\langle \text{constraint} \rangle ::= \{ [ \langle \text{name} \rangle \text{' : ' } ] \langle \text{Boolean-expression} \rangle \}$

For an element whose notation is a text string (such as an attribute, etc.), the constraint string may follow the element text string in braces. Figure 7.33 shows a constraint string that follows an attribute within a class symbol.

For a Constraint that applies to a single element (such as a class or an association path), the constraint string may be placed near the symbol for the element, preferably near the name, if any. A tool must make it possible to determine the constrained element.

For a Constraint that applies to two elements (such as two classes or two associations), the constraint may be shown as a dashed line between the elements labeled by the constraint string (in braces). Figure 7.34 shows an {xor} constraint between two associations.

### Presentation Options

The constraint string may be placed in a note symbol and attached to each of the symbols for the constrained elements by a dashed line. Figure 7.35 shows an example of a constraint in a note symbol.

If the constraint is shown as a dashed line between two elements, then an arrowhead may be placed on one end. The direction of the arrow is relevant information within the constraint. The element at the tail of the arrow is mapped to the first position and the element at the head of the arrow is mapped to the second position in the constrainedElements collection.

For three or more paths of the same kind (such as generalization paths or association paths), the constraint may be attached to a dashed line crossing all of the paths.

### Examples

| Stack                     |
|---------------------------|
| size: Integer {size >= 0} |
| push()<br>pop()           |

Figure 7.33 - Constraint attached to an attribute

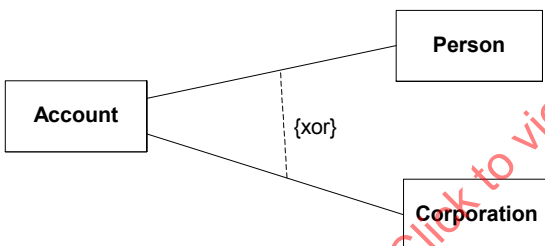


Figure 7.34 - {xor} constraint

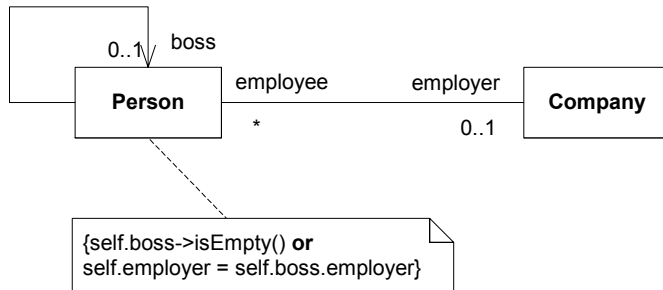


Figure 7.35 - Constraint in a note symbol

### 7.3.11 DataType (from Kernel)

#### Generalizations

- “Classifier (from Kernel, Dependencies, PowerTypes, Interfaces)” on page 55.

#### Description

A data type is a type whose instances are identified only by their value. A DataType may contain attributes to support the modeling of structured data types.

A typical use of data types would be to represent programming language primitive types or CORBA basic types. For example, integer and string types are often treated as data types.

#### Attributes

No additional attributes

#### Associations

- ownedAttribute: Property[\*]  
The Attributes owned by the DataType. This is an ordered collection. Subsets *Classifier::attribute* and *Namespace::ownedMember*
- ownedOperation: Operation[\*]  
The Operations owned by the DataType. This is an ordered collection. Subsets *Classifier::feature* and *Namespace::ownedMember*

#### Constraints

No additional constraints

## Additional Operations

[1] The *inherit* operation is overridden to exclude redefined properties

```

DataType::inherit(inhs: Set(NamedElement)): Set(NamedElement);
inherit=inhs->excluding(inh | ownedMember->
    select(oclIsKindOf(RedefinableElement))->select(redefinedElement->includes(inh)))

```

## Semantics

A data type is a special kind of classifier, similar to a class. It differs from a class in that instances of a data type are identified only by their value.

All copies of an instance of a data type and any instances of that data type with the same value are considered to be equal instances. Instances of a data type that have attributes (i.e., is a structured data type) are considered to be equal if the structure is the same and the values of the corresponding attributes are equal. If a data type has attributes, then instances of that data type will contain attribute values matching the attributes.

## Semantic Variation Points

Any restrictions on the capabilities of data types, such as constraining the types of their attributes, is a semantic variation point.

## Notation

A data type is denoted using the rectangle symbol with keyword «dataType» or, when it is referenced by (e.g., an attribute) denoted by a string containing the name of the data type.

## Examples

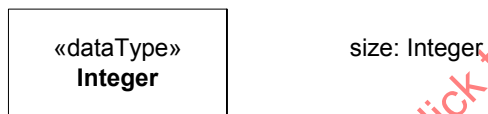


Figure 7.36 - Notation of data type

**Note** – to the left is an icon denoting a data type and to the right is a reference to a data type that is used in an attribute.

## 7.3.12 Dependency (from Dependencies)

### Generalizations

- “DirectedRelationship (from Kernel)” on page 67
- “PackageableElement (from Kernel)” on page 116

### Description

A dependency is a relationship that signifies that a single or a set of model elements requires other model elements for their specification or implementation. This means that the complete semantics of the depending elements is either semantically or structurally dependent on the definition of the supplier element(s).

### Attributes

No additional attributes

### Associations

- client: NamedElement [1..\*]  
The element(s) dependent on the supplier element(s). In some cases (such as a Trace Abstraction) the assignment of direction (that is, the designation of the client element) is at the discretion of the modeler, and is a stipulation. Subsets *DirectedRelationship::source*.
- supplier: NamedElement [1..\*]  
The element(s) independent of the client element(s), in the same respect and the same dependency relationship. In some directed dependency relationships (such as Refinement Abstractions), a common convention in the domain of class-based OO software is to put the more abstract element in this role. Despite this convention, users of UML may stipulate a sense of dependency suitable for their domain, which makes a more abstract element dependent on that which is more specific. Subsets *DirectedRelationship::target*.

### Constraints

No additional constraints

### Semantics

A dependency signifies a supplier/client relationship between model elements where the modification of the supplier may impact the client model elements. A dependency implies the semantics of the client is not complete without the supplier. The presence of dependency relationships in a model does not have any runtime semantics implications, it is all given in terms of the model-elements that participate in the relationship, not in terms of their instances.

### Notation

A dependency is shown as a dashed arrow between two model elements. The model element at the tail of the arrow (the client) depends on the model element at the arrowhead (the supplier). The arrow may be labeled with an optional stereotype and an optional name. It is possible to have a set of elements for the client or supplier. In this case, one or more arrows with their tails on the clients are connected to the tails of one or more arrows with their heads on the suppliers. A small dot can be placed on the junction if desired. A note on the dependency should be attached at the junction point.

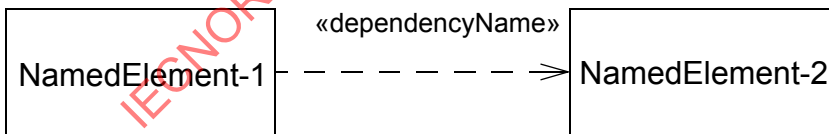


Figure 7.37 - Notation for a dependency between two elements

## Examples

In the example below, the Car class has a dependency on the CarFactory class. In this case, the dependency is an instantiate dependency, where the Car class is an instance of the CarFactory class.

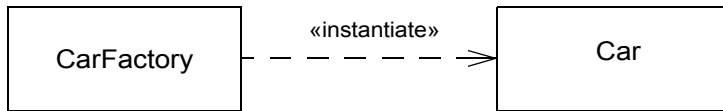


Figure 7.38 - An example of an instantiate dependency

### 7.3.13 DirectedRelationship (from Kernel)

A directed relationship represents a relationship between a collection of source model elements and a collection of target model elements.

#### Generalizations

- “Relationship (from Kernel)” on page 139

#### Description

A directed relationship references one or more source elements and one or more target elements. Directed relationship is an abstract metaclass.

#### Attributes

No additional attributes

#### Associations

- / source: Element [1..\*]  
Specifies the sources of the DirectedRelationship. Subsets *Relationship::relatedElement*. This is a derived union.
- / target: Element [1..\*]  
Specifies the targets of the DirectedRelationship. Subsets *Relationship::relatedElement*. This is a derived union.

#### Constraints

No additional constraints

#### Semantics

DirectedRelationship has no specific semantics. The various subclasses of DirectedRelationship will add semantics appropriate to the concept they represent.

#### Notation

There is no general notation for a DirectedRelationship. The specific subclasses of DirectedRelationship will define their own notation. In most cases the notation is a variation on a line drawn from the source(s) to the target(s).

### 7.3.14 Element (from Kernel)

An element is a constituent of a model. As such, it has the capability of owning other elements.

#### Generalizations

None

#### Description

Element is an abstract metaclass with no superclass. It is used as the common superclass for all metaclasses in the infrastructure library. Element has a derived composition association to itself to support the general capability for elements to own other elements.

#### Attributes

No additional attributes

#### Associations

- ownedComment: Comment[\*]  
The Comments owned by this element. Subsets *Element::ownedElement*.
- / ownedElement: Element[\*]  
The Elements owned by this element. This is a derived union.
- / owner: Element [0..1]  
The Element that owns this element. This is a derived union.

#### Constraints

- [1] An element may not directly or indirectly own itself.  
**not** self.allOwnedElements()->includes(self)
- [2] Elements that must be owned must have an owner.  
self.mustBeOwned() **implies** owner->notEmpty()

#### Additional Operations

- [1] The query allOwnedElements() gives all of the direct and indirect owned elements of an element.  
Element::allOwnedElements(): Set(Element);  
allOwnedElements = ownedElement->union(ownedElement->collect(e | e.allOwnedElements()))
- [2] The query mustBeOwned() indicates whether elements of this type must have an owner. Subclasses of Element that do not require an owner must override this operation.

```
Element::mustBeOwned() : Boolean;  
mustBeOwned = true
```

#### Semantics

Subclasses of Element provide semantics appropriate to the concept they represent. The comments for an Element add no semantics but may represent information useful to the reader of the model.

## Notation

There is no general notation for an Element. The specific subclasses of Element define their own notation.

### 7.3.15 ElementImport (from Kernel)

An element import identifies an element in another package, and allows the element to be referenced using its name without a qualifier.

#### Generalizations

- “DirectedRelationship (from Kernel)” on page 67

#### Description

An element import is defined as a directed relationship between an importing namespace and a packageable element. The name of the packageable element or its alias is to be added to the namespace of the importing namespace. It is also possible to control whether the imported element can be further imported.

#### Attributes

- **visibility:** VisibilityKind  
Specifies the visibility of the imported PackageableElement within the importing Package. The default visibility is the same as that of the imported element. If the imported element does not have a visibility, it is possible to add visibility to the element import. Default value is *public*.
- **alias:** String [0..1]  
Specifies the name that should be added to the namespace of the importing Package in lieu of the name of the imported PackageableElement. The aliased name must not clash with any other member name in the importing Package. By default, no alias is used.

#### Associations

- **importedElement:** PackageableElement [1]  
Specifies the PackageableElement whose name is to be added to a Namespace. Subsets *DirectedRelationship::target*.
- **importingNamespace:** Namespace [1]  
Specifies the Namespace that imports a PackageableElement from another Package. Subsets *DirectedRelationship::source* and *Element::owner*.

#### Constraints

- [1] The visibility of an ElementImport is either public or private.  
self.visibility = #public **or** self.visibility = #private
- [2] An importedElement has either public visibility or no visibility at all.  
self.importedElement.visibility.notEmpty() **implies** self.importedElement.visibility = #public

#### Additional Operations

- [1] The query getName() returns the name under which the imported PackageableElement will be known in the importing namespace.
- ```
ElementImport::getName(): String;
getName =
    if self.alias->notEmpty() then
```

```

    self.alias
else
    self.importedElement.name
endif

```

### Semantics

An element import adds the name of a packageable element from a package to the importing namespace. It works by reference, which means that it is not possible to add features to the element import itself, but it is possible to modify the referenced element in the namespace from which it was imported. An element import is used to selectively import individual elements without relying on a package import.

In case of a name clash with an outer name (an element that is defined in an enclosing namespace is available using its unqualified name in enclosed namespaces) in the importing namespace, the outer name is hidden by an element import, and the unqualified name refers to the imported element. The outer name can be accessed using its qualified name.

If more than one element with the same name would be imported to a namespace as a consequence of element imports or package imports, the elements are not added to the importing namespace and the names of those elements must be qualified in order to be used in that namespace. If the name of an imported element is the same as the name of an element owned by the importing namespace, that element is not added to the importing namespace and the name of that element must be qualified in order to be used.

An imported element can be further imported by other namespaces using either element or package imports.

The visibility of the ElementImport may be either the same or more restricted than that of the imported element.

### Notation

An element import is shown using a dashed arrow with an open arrowhead from the importing namespace to the imported element. The keyword «import» is shown near the dashed arrow if the visibility is public; otherwise, the keyword «access» is shown to indicate private visibility.

If an element import has an alias, this is used in lieu of the name of the imported element. The aliased name may be shown after or below the keyword «import».

### Presentation options

If the imported element is a package, the keyword may optionally be preceded by element, i.e., «element import».

As an alternative to the dashed arrow, it is possible to show an element import by having a text that uniquely identifies the imported element within curly brackets either below or after the name of the namespace. The textual syntax is then:

```
{element import } <qualified-name> '}' | {element access } <qualified-name> '}'
```

Optionally, the aliased name may be shown as well:

```
{element import } <qualified-name> 'as' <alias> '}' | {element access } <qualified-name> 'as' <alias> '}'
```

## Examples

The element import that is shown in Figure 7.39 allows elements in the package Program to refer to the type Time in Types without qualification. However, they still need to refer explicitly to Types::Integer, since this element is not imported. The Type string can be used in the Program package but cannot be further imported from that package.

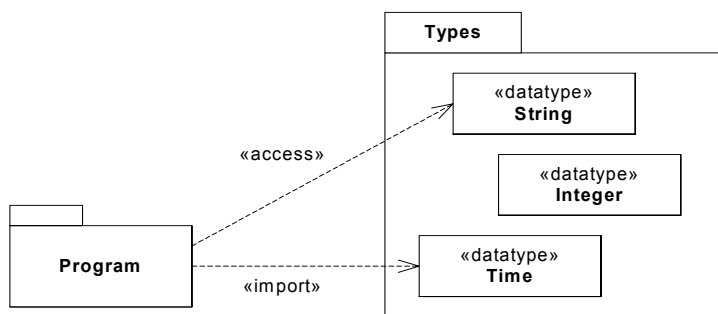


Figure 7.39 - Example of element import

In Figure 7.40, the element import is combined with aliasing, meaning that the type Types::Real will be referred to as Double in the package Shapes.

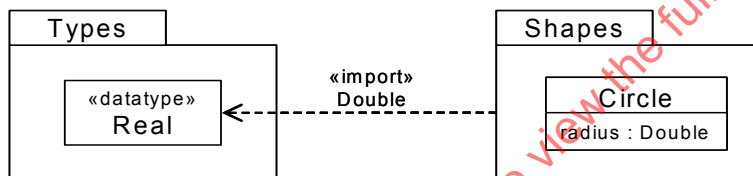


Figure 7.40 - Example of element import with aliasing

### 7.3.16 Enumeration (from Kernel)

An enumeration is a data type whose values are enumerated in the model as enumeration literals.

#### Generalizations

- “DataType (from Kernel)” on page 64

#### Description

Enumeration is a kind of data type, whose instances may be any of a number of user-defined enumeration literals.

It is possible to extend the set of applicable enumeration literals in other packages or profiles.

#### Attributes

No additional attributes

### Associations

- ownedLiteral: EnumerationLiteral[\*]  
The ordered set of literals for this Enumeration. Subsets *Namespace::ownedMember*

### Constraints

No additional constraints

### Semantics

The run-time instances of an Enumeration are data values. Each such value corresponds to exactly one EnumerationLiteral.

### Notation

An enumeration may be shown using the classifier notation (a rectangle) with the keyword «enumeration». The name of the enumeration is placed in the upper compartment. A compartment listing the attributes for the enumeration is placed below the name compartment. A compartment listing the operations for the enumeration is placed below the attribute compartment. A list of enumeration literals may be placed, one to a line, in the bottom compartment. The attributes and operations compartments may be suppressed, and typically are suppressed if they would be empty.

### Examples

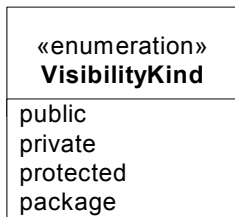


Figure 7.41 - Example of an enumeration

### 7.3.17 EnumerationLiteral (from Kernel)

An enumeration literal is a user-defined data value for an enumeration.

#### Generalizations

- “InstanceSpecification (from Kernel)” on page 87

#### Description

An enumeration literal is a user-defined data value for an enumeration.

#### Attributes

No additional attributes

**Associations**

- enumeration: Enumeration[1]  
The Enumeration that this EnumerationLiteral is a member of. Subsets *NamedElement::namespace*
- /classifier: Enumeration[1]  
The classifier of this EnumerationLiteral is derived to be equal to its enumeration. Redefines *InstanceSpecification::classifier*.

**Constraints**

- [1] The classifier of the EnumerationLiteral should be equal to its owning enumeration.  
classifier = enumeration

**Semantics**

An EnumerationLiteral defines an element of the run-time extension of an enumeration data type.

An EnumerationLiteral has a name that can be used to identify it within its enumeration datatype. The enumeration literal name is scoped within and must be unique within its enumeration. Enumeration literal names are not global and must be qualified for general use.

The run-time values corresponding to enumeration literals can be compared for equality.

**Notation**

An EnumerationLiteral is typically shown as a name, one to a line, in the compartment of the enumeration notation.

**7.3.18 Expression (from Kernel)**

An expression is a structured tree of symbols that denotes a (possibly empty) set of values when evaluated in a context.

**Generalizations**

- “ValueSpecification (from Kernel)” on page 145

**Description**

An expression represents a node in an expression tree, which may be non-terminal or terminal. It defines a symbol, and has a possibly empty sequence of operands that are value specifications.

**Attributes**

- symbol: String [0..1]  
The symbol associated with the node in the expression tree.

**Associations**

- operand: ValueSpecification[\*]  
Specifies a sequence of operands. Subsets *Element::ownedElement*.

**Constraints**

No additional constraints

## Semantics

An expression represents a node in an expression tree. If there are no operands, it represents a terminal node. If there are operands, it represents an operator applied to those operands. In either case there is a symbol associated with the node. The interpretation of this symbol depends on the context of the expression.

## Notation

By default an expression with no operands is notated simply by its symbol, with no quotes. An expression with operands is notated by its symbol, followed by round parentheses containing its operands in order. In particular contexts special notations may be permitted, including infix operators.

## Examples

*xor*  
*else*  
*plus(x,1)*  
*x+1*

### 7.3.19 Feature (from Kernel)

A feature declares a behavioral or structural characteristic of instances of classifiers.

#### Generalizations

- “RedefinableElement (from Kernel)” on page 137

#### Description

A feature declares a behavioral or structural characteristic of instances of classifiers. Feature is an abstract metaclass.

#### Attributes

- *isStatic*: Boolean  
Specifies whether this feature characterizes individual instances classified by the classifier (*false*) or the classifier itself (*true*). Default value is *false*.

#### Associations

- */featuringClassifier*: Classifier [0..\*]  
The Classifiers that have this Feature as a feature. This is a derived union.

#### Constraints

No additional constraints

#### Semantics

A feature represents some characteristic for its featuring classifiers; this characteristic may be of the classifier’s instances considered individually (*not static*), or of the classifier itself (*static*). A Feature can be a feature of multiple classifiers. The same feature cannot be static in one context but not another.

## Semantic Variation Points

With regard to static features, two alternative semantics are recognized. A static feature may have different values for different featuring classifiers, or the same value for all featuring classifiers.

In accord with this semantic variation point, inheritance of values for static features is permitted but not required by UML 2. Such inheritance is encouraged when modeling systems will be coded in languages, such as C++, Java, and C#, which stipulate inheritance of values for static features.

## Notation

No general notation. Subclasses define their specific notation.

Static features are underlined.

## Presentation Options

Only the names of static features are underlined.

An ellipsis (...) as the final element of a list of features indicates that additional features exist but are not shown in that list.

## Changes from previous UML

The property *isStatic* in UML 2 serves in place of the metaattribute *ownerScope* of Feature in UML 1. The enumerated data type *ScopeKind* with two values, *instance* and *classifier*, provided in UML 1 as the type for *ownerScope* is no longer needed because *isStatic* is Boolean.

## 7.3.20 Generalization (from Kernel, PowerTypes)

A generalization is a taxonomic relationship between a more general classifier and a more specific classifier. Each instance of the specific classifier is also an indirect instance of the general classifier. Thus, the specific classifier inherits the features of the more general classifier.

### Generalizations

- “DirectedRelationship (from Kernel)” on page 67

### Description

A generalization relates a specific classifier to a more general classifier, and is owned by the specific classifier.

### Package PowerTypes

A generalization can be designated as being a member of a particular generalization set.

### Attributes

- *isSubstitutable*: Boolean [0..1]  
Indicates whether the specific classifier can be used wherever the general classifier can be used. If *true*, the execution traces of the specific classifier will be a superset of the execution traces of the general classifier. The default value is *true*.

### Associations

- general: Classifier [1]  
References the general classifier in the Generalization relationship. Subsets *DirectedRelationship::target*
- specific: Classifier [1]  
References the specializing classifier in the Generalization relationship. Subsets *DirectedRelationship::source* and *Element::owner*

### Package PowerTypes

- generalizationSet  
Designates a set in which instances of Generalization are considered members.

### Constraints

No additional constraints

### Package PowerTypes

- [1] Every Generalization associated with a given GeneralizationSet must have the same general Classifier. That is, all Generalizations for a particular GeneralizationSet must have the same superclass.

### Semantics

Where a generalization relates a specific classifier to a general classifier, each instance of the specific classifier is also an instance of the general classifier. Therefore, features specified for instances of the general classifier are implicitly specified for instances of the specific classifier. Any constraint applying to instances of the general classifier also applies to instances of the specific classifier.

### Package PowerTypes

Each Generalization is a binary relationship that relates a specific Classifier to a more general Classifier (i.e., a subclass). Each GeneralizationSet contains a particular set of Generalization relationships that *collectively* describe the way in which a specific Classifier (or class) may be divided into subclasses. The generalizationSet associates those instances of a Generalization with a particular GeneralizationSet.

For example, one Generalization could relate Person as a general Classifier with a Female Person as the specific Classifier. Another Generalization could also relate Person as a general Classifier, but have Male Person as the specific Classifier. These two Generalizations could be associated with the same GeneralizationSet, because they specify one way of partitioning the Person class.

### Notation

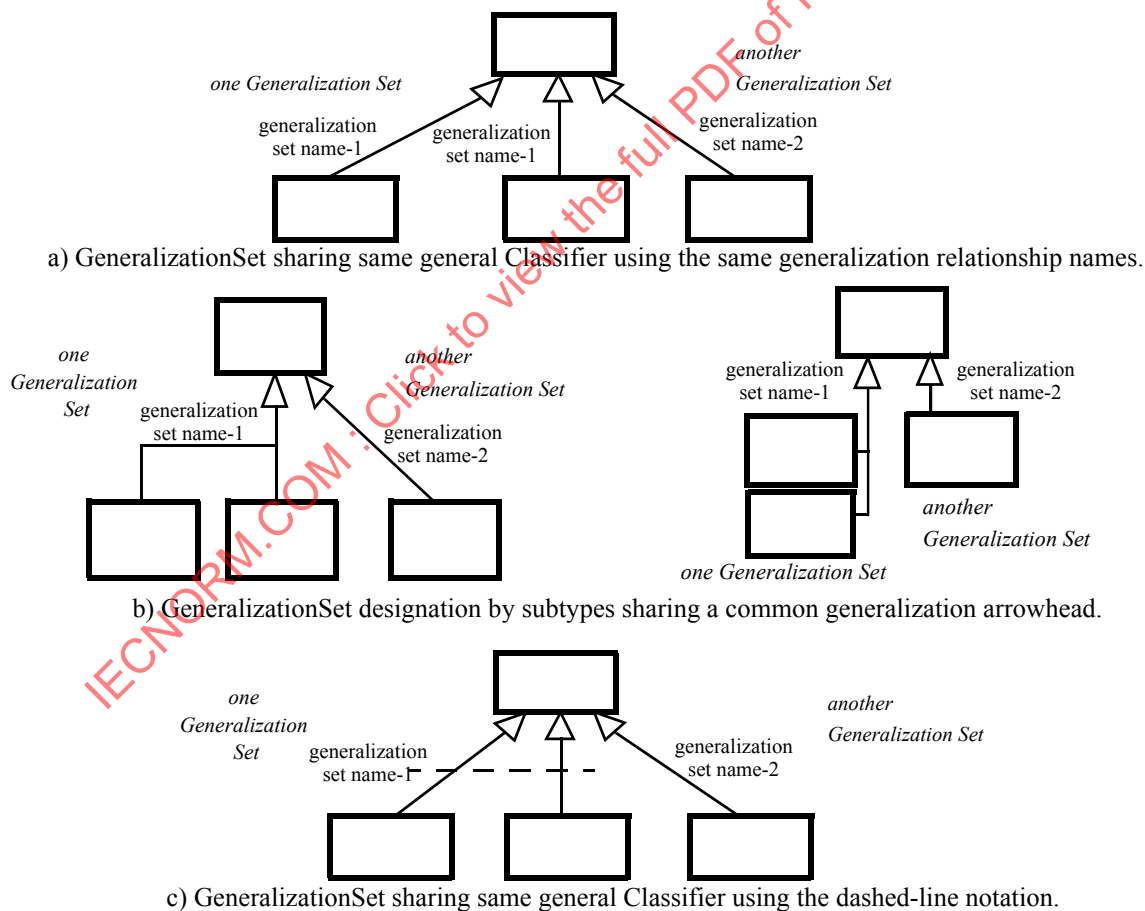
A Generalization is shown as a line with a hollow triangle as an arrowhead between the symbols representing the involved classifiers. The arrowhead points to the symbol representing the general classifier. This notation is referred to as the “separate target style.” See the example sub clause below.

*Package PowerTypes*

A generalization is shown as a line with a hollow triangle as an arrowhead between the symbols representing the involved classifiers. The arrowhead points to the symbol representing the general classifier. When these relationships are named, that name designates the GeneralizationSet to which the Generalization belongs. Each GeneralizationSet has a name (which it inherits since it is a subclass of PackageableElement). Therefore, all Generalization relationships with the same GeneralizationSet name are part of the same GeneralizationSet. This notation form is depicted in a), Figure 7.42.

When two or more lines are drawn to the same arrowhead, as illustrated in b), Figure 7.42, the specific Classifiers are part of the same GeneralizationSet. When diagrammed in this way, the lines do not need to be labeled separately; instead the generalization set need only be labeled once. The labels are optional because the GeneralizationSet is clearly designated.

Lastly in c), Figure 7.42, a GeneralizationSet can be designated by drawing a dashed line across those lines with separate arrowheads that are meant to be part of the same set, as illustrated at the bottom of Figure 7.42. Here, as with b), the GeneralizationSet may be labeled with a single name, instead of each line labeled separately. However, such labels are optional because the GeneralizationSet is clearly designated.



**Figure 7.42 - GeneralizationSet designation notations**

### Presentation Options

Multiple Generalization relationships that reference the same general classifier can be connected together in the “shared target style.” See the example sub clause below.

### Examples

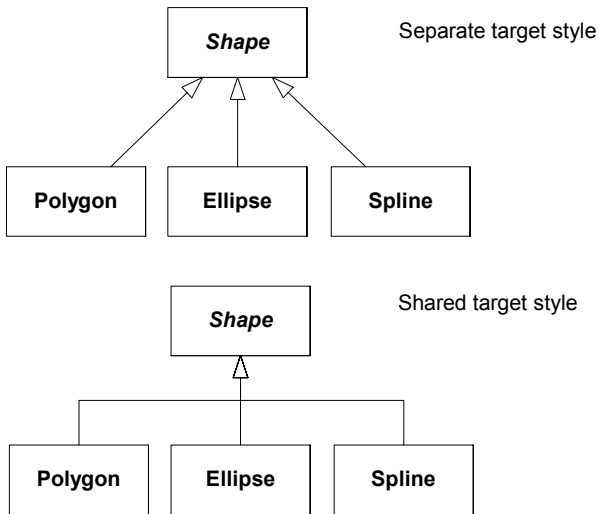


Figure 7.43 - Examples of generalizations between classes

### Package PowerTypes

In Figure 7.44, the Person class can be specialized as either a Female Person or a Male Person. Furthermore, Person’s can be specialized as an Employee. Here, Female Person or a Male Person of Person constitute one GeneralizationSet and Employee another. This illustration employs the notation forms depicted in the diagram above.

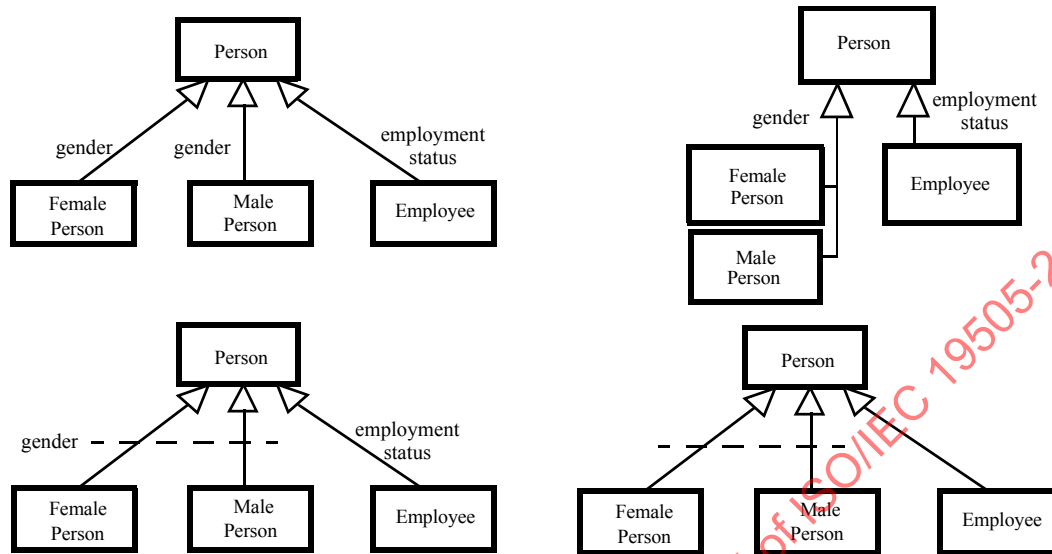


Figure 7.44 - Multiple subtype partitions (GeneralizationSets) example

### 7.3.21 GeneralizationSet (from PowerTypes)

A GeneralizationSet is a PackageableElement (from Kernel) whose instances define collections of subsets of Generalization relationships.

#### Generalizations

- “PackageableElement (from Kernel)” on page 116

#### Description

Each Generalization is a binary relationship that relates a specific Classifier to a more general Classifier (i.e., from a class to its superclasses). Each GeneralizationSet defines a particular set of Generalization relationships that describe the way in which a general Classifier (or superclass) may be divided using specific subtypes. For example, a GeneralizationSet could define a partitioning of the class Person into two subclasses: Male Person and Female Person. Here, the GeneralizationSet would associate two instances of Generalization. Both instances would have Person as the general classifier; however, one Generalization would involve Male Person as the specific Classifier and the other would involve Female Person as the specific classifier. In other words, the class Person can here be said to be *partitioned* into two subclasses: Male Person and Female Person. Person could also be divided into North American Person, Asian Person, European Person, or something else. This collection of subsets would define a different GeneralizationSet that would associate with three other Generalization relationships. All three would have Person as the general Classifier; only the specific classifiers would differ (i.e., North American Person, Asian Person, and European Person).

### Attributes

- **isCovering** : Boolean  
 Indicates (via the associated Generalizations) whether or not the set of specific Classifiers are covering for a particular general classifier. When **isCovering** is true, every instance of a particular general Classifier is also an instance of at least one of its specific Classifiers for the GeneralizationSet. When **isCovering** is false, there are one or more instances of the particular general Classifier that are not instances of at least one of its specific Classifiers defined for the GeneralizationSet. For example, Person could have two Generalization relationships each with a different specific Classifier: Male Person and Female Person. This GeneralizationSet would be covering because every instance of Person would be an instance of Male Person or Female Person. In contrast, Person could have a three Generalization relationship involving three specific Classifiers: North American Person, Asian Person, and European Person. This GeneralizationSet would not be covering because there are instances of Person for which these three specific Classifiers do not apply. The first example, then, could be read: any Person would be specialized as either being a Male Person or a Female Person— and *nothing else*; the second could be read: any Person would be specialized as being North American Person, Asian Person, European Person, or something else. Default value is *false*.
- **isDisjoint** : Boolean  
 Indicates whether or not the set of specific Classifiers in a Generalization relationship have instance in common. If **isDisjoint** is true, the specific Classifiers for a particular GeneralizationSet have no members in common; that is, their intersection is empty. If **isDisjoint** is false, the specific Classifiers in a particular GeneralizationSet have one or more members in common; that is, their intersection is *not* empty. For example, Person could have two Generalization relationships, each with the different specific Classifier: Manager or Staff. This would be disjoint because every instance of Person must either be a Manager or Staff. In contrast, Person could have two Generalization relationships involving two specific (and non- covering) Classifiers: Sales Person and Manager. This GeneralizationSet would not be disjoint because there are instances of Person that can be a Sales Person *and* a Manager. Default value is *false*.

### Associations

- **generalization** : Generalization [\*]  
 Designates the instances of Generalization that are members of a given GeneralizationSet (see constraint [1] below).
- **powertype** : Classifier [0..1]  
 Designates the Classifier that is defined as the power type for the associated GeneralizationSet (see constraint [2] below).

### Constraints

- [1] Every Generalization associated with a particular GeneralizationSet must have the same general Classifier.  

$$\text{generalization} \rightarrow \text{collect}(g \mid g.\text{general}) \rightarrow \text{asSet}() \rightarrow \text{size}() \leq 1$$
- [2] The Classifier that maps to a GeneralizationSet may neither be a specific nor a general Classifier in any of the Generalization relationships defined for that GeneralizationSet. In other words, a power type may not be an instance of itself nor may its instances be its subclasses.

### Semantics

The generalizationSet association designates the collection of subsets to which the Generalization link belongs. All of the Generalization links that share a given general Classifier are divided into subsets (e.g., partitions or overlapping subset groups) using the generalizationSet association. Each collection of subsets represents an orthogonal dimension of specialization of the general Classifier.

As mentioned above, in essence, a power type is a class whose instances are subclasses of another class. Power types, then, are metaclasses with an extra twist: the instances can also be subclasses. The powertype association relates a classifier to the instances of that classifier, which are the specific classifiers identified for a GeneralizationSet. For example, the Bank Account Type classifier could associate with a GeneralizationSet that has Generalizations with specific classifiers of Checking Account and Savings Account. Here, then, Checking Account and Savings Account are instances of Bank Account Type. Furthermore, if the Generalization relationship has a general classifier of Bank Account, then Checking Account and Savings Account are also subclasses of Bank Account. Therefore, Checking Account and Savings Account are both instances of Bank Account Type and subclasses of Bank Account. (For more explanation and examples see “Examples” on page 83.)

### Notation

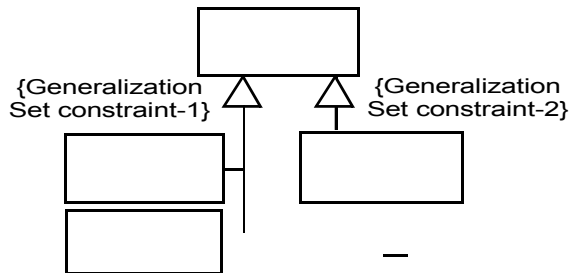
The notation to express the grouping of Generalizations into GeneralizationSets was presented in the Notation sub clause of Generalization, above. To indicate whether or not a generalization set is covering and disjoint, each set should be labeled with one of the constraints indicated below.

- {complete, disjoint} - Indicates the generalization set is covering and its specific Classifiers have no common instances.
- {incomplete, disjoint} - Indicates the generalization set is not covering and its specific Classifiers have no common instances\*.
- {complete, overlapping} - Indicates the generalization set is covering and its specific Classifiers do share common instances.
- {incomplete, overlapping} - Indicates the generalization set is not covering and its specific Classifiers do share common instances.

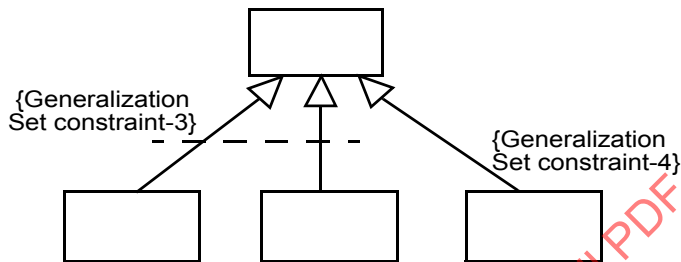
\* default is {incomplete, disjoint}

### Figure 7.45 - Generalization set constraint notation

Graphically, the GeneralizationSet constraints are placed next to the sets, whether the common arrowhead notation is employed or the dashed line, as illustrated below.



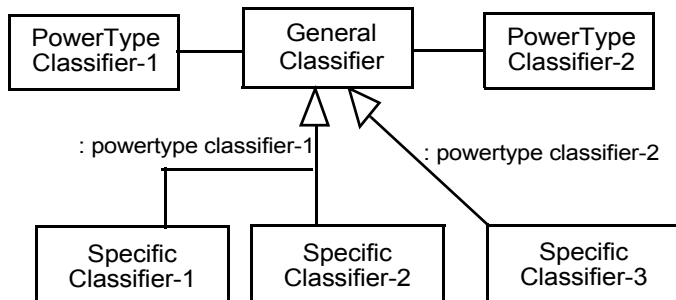
(a) GeneralizationSet constraint when sharing common generalization arrowhead.



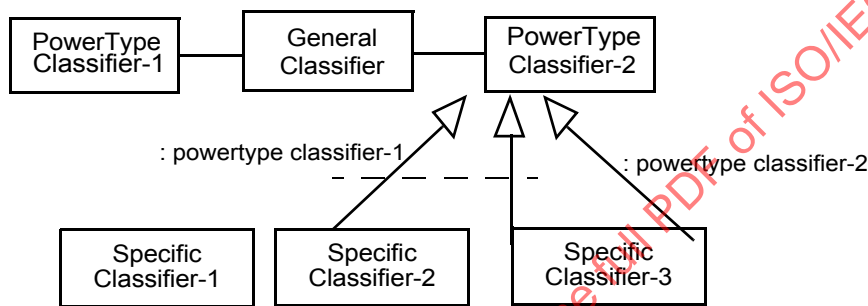
(b) GeneralizationSet constraint using dashed-line notation.

**Figure 7.46 - GeneralizationSet constraint notation**

Power type specification is indicated by placing the name of the powertype Classifier—preceded by a colon—next to the GeneralizationSet graphically containing the specific classifiers that are the instances of the power type. The illustration below indicates how this would appear for both the “shared arrowhead” and the “dashed-line” notation for GeneralizationSets.



(a) Power type specification when sharing common generalization arrowhead



(b) Power type specification using dashed-line notation

**Figure 7.47 - Power type notation**

### Examples

In the illustration below, the Person class can be specialized as either a Female Person or a Male Person. Because this GeneralizationSet is partitioned (i.e., is constrained to be complete and disjoint), each instance of Person must *either* be a Female Person or a Male Person; that is, it must be one or the other and not both. (Therefore, Person is an abstract class because a Person object may not exist without being either a Female Person or a Male Person.) Furthermore, a Person object can be specialized as an Employee. The generalization set here is expressed as {incomplete, disjoint}, which means that instances of Persons can be subset as Employees or some other unnamed collection that consists of all non-Employee instances. In other words, Persons can *either* be an Employee or in the complement of Employee, and not both. Taken together, the diagram indicates that a Person may be 1) either a Male Person or Female Person, *and* 2) an Employee or not. When expressed in this manner, it is possible to partition the instances of a classifier using a disjunctive normal form (DNF).

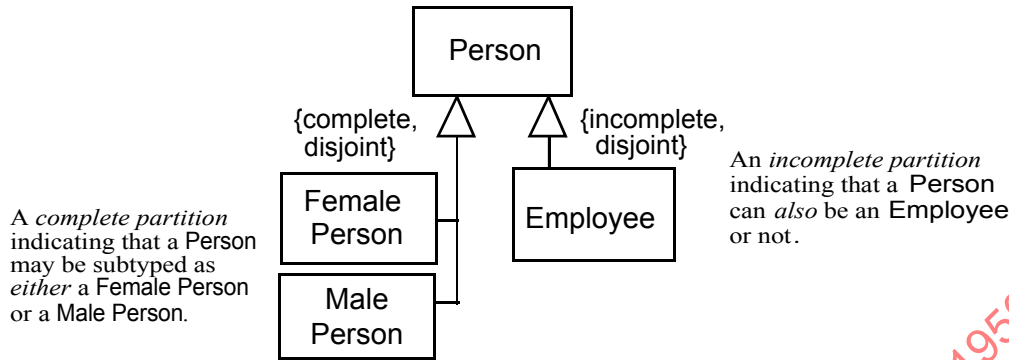


Figure 7.48 - Multiple ways of dividing subtypes (generalization sets) and constraint examples

Grouping the objects in our world by categories, or classes, is an important technique for organizations. For instance, one of the ways botanists organize trees is by species. In this way, each tree we see can be classified as an American elm, sugar maple, apricot, saguaro—or some other species of tree. The class diagram below expresses that each Tree Species classifies zero or more instances of Tree, and each Tree is classified as exactly one Tree Species. For example, one of the instances of Tree could be the tree in your front yard, the tree in your neighbor’s backyard, or trees at your local nursery. Instances of Tree Species, such as sugar maple and apricot. Furthermore, this figure indicates the relationships that exist between these two sets of objects. For instance, the tree in your front yard might be classified as a sugar maple, your neighbor’s tree as an apricot, and so on. This class diagram expresses that each Tree Species classifies zero or more instances of Tree, and each Tree is classified as exactly one Tree Species. It also indicates that each Tree Species is identified with a Leaf Pattern and has a general location in any number of Geographic Locations. For example, the saguaro cactus has leaves reduced to large spines and is generally found in southern Arizona and northern Sonora. Additionally, this figure indicates each Tree has an actual location at a particular Geographic Location. In this way, a particular tree could be classified as a saguaro and be located in Phoenix, Arizona.

Lastly, this diagram illustrates that Tree is subtyped as American Elm, Sugar Maple, Apricot, or Saguaro—or something else. Each subtype, then, can have its own specialized properties. For instance, each Sugar Maple could have a yearly maple sugar yield of some given quantity, each Saguaro could be inhabited by zero or more instances of a Gila Woodpecker, and so on. At first glance, it would seem that a modeler should only use either the Tree Species class or the subclasses of Tree—since the instances of Tree Species are the same as the subclasses of tree. In other words, it *seems* redundant to represent both on the same diagram. Furthermore, having both would seem to cause potential diagram maintenance issues. For instance, if botanists got together and decided that the American elm should no longer be a species of tree, the American Elm object would then be removed as an instance of Tree Species. To maintain the integrity of our model in such a situation, the American Elm subtype of Tree must also be removed. Additionally, if a new species were added as a subtype of Tree, that new species would have to be added as an instance of Tree Species. The same kind of situation exists if the name of a tree species were changed—both the subtype of Tree and the instance of Tree Species would have to be modified accordingly.

As it turns out, this apparent redundancy is not a redundancy semantically (although it may be implemented that way). Different modeling approaches depicted above are not really all that different. In reality, the subtypes of Tree and the instances of Tree Species *are* the same objects. In other words, the subtypes of Tree are instances of Tree Species. Furthermore, the instances of Tree Species are the subtypes of Tree. The fact that an instance of Tree Species is called sugar maple and a subtype of Tree is called Sugar Maple is no coincidence. The sugar maple instance and Sugar Maple subtype are the same object. The instances of Tree Species are—as the name implies—types of trees. The subtypes of Tree are—by definition—types of trees. While Tree may be divided into various collections of subsets (based on size or

age, for example), in this example it is divided on the basis of species. Therefore, the integrity issue mentioned above is not really an issue here. Deleting the American Elm subtype from the collection of Tree subtypes does not require also deleting the corresponding Tree Species instance, because the American Elm subtype and the corresponding Tree Species instance are the same object.

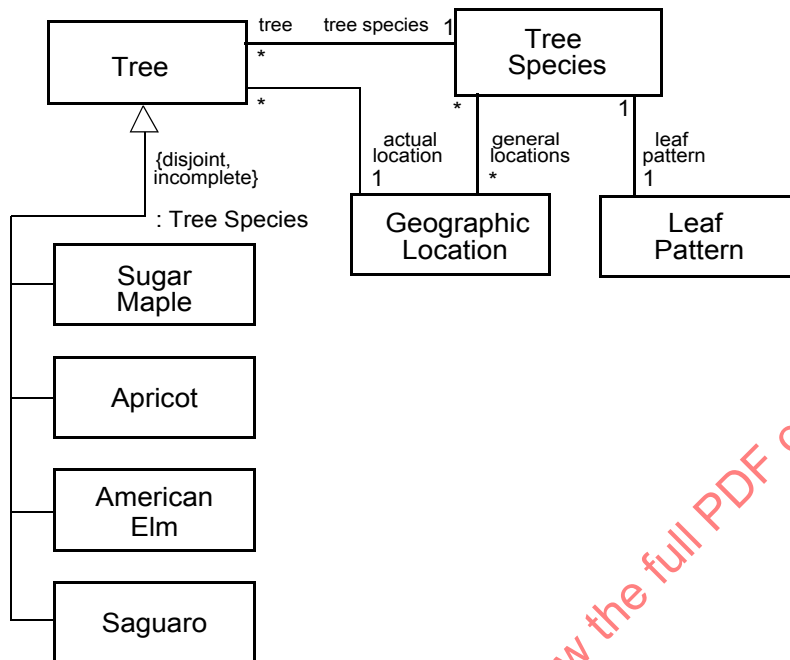


Figure 7.49 - Power type example and notation

As established above, the instances of Classifiers can also be Classifiers. (This is the stuff that metamodels are made of.) These same instances, however, can also be specific classifiers (i.e., subclasses) of another classifier. When this occurs, we have what is called a *power type*. Formally, a power type is a classifier whose instances are also subclasses of another classifier.

In the examples above, Tree Species is a power type on the Tree type. Therefore, the instances of Tree Species are subtypes of Tree. This concept applies to many situations within many lines of business. Figure 7.50 depicts other examples of power types. The name on the generalization set beginning with a colon indicates the power type. In other words, this name is the name of the type of which the subtypes are instances.

Diagram (a) in the figure below, then, can be interpreted as: each instance of Account is classified with exactly one instance of Account Type. It can also be interpreted as: the subtypes of Account are instances of Account Type. This means that each instance of Checking Account can have its own attributes (based on those defined for Checking Account and those inherited from Account), such as account number and balance. Additionally, it means that Checking Account *as an object in its own right* can have attributes, such as interest rate and maximum delay for withdrawal. (Such attributes are sometimes referred to as class variables, rather than instance variables.) The example (b) depicts a vehicle-modeling example. Here, each Vehicle can be subclassed as either a Truck or a Car or something else. Furthermore, Truck and Car are instances of Vehicle Type. In (c), Disease Occurrence classifies each occurrence of disease (e.g., my chicken pox and your measles). Disease Classification is the power type whose instances are classes such as Chicken Pox and Measles.

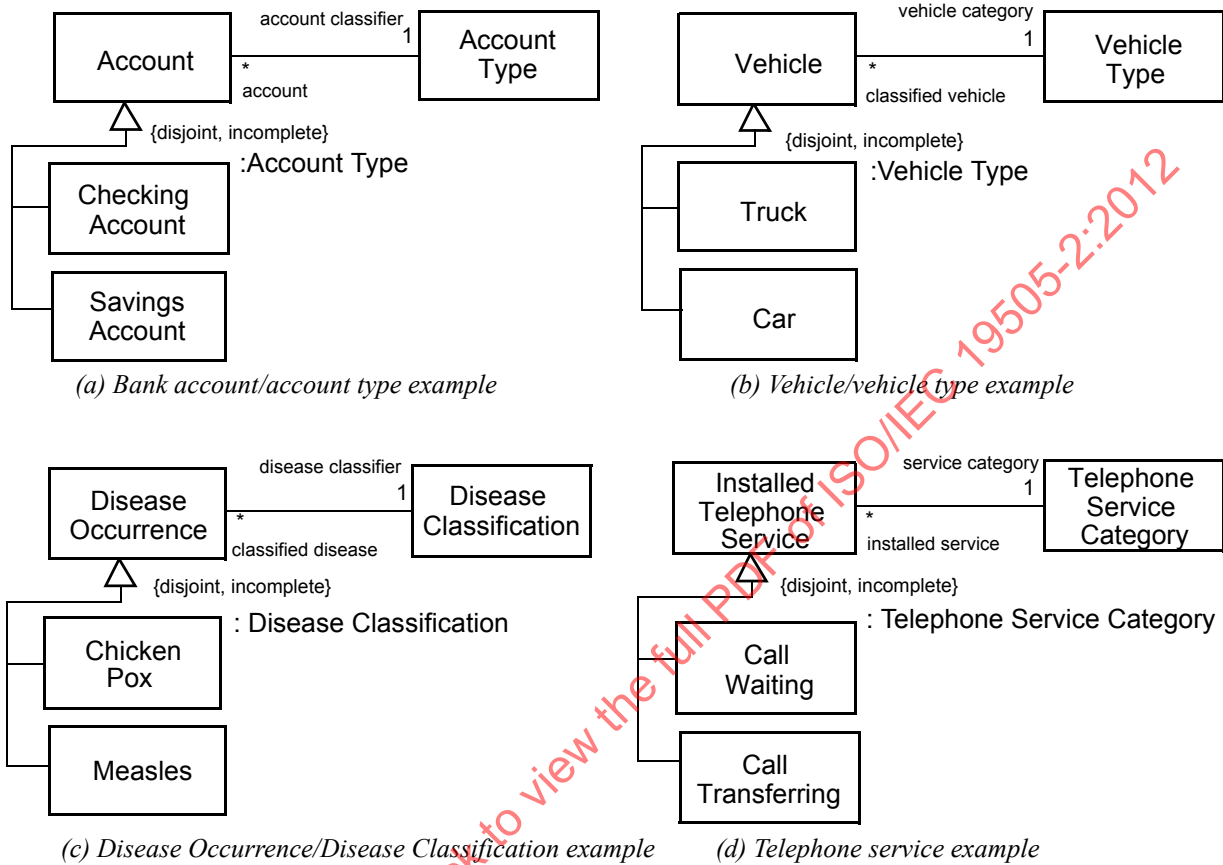


Figure 7.50 - Other power type examples

Labeling collections of subtypes with the power type becomes increasingly important when a type has more than one power type. The figure below is one such example. Without knowing which subtype collection contains Policy Coverage Types and which Insurance Lines, clarity is compromised. This figure depicts an even more complex situation. Here, a power type is expressed with multiple collections of subtypes. For instance, a Policy can be subtyped as either a Life, Health, Property/Casualty, or some other Insurance Line. Furthermore, a Property/Casualty policy can be further subtyped as Automobile, Equipment, Inland Marine, or some other Property/Casualty line of insurance. In other words, the subtypes in the collection labeled Insurance Line are all instances of the Insurance Line power type.

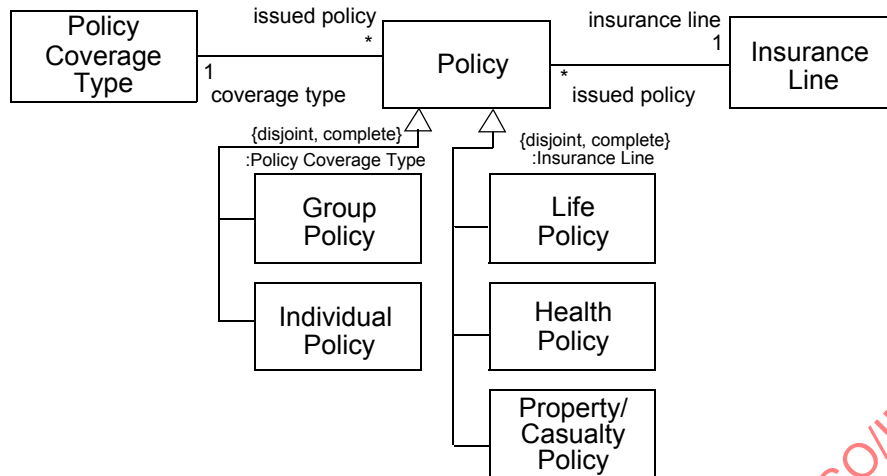


Figure 7.51 - Other power type examples

Power types are a conceptual, or analysis, notion. They express a real-world situation; however, implementing them may not be easy and efficient. To implement power types with a relational database would mean that the instances of a relation could also be relations in their own right. In object-oriented implementations, the instances of a class could also be classes. However, if the software implementation cannot directly support classes being objects and vice versa, redundant structures must be defined. In other words, unless you're programming in Smalltalk or CLOS, the designer must be aware of the integrity problem of keeping the list of power type instances in sync with the existing subclasses. Without the power type designation, implementors would not be aware that they need to consider keeping the subclasses in sync with the instances of the power type; with the power type indication, the implementor knows that a) a data integrity situation exists, and b) how to manage the integrity situation. For example, if the Life Policy instance of Insurance Line were deleted, the subclass called Life Policy can no longer exist. Or, if a new subclass of Policy were added, a new instance must also be added to the appropriate power type.

### 7.3.22 InstanceSpecification (from Kernel)

An instance specification is a model element that represents an instance in a modeled system.

#### Generalizations

- "PackageableElement (from Kernel)" on page 116

#### Description

An instance specification specifies existence of an entity in a modeled system and completely or partially describes the entity. The description may include:

- Classification of the entity by one or more classifiers of which the entity is an instance. If the only classifier specified is abstract, then the instance specification only partially describes the entity.

- The kind of instance, based on its classifier or classifiers. For example, an instance specification whose classifier is a class describes an object of that class, while an instance specification whose classifier is an association describes a link of that association.
- Specification of values of structural features of the entity. Not all structural features of all classifiers of the instance specification need be represented by slots, in which case the instance specification is a partial description.
- Specification of how to compute, derive, or construct the instance (optional).

InstanceSpecification is a concrete class.

### Attributes

No additional attributes

### Associations

- classifier : Classifier [0..\*]  
The classifier or classifiers of the represented instance. If multiple classifiers are specified, the instance is classified by all of them.
- slot : Slot [\*]  
A slot giving the value or values of a structural feature of the instance. An instance specification can have one slot per structural feature of its classifiers, including inherited features. It is not necessary to model a slot for each structural feature, in which case the instance specification is a partial description. Subsets *Element::ownedElement*
- specification : ValueSpecification [0..1]  
A specification of how to compute, derive, or construct the instance. Subsets *Element::ownedElement*

### Constraints

- [1] The defining feature of each slot is a structural feature (directly or inherited) of a classifier of the instance specification.  
slot->forall(s | classifier->exists (c | c.allFeatures()->includes (s.definingFeature)))
- [2] One structural feature (including the same feature inherited from multiple classifiers) is the defining feature of at most one slot in an instance specification.  
classifier->forall(c | (c.allFeatures()->forall(f | slot->select(s | s.definingFeature = f)->size() <= 1)))

### Semantics

An instance specification may specify the existence of an entity in a modeled system. An instance specification may provide an illustration or example of a possible entity in a modeled system. An instance specification describes the entity. These details can be incomplete. The purpose of an instance specification is to show what is of interest about an entity in the modeled system. The entity conforms to the specification of each classifier of the instance specification, and has features with values indicated by each slot of the instance specification. Having no slot in an instance specification for some feature does not mean that the represented entity does not have the feature, but merely that the feature is not of interest in the model.

An instance specification can represent an entity at a point in time (a snapshot). Changes to the entity can be modeled using multiple instance specifications, one for each snapshot.

It is important to keep in mind that InstanceSpecification is a model element and should not be confused with the dynamic element that it is modeling. Therefore, one should not expect the dynamic semantics of InstanceSpecification model elements in a model repository to conform to the semantics of the dynamic elements that they represent.

**Note** – When used to provide an illustration or example of an entity in a modeled system, an InstanceSpecification class does not depict a precise run-time structure. Instead, it describes information about such structures. No conclusions can be drawn about the implementation detail of run-time structure. When used to specify the existence of an entity in a modeled system, an instance specification represents part of that system. Instance specifications can be modeled incompletely — required structural features can be omitted, and classifiers of an instance specification can be abstract, even though an actual entity would have a concrete classification.

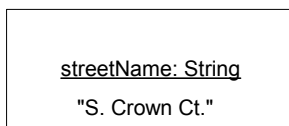
## Notation

An instance specification is depicted using the same notation as its classifier, but in place of the classifier name appears an underlined concatenation of the instance name (if any), a colon (':') and the classifier name or names. The convention for showing multiple classifiers is to separate their names by commas.

Names are optional for UML classifiers and instance specifications. The absence of a name in a diagram may reflect its absence in the underlying model.

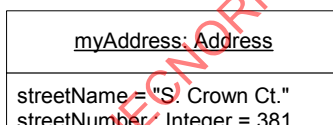
The standard notation for an anonymous instance specification of an unnamed classifier is an underlined colon (':').

If an instance specification has a value specification as its specification, the value specification is shown either after an equal sign ("=") following the name, or without an equal sign below the name. If the instance specification is shown using an enclosing shape (such as a rectangle) that contains the name, the value specification is shown within the enclosing shape.



**Figure 7.52 - Specification of an instance of String**

Slots are shown using similar notation to that of the corresponding structural features. Where a feature would be shown textually in a compartment, a slot for that feature can be shown textually as a feature name followed by an equal sign ('=') and a value specification. Other properties of the feature, such as its type, can optionally be shown.



**Figure 7.53 - Slots with values**

An instance specification whose classifier is an association represents a link and is shown using the same notation as for an association, but the solid path or paths connect instance specifications rather than classifiers. It is not necessary to show an underlined name where it is clear from its connection to instance specifications that it represents a link and not an association. End names can adorn the ends. Navigation arrows can be shown, but if shown, they must agree with the navigation of the association ends.



Figure 7.54 - Instance specifications representing two objects connected by a link

### Presentation Options

A slot value for an attribute can be shown using a notation similar to that for a link. A solid path runs from the owning instance specification to the target instance specification representing the slot value, and the name of the attribute adorns the target end of the path. Navigability, if shown, must be only in the direction of the target.

### 7.3.23 InstanceValue (from Kernel)

An instance value is a value specification that identifies an instance.

#### Generalizations

- “ValueSpecification (from Kernel)” on page 145

#### Description

An instance value specifies the value modeled by an instance specification.

#### Attributes

No additional attributes

#### Associations

- instance: InstanceSpecification [1]  
The instance that is the specified value.

#### Constraints

No additional constraints

#### Semantics

The instance specification is the specified value.

#### Notation

An instance value can appear using textual or graphical notation. When textual, as can appear for the value of an attribute slot, the name of the instance is shown. When graphical, a reference value is shown by connecting to the instance. See “InstanceSpecification.”

### 7.3.24 Interface (from Interfaces)

#### Generalizations

- “Classifier (from Kernel, Dependencies, PowerTypes, Interfaces)” on page 55

#### Description

An interface is a kind of classifier that represents a declaration of a set of coherent public features and obligations. An interface specifies a contract; any instance of a classifier that realizes the interface must fulfill that contract. The obligations that may be associated with an interface are in the form of various kinds of constraints (such as pre- and post-conditions) or protocol specifications, which may impose ordering restrictions on interactions through the interface.

Since interfaces are declarations, they are not instantiable. Instead, an interface specification is *implemented* by an instance of an instantiable classifier, which means that the instantiable classifier presents a public facade that conforms to the interface specification. Note that a given classifier may implement more than one interface and that an interface may be implemented by a number of different classifiers (see “InterfaceRealization (from Interfaces)” on page 94).

#### Attributes

No additional attributes

#### Associations

- ownedAttribute: Property  
References all the properties owned by the Interface. (Subsets *Namespace::ownedMember* and *Classifier::feature*)
- ownedOperation: Operation  
References all the operations owned by the Interface. (Subsets *Namespace::ownedMember* and *Classifier::feature*)
- nestedClassifier: Classifier  
(References all the Classifiers owned by the Interface. (Subsets *Namespace::ownedMember*)
- redefinedInterface: Interface  
(References all the Interfaces redefined by this Interface. (Subsets *Classifier::redefinedClassifier*)

#### Constraints

[1] The visibility of all features owned by an interface must be public.

```
self.feature->forall(f) f.visibility = #public)
```

#### Semantics

An interface declares a set of public features and obligations that constitute a coherent service offered by a classifier. Interfaces provide a way to partition and characterize groups of properties that realizing classifier instances must possess. An interface does not specify how it is to be implemented, but merely what needs to be supported by realizing instances. That is, such instances must provide a public facade (attributes, operations, externally observable behavior) that conforms to the interface. Thus, if an interface declares an attribute, this does not necessarily mean that the realizing instance will necessarily have such an attribute in its implementation, only that it will appear so to external observers.

Because an interface is merely a declaration it is not an instantiable model element; that is, there are no instances of interfaces at run time.

The set of interfaces realized by a classifier are its *provided* interfaces, which represent the obligations that instances of that classifier have to their clients. They describe the services that the instances of that classifier offer to their clients. Interfaces may also be used to specify *required* interfaces, which are specified by a usage dependency between the classifier and the corresponding interfaces. Required interfaces specify services that a classifier needs in order to perform its function and fulfill its own obligations to its clients.

Properties owned by interfaces are abstract and imply that the conforming instance should maintain information corresponding to the type and multiplicity of the property and facilitate retrieval and modification of that information. A property declared on an Interface does not necessarily imply that there will be such a property on a classifier realizing that Interface (e.g., it may be realized by equivalent get and set operations). Interfaces may also own constraints that impose constraints on the features of the implementing classifier.

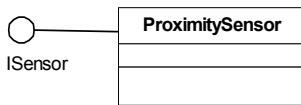
An association between an interface and any other classifier implies that a conforming association must exist between any implementation of that interface and that other classifier. In particular, an association between interfaces implies that a conforming association must exist between implementations of the interfaces.

An interface cannot be directly instantiated. Instantiable classifiers, such as classes, must implement an interface (see “InterfaceRealization (from Interfaces)”).

**Notation**

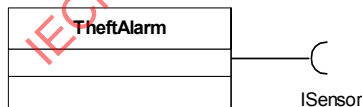
As a classifier, an interface may be shown using a rectangle symbol with the keyword «interface» preceding the name.

The interface realization dependency from a classifier to an interface is shown by representing the interface by a circle or *ball*, labeled with the name of the interface, attached by a solid line to the classifier that realizes this interface (see Figure 7.55).



**Figure 7.55 - Isensor is the provided interface of ProximitySensor**

The usage dependency from a classifier to an interface is shown by representing the interface by a half-circle or *socket*, labeled with the name of the interface, attached by a solid line to the classifier that requires this interface (see Figure 7.56).



**Figure 7.56 - Isensor is the required interface of TheftAlarm**

**Presentation Options**

Alternatively, in cases where interfaces are represented using the rectangle notation, interface realization and usage dependencies are denoted with appropriate dependency arrows (see Figure 7.57). The classifier at the tail of the arrow implements the interface at the head of the arrow or uses that interface, respectively.

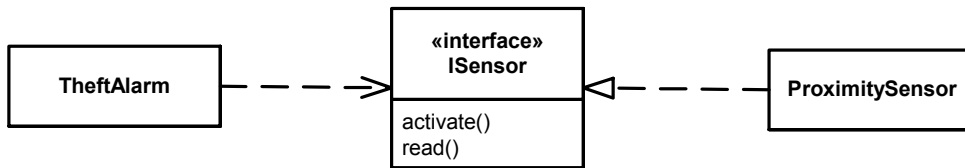


Figure 7.57 - Alternative notation for the situation depicted in Figure 7.55 and Figure 7.56

It is often the case in practice that two or more interfaces are mutually coupled through application-specific dependencies. In such situations, each interface represents a specific role in a multi-party “protocol.” These types of protocol role couplings can be captured by associations between interfaces as shown in the example in Figure 7.58.

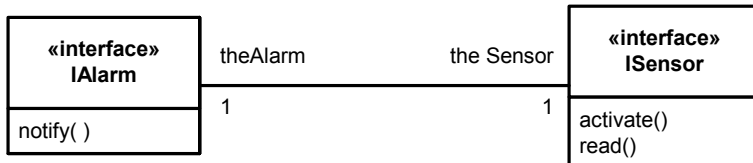


Figure 7.58 - Alarm is the required interface for any classifier implementing ISensor; conversely, ISensor is the required interface for any classifier implementing IAAlarm.

Examples

The following example shows a set of associated interfaces that specify an alarm system. (These interfaces may be defined independently or as part of a collaboration.) Figure 7.59 shows the specification of three interfaces, IAAlarm, ISensor, and IBuzzer. IAAlarm and ISensor are shown as engaged in a bidirectional protocol; IBuzzer describes the required interface for instances of classifiers implementing IAAlarm, as depicted by their respective associations.

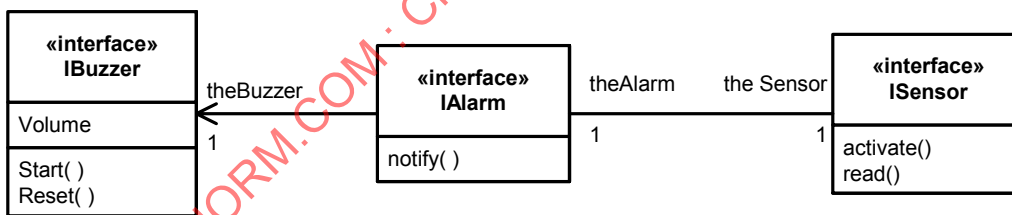


Figure 7.59 - A set of collaborating interfaces

Three classes: DoorSensor, DoorAlarm, and DoorBell implement the above interfaces (see Figure 7.60). These classifiers are completely decoupled. Nevertheless, instances of these classifiers are able to interact by virtue of the conforming associations declared by the associations between the interfaces that they realize.

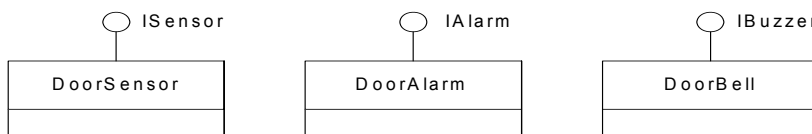


Figure 7.60 - Classifiers implementing the above interfaces

### 7.3.25 InterfaceRealization (from Interfaces)

#### Generalizations

- “Realization (from Dependencies)” on page 136

#### Description

An InterfaceRealization is a specialized Realization relationship between a Classifier and an Interface. This relationship signifies that the realizing classifier conforms to the contract specified by the Interface.

#### Attributes

No additional attributes

#### Associations

- contract: Interface [1]  
References the Interface specifying the conformance contract. (Subsets *Dependency::supplier*).
- implementingClassifier: BehavedClassifier [1]  
References the BehavedClassifier that owns this Interfacerealization (i.e., the classifier that realizes the Interface to which it points). (Subsets *Dependency::client*, *Element::owner*.)

#### Constraints

No additional constraints

#### Semantics

A classifier that implements an interface specifies instances that are conforming to the interface and to any of its ancestors. A classifier may implement a number of interfaces. The set of interfaces implemented by the classifier are its *provided* interfaces and signify the set of services the classifier offers to its clients. A classifier implementing an interface supports the set of features owned by the interface. In addition to supporting the features, a classifier must comply with the constraints owned by the interface.

An interface realization relationship between a classifier and an interface implies that the classifier supports the set of features owned by the interface, and any of its parent interfaces. For behavioral features, the implementing classifier will have an operation or reception for every operation or reception, respectively, defined by the interface. For properties, the realizing classifier will provide functionality that maintains the state represented by the property. While such may be done by direct mapping to a property of the realizing classifier, it may also be supported by the state machine of the classifier or by a pair of operations that support the retrieval of the state information and an operation that changes the state information.

#### Notation

See “Interface (from Interfaces)”

### 7.3.26 LiteralBoolean (from Kernel)

A literal Boolean is a specification of a Boolean value.

**Generalizations**

- “LiteralSpecification (from Kernel)” on page 98

**Description**

A literal Boolean contains a Boolean-valued attribute. Default value is *false*.

**Attributes**

- value: Boolean  
The specified Boolean value. Redefines *ValueSpecification::value*.

**Associations**

No additional associations

**Constraints**

No additional constraints

**Additional Operations**

[1] The query *isComputable()* is redefined to be true.

*LiteralBoolean::isComputable()*: Boolean;

*isComputable* = true

[2] The query *booleanValue()* gives the value.

*LiteralBoolean::booleanValue()* : [Boolean];

*booleanValue* = value

**Semantics**

A *LiteralBoolean* specifies a constant Boolean value.

**Notation**

A *LiteralBoolean* is shown as either the word ‘true’ or the word ‘false,’ corresponding to its value.

**7.3.27 LiteralInteger (from Kernel)**

A literal integer is a specification of an integer value.

**Generalizations**

- “LiteralSpecification (from Kernel)” on page 98

**Description**

A literal integer contains an Integer-valued attribute.

### Attributes

- value: Integer  
The specified Integer value. Default value is 0. Redefines *ValueSpecification::value*.

### Associations

No additional associations

### Constraints

No additional constraints

### Additional Operations

- [1] The query `isComputable()` is redefined to be true.  
`LiteralInteger::isComputable(): Boolean;`  
`isComputable = true`
- [2] The query `integerValue()` gives the value.  
`LiteralInteger::integerValue() : [Integer];`  
`integerValue = value`

### Semantics

A `LiteralInteger` specifies a constant Integer value.

### Notation

A `LiteralInteger` is shown as a sequence of digits.

### 7.3.28 LiteralNull (from Kernel)

A literal null specifies the lack of a value.

### Generalizations

- “`LiteralSpecification` (from Kernel)” on page 98

### Description

A literal null is used to represent null (i.e., the absence of a value).

### Attributes

No additional attributes

### Associations

No additional associations

### Constraints

No additional constraints

[1] The query `isComputable()` is redefined to be true.  
`LiteralNull::isComputable(): Boolean;`  
`isComputable = true`

[2] The query `isNull()` returns true.  
`LiteralNull::isNull() : Boolean;`  
`isNull = true`

### Semantics

`LiteralNull` is intended to be used to explicitly model the lack of a value.

### Notation

Notation for `LiteralNull` varies depending on where it is used. It often appears as the word ‘null.’ Other notations are described for specific uses.

### 7.3.29 LiteralReal

A literal real is a specification of a real value.

### Description

A literal real contains a Real-valued attribute.

### Generalizations

- “LiteralSpecification (from Kernel)” on page 98

### Attributes

- value: Real  
 The specified Real value. Redefines `ValueSpecification::value`.

### Associations

No additional associations

### Constraints

No additional constraints

### Additional Operations

[1] The query `isComputable()` is redefined to be true.  
`LiteralReal::isComputable(): Boolean;`  
`isComputable = true`

[2] The query `realValue()` gives the value.  
`LiteralString::realValue() : [Real];`  
`realValue = value`

## Semantics

A LiteralReal specifies a constant Real value.

## Notation

A LiteralReal is shown in the decimal notation or scientific notation. Decimal notation consists of an optional sign character (+/-) followed by zero or more digits followed optionally by a dot (.) followed by one or more digits. Scientific notation consists of decimal notation followed by either the letter “e” or “E” and an exponent consisting of an optional sign character followed by one or more digits. The scientific notation expresses a real number equal to that given by the decimal notation before the exponent, times 10 raised to the power of the exponent.

This notation is specified by the following BNF rules:

<natural-literal> ::= ('0'..'9')+

<decimal-literal> ::= ['+' | '-' ] <natural-literal>

| ['+' | '-' ] [<natural-literal> '.' <natural-literal>

<real-literal> ::= <decimal-literal> [ ('e' | 'E') ['+' | '-' ] <natural-literal> ]

### 7.3.30 LiteralSpecification (from Kernel)

A literal specification identifies a literal constant being modeled.

#### Generalizations

- “ValueSpecification (from Kernel)” on page 145

#### Description

A literal specification is an abstract specialization of ValueSpecification that identifies a literal constant being modeled.

#### Attributes

No additional attributes

#### Associations

No additional associations

#### Constraints

No additional constraints

#### Semantics

No additional semantics. Subclasses of LiteralSpecification are defined to specify literal values of different types.

#### Notation

No specific notation

### 7.3.31 LiteralString (from Kernel)

A literal string is a specification of a string value.

#### Generalizations

- “LiteralSpecification (from Kernel)” on page 98.

#### Description

A literal string contains a String-valued attribute.

#### Attributes

- value: String [0..1]  
The specified String value. Redefines *ValueSpecification::value*.

#### Associations

No additional associations

#### Constraints

No additional constraints

#### Additional Operations

- [1] The query `isComputable()` is redefined to be true.  
`LiteralString::isComputable(): Boolean;`  
`isComputable = true`
- [2] The query `stringValue()` gives the value.  
`LiteralString::stringValue(): [String];`  
`stringValue = value`

#### Semantics

A `LiteralString` specifies a constant String value.

#### Notation

A `LiteralString` is shown as a sequence of characters within double quotes.

The character set used is unspecified.

### 7.3.32 LiteralUnlimitedNatural (from Kernel)

A literal unlimited natural is a specification of an unlimited natural number.

#### Generalizations

- “LiteralSpecification (from Kernel)” on page 98

### Description

A literal unlimited natural contains an UnlimitedNatural-valued attribute.

### Attributes

- value: UnlimitedNatural  
The specified UnlimitedNatural value. Default value is 0. Redefines *ValueSpecification::value*.

### Associations

No additional associations

### Constraints

No additional constraints

### Additional Operations

- [1] The query `isComputable()` is redefined to be true.  
`LiteralUnlimitedNatural::isComputable(): Boolean;`  
`isComputable = true`
- [2] The query `unlimitedValue()` gives the value.  
`LiteralUnlimitedNatural::unlimitedValue() : [UnlimitedNatural];`  
`unlimitedValue = value`

### Semantics

A `LiteralUnlimitedNatural` specifies a constant `UnlimitedNatural` value.

### Notation

A `LiteralUnlimitedNatural` is shown either as a sequence of digits or as an asterisk (\*), where an asterisk denotes unlimited (and not infinity).

## 7.3.33 MultiplicityElement (from Kernel)

A multiplicity is a definition of an inclusive interval of non-negative integers beginning with a lower bound and ending with a (possibly infinite) upper bound. A multiplicity element embeds this information to specify the allowable cardinalities for an instantiation of this element.

### Generalizations

- “Element (from Kernel)” on page 68

### Description

A `MultiplicityElement` is an abstract metaclass that includes optional attributes for defining the bounds of a multiplicity. A `MultiplicityElement` also includes specifications of whether the values in an instantiation of this element must be unique or ordered.

## Attributes

- `isOrdered` : Boolean  
For a multivalued multiplicity, this attribute specifies whether the values in an instantiation of this element are sequentially ordered. Default is *false*.
- `isUnique` : Boolean  
For a multivalued multiplicity, this attributes specifies whether the values in an instantiation of this element are unique. Default is *true*.
- `/ lower` : Integer [0..1]  
Specifies the lower bound of the multiplicity interval, if it is expressed as an integer.
- `/ upper` : UnlimitedNatural [0..1]  
Specifies the upper bound of the multiplicity interval, if it is expressed as an unlimited natural.

## Associations

- `lowerValue`: ValueSpecification [0..1]  
The specification of the lower bound for this multiplicity. Subsets *Element::ownedElement*
- `upperValue`: ValueSpecification [0..1]  
The specification of the upper bound for this multiplicity. Subsets *Element::ownedElement*

## Constraints

These constraints must handle situations where the upper bound may be specified by an expression not computable in the model.

- [1] A multiplicity must define at least one valid cardinality that is greater than zero.  
`upperBound()->notEmpty()` **implies** `upperBound() > 0`
- [1] The lower bound must be a non-negative integer literal.  
`lowerBound()->notEmpty()` **implies** `lowerBound() >= 0`
- [2] The upper bound must be greater than or equal to the lower bound.  
`(upperBound()->notEmpty() and lowerBound()->notEmpty())` **implies** `upperBound() >= lowerBound()`
- [3] If a non-literal ValueSpecification is used for the lower or upper bound, then evaluating that specification must not have side effects.  
Cannot be expressed in OCL.
- [4] If a non-literal ValueSpecification is used for the lower or upper bound, then that specification must be a constant expression.  
Cannot be expressed in OCL.
- [5] The derived lower attribute must equal the lowerBound.  
`lower = lowerBound()`
- [6] The derived upper attribute must equal the upperBound.  
`upper = upperBound()`

## Additional Operations

- [1] The query `isMultivalued()` checks whether this multiplicity has an upper bound greater than one.  
`MultiplicityElement::isMultivalued()` : Boolean;  
**pre:** `upperBound()->notEmpty()`

isMultivalued = (upperBound() > 1)

- [2] The query includesCardinality() checks whether the specified cardinality is valid for this multiplicity.  
 MultiplicityElement::includesCardinality(C : Integer) : Boolean;  
**pre:** upperBound()->notEmpty() **and** lowerBound()->notEmpty()  
 includesCardinality = (lowerBound() <= C) **and** (upperBound() >= C)
- [3] The query includesMultiplicity() checks whether this multiplicity includes all the cardinalities allowed by the specified multiplicity.  
 MultiplicityElement::includesMultiplicity(M : MultiplicityElement) : Boolean;  
**pre:** self.upperBound()->notEmpty() **and** self.lowerBound()->notEmpty()  
**and** M.upperBound()->notEmpty() **and** M.lowerBound()->notEmpty()  
 includesMultiplicity = (self.lowerBound() <= M.lowerBound()) **and** (self.upperBound() >= M.upperBound())
- [4] The query lowerBound() returns the lower bound of the multiplicity as an integer.  
 MultiplicityElement::lowerBound() : [Integer];  
 lowerBound = **if** lowerValue->isEmpty() **then** 1 **else** lowerValue.integerValue() **endif**
- [5] The query upperBound() returns the upper bound of the multiplicity for a bounded multiplicity as an unlimited natural.  
 MultiplicityElement::upperBound() : [UnlimitedNatural];  
 upperBound = **if** upperValue->isEmpty() **then** 1 **else** upperValue.unlimitedValue() **endif**

### Semantics

A multiplicity defines a set of integers that define valid cardinalities. Specifically, cardinality C is valid for multiplicity M if M.includesCardinality(C).

A multiplicity is specified as an interval of integers starting with the lower bound and ending with the (possibly infinite) upper bound.

If a MultiplicityElement specifies a multivalued multiplicity, then an instantiation of this element has a collection of values. The multiplicity is a constraint on the number of values that may validly occur in that set.

If the MultiplicityElement is specified as ordered (i.e., isOrdered is true), then the collection of values in an instantiation of this element is ordered. This ordering implies that there is a mapping from positive integers to the elements of the collection of values. If a MultiplicityElement is not multivalued, then the value for isOrdered has no semantic effect.

If the MultiplicityElement is specified as unordered (i.e., isOrdered is false), then no assumptions can be made about the order of the values in an instantiation of this element.

If the MultiplicityElement is specified as unique (i.e., isUnique is true), then the collection of values in an instantiation of this element must be unique. If a MultiplicityElement is not multivalued, then the value for isUnique has no semantic effect.

The lower and upper bounds for the multiplicity of a MultiplicityElement may be specified by value specifications, such as (side-effect free, constant) expressions. A MultiplicityElement can define a [0..0] multiplicity. This restricts cardinality to be 0; that is, it forces the collection to be empty. This is useful in the context of generalizations - to constrain the cardinalities of a more general classifier. It applies to (but is not limited to) redefining properties existing in more general classifiers.

## Notation

The specific notation for a MultiplicityElement is defined by the concrete subclasses. In general, the notation will include a multiplicity specification, which is shown as a text string containing the bounds of the interval, and a notation for showing the optional ordering and uniqueness specifications.

The multiplicity bounds are typically shown in the format:

*<lower-bound>* ‘..’ *<upper-bound>*

where *<lower-bound>* is an integer and *<upper-bound>* is an unlimited natural number. The star character (\*) is used as part of a multiplicity specification to represent the unlimited (or infinite) upper bound.

If the Multiplicity is associated with an element whose notation is a text string (such as an attribute, etc.), the multiplicity string will be placed within square brackets ([ ]) as part of that text string. Figure 7.61 shows two multiplicity strings as part of attribute specifications within a class symbol.

If the Multiplicity is associated with an element that appears as a symbol (such as an association end), the multiplicity string is displayed without square brackets and may be placed near the symbol for the element. Figure 7.62 shows two multiplicity strings as part of the specification of two association ends.

The specific notation for the ordering and uniqueness specifications may vary depending on the specific subclass of MultiplicityElement. A general notation is to use a property string containing ordered or unordered to define the ordering, and unique or non-unique to define the uniqueness.

## Presentation Options

If the lower bound is equal to the upper bound, then an alternate notation is to use the string containing just the upper bound. For example, “1” is semantically equivalent to “1..1.”

A multiplicity with zero as the lower bound and an unspecified upper bound may use the alternative notation containing a single star “\*” instead of “0..\*.” The following BNF defines the syntax for a multiplicity string, including support for the presentation options:

```

<multiplicity> ::= <multiplicity-range>
                [ [ '{' <order-designator> [ ',' <uniqueness-designator> ] '}' ] |
                  [ '{' <uniqueness-designator> [ ',' <order-designator> ] '}' ] ]
<multiplicity-range> ::= [ <lower> '..' ] <upper>
<lower> ::= <integer> | <value-specification>
<upper> ::= '*' | <value-specification>
<order-designator> ::= 'ordered' | 'unordered'
<uniqueness-designator> ::= 'unique' | 'nonunique'

```

## Examples

Customer
purchase : Purchase [*] {ordered, unique} account: Account [0..5] {unique}

Figure 7.61 - Multiplicity within a textual specification



Figure 7.62 - Multiplicity as an adornment to a symbol

### 7.3.34 NamedElement (from Kernel, Dependencies)

A named element is an element in a model that may have a name.

#### Generalizations

- “Element (from Kernel)” on page 68

#### Description

A named element represents elements that may have a name. The name is used for identification of the named element within the namespace in which it is defined. A named element also has a qualified name that allows it to be unambiguously identified within a hierarchy of nested namespaces. NamedElement is an abstract metaclass.

#### Attributes

- name: String [0..1]  
The name of the NamedElement.
- / qualifiedName: String [0..1]  
A name that allows the NamedElement to be identified within a hierarchy of nested Namespaces. It is constructed from the names of the containing namespaces starting at the root of the hierarchy and ending with the name of the NamedElement itself. This is a derived attribute.
- visibility: VisibilityKind [0..1]  
Determines where the NamedElement appears within different Namespaces within the overall model, and its accessibility..

#### Package Dependencies

- clientDependency: Dependency[\*]  
Indicates the dependencies that reference the client.

#### Associations

- / namespace: Namespace [0..1]  
Specifies the namespace that owns the NamedElement. Subsets *Element::owner*. This is a derived union.

**Constraints**

- [1] If there is no name, or one of the containing namespaces has no name, there is no qualified name.  
 (self.name->isEmpty() **or** self.allNamespaces()->select(ns | ns.name->isEmpty())->notEmpty())  
**implies** self.qualifiedName->isEmpty()
- [2] When there is a name, and all of the containing namespaces have a name, the qualified name is constructed from the names of the containing namespaces.  
 (self.name->notEmpty() **and** self.allNamespaces()->select(ns | ns.name->isEmpty())->isEmpty()) **implies**  
 self.qualifiedName = self.allNamespaces()->iterate( ns : Namespace; result: String = self.name |  
 ns.name->union(self.separator())->union(result))
- [3] If a NamedElement is not owned by a Namespace, it does not have a visibility.  
 namespace->isEmpty() **implies** visibility->isEmpty()

**Additional Operations**

- [1] The query allNamespaces() gives the sequence of namespaces in which the NamedElement is nested, working outwards.  
 NamedElement::allNamespaces(): Sequence(Namespace);  
 allNamespaces =  
 if self.namespace->isEmpty()  
 then Sequence{}  
 else self.namespace.allNamespaces()->prepend(self.namespace)  
 endif
- [2] The query isDistinguishableFrom() determines whether two NamedElements may logically co-exist within a Namespace. By default, two named elements are distinguishable if (a) they have unrelated types or (b) they have related types but different names.  
 NamedElement::isDistinguishableFrom(n:NamedElement, ns: Namespace): Boolean;  
 isDistinguishable =  
 if self.oclsKindOf(n.oclsType) **or** n.oclsKindOf(self.oclsType)  
 then ns.getNamesOfMember(self)->intersection(ns.getNamesOfMember(n))->isEmpty()  
 else true  
 endif
- [3] The query separator() gives the string that is used to separate names when constructing a qualified name.  
 NamedElement::separator(): String;  
 separator = '::'

**Semantics**

The name attribute is used for identification of the named element within namespaces where its name is accessible. Note that the attribute has a multiplicity of [0..1] that provides for the possibility of the absence of a name (which is different from the empty name).

The visibility attribute provides the means to constrain the usage of a named element, either in namespaces or in access to the element. It is intended for use in conjunction with import, generalization, and access mechanisms.

**Notation**

No additional notation

### 7.3.35 Namespace (from Kernel)

A namespace is an element in a model that contains a set of named elements that can be identified by name.

#### Generalizations

- “NamedElement (from Kernel, Dependencies)” on page 104

#### Description

A namespace is a named element that can own other named elements. Each named element may be owned by at most one namespace. A namespace provides a means for identifying named elements by name. Named elements can be identified by name in a namespace either by being directly owned by the namespace or by being introduced into the namespace by other means (e.g., importing or inheriting). Namespace is an abstract metaclass.

A namespace can own constraints. A constraint associated with a namespace may either apply to the namespace itself, or it may apply to elements in the namespace.

A namespace has the ability to import either individual members or all members of a package, thereby making it possible to refer to those named elements without qualification in the importing namespace. In the case of conflicts, it is necessary to use qualified names or aliases to disambiguate the referenced elements.

#### Attributes

No additional attributes

#### Associations

- `elementImport: ElementImport [*]`  
References the `ElementImports` owned by the `Namespace`. Subsets `Element::ownedElement`
- `/ importedMember: PackageableElement [*]`  
References the `PackageableElements` that are members of this `Namespace` as a result of either `PackageImports` or `ElementImports`. Subsets `Namespace::member`
- `/ member: NamedElement [*]`  
A collection of `NamedElements` identifiable within the `Namespace`, either by being owned or by being introduced by importing or inheritance. This is a derived union.
- `/ ownedMember: NamedElement [*]`  
A collection of `NamedElements` owned by the `Namespace`. Subsets `Element::ownedElement` and `Namespace::member`. This is a derived union.
- `ownedRule: Constraint[*]`  
Specifies a set of `Constraints` owned by this `Namespace`. Subsets `Namespace::ownedMember`
- `packageImport: PackageImport [*]`  
References the `PackageImports` owned by the `Namespace`. Subsets `Element::ownedElement`

#### Constraints

- [1] All the members of a `Namespace` are distinguishable within it.  
`membersAreDistinguishable()`

- [2] The `importedMember` property is derived from the `ElementImports` and the `PackageImports`.

```
importedMember = self.elementImport.importedElement.asSet()->union(self.packageImport.importedPackage->collect(p |
p.visibleMembers()))
```

### Additional Operations

- [1] The query `getNamesOfMember()` gives a set of all of the names that a member would have in a Namespace. In general a member can have multiple names in a Namespace if it is imported more than once with different aliases. The query takes account of importing. It gives back the set of names that an element would have in an importing namespace, either because it is owned; or if not owned, then imported individually; or if not individually, then from a package.

```
Namespace::getNamesOfMember(element: NamedElement): Set(String);
```

```
getNamesOfMember =
```

```
  if self.ownedMember ->includes(element)
```

```
    then Set{}->include(element.name)
```

```
  else let elementImports: ElementImport = self.elementImport->select(ei | ei.importedElement = element) in
```

```
    if elementImports->notEmpty()
```

```
      then elementImports->collect(el | el.getName())
```

```
    else
```

```
      self.packageImport->select(pi | pi.importedPackage.visibleMembers()->includes(element))->
```

```
        collect(pi | pi.importedPackage.getNamesOfMember(element))
```

```
    endif
```

```
  endif
```

- [2] The Boolean query `membersAreDistinguishable()` determines whether all of the namespace's members are distinguishable within it.

```
Namespace::membersAreDistinguishable(): Boolean;
```

```
membersAreDistinguishable =
```

```
self.member->forAll( memb |
```

```
  self.member->excluding(memb)->forAll(other |
```

```
    memb.isDistinguishableFrom(other, self)))
```

- [3] The query `importMembers()` defines which of a set of `PackageableElements` are actually imported into the namespace. This excludes hidden ones, i.e., those that have names that conflict with names of owned members, and also excludes elements that would have the same name when imported.

```
Namespace::importMembers(imps: Set(PackageableElement)): Set(PackageableElement);
```

```
importMembers = self.excludeCollisions(imps)->select(imp | self.ownedMember->forAll(mem |
mem.imp.isDistinguishableFrom(mem, self)))
```

- [4] The query `excludeCollisions()` excludes from a set of `PackageableElements` any that would not be distinguishable from each other in this namespace.

```
Namespace::excludeCollisions(imps: Set(PackageableElements)): Set(PackageableElements);
```

```
excludeCollisions = imps->reject(imp1 | imps.exists(imp2 | not imp1.isDistinguishableFrom(imp2, self)))
```

### Semantics

A namespace provides a container for named elements. It provides a means for resolving composite names, such as `name1::name2::name3`. The *member* association identifies all named elements in a namespace called *N* that can be referred to by a composite name of the form `N::<x>`. Note that this is different from all of the names that can be referred to unqualified within *N*, because that set also includes all unhidden members of enclosing namespaces.

Named elements may appear within a namespace according to rules that specify how one named element is distinguishable from another. The default rule is that two elements are distinguishable if they have unrelated types, or related types but different names. This rule may be overridden for particular cases, such as operations that are distinguished by their signature.

The ownedRule constraints for a Namespace represent well-formedness rules for the constrained elements. These constraints are evaluated when determining if the model elements are well-formed.

## Notation

No additional notation. Concrete subclasses will define their own specific notation.

### 7.3.36 OpaqueExpression (from Kernel)

An opaque expression is an uninterpreted textual statement that denotes a (possibly empty) set of values when evaluated in a context.

## Generalizations

- “ValueSpecification (from Kernel)” on page 145

## Description

An expression contains language-specific text strings used to describe a value or values, and an optional specification of the languages.

One predefined language for specifying expressions is OCL. Natural language or programming languages may also be used.

## Attributes

- body: String [0..\*] {nonunique, ordered}  
The text of the expression, possibly in multiple languages.
- language: String [0..\*] {ordered}  
Specifies the languages in which the expression is stated. The interpretation of the expression body depends on the languages. If the languages are unspecified, they might be implicit from the expression body or the context. Languages are matched to body strings by order.

## Associations

No additional associations

## Constraints

- [1] If the language attribute is not empty, then the size of the body and language arrays must be the same.
- language->notEmpty() implies  
(body->size() = language->size())

## Additional Operations

These operations are not defined within the specification of UML. They should be defined within an implementation that implements constraints so that constraints that use these operations can be evaluated.

- [1] The query `value()` gives an integer value for an expression intended to produce one.  
 Expression::value(): Integer;  
**pre:** self.isIntegral()
- [2] The query `isIntegral()` tells whether an expression is intended to produce an integer.  
 Expression::isIntegral(): Boolean;
- [3] The query `isPositive()` tells whether an integer expression has a positive value.  
 Expression::isPositive(): Boolean;  
**pre:** self.isIntegral()
- [4] The query `isNonNegative()` tells whether an integer expression has a non-negative value.  
 Expression::isNonNegative(): Boolean;  
**pre:** self.isIntegral()

### Semantics

The expression body may consist of a sequence of text strings - each in a different language - representing alternative representations of the same content. When multiple language strings are provided, the language of each separate string is determined by its corresponding entry in the “language” attribute (by sequence order). The interpretation of the text strings is language specific. Languages are matched to body strings by order. If the languages are unspecified, they might be implicit from the expression bodies or the context.

It is assumed that a linguistic analyzer for the specified languages will evaluate the bodies. The times at which the bodies will be evaluated are not specified.

### Notation

An opaque expression is displayed as text strings in particular languages. The syntax of the strings are the responsibility of a tool and linguistic analyzers for the languages.

An opaque expression is displayed as a part of the notation for its containing element.

The languages of an opaque expression, if specified, are often not shown on a diagram. Some modeling tools may impose a particular language or assume a particular default language. The language is often implicit under the assumption that the form of the expression makes its purpose clear. If the language name is shown, it should be displayed in braces ({}), before the expression string to which it corresponds.

### Style Guidelines

A language name should be spelled and capitalized exactly as it appears in the document defining the language. For example, use OCL, not ocl.

### Examples

```
a > 0
{OCL} i > j and self.size > i
average hours worked per week
```

### 7.3.37 Operation (from Kernel, Interfaces)

An operation is a behavioral feature of a classifier that specifies the name, type, parameters, and constraints for invoking an associated behavior.

## Generalizations

- “BehavioralFeature (from Kernel)” on page 51

## Description

An operation is a behavioral feature of a classifier that specifies the name, type, parameters, and constraints for invoking an associated behavior.

## Attributes

- /isOrdered : Boolean  
Specifies whether the return parameter is ordered or not, if present. This is derived.
- isQuery : Boolean  
Specifies whether an execution of the BehavioralFeature leaves the state of the system unchanged (isQuery=true) or whether side effects may occur (isQuery=false). The default value is false.
- /isUnique : Boolean  
Specifies whether the return parameter is unique or not, if present. This is derived.
- /lower : Integer[0..1]  
Specifies the lower multiplicity of the return parameter, if present. This is derived.
- /upper : UnlimitedNatural[0..1]  
Specifies the upper multiplicity of the return parameter, if present. This is derived.

## Associations

- class : Class [0..1]  
The class that owns this operation. Subsets *RedefinableElement::redefinitionContext*, *NamedElement::namespace* and *Feature::featuringClassifier*
- bodyCondition: Constraint[0..1]  
An optional Constraint on the result values of an invocation of this Operation. Subsets *Namespace::ownedRule*
- ownedParameter: Parameter[\*] {ordered}  
Specifies the parameters owned by this Operation. Redefines *BehavioralFeature::ownedParameter*.
- postcondition: Constraint[\*]  
An optional set of Constraints specifying the state of the system when the Operation is completed. Subsets *Namespace::ownedRule*.
- precondition: Constraint[\*]  
An optional set of Constraints on the state of the system when the Operation is invoked. Subsets *Namespace::ownedRule*
- raisedException: Type[\*]  
References the Types representing exceptions that may be raised during an invocation of this operation. Redefines *Basic::Operation.raisedException* and *BehavioralFeature::raisedException*.
- redefinedOperation: Operation[\*]  
References the Operations that are redefined by this Operation. Subsets *RedefinableElement::redefinedElement*
- /type: Type[0..1]  
Specifies the return result of the operation, if present. This is a derived value.

### Package Interfaces

- interface: Interface [0..1]  
The Interface that owns this Operation. (Subsets *RedefinableElement::redefinitionContext*, *NamedElement::namespace* and *Feature::featuringClassifier*)

### Constraints

- [1] An operation can have at most one return parameter (i.e., an owned parameter with the direction set to 'return').  
ownedParameter->select(par | par.direction = #return)->size() <= 1
- [2] If this operation has a return parameter, isOrdered equals the value of isOrdered for that parameter; otherwise, isOrdered is false.  
isOrdered = **if** returnResult()->notEmpty() **then** returnResult()->any().isOrdered **else** false **endif**
- [3] If this operation has a return parameter, isUnique equals the value of isUnique for that parameter; otherwise, isUnique is true.  
isUnique = **if** returnResult()->notEmpty() **then** returnResult()->any().isUnique **else** true **endif**
- [4] If this operation has a return parameter, lower equals the value of lower for that parameter; otherwise, lower is not defined.  
lower = **if** returnResult()->notEmpty() **then** returnResult()->any().lower **else** Set{} **endif**
- [5] If this operation has a return parameter, upper equals the value of upper for that parameter; otherwise, upper is not defined.  
upper = **if** returnResult()->notEmpty() **then** returnResult()->any().upper **else** Set{} **endif**
- [6] If this operation has a return parameter, type equals the value of type for that parameter; otherwise, type is not defined.  
type = **if** returnResult()->notEmpty() **then** returnResult()->any().type **else** Set{} **endif**
- [7] A bodyCondition can only be specified for a query operation.  
bodyCondition->notEmpty() **implies** isQuery

### Additional Operations

- [1] The query isConsistentWith() specifies, for any two Operations in a context in which redefinition is possible, whether redefinition would be logically consistent. A redefining operation is consistent with a redefined operation if it has the same number of owned parameters, and the type of each owned parameter conforms to the type of the corresponding redefined parameter.

A redefining operation is consistent with a redefined operation if it has the same number of formal parameters, the same number of return results, and the type of each formal parameter and return result conforms to the type of the corresponding redefined parameter or return result.

Operation::isConsistentWith(redefinee: RedefinableElement): Boolean;

**pre:** redefinee.isRedefinitionContextValid(self)

result = redefinee.oclIsKindOf(Operation) **and**

**let** op: Operation = redefinee.oclAsType(Operation) **in**

self.ownedParameter->size() = op.ownedParameter->size() **and**

Sequence{1..self.ownedParameter->size()}->

forAll(i | op.ownedParameter->at(1).type.conformsTo(self.ownedParameter->at(1).type))

[2] The query `returnResult()` returns the set containing the return parameter of the Operation if one exists; otherwise, it returns an empty set.

```
Operation::returnResult() : Set(Parameter);
returnResult = ownedParameter->select (par | par.direction = #return)
```

### Semantics

An operation is invoked on an instance of the classifier for which the operation is a feature.

The preconditions for an operation define conditions that must be true when the operation is invoked. These preconditions may be assumed by an implementation of this operation.

The postconditions for an operation define conditions that will be true when the invocation of the operation completes successfully, assuming the preconditions were satisfied. These postconditions must be satisfied by any implementation of the operation.

The bodyCondition for an operation constrains the return result. The bodyCondition differs from postconditions in that the bodyCondition may be overridden when an operation is redefined, whereas postconditions can only be added during redefinition.

An operation may raise an exception during its invocation. When an exception is raised, it should not be assumed that the postconditions or bodyCondition of the operation are satisfied.

An operation may be redefined in a specialization of the featured classifier. This redefinition may specialize the types of the owned parameters, add new preconditions or postconditions, add new raised exceptions, or otherwise refine the specification of the operation.

Each operation states whether or not its application will modify the state of the instance or any other element in the model (isQuery).

An operation may be owned by and in the namespace of a class that provides the context for its possible redefinition.

### Semantic Variation Points

The behavior of an invocation of an operation when a precondition is not satisfied is a semantic variation point. When operations are redefined in a specialization, rules regarding invariance, covariance, or contravariance of types and preconditions determine whether the specialized classifier is substitutable for its more general parent. Such rules constitute semantic variation points with respect to redefinition of operations.

### Notation

If shown in a diagram, an operation is shown as a text string of the form:

```
[<visibility>] <name> '(' [<parameter-list> ] ')' [':' [<return-type>] [ '[' <multiplicity> ']' ]
[ '{' <oper-property> [ ',' <oper-property> ]* '}' ]]
```

where:

- `<visibility>` is the visibility of the operation (See “VisibilityKind (from Kernel)” on page 146).  
`<visibility> ::= '+' | '-' | '#' | '~'`
- `<name>` is the name of the operation.
- `<return-type>` is the type of the return result parameter if the operation has one defined.

- *<multiplicity>* is the multiplicity of the return type. (See “MultiplicityElement (from Kernel)” on page 100).
- *<oper-property>* indicates the properties of the operation.

*<oper-property>* ::= 'redefines' *<oper-name>* | 'query' | 'ordered' | 'unique' | *<oper-constraint>*

where:

- *redefines <oper-name>* means that the operation redefines an inherited operation identified by *<oper-name>*.
- *query* means that the operation does not change the state of the system.
- *ordered* means that the values of the return parameter are ordered.
- *unique* means that the values returned by the parameter have no duplicates.
- *<oper-constraint>* is a constraint that applies to the operation.
- *<parameter-list>* is a list of parameters of the operation in the following format:

*<parameter-list>* ::= *<parameter>* [';' *<parameter>*]\*  
*<parameter>* ::= [*<direction>*] *<parameter-name>* ':' *<type-expression>*  
 ['[' *<multiplicity>* ']' ] ['=' *<default>* ] ['{' *<parm-property>* [';' *<parm-property>*]\* '}' ]

where:

- *<direction>* ::= 'in' | 'out' | 'inout' (defaults to 'in' if omitted).
- *<parameter-name>* is the name of the parameter.
- *<type-expression>* is an expression that specifies the type of the parameter.
- *<multiplicity>* is the multiplicity of the parameter. (See “MultiplicityElement (from Kernel)” on page 100).
- *<default>* is an expression that defines the value specification for the default value of the parameter.
- *<parm-property>* indicates additional property values that apply to the parameter.

### Presentation Options

The parameter list can be suppressed. The return result of the operation can be expressed as a return parameter, or as the type of the operation. For example:

toString(return : String)

means the same thing as

toString() : String

### Style Guidelines

An operation name typically begins with a lowercase letter.

### Examples

display ()

-hide ()

+createWindow (location: Coordinates, container: Container [0..1]): Window

+toString (): String

### 7.3.38 Package (from Kernel)

A package is used to group elements, and provides a namespace for the grouped elements.

#### Generalizations

- “Namespace (from Kernel)” on page 106
- “PackageableElement (from Kernel)” on page 116

#### Description

A package is a namespace for its members, and may contain other packages. Only packageable elements can be owned members of a package. By virtue of being a namespace, a package can import either individual members of other packages, or all the members of other packages. In addition a package can be merged with other packages.

#### Attributes

- URI: String [0..1] {id}  
Provides an identifier for the package that can be used for many purposes. A URI is the universally unique identification of the package following the IETF URI specification, RFC 2396 <http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc2396.txt> and it must comply with those syntax rules.

#### Associations

- /nestedPackage: Package [\*]  
References the owned members that are Packages. Subsets *Package::packagedElement*
- /packagedElement: PackageableElement [\*]  
Specifies the packageable elements that are owned by this Package. Subsets *Namespace::ownedMember*.
- /ownedType: Type [\*]  
References the packaged elements that are Types. Subsets *Package::packagedElement*
- packageMerge: Package [\*]  
References the PackageMerges that are owned by this Package. Subsets *Element::ownedElement*
- nestingPackage: Package [0..1]  
References the Package that owns this Package. Subsets *NamedElement::namespace*

#### Constraints

- [1] If an element that is owned by a package has visibility, it is public or private.  
`self.ownedElements->forall(e | e.visibility->notEmpty() implies e.visibility = #public or e.visibility = #private)`

#### Additional Operations

- [1] The query `mustBeOwned()` indicates whether elements of this type must have an owner.  
`Package::mustBeOwned() : Boolean`  
`mustBeOwned = false`
- [2] The query `visibleMembers()` defines which members of a Package can be accessed outside it.  
`Package::visibleMembers() : Set(PackageableElement);`  
`visibleMembers = member->select( m | self.makesVisible(m))`

[3] The query `makesVisible()` defines whether a Package makes an element visible outside itself. Elements with no visibility and elements with public visibility are made visible.

`Package::makesVisible(el: Namespaces::NamedElement) : Boolean;`

**pre:** `self.member->includes(el)`

`makesVisible =`

-- case: the element is in the package itself

`(ownedMember->includes(el))` **or**

-- case: it is imported individually with public visibility

`(elementImport->select(ei|ei.importedElement = #public)->collect(ei|ei.importedElement)->includes(el))` **or**

-- case: it is imported in a package with public visibility

`(packageImport->select(pi|pi.visibility = #public)->collect(pi|pi.importedPackage.member->includes(el))->notEmpty())`

## Semantics

A package is a namespace and is also a packageable element that can be contained in other packages.

The elements that can be referred to using non-qualified names within a package are owned elements, imported elements, and elements in enclosing (outer) namespaces. Owned and imported elements may each have a visibility that determines whether they are available outside the package.

A package owns its owned members, with the implication that if a package is removed from a model, so are the elements owned by the package.

The public contents of a package are always accessible outside the package through the use of qualified names.

The URI can be specified to provide a unique identifier for a Package. Within UML there is no predetermined usage for this, with the exception of profiles (see Using XMI to exchange Profiles in 18.3.6). It may, for example, be used by model management facilities for model identification. The URI should hence be unique and unchanged once assigned. There is no requirement that the URI be dereferenceable (though this is of course permitted).

## Notation

A package is shown as a large rectangle with a small rectangle (a “tab”) attached to the left side of the top of the large rectangle. The members of the package may be shown within the large rectangle. Members may also be shown by branching lines to member elements, drawn outside the package. A plus sign (+) within a circle is drawn at the end attached to the namespace (package).

- If the members of the package are not shown within the large rectangle, then the name of the package should be placed within the large rectangle.
- If the members of the package are shown within the large rectangle, then the name of the package should be placed within the tab.

The visibility of a package element may be indicated by preceding the name of the element by a visibility symbol (‘+’ for public and ‘-’ for private). Package elements with defined visibility may not have protected or package visibility.

The URI for a Package may be indicated with the text `{uri=<uri>}` following the package name.

### Presentation Options

A tool may show visibility by a graphic marker, such as color or font. A tool may also show visibility by selectively displaying those elements that meet a given visibility level (e.g., only public elements). A diagram showing a package with contents must not necessarily show all its contents; it may show a subset of the contained elements according to some criterion.

Elements that become available for use in an importing package through a package import or an element import may have a distinct color or be dimmed to indicate that they cannot be modified.

### Examples

There are three representations of the same package Types in Figure 7.63. The one on the left just shows the package without revealing any of its members. The middle one shows some of the members within the borders of the package, and the one to the right shows some of the members using the alternative membership notation.

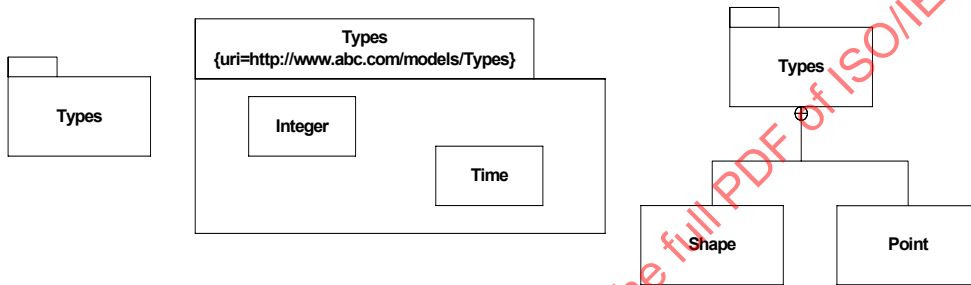


Figure 7.63 - Examples of a package with members

### 7.3.39 PackageableElement (from Kernel)

A packageable element indicates a named element that may be owned directly by a package.

#### Generalizations

- “NamedElement (from Kernel, Dependencies)” on page 104

#### Description

A packageable element indicates a named element that may be owned directly by a package.

#### Attributes

- visibility: VisibilityKind [1]  
Indicates that packageable elements must always have a visibility (i.e., visibility is not optional). Redefines *NamedElement::visibility*. Default value is *public*.

#### Associations

No additional associations

**Constraints**

No additional constraints

**Semantics**

No additional semantics

**Notation**

No additional notation

**7.3.40 PackageImport (from Kernel)**

A package import is a relationship that allows the use of unqualified names to refer to package members from other namespaces.

**Generalizations**

- “DirectedRelationship (from Kernel)” on page 67

**Description**

A package import is defined as a directed relationship that identifies a package whose members are to be imported by a namespace.

**Attributes**

- **visibility:** VisibilityKind  
Specifies the visibility of the imported PackageableElements within the importing Namespace, i.e., whether imported elements will in turn be visible to other packages that use that importingPackage as an importedPackage. If the PackageImport is public, the imported elements will be visible outside the package, while if it is private they will not. By default, the value of visibility is *public*.

**Associations**

- **importedPackage:** Package [1]  
Specifies the Package whose members are imported into a Namespace. Subsets *DirectedRelationship::target*
- **importingNamespace:** Namespace [1]  
Specifies the Namespace that imports the members from a Package. Subsets *DirectedRelationship::source* and *Element::owner*

**Constraints**

[1] The visibility of a PackageImport is either public or private.

self.visibility = #public **or** self.visibility = #private

**Semantics**

A package import is a relationship between an importing namespace and a package, indicating that the importing namespace adds the names of the members of the package to its own namespace. Conceptually, a package import is equivalent to having an element import to each individual member of the imported namespace, unless there is already a separately-defined element import.

**Notation**

A package import is shown using a dashed arrow with an open arrowhead from the importing namespace to the imported package. A keyword is shown near the dashed arrow to identify which kind of package import is intended. The predefined keywords are «import» for a public package import, and «access» for a private package import.

**Presentation options**

As an alternative to the dashed arrow, it is possible to show a package import by having a text that uniquely identifies the imported package within curly brackets either below or after the name of the namespace. The textual syntax is then:

*{import ' <qualified-name> }' | {access ' <qualified-name> }'*

**Examples**

In Figure 7.64, a number of package imports are shown. The elements in Types are imported to ShoppingCart, and then further imported to WebShop. However, the elements of Auxiliary are only accessed from ShoppingCart, and cannot be referenced using unqualified names from WebShop.

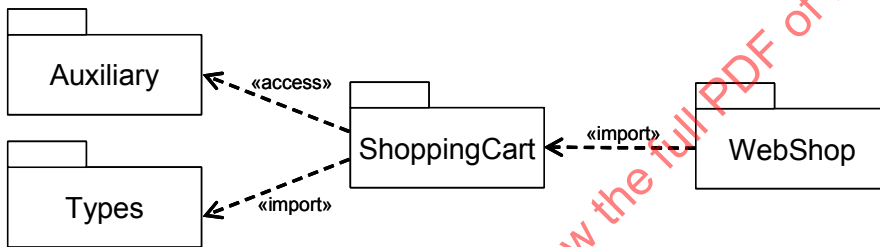


Figure 7.64 - Examples of public and private package imports

**7.3.41 PackageMerge (from Kernel)**

A package merge defines how the contents of one package are extended by the contents of another package.

**Generalizations**

- “DirectedRelationship (from Kernel)” on page 67

**Description**

A package merge is a directed relationship between two packages that indicates that the contents of the two packages are to be combined. It is very similar to Generalization in the sense that the source element conceptually adds the characteristics of the target element to its own characteristics resulting in an element that combines the characteristics of both.

This mechanism should be used when elements defined in different packages have the same name and are intended to represent the same concept. Most often it is used to provide different definitions of a given concept for different purposes, starting from a common base definition. A given base concept is extended in increments, with each increment defined in

a separate merged package. By selecting which increments to merge, it is possible to obtain a custom definition of a concept for a specific end. Package merge is particularly useful in meta-modeling and is extensively used in the definition of the UML metamodel.

Conceptually, a package merge can be viewed as an operation that takes the contents of two packages and produces a new package that combines the contents of the packages involved in the merge. In terms of model semantics, there is no difference between a model with explicit package merges, and a model in which all the merges have been performed.

### Attributes

No additional attributes

### Associations

- mergedPackage: Package [1]  
References the Package that is to be merged with the receiving package of the PackageMerge. Subsets *DirectedRelationship::target*
- receivingPackage: Package [1]  
References the Package that is being extended with the contents of the merged package of the PackageMerge. Subsets *Element::owner* and *DirectedRelationship::source*

### Constraints

No additional constraints

### Semantics

A package merge between two packages *implies* a set of transformations, whereby the contents of the package to be merged are combined with the contents of the receiving package. In cases in which certain elements in the two packages represent the same entity, their contents are (conceptually) merged into a single resulting element according to the formal rules of package merge specified below.

As with Generalization, a package merge between two packages in a model merely implies these transformations, but the results are not themselves included in the model. Nevertheless, the receiving package and its contents are deemed to represent the result of the merge, in the same way that a subclass of a class represents the aggregation of features of all of its superclasses (and not merely the increment added by the class). Thus, within a model, any reference to a model element contained in the receiving package implies a reference to the results of the merge rather than to the increment that is physically contained in that package. This is illustrated by the example in Figure 7.65 in which package P1 and package P2 both define different increments of the same class A (identified as P1::A and P2::A respectively). Package P2 merges the contents of package P1, which implies the merging of increment P1::A into increment P2::A. Package P3 imports the contents of P2 so that it can define a subclass of A called SubA. In this case, element A in package P3 (P3::A) represents the *result* of the merge of P1::A into P2::A and not just the increment P2::A. Note that if another package were to *import* P1, then a reference to A in the importing package would represent the increment P1::A rather than the A resulting from merge.

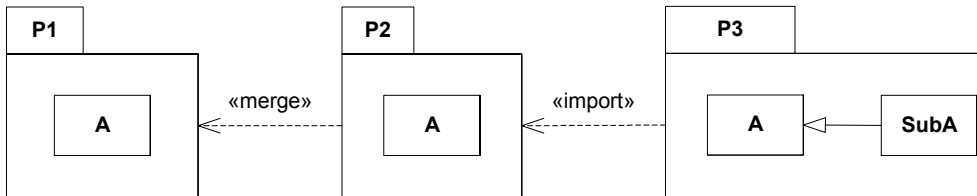


Figure 7.65 - Illustration of the meaning of package merge

To understand the rules of package merge, it is necessary to clearly distinguish between three distinct entities: the merged increment (e.g., P1::A in Figure 7.65), the receiving increment (e.g., P2::A), and the result of the merge transformations. The main difficulty comes from the fact that the receiving package and its contents represents both the operand and the results of the package merge, depending on the context in which they are considered. For example, in Figure 7.65, with respect to the package merge operation, P2 represents the increment that is an operand for the merge. However, with respect to the import operation, P2 represents the result of the merge. This dual interpretation of the same model element can be confusing, so it is useful to introduce the following terminology that aids understanding:

- *merged package* - the first operand of the merge, that is, the package that is to be merged into the receiving package (this is the package that is the target of the merge arrow in the diagrams).
- *receiving package* - the second operand of the merge, that is, the package that, conceptually, contains the results of the merge (and which is the source of the merge arrow in the diagrams). However, this term is used to refer to the package and its contents *before* the merge transformations have been performed.
- *resulting package* - the package that, conceptually, contains the results of the merge. In the model, this is, of course, the same package as the receiving package, but this particular term is used to refer to the package and its contents *after* the merge has been performed.
- *merged element* - refers to a model element that exists in the merged package.
- *receiving element* - is a model element in the receiving package. If the element has a *matching* merged element, the two are combined to produce the resulting element (see below). This term is used to refer to the element *before* the merge has been performed (i.e., the increment itself rather than the result).
- *resulting element* - is a model element in the resulting package *after* the merge was performed. For receiving elements that have a matching merged element, this is the same element as the receiving element, but in the state *after* the merge was performed. For merged elements that have no matching receiving element, this is the merged element. For receiving elements that have no matching merged element, this is the same as the receiving element.
- *element type* - refers to the type of any kind of TypedElement, such as the type of a Parameter or StructuralFeature.
- *element metatype* - is the MOF type of a model element (e.g., Classifier, Association, Feature).

This terminology is based on a conceptual view of package merge that is represented by the schematic diagram in Figure 7.66 (NB: this is not a UML diagram). The owned elements of packages A and B are all incorporated into the namespace of package B. However, it is important to emphasize that this view is merely a convenience for describing the semantics of package merge and is not reflected in the repository model, that is, the *physical* model itself is not transformed in any way by the presence of package merges.

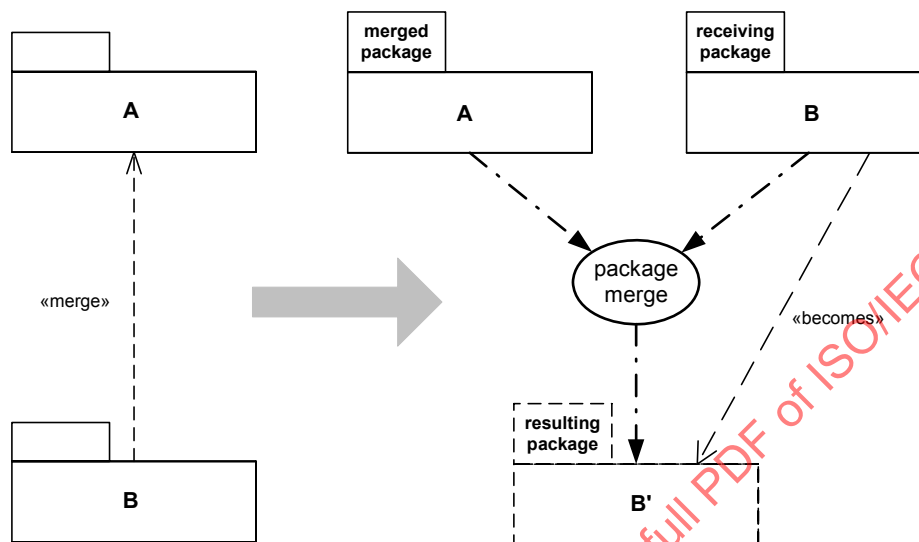


Figure 7.66 - Conceptual view of the package merge semantics

The semantics of package merge are defined by a set of constraints and transformations. The constraints specify the preconditions for a valid package merge, while the transformations describe its semantic effects (i.e., postconditions). If any constraints are violated, the package merge is ill-formed and the resulting model that contains it is invalid. Different metatypes have different semantics, but the general principle is always the same: a resulting element will not be any less capable than it was prior to the merge. This means, for instance, that the resulting navigability, multiplicity, visibility, etc. of a receiving model element will not be reduced as a result of a package merge. One of the key consequences of this is that model elements in the resulting package are compatible extensions of the corresponding elements in the (unmerged) receiving package *in the same namespace*. This capability is particularly useful in defining metamodel compliance levels such that each successive level is compatible with the previous level, including their corresponding XMI representations.

In this part of ISO/IEC 19505, explicit merge transformations are only defined for certain general metatypes found mostly in metamodels (Packages, Classes, Associations, Properties, etc.), since the semantics of merging other kinds of metatypes (e.g., state machines, interactions) are complex and domain specific. Elements of all other kinds of metatypes are transformed according to the default rule: they are simply deep copied into the resulting package. (This rule can be superseded for specific metatypes through profiles or other kinds of language extensions.)

### General package merge rules

A merged element and a receiving element *match* if they satisfy the matching rules for their metatype.

#### CONSTRAINTS:

1. There can be no cycles in the «merge» dependency graph.
2. A package cannot merge a package in which it is contained.

3. A package cannot merge a package that it contains.
4. A merged element whose metatype is not a kind of Package, Class, DataType, Property, Association, Operation, Constraint, Enumeration, or EnumerationLiteral cannot have a receiving element with the same name and metatype unless that receiving element is an exact copy of the merged element (i.e., they are the same).
5. A package merge is valid if and only if all the constraints required to perform the merge are satisfied.
6. Matching typed elements (e.g., Properties, Parameters) must have conforming types. For types that are classes or data types, a conforming type is either the same type or a common supertype. For all other cases, conformance means that the types must be the same.
7. A receiving element cannot have explicit references to any merged element.
8. Any redefinitions associated with matching redefinable elements must not be conflicting.

TRANSFORMATIONS:

1. (*The default rule*) Merged or receiving elements for which there is no matching element are deep copied into the resulting package.
2. The result of merging two elements with matching names and metatypes that are exact copies of each other is the receiving element.
3. Matching elements are combined according to the transformation rules specific to their metatype and the results included in the resulting package.
4. All type references to typed elements that end up in the resulting package are transformed into references to the corresponding resulting typed elements (i.e., not to their respective increments).
5. For all matching elements: if both matching elements have private visibility, the resulting element will have private visibility; otherwise, the resulting element will have public visibility.
6. For all matching classifier elements: if both matching elements are abstract, the resulting element is abstract; otherwise, the resulting element is non-abstract.
7. For all matching classifier elements: if both matching elements are final specializations, the resulting element is a final specialization; otherwise, the resulting element is a non-final specialization.
8. For all matching elements: if both matching elements are not derived, the resulting element is also not derived; otherwise, the resulting element is derived.
9. For all matching multiplicity elements: the lower bound of the resulting multiplicity is the lesser of the lower bounds of the multiplicities of the matching elements.
10. For all matching multiplicity elements: the upper bound of the resulting multiplicity is the greater of the upper bounds of the multiplicities of the matching elements.
11. Any stereotypes applied to a model element in either a merged or receiving element are also applied to the corresponding resulting element.
12. For matching redefinable elements: different redefinitions of matching redefinable elements are combined conjunctively.
13. For matching redefinable elements: if both matching elements have `isLeaf=true`, the resulting element also has `isLeaf=true`; otherwise, the resulting element has `isLeaf=false`.

### *Package rules*

Elements that are a kind of Package match by name and metatype (e.g., profiles match with profiles and regular packages with regular packages).

#### CONSTRAINTS:

1. All classifiers in the merged package must have a non-empty qualified name and be distinguishable in the merged package.
2. All classifiers in the receiving package must have a non-empty qualified name and be distinguishable in the receiving package.

#### TRANSFORMATIONS:

1. A nested package from the merged package is transformed into a nested package with the same name in the resulting package, unless the receiving package already contains a matching nested package. In the latter case, the merged nested package is recursively merged with the matching receiving nested package.
2. An element import owned by the receiving package is transformed into a corresponding element import in the resulting package. Imported elements are not merged (unless there is also a package merge to the package owning the imported element or its alias).

### *Class and DataType rules*

Elements that are kinds of Class or DataType match by name and metatype.

#### TRANSFORMATIONS:

1. All properties from the merged classifier are merged with the receiving classifier to produce the resulting classifier according to the property transformation rules specified below.
2. Nested classifiers are merged recursively according to the same rules.

### *Property rules*

Elements that are kinds of Property match by name and metatype.

#### CONSTRAINTS:

1. The static (or non-static) characteristic of matching properties must be the same.
2. The uniqueness characteristic of matching properties must be the same.
3. Any constraints associated with matching properties must not be conflicting.

#### TRANSFORMATIONS:

1. For merged properties that do not have a matching receiving property, the resulting property is a newly created property in the resulting classifier that is the same as the merged property.
2. For merged properties that have a matching receiving property, the resulting property is a property with the same name and characteristics except where these characteristics are different. Where these characteristics are different, the resulting property characteristics are determined by application of the appropriate transformation rules.

3. For matching properties: if both properties are designated read-only, the resulting property is also designated read-only; otherwise, the resulting property is designated as not read-only.
4. For matching properties: if both properties are unordered, then the resulting property is also unordered; otherwise, the resulting property is ordered.
5. For matching properties: if neither property is designated as a subset of some derived union, then the resulting property will not be designated as a subset; otherwise, the resulting property will be designated as a subset of that derived union.
6. For matching properties: different constraints of matching properties are combined conjunctively.
7. For matching properties: if either the merged and/or receiving elements are non-unique, the resulting element is non-unique; otherwise, the resulting element is designated as unique.
8. The resulting property type is transformed to refer to the corresponding type in the resulting package.

#### *Association rules*

Elements that are a kind of Association match by name and metatype.

#### CONSTRAINTS:

1. These rules only apply to binary associations. (The default rule is used for merging n-ary associations.)
2. The receiving association end must be a composite if the matching merged association end is a composite.
3. The receiving association end must be owned by the association if the matching merged association end is owned by the association.

#### TRANSFORMATIONS:

1. A merge of matching associations is accomplished by merging the Association classifiers (using the merge rules for classifiers) and merging their corresponding owned end properties according to the rules for properties and association ends.
2. For matching association ends: if neither association end is navigable, then the resulting association end is also not navigable. In all other cases, the resulting association end is navigable.

#### *Operation rules*

Elements that are a kind of Operation match by name, parameter order, and parameter types, not including any return type.

#### CONSTRAINTS:

1. Operation parameters and types must conform to the same rules for type and multiplicity as were defined for properties.
2. The receiving operation must be a query if the matching merged operation is a query.

#### TRANSFORMATIONS:

1. For merged operations that do not have a matching receiving operation, the resulting operation is an operation with the same name and signature in the resulting classifier.

- For merged operations that have a matching receiving operation, the resulting operation is the outcome of a merge of the matching merged and receiving operations, with parameter transformations performed according to the property transformations defined above.

### Enumeration rules

Elements that are a kind of EnumerationLiteral match by owning enumeration and literal name.

CONSTRAINTS:

- Matching enumeration literals must be in the same order.

TRANSFORMATIONS:

- Non-matching enumeration literals from the merged enumeration are concatenated to the receiving enumeration.

### Constraint Rules

CONSTRAINTS:

- Constraints must be mutually non-contradictory.

TRANSFORMATIONS:

- The constraints of the merged model elements are conjunctively added to the constraints of the matching receiving model elements.

### Notation

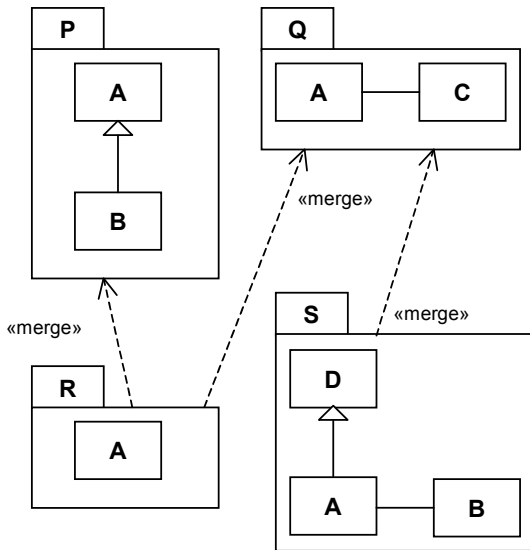
A PackageMerge is shown using a dashed line with an open arrowhead pointing from the receiving package (the source) to the merged package (the target). In addition, the keyword «merge» is shown near the dashed line.



Figure 7.67 - Notation for package merge

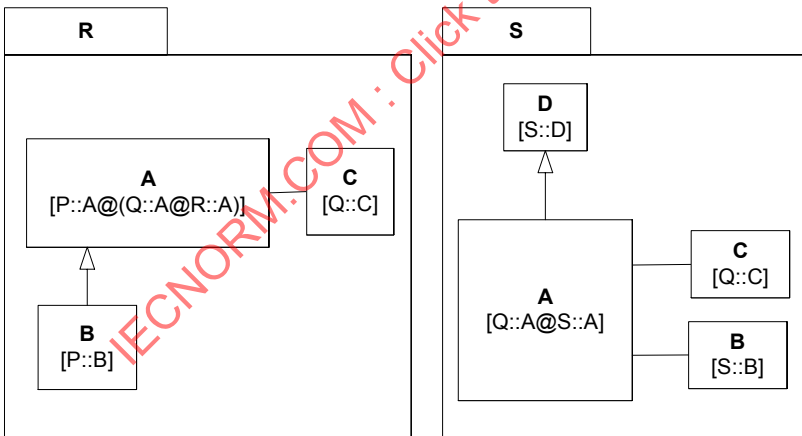
**Examples**

In Figure 7.68, packages P and Q are being merged by package R, while package S merges only package Q.



**Figure 7.68 - Simple example of package merges**

The transformed packages R and S are shown in Figure 7.69. The expressions in square brackets indicating which individual increments were merged into produce the final result, with the “@” character denoting the merge operator (note that these expressions are not part of the standard notation, but are included here for explanatory purposes).



**Figure 7.69 - Simple example of transformed packages following the merges in Figure 7.68**

In Figure 7.70, additional package merges are introduced by having package T, which is empty prior to execution of the merge operation, merge packages R and S defined previously.

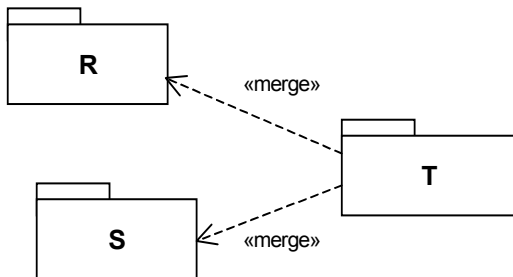


Figure 7.70 - Introducing additional package merges

In Figure 7.71, the transformed version of package T is depicted. In this package, the partial definitions of A, B, C, and D have all been brought together. Note that the types of the ends of the associations that were originally in the packages Q and S have all been updated to refer to the appropriate elements in package T.

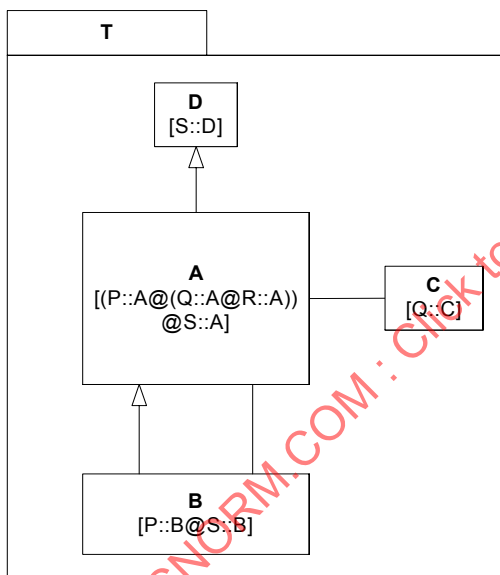


Figure 7.71 - The result of the additional package merges in Figure 7.70

### 7.3.42 Parameter (from Kernel)

A parameter is a specification of an argument used to pass information into or out of an invocation of a behavioral feature.

## Generalizations

- “MultiplicityElement (from Kernel)” on page 100.
- “TypedElement (from Kernel)” on page 143.

## Description

A parameter is a specification of an argument used to pass information into or out of an invocation of a behavioral feature. It has a type, and may have a multiplicity and an optional default value.

## Attributes

- / default: String [0..1]  
Specifies a String that represents a value to be used when no argument is supplied for the Parameter. This is a derived value.
- direction: ParameterDirectionKind [1]  
Indicates whether a parameter is being sent into or out of a behavioral element. The default value is *in*.

## Associations

- /operation: Operation[0..1]  
References the Operation owning this parameter. Subsets *NamedElement::namespace*
- defaultValue: ValueSpecification [0..1]  
Specifies a ValueSpecification that represents a value to be used when no argument is supplied for the Parameter. Subsets *Element::ownedElement*

## Constraints

No additional constraints

## Semantics

A parameter specifies how arguments are passed into or out of an invocation of a behavioral feature like an operation. The type and multiplicity of a parameter restrict what values can be passed, how many, and whether the values are ordered.

If a default is specified for a parameter, then it is evaluated at invocation time and used as the argument for this parameter if and only if no argument is supplied at invocation of the behavioral feature.

A parameter may be given a name, which then identifies the parameter uniquely within the parameters of the same behavioral feature. If it is unnamed, it is distinguished only by its position in the ordered list of parameters.

The parameter direction specifies whether its value is passed into, out of, or both into and out of the owning behavioral feature. A single parameter may be distinguished as a return parameter. If the behavioral feature is an operation, then the type and multiplicity of this parameter is the same as the type and multiplicity of the operation itself.

## Notation

No general notation. Specific subclasses of BehavioralFeature will define the notation for their parameters.

## Style Guidelines

A parameter name typically starts with a lowercase letter.

### 7.3.43 ParameterDirectionKind (from Kernel)

Parameter direction kind is an enumeration type that defines literals used to specify direction of parameters.

#### Generalizations

None

#### Description

ParameterDirectionKind is an enumeration of the following literal values:

- **in** Indicates that parameter values are passed into the behavioral element by the caller.
- **inout** Indicates that parameter values are passed into a behavioral element by the caller and then back out to the caller from the behavioral element.
- **out** Indicates that parameter values are passed from a behavioral element out to the caller.
- **return** Indicates that parameter values are passed as return values from a behavioral element back to the caller.

### 7.3.44 PrimitiveType (from Kernel)

A primitive type defines a predefined data type, without any relevant substructure (i.e., it has no parts in the context of UML). A primitive datatype may have an algebra and operations defined outside of UML, for example, mathematically.

#### Generalizations

- “DataType (from Kernel)” on page 64.

#### Description

The instances of primitive type used in UML itself include Boolean, Integer, UnlimitedNatural, and String.

#### Attributes

No additional attributes

#### Associations

No additional associations

#### Constraints

No additional constraints

#### Semantics

The run-time instances of a primitive type are data values. The values are in many-to-one correspondence to mathematical elements defined outside of UML (for example, the various integers).

Instances of primitive types do not have identity. If two instances have the same representation, then they are indistinguishable.

## Notation

A primitive type has the keyword «primitive» above or before the name of the primitive type.

Instances of the predefined primitive types may be denoted with the same notation as provided for references to such instances (see the subtypes of “ValueSpecification (from Kernel)”).

### 7.3.45 Property (from Kernel, AssociationClasses, Interfaces)

A property is a structural feature.

A property related to a classifier by ownedAttribute represents an attribute, and it may also represent an association end. It relates an instance of the class to a value or collection of values of the type of the attribute.

A property related to an Association by memberEnd or its specializations represents an end of the association. The type of property is the type of the end of the association.

#### Generalizations

- “StructuralFeature (from Kernel)” on page 140

#### Description

Property represents a declared state of one or more instances in terms of a named relationship to a value or values. When a property is an attribute of a classifier, the value or values are related to the instance of the classifier by being held in slots of the instance. When a property is an association end, the value or values are related to the instance or instances at the other end(s) of the association (see semantics of Association).

Property is indirectly a subclass of Construct::TypedElement. The range of valid values represented by the property can be controlled by setting the property’s type.

#### Package AssociationClasses

A property may have other properties (attributes) that serve as qualifiers.

#### Attributes

- aggregation: AggregationKind [1]  
Specifies the kind of aggregation that applies to the Property. The default value is *none*.
- / default: String [0..1]  
A String that is evaluated to give a default value for the Property when an object of the owning Classifier is instantiated. This is a derived value.
- / isComposite: Boolean [1]  
This is a derived value, indicating whether the aggregation of the Property is composite or not.
- isDerived: Boolean [1]  
Specifies whether the Property is derived, i.e., whether its value or values can be computed from other information. The default value is *false*.
- isDerivedUnion : Boolean  
Specifies whether the property is derived as the union of all of the properties that are constrained to subset it. The default value is *false*.

- `isReadOnly` : Boolean  
If true, the attribute may only be read, and not written. The default value is *false*.
- `isID` : Boolean  
*True* indicates this property can be used to uniquely identify an instance of the containing Class. Default value is *false*

### Associations

- `association`: Association [0..1]  
References the association of which this property is a member, if any.
- `owningAssociation`: Association [0..1]  
References the owning association of this property. Subsets *Property::association*, *NamedElement::namespace*, *Feature::featuringClassifier*, and *RedefinableElement::redefinitionContext*.
- `datatype` : DataType [0..1]  
References the DataType that owns the Property. Subsets *NamedElement::namespace* and *Feature::featuringClassifier*
- `defaultValue`: ValueSpecification [0..1]  
A ValueSpecification that is evaluated to give a default value for the Property when an object of the owning Classifier is instantiated. Subsets *Element::ownedElement*.
- `redefinedProperty` : Property [\*]  
References the properties that are redefined by this property. Subsets *RedefinableElement::redefinedElement*.
- `subsettingProperty` : Property [\*]  
References the properties of which this property is constrained to be a subset.
- `/ opposite` : Property [0..1]  
In the case where the property is one navigable end of a binary association with both ends navigable, this gives the other end.
- `class` : Class [0..1]  
References the Class that owns the Property. Subsets *NamedElement::namespace* and *Feature::featuringClassifier*

### Package AssociationClasses

- `associationEnd` : Property [0..1]  
Designates the optional association end that owns a qualifier attribute. Subsets *Element::owner*
- `qualifier` : Property [\*]  
An optional list of ordered qualifier attributes for the end. If the list is empty, then the Association is not qualified.  
Subsets *Element::ownedElement*

### Package Interfaces

- `interface`: Interface [0..1]  
References the Interface that owns the Property. Subsets *NamedElement::namespace* and *Feature::featuringClassifier*

### Constraints

- [1] If this property is owned by a class associated with a binary association, and the other end of the association is also owned by a class, then `opposite` gives the other end.

`opposite =`

```
if owningAssociation->isEmpty() and association.memberEnd->size() = 2 then
  let otherEnd = (association.memberEnd - self)->any() in
```

```

        if otherEnd.owningAssociation->isEmpty() then otherEnd else Set{} endif
    else Set {}
    endif

```

- [2] A multiplicity on an aggregate end of a composite aggregation must not have an upper bound greater than 1.  
 isComposite **implies** (upperBound()->isEmpty() **or** upperBound() <= 1)
- [3] Subsetting may only occur when the context of the subsetting property conforms to the context of the subsetted property.  
 subsettedProperty->notEmpty() **implies**  
 (subsettingContext()->notEmpty() and subsettingContext()->forall (sc |  
 subsettedProperty->forall(sp |  
 sp.subsettingContext()->exists(c | sc.conformsTo(c))))))
- [4] A redefined property must be inherited from a more general classifier containing the redefining property.  
**if** (redefinedProperty->notEmpty()) **then**  
 (redefinitionContext->notEmpty() **and**  
 redefinedProperty->forall(rp |  
 ((redefinitionContext->collect(fc |  
 fc.allParents())->asSet())->  
 collect(c | c.allFeatures())->asSet())->  
 includes(rp))
- [5] A subsetting property may strengthen the type of the subsetted property, and its upper bound may be less.  
 subsettedProperty->forall(sp |  
 type.conformsTo(sp.type) **and**  
 ((upperBound()->notEmpty() **and** sp.upperBound()->notEmpty())) **implies**  
 upperBound()<=sp.upperBound())
- [6] A derived union is derived.  
 isDerivedUnion **implies** isDerived
- [7] A derived union is read only.  
 isDerivedUnion **implies** isReadOnly
- [8] The value of isComposite is true only if aggregation is composite.  
 isComposite = (self.aggregation = #composite)
- [9] A Property cannot be subset by a Property with the same name  
**if** (self.subsettedProperty->notEmpty()) **then**  
 self.subsettedProperty->forall(sp | sp.name <> self.name)

### Additional Operations

- [1] The query isConsistentWith() specifies, for any two Properties in a context in which redefinition is possible, whether redefinition would be logically consistent. A redefining property is consistent with a redefined property if the type of the redefining property conforms to the type of the redefined property, and the multiplicity of the redefining property (if specified) is contained in the multiplicity of the redefined property.

Property::isConsistentWith(redefinee : RedefinableElement) : Boolean

```

pre: redefinee.isRedefinitionContextValid(self)
isConsistentWith = redefinee.oclIsKindOf(Property) and
    let prop : Property = redefinee.oclAsType(Property) in

```

```

(prop.type.conformsTo(self.type) and
((prop.lowerBound()->notEmpty() and self.lowerBound()->notEmpty()) implies
prop.lowerBound() >= self.lowerBound()) and
((prop.upperBound()->notEmpty() and self.upperBound()->notEmpty()) implies
prop.lowerBound() <= self.lowerBound()) and
(self.isComposite implies prop.isComposite))

```

- [2] The query `subsettingContext()` gives the context for subsetting a property. It consists, in the case of an attribute, of the corresponding classifier, and in the case of an association end, all of the classifiers at the other ends.

```
Property::subsettingContext() : Set(Type)
```

```
subsettingContext =
```

```
  if association->notEmpty()
```

```
  then association.endType-type
```

```
  else if classifier->notEmpty() then Set{classifier} else Set{} endif
```

```
endif
```

- [3] The query `isNavigable()` indicates whether it is possible to navigate across the property.

```
Property::isNavigable() : Boolean
```

```
isNavigable = not classifier->isEmpty() or association.owningAssociation.navigableOwnedEnd->includes(self)
```

- [4] The query `isAttribute()` is true if the Property is defined as an attribute of some classifier

```
context Property::isAttribute(p : Property) : Boolean
```

```
post: result = Classifier.allInstances->exists(c| c.attribute->includes(p))
```

## Semantics

When a property is owned by a classifier other than an association via `ownedAttribute`, then it represents an *attribute* of the class or data type. When related to an association via `memberEnd` or one of its specializations, it represents an end of the association. In either case, when instantiated a property represents a value or collection of values associated with an instance of one (or in the case of a ternary or higher-order association, more than one) type. This set of classifiers is called the context for the property; in the case of an attribute the context is the owning classifier, and in the case of an association end the context is the set of types at the other end or ends of the association.

The value or collection of values instantiated for a property in an instance of its context conforms to the property's type. Property inherits from `MultiplicityElement` and thus allows multiplicity bounds to be specified. These bounds constrain the size of the collection. Typically and by default the maximum bound is 1.

Property also inherits the `isUnique` and `isOrdered` meta-attributes. When `isUnique` is true (the default) the collection of values may not contain duplicates. When `isOrdered` is true (false being the default) the collection of values is ordered. In combination these two allow the type of a property to represent a collection in the following way:

**Table 7.1 - Collection types for properties**

isOrdered	isUnique	Collection type
<i>false</i>	<i>true</i>	<i>Set</i>
<i>true</i>	<i>true</i>	<i>OrderedSet</i>
<i>false</i>	<i>false</i>	<i>Bag</i>
<i>true</i>	<i>false</i>	<i>Sequence</i>

If there is a default specified for a property, this default is evaluated when an instance of the property is created in the absence of a specific setting for the property or a constraint in the model that requires the property to have a specific value. The evaluated default then becomes the initial value (or values) of the property.

If a property is derived, then its value or values can be computed from other information. Actions involving a derived property behave the same as for a nonderived property. Derived properties are often specified to be read-only (i.e., clients cannot directly change values). But where a derived property is changeable, an implementation is expected to make appropriate changes to the model in order for all the constraints to be met, in particular the derivation constraint for the derived property. The derivation for a derived property may be specified by a constraint.

The name and visibility of a property are not required to match those of any property it redefines.

A derived property can redefine one which is not derived. An implementation must ensure that the constraints implied by the derivation are maintained if the property is updated.

If a property has a specified default, and the property redefines another property with a specified default, then the redefining property's default is used in place of the more general default from the redefined property.

If a navigable property is marked as readOnly, then it cannot be updated once it has been assigned an initial value.

A property may be marked as the subset of another, as long as every element in the context of subsetting property conforms to the corresponding element in the context of the subsetted property. In this case, the collection associated with an instance of the subsetting property must be included in (or the same as) the collection associated with the corresponding instance of the subsetted property.

A property may be marked as being a derived union. This means that the collection of values denoted by the property in some context is derived by being the strict union of all of the values denoted, in the same context, by properties defined to subset it. If the property has a multiplicity upper bound of 1, then this means that the values of all the subsets must be null or the same.

A property may be owned by and in the namespace of a datatype.

A property may be marked as being (part of) the identifier (if any) for classes of which it is a member. The interpretation of this is left open but this could be mapped to implementations such as primary keys for relational database tables or ID attributes in XML. If multiple properties are marked (possibly in superclasses), then it is the combination of the (property, value) tuples that will logically provide the uniqueness for any instance. Hence there is no need for any specification of order and it is possible for some (but not all) of the property values to be empty. If the property is multivalued, then all values are included.

### *Package AssociationClasses*

A qualifier declares a partition of the set of associated instances with respect to an instance at the qualified end (the qualified instance is at the end to which the qualifier is attached). A qualifier instance comprises one value for each qualifier attribute. Given a qualified object and a qualifier instance, the number of objects at the other end of the association is constrained by the declared multiplicity. In the common case in which the multiplicity is 0..1, the qualifier value is unique with respect to the qualified object, and designates at most one associated object. In the general case of multiplicity 0..\*, the set of associated instances is partitioned into subsets, each selected by a given qualifier instance. In the case of multiplicity 1 or 0..1, the qualifier has both semantic and implementation consequences. In the case of multiplicity 0..\*, it has no real semantic consequences but suggests an implementation that facilitates easy access of sets of associated instances linked by a given qualifier value.

**Note** – The multiplicity of a qualifier is given assuming that the qualifier value is supplied. The “raw” multiplicity without the qualifier is assumed to be 0..\*. This is not fully general but it is almost always adequate, as a situation in which the raw multiplicity is 1 would best be modeled without a qualifier.

**Note** – A qualified multiplicity whose lower bound is zero indicates that a given qualifier value may be absent, while a lower bound of 1 indicates that any possible qualifier value must be present. The latter is reasonable only for qualifiers with a finite number of values (such as enumerated values or integer ranges) that represent full tables indexed by some finite range of values.

## Notation

The following general notation for properties is defined. Note that some specializations of Property may also have additional notational forms. These are covered in the appropriate Notation sub clauses of those classes.

$$\langle \text{property} \rangle ::= [ \langle \text{visibility} \rangle ] [ '/' ] \langle \text{name} \rangle [ ':' \langle \text{prop-type} \rangle ] [ '[' \langle \text{multiplicity} \rangle ']' ] [ '=' \langle \text{default} \rangle ] [ '[' \langle \text{prop-modifier} \rangle [ ',' \langle \text{prop-modifier} \rangle ]^* ']' ]$$

where:

- $\langle \text{visibility} \rangle$  is the visibility of the property. (See “VisibilityKind (from Kernel)” on page 146.)

$$\langle \text{visibility} \rangle ::= '+' | '-' | \# | \sim$$

- $'/'$  signifies that the property is derived.
- $\langle \text{name} \rangle$  is the name of the property.
- $\langle \text{prop-type} \rangle$  is the name of the Classifier that is the type of the property.
- $\langle \text{multiplicity} \rangle$  is the multiplicity of the property. If this term is omitted, it implies a multiplicity of 1 (exactly one). (See “MultiplicityElement (from Kernel)” on page 100.)
- $\langle \text{default} \rangle$  is an expression that evaluates to the default value or values of the property.
- $\langle \text{prop-modifier} \rangle$  indicates a modifier that applies to the property.

$$\langle \text{prop-modifier} \rangle ::= \text{'readOnly'} | \text{'union'} | \text{'subsets'} \langle \text{property-name} \rangle | \text{'redefines'} \langle \text{property-name} \rangle | \text{'ordered'} | \text{'unique'} | \text{'nonunique'} | \text{'id'} | \langle \text{prop-constraint} \rangle$$

where:

- *readOnly* means that the property is read only.
- *union* means that the property is a derived union of its subsets.
- *subsets*  $\langle \text{property-name} \rangle$  means that the property is a proper subset of the property identified by  $\langle \text{property-name} \rangle$ .
- *redefines*  $\langle \text{property-name} \rangle$  means that the property redefines an inherited property identified by  $\langle \text{property-name} \rangle$ .
- *ordered* means that the property is ordered.
- *unique* means that there are no duplicates in a multi-valued property.
- *id* means that the property is part of the identifier for the class.
- $\langle \text{prop-constraint} \rangle$  is an expression that specifies a constraint that applies to the property.

Feature redefinitions can either be explicit with the use of a {redefines  $\langle x \rangle$ } property string on the feature or implicit by having a feature with the same name as another feature in one of the owning classifier’s more general classifiers. In both cases, the redefined feature must conform to the compatibility constraint on the redefinitions (e.g., the type of the feature must be a subtype of the feature’s type in the more general context).

*Package AssociationClasses*

A qualifier is shown as a small rectangle attached to the end of an association path between the final path segment and the symbol of the classifier that it connects to. The qualifier rectangle is part of the association path, not part of the classifier. The qualifier is attached to the source end of the association.

The multiplicity attached to the target end denotes the possible cardinalities of the set of target instances selected by the pairing of a source instance and a qualifier value.

The qualifier attributes are drawn within the qualifier box. There may be one or more attributes shown one to a line. Qualifier attributes have the same notation as classifier attributes, except that initial value expressions are not meaningful.

It is permissible (although somewhat rare), to have a qualifier on each end of a single association.

A qualifier may not be suppressed.

**Style Guidelines**

*Package AssociationClasses*

The qualifier rectangle should be smaller than the attached class rectangle, although this is not always practical.

**Examples**

*Package AssociationClasses*



Figure 7.72 - Qualified associations

**7.3.46 Realization (from Dependencies)**

**Generalizations**

- “Abstraction (from Dependencies)” on page 39

**Description**

Realization is a specialized abstraction relationship between two sets of model elements, one representing a specification (the supplier) and the other represents an implementation of the latter (the client). Realization can be used to model stepwise refinement, optimizations, transformations, templates, model synthesis, framework composition, etc.

**Attributes**

No additional attributes

**Associations**

No additional associations

**Constraints**

No additional constraints

**Semantics**

A Realization signifies that the client set of elements are an implementation of the supplier set, which serves as the specification. The meaning of ‘implementation’ is not strictly defined, but rather implies a more refined or elaborate form in respect to a certain modeling context. It is possible to specify a mapping between the specification and implementation elements, although it is not necessarily computable.

**Notation**

A Realization dependency is shown as a dashed line with a triangular arrowhead at the end that corresponds to the realized element. Figure 7.73 illustrates an example in which the Business class is realized by a combination of Owner and Employee classes.

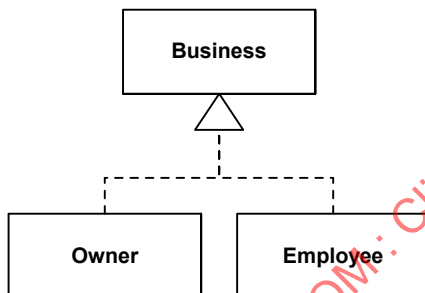


Figure 7.73 - An example of a realization dependency

**7.3.47 RedefinableElement (from Kernel)**

A redefinable element is an element that, when defined in the context of a classifier, can be redefined more specifically or differently in the context of another classifier that specializes (directly or indirectly) the context classifier.

**Generalizations**

- “NamedElement (from Kernel, Dependencies)” on page 104

**Description**

A redefinable element is a named element that can be redefined in the context of a generalization. RedefinableElement is an abstract metaclass.

### Attributes

- `isLeaf`: Boolean  
Indicates whether it is possible to further redefine a `RedefinableElement`. If the value is *true*, then it is not possible to further redefine the `RedefinableElement`. Note that this property is preserved through package merge operations; that is, the capability to redefine a `RedefinableElement` (i.e., `isLeaf=false`) must be preserved in the resulting `RedefinableElement` of a package merge operation where a `RedefinableElement` with `isLeaf=false` is merged with a matching `RedefinableElement` with `isLeaf=true`: the resulting `RedefinableElement` will have `isLeaf=false`. Default value is *false*.

### Associations

- `/redefinedElement`: `RedefinableElement[*]`  
The redefinable element that is being redefined by this element. This is a derived union.
- `/redefinitionContext`: `Classifier[*]`  
References the contexts that this element may be redefined from. This is a derived union.

### Constraints

- [1] At least one of the redefinition contexts of the redefining element must be a specialization of at least one of the redefinition contexts for each redefined element.  
`self.redefinedElement->forall(e | self.isRedefinitionContextValid(e))`
- [2] A redefining element must be consistent with each redefined element.  
`self.redefinedElement->forall(re | re.isConsistentWith(self))`
- [3] A redefinable element can only redefine non-leaf redefinable elements  
`self.redefinedElement->forall(not isLeaf)`

### Additional Operations

- [1] The query `isConsistentWith()` specifies, for any two `RedefinableElements` in a context in which redefinition is possible, whether redefinition would be logically consistent. By default, this is false; this operation must be overridden for subclasses of `RedefinableElement` to define the consistency conditions.

`RedefinableElement::isConsistentWith(redefinee: RedefinableElement): Boolean;`

**pre:** `redefinee.isRedefinitionContextValid(self)`

`result = false`

- [2] The query `isRedefinitionContextValid()` specifies whether the redefinition contexts of this `RedefinableElement` are properly related to the redefinition contexts of the specified `RedefinableElement` to allow this element to redefine the other. By default at least one of the redefinition contexts of this element must be a specialization of at least one of the redefinition contexts of the specified element.

`RedefinableElement::isRedefinitionContextValid(redefined: RedefinableElement): Boolean;`

`result = self.redefinitionContext->exists(c | c.allParents()->includes(redefined.redefinitionContext))`

### Semantics

A `RedefinableElement` represents the general ability to be redefined in the context of a generalization relationship. The detailed semantics of redefinition varies for each specialization of `RedefinableElement`.

A redefinable element is a specification concerning instances of a classifier that is one of the element's redefinition contexts. For a classifier that specializes that more general classifier (directly or indirectly), another element can redefine the element from the general classifier in order to augment, constrain, or override the specification as it applies more specifically to instances of the specializing classifier.

A redefining element must be consistent with the element it redefines, but it can add specific constraints or other details that are particular to instances of the specializing redefinition context that do not contradict invariant constraints in the general context.

A redefinable element may be redefined multiple times. Furthermore, one redefining element may redefine multiple inherited redefinable elements.

### Semantic Variation Points

There are various degrees of compatibility between the redefined element and the redefining element, such as name compatibility (the redefining element has the same name as the redefined element), structural compatibility (the client visible properties of the redefined element are also properties of the redefining element), or behavioral compatibility (the redefining element is substitutable for the redefined element). Any kind of compatibility involves a constraint on redefinitions. The particular constraint chosen is a semantic variation point.

### Notation

No general notation. See the subclasses of RedefinableElement for the specific notation used.

## 7.3.48 Relationship (from Kernel)

Relationship is an abstract concept that specifies some kind of relationship between elements.

### Generalizations

- “Element (from Kernel)” on page 68

### Description

A relationship references one or more related elements. Relationship is an abstract metaclass.

### Attributes

No additional attributes

### Associations

- /relatedElement: Element [1..\*]  
Specifies the elements related by the Relationship. This is a derived union.

### Constraints

No additional constraints

### Semantics

Relationship has no specific semantics. The various subclasses of Relationship will add semantics appropriate to the concept they represent.

## Notation

There is no general notation for a Relationship. The specific subclasses of Relationship will define their own notation. In most cases the notation is a variation on a line drawn between the related elements.

### 7.3.49 Slot (from Kernel)

A slot specifies that an entity modeled by an instance specification has a value or values for a specific structural feature.

#### Generalizations

- “Element (from Kernel)” on page 68

#### Description

A slot is owned by an instance specification. It specifies the value or values for its defining feature, which must be a structural feature of a classifier of the instance specification owning the slot.

#### Attributes

No additional attributes

#### Associations

- definingFeature : StructuralFeature [1]  
The structural feature that specifies the values that may be held by the slot.
- owningInstance : InstanceSpecification [1]  
The instance specification that owns this slot. Subsets *Element::owner*
- value : ValueSpecification [\*]  
The value or values corresponding to the defining feature for the owning instance specification. This is an ordered association. Subsets *Element::ownedElement*

#### Constraints

No additional constraints

#### Semantics

A slot relates an instance specification, a structural feature, and a value or values. It represents that an entity modeled by the instance specification has a structural feature with the specified value or values. The values in a slot must conform to the defining feature of the slot (in type, multiplicity, etc.).

#### Notation

See “InstanceSpecification (from Kernel).”

### 7.3.50 StructuralFeature (from Kernel)

A structural feature is a typed feature of a classifier that specifies the structure of instances of the classifier.

**Generalizations**

- “Feature (from Kernel)” on page 74
- “MultiplicityElement (from Kernel)” on page 100
- “TypedElement (from Kernel)” on page 143

**Description**

A structural feature is a typed feature of a classifier that specifies the structure of instances of the classifier. Structural feature is an abstract metaclass.

By specializing multiplicity element, it supports a multiplicity that specifies valid cardinalities for the collection of values associated with an instantiation of the structural feature.

**Attributes**

- **isReadOnly**: Boolean  
States whether the feature’s value may be modified by a client. Default is false.

**Associations**

No additional associations

**Constraints**

No additional constraints

**Semantics**

A structural feature specifies that instances of the featuring classifier have a slot whose value or values are of a specified type.

**Notation**

A read only structural feature is shown using {readOnly} as part of the notation for the structural feature. This annotation may be suppressed, in which case it is not possible to determine its value from the diagram.

**Presentation Options**

It is possible to only allow suppression of this annotation when isReadOnly=false. In this case it is possible to assume this value in all cases where {readOnly} is not shown.

**Changes from previous UML**

The meta-attribute *targetScope*, which characterized StructuralFeature and AssociationEnd in prior UML is no longer supported.

**7.3.51 Substitution (from Dependencies)****Generalizations**

- “Realization (from Dependencies)” on page 136

**Description**

A substitution is a relationship between two classifiers which signifies that the substitutingClassifier complies with the contract specified by the contract classifier. This implies that instances of the substitutingClassifier are runtime substitutable where instances of the contract classifier are expected.

**Associations**

- contract: Classifier [1]  
(Subsets *Dependency::target*).
- substitutingClassifier: Classifier [1]  
(Subsets *Dependency::client*).

**Attributes**

None

**Constraints**

No additional constraints

**Semantics**

The substitution relationship denotes runtime substitutability that is not based on specialization. Substitution, unlike specialization, does not imply inheritance of structure, but only compliance of publicly available contracts. A substitution like relationship is instrumental to specify runtime substitutability for domains that do not support specialization such as certain component technologies. It requires that (1) interfaces implemented by the contract classifier are also implemented by the substituting classifier, or else the substituting classifier implements a more specialized interface type. And, (2) the any port owned by the contract classifier has a matching port (see ports) owned by the substituting classifier.

**Notation**

A Substitution dependency is shown as a dependency with the keyword «substitute» attached to it.

**Examples**

In the example below, a generic Window class is substituted in a particular environment by the Resizable Window class.

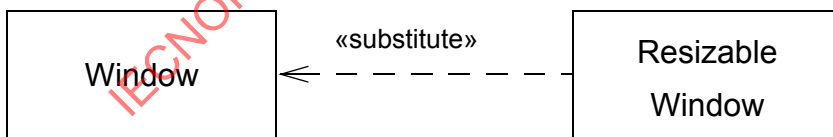


Figure 7.74 - An example of a substitute dependency

**7.3.52 Type (from Kernel)**

A type constrains the values represented by a typed element.

**Generalizations**

- “PackageableElement (from Kernel)” on page 116

**Description**

A type serves as a constraint on the range of values represented by a typed element. Type is an abstract metaclass.

**Attributes**

No additional attributes

**Associations**

No additional associations

**Constraints**

No additional constraints

**Additional Operations**

[1] The query conformsTo() gives true for a type that conforms to another. By default, two types do not conform to each other. This query is intended to be redefined for specific conformance situations.

conformsTo(other: Type): Boolean;

conformsTo = false

**Semantics**

A type represents a set of values. A typed element that has this type is constrained to represent values within this set.

**Notation**

No general notation

**7.3.53 TypedElement (from Kernel)**

A typed element has a type.

**Generalizations**

- “NamedElement (from Kernel, Dependencies)” on page 104

**Description**

A typed element is an element that has a type that serves as a constraint on the range of values the element can represent. Typed element is an abstract metaclass.

**Attributes**

No additional attributes

### Associations

- type: Type [0..1]  
The type of the TypedElement.

### Constraints

No additional constraints

### Semantics

Values represented by the element are constrained to be instances of the type. A typed element with no associated type may represent values of any type.

### Notation

No general notation

## 7.3.54 Usage (from Dependencies)

### Generalizations

- “Dependency (from Dependencies)” on page 65

### Description

A usage is a relationship in which one element requires another element (or set of elements) for its full implementation or operation. In the metamodel, a Usage is a Dependency in which the client requires the presence of the supplier.

### Attributes

No additional attributes

### Associations

No additional associations

### Constraints

No additional constraints

### Semantics

The usage dependency does not specify how the client uses the supplier other than the fact that the supplier is used by the definition or implementation of the client.

### Notation

A usage dependency is shown as a dependency with a «use» keyword attached to it.

## Examples

In the example below, an Order class requires the Line Item class for its full implementation.

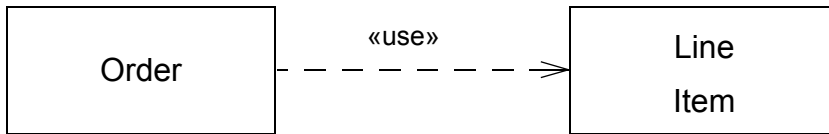


Figure 7.75 - An example of a use dependency

### 7.3.55 ValueSpecification (from Kernel)

A value specification is the specification of a (possibly empty) set of instances, including both objects and data values.

#### Generalizations

- “PackageableElement (from Kernel)” on page 116
- “TypedElement (from Kernel)” on page 143

#### Description

ValueSpecification is an abstract metaclass used to identify a value or values in a model. It may reference an instance or it may be an expression denoting an instance or instances when evaluated.

#### Attributes

No additional attributes.

#### Associations

No additional associations

#### Constraints

No additional constraints

#### Additional Operations

These operations are introduced here. They are expected to be redefined in subclasses. Conforming implementations may be able to compute values for more expressions that are specified by the constraints that involve these operations.

- [1] The query `isComputable()` determines whether a value specification can be computed in a model. This operation cannot be fully defined in OCL. A conforming implementation is expected to deliver true for this operation for all value specifications that it can compute, and to compute all of those for which the operation is true. A conforming implementation is expected to be able to compute the value of all literals.

```

ValueSpecification::isComputable(): Boolean;
isComputable = false
  
```

[2] The query `integerValue()` gives a single `Integer` value when one can be computed.

```
ValueSpecification::integerValue() : [Integer];  
integerValue = Set{}
```

[3] The query `realValue()` gives a single `Real` value when one can be computed.

```
ValueSpecification::realValue() : [Real];  
realValue = Set{}
```

[4] The query `booleanValue()` gives a single `Boolean` value when one can be computed.

```
ValueSpecification::booleanValue() : [Boolean];  
booleanValue = Set{}
```

[5] The query `stringValue()` gives a single `String` value when one can be computed.

```
ValueSpecification::stringValue() : [String];  
stringValue = Set{}
```

[6] The query `unlimitedValue()` gives a single `UnlimitedNatural` value when one can be computed.

```
ValueSpecification::unlimitedValue() : [UnlimitedNatural];  
unlimitedValue = Set{}
```

[7] The query `isNull()` returns true when it can be computed that the value is null.

```
ValueSpecification::isNull() : Boolean;  
isNull = false
```

### Semantics

A value specification yields zero or more values. It is required that the type and number of values is suitable for the context where the value specification is used.

### Notation

No general notation

### 7.3.56 VisibilityKind (from Kernel)

`VisibilityKind` is an enumeration type that defines literals to determine the visibility of elements in a model.

### Generalizations

None

### Description

`VisibilityKind` is an enumeration of the following literal values:

- `public`
- `private`
- `protected`
- `package`

## Semantics

VisibilityKind is intended for use in the specification of visibility in conjunction with, for example, the Imports, Generalizations, Packages, and Classes packages. Detailed semantics are specified with those mechanisms. If the Visibility package is used without those packages, these literals will have different meanings, or no meanings.

- A public element is visible to all elements that can access the contents of the namespace that owns it.
- A private element is only visible inside the namespace that owns it.
- A protected element is visible to elements that have a generalization relationship to the namespace that owns it.
- A package element is owned by a namespace that is not a package, and is visible to elements that are in the same package as its owning namespace. Only named elements that are not owned by packages can be marked as having package visibility. Any element marked as having package visibility is visible to all elements within the nearest enclosing package (given that other owning elements have proper visibility). Outside the nearest enclosing package, an element marked as having package visibility is not visible.

In circumstances where a named element ends up with multiple visibilities (for example, by being imported multiple times) public visibility overrides private visibility. If an element is imported twice into the same namespace, once using a public import and once using a private import, it will be public.

## Notation

The following visual presentation options are available for representing VisibilityKind enumeration literal values:

- '+' public
- '-' private
- '#' protected
- '~' package

## 7.4 Diagrams


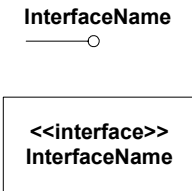
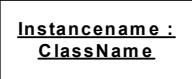

### Structure diagram

This sub clause outlines the graphic elements that may be shown in structure diagrams, and provides cross references where detailed information about the semantics and concrete notation for each element can be found. It also furnishes examples that illustrate how the graphic elements can be assembled into diagrams.

*Graphical nodes*

The graphic nodes that can be included in structure diagrams are shown in Table 7.2.

**Table 7.2 - Graphic nodes included in structure diagrams**

<i>NODE TYPE</i>	<i>NOTATION</i>	<i>REFERENCE</i>
Class		See 7.3.7, 'Class (from Kernel)'
Interface		See 7.3.24, 'Interface (from Interfaces)'
InstanceSpecification		See 7.3.22, 'InstanceSpecification (from Kernel)' (Note that instances of any classifier can be shown by prefixing the classifier name by the instance name followed by a colon and underlining the complete name string.)
Package		See 7.3.38, 'Package (from Kernel)'

*Graphical paths*

The graphic paths that can be included in structure diagrams are shown in Table 7.3.

**Table 7.3 - Graphic paths included in structure diagrams**


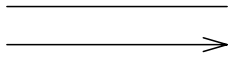

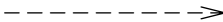


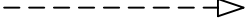


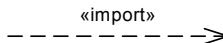
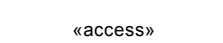
<i>PATH TYPE</i>	<i>NOTATION</i>	<i>REFERENCE</i>
Aggregation		See 7.3.2, 'AggregationKind (from Kernel)'

Table 7.3 - Graphic paths included in structure diagrams

<i>PATH TYPE</i>	<i>NOTATION</i>	<i>REFERENCE</i>
Association		See 7.3.3, 'Association (from Kernel)'
Composition		See 7.3.2, 'AggregationKind (from Kernel)'
Dependency		See 7.3.12, 'Dependency (from Dependencies)'
Generalization		See 7.3.20, 'Generalization (from Kernel, PowerTypes)'
InterfaceRealization		See 7.3.25, 'InterfaceRealization (from Interfaces)'
Realization		See 7.3.46, 'Realization (from Dependencies)'
Usage		See 7.3.54, 'Usage (from Dependencies)'
Package Merge		See 7.3.41, 'PackageMerge (from Kernel)'
PackageImport (public)		See 7.3.40, 'PackageImport (from Kernel)'
PackageImport (private)		See 7.3.40, 'PackageImport (from Kernel)'

## Variations

Variations of structure diagrams often focus on particular structural aspects, such as relationships between packages, showing instance specifications, or relationships between classes. There are no strict boundaries between different variations; it is possible to display any element you normally display in a structure diagram in any variation.

### *Class diagram*

The following nodes and edges are typically drawn in a class diagram:

- Association
- Aggregation
- Class
- Composition
- Dependency
- Generalization
- Interface
- InterfaceRealization
- Realization

### *Package diagram*

The following nodes and edges are typically drawn in a package diagram:

- Dependency
- Package
- PackageExtension
- PackageImport

### *Object diagram*

The following nodes and edges are typically drawn in an object diagram:

- InstanceSpecification
- Link (i.e., Association)

## 8 Components

### 8.1 Overview

The Components package specifies a set of constructs that can be used to define software systems of arbitrary size and complexity. In particular, the package specifies a component as a modular unit with well-defined interfaces that is replaceable within its environment. The component concept addresses the area of component-based development and component-based system structuring, where a component is modeled throughout the development life cycle and successively refined into deployment and run-time.

An important aspect of component-based development is the reuse of previously constructed components. A component can always be considered an autonomous unit within a system or subsystem. It has one or more provided and/or required interfaces (potentially exposed via ports), and its internals are hidden and inaccessible other than as provided by its interfaces. Although it may be dependent on other elements in terms of interfaces that are required, a component is encapsulated and its dependencies are designed such that it can be treated as independently as possible. As a result, components and subsystems can be flexibly reused and replaced by connecting (“wiring”) them together. The aspects of autonomy and reuse also extend to components at deployment time. The artifacts that implement component are intended to be capable of being deployed and re-deployed independently, for instance to update an existing system.

The Components package supports the specification of both logical components (e.g., business components, process components) and physical components (e.g., EJB components, CORBA components, COM+ and .NET components, WSDL components, etc.), along with the artifacts that implement them and the nodes on which they are deployed and executed. It is anticipated that profiles based around components will be developed for specific component technologies and associated hardware and software environments.

#### Basic Components

The BasicComponents package focuses on defining a component as an executable element in a system. It defines the concept of a component as a specialized class that has an external specification in the form of one or more provided and required interfaces, and an internal implementation consisting of one or more classifiers that realize its behavior. In addition, the BasicComponents package allows a connector to carry one or more Behaviors that specify the valid interaction patterns across the connector.

#### Packaging Components

The PackagingComponents package focuses on defining a component as a coherent group of elements as part of the development process. It extends the concept of a basic component to formalize the aspects of a component as a ‘building block’ that may own and import a (potentially large) set of model elements.

### 8.2 Abstract Syntax

Figure 8.1 shows the dependencies of the Component packages.

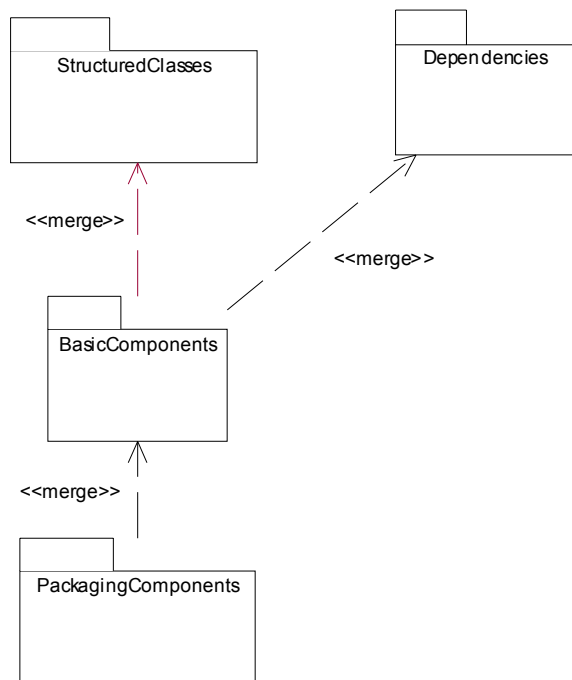


Figure 8.1 - Dependencies between packages described in this clause (transitive dependencies to Kernel and Interfaces packages are not shown).

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Package BasicComponents

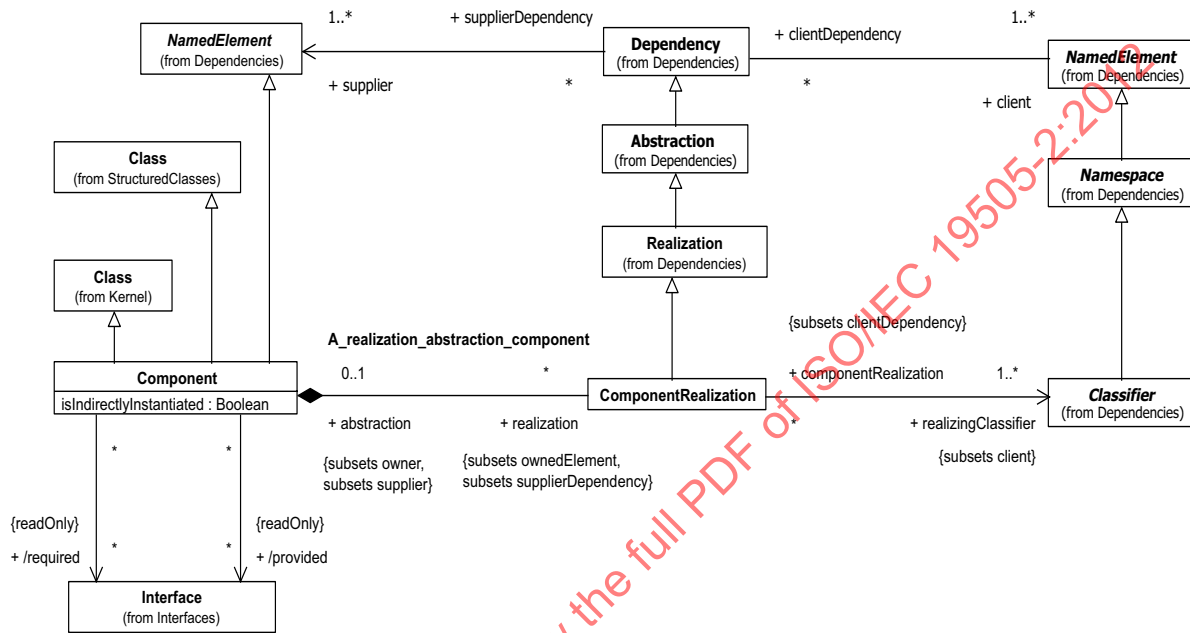


Figure 8.2 - The metaclasses that define the basic Component construct

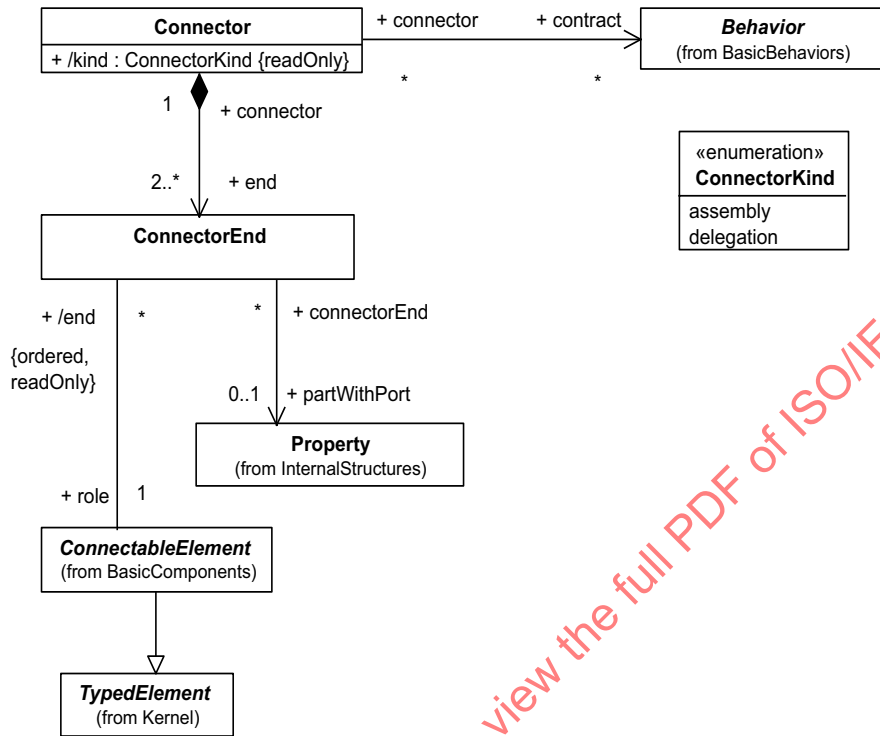


Figure 8.3 - The metaclasses that define the component wiring constructs

### Package PackagingComponents

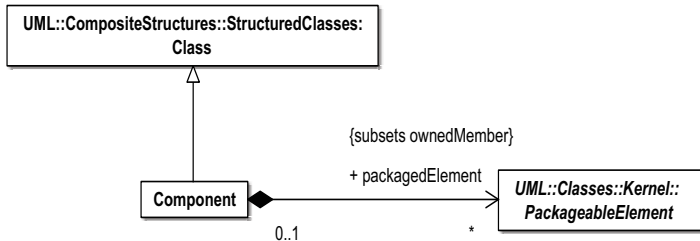


Figure 8.4 - The packaging capabilities of Components

## 8.3 Class Descriptions

### 8.3.1 Component (from BasicComponents, PackagingComponents)

A component represents a modular part of a system that encapsulates its contents and whose manifestation is replaceable within its environment.

A component defines its behavior in terms of provided and required interfaces. As such, a component serves as a type whose conformance is defined by these provided and required interfaces (encompassing both their static as well as dynamic semantics). One component may therefore be substituted by another only if the two are type conformant. Larger pieces of a system's functionality may be assembled by reusing components as parts in an encompassing component or assembly of components, and wiring them together.

A component is modeled throughout the development life cycle and successively refined into deployment and run-time. A component may be manifest by one or more artifacts, and in turn, that artifact may be deployed to its execution environment. A deployment specification may define values that parameterize the component's execution. (See Deployment clause).

#### Generalizations

##### BasicComponents

- "Class (from Kernel)" on page 52"
- "Class (from StructuredClasses, InternalStructures)" on page 178"
- "NamedElement (from Kernel, Dependencies)" on page 104

##### PackagingComponents

- "Class (from StructuredClasses, InternalStructures)" on page 178"

## Description

### *BasicComponents*

A component is a subtype of Class that provides for a Component having attributes and operations, and being able to participate in Associations and Generalizations. A Component may form the abstraction for a set of realizingClassifiers that realize its behavior. In addition, because a Class itself is a subtype of an EncapsulatedClassifier, a Component may optionally have an internal structure and own a set of Ports that formalize its interaction points.

A component has a number of provided and required Interfaces. A provided Interface is one that is either realized directly by the component or one of its realizingClassifiers, or it is provided by a public Port of the Component. A required interface is designated by a Usage Dependency from the Component or one of its realizingClassifiers, or it is required by a public Port.

### *PackagingComponents*

A component is extended to define the grouping aspects of packaging components. This defines the Namespace aspects of a Component through its inherited ownedMember and elementImport associations. In the namespace of a component, all model elements that are involved in or related to its definition are either owned or imported explicitly. This may include, for example, UseCases and Dependencies (e.g., mappings), Packages, Components, and Artifacts.

## Attributes

### *Package BasicComponents*

- `isIndirectlyInstantiated` : Boolean {default = true}  
The kind of instantiation that applies to a Component. If false, the component is instantiated as an addressable object. If true, the Component is defined at design-time, but at run-time (or execution-time) an addressable object specified by the Component does not exist. Instead, the runtime behavior of the component and its ports can be completely inferred from the runtime behavior of its realizing classifiers or parts. Several standard stereotypes use this meta attribute (e.g., «specification», «focus», «subsystem»).

## Associations

### *Package BasicComponents*

- `/provided: Interface [*]`  
The interfaces that the component exposes to its environment. These interfaces may be Realized by the Component or any of its realizingClassifiers, or they may be the Interfaces that are provided by its public Ports. The provided interfaces association is a derived association:

**context** Component::provided **derive**:

```
let realizedInterfaces : Set(Interface) = RealizedInterfaces(self),
    realizingClassifiers : Set(Classifier) = Set{self.realizingClassifier}->union(self.allParents().realizingClassifier),
    allRealizingClassifiers : Set(Classifier) = realizingClassifiers->union(realizingClassifiers.allParents()),
    realizingClassifierInterfaces : Set(Interface) = allRealizingClassifiers->iterate(c; rci : Set(Interface) = Set{ |
        rci->union(RealizedInterfaces(c))),
    ports : Set(Port) = self.ownedPort->union(allParents.oclcAsType(Set(EncapsulatedClassifier)).ownedPort),
    providedByPorts : Set(Interface) = ports.provided
in realizedInterfaces->union(realizingClassifierInterfaces) ->union(providedByPorts)->asSet()
```

`/required: Interface [*]`

The interfaces that the component requires from other components in its environment in order to be able to offer its full set of provided functionality. These interfaces may be Used by the Component or any of its

realizingClassifiers, or they may be the Interfaces that are required by its public Ports. The required interfaces association is a derived association:

**context** Component::required **derive**:

```

let usedInterfaces : Set(Interface) = UsedInterfaces(self),
realizingClassifiers : Set(Classifier) = Set{self.realizingClassifier}->union(self.allParents().realizingClassifier),
allRealizingClassifiers : Set(Classifier) = realizingClassifiers->union(realizingClassifiers.allParents()),
realizingClassifierInterfaces : Set(Interface) = allRealizingClassifiers->iterate(c; rci : Set(Interface) = Set{ |
    rci->union(UsedInterfaces(c))),
ports : Set(Port) = self.ownedPort->union(allParents.oclAsType(Set(EncapsulatedClassifier)).ownedPort),
usedByPorts : Set(Interface) = ports.required
in usedInterfaces->union(realizingClassifierInterfaces) ->union(usedByPorts)->asSet()

```

- realization: ComponentRealization [\*]  
The set of Realizations owned by the Component. These realizations reference the Classifiers of which the Component is an abstraction (i.e., those that realize its behavior).

### PackagingComponents

- packagedElement: PackageableElement [\*]  
The set of PackageableElements that a Component owns. In the namespace of a component, all model elements that are involved in or related to its definition may be owned or imported explicitly. These may include e.g., Classes, Interfaces, Components, Packages, Use cases, Dependencies (e.g., mappings), and Artifacts. Subsets  
*Namespace::ownedMember.*

## Constraints

### BasicComponents

- [1] A component cannot nest classifiers.  
self.nestedClassifier->isEmpty()

### PackagingComponents

- [1] A component nested in a Class cannot have any packaged elements.  
(not self.class->isEmpty()) implies self.packagedElement->isEmpty()

## Additional Operations

- [1] Utility returning the set of realized interfaces of a component:  
**def:** RealizedInterfaces : (classifier : Classifier) : Interface = (classifier.clientDependency->select(dependency|dependency.oclIsKindOf(Realization) and dependency.supplier.oclIsKindOf(Interface))->collect(dependency|dependency.client)
- [2] Utility returning the set of required interfaces of a component:  
**def:** UsedInterfaces : (classifier : Classifier) : Interface = (classifier.supplierDependency->select(dependency|dependency.oclIsKindOf(Usage) and dependency.supplier.oclIsKindOf(Interface))->collect(dependency|dependency.supplier)

## Semantics

A component is a self contained unit that encapsulates the state and behavior of a number of classifiers. A component specifies a formal contract of the services that it provides to its clients and those that it requires from other components or services in the system in terms of its provided and required interfaces.

A component is a substitutable unit that can be replaced at design time or run-time by a component that offers equivalent functionality based on compatibility of its interfaces. As long as the environment obeys the constraints expressed by the provided and required interfaces of a component, it will be able to interact with this environment. Similarly, a system can be extended by adding new component types that add new functionality.

The required and provided interfaces of a component allow for the specification of structural features such as attributes and association ends, as well as behavioral features such as operations and events. A component may implement a provided interface directly, or, its realizing classifiers may do so, or they may be inherited. The required and provided interfaces may optionally be organized through ports, these enable the definition of named sets of provided and required interfaces that are typically (but not always) addressed at run-time.

A component has an *external view* (or “black-box” view) by means of its publicly visible properties and operations. Optionally, a behavior such as a protocol state machine may be attached to an interface, port, and to the component itself, to define the external view more precisely by making dynamic constraints in the sequence of operation calls explicit. Other behaviors may also be associated with interfaces or connectors to define the ‘contract’ between participants in a collaboration (e.g., in terms of use case, activity, or interaction specifications).

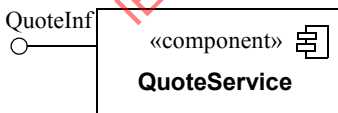
The wiring between components in a system or other context can be structurally defined by using dependencies between compatible simple Ports, or between Usages and matching InterfaceRealizations that are represented by sockets and lollipops on Components on component diagrams. Creating a wiring Dependency between a Usage and a matching InterfaceRealization, or between compatible simple Ports, means that there may be some additional information, such as performance requirements, transport bindings, or other policies that determine that the interface is realized in a way that is suitable for consumption by the depending Component. Such additional information could be captured in a profile by means of stereotypes.

A component also has an *internal view* (or “white-box” view) by means of its private properties and realizing classifiers. This view shows how the external behavior is realized internally. Dependencies on the external view provide a convenient overview of what may happen in the internal view; they do not prescribe what must happen. More detailed behavior specifications such as interactions and activities may be used to detail the mapping from external to internal behavior.

A number of UML standard stereotypes exist that apply to component. For example, «subsystem» to model large-scale components, and «specification» and «realization» to model components with distinct specification and realization definitions, where one specification may have multiple realizations (see the UML Standard Elements Annex).

**Notation**

A component is shown as a Classifier rectangle with the keyword «component». Optionally, in the right hand corner a component icon can be displayed. This is a classifier rectangle with two smaller rectangles protruding from its left hand side.



**Figure 8.5 - A Component with one provided interface**

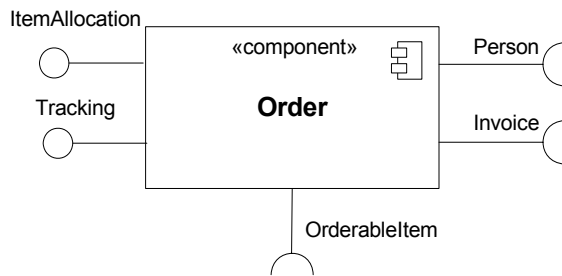


Figure 8.6 - A Component with two provided and three required interfaces

An external view of a Component is by means of Interface symbols sticking out of the Component box (external or black-box view). Alternatively, the interfaces and/or individual operations and attributes can be listed in the compartments of a component box (for scalability, tools may offer a way of listing and abbreviating component properties and behavior).

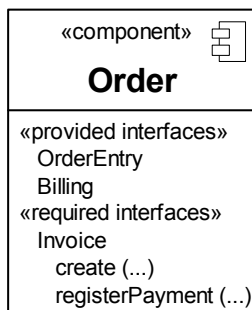


Figure 8.7 - Black box notation showing a listing of the properties of a component

For displaying the full signature of an interface of a component, the interfaces can also be displayed as typical classifier rectangles that can be expanded to show details of operations and events.

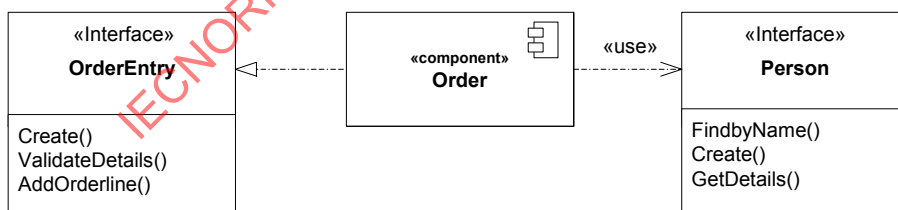


Figure 8.8 - Explicit representation of the provided and required interfaces, allowing interface details such as operation to be displayed (when desired).

An internal or white box view of a Component is where the realizing classifiers are listed in an additional compartment. Compartments may also be used to display a listing of any parts and connectors, or any implementing artifacts.

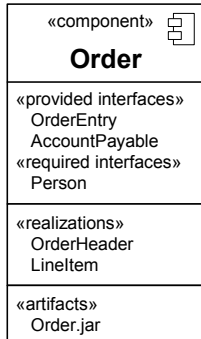


Figure 8.9 - A white-box representation of a component

The internal classifiers that realize the behavior of a component may be displayed using realization arrows.

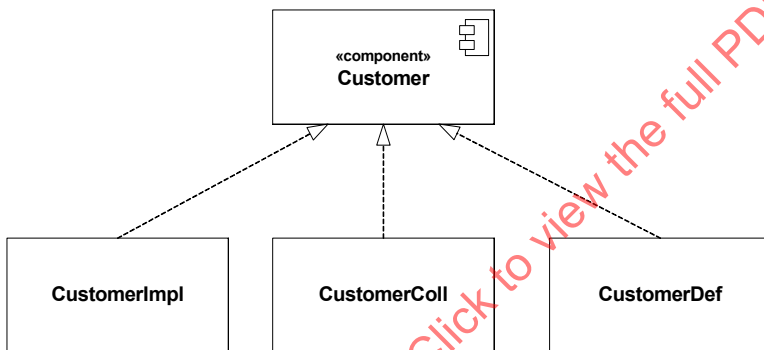
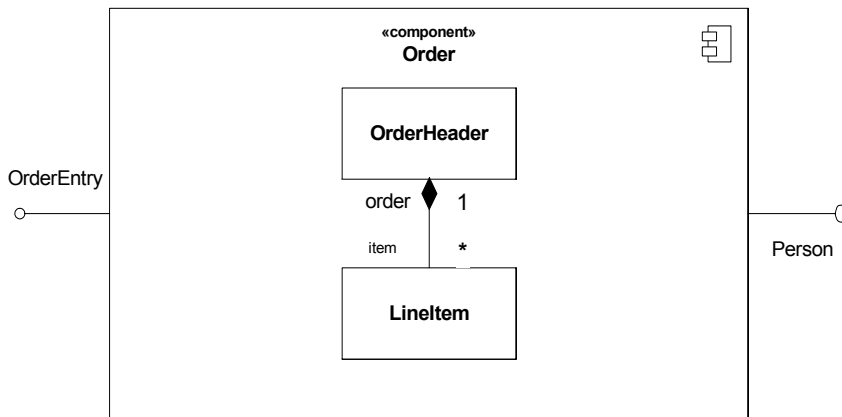


Figure 8.10 - A representation of the realization of a complex component

Alternatively, the internal classifiers that realize the behavior of a component may be displayed nested within the component shape.



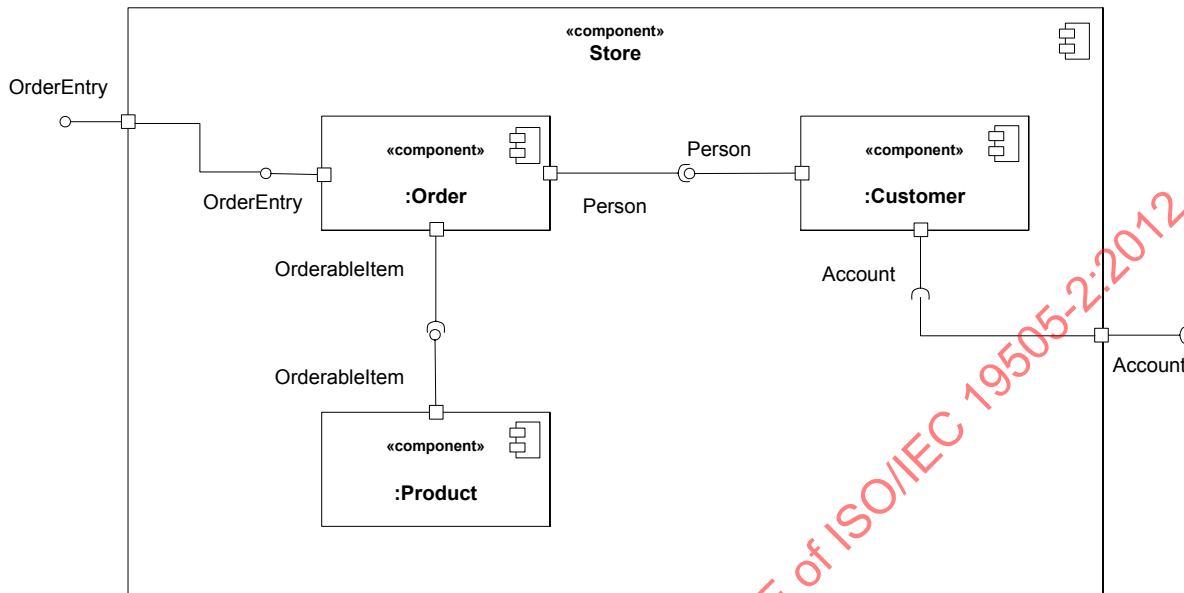
**Figure 8.11 - An alternative nested representation of a complex component**

If more detail is required of the role or instance level containment of a component, then an internal structure consisting of parts and connectors can be defined for that component. This allows, for example, explicit part names or connector names to be shown in situations where the same Classifier (Association) is the type of more than one Part (Connector). That is, the Classifier is instantiated more than once inside the component, playing different roles in its realization. Optionally, specific instances (InstanceSpecifications) can also be referred to as in this notation. If the icon symbol is shown, the keyword «component» could be hidden.

If the parts have simple ports (ports with a single required or provided interface), then ball-and-socket notation can be used to represent connectors between those ports, and normal connector notation for assembly or delegation may be shown connected to the ball or socket symbol rather than to the port symbol itself.

If a part has no ports, or complex ports, the notation for connector wiring is as specified in Clause Composite Structures.

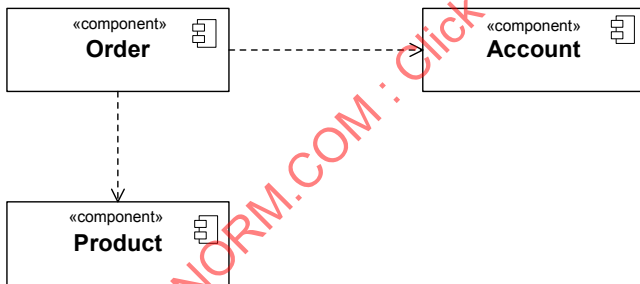
Interfaces that are exposed by a Component and notated on a diagram, either directly or through a port definition, may be inherited from a supertype component. These interfaces are indicated on the diagram by preceding the name of the interface by a forward slash. An example of this can be found in Figure 8.14, where “/orderedItem” is an interface that is implemented by a supertype of the Product component.



**Figure 8.12 - An internal or white-box view of the internal structure of a component that contains other components with simple ports as parts of its internal assembly**

Artifacts that implement components can be connected to them by physical containment or by an «implement» relationship, which is an instance of the meta association between Component and Artifact.

**Examples**



**Figure 8.13 - Example of an overview diagram showing components and their general dependencies**

When a Dependency is wired from a Usage to an InterfaceRealization, the dependency arrow should be shown joining the socket to the lollipop.

A Dependency may be wired from a simple Port with a required interface to a simple Port to a provided interface, in which case it is a notational option to show the dependency arrow joining the socket to the lollipop.

A Dependency may be shown from a simple Port to an internal realizing Classifier to indicate that the interface provided or required by the Port is in fact provided or required by the Dependency’s supplier.

All of these options are shown in Figure 8.14.

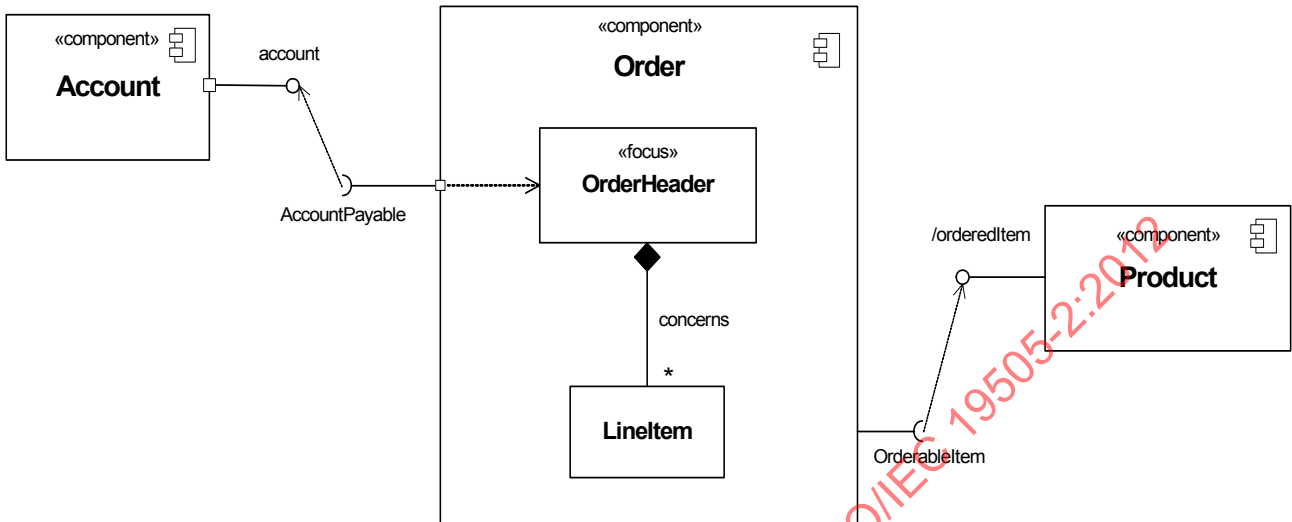


Figure 8.14 - Example of a platform independent model of a component, its provided and required interfaces, and wiring through dependencies on a structure diagram.

Figure 8.15 shows a set of parts wired through ball-and-socket notation between simple ports. The diagram shows a binary connector between :ShoppingCart and :Order, a ternary connector between :Order, :Service and :Product, and a quaternary connector between :BackOrder, :Order, :Customer and :Organization.

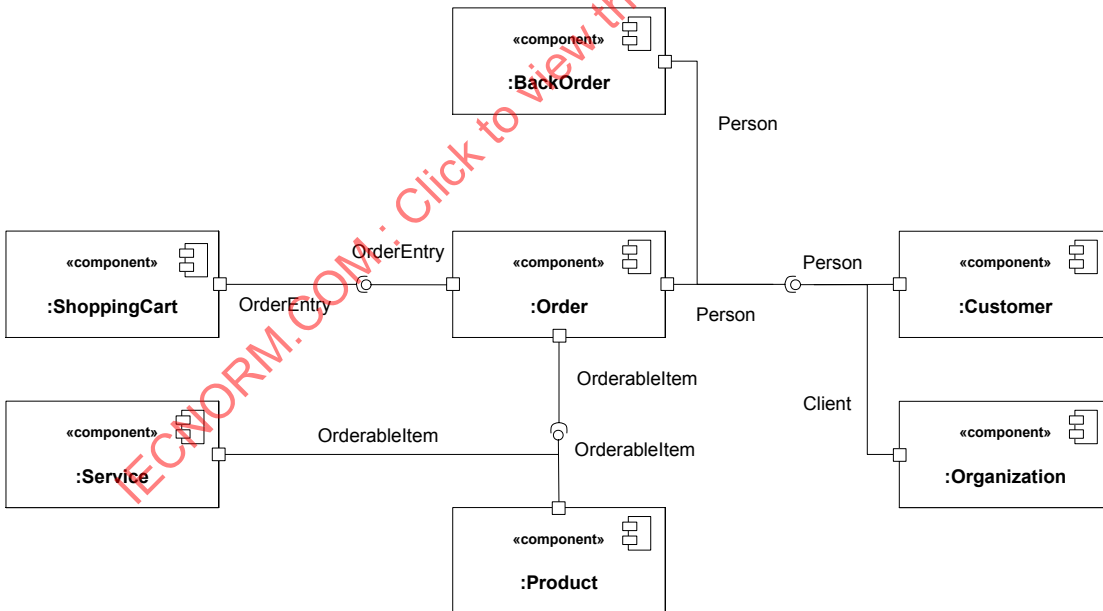


Figure 8.15 -Example of a composite structure of components, with connector wiring between simple ports on parts (Note: “Client” interface is a subtype of “Person”).

## Changes from previous UML

The following changes from UML 1.x have been made.

The component model has made a number of implicit concepts from the UML 1.x model explicit, and made the concept more applicable throughout the modeling life cycle (rather than the implementation focus of UML 1.x). In particular, the “resides” relationship from 1.x relied on namespace aspects to define both namespace aspects as well as ‘residence’ aspects. These two aspects have been separately modeled in the UML metamodel in 2. The basic residence relationship in 1.x maps to the realizingClassifiers relationship in 2. The namespace aspects are defined through the basic namespace aspects of Classifiers in UML 2, and extended in the PackagingComponents metamodel for optional namespace relationships to elements other than classifiers.

In addition, the Component construct gains the capabilities from the general improvements in CompositeStructures (around Parts, Ports, and Connectors).

In UML 2, a Component is notated by a classifier symbol that no longer has two protruding rectangles. These were cumbersome to draw and did not scale well in all circumstances. Also, they interfered with any interface symbols on the edge of the Component. Instead, a «component» keyword notation is used in UML 2. Optionally, a component icon that is similar to the UML 1.4 icon can still be used in the upper right-hand corner of the component symbol. For backward compatibility reasons, the UML 1.4 notation with protruding rectangles can still be used.

### 8.3.2 ComponentRealization (from BasicComponents)

The ComponentRealization concept is specialized in the Components package to (optionally) define the Classifiers that realize the contract offered by a component in terms of its provided and required interfaces. The component forms an abstraction from these various Classifiers.

#### Generalizations

- “Realization (from Dependencies)” on page 136 (*merge increment*)

#### Description

In the metamodel, a ComponentRealization is a subtype of Dependencies::Realization.

#### Attributes

No additional attributes

#### Associations

- abstraction : Component [0..1]  
The Component that own this Realization and which is implemented by its realizing classifiers. {Subsets *Element::owner*, *Dependency::supplier*}
- realizingClassifier : Classifier [1..\*]  
A classifier that is involved in the implementation of the Component that owns this Realization. {Subsets *Dependency::client*}

#### Constraints

No additional constraints

## Semantics

A component's behavior may typically be realized (or implemented) by a number of Classifiers. In effect, it forms an abstraction for a collection of model elements. In that case, a component owns a set of Component Realization Dependencies to these Classifiers.

It should be noted that for the purpose of applications that require multiple different sets of realizations for a single component specification, a set of standard stereotypes are defined in the UML Standard Profile. In particular, «specification» and «realization» are defined there for this purpose.

## Notation

A component realization is notated in the same way as the realization dependency (i.e., as a general dashed line with a hollow triangle as an arrowhead).

## Changes from previous UML

The following changes from UML 1.x have been made: Realization is defined in UML 1.4 as a 'free standing' general dependency - it is not extended to cover component realization specifically. These semantics have been made explicit in UML 2.

### 8.3.3 ConnectableElement (from BasicComponents)

#### Generalizations

- "TypedElement (from Kernel)" on page 143 (*merge increment*)

#### Description

See 9.3.5, "ConnectableElement (from InternalStructures)," on page 186.

#### Associations

- /end: ConnectorEnd [0..\*]  
See 9.3.5, "ConnectableElement (from InternalStructures)," on page 186.

### 8.3.4 Connector (from BasicComponents)

The connector concept is extended in the Components package to include contracts and notation.

A *delegation* connector is a connector that links the external contract of a component (as specified by its ports) to the realization of that behavior. It represents the forwarding of events (operation requests and events): a signal that arrives at a port that has a delegation connector to one or more parts or ports on parts will be passed on to those targets for handling.

An *assembly* connector is a connector between two or more parts or ports on parts that defines that one or more parts provide the services that other parts use.

#### Generalizations

- "Connector (from InternalStructures)" on page 186 (*merge increment*)

## Description

In the metamodel, a derived connector kind attribute is added to the Connector metaclass. Its value is an enumeration type with valid values “assembly” or “delegation.”

## Attributes

### Package BasicComponents

- /kind : ConnectorKind  
Indicates the kind of connector. This is derived: a connector with one or more ends connected to a Port that is not on a Part and that is not a behavior port is a delegation; otherwise it is an assembly.

```
context Connector::kind : ConnectorKind
derive: if end->exists(
    e.role.oclsKindOf(Port) and
    e.partWithPort->isEmpty() and
    not e.role.oclAsType(Port).isBehavior()
then ConnectorKind::delegation
else ConnectorKind::assembly
endif
```

## Associations

- contract : Behavior [0..\*]  
The set of Behaviors that specify the valid interaction patterns across the connector.
- end: ConnectorEnd [2..\*]  
see 9.3.6, “Connector (from InternalStructures),” on page 186

## Constraints

- [1] Each feature of each of the required interfaces of each Port or Part at the end of a connector must have at least one compatible feature among the features of the provided interfaces of Ports or Parts at the other ends, where the required set of (interface) features of a delegating port from the context of the delegating connector is the set of features that exist in the port's provided interfaces, and the provided set of (interface) features of a delegating port from the context of the delegating connector is the set of features that exist in the port's required interfaces.

## Semantics

A delegation connector is a declaration that behavior that is available on a component instance is not actually realized by that component itself, but by one or more instances that have “compatible” capabilities. These situations are modeled through a delegation connector from a Port to compatible Ports or Parts.

Delegation connectors can be used to model the hierarchical decomposition of behavior, where services provided by a component may ultimately be realized by one that is nested multiple levels deep within it. The word delegation suggests that concrete message and signal flow will occur between the connected ports, possibly over multiple levels. It should be noted that such signal flow is not always realized in all system environments or implementations (i.e., it may be design time only).

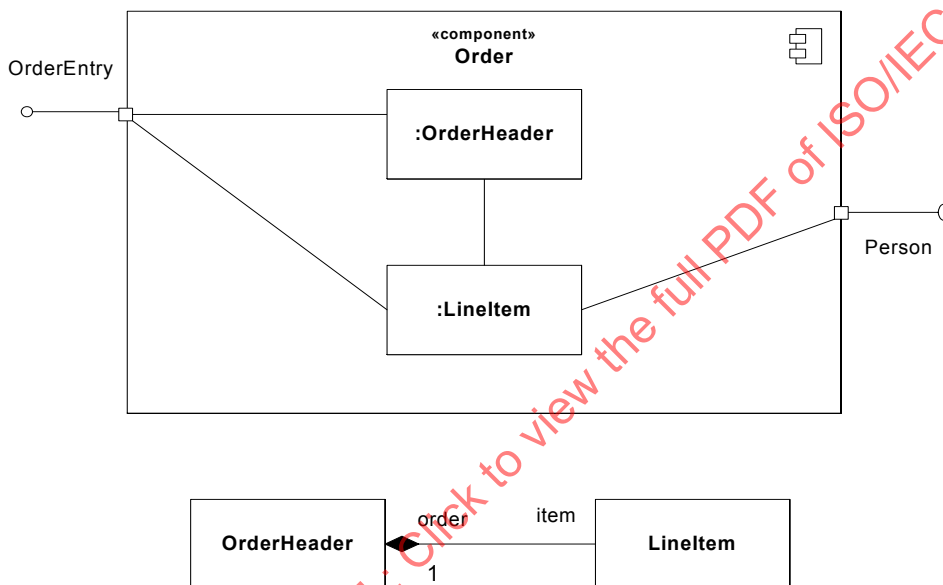
A port may delegate to a set of ports on subordinate components. In that case, these subordinate ports must collectively offer the delegated functionality of the delegating port. At execution time, signals will be delivered to the appropriate port. In cases where multiple target ports support the handling of the same signal, the signal will be delivered to all these subordinate ports.

The execution time semantics for an assembly connector are that signals travel along an instance of a connector. Multiple connectors directed to and from different parts, or n-ary connectors where  $n > 2$ , indicates that the instance that will originate or handle the signal will be determined at execution time.

The interface compatibility between ports that are connected enables an existing component in a system to be replaced by one that (minimally) offers the same set of services. Also, in contexts where components are used to extend a system by offering existing services, but also adding new functionality, connectors can be used to link in the new component definition.

### Notation

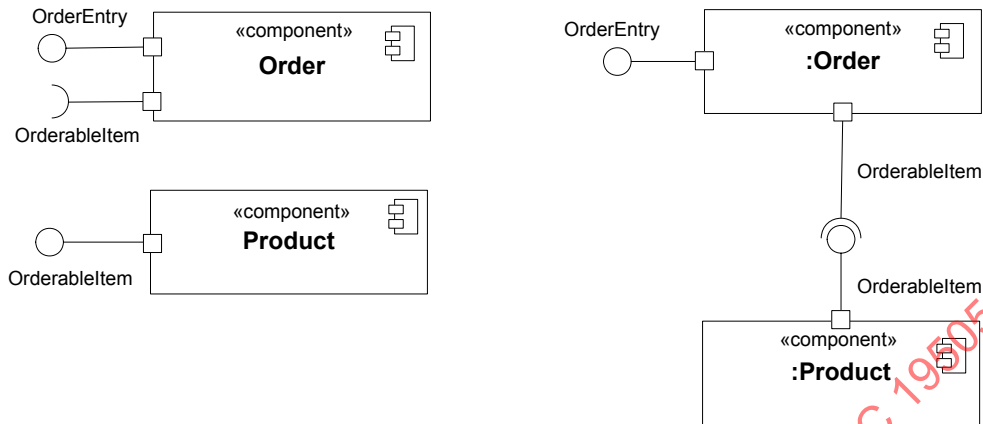
A delegation connector is notated as a Connector from the delegating Port to the handling Port or Part. If the delegation is handled by a simple Port, then the connector may optionally be shown connected to the single lollipop or socket as illustrated by Figure 8.12.



**Figure 8.16 - Delegation connectors connect the externally provided interfaces of a component to the parts that realize or require them.**

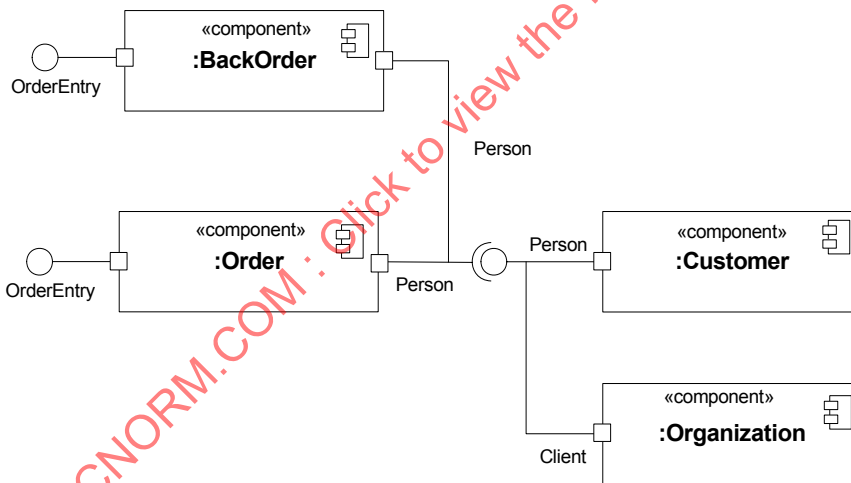
When an assembly connector connects simple ports (ports that provide or require a single interface), it may be notated by a “ball-and-socket” connection between a provided interface and a required interface. This notation allows for succinct graphical wiring of components, a requirement for scaling in complex systems.

Ball-and-socket notation may not be used to connect “complex” ports or parts without ports.



**Figure 8.17 - An assembly connector maps a simple port of a component to a matching simple port of another component in a certain context (definition of components, e.g., in a library on the left, an assembly of those components on the right).**

Where multiple components have simple ports that provide or require the same interface, a single symbol representing the interface can be shown, and lines from the components can be drawn to that symbol. This presentation option is applicable whether the interface is shown using “ball-and-socket” notation, as in Figure 8.18, or just using a required or provided interface symbol.



Note: Client interface is a subtype of Person interface

**Figure 8.18 - An n-ary connector that assembles four parts.**

**Changes from previous UML**

The following changes from UML 1.x have been made — Connector is not defined in UML 1.4.

### 8.3.5 ConnectorEnd (from BasicComponents)

#### Generalizations

- “ConnectorEnd (from InternalStructures, Ports)” on page 188 (*merge increment*)

#### Description

See “ConnectorEnd (from InternalStructures, Ports)” on page 188

#### Associations

- role : ConnectableElement [1]  
See “ConnectorEnd (from InternalStructures, Ports)” on page 188
- partWithPort: Property [0..1]  
See “ConnectorEnd (from InternalStructures, Ports)” on page 188

### 8.3.6 ConnectorKind (from BasicComponents)

#### Generalizations

None

#### Description

ConnectorKind is an enumeration of the following literal values:

- assembly  
Indicates that the connector is an assembly connector.
- delegation  
Indicates that the connector is a delegation connector.

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## 8.4 Diagrams

### Structure diagram

#### Graphical nodes

The graphic nodes that can be included in structure diagrams are shown in Table 8.1.

**Table 8.1 - Graphic nodes included in structure diagrams**

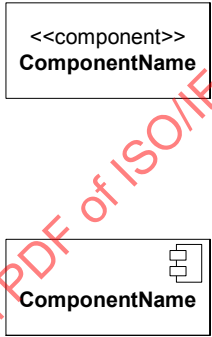


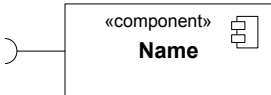
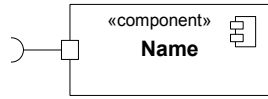

<i>NODE TYPE</i>	<i>NOTATION</i>	<i>REFERENCE</i>
Component		See “Component”
Component implements Interface		See “Interface”
Component has provided Port (typed by Interface)		See “Port”
Component uses Interface		See “Interface”

Table 8.1 - Graphic nodes included in structure diagrams

<i>NODE TYPE</i>	<i>NOTATION</i>	<i>REFERENCE</i>
Component has required Port (typed by Interface)		See "Port"
Component has complex Port (typed by provided and required Interfaces)		See "Port"

**Graphical paths**

The graphic paths that can be included in structure diagrams are shown in Table 8.2.

Table 8.2 - Graphic paths included in structure diagrams

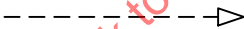


<i>PATH TYPE</i>	<i>NOTATION</i>	<i>REFERENCE</i>
Component realization		See "ComponentRealization"

Table 8.3 - Graphic paths included in composite structure diagrams

<i>PATH TYPE</i>	<i>NOTATION</i>	<i>REFERENCE</i>
Assembly connector		See "Connector" - also used as notation option for wiring between interfaces using Dependencies.
Delegate connector		See "Connector"

## Variations

Variations of structure diagrams often focus on particular structural aspects, such as relationships between packages, showing instance specifications, or relationships between classes. There are no strict boundaries between different variations; it is possible to display any element you normally display in a structure diagram in any variation.

### *Component diagram*

The following nodes and edges are typically drawn in a component diagram:

- Component
- Interface
- ComponentRealization, Interface Realization, Usage Dependencies
- Class
- Artifact
- Port

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## 9 Composite Structures

### 9.1 Overview

The term “structure” in this clause refers to a composition of interconnected elements, representing run-time instances collaborating over communications links to achieve some common objectives.

#### Internal Structures

The `InternalStructure` subpackage provides mechanisms for specifying structures of interconnected elements that are created within an instance of a containing classifier. A structure of this type represents a decomposition of that classifier and is referred to as its “internal structure.”

#### Ports

The `Ports` subpackage provides mechanisms for isolating a classifier from its environment. This is achieved by providing a point for conducting interactions between the internals of the classifier and its environment. This interaction point is referred to as a “port.” Multiple ports can be defined for a classifier, enabling different interactions to be distinguished based on the port through which they occur. By decoupling the internals of the classifier from its environment, ports allow a classifier to be defined independently of its environment, making that classifier reusable in any environment that conforms to the interaction constraints imposed by its ports.

#### Collaborations

Objects in a system typically cooperate with each other to produce the behavior of a system. The behavior is the functionality that the system is required to implement.

A behavior of a collaboration will eventually be exhibited by a set of cooperating instances (specified by classifiers) that communicate with each other by sending signals or invoking operations. However, to understand the mechanisms used in a design, it may be important to describe only those aspects of these classifiers and their interactions that are involved in accomplishing a task or a related set of tasks, projected from these classifiers. *Collaborations* allow us to describe only the relevant aspects of the cooperation of a set of instances by identifying the specific roles that the instances will play. *Interfaces* allow the externally observable properties of an instance to be specified without determining the classifier that will eventually be used to specify this instance. Consequentially, the roles in a collaboration will often be typed by interfaces and will then prescribe properties that the participating instances must exhibit, but will not determine what class will specify the participating instances.

#### StructuredClasses

The `StructuredClasses` subpackage supports the representation of classes that may have ports as well as internal structure.

#### Actions

The `Actions` subpackage adds actions that are specific to the features introduced by composite structures (e.g., the sending of messages via ports).

### 9.2 Abstract Syntax

Figure 9.1 shows the dependencies of the `CompositeStructures` packages.

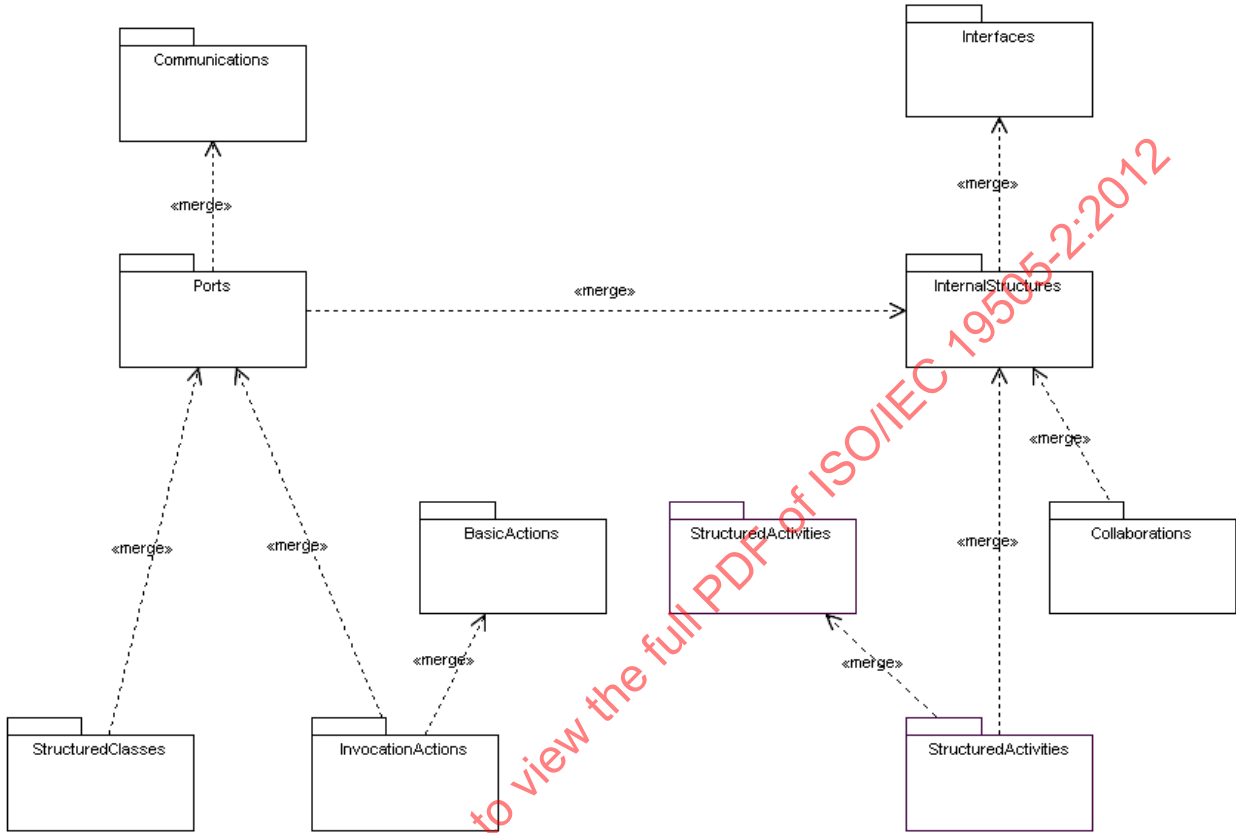


Figure 9.1 - Dependencies between packages described in this clause

Package InternalStructures

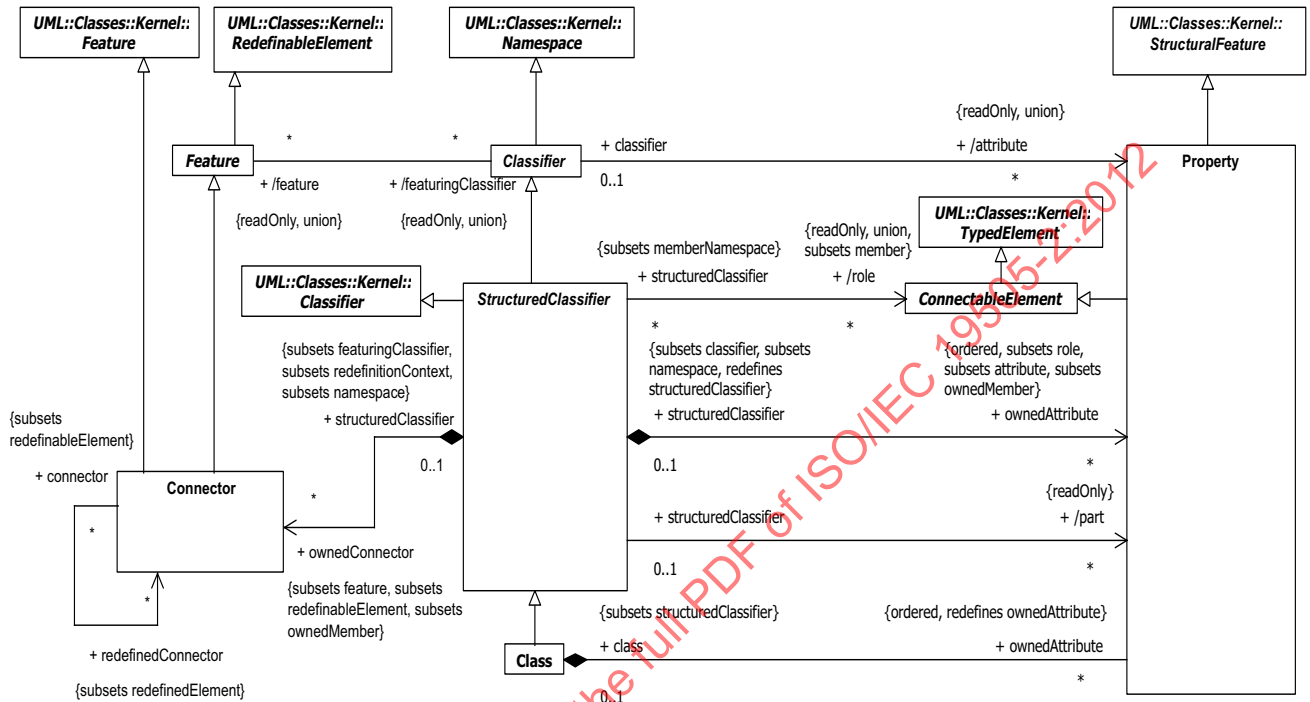


Figure 9.2 - Structured classifier

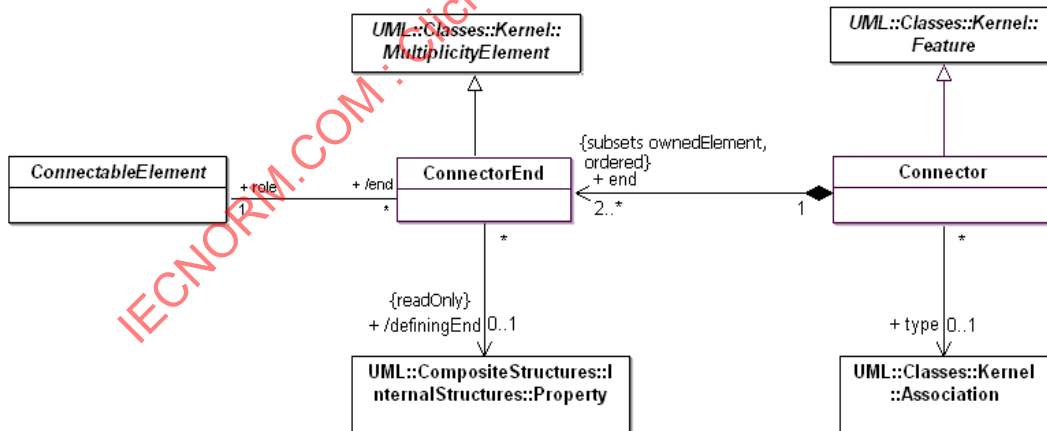


Figure 9.3 - Connectors

Package Ports

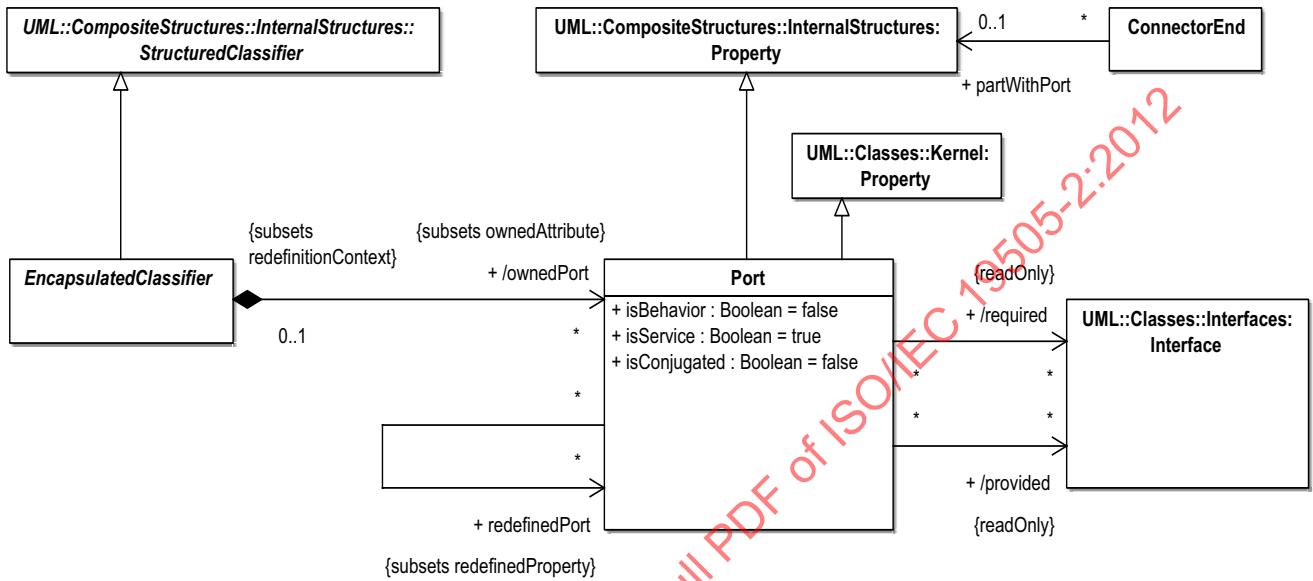


Figure 9.4 - The Port metaclass

Package StructuredClasses

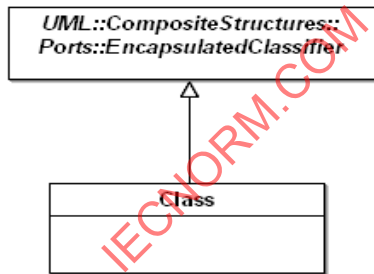


Figure 9.5 - Classes with internal structure

Package Collaborations

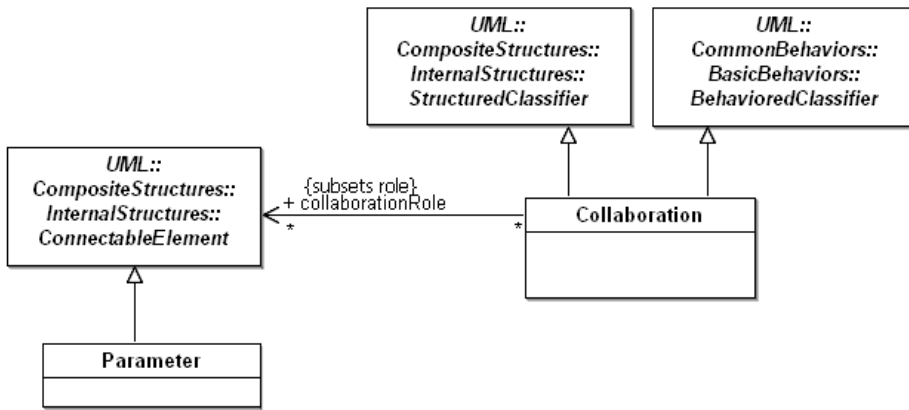


Figure 9.6 - Collaboration

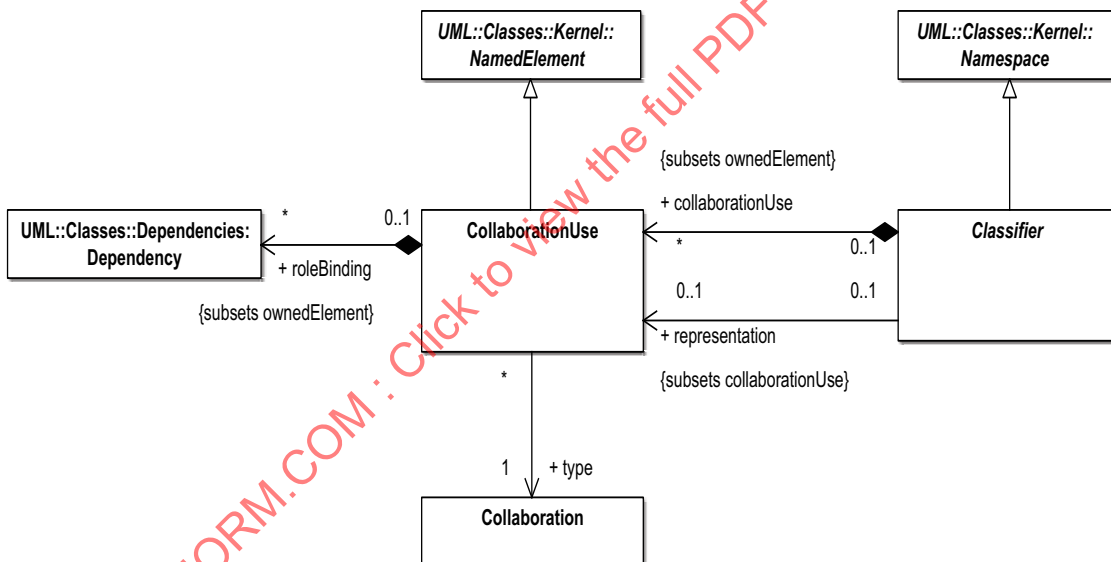


Figure 9.7 - Collaboration.use and role binding

Package *InvocationActions*

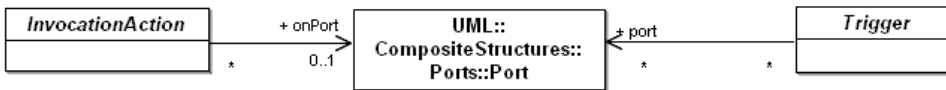


Figure 9.8 - Actions specific to composite structures

Package *StructuredActivities*

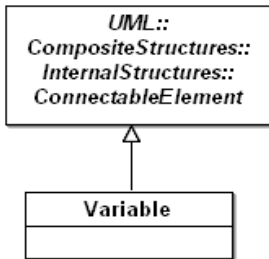


Figure 9.9 - Extension to Variable

## 9.3 Class Descriptions

### 9.3.1 Class (from StructuredClasses, InternalStructures)

#### Generalizations

- “EncapsulatedClassifier (from Ports)” on page 190.
- “StructuredClassifier (from InternalStructures)” on page 198.

#### Description

Extends the metaclass Class with the capability to have an internal structure and ports.

#### Associations

##### Package *InternalStructures*

- ownedAttribute: Property [\*]  
The attributes (i.e., the properties) owned by the class. The association is ordered. {Redefines *StructuredClassifier::ownedAttribute*}.

## Semantics

See “Property (from InternalStructures)” on page 196, “Connector (from InternalStructures)” on page 186, and “Port (from Ports)” on page 192 for the semantics of the features of Class. Initialization of the internal structure of a class is discussed in sub clause “StructuredClassifier (from InternalStructures)” on page 198.

A class acts as the namespace for various kinds of classifiers defined within its scope, including classes. Nesting of classifiers limits the visibility of the classifier to within the scope of the namespace of the containing class and is used for reasons of information hiding. Nested classifiers are used like any other classifier in the containing class.

## Notation

See “Class (from Kernel)” on page 52, “StructuredClassifier” on page 196, and “Port” on page 192.

## Presentation Options

A usage dependency may relate an instance value to a constructor for a class, describing the single value returned by the constructor operation. The operation is the client, the created instance the supplier. The instance value may reference parameters declared by the operation. A constructor is an operation having a single return result parameter of the type of the owning class. The instance value that is the supplier of the usage dependency represents the default value of the single return result parameter of a constructor operation. (The constructor operation is typically denoted by the stereotype “create,” as shown in Figure 9.10.)

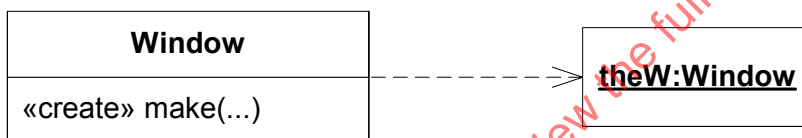


Figure 9.10 - Instance specification describes the return value of an operation

## Changes from previous UML

Class has been extended with internal structure and ports.

## 9.3.2 Classifier (from InternalStructures, Collaborations)

### Generalizations

- “Namespace (from Kernel)” on page 106

### Description

#### Package Collaborations

Classifier is extended with the capability to own collaboration uses. The collaboration uses link a collaboration with the classifier to give a description of the workings of the classifier.

## Associations

### Package InternalStructures

- /attribute: Property [\*]  
See “Classifier (from Kernel, Dependencies, PowerTypes, Interfaces)” on page 55
- /feature: Feature [\*]  
See “Classifier (from Kernel, Dependencies, PowerTypes, Interfaces)” on page 55

### Package Collaborations

- collaborationUse: CollaborationUse  
References the collaboration uses owned by the classifier. (Subsets *Element::ownedElement*)
- representation: CollaborationUse [0..1]  
References a collaboration use that indicates the collaboration that represents this classifier. (Subsets *Classifier::collaborationUse*)

## Semantics

A classifier can own collaboration uses that relate (aspects of) this classifier to a collaboration. The collaboration describes those aspects of this classifier.

One of the collaboration uses owned by a classifier may be singled out as representing the behavior of the classifier as a whole. The collaboration that is related to the classifier by this collaboration use shows how the instances corresponding to the structural features of this classifier (e.g., its attributes and parts) interact to generate the overall behavior of the classifier. The representing collaboration may be used to provide a description of the behavior of the classifier at a different level of abstraction than is offered by the internal structure of the classifier. The properties of the classifier are mapped to roles in the collaboration by the role bindings of the collaboration use.

## Notation

See “CollaborationUse (from Collaborations)” on page 183

## Changes from previous UML

Replaces and widens the applicability of *Collaboration.usedCollaboration*. Together with the newly introduced internal structure concept replaces *Collaboration.representedClassifier*.

### 9.3.3 Collaboration (from Collaborations)

A collaboration describes a structure of collaborating elements (roles), each performing a specialized function, which collectively accomplish some desired functionality. Its primary purpose is to explain how a system works and, therefore, it typically only incorporates those aspects of reality that are deemed relevant to the explanation. Thus, details, such as the identity or precise class of the actual participating instances are suppressed.

## Generalizations

- “BehavedClassifier (from BasicBehaviors, Communications)” on page 455
- “StructuredClassifier (from InternalStructures)” on page 198

## Description

A collaboration is represented as a kind of classifier and defines a set of cooperating entities to be played by instances (its roles), as well as a set of connectors that define communication paths between the participating instances. The cooperating entities are the properties of the collaboration (see “Property (from InternalStructures)” on page 196).

A collaboration specifies a view (or projection) of a set of cooperating classifiers. It describes the required links between instances that play the roles of the collaboration, as well as the features required of the classifiers that specify the participating instances. Several collaborations may describe different projections of the same set of classifiers.

## Attributes

No additional attributes

## Associations

- collaborationRole: ConnectableElement [\*]  
References connectable elements (possibly owned by other classifiers), which represent roles that instances may play in this collaboration. (Subsets *StructuredClassifier:role*)

## Constraints

No additional constraints

## Semantics

Collaborations are generally used to explain how a collection of cooperating instances achieve a joint task or set of tasks. Therefore, a collaboration typically incorporates only those aspects that are necessary for its explanation and suppresses everything else. Thus, a given object may be simultaneously playing roles in multiple different collaborations, but each collaboration would only represent those aspects of that object that are relevant to its purpose.

A collaboration defines a set of cooperating participants that are needed for a given task. The roles of a collaboration will be played by instances when interacting with each other. Their relationships relevant for the given task are shown as connectors between the roles. Roles of collaborations define a usage of instances, while the classifiers typing these roles specify all required properties of these instances. Thus, a collaboration specifies what properties instances must have to be able to participate in the collaboration. A role specifies (through its type) the required set of features a participating instance must have. The connectors between the roles specify what communication paths must exist between the participating instances.

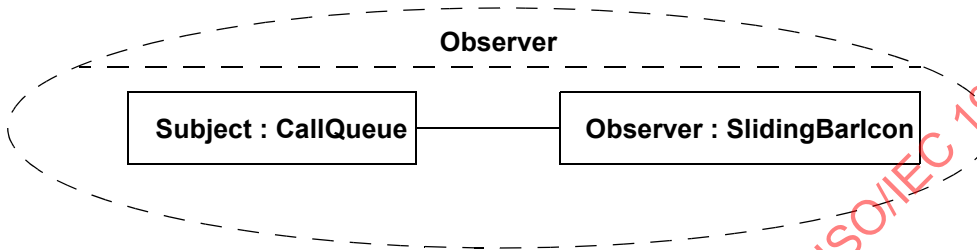
Neither all features nor all contents of the participating instances nor all links between these instances are always required in a particular collaboration. Therefore, a collaboration is often defined in terms of roles typed by interfaces (see “Interface (from Interfaces)” on page 91). An interface is a description of a set of properties (externally observable features) required or provided by an instance. An interface can be viewed as a projection of the externally observable features of a classifier realizing the interface. Instances of different classifiers can play a role defined by a given interface, as long as these classifiers realize the interface (i.e., have all the required properties). Several interfaces may be realized by the same classifier, even in the same context, but their features may be different subsets of the features of the realizing classifier.

Collaborations may be specialized from other collaborations. If a role is extended in the specialization, the type of a role in the specialized collaboration must conform to the type of the role in the general collaboration. The specialization of the types of the roles does not imply corresponding specialization of the classifiers that realize those roles. It is sufficient that they conform to the constraints defined by those roles.

A collaboration is not directly instantiable. Instead, the cooperation defined by the collaboration comes about as a consequence of the actual cooperation between the instances that play the roles defined in the collaboration (the collaboration is a selective view of that situation).

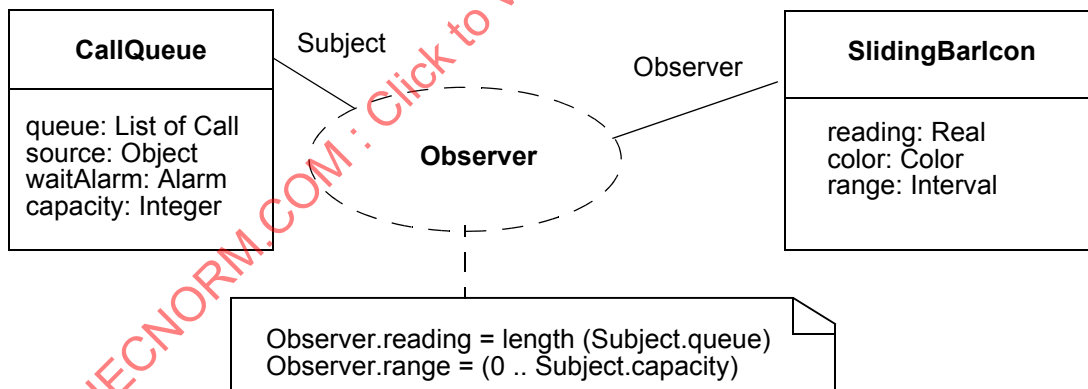
**Notation**

A collaboration is shown as a dashed ellipse icon containing the name of the collaboration. The internal structure of a collaboration as comprised by roles and connectors may be shown in a compartment within the dashed ellipse icon. Alternatively, a composite structure diagram can be used.



**Figure 9.11 - The internal structure of the Observer collaboration shown inside the collaboration icon (a connection is shown between the Subject and the Observer role).**

Using an alternative notation for properties, a line may be drawn from the collaboration icon to each of the symbols denoting classifiers that are the types of properties of the collaboration. Each line is labeled by the name of the property. In this manner, a collaboration icon can show the use of a collaboration together with the actual classifiers that occur in that particular use of the collaboration (see Figure 9.12).



**Figure 9.12 - In the Observer collaboration two roles, a Subject and an Observer, collaborate to produce the desired behavior. Any instance playing the Subject role must possess the properties specified by CallQueue, and similarly for the Observer role.**

**Rationale**

The primary purpose of collaborations is to explain how a system of communicating entities collectively accomplish a specific task or set of tasks without necessarily having to incorporate detail that is irrelevant to the explanation. It is particularly useful as a means for capturing standard design patterns.

### Changes from previous UML

The contents of a collaboration is specified as its internal structure relying on roles and connectors; the concepts of ClassifierRole, AssociationRole, and AssociationEndRole have been superseded. A collaboration in UML 2 is a kind of classifier, and can have any kind of behavioral descriptions associated. There is no loss in modeling capabilities.

### 9.3.4 CollaborationUse (from Collaborations)

A collaboration use represents the application of the pattern described by a collaboration to a specific situation involving specific classes or instances playing the roles of the collaboration.

#### Generalizations

- “NamedElement (from Kernel, Dependencies)” on page 104

#### Description

A collaboration use represents one particular use of a collaboration to explain the relationships between the properties of a classifier. A collaboration use shows how the pattern described by a collaboration is applied in a given context, by binding specific entities from that context to the roles of the collaboration. Depending on the context, these entities could be structural features of a classifier, instance specifications, or even roles in some containing collaboration. There may be multiple occurrences of a given collaboration within a classifier, each involving a different set of roles and connectors. A given role or connector may be involved in multiple occurrences of the same or different collaborations.

Associated dependencies map features of the collaboration type to features in the classifier. These dependencies indicate which role in the classifier plays which role in the collaboration.

#### Attributes

No additional attributes

#### Associations

- type: Collaboration [1]  
The collaboration that is used in this occurrence. The collaboration defines the cooperation between its roles that are mapped to properties of the classifier owning the collaboration use.
- roleBinding: Dependency [\*]  
A mapping between features of the collaboration type and features of the owning classifier. This mapping indicates which connectable element of the classifier plays which role(s) in the collaboration. A connectable element may be bound to multiple roles in the same collaboration use (that is, it may play multiple roles).

#### Constraints

- [1] All the client elements of a *roleBinding* are in one classifier and all supplier elements of a *roleBinding* are in one collaboration and they are compatible.
- [2] Every role in the collaboration is bound within the collaboration use to a connectable element within the owning classifier.
- [3] The connectors in the classifier connect according to the connectors in the collaboration.

**Semantics**

A collaboration use relates a feature in its collaboration type to a connectable element in the classifier that owns the collaboration use.

Any behavior attached to the collaboration type applies to the set of roles and connectors bound within a given collaboration use. For example, an interaction among parts of a collaboration applies to the classifier parts bound to a single collaboration use. If the same connectable element is used in both the collaboration and the represented element, no role binding is required.

**Semantic Variation Points**

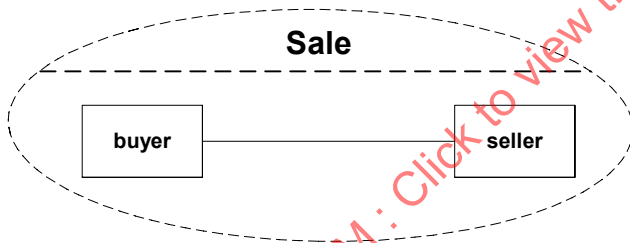
It is a semantic variation when client and supplier elements in role bindings are compatible.

**Notation**

A collaboration use is shown by a dashed ellipse containing the name of the occurrence, a colon, and the name of the collaboration type. For every role binding, there is a dashed line from the ellipse to the client element; the dashed line is labeled on the client end with the name of the supplier element.

**Examples**

This example shows the definition of two collaborations, *Sale* (Figure 9.13) and *BrokeredSale* (Figure 9.14). *Sale* is used twice as part of the definition of *BrokeredSale*. *Sale* is a collaboration among two roles, a *seller* and a *buyer*. An interaction, or other behavior specification, could be attached to *Sale* to specify the steps involved in making a *Sale*.



**Figure 9.13 - The Sale collaboration**

*BrokeredSale* is a collaboration among three roles, a *producer*, a *broker*, and a *consumer*. The specification of *BrokeredSale* shows that it consists of two occurrences of the *Sale* collaboration, indicated by the dashed ellipses. The occurrence *wholesale* indicates a *Sale* in which the *producer* is the *seller* and the *broker* is the *buyer*. The occurrence *retail* indicates a *Sale* in which the *broker* is the *seller* and the *consumer* is the *buyer*. The connectors between *sellers* and *buyers* are not shown in the two occurrences; these connectors are implicit in the *BrokeredSale* collaboration in virtue of them being comprised of *Sale*. The *BrokeredSale* collaboration could itself be used as part of a larger collaboration.

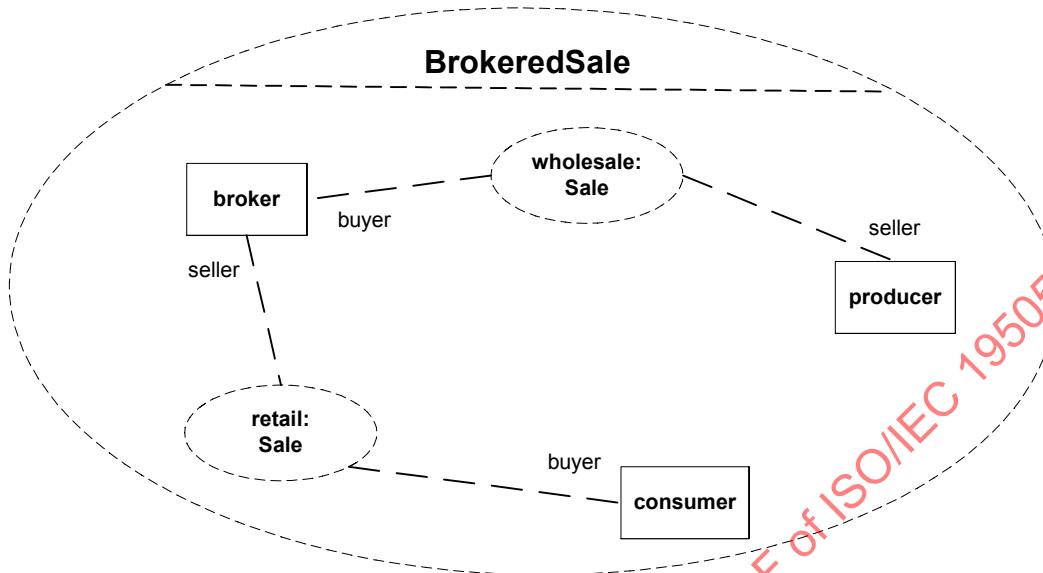


Figure 9.14 - The BrokeredSale collaboration

Figure 9.15 shows part of the *BrokeredSale* collaboration in a presentation option.

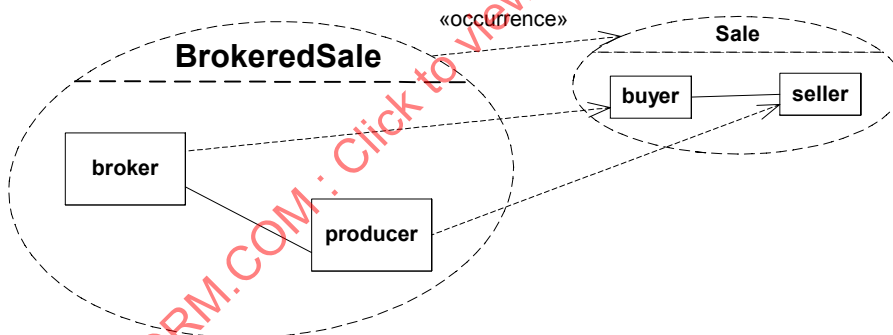


Figure 9.15 - A subset of the BrokeredSale collaboration

**Rationale**

A collaboration use is used to specify the application of a pattern specified by a collaboration to a specific situation. In that regard, it acts as the invocation of a macro with specific values used for the parameters (roles).

**Changes from previous UML**

This metaclass has been added.

### 9.3.5 ConnectableElement (from InternalStructures)

#### Generalizations

- “TypedElement (from Kernel)” on page 143

#### Description

A ConnectableElement is an abstract metaclass representing a set of instances that play roles of a classifier. Connectable elements may be joined by attached connectors and specify configurations of linked instances to be created within an instance of the containing classifier.

#### Attributes

No additional attributes

#### Associations

- /end: ConnectorEnd [0..\*]  
Denotes a set of connector ends that attaches to this connectable element. It is derived in the following way:  
**context** ConnectableElement::end **derive:**  
ConnectorEnd.allInstances() -> select (e | e.role = self)

#### Constraints

No additional constraints

#### Semantics

The semantics of ConnectableElement is given by its concrete subtypes.

#### Notation

None

#### Rationale

This metaclass supports factoring out the ability of a model element to be linked by a connector.

#### Changes from previous UML

This metaclass generalizes the concept of classifier role from 1.x.

### 9.3.6 Connector (from InternalStructures)

Specifies a link that enables communication between two or more instances. This link may be an instance of an association, or it may represent the possibility of the instances being able to communicate because their identities are known by virtue of being passed in as parameters, held in variables or slots, or because the communicating instances are the same instance. The link may be realized by something as simple as a pointer or by something as complex as a network connection. In contrast to associations, which specify links between any instance of the associated classifiers, connectors specify links between instances playing the connected parts only.

## Generalizations

- “Feature (from Kernel)” on page 74

## Description

Each connector may be attached to two or more connectable elements, each representing a set of instances. Each connector end is distinct in the sense that it plays a distinct role in the communication realized over a connector. The communications realized over a connector may be constrained by various constraints (including type constraints) that apply to the attached connectable elements.

## Attributes

No additional attributes

## Associations

- end: ConnectorEnd [2..\*]  
A connector consists of at least two connector ends, each representing the participation of instances of the classifiers typing the connectable elements attached to this end. The set of connector ends is ordered. (Subsets *Element::ownedElement*)
- type: Association [0..1]  
An optional association that specifies the link corresponding to this connector.
- redefinedConnector: Connector [0..\*]  
A connector may be redefined when its containing classifier is specialized. The redefining connector may have a type that specializes the type of the redefined connector. The types of the connector ends of the redefining connector may specialize the types of the connector ends of the redefined connector. The properties of the connector ends of the redefining connector may be replaced. (Subsets *Element::redefinedElement*)

## Constraints

- [1] The types of the connectable elements that the ends of a connector are attached to must conform to the types of the association ends of the association that types the connector, if any.
- [2] The connectable elements attached to the ends of a connector must be compatible.
- [3] The ConnectableElements attached as roles to each ConnectorEnd owned by a Connector must be roles of the Classifier that owned the Connector, or they must be ports of such roles.

## Semantics

If a connector between two roles of a classifier is a feature of an instantiable classifier, it declares that a link may exist within an instance of that classifier. If a connector between two roles of a classifier is a feature of an uninstantiable classifier, it declares that links may exist within an instance of the classifier that realizes the original classifier. These links will connect instances corresponding to the parts joined by the connector.

Links corresponding to connectors may be created upon the creation of the instance of the containing classifier (see “StructuredClassifier” on page 196). All such links corresponding to connectors are destroyed, when the containing classifier instance is destroyed.

If the type of the connector is omitted, the type is inferred based on the connector, as follows: If the type of a role (i.e, the connectable element attached to a connector end) realizes an interface that has a unique association to another interface which is realized by the type of another role (or an interface compatible to that interface is realized by the type of another

role), then that association is the type of the connector between these parts. If the connector realizes a collaboration (that is, a collaboration use maps the connector to a connector in an associated collaboration through role bindings), then the type of the connector is an anonymous association with association ends corresponding to each connector end.

- The type of each association end is the classifier that realizes the parts connected to the matching connector in the collaboration. Any adornments on the connector ends (either the original connector or the connector in the collaboration) specify adornments of the ends of the inferred association; otherwise, the type of the connector is an anonymously named association with association ends corresponding to each connector end.
- The type of each association end is the type of the part that each corresponding connector end is attached to. Any adornments on the connector ends specify adornments of the ends of the inferred association. Any inferred associations are always bidirectionally navigable and are owned by the containing classifier.

### Semantic Variation Points

What makes connectable elements compatible is a semantic variation point.

### Notation

A connector is drawn using the notation for association (see “Association (from Kernel)” on page 40). The optional name string of the connector obeys the following syntax:

`( [ name ] ':' <classname> ) | <name>`

where `<name>` is the name of the connector, and `<classname>` is the name of the association that is its type. A stereotype keyword within guillemets may be placed above or in front of the connector name. A property string may be placed after or below the connector name.

### Examples

Examples are shown in “StructuredClassifier” on page 196.

### Changes from previous UML

Connector has been added in UML 2. The UML 1.4 concept of association roles is subsumed by connectors.

## 9.3.7 ConnectorEnd (from InternalStructures, Ports)

### Generalizations

- “MultiplicityElement (from Kernel)” on page 100

### Description

A connector end is an endpoint of a connector, which attaches the connector to a connectable element. Each connector end is part of one connector.

### Attributes

No additional attributes

## Associations

### InternalStructures

- role: ConnectableElement [1]  
The connectable element attached at this connector end. When an instance of the containing classifier is created, a link may (depending on the multiplicities) be created to an instance of the classifier that types this connectable element.
- definingEnd: Property [0..1]  
A derived association referencing the corresponding association end on the association that types the connector owning this connector end. This association is derived by selecting the association end at the same place in the ordering of association ends as this connector end.

### Ports

- partWithPort: Property [0..1]  
Indicates the role of the internal structure of a classifier with the port to which the connector end is attached.

## Constraints

- [1] If a connector end is attached to a port of the containing classifier, *partWithPort* will be empty.
- [2] If a connector end references a *partWithPort*, then the role must be a port that is defined by the type of the *partWithPort*.
- [3] The property held in *self.partWithPort* must not be a Port.
- [4] The multiplicity of the connector end may not be more general than the multiplicity of the association typing the owning connector.

## Semantics

### InternalStructures

A connector end describes which connectable element is attached to the connector owning that end. Its multiplicity indicates the number of instances that may be linked to each instance of the property connected on the other end.

## Notation

### InternalStructures

Adornments may be shown on the connector end corresponding to adornments on association ends (see “Association (from Kernel)” on page 40). In cases where there is no explicit association in the model typing the connector, these adornments specify the multiplicities of an implicit association; otherwise, they show properties of that association, or specializations of these on the connector. The multiplicity indicates the number of instances that may be connected to each instance of the role on the other end. If no multiplicity is specified, the multiplicity matches the multiplicity of the role the end is attached to.

### Ports

If the end is attached to a port on a part of the internal structure and no multiplicity is specified, the multiplicity matches the multiplicity of the port multiplied by the multiplicity of the part (if any).

### Changes from previous UML

Connector end has been added in UML 2. The UML 1.4 concept of association end roles is subsumed by connector ends.

### 9.3.8 EncapsulatedClassifier (from Ports)

#### Generalizations

- “StructuredClassifier (from InternalStructures)” on page 198

#### Description

Extends a classifier with the ability to own ports as specific and type checked interaction points.

#### Attributes

No additional attributes

#### Associations

- /ownedPort: Port [0..\*]  
The set of port attributes owned by EncapsulatedClassifier. (Subsets *StructuredClassifier::ownedAttribute*)

#### Constraints

No additional constraints

#### Semantics

See “Port” on page 192.

#### Notation

See “Port” on page 192.

### Changes from previous UML

This metaclass has been added to UML.

### 9.3.9 Feature (from InternalStructures)

#### Generalizations

- “RedefinableElement (from Kernel)” on page 137 (*merge increment*)

#### Description

See “Feature (from Kernel)” on page 74.

#### Associations

- /featuringClassifier: Classifier [0..\*]  
See “Feature (from Kernel)” on page 74.

### 9.3.10 InvocationAction (from InvocationActions)

#### Generalizations

- “InvocationAction (from BasicActions)” on page 269 (*merge increment*)

#### Description

In addition to targeting an object, invocation actions can also invoke behavioral features on ports from where the invocation requests are routed onwards on links deriving from attached connectors. Invocation actions may also be sent to a target via a given port, either on the sending object or on another object.

#### Associations

- onPort: Port [0..1]  
An optional port of the receiver object on which the behavioral feature is invoked.

#### Constraints

[1] The *onPort* must be a port on the receiver object.

#### Semantics

The target value of an invocation action may also be a port. In this case, the invocation request is sent to the object owning this port as identified by the port identity, and is, upon arrival, handled as described in “Port” on page 192.

#### Notation

The optional port is identified by the phrase “via <port>” in the name string of the icon denoting the particular invocation action.

### 9.3.11 Parameter (from Collaborations)

#### Generalizations

- “ConnectableElement (from InternalStructures)” on page 186
- “Parameter (from Kernel)” on page 127 (*merge increment*)

#### Description

Parameters are allowed to be treated as connectable elements.

#### Constraints

[1] A parameter may only be associated with a connector end within the context of a collaboration.  
self.end->notEmpty() **implies** self.collaboration->notEmpty()

### 9.3.12 Port (from Ports)

A port is a property of a classifier that specifies a distinct interaction point between that classifier and its environment or between the (behavior of the) classifier and its internal parts. Ports are connected to properties of the classifier by connectors through which requests can be made to invoke the behavioral features of a classifier. A Port may specify the services a classifier provides (offers) to its environment as well as the services that a classifier expects (requires) of its environment.

#### Generalizations

- “Property (from InternalStructures)” on page 196
- “Property (from Kernel, AssociationClasses, Interfaces)” on page 130

#### Description

Ports represent interaction points between a classifier and its environment. The interfaces associated with a port specify the nature of the interactions that may occur over a port. The required interfaces of a port characterize the requests that may be made from the classifier to its environment through this port. The provided interfaces of a port characterize requests to the classifier that its environment may make through this port.

A port has the ability to specify that any requests arriving at this port are handled by the behavior of the instance of the owning classifier, rather than being forwarded to any contained instances, if any.

#### Attributes

- **isService:** Boolean  
If *true*, indicates that this port is used to provide the published functionality of a classifier. If *false*, this port is used to implement the classifier but is not part of the essential externally-visible functionality of the classifier and can, therefore, be altered or deleted along with the internal implementation of the classifier and other properties that are considered part of its implementation. The default value for this attribute is *true*.
- **isBehavior:** Boolean  
Specifies whether requests arriving at this port are sent to the classifier behavior of this classifier (see “BehavedClassifier (from BasicBehaviors, Communications)” on page 455). Such ports are referred to as *behavior port*. Any invocation of a behavioral feature targeted at a behavior port will be handled by the instance of the owning classifier itself, rather than by any instances that this classifier may contain. The default value is *false*.
- **isConjugated:** Boolean  
Specifies the way that the provided and required interfaces are derived from the Port’s Type. The default value is *false*.

#### Associations

- **/required:** Interface [\*]  
References the interfaces specifying the set of operations and receptions that the classifier expects its environment to handle via this port. This association is derived according to the value of **isConjugated**. If **isConjugated** is *false*, **required** is derived as the union of the sets of interfaces used by the type of the port and its supertypes. If **isConjugated** is *true*, it is derived as the union of the sets of interfaces realized by the type of the port and its supertypes, or directly from the type of the port if the port is typed by an interface.
- **/provided:** Interface [\*]  
References the interfaces specifying the set of operations and receptions that the classifier offers to its environment via this port, and which it will handle either directly or by forwarding it to a part of its internal structure. This

association is derived according to the value of `isConjugated`. If `isConjugated` is false, `provided` is derived as the union of the sets of interfaces realized by the type of the port and its supertypes, or directly from the type of the port if the port is typed by an interface. If `isConjugated` is true, it is derived as the union of the sets of interfaces used by the type of the port and its supertypes.

- **redefinedPort: Port**

A port may be redefined when its containing classifier is specialized. The redefining port may have additional interfaces to those that are associated with the redefined port or it may replace an interface by one of its subtypes. (Subsets *Kernel::Property::redefinedProperty*)

### Constraints

- [1] Port.aggregation must be *composite*.
- [2] When a port is destroyed, all connectors attached to this port will be destroyed also.
- [3] A `defaultValue` for port cannot be specified when the type of the Port is an Interface.

### Semantics

A port represents an interaction point between a classifier instance and its environment or between a classifier instance and instances it may contain. A port by default has public visibility.

The required interfaces characterize services that the owning classifier expects from its environment and that it may access through this interaction point: Instances of this classifier expect that the features owned by its required interfaces will be offered by one or more instances in its environment. The provided interfaces characterize the behavioral features that the owning classifier offers to its environment at this interaction point. The owning classifier must offer the features owned by the provided interfaces.

The provided and required interfaces completely characterize any interaction that may occur between a classifier and its environment at a port with respect to the data communicated at this port and the behaviors that may be invoked through this port. The interfaces do not necessarily establish the exact sequences of interactions across the port. When an instance of a classifier is created, instances corresponding to each of its ports are created and held in the slots specified by the ports, in accordance with its multiplicity. These instances are referred to as “interaction points” and provide unique references. A link from that instance to the instance of the owning classifier is created through which communication is forwarded to the instance of the owning classifier or through which the owning classifier communicates with its environment. It is, therefore, possible for an instance to differentiate between requests for the invocation of a behavioral feature targeted at its different ports. Similarly, it is possible to direct such requests at a port, and the requests will be routed as specified by the links corresponding to connectors attached to this port. (In the following, “requests arriving at a port” shall mean “request occurrences arriving at the interaction point of this instance corresponding to this port.”)

If connectors are attached to both the port when used on a property within the internal structure of a classifier and the port on the container of an internal structure, the instance of the owning classifier will forward any requests arriving at this port along the link specified by those connectors. If there is a connector attached to only one side of a port, any requests arriving at this port will terminate at this port.

For a behavior port, the instance of the owning classifier will handle requests arriving at this port (as specified in the behavior of the classifier, see Clause 13, “Common Behaviors”), if this classifier has any behavior. If there is no behavior defined for this classifier, any communication arriving at a behavior port is lost.

**Semantic Variation Points**

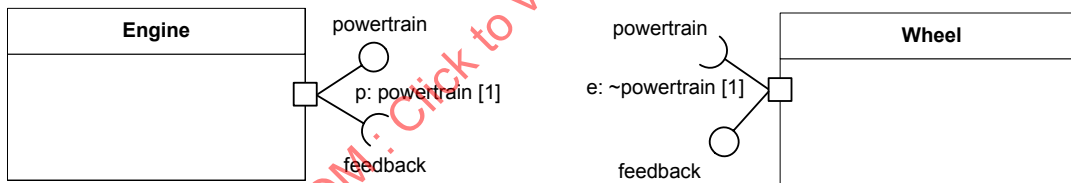
If several connectors are attached on one side of a port, then any request arriving at this port on a link derived from a connector on the other side of the port will be forwarded on links corresponding to these connectors. It is a semantic variation point whether these requests will be forwarded on all links, or on only one of those links. In the latter case, one possibility is that the link at which this request will be forwarded will be arbitrarily selected among those links leading to an instance that had been specified as being able to handle this request (i.e., this request is specified in a provided interface of the part corresponding to this instance).

**Notation**

A port of a classifier is shown as a small square symbol. The name of the port is placed near the square symbol. The port symbol may be placed either overlapping the boundary of the rectangle symbol denoting that classifier or it may be shown inside the rectangle symbol.

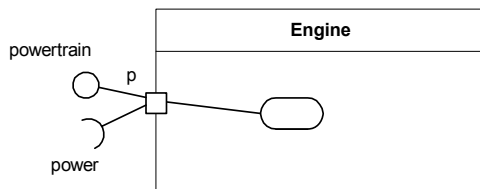
A port of a classifier may also be shown as a small square symbol overlapping the boundary of the rectangle symbol denoting a part typed by that classifier (see Figure 9.16). The name of the port is shown near the port; the multiplicity follows the name surrounded by brackets. Name and multiplicity may be elided.

The type of a port may be shown following the port name, separated by colon (“:”). When *isConjugated* is true for the port, the type of the port is shown with a tilde “~” prepended. A provided interface may be shown using the “lollipop” notation (see “Interface (from Interfaces)” on page 91) attached to the port. A required interface may be shown by the “socket” notation attached to the port. The presentation options shown there are also applicable to interfaces of ports. Figure 9.16 shows the notation for ports. On the left figure, *p* is a port on the *Engine* class. The provided interface of port *p* is *powertrain* and the required interface is *feedback*. The multiplicity of *p* is 1, its type is also *powertrain*, and *isConjugated* is *false*. On the right figure, *e* is a port of the class *Wheel*, which also has the type *powertrain* and *isConjugated* set to *true*.



**Figure 9.16 - Port notation**

A behavior port is indicated by a port being connected through a line to a small state symbol drawn inside the symbol representing the containing classifier. (The small state symbol indicates the behavior of the containing classifier.) Figure 9.17 shows the behavior port *p*, as indicated by its connection to the state symbol representing the behavior of the *Engine* class. Its provided interface is *powertrain*. In addition, a required interface, *power*, is shown also.



**Figure 9.17 - Behavior port notation**

## Presentation Options

The name of a port may be suppressed. Every depiction of an unnamed port denotes a different port from any other port.

If there are multiple interfaces associated with a port, these interfaces may be listed with the interface icon, separated by commas. Figure 9.18 below shows a port *OnlineServices* on the *OrderProcess* class with two provided interfaces, *OrderEntry* and *Tracking*, as well as a required interface *Payment*.

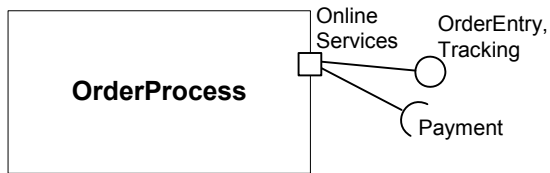


Figure 9.18 - Port notation showing multiple provided interfaces

## Examples

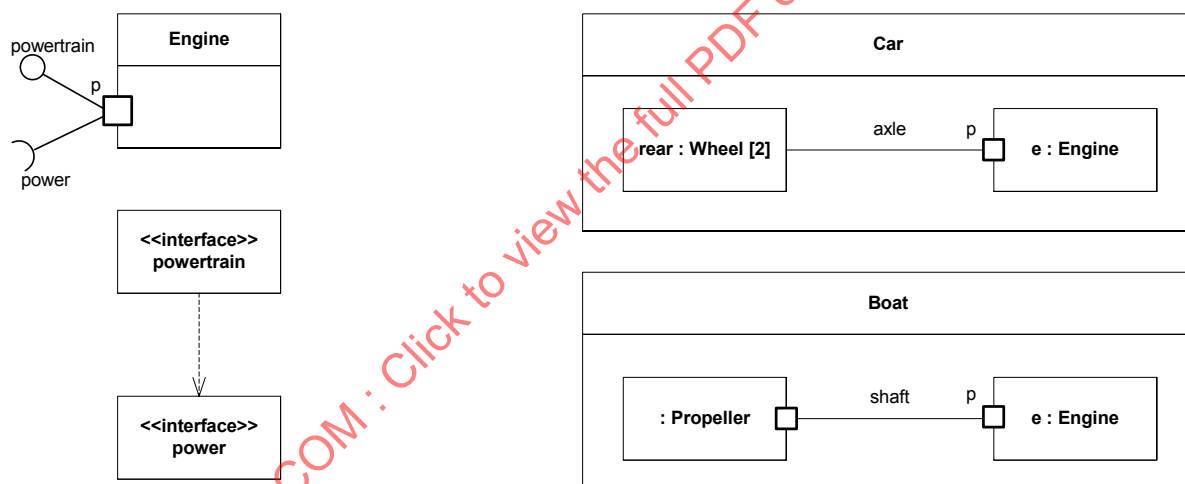


Figure 9.19 - Port examples

Figure 9.19 shows a class *Engine* with a port *p* with a provided interface *powertrain*. This interface specifies the services that the engine offers at this port (i.e., the operations and receptions that are accessible by communication arriving at this port). The interface *power* is the required interface of the engine. The required interface specifies the services that the engine expects its environment to provide. At port *p*, the *Engine* class is completely encapsulated; it can be specified without any knowledge of the environment the engine will be embedded in. As long as the environment obeys the constraints expressed by the provided and required interfaces of the engine, the engine will function properly.

Two uses of the *Engine* class are depicted: Both a boat and a car contain a part that is an engine. The *Car* class connects port *p* of the engine to a set of wheels via the *axle*. The *Boat* class connects port *p* of the engine to a propeller via the *shaft*. As long as the interaction between the *Engine* and the part linked to its port *p* obeys the constraints specified by the provided and required interfaces, the engine will function as specified, whether it is an engine of a car or an engine of a boat. This example also shows that connectors need not necessarily attach to parts via ports (as shown in the *Car* class).

## Rationale

The required and provided interfaces of a port specify everything that is necessary for interactions through that interaction point. If all interactions of a classifier with its environment are achieved through ports, then the internals of the classifier are fully isolated from the environment. This allows such a classifier to be used in any context that satisfies the constraints specified by its ports.

## Changes from previous UML

This metaclass has been added to UML.

### 9.3.13 Property (from InternalStructures)

#### Generalizations

- “Property (from Kernel, AssociationClasses, Interfaces)” on page 130 (*merge increment*)
- “ConnectableElement (from InternalStructures)” on page 186

#### Description

A property represents a set of instances that are owned by a containing classifier instance.

#### Attributes

No additional attributes

#### Associations

No additional associations

#### Constraints

No additional constraints

#### Semantics

When an instance of the containing classifier is created, a set of instances corresponding to its properties may be created either immediately or at some later time. These instances are instances of the classifier typing the property. A property specifies that a set of instances may exist; this set of instances is a subset of the total set of instances specified by the classifier typing the property.

A part declares that an instance of this classifier may contain a set of instances by composition. All such instances are destroyed when the containing classifier instance is destroyed. Figure 9.20 shows two possible views of the *Car* class. In subfigure (i), *Car* is shown as having a composition association with role name *rear* to a class *Wheel* and an association with role name *e* to a class *Engine*. In subfigure (ii), the same is specified. However, in addition, in subfigure (ii) it is specified that *rear* and *e* belong to the internal structure of the class *Car*. This allows specification of detail that holds only for instances of the *Wheel* and *Engine* classes within the context of the class *Car*, but which will not hold for wheels and engines in general. For example, subfigure (i) specifies that any instance of class *Engine* can be linked to an arbitrary number of instances of class *Wheel*. Subfigure (ii), however, specifies that within the context of class *Car*, the instance playing the role of *e* may only be connected to two instances playing the role of *rear*. In addition, the instances playing the *e* and *rear* roles may only be linked if they are roles of the same instance of class *Car*.

In other words, subfigure (ii) asserts additional constraints on the instances of the classes *Wheel* and *Engine*, when they are playing the respective roles within an instance of class *Car*. These constraints are not true for instances of *Wheel* and *Engine* in general. Other wheels and engines may be arbitrarily linked as specified in subfigure (i).

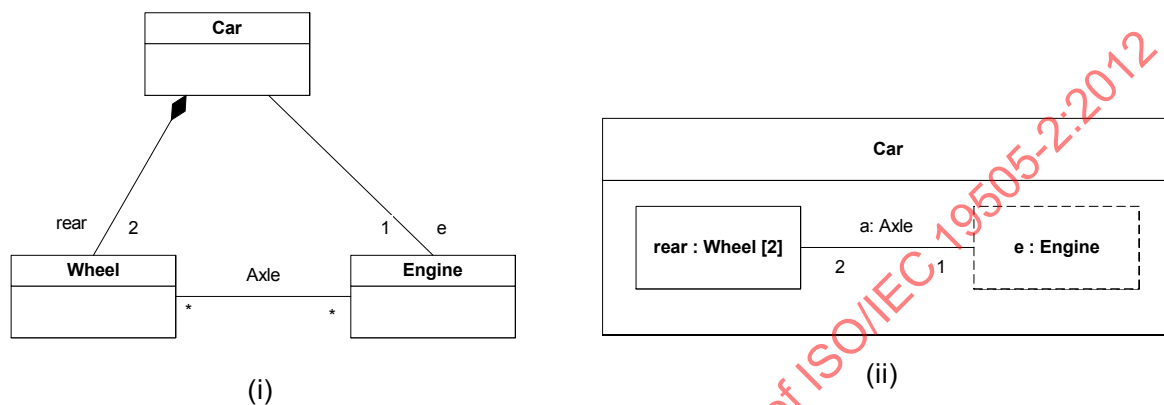


Figure 9.20 - Properties

### Notation

A part is shown by graphical nesting of a box symbol with a solid outline representing the part within the symbol representing the containing classifier in a separate compartment. A property specifying an instance that is not owned by composition by the instance of the containing classifier is shown by graphical nesting of a box symbol with a dashed outline.

The contained box symbol has only a name compartment, which contains a string according to the syntax defined in the Notation sub clause of “Property (from Kernel, AssociationClasses, Interfaces)” on page 130. Detail may be shown within the box symbol indicating specific values for properties of the type classifier when instances corresponding to the property symbol are created.

### Presentation Options

The multiplicity for a property may also be shown as a multiplicity mark in the top right corner of the part box.

A property symbol may be shown containing just a single name (without the colon) in its name string. This implies the definition of an anonymously named class nested within the namespace of the containing class. The part has this anonymous class as its type. Every occurrence of an anonymous class is different from any other occurrence. The anonymously defined class has the properties specified with the part symbol. It is allowed to show compartments defining attributes and operations of the anonymously named class.

## Examples



Figure 9.21 - Property examples

Figure 9.21 shows examples of properties. On the left, the property denotes that the containing instance will own four instances of the *Wheel* class by composition. The multiplicity is shown using the presentation option discussed above. The property on the right denotes that the containing instance will reference one or two instances of the *Engine* class. For additional examples, see 9.3.14, “StructuredClassifier (from InternalStructures),” on page 198.

## Changes from previous UML

A connectable element used in a collaboration subsumes the concept of ClassifierRole.

### 9.3.14 StructuredClassifier (from InternalStructures)

#### Generalizations

- “Classifier (from InternalStructures, Collaborations)” on page 179

#### Description

A structured classifier is an abstract metaclass that represents any classifier whose behavior can be fully or partly described by the collaboration of owned or referenced instances.

#### Attributes

No additional attributes

#### Associations

- `/role: ConnectableElement [0..*]`  
References the roles that instances may play in this classifier. (Abstract union; subsets *Classifier::feature*)
- `ownedAttribute: Property [0..*]`  
References the properties owned by the classifier. (Subsets *StructuredClassifier::role*, *Classifier::attribute*, and *Namespace::ownedMember*)
- `/part: Property [0..*]`  
References the properties specifying instances that the classifier owns by composition. This association is derived, selecting those owned properties where *isComposite* is *true*.
- `ownedConnector: Connector [0..*]`  
References the connectors owned by the classifier. (Subsets *Classifier::feature* and *Namespace::ownedMember*)

#### Constraints

[1] The multiplicities on connected elements must be consistent.

## Semantics

The multiplicities on the structural features and connector ends indicate the number of instances (objects and links) that may be created within an instance of the containing classifier, either when the instance of the containing classifier is created, or in the case of links, when an object is added as the value of a role, or at a later time. The lower bound of the multiplicity range indicates the number of instances that are created (unless indicated differently by an associated instance specification or an invoked constructor function); the upper bound of the multiplicity range indicates the maximum number of instances that may be created. The slots corresponding to the structural features are initialized with these instances.

The manner of creation of the containing classifier may override the default instantiation. When an instance specification is used to specify the initial instance to be created for a classifier (see “Class” on page 178), the multiplicities of its parts determine the number of initial instances that will be created within that classifier. Initially, there will be as many instances held in slots as indicated by the corresponding multiplicity. Multiplicity ranges on such instance specifications may not contain upper bounds.

All instances corresponding to parts of a structured classifier are destroyed recursively, when an instance of that structured classifier is deleted. The instance is removed from the extent of its classifier, and is itself destroyed.

When an instance is removed from a role of a composite object, links that exist due to connectors between that role and others are destroyed.

## Semantic Variation Points

The rules for matching the multiplicities of connector ends and those of parts and ports they interconnect are a semantic variation point. Also, the specific topology that results from such multi-connectors will differ from system to system. One possible approach to this is illustrated in Figure 9.22 and Figure 9.23.

For each instance playing a role in an internal structure, there will initially be as many links as indicated by the multiplicity of the opposite ends of connectors attached to that role (see “ConnectorEnd” on page 188 for the semantics where no multiplicities are given for an end). If the multiplicities of the ends match the multiplicities of the roles they are attached to (see Figure 9.22 i), the initial configuration that will be created when an instance of the containing classifier is created consists of the set of instances corresponding to the roles (as specified by the multiplicities on the roles) fully connected by links (see the resultant instance, Figure 9.22 ii).

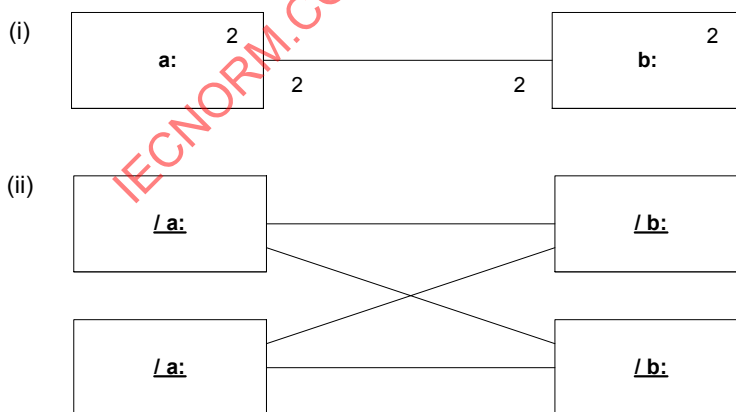


Figure 9.22 - “Star” connector pattern

Multiplicities on connector ends serve to restrict the number of initial links created. Links will be created for each instance playing the connected roles according to their ordering until the minimum connector end multiplicity is reached for both ends of the connector (see the resultant instance, Figure 9.23 ii). In this example, only two links are created, resulting in an array pattern.

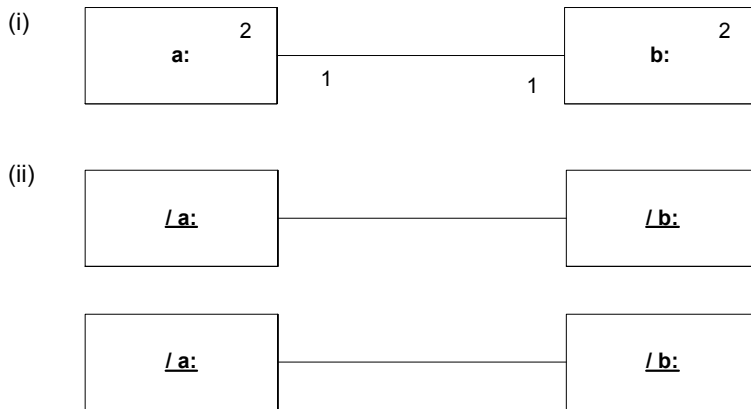


Figure 9.23 - "Array" connector pattern

**Notation**

The namestring of a role in an instance specification obeys the following syntax:

`{<name> ['/' <rolename>] | '/' <rolename>} [ ':' <classifiername> [ ',' <classifiername> ]* }`

The name of the instance specification may be followed by the name of the role which the instance plays. The role name may only be present if the instance plays a role.

**Examples**

The following example shows two classes, *Car* and *Wheel*. The *Car* class has four parts, all of type *Wheel*, representing the four wheels of the car. The front wheels and the rear wheels are linked via a connector representing the front and rear axle, respectively. An implicit association is defined as the type of each axle with each end typed by the *Wheel* class. Figure 9.24 specifies that whenever an instance of the *Car* class is created, four instances of the *Wheel* class are created and held by composition within the car instance. In addition, one link each is created between the front wheel instances and the rear wheel instances.

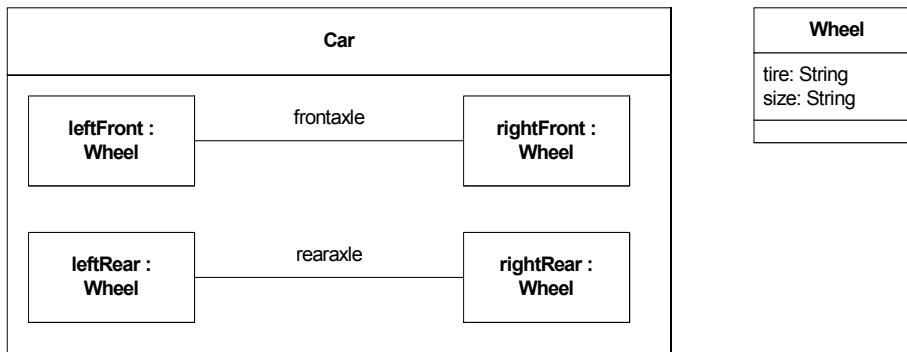


Figure 9.24 - Connectors and parts in a structure diagram

Figure 9.25 specifies an equivalent system, but relies on multiplicities to show the replication of the wheel and axle arrangement. This diagram specifies that there will be two instances of the left wheel and two instances of the right wheel (as no multiplicity is specified for the connector at the right wheel, the multiplicity is taken from the attached role), with each matching instance connected by a link deriving from the connector representing the axle. As specified by the multiplicities, no additional instances of the *Wheel* class can be added as left or right parts for a *Car* instance.

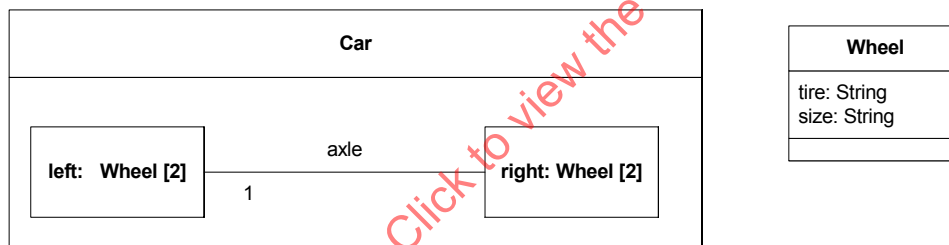


Figure 9.25 - Connectors and parts in a structure diagram using multiplicities

Figure 9.26 shows an instance of the *Car* class (as specified in Figure 9.24). It describes the internal structure of the *Car* that it creates and how the four contained instances of *Wheel* will be initialized. In this case, every instance of *Wheel* will have the predefined size and use the brand of tire as specified. The left wheel instances are given names, and all wheel instances are shown as playing the respective roles. The types of the wheel instances have been suppressed.

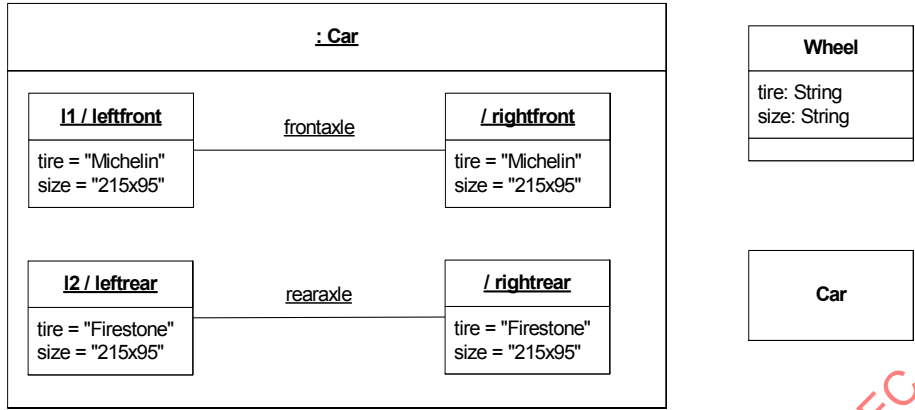


Figure 9.26 - An instance of the Car class

Finally, Figure 9.27 shows a constructor for the *Car* class (see “Class” on page 178). This constructor takes a parameter *brand* of type *String*. It describes the internal structure of the *Car* that it creates and how the four contained instances of *Wheel* will be initialized. In this case, every instance of *Wheel* will have the predefined size and use the brand of tire passed as parameter. The left wheel instances are given names, and all wheel instances are shown as playing the parts. The types of the wheel instances have been suppressed.

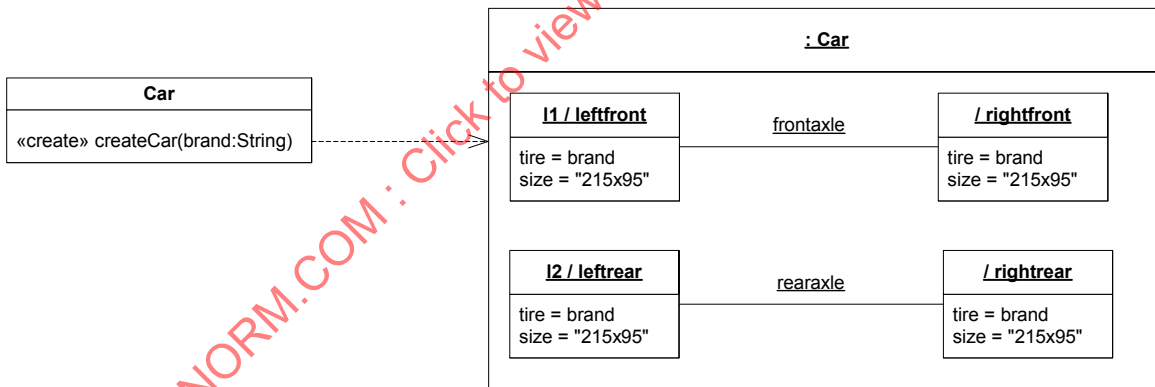


Figure 9.27 - A constructor for the Car class

### 9.3.15 Trigger (from InvocationActions)

#### Generalizations

- “Trigger (from Communications)” on page 477 (*merge increment*)

#### Description

A trigger specification may be qualified by the port on which the event occurred.

**Associations**

- port: Port [\*]  
Specifies the ports at which a communication that caused an event may have arrived.

**Semantics**

Specifying one or more ports for an event implies that the event triggers the execution of an associated behavior only if the event was received via one of the specified ports.

**Notation**

The ports of a trigger are specified following a trigger signature by a list of port names separated by comma, preceded by the keyword «from»:

‘«from»’ <port-name> [‘,’ <port-name>]\*

**9.3.16 Variable (from StructuredActivities)****Generalizations**

- “Variable (from StructuredActivities)” on page 434 (*merge increment*)

**Description**

A variable is considered a connectable element.

**Semantics**

Extends variable to specialize connectable element.

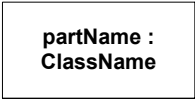
**9.4 Diagrams****Composite structure diagram**

A composite structure diagram depicts the internal structure of a classifier, as well as the use of a collaboration in a collaboration use.




*Graphical nodes*

Additional graphical nodes that can be included in composite structure diagrams are shown in Table 9.1.

**Table 9.1 - Graphic nodes included in composite structure diagrams**

Node Type	Notation	Reference
Part		See 9.3.13, 'Property (from InternalStructures)'



**Table 9.1 - Graphic nodes included in composite structure diagrams**

Node Type	Notation	Reference
Port	<p>portName: ClassifierName</p> 	See 9.3.12, 'Port (from Ports)'. A port may appear either on a contained part representing a port on that part, or on the boundary of the class diagram, representing a port on the represented classifier itself. The optional <i>ClassifierName</i> is only used if it is desired to specify a class of an object that implements the port.
Collaboration		See 9.3.3, 'Collaboration (from Collaborations)'
CollaborationUse		See 9.3.4, 'CollaborationUse (from Collaborations)'

*Graphical paths*

Additional graphical paths that can be included in composite structure diagrams are shown in Table 9.2.

**Table 9.2 - Graphic nodes included in composite structure diagrams**

Path Type	Notation	Reference
Connector		See 9.3.6, 'Connector (from InternalStructures)'
Role binding		See 9.3.4, 'CollaborationUse (from Collaborations)'

**Structure diagram**

All graphical nodes and paths shown on composite structure diagrams can also be shown on other structure diagrams.

# 10 Deployments

## 10.1 Overview

The Deployments package specifies a set of constructs that can be used to define the execution architecture of systems that represent the assignment of software artifacts to nodes. Nodes are connected through communication paths to create network systems of arbitrary complexity. Nodes are typically defined in a nested manner, and represent either hardware devices or software execution environments. Artifacts represent concrete elements in the physical world that are the result of a development process.

The Deployment package supports a streamlined model of deployment that is deemed sufficient for the majority of modern applications. Where more elaborate deployment models are required, it can be extended through profiles or meta models to model specific hardware and software environments.

### Artifacts

The Artifacts package defines the basic Artifact construct as a special kind of Classifier.

### Nodes

The Nodes package defines the concept of Node, as well as the basic deployment relationship between Artifacts and Nodes.

### Component Deployments

The ComponentDeployments package extends the basic deployment model with capabilities to support deployment mechanisms found in several common component technologies.

## 10.2 Abstract Syntax

Figure 10.1 shows the dependencies of the Deployments packages.

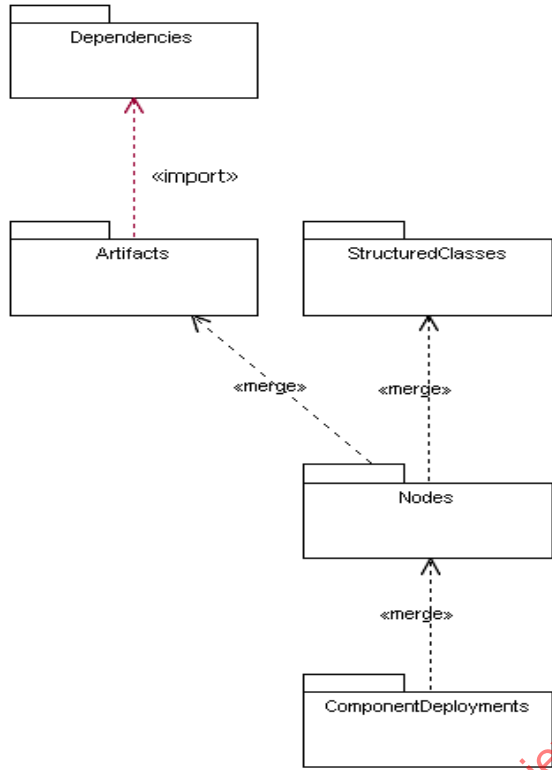


Figure 10.1 - Dependencies between packages described in this clause

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Package Artifacts

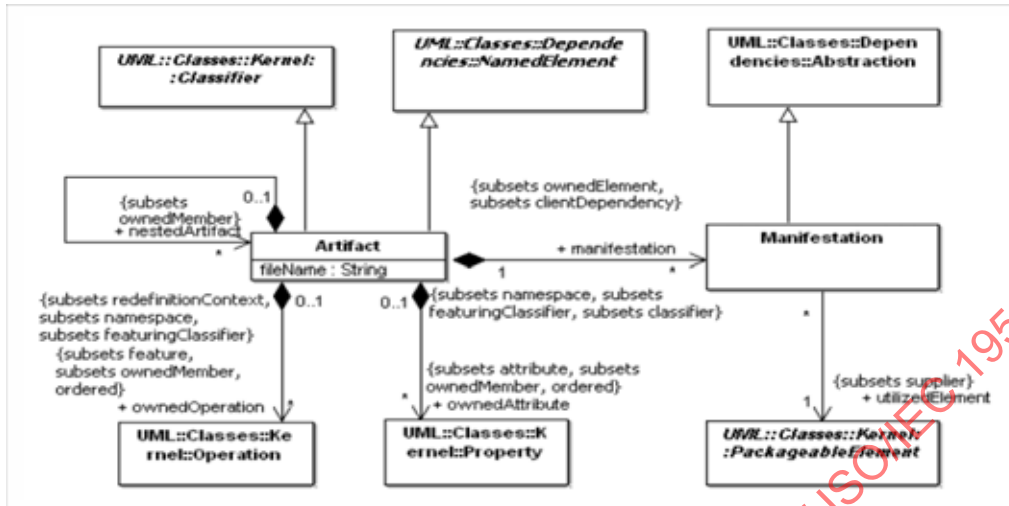


Figure 10.2 - The elements defined in the Artifacts package

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Package Nodes

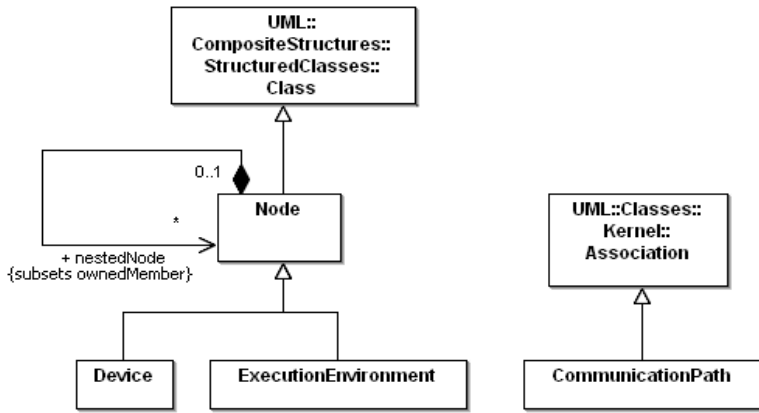


Figure 10.3 - The definition of the Node concept

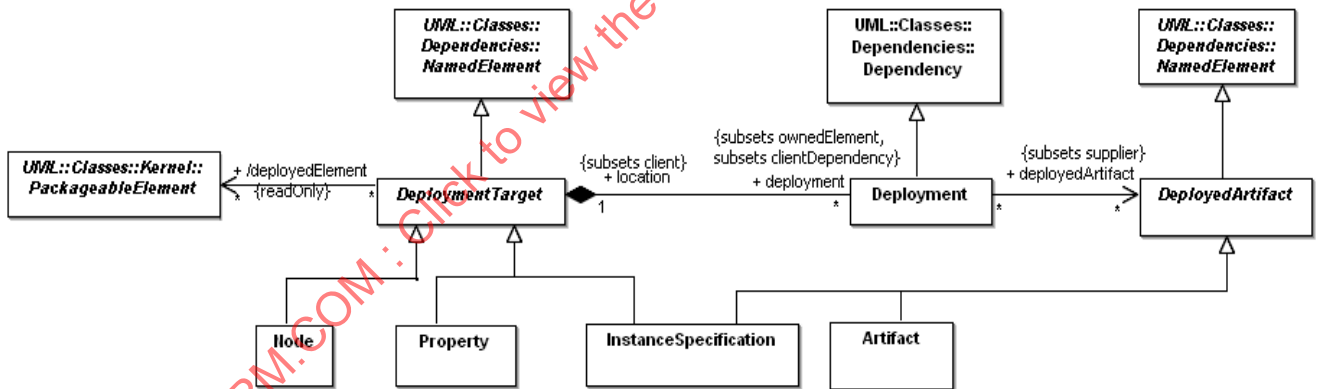


Figure 10.4 - Definition of the Deployment relationship between DeploymentTargets and DeployedArtifacts

### Package ComponentDeployments

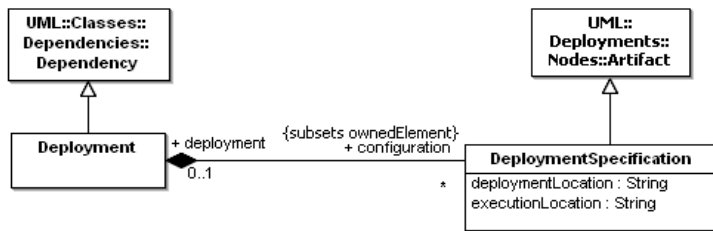


Figure 10.5 - Metaclasses that define component Deployment

## 10.3 Class Descriptions

### 10.3.1 Artifact (from Artifacts, Nodes)

An artifact is the specification of a physical piece of information that is used or produced by a software development process, or by deployment and operation of a system. Examples of artifacts include model files, source files, scripts, and binary executable files, a table in a database system, a development deliverable, or a word-processing document, a mail message.

#### Generalizations

- “Classifier (from Kernel, Dependencies, PowerTypes, Interfaces)” on page 55
- “DeployedArtifact (from Nodes)” on page 212
- “NamedElement (from Kernel, Dependencies)” on page 104

#### Description

##### Package Artifacts

In the metamodel, an Artifact is a Classifier that represents a physical entity. Artifacts may have Properties that represent features of the Artifact, and Operations that can be performed on its instances. Artifacts can be involved in Associations to other Artifacts (e.g. composition associations). Artifacts can be instantiated to represent detailed copy semantics, where different instances of the same Artifact may be deployed to various Node instances (and each may have separate property values, e.g., for a ‘time-stamp’ property).

##### Package Node

As part of the Nodes package, an Artifact is extended to become the source of a deployment to a Node. This is achieved by specializing the abstract superclass DeployedArtifact defined in the Nodes package.

## Attributes

### Package Artifacts

- `fileName` : String [0..1]  
A concrete name that is used to refer to the Artifact in a physical context. Example: file system name, universal resource locator.

## Associations

### Package Artifacts

- `nestedArtifact`: Artifact [\*]  
The Artifacts that are defined (nested) within the Artifact. The association is a specialization of the *ownedMember* association from *Namespace* to *NamedElement*.
- `ownedAttribute` : Property [\*]  
The attributes or association ends defined for the Artifact. {Subsets *Namespace::ownedMember*}
- `ownedOperation` : Operation [\*]  
The Operations defined for the Artifact. {Subsets *Namespace::ownedMember*}
- `manifestation` : Manifestation [\*]  
The set of model elements that are manifested in the Artifact. That is, these model elements are utilized in the construction (or generation) of the artifact. {Subsets *NamedElement::clientDependency*, Subsets *Element::ownedElement*}

## Constraints

No additional constraints

## Semantics

An Artifact defined by the user represents a concrete element in the physical world. A particular instance (or 'copy') of an artifact is deployed to a node instance. Artifacts may have composition associations to other artifacts that are nested within it. For instance, a deployment descriptor artifact for a component may be contained within the artifact that implements that component. In that way, the component and its descriptor are deployed to a node instance as one artifact instance.

Specific profiles are expected to stereotype artifact to model sets of files (e.g., as characterized by a 'file extension' on a file system). The UML Standard Profile defines several standard stereotypes that apply to Artifacts, e.g., «source» or «executable» (See Annex C - Standard Stereotypes). These stereotypes can be further specialized into implementation and platform specific stereotypes in profiles. For example, an EJB profile might define «jar» as a subclass of «executable» for executable Java archives.

## Notation

An artifact is presented using an ordinary class rectangle with the key-word «artifact». Alternatively, it may be depicted by an icon.

Optionally, the underlining of the name of an artifact instance may be omitted, as the context is assumed to be known to users.

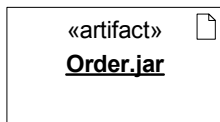


Figure 10.6 - An Artifact instance

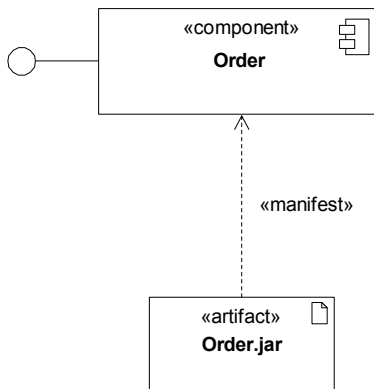


Figure 10.7 - A visual representation of the manifestation relationship between artifacts and components

### Changes from previous UML

The following changes from UML 1.x have been made: Artifacts can now manifest any PackageableElement (not just Components, as in UML 1.x).

### 10.3.2 CommunicationPath (from Nodes)

A communication path is an association between two DeploymentTargets, through which they are able to exchange signals and messages.

#### Generalizations

- “Association (from Kernel)” on page 40

#### Description

In the metamodel, CommunicationPath is a subclass of Association.

#### Attributes

No additional attributes

#### Associations

No additional associations

### Constraints

[1] The association ends of a CommunicationPath are typed by DeploymentTargets.

```
self.endType->forAll (t | t.oclIsKindOf(DeploymentTarget))
```

### Semantics

A communication path is an association that can only be defined between deployment targets, to model the exchange of signals and messages between them.

### Notation

No additional notation

### Changes from previous UML

The following changes from UML 1.x have been made: CommunicationPath was implicit in UML 1.x. It has been made explicit to formalize the modeling of networks of complex Nodes.

## 10.3.3 DeployedArtifact (from Nodes)

A deployed artifact is an artifact or artifact instance that has been deployed to a deployment target.

### Generalizations

- “NamedElement (from Kernel, Dependencies)” on page 104

### Description

In the metamodel, DeployedArtifact is an abstract metaclass that is a specialization of NamedElement. A DeployedArtifact is involved in one or more Deployments to a DeploymentTarget.

### Attributes

No additional attributes

### Associations

No additional associations

### Constraints

No additional constraints

### Semantics

Deployed artifacts are deployed to a deployment target.

### Notation

No additional notation

## Changes from previous UML

The following changes from UML 1.x have been made: The capability to deploy artifacts and artifact instances to nodes has been made explicit based on UML 2 instance modeling through the addition of this abstract metaclass.

### 10.3.4 Deployment (from ComponentDeployments, Nodes)

#### *Package Nodes*

A deployment is the allocation of an artifact or artifact instance to a deployment target.

#### *Package ComponentDeployments*

A component deployment is the deployment of one or more artifacts or artifact instances to a deployment target, optionally parameterized by a deployment specification. Examples are executables and configuration files.

#### Generalizations

- “Dependency (from Dependencies)” on page 65

#### Description

In the metamodel, Deployment is a subtype of Dependency.

#### Attribute

No additional attributes

#### Associations

##### *Package Nodes*

- `deployedArtifact` : `Artifact` [\*]  
The Artifacts that are deployed onto a Node. This association specializes the supplier association.
- `location` : `DeploymentTarget` [1]  
The DeploymentTarget that is the target of a Deployment. This association specializes the client association.

##### *Package ComponentDeployments*

- `configuration` : `DeploymentSpecification` [\*]  
The specification of properties that parameterize the deployment and execution of one or more Artifacts. This association is specialized from the ownedMember association.

#### Constraints

No additional constraints

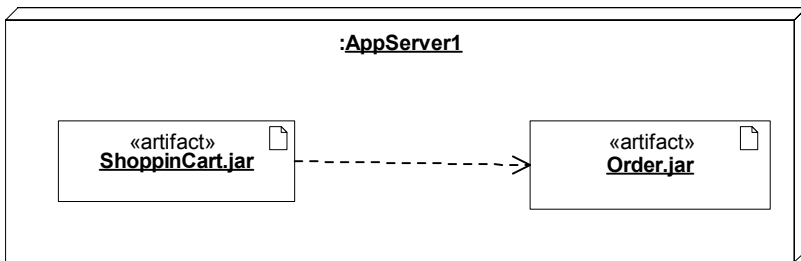
#### Semantics

The deployment relationship between a DeployedArtifact and a DeploymentTarget can be defined at the “type” level and at the “instance level.” For example, a ‘type level’ deployment relationship can be defined between an “application server” Node and an “order entry request handler” executable Artifact. At the ‘instance level’ 3 specific instances “app-

server1” ... “app-server3” may be the deployment target for six “request handler\*” instances. Finally, for modeling complex deployment target models consisting of nodes with a composite structure defined through ‘parts,’ a Property (that functions as a part) may also be the target of a deployment.

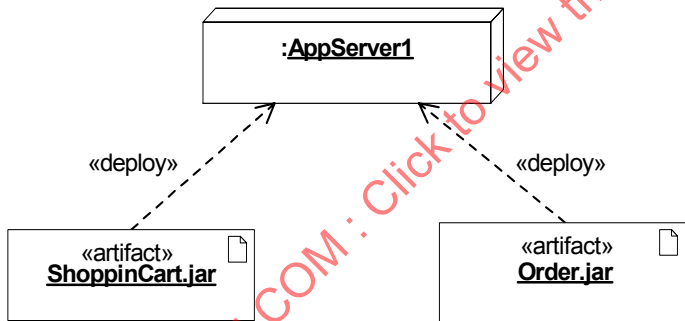
**Notation**

Deployment diagrams show the allocation of Artifacts to Nodes according to the Deployments defined between them.



**Figure 10.8 - A visual representation of the deployment location of artifacts (including a dependency between the artifacts).**

An alternative notation to containing the deployed artifacts within a deployment target symbol is to use a dependency labeled `«deploy»` that is drawn from the artifact to the deployment target.



**Figure 10.9 - Alternative deployment representation of using a dependency called «deploy»**



**Figure 10.10 - Textual list based representation of the deployment location of artifacts**

### Changes from previous UML

The following changes from UML 1.x have been made — an association to DeploymentSpecification has been added.

### 10.3.5 DeploymentSpecification (from ComponentDeployments)

A deployment specification specifies a set of properties that determine execution parameters of a component artifact that is deployed on a node. A deployment specification can be aimed at a specific type of container. An artifact that reifies or implements deployment specification properties is a deployment descriptor.

#### Generalizations

- “Artifact (from Artifacts, Nodes)” on page 209

#### Description

In the metamodel, a DeploymentSpecification is a subtype of Artifact. It defines a set of deployment properties that are specific to a certain Container type. An instance of a DeploymentSpecification with specific values for these properties may be contained in a complex Artifact.

#### Attributes

##### *ComponentDeployments Package*

- deploymentLocation : String [0..1]  
The location where an Artifact is deployed onto a Node. This is typically a ‘directory’ or ‘memory address.’
- executionLocation : String [0..1]  
The location where a component Artifact executes. This may be a local or remote location.

#### Associations

##### *ComponentDeployments Package*

- deployment : Deployment [0..1]  
The deployment with which the DeploymentSpecification is associated.

**Constraints**

- [1] The DeploymentTarget of a DeploymentSpecification is a kind of ExecutionEnvironment.  
`self.deployment->forall (d | d.location.ocllsKindOf(ExecutionEnvironment))`
- [2] The deployedElements of a DeploymentTarget that are involved in a Deployment that has an associated DeploymentSpecification is a kind of Component (i.e., the configured components).  
`self.deployment->forall (d | d.location.deployedElements->forall (de | de.ocllsKindOf(Component)))`

**Semantics**

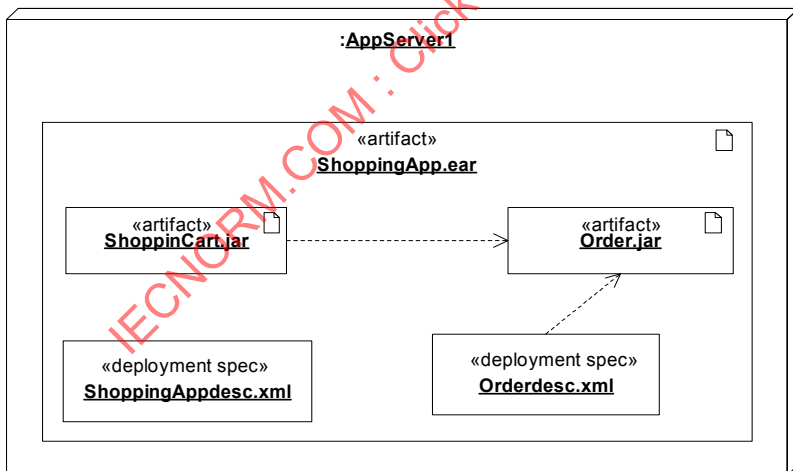
A Deployment specification is a general mechanism to parameterize a Deployment relationship, as is common in various hardware and software technologies. The deployment specification element is expected to be extended in specific component profiles. Non-normative examples of the standard stereotypes that a profile might add to deployment specification are, for example, «concurrencyMode» with tagged values {thread, process, none}, or «transactionMode» with tagged values {transaction, nestedTransaction, none}.

**Notation**

A DeploymentSpecification is graphically displayed as a classifier rectangle (Figure 10.11) attached to a component artifact deployed on a container using a regular dependency arrow.



**Figure 10.11 - DeploymentSpecification for an artifact (specification and instance levels)**



**Figure 10.12 - DeploymentSpecifications related to the artifacts that they parameterize**

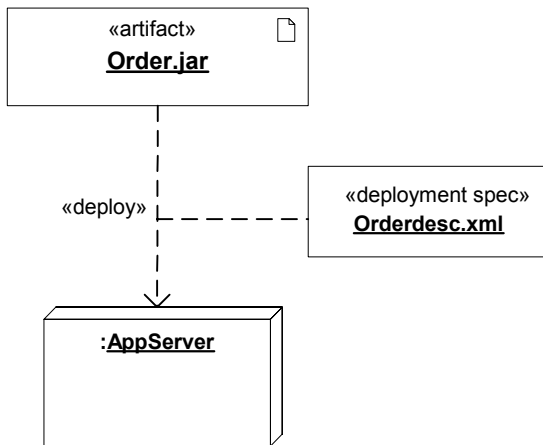


Figure 10.13 - A DeploymentSpecification for an artifact

### Changes from previous UML

The following changes from UML 1.x have been made — DeploymentSpecification does not exist in UML 1.x.

### 10.3.6 DeploymentTarget (from Nodes)

A deployment target is the location for a deployed artifact.

#### Generalizations

- “NamedElement (from Kernel, Dependencies)” on page 104

#### Description

In the metamodel, DeploymentTarget is an abstract metaclass that is a specialization of NamedElement. A DeploymentTarget owns a set of Deployments.

#### Attributes

No additional attributes

#### Associations

##### Nodes Package

- deployment : Deployment [\*]  
The set of Deployments for a DeploymentTarget. {Subsets *NamedElement::clientDependency*, Subsets *Element::ownedElement*}
- / deployedElement : PackageableElement [\*]  
The set of elements that are manifested in an Artifact that is involved in Deployment to a DeploymentTarget.  
The association is a derived association.

**context** DeploymentTarget::deployedElement **derive:**

((self.deployment->collect(deployedArtifact))->collect(manifestation))->collect(utilizedElement)

### Constraints

No additional constraints

### Semantics

Artifacts are deployed to a deployment target. The deployment target owns the set of deployments that target it.

### Notation

No additional notation

### Changes from previous UML

The following changes from UML 1.x have been made: The capability to deploy artifacts and artifact instances to nodes has been made explicit based on UML 2 instance modeling.

## 10.3.7 Device (from Nodes)

A Device is a physical computational resource with processing capability upon which artifacts may be deployed for execution. Devices may be complex (i.e., they may consist of other devices).

### Generalizations

- “Node (from Nodes)” on page 222

### Description

In the metamodel, a Device is a subclass of Node.

### Attributes

No additional attributes

### Associations

No additional associations

### Constraints

No additional constraints

### Semantics

A device may be a nested element, where a physical machine is decomposed into its elements, either through namespace ownership or through attributes that are typed by Devices.

### Notation

A Device is notated by a perspective view of a cube tagged with the keyword «device».

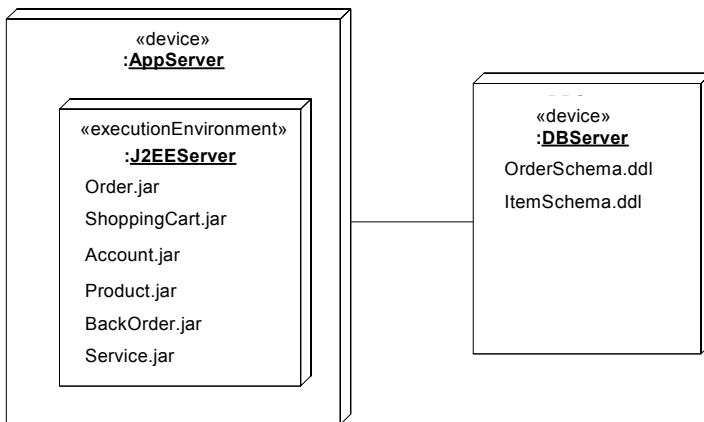


Figure 10.14 - Notation for a Device

### Changes from previous UML

The following changes from UML 1.x have been made — Device is not defined in UML 1.x.

### 10.3.8 ExecutionEnvironment (from Nodes)

An ExecutionEnvironment is a node that offers an execution environment for specific types of components that are deployed on it in the form of executable artifacts.

#### Generalizations

- “Node (from Nodes)” on page 222

#### Description

In the metamodel, an ExecutionEnvironment is a subclass of Node. It is usually part of a general Node, representing the physical hardware environment on which the ExecutionEnvironment resides. In that environment, the ExecutionEnvironment implements a standard set of services that Components require at execution time (at the modeling level these services are usually implicit). For each component Deployment, aspects of these services may be determined by properties in a DeploymentSpecification for a particular kind of ExecutionEnvironment.

#### Attributes

No additional attributes

#### Associations

No additional associations

#### Constraints

No additional constraints

## Semantics

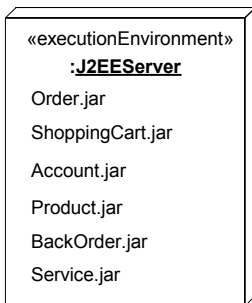
ExecutionEnvironment instances are assigned to node instances by using composite associations between nodes and ExecutionEnvironments, where the ExecutionEnvironment plays the role of the part. ExecutionEnvironments can be nested (e.g., a database ExecutionEnvironment may be nested in an operating system ExecutionEnvironment). Components of the appropriate type are then deployed to specific ExecutionEnvironment nodes.

Typical examples of standard ExecutionEnvironments that specific profiles might define stereotypes for are «OS», «workflow engine», «database system», and «J2EE container».

An ExecutionEnvironment can optionally have an explicit interface of system level services that can be called by the deployed elements, in those cases where the modeler wants to make the ExecutionEnvironment software execution environment services explicit.

## Notation

An ExecutionEnvironment is notated by a Node annotated with the stereotype «executionEnvironment».



**Figure 10.15 - Notation for an ExecutionEnvironment (example of an instance of a J2EEServer ExecutionEnvironment)**

## Changes from previous UML

The following changes from UML 1.x have been made — ExecutionEnvironment is not defined in UML 1.x.

### 10.3.9 InstanceSpecification (from Nodes)

An instance specification is extended with the capability of being a deployment target in a deployment relationship, in the case that it is an instance of a node. It is also extended with the capability of being a deployed artifact, if it is an instance of an artifact.

#### Generalizations

- “DeployedArtifact (from Nodes)” on page 212
- “DeploymentTarget (from Nodes)” on page 217
- “InstanceSpecification (from Kernel)” on page 87 (*merge increment*)

#### Description

In the metamodel, InstanceSpecification is a specialization of DeploymentTarget and DeployedArtifact.

**Attributes**

No additional attributes

**Associations**

No additional associations

**Constraints**

- [1] An InstanceSpecification can be a DeploymentTarget if it is the instance specification of a Node and functions as a part in the internal structure of an encompassing Node.
- [2] An InstanceSpecification can be a DeployedArtifact if it is the instance specification of an Artifact.

**Semantics**

No additional semantics

**Notation**

An instance can be attached to a node using a deployment dependency, or it may be visually nested inside the node.

**Changes from previous UML**

The following changes from UML 1.x have been made — the capability to deploy artifact instances to node instances existed in UML 1.x, and has been made explicit based on UML 2 instance modeling.

**10.3.10 Manifestation (from Artifacts)**

A manifestation is the concrete physical rendering of one or more model elements by an artifact.

**Generalizations**

- “Abstraction (from Dependencies)” on page 39

**Description**

In the metamodel, a Manifestation is a subtype of Abstraction. A Manifestation is owned by an Artifact.

**Attributes**

No additional attributes

**Associations***Artifacts*

- utilizedElement : PackageableElement [1]  
The model element that is utilized in the manifestation in an Artifact. {Subsets *Dependency::supplier*}

**Constraints**

No additional associations

## Semantics

An artifact embodies or manifests a number of model elements. The artifact owns the manifestations, each representing the utilization of a packageable element.

Specific profiles are expected to stereotype the manifestation relationship to indicate particular forms of manifestation. For example, «tool generated» and «custom code» might be two manifestations for different classes embodied in an artifact.

## Notation

A manifestation is notated in the same way as an abstraction dependency, i.e., as a general dashed line with an open arrow-head labeled with the keyword «manifest».

## Changes from previous UML

The following changes from UML 1.x have been made: Manifestation is defined as a meta association in UML 1.x, prohibiting stereotyping of manifestations. In UML 1.x, the concept of Manifestation was referred to as ‘implementation’ and annotated in the notation as «implement». Since this was one of the many uses of the word ‘implementation’ this has been replaced by «manifest».

### 10.3.11 Node (from Nodes)

A node is computational resource upon which artifacts may be deployed for execution.

Nodes can be interconnected through communication paths to define network structures.

## Generalizations

- “Class (from StructuredClasses, InternalStructures)” on page 178
- “DeploymentTarget (from Nodes)” on page 217

## Description

In the metamodel, a Node is a subclass of Class. It is associated with a Deployment of an Artifact. It is also associated with a set of Elements that are deployed on it. This is a derived association in that these PackageableElements are involved in a Manifestation of an Artifact that is deployed on the Node. Nodes may have an internal structure defined in terms of parts and connectors associated with them for advanced modeling applications.

## Attributes

No additional attributes

## Associations

### Nodes Package

- nestedNode : Node [\*]  
The Nodes that are defined (nested) within the Node. {Subsets *Namespace::ownedMember*}

## Constraints

[1] The internal structure of a Node (if defined) consists solely of parts of type Node.

## Semantics

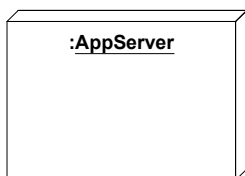
Nodes can be connected to represent a network topology by using communication paths. Communication paths can be defined between nodes such as “application server” and “client workstation” to define the possible communication paths between nodes. Specific network topologies can then be defined through links between node instances.

Hierarchical nodes (i.e., nodes within nodes) can be modeled using composition associations, or by defining an internal structure for advanced modeling applications.

Non-normative examples of nodes are «application server», «client workstation», «mobile device», «embedded device».

## Notation

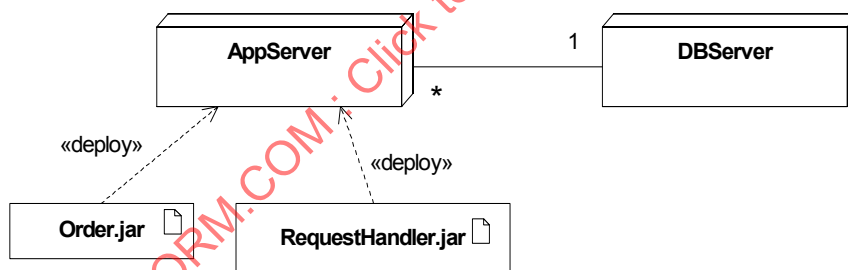
A node is shown as a figure that looks like a 3-dimensional view of a cube.



**Figure 10.16 - An instance of a Node**

Dashed arrows with the keyword «deploy» show the capability of a node type to support a component type. Alternatively, this may be shown by nesting component symbols inside the node symbol.

Nodes may be connected by associations to other nodes. A link between node instances indicates a communication path between the nodes.



**Figure 10.17 - Communication path between two Node types with deployed Artifacts**

Artifacts may be contained within node instance symbols. This indicates that the items are deployed on the node instances.

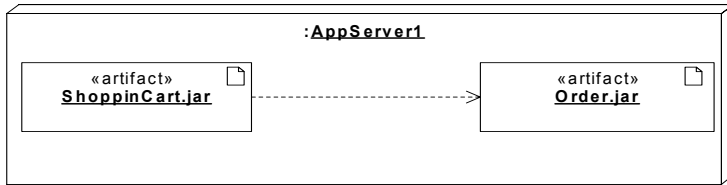


Figure 10.18 - A set of deployed component artifacts on a Node

### Changes from previous UML

The following changes from UML 1.x have been made: to be written.

### 10.3.12 Property (from Nodes)

A Property is extended with the capability of being a DeploymentTarget in a Deployment relationship. This enables modeling the deployment to hierarchical Nodes that have Properties functioning as internal parts.

#### Generalizations

- “Property (from InternalStructures)” on page 196 (*merge increment*)

#### Description

In the metamodel, Property is a specialization of DeploymentTarget.

#### Attributes

No additional attributes

#### Associations

No additional associations

#### Constraints

- [1] A Property can be a DeploymentTarget if it is a kind of Node and functions as a part in the internal structure of an encompassing Node.

#### Semantics

No additional semantics

#### Notation

No additional notation

## Changes from previous UML

The following changes from UML 1.x have been made — the capability to deploy to Nodes with an internal structure has been added to UML 2.

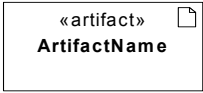
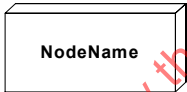

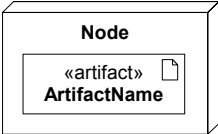
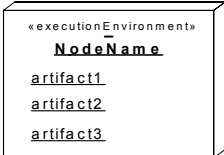
## 10.4 Diagrams

### Deployment diagram

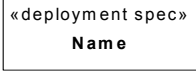
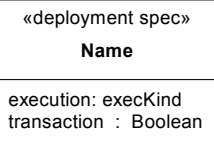
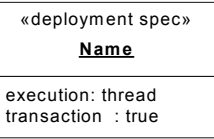
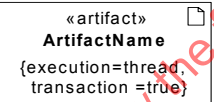
#### Graphical nodes

The graphic nodes that can be included in deployment diagrams are shown in Table 10.1.

**Table 10.1 - Graphic nodes included in deployment diagrams**

Node Type	Notation	Reference
Artifact		See “Artifact.”
Node		See “Node.”
Artifact deployed on Node		See “Deployment.”
Node with deployed Artifacts		See “Deployment.”
Node with deployed Artifacts		See “Deployment” (alternative, textual notation).

**Table 10.1 - Graphic nodes included in deployment diagrams**

Node Type	Notation	Reference
Deployment specification		See “Deployment Specification.”
Deployment specification - with properties		See “Deployment Specification.”
Deployment specification - with property values		See “Deployment Specification.”
Artifact with annotated deployment properties		See “Artifact.”

*Graphical paths*

The graphic paths that can be included in deployment diagrams are shown in Table 10.2 .

**Table 10.2 - Graphic nodes included in deployment diagrams**


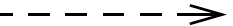
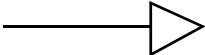
Path Type	Notation	Reference
Association		See “Association (from Kernel)” on page 40. Used to model communication paths between DeploymentTargets.
Dependency		See “Dependency (from Dependencies)” on page 65. Used to model general dependencies. In Deployment diagrams, this notation is used to depict the following metamodel associations: (i) the relationship between an Artifact and the model element(s) that it implements, and (ii) the deployment of an Artifact (instance) on a Node (instance).
Generalization		See “Generalization (from Kernel, PowerTypes)” on page 75.

Table 10.2 - Graphic nodes included in deployment diagrams

Path Type	Notation	Reference
Deployment	<p style="text-align: center;">«deploy»</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- - - - - ➔</p>	The Deployment relationship
Manifestation	<p style="text-align: center;">«manifest»</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- - - - - ➔</p>	The Manifestation relationship

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# 11 Actions

## 11.1 Overview

### Basic Concepts

An action is the fundamental unit of behavior specification. An action takes a set of inputs and converts them into a set of outputs, though either or both sets may be empty. This clause defines semantics for a number of specialized actions, as described below. Some of the actions modify the state of the system in which the action executes. The values that are the inputs to an action may be described by value specifications, obtained from the output of actions that have one output (in StructuredActions), or in ways specific to the behaviors that use them. For example, the activity flow model supports providing inputs to actions from the outputs of other actions.

Actions are contained in behaviors, which provide their context. Behaviors provide constraints among actions to determine when they execute and what inputs they have. The Actions clause is concerned with the semantics of individual, primitive actions.

Basic actions include those that perform operation calls, signal sends, and direct behavior invocations. Operations are specified in the model and can be dynamically selected only through polymorphism. Signals are specified by a signal object, whose type represents the kind of message transmitted between objects, and can be dynamically created. Note that operations may be bound to activities, state machine transitions, or other behaviors. The receipt of signals may be bound to activities, state machine transitions, or other behaviors.

### Intermediate Concepts

The intermediate level describes the various primitive actions. These primitive actions are defined in such a way as to enable the maximum range of mappings. Specifically, a primitive action either carries out a computation or accesses object memory, but never both. This approach enables clean mappings to a physical model, even those with data organizations different from that suggested by the specification. In addition, any re-organization of the data structure will leave the specification of the computation unaffected.

A surface action language would encompass both primitive actions and the control mechanisms provided by behaviors. In addition, a surface language may map higher-level constructs to the actions. For example, creating an object may involve initializing attribute values or creating objects for mandatory associations. The specification defines the create action to only create the object, and requires further actions to initialize attribute values and create objects for mandatory associations. A surface language could choose to define a creation operation with initialization as a single unit as a shorthand for several actions.

A particular surface language could implement each semantic construct one-to-one, or it could define higher-level, composite constructs to offer the modeler both power and convenience. This part of ISO/IEC 19505, then, expresses the fundamental semantics in terms of primitive behavioral concepts that are conceptually simple to implement. Modelers can work in terms of higher-level constructs as provided by their chosen surface language or notation.

The semantic primitives are defined to enable the construction of different execution engines, each of which may have different performance characteristics. A model compiler builder can optimize the structure of the software to meet specific performance requirements, so long as the semantic behavior of the specification and the implementation remain the same. For example, one engine might be fully sequential within a single task, while another may separate the classes into different processors based on potential overlapping of processing, and yet others may separate the classes in a client-server, or even a three-tier model.

The modeler can provide “hints” to the execution engine when the modeler has special knowledge of the domain solution that could be of value in optimizing the execution engine. For example, instances could—by design—be partitioned to match the distribution selected, so tests based on this partitioning can be optimized on each processor. The execution engines are not required to check or enforce such hints. An execution engine can either assume that the modeler is correct, or just ignore it. An execution engine is not required to verify that the modeler’s assertion is true.

When an action violates aspects of static UML modeling that constrain runtime behavior, the semantics is left undefined. For example, attempting to create an instance of an abstract class is undefined - some languages may make this action illegal, others may create a partial instance for testing purposes. The semantics are also left undefined in situations that require classes as values at runtime. However, in the execution of actions the lower multiplicity bound is ignored and no error or undefined semantics is implied. (Otherwise, it is impossible to use actions to pass through the intermediate configurations necessary to construct object configurations that satisfy multiplicity constraints.) The modeler must determine when minimum multiplicity should be enforced, and these points cannot be everywhere or the configuration cannot change.

#### *Invocation Actions*

More invocation actions are defined for broadcasting signals to the available “universe” and transmitting objects that are not signals.

#### *Read Write Actions*

Objects, structural features, links, and variables have values that are available to actions. Objects can be created and destroyed; structural features and variables have values; links can be created and destroyed, and can reference values through their ends; all of which are available to actions. Read actions get values, while write actions modify values and create and destroy objects and links. Read and write actions share the structures for identifying the structural features, links, and variables they access.

Object actions create and destroy objects. Structural feature actions support the reading and writing of structural features. The abstract metaclass `StructuralFeatureAction` statically specifies the structural feature being accessed. The object to access is specified dynamically, by referring to an input pin on which the object will be placed at runtime. The semantics for static features is undefined. Association actions operate on associations and links. In the description of these actions, the term “associations” does not include those modeled with association classes, unless specifically indicated. Similarly, a “link” is not a link object unless specifically indicated. The semantics of actions that read and write associations that have a static end is undefined.

Value specifications cover various expressions ranging from implementation-dependent constants to complex expressions, with side-effects. An action is defined for evaluating these. Also see “ValuePin (from BasicActions)” on page 303.

#### **Complete Concepts**

The major constructs associated with complete actions are outlined below.

#### *Read Write Actions*

Additional actions deal with the relation between object and class and link objects. These read the instances of a given classifier, check which classifier an instance is classified by, and change the classifier of an instance. Link object actions operate on instances of association classes. Also the reading and writing actions of associations are extended to support qualifiers.

### Other Actions

Actions are defined for accepting events, including operation calls, and retrieving the property values of an object all at once. The StartClassifierBehaviorAction provides a way to indicate when the classifier behavior of a newly created object should begin to execute.

### Structured Concepts

These actions operate in the context of activities and structured nodes. Variable actions support the reading and writing of variables. The abstract metaclass VariableAction statically specifies the variable being accessed. Variable actions can only access variables within the activity of which the action is a part. An action is defined for raising exceptions and a kind of input pin is defined for accepting the output of an action without using flows.

## 11.2 Abstract Syntax

The package dependencies of the Actions clause are shown in Figure 11.1.

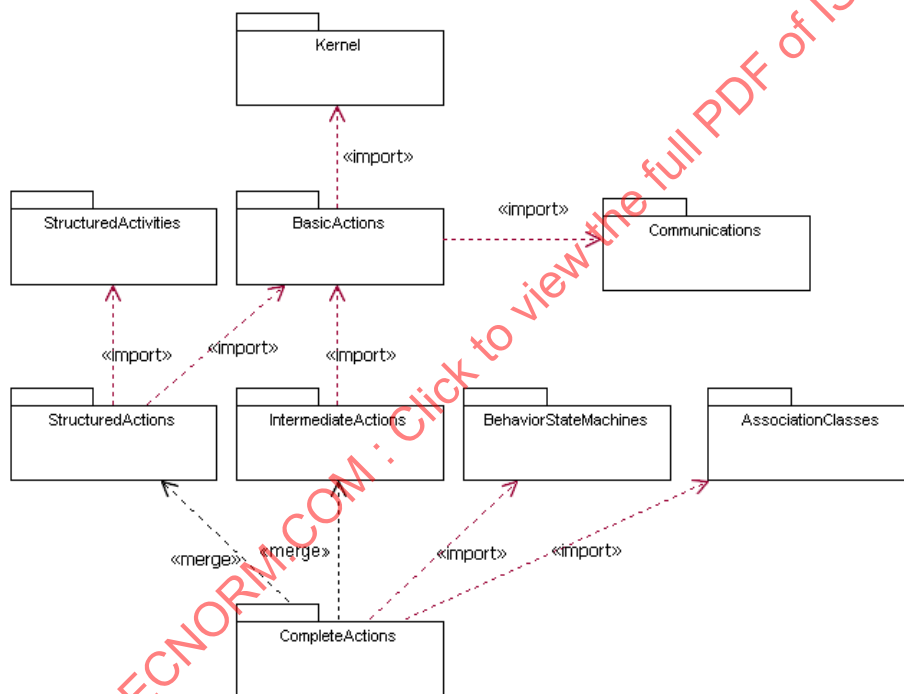


Figure 11.1 - Dependencies of the Action packages

Package BasicActions

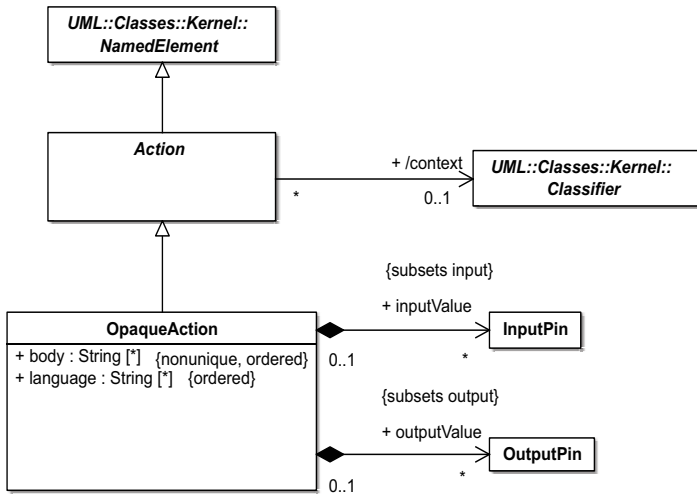


Figure 11.2 - Basic Actions

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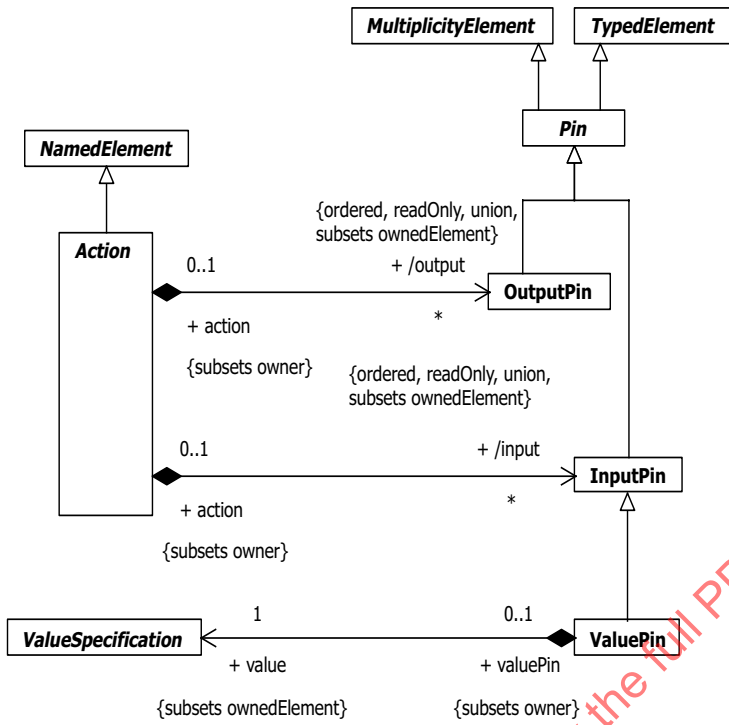


Figure 11.3 - Basic pins

IECNORM.COM : Click to view the full PDF of ISO/IEC 19505-2:2012

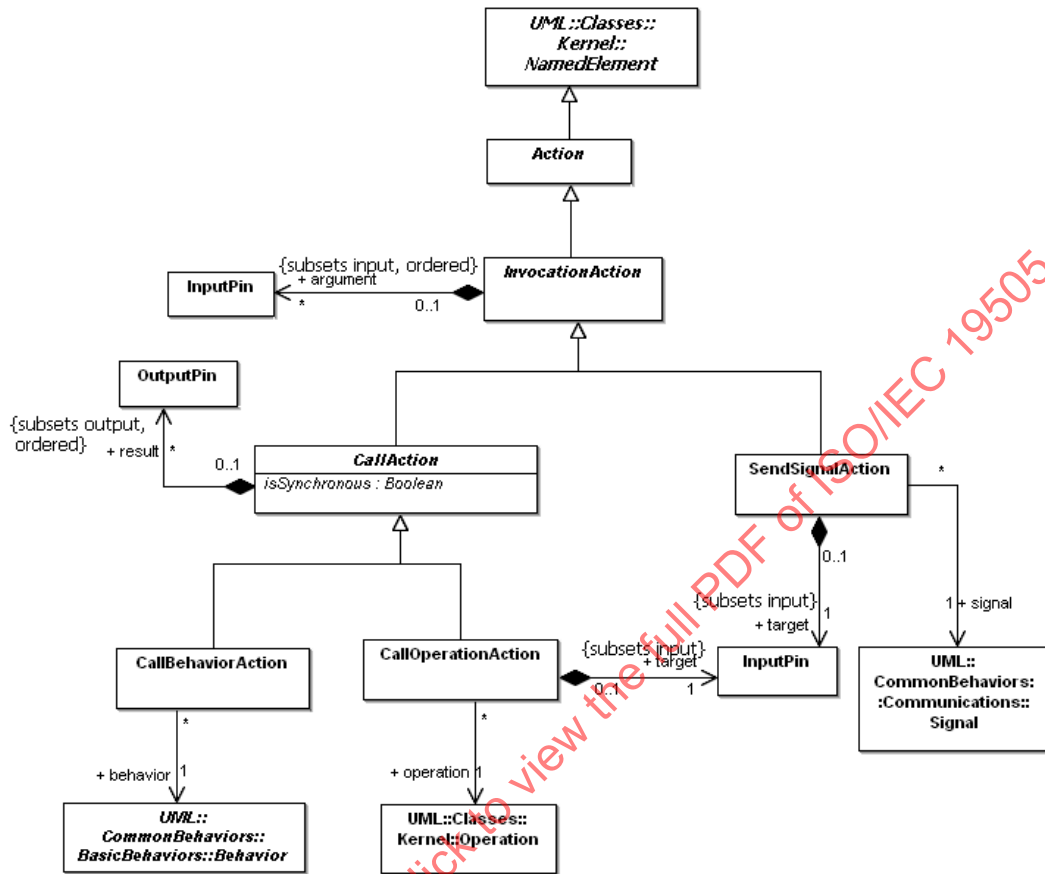


Figure 11.4 - Basic invocation actions

Package IntermediateActions

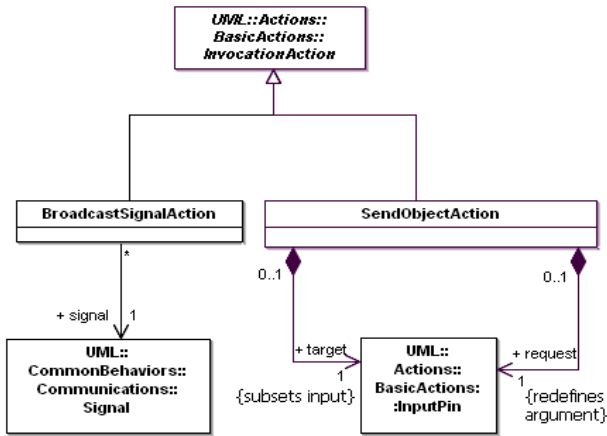


Figure 11.5 - Intermediate invocation actions

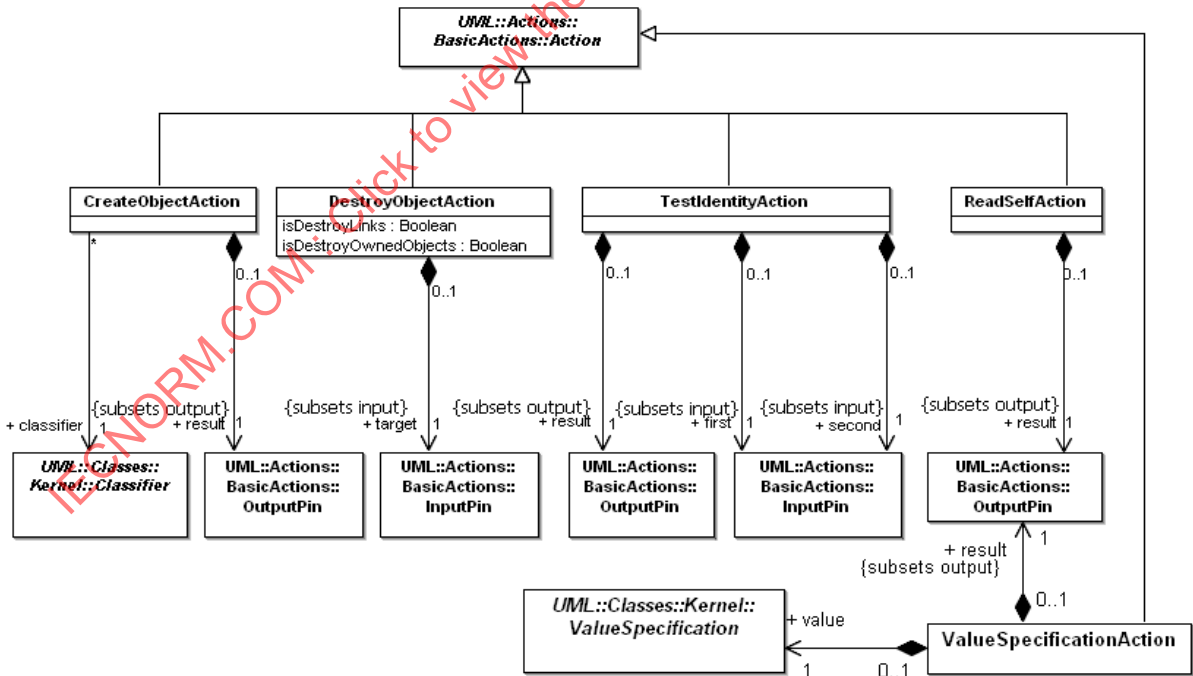


Figure 11.6 - Object actions

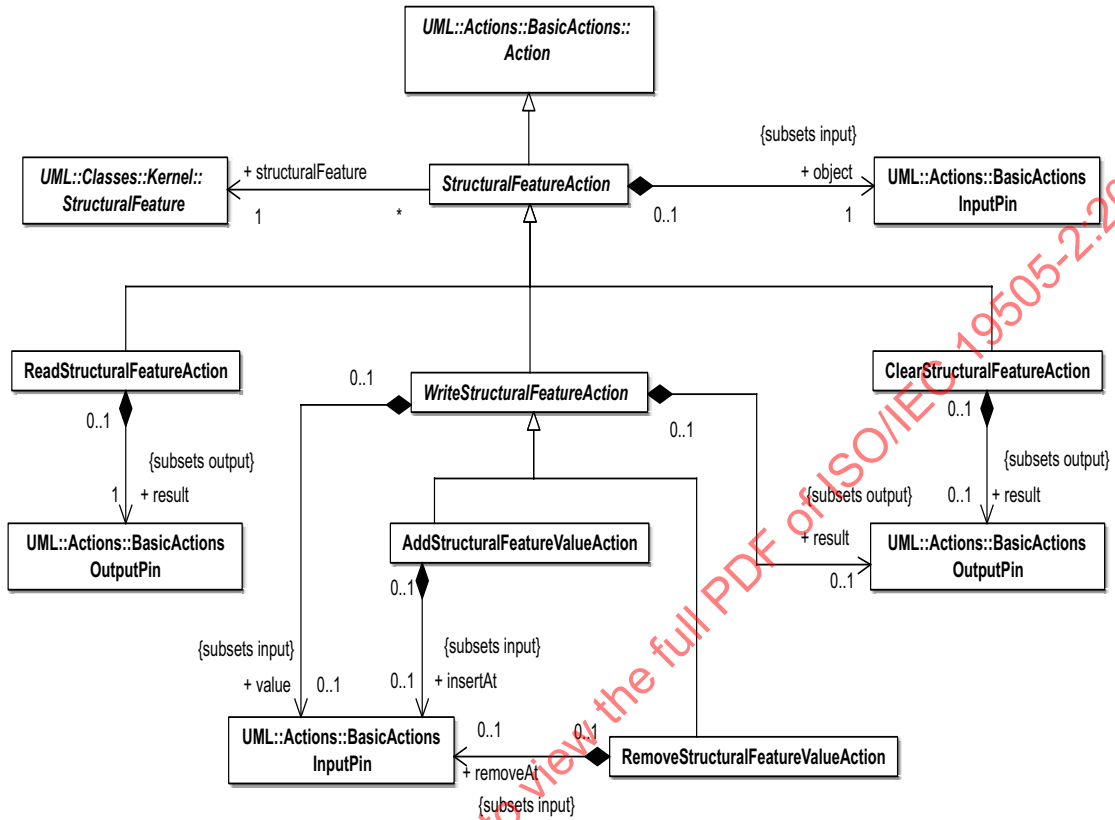


Figure 11.7 - Structural Feature Actions

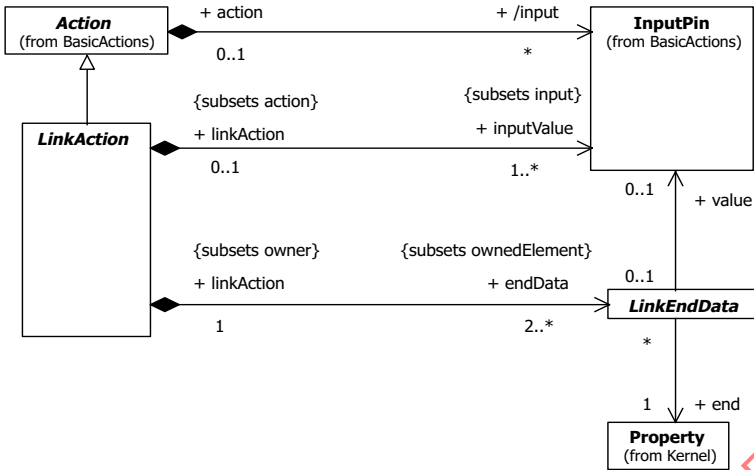


Figure 11.8 - Link identification

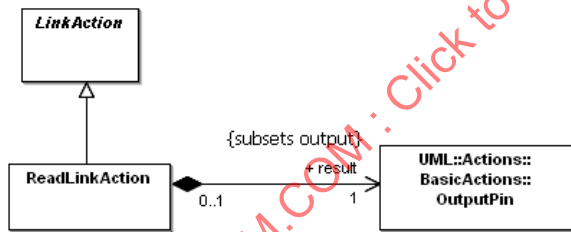


Figure 11.9 - Read link actions

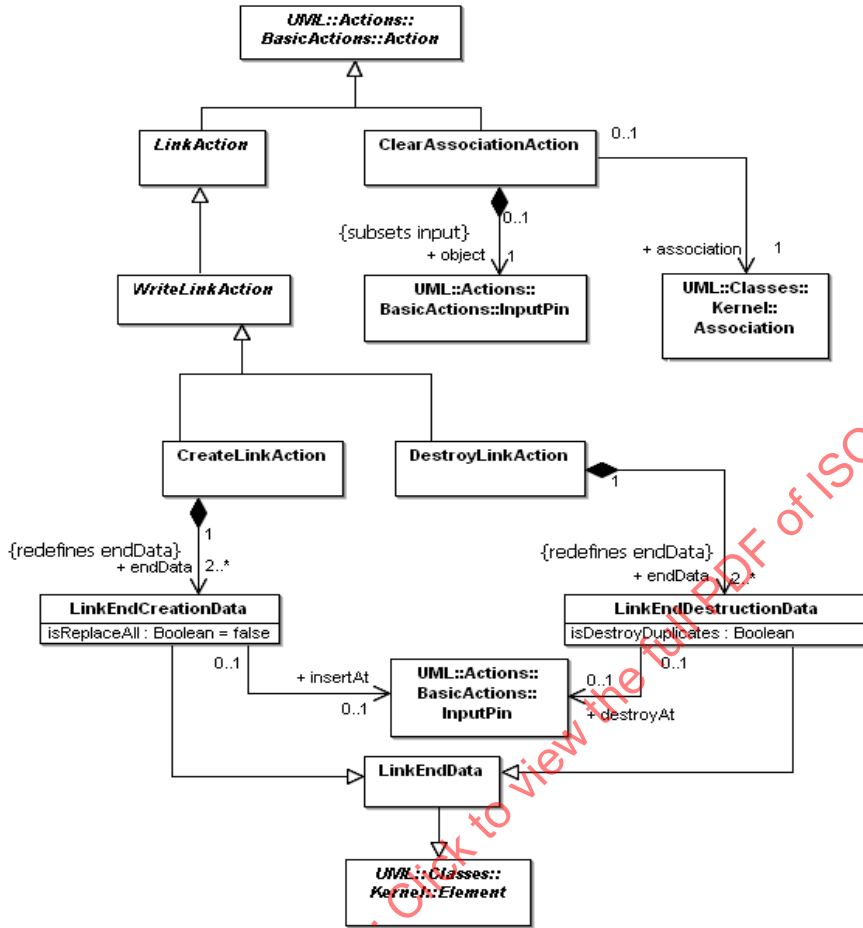


Figure 11.10 - Write link actions

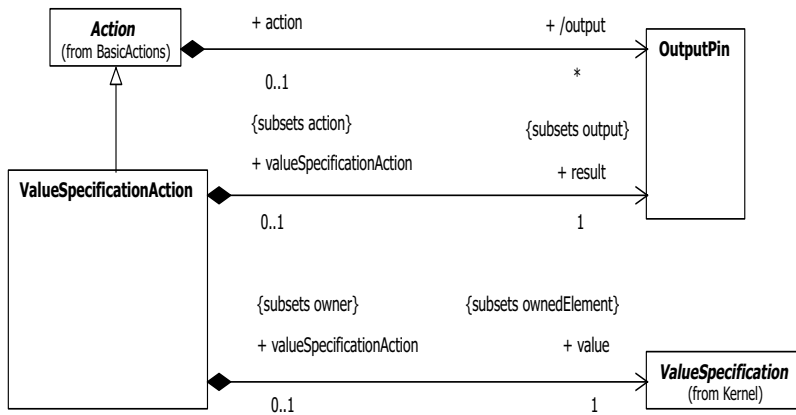


Figure 11.11 - Miscellaneous actions

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Package CompleteActions

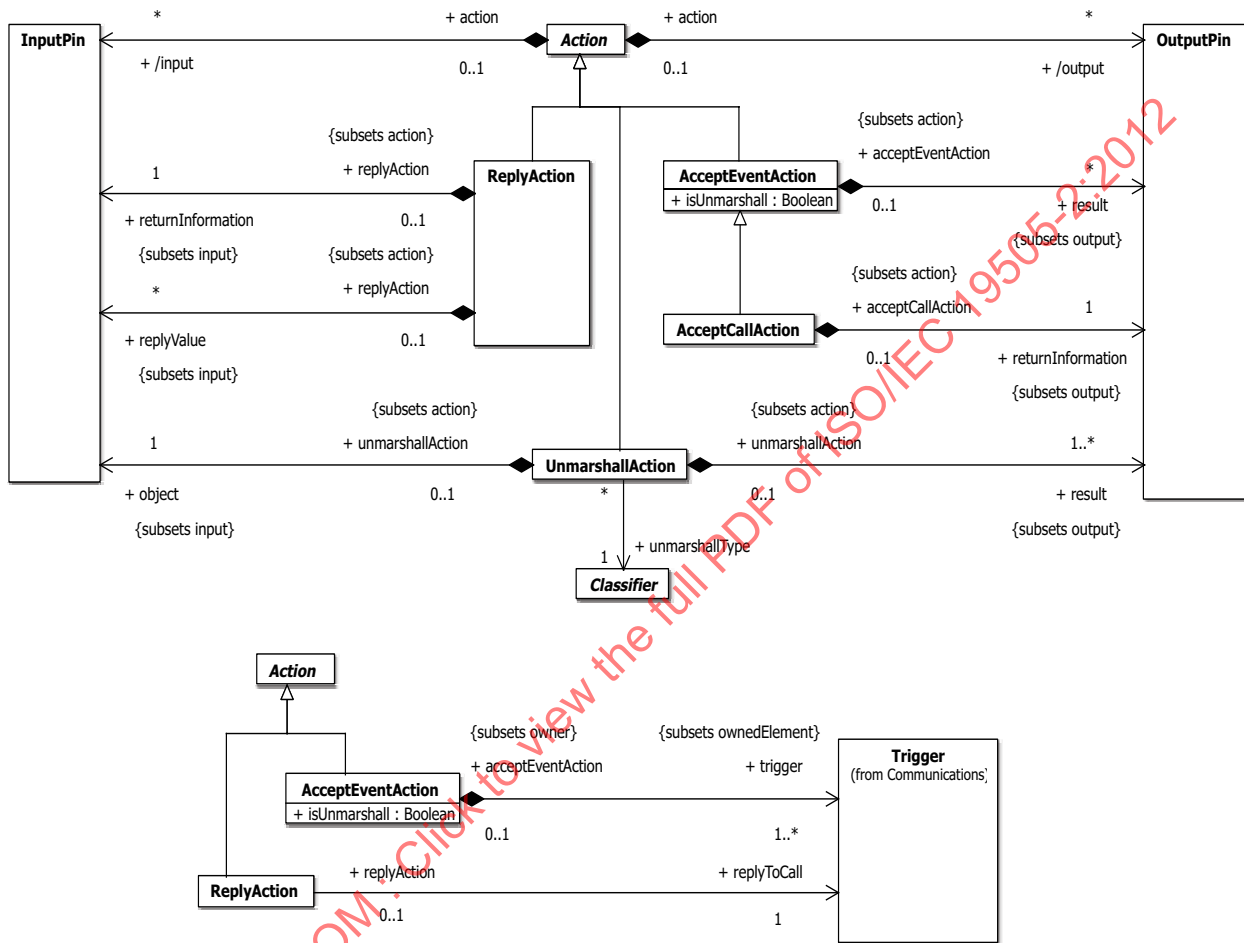


Figure 11.12 - Accept event actions

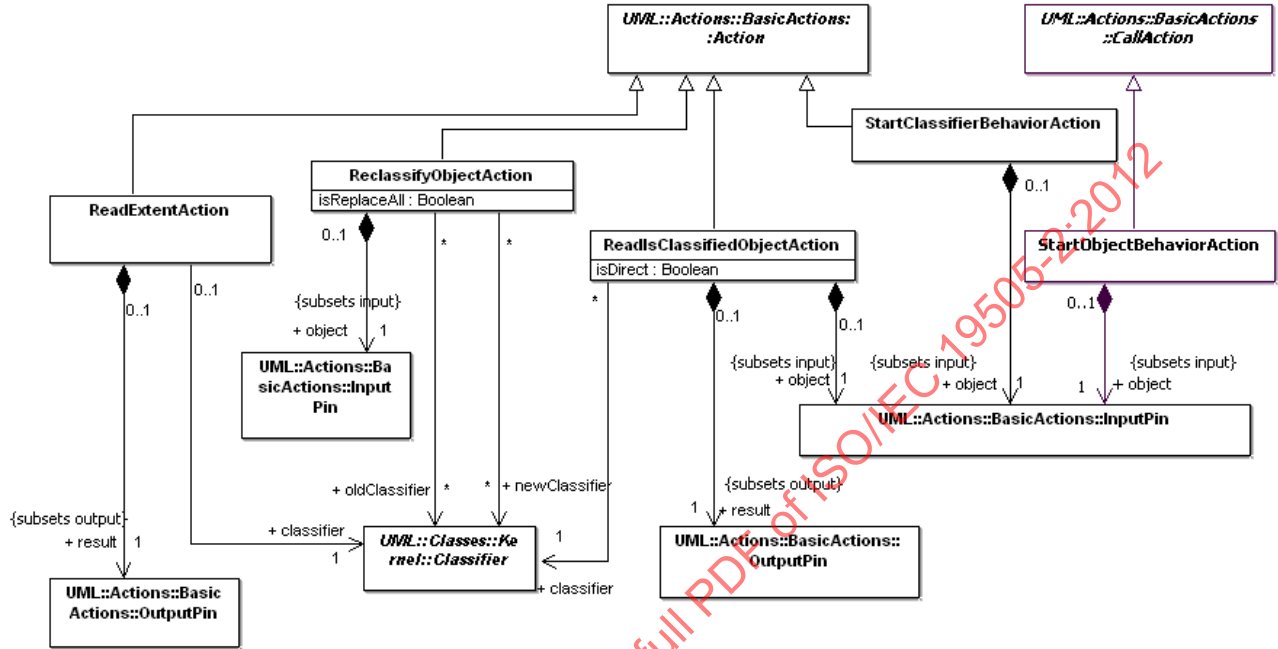


Figure 11.13 - Object actions (CompleteActions)

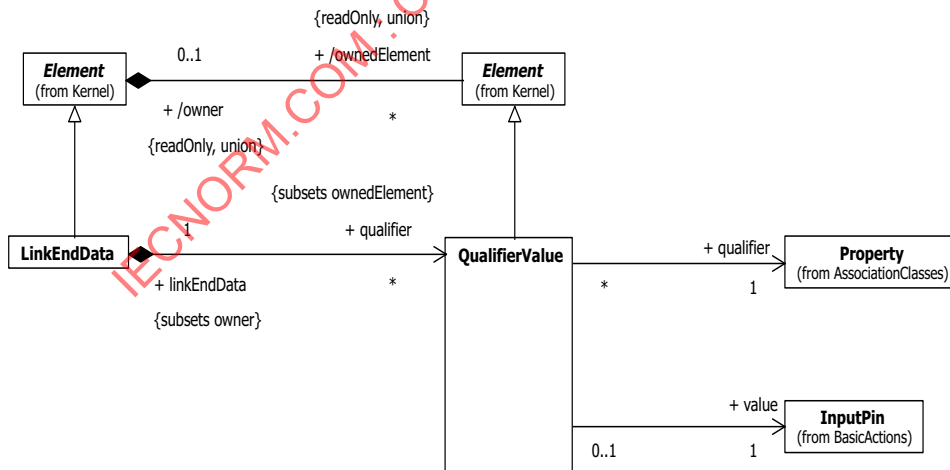


Figure 11.14 - Link identification (CompleteActions)

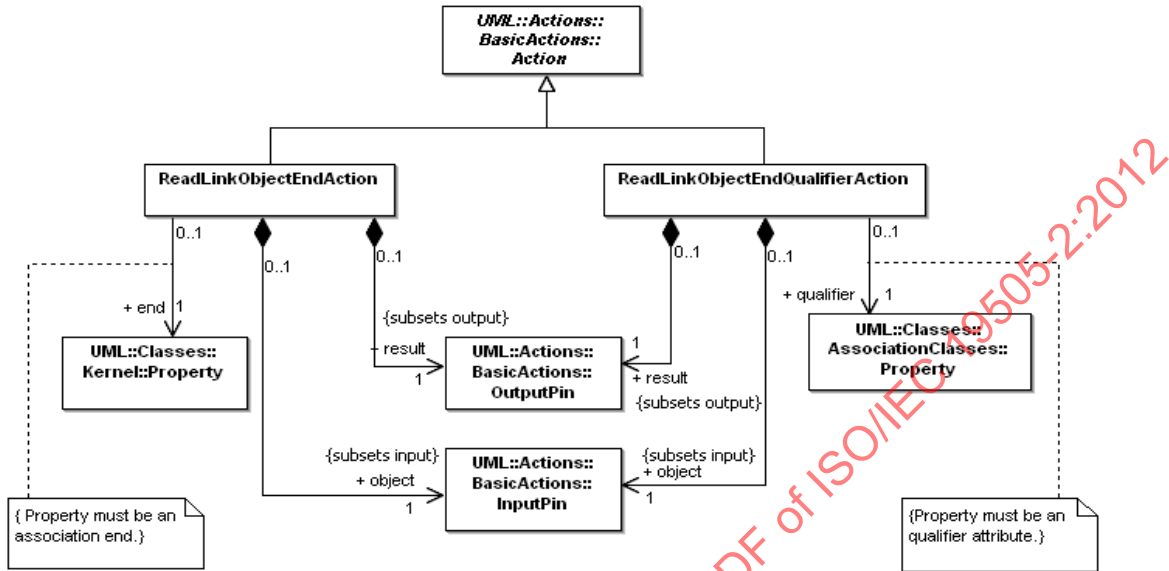


Figure 11.15 - Read link actions (CompleteActions)

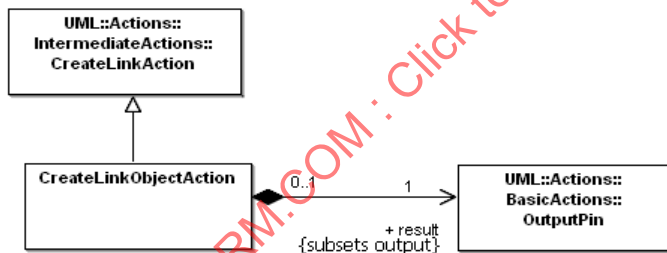


Figure 11.16 - Write link actions (CompleteActions)

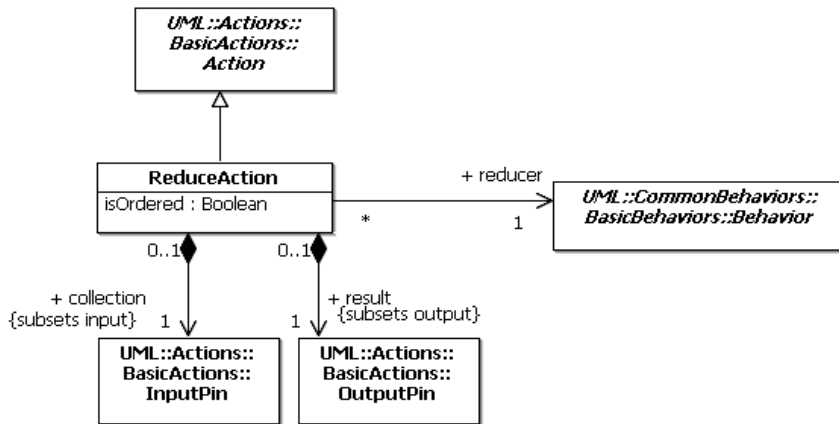


Figure 11.17 - ReduceAction (CompleteActions)

Package StructuredActions

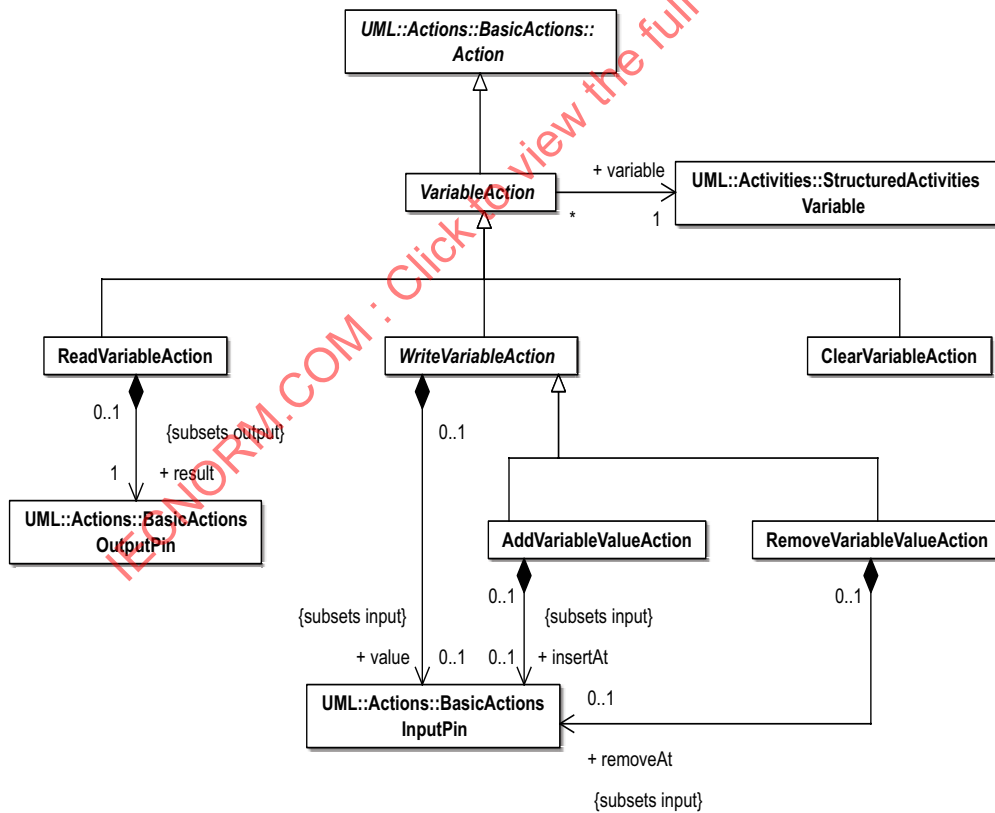


Figure 11.18 - Variable actions

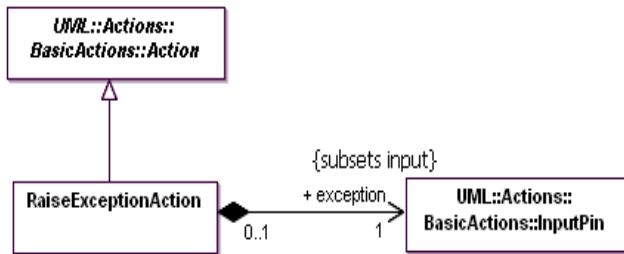


Figure 11.19 - Raise exception action

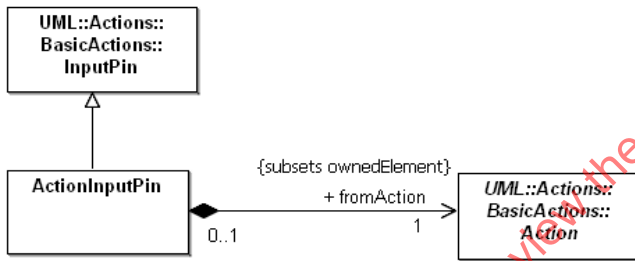


Figure 11.20 - Action input pin

## 11.3 Class Descriptions

### 11.3.1 AcceptCallAction (from CompleteActions)

#### Generalizations

- “AcceptEventAction (from CompleteActions)” on page 247

#### Description

AcceptCallAction is an accept event action representing the receipt of a call request. In addition to the normal operation parameters, the action produces an output that is needed later to supply the information to the ReplyAction necessary to return control to the caller.

This action is primarily intended for synchronous calls, though it will also accept asynchronous calls to its referenced operation. If it is used to handle an asynchronous call, then a reply action may still be executed on the return information produced by the accept call action, but the reply action will complete immediately with no effect.

**Attributes**

No additional attributes

**Associations**

- returnInformation: OutputPin [1..1]  
Pin where a value is placed containing sufficient information to perform a subsequent reply and return control to the caller. The contents of this value are opaque. It can be passed and copied but it cannot be manipulated by the model.  
{Subsets *Action::output*}

**Constraints**

- [1] The result pins must match the in and inout parameters of the operation specified by the trigger event in number, type, and order.
- [2] The trigger event must be a CallEvent.  
trigger.event.oclIsKindOf(CallEvent)
- [3] isUnmarshall must be true for an AcceptCallAction.  
isUnmarshall = true

**Semantics**

This action accepts (event) occurrences representing the receipt of calls on the operation specified by the trigger call event. If an ongoing activity behavior has executed an accept call action that has not completed and the owning object has an event occurrence representing a call of the specified operation, the accept call action claims the event occurrence and removes it from the owning object. If several accept call actions concurrently request a call on the same operation, it is unspecified which one claims the event occurrence, but one and only one action will claim the event. The argument values of the call are placed on the result output pins of the action. Information sufficient to perform a subsequent reply action is placed in the returnInformation output pin. The execution of the accept call action is then complete. This return information value is opaque and may only be used by ReplyAction.

Note that the target class must not define a method for the operation being received; otherwise, the operation call will be dispatched to that method instead of being put in the event buffer to be handled by AcceptCallAction. In general, classes determine how operation calls are handled, namely by a method, by a behavior owned directly by the class, by a state machine transition, and so on. The class must ensure that the operation call is handled in a way that AcceptCallAction has access to the call event.

**11.3.2 AcceptEventAction (from CompleteActions)****Generalizations**

- “Action (from BasicActions)” on page 249

**Description**

AcceptEventAction is an action that waits for the occurrence of an event meeting specified condition.

**Attributes**

- isUnmarshall : Boolean = false  
Indicates whether there is a single output pin for the event, or multiple output pins for attributes of the event.

### Associations

- trigger : Trigger [1..\*]  
The type of events accepted by the action, as specified by triggers. For triggers with signal events, a signal of the specified type or any subtype of the specified signal type is accepted. {Subsets Element::ownedElement}
- result: OutputPin [0..\*]  
Pins holding the received event objects or their attributes. Event objects may be copied in transmission, so identity might not be preserved. {Subsets Action::output}

### Constraints

- [1] AcceptEventActions may have no input pins.
- [2] There are no output pins if the trigger events are only ChangeEvents, or if they are only CallEvents when this action is an instance of AcceptEventAction and not an instance of a descendant of AcceptEventAction (such as AcceptCallAction).
- [3] If the trigger events are all TimeEvents, there is exactly one output pin.
- [4] If isUnmarshalled is true, there must be exactly one trigger for events of type SignalEvent. The number of result output pins must be the same as the number of attributes of the signal. The type and ordering of each result output pin must be the same as the corresponding attribute of the signal. The multiplicity of each result output pin must be compatible with the multiplicity of the corresponding attribute.

### Semantics

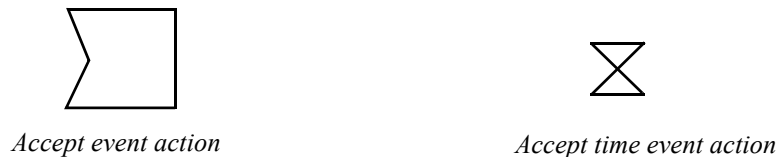
Accept event actions handle event occurrences detected by the object owning the behavior (also see “InterruptibleActivityRegion (from CompleteActivities)” on page 397). Event occurrences are detected by objects independently of actions and the occurrences are stored by the object. The arrangement of detected event occurrences is not defined, but it is expected that extensions or profiles will specify such arrangements. If the accept event action is executed and the object detected an event occurrence matching one of the triggers on the action and the occurrence has not been accepted by another action or otherwise consumed by another behavior, then the accept event action completes and outputs a value describing the occurrence. If such a matching occurrence is not available, the action waits until such an occurrence becomes available, at which point the action may accept it. In a system with concurrency, several actions or other behaviors might contend for an available event occurrence. Unless otherwise specified by an extension or profile, only one action accepts a given occurrence, even if the occurrence would satisfy multiple concurrently executing actions.

If the occurrence is a signal event occurrence and isUnmarshall is false, the result value contains a signal object whose reception by the owning object caused the occurrence. If the occurrence is a signal event occurrence and isUnmarshall is true, the attribute values of the signal are placed on the result output pins of the action. Signal objects may be copied in transmission and storage by the owning object, so identity might not be preserved. An action whose trigger is a signal event is informally called an accept signal action. If the occurrence is a time event occurrence, the result value contains the time at which the occurrence transpired. Such an action is informally called a wait time action. If the occurrences are all occurrences of ChangeEvent, or all CallEvent, or a combination of these, there are no output pins (however, see “AcceptCallAction (from CompleteActions)” on page 246). See CommonBehavior for a description of Event specifications. If the triggers are a combination of SignalEvents and ChangeEvents, the result is a null value if a change event occurrence or a call event occurrence is accepted. If one of the triggers is an AnyReceiveEvent, and the event occurrence is for a message that is not matched by any specific SignalEvent or CallEvent trigger on the same action, then the event occurrence matches the AnyReceiveEvent (see also “AnyReceiveEvent (from Communications)” on page 450).

This action handles asynchronous messages, including asynchronous calls. It cannot be used with synchronous calls (except see “AcceptCallAction (from CompleteActions)” on page 246).

## Notation

An accept event action is notated with a concave pentagon. A wait time action is notated with an hour glass.



**Figure 11.21 - Accept event notations**

## Examples

“AcceptEventAction (as specialized)” on page 323

## Rationale

Accept event actions are introduced to handle processing of events during the execution of a behavior.

## Changes from previous UML

AcceptEventAction is new in UML 2.

## 11.3.3 Action (from BasicActions)

### Generalizations

- “NamedElement (from Kernel, Dependencies)” on page 104

### Description

An action is a named element that is the fundamental unit of executable functionality. The execution of an action represents some transformation or processing in the modeled system, be it a computer system or otherwise.

### Attributes

No additional attributes

### Associations

- `/input : InputPin [*]`  
The ordered set of input pins connected to the Action. These are among the total set of inputs. {Specializes *Element::ownedElement*}
- `/output : OutputPin [*]`  
The ordered set of output pins connected to the Action. The action places its results onto pins in this set. {Specializes *Element::ownedElement*}
- `/context : Classifier [0..1]`  
The classifier that owns the behavior of which this action is a part.

### Constraints

No additional constraints

### Semantics

An action execution represents the run-time behavior of executing an action within a specific behavior execution. As Action is an abstract class, all action executions will be executions of specific kinds of actions. When the action executes, and what its actual inputs are, is determined by the concrete action and the behaviors in which it is used.

### Notation

No specific notation. See extensions in Activities clause.

### Changes from previous UML

Action is the same concept as in UML 1.5, but modeled independently of the behaviors that use it.

## 11.3.4 ActionInputPin (from StructuredActions)

### Generalizations

- “InputPin (from BasicActions)” on page 269

### Description

An action input pin is a kind of pin that executes an action to determine the values to input to another.

### Attributes

No additional attributes

### Associations

- fromAction : Action [1]  
The action used to provide values. {Subsets Element::ownedElement}

### Constraints

- [1] The fromAction of an action input pin must have exactly one output pin.
- [2] The fromAction of an action input pin must only have action input pins as input pins.
- [3] The fromAction of an action input pin cannot have control or data flows coming into or out of it or its pins.

### Semantics

If an action is otherwise enabled, the fromActions on action input pins are enabled. The outputs of these are used as the values of the corresponding input pins. The process recurs on the input pins of the fromActions, if they also have action input pins. The recursion bottoms out at actions that have no inputs, such as for read variables or the self object. This forms a tree that is an action model for nested expressions.

### Notation

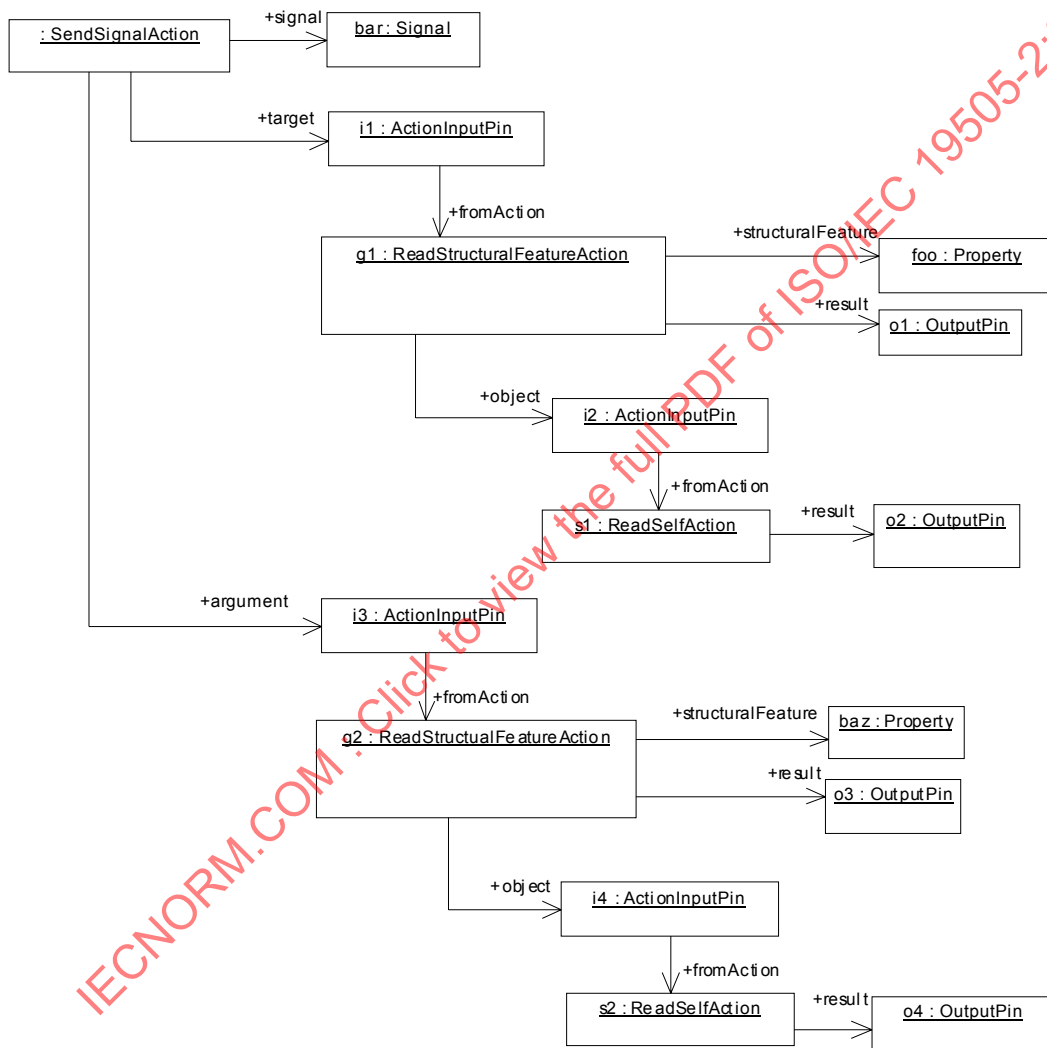
No specific notation

**Example**

Example (in action language provided just for example, not normative):

```
self.foo->bar(self.baz);
```

meaning get the foo attribute of self, then send a bar signal to it with argument from the baz attribute of self. The repository model is shown below.



**Figure 11.22 - Example repository model**

**Rationale**

ActionInputPin is introduced to pass values between actions in expressions without using flows.

### 11.3.5 AddStructuralFeatureValueAction (from IntermediateActions)

AddStructuralFeatureValueAction is a write structural feature action for adding values to a structural feature.

#### Generalizations

- “WriteStructuralFeatureAction (from IntermediateActions)” on page 307.

#### Description

Structural Features are potentially multi-valued and ordered, so the action supports specification of insertion points for new values. It also supports the removal of existing values of the structural feature before the new value is added.

The object to access is specified dynamically, by referring to an input pin on which the object will be placed at runtime. The type of the value of this pin is the classifier that owns the specified structural feature, and the value’s multiplicity is 1..1.

#### Attributes

- isReplaceAll : Boolean [1..1] = false  
Specifies whether existing values of the structural feature of the object should be removed before adding the new value.

#### Associations

- insertAt : InputPin [0..1]  
Gives the position at which to insert a new value or move an existing value in ordered structural features. The type of the pin is UnlimitedNatural, but the value cannot be zero. This pin is omitted for unordered structural features. (Subsets *Action::input*)

#### Constraints

- [1] Actions adding a value to ordered structural features must have a single input pin for the insertion point with type UnlimitedNatural and multiplicity of 1..1; otherwise, the action has no input pin for the insertion point.

```
let insertAtPins : Collection = self.insertAt in
  if self.structuralFeature.isOrdered = #false
  then insertAtPins->size() = 0
  else let insertAtPin : InputPin = insertAt->asSequence()->first() in
    insertAtPins->size() = 1
    and insertAtPin.type = UnlimitedNatural
    and insertAtPin.multiplicity.is(1,1)
  endif
```

- [2] A value input pin is required.  
self.value -> notEmpty()

#### Semantics

If isReplaceAll is true, then the existing values of the structural feature are removed before the new one added, except if the new value already exists, then it is not removed under this option. If isReplaceAll is false and the structural feature is unordered and unique, then adding an existing value has no effect. If the feature is an association end, the semantics are the same as creating a link, the participants of which are the object owning the structural feature and the new value.

Values of a structural feature may be ordered or unordered, even if the multiplicity maximum is 1. Adding values to ordered structural features requires an insertion point for a new value using the `insertAt` input pin. The insertion point is a positive integer giving the position to insert the value, or unlimited, to insert at the end. A positive integer less than or equal to the current number of values means to insert the new value at that position in the sequence of existing values, with the integer one meaning the new value will be first in the sequence. A value of unlimited for `insertAt` means to insert the new value at the end of the sequence. The semantics is undefined for a value of zero or an integer greater than the number of existing values. The insertion point is required for ordered structural features and omitted for unordered structural features. Reinserting an existing value at a new position in an ordered unique structural feature moves the value to that position (this works because structural feature values are sets). The insertion point is ignored when replacing all values.

The semantics is undefined for adding a value that violates the upper multiplicity of the structural feature. Removing a value succeeds even when that violates the minimum multiplicity—the same as if the minimum were zero. The modeler must determine when minimum multiplicity of structural features should be enforced.

The semantics is undefined for adding a new value for a structural feature with `isReadOnly=true` after initialization of the owning object.

### Notation

No specific notation

### Rationale

`AddStructuralFeatureValueAction` is introduced to add structural feature values. `isReplaceAll` is introduced to replace and add in a single action, with no intermediate states of the object where only some of the existing values are present.

### Changes from previous UML

`AddStructuralFeatureValueAction` is new in UML 2. It generalizes `AddAttributeAction` in UML 1.5.

## 11.3.6 AddVariableValueAction (from StructuredActions)

`AddVariableValueAction` is a write variable action for adding values to a variable.

### Generalizations

- “`WriteVariableAction` (from `StructuredActions`)” on page 308

### Description

Variables are potentially multi-valued and ordered, so the action supports specification of insertion points for new values. It also supports the removal of existing values of the variable before the new value is added.

### Attributes

- `isReplaceAll` : Boolean [1..1] = false  
Specifies whether existing values of the variable should be removed before adding the new value.

### Associations

- insertAt : InputPin [0..1]  
Gives the position at which to insert a new value or move an existing value in ordered variables. The type is UnlimitedINatural, but the value cannot be zero. This pin is omitted for unordered variables. (Subsets *Action::input*)

### Constraints

- [1] Actions adding values to ordered variables must have a single input pin for the insertion point with type UnlimitedNatural and multiplicity of 1..1; otherwise, the action has no input pin for the insertion point.

```
let insertAtPins : Collection = self.insertAt in
  if self.variable.ordering = #unordered
  then insertAtPins->size() = 0
  else let insertAtPin : InputPin = insertAt->asSequence()->first() in
    insertAtPins->size() = 1
    and insertAtPin.type = UnlimitedNatural
    and insertAtPin.multiplicity.is(1,1)
  endif
```

- [2] A value input pin is required.

```
self.value -> notEmpty()
```

### Semantics

If isReplaceAll is true, then the existing values of the variable are removed before the new one added, except if the new value already exists, then it is not removed under this option. If isReplaceAll is false and the variable is unordered and unique, then adding an existing value has no effect.

Values of a variable may be ordered or unordered, even if the multiplicity maximum is 1. Adding values to ordered variables requires an insertion point for a new value using the insertAt input pin. The insertion point is a positive integer giving the position to insert the value, or unlimited, to insert at the end. A positive integer less than or equal to the current number of values means to insert the new value at that position in the sequence of existing values, with the integer one meaning the new value will be first in the sequence. A value of unlimited for insertAt means to insert the new value at the end of the sequence. The semantics is undefined for a value of zero or an integer greater than the number of existing values. The insertion point is required for ordered variables and omitted for unordered variables. Reinserting an existing value at a new position in an ordered unique variable moves the value to that position (this works because variable values are sets). The insertion point is ignored when replacing all values.

The semantics is undefined for adding a value that violates the upper multiplicity of the variable. Removing a value succeeds even when that violates the minimum multiplicity—the same as if the minimum were zero. The modeler must determine when minimum multiplicity of variables should be enforced.

### Notation

No specific notation

### Rationale

AddVariableValueAction is introduced to add variable values. isReplaceAll is introduced to replace and add in a single action, with no intermediate states of the variable where only some of the existing values are present.

## Changes from previous UML

AddVariableValueAction is unchanged from UML 1.5.

### 11.3.7 BroadcastSignalAction (from IntermediateActions)

#### Generalizations

- “InvocationAction (from BasicActions)” on page 269

#### Description

BroadcastSignalAction is an action that transmits a signal instance to all the potential target objects in the system, which may cause the firing of a state machine transitions or the execution of associated activities of a target object. The argument values are available to the execution of associated behaviors. The requestor continues execution immediately after the signals are sent out. It does not wait for receipt. Any reply messages are ignored and are not transmitted to the requestor.

#### Attributes

No additional attributes

#### Associations

- signal: Signal [1]  
The specification of signal object transmitted to the target objects.

#### Constraints

- [1] The number and order of argument pins must be the same as the number and order of attributes in the signal.
- [2] The type, ordering, and multiplicity of an argument pin must be the same as the corresponding attribute of the signal.

#### Semantics

When all the prerequisites of the action execution are satisfied, a signal object is generated from the argument values according to signal and this signal object is transmitted concurrently to each of the implicit broadcast target objects in the system. The manner of identifying the set of objects that are broadcast targets is a semantic variation point and may be limited to some subset of all the objects that exist. There is no restriction on the location of target objects. The manner of transmitting the signal object, the amount of time required to transmit it, the order in which the transmissions reach the various target objects, and the path for reaching the target objects are undefined.

- [1] When a transmission arrives at a target object, it may invoke a behavior in the target object. The effect of receiving such transmission is specified in Clause 13, “Common Behaviors.” Such effects include executing activities and firing state machine transitions.
- [2] A broadcast signal action receives no reply from the invoked behavior; any attempted reply is simply ignored, and no transmission is performed to the requestor.

#### Semantic Variation Points

The determination of the set of broadcast target objects is a semantic variation point.

## Notation

No specific notation

## Rationale

Sends a signal to a set of system defined target objects.

## Changes from previous UML

Same as UML 1.5.

## 11.3.8 CallAction (from BasicActions)

### Generalizations

- “InvocationAction (from BasicActions)” on page 269.

### Description

CallAction is an abstract class for actions that invoke behavior and receive return values.

### Attributes

- `isSynchronous`: Boolean = true  
If *true*, the call is synchronous and the caller waits for completion of the invoked behavior. If *false*, the call is asynchronous and the caller proceeds immediately and does not expect a return value.

### Associations

- `result`: OutputPin [0..\*]  
A list of output pins where the results of performing the invocation are placed. {Subsets *Action::input*}

### Constraints

- [1] Only synchronous call actions can have result pins.
- [2] The number and order of argument pins must be the same as the number and order of parameters of the invoked behavior or behavioral feature. Pins are matched to parameters by order.
- [3] The type, ordering, and multiplicity of an argument pin must be the same as the corresponding parameter of the behavior or behavioral feature.

### Semantics

Parameters on behaviors and operations are totally ordered lists. To match parameters to pins on call actions, select the sublist of that list that corresponds to in and inout owned parameters (i.e., `Behavior.ownedParameter`). The input pins on `Action::input` are matched in order against these parameters in the sublist order. Then take the sublist of the parameter list that corresponds to out, inout, and return parameters. The output pins on `Action::output` are matched in order against these parameters in sublist order.

If the behavior invoked by a call action is not reentrant, then no more than one execution of it will exist at any given time. An invocation of a non-reentrant behavior does not start the behavior when the behavior is already executing.

An invocation of a reentrant behavior may start a new execution of the behavior when offered the required tokens, even if the behavior is already executing. However, it will not invoke the behavior if there is an ongoing behavior execution invoked by the same action within the same activity execution, and the action has `isLocallyReentrant=false` (see “Action (from CompleteActivities, FundamentalActivities, StructuredActivities, CompleteStructuredActivities)” on page 325).

See children of CallAction.

### 11.3.9 CallBehaviorAction (from BasicActions)

#### Generalizations

- “CallAction (from BasicActions)” on page 256

#### Description

CallBehaviorAction is a call action that invokes a behavior directly rather than invoking a behavioral feature that, in turn, results in the invocation of that behavior. The argument values of the action are available to the execution of the invoked behavior. For synchronous calls the execution of the call behavior action waits until the execution of the invoked behavior completes and a result is returned on its output pin. The action completes immediately without a result, if the call is asynchronous.

#### Attributes

No additional attributes

#### Associations

- behavior : Behavior [1..1]  
The invoked behavior. It must be capable of accepting and returning control.

#### Constraints

- [1] The number of argument pins and the number of parameters of the behavior of type *in* and *in-out* must be equal.
- [2] The number of result pins and the number of parameters of the behavior of type *return*, *out*, and *in-out* must be equal.
- [3] The type, ordering, and multiplicity of an argument or result pin is derived from the corresponding parameter of the behavior.

#### Semantics

- [1] When all the prerequisites of the action execution are satisfied, CallBehaviorAction invokes its specified behavior with the values on the input pins as arguments. When the behavior is finished, the output values are put on the output pins. Each parameter of the behavior of the action provides output to a pin or takes input from one. No other implementation specifics are implied, such as call stacks, and so on. See “Pin (from BasicActions)” on page 277.
- [2] If the call is asynchronous, the action completes immediately. Execution of the invoked behavior proceeds without any further dependency on the execution of the behavior containing the invoking action. Once the invocation of the behavior has been initiated, execution of the asynchronous action is complete.
- [3] An asynchronous invocation completes when its behavior is started, or is at least ensured to be started at some point. Any return or out values from the invoked behavior are not passed back to the containing behavior. When an asynchronous invocation is done, the containing behavior continues regardless of the status of the invoked behavior. For example, the containing behavior may complete even though the invoked behavior is not finished.

- [4] If the call is synchronous, execution of the calling action is blocked until it receives a reply from the invoked behavior. The reply includes values for any return, out, or inout parameters.
- [5] If the call is synchronous, when the execution of the invoked behavior completes, the result values are placed on the result pins of the call behavior action, and the execution of the action is complete (StructuredActions, ExtraStructuredActivities). If the execution of the invoked behavior yields an exception, the exception is transmitted to the call behavior action to begin search for a handler. See RaiseExceptionAction.

### Notation

See specialization of “CallBehaviorAction (as specialized)” on page 364.

### Presentation Options

See specialization of “CallBehaviorAction (as specialized)” on page 364.

### Rationale

Invokes a behavior directly without the need for a behavioral feature.

### Changes from previous UML

Same as UML 1.5

## 11.3.10 CallOperationAction (from BasicActions)

### Generalizations

- “CallAction (from BasicActions)” on page 256

### Description

CallOperationAction is an action that transmits an operation call request to the target object, where it may cause the invocation of associated behavior. The argument values of the action are available to the execution of the invoked behavior. If the action is marked synchronous, the execution of the call operation action waits until the execution of the invoked behavior completes and a reply transmission is returned to the caller; otherwise, execution of the action is complete when the invocation of the operation is established and the execution of the invoked operation proceeds concurrently with the execution of the calling behavior. Any values returned as part of the reply transmission are put on the result output pins of the call operation action. Upon receipt of the reply transmission, execution of the call operation action is complete.

### Attributes

No additional attributes

### Associations

- operation: Operation [1]  
The operation to be invoked by the action execution.
- target: InputPin [1]  
The target object to which the request is sent. The classifier of the target object is used to dynamically determine a behavior to invoke. This object constitutes the context of the execution of the operation. {Subsets *Action::input*}

### Constraints

- [1] The number of argument pins and the number of owned parameters of the operation of type *in* and *in-out* must be equal.
- [2] The number of result pins and the number of owned parameters of the operation of type *return*, *out*, and *in-out* must be equal.
- [3] The type, ordering, and multiplicity of an argument or result pin is derived from the corresponding owned parameter of the operation.
- [4] The type of the target pin must be the same as the type that owns the operation.

### Semantics

The inputs to the action determine the target object and additional actual arguments of the call.

- [1] When all the prerequisites of the action execution are satisfied, information comprising the operation and the argument pin values of the action execution is created and transmitted to the target object. The target objects may be local or remote. The manner of transmitting the call, the amount of time required to transmit it, the order in which the transmissions reach the various target objects, and the path for reaching the target objects are undefined.
- [2] When a call arrives at a target object, it may invoke a behavior in the target object. The effect of receiving such call is specified in 13, “Common Behaviors.” Such effects include executing activities and firing state machine transitions.
- [3] If the call is synchronous, when the execution of the invoked behavior completes, its return results are transmitted back as a reply to the calling action execution. The manner of transmitting the reply, the time required for transmission, the representation of the reply transmission, and the transmission path are unspecified. If the execution of the invoked behavior yields an exception, the exception is transmitted to the caller where it is reraised as an exception in the execution of the calling action. Possible exception types may be specified by attaching them to the called Operation using the *raisedException* association.
- [4] If the call is asynchronous, the caller proceeds immediately and the execution of the call operation action is complete. Any return or out values from the invoked operation are not passed back to the containing behavior. If the call is synchronous, the caller is blocked from further execution until it receives a reply from the invoked behavior.
- [5] When the reply transmission arrives at the invoking action execution, the return result values are placed on the result pins of the call operation action, and the execution of the action is complete.

### Semantic Variation Points

The mechanism for determining the method to be invoked as a result of a call operation is unspecified.

### Notation

See “CallBehaviorAction (as specialized)” on page 364

### Presentation Options

See “CallOperationAction (as specialized)” on page 366

### Rationale

Calls an operation on a specified target object.

### Changes from previous UML

Same as UML 1.5.

### 11.3.11 ClearAssociationAction (from IntermediateActions)

ClearAssociationAction is an action that destroys all links of an association in which a particular object participates.

#### Generalizations

- “Action (from BasicActions)” on page 249

#### Description

This action destroys all links of an association that have a particular object at one end.

#### Attributes

No additional attributes

#### Associations

- association : Association [1..1]  
Association to be cleared.
- object : InputPin [1..1]  
Gives the input pin from which is obtained the object whose participation in the association is to be cleared. (Subsets *Action::input*)

#### Constraints

- [1] The type of the input pin must be the same as the type of at least one of the association ends of the association.  
`self.association->exists(end.type = self.object.type)`
- [2] The multiplicity of the input pin is 1..1.  
`self.object.multiplicity.is(1,1)`

#### Semantics

This action has a statically-specified association. It has an input pin for a runtime object that must be of the same type as at least one of the association ends of the association. All links of the association in which the object participates are destroyed even when that violates the minimum multiplicity of any of the association ends. If the association is a class, then link object identities are destroyed.

#### Notation

No specific notation

#### Rationale

ClearAssociationAction is introduced to remove all links from an association in which an object participates in a single action, with no intermediate states where only some of the existing links are present.

#### Changes from previous UML

ClearAssociationAction is unchanged from UML 1.5.

### 11.3.12 ClearStructuralFeatureAction (from IntermediateActions)

ClearStructuralFeatureAction is a structural feature action that removes all values of a structural feature.

#### Generalizations

- “StructuralFeatureAction (from IntermediateActions)” on page 300

#### Description

This action removes all values of a structural feature.

#### Attributes

No additional attributes

#### Associations

- result : OutputPin [0..1]  
 Gives the output pin on which the result is put. {Subsets *Action:output*}

#### Constraints

- [1] The type of the result output pin is the same as the type of the inherited object input pin.  
 result->notEmpty() implies self.result.type = self.object.type
- [2] The multiplicity of the result output pin must be 1..1.  
 result->notEmpty() implies self.result.multiplicity.is(1,1)

#### Semantics

All values are removed even when that violates the minimum multiplicity of the structural feature—the same as if the minimum were zero. The semantics is undefined for a structural feature with `isReadOnly = true` after initialization of the object owning the structural feature, unless the structural feature has no values. The action has no effect if the structural feature has no values. If the feature is an association end, the semantics are the same as for ClearAssociationAction on the object owning the structural feature.

If a result output pin is provided, then the input object, as modified, is placed on the output pin. If the input object is actually a data value, then a copy of the input data value is placed on the output pin, but with the appropriate structural feature cleared.

#### Notation

No specific notation

#### Rationale

ClearStructuralFeatureAction is introduced to remove all values from a structural feature in a single action, with no intermediate states where only some of the existing values are present.

#### Changes from previous UML

ClearStructuralFeatureAction is new in UML 2. It generalizes ClearAttributeAction from UML 1.5.

### 11.3.13 ClearVariableAction (from StructuredActions)

ClearVariableAction is a variable action that removes all values of a variable.

#### Generalizations

- “VariableAction (from StructuredActions)” on page 305

#### Description

This action removes all values of a variable.

#### Attributes

No additional attributes

#### Associations

No additional associations

#### Constraints

No additional constraints

#### Semantics

All values are removed even when that violates the minimum multiplicity of the variable—the same as if the minimum were zero.

#### Notation

No specific notation

#### Rationale

ClearVariableAction is introduced to remove all values from a variable in a single action, with no intermediate states where only some of the existing values are present.

#### Changes from previous UML

ClearVariableAction is unchanged from UML 1.5.

### 11.3.14 CreateLinkAction (from IntermediateActions)

(IntermediateActions) CreateLinkAction is a write link action for creating links.

#### Generalizations

- “WriteLinkAction (from IntermediateActions)” on page 306

## Description

This action can be used to create links and link objects. There is no return value in either case. This is so that no change of the action is required if the association is changed to an association class or vice versa. CreateLinkAction uses a specialization of LinkEndData called LinkEndCreationData, to support ordered associations. The insertion point is specified at runtime by an additional input pin, which is required for ordered association ends and omitted for unordered ends. The insertion point is an integer greater than 0 giving the position to insert the link, or unlimited, to insert at the end. Reinserting an existing end at a new position in an ordered unique structural feature moves the end to that position.

CreateLinkAction also uses LinkEndCreationData to support the destruction of existing links of the association that connect any of the objects of the new link. When the link is created, this option is available on an end-by-end basis, and causes all links of the association emanating from the specified ends to be destroyed before the new link is created.

## Attributes

No additional attributes

## Associations

- endData : LinkEndCreationData [2..\*]  
Specifies ends of association and inputs. (Redefines *LinkAction::endData*)

## Constraints

[1] The association cannot be an abstract classifier.

```
self.association().isAbstract = #false
```

## Semantics

CreateLinkAction creates a link or link object for an association or association class. It has no output pin, because links are not necessarily values that can be passed to and from actions. When the action creates a link object, the object could be returned on output pin, but it is not for consistency with links. This allows actions to remain unchanged when an association is changed to an association class or vice versa. The semantics of CreateLinkObjectAction applies to creating link objects with CreateLinkAction.

This action also supports the destruction of existing links of the association that connect any of the objects of the new link. This option is available on an end-by-end basis, and causes all links of the association emanating from the specified ends to be destroyed before the new link is created. If the link already exists, then it is not destroyed under this option; otherwise, recreating an existing link has no effect if the structural feature is unordered and non-unique.

The semantics is undefined for creating a link for an association class that is abstract. The semantics is undefined for creating a link that violates the upper multiplicity of one of its association ends. A new link violates the upper multiplicity of an end if the cardinality of that end after the link is created would be greater than the upper multiplicity of that end. The cardinality of an end is equal to the number of links with objects participating in the other ends that are the same as those participating in those other ends in the new link, and with qualifier values on all ends the same as the new link, if any.

The semantics is undefined for creating a link that has an association end with isReadOnly=true after initialization of the other end objects, unless the link being created already exists. Objects participating in the association across from a writeable end can have links created as long as the objects across from all read only ends are still being initialized. This means that objects participating in links with two or more read only ends cannot have links created unless all the linked objects are being initialized.

Creating ordered association ends requires an insertion point for a new link using the insertAt input pin of LinkEndCreationData. The pin is of type UnlimitedNatural with multiplicity of 1..1. A pin value that is a positive integer less than or equal to the current number of links means to insert the new link at that position in the sequence of existing links, with the integer one meaning the new link will be first in the sequence. A value of unlimited for insertAt means to insert the new link at the end of the sequence. The semantics is undefined for value of zero or an integer greater than the number of existing links. The insertAt input pin does not exist for unordered association ends. Reinserting an existing end at a new position in an ordered unique structural feature moves the end so that it is in the position specified after the action is complete.

### Notation

No specific notation

### Rationale

CreateLinkAction is introduced to create links.

### Changes from previous UML

CreateLinkAction is unchanged from UML 1.5.

## 11.3.15 CreateLinkObjectAction (from CompleteActions)

CreateLinkObjectAction creates a link object.

### Generalizations

- “CreateLinkAction (from IntermediateActions)” on page 262

### Description

This action is exclusively for creating links of association classes. It returns the created link object.

### Attributes

No additional attributes

### Associations

- result [1..1] : OutputPin [1..1]  
Gives the output pin on which the result is put. (Subsets *Action::output*)

### Constraints

- [1] The association must be an association class.  
self.association().oclIsKindOf(Class)
- [2] The type of the result pin must be the same as the association of the action.  
self.result.type = self.association()
- [3] The multiplicity of the output pin is 1..1.  
self.result.multiplicity.is(1,1)

**Semantics**

CreateLinkObjectAction inherits the semantics and constraints of CreateLinkAction, except that it operates on association classes to create a link object. The additional semantics over CreateLinkAction is that the new or found link object is put on the output pin. If the link already exists, then the found link object is put on the output pin. The semantics of CreateObjectAction applies to creating link objects with CreateLinkObjectAction.

**Notation**

No specific notation

**Rationale**

CreateLinkObjectAction is introduced to create link objects in a way that returns the link object (Compare CreateLinkAction).

**Changes from previous UML**

CreateLinkObjectAction is unchanged from UML 1.5.

**11.3.16 CreateObjectAction (from IntermediateActions)**

CreateObjectAction is an action that creates an object that conforms to a statically specified classifier and puts it on an output pin at runtime.

**Generalizations**

- “Action (from BasicActions)” on page 249

**Description**

This action instantiates a classifier.

**Attributes**

No additional attributes

**Associations**

- classifier : Classifier [1..1]  
Classifier to be instantiated.
- result : OutputPin [1..1]  
Gives the output pin on which the result is put. (Subsets *Action::output*)

**Constraints**

- [1] The classifier cannot be abstract.  
not (self.classifier.isAbstract = #true)
- [2] The classifier cannot be an association class.  
not self.classifier.oclIsKindOf(AssociationClass)

[3] The type of the result pin must be the same as the classifier of the action.

```
self.result.type = self.classifier
```

[4] The multiplicity of the output pin is 1..1.

```
self.result.multiplicity.is(1,1)
```

### Semantics

The new object is created, and the classifier of the object is set to the given classifier. The new object is returned as the value of the action. The action has no other effect. In particular, no behaviors are executed, no initial expressions are evaluated, and no state machine transitions are triggered. The new object has no structural feature values and participates in no links.

If the classifier being instantiated is a Behavior, then the instantiated object is an execution of that behavior. However, this execution does not actually start immediately on instantiation. Rather, it must be explicitly started using a StartObjectBehaviorAction..

### Notation

No specific notation

### Rationale

CreateObjectAction is introduced for creating new objects.

### Changes from previous UML

Same as UML 1.5

## 11.3.17 DestroyLinkAction (from IntermediateActions)

DestroyLinkAction is a write link action that destroys links and link objects.

### Generalizations

- “WriteLinkAction (from IntermediateActions)” on page 306

### Description

This action destroys a link or a link object. Link objects can also be destroyed with DestroyObjectAction. The link is specified in the same way as link creation, even for link objects. This allows actions to remain unchanged when their associations are transformed from ordinary ones to association classes and vice versa.

DestroyLinkAction uses a specialization of LinkEndData, called LinkEndDestructionData, to support ordered non-unique associations. The position of the link to be destroyed is specified at runtime by an additional input pin, which is required for ordered non-unique association ends and omitted for other kinds of ends. This is a positive integer giving the position of the link to destroy.

DestroyLinkAction also uses LinkEndDestructionData to support the destruction of duplicate links of the association on ends that are non-unique. This option is available on an end-by-end basis, and causes all duplicate links of the association emanating from the specified ends to be destroyed.

**Attributes**

No additional attributes

**Associations**

- endData : LinkEndDestructionData [2..\*]  
Specifies ends of association and inputs. {Redefines *LinkAction::endData*}

**Constraints**

No additional constraints

**Semantics**

Destroying a link that does not exist has no effect. The semantics of DestroyObjectAction applies to destroying a link that has a link object with DestroyLinkAction.

The semantics is undefined for destroying a link that has an association end with isReadOnly = true after initialization of the other end objects, unless the link being destroyed does not exist. Objects participating in the association across from a writeable end can have links destroyed as long as the objects across from all read only ends are still being initialized. This means objects participating in two or more readOnly ends cannot have links destroyed, unless all the linked objects are being initialized.

Destroying links for non-unique ordered association ends requires identifying the position of the link using the input pin of LinkEndDestructionData. The pin is of type UnlimitedNatural with multiplicity 1..1. A pin value that is a positive integer less than or equal to the current number of links means to destroy the link at that position in the sequence of existing links, with the integer one meaning the first link in the sequence. The semantics is undefined for value of zero, for an integer greater than the number of existing links, and for unlimited. The destroyAt input pin only exists for ordered non-unique association ends.

**Notation**

No specific notation

**Rationale**

DestroyLinkAction is introduced for destroying links.

**Changes from previous UML**

DestroyLinkAction is unchanged from UML 1.5.

**11.3.18 DestroyObjectAction (from IntermediateActions)**

DestroyObjectAction is an action that destroys objects.

**Generalizations**

- “Action (from BasicActions)” on page 249

## Description

This action destroys the object on its input pin at runtime. The object may be a link object, in which case the semantics of DestroyLinkAction also applies.

## Attributes

- isDestroyLinks : Boolean = false  
Specifies whether links in which the object participates are destroyed along with the object. Default value is *false*.
- isDestroyOwnedObjects : Boolean = false  
Specifies whether objects owned by the object through composite aggregation are destroyed along with the object. Default value is *false*.

## Associations

- target : InputPin [1..1]  
The input pin providing the object to be destroyed. (Subsets *Action::input*)

## Constraints

- [1] The multiplicity of the input pin is 1..1.  
self.target.multiplicity.is(1,1)
- [2] The input pin has no type.  
self.target.type->size() = 0

## Semantics

The classifiers of the object are removed as its classifiers, and the object is destroyed. The default action has no other effect. In particular, no behaviors are executed, no state machine transitions are triggered, and references to the destroyed objects are unchanged. If isDestroyLinks is *true*, links in which the object participates are destroyed along with the object according to the semantics of DestroyLinkAction, except for link objects, which are destroyed according to the semantics of DestroyObjectAction with the same attribute values as the original DestroyObjectAction. If isDestroyOwnedObjects is *true*, objects owned by the object through composite aggregation are destroyed according to the semantics of DestroyObjectAction with the same attribute values as the original DestroyObjectAction.

Destroying an object that is already destroyed has no effect.

## Notation

No specific notation

## Rationale

DestroyObjectAction is introduced for destroying objects.

## Changes from previous UML

Same as UML 1.5

### 11.3.19 InputPin (from BasicActions)

#### Generalizations

- “Pin (from BasicActions)” on page 277

#### Description

An input pin is a pin that holds input values to be consumed by an action.

#### Attributes

No additional attributes

#### Associations

No additional associations

#### Constraints

No additional constraints

#### Semantics

An action cannot start execution if an input pin has fewer values than the lower multiplicity. The upper multiplicity determines the maximum number of values that can be consumed by a single execution of the action.

#### Notation

No specific notation. See extensions in Activities.

#### Rationale

#### Changes from previous UML

InputPin is the same concept as in UML 1.5, but modeled independently of the behaviors that use it.

### 11.3.20 InvocationAction (from BasicActions)

#### Generalizations

- “Action (from BasicActions)” on page 249

#### Description

Invocation is an abstract class for the various actions that invoke behavior.

#### Attributes

No additional attributes

### Associations

- argument : InputPin [0..\*]  
Specification of the ordered set of argument values that appear during execution.

### Constraints

No additional constraints

### Semantics

See children of InvocationAction.

## 11.3.21 LinkAction (from IntermediateActions)

LinkAction is an abstract class for all link actions that identify their links by the objects at the ends of the links and by the qualifiers at ends of the links.

### Generalizations

- “Action (from BasicActions)” on page 249

### Description

A link action creates, destroys, or reads links, identifying a link by its end objects and qualifier values, if any.

### Attributes

No additional attributes

### Associations

- endData : LinkEndData [2..\*]  
Data identifying one end of a link by the objects on its ends and qualifiers. {Subsets Element::ownedElement}
- inputValue : InputPin [1..\*]  
Pins taking end objects and qualifier values as input. (Subsets Action::input)

### Constraints

- [1] The association ends of the link end data must all be from the same association and include all and only the association ends of that association.  
`self.endData->collect(end) = self.association()->collect(connection)`
- [2] The association ends of the link end data must not be static.  
`self.endData->forall(end.oclIsKindOf(NavigableEnd) implies end.isStatic = #false)`
- [3] The input pins of the action are the same as the pins of the link end data and insertion pins.  
`self.input->asSet() =  
let ledpins : Set = self.endData->collect(value) in  
if self.oclIsKindOf(LinkEndCreationData)  
then ledpins->union(self.endData.oclAsType(LinkEndCreationData).insertAt)  
else ledpins`

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[4] The input pins of the action are the same as the pins of the link end data, qualifier values, and insertion pins.

```
self.input->asSet() =
  let ledpins : Set =
    if self.endData.oclIsKindOf(CompleteActions::LinkEndData)
    then self.endData->collect(value)->union(self.endData.qualifier.value)
    else self.endData->collect(value) in
    if self.oclIsKindOf(LinkEndCreationData)
    then ledpins->union(self.endData.oclAsType(LinkEndCreationData).insertAt)
    else ledpins
```

**Additional operations:**

[1] association operates on LinkAction. It returns the association of the action.

```
association();
association = self.endData->asSequence().first().end.association
```

**Semantics**

For actions that write links, all association ends must have a corresponding input pin so that all end objects are specified when creating or deleting a link. An input pin identifies the end object by being given a value at runtime. It has the type of the association end and multiplicity of 1..1 (see “LinkEndData (from IntermediateActions, CompleteActions)” on page 273), since a link always has exactly one object at its ends. The input pins owned by the action are referenced by the link end data, and as insertion pins (see “LinkEndCreationData (from IntermediateActions)” on page 271), and qualifier value pins in CompleteActions.

The behavior is undefined for links of associations that are static on any end.

For the semantics of link actions see the children of LinkAction.

**Notation**

No specific notation

**Rationale**

LinkAction is introduced to abstract aspects of link actions that identify links by the objects on their ends.

In CompleteActions, LinkAction is extended for qualifiers.

**Changes from previous UML**

LinkAction is unchanged from UML 1.5.

**11.3.22 LinkEndCreationData (from IntermediateActions)**

LinkEndCreationData is not an action. It is an element that identifies links. It identifies one end of a link to be created by CreateLinkAction.

## Generalizations

- “LinkEndData (from IntermediateActions, CompleteActions)” on page 273.

## Description

This class is required when using CreateLinkAction to specify insertion points for ordered ends and for replacing all links at end. A link cannot be passed as a runtime value to or from an action. Instead, a link is identified by its end objects and qualifier values, as required. This requires more than one piece of data, namely, the statically-specified end in the user model, the object on the end, and the qualifier values for that end. These pieces are brought together around LinkEndData. Each association end is identified separately with an instance of the LinkEndData class.

Qualifier values are used in CompleteActions to specify links to create.

## Attributes

- isReplaceAll : Boolean [1..1] = false  
Specifies whether the existing links emanating from the object on this end should be destroyed before creating a new link.

## Associations

- insertAt : InputPin [0..1]  
Specifies where the new link should be inserted for ordered association ends, or where an existing link should be moved to. The type of the input is UnlimitedNatural, but the input cannot be zero. This pin is omitted for association ends that are not ordered.

## Constraints

- [1] LinkEndCreationData can only be end data for CreateLinkAction or one of its specializations.  
self.LinkAction.oclsKindOf(CreateLinkAction)
- [2] Link end creation data for ordered association ends must have a single input pin for the insertion point with type UnlimitedNatural and multiplicity of 1..1; otherwise, the action has no input pin for the insertion point.

```
let insertAtPins : Collection = self.insertAt in
  if self.end.ordering = #unordered
  then insertAtPins->size() = 0
  else let insertAtPin : InputPin = insertAts->asSequence()->first() in
    insertAtPins->size() = 1
    and insertAtPin.type = UnlimitedNatural
    and insertAtPin.multiplicity.is(1,1)
  endif
```

## Semantics

See CreateLinkAction, also see LinkAction and all its children.

## Notation

No specific notation

**Rationale**

LinkEndCreationData is introduced to indicate which inputs are for which link end objects and qualifiers.

**Changes from previous UML**

LinkEndCreationData is unchanged from UML 1.5.

**11.3.23 LinkEndData (from IntermediateActions, CompleteActions)****Generalizations**

- “Element (from Kernel)” on page 68

**Description***Package IntermediateActions*

LinkEndData is not an action. It is an element that identifies links. It identifies one end of a link to be read or written by the children of LinkAction. A link cannot be passed as a runtime value to or from an action. Instead, a link is identified by its end objects and qualifier values, if any. This requires more than one piece of data, namely, the statically-specified end in the user model, the object on the end, and the qualifier values for that end, if any. These pieces are brought together around LinkEndData. Each association end is identified separately with an instance of the LinkEndData class.

**Attributes**

No additional attributes

**Associations**

- end : Property [1..1]  
Association end for which this link end data specifies values.
- value : InputPin [0..1]  
Input pin that provides the specified object for the given end. This pin is omitted if the link-end data specifies an “open” end for reading.

**Associations***Package CompleteActions*

- qualifier : QualifierValue [\*]  
List of qualifier values. {Subsets Element::ownedElement}

**Constraints**

- [1] The property must be an association end.  
self.end.association->size() = 1
- [2] The type of the end object input pin is the same as the type of the association end.  
self.value.type = self.end.type
- [3] The multiplicity of the end object input pin must be “1..1.”  
self.value.multiplicity.is(1,1)

## Constraints

### *Package CompleteActions*

- [1] The qualifiers include all and only the qualifiers of the association end.  
self.qualifier->collect(qualifier) = self.end.qualifier
- [2] The end object input pin is not also a qualifier value input pin.  
self.value->excludesAll(self.qualifier.value)

## Semantics

See LinkAction and its children.

## Notation

No specific notation

## Rationale

LinkEndData is introduced to indicate which inputs are for which link end objects and qualifiers.

## Changes from previous UML

LinkEndData is unchanged from UML 1.5.

### 11.3.24 LinkEndDestructionData (from IntermediateActions)

LinkEndDestructionData is not an action. It is an element that identifies links. It identifies one end of a link to be destroyed by DestroyLinkAction.

## Generalizations

- “LinkEndData (from IntermediateActions, CompleteActions)” on page 273

## Description

This class is required when using DestroyLinkAction, to specify links to destroy for non-unique ordered ends. A link cannot be passed as a runtime value to or from an action. See description of “LinkEndData (from IntermediateActions, CompleteActions)” on page 273.

Qualifier values are used in CompleteActions to identify which links to destroy.

## Attributes

- isDestroyDuplicates : Boolean = false  
Specifies whether to destroy duplicates of the value in non-unique association ends.

## Associations

- destroyAt : InputPin [0..1]  
Specifies the position of an existing link to be destroyed in ordered non-unique association ends. The type of the pin is UnlimitedNatural, but the value cannot be zero or unlimited.

**Constraints**

- [1] LinkEndDestructionData can only be end data for DestroyLinkAction or one of its specializations.
- [2] LinkEndDestructionData for ordered non-unique association ends must have a single destroyAt input pin if isDestroyDuplicates is false. It must be of type UnlimitedNatural and have a multiplicity of 1..1; otherwise, the action has no input pin for the removal position.

**Semantics**

See “DestroyLinkAction (from IntermediateActions)” on page 266, also see “LinkAction (from IntermediateActions)” on page 270 and all of its subclasses.

**Notation**

No specific notation

**Rationale**

LinkEndDestructionData is introduced to indicate which links to destroy for ordered non-unique ends.

**11.3.25 MultiplicityElement (from BasicActions)****Generalizations**

- “MultiplicityElement (from Kernel)” on page 100 (*merge increment*)

**Operations**

- [1] The operation compatibleWith takes another multiplicity as input. It checks if one multiplicity is compatible with another.
- ```
compatibleWith(other : Multiplicity) : Boolean;
compatibleWith(other) = Integer.allInstances()->
    forAll(i : Integer | self.includesCardinality(i) implies other.includesCardinality(i))
```
- [2] The operation determines if the upper and lower bound of the ranges are the ones given.
- ```
is(lowerbound : integer, upperbound : integer) : Boolean;
is(lowerbound, upperbound) = (lowerbound = self.lowerbound and upperbound = self.upperbound)
```

**11.3.26 OpaqueAction (from BasicActions)****Generalizations**

- “Action (from BasicActions)” on page 249

**Description**

An action with implementation-specific semantics

**Attributes**

- body : String [0..\*] {nonunique, ordered}  
Specifies the action in one or more languages.

## ISO/IEC 19505-2:2012(E)

- language : String [0..\*] {ordered}  
Languages the body strings use, in the same order as the body strings.

### Associations

- inputValue : InputPin [0..\*]  
Provides input to the action. (Specializes *Action::input*)
- outputValue : OutputPin [0..\*]  
Takes output from the action. (Specializes *Action::output*)

### Constraints

No additional constraints

### Semantics

The semantics of the action are determined by the implementation.

### Notation

No specific notation

### Rationale

OpaqueAction is introduced for implementation-specific actions or for use as a temporary placeholder before some other action is chosen.

## 11.3.27 OutputPin (from BasicActions)

### Generalizations

- “Pin (from BasicActions)” on page 277

### Description

An output pin is a pin that holds output values produced by an action.

### Attributes

No additional attributes

### Associations

No additional associations

### Constraints

No additional constraints

**Semantics**

For each execution, an action cannot terminate itself unless it can put at least as many values on its output pins as required by the lower multiplicity on those pins. The values are actually put in the pins once the action completes. Values that may remain on the output pins from previous executions are not included in meeting this minimum multiplicity requirement.

An action may not put more values in an output pin in a single execution than the upper multiplicity of the pin.

**Notation**

No specific notation - see extensions in Activities.

**Changes from previous UML**

OutputPin is the same concept as in UML 1.5, but modeled independently of the behaviors that use it.

**11.3.28 Pin (from BasicActions)****Generalizations**

- “MultiplicityElement (from BasicActions)” on page 275
- “TypedElement (from Kernel)” on page 143

**Description**

A pin is a typed element and multiplicity element that provides values to actions and accepts result values from them.

**Attributes**

No additional attributes

**Associations**

No additional associations

**Constraints**

[1] If the action is an invocation action, the number and types of pins must be the same as the number of parameters and types of the invoked behavior or behavioral feature. Pins are matched to parameters by order.

**Semantics**

A pin represents an input to an action or an output from an action. The definition on an action assumes that pins are ordered.

Pin multiplicity controls action execution, not the number of tokens in the pin (see upperBound on “ObjectNode (from BasicActivities, CompleteActivities)” on page 411). See “InputPin (from BasicActions)” and “OutputPin (from BasicActions)” for semantics of multiplicity. Pin multiplicity is not unique, because multiple tokens with the same value can reside in an object node.

## Notation

No specific notation - see extensions in Activities.

## Rationale

Pins are introduced to model inputs and outputs of actions.

## Changes from previous UML

Pin is the same concept as in UML 1.5, but modeled independently of the behaviors that use it.

### 11.3.29 QualifierValue (from CompleteActions)

QualifierValue is not an action. It is an element that identifies links. It gives a single qualifier within a link end data specification. See LinkEndData.

## Generalizations

- “Element (from Kernel)” on page 68

## Description

A link cannot be passed as a runtime value to or from an action. Instead, a link is identified by its end objects and qualifier values, as required. This requires more than one piece of data, namely, the end in the user model, the object on the end, and the qualifier values for that end. These pieces are brought together around LinkEndData. Each association end is identified separately with an instance of the LinkEndData class.

## Attributes

No additional attributes

## Associations

- `qualifier` : Property [1..1]  
Attribute representing the qualifier for which the value is to be specified.
- `value` : InputPin [1..1]  
Input pin from which the specified value for the qualifier is taken.

## Constraints

- [1] The `qualifier` attribute must be a qualifier of the association end of the link-end data.  
`self.LinkEndData.end->collect(qualifier)->includes(self.qualifier)`
- [2] The type of the `value` input pin is the same as the type of the `qualifier` attribute.  
`self.value.type = self.qualifier.type`
- [3] The multiplicity of the `value` input pin is “1..1.”  
`self.value.multiplicity.is(1,1)`

## Semantics

See LinkAction and its children.

**Notation**

No specific notation

**Rationale**

QualifierValue is introduced to indicate which inputs are for which link end qualifiers.

**Changes from previous UML**

QualifierValue is unchanged from UML 1.5.

**11.3.30 RaiseExceptionAction (from StructuredActions)****Generalizations**

- “Action (from BasicActions)” on page 249

**Description**

RaiseExceptionAction is an action that causes an exception to occur. The input value becomes the exception object.

**Attributes**

No additional attributes

**Associations**

- exception : InputPin [1..1]  
An input pin whose value becomes an exception object. {Subsets *Action::input*}

**Semantics**

When a raise exception action is executed, the value on the input pin is raised as an exception. The value may be copied in this process, so identity may not be preserved. Raising the exception terminates the immediately containing structured node or activity and begins a search of enclosing nested scopes for an exception handler that matches the type of the exception object. See “ExceptionHandler (from ExtraStructuredActivities)” on page 379 for details of handling exceptions.

**Notation**

No specific notation

**Rationale**

Raise exception action allows models to generate exceptions; otherwise, the only exception types would be predefined built-in exception types, which would be too restrictive.

**Changes from previous UML**

RaiseExceptionAction replaces JumpAction from UML 1.5. Their behavior is essentially the same, except that it is no longer needed for performing simple control constructs such as break and continue.

### 11.3.31 ReadExtentAction (from CompleteActions)

#### Generalizations

- “Action (from BasicActions)” on page 249

#### Description

ReadExtentAction is an action that retrieves the current instances of a classifier.

#### Attributes

No additional attributes

#### Associations

- classifier : Classifier [1..1]  
The classifier whose instances are to be retrieved.
- result : OutputPin [1..1]  
The runtime instances of the classifier. {Subsets *Action::input*}

#### Constraints

- [1] The type of the result output pin is the classifier.
- [2] The multiplicity of the result output pin is “0..\*.”  
self.result.multiplicity.is(0,#null)

#### Semantics

The extent of a classifier is the set of all instances of a classifier that exist at any one time.

#### Semantic Variation Points

It is not generally practical to require that reading the extent produce all the instances of the classifier that exist in the entire universe. Rather, an execution engine typically manages only a limited subset of the total set of instances of any classifier and may manage multiple distributed extents for any one classifier. It is not formally specified which managed extent is actually read by a ReadExtentAction.

#### Notation

No specific notation

#### Rationale

ReadExtentAction is introduced to provide access to the runtime instances of a classifier.

#### Changes from previous UML

ReadExtentAction is unchanged from UML 1.5.

### 11.3.32 ReadIsClassifiedObjectAction (from CompleteActions)

ReadIsClassifiedObjectAction is an action that determines whether a runtime object is classified by a given classifier.

#### Generalizations

- “Action (from BasicActions)” on page 249

#### Description

This action tests the classification of an object against a given class. It can be restricted to testing direct instances.

#### Attributes

- `isDirect` : Boolean [1..1]  
Indicates whether the classifier must directly classify the input object. The default value is *false*.

#### Associations

- `classifier` : Classifier [1..1]  
The classifier against which the classification of the input object is tested.
- `object` : InputPin [1..1]  
Holds the object whose classification is to be tested. (Subsets *Action.input*)
- `result` : OutputPin [1..1]  
After termination of the action, will hold the result of the test. (Subsets *Action.output*)

#### Constraints

- [1] The multiplicity of the input pin is 1..1.  
`self.object.multiplicity.is(1,1)`
- [2] The input pin has no type.  
`self.object.type->isEmpty()`
- [3] The multiplicity of the output pin is 1..1.  
`self.result.multiplicity.is(1,1)`
- [4] The type of the output pin is Boolean.  
`self.result.type = Boolean`

#### Semantics

The action returns *true* if the input object is classified by the specified classifier. It returns *true* if the *isDirect* attribute is *false* and the input object is classified by the specified classifier, or by one of its (direct or indirect) descendants; otherwise, the action returns *false*.

#### Notation

No specific notation

#### Rationale

ReadIsClassifiedObjectAction is introduced for run-time type identification.

## Changes from previous UML

ReadisClassifiedObjectAction is unchanged from UML 1.5.

### 11.3.33 ReadLinkAction (from IntermediateActions)

ReadLinkAction is a link action that navigates across associations to retrieve objects on one end.

#### Generalizations

- “LinkAction (from IntermediateActions)” on page 270

#### Description

This action navigates an association towards one end, which is the end that does not have an input pin to take its object (the “open” end). The objects put on the result output pin are the ones participating in the association at the open end, conforming to the specified qualifiers, in order if the end is ordered. The semantics is undefined for reading a link that violates the navigability or visibility of the open end.

#### Attributes

No additional attributes

#### Associations

- result : OutputPin [1]  
The pin on which are put the objects participating in the association at the end not specified by the inputs. (Subsets *Action::output*)

#### Constraints

- [1] Exactly one link-end data specification (the “open” end) must not have an end object input pin.  
self.endData->select(ed | ed.value->size() = 0)->size() = 1
- [2] The type and ordering of the result output pin are the same as the type and ordering of the open association end.  
let openend : Property = self.endData->select(ed | ed.value->size() = 0)->asSequence()->first().end in  
self.result.type = openend.type  
and self.result.ordering = openend.ordering
- [3] The multiplicity of the open association end must be compatible with the multiplicity of the result output pin.  
let openend : Property = self.endData->select(ed | ed.value->size() = 0)->asSequence()->first().end in  
openend.multiplicity.compatibleWith(self.result.multiplicity)
- [4] The open end must be navigable.  
let openend : Property = self.endData->select(ed | ed.value->size() = 0)->asSequence()->first().end in  
openend.isNavigable()
- [5] Visibility of the open end must allow access to the object performing the action.  
let host : Classifier = self.context in  
let openend : Property = self.endData->select(ed | ed.value->size() = 0)->asSequence()->first().end in  
openend.visibility = #public  
or self.endData->exists(oed | not oed.end = openend  
and (host = oed.end.participant

or (openend.visibility = #protected  
and host.allSupertypes->includes(oed.end.participant))))

## Semantics

Navigation of a binary association requires the specification of the source end of the link. The target end of the link is not specified. When qualifiers are present, one navigates to a specific end by giving objects for the source end of the association and qualifier values for all the ends. These inputs identify a subset of all the existing links of the association that match the end objects and qualifier values. The result is the collection of objects for the end being navigated towards one object from each identified link. Note that, if there are no matching links, then the action produces a single null token on its output pin.

In a ReadLinkAction, generalized for n-ary associations, one of the link-end data must have an unspecified object (the “open” end). The result of the action is a collection of objects on the open end of links of the association, such that the links have the given objects and qualifier values for the other ends and the given qualifier values for the open end. The order of the retrieved values in the output pin is the same as the ordering of the values of the links. This result is placed on the output pin of the action, which has a type and ordering given by the open end. The multiplicity of the open end must be compatible with the multiplicity of the output pin. For example, the modeler can set the multiplicity of this pin to support multiple values even when the open end only allows a single value. This way the action model will be unaffected by changes in the multiplicity of the open end. The semantics are defined only when the open end is navigable, and visible to the host object of the action.

## Notation

No specific notation

## Rationale

ReadLinkAction is introduced to navigate across links.

## Changes from previous UML

ReadLinkAction is unchanged from UML 1.5.

### 11.3.34 ReadLinkObjectEndAction (from CompleteActions)

ReadLinkObjectEndAction is an action that retrieves an end object from a link object.

## Generalizations

- “Action (from BasicActions)” on page 249

## Description

This action reads the object on an end of a link object. The association end to retrieve the object from is specified statically, and the link object to read is provided on the input pin at run time.

## Attributes

No additional attributes

### Associations

- end : Property [1..1]  
Link end to be read.
- object : InputPin [1..1]  
Gives the input pin from which the link object is obtained. {Subsets *Action::input*}
- result : OutputPin [1..1]  
Pin where the result value is placed. {Subsets *Action::output*}

### Constraints

- [1] The property must be an association end.  
`self.end.association.notEmpty()`
- [2] The association of the association end must be an association class.  
`self.end.Association.oclsKindOf(AssociationClass)`
- [3] The ends of the association must not be static.  
`self.end.association.memberEnd->forall(e | not e.isStatic)`
- [4] The type of the object input pin is the association class that owns the association end.  
`self.object.type = self.end.association`
- [5] The multiplicity of the object input pin is “1..1.”  
`self.object.multiplicity.is(1,1)`
- [6] The type of the result output pin is the same as the type of the association end.  
`self.result.type = self.end.type`
- [7] The multiplicity of the result output pin is 1..1.  
`self.result.multiplicity.is(1,1)`

### Semantics

ReadLinkObjectEndAction retrieves an end object from a link object. The value of the specified end of the input link object is placed on the output pin of the action. Note that this is *not* the same as reading links of the link object's association with the specified end as the open end. Identifying a link object explicitly identifies a single specific link, independently of the values of link ends other than the one specified to be read. Even if the multiplicity of the specified end is different from 1..1 in the association, it only has a single value from the point of view of a specified link object. This is why the output pin of a ReadLinkObjectEndAction always has a multiplicity of 1..1.

### Notation

No specific notation

### Rationale

ReadLinkObjectEndAction is introduced to navigate from a link object to its end objects.

### Changes from previous UML

ReadLinkObjectEndAction is unchanged from UML 1.5.

### 11.3.35 ReadLinkObjectEndQualifierAction (from CompleteActions)

ReadLinkObjectEndAction is an action that retrieves a qualifier end value from a link object.

#### Generalizations

- “Action (from BasicActions)” on page 249

#### Description

This action reads a qualifier value or values on an end of a link object. The association end to retrieve the qualifier from is specified statically, and the link object to read is provided on the input pin at run time.

#### Attributes

No additional attributes

#### Associations

- **qualifier** : Property [1..1]  
The attribute representing the qualifier to be read.
- **object** : InputPin [1..1]  
Gives the input pin from which the link object is obtained. (Subsets *Action::input*)
- **result** : OutputPin [1..1]  
Pin where the result value is placed. (Subsets *Action::output*)

#### Constraints

- [1] The qualifier attribute must be a qualifier attribute of an association end.  
`self.qualifier.associationEnd->size() = 1`
- [2] The association of the association end of the qualifier attribute must be an association class.  
`self.qualifier.associationEnd.association.oclsKindOf(AssociationClass)`
- [3] The ends of the association must not be static.  
`self.qualifier.associationEnd.association.memberEnd->forall(e | not e.isStatic)`
- [4] The type of the object input pin is the association class that owns the association end that has the given qualifier attribute.  
`self.object.type = self.qualifier.associationEnd.association`
- [5] The multiplicity of the qualifier attribute is 1..1.  
`self.qualifier.multiplicity.is(1,1)`
- [6] The multiplicity of the object input pin is “1..1.”  
`self.object.multiplicity.is(1,1)`
- [7] The type of the result output pin is the same as the type of the qualifier attribute.  
`self.result.type = self.qualifier.type`
- [8] The multiplicity of the result output pin is “1..1.”  
`self.result.multiplicity.is(1,1)`

#### Semantics

ReadLinkObjectEndAction retrieves a qualifier end value from a link object.

## Notation

No specific notation

## Rationale

ReadLinkObjectEndQualifierAction is introduced to navigate from a link object to its end objects.

## Changes from previous UML

ReadLinkObjectEndQualifierAction is unchanged from UML 1.5, except the name was corrected from ReadLinkObjectQualifierAction.

## 11.3.36 ReadSelfAction (from IntermediateActions)

ReadSelfAction is an action that retrieves the host object of an action.

## Generalizations

- “Action (from BasicActions)” on page 249

## Description

Every action is ultimately a part of some behavior, which is in turn optionally attached in some way to the specification of a classifier (for example, as the body of a method or as part of a state machine). When the behavior executes, it does so in the context of some specific host instance of that classifier. This action produces this host instance, if any, on its output pin. The type of the output pin is the classifier to which the behavior is associated in the user model.

## Attributes

No additional attributes

## Associations

- result : OutputPin [1..1]  
Gives the output pin on which the hosting object is placed. (Subsets *Action::output*)

## Constraints

- [1] The action must be contained in a behavior that has a host classifier.  
`self.context->size() = 1`
- [2] If the action is contained in a behavior that is acting as the body of a method, then the operation of the method must not be static.
- [3] The type of the result output pin is the host classifier.  
`self.result.type = self.context`
- [4] The multiplicity of the result output pin is “1..1.”  
`self.result.multiplicity.is(1,1)`

## Semantics

Every action is part of some behavior, as are behaviors invoked by actions or other elements of behaviors. Behaviors are optionally attached in some way to the specification of a classifier.

For behaviors that have no other context object, the behavior itself is the context object. See behaviors as classes in Common Behaviors and discussion of reflective objects in Activity (from BasicActivities, CompleteActivities, FundamentalActivities, StructuredActivities).

### Notation

No specific notation

### Rationale

ReadSelfAction is introduced to provide access to the context object when it is not available as a parameter.

### Changes from previous UML

ReadSelfAction is unchanged from UML 1.5.

## 11.3.37 ReadStructuralFeatureAction (from IntermediateActions)

ReadStructuralFeatureAction is a structural feature action that retrieves the values of a structural feature.

### Generalizations

- “StructuralFeatureAction (from IntermediateActions)” on page 300.

### Description

This action reads the values of a structural feature in order, if the structural feature is ordered.

### Attributes

No additional attributes

### Associations

- result : OutputPin [1..1]  
Gives the output pin on which the result is put. (Subsets *Action::output*)

### Constraints

- [1] The type and ordering of the result output pin are the same as the type and ordering of the structural feature.  
self.result.type = self.structuralFeature.type  
and self.result.ordering = self.structuralFeature.ordering
- [2] The multiplicity of the structural feature must be compatible with the multiplicity of the output pin.  
self.structuralFeature.multiplicity.compatibleWith(self.result.multiplicity)

### Semantics

The values of the structural feature of the input object are placed on the output pin of the action. If the feature is an association end, the semantics are the same as reading links of the association with the feature as the open end. The type and ordering of the output pin are the same as the specified structural feature. The order of the retrieved values in the output pin is the same as the ordering of the values of the structural feature. The multiplicity of the structural feature must be compatible with the multiplicity of the output pin. For example, the modeler can set the multiplicity of this pin to

support multiple values even when the structural feature only allows a single value. This way the action model will be unaffected by changes in the multiplicity of the structural feature. Note that, if there are no retrieved values (that is, the structural feature is empty), then the action produces a single null token on its output pin.

### Notation

No specific notation

### Rationale

ReadStructuralFeatureAction is introduced to retrieve the values of a structural feature.

### Changes from previous UML

ReadStructuralFeatureAction is new in UML 2. It generalizes ReadAttributeAction from UML 1.5.

## 11.3.38 ReadVariableAction (from StructuredActions)

ReadVariableAction is a variable action that retrieves the values of a variable.

### Generalizations

- “VariableAction (from StructuredActions)” on page 305

### Description

This action reads the values of a variable in order, if the variable is ordered.

### Attributes

No additional attributes

### Associations

- result : OutputPin [1..1]  
Gives the output pin on which the result is put. (Subsets *Action::output*)

### Constraints

- [1] The type and ordering of the result output pin of a read-variable action are the same as the type and ordering of the variable.  
self.result.type = self.variable.type  
and self.result.ordering = self.variable.ordering
- [2] The multiplicity of the variable must be compatible with the multiplicity of the output pin.  
self.variable.multiplicity.compatibleWith(self.result.multiplicity)

### Semantics

The values of the variable are placed on the output pin of the action. The type and ordering of the output pin are the same as the specified variable. The order of the retrieved values in the output pin is the same as the ordering of the values of the variable. The multiplicity of the variable must be compatible with the multiplicity of the output pin. For example, the

modeler can set the multiplicity of this pin to support multiple values even when the variable only allows a single value. This way the action model will be unaffected by changes in the multiplicity of the variable. Note that, if there are no retrieved values (that is, the variable is empty), then the action produces a single null token on its output pin.

### Notation

No specific notation

### Rationale

ReadVariableAction is introduced to retrieve the values of a variable.

### Changes from previous UML

ReadVariableAction is unchanged from UML 1.5.

## 11.3.39 ReclassifyObjectAction (from CompleteActions)

ReclassifyObjectAction is an action that changes which classifiers classify an object.

### Generalizations

- “Action (from BasicActions)” on page 249

### Description

ReclassifyObjectAction adds given classifier to an object and removes given classifiers from that object. Multiple classifiers may be added and removed at a time.

### Attributes

- `isReplaceAll` : Boolean [1..1]  
Specifies whether existing classifiers should be removed before adding the new classifiers. The default value is *false*.

### Associations

- `object` : InputPin [1..1]  
Holds the object to be reclassified. (Subsets *Action::input*)
- `newClassifier` : Classifier [0..\*]  
A set of classifiers to be added to the classifiers of the object.
- `oldClassifier` : Classifier [0..\*]  
A set of classifiers to be removed from the classifiers of the object.

### Constraints

- [1] None of the new classifiers may be abstract.  
`not self.newClassifier->exists(isAbstract = true)`
- [2] The multiplicity of the input pin is 1..1.  
`self.argument.multiplicity.is(1,1)`
- [3] The input pin has no type.  
`self.argument.type->size() = 0`

## Semantics

After the action completes, the input object is classified by its existing classifiers and the “new” classifiers given to the action; however, the “old” classifiers given to the actions no longer classify the input object. The identity of the object is preserved, no behaviors are executed, and no initial expressions are evaluated. “New” classifiers replace existing classifiers in an atomic step, so that structural feature values and links are not lost during the reclassification, when the “old” and “new” classifiers have structural features and associations in common.

Neither adding a classifier that duplicates an already existing classifier, nor removing a classifier that is not classifying the input object has any effect. Adding and removing the same classifiers has no effect.

If *isReplaceAll* is *true*, then the existing classifiers are removed before the “new” classifiers are added, except if the “new” classifier already classifies the input object, in which case this classifier is not removed. If *isReplaceAll* is *false*, then adding an existing value has no effect.

It is an error, if any of the “new” classifiers is abstract or if all classifiers are removed from the input object.

## Notation

No specific notation

## Rationale

ReclassifyObjectAction is introduced to change the classifiers of an object.

## Changes from previous UML

ReclassifyObjectAction is unchanged from UML 1.5.

## 11.3.40 ReduceAction (from CompleteActions)

(CompleteActions) ReduceAction is an action that reduces a collection to a single value by combining the elements of the collection.

## Generalizations

- “Action (from BasicActions)” on page 249

## Description

This action takes a collection as input and produces an output by applying a behavior with two inputs pairwise to the elements of the collection.

## Attributes

- *isOrdered* : Boolean = false  
Tells whether the order of the input collection should determine the order in which the behavior is applied to its elements.

## Associations

- *collection* : InputPin [1]  
The collection to be reduced (subsets Action::input)

- reducer : Behavior [1]  
Behavior that is applied to two elements of the input collection to produce a value that is the same type as elements of the collection.
- result : OutputPin [1]  
Gives the output pin on which the result is put (subsets Action::output).

### Constraints

- [1] The type of the input must be a collection.
- [2] The type of the output must be compatible with the type of the output of the reducer behavior.
- [3] The reducer behavior must have two input parameters and one output parameter, of types compatible with the types of elements of the input collection.

### Semantics

The behavior is invoked repeatedly on pairs of elements in the input collection. Each time it is invoked, it produces one output that is put back in an intermediate version of the collection. This repeats until the collection is reduced to a single value, which is the output of the action.

If `isOrdered` is false, the order in which the behavior is applied to pairs of values is indeterminate. This will not affect the result of the action if the behavior is commutative and associative, see below. If separate invocations of the behavior affect each other (for example, through side-effects), the result of the actions may be unpredictable. If the reducing behavior is not commutative and associative, as with matrix multiplication, the order of the elements in the collection will affect the result of the behavior and the action. In this case, `isOrdered` should be set to true, so the behavior will be applied to adjacent pairs according to the collection order. The result of each invocation of the behavior replaces the two values taken as input in the same position in the order as the two values. If `isOrdered` = false, the reducer behavior should be commutative and associative so it will produce the same reduced value regardless of which two elements are paired at each invocation. For example, addition is commutative because  $a + b = b + a$ . It is also associative because  $((a + b) + c) = (a + (b + c))$ . Commutativity and associativity are not required, but the result will be indeterminate if `isOrdered` = false.

### Notation

None

### Examples

`ReduceAction` can be used to reduce a list of numbers to the sum of the numbers. It would have one input pin for a collection of numbers, one result pin for a number, and an addition function as the reducer behavior. For example, suppose the input collection has four integers: (2, 7, 5, -3). The result of applying the reduce action to this collection with an addition function is 11. This can be computed in a number of ways, for example,  $((2+7) + 5) + -3$ ,  $(2 + (7 + (5 + -3)))$ ,  $((2 + 7) + (5 + -3))$ .

### Rationale

The purpose of `ReduceAction` is to specify the transformation of a collection to a single value by pairwise application of a behavior, without necessarily committing to the order in which the pairs are chosen.

## Changes from previous UML

ReduceAction replaces ReduceAction in UML 1.5. It has the same functionality, except it takes one collection instead of multiple as input, and produces one result instead of multiple. The effect of multiple input collections can be achieved in UML 2 with an input that is a collection of collections, where the nested collections are created by taking one element from each of the multiple collection inputs to the UML 1.5 ReduceAction.

### 11.3.41 RemoveStructuralFeatureValueAction (from IntermediateActions)

RemoveStructuralFeatureValueAction is a write structural feature action that removes values from structural features.

#### Generalizations

- “WriteStructuralFeatureAction (from IntermediateActions)” on page 307

#### Description

One value is removed from the set of values contained in the specified structural feature. The value to be removed may be specified either explicitly or, in the case of an ordered, non-unique feature, by giving a specific position at which the value is to be removed. It is also possible to specify the removal of all duplicate values.

#### Attributes

- isRemoveDuplicates : Boolean = false [1..1]  
Specifies whether to remove duplicates of the value in non-unique structural features.

#### Associations

- removeAt : InputPin [0..1]  
Specifies the position of an existing value to remove in ordered non-unique structural features. The type of the pin is UnlimitedNatural, but the value cannot be zero or unlimited. {Subsets *Action::input*}

#### Constraints

- [1] Actions removing a value from ordered non-unique structural features must have a single removeAt input pin and no value input pin if isRemoveDuplicates is false. The removeAt pin must be of type Unlimited Natural with multiplicity 1..1. Otherwise, the action has a value input pin and no removeAt input pin.

```

if not self.structuralFeature.isOrdered or self.structuralFeature.isUnique or isRemoveDuplicates then
  self.removeAt -> isEmpty() and self.value -> notEmpty()
else
  self.value -> isEmpty() and
  self.removeAt -> notEmpty() and
  self.removeAt.type = UnlimitedNatural and
  self.removeAt.lower() = 1 and
  self.removeAt.upper() = 1
endif
    
```

## Semantics

Structural features are potentially multi-valued. Removing a value succeeds even when it violates the minimum multiplicity. Removing a value that does not exist has no effect. If the feature is an association end, the semantics are the same as for destroying links, the participants of which are the object owning the structural feature and the value being removed.

Values of a structural feature may be duplicate in non-unique structural features. The `isRemoveDuplicates` attribute indicates whether to remove all duplicates of the specified value. The `removeAt` input pin is required if `isRemoveDuplicates` is false in ordered non-unique structural features. It indicates the position of an existing value to remove. It must be a positive integer less than or equal to the current number of values. The semantics is undefined for zero or an integer greater than the number of existing values, and for unlimited.

The semantics is undefined for removing an existing value for a structural feature with `isReadOnly=true`. The semantics is undefined for removing an existing value of a structural feature with `settable readOnly` after initialization of the owning object.

## Notation

No specific notation

## Rationale

`RemoveStructuralFeatureValueAction` is introduced to remove structural feature values.

## Changes from previous UML

`RemoveStructuralFeatureValueAction` is new in UML 2.

### 11.3.42 RemoveVariableValueAction (from StructuredActions)

`RemoveVariableValueAction` is a write-variable action that removes values from variables.

## Generalizations

- “`WriteVariableAction` (from `StructuredActions`)” on page 308

## Description

One value is removed from the set of possible variable values.

## Attributes

- `isRemoveDuplicates` : Boolean = false [1..1]  
Specifies whether to remove duplicates of the value in non-unique variables.

## Associations

- `removeAt` : InputPin [0..1]  
Specifies the position of an existing value to remove in ordered non-unique variables. The type of the pin is `UnlimitedNatural`, but the value cannot be zero or unlimited. {Subsets `Action::input`}

### Constraints

[1] Actions removing a value from ordered non-unique variables must have a single removeAt input pin and no value input pin if isRemoveDuplicates is false. The removeAt pin must be of type Unlimited Natural with multiplicity 1..1. Otherwise, the action has a value input pin and no removeAt input pin.

```
if not self.variable.isOrdered or self.variable.isUnique or isRemoveDuplicates then
  self.removeAt -> isEmpty() and self.value -> notEmpty()
else
  self.value -> isEmpty() and
  self.removeAt -> notEmpty() and
  self.removeAt.type = UnlimitedNatural and
  self.removeAt.lower() = 1 and
  self.removeAt.upper() = 1
endif
```

### Semantics

Variables are potentially multi-valued. Removing a value succeeds even when it violates the minimum multiplicity. Removing a value that does not exist has no effect. Variables are potentially multi-valued and ordered, and may support duplicates, so the action supports specification of removal points for new values. It also supports the removal of all duplicate values.

Values of a variable may be duplicate in non-unique variables. The isRemoveDuplicates attribute indicates whether to remove all duplicates of the specified value. The removeAt input pin is required if isRemoveDuplicates is false in ordered non-unique variables. It indicates the position of an existing value to remove. It must be a positive integer less than or equal to the current number of values. The semantics is undefined for zero, for an integer greater than the number of existing values and for unlimited.

### Notation

No specific notation

### Rationale

RemoveVariableValueAction is introduced to remove variable values.

### Changes from previous UML

RemoveVariableValueAction is unchanged from UML 1.5.

## 11.3.43 ReplyAction (from CompleteActions)

### Generalizations

- “Action (from BasicActions)” on page 249

### Description

ReplyAction is an action that accepts a set of return values and a value containing return information produced by a previous accept call action. The reply action returns the values to the caller of the previous call, completing execution of the call.

**Attributes**

No additional attributes

**Associations**

- `replyToCall` : Trigger [1..1]  
The trigger specifying the operation whose call is being replied to.
- `replyValue` : InputPin [0..\*]  
A list of pins containing the reply values of the operation. These values are returned to the caller. {Subsets *Action::input*}
- `returnInformation` : InputPin [1..1]  
A pin containing the return information value produced by an earlier `AcceptCallAction`. {Subsets *Action::input*}

**Constraints**

- [1] The reply value pins must match the return, out, and inout parameters of the operation on the event on the trigger in number, type, and order.
- [2] The event on `replyToCall` trigger must be a `CallEvent`.  
`replyToCallEvent.ocllsKindOf(CallEvent)`

**Semantics**

The execution of a reply action completes the execution of a call that was initiated by a previous `AcceptCallAction`. The two are connected by the `returnInformation` value, which is produced by the `AcceptCallAction` and consumed by the `ReplyAction`. The information in this value is used by the execution engine to return the reply values to the caller and to complete execution of the original call. The details of transmitting call requests, encoding return information, and transmitting replies are opaque and unavailable to models, therefore they need not be and are not specified in this document.

Return information may be copied, stored in objects, and passed around, but it may only be used in a reply action once. If the same return information value is supplied to a second `ReplyAction`, the execution is in error and the behavior of the system is unspecified. It is not intended that any profile give any other meaning the return information. The operation specified by the call event on the trigger must be consistent with the information returned at runtime.

If the return information is lost to the execution or if a reply is never made, the caller will never receive a reply and therefore will never complete execution. This is not inherently illegal but it represents an unusual situation at the very least.

**11.3.44 SendObjectAction (from IntermediateActions)****Generalizations**

- “`InvocationAction` (from `BasicActions`)” on page 269

**Description**

`SendObjectAction` is an action that transmits an object to the target object, where it may invoke behavior such as the firing of state machine transitions or the execution of an activity. The value of the object is available to the execution of invoked behaviors. The requestor continues execution immediately. Any reply message is ignored and is not transmitted to the requestor.

### Attributes

No additional attributes

### Associations

- request: InputPin [1]  
The request object, which is transmitted to the target object. The object may be copied in transmission, so identity might not be preserved. (Redefines *InvocationAction::argument*)
- target: InputPin [1]  
The target object to which the object is sent. (Subsets *Action::input*)

### Constraints

No additional constraints

### Semantics

- [1] When all the control and data flow prerequisites of the action execution are satisfied, the object on the input pin is transmitted to the target object. The target object may be local or remote. The object on the input pin may be copied during transmission, so identity might not be preserved. The manner of transmitting the object, the amount of time required to transmit it, the order in which the transmissions reach the various target objects, and the path for reaching the target objects are undefined.
- [2] When a transmission arrives at a target object, it may invoke behavior in the target object. The effect of receiving an object is specified in 13, “Common Behaviors.” Such effects include executing activities and firing state machine transitions.
- [3] A send object action receives no reply from the invoked behavior; any attempted reply is simply ignored, and no transmission is performed to the requestor.

### Notation

No specific notation

### Presentation Options

If the activity in which a send object action is used will always send a signal, then the *SendSignalAction* notation can be used.

### Rationale

Sends any object to a specified target object.

### Changes from previous UML

*SendObjectAction* is new in UML 2.

## 11.3.45 *SendSignalAction* (from *BasicActions*)

### Generalizations

- “*InvocationAction* (from *BasicActions*)” on page 269

## Description

SendSignalAction is an action that creates a signal instance from its inputs, and transmits it to the target object, where it may cause the firing of a state machine transition or the execution of an activity. The argument values are available to the execution of associated behaviors. The requestor continues execution immediately. Any reply message is ignored and is not transmitted to the requestor. If the input is already a signal instance, use SendObjectAction.

## Attributes

No additional attributes

## Associations

- signal: Signal [1]  
The type of signal transmitted to the target object.
- target: InputPin [1]  
The target object to which the signal is sent. {Subsets *Action::input*}

## Constraints

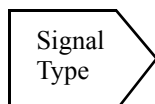
- [1] The number and order of argument pins must be the same as the number and order of attributes in the signal.
- [2] The type, ordering, and multiplicity of an argument pin must be the same as the corresponding attribute of the signal.

## Semantics

- [1] When all the prerequisites of the action execution are satisfied, a signal instance of the type specified by *signal* is generated from the argument values and this signal instance is transmitted to the identified target object. The target object may be local or remote. The signal instance may be copied during transmission, so identity might not be preserved. The manner of transmitting the signal object, the amount of time required to transmit it, the order in which the transmissions reach the various target objects, and the path for reaching the target objects are undefined.
- [2] When a transmission arrives at a target object, it may invoke behavior in the target object. The effect of receiving a signal object is specified in 13, “Common Behaviors.” Such effects include executing activities and firing state machine transitions.
- [3] A send signal action receives no reply from the invoked behavior; any attempted reply is simply ignored, and no transmission is performed to the requestor.

## Notation

A send signal action is notated with a convex pentagon.



*Send signal action*

**Figure 11.23 - Send signal notation**

### Examples

See extension in “SendSignalAction (as specialized)” on page 427.

### Rationale

Sends a signal to a specified target object.

### Changes from previous UML

Same as UML 1.5.

## 11.3.46 StartClassifierBehaviorAction (from CompleteActions)

### Generalizations

- “Action (from BasicActions)” on page 249

### Description

StartClassifierBehaviorAction is an action that starts the classifier behavior of the input.

### Attributes

No additional attributes

### Associations

- object : InputPin [1..1]  
Holds the object on which to start the owned behavior. (Subsets *Action::input*.)

### Constraints

- [1] The multiplicity of the input pin is 1..1.
- [2] If the input pin has a type, then the type must have a classifier behavior.

### Semantics

When a StartClassifierBehaviorAction is invoked, it initiates the classifier behavior of the classifier of the input object. If the behavior has already been initiated, or the object has no classifier behavior, this action has no effect.

### Notation

No specific notation

### Rationale

This action is provided to permit the explicit initiation of classifier behaviors, such as state machines and code, in a detailed, low-level “raw” specification of behavior.

### Changes from previous UML

StartClassifierBehaviorAction is a generalization of the UML 1.5 StartStateMachineAction.

### 11.3.47 StartObjectBehaviorAction (from CompleteActions)

#### Generalizations

- “CallAction (from BasicActions)” on page 256

#### Description

StartObjectBehaviorAction is an action that starts the execution either of a directly instantiated behavior or of the classifier behavior of an object. Argument values may be supplied for the input parameters of the behavior. If the behavior is invoked synchronously, then output values may be obtained for output parameters.

#### Attributes

No additional attributes

#### Associations

- object : InputPin [0..1]  
Holds the object which is either a behavior to be started or has a classifier behavior to be started. (Subsets *Action::input*)

#### Constraints

- [1] The type of the object input pin must be either a Behavior or a BehavedClassifier with a classifier behavior.
- [2] The multiplicity of the object input pin must be [1..1].
- [3] The number and order of the argument pins must be the same as the number and order of the in and in-out parameters of the invoked behavior. Pins are matched to parameters by order.
- [4] The number and order of result pins must be the same as the number and order of the in-out, out and return parameters of the invoked behavior. Pins are matched to parameters by order.
- [5] The type, ordering, and multiplicity of an argument or result pin must be the same as the corresponding parameter of the behavior.

#### Semantics

A StartObjectBehaviorAction invokes an instantiated behavior or the classifier behavior of the input object. If the input object is an instantiated behavior that is not already executing, then it begins executing. If the input object has a classifier behavior that is not already executing, then it is instantiated and started. In either case, if the invoked behavior has already been initiated, then the action has no effect.

Note that, if the input object is not an instantiated behavior, then it must have a classifier behavior. If the input object is an instantiated behavior, then it may also have a classifier behavior, which is also started. If this classifier behavior itself has a classifier behavior, then this is also recursively started, and so on.

As a kind of CallAction, a StartObjectBehaviorAction must also provide argument values for all the in and inout parameters of the invoked behavior. Argument values provided on the input pins are available to the execution of the invoked behavior. If the invoked behavior is started asynchronously, StartObjectBehaviorAction completes after the behavior starts. If the invoked behavior is started synchronously, StartObjectBehaviorAction completes after the behavior does, and if the behavior has output parameters, then values produced for those parameters during execution are available on the result output pins of the action.

### 11.3.48 StructuralFeatureAction (from IntermediateActions)

(IntermediateActions) StructuralFeatureAction is an abstract class for all structural feature actions.

#### Generalizations

- “Action (from BasicActions)” on page 249

#### Description

This abstract action class statically specifies the structural feature being accessed.

The type of this pin is either the classifier that owns the specified structural feature or, if the structural feature is an owned end of a binary association, the type of the opposite end of the association. The multiplicity of the pin is 1..1.

#### Attributes

No additional attributes

#### Associations

- structuralFeature : StructuralFeature [1..1]  
Structural feature to be read.
- object : InputPin [1..1]  
Gives the input pin from which the object whose structural feature is to be read or written is obtained. (Subsets *Action::input*)

#### Constraints

- [1] The structural feature must not be static.  
`self.structuralFeature.isStatic = #false`
- [2] The structural feature must either be owned by the type of the object input pin, or it must be an owned end of a binary association with the type of the opposite end being the type of the object input pin.  
`self.structuralFeature.featuringClassifier.oclAsType(Type)->includes(self.object.type) or  
self.structuralFeature.oclAsType(Property).opposite.type = self.object.type`
- [3] The multiplicity of the object input pin must be 1..1.  
`self.object.lowerBound()=1 and self.object.upperBound()=1`
- [4] Visibility of structural feature must allow access to the object performing the action.  
`let host : Classifier = self.context in  
self.structuralFeature.visibility = #public  
or host = self.structuralFeature.featuringClassifier.type  
or (self.structuralFeature.visibility = #protected and host.allSupertypes  
->includes(self.structuralFeature.featuringClassifier.type)))`
- [5] A structural feature has exactly one featuringClassifier.  
`self.structuralFeature.featuringClassifier->size() = 1`

## Semantics

A structural feature action operates on a statically specified structural feature of some classifier. The action requires an object on which to act, provided at runtime through an input pin. If the structural feature is an association end, then actions on the feature have the same semantics as actions on the links that have the feature as an end. See specializations of `StructuralFeatureAction`. The semantics is undefined for accessing a structural feature that violates its visibility. The semantics for static features are undefined.

The structural features and associations of an object may change over time due to dynamic classification. However, the type of the object input pin of a structural feature action is identified as a single classifier, and it is assumed that the object passed to the action is classified by that classifier directly or indirectly. The structural feature is referred to as a user model element, so it is uniquely identified, even if there are other structural features of the same name on other classifiers.

## Notation

No specific notation

## Rationale

`StructuralFeatureAction` is introduced for the abstract aspects of structural feature actions.

## Changes from previous UML

`StructuralFeatureAction` is new in UML 2. It generalizes `AttributeAction` in UML 1.5.

### 11.3.49 TestIdentityAction (from IntermediateActions)

`TestIdentifyAction` is an action that tests if two values are identical objects.

## Generalizations

- “Action (from BasicActions)” on page 249

## Description

This action returns true if the two input values are the same identity, false if they are not.

## Attributes

No additional attributes

## Associations

- first: `InputPin` [1..1]  
Gives the pin on which an object is placed. (Subsets `Action::input`)
- result: `OutputPin` [1..1]  
Tells whether the two input objects are identical. (Subsets `Action::output`)
- second: `InputPin` [1..1]  
Gives the pin on which an object is placed. (Subsets `Action::input`)

### Constraints

- [1] The input pins have no type.  
self.first.type->size() = 0  
and self.second.type->size() = 0
- [2] The multiplicity of the input pins is 1..1.  
self.first.multiplicity.is(1,1)  
and self.second.multiplicity.is(1,1)
- [3] The type of the result is the UML standard primitive type Boolean. (This is not directly representable in OCL at the metamodel level.)

### Semantics

When all the prerequisites of the action have been satisfied, the input values are obtained from the input pins and made available to the computation. If the two input values represent the same object (regardless of any implementation-level encoding), the value true is placed on the output pin of the action execution; otherwise, the value false is placed on the output pin. The execution of the action is complete.

### Notation

No specific notation

### Rationale

TestIdentityAction is introduced to tell when two values refer to the same object.

### Changes from previous UML

TestIdentityAction is unchanged from UML 1.5.

## 11.3.50 UnmarshallAction (from CompleteActions)

UnmarshallAction is an action that breaks an object of a known type into outputs each of which is equal to a value from a structural feature of the object.

### Generalizations

- “Action (from BasicActions)” on page 249

### Description

The outputs of this action correspond to the structural features of the specified type. The input must be of this type.

### Attributes

No additional attributes

### Associations

- object : InputPin [1..1]  
The object to be unmarshalled. {Subsets *Action::input*}

- **unmarshallType** : Classifier [1..1]  
The type of the object to be unmarshalled.
- **result** : OutputPin [1..\*]  
The values of the structural features of the input object. {Subsets *Action::output*}

### Constraints

- [1] The type of the object input pin must be the same as the unmarshall classifier.
- [2] The multiplicity of the object input pin is 1..1.
- [3] The number of result output pins must be the same as the number of structural features of the unmarshall classifier.
- [4] The type and ordering of each result output pin must be the same as the corresponding structural features of the unmarshall classifier.
- [5] The multiplicity of each result output pin must be compatible with the multiplicity of the corresponding structural features of the unmarshall classifier.
- [6] The unmarshall classifier must have at least one structural feature.
- [7] unmarshallType must be a Classifier with ordered attributes.

### Semantics

When an object is available on the input pin, the values of the structural features of the specified classifier are retrieved from the object and placed on the output pins, in the order of the structural features of the specified classifier. The order of the values in an output pin are the same as the order of the corresponding structural features, if any.

### Notation

No specific notation

### Examples

See “UnmarshallAction (as specialized)” on page 432.

### Rationale

UnmarshallAction is introduced to read all the structural features of an object at once.

### Changes from previous UML

UnmarshallAction is the same as UML 1.5, except that the name of the metaassociation to the input pin is changed.

## 11.3.51 ValuePin (from BasicActions)

### Generalizations

- “InputPin (from BasicActions)” on page 269

### Description

A value pin is an input pin that provides a value by evaluating a value specification.

### Attributes

No additional attributes

### Associations

- value : ValueSpecification [1..1]  
Value that the pin will provide. {Subsets Element::ownedElement}

### Constraints

[1] The type of value specification must be compatible with the type of the value pin.

### Semantics

The value of the pin is the result of evaluating the value specification.

### Notation

No specific notation. See extensions in Activities.

### Rationale

ValuePin is introduced to provide the most basic way of providing inputs to actions.

### Changes from previous UML

ValuePin is new to UML 2.

## 11.3.52 ValueSpecificationAction (from IntermediateActions)

ValueSpecificationAction is an action that evaluates a value specification.

### Generalizations

- “Action (from BasicActions)” on page 249

### Description

The action returns the result of evaluating a value specification.

### Attributes

No additional attributes

### Associations

- value : ValueSpecification [1]  
Value specification to be evaluated. {Subsets Element::ownedElement}
- result : OutputPin [1]  
Gives the output pin on which the result is output. {Subsets Action::output}

**Constraints**

- [1] The type of value specification must be compatible with the type of the result pin.
- [2] The multiplicity of the result pin is 1..1.

**Semantics**

The value specification is evaluated when the action is enabled.

**Notation**

See “ValueSpecificationAction (as specialized)” on page 433.

**Examples**

See “ValueSpecificationAction (as specialized)” on page 433.

**Rationale**

ValueSpecificationAction is introduced for injecting constants and other value specifications into behavior.

**Changes from previous UML**

ValueSpecificationAction replaces LiteralValueAction from UML 1.5.

**11.3.53 VariableAction (from StructuredActions)****Generalizations**

- “Action (from BasicActions)” on page 249

**Description**

VariableAction is an abstract class for actions that operate on a statically specified variable.

**Attributes**

No additional attributes

**Associations**

- variable : Variable [1..1]  
Variable to be read.

**Constraints**

- [1] The action must be in the scope of the variable.  
self.variable.isAccessibleBy(self)

**Semantics**

Variable action is an abstract metaclass. For semantics see its concrete subtypes.

### Notation

No specific notation

### Rationale

VariableAction is introduced for the abstract aspects of variable actions.

### Changes from previous UML

VariableAction is unchanged from UML 1.5.

## 11.3.54 WriteLinkAction (from IntermediateActions)

WriteLinkAction is an abstract class for link actions that create and destroy links.

### Generalizations

- “LinkAction (from IntermediateActions)” on page 270

### Description

A write link action takes a complete identification of a link and creates or destroys it.

### Attributes

No additional attributes

### Associations

No additional associations

### Constraints

- [1] All end data must have exactly one input object pin.  
self.endData.forall(value->size() = 1)
- [2] The visibility of at least one end must allow access to the class using the action.

### Semantics

See children of WriteLinkAction.

### Notation

No specific notation

### Rationale

WriteLinkAction is introduced to navigate across links.

### Changes from previous UML

WriteLinkAction is unchanged from UML 1.5.

### 11.3.55 WriteStructuralFeatureAction (from IntermediateActions)

WriteStructuralFeatureAction is an abstract class for structural feature actions that change structural feature values.

#### Generalizations

- “StructuralFeatureAction (from IntermediateActions)” on page 300

#### Description

A write structural feature action operates on a structural feature of an object to modify its values. It has an input pin on which the value that will be added or removed is put. Other aspects of write structural feature actions are inherited from StructuralFeatureAction.

#### Attributes

No additional attributes

#### Associations

- value : InputPin [0..1] )  
Value to be added or removed from the structural feature. (Subsets *Action::input*)
- result : OutputPin [0..1]  
Gives the output pin on which the result is put. {Subsets *Action::output*}

#### Constraints

- [1] The type of the value input pin is the same as the type of the structural feature.  
`self.value->notEmpty() implies self.value.type = self.structuralFeature.type`
- [2] The multiplicity of the input pin is 1..1.  
`self.value.multiplicity.is(1,1)`
- [3] The type of the result output pin is the same as the type of the inherited object input pin.  
`result->notEmpty() implies self.result.type = self.object.type`
- [4] The multiplicity of the result output pin must be 1..1.  
`result->notEmpty() implies self.result.multiplicity.is(1,1)`

#### Semantics

A write structural feature action operates on a structural feature of an object to modify its values. The semantics of this modification depend on the specific kind of structural feature action. However, in all cases, if a result output pin is provided, then the input object, as modified, is placed on the output pin. If the input object is actually a data value, then a copy of the input data value is placed on the output pin, but with the appropriate structural feature modified.

#### Notation

No specific notation

#### Rationale

WriteStructuralFeatureAction is introduced to abstract aspects of structural feature actions that change structural feature values.

### Changes from previous UML

WriteStructuralFeatureAction is new in UML 2. It generalizes WriteAttributeAction in UML 1.5.

### 11.3.56 WriteVariableAction (from StructuredActions)

WriteVariableAction is an abstract class for variable actions that change variable values.

#### Generalizations

- “VariableAction (from StructuredActions)” on page 305

#### Description

A write variable action operates on a variable to modify its values. It has an input pin on which the value that will be added or removed is put. Other aspects of write variable actions are inherited from VariableAction.

#### Attributes

No additional attributes

#### Associations

- value : InputPin [0..1]  
Value to be added or removed from the variable. (Subsets *Action::input*)

#### Constraints

- [1] The type input pin is the same as the type of the variable.  
self.value -> notEmpty() **implies** self.value.type = self.variable.type
- [2] The multiplicity of the input pin is 1..1.  
self.value.multiplicity.is(1,1)

#### Semantics

See children of WriteVariableAction.

#### Notation

No specific notation

#### Rationale

WriteVariableAction is introduced to abstract aspects of structural feature actions that change variable values.

### Changes from previous UML

WriteVariableAction is unchanged from UML 1.5.

## 11.4 Diagrams

See “Diagrams” on page 436

## 12 Activities

### 12.1 Overview

Activity modeling emphasizes the sequence and conditions for coordinating lower-level behaviors, rather than which classifiers own those behaviors. These are commonly called control flow and object flow models. The actions coordinated by activity models can be initiated because other actions finish executing, because objects and data become available, or because events occur external to the flow.

#### Actions and activities

An *action execution* corresponds to the execution of a particular action. Similarly, an *activity execution* is the execution of an activity, ultimately including the executions of actions within it. Each action in an activity may execute zero, one, or more times for each activity execution. At the minimum, actions need access to data, they need to transform and test data, and actions may require sequencing. The activities specification (at the higher compliance levels) allows for several (logical) threads of control executing at once and synchronization mechanisms to ensure that activities execute in a specified order. Semantics based on concurrent execution can then be mapped easily into a distributed implementation. However, the fact that the UML allows for concurrently executing objects does not necessarily imply a distributed software structure. Some implementations may group together objects into a single task and execute sequentially—so long as the behavior of the implementation conforms to the sequencing constraints of the specification.

There are potentially many ways of implementing the same specification, and any implementation that preserves the information content and behavior of the specification is acceptable. Because the implementation can have a different structure from that of the specification, there is a mapping between the specification and its implementation. This mapping need not be one-to-one: an implementation need not even use object-orientation, or it might choose a different set of classes from the original specification.

The mapping may be carried out by hand by overlaying physical models of computers and tasks for implementation purposes, or the mapping could be carried out automatically. This part of ISO/IEC 19505 neither provides the overlays, nor does it provide for code generation explicitly, but the specification makes both approaches possible.

See the “Activity (from BasicActivities, CompleteActivities, FundamentalActivities, StructuredActivities)” and “Action (from CompleteActivities, FundamentalActivities, StructuredActivities, CompleteStructuredActivities)” metaclasses for more introduction and semantic framework.

#### FundamentalActivities

The fundamental level defines activities as containing nodes, which includes actions. This level is shared between the flow and structured forms of activities.

#### BasicActivities

This level includes control sequencing and data flow between actions, but explicit forks and joins of control, as well as decisions and merges, are not supported. The basic and structured levels are orthogonal. Either can be used without the other or both can be used to support modeling that includes both flows and structured control constructs.

#### IntermediateActivities

The intermediate level supports modeling of activity diagrams that include concurrent control and data flow, and decisions. It supports modeling similar to traditional Petri nets with queuing. It requires the basic level.

The intermediate and structured levels are orthogonal. Either can be used without the other or both can be used to support modeling that includes both concurrency and structured control constructs.

### **CompleteActivities**

The complete level adds constructs that enhance the lower level models, such as edge weights and streaming.

### **StructuredActivities**

The structured level supports modeling of traditional structured programming constructs, such as sequences, loops, and conditionals, as an addition to fundamental activity nodes. It requires the fundamental level. It is compatible with the intermediate and complete levels.

### **CompleteStructuredActivities**

This level adds support for data flow output pins of sequences, conditionals, and loops. It depends on the basic layer for flows.

### **ExtraStructuredActivities**

The extra structure level supports exception handling as found in traditional programming languages and invocation of behaviors on sets of values. It requires the structured level.

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## 12.2 Abstract Syntax

Figure 12.1 shows the dependencies of the activity packages.

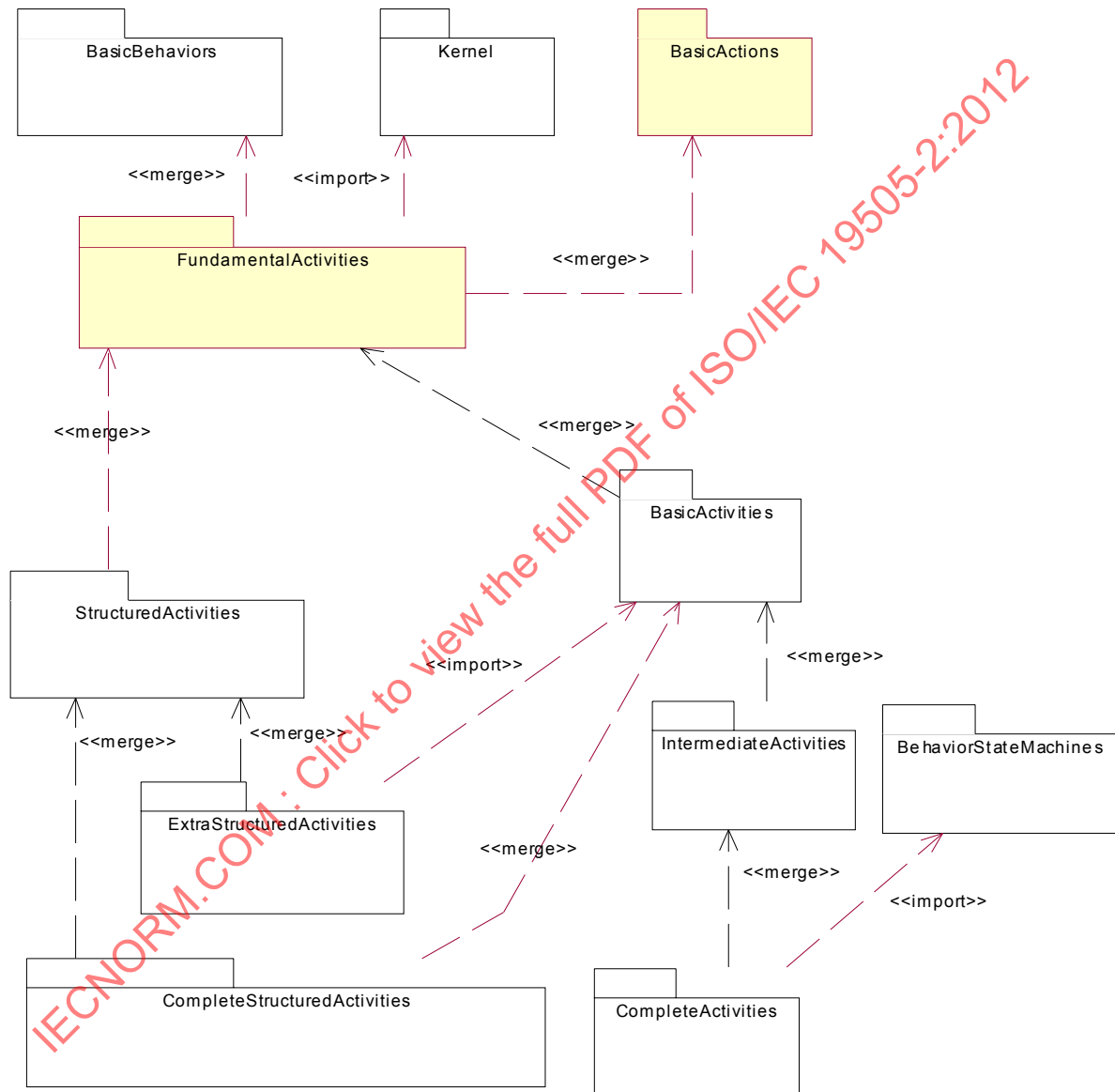


Figure 12.1 - Dependencies of the Activity packages

Package FundamentalActivities

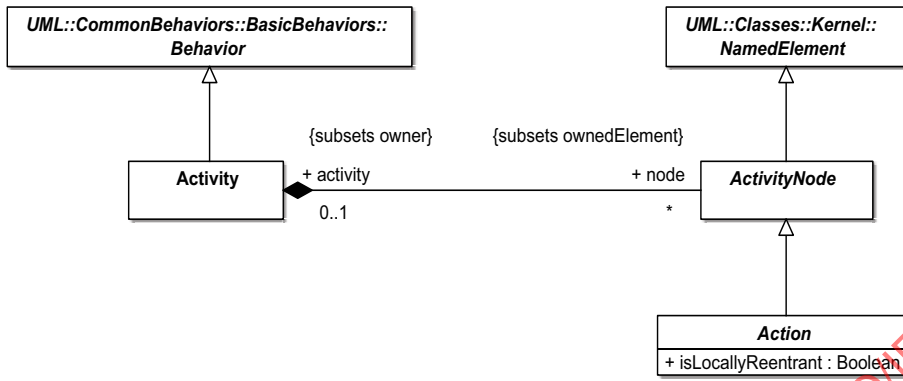


Figure 12.2 - Fundamental nodes

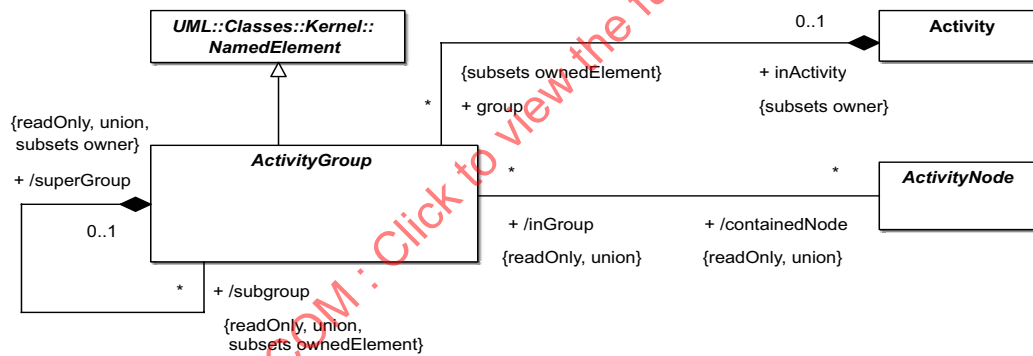


Figure 12.3 - Fundamental groups

Package BasicActivities

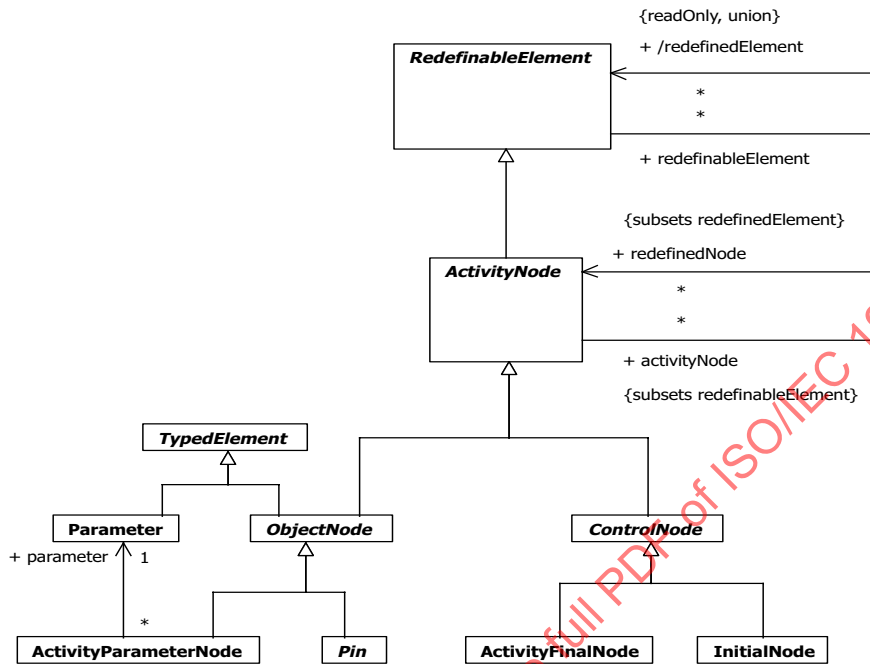


Figure 12.4 - Nodes (BasicActivities)

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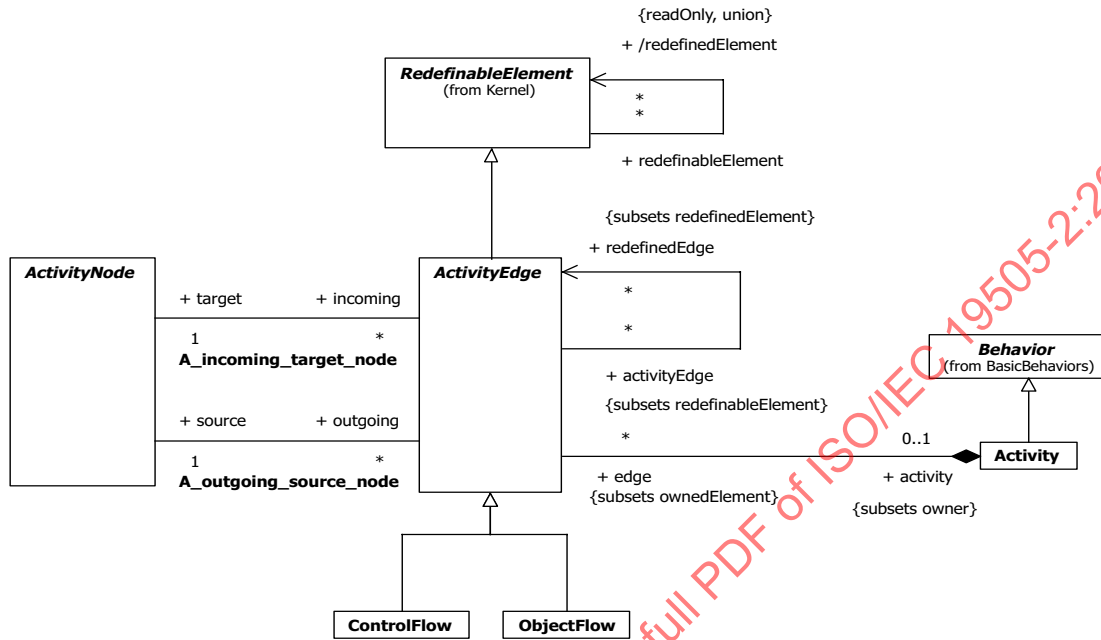


Figure 12.5 - Flows

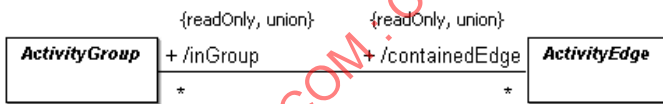


Figure 12.6 - Groups

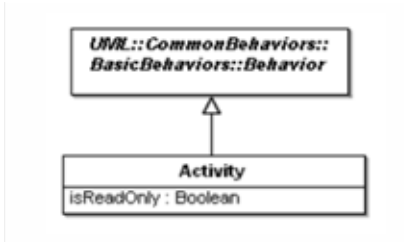


Figure 12.7 - Elements

Package IntermediateActivities

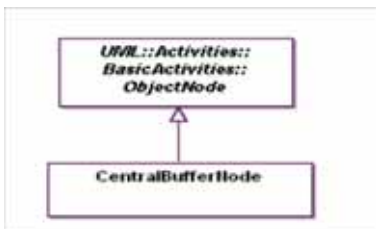


Figure 12.8 - Object nodes (IntermediateActivities)

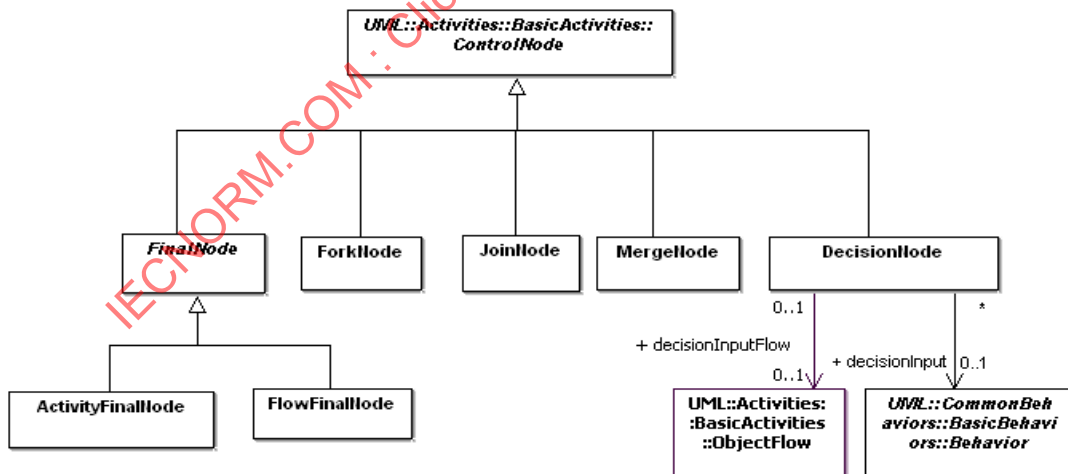


Figure 12.9 - Control nodes (IntermediateActivities)

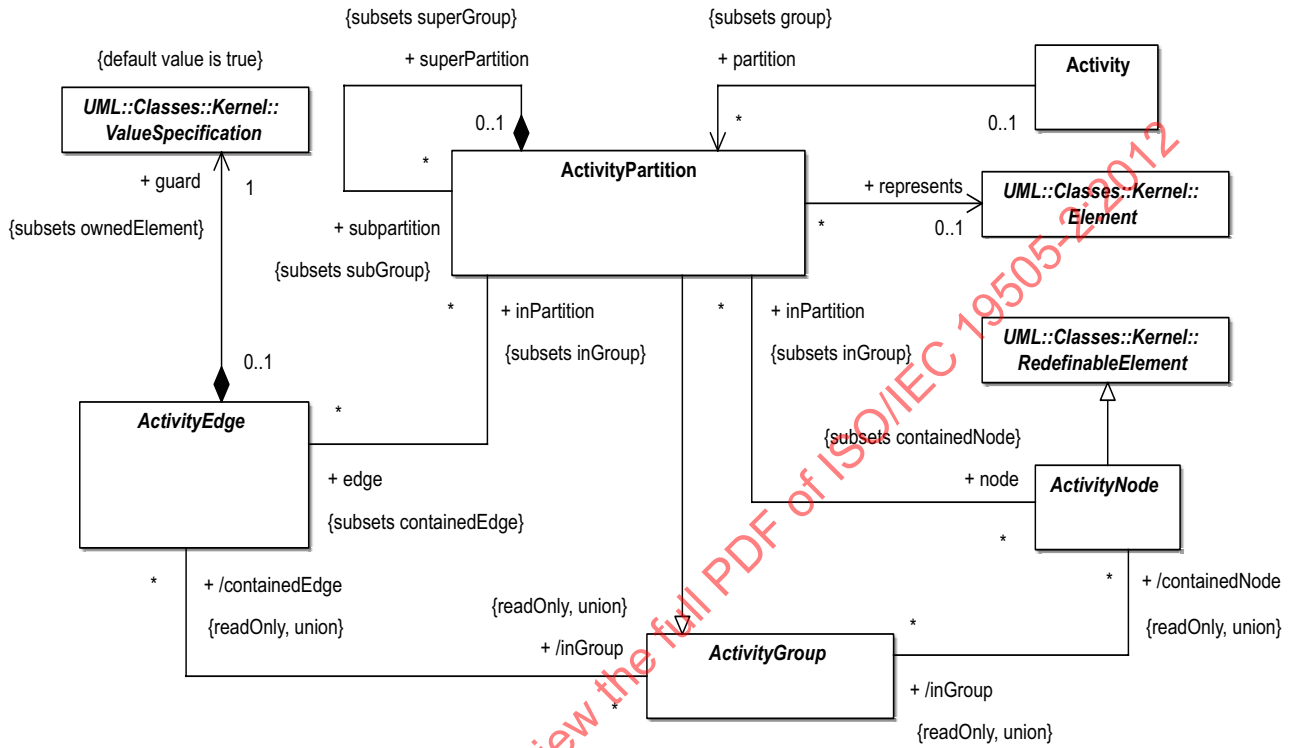


Figure 12.10 - Partitions

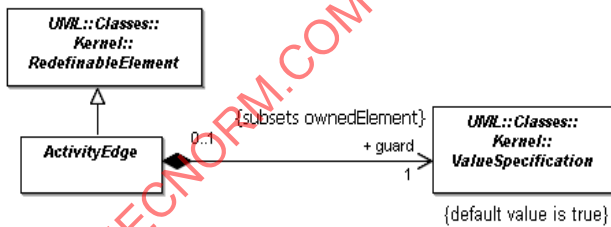


Figure 12.11 - Flows (IntermediateActivities)

Package CompleteActivities

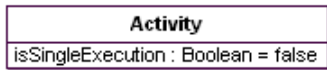


Figure 12.12 - Elements (CompleteActivities)

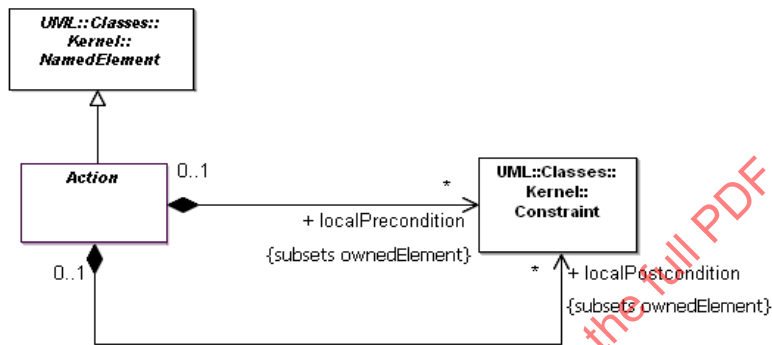


Figure 12.13 - Constraints (CompleteActivities)

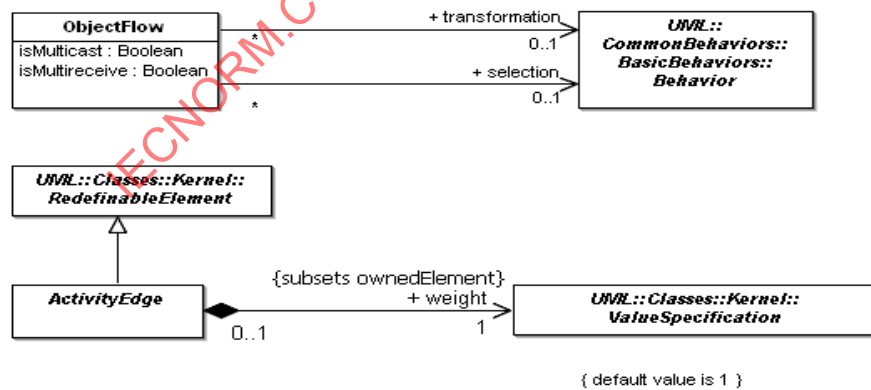


Figure 12.14 - Flows (CompleteActivities)

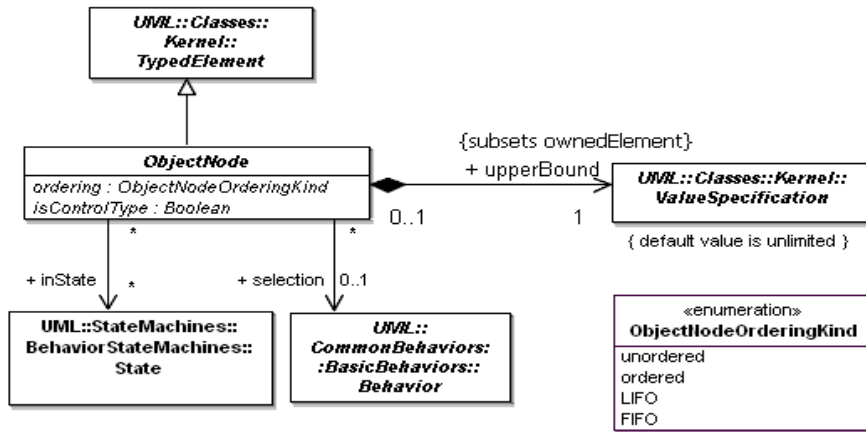


Figure 12.15 - Object nodes (CompleteActivities)

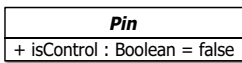


Figure 12.16 - Control pins

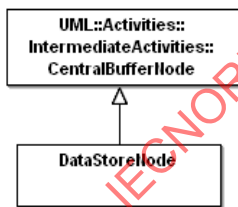


Figure 12.17 - Data stores

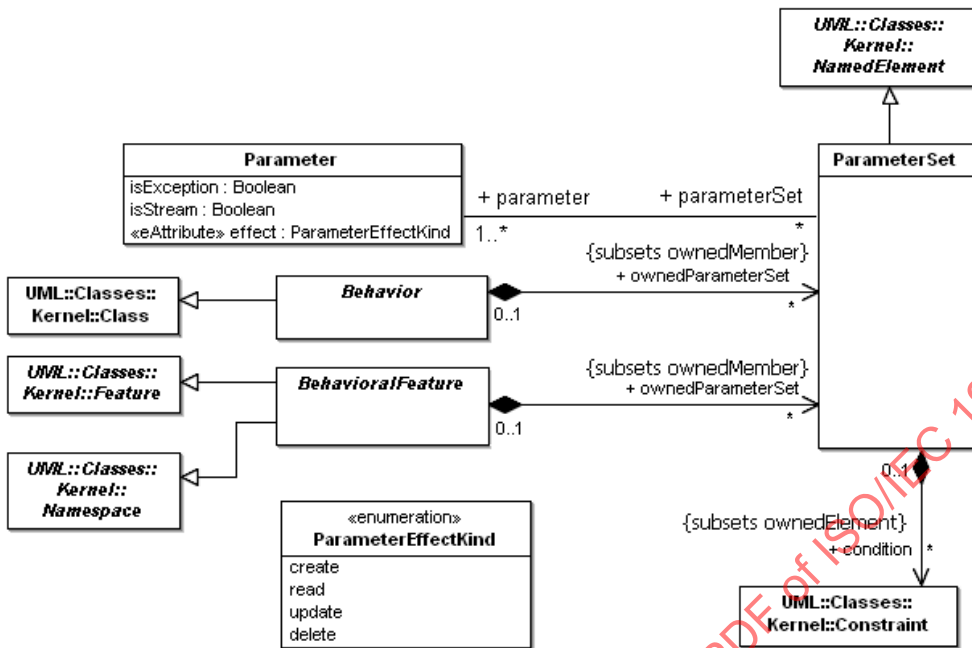


Figure 12.18 - Parameter sets



Figure 12.19 - Control nodes (CompleteActivities)

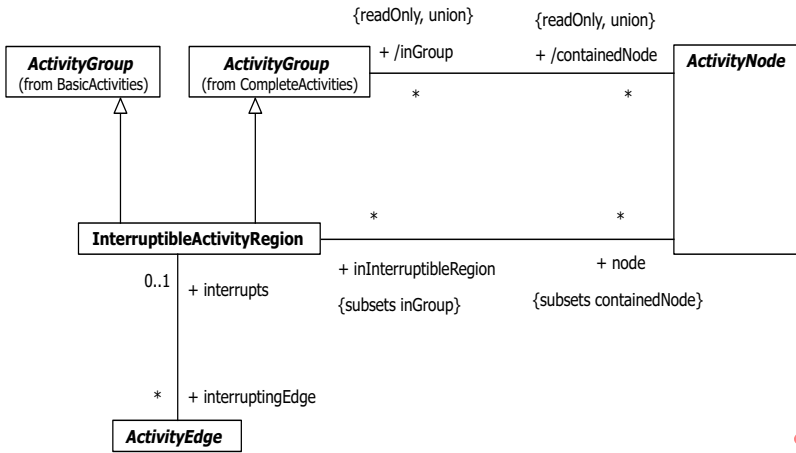


Figure 12.20 - Interruptible regions

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Package StructuredActivities

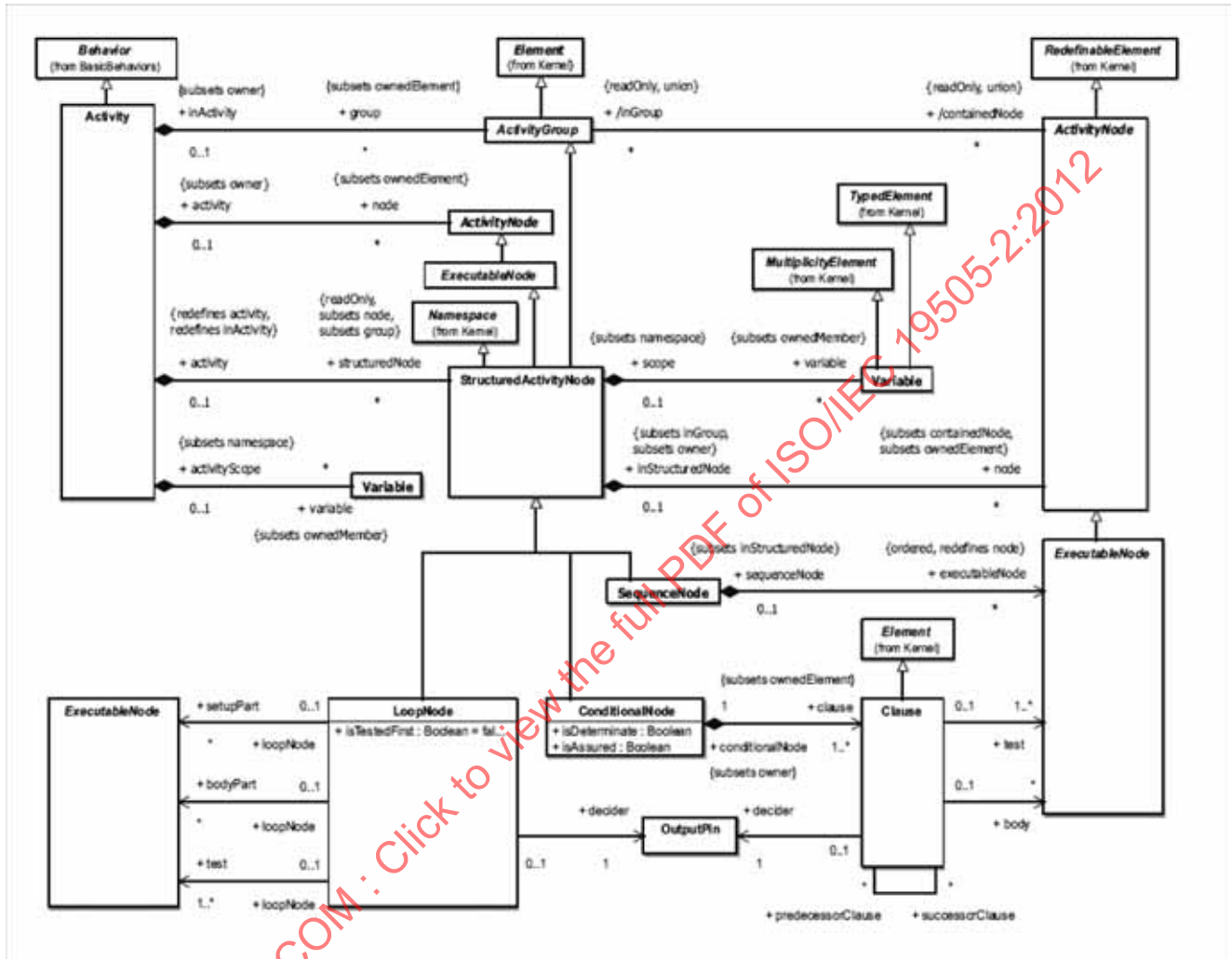


Figure 12.21 - Structured Nodes

Package CompleteStructuredActivities

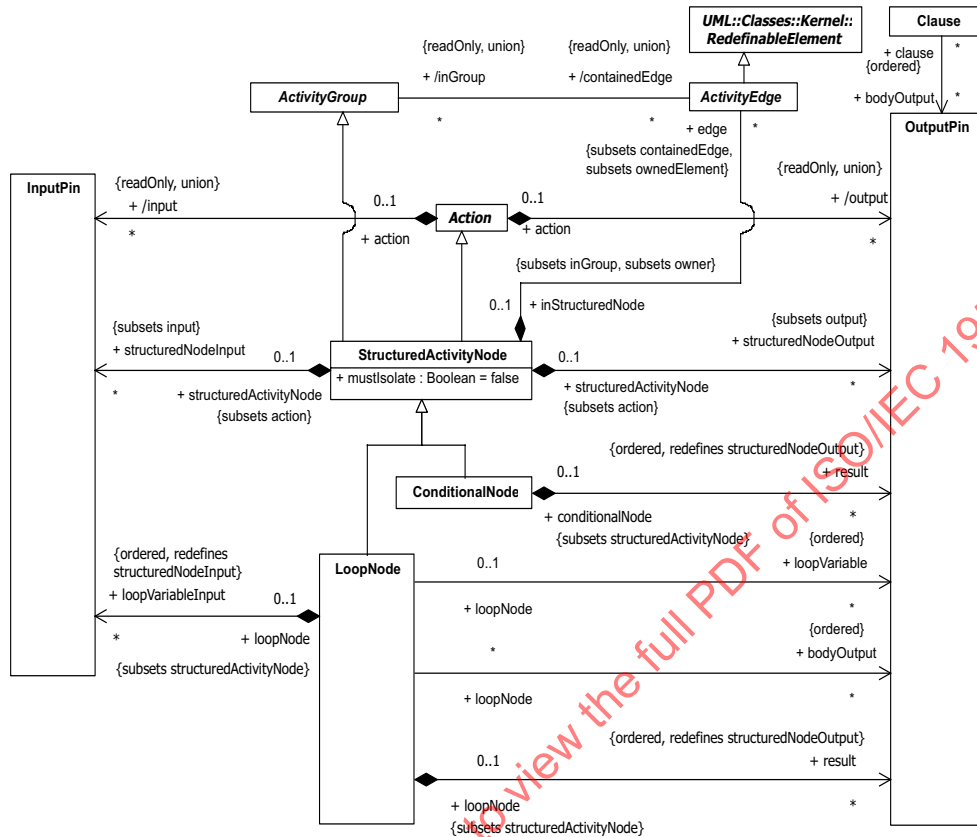


Figure 12.22 - Structured nodes (CompleteStructuredActivities)

Package ExtraStructuredActivities

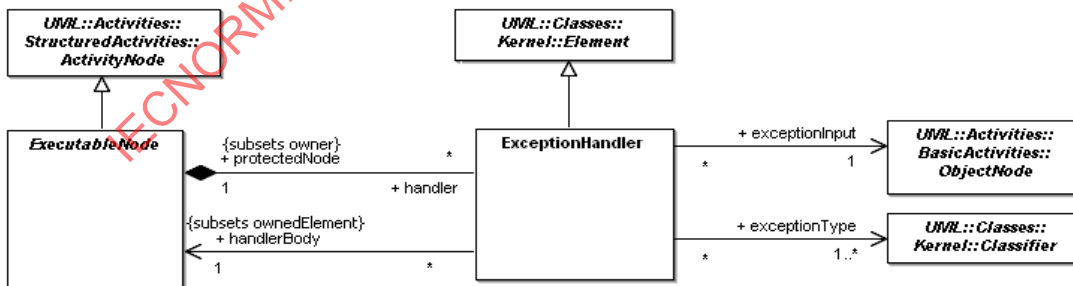


Figure 12.23 - Exceptions

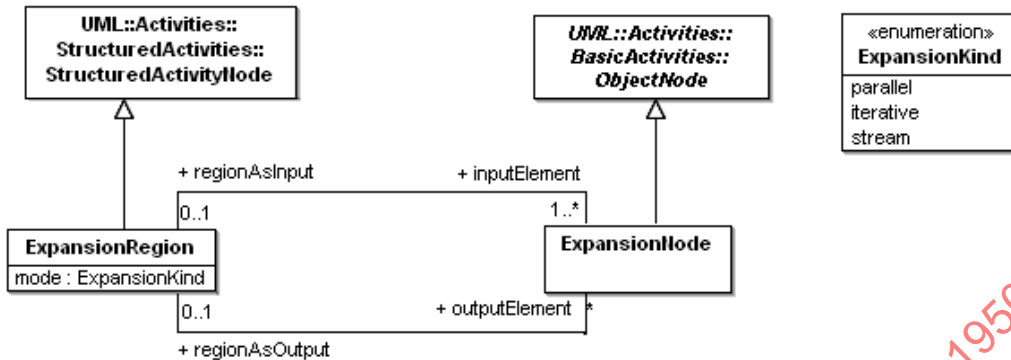


Figure 12.24 - Expansion regions

## 12.3 Class Descriptions

### 12.3.1 AcceptEventAction (as specialized)

See “AcceptEventAction (from CompleteActions)” on page 247.

#### Attributes

No additional attributes

#### Associations

No additional associations

#### Constraints

No additional constraints

#### Semantics

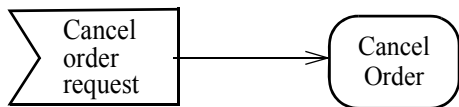
If an AcceptEventAction has no incoming edges, then the action starts when the containing activity or structured node does, whichever most immediately contains the action. In addition, an AcceptEventAction with no incoming edges remains enabled after it accepts an event. It does not terminate after accepting an event and outputting a value, but continues to wait for other events. This semantic is an exception to the normal execution rules in Activities. An AcceptEventAction with no incoming edges and contained by a structured node is terminated when its container is terminated.

#### Notation

See “AcceptEventAction (from CompleteActions)” on page 247.

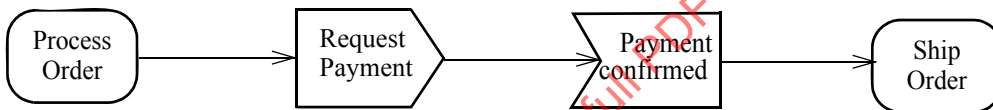
**Examples**

Figure 12.25 is an example of the acceptance of a signal indicating the cancellation of an order. The acceptance of the signal causes an invocation of a cancellation behavior. This action is enabled on entry to the activity containing it, therefore no input arrow is shown.



**Figure 12.25 - Accept signal - top level in scope**

In Figure 12.26, a request payment signal is sent after an order is processed. The activity then waits to receive a payment confirmed signal. Acceptance of the payment confirmed signal is enabled only after the request for payment is sent; no confirmation is accepted until then. When the confirmation is received, the order is shipped.



**Figure 12.26 - Accept signal - explicit enable**

In Figure 12.27, the end-of-month accept time event action generates an output at the end of the month. Since there are no incoming edges to the time event action, it is enabled as long as its containing activity or structured node is. It will generate an output at the end of every month.



**Figure 12.27 - Repetitive time event**

**Rationale**

See “AcceptEventAction (from CompleteActions)” on page 247.

**Changes from previous UML**

See “AcceptEventAction (from CompleteActions)” on page 247.

### 12.3.2 Action (from CompleteActivities, FundamentalActivities, StructuredActivities, CompleteStructuredActivities)

#### Generalizations

- “ActivityNode (from BasicActivities, CompleteActivities, FundamentalActivities, IntermediateActivities, CompleteStructuredActivities)” on page 349.
- “ExecutableNode (from ExtraStructuredActivities, StructuredActivities)” on page 382.
- “Action (from BasicActions)” on page 249 (*merge increment*).

#### Description

An action represents a single step within an activity, that is, one that is not further decomposed within the activity. An activity represents a behavior that is composed of individual elements that are actions. Note, however, that a call behavior action may reference an activity definition, in which case the execution of the call action involves the execution of the referenced activity and its actions (similarly for all the invocation actions). An action is therefore simple from the point of view of the activity containing it, but may be complex in its effect and not be atomic. As a piece of structure within an activity model, it is a single discrete element; as a specification of behavior to be performed, it may invoke referenced behavior that is arbitrarily complex. As a consequence, an activity defines a behavior that can be reused in many places, whereas an instance of an action is only used once at a particular point in an activity.

An action may have sets of incoming and outgoing activity edges that specify control flow and data flow from and to other nodes. An action will not begin execution until all of its input conditions are satisfied. The completion of the execution of an action may enable the execution of a set of successor nodes and actions that take their inputs from the outputs of the action.

#### Package CompleteActivities

In CompleteActivities, action is extended to have pre- and postconditions.

#### Attributes

##### Package FundamentalActivities

- `isLocallyReentrant` : Boolean = false  
If true, the action can begin a new, concurrent execution, even if there is already another execution of the action ongoing. If false, the action cannot begin a new execution until any previous execution has completed. The default is false.

#### Associations

##### Package CompleteActivities

- `localPrecondition` : Constraint [0..\*]  
Constraint that must be satisfied when execution is started. {Subsets *Element::ownedElement*}
- `localPostcondition` : Constraint [0..\*]  
Constraint that must be satisfied when execution is completed. {Subsets *Element::ownedElement*}

*Package CompleteStructuredActivities*

- /input: InputPin [0..\*]  
The ordered set of input pins connected to the Action.
- /output: InputPin [0..\*]  
The ordered set of output pins connected to the Action.

**Constraints**

No additional constraints

**Operations**

- [1] activity operates on Action. It returns the activity containing the action.
- ```
activity() : Activity;  
activity = if self.Activity->size() > 0 then self.Activity else self.group.activity() endif
```

**Semantics**

The sequencing of actions are controlled by control edges and object flow edges within activities, which carry control and object tokens respectively (see Activity). Alternatively, the sequencing of actions is controlled by structured nodes, or by a combination of structured nodes and edges. Except where noted, an action can only begin execution when it has been offered control tokens on all incoming control flows and all its input pins have been offered object tokens sufficient for their multiplicity. The action begins execution by accepting all the offers of control and object tokens allowed by input pin multiplicity. When the execution of an action is complete, it offers control tokens on its outgoing control flows and object tokens from its output pins.

The steps of executing an action with control and object flow are as follows:

- [1] An action execution is created when all its object flow and control flow prerequisites have been satisfied (implicit join). Exceptions to this are listed below. The object flow prerequisite is satisfied when all of the input pins are offered all necessary tokens, as specified by their minimum multiplicity, and accept them all at once up to their maximum multiplicity, precluding them from being consumed by any other actions. This ensures input pins on separate actions competing for the same tokens do not accept any the action cannot immediately consume, causing deadlock or starvation as actions wait for tokens taken by input pins of other actions but not used.
- [2] When an action accepts the offers for control and object tokens, the tokens are removed from the original sources that offered them. If multiple control tokens are available on a single incoming control flow, they are all consumed. Object tokens accepted on an incoming object flow to an input pin are placed on the input pin, from which they are consumed by the execution of the action. For structured actions, tokens can remain on input pins during action execution, otherwise they are immediately removed from the input pins by the action execution.
- [3] An action continues executing until it has completed. Most actions operate only on their inputs. Some give access to a wider context, such as variables in the containing structured activity node, or the self object, which is the object owning the activity containing the executing action. The detailed semantic of execution an action and definition of completion depends on the particular subclass of action.
- [4] When completed, an action execution offers any object tokens that have been placed on its output pins and control tokens on all its outgoing control flows (implicit fork), and it terminates. Exceptions to this are listed below. The offered tokens may now satisfy the control or object flow prerequisites for other action executions.
- [5] After an action execution has terminated, its resources may be reclaimed by an implementation, but the details of resource management are not part of this text and are properly part of an implementation profile.

See ValuePin and Parameter for exceptions to rule for starting action execution.

If an action is not locally reentrant (`isLocallyReentrant=false`, the default), then no more than one execution of it will exist at any given time within the context of a single execution of the containing activity. Even if the action would normally begin an execution according to the rules above, it will not start a new execution if there is already one ongoing within the same activity execution. In this case, the action simply does not accept any tokens offered to it until its ongoing execution has finished. At this point, if the required tokens are still available, the action may accept the offers and begin a new execution.

On the other hand, if an action is locally reentrant (`isLocallyReentrant=true`), then it will begin a new execution any time the rules above allow it, even if there are one or more executions already going within the same activity execution. This means that there may be, within any one execution of the containing activity, more than one concurrent execution of the action ongoing at any given time.

A call action for a non-reentrant behavior will also act locally non-reentrant, whatever the value of the `isLocallyReentrant` property for the action. Moreover, an invocation action for a non-reentrant behavior will not execute if there is any currently running execution for the behavior, whether invoked by this action or any other (see “CallAction (from BasicActions)” on page 256).

#### *Package ExtraStructuredActivities*

If an exception occurs during the execution of an action, the execution of the action is abandoned and no regular output is generated by this action. If the action has an exception handler, it receives the exception object as a token. If the action has no exception handler, the exception propagates to the enclosing node and so on until it is caught by one of them. If an exception propagates out of a nested node (action, structured activity node, or activity), all tokens in the nested node are terminated. The data describing an exception is represented as an object of any class.

#### *Package CompleteActivities*

Streaming allows an action execution to take inputs and provide outputs while it is executing. During one execution, the action may consume multiple tokens on each streaming input and produce multiple tokens on each streaming output. See Parameter.

Local pre- and post-conditions are constraints that should hold when the execution starts and completes, respectively. They hold only at the point in the flow that they are specified, not globally for other invocations of the behavior at other places in the flow or on other diagrams. Compare to pre and postconditions on Behavior (in Activities). See semantic variations below for their effect on flow.

### **Semantic Variation Points**

#### *Package CompleteActivities*

How local pre- and postconditions are enforced is determined by the implementation. For example, violations may be detected at compile time or runtime. The effect may be an error that stops the execution or just a warning, and so on. Since local pre- and post-conditions are modeler-defined constraints, violations do not mean that the semantics of the invocation is undefined as far as UML goes. They only mean the model or execution trace does not conform to the modeler’s intention (although in most cases this indicates a serious modeling error that calls into question the validity of the model).

See variations in `ActivityEdge` and `ObjectNode`.

### **Notation**

Use of action and activity notation is optional. A textual notation may be used instead.

Actions are notated as round-cornered rectangles. The name of the action or other description of it may appear in the symbol. See children of action for refinements.

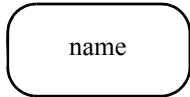


Figure 12.28 - Action

*Package CompleteActivities*

Local pre- and post-conditions are shown as notes attached to the invocation with the keywords «localPrecondition» and «localPostcondition», respectively.

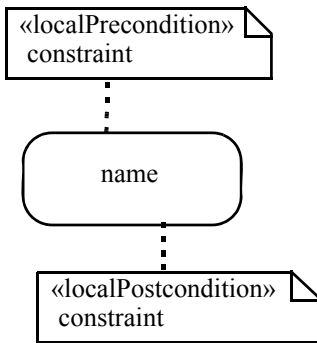


Figure 12.29 - Local pre- and post-conditions

**Examples**

Examples of actions are illustrated below. These perform behaviors called Send Payment and Accept Payment.

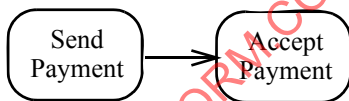


Figure 12.30 - Examples of actions

Below is an example of an action expressed in an application-dependent action language:

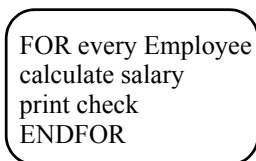


Figure 12.31 - Example of action with tool-dependent action language

### Package CompleteActivities

The example below illustrates local pre- and postconditions for the action of a drink-dispensing machine. This is considered “local” because a drink-dispensing machine is constrained to operate under these conditions for this particular action. For a machine technician scenario, the situation would be different. Here, a machine technician would have a key to open up the machine, and therefore no money need be inserted to dispense the drink, nor change need be given. In such a situation, the global pre- and post-conditions would be all that is required. (Global conditions are described in Activity specification, in the next sub clause.) For example, a global pre-condition for a Dispense Drink activity could be “A drink is selected that the vending machine dispenses.” The post-condition, then, would be “The vending machine dispensed the drink that was selected.” In other words, there is no global requirement for money and correct change.

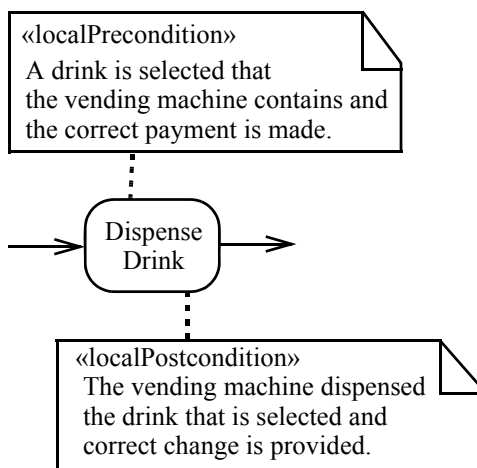


Figure 12.32 - Example of an action with local pre- and post-conditions

### Changes from previous UML

Explicitly modeled actions as part of activities are new in UML 2, and replace ActionState, CallState, and SubactivityState in UML 1.5. They represent a merger of activity graphs from UML 1.5 and actions from UML 1.5.

Local pre- and post-conditions are new to UML 2.

### 12.3.3 ActionInputPin (as specialized)

See “ActionInputPin (from StructuredActions)” on page 250.

#### Attributes

No additional attributes

#### Associations

No additional associations

#### Constraints

No additional constraints

## Semantics

See “ActionInputPin (from StructuredActions)” on page 250.

## Notation

An action input pin with a ReadVariableAction as a fromAction is notated as an input pin with the variable name written beside it. An action input pin with a ReadSelfObject as a fromAction is notated as an input pin with the word “self” written beside it. An action input pin with a ValueSpecification as a fromAction is notated as an input pin with the value specification written beside it.

## Examples

See “ActionInputPin (from StructuredActions)” on page 250.

### 12.3.4 Activity (from BasicActivities, CompleteActivities, FundamentalActivities, StructuredActivities)

An activity is the specification of parameterized behavior as the coordinated sequencing of subordinate units whose individual elements are actions. There are actions that invoke activities (directly by “CallBehaviorAction (from BasicActions)” on page 257 or indirectly as methods by “CallOperationAction (from BasicActions)” on page 258).

## Generalizations

- “Behavior (from BasicBehaviors)” on page 451

## Description

An activity specifies the coordination of executions of subordinate behaviors, using a control and data flow model. The subordinate behaviors coordinated by these models may be initiated because other behaviors in the model finish executing, because objects and data become available, or because events occur external to the flow. The flow of execution is modeled as activity nodes connected by activity edges. A node can be the execution of a subordinate behavior, such as an arithmetic computation, a call to an operation, or manipulation of object contents. Activity nodes also include flow-of-control constructs, such as synchronization, decision, and concurrency control. Activities may form invocation hierarchies invoking other activities, ultimately resolving to individual actions. In an object-oriented model, activities are usually invoked indirectly as methods bound to operations that are directly invoked.

Activities may describe procedural computation. In this context, they are the methods corresponding to operations on classes. Activities may be applied to organizational modeling for business process engineering and workflow. In this context, events often originate from inside the system, such as the finishing of a task, but also from outside the system, such as a customer call. Activities can also be used for information system modeling to specify system level processes.

Activities may contain actions of various kinds:

- Occurrences of primitive functions, such as arithmetic functions.
- Invocations of behavior, such as activities.
- Communication actions, such as sending of signals.
- Manipulations of objects, such as reading or writing attributes or associations.

Actions have no further decomposition in the activity containing them. However, the execution of a single action may induce the execution of many other actions. For example, a call action invokes an operation that is implemented by an activity containing actions that execute before the call action completes.

Most of the constructs in the Activity clause deal with various mechanisms for sequencing the flow of control and data among the actions:

- Object flows for sequencing data produced by one node that is used by other nodes.
- Control flows for sequencing the execution of nodes.
- Control nodes to structure control and object flow. These include decisions and merges to model contingency. These also include initial and final nodes for starting and ending flows. In IntermediateActivities, they include forks and joins for creating and synchronizing concurrent subexecutions.
- Activity generalization to replace nodes and edges.
- Object nodes to represent objects and data as they flow in and out of invoked behaviors, or to represent collections of tokens waiting to move downstream.

#### *Package StructuredActivities*

- Composite nodes to represent structured flow-of-control constructs, such as loops and conditionals.

#### *Package IntermediateActivities*

- Partitions to organize lower-level activities according to various criteria, such as the real-world organization responsible for their performance.

#### *Package CompleteActivities*

- Interruptible regions and exceptions to represent deviations from the normal, mainline flow of control.

### **Attributes**

#### *Package BasicActivities*

- `isReadOnly` : Boolean = false  
If *true*, this activity must not make any changes to variables outside the activity or to objects. (This is an assertion, not an executable property. It may be used by an execution engine to optimize model execution. If the assertion is violated by the action, then the model is ill-formed.) The default is false (an activity may make non-local changes).

#### *Package CompleteActivities*

- `isSingleExecution` : Boolean = false  
If *true*, all invocations of the activity are handled by the same execution.

### **Associations**

#### *Package FundamentalActivities*

- `group` : ActivityGroup [0..\*]  
Top-level groups in the activity. {Subsets *Namespace::ownedElement*}
- `node` : ActivityNode [0..\*]  
Nodes coordinated by the activity. {Subsets *Namespace::ownedElement*}

### Package *BasicActivities*

- edge : ActivityEdge [0..\*]  
Edges expressing flow between nodes of the activity. {Subsets *Namespace::ownedElement*}

### Package *IntermediateActivities*

- partition : ActivityPartition [0..\*]  
Top-level partitions in the activity. {Subsets *Activity::group*}

### Package *StructuredActivities*

- structuredNode : StructuredActivityNode [0..\*]  
Top-level structured nodes in the activity. {Subsets *Activity::node*, *Activity::group*}
- variable : Variable [0..\*]  
Top-level variables in the activity. Subsets *Namespace::ownedMember*.

### Constraints

- [1] The nodes of the activity must include one ActivityParameterNode for each parameter.
- [2] An activity cannot be autonomous and have a classifier or behavioral feature context at the same time.
- [3] The groups of an activity have no supergroups.

### Semantics

The semantics of activities is based on token flow. By *flow*, we mean that the execution of one node affects, and is affected by, the execution of other nodes, and such dependencies are represented by *edges* in the activity diagram. A *token* contains an object, datum, or locus of control, and is present in the activity diagram at a particular node. Each token is distinct from any other, even if it contains the same value as another. A node may begin execution when specified conditions on its input tokens are satisfied; the conditions depend on the kind of node. When a node begins execution, tokens are accepted from some or all of its input edges and a token is placed on the node. When a node completes execution, a token is removed from the node and tokens are offered to some or all of its output edges. See later in this sub clause for more about how tokens are managed.

All restrictions on the relative execution order of two or more actions are explicitly constrained by flow relationships. If two actions are not directly or indirectly ordered by flow relationships, they may execute concurrently. This does not require parallel execution; a specific execution engine may choose to perform the executions sequentially or in parallel, as long as any explicit ordering constraints are satisfied. In most cases, there are some flow relationships that constrain execution order. Concurrency is supported in *IntermediateActivities*, but not in *BasicActivities*.

Activities can be parameterized, which is a capability inherited from Behavior (see 12.3.9, “ActivityParameterNode (from *BasicActivities*),” on page 352). Functionality inherited from Behavior also supports the use of activities on classifiers and as methods for behavioral features. The classifier, if any, is referred to as the *context* of the activity. At runtime, the activity has access to the attributes and operations of its context object and any objects linked to the context object, transitively. An activity that is also a method of a behavioral feature has access to the parameters of the behavioral feature. In workflow terminology, the scope of information an activity uses is called the process-relevant data. Implementations that have access to metadata can define parameters that accept entire activities or other parts of the user model.

An activity with a classifier context, but that is not a method of a behavioral feature, can be invoked after the classifier is instantiated. An activity that is a method of a behavioral feature is invoked when the behavioral feature is invoked. The Behavior metaclass also provides parameters, which must be compatible with the behavioral feature it is a method of, if any. Behavior also supports overriding of activities used as inherited methods. See the Behavior metaclass for more information.

Activities can also be invoked directly by other activities rather than through the call of a behavioral feature that has an activity as a method. This functional or monomorphic style of invocation is useful at the stage of development where focus is on the activities to be completed and goals to be achieved. Classifiers responsible for each activity can be assigned at a later stage by declaring behavioral features on classifiers and assigning activities as methods for these features. For example, in business reengineering, an activity flow can be optimized independently of which departments or positions are later assigned to handle each step. This is why activities are autonomous when they are not assigned to a classifier.

Regardless of whether an activity is invoked through a behavioral feature or directly, inputs to the invoked activity are supplied by an invocation action in the calling activity, which gets its inputs from incoming edges. Likewise an activity invoked from another activity produces outputs that are delivered to an invocation action, which passes them onto its outgoing edges. See “Parameter (from CompleteActivities)” on page 415 for more about how activities start and stop execution.

An activity execution represents an execution of the activity. An activity execution, as a reflective object, can support operations for managing execution, such as starting, stopping, aborting, and so on; attributes, such as how long the process has been executing or how much it costs; and links to objects, such as the performer of the execution, who to report completion to, or resources being used, and states of execution such as started, suspended, and so on. Used this way activity is the modeling basis for the WfProcess interface in the OMG Workflow Management Facility, [www.omg.org/cgi-bin/doc?formal/00-05-02](http://www.omg.org/cgi-bin/doc?formal/00-05-02). It is expected that profiles will include class libraries with standard classes that are used as root classes for activities in the user model. Vendors may define their own libraries, or support user-defined features on activity classes.

Nodes and edges have token flow rules. Nodes control when tokens enter or leave them. Edges have rules about when a token may be taken from the source node and moved to the target node. A token traverses an edge when it satisfies the rules for target node, edge, and source node all at once. This means a source node can only offer tokens to the outgoing edges, rather than force them along the edge, because the tokens may be rejected by the edge or the target node on the other side. Multiple tokens offered to an edge at once is the same as if they were offered one at a time. Since multiple edges can leave the same node, the same token can be offered to multiple targets. However, a token can only be accepted at one target. This means flow semantics is highly distributed and subject to timing issues and race conditions, as is any distributed system. There is no specification of the order in which rules are applied on the various nodes and edges in an activity. It is the responsibility of the modeler to ensure that timing issues do not affect system goals, or that they are eliminated from the model. Execution profiles may tighten the rules to enforce various kinds of execution semantics. Start at ActivityEdge and ActivityNode to see the token management rules.

Tokens cannot “rest” at *control nodes*, such as decisions and merges, waiting to move downstream. Control nodes act as traffic switches managing tokens as they make their way between object nodes and actions, which are the nodes where tokens can rest for a period of time. Initial nodes are excepted from this rule.

A data token with no value in is called the *null* token. It can be passed along and used like any other token. For example, an action can output a null token and a downstream decision point can test for it and branch accordingly. Null tokens satisfy the type of all object nodes.

The semantics of activities is specified in terms of these token rules, but only for the purpose of describing the expected runtime behavior. Token semantics is not intended to dictate the way activities are implemented, despite the use of the term “execution.” They only define the sequence and conditions for behaviors to start and stop. Token rules may be optimized in particular cases as long as the effect is the same.

#### *Package IntermediateActivities*

Activities can have multiple tokens flowing in them at any one time, if required. Special nodes called *object nodes* provide and accept objects and data as they flow in and out of invoked behaviors, and may act as buffers, collecting tokens as they wait to move downstream.

#### *Package CompleteActivities*

Each time an activity is invoked, the `isSingleExecution` attribute indicates whether the same execution of the activity handles tokens for all invocations, or a separate execution of the activity is created for each invocation. For example, an activity that models a manufacturing plant might have a parameter for an order to fill. Each time the activity is invoked, a new order enters the flow. Since there is only one plant, one execution of the activity handles all orders. This applies even if the behavior is a method, for example, on each order. If a single execution of the activity is used for all invocations, the modeler must consider the interactions between the multiple streams of tokens moving through the nodes and edges. Tokens may reach bottlenecks waiting for other tokens ahead of them to move downstream, they may overtake each other due to variations in the execution time of invoked behaviors, and most importantly, may abort each other with constructs such as `activity final`.

If a separate execution of the activity is used for each invocation, tokens from the various invocations do not interact. For example, an activity that is the behavior of a classifier, is invoked when the classifier is instantiated, and the modeler will usually want a separate execution of the activity for each instance of the classifier. The same is true for modeling methods in common programming languages, which have separate stack frames for each method call. A new activity execution for each invocation reduces token interaction, but might not eliminate it. For example, an activity may have a loop creating tokens to be handled by the rest of the activity, or an unsynchronized flow that is aborted by an `activity final`. In these cases, modelers must consider the same token interaction issues as using a single activity execution for all invocations. Also see the effect of non-reentrant behaviors described at `Except in CompleteActivities`, each invocation of an activity is executed separately; tokens from different invocations do not interact.

Nodes and edges inherited from more general activities can be replaced. See `RedefinableElement` for more information on overriding inherited elements.

#### *Package IntermediateActivities*

If a single execution of the activity is used for all invocations, the modeler must consider additional interactions between tokens. Tokens may reach bottlenecks waiting for tokens ahead of them to move downstream, they may overtake each other due to the ordering algorithm used in object node buffers, or due to variations in the execution time of invoked behaviors, and most importantly, may abort each other with constructs such as `activity final`, `exception outputs`, and `interruptible regions`.

#### *Package CompleteActivities*

Complete activities add functionality that also increases interaction. For example, `streaming outputs` create tokens to be handled by the rest of the activity. In these cases, modelers must consider the same token interaction issues even when using a separate execution of activity execution for all invocations.

`Interruptible activity regions` are groups of nodes within which all execution can be terminated if an `interruptible activity edge` is traversed leaving the region.

See “ActivityNode (from BasicActivities, CompleteActivities, FundamentalActivities, IntermediateActivities, CompleteStructuredActivities)” and “ActivityEdge (from BasicActivities, CompleteActivities, CompleteStructuredActivities, IntermediateActivities)” for more information on the way activities function. An activity with no nodes and edges is well-formed, but unspecified. It may be used as an alternative to a generic behavior in activity modeling. See “ActivityPartition (from IntermediateActivities)” for more information on grouping mechanisms in activities.

### Semantic Variation Points

No specific variations in token management are defined, but extensions may add new types of tokens that have their own flow rules. For example, a BPEL extension might define a failure token that flows along edges that reject other tokens. Or an extension for systems engineering might define a new control token that terminates executing actions.

### Notation

Use of action and activity notation is optional. A textual notation may be used instead.

The notation for an activity is a combination of the notations of the nodes and edges it contains, plus a border and name displayed in the upper left corner. Activity parameter nodes are displayed on the border. Actions and flows that are contained in the activity are also depicted.

Pre- and post-condition constraints, inherited from Behavior, are shown as with the keywords «precondition» and «postcondition», respectively. These apply globally to all uses of the activity. See Figure 12.33 and Behavior in Common Behavior; compare to local pre- and post-conditions on Action.

(CompleteActivities) The keyword «singleExecution» is used for activities that execute as a single shared execution; otherwise, each invocation executes in its space. See the notation sub clauses of the various kinds of nodes and edges for more information.

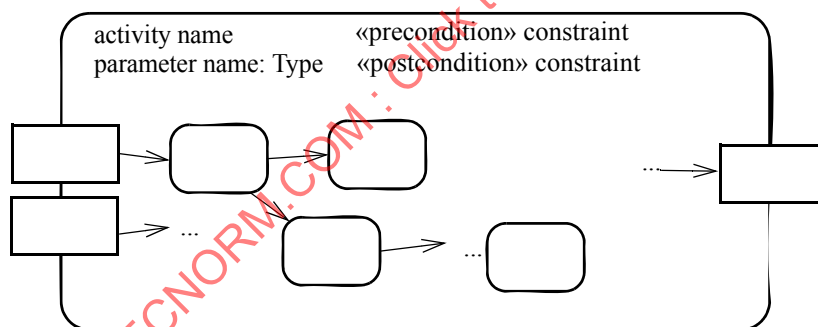


Figure 12.33 - Activity notation

The notation for classes can be used for diagramming the features of a reflective activity as shown below, with the keyword “activity” to indicate it is an activity class. Association and state machine notation can also be used as necessary.

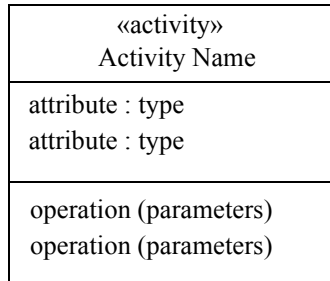


Figure 12.34 - Activity class notation

**Presentation Options**

The round-cornered border of Figure 12.33 may be replaced with the frame notation described in Annex A. Activity parameter nodes are displayed on the frame. The round-cornered border or frame may be omitted completely. See the presentation option for “ActivityParameterNode (from BasicActivities)” on page 352.

**Examples**

The definition of Process Order below uses the border notation to indicate that it is an activity. It has pre- and post conditions on the order (see Behavior). All invocations of it use the same execution.

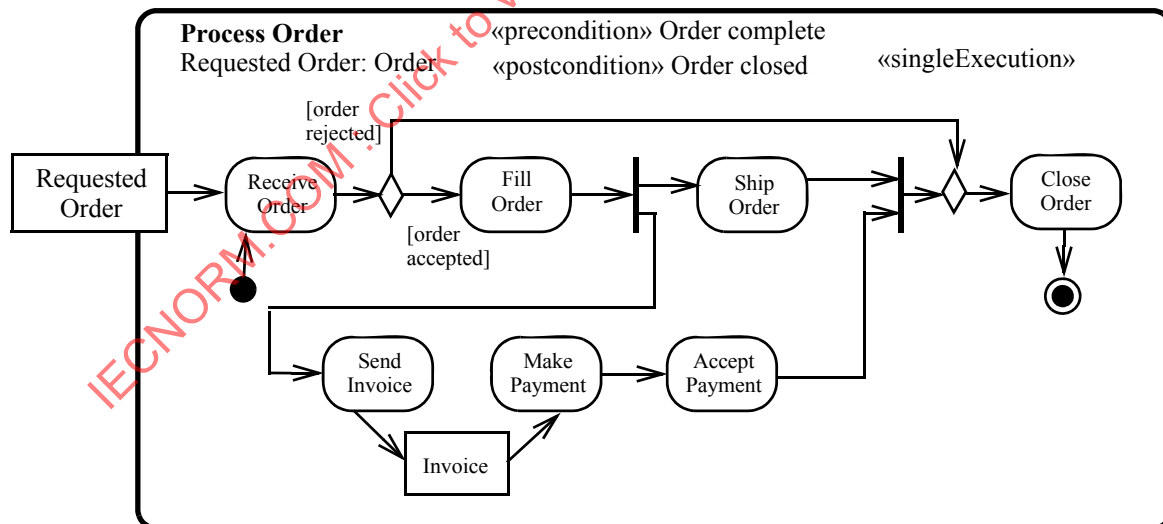


Figure 12.35 - Example of an activity with input parameter

The diagram below is based on a standard part selection workflow within an airline design process. Notice that the Standards Engineer insures that the substeps in Provide Required Part are performed in the order specified and under the conditions specified, but doesn't necessarily perform the steps. Some of them are performed by the Design Engineer even though the Standards Engineer is managing the process. The Expert Part Search behavior can result in a part found or not. When a part is not found, it is assigned to the Assign Standards Engineer activity. Lastly, Schedule Part Mod Workflow invocation produces entire activities and they are passed to subsequent invocations for scheduling and execution (i.e., Schedule Part Mod Workflow, Execute Part Mod Workflow, and Research Production Possibility). In other words, behaviors can produce tokens that are activities that can in turn be executed; in short, runtime activity generation and execution.

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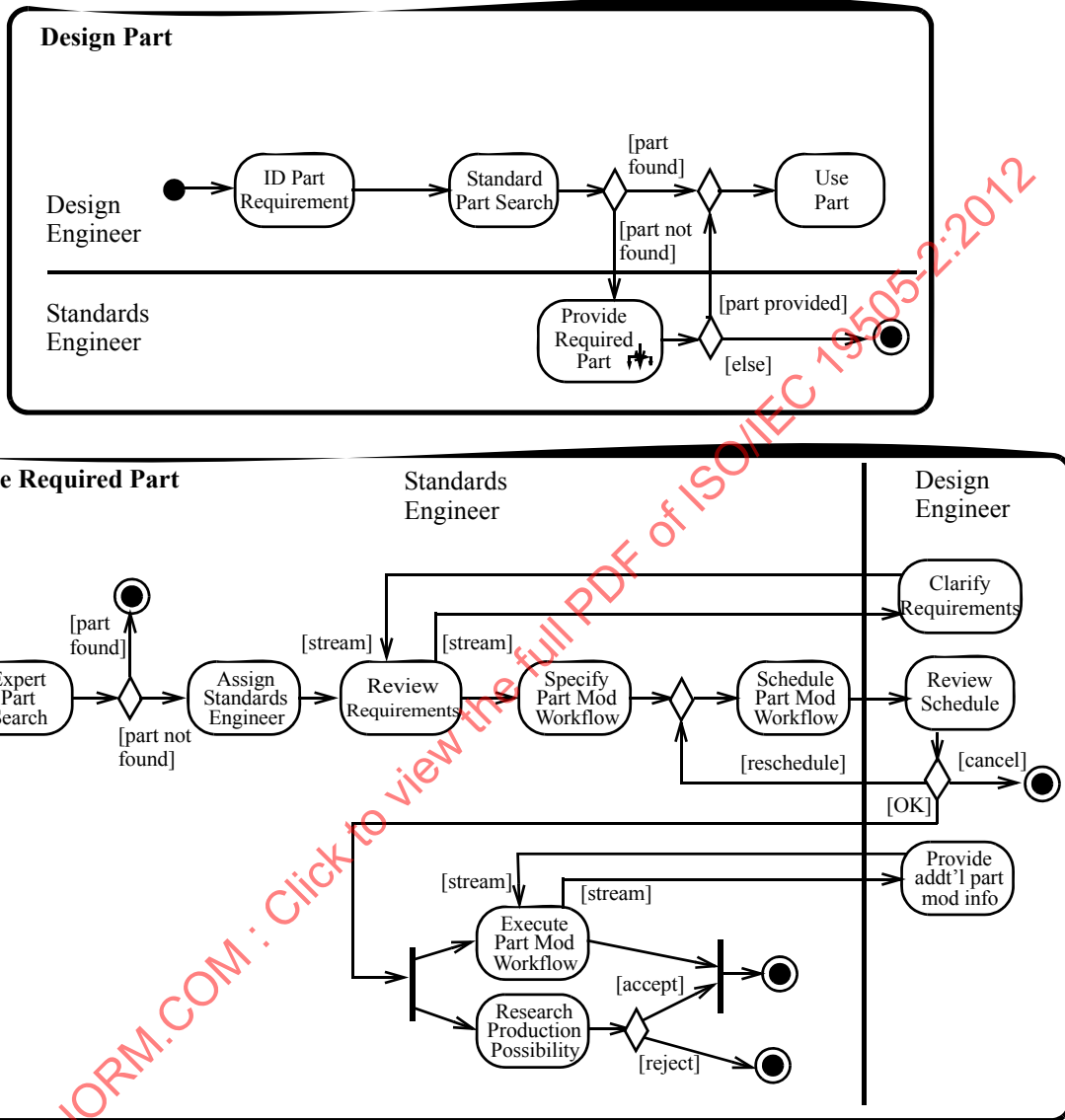


Figure 12.36 - Workflow example

Figure 12.37 shows another example activity for a process to resolve a trouble ticket.

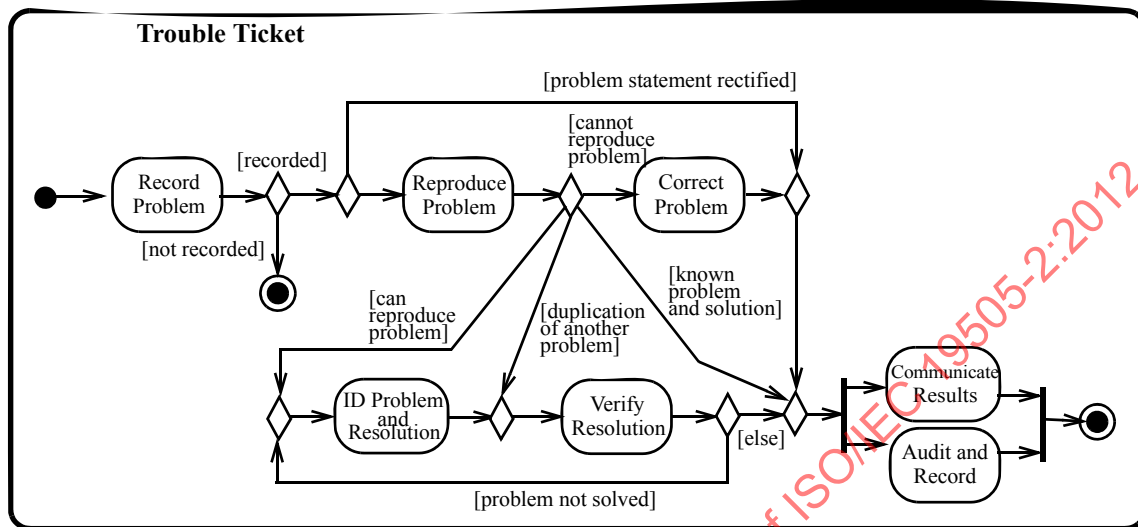


Figure 12.37 - Workflow example

Below is an example of using class notation to show the class features of an activity. Associations and state machines can also be shown.

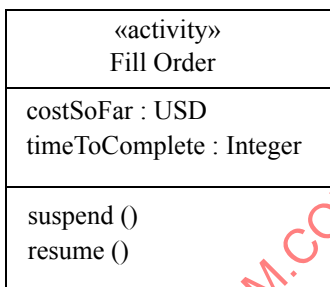


Figure 12.38 - Activity class with attributes and operations

**Rationale**

Activities are introduced to flow models that coordinate other behaviors, including other flow models. It supports class features to model control and monitoring of executing processes, and relating them to other objects (for example, in an organization model).

**Changes from previous UML**

Activity replaces ActivityGraph in UML 1.5. Activities are redesigned to use a Petri-like semantics instead of state machines. Among other benefits, this widens the number of flows that can be modeled, especially those that have parallel flows. Activity also replaces procedures in UML 1.5, as well as the other control and sequencing aspects, including composite and collection actions.

### 12.3.5 ActivityEdge (from BasicActivities, CompleteActivities, CompleteStructuredActivities, IntermediateActivities)

An activity edge is an abstract class for directed connections between two activity nodes.

#### Generalizations

- “RedefinableElement (from Kernel)” on page 137

#### Description

ActivityEdge is an abstract class for the connections along which tokens flow between activity nodes. It covers control and data flow edges. Activity edges can control token flow.

#### Package CompleteActivities

Complete activity edges can be contained in interruptible regions.

#### Attributes

No additional attributes

#### Associations

##### Package BasicActivities

- activity : Activity[0..1]  
Activity containing the edge. {Subsets *Element::owner*}
- /inGroup : ActivityGroup[0..\*]  
Groups containing the edge. Multiplicity specialized to [0..1] for StructuredActivityGroup.
- redefinedEdge : ActivityEdge [0..\*]  
Inherited edges replaced by this edge in a specialization of the activity. {Subsets *RedefinableElement::redefinedElement*}
- source : ActivityNode [1..1]  
Node from which tokens are taken when they traverse the edge.
- target : ActivityNode [1..1]  
Node to which tokens are put when they traverse the edge.

##### Package IntermediateActivities

- inPartition : Partition [0..\*]  
Partitions containing the edge. {Subsets *ActivityEdge::inGroup*}
- guard : ValueSpecification [1..1] = true  
Specification evaluated at runtime to determine if the edge can be traversed. {Subsets *Element::ownedElement*}

##### Package CompleteStructuredActivities

- inStructuredNode : StructuredActivityNode [0..1]  
Structured activity node containing the edge. {Subsets *ActivityEdge::inGroup, Element::owner*}

**Package CompleteActivities**

- **interrupts** : InterruptibleActivityRegion [0..1]  
Region that the edge can interrupt.
- **weight** : ValueSpecification [1..1] = 1  
The minimum number of tokens that must traverse the edge at the same time. {Subsets *Element::ownedElement*}

**Constraints**

- [1] The source and target of an edge must be in the same activity as the edge.
- [2] Activity edges may be owned only by activities or groups.

**Package CompleteStructuredActivities**

- [1] Activity edges may be owned by at most one structured node.

**Semantics**

Activity edges are directed connections, that is, they have a source and a target, along which tokens may flow.

Other rules for when tokens may be passed along the edge depend on the kind of edge and characteristics of its source and target. See the children of ActivityEdge and ActivityNode. The rules may be optimized to a different algorithm as long as the effect is the same.

The guard must evaluate to true for every token that is offered to pass along the edge. Tokens in the intermediate level of activities can only pass along the edge individually at different times. See application of guards at DecisionNode.

**Package CompleteActivities**

Any number of tokens can pass along the edge, in groups at one time, or individually at different times. The weight attribute dictates the minimum number of tokens that must traverse the edge at the same time. It is a value specification evaluated every time a new token becomes available at the source. It must evaluate to a positive LiteralUnlimitedNatural, and may be a constant. When the minimum number of tokens are offered, all the tokens at the source are offered to the target all at once. The minimum number of tokens must be accepted by the target for any tokens to traverse the edge. The guard must evaluate to true for each token. If the guard fails for any of the tokens, and this reduces the number of tokens that can be offered to the target to less than the weight, then all the tokens fail to be offered. An unlimited weight means that all the tokens at the source must be accepted by the target for any of them to traverse the edge. This can be combined with a join to take all of the tokens at the source when certain conditions hold (see examples in Figure 12.45). A weaker but simpler alternative to weight is grouping information into larger objects so that a single token carries all necessary data (see additional functionality for guards at DecisionNode).

Other rules for when tokens may be passed along the edge depend on the kind of edge and characteristics of its source and target. See the children of ActivityEdge and ActivityNode. The rules may be optimized to a different algorithm as long as the effect is the same. For example, if the target is an object node that has reached its upper bound, no token can be passed. The implementation can omit unnecessary weight evaluations until the downstream object node can accept tokens.

Edges can be named, by inheritance from RedefinableElement, which is a NamedElement. However, edges are not required to have unique names within an activity. The fact that Activity is a Namespace, inherited through Behavior, does not affect this, because the containment of edges is through ownedElement, the general ownership metaassociation for Element that does not imply unique names, rather than ownedMember.

Edges inherited from more general activities can be replaced. See `RedefinableElement` for more information on overriding inherited elements.

### Semantic Variation Points

See variations at children of `ActivityEdge` and `ActivityNode`.

### Notation

An activity edge is notated by an open arrowhead line connecting two activity nodes. If the edge has a name, it is notated near the arrow.



Figure 12.39 - Activity edge notation

An activity edge can also be notated using a connector, which is a small circle with the name of the edge in it. This is purely notational. It does not affect the underlying model. The circles and lines involved map to a single activity edge in the model. Every connector with a given label must be paired with exactly one other with the same label on the same activity diagram. One connector must have exactly one incoming edge and the other exactly one outgoing edge, each with the same type of flow, object or control. This assumes the UML 2.0 Diagram Interchange specification supports the interchange of diagram elements and their mapping to model elements.

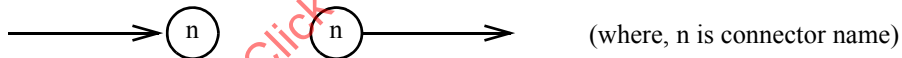
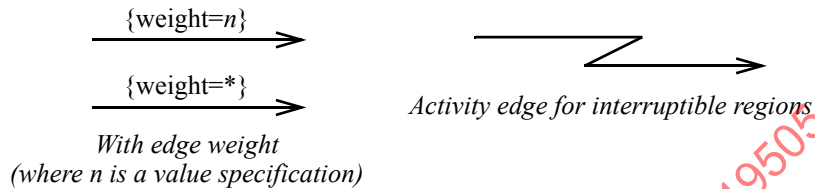


Figure 12.40 - Activity edge connector notation

*Package CompleteActivities*

The weight of the edge may be shown in curly braces that contain the weight. The weight is a value specification, which may be a constant, that evaluates to a non-zero unlimited natural value. An unlimited weight is notated as “\*”. When regions have interruptions, a lightning-bolt style activity edge expresses this interruption (see InterruptibleActivityRegion; see Pin for filled arrowhead notation).

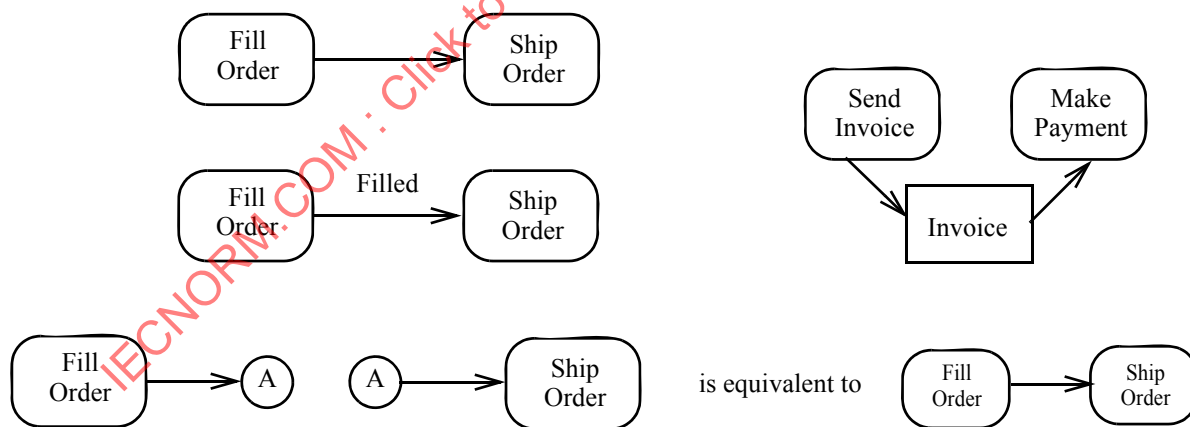


**Figure 12.41 - Activity edge notation**

**Examples**

*Package BasicActivities*

In the example illustrated below, the arrowed line connecting Fill Order to Ship Order is a control flow edge. This means that when the Fill Order behavior is completed, control is passed to the Ship Order. Below it, the same control flow is shown with an edge name. The one at the bottom left employs connectors, instead of a continuous line. On the upper right, the arrowed lines starting from Send Invoice and ending at Make Payment (via the Invoice object node) are object flow edges. This indicates that the flow of Invoice objects goes from Send Invoice to Make Payment.



**Figure 12.42 - Activity edge examples**

In the example below, a connector is used to avoid drawing a long edge around one tine of the fork. If a problem is not priority one, the token going to the connector is sent to the merge instead of the one that would arrive from Revise Plan for priority one problems. This is equivalent to the activity shown in Figure 12.44, which is how Figure 12.43 is stored in the model.

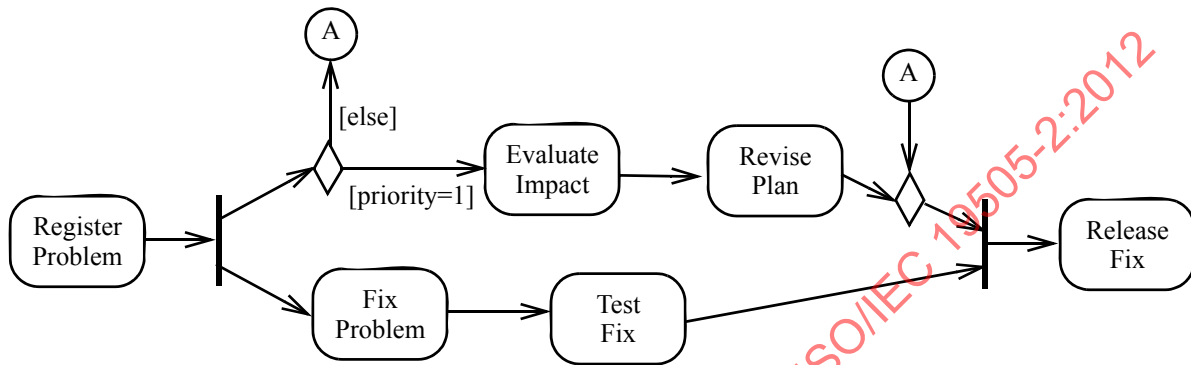


Figure 12.43 - Connector example

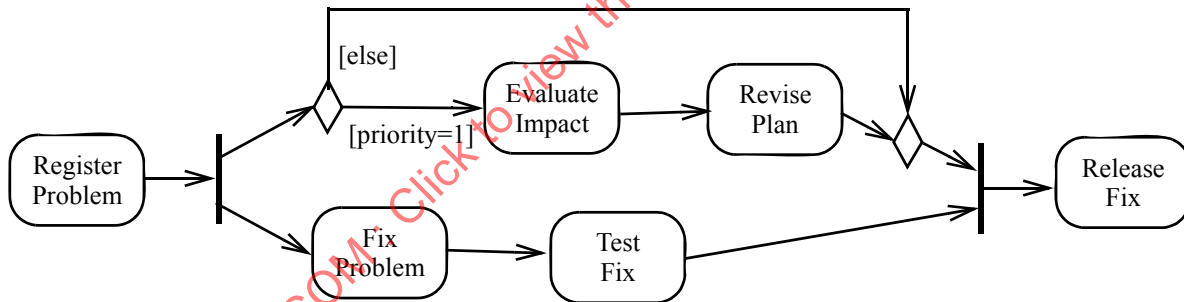


Figure 12.44 - Equivalent model to Figure 12.43

*Package CompleteActivities*

The figure below illustrates three examples of using the weight attribute. The Cricket example uses a constant weight to indicate that a cricket team cannot be formed until eleven players are present. The Task example uses a non-constant weight to indicate that an invoice for a particular job can only be sent when all of its tasks have been completed. The

example depicts an activity for placing bids for a proposal, where many such bids can be placed. Then, when the bidding period is over, the Award Proposal Bid activity reads all the bids as a single set and determines which vendor to award the bid.

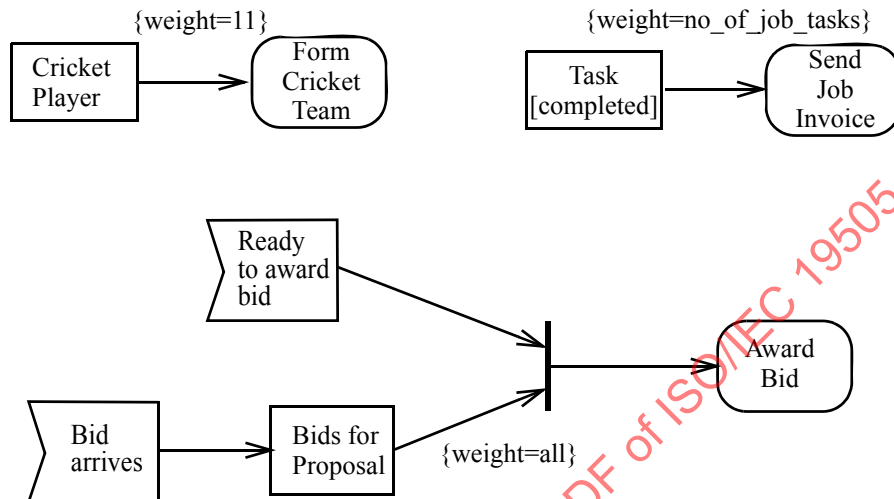


Figure 12.45 - Activity edge examples

### Rationale

Activity edges are introduced to provide a general class for connections between activity nodes.

### Changes from previous UML

ActivityEdge replaces the use of (state) Transition in UML 1.5 activity modeling. It also replaces data flow and control flow links in UML 1.5 action model:

### 12.3.6 ActivityFinalNode (from BasicActivities, IntermediateActivities)

An activity final node is a final node that stops all flows in an activity.

### Generalizations

- “ControlNode (from BasicActivities)” on page 373
- “FinalNode (from IntermediateActivities)” on page 390

### Description

An activity may have more than one activity final node. The first one reached stops all flows in the activity.

### Attributes

No additional attributes

### Associations

No additional associations

### Constraints

No additional constraints

### Semantics

A token reaching an activity final node terminates the activity (or structured node, see “StructuredActivityNode (from CompleteStructuredActivities, StructuredActivities)” on page 429). In particular, it stops all executing actions in the activity, and destroys all tokens in object nodes, except in the output activity parameter nodes. Terminating the execution of synchronous invocation actions also terminates whatever behaviors they are waiting on for return. Any behaviors invoked asynchronously by the activity are not affected. All tokens offered on the incoming edges are accepted. The content of output activity parameter nodes are passed out of the containing activity, using the null token for object nodes that have nothing in them. If there is more than one final node in an activity, the first one reached terminates the activity, including the flow going towards the other activity final.

If it is not desired to abort all flows in the activity, use flow final instead. For example, if the same execution of an activity is being used for all its invocations, then multiple streams of tokens will be flowing through the same activity. In this case, it is probably not desired to abort all tokens just because one reaches an activity final. Using a flow final will simply consume the tokens reaching it without aborting other flows. Or arrange for separate invocations of the activity to use separate executions of the activity, so tokens from separate invocations will not affect each other.

### Notation

Activity final nodes are notated as a solid circle with a hollow circle, as indicated in the figure below. It can be thought of as a goal notated as “bull’s eye,” or target.



Figure 12.46 - Activity final notation

### Examples

The first example below depicts that when the Close Order behavior is completed, all tokens in the activity are terminated. This is indicated by passing control to an activity final node.

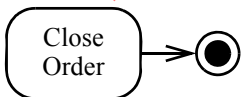


Figure 12.47 - Activity final example

The next figure is based on an example for an employee expense reimbursement process. It uses an activity diagram that illustrates two parallel flows racing to complete. The first one to reach the activity final aborts the others. The two flows appear in the same activity so they can share data. For example, who to notify in the case of no action.

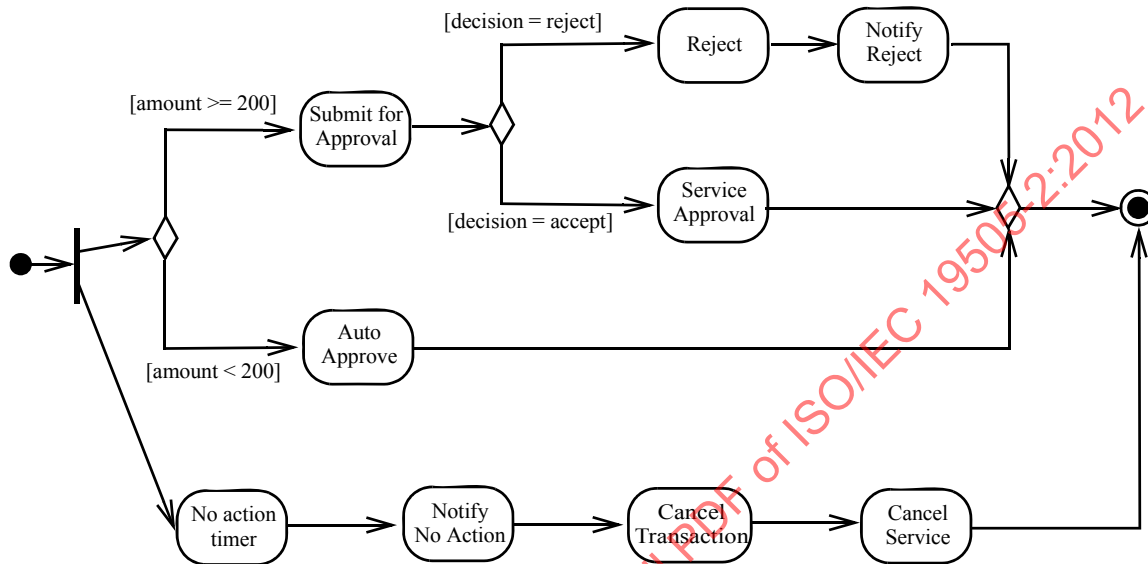


Figure 12.48 - Activity final example

In Figure 12.49, two ways to reach an activity final exist; but it is the result of exclusive “or” branching, not a “race” situation like the previous example. This example uses two activity final nodes, which has the same semantics as using one with two edges targeting it. The Notify of Modification behavior must not take long or the activity finals might kill it.

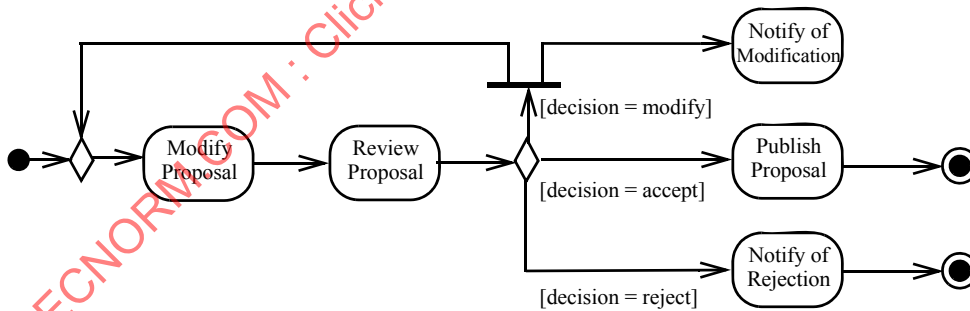


Figure 12.49 - Activity final example

**Rationale**

Activity final nodes are introduced to model non-local termination of all flows in an activity.

**Changes from previous UML**

ActivityFinal is new in UML 2.

### 12.3.7 ActivityGroup (from BasicActivities, FundamentalActivities, IntermediateActivities, StructuredActivities, CompleteActivities, CompleteStructuredActivities)

An activity group is an abstract class for defining sets of nodes and edges in an activity.

#### Generalizations

- “NamedElement (from Kernel, Dependencies)” on page 104

#### Description

Activity groups are a generic grouping construct for nodes and edges. Nodes and edges can belong to more than one group. They have no inherent semantics and can be used for various purposes. Subclasses of ActivityGroup may add semantics.

#### Attributes

No additional attributes

#### Associations

*Package FundamentalActivities, IntermediateActivities*

- inActivity : Activity [0..1]  
Activity containing the group. {Subsets *NamedElement::owner*}
- /superGroup : ActivityGroup [0..1]  
Group immediately containing the group.
- /subgroup : ActivityGroup [0..\*]  
Groups immediately contained in the group.

*Package BasicActivities, IntermediateActivities, CompleteStructuredActivities*

- /containedEdge : ActivityEdge [0..\*]  
Edges immediately contained in the group. This is a derived union.

*Package FundamentalActivities, IntermediateActivities, StructuredActivities, CompleteActivities*

- /containedNode : ActivityNode [0..\*] {readOnly}  
Nodes immediately contained in the group. This is a derived union.

#### Constraints

- [1] All nodes and edges of the group must be in the same activity as the group.
- [2] No node or edge in a group may be contained by its subgroups or its containing groups, transitively.
- [3] Groups may only be owned by activities or groups.

#### Semantics

None

**Notation**

No specific notation

**Rationale**

Activity groups provide a generic grouping mechanism that can be used for various purposes, as defined in the subclasses of *ActivityGroup*, and in extensions and profiles.

**Changes from previous UML**

*ActivityGroups* are new in UML 2.

**12.3.8 ActivityNode (from BasicActivities, CompleteActivities, FundamentalActivities, IntermediateActivities, CompleteStructuredActivities)**

An activity node is an abstract class for points in the flow of an activity connected by edges.

**Generalizations**

- “*NamedElement* (from Kernel, Dependencies)” on page 104
- “*RedefinableElement* (from Kernel)” on page 137

**Description**

An activity node is an abstract class for the steps of an activity. It covers executable nodes, control nodes, and object nodes.

(*BasicActivities*) Nodes can be replaced in generalization and (*CompleteActivities*) be contained in interruptible regions.

**Attributes**

No additional attributes

**Associations***Package FundamentalActivities*

- *activity* : *Activity* [0..1]  
Activity containing the node. {Subsets *NamedElement::owner*}
- */inGroup* : *ActivityGroup* [0..\*]  
Groups containing the node. Multiplicity specialized to [0..1] for *StructuredActivityGroup*.

*Package BasicActivities*

- *incoming* : *ActivityEdge* [0..\*]  
Edges that have the node as target.
- *outgoing* : *ActivityEdge* [0..\*]  
Edges that have the node as source.

- **redefinedNode** : ActivityNode [0..\*]  
Inherited nodes replaced by this node in a specialization of the activity. {Subsets *RedefinableElement::redefinedElement*}

**Package IntermediateActivities**

- **inPartition** : Partition [0..\*]  
Partitions containing the node. {Subsets *ActivityNode::inGroup*}

**Package CompleteActivities**

- **inInterruptibleRegion** : InterruptibleActivityRegion [0..\*]  
Interruptible regions containing the node. {Subsets *ActivityNode::inGroup*}
- **inStructuredNode** : StructuredActivityNode [0..1]  
Structured activity node containing the node. {Subsets *ActivityNode::inGroup, Element::owner*}

**Constraints**

[1] Activity nodes can only be owned by activities or groups.

**Package StructuredActivities**

[1] Activity nodes may be owned by at most one structured node.

**Semantics**

Nodes can be named, however, nodes are not required to have unique names within an activity to support multiple invocations of the same behavior or multiple uses of the same action. See Action, which is a kind of node. The fact that Activity is a Namespace, inherited through Behavior, does not affect this, because the containment of nodes is through ownedElement, the general ownership metaassociation for Element that does not imply unique names, rather than ownedMember. Other than naming, and functionality added by the complete version of activities, an activity node is only a point in an activity at this level of abstraction. See the children of ActivityNode for additional semantics.

**Package BasicActivities**

Nodes inherited from more general activities can be replaced. See RedefinableElement for more information on overriding inherited elements, and Activity for more information on activity generalization. See children of ActivityNode for additional semantics.

## Notation

The notations for activity nodes are illustrated below. There are three kinds of nodes: action node, object node, and control node. See these classes for more information.

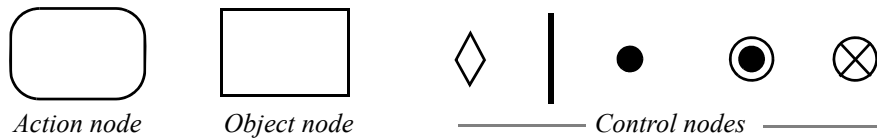


Figure 12.50 - Activity node notation

## Examples

This figure illustrates the following kinds of activity node: action nodes (e.g., Receive Order, Fill Order), object nodes (Invoice), and control nodes (the initial node before Receive Order, the decision node after Receive Order, and the fork node and Join node around Ship Order, merge node before Close Order, and activity final after Close Order).

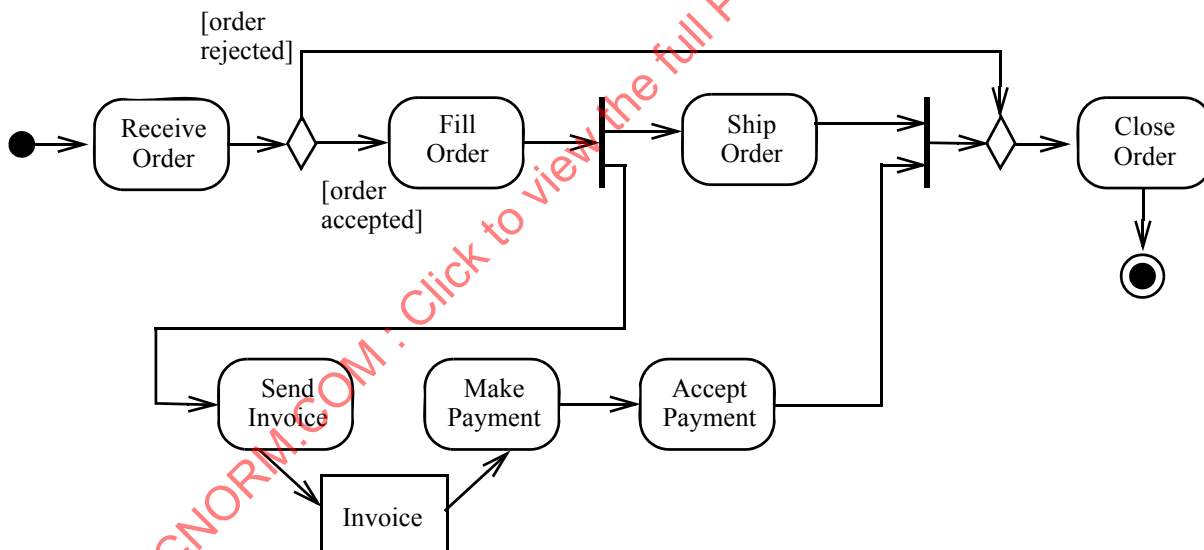


Figure 12.51 - Activity node example (where the arrowed lines are only the non-activity node symbols)

## Rationale

Activity nodes are introduced to provide a general class for nodes connected by activity edges.

## Changes from previous UML

ActivityNode replaces the use of StateVertex and its children for activity modeling in UML 1.5.

### 12.3.9 ActivityParameterNode (from BasicActivities)

An activity parameter node is an object node for inputs and outputs to activities.

#### Generalizations

- “ObjectNode (from BasicActivities, CompleteActivities)” on page 411

#### Description

Activity parameter nodes are object nodes at the beginning and end of flows that provide a means to accept inputs to an activity and provide outputs from the activity, through the activity parameters.

Activity parameters inherit support for streaming and exceptions from Parameter.

#### Attributes

No additional attributes

#### Associations

- parameter : Parameter [1..1]  
The parameter the object node will be accepting or providing values for.

#### Constraints

- [1] Activity parameter nodes must have parameters from the containing activity.
- [2] The type of an activity parameter node is the same as the type of its parameter.
- [3] An activity parameter node may have either all incoming edges or all outgoing edges, but it must not have both incoming and outgoing edges.
- [4] Activity parameter object nodes with no incoming edges and one or more outgoing edges must have a parameter with in or inout direction.
- [5] Activity parameter object nodes with no outgoing edges and one or more incoming edges must have a parameter with out, inout, or return direction.
- [6] A parameter with direction other than inout must have at most one activity parameter node in an activity.
- [7] A parameter with direction inout must have at most two activity parameter nodes in an activity, one with incoming flows and one with outgoing flows.

See “Action (from CompleteActivities, FundamentalActivities, StructuredActivities, CompleteStructuredActivities)” on page 325.

#### Semantics

As a kind of behavior, an activity may have owned parameters. Within the activity, in and inout parameters may be associated with activity parameter nodes that have no incoming edges—they provide a source within the activity for the overall “input values” of the activity. Similarly, inout, out, and return parameters may be associated with activity nodes that have no outgoing edges—they provide a sink within the activity for the overall “output values” of the activity.

Per the general semantics of a behavior, when the activity is invoked, its in and inout parameters may be given actual values. These input values are placed as tokens on those activity parameter nodes within the activity that are associated with the corresponding in and inout parameters, the ones which do not have incoming edges. The overall activity input values are then available within the activity via the outgoing edges of the activity parameter nodes.

During the course of execution of the activity, tokens may flow into those activity parameter nodes within the activity that have incoming edges. When the execution of the activity completes, the output values held by these activity parameter nodes are given to the corresponding inout, out, and return parameters of the activity.

If the parameter associated with an activity parameter node is marked as streaming, then the above semantics are extended to allow for inputs to arrive and outputs to be posted during the execution of the activity (see the semantics for Parameter). In this case, for an activity parameter node with no incoming edges, an input value is placed on the activity parameter node whenever an input arrives on the corresponding streaming in or inout parameter. For an activity parameter node with no outgoing edges, an output value is posted on the corresponding inout, out or return parameter whenever a token arrives at the activity parameter node.

### Notation

The label for parameter nodes can be a full specification of the corresponding parameter.

Also see notation at Activity.

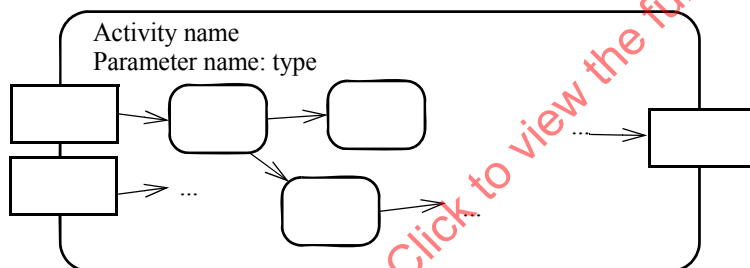


Figure 12.52 - Activity notation

The figure below shows annotations for streaming and exception activity parameters, which are the same as for pins. See Parameter for semantics of stream and exception parameters.

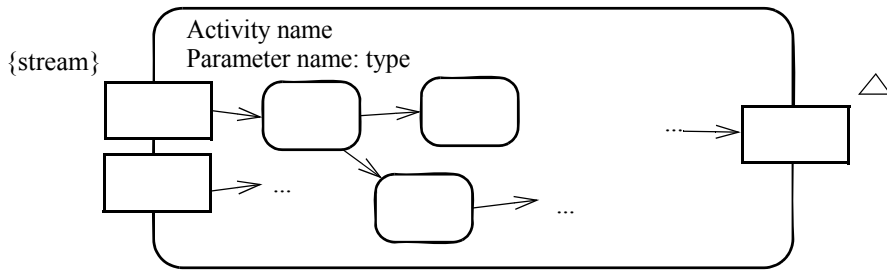


Figure 12.53 - Activity notation

**Presentation Options**

If the round-cornered border of Figure 12.53 is replaced with the frame notation that is described in Annex A, then activity parameter nodes overlap the frame instead. If the round-cornered border or frame is omitted completely, then the activity parameter nodes can be placed anywhere, but it is clearer if they are placed in the same locations they would be in if the frame or border was shown.

The presentation option at the top of the activity diagram below may be used as notation for a model corresponding to the notation at the bottom of the diagram.

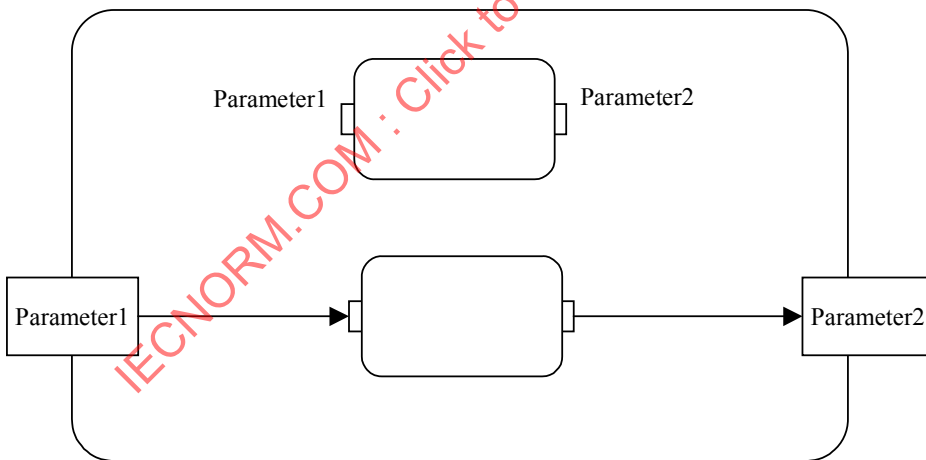
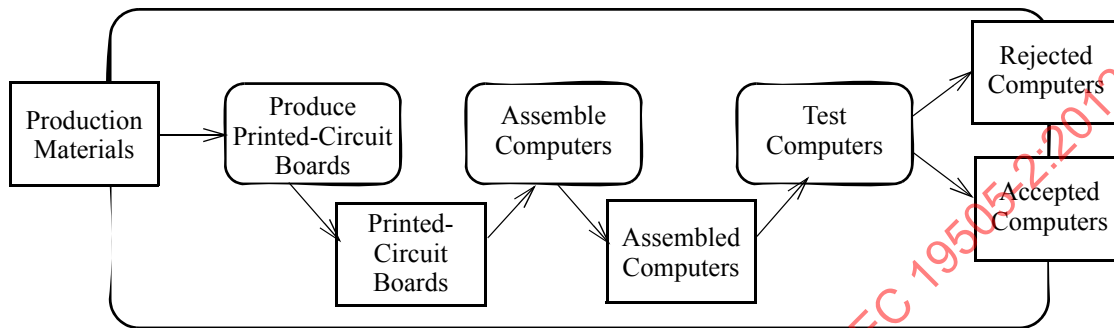


Figure 12.54 - Presentation option for flows between pins and parameter nodes

See presentation option for Pin when parameter is streaming. This can be used for activity parameters also.

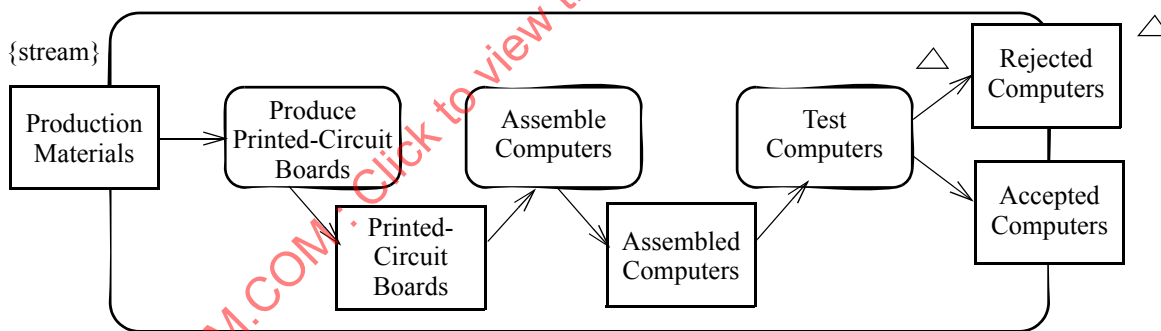
**Examples**

In the example below, production materials are fed into printed circuit board. At the end of the activity, computers are quality checked.



**Figure 12.55 - Example of activity parameter nodes**

In the example below, production materials are streaming in to feed the ongoing printed circuit board fabrication. At the end of the activity, computers are quality checked. Computers that do not pass the test are exceptions. See Parameter for semantics of streaming and exception parameters.



**Figure 12.56 - Example of activity parameter nodes for streaming and exceptions**

**Rationale**

Activity parameter nodes are introduced to model parameters of activities in a way that integrates easily with the rest of the flow model.

**Changes from previous UML**

ActivityParameterNode is new in UML 2.

### 12.3.10 ActivityPartition (from IntermediateActivities)

An activity partition is a kind of activity group for identifying actions that have some characteristic in common.

#### Generalizations

- “ActivityGroup (from BasicActivities, FundamentalActivities, IntermediateActivities, StructuredActivities, CompleteActivities, CompleteStructuredActivities)” on page 348

#### Description

Partitions divide the nodes and edges to constrain and show a view of the contained nodes. Partitions can share contents. They often correspond to organizational units in a business model. They may be used to allocate characteristics or resources among the nodes of an activity.

#### Attributes

- `isDimension` : Boolean [1..1] = false  
Tells whether the partition groups other partitions along a dimension.
- `isExternal` : Boolean [1..1] = false  
Tells whether the partition represents an entity to which the partitioning structure does not apply.

#### Associations

- `superPartition` : ActivityPartition [0..1]  
Partition immediately containing the partition. (Subsets *ActivityGroup::superGroup*)
- `represents` : Element [0..1]  
An element constraining behaviors invoked by nodes in the partition.
- `subpartition` : ActivityPartition [0..\*]  
Partitions immediately contained in the partition. (Subsets *ActivityGroup::subgroup*)
- `node` : ActivityNode [0..\*]  
Nodes immediately contained in the partition. (Subsets *ActivityGroup::containedNode*)
- `edge` : ActivityEdge [0..\*]  
Edges immediately contained in the partition. (Subsets *ActivityGroup::containedEdge*)

#### Constraints

- [1] A partition with `isDimension = true` may not be contained by another partition.
- [2] If a partition represents a part, then all the non-external partitions in the same dimension and at the same level of nesting in that dimension must represent parts directly contained in the internal structure of the same classifier.
- [3] If a non-external partition represents a classifier and is contained in another partition, then the containing partition must represent a classifier, and the classifier of the subpartition must be nested in the classifier represented by the containing partition, or be at the contained end of a strong composition association with the classifier represented by the containing partition.
- [4] If a partition represents a part and is contained by another partition, then the part must be of a classifier represented by the containing partition, or of a classifier that is the type of a part representing the containing partition.

## Semantics

Partitions do not affect the token flow of the model. They constrain and provide a view on the behaviors invoked in activities. Constraints vary according to the type of element that the partition represents. The following constraints are normative.

### 1) Classifier

Behaviors of invocations contained by the partition are the responsibility of instances of the classifier represented by the partition. This means the context of invoked behaviors is the classifier. Invoked procedures containing a call to an operation or sending a signal must target objects at runtime that are instances of the classifier.

### 2) Instance

This imposes the same constraints as classifier, but restricted to a particular instance of the classifier.

### 3) Part

Behaviors of invocations contained by the partition are the responsibility of instances playing the part represented by the partition. This imposes the constraints for classifiers above according to the type of the part. In addition, invoked procedures containing a call to an operation or sending a signal must target objects at runtime that play the part at the time the message is sent. Just as partitions in the same dimension and nesting must be represented by parts of the same classifier's internal structure, all the runtime target objects of operation and signal passing invoked by the same execution of the activity must play parts of the same instance of the structured classifier. In particular, if an activity is executed in the context of a particular object at runtime, the parts of that object will be used as targets. If a part has more than one object playing it at runtime, the invocations are treated as if they were multiple, that is, the calls are sent in parallel, and the invocation does not complete until all the operations return.

### 4) Attribute and Value

A partition may be represented by an attribute and its subpartitions by values of that attribute. Behaviors of invocations contained by the subpartition have this attribute and the value represented by the subpartition. For example, a partition may represent the location at which a behavior is carried out, and the subpartitions would represent specific values for that attribute, such as Chicago. The location attribute could be on the process class associated with an activity, or added in a profile to extend behaviors with these attributes.

A partition may be marked as being a dimension for its subpartitions. For example, an activity may have one dimension of partitions for location at which the contained behaviors are carried out, and another for the cost of performing them. Dimension partitions cannot be contained in any other partition.

Elements other than actions that have behaviors or value specifications, such as transformation behaviors on edges, adhere to the same partition rules above for actions.

Partitions may be used in a way that provides enough information for review by high-level modelers, though not enough for execution. For example, if a partition represents a classifier, then behaviors in that partition are the responsibility of instances of the classifier, but the model may or may not say which instance in particular. In particular, a behavior in the partition calling an operation would be limited to an operation on that classifier, but an input object flow to the invocation might not be specified to tell which instance should be the target at runtime. The object flow could be specified in a later stage of development to support execution. Another option would be to use partitions that represent parts. Then when the activity executes in the context of a particular object, the parts of that object at runtime will be used as targets for the operation calls, as described above.

External partitions are intentional exceptions to the rules for partition structure. For example, a dimension may have partitions showing parts of a structured classifier. It can have an external partition that does not represent one of the parts, but a completely separate classifier. In business modeling, external partitions can be used to model entities outside a business.

**Notation**

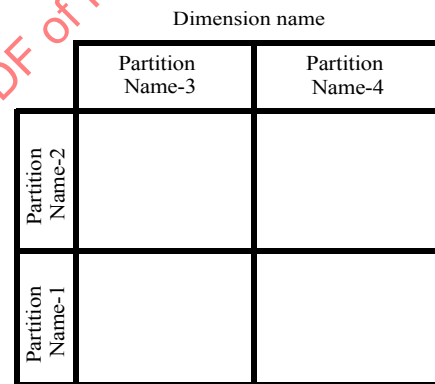
Activity partition may be indicated with two, usually parallel lines, and a name labeling the partition in a box at one end. Any activity nodes and edges placed between these lines are considered to be contained within the partition. Swimlanes can express hierarchical partitioning by representing the children in the hierarchy as further partitioning of the parent partition, as illustrated in b), below. Diagrams can also be partitioned multidimensionally, as depicted in c), below, where, each swim cell is an intersection of multiple partitions. The partitions within each dimension may be grouped into an enclosing activity partition with `isDimension=true`, whose name is the dimension name. Rather than being shown as a partition itself, however, the dimension is indicated by placing its name along side the set of partitions in the dimension, as shown in c), below.



a) Partition using a swimlane notation



b) Partition using a hierarchical swimlane notation

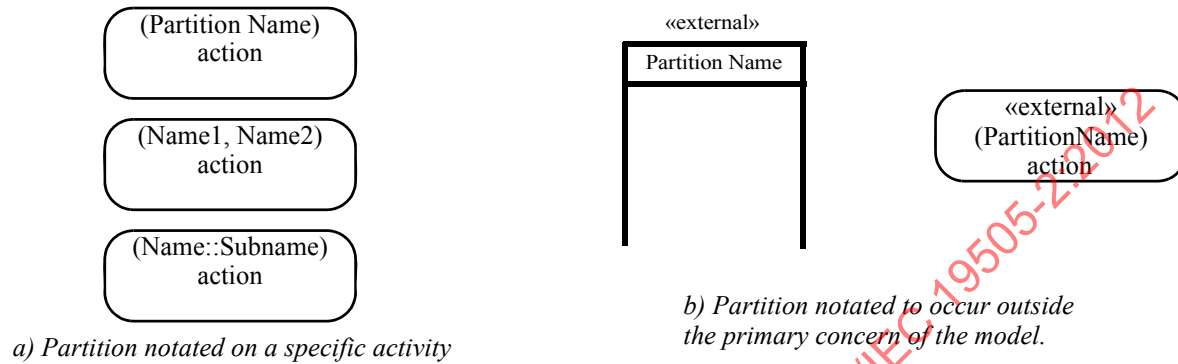


c) Partition using a multidimensional hierarchical swimlane notation

**Figure 12.57 - Activity partition notations**

In some diagramming situations, using parallel lines to delineate partitions is not practical. An alternate is to place the partition name in parenthesis above the activity name, as illustrated for actions in a), below. A comma-delimited list of partition names means that the node is contained in more than one partition. A double colon within a partition name indicates that the partition is nested, with the larger partitions coming earlier in the name. When activities are considered

to occur outside the domain of a particular model, the partition can be labeled with the keyword «external», as illustrated in b) below. Whenever an activity in a swimlane is marked «external», this overrides the swimlane and dimension designation.



**Figure 12.58 - Activity partition notations**

### Presentation Options

When partitions are combined with the frame notation for Activity, the outside edges of the top level partition can be merged with the activity frame.

### Examples

The figures below illustrate an example of partitioning the order processing activity diagram into “swim lanes.” The top partition contains the portion of an activity for which the Order Department is responsible; the middle partition, the Accounting Department, and the bottom the Customer. These are attributes of the behavior invoked in the partitions, except for Customer, which is external to the domain. The flow of the invoice is not a behavior, so it does not need to appear in a partition.

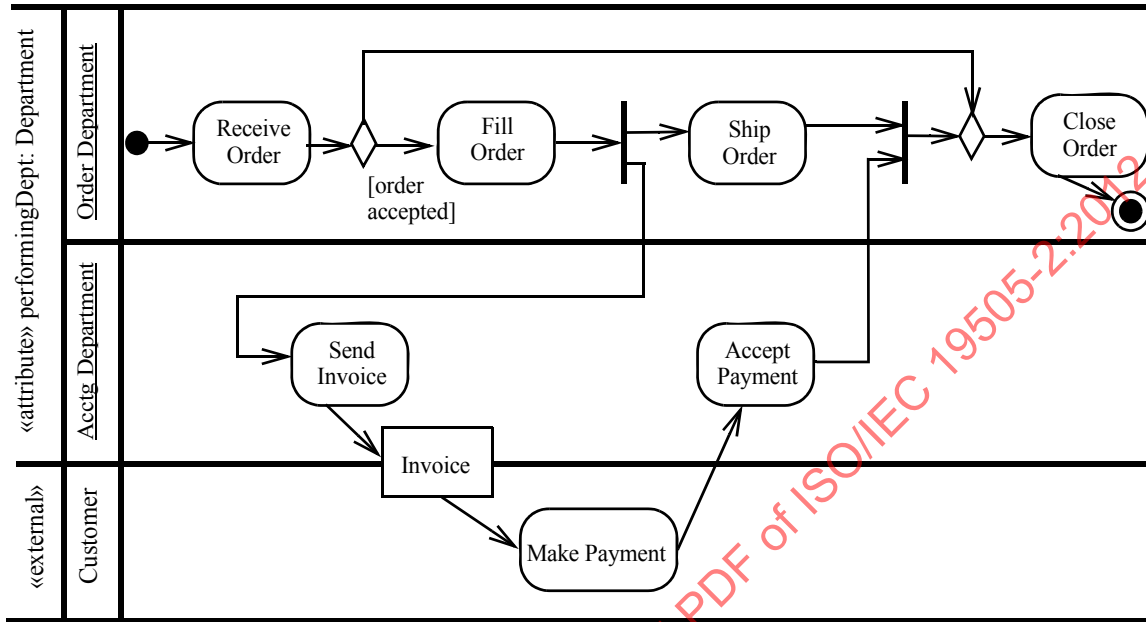


Figure 12.59 - Activity partition using swimlane example

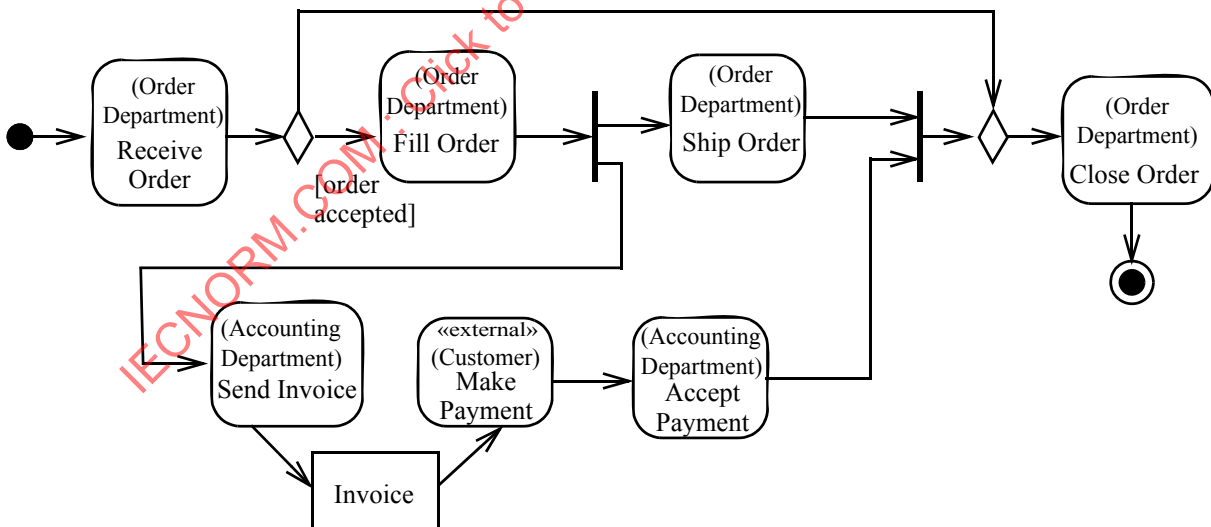


Figure 12.60 - Activity partition using annotation example

The example below depicts multidimensional swim lanes. The Receive Order and Fill Order behaviors are performed by an instance of the Order Processor class, situated in Seattle, but not necessarily the same instance for both behaviors. Even though the Make Payment is contained within the Seattle/Accounting Clerk swim cell, its performer and location are not specified by the containing partition, because it has an overriding partition.

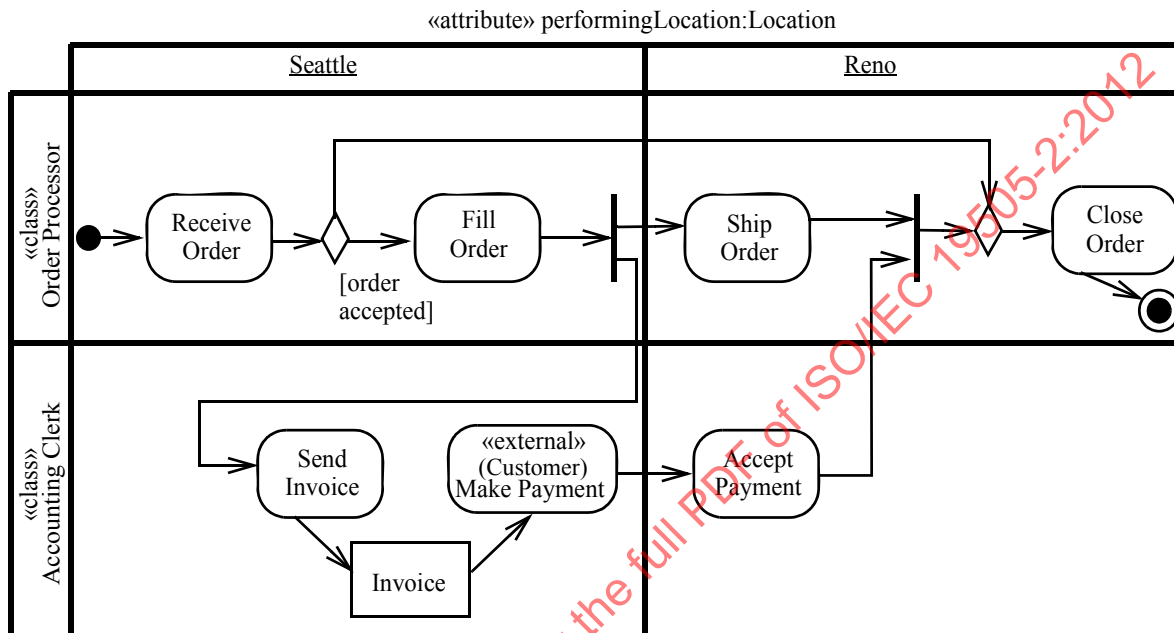


Figure 12.61 - Activity partition using multidimensional swimlane example

### Rationale

Activity partitions are introduced to support the assignment of domain-specific information to nodes and edges.

### Changes from previous UML

Edges can be contained in partitions in UML 2. Additional notation is provided for cases when swimlanes are too cumbersome. Partitions can be hierarchical and multidimensional. The relation to classifier, parts, and attributes is formalized, including external partitions as exceptions to these rules.

### 12.3.11 AddVariableValueAction (as specialized)

See “AddVariableValueAction (from StructuredActions)” on page 253.

### Attributes

No additional attributes

### Associations

No additional associations

**Constraints**

No additional constraints

**Semantics**

See “AddVariableValueAction (from StructuredActions)” on page 253.

**Notation**

**Presentation Options**

The presentation option at the top of Figure 12.62 may be used as notation for a model corresponding to the notation at the bottom of the figure. If the action has non-defaulted metaattribute values, these can be shown with a property list near the variable name.

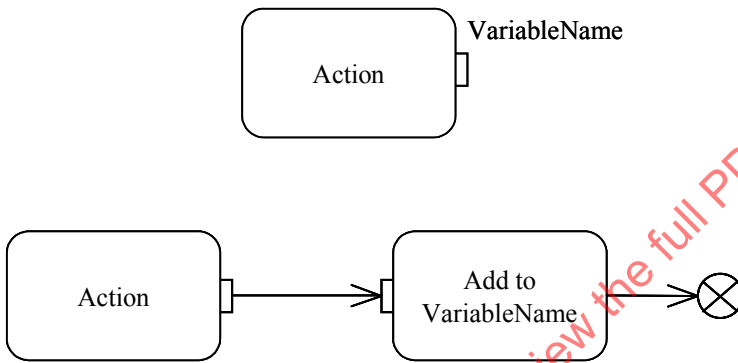


Figure 12.62 - Presentation option for AddVariableValueAction

**12.3.12 Behavior (from CompleteActivities)**

Behavior is specialized to own zero or more ParameterSets.

**Generalizations**

- “Behavior (from BasicBehaviors)” on page 451 (*merge increment*).

**Description**

The concept of Behavior is extended to own ParameterSets.

**Attributes**

No additional attributes

**Associations**

- ownedParameterSet : ParameterSet[0..\*]  
The ParameterSets owned by this Behavior. {Subsets *Namespace::ownedMember*}

**Constraints**

See “ParameterSet (from CompleteActivities)” on page 418.

**Semantics**

See semantics of “ParameterSet (from CompleteActivities)” on page 418.

**Notation**

See notation for “ParameterSet (from CompleteActivities)” on page 418.

**Examples**

See examples for “ParameterSet (from CompleteActivities)” on page 418.

**Changes from previous UML**

ParameterSet is new in UML 2.

**12.3.13 BehavioralFeature (from CompleteActivities)**

BehavioralFeature is specialized to own zero or more ParameterSets.

**Generalizations**

- “BehavioralFeature (from BasicBehaviors, Communications)” on page 454 (*merge increment*).

**Description**

The concept of BehavioralFeature is extended to own ParameterSets.

**Attributes**

No additional attributes

**Associations**

- ownedParameterSets - ParameterSet[0..\*]  
The ParameterSets owned by this BehavioralFeature.

**Constraints**

See “ParameterSet (from CompleteActivities)” on page 418.

**Semantics**

See semantics of “ParameterSet (from CompleteActivities)” on page 418.

**Notation**

See notation for “ParameterSet (from CompleteActivities)” on page 418.

## Examples

See examples for “ParameterSet (from CompleteActivities)” on page 418.

## Changes from previous UML

ParameterSet is new in UML 2.

### 12.3.14 CallBehaviorAction (as specialized)

“CallBehaviorAction (from BasicActions)” on page 257

#### Attributes

No additional attributes

#### Associations

No additional associations

#### Constraints

No additional constraints

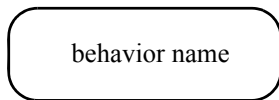
#### Semantics

- [1] When all the control and data flow prerequisites of the action execution are satisfied, CallBehaviorAction consumes its input tokens and invokes its specified behavior. The values in the input tokens are made available to the invoked behavior as argument values. When the behavior is finished, tokens are offered on all outgoing control edges, with a copy made for each control edge. Object and data tokens are offered on the outgoing object flow edges as determined by the output pins. Each parameter of the behavior of the action provides output to a pin or takes input from one (see Pin). The inputs to the action determine the actual arguments of the call.
- [2] If the call is asynchronous, a control token is offered to each outgoing control edge of the action and execution of the action is complete. Execution of the invoked behavior proceeds without any further dependency on the execution of the activity containing the invoking action. Once the invocation of the behavior has been initiated, execution of the asynchronous action is complete.
- [3] An asynchronous invocation completes when its behavior is started, or is at least ensured to be started at some point. When an asynchronous invocation is done, the flow continues regardless of the status of the invoked behavior. Any return or out values from the invoked behavior are not passed back to the containing activity. For example, the containing activity may complete even though the invoked behavior is not finished. This is why asynchronous invocation is not the same as using a fork to invoke the behavior followed by a flow final. A forked behavior still needs to finish for the containing activity to finish. If it is desired to complete the invocation, but have some outputs provided later when they are needed, then use a fork to give the invocation its own flow line, and rejoin the outputs of the invocation to the original flow when they are needed.
- [4] If the call is synchronous, execution of the calling action is blocked until it receives a reply token from the invoked behavior. The reply token includes values for any return, out, or inout parameters.
- [5] If the call is synchronous, when the execution of the invoked behavior completes, the result values are placed as object tokens on the result pins of the call behavior action, a control token is offered on each outgoing control edge of the call behavior action, and the execution of the action is complete. (StructuredActions, ExtraStructuredActivities) If the

execution of the invoked behavior yields an exception, the exception is transmitted to the call behavior action to begin the search for the handler. See “RaiseExceptionAction (from StructuredActions)” on page 279.

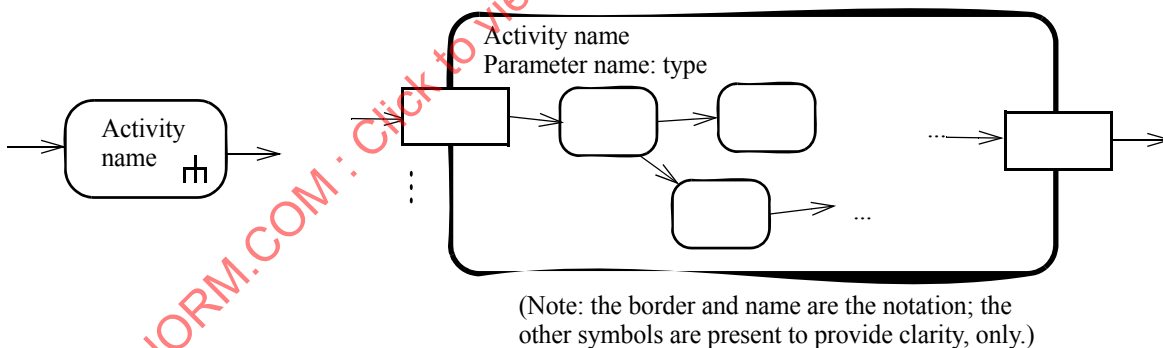
**Notation**

The name of the behavior, or other description of it, that is performed by the action is placed inside the rectangle. If the node name is different than the behavior name, then it appears in the symbol instead. Pre- and post-conditions on the behavior can be shown similarly to Figure 12.29 on page 328, using keywords «precondition» and «postcondition».



**Figure 12.63 - CallBehaviorAction**

The call of an activity is indicated by placing a rake-style symbol within the symbol. The rake resembles a miniature hierarchy, indicating that this invocation starts another activity that represents a further decomposition. An alternative notation in the case of an invoked activity is to show the contents of the invoked activity inside a large round-cornered rectangle. Edges flowing into the invocation connect to the parameter object nodes in the invoked activity. The parameter object nodes are shown on the border of the invoked activity. The model is the same regardless of the choice of notation. This assumes the UML 2.0 Diagram Interchange specification supports the interchange of diagram elements and their mapping to model elements.



**Figure 12.64 - Invoking Activities that have nodes and edges**

Below is an example of invoking an activity called FillOrder.



**Figure 12.65 - Example of invoking an activity**

**Rationale**

“CallBehaviorAction (from BasicActions)” on page 257

**Changes from previous UML**

“CallBehaviorAction (from BasicActions)” on page 257

**12.3.15 CallOperationAction (as specialized)**

See “CallOperationAction (from BasicActions)” on page 258.

**Attributes**

No additional attributes

**Associations**

No additional associations

**Constraints**

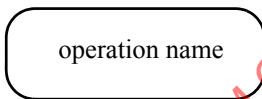
No additional constraints

**Semantics**

See “CallOperationAction (from BasicActions)” on page 258.

**Notation**

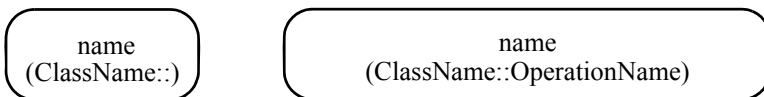
The name of the operation, or other description of it, is displayed in the symbol. Pre- and post-conditions on the operation can be shown similarly to Figure 12.29 on page 328, using keywords «precondition» and «postcondition».



**Figure 12.66 - Calling an operation**

**Presentation Options**

If the node has a different name than the operation, then this is used in the symbol instead. The name of the class may optionally appear below the name of the operation, in parentheses postfixed by a double colon. If the node name is different than the operation name, then the behavioral feature name may be shown after the double colon.



**Figure 12.67 - Invoking behavioral feature notations**

**Rationale**

See “CallOperationAction (from BasicActions)” on page 258.

**Changes from previous UML**

See “CallOperationAction (from BasicActions)” on page 258.

**12.3.16 CentralBufferNode (from IntermediateActivities)**

A central buffer node is an object node for managing flows from multiple sources and destinations.

**Generalizations**

- “ObjectNode (from BasicActivities, CompleteActivities)” on page 411

**Description**

A central buffer node accepts tokens from upstream object nodes and passes them along to downstream object nodes. They act as a buffer for multiple in flows and out flows from other object nodes. They do not connect directly to actions.

**Attributes**

No additional attributes

**Associations**

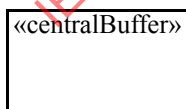
No additional associations

**Semantics**

See semantics at ObjectNode. All object nodes have buffer functionality, but central buffers differ in that they are not tied to an action as pins are, or to an activity as activity parameter nodes are. See example below.

**Notation**

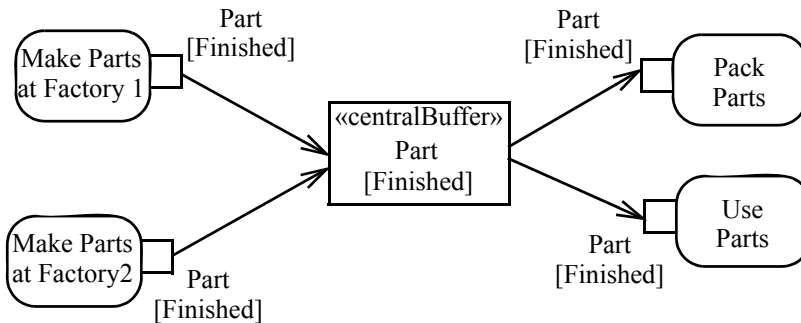
See notation at ObjectNode. A central buffer may also have the keyword «centralBuffer» as shown below. This is useful when it needs to be distinguished from the standalone notation for pins shown at the top of Figure 12.120 and Figure 12.127.



**Figure 12.68 - Optional central buffer notation**

**Examples**

In the example below, the behaviors for making parts at two factories produce finished parts. The central buffer node collects the parts, and behaviors after it in the flow use them as needed. All the parts that are not used will be packed as spares, and vice versa, because each token can only be drawn from the object node by one outgoing edge. The choice in this example is non-deterministic.



**Figure 12.69 - Central buffer node example**

**Rationale**

Central buffer nodes give additional support for queuing and competition between flowing objects.

**Changes from previous UML**

CentralBufferNode is new in UML 2.

**12.3.17 Clause (from CompleteStructuredActivities, StructuredActivities)**

**Generalizations**

- “Element (from Kernel)” on page 68

**Description**

A clause is an element that represents a single branch of a conditional construct, including a test and a body section. The body section is executed only if (but not necessarily if) the test section evaluates true.

**Attributes**

No additional attributes

**Associations**

*Package StructuredActivities*

- test : ExecutableNode [1..\*]  
A nested activity fragment with a designated output pin that specifies the result of the test.

- **body** : ExecutableNode [0..\*]  
A nested activity fragment that is executed if the test evaluates to true and the clause is chosen over any concurrent clauses that also evaluate to true.
- **predecessorClause** : Clause [\*]  
A set of clauses whose tests must all evaluate false before the current clause can be tested.
- **successorClause** : Clause [\*]  
A set of clauses that may not be tested unless the current clause tests false.
- **decider** : OutputPin [1]  
An output pin within the test fragment the value of which is examined after execution of the test to determine whether the body should be executed.

#### **Package CompleteStructuredActivities**

- **bodyOutput** : OutputPin [0..\*] {ordered}  
A list of output pins within the body fragment whose values are moved to the result pins of the containing conditional node after execution of the clause body.

#### **Constraints**

##### **Package StructuredActivities**

- [1] The decider output pin must be for the test body or a node contained by the test body as a structured node.
- [2] The test and body parts must be disjoint.

##### **Package CompleteStructuredActivities**

- [1] The bodyOutput pins are output pins on actions in the body of the clause.

#### **Semantics**

The semantics are explained under “ConditionalNode (from CompleteStructuredActivities, StructuredActivities).”

### **12.3.18 ConditionalNode (from CompleteStructuredActivities, StructuredActivities)**

A conditional node is a structured activity node that represents an exclusive choice among some number of alternatives.

#### **Generalizations**

- “StructuredActivityNode (from CompleteStructuredActivities, StructuredActivities)” on page 429

#### **Description**

A conditional node consists of one or more clauses. Each clause consists of a test section and a body section. When the conditional node begins execution, the test sections of the clauses are executed. If one or more test sections yield a true value, one of the corresponding body sections will be executed. If more than one test section yields a true value, only one body section will be executed. The choice is nondeterministic unless the test sequence of clauses is specified. If no test section yields a true value, then no body section is executed; this may be a semantic error if output values are expected from the conditional node.

In general, test section may be executed in any order, including simultaneously (if the underlying execution architecture supports it). The result may therefore be nondeterministic if more than one test section can be true concurrently. To enforce ordering of evaluation, sequencing constraints may be specified among clauses. One frequent case is a total ordering of clauses, in which case the clause execution order is determinate. If it is impossible for more than one test section to evaluate true simultaneously, the result is deterministic and it is unnecessary to order the clauses, as ordering may impose undesirable and unnecessary restrictions on implementation. Note that, although evaluation of test sections may be specified as concurrent, this does not require that the implementation evaluate them in parallel; it merely means that the model does not impose any order on evaluation.

An “else” clause is a clause that is a successor to all other clauses in the conditional and whose test part always returns true.

Output values created in the test or body section of a clause are potentially available for use outside the conditional. However, any value used outside the conditional must be created in every clause; otherwise, an undefined value would be accessed if a clause not defining the value were executed.

### Attributes

#### Package *StructuredActivities*

- `isAssured` : Boolean  
If true, the modeler asserts that at least one test will succeed. Default value is *false*.
- `isDeterminate`: Boolean  
If true, the modeler asserts that at most one test will succeed. Default value is *false*.

### Associations

#### Package *StructuredActivities*

- `clause` : Clause[1..\*]  
Set of clauses composing the conditional.

#### Package *CompleteStructuredActivities*

- `result` : OutputPin [0..\*]  
A list of output pins that constitute the data flow outputs of the conditional. {Redefines *StructuredActivityNode::structuredNodeOutput*}

### Constraints

#### Package *StructuredActivities*

- [1] The union of the ExecutableNodes in the test and body parts of all clauses must be the same as the subset of nodes contained in the ConditionalNode (considered as a StructuredActivityNode) that are ExecutableNodes.
- [2] No ExecutableNode may appear in the test or body part of more than one clause of a conditional node.
- [3] No two clauses within a ConditionalNode may be predecessor clauses of each other, either directly or indirectly.

#### Package *CompleteStructuredActivities*

- [1] The result output pins have no incoming edges.

- [2] Each clause of a conditional node must have the same number of bodyOutput pins as the conditional node has result output pins, and each clause bodyOutput pin must be compatible with the corresponding result pin (by positional order) in type, multiplicity, ordering and uniqueness.
- [3] A conditional node has no input pins.

### Semantics

No part of a conditional node is executed until all control-flow or data-flow predecessors of the conditional node have completed execution. When all such predecessors have completed execution and made tokens available to inputs of the conditional node, the conditional node captures the input tokens and begins execution.

The test section of any clause without a predecessorClause is eligible for execution immediately. If the test section of a clause yields a false value, a control token is delivered to all of the successorClauses of the clause. The test section of a clause with predecessorClauses is eligible for execution when the clause receives a control token from each of its predecessor clauses.

If a test section yields a true value, then the corresponding body section is executed provided another test section does not also yield a true value. If more than one test section yields a true value, exactly one body section will be executed, but it is indeterminate which one will be executed. When a body section is chosen for execution, the evaluation of all other test parts is terminated (just like an interrupting edge). If some of the test parts have external effects, terminating them may be another source of indeterminacy. Although test parts are permitted to produce side effects, avoiding side effects in tests will greatly reduce the chance of logical errors and race conditions in a model and in any code generated from it.

If no test section yields a true value, the execution of the conditional node terminates with no outputs. This may be a semantic error if a subsequent node requires an output from the conditional. It is safe if none of the clauses create outputs. If the *isAssured* attribute of the conditional node has a true value, the modeler asserts that at least one test section will yield a test value. If the *isDeterminate* attribute has a true value, the modeler asserts that at most one test section will yield a test value (the predecessor relationship may be used to enforce this assertion). Note that it is, in general, impossible for a computer system to verify these assertions, so they may provide useful information to a code generator, but if the assertions are incorrect, then incorrect code may be generated.

When a body section is chosen for execution, all of its nodes without predecessor flows within the conditional receive control tokens and are enabled for execution. When execution of all nodes within the body section has completed, execution of the conditional node is complete and its successors are enabled.

Within the body section, variables defined in the loop node or in some higher-level enclosing node may be accessed and updated with new values. Values that are used in a data flow manner must be created or updated in all clauses of the conditional; otherwise, undefined values would be accessed.

### Notation

No specific notation.

### Style Guidelines

Mixing sequential and concurrent tests in one conditional may be confusing, although it is permitted.

### Rationale

Conditional nodes are introduced to provide a structured way to represent decisions.

### Changes from previous UML

Conditional nodes replace ConditionalAction from the UML 1.5 action model.

### 12.3.19 ControlFlow (from BasicActivities)

A control flow is an edge that starts an activity node after the previous one is finished.

#### Generalizations

- “ActivityEdge (from BasicActivities, CompleteActivities, CompleteStructuredActivities, IntermediateActivities)” on page 340.

#### Description

Objects and data cannot pass along a control flow edge.

#### Attributes

No additional attributes

#### Associations

No additional associations

#### Constraints

[1] Control flows may not have object nodes at either end, except for object nodes with control type.

#### Semantics

See semantics inherited from ActivityEdge. A control flow is an activity edge that only passes control tokens. Tokens offered by the source node are all offered to the target node.

#### Notation

A control flow is notated by an arrowed line connecting two actions.



Figure 12.70 - Control flow notation

## Examples

The figure below depicts an example of the Fill Order action passing control to the Ship Order action. The activity edge between the two is a control flow, which indicates that when Fill Order is completed, Ship Order is invoked.

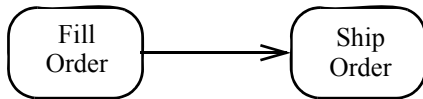


Figure 12.71 - Control flow example

## Rationale

Control flow is introduced to model the sequencing of behaviors that does not involve the flow of objects.

## Changes from previous UML

Explicitly modeled control flows are new to activity modeling in UML 2. They replace the use of (state) Transition in UML 1.5 activity modeling. They replace control flows in UML 1.5 action model.

## 12.3.20 ControlNode (from BasicActivities)

A control node is an abstract activity node that coordinates flows in an activity.

## Generalizations

- “ActivityNode (from BasicActivities, CompleteActivities, FundamentalActivities, IntermediateActivities, CompleteStructuredActivities)” on page 349.

## Description

A control node is an activity node used to coordinate the flows between other nodes. It covers initial node, final node and its children, fork node, join node, decision node, and merge node.

## Attributes

No additional attributes

## Associations

No additional associations

## Constraints

No additional constraints

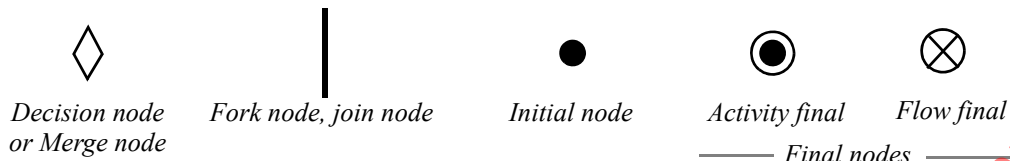
## Semantics

See semantics at Activity. See subclasses for the semantics of each kind of control node.

**Notation**

The notations for control nodes are illustrated below: decision node, initial node, activity final, and flow final.

Fork node and join node are the same symbol, they have different semantics and are distinguished notationally by the way edges are used with them. For more information, see ForkNode and JoinNode below.

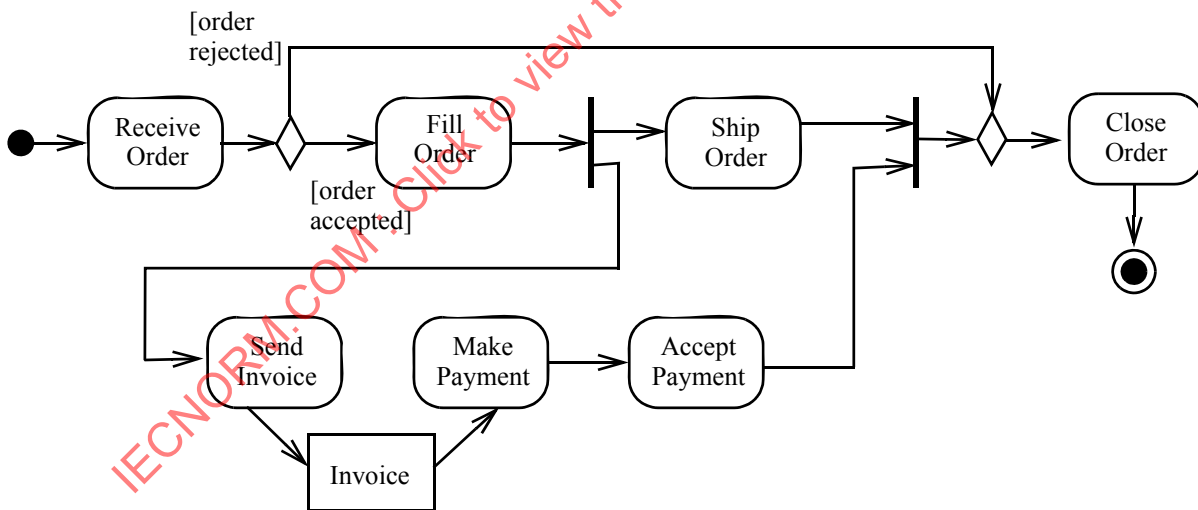


**Figure 12.72 - Control node notations**

**Examples**

The figure below contains examples of various kinds of control nodes. An initial node is depicted in the upper left as triggering the Receive Order action. A decision node after Received Order illustrates branching based on order rejected or order accepted conditions. Fill Order is followed by a fork node that passes control both to Send Invoice and Ship Order.

The join node indicates that control will be passed to the merge when both Ship Order and Accept Payment are completed. Since a merge will just pass the token along, Close Order activity will be invoked. (Control is also passed to Close Order whenever an order is rejected.) When Close Order is completed, control passes to an activity final.



**Figure 12.73 - Control node examples (with accompanying actions and control flows)**

**Rationale**

Control nodes are introduced to provide a general class for nodes that coordinate flows in an activity.

**Changes from previous UML**

ControlNode replaces the use of PseudoState in UML 1.5 activity modeling.

### 12.3.21 DataStoreNode (from CompleteActivities)

A data store node is a central buffer node for non-transient information.

#### Generalizations

- “CentralBufferNode (from IntermediateActivities)” on page 367

#### Description

A data store keeps all tokens that enter it, copying them when they are chosen to move downstream. Incoming tokens containing a particular object replace any tokens in the object node containing that object.

#### Attributes

No additional attributes

#### Associations

No additional associations

#### Constraints

No additional constraints

#### Semantics

Tokens chosen to move downstream are copied so that tokens appear to never leave the data store. If a token containing an object is chosen to move into a data store, and there is a token containing that object already in the data store, then the chosen token replaces the existing one. Selection and transformation behavior on outgoing edges can be designed to get information out of the data store, as if a query were being performed. For example, the selection behavior can identify an object to retrieve and the transformation behavior can get the value of an attribute on that object. Selection can also be designed to only succeed when a downstream action has control passed to it, thereby implementing the pull semantics of earlier forms of data flow.

#### Notation

The data store notation is a special case of the object node notation, using the label «datastore».

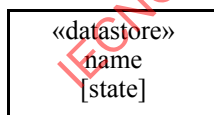
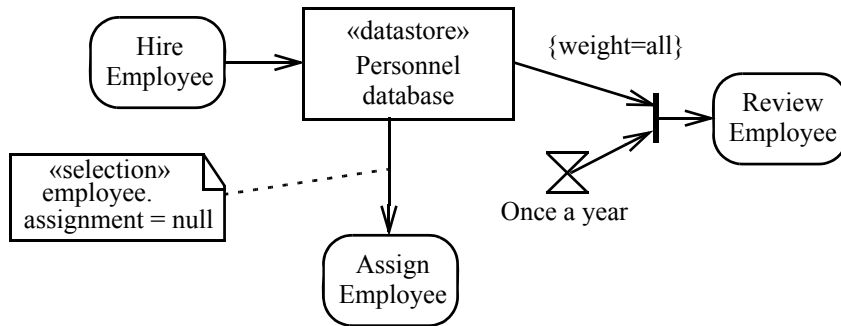


Figure 12.74 - Data store node notation

**Examples**

The figure below is an example of using a data store node.



**Figure 12.75 - Data store node example**

**Rationale**

Data stores are introduced to support earlier forms of data flow modeling in which data is persistent and used as needed, rather than transient and used when available.

**Changes from previous UML**

Data stores are new in UML 2.

**12.3.22 DecisionNode (from IntermediateActivities)**

A decision node is a control node that chooses between outgoing flows.

**Generalizations**

- “ControlNode (from BasicActivities)” on page 373

**Description**

A decision node accepts tokens on an incoming edge and presents them to multiple outgoing edges. Which of the edges is actually traversed depends on the evaluation of the guards on the outgoing edges.

**Attributes**

No additional attributes

**Associations**

- decisionInput : Behavior [0..1]  
Provides input to guard specifications on edges outgoing from the decision node.
- decisionInputFlow : ObjectFlow [0..1]  
An additional edge incoming to the decision node that provides a decision input value.

## Constraints

- [1] A decision node has one or two incoming edges and at least one outgoing edge.
- [2] The edges coming into and out of a decision node, other than the decision input flow (if any), must be either all object flows or all control flows.
- [3] The decisionInputFlow of a decision node must be an incoming edge of the decision node.
- [4] A decision input behavior has no output parameters, no in-out parameters and one return parameter.
- [5] If the decision node has no decision input flow and an incoming control flow, then a decision input behavior has zero input parameters.
- [6] If the decision node has no decision input flow and an incoming object flow, then a decision input behavior has one input parameter whose type is the same as or a supertype of the type of object tokens offered on the incoming edge.
- [7] If the decision node has a decision input flow and an incoming control flow, then a decision input behavior has one input parameter whose type is the same as or a supertype of the type of object tokens offered on the decision input flow.
- [8] If the decision node has a decision input flow and a second incoming object flow, then a decision input behavior has two input parameters,
  - the first of which has a type that is the same as or a supertype of the type of object tokens offered on the non-decision input flow, and
  - the second of which has a type that is the same as or a supertype of the type of object tokens offered on the decision input flow.

## Semantics

Each token arriving at a decision node can traverse only one outgoing edge. Tokens are not duplicated. Each token offered by the incoming edge is offered to the outgoing edges.

Most commonly, guards of the outgoing edges are evaluated to determine which edge should be traversed. The order in which guards are evaluated is not defined, because edges in general are not required to determine which tokens they accept in any particular order. The modeler should arrange that each token only be chosen to traverse one outgoing edge; otherwise, there will be race conditions among the outgoing edges. If the implementation can ensure that only one guard will succeed, it is not required to evaluate all guards when one is found that does. For decision points, a predefined guard “else” may be defined for at most one outgoing edge. This guard succeeds for a token only if the token is not accepted by all the other edges outgoing from the decision point.

Notice that the semantics only requires that the token traverse one edge, rather than be offered to only one edge. Multiple edges may be offered the token, but if only one of them has a target that accepts the token, then that edge is traversed. If multiple edges accept the token and have approval from their targets for traversal at the same time, then the semantics is not defined.

If a decision input behavior is specified, then each data token is passed to the behavior before guards are evaluated on the outgoing edges. The behavior is invoked without input for control tokens. The output of the behavior is available to the guard. Because the behavior is used during the process of offering tokens to outgoing edges, it may be run many times on the same token before the token is accepted by those edges. This means the behavior cannot have side effects. It may not modify objects, but it may for example, navigate from one object to another or get an attribute value from an object.

If there is a decision input flow, but no decision input behavior, then it is the tokens offered on the decision input flow that are made available to the guard on each outgoing edge to determine whether the offer on the regular incoming edge is passed along that outgoing edge. If there is a decision input behavior and a decision input flow, the token offered on the

decision input flow is passed to the behavior (as the only argument if the regular incoming edge is control flow, as the second argument if it is an object flow). Decision nodes with the additional decision input flow offer tokens to outgoing edges only when one token is offered on each incoming edge.

**Notation**

The notation for a decision node is a diamond-shaped symbol, as illustrated on the left side of the figure below. Decision input behavior is specified by the keyword «decisionInput» placed in a note symbol, and attached to the appropriate decision node symbol as illustrated in Figure 12.76. A decision input flow is specified by the keyword «decisionInputFlow» annotating that flow.

A decision node must have one non-decision input activity edge entering it and one or more edges leaving it. It may also have a second decision input flow entering it, which must be marked «decisionInputFlow» as shown at the bottom of Figure 12.76. The functionality of a decision node and a merge node can be combined by using the same node symbol, as illustrated at the right side of the figure below. At most one of the incoming flows may be annotated as a decision input flow. This case maps to a model containing a merge node with all the incoming edges shown in the diagram, except a decision input flow, and one outgoing edge to a decision node that has any decision input flow and all the outgoing edges shown in the diagram. This assumes the UML 2 Diagram Interchange standard support of the interchange of diagram elements and their mapping to model elements.

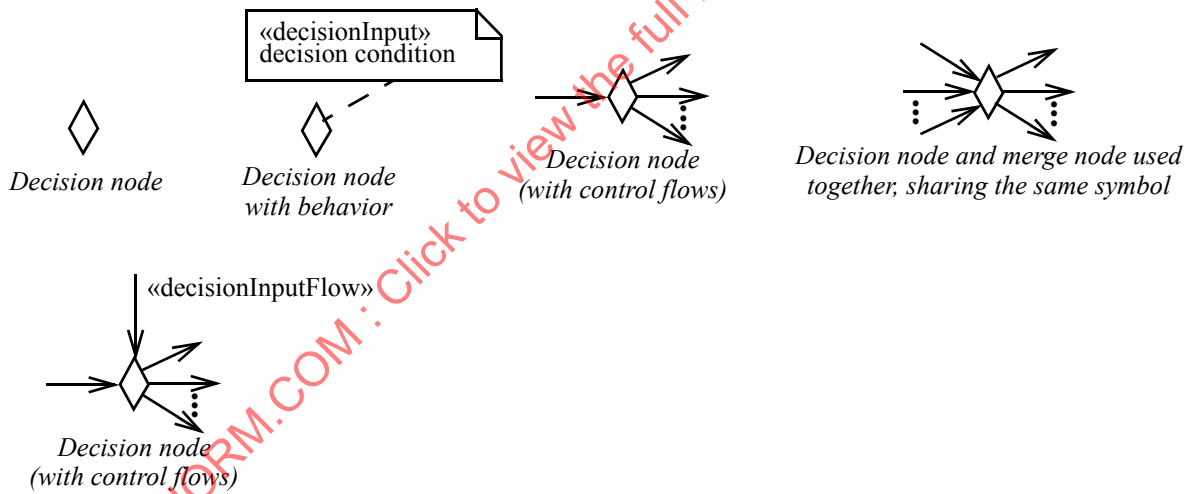


Figure 12.76 - Decision node notation

## Examples

The figure below contains a decision node that follows the Received Order behavior. The branching is based on whether order was rejected or accepted. An order accepted condition results in passing control to Fill Order and rejected orders to Close Order.

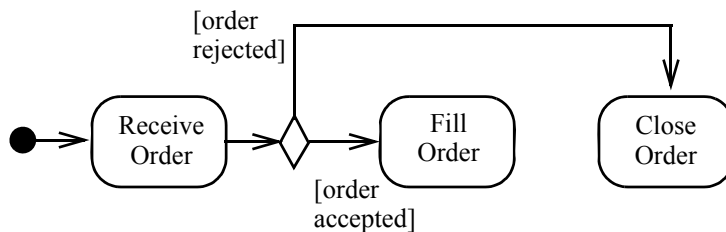


Figure 12.77 - Decision node example

The example in the figure below illustrates an order process example. Here, an order item is pulled from stock and prepared for delivery. Since the item has been removed from inventory, the reorder level should also be checked; and if the actual level falls below a pre-specified reorder point, more of the same type of item should be reordered.

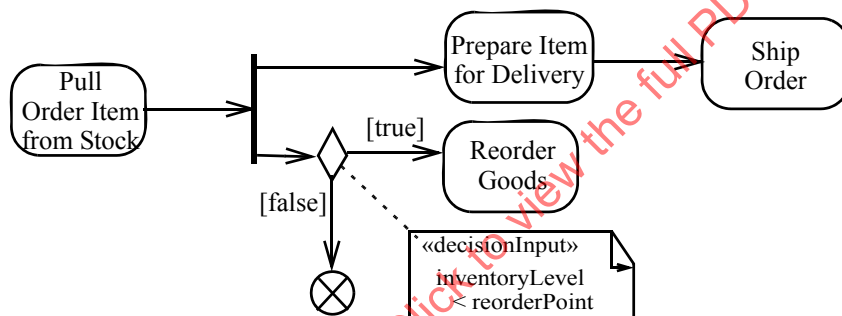


Figure 12.78 - Decision node example

## Rationale

Decision nodes are introduced to support conditionals in activities. Decision input behaviors are introduced to avoid redundant recalculations in guards.

## Changes from previous UML

Decision nodes replace the use of PseudoState with junction kind in UML 1.5 activity modeling.

## 12.3.23 ExceptionHandler (from ExtraStructuredActivities)

### Generalizations

- “Element (from Kernel)” on page 68

## Description

An exception handler is an element that specifies a body to execute in case the specified exception occurs during the execution of the protected node.

## Associations

- protectedNode : ExecutableNode [1..1]  
The node protected by the handler. The handler is examined if an exception propagates to the outside of the node.  
{Subsets *Element::owner*}
- handlerBody : ExecutableNode [1..1]  
A node that is executed if the handler satisfies an uncaught exception.
- exceptionType : Classifier [1..\*]  
The kind of instances that the handler catches. If an exception occurs whose type is any of the classifiers in the set, the handler catches the exception and executes its body.
- exceptionInput : ObjectNode [1..1]  
An object node within the handler body. When the handler catches an exception, the exception token is placed in this node, causing the body to execute.

## Constraints

- [1] The exception handler and its input object node are not the source or target of any edge.
- [2] An edge that has a source in an exception handler structured node must also have its target in the handler, and vice versa.
- [3] If the protected node is a StructuredActivityNode with output pins, then the exception handler body must also be a StructuredActivityNode with output pins that correspond in number and types to those of the protected node.
- [4] The handler body has one input, and that input is the same as the exception input.

## Semantics

If a RaiseExceptionAction is executed, all the tokens in the immediately containing structured node or activity are terminated. Then the set of execution handlers on the structured node or invocation action of the activity is examined for a handler that matches the exception. A handler matches if the type of the exception is the same as, or a descendant of, one of the exception classifiers specified in the handler. If there is a match, the handler “catches” the exception. If there are multiple matches, exactly one handler catches the exception, but it is not defined which does. The exception object is placed in the exceptionInput node as a token to start execution of the handler body.

If the exception is not caught by any of the handlers on the node or invocation action, the exception handling process repeats, propagating to the enclosing structured node or activity. If the exception is not caught there, and the action that invoked the activity is asynchronous, the exception is lost because the connection to the invoker is broken. If the action that invoked the activity is synchronous, the exception propagates up to that action. The process of exception propagation recurs until the exception is caught, or reaches the topmost level of the system. If the exception propagates to the topmost level of the system and is not caught, the behavior of the system is unspecified. Profiles may specify what happens in such cases.

The handler body has no explicit input or output edges. It has the same access to its surrounding context as the protected node. The result tokens of the handler body become the result tokens of the protected node. Any control edges leaving the protected node receive control tokens on completion of execution of the handler body with the handler catching the exception. When the handler body completes execution, it is as if the protected node had completed execution.

When an expansion region is complete, tokens in the input expansion node and pins are removed.

## Notation

The notation for exception handlers is illustrated in Figure 12.79. An exception handler for a protected node is shown by drawing a “lightning bolt” symbol from the boundary of the protected node to a small square on the boundary of the exception handler. The name of the exception type is placed next to the lightning bolt. The small square is the exception input node, and it must be owned by the handler body. Its type is the given exception type. Both the protected node and the exception handler must be at the same nesting level. (Otherwise the notation could be misinterpreted as an interrupting edge, which crosses a boundary.) Multiple exception handlers may be attached to the same protected node, each by its own lightning bolt.

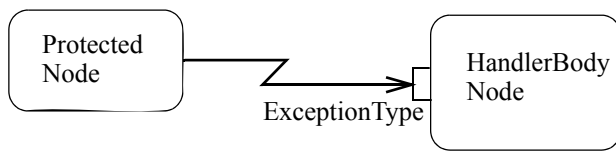


Figure 12.79 - Exception Handler Notation

## Presentation Options

An option for notating an exception handler is a zig-zag adornment on a straight line.

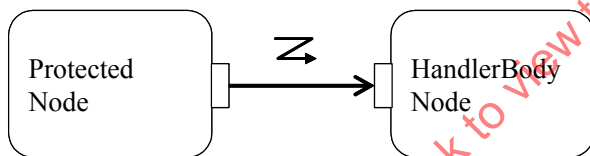


Figure 12.80 - Exception Handler Presentation option

## Examples

Figure 12.81 shows a matrix calculation. First a matrix is inverted, then it is multiplied by a vector to produce a vector. If the matrix is singular the inversion will fail and a `SingularMatrix` exception occurs. This exception is handled by the exception handler labeled `SingularMatrix`, which executes the region containing the `SubstituteVector1` action. If an overflow exception occurs during either the matrix inversion or the vector multiplication, the region containing the `SubstituteVector2` action is executed.

The successors to an exception handler body are the same as the successors to the protected node. It is unnecessary to show control flow from the handler body. Regardless of whether the matrix operations complete without exception or whether one of the exception handlers is triggered, the action `PrintResults` is executed next.

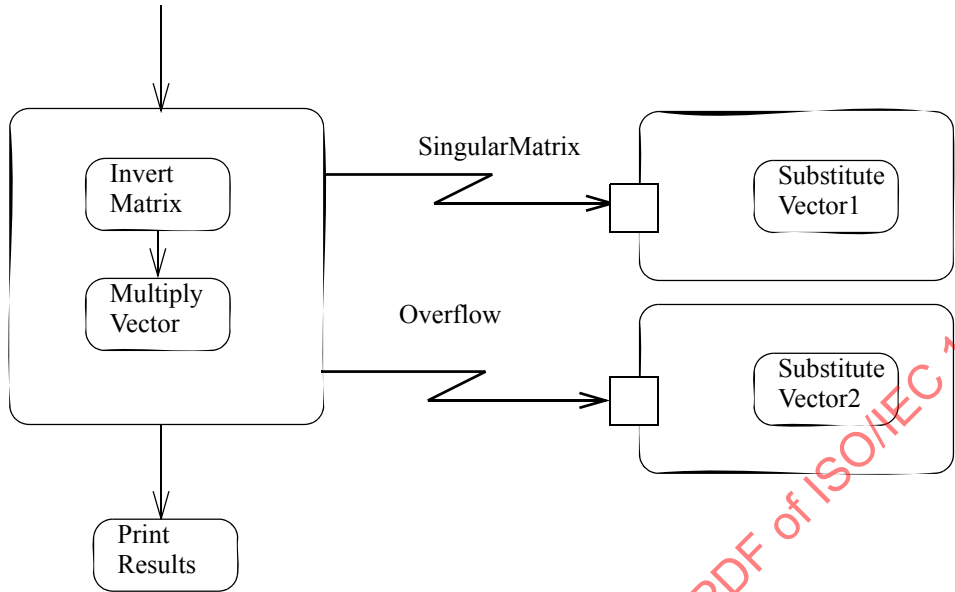


Figure 12.81 - Exception Handler example

**Changes from previous UML**

ExceptionHandler replaces JumpHandler in UML 1.5.

Modeling of traditional break and continue statements can be accomplished using direct control flow from the statement to the control target. UML 1.5 combined the modeling of breaks and continues with exceptions, but that is no longer necessary and it is not recommended in this part of ISO/IEC 19505.

**12.3.24 ExecutableNode (from ExtraStructuredActivities, StructuredActivities)**

**Generalizations**

- “ActivityNode (from BasicActivities, CompleteActivities, FundamentalActivities, IntermediateActivities, CompleteStructuredActivities)” on page 349.

**Description**

An executable node is an abstract class for activity nodes that may be executed. It is used as an attachment point for exception handlers.

**Associations***Package ExtraStructuredActivities*

- handler : ExceptionHandler [0..\*]  
A set of exception handlers that are examined if an uncaught exception propagates to the outer level of the executable node. {Subsets *Element::ownedElement*}

**12.3.25 ExpansionKind (from ExtraStructuredActivities)****Generalizations**

None

**Description**

ExpansionKind is an enumeration type used to specify how multiple executions of an expansion region interact. See “ExpansionRegion (from ExtraStructuredActivities).”

**Enumeration Literals**

- parallel  
The executions are independent. They may be executed concurrently.
- iterative  
The executions are dependent and must be executed one at a time, in order of the collection elements.
- stream  
A stream of collection elements flows into a single execution, in order of the collection elements.

**12.3.26 ExpansionNode (from ExtraStructuredActivities)****Generalizations**

- “ObjectNode (from BasicActivities, CompleteActivities)” on page 411

**Description**

An expansion node is an object node used to indicate a flow across the boundary of an expansion region. A flow into a region contains a collection that is broken into its individual elements inside the region, which is executed once per element. A flow out of a region combines individual elements into a collection for use outside the region.

**Associations**

- regionAsInput : ExpansionRegion[0..1]  
The expansion region for which the node is an input.
- regionAsOutput : ExpansionRegion[0..1]  
The expansion region for which the node is an output.

**Constraints**

[1] One of regionAsInput or regionAsOutput must be non-empty, but not both.

## Semantics

See “ExpansionRegion (from ExtraStructuredActivities).”

## Notation

See “ExpansionRegion (from ExtraStructuredActivities).”

### 12.3.27 ExpansionRegion (from ExtraStructuredActivities)

An expansion region is a structured activity region that executes multiple times corresponding to elements of an input collection.

#### Generalizations

- “StructuredActivityNode (from CompleteStructuredActivities, StructuredActivities)” on page 429

#### Description

An expansion region is a strictly nested region of an activity with explicit input and outputs (modeled as ExpansionNodes). Each input is a collection of values. If there are multiple inputs, each of them must hold the same kind of collection, although the types of the elements in the different collections may vary. The expansion region is executed once for each element (or position) in the input collection.

The number of output collections can differ from the number of input collections. On each execution of the region, an output value from the region is inserted into an output collection at the same position as the input elements. If the region execution ends with no output, then nothing is added to the output collection. When this happens the output collection will not have the same number of elements as the input collections, the region acts as a filter. If all the executions provide an output to the collection, then the output collections will have the same number of elements as the input collections.

The inputs and outputs to an expansion region are modeled as ExpansionNodes. From “outside” of the region, the values on these nodes appear as collections. From “inside” the region the values appear as elements of the collections. Object flow edges connect pins outside the region to input and output expansion nodes as collections. Object flow edges connect pins inside the region to input and output expansion nodes as individual elements. From the inside of the region, these nodes are visible as individual values. If an expansion node has a name, it is the name of the individual element within the region.

Any object flow edges that cross the boundary of the region, without passing through expansion nodes, provide values that are fixed within the different executions of the region. Input pins, introduced by merge with CompleteStructuredActivities, provide values that are also constant during the execution of the region.

#### Attributes

- mode : ExpansionKind  
The way in which the executions interact (default value is *iterative*):
  - parallel* - all interactions are independent
  - iterative* - the interactions occur in order of the elements
  - stream* - a stream of values flows into a single execution

### Associations

- **inputElement** : ExpansionNode[1..\*]  
An object node that holds a separate element of the input collection during each of the multiple executions of the region.
- **outputElement** : ExpansionNode[0..\*]  
An object node that accepts a separate element of the output collection during each of the multiple executions of the region. The values are formed into a collection that is available when the execution of the region is complete.

### Constraints

[1] An ExpansionRegion must have one or more argument ExpansionNodes and zero or more result ExpansionNodes.

### Semantics

When an execution of an activity makes a token available to the input of an expansion region, the expansion region consumes the token and begins execution. The expansion region is executed once for each element in the collection. If there are multiple inputs, a value is taken from each for each execution of the internals of the region. The mode attribute controls how the executions proceed:

- If the value is *parallel*, the execution may happen in parallel, or overlapping in time, but they are not required to.
- If the value is *iterative*, the executions of the region must happen in sequence, with one finishing before another can begin. The first iteration begins immediately. Subsequent iterations start when the previous iteration is completed. During each of these cases, one element of the collection is made available to the execution of the region as a token during each execution of the region. If the collection is ordered, the elements will be presented to the region in order; if the collection is unordered, the order of presenting elements is undefined and not necessarily repeatable. On each execution of the region, an output value from the region is inserted into an output collection at the same position as the input elements.
- If the value is *stream*, there is a single execution of the region, but its input place receives a stream of elements from the collection. The values in the input collection are extracted and placed into the execution of the expansion region as a stream in order, if the collection is ordered. Such a region must handle streams properly or it is ill defined. When the execution of the entire stream is complete, any output streams are assembled into collections of the same kinds as the inputs.

### Notation

An expansion region is shown as a dashed rounded box with one of the keywords *parallel*, *iterative*, or *stream* in the upper left corner.

Input and output expansion nodes are drawn as small rectangles divided by vertical bars into small compartments. (The symbol is meant to suggest a list of elements.) The expansion node symbols are placed on the boundary of the dashed box. Usually arrows inside and outside the expansion region will distinguish input and output expansion nodes. If not, then a small arrow can be used as with Pins (see Figure 12.124 on page 423).

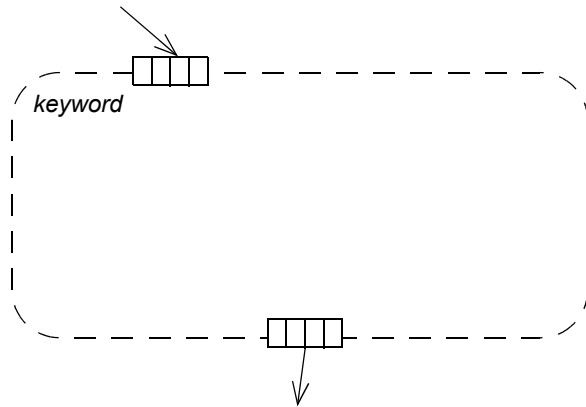


Figure 12.82 - Expansion region

As a shorthand notation, the “list box pin” notation may be placed directly on an action symbol, replacing the pins of the action (Figure 12.83). This indicates an expansion region containing a single action. The equivalent full form is shown in Figure 12.84. In the shorthand notation, there must be one input expansion node corresponding to each in or inout parameter of the behavior (which must have at least one such parameter) and one output expansion node corresponding to each out or inout parameter of the behavior.

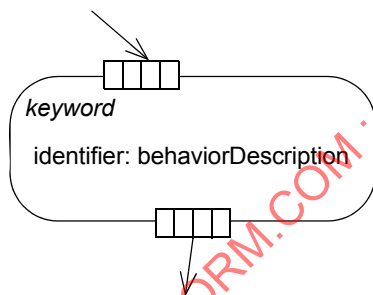
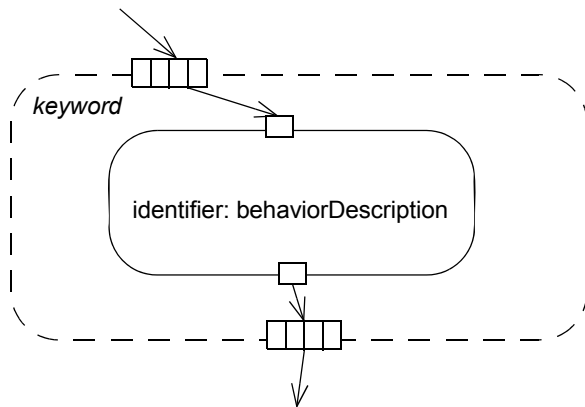


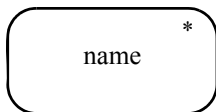
Figure 12.83 - Shorthand notation for expansion region containing single node



**Figure 12.84 - Full form of previous shorthand notation**

### Presentation Options

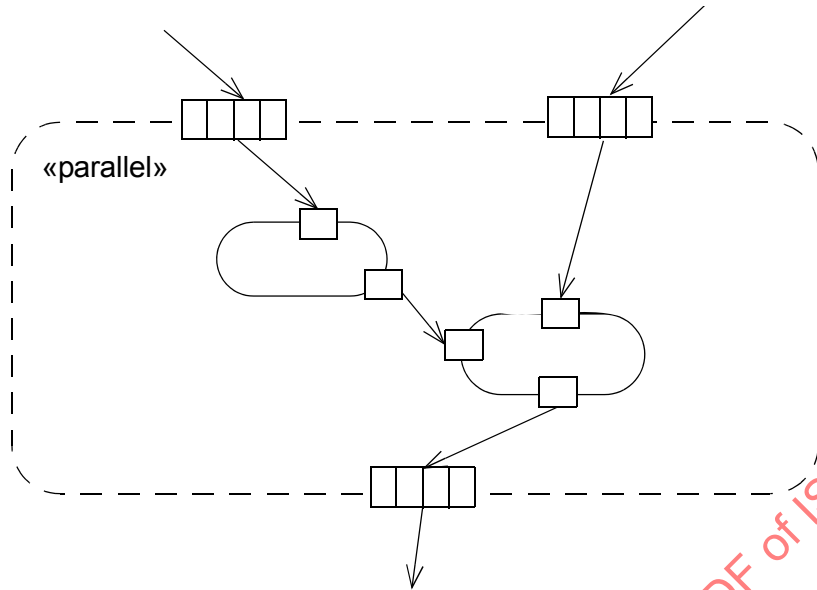
The notation in Figure 12.85 maps to an expansion region in parallel mode, with one behavior invoked in the region, as shown below.



**Figure 12.85 - Notation for expansion region with one behavior invocation**

### Examples

Figure 12.86 shows an expansion region with two inputs and one output that is executed in parallel. Execution of the region does not begin until both input collections are available. Both collections must have the same number of elements. The interior activity fragment is executed once for each position in the input collections. During each execution of the region, a pair of values, one from each collection, is available to the region on the expansion nodes. Each execution of the region produces a result value on the output expansion node. All of the result values are formed into a collection of the same size as the input collections. This output collection is available outside the region on the result node after all the parallel executions of the region have completed.



**Figure 12.86 - Expansion region with 2 inputs and 1 output**

Figure 12.87 shows a fragment of a Fast Fourier Transform (FFT) computation containing an expansion region. Outside the region, there are operations on arrays of complex numbers. S, Slower, Supper, and V are arrays. Cut and shuffle are operations on arrays. Inside the region, two arithmetic operations are performed on elements of the 3 input arrays, yielding 2 output arrays. Different positions in the arrays do not interact, therefore the region can be executed in parallel on all positions.

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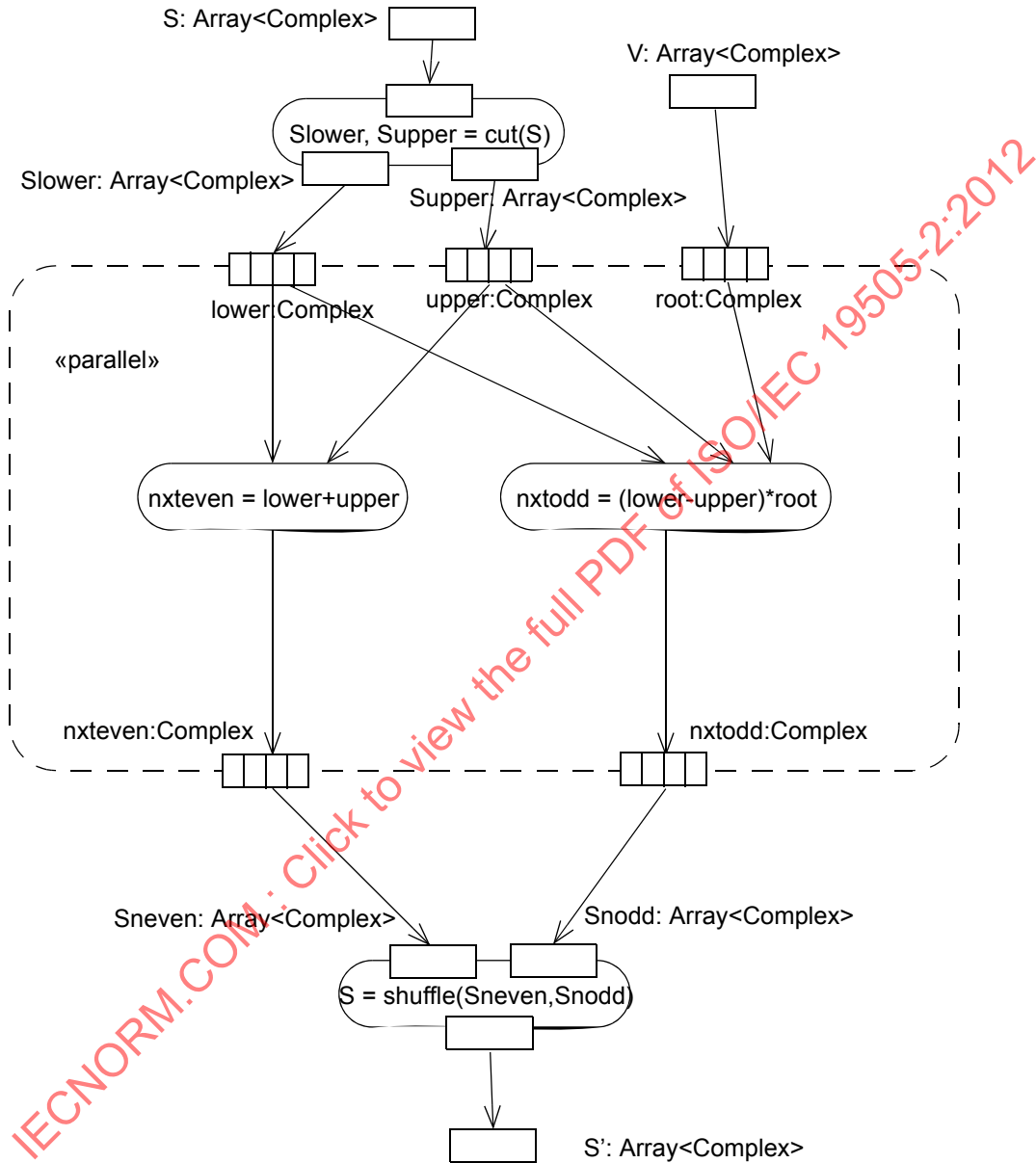


Figure 12.87 - Expansion region

The following example shows a use of the shorthand notation for an expansion region with a single action. In this example, the trip route outputs sets of flights and sets of hotels to book. The hotels may be booked independently and in parallel with each other and with booking the flight.

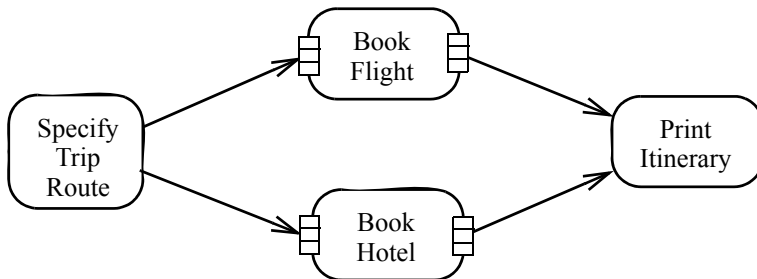


Figure 12.88 -Examples of expansion region shorthand

Specify Trip Route below can result in multiple flight segments, each of which must be booked separately. The Book Flight action will invoke the Book Flight behavior multiple times, once for each flight segment in the set passed to BookFlight.

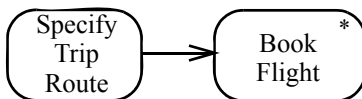


Figure 12.89 - Shorthand notation for expansion region

**Rationale**

Expansion regions are introduced to support applying behaviors to elements of a set without constraining the order of application.

**Changes from previous UML**

ExpansionRegion replaces MapAction, FilterAction, and dynamicConcurrency and dynamicMultiplicity attributes on ActionState. Dynamic multiplicities less than unlimited are not supported in UML 1.5.

**12.3.28 FinalNode (from IntermediateActivities)**

A final node is an abstract control node at which a flow in an activity stops.

**Generalizations**

- “ControlNode (from BasicActivities)” on page 373

**Description**

See descriptions at children of final node.

**Attributes**

No additional attributes

**Associations**

No additional associations

**Constraints**

[1] A final node has no outgoing edges.

**Semantics**

All tokens offered on incoming edges are accepted. See children of final node for other semantics.

**Notation**

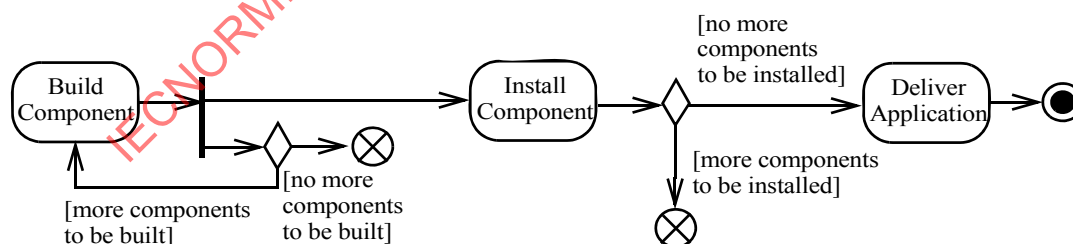
The notations for final node are illustrated below. There are two kinds of final node: activity final and (IntermediateActivities) flow final. For more details on each of these specializations, see ActivityFinal and FlowFinal.



**Figure 12.90 - Final node notation**

**Examples**

The figure below illustrates two kinds of final node: flow final and activity final. In this example, it is assumed that many components can be built and installed before finally delivering the resulting application. Here, the Build Component behavior occurs iteratively for each component. When the last component is built, the end of the building iteration is indicated with a flow final. However, even though all component building has come to an end, other behaviors are still executing. When the last component has been installed, the application is delivered. When Deliver Application has completed, control is passed to an activity final node—indicating that all processing in the activity is terminated.



**Figure 12.91 - Flow final and activity final example**

**Rationale**

Final nodes are introduced to model where flows end in an activity.

### Changes from previous UML

FinalNode replaces the use of FinalState in UML 1.5 activity modeling, but its concrete classes have different semantics than FinalState.

### 12.3.29 FlowFinalNode (from IntermediateActivities)

A flow final node is a final node that terminates a flow.

#### Generalizations

- “FinalNode (from IntermediateActivities)” on page 390

#### Description

A flow final destroys all tokens that arrive at it. It has no effect on other flows in the activity.

#### Attributes

No additional attributes

#### Associations

No additional associations

#### Constraints

No additional constraints

#### Semantics

Flow final destroys tokens flowing into it.

#### Notation

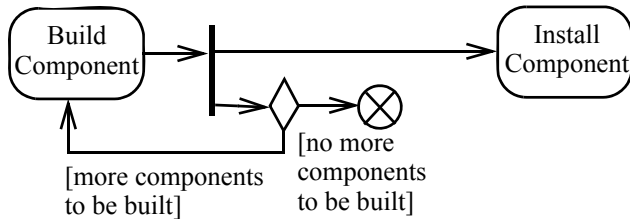
The notation for flow final is illustrated below.



Figure 12.92 - Flow final notation

#### Examples

In the example below, it is assumed that many components can be built and installed. Here, the Build Component behavior occurs iteratively for each component. When the last component is built, the end of the building iteration is indicated with a flow final. However, even though all component building has come to an end, other behaviors are still executing (such as Install Component).



**Figure 12.93 - Flow final example without merge edge**

### Rationale

Flow final nodes are introduced to model termination of a flow in an activity.

### Changes from previous UML

Flow final is new in UML 2.

### 12.3.30 ForkNode (from IntermediateActivities)

A fork node is a control node that splits a flow into multiple concurrent flows.

### Generalizations

- “ControlNode (from BasicActivities)” on page 373

### Description

A fork node has one incoming edge and multiple outgoing edges.

### Attributes

No additional attributes

### Associations

No additional associations

### Constraints

- [1] A fork node has one incoming edge.
- [2] The edges coming into and out of a fork node must be either all object flows or all control flows.

### Semantics

Tokens that arrive at a fork node are duplicated across the outgoing edges of the node. Specifically, tokens offered to a fork node are offered to all outgoing edges of the node. If at least one of these offers is accepted, the offered tokens are removed from their source and a copy of the tokens traverse each edge for which the offer was accepted.

Any offer that was not accepted on an outgoing edge due to the failure of the target to accept it remains pending on that edge and may be accepted by the target at a later time. These edges effectively accept a separate copy of the offered tokens, and offers made to the edges stand to their targets in the order in which they were accepted by the edge (first in, first out). This is an exception to the rule that control nodes cannot hold tokens if they are blocked from moving downstream (see “Activity (from BasicActivities, CompleteActivities, FundamentalActivities, StructuredActivities)” on page 330).

Note that any outgoing edges that fail to accept an offer due to the failure of a guard do not receive copies of those tokens.

If guards are used on edges outgoing from forks, the modelers should ensure that no downstream joins depend on the arrival of tokens passing through the guarded edge. If that cannot be avoided, then a decision node should be introduced to have the guard, and shunt the token to the downstream join if the guard fails. See example in Figure 12.44 on page 344.

**Notation**

The notation for a fork node is simply a line segment, as illustrated on the left side of the figure below. In usage, however, the fork node must have a single activity edge entering it, and two or more edges leaving it. The functionality of join node and fork node can be combined by using the same node symbol, as illustrated at the right side of the figure below. This case maps to a model containing a join node with all the incoming edges shown in the diagram and one outgoing edge to a fork node that has all the outgoing edges shown in the diagram. It assumes the UML 2.0 Diagram Interchange RFP supports the interchange of diagram elements and their mapping to model elements.

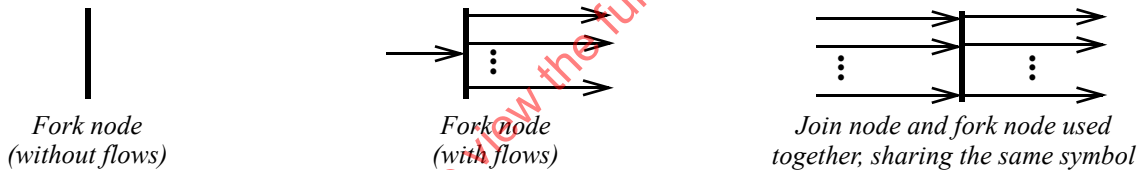


Figure 12.94 - Fork node notation

**Examples**

In the example below, the fork node passes control to both the Ship Order and Send Invoice behaviors when Fill Order is completed.

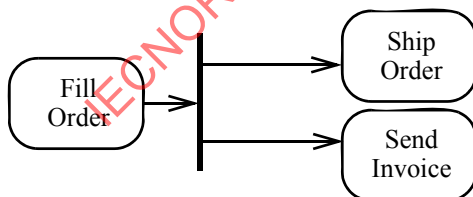


Figure 12.95 - Fork node example

**Rationale**

Fork nodes are introduced to support parallelism in activities.

## Changes from previous UML

Fork nodes replace the use of PseudoState with fork kind in UML 1.5 activity modeling. State machine forks in UML 1.5 required synchronization between parallel flows through the state machine RTC step. UML 2 activity forks model unrestricted parallelism.

### 12.3.31 InitialNode (from BasicActivities)

An initial node is a control node at which flow starts when the activity is invoked.

#### Generalizations

- “ControlNode (from BasicActivities)” on page 373

#### Description

An activity may have more than one initial node.

#### Attributes

No additional attributes

#### Associations

No additional associations

#### Constraints

- [1] An initial node has no incoming edges.
- [2] Only control edges can have initial nodes as source.

#### Semantics

An initial node is a starting point for executing an activity (or structured node, see “StructuredActivityNode (from CompleteStructuredActivities, StructuredActivities)” on page 429). A control token is placed at the initial node when the activity starts, but not in initial nodes in structured nodes contained by the activity. Tokens in an initial node are offered to all outgoing edges. If an activity has more than one initial node, then invoking the activity starts multiple flows, one at each initial node. For convenience, initial nodes are an exception to the rule that control nodes cannot hold tokens if they are blocked from moving downstream, for example, by guards (see Activity). This is equivalent to interposing a CentralBufferNode between the initial node and its outgoing edges.

Note that flows can also start at other nodes, see ActivityParameterNode and AcceptEventAction, so initial nodes are not required for an activity to start execution. In addition, when an activity starts, a control token is placed at each action or structured node that has no incoming edges, except if it is a handler body (see “ExceptionHandler (from ExtraStructuredActivities)” on page 379, it is the fromAction of an action input pin (see “ActionInputPin (as specialized)” on page 329), or it is contained in a structured node.

### Notation

Initial nodes are notated as a solid circle, as indicated in the figure below.



Figure 12.96 - Initial node notation

### Examples

In the example below, the initial node passes control to the Receive Order behavior at the start of an activity.

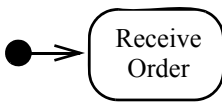


Figure 12.97 - Initial node example

### Rationale

Initial nodes are introduced to model where flows start in an activity.

### Changes from previous UML

InitialNode replaces the use of PseudoState with kind initial in UML 1.5 activity modeling.

## 12.3.32 InputPin (from CompleteStructuredActivities)

Input pins are object nodes that receive values from other actions through object flows. See Pin, Action, and ObjectNode for more details.

### Generalization

- “InputPin (from BasicActions)” on page 269 (*merge increment*)

### Attributes

No additional attributes

### Associations

No additional associations

### Constraints

- [1] Input pins may have outgoing edges only when they are on actions that are structured nodes, and these edges must target a node contained by the structured node.

## Semantics

Input pins cannot accept more tokens than are consumed by their action during its execution. For structured actions, tokens can remain on input pins during the action execution, otherwise they are removed from the input pins and immediately removed by the action execution.

Also see “InputPin (from BasicActions)” on page 269.

### 12.3.33 InterruptibleActivityRegion (from CompleteActivities)

An interruptible activity region is an activity group that supports termination of tokens flowing in the portions of an activity.

#### Generalizations

- “ActivityGroup (from BasicActivities, FundamentalActivities, IntermediateActivities, StructuredActivities, CompleteActivities, CompleteStructuredActivities)” on page 348

#### Description

An interruptible region contains activity nodes. When a token leaves an interruptible region via edges designated by the region as interrupting edges, all tokens and behaviors in the region are terminated.

#### Attributes

No additional attributes

#### Associations

- interruptingEdge : ActivityEdge [0..\*]  
The edges leaving the region that will abort other tokens flowing in the region.
- node : ActivityNode [0..\*]  
Nodes directly contained in the region. {Subsets *ActivityGroup::containedNode*}

#### Constraints

[1] Interrupting edges of a region must have their source node in the region and their target node outside the region in the same activity containing the region.

#### Semantics

The region is interrupted, including accept event actions in the region, when a token traverses an interrupting edge. At this point the interrupting token has left the region and is not terminated. AcceptEventActions in the region that do not have incoming edges are enabled only when a token enters the region, even if the token is not directed at the accept event action.

Token transfer is still atomic, even when using interrupting regions. If a non-interrupting edge is passing a token from a source node in the region to target node outside the region, then the transfer is completed and the token arrives at the target even if an interruption occurs during the traversal. In other words, a token transition is never partial; it is either complete or it does not happen at all.

Do not use an interrupting region if it is not desired to abort all flows in the region in some cases. For example, if the same execution of an activity is being used for all its invocations, then multiple streams of tokens will be flowing through the same activity. In this case, it is probably not desired to abort all tokens just because one leaves the region. Arrange for separate invocations of the activity to use separate executions of the activity when employing interruptible regions, so tokens from each invocation will not affect each other.

**Notation**

An interruptible activity region is notated by a dashed, round-cornered rectangle drawn around the nodes contained by the region. An interrupting edge is notation with a lightning-bolt activity edge.

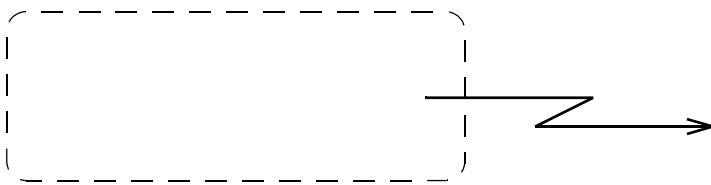


Figure 12.98 - InterruptibleActivityRegion notation with interrupting edge

**Presentation Options**

An option for notating an interrupting edge is a zigzag adornment on a straight line.



Figure 12.99 - InterruptibleActivityRegion notation with interrupting edge

## Examples

The first figure below illustrates that when an order cancellation request is made—only while receiving, filling, or shipping) orders—the Cancel Order behavior is invoked.

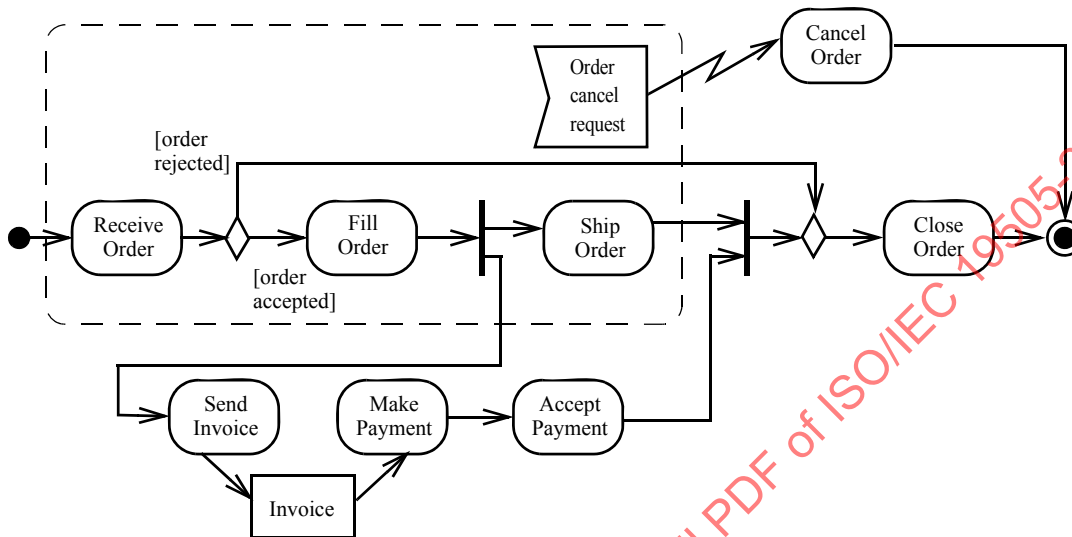


Figure 12.100 - InterruptibleActivityRegion example

### Rationale

Interruptible regions are introduced to support more flexible non-local termination of flow.

### Changes from previous UML

Interruptible regions in activity modeling are new to UML 2.

### 12.3.34 JoinNode (from CompleteActivities, IntermediateActivities)

A join node is a control node that synchronizes multiple flows.

#### Generalizations

- “ControlNode (from BasicActivities)” on page 373

#### Description

A join node has multiple incoming edges and one outgoing edge.

#### Package CompleteActivities

Join nodes have a Boolean value specification using the names of the incoming edges to specify the conditions under which the join will emit a token.

## Attributes

### Package CompleteActivities

- `isCombineDuplicate` : Boolean [1..1]  
Tells whether tokens having objects with the same identity are combined into one by the join. Default value is true.

## Associations

### Package CompleteActivities

- `joinSpec` : ValueSpecification [1..1]  
A specification giving the conditions under which the join will emit a token. Default is “and.” {Subsets *Element::ownedElement*}

## Constraints

[1] A join node has one outgoing edge.

`self.outgoing->size() = 1`

[2] If a join node has an incoming object flow, it must have an outgoing object flow, otherwise, it must have an outgoing control flow.

`(self.incoming.select( e | e.isTypeOf(ObjectFlow)->notEmpty() implies self.outgoing.isTypeOf(ObjectFlow)) and (self.incoming.select( e | e.isTypeOf(ObjectFlow)->empty() implies self.outgoing.isTypeOf(ControlFlow)))`

## Semantics

If there is a token offered on all incoming edges, then tokens are offered on the outgoing edge according to the following join rules:

1. If all the tokens offered on the incoming edges are control tokens, then one control token is offered on the outgoing edge.
2. If some of the tokens offered on the incoming edges are control tokens and others are data tokens, then only the data tokens are offered on the outgoing edge. Tokens are offered on the outgoing edge in the same order they were offered to the join.

Multiple control tokens offered on the same incoming edge are combined into one before applying the above rules. No joining of tokens is necessary if there is only one incoming edge, but it is not a useful case.

### Package CompleteActivities

The reserved string “and” used as a join specification is equivalent to a specification that requires at least one token offered on each incoming edge. It is the default. The join specification is evaluated whenever a new token is offered on any incoming edge. The evaluation is not interrupted by any new tokens offered during the evaluation, nor are concurrent evaluations started when new tokens are offered during an evaluation.

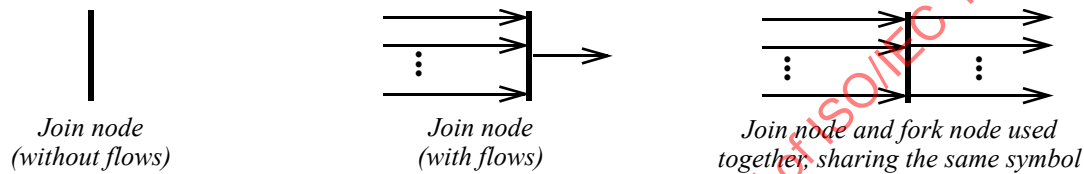
If any tokens are offered to the outgoing edge, they must be accepted or rejected for traversal before any more tokens are offered to the outgoing edge. If tokens are rejected for traversal, they are no longer offered to the outgoing edge. The join specification may contain the names of the incoming edges to refer to whether a token was offered on that edge at the time the evaluation started.

If `isCombinedDuplicate` is true, then before object tokens are offered to the outgoing edge, those containing objects with the same identity are combined into one token.

Other rules for when tokens may be passed along the outgoing edge depend on the characteristics of the edge and its target. For example, if the outgoing edge targets an object node that has reached its upper bound, no token can be passed. The rules may be optimized to a different algorithm as long as the effect is the same. In the full object node example, the implementation can omit the unnecessary join evaluations until the down stream object node can accept tokens.

**Notation**

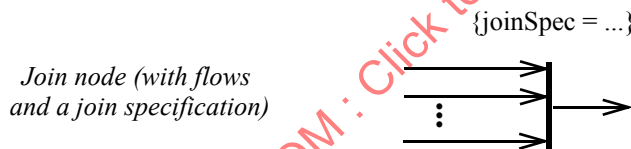
The notation for a join node is a line segment, as illustrated on the left side of the figure below. The join node must have one or more activity edges entering it, and only one edge leaving it. The functionality of join node and fork node can be combined by using the same node symbol, as illustrated at the right side of the figure below. This case maps to a model containing a join node with all the incoming edges shown in the diagram and one outgoing edge to a fork node that has all the outgoing edges shown in the diagram. It assumes the UML 2.0 Diagram Interchange specification supports the interchange of diagram elements and their mapping to model elements.



**Figure 12.101 - Join node notations**

*Package CompleteActivities*

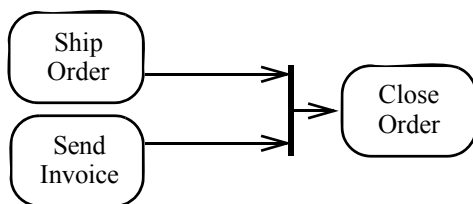
Join specifications are shown near the join node, as shown below.



**Figure 12.102 - Join node notations**

**Examples**

The example at the left of the figure indicates that a Join is used to synchronize the processing of the Ship Order and Send Invoice behaviors. Here, when both have been completed, control is passed to Close Order.



**Figure 12.103 - Join node example**

*Package CompleteActivities*

The example below illustrates how a join specification can be used to ensure that both a drink is selected and the correct amount of money has been inserted before the drink is dispensed. Names of the incoming edges are used in the join specification to refer to whether tokens are available on the edges.

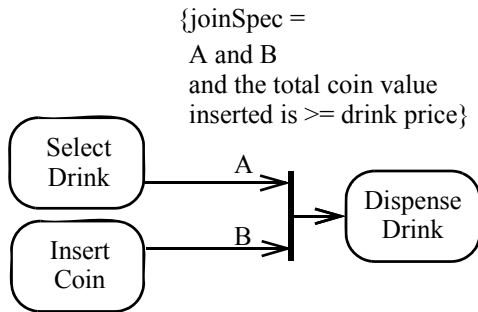


Figure 12.104 - Join node example

**Rationale**

Join nodes are introduced to support parallelism in activities.

**Changes from previous UML**

Join nodes replace the use of PseudoState with join kind in UML 1.5 activity modeling.

**12.3.35 LoopNode (from CompleteStructuredActivities, StructuredActivities)**

A loop node is a structured activity node that represents a loop with setup, test, and body sections.

**Generalizations**

- “StructuredActivityNode (from CompleteStructuredActivities, StructuredActivities)” on page 429.

**Description**

Each section is a well-nested sub region of the activity whose nodes follow any predecessors of the loop and precede any successors of the loop. The test section may precede or follow the body section. The setup section is executed once on entry to the loop, and the test and body sections are executed repeatedly until the test produces a false value. The results of the final execution of the test or body are available after completion of execution of the loop.

**Attributes**

- `isTestedFirst` : Boolean [1]  
 If true, the test is performed before the first execution of the body. If false, the body is executed once before the test is performed. Default value is *false*.

## Associations

### Package StructuredActivities

- **setupPart** : ExecutableNode[0..\*]  
The set of nodes and edges that initialize values or perform other setup computations for the loop.
- **bodyPart** : ExecutableNode[0..\*]  
The set of nodes and edges that perform the repetitive computations of the loop. The body section is executed as long as the test section produces a true value.
- **test** : ExecutableNode[1..\*]  
The set of nodes, edges, and designated value that compute a Boolean value to determine if another execution of the body will be performed.
- **decider** : OutputPin [1]  
An output pin within the test fragment the value of which is examined after execution of the test to determine whether to execute the loop body.

### Package CompleteStructuredActivities

- **result** : OutputPin [0..\*] {ordered}  
A list of output pins that constitute the data flow output of the entire loop. {Redefines *StructuredActivityNode::structuredNodeOutput*}
- **loopVariable** : OutputPin [0..\*] {ordered}  
A list of output pins that hold the values of the loop variables during an execution of the loop. When the test fails, the values are moved to the result pins of the loop.
- **bodyOutput** : OutputPin [0..\*] {ordered}  
A list of output pins within the body fragment the values of which are moved to the loop variable pins after completion of execution of the body, before the next iteration of the loop begins or before the loop exits.
- **loopVariableInput** : InputPin[0..\*] {ordered}  
A list of values that are moved into the loop variable pins before the first iteration of the loop. {Redefines *StructuredActivityNode::structuredNodeInput*}

## Constraints

### Package StructuredActivities

- [1] The union of the ExecutableNodes in the setupPart, test and bodyPart of a LoopNode must be the same as the subset of nodes contained in the LoopNode (considered as a StructuredActivityNode) that are ExecutableNodes.

### Package CompleteStructuredActivities

- [1] Loop variable inputs must not have outgoing edges.
- [2] The bodyOutput pins are output pins on actions in the body of the loop node.
- [3] The result output pins have no incoming edges.

## Semantics

No part of a loop node is executed until all control-flow or data-flow predecessors of the loop node have completed execution. When all such predecessors have completed execution and made tokens available to inputs of the loop node, the loop node captures the input tokens and begins execution.

First the setup section of the loop node is executed. A *front end node* is a node within a nested section (such as the setup section, test section, or body section) that has no predecessor dependencies within the same section. A control token is offered to each front end node within the setup section. Nodes in the setup section may also have individual dependencies (typically data flow dependencies) on nodes external to the loop node. To begin execution, such nodes must receive their individual tokens in addition to the control token from the overall loop.

A *back end node* is a node within a nested section that has no successor dependencies within the same section. When all the back end nodes have completed execution, the overall section is considered to have completed execution. (It may be thought of as delivering a control token to the next section within the loop.)

When the setup section has completed execution, the iterative execution of the loop begins. The test section may precede or follow the body section (test-first loop or test-last loop). The following description assumes that the test section comes first. If the body section comes first, it is always executed at least once, after which this description applies to subsequent iterations.

When the setup section has completed execution (if the test comes first) or when the body section has completed execution of an iteration, the test section is executed. A control token is offered to each front end node within the test section. When all back end nodes in the test section have completed execution, execution of the test section is complete. Typically there will only be one back end node and it will have a Boolean value, but for generality it is permitted to perform arbitrary computation in the test section.

When the test section has completed execution, the Boolean value on the designated *decider* pin within the test section is examined. If the value is true, the body section is executed again. If the value is false, execution of the loop node is complete.

When the setup section has completed execution (if the body comes first) or when the iteration section has completed execution and produced a true value, execution of the body section begins. Each front end node in the body section is offered a control token. When all back end nodes in the body section have completed execution, execution of the body section is complete.

Within the body section, variables defined in the loop node or in some higher-level enclosing node are updated with any new values produced during the iteration and any temporary values are discarded.

#### **Notation**

No specific notation.

#### **Rationale**

Loop nodes are introduced to provide a structured way to represent iteration.

#### **Changes from previous UML**

Loop nodes are new in UML 2.

### **12.3.36 MergeNode (from IntermediateActivities)**

A merge node is a control node that brings together multiple alternate flows. It is not used to synchronize concurrent flows but to accept one among several alternate flows.

#### **Generalizations**

- “ControlNode (from BasicActivities)” on page 373

**Description**

A merge node has multiple incoming edges and a single outgoing edge.

**Attributes**

No additional attributes

**Associations**

No additional associations

**Constraints**

- [1] A merge node has one outgoing edge.
- [2] The edges coming into and out of a merge node must be either all object flows or all control flows.

**Semantics**

All tokens offered on incoming edges are offered to the outgoing edge. There is no synchronization of flows or joining of tokens.

**Notation**

The notation for a merge node is a diamond-shaped symbol, as illustrated on the left side of the figure below. In usage, however, the merge node must have two or more edges entering it and a single activity edge leaving it. The functionality of merge node and decision node can be combined by using the same node symbol, as illustrated at the right side of the figure below. This case maps to a model containing a merge node with all the incoming edges shown in the diagram and one outgoing edge to a decision node that has all the outgoing edges shown in the diagram. It assumes the UML 2.0 Diagram Interchange specification supports the interchange of diagram elements and their mapping to model elements.

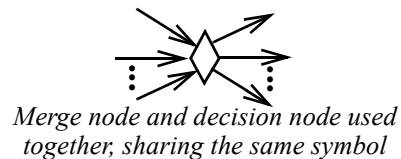
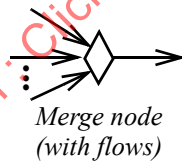
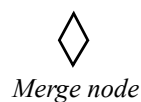
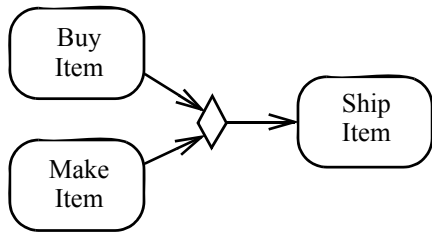


Figure 12.105 - Merge node notation

**Examples**

In the example below, either one or both of the behaviors, Buy Item or Make Item could have been invoked. As *each* completes, control is passed to Ship Item. That is, if only one of Buy Item or Make Item completes, then Ship Item is invoked only once; if both complete, Ship Item is invoked twice.



**Figure 12.106 - Merge node example**

**Rationale**

Merge nodes are introduced to support bringing multiple flows together in activities. For example, if a decision is used after a fork, the two flows coming out of the decision need to be merged into one before going to a join; otherwise, the join will wait for both flows, only one of which will arrive.

**Changes from previous UML**

Merge nodes replace the use of PseudoState with junction kind in UML 1.5 activity modeling.

**12.3.37 ObjectFlow (from BasicActivities, CompleteActivities)**

An object flow is an activity edge that can have objects or data passing along it.

**Generalizations**

- “ActivityEdge (from BasicActivities, CompleteActivities, CompleteStructuredActivities, IntermediateActivities)” on page 340.

**Description**

An object flow models the flow of values to or from object nodes.

*Package CompleteActivities*

Object flows add support for multicast/receive, token selection from object nodes, and transformation of tokens.

**Attributes**

*Package CompleteActivities*

- isMulticast : Boolean [1..1] = false  
Tells whether the objects in the flow are passed by multicasting.

- `isMultireceive` : Boolean [1..1] = false  
Tells whether the objects in the flow are gathered from respondents to multicasting.

## Associations

### *Package CompleteActivities*

- `selection` : Behavior [0..1]  
Selects tokens from a source object node.
- `transformation` : Behavior [0..1]  
Changes or replaces data tokens flowing along edge.

## Constraints

### *Package BasicActivities*

- [1] Object flows may not have actions at either end.
- [2] Object nodes connected by an object flow, with optionally intervening control nodes, must have compatible types. In particular, the downstream object node type must be the same or a supertype of the upstream object node type.
- [3] Object nodes connected by an object flow, with optionally intervening control nodes, must have the same upper bounds.

### *Package CompleteActivities*

- [1] An edge with constant weight may not target an object node, or lead to an object node downstream with no intervening actions, that has an upper bound less than the weight.
- [2] A transformation behavior has one input parameter and one output parameter. The input parameter must be the same or a supertype of the type of object token coming from the source end. The output parameter must be the same or a subtype of the type of object token expected downstream. The behavior cannot have side effects.
- [3] An object flow may have a selection behavior only if it has an object node as a source.
- [4] A selection behavior has one input parameter and one output parameter. The input parameter must be a bag of elements of the same or a supertype of the type of source object node. The output parameter must be the same or a subtype of the type of source object node. The behavior cannot have side effects.
- [5] `isMulticast` and `isMultireceive` cannot both be true.

## Semantics

### *Package BasicActivities*

See semantics inherited from `ActivityEdge`. An object flow is an activity edge that only passes object and data tokens. Tokens offered by the source node are all offered to the target node, subject to the restrictions inherited from `ActivityEdge`. Tokens are offered to the target node in the same order as they are taken from the source. If multiple tokens are offered at the same time, then the tokens are offered in the same order as if they had been offered one at a time from the source.

Two object flows may have the same object node as source. In this case the edges will compete for objects. Once an edge takes an object from an object node, the other edges do not have access to it. Use a fork to duplicate tokens for multiple uses.

*Package CompleteActivities*

If the source of the object flow has an ordering specified, then tokens from the source are offered to the object flow in that order and, consequently, are offered from the object flow to the target in the same order. (See “ObjectNode (from BasicActivities, CompleteActivities)” on page 411 for the semantics of the offering of tokens to an object flow.)

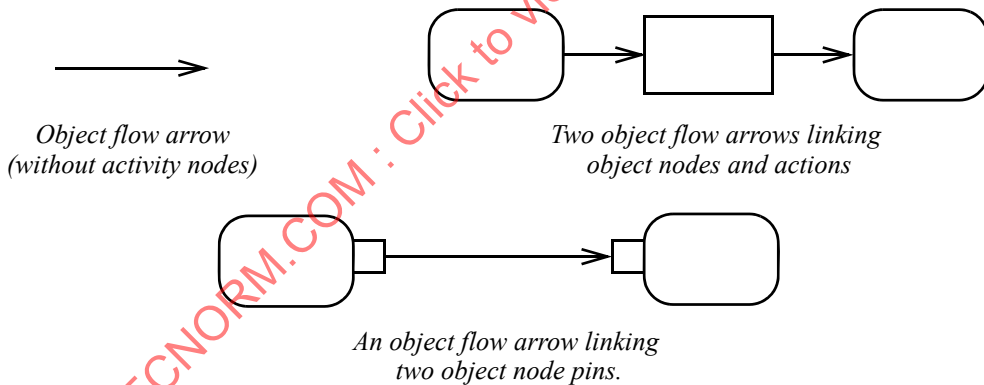
If a transformation behavior is specified, then each token offered to the edge is passed to the behavior, and the output of the behavior is given to the target node for consideration instead of the token that was input to the transformation behavior. Because the behavior is used while offering tokens to the target node, it may be run many times on the same token before the token is accepted by the target node. This means the behavior cannot have side effects. It may not modify objects, but it may for example, navigate from one object to another, get an attribute value from an object, or replace a data value with another. Transformation behaviors with an output parameter with multiplicity greater than 1 may replace one token with many.

If a selection behavior is specified, then it is used to offer a token from the source object node to the edge, rather than using object node’s ordering. It has the same semantics as selection behavior on object nodes (see ObjectNode; see application at DataStoreNode).

Multicasting and multireceiving are used in conjunction with partitions to model flows between behaviors that are the responsibility of objects determined by a publish and subscribe facility. To support execution the model must be refined to specify the particular publish/subscribe facility employed. This is illustrated in the Figure 12.113 on page 411.

**Notation**

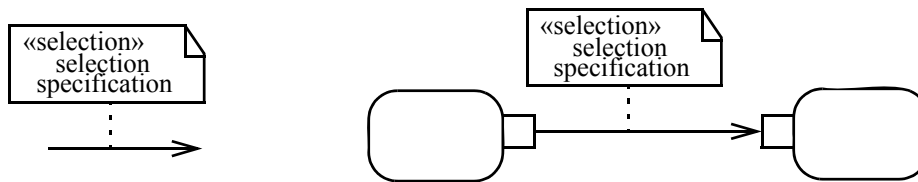
An object flow is notated by an arrowed line. In Figure 12.107, upper right, the two object flow arrows denote a single object flow edge between two pins in the underlying model, as shown in the lower middle of the figure. See also the discussion on Figure 12.120 on page 421.



**Figure 12.107 - Object flow notations**

*Package CompleteActivities*

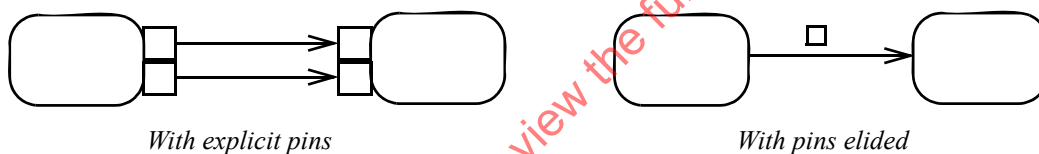
Selection behavior is specified with the keyword «selection» placed in a note symbol, and attached to the appropriate objectFlow symbol as illustrated in the figure below.



**Figure 12.108 - Specifying selection behavior on an Object flow**

**Presentation Options**

To reduce clutter in complex diagrams, object nodes may be elided. The names of the invoked behaviors can suggest their parameters. Tools may support hyperlinking from the edge lines to show the data flowing along them, and show a small square above the line to indicate that pins are elided, as illustrated in the figure below. Any adornments that would normally be near the pin, like effect, can be displayed at the ends of the flow lines.



**Figure 12.109 - Eliding objects flowing on the edge**

**Examples**

In the example on the left below, the two arrowed lines are both object flow edges. This indicates that order objects flow from Fill Order to Ship Order. In the example on the right, the one arrowed line starts from the Fill Order object node pin and ends at Ship Order object node pin. This also indicates that order objects flow from Fill Order to Ship Order.



**Figure 12.110 - Object flow example**

On the left, the example below shows that the Pick Materials activity provides an order along with its associated materials for assembly. On the right, the object flow has been simplified through eliding the object flow details.

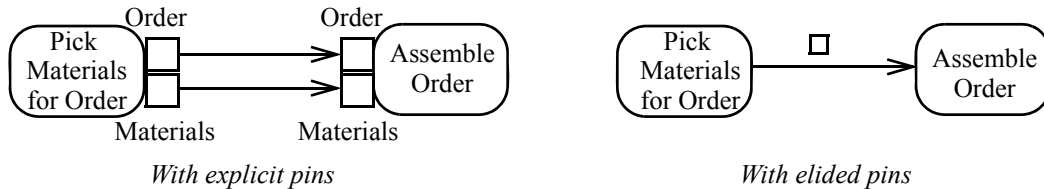


Figure 12.111 - Eliding objects flowing on the edge

Package CompleteActivities

In the figure below, two examples of selection behavior are illustrated. The example on the left indicates that the orders are to be shipped based on order priority—and those with the same priority should be filled on a first-in/first-out (FIFO) basis. The example on the right indicates that the result of a Close Order activity produces closed order objects, but the Send Customer Notice activity requires a customer object. The transformation specifies that a query operation that takes an Order evaluates the customer object via the Order.customer:Party association.

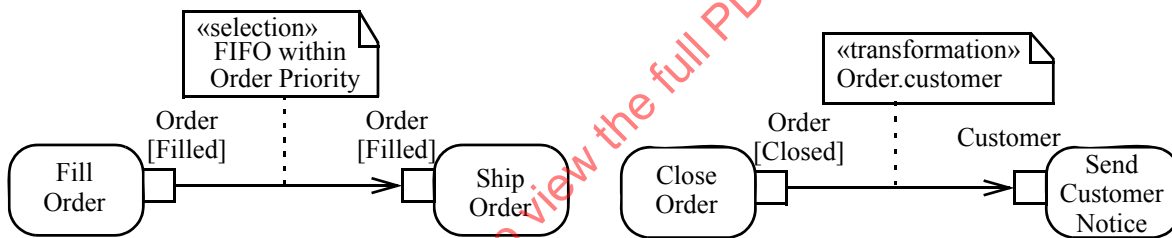


Figure 12.112 - Specifying selection behavior on an Object flow

In the example below, the Requests for Quote (RFQs) are sent to multiple specific sellers (i.e., is multicast) for a quote response by each of the sellers. Some number of sellers then respond by returning their quote response. Since multiple responses can be received, the edge is labeled for the multiple-receipt option. Publish/subscribe and other brokered mechanisms can be handled using the multicast and multireceive mechanisms. Note that the swimlanes are an important feature for indicating the subject and source of this.

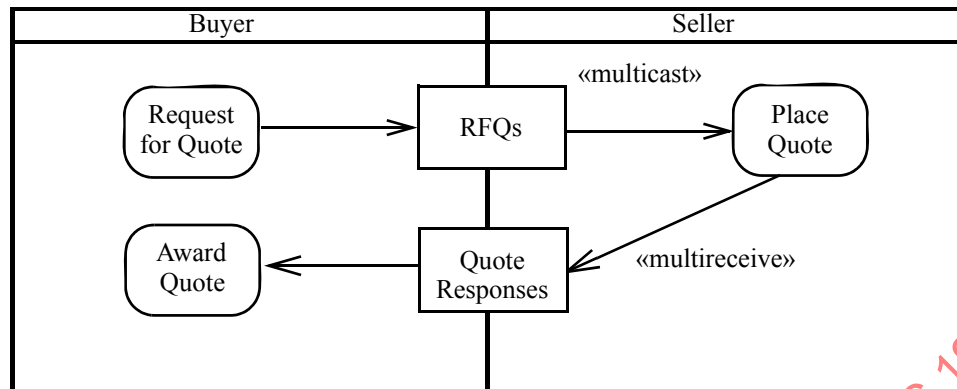


Figure 12.113 - Specifying multicast and multireceive on the edge

### Rationale

Object flow is introduced to model the flow of data and objects in an activity.

### Changes from previous UML

Explicitly modeled object flows are new in UML 2. They replace the use of (state) Transition in UML 1.5 activity modeling. They also replace data flow dependencies from UML 1.5 action model.

### 12.3.38 ObjectNode (from BasicActivities, CompleteActivities)

An object node is an abstract activity node that is part of defining object flow in an activity.

### Generalizations

- “ActivityNode (from BasicActivities, CompleteActivities, FundamentalActivities, IntermediateActivities, CompleteStructuredActivities)” on page 349
- “TypedElement (from Kernel)” on page 143

### Description

An object node is an activity node that indicates an instance of a particular classifier, possibly in a particular state, may be available at a particular point in the activity. Object nodes can be used in a variety of ways, depending on where objects are flowing from and to, as described in the semantics sub clause.

### Package CompleteActivities

Complete object nodes add support for token selection, limitation on the number of tokens, specifying the state required for tokens, and carrying control values.

## Attributes

### *Package CompleteActivities*

- **ordering** : ObjectNodeOrderingKind [1..1] = FIFO  
Tells whether and how the tokens in the object node are ordered for selection to traverse edges outgoing from the object node.
- **isControlType** : Boolean [1..1] = false  
Tells whether the type of the object node is to be treated as control.

## Associations

### *Package CompleteActivities*

- **inState** : State [0..\*]  
The required states of the object available at this point in the activity.
- **selection** : Behavior [0..1]  
Selects tokens for outgoing edges.
- **upperBound** : ValueSpecification [1..1] = \*  
The maximum number of tokens allowed in the node. Objects cannot flow into the node if the upper bound is reached.

## Constraints

### *Package BasicActivities*

[1] All edges coming into or going out of object nodes must be object flow edges.

### *Package CompleteActivities*

- [1] If an object node has a selection behavior, then the ordering of the object node is ordered and vice versa.
- [2] A selection behavior has one input parameter and one output parameter. The input parameter must be a bag of elements of the same type as the object node or a supertype of the type of object node. The output parameter must be the same or a subtype of the type of object node. The behavior cannot have side effects.

## Semantics

Object nodes may only contain values at runtime that conform to the type of the object node, in the state or states specified, if any. If no type is specified, then the values may be of any type. Multiple tokens containing the same value may reside in the object node at the same time. This includes data values. A token in an object node can traverse only one of the outgoing edges.

An object node may indicate that its type is to be treated as a control value, even if no type is specified for the node. Control edges may be used with the object node having control type.

### *Package CompleteActivities*

An object node may not contain more tokens than its upper bound. The upper bound must be a LiteralUnlimitedNatural. An upper bound of \* means the upper bound is unlimited. See ObjectFlow for additional rules regarding when objects may traverse the edges incoming and outgoing from an object node.

The ordering of an object node specifies the order in which tokens in the node are offered to the outgoing edges. This can be set to require that tokens do not overtake each other as they pass through the node (FIFO), or that they do (LIFO or modeler-defined ordering). Modeler-defined ordering is indicated by an ordering value of ordered, and a selection behavior that determines what token to offer to the edges. The selection behavior takes all the tokens in the object node as input and chooses a single token from those. It is executed whenever a token is to be offered to an edge. Because the behavior is used while offering tokens to outgoing edges, it may be run many times on the same token before the token is accepted by those edges. This means the behavior cannot have side effects. The selection behavior of an object node is overridden by any selection behaviors on its outgoing edges (see “ObjectFlow”). Overtaking due to ordering is distinguished from the case where each invocation of the activity is handled by a separate execution of the activity. In this case, the tokens have no interaction with each other, because they flow through separate executions of the activity (see “Activity”).

### Notation

Object nodes are notated as rectangles. A name labeling the node is placed inside the symbol, where the name indicates the type of the object node, or the name and type of the node in the format “name.type.” Object nodes whose instances are sets of the “name” type are labeled as such. Object nodes with a signal as type are shown with the symbol on the right.

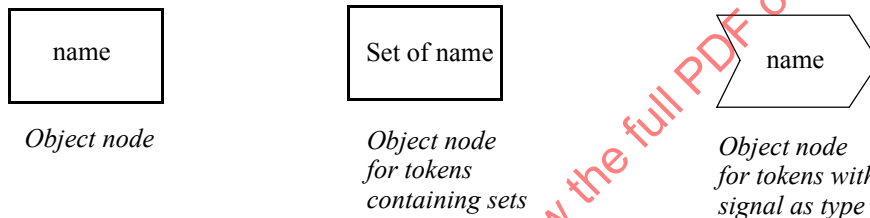


Figure 12.114 - Object node notations

### Package CompleteActivities

A name labeling the node indicates the type of the object node. The name can also be qualified by a state or states, which is to be written within brackets below the name of the type. Upper bounds, ordering, and control type other than the defaults are notated in braces underneath the object node.

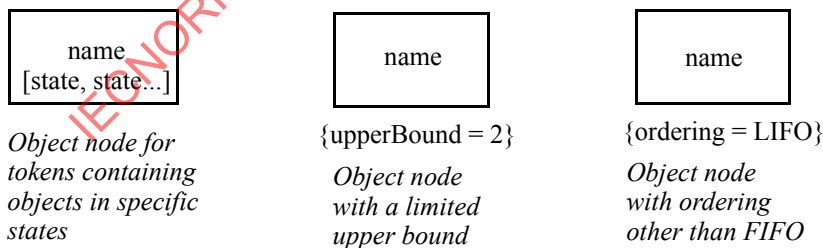


Figure 12.115 - Object node notations

Selection behavior is specified with the keyword «selection» placed in a note symbol, and attached to an ObjectNode symbol as illustrated in the figure below.

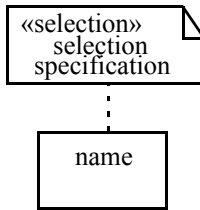


Figure 12.116 - Specifying selection behavior on an Object node

### Presentation Options

It is expected that the UML 2.0 Diagram Interchange specification will define a metaassociation between model elements and view elements, like diagrams. It can be used to link an object node to an object diagram showing the classifier that is the type of the object and its relations to other elements. Tools can use this information in various ways to integrate the activity and class diagrams, such as a hyperlink from the object node to the diagram, or insertion of the class diagram in the activity diagram as desired. See example in Figure 12.127.

### Examples

See examples at ObjectFlow and children of ObjectNode.

### Rationale

Object nodes are introduced to model the flow of objects in an activity.

### Changes from previous UML

ObjectNode replaces and extends ObjectFlowState in UML 1.5. In particular, it and its children support collection of tokens at runtime, single sending and receipt, and the new “pin” style of activity model. Use of the inState association replaces ClassifierInState in UML 1.5 for activity modeling.

## 12.3.39 ObjectNodeOrderingKind (from CompleteActivities)

### Generalizations

None

### Description

ObjectNodeOrderingKind is an enumeration indicating queuing order within a node.

### Enumeration Values

- unordered
- ordered
- LIFO
- FIFO

### 12.3.40 OutputPin (from CompleteStructuredActivities, StructuredActivities)

Output pins are object nodes that deliver values to other actions through object flows. See Pin, Action, and ObjectNode for more details.

#### Generalization

- “OutputPin (from BasicActions)” on page 276 (*merge increment*)

#### Attributes

No additional attributes

#### Associations

No additional associations

#### Constraints

*Package CompleteStructuredActivities*

- [1] Output pins may have incoming edges only when they are on actions that are structured nodes, and these edges may not target a node contained by the structured node.

#### Semantics

See “OutputPin (from BasicActions)” on page 276.

### 12.3.41 Parameter (from CompleteActivities)

Parameter is specialized when used with complete activities.

#### Generalizations

- “Parameter (from Kernel)” on page 127

#### Description

Parameters are extended in complete activities to add support for streaming, exceptions, and parameter sets.

#### Attributes

- **effect** : ParameterEffectKind [0..1]  
Specifies the effect that the owner of the parameter has on values passed in or out of the parameter.
- **isException** : Boolean [1..1] = false  
Tells whether an output parameter may emit a value to the exclusion of the other outputs.
- **isStream** : Boolean [1..1] = false  
Tells whether an input parameter may accept values while its behavior is executing, or whether an output parameter post values while the behavior is executing.
- **parameterSet** : ParameterSet [0..\*]  
The parameter sets containing the parameter. See ParameterSet.

## Associations

No additional associations

## Constraints

- [1] A parameter cannot be a stream and exception at the same time.
- [2] An input parameter cannot be an exception.
- [3] Reentrant behaviors cannot have stream parameters.
- [4] Only in and inout parameters may have a delete effect. Only out, inout, and return parameters may have a create effect.

## Semantics

isException applies to output parameters. An output posted to an exception excludes outputs from being posted to other data and control outputs of the behavior. A token arriving at an exception output parameter of an activity aborts all flows in the activity. Any objects previously posted to non-stream outputs never leave the activity. Streaming outputs posted before any exception are not affected. Use exception parameters on activities only if it is desired to abort all flows in the activity. For example, if the same execution of an activity is being used for all its invocations, then multiple streams of tokens will be flowing through the same activity. In this case, it is probably not desired to abort all tokens just because one reaches an exception. Arrange for separate invocations of the activity to use separate executions of the activity when employing exceptions, so tokens from separate executions will not affect each other.

Streaming parameters give a behavior access to values passed from its invoker while the behavior is executing. Values for streaming parameters may arrive anytime during the execution of the behavior, not just at the beginning. Multiple values may arrive through a streaming input parameter during a single behavior execution, not just at the beginning, and multiple values may be posted to a streaming output parameter during the execution, not just at the end.

When a behavior is invoked from an action, the action continues to execute while the invoked behavior executes. Tokens offered to input pins corresponding to streaming input parameters of the behavior are consumed by the action and passed to the executing behavior as they arrive, and values posted to streaming output parameters are offered on the corresponding output pins. In effect, streaming parameters give the invoked behavior access to token flows in the context of the invoking action, while it is executing.

In addition to the execution rules given at Action, the following rules also apply to invoking a behavior with streaming parameters:

- All required non-stream inputs must arrive for the behavior to be invoked. If there are only required stream inputs, then at least one must arrive for the behavior to be invoked.
- All required inputs must arrive for the behavior to finish.
- Either all required non-exception outputs must be posted by the time the activity is finished (output of required streaming parameters may be posted before execution finishes), or one of the exception outputs must be. An activity finishes when all its tokens are in its output parameter nodes. If some output parameter nodes are empty at that time, they are assigned the null token (see “Activity (from BasicActivities, CompleteActivities, FundamentalActivities, StructuredActivities)” on page 330), and the activity terminates.

The execution rules above provide for the arrival of inputs after a behavior is started and the posting of outputs before a behavior is finished. These are stream inputs and outputs. Multiple stream input and output tokens may be consumed and posted while a behavior is running. Since an activity is a kind of behavior, the above rules apply to invoking an activity,

even if the invocation is not from another activity. A reentrant behavior cannot have streaming parameters because there are potentially multiple executions of the behavior going at the same time, and it is ambiguous which execution should receive streaming tokens.

The effect of a parameter is a declaration of the modeler's intent, and does not have execution semantics. The modeler must ensure that the owner of the parameter has the stated effect.

See semantics of Action and ActivityParameterNode. Also, see "MultiplicityElement (from Kernel)" on page 100, which inherits to Parameter. It defines a lower and upper bound on the values passed to parameter at runtime. A lower bound of zero means the parameter is optional. Actions using the parameter may execute without having a value for optional parameters. A lower bound greater than zero means values for the parameter are required to arrive sometime during the execution of the action.

### Notation

See notation at Pin and ActivityParameterNode. The notation in class diagrams for exceptions and streaming parameters on operations has the keywords "exception" or "stream" in the property string. See notation for Operation.

### Examples

See examples at Pin and ActivityParameterNode.

### Rationale

Parameter (in Activities) is extended to support invocation of behaviors by activities.

### Changes from previous UML

Parameter (in Activities) is new in UML 2.

## 12.3.42 ParameterEffectKind (from CompleteActivities)

### Generalizations

None

### Description

The datatype ParameterEffectKind is an enumeration that indicates the effect of a behavior on values passed in or out of its parameters (see "Parameter (from CompleteActivities)" on page 415).

### Enumeration Values

- create
- read
- update
- delete

### 12.3.43 ParameterSet (from CompleteActivities)

A parameter set is an element that provides alternative sets of inputs or outputs that a behavior may use.

#### Generalizations

- “NamedElement (from Kernel, Dependencies)” on page 104

#### Description

A parameter set acts as a complete set of inputs and outputs to a behavior, exclusive of other parameter sets on the behavior.

#### Attributes

No additional attributes

#### Associations (CompleteActivities)

- condition : Constraint [0..\*]  
Constraint that should be satisfied for the owner of the parameters in an input parameter set to start execution using the values provided for those parameters, or the owner of the parameters in an output parameter set to end execution providing the values for those parameters, if all preconditions and conditions on input parameter sets were satisfied.  
{Subsets *Element::ownedElement*}
- parameter : Parameter [1..\*]  
Parameters in the parameter set.

#### Constraints

- [1] The parameters in a parameter set must all be inputs or all be outputs of the same parameterized entity, and the parameter set is owned by that entity.
- [2] If a behavior has input parameters that are in a parameter set, then any inputs that are not in a parameter set must be streaming. Same for output parameters.
- [3] Two parameter sets cannot have exactly the same set of parameters.

#### Semantics

A behavior with input parameter sets can only accept inputs from parameters in one of the sets per execution. A behavior with output parameter sets can only post outputs to the parameters in one of the sets per execution. The same is true for operations with parameter sets. The semantics described at Action and ActivityParameter apply to each set separately. The semantics of conditions of input and output parameter sets is the same as Behavior preconditions and postconditions, respectively, but apply only to the set of parameters specified.

#### Notation

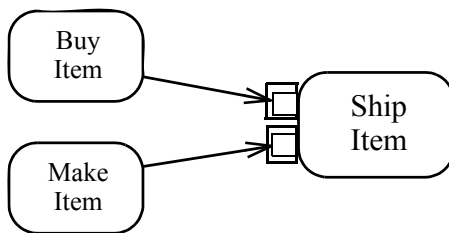
Multiple object flows entering or leaving a behavior invocation are typically treated as “and” conditions. However, sometimes one group of flows are permitted to the exclusion of another. This is modeled as parameter set and notated with rectangles surrounding one or more pins. The notation in the figure below expresses a disjunctive normal form where one group of “and” flows are separated by “or” groupings. For input, when one group or another has a complete set of input flows, the activity may begin. For output, based on the internal processing of the behavior, one group or other of output flows may occur.



Figure 12.117 - Alternative input/outputs using parameter sets notation

### Examples

In the figure below, the Ship Item activity begins whenever it receives a bought item or a made item.



Using parameter sets to express “or” invocation

Figure 12.118 - Example of alternative input/outputs using parameter sets

### Rationale

Parameter sets provide a way for behaviors to direct token flow in the activity that invokes those behaviors.

### Changes from previous UML

ParameterSet is new in UML 2.

## 12.3.44 Pin (from BasicActivities, CompleteActivities)

### Generalizations

- “ObjectNode (from BasicActivities, CompleteActivities)” on page 411
- “Pin (from BasicActions)” on page 277 (*merge increment*)

### Description

A pin is an object node for inputs and outputs to actions.

## Attributes

### *Package CompleteActivities*

- isControl : Boolean [1..1] = false  
Tells whether the pins provide data to the actions, or just controls when it executes it.

## Associations

No additional associations

## Constraints

See constraints on ObjectFlow.

## Constraints

### *Package CompleteActivities*

- [1] Control pins have a control type.  
isControl **implies** isControlType

## Semantics

See “Pin (from BasicActions)” on page 277.

Pin inherits both an ordering attribute from ObjectNode and an isOrdered attribute from MultiplicityElement (via Pin in BasicActions). The values of these attributes may be set independently. However, if isOrdered is true, then the ordering of values on the pin considered as a MultiplicityElement is considered to be the order in which the values were placed onto the pin (either by the result of an action or by an incoming flow). The value of the ordering attribute, however, determines the order in which values are taken from the pin. For example, if isOrdered is true and the ordering is FIFO, then values will be taken from the pin in the same order as the MultiplicityElement ordering. However, if the ordering is LIFO, then values will be taken from the pin in reverse order to the MultiplicityElement ordering. On the other hand, if isOrdered is false, then the order in which values are placed on the pin is indeterminate, and the effect of different orderings is not defined.

(CompleteActivities) Control pins always have a control type, so they can be used with control edges. Control pins are ignored in the constraints that actions place on pins, including matching to behavior parameters for actions that invoke behaviors. Tokens arriving at control input pins have the same semantics as control arriving at an action, except that control tokens can queue up in control pins. Tokens are placed on control output pins according to the same semantics as tokens placed on control edges coming out of actions.

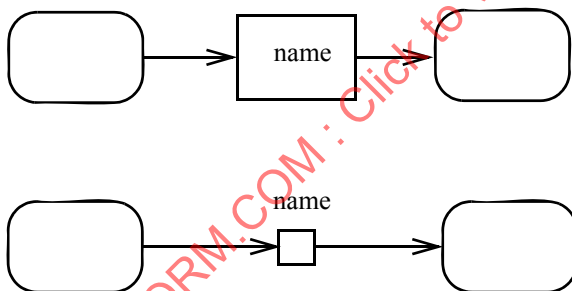
## Notation

Pin rectangles may be notated as small rectangles that are attached to action rectangles (see figure below and examples). The name of the pin can be displayed near the pin. The name is not restricted, but it often just shows the type of object or data that flows through the pin. It can also be a full specification of the corresponding behavior parameter for invocation actions, using the same notation as parameters for behavioral features on classes. The pins may be elided in the notation even though they are present in the model. Pins that do not correspond to parameters can be labeled as “name:type.”



**Figure 12.119 - Pin notations**

The situation in which the output pin of one action is connected to the input pin of the same name in another action may be shown by the optional notations of Figure 12.120. The standalone pin in the notation maps to an output pin and an input pin and one object flow edge between them in the underlying model. This form should be avoided if the pins are not of the same type. Multiple arrows coming out of a standalone pin rectangle is an optional notation for multiple edges coming out of an output pin. These variations in notation assume the UML 2.0 Diagram Interchange specification supports the interchange of diagram elements and their mapping to model elements, so that the chosen variation is preserved on interchange.

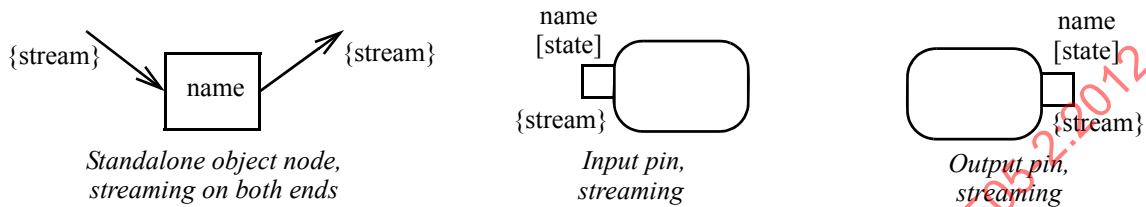


**Figure 12.120 - Standalone pin notations**

See ObjectNode for other notations applying to pins, with examples for pins below.

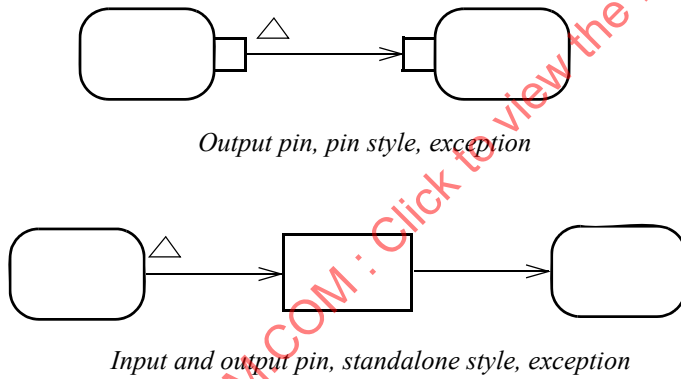
*Package CompleteActivities*

To show streaming, a text annotation is placed near the pin symbol: {stream} or {nonstream}. See figure below. The notation is the same for a standalone object node. Nonstream is the default where the notation is omitted.



**Figure 12.121 - Stream pin notations**

Pins for exception parameters are indicated with a small triangle annotating the source end of the edge that comes out of the exception pin. The notation is the same even if the notation uses a standalone notation. See figure below.



**Figure 12.122 - Exception pin notations**

Specifying the effect that the behavior of actions has on the objects passed in and out of their parameters can be represented by placing the effect in braces near the edge leading to or from the pin for the parameter.



**Figure 12.123 - Specifying effect that actions have on objects**

Control pins are shown with a text annotation placed near the pin symbol {control}.

See ObjectNode for other notations applying to pins, with examples for pins below.

**Presentation Options**

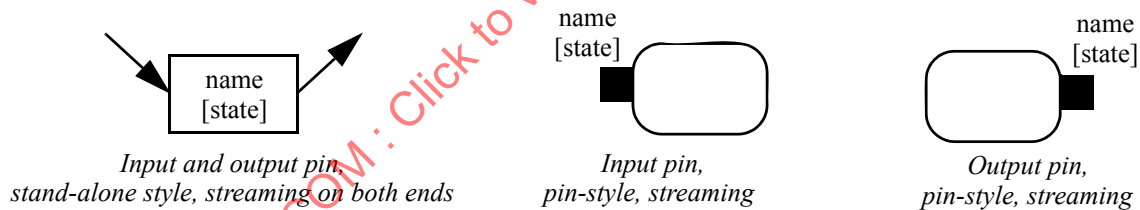
When edges are not present to distinguish input and output pins, an optional arrow may be placed inside the pin rectangle, as shown below. Input pins have the arrow pointing toward the action and output pins have the arrow pointing away from the action.



**Figure 12.124 - Pin notations, with arrows**

*Package CompleteActivities*

Additional emphasis may be added to streaming parameters by using a graphical notation instead of the textual adornment. Object nodes can be connected with solid arrows containing filled arrowheads to indicate streaming. Pins can be shown as filled rectangles. When combined with the option above, the arrows are shown as normal arrowheads.



**Figure 12.125 - Stream pin notations, with filled arrows and rectangles**

**Examples**

In the example below, the pin named “Order” represents Order objects. In this example at the upper left, the Fill Order behavior produces filled orders and Ship Order consumes them and an invocation of Fill Order must complete for Ship Order to begin. The pin symbols have been elided from the action symbols; both pins are represented by the single box on the arrow. The example on the upper right shows the same thing with explicit pin symbols on actions. The example at the bottom of the figure illustrates the use of multiple pins.

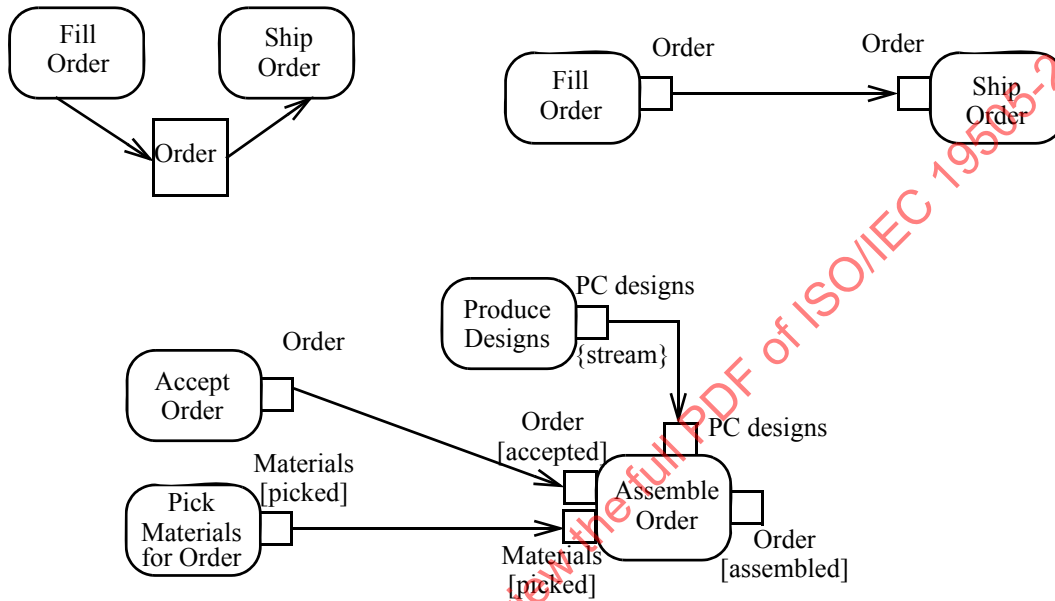
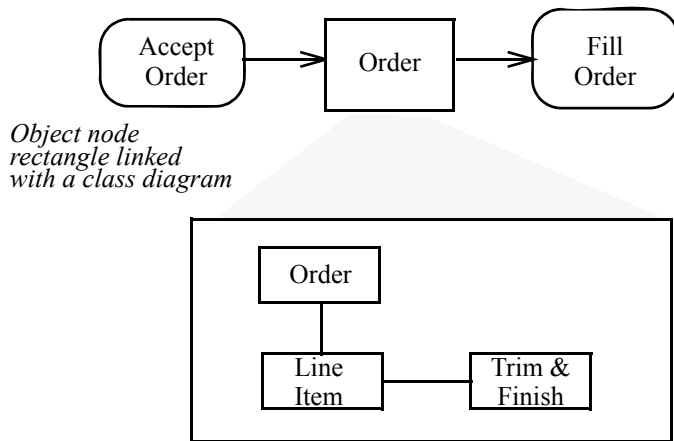


Figure 12.126 - Pin examples

In the figure below, the object node rectangle Order is linked to a class diagram that further defines the node. The class diagram shows that filling an order requires order, line item, and the customer's trim-and-finish requirements. An Order token is the object flowing between the Accept and Fill activities, but linked to other objects. The activity without the class diagram provides a simplified view of the process. The link to an associated class diagram is used to show more detail.



Object node rectangle linked with a class diagram

Figure 12.127 - Linking a class diagram to an object node

Package CompleteActivities

In the example below Order Filling is a continuous behavior that periodically emits (streams out) filled-order objects, without necessarily concluding as an activity. The Order Shipping behavior is also a continuous behavior that periodically receives filled-order objects as they are produced. Order Shipping is invoked when the first order arrives and does not terminate, processing orders as they arrive.

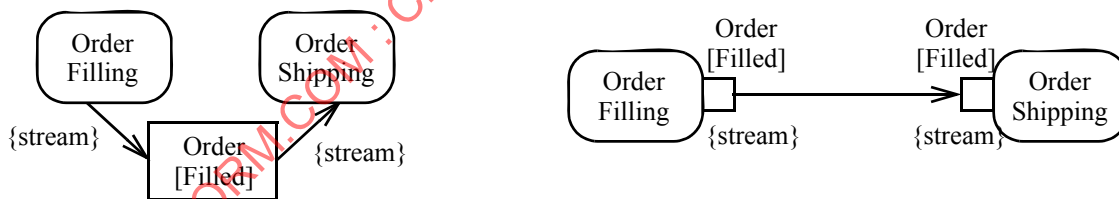


Figure 12.128 - Pin examples

Example of exception notation is shown at the top of the figure below. Accept Payment normally completes with a payment as being accepted and the account is then credited. However, when something goes wrong in the acceptance process, an exception can be raised that the payment is not valid, and the payment is rejected.

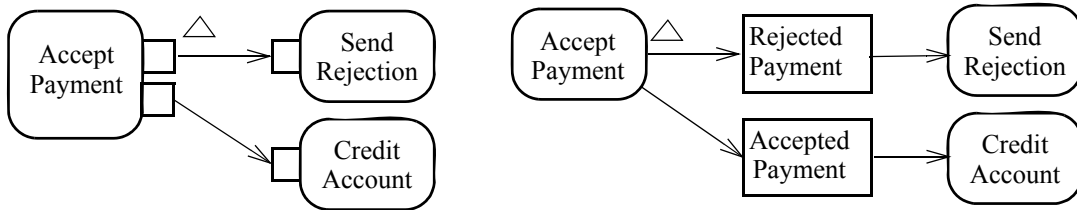


Figure 12.129 - Exception pin examples

The figure below shows two examples of selection behavior. Both examples indicate that orders are to be shipped based on order priority—and those with the same priority should be filled on a first-in/first-out (FIFO) basis.

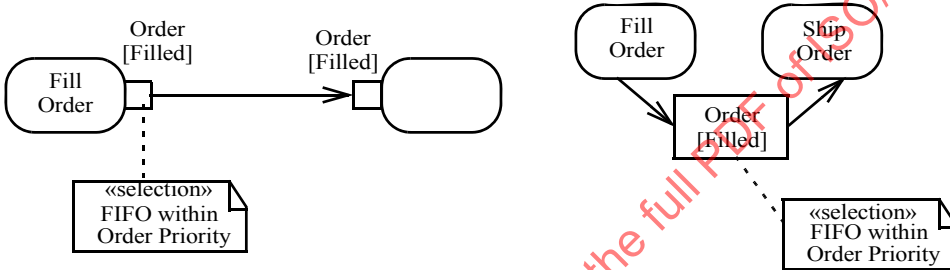


Figure 12.130 - Specifying selection behavior on an ObjectFlow

In the figure below, an example depicts a Place Order activity that creates orders and Fill Order activity that reads these placed orders for the purpose of filling them.

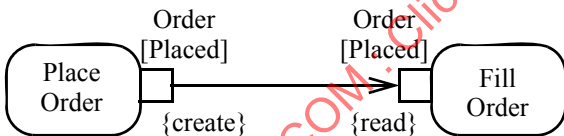


Figure 12.131 Pin example with effects

**Rationale**

Pin is specialized in Activities to make it an object node and to give it a notation.

**Changes from previous UML**

Pin is new to activity modeling in UML 2. It replaces pins from UML 1.5 action model.

**12.3.45 SendObjectAction (as specialized)**

See “SendObjectAction (from IntermediateActions)” on page 295.

**Attributes**

No additional attributes

**Associations**

No additional associations

**Constraints**

No additional constraints

**Semantics**

See “SendObjectAction (from IntermediateActions)” on page 295.

**Notation**

No specific notation

**Presentation Options**

See “SendObjectAction (from IntermediateActions)” on page 295.

**Changes from previous UML**

See “SendObjectAction (from IntermediateActions)” on page 295.

**12.3.46 SendSignalAction (as specialized)**

See “SendSignalAction (from BasicActions)” on page 296.

**Attributes**

No additional attributes

**Associations**

No additional associations

**Constraints**

No additional constraints

**Semantics**

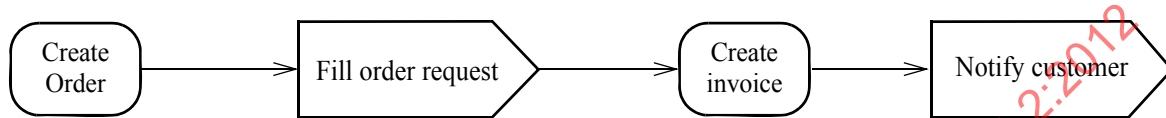
See “SendSignalAction (from BasicActions)” on page 296.

**Notation**

See “SendSignalAction (from BasicActions)” on page 296.

**Examples**

Figure 12.132 shows part of an order-processing workflow in which two signals are sent. An order is created (in response to some previous request that is not shown in the example). A signal is sent to the warehouse to fill and ship the order. Then an invoice is created and sent to the customer.



**Figure 12.132 - Signal node notations**

**Rationale**

See “SendSignalAction (from BasicActions)” on page 296.

**Changes from previous UML**

See “SendSignalAction (from BasicActions)” on page 296.

**12.3.47 SequenceNode (from StructuredActivities)**

**Generalizations**

- “StructuredActivityNode (from CompleteStructuredActivities, StructuredActivities)” on page 429

**Description**

(StructuredActivities) A sequence node is a structured activity node that executes its actions in order.

**Attributes**

No additional attributes

**Associations**

- executableNode : ExecutableNode [\*] {ordered}  
An ordered set of executable nodes. {Redefines *StructuredActivityNode::node*}

**Constraints**

No additional constraints

**Semantics**

When the sequence node is enabled, its executable nodes are executed in the order specified. When combined with flows, actions must also satisfy their control and data flow inputs before starting execution.

**Notation**

No specific notation

**Rationale**

SequenceNode is introduced to provide a way for structured activities to model a sequence of actions.

**Changes from previous UML**

SequenceNode is new to UML 2.

**12.3.48 StructuredActivityNode (from CompleteStructuredActivities, StructuredActivities)**

(StructuredActivities) A structured activity node is an executable activity node that may have an expansion into subordinate nodes as an ActivityGroup. The subordinate nodes must belong to only one structured activity node, although they may be nested.

**Generalizations**

- “Action (from CompleteActivities, FundamentalActivities, StructuredActivities, CompleteStructuredActivities)” on page 325
- “ActivityGroup (from BasicActivities, FundamentalActivities, IntermediateActivities, StructuredActivities, CompleteActivities, CompleteStructuredActivities)” on page 348
- “ExecutableNode (from ExtraStructuredActivities, StructuredActivities)” on page 382
- “Namespace (from Kernel)” on page 106

**Description**

A structured activity node represents a structured portion of the activity that is not shared with any other structured node, except for nesting. It may have control edges connected to it, and pins when merged with CompleteActivities or on specializations in CompleteStructuredActivities. The execution of any embedded actions may not begin until the structured activity node has received its object and control tokens. The availability of output tokens from the structured activity node does not occur until all embedded actions have completed execution (see exception at “AcceptEventAction (from CompleteActions)” on page 247).

**Package CompleteStructuredActivities**

Because of the concurrent nature of the execution of actions within and across activities, it can be difficult to guarantee the consistent access and modification of object memory. In order to avoid race conditions or other concurrency-related problems, it is sometimes necessary to isolate the effects of a group of actions from the effects of actions outside the group. This may be indicated by setting the mustIsolate attribute to *true* on a structured activity node. If a structured activity node is “isolated,” then any object used by an action within the node cannot be accessed by any action outside the node until the structured activity node as a whole completes. Any concurrent actions that would result in accessing such objects are required to have their execution deferred until the completion of the node.

**Note** – Any required isolation may be achieved using a locking mechanism, or it may simply sequentialize execution to avoid concurrency conflicts. Isolation is different from the property of “atomicity,” which is the guarantee that a group of actions

either all complete successfully or have no effect at all. Atomicity generally requires a rollback mechanism to prevent committing partial results.

## Attributes

### Package *CompleteStructuredActivities*

- `mustIsolate` : Boolean  
If *true*, then the actions in the node execute in isolation from actions outside the node. Default value is *false*.

## Associations

### Package *StructuredActivities*

- `variable`: Variable [0..\*]  
A variable defined in the scope of the structured activity node. It has no value and may not be accessed outside the node. {Subsets *Namespace::ownedMember*}
- `node` : ActivityNode [0..\*]  
Nodes immediately contained in the group. (Subsets *ActivityGroup::containedNode*, *Element::ownedElement*)
- `activity` : Activity [0..1]  
Activity immediately containing the node. {Redefines *ActivityNode::activity* and *ActivityGroup::inActivity*}

### Package *CompleteStructuredActivities*

- `edge` : ActivityEdge [0..\*]  
Edges immediately contained in the structured node. {Subsets *ActivityGroup::containedEdge*, *Element::owner*}
- `structuredNodeInput`: InputPin [0..\*]  
Input pins for this structured activity node. {Subsets *Action::input*}
- `structuredNodeOutput`: OutputPin [0..\*]  
Output pins for this structured activity node. {Subsets *Action::output*}

## Constraints

### Package *CompleteStructuredActivities*

- [1] The edges owned by a structured node must have source and target nodes in the structured node, and vice versa.
- [2] The incoming edges of the input pins of a *StructuredActivityNode* must have sources that are not within the *StructuredActivityNode*.
- [3] The outgoing edges of the output pins of a *StructuredActivityNode* must have targets that are not within the *StructuredActivityNode*.

## Semantics

Nodes and edges contained by a structured node cannot be contained by any other structured node. This constraint is modeled as a specialized multiplicity from *ActivityNode* and *ActivityEdge* to *StructuredActivityNode*. Edges not contained by a structured node can have sources or targets in the structured node, but not both. See children of *StructuredActivityNode*.

No subnode in the structured node, including initial nodes and accept event actions, may begin execution until the structured node itself has started. Subnodes begin executing according to the same rules as the subnodes of an activity (see “InitialNode (from BasicActivities)” on page 395 and “AcceptEventAction (from CompleteActions)” on page 247). A control flow from a structured activity node implies that a token is produced on the flow only after no tokens are left in the node or its contained nodes recursively. Tokens reaching an activity final node in a structured node abort all flows in the immediately containing structured node only. The other aspects of termination are the same as for activity finals contained directly by activities (see “ActivityFinalNode (from BasicActivities, IntermediateActivities)” on page 345).

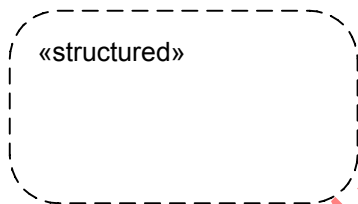
### *Package CompleteStructuredActivities*

A pin of a structured activity node is accessible within the node. The same rules apply as for control flow. Input pins on a structured activity node imply that actions in the node begin execution when all input pins have received tokens. An output pin on a structured activity node will make tokens available outside the node only after no tokens are left in the node or its contained nodes recursively.

If the mustIsolate flag is true for an activity node, then any access to an object by an action within the node must not conflict with access to the object by an action outside the node. A conflict is defined as an attempt to write to the object by one or both of the actions. If such a conflict potentially exists, then no such access by an action outside the node may be interleaved with the execution of the node. This part of ISO/IEC 19505 does not constrain the ways in which this rule may be enforced. If it is impossible to execute a model in accordance with these rules, then it is ill-formed.

### **Notation**

A structured activity node is notated with a dashed round cornered rectangle enclosing its nodes and edges, with the keyword «structured» at the top (see Figure 12.133 ). Also see children of StructuredActivityNode.



**Figure 12.133** Notation for structured nodes

### **Examples**

See children of StructuredActivityNode.

### **Rationale**

StructuredActivityNode is for applications that require well-nested nodes. It provides well-nested nodes that were enforced by strict nesting rules in UML 1.5.

### **Changes from previous UML**

StructuredActivityNode is new in UML 2.

### 12.3.49 UnmarshallAction (as specialized)

See “UnmarshallAction (from CompleteActions)” on page 302.

#### Attributes

No additional attributes

#### Associations

No additional associations

#### Constraints

No additional constraints

#### Semantics

See “UnmarshallAction (from CompleteActions)” on page 302.

#### Notation

No specific notation

#### Examples

In Figure 12.134, an order is unmarshalled into its name, shipping address, and product.

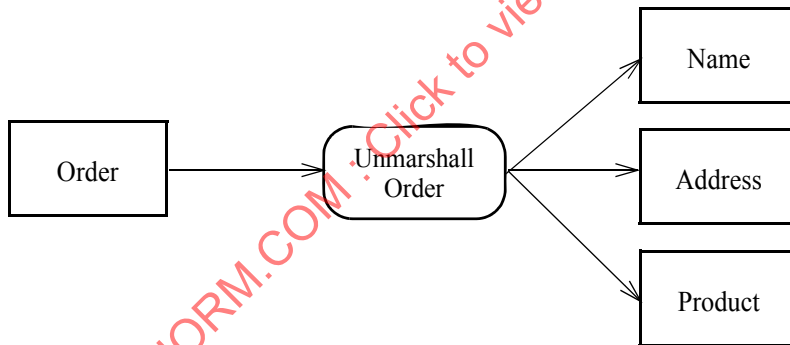


Figure 12.134 - Example of UnmarshallAction

#### Rationale

See “UnmarshallAction (from CompleteActions)” on page 302.

#### Changes from previous UML

See “UnmarshallAction (from CompleteActions)” on page 302.

### 12.3.50 ValuePin (as specialized)

A value pin is an input pin that provides a value to an action that does not come from an incoming object flow edge. See “ValuePin (from BasicActions)” on page 303.

#### Attributes

No additional attributes

#### Associations

No additional associations

#### Constraints

[1] Value pins have no incoming edges.

#### Semantics

ValuePins provide values to their actions, but only when the actions are otherwise enabled. If an action has no incoming edges or other way to start execution, a value pin will not start the execution by itself or collect tokens waiting for execution to start. When the action is enabled by other means, the value specification of the value pin is evaluated and the result provided as input to the action, which begins execution. This is an exception to the normal token flow semantics of activities.

#### Notation

A value pin is notated as an input pin with the value specification written beside it.

#### Rationale

ValuePin is introduced to reduce the size of activity models that use constant values. See “ValueSpecificationAction (from IntermediateActions)” on page 304.

#### Changes from UML 1.5

ValuePin replaces LiteralValueAction from UML 1.5.

### 12.3.51 ValueSpecificationAction (as specialized)

See “ValueSpecificationAction (from IntermediateActions)” on page 304.

#### Attributes

No additional attributes

#### Associations

No additional associations

#### Constraints

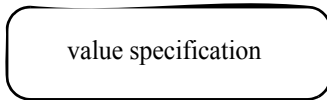
No additional constraints

**Semantics**

See “ValueSpecificationAction (from IntermediateActions)” on page 304.

**Notation**

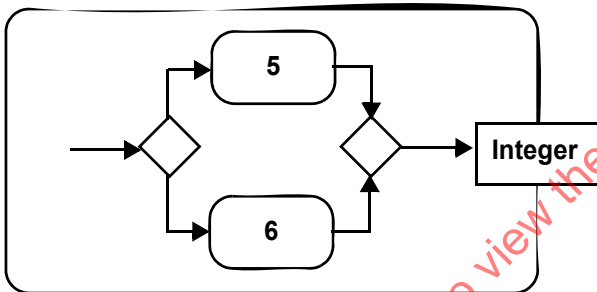
The action is labeled with the value specification, as shown in Figure 12.135.



**Figure 12.135 - ValueSpecificationAction notation**

**Examples**

Figure 12.136 shows a value specification action used to output a constant from an activity.



**Figure 12.136 - Example ValueSpecificationAction**

**Rationale**

See “ValueSpecificationAction (from IntermediateActions)” on page 304.

**Changes from previous UML**

See “ValueSpecificationAction (from IntermediateActions)” on page 304.

**12.3.52 Variable (from StructuredActivities)**

Variables are elements for passing data between actions indirectly. A local variable stores values shared by the actions within a structured activity group but not accessible outside it. The output of an action may be written to a variable and read for the input to a subsequent action, which is effectively an indirect data flow path. Because there is no predefined relationship between actions that read and write variables, these actions must be sequenced by control flows to prevent race conditions that may occur between actions that read or write the same variable.

**Generalizations**

- “MultiplicityElement (from Kernel)” on page 100

- “TypedElement (from Kernel)” on page 143

### Description

A variable specifies data storage shared by the actions within a group. There are actions to write and read variables. These actions are treated as side effecting actions, similar to the actions to write and read object attributes and associations. There are no sequencing constraints among actions that access the same variable. Such actions must be explicitly coordinated by control flows or other constraints.

Any values contained by a variable must conform to the type of the variable and have cardinalities allowed by the multiplicity of the variable.

### Associations

- scope : StructuredActivityNode [0..1]  
A structured activity node that owns the variable. {Subsets *NamedElement::namespace*}
- activityScope : Activity [0..1]  
An activity that owns the variable. {Subsets *NamedElement::namespace*}

### Attributes

No additional attributes

### Constraints

[1] A variable is owned by a StructuredNode or Activity, but not both.

### Additional operations

[1] The `isAccessibleBy()` operation is not defined in standard UML. Implementations should define it to specify which actions can access a variable.

`isAccessibleBy(a: Action) : Boolean`

### Semantics

A variable specifies a slot able to hold a value or a sequence of values, consistent with the multiplicity of the variable. The values held in this slot may be accessed from any action contained directly or indirectly within the group action or activity that is the scope of the variable.

### Notation

No specific notation

### Rationale

Variables are introduced to simplify translation of common programming languages into activity models for those applications that do not require object flow information to be readily accessible. However, source programs that set variables only once can be easily translated to use object flows from the action that determines the values to the actions that use them. Source programs that set variables more than once can be translated to object flows by introducing a local object containing attributes for the variables, or one object per variable combined with data store nodes.

**Changes from UML 1.5**

Variable is unchanged from UML 1.5, except that it is used on StructuredActivityNode instead of GroupNode.

**12.4 Diagrams**

The focus of activity modeling is the sequence and conditions for coordinating lower-level behaviors, rather than which classifiers own those behaviors. These are commonly called control flow and object flow models. The behaviors coordinated by these models can be initiated because other behaviors finish executing, because objects and data become available, or because events occur external to the flow. See 12.3.4, “Activity (from BasicActivities, CompleteActivities, FundamentalActivities, StructuredActivities),” on page 330 for more introduction and semantic framework.

The notation for activities is optional. A textual notation may be used instead.

The following sub clauses describe the graphic nodes and paths that may be shown in activity diagrams.

*Graphic Nodes*

The graphic nodes that can be included in activity diagrams are shown in Table 12.1.

**Table 12.1 - Graphic nodes included in activity diagrams**

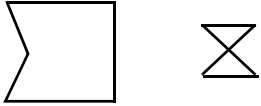


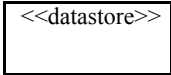
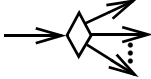

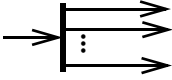

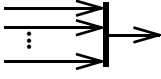
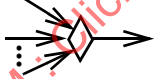
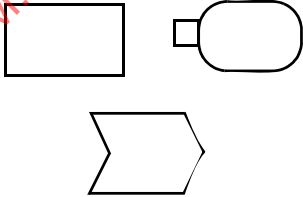
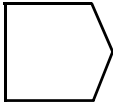
| Node Type         | Notation                                                                            | Reference                                                                                                                                          |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| AcceptEventAction |  | See 12.3.1, 'AcceptEventAction (as specialized)'                                                                                                   |
| Action            |  | See 12.3.2, 'Action (from CompleteActivities, FundamentalActivities, StructuredActivities, CompleteStructuredActivities)'                          |
| ActivityFinal     |  | See 12.3.6, 'ActivityFinalNode (from BasicActivities, IntermediateActivities)'                                                                     |
| ActivityNode      | <i>See ControlNode, and ObjectNode.</i>                                             | See 12.3.8, 'ActivityNode (from BasicActivities, CompleteActivities, FundamentalActivities, IntermediateActivities, CompleteStructuredActivities)' |
| ControlNode       | <i>See DecisionNode, FinalNode, ForkNode, InitialNode, JoinNode, and MergeNode.</i> | See 12.3.20, 'ControlNode (from BasicActivities)'                                                                                                  |
| DataStore         |  | See 12.3.21, 'DataStoreNode (from CompleteActivities)'                                                                                             |

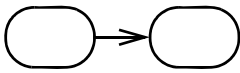
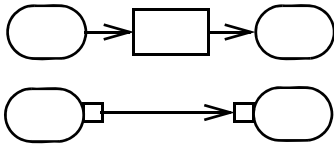
Table 12.1 - Graphic nodes included in activity diagrams

| Node Type        | Notation                                                                            | Reference                                                                              |
|------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| DecisionNode     |    | See 12.3.22, 'DecisionNode (from IntermediateActivities)'                              |
| FinalNode        | <i>See ActivityFinal and FlowFinal.</i>                                             | See 12.3.28, 'FinalNode (from IntermediateActivities)'                                 |
| FlowFinal        |    | See 12.3.29, 'FlowFinalNode (from IntermediateActivities)'                             |
| ForkNode         |    | See 12.3.30, 'ForkNode (from IntermediateActivities)'                                  |
| InitialNode      |   | See 12.3.31, 'InitialNode (from BasicActivities)'                                      |
| JoinNode         |  | See 12.3.34, 'JoinNode (from CompleteActivities, IntermediateActivities)'              |
| MergeNode        |  | See 12.3.36, 'MergeNode (from IntermediateActivities)'                                 |
| ObjectNode       |  | See 12.3.38, 'ObjectNode (from BasicActivities, CompleteActivities)' and its children. |
| SendSignalAction |  | See 12.3.46, 'SendSignalAction (as specialized)'                                       |

Graphic Paths

The graphic paths that can be included in activity diagrams are shown in Table 12.2

Table 12.2 - Graphic paths included in activity diagrams

| Path Type    |                                                                                   | Reference                                                                                                                   |
|--------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ActivityEdge | See <i>ControlFlow</i> and <i>ObjectFlow</i> .                                    | See 12.3.5, 'ActivityEdge (from BasicActivities, CompleteActivities, CompleteStructuredActivities, IntermediateActivities)' |
| ControlFlow  |  | See 12.3.19, 'ControlFlow (from BasicActivities)'                                                                           |
| ObjectFlow   |  | See 12.3.37, 'ObjectFlow (from BasicActivities, CompleteActivities)'' and its children.                                     |

Other Graphical Elements

Activity diagrams have graphical elements for containment. These are included in Table 12.3.

Table 12.3 - Graphic elements for containment in activity diagrams

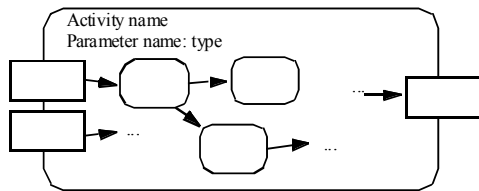
| Type     | Notation                                                                             | Reference                                                                                                      |
|----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Activity |  | See 12.3.4, 'Activity (from BasicActivities, CompleteActivities, FundamentalActivities, StructuredActivities)' |

Table 12.3 - Graphic elements for containment in activity diagrams

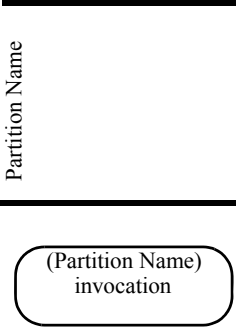
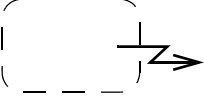
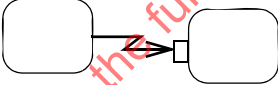
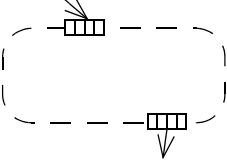
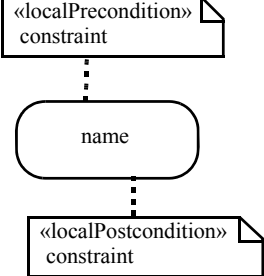
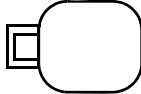
| Type                           | Notation                                                                            | Reference                                                                                                                 |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ActivityPartition              |    | See 12.3.10, 'ActivityPartition (from IntermediateActivities)'                                                            |
| InterruptibleActivityRegion    |    | See 12.3.33, 'InterruptibleActivityRegion (from CompleteActivities)'                                                      |
| ExceptionHandler               |  | See 12.3.23, 'ExceptionHandler (from ExtraStructuredActivities)'                                                          |
| ExpansionRegion                |  | 12.3.27, 'ExpansionRegion (from ExtraStructuredActivities)'                                                               |
| Local pre- and postconditions. |  | See 12.3.2, 'Action (from CompleteActivities, FundamentalActivities, StructuredActivities, CompleteStructuredActivities)' |

Table 12.3 - Graphic elements for containment in activity diagrams

| Type         | Notation                                                                          | Reference                                             |
|--------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| ParameterSet |  | See 12.3.43, 'ParameterSet (from CompleteActivities)' |

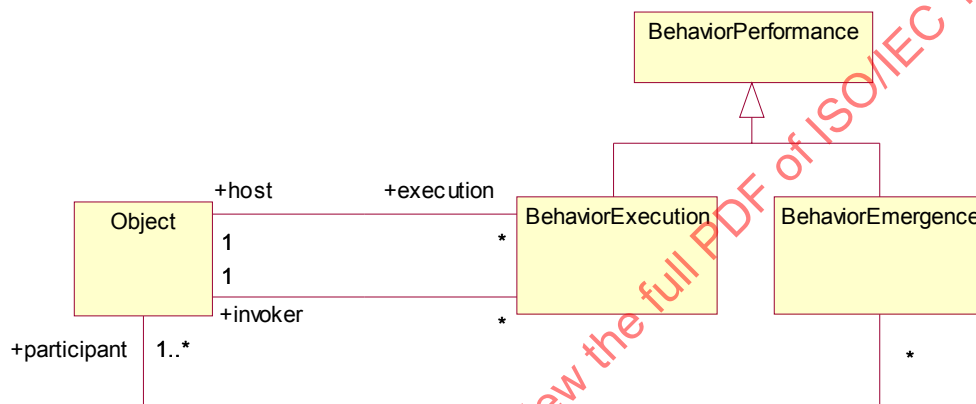
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## 13 Common Behaviors

### 13.1 Overview

The Common Behaviors packages specify the core concepts required for dynamic elements and provides the infrastructure to support more detailed definitions of behavior. Figure 13.1 shows a domain model explaining the relationship between occurrences of behaviors.

**Note** – The models shown in Figure 13.1 through Figure 13.4 are not metamodels but show objects in the semantic domain and relationships between these objects. These models are used to give an informal explication of the dynamic semantics of the classes of the UML metamodel.



**Figure 13.1 - Common Behaviors Domain Model**

Any behavior is the direct consequence of the action of at least one object. A behavior describes how the states of these objects, as reflected by their structural features, change over time. Behaviors, as such, do not exist on their own, and they do not communicate. If a behavior operates on data, that data is obtained from the host object.

There are two kinds of behaviors, emergent behavior and executing behavior. An *executing behavior* is performed by an object (its host) and is the description of the behavior of this object. An executing behavior is directly caused by the invocation of a behavioral feature of that object or by its creation. In either case, it is a consequence of the execution of an action by some related object. A behavior has access to the structural features of its host object. Objects that may host behaviors are specified by the concrete subtypes of the *BehavioredClassifier* metaclass.

*Emergent behavior* results from the interaction of one or more participant objects. If the participating objects are parts of a larger composite object, an emerging behavior can be seen as indirectly describing the behavior of the container object also. Nevertheless, an emergent behavior can result from the executing behaviors of the participant objects.

Occurring behaviors are specified by the concrete subtypes of the abstract *Behavior* metaclass. Behavior specifications can be used to define the behavior of an object, or they can be used to describe or illustrate the behavior of an object. The latter may only focus on a relevant subset of the behavior an object may exhibit (allowed behavior), or it may focus on behavior an object must not exhibit (forbidden behavior).

Albeit behavior is ultimately related to an object, emergent behavior may also be specified for non-instantiable classifiers, such as interfaces or collaborations. Such behaviors describe the interaction of the objects that realize the interfaces or the parts of the collaboration (see “Collaboration (from Collaborations)” on page 180).

**BasicBehaviors**

The BasicBehaviors subpackage of the Common Behavior package introduces the framework that will be used to specify behaviors. The concrete subtypes of Behavior will provide different mechanisms to specify behaviors.

A variety of specification mechanisms are supported by the UML, such as:

- Automata (“StateMachine (from BehaviorStateMachines)” on page 579),
- Petri-net like graphs (“Activity (from BasicActivities, CompleteActivities, FundamentalActivities, StructuredActivities)” on page 330),
- Informal descriptions (“UseCase (from UseCases)” on page 612), or
- Partially-ordered sequences of event occurrences (“Interaction (from BasicInteraction, Fragments)” on page 501).

Profiles may introduce additional styles of behavioral specification. The styles of behavioral specification differ in their expressive power and domain of applicability. Further, they may specify behaviors either explicitly, by describing the observable event occurrences resulting from the execution of the behavior, or implicitly, by describing a machine that would induce these events. The relationship between a specified behavior and its hosting or participating instances is independent of the specification mechanism chosen and described in the common behavior package. The choice of specification mechanism is one of convenience and purpose; typically, the same kind of behavior could be described by any of the different mechanisms. Note that not all behaviors can be described by each of the different specification mechanisms, as these do not all have the same expressive power. However, for many behaviors, the choice of specification mechanism is one of convenience.

As shown in the domain model of Figure 13.2, the execution of a behavior may be caused by a call behavior occurrence (representing the direct invocation of a behavior through an action) or a trigger occurrence (representing an indirect invocation of a behavior, such as through an operation call). A start occurrence marks the beginning of a behavior execution, while its completion is accompanied by a termination occurrence.

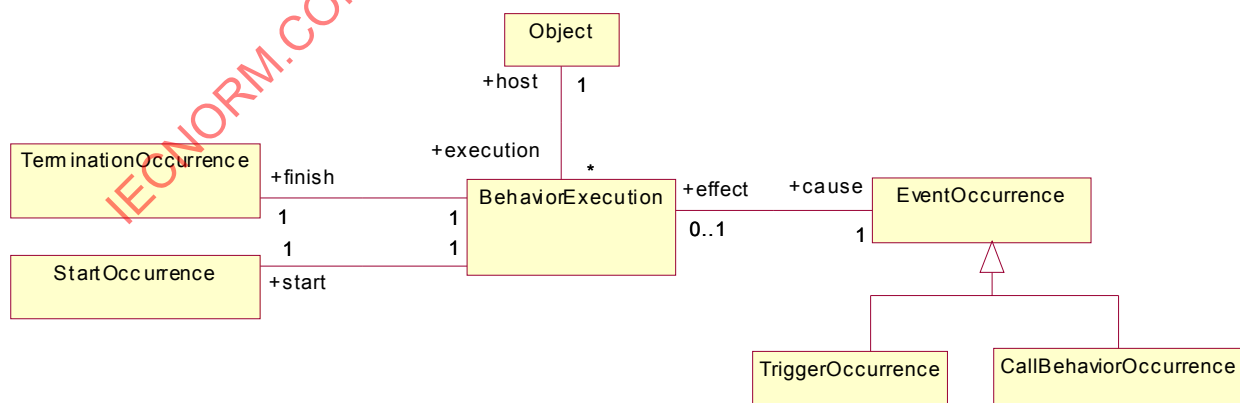


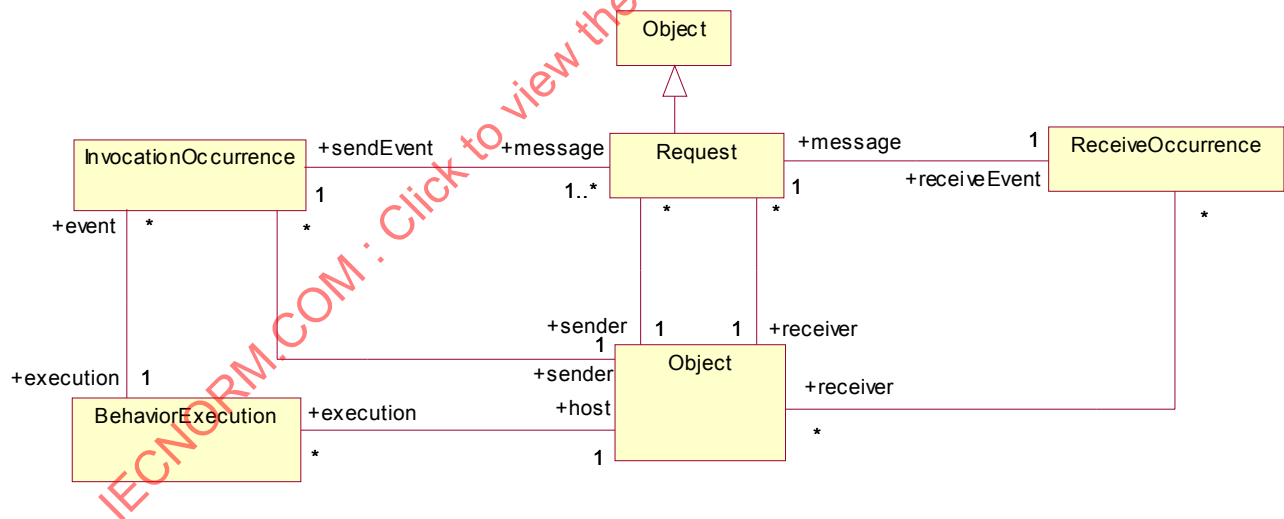
Figure 13.2 - Invocation Domain Model

## Communications

The Communications subpackage of the Common Behavior package adds the infrastructure to communicate between objects in the system and to invoke behaviors. The domain model shown in Figure 13.3 explains how communication takes place. Note that this domain model specifies the semantics of communication between objects in a system. Not all aspects of the domain model are explicitly represented in the specification of the system, but may be implied by the dynamic semantics of the constructs used in a specification.

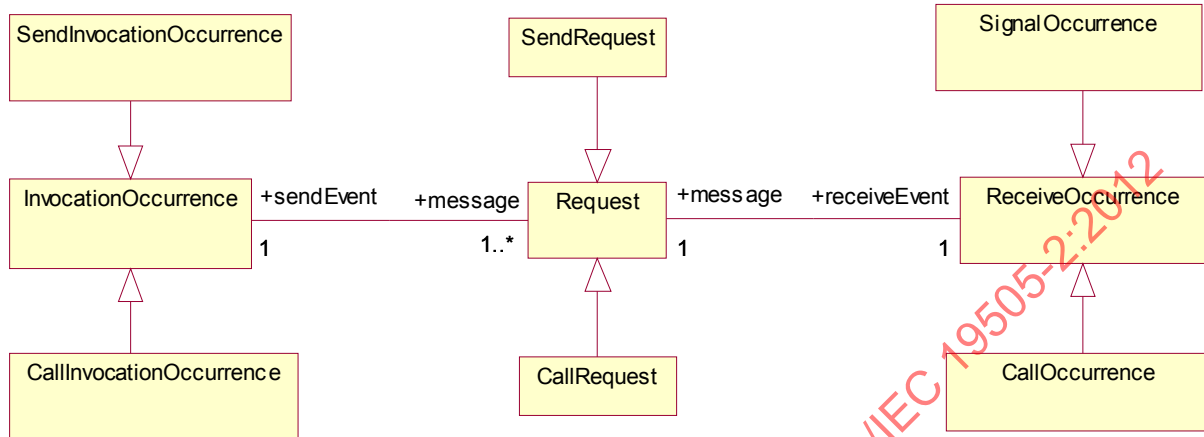
An action representing the invocation of a behavioral feature is executed by a sender object resulting in an invocation event occurring. The invocation event may represent the sending of a signal or the call to an operation. As a result of the invocation event a request is generated. A request is an object capturing the data that was passed to the action causing the invocation event (the arguments that must match the parameters of the invoked behavioral feature); information about the nature of the request (i.e., the behavioral feature that was invoked); the identities of the sender and receiver objects; as well as sufficient information about the behavior execution to enable the return of a reply from the invoked behavior, where appropriate. (In profiles, the request object may include additional information, for example, a time stamp.)

While each request is targeted at exactly one receiver object and caused by exactly one sending object, an occurrence of an invocation event may result in a number of requests being generated (as in a signal broadcast). The receiver may be the same object that is the sender, it may be local (i.e., an object held in a slot of the currently executing object, or the currently executing object itself, or the object owning the currently executing object), or it may be remote. The manner of transmitting the request object, the amount of time required to transmit it, the order in which the transmissions reach their receiver objects, and the path for reaching the receiver objects are undefined. Once the generated request arrives at the receiver object, a receiving event will occur.



**Figure 13.3 - Communication Domain Model**

Several kinds of requests exist between instances, for example, sending a signal or invoking an operation. The kind of request is determined by the kind of invocation occurrence that caused it, as shown in Figure 13.4. The former is used to trigger a reaction in the receiver in an asynchronous way and without a reply, while the latter applies an operation to an instance, which may be either synchronous or asynchronous and may require a reply from the receiver to the sender. A send invocation occurrence creates a send request and causes a signal occurrence in the receiver. A call invocation occurrence creates a call request and causes a call occurrence in the receiver.



**Figure 13.4 - Domain Model Showing Request Kinds**

An invocation occurrence represents the recognition of an invocation request after its receipt by a target object. Invocation event occurrences are the result of the execution of invocation actions (see “InvocationAction (from BasicActions)” on page 269). Invocation actions include send actions and call actions. A send action is specified by a Signal (see “Signal from Communications”) on page 471) and argument values. The execution of a send action results in a send request, which results in a signal event occurrence when it is recognized by the target object. A call action is specified by an Operation and argument values. The execution of a call action results in a call request, which results in a call event occurrence when it is recognized by the target object. Signal event occurrences and call event occurrences are specified by the corresponding metaclasses (see “SignalEvent (from Communications)” on page 472 and “CallEvent (from Communications)” on page 457).

As shown in Figure 13.3, an object hosts a behavior execution (i.e., a behavior will be executed in the context of that object). The execution of an invocation action by the behavior constitutes an invocation occurrence. The invocation occurrence results in a request object that transmits the invocation request from the sender object (caller) to the receiver object (target). The receipt of the request by the receiver is manifest as a receive occurrence. When the receive occurrence matches a trigger defined in the class of the target object, it causes the execution of a behavior. The details of identifying the behavior to be invoked in response to the occurrence of an event are a semantic variation point. The resulting behavior execution is hosted by the target object. The specific mechanism by which the data passed with the request (the attributes of the request object) are made available as arguments to the invoked behavior (e.g., whether the data or copies are passed with the request) is a semantic variation point. If the invocation action is synchronous, the request object also includes sufficient information to identify the execution that invoked the behavior, but this information is not available for the use of the invoked behavior (and, therefore, is not modeled). When a synchronous execution completes, this information is used to direct a reply message to the original behavior execution.

The detection of an (event) occurrence by an object may cause a behavioral response. For example, a state machine may transition to a new state upon the detection of the occurrence of an event specified by a trigger owned by the state machine, or an activity may be enabled upon the receipt of a message. When an event occurrence is recognized by an object, it may have an immediate effect or the event may be saved in an event pool and have a later effect when it is matched by a trigger specified for a behavior.

The occurrence of a change event (see “ChangeEvent (from Communications)” on page 458) is based on some expression becoming true. A time event occurs when a predetermined deadline expires (see “TimeEvent (from SimpleTime)” on page 474). No data is passed by the occurrence of a change event or a time event. Figure 13.12 shows the hierarchy of events.

### SimpleTime

The SimpleTime subpackage of the Common Behavior package adds metaclasses to represent time and durations, as well as actions to observe the passing of time.

The simple model of time described here is intended as an approximation for situations where the more complex aspects of time and time measurement can safely be ignored. For example, this model does not account for the relativistic effects that occur in many distributed systems, or the effects resulting from imperfect clocks with finite resolution, overflows, drift, skew, etc. It is assumed that applications for which such characteristics are relevant will use a more sophisticated model of time provided by an appropriate profile.

## 13.2 Abstract Syntax

Figure 13.5 shows the dependencies of the CommonBehaviors packages.

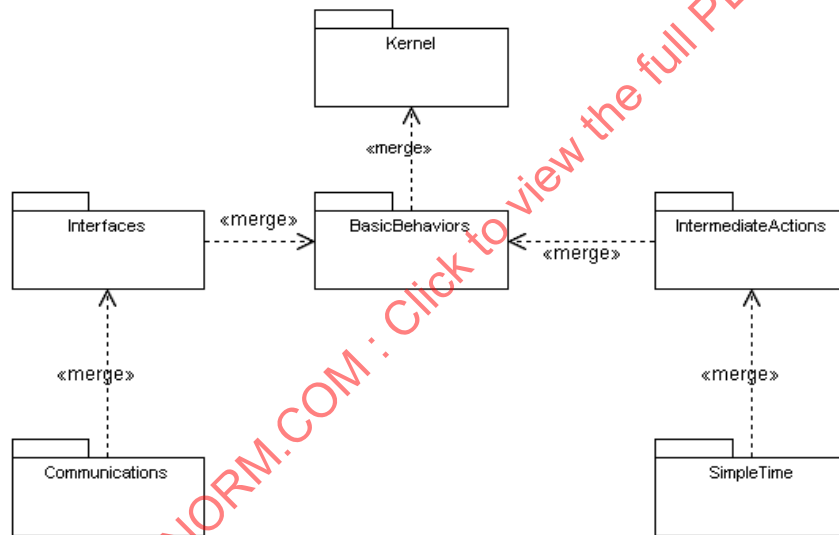


Figure 13.5 - Dependencies of the CommonBehaviors packages

Package BasicBehavior

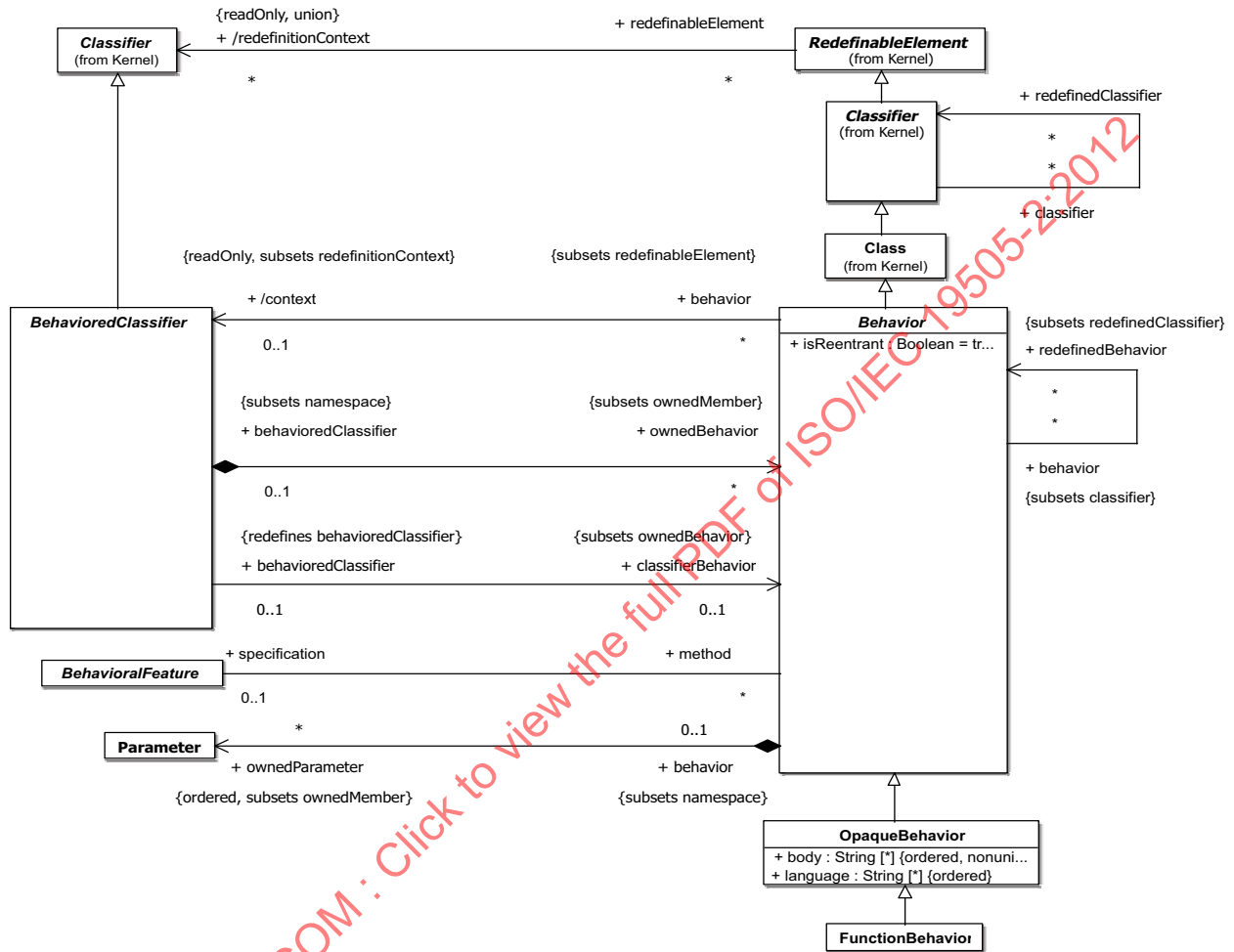


Figure 13.6 - Common Behavior

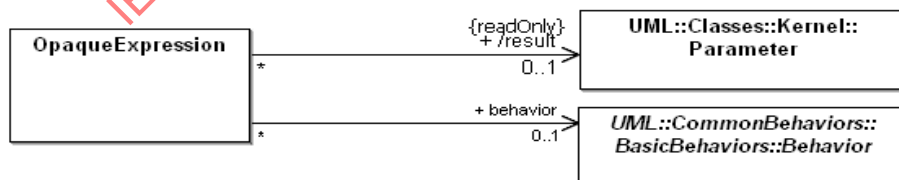


Figure 13.7 - Expression

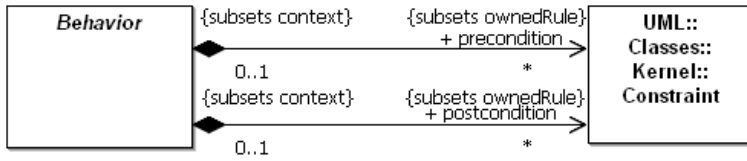


Figure 13.8 - Precondition and postcondition constraints for behavior

Package Communications

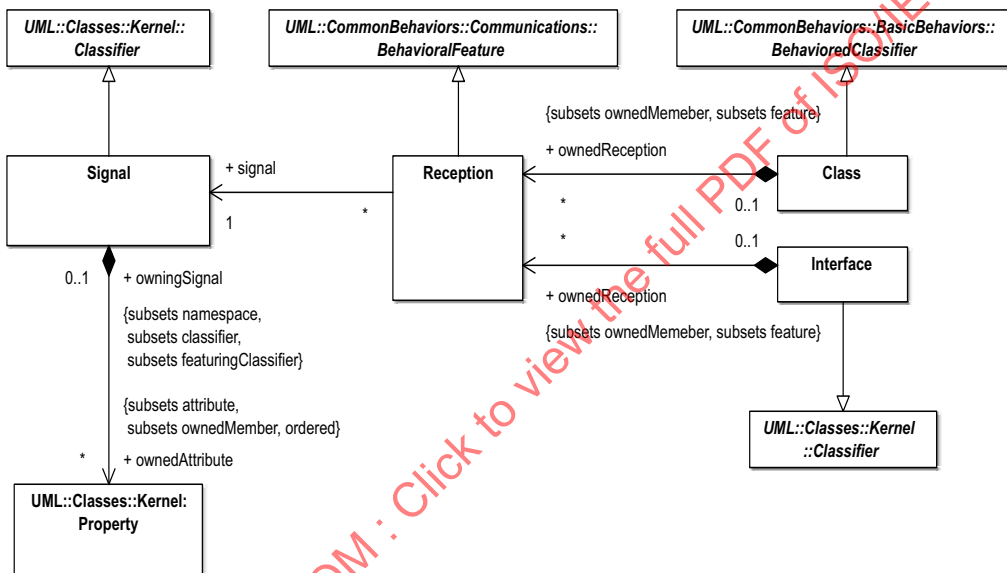


Figure 13.9 - Reception

|                                     |
|-------------------------------------|
| <b>BehavioralFeature</b>            |
| + concurrency : CallConcurrencyKind |

|                                     |
|-------------------------------------|
| <b>CallConcurrencyKind</b>          |
| sequential<br>guarded<br>concurrent |

Figure 13.10 - Extensions to behavioral features

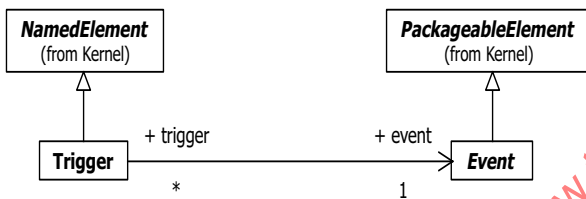


Figure 13.11 - Triggers

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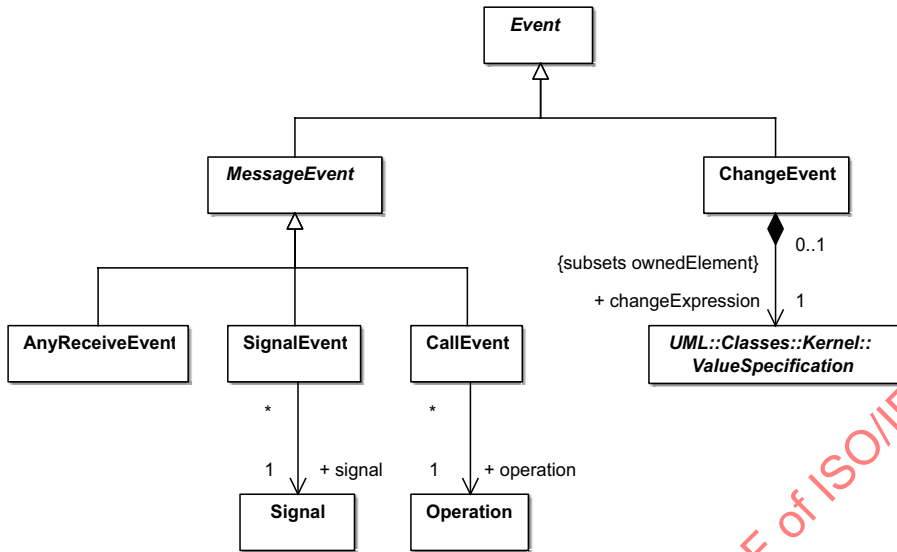


Figure 13.12 - Events

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SimpleTime

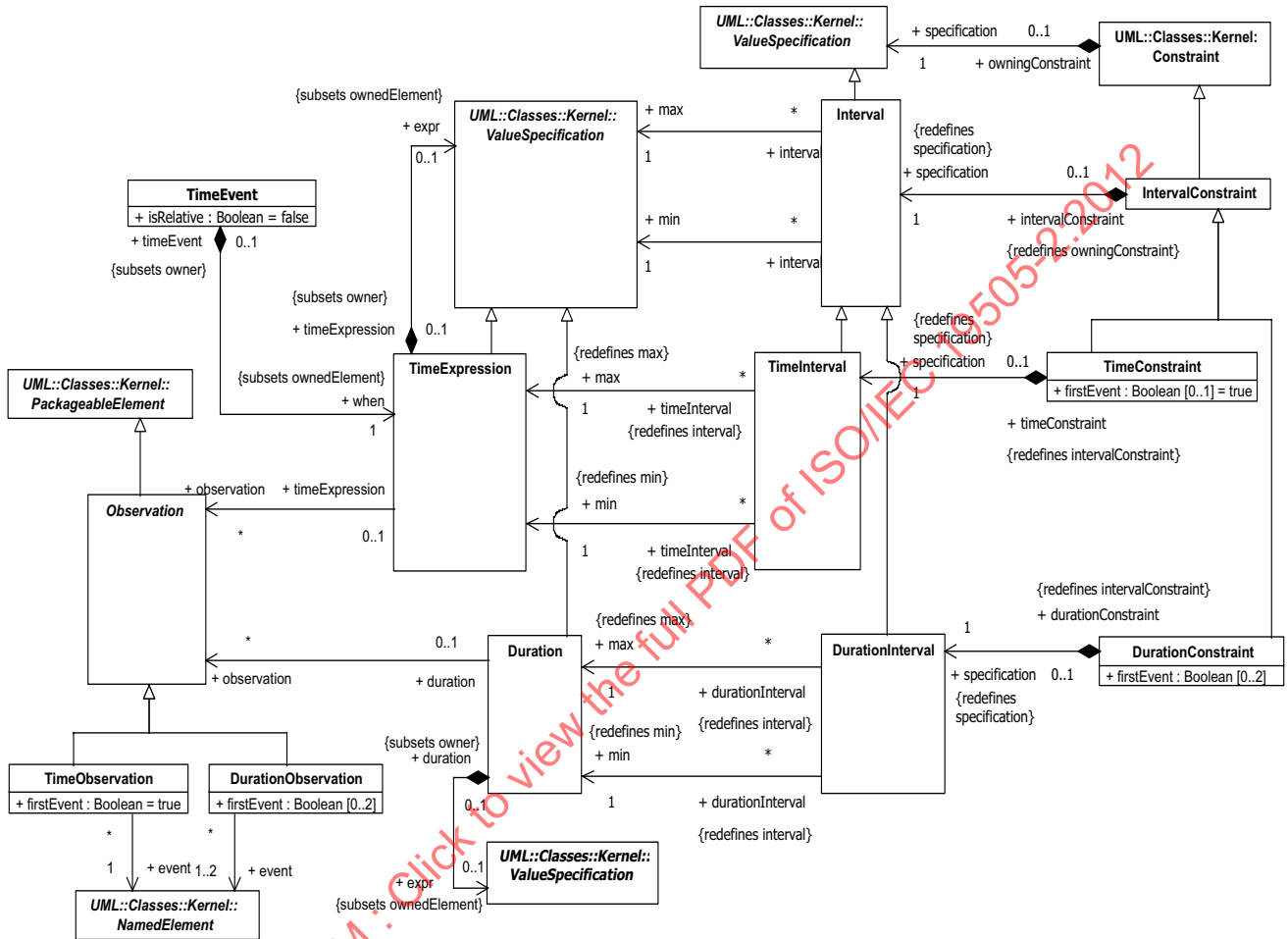


Figure 13.13 - SimpleTime

### 13.3 Class Descriptions

#### 13.3.1 AnyReceiveEvent (from Communications)

##### Generalizations

- “MessageEvent (from Communications)” on page 467

**Description**

A trigger for an AnyReceiveEvent is triggered by the receipt of any message that is not explicitly handled by any related trigger.

**Attributes**

No additional attributes

**Associations**

No additional associations

**Constraints**

No additional constraints

**Semantics**

A trigger for AnyReceiveEvent may be triggered by the receipt of any message (signal send or operation call). However, if there is a related SignalEvent or CallEvent trigger that specifically matches the message, then the AnyReceiveEvent trigger is not triggered by the message. Which other triggers are related to an AnyReceiveEvent trigger depends on the context of the trigger (in particular, see “AcceptEventAction (from CompleteActions)” on page 247 and “Transition (from BehaviorStateMachines)” on page 587.

**Notation**

Any AnyReceiveEvent is denoted by the string “all” used as the trigger.

*<any-receive-event> ::= 'all'*

**Changes from previous UML**

This construct has been added.

**13.3.2 Behavior (from BasicBehaviors)****Generalizations**

- “Class (from Kernel)” on page 52

**Description**

Behavior is a specification of how its context classifier changes state over time. This part of ISO/IEC 19505 may be either a definition of possible behavior execution or emergent behavior, or a selective illustration of an interesting subset of possible executions. The latter form is typically used for capturing examples, such as a trace of a particular execution.

A classifier behavior is always a definition of behavior and not an illustration. It describes the sequence of state changes an instance of a classifier may undergo in the course of its lifetime. Its precise semantics depends on the kind of classifier. For example, the classifier behavior of a collaboration represents emergent behavior of all the parts, whereas the classifier behavior of a class is just the behavior of instances of the class separated from the behaviors of any of its parts.

When a behavior is associated as the method of a behavioral feature, it defines the implementation of that feature (i.e., the computation that generates the effects of the behavioral feature).

As a classifier, a behavior can be specialized. Instantiating a behavior is referred to as “invoking” the behavior, an instantiated behavior is also called a behavior “execution.” A behavior may be invoked directly or its invocation may be the result of invoking the behavioral feature that specifies this behavior. A behavior can also be instantiated as an object in virtue of it being a class.

The specification of a behavior can take a number of forms, as described in the subclasses of Behavior. Behavior is an abstract metaclass factoring out the commonalities of these different specification mechanisms.

When a behavior is invoked, its execution receives a set of input values that are used to affect the course of execution, and as a result of its execution it produces a set of output values that are returned, as specified by its parameters. The observable effects of a behavior execution may include changes of values of various objects involved in the execution, the creation and destruction of objects, generation of communications between objects, as well as an explicit set of output values.

### Attributes

- **isReentrant:** Boolean [1]  
Tells whether the behavior can be invoked while it is still executing from a previous invocation. Default value is *true*.

### Associations

- **specification:** BehavioralFeature [0..1]  
Designates a behavioral feature that the behavior implements. The behavioral feature must be owned by the classifier that owns the behavior or be inherited by it. The parameters of the behavioral feature and the implementing behavior must match. A behavior does not need to have a specification, in which case it either is the classifier behavior of a BehavioredClassifier or it is a behavior that can only be invoked by another behavior of the classifier.
- **/context:** BehavioredClassifier [0..1]  
The classifier that is the context for the execution of the behavior. A Behavior that is directly owned as a nestedClassifier does not have a context. Otherwise, to determine the context of a Behavior, find the first BehavioredClassifier reached by following the chain of owner relationships from the Behavior, if any. If there is such a BehavioredClassifier, then it is the context, unless it is itself a Behavior with a non-empty context, in which case that is also the context for the original Behavior. For example, following this algorithm, the context of an entry action in a state machine is the classifier that owns the state machine. The features of the context classifier as well as the elements visible to the context classifier are visible to the behavior. (Subsets *RedefinableElement::redefinitionContext*)
- **ownedParameter:** Parameter  
References a list of parameters to the behavior that describes the order and type of arguments that can be given when the behavior is invoked and of the values that will be returned when the behavior completes its execution. (Subsets *Namespace::ownedMember*)
- **redefinedBehavior:** Behavior  
References a behavior that this behavior redefines. A subtype of Behavior may redefine any other subtype of Behavior. If the behavior implements a behavioral feature, it replaces the redefined behavior. If the behavior is a classifier behavior, it extends the redefined behavior. (Subsets *Classifier::redefinedClassifier*)
- **precondition:** Constraint  
An optional set of Constraints specifying what must be fulfilled when the behavior is invoked. (Subsets *Namespace::ownedRule*)

- **postcondition: Constraint**  
An optional set of Constraints specifying what is fulfilled after the execution of the behavior is completed, if its precondition was fulfilled before its invocation. (Subsets *Namespace::ownedRule*)

### Constraints

- [1] The parameters of the behavior must match the parameters of the implemented behavioral feature.
- [2] The implemented behavioral feature must be a feature (possibly inherited) of the context classifier of the behavior.
- [3] If the implemented behavioral feature has been redefined in the ancestors of the owner of the behavior, then the behavior must realize the latest redefining behavioral feature.
- [4] There may be at most one behavior for a given pairing of classifier (as owner of the behavior) and behavioral feature (as specification of the behavior).

### Semantics

The detailed semantics of behavior is determined by its subtypes. The features of the context classifier and elements that are visible to the context classifier are also visible to the behavior, provided that is allowed by the visibility rules.

When a behavior is invoked, its attributes and parameters (if any) are created and appropriately initialized. Upon invocation, the arguments of the original invocation action are made available to the new behavior execution corresponding to its parameters with direction 'in' and 'inout,' if any. When a behavior completes its execution, a value or set of values is returned corresponding to each parameter with direction 'out,' 'inout,' or 'return,' if any. If such a parameter has a default value associated and the behavior does not explicitly generate a value for this parameter, the default value describes the value that will be returned corresponding to this parameter. If the invocation was synchronous, any return values from the behavior execution are returned to the original caller, which is unblocked and allowed to continue execution.

The behavior executes within its context object, independently of and concurrently with any existing behavior executions. The object that is the context of the behavior manages the input pool holding the event occurrences to which a behavior may respond (see 13.3.4, "BehavioredClassifier (from BasicBehaviors, Communications)," on page 455). As an object may have a number of behaviors associated, all these behaviors may access the same input pool. The object ensures that each event occurrence on the input pool is consumed by only one behavior.

A behavior that is not owned, directly or indirectly, by a behaviored classifier will not have a context classifier. However, such a behavior may still be instantiated and executed as an object in its own right. In this case, the behavior instance acts as its own context object (for the purposes of event pooling, etc.), even though the behavior itself has no context classifier.

### Semantic Variation Points

The means by which requests are transported to their target depend on the type of requesting action, the target, the properties of the communication medium, and numerous other factors. In some cases, this is instantaneous and completely reliable while in others it may involve transmission delays of variable duration, loss of requests, reordering, or duplication (see also the discussion on page 443).

How the parameters of behavioral features or a behavior match the parameters of a behavioral feature is a semantic variation point (see BehavioralFeature on page 454).

### Notation

None

### Changes from previous UML

This metaclass has been added. It abstracts the commonalities between the various ways that behavior can be implemented in the UML. It allows the various ways of implementing behavior (as expressed by the subtypes of Behavior) to be used interchangeably.

### 13.3.3 BehavioralFeature (from BasicBehaviors, Communications)

#### Generalizations

- “BehavioralFeature (from Kernel)” on page 51 (*merge increment*)

#### Description

A behavioral feature is implemented (realized) by a behavior. A behavioral feature specifies that a classifier will respond to a designated request by invoking its implementing method.

#### Attributes

##### Package BasicBehaviors

- `isAbstract`: Boolean  
If *true*, then the behavioral feature does not have an implementation, and one must be supplied by a more specific element. If *false*, the behavioral feature must have an implementation in the classifier or one must be inherited from a more general element. Default value is *false*.

##### Package Communications

- `concurrency`: CallConcurrencyKind  
Specifies the semantics of concurrent calls to the same passive instance (i.e., an instance originating from a class with *isActive* being *false*). Active instances control access to their own behavioral features. Default value is *sequential*.

#### Associations

##### Package BasicBehaviors

- `method`: Behavior [0..\*]  
A behavioral description that implements the behavioral feature. There may be at most one behavior for a particular pairing of a classifier (as owner of the behavior) and a behavioral feature (as specification of the behavior).

#### Constraints

No additional constraints

#### Semantics

The invocation of a method is caused by receiving a request invoking the behavioral feature specifying that behavior. The details of invoking the behavioral feature are defined by the subclasses of BehavioralFeature.

### Semantic Variation Points

How the parameters of behavioral features or a behavior match the parameters of a behavioral feature is a semantic variation point. Different languages and methods rely on exact match (i.e., the type of the parameters must be the same), co-variant match (the type of a parameter of the behavior may be a subtype of the type of the parameter of the behavioral feature), contra-variant match (the type of a parameter of the behavior may be a supertype of the type of the parameter of the behavioral feature), or a combination thereof.

### Changes from previous UML

The metaattributes *isLeaf* and *isRoot* have been replaced by properties inherited from `RedefinableElement`.

### 13.3.4 BehavedClassifier (from BasicBehaviors, Communications)

#### Generalizations

- “Classifier (from Kernel, Dependencies, PowerTypes, Interfaces)” on page 55

#### Description

A classifier can have behavior specifications defined in its namespace. One of these may specify the behavior of the classifier itself.

#### Attributes

No additional attributes

#### Associations

##### Package *BasicBehaviors*

- `ownedBehavior`: Behavior [0..\*]  
References behavior specifications owned by a classifier. (Subsets *Namespace::ownedMember*)
- `classifierBehavior`: Behavior [0..1]  
A behavior specification that specifies the behavior of the classifier itself. (Subsets *BehavedClassifier::ownedBehavior*)

#### Constraints

[1] If a behavior is classifier behavior, it does not have a specification.

`self.classifierBehavior->notEmpty()` **implies** `self.classifierBehavior.specification->isEmpty()`

#### Semantics

The behavior specifications owned by a classifier are defined in the context of the classifier. Consequently, the behavior specifications may reference features of the classifier. Any invoked behavior may, in turn, invoke other behaviors visible to its context classifier. When an instance of a behaved classifier is created, its classifier behavior is invoked.

When an event occurrence is recognized by an object that is an instance of a behaved classifier, it may have an immediate effect or the occurrence may be saved for later *triggered* effect. An immediate effect is manifested by the invocation of a behavior as determined by the event (the type of the occurrence). A triggered effect is manifested by the

storage of the occurrence in the input event pool of the object and the later consumption of the occurrence by the execution of an ongoing behavior that reaches a point in its execution at which a trigger matches the event (type) of the occurrence in the pool. At this point, a behavior may be invoked as determined by the event.

When an executing behavior owned by an object comes to a point where it needs a trigger to continue its execution, the input pool is examined for an event that satisfies the outstanding trigger or triggers. If an event satisfies one of the triggers, the event is removed from the input pool and the behavior continues its execution, as specified. Any data associated with the event are made available to the triggered behavior.

#### *Semantic Variation Points*

It is a semantic variation whether one or more behaviors are triggered when an event satisfies multiple outstanding triggers.

If an event in the pool satisfies no triggers at a wait point, it is a semantic variation point what to do with it.

The ordering of the events in the input pool is a semantic variation.

#### **Notation**

See “Classifier (from Kernel, Dependencies, PowerTypes, Interfaces)” on page 55.

#### **Changes from previous UML**

In UML 1.4, there was no separate metaclass for classifiers with behavior.

### **13.3.5 CallConcurrencyKind (from Communications)**

#### **Generalizations**

None

#### **Description**

CallConcurrencyKind is an enumeration with the following literals:

- **sequential** - No concurrency management mechanism is associated with the operation and, therefore, concurrency conflicts may occur. Instances that invoke a behavioral feature need to coordinate so that only one invocation to a target on any behavioral feature occurs at once.
- **guarded** - Multiple invocations of a behavioral feature may occur simultaneously to one instance, but only one is allowed to commence. The others are blocked until the performance of the currently executing behavioral feature is complete. It is the responsibility of the system designer to ensure that deadlocks do not occur due to simultaneous blocks.
- **concurrent** - Multiple invocations of a behavioral feature may occur simultaneously to one instance and all of them may proceed concurrently.

#### **Attributes**

No additional attributes

#### **Associations**

No additional associations

**Constraints**

No additional constraints

**Semantics**

See Description sub clause above.

**Notation**

None

**Changes from previous UML**

None

**13.3.6 CallEvent (from Communications)**

A CallEvent models the receipt by an object of a message invoking a call of an operation.

**Generalizations**

- “MessageEvent (from Communications)” on page 467

**Description**

A call event represents the *reception* of a request to invoke a specific operation. A call event is distinct from the call action that caused it. A call event may cause the invocation of a behavior that is the method of the operation referenced by the call request, if that operation is owned or inherited by the classifier that specified the receiver object.

**Attributes**

No additional attributes

**Associations**

- operation: Operation [1]  
Designates the operation whose invocation raised the call event.

**Constraints**

No additional constraints

**Semantics**

A call event represents the reception of a request to invoke a specific operation on an object. The call event may result in the execution of the behavior that implements the called operation. A call event may, in addition, cause other responses, such as a state machine transition, as specified in the classifier behavior of the classifier that specified the receiver object. In that case, the additional behavior is invoked after the completion of the operation referenced by the call event.

A call event makes available any argument values carried by the received call request to all behaviors caused by this event (such as transition actions or entry actions).

## Notation

Call events are denoted by a list of names of the triggering operations, followed by an assignment specification:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \text{call-event} \rangle &:: \langle \text{name} \rangle [ \langle ' \rangle [ \langle \text{assignment-specification} \rangle ] \langle ' \rangle ] \\ \langle \text{assignment-specification} \rangle &:: = \langle \text{attr-name} \rangle [ \langle ' \rangle \langle \text{attr-name} \rangle ]^* \end{aligned}$$

where:

- $\langle \text{attr-name} \rangle$  is an implicit assignment of the corresponding parameter of the operation to an attribute (with this name) of the context object owning the triggered behavior.

$\langle \text{assignment-specification} \rangle$  is optional and may be omitted even if the operation has parameters.

### 13.3.7 ChangeEvent (from Communications)

A change event models a change in the system configuration that makes a condition true.

#### Generalizations

- “Event (from Communications)” on page 463

#### Description

A change event occurs when a Boolean-valued expression becomes true. For example, as a result of a change in the value held in a slot corresponding to an attribute, or a change in the value referenced by a link corresponding to an association. A change event is raised implicitly and is *not* the result of an explicit action.

#### Attributes

No additional attributes

#### Associations

- **changeExpression**: Expression [1]  
A Boolean-valued expression that will result in a change event whenever its value changes from *false* to *true*.  
{Subsets *Element::ownedElement*}

#### Constraints

No additional constraints

#### Semantics

Each time the value of the change expression changes from false to true, a change event is generated.

#### Semantic Variation Points

It is a semantic variation when the change expression is evaluated. For example, the change expression may be continuously evaluated until it becomes *true*. It is further a semantic variation whether a change event remains until it is consumed, even if the change expression changes to *false* after a change event.

#### Notation

A change event is denoted in a trigger by a Boolean expression.

`<change-event> ::= 'when' <expression>`

### Changes from previous UML

This metaclass replaces change event.

## 13.3.8 Class (from Communications)

### Generalizations

- “BehavedClassifier (from BasicBehaviors, Communications)” on page 455
- “Class (from Kernel)” on page 52 (*merge increment*)

### Description

A class may be designated as active (i.e., each of its instances having its own thread of control) or passive (i.e., each of its instances executing within the context of some other object). A class may also specify which signals the instances of this class handle.

### Attributes

- `isActive`: Boolean  
Determines whether an object specified by this class is active or not. If *true*, then the owning class is referred to as an *active class*. If *false*, then such a class is referred to as a *passive class*. Default value is *false*.

### Associations

- `ownedReception`: Reception [0..\*]  
Receptions that objects of this class are willing to accept. (Subsets *Namespace::ownedMember* and *Classifier::feature*)

### Constraints

[1] A passive class cannot have receptions.

**(not self.isActive) implies self.ownedReception->isEmpty()**

### Semantics

An active object is an object that, as a direct consequence of its creation, commences to execute its classifier behavior, and does not cease until either the complete behavior is executed or the object is terminated by some external object. (This is sometimes referred to as “the object having its own thread of control.”) The points at which an active object responds to communications from other objects is determined solely by the behavior of the active object and not by the invoking object. If the classifier behavior of an active object completes, the object is terminated.

### Notation

See presentation options below.

### Presentation options

A class with the property *isActive* = *true* can be shown by a class box with an additional vertical bar on either side, as depicted in Figure 13.14.



Figure 13.14 - Active class

### 13.3.9 Duration (from SimpleTime)

#### Generalizations

- “ValueSpecification (from Kernel)” on page 145.

#### Description

A duration defines a value specification that specifies the temporal distance between two time instants.

#### Associations

- observation : Observation[\*]  
Refers to the time and duration observations that are involved in expr.
- expr : ValueSpecification [0..1]  
The value of the Duration. {Subsets Element; ownedElement}

#### Constraints

No additional constraints.

#### Semantics

A Duration defines a ValueSpecification that denotes some duration in time. The duration is given by the difference in time between a starting point in time and an ending point in time.

#### Notation

A Duration is a value of relative time given in an implementation specific textual format. Often a Duration is a non-negative integer expression representing the number of “time ticks” that may elapse during this duration.

#### Changes from previous UML

This metaclass has been added.

### 13.3.10 DurationConstraint (from SimpleTime)

#### Generalizations

- “IntervalConstraint (from SimpleTime)” on page 466

## Description

A DurationConstraint defines a Constraint that refers to a DurationInterval.

## Attributes

- firstEvent:Boolean [0..2]  
The value of firstEvent[i] is related to constrainedElement[i] (where i is 1 or 2). If firstEvent[i] is true, then the corresponding observation event is the first time instant the execution enters constrainedElement[i]. If firstEvent[i] is false, then the corresponding observation event is the last time instant the execution is within constrainedElement[i].

## Associations

- specification: DurationInterval [1]  
A duration used to determine whether the constraint is satisfied (Redefines *IntervalConstraint::specification*).

## Constraints

- [1] The multiplicity of firstEvent must be 2 if the multiplicity of constrainedElement is 2; otherwise, the multiplicity of firstEvent is 0. (The constraint is a requirement on the duration from the execution time from (constrainedElement[1], firstEvent[1]) to (constrainedElement[2], firstEvent[2]). If the multiplicity of constrainedElement is 1, then the constraint is a requirement on the duration given by the duration of the execution of that constrainedElement.)
- if** (constrainedElement->size() = 2) **then** (firstEvent->size() = 2) **else** (firstEvent->size() = 0)

## Semantics

The semantics of a DurationConstraint is inherited from Constraints. All traces where the constraints are violated are negative traces (i.e., if they occur in practice, the system has failed).

## Notation

A DurationConstraint is shown as some graphical association between a DurationInterval and the constructs that it constrains. The notation is specific to the diagram type.

## Examples

See example in Figure 13.15 on page 462 where the TimeConstraint is associated with the duration of a Message and the duration between two OccurrenceSpecifications.

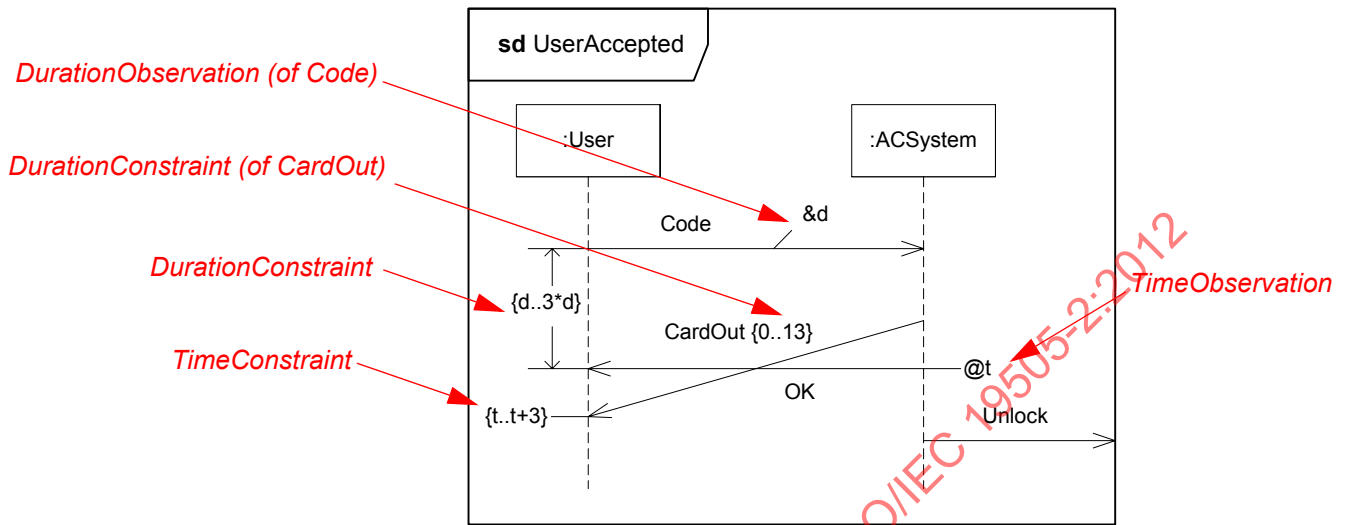


Figure 13.15 - DurationConstraint and other time-related concepts

**Changes from previous UML**

This metaclass has been added.

**13.3.11 DurationInterval (from SimpleTime)**

**Generalizations**

- “Interval (from SimpleTime)” on page 465

**Description**

A DurationInterval defines the range between two Durations.

**Attributes**

No additional attributes

**Associations**

- min: Duration [1]  
Refers to the Duration denoting the minimum value of the range. (Redefines Interval::min)
- max: Duration [1]  
Refers to the Duration denoting the maximum value of the range. (Redefines Interval::max)

**Constraints**

No additional constraints

**Semantics**

None

**Notation**

A DurationInterval is shown using the notation of Interval where each value specification element is a Duration.

**13.3.12 DurationObservation (from SimpleTime)****Generalizations**

- “Observation (from SimpleTime)” on page 467

**Description**

An observation is a reference to a duration during an execution. It points out the element(s) in the model to observe and whether the observations are when this model element is entered or when it is exited.

**Attributes**

- firstEvent:Boolean[0..2]  
The value of firstEvent[i] is related to event[i] (where i is 1 or 2). If firstEvent[i] is true, then the corresponding observation event is the first time instant the execution enters event[i]. If firstEvent[i] is false, then the corresponding observation event is the time instant the execution exits event[i].

**Associations**

- event:NamedElement[1..2]  
The observation is determined by the entering or exiting of the event element during execution.

**Constraints**

- [1] The multiplicity of firstEvent must be 2 if the multiplicity of event is 2; otherwise, the multiplicity of firstEvent is 0.  
if (event->size() = 2) then (firstEvent->size() = 2) else (firstEvent->size() = 0)

**Semantics**

A duration observation denotes some interval of time.

**Notation**

A duration observation is often denoted by a straight line attached to a model element. The observation is given a name that is shown close to the unattached end of the line.

**13.3.13 Event (from Communications)****Generalizations**

- “PackageableElement (from Kernel)” on page 116

**Description**

An event is the specification of some occurrence that may potentially trigger effects by an object.

**Attributes**

No additional attributes

### Associations

No additional associations

### Constraints

No additional constraints

### Semantics

An event is the specification of some occurrence that may potentially trigger effects by an object. This is an abstract metaclass.

### Notation

None

### Changes from previous UML

None

## 13.3.14 FunctionBehavior (from BasicBehaviors)

### Generalizations

- “OpaqueBehavior (from BasicBehaviors)” on page 468

### Description

A function behavior is an opaque behavior that does not access or modify any objects or other external data.

### Attributes

No additional attributes

### Associations

No additional associations

### Constraints

[1] A function behavior has at least one output parameter.

(self.ownedParameters->notEmpty) **and** self.ownedParameters->exists (p|  
(p.direction = ParameterDirectionKind::out) **or**  
(p.direction = ParameterDirectionKind::inout) **or**  
(p.direction = ParameterDirectionKind::return))

[2] The types of parameters are all data types, which may not nest anything but other datatypes.

### Semantics

Primitive functions transform a set of input values to a set of output values by invoking a function. They represent functions from a set of input values to a set of output values. The execution of a primitive function depends only on the input values and has no other effect than to compute output values. A primitive function does not read or write structural

feature or link values, nor otherwise interact with object memory or other objects. Its behavior is completely self-contained. Specific primitive functions are not defined in the UML, but would be defined in domain-specific extensions. Typical primitive functions would include arithmetic, Boolean, and string functions.

During the execution of the function, no communication or interaction with the rest of the system is possible. The amount of time to compute the results is undefined. FunctionBehavior may raise exceptions for certain input values, in which case the computation is abandoned.

### Notation

None

### Examples

Mathematical functions are examples of function behaviors.

### Rationale

FunctionBehavior is introduced to model external functions that only take inputs and produce outputs and have no effect on the specified system.

## 13.3.15 Interface (from Communications)

### Generalizations

- “Interface (from Interfaces)” on page 91 (*merge increment*)

### Description

Adds the capability for interfaces to include receptions (in addition to operations).

### Associations

- ownedReception: Reception [0..\*]  
Receptions that objects providing this interface are willing to accept. (Subsets *Namespace::ownedMember* and *Classifier::feature*)

## 13.3.16 Interval (from SimpleTime)

### Generalizations

- “ValueSpecification (from Kernel)” on page 145

### Description

An Interval defines the range between two value specifications.

### Attributes

No additional attributes

### Associations

- min: ValueSpecification[1]  
Refers to the ValueSpecification denoting the minimum value of the range.
- max: ValueSpecification[1]  
Refers to the ValueSpecification denoting the maximum value of the range.

### Constraints

No additional constraints

### Semantics

The semantics of an Interval is always related to Constraints in which it takes part.

### Notation

An Interval is denoted textually by two ValueSpecifications separated by “..”:

$\langle interval \rangle ::= \langle min-value \rangle \text{ ‘..’ } \langle max-value \rangle$

### Changes from previous UML

This metaclass has been added.

## 13.3.17 IntervalConstraint (from SimpleTime)

### Generalizations

- “Constraint (from Kernel)” on page 61

### Description

An IntervalConstraint defines a Constraint that refers to an Interval.

### Attributes

No additional attributes

### Associations

- specification : Interval [1]  
An interval that determines if the constraint is satisfied. (Redefines *Constraint::specification*)

### Constraints

No additional constraints

### Semantics

The semantics of an IntervalConstraint is inherited from Constraint. All traces where the constraints are violated are negative traces (i.e., if they occur in practice, the system has failed).

**Notation**

An IntervalConstraint is shown as a graphical association between an Interval and the constructs that this Interval constrains. The concrete form is given in its subclasses.

**Changes from previous UML**

This metaclass has been added.

**13.3.18 MessageEvent (from Communications)****Generalizations**

- “Event (from Communications)” on page 463

**Description**

A message event specifies the receipt by an object of either a call or a signal. MessageEvent is an abstract metaclass.

**Attributes**

No additional attributes

**Associations**

No additional associations

**Constraints**

No additional constraints

**Semantics**

No additional semantics

**Notation**

None

**Changes from previous UML**

The metaclass has been added.

**13.3.19 Observation (from SimpleTime)****Generalizations**

- “PackageableElement (from Kernel)” on page 116

**Description**

Observation is an abstract superclass of TimeObservation and DurationObservation into allow TimeExpressions and Durations to refer to either in a common way.

**Attributes**

No additional attributes

**Associations**

No additional associations

**Constraints**

No additional constraints

**Semantics**

No additional semantics

**Notation**

None

**Changes from previous UML**

The metaclass has been added.

**13.3.20 OpaqueBehavior (from BasicBehaviors)**

**Generalizations**

- “Behavior (from BasicBehaviors)” on page 451

**Description**

A behavior with implementation-specific semantics.

**Attributes**

- body : String [0..\*] {nonunique, ordered}  
Specifies the behavior in one or more languages.
- language : String [0..\*] {ordered}  
Languages the body strings use in the same order as the body strings.

**Associations**

No additional associations

**Constraints**

No additional constraints

**Semantics**

The semantics of the behavior is determined by the implementation.

**Notation**

None

**Rationale**

OpaqueBehavior is introduced for implementation-specific behavior or for use as a place-holder before one of the other behaviors is chosen.

**13.3.21 OpaqueExpression (from BasicBehaviors)****Generalizations**

- “OpaqueExpression (from Kernel)” on page 108 (*merge increment*)

**Description**

Provides a mechanism for precisely defining the behavior of an opaque expression. An opaque expression is defined by a behavior restricted to return one result.

**Attributes**

No additional attributes

**Associations**

- behavior: Behavior [0..1]  
Specifies the behavior of the opaque expression.
- result: Parameter [0..1]  
Restricts an opaque expression to return exactly one return result. When the invocation of the opaque expression completes, a single set of values is returned to its owner. This association is derived from the single return result parameter of the associated behavior.

**Constraints**

[1] The *behavior* can only have return result parameters.

```
self.behavior.notEmpty() implies
(self.behavior.ownedParameters->select(p | p.direction <> ParameterDirectionKind::return))->isEmpty()
```

[2] The *behavior* must have exactly one return result parameter.

```
self.behavior.notEmpty() implies
(self.behavior.ownedParameter->select(p | p.direction = ParameterDirectionKind::return))->size() = 1
```

**Semantics**

An opaque expression is invoked by the execution of its owning element. An opaque expression does not have formal parameters and thus cannot be passed data upon invocation. It accesses its input data through elements of its behavioral description. Upon completion of its execution, a single value or a single set of values is returned to its owner.

**13.3.22 Operation (from Communications)****Generalizations**

- “Operation (from Kernel, Interfaces)” on page 109 (*merge increment*)

## Description

An operation may invoke both the execution of method behaviors as well as other behavioral responses.

## Semantics

If an operation is not mentioned in a trigger of a behavior owned or inherited by the behaviored classifier owning the operation, then upon occurrence of a call event (representing the receipt of a request for the invocation of this operation) a resolution process is performed that determines the method behavior to be invoked, based on the operation and the data values corresponding to the parameters of the operation transmitted by the request; otherwise, the call event is placed into the input pool of the object (see BehavioredClassifier on page 455). If a behavior is triggered by this event, it begins with performing the resolution process and invoking the so determined method. Then the behavior continues its execution as specified.

Operations specify immediate or triggered effects (see “BehavioredClassifier” on page 455).

## Semantic Variation Points

Resolution specifies how a particular behavior is identified to be executed in response to the invocation of an operation, using mechanisms such as inheritance. The mechanism by which the behavior to be invoked is determined from an operation and the transmitted argument data is a semantic variation point. In general, this mechanism may be complicated to include languages with features such as before-after methods, delegation, etc. In some of these variations, multiple behaviors may be executed as a result of a single call. The following defines a simple object-oriented process for this semantic variation point.

- Object-oriented resolution  
When a call request is received, the class of the target object is examined for an owned operation with matching parameters (see “BehavioralFeature” on page 454). If such operation is found, the behavior associated as *method* is the result of the resolution; otherwise, the parent classifier is examined for a matching operation, and so on up the generalization hierarchy until a method is found or the root of the hierarchy is reached. If a class has multiple parents, all of them are examined for a method. If a method is found in exactly one ancestor class, then that method is the result of the resolution. If a method is found in more than one ancestor class along different paths, then the model is ill-formed under this semantic variation.

If no method by the resolution process, then it is a semantic variation point what is to happen.

### 13.3.23 Reception (from Communications)

#### Generalizations

- “BehavioralFeature (from Kernel)” on page 51

#### Description

A reception is a declaration stating that a classifier is prepared to react to the receipt of a signal. A reception designates a signal and specifies the expected behavioral response. The details of handling a signal are specified by the behavior associated with the reception or the classifier itself.

#### Attributes

No additional attributes

**Associations**

- signal: Signal [1]  
The signal that this reception handles.

**Constraints**

- [1] A Reception cannot be a query.  
not self.isQuery

**Semantics**

The receipt of a signal instance by the instance of the classifier owning a matching reception will cause the asynchronous invocation of the behavior specified as the method of the reception. A reception matches a signal if the received signal is a subtype of the signal referenced by the reception. The details of how the behavior responds to the received signal depend on the kind of behavior associated with the reception. (For example, if the reception is implemented by a state machine, the signal event will trigger a transition and subsequent effects as specified by that state machine.)

Receptions specify triggered effects (see “BehavioredClassifier” on page 455).

**Notation**

Receptions are shown using the same notation as for operations with the keyword «signal», as shown in Figure 13.16.

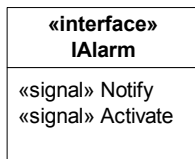


Figure 13.16 - Showing signal receptions in classifiers

**Changes from previous UML**

None

**13.3.24 Signal (from Communications)****Generalizations**

- “Classifier (from Kernel, Dependencies, PowerTypes, Interfaces)” on page 55

**Description**

A signal is a specification of send request instances communicated between objects. The receiving object handles the received request instances as specified by its receptions. The data carried by a send request (which was passed to it by the send invocation occurrence that caused that request) are represented as attributes of the signal. A signal is defined independently of the classifiers handling the signal occurrence.

**Attributes**

No additional attributes

### Associations

- ownedAttribute: Property [0..\*]  
The attributes owned by the signal. (Subsets *Classifier::attribute*, *Namespace::ownedMember*). This association end is ordered.

### Constraints

No additional constraints

### Semantics

A signal triggers a reaction in the receiver in an asynchronous way and without a reply. The sender of a signal will not block waiting for a reply but continue execution immediately. By declaring a reception associated to a given signal, a classifier specifies that its instances will be able to receive that signal, or a subtype thereof, and will respond to it with the designated behavior.

### Notation

A signal is depicted by a classifier symbol with the keyword «signal».

### Changes from previous UML

None

### 13.3.25 SignalEvent (from Communications)

A signal event represents the *receipt* of an asynchronous signal instance. A signal event may, for example, cause a state machine to trigger a transition.

### Generalizations

- “MessageEvent (from Communications)” on page 467

### Description

A signal event represents the *receipt* of an asynchronous signal. A signal event may cause a response, such as a state machine transition as specified in the classifier behavior of the classifier that specified the receiver object, if the signal referenced by the send request is mentioned in a reception owned or inherited by the classifier that specified the receiver object.

### Attributes

- signal: Signal [1]  
The specific signal that is associated with this event.

### Associations

No additional associations

### Constraints

No additional constraints

## Semantics

A signal event occurs when a signal message, originally caused by a send action executed by some object, is received by another (possibly the same) object. A signal event may result in the execution of the behavior that implements the reception matching the received signal.

A signal event makes available any argument values carried by the received send request to all behaviors caused by this event (such as transition actions or entry actions).

## Semantic Variation Points

The means by which requests are transported to their target depend on the type of requesting action, the target, the properties of the communication medium, and numerous other factors. In some cases, this is instantaneous and completely reliable while in others it may involve transmission delays of variable duration, loss of requests, reordering, or duplication. (See also the discussion on page 443.)

## Notation

Signal events are denoted by a list of names of the triggering signals, followed by an assignment specification:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \text{signal-event} \rangle &::= \langle \text{name} \rangle [ (' [\langle \text{assignment-specification} \rangle] ?) ] \\ \langle \text{assignment-specification} \rangle &::= \langle \text{attr-name} \rangle [ ', \langle \text{attr-name} \rangle ]^* \end{aligned}$$

where:

- $\langle \text{attr-name} \rangle$  is an implicit assignment of the corresponding attributes of the signal to an attribute (with this name) of the context object owning the triggered behavior.
- $\langle \text{assignment-specification} \rangle$  is optional and may be omitted even if the signal has attributes.

## Changes from previous UML

This metaclass replaces SignalEvent.

### 13.3.26 TimeConstraint (from SimpleTime)

#### Generalizations

- “IntervalConstraint (from SimpleTime)” on page 466

#### Description

A TimeConstraint defines a Constraint that refers to a TimeInterval.

#### Attributes

- firstEvent: Boolean [0..1]  
The value of firstEvent is related to constrainedElement. If firstEvent is true, then the corresponding observation event is the first time instant the execution enters constrainedElement. If firstEvent is false, then the corresponding observation event is the last time instant the execution is within constrainedElement.

#### Associations

- specification: TimeInterval [1]  
A time expression used to determine whether the constraint is satisfied. Redefines *IntervalConstraint::specification*

**Constraints**

No additional constraints

**Semantics**

The semantics of a TimeConstraint is inherited from Constraints. All traces where the constraints are violated are negative traces (i.e., if they occur in practice, the system has failed).

**Notation**

A TimeConstraint is shown as graphical association between a TimeInterval and the construct that it constrains. Typically this graphical association is a small line (e.g., between an OccurrenceSpecification and a TimeInterval).

**Examples**

See example in Figure 13.17 where the TimeConstraint is associated with the reception of a Message.

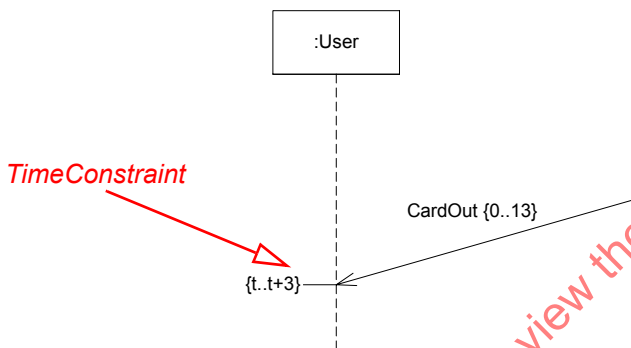


Figure 13.17 - TimeConstraint

**Changes from previous UML**

This metaclass has been added.

**13.3.27 TimeEvent (from SimpleTime)**

A TimeEvent specifies a point in time. At the specified time, the event occurs.

**Generalizations**

- “Event (from Communications)” on page 463

**Description**

A time event specifies a point in time by an expression. The expression might be absolute or might be relative to some other point in time.

**Attributes**

- isRelative: Boolean  
Specifies whether it is relative or absolute time. Default value is *false*.

**Associations**

- when: TimeExpression [1]  
Specifies the corresponding time deadline. {Subsets Element::ownedElement}

**Constraints**

No additional constraints

**Semantics**

A time event specifies an instant in time by an expression. The expression might be absolute or it might be relative to some other point in time. Relative time events must always be used in the context of a trigger and the starting point is the time at which the trigger becomes active.

**Semantic Variation Points**

There may be a variable delay between the time of reception and the time of dispatching of the TimeEvent (e.g., due to queuing delays).

**Notation**

A relative time trigger is specified with the keyword ‘after’ followed by an expression that evaluates to a time value, such as “after (5 seconds).” An absolute time trigger is specified with the keyword ‘at’ followed by an expression that evaluates to a time value, such as “Jan. 1, 2000, Noon.”

```
<time-event> ::= <relative-time-event> | <absolute-time-event>
<relative-time-event> ::= 'after' <expression>
<absolute-time-event> ::= 'at' <expression>
```

**Changes from previous UML**

The attribute *isRelative* has been added for clarity.

**13.3.28 TimeExpression (from SimpleTime)****Generalizations**

- “ValueSpecification (from Kernel)” on page 145

**Description**

A TimeExpression defines a value specification that represents a time value.

**Attributes**

No additional attributes

**Associations**

- observation : Observation[\*]  
Refers to the time and duration observations that are involved in expr.
- expr : ValueSpecification[0..1]  
The value of the time expression. {Subsets Element::ownedElement}

### Constraints

No additional constraints

### Semantics

A TimeExpression denotes a time instant value. The time expression is given by expr which may contain usage of the observations given by observation. In the case where there are no observations, the expr will contain a time constant. In the case where there is no expr, there shall be a single observation that indicates the time expression value.

### Notation

A time expression is given by a string. The string is a formula where names of observations and constants are included.

### Changes from previous UML

This metaclass has been added.

## 13.3.29 TimeInterval (from SimpleTime)

### Generalizations

- “Interval (from SimpleTime)” on page 465.

### Description

A TimeInterval defines the range between two TimeExpressions.

### Attributes

No additional attributes

### Associations

- min: TimeExpression [1]  
Refers to the TimeExpression denoting the minimum value of the range.
- max: TimeExpression [1]  
Refers to the TimeExpression denoting the maximum value of the range.

### Constraints

No additional constraints

### Semantics

None

### Notation

A TimeInterval is shown with the notation of Interval where each value specification element is a TimeExpression.

### Changes from previous UML

This metaclass has been added.

### 13.3.30 TimeObservation (from SimpleTime)

#### Generalizations

- “Observation (from SimpleTime)” on page 467

#### Description

A time observation is a reference to a time instant during an execution. It points out the element in the model to observe and whether the observation is when this model element is entered or when it is exited.

#### Attributes

- firstEvent:Boolean  
The value of firstEvent is related to event. If firstEvent is true, then the corresponding observation event is the first time instant the execution enters event. If firstEvent is false, then the corresponding observation event is the time instant the execution exits event.

#### Associations

- event:NamedElement[1]  
The observation is determined by the entering or exiting of the event element during execution.

#### Constraints

No additional constraints

#### Semantics

A TimeObservation denotes an instant in time.

#### Notation

A time observation is often denoted by a straight line attached to a model element. The observation is given a name that is shown close to the unattached end of the line.

#### Changes from previous UML

This metaclass has been added.

### 13.3.31 Trigger (from Communications)

A trigger relates an event to a behavior that may affect an instance of the classifier.

#### Generalizations

- “NamedElement (from Kernel, Dependencies)” on page 104

#### Description

A trigger specifies an event that may cause the execution of an associated behavior. An event is often ultimately caused by the execution of an action, but need not be.

### Attributes

No additional attributes

### Associations

- event : Event [1]  
The event that causes the trigger.

### Constraints

No additional constraints

### Semantics

Events may cause execution of behavior (e.g., the execution of the effect activity of a transition in a state machine). A trigger specifies the event that may trigger a behavior execution as well as any constraints on the event to filter out events not of interest.

Events are often generated as a result of some action either within the system or in the environment surrounding the system. Upon their occurrence, events are placed into the input pool of the object where they occurred (see BehaviorClassifier on page 455). An event is dispatched when it is taken from the input pool and is processed by the classifier. At this point, the event is considered consumed and referred to as the current event. A consumed event is no longer available for processing. (Note that an event identified as deferred by a state that does not fire any trigger is not dispatched and is therefore never consumed; see “State (from BehaviorStateMachines, ProtocolStateMachines)” on page 565).

### Semantic Variation Points

No assumptions are made about the time intervals between event occurrence, event dispatching, and consumption. This leaves open the possibility of different semantic variations such as zero-time semantics.

### Notation

A trigger is used to define an unnamed event. The details of the syntax for the event are defined by the different subclasses of Event:

*<trigger>* ::= *<call-event>* | *<signal-event>* | *<any-receive-event>* | *<time-event>* | *<change-event>*

### Changes from previous UML

The corresponding metaclass in 1.x was Event. In 1.x, events were specified with Parameters. Instead, the data that may be communicated by an event is accessed via the properties of the specification element defining the event.

# 14 Interactions

## 14.1 Overview

Interactions are used in a number of different situations. They are used to get a better grip of an interaction situation for an individual designer or for a group that needs to achieve a common understanding of the situation. Interactions are also used during the more detailed design phase where the precise inter-process communication must be set up according to formal protocols. When testing is performed, the traces of the system can be described as interactions and compared with those of the earlier phases.

The Interaction package describes the concepts needed to express Interactions, depending on their purpose. An interaction can be displayed in several different types of diagrams: Sequence Diagrams, Interaction Overview Diagrams, and Communication Diagrams. Optional diagram types such as Timing Diagrams and Interaction Tables come in addition. Each type of diagram provides slightly different capabilities that makes it more appropriate for certain situations.

Interactions are a common mechanism for describing systems that can be understood and produced, at varying levels of detail, by both professionals of computer systems design, as well as potential end users and stakeholders of (future) systems.

Typically when interactions are produced by designers or by running systems, the case is that the interactions do not tell the complete story. There are normally other legal and possible traces that are not contained within the described interactions. Some projects do, however, request that all possible traces of a system shall be documented through interactions in the form of (e.g., sequence diagrams or similar notations).

The most visible aspects of an Interaction are the messages between the lifelines. The sequence of the messages is considered important for the understanding of the situation. The data that the messages convey and the lifelines store may also be very important, but the Interactions do not focus on the manipulation of data even though data can be used to decorate the diagrams.

In this clause we use the term *trace* to mean “sequence of event occurrences,” which corresponds well with common use in the area of trace-semantics, which is a preferred way to describe the semantics of Interactions. We may denote this by  $\langle \text{eventoccurrence1}, \text{eventoccurrence2}, \dots, \text{eventoccurrence-n} \rangle$ . We are aware that other parts of the UML language definition of the term “trace” is used also for other purposes.

By *interleaving* we mean the merging of two or more traces such that the events from different traces may come in any order in the resulting trace, while events within the same trace retain their order. Interleaving semantics is different from a semantics where it is perceived that two events may occur at exactly the same time. To explain Interactions we apply an Interleaving Semantics.

## 14.2 Abstract Syntax

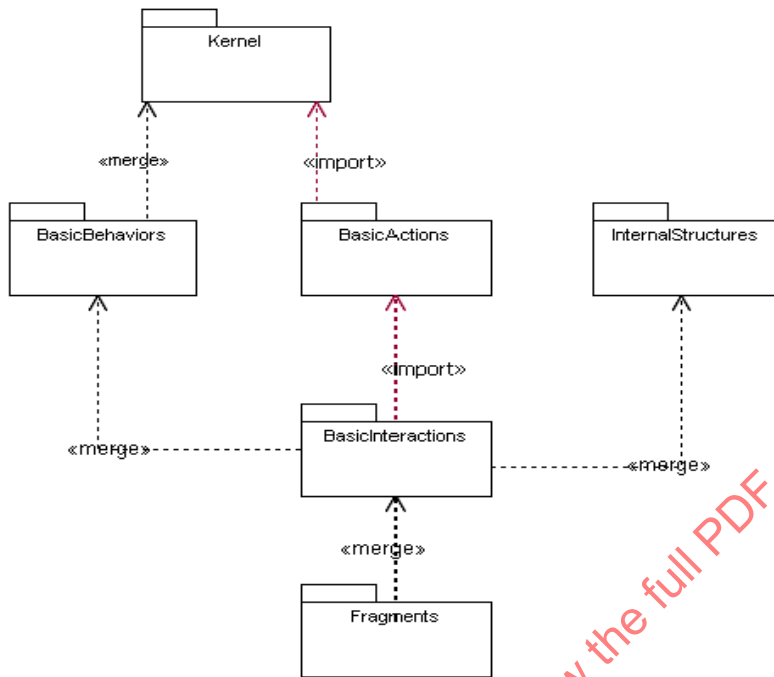


Figure 14.1 - Dependencies of the Interactions packages

Package BasicInteractions

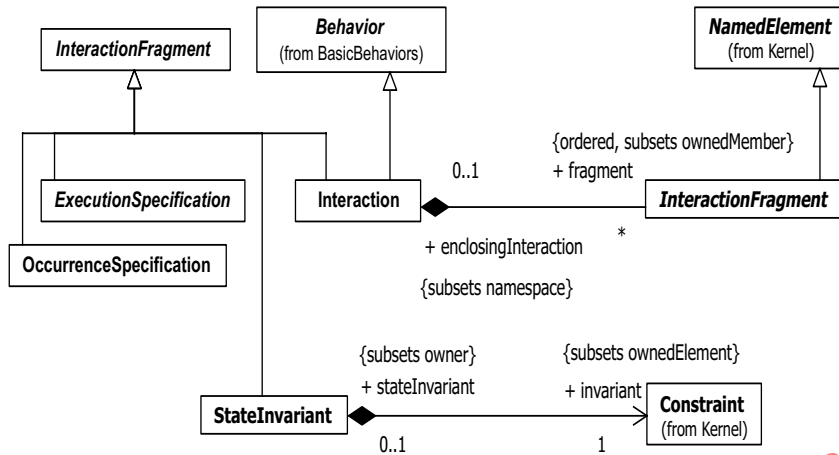


Figure 14.2 - Interactions

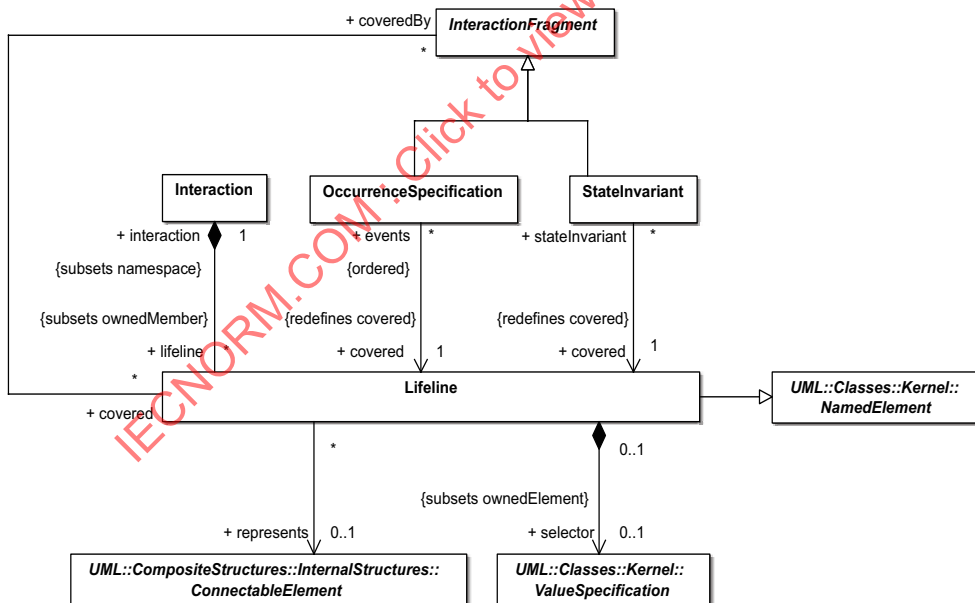


Figure 14.3 - Lifelines



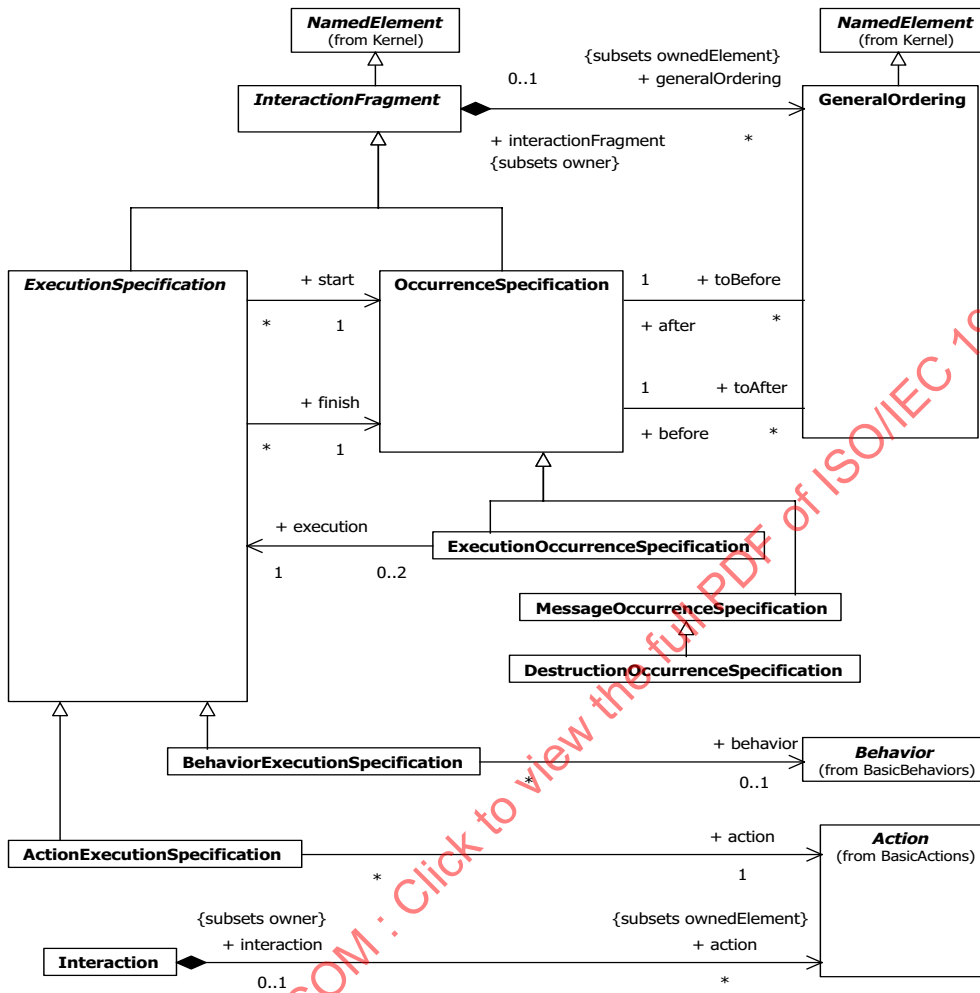


Figure 14.5 - Occurrences

Package Fragments

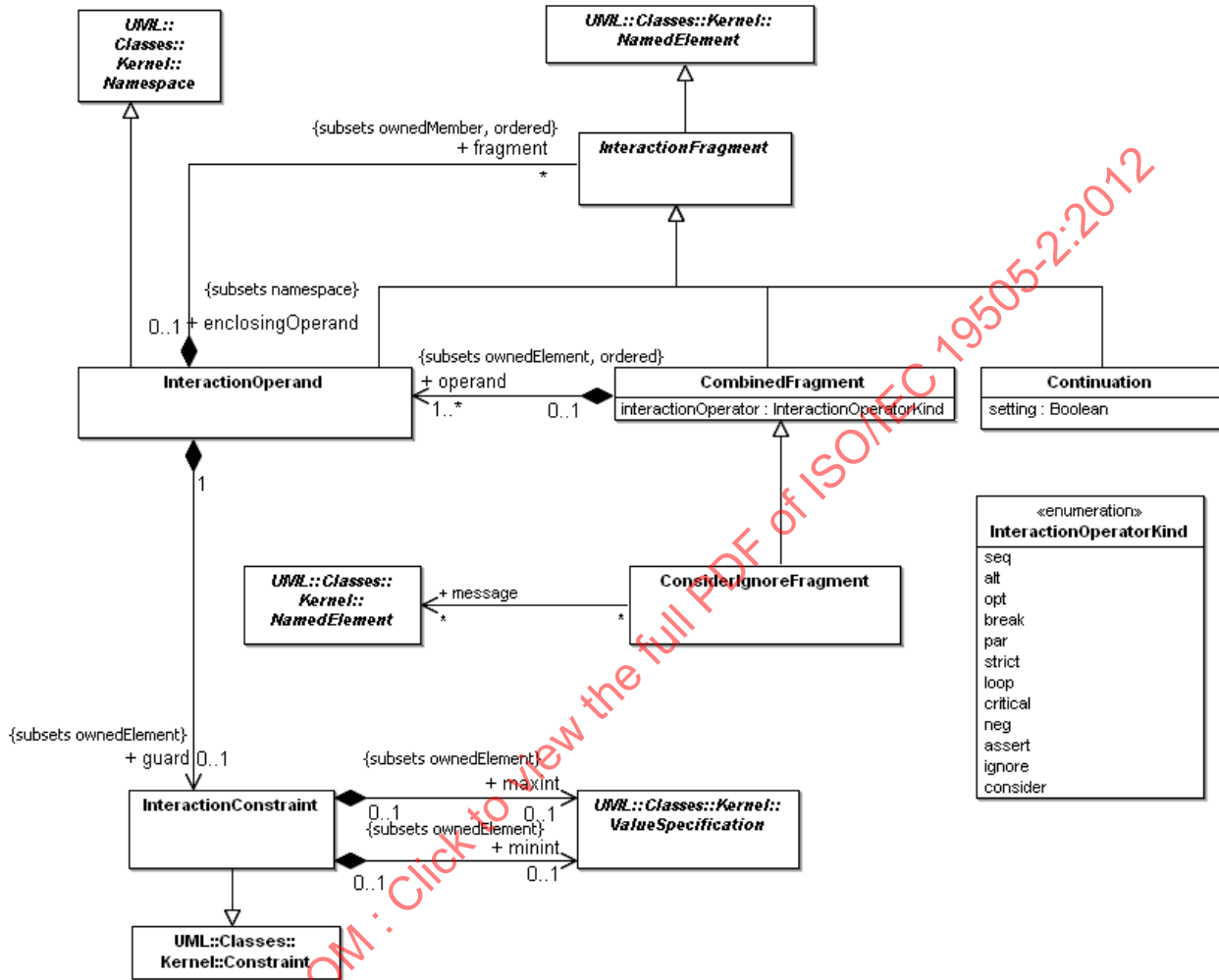


Figure 14.6 - CombinedFragments

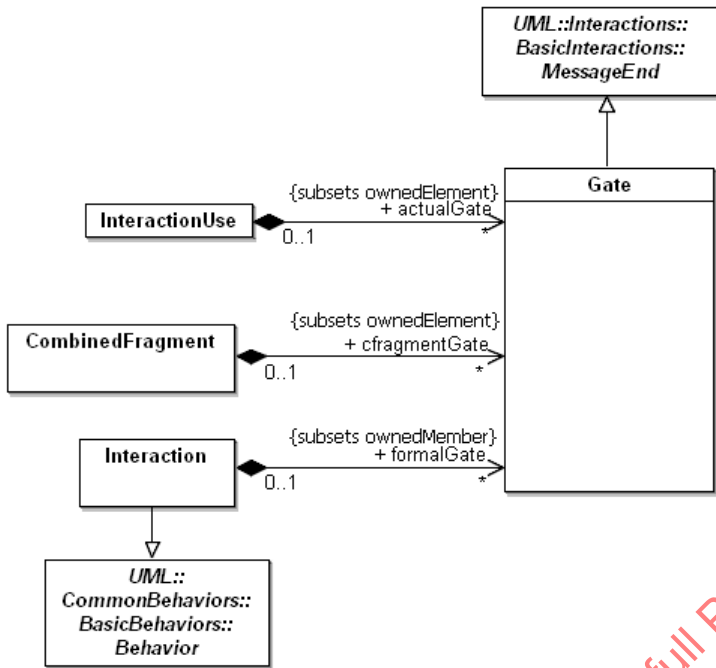


Figure 14.7 - Gates

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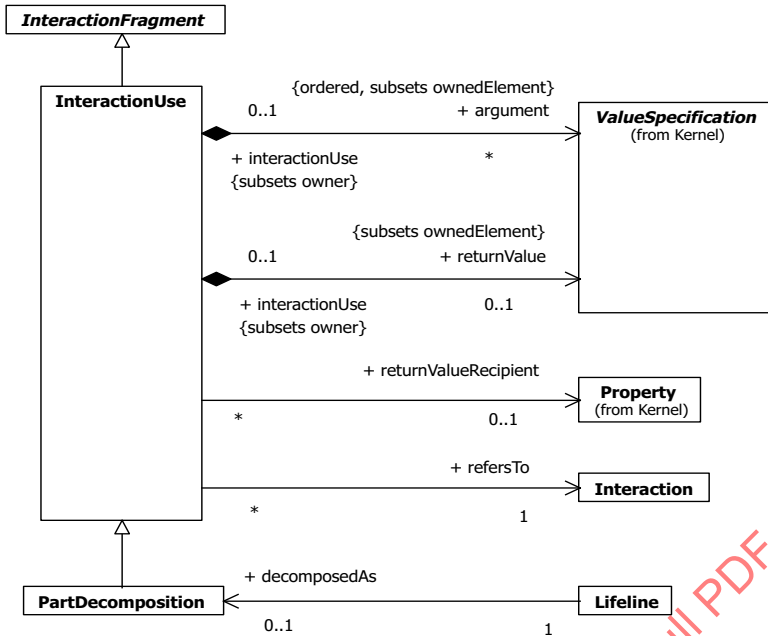


Figure 14.8 - InteractionUses

## 14.3 Class Descriptions

### 14.3.1 ActionExecutionSpecification (from BasicInteractions)

#### Generalizations

- “ExecutionSpecification (from BasicInteractions)” on page 498.

#### Description

ActionExecutionSpecification is a kind of ExecutionSpecification representing the execution of an action.

#### Attributes

No additional attributes

#### Associations

- action : Action [1]  
Action whose execution is occurring.

**Constraints**

[1] The Action referenced by the ActionExecutionOccurrence, if any, must be owned by the Interaction owning the ActionExecutionOccurrence.

**Semantics**

See “ExecutionSpecification (from BasicInteractions)” on page 498.

**Notation**

See “ExecutionSpecification (from BasicInteractions)” on page 498.

**Rationale**

ActionExecutionSpecification is introduced to support interactions specifying messages that result from actions, which may be actions owned by other behaviors.

**14.3.2 BehaviorExecutionSpecification (from BasicInteractions)****Generalizations**

- “ExecutionSpecification (from BasicInteractions)” on page 498

**Description**

BehaviorExecutionSpecification is a kind of ExecutionSpecification representing the execution of a behavior.

**Attributes**

No additional attributes

**Associations**

- behavior : Behavior [0..1]  
Behavior whose execution is occurring.

**Constraints**

No additional constraints

**Semantics**

See “ExecutionSpecification (from BasicInteractions)” on page 498.

**Notation**

See “ExecutionSpecification (from BasicInteractions)” on page 498.

**Rationale**

BehaviorExecutionSpecification is introduced to support interactions specifying messages that result from behaviors.

### 14.3.3 CombinedFragment (from Fragments)

#### Generalizations

- “InteractionFragment (from BasicInteractions, Fragments)” on page 505

#### Description

A combined fragment defines an expression of interaction fragments. A combined fragment is defined by an interaction operator and corresponding interaction operands. Through the use of CombinedFragments the user will be able to describe a number of traces in a compact and concise manner. CombinedFragment is a specialization of InteractionFragment.

#### Attributes

- `interactionOperator` : `InteractionOperatorKind`  
Specifies the operation that defines the semantics of this combination of InteractionFragments. Default value is *seq*.

#### Associations

- `cfragmentGate` : `Gate[*]`  
Specifies the gates that form the interface between this CombinedFragment and its surroundings.
- `operand`: `InteractionOperand[1..*]`  
The set of operands of the combined fragment. {Subsets *Element::ownedElement*}

#### Constraints

- [1] If the `interactionOperator` is *opt*, *loop*, *break*, *assert*, or *neg*, there must be exactly one operand.
- [2] The `InteractionConstraint` with `minint` and `maxint` only apply when attached to an `InteractionOperand` where the `interactionOperator` is *loop*.
- [3] If the `interactionOperator` is *break*, the corresponding `InteractionOperand` must cover all Lifelines within the enclosing `InteractionFragment`.
- [4] The interaction operators ‘*consider*’ and ‘*ignore*’ can only be used for the `CombineIgnoreFragment` subtype of `CombinedFragment`.  
(`(interactionOperator = #consider) or (interactionOperator = #ignore)`) **implies** `ocsisTypeOf(CombineIgnoreFragment)`

#### Semantics

The semantics of a `CombinedFragment` is dependent upon the `interactionOperator` as explained below.

#### Alternatives

The `interactionOperator` **alt** designates that the `CombinedFragment` represents a choice of behavior. At most one of the operands will be chosen. The chosen operand must have an explicit or implicit guard expression that evaluates to true at this point in the interaction. An implicit true guard is implied if the operand has no guard.

The set of traces that defines a choice is the union of the (guarded) traces of the operands.

An operand guarded by **else** designates a guard that is the negation of the disjunction of all other guards in the enclosing `CombinedFragment`.

If none of the operands has a guard that evaluates to true, none of the operands are executed and the remainder of the enclosing `InteractionFragment` is executed.

### Option

The interactionOperator **opt** designates that the CombinedFragment represents a choice of behavior where either the (sole) operand happens or nothing happens. An option is semantically equivalent to an alternative CombinedFragment where there is one operand with non-empty content and the second operand is empty.

### Break

The interactionOperator **break** designates that the CombinedFragment represents a breaking scenario in the sense that the operand is a scenario that is performed instead of the remainder of the enclosing InteractionFragment. A *break* operator with a guard is chosen when the guard is true and the rest of the enclosing Interaction Fragment is ignored. When the guard of the *break* operand is false, the break operand is ignored and the rest of the enclosing InteractionFragment is chosen. The choice between a *break* operand without a guard and the rest of the enclosing InteractionFragment is done non-deterministically.

A CombinedFragment with interactionOperator *break* should cover all Lifelines of the enclosing InteractionFragment.

### Parallel

The interactionOperator **par** designates that the CombinedFragment represents a parallel merge between the behaviors of the operands. The OccurrenceSpecifications of the different operands can be interleaved in any way as long as the ordering imposed by each operand as such is preserved.

A parallel merge defines a set of traces that describes all the ways that OccurrenceSpecifications of the operands may be interleaved without obstructing the order of the OccurrenceSpecifications within the operand.

### Weak Sequencing

The interactionOperator **seq** designates that the CombinedFragment represents a weak sequencing between the behaviors of the operands.

Weak sequencing is defined by the set of traces with these properties:

1. The ordering of OccurrenceSpecifications within each of the operands are maintained in the result.
2. OccurrenceSpecifications on different lifelines from different operands may come in any order.
3. OccurrenceSpecifications on the same lifeline from different operands are ordered such that an OccurrenceSpecification of the first operand comes before that of the second operand.

Thus weak sequencing reduces to a parallel merge when the operands are on disjunct sets of participants. Weak sequencing reduces to strict sequencing when the operands work on only one participant.

### Strict Sequencing

The interactionOperator **strict** designates that the CombinedFragment represents a strict sequencing between the behaviors of the operands. The semantics of strict sequencing defines a strict ordering of the operands on the first level within the CombinedFragment with interactionOperator *strict*. Therefore OccurrenceSpecifications within contained CombinedFragment will not directly be compared with other OccurrenceSpecifications of the enclosing CombinedFragment.

### Negative

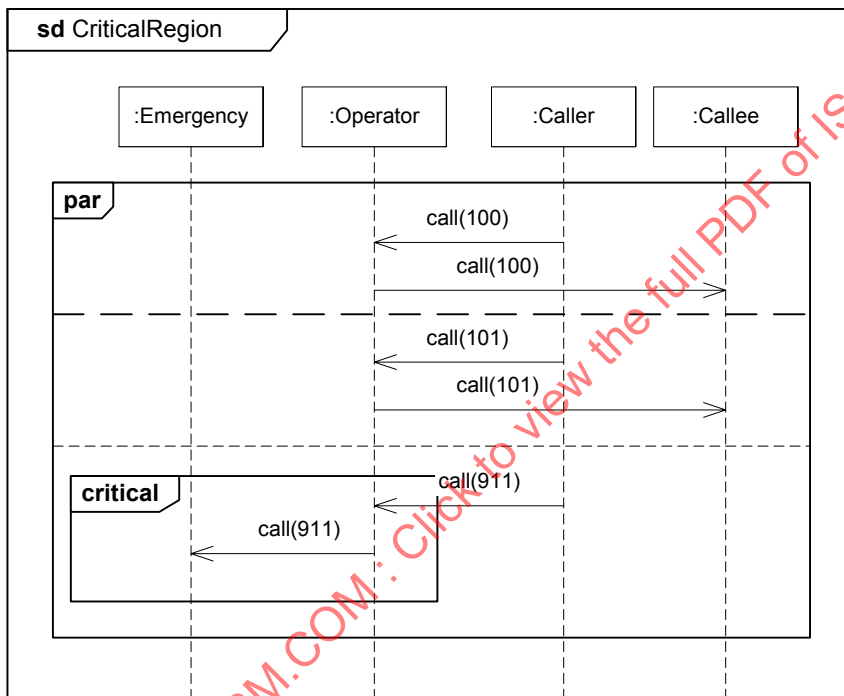
The interactionOperator **neg** designates that the CombinedFragment represents traces that are defined to be invalid.

The set of traces that defined a CombinedFragment with interactionOperator *negative* is equal to the set of traces given by its (sole) operand, only that this set is a set of invalid rather than valid traces. All InteractionFragments that are different from Negative are considered positive meaning that they describe traces that are valid and should be possible.

**Critical Region**

The interactionOperator **critical** designates that the CombinedFragment represents a critical region. A critical region means that the traces of the region cannot be interleaved by other OccurrenceSpecifications (on those Lifelines covered by the region). This means that the region is treated atomically by the enclosing fragment when determining the set of valid traces. Even though enclosing CombinedFragments may imply that some OccurrenceSpecifications may interleave into the region, such as with *par*-operator, this is prevented by defining a region.

Thus the set of traces of enclosing constructs are restricted by critical regions.



**Figure 14.9 - Critical Region**

The example, Figure 14.9 shows that the handling of a 911-call must be contiguously handled. The operator must make sure to forward the 911-call before doing anything else. The normal calls, however, can be freely interleaved.

**Ignore / Consider**

See the semantics of 14.3.4, “ConsiderIgnoreFragment (from Fragments),” on page 493.

**Assertion**

The interactionOperator **assert** designates that the CombinedFragment represents an assertion. The sequences of the operand of the assertion are the only valid continuations. All other continuations result in an invalid trace.

Assertions are often combined with Ignore or Consider as shown in Figure 14.24.

### Loop

The interactionOperator **loop** designates that the CombinedFragment represents a loop. The loop operand will be repeated a number of times.

The Guard may include a lower and an upper number of iterations of the loop as well as a Boolean expression. The semantics is such that a loop will iterate minimum the ‘minint’ number of times (given by the iteration expression in the guard) and at most the ‘maxint’ number of times. After the minimum number of iterations have executed and the Boolean expression is false the loop will terminate. The loop construct represents a recursive application of the *seq* operator where the loop operand is sequenced after the result of earlier iterations.

If the loop contains a separate InteractionConstraint with a specification, the loop will only continue if that specification evaluates to true during execution regardless of the minimum number of iterations specified in the loop.

*The Semantics of Gates (see also “Gate (from Fragments)” on page 499)*

The gates of a CombinedFragment represent the syntactic interface between the CombinedFragment and its surroundings, which means the interface towards other InteractionFragments.

The only purpose of gates is to define the source and the target of Messages.

### Notation

The notation for a CombinedFragment in a Sequence Diagram is a solid-outline rectangle. The operator is shown in a pentagon in the upper left corner of the rectangle.

More than one operator may be shown in the pentagon descriptor. This is a shorthand for nesting CombinedFragments. This means that **sd strict** in the pentagon descriptor is the same as two CombinedFragments nested, the outermost with **sd** and the inner with **strict**.

The operands of a CombinedFragment are shown by tiling the graph region of the CombinedFragment using dashed horizontal lines to divide it into regions corresponding to the operands.

### Strict

Notationally, this means that the vertical coordinate of the contained fragments is significant throughout the whole scope of the CombinedFragment and not only on one Lifeline. The vertical position of an OccurrenceSpecification is given by the vertical position of the corresponding point. The vertical position of other InteractionFragments is given by the topmost vertical position of its bounding rectangle.

### Ignore / Consider

See the notation for “ConsiderIgnoreFragment (from Fragments)” on page 493.

### Loop

Textual syntax of the loop operand:

**loop**[‘(‘ <minint> [‘,’ <maxint> ] ‘)’]

<minint> ::= non-negative natural

$\langle maxint \rangle ::= \text{non-negative natural (greater than or equal to } \langle minint \rangle \mid \infty$

$\infty$  means infinity.

If only  $\langle minint \rangle$  is present, this means that  $\langle minint \rangle = \langle maxint \rangle = \langle integer \rangle$ .

If only **loop**, then this means a loop with infinity upper bound and with 0 as lower bound.

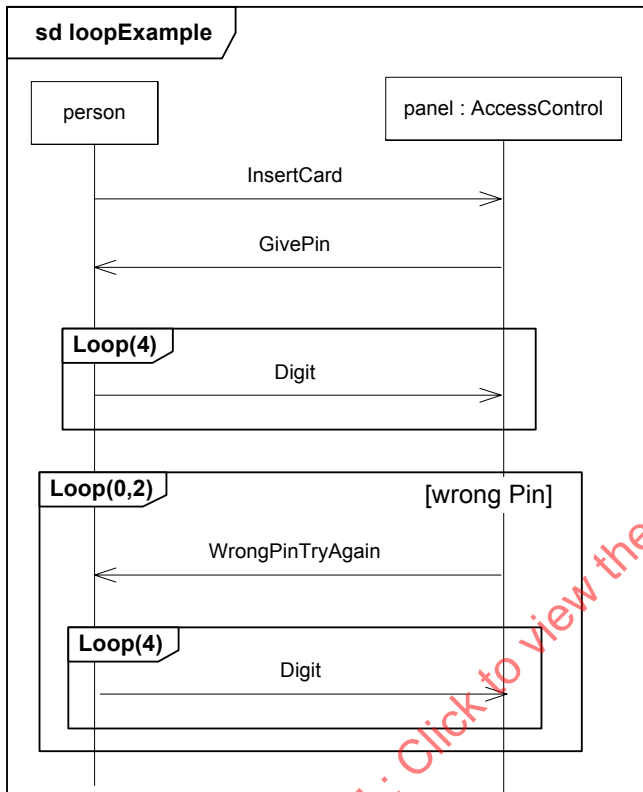


Figure 14.10 - Loop Combined Fragment

Figure 14.10 shows an example of a loop combined fragment. The topmost loop will go exactly four times when the person enters his personal identification number. The second loop will run zero to two times depending also on whether the interaction constraint [wrong PIN] evaluates to true.

**Presentation Options for “coregion area”**

A notational shorthand for parallel combined fragments are available for the common situation where the order of event occurrences (or other nested fragments) on one Lifeline is insignificant. This means that in a given “coregion” area of a Lifeline all the directly contained fragments are considered separate operands of a parallel combined fragment. See example in Figure 14.21.

Examples

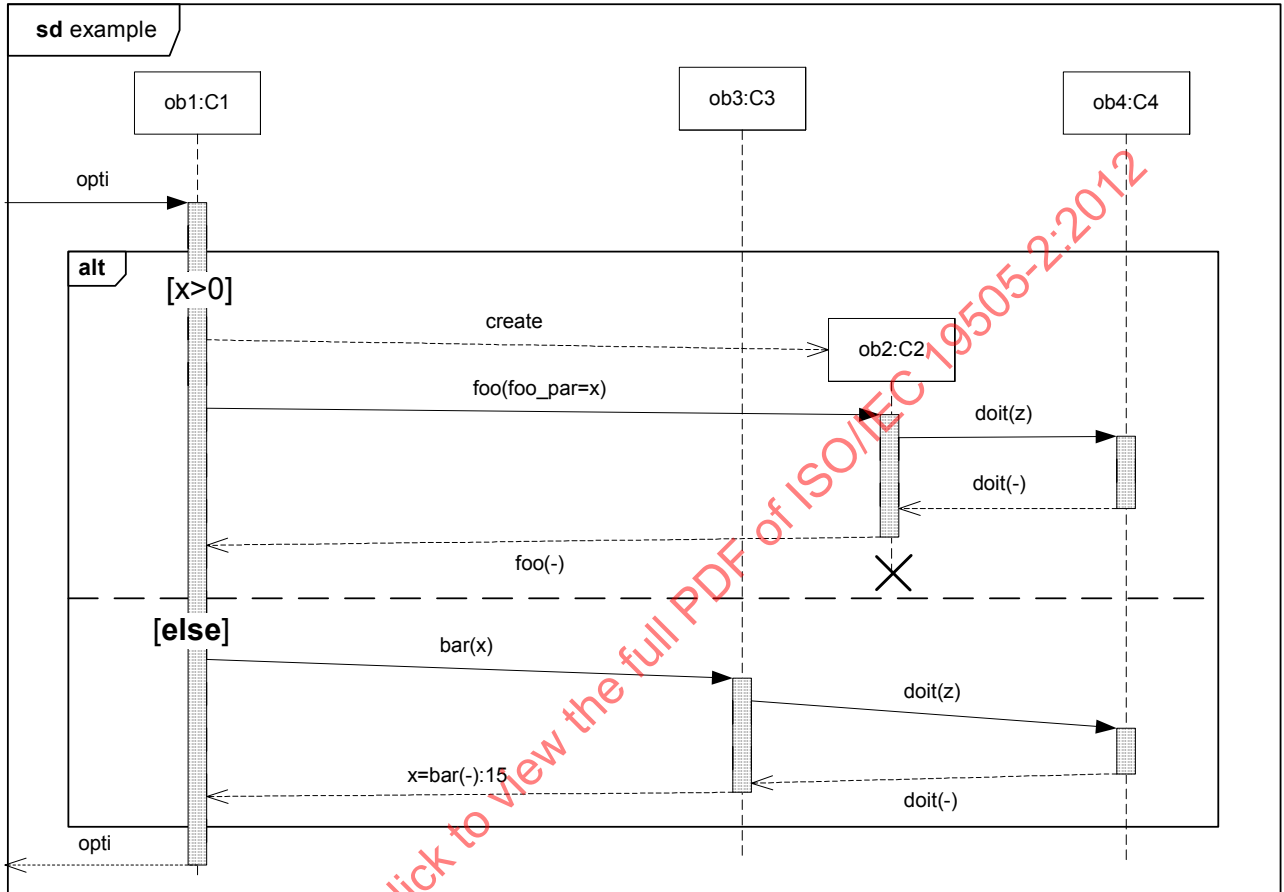


Figure 14.11 - CombinedFragment

Changes from previous UML

This concept was not included in UML 1.x.

14.3.4 ConsiderIgnoreFragment (from Fragments)

Generalizations

- “CombinedFragment (from Fragments)” on page 488

Description

A ConsiderIgnoreFragment is a kind of combined fragment that is used for the consider and ignore cases, which require lists of pertinent messages to be specified.

Attributes

No additional attributes

## Associations

- message : NamedElement [0..\*]  
The set of messages that apply to this fragment.

## Constraints

- [1] The interaction operator of a ConsiderIgnoreFragment must be either ‘consider’ or ‘ignore.’  
(interactionOperator = #consider) **or** (interactionOperator = #ignore)
- [2] The NamedElements must be of a type of element that identifies a message (e.g., an Operation, Reception, or a Signal).  
message->forAll(m | m.oclsKindOf(Operation) **or** m.oclsKindOf(Reception) **or** m.oclsKindOf(Signal))

## Semantics

The interactionOperator **ignore** designates that there are some message types that are not shown within this combined fragment. These message types can be considered insignificant and are implicitly ignored if they appear in a corresponding execution. Alternatively, one can understand *ignore* to mean that the message types that are ignored can appear anywhere in the traces.

Conversely, the interactionOperator **consider** designates which messages should be considered within this combined fragment. This is equivalent to defining every other message to be *ignored*.

## Notation

The notation for ConsiderIgnoreFragment is the same as for all CombinedFragments with the keywords **consider** or **ignore** indicating the operator. The list of messages follows the operand enclosed in a pair of braces (curly brackets) according to the following format:

*(‘ignore’ | ‘consider’)* ‘{ ‘<message-name> [ , ‘<message-name>]\* ‘ }’

Note that ignore and consider can be combined with other types of operations in a single rectangle (as a shorthand for nested rectangles), such as **assert consider** {msgA, msgB}.

## Examples

**consider** {m, s}: showing that only m and s messages are considered significant.

**ignore** {q,r}: showing that q and r messages are considered insignificant.

Ignore and consider operations are typically combined with other operations such as “**assert consider** {m, s}.”

Figure 14.24 on page 528 shows an example of consider/ignore fragments.

## Changes from previous UML

This concept did not exist in UML 1.x.

## 14.3.5 Continuation (from Fragments)

### Generalizations

- “InteractionFragment (from BasicInteractions, Fragments)” on page 505

**Description**

A Continuation is a syntactic way to define continuations of different branches of an Alternative CombinedFragment. Continuation is intuitively similar to labels representing intermediate points in a flow of control.

**Attributes**

- setting : Boolean  
True when the Continuation is at the end of the enclosing InteractionFragment and False when it is in the beginning.

**Constraints**

- [1] Continuations with the same name may only cover the same set of Lifelines (within one Classifier).
- [2] Continuations are always global in the enclosing InteractionFragment (e.g., it always covers all Lifelines covered by the enclosing InteractionFragment).
- [3] Continuations always occur as the very first InteractionFragment or the very last InteractionFragment of the enclosing InteractionFragment.

**Semantics**

Continuations have semantics only in connection with Alternative CombinedFragments and (weak) sequencing.

If an InteractionOperand of an Alternative CombinedFragment ends in a Continuation with name (say) X, only InteractionFragments starting with the Continuation X (or no continuation at all) can be appended.

**Notation**

Continuations are shown with the same symbol as States, but they may cover more than one Lifeline.

Continuations may also appear on flowlines of Interaction Overview Diagrams.

A continuation that is alone in an InteractionFragment is considered to be at the end of the enclosing InteractionFragment.

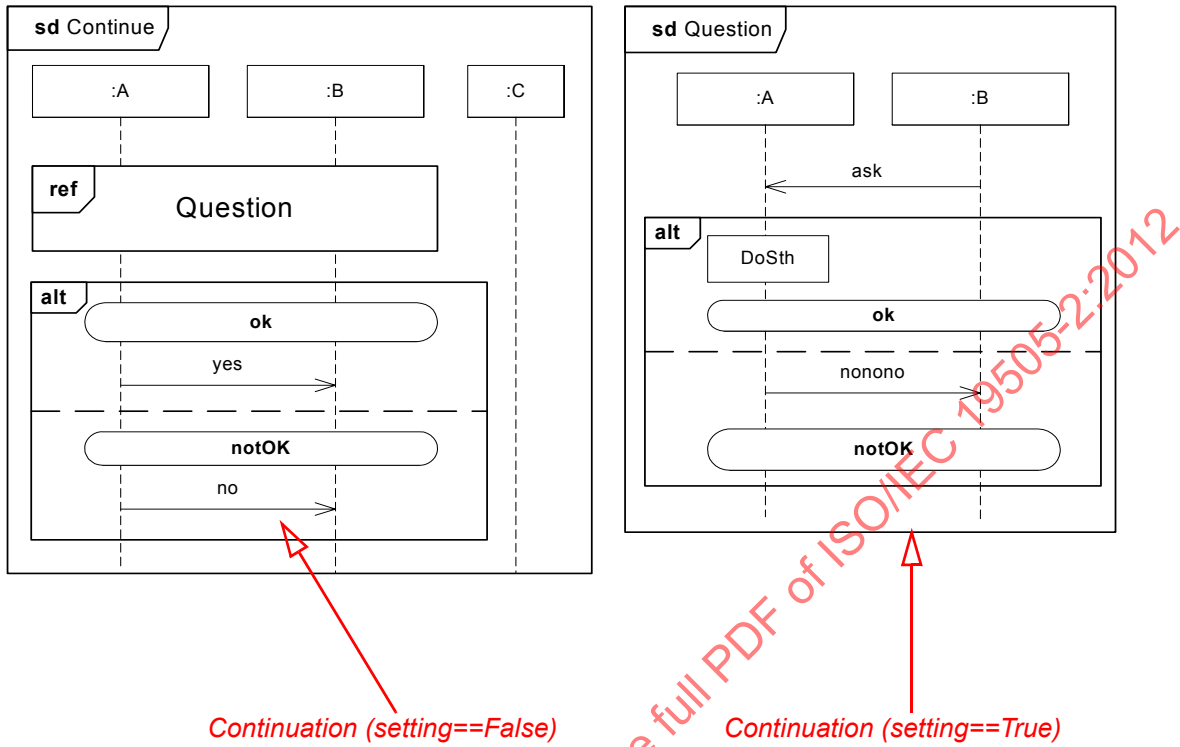


Figure 14.12 - Continuation

The two diagrams in Figure 14.12 are together equivalent to the diagram in Figure 14.13.

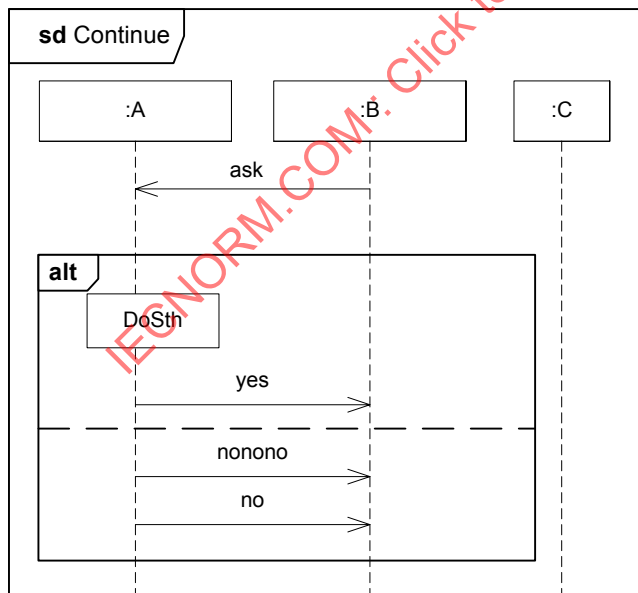


Figure 14.13 - Continuation interpretation

### 14.3.6 DestructionOccurrenceSpecification(from BasicInteractions)

#### Generalizations

- “MessageOccurrenceSpecification (from BasicInteractions)” on page 515

#### Description

A DestructionOccurrenceSpecification models the destruction of an object.

#### Attributes

No additional attributes

#### Associations

No additional associations

#### Constraints

- [1] No other OccurrenceSpecifications on a given Lifeline in a given InteractionOperand may appear below a DestructionOccurrenceSpecification.

#### Semantics

A DestructionOccurrenceSpecification represents the destruction of the instance described by the lifeline that contains it. It may result in the subsequent destruction of other objects that this object owns by composition (see “Common Behaviors” on page 435).

#### Notation

The DestructionOccurrenceSpecification is depicted by a cross in the form of an X at the bottom of a Lifeline.



**Figure 14.14 - DestructionOccurrenceSpecification symbol**

See example in Figure 14.11.

#### Changes from previous UML

DestructionOccurrenceSpecification is new in UML 2.

### 14.3.7 ExecutionOccurrenceSpecification (from BasicInteractions)

#### Generalizations

- “OccurrenceSpecification (from BasicInteractions)” on page 516

#### Description

An ExecutionOccurrenceSpecification represents moments in time at which actions or behaviors start or finish.

### Attributes

No additional attributes

### Associations

- execution : ExecutionSpecification [1]  
References the execution specification describing the execution that is started or finished at this execution event.

### Constraints

No additional constraints

### Semantics

No additional semantics

### Notation

None

### Changes from previous UML

New in UML 2.

## 14.3.8 ExecutionSpecification (from BasicInteractions)

### Generalizations

- “InteractionFragment (from BasicInteractions, Fragments)” on page 505

### Description

An ExecutionSpecification is a specification of the execution of a unit of behavior or action within the Lifeline. The duration of an ExecutionSpecification is represented by two ExecutionOccurrenceSpecifications, the start ExecutionOccurrenceSpecification and the finish ExecutionOccurrenceSpecification.

### Associations

- start : OccurrenceSpecification[1]  
References the OccurrenceSpecification that designates the start of the Action or Behavior.
- finish: OccurrenceSpecification[1]  
References the OccurrenceSpecification that designates the finish of the Action or Behavior.

### Constraints

- [1] The startEvent and the finishEvent must be on the same Lifeline.  
start.lifeline = finish.lifeline

### Semantics

The trace semantics of Interactions merely see an Execution as the trace <start, finish>. There may be occurrences between these. Typically the start occurrence and the finish occurrence will represent OccurrenceSpecifications such as a receive OccurrenceSpecification (of a Message) and the send OccurrenceSpecification (of a reply Message).

## Notation

ExecutionSpecifications are represented as thin rectangles (grey or white) on the lifeline (see “Lifeline (from BasicInteractions, Fragments)” on page 510).

We may also represent an ExecutionSpecification by a wider labeled rectangle, where the label usually identifies the action that was executed. An example of this can be seen in Figure 14.13 on page 496.

For ExecutionSpecifications that refer to atomic actions such as reading attributes of a Signal (conveyed by the Message), the Action symbol may be associated with the reception OccurrenceSpecification with a line in order to emphasize that the whole Action is associated with only one OccurrenceSpecification (and start and finish associations refer to the very same OccurrenceSpecification).

Overlapping execution specifications on the same lifeline are represented by overlapping rectangles as shown in Figure 14.15.

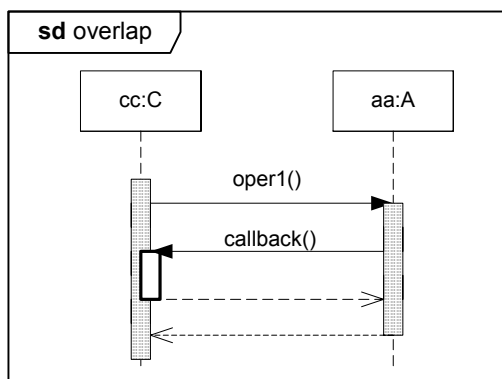


Figure 14.15 - Overlapping execution occurrences

### 14.3.9 Gate (from Fragments)

#### Generalizations

- “MessageEnd (from BasicInteractions)” on page 514

#### Description

A Gate is a connection point for relating a Message outside an InteractionFragment with a Message inside the InteractionFragment.

Gate is a specialization of MessageEnd.

Gates are connected through Messages. A Gate is actually a representative of an OccurrenceSpecification that is not in the same scope as the Gate.

Gates play different roles: we have formal gates on Interactions, actual gates on InteractionUses, expression gates on CombinedFragments.

### Constraints

- [1] The message leading to/from an actualGate of an InteractionUse must correspond to the message leading from/to the formalGate with the same name of the Interaction referenced by the InteractionUse.
- [2] The message leading to/from an (expression) Gate within a CombinedFragment must correspond to the message leading from/to the CombinedFragment on its outside.

### Semantics

The gates are named either explicitly or implicitly. Gates may be identified either by name (if specified), or by a constructed identifier formed by concatenating the direction of the message and the message name (e.g., *out\_CardOut*). The gates and the messages between gates have one purpose, namely to establish the concrete sender and receiver for every message.

### Notation

Gates are just points on the frame, the ends of the messages. They may have an explicit name (see Figure 14.19).

The same gate may appear several times in the same or different diagrams.

## 14.3.10 GeneralOrdering (from BasicInteractions)

### Generalizations

- “NamedElement (from Kernel, Dependencies)” on page 104

### Description

A GeneralOrdering represents a binary relation between two OccurrenceSpecifications, to describe that one OccurrenceSpecification must occur before the other in a valid trace. This mechanism provides the ability to define partial orders of OccurrenceSpecifications that may otherwise not have a specified order.

A GeneralOrdering is a specialization of NamedElement.

A GeneralOrdering may appear anywhere in an Interaction, but only between OccurrenceSpecifications.

### Associations

- before: OccurrenceSpecification[1]  
The OccurrenceSpecification referenced comes before the OccurrenceSpecification referenced by *after*.
- after: OccurrenceSpecification[1]  
The OccurrenceSpecification referenced comes after the OccurrenceSpecification referenced by *before*.

### Constraints

- [1] An occurrence specification must not be ordered relative to itself through a series of general orderings. (In other words, the transitive closure of the general orderings is irreflexive.)

### Semantics

A GeneralOrdering is introduced to restrict the set of possible sequences. A partial order of OccurrenceSpecifications is defined by a set of GeneralOrdering.

## Notation

A GeneralOrdering is shown by a dotted line connecting the two OccurrenceSpecifications. The direction of the relation from the *before* to the *after* is given by an arrowhead placed somewhere in the middle of the dotted line (i.e., not at the endpoint).

### 14.3.11 Interaction (from BasicInteraction, Fragments)

#### Generalizations

- “Behavior (from BasicBehaviors)” on page 451
- “InteractionFragment (from BasicInteractions, Fragments)” on page 505

#### Description

An interaction is a unit of behavior that focuses on the observable exchange of information between ConnectableElements.

An Interaction is a specialization of InteractionFragment and of Behavior.

#### Associations

- formalGate: Gate[\*]  
Specifies the gates that form the message interface between this Interaction and any InteractionUses that reference it.
- lifeline: LifeLine[0..\*]  
Specifies the participants in this Interaction.
- message:Message[\*]  
The Messages contained in this Interaction.
- fragment:InteractionFragment[\*]  
The ordered set of fragments in the Interaction.
- action:Action[\*]  
Actions owned by the Interaction. See “ActionExecutionSpecification (from BasicInteractions)” on page 486.

#### Semantics

Interactions are units of behavior of an enclosing Classifier. Interactions focus on the passing of information with Messages between the ConnectableElements of the Classifier.

The semantics of an Interaction is given as a pair of sets of traces. The two trace sets represent valid traces and invalid traces. The union of these two sets need not necessarily cover the whole universe of traces. The traces that are not included are not described by this Interaction at all, and we cannot know whether they are valid or invalid.

A trace is a sequence of event occurrences, each of which is described by an OccurrenceSpecification in a model. The semantics of Interactions are compositional in the sense that the semantics of an Interaction is mechanically built from the semantics of its constituent InteractionFragments. The constituent InteractionFragments are ordered and combined by the seq operation (weak sequencing) as explained in “Weak Sequencing” on page 489.

The invalid set of traces are associated only with the use of a Negative CombinedInteraction. For simplicity we describe only valid traces for all other constructs.

As Behavior an Interaction is generalizable and redefineable. Specializing an Interaction is simply to add more traces to those of the original. The traces defined by the specialization is combined with those of the inherited Interaction with a union.

The classifier owning an Interaction may be specialized, and in the specialization the Interaction may be redefined. Redefining an Interaction simply means to exchange the redefining Interaction for the redefined one, and this exchange takes effect also for InteractionUses within the supertype of the owner. This is similar to redefinition of other kinds of Behavior.

**Basic trace model:** The semantics of an Interaction is given by a pair [P, I] where P is the set of valid traces and I is the set of invalid traces.  $P \cup I$  need not be the whole universe of traces.

A trace is a sequence of event occurrences denoted  $\langle e1, e2, \dots, en \rangle$ .

An event occurrence will also include information about the values of all relevant objects at this point in time.

Each construct of Interactions (such as CombinedFragments of different kinds) are expressed in terms of how it relates to a pair of sets of traces. For simplicity we normally refer only to the set of valid traces as these traces are those mostly modeled.

Two Interactions are equivalent if their pair of trace-sets are equal.

**Relation of trace model to execution model:** In Clause 13, "Common Behaviors" we find an Execution model, and this is how the Interactions Trace Model relates to the Execution model.

An Interaction is an Emergent Behavior.

An InvocationOccurrence in the Execution model corresponds with an (event) Occurrence in a trace. Occurrences are modeled in an Interaction by OccurrenceSpecifications. Normally in Interaction the action leading to the invocation as such is not described (such as the sending action). However, if it is desirable to go into details, a Behavior (such as an Activity) may be associated with an OccurrenceSpecification. An occurrence in Interactions is normally interpreted to take zero time. Duration is always between occurrences.

Likewise a ReceiveOccurrence in the Execution model is modeled by an OccurrenceSpecification. Similarly the detailed actions following immediately from this reception are often omitted in Interactions, but may also be described explicitly with a Behavior associated with that OccurrenceSpecification.

A Request in the Execution model is modeled by the Message in Interactions.

An Execution in the Execution model is modeled by an ExecutionSpecification in Interactions. An Execution is defined in the trace by two Occurrences, one at the start and one at the end. This corresponds to the StartOccurrence and the CompletionOccurrence of the Execution model.

## Notation

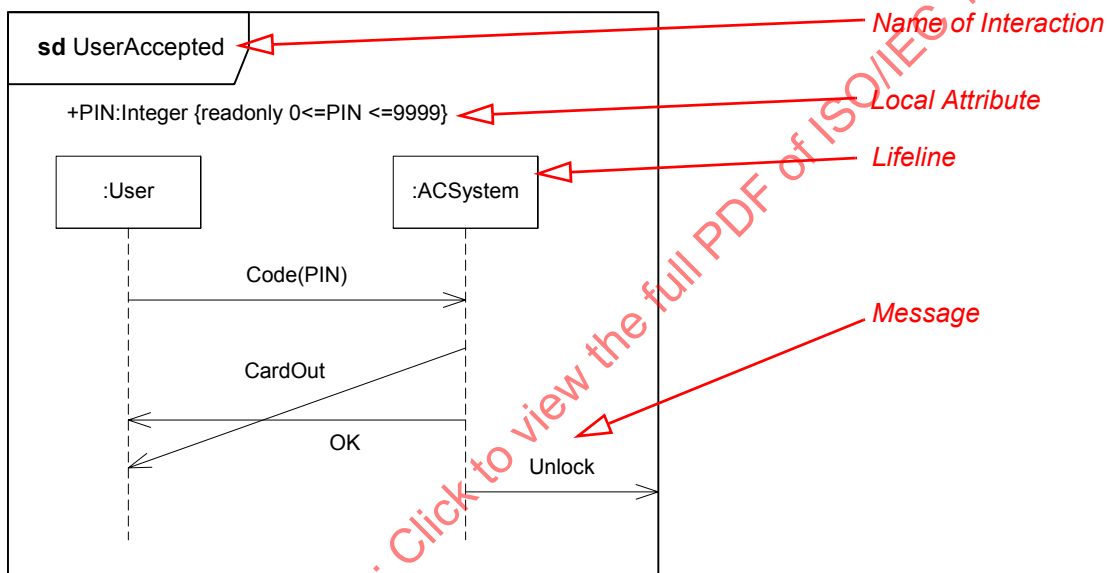
The notation for an Interaction in a Sequence Diagram is a solid-outline rectangle. The keyword **sd** followed by the Interaction name and parameters is in a pentagon in the upper left corner of the rectangle. The notation within this rectangular frame comes in several forms: Sequence Diagrams, Communication Diagrams, Interaction Overview Diagrams, and Timing Diagrams.

The notation within the pentagon descriptor follows the general notation for the name of Behaviors. In addition the Interaction Overview Diagrams may include a list of Lifelines through a lifeline-clause as shown in Figure 14.28. The list of lifelines is simply a listing of the Lifelines involved in the Interaction. An Interaction Overview Diagram does not in itself show the involved lifelines even though the lifelines may occur explicitly within inline Interactions in the graph nodes.

An Interaction diagram may also include definitions of local attributes with the same syntax as attributes in general are shown within class symbol compartments. These attribute definitions may appear near the top of the diagram frame or within note symbols at other places in the diagram.

Please refer to “Diagrams” on page 521 to see examples of notation for Interactions.

### Examples



**Figure 14.16 - An example of an Interaction in the form of a Sequence Diagram**

The example in Figure 14.16 shows three messages communicated between two (anonymous) lifelines of types *User* and *ACSystem*. The message *CardOut* overtakes the message *OK* in the way that the receiving event occurrences are in the opposite order of the sending OccurrenceSpecifications. Such communication may occur when the messages are asynchronous. Finally a fourth message is sent from the *ACSystem* to the environment through a gate with implicit name *out\_Unlock*. The local attribute *PIN* of *UserAccepted* is declared near the diagram top. It could have been declared in a Note somewhere else in the diagram.

### Changes from previous UML

Interactions are now contained within Classifiers and not only within Collaborations. Their participants are modeled by Lifelines instead of ClassifierRoles.

### 14.3.12 InteractionConstraint (from Fragments)

#### Generalizations

- “Constraint (from Kernel)” on page 61

#### Description

An InteractionConstraint is a Boolean expression that guards an operand in a CombinedFragment.

InteractionConstraint is a specialization of Constraint.

Furthermore the InteractionConstraint contains two expressions designating the minimum and maximum number of times a loop CombinedFragment should execute.

#### Associations

- minint: ValueSpecification[0..1]  
The minimum number of iterations of a loop.
- maxint: ValueSpecification[0..1]  
The maximum number of iterations of a loop.

#### Constraints

- [1] The dynamic variables that take part in the constraint must be owned by the ConnectableElement corresponding to the covered Lifeline.
- [2] The constraint may contain references to global data or write-once data.
- [3] Minint/maxint can only be present if the InteractionConstraint is associated with the operand of a loop CombinedFragment.
- [4] If minint is specified, then the expression must evaluate to a non-negative integer.
- [5] If maxint is specified, then the expression must evaluate to a positive integer.
- [6] If maxint is specified, then minint must be specified and the evaluation of maxint must be  $\geq$  the evaluation of minint.

#### Semantics

InteractionConstraints are always used in connection with CombinedFragments, see “CombinedFragment (from Fragments)” on page 488.

#### Notation

An InteractionConstraint is shown in square brackets covering the lifeline where the first event occurrence will occur, positioned above that event, in the containing Interaction or InteractionOperand.

$\langle interactionconstraint \rangle ::= '[ (<Boolean-expression> | 'else' ) ]'$

When the InteractionConstraint is omitted, true is assumed.

Please refer to an example of InteractionConstraints in Figure 14.11 on page 493 and Figure 14.28 on page 535.

### 14.3.13 InteractionFragment (from BasicInteractions, Fragments)

#### Generalizations

- “NamedElement (from Kernel, Dependencies)” on page 104.

#### Description

InteractionFragment is an abstract notion of the most general interaction unit. An interaction fragment is a piece of an interaction. Each interaction fragment is conceptually like an interaction by itself. InteractionFragment is an abstract class and a specialization of NamedElement.

#### Associations

- enclosingOperand: InteractionOperand[0..1]  
The operand enclosing this InteractionFragment (they may nest recursively).
- covered : Lifeline[\*]  
References the Lifelines that the InteractionFragment involves.
- generalOrdering:GeneralOrdering[\*]  
The general ordering relationships contained in this fragment.
- enclosingInteraction: Interaction[0..1]  
The Interaction enclosing this InteractionFragment.

#### Semantics

The semantics of an InteractionFragment is a pair of set of traces. See “Interaction (from BasicInteraction, Fragments)” for explanation of how to calculate the traces.

#### Notation

There is no general notation for an InteractionFragment. The specific subclasses of InteractionFragment will define their own notation.

#### Changes from previous UML

This concept did not appear in UML 1.x.

### 14.3.14 InteractionOperand (from Fragments)

#### Generalizations

- “InteractionFragment (from BasicInteractions, Fragments)” on page 505
- “Namespace (from Kernel)” on page 106

#### Description

An InteractionOperand is contained in a CombinedFragment. An InteractionOperand represents one operand of the expression given by the enclosing CombinedFragment.

An InteractionOperand is an InteractionFragment with an optional guard expression. An InteractionOperand may be guarded by an InteractionConstraint. Only InteractionOperands with a guard that evaluates to true at this point in the interaction will be considered for the production of the traces for the enclosing CombinedFragment.

InteractionOperand contains an ordered set of InteractionFragments.

In Sequence Diagrams these InteractionFragments are ordered according to their geometrical position vertically. The geometrical position of the InteractionFragment is given by the topmost vertical coordinate of its contained OccurrenceSpecifications or symbols.

### Associations

- fragment: InteractionFragment[\*]  
The fragments of the operand.
- guard: InteractionConstraint[0..1]  
Constraint of the operand.

### Constraints

- [1] The guard must be placed directly prior to (above) the OccurrenceSpecification that will become the first OccurrenceSpecification within this InteractionOperand.
- [2] The guard must contain only references to values local to the Lifeline on which it resides, or values global to the whole Interaction (See “InteractionConstraint (from Fragments)” on page 504).

### Semantics

Only InteractionOperands with true guards are included in the calculation of the semantics. If no guard is present, this is taken to mean a true guard.

The semantics of an InteractionOperand is given by its constituent InteractionFragments combined by the implicit *seq* operation. The seq operator is described in “CombinedFragment (from Fragments)” on page 488.

### Notation

InteractionOperands are separated by a dashed horizontal line. The InteractionOperands together make up the framed CombinedFragment.

Within an InteractionOperand of a Sequence Diagram the order of the InteractionFragments are given simply by the topmost vertical position.

See Figure 14.11 for examples of InteractionOperand.

## 14.3.15 InteractionOperatorKind (from Fragments)

### Generalizations

None

### Description

Interaction OperatorKind is an enumeration designating the different kinds of operators of CombinedFragments. The InteractionOperand defines the type of operator of a CombinedFragment. The literal values of this enumeration are:

- alt
- opt
- par
- loop
- critical
- neg
- assert
- strict
- seq
- ignore
- consider

### Semantics

The value of the interactionOperator is significant for the semantics of “CombinedFragment (from Fragments)” on page 488.

### Notation

The value of the InteractionOperandKind is given as text in a small compartment in the upper left corner of the CombinedFragment frame. See Figure 14.11 on page 493 for examples of InteractionOperatorKind.

## 14.3.16 InteractionUse (from Fragments)

### Generalizations

- “InteractionFragment (from BasicInteractions, Fragments)” on page 505

### Description

An InteractionUse refers to an Interaction. The InteractionUse is a shorthand for copying the contents of the referred Interaction where the InteractionUse is. To be accurate the copying must take into account substituting parameters with arguments and connect the formal gates with the actual ones.

It is common to want to share portions of an interaction between several other interactions. An InteractionUse allows multiple interactions to reference an interaction that represents a common portion of their specification.

### Description

InteractionUse is a specialization of InteractionFragment.

An InteractionUse has a set of actual gates that must match the formal gates of the referenced Interaction.

### Associations

- refersTo: Interaction[1]  
Refers to the Interaction that defines its meaning.
- argument: ValueSpecification[\*]  
The actual arguments of the Interaction. {Subsets Element::ownedElement}

- actualGate:Gate[\*]  
The actual gates of the InteractionUse.
- returnValue:ValueSpecification[0..1]  
The value of the executed Interaction.
- returnValueRecipient:Property[0..1]  
The recipient of the return value.

### Constraints

- [1] Actual Gates of the InteractionUse must match Formal Gates of the referred Interaction. Gates match when their names are equal.
- [2] The InteractionUse must cover all Lifelines of the enclosing Interaction that represent the same properties as lifelines within the referred Interaction.
- [3] The arguments of the InteractionUse must correspond to parameters of the referred Interaction.
- [4] The arguments must only be constants, parameters of the enclosing Interaction or attributes of the classifier owning the enclosing Interaction.
- [5] The returnValueRecipient must be a Property of a ConnectableElement that is represented by a Lifeline covered by this InteractionUse.
- [6] The type of the returnValue must correspond to the type of the returnValueRecipient.

### Semantics

The semantics of the InteractionUse is the set of traces of the semantics of the referred Interaction where the gates have been resolved as well as all generic parts having been bound such as the arguments substituting the parameters.

### Notation

The InteractionUse is shown as a CombinedFragment symbol where the operator is called *ref*. The complete syntax of the name (situated in the InteractionUse area) is:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \text{name} \rangle & ::= [ \langle \text{attribute-name} \rangle '=' ] [ \langle \text{collaboration-use} \rangle '.' ] \langle \text{interaction-name} \rangle \\ & \quad [ '( \langle \text{io-argument} \rangle [ ':' \langle \text{io-oargument} \rangle ] * ' )' ] [ ':' \langle \text{return-value} \rangle ] \\ \langle \text{io-argument} \rangle & ::= \langle \text{in-argument} \rangle \mid \text{'out'} \langle \text{out-argument} \rangle \end{aligned}$$

The *<attribute-name>* refers to an attribute of one of the lifelines in the Interaction.

*<collaboration-use>* is an identification of a collaboration use that binds lifelines of a collaboration. The interaction name is in that case within that collaboration. See example of collaboration uses in Figure 14.25.

The *io-arguments* are most often arguments of IN-parameters. If there are OUT- or INOUT-parameters and the output value is to be described, this can be done following an **out** keyword.

The syntax of *argument* is explained in the notation sub clause of Messages (“Message (from BasicInteractions)” on page 511).

If the InteractionUse returns a value, this may be described following a colon at the end of the clause.

Examples

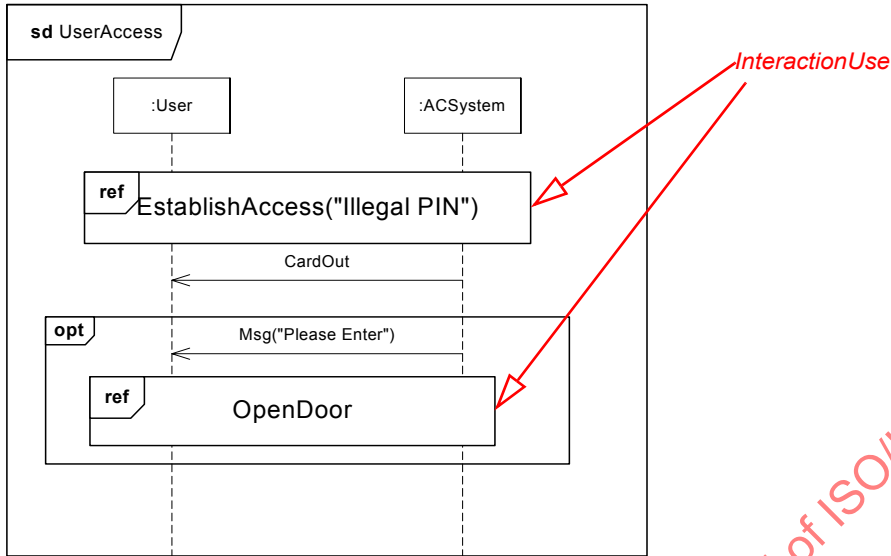


Figure 14.17 - InteractionUse

In Figure 14.17 we show an *InteractionUse* referring the Interaction *EstablishAccess* with (input) argument “Illegal PIN.” Within the optional CombinedFragment there is another *InteractionUse* without arguments referring *OpenDoor*.

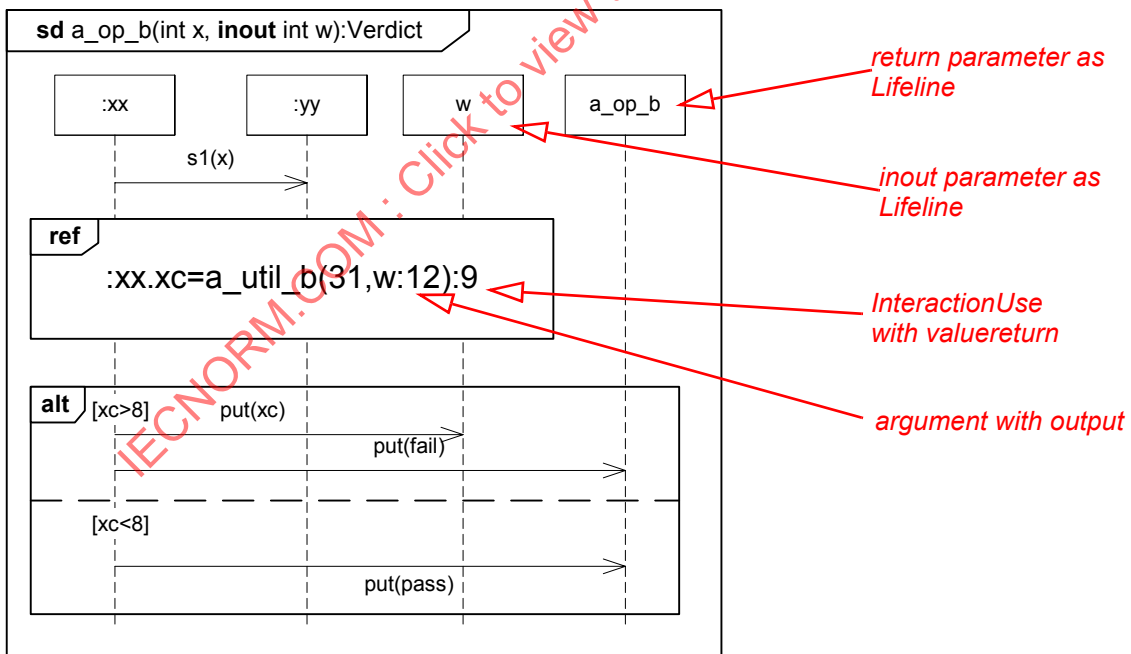


Figure 14.18 - InteractionUse with value return

In Figure 14.18 we have a more advanced Interaction that models a behavior returning a *Verdict* value. The return value from the Interaction is shown as a separate Lifeline *a\_op\_b*. Inside the Interaction there is an InteractionUse referring *a\_util\_b* with value return to the attribute *xc* of *:xx* with the value 9, and with inout parameter where the argument is *w* with returning out-value 12.

### Changes from previous UML

InteractionUse was not a concept in UML 1.x.

## 14.3.17 Lifeline (from BasicInteractions, Fragments)

### Generalizations

- “NamedElement (from Kernel, Dependencies)” on page 104.

### Description

A lifeline represents an individual participant in the Interaction. While Parts and StructuralFeatures may have multiplicity greater than 1, Lifelines represent only one interacting entity.

Lifeline is a specialization of NamedElement.

If the referenced ConnectableElement is multivalued (i.e. has a multiplicity > 1), then the Lifeline may have an expression (the ‘selector’) that specifies which particular part is represented by this Lifeline. If the selector is omitted, this means that an arbitrary representative of the multivalued ConnectableElement is chosen.

### Associations

- selector : ValueSpecification[0..1]  
If the referenced ConnectableElement is multivalued, then this specifies the specific individual part within that set.
- interaction: Interaction[1]  
References the Interaction enclosing this Lifeline.
- represents: ConnectableElement[0..1]  
References the ConnectableElement within the classifier that contains the enclosing interaction.
- decomposedAs : PartDecomposition[0..1]  
References the Interaction that represents the decomposition.
- coveredBy : InteractionFragment [0..1]  
References the InteractionFragments in which this Lifeline takes part.

### Constraints

- [1] If two (or more) InteractionUses within one Interaction, refer to Interactions with common Lifelines, those Lifelines must also appear in the Interaction with the InteractionUses. By ‘common Lifelines’ we mean Lifelines with the same selector and represents associations.
- [2] The selector for a Lifeline must only be specified if the referenced Part is multivalued.  
(self.selector->isEmpty() **implies not** self.represents.isMultivalued()) **or**  
(**not** self.selector->isEmpty() **implies** self.represents.isMultivalued())
- [3] The classifier containing the referenced ConnectableElement must be the same classifier, or an ancestor, of the classifier that contains the interaction enclosing this lifeline.

```

if (represents->notEmpty()) then
  (if selector->notEmpty() then represents.isMultivalued() else not represents.isMultivalued())

```

### Semantics

The order of OccurrenceSpecifications along a Lifeline is significant denoting the order in which these OccurrenceSpecifications will occur. The absolute distances between the OccurrenceSpecifications on the Lifeline are, however, irrelevant for the semantics.

The semantics of the Lifeline (within an Interaction) is the semantics of the Interaction selecting only OccurrenceSpecifications of this Lifeline.

### Notation

A Lifeline is shown using a symbol that consists of a rectangle forming its “head” followed by a vertical line (which may be dashed) that represents the lifetime of the participant. Information identifying the lifeline is displayed inside the rectangle in the following format:

```

<lifelineident> ::= ([<connectable-element-name>[‘[’ <selector> ‘]’]] [‘.’ <class_name>] [decomposition]) | ‘self’
<selector> ::= <expression>
<decomposition> ::= ‘ref’ <interactionident> [‘strict’]

```

where <class-name> is the type referenced by the represented ConnectableElement. Note that, although the syntax allows it, <lifelineident> cannot be empty.

The Lifeline head has a shape that is based on the classifier for the part that this lifeline represents. Often the head is a white rectangle containing the name.

If the name is the keyword **self**, then the lifeline represents the object of the classifier that encloses the Interaction that owns the Lifeline. Ports of the enclosure may be shown separately even when *self* is included.

To depict method activations we apply a thin grey or white rectangle that covers the Lifeline line.

### Examples

See Figure 14.16 where the Lifelines are pointed to.

See Figure 14.11 to see method activations.

### Changes from previous UML

Lifelines are basically the same concept as before in UML 1.x.

## 14.3.18 Message (from BasicInteractions)

### Generalizations

- “NamedElement (from Kernel, Dependencies)” on page 104

### Description

A Message defines a particular communication between Lifelines of an Interaction.

A Message is a NamedElement that defines one specific kind of communication in an Interaction. A communication can be, for example, raising a signal, invoking an Operation, creating or destroying an Instance. The Message specifies not only the kind of communication given by the dispatching ExecutionSpecification, but also the sender and the receiver.

A Message associates normally two OccurrenceSpecifications - one sending OccurrenceSpecification and one receiving OccurrenceSpecification.

### Attributes

- messageKind:MessageKind  
The derived kind of the Message (*complete, lost, found, or unknown*). Default value is *unknown*.
- messageSort:MessageSort  
The sort of communication reflected by the Message. Default value is *synchCall*.

### Associations

- interaction:Interaction[1]  
The enclosing Interaction owning the Message.
- sendEvent : MessageEnd[0..1]  
References the Sending of the Message.
- receiveEvent: MessageEnd[0..1]  
References the Receiving of the Message.
- connector: Connector[0..1]  
The Connector on which this Message is sent.
- argument:ValueSpecification[\*]  
The arguments of the Message.
- signature:NamedElement[0..1]  
The signature of the Message is the specification of its content. It refers either an Operation or a Signal.

### Constraints

- [1] If the sendEvent and the receiveEvent of the same Message are on the same Lifeline, the sendEvent must be ordered before the receiveEvent.
- [2] The signature must either refer to an Operation (in which case messageSort is either synchCall or asynchCall) or a Signal (in which case messageSort is asynchSignal). The name of the NamedElement referenced by signature must be the same as that of the Message.
- [3] In the case when the Message signature is an Operation, the arguments of the Message must correspond to the parameters of the Operation. A Parameter corresponds to an Argument if the Argument is of the same Class or a specialization of that of the Parameter.
- [4] In the case when the Message signature is a Signal, the arguments of the Message must correspond to the attributes of the Signal. A Message Argument corresponds to a Signal Attribute if the Argument is of the same Class or a specialization of that of the Attribute.
- [5] Arguments of a Message must only be:
  - i) attributes of the sending lifeline.
  - ii) constants.
  - iii) symbolic values (which are wildcard values representing any legal value).
  - iv) explicit parameters of the enclosing Interaction.
  - v) attributes of the class owning the Interaction.

- [6] Messages cannot cross boundaries of CombinedFragments or their operands.
- [7] If the MessageEnds are both OccurrenceSpecifications, then the connector must go between the Parts represented by the Lifelines of the two MessageEnds.
- [8] Where messageSort = createMessage, no other OccurrenceSpecification on a given Lifeline in an InteractionOperand may appear above an OccurrenceSpecification that is the receiveEvent of this creation Message.

## Semantics

The semantics of a *complete* Message is simply the trace <sendEvent, receiveEvent>.

A *lost* message is a message where the sending event occurrence is known, but there is no receiving event occurrence. We interpret this to be because the message never reached its destination. The semantics is simply the trace <sendEvent>.

A *found* message is a message where the receiving event occurrence is known, but there is no (known) sending event occurrence. We interpret this to be because the origin of the message is outside the scope of the description. This may for example be noise or other activity that we do not want to describe in detail. The semantics is simply the trace <receiveEvent>.

A Message reflects either an Operation call and start of execution or a sending and reception of a Signal. When a Message represents an Operation, the arguments of the Message are the arguments of the Operation.

When a Message represents a Signal, the arguments of the Message are the attributes of the Signal.

## Notation

A message is shown as a line from the sender message end to the receiver message end. The line must be such that every line fragment is either horizontal or downwards when traversed from send event to receive event. The send and receive events may both be on the same lifeline. The form of the line or arrowhead reflects properties of the message:

- Asynchronous Messages have an open arrow head.
- Synchronous Messages typically represent operation calls and are shown with a filled arrow head.
- The reply message from a method has a dashed line.
- Object creation Message has a dashed line with an open arrow.
- Object deletion Message should end in a DestructionOccurrenceSpecification.
- Lost Messages are described as a small black circle at the arrow end of the Message.
- Found Messages are described as a small black circle at the starting end of the Message.
- On Communication Diagrams, the Messages are decorated by a small arrow in the direction of the Message close to the Message name and sequence number along the line between the lifelines (See Table 14.4 and Figure 14.27).

Syntax for the Message name is the following:

```
<messageident> ::= ([<attribute> '=' ] <signal-or-operation-name> [ '(' [ <argument> [ ',' <argument> ] * ' ) ' ]
[ ':' <return-value> ] ] | '*'
<argument> ::= ([ <parameter-name> '=' ] <argument-value> ) | ( <attribute> '=' <out-parameter-name>
[ ':' <argument-value> ] ) | '-'
```

Messageident equaling '\*' is a shorthand for more complex alternative CombinedFragment to represent a message of any type. This is to match asterisk triggers in State Machines.

Return-value and attribute assignment are used only for reply messages. Attribute assignment is a shorthand for including the Action that assigns the return-value to that attribute. This holds both for the possible return value of the message (the return value of the associated operation), and the out values of (in)out parameters.

When the argument list contains only argument-values, all the parameters must be matched either by a value or by a dash (-). If parameter-names are used to identify the argument-value, then arguments may freely be omitted. Omitted parameters get an unknown argument-value.

### Examples

In Figure 14.16 we see only asynchronous Messages. Such Messages may overtake each other.

In Figure 14.11 we see method calls that are synchronous accompanied by replies. We also see a Message that represents the creation of an object.

In Figure 14.27 we see how Messages are denoted in Communication Diagrams.

Examples of syntax:

```
mymessage(14, -, 3.14, "hello") // second argument is undefined
v=mymsg(16, variab):96 // this is a reply message carrying the return value 96 assigning it to v
mymsg(myint=16) // the input parameter 'myint' is given the argument value 16
```

See Figure 14.11 for a number of different applications of the textual syntax of message identification.

### Changes from previous UML

Messages may have Gates on either end.

### 14.3.19 MessageEnd (from BasicInteractions)

#### Generalizations

- “NamedElement (from Kernel, Dependencies)” on page 104.

#### Description

A MessageEnd is an abstract NamedElement that represents what can occur at the end of a Message.

#### Associations

- message : Message [0..1]  
References a Message.

#### Semantics

Subclasses of MessageEnd define the specific semantics appropriate to the concept they represent.

### 14.3.20 MessageKind (from BasicInteractions)

This is an enumerated type that identifies the type of message.

**Generalizations**

None

**Description**

MessageKind is an enumeration of the following values:

- complete = sendEvent and receiveEvent are present.
- lost = sendEvent present and receiveEvent absent.
- found = sendEvent absent and receiveEvent present.
- unknown = sendEvent and receiveEvent absent (should not appear).

**14.3.21 MessageOccurrenceSpecification (from BasicInteractions)****Generalizations**

- “MessageEnd (from BasicInteractions)” on page 514
- “OccurrenceSpecification (from BasicInteractions)” on page 516

**Description**

Specifies the occurrence of events, such as sending and receiving of signals or invoking or receiving of operation calls. A message occurrence specification is a kind of message end. Messages are generated either by synchronous operation calls or asynchronous signal sends. They are received by the execution of corresponding accept event actions.

**Attributes**

No additional attributes

**Associations**

No additional associations

**Constraints**

No additional constraints

**Semantics**

No additional semantics

**Notation**

None

**Changes from previous UML**

New in UML 2.

### 14.3.22 MessageSort (from BasicInteractions)

This is an enumerated type that identifies the type of communication action that was used to generate the message.

#### Generalizations

None

#### Description

MessageSort is an enumeration of the following values:

- synchCall - The message was generated by a synchronous call to an operation.
- asynchCall - The message was generated by an asynchronous call to an operation (i.e. a CallAction with “isSynchronous = false”).
- asynchSignal - The message was generated by an asynchronous send action.
- createMessage - The message designating the creation of another lifeline object.
- deleteMessage - The message designating the termination of another lifeline.
- reply - The message is a reply message to an operation call.

### 14.3.23 OccurrenceSpecification (from BasicInteractions)

#### Generalizations

- “InteractionFragment (from BasicInteractions, Fragments)” on page 505

#### Description

An OccurrenceSpecification is the basic semantic unit of Interactions. The sequences of occurrences specified by them are the meanings of Interactions.

OccurrenceSpecifications are ordered along a Lifeline.

The namespace of an OccurrenceSpecification is the Interaction in which it is contained.

#### Associations

- covered: Lifeline[1]  
References the Lifeline on which the OccurrenceSpecification appears. Redefines InteractionFragment.covered.
- toBefore: GeneralOrdering[\*]  
References the GeneralOrderings that specify OccurrenceSpecifications that must occur before this OccurrenceSpecification.
- toAfter: GeneralOrdering[\*]  
References the GeneralOrderings that specify OccurrenceSpecifications that must occur after this OccurrenceSpecification.

#### Semantics

The semantics of an OccurrenceSpecification is just the trace of that single OccurrenceSpecification.

The understanding and deeper meaning of the OccurrenceSpecification is dependent upon the associated Message and the information that it conveys.

### Notation

OccurrenceSpecifications are merely syntactic points at the ends of Messages or at the beginning/end of an ExecutionSpecification.

### Examples

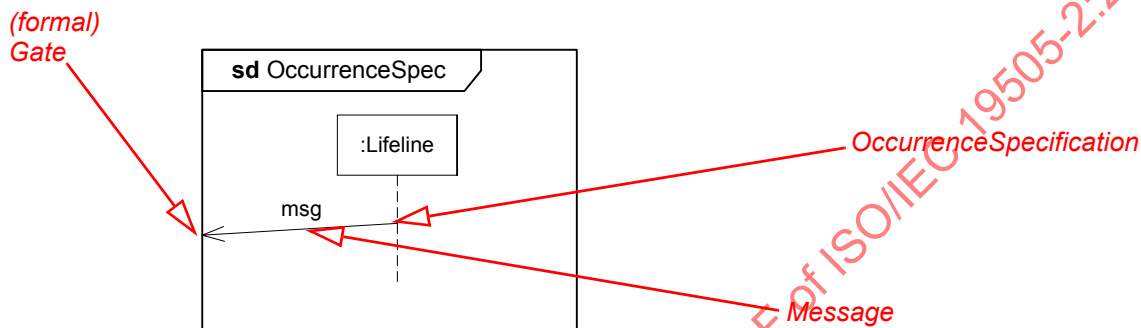


Figure 14.19 - OccurrenceSpecification

### 14.3.24 PartDecomposition (from Fragments)

#### Generalizations

- “InteractionUse (from Fragments)” on page 507

#### Description

PartDecomposition is a description of the internal interactions of one Lifeline relative to an Interaction.

A Lifeline has a class associated as the type of the ConnectableElement that the Lifeline represents. That class may have an internal structure and the PartDecomposition is an Interaction that describes the behavior of that internal structure relative to the Interaction where the decomposition is referenced.

A PartDecomposition is a specialization of InteractionUse. It associates with the ConnectableElement that it decomposes.

#### Constraints

- [1] PartDecompositions apply only to Parts that are Parts of Internal Structures not to Parts of Collaborations.
- [2] Assume that within Interaction X, Lifeline L is of class C and decomposed to D. Within X there is a sequence of constructs along L (such constructs are CombinedFragments, InteractionUse and (plain) OccurrenceSpecifications). Then a corresponding sequence of constructs must appear within D, matched one-to-one in the same order.
  - i) CombinedFragment covering L are matched with an extra-global CombinedFragment in D.
  - ii) An InteractionUse covering L are matched with a global (i.e., covering all Lifelines) InteractionUse in D.
  - iii) A plain OccurrenceSpecification on L is considered an actualGate that must be matched by a formalGate of D.
- [3] Assume that within Interaction X, Lifeline L is of class C and decomposed to D. Assume also that there is within X an InteractionUse (say) U that covers L. According to the constraint above U will have a counterpart CU within D. Within

the Interaction referenced by U, L should also be decomposed, and the decomposition should reference CU. (This rule is called commutativity of decomposition.)

### Semantics

Decomposition of a lifeline within one Interaction by an Interaction (owned by the type of the Lifeline's associated ConnectableElement), is interpreted exactly as an InteractionUse. The messages that go into (or go out from) the decomposed lifeline are interpreted as actual gates that are matched by corresponding formal gates on the decomposition.

Since the decomposed Lifeline is interpreted as an InteractionUse, the semantics of a PartDecomposition is the semantics of the Interaction referenced by the decomposition where the gates and parameters have been matched.

That a CombinedFragment is extra-global depicts that there is a CombinedFragment with the same operator covering the decomposed Lifeline in its Interaction. The full understanding of that (higher level) CombinedFragment must be acquired through combining the operands of the decompositions operand by operand.

### Notation

PartDecomposition is designated by a referencing clause in the head of the Lifeline as can be seen in the notation sub clause of "Lifeline (from BasicInteractions, Fragments)" on page 510 (see also Figure 14.20).

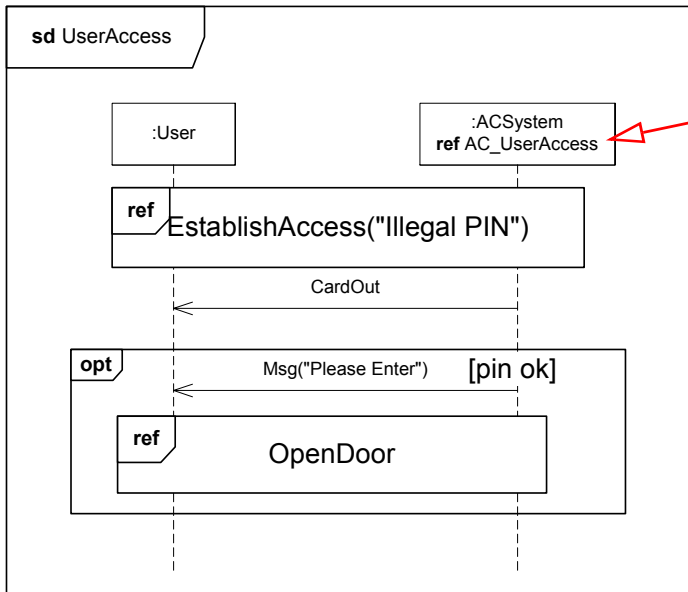
If the part decomposition is denoted inline under the decomposed lifeline and the decomposition clause is the keyword "strict," this indicates that the constructs on all sub lifelines within the inline decomposition are ordered in strict sequence (see "CombinedFragment (from Fragments)" on page 488 on the "strict" operator).

Extraglobal CombinedFragments have their rectangular frame go outside the boundaries of the decomposition Interaction.

### Style Guidelines

The name of an Interaction that is involved in decomposition would benefit from including in the name, the name of the type of the Part being decomposed and the name of the Interaction originating the decomposition. This is shown in Figure 14.20 where the decomposition is called *AC UserAccess* where 'AC' refers to *ACSystem*, which is the type of the Lifeline and *UserAccess* is the name of the Interaction where the decomposed lifeline is contained.

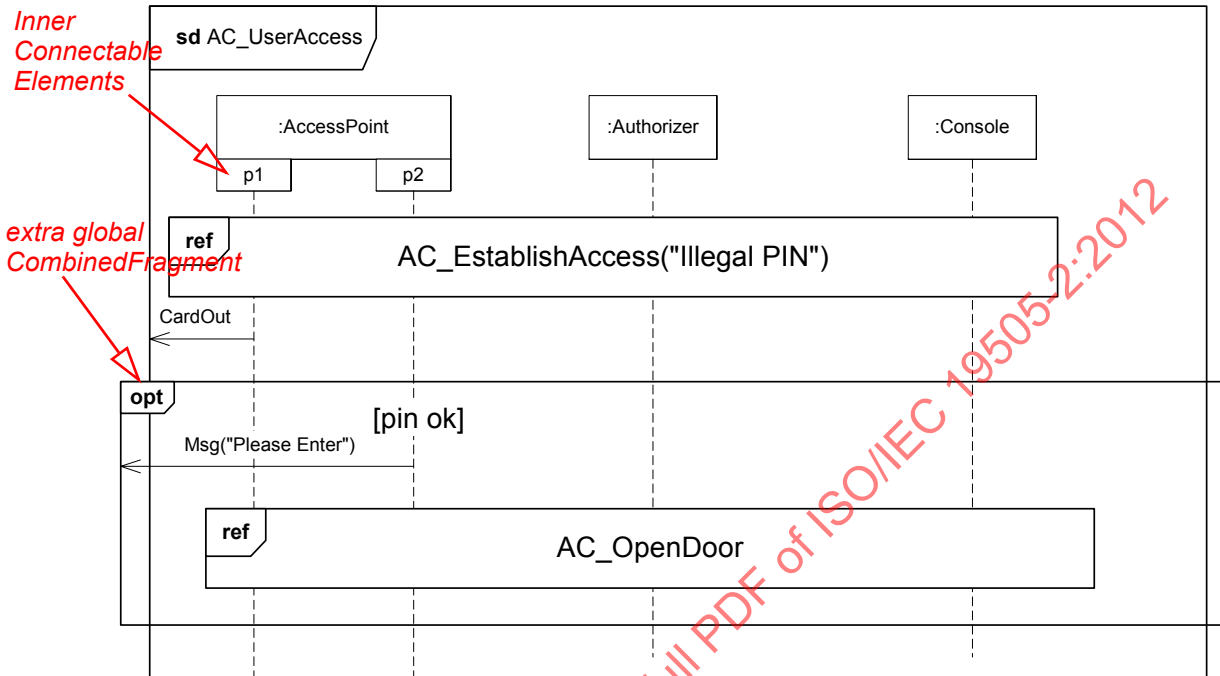
## Examples



Part decomposition

**Figure 14.20 - Part Decomposition - the decomposed part**

In Figure 14.20 we see how *ACSystem* within *UserAccess* is to be decomposed to *AC\_UserAccess*, which is an Interaction owned by class *ACSystem*.



**Figure 14.21 - PartDecomposition - the decomposition**

In Figure 14.21 we see that `AC_UserAccess` has global constructs that match the constructs of `UserAccess` covering `ACSystem`.

In particular we notice the “extra global interaction group” that goes beyond the frame of the Interaction. This construct corresponds to a `CombinedFragment` of `UserAccess`. However, we want to indicate that the operands of extra global interaction groups are combined one-to-one with similar extra global interaction groups of other decompositions of the same original `CombinedFragment`.

As a notational shorthand, decompositions can also be shown “inline.” In Figure 14.21 we see that the inner `ConnectableElements` of `AccessPoint` (`p1` and `p2`) are represented by Lifelines already on this level.

### Changes from previous UML

`PartDecomposition` did not appear in UML 1.x.

### 14.3.25 StateInvariant (from BasicInteractions)

#### Generalizations

- “`InteractionFragment` (from `BasicInteractions`, `Fragments`)” on page 505

#### Description

A `StateInvariant` is a runtime constraint on the participants of the interaction. It may be used to specify a variety of different kinds of constraints, such as values of attributes or variables, internal or external states, and so on.

A StateInvariant is an InteractionFragment and it is placed on a Lifeline.

### Associations

- invariant: Constraint[1]  
A Constraint that should hold at runtime for this StateInvariant.
- covered: Lifeline[1]  
References the Lifeline on which the StateInvariant appears. Subsets InteractionFragment.covered.

### Semantics

The Constraint is assumed to be evaluated during runtime. The Constraint is evaluated immediately prior to the execution of the next OccurrenceSpecification such that all actions that are not explicitly modeled have been executed. If the Constraint is true, the trace is a valid trace; if the Constraint is false, the trace is an invalid trace. In other words all traces that have a StateInvariant with a false Constraint are considered invalid.

### Notation

The possible associated Constraint is shown as text in curly brackets on the lifeline. See example in Figure 14.24 on page 528.

### Presentation Options

A StateInvariant can optionally be shown as a Note associated with an OccurrenceSpecification.

The state symbol represents the equivalent of a constraint that checks the state of the object represented by the Lifeline. This could be the internal state of the classifierBehavior of the corresponding Classifier, or it could be some external state based on a “black-box” view of the Lifeline. In the former case, and if the classifierBehavior is described by a state machine, the name of the state should match the hierarchical name of the corresponding state of the state machine.

The regions represent the orthogonal regions of states. The identifier need only define the state partially. The value of the constraint is true if the specified state information is true.

The example in Figure 14.24 also shows this presentation option.

## 14.4 Diagrams

Interaction diagrams come in different variants. The most common variant is the Sequence Diagram (“Sequence Diagrams” on page 524) that focuses on the Message interchange between a number of Lifelines. Communication Diagrams (“Communication Diagrams” on page 530) show interactions through an architectural view where the arcs between the communicating Lifelines are decorated with description of the passed Messages and their sequencing. Interaction Overview Diagrams (“Interaction Overview Diagrams” on page 533) define interactions in a way that promotes overview of the control flow. In the Annexes one may also find optional diagram notations such as Timing Diagrams and Interaction Tables. (Overview diagrams have notational elements that are similar to certain elements used in Activity diagrams (flow lines, forks, joins, etc.); however, although the notation and the general purpose of these elements is the same in both cases, their detailed semantics are quite different and modelers should not interpret Overview diagrams as if they were Activity diagrams).

### Sequence Diagrams

The most common kind of Interaction Diagram is the Sequence Diagram, which focuses on the Message interchange between a number of Lifelines.

A sequence diagram describes an Interaction by focusing on the sequence of Messages that are exchanged, along with their corresponding OccurrenceSpecifications on the Lifelines. The Interactions that are described by Sequence Diagrams are described in this clause.

**Graphic Nodes**

The graphic nodes that can be included in sequence diagrams are shown in Table 14.1.

**Table 14.1 - Graphic nodes included in sequence diagrams**

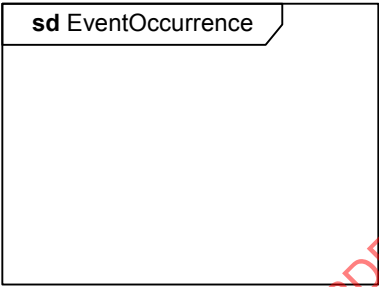
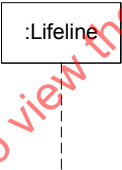
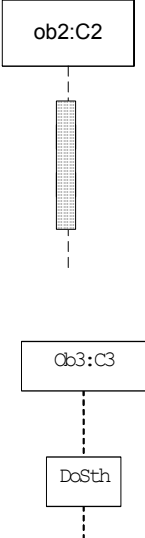
| Node Type               | Notation                                                                            | Reference                                                                                                                                                                               |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Frame                   |    | <p>The notation shows a rectangular frame around the diagram with a name in a compartment in the upper left corner. See 14.3.11, 'Interaction (from BasicInteraction, Fragments)'.</p>  |
| Lifeline                |  | <p>See 14.3.17, 'Lifeline (from BasicInteractions, Fragments)'.</p>                                                                                                                     |
| Execution Specification |  | <p>See 14.3.3, 'CombinedFragment (from Fragments)'. See also 14.3.17, 'Lifeline (from BasicInteractions, Fragments)' and 14.3.8, 'ExecutionSpecification (from BasicInteractions)'.</p> |

Table 14.1 - Graphic nodes included in sequence diagrams

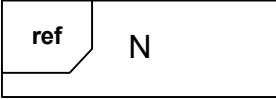
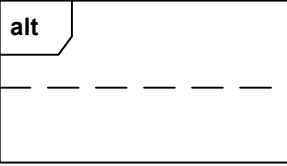
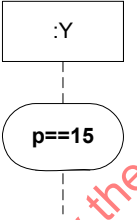
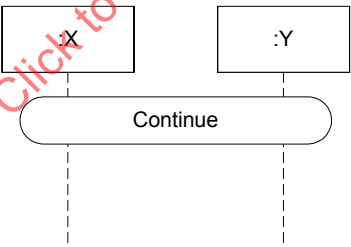
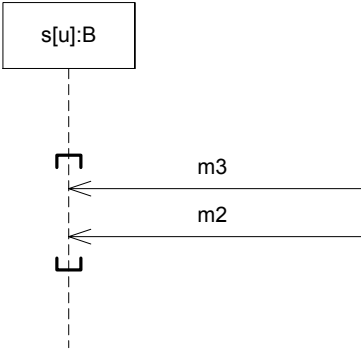
| Node Type        | Notation                                                                            | Reference                                                                             |
|------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| InteractionUse   |    | See 14.3.16, 'InteractionUse (from Fragments)'.                                       |
| CombinedFragment |    | See 14.3.3, 'CombinedFragment (from Fragments)'.                                      |
| StateInvariant   |   | See 14.3.25, 'StateInvariant (from BasicInteractions)'.                               |
| Continuations    |  | See 14.3.5, 'Continuation (from Fragments)'.                                          |
| Coregion         |  | See explanation under <i>parallel</i> in 14.3.3, 'CombinedFragment (from Fragments)'. |

Table 14.1 - Graphic nodes included in sequence diagrams

| Node Type                                 | Notation | Reference         |
|-------------------------------------------|----------|-------------------|
| DestructionOccurrence<br>Specification    | X        | See Figure 14.11. |
| DurationConstraint<br>DurationObservation |          | See Figure 14.26. |
| TimeConstraint<br>TimeObservation         |          | See Figure 14.26. |

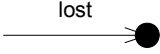
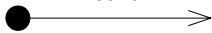

**Graphic Paths**

The graphic paths between the graphic nodes are given in Table 14.2.

Table 14.2 - Graphic paths included in sequence diagrams

| Node Type | Notation | Reference                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|-----------|----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Message   |          | Messages come in different variants depending on what kind of Message they convey. Here we show an asynchronous message, a call and a reply. These are all <i>complete</i> messages. See 14.3.18, 'Message (from BasicInteractions)'. |

Table 14.2 - Graphic paths included in sequence diagrams

| Node Type       | Notation                                                                          | Reference                                                                                                                                                                   |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Lost Message    |  | Lost messages are messages with known sender, but the reception of the message does not happen. See 14.3.18, 'Message (from BasicInteractions)'.                            |
| Found Message   |  | Found messages are messages with known receiver, but the sending of the message is not described within the specification. See 14.3.18, 'Message (from BasicInteractions)'. |
| GeneralOrdering |  | See 14.3.10, 'GeneralOrdering (from BasicInteractions)'.                                                                                                                    |

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Examples

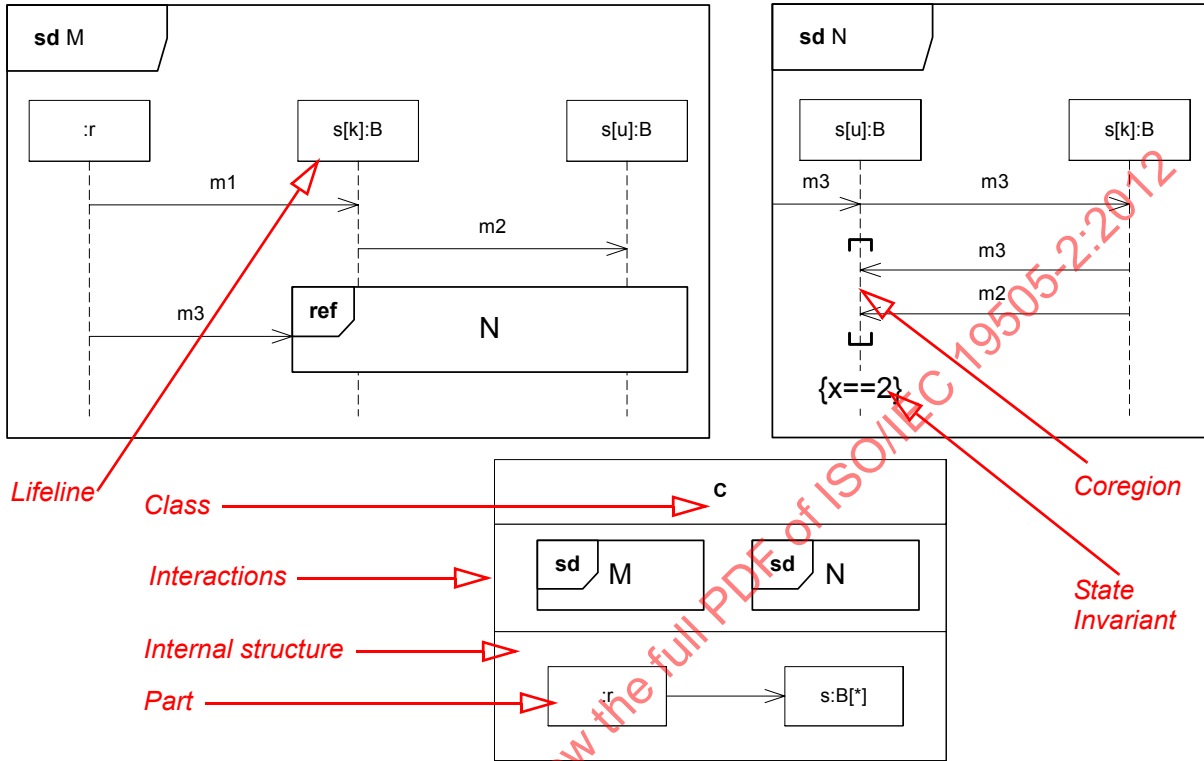


Figure 14.22 - Sequence Diagrams where two Lifelines refer to the same set of Parts (and Internal Structure)

The sequence diagrams in Figure 14.22 show a scenario where `r` sends `m1` to `s[k]` (which is of type `B`), and `s[k]` sends `m2` to `s[u]`. In the meantime independent of `s[k]` and `s[u]`, `r` may have sent `m3` towards the InteractionUse `N` through a gate. Following the `m3` message into `N` we see that `s[u]` then sends another `m3` message to `s[k]`. `s[k]` then sends `m3` and then `m2` towards `s[u]`. `s[u]` receives the two latter messages in any order (coregion). Having received these messages, we state an invariant on a variable `x` (most certainly owned by `s[u]`).

In order to explain the mapping of the notation onto the metamodel we have pointed out areas and their corresponding metamodel concept in Figure 14.23. Let us go through the simple diagram and explain how the metamodel is built up. The whole diagram is an Interaction (named `N`). There is a formal gate (with implicit name `in_m3`) and two Lifelines (named `s[u]` and `s[k]`) that are contained in the Interaction. Furthermore the two Messages (occurrences) both of the same type `m3`, implicitly named `m3_1` and `m3_2` here, are also owned by the Interaction. Finally there are the three OccurrenceSpecifications.

We have omitted in this metamodel the objects that are more peripheral to the Interaction model, such as the Part `s` and the class `B` and the connector referred by the Message.

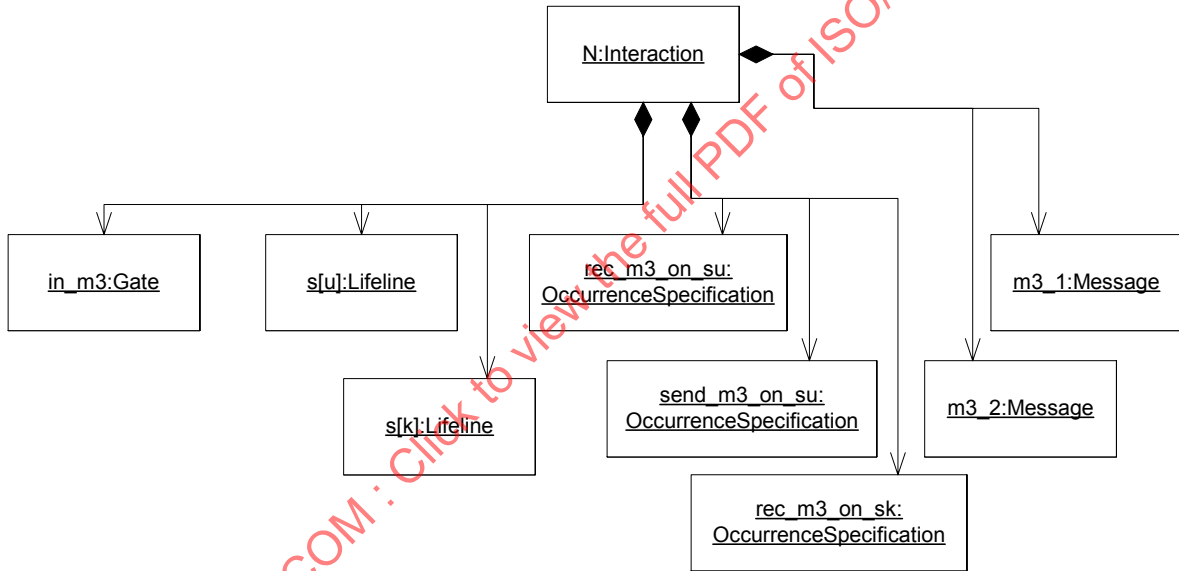
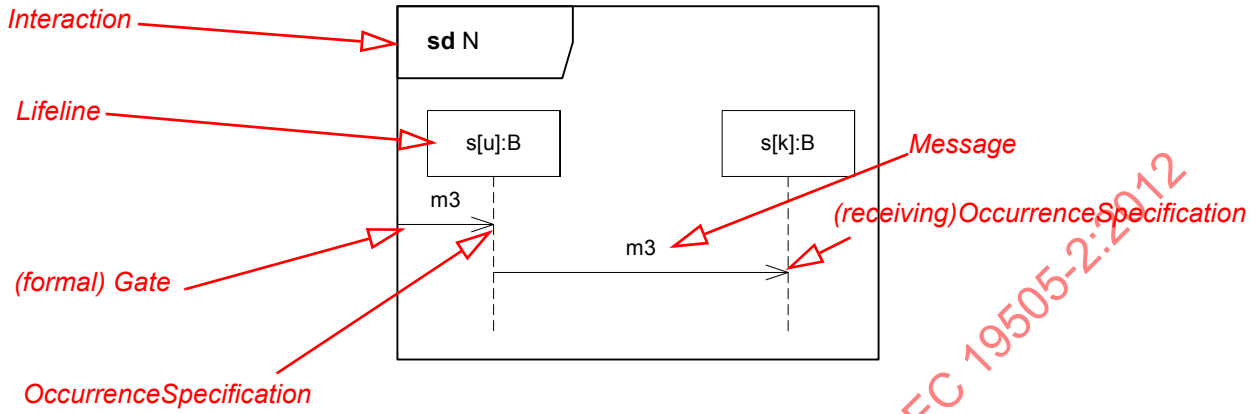
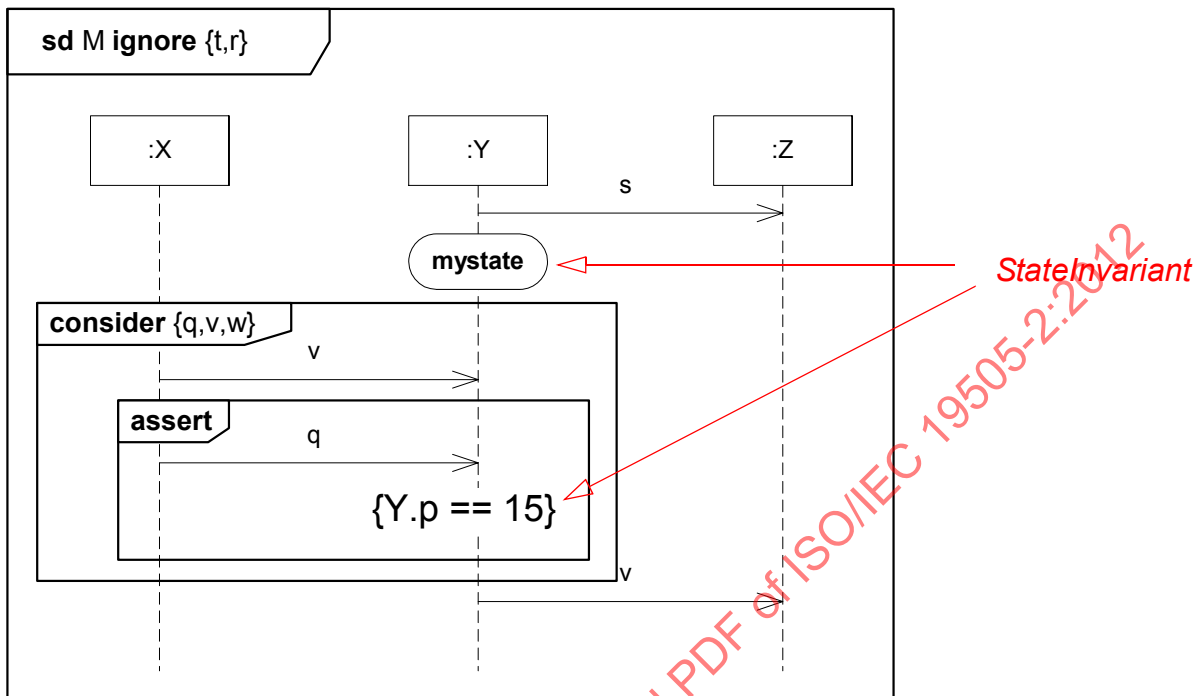


Figure 14.23 - Metamodel elements of a sequence diagrams



**Figure 14.24 - Ignore, Consider, assert with State Invariants**

In Figure 14.24 we have an Interaction M, which considers message types other than t and r. This means that if this Interaction is used to specify a test of an existing system and when running that system a t or an r occurs, these messages will be ignored by this part of ISO/IEC 19505. t and r will of course be handled in some manner by the running system, but how they are handled is irrelevant for our Interaction shown here.

The State invariant given as a state “mystate” will be evaluated at runtime directly prior to whatever event occurs on Y after “mystate.” This may be the reception of q as specified within the assert-fragment, or it may be an event that is specified to be insignificant by the filters.

The **assert** fragment is nested in a **consider** fragment to mean that we expect a q message to occur once a v has occurred here. Any occurrences of messages other than v, w, and q will be ignored in a test situation. Thus the appearance of a w message after the v is an invalid trace.

The state invariant given in curly brackets will be evaluated prior to the next event occurrence after that on Y.

## Internal Structure and corresponding Collaboration Uses

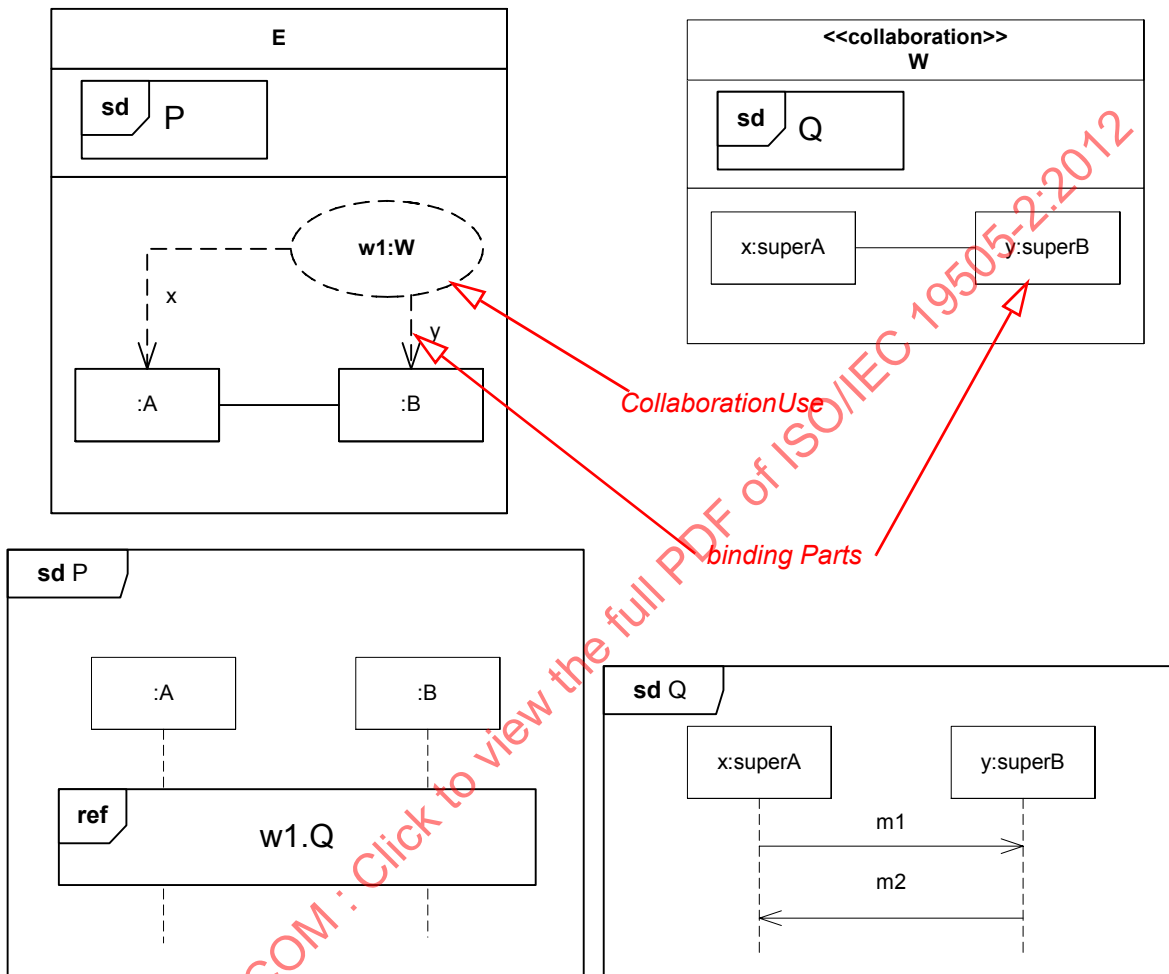


Figure 14.25 - Describing collaborations and their binding

The example in Figure 14.25 shows how collaboration uses are employed to make Interactions of a Collaboration available in another classifier.

The collaboration W has two parts x and y that are of types (classes) superA and superB respectively. Classes A and B are specializations of superA and superB respectively. The Sequence Diagram Q shows a simple Interaction that we will reuse in another environment. The class E represents this other environment. There are two anonymous parts :A and :B and the CollaborationUse w1 of Collaboration W binds x and y to :A and :B respectively. This binding is legal since :A and :B are parts of types that are specializations of the types of x and y.

In the Sequence Diagram P (owned by class E) we use the Interaction Q made available via the CollaborationUse w1.

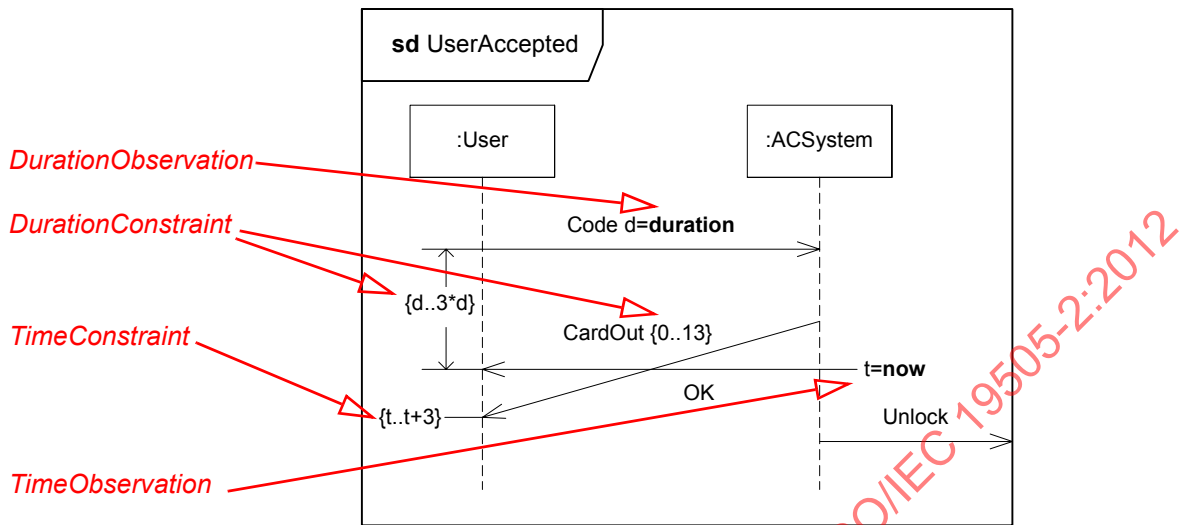


Figure 14.26 - Sequence Diagram with time and timing concepts

The Sequence Diagram in Figure 14.26 shows how time and timing notation may be applied to describe time observation and timing constraints. The :User sends a message Code and its duration is measured. The :ACSystem will send two messages back to the :User. CardOut is constrained to last between 0 and 13 time units. Furthermore the interval between the sending of Code and the reception of OK is constrained to last between  $d$  and  $3*d$  where  $d$  is the measured duration of the Code signal. We also notice the observation of the time point  $t$  at the sending of OK and how this is used to constrain the time point of the reception of CardOut.

### Communication Diagrams

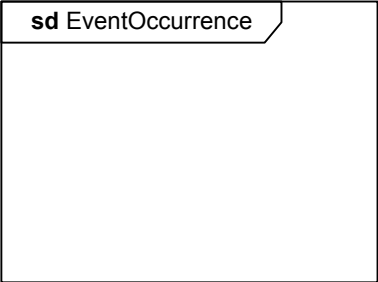
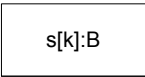
Communication Diagrams focus on the interaction between Lifelines where the architecture of the internal structure and how this corresponds with the message passing is central. The sequencing of Messages is given through a sequence numbering scheme.

Communication Diagrams correspond to simple Sequence Diagrams that use none of the structuring mechanisms such as InteractionUses and CombinedFragments. It is also assumed that message overtaking (i.e., the order of the receptions are different from the order of sending of a given set of messages) will not take place or is irrelevant.

## Graphical Nodes

Communication diagram nodes are shown in Table 14.3.

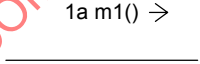
**Table 14.3 - Graphic nodes included in communication diagrams**

| Node Type | Notation                                                                           | Reference                                                                                                                                                                       |
|-----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Frame     |   | The notation shows a rectangular frame around the diagram with a name in a compartment in the upper left corner. See 14.3.11, 'Interaction (from BasicInteraction, Fragments)'. |
| Lifeline  |  | See 14.3.17, 'Lifeline (from BasicInteractions, Fragments)'.                                                                                                                    |

## Graphic Paths

Graphic paths of communication diagrams are given in Table 14.4.

**Table 14.4 - Graphic paths included in communication diagrams**

| Node Type | Notation                                                                            | Reference                                                                                                                                |
|-----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Message   |  | See 14.3.18, 'Message (from BasicInteractions)' and "'Sequence expression'." The arrow shown here indicates the communication direction. |

Examples

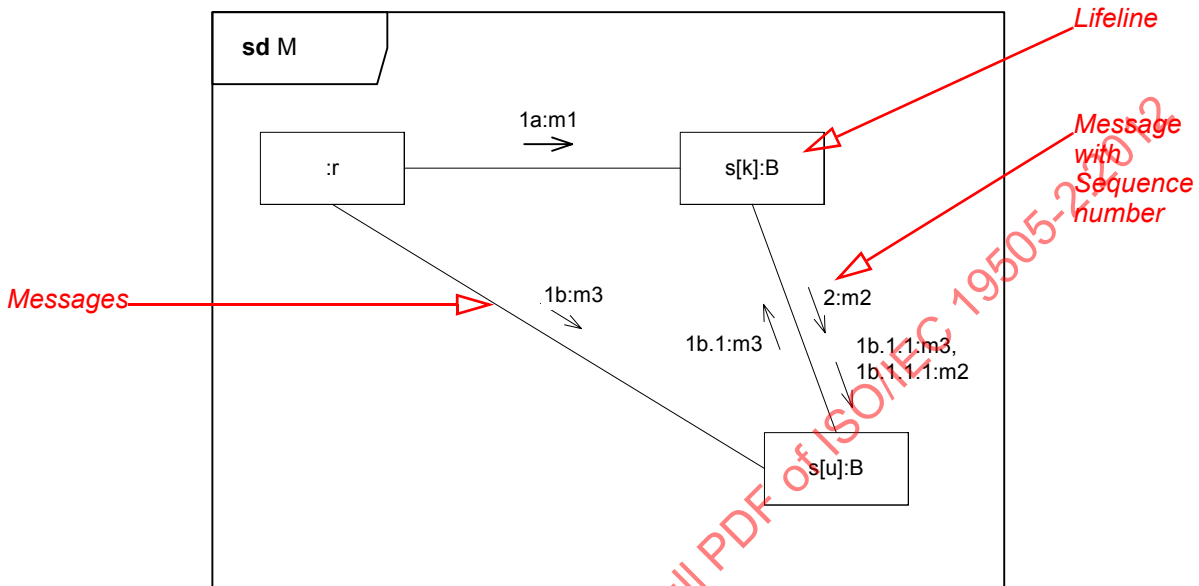


Figure 14.27 - Communication diagram

The Interaction described by a Communication Diagram in Figure 14.27 shows messages m1 and m3 being sent concurrently from :r towards two instances of the part s. The sequence numbers show how the other messages are sequenced. 1b.1 follows after 1b and 1b.1.1 thereafter etc. 2 follows after 1a and 1b.

Sequence expression

The sequence-expression is a dot-separated list of sequence-terms followed by a colon (':').

*sequence-term* ':'

Each term represents a level of procedural nesting within the overall interaction. If all the control is concurrent, then nesting does not occur. Each sequence-term has the following syntax:

[ integer | name ] [ recurrence ]

The *integer* represents the sequential order of the Message within the next higher level of procedural calling. Messages that differ in one integer term are sequentially related at that level of nesting. Example: Message 3.1.4 follows Message 3.1.3 within activation 3.1. The *name* represents a concurrent thread of control. Messages that differ in the final name are concurrent at that level of nesting. Example: Message 3.1a and Message 3.1b are concurrent within activation 3.1. All threads of control are equal within the nesting depth.

The recurrence represents conditional or iterative execution. This represents zero or more Messages that are executed depending on the conditions involved. The choices are:

'\*' '[' iteration-clause ']' an iteration  
 '[' guard ']' a branch

An iteration represents a sequence of Messages at the given nesting depth. The iteration clause may be omitted (in which case the iteration conditions are unspecified). The iteration-clause is meant to be expressed in pseudocode or an actual programming language, UML does not prescribe its format. An example would be:  $*[i := 1..n]$ .

A guard represents a Message whose execution is contingent on the truth of the condition clause. The guard is meant to be expressed in pseudocode or an actual programming language; UML does not prescribe its format. An example would be:  $[x > y]$ .

Note that a branch is notated the same as an iteration without a star. One might think of it as an iteration restricted to a single occurrence.

The iteration notation assumes that the Messages in the iteration will be executed sequentially. There is also the possibility of executing them concurrently. The notation for this is to follow the star by a double vertical line (for parallelism):  $*||$ .

Note that in a nested control structure, the recurrence is not repeated at inner levels. Each level of structure specifies its own iteration within the enclosing context.

### Interaction Overview Diagrams

Interaction Overview Diagrams define Interactions through a variant of Activity Diagrams (described in Clause 12, “Activities”) in a way that promotes overview of the control flow.

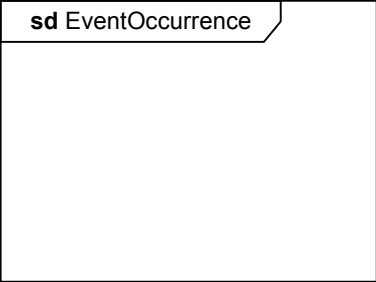
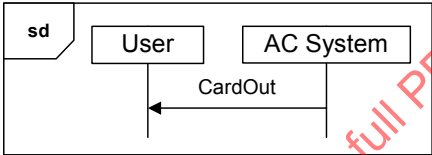

Interaction Overview Diagrams focus on the overview of the flow of control where the nodes are Interactions or InteractionUses. The Lifelines and the Messages do not appear at this overview level.

### Graphic Nodes

Interaction Overview Diagrams are specialization of Activity Diagrams that represent Interactions. Interaction Overview Diagrams differ from Activity Diagrams in some respects.

1. In place of ObjectNodes of Activity Diagrams, Interaction Overview Diagrams can only have either (inline) Interactions or InteractionUses. Inline Interaction diagrams and InteractionUses are considered special forms of CallBehaviorAction.
2. Alternative Combined Fragments are represented by a Decision Node and a corresponding Merge Node.
3. Parallel Combined Fragments are represented by a Fork Node and a corresponding Join Node.
4. Loop Combined Fragments are represented by simple cycles.
5. Branching and joining of branches must in Interaction Overview Diagrams be properly nested. This is more restrictive than in Activity Diagrams.
6. Interaction Overview Diagrams are framed by the same kind of frame that encloses other forms of Interaction Diagrams. The heading text may also include a list of the contained Lifelines (that do not appear graphically).

**Table 14.5 - Graphic nodes included in Interaction Overview Diagrams in addition to those borrowed from Activity Diagrams**

| Node Type      | Notation                                                                            | Reference                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Frame          |    | <p>The notation shows a rectangular frame around the diagram with a name in a compartment in the upper left corner. See 14.3.11, 'Interaction (from BasicInteraction, Fragments)'.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Interaction    |   | <p>An Interaction diagram of any kind may appear inline as an ActivityInvocation. See 14.3.11, 'Interaction (from BasicInteraction, Fragments)'. The inline Interaction diagrams may be either anonymous (as here) or named.</p>                                                                                                                                                                              |
| InteractionUse |  | <p>ActivityInvocation in the form of InteractionUse. See 14.3.16, 'InteractionUse (from Fragments)'. The tools may choose to "explode" the view of an InteractionUse into an inline Interaction with the name of the Interaction referred by the occurrence. The inline Interaction will then replace the occurrence by a replica of the definition Interaction where arguments have replaced parameters.</p> |

Examples

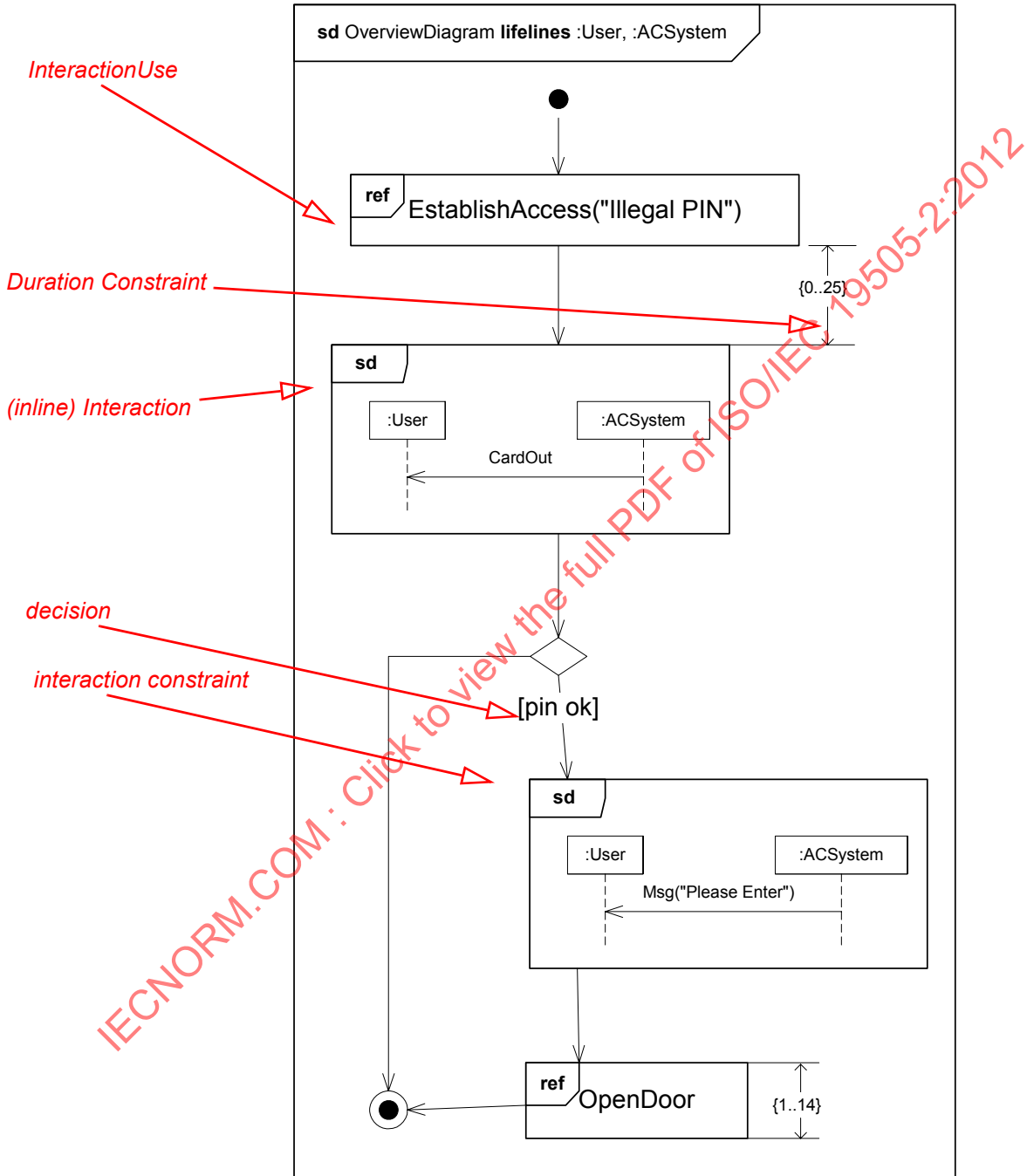


Figure 14.28 - Interaction Overview Diagram representing a High Level Interaction diagram

Interaction Overview Diagrams use Activity diagram notation where the nodes are either Interactions or InteractionUses. Interaction Overview Diagrams are a way to describe Interactions where Messages and Lifelines are abstracted away. In the purest form all Activities are InteractionUses and then there are no Messages or Lifelines shown in the diagram at all.

Figure 14.28 is another way to describe the behavior shown in Figure 14.17, with some added timing constraints. The Interaction *EstablishAccess* occurs first (with argument “Illegal PIN”) followed by weak sequencing with the message *CardOut* which is shown in an inline Interaction. Then there is an alternative as we find a decision node with an InteractionConstraint on one of the branches. Along that control flow we find another inline Interaction and an InteractionUse in (weak) sequence.

### Timing Diagram

Timing Diagrams are used to show interactions when a primary purpose of the diagram is to reason about time. Timing diagrams focus on conditions changing within and among Lifelines along a linear time axis.

Timing diagrams describe behavior of both individual classifiers and interactions of classifiers, focusing attention on time of occurrence of events causing changes in the modeled conditions of the Lifelines.

### Graphic Nodes

The graphic nodes and paths that can be included in timing diagrams are shown in Table 14.6.

**Table 14.6 - Graphic nodes and paths included in timing diagrams**

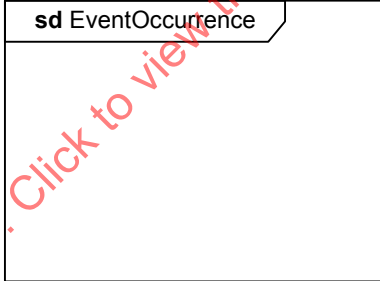
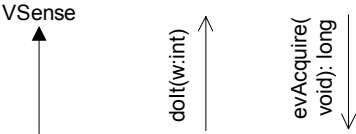
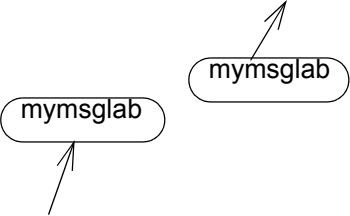
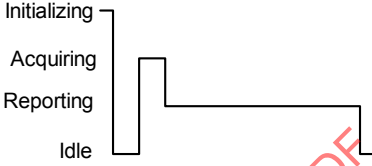

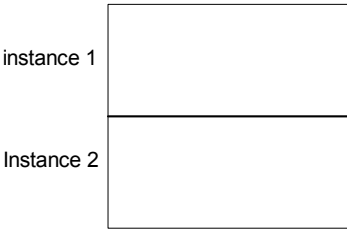


| Node Type | Notation                                                                            | Reference                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|-----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Frame     |  | The notation shows a rectangular frame around the diagram with a name in a compartment in the upper left corner. See 14.3.11, 'Interaction (from BasicInteraction, Fragments)'.               |
| Message   |  | Messages come in different variants depending on what kind of Message they convey. Here we show an asynchronous message, a call and a reply. See 14.3.18, 'Message (from BasicInteractions)'. |

Table 14.6 - Graphic nodes and paths included in timing diagrams

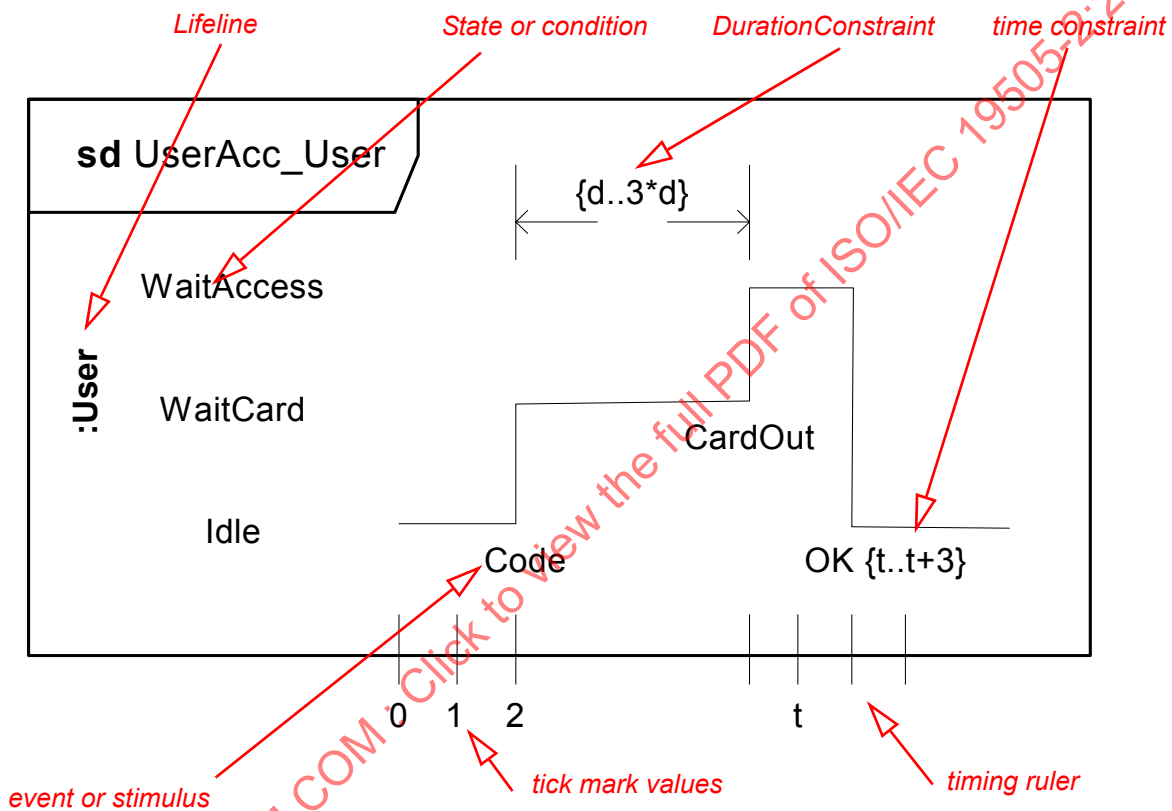
| Node Type                           | Notation                                                                                                                                                                 | Reference                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Message label                       |                                                                                         | <p>Labels are only notational shorthands used to prevent cluttering of the diagrams with a number of messages crisscrossing the diagram between Lifelines that are far apart. The labels denote that a Message may be disrupted by introducing labels with the same name.</p>                                                                                                                                |
| State or condition timeline         |                                                                                         | <p>This is the state of the classifier or attribute, or some testable condition, such as an discrete enumerable value. See also 14.3.25, 'StateInvariant (from BasicInteractions)'.<br/>It is also permissible to let the state-dimension be continuous as well as discrete. This is illustrative for scenarios where certain entities undergo continuous state changes, such as temperature or density.</p> |
| General value lifeline              |  | <p>Shows the value of the connectable element as a function of time. Value is explicitly denoted as text. Crossing reflects the event where the value changed.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Lifeline                            |                                                                                       | <p>See 14.3.17, 'Lifeline (from BasicInteractions, Fragments)'.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| GeneralOrdering                     |                                                                                       | <p>See 14.3.10, 'GeneralOrdering (from BasicInteractions)'.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| DestructionOccurrence Specification |                                                                                       | <p>See 14.3.6, 'DestructionOccurrenceSpecification (from BasicInteractions)'.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |

**Examples**

Timing diagrams show change in state or other condition of a structural element over time. There are a few forms in use. We shall give examples of the simplest forms.

Sequence Diagrams as the primary form of Interactions may also depict time observation and timing constraints. We show in Figure 14.26 an example in Sequence Diagram that we will also give in Timing Diagrams.

The :User of the Sequence Diagram in Figure 14.26 is depicted with a simple Timing Diagram in Figure 14.29.



**Figure 14.29 - A Lifeline for a discrete object**

The primary purpose of the timing diagram is to show the change in state or condition of a lifeline (representing a Classifier Instance or Classifier Role) over linear time. The most common usage is to show the change in state of an object over time in response to accepted events or stimuli. The received events are annotated as shown when it is desirable to show the event causing the change in condition or state.

Sometimes it is more economical and compact to show the state or condition on the vertical Lifeline as shown in Figure 14.30.

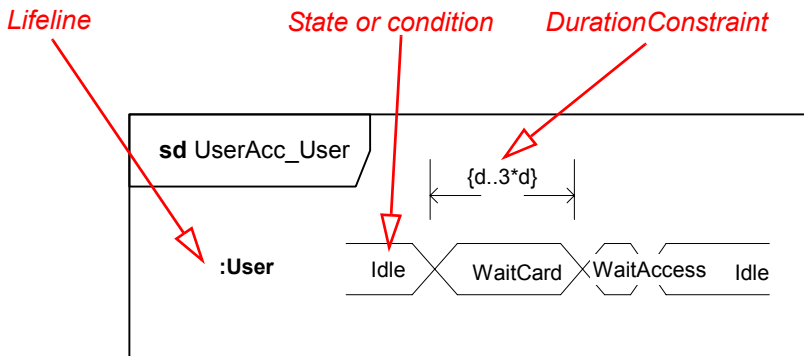


Figure 14.30 - Compact Lifeline with States

Finally we may have an elaborate form of TimingDiagrams where more than one Lifeline is shown and where the messages are also depicted. We show such a Timing Diagram in Figure 14.31 corresponding to the Sequence Diagram in Figure 14.26.

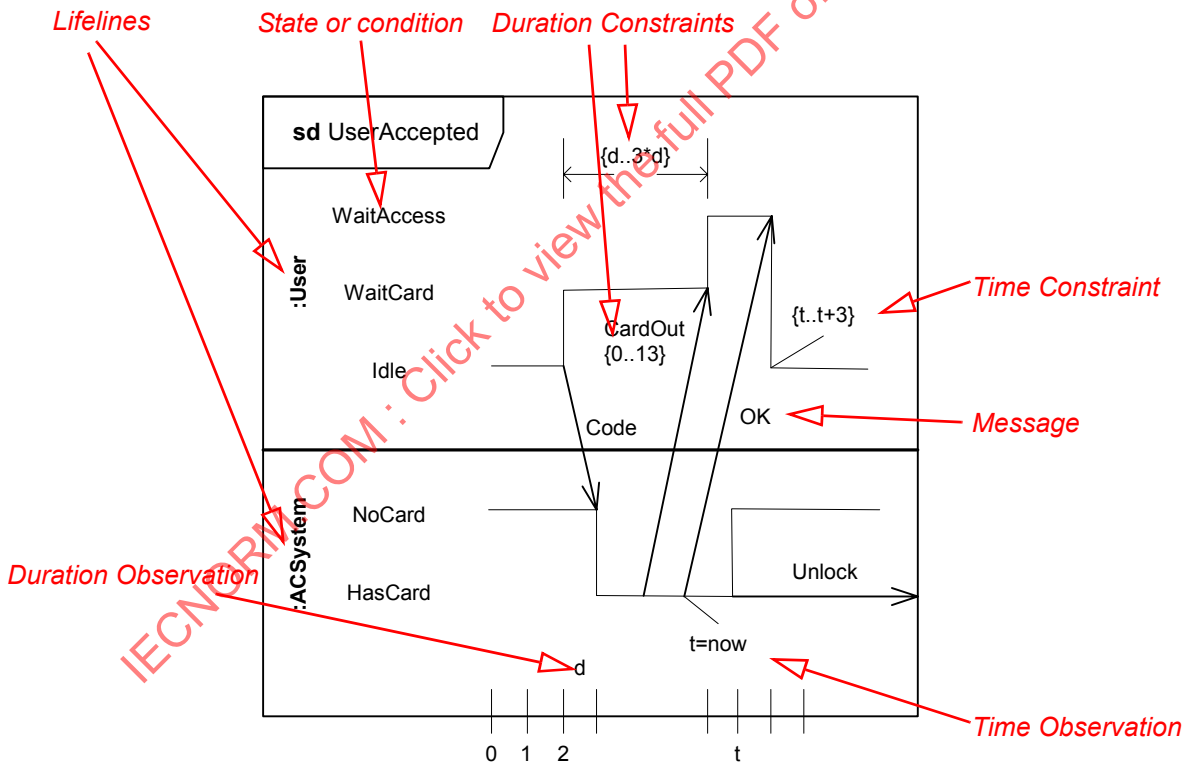


Figure 14.31 - Timing Diagram with more than one Lifeline and with Messages

### Changes from previous UML

The Timing Diagrams were not available in UML 1.4.

IECNORM.COM : Click to view the full PDF of ISO/IEC 19505-2:2012

## 15 State Machines

### 15.1 Overview

The StateMachine package defines a set of concepts that can be used for modeling discrete behavior through finite state-transition systems. In addition to expressing the behavior of a part of the system, state machines can also be used to express the usage protocol of part of a system. These two kinds of state machines are referred to here as *behavioral state machines* and *protocol state machines*.

#### Behavioral state machines

State machines can be used to specify behavior of various model elements. For example, they can be used to model the behavior of individual entities (e.g., class instances). The state machine formalism described in this sub clause is an object-based variant of Harel statecharts.

#### Protocol State machines

Protocol state machines are used to express usage protocols. Protocol state machines express the legal transitions that a classifier can trigger. The state machine notation is a convenient way to define a lifecycle for objects, or an order of the invocation of its operation. Because protocol state machines do not preclude any specific behavioral implementation, and enforces legal usage scenarios of classifiers, interfaces, and ports can be associated to this kind of state machines.

### 15.2 Abstract Syntax

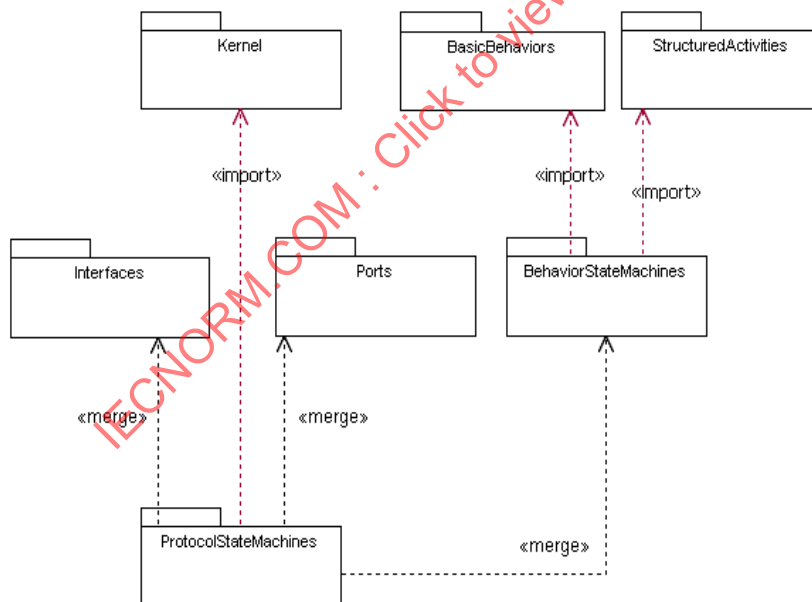


Figure 15.1 - Package Dependencies

Package BehaviorStateMachines

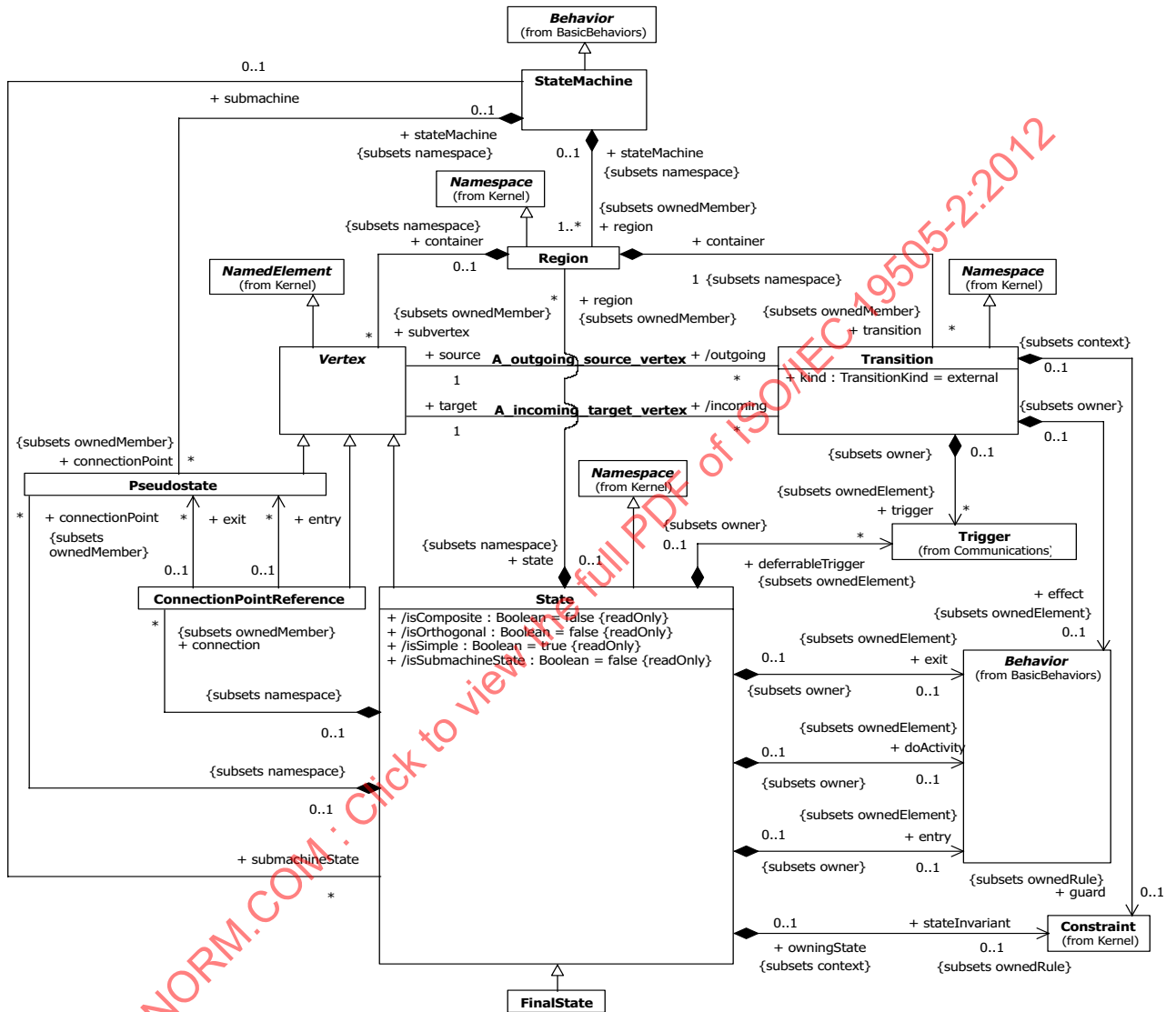


Figure 15.2 State Machines

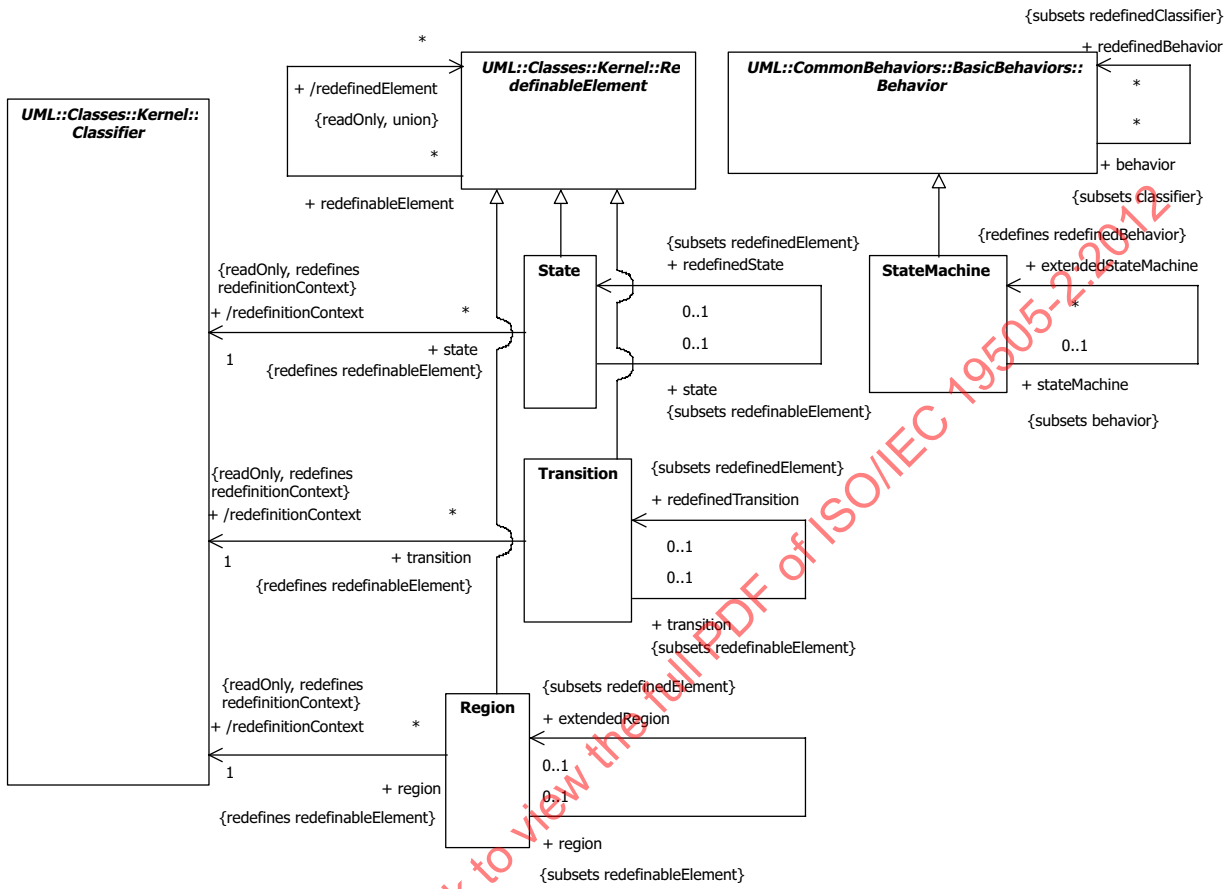


Figure 15.3 - State Machine Redefinitions



Figure 15.4 - Time events

Package ProtocolStateMachines

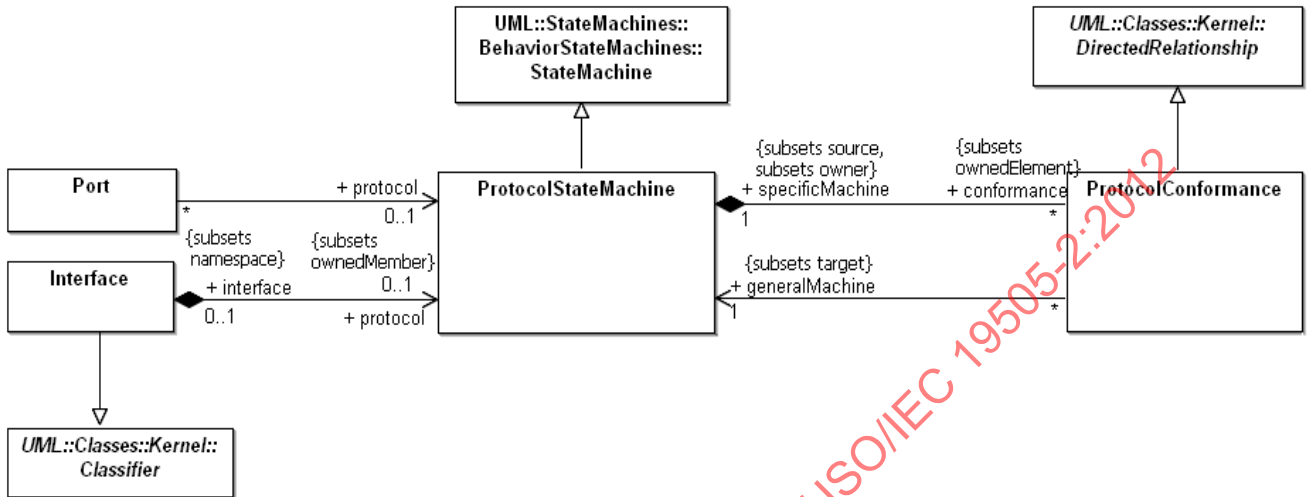


Figure 15.5 - Protocol State Machines

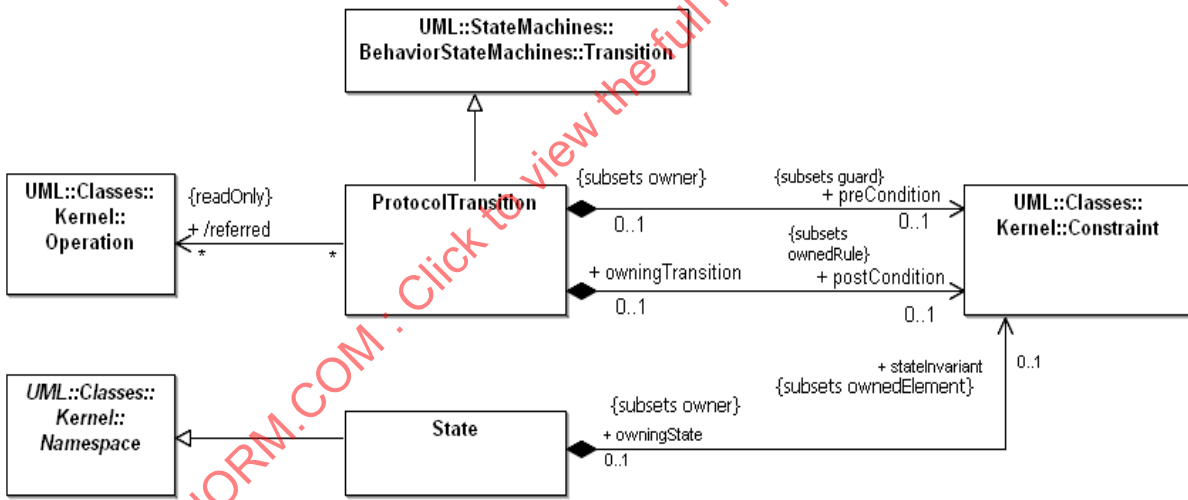


Figure 15.6 - Constraints

## 15.3 Class Descriptions

### 15.3.1 ConnectionPointReference (from BehaviorStateMachines)

A connection point reference represents a usage (as part of a submachine state) of an entry/exit point defined in the statemachine reference by the submachine state.

## Generalizations

- “Vertex (from BehaviorStateMachines)” on page 598

## Description

Connection point references of a submachine state can be used as sources/targets of transitions. They represent entries into or exits out of the submachine state machine referenced by the submachine state.

## Attributes

No additional attributes

## Associations

- entry: Pseudostate[0..\*]  
The entryPoint kind pseudostates corresponding to this connection point.
- exit: Pseudostate[0..\*]  
The exitPoints kind pseudostates corresponding to this connection point.
- state : State [0..1]  
The State in which the connection point references are defined. {Subsets *Element::namespace*}

## Constraints

- [1] The entry Pseudostates must be Pseudostates with kind entryPoint.  
entry->notEmpty() implies entry->forAll(e | e.kind = #entryPoint)
- [2] The exit Pseudostates must be Pseudostates with kind exitPoint.  
exit->notEmpty() implies exit->forAll(e | e.kind = #exitPoint)

## Semantics

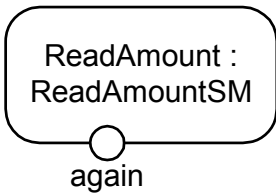
Connection point references are sources/targets of transitions implying exits out of/entries into the submachine state machine referenced by a submachine state.

An entry point connection point reference as the target of a transition implies that the target of the transition is the entry point pseudostate as defined in the submachine of the submachine state. As a result, the regions of the submachine state machine are entered at the corresponding entry point pseudostates.

An exit point connection point reference as the source of a transition implies that the source of the transition is the exit point pseudostate as defined in the submachine of the submachine state that has the exit point connection point defined. When a region of the submachine state machine has reached the corresponding exit points, the submachine state exits at this exit point.

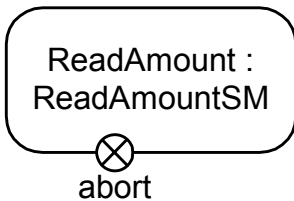
**Notation**

A connection point reference to an entry point has the same notation as an entry point pseudostate. The circle is placed on the border of the state symbol of a submachine state.



**Figure 15.7 - Entry Point**

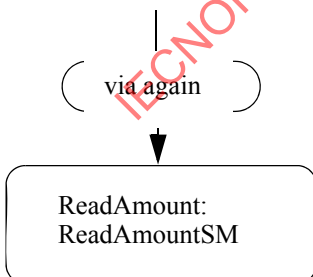
A connection point reference to an exit point has the same notation as an exit point pseudostate. The encircled cross is placed on the border of the state symbol of a submachine state.



**Figure 15.8 - Exit Point**

**Presentation Options**

A connection point reference to an entry point can also be visualized using a rectangular symbol as shown in Figure 15.9. The text inside the symbol shall contain the keyword 'via' followed by the name of the connection point. This notation may only be used if the transition ending with the connection point is defined using the transition-oriented control icon notation as defined in "Transition (from BehaviorStateMachines)" on page 587.



**Figure 15.9 - Alternative Entry Point notation**

A connection point reference to an exit point can also be visualized using a rectangular symbol as shown in Figure 15.10. The text inside the symbol shall contain the keyword 'via' followed by the name of the connection point. This notation may only be used if the transition associated with the connection point is defined using the transition-oriented control icon notation as defined in "Transition (from BehaviorStateMachines)" on page 587.

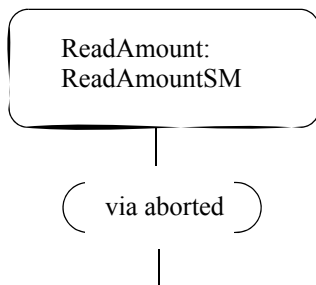


Figure 15.10 - Alternative Exit Point notation

### 15.3.2 FinalState (from BehaviorStateMachines)

#### Generalizations

- "State (from BehaviorStateMachines, ProtocolStateMachines)" on page 565

#### Description

A special kind of state signifying that the enclosing region is completed. If the enclosing region is directly contained in a state machine and all other regions in the state machine also are completed, then it means that the entire state machine is completed.

#### Attributes

No additional attributes

#### Associations

No additional associations

#### Constraints

- [1] A final state cannot have any outgoing transitions.  
self.outgoing->size() = 0
- [2] A final state cannot have regions.  
self.region->size() = 0
- [3] A final state cannot reference a submachine.  
self.submachine->isEmpty()
- [4] A final state has no entry behavior.  
self.entry->isEmpty()
- [5] A final state has no exit behavior.  
self.exit->isEmpty()

[6] A final state has no state (doActivity) behavior.  
self.doActivity->isEmpty()

### Semantics

When the final state is entered, its containing region is completed, which means that it satisfies the completion condition. The containing state for this region is considered completed when all contained regions are completed. If the region is contained in a state machine and all other regions in the state machine also are completed, the entire state machine terminates, implying the termination of the context object of the state machine.

### Notation

A final state is shown as a circle surrounding a small solid filled circle (see Figure 15.11). The corresponding completion transition on the enclosing state has as notation an unlabeled transition.



Figure 15.11 - Final State

### Example

Figure 15.33 on page 574 has an example of a final state (the right most of the states within the composite state).

## 15.3.3 Interface (from ProtocolStateMachines)

Interface is defined as a specialization of the general Interface, adding an association to a protocol state machine.

### Generalizations

- “Interface (from Communications)” on page 465 (*merge increment*)

### Description

Since an interface specifies conformance characteristics, it does not own detailed behavior specifications. Instead, interfaces may own a protocol state machine that specifies event sequences and pre/post conditions for the operations and receptions described by the interface.

### Attributes

No additional attributes

### Associations

- protocol: ProtocolStateMachine [0..1]  
References a protocol state machine specifying the legal sequences of the invocation of the behavioral features described in the interface.

### Semantics

Interfaces can specify behavioral constraints on the features using a protocol state machine. A classifier realizing an interface must comply with the protocol state machine owned by the interface.

**Changes from previous UML**

Interfaces can own a protocol state machine.

**15.3.4 Port (from ProtocolStateMachines)****Generalizations**

- “Port (from Ports)” on page 192 (*merge increment*)

**Description**

Port is defined as a specialization of the general Port, adding an association to a protocol state machine.

**Attributes**

No additional attributes

**Associations**

- protocol: ProtocolStateMachine [0..1]  
References an optional protocol state machine that describes valid interactions at this interaction point.

**Semantics**

The protocol references a protocol state machine (see “ProtocolStateMachine (from ProtocolStateMachines)” on page 550) that describes valid sequences of operation and reception invocations that may occur at this port.

**15.3.5 ProtocolConformance (from ProtocolStateMachines)****Generalizations**

- “DirectedRelationship (from Kernel)” on page 67

**Description**

Protocol state machines can be redefined into more specific protocol state machines, or into behavioral state machines. Protocol conformance declares that the specific protocol state machine specifies a protocol that conforms to the general state machine one, or that the specific behavioral state machine abides by the protocol of the general protocol state machine.

A protocol state machine is owned by a classifier. The classifiers owning a general state machine and an associated specific state machine are generally also connected by a generalization or a realization link.

**Attributes**

No additional attributes

**Associations**

- specificMachine: ProtocolStateMachine [1]  
Specifies the state machine that conforms to the general state machine. {Subsets DirectedRelationship::source and Element::owner}

- `generalMachine: ProtocolStateMachine [1]`  
Specifies the protocol state machine to which the specific state machine conforms. (Subsets `DirectedRelationship::target`)

### Constraints

No additional constraints

### Semantics

Protocol conformance means that every rule and constraint specified for the general protocol state machine (state invariants, pre- and post-conditions for the operations referred by the protocol state machine) apply to the specific protocol or behavioral state machine.

In most cases there are relationships between the classifier being the context of the specific state machine and the classifier being the context of the general protocol state machine. Generally, the former specializes or realizes the latter. It is also possible that the specific state machine is a behavioral state machine that implements the general protocol state machine, both state machines having the same class as a context.

## 15.3.6 ProtocolStateMachine (from ProtocolStateMachines)

### Generalizations

- “StateMachine (from BehaviorStateMachines)” on page 579

### Description

A *protocol state machine* is always defined in the context of a classifier. It specifies which operations of the classifier can be called in which state and under which condition, thus specifying the allowed call sequences on the classifier’s operations. A protocol state machine presents the possible and permitted transitions on the instances of its context classifier, together with the operations that carry the transitions. In this manner, an instance lifecycle can be created for a classifier, by specifying the order in which the operations can be activated and the states through which an instance progresses during its existence.

### Attributes

No additional attributes

### Associations

- `conformance: ProtocolConformance[*]`  
Conformance between protocol state machines. {Subsets *Element::ownedElement*}

### Constraints

- [1] A protocol state machine must only have a classifier context, not a behavioral feature context.  
(`not context->isEmpty( ) and specification->isEmpty()`)
- [2] All transitions of a protocol state machine must be protocol transitions. (transitions as extended by the `ProtocolStateMachines` package).  
`region->forAll(r | r.transition->forAll(t | t.ocIsTypeOf(ProtocolTransition)))`

[3] The states of a protocol state machine cannot have entry, exit, or do activity actions.

```
region->forall(r | r.subvertex->forall(v | v.ocllsKindOf(State) implies
(v.entry->isEmpty() and v.exit->isEmpty() and v.doActivity->isEmpty()))))
```

[4] Protocol state machines cannot have deep or shallow history pseudostates.

```
region->forall(r | r.subvertex->forall(v | v.ocllsKindOf(Pseudostate) implies
((v.kind <> #deepHistory) and (v.kind <> #shallowHistory))))))
```

[5] If two ports are connected, then the protocol state machine of the required interface (if defined) must be conformant to the protocol state machine of the provided interface (if defined).

## Semantics

Protocol state machines help define the usage mode of the operations and receptions of a classifier by specifying:

- In which context (under which states and pre conditions) they can be used.
- If there is a protocol order between them.
- What result is expected from their use.

The states of a protocol state machine (protocol states) present an external view of the class that is exposed to its clients. Depending on the context, protocol states can correspond to the internal states of the instances as expressed by behavioral state machines, or they can be different.

A protocol state machine expresses parts of the constraints that can be formulated for pre- and post-conditions on operations. The translation from protocol state machine to pre- and post-conditions on operations might not be straightforward, because the conditions would need to account for the operation call history on the instance, which may or may not be directly represented by its internal states. A protocol state machine provides a direct model of the state of interaction with the instance, so that constraints on interaction are more easily expressed.

The protocol state machine defines all allowed transitions for each operation. The protocol state machine must represent all operations that can generate a given change of state for a class. Those operations that do not generate a transition are not represented in the protocol state machine.

Protocol state machines constitute a means to formalize the interface of classes, and do not express anything except consistency rules for the implementation or dynamics of classes.

Protocol state machine interpretation can vary from:

1. Declarative protocol state machines that specify the legal transitions for each operation. The exact triggering condition for the operations is not specified. This part of ISO/IEC 19505 only defines the contract for the user of the context classifier.
2. Executable protocol state machines, that specify all events that an object may receive and handle, together with the transitions that are implied. In this case, the legal transitions for operations will exactly be the triggered transitions. The call trigger specifies the effect action, which is the call of the associated operation.

The representation for both interpretations is the same, the only difference being the direct dynamic implication that the interpretation 2 provides.

Elaborated forms of state machine modeling such as compound transitions, sub-state machines, composite states, and concurrent regions can also be used for protocol state machines. For example, concurrent regions make it possible to express protocol where an instance can have several active states simultaneously. Sub state machines and compound transitions are used as in behavioral state machines for factorizing complex protocol state machines.

A classifier may have several protocol state machines. This happens frequently, for example, when a class inherits several parent classes having protocol state machine, when the protocols are orthogonal. An alternative to multiple protocol state machines can always be found by having one protocol state machine, with sub state machines in concurrent regions.

**Notation**

The notation for protocol state machine is very similar to the one of behavioral state machines. The keyword {protocol} placed close to the name of the state machine differentiates graphically protocol state machine diagrams.

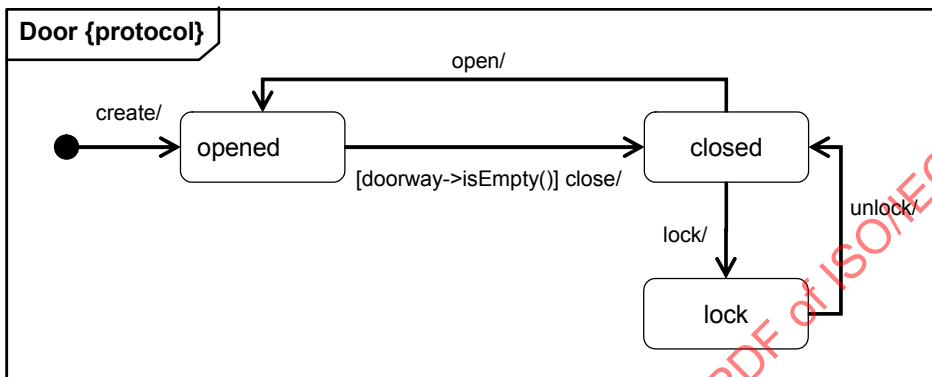


Figure 15.12 - Protocol state machine

**15.3.7 ProtocolTransition (from ProtocolStateMachines)**

**Generalizations**

- “Transition (from BehaviorStateMachines)” on page 587

**Description**

A protocol transition (transition as specialized in the ProtocolStateMachines package) specifies a legal transition for an operation. Transitions of protocol state machines have the following information: a pre-condition (guard), on trigger, and a post-condition. Every protocol transition is associated to zero or one operation (referred BehavioralFeature) that belongs to the context classifier of the protocol state machine.

The protocol transition specifies that the associated (referred) operation can be called for an instance in the origin state under the initial condition (guard), and that at the end of the transition, the destination state will be reached under the final condition (post).

**Attributes**

No additional attributes

**Associations**

- /referred: Operation[0..\*]  
This association refers to the associated operation. It is derived from the operation of the call trigger when applicable.

- **postCondition:** Constraint[0..1]  
Specifies the post-condition of the transition, which is the condition that should be obtained once the transition is triggered. This post-condition is part of the post-condition of the operation connected to the transition. {Subsets *Element::ownedElement* and subsets *Namespace::ownedRule*}
- **preCondition:** Constraint[0..1]  
Specifies the precondition of the transition. It specifies the condition that should be verified before triggering the transition. This guard condition added to the source state will be evaluated as part of the precondition of the operation referred by the transition if any. {Subsets *Transition::guard* and subsets *Namespace::ownedRule*}

### Constraints

- [1] A protocol transition always belongs to a protocol state machine.  
`container.belongsToPSM()`
- [2] A protocol transition never has associated actions.  
`effect->isEmpty()`
- [3] If a protocol transition refers to an operation (i.e., has a call trigger corresponding to an operation), then that operation should apply to the context classifier of the state machine of the protocol transition.

### Additional Operations

- [1] The operation `belongsToPSM ()` checks if the region belongs to a protocol state machine.

```

context Region::belongsToPSM () : Boolean
result = if not stateMachine->isEmpty() then
    oclIsTypeOf(ProtocolStateMachine)
else if not state->isEmpty() then
    state.container.belongsToPSM ()
else false

```

### Semantics

#### No “effect” action

The effect action is never specified. It is implicit, when the transition has a call trigger: the effect action will be the operation specified by the call trigger. It is unspecified in the other cases, where the transition only defines that a given event can be received under a specific state and pre-condition, and that a transition will lead to another state under a specific post-condition, whatever action will be made through this transition.

#### Unexpected event reception

The interpretation of the reception of an event in an unexpected situation (current state, state invariant, and pre-condition) is a semantic variation point: the event can be ignored, rejected, or deferred; an exception can be raised; or the application can stop on an error. It corresponds semantically to a pre-condition violation, for which no predefined behavior is defined in UML.

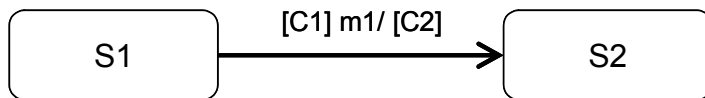
#### Unexpected behavior

The interpretation of an unexpected behavior, that is an unexpected result of a transition (wrong final state or final state invariant, or post-condition) is also a semantic variation point. However, this should be interpreted as an error of the implementation of the protocol state machine.

*Equivalences to pre- and post-conditions of operations*

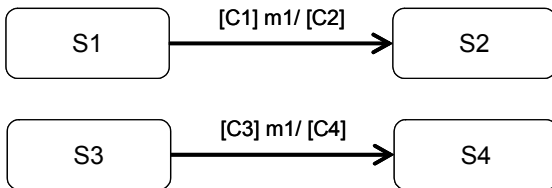
A protocol transition can be semantically interpreted in terms of pre- and post-conditions on the associated operation. For example, the transition in Figure 15.13 can be interpreted in the following way:

1. The operation “m1” can be called on an instance when it is in the protocol state “S1” under the condition “C1.”
2. When “m1” is called in the protocol state “S1” under the condition “C1,” then the protocol state “S2” must be reached under the condition “C2.”



**Figure 15.13 - Example of a protocol transition associated to the "m1" operation**

*Operations referred by several transitions*



**Figure 15.14 - Example of several transitions referring to the same operation**

In a protocol state machine, several transitions can refer to the same operation as illustrated in Figure 15.14. In that case, all pre-and post-conditions will be combined in the operation pre-condition as shown below.

Operation m1()

Pre: S1 is in the configuration state and C1

or

S3 is in the configuration state and C3

Post: if the initial condition was “S1 is in the configuration state and C1”  
then S2 is in the configuration state and C2

else

if the initial condition was “S3 is in the configuration state and C3”  
then S4 is in the configuration state and C4

A protocol state machine specifies all the legal transitions for each operation referred by its transitions. This means that for any operation referred by a protocol state machine, the part of its pre-condition relative to legal initial or final state is completely specified by the protocol state machine.

### Unreferred Operations

If an operation is not referred by any transition of a protocol state machine, then the operation can be called for any state of the protocol state machine, and does not change the current state.

### Using events in protocol state machines

Apart from the operation call event, events are generally used for expressing a dynamic behavior interpretation of protocol state machines. An event that is not a call event can be specified on protocol transitions.

In this case, this part of ISO/IEC 19505 is a requirement to the environment external to the state machine: it is legal to send this event to an instance of the context classifier only under the conditions specified by the protocol state machine.

Just like call event, this can also be interpreted in a dynamic way, as a semantic variation point.

### Notation

The usual state machine notation applies. The difference is that no actions are specified for protocol transitions, and that post-conditions can exist. Post-conditions have the same syntax as guard conditions, but appear at the end of the transition syntax.

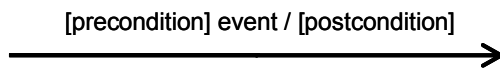


Figure 15.15 - Protocol transition notation

## 15.3.8 Pseudostate (from BehaviorStateMachines)

A pseudostate is an abstraction that encompasses different types of transient vertices in the state machine graph.

### Generalizations

- “Vertex (from BehaviorStateMachines)” on page 598

### Description

Pseudostates are typically used to connect multiple transitions into more complex state transitions paths. For example, by combining a transition entering a fork pseudostate with a set of transitions exiting the fork pseudostate, we get a compound transition that leads to a set of orthogonal target states.

### Attributes

- kind: PseudostateKind  
Determines the precise type of the Pseudostate. Default value is *initial*.

### Associations

- stateMachine : Statemachine [0..1]  
The StateMachine in which this Pseudostate is defined. This only applies to Pseudostates of the kind entryPoint or exitPoint. {Subsets *NamedElement::namespace*}
- state : State [0..1]  
State that owns the Pseudostate. {Subsets *Element::owner*}

### Constraints

- [1] An initial vertex can have at most one outgoing transition.  
(self.kind = #initial) **implies**  
(self.outgoing->size <= 1)
- [2] History vertices can have at most one outgoing transition.  
((self.kind = #deepHistory) **or** (self.kind = #shallowHistory)) **implies**  
(self.outgoing->size <= 1)
- [3] In a complete statemachine, a join vertex must have at least two incoming transitions and exactly one outgoing transition.  
(self.kind = #join) **implies**  
((self.outgoing->size = 1) **and** (self.incoming->size >= 2))
- [4] All transitions incoming a join vertex must originate in different regions of an orthogonal state.  
(self.kind = #join)  
**implies**  
self.incoming->forAll (t1, t2 | t1<>t2 **implies**  
(self.stateMachine.LCA(t1.source, t2.source).container.isOrthogonal))
- [5] In a complete statemachine, a fork vertex must have at least two outgoing transitions and exactly one incoming transition.  
(self.kind = #fork) **implies**  
((self.incoming->size = 1) **and** (self.outgoing->size >= 2))
- [6] All transitions outgoing a fork vertex must target states in different regions of an orthogonal state.  
(self.kind = #fork)  
**implies**  
self.outgoing->forAll (t1, t2 | t1<>t2 **implies**  
(self.stateMachine.LCA(t1.target, t2.target).  
container.isOrthogonal))
- [7] In a complete statemachine, a junction vertex must have at least one incoming and one outgoing transition.  
(self.kind = #junction) **implies**  
((self.incoming->size >= 1) **and** (self.outgoing->size >= 1))
- [8] In a complete statemachine, a choice vertex must have at least one incoming and one outgoing transition.  
(self.kind = #choice) **implies**  
((self.incoming->size >= 1) **and** (self.outgoing->size >= 1))
- [9] The outgoing transition from an initial vertex may have a behavior, but not a trigger or guard.  
(self.kind = PseudostateKind::initial) **implies** (self.outgoing.guard->isEmpty() **and** self.outgoing.trigger->isEmpty())

### Semantics

The specific semantics of a Pseudostate depends on the setting of its kind attribute.

- An *initial* pseudostate represents a default vertex that is the source for a single transition to the *default* state of a

composite state. There can be at most one initial vertex in a region. The outgoing transition from the initial vertex may have a behavior, but not a trigger or guard.

- *deepHistory* represents the most recent active configuration of the composite state that directly contains this pseudostate (e.g., the state configuration that was active when the composite state was last exited). A composite state can have at most one deep history vertex. At most one transition may originate from the history connector to the *default* deep history state. This transition is taken in case the composite state had never been active before. Entry actions of states entered on the implicit direct path from the deep history to the innermost state(s) represented by a deep history are performed. The entry action is performed only once for each state in the active state configuration being restored.
- *shallowHistory* represents the most recent active substate of its containing state (but *not* the substates of that substate). A composite state can have at most one shallow history vertex. A transition coming into the shallow history vertex is equivalent to a transition coming into the most recent active substate of a state. At most one transition may originate from the history connector to the *default* shallow history state. This transition is taken in case the composite state had never been active before. The entry action of the state represented by the shallow history is performed.
- *join* vertices serve to merge several transitions emanating from source vertices in different orthogonal regions. The transitions entering a join vertex cannot have guards or triggers.
- *fork* vertices serve to split an incoming transition into two or more transitions terminating on orthogonal target vertices (i.e., vertices in different regions of a composite state). The segments outgoing from a fork vertex must not have guards or triggers.
- *junction* vertices are semantic-free vertices that are used to chain together multiple transitions. They are used to construct compound transition paths between states. For example, a junction can be used to converge multiple incoming transitions into a single outgoing transition representing a shared transition path (this is known as a *merge*). Conversely, they can be used to split an incoming transition into multiple outgoing transition segments with different guard conditions. This realizes a *static conditional branch*. (In the latter case, outgoing transitions whose guard conditions evaluate to false are disabled. A predefined guard denoted “else” may be defined for at most one outgoing transition. This transition is enabled if all the guards labeling the other transitions are false.) Static conditional branches are distinct from dynamic conditional branches that are realized by choice vertices (described below).
- *choice* vertices which, when reached, result in the dynamic evaluation of the guards of the triggers of its outgoing transitions. This realizes a *dynamic conditional branch*. It allows splitting of transitions into multiple outgoing paths such that the decision on which path to take may be a function of the results of prior actions performed in the same run-to-completion step. If more than one of the guards evaluates to true, an arbitrary one is selected. If none of the guards evaluates to true, then the model is considered ill-formed. (To avoid this, it is recommended to define one outgoing transition with the predefined “else” guard for every choice vertex.) Choice vertices should be distinguished from static branch points that are based on junction points (described above).
- An *entry point* pseudostate is an entry point of a state machine or composite state. In each region of the state machine or composite state it has at most a single transition to a vertex within the same region.
- An *exit point* pseudostate is an exit point of a state machine or composite state. Entering an exit point within any region of the composite state or state machine referenced by a submachine state implies the exit of this composite state or submachine state and the triggering of the transition that has this exit point as source in the state machine enclosing the submachine or composite state.
- Entering a *terminate* pseudostate implies that the execution of this state machine by means of its context object is terminated. The state machine does not exit any states nor does it perform any exit actions other than those associated with the transition leading to the terminate pseudostate. Entering a terminate pseudostate is equivalent to invoking a DestroyObjectAction.

**Notation**

An initial pseudostate is shown as a small solid filled circle (see Figure 15.16). In a region of a classifierBehavior state machine, the transition from an initial pseudostate may be labeled with the trigger event that creates the object; otherwise, it must be unlabeled. If it is unlabeled, it represents any transition from the enclosing state.



**Figure 15.16 - Initial Pseudostate**

A shallowHistory is indicated by a small circle containing an ‘H’ (see Figure 15.17). It applies to the state region that directly encloses it.



**Figure 15.17 - Shallow History**

A deepHistory is indicated by a small circle containing an ‘H\*’ (see Figure 15.18). It applies to the state region that directly encloses it.



**Figure 15.18 - Deep History**

An entry point is shown as a small circle on the border of the state machine diagram or composite state, with the name associated with it (see Figure 15.19).



**Figure 15.19 - Entry point**

Optionally it may be placed both within the state machine diagram and outside the border of the state machine diagram or composite state.

An exit point is shown as a small circle with a cross on the border of the state machine diagram or composite state, with the name associated with it (see Figure 15.20).

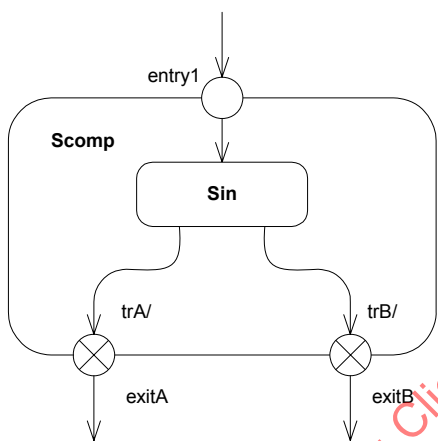
aborted



**Figure 15.20 - Exit point**

Optionally it may be placed both within the state machine diagram or composite state and outside the border of the state machine diagram or composite state.

Figure 15.21 illustrates the notation for depicting entry and exit points to composite states (the case of submachine states is illustrated in the corresponding Notation sub clause of “State (from BehaviorStateMachines, ProtocolStateMachines)” on page 565).



**Figure 15.21 - Entry and exit points on composite states**

Alternatively, the “bracket” notation shown in Figure 15.9 and Figure 15.10 on page 547 can also be used for the transition-oriented notation.

A junction is represented by a small black circle (see Figure 15.22).

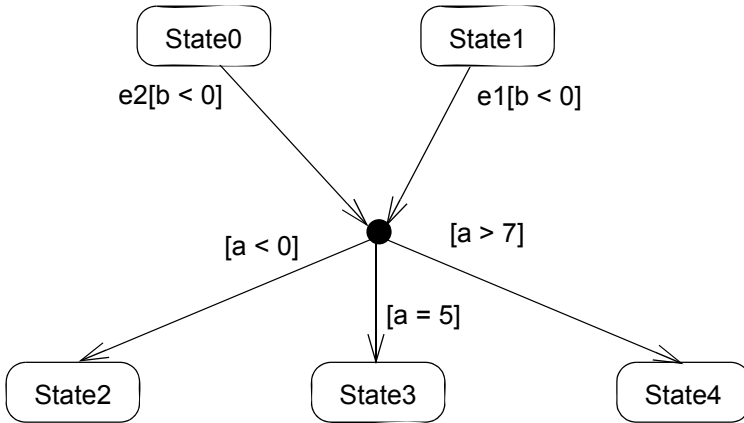


Figure 15.22 - Junction

A choice pseudostate is shown as a diamond-shaped symbol as exemplified by Figure 15.23.

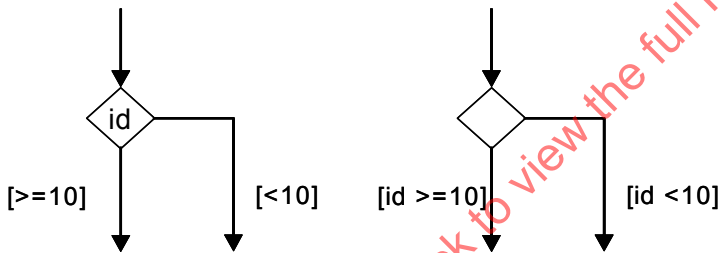


Figure 15.23 - Choice Pseudostate

A terminate pseudostate is shown as a cross, see Figure 15.24.



Figure 15.24 - Terminate node

The notation for a fork and join is a short heavy bar (Figure 15.25). The bar may have one or more arrows from source states to the bar (when representing a joint). The bar may have one or more arrows from the bar to states (when representing a fork). A transition string may be shown near the bar.

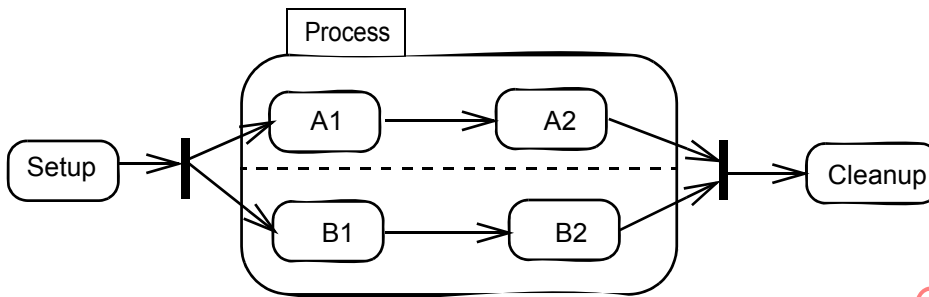


Figure 15.25 - Fork and Join

### Presentation Options

If all guards associated with triggers of transitions leaving a choice Pseudostate are binary expressions that share a common left operand, then the notation for choice Pseudostate may be simplified. The left operand may be placed inside the diamond-shaped symbol and the rest of the Guard expressions placed on the outgoing transitions. This is exemplified in Figure 15.26.

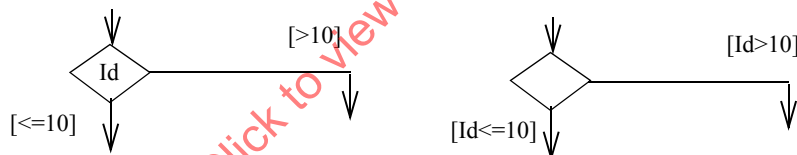


Figure 15.26 - Alternative Notation for Choice Pseudostate

Multiple trigger-free and effect-free transitions originating on a set of states and targeting a junction vertex with a single outgoing transition may be presented as a state symbol with a list of the state names and an outgoing transition symbol corresponding to the outgoing transition from the junction.

The special case of the transition from the junction having a history as target may optionally be presented as the target being the state list state symbol. See Figure 15.27 and Figure 15.28 for examples.

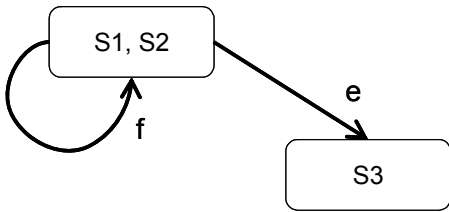


Figure 15.27 - State List Option

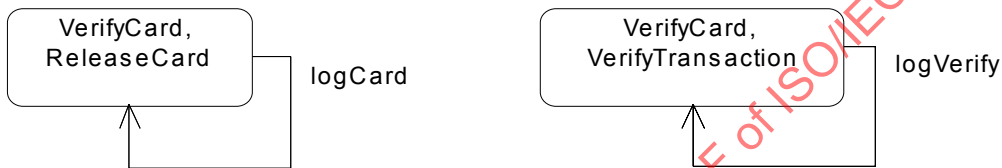


Figure 15.28 - State Lists

**Changes from previous UML**

- Entry and exit point and terminate Pseudostates have been introduced.
- The semantics of deepHistory has been aligned with shallowHistory in that the containing state does not have to be exited in order for deepHistory to be defined. The implication of this is that deepHistory (as is the case for shallowHistory) can be the target of transitions also within the containing state and not only from states outside.
- The state list presentation option is an extension to UML1.x.

**15.3.9 PseudostateKind (from BehaviorStateMachines)**

PseudostateKind is an enumeration type.

**Generalizations**

None

**Description**

PseudostateKind is an enumeration of the following literal values:

- *initial*
- *deepHistory*
- *shallowHistory*
- *join*
- *fork*

- *junction*
- *choice*
- *entryPoint*
- *exitPoint*
- *terminate*

### Attributes

No additional attributes

### Associations

No additional associations

### Changes from previous UML

EntryPoint, exitPoint, and terminate have been added.

## 15.3.10 Region (from BehaviorStateMachines)

### Generalizations

- “Namespace (from Kernel)” on page 106
- “RedefinableElement (from Kernel)” on page 137

### Description

A region is an orthogonal part of either a composite state or a state machine. It contains states and transitions.

### Attributes

No additional attributes

### Associations

- `statemachine: StateMachine[0..1]`  
The StateMachine that owns the Region. If a Region is owned by a StateMachine, then it cannot also be owned by a State. {Subsets *NamedElement::namespace*}
- `state: State[0..1]`  
The State that owns the Region. If a Region is owned by a State, then it cannot also be owned by a StateMachine. {Subsets *NamedElement::namespace*}
- `transition: Transition[*]`  
The set of transitions owned by the region. {Subsets *Namespace::ownedMember*}
- `subvertex: Vertex[*]`  
The set of vertices that are owned by this region. {Subsets *Namespace::ownedMember*}
- `extendedRegion: Region[0..1]`  
The region of which this region is an extension. {Subsets *RedefinableElement::redefinedElement*}

- /redefinitionContext: Classifier[1]  
References the classifier in which context this element may be redefined. {Redefines *RedefinableElement::redefinitionContext*}

### Constraints

- [1] A region can have at most one initial vertex.  
self.subvertex->select (v | v.oclIsKindOf(Pseudostate))->  
select(p : Pseudostate | p.kind = #initial)->size() <= 1
- [2] A region can have at most one deep history vertex.  
self.subvertex->select (v | v.oclIsKindOf(Pseudostate))->  
select(p : Pseudostate | p.kind = #deepHistory)->size() <= 1
- [3] A region can have at most one shallow history vertex.  
self.subvertex->select(v | v.oclIsKindOf(Pseudostate))->  
select(p : Pseudostate | p.kind = #shallowHistory)->size() <= 1
- [4] If a Region is owned by a StateMachine, then it cannot also be owned by a State and vice versa.  
(stateMachine->notEmpty() **implies** state->isEmpty()) **and** (state->notEmpty() **implies** stateMachine->isEmpty())
- [5] The redefinition context of a region is the nearest containing statemachine.  
redefinitionContext =  
let sm = containingStateMachine() in  
if sm.context->isEmpty() or sm.general->notEmpty() then  
sm  
else  
sm.context  
endif

### Additional constraints

- [1] The query isRedefinitionContextValid() specifies whether the redefinition contexts of a region are properly related to the redefinition contexts of the specified region to allow this element to redefine the other. The containing StateMachine/State of a redefining region must redefine the containing StateMachine/State of the redefined region.
- [2] The query isConsistentWith() specifies that a redefining region is consistent with a redefined region provided that the redefining region is an extension of the redefined region (i.e., it adds vertices and transitions and it redefines states and transitions of the redefined region).

### Additional operations

- [1] The operation containingStateMachine() returns the StateMachine in which this Region is defined.  
**context** Region::containingStateMachine() : StateMachine  
**post:** result = **if** stateMachine->isEmpty() **then**  
**state.containingStateMachine()**  
**else**  
stateMachine

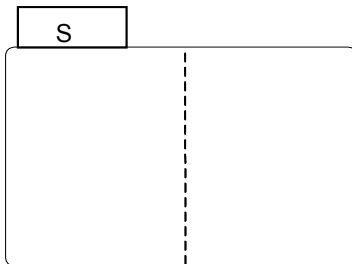
### Semantics

The semantics of regions is tightly coupled with states or state machines having regions, and it is therefore defined as part of the semantics for state and state machine.

When a composite state or state machine is extended, each inherited region may be extended, and regions may be added.

### Notation

A composite state or state machine with regions is shown by tiling the graph region of the state/state machine using dashed lines to divide it into regions. Each region may have an optional name and contains the nested disjoint states and the transitions between these. The text compartments of the entire state are separated from the orthogonal regions by a solid line.



**Figure 15.29 - Notation for composite state/state machine with regions**

A composite state or state machine with just one region is shown by showing a nested state diagram within the graph region.

In order to indicate that an inherited region is extended, the keyword «extended» is associated with the name of the region.

### 15.3.11 State (from BehaviorStateMachines, ProtocolStateMachines)

A state models a situation during which some (usually implicit) invariant condition holds.

#### Generalizations

- “Namespace (from Kernel)” on page 106
- “RedefinableElement (from Kernel)” on page 137
- “Vertex (from BehaviorStateMachines)” on page 598

#### Description

##### *State in Behavioral State machines*

A state models a situation during which some (usually implicit) invariant condition holds. The invariant may represent a static situation such as an object waiting for some external event to occur. However, it can also model dynamic conditions such as the process of performing some behavior (i.e., the model element under consideration enters the state when the behavior commences and leaves it as soon as the behavior is completed).

The following kinds of states are distinguished:

- Simple state,
- composite state, and
- submachine state.

A composite state is either a simple composite state (with just one region) or an orthogonal state (with more than one region).

#### *Simple state*

A simple state is a state that does not have substates (i.e., it has no regions and it has no submachine state machine).

#### *Composite state*

A composite state either contains one region or is decomposed into two or more orthogonal *regions*. Each region has a set of mutually exclusive disjoint subvertices and a set of transitions. A given state may only be decomposed in one of these two ways. In Figure 15.35, state CourseAttempt is an example of a composite state with a single region, whereas state “Studying” is a composite state that contains three regions.

Any state enclosed within a region of a composite state is called a *substate* of that composite state. It is called a *direct substate* when it is not contained by any other state; otherwise, it is referred to as an *indirect substate*.

Each region of a composite state may have an initial pseudostate and a final state. A transition to the enclosing state represents a transition to the initial pseudostate in each region. A newly-created object takes its topmost default transitions, originating from the topmost initial pseudostates of each region.

A transition to a final state represents the completion of behavior in the enclosing region. Completion of behavior in all orthogonal regions represents completion of behavior by the enclosing state and triggers a completion event on the enclosing state. Completion of the topmost regions of an object corresponds to its termination.

An entry pseudostate is used to join an external transition terminating on that entry point to an internal transition emanating from that entry point. An exit pseudostate is used to join an internal transition terminating on that exit point to an external transition emanating from that exit point. The main purpose of such entry and exit points is to execute the state entry and exit actions respectively in between the actions that are associated with the joined transitions.

#### *Semantic variation point (default entry rule)*

If a transition terminates on an enclosing state and the enclosed regions do not have an initial pseudostate, the interpretation of this situation is a semantic variation point. In some interpretations, this is considered an ill-formed model. That is, in those cases the initial pseudostate is mandatory.

An alternative interpretation allows this situation and it means that, when such a transition is taken, the state machine stays in the composite state, *without entering any of the regions or their substates*.

#### *Submachine state*

A submachine state specifies the insertion of the specification of a submachine state machine. The state machine that contains the submachine state is called the *containing* state machine. The same state machine may be a submachine more than once in the context of a single containing state machine.

A submachine state is semantically equivalent to a composite state. The regions of the submachine state machine are the regions of the composite state. The entry, exit, and behavior actions and internal transitions are defined as part of the state. Submachine state is a decomposition mechanism that allows factoring of common behaviors and their reuse.

Transitions in the containing state machine can have entry/exit points of the inserted state machine as targets/sources.

### State in Protocol State machines

The states of protocol state machines are exposed to the users of their context classifiers. A protocol state represents an exposed stable situation of its context classifier: When an instance of the classifier is not processing any operation, users of this instance can always know its state configuration.

#### Attributes

- `/isComposite` : Boolean [1]  
A state with `isComposite=true` is said to be a *composite state*. A composite state is a state that contains at least one region. Default value is *false*.
- `/isOrthogonal`: Boolean [1]  
A state with `isOrthogonal=true` is said to be an *orthogonal composite state*. An orthogonal composite state contains two or more regions. Default value is *false*.
- `/isSimple`: Boolean [1]  
A state with `isSimple=true` is said to be a *simple state*. A simple state does not have any regions and it does not refer to any submachine state machine. Default value is *true*.
- `/isSubmachineState`: Boolean [1]  
A state with `isSubmachineState=true` is said to be a *submachine state*. Such a state refers to a state machine (submachine). Default value is *false*.

#### Associations

##### Package BehaviorStateMachines

- `connection`: ConnectionPointReference [0..\*]  
The entry and exit connection points used in conjunction with this (submachine) state, i.e., as targets and sources, respectively, in the region with the submachine state. A connection point reference references the corresponding definition of a connection point pseudostate in the statemachine referenced by the submachinestate. {Subsets *Namespace::ownedMember*}
- `connectionPoint`: Pseudostate [0..\*]  
The entry and exit pseudostates of a composite state. These can only be entry or exit Pseudostates, and they must have different names. They can only be defined for composite states. {Subsets *Namespace::ownedMember*}
- `deferrableTrigger`: Trigger [0..\*]  
A list of triggers that are candidates to be retained by the state machine if they trigger no transitions out of the state (not consumed). A deferred trigger is retained until the state machine reaches a state configuration where it is no longer deferred. {Subsets *Element::ownedElement*}
- `doActivity`: Behavior[0..1]  
An optional behavior that is executed while being in the state. The execution starts when this state is entered, and stops either by itself or when the state is exited whichever comes first. {Subsets *Element::ownedElement*}
- `entry`: Behavior[0..1]  
An optional behavior that is executed whenever this state is entered regardless of the transition taken to reach the state. If defined, entry actions are always executed to completion prior to any internal behavior or transitions performed within the state. {Subsets *Element::ownedElement*}
- `exit`: Behavior[0..1]  
An optional behavior that is executed whenever this state is exited regardless of which transition was taken out of the state. If defined, exit actions are always executed to completion only after all internal activities and transition actions have completed execution. {Subsets *Element::ownedElement*}

## ISO/IEC 19505-2:2012(E)

- **redefinedState**: State[0..1]  
The state of which this state is a redefinition. {Subsets *RedefinableElement::redefinedElement*}
- **region**: Region[0..\*] {subsets *ownedMember*}  
The regions owned directly by the state.
- **submachine**: StateMachine[0..1]  
The state machine that is to be inserted in place of the (submachine) state.
- **stateInvariant**: Constraint [0..1]  
Specifies conditions that are always true when this state is the current state. In protocol state machines, state invariants are additional conditions to the preconditions of the outgoing transitions, and to the postcondition of the incoming transitions. {Subsets *Namespace::ownedRule*}
- **/redefinitionContext**: Classifier[1]  
References the classifier in which context this element may be redefined. {Redefines *RedefinableElement::redefinitionContext*}

### Constraints

- [1] Only submachine states can have connection point references.  
`isSubmachineState implies connection->notEmpty ( )`
- [2] The connection point references used as destinations/sources of transitions associated with a submachine state must be defined as entry/exit points in the submachine state machine.  
`self.isSubmachineState implies (self.connection->forall (cp | cp.entry->forall (p | p.statemachine = self.submachine) and cp.exit->forall (p | p.statemachine = self.submachine)))`
- [3] A state is not allowed to have both a submachine and regions.  
`isComposite implies not isSubmachineState`
- [4] A simple state is a state without any regions.  
`isSimple = region.isEmpty()`
- [5] A composite state is a state with at least one region.  
`isComposite = region.notEmpty()`
- [6] An orthogonal state is a composite state with at least 2 regions.  
`isOrthogonal = (region->size () > 1)`
- [7] Only submachine states can have a reference statemachine.  
`isSubmachineState = submachine.notEmpty()`
- [8] The redefinition context of a state is the nearest containing statemachine.  
`redefinitionContext =  
 let sm = containingStateMachine() in  
 if sm.context->isEmpty() or sm.general->notEmpty() then  
 sm  
 else  
 sm.context  
 endif`
- [9] Only composite states can have entry or exit pseudostates defined.  
`connectionPoint->notEmpty() implies isComposite`

- [10] Only entry or exit pseudostates can serve as connection points.  
 connectionPoint->forAll(cp|cp.kind = #entry or cp.kind = #exit)

### Additional Operations

- [1] The query `isRedefinitionContextValid()` specifies whether the redefinition contexts of a state are properly related to the redefinition contexts of the specified state to allow this element to redefine the other. The containing region of a redefining state must redefine the containing region of the redefined state.
- [2] The query `isConsistentWith()` specifies that a redefining state is consistent with a redefined state provided that the redefining state is an extension of the redefined state: A simple state can be redefined (extended) to become a composite state (by adding a region) and a composite state can be redefined (extended) by adding regions and by adding vertices, states, and transitions to inherited regions. All states may add or replace entry, exit, and “doActivity” actions.
- [3] The query `containingStateMachine()` returns the state machine that contains the state either directly or transitively.

**context** `State::containingStateMachine() : StateMachine`  
**post:** `result = container.containingStateMachine()`

### Semantics

#### *States in general*

The following applies to states in general. Special semantics applies to composite states and submachine states.

#### *Active states*

A state can be active or inactive during execution. A state becomes *active* when it is entered as a result of some transition, and becomes *inactive* if it is exited as a result of a transition. A state can be exited and entered as a result of the same transition (e.g., self transition).

#### *State entry and exit*

Whenever a state is entered, it executes its entry behavior *before* any other action is executed. Conversely, whenever a state is exited, it executes its exit behavior as the final step prior to leaving the state.

#### *Behavior in state (do-activity)*

The behavior represents the execution of a behavior, that occurs while the state machine is in the corresponding state. The behavior starts executing upon entering the state, following the entry behavior. If the behavior completes while the state is still active, it raises a completion event. In case where there is an outgoing completion transition (see below) the state will be exited. Upon exit, the behavior is terminated before the exit behavior is executed. If the state is exited as a result of the firing of an outgoing transition before the completion of the behavior, the behavior is aborted prior to its completion.

#### *Deferred events*

A state may specify a set of event types that may be *deferred* in that state. An event that does not trigger any transitions in the current state, will not be dispatched if its type matches one of the types in the deferred event set of that state. Instead, it remains in the event pool while another non-deferred event is dispatched instead. This situation persists until a state is reached where either the event is no longer deferred or where the event triggers a transition.

### *State redefinition*

A state may be redefined. A simple state can be redefined (extended) to become a composite state (by adding a region) and a composite state can be redefined (extended) by adding regions and by adding vertices, states, entry/exit/do activities (if the general state has none), and transitions to inherited regions. The redefinition of a state applies to the whole state machine. For example, if a state list as part of the extended state machine includes a state that is redefined, then the state list for the extension state machine includes the redefined state.

### *Composite state*

#### *Active state configurations*

In a hierarchical state machine more than one state can be active at the same time. If the state machine is in a simple state that is contained in a composite state, then all the composite states that either directly or transitively contain the simple state are also active. Furthermore, since the state machine as a whole and some of the composite states in this hierarchy may be orthogonal (i.e., containing regions), the current active “state” is actually represented by a set of trees of states starting with the top-most states of the root regions down to the innermost active substate. We refer to such a state tree as a *state configuration*.

Except during transition execution, the following invariants always apply to state configurations:

- If a composite state is active and not orthogonal, at most one of its substates is active.
- If the composite state is active and orthogonal, all of its regions are active, with at most one substate in each region.

#### *Entering a non-orthogonal composite state*

Upon entering a composite state, the following cases are differentiated:

- *Default entry*: Graphically, this is indicated by an incoming transition that terminates on the outside edge of the composite state. In this case, the default entry rule is applied (see *Semantic variation point (default entry rule)*). If there is a guard on the trigger of the transition, it must be enabled (true). (A disabled initial transition is an ill-defined execution state and its handling is not defined.) The entry behavior of the composite state is executed before the behavior associated with the initial transition.
- *Explicit entry*: If the transition goes to a substate of the composite state, then that substate becomes active and its entry code is executed after the execution of the entry code of the composite state. This rule applies recursively if the transition terminates on a transitively nested substate.
- *Shallow history entry*: If the transition terminates on a shallow history pseudostate, the active substate becomes the most recently active substate prior to this entry, unless the most recently active substate is the final state or if this is the first entry into this state. In the latter two cases, the *default history state* is entered. This is the substate that is target of the transition originating from the history pseudostate. (If no such transition is specified, the situation is ill-defined and its handling is not defined.) If the active substate determined by history is a composite state, then it proceeds with its default entry.
- *Deep history entry*: The rule here is the same as for shallow history except that the rule is applied recursively to all levels in the active state configuration below this one.
- *Entry point entry*: If a transition enters a composite state through an entry point pseudostate, then the entry behavior is executed before the action associated with the internal transition emanating from the entry point.

*Entering an orthogonal composite state*

Whenever an orthogonal composite state is entered, each one of its orthogonal regions is also entered, either by default or explicitly. If the transition terminates on the edge of the composite state, then all the regions are entered using default entry. If the transition explicitly enters one or more regions (in case of a fork), these regions are entered explicitly and the others by default.

*Exiting non-orthogonal state*

When exiting from a composite state, the active substate is exited recursively. This means that the exit activities are executed in sequence starting with the innermost active state in the current state configuration.

If, in a composite state, the exit occurs through an exit point pseudostate the exit behavior of the state is executed *after* the behavior associated with the transition incoming to the exit point.

*Exiting an orthogonal state*

When exiting from an orthogonal state, each of its regions is exited. After that, the exit activities of the state are executed.

*Deferred events*

Composite states introduce potential event deferral conflicts. Each of the substates may defer or consume an event, potentially conflicting with the composite state (e.g., a substate defers an event while the composite state consumes it, or vice versa). In case of a composite orthogonal state, substates of orthogonal regions may also introduce deferral conflicts. The conflict resolution follows the triggering priorities, where nested states override enclosing states. In case of a conflict between states in different orthogonal regions, a consumer state overrides a deferring state.

*Submachine state*

A submachine state is semantically equivalent to the composite state defined by the referenced state machine. Entering and leaving this composite state is, in contrast to an ordinary composite state, via entry and exit points.

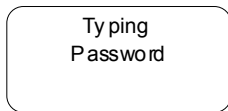
A submachine composite state machine can be entered via its default (initial) pseudostate or via any of its entry points (i.e., it may imply entering a non-orthogonal or an orthogonal composite state with regions). Entering via the initial pseudostate has the same meaning as for ordinary composite states. An entry point is equivalent with a junction pseudostate (fork in case the composite state is orthogonal): Entering via an entry point implies that the entry behavior of the composite state is executed, followed by the (partial) transition(s) from the entry point to the target state(s) within the composite state. As for default initial transitions, guards associated with the triggers of these entry point transitions must evaluate to true in order for the specification not to be ill-formed.

Similarly, it can be exited as a result of reaching its final state, by a “group” transition that applies to all substates in the submachine state composite state, or via any of its exit points. Exiting via a final state or by a group transition has the same meaning as for ordinary composite states. An exit point is equivalent with a junction pseudostate (join in case the composite state is orthogonal): Exiting via an exit point implies that first behavior of the transition with the exit point as target is executed, followed by the exit behavior of the composite state.

## Notation

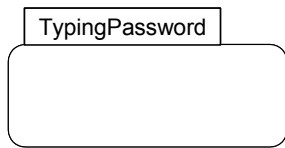
### *States in general*

A state is in general shown as a rectangle with rounded corners, with the state name shown inside the rectangle.



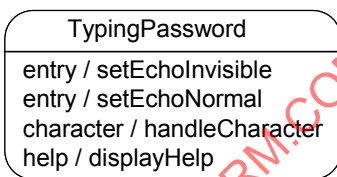
**Figure 15.30 - State**

Optionally, it may have an attached name tab, see Figure 15.31. The name tab is a rectangle, usually resting on the outside of the top side of a state and it contains the name of that state. It is normally used to keep the name of a composite state that has orthogonal regions, but may be used in other cases as well. The state in Figure 15.25 on page 561 illustrates the use of the name tab.



**Figure 15.31 - State with name tab**

A state may be subdivided into multiple compartments separated from each other by a horizontal line, see Figure 15.32.



**Figure 15.32 - State with compartments**

The compartments of a state are:

- name compartment
- internal activities compartment
- internal transitions compartment

A composite state has in addition a

- decomposition compartment

Each of these compartments is described below.

- Name compartment

This compartment holds the (optional) name of the state, as a string. States without names are anonymous and are all distinct. It is undesirable to show the same named state twice in the same diagram, as confusion may ensue, unless control icons (page 592) are used to show a transition oriented view of the state machine. Name compartments should not be used if a name tab is used and vice versa.

In case of a submachine state, the name of the referenced state machine is shown as a string following ‘:’ after the name of the state.

- Internal activities compartment

This compartment holds a list of internal actions or state (do) activities (behaviors) that are performed while the element is in the state.

The activity label identifies the circumstances under which the behavior specified by the activity expression will be invoked. The behavior expression may use any attributes and association ends that are in the scope of the owning entity. For list items where the expression is empty, the backslash separator is optional.

A number of labels are reserved for various special purposes and, therefore, cannot be used as event names. The following are the reserved activity labels and their meaning:

- *entry* — This label identifies a behavior, specified by the corresponding expression, which is performed upon entry to the state (entry behavior).
- *exit* — This label identifies a behavior, specified by the corresponding expression, that is performed upon exit from the state (exit behavior).
- *do* — This label identifies an ongoing behavior (“do activity”) that is performed as long as the modeled element is in the state or until the computation specified by the expression is completed (the latter may result in a completion event being generated).

- Internal transition compartment

This compartment contains a list of internal transitions, where each item has the form as described for Trigger.

Each event name may appear more than once per state if the guard conditions are different. The event parameters and the guard conditions are optional. If the event has parameters, they can be used in the expression through the current event variable.

### Composite state

- decomposition compartment

This compartment shows its composition structure in terms of regions, states, and transition. In addition to the (optional) name and internal transition compartments, the state may have an additional compartment that contains a nested diagram. For convenience and appearance, the text compartments may be shrunk horizontally within the graphic region.

In some cases, it is convenient to hide the decomposition of a composite state. For example, there may be a large number of states nested inside a composite state and they may simply not fit in the graphical space available for the diagram. In that case, the composite state may be represented by a simple state graphic with a special “composite” icon, usually in the lower right-hand corner (see Figure 15.34). This icon, consisting of two horizontally placed and connected states, is an *optional* visual cue that the state has a decomposition that is not shown in this particular state machine diagram. Instead, the contents of the composite state are shown in a separate diagram. Note that the “hiding” here is purely a matter of graphical convenience and has no semantic significance in terms of access restrictions.

A composite state may have one or more entry and exit points on its outside border or in close proximity of that border (inside or outside).

**Examples**

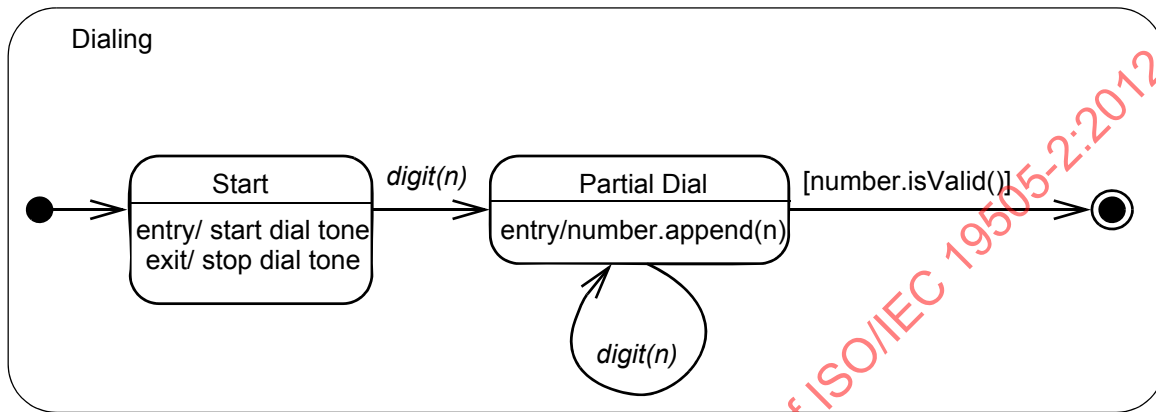


Figure 15.33 - Composite state with two states

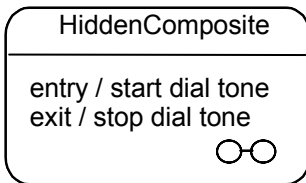


Figure 15.34 - Composite State with hidden decomposition indicator icon

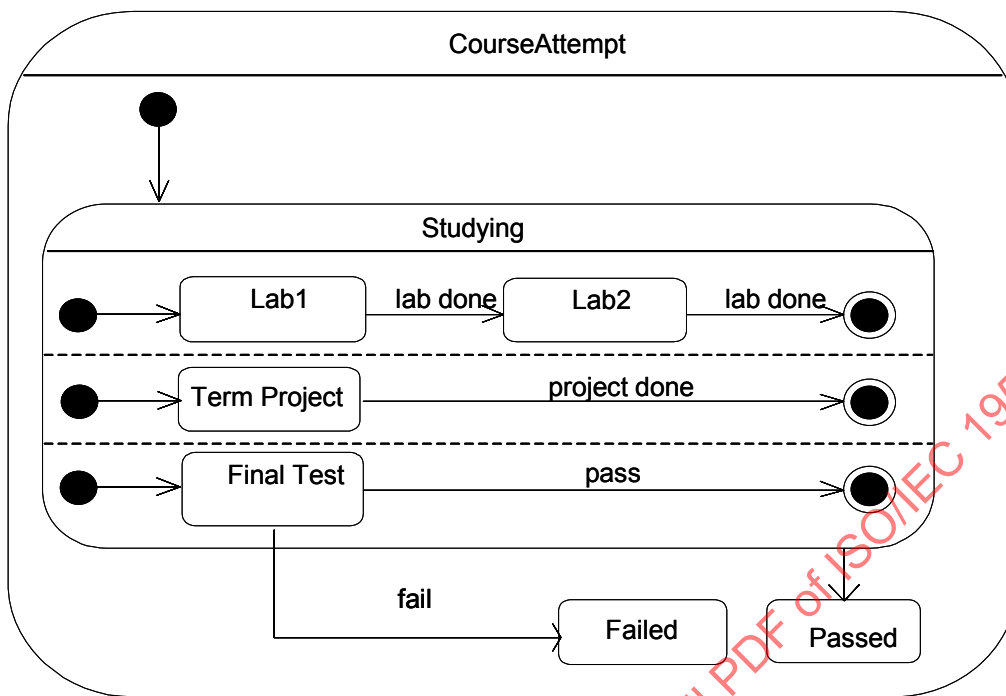


Figure 15.35 - Orthogonal state with regions

### Submachine state

The submachine state is depicted as a normal state where the string in the name compartment has the following syntax:

<state name> ':' <name of referenced state machine>

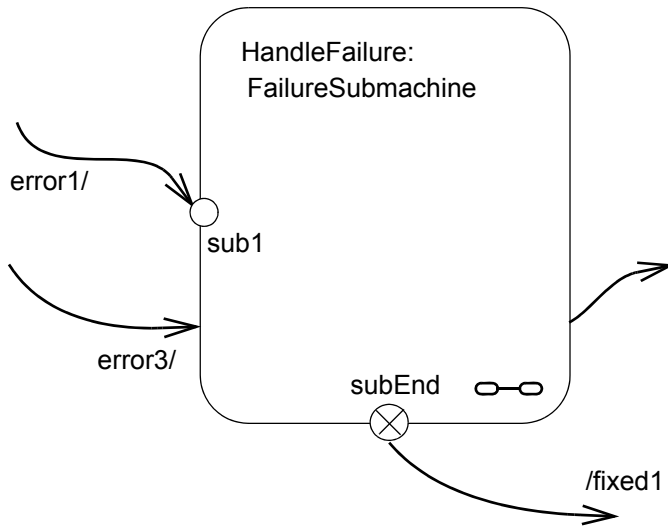
The submachine state symbol may contain the *references* to one or more entry points and to one or more exit points. The notation for these connection point references are entry/exit point pseudostates on the border of the submachine state. The names are the names of the corresponding entry/exit points *defined* within the referenced state machine. See ("ConnectionPointReference (from BehaviorStateMachines)" on page 544).

If the substate machine is entered through its default initial pseudostate or if it is exited as a result of the completion of the submachine, it is not necessary to use the entry/exit point notation. Similarly, an exit point is not required if the exit occurs through an explicit "group" transition that emanates from the boundary of the submachine state (implying that it applies to all the substates of the submachine).

Submachine states invoking the same submachine may occur multiple times in the same state diagram with the entry and exit points being part of different transitions.

**Examples**

The diagram in Figure 15.36 shows a fragment from a state machine diagram in which a submachine state (the FailureSubmachine) is referenced. The actual sub state machine is defined in some enclosing or imported name space.



**Figure 15.36 - Submachine State**

In the above example, the transition triggered by event “error1” will terminate on entry point “sub1” of the FailureSubmachine state machine. The “error3” transition implies taking of the default transition of the FailureSubmachine.

The transition emanating from the “subEnd” exit point of the submachine will execute the “fixed1” behavior in addition to what is executed within the HandleFailure state machine. This transition must have been triggered within the HandleFailure state machine. Finally, the transition emanating from the edge of the submachine state is taken as a result of the completion event generated when the FailureSubmachine reaches its final state.

Note that the same notation would apply to composite states with the exception that there would be no reference to a state machine in the state name.

Figure 15.37 is an example of a state machine defined with two exit points. Entry and exit points may be shown on the frame or within the state graph. Figure 15.37 is an example of a state machine defined with an exit point shown within the state graph. Figure 15.38 shows the same state machine using a notation shown on the frame of the state machine.

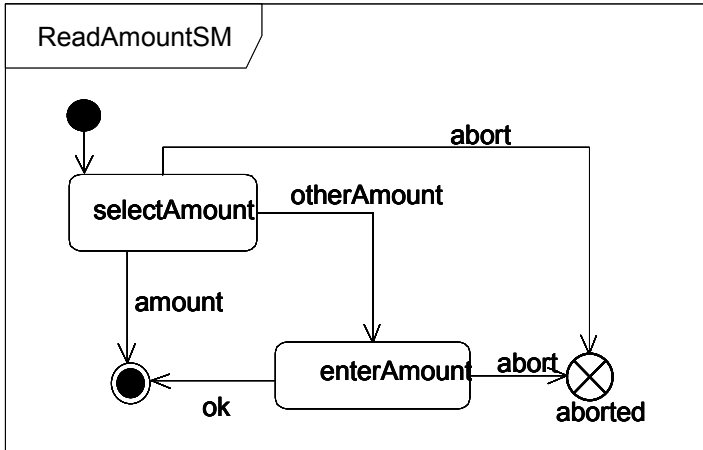


Figure 15.37 - State machine with exit point as part of the state graph

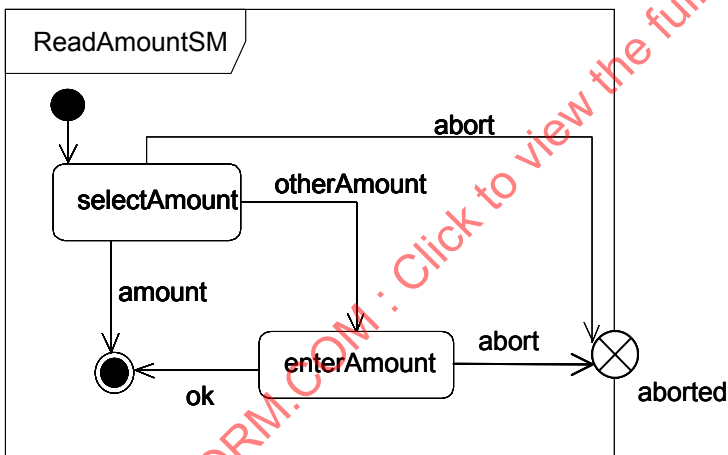


Figure 15.38 - State machine with exit point on the border of the statemachine

In Figure 15.39 the statemachine shown in Figure 15.38 on page 577 is referenced in a submachine state, and the presentation option with the exit points on the state symbol is shown.

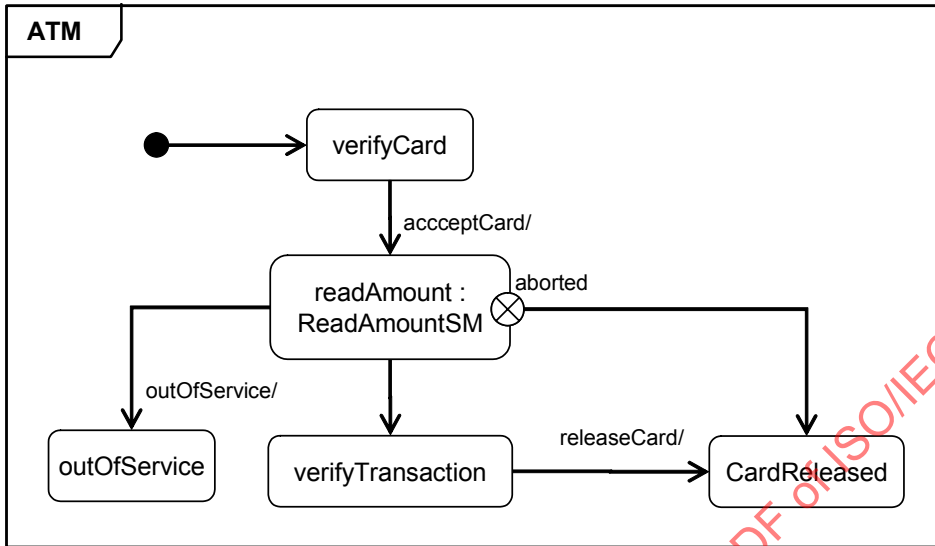


Figure 15.39 - SubmachineState with usage of exit point

An example of the notation for entry and exit points for composite states is shown in Figure 15.21 on page 559.

*Notation for protocol state machines*

The two differences that exist for state in protocol state machine, versus states in behavioral state machine, are as follows:

- Several features in behavioral state machine do not exist for protocol state machines (entry, exit, do).
- States in protocol state machines can have an invariant.

The textual expression of the invariant will be represented by placing it after or under the name of the state, surrounded by square brackets.

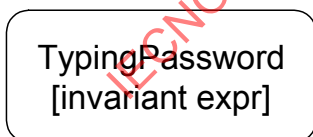


Figure 15.40 - State with invariant - notation

**Rationale**

Submachine states with usages of entry and exit points defined in the corresponding state machine have been introduced in order for state machines with submachines to scale and in order to provide encapsulation.

### 15.3.12 StateMachine (from BehaviorStateMachines)

State machines can be used to express the behavior of part of a system. Behavior is modeled as a traversal of a graph of state nodes interconnected by one or more joined transition arcs that are triggered by the dispatching of series of (event) occurrences. During this traversal, the state machine executes a series of activities associated with various elements of the state machine.

#### Generalizations

- “Behavior (from BasicBehaviors)” on page 451

#### Description

A state machine owns one or more regions, which in turn own vertices and transitions.

The behavior classifier context owning a state machine defines which signal and call triggers are defined for the state machine, and which attributes and operations are available in activities of the state machine. Signal triggers and call triggers for the state machine are defined according to the receptions and operations of this classifier.

As a kind of behavior, a state machine may have an associated behavioral feature (specification) and be the method of this behavioral feature. In this case the state machine specifies the behavior of this behavioral feature. The parameters of the state machine in this case match the parameters of the behavioral feature and provide the means for accessing (within the state machine) the behavioral feature parameters.

A state machine without a context classifier may use triggers that are independent of receptions or operations of a classifier, i.e., either just signal triggers or call triggers based upon operation template parameters of the (parameterized) statemachine.

#### Attributes

No additional attributes

#### Associations

- region: Region[1..\*] {subsets *ownedMember*}  
The regions owned directly by the state machine.
- connectionPoint: Pseudostate[\*]  
The connection points defined for this state machine. They represent the interface of the state machine when used as part of submachine state.
- extendedStateMachine: StateMachine[\*]  
The state machines of which this is an extension. {Redfines *Behavior::redefinedBehavior*}

#### Constraints

- [1] The classifier context of a state machine cannot be an interface.  
context->notEmpty() **implies not** context.oclIsKindOf(Interface)
- [2] The context classifier of the method state machine of a behavioral feature must be the classifier that owns the behavioral feature.  
specification->notEmpty() **implies** (context->notEmpty() **and** specification->featuringClassifier->exists (c | c = context))
- [3] The connection points of a state machine are pseudostates of kind entry point or exit point.  
connectionPoint->forAll (c | c.kind = #entryPoint **or** c.kind = #exitPoint)

- [4] A state machine as the method for a behavioral feature cannot have entry/exit connection points.  
specification->notEmpty() **implies** connectionPoint->isEmpty()

### Additional Operations

- [1] The operation LCA(s1,s2) returns an orthogonal state or region that is the least common ancestor of states s1 and s2, based on the statemachine containment hierarchy.
- [2] The query ancestor(s1, s2) checks whether s1 is an ancestor state of state s2.

```

context StateMachine::ancestor (s1 : State, s2 : State) : Boolean
result = if (s2 = s1) then
    true
else if (s2.container->isEmpty() or not s2.container.owner.oclIsKindOf(State)) then
    false
else
    ancestor(s1, s2.container.owner.oclAsType(State))
endif
endif

```

- [3] The query isRedefinitionContextValid() specifies whether the redefinition contexts of a statemachine are properly related to the redefinition contexts of the specified statemachine to allow this element to redefine the other. The containing classifier of a redefining statemachine must redefine the containing classifier of the redefined statemachine.
- [4] The query isConsistentWith() specifies that a redefining state machine is consistent with a redefined state machine provided that the redefining state machine is an extension of the redefined state machine: Regions are inherited and regions can be added, inherited regions can be redefined. In case of multiple redefining state machines, extension implies that the redefining state machine gets orthogonal regions for each of the redefined state machines.

### Semantics

The event pool for the state machine is the event pool of the instance according to the behaved context classifier, or the classifier owning the behavioral feature for which the state machine is a method.

#### Event processing - run-to-completion step

Event occurrences are detected, dispatched, and then processed by the state machine, one at a time. The order of dequeuing is not defined, leaving open the possibility of modeling different priority-based schemes.

The semantics of event occurrence processing is based on the *run-to-completion* assumption, interpreted as run-to-completion processing. Run-to-completion processing means that an event occurrence can only be taken from the pool and dispatched if the processing of the previous current occurrence is fully completed.

Run-to-completion may be implemented in various ways. For active classes, it may be realized by an event-loop running in its own thread, and that reads event occurrences from a pool. For passive classes it may be implemented as a monitor.

The processing of a single event occurrence by a state machine is known as a *run-to-completion step*. Before commencing on a run-to-completion step, a state machine is in a stable state configuration with all entry/exit/internal activities (but not necessarily state (do) activities) completed. The same conditions apply after the run-to-completion step is completed. Thus, an event occurrence will never be processed while the state machine is in some intermediate and inconsistent situation. The *run-to-completion step* is the passage between two state configurations of the state machine.

The run-to-completion assumption simplifies the transition function of the state machine, since concurrency conflicts are avoided during the processing of event, allowing the state machine to safely complete its run-to-completion step.

When an event occurrence is detected and dispatched, it may result in one or more transitions being enabled for firing. If no transition is enabled and the event (type) is not in the deferred event list of the current state configuration, the event occurrence is discarded and the run-to-completion step is completed.

In the presence of orthogonal regions it is possible to fire multiple transitions as a result of the same event occurrence — as many as one transition in each region in the current state configuration. In case where one or more transitions are enabled, the state machine selects a subset and fires them. Which of the enabled transitions actually fire is determined by the transition selection algorithm described below. The order in which selected transitions fire is not defined.

Each orthogonal region in the active state configuration that is not decomposed into orthogonal regions (i.e., “bottom-level” region) can fire at most one transition as a result of the current event occurrence. When all orthogonal regions have finished executing the transition, the current event occurrence is fully consumed, and the run-to-completion step is completed.

During a transition, a number of actions may be executed. If such an action is a synchronous operation invocation on an object executing a state machine, then the transition step is not completed until the invoked object completes its run-to-completion step.

#### *Run-to-completion and concurrency*

It is possible to define state machine semantics by allowing the run-to-completion steps to be applied orthogonally to the orthogonal regions of a composite state, rather than to the whole state machine. This would allow the event serialization constraint to be relaxed. However, such semantics are quite subtle and difficult to implement. Therefore, the dynamic semantics defined in this document are based on the premise that a single run-to-completion step applies to the entire state machine and includes the steps taken by orthogonal regions in the active state configuration.

In case of active objects, where each object has its own thread of execution, it is very important to clearly distinguish the notion of run to completion from the concept of thread pre-emption. Namely, run-to-completion event handling is performed by a thread that, in principle, *can* be pre-empted and its execution suspended in favor of another thread executing on the same processing node. (This is determined by the scheduling policy of the underlying thread environment — no assumptions are made about this policy.) When the suspended thread is assigned processor time again, it resumes its event processing from the point of pre-emption and, eventually, completes its event processing.

#### *Conflicting transitions*

It was already noted that it is possible for more than one transition to be enabled within a state machine. If that happens, then such transitions may be in *conflict* with each other. For example, consider the case of two transitions originating from the same state, triggered by the same event, but with different guards. If that event occurs and both guard conditions are true, then only one transition will fire. In other words, in case of conflicting transitions, only one of them will fire in a single run-to-completion step.

Two transitions are said to conflict if they both exit the same state, or, more precisely, that the intersection of the set of states they exit is non-empty. Only transitions that occur in mutually orthogonal regions may be fired simultaneously. This constraint guarantees that the new active state configuration resulting from executing the set of transitions is well-formed.

An internal transition in a state conflicts only with transitions that cause an exit from that state.

### *Firing priorities*

In situations where there are conflicting transitions, the selection of which transitions will fire is based in part on an *implicit* priority. These priorities resolve some transition conflicts, but not all of them. The priorities of conflicting transitions are based on their relative position in the state hierarchy. By definition, a transition originating from a substate has higher priority than a conflicting transition originating from any of its containing states.

The priority of a transition is defined based on its source state. The priority of joined transitions is based on the priority of the transition with the most transitively nested source state.

In general, if  $t_1$  is a transition whose source state is  $s_1$ , and  $t_2$  has source  $s_2$ , then:

- If  $s_1$  is a direct or transitively nested substate of  $s_2$ , then  $t_1$  has higher priority than  $t_2$ .
- If  $s_1$  and  $s_2$  are not in the same state configuration, then there is no priority difference between  $t_1$  and  $t_2$ .

### *Transition selection algorithm*

The set of transitions that will fire is a maximal set of transitions that satisfies the following conditions:

- All transitions in the set are enabled.
- There are no conflicting transitions within the set.
- There is no transition outside the set that has higher priority than a transition in the set (that is, enabled transitions with highest priorities are in the set while conflicting transitions with lower priorities are left out).

This can be easily implemented by a greedy selection algorithm, with a straightforward traversal of the active state configuration. States in the active state configuration are traversed starting with the innermost nested simple states and working outwards. For each state at a given level, all originating transitions are evaluated to determine if they are enabled. This traversal guarantees that the priority principle is not violated. The only non-trivial issue is resolving transition conflicts across orthogonal states on all levels. This is resolved by terminating the search in each orthogonal state once a transition inside any one of its components is fired.

### *StateMachine extension*

A state machine is generalizable. A specialized state machine is an extension of the general state machine, in that regions, vertices, and transitions may be added; regions and states may be redefined (extended: simple states to composite states and composite states by adding states and transitions); and transitions can be redefined.

As part of a classifier generalization, the classifierBehavior state machine of the general classifier and the method state machines of behavioral features of the general classifier can be redefined (by other state machines). These state machines may be specializations (extensions) of the corresponding state machines of the general classifier or of its behavioral features.

A specialized state machine will have all the elements of the general state machine, and it may have additional elements. Regions may be added. Inherited regions may be redefined by extension: States and vertices are inherited, and states and transitions of the regions of the state machine may be redefined.

A simple state can be redefined (extended) to a composite state, by adding one or more regions.

A composite state can be redefined (extended) by either extending inherited regions or by adding regions as well as by adding entry and exit points. A region is extended by adding vertices, states, and transitions and by redefining states and transitions.

A submachine state may be redefined. The submachine state machine may be replaced by another submachine state machine, provided that it has the same entry/exit points as the redefined submachine state machine, but it may add entry/exit points.

Transitions can have their content and target state replaced, while the source state and trigger are preserved.

In case of multiple general classifiers, extension implies that the extension state machine gets orthogonal regions for each of the state machines of the general classifiers in addition to the one of the specific classifier.

### Notation

A state machine diagram is a graph that represents a state machine. States and various other types of vertices (pseudostates) in the state machine graph are rendered by appropriate state and pseudostate symbols, while transitions are generally rendered by directed arcs that connect them or by control icons representing the actions of the behavior on the transition (page 592).

The association between a state machine and its context classifier or behavioral feature does not have a special notation.

A state machine that is an extension of the state machine in a general classifier will have the keyword «extended» associated with the name of the state machine.

The default notation for classifier is used for denoting state machines. The keyword is «statemachine».

Inherited states are drawn with dashed lines or gray-toned lines.

### Presentation option

Inherited states are drawn with gray-toned lines.

### Examples

is an example statemachine diagram for the state machine for simple telephone object. In addition to the initial state, the state machine has an entry point called activeEntry, and in addition to the final state, it has an exit point called aborted.

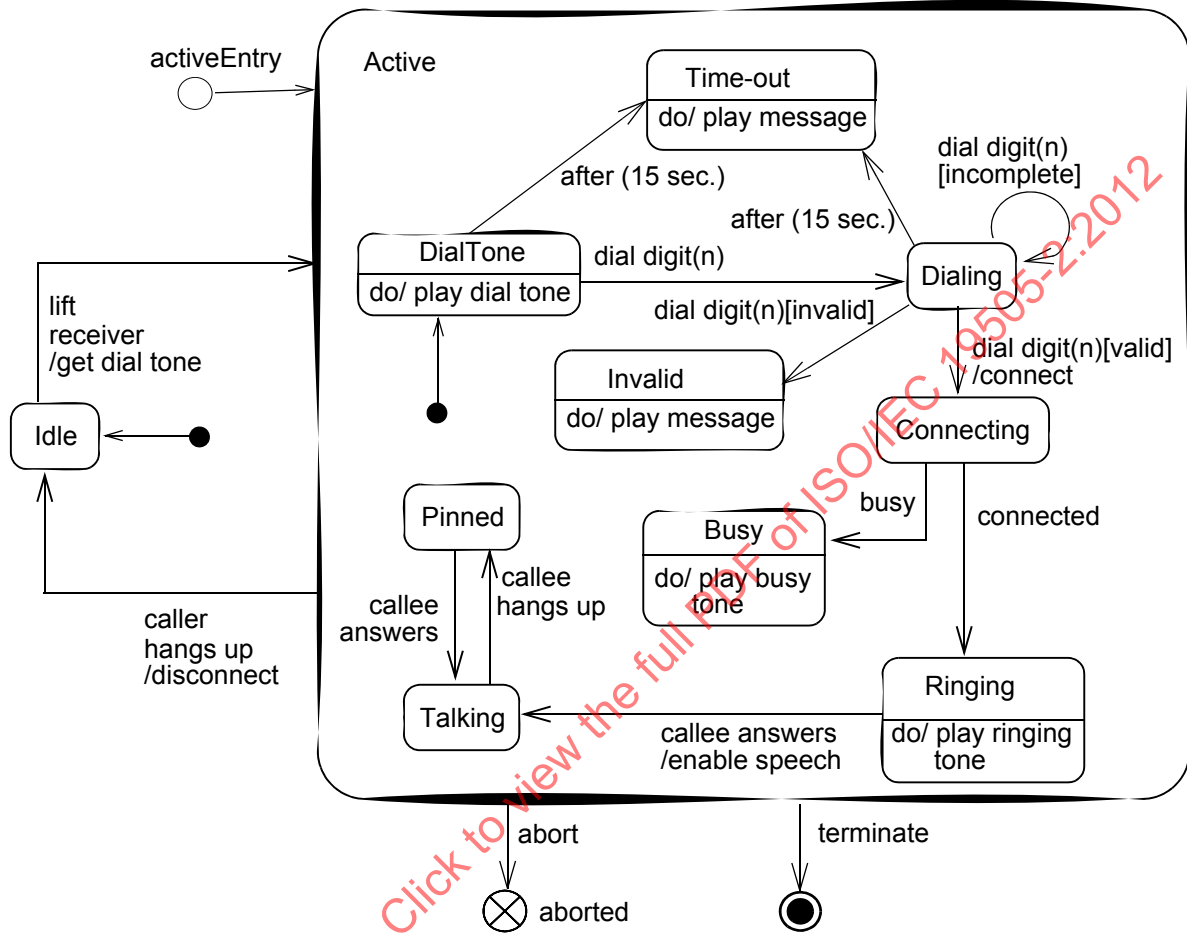


Figure 15.41 - State machine diagram representing a state machine

As an example of state machine specialization, the states VerifyCard, OutOfService, and VerifyTransaction in the ATM state machine in Figure 15.42 have been specified as {final}, which means that they cannot be redefined (i.e., extended) in specializations of ATM. The other states can be redefined. The (verifyTransaction, releaseCard) transition has also been specified as {final}, meaning that the effect behavior and the target state cannot be redefined.

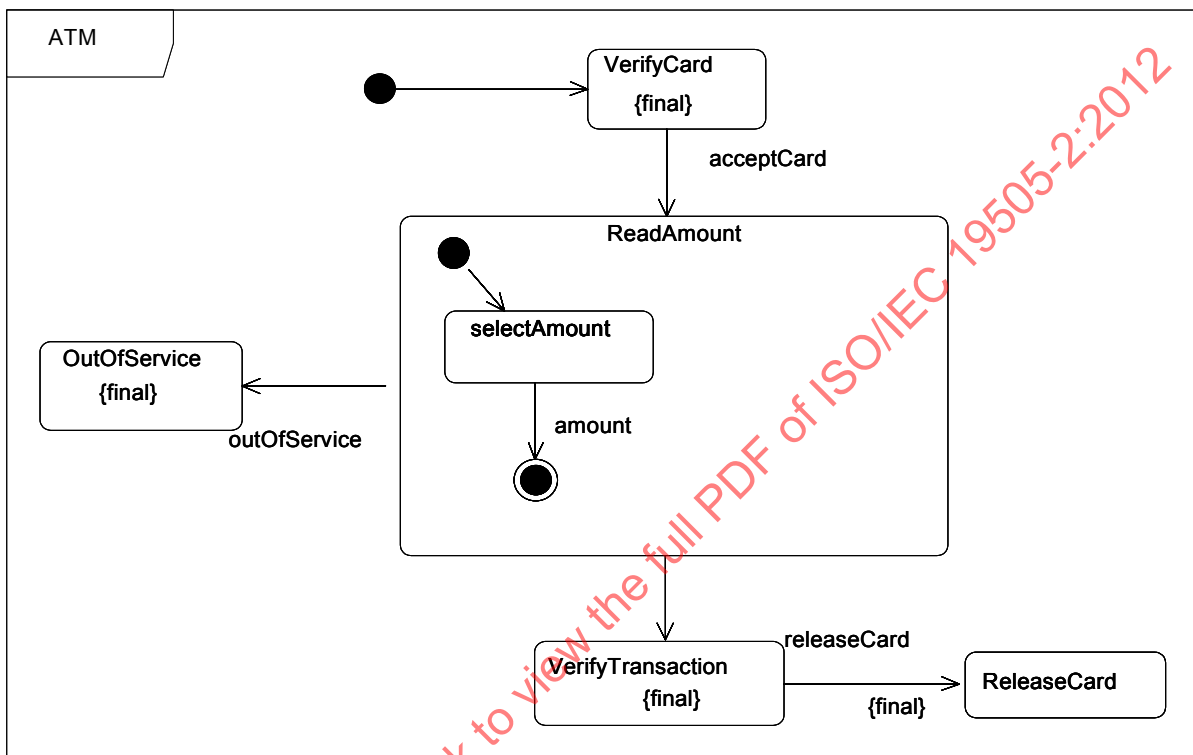


Figure 15.42 - A general state machine

In Figure 15.43 a specialized ATM (which is the statemachine of a class that is a specialization of the class with the ATM statemachine of Figure 15.42) is defined by extending the composite state by adding a state and a transition, so that users can enter the desired amount. In addition, a transition is added from an inherited state to the newly introduced state.

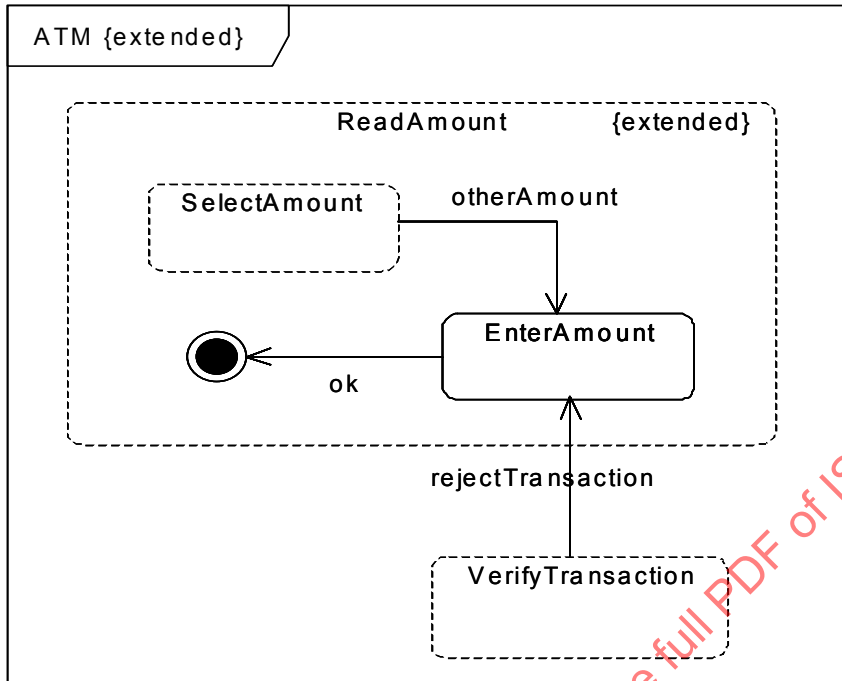


Figure 15.43 - An extended state machine

**Rationale**

The rationale for statemachine extension is that it shall be possible to define the redefined behavior of a special classifier as an extension of the behavior of the general classifier.

**Changes from previous UML**

State machine extension is an extension of 1.x. In 1.x, state machine generalization is only explained informally discussed as a non-normative practice.

**Rationale**

State machines are used for the definition of behavior (for example, classes that are generalizable). As part of the specialization of a class it is desirable also to specialize the behavior definition.

**15.3.13 TimeEvent (from BehaviorStateMachines)**

**Generalizations**

- “TimeEvent (from SimpleTime)” on page 474 (*merge increment*)

**Description**

Extends TimeEvent to be defined relative to entering the current state of the executing state machine.

**Constraints**

[1] The starting time for a relative time event may only be omitted for a time event that is the trigger of a state machine.

**Semantics**

If the deadline expression is relative and no explicit starting time is defined, then it is relative to the time of entry into the source state of the transition triggered by the event. In that case, the time event occurrence is generated only if the state machine is still in that state when the deadline expires.

**Notation**

If no starting point is indicated, then it is the time since the entry to the current state.

**15.3.14 Transition (from BehaviorStateMachines)****Generalizations**

- “Namespace (from Kernel)” on page 106
- “RedefinableElement (from Kernel)” on page 137

**Description**

A transition is a directed relationship between a source vertex and a target vertex. It may be part of a compound transition, which takes the state machine from one state configuration to another, representing the complete response of the state machine to an occurrence of an event of a particular type.

**Attributes**

- kind: TransitionKind [1]  
See definition of TransitionKind. Default value is *external*.

**Associations**

- trigger: Trigger[0..\*]  
Specifies the triggers that may fire the transition. {Subsets Element::ownedElement}
- guard: Constraint[0..1]  
A guard is a constraint that provides a fine-grained control over the firing of the transition. The guard is evaluated when an event occurrence is dispatched by the state machine. If the guard is true at that time, the transition may be enabled; otherwise, it is disabled. Guards should be pure expressions without side effects. Guard expressions with side effects are ill-formed. {Subsets Namespace::ownedRule}
- effect: Behavior[0..1]  
Specifies an optional behavior to be performed when the transition fires.
- source: Vertex[1]  
Designates the originating vertex (state or pseudostate) of the transition.
- target: Vertex[1]  
Designates the target vertex that is reached when the transition is taken.
- redefinedTransition: Transition[0..1]  
The transition of which this is a replacement. {Subsets RedefinableElement::redefinedElement}

- /redefinitionContext: Classifier[1]  
References the classifier in which context this element may be redefined. {Redefines *RedefinableElement::redefinitionContext*}
- container [1]  
Designates the region that owns this transition. (Subsets *Namespace.namespace*)

### Constraints

- [1] A fork segment must not have guards or triggers.  
(source.oclIsKindOf(Pseudostate) **and** source.kind = #fork) **implies** (guard->isEmpty() **and** trigger->isEmpty())
- [2] A join segment must not have guards or triggers.  
((target.oclIsKindOf(Pseudostate)) **and** (target.kind = #join)) **implies** ((guard->isEmpty() **and** (trigger->isEmpty())))
- [3] A fork segment must always target a state.  
(source.oclIsKindOf(Pseudostate) **and** source.kind = #fork) **implies** (target.oclIsKindOf(State))
- [4] A join segment must always originate from a state.  
(target.oclIsKindOf(Pseudostate) **and** target.kind = #join) **implies** (source.oclIsKindOf(State))
- [5] Transitions outgoing pseudostates may not have a trigger (except for those coming out of the initial pseudostate).  
(source.oclIsKindOf(Pseudostate) **and** (source.kind <> #initial)) **implies** trigger->isEmpty()
- [6] An initial transition at the topmost level (region of a statemachine) either has no trigger or it has a trigger with the stereotype “create.”  
self.source.oclIsKindOf(Pseudostate) **implies**  
    (self.source.oclAsType(Pseudostate).kind = #initial) **implies**  
        (self.source.container = self.stateMachine.top) **implies**  
            ((self.trigger->isEmpty() **or**  
            (self.trigger.stereotype.name = 'create')))
- [7] In case of more than one trigger, the signatures of these must be compatible in case the parameters of the signal are assigned to local variables/attributes.
- [8] The redefinition context of a transition is the nearest containing statemachine.

```

redefinitionContext =
    let sm = containingStateMachine() in
    if sm.context->isEmpty() or sm.general->notEmpty() then
        sm
    else
        sm.context
    endif
    
```

### Additional operations

- [1] The query isConsistentWith() specifies that a redefining transition is consistent with a redefined transition provided that the redefining transition has the following relation to the redefined transition: A redefining transition redefines all properties of the corresponding redefined transition, except the source state and the trigger.
- [2] The query containingStateMachine() returns the state machine that contains the transition either directly or transitively.  
**context** Transition::containingStateMachine() : StateMachine  
**post:** result = container.containingStateMachine()

## Semantics

### High-level transitions

Transitions originating from composite states themselves are called *high-level* or *group* transitions. If triggered, they result in exiting of all the substates of the composite state executing their exit activities starting with the innermost states in the active state configuration. Note that in terms of execution semantics, a high-level transition does not add specialized semantics, but rather reflects the semantics of exiting a composite state. A high-level transition with a target outside the composite state will imply the execution of the exit action of the composite state, while a high-level transition with a target inside the composite state will not imply execution of the exit action of the composite state.

### Compound transitions

A *compound transition* is a derived semantic concept, represents a “semantically complete” path made of one or more transitions, originating from a set of states (as opposed to pseudo-state) and targeting a set of states. The transition execution semantics described below refer to compound transitions.

In general, a compound transition is an acyclical unbroken chain of transitions joined via join, junction, choice, or fork pseudostates that define path from a set of source states (possibly a singleton) to a set of destination states, (possibly a singleton). For self-transitions, the same state acts as both the source and the destination set. A (simple) transition connecting two states is therefore a special common case of a compound transition.

The tail of a compound transition may have multiple transitions originating from a set of mutually orthogonal regions that are joined by a join point.

The head of a compound transition may have multiple transitions originating from a fork pseudostate targeted to a set of mutually orthogonal regions.

In a compound transition multiple outgoing transitions may emanate from a common *junction* point. In that case, only one of the outgoing transitions whose guard is true is taken. If multiple transitions have guards that are true, a transition from this set is chosen. The algorithm for selecting such a transition is not specified. Note that in this case, the guards are evaluated before the compound transition is taken.

In a compound transition where multiple outgoing transitions emanate from a common *choice* point, the outgoing transition whose guard is true *at the time the choice point is reached*, will be taken. If multiple transitions have guards that are true, one transition from this set is chosen. The algorithm for selecting this transition is not specified. If no guards are true after the choice point has been reached, the model is ill-formed.

The owner of a transition is not explicitly constrained, though the region must be owned directly or indirectly by the owning state machine context. A suggested owner of a transition is the LCA of the source and target vertices.

### Internal transitions

An internal transition executes without exiting or re-entering the state in which it is defined. This is true even if the state machine is in a nested state within this state.

### Completion transitions and completion events

A *completion transition* is a transition originating from a state or an exit point but which does not have an explicit trigger, although it may have a guard defined. A completion transition is implicitly triggered by a completion event. In case of a leaf state, a completion event is generated once the entry actions and the internal activities (“do” activities) have been completed. If no actions or activities exist, the completion event is generated upon entering the state. If the state is a composite state or a submachine state, a completion event is generated if either the submachine or the contained region

has reached a final state and the state's internal activities have been completed. This event is the implicit trigger for a completion transition. The completion event is dispatched before any other events in the pool and has no associated parameters. For instance, a completion transition emanating from an orthogonal composite state will be taken automatically as soon as all the orthogonal regions have reached their final state.

If multiple completion transitions are defined for a state, then they should have mutually exclusive guard conditions.

### *Enabled (compound) transitions*

A transition is *enabled* if and only if:

- All of its source states are in the active state configuration.
- One of the triggers of the transition is satisfied by the event (type) of the current occurrence. An event *satisfies* a trigger if it matches the event specified by the trigger. In case of signal events, since signals are generalized concepts, a signal event satisfies a signal event associated with the same signal or a generalization thereof. If one of the triggers is for an AnyReceiveEvent, then a signal or call event satisfies this trigger if there is no other signal or call event trigger on the same transition, or any other transition having the same source vertex as the transition with the AnyReceiveEvent trigger (see also “AnyReceiveEvent (from Communications)” on page 450).
- If there exists at least one full path from the source state configuration to either the target state configuration or to a dynamic choice point in which all guard conditions are true (transitions without guards are treated as if their guards are always true).

Since more than one transition may be enabled by the same event, being enabled is a necessary but not sufficient condition for the firing of a transition.

### *Guards*

In a simple transition with a guard, the guard is evaluated before the transition is triggered.

In compound transitions involving multiple guards, all guards are evaluated before a transition is triggered, unless there are choice points along one or more of the paths. The order in which the guards are evaluated is not defined.

If there are choice points in a compound transition, only guards that precede the choice point are evaluated according to the above rule. Guards downstream of a choice point are evaluated if and when the choice point is reached (using the same rule as above). In other words, for guard evaluation, a choice point has the same effect as a state.

Guards should not include expressions causing side effects. Models that violate this are considered ill-formed.

### *Transition execution sequence*

Every transition, except for internal and local transitions, causes exiting of a source state, and entering of the target state. These two states, which may be composite, are designated as the *main source* and the *main target* of a transition.

The *least common ancestor* (LCA) state of a (compound) transition is a region or an orthogonal state that is the LCA of the source and target states of the (compound) transition. The LCA operation is an operation defined for the StateMachine class.

If the LCA is a Region, then the main source is a direct subvertex of the region that contains the source states, and the main target is the subvertex of the region that contains the target states. In the case where the LCA is an orthogonal state, the main source and the main target are both represented by the orthogonal state itself. The reason is that a transition crossing regions of an orthogonal state forces exit from the entire orthogonal state and re-entering of all of its regions.