Software Design, Modelling and Analysis in UML

Lecture 10: State Machines Overview

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Contents & Goals

Last Lecture:

- (Mostly) completed discussion of modelling **structure**.

This Lecture:

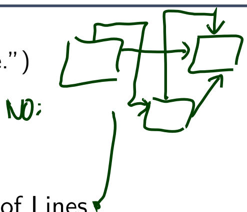
- **Educational Objectives:** Capabilities for following tasks/questions.
  - What's the purpose of a behavioural model?
  - What does this State Machine mean? What happens if I inject this event?
  - Can you please model the following behaviour.
- **Content:**
  - For completeness: Modelling Guidelines for Class Diagrams
  - Purposes of Behavioural Models
  - UML Core State Machines

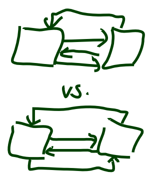
Design Guidelines for (Class) Diagram

(partly following Ambler (2005))

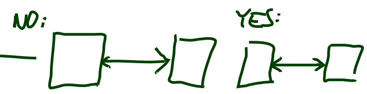
General Diagramming Guidelines Ambler (2005)

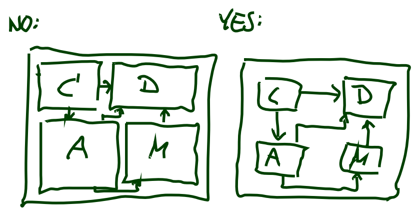
(Note: "Exceptions prove the rule.")

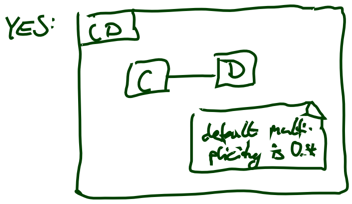




- **2.1 Readability**
  - 1.–3. Support Readability of Lines
  - 4. Apply Consistently Sized Symbols
  - 9. Minimize the Number of Bubbles / Things
  - 10. Include White-Space in Diagrams
  - 13. Provide a Notational Legend

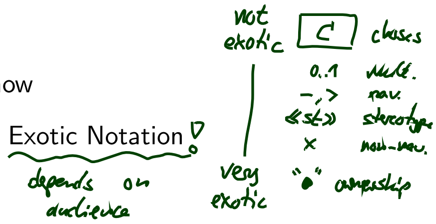


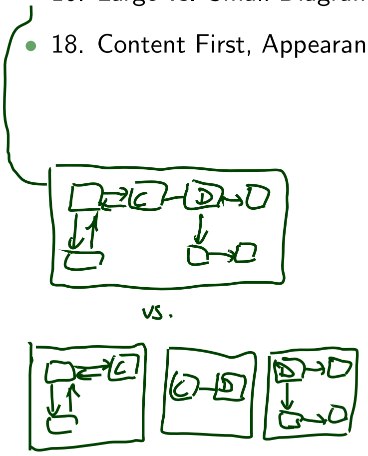




General Diagramming Guidelines Ambler (2005)

- **2.2 Simplicity**
  - 14. Show Only What You Have to Show
  - 15. Prefer Well-Known Notation over Exotic Notation
  - 16. Large vs. Small Diagrams
  - 18. Content First, Appearance Second





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- **2.3 Naming**
  - 20. Set and (23. Consistently) Follow Effective Naming Conventions

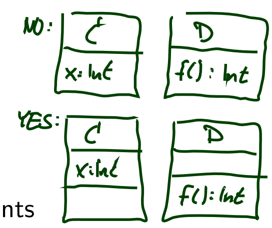
- **2.4 General**
  - 24. Indicate Unknowns with Question-Marks
  - 25. Consider Applying Color to Your Diagram
  - 26. Apply Color Sparingly

Class Diagram Guidelines Ambler (2005)

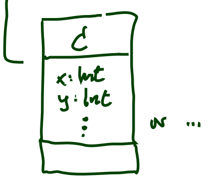
- **5.1 General Guidelines**
  - 88. Indicate Visibility Only on Design Models **(in contrast to analysis models)**
- **5.2 Class Style Guidelines**
  - 96. Prefer Complete Singular Nouns for Class Names
  - 97. Name Operations with Strong Verbs
  - 99. Do Not Model Scaffolding Code **[Except for Exceptions]**

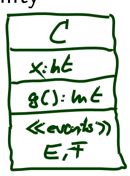
e.g. get/set methods

Class Diagram Guidelines Ambler (2005)

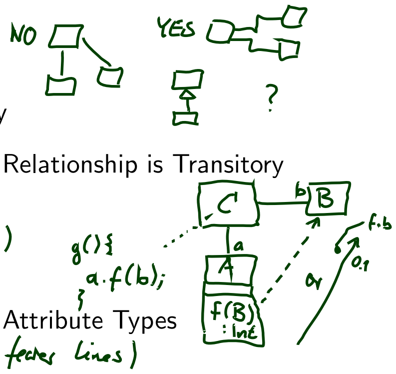


- **5.2 Class Style Guidelines**
  - 103. Never Show Classes with Just Two Compartments
  - 104. Label Uncommon Class Compartments
  - 105. Include an Ellipsis (...) at the End of an Incomplete List
  - 107. List Operations/Attributes in Order of Decreasing Visibility

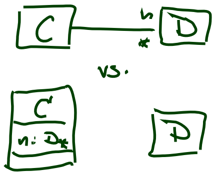




Class Diagram Guidelines Ambler (2005)



- **5.3 Relationships**
  - 112. Model Relationships Horizontally
  - 115. Model a Dependency When the Relationship is Transitory
  - 117. Always Indicate the Multiplicity (or have good defaults)
  - 118. Avoid Multiplicity "∗"
  - 119. Replace Relationship Lines with Attribute Types (to have fewer lines)



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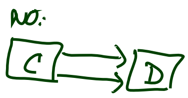
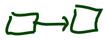
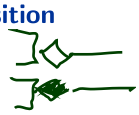


- **5.4 Associations**
  - 127. Indicate Role Names When Multiple Associations Between Two Classes Exist
  - 129. Make Associations Bidirectional Only When Collaboration Occurs in Both Directions
  - **131. Avoid Indicating Non-Navigability** (it depends; often  is meant to be )
  - 133. Question Multiplicities Involving Minimums and Maximums
    e.g. 3..10
- **5.6 Aggregation and Composition**
  - → exercises

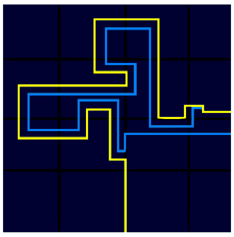


Example: Modelling Games

Task: Game Development

Task: **develop** a **video game**. **Genre**: **Racing**. **Rest**: **open**, i.e.

Degrees of freedom:	Exemplary choice: 2D-Tron
• simulation vs. arcade	arcade
• platform (SDK or not, open or proprietary, hardware capabilities...)	open
• graphics (3D, 2D, ...)	2D
• number of players, AI	min. 2, AI open
• controller	open (later determined by platform)
• game experience	minimal: main menu and game

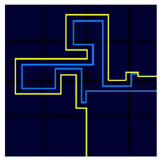


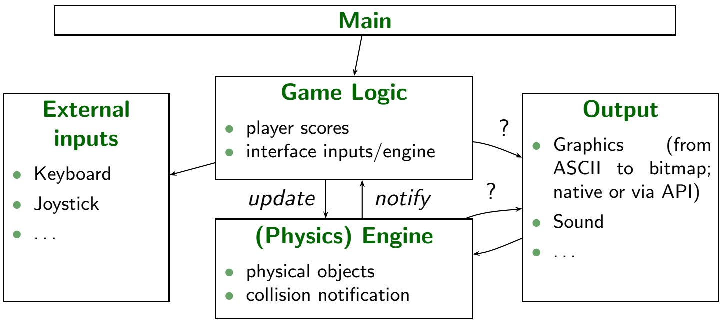
Modelling Structure: 2D-Tron

- In many domains, there are canonical architectures – and adept readers try to see/find/match this!
- For games:

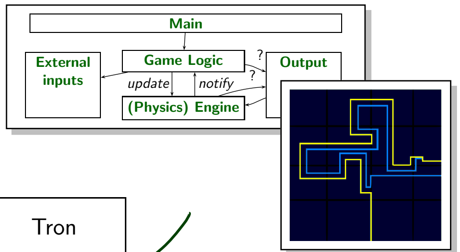
2D-Tron

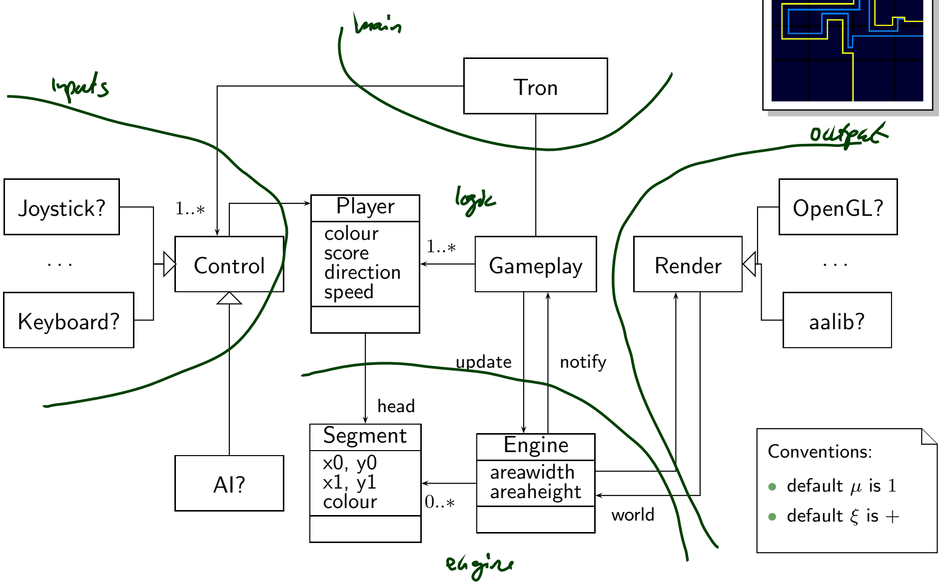
- arcade
- platform open
- 2D
- min. 2, AI open
- controller open
- only game, no menues





Modelling Structure: 2D-Tron





Modelling Behaviour

Stocktaking...

Have: Means to model the **structure** of the system.

- Class diagrams graphically, concisely describe sets of system states.
- OCL expressions logically state constraints/invariants on system states.

Want: Means to model **behaviour** of the system.

- Means to describe how system states **evolve over time**, that is, to describe sets of **sequences**

$$\sigma_0, \sigma_1, \dots \in \Sigma^\omega$$

  of **system states**.

What Can Be Purposes of Behavioural Models?

Example: Pre-Image **Image**
(the UML model is supposed to be the blue-print for a software system).

A description of behaviour could serve the following purposes:

- **Require** Behaviour. **"System definitely does this"**
  "This sequence of inserting money and requesting and getting water must be possible."
  (Otherwise the software for the vending machine is completely broken.)

- **Allow** Behaviour. **"System does subset of this"**
  "After inserting money and choosing a drink, the drink is dispensed (if in stock)."
  (If the implementation insists on taking the money first, that's a fair choice.)

- **Forbid** Behaviour. **"System never does this"**
  "This sequence of getting both, a water and all money back, must not be possible."
  (Otherwise the software is broken.)

Note: the latter two are trivially satisfied by doing nothing...

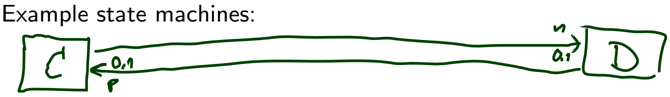
Constructive Behaviour in UML

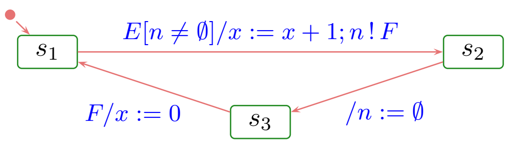
UML provides two visual formalisms for constructive description of behaviours:

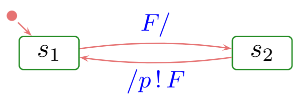
- **Activity Diagrams**
- **State-Machine Diagrams**

We (exemplary) focus on State-Machines because

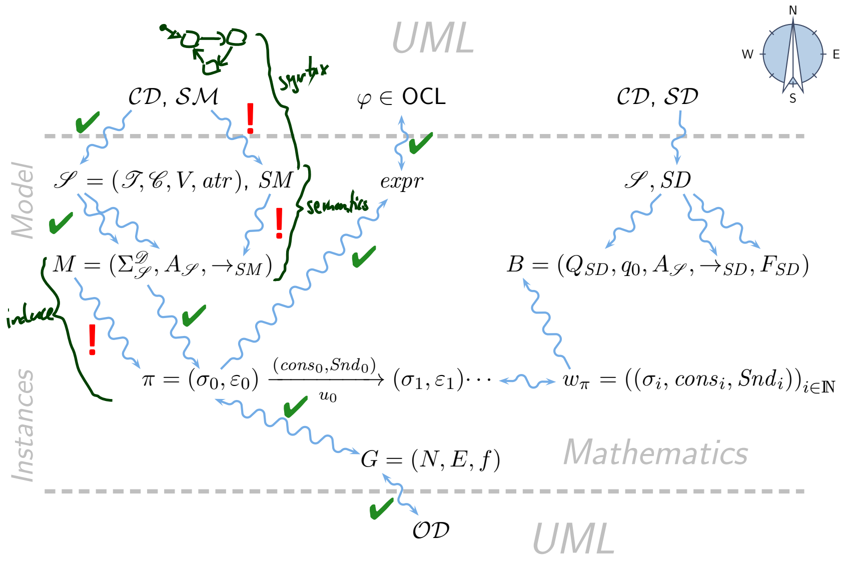
- somehow "practice proven" (in different flavours),
- prevalent in embedded systems community,
- indicated useful by Dobing and Parsons (2006) survey, and
- Activity Diagram's intuition changed (between UML 1.x and 2.x) from transition-system-like to petri-net-like...
- Example state machines:





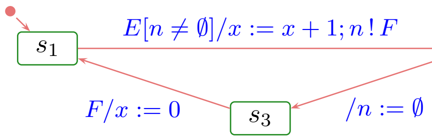


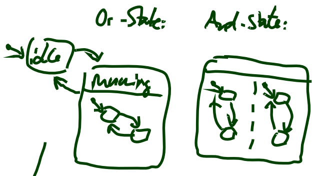
Course Map



UML State Machines: Overview

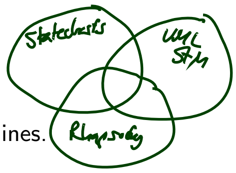
UML State Machines





Brief History:

- Rooted in **Moore/Mealy machines**, Transition Systems, etc.
- Harel (1987): **Statecharts** as a concise notation, introduces in particular hierarchical states.
- Manifest in tool **Statemate** Harel et al. (1990) (simulation, code-generation); nowadays also in **Matlab/Simulink**, etc.
- From UML 1.x on: **State Machines** (not the official name, but understood: **UML-Statecharts**)
- Late 1990's: tool **Rhapsody** with code-generation for state machines.



Note: there is a common core, but each dialect interprets some constructs subtly different Crane and Dingel (2007). *(Would be too easy otherwise. . .)*

Roadmap: Chronologically

Syntax:

(i) UML State Machine Diagrams.

(ii) Def.: Signature with **signals**.

(iii) Def.: **Core state machine**.

(iv) Map UML State Machine Diagrams to core state machines.

Semantics:

The Basic Causality Model

(v) Def.: **Ether** (aka. event pool)

(vi) Def.: **System configuration**.

(vii) Def.: **Event**.

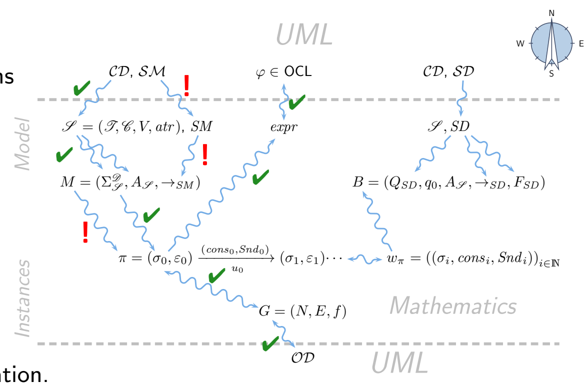
(viii) Def.: **Transformer**.

(ix) Def.: **Transition system**, computation.

(x) Transition relation induced by core state machine.

(xi) Def.: **step**, **run-to-completion step**.

(xii) Later: Hierarchical state machines.



UML State Machines: Syntax

Signature With Signals

Definition. A tuple

$$\mathscr{S} = (\mathscr{T}, \mathscr{C}, V, atr, \mathscr{E}), \qquad \mathscr{E} \text{ a set of signals},$$

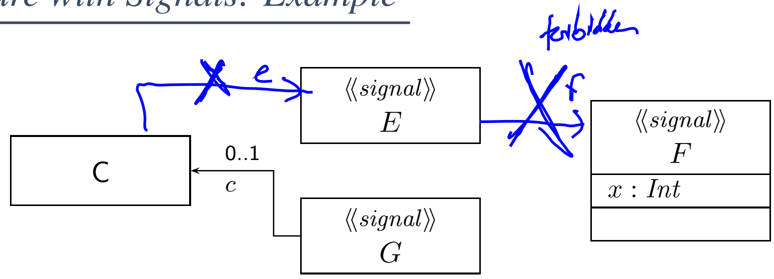
is called signature (with signals) if and only if

$$(\mathscr{T}, \mathscr{C} \cup \mathscr{E}, V, atr)$$

is a signature (as before).

Note: Thus conceptually, **a signal is a class** and can have attributes of plain type, and participate in associations.

Signature with Signals: Example



$$\mathscr{S} = (\{Int\}, \{C\}, \{x : Int,\ c : C_{0,1}\}, \{C \mapsto \emptyset, E \mapsto \emptyset, G \mapsto \{c\}, F \mapsto \{x\}\}, \{E, F, G\})$$

Core State Machine

Definition.
A core state machine over signature $\mathscr{S} = (\mathscr{T}, \mathscr{C}, V, atr, \mathscr{E})$ is a tuple

$$M = (S, s_0, \to)$$

where

- S is a non-empty, finite set of **(basic) states**,
- $s_0 \in S$ is an **initial state**,
- and

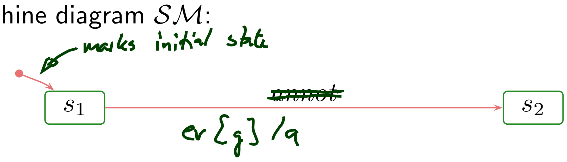
$$\to\ \subseteq S \times \underbrace{(\mathscr{E} \,\dot{\cup}\, \{\_\})}_{\text{trigger}} \times \underbrace{Expr_{\mathscr{S}}}_{\text{guard}} \times \underbrace{Act_{\mathscr{S}}}_{\text{action}} \times S$$

  is a labelled transition relation.

We assume a set $Expr_{\mathscr{S}}$ of boolean expressions over $\mathscr{S}$ (for instance OCL, may be something else) and a set $Act_{\mathscr{S}}$ of **actions**.

From UML to Core State Machines: By Example

UML state machine diagram $\mathcal{SM}$:



$$annot ::= [\ \langle event \rangle [\,.\,\langle event \rangle]^*\ ]\ [\,[\,\langle guard \rangle\,]\,]\ [\,/\ [\langle action \rangle]\ ]$$

with

- $event \in \mathscr{E}$,
- $guard \in Expr_{\mathscr{S}}$ (**default**: *true*, assumed to be in $Expr_{\mathscr{S}}$)
- $action \in Act_{\mathscr{S}}$ (**default**: `skip`, assumed to be in $Act_{\mathscr{S}}$)

maps to $M(\mathcal{SM}) = (\{s_1, s_2\}, \{s_1\}, \{(s_1, ev, g, a, s_2)\})$

Abbreviations and Defaults in the Standard

Reconsider the syntax of transition annotations:

$$annot ::= [\ \langle event \rangle [\,.\,\langle event \rangle]^*\ ]\ [\,[\,\langle guard \rangle\,]\,]\ [\,/\ [\langle action \rangle]\ ]$$

where $event \in \mathscr{E}$, $guard \in Expr_{\mathscr{S}}$, $action \in Act_{\mathscr{S}}$.

What if things are missing?

	$\rightsquigarrow$ (.., _, true, skip, ..)
/	$\rightsquigarrow$ "
E /	$\rightsquigarrow$ (.., E, true, skip, ..)
/ act	$\rightsquigarrow$ (.., _, true, act, ..)
E / act	$\rightsquigarrow$ (.., E, true, act, ..)

In the standard, the syntax is even more elaborate:

- $E(v)$ — when consuming E in object u,
  attribute v of u is assigned the corresponding attribute of E.
- $E(v : T)$ — similar, but v is a local variable, scope is the transition

State-Machines belong to Classes

In the following, we assume that

- a UML model consists of a set $\mathscr{CD}$ of class diagrams and a set $\mathscr{SM}$ of **state chart diagrams** (each comprising one **state machine** $\mathcal{SM}$).
- each state machine $\mathcal{SM} \in \mathscr{SM}$ is **associated with a class** $C_{\mathcal{SM}} \in \mathscr{C}(\mathscr{S})$.
- For simplicity, we even assume a bijection, i.e. we assume that each class $C \in \mathscr{C}(\mathscr{S})$ has a state machine $\mathcal{SM}_C$ and that its class $C_{\mathcal{SM}_C}$ is C.

  If not explicitly given, then this one:

  $$\mathcal{SM}_0 := (\{s_0\}, s_0, \emptyset).$$

  ~~$(s_0, \_, true, \texttt{skip}, s_0)$~~

  We will see later that this choice does no harm semantically.

Intuition 1: $\mathcal{SM}_C$ describes the behaviour of **the instances** of class C.
Intuition 2: Each instance of class C executes $\mathcal{SM}_C$.

Note: we don't consider **multiple state machines** per class. We will see later that this case can be viewed as a single state machine with as many AND-states.

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References

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