CMPT 276 Class 12: System Modelling

Dr. Jack Thomas Simon Fraser University Fall 2020

Today's Topics

- 1. Why model a system?
- 2. How can we model...
 - A. the **context** of a system?
 - B. the **interactions** with the system?
 - C. the **structure** of a system?
 - D. the **behaviour** of a system?
- 3. Can we use models to generate a system?

System Modelling

- The process of developing abstract models of a system, where each model shows a different perspective of the same system.
- Usually models are graphical, such as the Unified Modelling Language (UML).
- Modelling leaves out details, the challenge is including only the right details.

A Word of Warning on Models

• "The map is not the territory,"

Alfred Korzybski

• Like plans, the value and purpose of models are hotly debated.

• Data-driven and machine learning approaches claim to be moving us past models.

System Perspectives

- There are many perspectives on the same system. For example a couch has concept art, a design sketch, blueprints, assembly diagrams, and more.
- External Perspective: Model the environment (context) where system is used.
- Interaction Perspective: Model the interactions between a system and its environment.
- **Structural Perspective**: Model the organization of a system or structure of its data.
- **Behavioural Perspective**: Model the dynamic behaviour of the system and how it responds to events

Context Models

- Models what lies outside the system boundaries.
 - Show other systems which use or are used by the new system.
 - Does not show the nature of the relationships: "who uses whom?"
- Position of the system boundary has a profound effect on system requirements, but is a 'political' judgment



Use Case Modelling

- Each use case represents a task with an **external interaction** of value to the actor.
- Use cases show a very high-level view
 - Actors (stick-figures): people or other systems.

- Actions (ellipses): the interaction.

- Can complete the model with a text description of the interaction.
- Does **not** show the sequence of actions.

Use Case Diagram for Ordering Pizza



Note: The system being developed isn't shown on the diagram, it IS the diagram. **Note 2**: Tip your pizza guy, the world is on fire.

Use Case Exercise: CourSys

- Draw a UML Use Case diagram of CourSys for the following:
 - Actions: Grade submission, Submit, Configure class, View grade
 - Users: Student, Instructor, TA, Admin

Structural Models

- Structural models of software show the organization of a system in terms of its components and their relationships.
- **Static** structural models shows the structure of the system design.

– Ex: Classes

 Use structural models of a system when discussing and designing the system architecture.

UML Class Diagram

• A diagram showing classes and relationships between them.



Image Credit: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Class_diagram

Relationship: Aggregation

 The "Has-A" Relationship: Shows an object composed of other objects. Ex: a cell-phone has a screen, or has many buttons.



- Show the number, like 1, or 0..1, or *.
- Hint: This is usually for an object's fields.

Relationship: Dependency

- Class X depends on class Y if X may need to change if Y changes.
 - Usually said: "X uses Y"
 - If X knows of Y's existence, then X depends on Y.
 - Shown as a dotted open arrow.
 - Hint: Usually for arguments or local variables.
- Example:

```
class PizzaOrder {
```

```
private List<<u>Pizza</u>> pizzas;
```

```
// ...
```

```
public void slicePizzas() {
```

```
Slicer = new Slicer();
slicer.slicePizzas(pizzas);
```



Relationship: Inheritance

- The "Is-A" Relationship:
 - A cell-phone is a type of phone: cell-phone inherits from phone.
 - Shown as a hollow arrow pointing from subclass to the superclass (more general class).



Exercise: Label the Relationships



Exercise: UML Class Diagram

class Phone {}

class SimCard {}
class SimEjectorTool{}

class Battery {}
class LiPoBattery extends Battery{}
class LithiumIonBattery extends Battery {}

class CellPhone extends Phone{
 private Battery battery;
 private SimCard card;

void changeSimCard(SimCard card, SimEjectorTool tool) {}
void setBattery(Battery battery) {}
int countInstalledApps()

}

Behavioural Models

- Models dynamic behaviour of a system as it executes.
- Real-time systems are often event-driven, with minimal data processing.
 - Ex: microwave oven, alarm clock, etc.
- Event-driven modelling shows how a system responds to **external and internal events**.
 - System has states, and events (stimuli) cause state transitions.
 - Called a State Diagram, or FSM: Finite State Machine.

System Authentication Diagram



State Machines

• What are each of the following state machines for?



Android

- Many events can occur in the lifetime of an Android activity.
- Trace the following:
 - Creation
 - While running, switch to home screen.
 - While in background, killed by OS.



UML State Diagram Components

State diagram for the Acme "Arbitrary Widget"



Example: Boss Fight State Diagram

- Imagine you are in a game battling an epic dragon.
 Draw a state diagram for the "Boss".
 - Ground Phase: Dragon on ground (start).
 - After 1 minute goes to air phase.
 - Air Phase: Dragon in air, summons a minion.
 - After minion is killed, go to ground phase.
 - Burn Phase:
 - When boss's health reaches 30% he lands and starts breathing fire.
 - Tamed: Boss at 0% health, players have tamed the dragon.
 - Enraged:
 - After 5 minutes, dragon heals fully, takes to the air and enrages killing everyone.
 - Boss Win: If all players die.

Model-Driven Engineering

• An approach to software development where models rather than programs are the principal outputs of the development process.

Programs automatically generated from the models.

• Pros

- Work at a higher levels of abstraction.
- Cheaper port to new platforms: code is generated!

• Cons

- Models for abstraction not always suited to implementation.
- Still somewhat theoretical, not well supported.

Model-Driven Engineering Example

- **StarUML** Generates C++ code from class diagram
 - Generates all .h files and function stubs in .cpp files.
- Umple is for Java.



- // Generated by StarUML(tm) C++ Add-In
 //
 - / // @ Project : Untitled
- // @ File Name : Zoo.h
- // @ Date : 20/02/2014
- // @ Author :

```
#if !defined(_ZOO_H)
#define _ZOO_H
```



Recap – A Model of Brevity

- **Model**: Abstract view of system; ignores some details
- System's Context
 - Context models show environment around system
- Interactions
 - Use cases external actor interactions with system
- Structural Models: Show system architecture
 - Class Diagrams shows static structure of classes
- **Behavioural Models**: Dynamic behaviour of executing system.
 - State Diagram States and internal/external events
- **Model-Driven Engineering**: Build the model, and then tools automatically transformed to executable code.