The use of ODP in MDA system specifications

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with acknowledgements to
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Agenda

- ODP* system specifications
- Use of UML for ODP system specifications
  - What it is
  - Example
- ODP in MDA system specifications
- Sources and progress so far

**ODP ≡ Open Distributed Processing*

ODP system specifications

- The *Reference Model of ODP (ITU-T Rec X.901-904 | ISO/IEC 10746)* defines a framework for system specification, covering all aspects of open distributed systems:
  - "enterprise" context, functionality, distribution, infrastructure, technology
- It comprises
  - a structure for system specifications in terms of viewpoints
  - a language (concepts and rules) for expressing each viewpoint specification
  - a set of object-oriented foundation modeling concepts common to all viewpoint languages

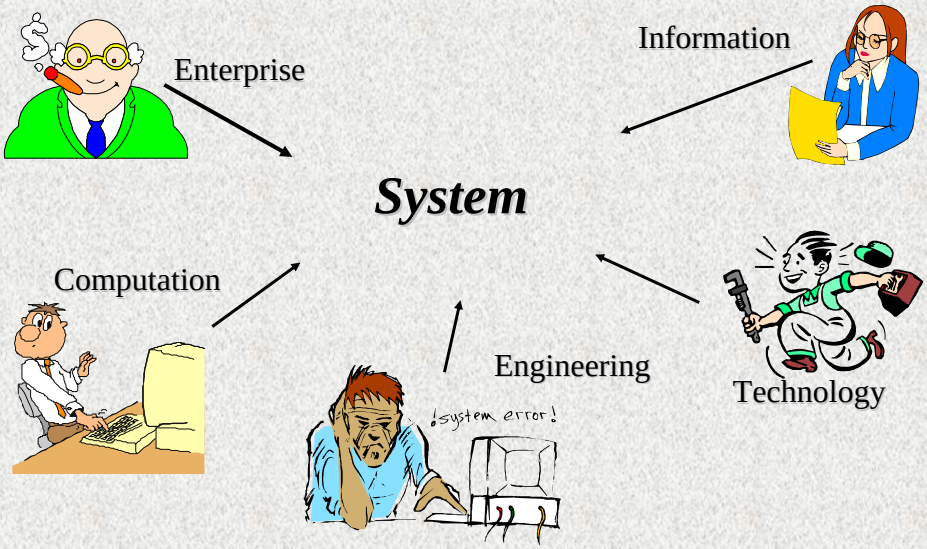
ODP viewpoints

- Different abstractions of the same system
  - each abstraction focuses on different concerns
  - each abstraction achieved using a set of viewpoint concepts and rules
- A mechanism for dealing with the complexity of distributed systems

Viewpoints and System Specifications

- An ODP system specification comprises a set of viewpoint specifications (or views)
- A viewpoint specification
  - is a specification of a system from a specific viewpoint
  - uses language constructs for the viewpoint to express the concerns and decisions covered by the viewpoint specification
  - is related to, and consistent with, other viewpoint specifications

ODP viewpoint specifications



The enterprise specification

- Specifies the roles played by an IT system in its organisational environment
- An object model of a social/commercial organisation in terms of:
  - *enterprise objects*
  - *communities* (of *enterprise objects*)
    - *objectives*
    - *behaviour*
      - *roles* (fulfilled by *enterprise objects* in a *community*)
      - *processes* (meeting *objectives*)
    - *Policy*
    - …

The information specification

- Specifies system behaviour to meet its objectives abstracted from implementation
- An object model of the ***system*** describing the semantics of information and of information processing in the *system* in terms of:
  - *information objects*
  - *invariant schema* - predicates on *information objects* that must always be true
  - *static schema* - state of *information objects* at some *location in time*
  - *dynamic schema* - allowable state changes of *information objects*

The computational specification

- Specifies computational structure in terms of units of functionality and distribution and their interactions
- An object model of the ***system*** describing the structure of processing in terms of:
  - *computational objects*
  - *interfaces*: operations supported
  - *invocations*: operations invoked
  - *computational bindings*
  - *environmental contracts*: *QoS* constraints
  - …

The engineering specification

- Specifies the mechanisms and services to provide the distribution transparencies and meet QoS constraints required by the system
- An object model of the system describing the infrastructure supporting the computational structure
  - *basic engineering objects*
  - *(infrastructure) engineering objects*
  - *clusters, capsules, nodes*
  - *channels*
  - *functions*

The technology specification

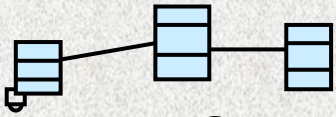
- Specifies the hardware and software pieces from which the system is built.
- An object model of the system
  - defining the configuration of *technology objects* that comprise the ODP system, and the *interfaces* between them
  - identifying *conformance points*

An ODP system specification

- business context
- business processes

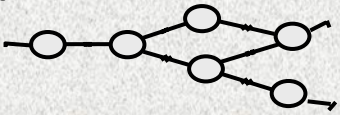
Enterprise

- information
- changes to information
- constraints



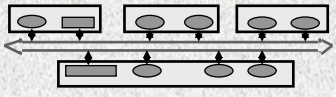
Information

- object configuration
- interactions between objects at interfaces



Computational

- mechanisms and services to provide the required distribution transparencies and QoS constraints.

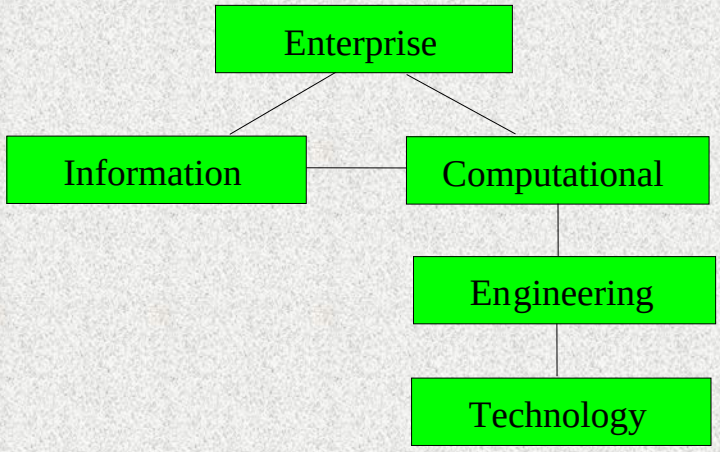


Engineering

- hardware and software components implementing the system

Technology

Correspondences between ODP views



UML for ODP system specifications

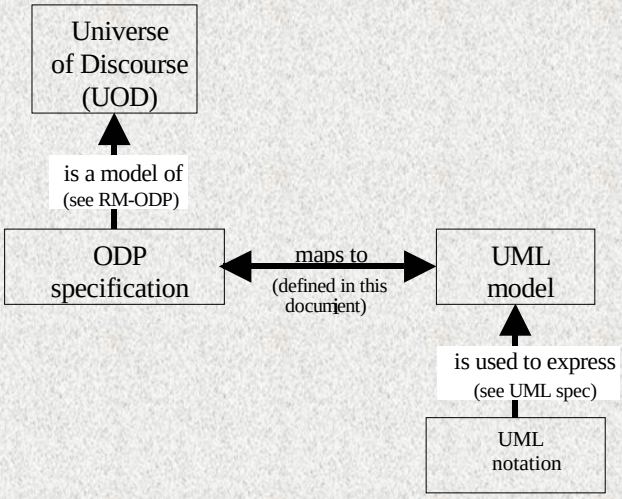
- A standard defining:
  - a set of UML Profiles for expressing a system specification in terms of viewpoint specifications
  - possible relationships between the resultant ODP viewpoint specifications, and how they are represented
  - the structure of a system specification expressed as a set of UML models using ODP viewpoint profiles
- A standard that enables the use of MDA tools in developing and maintaining ODP system specifications

ITU-T Rec. X. 906 | ISO/IEC 19793 Use of UML for ODP system specifications

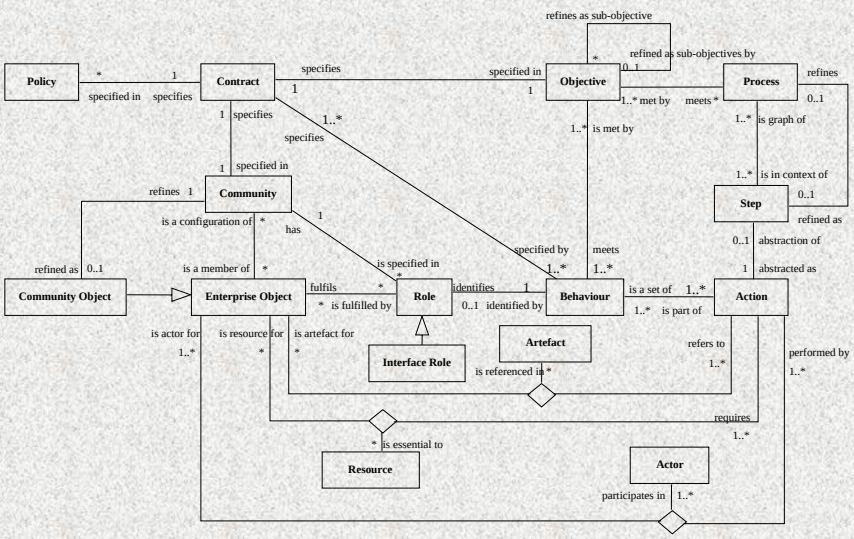
UML for ODP system specifications

- Why?
  - RM-ODP is notation- and methodology- independent
  - Which is an advantage (a-priori) ...
  - ...but hampers its widespread adoption and use
- Target audiences for ISO/IEC 19793
  - UML Modellers
    - who need to structure (somehow) LARGE system specifications
  - ODP Modellers
    - who need some (graphical) notation for expressing their ODP specifications and tool support
  - Tool vendors

UML Profiles for ODP Viewpoint Languages



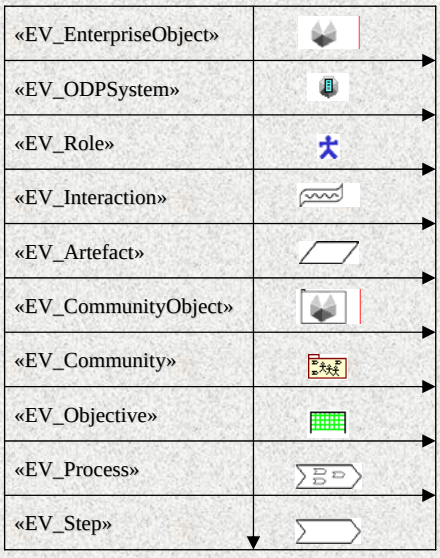
Enterprise metamodel (excerpt)



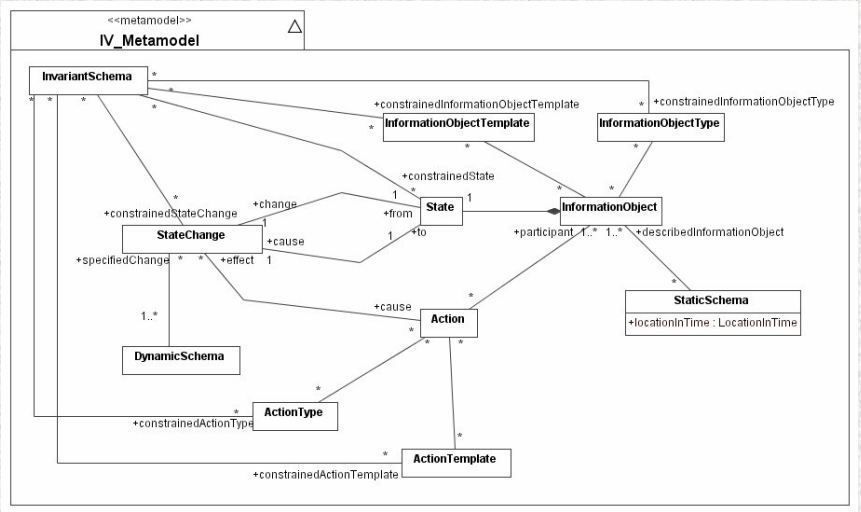
UML Profile – Enterprise lang. (excerpt)

Concept	Stereotype	UML Metaclass
ODP System	«EV_ODPSystem»	Class
Field of Application	«EV_FieldOfApplication»	Comment attached to Package
Community	«EV_Community»	Subsystem
Enterprise Object	«EV_EnterpriseObject»	Class
Enterprise Object fulfilling Role	«EV_FulfilsRole»	Association
Community Object	«EV_CommunityObject»	Class
Objective	«EV_Objective»	Class
Role	«EV_Role»	Class, StateMachine (in role model), Partition (in process model)
Action	«EV_Action»	State
Interaction	«EV_Interaction»	Class, StateMachine, ActivityGraph
Process	«EV_Process»	Class, ActivityGraph
Step	«EV_Step»	ActionState
Artefact	«EV_Artefact»	ObjectFlowState (in process model), Signal (in role model)

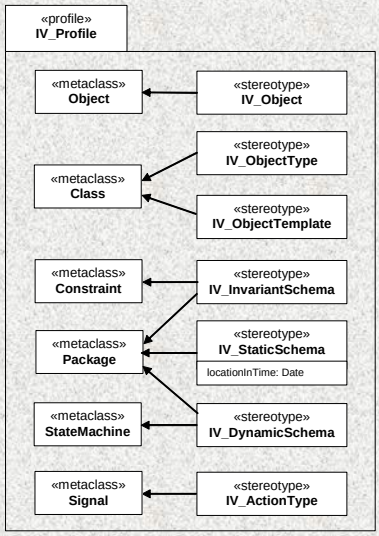
UML Profile – Enterprise lang. (icons)



Information Language metamodel



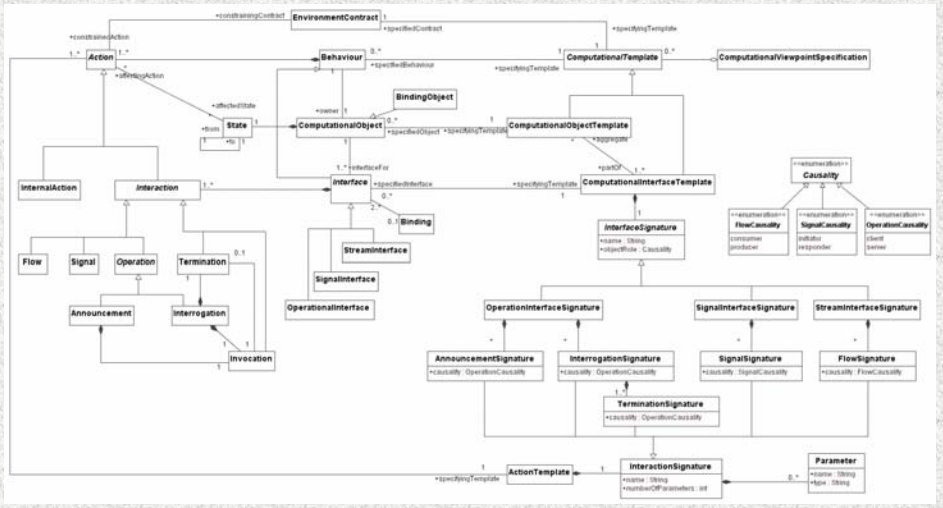
UML Profile – Information Language



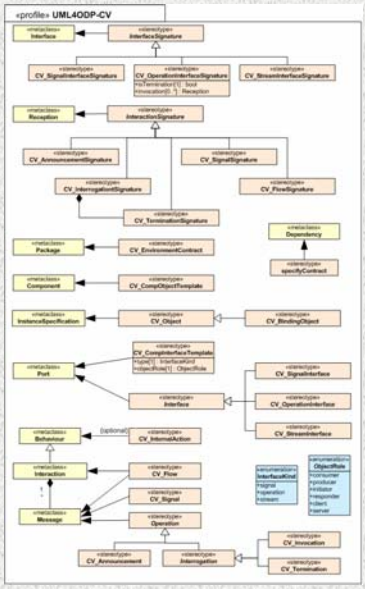
UML Profile – Information lang. (icons)

«Information_Spec»	
«IV_InformationObject»	
«IV_InformationObjectType»	
«IV_ActionType»	
«IV_InvariantSchema»	
« IV_StaticSchema»	
« IV_DynamicSchema»	

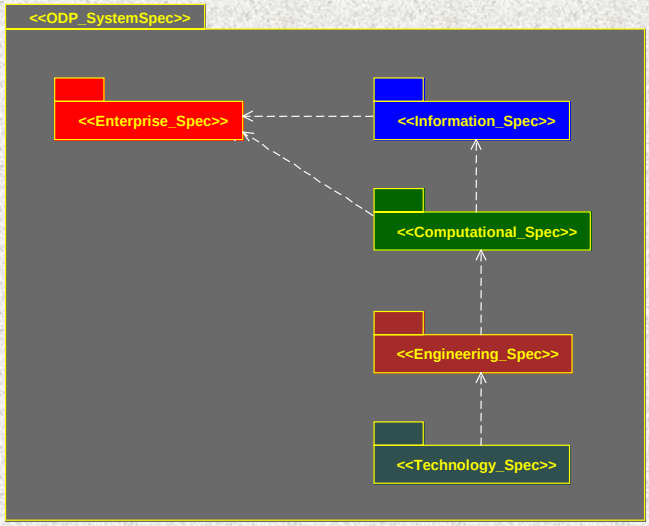
Computational Language metamodel



UML Profile – Computational Language



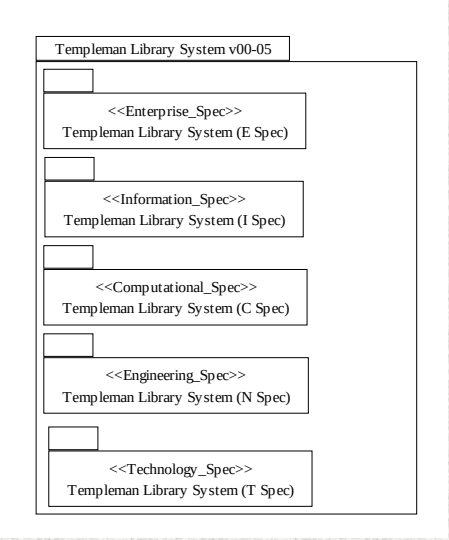
ODP System specification structure



Proof of concept: the Templeman Library

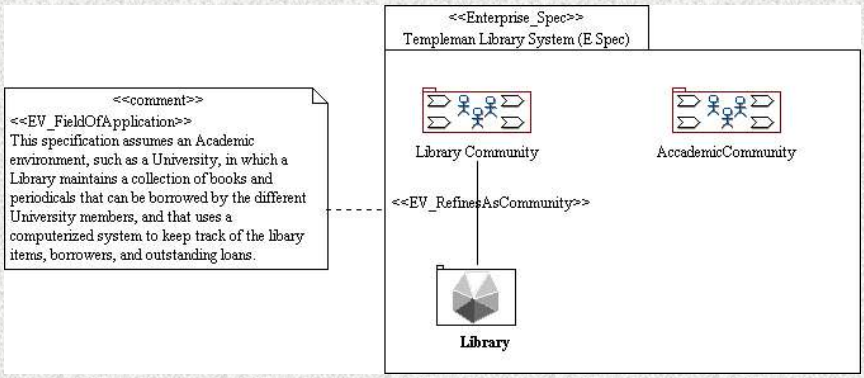
- The standard will include, as an example, a partial specification for a computerized system that supports the operations of a University Library, in particular those related to the borrowing process of the Library items.
- The system should keep track of the items of the University Library, its borrowers, and their outstanding loans.
- The library system will be used by the library staff (librarian and assistants) to help them record loans, returns, etc.

UML specification of the ODP system

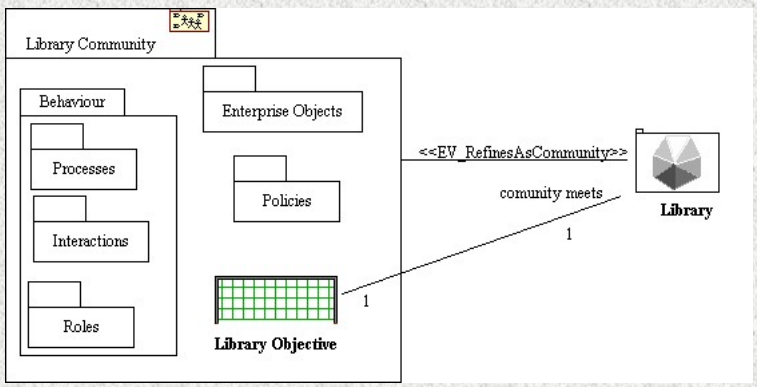


Enterprise Specification

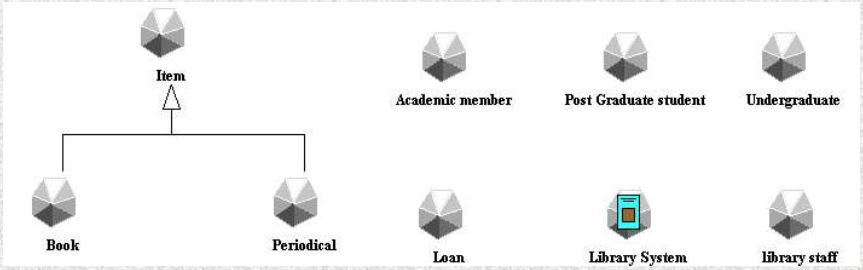
Enterprise spec – Global



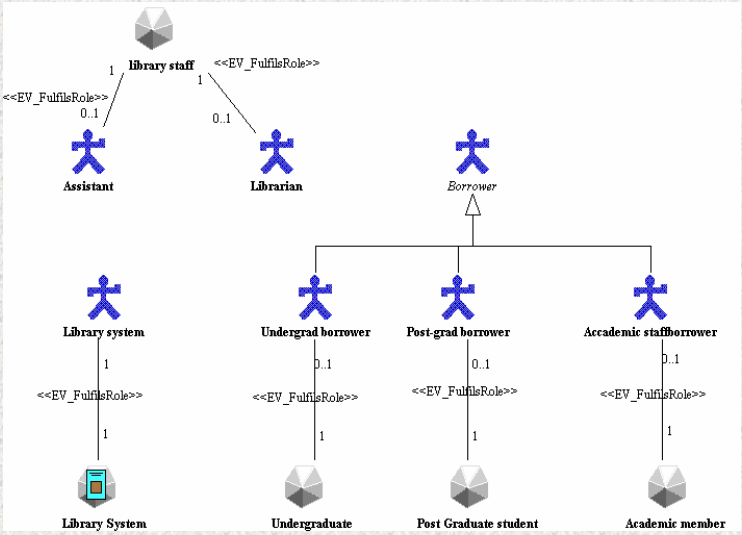
Enterprise spec – Library Community



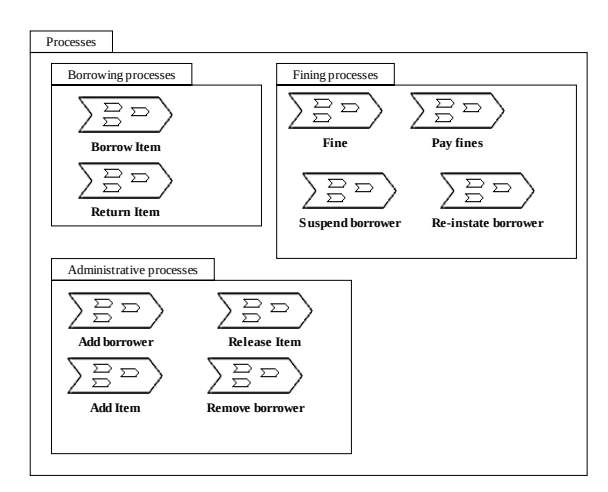
Enterprise spec – enterprise objects



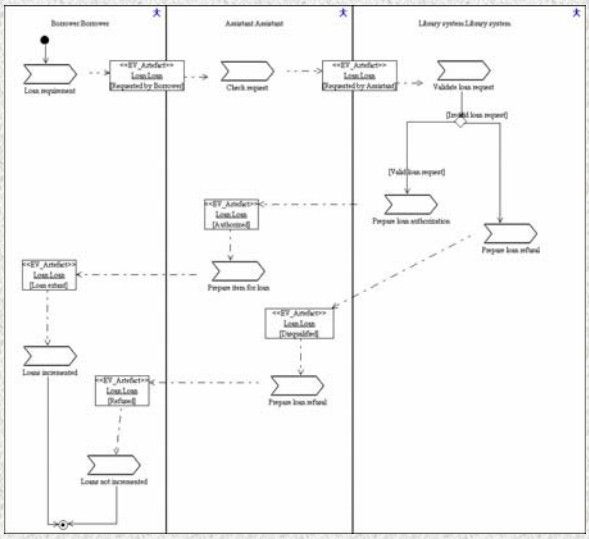
Enterprise spec – Role fulfilment



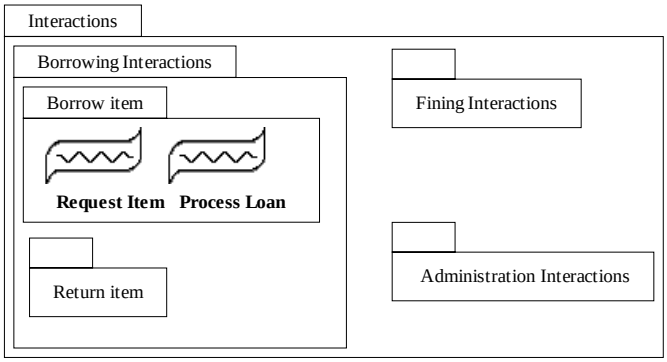
Enterprise spec – Processes



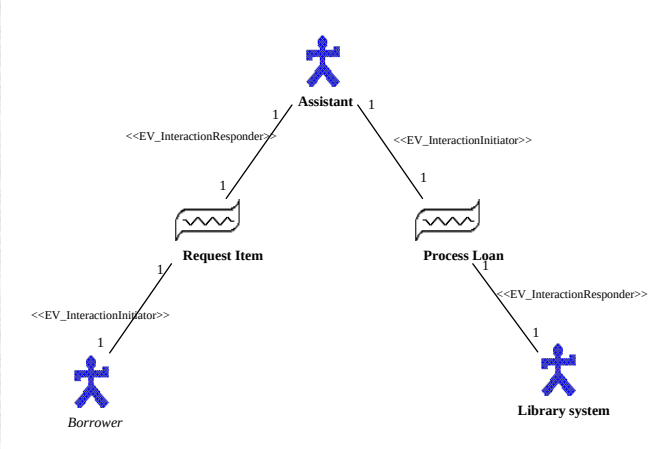
Enterprise spec – Activity graph - Borrow Item



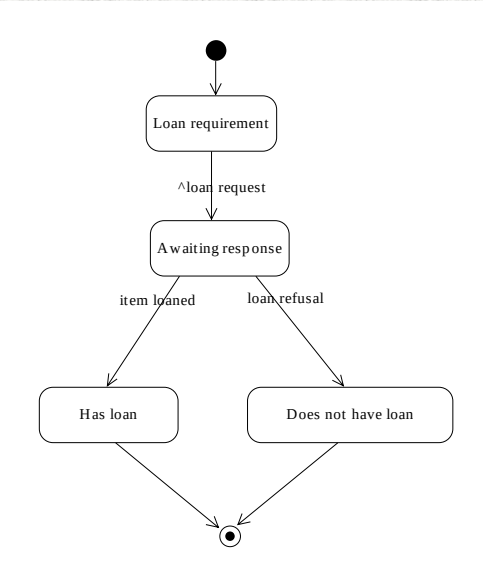
Enterprise spec – Interactions



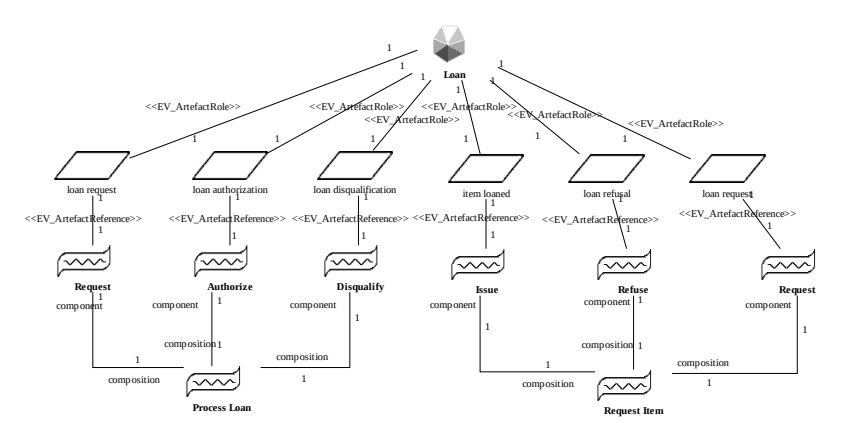
Enterprise spec – Request Item interactions



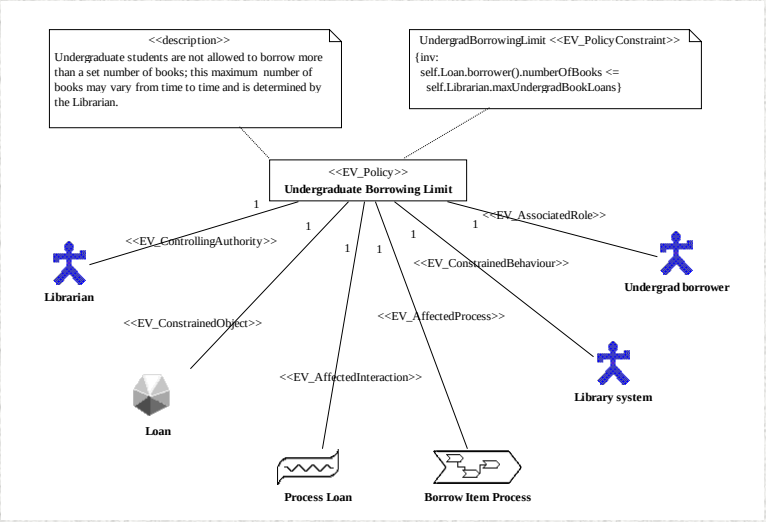
Enterprise spec – state diagram for Borrower role



Enterprise spec – Artefact roles of Loan

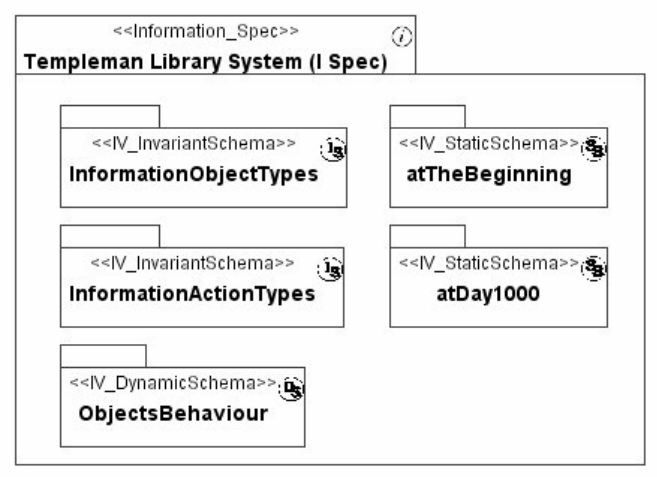


Enterprise spec – Policies

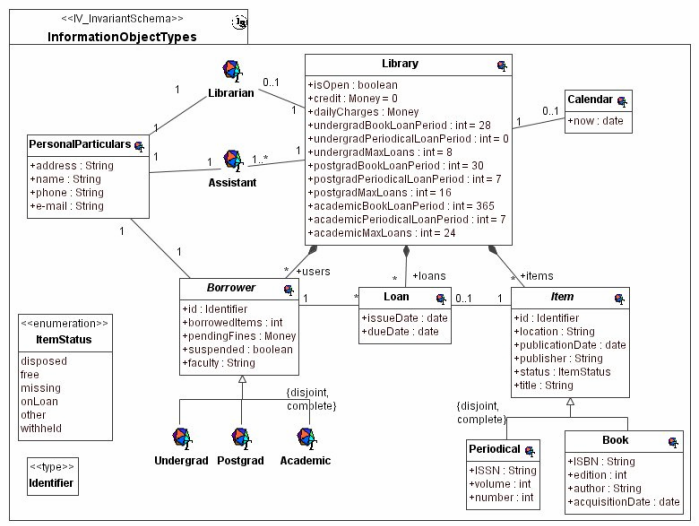


Information Specification

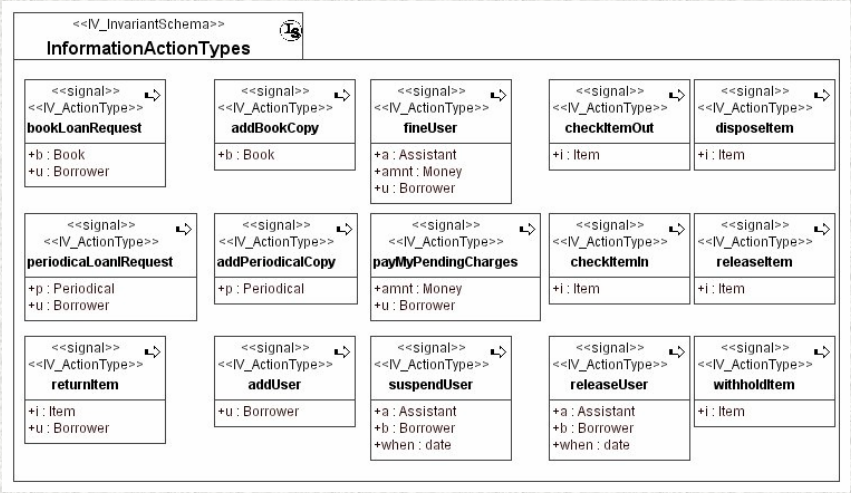
Information specification



Information spec – Object types



Information spec – Action types



Information spec – invariant schemata

context Library **inv** undergradLimits:
(undergradMaxLoans = 8) **and**
(undergradBookLoanPeriod = 28) **and**
(undergradPeriodicalLoanPeriod = 0)

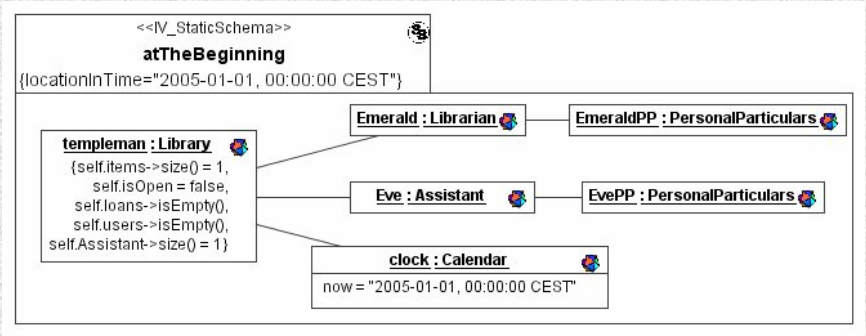
context Library **inv** uniqueIdentifiers:
self.items->**forAll**(itm1,itm2 | itm1.id <> itm2.id) **and**
self.users->**forAll**(usr1,usr2 | usr1.id <> usr2.id)

context Library **inv** oneLibrarianAndOneClockWhileOpen:
self.isOpen **implies**
(self.Librarian->**size**() = 1) **and** (self.Calendar->**size**() = 1)

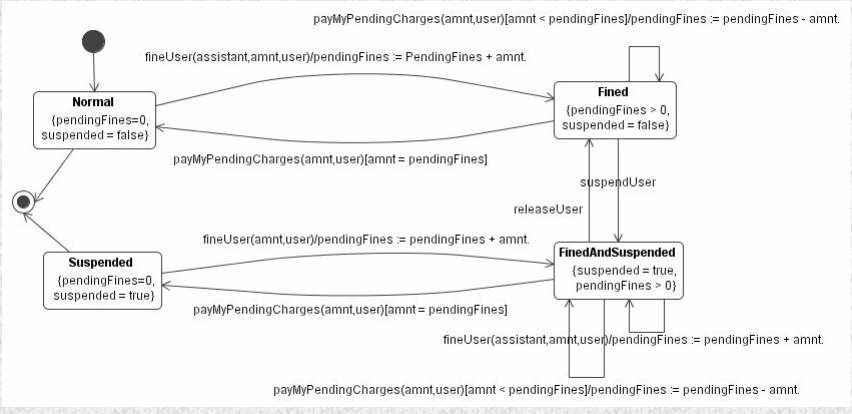
context Library **inv** consistentNumberOfLoans:
self.users.borrowedItems->**sum**() = self.loans->**size**()

context Loan **inv** wellFormedLoans: issueDate <= dueDate

Information spec – Static schema



Information spec – Dynamic schema



ODP in MDA system specifications

What is MDA…

- An approach to system development using models as a basis for understanding, design, construction, deployment, operation, maintenance and modification
- Three essential elements:
  - specifying a system independently of the platform that supports it,
  - specifying platforms,
  - transforming the system specification into one for a particular choice of platform.
- Three primary goals: portability, interoperability and reusability
- Prescribes the kinds of model to be used in specifying a system, how those models are prepared and the relationships between them

What MDA does

- Identifies different viewpoints on a system
  - different abstractions - reflecting different concerns
  - providing a way of dealing with system complexity
- Specifies three kinds of viewpoint model for a system:
  - a *computation independent model (CIM)*: a view of a system that specifies its function without specifying details of its structure
  - a *platform independent model (PIM)*: a view of a system that specifies its computational structure independent of any specific platform - usable with different platforms of similar type.
  - a *platform specific model (PSM)*: a view of a system that combines the specifications in the PIM with a specification of the use of a particular type of platform.
- Specifies transformations between models

What MDA does not do

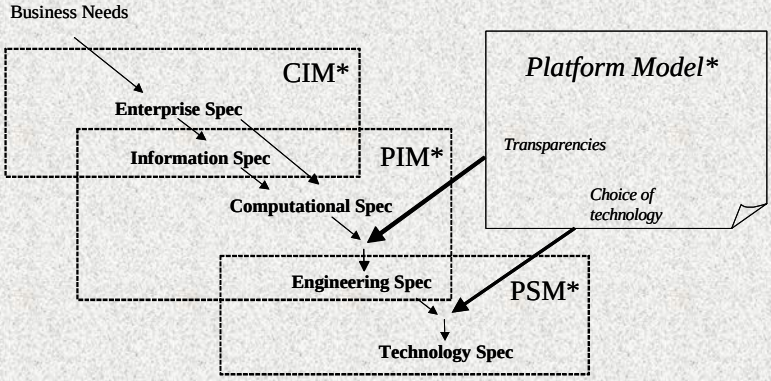
MDA does not offer:

- a definition of the concerns and design decisions to be covered by each MDA model
- language constructs to express the concerns and decisions covered by each MDA model

… but ODP can offer:

- a definition of the concerns and design decisions to be covered by each MDA model
- language constructs to express the concerns and decisions covered by each MDA model

ODP system specifications and the MDA



Note: Terms with "*" are from MDA Guide

(from draft for ISO/IEC 19793)

ODP and MDA together offer

An IT based approach to system development that provides a framework for:

- separating and integrating different system concerns
- combining skills and experience
- assigning responsibilities
- automating development

(Some) Sources

- Japanese Association of Healthcare Information System Industry (JAHIS) - Hospital Information Reference Enterprise Model project
- European research projects:
  - e.g. COMBINE - investigating the organisation and process for component-based system development
- Industrial Practice
- OMG
  - UML profile for Enterprise Distributed Object Computing (EDOC)
- A worked example for the standard

X.906 | ISO/IEC 19793 Progress and Targets

Start of Project	May 2003	
SC7 WD	May 2004	SC7 meeting
1st CD	Dec 2004	
FCD	May 2005	SC7 meeting
FDIS	Dec 2005	
IS	May 2006	SC7 meeting

Current WD is available as ISO-sols/04-06-01

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Questions ?