
Software Process Engineering Metamodel Specification

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An Adopted Specification of the Object Management Group, Inc.

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Preface

About the Object Management Group

The Object Management Group, Inc. (OMG) is an international organization supported by over 600 members, including information system vendors, software developers and users. Founded in 1989, the OMG promotes the theory and practice of object-oriented technology in software development. The organization's charter includes the establishment of industry guidelines and object management specifications to provide a common framework for application development. Primary goals are the reusability, portability, and interoperability of object-based software in distributed, heterogeneous environments. Conformance to these specifications will make it possible to develop a heterogeneous applications environment across all major hardware platforms and operating systems.

OMG's objectives are to foster the growth of object technology and influence its direction by establishing the Object Management Architecture (OMA). The OMA provides the conceptual infrastructure upon which all OMG specifications are based. More information is available at <http://www.omg.org/>.

OMG Documents

The OMG Specifications Catalog is available from the OMG website at:

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The OMG documentation is organized as follows:

OMG Modeling Specifications

Includes the UML, MOF, XMI, and CWM specifications.

OMG Middleware Specifications

Includes CORBA/IIOP, IDL/Language Mappings, Specialized CORBA specifications, and CORBA Component Model (CCM).

Platform Specific Model and Interface Specifications

Includes CORBA services, CORBA facilities, OMG Domain specifications, OMG Embedded Intelligence specifications, and OMG Security specifications.

Obtaining OMG Documents

The OMG collects information for each book in the documentation set by issuing Requests for Information, Requests for Proposals, and Requests for Comment and, with its membership, evaluating the responses. Specifications are adopted as standards only when representatives of the OMG membership accept them as such by vote. (The policies and procedures of the OMG are described in detail in the *Object Management Architecture Guide*.) OMG formal documents are available from our web site in PostScript and PDF format. Contact the Object Management Group, Inc. at:

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The type styles shown below are used in this document to distinguish programming statements from ordinary English. However, these conventions are not used in tables or section headings where no distinction is necessary.

Helvetica bold - OMG Interface Definition Language (OMG IDL) and syntax elements.

Courier bold - Programming language elements.

Helvetica - Exceptions

Terms that appear in italics are defined in the glossary. Italic text also represents the name of a document, specification, or other publication.

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1.1 Overview

This document presents the *Software Process Engineering Metamodel* (SPEM). This metamodel is used to describe a concrete software development process or a family of related software development processes. Process enactment is outside the scope of SPEM, although some examples of enactment are included for explanatory purposes.

1.2 Modeling Approach

We take an object-oriented approach to modeling a family of related software processes and we use the UML as a notation. Figure 1-1 shows the four-layered architecture of modeling as defined by the OMG. A performing process—that is, the real-world production process—as it is enacted, is at level M0. The definition of the corresponding process is at level M1. For example, the Rational Unified Process 2001

(RUP2001), DMR Macroscope, the IBM Global Services Method and Fujitsu SDEM are defined at level M1. Both a generic process like RUP and a specific customization of this process used by a given project, are at level M1. We focus here on the metamodel, which stands at level M2 and serves as a template for level M1.

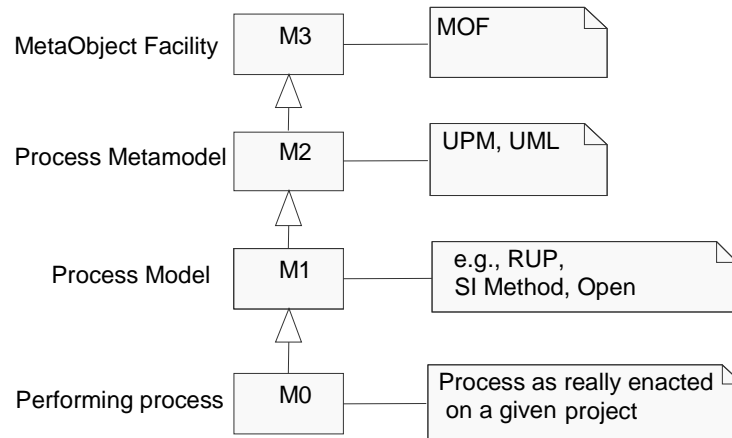


Figure 1-1 Levels of modeling

The SPEM specification is structured as a UML profile, and provides a complete MOF-based metamodel. This approach facilitates exchange with both UML tools and MOF-based tools/repositories.

1.3 Scope

The SPEM is a metamodel for defining processes and their components. A tool based on SPEM would be a tool for process authoring and customizing. The actual enactment of processes—that is, planning and executing a project using a process described with SPEM, is not in the scope of this model.

In this specification, we are limiting ourselves to defining the minimal set of process modeling elements necessary to describe any software development process, without adding specific models or constraints for any specific area or discipline, such as project management or analysis.

We believe this is the appropriate approach for the software-process engineering domain, and any attempt to standardize a more complex and detailed model at this time would be both unwise and ineffective. The standard wants to *accommodate* a large range of existing and described software development processes, and not *exclude* them by having too many features or constraints.

1.4 Terminology

There are a large number of process models and standards. Each one uses slightly different terminology, sometimes with different meaning for the same English word or phrase. For example, a ‘phase’ in Fusion [13] is called a ‘core workflow’ in the

Rational Unified Process (RUP) [1] and a ‘domain’ in IBM’s Global Services Method. We will designate it as a ‘discipline’ here. OPEN [4] and the Rational Unified Process [1] both use the word ‘activity’ but with a different meaning. We have provided “translations” (aliases or synonyms) to help in understanding. This also allows the naming of various process elements by the appropriate term in various languages: Japanese, French, and so on. See Appendix B for a comparison table and the Glossary.

1.5 Relationships to Other OMG Specifications

The Unified Modeling Language (UML) is a graphical language for modeling discrete systems. Although the UML is not necessarily tied to any particular application area or modeling process, its greatest applicability is in the area of object-oriented software design. Version 1.1 of the UML was submitted to the Object Management Group in September 1997 in response to an OMG RFP requesting a standard approach to object-oriented modeling. The proposal was ratified by the OMG in November 1997. Version 1.3 of the UML was finalized in June 1999. UML 1.4 (January 2001) is the version referred to throughout this document.

The UML is defined by a metamodel, which is itself defined as an instance of the MOF (Meta-Object Facility) metamodel. A subset of the UML graphical notation is used to depict this metamodel. The SPEM metamodel is defined similarly, and is formally defined as an extension of a subset of UML called SPEM_Foundation. Chapter 2 describes SPEM_Foundation in detail.

The purpose of the Software Process Engineering Metamodel (SPEM) is to support the definition of software development processes specifically including those processes that involve or mandate the use of UML, such as the Rational Unified Process®.

1.5.1 UML Profile

A UML profile is a kind of variant of UML that uses the extension mechanisms of UML in a standardized way, for a particular purpose.

The UML 1.4 semantics (OMG document ad/01-02-13)) provides the following definition in the section 2.14.4 “Semantics:”

A profile stereotype of Package contains one or more related extensions of standard UML semantics (refer to Section 2.6, “Extension Mechanisms”). These are normally intended to customize UML for a particular domain or purpose. Profiles can contain stereotypes, tag definitions, and constraints. They can also contain data types that are used by tag definitions for informally declaring the types of the values that can be associated with tag definitions.

In addition, a profile package can specify a related model library and identify a subset of the UML metamodel that is applicable for the profile. In principle, profiles merely refine the standard semantics of UML by adding further constraints and interpretations that capture domain-specific semantics and modeling patterns. They do not add any new fundamental concepts.

The SPEM is defined both as a metamodel and as a UML profile, which allows SPEM modelers to use the UML as a concrete notation. Chapter 11 of this specification discusses the profile.

1.5.2 MOF 1.3 and XMI

The Meta-Object Facility (MOF) is the OMG's adopted technology for defining metadata and representing it as CORBA objects. The MOF 1.3 specification was finalized in September 1999 (OMG document ad/99-09-05). A MOF metamodel defines the abstract syntax of the metadata in the MOF representation of a model. The MOF model itself describes the abstract syntax for representing MOF metamodels. MOF metamodels can be represented using a subset of UML syntax.

In addition to defining SPEM as a UML profile, it is defined as a MOF metamodel, based on a subset of UML. This gives a more restricted version of SPEM, in which the basic SPE elements can be described, without some of the diagramming and structuring facilities, which are added by the profile version of SPEM. Chapter 11 describes the additional facilities gained when SPEM is treated as a UML profile.

XMI (XML Metadata Interchange) is the OMG's adopted technology for interchanging models in a serialized form (OMG document ad/98-10-05). XMI version 1.1 was formally adopted by the OMG in February 2000 (OMG document ad/99-10-04). XMI focuses on the interchange of MOF metadata; that is, metadata conforming to a MOF metamodel.

XMI is based on the W3C's eXtensible Markup Language (XML) and has two major components:

- The XML DTD Production Rules for producing XML Document Type Definitions (DTDs) for XMI encoded metadata. XMI DTDs serve as syntax specifications for XML documents, and allow generic XML tools to be used to compose and validate XMI documents.
- The XML Document Production Rules for encoding metadata into an XML compatible format. The production rules can be applied in reverse to decode XMI documents and reconstruct the metadata.

XMI can be used to manipulate the SPEM metamodel as follows:

- To create a SPEM Document Type Definition.
- To transfer process models based on SPEM as XML documents, either by describing the model as a direct SPEM instance (usage of the SPEM DTD) or by describing it as a UML model conforming to the UML profile for SPEM (usage of the UML DTD).
- To transform the SPEM metamodel itself into an XML document, based on the MOF DTD, for interchange between MOF-compliant repositories.

OMG documents ptc/2002-05-05 and ptc/2002-05-06 contain the normative DTD and MOF XMI for the SPEM.

1.5.3 Workflow

Within the OMG there are three initiatives that come under this heading.

The first is the Joint Workflow Management Facility (OMG document bom/99-03-01). The scope of this facility is workflow enactment and it supports Workflow Client Applications, Interoperability, and Process Monitoring as described in the Workflow Reference Model. None of these areas overlaps the SPEM specification, which addresses the domain of process description, not process enactment.

The second is the Workflow Resource Assignment Interfaces RFP (OMG document bom/2000-01-03), which asks for submissions to extend the capabilities of the adopted workflow management specification in the areas of the assignment and selection of resources. The scope of this facility is also process enactment and so does not overlap the SPEM specification.

The third area of interest is Process Definition. At this time no request for proposals has been issued. The matter is still under consideration, pending discussions within the UML RTF and the UML 2.0 working group about how UML Activity Diagrams will be supported and/or extended. This discussion somewhat overlaps the scope of the current specification.

1.5.4 Proof of Concept

The (meta)model and the UML Profile presented here supports at least the Rational Unified Process, DMR Macroscopic, IBM's Global Services Method and the Unisys QuadCycle method. Examples throughout the text show how particular elements in the model are used in these and other processes. The SPEM is supported by the Rational Process Workbench (RPW), which is a process authoring tool based on UML. The SPEM profile has been implemented using the "Objecteering/UML Profile Builder" tool of SOFTEAM, and then applied to the "Objecteering/UML Modeler" tool, which has been used as a "SPEM modeler" to represent various processes. All the SPEM extensions have been implemented with most of the SPEM well-formedness rules. The SPEM metamodel server has been generated in the Unisys XMI/MOF tools. Finally see Appendix C for an example based on the DMR Macroscopic.

1.6 Compliance Points

When specifying their compliance to SPEM, vendors should refer to the compliance points defined in this section, and not loosely say they are "SPEM compliant." Being compliant to one point means that all elements belonging to this point are implemented. As a general rule, all elements defined in the SPEM metamodel (chapters 5 to 10) shall be supported except for the following optional elements:

- Kinds of Guidance (see Section 5.2, "Guidance," on page 5-2)
- Steps (see Section 7.3, "Activity and Step," on page 7-4)
- Discipline (see Section 8.4, "Discipline," on page 8-3)

Also it is not mandated that a SPEM implementation use the same terminology. Other terminologies, and natural languages other than English, can be used. In this case, a correspondence list must present a mapping of this terminology with the SPEM terminology.

The compliance points are as follow:

- **UML Profile for SPEM:** the compliant implementation shall implement all the UML parts extended by SPEM, and shall define all the SPEM extensions. The compliant specification should specify whether it implements the SPEM constraints by an automated check or not. A SPEM Profile compliant implementation shall provide the UML XMI exchange mechanism that supports all UML features extended by SPEM, and the UML extension mechanism (UML Profiles).
- **Metamodel:** the compliant implementation shall support the SPEM Metamodel, except possibly some of the optional elements as noted above.
- **MOF/XMI DTD:** the compliant specification should implement all the MOF based metamodel provided by the SPEM specification. It shall implement the XMI DTD specified by the SPEM standard.
- **Notation:** the compliant implementation shall recognizably support all the notation defined by the SPEM specification.

Any combination of the four compliance points can be used.

1.6.1 Examples

Implementers declare their SPEM compliance in the following form:

- The XXX tool is SPEM compliant (UML Profile for SPEM without constraint checks implementation, Notation).
- The XXX tool is SPEM compliant (Metamodel, MOF/XMI DTD, Notation).
- The XXX tool is SPEM compliant (Notation).

This list is not exhaustive.

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The SPEM stand-alone metamodel is built by extending a subset of the UML 1.4 physical metamodel. This UML subset is called SPEM_Foundation, as shown in Figure 2-1 on page 2-2. This chapter describes the content of the SPEM_Foundation package.

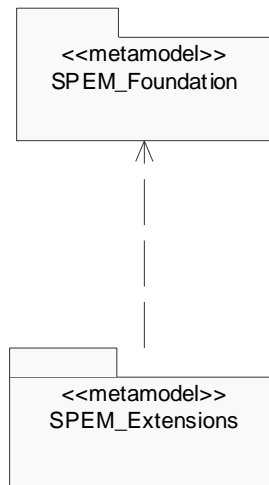


Figure 2-1 The SPEM_Foundation and SPEM_Extensions packages

2.1 SPEM_Foundation::Data_Types

The SPEM_Foundation::Data_Types package is a subset of the UML 1.4 Data_Types package, and contains definitions of the following data types as shown in Figure 2-2 on page 2-3: Integer, UnlimitedInteger, String, AggregationKind, Boolean, ParameterDirectionKind, PseudoStateKind, Name, Multiplicity and MultiplicityRange.

The Data_Types package also contains definitions of Expression and BooleanExpression as shown in Figure 2-3 on page 2-3. The SPEM Foundation data types and expressions are defined exactly as in UML 1.4 section 2.4.

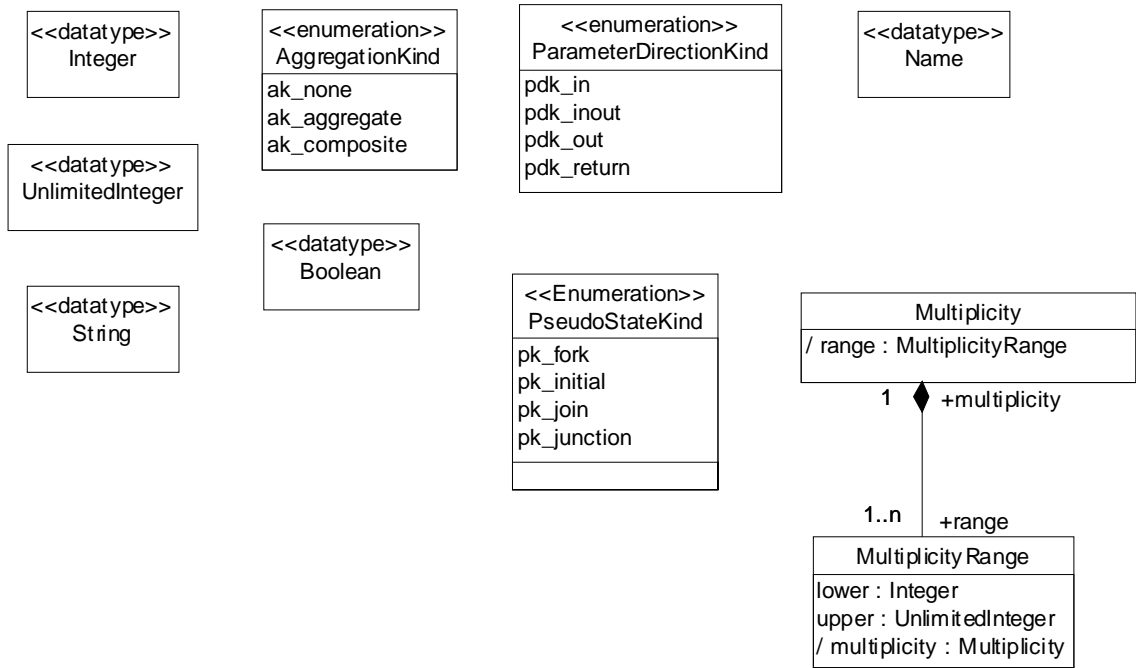


Figure 2-2 Foundation Data Types Package — Data Types

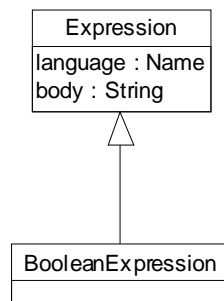


Figure 2-3 Foundation Data Types Package — Expressions

2.2 *SPEM_Foundation::Core*

The *SPEM_Foundation::Core* package is structured similarly to the UML 1.4 Core packages and is shown diagrammatically in the following figures. Figure 2-4 on page 2-5 shows the model elements that form the structural backbone of the metamodel.

Figure 2-5 on page 2-6 shows the model elements that define relationships. Figure 2-6 on page 2-6 shows the model elements that define dependencies. Figure 2-7 on page 2-7 shows the model elements that define auxiliary elements.

In each case, classes and associations have been omitted from the UML 1.4 metamodel, and in many cases attributes have been omitted from included classes. What remains are the parts of the UML 1.4 definition that are required to define SPEM models. These parts are defined exactly as in UML 1.4 section 2.5, except that some of the classes have been made abstract. There are also three small variations as follows:

- In Relationships (Figure 2-5 on page 2-6) the connection end of the association between *Association* and *AssociationEnd* has multiplicity 2, instead of the 2..* specified by UML 1.4. This is because only binary associations are supported by SPEM.
- In Dependencies (Figure 2-6 on page 2-6) the supplier and client associations between *Dependency* and *ModelElement* have multiplicity 1, instead of the 1..* specified by UML 1.4. This is because only binary dependencies are supported by SPEM.
- SPEM Associations are not Generalizable.

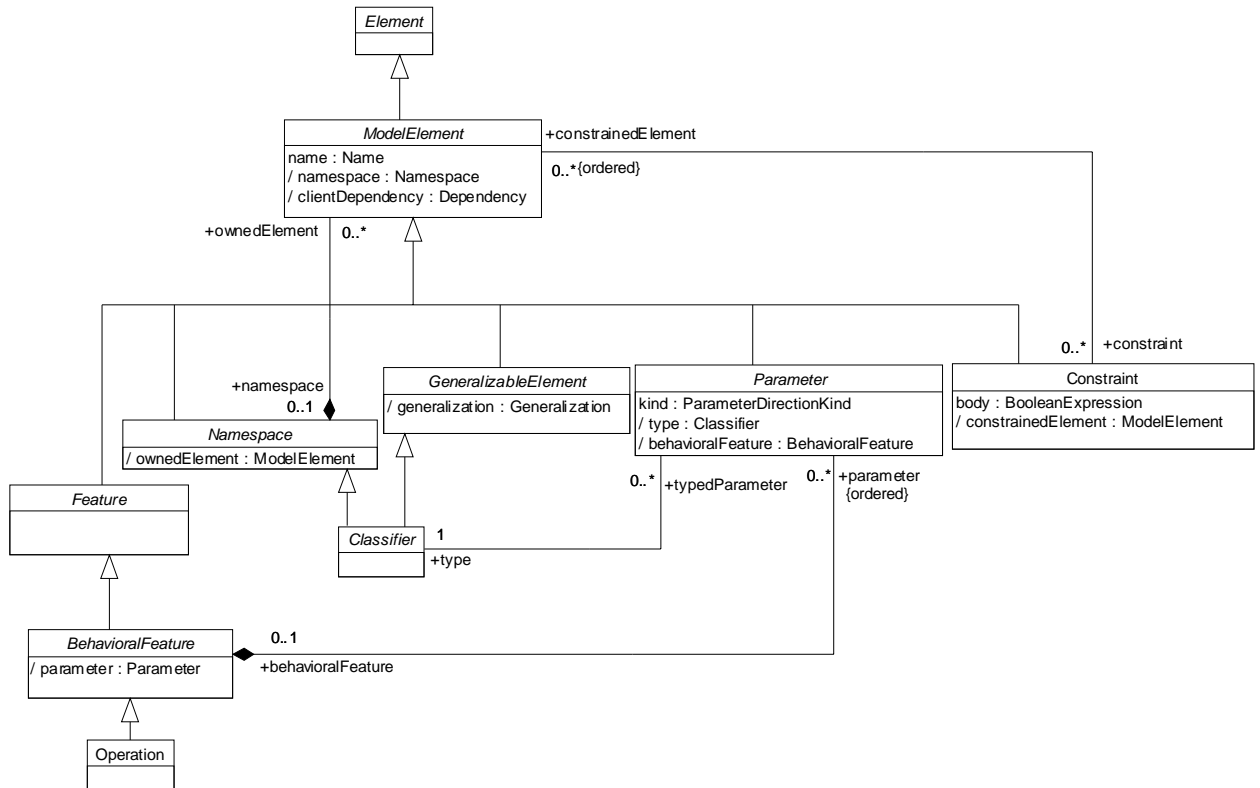


Figure 2-4 Foundation Core Package — Backbone

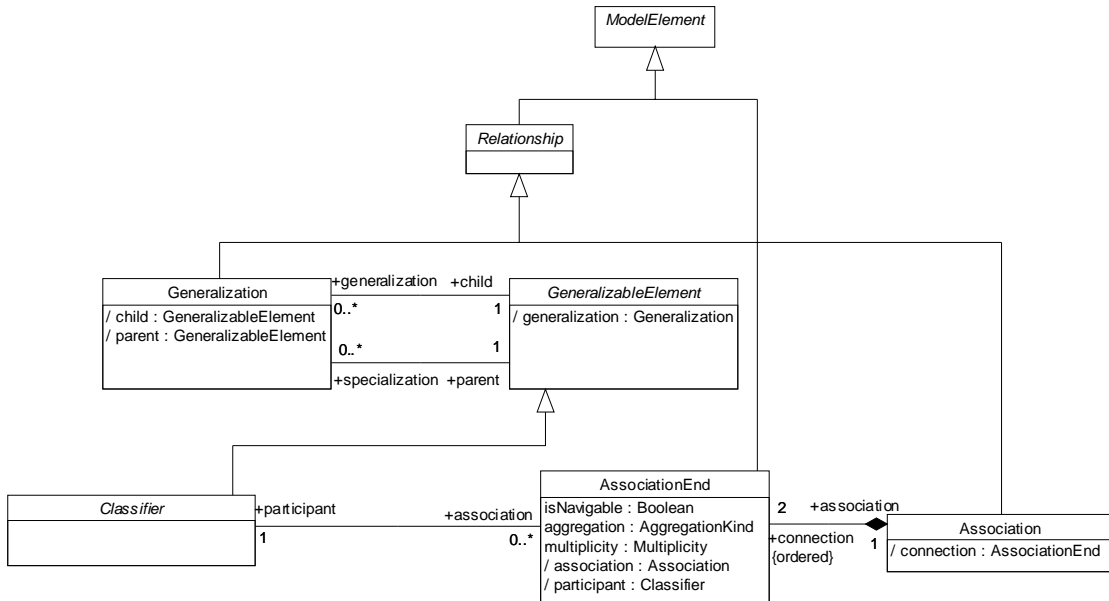


Figure 2-5 Foundation Core Package — Relationships

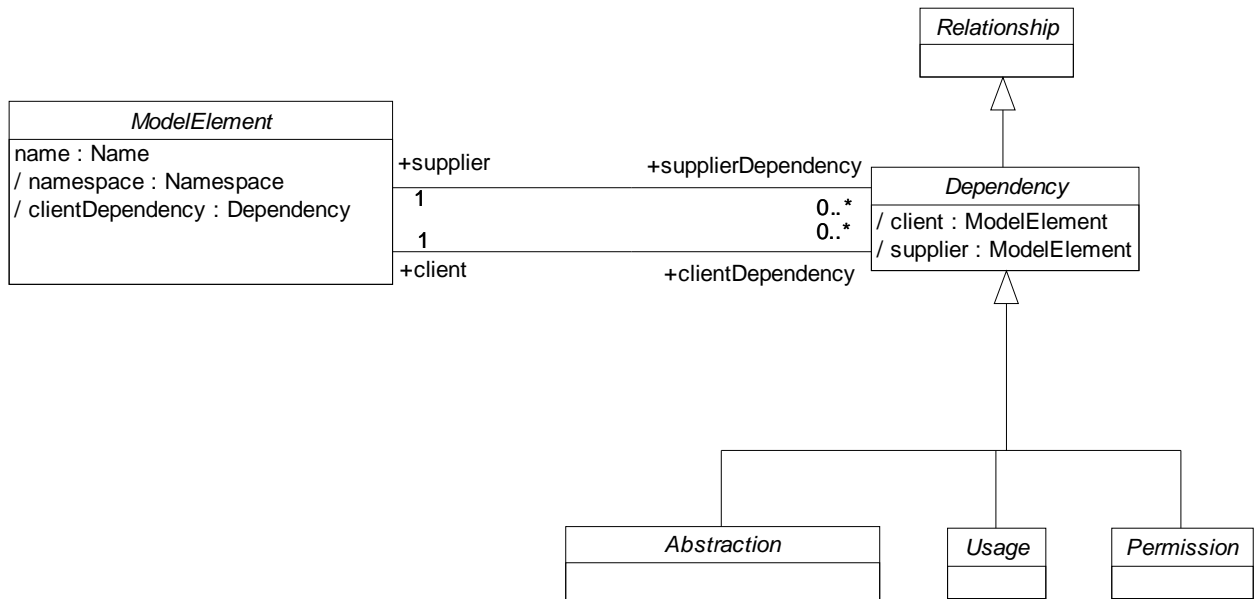


Figure 2-6 Foundation Core Package — Dependencies

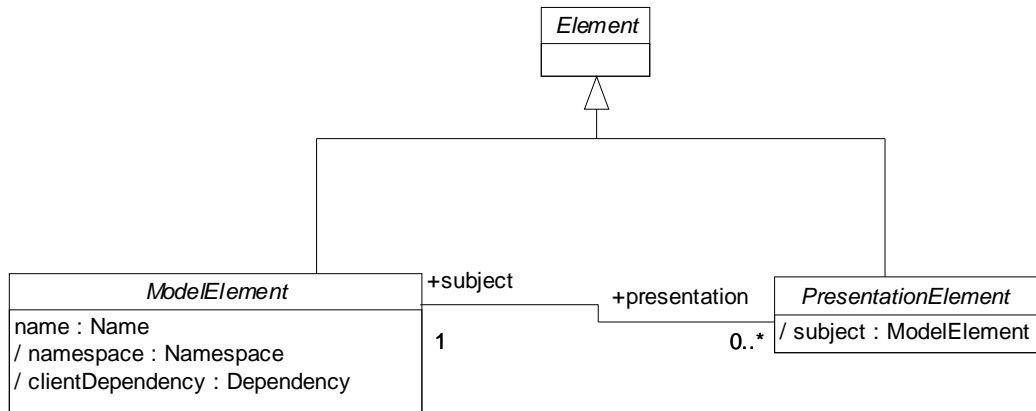


Figure 2-7 Foundation Core Package — Auxiliary Elements

2.3 SPEM_Foundation::Actions

The SPEM_Foundation::Actions package is a subset of the UML 1.4 Common_Behavior package, and is shown in Figure 2-8. The elements in this package are defined as in UML 1.4 section 2.9.

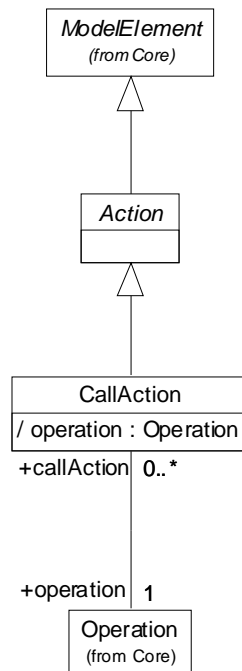


Figure 2-8 Foundation Actions Package.

2.4 SPEM_Foundation::State_Machines

The SPEM_Foundation::State_Machines package is a subset of the UML 1.4 State_Machines package, and is shown in Figure 2-9. The elements in this package are defined as in UML 1.4 section 2.12, with the exception that the context of a StateMachine is a composition, rather than a shared aggregation.

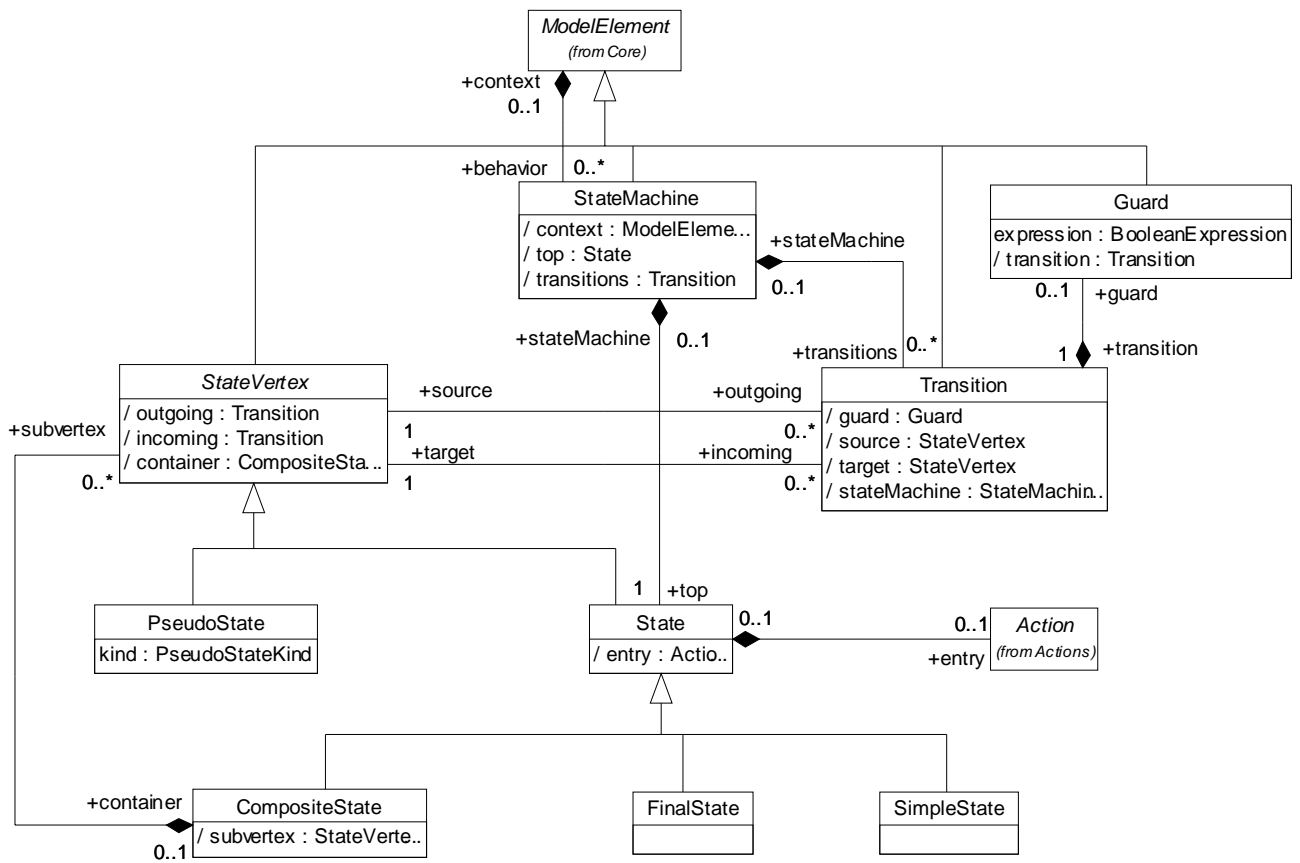


Figure 2-9 Foundation State Machines Package

2.5 SPEM_Foundation::Activity_Graphs

The SPEM_Foundation::Activity_Graphs package is a subset of the UML 1.4 Activity_Graphs package, and is shown in Figure 2-10. The elements in this package are defined as in UML 1.4 section 2.13.

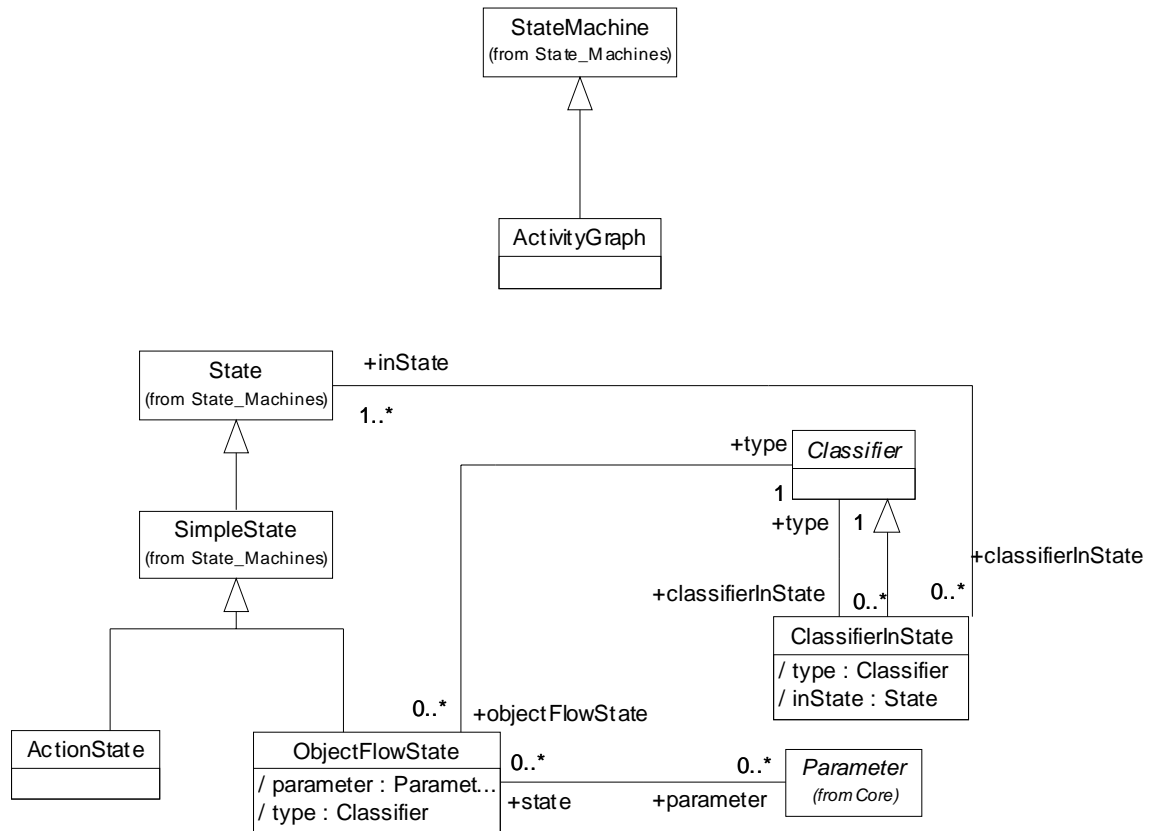


Figure 2-10 Foundation Activity Graphs Package

2.6 *SPEM_Foundation::Model_Management*

The *SPEM_Foundation::Model_Management* package is a subset of the UML 1.4 *Model_Management* package, and is shown in Figure 2-11. The elements in this package are defined exactly as in UML 1.4 section 2.14. Note that there is no *ElementImport* metaclass, used in UML to reify the concepts of aliasing and visibility; in SPEM there is no concept of visibility – all elements have public visibility - and elements imported into packages cannot be renamed.

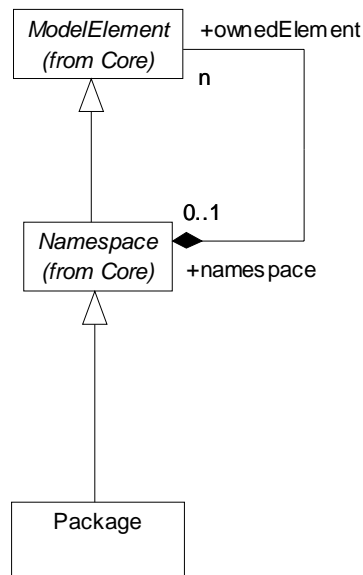


Figure 2-11 Foundation Model Management Package

2.7 *SPEM_Foundation Well-Formedness Rules*

The following well-formedness rules from the UML 1.4 specification apply to the *SPEM_Foundation* package. Numberings such as [2.5.3.26.1] are cross-references to the numbering of the well-formedness rules under the corresponding class in the UML 1.4 specification. OCL for these rules is found in the UML 1.4 specification.

2.7.1 *Namespace*

[C1][2.5.3.26.1]	If a contained element that is not an Association or Generalization has a name, then the name must be unique in the Namespace.
[C2][2.5.3.26.2]	All Associations must have a unique combination of name and associated Classifiers in the Namespace.

2.7.2 *GeneralizableElement*

[C3][2.5.3.20.3]	Circular inheritance is not allowed.
[C4][2.5.3.20.4]	The parent must be included in the Namespace of the GeneralizableElement.
[C5][2.5.3.20.5]	A GeneralizableElement may only be a child of GeneralizableElement of the same kind.

2.7.3 *Constraint*

[C6][2.5.3.11.1]	A Constraint cannot be applied to itself.
------------------	---

2.7.4 *Classifier*

[C7][2.5.3.8.3]	No opposite AssociationEnds may have the same name in a Classifier.
-----------------	---

2.7.5 *BehavioralFeature*

[C8][2.5.3.5.1]	All Parameters should have a unique name.
[C9][2.5.3.5.2]	The type of the Parameters should be included in the namespace of the Classifier.

2.7.6 *AssociationEnd*

[C10][2.5.3.3.2]	An Instance may not belong by composition to more than one composite Instance.
------------------	--

2.7.7 *Association*

[C11][2.5.3.1.1]	The AssociationEnds must have a unique name within the Association.
[C12][2.5.3.1.2]	At most one AssociationEnd may be an aggregation or composition.

2.7.8 CompositeState

[C13][2.12.3.11]	A composite state can have at most one initial vertex.
[C14][2.12.3.1.6]	The substates of a composite state are part of only that composite state.

2.7.9 FinalState

[C15][2.12.3.21]	A final state cannot have any outgoing transitions.
------------------	---

2.7.10 PseudoState

[C16][2.12.3.4.1]	An initial vertex can have at most one outgoing transition and no incoming transitions.
[C17][2.12.3.4.3]	A join vertex must have at least two incoming transitions and exactly one outgoing transition.
[C18][2.12.3.4.5]	A fork vertex must have at least two outgoing transitions and exactly one incoming transition.
[C19][2.12.3.4.7]	A junction vertex must have at least one incoming and one outgoing transition.
[C20][2.13.3.6.2]	All of the paths leaving a fork must eventually merge in a subsequent join. Furthermore, multiple layers of forks and joins must be well nested.

2.7.11 StateMachine

[C21][2.12.3.5.2]	A top state is always a composite.
[C22][2.12.3.5.3]	A top state cannot have any containing states.
[C23][2.12.3.5.4]	A top state cannot be the source of a transition.

2.7.12 ActivityGraph

[C24][2.13.3.1.1]	An ActivityGraph specifies the dynamics of (i) a Package, or (ii) a Classifier, or (iii) a BehavioralFeature.
-------------------	---

2.7.13 *ActionState*

[C25][2.13.3.2.1]	An <i>ActionState</i> has a non-empty entry action.
[C26]	The entry action of an <i>ActionState</i> is a call action. Note: this is a modified version of the UML 1.4 constraint on <i>CallState</i> . context <i>ActionState</i> inv: <code>self.entry.oclIsKindOf(CallAction)</code>

2.7.14 *ClassifierInState*

[C27][2.13.3.4.1]	Classifiers-in-state have no namespace contents.
-------------------	--

2.7.15 *ObjectFlowState*

[C28][2.13.3.5.1]	Parameters of an <i>ObjectFlowState</i> must have a type and direction compatible with the associated classifier.
[C29][2.13.3.5.2]	Downstream states must have entry actions that match.
[C30][2.13.3.5.3]	Upstream states must have entry actions that match.

At the core of the Software Process Engineering Metamodel (SPEM) is the idea that a software development process is a collaboration between abstract active entities called *process roles* that perform operations called *activities* on concrete, tangible entities called *work products* [20].

Figure 3-1 depicts this fundamental conceptual model using the UML notation for a class. Figure 3-1 and Figure 3-2 are not part of the specification and are given solely for explanatory reasons. They are intentionally very incomplete.

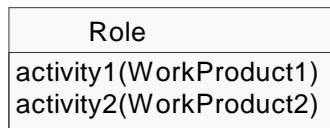


Figure 3-1 Conceptual Model

Multiple roles interact or collaborate by exchanging work products and triggering the execution, or enactment, of certain activities. The overall goal of a process is to bring a set of work products to a well-defined state.

From this model, a first step consists of “reifying” role, activity, and work product. This leads to the simple model shown in Figure 3-2.

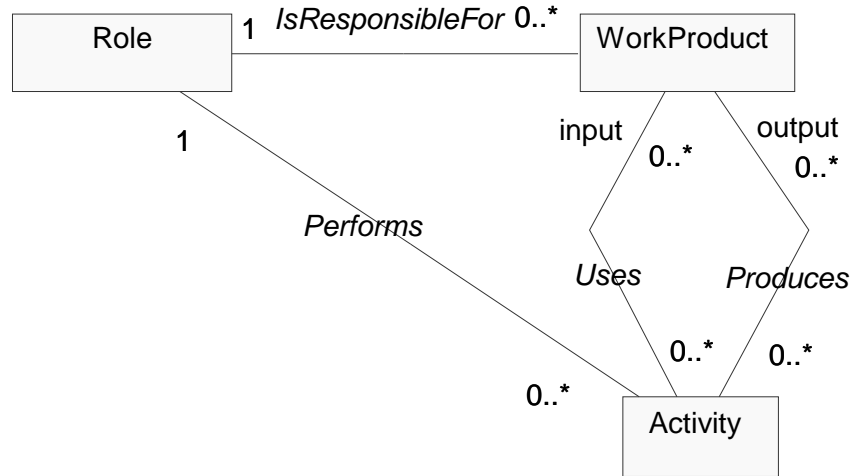


Figure 3-2 Reifying the Conceptual Model: Roles, Work Products, and Activities

Chapter 2 explained how SPEM is built from the SPEM_Foundation package, which is a subset of UML 1.4, and the SPEM_Extensions package, which adds the constructs and semantics required for software process engineering.

Figure 4-1 shows the internal structure of the SPEM_Extensions package, in terms of its sub-packages, and shows the dependencies among these packages and the SPEM_Foundations packages. We address each of the SPEM_Extensions subpackages in turn in the next five chapters: Basic Elements, Dependencies, Process Structure, Process Components, and Process Lifecycle.

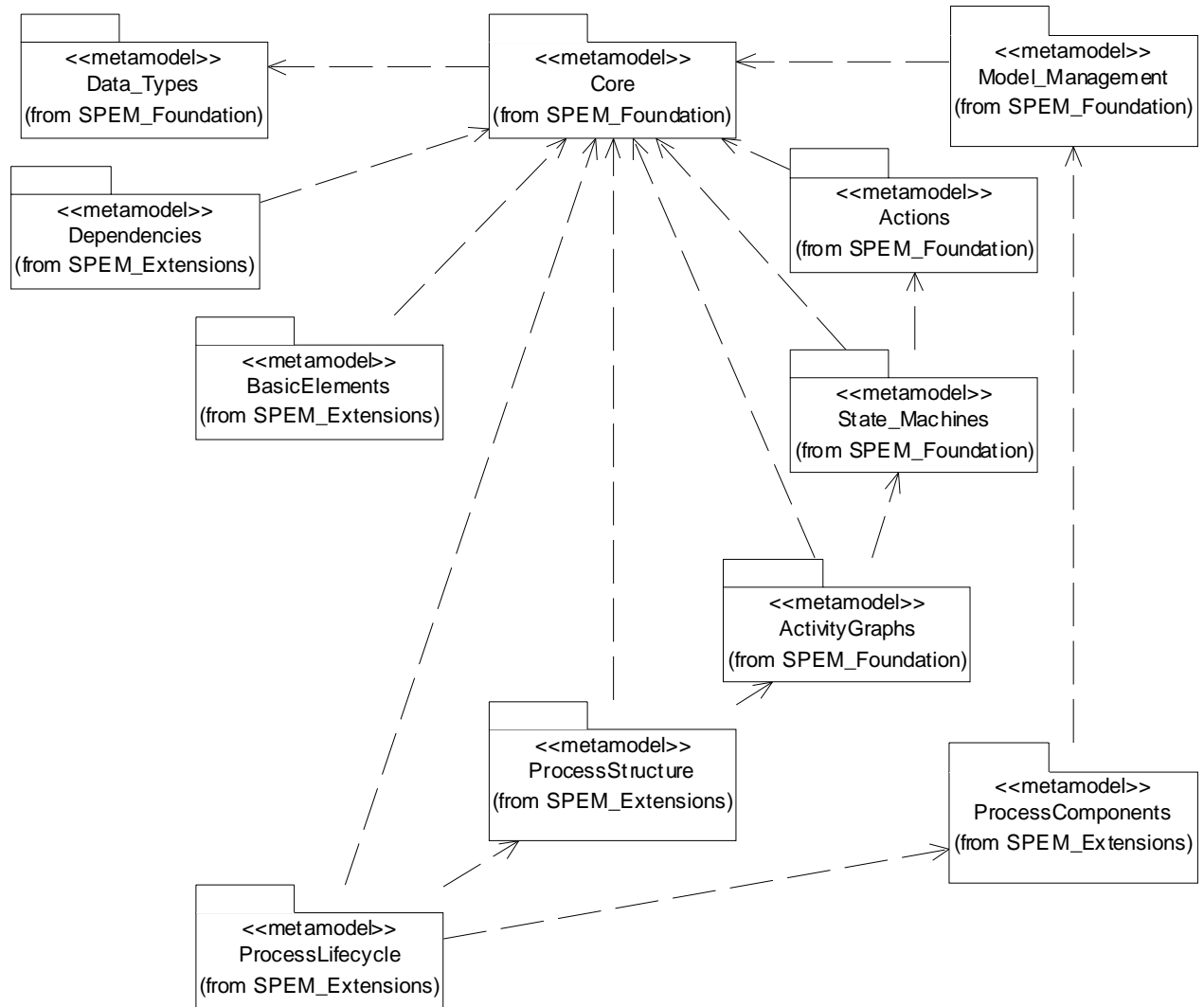


Figure 4-1 SPEM Package Structure

Contents

This chapter includes the following topics.

Topic	Page
“ExternalDescription”	5-1
“Guidance”	5-2

This package, detailed in Figure 5-1 on page 5-2, defines the basic elements used for process description.

5.1 ExternalDescription

With every ModelElement is associated one or more ExternalDescriptions, which contain a description of the ModelElement suitable for a reader of the process description. ExternalDescriptions comprise the user-visible surface of the Software Process Description.

An ExternalDescription has four attributes of type String:

- content: A natural language description of the ModelElement.
- name: The name of the ModelElement in a natural language.
- language: The name of the natural language used for the value of content and name.
- medium: A description of the medium and format of the ExternalDescription.

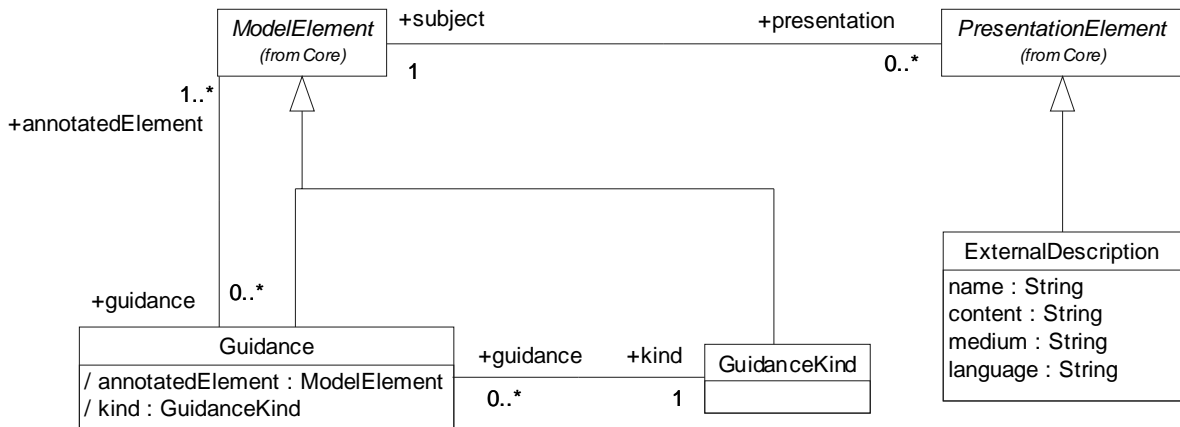


Figure 5-1 Basic Elements package

5.2 Guidance

Guidance elements may be associated with ModelElements, to provide more detailed information to practitioners about the associated ModelElement.

Possible types of Guidance depend on the process family and can be for example: Guidelines, Techniques, Metrics, Examples, UML Profiles, Tool mentors, Checklist, Templates.

SPEM is designed to be flexible about the kinds of Guidance used in a process model, by reifying GuidanceKind as a separate class in the metamodel. Every Guidance is associated with a GuidanceKind, and the name of the GuidanceKind indicates what kind of Guidance it is. The following kinds of Guidance list provides a basic repertoire; processes based on SPEM may add new kinds if required.

5.2.1 Kinds of Guidance

Technique is a kind of Guidance. A Technique is a detailed, precise “algorithm” used to create a work product. Techniques help to define the skills required to perform specific types of activities. The OPEN process uses the term ‘technique.’ Other processes use ‘procedure’ or ‘directive.’

UMLProfile is a kind of Guidance. A UML profile provides mechanisms that specialize UML for a specific target such as C++, Java, and CORBA or for a specific purpose such as analysis, design, and so on. Every development activity using UML can be ruled by a profile that dictates those UML consistency rules that need to be applied or which UML model element is relevant for the current context and focus of the activity.

For example, “UML for EJB,” “UML for Analysis,” “UML for CORBA.”

Figure 5-2 presents a diagram example of such an approach, where activities are connected to UML profiles. In this example, we see connections from ProcessRole occurrences such as “Analyst” as performers, to Activity occurrences such as “Elaborate Analysis,” and from Activity occurrences to a UMLProfile occurrence such as “UML analysis.”

Checklist is a kind of Guidance. A checklist is a document representing a list of elements that need to be completed.

ToolMentor is a kind of Guidance. A ToolMentor shows how to use a specific tool to accomplish an activity. Each ToolMentor is associated with a single Tool and inherits the association with the Activity it supports from Guidance. For example, “Using Rational ClearCase to Check Out and Check In Configuration Items” is a tool mentor in the RUP.

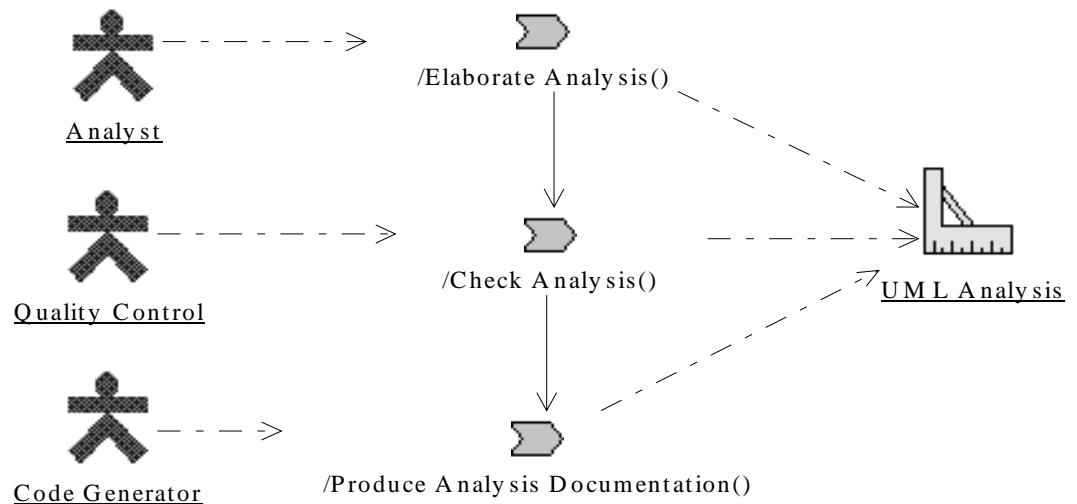


Figure 5-2 Example of a process connecting activities to UML profiles

Guideline is a kind of Guidance. A Guideline is a set of rules and recommendations on how a given work product must look or must be organized.

For example, in the Rational Unified Process, the *Java Programming Guidelines* are guidance used in the implementation of a design class, as well as input for the activity of code review.

Template is a kind of Guidance. A Template is a predefined document that provides a standardized format for a particular kind of WorkProduct; for example, “Microsoft Word template for Business Use Case Modeling.”

Estimate is a kind of Guidance. An Estimate describes an effort associated with a particular element. The description associated with an Estimate gives a context and interpretation for the effort.

QuadCycle defines also *Technology Roadmaps*: an explicit directive for technology use in the implementation of architectural styles, patterns, and frameworks within the Global Industries Technology Architecture (GITA), and *Tacit Knowledge*: the experience and expertise of senior architects represented as a knowledge map in the Unisys Knowledge Management Initiative.

Contents

This chapter includes the following topics.

Topic	Page
“SPEM Dependencies”	6-1
“Well-formedness Rules”	6-4

6.1 SPEM Dependencies

Figure 6-1 shows the Dependencies defined in SPEM. They are defined as subclasses of the SPEM_Foundation Dependency classes Abstraction, Usage, and Permission, which have the semantics defined for UML 1.4¹.

1. In UML, specific types of Dependency are defined using stereotypes. In stand-alone SPEM, stereotypes are not available, so they are defined using subclasses.

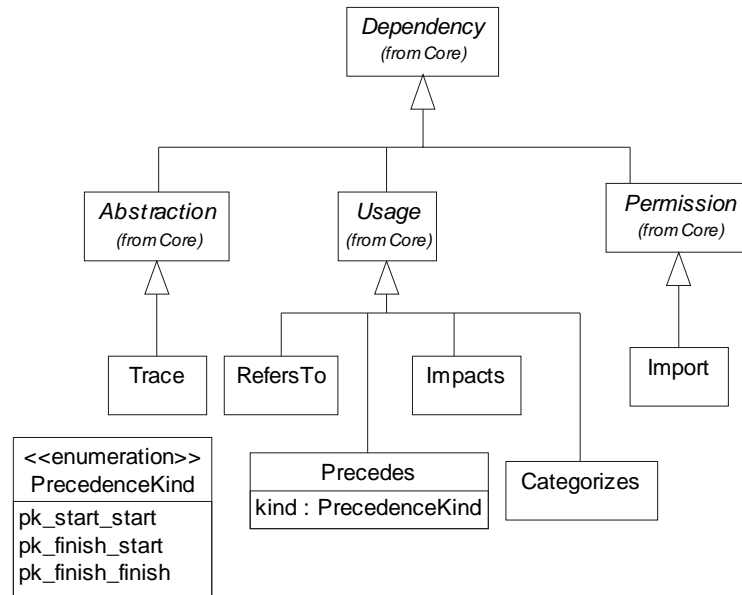


Figure 6-1 Dependencies

The following dependencies are supported by SPEM for process engineering:

- **Categorizes.** A *Categorizes* dependency acts from a Package to an individual process element in another package, and provides a means to associate process elements with multiple categories. This feature is both generally useful, and in particular acts in conjunction with Discipline (see Section 8.4, “Discipline,” on page 8-3) to provide a top-level categorization of all elements.
- **Impacts.** An *Impacts* dependency acts from one WorkProduct to another WorkProduct to indicate that the modification of a WorkProduct could invalidate another.

For example, an important document in IBM’s Global Services Method is the Work Product Dependency diagram, represented in Figure 6-2. The icons in this diagram indicate Work Product Descriptions—in SPEM terms, instances of WorkProduct as described in Section 7.1, “WorkProduct and WorkProductKind,” on page 7-2. The arrows represent instances of the *Impacts* Dependency in the IBM Global Services Method.

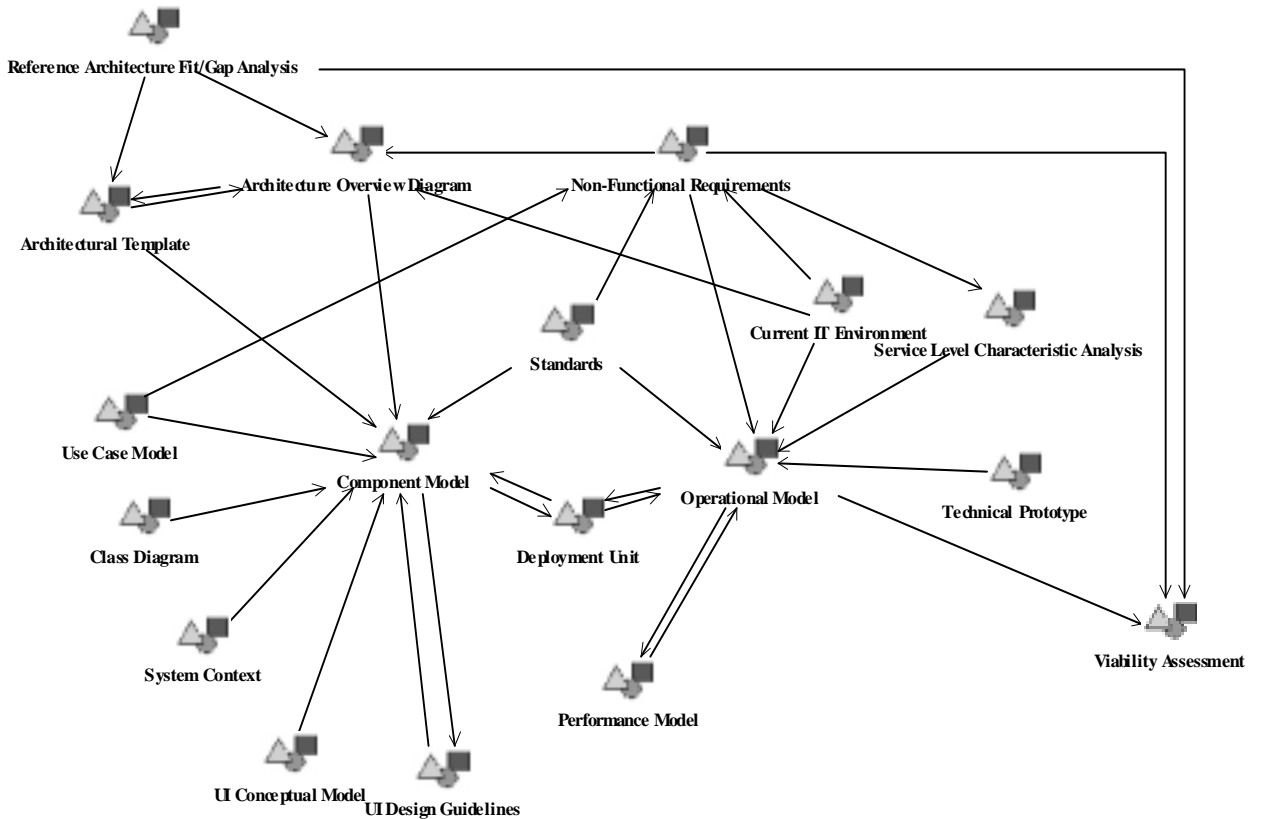


Figure 6-2 Work Product Dependency Diagram from IBM's Global Services Method

- **Import.** An *Import* dependency denotes that the contents of the target Package are added to the namespace of the source Package. This has the same semantics as UML *Import* except that in SPEM all elements have public visibility.
- **Precedes.** A *Precedes* dependency acts from one Activity to another, or one WorkDefinition to another, to indicate finish-start or finish-finish dependencies between the work described, depending on the value of the *kind* attribute.
- **RefersTo.** A *RefersTo* dependency acts from one process element to another, to ensure that they are included in the same ProcessComponent, see Section 9.2, "Lifecycle," on page 9-3. The normal situation where this applies is where the text of one process element refers, by name or content, to another element. In order to ensure consistency of meaning of the text, a *RefersTo* dependency should be established to give an explicit structural representation of such a dependency, so that when the referring element is included in a ProcessComponent, the referred-to element must also be included.
- **Trace.** A *Trace* dependency acts between two model elements of any type and is mainly used to trace requirements and changes across models. It has the same semantics as UML *Trace*.

6.2 Well-formedness Rules

Categorizes:

[C31] The client must be a kind of Package.

context Categorizes **inv:**
self.client.ocllsKindOf(Package)

Impacts:

[C32] The supplier and client must be kinds of WorkProduct.

context Impacts **inv:**
self.supplier.ocllsKindOf(WorkProduct) **and**
self.client.ocllsKindOf(WorkProduct)

Import:

[C33] The supplier and client must be kinds of Package.

context Import **inv:**
self.supplier.ocllsKindOf(Package) **and**
self.client.ocllsKindOf(Package)

Precedes:

[C34] The supplier and client must be kinds of WorkDefinition.

context Precedes **inv:**
self.supplier.ocllsKindOf(WorkDefinition) **and**
self.client.ocllsKindOf(WorkDefinition)

RefersTo:

No additional rules.

Trace:

No additional rules.

Contents

This chapter includes the following topics.

Topic	Page
“WorkProduct and WorkProductKind”	7-2
“WorkDefinition and ActivityParameter”	7-3
“Activity and Step”	7-4
“ProcessPerformer and ProcessRole”	7-5
“Well-formedness Rules”	7-6

This package, shown in Figure 7-1, defines the main structural elements from which a process description is constructed.

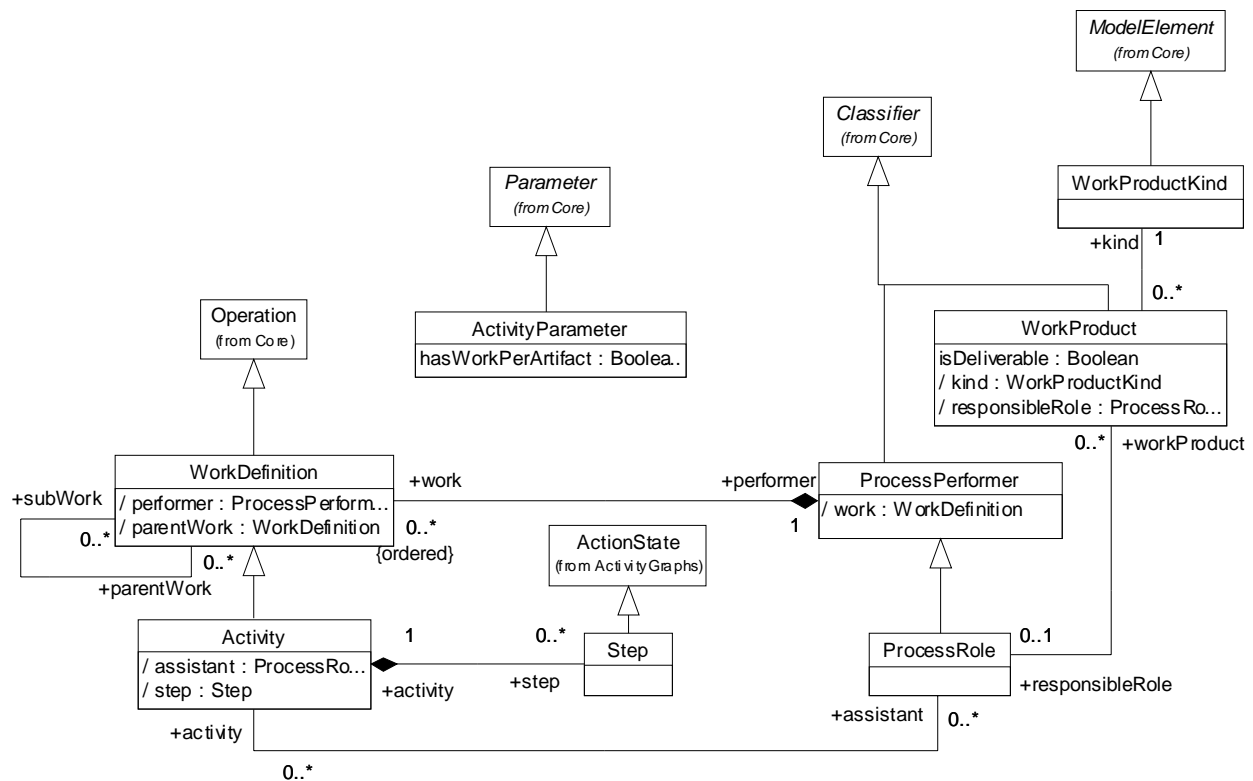


Figure 7-1 Process Structure package

7.1 WorkProduct and WorkProductKind

A work product or artifact is anything produced, consumed, or modified by a process. It may be a piece of information, a document, a model, source code, and so on. A *WorkProduct* describes one class of work product produced in a process.

A *WorkProductKind* describes a category of work product, such as Text Document, UML Model, Executable, Code Library, and so on. The range of work product kinds is dependent on the process being modeled.

Associations

- *WorkProduct* is a specialization of *Classifier*. Thus they can participate in associations and contain nested definitions. They do not possess Features.
- A work product description can describe *WorkProducts* that are aggregates of other *WorkProducts*. For example a software development plan (à la MIL-STD-498) consists of several other plans: Staffing plan, Configuration management plan, etc. This can be represented using normal UML aggregation.

- A WorkProduct may be associated with a responsibleRole, representing the role that is formally responsible for the production of this WorkProduct.
- A WorkProduct must be associated with a WorkProductKind.
- A WorkProduct may be associated (via the behavior association inherited from **SPEM_Foundation::State_Machines**) with a state machine that describes the states that the work product may be in, and the transitions allowed between those states.

Attributes

The *isDeliverable* attribute on WorkProduct is true if that WorkProduct is defined as a formal deliverable of the process.

Note

Deliverable is not a major model element in SPEM because not all WorkProducts are deliverable, and whether a WorkProduct is delivered or not may change during the enactment.

Examples

”Design Model” is a WorkProduct that describes design models, which are workproducts. “Software development plan” is a WorkProduct that is an aggregate of several other WorkProducts, such as documents and plans, designated by name; for example, “Risk Plan.”

Synonyms

‘Artifact’ is the term used in the RUP and QuadCycle for the description of the WorkProduct; the IBM process uses the term ‘Work Product Description.’ Other processes use the terms ‘deliverable’ or ‘product.’

7.2 *WorkDefinition and ActivityParameter*

WorkDefinition is a kind of Operation that describes the work performed in the process. Its main subclass is Activity, but Phase, Iteration, and Lifecycle (in the Process Lifecycle package) are also subclasses of WorkDefinition. WorkDefinition is not an abstract class, and instances of WorkDefinition itself can be created to represent composite pieces of work that are further decomposed. It has explicit inputs and outputs referred to via ActivityParameter.

Associations

- A WorkDefinition can be composed of other WorkDefinitions using the association called subWork. The decomposition may also be modeled using an activity graph, in which case the subWork association is derived from the activity graph structure as shown in well-formedness rule C43.

- A WorkDefinition is related to the WorkProducts it uses through the ActivityParameter class, which specifies whether they are used as input or output. The work described in the WorkDefinition uses the input workproducts, and creates or updates the output workproducts.
- A WorkDefinition has an owning ProcessPerformer, representing the primary role that performs that WorkDefinition in the process. In the case of Activities carried out by an individual or small group, this will be a ProcessRole. In the case of higher-level WorkDefinitions this will often be a single instance of ProcessPerformer that corresponds to the complete Process.
- A WorkDefinition may be referred to by an ActionState in an ActivityGraph.

Attributes

The attribute *kind* on Parameter is used to indicate whether the associated work product is an input, output, a modifiable input, or a returned value to the WorkDefinition.

The attribute *hasWorkPerArtifact* indicates that multiple instances of the WorkDefinition are needed, one per instance of the corresponding WorkProduct. For example, *Write the code of a class* may have *Coding standards* and *Class* as inputs, but it is replicated once per class (not per coding standard). This attribute can be true for at most one ActivityParameter per WorkDefinition.

Note

The familiar concept of Work-Breakdown Structure (WBS) can be described using several SPEM constructs:

- Decomposition using *subWork* provides the means to describe that one WorkDefinition is composed of another and, therefore, the hierarchical nature of the WBS.
- Decomposition of WorkDefinitions may be represented in detail by activity graphs, limited to one level of nesting.
- The Precedes dependency provides the ability to sequence between elements of the WBS at the same level, see the Dependencies chapter.

Example

In the Fujitsu SDEM21 development process, there are 3 levels of WorkDefinition layers, the last of which corresponds to activities.

7.3 Activity and Step

Activity is the main subclass of WorkDefinition. It describes a piece of work performed by one ProcessRole: the tasks, operations, and actions that are performed by a role or with which the role may assist. An Activity may consist of atomic elements called *Steps*.

Associations

- Activity inherits from WorkDefinition the fact that it has input and output parameters, of type WorkProduct.
- An Activity is owned by a ProcessRole that is the performer of the described activity. It may refer to additional ProcessRoles that are the assistants in the activity.
- Although this is not explicitly prohibited, an Activity does not normally use the subWork structure inherited from WorkDefinition; instead decomposition within Activity is done using Steps. A Step is described in the context of the enclosing Activity in terms of the ProcessRoles and WorkProducts it uses.
- Step inherits from ActionState, so that the flow of Steps within an Activity can be represented by activity graphs.

Examples

In the RUP, *Find use case and actors* is an example of Activity. It is decomposed in half a dozen “steps” in the RUP: *Find actors*, ..., *Check the results*.

In IBM’s Global Services Method, *Specify Solution Requirements* is an example of a WorkDefinition. It is decomposed into several “tasks,” modeled by SPEM’s Activity, such as *Detail Usability Requirements*.

Synonyms

The Rational Unified Process and QuadCycle use ‘activity’ composed of a partially ordered set of ‘steps.’ The IBM process defines ‘activities’ that corresponds to SPEM WorkDefinition, consisting of ‘tasks’ and ‘subtasks’ that corresponds to SPEM Activities. OPEN uses ‘task.’

7.4 ProcessPerformer and ProcessRole

A *ProcessPerformer* defines a performer for a set of WorkDefinitions in a process. ProcessPerformer has a subclass, ProcessRole. ProcessPerformer represents abstractly the “whole process” or one of its components, and is used to own WorkDefinitions that do not have a more specific owner. ProcessRole defines responsibilities over specific WorkProducts, and defines the roles that perform and assist in specific activities.

Associations

- ProcessPerformer is a specialization of Classifier, and thus may participate in inheritance relationships and associations within the process definition.
- A ProcessRole is responsible for a set of WorkProducts.
- A ProcessRole is the performer of Activities.
- A ProcessPerformer is the performer of higher level aggregate WorkDefinitions that cannot be associated with individual ProcessRoles.

Synonyms

ProcessRole is called 'role' in the IBM Global Services Method, DMR Macroscopic and in OPEN [4], and it was called 'worker' in the Rational Unified Process [1, 3], prior to RUP 2001. We have also encountered 'agent.'

Examples

In the Rational Unified Process, examples of ProcessRole are *Architect*, *Analyst*, *Technical Writer*, and *Project Manager* to name a few.

Note

A ProcessRole is not a person. A given person may be acting in several roles and several persons may act as a single given role.

7.5 Well-formedness Rules

Activity

[C35] Each Activity is imported by exactly one Discipline.

```
context Activity inv:
  self.supplierDependency.select (d |
    d.ocIsKindOf(Import)).client.select (c
    c.ocIsKindOf(Discipline))->size = 1
```

[C36] Every Activity is owned by a ProcessRole.

```
context Activity inv:
  self.performer.ocIsKindOf(ProcessRole)
```

ActivityParameter

No additional rules.

ProcessRole

[C37] Every work must be a kind of Activity.

```
context ProcessRole inv:
  self.work->forall(f | f.ocIsKindOf(Activity))
```

Step

[C38] A Step has no associated Action.

```
context Step inv:
  self.entry->isEmpty()
```

WorkProduct

No additional rules.

StateMachine

[C39] Every StateMachine (but not ActivityGraph) has a WorkProduct as its context.

```
context StateMachine inv:
  self oclIsTypeOf(StateMachine) implies
    self.context->notEmpty() and
    self.context.oclIsKindOf(WorkProduct)
```

[C40] Nesting for state machines and activity graphs is limited to one level.

```
context StateMachine inv:
  self.top.subvertex->forall(sv |
    not sv.oclIsKindOf(CompositeState))
```

ActionState

[C41] The operation of an ActionState must be a kind of WorkDefinition.

```
context ActionState inv:
  self.entry.operation.oclIsKindOf(WorkDefinition)
```

ObjectFlowState

[C42] The type of an ObjectFlowState must be a kind of WorkProduct.

```
context ObjectFlowState inv:
  self.type.oclIsKindOf(WorkProduct)
```

WorkDefinition

[C43] Where there is an activity graph, subWork is derived.

```
context WorkDefinition inv:
  self.behavior->notEmpty() implies
    self.behavior.top.subvertex->select(v |
      v.oclIsKindOf(ActionState))->collect(v |
        v.entry.operation) = self.subWork
```


Contents

This chapter includes the following topics.

Topic	Page
“Package”	8-1
“ProcessComponent”	8-2
“Process”	8-3
“Discipline”	8-3
“Well-formedness Rules”	8-4

Figure 8-1 on page 8-3 details the Process Components package. The classes in this package are concerned with dividing one or more process descriptions into self-contained parts that can be placed under configuration management and version control.

8.1 Package

Just as in UML, a Package is a container that can both own and import process definition elements. Activities and WorkDefinitions are owned, respectively, by ProcessRoles and ProcessPerformers; StateMachines are owned by WorkProducts and own their internal states and transitions; ActivityGraphs can be owned by Packages, Classifiers, or BehavioralFeatures; other SPEM ModelElements can be owned by Packages.

Packages and the Categorizes dependency can be used to implement general *categorization* of process description elements. A Package is created to represent each category, and all of the elements linked via a Categorizes dependency into that

Package to represent membership of the category. A package represents a category when it is the source of at least one Categorizes dependency. The name of the category is the name of the package. Multiple overlapping categories can be created to serve various purposes in process engineering. A more specific kind of categorization of Activities is implemented by Discipline, see Section 8.4, “Discipline,” on page 8-3.

8.2 *ProcessComponent*

A ProcessComponent is a chunk of process description that is internally consistent and may be reused with other ProcessComponents to assemble a complete process.

A ProcessComponent imports a non-arbitrary set of process definition elements, modeled in SPEM by ModelElements. Such a set must be self-contained; this means that there are no RefersTo dependencies from within the component to elements not within the component. It must be internally consistent in the sense that the multiplicities and constraints defined for the metamodel as a whole must be satisfied within the scope of the component.

Example

Composition of ProcessComponents is done by a process of *unification*. For example, consider both of these:

- A ProcessComponent P1 containing WorkDefinitions that take a set of high-level use cases and non-functional requirements as input and delivers an architecture as output.
- A ProcessComponent P2 containing WorkDefinitions that take an architecture and a set of detailed use cases as input, and delivers an executable, unit-tested body of code as output.

To combine these two components, at least the output WorkProducts from P1 must be unified (that is, made identical) with the inputs to P2. Other elements may possibly be unified in addition, such as Templates, ProcessRoles, and so on. Composition of ProcessComponents can only be fully automated if they originate from a common family so that the unification is obviously capable of being automated. If the components originate from different sources, the unification would involve human intervention that normally would consist of some re-writing of the elements, and possibly associated elements, to be unified. Note that SPEM permits both of these kinds of composition but provides no explicit support for either.

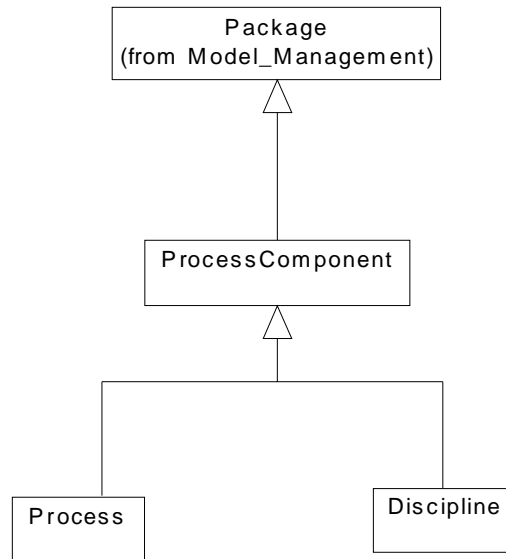


Figure 8-1 Process Components package

8.3 Process

A Process is a ProcessComponent intended to stand alone as a complete, end-to-end process. It is distinguished from normal process components by the fact that it is not intended to be composed with other components. In a tooling context, the instance of Process is the “root” of the process model, from which a tool can start to compute the transitive closure of an entire process.

A Lifecycle, as defined in Section 9.2, “Lifecycle,” on page 9-3 is associated with a Process.

The class Process can also represent a *family* of processes, which is a process component out of which multiple overlapping processes can be defined.

8.4 Discipline

A *Discipline* is a particular specialization of Package that partitions the Activities within a process according to a common “theme.” Partitioning the Activities in this way implies that the associated Guidance and output WorkProducts are similarly categorized under the theme. The inclusion of an Activity in a Discipline is represented by the Categorizes dependency, with the additional constraint that every Activity is categorized by exactly one Discipline.

Example

Nine disciplines are described in the Rational Unified Process 2001: *Business Modeling, Requirement Management, Analysis & Design, Implementation, Test, Deployment, Project Management, Configuration and Change Management, and Environment*. The Fujitsu SDEM21 development process defines 7 disciplines: *Business System, Business System Specification, Application, Infrastructure, Operation and Migration, Development Support, and Project Management*.

Synonyms

- The IBM processes use the term ‘domain.’
- The Rational Unified Process uses ‘core workflow.’
- The Fujitsu SDEM21 uses ‘category.’
- Objectory used ‘process component.’
- Fusion uses the term ‘phase.’
- OPEN uses the work ‘activity.’

8.5 Well-formedness Rules

ProcessComponent

A process component must be self-contained; that is, there are no links (associations or dependencies) to anything outside the component.

[C44] No dependencies outside the component.

```

context ProcessComponent inv:
let includedElements : Set(ModelElement) =
  self.clientDependency->select
  (d | d.oclIsKindOf(Import)).supplier in
  includedElements->forall ( e |
    e.clientDependency.supplier->forall ( m |
      includedElements->includes(m)) ) and
  includedElements->forall ( e |
    e.supplierDependency.client->forall ( m |
      includedElements->includes(m)) )

```

[C45] No associations outside the component.

```

context ProcessComponent inv:
let includedElements : Set(ModelElement) =
  self.clientDependency->select
  (d | d.oclIsKindOf(Import)).supplier in
  includedElements->forall ( e |
    e.allAssociatedInstances-> forall ( i |
      includedElements -> includes(i))

```

where `allAssociatedInstances` cannot easily be defined in OCL, but could be defined by slightly extending OCL as follows:

```
i.allAssociatedInstances =  
  i.type.associationEnds->collect(ae |  
    i.navigate(ae))
```

Process

No additional rules.

Contents

This chapter includes the following topics.

Topic	Page
“Phase”	9-2
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“Iteration”	9-3
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“Well-formedness Rules”	9-5

In this package, shown in Figure 9-1, we introduce process definition elements that help define how the process will be run. They describe or constrain the overall behavior of the performing process, and are used to assist with planning, executing, and monitoring the process. As we stated earlier, a process can be seen as a collaboration between roles to achieve a certain goal or an objective. To guide its enactment, we can constrain the order in which activities must be, or can be, executed. Also there is a need to define the “shape” of the process over time, and its lifecycle structure in terms of phases and iterations.

Note that these elements do not describe the enactment itself: they are elements of the process description that are used to help plan and execute enactments of that description.

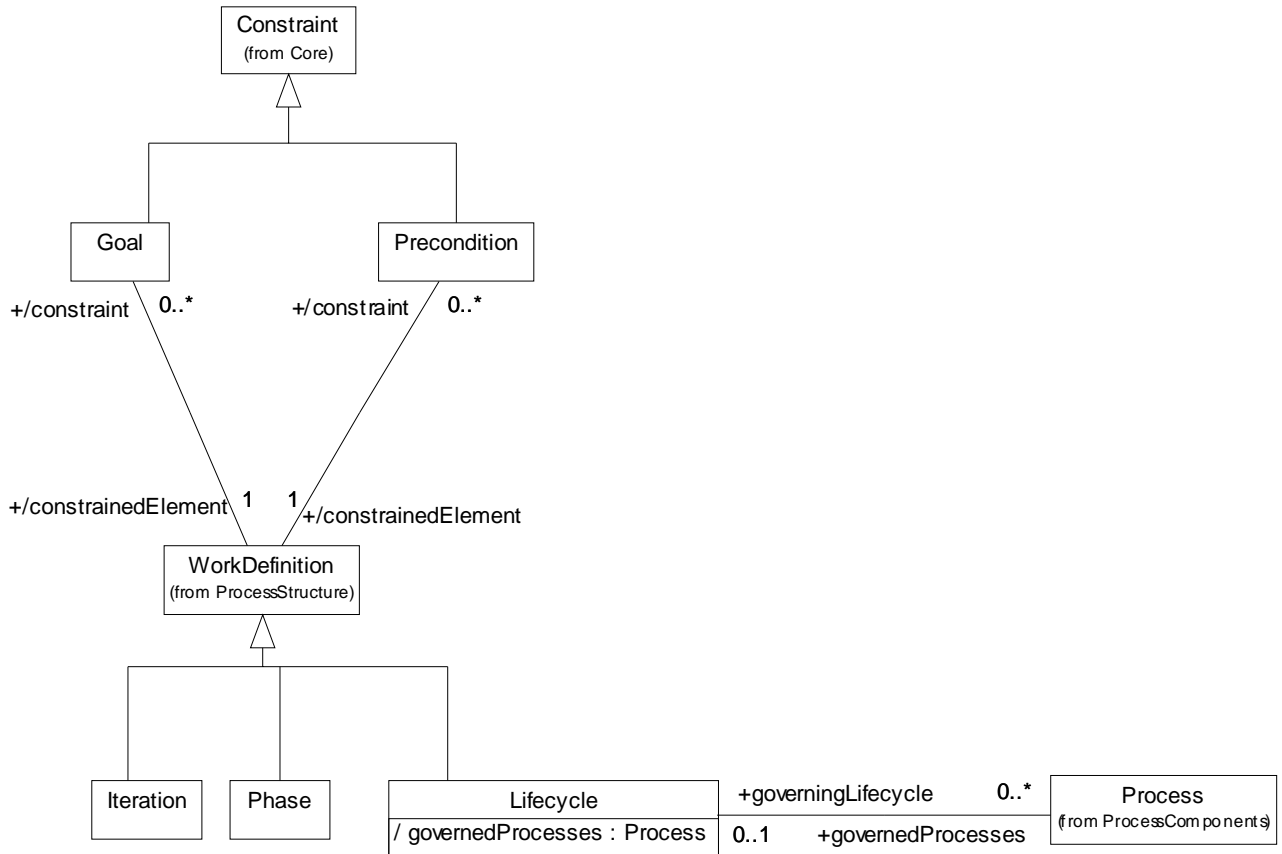


Figure 9-1 Process Lifecycle package

9.1 Phase

A *Phase* is a specialization of *WorkDefinition* such that its precondition defines the phase entry criteria and its goal (often called a "milestone") defines the phase exit criteria. Phases are defined with the additional constraint of sequentiality; that is, their enactments are executed with a series of milestone dates spread over time and often assume minimal (or no) overlap of their activities in time.

Examples

The Rational Unified Process (RUP) defines four sequential phases: *Inception*, *Elaboration*, *Construction*, and *Transition*. The RUP defines a phase as consisting of a certain number of iterations, which are workflows with minor milestones. The DMR Macroscopic system delivery process describes five phases: *Opportunity Evaluation*,

Preliminary Analysis, System Architecture, Release Design and Construction, and Implementation. OOSP has four phases: *Initiate, Construct, Deliver, and Maintain & Support* [15].

9.2 Lifecycle

A process *Lifecycle* is defined as a sequence of Phases that achieve a specific goal. It defines the behavior of a complete process to be enacted in a given project or program.

Associations

A Lifecycle is associated with a sequence of Phases by the use of the subWork association, see Section 7.2, “WorkDefinition and ActivityParameter,” on page 7-3.

A Lifecycle is associated with one or more Processes via the governedProcesses association that associates a Lifecycle (describing the behavior of the process) with a Process (that packages up all of the descriptive material contained in the process).

Example

The DMR Macroscopic describes 3 system delivery lifecycles: a *Generic Development* path, an *Accelerated Development* path, and a *Package Solution Delivery* path. The Fujitsu SDEM21 provides a specific lifecycle for component-based development called *ComponentAA*.

9.3 Iteration

An Iteration is a composite WorkDefinition with a minor milestone.

Example

The following example work breakdown structure showing Iterations is from the DMR Macroscopic:

Phase

Iteration
 Activity
 Step

Preliminary Analysis

First Joint Requirements Planning (JRP) Workshop
 Define Owner Requirements
 Define objectives based on stated needs
 Define key issues
 Determine relevant enterprise principles
 Draft Owner Models
 Determine System context
 Model structural and dynamic aspects of the enterprise
 Define work resources
 Explore with prototypes
 Define User Requirements
 Consider user interface aspects
 Consider distribution aspects
 Explore with prototypes

- Draft User Models
 - Determine System context
 - Model structural and dynamic aspects of the system
 - Define work resources
 - Explore with prototypes
- Define Developer Requirements
 - Revise work process and class definitions
 - Revise user interface models
- Second Joint Requirements Planning (JRP) Workshop
 - Refine Owner Requirements
 - Define objectives based on stated needs
 - Define key issues
 - Determine relevant enterprise principles
 - Review Owner Models
 - Determine System context
 - Model structural and dynamic aspects of the enterprise
 - Define work resources
 - Explore with prototypes
 - Refine User Requirements
 - Consider user interface aspects
 - Consider distribution aspects
 - Explore with prototypes
 - Review User Models
 - Determine System context
 - Model structural and dynamic aspects of the system
 - Define work resources
 - Explore with prototypes
 - Refine Developer Requirements
 - Revise work process and class definitions
 - Revise user interface models
 - Draft Developer Models
 - Define process and data aspects of the system
 - Consider user interface aspects
 - Consider distribution aspects
 - Explore with prototypes

9.4 *Precondition and Goal*

With each WorkDefinition can be associated a *Precondition* and a *Goal*. Preconditions and Goals are Constraints, where the constraint is expressed in the form of a BooleanExpression (which is a string) following syntax similar to that of a guard condition in UML. The condition is expressed in terms of the states of the WorkProducts that are the parameters of the WorkDefinition or of an enclosing WorkDefinition.

Example

If a WorkDefinition called DesignReview has input parameters DesignModel and DesignStandards and output parameter ReviewActions, then a Precondition can have the form

(DesignModel in state Ready) and (DesignStandards in state Approved)

and a Goal

(ReviewActions in state Drafted).

9.5 Well-formedness Rules

Goal

No additional rules.

Iteration

No additional rules.

Lifecycle

[C47] Lifecycles only contain Phases.

```
context Lifecycle inv:  
    self.subWork->forall(ph | ph.ocIsKindOf(Phase))
```

Phase

No additional rules.

Precondition

No additional rules.

WorkDefinition

[C48] A WorkDefinition can have no more than 1 goal.

```
context WorkDefinition inv:  
    not (constraint->select(c |  
        c.ocIsKindOf(Goal))->size() > 1
```

[C49] A WorkDefinition can have no more than 1 precondition.

```
context WorkDefinition inv:  
    not constraint->select(c |  
        c.ocIsKindOf(Precondition))->size() > 1
```


The management of multiple processes, variants, derivatives, or versions is beyond the scope of this metamodel. As all techniques and tools used in the area of configuration management and change management for software can be applied literally to a software process product, it does not make sense to replicate these aspects in the SPEM. See standards IEEE 610.12-1990 or ISO 12207.

All SPEM Elements (modeled as ModelElements) are *configuration items*. As such, they can have multiple *versions*. The versions of a given configuration item are linked to each other to form *histories*. *Variants* can be introduced by creating parallel histories. A specific *process configuration* is formed by selecting one version, at the most, for each SPEM Element. If a process definition element is required in two forms within a single process configuration, it must be cloned and given a specific identity; for example, “simple design review” versus a “complex and critical review.” Process variants are defined similarly by selecting Process Definition Elements from a consistent set of version histories all belonging to the same variant.

Contents

This chapter includes the following topics.

Topic	Page
“Identified subset of the UML Metamodel”	11-2
“Mapping to UML Base Classes”	11-3
“Notes”	11-4
“Associations”	11-5
“Use of Activity Diagrams and Use Case Diagrams”	11-6
“Stereotypes of the SPEM Profile”	11-7
“Well-formedness Rules”	11-10

In the chapters so far, SPEM has been directly defined as a metamodel. SPEM can be used by directly instantiating this stand-alone metamodel. But SPEM is also defined as a UML Profile.

SPEM is dedicated to software processes modeling. Many features of the UML provide the necessary basis for modeling processes, and many other UML features provide useful additional modeling capacities. Being a UML profile, SPEM both defines modeling capacities dedicated to the software process domain, and gains the benefit of the expressiveness of UML. For example, Use Case modeling, which is sometimes used for modeling processes, is not defined as a specific SPEM facility, but can be inherited from UML.

Also, a wide community of software developers is familiar with UML and uses a UML case tool environment. Defining a UML profile allows this important community to reuse its modeling knowledge and tools in the software-process modeling domain.

The UML 1.4 definition of profile is given in section 1.5 of this document, and is repeated here:

A profile stereotype of Package contains one or more related extensions of standard UML semantics (refer to Section 2.6, “Extension Mechanisms”). These are normally intended to customize UML for a particular domain or purpose. Profiles can contain stereotypes, tag definitions, and constraints. They can also contain data types that are used by tag definitions for informally declaring the types of the values that can be associated with tag definitions.

In addition, a profile package can specify a related model library and identify a subset of the UML metamodel that is applicable for the profile. In principle, profiles merely refine the standard semantics of UML by adding further constraints and interpretations that capture domain-specific semantics and modeling patterns. They do not add any new fundamental concepts.

In order to define a UML profile for SPEM, the following must be done.

1. Identify that subset of the UML metamodel classes to be included in the profile.
2. For most classes in the SPEM metamodel, identify a “base class” in the UML metamodel subset that will, when stereotyped appropriately, act in place of the SPEM class. The technique used here is specified in section 3.35.2 of the UML 1.4 specification. The fact that SPEM is itself defined as an extension of a subset of UML makes this very straightforward. For the one class (GuidanceKind) in the SPEM metamodel to which the base class technique does not apply, the semantics of instances of that class are emulated using UML stereotypes.
3. For each attribute and association in the SPEM metamodel, define a way to emulate that attribute or association. In the SPEM profile, attributes are emulated by means of TaggedValues. Most associations have close analogues in the UML metamodel. Those that don’t get special treatment, as detailed below.
4. For those parts of the UML subset that have a plausible mapping into SPEM concepts, but are not used directly to emulate the SPEM metamodel, show how they are mapped into SPEM-related concepts. For SPEM, this applies particularly to the use of Use Case diagrams.
5. Give additional constraints over the UML metamodel that are implied by the use of the profile.
6. Define notational icons for SPEM concepts that are represented by UML stereotypes.

The remaining parts of this chapter deal with each of these topics.

11.1 Identified subset of the UML Metamodel

The SPEM profile retains the following packages from the UML Metamodel:

- Core
 - except Method (from Backbone)

except Binding (from Dependencies)

except Node, Interface, Artifact and Component (from Classifiers)

except TemplateParameter and TemplateArgument (from AuxiliaryElements)

- ExtensionMechanisms
- DataTypes
- CommonBehavior
 - except ComponentInstance, NodeInstance
- Collaboration
- UseCases
 - except Extend, ExtensionPoint
- StateMachines
- ActivityGraphs
- ModelManagement
 - except Subsystem

All of the classes in the SPEM_Foundation package (see Chapter 2) together with their attributes and associations, are directly represented by the equivalent UML classes, attributes, and associations.

11.2 Mapping to UML Base Classes

Most mappings are very simple, see Figure 11-2 as they follow the pattern shown in Figure 11-1.

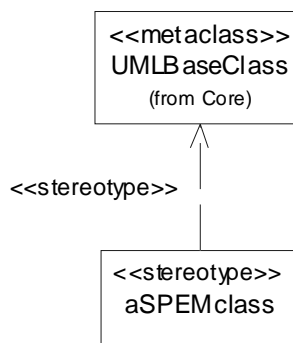


Figure 11-1 Pattern for most classes, from a SPEMClass to the UML Base Class it maps to.

TagDefinition	Type	on stereotype	Description
hasWorkPerArtifact	Boolean	ActivityParameter	When true, the WorkDefinition will be enacted once for every instance of the corresponding WorkProduct
content	String	ExternalDescription	Description of the annotated model element
name	String	ExternalDescription	Name of the external description
medium	String	ExternalDescription	Medium of the external description (e.g., textual, audio, graphics, etc.).
language	String	ExternalDescription	Language, such as English, French, Japanese, in which the description is provided
kind	{s_s, f_s}	Precedes	Which kind of precedence dependency is being described
isDeliverable	Boolean	WorkProduct	True when the work product is defined as a formal deliverable of the process

Associations

Associations in the SPEM_Extensions package are represented in a variety of ways, as follows.

Guidance::kind. This is not required, because instances of GuidanceKind are represented as stereotypes of Guidance.

Guidance::annotatedElement. This is represented by the UML association Comment::annotatedElement.

ActivityParameter::type. This is represented by the UML association Parameter::type.

WorkDefinition::performer. This is represented by the UML association Feature::owner.

WorkDefinition::subWork. This is not represented directly. Instead it is represented using ActivityGraphs, as shown in Figure 11-3 on page 11-6. This shows the UML base classes that together correspond to the subWork association: ActivityGraph, CompositeState, ActionState, CallAction.

Activity::step. This is also represented by ActivityGraphs, as shown in Figure 11-3 on page 11-6.

Activity::assistant. This is not represented directly in the profile. Instead, those ProcessRoles that represent assistants to the activity are included as additional input parameters to the Activity.

WorkProduct::responsibleRole. This is not represented directly in the profile. Instead, in an application of the profile, this would be modeled by creating M1-level associations between the ProcessRole and the relevant WorkProducts.

WorkProduct::kind. This is not required, because instances of WorkProductKind are represented as stereotypes of WorkProduct.

ProcessPerformer::work. This is represented by the UML association Classifier::feature.

WorkDefinition::goal and **WorkDefinition::precondition.** These are represented by the UML association ModelElement::constraint.

Process::governingLifecycle. This is represented by a new stereotype of Abstraction called «governs», which acts between a Lifecycle and the processes that it is related to.

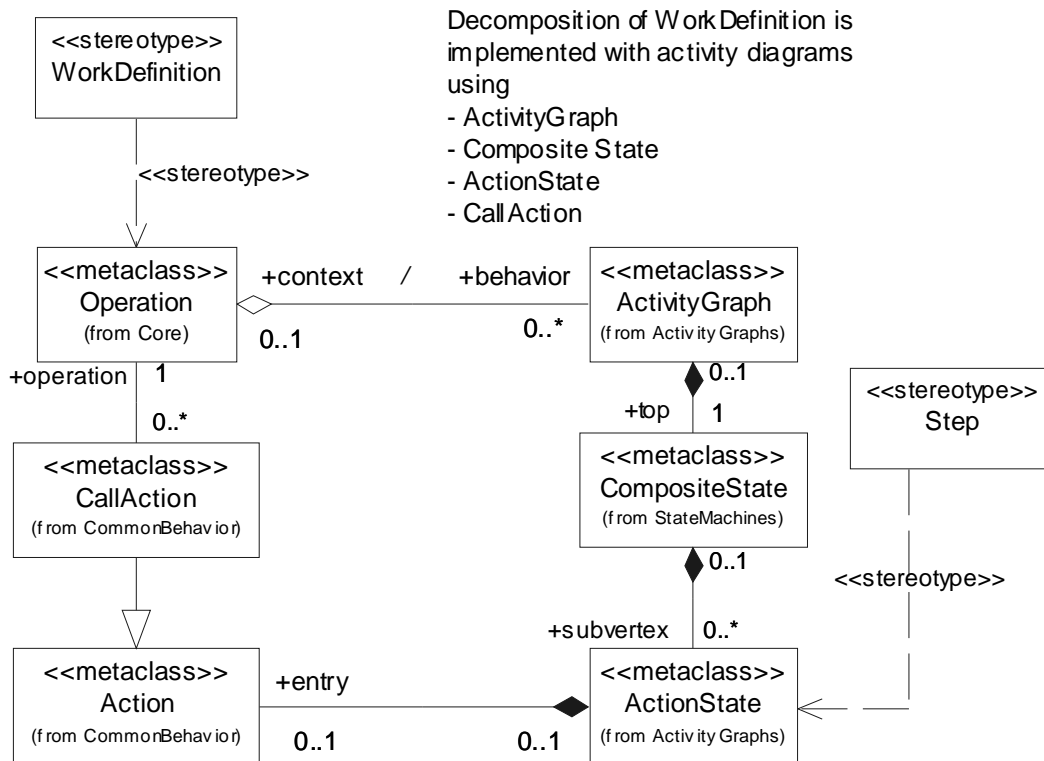


Figure 11-3 Decomposition of WorkDefinition

11.3 Use of Activity Diagrams and Use Case Diagrams

In the Notation chapter this document defines a set of icons for use in process definitions. In particular, there are particular icons used to represent the classes WorkProduct, Activity, and WorkDefinition.

In SPEM, these icons may appear uniformly on all UML diagrams in which these concepts are referred to. However, in the case of Activity diagrams, these elements are not referred to directly. Instead, instances of ActionState appear, which may be thought of as “notational proxies” for corresponding instances of WorkDefinition and Activity. Similarly, instances of ObjectFlowState act as proxies for corresponding instances of WorkProduct.


To resolve this issue, the SPEM profile allows ActionState to appear as an alternative base class for the stereotypes Activity and WorkDefinition. In both cases, the idea is that the notational element is a proxy for the stereotyped Operation associated with the CallAction of the ActionState. Similarly, the profile allows ObjectFlowState to appear as an alternative base class for WorkProduct, with the interpretation that the notational element is a proxy for the stereotyped Classifier associated with the ObjectFlowState.


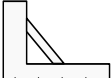
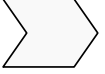




A similar issue arises because SPEM uses Use Case diagrams to illustrate the relationships between ProcessRole/ProcessPerformer and Activity/WorkDefinition. To enable this the profile allows UseCase to be a further alternative base class for WorkDefinition and Activity. To complete this interpretation, a UML «realize» dependency should be created between the WorkDefinition or Activity and the Use Case that it represents. When two work definitions are represented as Use Cases, and those two work definitions are related by the subWork association, a UML Include relationship may be shown referring from the containing to the contained work definition. Stereotypes «perform» and «assist» of UML Association can be used to represent the performer and assistant relationships between an Actor and a Use Case. The UML Extends relationship is not used.




11.4 Stereotypes of the SPEM Profile

The following table gives a complete summary of all of the SPEM profile stereotypes, based on the discussion above.

Note that the following stereotypes are added for notational convenience: ProcessPackage (special notation for packages in a SPEM context), Document and UMLModel (special notation for different kinds of WorkProduct). Apart from the icons and their implied connotations, these stereotypes have no additional semantics above those of their base classes.

Stereotype	Base Class	Stereotype Parent	Comment	Constraints (see below)	Notation (chapter 12)
WorkProduct	Core::Class ActivityGraphs::ObjectFlow State		See “WorkProduct and WorkProductKind” on page 7-2		
ActivityParameter	Core::Parameter		See “WorkDefinition and ActivityParameter” on page 7-3		

Goal	Core::Constraint	postcondition	See “Precondition and Goal” on page 9-4		
Precondition	Core::Constraint	precondition	See “Precondition and Goal” on page 9-4		
WorkDefinition	Core::Operation ActivityGraphs::ActionState UseCases::UseCase		See “WorkDefinition and ActivityParameter” on page 7-3	P2	
Step	ActivityGraphs::ActionState		See “Activity and Step” on page 7-4		
Guidance	Core::Comment		See “Guidance” on page 5-2		
ExternalDescription	Core::PresentationElement		See “ExternalDescription” on page 5-1		
Activity	Core::Operation ActivityGraphs::ActionState UseCases::UseCase	WorkDefinition	See “Activity and Step” on page 7-4		
ProcessPerformer	UseCases::Actor		See “ProcessPerformer and ProcessRole” on page 7-5		
ProcessRole	UseCases::Actor	ProcessPerformer	See “ProcessPerformer and ProcessRole” on page 7-5		
ProcessPackage	ModelManagement::Package		Introduced so that SPEM packages have their own icon		
ActivityParameter	Core::Parameter		See “WorkDefinition and ActivityParameter” on page 7-3		
Phase	Core::Operation ActivityGraphs::ActionState UseCases::UseCase	WorkDefinition	See “Phase” on page 9-2		
Iteration	Core::Operation ActivityGraphs::ActionState UseCases::UseCase	WorkDefinition	See “Iteration” on page 9-3		
LifeCycle	Core::Operation ActivityGraphs::ActionState UseCases::UseCase	WorkDefinition	See “Lifecycle” on page 9-3		

Discipline	ModelManagement::Package	ProcessPackage	See “Discipline” on page 8-3		
ProcessComponent	ModelManagement::Package	ProcessPackage	See “ProcessComponent” on page 8-2		
Process	ModelManagement::Package	ProcessPackage	See “Process” on page 8-3		
Document	Core::Class ActivityGraphs::ObjectFlow State	WorkProduct			
UMLModel	Core::Class ActivityGraphs::ObjectFlow State	WorkProduct			
Guideline	Core::Comment	Guidance	See “Guidance” on page 5-2		
Technique	Core::Comment	Guidance	See “Guidance” on page 5-2		
UMLProfile	Core::Comment	Guidance	See “Guidance” on page 5-2		
ToolMentor	Core::Comment	Guidance	See “Guidance” on page 5-2		
CheckList	Core::Comment	Guidance	See “Guidance” on page 5-2		
Template	Core::Comment	Guidance	See “Guidance” on page 5-2		
trace	Core::Abstraction		See the Dependencies chapter		
refersTo	Core::Usage		See the Dependencies chapter		
categorizes	Core::Usage		See the Dependencies chapter		
precedes	Core::Usage		See the Dependencies chapter		
impacts	Core::Usage		See the Dependencies chapter		
import	Core::Permission		See the Dependencies chapter		
governs	Core::Abstraction		See the Dependencies chapter	P1	

assist	Core::Association				
perform	Core::Association				

11.5 Well-formedness Rules

In translating the stand-alone model to a UML profile, there are various sources of additional or changed well-formedness rules.

11.5.1 Restricted Multiplicities

As pointed out in the SPEM Foundation chapter, the stand-alone SPEM metamodel is based on a subset of UML with some restrictions on the multiplicities. These restrictions also apply to the UML profile.

11.5.2 Use of Context and *oclIsKindOf*

In the presence of stereotypes, the use of **oclIsKindOf** needs in principle to be modified. We assume that the meaning of **oclIsKindOf** can be extended in the presence of stereotypes, so that if **oclIsKindOf** refers to a stereotype name, it delivers true if the tested element has that stereotype or a sub-stereotype.

Similarly, constraints on stereotypes are written under the assumption that it is valid to use a stereotype name in the context part of the constraint. Strictly-speaking this is a shorthand, for example:

context ProcessComponent **inv: X**

can be considered as a shorthand for

context Package **inv:**
 (self.stereotype.name = "ProcessComponent" **or**
 self.stereotype.name = "Process" **or**
 self.stereotype.name = "Discipline") **implies X**

With these provisos, all of the well-formedness rules in earlier chapters apply to the profile.

11.5.3 Profile-specific rules

The following rules apply to the construction of the profile itself.

11.5.3.1 *governs*

[P1]	<p>A <i>governs</i> dependency acts between a Lifecycle and a ProcessPerformer</p> <p>context Dependency inv: self.stereotype.name = “governs” implies self.supplier->exists(stereotype.name=“Lifecycle”) and self.client >exists(stereotype.name=“ProcessPerformer”)</p>
------	---

11.5.3.2 *WorkDefinition*

[P2]	<p>A WorkDefinition behavior is defined using no more than a single Activity Graph and in no other way.</p> <p>context WorkDefinition inv: self.behavior->size <= 1 and self.behavior->forall(b b.oclIsTypeOf(ActivityGraph))</p>
------	---

11.5.3.3 *ActionState*

[P3]	<p>An ActionState is either a Step or refers to a CallAction for another WorkDefinition:</p> <p>context ActionState inv: self.stereotype.name = “Step” or (self.entry->size = 1 and self.entry.oclIsKindOf(CallAction) and self.entry.operation.oclIsKindOf(WorkDefinition))</p>
------	--

Contents

This chapter includes the following topics.

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“Package Diagrams”	12-4
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“Sequence Diagrams”	12-5
“Statechart Diagrams”	12-5
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12.1 Diagrams

Basic UML diagrams can be used to present different perspectives of a software process model. In particular, the following UML notations are useful:

- Class diagram
- Package diagram
- Activity diagram
- Use case diagram
- Sequence diagram

- Statechart diagram

Because some semantic elements of UML have been excluded from SPEM, the following notations should not be used:

- implementation diagrams
- component or node diagrams.

There are some notation and diagrams that are not excluded, but for which we have not specified any mapping nor meaning.

12.2 *Suggested Icons*

Column “Notation” in table “Stereotypes” in Section 11.4, “Stereotypes of the SPEM Profile,” on page 11-7 suggests alternate representations for most frequently used concrete classes of the metamodel. These icons can be used in modeling a software development process to represent activities, work products, process roles, etc. It is suggested to replace the regular symbol with these icons as shown in the examples below.

OMG document ptc/2002-05-08 contains source versions of the SPEM icons in various formats.

OMG document ptc/2002-05-10 contains the example diagrams from this chapter together with a corresponding human-readable textual notation that shows how the examples map into the metamodel.

12.3 *Class Diagrams*

Class diagrams allow the representation of the following aspects of a software process:

- Inheritance
- Dependencies
- Simple associations
- Comments to point to the guidance (for example URL link)
- Relations between ProcessPerformer or ProcessRole and WorkProduct
- Structure, decomposition, and dependencies of WorkProducts (see example in Figure 12-1).

However, some restrictions apply when using class diagrams in conjunction with SPEM. More specifically, the following notational elements should not be used:

- Interface
- Template
- White diamond
- Qualified associations
- N-ary associations

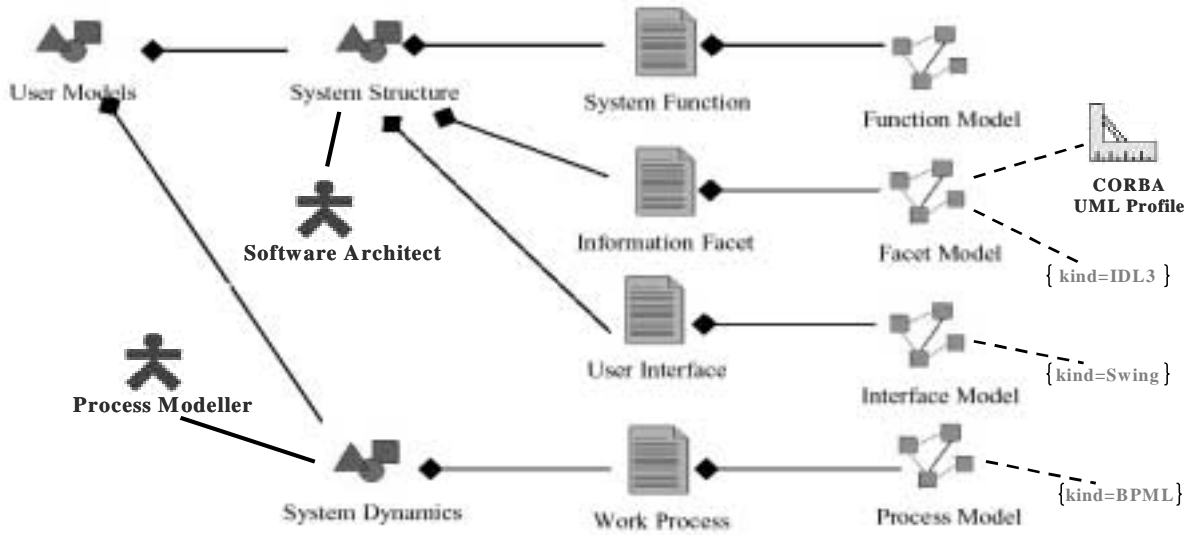


Figure 12-1 Example of Class Diagram

12.4 Package Diagrams

Package diagrams allow the representation of Process, ProcessComponents, ProcessPackages, and Disciplines. Nested and non-nested forms can be used, but subsystems should not appear in such diagrams.

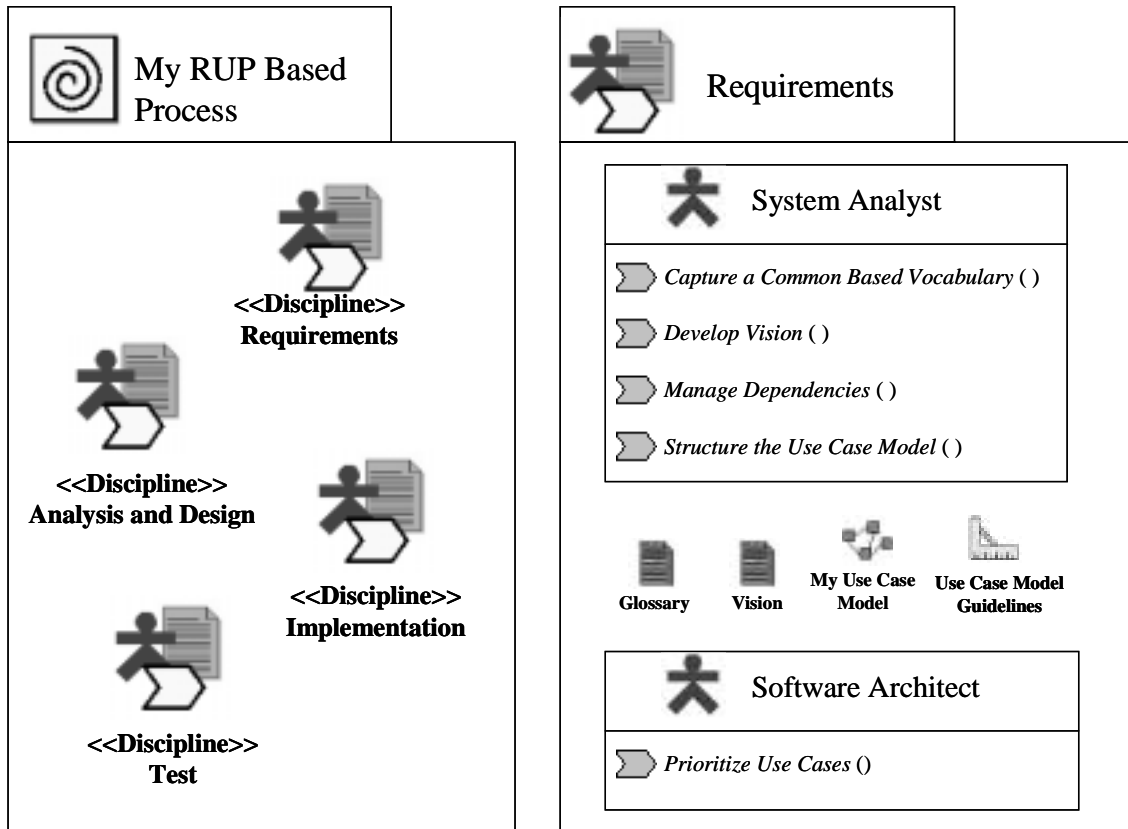


Figure 12-2 Example of Package Diagram

12.5 Use case Diagrams

Use case diagrams show the relationship between process roles and the main work definitions. No particular restrictions apply. See example in Figure 12-4 on page 12-6.

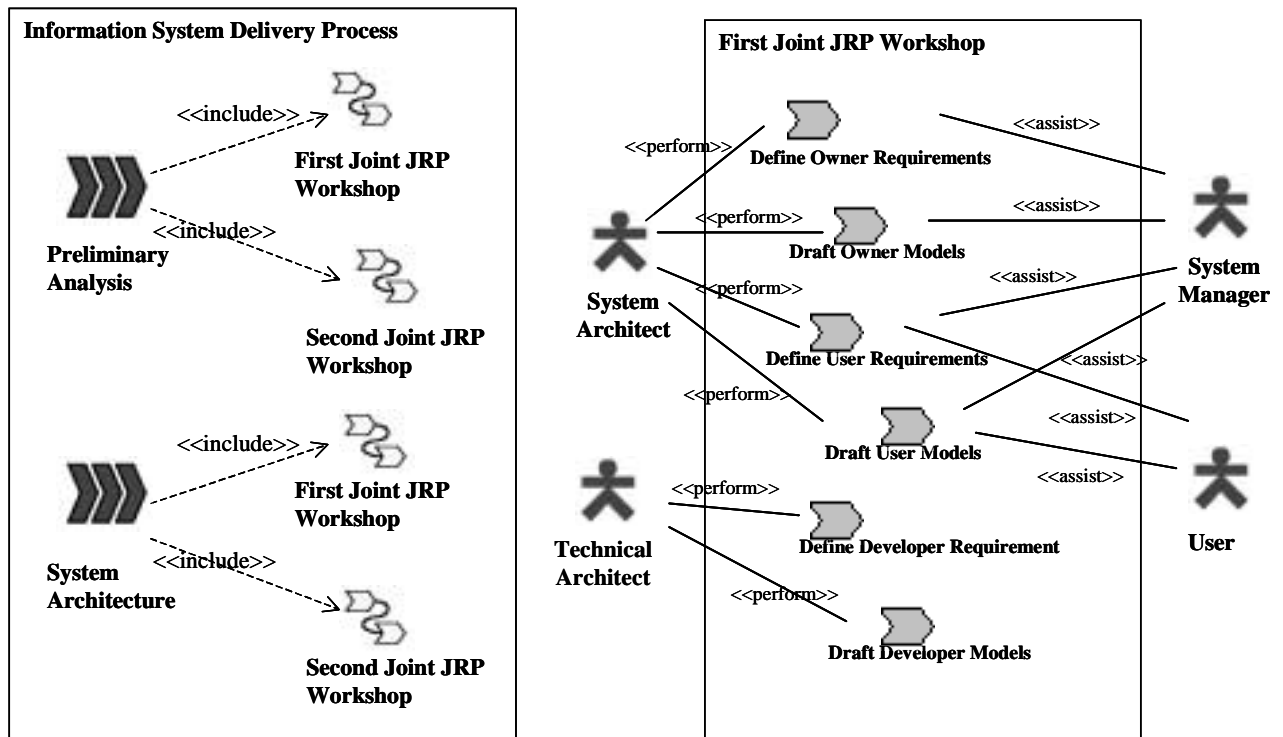


Figure 12-3 Example of Use Case diagram

12.6 Sequence Diagrams

Sequence diagrams can be used to illustrate interaction patterns among SPEM model element instances. Only stick arrowheads should be used.

12.7 Statechart Diagrams

Statechart diagrams can be used to illustrate the behavior of SPEM model elements. Nesting and parallelism are allowed, but signal declaration and history indicators are not.

12.8 Activity Diagrams

Activity diagrams allow presenting the sequencing of activities with their input and output work products as well as object flow states. Swimlanes can be used to separate the responsibilities of different process roles.

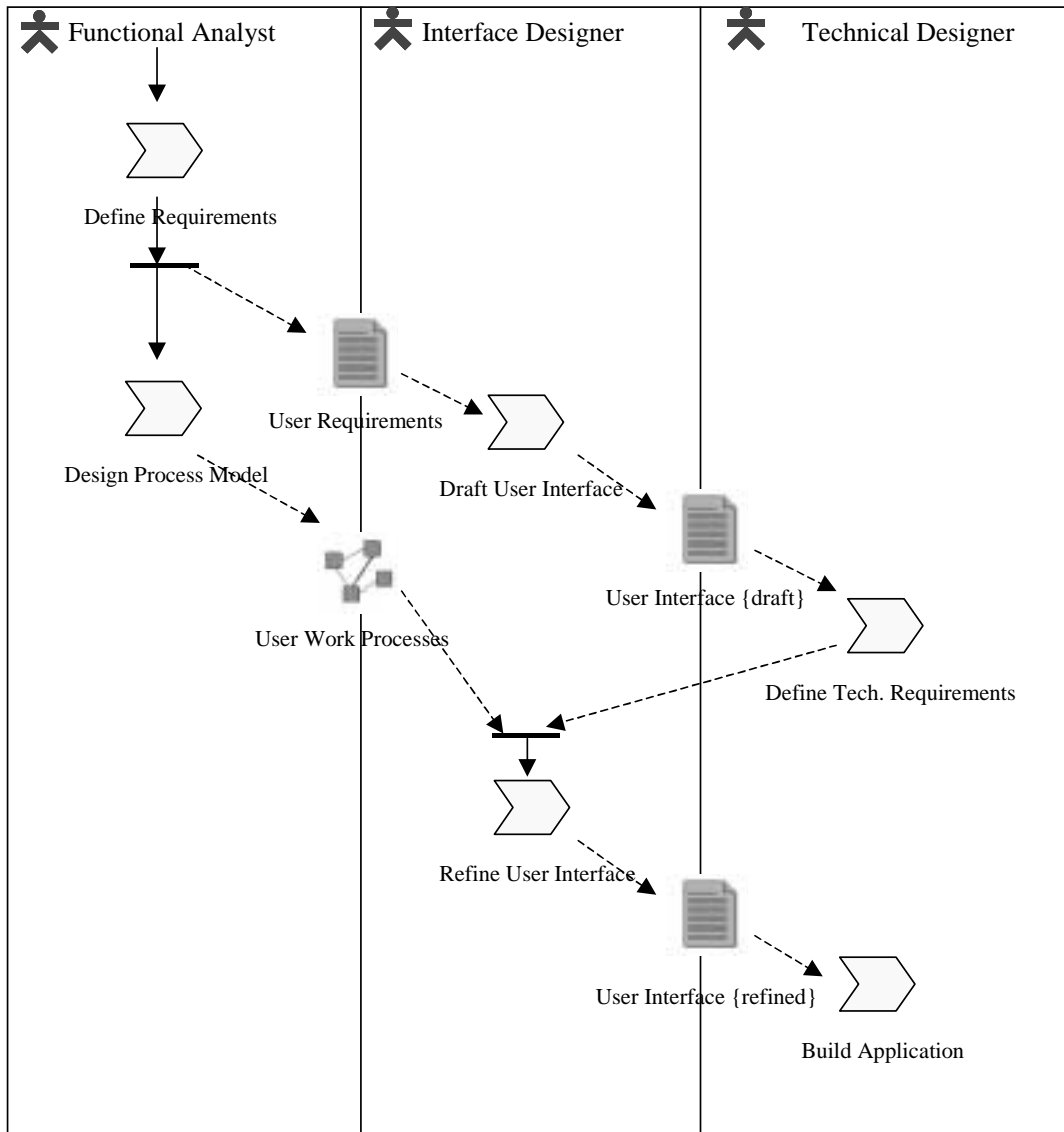


Figure 12-4 Example of Activity diagram

References

A

This chapter is not by any means intended to cover the whole literature on process and process modeling (see the extensive bibliography given in [6]), but to give the principal sources we have used in elaborating this specification.

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Translation Table

B

This appendix maps the terminology from different sources.

SPEM	ProcessRole	Activity Step	WorkProduct Information-Element	Discipline	Lifecycle	Phase	Iteration	Guidance
Rational Unified Process	Role	Activity Step	Artifact	Discipline	Process	Phase	Iteration	Guidelines ToolMentors Templates
IBM Global Services Method	Role	Task	Work Product Description	Domain	Engage-ment Model	Phase	Iteration	Technique
DMR Macroscope	Role	Activity	Deliverable Product	Domain	Path	Phase	Iteration	Guideline Technique
Unisys QuadCycle	Role	Activity Step	Artifact Asset	Discipline	Process	Phase	Iteration	Guideline Technique Technology Roadmap Tacit Knowledge
OPEN	Rôle Direct producer	Task Subtask	Work product	Activity	Lifecycle process	Phase		Technique
Fujitsu SDEM21	Role	WorkItem	Document File	Category	Lifecycle process	Phase		Guidelines Technique
OOSP		Task Activity	Deliverable			Phase		Guideline Standard
Promoter	Role	Activity	Product		Lifecycle			Direction
IEEE 1074-1997		Activity	Product	Activity group	Lifecycle process	Phase		

ISO/IEC 12207	Role	Task	Product	Process	Lifecycle model			
PMBOK	Staff	Task	Deliverable	Activity		Phase		Technique

Example from the DMR Macroscope C

Following is a Software Process Engineering Model instantiation example. This example only represents a portion of a typical information system delivery process. Process metamodel (M2) classes, associations and attributes are represented in courier while the corresponding M1 instances appear in **bold times** font.

Phase : **Preliminary Analysis**

Process : **Information System Delivery Process**

Subactivities

Iteration : **First Joint Requirements Planning (JRP) Workshop**

Subactivities

Activity : **Define Owner Requirements**

ProcessRole : **System Architect**

ActivityParameters {kind : input}

WorkProduct : **EnterpriseArchitecture**

ActivityParameters {kind : output}

WorkProduct : **Assessment of Current System**

{state: **initial draft**}

WorkProduct : **Owner Requirements** {state: **initial draft** }

Steps

Step : **Define objectives based on stated needs**

Step : **Define the key issues**

Step : **Determine the relevant enterprise principles**

Activity : **Draft Owner Models**

ProcessRole : **System Architect**

ActivityParameters {kind : input}

WorkProduct : **Assessment of Current System**

 {state: initial draft }
 WorkProduct : **Owner Requirements** {state: initial draft }
ActivityParameters {kind : output}
 WorkProduct : **Business Structure** {state: initial draft }
 WorkProduct : **Business Dynamics** {state: initial draft }
Steps
 Step : **Determine System context**
 Step : **Model structural and dynamic aspects of the enterprise**
 Step : **Define work resources**
 Step : **Explore with prototypes**

Activity : **Define User Requirements**

 ProcessRole : **System Architect**
ActivityParameters {kind : input}
 WorkProduct : **Assessment of Current System**
 {state: initial draft }
 WorkProduct : **Owner Requirements** {state: initial draft }
ActivityParameters {kind : output}
 WorkProduct : **User Alternatives** {state: initial draft }
 WorkProduct : **User Principles** {state: initial draft }
Steps
 Step : **Consider user interface aspects**
 Step : **Consider distribution aspects**
 Step : **Explore with prototypes**

Activity : **Draft User Models**

 ProcessRole : **System Architect**
ActivityParameters {kind : input}
 WorkProduct : **User Alternatives** {state: initial draft }
 WorkProduct : **User Principles** {state: initial draft }
 WorkProduct : **Business Structure** {state: initial draft }
 WorkProduct : **Business Dynamics** {state: initial draft }
ActivityParameters {kind : output}
 WorkProduct : **System Structure** {state: initial draft }
 WorkProduct : **System Dynamics** {state: initial draft }
Steps
 Step : **Determine System context**
 Step : **Model structural and dynamic aspects of the system**
 Step : **Define work resources**
 Step : **Explore with prototypes**

Activity : **Define Developer Requirements**

 ProcessRole : **Technical Architect**
ActivityParameters {kind : input}

WorkProduct : **User Alternatives** {state: **initial draft** }
WorkProduct : **User Principles** {state: **initial draft** }
ActivityParameters {kind : output}
WorkProduct : **Developer Alternatives** {state: **initial draft** }
WorkProduct : **Developer Principles** {state: **initial draft** }
WorkProduct : **Technology Infrastructure**
 {state: **initial draft** }

Steps

Step : **Revise work process and class definitions**
Step : **Revise user interface models**

Activity : **Draft Developer Models**

ProcessRole : **Technical Architect**
ActivityParameters {kind : input}
WorkProduct : **Developer Alternatives** {state: **initial draft** }
WorkProduct : **Developer Principles** {state: **initial draft** }
WorkProduct : **Technology Infrastructure**
 {state: **initial draft** }
WorkProduct : **System Structure** {state: **initial draft** }
WorkProduct : **System Dynamics** {state: **initial draft** }

ActivityParameters {kind : output}

WorkProduct : **Software Architecture** {state: **initial draft** }
WorkProduct : **Persistent Information** {state: **initial draft** }

Steps

Step : **Define process and data aspects of the system**
Step : **Consider user interface aspects**
Step : **Consider distribution aspects**
Step : **Explore with prototypes**

Subactivities

Iteration : **Second Joint Requirements Planning (JRP) Workshop**

Subactivities

Similar to **First Joint Requirements Planning (JRP) Workshop** iteration:

- reuse and cumulate existing WorkProduct assets as input to activities
- change «**initial draft** » output WorkProduct states with «**revised draft** »

Phase : **System Architecture**

Process : **Information System Delivery Process**

Subactivities

Iteration : **First Joint Application Design (JAD) Workshop**

Subactivities

Activity : **Revise User Models**

ProcessRole: **System Architect**

ActivityParameters {kind : input}

WorkProduct: **System Structure** {state: **revised draft** }

WorkProduct : **System Dynamics** {state: **revised draft** }
ActivityParameters {kind : output}
WorkProduct : **System Structure** {state: **revised** }
WorkProduct : **System Dynamics** {state: **revised** }
Steps
Step : **Revise work process and class definitions**
Step : **Revise user interface models**
Step : **Realize/improve prototype**

etc.

Phase : **System Architecture**

Process : **Information System Delivery Process**

Subactivities

Iteration : **Second Joint Application Design (JAD) Workshop**

etc.

Glossary

Activity	A Work Definition describing what a Process Role performs. Activities are the main element of work.
Component	(<i>see</i> Process Component)
Dependency	A Dependency is a process-specific relationship between process Model Elements.
Discipline	A Discipline is a process package organized from the perspective of one of the software engineering disciplines: Configuration Management, Analysis & Design, and so forth.
Element	(<i>see</i> Model Element)
Guidance	Guidance is a Model Element associated with the major process definition elements, which contains additional descriptions such as techniques, guidelines and UML profiles, procedures, standards, templates of work products, examples of work products, definitions, and so on.
Iteration	An Iteration is a large-grained Work Definition that represents a set of Activities focusing on a portion of the system development that results in a release (internal or external) of the software product.
Model Element	An element describing one aspect of a software engineering process.
Process Role	A Model Element describing the roles, responsibilities and competencies of an individual carrying out Activities within a Process, and responsible for certain Work Products.
Phase	A high-level Work Definition, bounded by a Milestone.
Process	A Process is a complete description of a software engineering process, in term of Process Performers, Process Roles, Work Definitions, Work Products, and associated Guidance.

Process Component	A Process Component is a coherent grouping of process Model Elements organized from a given vantage point such as a discipline, for example, testing, or the production of some specific work product, for example, requirements management.
Process Performer	A Process Performer is a Model Element describing the owner of Work Definitions. Process Performer is used for Work Definitions that cannot be associated with individual Process Roles, such as a Life Cycle or a Phase.
Step	An atomic and fine-grained Model Element used to decompose Activities. Activities are partially ordered sets of Steps.
Work Definition	A Model Element of a process describing the execution, the operations performed, and the transformations enacted on the Work Products by the roles. Activity, Iteration, Phase, and Lifecycle are kinds of work definition.
Work Product	A Work Product is a description of a piece of information or physical entity produced or used by the activities of the software engineering process. Examples of work products include models, plans, code, executables, documents, databases, and so on.

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Software Process Engineering Metamodel (SPEM), v1.1 Reference Sheet

This is an updated formal version of the SPEM specification.

OMG documents used to create this version:

- FTF Convenience document: ptc/04-03-12

