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Lecture 06 (16-11-2015)



Formal Modelling with SysML and OCL

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Where are we?

- 01: Concepts of Quality
- 02: Legal Requirements: Norms and Standards
- 03: The Software Development Process
- 04: Hazard Analysis
- 05: High-Level Design with SysML
- 06: Formal Modelling with SysML and OCL
- 07: Detailed Specification with SysML
- 08: Testing
- 09 and 10: Program Analysis
- 11: Model-Checking
- 12: Software Verification (Hoare-Calculus)
- 13: Software Verification (VCG)
- 14: Conclusions



Formal Modelling in the Development Cycle





What is OCL?

OCL is the Object Constraint Language.

What is OCL?

 "A formal language used to describe expressions on UML models. These expressions typically specify invariant conditions that must hold for the system being modeled or queries over objects described in a model." (OCL standard, §7)

► Why OCL?

 "A UML diagram, such as a class diagram, is typically not refined enough to provide all the relevant aspects of a specification. There is, among other things, a need to describe additional constraints about the objects in the model. " (OCL standard, §7.1)



Characteristics of the OCL

- OCL is a pure specificication language.
 - OCL expressions do not have side effects.
- OCL is **not** a programming language.
 - Expressions are not executable (though some may be).
- OCL is typed language
 - Each expression has type; all expressions must be welltyped.
 - Types are classes, defined by class diagrams.



OCL can be used for the following:

- as a query language
- to specify invariants on classes and types in the class
- to specify type invariant for Stereotypes
- to describe pre- and post conditions on Operations and Methods
- to describe Guards
- to specify target (sets) for messages and actions
- to specify constraints on operations
- to specify derivation rules for attributes for any expression over a UML model.

(OCL standard, §7.1.1)



Example: A Flight-Booking System

- Flight destinations are given by
 - an IATA id, and a string
- A flight is given by
 - Source and destination, arrival and departure date, capacity and free seats
- A query asks for
 - a flight from/to at a given time and number of free seats
- Operations:
 - Query
 - Book a flight





Example: A Flight-Booking System

Possible constraints:

- No more free seats than capacity
- Source and destination must be disjoint
- Query must return "correct" flight
- Destination identifiers must be unique
- To book a flight:
 - Possible if enough free seats
 - Afterwards, number of free seats reduced

Possible extension:

Query returns a schedule --- list of connecting flights























OCL Basics

► The language is typed: each expression has a type.

- Three-valued logic (Kleene logic)
 - Actually, more like four-valued (null)
- Expressions always live in a context:
 - Invariants on classes, interfaces, types.

context Class
inv Name: expr

Pre/postconditions on operations or methods

```
context Type :: op(a1: Type) : Type
pre Name: expr
post Name: expr
```



OCL Types

- Basic types:
 - Boolean, Integer, Real, String
 - OclAny, OclType, OclVoid
- Collection types:
 - Sequences, Bag, OrderedSet, Set
- Model types





Basic types and operations

► Integer (ℤ)

OCL-Std. §11.5.2

► Real (R)

OCL-Std. §11.5.1

- Integer is a subclass of Real
- round, floor from Real to Integer

String (Zeichenketten) OCL-Std. §11.5.3

- substring, toReal, toInteger, characters, etc.
- Boolean (Wahrheitswerte)
 OCL-Std. §11.5.4
 - or, xor, and, implies
 - Relationen auf Real, Integer, String



Collection Types

- Sequence, Bag, OrderedSet, Set OCL-Std. §11.7
- Operations on all collections:
 - size, includes, count, isEmpty, flatten
 - Collections are always "flattened"
- Set
 - union, intersection
- Bag
 - union, intersection, count

Sequence

first, last, reverse, prepend, append



Collection Types: Iterators

- Iterators are higher-order functions
- All iterators defined via iterate OCL-Std. §7.7.6

```
coll->iterate(elem: Type, acc: Type= expr | expr[el, acc])
```

```
iterate(e: T, acc: T= v)
{ acc= v;
  for (Enumeration e= c.elements(); e.hasMoreElements();) {
      e= e.nextElement();
      acc.add(expr[e, acc]);
      }
  return acc;
}
```



Model types

- Model types are given by
 - attributes,
 - operations, and
 - Associations of the model
- Navigation along the association
 - If cardinality is 1, type is of target type π
 - Otherise, it is **Set(T)**
- User-defined operations in expressions have to be stateless (stereotype <<query>>)



Undefinedness in OCL

Undefinedness is propagated

OCL-Std §7.5.11

- In other words, all operations are strict
- Exceptions:
 - Boolean operators (and, or non-strict on both sides)
 - Case distinction
 - Test on definedness: oclIsUndefined with

 $oclIsUndefined(e) = \begin{cases} true & if \ e = \bot \\ false & otherwise \end{cases}$

- Resulting logic is three-valued (Kleene-Logic)
- In fact, four-valued: there is always null
- Iterators are "semi-strict"



OCL Style Guide

- Avoid complex navigation ("Loose coupling")
 - Otherwise changes in models break OCL constraints
- Always choose adequate context
- "Use of allInstances() is discouraged"
- Split up invariants if possible
- Consider defining auxiliary operations if expressions become too complex.





Summary

- OCL is a typed, state-free specification language which allows us to denote constraints on models.
- ► We can define or models much more precise.
 - Ideally: no more natural language needed.
- OCL is part of the more "academic" side of UML/SysML.
 - Tool support is not great, some tools ignore OCL, most tools at least type-check OCL, hardly any do proofs.
- However, in critical system development, the kind of specification that OCL allows is essential.
- Next week: detailed specification with SysML.
 - Behavioural diagrams: state diagrams, sequence charts ...

