



UML Class Diagram

Prof. ssa Romina Eramo
Università degli Studi di Teramo
Dipartimento di Scienze della Comunicazione
reramo@unite.it

- The goal is not to build documents but software that satisfies the user's requests with predictable times and methods
- Templates help build good software
- Proven and Accepted Engineering Technical Modeling
 - Mathematical models for forecasts
 - Models for building cars, cars

- What is it?
 - A model is a simplification of reality
- Because
 - Models are built to better understand the system that is being developed

- Purposes
 - They help to describe/visualize a system as it is and as we want it to be
 - Specify the structure or behavior of a system
 - They give a template that guides you to build a system
 - Document the decisions made

Models of complex systems are built because they cannot be understood in their entirety

UML: What is it?

- Acronym Unified Modeling Language
 - Language: language
 - Unified: standard, unified model
 - Modeling: For Modeling
- Language for
 - Visualize
 - Specify
 - Build
 - Document
 - the elaborations of a software system

Class Diagrams

- Concept of class diagram
- Creating class diagram

Classes

ClassName

attributes

operations

A *class* is a description of a set of objects that share the same attributes, operations, relationships, and semantics.

Graphically, a class is rendered as a rectangle, usually including its name, attributes, and operations in separate, designated compartments.

Class Names

ClassName

attributes

operations

The name of the class is the only required tag in the graphical representation of a class. It always appears in the top-most compartment.

Class Attributes

Person

name : String

address: Address

birthdate: Date

ssn : Id

An *attribute* is a named property of a class that describes the object being modeled. In the class diagram, attributes appear in the second compartment just below the name-compartment.

Class Attributes (Cont'd)

Person

name : String

address: Address

birthdate: Date

/ age : Date

ssn : Id

Attributes are usually listed in the form:

attributeName: Type

A *derived* attribute is one that can be computed from other attributes, but doesn't actually exist. For example, a Person's age can be computed from his birth date. A derived attribute is designated by a preceding '/' as in:

/ age : Date

Class Attributes (Cont'd)

Person

```
+ name : String
```

address : Address

birthdate : Date

/ age : Date

- ssn : Id

Attributes can be:

```
+ public
```

protected

- private

/ derived

Class Operations

Person

name : String

address: Address

birthdate: Date

ssn : Id

eat

sleep

work

play

Operations describe the class behavior and appear in the third compartment.

Depicting Classes

When drawing a class, you needn't show attributes and operation in every diagram.

Person

Person

Person

name

ssn

: String

Person

Person

: Id

eat()

birthdate: Date

name address birthdate

sleep()

eat play work()

play()

Class Responsibilities

A class may also include its responsibilities in a class diagram.

A responsibility is a contract or obligation of a class to perform a particular service.

SmokeAlarm

Responsibilities

-- sound alert and notify guard station when smoke is detected.

-- indicate battery state

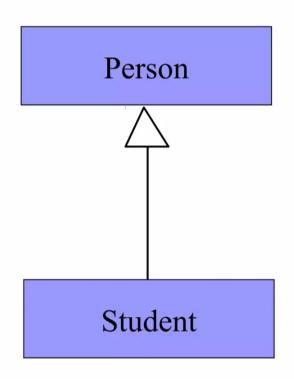
Relationships

In UML, object interconnections (logical or physical), are modeled as relationships.

There are three kinds of relationships in UML:

- dependencies
- generalizations
- associations

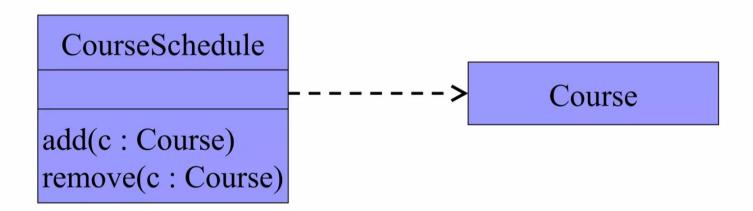
Generalization Relationships



A *generalization* connects a subclass to its superclass. It denotes an inheritance of attributes and behavior from the superclass to the subclass and indicates a specialization in the subclass of the more general superclass.

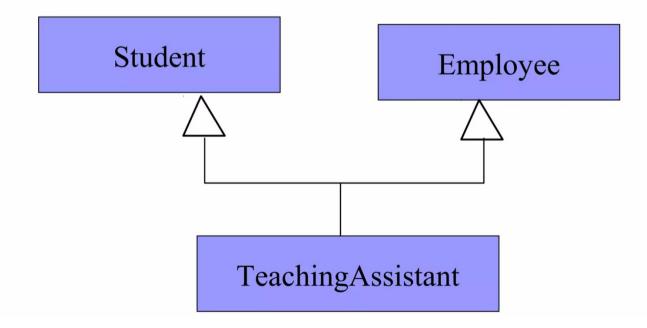
Dependency Relationships

A dependency indicates a semantic relationship between two or more elements. The dependency from CourseSchedule to Course exists because Course is used in both the add and remove operations of CourseSchedule.



Generalization Relationships (Cont'd)

UML permits a class to inherit from multiple super classes, although some programming languages (*e.g.*, Java) do not permit multiple inheritance.



Association Relationships

If two classes in a model need to communicate with each other, there must be link between them.

An association denotes that link.

Student

Instructor

We can indicate the *multiplicity* of an association by adding *multiplicity adornments* to the line denoting the association.

The example indicates that a *Student* has one or more *Instructors*:

Student 1..* Instructor

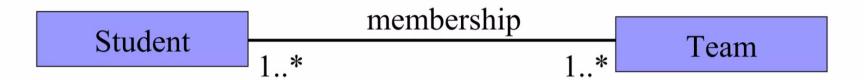
The example indicates that every *Instructor* has one or more *Students*:

Student Instructor

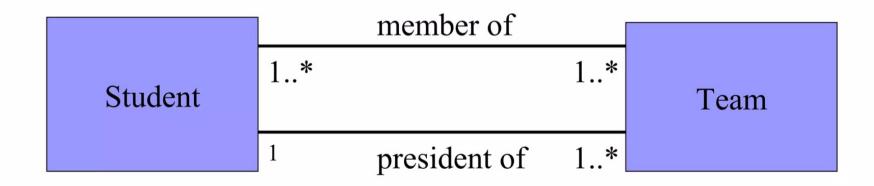
We can also indicate the behavior of an object in an association (*i.e.*, the *role* of an object) using *role names*.

Student	teaches	learns from	T
	1*	1*	Instructor

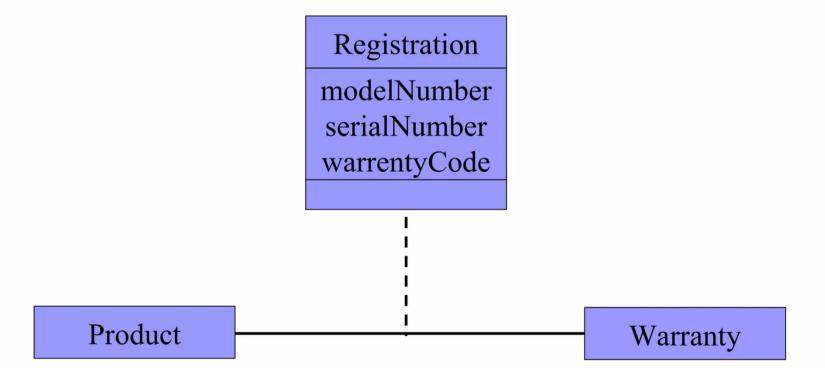
We can also name the association.



We can specify dual associations.



Associations can also be objects themselves, called *link classes* or an *association classes*.



Example

