

UNIFIED MODELING LANGUAGE



Generic Mechanisms

Radovan Červenka, October 1998 (version 0.04)

Context

✓ Introduction

- ➔ ■ **Generic Mechanisms**
- Use Case Modeling
 - Static Structure Modeling
 - Dynamic Behavior Modeling
 - Interaction Modeling
 - Physical Structure Modeling
 - General Extension Mechanisms

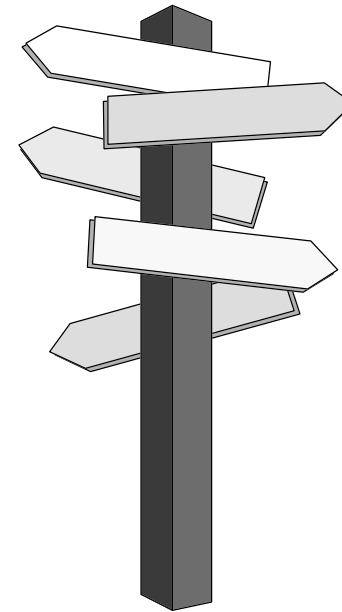
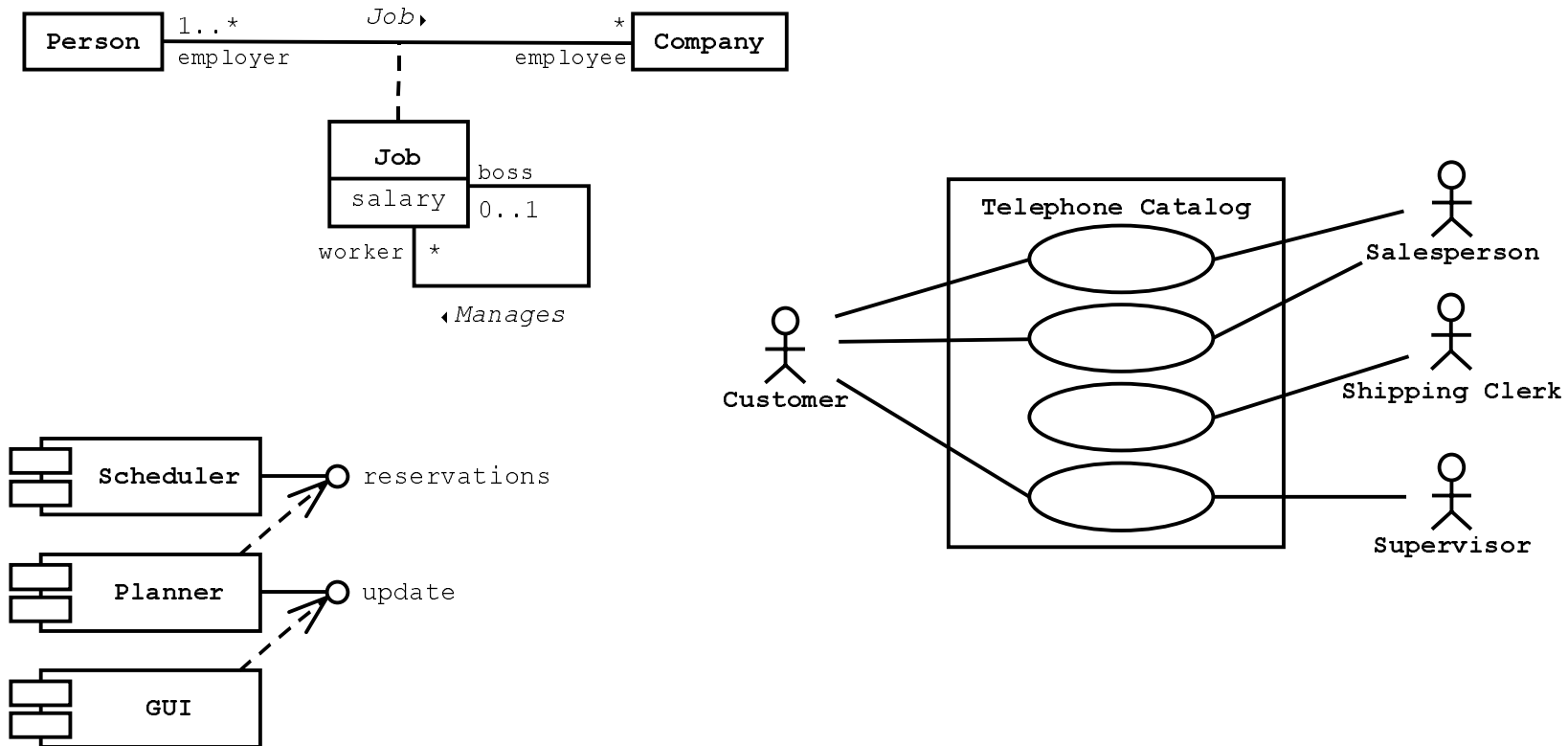


Diagram Elements

→ **generic notation mechanisms used in various ways in other parts of the language**



Graphs, Drawing Paths, Hyperlinks, ...

Graphs and their Contents

- UML diagrams are mainly graphs
- the information is mostly in the topology
- graphical constructs: icons, 2-d symbols, paths and strings

Drawing Paths

→ a series of line segments whose endpoints coincide

Invisible Hyperlinks and the Role of Tools

- arrangement of model information into the hyperdocument
 - ⇒ dynamics notation defined for a particular tool
- * out of scope of UML

Background Information

- suppression of some element information
- textual or tabular format of some information
- * their format is out of scope of UML

String, Name and Label

String

→ a sequence of characters (of any character set)

Name

→ a string uniquely identifying a model element

- may be linked together by delimiters into *pathname*

```
BankAccount, controller, long_underscored_name,  
MathPack::Matrices::BandedMatrix.dimension
```

Label

→ a string that is attached to a graphics symbol



Keyword and Expression

Keyword

→ reserved name

- usually used to distinguish element types which don't have their own graphical representation

«keyword»

Expression

→ linguistic formulas that yield values when evaluated at run-time

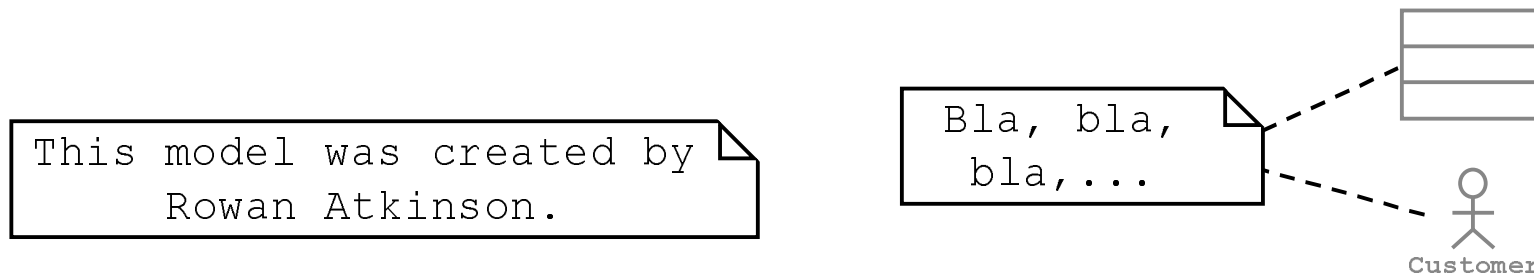
- language-dependent ⇒ in UML treated as string

```
BankAccount  
BankAccount * (*) (Person*, int)  
array [1..20] of range(-1.0 .. 1.0) of Real  
[i > j and self.size > i]
```

Note and Type-Instance Correspondence

Note

- textual information attached to some semantic element
- of various kind, e.g. constraint, comment, method body, tagged value



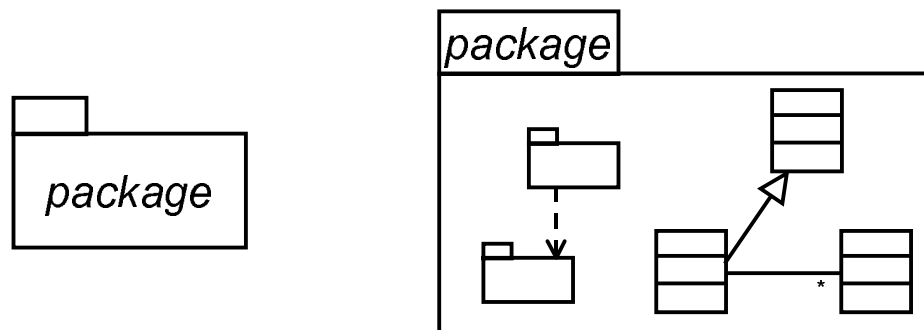
Type-Instance Correspondence

- dual form of modeling elements: type and instance
 - Class-Object, Association-Link, Parameter-Value, Operation-Call, etc.
- notation: the same geometrical symbol and name strings of instance elements are underlined

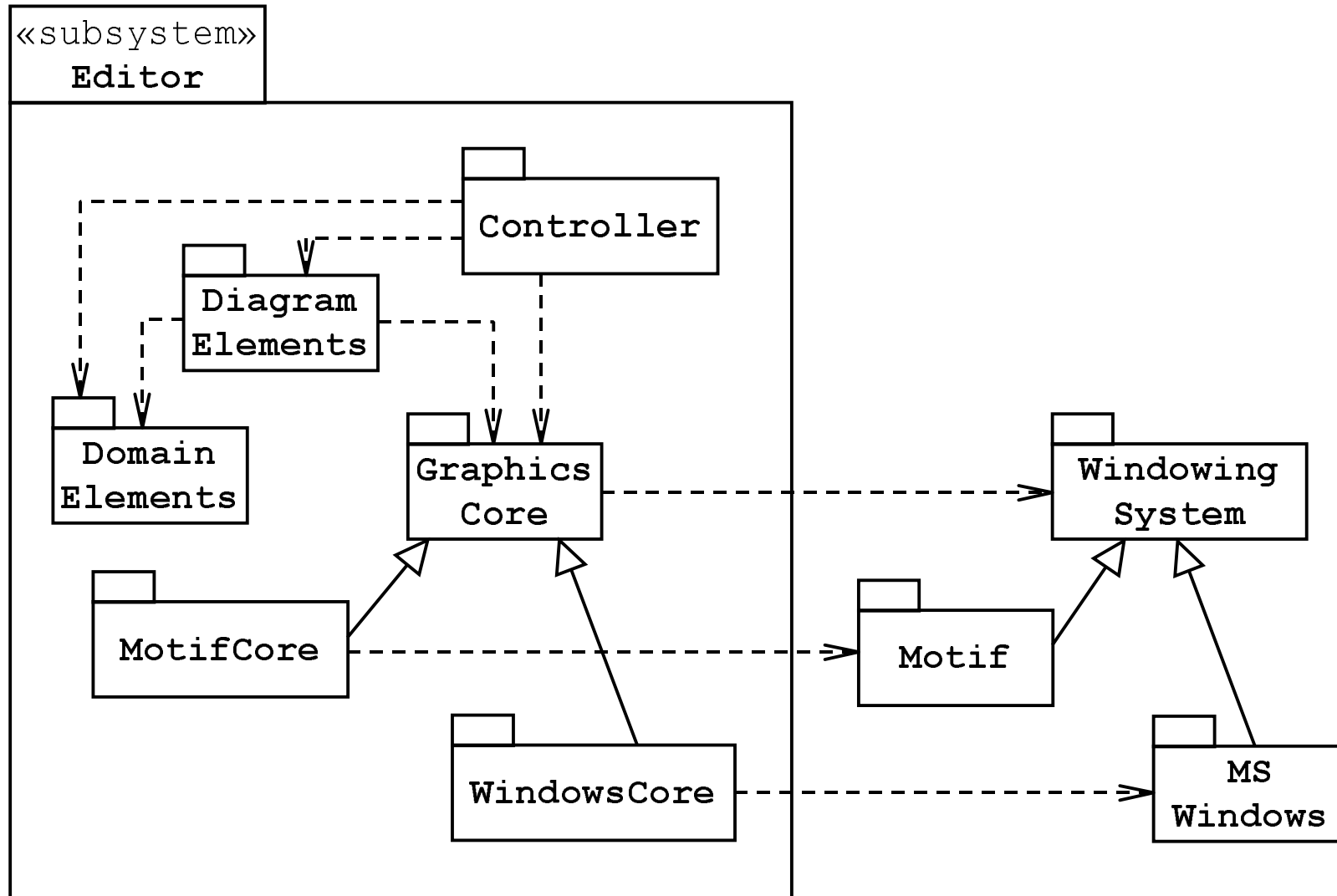
Model Management: Packages

Package

- grouping of model elements; it is itself a model element
- owns or references other model elements
 - ⇒ packages themselves may be nested within other packages
- used in
 - Use Case View ⇒ functional decomposition
 - Static Structure View ⇒ logical high-level architecture
 - Component View ⇒ modular decomposition
 - Deployment View ⇒ physical HW decomposition
- * high-level static structure diagrams containing only packages are called *Package Diagrams*



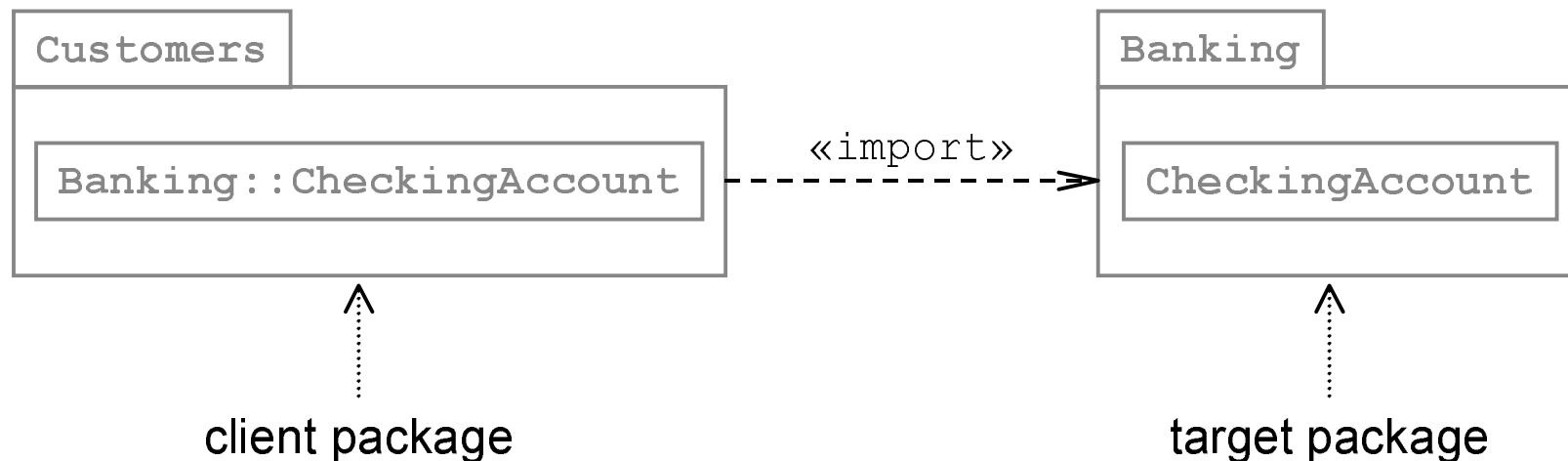
Example of the Package Diagram



Importing a Package

- the contents of the *target package* may be referenced by the *client package* or packages recursively embedded within it
- notation: dependency relationship with stereotype `<<import>>`
 - full element identification:

package name :: ... :: package name :: element name



Summary

- **Graphs and their Contents**
- **Drawing Paths**
- **Invisible Hyperlinks and the Role of Tools**
- **Background Info**
- **String**
- **Name**
- **Label**
- **Keyword**
- **Expression**
- **Note**
- **Type-Instance Correspondence**
- **Package**
- **Importing a Package**