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Systems Architecting: Practices for Agile Development in the Systems Engineering Context



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Problem. Solved.

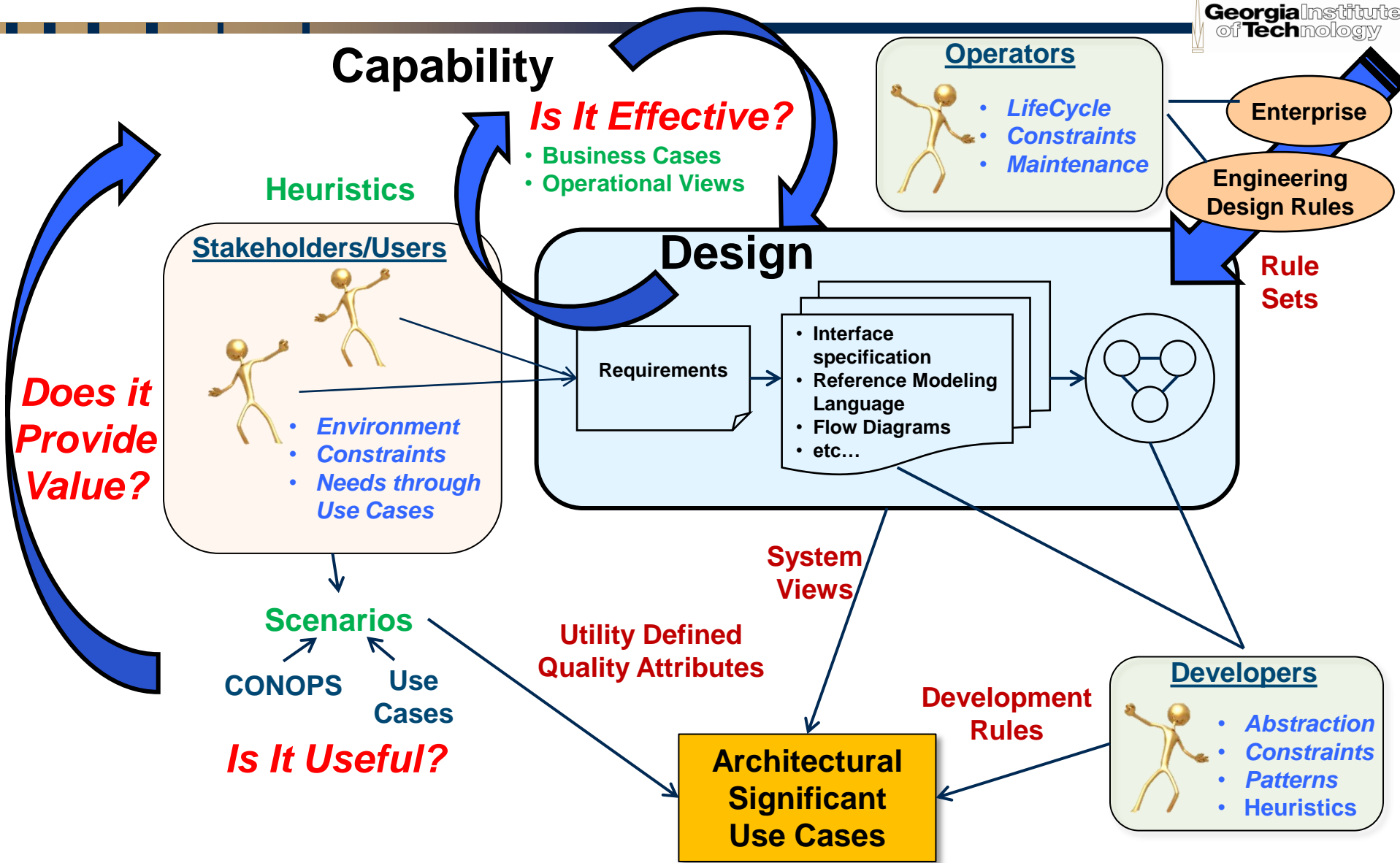
Goals and Learning Objectives

- ◆ Introduce the student to **methods** and **practices** for systems architecting
- ◆ Apply **agile principles** and incremental development to architecting
- ◆ Learn **novel methods** for combining narrative, visual, and specification techniques for rapid and incremental architecture development
- ◆ Learn practical approaches to **facilitate the process** introduced in this tutorial

Summary of Topics

- ◆ Fundamental **systems architecting**
- ◆ Incremental development of ill defined or evolving systems through **agile development**
- ◆ Evaluating architecture quality through **scenario based methods** is reviewed in the context of satisfying business drivers
- ◆ Practical **management methods** are introduced focusing on the leadership role of the systems architect on a development team

Narrative Context



Systems Architecting: Practices for Agile Development in the Systems Engineering Context



Architecting Models

Systems “Architecting” vs. “Engineering”

- ◆ Systems architecting differs from systems engineering in that it relies more on **heuristic** reasoning and less on use of analytics
- ◆ There are **qualitatively** different problem solving techniques required by high and low complexity levels
 - The lower levels would certainly benefit from purely analytical techniques, but those same techniques may be overwhelming at higher levels which may benefit more from heuristics derived from experience, or even abstraction
 - It is important to concentrate on only what is essential to solve the problem

The system should be modeled at as a high a level as possible, then the level of abstraction should be reduced progressively as needed

Architecture Definitions

- ◆ **Architecture**: the fundamental organization of a system embodied in its components, their relationships to each other, and to the environment, and the principles guiding its design and evolution
- ◆ **Architecting**: the activities of defining, documenting, maintaining, improving, and certifying proper implementation of an architecture
- ◆ **Architectural Description**: a collection of products to document an architecture

Classical Architecting Methods

◆ Science based

- Analytic, deductive, experiment based, easily certified, well understood, widely taught

◆ “Art” or practice of architecting

- Nonanalytic, inductive, difficult to certify, less understood, seldom formally taught
- Process of insights, vision, intuitions, judgment calls, subjective “taste”
- Deals with immeasurables, sanity checks
- Leads to “**unprecedented** systems”

Insight

- ◆ The ability to structure a complex situation in a way that greatly increases understanding of it
- ◆ Guided by lessons learned from experience and observations
- ◆ Where systems architecting becomes more an art than a science

Success comes from wisdom...

Wisdom comes from experience...

Experience comes from mistakes

Those mistakes and experience may come from one's predecessors

Insight = Heuristics

Heuristic Methods

- ◆ Based on prior experience and common sense (what is sensible in a given context)
- ◆ Collective experience stated in as simple and concise a manner as possible
- ◆ Provide practical and pragmatic guidance through intractable or “wicked” problems





Heuristics

- ◆ A concise statement of situational insight, lesson learned, or design directive
 - *“All the really important mistakes are made the first day”*
 - *“When partitioning a system choose so that elements have high internal complexity and low external complexity (high cohesion and low coupling)”*
 - *“if the politics don’t fly, the airplane never will”*
- ◆ Maier (2009) has compiled a list of “heuristics for systems level architecting” in an appendix
 - Multitasking
 - Scoping and planning
 - Modeling
 - etc...

Useful to review relevant and define applicable heuristics before undertaking a new effort...identify potential roadblocks!

Complexity

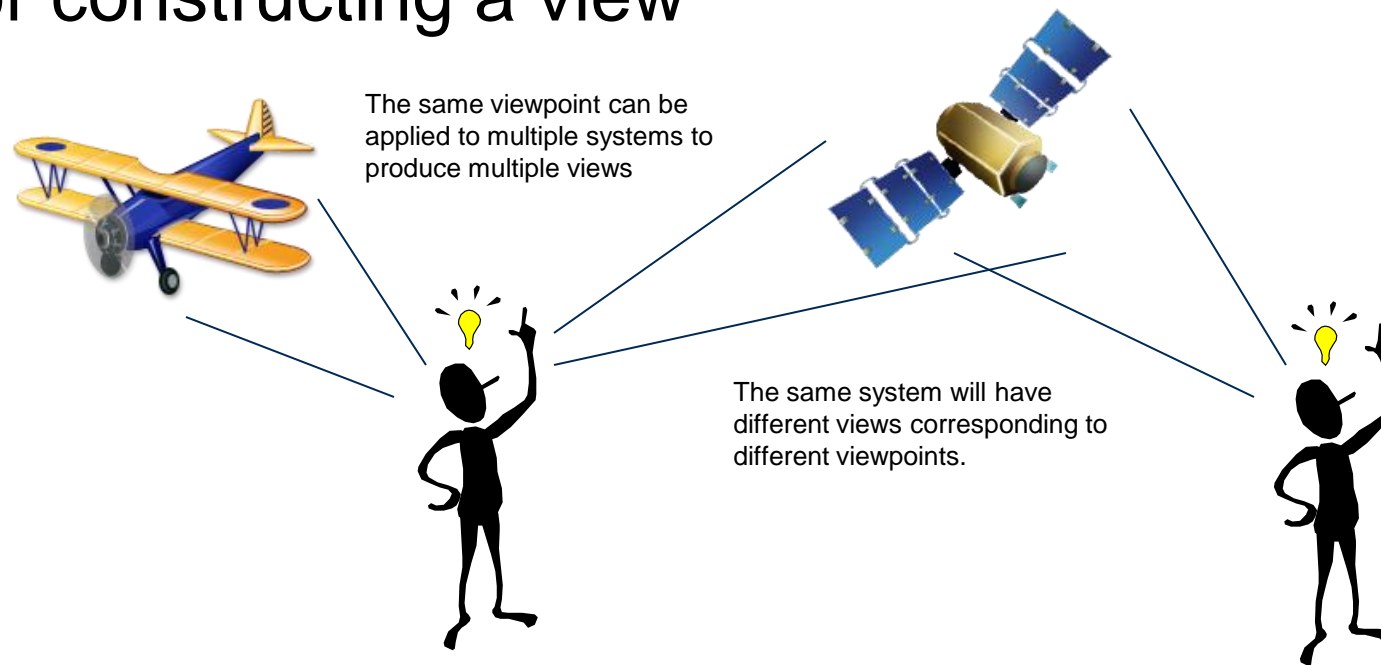
- ◆ **Complex**: composed of interconnected or interwoven parts
- ◆ **System**: a set of different elements so connected or related as to perform a unique function not performed by the elements alone
- ◆ ***Is a system, by definition, complex?***
 - **Complexity**: the measure of the numbers of types of interrelationships among system elements
 - the more complex a system, the more difficult to design, build, and use

Normative Requirements for Architecture Description

- ◆ The **stakeholders identified must include** users, acquirers, developers, and maintainers of the system
- ◆ The **architectural description must define its viewpoints**, with some specific elements required
- ◆ The system's architecture **must be documented in a set of views** in one-to-one correspondence with the selected viewpoints, and each view must be conformant to the requirements of its associated viewpoint
- ◆ The architecture description document must include any known interview inconsistencies and a **rationale for the selection** of the described architecture

Views and Viewpoints

- ◆ A **View** is a representation of a system from the perspective of related concerns or issues
- ◆ A **Viewpoint** is a template, pattern, or specification for constructing a view



Viewpoint consists of:
✓ Concerns (of the Stakeholder)
✓ Methods

terms: IEEE-1471-2000
Graphics adapted from: Maier (2009)

Views and Viewpoints

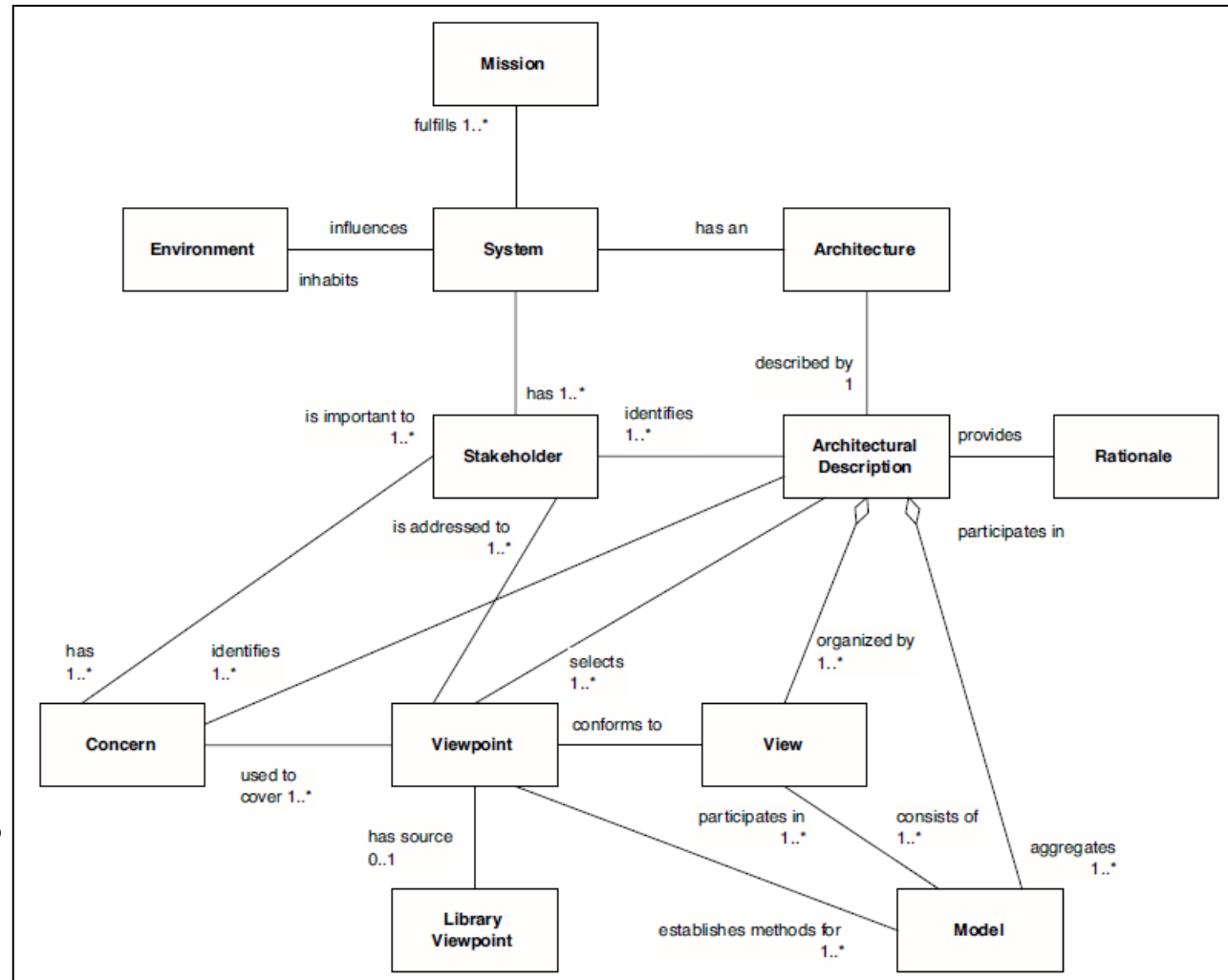
- ◆ A **view** is a collection of models that share the same concerns of a stakeholder
 - **Classical architecture**: shows physical properties of a building from a particular perspective (i.e. a floor plan)
 - **Systems architecting**: generalizes when physical property is not primary, but includes functionality (and others)
- ◆ A **viewpoint** is an abstraction of the view across many systems

Views for Describing a System

- ◆ A view **describes a system w.r.t. a set of attributes** and/or concerns
- ◆ The views selected are **problem dependent** (i.e. variable), however....
- ◆ Should be **complete**: the complete set of views should cover all stakeholder concerns
- ◆ Should be **independent**: each view should capture different piece(s) of information
 - » ***Independent? Well, kind of....(more on this later)***

IEEE-1471-2000: Conceptual Model of an Architectural Description

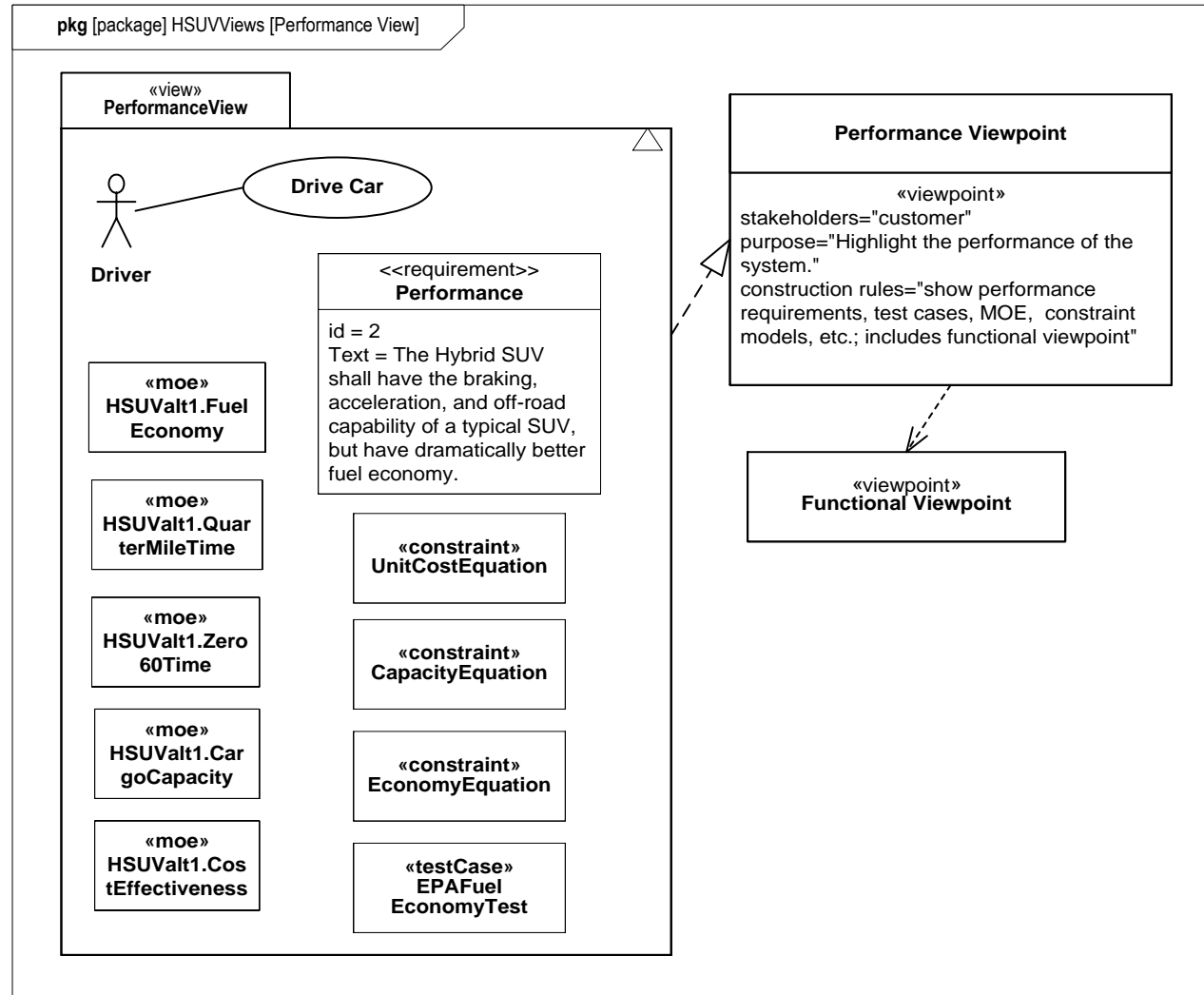
- ◆ Includes **stakeholders** and their concerns as fundamental element
- ◆ The **environment** determines the boundaries that define the scope of the system of interest relative to other systems
- ◆ **Viewpoints** establish the conventions by which a view is created, depicted, and analyzed
- ◆ **Views** conforms to a viewpoint, and addresses concern(s) of the stakeholders through a model



text: IEEE-1471-2000 ; Maier et al. (2004); Maier (2009)
Graphics: IEEE-1471-2000

Views and Viewpoints

- ◆ **Viewpoint** represents stakeholders, their concerns, purpose, intent, and construction rules for specifying a view
- ◆ **View** is a read only mechanism that captures the model subset that addresses the stakeholder concerns
 - Realizes the viewpoint
 - Relationships between model elements established in model and not between views

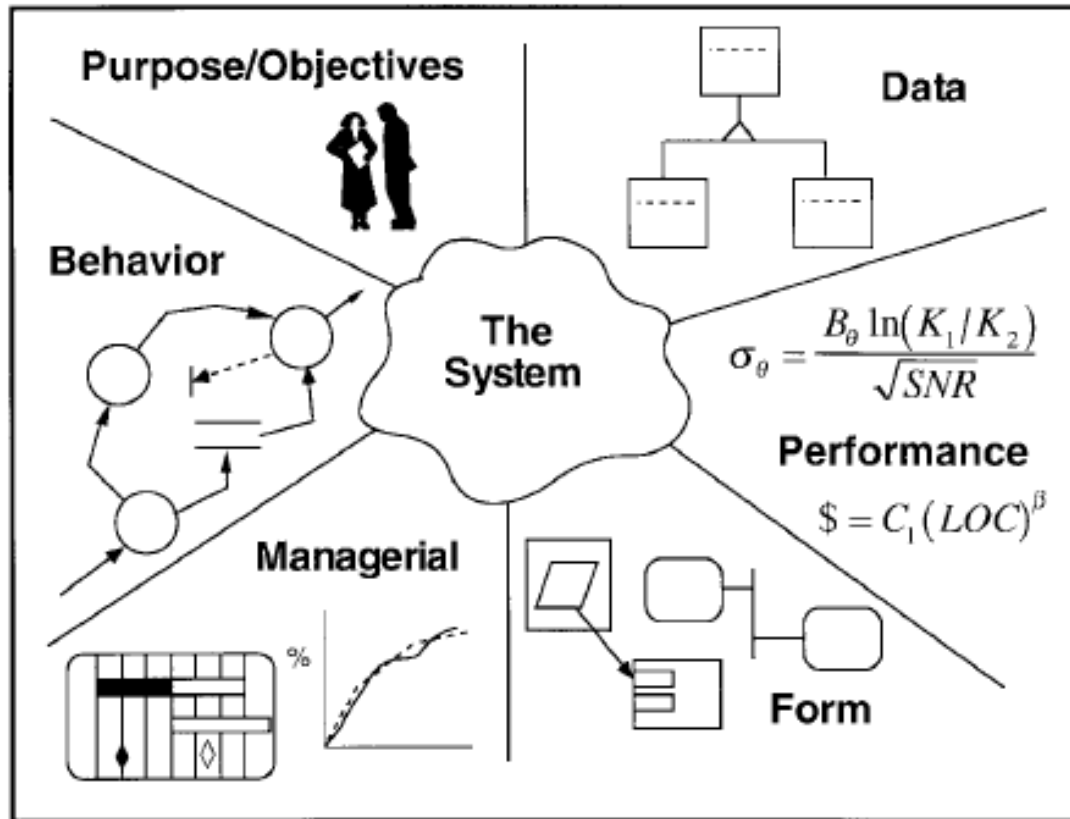


System/Architecture “Views”

Purpose/Objective:
What the client wants

Behavioral (or functional):
What the system does

Managerial: The process by which the system is constructed and managed



Data: The information retained in the system and its interrelationships

Performance (objectives or requirements):
How effectively the system does it

Form: What the system is

- ◆ Each view represents an aspect of the actual system
- ◆ Each view may contain several models to capture information of the view

Relationship between Views

- ◆ Views chosen to be **independent**: each view should capture different piece(s) of information
- ◆ ...But views are **linked**!
- ◆ Behavioral aspects **dependent** on form
 - ***System produces behavior only if form supports it!***
 - i.e. a car can't move without wheels

- ◆ Architect's role here:
 - ID views that are important, build and integrate
 - Integration across views

Models: Objectives and Purpose

- ◆ Systems built to address what a client wants and has useful **purposes**
- ◆ Architect balances what the client wants
(*desirability of purpose*)
with what can be built.
(*feasibility of system to fulfill that purpose*)
- ◆ Identify **prioritized** objectives (with the client)
 - Want measurable/quantifiable requirements
 - Must deal with “abstract” objectives as well

Models: Objectives and Purpose

- ◆ Restate initial **unconstrained** requirements
- ◆ Want to ultimately have a “modeling language” emerge
- ◆ Identify **behavioral requirements** (what does the system need to do)
- ◆ Identify **performance requirements** as “measurable satisfaction models”
- ◆ Identify requirements that directly translate to **physical form**
- ◆ Characteristics and behaviors may **evolve**; some objectives too difficult to group as one of the above

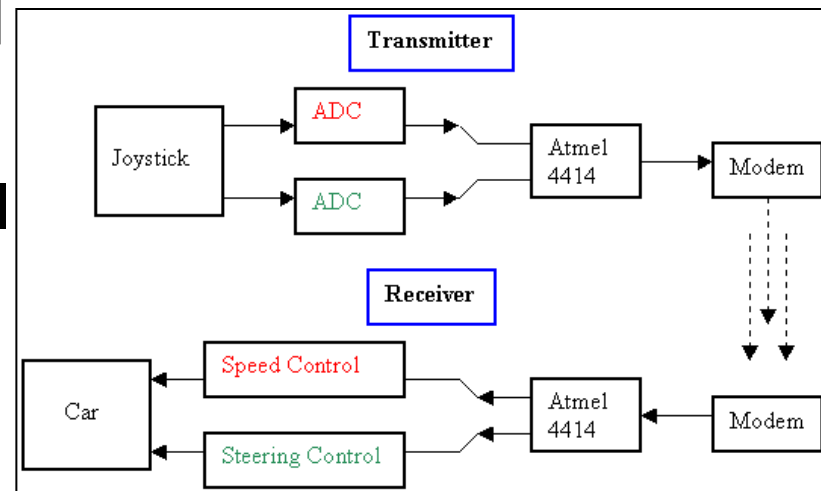
Models: Form

- ◆ Represents **physically identifiable** elements and interfaces of what will ultimately be built
- ◆ Includes **less tangible** issues
 - Communication protocol standards
 - Laws/regulations
 - Policies
- ◆ Degrees of **abstraction**
 - Simple exoskeleton to convey aesthetics and looks
 - Tightly coupled to performance model (i.e. model for wind tunnel test)

Models: Form

◆ Block Diagrams

- Must correspond to physically identifiable element of the system
 - » If not, likely more appropriate to be part of a behavioral model
- Examples:
 - » **System Interconnect Diagrams:** shows specific physical elements connected by physically identifiable channels; can be hierarchical



Radio Control Car Wiring Diagram from:
<http://www.electrokits.com/Electric-RC-Cars/RC-Car-Controller-Project>

Models: Form

◆ Block Diagrams (cont'd)

- **Data flow logic**: who controls the flow?
 - » Important for interfacing to disciplines
 - » System activities provide information needed to enable software architecting (*notions of software concurrency and synchronization driven by data flow discussed in later modules*)

- » **Soft Push**: sender sends, receiver must be waiting to accept
- » **Hard Push**: act of sending interrupts the receiver, who must accept
- » **Blocking Pull**: receiver requests data and waits until the sender responds and sends
- » **Nonblocking Pull**: receiver requests data and continues on without it while waiting for the sender to respond and send
- » **Hard Pull**: receiver requests data, which interrupts the sender who must respond
- » **Queuing Channel**: sender pushes data to a “channel” where it is stored; receiver pulls from the channel store; no one is interrupted

Models: Behavioral/Functional

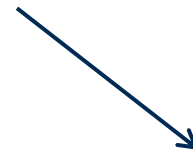
- ◆ Describes pattern of behavior
- ◆ What the system does as opposed to what the system is
 - What the system does: models of behavior
 - What the system is: models of form
- ◆ Can not always look at a scale model (of form) and infer behavior



*I can infer behavior
from this form*



*I can not necessarily infer
behavior from this form*



Models: Behavioral/Functional

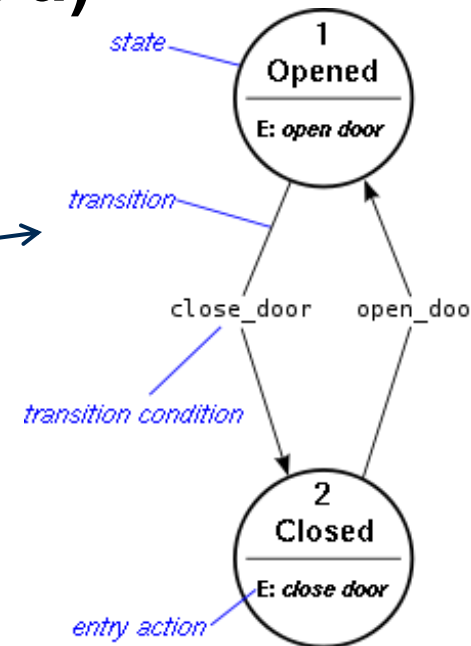
◆ Data and Event Flow Networks (cont'd)

– Examples

- » Data Flow Diagram
- » Finite state machine description
- » **Functional Flow Block Diagram**

– FFBD root principles

- » Functions decomposed hierarchically
- » Decomposition hierarchy defined graphically
- » Data elements decomposed hierarchically and defined
- » Functions are data triggered
- » Defined model structure avoids redundant definition



Models: Performance

- ◆ Predicts how **effectively** an architecture satisfies some objectives, either functional or not
- ◆ “**Non-functional**” **requirements**: they do not explicitly define a functional thread of operation
- ◆ Usually **quantitative** and measurable
- ◆ Describe **system level functions**: properties possessed by the system as a whole
- ◆ Must **constrain** system behavior and form to develop a quantitative performance model

Models: Performance

◆ Analytical

Lower level system parameters and a mathematical rule of combination that predicts the performance parameter of interest from lower level values

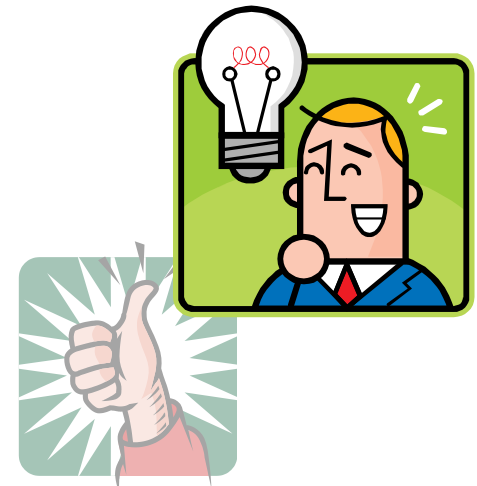
◆ Simulation

May be used when performance may not be predicted through closed form analytical models, but more complex and difficult to explicitly identify



◆ Judgment

Used when analytical or simulation models are inadequate or infeasible
Human judgment captured as design heuristics

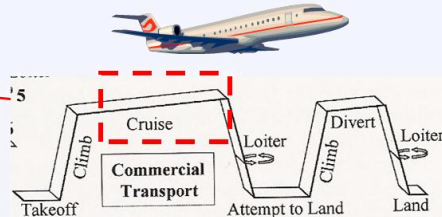


- ◆ The cruise segment mission weight is found using the Breguet range equation

$$R = \frac{V}{C} \frac{L}{D} \ln \frac{W_{i-1}}{W_i} \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{W_i}{W_{i-1}} = \exp \frac{-RC}{V(L/D)}$$

where

R range (ft or m)
C specific fuel consumption
V velocity (ft/s or m/s)
L/D lift-to-drag ratio

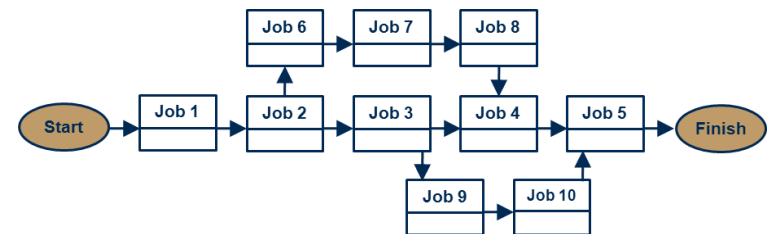


Models: Data

- ◆ Data may be a part of the architecture
- ◆ Defines the data that the system itself retains, and how the relationship among the data is developed and maintained
- ◆ Data models have origins in software development and database development
- ◆ The need to find structure and relationships in large collections of data will be determinants of the system architecture

Models: Managerial

- ◆ Milestones, budgets, and schedules may be as important to the architect as the technical effort
- ◆ Managerial view describes the **process of building** the physical system, and tracks events as they occur
- ◆ Models that comprise this view are standards in project management
 - Critical Path Methods/PERT
 - Cost and schedule metrics
- ◆ Architect will use these to monitor processes as systems is developed to **ensure integrity**



Systems of Systems Architecting Considerations

Systems of Systems Architecting

- ◆ **Systems of systems architectures concerned with architectures of systems created from other autonomous systems**
- ◆ **System architectures**
 - Concerned with people, activities, and technologies that make up an autonomous system within an enterprise*
 - Includes structures and behaviors
 - Autonomous systems may interact with other autonomous systems within an enterprise
 - Autonomous systems' core functionality not dependent on other autonomous systems within an enterprise

***Enterprise**: an association of interdependent organizations and people, supported by resources, which interact with each other and their environment to accomplish their own goals and objectives and those of the association

Systems of Systems Architecting

- ◆ **Systems of systems architectures concerned with architectures of systems created from other autonomous systems**
- ◆ **Enterprise architectures**
 - Concerned with organizational resources and activities
 - Includes people, information, capital, physical infrastructure
 - Consideration of constituent (autonomous) system characteristics within the focus of the SoS architect
 - Design of constituent (autonomous) systems not the focus of the SoS architect
 - SoS architect may consider multiple enterprises

Source: Cole, in Jamshidi (2009)

Systems-of-Systems Architecture

- ◆ The management of relations between the system components is an **architectural** issue which does not belong to individual systems, but shared by all the involved components
- ◆ SoS architecture acts as a framework that directs the interaction of components with their environment, data management, communication, and resource allocation
- ◆ The system-of-systems architecture defines the interfaces and composition which guides its implementation and evolution

Allocation of functionality to components and inter-component interaction, rather than the internal workings of individual components

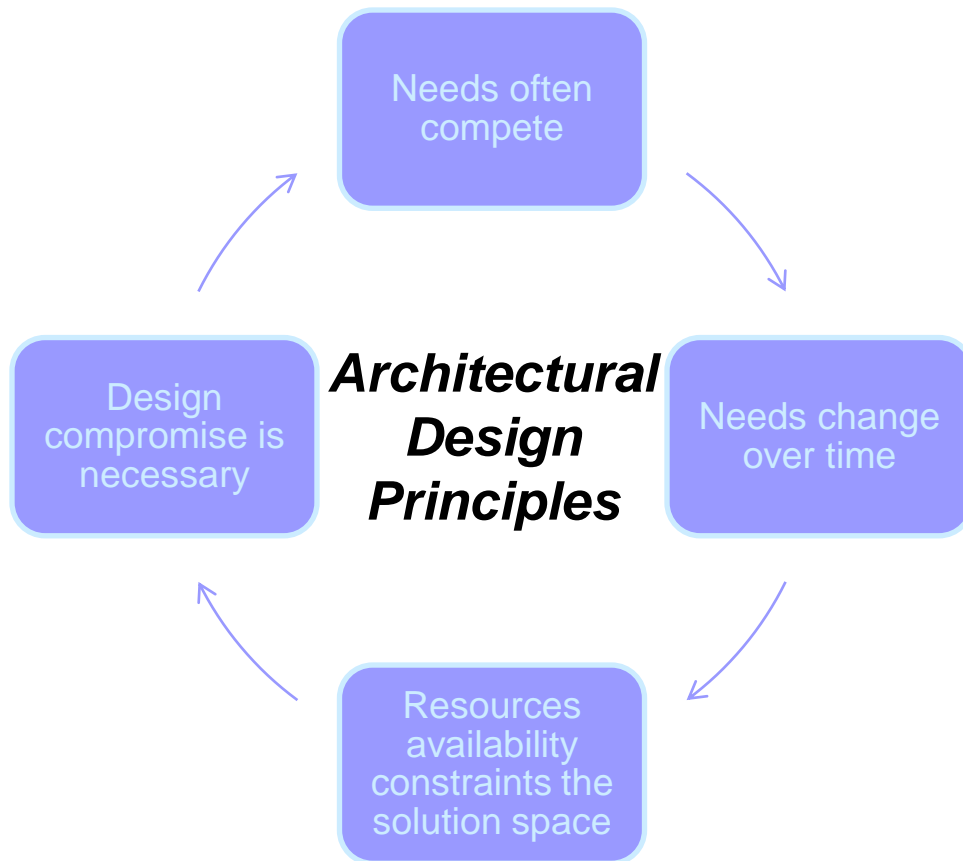
Systems-of-Systems Architecture

Manners by which systems and capabilities are related in a system-of-systems

- ◆ **Structure**: Two systems are structure-related if one is a component or basis of the other.
- ◆ **Function**: Two systems are function-related if one system requires certain functions or services by another system to perform its own function.
- ◆ **Information**: Two systems are information-related if requirements or information is exchanged between the two.
- ◆ **Operation**: Two systems are operation-related if they are both used in an operation scenario to jointly fulfill a mission.
- ◆ **Generation**: Two systems are generation-related if one system will be a replacement of the other.

Relations are determined by the interfaces between systems

SoS Architecture Considerations



Architecting of a SoS warrants special considerations

- **Autonomy**
- **Diversity**
- **Integration strategy**
- **Data architecture**
- **System protection**

Source: Cole, in Jamshidi (2009)

Autonomy

- ◆ Elements of the SoS are autonomous systems
- ◆ Each has its own
 - Stakeholders
 - Mission
 - Management
 - Budget
 - etc...
- ◆ SoS integration cannot compromise the integrity of the constituent systems... autonomy must be maintained after SoS integration
- ◆ **If autonomy of individual systems is disrupted for the benefit of the SoS, it must be re-established**

Autonomy

◆ Technical autonomy

- Integrity of external interfaces (of constituent systems) must be maintained
- Integrity of infrastructure must be maintained
 - » Unplanned infrastructure improvements on the SoS level may disrupt technical autonomy at the system level

◆ Operational Autonomy

- Related to organizations and business processes
- Organizations structured to operate and sustain systems using organic business processes
- The “heart” of the operational architecture of each system, and must have autonomy

Complexity

◆ The existing system “tax”

- Complexity introduced when using existing systems to create SoS solutions
- Using existing systems to assemble an SoS is a good starting point, but constrains the solution
- Infrastructure used to support a system may be of little value at the SoS level (i.e. introduce complexity)

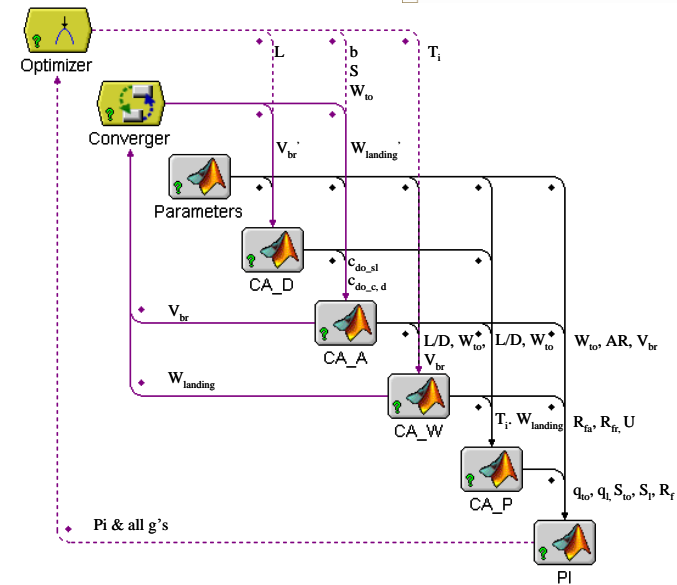
◆ Natural specialization

- Individual systems will want to optimize to perform their primary function
- Will likely “sub-optimize” for individual systems, which may introduce other constraints

Complexity

◆ Natural specialization (cont'd)

- Must “bridge” the optimization across system, which introduces complexity



◆ Fuzzy functional architecture partitions

- The gaps and overlaps in functional responsibilities
- Preserving technical autonomy means multiple systems within the SoS will perform similar (or identical functions)

Diversity

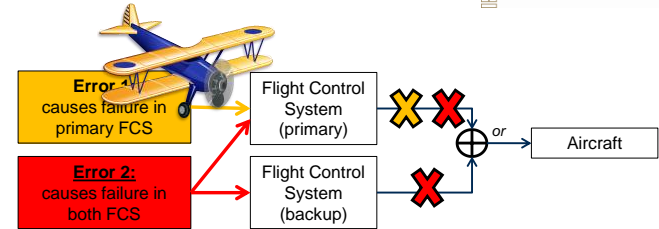
- ◆ Diversity reduces Common Node Failure weakness

- ◆ Challenge: **diversity of needs**

- Constituent systems motivated by individual needs which change over time
- Evolving business case(s): evolving stakeholder needs changes each “evolutionary path”

- ◆ Challenge: **environmental diversity**

- Constituent systems managed separately
- Forces that shape evolution (budget, politics, leadership)



Integration Strategy

- ◆ At the system level...
 - Systems usually **partitioned** into elements having their own responsibilities within that system
 - Elements usually designed to be **integrated within** that system

- ◆ SoS made up of autonomous systems not originally designed as part of a component in a larger system (or that SoS)

Integration Strategy

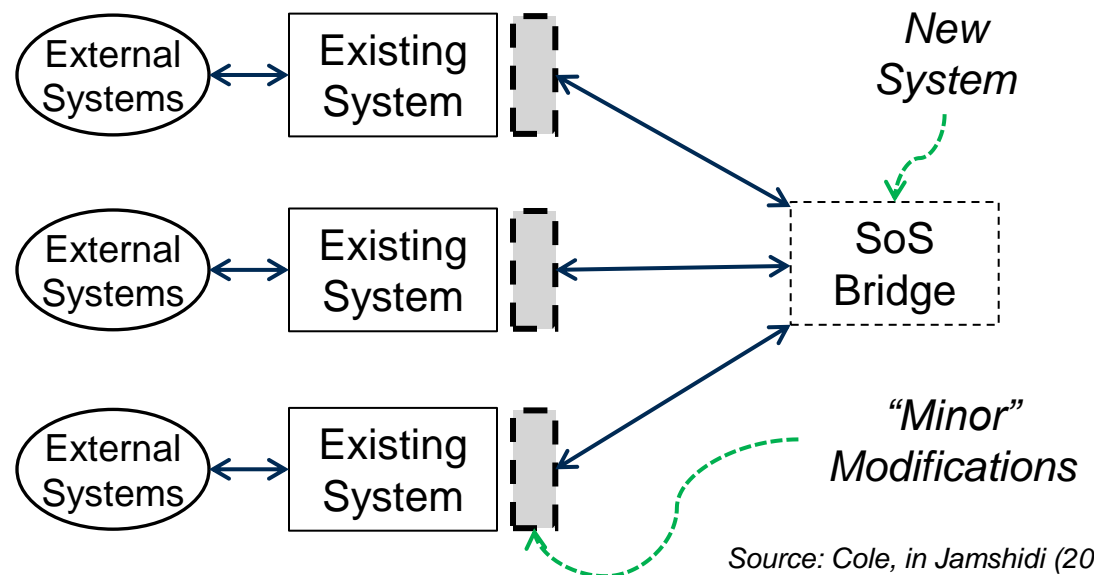
◆ Integration issues

- **Physical integration:** do all the systems use compatible interface protocols?
- **Functional integration:** are the various functions performed by each system de-conflicted?
 - » **Isolation:** isolating the functions performed by one system within the SoS from those performed by other systems
 - » **Damping:** muting certain functions to allow systems to work together
- **Semantic integration:** are data and signals commonly interpreted by the different systems?

Integration Strategy

◆ Solution: SoS Bridging

- Introducing a new system that has the responsibility of dealing with physical, functional, and semantic integration...acts as a “bridge”
- Minimizes modification to existing systems
- Less expensive up front
- Burdensome to operations and adds complexity
- Most common

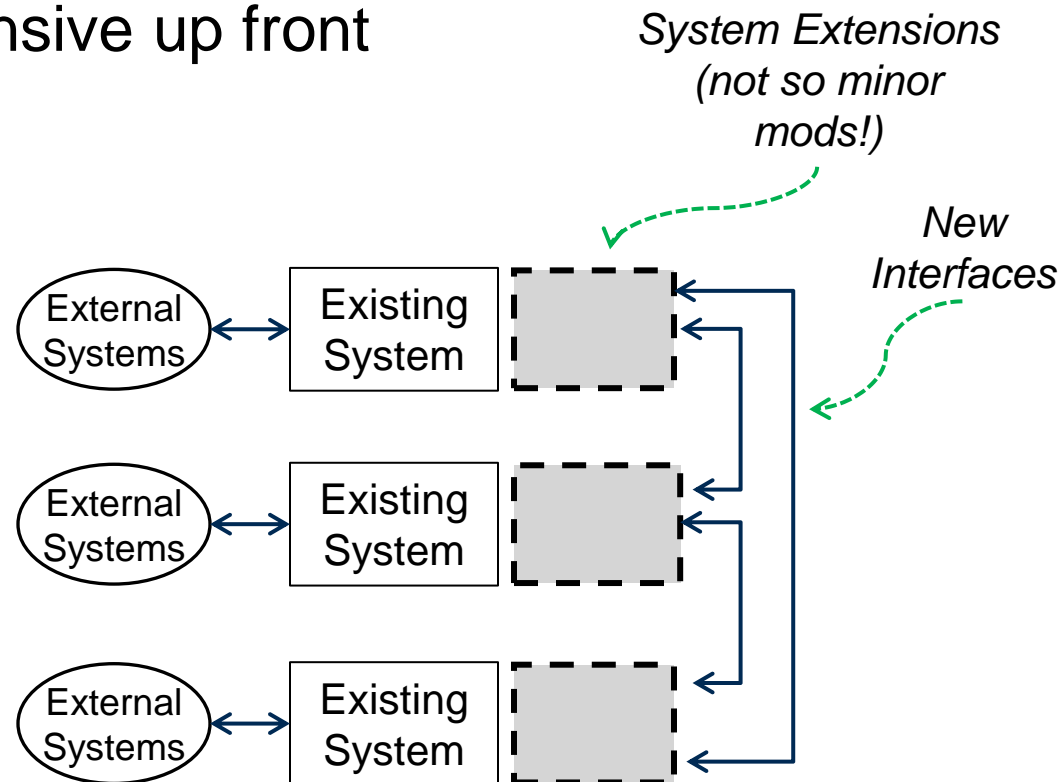


Source: Cole, in Jamshidi (2009)

Integration Strategy

◆ Solution: SoS Refactoring

- Easier to operate and less complex than bridging
- More disruptive to individual systems
- More expensive up front



Source: Cole, in Jamshidi (2009)

Data architecture

- ◆ SoS needs regarding data architecture
 - Data consistency and semantics
 - Persistent storage of shared data
 - » *Data may be owned by one system, but needed across the SoS*

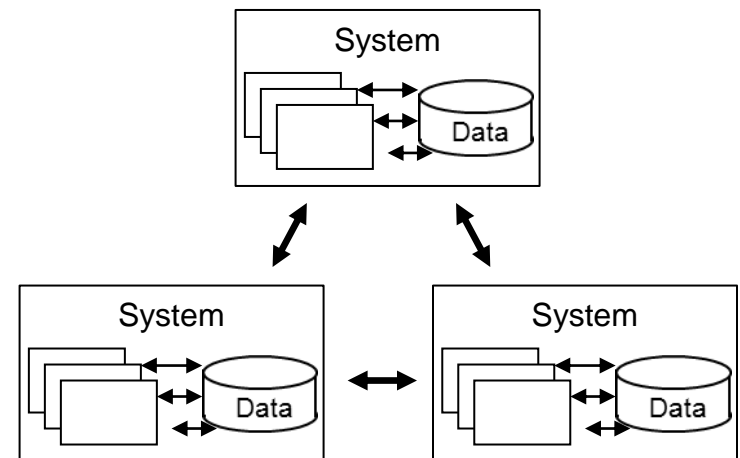
- ◆ Single data store as an option
 - Low complexity
 - » Low risk in terms of data integrity
 - » Low expense to create and manage
 - Limit practicality
 - » Does not preserve autonomy of existing systems
 - » Difficult to meet required performance and availability

SoS Architecture Considerations

Data architecture

◆ Uncoordinated Data Model

- Simple and economical strategy
 - » Requires shared data be **exchanged via traditional interfaces** between systems
 - » Requires each system **independently deal with data structure** and semantic problems
- Problems with data structure and semantics introduce risks
- Potential for high volume of duplicate data
- Good if SoS exchanges low volume of data



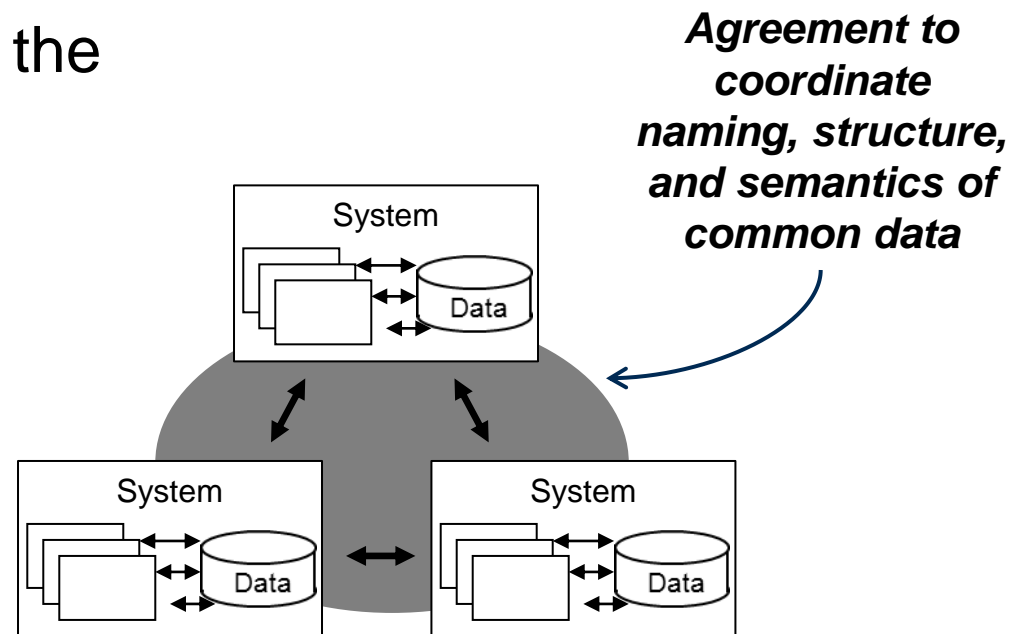
Source: Cole, in Jamshidi (2009)

SoS Architecture Considerations

Data architecture

◆ Coordinated Data Model

- Mitigates the semantic problem found in the uncoordinated data model
- Agreement between the system coordinates data format and semantics
- Maintains simplicity of the uncoordinated model



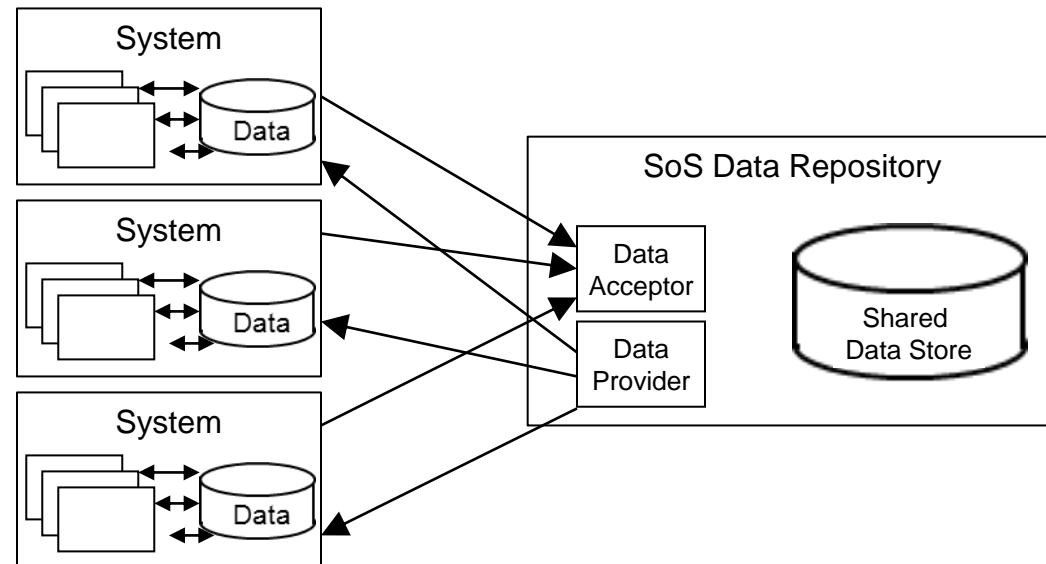
Source: Cole, in Jamshidi (2009)

SoS Architecture Considerations

Data architecture

◆ Federated Data Model

- Most sophisticated approach
- Best applied when there is a large amount of data shared
- Only approach that has a **separate SoS data store** outside of the existing systems
- **Repository** contains the shared data
- **Data owned by a system, posted to repository into an agreed to format**



Source: Cole, in Jamshidi (2009)

SoS Architecture Considerations

System Protection

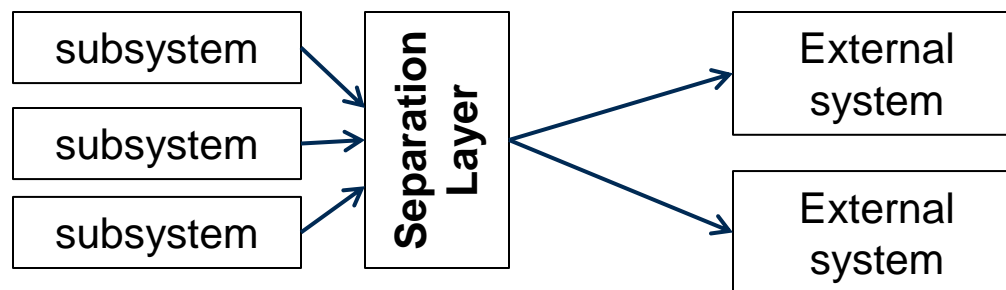
- ◆ **Security** involves allowing systems to interact while preventing unauthorized access to system data and resources
- ◆ Key objectives (and terminology) of **security**
 - **Confidentiality**: prevent unauthorized access
 - **Authentication**: provide a means of identifying authorized users
 - **Integrity**: restrict unauthorized modifications to resources
 - **Nonrepudiation**: guarantee identities of resource consumers and providers



SoS Architecture Considerations

System Protection

- ◆ **Unintentional disruption** by other systems within the SoS is the other side of protection
 - Other systems may overload a system that provides a critical function
 - Fault in one system may ripple throughout the SoS
 - System isolation employed for protection against such disruptions
 - » *Introduces a separation layer between internal subsystems of a system and external systems*



Source: Cole, in Jamshidi (2009)

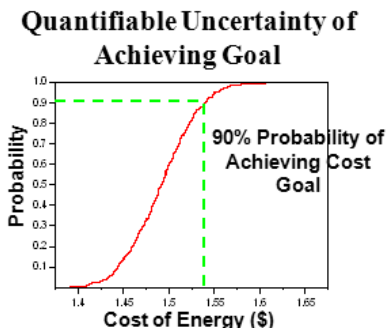
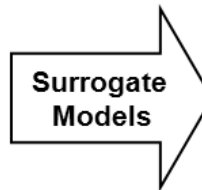
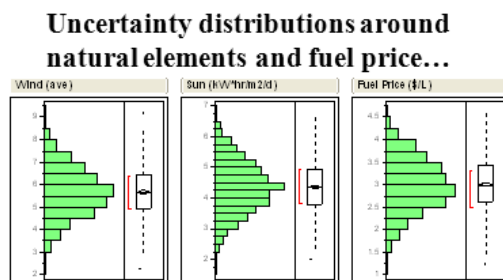
Success Factors

- ◆ Recommended architecture related factors contributing to the success of the SoS
- ◆ Concepts apply to single systems
- ◆ Especially important to SoS!
 - **Robust design**
 - **Architecture alignment**
 - **Architecture governance**
 - **Architecture description**

SoS Architecture Success Factors

Robust Design

- ◆ Robust designs are those that meet requirements **consistently** and are insensitive to small changes in uncontrollable variables
- ◆ Serve their intended purpose under **full range** of environmental conditions
- ◆ Wide single system robust design body of knowledge
- ◆ Unique aspects to **SoS architecture robustness** given that the constituent systems are diverse and need to maintain autonomy



Source: Cole, in Jamshidi (2009); and Ender et al (2010)

SoS Architecture Success Factors
Robust Design

◆ **Business Case Robustness**

- Needs change over time, which changes constituent systems' roles in the SoS
- SoS functions should be insensitive to changes in business case for each system in the SoS

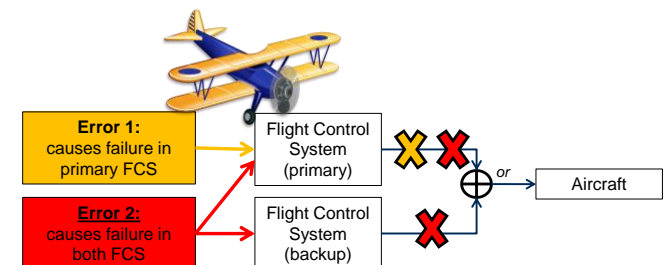
◆ **Technological Robustness**

- Related to the technological environment
- Desire insensitivity to changes in the technologies themselves within the SoS

SoS Architecture Success Factors Robust Design

◆ Schedule Robustness

- Ability of a system to provide necessary capability to an SoS **on time**
- System improvements may be delayed for technical or financial reasons
 - » If that system provides the sole source of a critical capability, system is not schedule robust
 - » If there is a **contingency approach** to meeting that critical capability, system is schedule robust (Redundancy? Diversity?)



Source: Cole, in Jamshidi (2009)

Architecture Alignment

- ◆ Very probable that creating, improving, or otherwise manipulating an SoS will introduce **disruption to autonomy** of constituent systems

- ◆ Must expect disruption in this case and plan to realign and reestablish constituent systems
 - Realign **organizations** to function within the updated SoS context
 - Update **business processes** and procedures to function within the updated SoS context
 - Realign **technological** aspects
 - » Easier said than done!

Architecture Governance

- ◆ Changes among autonomous systems should be coordinated within the SoS
- ◆ Constituent systems must honor a common set of rules for functions across systems (within the SoS) which form the basis for architecture governance

Architecture Governance

◆ Governance roles and responsibilities

- Deals with “fuzzy partition” of a system’s role in the SoS as its needs change over time
- Coordinated changes occur within the context of managing roles and responsibilities

◆ Interface governance

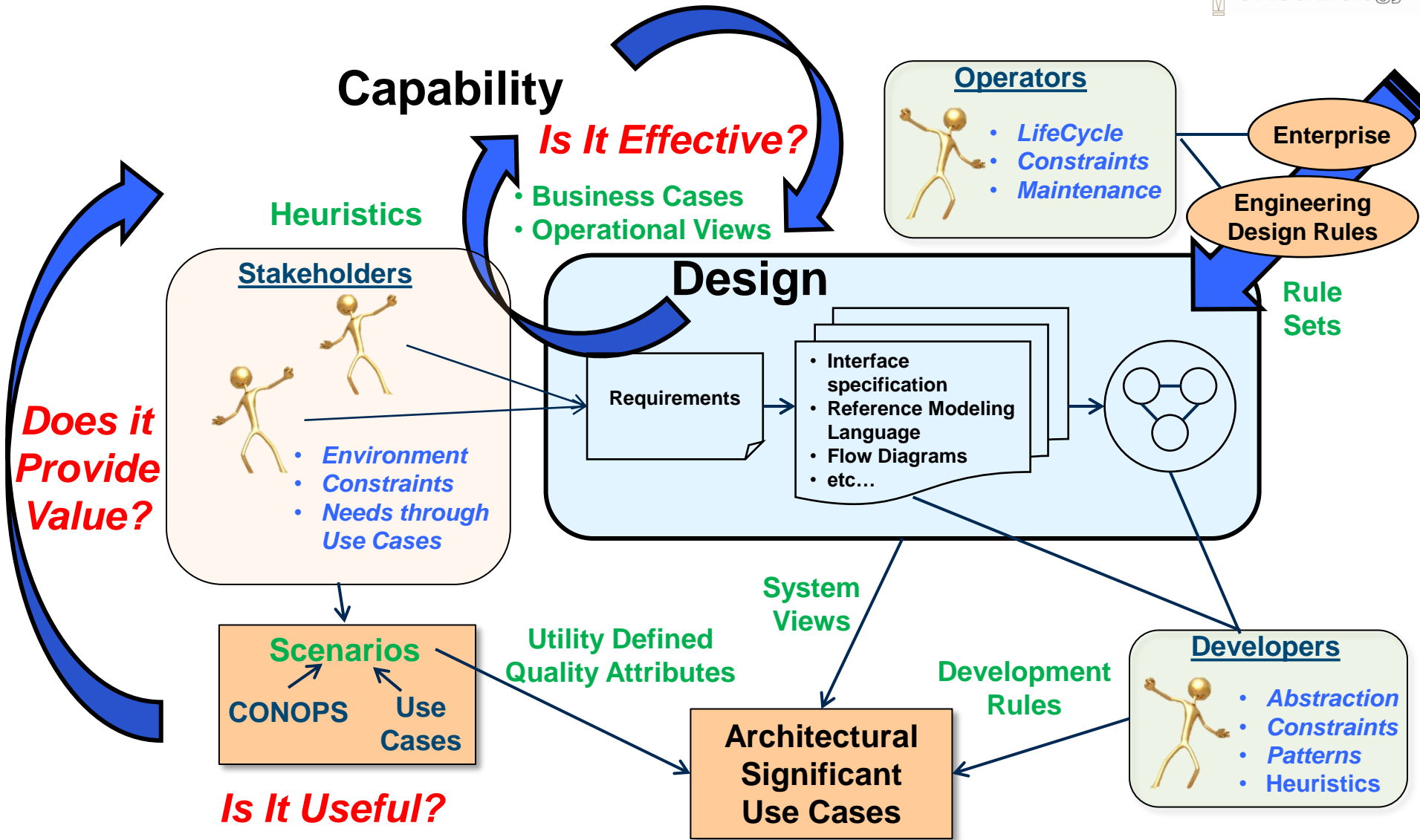
- Deals with interfaces between systems (also “fuzzy”)
- Systems that share data must coordinate changes to the data structure itself

Architecture Description

- ◆ Becomes important to represent the architecture of increasingly complex systems using a well defined model
- ◆ **Architecture model** provides means for
 - performing analysis of system structure and behavior
 - describing an implementation plan
 - describing the architecture as roles are spread across many engineers/stakeholders
- ◆ **Architecture descriptions** assembled through multiple viewpoints
- ◆ **Architecture frameworks** provide that roadmap for describing the system architecture

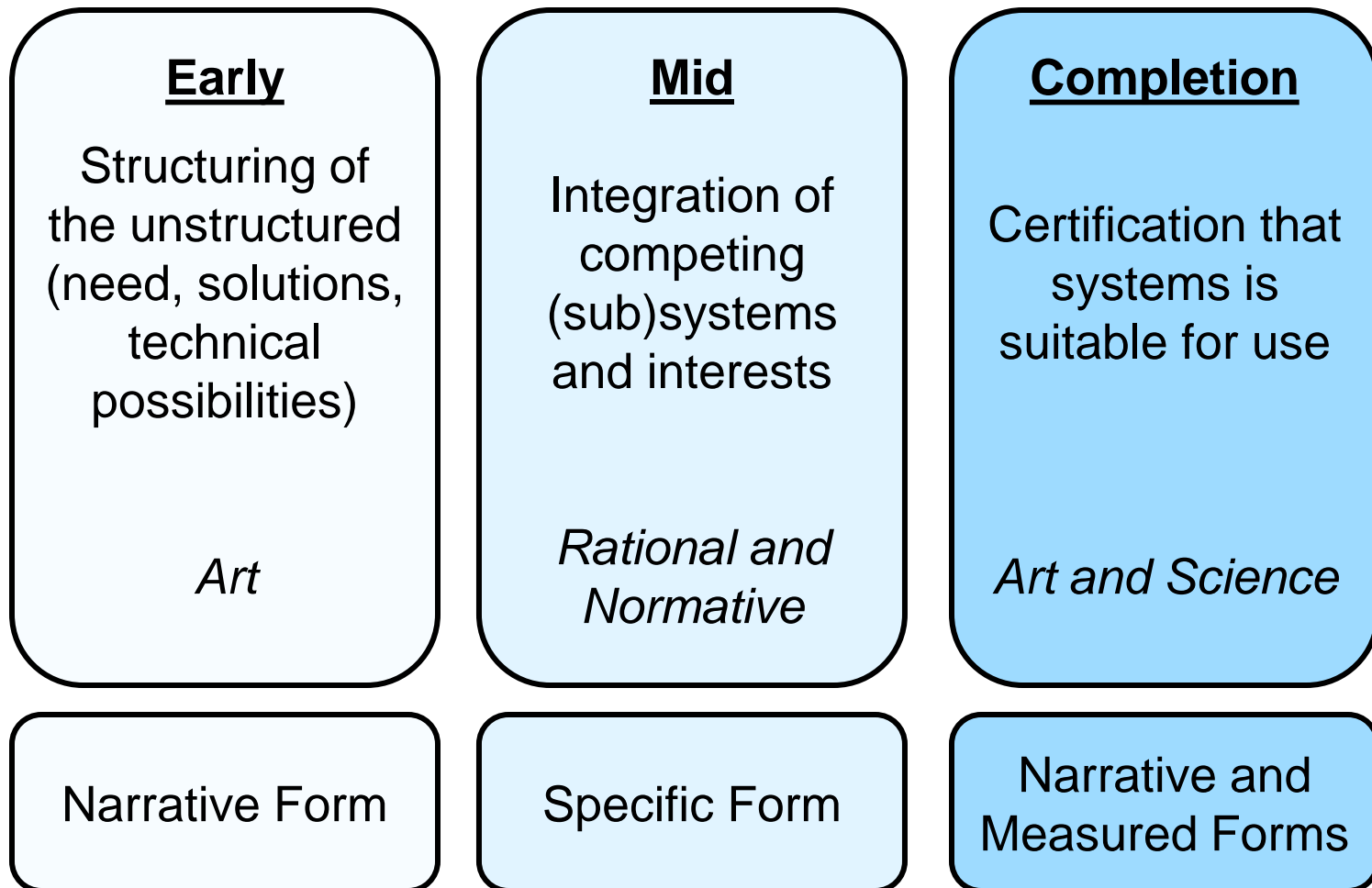
Leadership and Management: The Role of the Systems Architect

Perspective of the Systems Architect



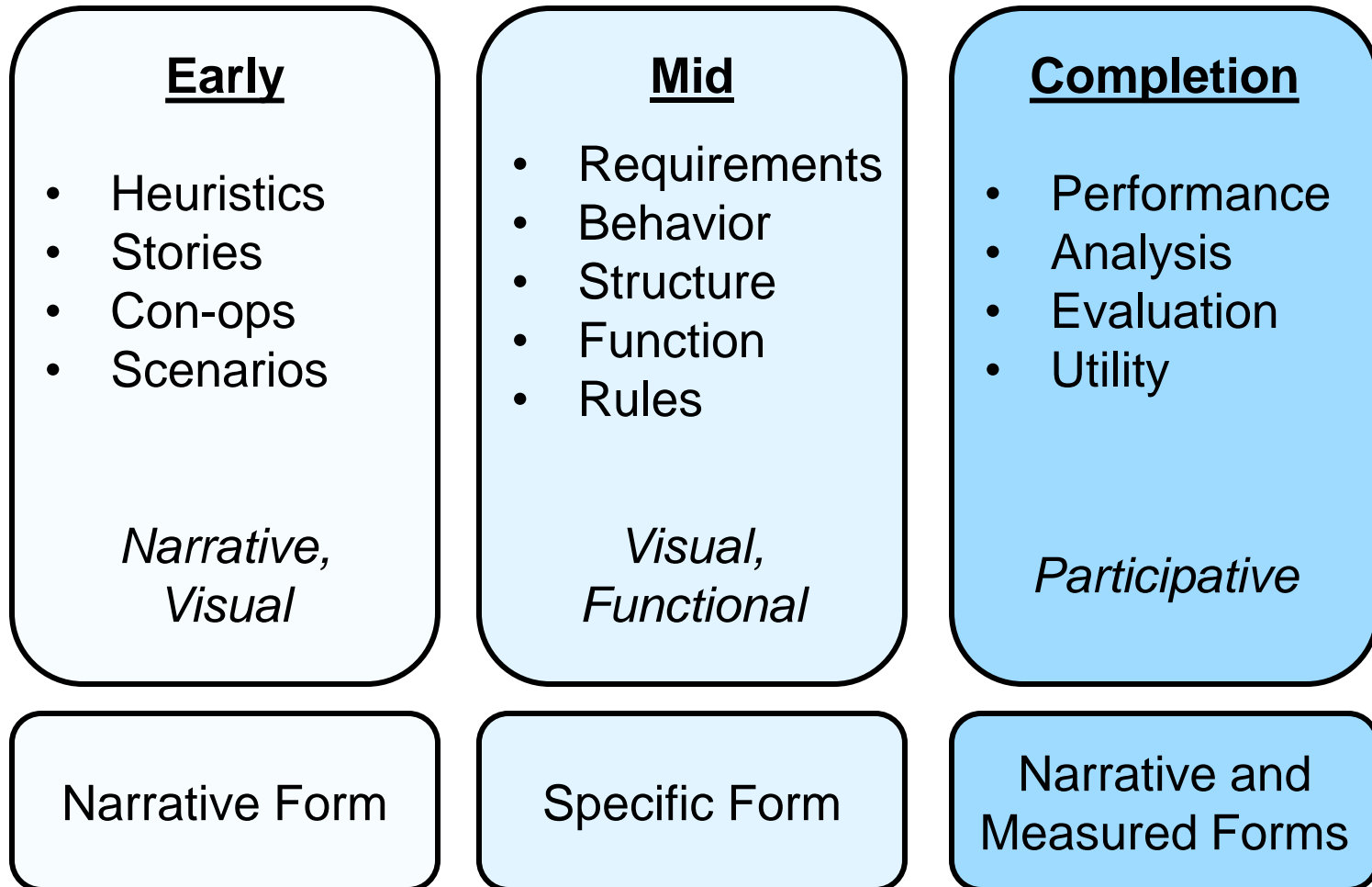
Phases of Architecting

Changes as project moves from phase to phase



Language of the Architect

Changes as project moves from phase to phase

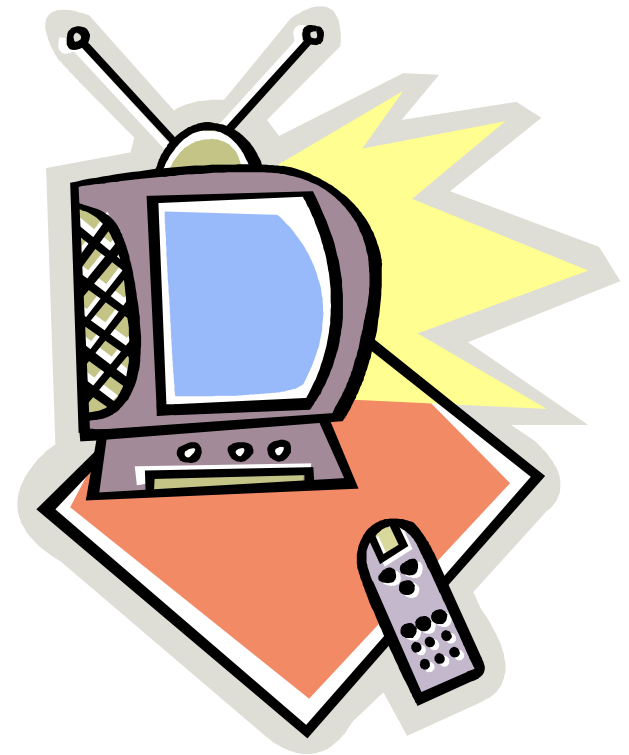


The Narrative Form



Need vs. Requirement vs. Utility

- ◆ Need:
 - Something that solves a perceived problem or desire; or perceived market
 - Responds to an opportunity
- ◆ Requirement
 - Need expressed in engineering terms
 - Analysis conducted to validate need versus system capabilities
 - Is testable
- ◆ Utility
 - Evaluation of product vs. need
 - Is testable
 - May not reflect requirement set



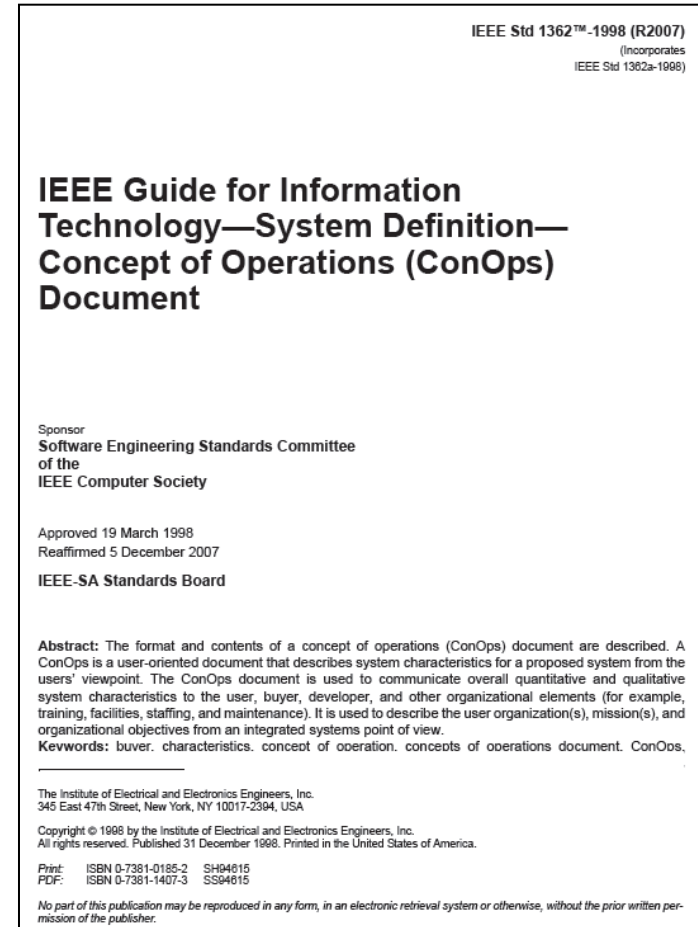
Concept of Operations

- ◆ Create, visualize and discuss use scenarios in complex environments; Used as a strategic planning tool to reduce chance of overlooking important factors; provides balanced perspective
- ◆ Explore scenarios for clear understanding of operational needs and performance requirement rationale



Concept of Operations (CONOPS)

- ◆ A user oriented document that describes system **characteristics of the to-be-delivered system from the user's viewpoint**
- ◆ Used to communicate **overall quantitative and qualitative system characteristics** to the user, buyer, developer, and other organizational elements (e.g., training, facilities, staffing, and maintenance)
- ◆ Describes the **user organization(s), mission(s), and organizational objectives** from an integrated systems point of view

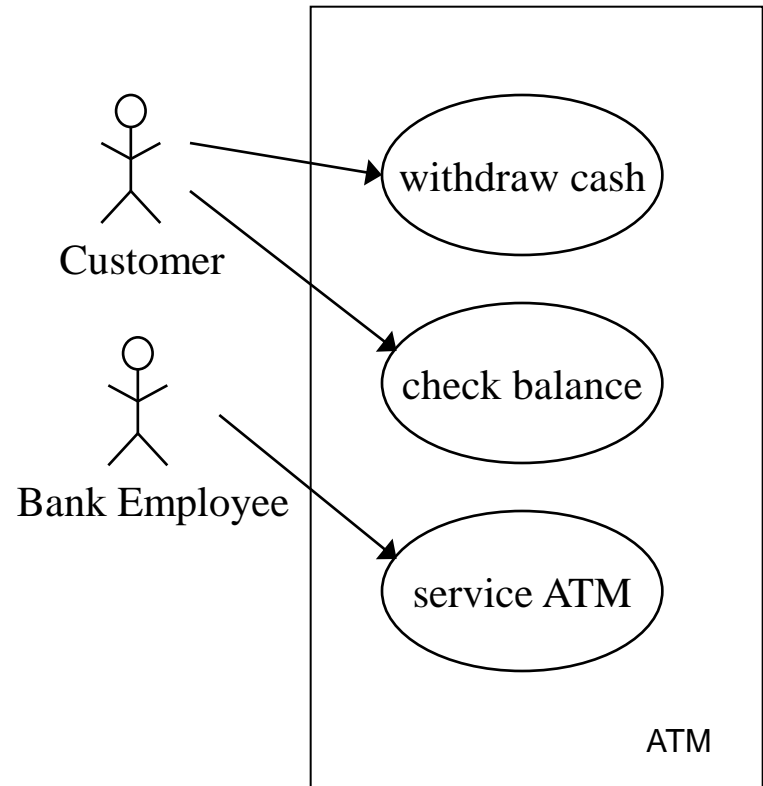


What is a Use Case?

- ◆ Describes the desired behavior of a system and its users
 - at a superficial level of detail
 - with “sunny-day” and “rainy-day” scenarios
 - with some generalization of the roles and activities
 - a set of activities within a system
- ◆ A Use Case is the set of scenarios that provides positive value to one or more external actors
 - actors are the people and/or computer systems that are outside the system under development
 - scenarios are dialogs between actors and the system
 - no information about the internal design

The UML Use Case Diagram

- ◆ In UML (Unified Modeling Language), it is possible to show a picture of the system as a group of use cases:
 - each stick figure is an actor
 - each ellipse represents a use case
- ◆ The diagram is deceptively simple
 - behind each ellipse, there might be a whole bunch of scenarios – sunny-day, alternatives, failures
 - the diagram is only a “summary”



Stories

- ◆ A story is a high-level definition of a requirement
 - Enough information so the developer can produce a reasonable estimate of the effort to implement it
 - Not so much that it requires a lengthy effort to agree on the specification of it



What Does “AGILE” Imply?

◆ Agile:

- quick and well-coordinated in movement; lithe
- marked by an ability to think quickly; mentally acute or aware
- characterized by quickness, lightness, and ease of movement; nimble

◆ Agile Software Development:

- a group of software development methodologies based on iterative and incremental development, where requirements and solutions evolve through collaboration between customer and self-organizing, cross-functional teams

The Agile Manifesto

We are uncovering better ways of developing software by doing it and helping others do it.

Through this work we have come to value:

Individuals and interactions over processes and tools

Working software over comprehensive documentation

Customer collaboration over contract negotiation

Responding to change over following a plan

That is, while there is value in the items on the right, we value the items on the left more.

Kent Beck
Mike Beedle
Arie van Bennekum
Alistair Cockburn
Ward Cunningham
Martin Fowler

James Grenning
Jim Highsmith
Andrew Hunt
Ron Jeffries
Jon Kern
Brian Marick

Robert C. Martin
Steve Mellor
Ken Schwaber
Jeff Sutherland
Dave Thomas

Agile Applied to Systems Engineering

- ◆ Agile development methods require a different paradigm for project management, focused on small, frequent incremental releases
- ◆ It is not clear that Agile Development methods, as developed for software programming, apply well to systems engineering
 - Agile software development assumes a mature and tested hardware baseline is available
 - Most experience is limited to IT-based systems
 - For larger complex hardware/software systems it is difficult to divide the work breakdown into 30 day incremental tasks
 - It is difficult for organizations to manage simultaneously the planning cultures of traditional development and agile development
- ◆ How do we apply agile techniques to SE?

Scaling Agile Approaches

- ◆ Separate type of outcome
 - **Tangible** outcomes: physical artifacts
 - **Intangible** outcomes: information, including SW (not manufactured)
- ◆ Evaluate type of work
 - **Inventive**: result of creative input, exploratory in nature
 - **Engineering**: science & engineering to produce outcomes
 - **Craft**: repetitive tasks around work that has been done before
- ◆ These drive how you define your scheduling model and approach

Aaron J. Shenhar and Dov Dvir ,
Reinventing Project Management:
The Diamond Approach to
Successful Growth and Innovation

N2 on Managing versus Type

	Tangible	Intangible	Inventive	Engineering	Craft
Tangible		Risk of forcing all development down same path	High risk of customer dissatisfaction	High risk of technology maturity issues	Risk of being late to market
Intangible	Use multiple development models		High risk of customer dissatisfaction	High risk of utility or use case issues	Generally low risk unless innovation is a premium
Inventive	Build several prototypes and test with customers	Case for incremental development with frequent customer interaction		Risk of immature requirements leading to poor use case design	Risk of disruptive design or process issues
Engineering	Evolutionary development approach with several fielded increments	Early increments focus on system use cases and utility	Use M&S to focus customer on use cases and utility		Risk of cost or quality issues
Craft	Waterfall approach or evolutions focused on improved cost & quality	Accelerate fielded systems to evaluate utility and maturity	Early prototypes to mature processes	Early prototypes to prove technology	

Keys to Agile SE

- ◆ The **architectural framework** is at the center, and key to all other success
- ◆ Rapid development of architectural **rules**
- ◆ Rapid evolution of architectural **quality attributes**
- ◆ A **model based environment** for developing the architecture and evaluating applications
- ◆ Close connection between the developer and stakeholders, direct interaction in the process

The Agile Architect

1. Deliver working solutions
2. Maximize stakeholder value
3. Find solutions which meet the goals of all stakeholders
4. Enable the next effort
5. Manage change and complexity



The Architect's primary objective is a working *solution*
*The best solution make not need significant
development*

The Architect's Decisions

- ◆ Determine the Application Type
 - Services, clients, data, scientific, control, etc.
- ◆ Determine the Deployment Strategy
 - Embedded, General Purpose, Client-server, Cloud, etc.
- ◆ Determine the Appropriate Technologies
 - Execution, development, infrastructure, skills
- ◆ Determine the Quality Attributes
 - Performance,ilities, development
- ◆ Determine the Crosscutting Concerns
 - Resource management: Communication, memory, etc.
 - Exception management: safety, reliability, error capture
 - Instrumentation/data visibility

Architecture Concerns

Beyond the requirements document:

- ◆ How will the user experience be managed?
- ◆ How will the development be managed?
- ◆ How will the software be deployed and managed?
- ◆ How will the application support update and modification over time?
- ◆ What similar architectural trends or patterns exist that might influence development or deployment?
- ◆ What are other key quality attributes, such as security, performance, modifiability, portability, etc.?

Key Agile Architecture Tenets Today

- ◆ Build to **change** instead of building to last
 - Design in flexibility for growth
- ◆ **Model** to analyze and reduce risk
 - Views, visualizations, modeling languages, design tools
- ◆ Use models and visualizations as a communication and **collaboration** tool
 - Views and visualizations for user buy-in
- ◆ Identify key engineering decisions
 - Views, design patterns, model architectures
- ◆ Use an **incremental** and **iterative** approach to refine your architecture

Know the Architecture Landscape

- ◆ Create User empowerment
 - Focus on the user experience
 - Allow the user to define how they interact
 - Use scenarios to design simple user interactions
- ◆ Follow market maturity
 - Take advantage of existing platform and technology options
 - Focus design on what is uniquely valuable in your application, reuse elsewhere
 - Use patterns that provide proven solutions for common problems
- ◆ Develop flexible designs
 - Loose coupling to allow reuse and to improve maintainability
 - Pluggable or service oriented designs to provide future extensibility
- ◆ Stay abreast of future technology trends
 - Information services, media convergence, device convergence, computing/networks, clouds, etc.

Four Architecture Principles

1. Separation of Concerns

- Separate aspects of a problem
- Minimize interaction points between modules

2. Abstraction

- Build hierarchical layers of abstraction
- Do not duplicate functions

3. Simplicity

- Make it easy to understand, check, and modify
- One function or feature (or at least a cohesive set) per module
- Only design what is necessary

4. Restriction of information

- Localization of information
- One modules internal details hidden from other modules
- Basic principle of object oriented design

These Scale to Anything!

Architectural Quality Attributes

- *How do I evaluate the quality of the architecture?*
 - **Design drivers**
 - » Requirements, functions
 - » Hard performance measures
 - **Development drivers**
 - » Development planning
 - » Coordination of work teams
 - **Business model drivers**
 - » Develop or reuse
 - » Soft performance measures
 - » “ilities”

Architectural Quality Attributes

➤ *How do I evaluate the quality of the architecture?*

– **Design drivers**

- » Requirements, functions
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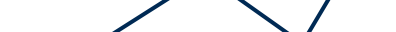
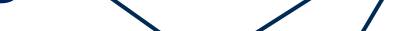
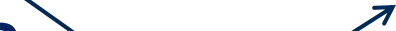
– **Development drivers**

- » Development planning
- » Coordination of work teams

– **Business model drivers**

- » Develop or reuse
- » Soft performance measures
- » “ilities”

**Separation
of Concerns**



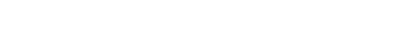
Abstraction



Simplicity



**Information
Restriction**



Example Quality Factors and Architectural Methods

- ◆ Safety
- ◆ Security
- ◆ Robustness
- ◆ Resiliency
- ◆ Availability
- ◆ Portability
- ◆ Reuse
- ◆ Openness
- ◆ Modifiability
- ◆ Testability
- ◆ Maintainability
- ◆ Separation, simplicity
- ◆ Abstraction, restriction
- ◆ Distribution
- ◆ Redundancy
- ◆ Health monitoring
- ◆ Virtualization
- ◆ Encapsulation
- ◆ Standardization
- ◆ Design rules, patterns
- ◆ Partitioning
- ◆ documentation

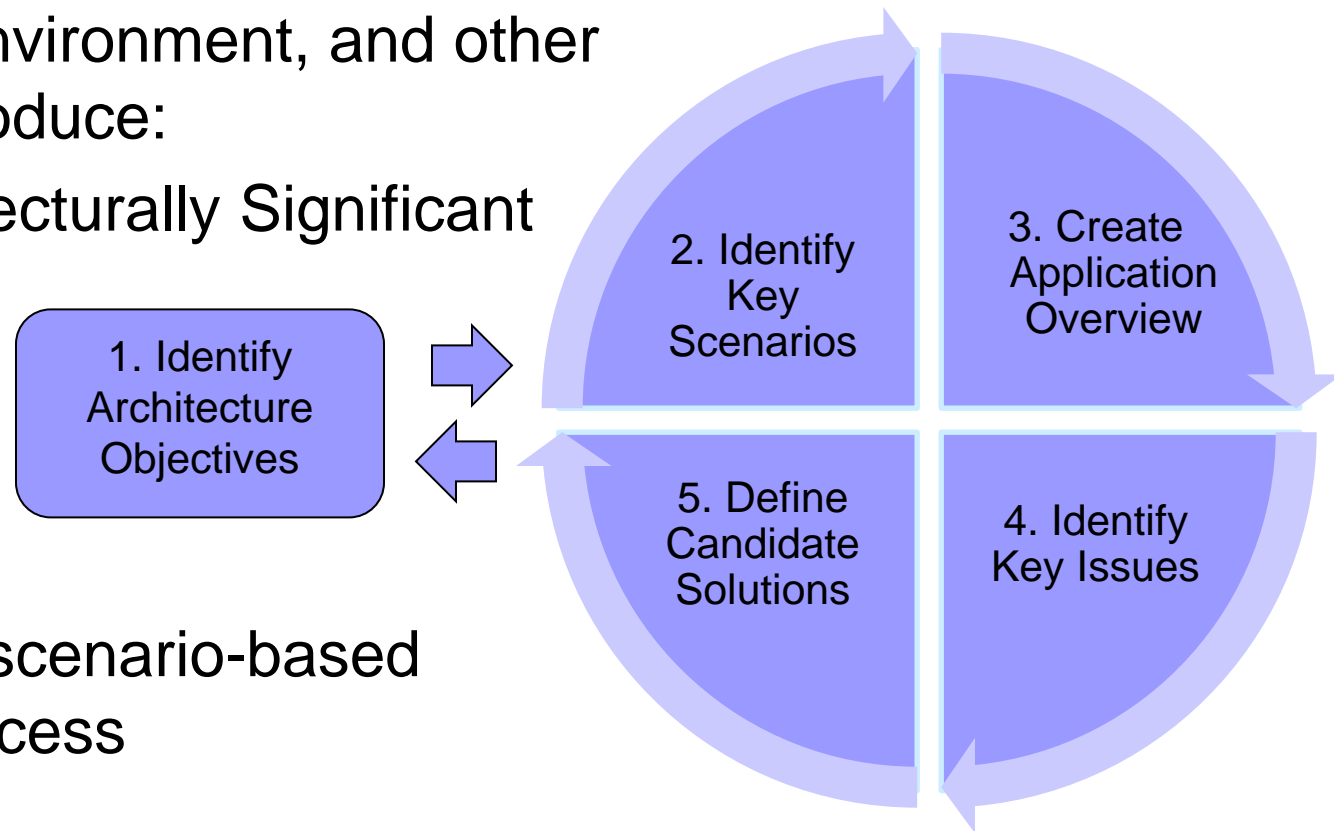
Quality Attribute Characterization

Each quality attribute characterization is divided into three categories:
external stimuli, architectural decisions, and responses.

- ◆ **External stimuli** (or just stimuli for short) are the events that cause the architecture to respond or change.
- ◆ To analyze an architecture for adherence to quality requirements, those requirements need to be expressed in terms that are concrete and measurable or observable. These measurable/observable quantities are described in the **responses** section of the attribute characterization.
- ◆ **Architectural decisions** are those aspects of an architecture - components, connectors, and their properties - that have a direct impact on achieving attribute responses.

Techniques for Architecture Evaluation

- ◆ Use cases and usage scenarios, functional requirements, non-functional requirements, technological requirements, the target deployment environment, and other constraints produce:
- ◆ A list of Architecturally Significant Use Cases
- ◆ These feed a scenario-based evaluation process



Techniques for Architecture and Design

1. Identify Architecture Objectives.
 - User, business, development
2. Identify Key Scenarios.
 - Use-case scenarios focus your design and allow architecture evaluation
3. Create Application Overview.
 - Identify application type, deployment architecture, architecture styles, and technologies
4. Identify Key Issues.
 - based on quality attributes and crosscutting concerns
5. Define Candidate Solutions.
 - Create an architecture prototype

Scenario-Based Evaluation Methods

- ◆ **Software Architecture Analysis Method (SAAM)**
 - SAAM was originally designed for assessing modifiability, but later was extended for reviewing architecture with respect to quality attributes such as modifiability, portability, extensibility, integratability, and functional coverage.
- ◆ **Architecture Tradeoff Analysis Method (ATAM)**
 - ATAM is a refined and improved version of SAAM that helps you review architectural decisions with respect to the quality attributes requirements, and how well they satisfy particular quality goals.
- ◆ **Active Design Review (ADR)**
 - ADR is best suited for incomplete or in-progress architectures. The main difference is that the review is more focused on a set of issues or individual sections of the architecture at a time, rather than performing a general review.
- ◆ **Active Reviews of Intermediate Designs (ARID)**
 - ARID combines the ADR aspect of reviewing in-progress architecture with a focus on a set of issues, and the ATAM and SAAM approach of scenario-based review focused on quality attributes.
- ◆ **Cost Benefit Analysis Method (CBAM)**
 - This CBAM focuses on analyzing the costs, benefits, and schedule implications of architectural decisions.
- ◆ **Architecture Level Modifiability Analysis (ALMA)**
 - ALMA evaluates the modifiability of architecture for business information systems (BIS).
- ◆ **Family Architecture Assessment Method (FAAM)**
 - FAAM evaluates information system family architectures for interoperability and extensibility.

Source: Microsoft Application Architecture Guide, 2nd Edition (Chapters 1-4)

ATAM Methods: Presentation

- ◆ **1. Present the ATAM.** The method is described to the assembled stakeholders (typically customer representatives, the architect or architecture team, user representatives, maintainers, administrators, managers, testers, integrators, etc.).
- ◆ **2. Present business drivers.** The project manager describes what business goals are motivating the development effort and hence what will be the primary architectural drivers (e.g., high availability or time to market or high security).
- ◆ **3. Present the architecture.** The architect will describe the proposed architecture, focusing on how it addresses the business drivers.

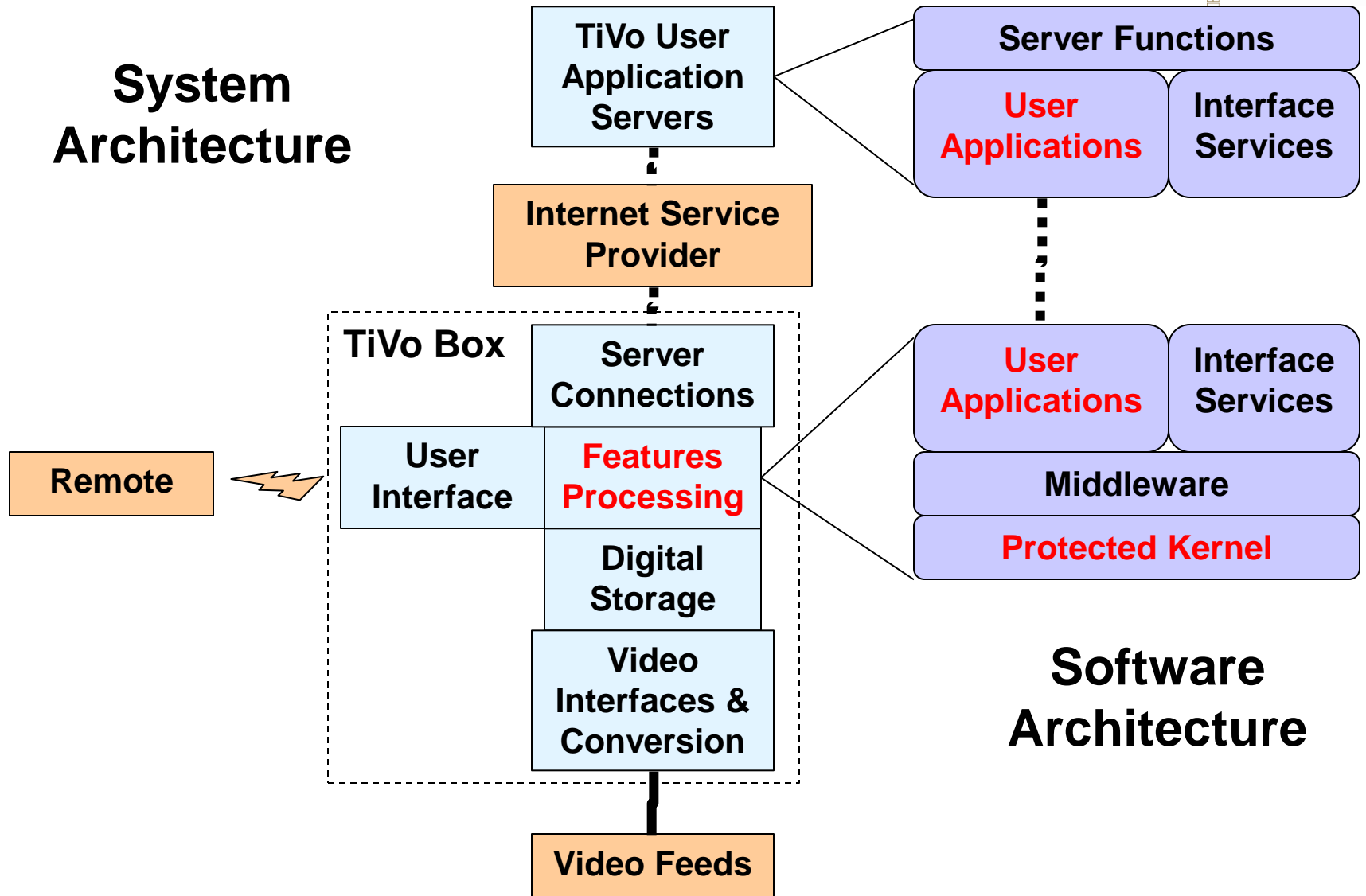
ATAM Methods: Investigation and Analysis

- ◆ **4. Identify architectural approaches.** Architectural approaches are identified by the architect, but are not analyzed.
- ◆ **5. Generate quality attribute utility tree.** The quality factors that comprise system “utility” (performance, availability, security, modifiability, etc.) are elicited, specified down to the level of scenarios, annotated with stimuli and responses, and prioritized.
- ◆ **6. Analyze architectural approaches.** Based upon the high-priority factors identified in Step 5, the architectural approaches that address those factors are elicited and analyzed (for example, an architectural approach aimed at meeting performance goals will be subjected to a performance analysis). During this step architectural risks, sensitivity points, and tradeoff points are identified.

ATAM Methods: Testing and Results

- ◆ **7. Brainstorm and prioritize scenarios.** Based upon the exemplar scenarios generated in the utility tree step, a larger set of scenarios is elicited from the entire group of stakeholders. This set of scenarios is prioritized via a voting process involving the entire stakeholder group.
- ◆ **8. Analyze architectural approaches.** This step reiterates step 6, but here the highly ranked scenarios from Step 7 are considered to be test cases for the analysis of the architectural approaches determined thus far. These test case scenarios may uncover additional architectural approaches, risks, sensitivity points, and tradeoff points which are then documented.
- ◆ **9. Present results.** Based upon the information collected in the ATAM (styles, scenarios, attribute-specific questions, the utility tree, risks, sensitivity points, tradeoffs) the ATAM team presents the findings to the assembled stakeholders and potentially writes a report detailing this information along with any proposed mitigation strategies.

TiVo Architecture Example



The Role of the System Architect

- ◆ The System Architect is **more a leadership and management role** than a technical role
- ◆ Architects **need experience**, and a blend of management and leadership disciplines
- ◆ Communication and vision require leadership capacity
 - The architect holds the architectural vision, often their own
 - The architect makes high-level design decisions around interfaces, functional partitioning, and interactions
 - The architect must communicate these effectively, often visually
- ◆ The architect's **primary tasks are rule-setting**
 - The architect must direct technical standards, including design standards, tools, or platforms,
 - These should be based on business goals rather than to place arbitrary restrictions on the choices of developers.

Leadership Competencies

◆ Experience and judgment

- The architect must balance the customer's view of the system with their organization's business view of the system

◆ Communications

- The architecture is presented in visuals to all stakeholders
- The architecture is derived to written guidelines and design rules for the team

◆ Leadership and Systems Thinking

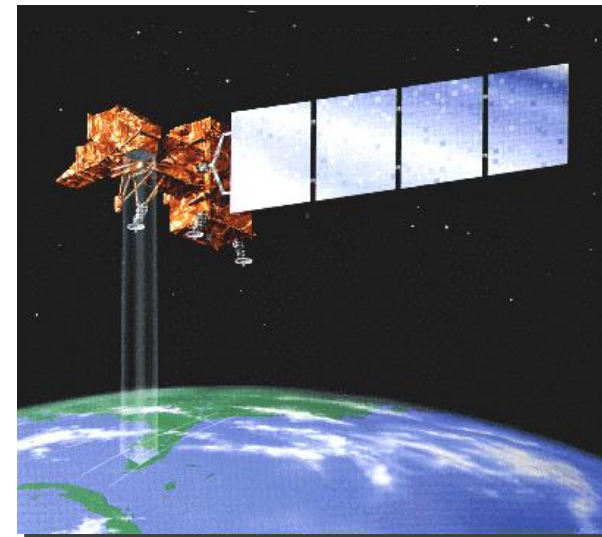
- The architecture is the high level vision of the system
- The architecture is defined more by heuristics than requirements
- The architecture definition contains a number of soft requirements that have to be evaluated in collaborative groups

◆ Management

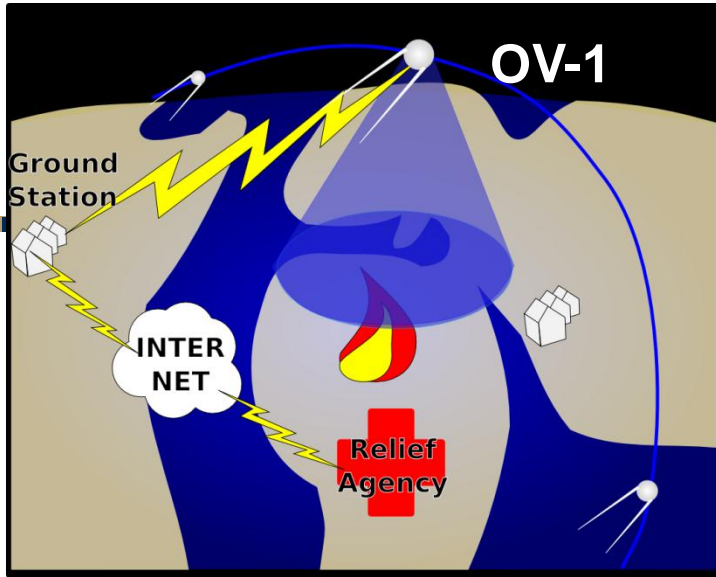
- The architect ensures the design team follows design standards

Architecting Case Study: Next Generation Disaster Monitoring Constellation (NGDMC)

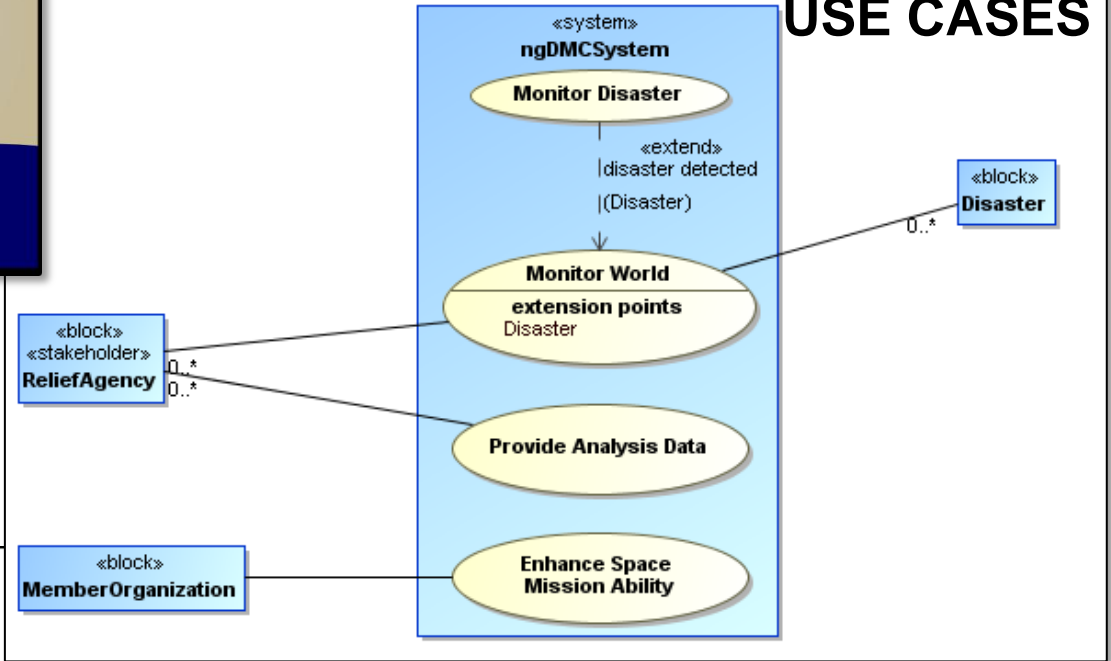
Source: Bollweg, N., Simonetta, L., Pihera, L.D., and King, S., "Systems Engineering Management Plan: Next Generation Disaster Monitoring Constellation," ASE 6006 Systems Engineering Lab, Fall 2010, Georgia Institute of Technology.



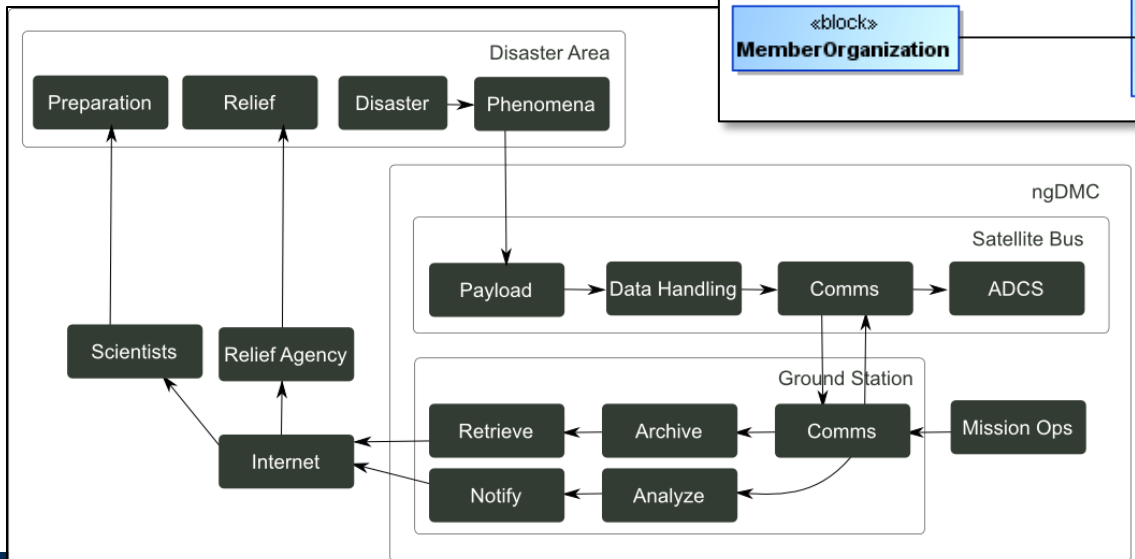
Needs Based Architecture Development



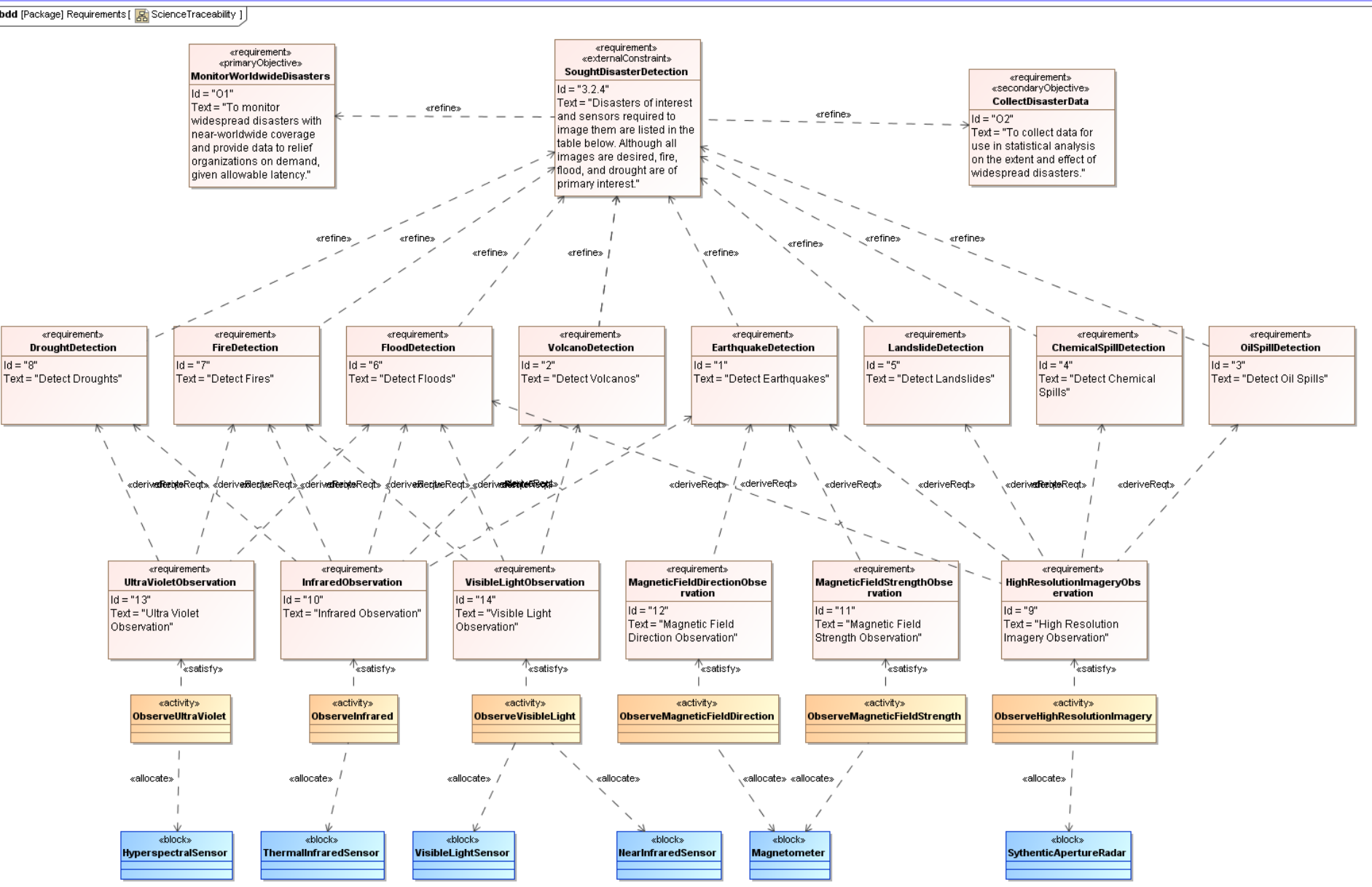
USE CASES



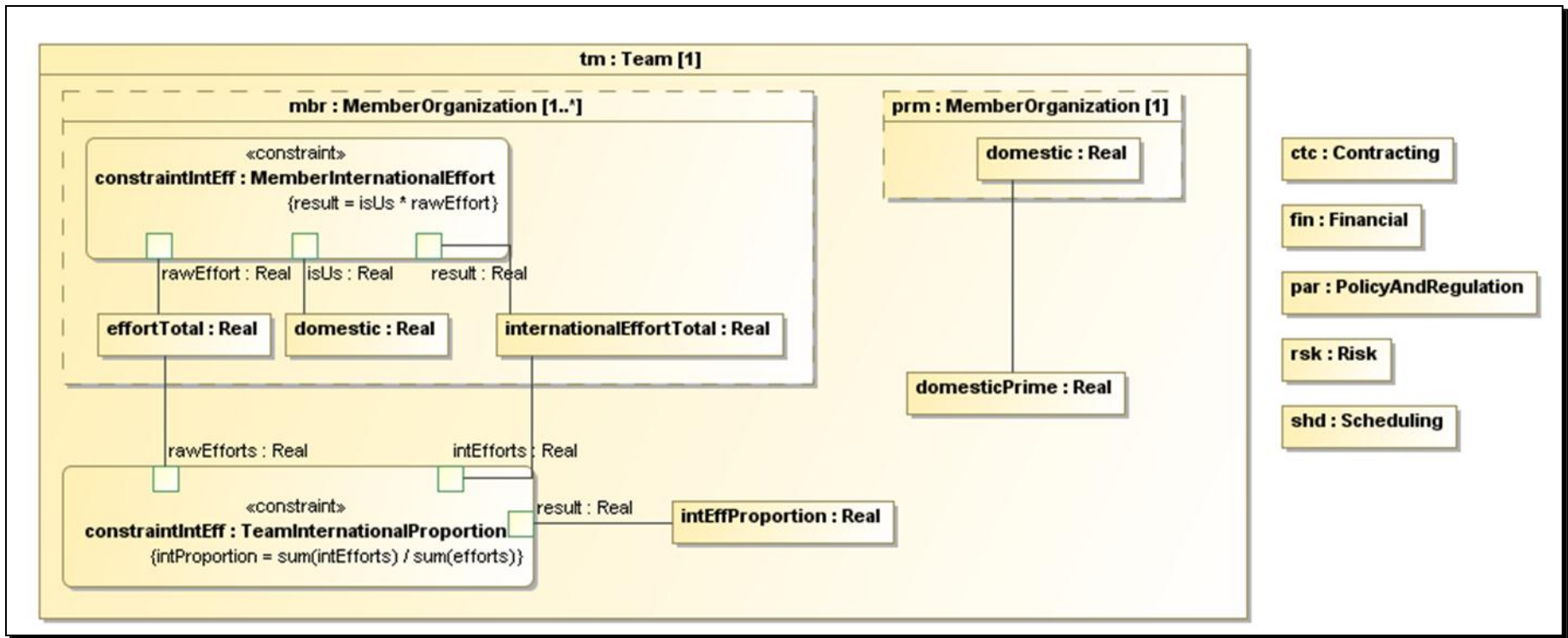
OV-2



Requirements Traceability to Architecture



Programmatic Constraints

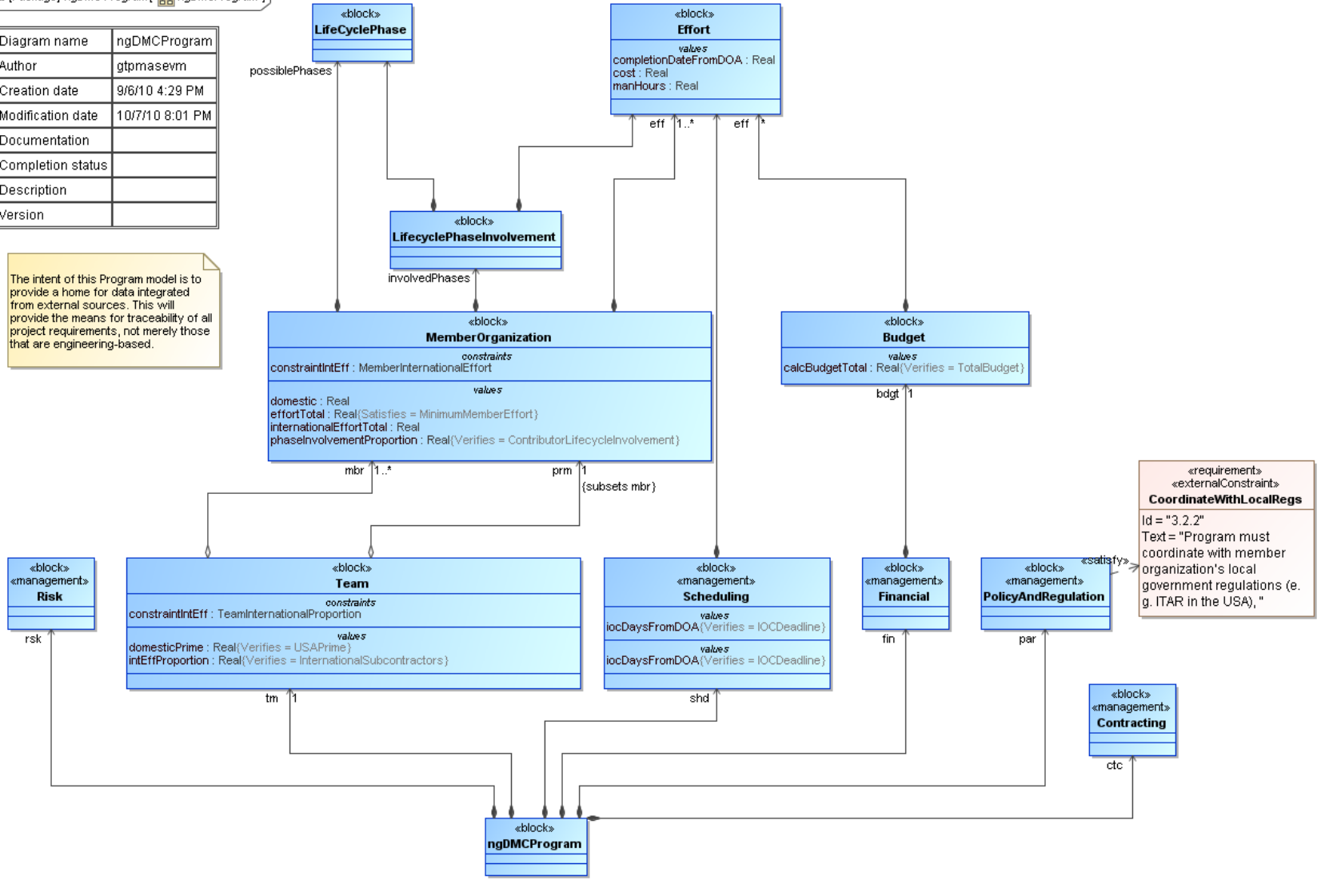


Programmatic Overview

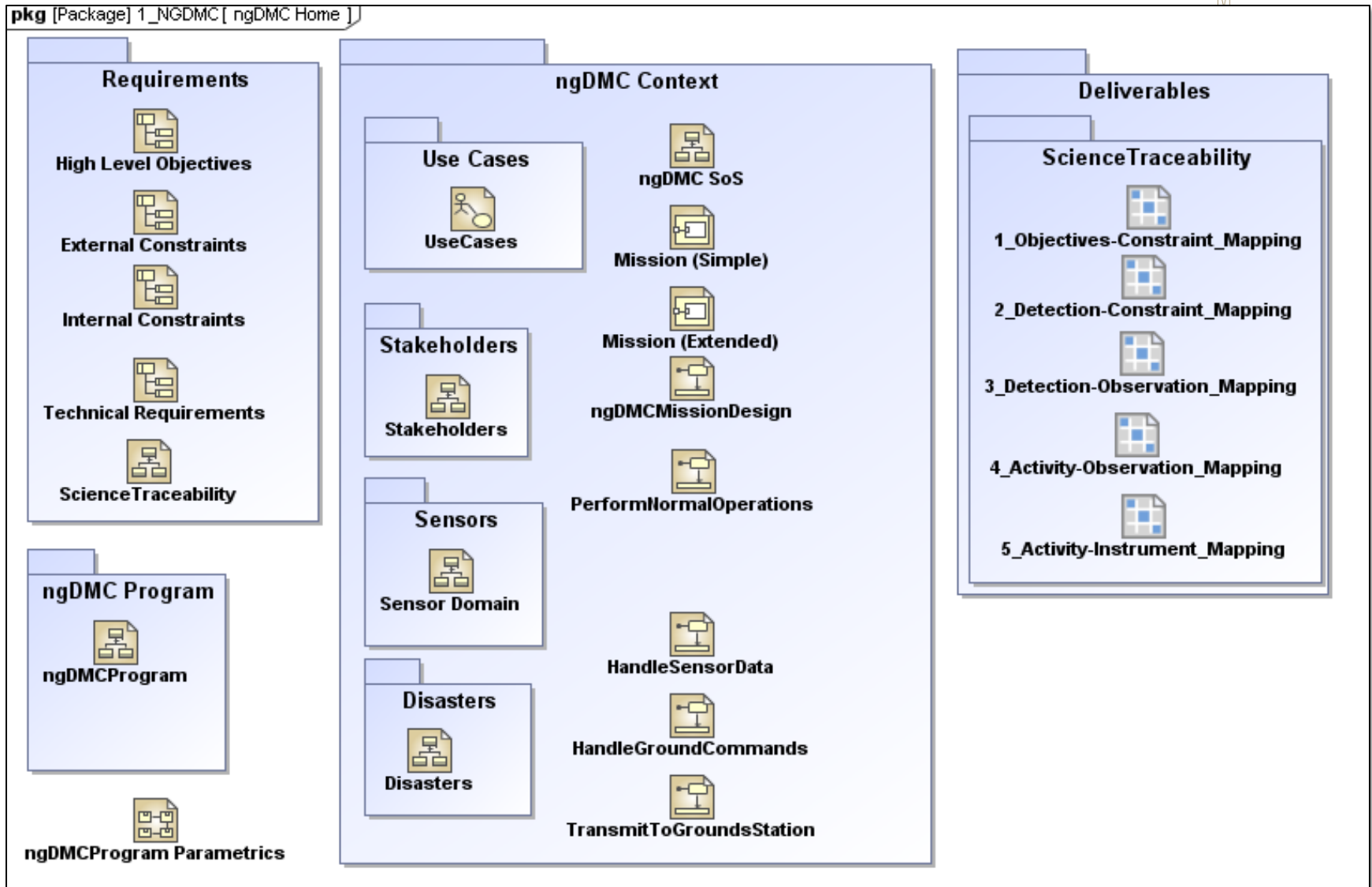
bdd [Package] ngDMC Program [ngDMCProgram]

Diagram name	ngDMCProgram
Author	gtpmasevm
Creation date	9/6/10 4:29 PM
Modification date	10/7/10 8:01 PM
Documentation	
Completion status	
Description	
Version	

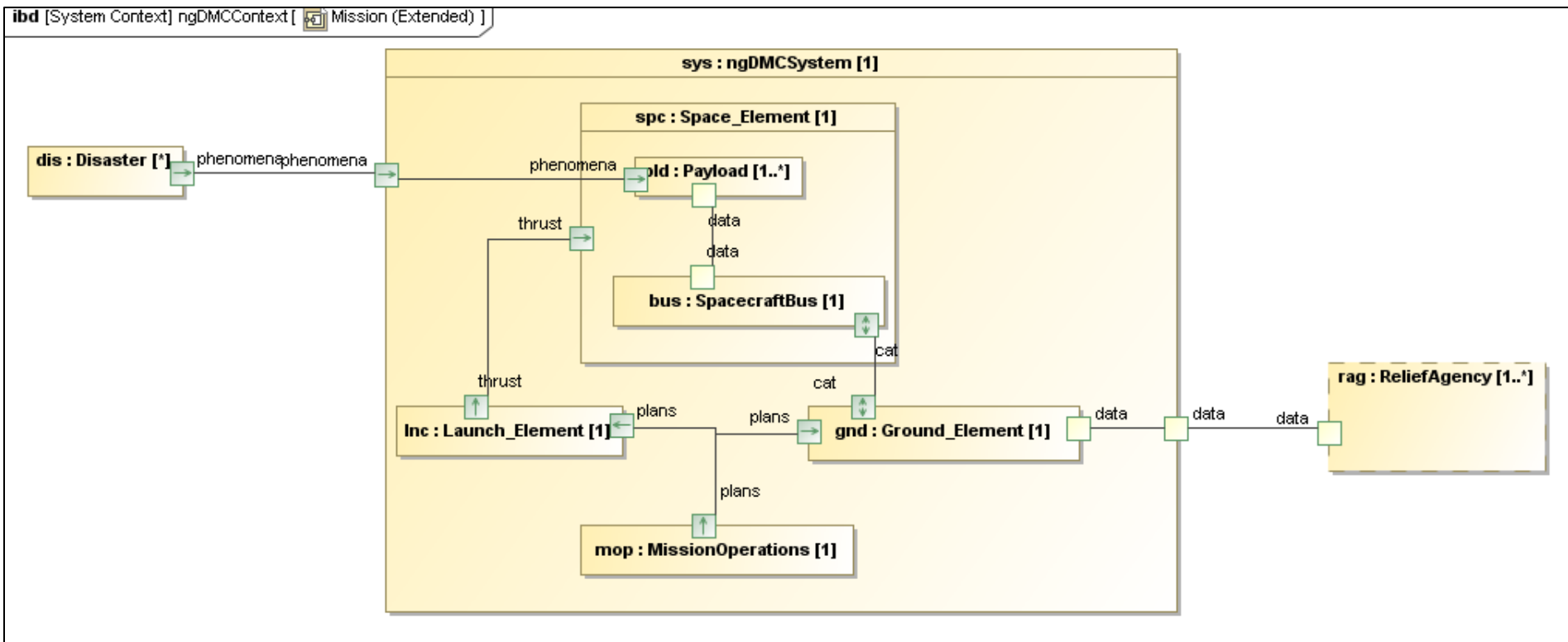
The intent of this Program model is to provide a home for data integrated from external sources. This will provide the means for traceability of all project requirements, not merely those that are engineering-based.



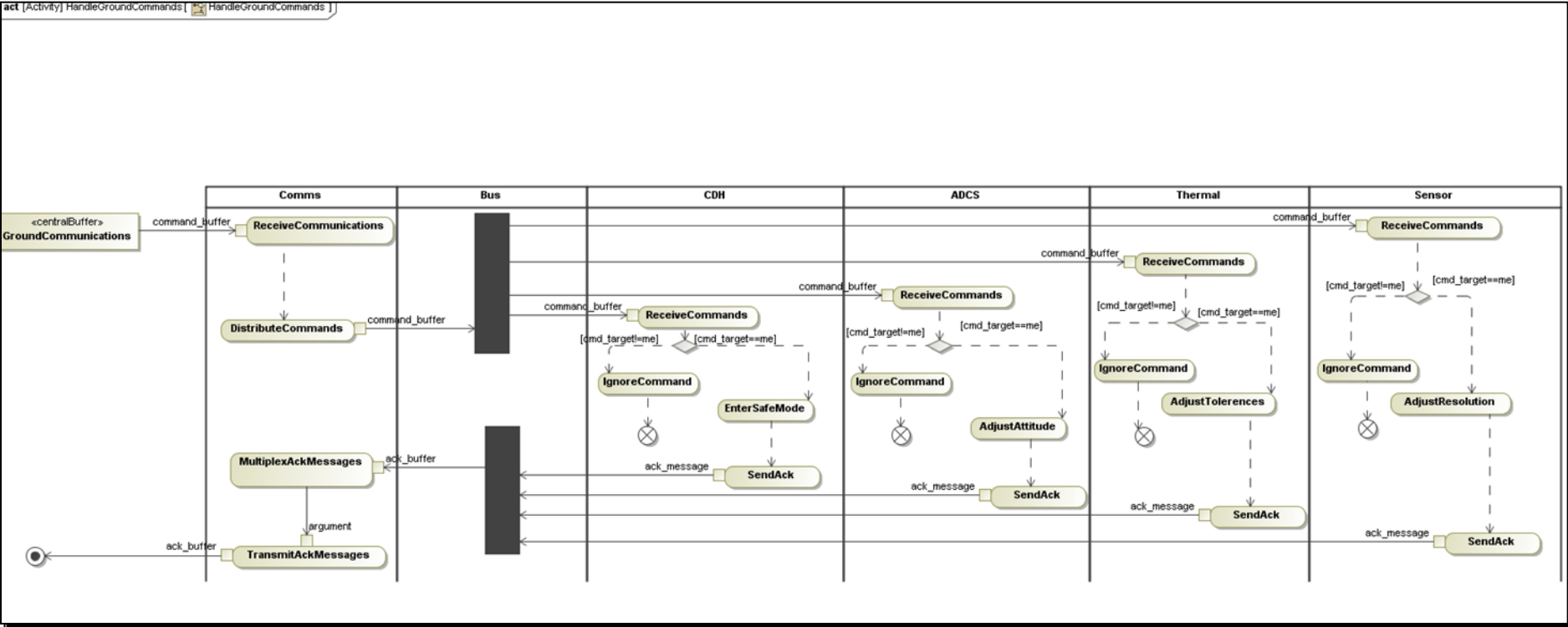
What is the architect's view here?



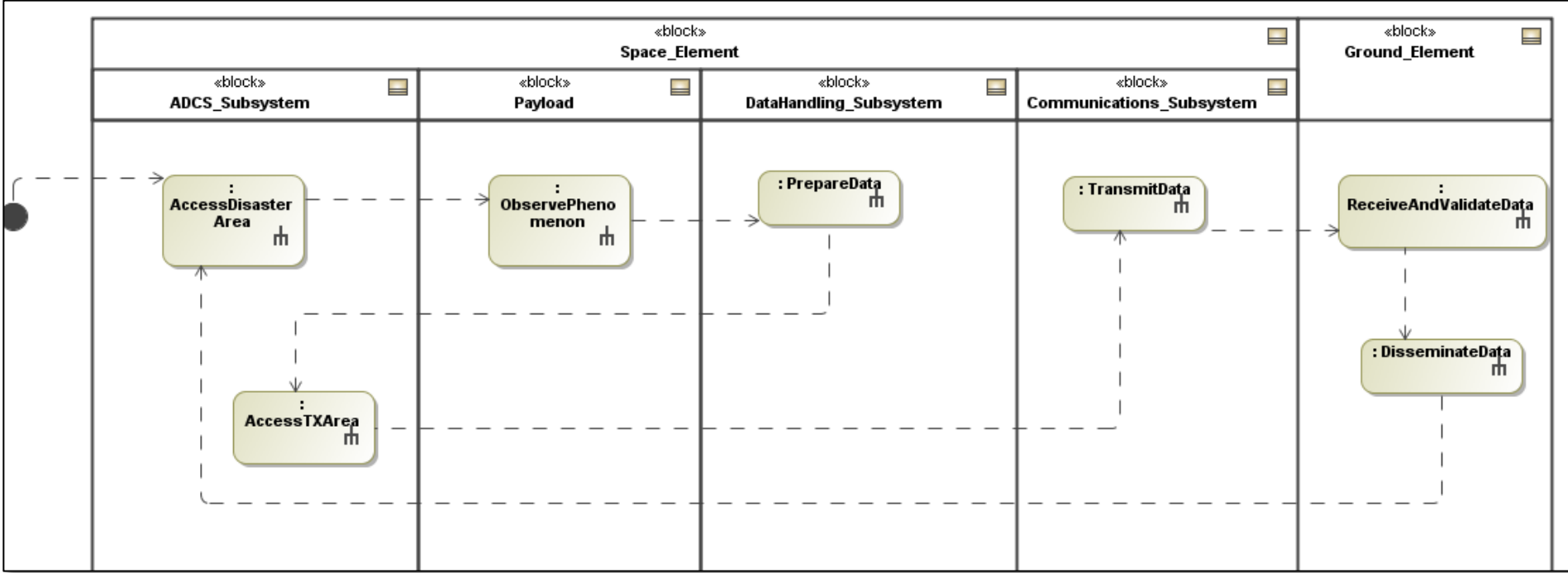
Mission Architecture



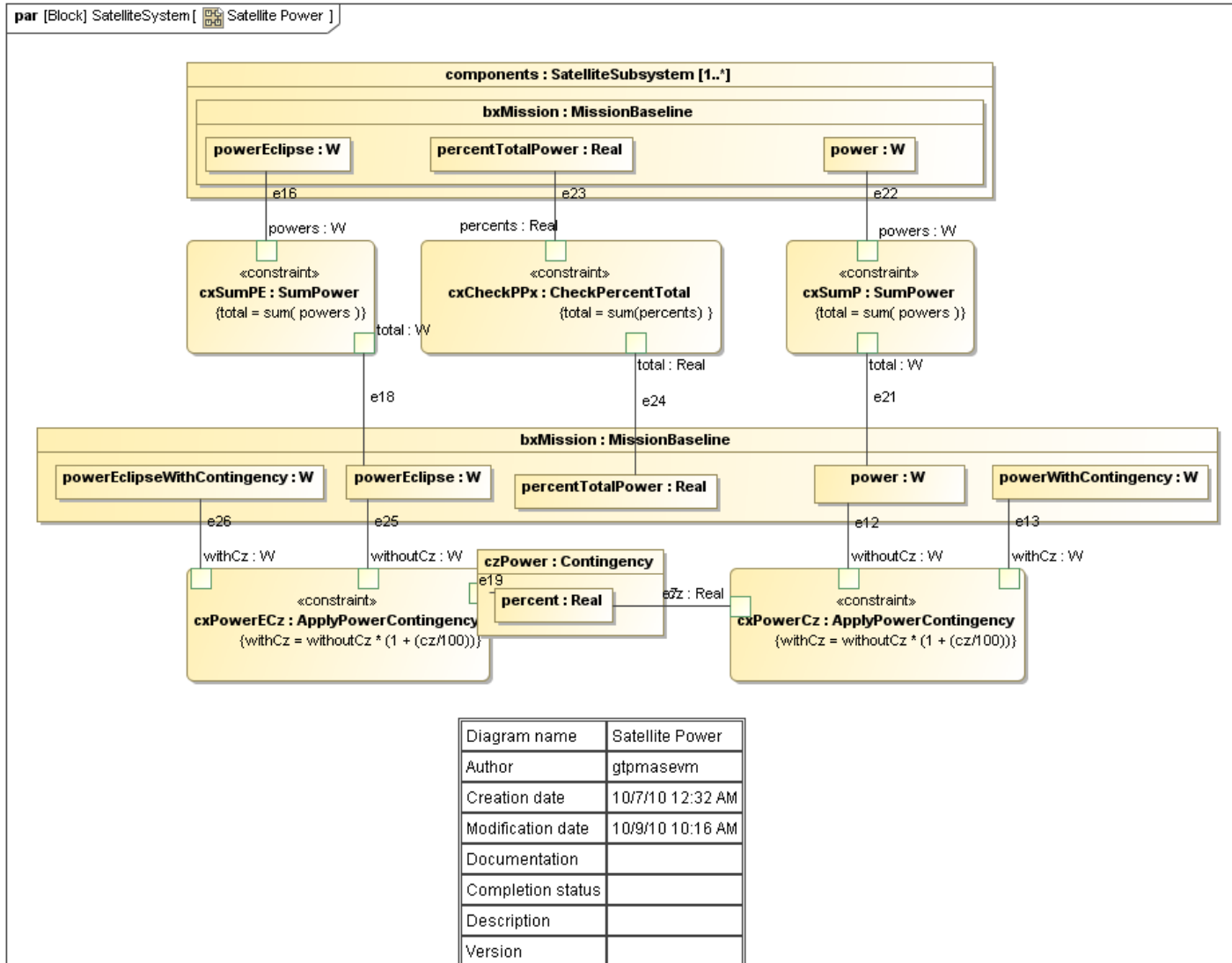
Functional Flow



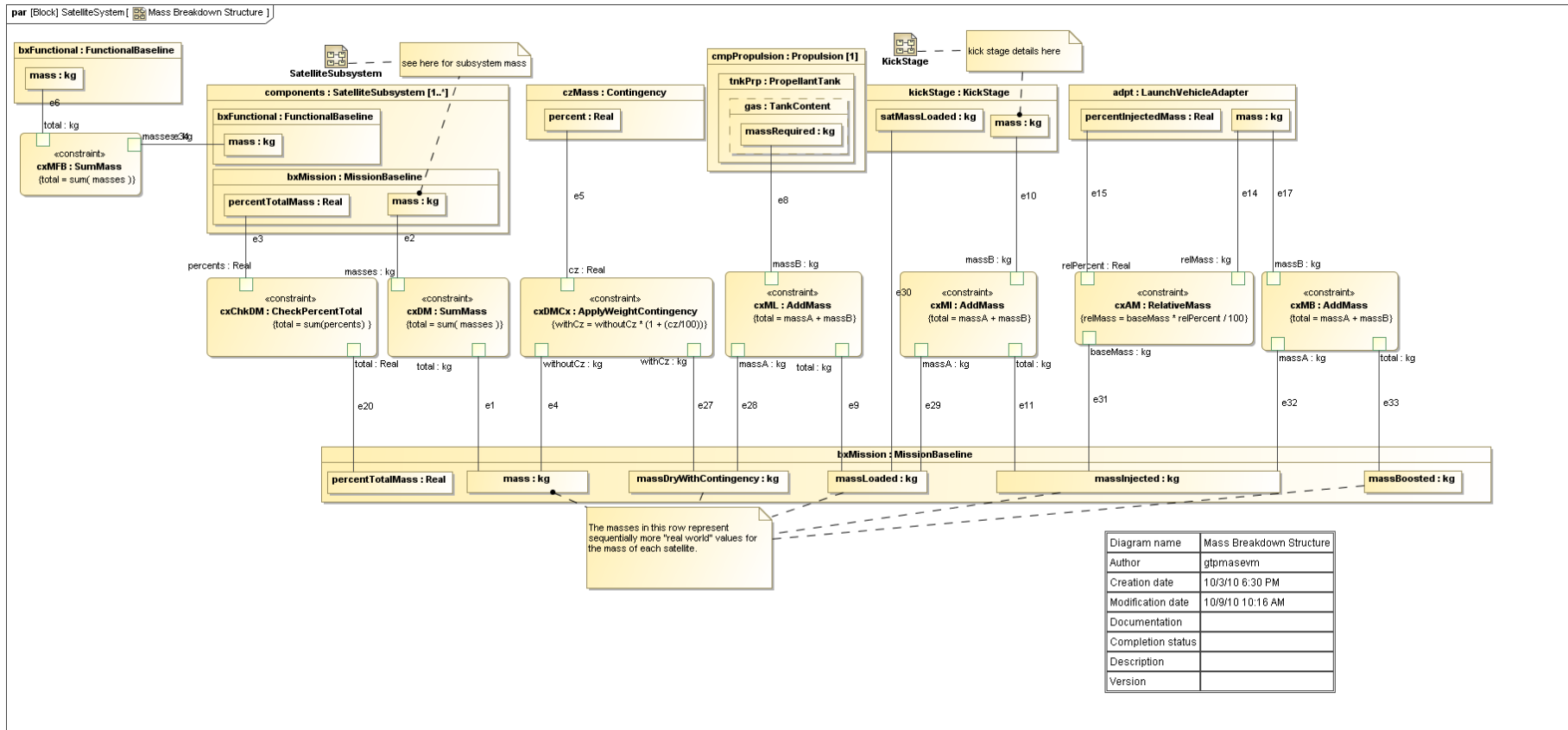
Functional Flow



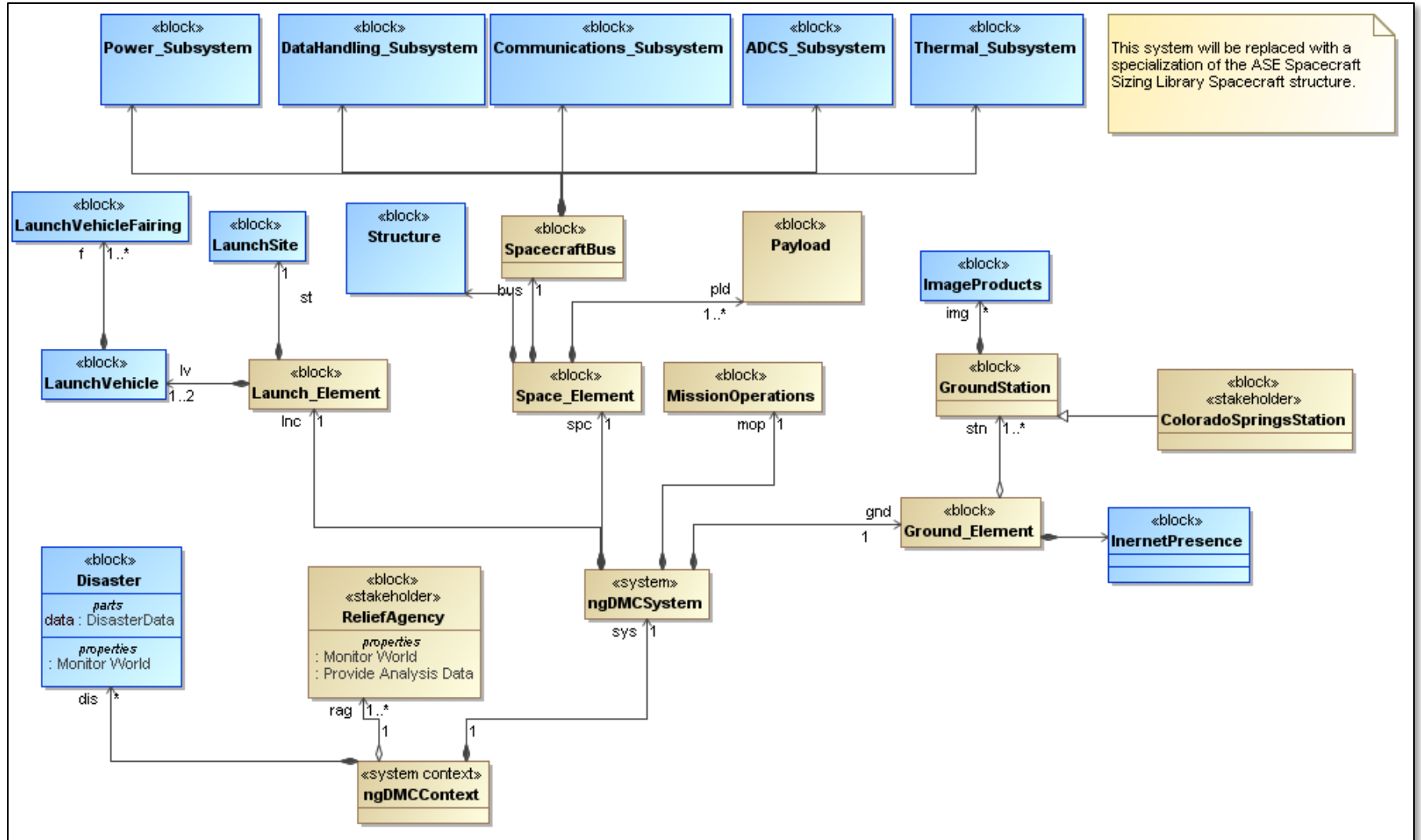
Constraints



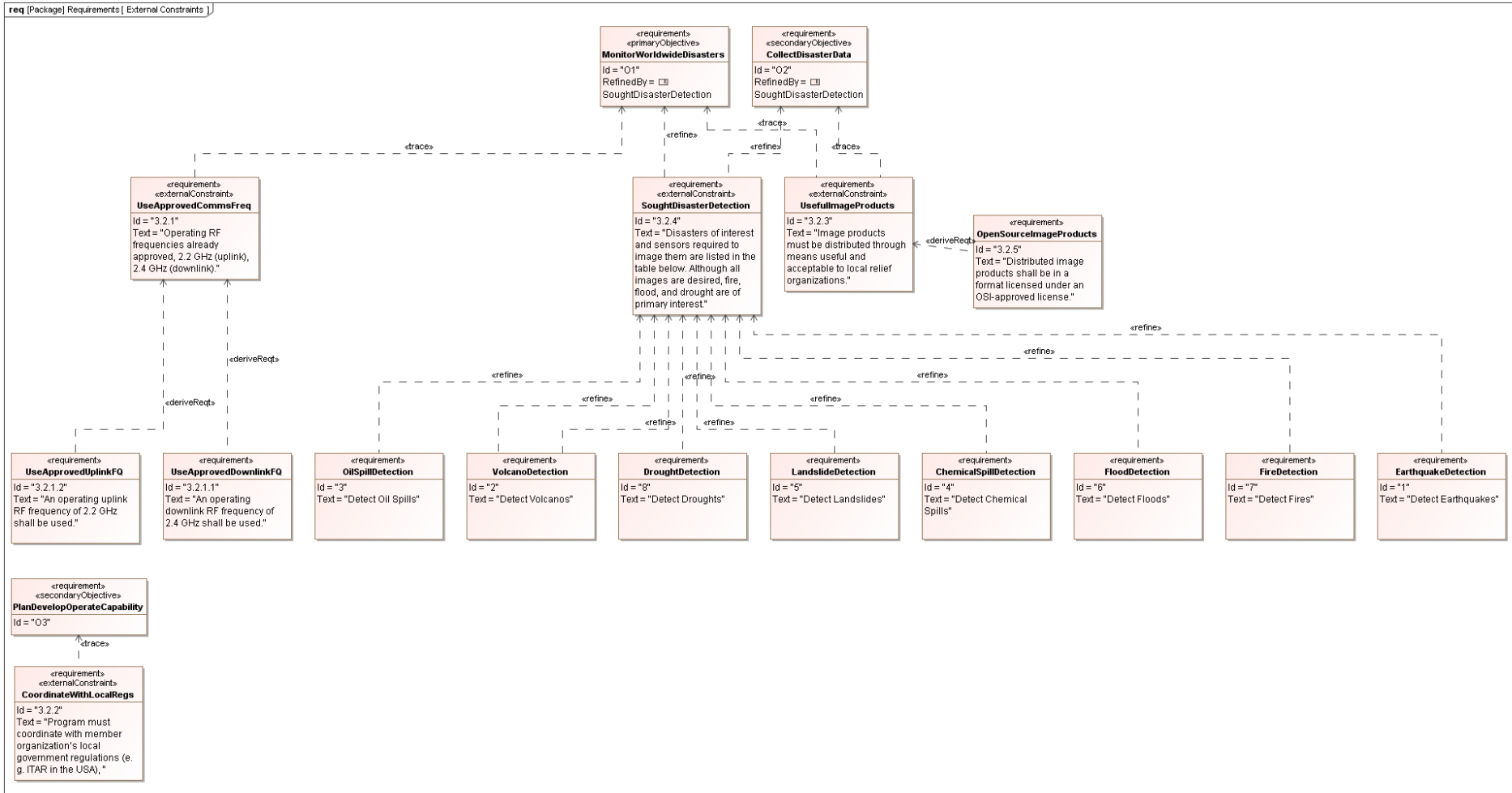
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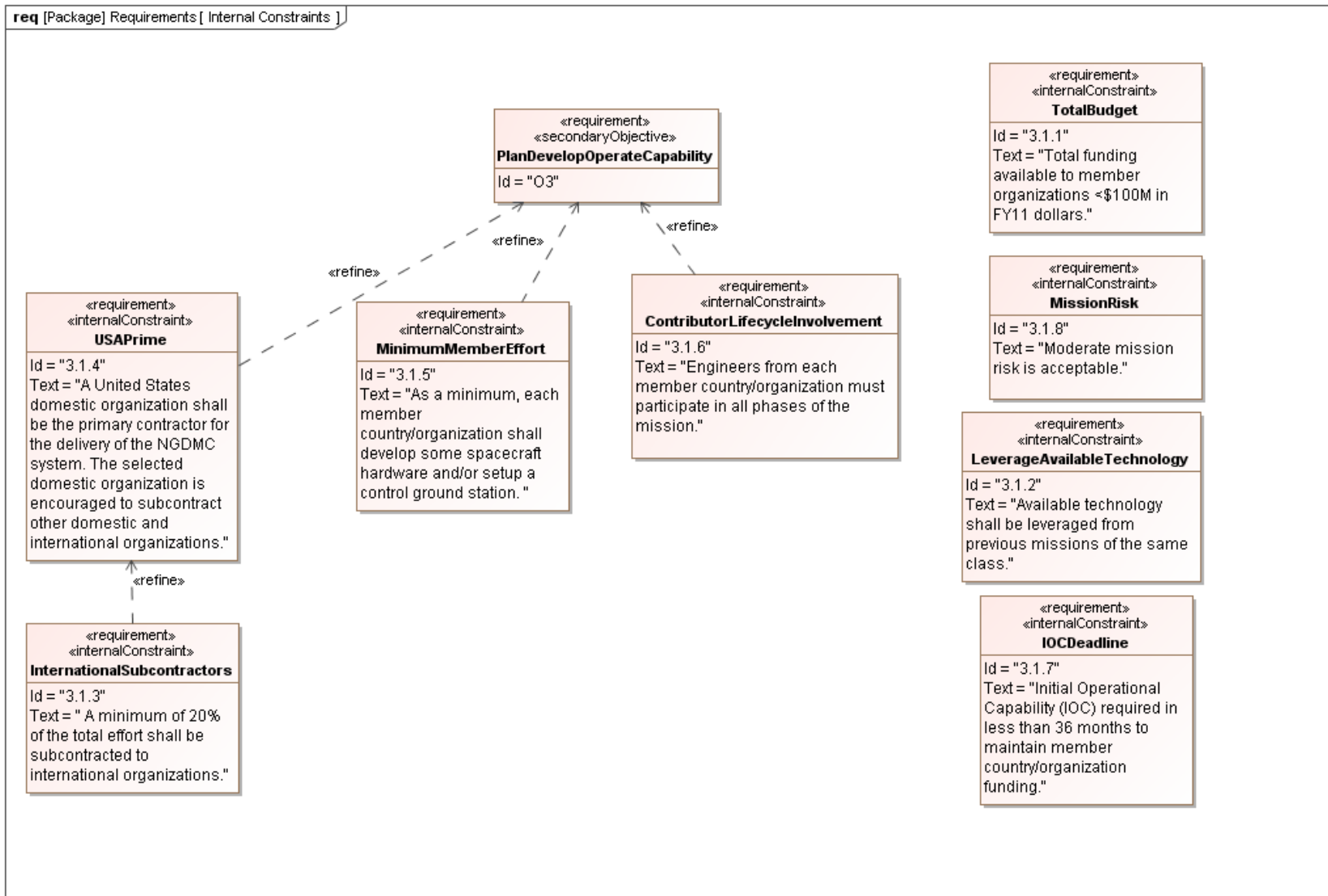
SoS / subsystem view



External Constraints



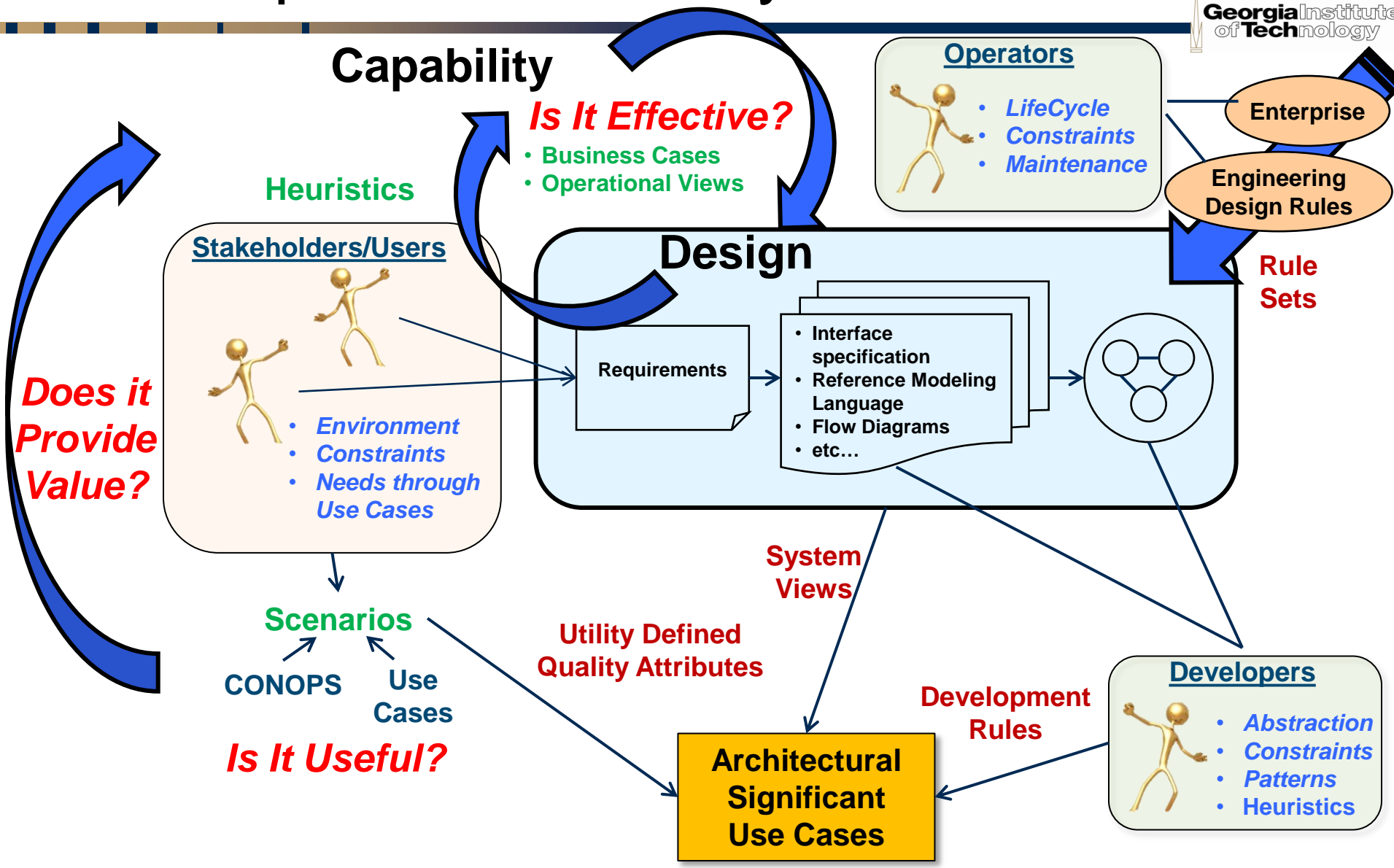
Internal Constraints





Conclusions

Perspective of the Systems Architect



Summary and Conclusions

- ◆ Classic **systems architecting** provides fundamental representation through views and view points
- ◆ Incremental development of ill defined or evolving systems through **agile development**
- ◆ **Scenario based methods** for evaluating quality are effective in the context of satisfying business drivers
- ◆ Architect serves as a leader on the development team, employing practical **management methods**

Review of Tutorial Goals

- ◆ Introduce the student to **methods** and **practices** for systems architecting
- ◆ Apply **agile principles** and incremental development to architecting
- ◆ Learn **novel methods** for combining narrative, visual, and specification techniques for rapid and incremental architecture development
- ◆ Learn practical approaches to **facilitate the process** introduced in this tutorial

Primary References*

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- ◆ Kossiakoff, A. and Sweet, W.N., Systems Engineering Principles and Practice, John Wiley & Sons, 2003.
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* Other references used in this tutorial are cited on appropriate slides