

Agile MCDA Modelling

XMCDA meets D⁴

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Manchester, April 15, 2011

Cost Action IC0206 Algorithmic Decision Theory



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1. The D4 Rubis project
2. Use cases of XMCDAs in D4
3. Granularity of the MCDA models
4. UMCDA-ML profiles and stereotypes
5. New horizons for XMCDAs development



1. The D⁴ Rubis project



leopold-loewenheim.u... x

leopold-loewenheim.uni.lu/cawa/list/index.do

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Logout

+ Applications

Distributed Web Application Designer (D⁴)

Version cawa July 2010 RB-UL

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User: raymond

The screenshot displays the CAWA IDE interface. On the left, a tree view shows the project structure under 'projects / rubis', with 'rubis' selected. The main area is divided into several panels: 'Overview' for the selected project, 'Applications' listing published applications, and 'Participations' showing user roles. A 'Users' tab is also visible at the bottom.

Rubis applications (pointing to the Overview panel):

Name: rubis
Order: [empty]
Sandbox: projects.rubis.demo_1
Description: D4 Rubis best choice application

Applications (table):

Name	Published	Alias	Title
1 demo_1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	demo	Rubis best choice d.
2 bestOffice	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	bestOffice	Choosing a best offi.
3 demoSandbox	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	sandbox	Test application of ..

D4 Rubis project (pointing to the tree view):

- root
- cawa
- rand
- projects
- d4
- ebpa
- rubis**
- demo_1
- rubis_UI
- rubis_Views
- bestOffice
- demoSandbox
- users

Application users (pointing to the Participations table):

User	Role
1 users.Raymond	projects.rubis.ADMIN
2 users.Gilles	projects.rubis.ADMIN
3 users.Michel	projects.rubis.ADMIN
	projects.rubis.READ_ONLY

User role (pointing to the Users tab):

Permissions of projects.rubis

CAWA is Another Wheel of Agnosticism

User: rb



raymond
Remember me

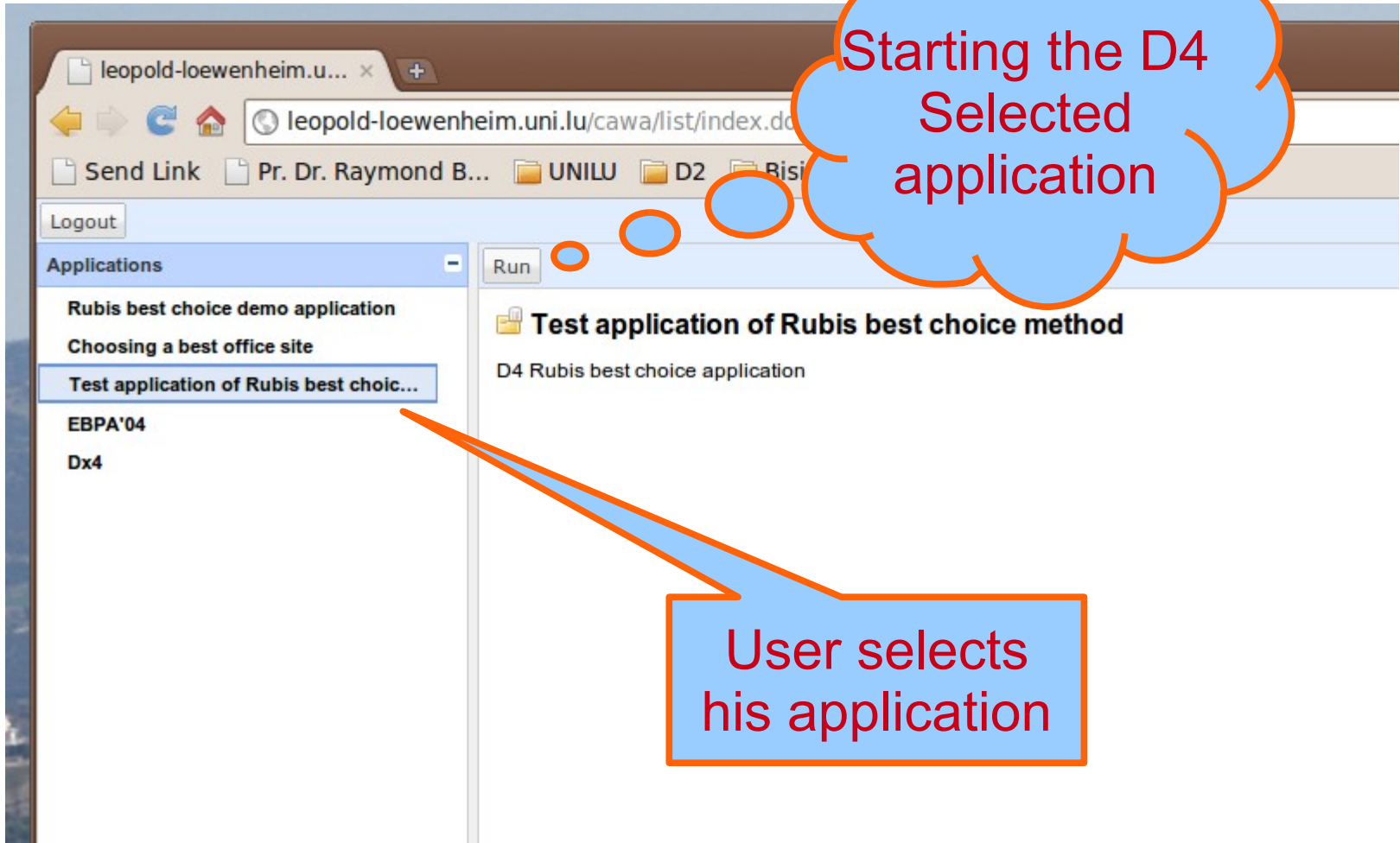
**User raymond
Connects to
D4**

Create an account *

Login
First name
Last name
Email
Password

D4

Design the user pages
 Execute the application



Starting the D4 Selected application

User selects his application

leopold-loewenheim.uni.lu/cawa/list/index.do

Logout

mainDoc addEditAlternatives addEditCriteria addEditPerformanceTable tuningCriteria compareAlternatives computeOutrankingRelation

D4 MCDA Web APPLICATION
Computing a best choice recommendation with the RUBIS method *.

tabs	Content
addEditAlternatives	Edit the set of potential decision alternatives
addEditCriteria	Edit the family of performance criteria
addEditPerformanceTable	Add and edit the evaluations of the alternatives on each criterion
tuningCriteria	Add and edit the preference discrimination thresholds
computeOutrankingRelation	Compute a bipolar valued outranking digraph with a Condorcet robustness index, visualize the Condorcet outranking graph and submit the problem to the RUBIS Solver
viewRubisSolution	Retrieve the complete best choice recommendation

*) R. Bisdorff, P. Meyer and M. Roubens (2008). RUBIS: a bipolar-valued outranking digraph for the choice problem. 4OR, A Quarterly Journal of Operations Research, Springer-Verlag, Volume 6 Number 2 pp. 143-165. (Online) Electronic version: [10.1007/s10288-007-0045-5](https://doi.org/10.1007/s10288-007-0045-5) (downloadable preliminary version PDF file 271.5Kb)

User: raymond

main steps of the decision aid process

a. Edit the set of potential alternatives

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL `leopold-loewenheim.uni.lu/cawa/list/index.do`. The page title is "Add or edit the potential alternatives". The interface includes a navigation menu with tabs like "mainDoc", "addEditAlternatives", "addEditCriteria", "addEditPerformanceTable", "tuningCriteria", "compareAlternatives", and "computeOutranking". Below the navigation, there are icons for adding, deleting, and refreshing. The main content is a table with the following data:

order	name	description	active	fullName
1	a	demo decision action 1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	action 1
2	b	demo decision action 2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	action 2
3	c	demo decision action 3	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	action 3
4	d	demo decision action 4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	action 4

An orange callout box labeled "Grid fragment" points to the table. At the bottom of the page, there is a pagination control showing "Page 1 of 1" and "Displaying 1 - 4 of 4". The user is identified as "User: raymond".

b. Edit the family of criteria

leopold-loewenheim.uni.lu/cawa/list/index.do

Logout

mainDoc addEditAlternatives **addEditCriteria** addEditPerformanceTable tuningCriteria compareAlternatives computeOutranking

	name	description	active	significance	scaleMinimum	scaleMaximum	preferenceDirection
1	g01	ordinal criterion 1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1	0	6	max
2	g02	ordinal criterion 2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1	0	6	max
3	g03	ordinal criterion 3	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1	0	6	max

Page 1 of 1

Displaying 1 - 3 of 3

User: raymond

c. Edit the performances of the actions on the criteria

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL `leopold-loewenheim.uni.lu/cawa/list/index.do`. The application interface includes a navigation bar with tabs like `mainDoc`, `addEditAlternatives`, `addEditCriteria`, `addEditPerformanceTable` (selected), `tuningCriteria`, `compareAlternatives`, and `computeOutra`. There is a sidebar on the left labeled 'Applications'.

Two tables are visible:

- Select an alternative:**

id	Name
1	a
2	b
3	c
4	d
- select a criterion:**

id	name
1	g01
2	g02
3	g03

Below these tables is the **Edit the performances** section, which includes a `showPerformanceTable` button and a table:

name	description	value
1 p_a_g01	performance of alternative a01 on g01	6

A blue callout box with an orange border points to the value '6' in the table above, containing the text "Filtered performance".

[Fragments] [Fragment Types] [Relation Types] [Libraries] [Property Categories]

/ Fragment / mainDesk / addEditPerformanceTable / addEditPerformance

Name	Order	Type	Class
1 mainDesk		cawa.ui.templates.tab	
2 mainDoc	1	cawa.ui.templates.template	
3 addEditAlternatives	2	cawa.ui.templates.grid	projects.rubis.Alternative
4 addEditCriteria	3	cawa.ui.templates.grid	projects.rubis.Criterion
5 addEditPerforma...	4	cawa.ui.templates.composite	
6 selectAlternative		cawa.ui.templates.grid	projects.rubis.viewAlternative
7 selectCriterion		cawa.ui.templates.grid	projects.rubis.viewCriteria
8 addEditPerfor...		cawa.ui.templates.grid	projects.rubis.Performance
6 tuningCriteria	5	cawa.ui.templates.composite	
7 compareAlternati...	6	cawa.ui.templates.composite	
8 computeOutranki...	7	cawa.ui.templates.grid	projects.rubis.OutrankingRel
9 viewRubisSolution	8	cawa.ui.templates.grid	projects.rubis.Recommendat
10 About	9	cawa.ui.templates.template	
2 problemInit		cawa.ui.templates.grid	projects.rubis.Problem
3 activeAlternatives		cawa.ui.templates.grid	projects.rubis.viewAlternative
4 outrankingSituations		cawa.ui.templates.grid	projects.rubis.OutrankingSitu

[Properties] [Attributes] [Relations] [Library Refs] [Actions]

Na...	Type	Source
1 r1	cawa.ui.relations.masterdetail	projects.rubis.rubis_UI.mainDes...
2 r2	cawa.ui.relations.masterdetail	projects.rubis.rubis_UI.mainDes...

Page 1 of 1 Displaying 1 - 2 of 2

[Properties]

Name
Category: Data
1 targetAttribute projects.rubis.Performance.alternative
2 sourceAttribute

Page 1 of 1 Displaying 1 - 2 of 2

declarative definition of filtering conditions

Declarative definition of the tabs

View the entire performance table

use D⁴ Python scripting

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL `leopold-loewenheim.uni.lu/cawa/list/index.do`. The application interface includes a navigation bar with buttons like `mainDoc`, `addEditAlternatives`, `addEditCriteria`, `addEditPerformanceTable`, `tuningCriteria`, `compareAlternatives`, and `computeOutra`. A table lists alternatives with columns `id` and `Name`, showing entries like `action 1` through `action 4`. A modal window titled `projects.rubis.demo_1` displays a performance table:

Performance table	a	b	c	d
g01	6.00	4.00	2.00	0.00
g02	2.00	0.00	6.00	4.00
g03	4.00	2.00	0.00	6.00

Below the modal, there is a table with columns `order`, `name`, and `description`. The `showPerformanceTable` button is circled in orange. At the bottom, a table shows performance data:

name	description	value
1 p_a_g01	performance of alternative a01 on g01	6

leopold-loewenheim.uni.lu/cawa/list/index.do

Logout

mainDoc addEditAlternatives addEditCriteria addEditPerformanceTable **tuningCriteria** compareAlternatives computeOutrankingRelation viewRubisSol

Select the criterion to be tuned

id	significance	description
1 g01	1	ordinal criterion 1
2 g02	1	ordinal criterion 2
3 g03	1	ordinal criterion 3

Page 1 of 1

Add or edit the preference discrimination thresholds

name	description	type	value	intercept	slope
1 th_g01_pref	preference discrimination threshold	pref		2	0
2 th_g01_ind	constant indifference discrimination	ind	1		

Page 1 of 1

Displaying 1 - 2 of 2
User: raymond

d. Tuning the preference discrimination

declarative definition of thresholds

leopold-loewenheim.u... x

leopold-loewenheim.uni.lu/cawa/list/index.do

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Logout

Applications

mainDoc addEditAlternatives addEditCriteria addEditPerformanceTable tuningCriteria **compareAlternatives** computeOutrankingRelation viewRubisSol

Select the initial alternative

id	Name
1 a	action 1
2 b	action 2
3 c	action 3
4 d	action 4

Select the terminal alternative

id	Name
1 a	action 1
2 b	action 2
3 c	action 3
4 d	action 4

Page 1 of 1

Filtered outranking situation

showPairwiseComparison

order	name
1	outran

Page 1 of 1

Displaying 1 - 1 of 1

User: raymond

outrankingRelation_a_c

Pairwise Comparison
Comparing actions : (a,c)

crit.	wght.	g(x)	g(y)	diff	ind	wp	p	concord	wv	v	polarisation
g01	1.00	6.00	2.00	+4.00	1.0	None	2.0	+1.00			
g02	1.00	2.00	6.00	-4.00	1.0	None	None	-1.00			
g03	1.00	4.00	0.00	+4.00	1.0	None	None	+1.00			

Valuation in range: -3.00 to +3.00; global concordance: +1.00

e. Computing the bipolar valued outranking digraph

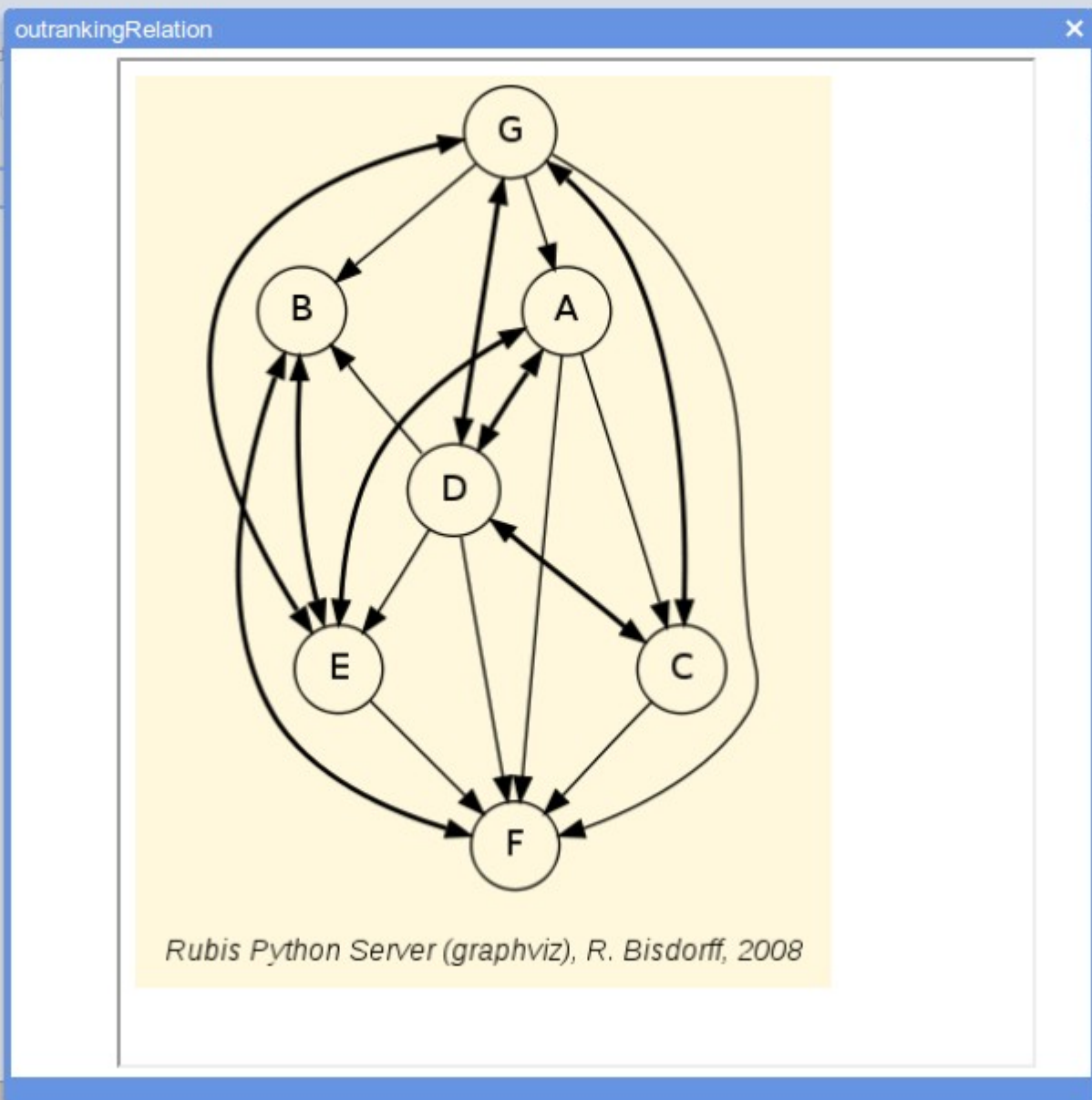
name	description	performanceTableau	valuationMinimum	valuationMaximum	noVeto	problem
1 outrankingRelation	Demo version (RB)	D4 rubis application D4 ca...	-3	3	<input type="checkbox"/>	

outrankingRelation

problemDemo_1: Bipolar-valued adjacency table of outrankingRelation

Relation	a	b	c	d
a	0.00	3.00	0.00	-1.00
b	-3.00	0.00	0.00	-1.00
c	-1.00	-1.00	0.00	0.00
d	0.00	0.00	-1.00	0.00

Valuation domain: from -3 to 3.



Logout

+ Applications

mainDoc addEd

order

1

OutrankingRelation

XMCDAPProblem

num	valuationM
	100

leopold-loewenheim.uni.lu/cawa/list/index.do

Logout

mainDoc addEditAlternatives addEditCriteria addEditPerformanceTable tuningCriteria compareAlternatives computeOutrankingRelation **viewRubisSolution** About

viewRubisBestChoice viewProblemSource viewSolutionSource

order	name	description	ticket	problemText	solverMessage	solutionText
Solution successfully retrieved						
<h2>Decision-Deck UMCDA-ML-2.0 Application</h2> <h3>Rubis Best Choice Recommendation</h3> <h4>D4 Rubis Project</h4> <p>Comment: <i>produced by stringIO()</i> Version: D4 cawa August 2010 Author: D4 rubis application</p> <p>Content</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Choice Recommendation Outranking digraph Potential decision actions Performance table Family of criteria Criteria ordinal correlation 						

f. Get Rubis best choice recommendation from the Rubis Solver web service

Page 1 of 1

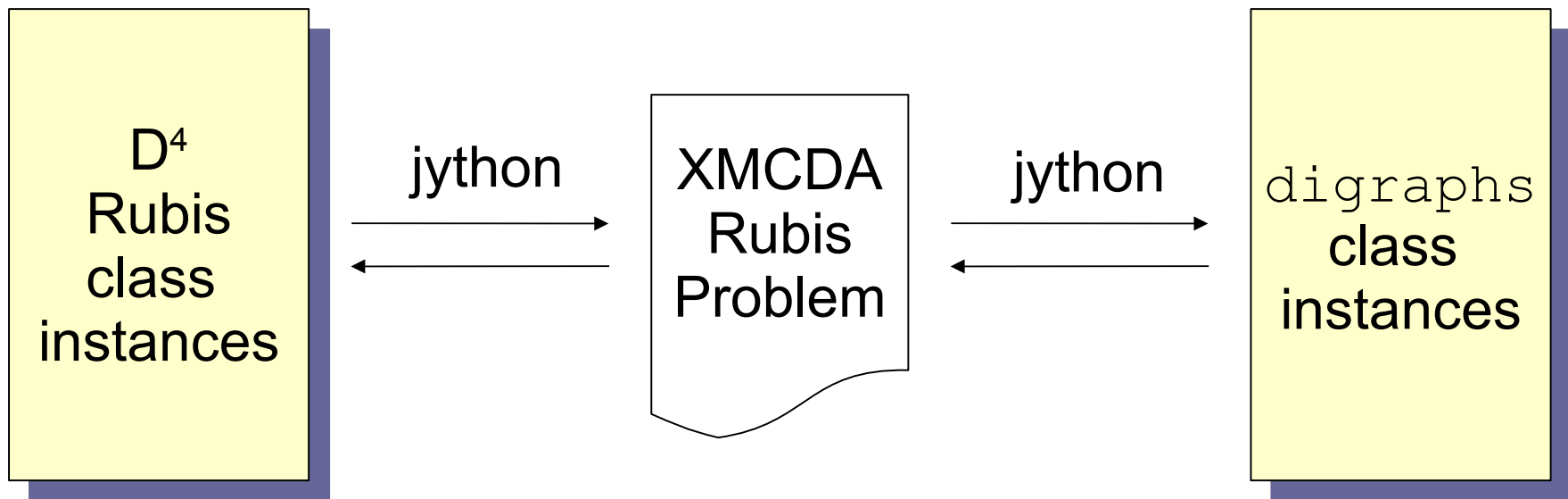
Displaying 1 - 1 of 1

User: raymond



2. Use cases of XMCDA in D⁴

a. Interfacing D⁴ and digraphs class instances



Example: showing the pairwise comparison table

The screenshot shows a software development environment with the following components:

- Class List (Left):** A table listing classes with their names and order numbers.

Order	Name
1	Problem
2	Alternative
3	Criterion
4	OutrankingSituation
5	Recommendation
6	Performance
7	Threshold
8	ConstantThreshold
9	ProportionalThreshold
10	OutrankingRelation
11	viewAlternatives
12	viewCriteria
13	viewTuningCriteria
- Class Details (Middle):** A pane showing the selected class 'OutrankingSituation' and its operation 'showPairwiseComparison'.

Name	Order
1	showPairwiseComparison
- Code Editor (Bottom):** A Python code editor showing the implementation of the 'showPairwiseComparison' operation.


```

1 import digraphs
2 # this is the current selected outranking situation
3 print this.name
4 if this.initial.name != this.terminal.name:
5     t = digraphs.XMCDA2PerformanceTableau(stringInput=this.digraph.performanceTableau)
6     if this.digraph.noVeto:
7         g = digraphs.BipolarOutrankingDigraph(t, hasNoVeto=True)
8     else:
9         g = digraphs.BipolarOutrankingDigraph(t, hasBipolarVeto=True)
10    initialAction = str(this.initial.name)
11    terminalAction = str(this.terminal.name)
12    html = g.showPairwiseComparison(initialAction, terminalAction, isReturningHTML=True)
13    print html
14    return html
15 else:
16    return 'Error: can only compare non identical posters !'

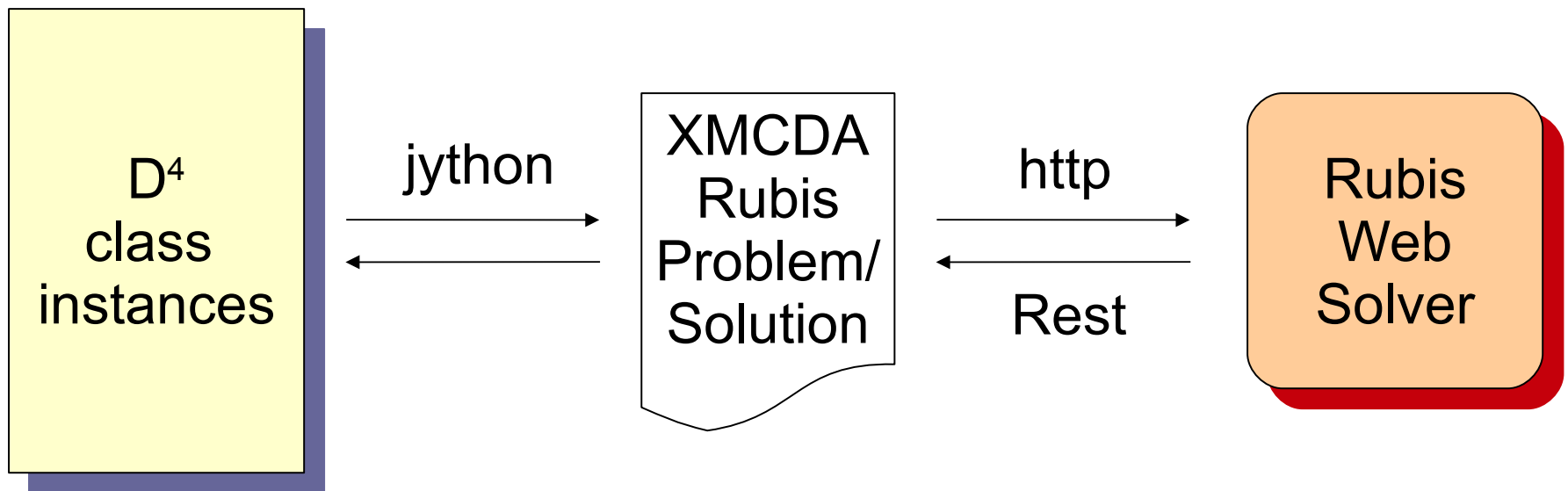
```

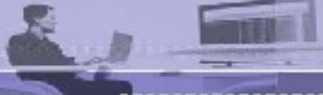
Annotations in the image:

- class operation:** Points to the 'showPairwiseComparison' operation in the class details pane.
- D4 class definition:** Points to the 'OutrankingSituation' class in the class list.
- The class instance has a pointer to an XMCDA encoded instance of a complete Rubis PerformanceTableau:** A large callout box pointing to the code in the editor that creates a 'PerformanceTableau' object.



b. Interfacing D⁴ and the Rubis XMCD A Solver





[Classes] [Diagram]

Name	Order
1	Problem
2	Alternative
3	Criterion
4	OutrankingSituation
5	Recommendation
6	Performance
7	Threshold
8	ConstantThreshold
9	ProportionalThreshold
10	OutrankingRelation
11	viewAlternatives
12	viewCriteria
13	viewTuningCriteria

[Attributes] **[Operations]** [Instances]

Name	Order
2	refreshRACS
3	computeCharacteristics
4	computeRobustness
5	showRelationTable
6	showCriteriaCorrelation...
7	showRobustnessTable
8	showGraphImage
9	submitRubisJob
10	viewProblemSource

Page 1 of 1

```

1 import sys,xmlrpcclib
2 host = "http://localhost/cgi-bin/xmlrpc.cgi.py"
3
4 rubisServer = xmlrpcclib.ServerProxy(host)
5
6 #this = weta.core.loader.load('projects.ebpa.data2004.globalOutranking')
7
8 problemText = this.performanceTableau
9 arg = {'problemFile': problemText.encode('ascii', 'xmlcharrefreplace')}
10 #arg = {'problemFile': problemText}
11 answer = rubisServer.submitProblem(arg)
12 print answer['ticket']
13 html = answer['message']
14 if answer['ticket'] != None:
15     Job = weta.core.loader.load('projects.rubis.Recommendation')
16     job = Job()
                    
```

class operation

D4 python xmlrpc
exchange
with the Rubis Solver

D4 class
definition



leopold-loewenheim.u... x

leopold-loewenheim.uni.lu/cawa/list/index.do

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Logout

mainDoc addEditAlternatives addEditCriteria addEditPerformanceTable tuningCriteria compareAlternatives computeOutrankingRelation **viewRubisSolution** About

viewRubisBestChoice viewProblemSource viewSolutionSource

order	name	description	ticket	problemText	solverMessage	solutionText
1	job-VWodoUDwXdue2E8r	Complete Solution; With L...	VWodoUDwXdue2E8r	D4 rubis application D4 ca...	The solution request was ...	D4 Rubis Project produc

job-VWodoUDwXdue2E8r

```

<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<!-- ?xml-stylesheet type="text/xsl" href="xmcd2Rubis.xsl" -->
<xmcd:XMCD xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance" xsi:schemaLocation="http://www.decision-deck.org/2009/XMCD-2.0.0 http://www.decision-deck.org/xmcd/_downloads/XMCD-2.0.0.xsd" xmlns:xmcd="http://www.decision-deck.org/2009/XMCD-2.0.0" instanceID="void">
  <projectReference id="d4_rubis_temp" name="d4_rubis_temp.xml">
    <title>D4 Rubis Project</title>
    <author>D4 rubis application</author>
    <version>D4 cawa August 2010</version>
    <comment>produced by stringIO()</comment>
  </projectReference>
  <methodParameters id="Rubis" name="Rubis best choice method" mcdaConcept="methodData">
    <description>
      <subTitle>Method parameters</subTitle>
      <version>1.0</version>
    </description>
    <parameters>
      <parameter name="variant">
        <value>
          <label>Rubis</label>
        </value>
      </parameter>
      <parameter name="valuationType">
        <value>
          <label>bipolar</label>
        </value>
      </parameter>
    </parameters>
  </methodParameters>

```

Page 1 of 1

Displaying 1 - 1 of 1

User: raymond



UMCDAML

perspectives

Learning from the D4 experience



Motivation

- D4 ?
 - Power-User design tool for MCDA problems
 - No deployment cycle : app online from the beginning
 - Fast : new class in minutes
 - Flexible : refactoring with instant impact to data
- Only enrolling you ?
 - Technological war ?



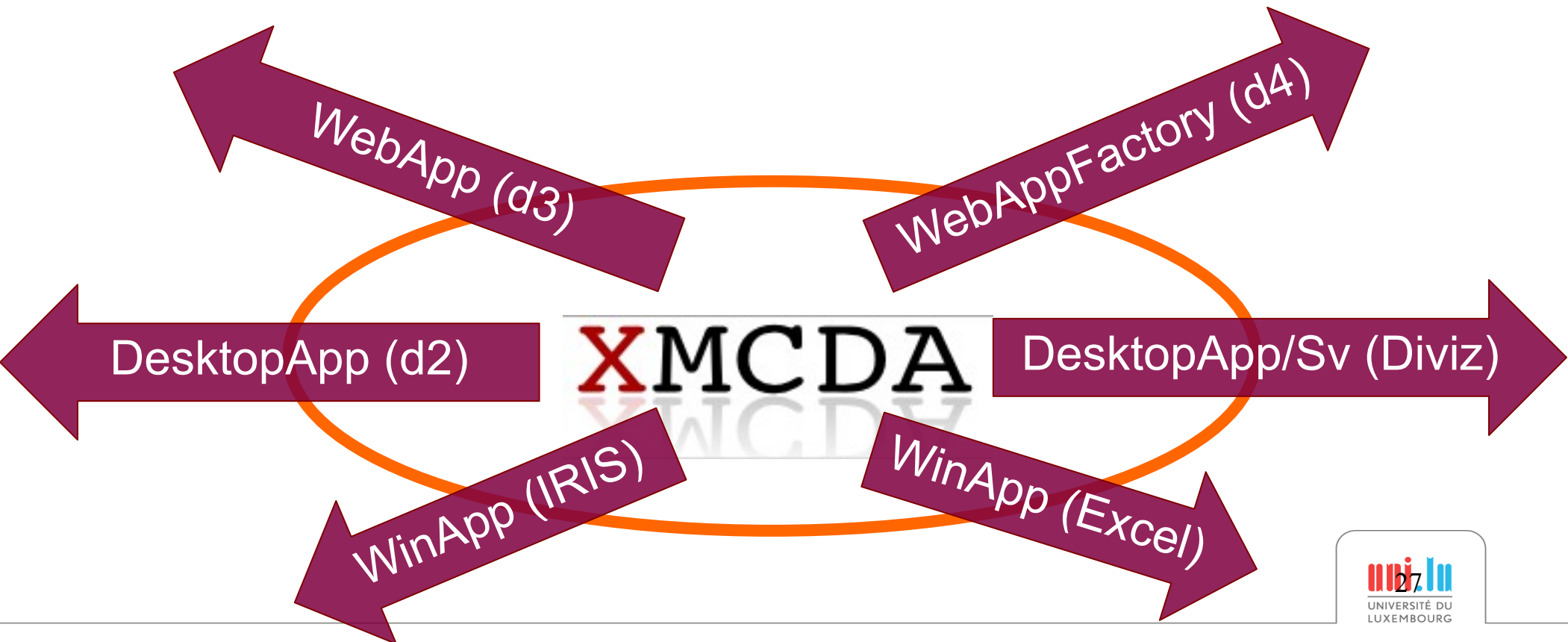
High stakes :
raise abstraction

Motivation

Technology
vs methodology

UMCDA ML

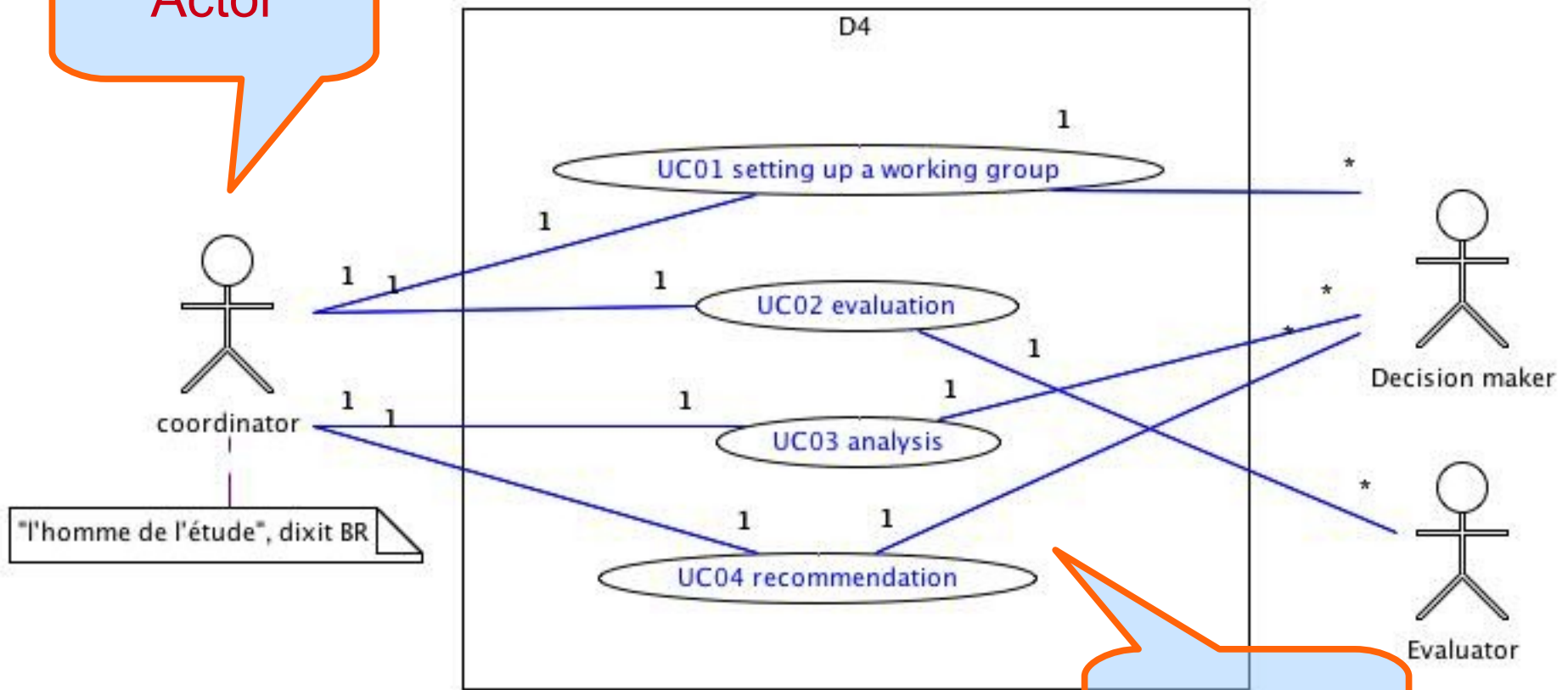
...



Multi platform,
multi language ...

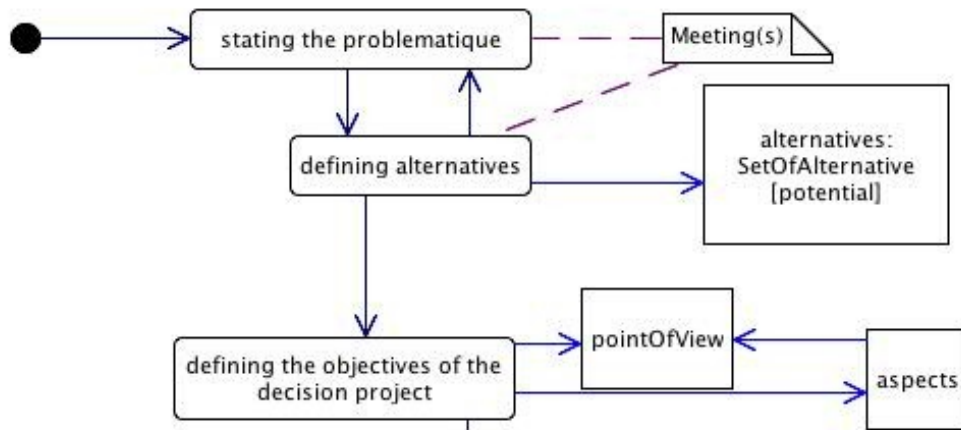
Modeling MCDA problems with UML

Actor



Use Cases

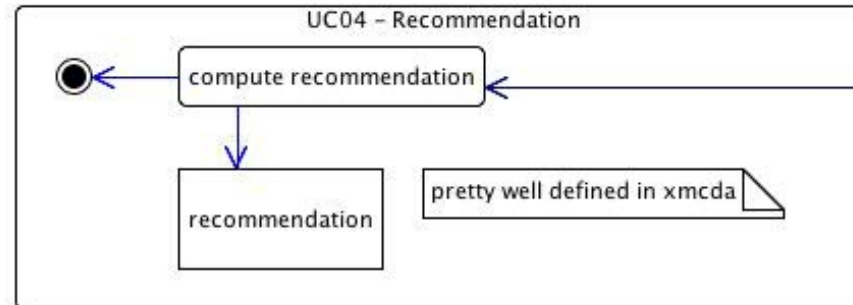
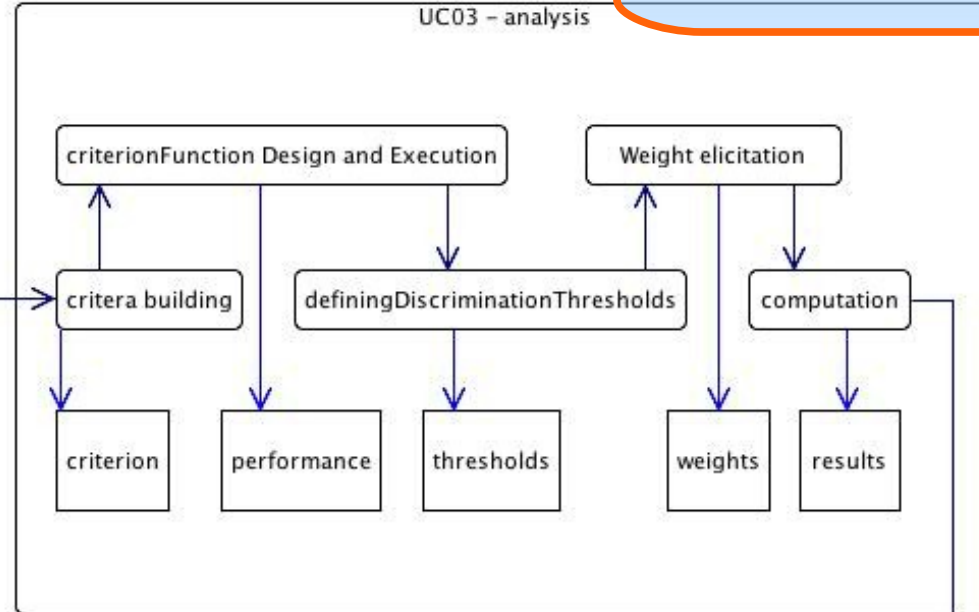
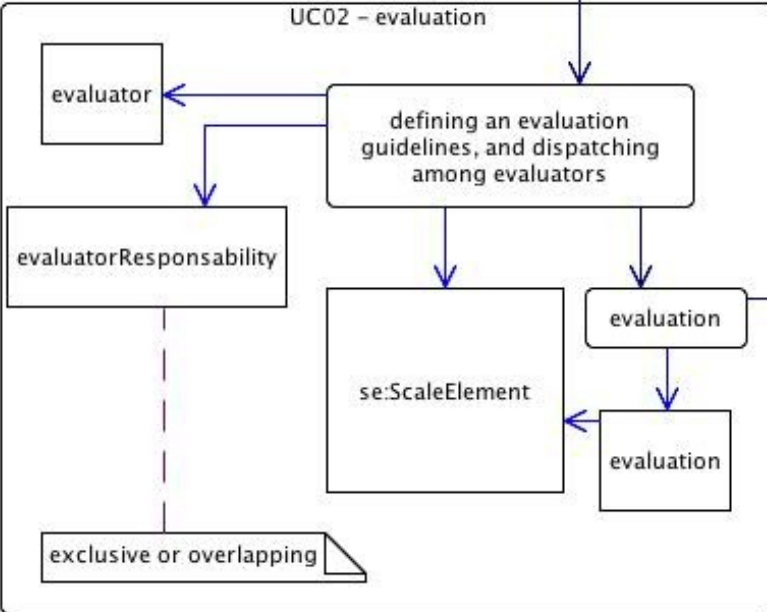
"l'homme de l'étude", dixit BR



the set of potential alternatives might be structured as "set", "decisionTree", "inequationsSystem", etc ...

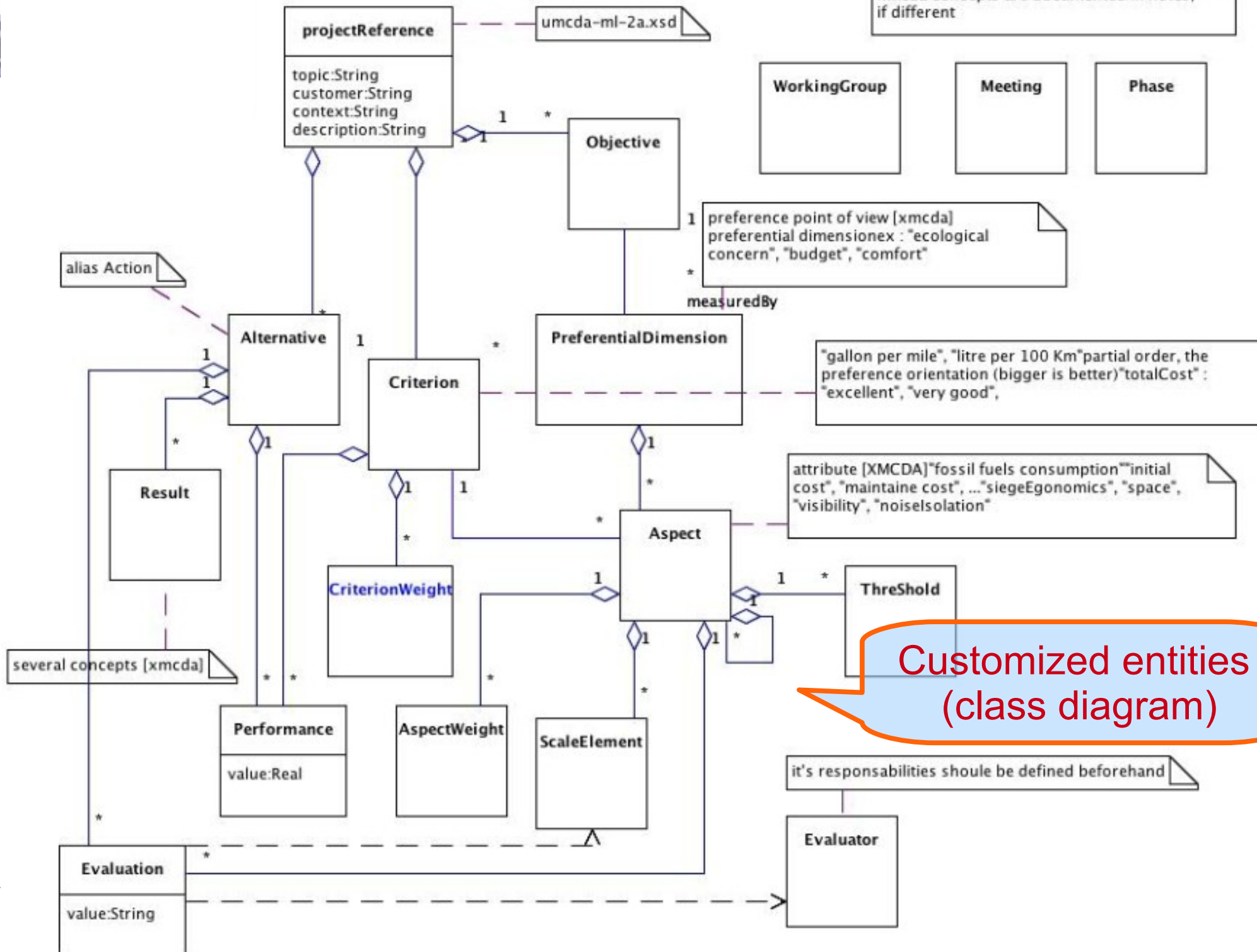
ex : choose the best single alternative, or "top 5" or a "virtualAlternative" (nadir & zenith)

Universal visual value



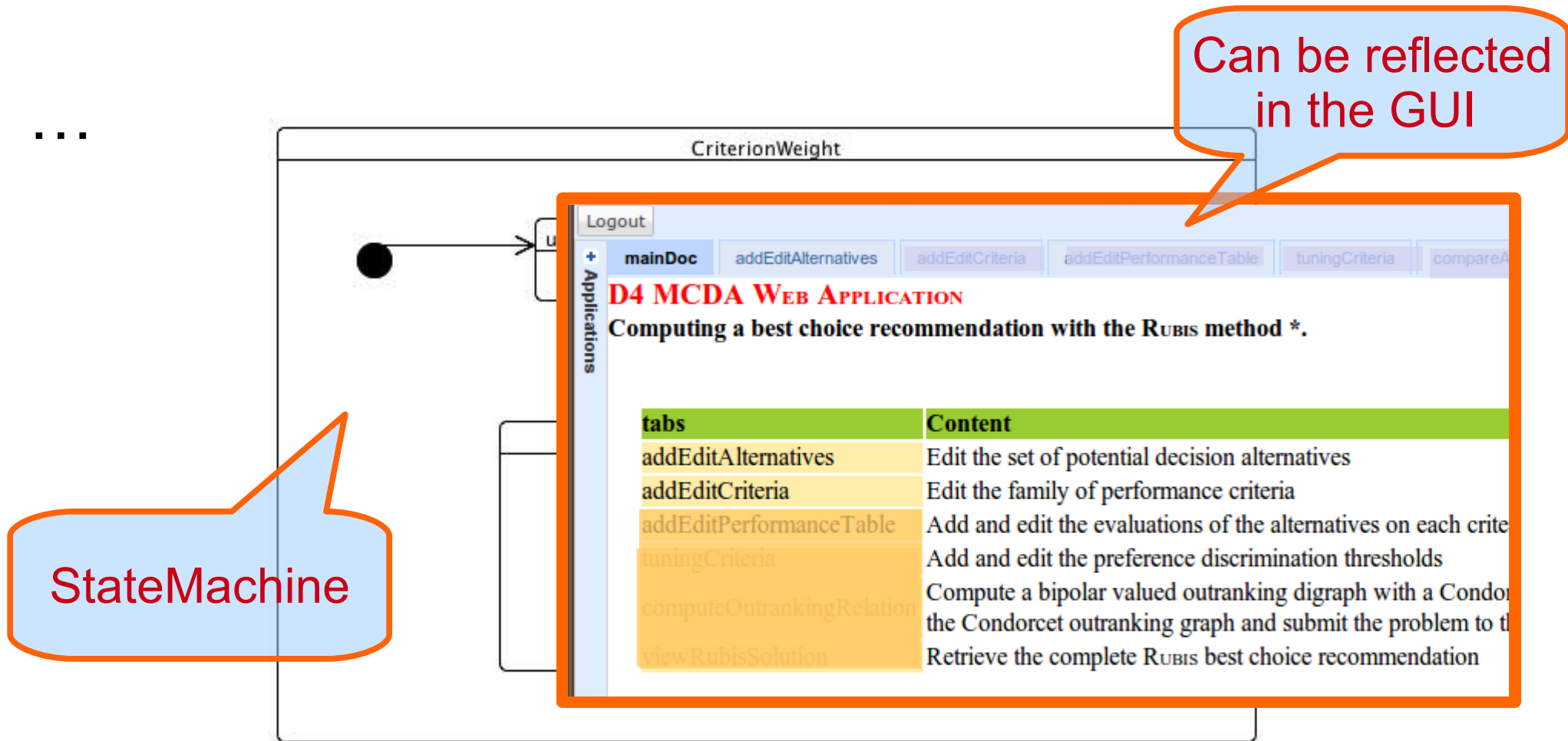
Workflow (activity diagram)

class names are more abstract links with xmcd concepts are documented in notes, if different



Customized entities (class diagram)

Object's lifecycle : workflow regulator



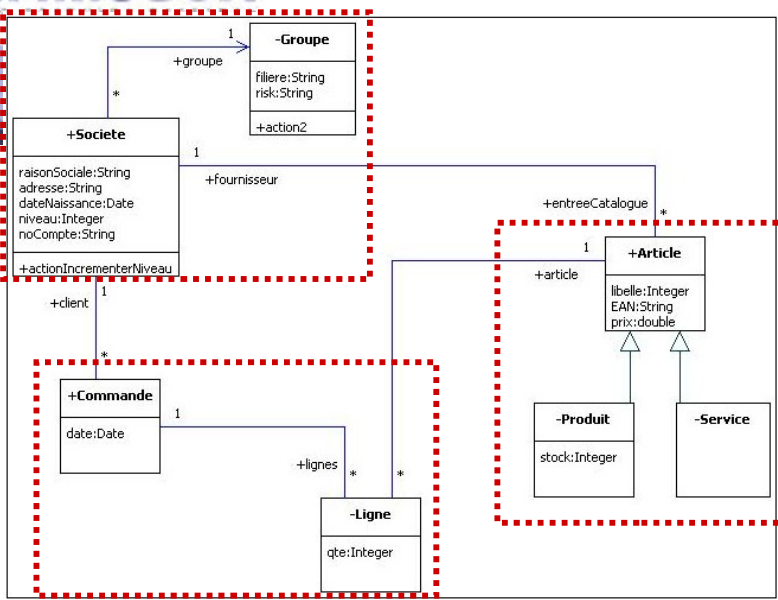


3. Granularity of the MCDA models



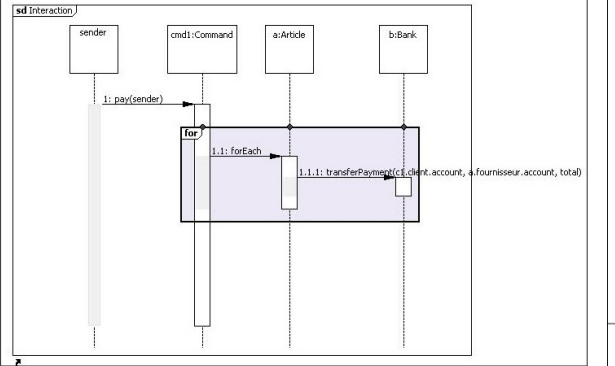
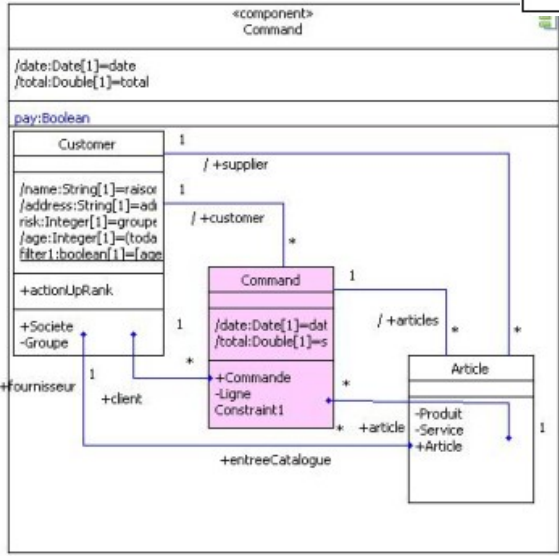
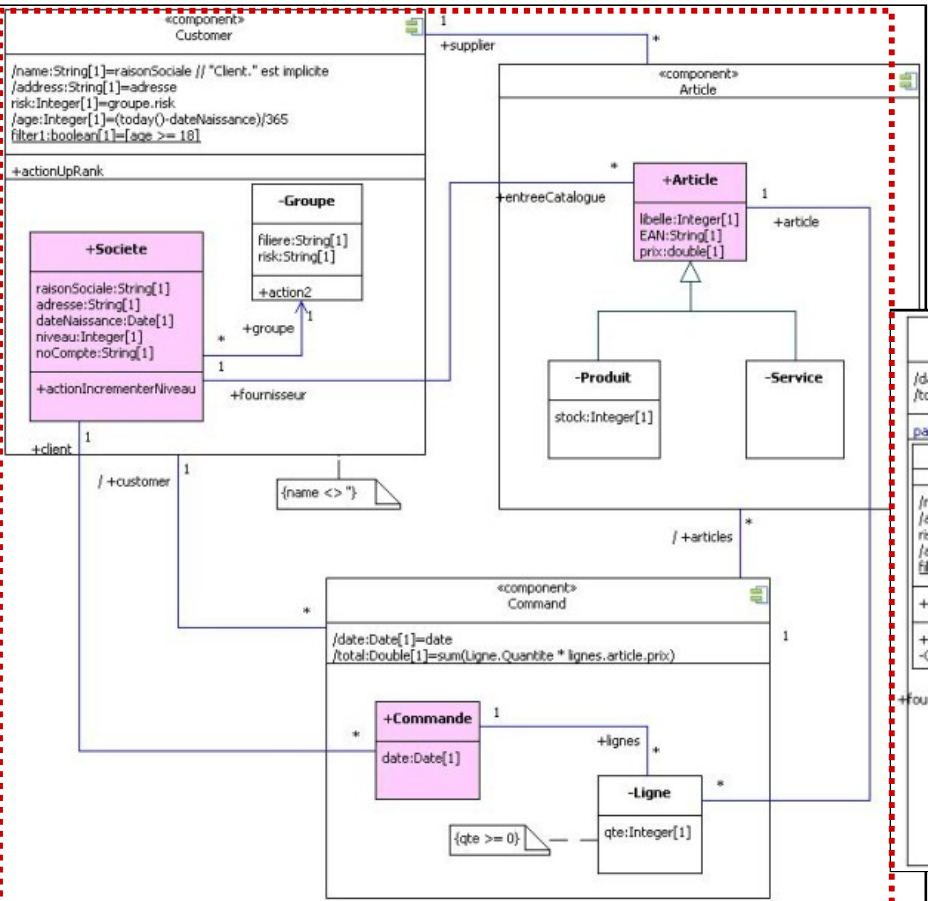
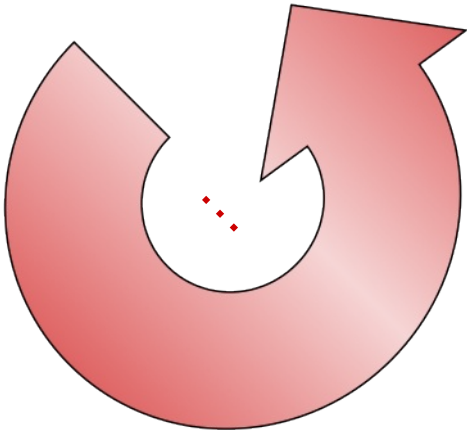
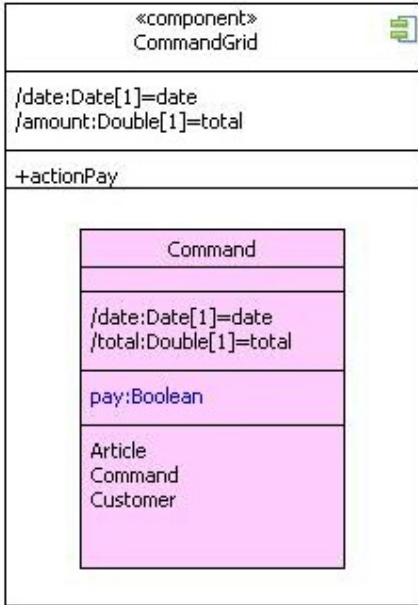
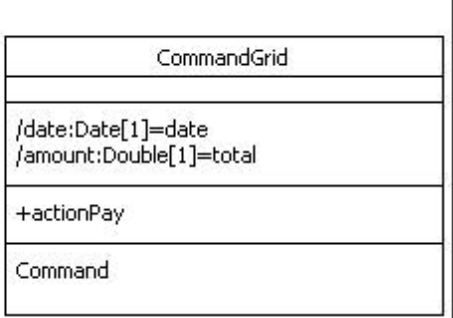
UML granularity concepts

- Model
 - Static : package*, class*, component*
 - Dynamic : usecase, activity*, state*, operation*
- Metamodel solution
 - (*) : Composite design pattern
 - XMI : XML Model Interchange



CommandGrid

date	actionPay	amount
2007-08-03		56
2007-09-20		67
2007-12-01		69
2008-01-21		70
2008-01-27		71





3. UMCDA-ML profiles and stereotypes



UML Profile

- Profile
 - provides a generic extension mechanism for customizing UML models for particular domains and platforms.
 - define new concepts (meta) called << stereotypes >>
more than types, less than metatypes
 - model remain compliant with the standard
 - finally, the standard can evolve and integrate the stereotype as an official new concept



3. New horizons for XMCD A ?



XMCD

- UML-like profiles and stereotypes
 - Needs a tool for diagrams and generation
 - <<problem>>, <<package>>,
 - <<phase>>, <<workflow>>
- Types aggregates : java-like generics
 - Using Spring parsing features
 - Set<Alternative>, List<Evaluator> ...
 - Matrix<Alternative, Evaluator, Criteria> ...



Methodological power

Strong methodological concepts + Rich exchange mechanisms

(xMCDA + WebServices)
=> Technological diversity becomes an asset

DesktopApp (d2)

DesktopApp/Sv (Diviz)

WinApp (IRIS)

WinApp (Exec)

Technological freedom



Q&A