

# BSYS\_EVAL

Ionuț Cicio

20/10/2025

<https://github.com/CuriousCI/bsys-eval>

# Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>BSYS_EVAL</b>	<b>3</b>
1.1	Introduction .....	3
1.2	Requirements .....	4
<b>2</b>	<b>Data types specification</b>	<b>8</b>
2.1	Interval .....	8
2.2	ReactomeDbId .....	8
2.3	StableIdVersion .....	9
<b>3</b>	<b>(<i>Reactome</i>) UML class diagram</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Classes specification pt. 1</b>	<b>11</b>
4.1	CatalystActivity .....	11
4.2	Compartment .....	11
4.3	Pathway .....	12
4.4	PhysicalEntity .....	13
<b>5</b>	<b>Classes specification pt. 2</b>	<b>15</b>
5.1	BiologicalScenarioDefinition .....	15
5.2	ModelInstance .....	16
5.3	SimulatedModelInstance .....	16
5.4	Measurement .....	16
5.5	UnitDefinition .....	17
<b>6</b>	<b>Use-case diagram</b>	<b>17</b>
6.1	“Helper” use-case .....	18
<b>7</b>	<b>OpenBox on the Slurm Workload Manager</b>	<b>19</b>
7.1	Analysis .....	19
7.1.1	Data types specification .....	19
7.1.2	Classes specification .....	20
7.1.2.1	Job .....	20
7.2	Implementation .....	21
7.2.1	Data types definitions .....	21
7.2.2	Additional constraints .....	21
7.2.2.1	Job .....	21
	<b>Bibliography</b>	<b>22</b>

# 1 BSYS\_EVAL

## 1.1 Introduction

BSYS\_EVAL is a tool meant to help study the likelihood of a given scenario in a biological system.

Given a set of *target species*, a set of constraints on the *target species* (constraints which model a scenario that could present, for example, in a disease) and by taking into account all the reactions within a set *target pathways* that lead to the production, both directly and indirectly, of the *target species*, the goal is to find a subset of virtual patients for the described scenario.

TODO: find papers in literature that do similar things; what does this method add compared to other approaches? (i.e. using multiple pathways by generating the fixed point, ensemble of SAs etc...)

TODO: case studies

## 1.2 Requirements

The basic idea behind the software is to take the description of a scenario (with *target species*, *target pathways*, constraints on the *target species*, and the parameters  $\varepsilon, \delta \in (0, 1)$  for the evaluation of the constraints), to generate a SBML model with

- the reactions within the *target pathways* that, both directly and indirectly, generate the *target species*
- parameters for the reactions' speeds
- structural constraints on the reactions' speeds (some reactions are faster than others)

TODO: I still haven't figured out how to get that information out of Reactome, maybe I just have to search more

- constraints on the quantities of the entities (for which the model needs to be simulated)

---

**Algorithm 1:** eval

---

```
input:  $S_T$ , set of PhysicalEntity;  
input:  $P_T$ , set of target Pathway;  
input:  $C_T$ , set of constraints on  $S_T$ ;  
input:  $\varepsilon, \delta \in (0, 1)$ ;  
input: seed, random seed;  
  
scenario  $\leftarrow$  biological_scenario_definition( $S_T, P_T, C_T$ )  
(sbml_model, vp_definition, env)  $\leftarrow$  yield_sbml_model(scenario)  
  
 $V = \emptyset$  // set of virtual patients  
while  $\neg$  halt requested do  
   $v \leftarrow$  instantiate(vp_definition) // virtual patient  
  if (  
     $v$  satisfies structural constraints  $\wedge$   
    APSG(sbml_model,  $v$ , env, seed,  $\varepsilon, \delta$ )  
  ) then  
     $V \leftarrow V \cup \{v\}$ ;  
  
return  $V$ 
```

---

The bulk of the logic is in the *yield\_sbml\_model*() function.

Average quantities

- $S' = S \cup \{S_{\text{avg}} \mid s \in S\}$
- $S' = G(S')$
- $K : R \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+^{|R|} = [10^{-6}, 10^6]^{|R|}$
- find  $k$
- subject to
  - structural constraints
    - partial order on  $k$  due to
      - fast/non fast reactions (TODO: as given by Reactome, but how?)

$$\forall r_f, r_s \ (r_f \in R_{\text{fast}} \wedge r_s \in R_{\text{slow}}) \rightarrow r_f > r_s$$

- reaction modifiers (like above?)
- for all dynamics of environment
  - avg concentration of species consistent to knowledge

$$\exists t_0 \ \forall t \ \forall s$$

$$(t > t_0 \wedge s \in S_{\text{avg}}) \rightarrow s(t) \in [\text{known range}]$$

- $\mathbb{N}^+ = \{n \mid n \in \mathbb{N} \wedge n > 0\}$

**Definition 1 (*biological graph*)**

A *biological graph*  $G$  is a tuple  $(S, R, E, F)$  s.t.

- $S$  is a set of species
- $R$  is a set of reactions
- $E : S \times R \rightarrow \mathbb{N}^+$ 
  - $E = E_{\text{reactant}} \cup E_{\text{product}} \cup E_{\text{modifier}}$

**Definition 2 (*"produces" relation*)**

Given a *biological graph*  $G = (S, R, E, F)$  let  $\rightsquigarrow$  be a relation s.t.

- $\forall s, r \quad (s, r) \in \text{dom}(E_{\text{reactant}} \cup E_{\text{modifier}}) \Rightarrow s \rightsquigarrow r$
- $\forall s, r \quad (s, r) \in \text{dom}(E_{\text{product}}) \Rightarrow r \rightsquigarrow s$
- $\forall c, c', c'' \quad (c \rightsquigarrow c' \wedge c' \rightsquigarrow c'') \Rightarrow c \rightsquigarrow c''$

$\rightsquigarrow$  is the “*produces*” relation

**Definition 3 (*model??*)**

Given a set of target species  $S_T$ , a set of target pathways  $P_T$  and a biological graph  $G = (S, E, R)$  s.t.

- $S_T \subseteq S$

A *model* is a subgraph  $G' = (S', E', R')$  s.t.

- $G' \subseteq G$
- $S' = \{s \mid \exists s_t \ s \in S \wedge s_t \in S_T \wedge s \rightsquigarrow_G s_t\}$
- $R' = \{r \mid \exists s_t \ r \in R \wedge s_t \in S_T \wedge r \rightsquigarrow_G s_t\}$
- $E' = ((s, r, n) \mid (s, r, n) \in E \wedge s \in S' \wedge r \in R')$

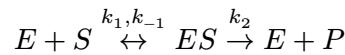
**Definition 4 (*constraint problem on a biological model*)**

Given a model  $G$  with target species  $S_T$  and target pathways  $P_T$  let the following be a constraint problem

- $k : R \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{|R|}$

**find  $k$  subject to**

- partial order on  $k$  from the structure of the graph
- partial order on the quantities
- constraint on enzymes such that



$$k_1, k_{-1} \gg k_2$$

- for all dynamics of the environment
  - average concentration of species consistent to knowledge

$$\begin{aligned} &\exists t_0 \ \forall t \ \forall s \\ &\quad (t > t_0 \wedge s \in S_{\text{avg}}) \rightarrow s(t) \in [\text{known range}] \end{aligned}$$

Environment: all possible cuts  
we can have excluded species!

$$\dot{x} = k_+ \prod_{i=1}^s S_i^{k_i} - k_- \prod_{j=1}^p P_j^{k_j}$$

$$\dot{x} = \sum_{i=1}^p \text{KP}_i - \sum_{j=1}^n \text{KN}_j$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\left\{ \sum_{j=1}^n \text{KN}_j > \text{KP}_i \mid i \in \{1, \dots, p\} \right\} \cup \\ &\left\{ \sum_{i=1}^p \text{KP}_i > \text{KN}_j \mid j \in \{1, \dots, n\} \right\} \end{aligned}$$

## 2 Data types specification

- `\d` = `/[0-9]/`
- `\w` = `/[A-Za-z0-9_]/`

### Math

```
Natural = Integer >= 0
Interval = (lower_bound: Real [0..1], upper_bound: Real [0..1])
MathML = String matching https://www.w3.org/1998/Math/MathML/
MathMLBoolean = String matching MathML returning a Boolean
MathMLNumeric = String matching MathML returning a Number
Stoichiometry = Natural > 0
```

### Reactome

```
ReactomeDbId = Natural [1]
StableIdVersion =
  String matching regex /^R-[A-Z]{3}-\d{1,8}\.\d{1,3}$/ [2]
```

### SBML

```
String1 = String matching regex //
SId = String matching regex /^[a-zA-Z_]\w*$/ [3, Section 3.1.7]
UnitSId = String matching regex /^[a-zA-Z_]\w*$/
```

### 2.1 Interval

The **Interval** type represents an open interval in  $\mathbb{R}$  of the type (lower\_bound, upper\_bound) s.t.

- when lower\_bound is not defined, it is interpreted as  $-\infty$
- when upper\_bound is not defined, it is interpreted as  $+\infty$

**C.Interval.lower\_bound\_leq\_upper\_bound**

```
∀ interval, interval_lower_bound, interval_upper_bound
(
  Interval(interval) ∧
  lower_bound(interval, interval_lower_bound) ∧
  upper_bound(interval, interval_upper_bound)
) →
interval_lower_bound ≤ interval_upper_bound
```

### 2.2 ReactomeDbId

This is required because not all instances of **DatabaseObject** in Reactome have a **StableIdVersion**, which is the one usually displayed in the Reactome Pathway Browser [4]. Instances of **DatabaseObject** in Reactome can be identified with a **ReactomeDbId**, but its pattern does not match the definition of **SId** used to identify objects in SBML.



In order to generate a correct **SBMLDocument** the **ReactomeDbId** must be converted into a **SId**.

## 2.3 StableIdVersion

The **StableIdVersion** type is useful because is the one usually displayed in the Reactome Pathway Browser [4]. It is useful to accept it in the description of the models.

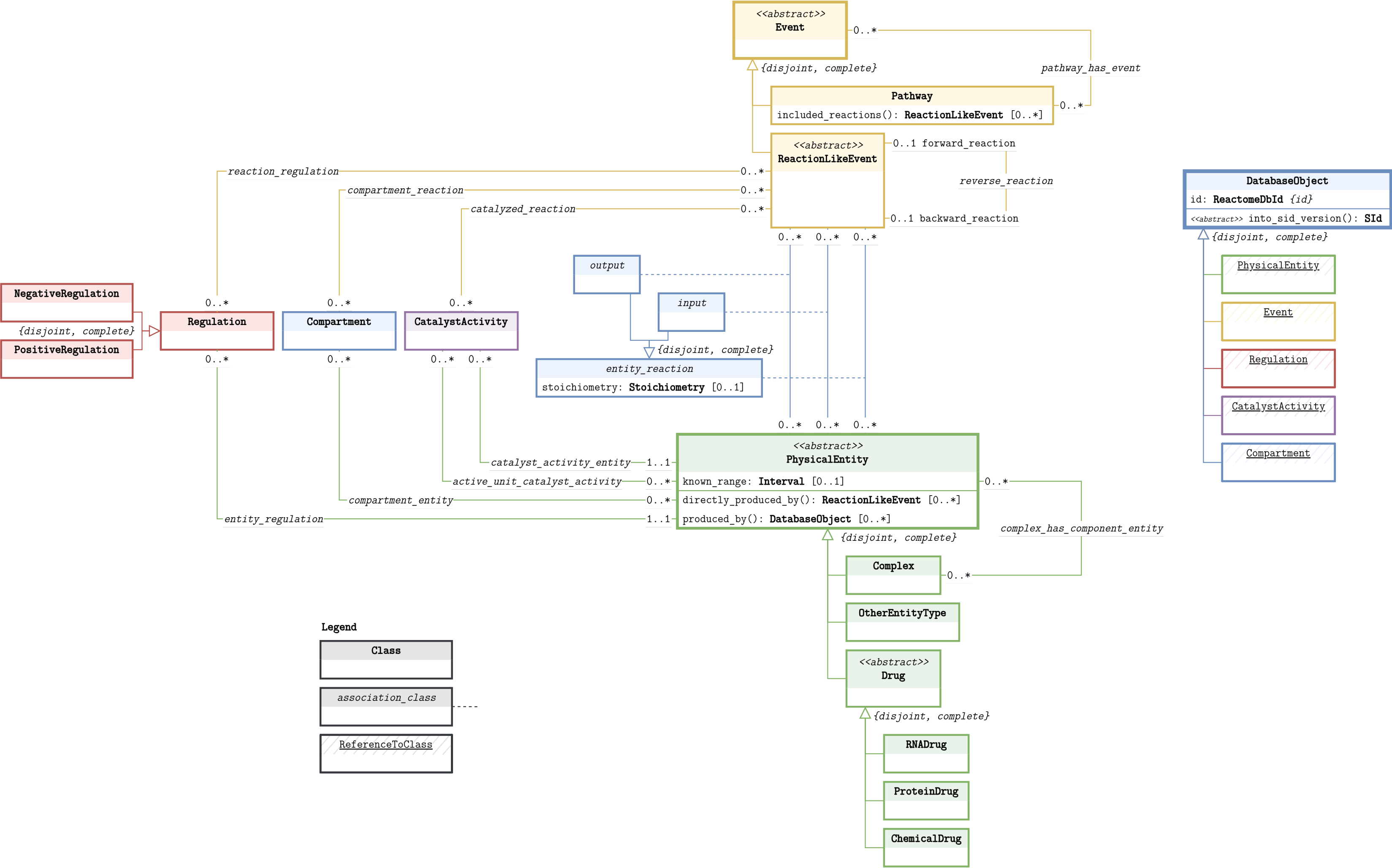
```
from__stable__id__version(stable__id__version: StableIdVersion):
```

```
ReactomeDbId
```

```
    postconditions:
```

```
        . . .
```

3 (Reactome) UML class diagram



## 4 Classes specification pt. 1

### 4.1 CatalystActivity

The role of **PhysicalEntity** in *catalyst\_activity\_entity* has multiplicity 0..\* because “If a **PhysicalEntity** can enable multiple molecular functions, a separate **CatalystActivity** instance is created for each” [5, Page 5].

An additional constraint is required for active units, because “If the **PhysicalEntity** is a **Complex** and a component of the complex mediates the molecular function, that component should be identified as the active unit of the **CatalystActivity**.” [5, Page 5]

C.**CatalystActivity**.active\_unit\_is\_component\_of\_complex

```

  ∀ catalyst_activity, complex, complex_component
    (
      CatalystActivity(catalyst_activity) ∧
      Complex(complex) ∧
      PhysicalEntity(complex_component) ∧
      catalyst_activity_entity(catalyst_activity, complex)
    ∧
      catalyst_activity_active_unit(
        catalyst_activity,
        complex_component
      )
    ) →
      complex_has_component_entity(complex,
        complex_component)

```

### 4.2 Compartment

The **Compartment** class has some quirks. In Reactome, the **Compartment**’s role in the *compartment\_entity* association has multiplicity 0..\*. The problem is that the SBML model requires 1..1 multiplicity for this association to be simulated.

In Reactome there are currently (TODO: version??) 19 physical entities which don’t have a compartment (see queries/helper.cypher), so this can be easily solved by just adding a **default compartment** to the SBML model to which these entities map to.

On the other hand there are 14046 entities which have multiple compartments (TODO: how many compartments has each exactly?), so the easiest choice right now is to just pick any of them. For this reason the

### 4.3 Pathway

The instances of **Pathway** are organized hierarchically, i.e. all the signaling pathways are collected under the Signal Transduction top level **Pathway** (**StableIdVersion** R-HSA-162582.13). This allows to easily extract a subset of reactions by specifying the *target pathways* in a model and taking into consideration only the reactions which are included, both directly or indirectly, in that pathway (see the *included\_reactions()* operation).

There are about 34 top level pathways.

```
included_reactions(): ReactionLikeEvent [0..*]  
  postconditions:  
    result =  
      { reaction |  
        ReactionLikeEvent(reaction)  $\wedge$   
        pathway_has_event(this, reaction) }  
       $\cup$   
      { reaction |  $\exists$  pathway  
        Pathway(pathway)  $\wedge$   
        pathway_has_event(this, pathway)  $\wedge$   
        included_reactions(pathway, reaction) }
```

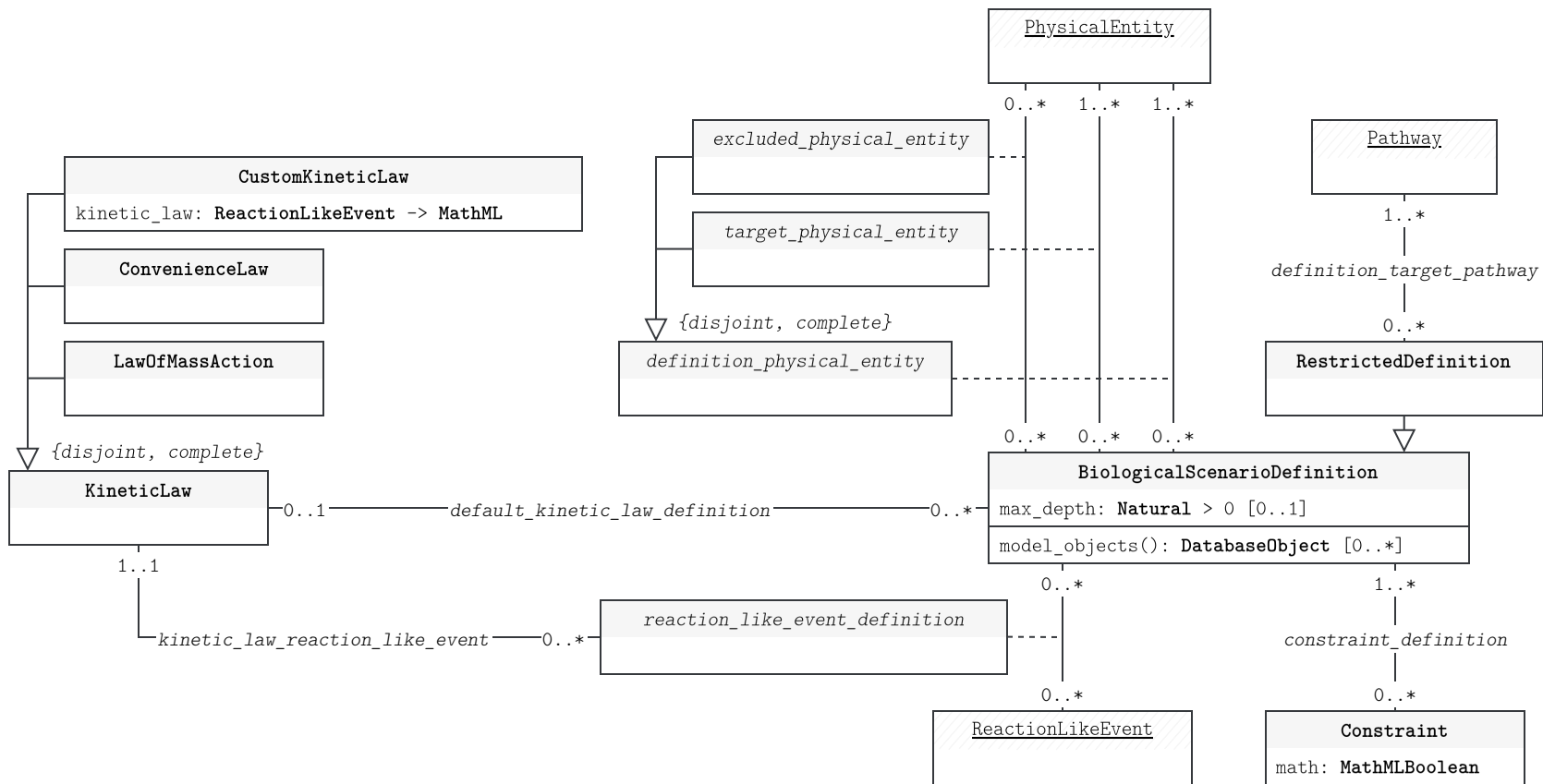
## 4.4 PhysicalEntity

The set of reactions which produce this is needed to determine the transitive closure of the *target entities*.

```
directly_produced_by(): ReactionLikeEvent [0..*]
  postconditions:
    result = { reaction |
      ReactionLikeEvent(reaction)  $\wedge$  output(this, reaction)
    }
```

The set of instances of **DatabaseObject** which are directly or indirectly involved in the production of this.

```
produced_by(): DatabaseObject [0..*]
  postconditions:
    result =
      { this }  $\cup$ 
      { reaction | directly_produced_by(this, reaction) }  $\cup$ 
      { object |  $\exists$  reaction, reaction_input
        directly_produced_by(this, reaction)  $\wedge$ 
        (
          *input*(reaction, reaction_input)  $\vee$ 
          ( $\exists$  catalyst_activity
            CatalystActivity(catalyst_activity)  $\wedge$ 
            *catalyzed_event*(
              catalyst_activity,
              reaction
            )  $\wedge$ 
            *catalyst_activity_entity*(
              catalyst_activity,
              reaction_input
            )
          )
        )  $\wedge$ 
        produced_by(reaction_input, object)
      }
```



## 5 Classes specification pt. 2

### 5.1 BiologicalScenarioDefinition

The following operation finds the transitive closure of the *target entities* specified in the scenario, by including only reactions within the *target pathways* if necessary.

```
model_objects(): DatabaseObject [1..*]
  postconditions:
    result = { object |  $\exists$  entity
      PhysicalEntity(entity)  $\wedge$ 
      DatabaseObject(object)  $\wedge$ 
      target_physical_entity(this, entity)  $\wedge$ 
      produced_by(entity, object)  $\wedge$ 
      (
         $\neg$  RestrictedDefinition(this)  $\vee$ 
         $\exists$  pathway, reaction
          Pathway(pathway)  $\wedge$ 
          ReactionLikeEvent(reaction)  $\wedge$ 
          included_reactions(pathway, reaction)  $\wedge$ 
          (
            object = reaction  $\vee$ 
            entity_reaction(object, reaction)  $\vee$ 
            catalyzed_reaction(object, reaction)
          )
        )
      }
    }
```

## 5.2 ModelInstance

```
C.ModelInstance.no_local_parameters_without_value
  ∀ model_instance, model, reaction, kinetic_law,
    local_parameter
    (
      ModelInstance(model_instance) ∧
      Model(model) ∧
      ReactionDefinition(reaction) ∧
      KineticLaw(kinetic_law) ∧
      LocalParameter(local_parameter) ∧
      *instance_model*(model_instance, model) ∧
      *model_definition*(model, reaction) ∧
      *kinetic_law_reaction*(kinetic_law, reaction) ∧
      *kinetic_law_local_parameter*(kinetic_law,
local_parameter) ∧
      ¬ ∃ value
        value(local_parameter, value)
    ) →
      ∃ local_parameter_assignment

LocalParameterAssignment(local_parameter_assignment) ∧
  *model_instance_parameter*(
    model_instance,
    local_parameter_assignment
  ) ∧
  *assignment_local_parameter*(
    local_parameter_assignment,
    local_parameter
  )
```

## 5.3 SimulatedModelInstance

```
is_valid()
  postconditions:
    ...
```

## 5.4 Measurement

```
C.Measurement.species_in_model
  ∀ measurement, model_instance, model, species
    (
      Model(model) ∧
      SimulatedModelInstance(model_instance) ∧
      Measurement(measurement) ∧
```



```

Species(species)  $\wedge$ 
  *measurement_species*(measurement, species)  $\wedge$ 
  *measurement_simulation*(measurement, model_instance)
 $\wedge$ 
  *instance_model*(model_instance, model)
)  $\rightarrow$ 
  *model_definition*(model, species)

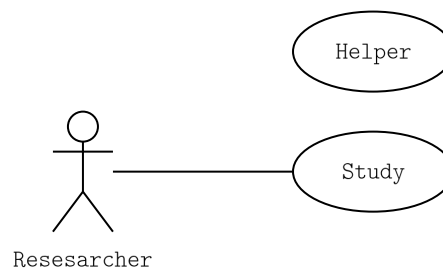
```

## 5.5 UnitDefinition

[3, page 45]

TODO: better description

## 6 Use-case diagram



## 6.1 “Helper” use-case

yield\_sbml\_model(description: **BiologicalScenarioDefinition**) :  
(**SBMLDocument**, )

postconditions:

**TODO:**

- create necessary units (**TODO**: which? how?)
- create default **CompartmentDefinition**
- create **CompartmentDefinition** from **Compartment**
  - convert id to **SId**
- create **SpeciesDefinition** from **PhysicalEntity**
  - convert id to **SId**
  - add one of the compartments if the entity has any
  - otherwise assign to default
- create **ReactionDefinition**
  - convert id to **SId**
  - connect products (inputs)
  - connect reactants (outputs)
  - connect modifiers (catalysts)
  - add kinetic law (either manually specified ∨ automatic, like **LawOfMassAction**)
  - add local parameters
- create constraints
  - i.e. from known\_range attribute
- 

instantiate\_model(model: **SBMLDocument**) : **ModelInstance**

postconditions:

**TODO:**

- add **LocalParameterAssignment** for undefined **LocalParameters**
- add environment parameters to model (**Parameter**)

simulate\_model(instance: **ModelInstance**) : **SimulatedModelInstance**

postconditions:

**TODO:**

- generate measurements

## 7 OpenBox on the Slurm Workload Manager

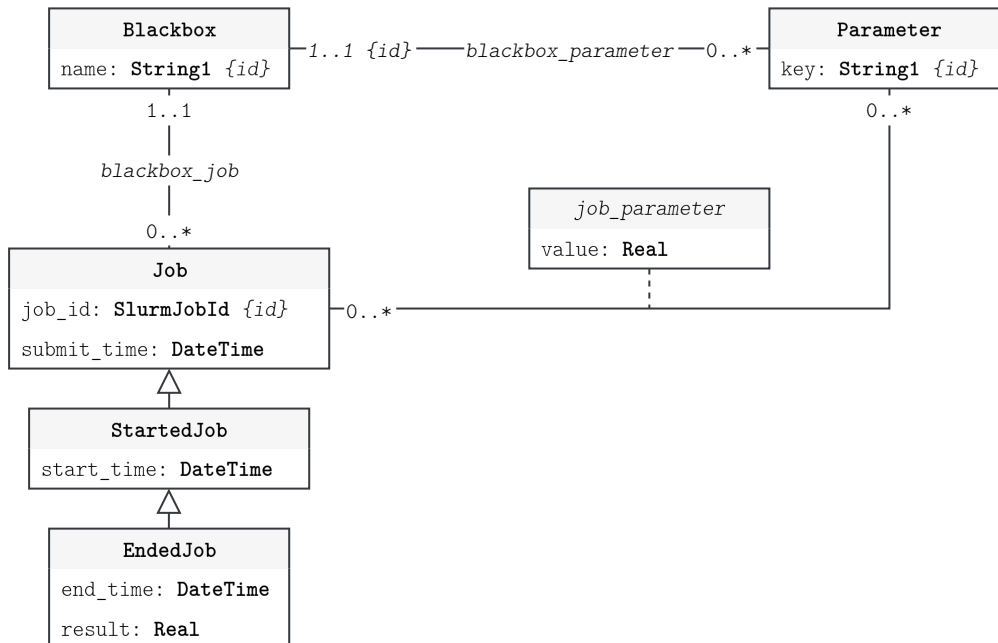
The HPC cluster at the Computer Science Department has some restrictions in place, as it's used by many different teams / students and no single user can request the indefinite usage of the whole cluster for a single job (jobs have a time limit of 6, 24 or 72 hours based on permissions and resources required).

The goals of this section are to

- be able to run an OpenBox through **multiple sessions**
- run **multiple smaller jobs** to increase **fairness** among users, instead of running a single big job for the whole simulation
- provide a simple framework that can be used **locally to simulate** executions on the cluster

### 7.1 Analysis

In order to use OpenBox on the cluster in different sessions, it's a good idea to store the results of the simulations in a database (i.e. PostgreSQL) to retrieve the data of different session for an overall analysis.



#### 7.1.1 Data types specification

**SlurmJobId** = Integer >= 1

**String1** = String matching regex `/^\$|^\$.*\$/$`

## 7.1.2 Classes specification

### 7.1.2.1 Job

#### C.Job.all\_parameters\_are\_instantiated

$$\begin{aligned} &\forall \text{ job, blackbox, parameter} \\ &(\text{Job}(\text{job}) \wedge \\ &\quad \text{Blackbox}(\text{blackbox}) \wedge \\ &\quad \text{Parameter}(\text{parameter}) \wedge \\ &\quad \text{blackbox\_job}(\text{blackbox, job}) \wedge \\ &\quad \text{blackbox\_parameter}(\text{blackbox, parameter}) \\ &)\rightarrow \\ &\quad \text{job\_parameter}(\text{job, parameter}) \end{aligned}$$

#### C.Job.continuity\_1

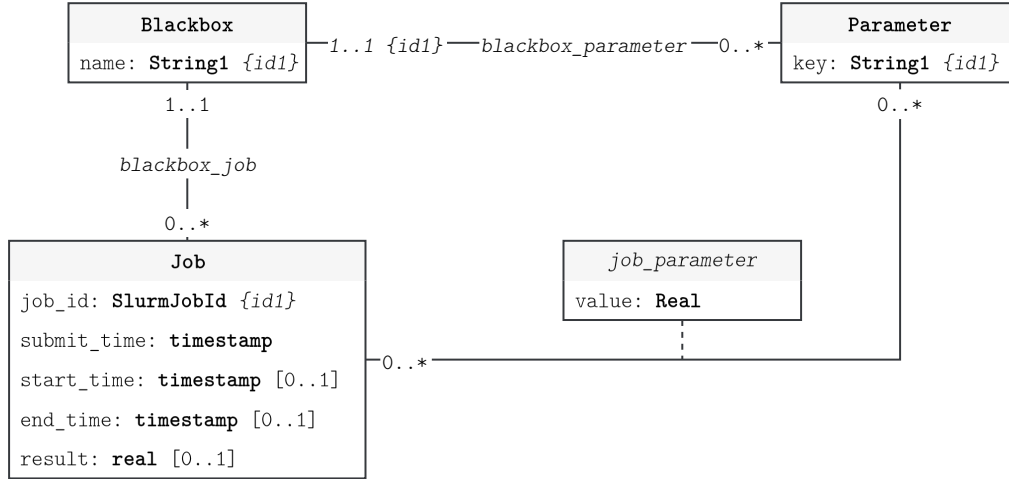
$$\begin{aligned} &\forall \text{ job, submit\_time, start\_time} \\ &(\text{Job}(\text{job}) \wedge \\ &\quad \underline{\text{submit\_time}}(\text{job, submit\_time}) \wedge \\ &\quad \underline{\text{start\_time}}(\text{job, start\_time}) \\ &)\rightarrow \\ &\quad \text{submit\_time} \leq \text{start\_time} \end{aligned}$$

#### C.Job.continuity\_2

$$\begin{aligned} &\forall \text{ job, start\_time, end\_time} \\ &(\text{Job}(\text{job}) \wedge \\ &\quad \underline{\text{start\_time}}(\text{job, start\_time}) \wedge \\ &\quad \underline{\text{end\_time}}(\text{job, end\_time}) \\ &)\rightarrow \\ &\quad \text{start\_time} \leq \text{end\_time} \end{aligned}$$

## 7.2 Implementation

Diagram restructuring for PostgreSQL. The SQL code is available in the `migration.sql` file.



### 7.2.1 Data types definitions

```

CREATE DOMAIN String1 AS varchar CHECK(value ~ '^\\S$|^\\S.*\\S$');
CREATE DOMAIN SlurmJobId AS integer CHECK(value >= 1);
  
```

### 7.2.2 Additional constraints

#### 7.2.2.1 Job

**C.Job.end\_implies\_job\_was\_scheduled**

$$\forall \text{ job, end\_time} \\ (\text{Job}(\text{job}) \wedge \text{end\_time}(\text{job, end\_time})) \rightarrow \\ \exists \text{ start\_time } \text{start\_time}(\text{job, start\_time})$$

A result is present if and only if the job ended

**C.Job.result\_only\_on\_end\_time**

$$\forall \text{ job, job\_result} \\ (\text{Job}(\text{job}) \wedge \text{result}(\text{job, job\_result})) \rightarrow \\ \exists \text{ end\_time } \text{end\_time}(\text{job, end\_time})$$

**C.Job.end\_time\_only\_on\_result**

$$\forall \text{ job, end\_time} \\ (\text{Job}(\text{job}) \wedge \text{end\_time}(\text{job, end\_time})) \rightarrow \\ \exists \text{ job\_result } \text{result}(\text{job, job\_result})$$

## Bibliography

- [1] [Online]. Available: <https://reactome.org/content/schema/DatabaseObject>
- [2] “Reactome.” [Online]. Available: <https://reactome.org/documentation/faq/37-general-website/201-identifiers>
- [3] [Online]. Available: <https://raw.githubusercontent.com/combine-org/combine-specifications/main/specifications/files/sbml.level-3.version-2.core.release-2.pdf>
- [4] [Online]. Available: <https://reactome.org/PathwayBrowser/>
- [5] [Online]. Available: [https://download.reactome.org/documentation/DataModelGlossary\\_V90.pdf](https://download.reactome.org/documentation/DataModelGlossary_V90.pdf)