

1. Introduction to UML

- What is a Model in Software Engineering?
 - A high-level abstraction of a system to aid in development.
 - Often represented as graphs or flowcharts for better visualization.
- Why Use UML?
 - Reduces errors early in development.
 - Finding issues in requirements & design is cost-effective.
 - Standardized visual language for system documentation.
- What is UML?
 - A standardized modeling language for software systems.
 - Helps developers specify, visualize, construct, and document software.
 - UML diagrams can be converted into code manually or with tools.

```
// A simple class implementation via UML
+-----+
| Rectangle |
+-----+
| - width : double |
| - height: double |
+-----+
| + Rectangle(w: double, h: double) |
| + getWidth() : double |
| + getHeight() : double |
| + getArea() : double |
+-----+

class Rectangle {
private:
    double width;
    double height;

public:
    // Constructor
    Rectangle(double w, double h) : width(w), height(h) {}

    // Getter for width
    double getWidth() const {
        return width;
    }

    // Getter for height
    double getHeight() const {
        return height;
    }

    double getArea() const {
        return width * height;
    }
};
```

2. Pros and Cons of UML

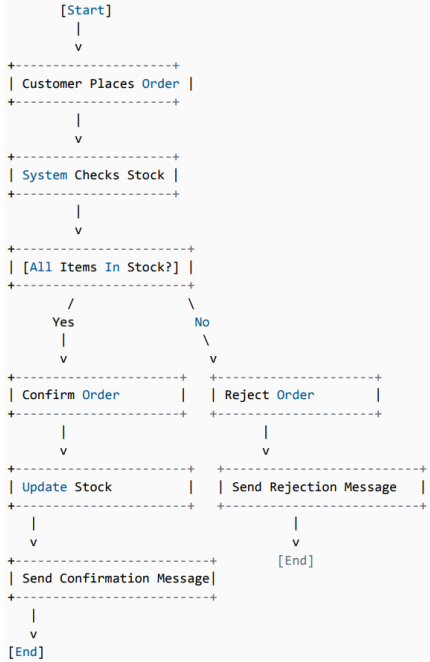
✓ Pros

- Increased Productivity – Helps visualize and structure software effectively.
- Better Design & Consistency – Encourages structured and modular design.
- Improved Communication – Common language between developers, designers, and stakeholders.
- Early Issue Detection – Helps identify issues before coding.
- Clear Specification – Test case generation and traceability between design and requirements.
- Tool Support – UML has commercial tools that integrate into development workflows.

✗ Cons

- Code Optimization Issues – UML-generated code may not be optimized for performance.
- Learning Curve – Developers need time to learn UML modeling tools.
- High Maintenance Overhead – Keeping UML diagrams in sync with code is challenging.
- Not Always Precise – UML is an abstraction, meaning low-level system details may be missing.
- Scalability Issues – Large UML diagrams become hard to interpret.

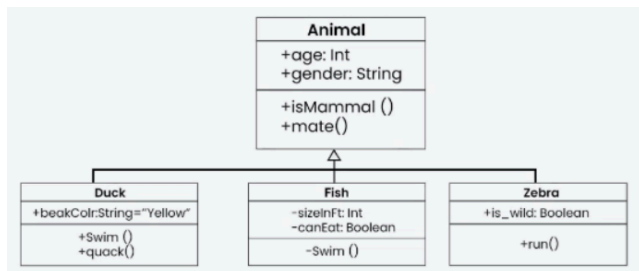
UML models the flow of actions in the “Place Order”



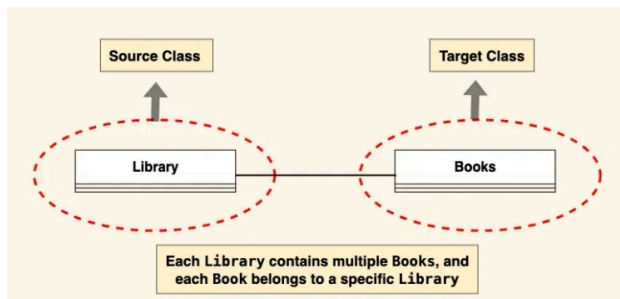
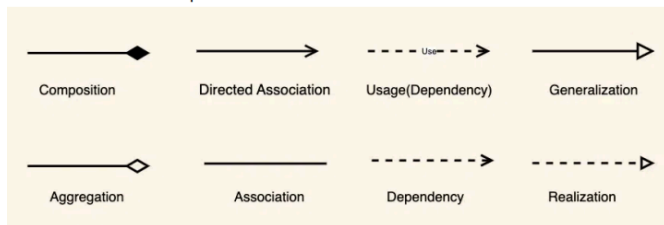
3. Types of UML Diagrams

Structural Diagrams (Static)

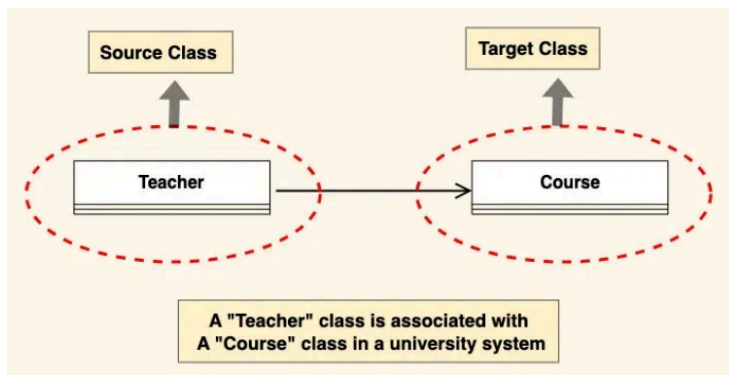
Class Diagrams – Show classes, attributes, methods, and relationships.



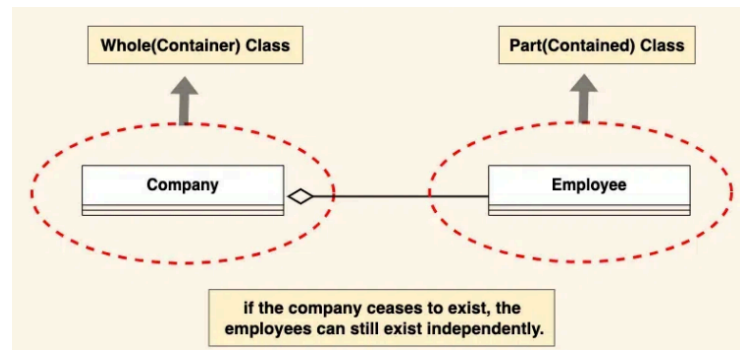
- Intra-class notion
 - Class Name
 - Attributes: data members
 - Methods
 - can add input/output parameters
 - Visibility Notation
 - + public
 - - private
 - # protected
 - ~ visible to classes in the same package/library
- Inter-class relationship
 - Representations



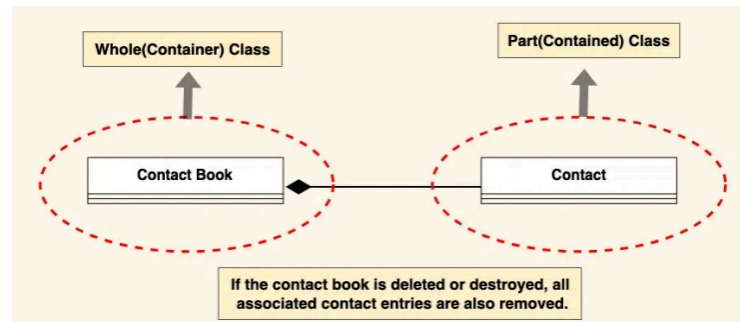
- Association
 - bi-directional relationship between two classes
 - instances of one class are connected to instances of another class
 - class like Library below is a folded representation. i.e. hiding non-class name notions.



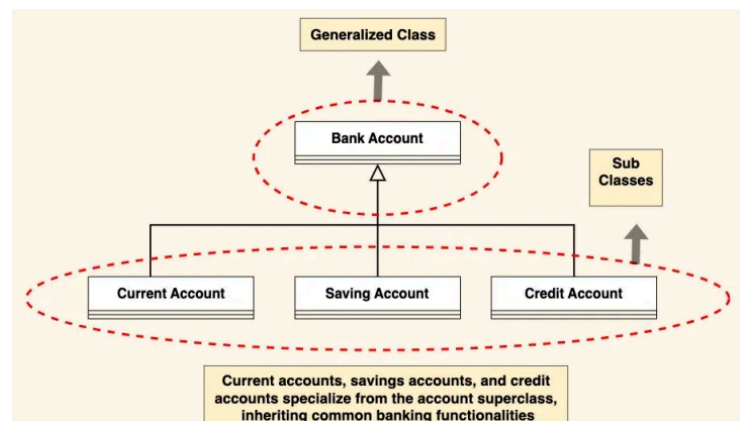
- Directed association
 - one class is associated with another in a specific way/direction.
 - the arrow points from the class that initiates the association
 - the arrow points to the class affected by the association.
 - Example. I teach specific course classes such as CS35L & CS 130.



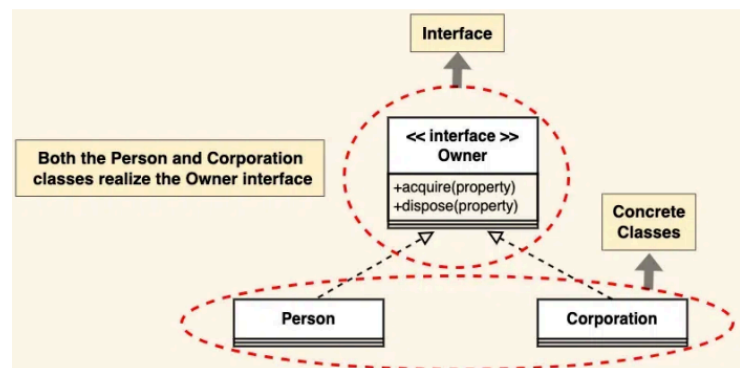
- Aggregation
 - a stronger relationship where one class (the whole) contains or is composed of another class (the part).



- Composition
 - stronger form of aggregation
 - the part class cannot exist independently of the whole class

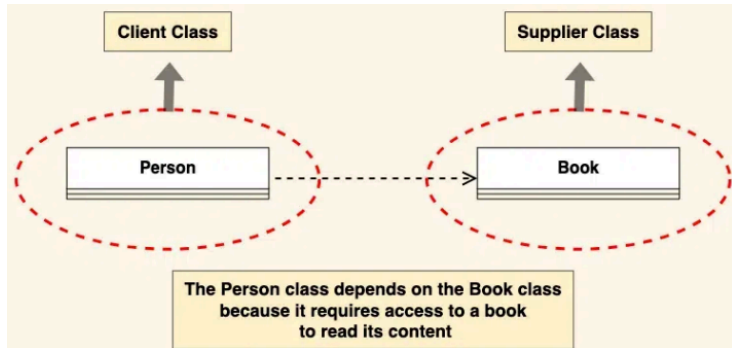


- Inheritance/Generation (Frequently Use)
 - one class (the subclass or child) inherits the properties and behaviors of another class (the generalized class or parent).
 - is-a relation
 - inherits can be recursive/multiple layers



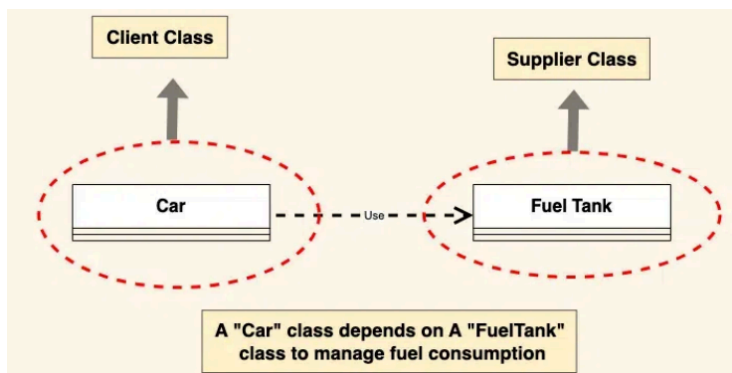
■ Realization

- a class implements the features of an interface.
- can-do relation
- Owner Interface: This interface now includes methods such as “acquire(property)” and “dispose(property)” to represent actions related to acquiring and disposing of property.
- Person Class (Realization): a person can acquire ownership of a house or dispose of a car.
- Corporation Class (Realization): a corporation can acquire ownership of real estate properties or dispose of company vehicles.



■ Dependency

- one class relies on another
- not as strong as association or inheritance



■ Usage

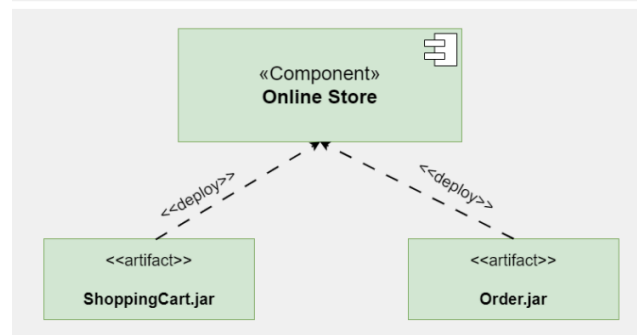
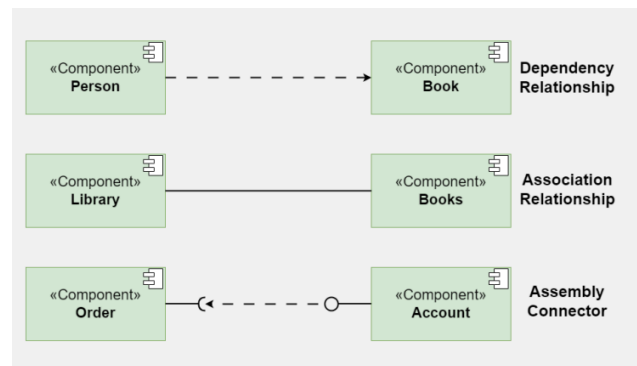
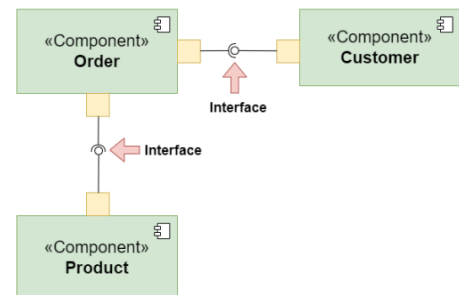
- one class (the client) utilizes or depends on another class (the supplier) to perform certain tasks or access certain functionality

Component Diagrams – Illustrate system components and dependencies.

- Component Diagrams
 - Illustrate how different components of a system are wired together
 - A set of diagrams talking about components, interfaces, relationships, ports, artifacts, nodes. etc.
 - Focus on the physical aspects of an object-oriented system
 - Show dependencies between different software components
 - Help in understanding system architecture at a higher level

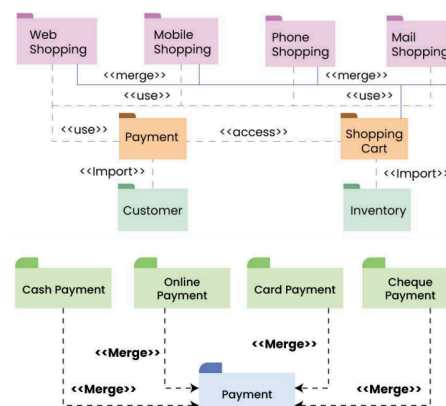
«Component»

OnlineStore

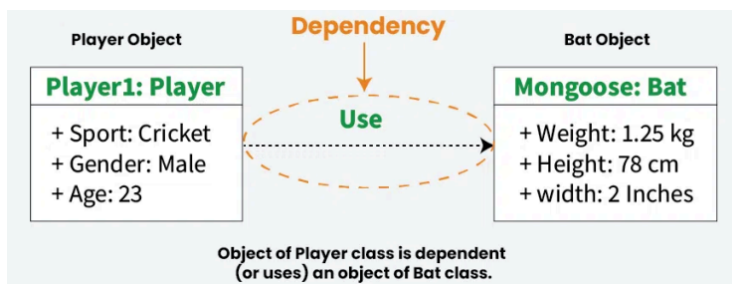


Package Diagrams – Show modular organization of a system.

- Package Diagrams: Demonstrate the organization and layering of various elements in a system
 - Used to show dependencies between different packages
 - Help in managing large-scale system architecture
 - Essential for maintaining system modularity



Object Diagrams – Represent real instances of a system at a specific time.



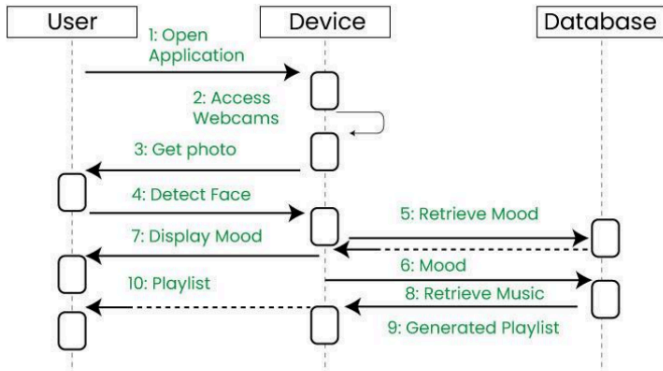
• Object Diagrams

- Provide snapshots of **instances** of class diagrams at a specific point in time.
- a detailed view of how objects interact with each other in specific scenarios
- promoting a shared understanding of specific instances and their relationships.
- relationships in class diagrams apply.

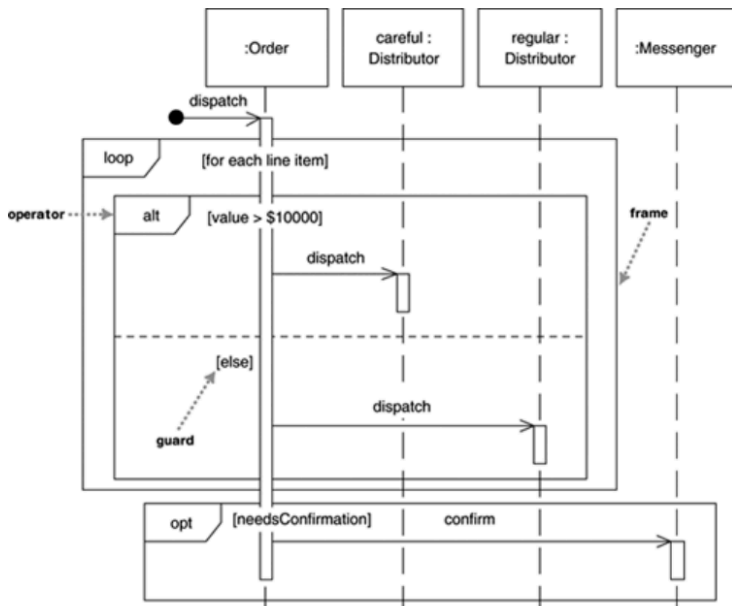
Behavioral Diagrams (Dynamic)

Sequence Diagrams – Show object interactions over time.

- Sequence Diagrams (Used often in design)
 - Illustrate interactions between objects in sequential order
 - Show the chronological flow of messages between objects
 - Essential for understanding complex method calls and system behavior
 - Communication between objects is depicted using messages.
 - Lifeline elements are individual participants in a sequence diagram.
 - located at the top in a sequence diagram
 - represent messages using arrows.
 - lifelines and messages form the core of a sequence diagram.
 - little rectangle among dashed lines: invocation lifetime

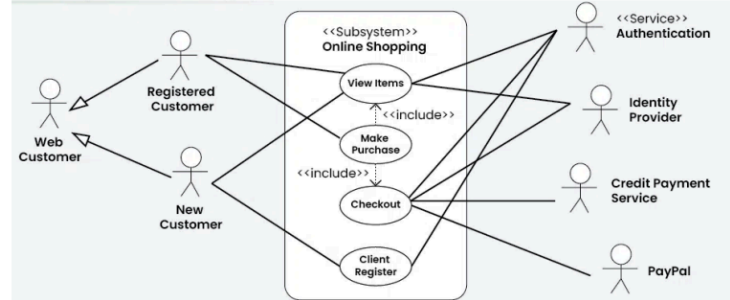


- Some fancier sequence diagrams with found message and loop/alt/opt frames
 - loop: a loop
 - alt: multiple alternatives of which exactly one will be executed
 - opt: something or nothing happens
 - We may ask you in the exam with essential background provided.



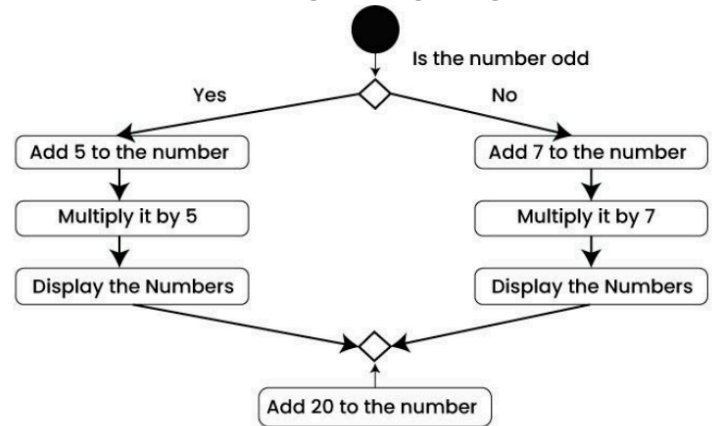
Use Case Diagrams – Represent system interactions with users or other systems.

- Usecase Diagrams
 - interaction between different actors/parties
 - visualize how each party interact with the system
 - non-tech stakeholders like them
 - Frequent used relationships
 - association / include / extend / generalization
 - no need to bounded by above, as long as all parties on the same page



Activity Diagrams – Model workflow and business logic (similar to flowcharts).

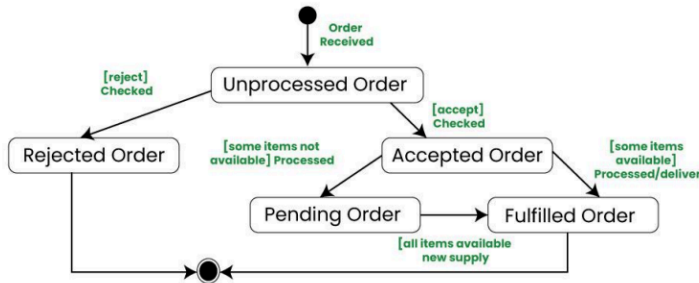
- Activity Diagrams
 - Model workflows and business processes
 - Similar to traditional flowcharts but with additional capabilities
 - Support parallel processing and complex decision paths
 - Excellent for documenting business logic and algorithms



State Machine Diagrams – Describe object states and transitions.

- State Machine Diagrams
 - Show different states an object can be in and transitions between states
 - Document the lifecycle of objects
 - Essential for understanding complex state-dependent systems
 - Useful for modeling reactive systems
 - Also very useful in verification (if taken automata course)
 - Components
 - state
 - a condition of a modeled entity for which some action is performed, some stimulus is received, or some condition is met elsewhere in the system
 - action
 - an atomic execution
 - Atomic means it completes without interruption
 - activity
 - a more complex collection of behavior that may run for a long duration
 - transition between two states
 - an arc from one state to another
 - transitions can have triggers, guard conditions, and actions

- transitions can be labeled with the event or action that creates the entity
 - E.g., trigger [guard] / effect
- initial state: a solid black circle
- end state: a circle wrapping a solid black circle



4. UML in Software Verification

- UML can help in creating test cases for various scenarios:
 - Successful transactions.
 - Errors like out-of-stock items.
 - Edge cases (e.g., invalid inputs, empty orders).

Pros of UML in Testing

- Clear Specifications – Ensures unambiguous system behavior.
- Automated Test Case Generation – Helps create comprehensive test cases.
- Early Bug Detection – Identifies issues before development progresses.
- Traceability – Links requirements, design, and verification.

Cons of UML in Testing

- Cannot guarantee a bug-free system.
- High abstraction – UML diagrams may omit important low-level details.
- Model Maintenance Required – Keeping UML models aligned with code is essential

5. UML Example: Order Processing Flow

Example: UML Activity Diagram for an Order System

Customer Places Order → System Checks Stock

If Items Available → Confirm Order → Update Stock → Send Confirmation

If Items Not Available → Reject Order → Send Rejection Message

This flow ensures clear process visualization for software design.

Diagram Type	Purpose	Key Elements	Key Differences
Class Diagram	Models the static structure of a system	Classes, attributes, methods, relationships (inheritance, association, composition, etc.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Most commonly used UML diagram in OOP design. - Defines how objects interact at the type level. - Helps in designing architecture and object-oriented systems.

Object Diagram	Represents specific instances of a class diagram at a particular point in time	Objects (instances of classes), attribute values, links between objects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Snapshot of runtime objects. - Useful for debugging and testing. - Helps validate class diagrams by showing real-world examples.
Component Diagram	Shows physical components of a system and their dependencies	Components (modules, libraries, APIs), interfaces, dependencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Focuses on modularity and reusability. - Used in system-level design (e.g., how microservices communicate). - Often used with deployment diagrams.
Package Diagram	Organizes large systems into manageable modules	Packages (grouped elements), dependencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Helps in managing complexity. - Useful for large software projects. - Similar to component diagrams but focuses on logical structure instead of physical.
Sequence Diagram	Represents step-by-step interactions between objects over time	Actors, objects, messages (method calls), lifelines, activation bars	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Shows chronological order of events. - Essential for understanding method calls and communication. - Used for use case scenarios.
Use Case Diagram	Describes how users (actors) interact with the system	Actors, use cases, associations, relationships (include, extend)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - High-level view of what the system does, not how. - Used in requirement gathering and stakeholder communication. - Different from sequence diagrams, which focus on event flow.
Activity Diagram	Models workflows and business logic	Actions, decisions, forks, joins, start/end nodes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Similar to flowcharts but more advanced. - Supports parallel processes (forks/joins). - Useful for process modeling.
State Machine Diagram	Represents different states of an object and transitions between them	States, transitions, events, guards, initial/final states	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Used for objects with distinct lifecycle states. - Essential for modeling reactive systems (e.g., ATM, traffic lights). - Different from activity diagrams, which model processes rather than states.

Key Differences Between Sequence and Activity Diagrams

Aspect	Sequence Diagram	Activity Diagram
Focus	Interaction between objects over time	Process flow of activities
Represents	Message exchanges between system components	Workflow steps & conditions
Best for	System interactions, API calls, method execution order	Business logic, user flows, decision-making
Key Elements	Actors, Objects, Messages (arrows), Lifelines	Actions, Decisions (diamonds), Forks/Joins, Start/End
Parallel Execution	Not explicit	Supports parallel processing (fork/join)
Time Consideration	Explicit (left-to-right time flow)	Less focus on exact time