

UML Class Diagrams

Josh Wilcox (jw14g24@soton.ac.uk)

February 18, 2025

Contents

1	Class Diagrams	2
1.1	Format	2
1.1.1	Class Name	2
1.1.2	Attributes	2
1.1.3	Operations	2
1.2	Associations	2
1.2.1	Binary Associations	2
1.2.2	N-ary Associations	3
1.2.3	Composition	3
1.2.4	Aggregation	3
1.2.5	Generalization	3

1 Class Diagrams

1.1 Format

1.1.1 Class Name

- Literally just the name of the class

1.1.2 Attributes

- Visibility is included in front of each attribute of the class
 - private → -
 - * Inaccessible from outside its class
 - public → +
 - * Accessible from outside the class
 - protected → #
 - * Only itself and classes that inherit from it
- Attribute syntax
 - `visibility attribute_name[<multiplicity> <ordering>] : type = initial value`
 - **Type**: Boolean, Integer, Real, String, etc
 - **Ordering**: Ordered/Unordered
 - **Multiplicity**: Integer intervals [lower bound .. upper bound]
 - * Specifies the range of allowable instances for the attribute.
 - * **Examples**:
 - [1..1]: Exactly one instance (mandatory).
 - [0..1]: Zero or one instance (optional).
 - [0..*]: Zero or more instances (unbounded).
 - [1..*]: One or more instances (at least one).

1.1.3 Operations

- Operation Syntax
 - `visibility operation_name(<list of parameters>): return_type`
- Parameter Syntax
 - `kind name : type = default_value`
 - **Kind**:
 - * **in** - Input parameter
 - * **out** - Output parameter
 - * **inout** - Both input and output

1.2 Associations

1.2.1 Binary Associations

- Represents a relationship between two classes.
- Typically depicted as a line connecting the two classes.
- Can have multiplicity at each end to indicate the number of instances involved.

- Example: A **Student** class associated with a **Course** class.

1.2.2 N-ary Associations

- Represents a relationship between more than two classes.
- Depicted as a diamond shape connected to the involved classes.
- Example: A **Project** class associated with multiple **Employee** classes.

1.2.3 Composition

- Represents a strong "whole-part" relationship.
- Depicted as a filled diamond at the "whole" end.
- The "part" cannot exist independently of the "whole".
- Example: A **House** class composed of **Room** classes.

1.2.4 Aggregation

- Represents a weak "whole-part" relationship.
- Depicted as an empty diamond at the "whole" end.
- The "part" can exist independently of the "whole".
- Example: A **Library** class aggregating **Book** classes.

1.2.5 Generalization

- Represents an inheritance relationship.
- Depicted as a line with a hollow triangle pointing to the superclass.
- Example: A **Vehicle** class generalized by **Car** and **Bike** classes.