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# Advanced Topics in Software Architecture (E23)

## Formal Software Architecture

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## Agenda

- Follow-up on last week's exercise
- Formal software architecture
- Exercise – work with your exam hand-in

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## Where are we?

- Use cases defined
- System structure determined
- Message bus(es) considered
- Patterns applied
- Programming languages considered
- Databases considered
- System for experimentation created and run -> ready for experimentation

- Next:
- Patterns (lecture 6)
- Analytical Architecture evaluation (lecture 6)
- Consider and design experiment (lecture 7)
- Peer review (lecture 8)
- Presentation of architectural experiment (lecture 9)
- **Work with experiments and paper (lecture 10-12)**

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## Learning Objective


- Explain and discuss software architecture documentation
- Explain and argue for software architecture and associated qualities attributes and architectural problems
- Select and combine tools and technologies to implement software architecture
- Analyze, design, and develop architectural prototypes of software architecture to achieve quality attributes
- Describe advanced software architecture topics to support software architecture processes and modeling
- Ability to analyze and document software architectures and motivate the usage of adequate software architectures to obtain relevant quality attributes

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# Formal Software Architecture

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## Software Architecture Definitions

→ The software architecture of a system is the set of structures needed to reason about the system, which comprise software elements, relations among them, and properties of both [Bass2021]

→ Software architecture [is a level of design that] involves the description of elements from which systems are built, interactions among those elements, patterns that guide their composition, and constraints on these patterns. [Medvidovic, 2000]

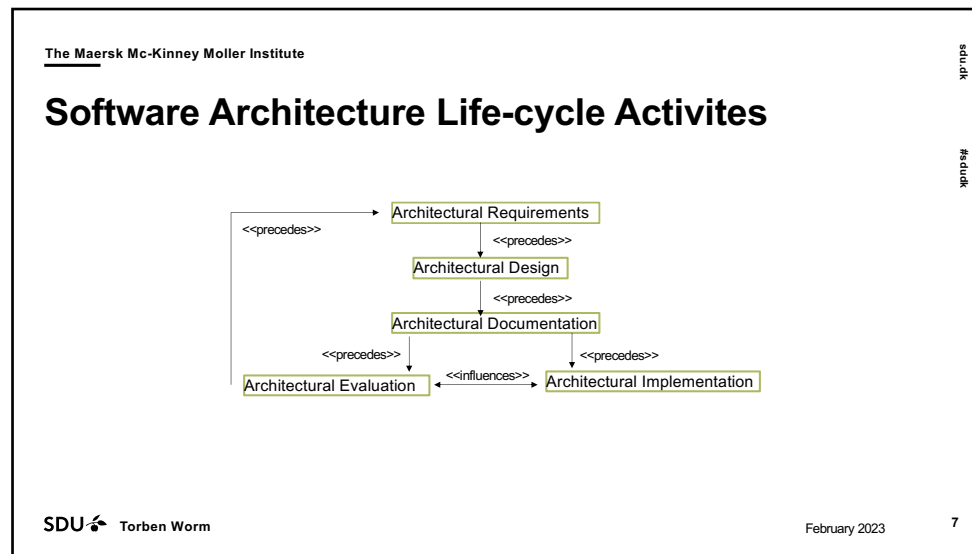
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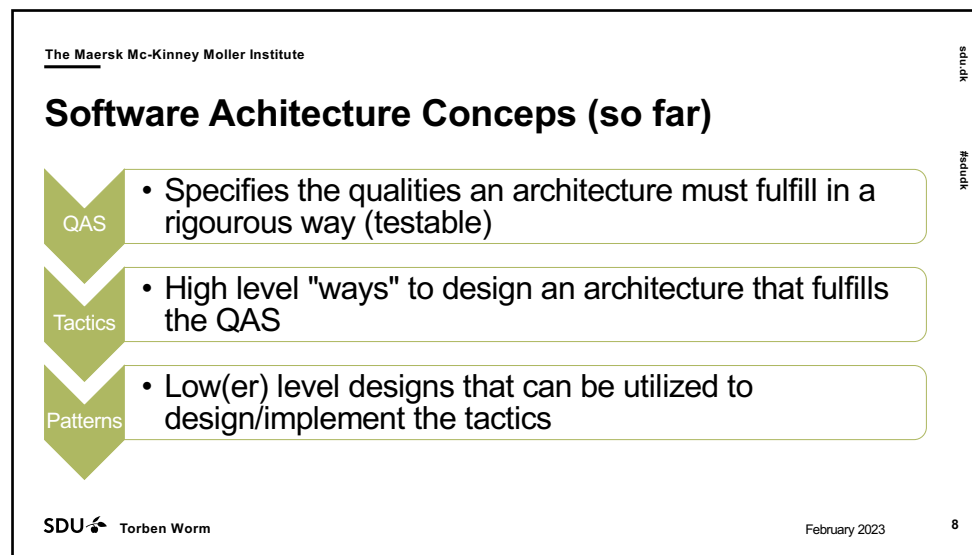
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## Architecture Description Language (ADL)

→ An ADL for software applications focuses on the high-level structure of the overall application rather than the implementation details of any specific source module

→ The building blocks of an architectural description are:

- Components
- Connectors
- Architectural configurations.

→ An ADL must provide the means for their explicit specification

→ But also be able to model interfaces

→ The motivation for developing ADLs is the possibility for tool support

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[Medvidovic, 2000]  
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ADL

- Architecture Modeling Features
- Components**
  - Interface**
    - Types
    - Semantics
    - Constraints
    - Evolution
    - Non-functional properties
- Connectors**
  - Interface
  - Types
  - Semantics
  - Constraints
  - Evolution
  - Non-functional properties
- Architectural Configurations**
  - Understandability
  - Compositionality
  - Refinement and traceability
  - Heterogeneity
  - Scalability
  - Evolution
  - Dynamism
  - Constraints
  - Non-functional properties
- Tool Support
  - Active Specification
  - Multiple Views
  - Analysis
  - Refinement
  - Implementation Generation
  - Dynamism

## Classification and Comparison

→ **Component:** Unit of computation or a data store

→ **Interface:** Specifies the services (messages, operations, and variables)

→ **Connectors:** architectural building blocks used to model interactions among components and rules that govern those interactions.

→ **Architectural Configurations:** Architectural configurations, or topologies, are connected graphs of components and connectors that describe architectural structure

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[Medvidovic, 2000]  
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## When does an ADL make sense?

- Complex Systems Design
- Formal Analysis and Verification
- Model-Driven Development
- Domain-Specific Applications
- Research and Academia
- Standardization Efforts

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## ADL Example: AADL

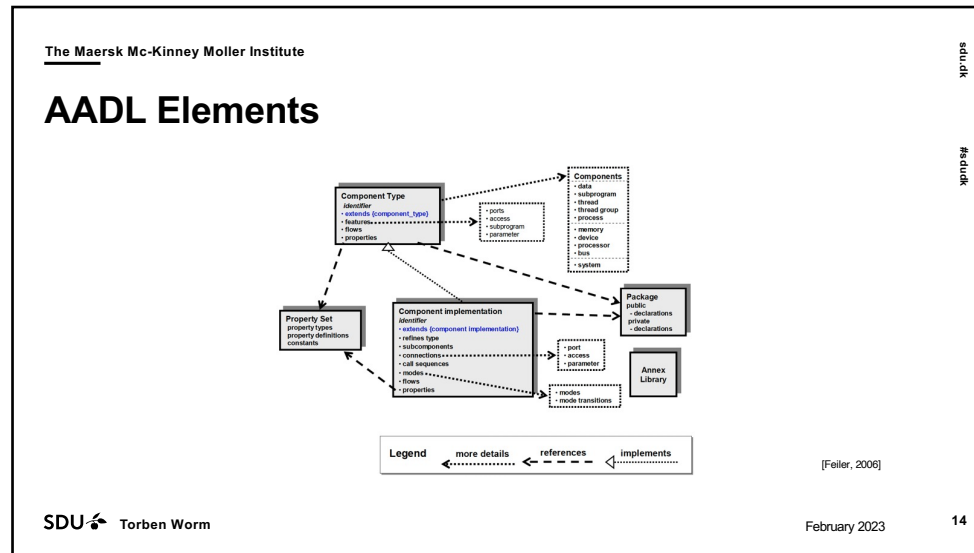
- Architecture Analysis & Design Language (AADL)
- Starting development in the mid 1990-ies
- SAE Standard 2004 (SAE AS5506)
- AADL Version 2 (2012)
- Today AADL is used in critical industries
- Employs formal modeling concepts for the description and analysis of application system architectures
- Components and interactions
  - specifying and analyzing real-time embedded and high dependability systems, complex systems of systems, and specialized performance capability systems
  - mapping of software onto computational hardware elements
- Especially effective for model-based analysis and specification of complex realtime embedded systems [Feiler, 2006]

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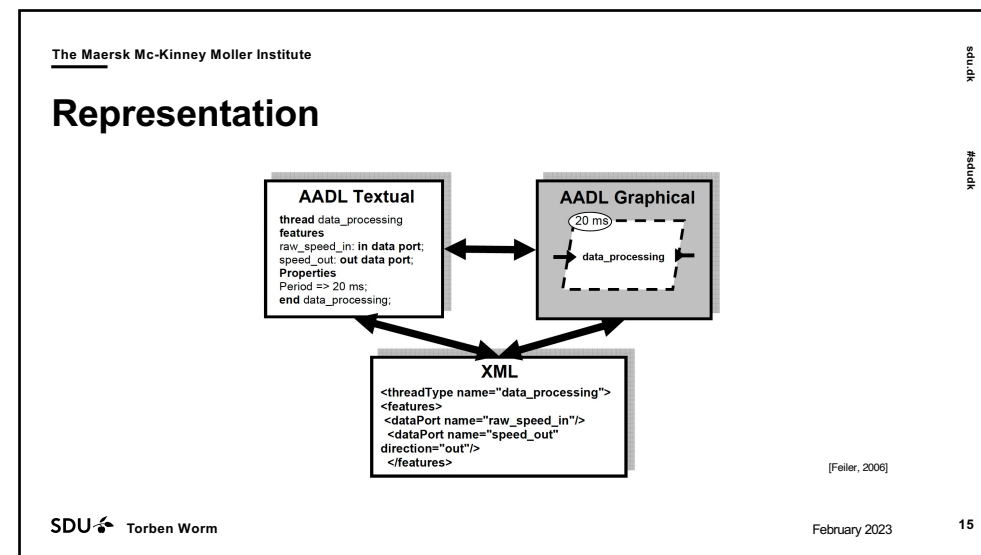
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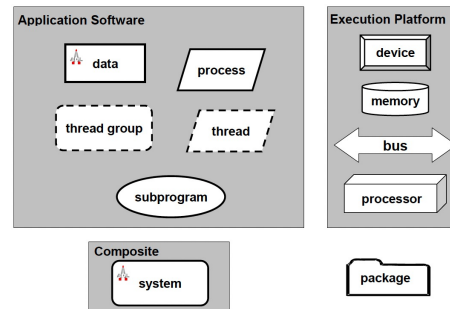


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## Graphical Notation



[Feiler, 2006]

## Textual and Graphical Specification

```

-- A process type definition with the component type
-- identifier name "control_processing" is shown below.
process control_processing
features
  input: in data port sensor_data;
  output: out data port command_data;
end control_processing

-- Below is an implementation of process type "control_processing"
-- The component implementation identifier name is "control_impl"
-- The implementation is referenced by using the component type
-- identifier and the component implementation identifier, separated
-- by a period, in the form: control_processing.impl
-- A reference to a thread implementation "input_processing_01"
-- of the thread type "control_in" is shown below in the
-- context of the subprogram "control_impl"
process implementation control_processing.speed_control
subprogram control_impl
  control_in: thread control_in.input_processing_01;
  control_out: thread control_out.output_processing_01;
end control_processing.speed_control

-- The declaration of the thread type "control_in" is shown below.
thread control_in
end control_in

-- The declaration of the thread implementation
-- "control_in.input_processing_01" is shown below.
thread implementation control_in.input_processing_01
and control_in.input_processing_01
end control_in.input_processing_01

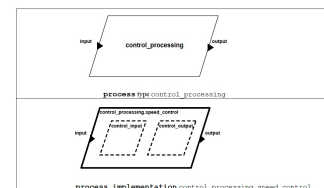
-- The declaration of the thread type "control_out" is shown below.
thread control_out
end control_out

-- The declaration of the thread implementation
-- "control_out.output_processing_01" is shown below.
thread implementation control_out.output_processing_01
and control_out.output_processing_01
end control_out.output_processing_01

-- The declaration of the data type "sensor_data" is shown below.
data sensor_data
end sensor_data

-- The declaration of the data type "command_data" is shown below.
data command_data
end command_data

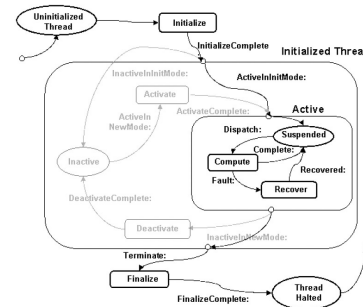
```



[Feiler, 2006]



## Thread Execution State Machine



[Feiler, 2006]

## Thread Properties

```

thread control
properties
-- nominal execution properties
Compute_Entrypoint => "control_ep";
Compute_Execution_Time => 5 ms .. 10 ms;
Compute_Deadline => 20 ms;
Dispatch_Protocol => Periodic;
-- initialization execution properties
Initialize_Entrypoint => "init_control";
Initialize_Execution_Time => 2 ms .. 5 ms;
Initialize_Deadline => 10 ms;
end control;

```

[Feiler, 2006]

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## Sub-routines

```

process manage_data
end manage_data;
--
process implementation manage_data.manage_temp
subcomponents
temp_reader: thread read_read_temp;
end manage_data.manage_temp;
--
thread read
features
read its server subprogram acquire_temp;
end read;
--
thread implementation read_read_temp
end read_read_temp;
--
subprogram acquire
end acquire;
--
subprogram implementation acquire_temp
end acquire_temp;

```

[Feiler, 2006]

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## Processor

```

processor Intel_Linux
properties
Hardware_Source_Language=> VHDL;
Hardware_Description_Source_Text =>
"intel_vhdl_1, intel_vhdl_2";
end Intel_Linux;
--
processor implementation
Intel_Linux.Intel_Linux_01
subcomponents
HSRAM: memory RAM.Intel_RAM;
end Intel_Linux.Intel_Linux_01;
--
memory RAM
end RAM;
--
memory implementation RAM.Intel_RAM
end RAM.Intel_RAM;

```

[Feiler, 2006]

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## Ports

Legend

- Data port
- Event port
- Event data port

[Feiler, 2006]

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## Tool support - OSATE

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## Next lecture

- Wrap-up of the course – what have we been through?
- Exam information
  - Reiteration of the requirements for the exam
  - Hand-ins
    - Paper
    - Reflection document
    - Source code
- Course evaluation
- Q&A

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## Exercise

- Work with the formal architecture language exercise
- Present your experiment


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## References

- [Feiler, 2006] P. Feiler, D. Gluch, and J. Hudak, "The architecture analysis & design language (aadl): An introduction," Tech. Rep. CMU/SEI-2006-TN-011, Software Engineering Institute, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA, 2006.
- [Medvidovic, 2000] N. Medvidovic and R. N. Taylor, "A classification and comparison framework for software architecture description languages," IEEE transactions on software engineering, vol. 26, no. 1, pp. 70–93, 2000.

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# End of Presentation

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