# Software Design and Architecture

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# interaction diagrams

Sequence and collaboration diagrams

### What are interaction diagrams?

- Interaction diagrams illustrate how objects interact via messages in order to fulfil certain tasks.
- There are two kinds of interaction diagrams:
  - collaboration diagrams
  - sequence diagrams

### **Collaboration and sequence - differences**

• Collaboration diagram illustrates object interactions in a graph or network format, in which objects can be placed anywhere on the diagram. It demonstrates how objects are statically connected.

• Sequence diagram illustrates interaction in a kind of fence format, in which each new object is added to the right. It generally shows the <u>sequence of events that occur.</u>

# Interaction diagrams: when and how to use them?

- 1. Identify the system events that are implied by the use cases.
- Make at least one interaction diagram for each system event.
- Make additional interaction diagrams for alternative courses of events.

### Interaction diagrams: notation

- The following notation is used in the UML for classes and objects:
  - Class
  - Instance of a Class (object without a name)
  - Named instance of a class (named object)
  - Named object only (shown without class)

Person

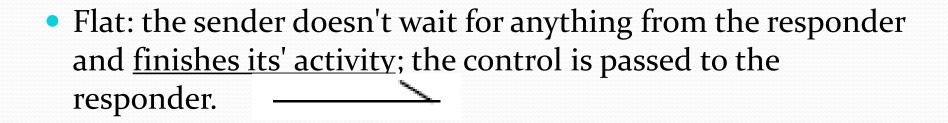
:Person

michael:Person

michael

### Message flows (Ref: books)

Synchronous: the sender waits until the responder finishes.

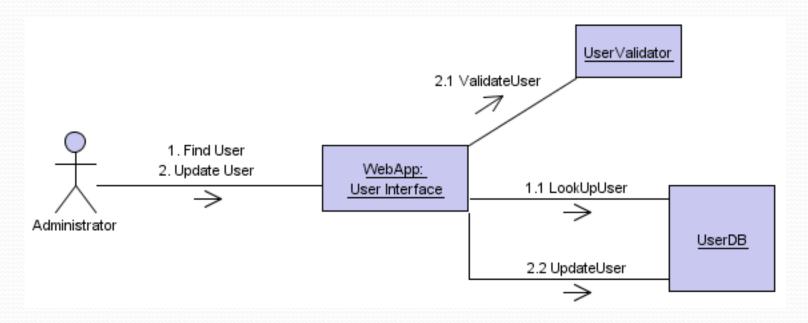


 Asynchronous: the sender doesn't wait for anything from the responder, <u>but it continues its' own activity</u>.

\* In papyrus there are only two representations: (1) Sync →
(2) Async →

- A collaboration diagram shows the <u>relationship</u> <u>between objects</u> and the <u>order of messages</u> passed between them.
- The objects are listed as icons and arrows indicate the messages being passed between them.
- The numbers next to the messages are called sequence numbers and, as the name suggests, they show the sequence of the messages as they are passed between the objects.

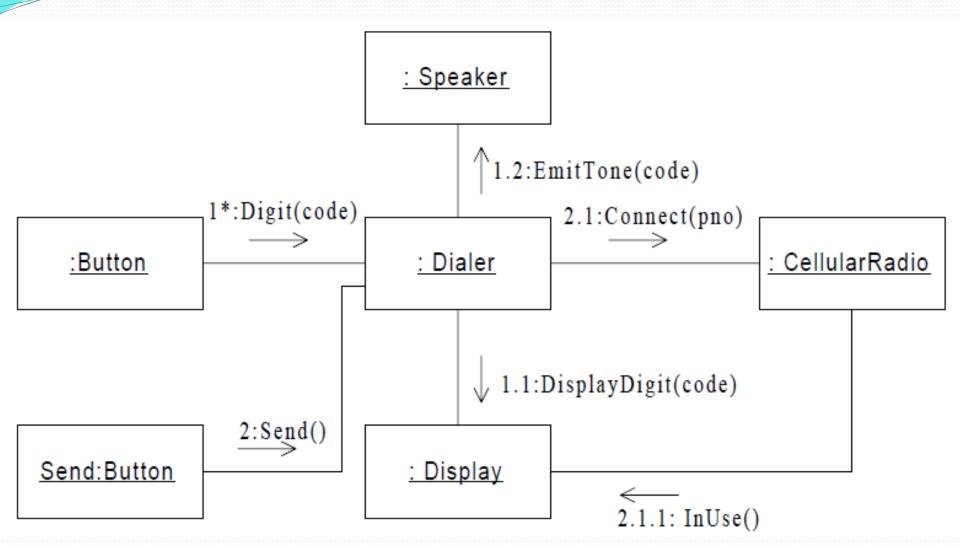
### Collaboration diagram – an example



### Example: A Cellular Phone

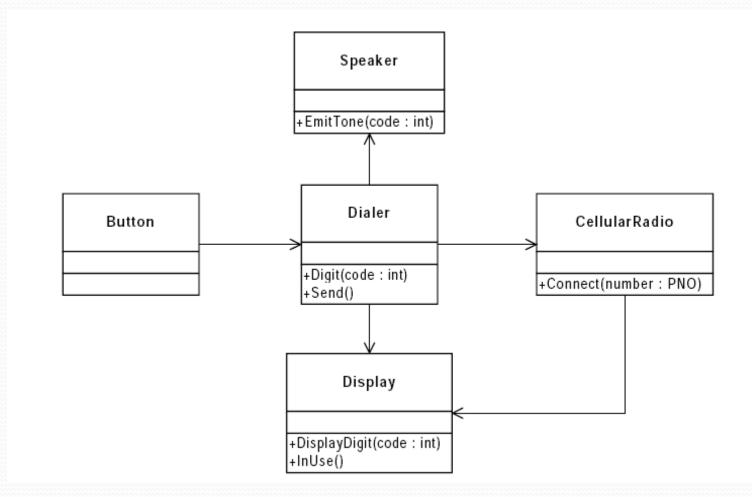
- Consider the software that controls a very simple cellular telephone. Such a phone has buttons for dialing digits, and a "send" button for initiating a call. It has "dialer" hardware and software that gathers the digits to be dialed and emits the appropriate tones. It has a cellular radio that deals with the connection to the cellular network. It has a microphone, a speaker, and a display
- <u>Use case: Make Phone Call</u> 1. User presses the digit buttons to enter the phone number. 2. For each digit, the display is updated to add the digit to the phone number. 3. For each digit, the dialer generates the corresponding tone and emits it from the speaker. 4. User presses "Send" 5. The "in use" indicator is illuminated on the display 6. The cellular radio establishes a connection to the network. 7. The accumulated digits are sent to the network. 8. The connection is made to the called party.

#### Collaboration diagrams of Make Phone Call use case.



Message 1\*:Digit(code) has an asterisk in order to denote that it may occur many times before message 2.

#### Static model based on previous collaboration diagram



#### **Collaboration diagrams – strenghts and weaknesses**

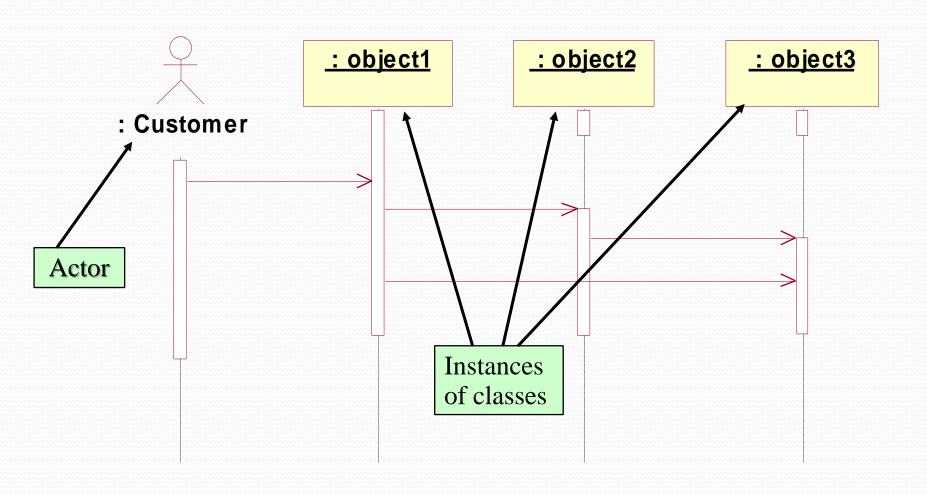
One of the greatest strengths of collaboration diagrams is their <u>simplicity</u>.

The principal weakness, however, is that although they are good at describing behavior, they do not define it. They typically do not show all the iteration and control that is needed to give an computationally complete description.

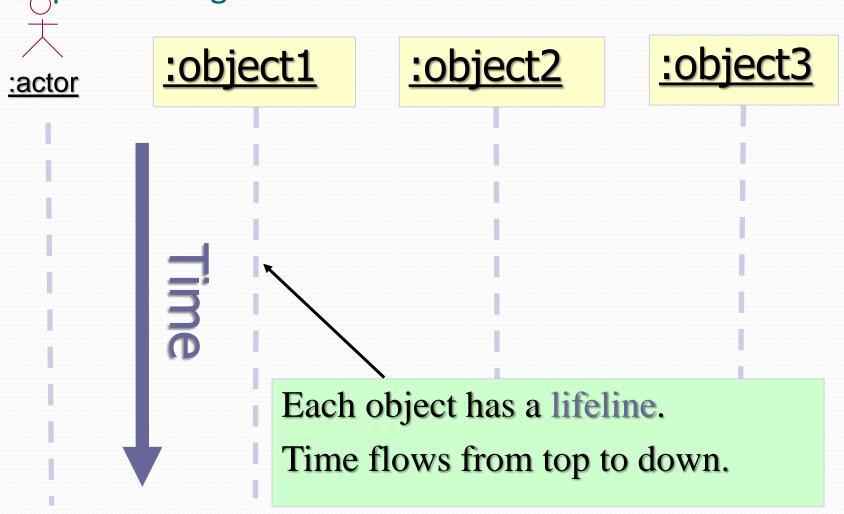
### Sequence diagrams

- A sequence diagram shows relations between objects.
- It should be read from left to right and from top to bottom.
- At the top of the diagram are names of objects that interact with each other. These are the concepts in the conceptual model.
- When the course of events is initiated by an actor the actor symbol is displayed as the leftmost object.

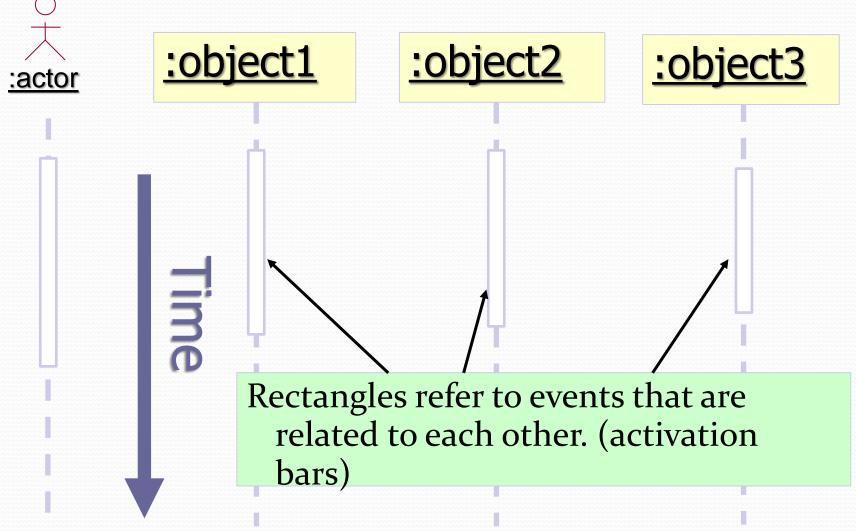
### Sequence diagrams: an example



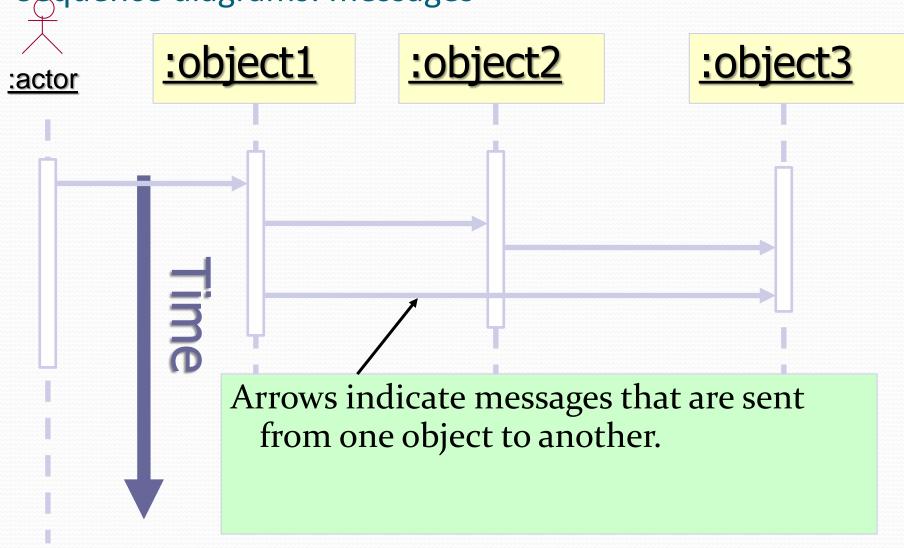
#### Sequence Diagram: Lifelines



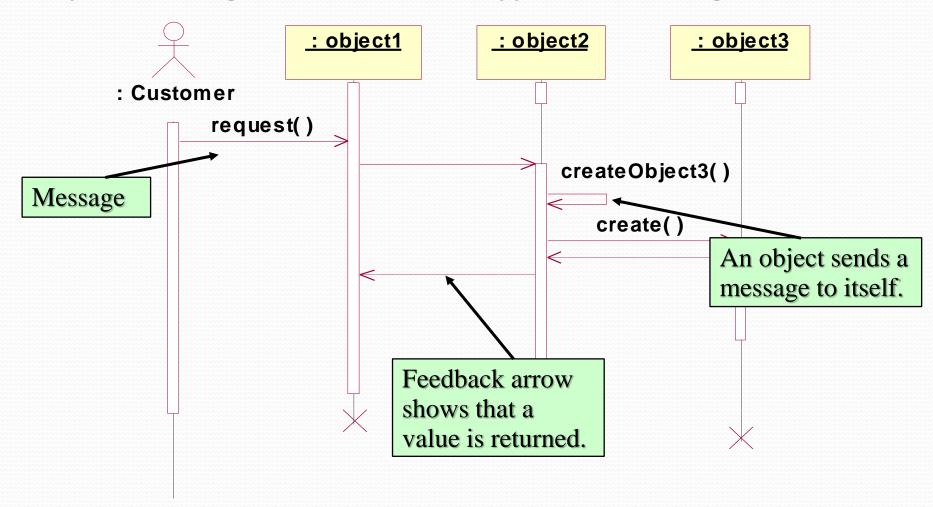
### Sequence diagrams: rectangles



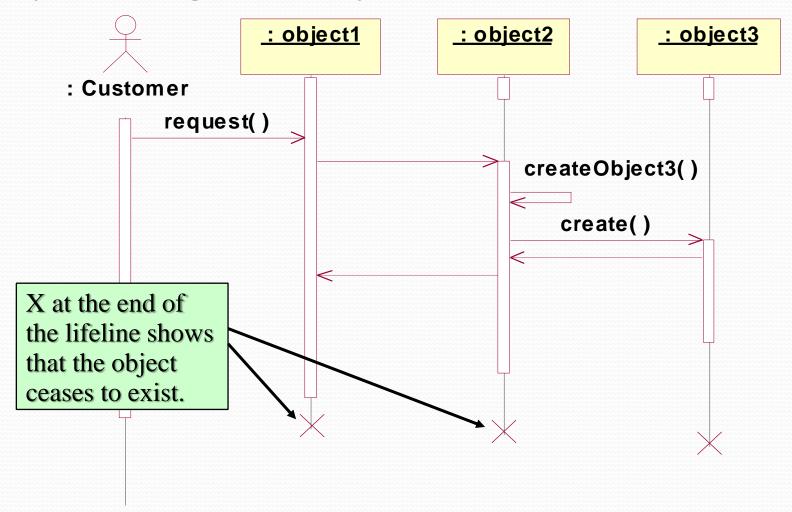
### Sequence diagrams: messages



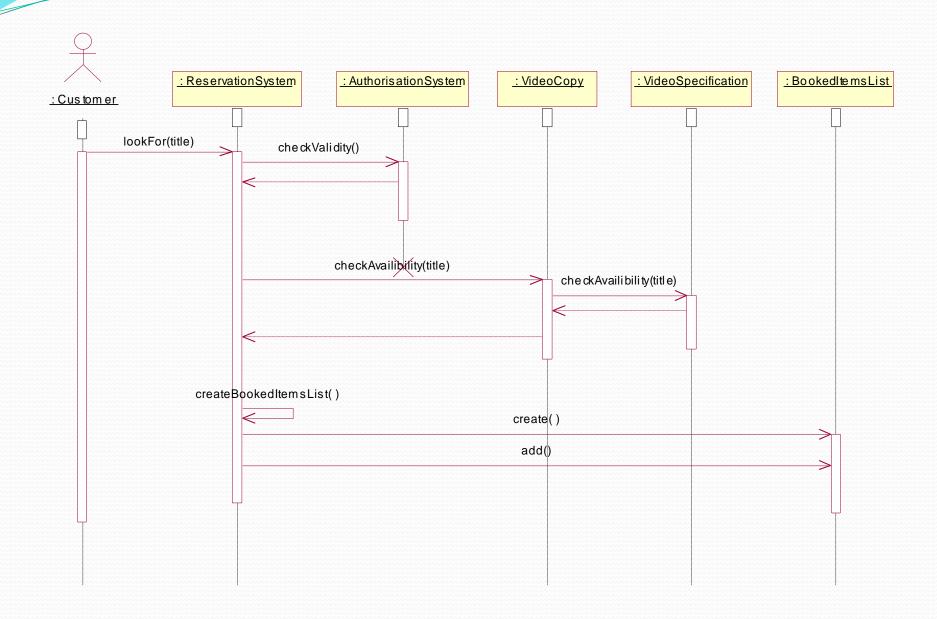
#### Sequence diagrams - different types of messages



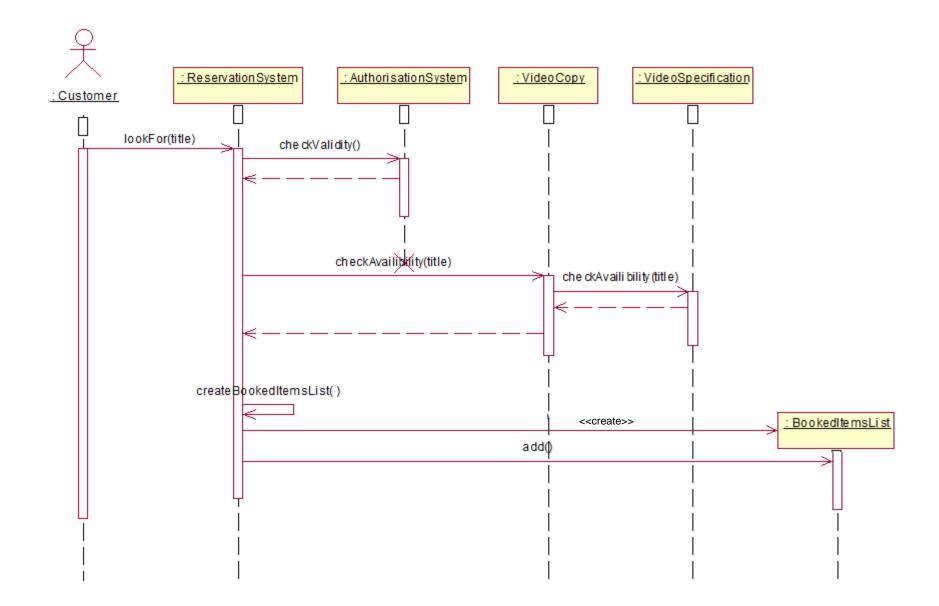
#### Sequence diagrams: endpoints



### Sequence diagram: BookedItemsList.create() invoked



# Sequence diagram: BookedItemsList created by caller



# Sequence diagrams - strengths and weaknesses

### Strengths:

- they clearly show sequence or time ordering of messages
- the notation is rather simple

#### Weaknesses:

- forced to extend to right when adding new objects, consumes a lot of space

## **UML Collaboration Diagram**

- Show a particular sequence of messages exchanged between a number of objects
- Use sequence diagrams to model <u>flows of control by time</u> ordering
  - Better for demonstrating the <u>ordering</u> of the messages
  - Not suitable for <u>complex iteration and branching</u>
- Use collaboration diagrams to model flows of control by organization
  - Good at showing the <u>static connections among the objects</u> while demonstrating a particular <u>sequence of messages</u> at the same time

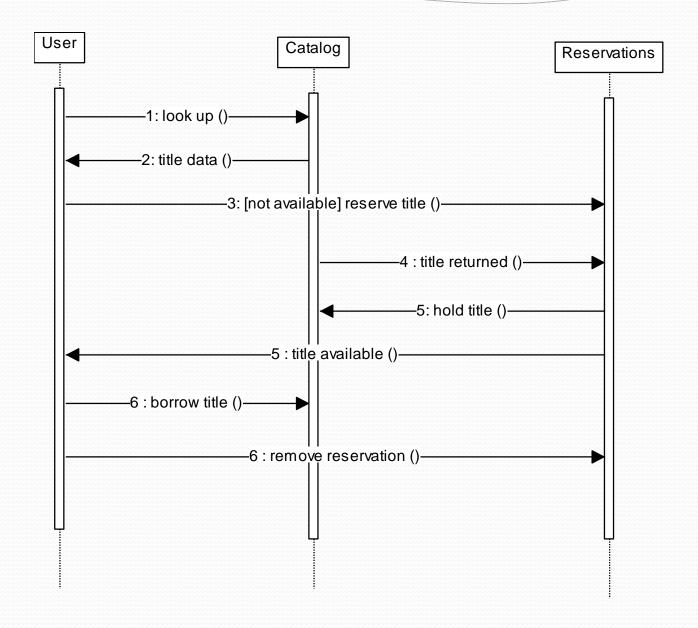
- Shows the relationship between objects and the order of messages passed between them between them.
- The objects are listed as rectangles and arrows indicate the messages being passed.
- The numbers next to the messages are called sequence numbers. They show the sequence of the messages as they are passed between the objects convey the same information as sequence diagrams, but focus on object roles instead of the time sequence.

Collaboration Diagrams describe interactions among classes and associations. These interactions are modeled as exchanges of messages between classes through their associations. Collaboration diagrams are a <u>type of interaction diagram</u>. Collaboration diagrams contain the following <u>elements</u>.

- **Class roles**, which represent roles that objects may play within the interaction.
- **Association roles**, which represent roles that links may play within the interaction.
- **Message flows**, which represent messages sent between objects via links. Links transport or implement the delivery of the message.

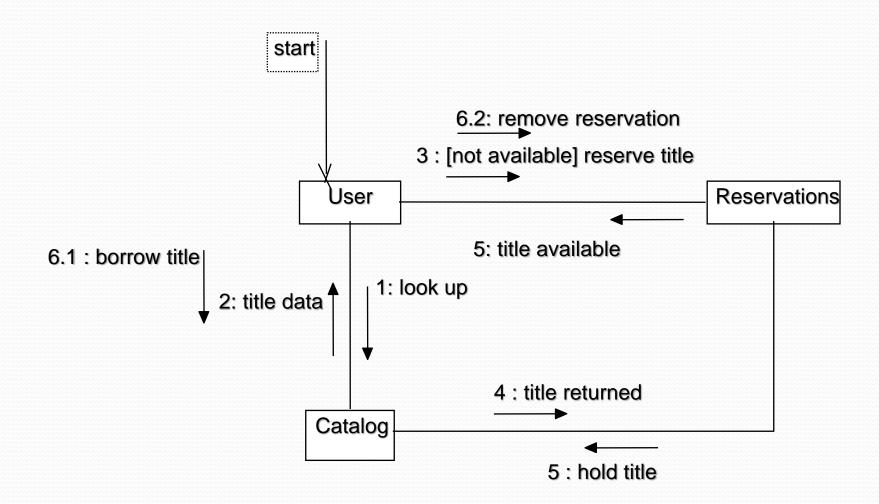
UML Collaboration diagrams (interaction diagrams) illustrate the relationship and interaction between software objects. They require use cases, system operation contracts, and domain model to already exist. The collaboration diagram illustrates messages being sent between classes and objects (instances). A diagram is created for each system operation that relates to the current development cycle (iteration).

### Sequence Diagram (Issuing a book from library)

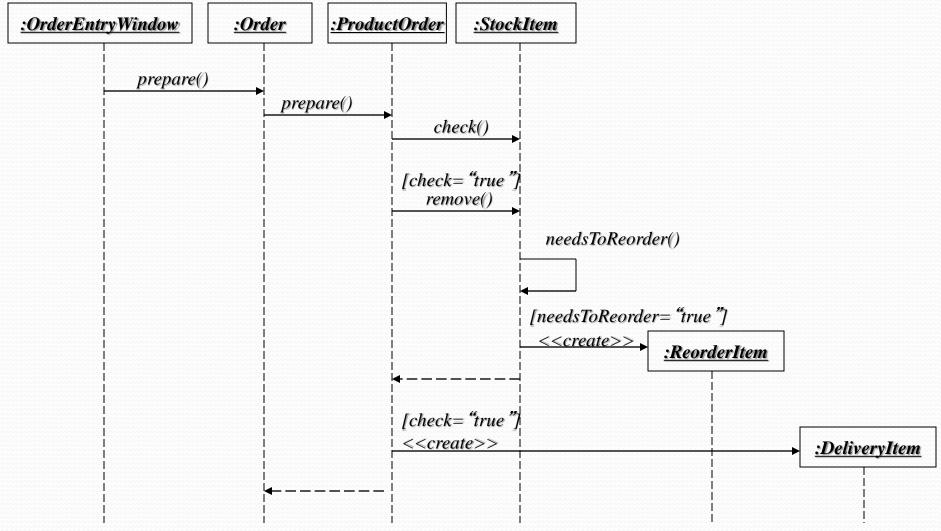


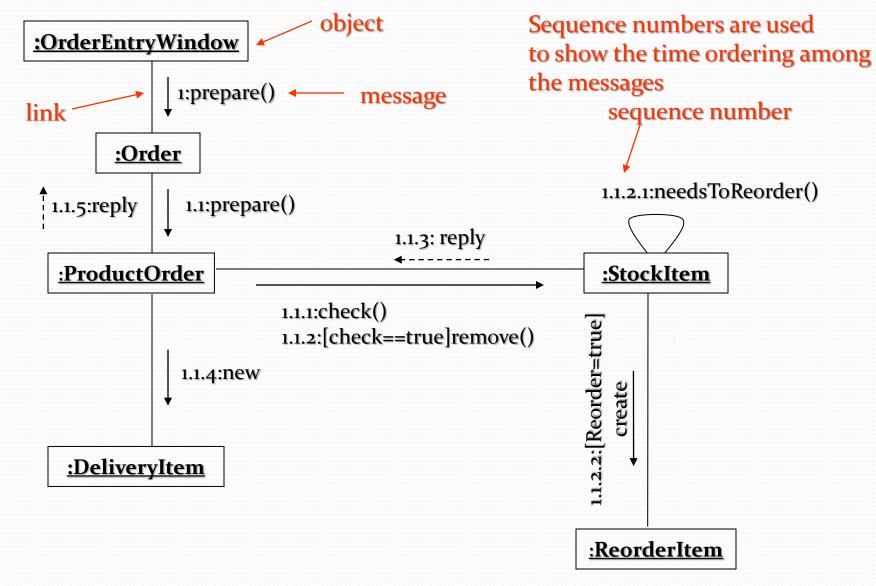
<sup>\*</sup> You need to correct the activation bars and response messages symbols according to UML2.5

Collaboration diagrams of earlier made sequence diagram of issuing of book from library



# Example Sequence Diagram





- Class diagrams indicates what classes are part of our system, what they offer, how they relate, but they don't tell us <u>how they communicate</u>.
- Collaboration diagrams show (used to model) how objects interact and their roles.
- They are very similar to sequence diagrams. Actually they are considered as a <u>cross</u> between class and <u>sequence diagram</u>.
- Sequence Diagrams are arranged according to Time.
- Collaboration Diagrams represent the structural organization of object.
- [Both sequence and collaboration diagrams are called interaction diagrams]