

3 Use cases

Learning outcomes

The material and exercises in this chapter will enable you to:

- Explain the purpose of the use case model
- Recognize and describe the components of the use case model: use case diagram, actor descriptions, use case descriptions, scenarios
- Identify the use cases and actors in a system
- Draw a use case diagram
- Write use case descriptions and actor descriptions
- Explain what dictates the granularity of a use case
- Write scenarios and understand how they relate to use cases
- Explain the role of use cases in the creation of other UML models of the system
- Specify at what stages use cases are used in the development of object-oriented software.

Key words you will find in the glossary:

- «extend»
- «include»
- actor
- actor description
- collaboration
- communication association
- essential use case
- expanded use case description
- high-level use case description
- initiating actor
- participating actor
- real use case
- scenario
- stereotype
- use case
- use case beneficiary
- use case description
- use case realization