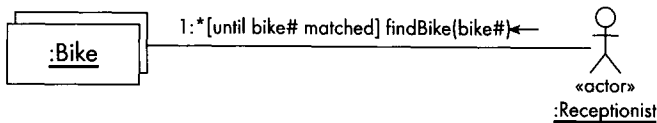*Figure 6.20*   *Iteration marker*

Figure 6.21   *A multiobject*

A multiobject indicates a collection of objects, which may be implemented as an array, a list, a set or some other data structure; the notation allows us to postpone this implementation decision. It is really a shorthand way of modelling the handling of a collection of objects by using a separate collection class. Collection classes are explained in Chapter 10.

Common problems

1   Can I show several actors participating in an interaction diagram? For instance, in the sequence diagram in Figure 6.22, I try to model the behaviour of the Customer and the Receptionist. I think there must be something wrong because the CASE tool would not allow me to call the second actor Customer, so I had to call it Client. I also had to add the messages between the Client and the Receptionist by hand.

There is no reason why you cannot have more than one actor in a sequence diagram, as long as they both participate in the use case and are genuinely inputting information to the system or receiving it directly from the system. However, CASE tools are very good indicators of errors – they understand how object-oriented models should work. Your model is trying to show an