

Software Reuse



Topics covered





THE REUSE LANDSCAPE

SOFTWARE PRODUCT LINES AND MORE...

Software reuse





In most engineering disciplines, systems are designed by composing existing components that have been used in other systems.



Software engineering has been more focused on original development, but it is now recognised that to achieve better software, more quickly and at lower cost, we need a design process that is based on systematic software reuse.



There has been a major switch to reuse-based development over the years.

Reuse-based software engineering



System/App reuse	 Complete systems/applications, may be reused.
Component reuse	 Components of an application from sub-systems to single classes may be reused.
Class and function reuse	 Small-scale software components that implement a single well-defined class or function may be reused.

Benefits of software reuse



Benefit	Explanation
Accelerated development	Bringing a system to market as early as possible is often more important than overall development costs. Reusing software can speed up system production because both development and validation time may be reduced.
Effective use of specialists	Instead of doing the same work over and over again, application specialists can develop reusable software that encapsulates their knowledge.
Increased dependability	Reused software, which has been tried and tested in working systems, should be more dependable than new software. Its design and implementation faults should have been found and fixed.

Benefits of software reuse



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Benefit	Explanation
Lower development costs	 Development costs are proportional to the size of the software being developed. Reusing software means that fewer lines of code have to be written.
Reduced process risk	 The cost of existing software is already known, whereas the costs of development are always a matter of judgment. This is an important factor for project management because it reduces the margin of error in project cost estimation. This is particularly true when relatively large software components such as subsystems are reused.
Standards compliance	 Some standards, such as user interface standards, can be implemented as a set of reusable components. For example, if menus in a user interface are implemented using reusable components, all applications present the same menu formats to users. The use of standard user interfaces improves dependability because users make fewer mistakes when presented with a familiar interface.

Problems with reuse



Problem	Explanation
Creating, maintaining, and using a component library	Populating a reusable component library and ensuring the software developers can use this library can be expensive. Development processes have to be adapted to ensure that the library is used.
Finding, understanding, and adapting reusable components	Software components have to be discovered in a library, understood and, sometimes, adapted to work in a new environment. Engineers must be reasonably confident of finding a component in the library before they include a component search as part of their normal development process.
Increased maintenance costs	If the source code of a reused software system or component is not available then maintenance costs may be higher because the reused elements of the system may become increasingly incompatible with system changes.

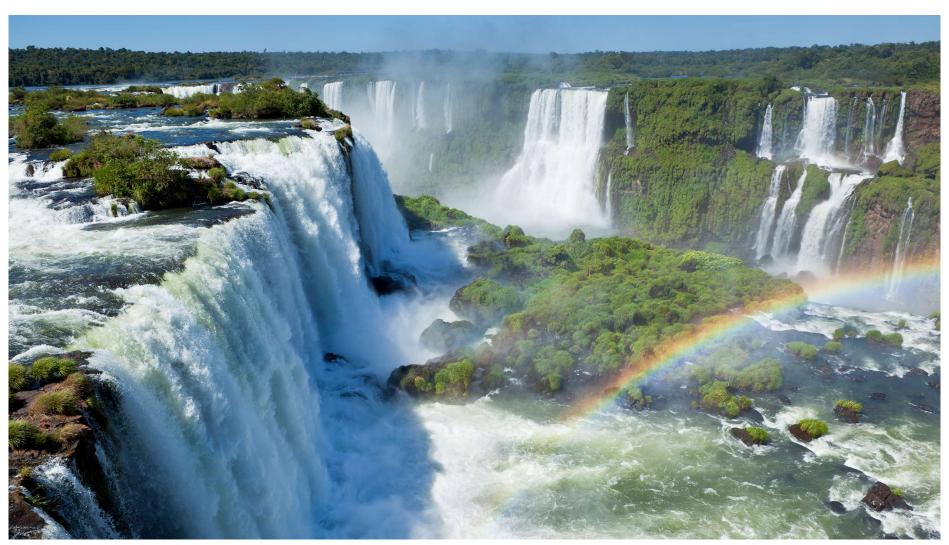
Problems with reuse



Problem	Explanation
Lack of tool/process support	 Some software tools do not support development with reuse. It may be difficult to integrate these tools with a component library system. The software process assumed by these tools/process may not take reuse into account. This is less problematic for object-oriented development tools.
Not-invented-here syndrome	 Some software engineers prefer to rewrite components because they believe they can improve on them. This is partly to do with trust and partly to do with the fact that writing original software is seen as more challenging than reusing other people's software.

The reuse landscape





The reuse landscape





Although reuse is often simply thought of as the reuse of system components, there are many different approaches to reuse that may be used.



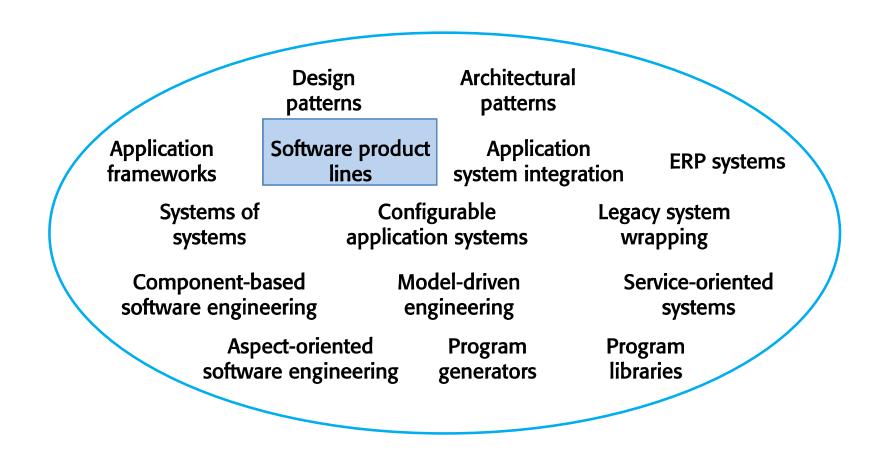
Reuse is possible at a range of levels from simple functions to complete application systems.



The reuse landscape covers the range of possible reuse techniques.

The reuse landscape





Approaches that support software reuse



Approach	Description
Application frameworks	Collections of abstract and concrete classes are adapted and extended to create application systems.
Application system integration	Two or more application systems are integrated to provide extended functionality
Architectural patterns	Standard software architectures that support common types of application system are used as the basis of applications.
Aspect-oriented software development	Shared components are woven into an application at different places when the program is compiled.
Component-based software engineering	Systems are developed by integrating components (collections of objects) that conform to component-model standards.

Approaches that support software reuse



Approach	Description
Configurable application systems	Domain-specific systems are designed so that they can be configured to the needs of specific system customers.
Design patterns	Generic abstractions that occur across applications are represented as design patterns showing abstract and concrete objects and interactions.
ERP (Enterprise Resource Planning) systems	Large-scale systems that encapsulate generic business functionality and rules are configured for an organization. ERP is a category of business-management software—typically a suite of integrated applications—that an organization can use to collect, store, manage and interpret data from many business activities. ERP is a business process management software that manages and integrates a company's finance, supply chain, operations, reporting, manufacturing and human resources activities.
Legacy system wrapping	Legacy systems are 'wrapped' by defining a set of interfaces and providing access to these legacy systems through these interfaces.
Model-driven engineering	Software is represented as domain models and implementation independent models and code is generated from these models.

Approaches that support software reuse

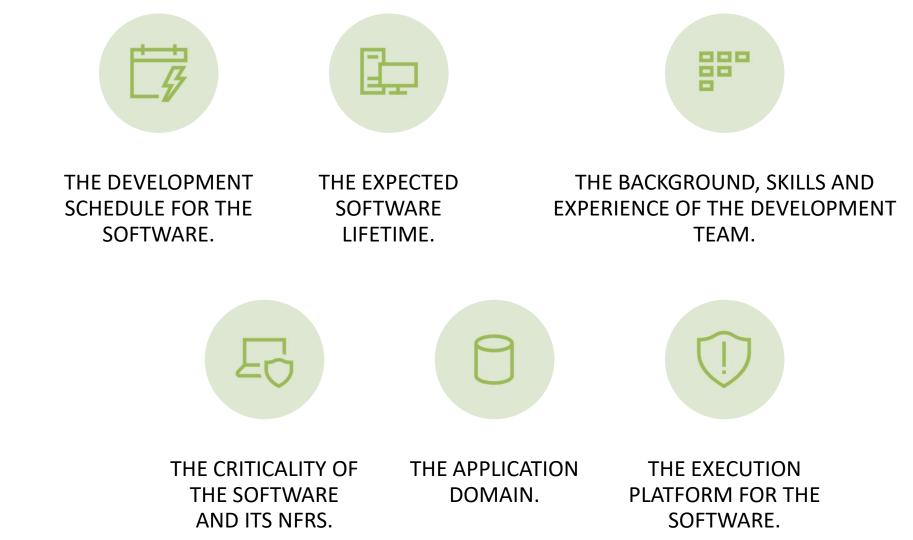


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Approach	Description
Program generators	A generator system embeds knowledge of a type of application and is used to generate systems in that domain from a user-supplied system model. In practice, generators are typically compilers for domain-specific languages (DSLs). A domain-specific language is a special-purpose programming language for a particular software domain.
Program libraries	Class and function libraries that implement commonly used abstractions are available for reuse.
Service-oriented systems	Systems are developed by linking shared services, which may be externally provided. In SOA (Service-oriented architecture), services use protocols that describe how they pass and parse messages using description metadata. This metadata describes both the functional characteristics of the service and quality-of- service characteristics. SOA aims to allow users to combine large chunks of functionality to form applications which are built purely from existing services and combining them in an ad hoc manner.
Software product lines	An application type is generalized around a common architecture so that it can be adapted for different customers.
Systems of systems	A SoS brings together a set of systems for a task that none of the systems can accomplish on its own. Each constituent system keeps its own management, goals, and resources while coordinating within the SoS and adapting to meet SoS goals. E.g. Air traffic

Reuse planning factors







Software Product Lines

SPL: Definition



A software product line is a set of software-intensive systems that share a common, managed set of features satisfying the specific needs of a particular market segment or mission and

are developed from a common set of core assets in a prescribed way.



Software product line practice is the systematic use of core assets to assemble, instantiate, or generate the multiple products that constitute a software product line.



Software product line practice involves strategic, large-grained reuse.

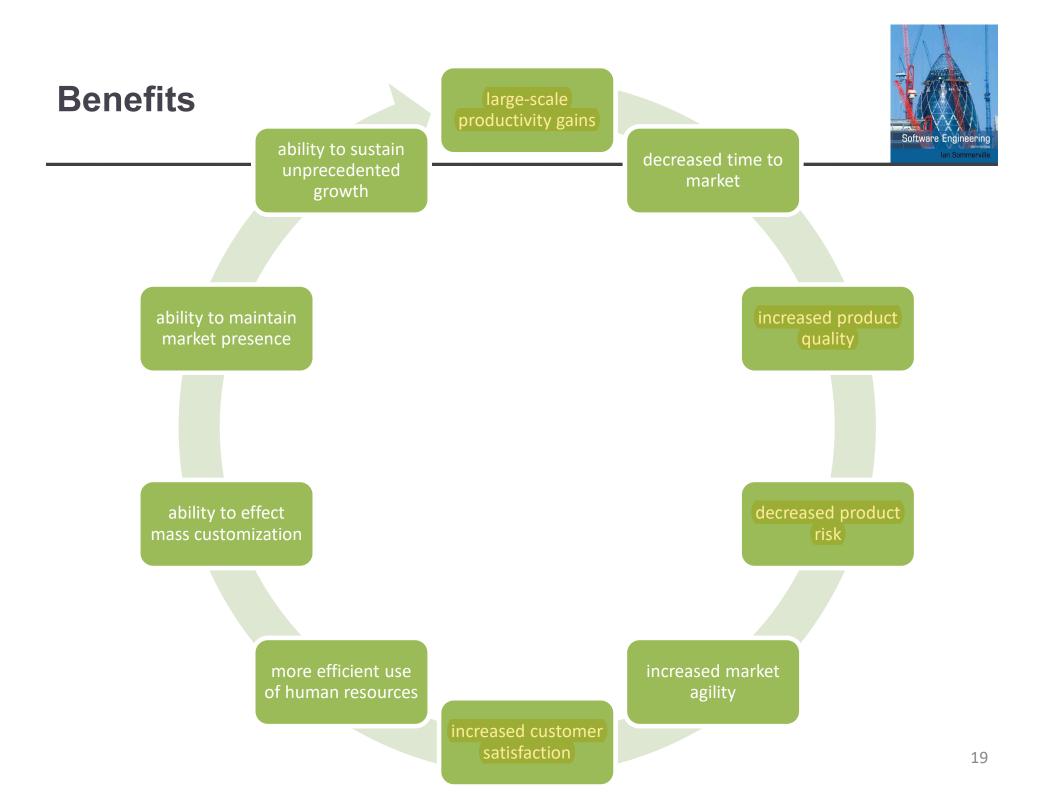
Core assets

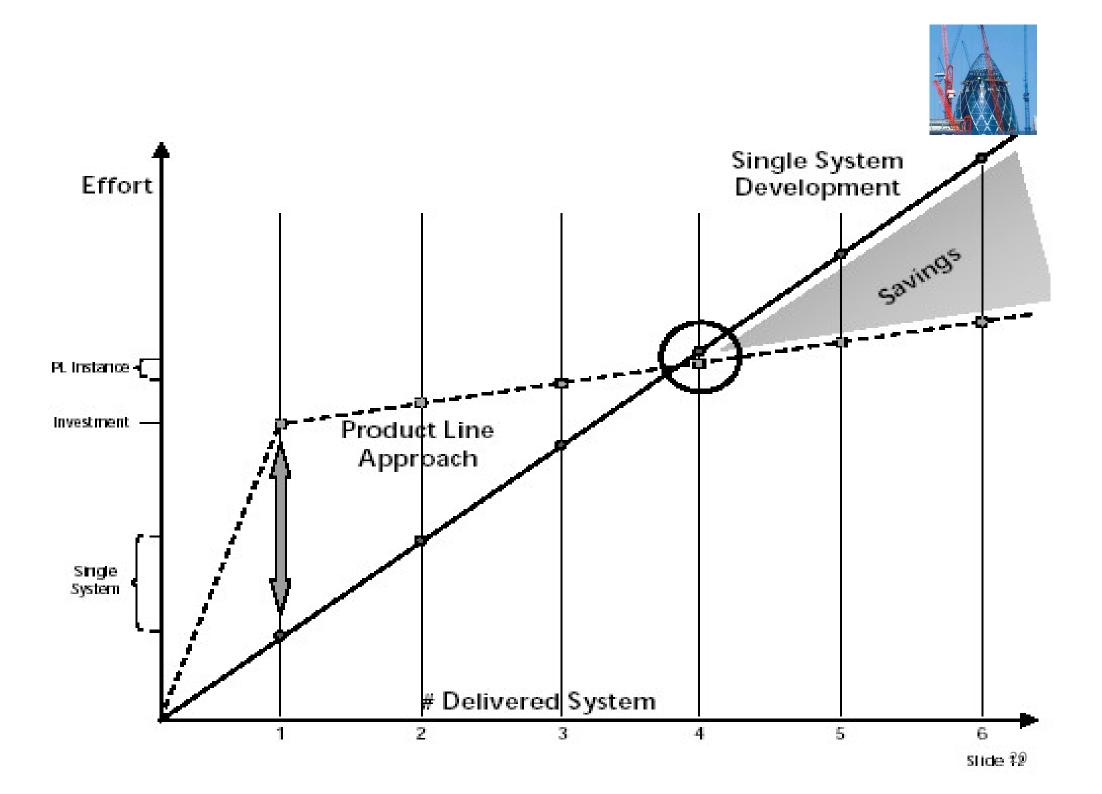


Core assets are those reusable artifacts and resources that form the basis for the software product line.



Core assets often include, but are not limited to, the architecture, reusable software components, domain models, requirements statements, documentation, specifications, performance models, schedules, budgets, test plans, test cases, work plans, and process descriptions.











A *domain* is a specialized body of knowledge, an area of expertise, or a collection of related functionality.



For example, the telecommunications domain is a set of telecommunications functionalities



The *product family* is that set of products we call the product line.

Software Engineering Ian Sommerville

How is production made more economical?

Each product is formed by

- taking applicable components from the base of common assets,
- tailoring them as necessary through preplanned variation mechanisms such as parameterization or inheritance,
- adding any new components that may be necessary,
- assembling the collection according to the rules of a product-line-wide architecture.

Building a new product (system) becomes more a matter of assembly or generation than one of creation;

• the predominant activity is integration rather than programming.

For each software product line, there is a predefined guide or plan that specifies the exact product-building approach.

Other concepts



The software assets in the core asset base are sometimes called a *platform*.



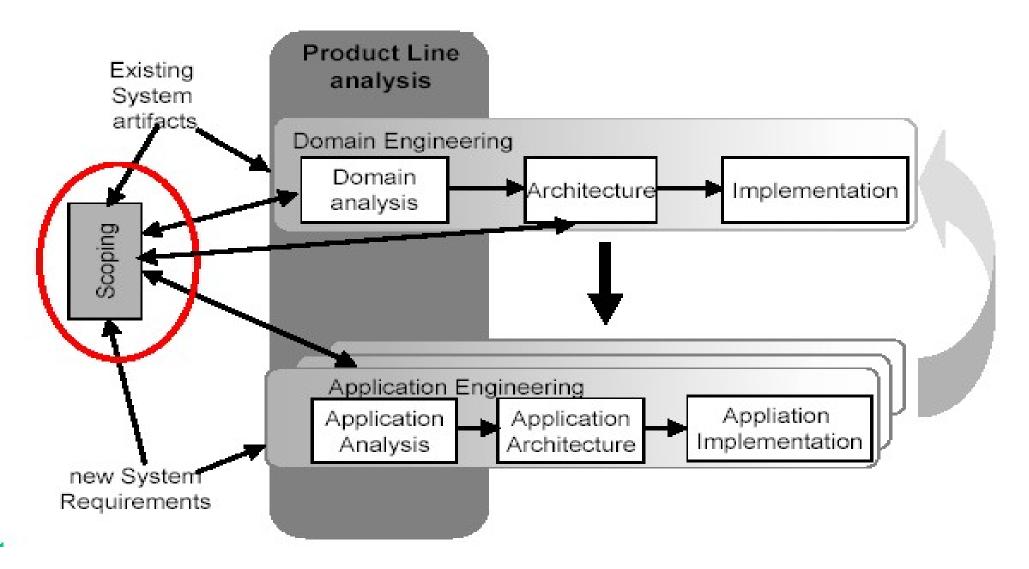
What we call core asset development is sometimes referred to as *domain engineering*.



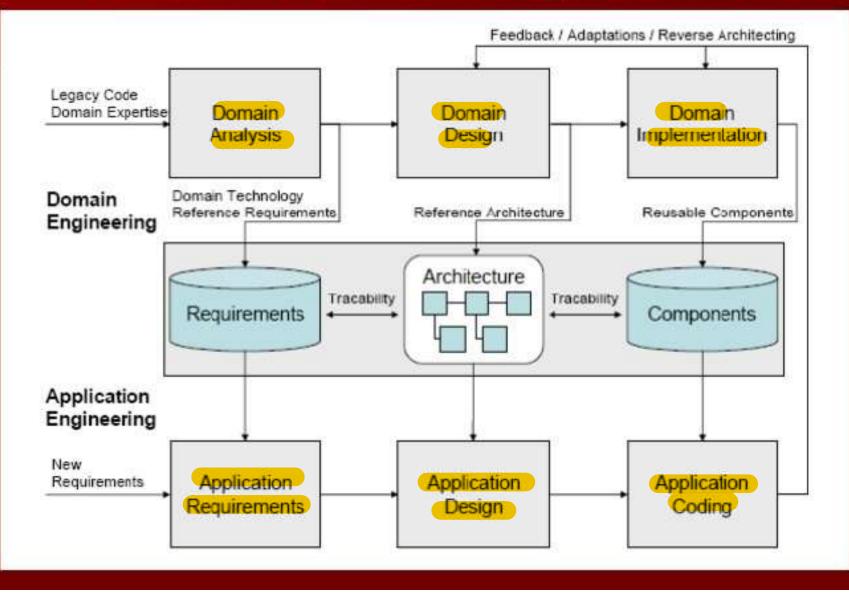
What we call product development is sometimes referred to as *application engineering*.

SPL processes





SPL Process and Organization



SPL activities





Requirements engineering for product lines



Requirements elicitation for a product line must capture anticipated variations explicitly over the foreseeable lifetime of the product line.

This means that the community of stakeholders is probably larger than for singlesystem requirements elicitation

it may well include domain experts, market experts, and others.



Requirements elicitation focuses on:

the scope, explicitly capturing the anticipated variation by the application of domain analysis techniques,

the incorporation of existing domain analysis models,

capturing the variations that are expected to occur over the lifetime of the PL





Requirements analysis for a product line involves finding commonalities and identifying variations.

Requirements analysis includes a commonality and variability analysis on the elicited product line requirements to identify the opportunities for large-grained reuse within the product line.

Two such techniques are Feature-Oriented Domain Analysis (....) and use cases



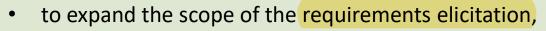
Domain analysis techniques

These

be used:

techniques can





- to identify and plan for anticipated changes,
- to determine fundamental commonalities and variations in the products of the SPL
- to support the creation of robust architectures.



Feature modeling facilitates the identification and analysis of the product line's commonality and variability and provides a natural vehicle for requirements specification.



Other techniques:

Use case modeling

Feature modeling





This technique can be used to complement object and use case modeling and to organize the results of the commonality and variability analysis in preparation for reuse.



Features are user-visible aspects or characteristics of a system that are organized into a tree of And/Or nodes to identify the commonalities and variabilities within the system.



The commonalities and variabilities within those features are then exploited to create a set of reference models (that is, software architectures and components) that can be used to implement the products of that family.

Features and feature model





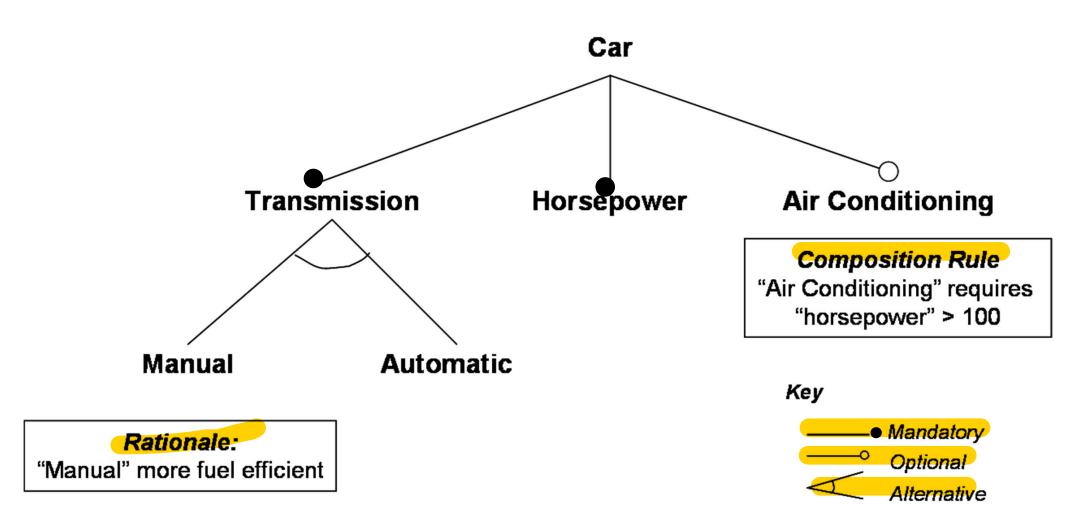
A *feature* is a system property that is relevant to some stakeholder and is used to capture commonalities or discriminate among products in a product line.



A *feature model* consists of one or more *feature diagrams*, which organize features into hierarchies.

Feature diagram of a car





Feature-Oriented Domain Analysis

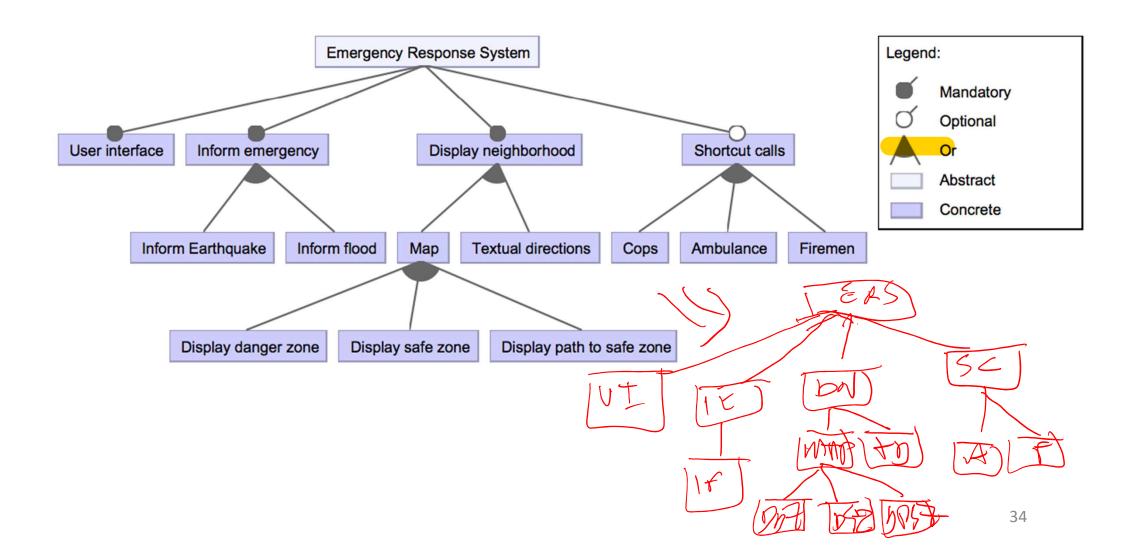


Feature diagram. The diagram depicts a hierarchical decomposition of features with mandatory, alternative and optional relationships.

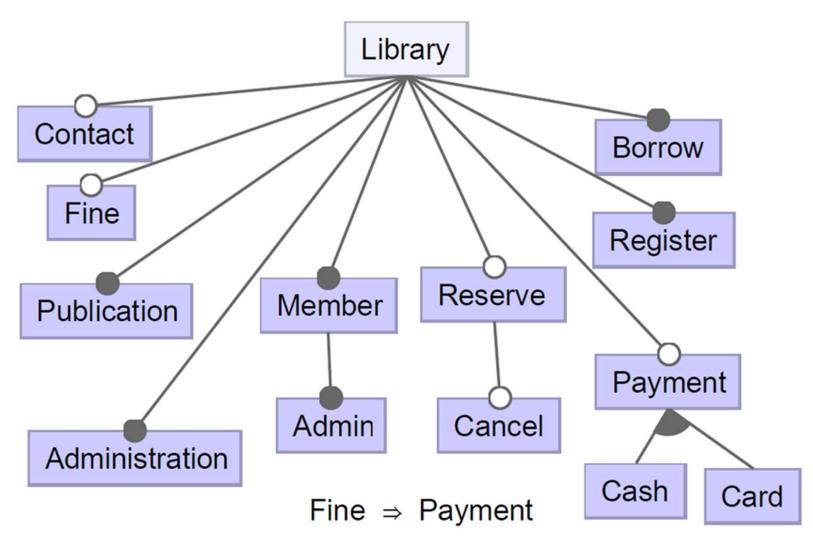
Feature definitions. Description of all features

Composition rules. These rules indicate which feature combinations are valid and which are not. Rationale for features. The rationale for choosing or not choosing a particular feature, indicating the trade-offs.

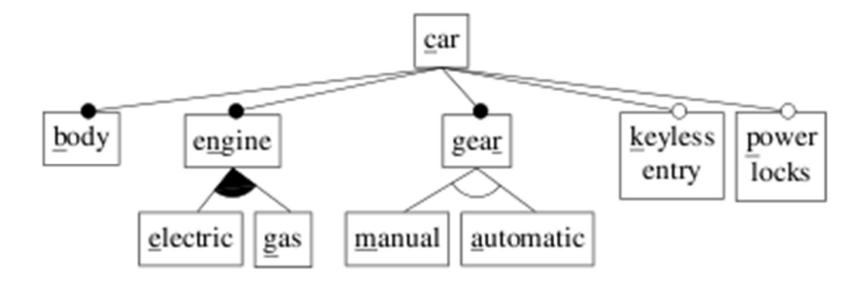






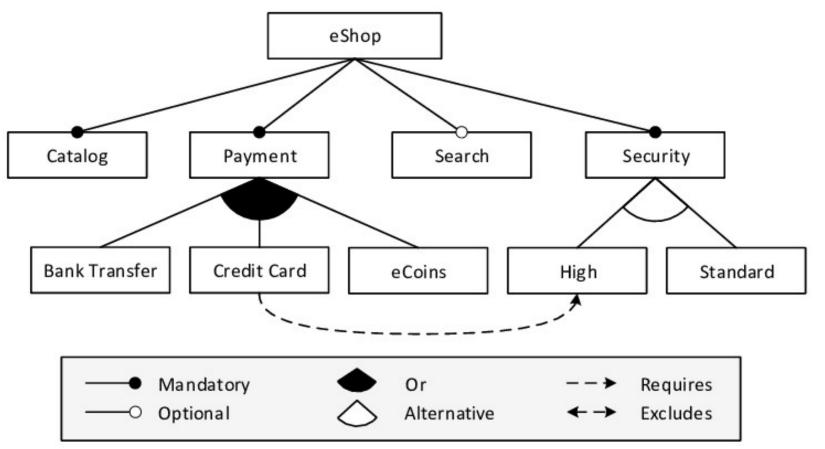






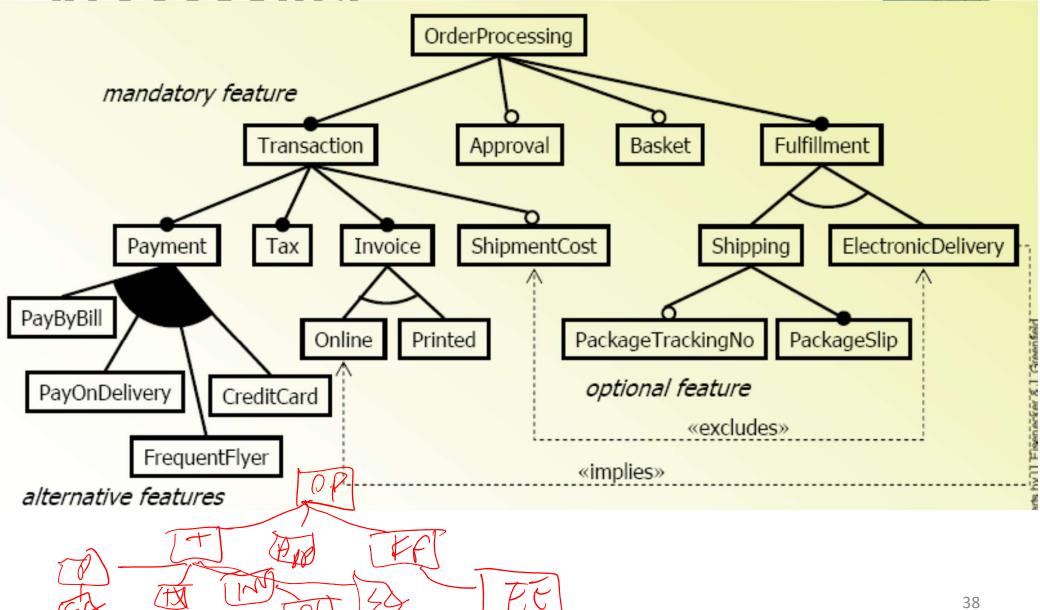
 $keyless_entry \rightarrow power_locks$





Feature model for order processing





UC Modeling with the PLUS approach [H.Gomaa]





Feature modeling



Use case modeling

<<kernel>>, <<optional>>, <<alternative>>

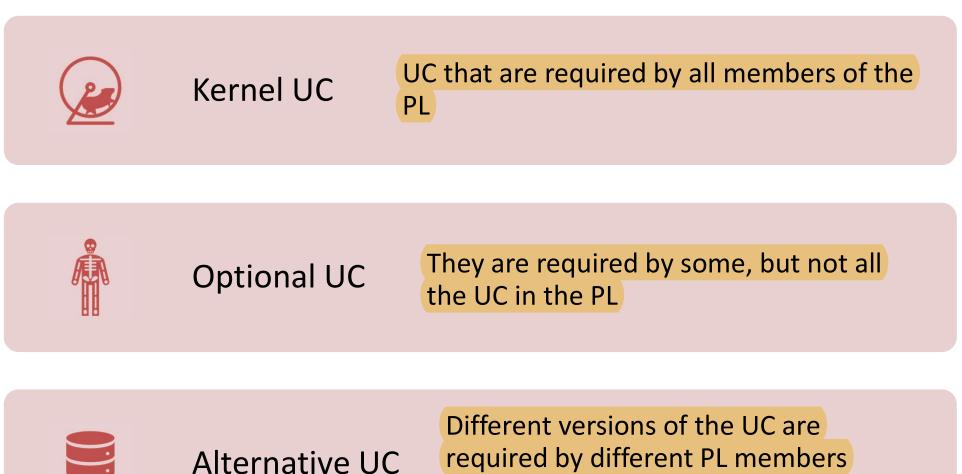


Static modeling

<<kernel>>, <<optional>>, <<alternative>> in UML class diagrams

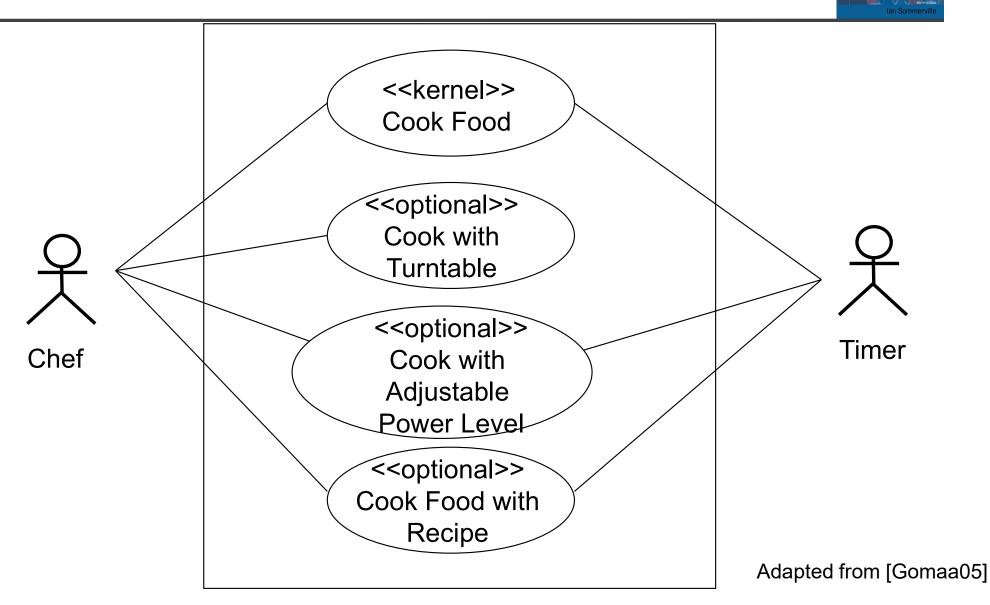
PLUS: UC modeling





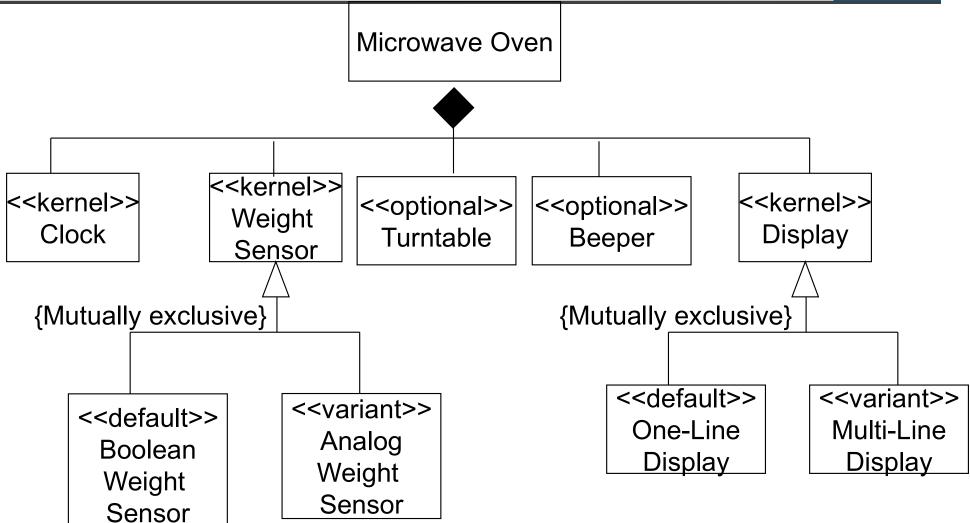
They are usually mutually exclusive

PLUS Example: Use Cases



PLUS : Static Modeling



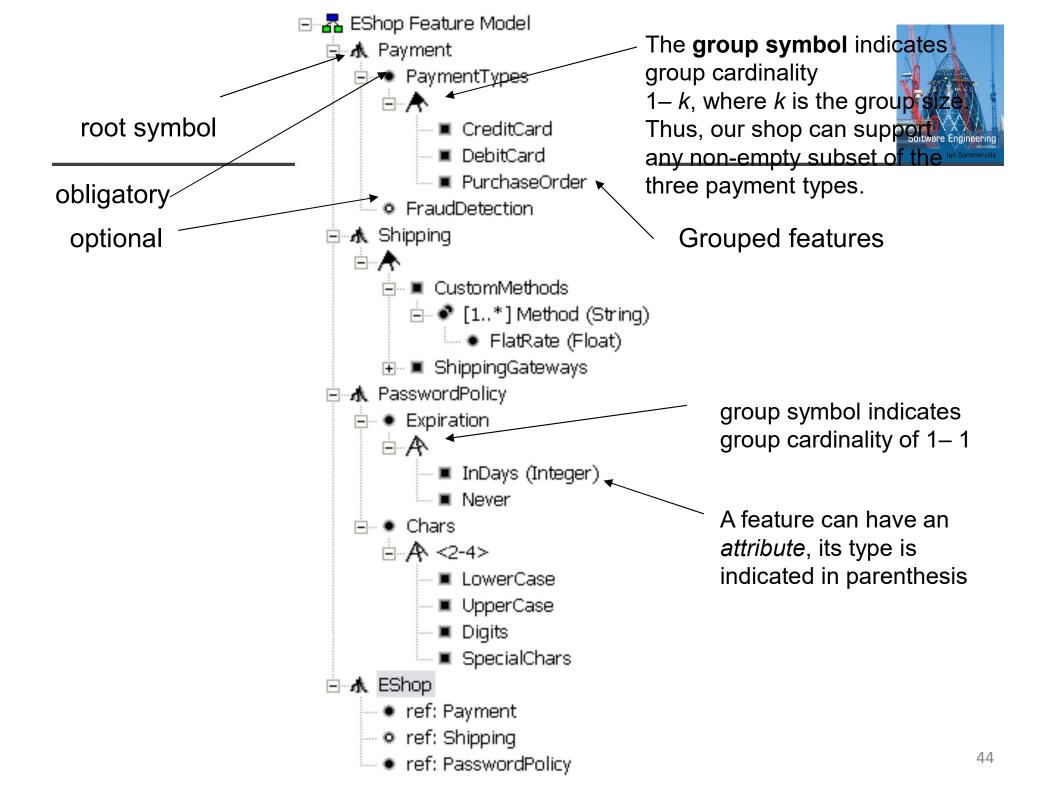


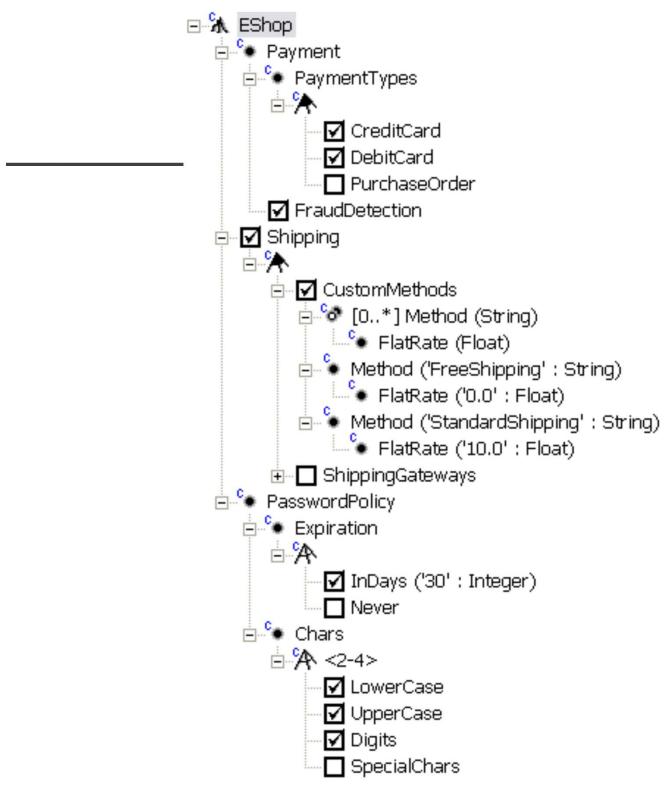
Adapted from [Gomaa05]



Feature Modeling Plug-In for Eclipse

- ♦ The tool supports
 - cardinality-based feature modeling
 - specialization of feature diagrams
 - configuration based on feature diagrams
- http://www.swen.uwaterloo.ca/~kczarnec/

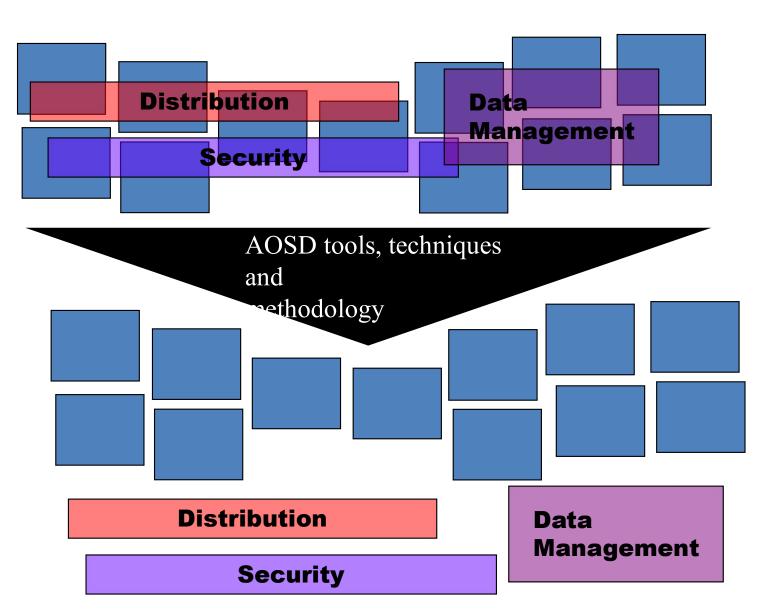






Aspect-Oriented Software Development (AOSD)





A Definition of AOSD



AOSD: systematic *identification*, *modularisation*, *representation* and *composition* of <u>crosscutting</u> concerns [1]

[1] Rashid, A., Moreira, A., Araújo, J. "Modularisation and Composition of Aspectual Requirements", Proceedings of 2nd International Conference on Aspect-Oriented Software Development, ACM, 2003.

The Problem of Crosscutting Concerns

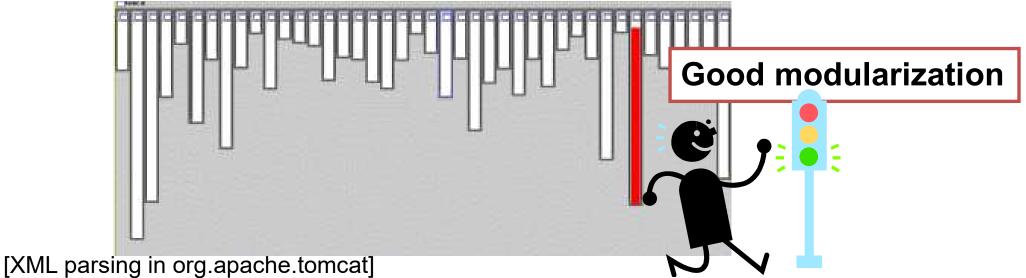


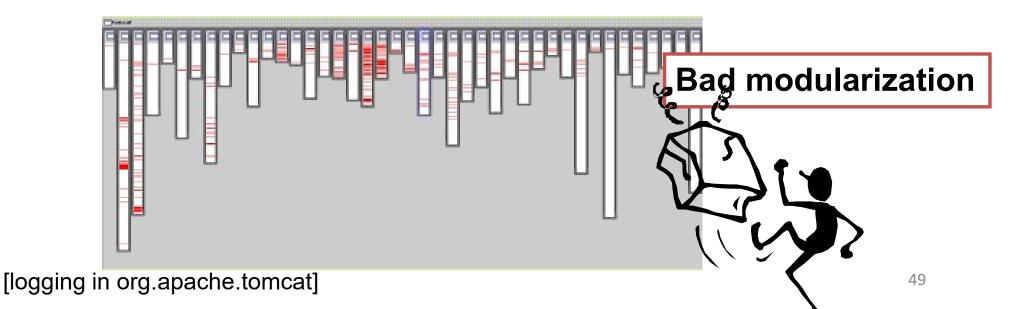
Broadly-scoped concerns

- Distribution, security, real-time constraints, etc.
- Crosscutting in nature
- Severely constrain quality attributes and separation of concerns

Crosscutting Concerns Affect Modularization







Resulting Problems



♦Scattering

 The specification of one property is not encapsulated in a single requirements unit, e.g., a viewpoint, a use case.

Tangling

 Each requirements unit contains descriptions of several properties or different functionalities









Improved ability to reason about problem domain and corresponding solution

- Reduction in application code size, development costs and maintenance time
- ♦ Improved code reuse
- ♦ Requirements, architecture and design-level reuse
- ♦ Improved ability to engineer product lines
- ♦ Context-sensitive application adaptation
- ♦ Improved modelling methods

Crosscutting: The Tracing Concern

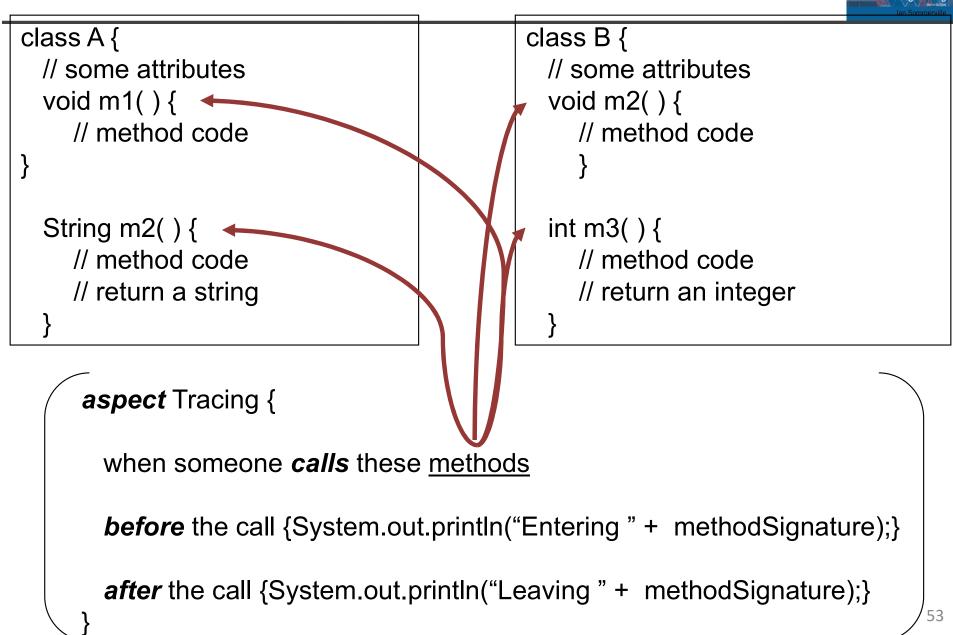


class A { // some attributes void m1() { System.out.println("Entering A.m1()"); // method code System.out.println("Leaving A.m1()"); String m2() { System.out.println("Entering A.m2()"); // method code System.out.println("Leaving A.m2()"); // return a string

	lan Sommerville
class B {	
// some attributes	
void m2() {	
System.out.println("Entering	B.m2(
)");	
// method code	
System.out.println("Leaving	B.m2(
)");	
}	
int m3() {	
System.out.println("Entering	B.m3(
)");	·
// method code	
System.out.println("Leaving	B.m3(
)");	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
// return an integer	
}	·
2	50

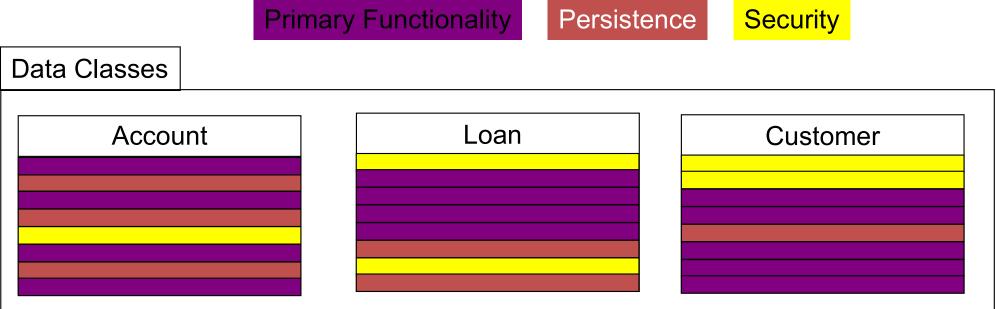
```
Wouldn't it be Nice if ...
```

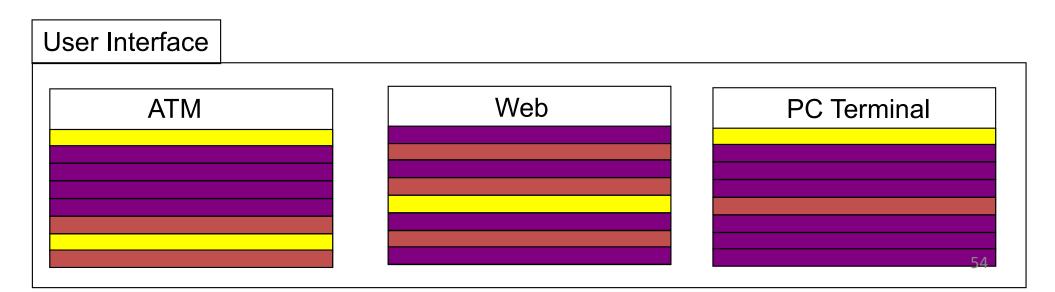




Tangling and Scattering: the Bank Example

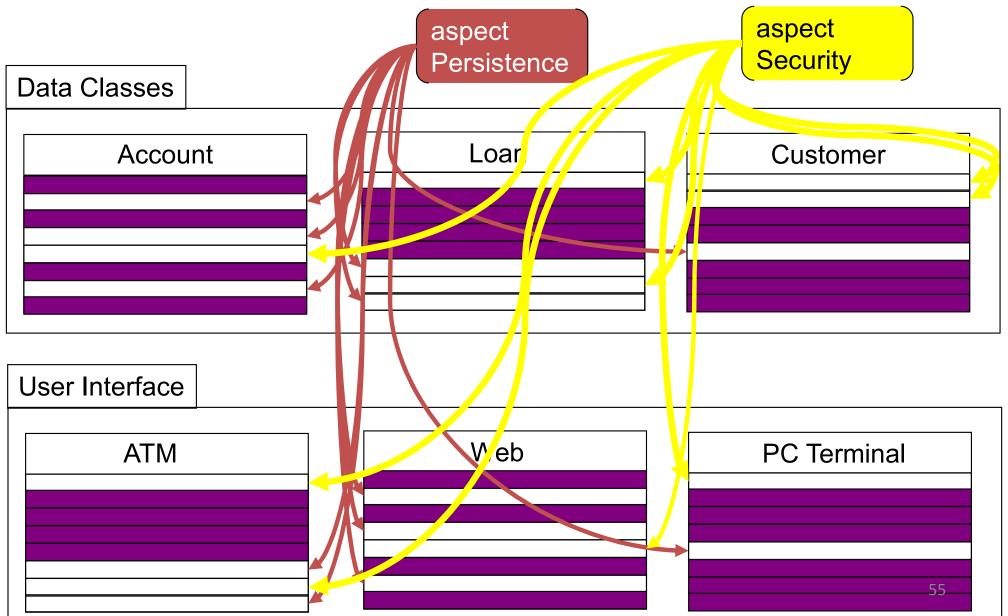






Wouldn't it be Nice if ...







- Abstraction: abstract away from the details of how that crosscutting concern, or *aspect*, might be scattered and tangled with the functionality of other modules in the system
- Modularization: keep crosscutting concerns separated regardless of how they affect or influence various other modules in the system, so then we can reason about each module in isolation – Modular Reasoning

Composition: the various modules need to relate to each other in a systematic and coherent fashion so that one may reason about the global or emergent properties of the system – Compositional Reasoning

Application wrapping



