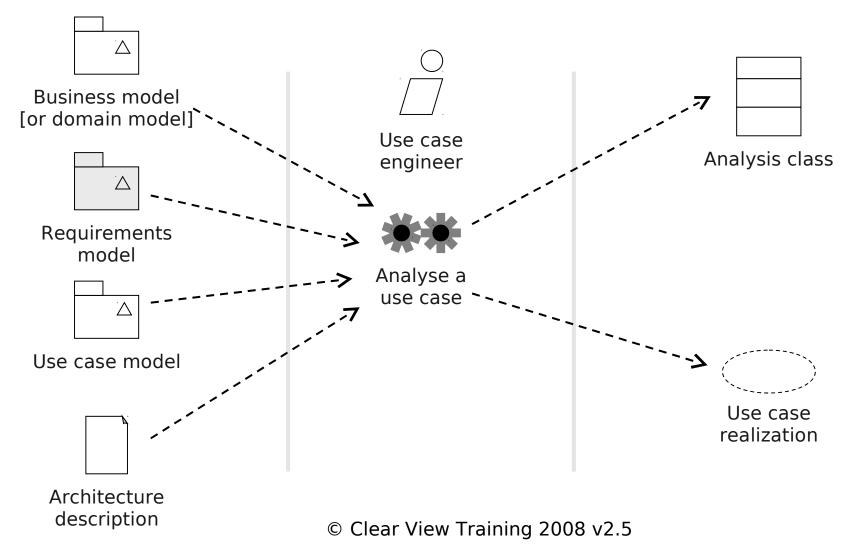


Dr. Jim Arlow, Zuhlke Engineering Limited

# Analysis - finding analysis classes



#### Analyse a use case





## What are Analysis classes?

- Analysis classes represent a crisp abstraction in the problem domain
  - They may ultimately be refined into one or more design classes
- All classes in the Analysis model should be Analysis classes
- Analysis classes have:
  - A very "high level" set of attributes. They indicate the attributes that the design classes might have.
  - Operations that specify at a high level the key services that the class must offer. In Design, they will become actual, implementable, operations.
- Analysis classes must map onto real-world business concepts

class name attributes operations<sup>-1</sup>

BankAccount

name: String address

balance : double

deposit() withdraw() calculateInterest()

We always specify attribute types if we know what they are



# What makes a good analysis class?

- Its name reflects its intent
- It is a crisp abstraction that models one specific element of the problem domain
  - It maps onto a clearly identifiable feature of the problem domain
- It has high cohesion
  - Cohesion is the degree to which a class models a single abstraction
  - Cohesion is the degree to which the responsibilities of the class are semantically related
- It has low coupling
  - Coupling is the degree to which one class depends on others
- Rules of thumb:
  - 3 to 5 responsibilities per class
  - Each class collaborates with others
  - Beware many very small classes
  - Beware few but very large classes
  - Beware of "functoids"
  - Beware of "omnipotent" classes
  - Avoid deep inheritance trees

A responsibility is a contract or obligation of a class - it resolves into operations and attributes

# Finding classes

- Perform noun/verb analysis on documents:
  - Nouns are candidate classes
  - Verbs are candidate responsibilities
- Perform CRC card analysis
  - A brainstorming technique using sticky notes
  - Useful for brainstorming, Joint Application Development (JAD) and Rapid Application development (RAD)
- With both techniques, beware of spurious classes:
  - Look for synonyms different words that mean the same
  - Look for homonyms the same word meaning different things
- Look for "hidden" classes!
  - Classes that don't appear as nouns or as cards

# Noun/verb analysis procedure

- Collect all of the relevant documentation
  - Requirements document
  - Use cases
  - Project Glossary
  - Anything else!
- Make a list of nouns and noun phrases
  - These are candidate classes or attributes
- Make a list of verbs and verb phrases
  - These are candidate responsibilities
- Tentatively assign attributes and responsibilities to classes

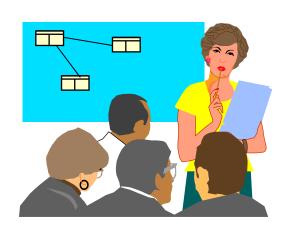


### CRC card procedure

things the class

Class Name: BankAccount					
Responsibilities:	Collaborators:				
Maintain balance	Bank				

things the class works with



- Class, Responsibilities and Collaborators
- Separate information collection from information analysis
  - Part 1: Brainstorm
    - All ideas are good ideas in CRC analysis
    - Never argue about something write it down and analyse it later!
  - Part 2: Analyse information consolidate with noun/verb



#### Other sources of classes

- Physical objects
- Paperwork, forms etc.
  - Be careful with this one if the existing business process is very poor, then the paperwork that supports it might be irrelevant
- Known interfaces to the outside world
- Conceptual entities that form a cohesive abstraction e.g. LoyaltyProgramme



- We've looked at what constitutes a wellformed analysis class
- We have looked at two analysis techniques for finding analysis classes:
  - Noun verb analysis of use cases, requirements, glossary and other relevant documentation
  - CRC analysis

# 1

## Analysis - relationships



### What is a relationship?

- A relationship is a connection between modelling elements
- In this section we'll look at:
  - Links between objects
  - Associations between classes
    - aggregation
    - composition
    - association classes



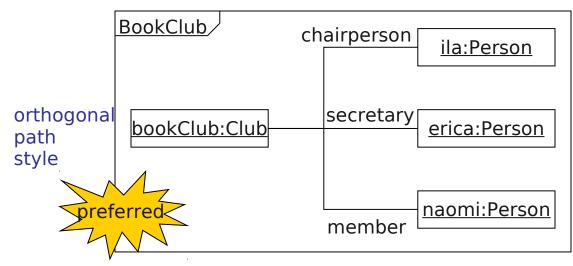
- Links are connections between objects
  - Think of a link as a telephone line connecting you and a friend. You can send messages back and forth using this link
- Links are the way that objects communicate
  - Objects send messages to each other via links
  - Messages invoke operations
- OO programming languages implement links as object references or pointers. These are unique handles that refer to specific objects
  - When an object has a reference to another object, we say that there is a link between the objects



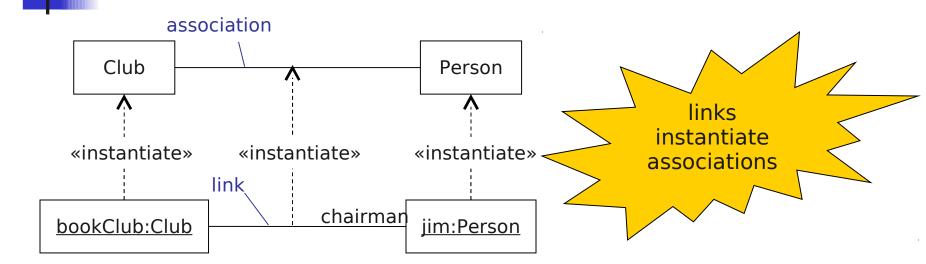
- Paths in UML diagrams (lines to you and me!) can be drawn as orthogonal, oblique or curved lines
- We can combine paths into a tree if each path has the same properties

oblique path style

BookClub	Chairperson	ila:Person	
bookClub:Club	secretary	erica:Person	
object	link	member	naomi:Person



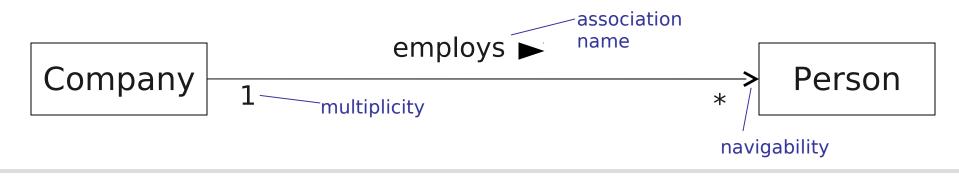
#### What is an association?

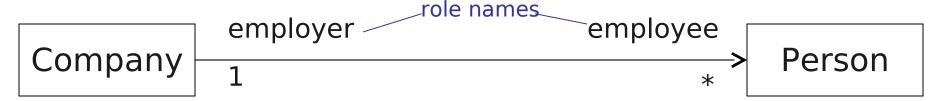


- Associations are relationships between classes
- Associations between classes indicate that there are links between objects of those classes
- A link is an instantiation of an association just as an object is an instantiation of a class



#### Association syntax



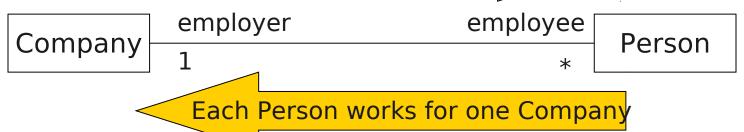


- An association can have role names or an association name
  - It's bad style to have both!
- The black triangle indicates the direction in which the association name is read:
  - "A Company employs many Persons"

## Multiplicity

A Company employs many People





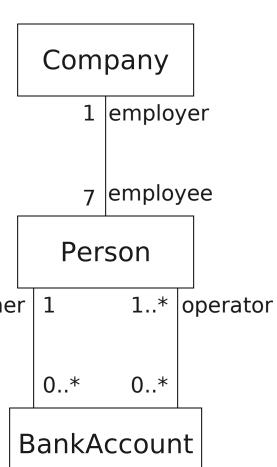
- Multiplicity is a constraint that specifies the number of objects that can participate in a relationship at any point in time
- If multiplicity is not explicitly stated in the model then it is undecided – there is no default multiplicity

multiplicity syntax: minimummaximum				
01	zero or 1			
1	exactly 1			
0*	zero or more			
*	zero or more			
1*	1 or more			
16	1 to 6			



#### Multiplicity exercise

- How many
  - Employees can a Company have?
  - Employers can a Person have?
  - Owners can a BankAccount have?
  - Operators can a BankAccount have?
  - BankAccounts can a Person have?
  - BankAccounts can a Person operate?





#### Exercise

- Model a computer file system. Here are the minimal facts you need:
  - The basic unit of storage is the file
  - Files live in directories
  - Directories can contain other directories
- Use your own knowledge of a specific file system (e.g. Windows 95 or UNIX) to build a model

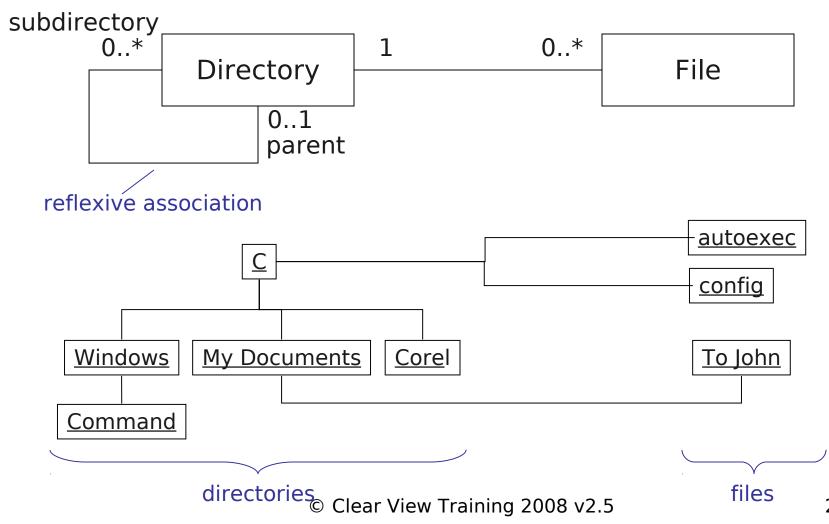




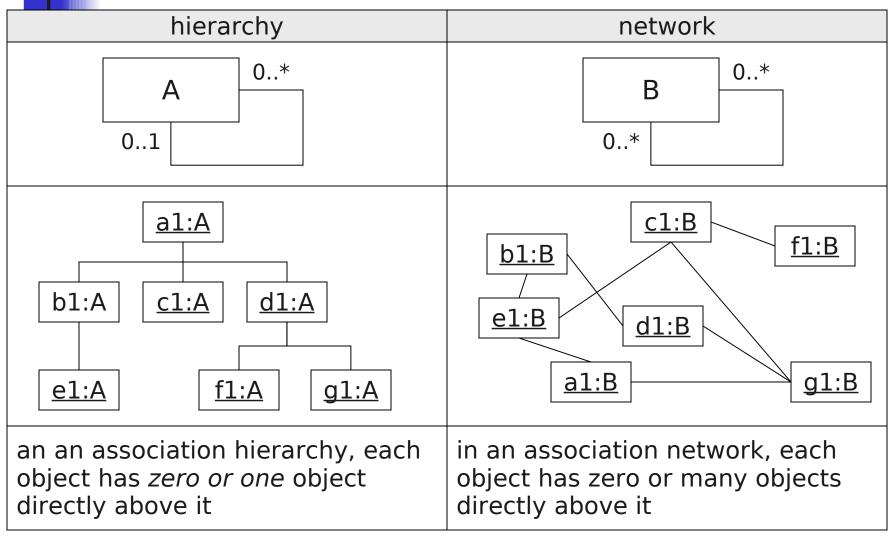
Hint: a class can have an association to itself!



#### Reflexive associations



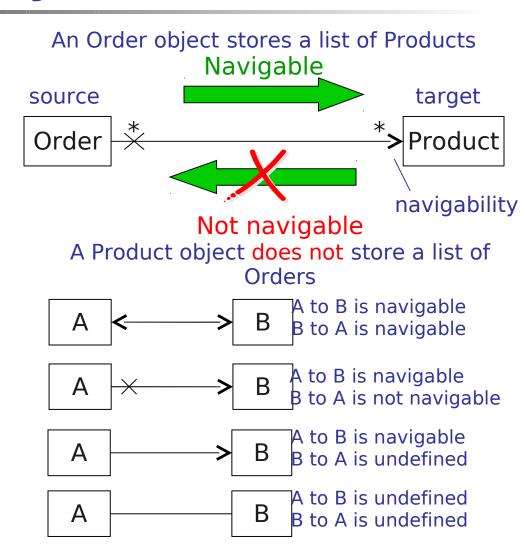
#### Hierarchies and networks





#### Navigability

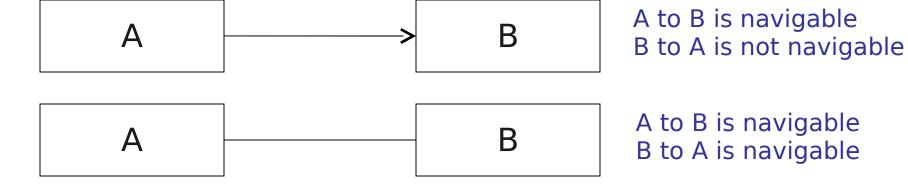
- Navigability indicates that it is possible to traverse from an object of the source class to objects of the target class
  - Objects of the source class may reference objects of the target class using the role name
- Even if there is *no* navigability it might still be possible to traverse the relationship via some indirect means. However the computational cost of the traversal might be very high



# Navigability - standard practice

- Strict UML 2 navigability can clutter diagrams so the UML standard suggests three possible modeling idioms:
  - 1. Show navigability explicitly on diagrams with crosses and arrows
  - 2. Omit all navigability from diagrams
  - 3. Omit crosses from diagrams
    - bi-directional associations have no arrows
    - unidirectional associations have a single arrow
    - you can't show associations that are not navigable in either direction (not useful anyway!)

standard practice







- If a navigable relationship has a role name, it is as though the source class has a pseudoattribute whose attribute name is the role name and whose attribute type is the target class
- Objects of the source class can refer to objects of the target class using this pseudoattribute
- Use associations when:
  - The target class is an important part of the model
  - The target class is a class that you have designed yourself and which must be shown on the model
- Use attributes when:
  - The target class is not an important part of the model e.g. a primitive type such as number, string etc.
  - The target class is just an implementation detail such as a bought-in component or a library component e.g. Java.util.Vector (from the Java standard libraries)



#### Association classes

Company	*	employment	*	Person
				Person

Each Person object can work for many Company objects.

Each Company object can employ many Person objects.

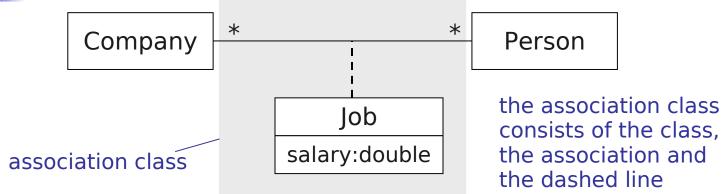
When a Person object is employed by a Company object, the Person has a salary.

#### But where do we record the Person's salary?

- Not on the Person class there is a different salary for each employment
- Not on the Company class different Person objects have different salaries
- The salary is a property of the employment relationship itself
  - every time a Person object is employed by a Company object, there is a salary



#### Association class syntax

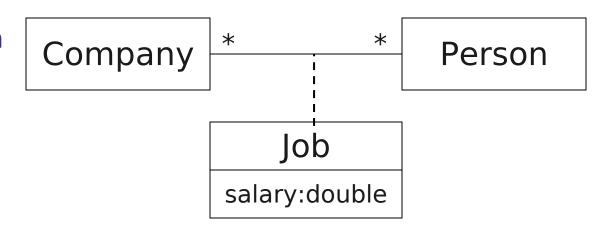


- We model the association itself as an association class. One instance of this class exists for each link between a Person object and a Company object
  - Instances of the association class are links that have attributes and operations
  - Can only use association classes when there is one unique link between two specific objects. This is because the identity of links is determined exclusively by the identities of the objects on the ends of the link
- We can place the salary and any other attributes or operations which are really features of the association into this class



#### Using association classes

If we use an association class, then a particular Person can have only one Job with a particular Company



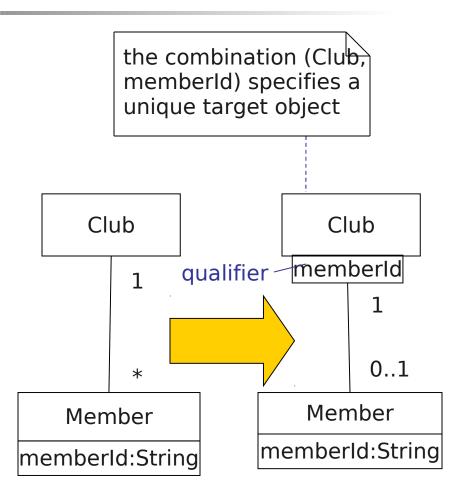
If, however a particular Person can have *multiple* jobs with the same Company, then we must use a *reified* association





#### Qualified associations

- Qualified associations reduce an n to many association to an n to 1 association by specifying a unique object (or group of objects) from the set
- They are useful to show how we can look up or navigate to specific objects
- Qualifiers usually refer to an attribute on the target class





- In this section we have looked at:
  - Links relationships between objects
  - Associations relationships between classes
    - role names
    - multiplicity
    - navigability
    - association classes
    - qualified associations