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FORMAL SPECIFICATION OF AML

MASTER'S THESIS

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Bratislava, 2008

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*Master's Thesis*

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Bratislava, May 2008

I hereby declare that I wrote this thesis by myself,  
only with the help of the referenced literature,  
under the careful supervision of my thesis advisor.

.....

# Acknowledgement

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# Abstract

In our work we present a formal specification of Agent Modeling Language (AML), which was defined in PhD thesis wrote by R. Červenka. It provides precise and unambiguous description of AML, which can help in better understanding of the language, opening the door to its wider applicability and further improvements.

We also show how to formally specify an abstract multi-agent system (MAS) by means of the concepts of AML. This part demonstrates and proves well-formedness of the used concepts and provides a basis for further research in the area of MAS theories and formal specification of agent-based systems.

*Keywords:* AML, Agent Modeling Language, MAS, Multi-Agent Systems, Object-Z, OZ, formal specification.

# Preface

*“Of course, there is no fool-proof methodology or magic formula that will ensure a good, efficient, or even feasible design. For that, the designer needs experience, insight, flair, judgement, invention. Formal methods can only stimulate, guide, and discipline our human inspiration, clarify design alternatives, assist in exploring their consequences, formalize and communicate design decisions, and help to ensure that they are correctly carried out.”*

*C.A.R. Hoare, 1988*

Formal methods are becoming more accepted in both academia and industry as one possible way in which to help improve the quality of both software and hardware systems. It should be remembered however that they are not a panacea, but rather one more weapon in the armory against making design mistakes. Thus we should not expect too much from formal methods, but rather use them to advantage where appropriate. [19]

The work on which this thesis is based involved, mainly, the PhD thesis wrote by R. Červenka [2]. Our thesis started by gathering some background informations about AML, Z and Object-Z notation. Our first goal was to transform the AML specification presented in UML diagrams to Object-Z specification. For this purpose an automatic transformation engine would be an ideal solution. Unfortunately, due to organization problems our effort has not been attended with success, and therefore, we were forced to make the transformation manually using a formal mapping. Secondly, in order to properly comprehend the content of AML, it was necessary to understand its underlying concepts. A formal specification of a model of an abstract multi-agent system was provided to describe them. R. Červenka in [2] writes: “The intention is not to provide a comprehensive metamodel for all aspects and details of a MAS (e.g. detailed architectural design, system dynamics, operational semantics, etc.), but rather to explain the concepts that were used as the underlying principles of AML, and influenced the design of comprised modeling constructs.”

We hope that our work can serve as a basis for more specific investigations in a multi-agent theory.

Bratislava, May 2008

Ján Danč

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## Chapter 1

# Introduction

*“The main approach advocated for making software more reliable is the use of formal, or mathematical, methods of software specification, verification and refinement.”*

— Graeme Paul Smith

*An Object-Oriented Approach to Formal Specification, 1992*

The Agent Modeling Language (AML) [3] is a semi-formal visual modeling language for specifying, modeling and documenting systems that incorporate concepts drawn from multi-agent systems (MAS) theory. It is specified as an extension to UML 2.0, is a consistent set of modeling constructs designed to capture the aspects of multi-agent systems. The ultimate objective for AML is to provide a means for software engineers to incorporate aspects of multi-agent system engineering into their analysis and design processes. Unified Modeling Language (UML) [11] has been developed as a standard language for object-oriented designs. Through its graphical and intuitive diagrams, software analysis and design process become easy. However, this graphical notation lacks precisely defined semantics. It is difficult to determine whether the design is consistent, unambiguous and complete.

This thesis presents a way of formalizing the AML metamodel. It uses a formal transformation mapping between UML models and Object-Z specifications. With this approach, the semantics of AML are directly expressed in formal specification language Object-Z.

We restrict the scope of our work mainly on describing the principles from theory of agent-based systems and MAS. It is assumed that the reader has the necessary background to understand the presented work.

## 1.1 Motivation and Goals of Thesis

The most significant motivation driving the development of AML was the extant need for a ready-to-use, comprehensive, versatile and highly expressive modeling language suitable for the development of commercial software solutions based on multi-agent technologies. To qualify this more precisely, AML was intended to be a language that: (1) is built on proved technical foundations, (2) integrates best practices from agent-oriented software engineering (AOSE) and object-oriented software engineering (OOSE) domains, (3) is well specified and documented, (4) is internally consistent from the conceptual, semantic and syntactic perspectives, (5) is versatile and easy to extend, (6) is independent of any

particular theory, software development process or implementation environment, and (7) is supported by Computer-Aided Software Engineering (CASE) tools. [4]

Motivation behind this thesis is to provide a better insight into multi-agent theory. With a formal specification of AML we will gain access to a deeper understanding of this agent modeling language and also be able to formally describe a multi-agent system on concepts originated in AML.

Formal specification is the first step in the formal development of a software system. It is followed by a series of steps involving verification and refinement which lead to an eventual implementation. The primary role of the formal specification is to provide a precise and unambiguous description of the system as a basis for these subsequent steps. [18]

More about Object-Z and the formal specification can be found in chapters 4 *Object-Z in Shortcut* (p. 4) and 5 *Object-Z and the Formal Mapping* (p. 9).

The goals of this thesis can be summarized as following:

1. Create a formal specification of Agent Modeling Language that provides a precise and unambiguous description of AML and can lead to additional investigation in its improvement.
2. Formally specify an abstract multi-agent system by means of the concepts of AML. This outline can be used in further research in MAS theory.

## 1.2 Structure of Thesis

The remainder of the thesis is structured as follows:

Chapter 2 *Introduction to AML* (p. 3) presents an introduction to Agent Modeling Language. Chapter 3 *Object-Z in Shortcut* (p. 4) forms a brief introduction into formal specifications and Object-Z notation.

*Part I: Solution summary* (p. 6) – This part summarizes the process of getting to the results, which are presented in Part II and Part III. Chapter 4 *Transformation of the AML Metamodel* (p. 7) describes the process of transformation of the AML Metamodel. Chapter 5 *Object-Z and the Formal Mapping* (p. 9) shows the transformation process by means of formal mapping method, and presents an abstract UML class metamodel.

*Part II: Formal Specification of AML* (p. 19) – This part contains formal specification of AML Metamodel using Object-Z specification language. Chapter 6 *Overview of used UML classes* (p. 20) familiarize the reader with an enumeration of UML classes that were used in the second part of this thesis. Chapter 7 *Organization of the AML Specification* (p. 21) captures the overall package structure of AML Metamodel. Chapters 8 *Architecture* (p. 23), 9 *Behaviors* (p. 38), 10 *Mental* (p. 69), 11 *Ontologies* (p. 83), and 12 *Model Management* (p. 85) contain Object-Z specification of all packages from the AML Kernel (Architecture, Behaviors, Mental, Ontologies and Model Management), their sub-packages and metaclasses. In Chapter 13 *UML Extension for AML* (p. 86) are presented the AML-related extensions of UML.

*Part III: Abstract Multi-Agent Framework* (p. 88) - This part presents conceptual AML metamodel originated in [1]. Chapter 14 *Concepts of AML* (p. 89) describes components that form the framework.

*Part IV: Summary of Achievements* (p. 117) - This part provides a summary of the achieved results in chapter 15 *Conclusions and Future Works* (p. 118).

## Chapter 2

# Introduction to AML

The Agent Modeling Language (AML) [2] is a semi-formal visual modeling language for specifying, modeling and documenting systems that incorporate concepts drawn from MAS theory. It was required to overcome the deficiencies of the current state-of-the-art and practice in the area of MAS modeling languages, namely: insufficient documentation of modeling languages, using proprietary and/or non-intuitive modeling constructs, limited scope, mutual incompatibility, insufficient support by CASE tools, etc. AML is intended to be a ready-to-use, complete and highly expressive modeling language suitable for the industrial development of real-world software solutions based on multi-agent technologies.

The starting point of development of AML was to obtain necessary know-how from the area of MAS and agent-oriented modeling in particular. Apart from study relevant theories, specification and modeling approaches, abstract MAS models, technologies, and available agent-based solutions, the main source of inspiration was drawn from existing agent-oriented modeling languages. Based on analysis of the modeled MAS aspect, R. Cervenka in [2] defined the basic MAS modeling concepts and created the MAS metamodel, which forms a conceptual basis for the design of AML.

In combination with the UML 2.0 metamodel, the previously defined MAS concepts were used to define the AML modeling constructs. The abstract syntax and semantics of AML was specified in the AML metamodel. Based on the metamodel the language's notation was also defined and used to specify its concrete syntax. The AML metamodel and notation represent the core of the language specification.

Besides this, the author of [2] also extended the basic set of UML diagram types with additional ones, to provide agent-specific views of the system model. Another achievement of AML is the definition of a set of operators extending the OCL Standard Library [13] with operators from modal logic, deontic logic, temporal logic, dynamic logic, epistemic logic, BDI logic, etc. These operators allow the specification of OCL constraints based on different types of modal family logics that provide more natural, and commonly used, means for specification of MASs.

AML represents a consistent framework for modeling applications that embody and/or exhibit characteristics of multi-agent systems. It integrates best modeling practices and concepts from existing agent oriented modeling and specification languages into a unique framework built on the foundations of UML 2.0 and OCL 2.0. AML is also specified in accordance with the OMG modeling frameworks MOF 2.0 and Model-Driven Architecture (MDA). [1]

For more details we refer the reader to Radovan Cervenka and Ivan Trencansky [1].



## Chapter 3

# Object-Z in Shortcut

G. Smith in [18] writes – “Formal specification is the first step in the formal development of a software system. It is followed by a series of steps involving verification and refinement which lead to an eventual implementation. The primary role of the formal specification is to provide a precise and unambiguous description of the system as a basis for these subsequent steps.”

The uses of a formal specification are basically as following. A formal specification allows the system designer to verify important properties, resolve ambiguities and detect design errors before system development begins. Without a formal specification, a system would have to be extensively tested after implementation. This alternative is not only expensive, since on failing the tests the system may need to be reimplemented, but also can never guarantee reliable behavior.

To enable verification of system properties and refinement towards an implementation, a language for formal specification must be mathematically based. Usually this basis is expressed algebraically or in set theory and logic. A formal specification language must also have a well-defined syntax and semantics. A wide range of formal specification languages have been proposed. Most of these languages can be classified as either property-oriented (e.g. Clear [22], OBJ [23]) or model-oriented (e.g. Z [20], VDM [24]). Property-oriented languages describe a system implicitly by stating its properties whereas model oriented languages construct an explicit model of the system. Some specification languages do not belong to just one of the above classes. For example, the specification language LOTOS [25] has two distinct parts: a process algebra based on CCS and an abstract data type language based on the algebraic specification language ACT ONE [26].

The Object-Z specification language also combines two techniques. Being an extension to Z, it is primarily a state-based language but it also has a temporal logic component used to capture liveness properties.

G. Smith defines Object-Z in [18] as follow – “Object-Z is an extension of Z in which the existing syntax and semantics of Z are retained and new constructs are introduced to facilitate specification in an object-oriented style. The major extension in Object-Z is the class schema which captures the object-oriented notion of a class by encapsulating a single state schema with all the operation schemas which may affect its variables. The class schema is not simply a syntactic extension but also defines a type whose instances are objects.” Briefly said – Object-Z (OZ) is an extension to the ISO-standardized mathematically-based specification language Z [19, 20] that adds support for object-oriented constructs: classes, attributes, operations, object relationships, and inheritance.”



# Part I

## Solution Summary

## Chapter 4

# Transformation of the AML Metamodel

From the beginning of our work we have considered to use automatic conversion of the AML metamodel to OZ schemes. The main benefit from this approach would be correctness, reliability and effectiveness of transformation.

J.G. Süß et al. presents in [6] a practical application of MDA and reverse engineering based on a domain-specific modeling language. A well defined metamodel of a domain-specific language is useful for verification and validation of associated tools. Authors of [6] applied this approach to SIFA<sup>1</sup>, a security analysis tool. SIFA has evolved as requirements have changed and its metamodel was not defined. Hence, testing SIFA's correctness was difficult. A formal metamodeling approach to develop a well-defined metamodel of the domain was introduced. Initially, J.G. Süß et al. developed a domain model in EMF by reverse engineering the SIFA implementation. Then they transformed EMF to Object-Z using model transformation. Finally, they completed the Object-Z model by specifying system behavior. The outcome is a welldefined metamodel that precisely describes the domain and the security properties that it analyses. It also provides a reliable basis for testing the current SIFA implementation and forward engineering its successor.

The common notion of Model-Driven Architecture [12] is one of gradual refinement of models from a platform-independent to a platform-specific model. The starting point of the process is an abstract specification of the system; the destination is an executable system. In [6] is described an experience which runs contrary to that received notion: an existing application is gradually turned into a formal specification: A process of reverse-MDA.

While the authors of [6] used a system specific reverse-MDA, it was sufficient to inspire us to generalize this process for our purpose. Fig. 4.1 shows a generalized reverse-MDA. Existing *System* is converted using reverse engineering into *UML Model* and using XMI parsing into *Object Model*. Once the structure and behavior are known, we can follow to construct formal *Object-Z Model* and its printable L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X representation. In our case, the system stands for the AML metamodel which needs to be transferred into a printable version of its OZ representation. Therefore, we needed to find an acceptable way of doing so.

---

<sup>1</sup>SIFA stands for Security Information Flow Analyser and is a part of an information security project developed by Tim McComb and Luke Wildman.

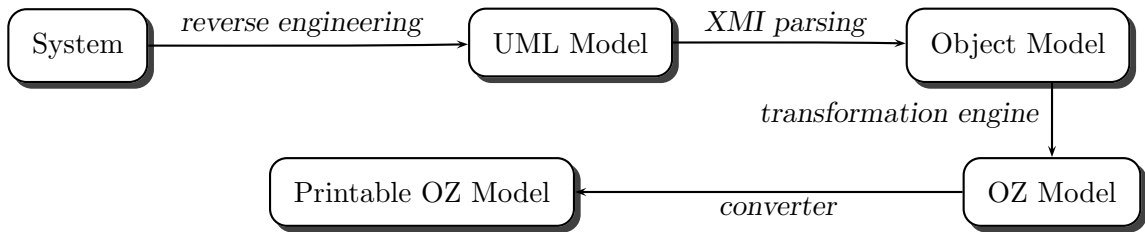


Figure 4.1: Generalized Reverse-MDA

J.G. Süß et al. in their paper needed to build an initial version of their metamodel quickly. Their approach could be described as a toolchain involving Rational Rose and its XML-DTD importer, Eclipse EMF [15] and its Rational Rose importer, the Tefkat QVT transformation engine [16], a text-storage module, and the Community Z Tools (CZT) suite [17]. They reverse-engineered the data structures of their system called SIFA into a UML class diagram, using a DTD-to-UML converter, which generated a model based on an XML DTD Profile and removed the profile to turn the DTD model into a general UML model. This model was visualized in several diagrams and reworked and refined with the aid of SIFA’s author to yield a first draft metamodel. This metamodel was imported into the Eclipse Metamodeling Framework (EMF). They used then model transformation to convert the EMF representation of SIFA into an instance of a metamodel of the Object-Z language. Both Ecore and Object-Z are object-oriented modeling languages and share the common concepts of object-orientation: classes, attributes, operations, object relationships and inheritance. Thus, transformation between the languages was straightforward. The transformation system that was used is DSTC’s Tefkat. Tefkat uses a declarative language which is expressive and backed by a prolog-based solver. Hence its formalism is well-suited to directly encode the formal correspondences between UML static structure models and Object-Z static structure models, as laid out in [7]. The specification was completed by enriching it with a behavioral description. There was also a need to visualize instances of the model. Object-Z is a superset of the Z notation, which has a standard  $\text{\LaTeX}$  concrete syntax. Authors of [6] therefore created a converter from the XMI representation of an Object-Z instance to its  $\text{\LaTeX}$  representation. With a complete and formal domain metamodel whose instances could be converted to  $\text{\LaTeX}$  they were able to tap into the resources of the Object-Z community: the Community Z Tools project (CZT) [17]. Among the CZT tools are editors, textual layout tools for HTML and print-media, a type-checker, and connectors for external model-checking tools. They used CZT to type-check the Object-Z and add more refined constraints and behaviors.

Even thou we were inspired by the aforementioned transformation approach described by J.G. Süß et al., our approach was slightly different. The EMF representation of the AML Metamodel was constructed in Eclipse [15]. Next step would be to use DSTC’s Tefkat transformation engine to obtain Object-Z specification. Since the transformation rules were available only partially, we made contact with Dr. Soon-Kyeong Kim from the University of Queensland in Australia, who helped us with our transformation for a while. But due to organization problems this part of work was not satisfactory finished. There was no other alternative for us – using [5], [6], and [8] we were able to make the transformation manually. As it has been stated above, the transformation between Ecore and Object-Z modeling languages was straightforward, but not exhaustive. We required quite a lot of time to make it complete. Chapter 5 *Object-Z and the Formal Mapping* (p. 9) explains this process in more detail.

## Chapter 5

# Object-Z and the Formal Mapping

This chapter introduces the formal mapping between UML models and Object-Z specifications and explains, how this mapping works.

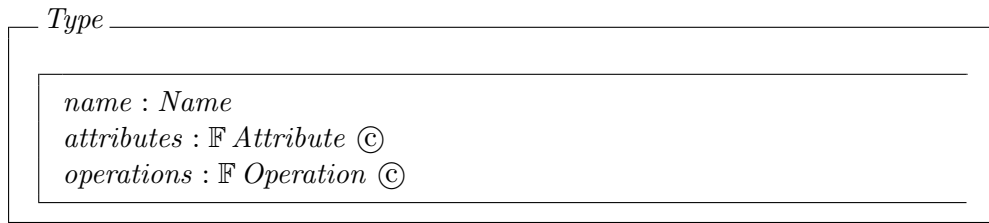
### 5.1 Formal Mapping Between UML Models and Object-Z Specifications

This approach has been presented by Soon-Kyeong Kim and David Carrington in [5]. The goal of their work was to provide a formal basis for the syntactic structures and semantics of UML modeling constructs and to provide a sound mechanism for reasoning about UML models. To achieve this goal, they first gave a formal description for UML modeling constructs using Object-Z classes. Second, they translated UML modeling constructs to Object-Z constructs for a rigorous analysis of UML models. This was achieved by a definition of an abstract metamodel for UML and Object-Z. In the metamodel, the abstract syntax and semantics of core modeling constructs are grouped together into Object-Z classes. For better understanding the UML class diagrams were used to show the structure of both UML and Object-Z modeling constructs. Given the formal description for UML constructs and Object-Z constructs, the UML constructs are translated to Object-Z constructs. The translation process is described formally in terms of mapping functions. The scope of [5] is restricted only to the UML class constructs and class diagrams.

Following schemes represents UML class metamodel and are not equivalent with UML Infrastructure 2.0 defined in [10], but we have decided to add it. We believe that the reader will gain this way a better insight in the Object-Z. All the conditions that refer to [10, 11] (e.g. see section 8.1.2) in the second part of our work have been declared as if the UML 2.0 metamodel in OZ did exist. To our knowledge this didn't happen yet.

[*Name*]

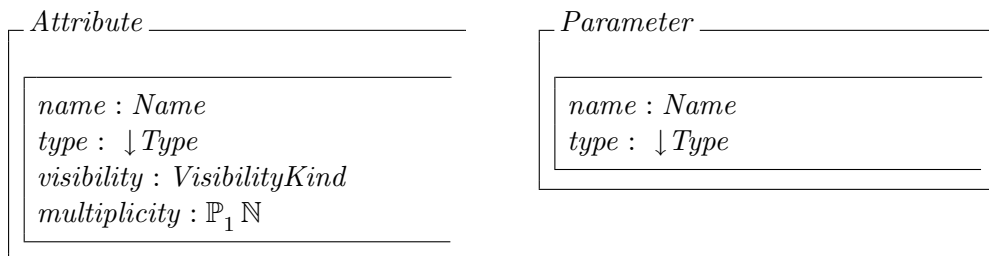
*Name* is a given set from which the names of all classes, attributes, operations, operation parameters, associations and roles are drawn.



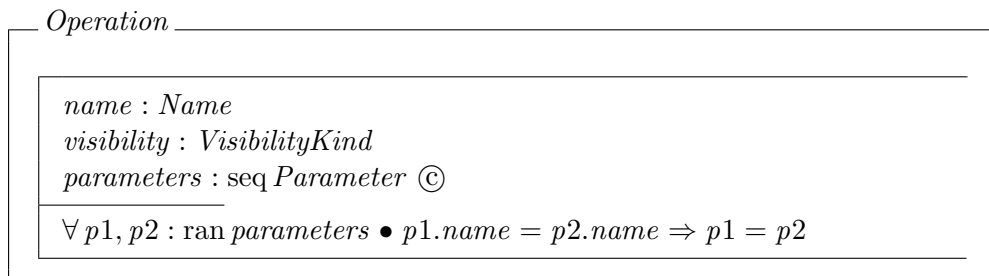
An Object-Z class *Type* is a meta type, from which all possible types in UML such as object types, basic types (integer and string) and so on can be derived. Each type has a name and contains a collection of its own features: attributes and operations. Thus, a circled c, which models a containment relationship in Object-Z is attached to the types of attributes and operations.

$VisibilityKind ::= private \mid public \mid protected$

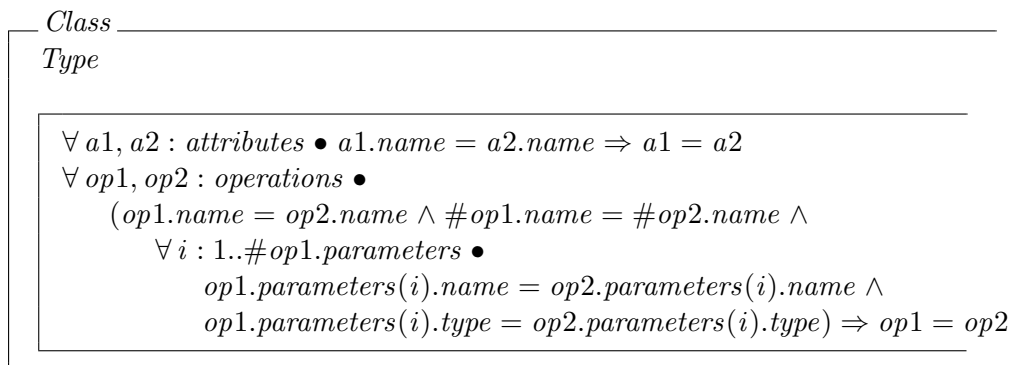
Visibility in UML can be *private*, *public*, or *protected*.



Attributes and parameters are also defined as follows. Variable *multiplicity* in *Attribute* describes the possible number of data values for the attribute that may be held by an instance.



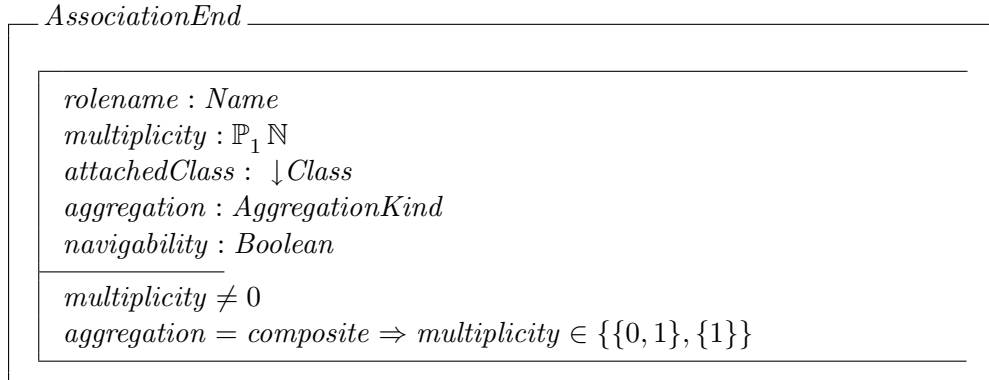
Within an operation, parameter names should be unique.



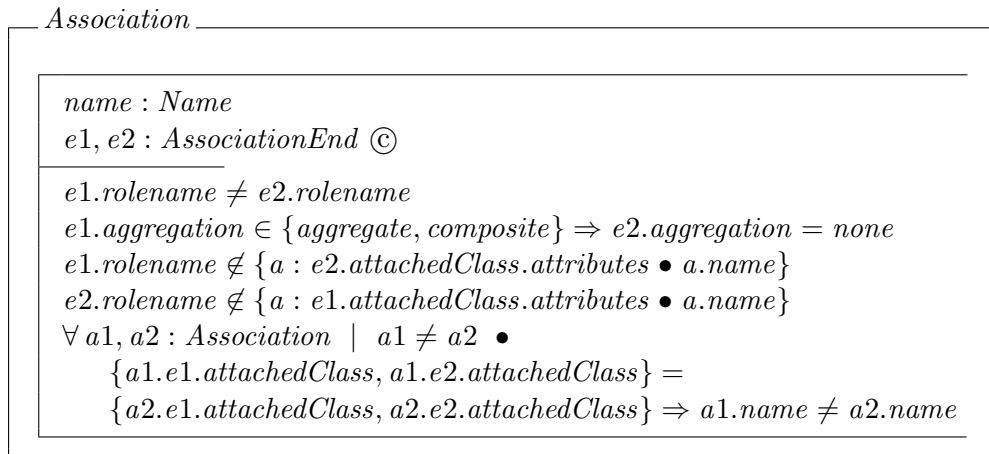
With these classes, we define an Object-Z class *Class* as follows. Since a class is a type, it inherits from *Type*. Attribute names defined in a class should be different and operations should have different signatures. The class invariant formalizes these properties.

$$\textit{Boolean} ::= \textit{true} \mid \textit{false}$$

*Boolean* represents boolean data type.

$$\textit{AggregationKind} ::= \textit{none} \mid \textit{aggregate} \mid \textit{composite}$$


The Object-Z class *AssociationEnd* is a formal description of association ends. It has a role name, a multiplicity constraint, an attached class and attributes for describing aggregation and navigability. The multiplicity constraint describes a range of nonnegative integers denoting the allowable cardinality constraints for instances of the class attached to the other end. The variable aggregation can take the values none, aggregate, or composite. The variable navigability can be true or false. The constraints in the predicate state that a multiplicity cannot be 0 and for composition, the multiplicity of the composite end can be no more than one.



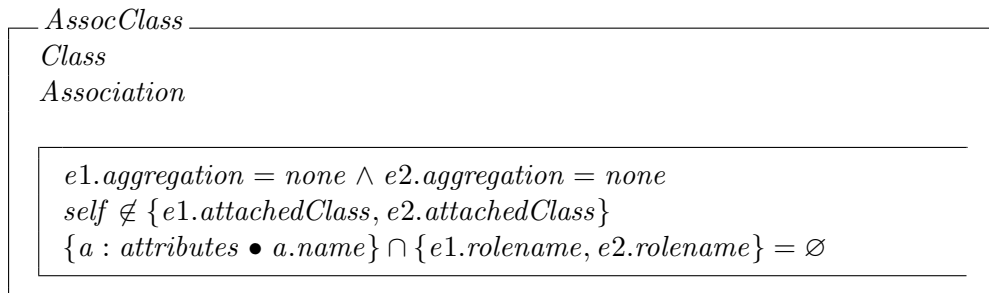
A binary association has a name and exactly two association ends. An Object-Z class *Association* is a formal description of binary associations.

The constraints in the predicate state the core properties of association:

- Each role name must be different.



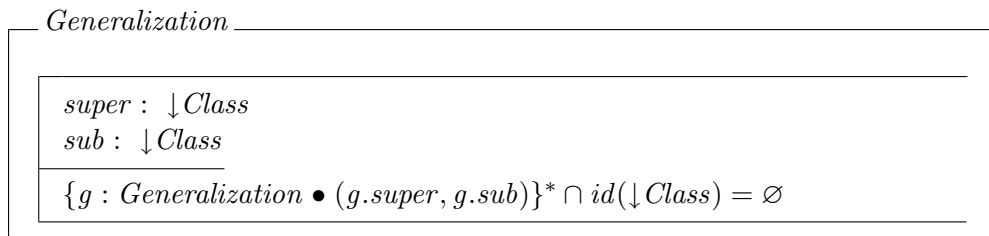
- For aggregation and composition, there should be an aggregate or a composite end and the other end is therefore a part and should have the aggregation value of none. We assume that  $e1$  is the composite or aggregate.
- For an association or an association class, the role name at an association end should be different from the attribute names of the class attached to the other end.
- An association name should be unique in the combination of its attached classes.



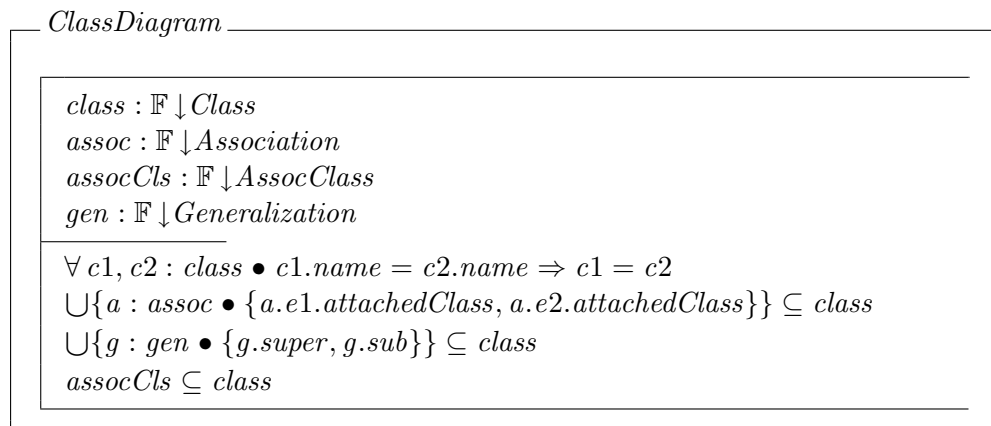
An association class inherits from a class and an association. We define an Object-Z class *AssocClass* inheriting from *Class* and *Association*.

The constraints describe well-formedness rules for association classes:

- the aggregation value of both association ends is none,
- an association class cannot be defined between itself and something else, and
- the role names and the attribute names do not overlap.



In UML, a generalization describes a taxonomic relationship between objects, in which objects of the superclass have general information and objects of the subclasses have more specific information [10, 11]. This relationship is defined with an Object-Z class named *Generalization*. In the class, two variables, *super* and *sub* are declared to represent the superclass and the subclass involved in a generalization. The constraint prohibits any circular inheritance.



A UML class diagram is a collection of classes including association classes, associations and generalizations between these classes. Classes should have unique names within the class diagram. The following Object-Z class is a formal description of UML class diagrams.

The constraints describe that:

- Classes that are involved in associations or association classes should be classes in the diagram.
- Classes involved in generalizations should be classes in the diagram.

The reader looking for more details is referred to [5].

## 5.2 Usage of the Formal Mapping

In this section we show the formal mapping described earlier.

Following review was adopted from David Roe, [8].

The translation of the UML class diagrams (without OCL) into Object-Z structures is presented here using examples based on the UML diagram given in Fig. 5.1.

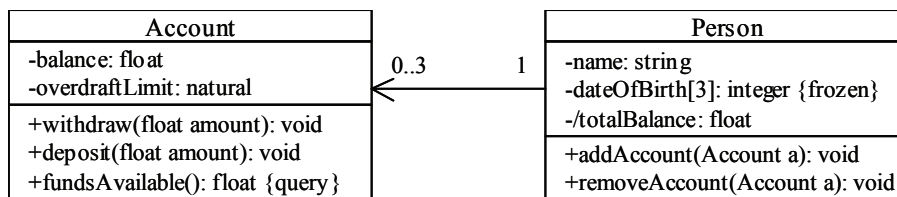


Figure 5.1: An UML class diagram for persons and bank accounts

### 5.2.1 Mapping Classes

Consider the simple UML class diagram of Fig. 5.1. Ordinary UML classes like *Account* and *Person* may be mapped into an Object-Z class construct of the same name, with class features transcribed to the enclosed schemas defining state variables, constants and class operations. Features marked public (+) are included within the class construct visibility list, while those that are unadorned or marked private (−) are not.

### 5.2.2 Mapping Attributes

UML attributes are mapped as variables of the same name, declared within the state schema of the corresponding Object-Z class construct or within the separate constant definition schema when marked with UML's *{frozen}* property string. Attribute type declarations are required for translation to Object-Z, which supports a range of well known domains corresponding to most basic programming types.

User-defined classes may also be employed as types within UML models and Object-Z specifications; for example, a person's *sex* might have been enumerated (male, female) within the UML model corresponding to the definition of a named domain,  $Sex = \{male, female\}$  in Object-Z.

Attributes with multiplicities greater than one may be mapped as finite sequences of the base UML type, combined with a cardinality restriction. A person's *dateOfBirth* attribute therefore corresponds to the declaration of the state variable  $dateOfBirth : seq \mathbb{Z}$  and predicate  $\#dateOfBirth = 3$ . Derived attributes, marked (/) in the UML, are distinguished from primary variables within Object-Z schema through the  $\Delta$  separator.

### 5.2.3 Mapping Operations

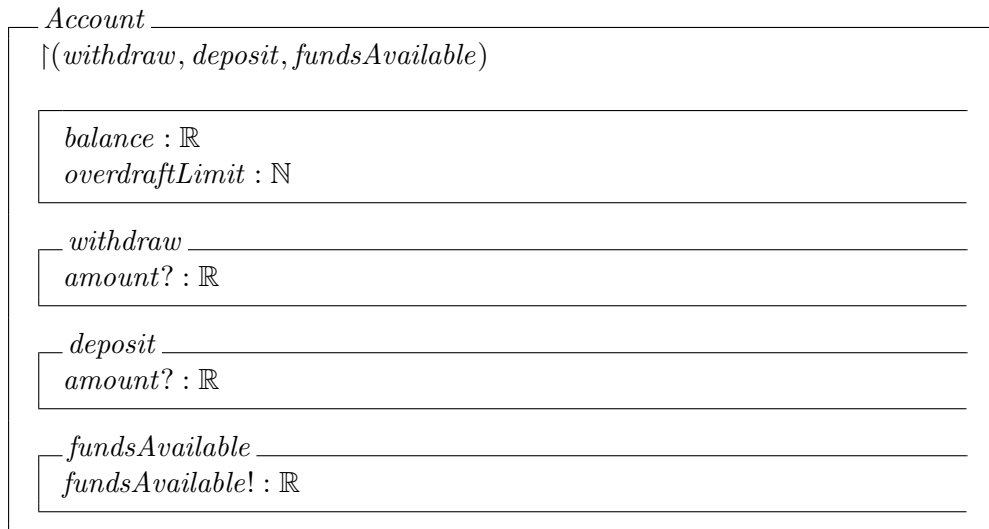
UML class operations may be translated as individual Object-Z operation schema with the same name, with parameters and return values mapped as input and output communication variables adorned (?) and (!) respectively. Although parameter names are optional within the UML, and return values are not named, both must be supplied for the purposes of translation to Object-Z. As with attributes, UML operations marked public are included within the class construct visibility list. Based on the discussion so far, Fig. 5.2 provides a translated class skeleton for class *Account*.

### 5.2.4 Mapping Associations

Associations may be represented through the instantiation of additional state attributes in Object-Z, depending upon the navigability specified across the UML association line. Fig. 5.1 depicts navigability from class *Person* to class *Account*, implying an additional attribute within the Object-Z class *Person*. Its name is mapped from the target class rolename (since none is specified in this example, *account* by default) and its type is the power set of the target class. Bi-directional associations are mapped as if they were two separate uni-directional associations. Association multiplicities are reflected in additional state axioms constraining the size of such sets, in this case  $0 \leq account \leq 3$ . Fig. 5.3 provides a mapping for class *Person*, reflecting the navigable association with class *Account*. The class association management operations are described later.

### 5.2.5 Mapping Aggregation and Composition

Translation of aggregations therefore proceeds much as for ordinary associations, with the compound class construct containing an additional state variable of type power set of the part class. UML composition, by contrast, implies that instances of the part class may belong to just one instance of the compound class. Mapping is straightforward in that Object-Z provides a notational shorthand (©) denoting unshared containment. Composition between an account and the transactions made on that account, for example, may

Figure 5.2: Object-Z class skeleton for class *Account*

be captured through the declaration of a state variable *transactions* : *Transaction* © in the state schema of class *Account*.

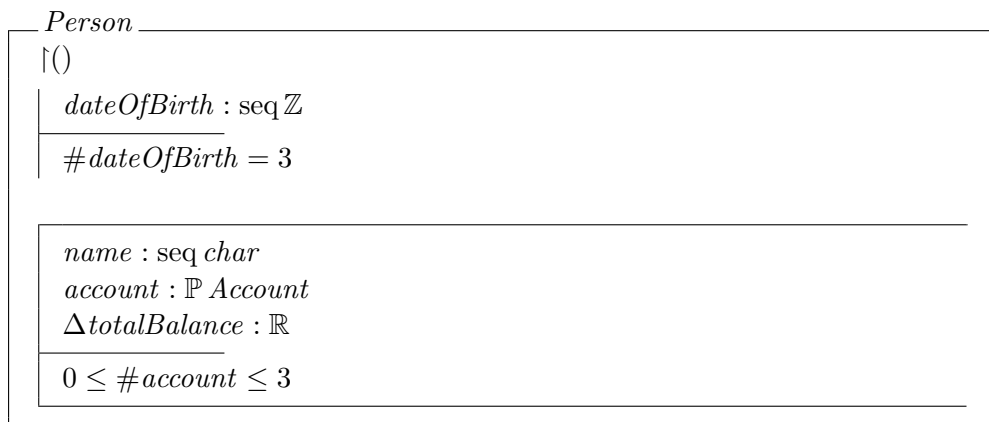


Figure 5.3: An UML class diagram for persons and bank accounts

### 5.2.6 Mapping Association Classes

Association classes permit class like features to be added to UML associations. Such classes may be formalized in Object-Z as described above, but with the addition of two state variables corresponding to the rolenames and types of the classes participating in the association. Depending upon the navigability specified across the association line, the participating class constructs will contain an additional attribute whose type is a power set of the association class, and constrained in size by the multiplicity specified at the opposite association end.

### 5.2.7 Mapping Generalization

Mapping of UML generalization is straightforward in that Object-Z provides a simple notation denoting inheritance, with child classes naming inherited classes just below their visibility list. Specialized subclass features may then be mapped as described earlier.

Fact about inheritance in OZ [21, p. 13]: The visibility list (denoted by  $\uparrow$ ) of a class is not inherited, and must be respecified. Visible features may be removed from the interface, invisible may be made visible. In our work can often be seen  $\uparrow (\dots, list\_of\_visible\_items)$ . Using “...” we state that also the visible items from the parent classes are inherited.

## 5.3 Additional Functions

In this section we present some additional functions that are used mainly in the second part of this thesis.

To define constraints, authors of [1] used in their work the UML 2.0 OCL Specification [13]. In our work we use some similar functions, but first let us present the most important OCL functions:

- *oclIsKindOf* ( $t : OclType$ ) : *Boolean* – The *oclIsKindOf* property determines whether  $t$  is either the direct type or one of the supertypes of an object.
- *conformsTo* ( $c : Classifier$ ) : *Boolean* – The *conformsTo* operation is defined on *Classifier*. It evaluates to true, if the *self Classifier* conforms to the argument  $c$ .
- *oclAsType* ( $OclType$ ) – This operation results in the same object, but the known type is the argument *OclType*. When it is certain that the actual type of the object is the subtype, the object can be re-typed using this operation.
- *includesAll* ( $c2 : Collection(T)$ ) : *Boolean* – This operation answers following question: “Does *self* contain all the elements of  $c2$  ?”

We use similar functions in our OZ specification of AML:

- *isKindOf* :  $\downarrow OZType \times \downarrow OZType \rightarrow Boolean$  – Function determines whether the value in first argument is either the direct type or one of the supertypes of the second argument.
- *conformsTo* :  $\downarrow Classifier \times \downarrow Classifier \rightarrow Boolean$  – Function determines whether the value in first argument conforms to value in second argument.
- *asType* :  $\downarrow OZType \times \downarrow OZType \rightarrow \downarrow OZType$  – This function re-types type given in the first argument to type given in second argument and returns modified type. See *oclAsType* operation.
- *includesAll* :  $\downarrow Collection \times \downarrow Collection \rightarrow Boolean$  – Function determines whether the collection given in first attribute contains all elements from the second collection.

For instance,  $roleAttribute = self.ownedAttribute \rightarrow select(oclIsKindOf(RoleProperty))$  can be expressed in OZ as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \forall ra : roleAttribute \bullet \\ \forall oa : self.ownedAttribute \mid isKindOf(oa, RoleProperty) = true \bullet \\ ra = oa \end{aligned}$$

The *roleAttribute* is equal to all *ownedAttributes* that are of the kind *RoleProperty*. In OZ we express this fact similar. We say, that all *roleAttribute* objects are equal to all *ownedAttribute* objects, which are of the kind *RoleProperty*. As we can see, the *isKindOf* function is used in similar way as the *oclIsKindOf* function. The only difference is the first argument.

The  $\downarrow OZType$  comes from the Object-Z metamodel defined by Soon-Kyeong Kim and David Carrington in [5]. It is an abstract class from which all possible types in Object-Z can be derived. Meaning of  $\downarrow$  notation can be explained as follows – “In Object-Z, a variable can be declared, explicitly, to be an object of any class in a particular inheritance hierarchy. For example, if  $C$  is a class then the declaration  $c : \downarrow C$  declares the object  $c$  to be of class  $C$  or any class derived from  $C$  by inheritance.” [18]

The *Classifier* and *Collection* types are defined in [10, 11].

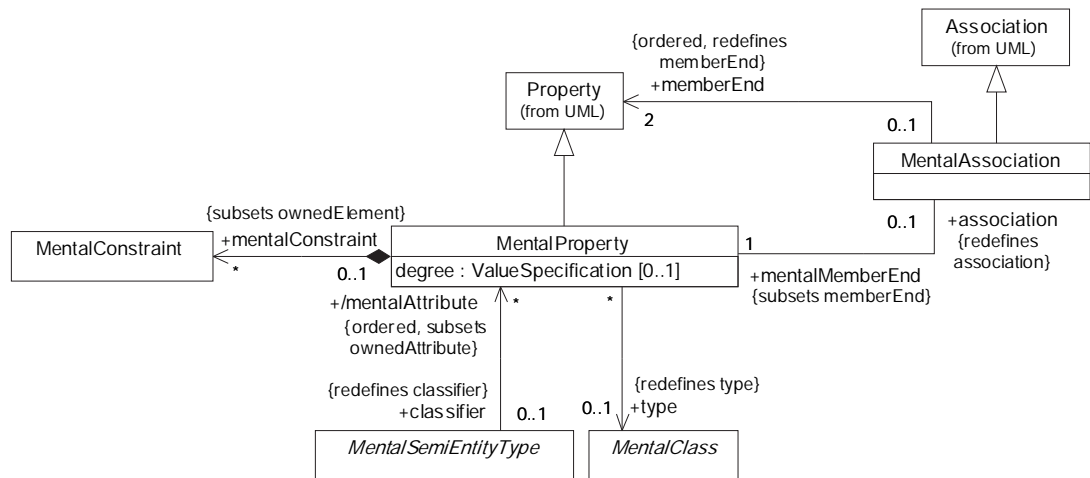
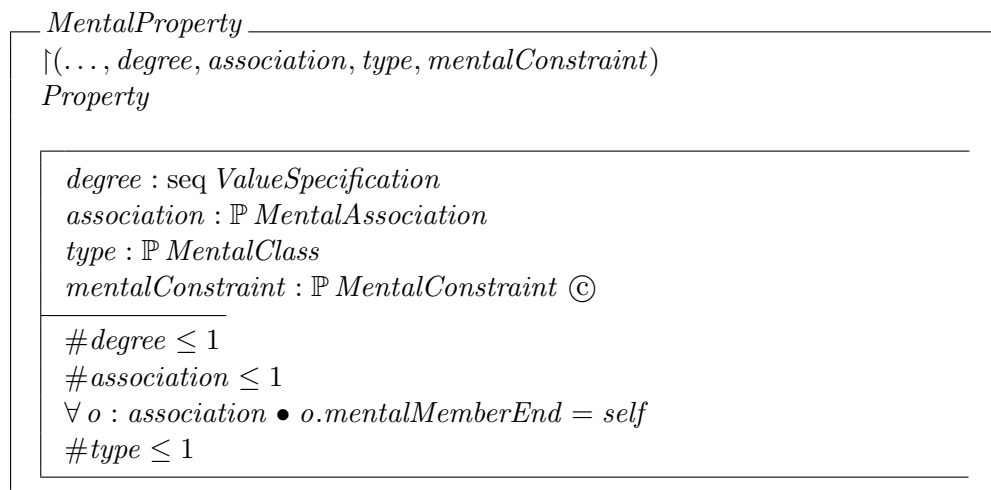
As was stated before, to present the complete OZ specification of AML, we would require the UML metamodel in OZ, but this specification is provided only partially and mainly is not defined as in [10, 11]. In this chapter (section 5.1, p. 9) we already presented such metamodel. Also, to define the afore mentioned functions, we would need to refer to the Object-Z metamodel. There exists a specification, which can be found in [5]. But to make things work properly, we would need greatly to extend our work. Naturally, this would lead us beyond the scope of this thesis.

## 5.4 Example of Mapping

Figure 5.4 shows a *MentalProperty* class (section 10.1.8, p. 73) in the AML Metamodel [1, p. 268].

Using the formal mapping we can transform this UML class diagram into following OZ schema (Fig. 5.5). The  $\forall o : association \bullet o.mentalMemberEnd = self$  condition in *MentalProperty* and the  $\forall o : mentalMemberEnd \bullet o.association \in self$  condition in *MentalAssociation* (section 10.1.9, p. 74) ensure the consistency of the bi-directional relationship.

For a complete definition of *MentalProperty* class containing also mapped OCL constraints, we refer the reader to section 10.1.8 on page 73.

Figure 5.4: *MentalProperty* class in AML MetamodelFigure 5.5: *MentalProperty* class schema without mapped OCL constraints

## Part II

# Formal Specification of AML



## Chapter 6

# Overview of used UML classes

The following classes of the UML 2.0 metamodel were used in our formal specification of AML. Boldly are marked partially defined metaclasses that can be found in section 5.1 on page 9, but they mainly serve for demonstrative purposes and are, as we have notified (section 5.1, p. 9), not equivalent with UML 2.0 metamodel [10]. The reader is at this place referenced to [10,11] for more details. We also remind him that in this work all UML metaclasses were used as if they would be specified and would correspond to [10,11].

AcceptEventAction,	AddStructuralFeatureValueAction,	Activity,
Actor,	BehavioralFeature,	Behavior,
<b>Association,</b>	BehavioredClassifier,	CallOperationAction,
<b>Class,</b>	Constraint,	CreateObjectAction,
Dependency,	DestroyObjectAction,	DirectedRelationship,
EventOccurrence,	ExecutionEnvironment,	Expression,
InputPin,	Interaction,	InteractionFragment,
Lifeline,	Message,	MultiplicityElement,
NamedElement,	Namespace,	<b>Operation,</b>
OutputPin,	Package,	<b>Parameter,</b>
Port,	Property,	Realization,
RedefinableElement,	RedefinableTemplateSignature,	SendObjectAction,
State,	TemplateParameter,	Trigger,
<b>Type,</b>	Usage,	ValueSpecification.

## Chapter 7

# Organization of the AML Specification

In order to improve the readability and comprehension of the specification, the AML Metamodel is organized according to a hierarchy of packages which group either further (sub)packages or metaclasses that logically fit together. All the AML metaclasses are defined only within the packages on the lowest level of the package hierarchy, i.e. within packages that do not contain further subpackages.

The second part of this thesis is organized as follow:

- Chapters *8 Architecture* (p. 23), *9 Behaviors* (p. 38), *10 Mental* (p. 69), Chapters *11 Ontologies* (p. 83), and *12 Model Management* (p. 85) hold these conventions:
  - Each chapter represents a package from AML Metamodel package (see Fig. 7.1).
  - Each section stands for a package on the lowest level of package hierarchy.
- Chapter *13 UML Extension for AML* (p. 86) fulfil similar precondition:
  - Each chapter stands for a package on the lowest level of package hierarchy.
- Each section is described in following matter:
  - A short informal definition of the metaclass.
  - A brief explanation of the reasons why a given metaclass is defined within AML.
  - A formal specification of presented AML metaclass depicted in a schema-like form.
  - A natural language explanation of presented Object-Z class schema.

The AML Metamodel is logically structured according to the various aspects of MAS abstractions. All packages and their content are described in the following chapters. The overall package structure of the AML metamodel is depicted in Fig. 7.1.

The structure of this chapter has been mainly inspired by [1], which serves as a rational reference between our work and [1, *Part III: AML Specification*].

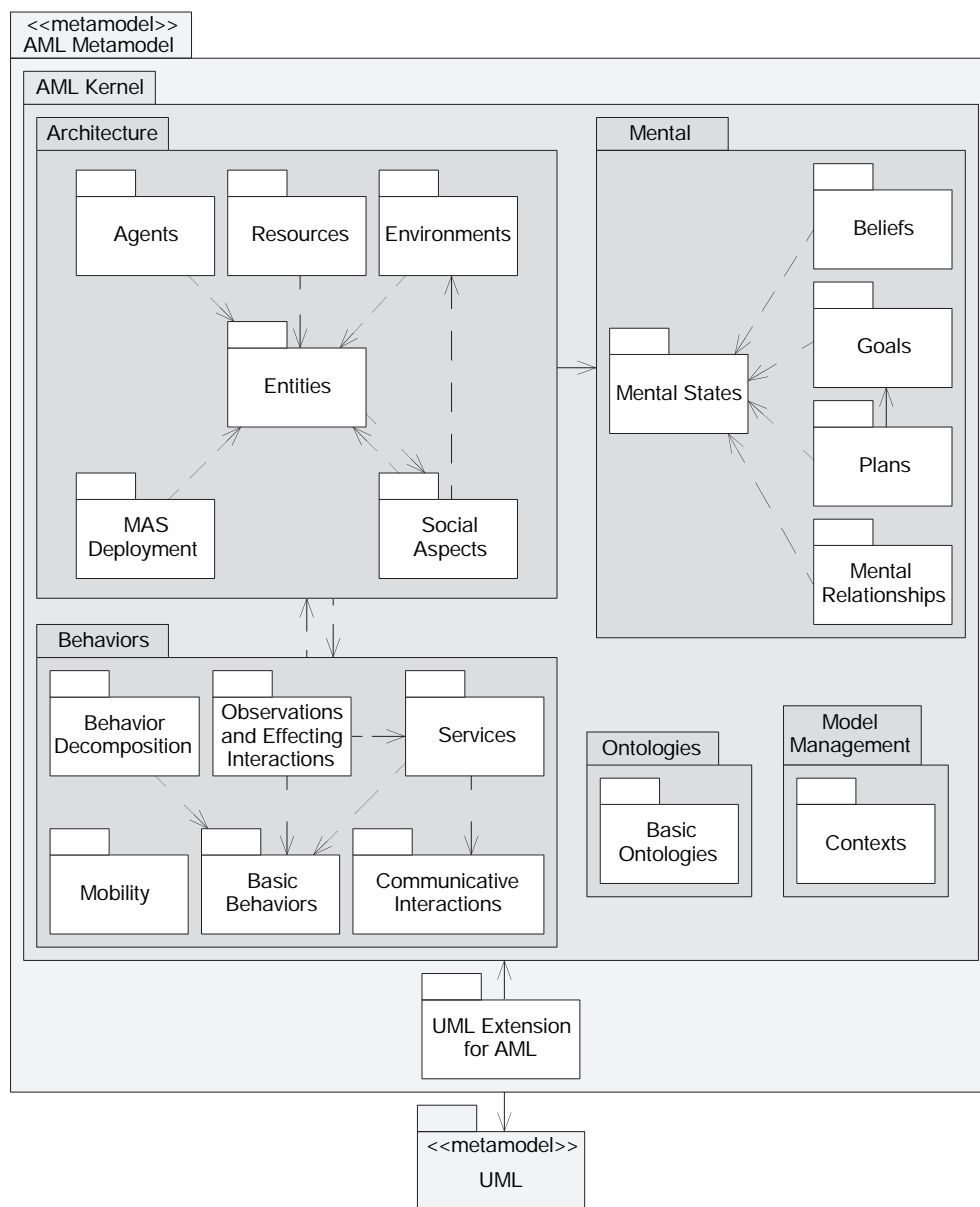


Figure 7.1: Overall package structure of the AML metamodel

## Chapter 8

# Architecture

The *Architecture* package defines the metaclasses used to model architectural aspects of multi-agent systems.

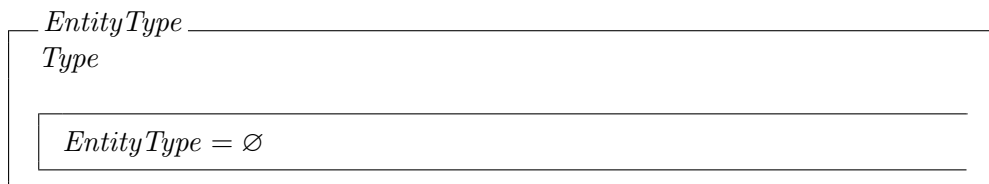
### 8.1 Entities

The *Entities* package defines a hierarchy of abstract metaclasses that represent different kinds of AML entities. Entities are used to further categorize concrete AML metaclasses and to define their characteristic features.

#### 8.1.1 EntityType

*EntityType* is an abstract specialized *Type* (from UML). It is a superclass to all AML modeling elements which represent types of entities of a multi-agent system. Entities are understood to be objects, which can exist in the system independently of other objects, e.g. agents, resources, environments. *EntityTypes* can be hosted by *AgentExecution-Environments* (section 8.6.1, p. 34), and can be mobile (section 9.6.3, p. 66). For more details see [1, p. 138].

*EntityType* is introduced to allow explicit modeling of entities in the system, and to define the features common to all its subclasses.

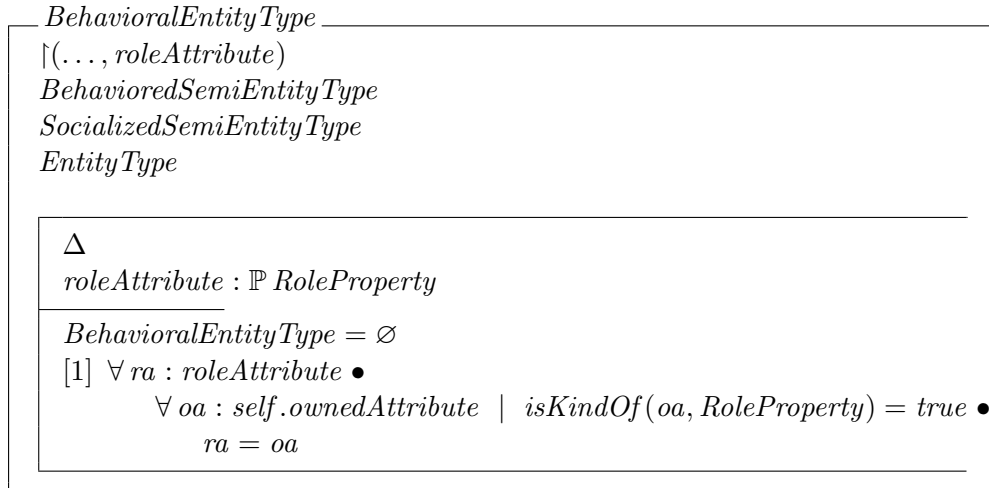


*EntityType* is an abstract Object-Z class, which inherits from *Type*. Abstractness is expressed in following condition in the state schema:  $EntityType = \emptyset$ . In Object-Z class types are interpreted as disjoint sets of object identities, where such identities represent possible unique instantiations. By default there are an infinite (although countable) number of possible instantiations of classes because these sets are unbounded, but above *EntityType* is constrained to be empty ( $\emptyset$  is the empty set). This ensures that *EntityType* cannot be instantiated.

### 8.1.2 BehavioralEntityType

*BehavioralEntityType* is an abstract specialized *EntityType* used to represent types of entities which have the features of *BehavioredSemiEntityType* and *SocializedSemiEntityType*, and can play entity roles (see sections 8.5.6 and 8.5.7). Instances of *BehavioralEntityTypes* are referred to as behavioral entities. For more details see [1, p. 138].

*BehavioralEntityType* is introduced to define the features common to all its subclasses.

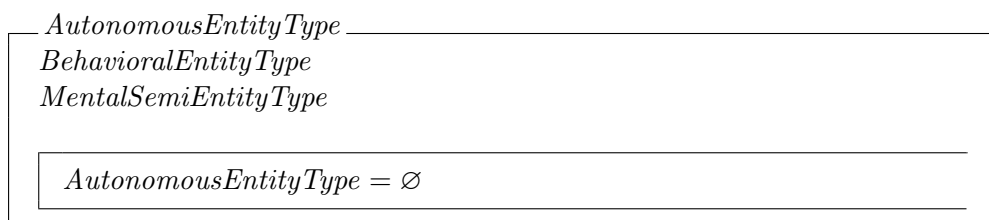


*BehavioralEntityType* is an abstract Object-Z class that inherits from *EntityType*, *BehavioredSemiEntityType*, and *SocializedSemiEntityType*. It comprises of *roleAttribute*, which is derived attribute. In Object-Z all attributes below  $\Delta$  are derived attributes. Invariant [1] formalizes the fact, that all *roleAttribute* instances are equal to all *ownedAttributes* instances that are of *RoleProperty* kind.

### 8.1.3 AutonomousEntityType

*AutonomousEntityType* is an abstract specialized *BehavioralEntityType* and *MentalSemiEntityType* used to model types of self-contained entities that are capable of autonomous behavior in their environment, i.e. entities that have control of their own behavior, and act upon their environment according to the processing of (reasoning on) perceptions of that environment, interactions and/or their mental attitudes. There are no other entities that directly control the behavior of autonomous entities. *AutonomousEntityType*, being a *MentalSemiEntityType*, can be characterized in terms if its mental attitudes, i.e. it can own *MentalProperties*. Instances of *AutonomousEntityTypes* are referred to as autonomous entities. For more details see [1, p. 139].

*AutonomousEntityType* is introduced to allow explicit modeling of autonomous entities in the system, and to define the features common to all its subclasses.



Object-Z abstract class *AutonomousEntityType* inherits from *BehavioralEntityType* and *MentalSemiEntityType* classes.

## 8.2 Agents

The *Agents* package defines the metaclasses used to model agents in multi-agent systems.

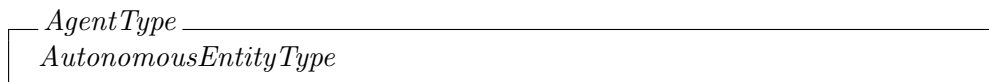
### 8.2.1 AgentType

*AgentType* is a specialized *AutonomousEntityType* used to model a type of *agents*, i.e. self-contained entities that are capable of autonomous behavior within their environment. An agent (instance of an *AgentType*) is a special object (which the object-oriented paradigm defines as an entity having identity, status and behavior; not narrowed to an object-oriented programming concept) having at least the following additional features:

- *Autonomy*, i.e. control over its own state and behavior, based on external (reactivity) or internal (proactivity) stimuli, and
- *Ability to interact*, i.e. the capability to interact with its environment, including perceptions and effecting actions, speech act based interactions, etc.

*AgentType* can use all types of relationships allowed for UML Class, for instance, associations, generalizations, or dependencies, with their standard semantics, as well as inherited AML-specific relationships described in further sections. For more details see [1, p. 140].

*AgentType* is introduced to model types of agents in multi-agent systems.



Object-Z class *AgentType* inherits from *AutonomousEntityType*.

## 8.3 Resources

The *Resources* package defines the metaclasses used to model resources in multi-agent systems.

### 8.3.1 ResourceType

*ResourceType* is a specialized *BehavioralEntityType* used to model types of resources contained within the system. A *resource* is a physical or an informational entity, with which the main concern is its availability and usage (e.g. quantity, access rights, conditions of consumption). For more details see [1, p. 142].

*ResourceType* is introduced to model types of resources in multiagent systems.



*Resource* is an Object-Z class that inherits from *BehavioralEntityType* class.

## 8.4 Environments

The *Environments* package defines the metaclasses used to model system internal environments (for definition see section 8.4.1) of multi-agent systems.

### 8.4.1 EnvironmentType

*EnvironmentType* is a specialized *AutonomousEntityType* used to model types of environments, i.e. the logical and physical surroundings of entities which provide conditions under which those entities exist and function. *EnvironmentType* thus can be used to define particular aspects of the world which entities inhabit, its structure and behavior. It can contain the space and all the other objects in the entity surroundings, and also those principles and processes (laws, rules, constraints, policies, services, roles, resources, etc.) which together constitute the circumstances under which entities act. As environments are usually complex entities, different *EnvironmentTypes* are usually used to model different aspects of an environment. From the point of view of the (multi-agent) system modeled, two categories of environments can be recognized:

- *system internal environment*, which is a part of the system modeled, and
- *system external environment*, which is outside the system modeled and forms the boundaries onto that system.

The *EnvironmentType* is used to model system internal environments, whereas system external environments are modeled by *Actors* (from UML). An instance of the *EnvironmentType* is called *environment*. For more details see [1, p. 143].

*EnvironmentType* is introduced to model particular aspects of the system internal environment.



*EnvironmentType* is a specialized *AutonomousEntityType* class.

## 8.5 Social Aspects

The *Social Aspects* package defines metaclasses used to model abstractions of social aspects of multi-agent systems, including structural characteristics of socialized entities and certain aspects of their social behavior.

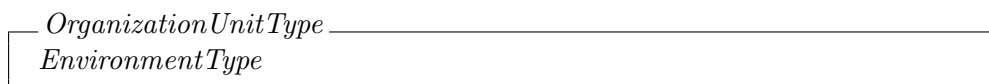
### 8.5.1 OrganizationUnitType

*OrganizationUnitType* is a specialized *EnvironmentType* used to model types of organization units, i.e. types of social environments or their parts. An instance of the *OrganizationUnitType* is called *organization unit*. From an *external perspective*, organization units represent coherent autonomous entities which can have goals, perform behavior, interact with their environment, offer services, play roles, etc. Properties and behavior of organization units are both:

- emergent properties and behavior of all their constituents, their mutual relationships, observations and interactions, and
- the features and behavior of organization units themselves.

From an *internal perspective*, organization units are types of environments that specify the social arrangements of entities in terms of structures, interactions, roles, constraints, norms, etc. For more details see [1, p. 147].

*OrganizationUnitType* is introduced to model types of organization units in multi-agent systems.



Object-Z class *OrganizationUnitType* inherits from *EnvironmentType* class.

### 8.5.2 SocializedSemiEntityType

*SocializedSemiEntityType* is an abstract specialized *Class* (from UML), a superclass to all metaclasses which can participate in *SocialAssociations* and can own *SocialProperties*. There are two direct subclasses of the *SocializedSemiEntityType*: *BehavioralEntityType* and *EntityRoleType*. *SocializedSemiEntityTypes* represent modeling elements, which would most likely participate in *CommunicativeInteractions*. Therefore they can specify meta-attributes related to the *CommunicativeInteractions*, particularly: a set of agent communication languages (*supportedAcl*), a set of content languages (*supportedCl*), a set of message content encodings (*supportedEncoding*), and a set of ontologies (*supportedOntology*) they support. This set of meta-attributes can be extended by AML users if needed. Instances of *SocializedSemiEntityTypes* are referred to as *socialized semi-entities*. For more details see [1, p. 149].

*SocializedSemiEntityType* is introduced to define the features common to all its subclasses.



<p><i>SocializedSemiEntityType</i></p> <p><math>\{(\dots, supportedAcl, supportedCl, supportedEncoding, supportedOntology, socialAttribute)</math>  <i>Class</i></p>
<p><i>supportedAcl</i> : seq <i>ValueSpecification</i>  <i>supportedCl</i> : seq <i>ValueSpecification</i>  <i>supportedEncoding</i> : seq <i>ValueSpecification</i>  <i>supportedOntology</i> : seq <i>ValueSpecification</i>  <math>\Delta</math>  <i>socialAttribute</i> : <math>\mathbb{P}</math> <i>SocialProperty</i></p>
<p><i>SocializedSemiEntityType</i> = <math>\emptyset</math>  [1] <math>\forall sa : socialAttribute \bullet</math>  <math>\quad \forall oa : self.ownedAttribute \mid isKindOf(oa, SocialProperty) = true \bullet</math>  <math>\quad \quad sa = oa</math></p>

*SocializedSemiEntityType* is an abstract Object-Z class, that inherits from *Class*. All *SocializedSemiEntityType*'s attributes are visible (they all belong in the visibility list). Invariant [1] formalizes the fact, that all *socialAttribute* instances are equal to all *ownedAttributes* instances that are of *SocialProperty* kind.

### 8.5.3 SocialProperty

*SocialProperty* is a specialized *ServicedProperty* used to specify social relationships that can or must occur between instances of its type and:

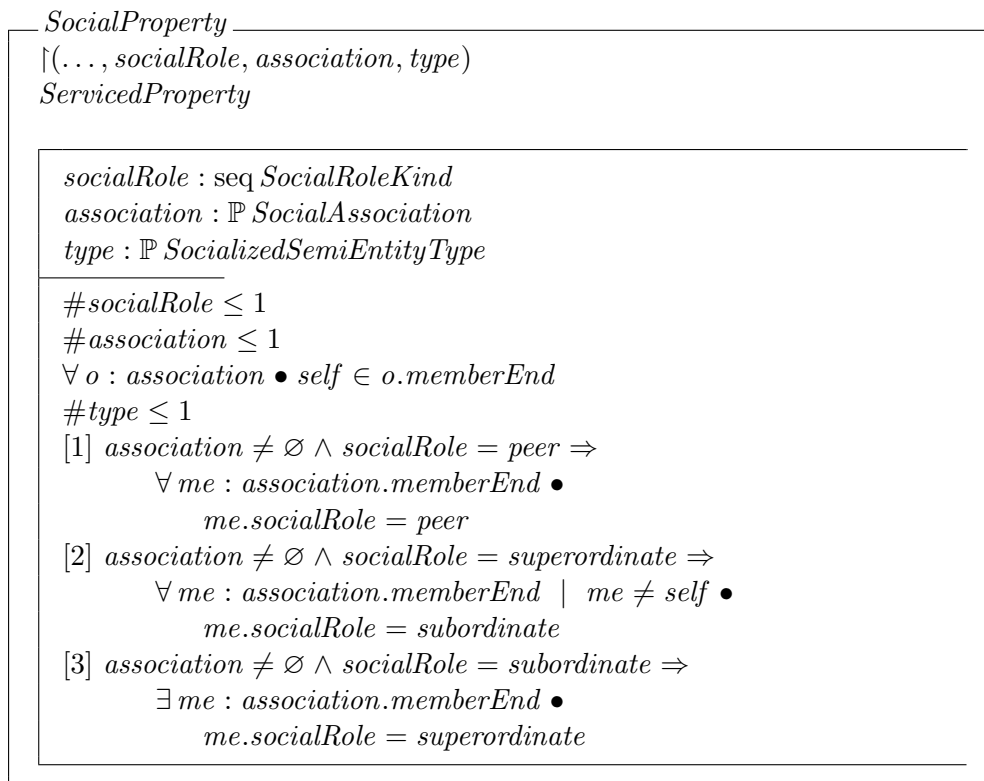
- instances of its owning class (when the *SocialProperty* is an attribute of a *Class*), or
- instances of the associated class (when the *SocialProperty* is a member end of an *Association*).

*SocialProperty* can be only of a *SocializedSemiEntityType* type. *SocialProperties* can be owned only by:

- *SocializedSemiEntityTypes* as attributes, or
- *SocialAssociations* as member ends.

When a *SocialProperty* is owned by a *SocializedSemiEntityType*, it represents a *social attribute*. In this case the *SocialProperty* can explicitly declare a social role of its type in regard to the owning class. For more details see [1, p. 151].

*SocialProperty* is introduced to model social relationships between entities in multi-agent systems.



*SocialProperty* class inherits from *ServicedProperty*. The size of *socialRole* and *association* set is at most one. The attribute *association* in the *SocialProperty* class corresponds to an attribute *association* in the *SocialAssociation* class, indicating a bi-directional relationship between *SocialProperty* and *SocialAssociation*. The consistency of the bi-directional relationship is ensured via the predicate  $\forall o : \text{association} \bullet \text{self} \in o.\text{memberEnd}$  in *SocialProperty* and the predicate  $\forall o : \text{memberEnd} \bullet o.\text{association} \in \text{self}$  in *SocialAssociation*. Similar conditions can be found in some undermentioned Object-Z classes. Condition [1] says that when association set not empty and when *socialRole* is *peer*, then the *socialRoles* of all other member ends must be set to *peer* as well. Invariant [2] express similar condition, but states also that the selected *memberEnd* is not equal to *SocialProperty* self. Condition [3] says that if *SocialProperty* is a member end of a *SocialAssociation* and its *socialRole* is set to *subordinate*, the *socialRole* of some another member end must be set to *superordinate*.

#### 8.5.4 SocialRoleKind

*SocialRoleKind* is an enumeration which specifies allowed values for the *socialRole* meta-attribute of the *SocialProperty*. AML supports modeling of superordinate-subordinate and peer-to-peer relationships, but this set can be extended as required (e.g. to model producer-consumer, competition, or cooperation relationships). For more details see [1, p. 154].

*SocialRoleKind* is introduced to define allowed values for the *socialRole* meta-attribute of the *SocialProperty*.

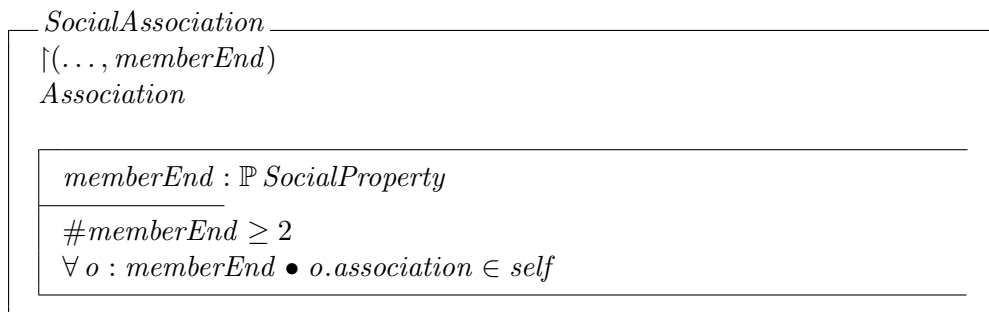
$$\text{SocialRoleKind} ::= \text{peer} \mid \text{superordinate} \mid \text{subordinate}$$

In Object-Z *SocialRoleKind* is defined as enumeration, which has *peer*, *superordinate*, and *subordinate* values.

### 8.5.5 SocialAssociation

*SocialAssociation* is a specialized *Association* (from UML) used to model social relationships that can occur between *SocializedSemiEntityType*s. It redefines the type of the *memberEnd* property of *Association* to *SocialProperty*. An instance of the *SocialAssociation* is called social *link*.

*SocialAssociation* is introduced to model social relationships between entities in multi-agent systems in the form of an *Association*.

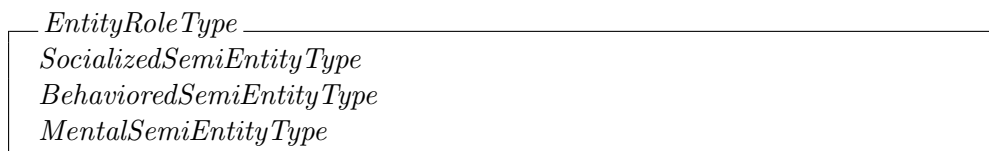


*SocialAssociation* class inherits from *Association* class. The size of *memberEnd* set is greater than two. *SocialAssociation* is in bi-directional relationship with *SocialProperty*.

### 8.5.6 EntityRoleType

*EntityRoleType* is a specialized *BehavioredSemiEntityType*, *MentalSemiEntityType*, and *SocializedSemiEntityType*, used to represent a coherent set of features, behaviors, participation in interactions, and services offered or required by *BehavioralEntityType*s in a particular context (e.g. interaction or social). Each *EntityRoleType* thus should be defined within a specific larger behavior (collective behavior) which represents the context in which the *EntityRoleType* is defined together with all the other behavioral entities it interacts with. An advisable means to specify collective behaviors in AML is to use *EnvironmentType* or *Context*. Each *EntityRoleType* should be realized by a specific implementation possessed by a *BehavioralEntityType* which may play that *EntityRoleType*. *EntityRoleType* can be used as an indirect reference to behavioral entities, and as such can be utilized for the definition of reusable patterns. An instance of an *EntityRoleType* is called *entity role*. It represents either an execution of a behavior, or usage of features, or participation in interactions defined for the particular *EntityRoleType* by a behavioral entity (see section 8.1.2 for details). The entity role exists only while a behavioral entity plays it. For more details see [1, p. 156].

*EntityRoleType* is introduced to model roles in multi-agent systems.

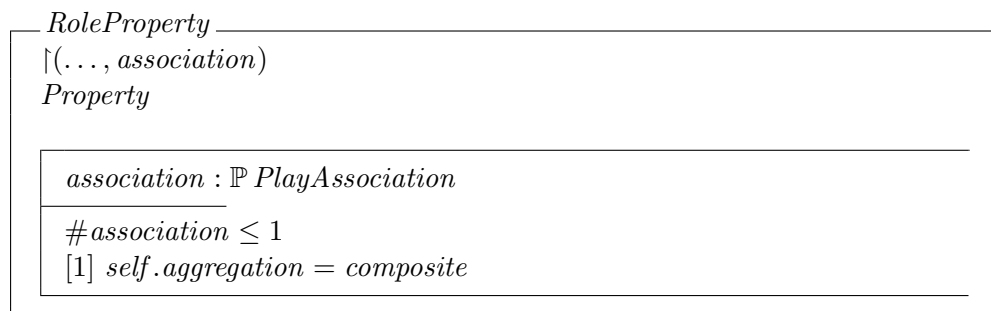


*EntityRoleType* is an Object-Z class, which inherits from *SocializedSemiEntityType*, *BehavioredSemiEntityType*, and *MentalSemiEntityType*.

### 8.5.7 RoleProperty

*RoleProperty* is a specialized *Property* (from UML) used to specify that an instance of its owner, a *BehavioralEntityType*, can play one or several entity roles of the specified *EntityRoleType*. The owner of a *RoleProperty* is responsible for implementation of all *Capabilities*, *StructuralFeatures* and metaproperties defined by *SocializedSemiEntityType* which are defined by *RoleProperty*'s type (an *EntityRoleType*). Instances of the played *EntityRoleType* represent (can be substituted by) instances of the *RoleProperty* owner. One behavioral entity can at each time play (instantiate) several entity roles. These entity roles can be of the same as well as of different types. The multiplicity defined for a *RoleProperty* constrains the number of entity roles of a given type that the particular behavioral entity can play concurrently. For more details see [1, p. 158].

*RoleProperty* is introduced to model the possibility of playing entity roles by behavioral entities.



*RoleProperty* class inherits from *Property* class. The *association* set is greater than one. Invariant [1] formalizes the fact that *aggregation* attribute of the *RoleProperty* class is *composite*.

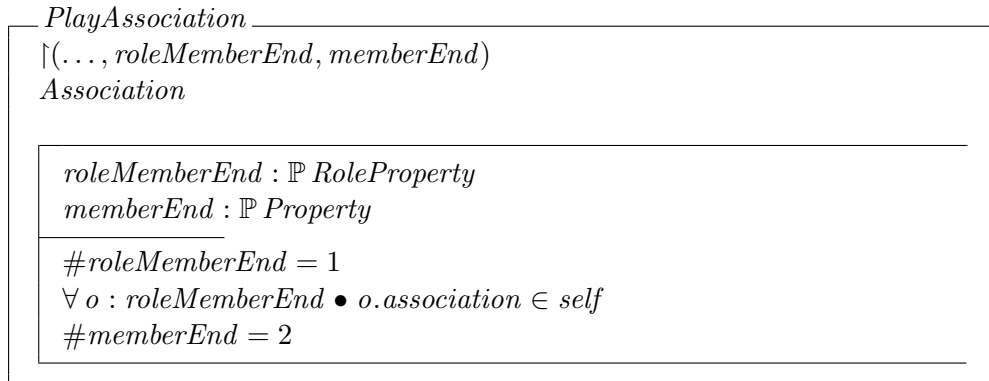
### 8.5.8 PlayAssociation

*PlayAssociation* is a specialized *Association* (from UML) used to specify *RoleProperty* in the form of an association end. It specifies that entity roles of a *roleMemberEnd*'s type (which is an *EntityRoleType*) can be played, i.e. instantiated by entities of the other end type (which are *BehavioralEntityTypes*). Each entity role can be played by at most one behavioral entity. Therefore:

- The multiplicity of the *PlayAssociation* at the *BehavioralEntityType* side is always 0..1, and thus is not shown in diagrams.
- If there are more than one *PlayAssociations* attached to an *EntityRoleType* then an implicit constraint applies, stating that no more than one *PlayAssociation* link can exist at any given moment. These constraints are implicit and thus not shown in diagrams.

Multiplicity on the entity role side of the *PlayAssociation* constrains the number of entity roles the particular *BehavioralEntityType* can instantiate concurrently. An instance of the *PlayAssociation* is called *play link*. For more details see [1, p. 160].

*PlayAssociation* is introduced to model the possibility of playing entity roles by behavioral entities.



*PlayAssociation* class inherits from *Association* class. The size of *roleMemberEnd* set is equal one. *PlayAssociation* is in bi-directional relationship with *Property*.

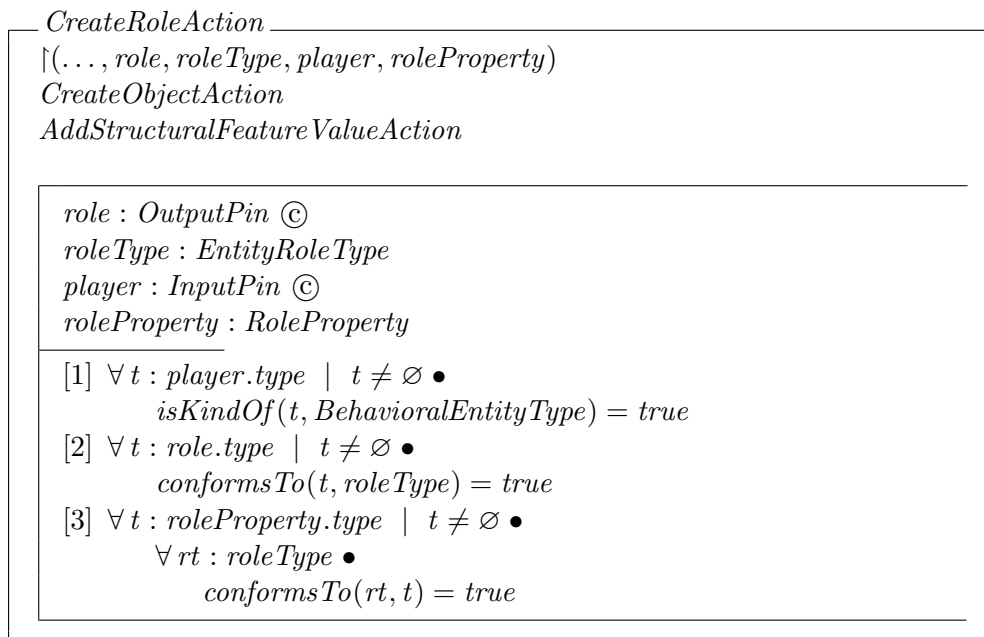
### 8.5.9 CreateRoleAction

*CreateRoleAction* is a specialized *CreateObjectAction* (from UML) and *AddStructuralFeatureValueAction* (from UML), used to model the action of creating and starting to play an entity role by a behavioral entity. Technically this is realized by instantiation of an *EntityRoleType* into an entity role of that type, and adding this instance as a value to the *RoleProperty* of its player (a behavioral entity) which starts to play it. The *CreateRoleAction* specifies:

- what *EntityRoleType* is being instantiated (*roleType* meta-association),
- the entity role being created (*role* meta-association),
- the player of created entity role (*player* meta-association), and
- the *RoleProperty* owned by the type of player, where the created entity role is being placed (*roleProperty* meta-association).

For more details see [1, p. 162].

*CreateRoleAction* is introduced to model an action of creating and playing entity roles by behavioral entities.



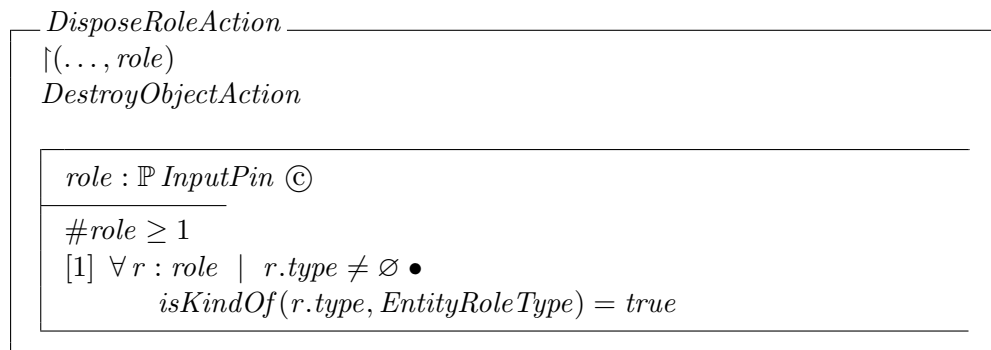
*CreateRoleAction* class inherits from *CreateObjectAction* and *AddStructuralFeatureValueAction* classes. The declaration of *role* (*player*) signifies that the *role* (*player*) attribute is a set of *OutputPin* (*InputPin*) instances, where that set is *contained*. The © symbol stands for object containment in Object-Z. Following invariants must be satisfied:

- [1] If the *player.type* of the *InputPin* is specified, it must be a *BehavioralEntityType*.
- [2] If the *role.type* of the *OutputPin* is specified, it must conform to the *EntityRoleType* referred to by the *roleType*.
- [3] If the *roleProperty.type* of the *RoleProperty* is specified, then the *EntityRoleType* referred to by the *roleType* must conform to it.

### 8.5.10 DisposeRoleAction

*DisposeRoleAction* is a specialized *DestroyObjectAction* (from UML) used to model the action of stopping to play an entity role by a behavioral entity. Technically it is realized by destruction of the corresponding entity role(s). As a consequence, all behavioral entities that were playing the destroyed entity roles stop to play them. For more details see [1, p. 165].

*DisposeRoleAction* is introduced to model the action of disposing of entity roles by behavioral entities.



*DisposeRoleAction* class inherits from *DestroyObjectAction* class. Invariant [1] express the fact, that if the *types* of the *InputPins* referred to by the *role* are specified, they must be *EntityRoleTypes*.

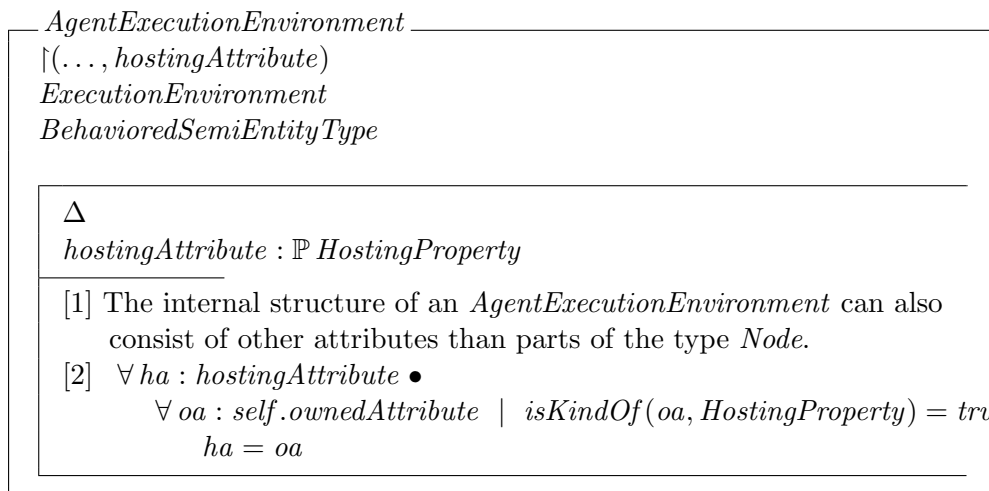
## 8.6 MAS Deployment

The *MAS Deployment* package defines the metaclasses used to model deployment of a multi-agent system to a physical environment.

### 8.6.1 AgentExecutionEnvironment

*AgentExecutionEnvironment* is a specialized *ExecutionEnvironment* (from UML) and *BehavioredSemiEntityType*, used to model types of execution environments of multi-agent systems. *AgentExecutionEnvironment* thus provides the physical infrastructure in which MAS entities can run. One entity can run at most in one *AgentExecutionEnvironment* instance at one time. If useful, it may be further subclassed into more specific agent execution environments, for example, agent platform, or agent container. *AgentExecutionEnvironment* can provide (use) a set of services that deployed entities use (provide) at run time. *AgentExecutionEnvironment*, being a *BehavioredSemiEntityType*, can explicitly specify such services by means of *ServiceProvisions* and *ServiceUsages* respectively. Owned *Hosting-Properties* specify kinds of entities hosted by (running at) the *AgentExecutionEnvironment*. Internal structure of the *AgentExecutionEnvironment* can also contain other features and behaviors that characterize it. For more details see [1, p. 166].

*AgentExecutionEnvironment* is introduced to model execution environments of multi-agent systems, i.e. the environments in which the entities exist and operate.



*AgentExecutionEnvironment* is an Object-Z class that inherits from *ExecutionEnvironment* and *BehavioredSemiEntityType* classes. Invariant [1] is expressed only in natural language due to absented UML metamodel. Invariant [2] express following fact – the *hostingAttribute* refers to all *ownedAttributes* of the kind *HostingProperty*.

### 8.6.2 HostingProperty

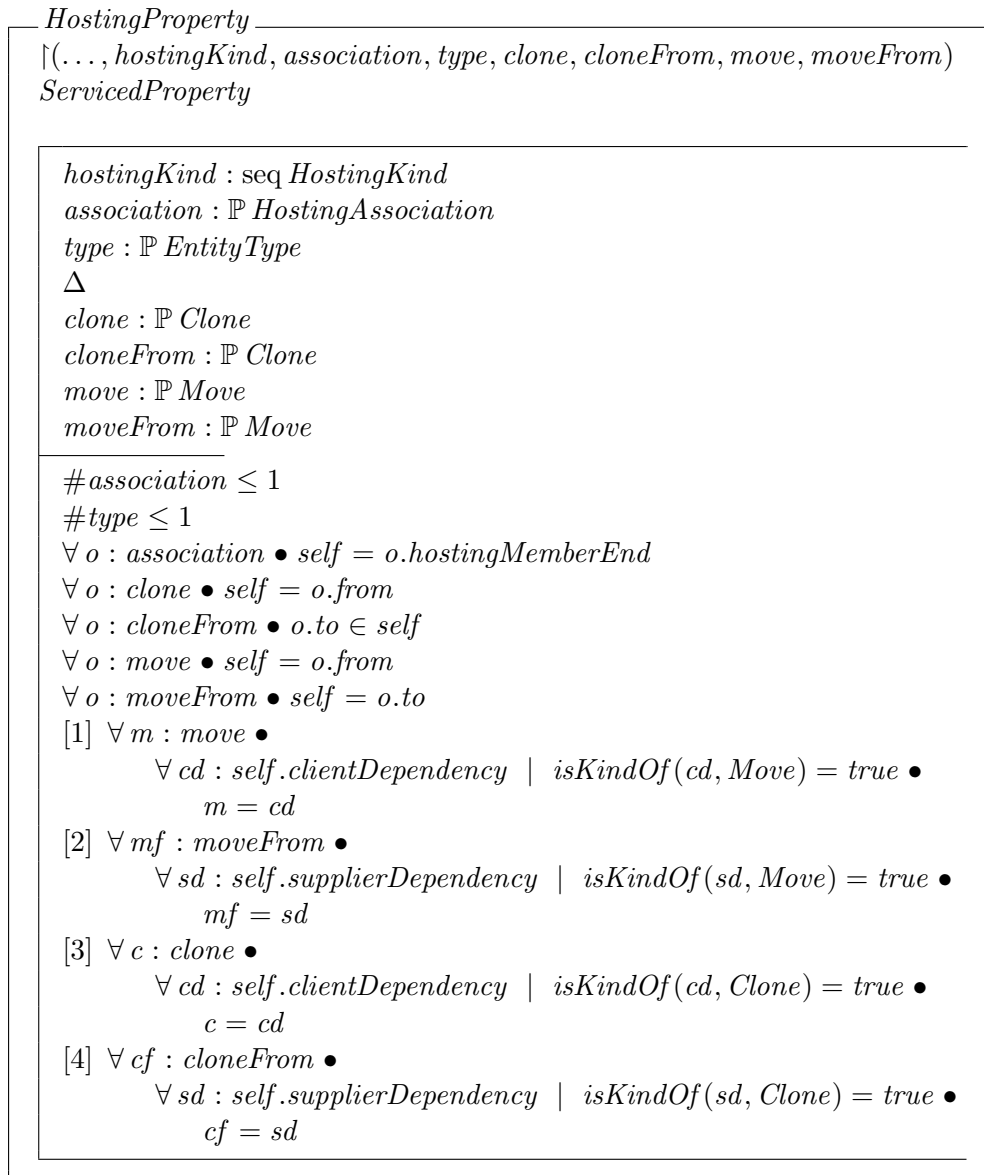
*HostingProperty* is a specialized *ServicedProperty* used to specify what *EntityTypes* can be hosted by what *AgentExecutionEnvironments*. Type of a *HostingProperty* can be only an *EntityType*. *HostingProperties* can be owned only by:

- *AgentExecutionEnvironments* as attributes, or
- *HostingAssociations* as member ends.

The owned meta-attribute *hostingKind* specifies the relation of the referred *EntityType* to the owning *AgentExecutionEnvironment* (for details see section 8.6.1). For more details see [1, p. 169].

*HostingProperty* is introduced to model the hosting of *EntityTypes* by *AgentExecutionEnvironments*.





*HostingProperty* class inherits from *ServicedProperty* class. Following invariants must be satisfied:

- [1] Every *move* instance refers to all *clientDependencies* of the kind *Move*.
- [2] Every *moveFrom* instance refers to all *supplierDependencies* of the kind *Move*.
- [3] Every *clone* instance refers to all *clientDependencies* of the kind *Clone*.
- [4] Every *cloneFrom* instance refers to all *supplierDependencies* of the kind *Clone*.

### 8.6.3 HostingKind

*HostingKind* is an enumeration which specifies possible hosting relationships of *EntityTypes* to *AgentExecutionEnvironments*. These are:

- *resident* – the *EntityType* is perpetually hosted by the *AgentExecutionEnvironment*.

- *visitor* – the *EntityType* can be temporarily hosted by the *AgentExecutionEnvironment*, i.e. it can be temporarily moved or cloned to the corresponding *AgentExecutionEnvironment*.

If needed, the set of available hosting kinds can be extended. For more details see [1, p. 172].

*HostingKind* is introduced to define possible values of the *hostingKind* meta-attribute of the *HostingProperty* metaclass.

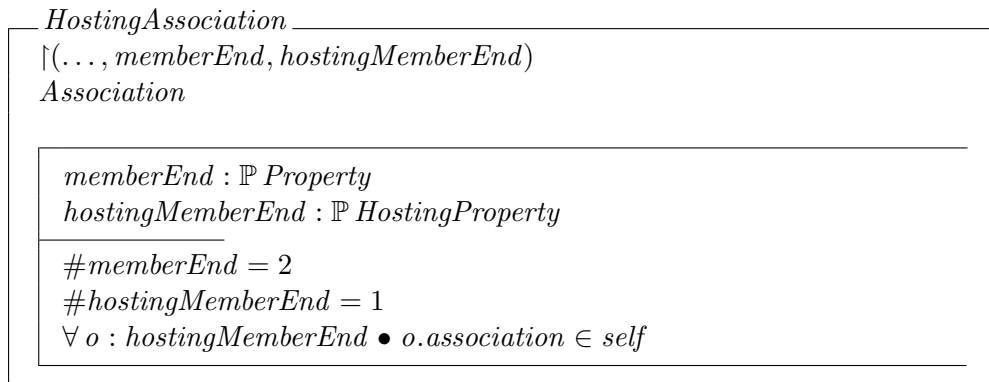
$$\textit{HostingKind} ::= \textit{resident} \mid \textit{visitor}$$

*HostingKind* is an enumeration, which has *resident* and *visitor* values.

#### 8.6.4 HostingAssociation

*HostingAssociation* is a specialized *Association* (from UML) used to specify *HostingProperty* in the form of an association end. It specifies that entities classified according to a *hostingMemberEnd*'s type (which is an *EntityType*) can be hosted by instances of an *AgentExecutionEnvironment* representing the other end type. *HostingAssociation* is a binary association. An instance of the *HostingAssociation* is called *hosting link*. For more details see [1, p. 172].

*HostingAssociation* is introduced to model the hosting of *EntityTypes* by *AgentExecutionEnvironments* in the form of an *Association*.



*HostingAssociation* class inherits from *Association* class. *HostingAssociation* is in bi-directional relationship with *HostingProperty*.

## Chapter 9

# Behaviors

The *Behaviors* package defines the metaclasses used to model behavioral aspects of multi-agent systems.

### 9.1 Basic Behaviors

The *Basic Behaviors* package defines the core, frequently referred metaclasses used to model behavior in AML.

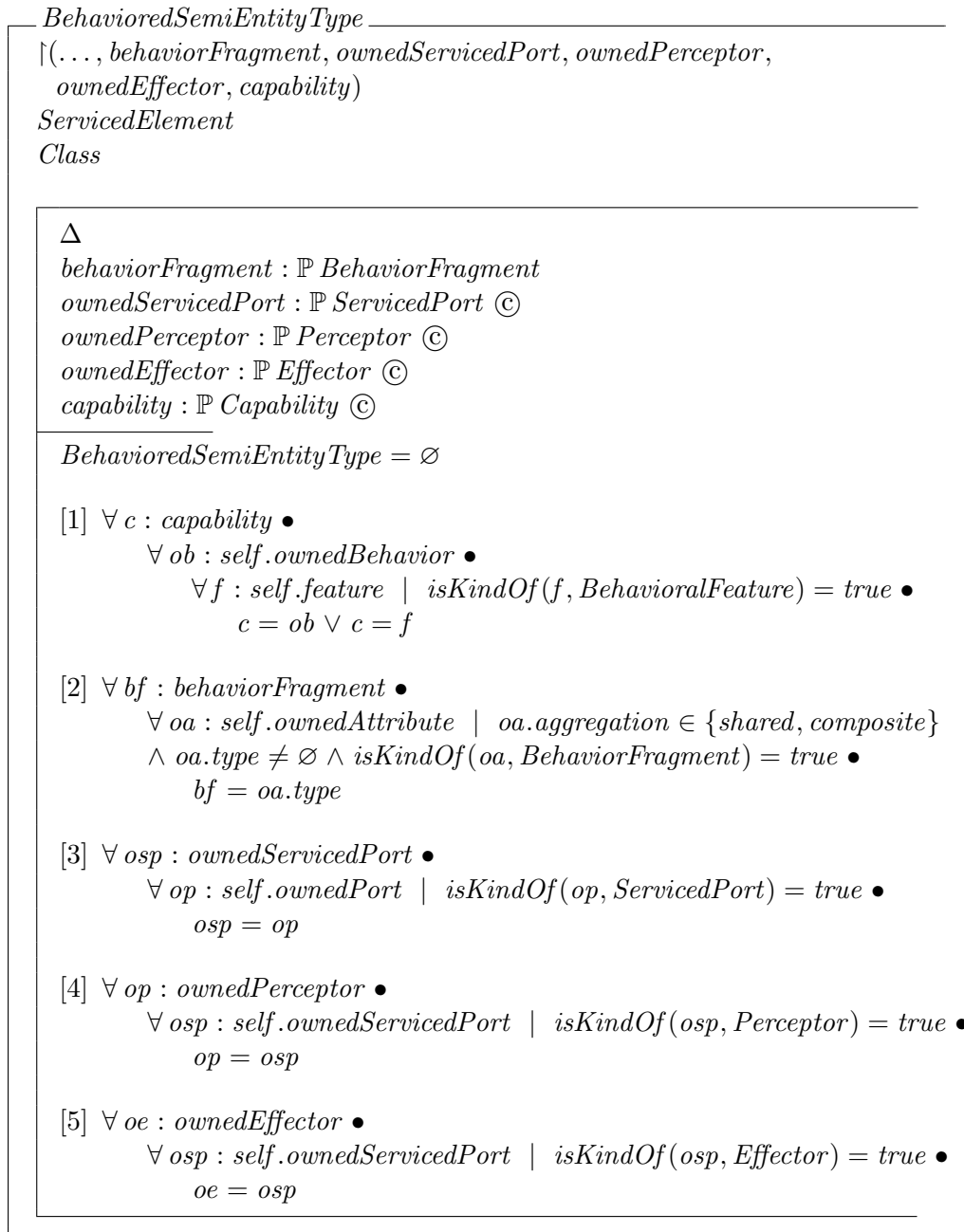
#### 9.1.1 BehavoredSemiEntityType

*BehavoredSemiEntityType* is an abstract specialized *Class* (from UML) and *ServicedElement*, that serves as a common superclass to all metaclasses which can:

- own *Capabilities*,
- observe and/or effect their environment by means of *Perceptors* and *Effectors*, and
- provide and/or use services by means of *ServicedPorts*.

Furthermore, behavior of *BehavoredSemiEntityTypes* (and related features) can be explicitly (and potentially recursively) decomposed into *BehavioralFragments*. In addition to the services provided and used directly by the *BehavoredSemiEntityType* (see the *serviceUsage* and the *serviceProvision* metaassociations inherited from the *ServicedElement*), it is also responsible for implementation of the services specified by all *ServiceProvisions* and *ServiceUsages* owned by the *ServicedProperties* and *ServicedPorts* having the *BehavoredSemiEntityType* as their type. Instances of *BehavoredSemiEntityTypes* are referred to as *behavored semi-entities*. For more details see [1, p. 176].

*BehavoredSemiEntityType* is introduced as a common superclass to all metaclasses which can have capabilities, can observe and/or effect their environment, and can provide and/or use services.



*BehavioeredSemiEntityType* is an abstract Object-Z class that inherits from *ServicedElement* and *Class* classes. Following invariants are defined:

- [1] The *capability* set is union of owned *BehavioralFeatures* and *Behaviors*.
- [2] The *behaviorFragment* set comprises types of all owned aggregate or composite attributes having the *type* of a *BehaviorFragment*.
- [3] The *ownedServicedPort* set refers to all owned *ports* of the kind *ServicedPort*.
- [4] The *ownedPerceptor* set refers to all *ownedServicePorts* of the kind *Perceptor*.
- [5] The *ownedEffector* set refers to all *ownedServicePorts* of the kind *Effector*.

### 9.1.2 Capability

*Capability* is an abstract specialized *RedefinableElement* (from UML) and *Namespace* (from UML), used to model an abstraction of a behavior in terms of its inputs, outputs, pre-conditions, and post-conditions. Such a common abstraction allows use of the common features of all the concrete subclasses of the *Capability* metaclass uniformly, and thus reason about and operate on them in a uniform way. To maintain consistency with UML, which considers pre-conditions as aggregates (see *Operation* and *Behavior* in UML 2.0 Superstructure [11]), all pre-conditions specified for one *Capability* are understood to be logically AND-ed to form a single logical expression representing an overall pre-condition for that *Capability*. This is analogously the case for post-conditions. *Capability*, being a *RedefinableElement*, allows the redefinition of specifications (see UML *Constraint::specification*) of its pre- and postconditions, e.g. when inherited from a more abstract *Capability*. Specification of redefined conditions are logically combined with the specification of redefining conditions (of the same kind), following the rules:

- overall pre-conditions are logically OR-ed, and
- overall post-conditions are logically AND-ed.

Input and output parameters must be the same for redefining *Capability* as defined in the context of redefined *Capability*. The set of meta-attributes defined by the *Capability* can be further extended in order to accommodate specific requirements of users and/or implementation environments. *Capabilities* can be owned by *BehavioredSemiEntityTypes*. *Capability* is part of the non-conservative extension of UML, while it is a common superclass to two UML metaclasses: *BehavioralFeature* and *Behavior*. For more details see [1, p. 178].

*Capability* is introduced to define common meta-attributes for all “behavior-specifying” modeling elements in order to refer them uniformly, e.g. while reasoning.

*Capability*
 $\{(\dots, output, precondition, postcondition, input)$ 
*RedefinableElement*
*Namespace*
 $\Delta$ 
 $output : \mathbb{P} \text{Parameter } \textcircled{C}$ 
 $precondition : \mathbb{P} \text{Constraint } \textcircled{C}$ 
 $postcondition : \mathbb{P} \text{Constraint } \textcircled{C}$ 
 $input : \mathbb{P} \text{Parameter } \textcircled{C}$ 
 $Capability = \emptyset$ 

[1]  $\forall i : input \bullet$ 
**if**  $isKindOf(self, BehavioralFeature) = true$  **then**
 $\forall p : asType(self, BehavioralFeature).parameter \bullet$ 
 $p.direction \in \{in, inout\}$ 
**else**  $\forall p : asType(self, Behavior).parameter \bullet$ 
 $p.direction \in \{in, out\}$ 
 $\bullet i = p$ 

[2]  $\forall o : output \bullet$ 
**if**  $isKindOf(self, BehavioralFeature) = true$  **then**
 $\forall p : asType(self, BehavioralFeature).parameter \bullet$ 
 $p.direction \in \{out, inout\}$ 
**else**  $\forall p : asType(self, Behavior).parameter \bullet$ 
 $p.direction \in \{in, inout\}$ 
 $\bullet o = p$ 

[3]  $\forall p : precondition \bullet$ 
**if**  $isKindOf(self, Behavior) = true$  **then**
 $\forall pre : asType(self, Behavior).precondition$ 
**else**
**if**  $isKindOf(self, Operation) = true$  **then**
 $\forall pre : asType(self, Operation).precondition$ 
**else**  $pre = \emptyset$  (self is the kind *Reception*)

 $\bullet p = pre$ 

[4]  $\forall p : postcondition \bullet$ 
**if**  $isKindOf(self, Behavior) = true$  **then**
 $\forall pc : asType(self, Behavior).postcondition$ 
**else**
**if**  $isKindOf(self, Operation) = true$  **then**
 $\forall pc : asType(self, Operation).postcondition$ 
**else**  $pc = \emptyset$  (self is the kind *Reception*)

 $\bullet p = pc$ 

*Capability* is an abstract Object-Z class that inherits from *RedefinableElement* and *Namespace* classes. Following invariants are defined:

- [1] The *input* set refers to all *parameters* having the *direction* set either to *in* or *inout*.
- [2] The *output* set refers to all *parameters* having the *direction* set either to *out* or *inout*.
- [3] The *precondition* set is identical either to the *precondition* set from *Operation* or the *precondition* set from *Behavior*.
- [4] The *postcondition* set is identical either to the *postcondition* set from *Operation* or the *postcondition* set from *Behavior*.

## 9.2 Behavior Decomposition

The *Behavior Decomposition* package defines the *BehaviorFragment* which allows the decomposition of complex behaviors of *BehavioredSemiEntityType*s and the means to build reusable libraries of behaviors and related features.

### 9.2.1 BehaviorFragment

*BehaviorFragment* is a specialized *BehavioredSemiEntityType* used to model coherent and reusable fragments of behavior and related structural and behavioral features, and to decompose complex behaviors into simpler and (possibly) concurrently executable fragments. *BehaviorFragments* can be shared by several *BehavioredSemiEntityType*s and a behavior of a *BehavioredSemiEntityType* can, possibly recursively, be decomposed into several *BehaviorFragments*. The decomposition of a behavior of a *BehavioredSemiEntityType* to its sub-behaviors is modeled by owned aggregate attributes (having the aggregation meta-attribute set either to *shared* or *composite*) of the *BehaviorFragment* type. At run time, the behaviored semi-entity delegates execution of its behavior to the containing *BehaviorFragment* instances. For more details see [1, p. 181].

*BehaviorFragment* is introduced to: (a) decompose complex behaviors of *BehavioredSemiEntities*, and (b) build reusable libraries of behaviors and related features.

<i>BehaviorFragment</i> <i>BehavioredSemiEntityType</i>
--

*BehaviorFragment* class inherits from *BehavioredSemiEntityType* class.

## 9.3 Communicative Interactions

The *Communicative Interactions* package contains metaclasses that provide generic as well as agent specific extensions to UML Interactions. The generic extension allows the modeling of:

- interactions between groups of objects,
- dynamic change of an object's attributes induced by interactions, and
- messages not explicitly associated with an invocation of corresponding operations and signals.

The agent specific extension allows the modeling of speech act based interactions between MAS entities and interaction protocols. The focus of this section is mainly on Sequence Diagrams, however, notational variants for the Communication Diagrams are also mentioned.

### 9.3.1 MultiLifeline

*MultiLifeline* is a specialized *Lifeline* (from UML) and *MultiplicityElement* (from UML) used to represent a multivalued *ConnectableElement* (i.e. *ConnectableElement* with multiplicity > 1) participating in an *Interaction* (from UML). The *multiplicity* meta-attribute of the *MultiLifeline* determines the number of instances it represents. If the multiplicity is equal to 1, *MultiLifeline* is semantically identical with *Lifeline* (from UML). The selector of a *MultiLifeline* may (in contrary to *Lifeline*) specify more than one participant represented by the MultiLifeline. For more details see [1, p. 187].

*MultiLifeline* is introduced to represent a multivalued *ConnectableElement* participating in an *Interaction*.



MultiLifeline class inherits from Lifeline and MultiplicityElement classes.

### 9.3.2 MultiMessage

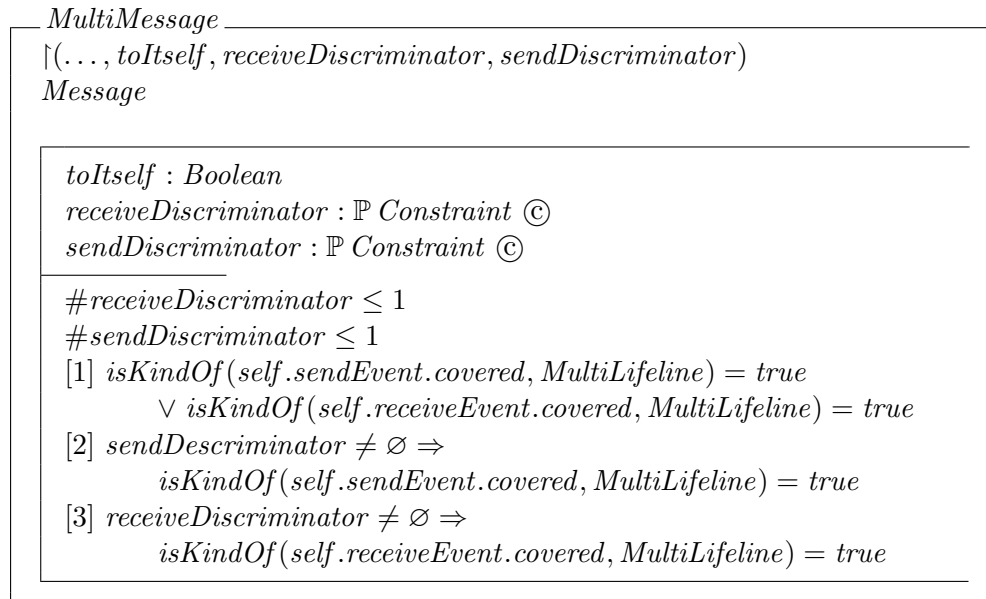
*MultiMessage* is a specialized *Message* (from UML) which is used to model a particular communication between *MultiLifelines* of an *Interaction*. If the sender of a *MultiMessage* is a *MultiLifeline*, the *MultiMessage* represents a set of messages of a specified kind sent from all instances (potentially constrained by the *sendDiscriminator*) represented by that *MultiLifeline*. If the receiver of a *MultiMessage* is a *MultiLifeline*, the *MultiMessage* represents a set of messages of a specified kind multicasted to all instances (potentially constrained by the *receiveDiscriminator*) represented by that *MultiLifeline*. If a message end of a *MultiMessage* references a simple *Lifeline* (from UML), it represents a single sender or receiver. When a sender and/or receiver of a *MultiMessage* are represented by *MultiLifelines*, the owned constraints *sendDiscriminator* and *receiveDiscriminator* can be used to specify what particular representatives of the group of *ConnectableElements* represented by the particular *MultiLifeline* are involved in the communication modeled by that *MultiMessage*. Within an alternative *CombinedFragment* (from UML), it is useful to differentiate between:

- all of the *ConnectableElements* represented by the *MultiLifeline*, and
- each of the *ConnectableElements* represented by the *MultiLifeline*.

The keyword ‘single’ used as the corresponding discriminator indicating the latter of the above cases. The receiver of a *MultiMessage* can be a group of instances containing also the senders themselves. In this case the *MultiMessage* can specify (by the *toItself* meta-attribute) whether the message is sent also to the senders themselves or not. For more details see [1, p. 189].



*MultiMessage* is introduced to model messages with multiple senders and/or recipients.



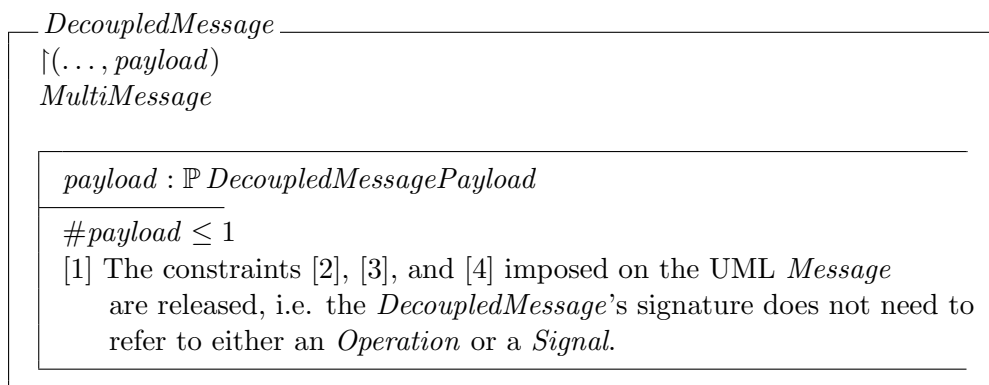
Object-Z class *MultiMessage* inherits from *Message* class. Following invariants must be satisfied:

- [1] At least one end of the *MultiMessage* must be a *MultiLifeline*.
- [2] The *sendDiscriminator* set can be specified only if the *sender* is represented by a *MultiLifeline*.
- [3] The *receiveDiscriminator* set can be specified only if the *receiver* is represented by a *MultiLifeline*.

### 9.3.3 DecoupledMessage

*DecoupledMessage* is a specialized *MultiMessage* which is used to model a specific kind of communication within an *Interaction* (from UML), particularly the asynchronous sending and receiving of a *DecoupledMessagePayload* instance without explicit specification of the behavior invoked on the side of the receiver. The decision of which behavior should be invoked when the *DecoupledMessage* is received is up to the receiver. The objects transmitted in the form of *DecoupledMessages* are *DecoupledMessagePayload* instances. Because all the decoupled messages are asynchronous, the *messageSort* meta-attribute (inherited from the UML *Message*) is ignored. For more details see [1, p. 191].

*DecoupledMessage* is introduced to model autonomy in message processing.



*DecoupledMessage* class inherits from *MultiMessage* class. Invariant [1] is expressed only in natural language due to absented UML metamodel.

### 9.3.4 DecoupledMessagePayload

*DecoupledMessagePayload* is a specialized *Class* (from UML) used to model the type of objects transmitted in the form of *DecoupledMessages*. For more details see [1, p. 193].

*DecoupledMessagePayload* is introduced to model objects transmitted in the form of *DecoupledMessages*.



*DecoupledMessagePayload* class inherits from *Class* class.

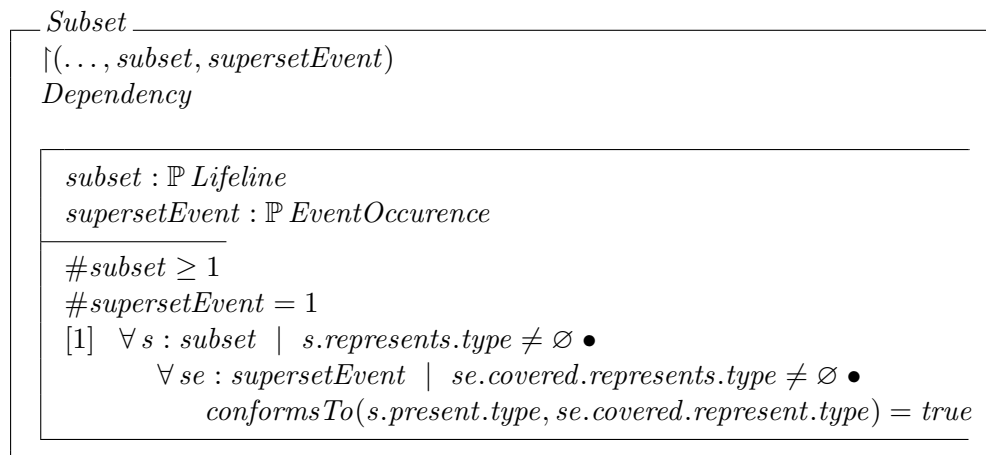
### 9.3.5 Subset

*Subset* is a specialized *Dependency* (from UML) used to specify that instances represented by one *Lifeline* are a subset of instances represented by another *Lifeline*. The *Subset* relationship is between:

- an *EventOccurrence* owned by the “superset” *Lifeline* (client), and
- the “subset” *Lifelines* (suppliers).

It is used to specify that since the occurrence of the *supersetEvent*, some of the instances represented by the “superset” *Lifeline* are also represented by the “subset” *Lifeline*. The “subset” *Lifeline*'s selector (for the details about the selector see *Lifeline* [11] and section 9.3.1) specifies the instances of the “superset” *Lifeline* that are also represented by the “subset” *Lifeline*. All instances represented by the “subset” *Lifeline* are still represented also by the “superset” *Lifeline*. One *Lifeline* can represent a “subset” of several “superset” *Lifelines*, i.e. more than one *Subset* relationships can lead to one “subset” *Lifeline*. Termination of the “subset” *Lifeline* (the *Stop* is placed at the end of *Lifeline*) destroys all instances it represents. For more details see [1, p. 194].

*Subset* is introduced to specify that instances represented by one *Lifeline* are a subset of instances represented by another *Lifeline*.



*Subset* class inherits from *Dependency* class. Invariant [1] formalizes the fact that all *types* of the *subset Lifelines* must conform to the *type* of the *superset Lifeline*.

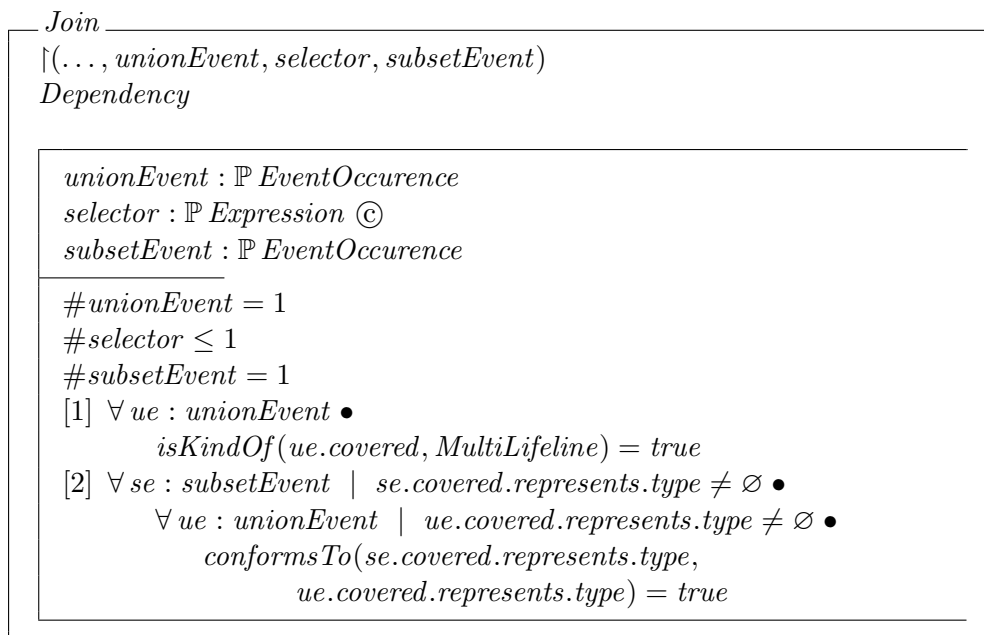
### 9.3.6 Join

*Join* is a specialized *Dependency* (from UML) used to specify joining of instances represented by one *Lifeline* with a set of instances represented by another *Lifeline*. The *Join* relationship is between:

- an *EventOccurrence* owned by a “subset” *Lifeline* (client), and
- an *EventOccurrence* owned by a “union” *Lifeline* (supplier).

It is used to specify that a subset of instances, which have been until the *subsetEvent* represented by the “subset” *Lifeline*, is, after the *unionEvent* represented only by the “union” *Lifeline*. Thus after the *unionEvent* occurrence, the “union” *Lifeline* represents the union of the instances it has previously represented and the instances specified by the *Join* dependency. The subset of instances of the “subset” *Lifeline* joining the “union” *Lifeline* is given by the AND combination of the *Join*’s selector and the selector of the “union” *Lifeline*. If the selector of the *Join* dependency is not specified, all the instances represented by the “subset” *Lifeline* conforming to the “union” *Lifeline*’s selector are joined. Between *subsetEvent* and *unionEvent* occurrences, the set of instances joining the “union” *Lifeline* is not represented by any of the two *Lifelines*. One *EventOccurrence* can be a client or a supplier of several Joins. For more details see [1, p. 196].

*Join* is introduced to specify the joining of instances represented by one *Lifeline* with a set of instances represented by another *Lifeline*.



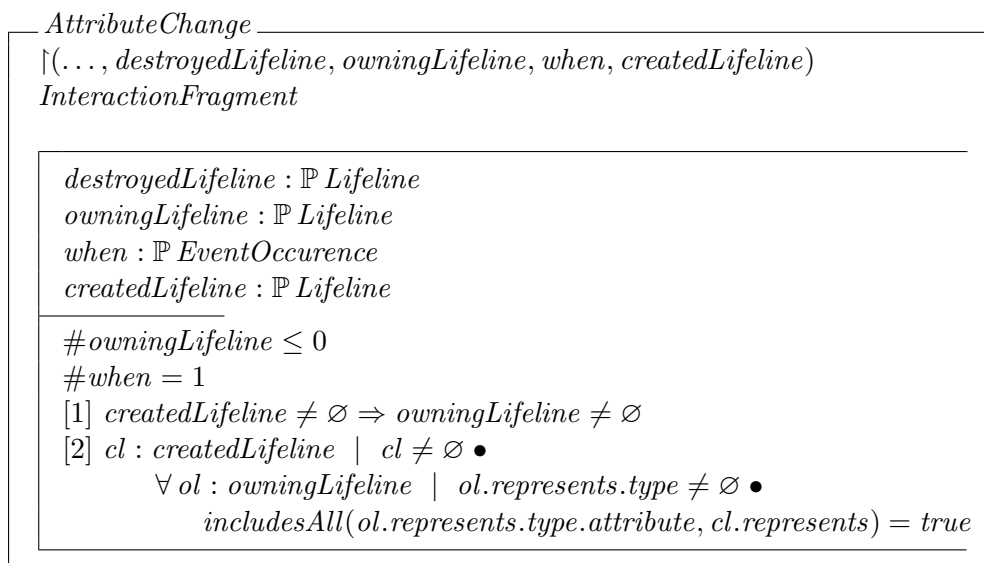
*Join* class inherits from *Dependency* class. Following invariants must be satisfied:

- [1] The *Lifeline* owning the *EventOccurrence* referred to by the *unionEvent* set must be a *MultiLifeline*.
- [2] The *type* of the *subsetEvent*'s *Lifeline* must conform to the *type* of the *unionEvent*'s *MultiLifeline*.

### 9.3.7 AttributeChange

*AttributeChange* is a specialized *InteractionFragment* (from UML) used to model the change of attribute values (state) of the *ConnectableElements* (from UML) represented by *Lifelines* (from UML) within *Interactions* (from UML). *AttributeChange* enables to add, change or remove attribute values in time, as well as to express added attribute values by *Lifelines* (from UML). Attributes are represented by inner *ConnectableElements*. *AttributeChange* can also be used to model dynamic changing of entity roles played by behavioral entities represented by *Lifelines*. Furthermore, it allows the modeling of entity interaction with respect to the played entity roles, i.e. each "sub-lifeline" representing a played entity role (or entity roles in the case of *MultiLifeline*) is used to model the interaction of its player with respect to this/these entity role(s). If an *AttributeChange* is used to destroy played entity roles, it represents disposal of the entity roles while their former players still exist as instances in the system. To also destroy the player of an entity role, the *Stop* element (from UML) must be used instead. Usage of the *Stop* element thus leads to the disposal of the player as well as all the entity roles it has been playing. For more details see [1, p. 199].

*AttributeChange* is introduced to model a change of the attribute values (state) of *ConnectableElements* in the context of *Interactions*.



*AttributeChange* class inherits from *InteractionFragment* class. Invariant [1] says that if *createdLifeline* is specified, the *owningLifeline* must be specified as well. Invariant [2] specifies the fact that each *createdLifeline* must represent an *attribute* of the *Classifier* used as the *type* of the *ConnectableElement* represented by the *owningLifeline* set.

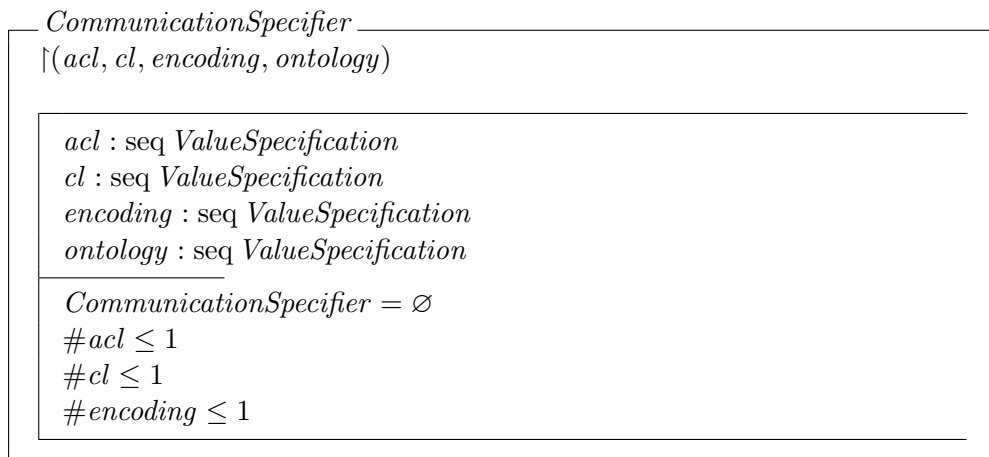
### 9.3.8 CommunicationSpecifier

*CommunicationSpecifier* is an abstract metaclass which defines metaproperties of its concrete subclasses, i.e. *CommunicationMessage*, *CommunicativeInteraction*, and *ServiceSpecification*, which are used to model different aspects of communicative interactions. *CommunicationMessages* can occur in *CommunicativeInteractions*, and parameterized *CommunicativeInteractions* can be parts of *ServiceSpecifications*. All of them can specify values of the meta-attributes inherited from the *CommunicationSpecifier*. Potential conflicts in specifications of the *CommunicationSpecifier*'s meta-property values are resolved by the overriding principle that defines which concrete subclasses of the *CommunicationSpecifier* have higher priority in specification of those meta-attributes. Thus, if specified on different priority levels, the values at higher priority levels override those specified at lower priority levels. The priorities, from the highest to the lowest are defined as follows:

1. *CommunicationMessage*,
2. *CommunicativeInteraction*,
3. *ServiceSpecification*.

For more details see [1, p. 203].

*CommunicationSpecifier* is introduced to define meta-properties which are used to model different aspects of communicative interactions. It is used in definitions of its subclasses.

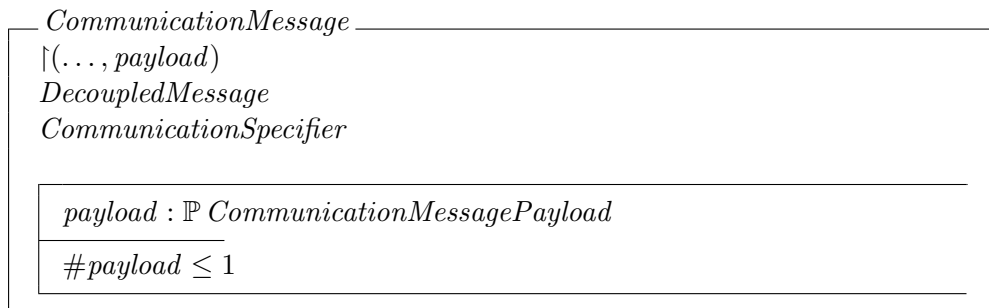


*CommunicationSpecifier* is an abstract Object-Z class.

### 9.3.9 CommunicationMessage

*CommunicationMessage* is a specialized *DecoupledMessage* and *CommunicationSpecifier*, which is used to model communicative acts of *speech act based communication* in the context of *Interactions*. The objects transmitted in the form of *CommunicationMessages* are *CommunicationMessagePayload* instances. For more details see [1, p. 204].

*CommunicationMessage* is introduced to model speech act based communication in the context of *Interactions*.



Object-Z class *CommunicationMessage* inherits from *DecoupledMessage* and *CommunicationSpecifier* classes.

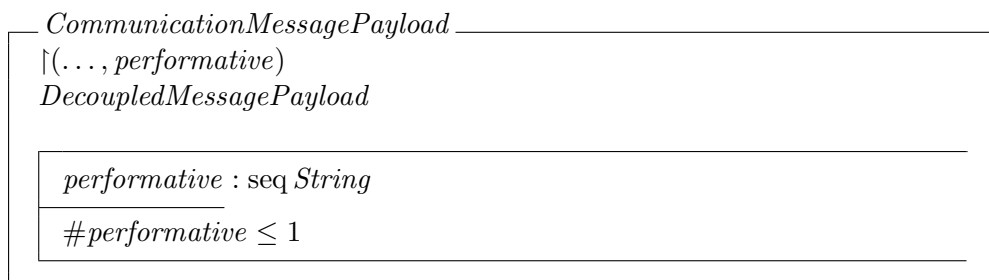
### 9.3.10 CommunicationMessagePayload

We introduce a *String* data type representing the set of all possible sequences of characters (this is a given type in Object-Z [18]).

[*String*]

*CommunicationMessagePayload* is a specialized *Class* (from UML) used to model the type of objects transmitted in the form of *CommunicationMessages*.

*CommunicationMessagePayload* is introduced to model objects transmitted in the form of *CommunicationMessages*.



*CommunicationMessagePayload* class inherits from *DecoupledMessagePayload* class.

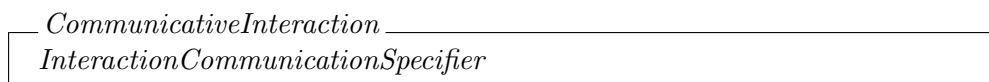
### 9.3.11 CommunicativeInteraction

*CommunicativeInteraction* is a specialized *Interaction* (from UML) and *CommunicationSpecifier*, used to model speech act based communications, i.e. *Interactions* containing *CommunicationMessages*. *CommunicativeInteraction*, being a concrete subclass of the abstract *CommunicationSpecifier*, can specify some additional meta-attributes of interactions, which are not allowed to be specified within UML *Interactions*, particularly:

- acl, i.e. the agent communication language used within the *CommunicativeInteraction*,
- cl, i.e. the content language used within the *CommunicativeInteraction*,
- encoding, i.e. the content encoding used within the *CommunicativeInteraction*, and
- ontology, i.e. the ontologies used within the *CommunicativeInteraction*.

For the above meta-attributes, the overriding principle defined in section 9.3.8 holds. For more details see [1, p. 207].

*CommunicativeInteraction* is introduced to model speech act based communications.



*CommunicativeInteraction* class inherits from *Interaction* and *CommunicationSpecifier* classes.

### 9.3.12 InteractionProtocol

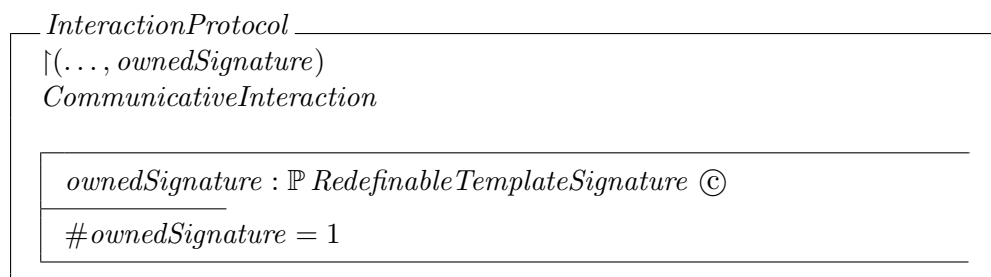
*InteractionProtocol* is a parameterized *CommunicativeInteraction* template used to model reusable templates of *CommunicativeInteractions*. Possible *TemplateParameters* of an *InteractionProtocol* are:

- values of *CommunicationSpecifier*'s meta-attributes,
- local variable names, types, and default values,
- *Lifeline* names, types, and selectors,
- *Message* names and argument values,

- *MultiLifeline* multiplicities,
- *MultiMessage* discriminators,
- *CommunicationMessage* meta-attributes,
- *ExecutionOccurrence*'s behavior specification,
- guard expressions of *InteractionOperands*,
- specification of included *Constraints*, and
- included *Expressions* and their particular operands.

Partial binding of an *InteractionProtocol* (i.e. the *TemplateBinding* which does not substitute all the template parameters by actual parameters) results in a different *InteractionProtocol*. A complete binding of an *InteractionProtocol* represents a *CommunicativeInteraction*. For more details see [1, p. 208].

*InteractionProtocol* is introduced to model reusable templates of *CommunicativeInteractions*.

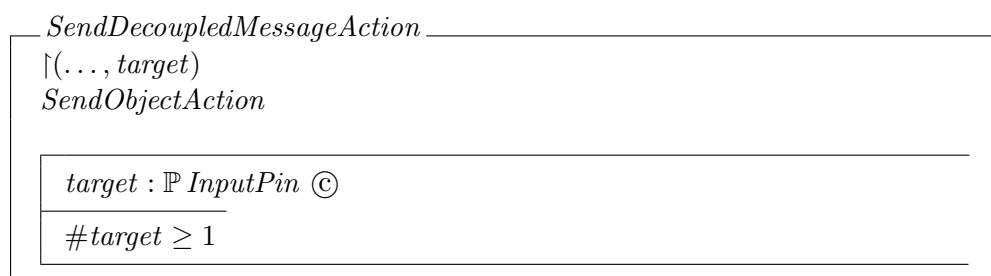


*InteractionProtocol* class inherits from *CommunicativeInteraction* class.

### 9.3.13 SendDecoupledMessageAction

*SendDecoupledMessageAction* is a specialized *SendObjectAction* (from UML) used to model the action of sending of *DecoupledMessagePayload* instances, referred to by the *request* meta-association, in the form of a *DecoupledMessage* to its recipient(s), referred to by the *target* meta-association. For more details see [1, p. 213].

*SendDecoupledMessageAction* is introduced to model the sending of *DecoupledMessages* in *Activities*.



*SendDecoupledMessageAction* class inherits from *SendObjectAction* class.



### 9.3.14 SendCommunicationMessageAction

*SendCommunicationMessageAction* is a specialized *SendDecoupledMessageAction*, which allows to specify the values of the *CommunicationSpecifier*'s meta-attributes. For more details see [1, p. 214].

*SendCommunicationMessageAction* is introduced to model the sending of *CommunicationMessages* in *Activities*.

<i>SendCommunicationMessageAction</i> <i>SendDecoupledMessageAction</i> <i>CommunicationSpecifier</i>
---

*SendCommunicationMessageAction* is an Object-Z class, which inherits from *SendDecoupledMessageAction* and *CommunicationSpecifier* classes.

### 9.3.15 AcceptDecoupledMessageAction

*AcceptDecoupledMessageAction* is a specialized *AcceptEventAction* (from UML) which waits for the reception of a *DecoupledMessage* that meets conditions specified by the associated *trigger* (for details see section 9.3.17). The received *DecoupledMessagePayload* instance is placed to the *result OutputPin*. If an *AcceptDecoupledMessageAction* has no incoming edges, the action starts when the containing *Activity* (from UML) or *StructuredActivityNode* (from UML) starts. An *AcceptDecoupledMessageAction* with no incoming edges is always enabled to accept events regardless of how many are accepted. It does not terminate after accepting an event and outputting the value, but continues to wait for subsequent events. For more details see [1, p. 217].

*AcceptDecoupledMessageAction* is introduced to model the reception of *DecoupledMessages* in *Activities*.

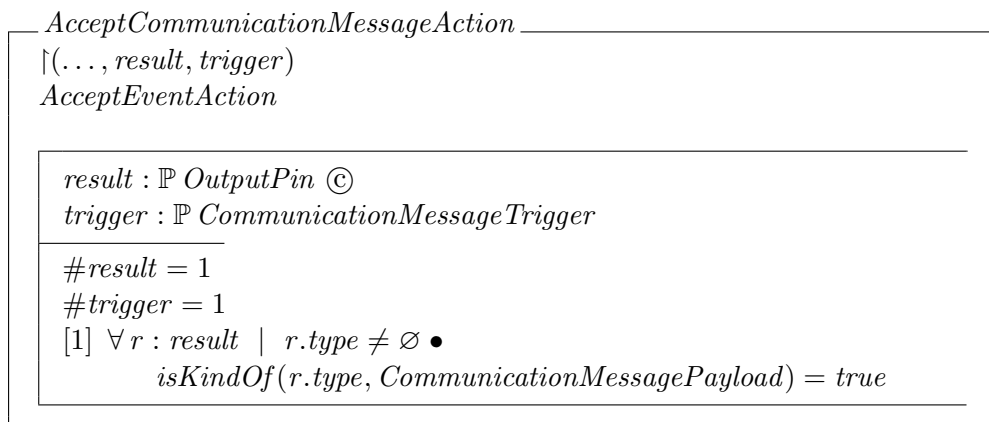
<i>AcceptDecoupledMessageAction</i> $\{(\dots, result, trigger)$ <i>AcceptEventAction</i>
<i>result</i> : $\mathbb{P}$ <i>OutputPin</i> © <i>trigger</i> : $\mathbb{P}$ <i>DecoupledMessageTrigger</i>
$\#result = 1$ $\#trigger = 1$ $[1] \forall r : result \mid r.type \neq \emptyset \bullet$ $isKindOf(r.type, DecoupledMessagePayload) = true$

*AcceptDecoupledMessageAction* class inherits from *AcceptEventAction* class. Invariant [1] specifies following condition – if the *type* of the *OutputPin* referred to by the *result* set is specified, it must be a *DecoupledMessagePayload*.

### 9.3.16 AcceptCommunicationMessageAction

*AcceptCommunicationMessageAction* is a specialized *AcceptEventAction* (from UML) which waits for the reception of a *CommunicationMessage* that meets conditions specified by associated *trigger* (for details see section 9.3.18). The received *CommunicationMessagePayload* instance is placed to the *result OutputPin*. If an *AcceptCommunicationMessageAction* has no incoming edges, then the action starts when the containing *Activity* (from UML) or *StructuredActivityNode* (from UML) starts. An *AcceptCommunicationMessageAction* with no incoming edges is always enabled to accept events regardless of how many are accepted. It does not terminate after accepting an event and outputting a value, but continues to wait for subsequent events. For more details see [1, p. 218].

*AcceptCommunicationMessageAction* is introduced to model the reception of *CommunicationMessages* in *Activities*.

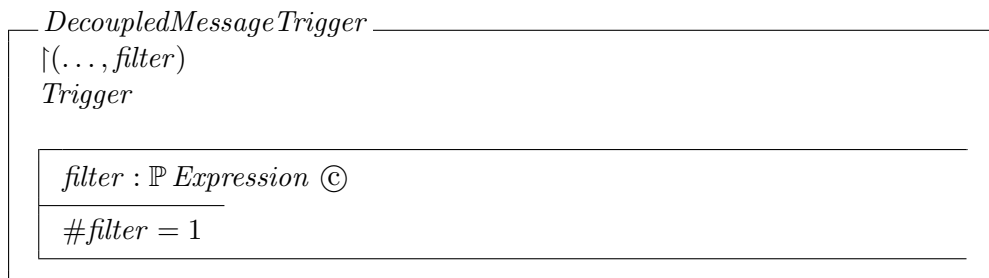


*AcceptCommunicationMessageAction* class inherits from *AcceptEventAction*. Invariant [1] says that if the *type* of the *OutputPin* referred to by the *result* set is specified, it must be a *CommunicationMessagePayload*.

### 9.3.17 DecoupledMessageTrigger

*DecoupledMessageTrigger* is a specialized *Trigger* (from UML) that represents the event of reception of a *DecoupledMessage*, that satisfies the condition specified by the boolean-valued *Expression* (from UML) referred to by the filter meta-association. The *Expression* can constrain the signature name and argument values of the received *DecoupledMessage*, or alternatively, the type and attribute values of the received *DecoupledMessagePayload* instance. For more details see [1, p. 219].

*DecoupledMessageTrigger* is introduced to model events representing reception of *DecoupledMessages*.



*DecoupledMessageTrigger* class inherits from *Trigger* class.

### 9.3.18 CommunicationMessageTrigger

*CommunicationMessageTrigger* is a specialized *DecoupledMessageTrigger* that represents the event of reception of a *CommunicationMessage*, that satisfies the condition specified by the boolean-valued *Expression* (from UML) referred to by the *filter* meta-association. The *Expression* can constrain the signature name and argument values of the received *CommunicationMessage*, or alternatively, the type, value of *performative* meta-attribute, and attribute values of the received *CommunicationMessagePayload* instance. For more details see [1, p. 220].

*CommunicationMessageTrigger* is introduced to model events representing reception of *CommunicationMessages*.



*CommunicationMessageTrigger* class inherits from *DecoupledMessageTrigger* class.

## 9.4 Services

The *Services* package defines metaclasses used to model services, particularly their specification, provision and usage.

### 9.4.1 ServiceSpecification

*ServiceSpecification* is a specialized *BehavioredClassifier* (from UML) and *CommunicationSpecifier*, used to specify services. A *service* is a coherent block of functionality provided by a behaviored semi-entity, called *service provider*, that can be accessed by other behaviored semi-entities (which can be either external or internal parts of the service provider), called *service clients*. The *ServiceSpecification* is used to specify properties of such services, particularly:

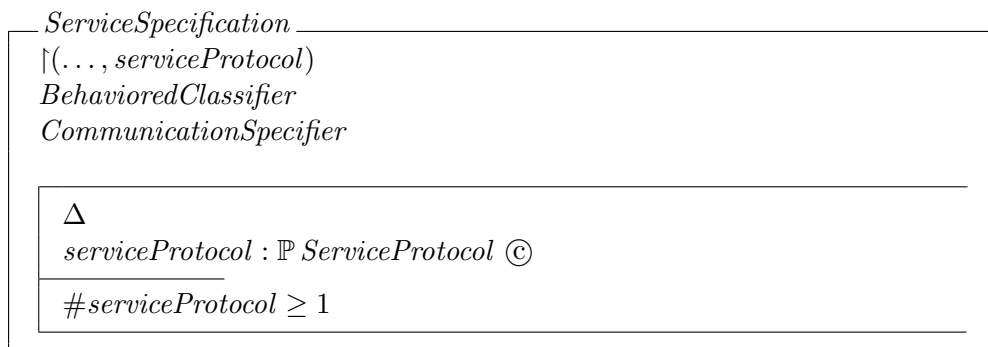
- the functionality of the services and
- the way the specified service can be accessed.

The specification of the functionality and the accessibility of a service is modeled by owned *ServiceProtocols*, i.e. *InteractionProtocols* extended with an ability to specify two mandatory, disjoint and nonempty sets of (not bound) parameters of their *TemplateSignatures*, particularly:

- provider template parameters, and
- client template parameters.

The *provider template parameters* (*providerParameter* meta-association) of all contained *ServiceProtocols* specify the set of template parameters that must be bound by the service providers, and the *client template parameters* (*clientParameter* meta-association) of all contained *ServiceProtocols* specify the set of template parameters that must be bound by the service clients. Binding of all these complementary template parameters results in the specification of the *CommunicativeInteractions* between the service providers and the service clients. For the meta-attributes defined by *CommunicationSpecifier* the overriding priority principle defined in section 9.3.8 applies. For more details see [1, p. 223].

*ServiceSpecification* is introduced to model the specification of services, particularly (a) the functionality of the service, and (b) the way the service can be accessed.



*ServiceSpecification* class inherits from *ServiceSpecification* class.

### 9.4.2 ServiceProtocol

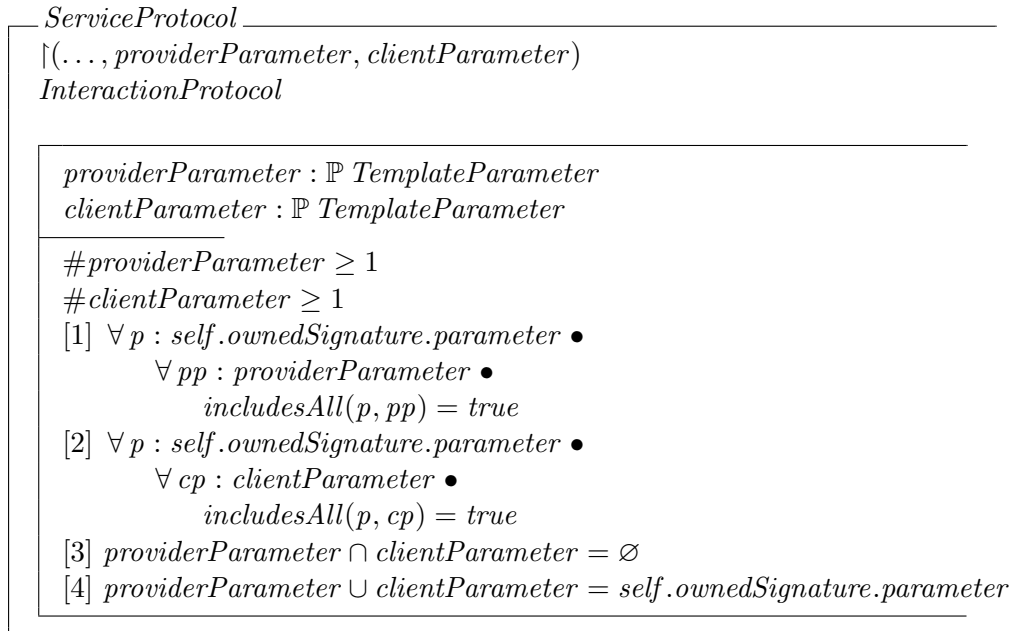
*ServiceProtocol* is a specialized *InteractionProtocol*, used only within the context of its owning *ServiceSpecification*, extended with an ability to specify two mandatory, disjoint and non-empty sets of (not bound) parameters of its *TemplateSignature* (from UML), particularly:

- *providerParameter*, i.e. a set of parameters which must be bound by providers of the service, and
- *clientParameter*, i.e. a set of parameters which must be bound by clients of the service.

Usually at least one of the provider/client parameters is used as a *Lifeline*'s type which represents a provider/client or its inner *ConnectableElements* (see UML *StructuredClassifier*). The *ServiceProtocol* can be defined either as a unique *InteractionProtocol* (a parameterized

*CommunicativeInteraction*) or as a partially bound, already defined *InteractionProtocol*. For more details see [1, p. 225].

*ServiceProtocol* is introduced to specify the parameters of an *InteractionProtocol* that must be bound by service providers and clients. *ServiceProtocols* are necessary to define *ServiceSpecifications*.



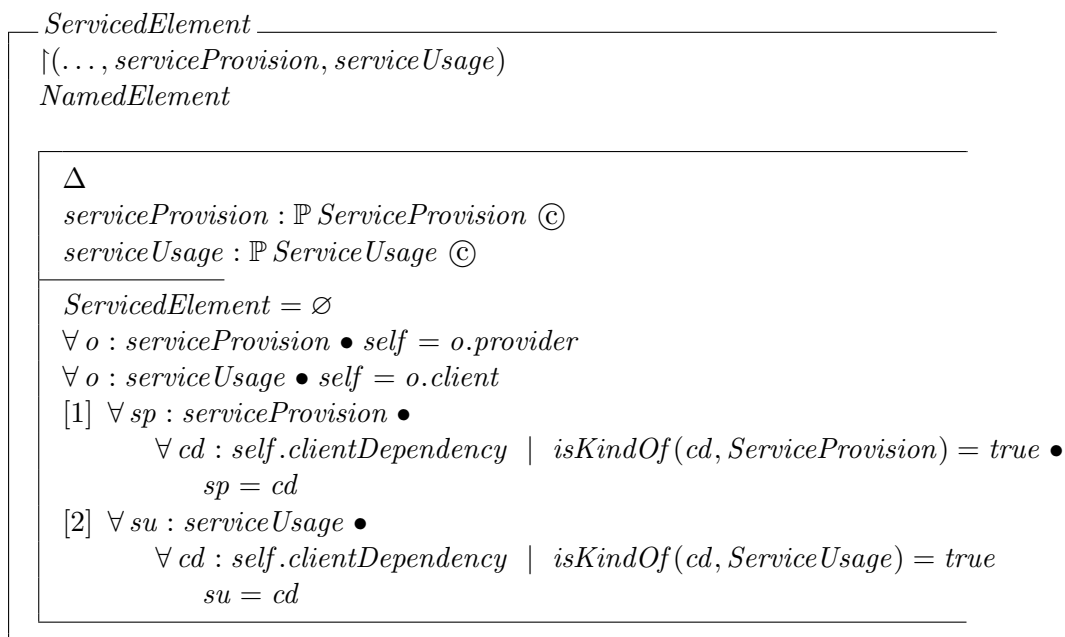
*ServiceProtocol* class inherits from *InteractionProtocol* class. Following invariants must be satisfied:

- [1] The *providerParameter* refer only to the template *parameters* belonging to the *signature* owned by a *ServiceProtocol*.
- [2] The *clientParameter* refers only to the template *parameters* belonging to the *signature* owned by a *ServiceProtocol*.
- [3] The *providerParameter* and *clientParameter* are disjoint.
- [4] The *providerParameter* and *clientParameter* together cover all *parameters* of the template *signature*.

### 9.4.3 ServicedElement

*ServicedElement* is an abstract specialized *NamedElement* (from UML) used to serve as a common superclass to all the metaclasses that can provide or use services (i.e. *BehavioralSemiEntityType*, *ServicedPort*, and *ServicedProperty*). Technically, the service provision and usage is modeled by ownership of *ServiceProvisions* and *ServiceUsages*. For more details see [1, p. 228].

*ServicedElement* is introduced to define a common superclass for all metaclasses that may provide or require services.

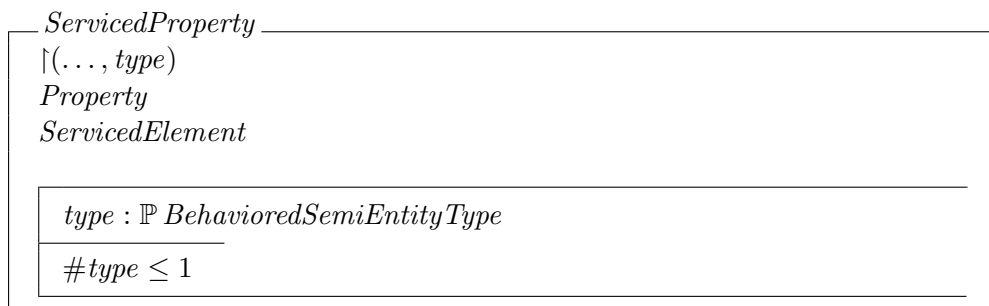


*ServicedElement* is an abstract class that inherits from *NamedElement*. Invariant [1] says that the *serviceProvision* set refers to all *clientDependencies* of the kind *ServiceProvision*. Invariant [2] states that the *serviceUsage* set refers to all *clientDependencies* of the kind *ServiceUsage*.

#### 9.4.4 ServicedProperty

*ServicedProperty* is a specialized *Property* (from UML) and *ServicedElement*, used to model attributes that can provide or use services. It determines what services are provided and used by the behaved semi entities when occur as attribute values of some objects. The type of a *ServicedProperty* is responsible for processing or mediating incoming and outgoing communication. The *ServiceProvisions* and *ServiceUsages* owned by the the *ServicedProperty* are handled by its type. For details see section 9.1.1. For more details see [1, p. 229].

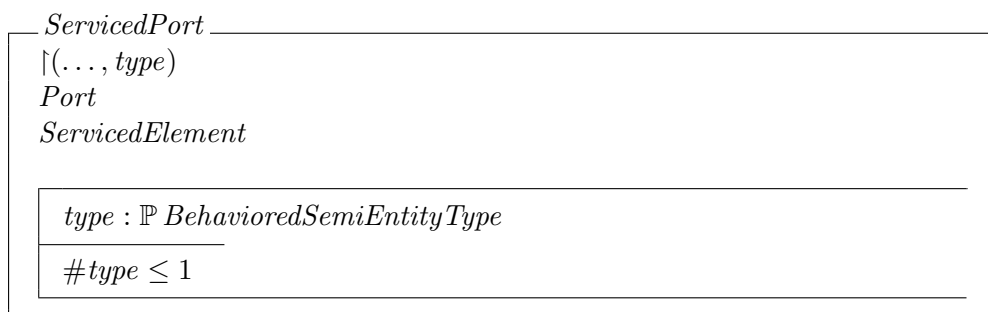
*ServicedProperty* is introduced to model attributes that can provide or use services.



*ServicedProperty* class inherits from *Property* and *ServicedElement* classes.

### 9.4.5 ServicedPort

*ServicedPort* is a specialized *Port* (from UML) and *ServicedElement* that specifies a distinct interaction point between the owning *BehavioredSemiEntityType* and other *ServicedElements* in the model. The nature of the interactions that may occur over a *ServicedPort* can, in addition to required and provided interfaces, be specified also in terms of required and provided services, particularly by associated provided and/or required *ServiceSpecifications*. The required *ServiceSpecifications* of a *ServicedPort* determine services that the owning *BehavioredSemiEntityType* expects from other *ServicedElements* and which it may access through this interaction point. The provided *ServiceSpecifications* determine the services that the owning *BehavioredSemiEntityType* offers to other *ServicedElements* at this interaction point. The type of a *ServicedPort* is responsible for processing or mediating incoming and outgoing communication. The *ServiceProvisions* and *ServiceUsages* owned by the the *ServicedPort* are handled by its type. For details see section 9.1.1 For more details see [1, p. 231].

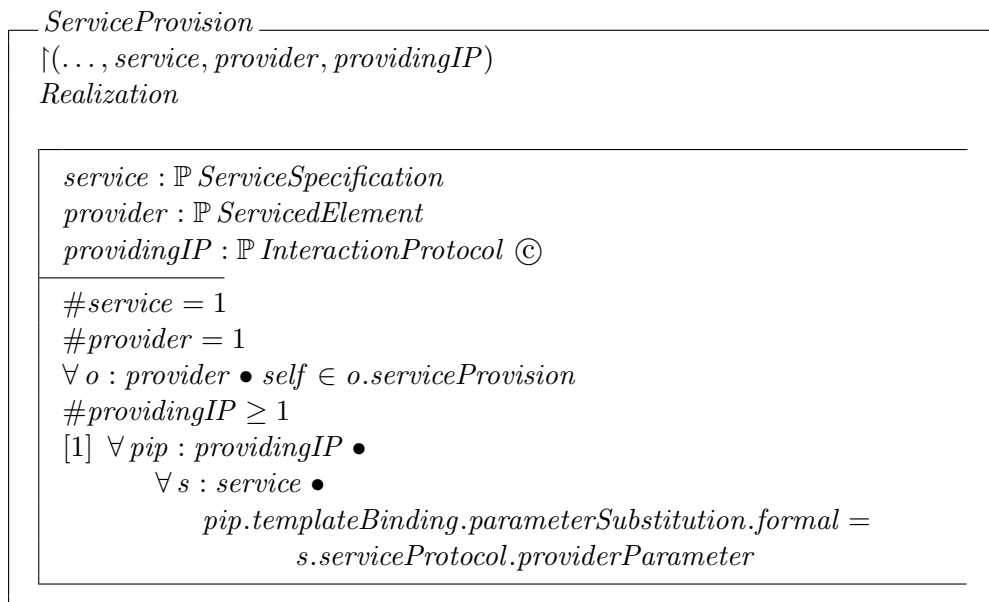


*ServicedPort* class inherits from *Port* and *ServicedElement* classes.

### 9.4.6 ServiceProvision

*ServiceProvision* is a specialized *Realization* dependency (from UML) between a *ServiceSpecification* and a *ServicedElement*, used to specify that the *ServicedElement* provides the service specified by the related *ServiceSpecification*. The details of the service provision are specified by means of owned *InteractionProtocols*, which are partially bound counterparts to all *ServiceProtocols* comprised within the related *ServiceSpecification*. Owned *InteractionProtocols* (specified by the *providingIP* meta-association) must bind all (and only those) template parameters of the corresponding *ServiceProtocol*, which are declared to be bound by a service provider. The constraints put on bindings performed by service providers and clients of a service (see section 9.4.7) guarantee complementarity of those bindings. Therefore the *InteractionProtocols* of a *ServiceProvision* and a *ServiceUsage*, which correspond to the same *ServiceSpecification*, can be merged to create concrete *CommunicativeInteractions* according to which the service is accessed. For more details see [1, p. 233].

*ServiceProvision* is introduced to specify that the *ServicedElement* provides the service specified by the related *ServiceSpecification*.



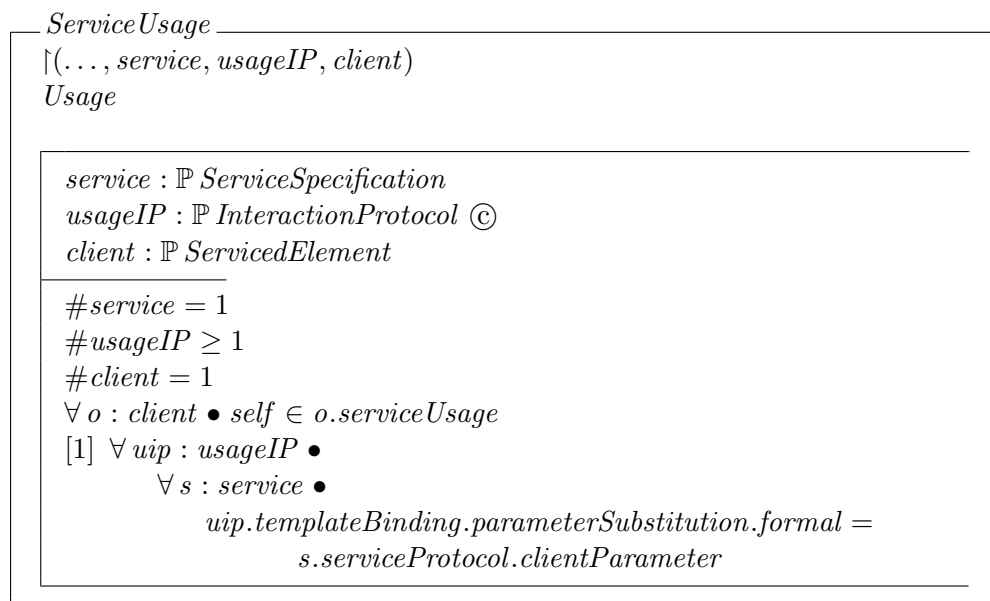
*ServiceProvision* class inherits from *Realization* class. Invariant [1] formalizes the fact that the *providingIP* binds all (and only) the *providerParameters* from all the *service*'s *ServiceProtocols*.

#### 9.4.7 ServiceUsage

*ServiceUsage* is a specialized *Usage* dependency (from UML) between a *ServiceSpecification* and a *ServicedElement*, used to specify that the *ServicedElement* uses or requires (can request) the service specified by the related *ServiceSpecification*. The details of the service usage are specified by means of owned *InteractionProtocols*, which are partially bound counterparts to all *ServiceProtocols* comprised within the related *ServiceSpecification*. Owned *InteractionProtocols* (specified by the *usageIP* meta-association) must bind all (and only those) template parameters of the corresponding *ServiceProtocol*, which are declared to be bound by a client of the service. The constraints put on bindings performed by service providers (see section 9.4.6) and clients of a service guarantee complementarity of those bindings. Therefore the *InteractionProtocols* of a *ServiceProvision* and a *ServiceUsage*, which correspond to the same *ServiceSpecification*, can be merged to create concrete *CommunicativeInteractions* according to which the service is accessed. For more details see [1, p. 235].

*ServiceUsage* is introduced to specify that the *ServicedElement* uses the service specified by the related *ServiceSpecification*.





*ServiceUsage* class inherits from *Usage* class. Invariant [1] says that the *usageIP* binds all and only the *clientParameters* from all *service*'s *ServiceProtocols*.

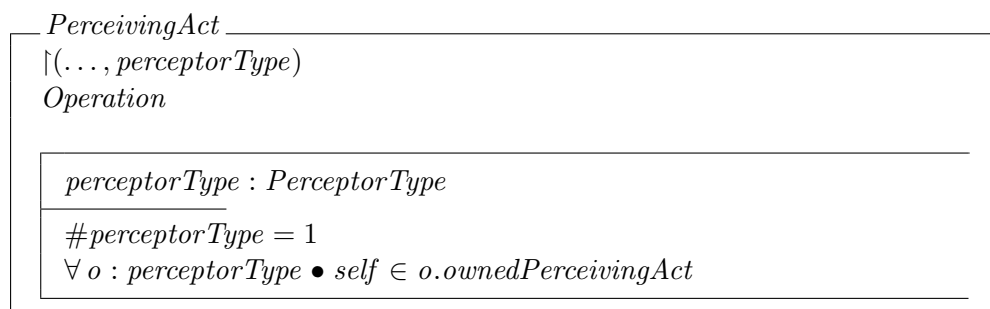
## 9.5 Observations and Effecting Interactions

The *Observations and Effecting Interactions* package defines metaclasses used to model structural and behavioral aspects of observations (i.e. the ability of entities to observe features of other entities) and effecting interactions (i.e. the ability of entities to manipulate or modify the state of other entities).

### 9.5.1 PerceivingAct

*PerceivingAct* is a specialized *Operation* (from UML) which is owned by a *PerceptorType* and thus can be used to specify what perceptions the owning *PerceptorType*, or a *Perceptor* of that *PerceptorType*, can perform. For more details see [1, p. 238].

*PerceivingAct* is introduced to specify which perceptions the owning *PerceptorType*, or a *Perceptor* of that *PerceptorType*, can perform.



*PerceivingAct* class inherits from *Operation* class.

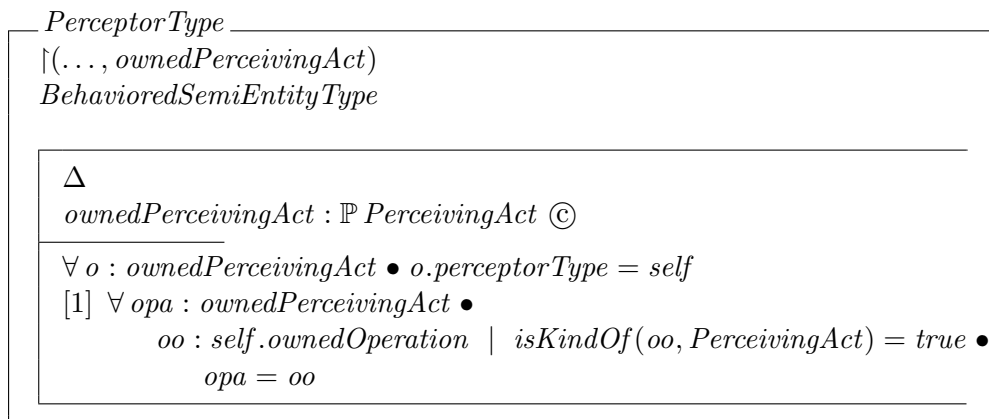
### 9.5.2 PerceptorType

*PerceptorType* is a specialized *BehavioedSemiEntityType* used to model the type of *Perceptors*, in terms of owned:

- *Receptions* (from UML) and
- *PerceivingActs*.

For more details see [1, p. 239].

*PerceptorType* is introduced to model types of *Perceptors*.

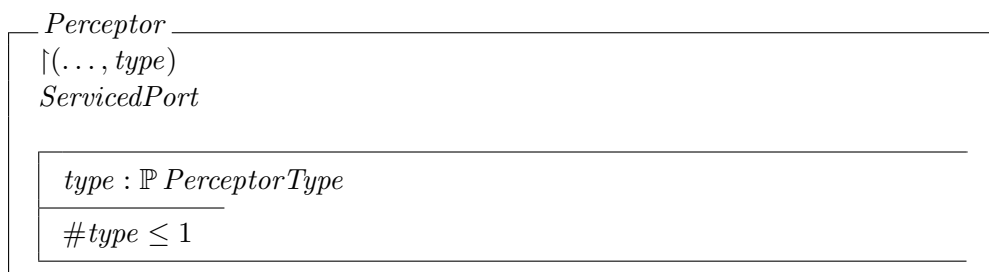


*PerceptorType* class inherits from *BehavioedSemiEntityType* class. Invariant [1] says that the *ownedPerceivingAct* set refers to all *ownedOperations* of the kind *PerceivingAct*.

### 9.5.3 Perceptor

*Perceptor* is a specialized *ServicedPort* used to model capability of its owner (a *BehavioedSemiEntityType*) to observe, i.e. perceive a state of and/or to receive a signal from observed objects. What observations a *Perceptor* is capable of is specified by its type, i.e. *PerceptorType*. For more details see [1, p. 241].

*Perceptor* is introduced to model the capability of its owner to observe.

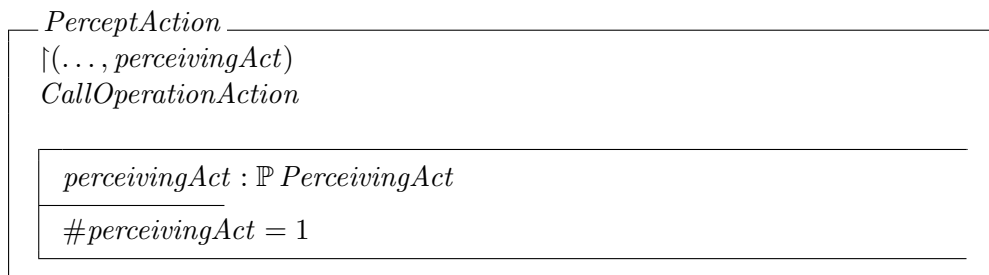


*Perceptor* class inherits from *ServicedPort* class.

### 9.5.4 PerceptAction

*PerceptAction* is a specialized *CallOperationAction* (from UML) which can call *PerceivingActs*. As such, *PerceptAction* can transmit an operation call request to a *PerceivingAct*, what causes the invocation of the associated behavior. *PerceptAction* being a *CallOperationAction* allows to call *PerceivingActs* both synchronously and asynchronously. For more details see [1, p. 243].

*PerceptAction* is introduced to model observations in *Activities*.



*PerceptAction* class inherits from *CallOperationAction* class.

### 9.5.5 Perceives

*Perceives* is a specialized *Dependency* (from UML) used to model which elements can observe others. Suppliers of the *Perceives* dependency are the observed elements, particularly *NamedElements* (from UML). Clients of the *Perceives* dependency represent the objects that observe. They are usually modeled as:

- *BehavioeredSemiEntityTypeTypes*,
- *PerceivingActs*,
- *PerceptorTypes*, or
- *Perceptors*.

For more details see [1, p. 244].

*Perceives* is introduced to model which elements can observe others.

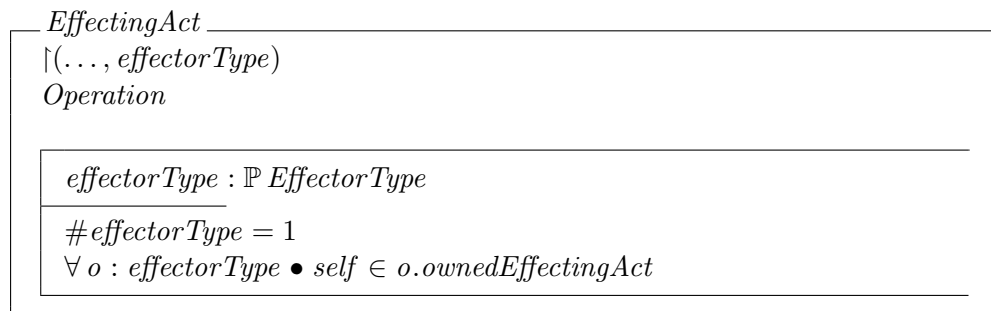


*Perceives* class inherits from *Dependency* class.

### 9.5.6 EffectingAct

*EffectingAct* is a specialized *Operation* (from UML) which is owned by an *EffectorType* and thus can be used to specify what effecting acts the owning *EffectorType*, or an *Effector* of that *EffectorType*, can perform. For more details see [1, p. 245].

*EffectingAct* is introduced to specify which effecting acts the owning *EffectorType*, or an *Effector* of that *EffectorType*, can perform.

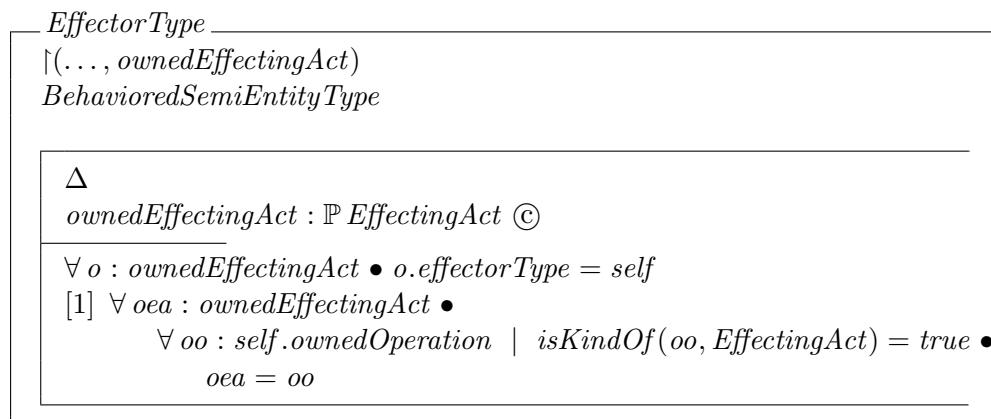


*EffectingAct* is an Object-Z class, which inherits from *Operation*.

### 9.5.7 EffectorType

*EffectorType* is a specialized *BehavioredSemiEntityType* used to model type of *Effectors*, in terms of owned *EffectingActs*. For more details see [1, p. 246].

*EffectorType* is introduced to model types of *Effectors*.

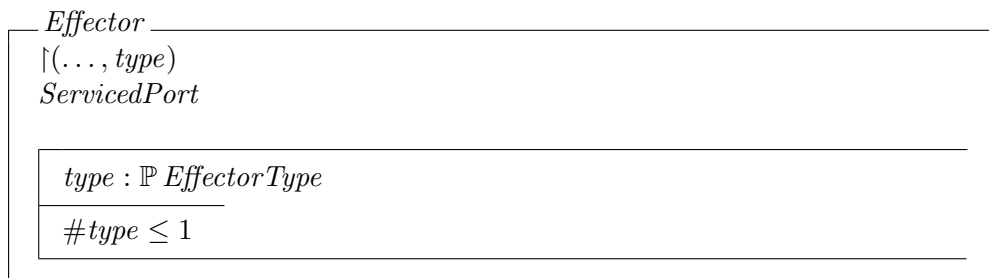


*EffectorType* class inherits from *BehavioredSemiEntityType* class. Invariant [1] formalizes the fact that the *ownedEffectingAct* set refers to all *ownedOperations* of the kind *EffectingAct*.

### 9.5.8 Effector

*Effector* is a specialized *ServicedPort* used to model the capability of its owner (a *BehavioredSemiEntityType*) to bring about an effect on others, i.e. to directly manipulate with (or modify a state of) some other objects. What effects an *Effector* is capable of is specified by its type, i.e. *EffectorType*. For more details see [1, p. 247].

*Effector* is introduced to model the capability of its owner to bring about an effect on other objects.

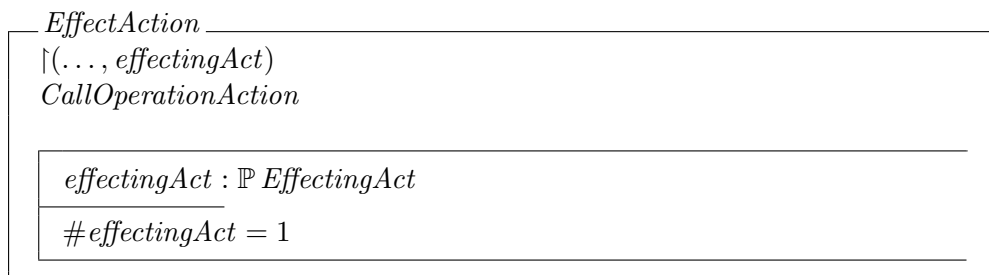


*Effector* class inherits from *ServicedPort* class.

### 9.5.9 EffectAction

*EffectAction* is a specialized *CallOperationAction* (from UML) which can call *EffectingActs*. Thus, an *EffectAction* can transmit an operation call request to an *EffectingAct*, which causes the invocation of the associated behavior. *EffectAction* being a *CallOperationAction* allows calling *EffectingActs* both synchronously and asynchronously. For more details see [1, p. 248].

*EffectAction* is introduced to model effections in *Activities*.



*EffectAction* class inherits from *CallOperationAction* class.

### 9.5.10 Effects

*Effects* is a specialized *Dependency* (from UML) used to model which elements can effect others. Suppliers of the *Effects* dependency are the effected elements, particularly *NamedElements* (from UML). Clients of the *Effects* dependency represent the objects which effect. They are usually modeled as:

- *BehavioredSemiEntityTypes*,
- *EffectingActs*,
- *EffectorTypes*, or
- *Effectors*.

For more details see [1, p. 249].

*Effects* is introduced to model which elements can effect others.

<i>Effects</i> <i>Dependency</i>
-------------------------------------

Effects class inherits from Dependency class.

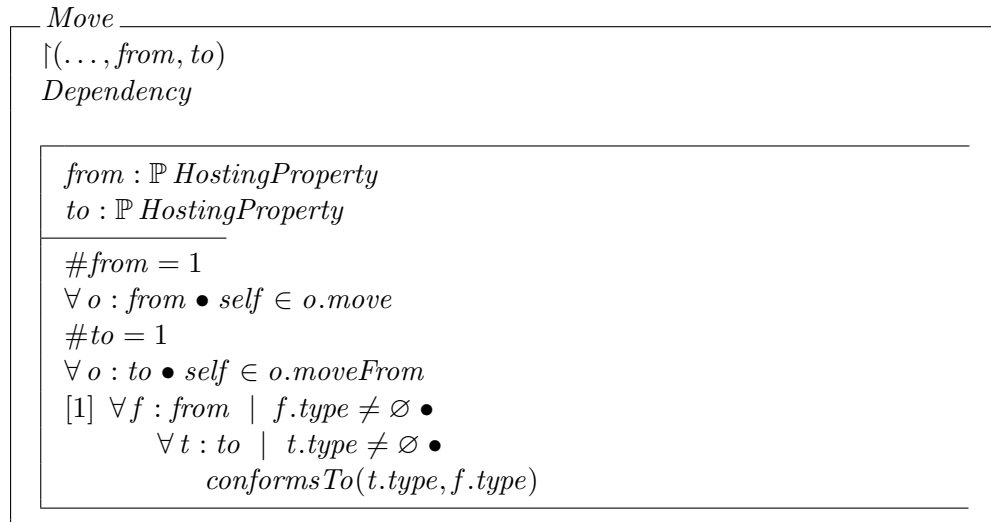
## 9.6 Mobility

The *Mobility* package defines metaclasses used to model structural and behavioral aspects of entity mobility.

### 9.6.1 Move

*Move* is a specialized *Dependency* (from UML) between two *HostingProperties* used to specify that the entities represented by the source *HostingProperty* (specified by the from meta-association) can be moved/transferred to the instances of the *AgentExecutionEnvironment* owning the destination *HostingProperty* (specified by the to meta-association). For more details see [1, p. 250].

*Move* is introduced to model the movement of entities between instances of *AgentExecutionEnvironments*.

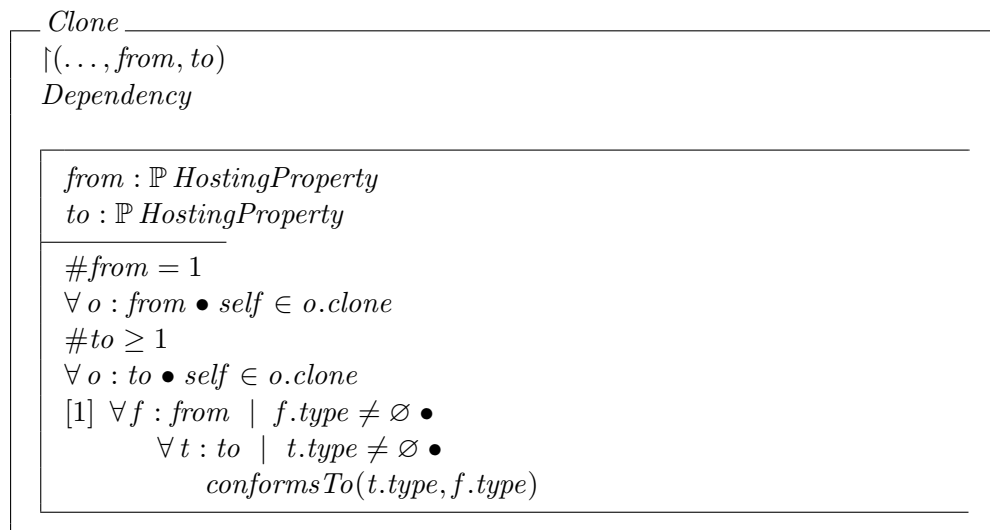


*Move* class inherits from *Dependency* class. Invariant [1] says that if both *types* are specified, then the *type* of the *HostingProperty* referred to by the *to* set must conform to the *type* of the *HostingProperty* referred to by the *from* set.

### 9.6.2 Clone

*Clone* is a specialized *Dependency* (from UML) between *HostingProperties* used to specify that entities represented by the source *HostingProperty* (specified by the from meta-association) can be cloned to the instances of the *AgentExecutionEnvironment* owning the destination *HostingProperties* (specified by the to meta-association). For more details see [1, p. 252].

*Clone* is introduced to model the cloning of entities among instances of *AgentExecutionEnvironments*.



*Clone* class inherits from *Dependency* class. Invariant [1] express the following condition – if both *types* are specified, then the *types* of the *HostingProperties* referred to by the *to* set must conform to the *type* of the *HostingProperty* referred to by the *from* set.

### 9.6.3 MobilityAction

*MobilityAction* is an abstract specialized *AddStructuralFeatureValueAction* (from UML) used to model mobility actions of entities, i.e. actions that cause movement or cloning of an entity from one *AgentExecutionEnvironment* to another one. *MobilityAction* specifies:

- which entity is being moved or cloned (entity meta-association),
- the destination *AgentExecutionEnvironment* instance where the entity is being moved or cloned (to meta-association), and
- the *HostingProperty* owned by the destination *AgentExecutionEnvironment*, where the moved or cloned entity is being placed (*toHostingProperty* meta-association).

If the destination *HostingProperty* is ordered, the *insertAt* meta-association (inherited from *AddStructuralFeatureValueAction*) specifies the position at which to insert the entity. *MobilityAction* has two concrete subclasses:

- *MoveAction* and
- *CloneAction*.

For more details see [1, p. 253].

*MobilityAction* is introduced to define the common features of all its subclasses.

<p><i>MobilityAction</i></p> <p><math>\uparrow(\dots, to, toHostingProperty, entity)</math>  <i>AddStructuralFeatureValueAction</i></p>
<p><math>to : \mathbb{P} \text{InputPin} \textcircled{C}</math>  <math>toHostingProperty : \mathbb{P} \text{HostingProperty}</math>  <math>entity : \mathbb{P} \text{InputPin} \textcircled{C}</math></p>
<p><math>MobilityAction = \emptyset</math>  <math>\#to = 1</math>  <math>\#toHostingProperty = 1</math>  <math>\#entity = 1</math>  [1] <math>\forall e : entity \mid e.type \neq \emptyset \bullet</math>  <math>isKindOf(e.type, EntityType) = true</math>  [2] <math>\forall t : to \mid t.type \neq \emptyset \bullet</math>  <math>isKindOf(t.type, AgentExecutionEnvironment) = true</math>  [3] <math>\forall t : to \mid t.type \neq \emptyset \bullet</math>  <math>thp : toHostingProperty \bullet</math>  <math>thp \in t.type.ownedAttribute</math></p>

*MobilityAction* is an abstract class that inherits from *AddStructuralFeatureValueAction* class. Following invariants must be satisfied:

- [1] If the *type* of the *InputPin* referred to by the *entity* set is specified, it must be an *EntityType*.
- [2] If the *type* of the *InputPin* referred to by the *to* set is specified, it must be an *AgentExecutionEnvironment*.
- [3] If the *type* of the *InputPin* referred to by the *to* set is specified, the *HostingProperty* referred to by the *toHostingProperty* set must be an *ownedAttribute* of that type.

#### 9.6.4 MoveAction

*MoveAction* is a specialized *MobilityAction* used to model an action that results in a removal of the entity (specified by the *entity* meta-association, inherited from *MobilityAction*) from its current hosting location, and its insertion as a value to the destination *HostingProperty* (specified by the *toHostingProperty* meta-association, inherited from *MobilityAction*) of the owning *AgentExecutionEnvironment* instance (specified as the *to* meta-association, inherited from *MobilityAction*). For more details see [1, p. 255].

*MoveAction* is introduced to model the movement of entities in *Activities*.

<p><i>MoveAction</i></p> <p><i>MobilityAction</i></p>
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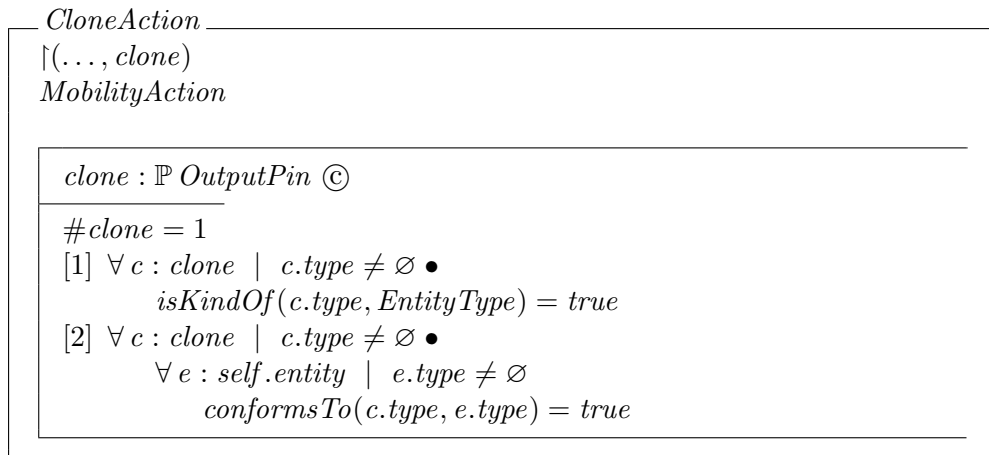
*MoveAction* class inherits from *MobilityAction* class.



### 9.6.5 CloneAction

*CloneAction* is a specialized *MobilityAction* used to model an action that results in a insertion of a clone of the entity (specified by the *entity* meta-association, inherited from *MobilityAction*) as a value to the destination *HostingProperty* (specified by the *toHostingProperty* metaassociation, inherited from *MobilityAction*) of the owning *AgentExecutionEnvironment* instance (specified as the *to* meta-association, inherited from *MobilityAction*). The original entity remains running at its current hosting location. The entity clone is represented by the action's *OutputPin* (specified by the *clone* meta-association). For more details see [1, p. 256].

*CloneAction* is introduced to model the cloning of entities in *Activities*.



*CloneAction* class inherits from *MobilityAction* class. Following invariants must be satisfied:

- [1] If the *type* of the *OutputPin* referred to by the *clone* set is specified, it must be an *EntityType*.
- [2] The *type* of the *OutputPin* referred to by the *clone* set must conform to the *type* of the *InputPin* referred to by the *entity* set, if the both specified.

## Chapter 10

# Mental

The *Mental* package defines the metaclasses which can be used to:

- support analysis of complex problems/systems, particularly by:
  - modeling intentionality in use case models,
  - goal-based requirements modeling,
  - problem decomposition, etc.
- model mental attitudes of autonomous entities, which represent their informational, motivational and deliberative states.

### 10.1 Mental States

The *Mental States* package comprises common fundamental metaclasses used to define concrete metaclasses contained within the rest of the Mental sub-packages, i.e. Beliefs, Goals, Plans and Mental Relationships.

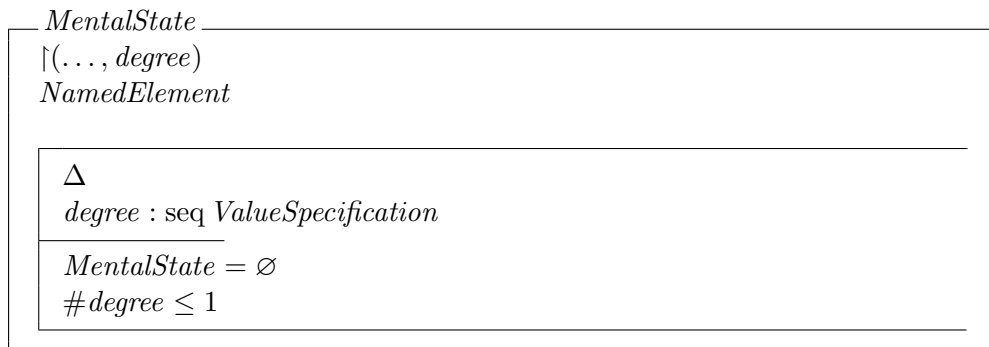
#### 10.1.1 MentalState

*MentalState* is an abstract specialized *NamedElement* (from UML) serving as a common superclass to all metaclasses which can be used for:

- modeling mental attitudes of *MentalSemiEntityType*s, which represent their informational, motivational and deliberative states, and
- support for the human mental process of requirements specification and analysis of complex problems/systems, particularly by:
  - expressing intentionality in use case models,
  - goal-based requirements modeling,
  - problem decomposition, etc.

For more details see [1, p. 263].

*MentalState* is introduced to define the common features of all its subclasses.

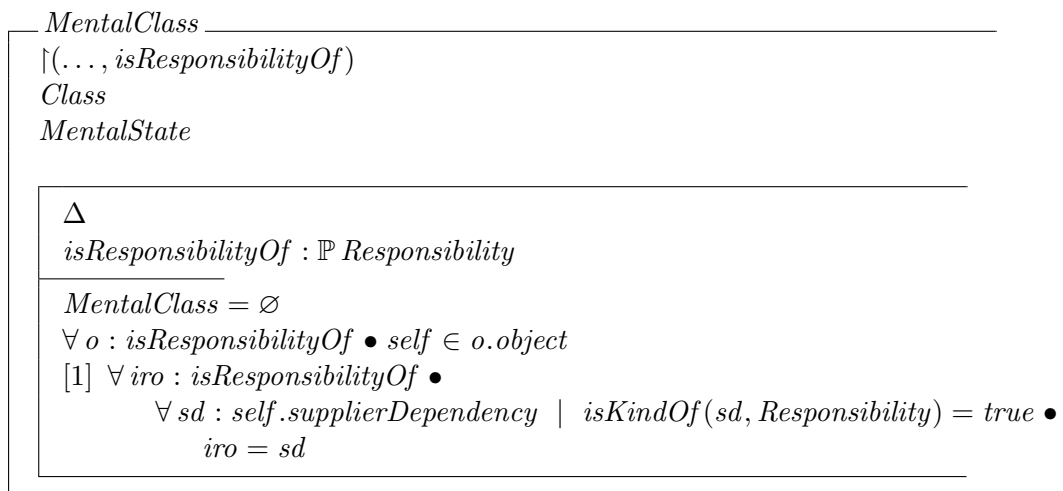


*MentalState* class inherits from *NamedElement* class.

### 10.1.2 MentalClass

*MentalClass* is an abstract specialized *Class* (from UML) and *MentalState* serving as a common superclass to all the metaclasses which can be used to specify mental attitudes of *MentalSemiEntityType*s. Technically, *MentalProperties* can only be of the *MentalClass* type. Furthermore, the *object* meta-association of the *Responsibility* relationship can also only be of the *MentalClass* type. For more details see [1, p. 264].

*MentalClass* is introduced to specify the mental attitudes of *MentalSemiEntityType*s and objects of *Responsibility* relationship.



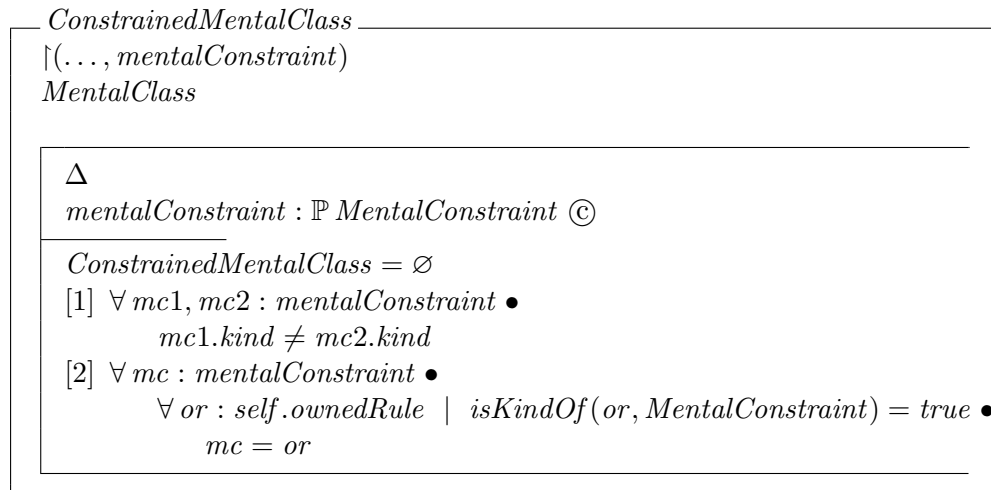
*MentalClass* is an abstract class that inherits from *Class* and *MentalState* classes. Invariant [1] says that the *isResponsibilityOf* set refers to all *supplierDependencies* of the kind *Responsibility*.

### 10.1.3 ConstrainedMentalClass

*ConstrainedMentalClass* is an abstract specialized *MentalClass* which allows its concrete subclasses to specify *MentalConstraints*. Note: To avoid misinterpretation of a set of

multiple *MentalConstraints* of the same kind defined within one *ConstrainedMentalClass*, AML allows the specification of only one *MentalConstraint* of a given kind within one *ConstrainedMentalClass*. For more details see [1, p. 264].

*ConstrainedMentalClass* is introduced to allow the specification of *MentalConstraints* for all its subclasses.



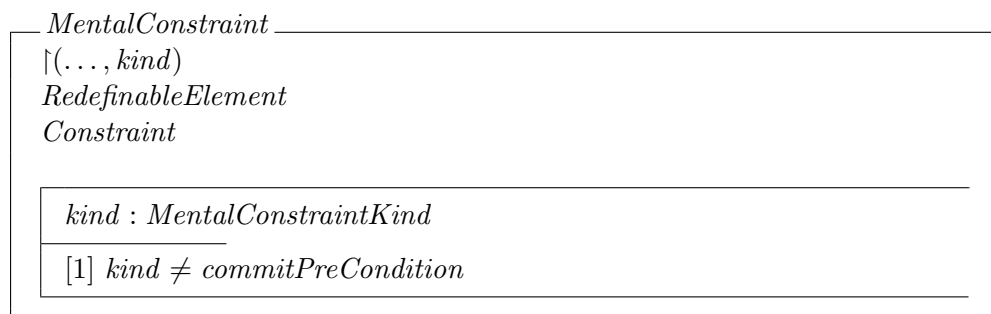
*ConstrainedMentalClass* is an abstract class that inherits from *MentalClass* class. Following invariants must be satisfied:

- [1] Each *mentalConstraint* must have a different kind.
- [2] The *mentalConstraint* set refers to all *ownedRules* of the kind *MentalConstraint*.

#### 10.1.4 MentalConstraint

*MentalConstraint* is a specialized *Constraint* (from UML) and *RedefinableElement* (from UML), used to specify properties of *ConstrainedMentalClasses* which can be used within mental (reasoning) processes of owning *MentalSemiEntityTypeTypes*, i.e. pre- and post-conditions, commit conditions, cancel conditions and invariants. *MentalConstraint*, in addition to *Constraint*, allows specification of the kind of the constraint (for details see section 10.1.5). *MentalConstraints* can be owned only by *ConstrainedMentalClasses*. *MentalConstraint*, being a *RedefinableElement*, allows the redefinition of the values of constraint specifications (given by the specification meta-association inherited from UML *Constraint*), e.g. in the case of inherited owned *ConstrainedMentalClasses*, or redefinition specified by *MentalProperties*. For more details see [1, p. 265].

*MentalConstraint* is introduced to specify the properties of *ConstrainedMentalClasses* which can be used within mental (reasoning) processes of owning *MentalSemiEntityTypeTypes*.



*MentalConstraint* class inherits from *RedefinableElement* and *Constraint* classes. Invariant [1] says that the *commitPreCondition* literal cannot be the value of the *kind* object.

### 10.1.5 MentalConstraintKind

*MentalConstraintKind* is an enumeration which specifies kinds of *MentalConstraints*, as well as kinds of constraints specified for *contributor* and *beneficiary* in the *Contribution* relationship. If needed, the set of *MentalConstraintKind* enumeration literals can be extended. For more details see [1, p. 266].

*MentalConstraintKind* is introduced to specify the kinds of *MentalConstraints* and ends of a *Contribution* relationship.

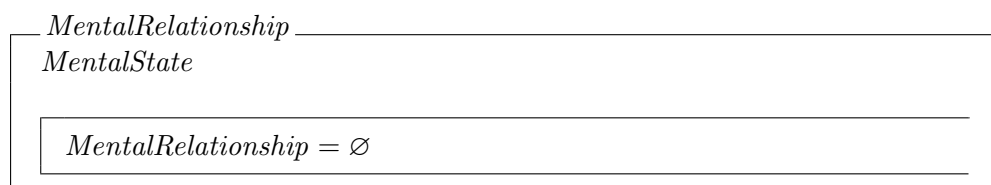
$$\textit{MentalConstraintKind} ::= \textit{commitCondition} \mid \textit{preCondition} \mid \textit{commitPreCondition} \\ \mid \textit{invariant} \mid \textit{cancelCondition} \mid \textit{postCondition}$$

*MentalConstraintKind* is an enumeration, which has *commitCondition*, *preCondition*, *commitPreCondition*, *invariant*, *cancelCondition*, and *postCondition* values.

### 10.1.6 MentalRelationship

*MentalRelationship* is an abstract specialized *MentalState*, a superclass to all metaclasses defining the relationships between *MentalStates*. There is one concrete subclass of the *MentalRelationship-Contribution*. For more details see [1, p. 267].

*MentalRelationship* is introduced as a superclass to all metaclasses defining the relationships between *MentalStates*.



*MentalRelationship* is an abstract class, which inherits from *MentalRelationship* class.

### 10.1.7 MentalSemiEntityType

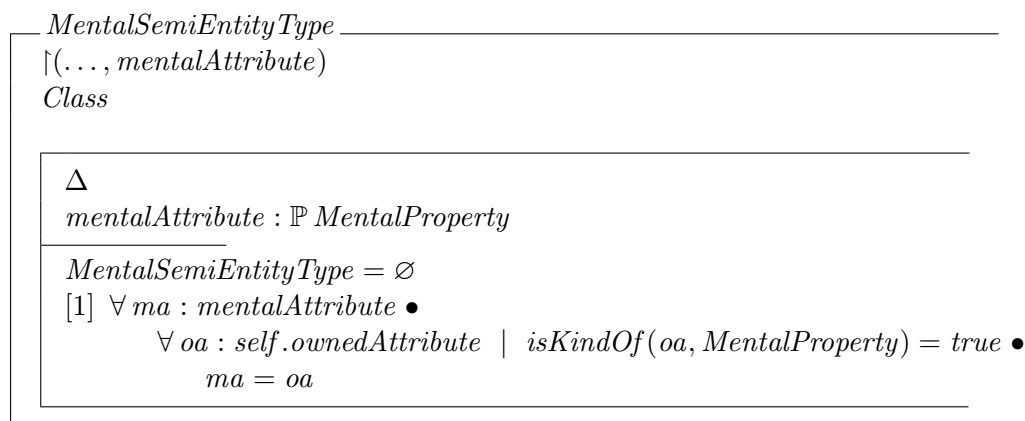
*MentalSemiEntityType* is a specialized abstract *Class* (from UML), a superclass to all metaclasses which can own *MentalProperties*, i.e. *AutonomousEntityType* and *EntityRole-*

*Type*. The ownership of a *MentalProperty* of a particular *MentalClass* type means that instances of the owning *MentalSemiEntityType* have control over instances of that *MentalClass*, i.e. they have (at least to some extent) a power or authority to manipulate those *MentalClass* instances (their decisions about those *MentalClass* instances are, to some degree, autonomous). For example, a *MentalClass* instance can decide:

- which *Goal* is to be achieved and which not,
- when and how the particular *Goal* instance is to be achieved,
- whether the particular *Goal* instance is already achieved or not,
- which *Plan* to execute, etc.

Instances of *MentalSemiEntityTypes* are referred to as mental semi-entities. For more details see [1, p. 268].

*MentalSemiEntityType* is introduced as a common superclass to all metaclasses which can own *MentalProperties*.



*MentalSemiEntityType* is an abstract class, which inherits from *Class* class. Invariant [1] express following condition – the *mentalAttribute* set refers to all *ownedAttributes* of the kind *MentalProperty*.

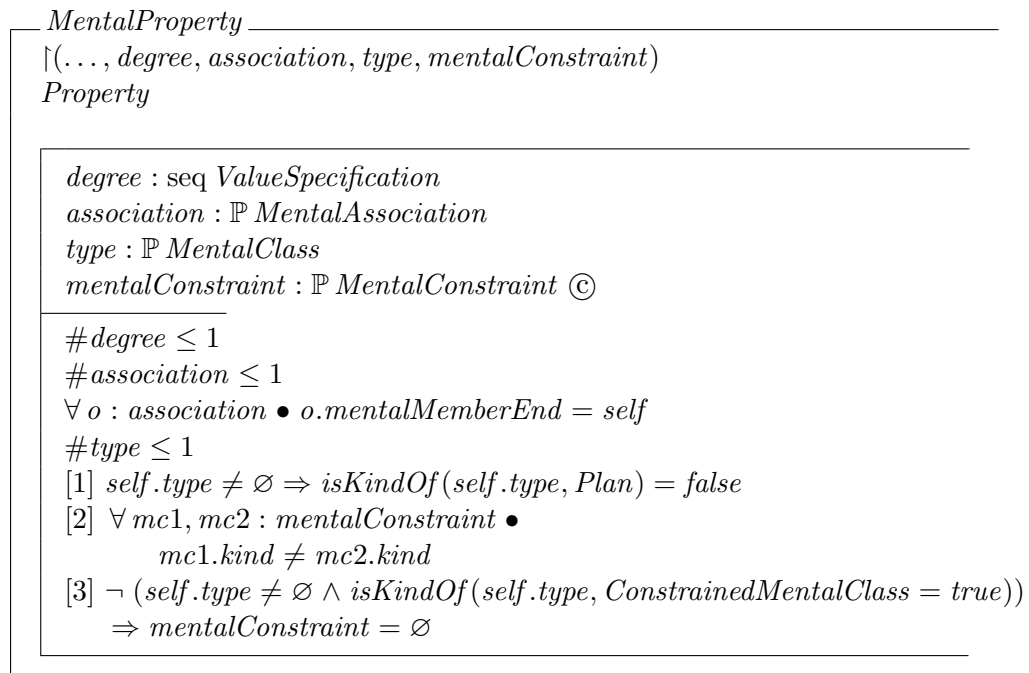
### 10.1.8 MentalProperty

*MentalProperty* is a specialized *Property* (from UML) used to specify that instances of its owner (i.e. mental semi-entities) have control over instances of the *MentalClasses* of its type, e.g. can decide whether to believe or not (and to what extent) in a *Belief*, or whether and when to commit to a *Goal*. The attitude of a mental semi-entity to a belief or commitment to a goal is modeled by a *Belief* instance, or a *Goal* instance, being held in a slot of the corresponding *MentalProperty*. The type of a *MentalProperty* can be only a *MentalClass*. *MentalProperties* can be owned only by:

- *MentalSemiEntityTypes* as attributes, or
- *MentalAssociations* as member ends.

*MentalProperties* (except of *MentalProperties* of *Belief* type) can own *MentalConstraints* (each of a different type) to allow the redefinition of *MentalConstraints* of their types. The redefinition rules are described in section 10.1.4. *Note*: The *Plans* controlled by *MentalSemiEntityType*s are modeled as owned UML *Activities*, and therefore use of *Plans* as types of *MentalProperties* is forbidden, even if they are specialized *MentalClasses*. For more details see [1, p. 268].

*MentalProperty* is introduced to specify that mental semi-entities have control over *Goal* and *Belief* instances.



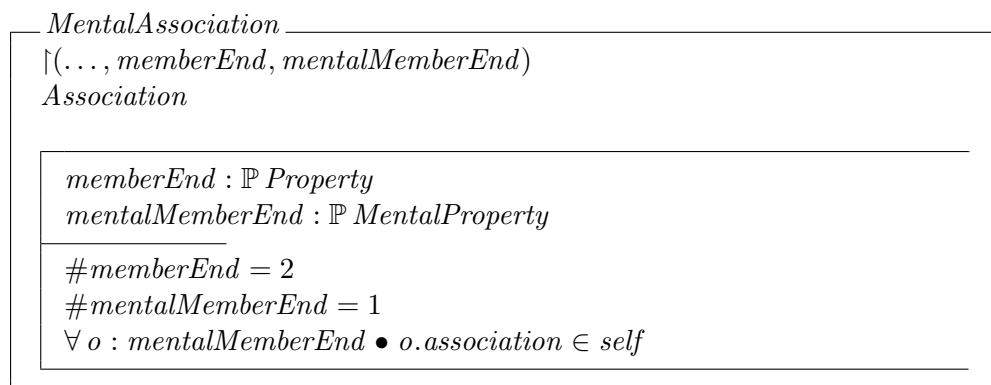
*MentalProperty* class inherits from *Property* class. Following invariants must be satisfied:

- [1] If the *type* set is specified, the *MentalClass* referred to by it cannot be a *Plan*.
- [2] Each *mentalConstraint* must have different kind.
- [3] The *mentalConstraints* can be specified only for a *ConstrainedMentalClass*.

### 10.1.9 MentalAssociation

*MentalAssociation* is a specialized *Association* (from UML) between a *MentalSemiEntityType* and a *MentalClass* used to specify a *MentalProperty* of the *MentalSemiEntityType* in the form of an association end. *MentalAssociation* is always binary. An instance of the *MentalAssociation* is called *mental link*. For more details see [1, p. 272].

*MentalAssociation* is introduced to enable modeling of *MentalProperties* in the form of association ends. It is used to specify that mental semi-entities have control over *Goal* and *Belief* instances.

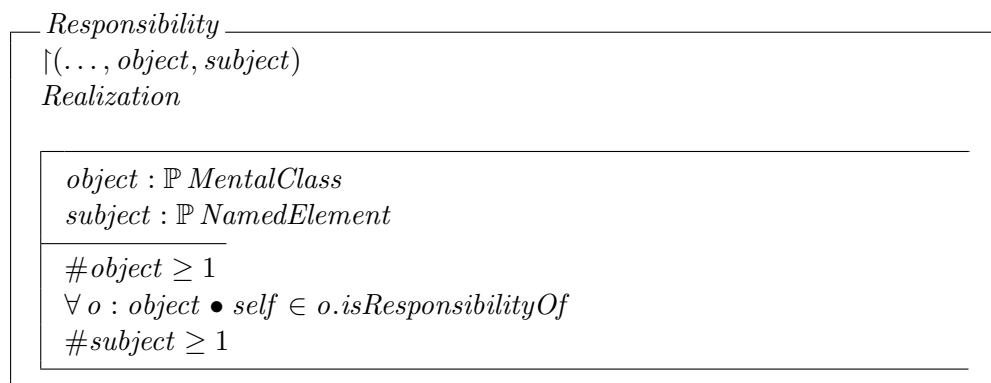


*MentalAssociation* class inherits from *Association* class.

### 10.1.10 Responsibility

*Responsibility* is a specialized *Realization* (from UML) used to model a relation between *MentalClasses* (called *responsibility objects*) and *NamedElements* (from UML) (called *responsibility subjects*) that are obligated to accomplish (or to contribute to the accomplishment of) those *MentalClasses* (e.g. modification of *Beliefs*, or achievement or maintenance of *Goals*, or realization of *Plans*). For more details see [1, p. 273].

*Responsibility* is introduced to model which *NamedElements* are responsible for (or contribute to) the accomplishment of instances of which *MentalClasses*.



*Responsibility* class inherits from *Realization* class.

## 10.2 Beliefs

The *Beliefs* package defines metaclasses used to model beliefs.

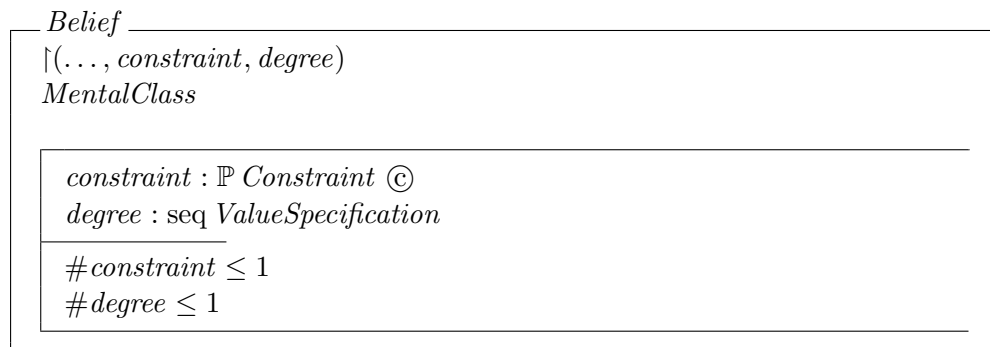
### 10.2.1 Belief

*Belief* is a specialized *MentalClass* used to model a state of affairs, proposition or other information relevant to the system and its mental model. If an instance of a *Belief* is held in a slot of a mental semientity's *MentalProperty*, it represents the information which



the mental semi-entity believes, and which does not need to be objectively true. The ability of a *MentalSemiEntityType* to believe in beliefs of a particular type is modeled by the ownership of a *MentalProperty* of the corresponding type. The belief referred to by several mental semi-entities simultaneously represents their *common belief*. The *degree* meta-association of a *Belief* specifies the reliability or confidence in the information specified by the *Belief*'s constraint, i.e. a degree to which it is believed that the information specified by the *Belief* is true. AML does not specify either the syntax or semantics of *degree*'s values, users are free to define and use their own. For example the values can be real numbers, integers, enumeration literals, expressions, etc. The specification of the information a *Belief* represents is expressed by the owned *Constraint* (from UML). When inherited, the owned constraint is overridden. It is possible to specify attributes and/or operations for a *Belief*, to represent its parameters and functions, which can both be used in the owned constraint as static or computed values. For more details see [1, p. 275].

*Belief* is introduced to model beliefs.



*Belief* class inherits from *MentalClass* class.

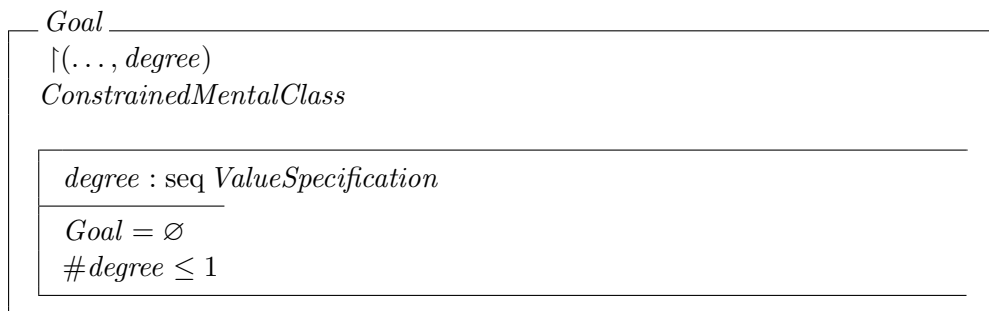
## 10.3 Goals

The *Goals* package defines metaclasses used to model goals.

### 10.3.1 Goal

*Goal* is an abstract specialized *ConstrainedMentalClass* used to model goals, i.e. conditions or states of affairs, with which the main concern is their achievement or maintenance. The *Goals* can thus be used to represent objectives, needs, motivations, desires, etc. Commitment of a mental semi-entity to a goal is modeled by containment of the corresponding Goal instance by the value of the mental semi-entity's *MentalProperty*. The goal to which several mental semi-entities are committed to simultaneously represents their *common goal*. The meta-attribute *degree* specifies the relative importance or appropriateness of the *Goal*. AML does not specify either the syntax or semantics of *degree*'s values, users are free to define and use their own. *Goals* can have attributes to specify parameters of their instances, e.g. the goal "Buy car" can have attributes carType, carColor, or maxPrice. *Goals* can have also operations to compute e.g. utility function(s) to determine how valuable the goal is, or operations computing the parameters of goals, etc. For more details see [1, p. 279].

*Goal* is introduced to define the common features of all its subclasses that are used to model concrete types of goals.



*Goal* is an abstract class that inherits from *ConstrainedMentalClass* class.

### 10.3.2 DecidableGoal

*DecidableGoal* is a specialized concrete *Goal* used to model goals for which there are clear-cut criteria according to which the goal-holder can decide whether the *DecidableGoal* (particularly its *postCondition*; for details see section 10.1.5) has been achieved or not. For more details see [1, p. 278].

*DecidableGoal* is introduced to explicitly model decidable goals.



*DecidableGoal* class inherits from *Goal* class.

### 10.3.3 UndecidableGoal

*UndecidableGoal* is a specialized concrete *Goal* used to model goals for which there are no clear-cut criteria according to which the goalholder can decide whether the *postCondition* (see section 10.1.5 for details) of the *UndecidableGoal* is achieved or not. For more details see [1, p. 280].

*UndecidableGoal* is introduced to explicitly model undecidable goals.



*UndecidableGoal* class inherits from *Goal* class.

## 10.4 Plans

The *Plans* package defines metaclasses devoted to modeling plans.

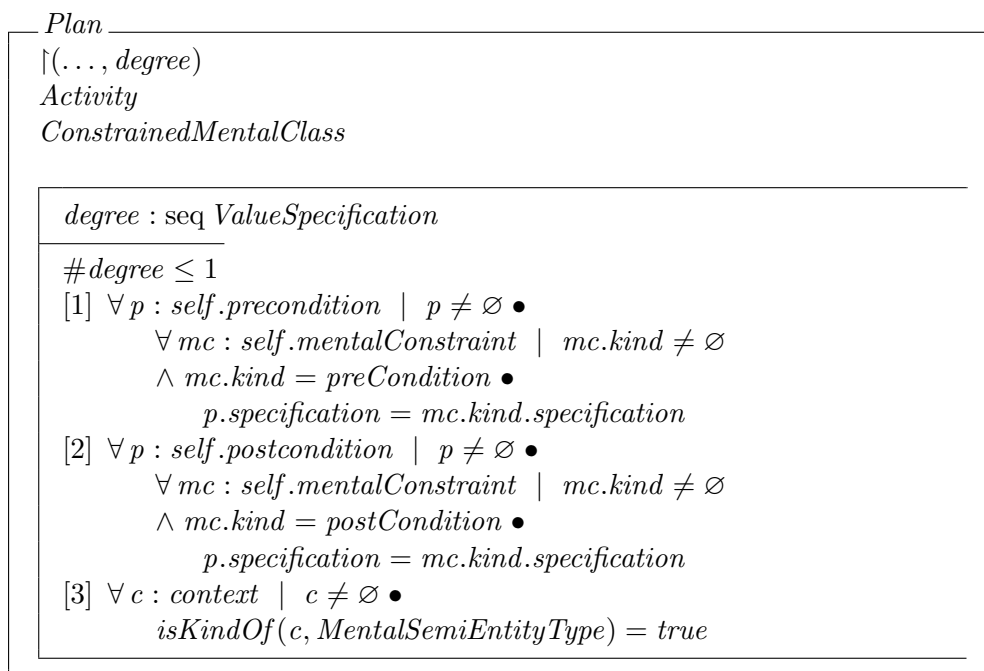
### 10.4.1 Plan

*Plan* is a specialized *ConstrainedMentalClass* and *Activity* (from UML), used to model capabilities of *MentalSemiEntityTypes* which represents either:

- predefined plans, i.e. kinds of activities a mental semi-entity's reasoning mechanism can manipulate in order to achieve *Goals*, or
- fragments of behavior from which the plans can be composed (also called *plan fragments*).

In addition to UML *Activity*, *Plan* allows the specification of commit condition, cancel condition, and invariant (for details see section 10.1.5), which can be used by reasoning mechanisms. For modeling the applicability of *Plans*, in relation to given *Goals*, *Beliefs* and other *Plans*, the *Contribution* relationship is used. The meta-attribute *degree* specifies the relative preference of the *Plan*. AML does not specify either the syntax or semantics of *degree*'s values, users are free to define and use their own. For more details see [1, p. 282].

*Plan* is introduced to model predefined plans, or fragments of plans from which the plans can be composed.



*Plan* is a specialized class that inherits from *Activity* and *ConstrainedMentalClass* classes. Following invariants must be satisfied:

- [1] Specification of the *Constraint* referred to by the *precondition* set is identical with the specification of the *MentalConstraint* of kind *preCondition* referred to by the *mentalConstraint* set, if the both are specified.
- [2] Specification of the *Constraint* referred to by the *postcondition* set is identical with the specification of the *MentalConstraint* of kind *postCondition* referred to by the *mentalConstraint* set, if the both are specified.

- [3] If the *context* for Plan is specified, it must be a *MentalSemiEntityType*.

### 10.4.2 CommitGoalAction

*CommitGoalAction* is a specialized *CreateObjectAction* (from UML) and *AddStructuralFeatureValueAction* (from UML), used to model the action of commitment to a *Goal*. This action allows the realization of the commitment to a *Goal* by instantiating the *Goal* and adding the created instance as a value to the *MentalProperty* of the mental semi-entity which commits to the *Goal*. Commitment to an existing instance of a *Goal* can be modeled by *AddStructuralFeatureValueAction* (from UML) or by *CreateLinkAction* (from UML). The *CommitGoalAction* specifies:

- what *Goal* is being instantiated (*goalType* meta-association),
- the *Goal* instance being created (*goalInstance* meta-association),
- the owning mental semi-entity committed to the *Goal* (*mentalSemiEntity* meta-association), and
- the *MentalProperty*, owned by the type of the owning mental semi-entity, to which the created *Goal* instance is added (*mentalProperty* meta-association).

For more details see [1, p. 284].

*CreateRoleAction* is introduced to model commitment actions within *Activities* (*Plans*).

*CommitGoalAction*

$\{(\dots, \text{mentalProperty}, \text{mentalSemiEntity}, \text{goalInstance}, \text{goalType})$

*AddStructuralFeatureValueAction*

*CreateObjectAction*

*mentalProperty* :  $\mathbb{P}$  *MentalProperty*

*mentalSemiEntity* :  $\mathbb{P}$  *InputPin* ©

*goalInstance* :  $\mathbb{P}$  *OutputPin* ©

*goalType* :  $\mathbb{P}$  *Goal*

#*mentalProperty* = 1

#*mentalSemiEntity* = 1

#*goalInstance* = 1

#*goalType* = 1

[1] *mentalSemiEntity.type*  $\neq \emptyset$

$\Rightarrow \text{isKindOf}(\text{mentalSemiEntity.type}, \text{MentalSemiEntityType}) = \text{true}$

[2] *goalInstance.type*  $\neq \emptyset$

$\Rightarrow \text{conformsTo}(\text{goalInstance.type}, \text{goalType}) = \text{true}$

[3] *mentalProperty.type*  $\neq \emptyset$

$\Rightarrow \text{conformsTo}(\text{goalType}, \text{mentalProperty.type}) = \text{true}$

[4]  $\forall hc : \text{self.activity}().\text{hostClassifier}() \bullet$

$\text{isKindOf}(hc, \text{MentalSemiEntityType}) = \text{true}$

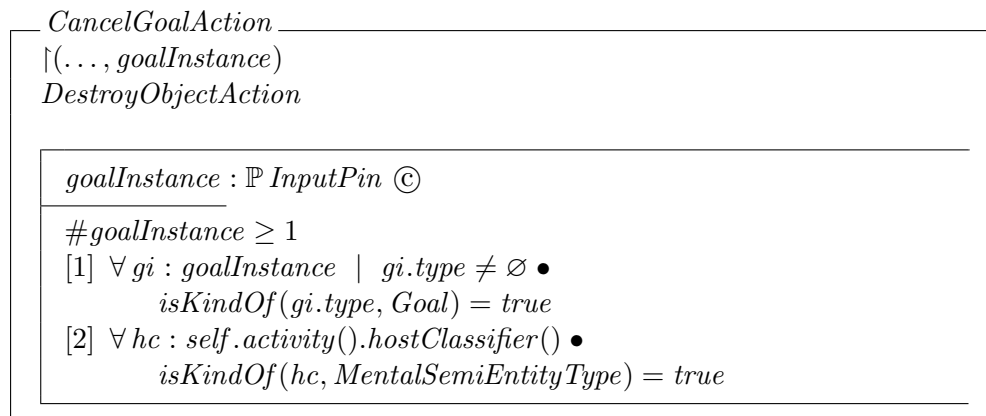
*CommitGoalAction* class inherits from *AddStructuralFeatureValueAction* and *CreateObjectAction* class. Following invariants must be satisfied:

- [1] If the *type* of the *InputPin* referred to by the *mentalSemiEntity* set is specified, it must be a *MentalSemiEntityType*.
- [2] If the *type* of the *OutputPin* referred to by the *goalInstance* set is specified, it must conform to the *Goal* referred to by the *goalType* set.
- [3] If the *type* of the *MentalProperty* referred to by the *mentalProperty* set is specified, the *Goal* referred to by the *goalType* set must conform to it.
- [4] *CommitGoalAction* can be performed only by a mental semi-entity.

### 10.4.3 CancelGoalAction

*CancelGoalAction* is a specialized *DestroyObjectAction* (from UML) used to model de-commitment from goals. This action allows the realization of de-commitment from a *Goal* by destruction of the corresponding *Goal* instance. De-commitment from an instance of a *Goal* that does not need to be destroyed can be modeled by *RemoveStructuralFeatureValueAction* (from UML) or *DestroyLinkAction* (from UML). For more details see [1, p. 287].

*CancelGoalAction* is introduced to model de-commitment to goals.



*CancelGoalAction* class inherits from *DestroyObjectAction* class. Following invariants must be satisfied:

- [1] If the *types* of the *InputPins* referred to by the *goalInstance* set are specified, they must be *Goals*.
- [2] *CancelGoalAction* can be performed only by a mental semi-entity.

## 10.5 Mental Relationships

The *Mental Relationships* package defines metaclasses used to model relationships between *MentalStates* which can support reasoning processes.

### 10.5.1 Contribution

*Contribution* is a specialized *MentalRelationship* and *DirectedRelationship* (from UML) used to model logical relationships between *MentalStates* and their *MentalConstraints*. The manner in which the *contributor* of the *Contribution* relationship (i.e. a *MentalState* referred to by the *contributor* meta-association) influences its *beneficiary* (i.e. a *MentalState* referred to by the *beneficiary* meta-association) is specified by values of meta-attributes of the particular *Contribution*. The meta-attribute *kind* determines whether the contribution of the contributor's *MentalConstraint* of a given kind (specified by the metaattribute *contributorConstraintKind*) is a necessary, sufficient, or equivalent condition for the beneficiary's *MentalConstraint* of a given kind (specified by the meta-attribute *beneficiaryConstraintKind*). The meta-attribute *contributorConstraintKind* specifies the kind of a *MentalConstraint* of the contributor which contributes in some way to a kind of *MentalConstraint* of the beneficiary, specified by the *beneficiaryConstraintKind* meta-attribute. For example, a *Contribution* can specify that a postcondition of the contributor contributes in some way (e.g. in a positive and sufficient way) to the precondition of the related beneficiary. For details about possible values of the constraint kinds see section 10.1.5. If contributor and/or beneficiary is a *Belief*, the *contributorConstraintKind* and/or the *beneficiaryConstraintKind* meta-attribute is unspecified. In this case the *Belief's constraint* is considered to contribute or benefit. If the contributor and/or beneficiary is a *Contribution*, the *contributorConstraintKind* and/or the *beneficiaryConstraintKind* meta-attributes are also unspecified. The meta-attribute *degree* can be used to specify the extent to which the contributor influences the beneficiary. AML does not specify either the syntax or semantics of *degree's* values, users are free to define and use their own. For more details see [1, p. 289].

*Contribution* is introduced to model logical relationships between *MentalStates* and their *MentalConstraints*.

<i>Contribution</i>
$\{(\dots, kind, contributorConstraintKind, beneficiaryConstraintKind, degree, beneficiary, contributor)$ <i>MentalRelationship</i> <i>DirectedRelationship</i>
<i>kind</i> : <i>ContributionKind</i> <i>contributorConstraintKind</i> : seq <i>MentalConstraintKind</i> <i>beneficiaryConstraintKind</i> : seq <i>MentalConstraintKind</i> <i>degree</i> : seq <i>ValueSpecification</i> <i>beneficiary</i> : $\mathbb{P}$ <i>MentalState</i> <i>contributor</i> : $\mathbb{P}$ <i>MentalState</i>
$\#contributorConstraintKind \leq 1$ $\#beneficiaryConstraintKind \leq 1$ $\#degree \leq 1$ $\#beneficiary = 1$ $\#contributor = 1$ [1] $isKindOf(contributor, Belief) = true$ $\vee isKindOf(contributor, Contributor) = true$ $\Rightarrow contributorConstraintKind \neq \emptyset$ [2] $isKindOf(beneficiary, Belief) = true$ $\vee isKindOf(beneficiary, Contribution) = true$ $\Rightarrow beneficiaryConstraintKind \neq \emptyset$

*Contribution* class inherits from *MentalRelationship* and *DirectedRelationship* classes. Invariant [1] says that if the *MentalState* referred to by the *contributor* set is a *Belief* or a *Contribution*, the *contributorConstraintKind* set is unspecified. Invariant [2] formalizes the fact that if the *MentalState* referred to by the *beneficiary* set is a *Belief* or a *Contribution*, the *beneficiaryConstraintKind* set is unspecified.

### 10.5.2 ContributionKind

*ContributionKind* is an enumeration which specifies possible kinds of *Contributions*. AML supports sufficient, necessary and equivalent (iff) contribution kinds. If needed, the set of *ContributionKind* enumeration literals can be extended. For more details see [1, p. 298].

*ContributionKind* is introduced to define possible kinds of *Contributions*.

$$ContributionKind ::= sufficient \mid necessary \mid iff$$

In Object-Z, *ContributionKind* is an enumeration, which has *sufficient*, *necessary*, and *iff* values.

## Chapter 11

# Ontologies

The *Ontologies* package defines the metaclasses used to model ontologies. AML allows the specification of class-level as well as instancelevel ontologies.

### 11.1 Basic Ontologies

The *Basic Ontologies* package defines the generic means for modeling of ontologies in AML, namely, ontology classes and their instances, relationships, constraints, and ontology utilities. Ontology models are structured by means of the ontology packages.

#### 11.1.1 Ontology

*Ontology* is a specialized *Package* (from UML) used to specify a single ontology. By utilizing the features inherited from UML *Package* (package nesting, element import, package merge, etc.), *Ontologies* can be logically structured. For more details see [1, p. 300].

*Ontology* is introduced to specify a single ontology.



*Ontology* class inherits from *Package* class.

#### 11.1.2 OntologyClass

*OntologyClass* is a specialized *Class* (from UML) used to represent an ontology class (called also ontology concept or frame). Attributes and operations of the *OntologyClass* represent its slots. Ontology functions, actions, and predicates belonging to a concept modeled by an *OntologyClass* are modeled by its operations. *OntologyClass* can use all types of relationships allowed for UML *Class* (*Association*, *Generalization*, *Dependency*, etc.) with their standard UML semantics. Even if UML predefines the “facet” used for attributes and operations (i.e. the form of metainformation that can be specified for them, for example, name, multiplicity, list of parameters, return value, or standard tagged values), the user is



allowed to extend this metainformation by adding specific tagged values. *OntologyClass* can also be used as an *AssociationClass*. For more details see [1, p. 300].

*OntologyClass* is introduced to model an ontology class (also called concept or frame).



*OntologyClass* inherits from *Class* class.

### 11.1.3 OntologyUtility

*OntologyUtility* is a specialized *Class* (from UML) used to cluster *global ontology constants*, *ontology variables*, and *ontology functions/actions/predicates* modeled as owned features. The features of an *OntologyUtility* can be used by (referred to by) other elements within the owning and importing *Ontologies*. There can be more than one *OntologyUtility* classes within one *Ontology*. In such a way different *OntologyUtilities* provide clusters for logical grouping of their features. *OntologyUtility* has no instances, all its features are class-scoped. For more details see [1, p. 302].

*OntologyUtility* is introduced to cluster global ontology constants, ontology variables, and ontology functions/actions/predicates.



*OntologyUtility* class inherits from *Class* class.

## Chapter 12

# Model Management

The *Model Management* package defines the generic-purpose modeling constructs which can be used to structure AML models and thus manage their complexity and understandability.

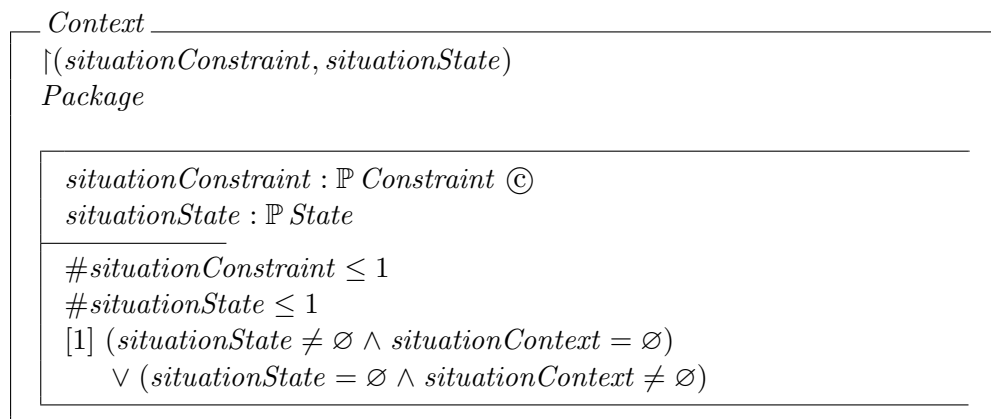
## 12.1 Contexts

The *Contexts* package defines the metaclasses used to logically structure models according to situations that can occur during a system's lifetime and to model elements involved in handling those situations.

### 12.1.1 Context

*Context* is a specialized *Package* (from UML) used to contain a part of the model relevant for a particular situation. The situation is specified either as a *Constraint* (from UML) or an explicitly modeled *State* (from UML) associated with the *Context*. For more details see [1, p. 304].

*Context* is introduced to offer the possibility to logically structure models according to the situations which can occur during a system's lifetime and to model elements involved in handling those situations.



*Context* class inherits from *Package* class. Invariant [1] says that either the *situationState* or the *situationConstraint* can be specified.

## Chapter 13

# UML Extension for AML

The *UML Extension for AML* package adds the meta-properties defined in the AML Kernel package to the standard UML 2.0 Superstructure metaclasses. It is a non-conservative extension of UML, and is an optional part of the language.

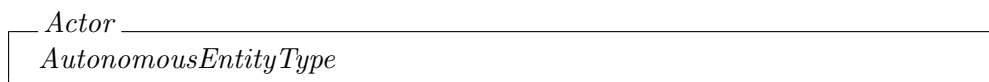
### 13.1 Extended Actor

*Actor*, being a specialized *AutonomousEntityType*, can:

- own *MentalProperties*,
- have *Capabilities*,
- be decomposed into *BehaviorFragments*,
- provide and/or use services (see section 9.4),
- observe and/or effect its environment (see section 9.5),
- play entity roles (see section 8.5),
- participate in social relationships (see section 8.5), and
- specify values of the meta-attributes defined by the *SocializedSemiEntityType*.

For more details see [1, p. 307].

Extension of UML *Actor* is introduced to allow the modeling of *Actors* as *Autonomous-EntityType*s.

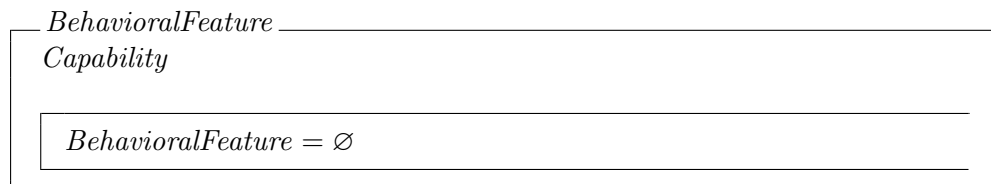


*Actor* class inherits from *AutonomousEntityType* class.

## 13.2 Extended BehavioralFeature

*BehavioralFeature*, being a specialized *Capability*, can in addition to UML *BehavioralFeature* also specify meta-associations: inputs, outputs, pre-conditions, and post-conditions. For more details see [1, p. 308].

The extension of *BehavioralFeature* is introduced to unify common meta-attributes of *BehavioralFeature* and *Behavior* in order to refer to them uniformly e.g. while reasoning.

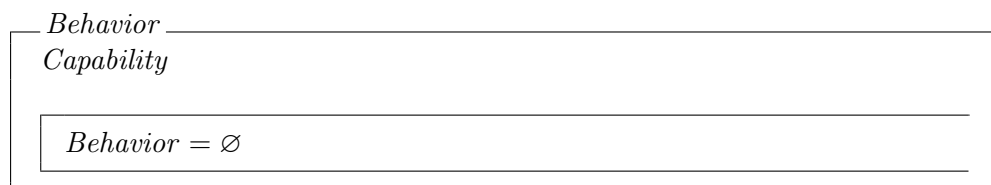


*BehavioralFeature* is an abstract class, which inherits from *Capability* class.

## 13.3 Extended Behavior

*Behavior*, being a specialized *Capability*, can in addition to UML *Behavior* also specify meta-associations: inputs, outputs, pre-conditions, and post-conditions. For more details see [1, p. 309].

Extension of *Behavior* is introduced to unify common meta-attributes of *BehavioralFeature* and *Behavior* in order to refer to them uniformly e.g. while reasoning.



*Behavior* is an abstract class that inherits from *Capability* class.

## Part III

# Abstract Multi-Agent Framework

## Chapter 14

# Concepts of AML

In order to properly understand AML, it is necessary to understand its underlying concepts. This chapter provides a description of the fundamental concepts used to describe an abstract metamodel of a MAS. The intention is not to provide a comprehensive metamodel for all aspects and details of a MAS (such as detailed architectural design, system dynamics, or operational semantics), but rather to explain the concepts that were used as the underlying principles of AML and influenced the design of comprised modeling constructs. [1]

Every section describes a part of the abstract MAS specified in OZ. Each component is specified independently in a separate subsection in following matter:

- A short informal definition of presented component.
- An Object-Z class schema that formalizes the described component.
- A natural language explanation of presented schema.

This chapter is related to chapter 5 *Concepts of AML* [1, p. 37] and to chapter 6 *AML Modeling Mechanisms* [1, p. 53].

### 14.1 Operation Templates

Following generic schemas are used as templates and provides basic maintain operations on sets.

<i>AddElement</i> [ $X, Y$ ]
$\Delta(X)$ $y? : Y$
$y? \notin X$ $X' = X \cup \{y?\}$

*AddElement* is a generic Z schema that forms a template of adding an element of type  $Y$  into set expressed by  $X$ . Generic parameters  $X$  and  $Y$  are substituted by real values.

$RemoveElement [X, Y]$
$\Delta(X)$ $y? : Y$
$y? \in X$ $X' = X \setminus \{y?\}$

RemoveElement is a similar generic Z schema that forms a template of removing an element.

$AlterElement [X, Y]$
$\Delta(X)$ $old? : Y$ $new? : Y$
$old? \in X$ $new? \notin X$ $X' = X \cup \{new?\} \setminus \{old?\}$

AlterElement is a generic Z schema that forms a template of altering an element.

## 14.2 Multi-Agent System

This part of the conceptual MAS metamodel specifies the overall model of a multi-agent system.

### 14.2.1 MAS

MAS (multi-agent system) is a system composed of several agents, capable of mutual interaction. In the AML framework, a multi-agent system is an object that consists of, in addition to agents, other entity types, e.g. *Environments* or *Resources* (see section 14.3). In general we say that a multi-agent system comprises *Entities*. Physically, such a system can be deployed on several agent execution environments. This ensures the fact that MAS is specialized *Object*.

$MAS$
$\{(\dots, comprise, Init, AddEntity, RemoveEntity, AlterEntity)$ $Object$
$comprise : \mathbb{P} \downarrow Entity$
$INIT$ $comprise = \emptyset$
$AddEntity \hat{=} AddElement[comprise, \downarrow Entity]$ $\wedge [self \notin y?.hostedBy \Rightarrow y?.AddHost(self)]$ $RemoveEntity \hat{=} RemoveElement[comprise, \downarrow Entity]$ $\wedge [self \in y?.hostedBy \Rightarrow y?.RemoveHost(self)]$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{AlterEntity} \hat{=} & [\text{old?} : \downarrow \text{Entity}; \text{new?} : \downarrow \text{Entity}] \\ & \wedge \text{RemoveEntity}(\text{old?}) \wedge \text{AddEntity}(\text{new?}) \end{aligned}$$

The Object-Z definition of *MAS* includes visibility list, inherited class *Object*, *comprise* attribute, which is a set of *Entity* (and all its sub-classes) instances. We also define basic operations of addition, removal, and alteration on all attributes. Init state schema identified by INIT keyword declares the initial state of *MAS* class schema.

### 14.3 MAS Semi-entities and Entities

This part of the AML conceptual model of MAS deals with the modeling of constituents of a multi-agent system. MAS may consist of a set of interconnected entities of different types, namely agents, resources and environments. They are represented by concrete classes in the MAS conceptual metamodel. Furthermore, these entities are categorized, according to their specific characteristics, into several categories expressed in the conceptual metamodel by abstract classes used as superclasses to the concrete ones. In order to maximize reuse and comprehensibility of the concepts, AML defines several auxiliary abstract metamodeling concepts called *semi-entities*. Semi-entity is a modeling concept that defines certain features specific to a particular aspect or aspects of entities, but does not itself represent an entity. All entities inherit their features from semi-entities. Because semi-entities are abstractions, the metaclasses representing semi-entities in the MAS conceptual metamodel are abstract, and therefore they cannot be instantiated at a system's run time. [1]

#### 14.3.1 StructuralSemiEntity

*StructuralSemiEntity* represents the capability of an entity to have properties, to be decomposed into other *StructuralSemiEntities*, and to be linked to other *StructuralSemiEntity*. Each *StructuralSemiEntity* has structural capability and can be structured, internally and externally. *Internal structure* of *StructuralSemiEntity* is given by values of owned properties and by nesting of *StructuralSemiEntities*. *External structure* of *StructuralSemiEntities* is specified by means of links among *StructuralSemiEntities*. *Slot* represents a set of *key-value* pairs that are used to specify properties of its owner. Values of all properties of *StructuralSemiEntity* determine its state. In order to model hierarchical structures, *StructuralSemiEntity* can be nested, i.e. one *StructuralSemiEntity* can contain other *StructuralSemiEntities*. *StructuralSemiEntity* can also be linked to other *StructuralSemiEntities*. A link represents a semantic relationship of two or more *StructuralSemiEntities* that know each other and can communicate.



*StructuralSemiEntity*

$$\downarrow(\text{slot}, \text{consist}, \text{link}, \text{Init}, \text{AddProperty}, \text{RemoveProperty}, \text{AlterProperty}, \\ \text{AddStructuralSemiEntity}, \text{RemoveStructuralSemiEntity}, \\ \text{AlterStructuralSemiEntity}, \text{AddLinkTo}, \text{RemoveLinkTo}, \text{AlterLinkTo})$$

$$\text{slot} : \mathbb{P} \text{ Name} \times \text{Value}$$

$$\text{consist} : \mathbb{P} \downarrow \text{StructuralSemiEntity} \text{ } \textcircled{C}$$

$$\text{link} : \mathbb{P} \downarrow \text{StructuralSemiEntity}$$

$$\text{StructuralSemiEntity} = \emptyset$$

$$\text{consist} \subseteq \text{link}$$
*INIT*

$$\text{slot} = \emptyset$$

$$\text{consist} = \emptyset$$

$$\text{link} = \emptyset$$
*AddProperty*

$$\Delta(\text{slot})$$

$$n? : \text{Name}$$

$$v? : \text{Value}$$

$$(n?, v?) \notin \text{slot}$$

$$\text{slot}' = \text{slot} \cup \{(n?, v?)\}$$
*RemoveProperty*

$$\Delta(\text{slot})$$

$$n? : \text{Name}$$

$$v? : \text{Value}$$

$$(n?, v?) \in \text{slot}$$

$$\text{slot}' = \text{slot} \setminus \{(n?, v?)\}$$

$$\text{AlterProperty} \hat{=} [\text{old?} : \text{Name} \times \text{Value}; \text{new?} : \text{Name} \times \text{Value}] \\ \wedge \text{RemoveProperty}(\text{old?}) \wedge \text{AddProperty}(\text{new?})$$

$$\text{AddStructuralSemiEntity} \hat{=} \text{AddElement}[\text{consist}, \downarrow \text{StructuralSemiEntity}]$$

$$\text{RemoveStructuralSemiEntity} \hat{=} \text{RemoveElement}[\text{consist}, \downarrow \text{StructuralSemiEntity}]$$

$$\text{AlterStructuralSemiEntity} \hat{=} \text{AlterElement}[\text{consist}, \downarrow \text{StructuralSemiEntity}]$$

$$\text{AddLinkTo} \hat{=} \text{AddElement}[\text{link}, \downarrow \text{StructuralSemiEntity}]$$

$$\text{RemoveLinkTo} \hat{=} \text{RemoveElement}[\text{link}, \downarrow \text{StructuralSemiEntity}]$$

$$\text{AlterLinkTo} \hat{=} \text{AlterElement}[\text{link}, \downarrow \text{StructuralSemiEntity}]$$

The Object-Z definition of *StructuralSemiEntity* includes visibility list, *slot* attribute that represents the ability of having property, *consist* attribute - a set of all  $\downarrow \text{StructuralSemiEntity}$  instances, where that set is contained ( $\textcircled{C}$ ) and *link* attribute of all  $\downarrow \text{StructuralSemiEntity}$  instances. We also define basic operations of addition, removal, and alteration on all attributes.

Following Object-Z given sets are introduced.

[Name]

*Name* is a given set, from which the names of all classes, attributes, operations, operation parameters, associations and roles are drawn.

[Value]

*Value* is given set, from which all kinds of values are drawn. This incorporates basic types as numbers, characters, structural types, instances of classes defined in this chapter, etc.

### 14.3.2 DeployableSemiEntity

*DeployableSemiEntity* represents the capability of an entity to be deployed on one or more *AgentExecutionEnvironments* (see section 14.5).

$\overline{\text{DeployableSemiEntity}} \text{---}$ $\uparrow(\text{hosting}, \text{Init}, \text{AddHosting}, \text{RemoveHosting}, \text{AlterHosting})$
$\text{hosting} : \mathbb{P} \text{Hosting}$
$\forall h : \text{hosting} \bullet h.\text{deployableSemiEntity} = \text{self}$
$\text{INIT}$
$\text{hosting} = \emptyset$
$\text{AddHosting} \hat{=} \text{AddElement}[\text{hosting}, \text{Hosting}]$ $\wedge [y?.\text{deployableSemiEntity} = \text{self};$ $\{ \text{host} : \text{Hosting} \mid \text{host} \in y?.\text{agentExecutionEnvironment}.\text{hosting} \bullet$ $\text{host} = y? \} = \emptyset$ $\Rightarrow y?.\text{agentExecutionEnvironment}.\text{AddHosting}(y?)]$
$\text{RemoveHosting} \hat{=} \text{RemoveElement}[\text{hosting}, \text{Hosting}]$ $\wedge [y?.\text{deployableSemiEntity} = \text{self};$ $\{ \text{host} : \text{Hosting} \mid \text{host} \in y?.\text{agentExecutionEnvironment}.\text{hosting} \bullet$ $\text{host} = y? \} \neq \emptyset$ $\Rightarrow y?.\text{agentExecutionEnvironment}.\text{RemoveHosting}(y?)]$
$\text{AlterHosting} \hat{=} [\text{old?} : \text{Hosting}; \text{new?} : \text{Hosting}]$ $\wedge \text{RemoveHosting}(\text{old?}) \wedge \text{AddHosting}(\text{new?})$

*DeployableSemiEntity* class schema includes visibility list, *hosting* attribute - a set of *Hosting* instances. The attribute *hosting* in the *DeployableSemiEntity* class corresponds to an attribute *deployableSemiEntity* in the *Hosting* class, indicating a bi-directional relationship between a *DeployableSemiEntity* and *Hosting*. We also define basic operations of addition, removal, and alteration on all attributes.

### 14.3.3 CapableSemiEntity

*CapableSemiEntity* represents the capability of an entity to possess capabilities.

<i>CapableSemiEntity</i> $\uparrow(\text{hasCapability}, \text{Init}, \text{AddCapability}, \text{RemoveCapability}, \text{AlterCapability})$
$\text{hasCapability} : \mathbb{P} \downarrow \text{Capability} \text{ } \textcircled{C}$
$\text{CapableSemiEntity} = \emptyset$
<i>INIT</i>
$\text{hasCapability} = \emptyset$
$\text{AddCapability} \hat{=} \text{AddElement}[\text{hasCapability}, \downarrow \text{Capability}]$
$\text{RemoveCapability} \hat{=} \text{RemoveElement}[\text{hasCapability}, \downarrow \text{Capability}]$
$\text{AlterCapability} \hat{=} \text{AlterElement}[\text{hasCapability}, \downarrow \text{Capability}]$

*CapableSemiEntity* class includes visibility list, *hasCapability* attribute – set of all instances of class *Capability* or all *Capability*'s subclasses. We say that *CapabilitySemiEntity* has a set of abilities that can be performed. At last, we define basic operations of addition, removal, and alteration on *hasCapability* attribute.

We introduce given set of all constraints that can represent a *precondition* or *postcondition* in the next class schema.

[*Constraint*]

*Constraint* represents a given set of all constraints.

*Capability* is used to model an abstract specification of a behavior that allows reasoning about and operations on that specification. Technically, a capability represents a unification of common specification properties of UML's behavioral features and behaviors expressed in terms of inputs outputs, pre- and post-conditions. [1]

<i>Capability</i> $\uparrow(\text{precondition}, \text{postcondition}, \text{Init}, \text{Run}, \text{input}, \text{output}, \text{evalConstraint}, \text{evalPrecondition}, \text{compute}, \text{determinePostcondition})$
$\text{precondition} : \mathbb{P} \text{ Constraint}$ $\text{postcondition} : \mathbb{P} \text{ Constraint}$ $\text{input} : \text{seq Name} \times \text{Value}$ $\text{output} : \text{seq Name} \times \text{Value}$ $\text{evalConstraint} : \text{Constraint} \rightarrow \text{Boolean}$ $\text{evalPrecondition} : \mathbb{P} \text{ Constraint} \rightarrow \text{Boolean}$ $\text{compute} : \text{seq Name} \times \text{Value} \rightarrow \text{seq Name} \times \text{Value}$ $\text{determinePostcondition} : (\text{seq Name} \times \text{Value}) \times \mathbb{P} \text{ Constraint} \rightarrow \mathbb{P} \text{ Constraint}$
$\text{ran evalPrecondition} = \bigvee \text{evalConstraint}(c : \text{dom evalPrecondition})$

<p><i>INIT</i></p> <hr/> <pre> precondition = ∅ postcondition = ∅ input = ∅ output = ∅ </pre>
<p><i>Run</i></p> <hr/> <pre> Δ(postcondition, output) evalPrecondition(precondition) = true input ≠ ⟨ ⟩ output' = compute(input) postcondition' = determinePostcondition(input, precondition) </pre>

*Capability* is an Object-Z class that includes visibility list, a set of attributes and functions, and defines operation *Run*, which represents execution of capability. *Capability* defines *preconditions* and functions *evalConstraint* and *determinePostcondition* to evaluate them. All *preconditions* are logically OR-ed.

In Object-Z, *Capability* can also be understood as an operation, that can be run. When the evaluation of preconditions is true and the sequence of input values is not empty then a computation occurs, which outputs postconditions and output values.

#### 14.3.4 BehavioedSemiEntity

*BehavioedSemiEntity* represents the ability of an entity to own *Capabilities*, interact with other *BehavioedSemiEntities*, provide and use *Services*, to observe and effect their environment by means of *Perceptors* and *Effectors*, and to be decomposed into *Behavior-Fragments*. For details see section 14.7.

#### 14.3.5 SocializedSemiEntity

*SocializedSemiEntity* represents the capability of an entity to form societies and can participate in social relationships. See section 14.4 *Social Aspects* for details.

#### 14.3.6 MentalSemiEntity

*MentalSemiEntity* represents the capability of an entity to possess (or to be characterized in terms of) mental attitudes, e.g. which information it believes in, what are its objectives, needs, motivations, desires, what goal(s) it is committed to, when and how a particular goal is to be achieved, which plan to execute, etc. For details see section 14.8 *Mental Aspects*.

#### 14.3.7 Object

*Object* represents all objects, which can exist in the system. Each object is a specialized *StructuralSemiEntity*, which can own capabilities (*CapableSemiEntity*), and can be deployed in one or more *AgentExecutionEnvironments* (*DeployableSemiEntity*).

<i>Object</i> $\{(\dots, \text{deployedAt}, \text{Init}, \text{Deploy}, \text{Terminate}, \text{Replace})$ <i>StructuralSemiEntity</i> <i>CapableSemiEntity</i> <i>DeployableSemiEntity</i>
$\text{deployedAt} : \mathbb{P} \text{AgentExecutionEnvironment}$ $\forall d : \text{deployedAt} \bullet \text{self} \in d.\text{deployed}$
<i>INIT</i> $\text{deployedAt} = \emptyset$
$\text{Deploy} \hat{=} \text{AddElement}[\text{deployedAt}, \text{AgentExecutionEnvironment}]$ $\wedge[\text{self} \notin y?.\text{deployed} \Rightarrow y?.\text{DeployObject}(\text{self})]$ $\text{Terminate} \hat{=} \text{RemoveElement}[\text{deployedAt}, \text{AgentExecutionEnvironment}]$ $\wedge[\text{self} \in y?.\text{deployed} \Rightarrow y?.\text{TerminateObject}(\text{self})]$ $\text{Replace} \hat{=} [\text{old?}, \text{new?} : \text{AgentExecutionEnvironment}]$ $\wedge \text{Terminate}(\text{old?}) \wedge \text{Deploy}(\text{new?})$

*Object* is an Object-Z class that comprises visibility list, inherited classes – *StructuralSemiEntity*, *CapableSemiEntity*, *DeployableSemiEntity* – a set of attributes and operations that are identical to addition, removal, and alteration, but have different names. Each *Object* can be deployed in an *AgentExecutionEnvironment*. This capability is represented by *deployedAt* attribute and following condition  $\forall d : \text{deployedAt} \bullet \text{self} \in d.\text{deployed}$ .

### 14.3.8 Entity

*Entity* represents specialized *Object*, which can be hosted by an multi-agent system (*MAS*).

<i>Entity</i> $\{(\dots, \text{hostedBy}, \text{Init}, \text{AddHost}, \text{RemoveHost}, \text{AlterHost})$ <i>Object</i>
$\text{hostedBy} : \mathbb{P} \text{MAS}$ $\text{Entity} = \emptyset$
<i>INIT</i> $\text{hostedBy} = \emptyset$
$\text{AddHost} \hat{=} \text{AddElement}[\text{hostedBy}, \text{MAS}]$ $\wedge[\text{self} \notin y?.\text{comprise} \Rightarrow y?.\text{AddEntity}(\text{self})]$ $\text{RemoveHost} \hat{=} \text{RemoveElement}[\text{hostedBy}, \text{MAS}]$ $\wedge[\text{self} \in y?.\text{comprise} \Rightarrow y?.\text{RemoveEntity}(\text{self})]$ $\text{AlterHost} \hat{=} [\text{old?} : \text{MAS}; \text{new?} : \text{MAS}]$ $\wedge \text{RemoveHost}(\text{old?}) \wedge \text{AddHost}(\text{new?})$

The Object-Z definition of *Entity* includes visibility list, inherited *Object* class, *hostedBy* attribute that represents a set of all *MAS* instances, which own *Entity*. We also define basic operations of addition, removal, and alteration on *hostedBy* attribute.

### 14.3.9 BehavioralEntity

*BehavioralEntity* is an abstract specialized entity which represents entities having the features of *BehavioredSemiEntities* (see section 14.7 *Behaviors*) and *SocializedSemiEntities* (see section 14.4 *Social Aspects*), and can play entity roles (see section 14.4 *Social Aspects*).

### 14.3.10 Resource

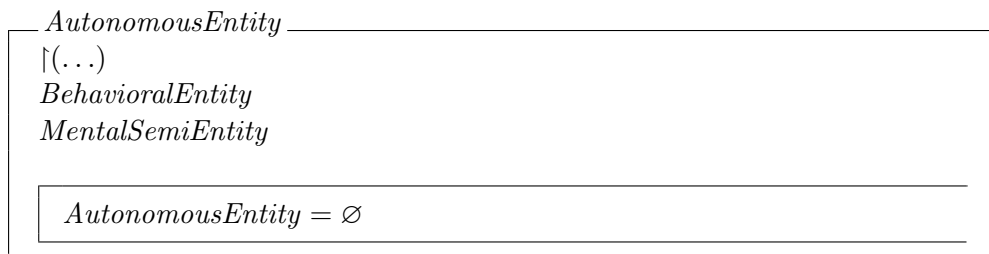
*Resource* is a concrete specialized *BehavioralEntity* used to represent a physical or an informational entity within the system, with which the main concern is its availability and usage (e.g. quantity, access rights, conditions of consumption).



*Resource* is defined as Object-Z class, that inherits from *BehavioralEntity*. Visibility list is completely inherited from the superclass – this is denoted by  $\uparrow(\dots)$ . As we have mentioned in section 5.2.7, the visibility list of a class is not inherited by default.

### 14.3.11 AutonomousEntity

*AutonomousEntity* is an abstract specialized behavioral entity and *MentalSemiEntity* (see section 14.8 *Mental Aspects*), used to represent self-contained entities that are capable of autonomous behavior in their environment, i.e. entities that have control of their own behavior, and act upon their environment according to the processing of (reasoning on) perceptions of that environment, interactions and/or their mental attitudes. *AutonomousEntity* can be characterized in terms of its mental attitudes (see section 14.8 *Mental Aspects*).



*AutonomousEntity* is an abstract Object-Z class, which superclasses are *BehavioralEntity* and *MentalSemiEntity*. Visibility list is completely inherited.

### 14.3.12 Agent

*Agent* is a concrete specialized *AutonomousEntity* representing a self-contained entity that is capable of autonomous behavior within its environment. An agent is a special object having at least the following additional features:

- autonomy, i.e. control over its own state and behavior, based on external (reactivity) or internal (proactivity) stimuli, and
- ability to interact, i.e. the capability to interact with its environment, including perceptions and effecting actions, speech act based interactions.

Other features such as mobility, adaptability, learning, etc., are optional in the AML framework.



*Agent* is an Object-Z class that inherits visibility list and all functionality from *AutonomousEntity* class.

### 14.3.13 Environment

*Environment* is a concrete specialized *AutonomousEntity* representing a logical or physical surroundings of comprised entities which provides conditions under which the entities exist and function. *Environment* defines a particular aspect or aspects of the world which entities inhabit, its structure and behavior. It can contain the space and all the other objects in the entity surroundings, but also those principles and processes (i.e. laws, rules, constraints, policies, services, roles, resources, etc.) which together constitute the circumstances under which entities act. One entity can appear in several environments at once and one environment can comprise several entities. *Environments* are not considered to be static. Their properties, structure, behavior, mental attitudes, participating entities and their features, etc. can change over time.



The Object-Z class *Environment* with its visibility list is inherited from *AutonomousEntity*.

## 14.4 Social Aspects

The social aspects define concepts used to model organization structure of entities, they social relationships and the possibility to play (social) roles.

### 14.4.1 SocialRelationshipKind

*SocialRelationshipKind* is introduced to define allowed values for *SocialRelationship*.

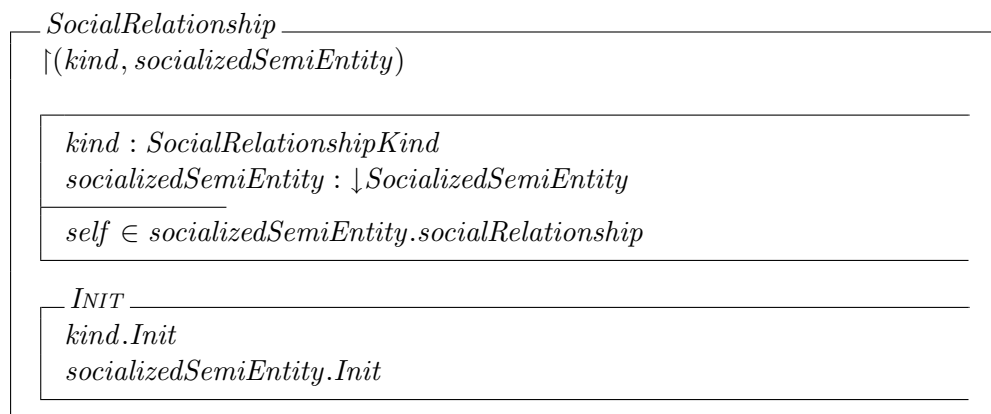
Similar to UML, in Object-Z can be defined enumeration types.

$$\mathit{SocialRelationshipKind} ::= \mathit{peer} \mid \mathit{superordinate} \mid \mathit{subordinate}$$

*SocialRelationshipKind* is an enumeration type, which can have *peer*, *superordinate*, and *subordinate* values.

### 14.4.2 SocialRelationship

*SocialRelationship* is a particular type of connection existing between *SocializedSemiEntities* related to or having to deal with each other. A *SocialRelationship* is characterized by its kind. AML predefines two rather high abstract kinds, *peer-to-peer* and *superordinate-to-subordinate*. The set of supported *SocialRelationshipKinds* can be extended as required, e.g. by *producer-consumer*, *competitors*, or kinds of interpersonal relationships inspired by sociology, for instance *intimate relationships*, *sexual relationships*, *friendship*, *acquaintanceship*, *brotherhood*, etc.

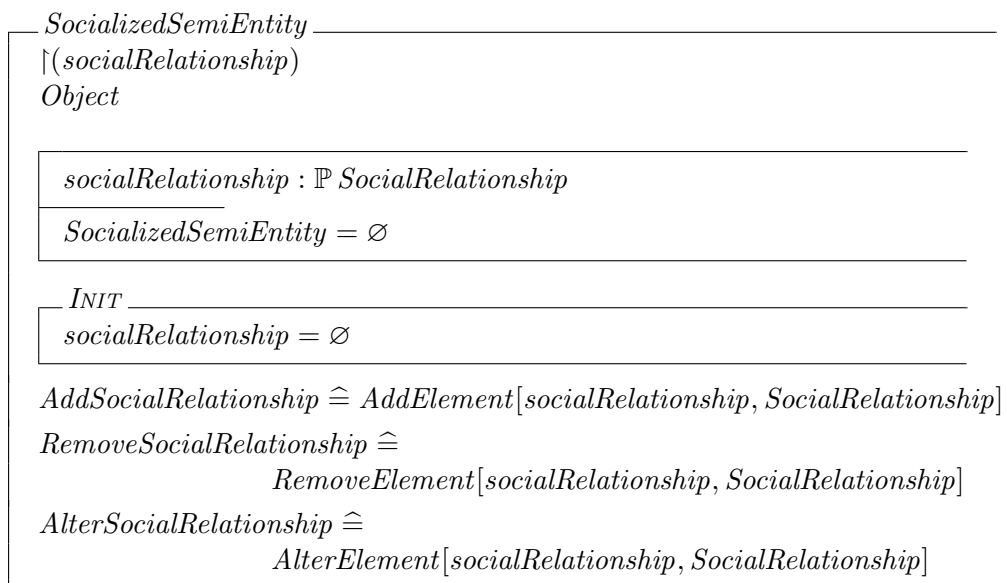


*SocialRelationship* is an Object-Z class representing an association class from UML. It comprises of visibility list, attributes and initial state schema.

### 14.4.3 SocializedSemiEntity

*SocializedSemiEntity* is a semi-entity used to represent the capability of an entity to form societies and to participate in social relationships with other socialized semi-entities.

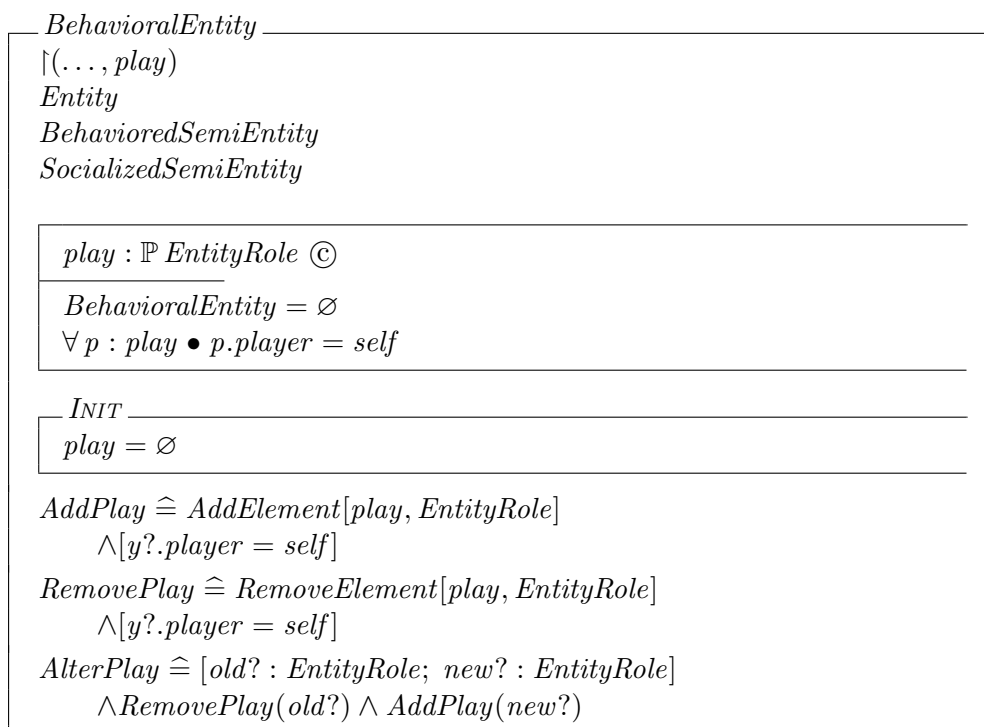




*SocializedSemiEntity* is an abstract Object-Z class that inherits from *Object*. It includes *socialRelationship* attribute, which is a set of *SocialRelationship* instances. This attribute defines a social relationship to other  $\downarrow$ *SocializedSemiEntities*. We also define basic operations of addition, removal, and alteration on *socialRelationship* attribute.

#### 14.4.4 BehavioralEntity

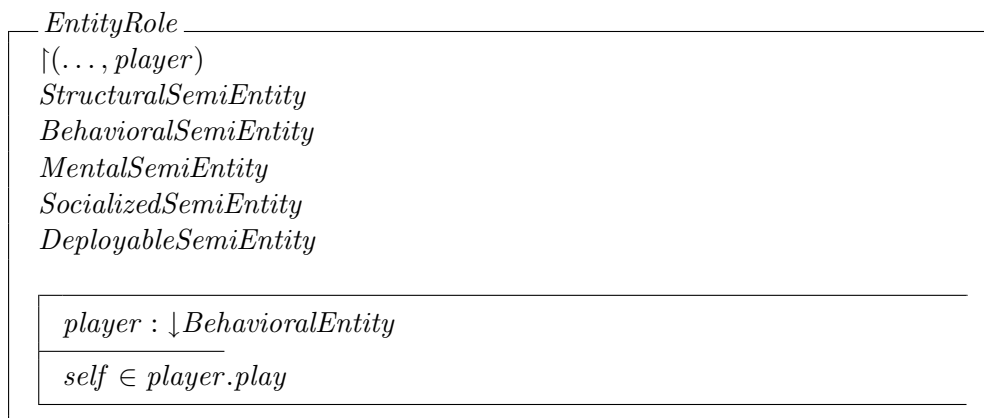
*BehavioralEntity* is an abstract specialized entity which represents entities having the features of *BehavioredSemiEntities* (see section 14.7 Behaviors) and *SocializedSemiEntities* (see section 14.4 Social Aspects), and can play entity roles (see section 14.4 Social Aspects).



*BehavioralEntity* is an abstract Object-Z class, which inherits from *Entity*, *BehavioredSemiEntity*, and *SocializedSemiEntity*. It includes *play* attribute, that enables the possibility to play different *EntityRoles*. We also define basic operation of addition, removal, and alteration on *play* attribute.

#### 14.4.5 EntityRole

*EntityRole* is a concrete specialized *StructuralSemiEntity* (see section 14.3 MAS Semi-entities and Entities), *BehavioredSemiEntity* (see section 14.7 Behaviors), *MentalSemiEntity* (see section 14.8 Mental Aspects), *SocializedSemiEntity*, and *DeployableSemiEntity*, used to represent either a usage of structural properties, execution of a behavior, participation in interactions, capability of deployment, or possession of a certain mental state by a *BehavioralEntity* in a particular context (e.g. interaction or social). We say that the *BehavioralEntity*, called entity role player (or simply *player*), plays a given *EntityRole*. One *BehavioralEntity* can play several *EntityRoles* at the same time and can dynamically change them. The *EntityRole* exists only while a *BehavioralEntity* plays it. *EntityRole* is an abstraction of features required from the *BehavioralEntities* which can play it. Each *EntityRole* should be realized by a specific implementation possessed by its *player*. Thus an *EntityRole* can be used as an indirect reference to *BehavioralEntities*, and as such can be utilized for the definition of reusable patterns (usually defined at the level of types).



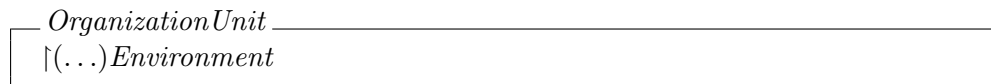
The Object-Z class *EntityRole* inherits from *StructuralSemiEntity*, *BehavioralSemiEntity*, *MentalSemiEntity*, *SocializedSemiEntity*, and *DeployableSemiEntity*. Each *EntityRole* has a *player* that plays it.

#### 14.4.6 OrganizationUnit

*OrganizationUnit* is a concrete specialized *Environment* type (see section 14.3 MAS Semi-entities and Entities) used to represent a social environment or its part. *OrganizationUnits* are usually used to model different kinds of societies, e.g. groups, organizations, institutions, etc. From an external perspective, *OrganizationUnits* represent coherent *AutonomousEntities* which can have external structure, perform behavior, interact with their environment, offer services (see section 14.7 Behaviors), possess mental attitudes (see section 14.8 Mental Aspects), play roles, etc. Properties and behavior of *OrganizationUnits* are both:

- emergent properties and behavior of all their constituents, and
- the properties and behavior of organization units themselves.

From an internal perspective, *OrganizationUnits* are types of environment that specify the social arrangements of *Entities* in terms of structures, interactions, roles, constraints, norms, etc.



*OrganizationUnit* is represented as an Object-Z class, that inherits from *Environment*.

## 14.5 MAS Deployment and Mobility

The MAS deployment specifies a set of concepts that are used to define the execution architecture of a MAS in terms of deployment MAS entities to a physical execution environment. The execution environment is modeled by one or more, possibly interconnected and nested, agent execution environments. The placement and operation of entities at agent execution environments is specified by concept of hosting. The AML deployment model supports also mobility, i.e. movement or cloning of entities among different agent execution environments, that is modeled by dynamic reallocation of hostings. A moving entity changes its present hosting by a new one located at another agent execution environment. Cloned entity creates its copy (called clone) with a new hosting placed at the same or different agent execution environment. [1]

### 14.5.1 HostingKind

*HostingKind* is introduced to define possible values of the *kind* attribute of the *Hosting* relationship.

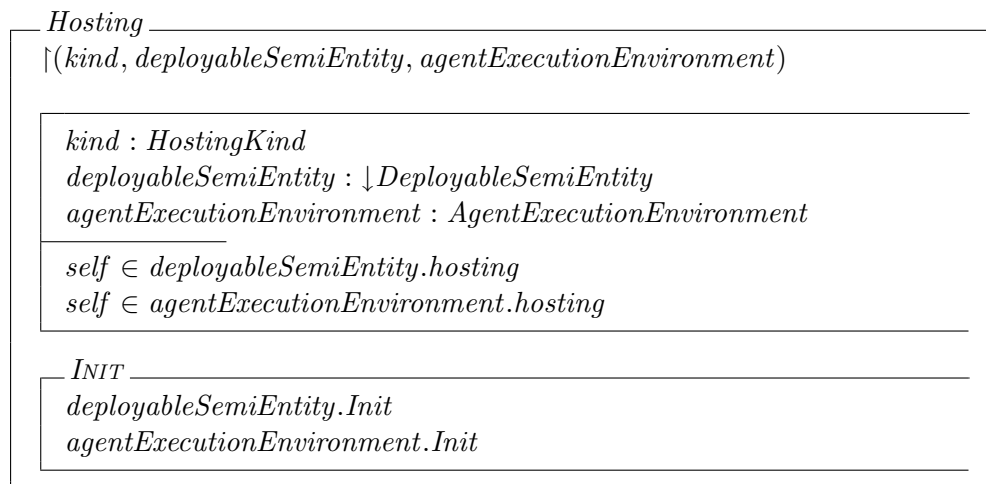
$$\textit{HostingKind} ::= \textit{resident} \mid \textit{visitor}$$

*HostingKind* is defined as enumeration type, which can have *resident*, and *visitor* values.

### 14.5.2 Hosting

*Hosting* is a relationship between an *DeployableSemiEntity* and the *AgentExecutionEnvironment* where the *DeployableSemiEntity* runs. It can be characterized by the *HostingKind*, which is one of the following:

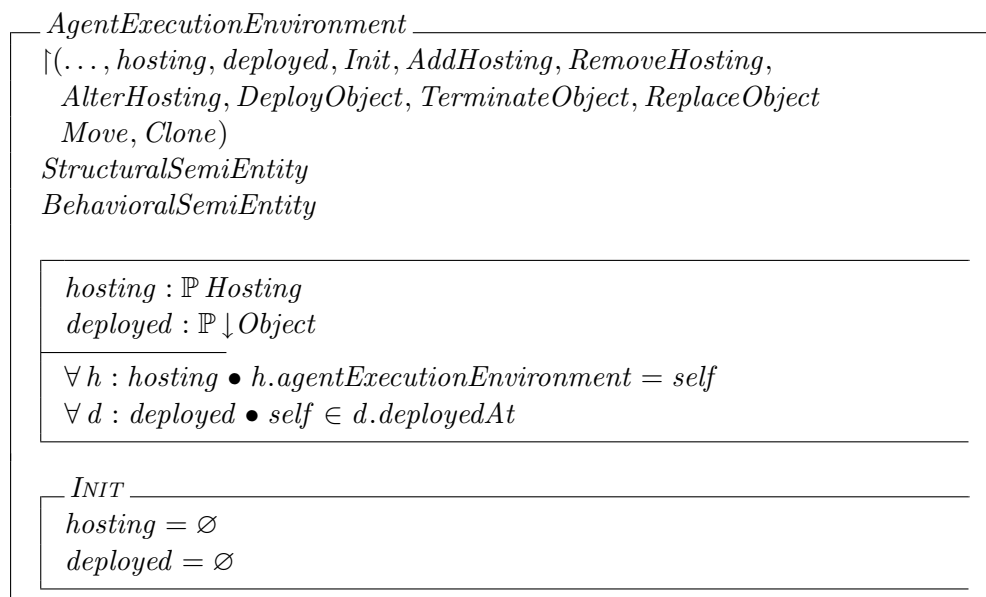
- *resident* - the *DeployableSemiEntity* is perpetually hosted by the *AgentExecutionEnvironment*, or
- *visitor* - the *DeployableSemiEntity* is temporarily hosted by the *AgentExecutionEnvironment*.



*Hosting* is an Object-Z class that forms an association class between *DeployableSemiEntity* and *AgentExecutionEnvironment*.

### 14.5.3 AgentExecutionEnvironment

*AgentExecutionEnvironment* is a concrete specialized *StructuralSemiEntity* and *BehavioredSemiEntity* (see section 14.7 Behaviors), used to represent an execution environment of multi-agent system. *AgentExecutionEnvironment* provides the physical infrastructure in which MAS *DeployableSemiEntities* can run. One *DeployableSemiEntity* can run in at most one *AgentExecutionEnvironment* at one time. It can run at one computational resource (computer) or is distributed among several nodes possibly connected by a network. It can provide (use) a set of services that *DeployableSemiEntities* use (provide) at run time. Owned *hostings* specify *DeployableSemiEntities* hosted by (running at) the *AgentExecutionEnvironment*.



$$\begin{aligned}
\text{AddHosting} &\hat{=} \text{AddElement}[\text{hosting}, \text{Hosting}] \\
&\wedge [y?.\text{agentExecutionEnvironment} = \text{self}] \\
&\wedge [\{\text{host} : \text{Hosting} \mid \text{host} \in y?.\text{deployableSemiEntity}.\text{hosting} \bullet \\
&\quad \text{host} = y?\} = \emptyset \Rightarrow y?.\text{deployableSemiEntity}.\text{AddHosting}(y?)] \\
\text{RemoveHosting} &\hat{=} \text{RemoveElement}[\text{hosting}, \text{Hosting}] \\
&\wedge [y?.\text{agentExecutionEnvironment} = \text{self}] \\
&\wedge [\{\text{host} : \text{Hosting} \mid \text{host} \in y?.\text{deployableSemiEntity}.\text{hosting} \bullet \\
&\quad \text{host} = y?\} \neq \emptyset \Rightarrow y?.\text{deployableSemiEntity}.\text{RemoveHosting}(y?)] \\
\text{AlterHosting} &\hat{=} [\text{old?} : \text{Hosting}; \text{new?} : \text{Hosting}] \\
&\wedge \text{RemoveHosting}(\text{old?}) \wedge \text{AddHosting}(\text{new?}) \\
\text{DeployObject} &\hat{=} \text{AddElement}[\text{deployed}, \downarrow \text{Object}] \\
&\wedge [\text{self} \notin y?.\text{deployedAt} \Rightarrow y?.\text{Deploy}(\text{self})] \\
\text{TerminateObject} &\hat{=} \text{RemoveElement}[\text{deployed}, \downarrow \text{Object}] \\
&\wedge [\text{self} \in y?.\text{deployedAt} \Rightarrow y?.\text{Terminate}(\text{self})] \\
\text{ReplaceObject} &\hat{=} [\text{old?} : \downarrow \text{Object}; \text{new?} : \downarrow \text{Object}] \\
&\wedge \text{TerminateObject}(\text{old?}) \wedge \text{DeployObject}(\text{new?}) \\
\text{Clone} & \\
\Delta(\text{hosting}) & \\
h? : \text{Hosting} & \\
aee? : \text{AgentExecutionEnvironment} & \\
kind? : \text{HostingKind} & \\
\hline
h? \in \text{hosting} & \\
\text{host} : \text{Hosting} \bullet \text{host}.\text{kind} = \text{kind?} & \\
\quad \wedge \text{host}.\text{deployableSemiEntity} = h?.\text{deployableSemiEntity} & \\
\quad \wedge \text{host}.\text{agentExecutionEnvironment} = \text{aee?} & \\
\text{host} \notin \text{aee?}.\text{hosting} \Rightarrow \text{aee?}.\text{AddHosting}(\text{host}) & \\
\hline
\text{Move} \hat{=} \text{Clone} \wedge \text{RemoveHosting}(h?) &
\end{aligned}$$

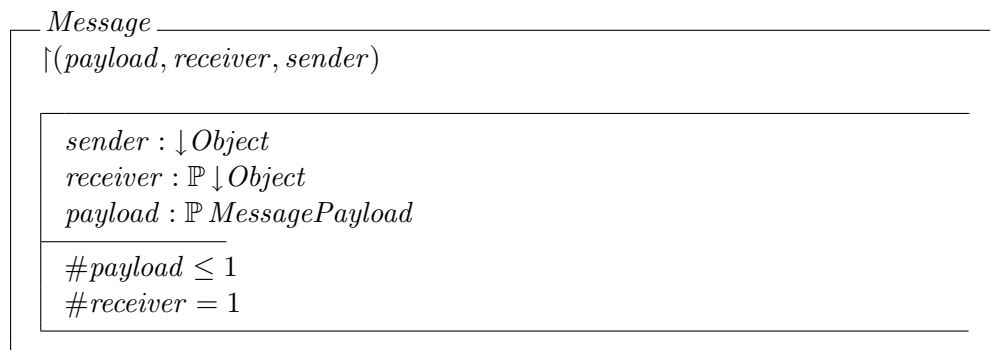
*AgentExecutionEnvironment* is specialized *StructuralSemiEntity* and *BehavioralSemiEntity*. *DeployableSemiEntities* (and their subclasses) can be here deployed, terminated, and replaced. *AgentExecutionEnvironment* defines additional operations – *Clone* creates a copy of existing *hosting* in an another *AgentExecutionEnvironment*, *Move* additionally removes existing *hosting* from itself.

## 14.6 Communicative Interactions

Communicative interactions specify a set of concepts defining communication between objects, entities, etc.

### 14.6.1 Message

*Message* is a specification of the conveyance of information from one instance to another, with the expectation that activity will ensue. [10]



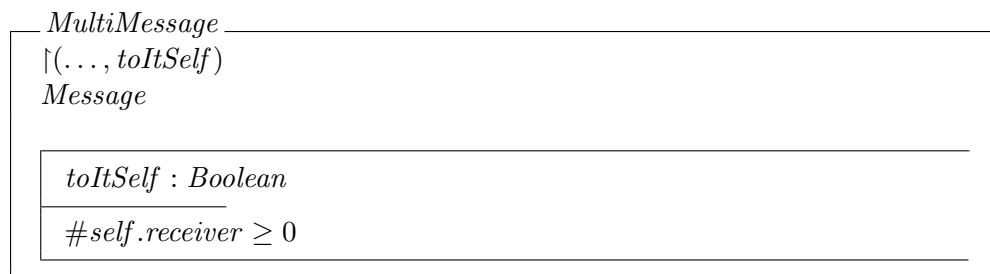
*Message* is represented as an Object-Z class that knows its *sender*, *receiver*, and encapsulates *MessagePayload*.

$[\textit{MessagePayload}]$

*MessagePayload* is a given set of all possible message payloads, that can be send in a message.

### 14.6.2 MultiMessage

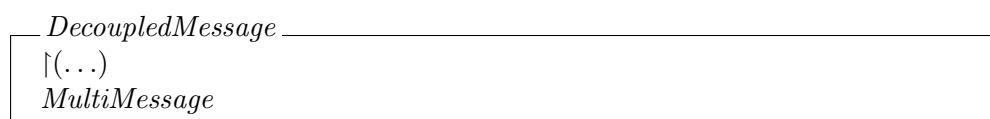
*MultiMessage* is a specialized *Message*, which can be send to multiple receivers. If the *toItSelf* attribute is set to true and the *sender* belongs to the group of *receivers*, then the *MultiMessage* is sent also to its *sender*.



Object-Z class *MultiMessage* inherits from *Message* and overrides *Message*'s condition. *MultiMessage* can now be send to multiple receivers.

### 14.6.3 DecoupledMessage

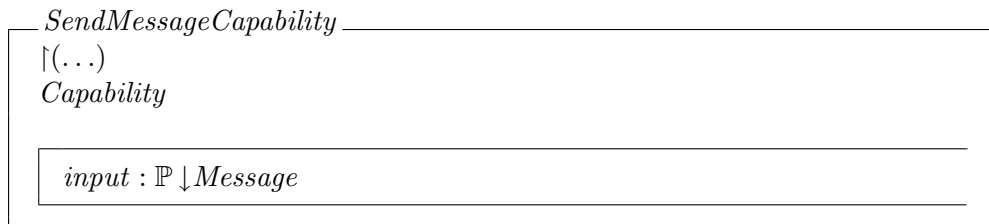
*DecoupledMessage* is a specialized *MultiMessage* which is used to model a specific kind of communication, particularly the asynchronous sending and receiving.



*DecoupledMessage* is a specialized *MultiMessage* class.

#### 14.6.4 SendMessageCapability

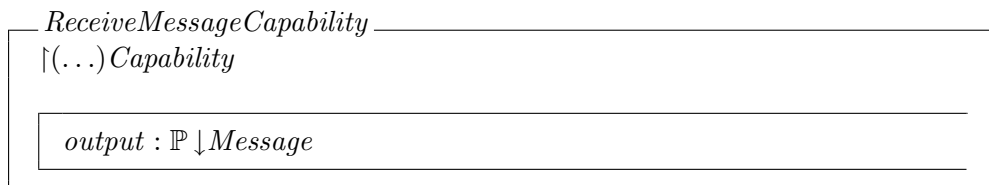
*SendMessageCapability* represents the capability to send message.



*SendMessageCapability* is a specialized *Capability* that specifies the input set to be a set of *Message* instances.

#### 14.6.5 ReceiveMessageCapability

*ReceiveMessageCapability* represents the capability to receive message.



*ReceiveMessageCapability* is a specialized *Capability* that specifies the output set to be a set of *Message* instances.

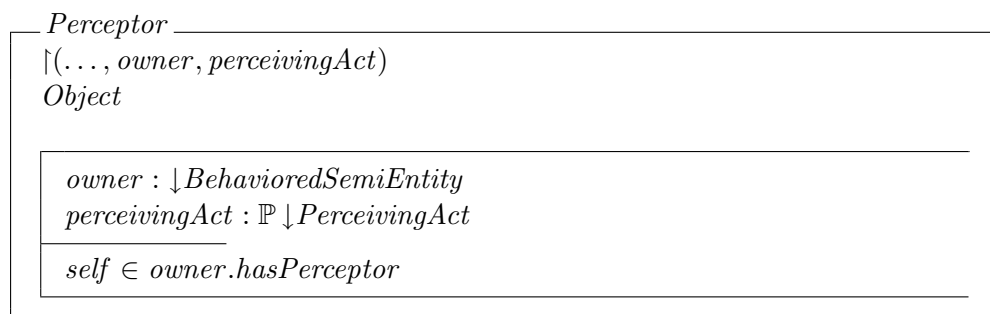
### 14.7 Behaviors

This part of the conceptual MAS metamodel specifies the concepts used to model behavioral aspects of MAS entities, namely:

- behavior abstraction and decomposition,
- communicative interactions,
- services, and
- observations and effecting interactions.

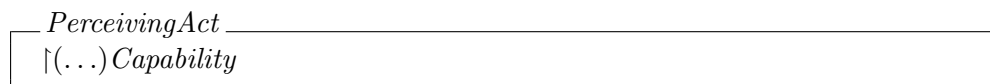
#### 14.7.1 Perceptor

*Perceptor* is a means to enable its owner, *BehavioredSemiEntity*, to observe, i.e. perceive a state of and/or to receive a signal from its environment (surrounding objects, entities, etc.).



*Perceptor* is specialized *Object*, that has capability to perceive its environment. Each *Perceptor* has defined its *owner*.

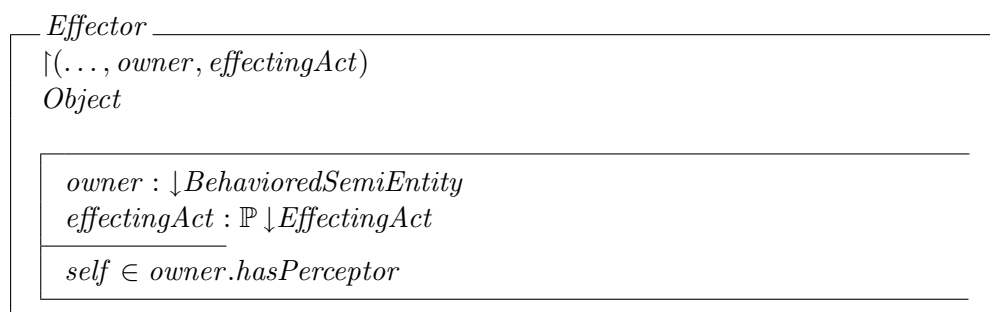
*PerceivingAct* is a *Perceptor*'s capability to perceive.



*PerceivingAct* is a specialized *Capability*.

*Effector* is a means to enable its owner, *BehavioredSemiEntity*, to bring about an effect on others, i.e. to directly manipulate with (or modify a state of) some other objects, entities, etc.

### 14.7.2 Effector



*Effector* is specialized *Object*, that has capability to effect its environment. Each *Effector* has defined its *owner*.

*EffectingAct* is a *Effector*'s capability to perceive.

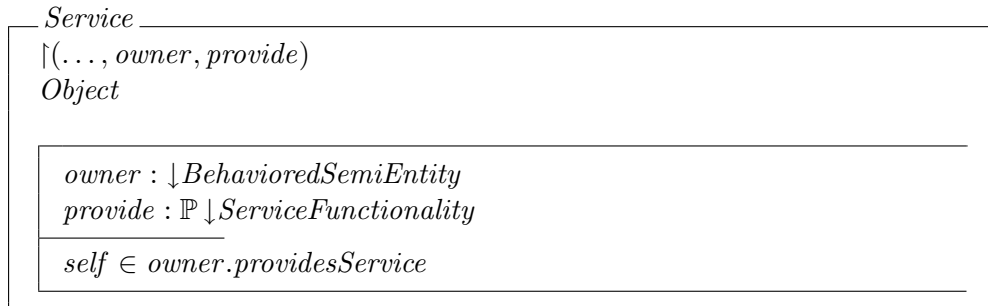


*EffectingAct* is a specialized *Capability*.



### 14.7.3 Service

*Service* is a coherent block of functionality provided by *BehavioedSemiEntity*, called *service provider*, that can be accessed by other *BehavioedSemiEntity*, called *service clients*.



*Service* is a specialized *Object*, that has capability to run some functionality. This fact express the *provide* attribute. Each *Service* has its *owner*.

*ServiceFunctionality* is *Service*'s capability to provide functionality.



*ServiceFunctionality* is a specialized *Capability*.

### 14.7.4 BehavioedSemiEntity

*BehavioedSemiEntity* is a semi-entity used to represent the ability of an entity to have communicative capabilities, interact with other *BehavioedSemiEntity*, provide and use *Services*, to percept and effect, and to be decomposed into *BehaviorFragments*.

*BehavioiredSemiEntity*

$\{$ (*hasPerceptor*, *hasEffector*, *comprise*, *interact*, *receiveMessageCapability*, *sendMessageCapability*, *providesService*, *usesService*, *Init*, *AddPerceptor*, *RemovePerceptor*, *AlterPerceptor*, *AddEffector*, *RemoveEffector*, *AlterEffector*, *AddBehaviorFragment*, *RemoveBehaviorFragment*, *AlterBehaviorFragment*, *AddInteraction*, *RemoveInteraction*, *AlterInteraction*, *AddOwnedService*, *RemoveOwnedService*, *AlterOwnedService*, *AddUsedService*, *RemoveUsedService*, *AlterUsedService*)

*hasPerceptor* :  $\mathbb{P}$  *Perceptor* ©  
*hasEffector* :  $\mathbb{P}$  *Effector* ©  
*comprise* :  $\mathbb{P}$  *BehaviorFragment*  
*interact* :  $\mathbb{P}$   $\downarrow$  *BehavioiredSemiEntity*  
*receiveMessageCapability* :  $\mathbb{P}$   $\downarrow$  *ReceiveMessageCapability*  
*sendMessageCapability* :  $\mathbb{P}$   $\downarrow$  *SendMessageCapability*  
*providesService* :  $\mathbb{P}$  *Service* ©  
*usesService* :  $\mathbb{P}$  *Service*

*BehavioiredSemiEntity* =  $\emptyset$

*INIT*

*hasPerceptor* =  $\emptyset$   
*hasEffector* =  $\emptyset$   
*comprise* =  $\emptyset$   
*interact* =  $\emptyset$   
*receiveMessageCapability* =  $\emptyset$   
*sendMessageCapability* =  $\emptyset$   
*providesService* =  $\emptyset$   
*usesService* =  $\emptyset$

*AddPerceptor*  $\hat{=}$  *AddElement*[*hasPerceptor*, *Perceptor*]  
*RemovePerceptor*  $\hat{=}$  *RemoveElement*[*hasPerceptor*, *Perceptor*]  
*AlterPerceptor*  $\hat{=}$  *AlterElement*[*hasPerceptor*, *Perceptor*]  
*AddEffector*  $\hat{=}$  *AddElement*[*hasEffector*, *Effector*]  
*RemoveEffector*  $\hat{=}$  *RemoveElement*[*hasEffector*, *Effector*]  
*AlterEffector*  $\hat{=}$  *AlterElement*[*hasEffector*, *Effector*]  
*AddBehaviorFragment*  $\hat{=}$  *AddElement*[*comprise*, *BehaviorFragment*]  
*RemoveBehaviorFragment*  $\hat{=}$  *RemoveElement*[*comprise*, *BehaviorFragment*]  
*AlterBehaviorFragment*  $\hat{=}$  *AlterElement*[*comprise*, *BehaviorFragment*]  
*AddInteraction*  $\hat{=}$  *AddElement*[*interact*,  $\downarrow$  *BehavioiredSemiEntity*]  
*RemoveInteraction*  $\hat{=}$  *RemoveElement*[*interact*,  $\downarrow$  *BehavioiredSemiEntity*]  
*AlterInteraction*  $\hat{=}$  *AlterElement*[*interact*,  $\downarrow$  *BehavioiredSemiEntity*]  
*AddOwnedService*  $\hat{=}$  *AddElement*[*providesService*, *Service*]  
*RemoveOwnedService*  $\hat{=}$  *RemoveElement*[*providesService*, *Service*]  
*AlterOwnedService*  $\hat{=}$  *AlterElement*[*providesService*, *Service*]  
*AddUsedService*  $\hat{=}$  *AddElement*[*usesService*, *Service*]

$$\begin{aligned} \text{RemoveUsedService} &\hat{=} \text{RemoveElement}[\text{usesService}, \text{Service}] \\ \text{AlterUsedService} &\hat{=} \text{AlterElement}[\text{usesService}, \text{Service}] \end{aligned}$$

Object-Z class *BehavioedSemiEntity* includes the capability to percept an effect (attributes *hasPerceptor* and *hasEffector*), to be decomposed into *BehaviorFragments* (*comprise* attribute), to interact with other *BehavioedSemiEntity* (*interact* attribute), to have the capability of sending and receiving messages (attributes *receiveMessageCapability* and *sendMessageCapability*), to provide its own *Services* (*providesService* attribute), and to use somebody else's *Services* (*usesService* attribute). We also define basic operation of addition, removal, and alteration on all defined attributes.

### 14.7.5 BehaviorFragment

*BehaviorFragment* is a concrete specialized *BehavioedSemiEntity* used to represent a coherent re-usable fragment of behavior. It is used to decompose a complex behavior into simpler and possibly concurrently executable fragments. *BehaviorFragment* can be shared by several *BehavioedSemiEntities* and behavior of *BehavioedSemiEntity* can be (possibly recursively) decomposed into several *BehaviorFragments*.

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{BehaviorFragment} \\ &|(\dots) \\ &\text{BehavioedSemiEntity} \end{aligned}$$

*BehaviorFragment* is defined as a specialized *BehavioedSemiEntity* class.

## 14.8 Mental Aspects

Autonomous entities can be characterized by their mental attitudes (such as beliefs, goals, and plans), which represent their informational, motivational and deliberative states. This part of the conceptual MAS metamodel deals with modeling these aspects.

### 14.8.1 ContributionKind

*ContributionKind* defines three kinds of contribution.

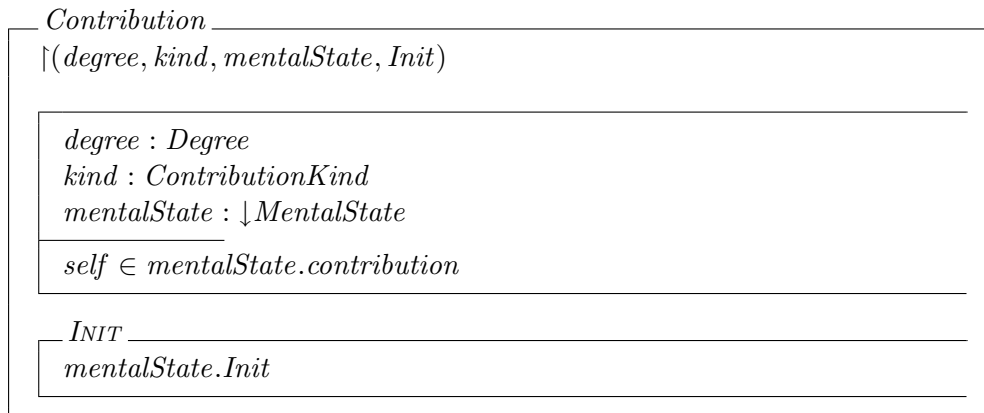
$$\text{ContributionKind} ::= \text{sufficient} \mid \text{necessary} \mid \text{iff}$$

*ContributionKind* is an enumeration, which has *sufficient*, *necessary*, and *iff* values.

### 14.8.2 Contribution

*Contribution* represents a logical relationship between *MentalStates*. *Contribution* specifies the manner in which the contributor (a *MentalState* which contributes) influences its beneficiary (a *MentalState* which is contributed to). *Contribution* refers to the conditions which characterize related *MentalStates* (e.g. pre- and post-conditions, invariants, etc.)

and specifies their logical relationship in terms of logical implication. AML thus defines three kinds of contribution: *necessary*, *sufficient*, and *equivalent*. *Contribution's degree* can be used to specify the extent to which the contributor influences the beneficiary.



Object-Z class *Contribution* represent association class between *MentalState*, which owns *Contribution*, and *MentalState* that is linked to *Contribution* by *Contribution's mentalState* attribute. Each relationship (between two *MentalStates*) has *degree* and *kind*.

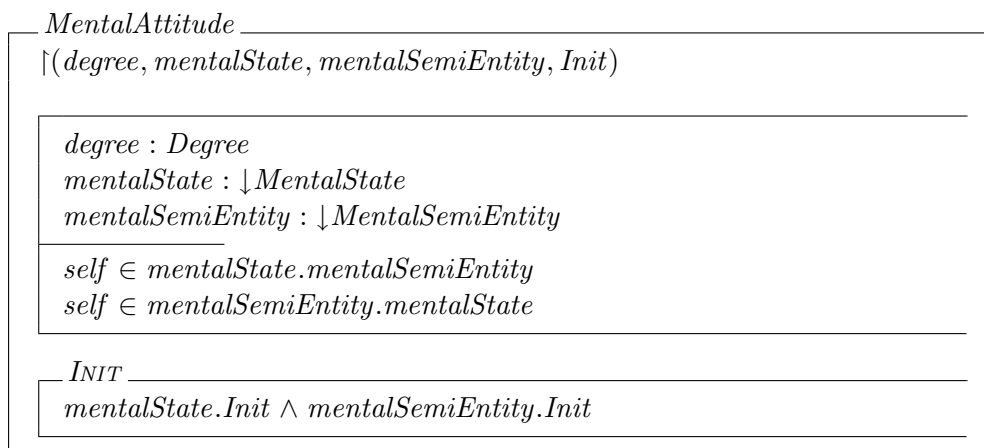
*Degree* is given set of values, which specifies the extent to which the contributor influences the beneficiary.

[*Degree*]

*Degree* is a given set of values.

### 14.8.3 MentalAttitude

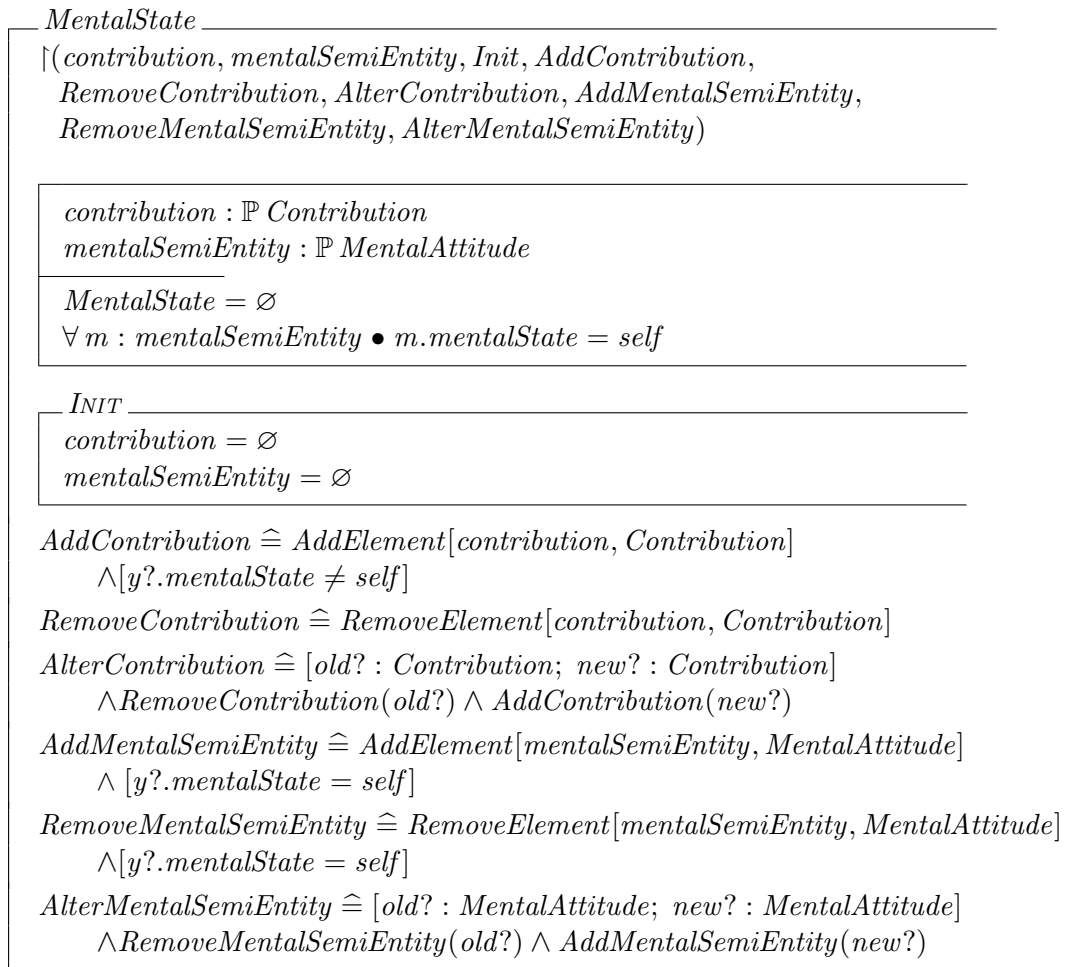
*MentalAttitude* is a relationship between a *MentalSemiEntity* and a *MentalState* representing that the *MentalSemiEntity* possesses the *MentalState* as its *MentalAttitude*, i.e. it believes a *Belief*, is committed to a *Goal*, or is intended to perform a *Plan*. *MentalAttitude* is characterized by the *degree* attribute, of which semantics varies with concrete type of the linked *MentalState*. It represents either the subjective reliability or confidence of the linked *MentalSemiEntity* in the information specified by *Belief*, relative importance of a *Goal*, or preference of a *Plan*.



Object-Z class *MentalAttitude* represents association class between *MentalState* and *MentalSemiEntity*.

#### 14.8.4 MentalState

*MentalState* is an abstract concept serving as a common superclass to all the metaclasses which can be used to specify *MentalAttitudes* of *MentalSemiEntities*. *MentalState* can be related by *Contributions*. *MentalState* referred to by several *MentalSemiEntities* simultaneously represent their common *MentalStates*, e.g. common *Beliefs* or common *Goals*.



*MentalState* is an abstract Object-Z class that comprises of *contribution* and *mentalSemiEntity* attributes. We also define basic operation of addition, removal, and alteration on all defined attributes.

#### 14.8.5 MentalSemiEntity

*MentalSemiEntity* is a semi-entity used to represent the capability of an entity to possess *MentalAttitudes* by connection the entity to *MentalStates*.

$\text{MentalSemiEntity}$ $\uparrow(\text{mentalState}, \text{Init}, \text{AddMentalState}, \text{RemoveMentalState}, \text{AlterMentalState})$
$\text{mentalState} : \mathbb{P} \text{MentalAttitude}$
$\text{MentalSemiEntity} = \emptyset$ $\forall ms : \text{mentalState} \bullet ms.\text{mentalSemiEntity} = \text{self}$
$\text{INIT}$ $\text{mentalState} = \emptyset$
$\text{AddMentalState} \hat{=} \text{AddElement}[\text{mentalState}, \text{MentalAttitude}]$ $\wedge [y?.\text{mentalSemiEntity} = \text{self}]$
$\text{RemoveMentalState} \hat{=} \text{RemoveElement}[\text{mentalState}, \text{MentalAttitude}]$ $\wedge [y?.\text{mentalSemiEntity} = \text{self}]$
$\text{AlterMentalState} \hat{=} [\text{old?} : \text{MentalAttitude}; \text{new?} : \text{MentalAttitude}]$ $\wedge \text{RemoveMentalState}(\text{old?}) \wedge \text{AddMentalState}(\text{new?})$

*MentalSemiEntity* is an abstract Object-Z class that includes *mentalState* attribute and defines operation of addition, removal, and alteration on this attribute.

#### 14.8.6 Belief

*Belief* is a concrete specialized *MentalState* used to model information which *MentalSemiEntities* have (believe) about themselves or their environment, and which does not need to be objectively true.

$\text{Belief}$ $\uparrow(\dots)$ $\text{MentalState}$
--

*Belief* class is a specialized *MentalState* class.

#### 14.8.7 Goals

*Goal* is an abstract specialized *MentalState* used to model conditions of states of affairs, the achievement or maintenance of which is controlled by an owning (committed) *MentalSemiEntity*. *Goals* are thus used to represent objectives, needs, motivations, desires, etc. of *MentalSemiEntities*.

$\text{Goal}$ $\uparrow(\dots)$ $\text{MentalState}$
--

*Goal* class is a specialized *MentalState* class.

*DecidableGoal* is a concrete specialized *Goal* used to model goals for which there are clear-cut criteria according to which the *MentalSemiEntity* controlling the *Goal* can decide whether the *Goal* has been achieved or not.



*DecidableGoal* class is a specialized *Goal* class.

*UndecidableGoal* is a concrete specialized *Goal* used to model *Goals* for which there are no clear-cut criteria according to which the *MentalSemiEntity* controlling the *Goal* can decide whether the *Goal* has been achieved or not.



*UndecidableGoal* class is a specialized *Goal* class.

### 14.8.8 Plan

*Plan* is a concrete specialized *MentalState* used to represent an activity (expressed e.g. by a series of steps) that a *MentalSemiEntity* is intended to perform.



*Plan* class is a specialized *MentalState* class.

## 14.9 Autonomy Aspects

In this section we present an optional extension of *AutonomousEntity*, which is based on belief-desire-intention reasoning. Belief-Desire-Intention (BDI) model has come to be possibly the best known and best studied model of practical reasoning agents. For more details see [9].

Following classes do not belong to the conceptual AML metamodel presented in [1], but rather demonstrate its extensibility capabilities.

### 14.9.1 BDIAutonomousEntity

*BDIAutonomousEntity* is an abstract specialized *AutonomousEntity* that incorporates BDI model.

*BDIAutonomousEntity*

$\uparrow(\dots, \text{beliefs}, \text{goals}, \text{plans}, \text{alterBeliefs}, \text{alterGoals},$   
 $\text{alterPlans}, \text{alterMentalState}, \text{chooseGoal}, \text{choosePlan}, \text{chooseEffector},$   
 $\text{Init}, \text{ExamineEnvironment}, \text{Act}, \text{Activity})$   
*AutonomousEntity*

$\text{beliefs} : \mathbb{P} \text{Belief}$   
 $\text{goals} : \mathbb{P} \downarrow \text{Goal}$   
 $\text{plans} : \mathbb{P} \text{Plan}$   
 $\text{alterBeliefs} : \mathbb{P} \downarrow \text{PerceivingAct} \times \mathbb{P} \text{Belief} \rightarrow \mathbb{P} \text{Belief}$   
 $\text{alterGoals} : \mathbb{P} \text{Belief} \times \mathbb{P} \downarrow \text{Goal} \rightarrow \mathbb{P} \downarrow \text{Goal}$   
 $\text{alterPlans} : \mathbb{P} \text{Belief} \times \mathbb{P} \downarrow \text{Goal} \times \mathbb{P} \text{Plan} \rightarrow \mathbb{P} \text{Plan}$   
 $\text{alterMentalState} : \mathbb{P} \text{Beliefs} \times \mathbb{P} \text{MentalAttitude} \rightarrow \mathbb{P} \text{MentalAttitude}$   
 $\text{chooseGoal} : \mathbb{P} \downarrow \text{Goal} \times \mathbb{P} \text{MentalAttitude} \rightarrow \downarrow \text{Goal}$   
 $\text{choosePlan} : \mathbb{P} \text{Plan} \times \downarrow \text{Goal} \rightarrow \text{Plan}$   
 $\text{action} : \mathbb{P} \downarrow \text{ActionCapability}$   
 $\text{chooseAction} : \mathbb{P} \downarrow \text{ActionCapability} \times \text{Plan} \rightarrow \downarrow \text{ActionCapability}$

$\text{BDIAutonomousEntity} = \emptyset$   
 $\text{dom first alterBeliefs} \subseteq \text{self.hasPerceptor.perceivingAct}$   
 $\text{dom second alterBeliefs} \subseteq \text{beliefs}$   
 $\text{dom first alterGoals} \subseteq \text{beliefs} \wedge \text{dom second alterGoals} \subseteq \text{goals}$   
 $\forall (x1, x2, x3) \in \text{dom alterPlans} \bullet x1 \subseteq \text{beliefs} \wedge x2 \subseteq \text{goals} \wedge x3 \subseteq \text{plans}$   
 $\text{dom first alterMentalState} \subseteq \text{beliefs}$   
 $\quad \wedge \text{dom second alterMentalState} \subseteq \text{self.mentalState}$   
 $\text{dom first chooseGoal} \subseteq \text{goals} \wedge \text{dom second chooseGoal} \subseteq \text{self.mentalState}$   
 $\text{ran chooseGoal} \in \text{goals}$   
 $\text{dom first choosePlan} \subseteq \text{plans} \wedge \text{dom second choosePlan} \subseteq \text{goals}$   
 $\text{ran choosePlan} \in \text{plans}$   
 $\text{dom first chooseAction} \subseteq \text{action} \wedge \text{dom second chooseAction} \in \text{plans}$   
 $\text{ran chooseAction} \in \text{action}$

*INIT*

$\text{beliefs} = \emptyset$   
 $\text{goals} = \emptyset$   
 $\text{plans} = \emptyset$   
 $\text{ExamineEnvironment}$

*ExamineEnvironment*

$\Delta(\text{beliefs}, \text{goals}, \text{plans}, \text{self.mentalState})$   
 $\# \text{self.hasPerceptor} \geq 1 \Rightarrow \text{beliefs}' =$   
 $\quad \text{alterBeliefs}(\text{self.hasPerceptor.perceivingAct}, \text{beliefs})$   
 $\text{beliefs}' \neq \emptyset \Rightarrow \text{goals}' = \text{alterGoals}(\text{beliefs}', \text{goals})$   
 $(\text{beliefs}' \neq \emptyset \wedge \text{goals}' \neq \emptyset) \Rightarrow \text{plans}' = \text{alterPlans}(\text{beliefs}', \text{goals}', \text{plans})$   
 $\text{beliefs}' \neq \emptyset \Rightarrow \text{self.mentalState}' =$   
 $\quad \text{alterMentalState}(\text{beliefs}', \text{self.mentalState})$



$Act$ <hr/> $\Delta(goals, plans)$ <hr/> $goals \neq \emptyset$ $goal : \downarrow Goal \bullet goal = chooseGoal(goals, self.mentalState)$ $goals' = goals \setminus \{goal\}$ $plan : Plan \bullet plan = choosePlan(plans, goal)$ $plans' = plans \setminus \{plan\}$ $a : \downarrow ActionCapability \mid a = chooseAction(actions, plan) \bullet$ $a.Run$
$Activity \hat{=} ExamineEnvironment \wp Act$
$\square(\diamond(Activity \text{ occurs}))$

*BDDIAutonomousEntity* is a specialized *AutonomousEntity* that incorporates a set of instances of *Belief* (*beliefs* attribute), of *Goal* (*goals* attribute), and of *Plan* (*plans* instances). *BDDIAutonomousEntity* owns capability to act. This is depicted by the set of *ActionCapability* instances (*action* attribute). We also define a set of functions. These are described in subsequent operations.

*ExamineEnvironment* is an operation of examining *BDDIAutonomousEntity*'s environment, of altering *BDDIAutonomousEntity*'s *beliefs*, *goals*, *plans*, and *mentalStates*. When *BDDIAutonomousEntity* has at least one *Perceptor*, then it runs *perceivingAct* capability and using *alterBeliefs* function, it alters its *beliefs* attribute. *BDDIAutonomousEntity* must believe in something to alter its *goals*. The alteration of goals is processed by *alterGoals* function. To change *plans* the *alterPlans* function is called. *MentalStates* of *BDDIAutonomousEntity* are changed by call of *alterMentalState* function.

*Act* operation chooses *goal* and subsequently *plan* that will be run. It also chooses an *action* from the set of all possible actions that *BDDIAutonomousEntity* is able to perform and process *Run* of selected *ActionCapability*.

*Activity* operation comprises of *ExamineEnvironment* and *Act* operation, which are run sequentially. That means, that when *Activity* operation is called, then firstly the *ExamineEnvironment* operation is processed and secondly the *Act* operation is runned.

The  $\square(\diamond(Activity \text{ occurs}))$  temporal invariant says that always ( $\square$ ) the *Activity* operation eventually ( $\diamond$ ) occurs.

Lastly, we present the *ActionCapability* class.

*ActionCapability* is an abstract capability representing all possible actions that *BDDIAutonomousEntity* can perform.

$ActionCapability$ <hr/> $\uparrow(\dots)$ $Capability$
---

*ActionCapability* is a specialized *Capability*.

## Part IV

### Summary of Achievements

## Chapter 15

# Conclusions and Future Works

*“Formal methods for software development are becoming increasingly necessary as software becomes an important part of everyday life. To handle the complexities inherent in large-scale software systems these methods need to be combined with a sound development methodology which supports modularity and reusability. Object orientation, based on the concept that systems are composed of collections of interacting objects whose behaviors are specified by classes, is such a methodology.”*

— Graeme Paul Smith

*An Object-Oriented Approach to Formal Specification, 1992*

This thesis has presented a formal specification of Agent Modeling Language using the formal specification language Object-Z. We showed a way how to transform models based on UML Infrastructure and we demonstrated that this approach generic enough. Therefore, metamodels that exist purely in OMG metamodeling framework can be transformed analogously to Object-Z formal specifications. We also outlined a way how to formally specify OCL constraints. In this part of our work we see possible extensions of the formal specification of AML. One such extension is to formally specify classes taken from UML 2.0 metamodel and the functions defined in section 5.3 on page 16. In general, we can say that the resulting formal metamodel of AML can serve as a basis for further formal verification and validation, model-based testing, and possible re-engineering.

Our thesis also presented an abstract multi-agent system based on concepts originated in [1] that can serve as a start line for future multi-agent theories operating on aspects. The intention was not to provide a comprehensive metamodel for all aspects and details of MAS, but rather to explain the concepts that were used as the underlying principles of AML. To define autonomous behavior, we used BDI logic, but the extensibility of our model ensures addition of others, more specific behavioral models. We also presented simple life cycle by defining operations of addition, removal and alteration on objects. This simple maintenance of properties can also be extended in a more specific way. Another important area of future could be a formal specification of real time interactions between entities in our abstract multi-agent system. For this purpose the Timed Communicating Object-Z (TCOZ) would be appropriate. Finally, we can say that our abstract MAS can serve as a base for further formal or informal models of multi-agent systems.

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# Abstrakt

Diplomová práca nadväzuje na dizertačnú prácu R. Červenku, *Modeling Multi-Agent Systems*, v ktorej bol detailne popísaný agentový modelovací jazyk AML (Agent Modeling Language). Cieľom tejto práce je formálne vyjadriť metamodel AML využitím Object-Z notácie a formálne špecifikácia multi-agentový systém (MAS) použitím AML konceptov.

*Kľúčové slová:* AML, Agent Modeling Language, MAS, Multi-Agent Systems, Object-Z, OZ, formal specification.