



ROADMAP

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Foundations of a New Software Engineering Method for Real-time Systems

Abstract: The design of a fault-tolerant distributed, real-time, embedded system with safety-critical concerns requires the **use of formal languages**. Here, we present the foundations of a new software engineering method for real-time systems that enables the integration of semi-formal and formal notations. This new software engineering method is mostly based upon the "COntinuuM" co-modeling methodology that we have used to integrate architecture models of real-time systems and a model-driven development process that both includes **model transformation** and **code generation** strategies

Kitakyushu-City, 13/11/2008



Main issues, state-of-the-art

-The Analysis and Design of DRES systems are performed without any standardized software design method

-Actual standards as DO-178B, ARP4754 and legacy guidelines

-MDA not suitable for embedded systems-, a UML Profile for MARTE, xUML, a UML Profile for AADL, lots of model-checking techniques...

-Proof Based System Engineering (PBSE), proof techniques PVS/Why TLA+/TLC/+CAL → cannot be applied on the whole lifecycle

-Methods in use : SART (non iterative) and HRT-HOOD (only one type of diagram) / MeMVaTEX (in progress, no formal notations) : AAA + ACCORD/UML

The major objective is to obtain a continuous integration of different languages that define a system at different abstraction levels, from end to end of the software lifecycle with an automation between the different phases.

each phase has its own notations

MDA for embedded systems ? : Physical environment has an impact on the system behavior → software et runtime frameworks do not have to be separated



DRES need a co-modeling methodology

- What are DRES , where are they? (transport, entertainment, at home..)
 - **Distributed** → Possible multi-tasks or/and multi-processors
 - **Real-time** → Outputs delivered on time
 - **Embedded** → Part of a larger product without direct user/system interfaces
 - **Systems** → Consists of both hardware and software parts
- DRES are more and more complex systems because of :
 - **Of their software part**
 - **They have to embed more and more functionalities**
 - **They are hybrid systems (continuous and discrete time, hw & sw)**
- Architecture Models of DRES in the design process
 - **From requirements to tests... the role of these models in DRE systems (need for formal languages, proof and model-checking methods)**
 - **Architecture styles are a Key notion in software engineering**

Distributed Real-time and Embedded Systems (DRES) modeling (1)

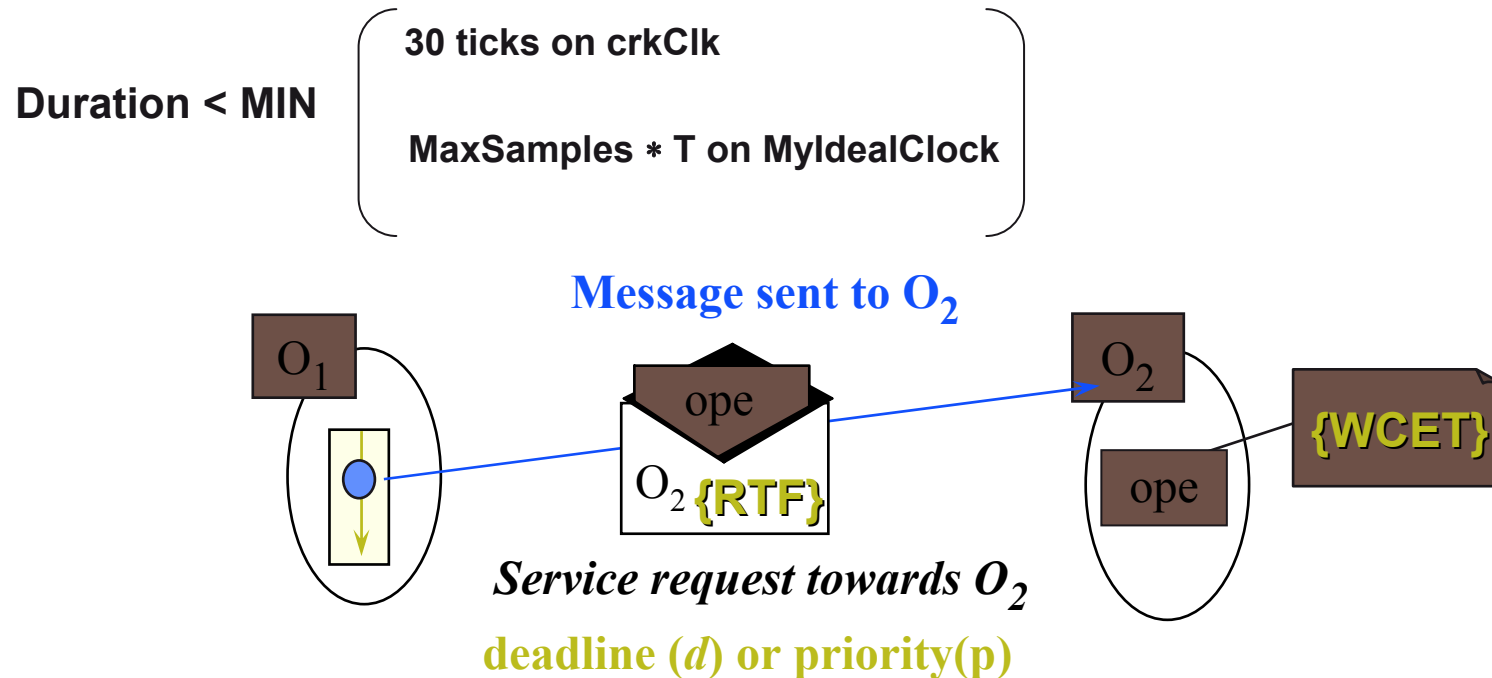
■ Real-time constraints

- In general, it is not so easy to take into account temporal constraints with Object-oriented modeling techniques
 - In particular, deadlines, WCET and tasks synchronization.
- One way to solve this issue is to attach them to messages
 - In order to manage tasks scheduling, we schedule messages processing
 - With objects deadlines
 - Priority inheritance
 - Dependency management
- There is a strong need for modeling real-time objects and its mechanisms → MARTE profile

Distributed Real-time and Embedded Systems (DRES) modeling (1)

Temporal characteristics are attached to functions : **deadline, offset, period, WCET**

In MARTE , we can model Date or Duration with **TimedValueSpecification**
→Peraldi-Frati and Sorel have used clocks constraints and complex duration expressions with multiple timeBases (in order to perform scheduling analysis)



Distributed Real-time and Embedded Systems (DRES) modeling (2)

- **Concurrent, reactive and distributed systems can be modeled, refined and checked with temporal logic**
 - Among several temporal logics LTL (linear), TLA or CTL (more powerful than LTL)...with different time diagrams (linear or tree diagrams), different time granularity, we have chosen TLA+ for its high expressivity and assertional verification
 - TLA+ is very different : it is a temporal logic of actions : it has action and temporal operators
 - TLA+ has 2 levels of syntaxes : action formulas (which represent states) and the transitions system
- In TLA+ a system is defined as a set of traces



OO Methods

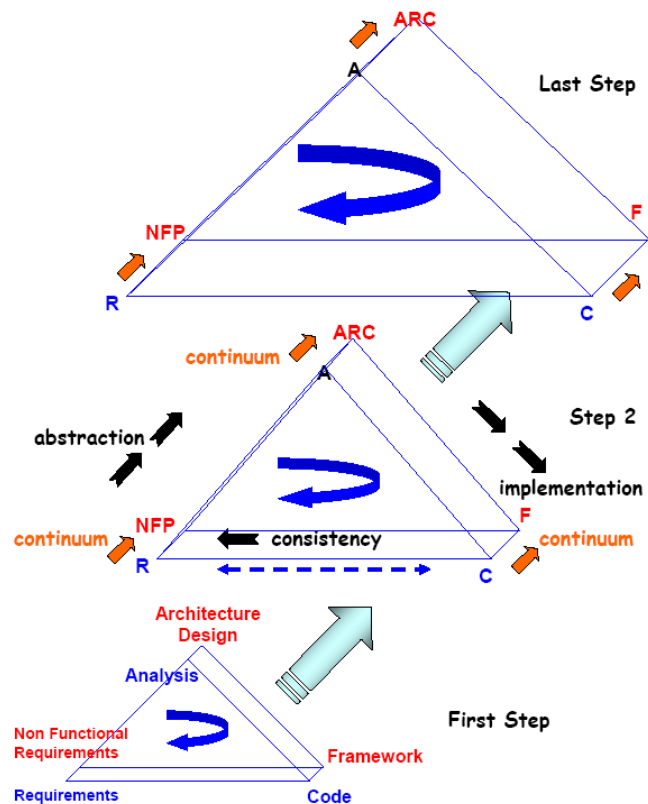
- **Booch and OMT (Object Modeling Technique)**, functional model difficult to use → **UML**
- **ROOM (Real-time OO Modeling)** → **UML-RT** → **UML 2.1** → **MARTE**
- **HRT- HOOD** → **HRT-UML** (user base limited to ESA), much oriented towards Ada, but lack of inheritance, polymorphism concepts
- **KOBRA** → Product lines and **K**omponent-based, aligned with industry standards, MDA, recursive, based on UML, **suited for hierarchical systems (no way to describe actions happening among subsystems or components themselves)**
- **Fusion (comes from OMT)** suffers from the same problem as **OMT** , based on a strict waterfall sequence of activities



Not from the scratch : three generations of design methods for real-time systems

- (1) Structured design methods for the development of real-time software: **SA, SADT, JSD, CORE, DARTS, CODARTS** (Ada-based design approaches for real time), **MASCOT, OCTOPUS, HOOD**
- (2) **SART**
 - cannot be used for prototyping and still does not have an iterative lifecycle
- (2) **HRT-HOOD**
 - object-based structured design method
 - Has only one main diagrammatic type for modeling
- (3) **AAA + ACCORD/UML (MeMVaTex)**

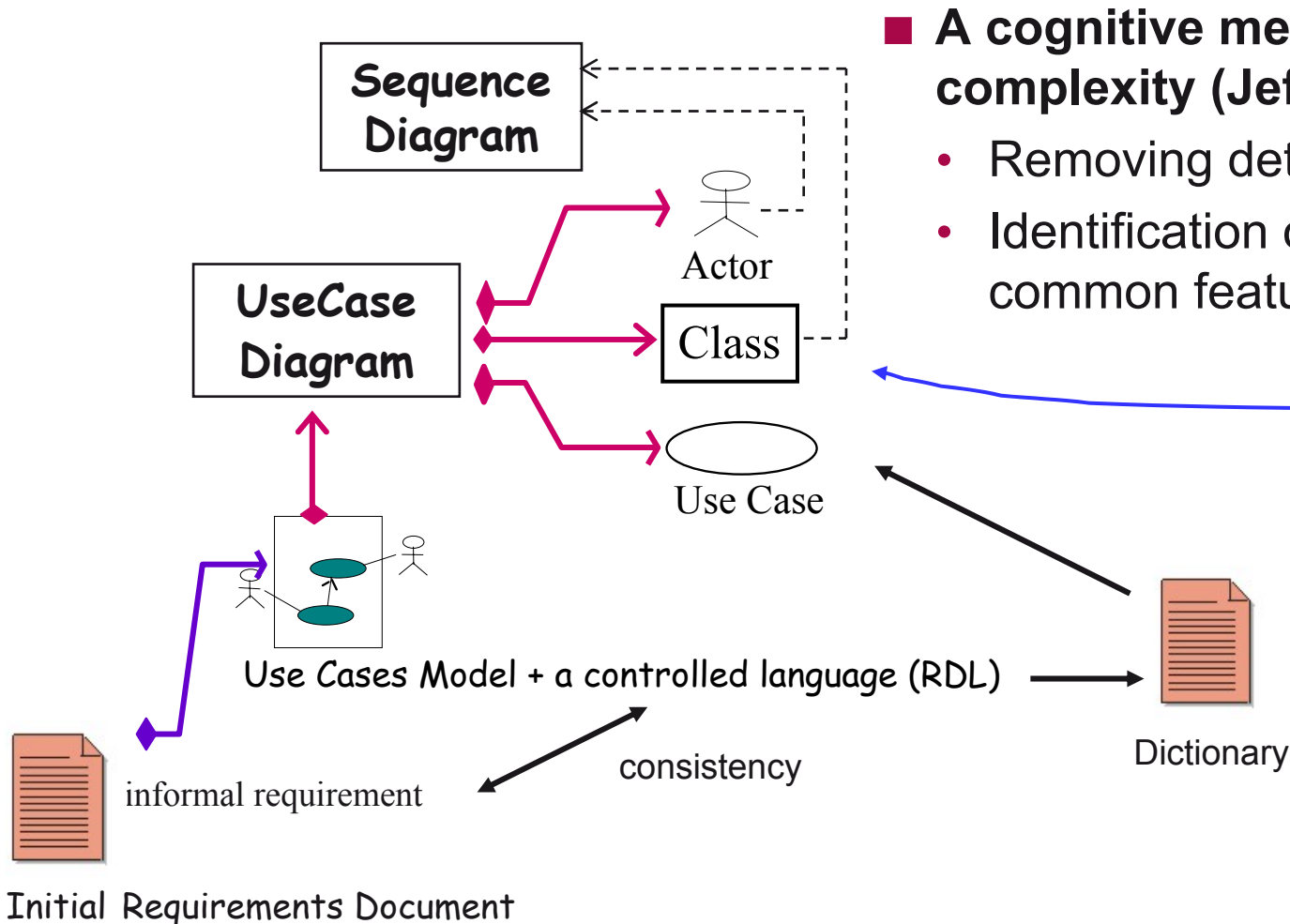
Approach (full Model-driven) : The keys of the method, and a seamless development life cycle



A well defined lifecycle

- An iterative lifecycle, prototyping/ feedback based
- The development process ensure continuity between phases
- Consistent notations set , semi-formal and formal notations
- Notations composition
- Proof and model-checking techniques
- Design of sporadic and cyclic activities
- Notations for real-time (clocks)
- Binding (MARTE allocation) of software components onto hardware components (AADL)
- Decomposition of architecture models (packages)
- Modes
- Integration and proof of NF requirements
- Integration of scheduling policies within the design process
- Ease of use
- Tools including WCET and schedulability analysis

The Abstraction process (on ascending phase)



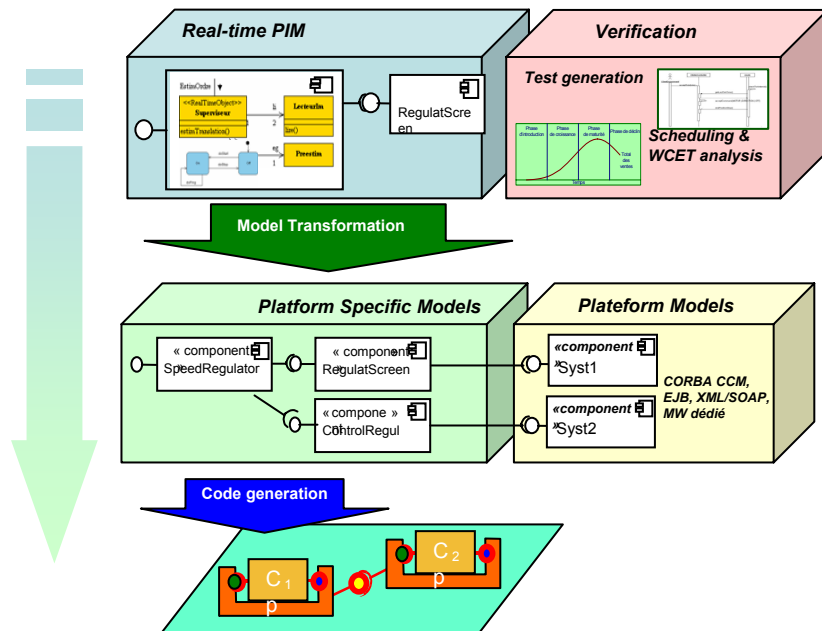
■ A cognitive means to deal with complexity (Jeff Kramer)

- Removing detail
- Identification of **generalizations** or common features

Initial Requirements Document

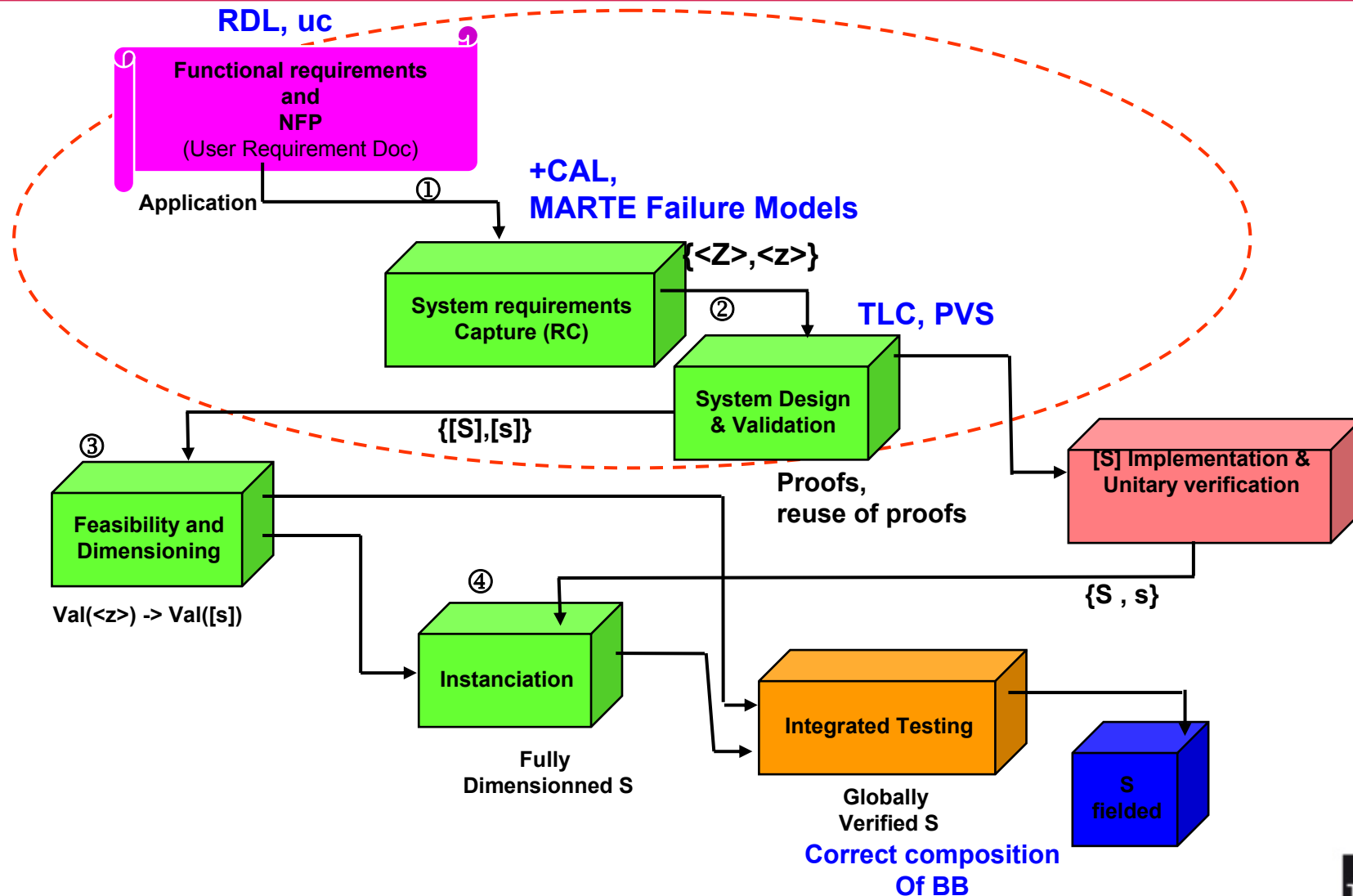
The Instanciation phases

- MDD approach (ACCORD/UML) on descending phase of lifecycle



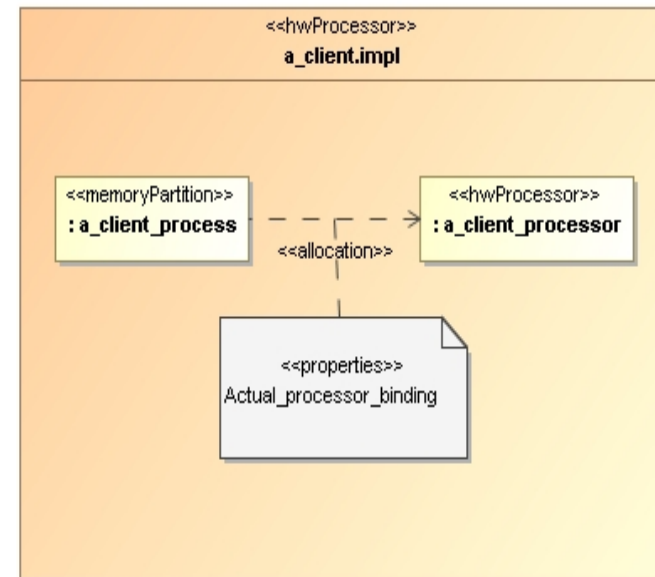
- From MARTE to AADL
 - Mapping MARTE → AADL
 - ATL Transformations
- ATL : coding the transformations rules inside modules
- Subset of xUML (fUML) + Action semantics (concrete syntax)
- +CAL algorithm language extensions
- ANTLR Ada code generation techniques

Requirements Capture phase in PBSE



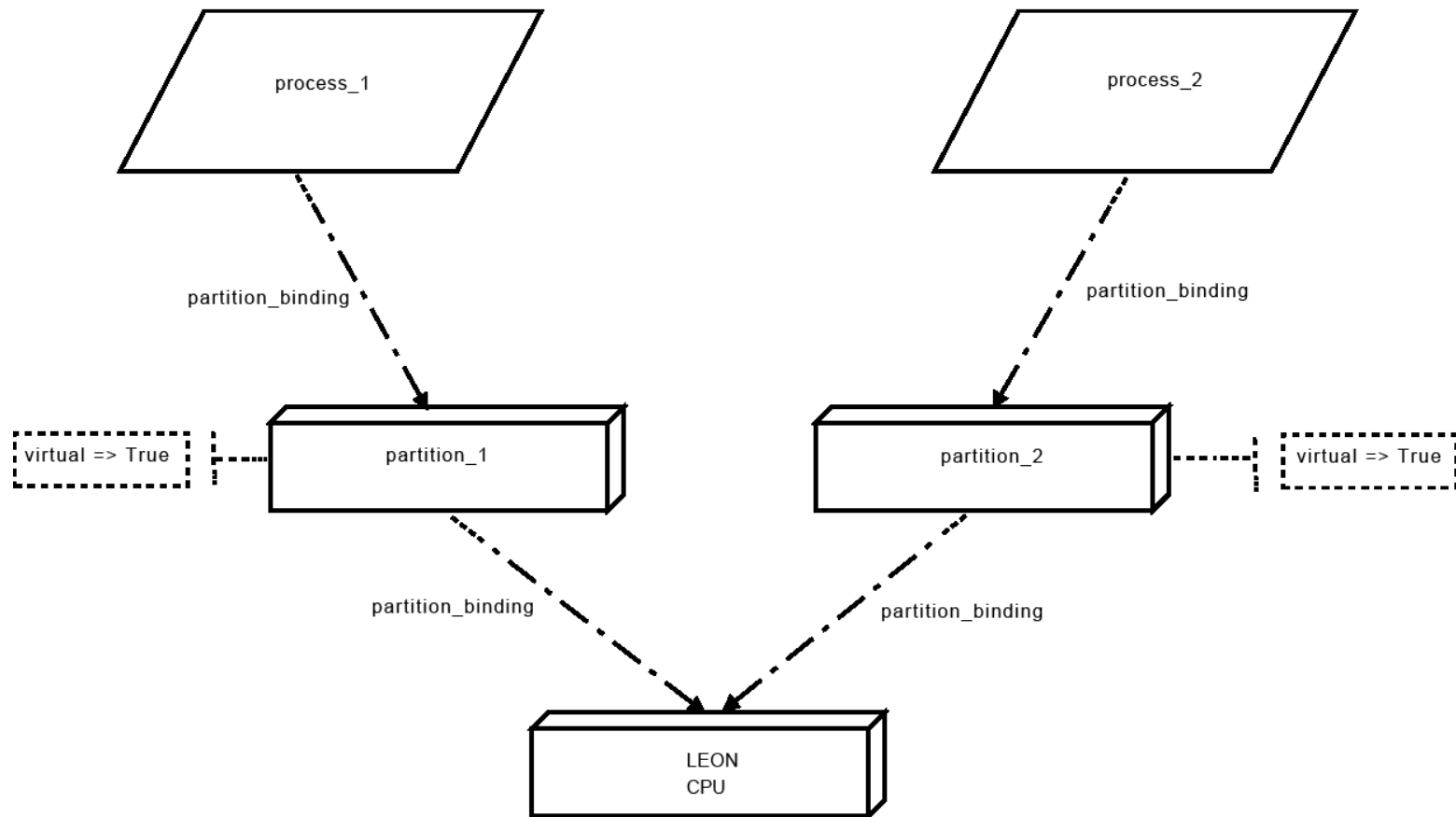
Using MARTE for a complete system specification

- The binding is an **<<allocation>>** stereotype (SysML wording)
 - The comment associated to this dependency contains the binding properties
 - Both components are bound by the **<<allocation>>** stereotyped UML dependency



Ex of Madeleine Faugère, Thales

Using AADL



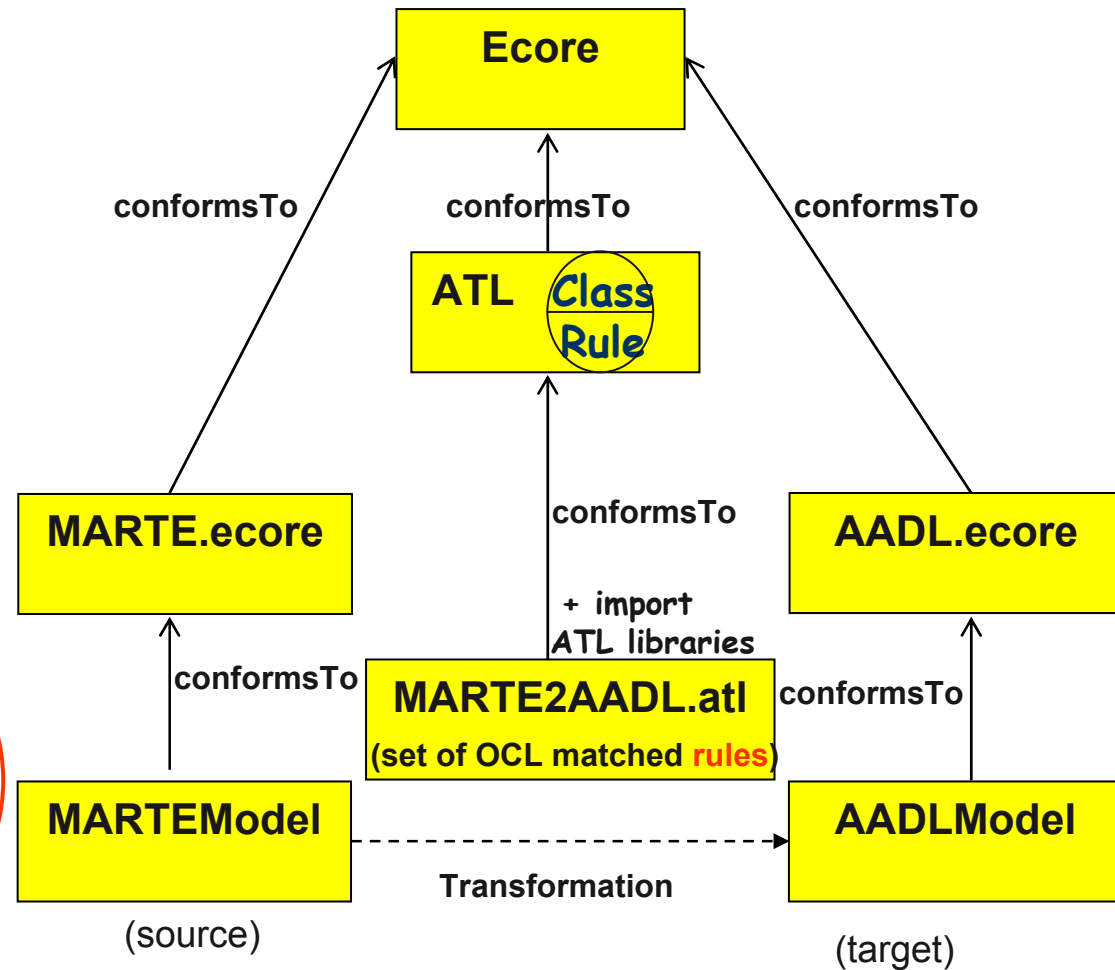
MARTE subset to AADL

... Corresponds to ...

- <<swSchedulableRessource>> → Thread
- → Thread group
- → Shared Data...
- → Subprogram...
- → Processor
- → Memory
- → Device...
- → System
- → Port...
- → Mode
- ...
- → System Binding
- ...

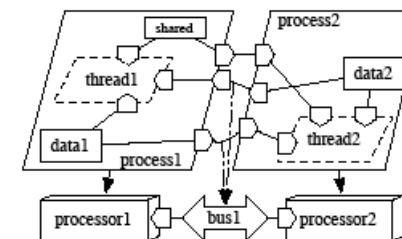
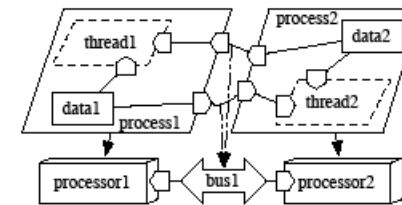
rules established from **source model** to **target** :
 Stereotype MARTE to AADL element
 Ex:
 <<swSchedulableRessource>> to
 ThreadClassifier

OCL :
 do {thismodule.dsl(t, Thread);
 }



Algorithms / Architecture , what's the right level of abstraction?

- An iterative approach : algorithms optimization into design models (AADL)→ Analysis models refinement
- To avoid the dependence of a limited set of proved properties, we did not choose to build **a proved algorithms library**
 - The analysis of a given algorithm **through a set of parameters** coming from the initial requirements
 - A **fixed number of parameters / a suitable algorithm**
 - To prove
 - To guaranty that it is consistent with global architectural non functional properties
- A gradual formal expressivity : **+CAL / TLA+**
 - Proofs at the Requirements level
 - Proofs at the analysis level
 - Proofs at the design level
 - Generation of implementation language

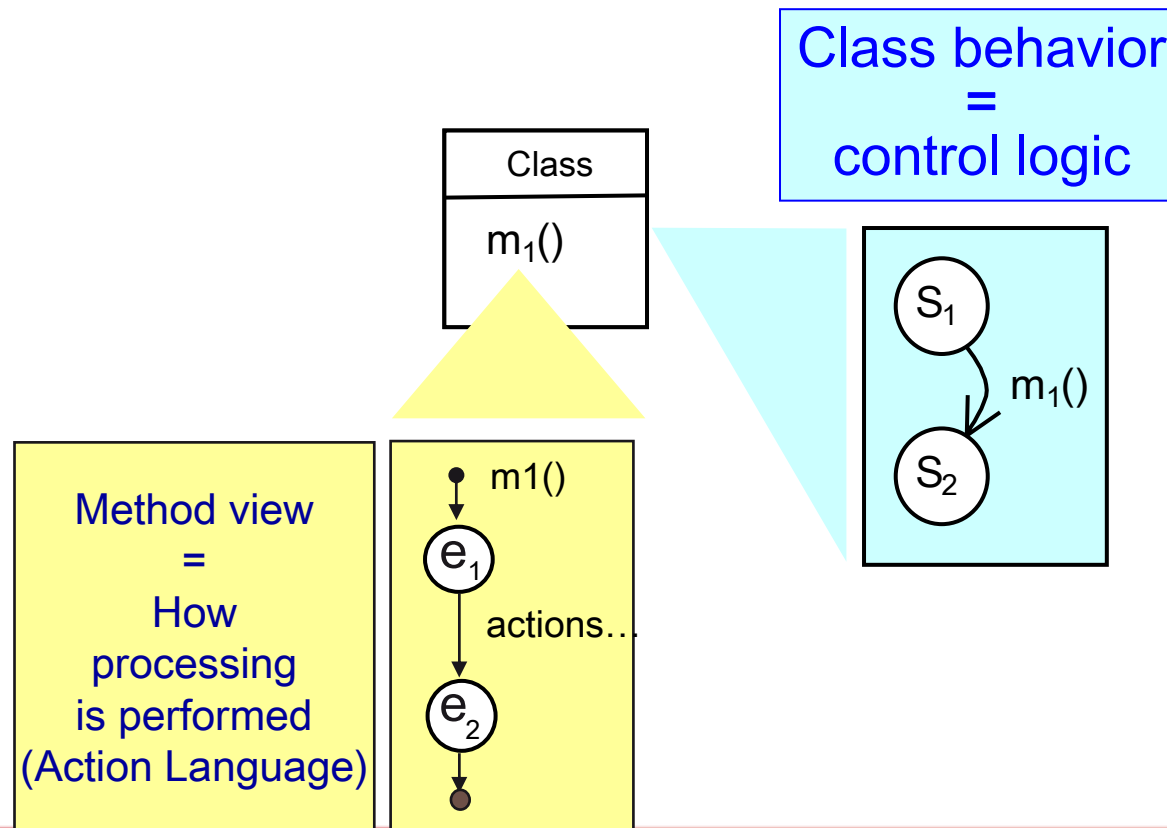


The lock policy of the shared data is centralized at the level of one process (process1)

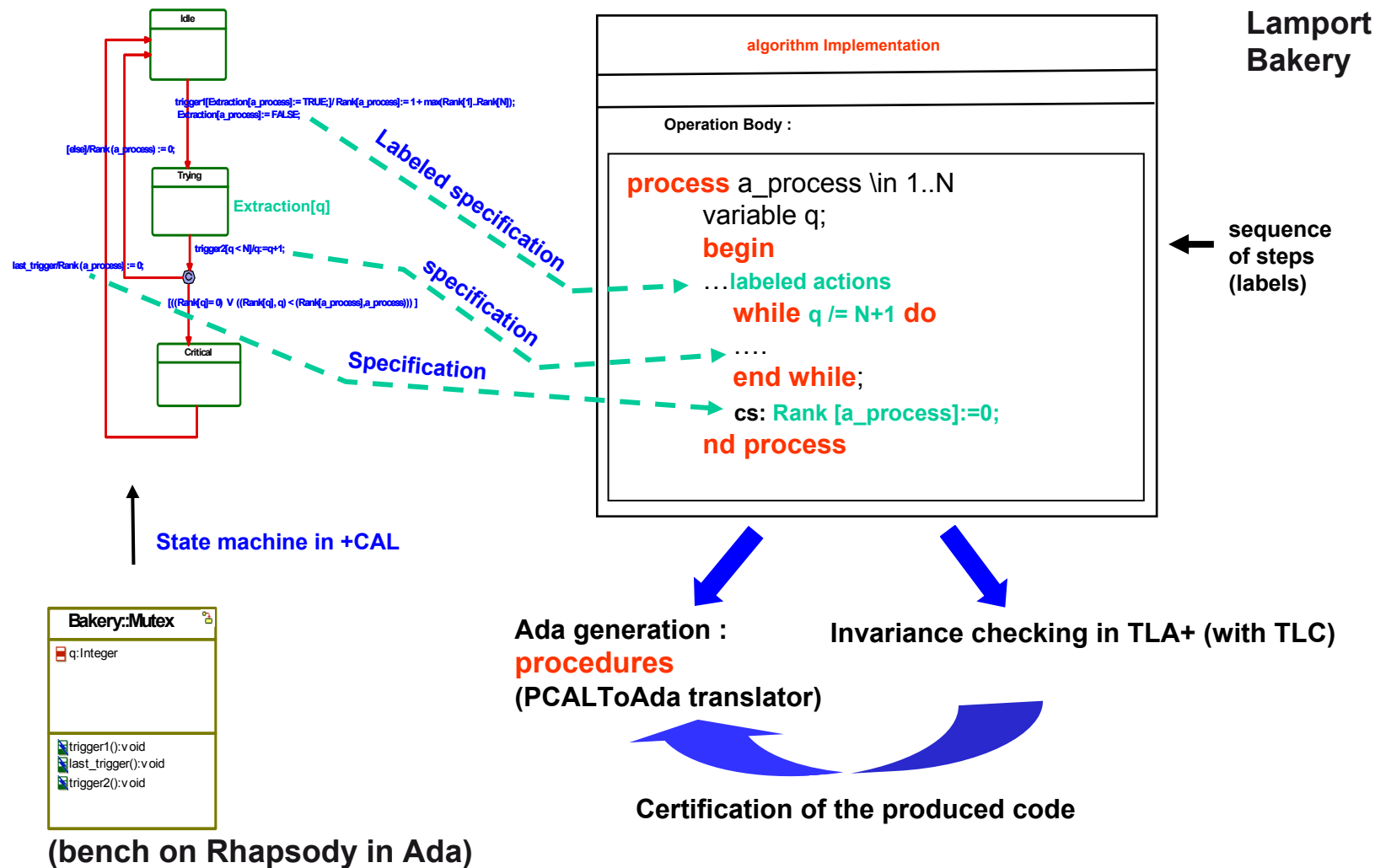
separation of concern to improve behaviour modelling in **ACCORD/UML (CEA)**

2 granularity levels

↳ Control logic & Algorithms aspects



+CAL as an action language : executable and checked models





Conclusions and Future works

- **There is no single notation that would cover the whole software development lifecycle**
 - UML does not have a suitable control flow diagram,
 - AADL does not allow requirements capture, behavior formalisms are separated in an annex, annexes are a poor extension mechanism
 - no formal language can be directly used with the end-user
- **How** to manage a matrix of modeling notations, in a methodical way that allows consistency, traceability, and a continuum between each development phase ?