

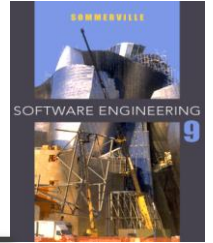
## Chapter 5 – System Modeling

Ian Sommerville,  
*Software Engineering*, 9<sup>th</sup> Edition  
Pearson Education, Addison-Wesley

Note: These are a modified version of Ch 5 slides available from the author's site <http://www.cs.st-andrews.ac.uk/~ifs/Books/SE9/>

# Topics covered

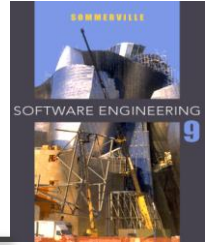
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- ✧ Context models
- ✧ Process models
- ✧ Interaction models
- ✧ Structural models
- ✧ Behavioral models
- ✧ Model-driven engineering

# System modeling

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- ✧ **System modeling** is the process of developing abstract models of a system, with each model presenting a different view or perspective of that system
- ✧ System modeling has come to mean representing a system using some kind of graphical notation, which is now almost always based on notations in the Unified Modeling Language (**UML**)
- ✧ System modeling helps the analyst to understand the functionality and organization of the system and models are used to communicate with customers

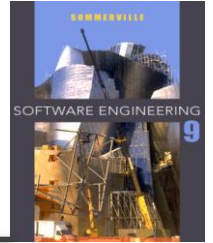
# Existing and planned system models

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- ✧ **Models of the existing system** can help clarify what the existing system does and can be used as a basis for discussing its strengths and weaknesses. These then can lead to requirements for the new system.
- ✧ **Models of the new system** can help explain the proposed system to stakeholders. Engineers use these models to discuss design proposals and to document the system for implementation.
- ✧ In a **model-driven engineering process**, it is possible to generate a complete or partial system implementation from the system model

# System perspectives

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- ✧ An **external perspective**, where you model the context or environment of the system
- ✧ An **interaction perspective**, where you model the interactions between a system and its environment, or between the components of a system
- ✧ A **structural perspective**, where you model the organization of a system or the structure of the data that is processed by the system.
- ✧ A **behavioral perspective**, where you model the dynamic behavior of the system and how it responds to events

# UML diagram types

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- ✧ **Activity diagrams**, which show the activities involved in a process or in data processing
- ✧ **Use case diagrams**, which show the interactions between a system and its environment
- ✧ **Sequence diagrams**, which show interactions between actors and the system and between system components.
- ✧ **Class diagrams**, which show the object classes in the system and the associations between these classes
- ✧ **State diagrams**, which show how the system reacts to internal and external events

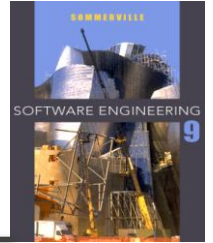
# Use of graphical models

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- ✧ As a means of **facilitating discussion** about an existing or proposed system
  - Incomplete and incorrect models are OK early on, as their role is to support discussion
- ✧ As a way of **documenting** an existing system
  - Models should be an accurate representation of the system but need not be complete
- ✧ As a detailed **system description** that can be used to generate a system implementation
  - Models have to be both correct and complete

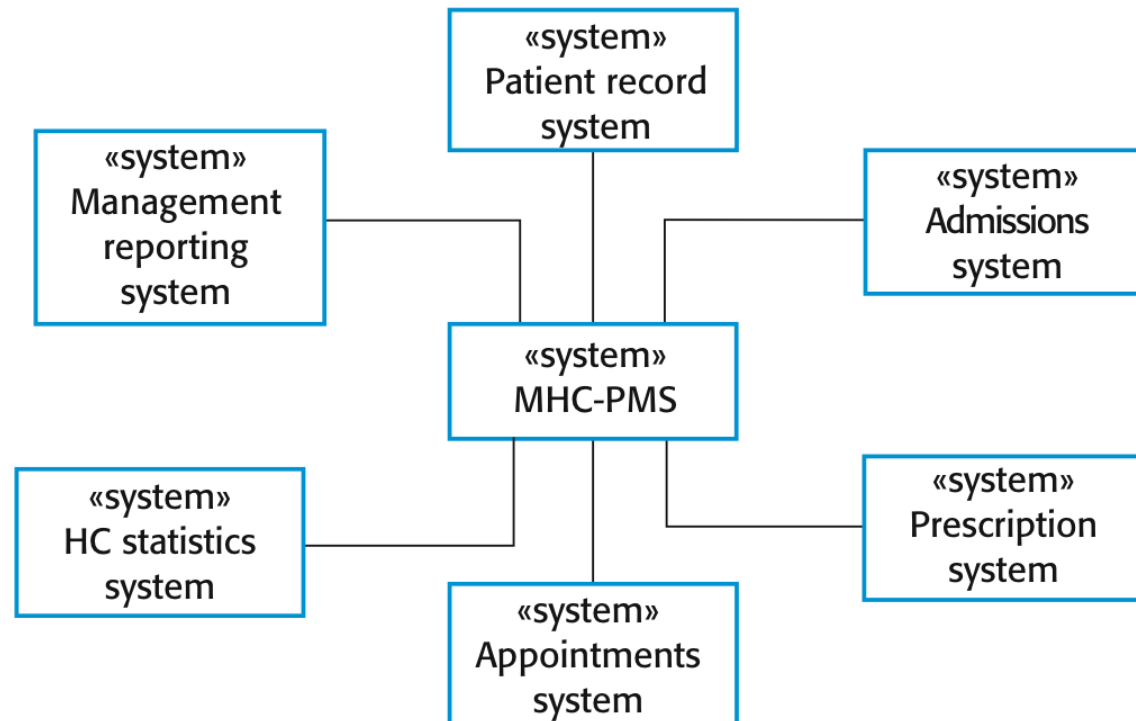
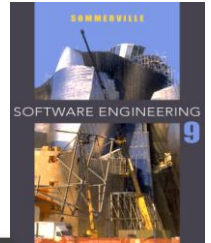
# Context models

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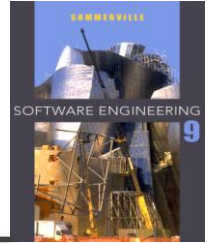
- ✧ **Context models** are used to illustrate the operational context of a system - they show what lies outside the system boundaries
- ✧ Social and organizational concerns may affect the decision on where to position system boundaries
- ✧ Architectural models show the system and its relationship with other systems

# The context of the MHC-PMS



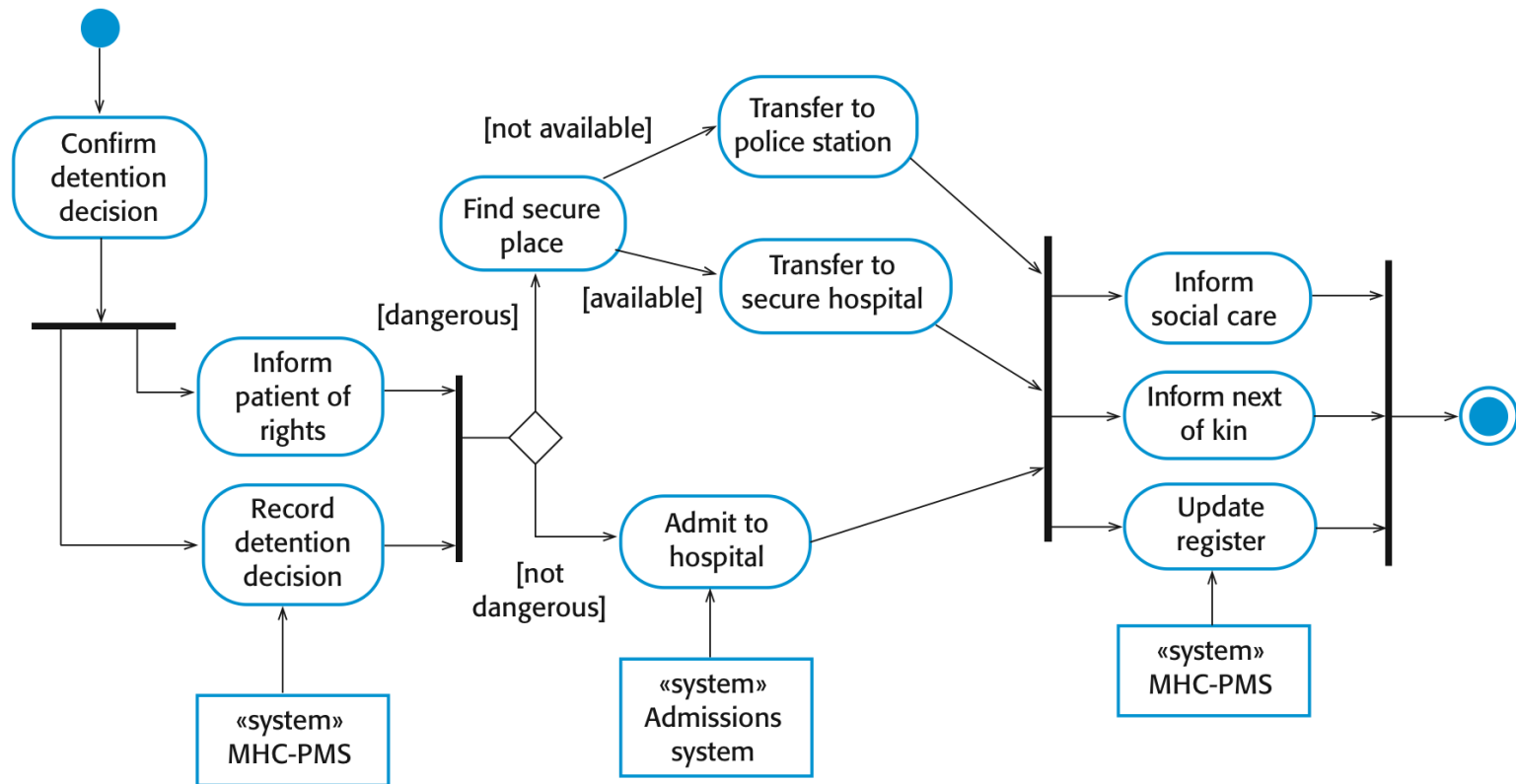
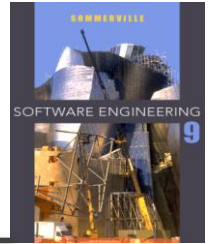
# Process perspective

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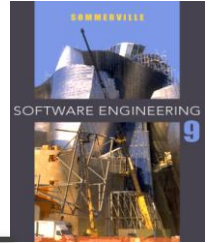
- ✧ **Context models** simply show the other systems in the environment, not how the system being developed is used in that environment
- ✧ **Process models** reveal how the system being developed is used in broader business processes
- ✧ UML activity diagrams may be used to define business process models

# Process model of involuntary detention



# Interaction models

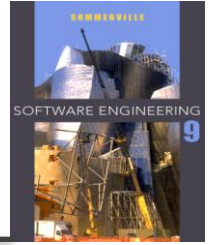
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- ✧ **Modeling user interaction** is important as it helps to identify user requirements
- ✧ Modeling system-to-system interaction highlights the communication problems that may arise
- ✧ Modeling component interaction helps us understand if a proposed system structure is likely to deliver the required system performance and dependability
- ✧ **Use case diagrams** and **sequence diagrams** can be used for interaction modeling

# Use case modeling

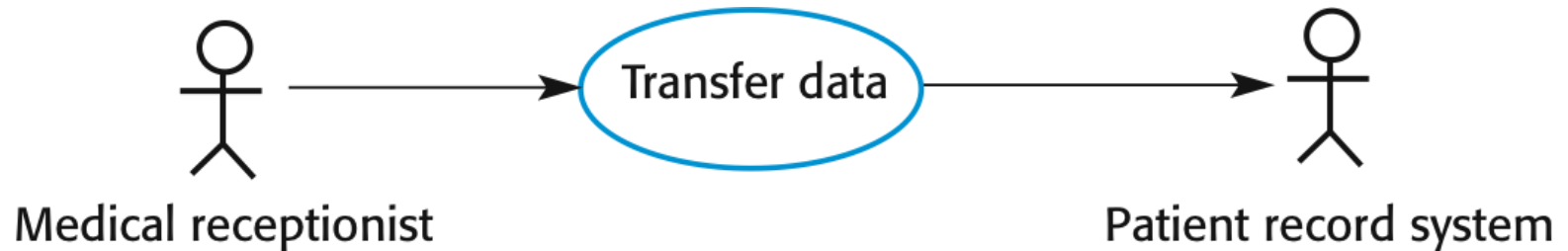
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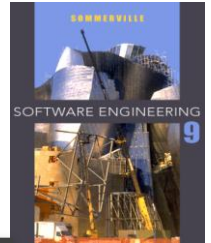
- ✧ Use cases were developed originally to support requirements elicitation and now are incorporated into the UML.
- ✧ Each **use case** represents a specific task that involves external interaction with a system
- ✧ **Actors** in a use case may be people, time, or other systems.

# Transfer-data use case

✧ A use case in the MHC-PMS

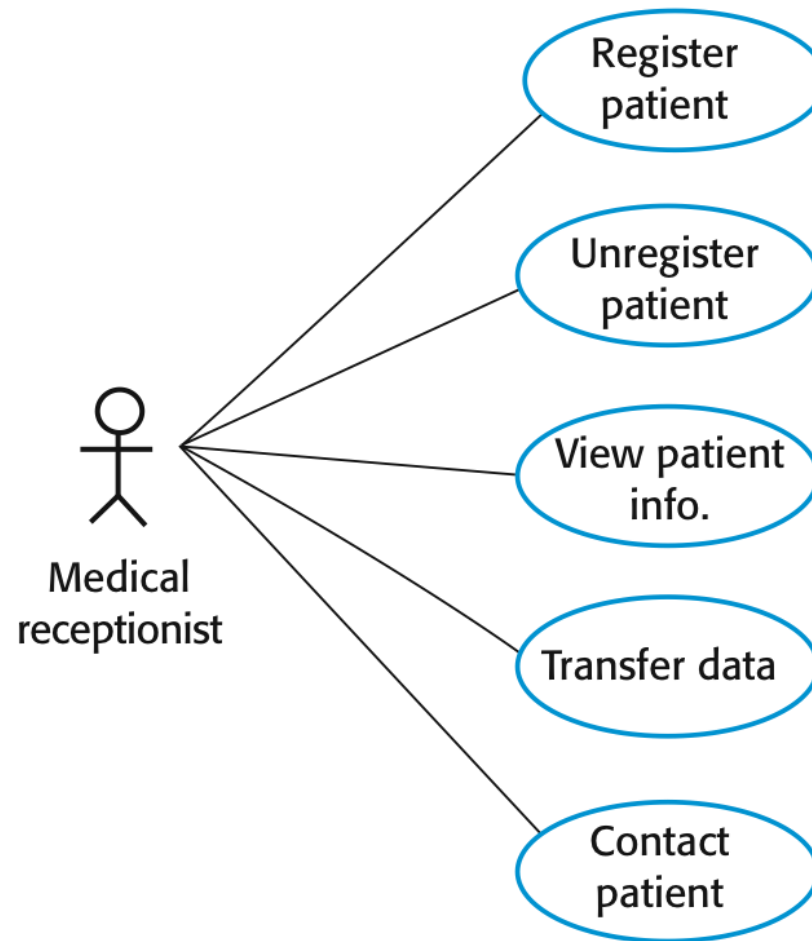
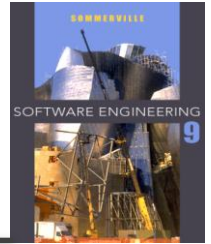


# Tabular description of the 'Transfer data' use-case



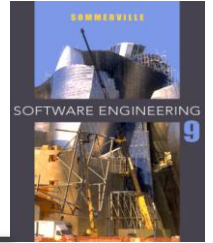
| MHC-PMS: Transfer data |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Actors                 | Medical receptionist, patient records system (PRS)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Description            | A receptionist may transfer data from the MHC-PMS to a general patient record database that is maintained by a health authority. The information transferred may either be updated personal information (address, phone number, etc.) or a summary of the patient's diagnosis and treatment. |
| Data                   | Patient's personal information, treatment summary                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Stimulus               | User command issued by medical receptionist                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Response               | Confirmation that PRS has been updated                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Comments               | The receptionist must have appropriate security permissions to access the patient information and the PRS.                                                                                                                                                                                   |

# Use cases in the MHC-PMS involving the role 'Medical Receptionist'



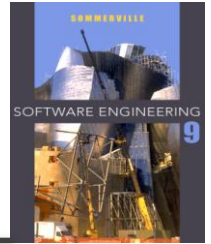
# Sequence diagrams

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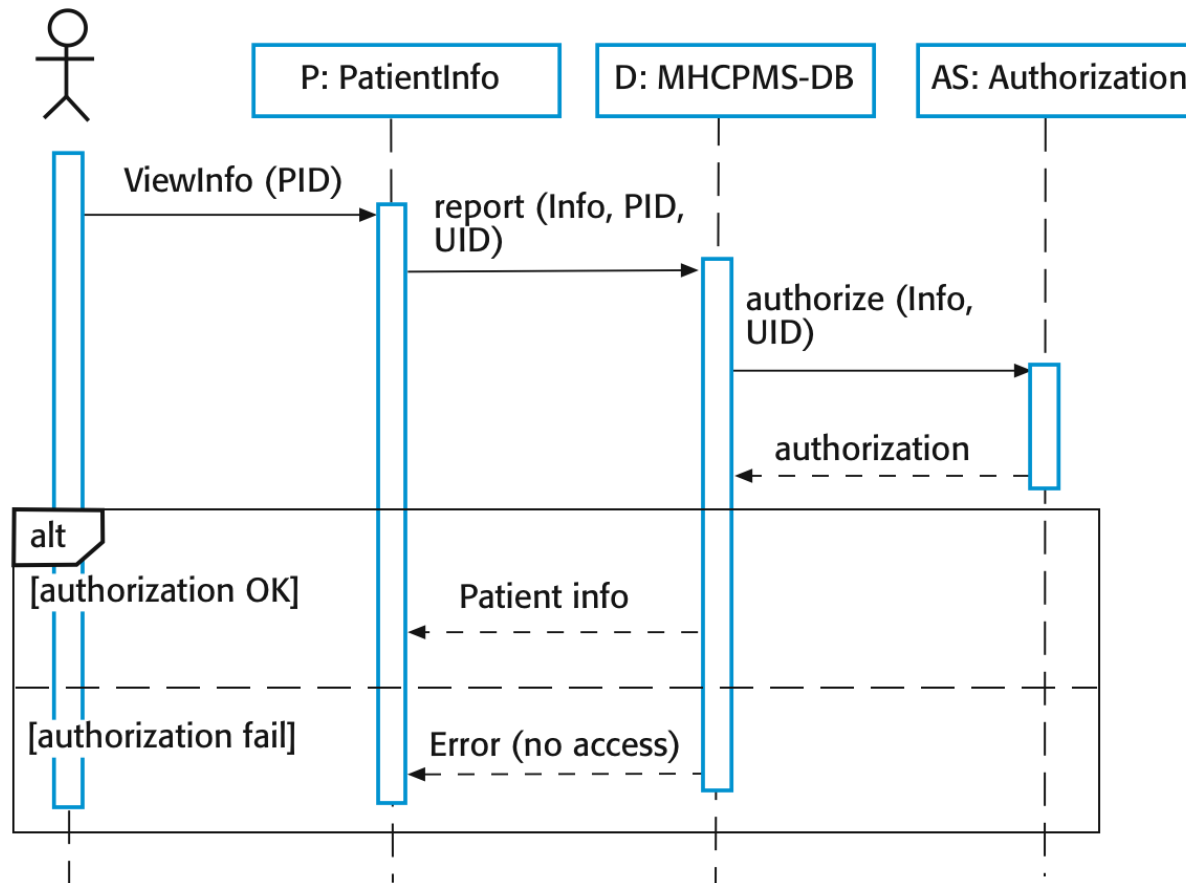


- ✧ **Sequence diagrams** are part of the UML and are used to model the interactions between the actors and the objects within a system
- ✧ A sequence diagram shows the sequence of interactions that take place during a particular use case or use case instance
- ✧ The objects and actors involved are listed along the top of the diagram, with a dotted line drawn vertically from these
- ✧ Interactions between objects are indicated by annotated arrows

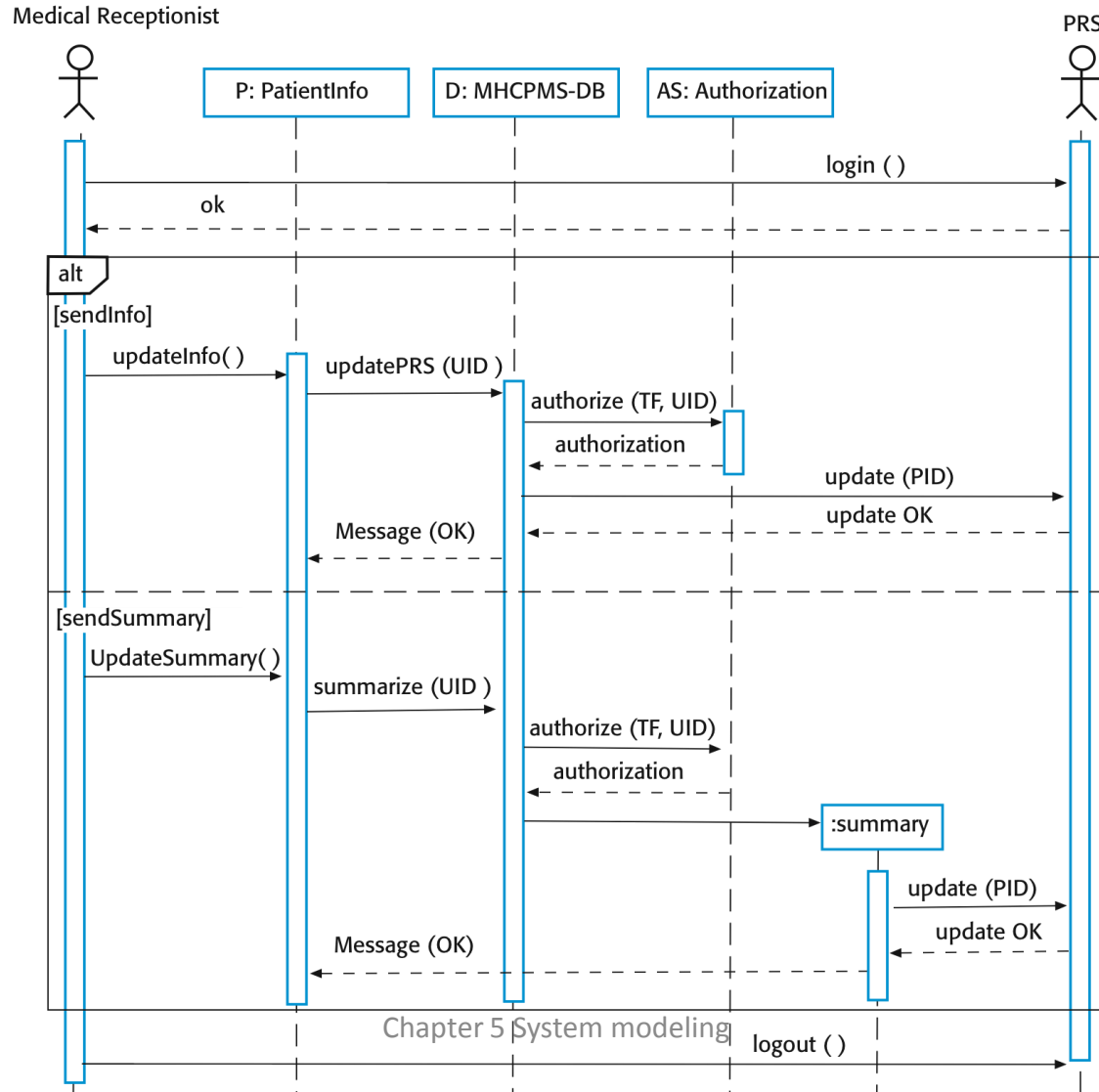
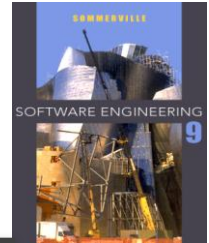
# Sequence diagram for View patient information



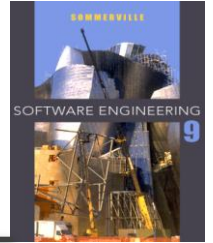
Medical Receptionist



# Sequence diagram for Transfer Data



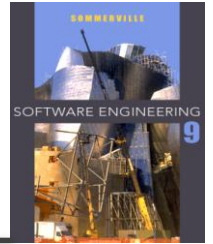
# Class diagrams



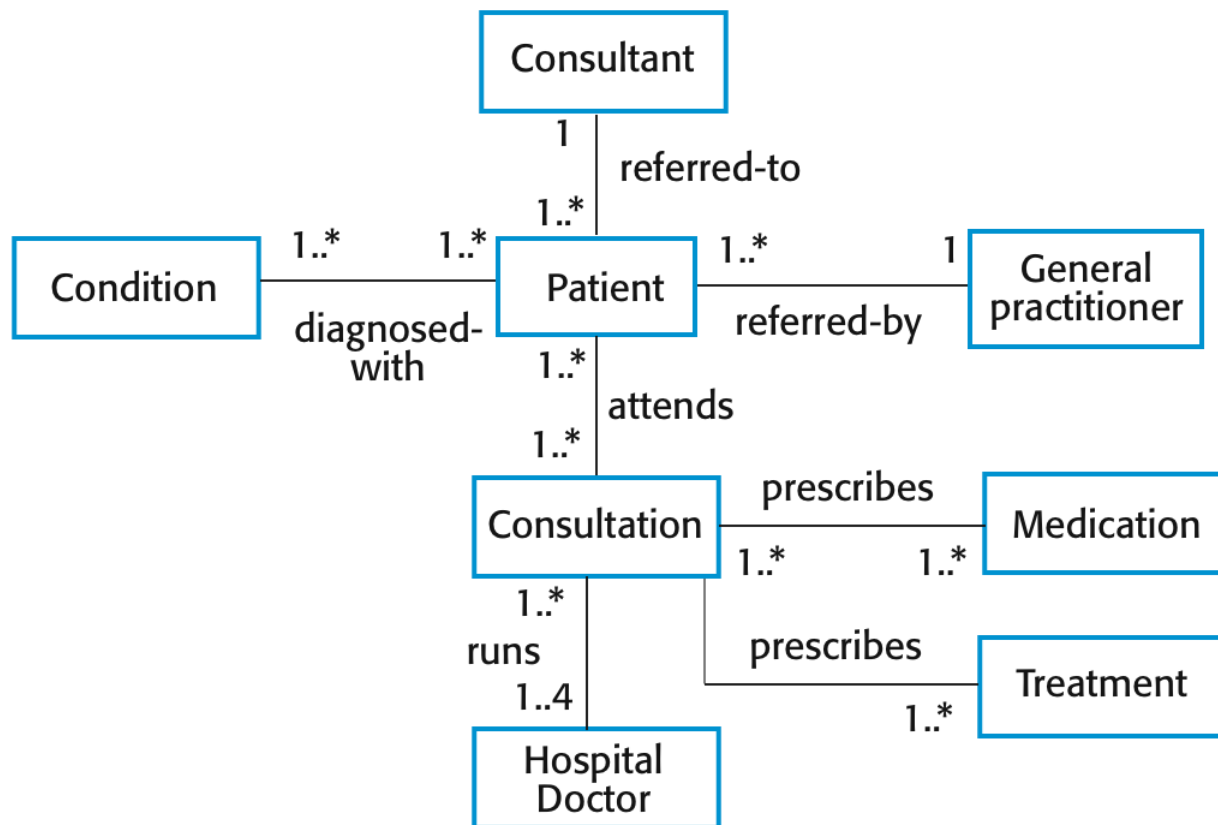
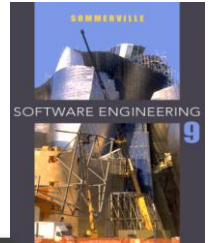
- ✧ **Class diagrams** are used when developing an object-oriented system model to show the classes in a system and the associations between these classes
- ✧ An object class can be thought of as a general definition of one kind of system object
- ✧ An **association** is a link between classes that indicates that there is some **relationship** between these classes
- ✧ When you are developing models during the early stages of the software engineering process, objects represent something in the real world, such as a patient, a prescription, doctor, etc.

# UML classes and association

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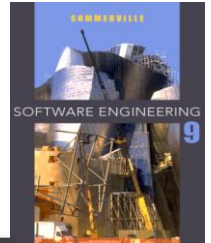


# Classes and associations in the MHC-PMS



# The Consultation class

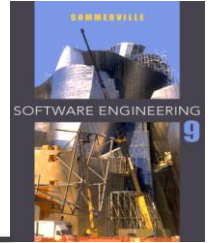
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| Consultation                                                                                                                     |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Doctors<br>Date<br>Time<br>Clinic<br>Reason<br>Medication prescribed<br>Treatment prescribed<br>Voice notes<br>Transcript<br>... |
| New ()<br>Prescribe ()<br>RecordNotes ()<br>Transcribe ()<br>...                                                                 |

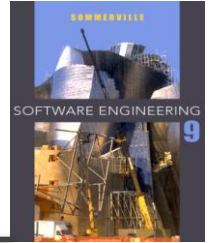
# Generalization

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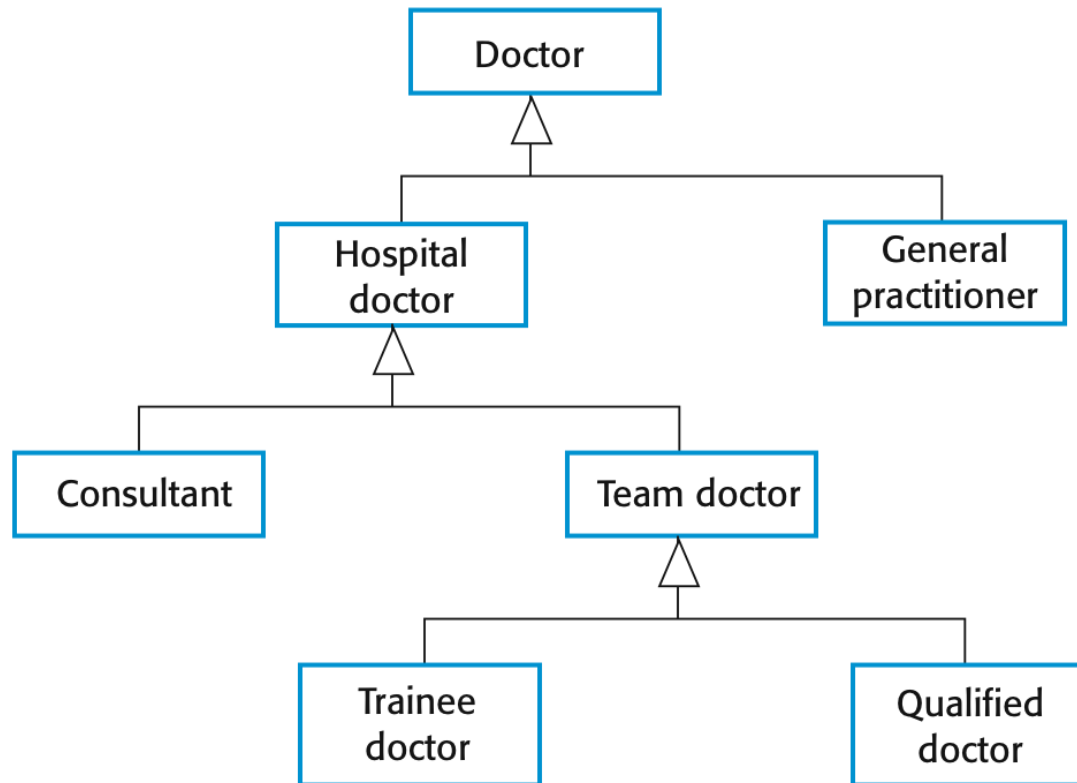
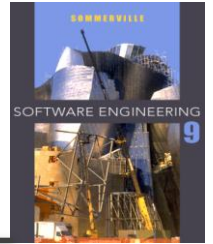
- ✧ **Generalization** is an everyday technique that we use to manage complexity
- ✧ Rather than learn the detailed characteristics of every entity that we experience, we place these entities in more general classes (animals, cars, houses, etc.) and learn the characteristics of these classes
- ✧ This allows us to infer that different members of these classes have some common characteristics, e.g. squirrels and rats are rodents

# Generalization

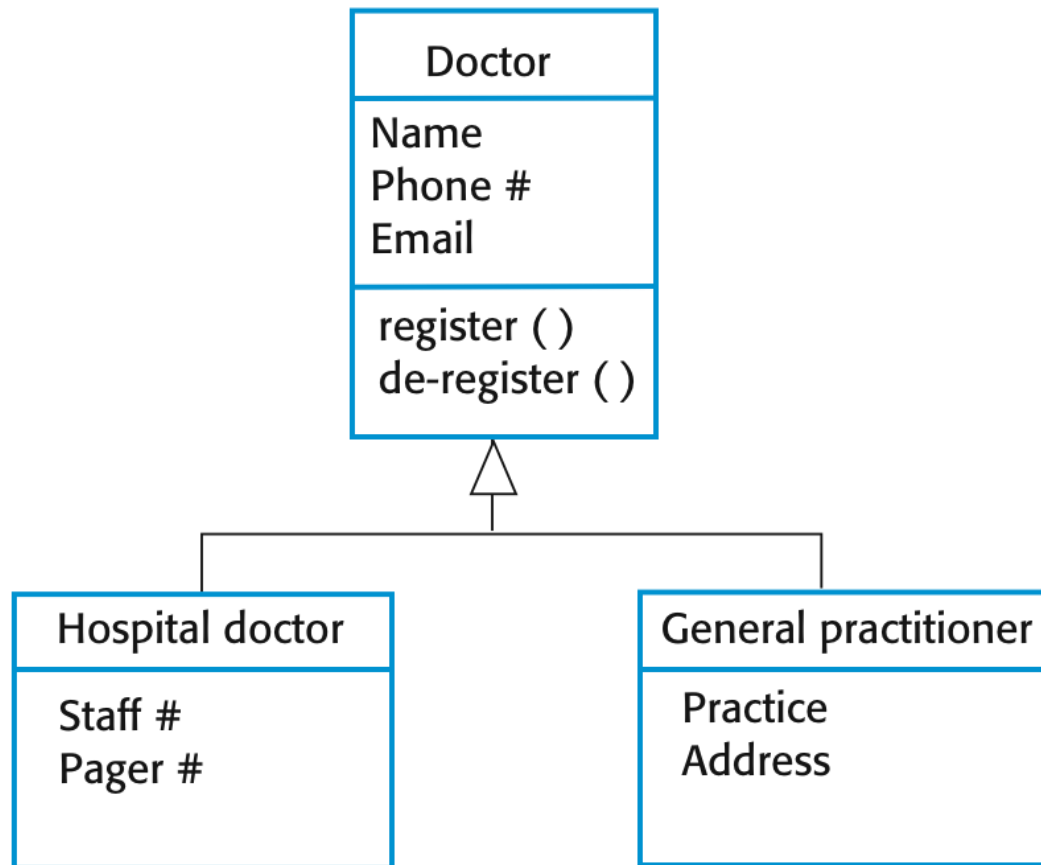
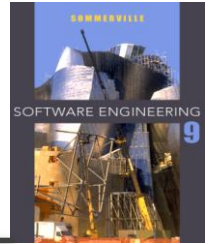


- ✧ In modeling systems, it is often useful to examine the classes in a system to see if there is scope for generalization. If changes are proposed, then you do not have to look at all classes in the system to see if they are affected by the change.
- ✧ In object-oriented languages, such as Java, generalization is implemented using the class inheritance mechanisms built into the language
- ✧ In a generalization, the attributes and operations associated with higher-level classes are also associated with the lower-level classes
- ✧ The lower-level classes are subclasses inherit the attributes and operations from their superclasses. These lower-level classes then add more specific attributes and operations.

# A generalization hierarchy

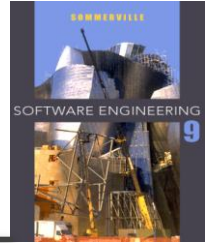


# A generalization hierarchy with added detail



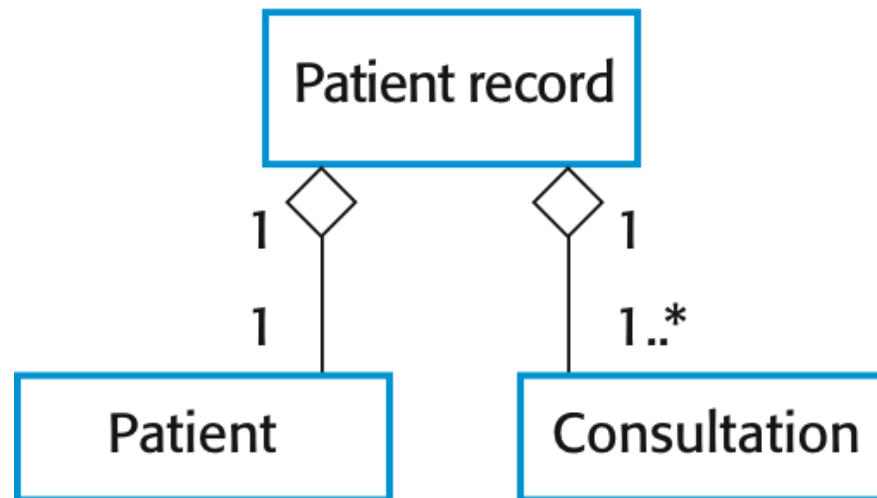
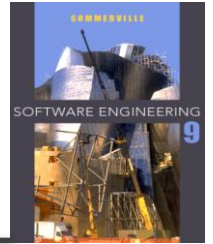
# Object class aggregation models

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- ✧ An **aggregation model** shows how classes that are collections are composed of other classes
- ✧ Aggregation models are similar to the part-of relationship in semantic data models

# The aggregation association



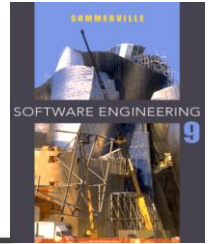
# Behavioral models

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- ✧ **Behavioral models** are models of the dynamic behavior of a system as it is executing. They show what happens or what is supposed to happen when a system responds to a stimulus from its environment.
- ✧ You can think of these stimuli as being of two types:
  - **Data** Some data arrives that has to be processed by the system
  - **Events** Some event happens that triggers system processing. Events may have associated data, although this is not always the case.

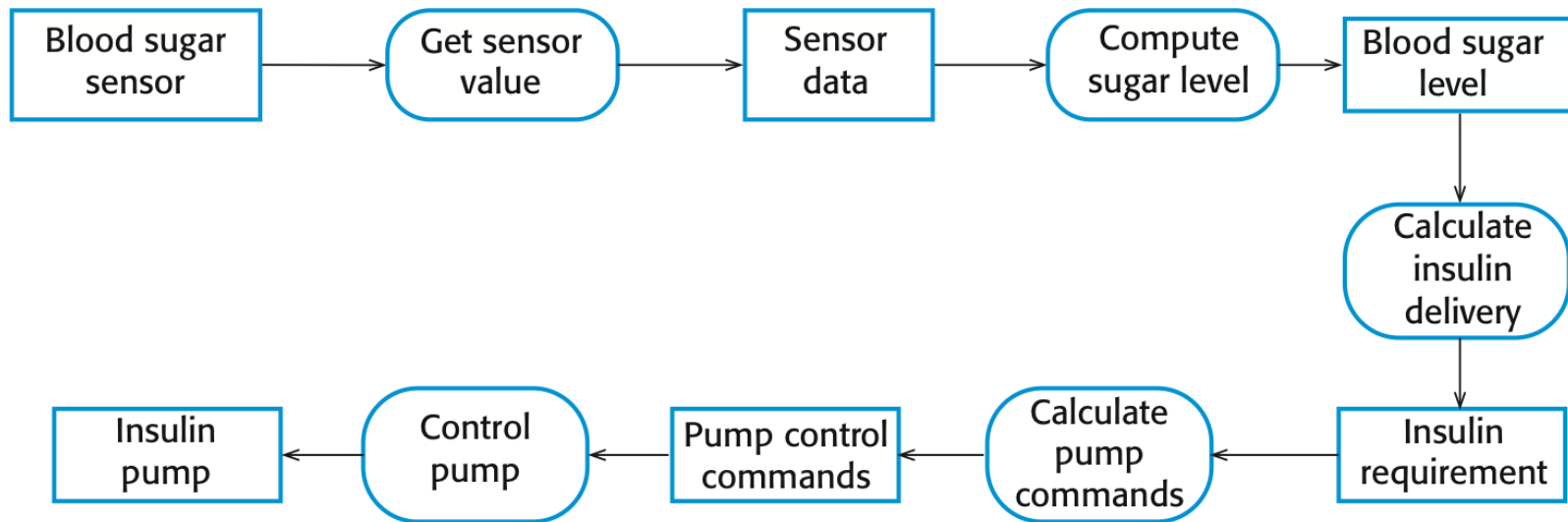
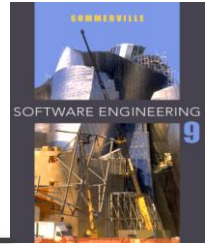
# Data-driven modeling

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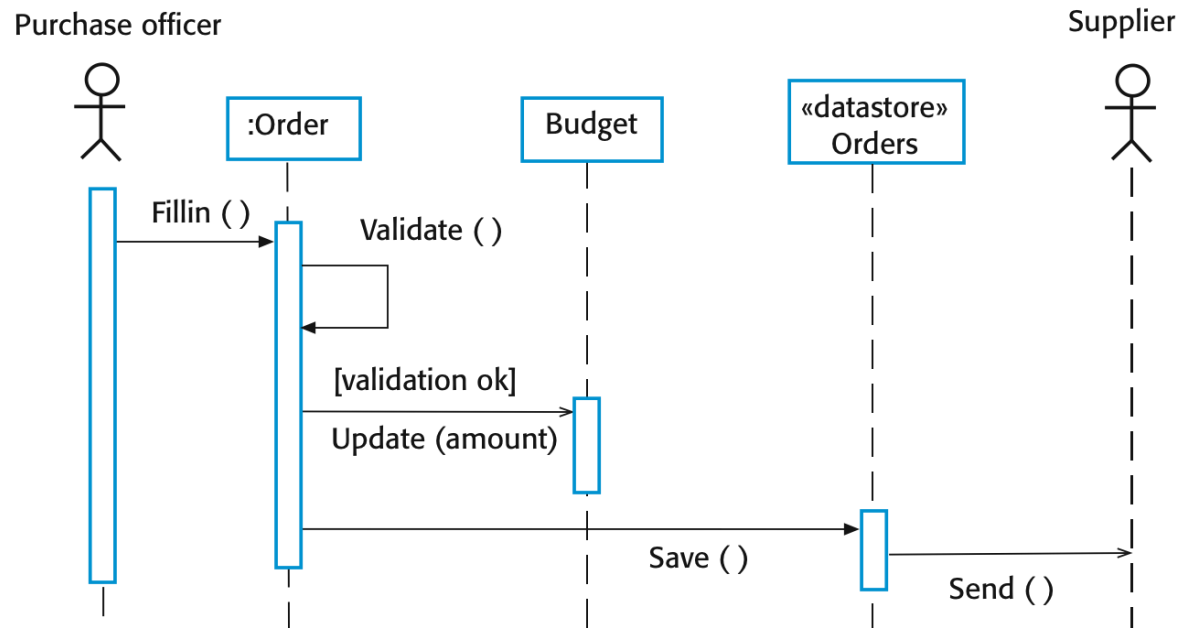
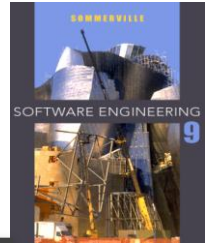


- ✧ Many business systems are data-processing systems that are primarily driven by data. They are controlled by the data input to the system, with relatively little external event processing
- ✧ **Data-driven models** show the sequence of actions involved in processing input data and generating an associated output
- ✧ They are particularly useful during the analysis of requirements as they can be used to show end-to-end processing in a system

# An activity model of the insulin pump's operation

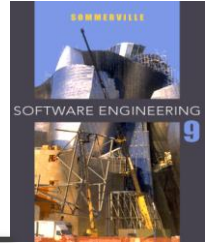


# Order processing



# Event-driven modeling

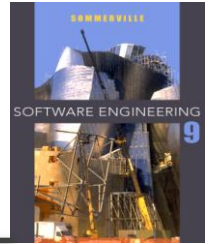
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- ✧ Real-time systems are often event-driven, with minimal data processing. For example, a landline phone switching system responds to events such as 'receiver off hook' by generating a dial tone.
- ✧ **Event-driven modeling** shows how a system responds to external and internal events.
- ✧ It is based on the assumption that a system has a finite number of states and that events (stimuli) may cause a transition from one state to another.

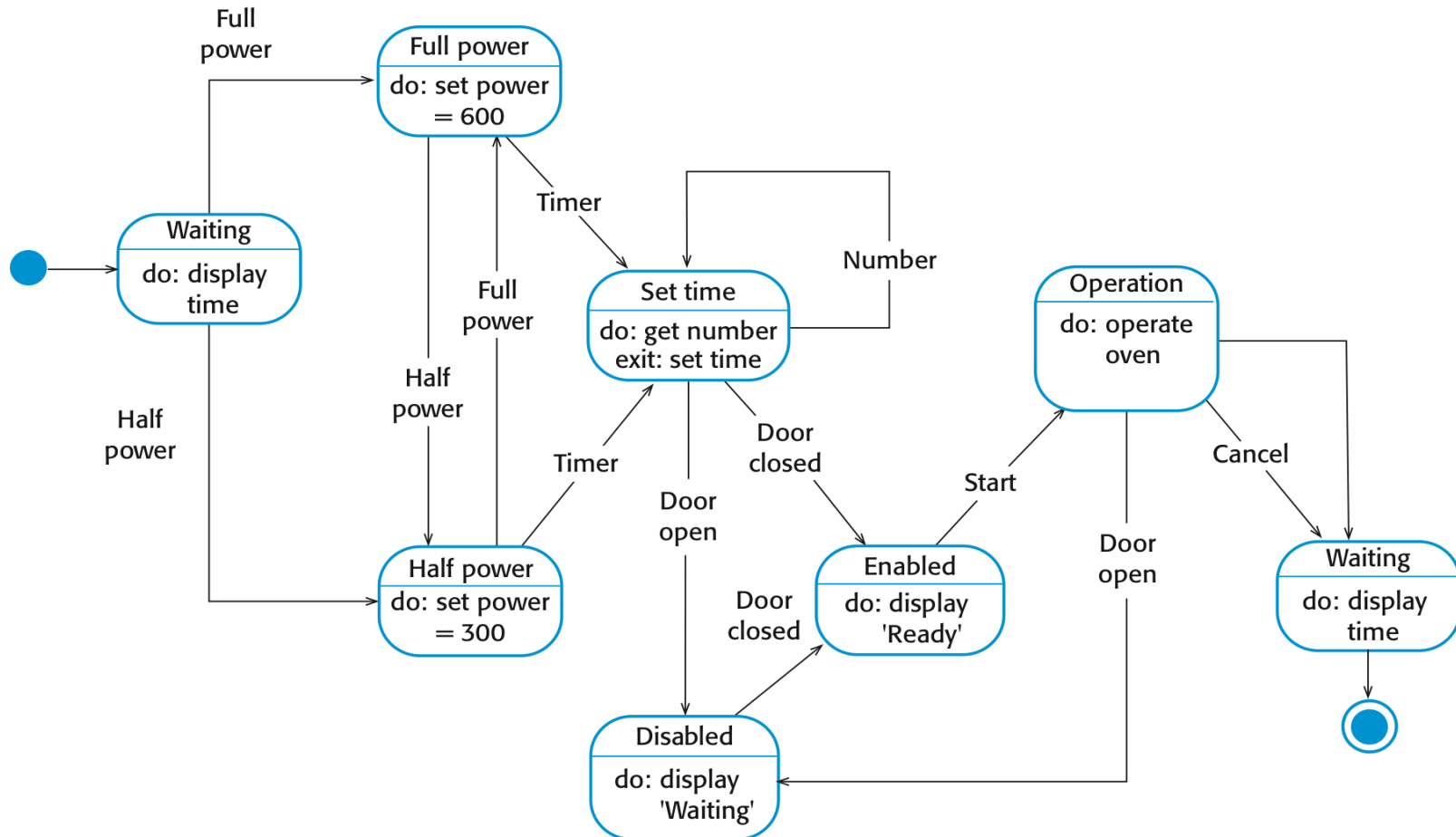
# State machine models

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- ✧ These model the behaviour of the system in response to external and internal events
- ✧ They show the system's responses to stimuli so are often used for modelling real-time systems
- ✧ **State machine models** show system states as nodes and events as arcs between these nodes. When an event occurs, the system moves from one state to another.
- ✧ **Statecharts** are an integral part of the UML and are used to represent state machine models

# State diagram of a microwave oven



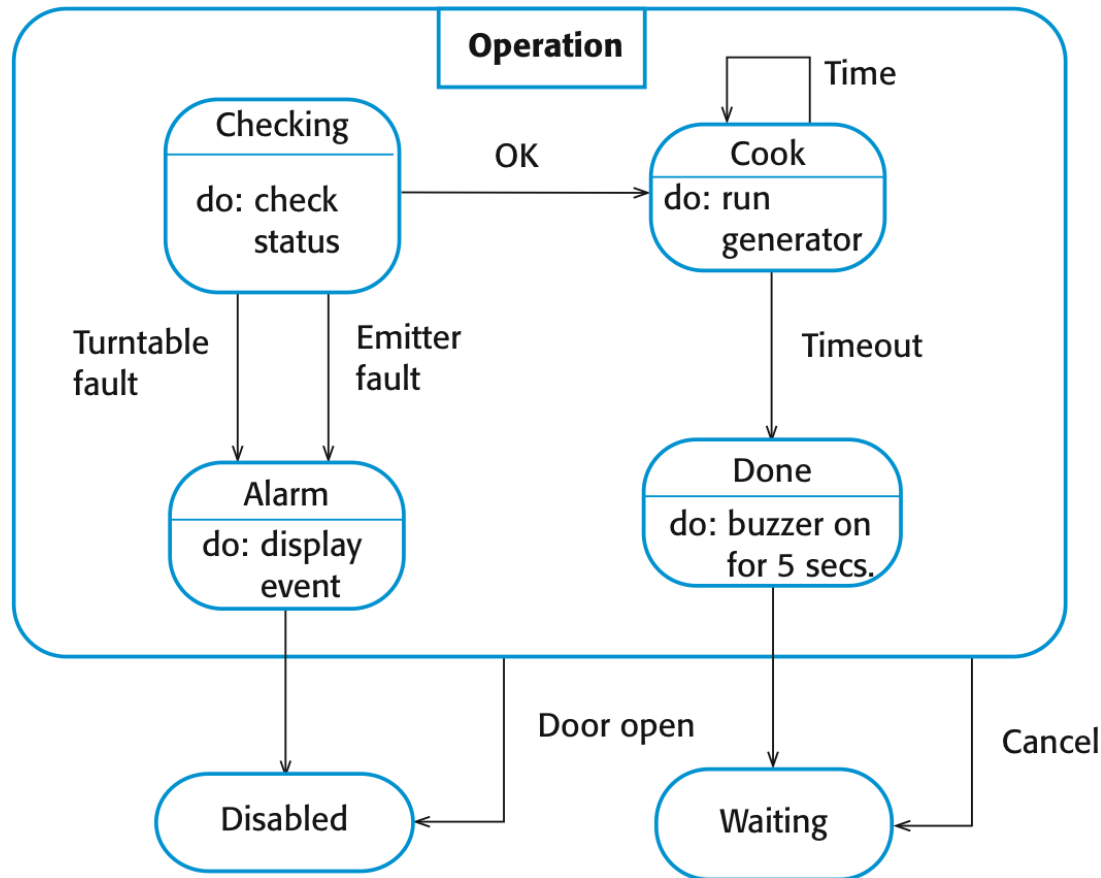
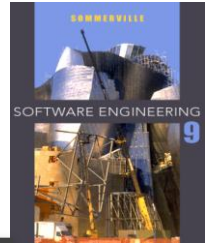
# States and stimuli for the microwave oven (a)

| State      | Description                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Waiting    | The oven is waiting for input. The display shows the current time.                                                                                                                                                              |
| Half power | The oven power is set to 300 watts. The display shows 'Half power'.                                                                                                                                                             |
| Full power | The oven power is set to 600 watts. The display shows 'Full power'.                                                                                                                                                             |
| Set time   | The cooking time is set to the user's input value. The display shows the cooking time selected and is updated as the time is set.                                                                                               |
| Disabled   | Oven operation is disabled for safety. Interior oven light is on. Display shows 'Not ready'.                                                                                                                                    |
| Enabled    | Oven operation is enabled. Interior oven light is off. Display shows 'Ready to cook'.                                                                                                                                           |
| Operation  | Oven in operation. Interior oven light is on. Display shows the timer countdown. On completion of cooking, the buzzer is sounded for five seconds. Oven light is on. Display shows 'Cooking complete' while buzzer is sounding. |

## States and stimuli for the microwave oven (b)

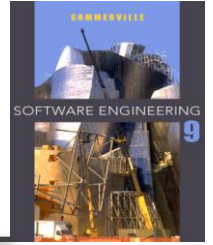
| Stimulus    | Description                                    |
|-------------|------------------------------------------------|
| Half power  | The user has pressed the half-power button.    |
| Full power  | The user has pressed the full-power button.    |
| Timer       | The user has pressed one of the timer buttons. |
| Number      | The user has pressed a numeric key.            |
| Door open   | The oven door switch is not closed.            |
| Door closed | The oven door switch is closed.                |
| Start       | The user has pressed the Start button.         |
| Cancel      | The user has pressed the Cancel button.        |

# Microwave oven operation

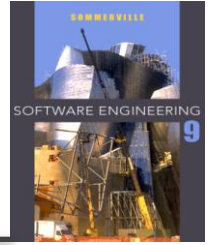


# Model-driven engineering

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- ✧ **Model-driven engineering (MDE)** is an approach to software development where models rather than programs are the principal outputs of the development process.
- ✧ The programs that execute on a hardware/software platform are then generated automatically from the models.
- ✧ Proponents of **MDE** argue that this raises the level of abstraction in software engineering so that engineers no longer have to be concerned with programming language details or the specifics of execution platforms



# Usage of model-driven engineering

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✧ **Model-driven engineering** is still under research development, and it is unclear whether or not it will have a significant effect on software engineering practice

## ✧ Pros

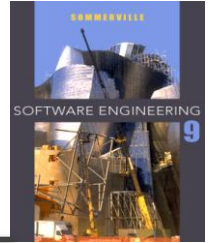
- Allows systems to be considered at higher levels of abstraction
- Generating code automatically means that it is cheaper to adapt systems to new platforms

## ✧ Cons

- Models for abstraction are not necessarily right for implementation
- Savings from generating code may be outweighed by the costs of developing translators for new platforms

# Model driven architecture

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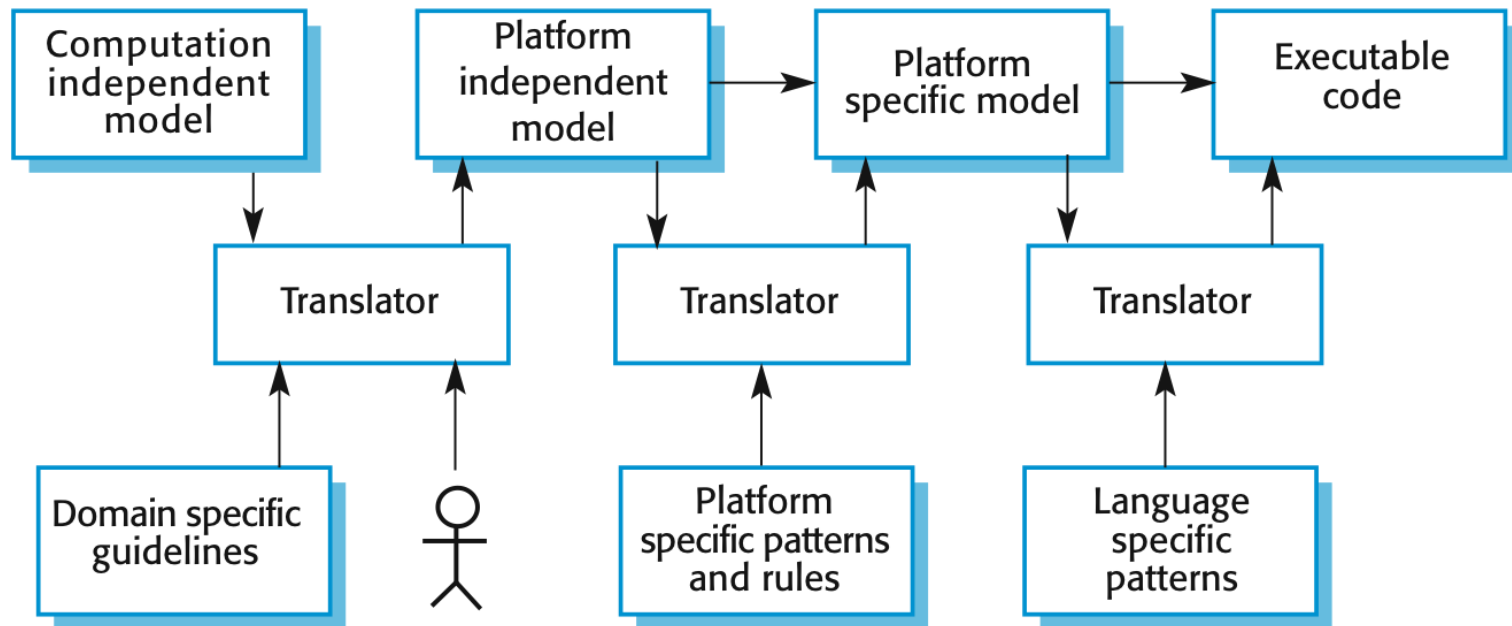
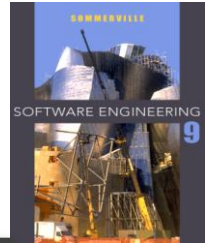
- ✧ **Model-driven architecture (MDA)** was the precursor of the more general model-driven engineering
- ✧ MDA is a model-focused approach to software design and implementation that uses a subset of UML models to describe a system
- ✧ Models at different levels of abstraction are created. From a high-level, platform independent model, it is possible, in principle, to generate a working program without manual intervention.

# Types of model

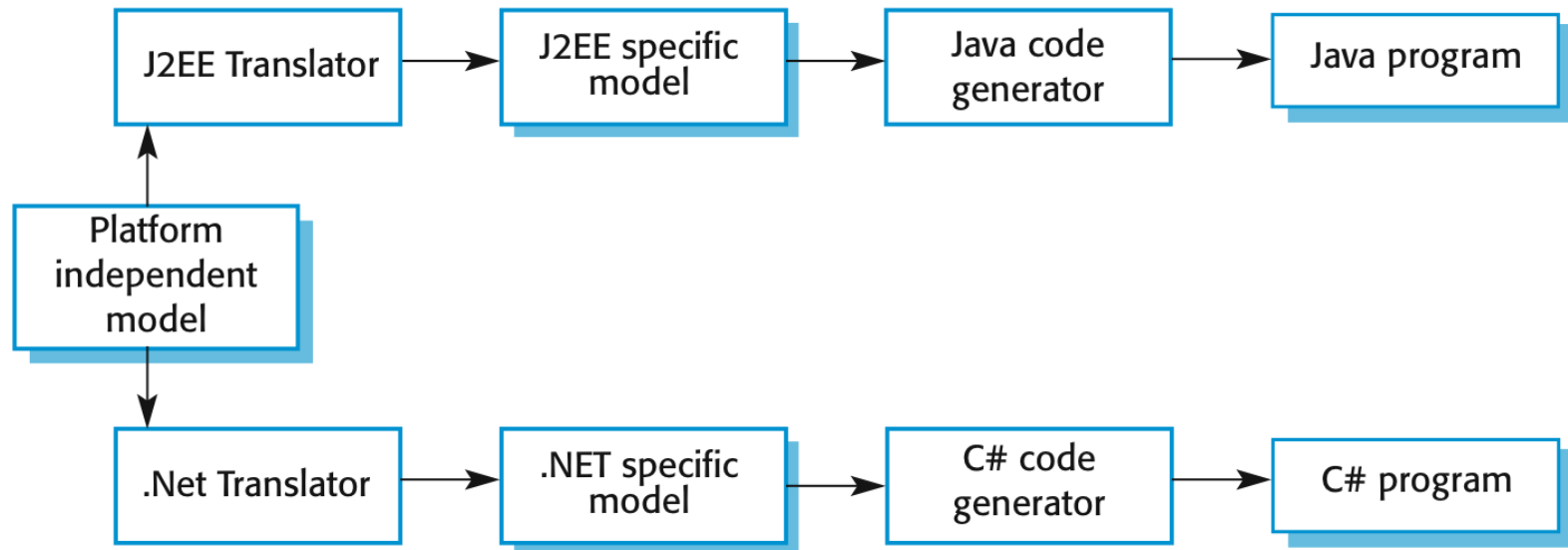
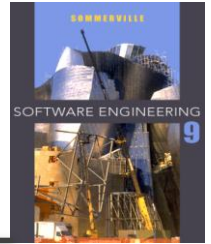
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- ✧ A computation independent model (CIM)
  - These model the important domain abstractions used in a system. CIMs are sometimes called domain models.
- ✧ A platform independent model (PIM)
  - These model the operation of the system without reference to its implementation. The PIM is usually described using UML models that show the static system structure and how it responds to external and internal events.
- ✧ Platform specific models (PSM)
  - These are transformations of the platform-independent model with a separate PSM for each application platform. In principle, there may be layers of PSM, with each layer adding some platform-specific detail.

# MDA transformations

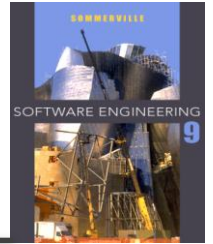


# Multiple platform-specific models



# Agile methods and MDA

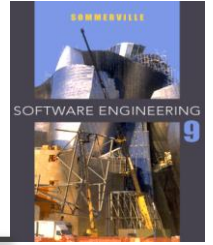
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- ✧ The developers of MDA claim that it is intended to support an iterative approach to development and so can be used within agile methods
- ✧ The notion of extensive up-front modeling contradicts the fundamental ideas in the agile manifesto and I suspect that few agile developers feel comfortable with model-driven engineering
- ✧ If transformations can be completely automated and a complete program generated from a PIM, then, in principle, MDA could be used in an agile development process as no separate coding would be required

# Executable UML

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- ✧ The fundamental notion behind model-driven engineering is that completely automated transformation of models to code should be possible
- ✧ This is possible using a subset of UML 2, called Executable UML or xUML

# Features of executable UML

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- ✧ To create an **executable subset of UML**, the number of model types has therefore been dramatically reduced to these 3 key types:
  - **Domain models** that identify the principal concerns in a system. They are defined using UML class diagrams and include objects, attributes and associations
  - **Class models** in which classes are defined, along with their attributes and operations
  - **State models** in which a state diagram is associated with each class and is used to describe the life cycle of the class
- ✧ The dynamic behavior of the system may be specified declaratively using the object constraint language (OCL), or may be expressed using UML's action language

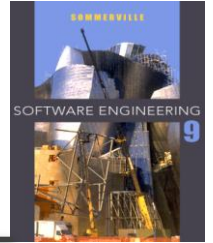
# Key points

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- ✧ A **model** is an abstract view of a system that ignores system details. Complementary system models can be developed to show the system's context, interactions, structure and behavior
- ✧ **Context models** show how a system that is being modeled is positioned in an environment with other systems and processes
- ✧ **Use case diagrams** and **sequence diagrams** are used to describe the **interactions** between users and systems in the system being designed. Use cases describe interactions between a system and external actors; sequence diagrams add more information to these by showing interactions between system objects
- ✧ **Structural models** show the organization and architecture of a system. Class diagrams are used to define the static structure of classes in a system and their associations

# Key points

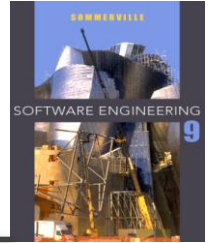
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- ✧ **Behavioral models** are used to describe the dynamic behavior of an executing system. This behavior can be modeled from the perspective of the data processed by the system, or by the events that stimulate responses from a system.
- ✧ **Activity diagrams** may be used to model the processing of data, where each activity represents one process step
- ✧ **State diagrams** are used to model a system's behavior in response to internal or external events
- ✧ **Model-driven engineering** is an approach to software development in which a system is represented as a set of models that can be automatically transformed to executable code

# Homework

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- ✧ Draw a figure illustrating context model of MHC-PMS
- ✧ 5.4
- ✧ Draw a sequence diagram for View patient information

# Homework 2 – w9

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