The SODA AOSE Methodology

Multiagent Systems LM
Sistemi Multiagente LM

Ambra Molesini & Andrea Omicini
{ambra.molesini, andrea.omicini}@unibo.it

Dipartimento di Informatica – Scienza e Ingegneria (DISI)
Alma Mater Studiorum—Università di Bologna a Cesena

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1. SODA: Overview

2. SODA: Abstractions
   - A&A in SODA
   - The SODA meta-model

3. SODA: Process
   - SPEM
   - The SODA Process Mechanisms
   - The Processes

4. SODA: Notation
   - Analysis Phase
   - Design Phase

5. Conclusions & Web Resources
Outline

1. SODA: Overview
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SODA ... is an agent-oriented methodology for the analysis and design of agent-based systems.

SODA ... focuses on inter-agent issues, like the engineering of societies and environment for MAS [Omicini, 2001].

SODA ... adopts agents and artifacts – after the A&A meta-model – as the main building blocks for MAS development [Molesini et al., 2005].

SODA ... introduces a simple layering principle in order to cope with the complexity of system description [Molesini et al., 2006].

SODA ... adopts a tabular representation.
SODA: Overview

Requirements Analysis

Analysis

References Tables

Responsibilities Tables

Domain Tables

Dependencies Tables

Relations Tables

Topologies Tables

Analysis

Transitions Tables

Design

Architectural Design

Detailed Design

References Tables

Mapping Tables

Requirements Tables

Responsibilities Tables

Domain Tables

Dependencies Tables

Relations Tables

Topologies Tables

Molesini & Omicini (DISI, Univ. Bologna)
Methodology [Ghezzi et al., 2002]

- A methodology is a collection of methods covering and connecting different stages in a process.
- The purpose of a methodology is to prescribe a certain coherent approach to solving a problem in the context of a software process by preselecting and putting in relation a number of methods.
- A methodology has two important components:
  - one that describes the process elements of the approach: the abstractions
  - one that focuses on the steps that have to be done, the work products that have to be produced – and their documentation – ...: the process
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The abstractions supported by SODA are logically divided into three categories:

- the abstractions for modelling/designing the system active part (task, role, agent, etc.);
- the abstractions for the reactive part (function, resource, artifact, etc.);
- the abstractions for interaction and organisational rules (relation, dependency, interaction, rule, etc.).

Each of the four SODA’s steps models the system by exploiting a specific subset of the abstractions:

- each subset always includes at least one abstraction for each of the above categories: at least one abstraction for the system active part, one for the reactive part, and another for interaction and organisational rules.
SODA Active Abstractions

- Requirement
- Task
- Role
- Action
- Society
- Agent

Molesini & Omicini (DISI, Univ. Bologna)
SODA: Abstractions

SODA Reactive Abstractions

Requirement - Legacy-System
Function - Topology
Resource - Space
Operation - Workspace
Aggregate - Artifact
SODA Interaction & Normative Abstractions
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5 Conclusions & Web Resources
Artifacts

- Artifacts take the form of objects or tools that agents *share* and *use* to
  - support their activities
  - achieve their objectives

- Artifacts are explicitly designed to provide some functions which guide their use by agents

Example: coordination artifacts

- Govern social activities
- Enable and mediate agent interaction
- Mediate the interaction between individual agents and their environment
- Capture, express and embody the parts of the environment that support agents’ activities
A possible classification for artifacts

**Individual artifacts** — exploited by one agent only in order to mediate its interaction with the environment. In general, individual artifacts are not directly affected by the activity of other agents, but can, through linkability, interact with other artifacts in the MAS.

**Social artifacts** — exploited by more than one agent, mediate between two or more agents in a MAS. In general, social artifacts typically provide MAS with a service which is in the first place meant to achieve a social goal of the MAS, rather than an individual agent goal.

**Environmental artifacts** — mediate between a MAS and an external resource. In principle, environmental artifacts can be conceived as a means to raise external MAS resources up to the agent cognitive level.
Agents & Artifacts (A&A)

- Artifacts constitute the basic building blocks both for
  - MAS analysis/modelling
  - MAS development

- Agents and artifacts can be assumed as two fundamental abstractions for modelling MAS structure
  - Agents speaking with other agents
  - Agents using artifacts to achieve their objectives
A&A Ingredients in SODA

Agents model individual and social activities

Artifacts *glue* agents together, as well as MAS and the environment
- artifacts mediate between individual agents and MAS
- artifacts build up agent societies
- artifacts wrap up the resources of MAS and bring them to the cognitive level of agents

Workspaces structure agents and artifacts organisation & interaction
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SODA Abstractions: A Formal Representation?
SODA Abstractions: A Formal Representation?

How can we represent the SODA abstractions? ...
SODA Abstractions: A Formal Representation?

- How can we represent the SODA abstractions? …
- …and their relationships? …
SODA Abstractions: A Formal Representation?

- How can we represent the SODA abstractions? ...
- ...and their relationships? ...
- ...in a standard way in order to support methodologies comparisons? ...
How can we represent the SODA abstractions? …

… and their relationships? …

… in a standard way in order to support methodologies comparisons? …

The meta-modelling technique from Software Engineering can help us
Meta-models for Software Engineering Methodologies

**Definition**

Meta-modelling is the analysis, construction and development of the frames, rules, constraints, models and theories applicable and useful for the modelling in a predefined class of problems.

- A meta-model enables checking and verifying the completeness and expressiveness of a methodology by understanding its deep semantics, as well as the relationships among concepts in different languages or methods.
- The process of designing a system consists of instantiating the system meta-model that the designers have in their mind in order to fulfill the specific problem requirements [Bernon et al., 2004].
Using Meta-models

- Meta-models are useful for specifying the concepts, rules and relationships used to define a family of related methodologies.
- Although it is possible to describe a methodology without an explicit meta-model, formalising the underpinning ideas of the methodology in question is valuable when checking its consistency or when planning extensions or modifications.
- In the specific case of AOSE, the concepts in the meta-model assume the name of MAS Meta-model Elements (MMMEs).
SODA Abstractions Adopted at Each Step

### Analysis phase

**Requirements Analysis** — the system’s requirements and the external environment are analysed and modelled

**Analysis** — the system’s requirements are modelled in terms of tasks, functions, topologies and dependencies

### Design phase

**Architectural Design** — in this phase we analyse the solution domain, the system is modelled in terms of roles, resources, actions, operations, interactions, rules and spaces

**Detailed Design** — in this phase we design the system in terms of agents, societies, artifacts, compositions, aggregates, workspaces, uses, links to, manifests and speaks to
The SODA Meta-model
Requirements Analysis Meta-model

Actor

1
*  
participates

Requirement

*  

Relation

*  

LegacySystem

1  
*  
participates

ExternalEnvironment

1  
*  
participates

Molesini & Omicini (DISI, Univ. Bologna)
Requirements Analysis

Actor — is a user of the systems that needs several functionalities from the systems. We use the system as an actor in order to express several non-functional requirements as security, standards and so on. The actors are used in order to facilitated the trace of the sources of requirements.

Requirement — is a functional, non-functional or domain description of the system service and constraint of the system.

External Environment — is the external world of the system made by legacy systems that will interact with the system.

Legacy System — is a single legacy system.

Relation — is a relationship among requirements and contexts.
Analysis Meta-model

Diagram:

- Task
- Dependency
- Function
- Topology

Relationships:
- Task participates in Dependency
- Dependency participates in Function
- Topology participates in Task and Function

Analysis

Task — is an activity that requires one or more competences and the use of functions

Function — is an reactive activity that aimed at supporting tasks

Dependency — is any relationship (interactions, constraints...) among other (tasks and/or functions) abstract entities

Topology — is any topological necessity of the environment's structure, often could be derived from functions. It is important to note that topology could influence the tasks because topology could constrains the achievement of tasks
Architectural Design Meta-model

- Action * participates * participates
- Interaction participates
- Operation
- Role 1..* constrains
- Rule 1..* constrains
- Resource 1..* contributes
- Space participates
- Action performs
- Rule constrains
- Control participates
- Space participates
- Connection

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Architectural Design

Role — is defined as the abstraction responsible for the achievement of one or more tasks

Resource — is defined as the abstraction that provides some functions

Action — represents an action that the role potentially could be able to do

Operation — represents the operation that the resource is potentially able to provide

Interaction — represents the acts of the interaction among roles, among resources and between roles and resources

Rule — enables and bounds the entities’ behaviour

Space — is a conceptual locus in the environment
Detailed Design Meta-model
Detailed Design

Agent — is an autonomous entity able to play several roles, and perform actions

Society — is a group of interacting agents and artifacts whose overall behaviour is essentially an autonomous, proactive one

Artifact — is a reactive entity able to provide several functions, and make operations available to agents

Aggregate — is a group of interacting artifacts and agents whose overall behaviour is essentially a functional, reactive one.

Workspace — is a conceptual locus in the environment

Use — the act of interaction between agent and artifact: agent uses artifact

SpeakTo — the act of interaction among agents: agent speaks with another agent

Manifest — the act of interaction between artifact and agent: artifact manifests itself to agent

LinkedTo — the act of interaction among artifact: artifact is linked to another artifact
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The development process is an ordered set of steps that involve all the activities, constraints and resources required to produce a specific desired output satisfying a set of input requirements.

Typically, a process is composed by different stages/phases put in relation with each other.

Each stage/phase of a process identify a portion of work definition to be done in the context of the process, the resources to be exploited to that purpose and the constraints to be obeyed in the execution of the phase.

Case by case, the work in a phase can be very small or more demanding.

Phases are usually composed by a set of activities that may, in turn, be conceived in terms of smaller atomic units of work (steps).
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SPEM

- SPEM (Software Process Engineering Meta-model) [Object Management Group, 2008] is an OMG standard object-oriented meta-model defined as an UML profile and used to describe a concrete software development process or a family of related software development processes.
- SPEM is based on the idea that a software development process is a collaboration between active abstract entities called *roles* which perform operations called *activities* on concrete and real entities called *work products*.
- Each role interacts or collaborates by exchanging work products and triggering the execution of activities.
- The overall goal of a process is to bring a set of work products to a well-defined state.
## SPEM Notation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stereotype</th>
<th>Symbol</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Activity</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Activity Symbol" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Category Symbol" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Composite role and Team</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Composite role and Team Symbol" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guidance</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Guidance Symbol" /></td>
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<tr>
<td>Milestone</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Milestone Symbol" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Process</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Process Symbol" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Process Component</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Process Component Symbol" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Process Pattern</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Process Pattern Symbol" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Role Definition and Use</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Role Definition and Use Symbol" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Task Definition and Use</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Task Definition and Use Symbol" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tool Definition</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Tool Definition Symbol" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WorkProduct Definition and Use</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="WorkProduct Definition and Use Symbol" /></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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Layering: The Intuition

A complex system...

... is any system featuring a large number of interacting components, whose aggregate activity is nonlinear and typically self-organisation [Simon, 1996].

Human mind...

... is not able to keep track of

- a huge number of different components / parts
- too many details...

We need...

- models...
- ... capturing systems’ details at different levels of abstraction
Layering: Zooming Agents
Layering: Zooming Agents
Layering: Zooming Artifacts
Managing Complexity

- Complexity is inherent in real-life systems
- Complexity management: balancing between completeness and clarity
- Analysis and design of real-life systems proceed middle-out
- Complex systems call for layered, hierarchical explanations
- Each layer is in some sense autonomous
  - at the same time, layers are organised in a hierarchy
  - each layer is strictly connected with the upper / lower layers
In many branches of sciences, systems are represented as organised on different layers.

Each level is essential to the general understanding of the system’s wholeness, but at the same time, no level can be understood in isolation.

When applied to the engineering of MAS, this principle suggests:
- that MAS models, abstractions, patterns and technologies can be suitably categorised and compared using a layered description;
- that agent-oriented processes and methods should support some forms of MAS layering.
Layering in SODA

- The layering principle is achieved by means of the **zoom** and **projection** mechanisms [Molesini et al., 2006, Molesini et al., 2010]
- Two kinds of zoom
  - **in-zoom** — from an abstract to a more detailed layer
  - **out-zoom** — from a detailed to a more abstract layer
- The *projection mechanism* projects entities from one to another layer
Layering in SODA: Process

1. Select Layer
2. If new layer?
   - Yes: Increases detail and increases abstraction.
   - No: In-zoom or Out-zoom Projection.
Layering in SODA: Activities, Tasks, Roles, and Workproducts
Layering in SODA: Workproducts & MMMEs

- **Actor**
  - LegacySystem
  - Requirement
  - Relation
  - Task
  - Topology
- **Function**
  - Dependency
- **Resource**
  - Interaction
- **Action**
  - Operation
- **Role**
  - Space
  - Operation
- **Interaction**
  - Rule
  - Space
- **Function Dependency**
  - Task
  - Function
  - Dependency
  - Topology
- **Zooming table**

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**Layering Principle**

- In general, when working with SODA, we start from a certain layer, we could call *core layer*, and it is labelled with “c”
- The core layer is always *complete*
- In the other layer we find only the in/out zoomed entities and the projection entities.
- The in-zoomed layers are labelled with “c+1”, “c+2” and the out-zoomed layers are labelled “c-1”, “c-2”…
- The projection entities will be labelled with “+” if the projection is from abstract layer to detailed layer, “-” otherwise
- The only relations between layers are the *zooming relation* express by means of zooming table (in the following)
- If we have relation between entities belonging different layers we have to project these entities in the same layer
Example

SODA: Process

The SODA Process Mechanisms

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System’s Views

Horizontal view — analyse the system in one level of detail

Vertical view — analyse one kind of abstract entity
Zooming Artifacts I

Artifact

print
scan

Environmental Artifact
Social Artifact

Zooming out
Zooming in

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Zooming Artifacts II
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SODA Process Organisation

- Four sub-phases: Requirements Analysis, Analysis, Architectural Design, Detailed Design
- Each sub-phase is modelled as a separate and independent Method Content
- A specific process is defined for each sub-phase
- Reusing of these processes to create the whole SODA process
- Each sub-phase – and each model in the sub-processes – is represented as an activity, related to the corresponding SPEM’s Task(s)
- Adoption of the Layering Capability pattern
The SODA Process Life Cycle [Molesini et al., 2008]
Requirements Analysis Process

1. Start

Requirements modelling
- another layer?
  - yes
  - no

Environment modelling
- another layer?
  - yes
  - no

Requirements layering

Relations modelling
- another layer?
  - yes
  - no

Are the models well specified?
- yes
- no

Environment layering

Relations layering

Layering

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Requirements Analysis Process

Requirements modelling activity — *requirement* and *actor* are used for modelling the customers’ requirements and the requirement sources.

Environment modelling activity — *external environment* notion is used as a container of the *legacy systems* that represent the legacy resources of the environment.

Relation modelling activity — *relation* is used for modelling the relationships between requirements and legacy systems.
Requirements Analysis: Activities, Tasks, Roles and Workproducts
Requirements Analysis: Workproducts & MMMEs
Analysis Process I

- Moving from requirements
- Task Analysis
- Function analysis
- Topology Analysis
- Dependency Analysis

- Task Layering
- Function Layering
- Topology Layering
- Dependency Layering

- Are the models well specified?
  - yes
  - no

- new iteration

- other layer?
  - yes
  - no

- another layer?
  - yes
  - no

- another layer?
  - yes
  - no

- Are the models well specified?
  - yes
  - no
Analysis Process II

Moving from Requirements activity: the abstractions identified in the previous step are mapped onto the abstractions adopted in this stage to generate the initial version of the Analysis models.

Task analysis activity — task is exploited for analysing the system’s active part.

Function analysis activity — function is exploited for analysing the system’s functional part.

Topology analysis activity — topology is exploited for analysing the topological constraints over the environment.

Dependency analysis activity — dependency is exploited for the analysis of the relations highlighted in the previous step and for the definition of new relationships among abstract entities identified in this stage.
Analysis: Activities, Tasks, Roles and Workproducts
Analysis: Workproducts & MMMEs
Architectural Design Process

Transition activity — the abstractions identified in the previous step are mapped onto the abstractions adopted in this stage so as to generate the initial version of the Architectural Design models

Role design activity — assignment tasks to roles and identification of the actions necessary in order to achieve each specific task

Resource design activity — assignment of functions of responsibilities for providing to resources and identification of the operations necessary for providing each specific function

Space design activity — identification of the spaces starting from the topology constraints analysed in the previous step

Interaction design activity — identification of the interactions that represent the acts of the interaction among roles, among resources and between roles and resources starting from the dependencies analysed in the previous step

Constraint design activity — identification of the rules that enable and
Architectural Design: Activities, Tasks, Roles and Workproducts
Architectural Design: Workproducts & MMMEs
Detailed Design Process

1. Carving
2. Mapping
3. Agent Design
4. Environment Design
5. Workspace Design
6. Interaction Detailed Design

Question: Is the system well specified?

Options: Yes, No

Decision:
- If Yes, go back to Carving
- If No, go to the next step
In the Architectural Design step our system could be potentially composed by all the layers detected in the previously steps.

Each complete layer represents a different system architecture.

It is not possible to first design and then physically implement a system specified by different levels of abstraction.

So, for each entity, we need to choose the appropriate layer of representation.

... the chosen system architecture is “carved out” from all the possible architectures.

So, each carving represents a specific development.

... in an iterative incremental process we can made different carving in order to refine the system.
Carving II

Architectural Design

- R1
- R2
- R4
- R5
- R6
- R7
- R8
- R9

C
C+1
C+2
+R2
Carving IV

Architectural Design

- R1
- R2
- R4
- R5
- R6
- R7
- R8
- R9

Carving Operation

- R1
- R2
- R4
- R5
- R6
- R7
- R8
- R9

Detailed Design

- A1 Society
- A2
- A4 Society
- A5
- A6
- A7

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SODA: Process
The Processes

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Detailed Design Process

Mapping activity — the carved abstractions are mapped onto the abstractions adopted in this stage, thus generating the initial version of the Detailed Design models.

Agent design activity — design of agents and societies.

Environment design activity — design of artifacts and aggregates.

Workspace design activity — design of workspaces.

Interactions design activity — design of use, manifest, speakTo and linkedTo.
Detailed Design: Activities, Tasks, Roles and Workproducts
Detailed Design: Workproducts & MMMEs
SODA Workproducts Dependencies

Diagram showing dependencies between workproducts such as Requirements, Relations, Domain, Zooming table, Responsibilities, Dependencies, Transitions, Interactions, Mapping, Environment, Interaction, Workspace, Carving Diagram, Entities, Constraints, Entities, Topological, Topologies, and References.
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The design of a complex system... calls for both a clear and disciplined notation and tools for supporting the consistency checks

- SODA adopts a tabular representation
- Tables
  - clear way for analysing and designing the systems
  - very easy for automatic tools
  - very easy for consistency and completeness checkers
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Analysis Phase: Tables

- References Tables
- Requirements Tables
- Domain Tables
- Relations Tables
- Analysis
- Responsibilities Tables
- Dependencies Tables
- Topologies Tables
- Transitions Tables
Requirements Analysis: Tabular Representation I

- Requirements Tables: $(L)Ac_t$, $(L)AR_t$ and $(L)Re_t$

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Actor</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>actor name</td>
<td>actor description</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Actor</th>
<th>Requirement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>actor name</td>
<td>requirement names</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>requirement name</td>
<td>requirement description</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Requirements Analysis: Tabular Representation II

- Domain Tables: \((L)EELS_t\) and \((L)LS_t\)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>External Environment</th>
<th>Legacy System</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>external environment name</td>
<td>Legacy System names</td>
</tr>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Legacy System</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>legacy system name</td>
<td>legacy system description</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Requirements Analysis: Tabular Representation III

- Requirements Tables define and describe the abstract entities tied to the concept of “requirement”
  - Actor table \((L)Ac_t\) describes each single actor
  - Actor-Requirement Table \((L)AR_t\) specifies the list of the requirements for each actors
  - Requirement Table \((L)Re_t\) lists all the requirement and describe them.

- Domain Tables define and describe the abstract entities tied to the external environment
  - ExternalEnvironment-LegacySystem Table \((L)EELS_t\) specifies the list of the contexts for external environment
  - Legacy System Table \((L)LS_t\) lists all the contexts and describe them.
Relations Tables: \((L)\text{Rel}_t, (L)\text{RR}_t\) and \((L)\text{RLS}_t\)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Relation</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>relation name</td>
<td>relation description</td>
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<table>
<thead>
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<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Relation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>requirement name</td>
<td>relation names</td>
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<table>
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<th>Legacy System</th>
<th>Relation</th>
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<tr>
<td>legacy system name</td>
<td>relation names</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Requirements Analysis: Tabular Representation V

- Relations Tables relate the abstract entities among them
  - *Relation Table* \((L)Rel_t\) lists all the relationship among abstract entities and provides a description to them
  - *Requirement-Relation Table* \((L)RR_t\) specifies the list of relations where requirement is involved
  - *LegacySystem-Relation Table* \((L)LSR_t\) specifies the list of relations where context is involved
From Requirements Analysis to Analysis I

References Tables in top-down order

- $(L)RRT_t$
- $(L)RRF_t$
- $(L)RRTo_t$
- $(L)RReqD_t$
- $(L)RLSF_t$
- $(L)RLST_t$
- $(L)RRelD_t$
## From Requirements Analysis to Analysis II

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Task</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>requirement name</td>
<td>task names</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Requirement</td>
<td>Function</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>requirement name</td>
<td>function names</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Requirement</td>
<td>Topology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>requirement name</td>
<td>topology names</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Requirement</td>
<td>Dependency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>requirement name</td>
<td>dependency names</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Legacy System</th>
<th>Function</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>legacy system name</td>
<td>function names</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legacy System</td>
<td>Topology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>legacy system name</td>
<td>topology names</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relation</td>
<td>Dependency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>relation name</td>
<td>dependency names</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
References Tables identify the relations among the abstractions of the requirement analysis phase and the abstractions used in analysis phase.
From Requirements Analysis to Analysis IV

- **Reference Requirement-Task Table** \( (L)RRT_t \) specifies the mapping between requirement and tasks.
- **Reference Requirement-Function Table** \( (L)RRF_t \) specifies the mapping between requirement and resources.
- **Reference Requirement-Topology Table** \( (L)RRTot_t \) specifies the mapping between each requirement and the generated topologies.
- **Reference Requirement-Dependency Table** \( (L)RReqD_t \) specifies the mapping between each requirement and the generated dependencies.
- **Reference LegacySystem-Function Table** \( (L)RLSF_t \) specifies the mapping between legacy system and functions.
- **Reference LegacySystem-Topology Table** \( (L)RLST_t \) specifies the mapping between legacy system and topologies.
- **Reference Relation-Dependency Table** \( (L)RRD_t \) specifies the mapping between relations and dependencies.
Responsibilities Tables: \((L)T_t\) and \((L)F_t\)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>task name</td>
<td>task description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Function</td>
<td>Description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>function name</td>
<td>function description</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Molesini & Omicini (DISI, Univ. Bologna) A.Y. 2012/2013 88 / 132
## Analysis: Tabular Representation II

Dependencies Tables: \((L)D_t, (L)TD_t, (L)FD_t\) and \((L)TopD_t\)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dependency</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><code>dependency name</code></td>
<td><code>dependency description</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Task</td>
<td>Dependency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>task name</code></td>
<td><code>dependency names</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Function</td>
<td>Dependency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>function name</code></td>
<td><code>dependency names</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Topology</td>
<td>Dependency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>topology name</code></td>
<td><code>dependency names</code></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Analysis: Tabular Representation III

- Responsibilities Tables define and describe the abstract entities tied to the concept of “responsibility”
  - Task Table \((L)T_t\) lists all the tasks and describes them
  - Function Table \((L)F_t\) lists all the functions and describe them
- Dependencies Tables relate the abstract entities among them
  - Dependency Table \((L)D_t\) lists all the dependency among abstract entities and provides a description to them
  - Task-Dependency Table \((L)TD_t\) specifies the list of dependencies where task is involved
  - Function-Dependency Table \((L)FD_t\) specifies the list of dependencies where function is involved
  - Topology-Dependency table \((L)TopD_t\) specifies the list of dependencies where each topology is involved
Analysis: Tabular Representation IV

- Topologies Tables in top-down order – \((L)\, Top_t\), \((L)\, TTop_t\), \((L)\, FTop_t\)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topology</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Topology name</td>
<td>topology description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Task</td>
<td>Topology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>task name</td>
<td>topology names</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Function</td>
<td>Topology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>function name</td>
<td>topology names</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Topologies Tables express the topological needs
  - *Topology Table* \((L)\, Top_t\) lists all the topological requirements and provides a description to them
  - *Task-Topology Table* \((L)\, TTop_t\) specifies the list of topological requirements those influence the task
  - *Function-Topology Table* \((L)\, FTop_t\) specifies the list of topological requirements affected by the function
### Zooming: Tabular Representation

- **Zooming Table:** \((L)Z_t\)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Layer L</th>
<th>Layer L+1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><code>out-zoomed entity</code></td>
<td><code>in-zoomed entities</code></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Example: In-zoom Task

Zooming Table: \((L)Z_t\)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Layer L</th>
<th>Layer L+1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(T1)</td>
<td>(T1a, T1b, T1c, \ldots)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Example: Out-zoom Tasks

Zooming Table: \((L)Z_t\)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Layer L-1</th>
<th>Layer L</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(T0)</td>
<td>(T1,T2,T3,\ldots)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Remarks

- The organisational structure of the system is *implicitly managed by means of zooming relation*.
- For example when we in-zoom a task, we obtain new tasks, new dependencies and potentially new functions and topologies.
- By means of new dependencies we can express all the social rules that allow to new task to work together to achieve the original tasks.
- In the same way in the architectural design phase when we in-zoom a role, we obtain new roles, new actions, new interactions and potentially new resources and operations. By means of new interactions we can express all the social rules that allow to new roles to work together to achieve the “social task(s)” assigned to the original role.
Complete Example: In-zoom Task

Zooming Table: \((L)Z_t\)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Layer L</th>
<th>Layer L+1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(T1)</td>
<td>(T1a, T1b, T1c)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(D1, D2, D3)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Outline

1 SODA: Overview

2 SODA: Abstractions
   - A&A in SODA
   - The SODA meta-model

3 SODA: Process
   - SPEM
   - The SODA Process Mechanisms
   - The Processes

4 SODA: Notation
   - Analysis Phase
   - Design Phase

5 Conclusions & Web Resources
Design Phase: Tables

- Architectural Design
  - Entities Tables
  - Interaction Tables
  - Constraints Tables
  - Topological Tables
- Detailed Design
  - Agent/Society Design Tables
  - Environment Design Tables
  - Interaction Design Tables
  - Topological Design Tables

Transitions Tables

Mapping Tables
Transition Tables in top-down order

- $(L)TRT_t$
- $(L)TTA_t$
- $(L)TRF_t$
- $(L)TFO_t$
- $(L)TID_t$
- $(L)TTopS_t$
### SODA: Notation

#### Design Phase

## From Analysis to Architectural Design II

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Task</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>role name</td>
<td>task names</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>task name</td>
<td>action names</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Resource</th>
<th>Function</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>resource name</td>
<td>function names</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Function</th>
<th>Operation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>function name</td>
<td>operation names</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dependency</th>
<th>Interaction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>dependency name</td>
<td>interaction names</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dependency</th>
<th>Rule</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>dependency name</td>
<td>rule names</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topology</th>
<th>Space</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>topology name</td>
<td>space names</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Transition Tables identify the relations among the abstractions of the requirement analysis phase and the abstractions used in analysis phase:

- **Transition Role-Task Table** \((L)\text{TRT}_t\) specifies the mapping between tasks and roles
- **Transition Task-Action table** \((L)\text{TTA}_t\) relates tasks and actions
- **Transition Resource-Function Table** \((L)\text{TRF}_t\) specifies the mapping between functions and resources
- **Transition Function-Operation table** \((L)\text{TFO}_t\) relates functions and operations
- **Transition Interaction-Dependency Table** \((L)\text{TID}_t\) specifies the mapping between dependencies and interaction
- **Transition Rule-Dependency table** \((L)\text{TRuD}_t\) maps dependencies onto rules
- **Transition Topology-Space Table** \((L)\text{TTopS}_t\) specifies the mapping between topologies and spaces
### Architectural Design: Tabular Representation I

- Entities Tables in top-down order – \((L)A_t\), \((L)O_t\), \((L)RA_t\), \((L)RO_t\)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>action name</td>
<td>description</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Operation</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>operation name</td>
<td>description</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>role name</td>
<td>action names</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Resource</th>
<th>Operation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>resource name</td>
<td>operation names</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Architectural Design: Tabular Representation II

- The Entities Tables that describe roles and resources of the system
  - *Action Table* ($L_A_t$) specifies the actions that roles could be able to execute and describes them the mapping between tasks and roles
  - *Operation Table* ($L_O_t$) specifies the operations that resources could provide and describes them the mapping between tasks and roles
  - *Role-Action Table* ($L_{RA_t}$) specifies the list of actions that a specific role is able to do
  - *Resource-Operation Table* ($L_{RO_t}$) specifies the list of operations that a specific resource is able to provide
Interactions Tables in top-down order – \((L)I_t, (L)Acl_t, (L)Opl_t\)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Interaction</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>interaction name</td>
<td>description</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Interaction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>action name</td>
<td>interaction names</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Operation</th>
<th>Interaction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>operation name</td>
<td>interaction names</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Interactions Tables that describe the interaction where roles and resources are involved

- *Interaction Table* \((L)I_t\) specifies the interactions and describes them
- *Action-Interaction table* \((L)Acl_t\) specifies the interactions where each action is involved
- *Operation-Interaction table* \((L)OpI_t\) specifies the interactions where each operation is involved
Architectural Design: Tabular Representation V

- Constraints Tables in top-down order — \((L)R_{u_t}, (L)I{R}_{u_t}, (L)Re{R}_{u_t}, (L)Ro{R}_{u_t}, (L)S{R}_{u_t}\)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rule</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>rule name</td>
<td>description</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Interaction</th>
<th>Rule</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>interaction name</td>
<td>rule names</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Resource</th>
<th>Rule</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>resource name</td>
<td>rule names</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Rule</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>role name</td>
<td>rule names</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Space</th>
<th>Rule</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>space name</td>
<td>rule names</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
 Architectural Design: Tabular Representation VI

- The Constraints Tables describe the constraints over the entities behaviours
  - Rule table \( ((L)Ru_t) \) defines the single rule
  - Rule-Interaction table \( ((L)IRu_t) \) specifies the constraints over the interactions
  - Resource-Rule table \( ((L)ReRu_t) \) specifies the rules where each resource is involved
  - Role-Rule table \( ((L)RoRu_t) \) specifies the rules where each role is involved
  - Space-Rule table \( ((L)SRu_t) \) specifies the rules where each space is involved

- Topological Tables in top-down order – \( (L)S_t, (L)SC_t, (L)SRe_t \) and \( (L)SRo_t \)
### Architectural Design: Tabular Representation VII

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Space</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>space name</td>
<td>description</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Space</th>
<th>Connection</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>space name</td>
<td>space names</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Resource</th>
<th>Space</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>resource name</td>
<td>space names</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Space</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>role name</td>
<td>space names</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Architectural Design: Tabular Representation VIII

- **Topological Tables**
  - *Space table* \((L)S_t\) specifies the spaces and describes them
  - *Space-Connection table* \((L)SC_t\) shows the connections between spaces at the same layer of abstraction (the hierarchical relations among spaces are managed by means of zooming table)
  - *Space-Resource table* \((L)SRe_t\) shows the allocation of the resources to spaces: a resource could be allocated in several different spaces—in particular, a single, distributed resource can in principle be used to model a distributed service, accessible from more nodes of the network
  - *Space-Role table* \((L)sRo_t\) shows the list of space that the roles can perceive in the system.
From Architectural Design to Detailed Design I

- Mapping Tables in top-down order – $MAR_t$, $MSR_t$, $MAAc_t$, $MArR_t$, $MAggR_t$, $MArOp_t$, $MArRu_t$, $MSW_t$, $MIU_t$, $MIM_t$, $MISp_t$, $MIL_t$

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agent</th>
<th>Role</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>agent name</td>
<td>role names</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Society</th>
<th>Role</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>society name</td>
<td>role name</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(Individual) Artifact</th>
<th>Action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>artifact name</td>
<td>action names</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(Environmental) Artifact</th>
<th>Resource</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>artifact name</td>
<td>resource names</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aggregate</th>
<th>Resource</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>aggregate name</td>
<td>resource name</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### (Environmental) Artifact

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>artifact name</th>
<th>operation names</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rule</th>
<th>Artifact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>rule name</td>
<td>artifact names</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workspace</th>
<th>Space</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>workspace name</td>
<td>space names</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Interaction</th>
<th>Use</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>interaction name</td>
<td>use names</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Interaction</th>
<th>Manifest</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>interaction name</td>
<td>manifest names</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Interaction</th>
<th>SpeakTo</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>interaction name</td>
<td>speak names</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Interaction</th>
<th>LinkedTo</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>interaction name</td>
<td>linked names</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Mapping Tables

- **Mapping Agent-Role table (MAR_t)** maps roles onto agents
- **Mapping Society-Role table (MSR_t)** maps role onto society
- **Mapping Artifact-Action table (MAAc_t)** maps actions onto individual artifacts
- **Mapping Artifact-Resource table (MArR_t)** maps resources onto artifacts
- **Mapping Aggregate-Resource table (MAggR_t)** maps resources onto aggregate
- **Mapping Artifact-Operation table (MArOpt_t)** maps operation onto environmental artifacts
- **Mapping Artifact-Rule table (MArRu_t)** maps the rules specified in the Architectural Design onto the artifacts that implement and enforce them
- **Mapping Artifact-Operation table (MSW_t)** maps spaces onto workspaces
- **Mapping Interaction-Use table (MIU_t)** maps interactions onto use
- **Mapping Interaction-Manifest table (MIM_t)** maps interactions onto manifest
- **Mapping Interaction-SpeakTo table (MISpt_t)** maps interactions onto SpeakTo
- **Mapping Interaction-LinkedTo table (MIL_t)** maps interactions onto linkedTo
**Detailed Design: Tabular Representation I**

- Agent/Society Design Tables in top-down order – $(L)AA_t$, $(L)SA_t$, $(L)SAr_t$

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agent</th>
<th>(Individual) Artifact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>agent name</td>
<td>artifact names</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Society</th>
<th>Agent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Society name</td>
<td>agent names</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Society</th>
<th>Artifact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>society name</td>
<td>artifact names</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Detailed Design: Tabular Representation II

- **Agent/Society Design Tables**
  - *Agent-Artifact Table* \((L)AA_t\) specifies the (individual) artifacts related to agents.
  - *Society-Agent Table* \((L)SA_t\) specifies which agents work in the society
  - *Society-Artifact Table* \((L)SAr_t\) specifies the artifacts related to societies
Detailed Design: Tabular Representation III

- Environment Design Tables in top-down order – $AUI_t$, $AggArt_t$, $AggAge_t$

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Artifact</th>
<th>Usage Interface</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>artifact name</td>
<td>list of operations</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aggregate</th>
<th>Artifact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>aggregate name</td>
<td>artifact names</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aggregate</th>
<th>Agent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>aggregate name</td>
<td>agent names</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Environment Design Tables
  - *Artifact-UsageInterface Table* ($AUI_t$) specifies the operations provided by artifacts
  - *Aggregate-Artifact table* ($AggArt_t$) lists the artifacts belonging to a specific aggregate
## Detailed Design: Tabular Representation IV

- Interaction Design Tables in top-down order – $UP_t$, $AgeU_t$, $ArtU_t$, $SP_t$, $AgeSp_t$, $MP_t$, $ArtM_t$, $AgeM_t$, $LP_t$, $ArtL_t$

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Use</th>
<th>Protocol</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>use name</em></td>
<td><em>protocol description</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agent</th>
<th>Use</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>agent name</em></td>
<td><em>use names</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Artifact</th>
<th>Use</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>artifact name</em></td>
<td><em>use names</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SpeakTo</th>
<th>Protocol</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>speak name</em></td>
<td><em>protocol description</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agent</th>
<th>SpeakTo</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>agent name</em></td>
<td><em>speak names</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Detailed Design: Tabular Representation V**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Manifest</th>
<th>Protocol</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>speak name</em></td>
<td><em>protocol description</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Artifact</th>
<th>Manifest</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>artifact name</em></td>
<td><em>manifest names</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agent</th>
<th>Manifest</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>artifact name</em></td>
<td><em>manifest names</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LinkedTo</th>
<th>Protocol</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>linked name</em></td>
<td><em>protocol description</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Artifact</th>
<th>LinkedTo</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>artifact name</em></td>
<td><em>linked names</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Interaction Design Tables concern the design of interactions among entities:

- **Use-Protocol table** ($UP_t$) details the protocols for each “use” interaction.
- **Agent-Use table** ($AgeU_t$) specifies the “use” where each agent is involved.
- **Artifact-Use table** ($ArtU_t$) specifies the “use” where each artifact is involved.
- **SpeakTo-Protocol table** ($SP_t$) details the protocols for each “speakTo” interaction.
- **Agent-SpeakTo table** ($AgeSp_t$) specifies the “speakTo” where each agent is involved.
- **Manifest-Protocol table** ($MP_t$) details the protocols for each “manifest” interaction.
- **Artifact-Manifest table** ($ArtM_t$) specifies the “manifest” where each artifact is involved.
- **Agent-Manifest table** ($AgeM_t$) specifies the “manifest” where each agent is involved.
- **LinkedTo-Protocol table** ($LP_t$) details the protocols for each “linkedTo” interaction.
- **Artifact-LinkedTo-table** ($ArtL_t$) specifies the “linkedTo” where each artifact is involved.
Detailed Design: Tabular Representation VII

- Topological Design Tables in top-down order: \((L)W_t, (L)WC_t, (L)WArt_t\) and \((L)WA_t\)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workspace</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>workspace name</td>
<td>description</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workspace</th>
<th>Connection</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>workspace name</td>
<td>workspace names</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workspace</th>
<th>Artifact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>workspace name</td>
<td>artifact names</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agent</th>
<th>Workspace</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>agent name</td>
<td>workspace names</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Topological Design Tables describe the structure of the environment

- *Workspace table* \((L)W_t\) describes the workspaces
- *Workspace-Connection table* \((L)WC_t\) shows the connections among the workspaces
- *Workspace-Artifact table* \((L)WArt_t\) shows the allocation of the artifacts to workspaces
- *Workspace-Agent table* \((L)WA_t\) lists the workspaces that each agent can perceive
Outline

1. SODA: Overview

2. SODA: Abstractions
   - A&A in SODA
   - The SODA meta-model

3. SODA: Process
   - SPEM
   - The SODA Process Mechanisms
   - The Processes

4. SODA: Notation
   - Analysis Phase
   - Design Phase

5. Conclusions & Web Resources
Conclusions & Future Work

- SODA allows engineers to
  - design societies
  - design environments
  - support the complexity of system description (layering principle)

- Future works
  - testing SODA
  - refining the meta-model
  - building the tools
  - extracting fragments from SODA according to IEEE-FIPA Method Engineering standard [DPDF Working Group, 2011]
  - integration between methodologies’ and infrastructures’ processes
http://soda.apice.unibo.it
Focus

SODA (Societies in Open and Distributed Agent spaces) is a methodology for the analysis and design of complex agent-based systems. SODA is not concerned with *intra-agent issues*: designing a multi-agent system with SODA leads to defining agents in terms of their required observable behaviour and their role in the multi-agent system. Instead, SODA concentrated on *inter-agent issues*, like the engineering of societies and infrastructures for multi-agent systems. Recently a new and extended version of the methodology has been proposed, which takes into account both the Agents and Artifacts (A&A) metamodel, and a mechanism to manage the complexity of system description.

News

- October 2012: A revised version of the complete documentation is available in the Documents area.
- May 2012: The complete documentation is available in the Documents area.
- June 2010: The first draft of the SODA documentation is available in the Documents area.
the site contains the complete SODA documentation

according to the IEEE-FIPA Method Engineering standard
[DPDF Working Group, 2011]

the documentation also contains a fully-developed example that may help understanding the main issues of SODA
1. SODA: Overview

2. SODA: Abstractions
   - A&A in SODA
   - The SODA meta-model

3. SODA: Process
   - SPEM
   - The SODA Process Mechanisms
   - The Processes

4. SODA: Notation
   - Analysis Phase
   - Design Phase

5. Conclusions & Web Resources
A study of some multi-agent meta-models.  

Process models for agent-based development.  
*Engineering Applications of Artificial Intelligence*, 18(2):205–222.
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The SODA AOSE Methodology

Multiagent Systems LM
Sistemi Multiagente LM

Ambra Molesini & Andrea Omicini
{ambra.molesini, andrea.omicini}@unibo.it

Dipartimento di Informatica – Scienza e Ingegneria (DISI)
Alma Mater Studiorum—Università di Bologna a Cesena

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