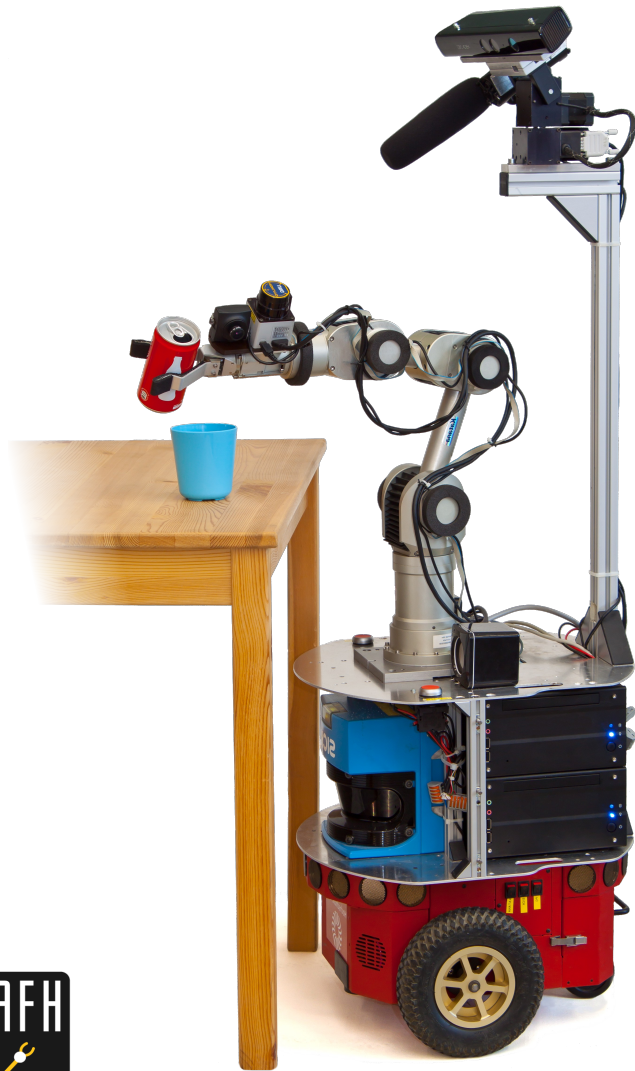


The Robotics Butler Scenario: Selected Details and Algorithms



Christian Schlegel
Prof. Dr.



M.Sc. Alex Lotz



M.Sc. Matthias Lutz



M.Sc. Dennis Stampfer



M.Sc. Andreas Steck

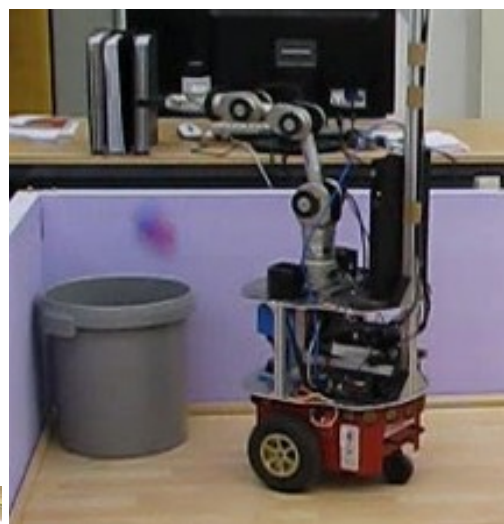
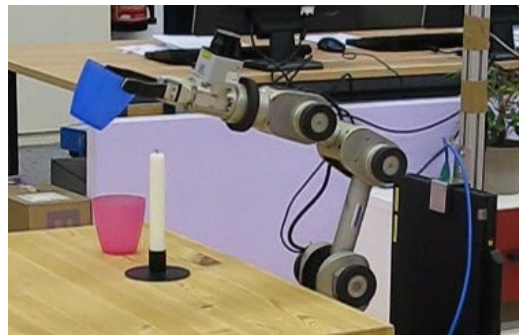


Dr. Siegfried Hochdorfer

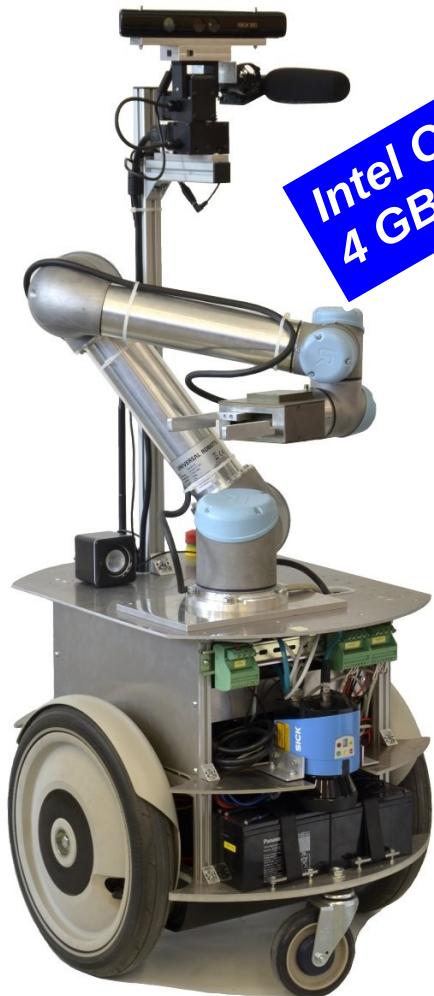
Hochschule Ulm



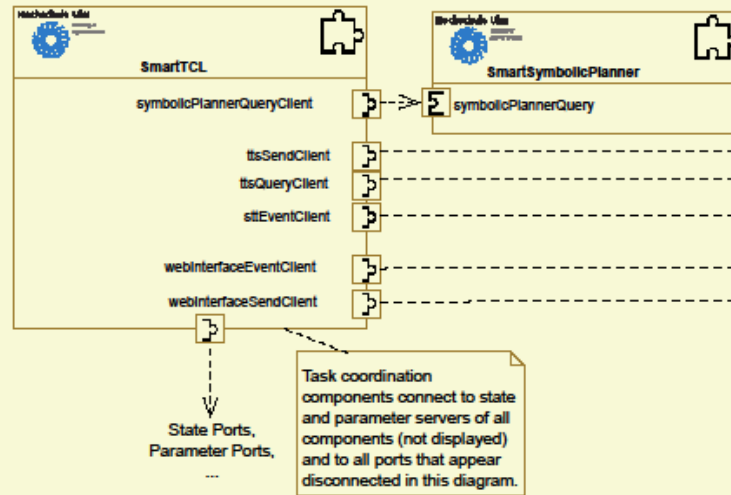




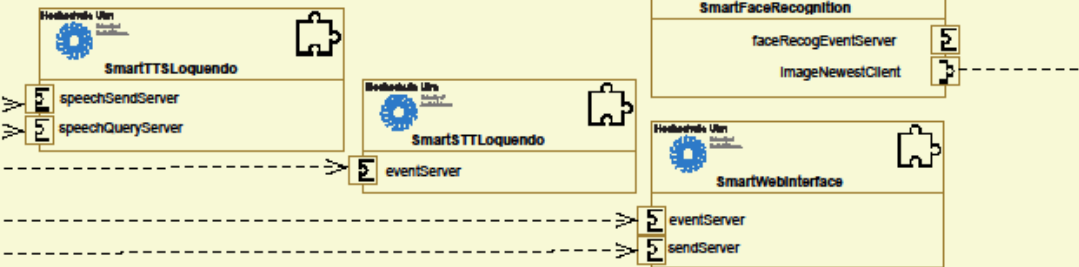
Intel Core2Duo P8800
4 GB RAM



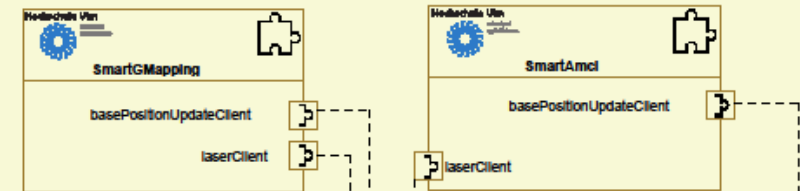
Task Coordination



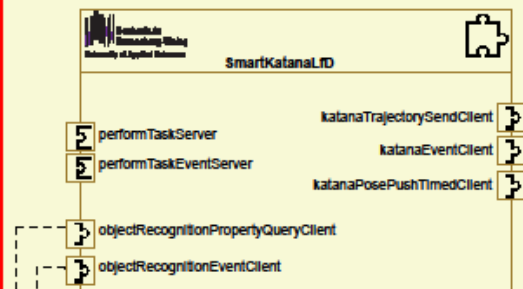
Human Robot Interaction



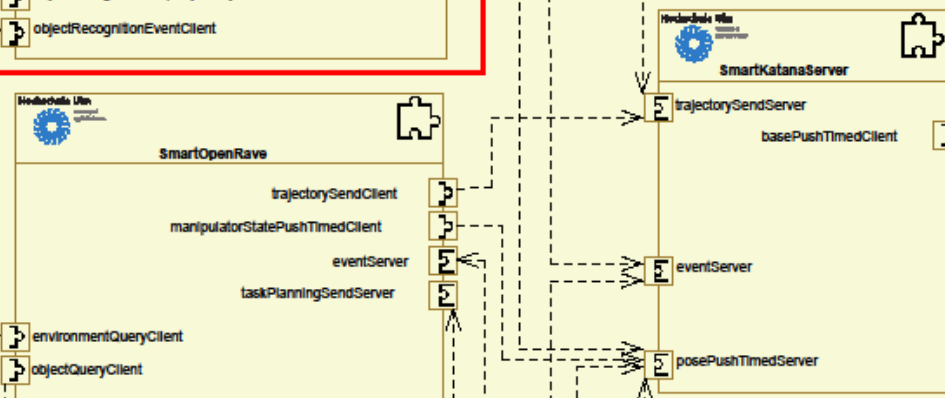
Localization



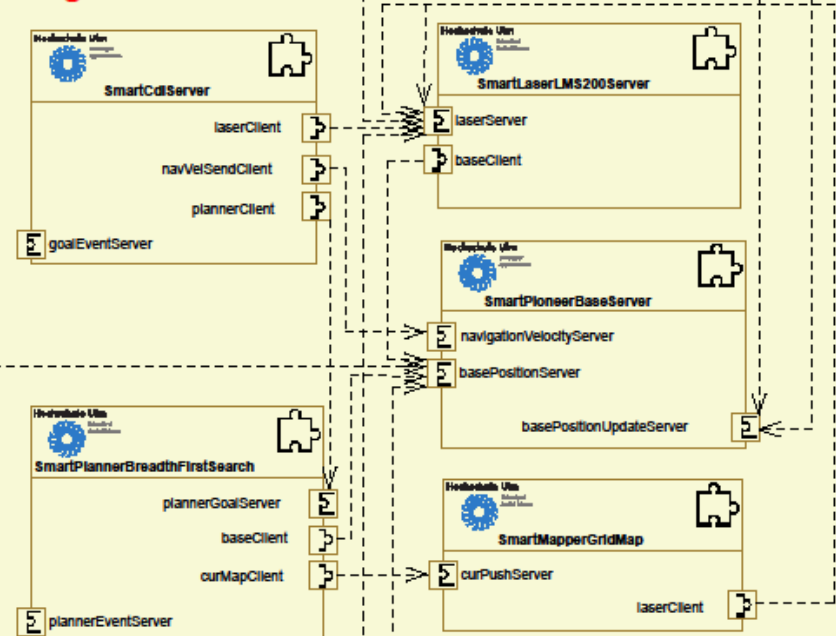
Learning from Demonstration



Mobile Manipulation



Navigation

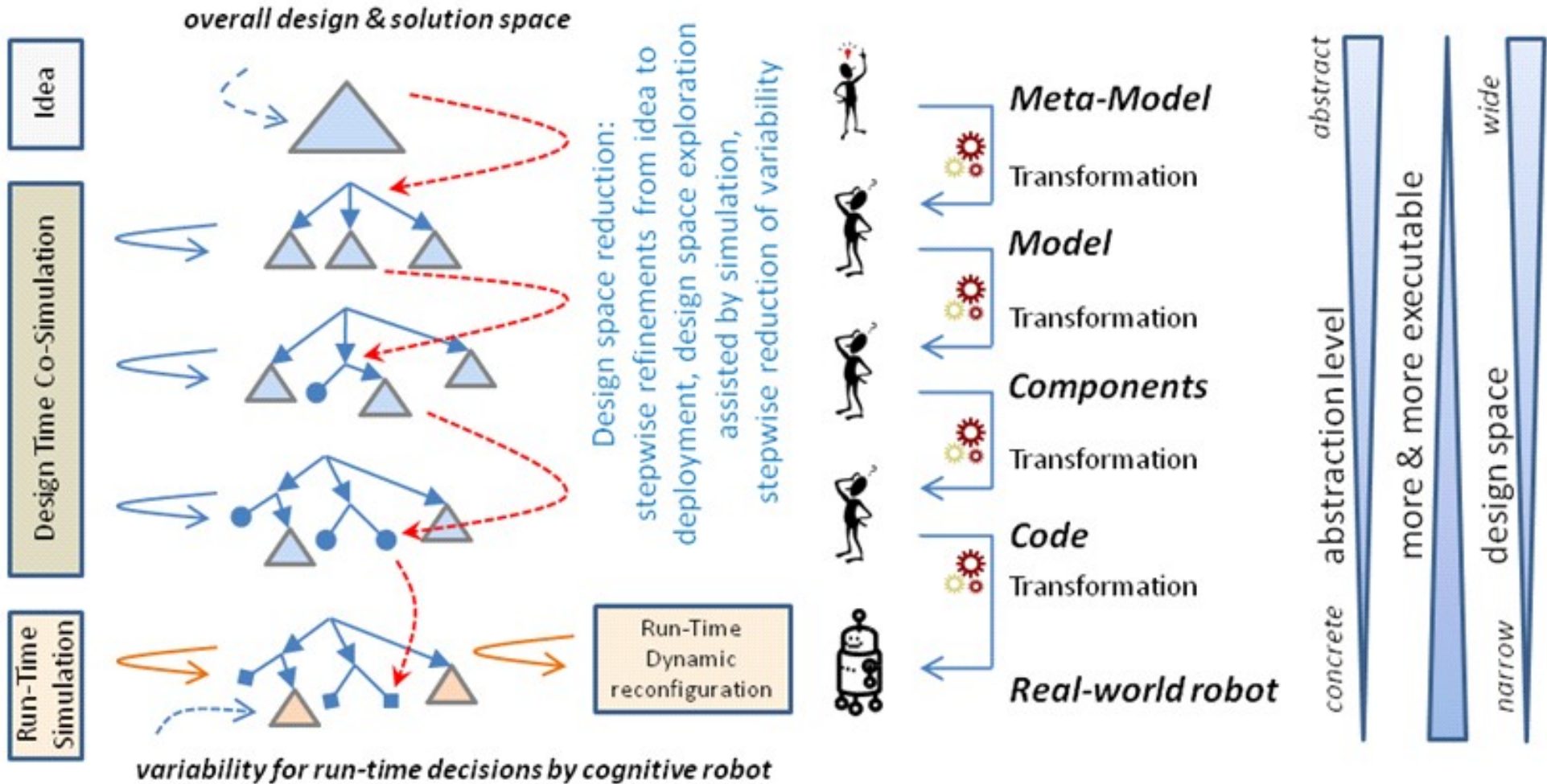


Object Recognition



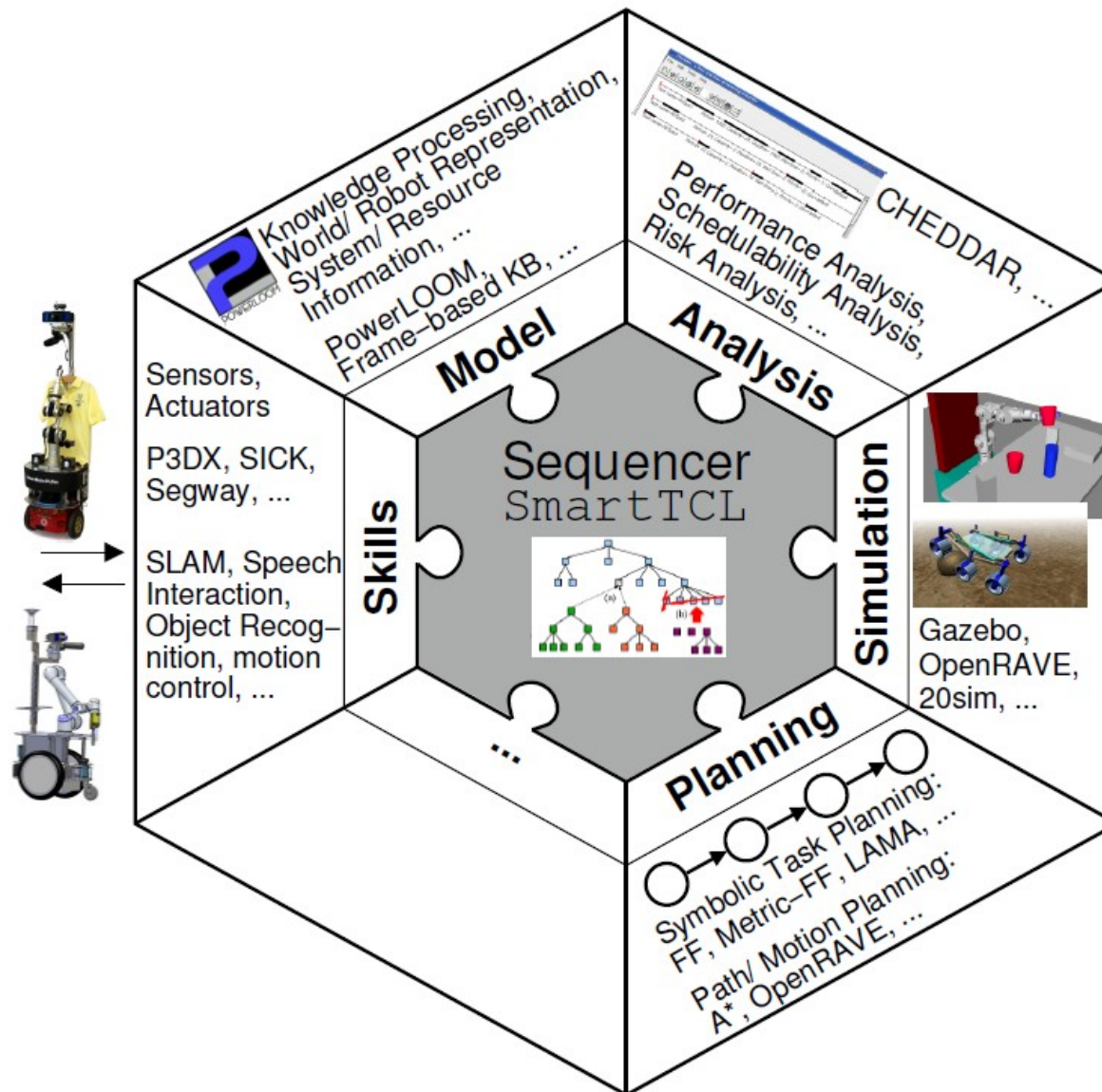
What is different in robotics and what we need...

- *differences* of robotics compared to other domains *originate from* the need of a robot to cope with *open-ended environments while having* only *limited resources* at its disposal
- due to the *enormous sizes of the problem space and the solution space* in robotics, there will *always be a deviation between design-time and run-time optimality*



Managing Execution-Variants at Run-Time

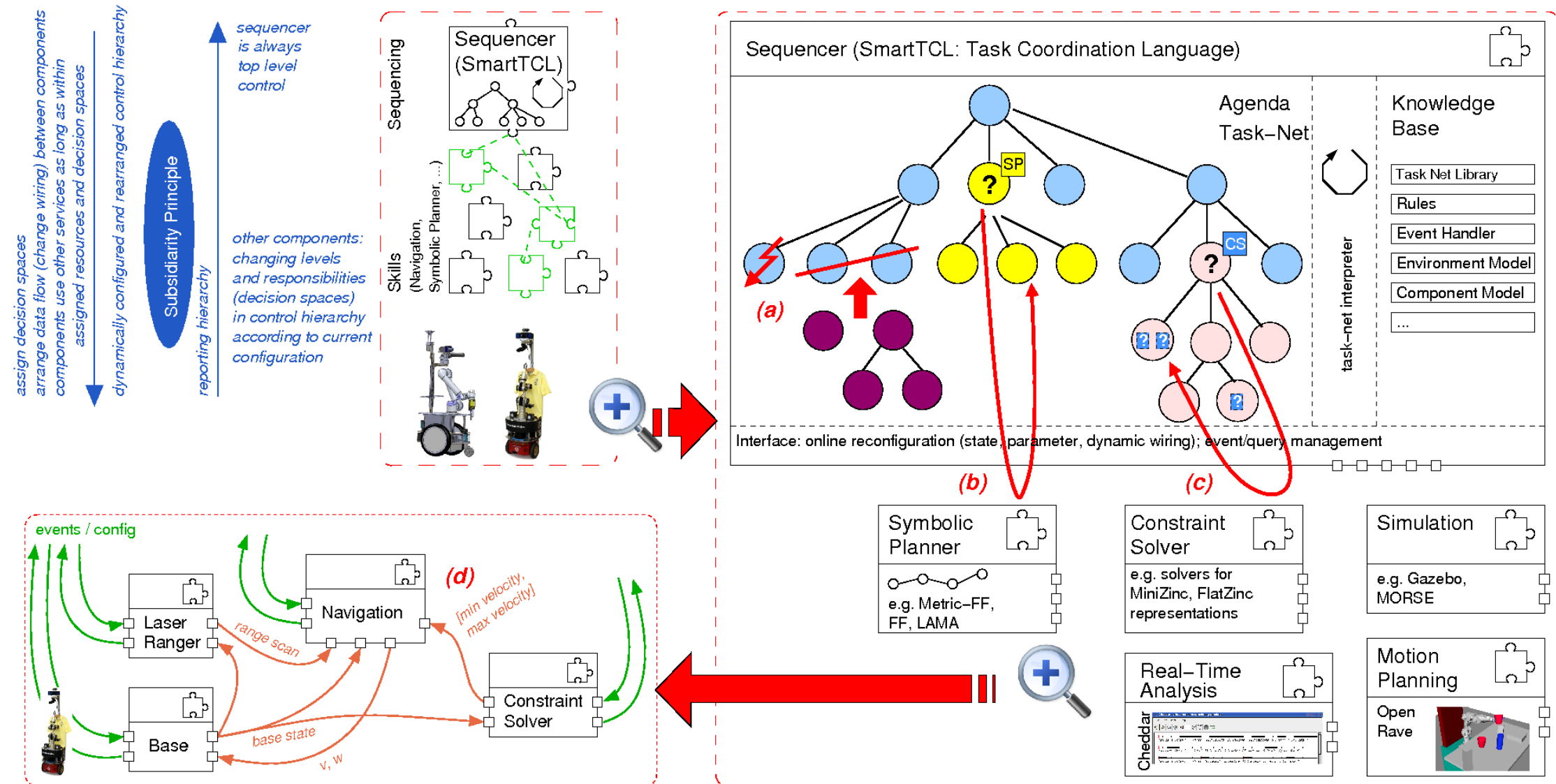
Sequencer Orchestrates the System



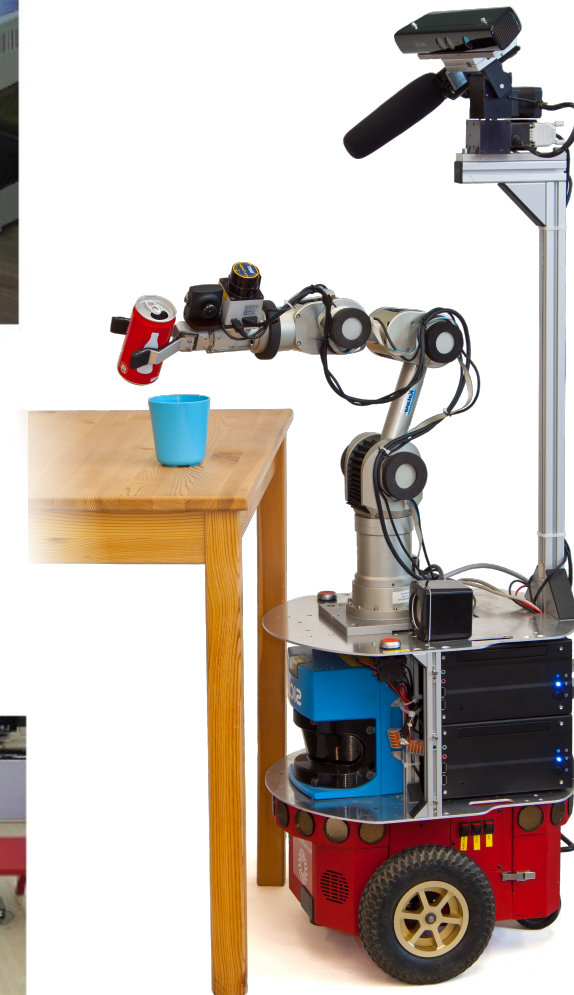
Sequencing Layer with SmartTCL:

- bridges between continuous processing and event-driven task execution
 - orchestrates the software components in the system
 - assign decision spaces to components
 - involve dedicated experts for run-time binding of designed variability
 - coordinate analysis, simulation and planning capabilities
- send parameters and configurations
 - switch components on/off to manage resources
 - change the wiring between the components
 - query information and wait for events
 - ...

Overall Architecture



The Robotics Butler Scenario



Details Task-Nets and Task Execution: SmartTCL

Use Cases?

Overall principles
behind our work

Needs?

**Task-nets for
conditional reative task
execution**

Model-driven software
development for robotics

Benefits?

Learning from
demonstration for
manipulation

Technology?

Goals?

Achieve suitability
for everyday life of
service robots

Resource-aware SLAM

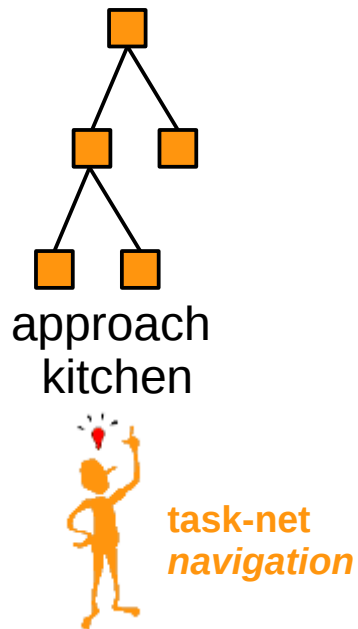
Active object recognition with
information-driven sensor
placement

Approach?

- focus on tools for systematic engineering of service robotic applications (e.g. MDSD)
 - separation of roles
 - separation of concerns
- focus on robust and efficient key functionalities and components
 - extending and merging so far separated techniques

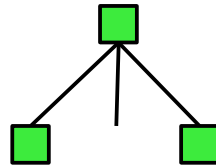
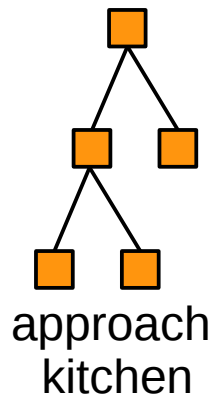
Details Task-Nets and Task Execution: SmartTCL

Composability, Reusability, Separation of roles (designer, robot)



Details Task-Nets and Task Execution: SmartTCL

Composability, Reusability, Separation of roles (designer, robot)

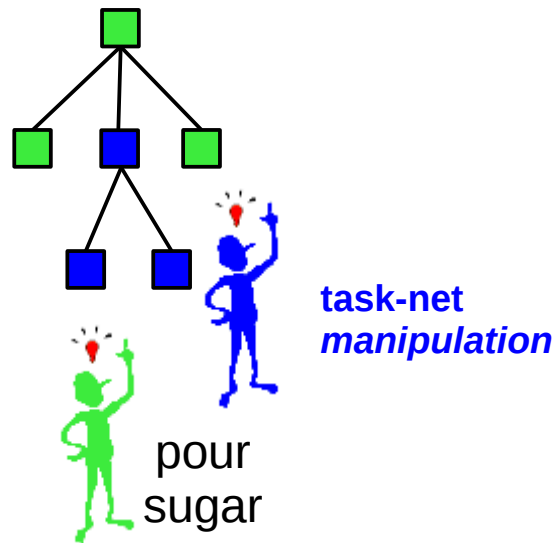
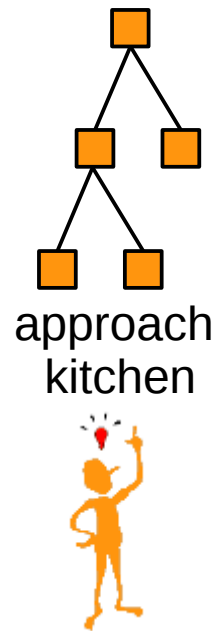


pour
sugar

task-net
pour something

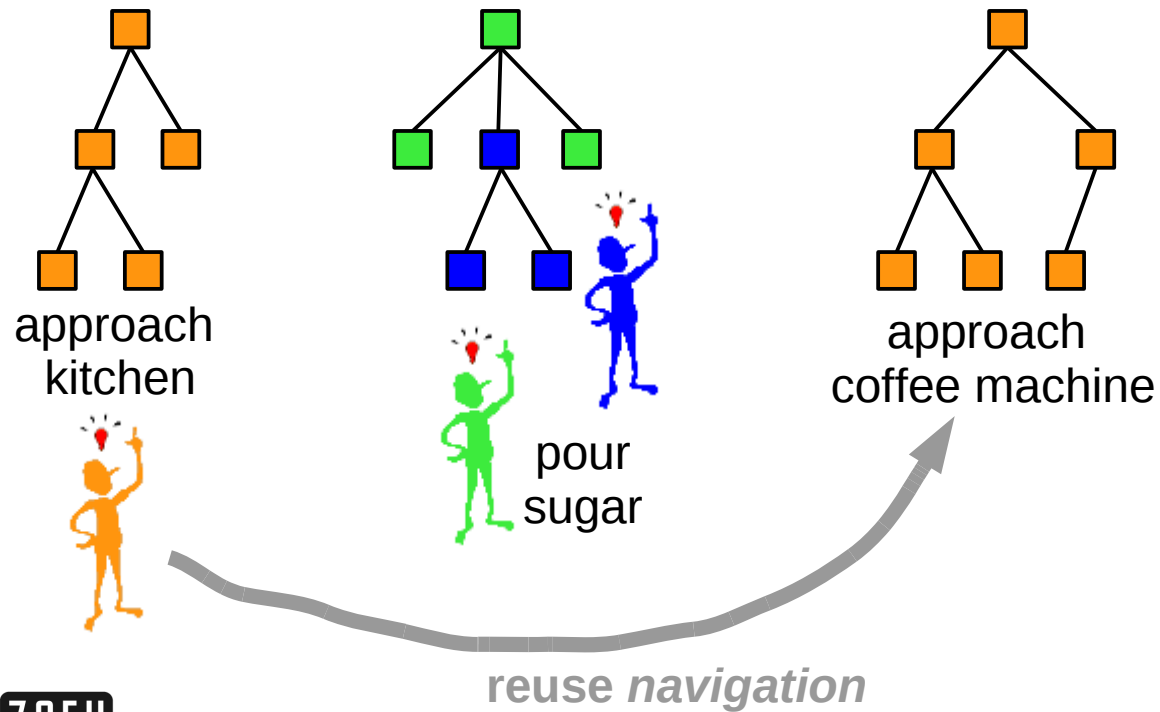
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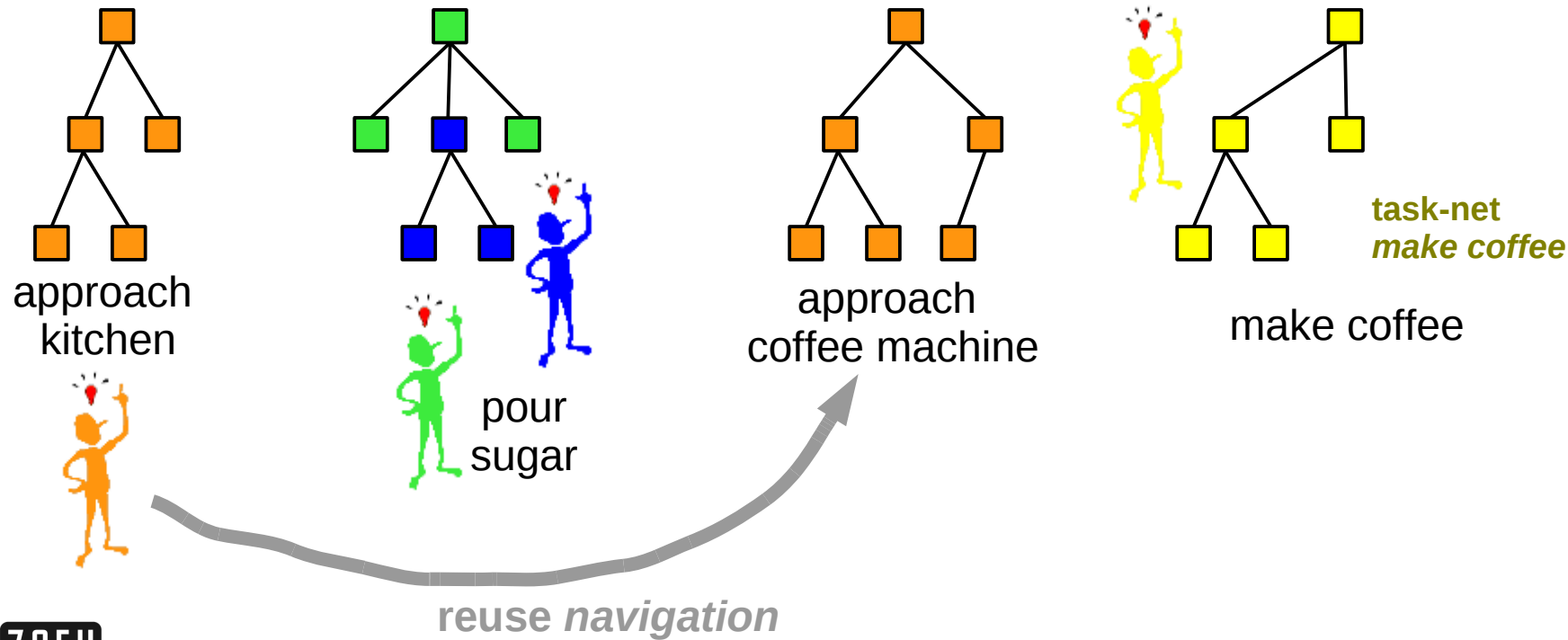
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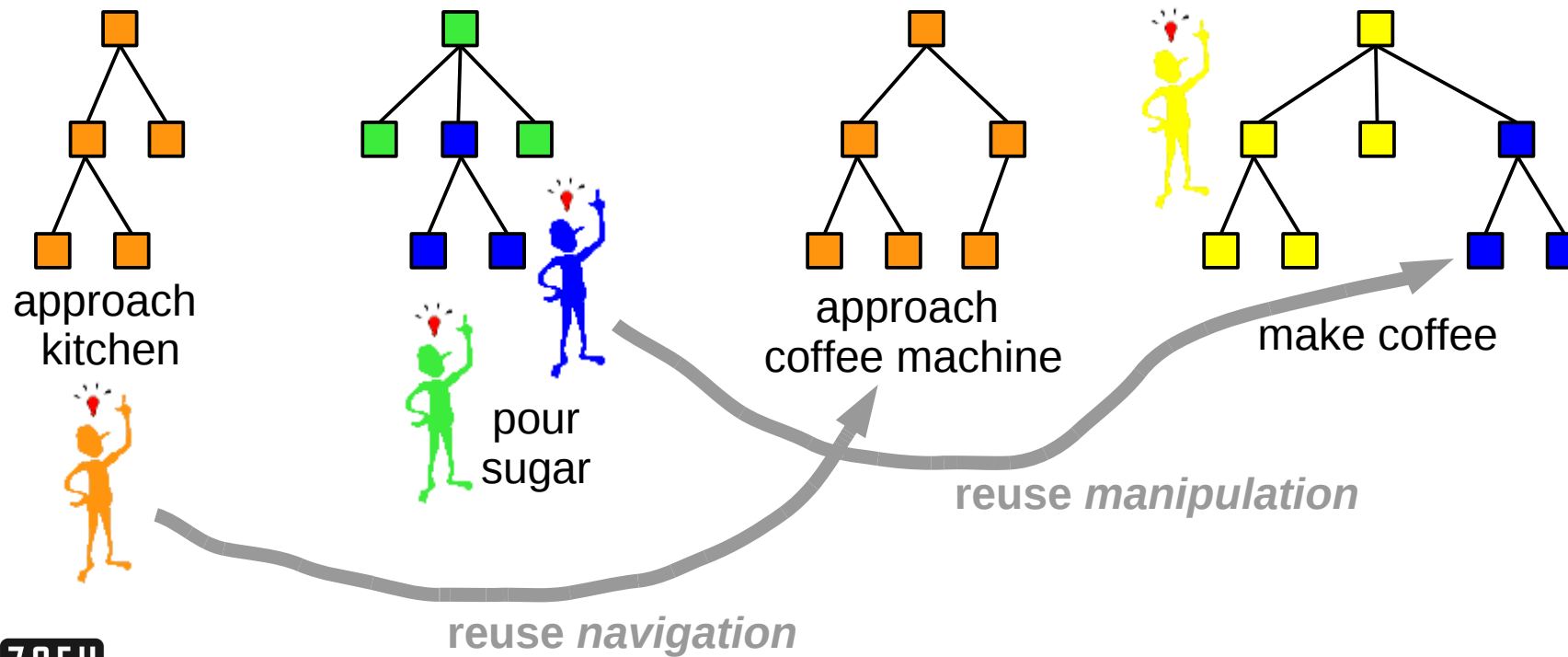
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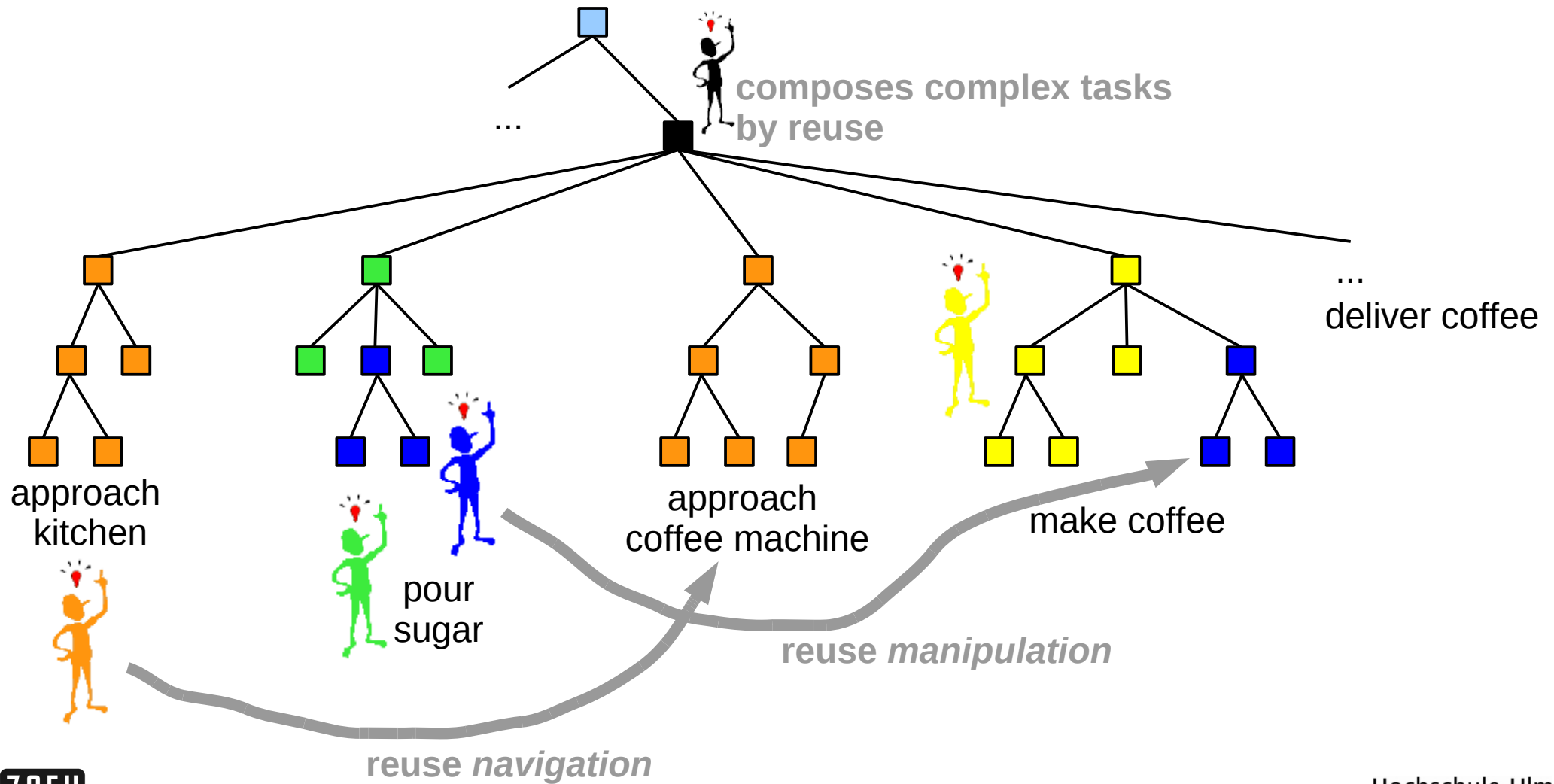
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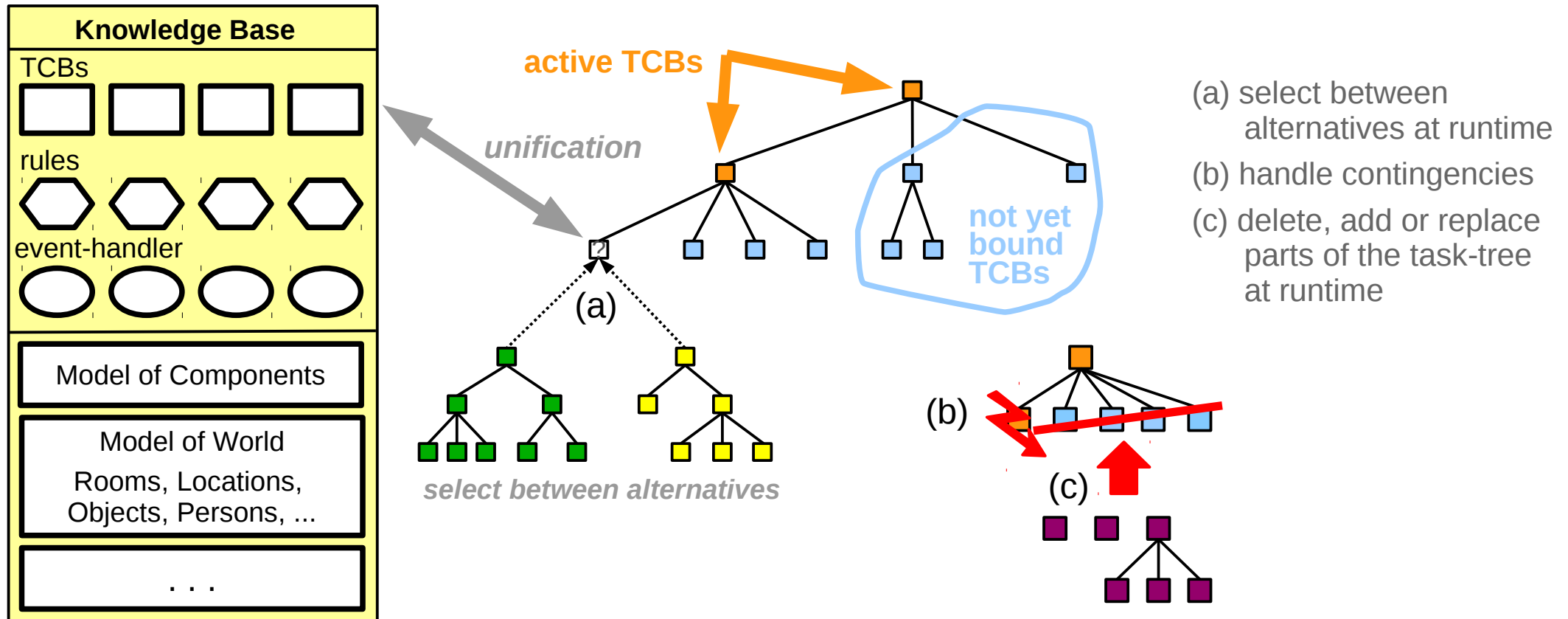
Details Task-Nets and Task Execution: SmartTCL

Composability, Reusability, Separation of roles (designer, robot)



Details Task-Nets and Task Execution: SmartTCL

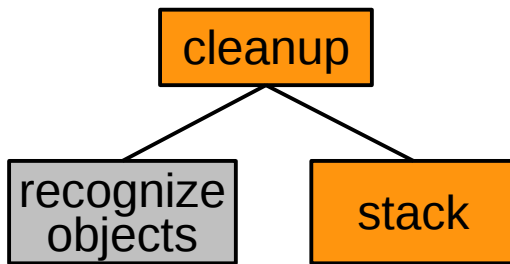
Run-time: managing execution variants, TCB selection, late binding



- at runtime a task-tree is dynamically created, modified and executed
- composes reusable action-plots to complex behaviors
- manages execution variants and contingencies of real world environments
- provides context and situation-driven task execution
- mediates between symbolic and subsymbolic mechanisms of information processing

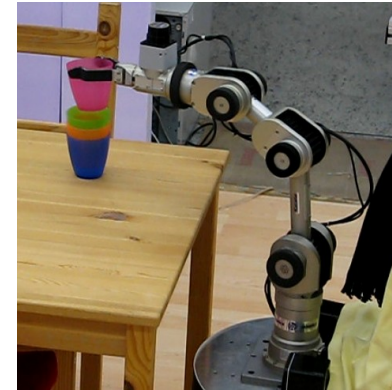
Details Task-Nets and Task Execution: SmartTCL

Run-time: managing execution variants, TCB selection, late binding



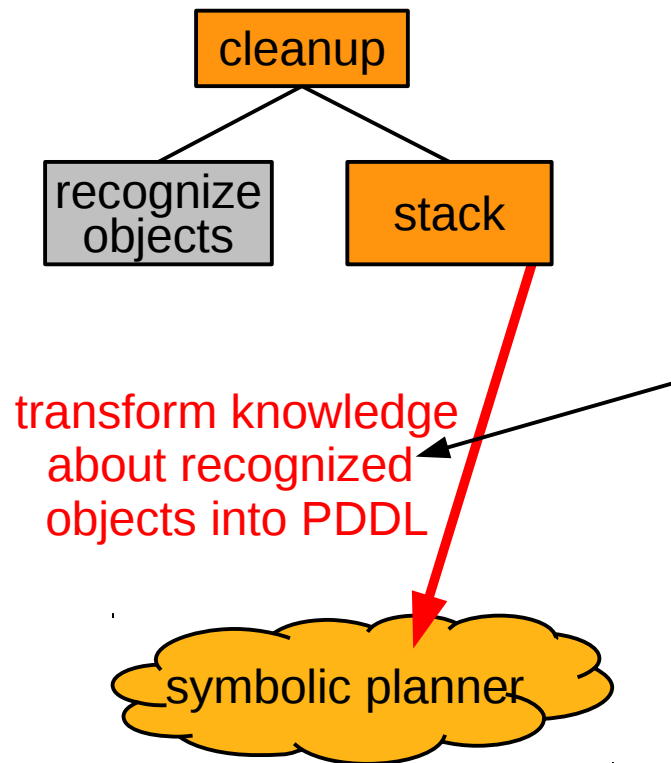
stores recognized
objects in KB

the number of different variants how to stack
the different objects is huge
→ calling a symbolic planner in that
specific situation helps to manage
the combinatorial explosion



Details Task-Nets and Task Execution: SmartTCL

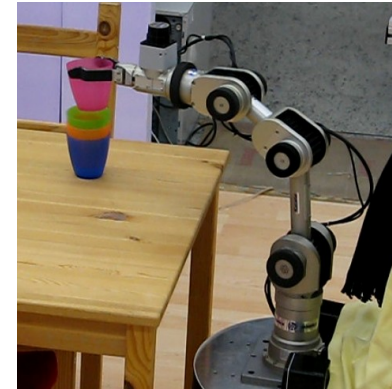
Run-time: managing execution variants, symbolic planner



this is encoded within the action plot of the TCB *stack*:

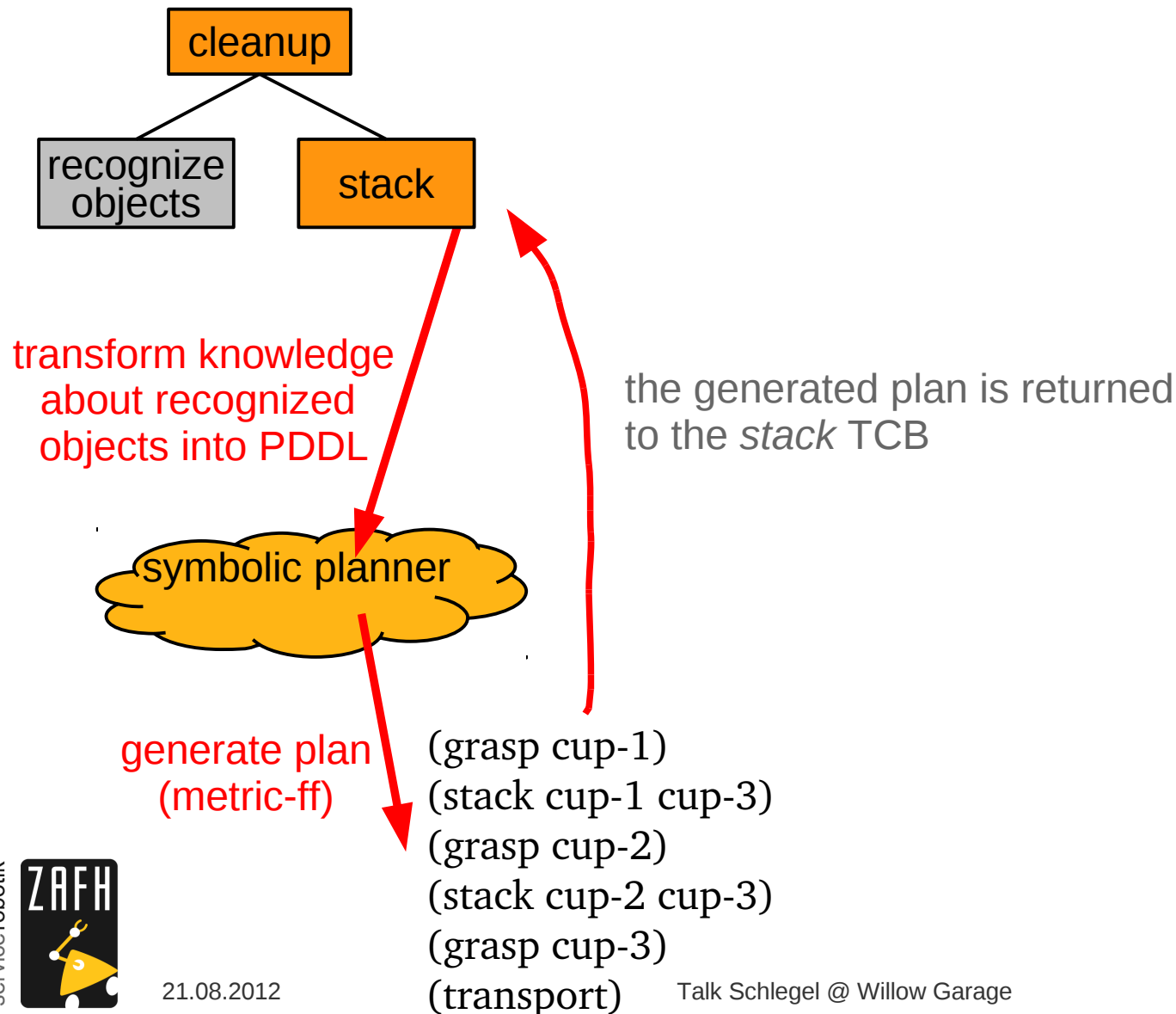
- the recognized objects are queried from the KB
- the stable domain description (PDDL) as well as the situation specific fact description (PDDL) are created and forwarded to the symbolic planner

the *SmartSymbolicPlanner* component provides the service to call symbolic planners like ff, metric-ff, lama, ...



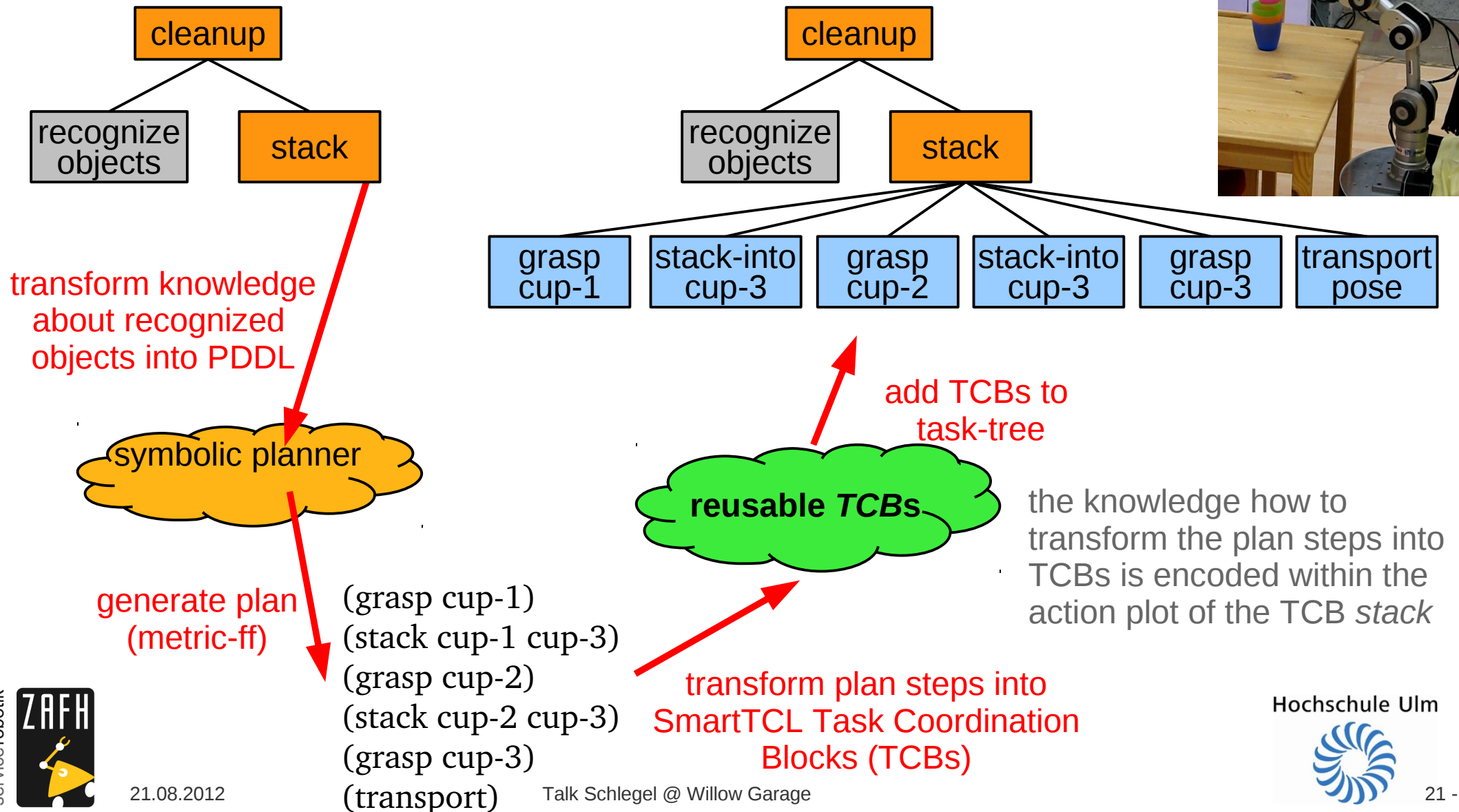
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Run-time: managing execution variants, symbolic planner



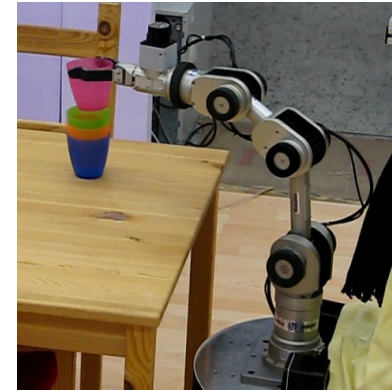
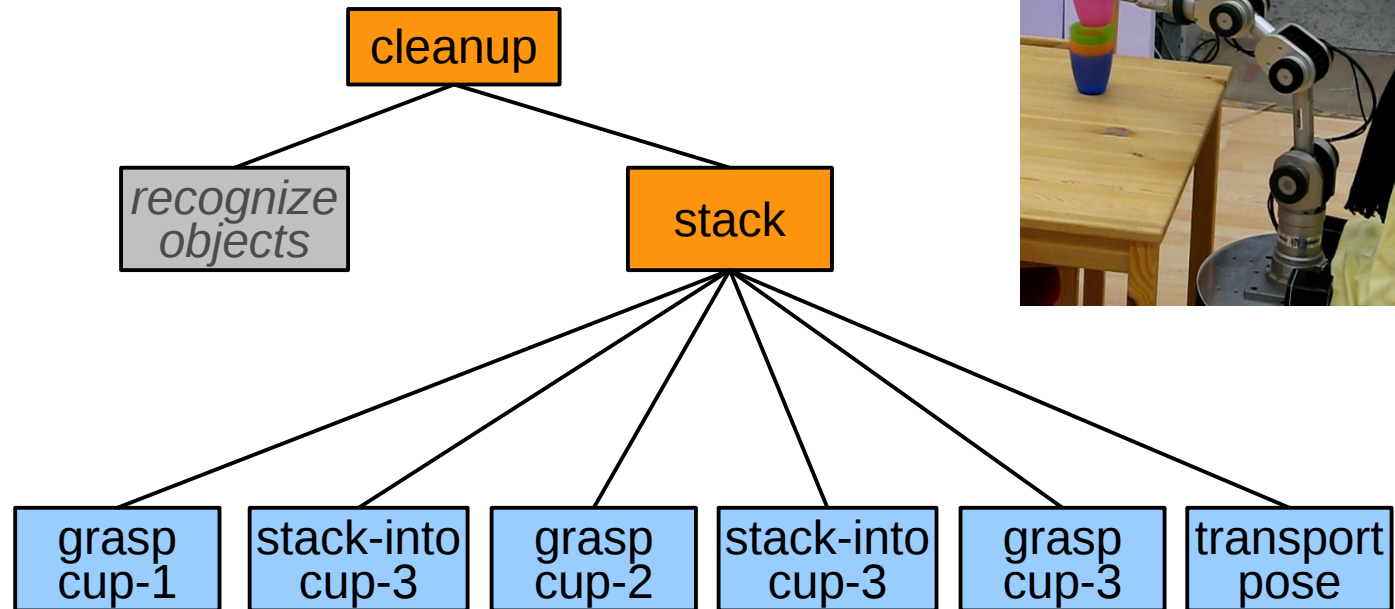
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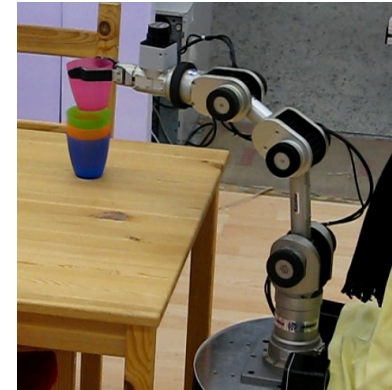
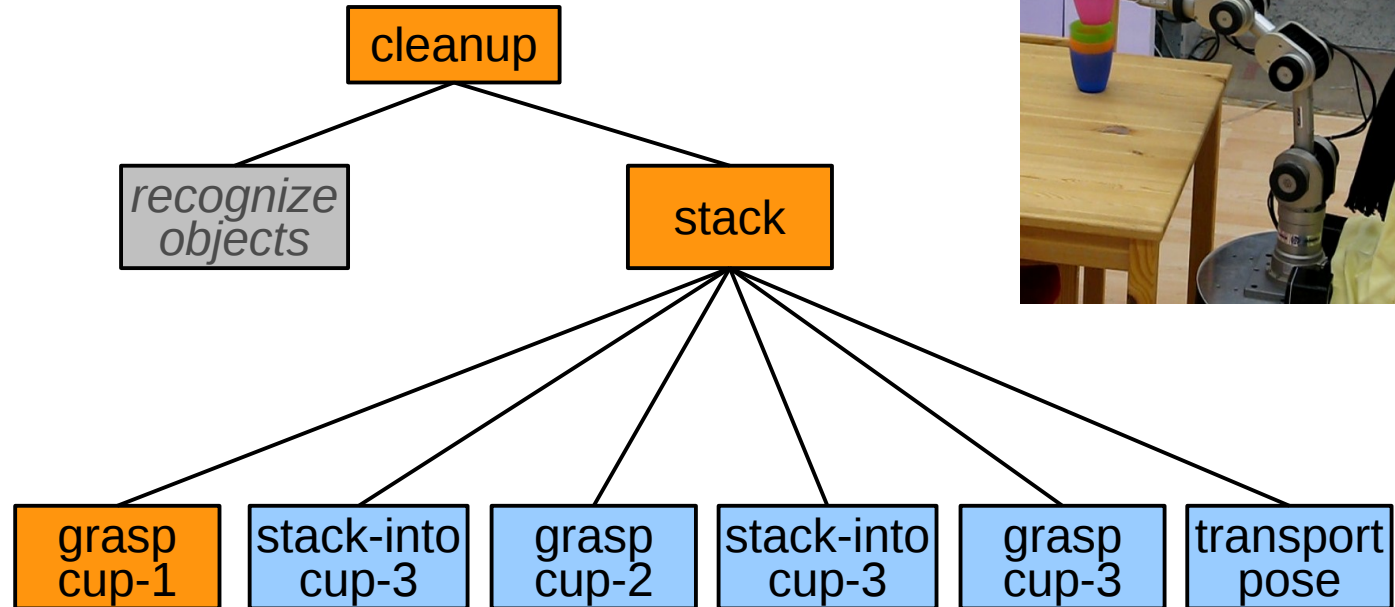
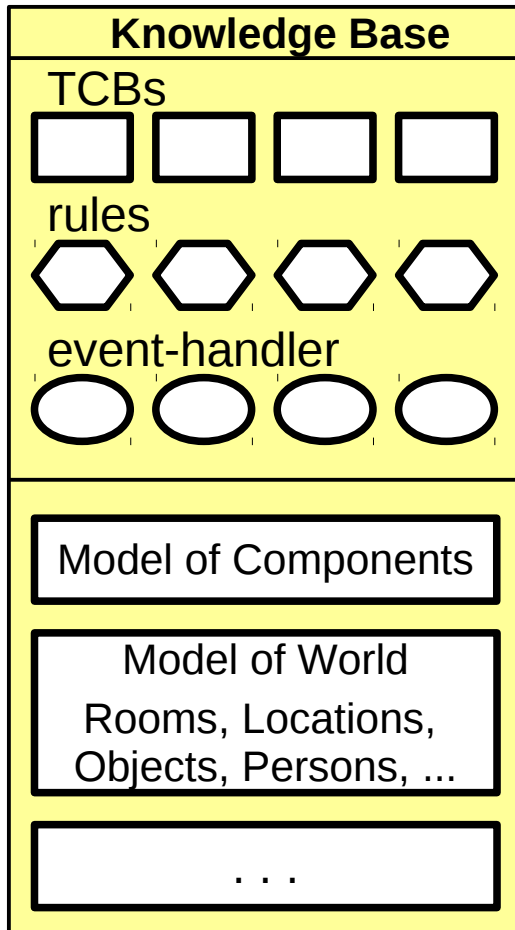
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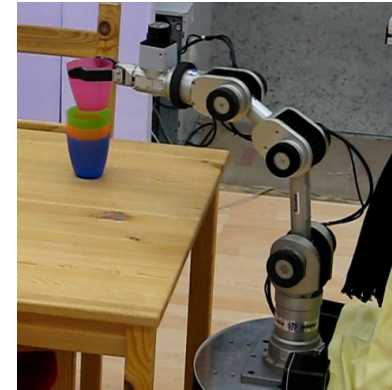
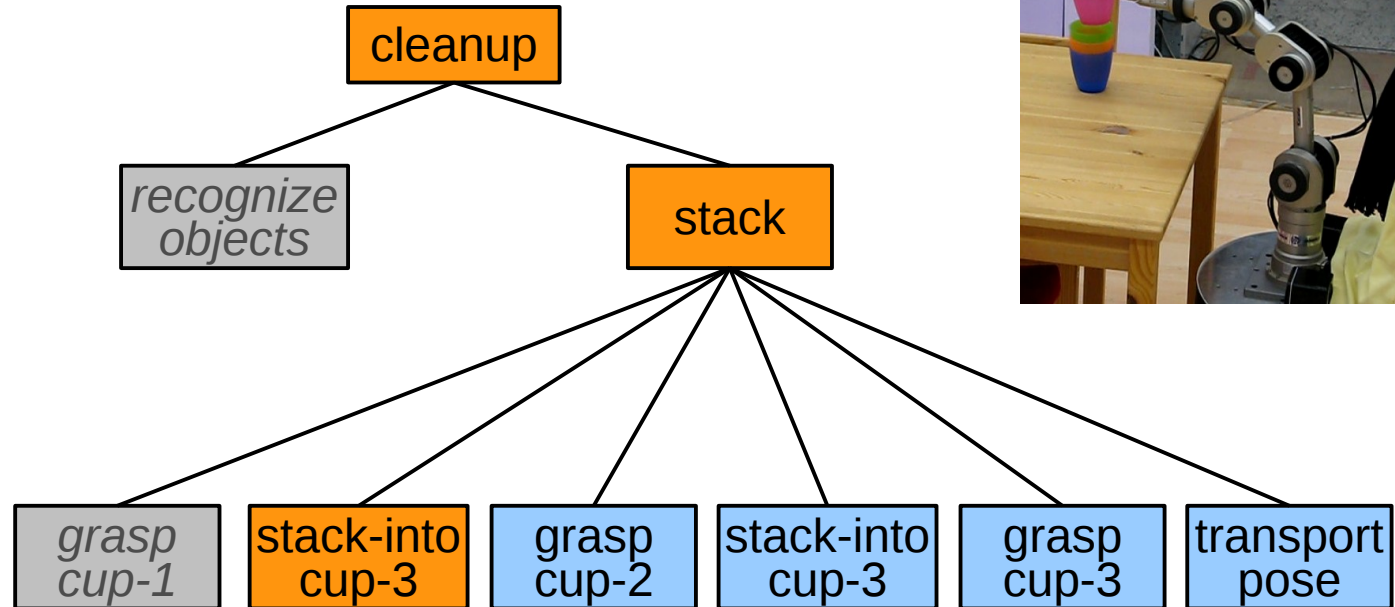
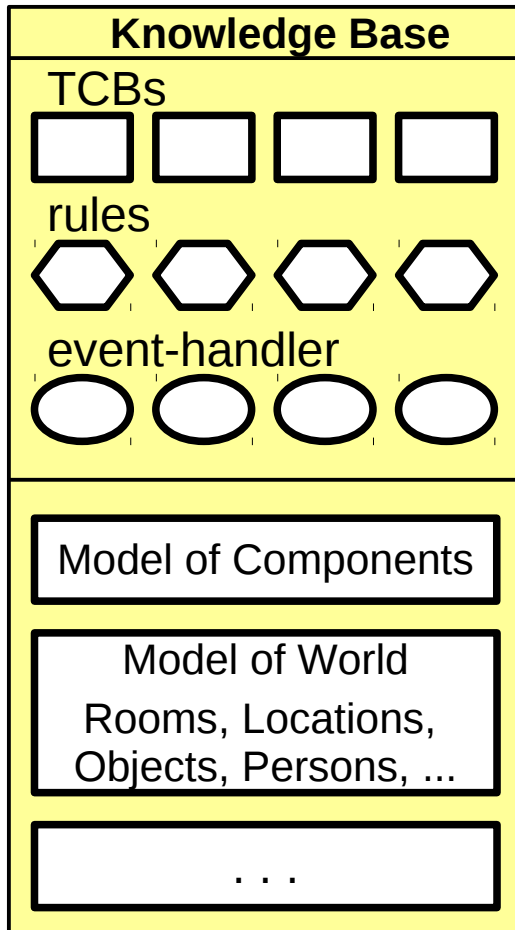
Details Task-Nets and Task Execution: SmartTCL

**Run-time: managing execution variants,
rules to recover from contingencies**



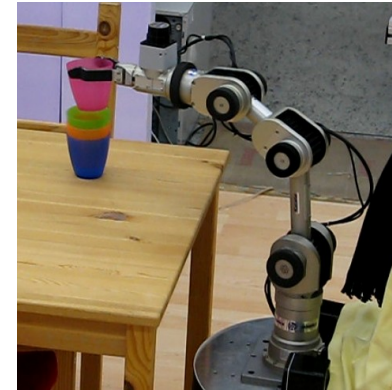
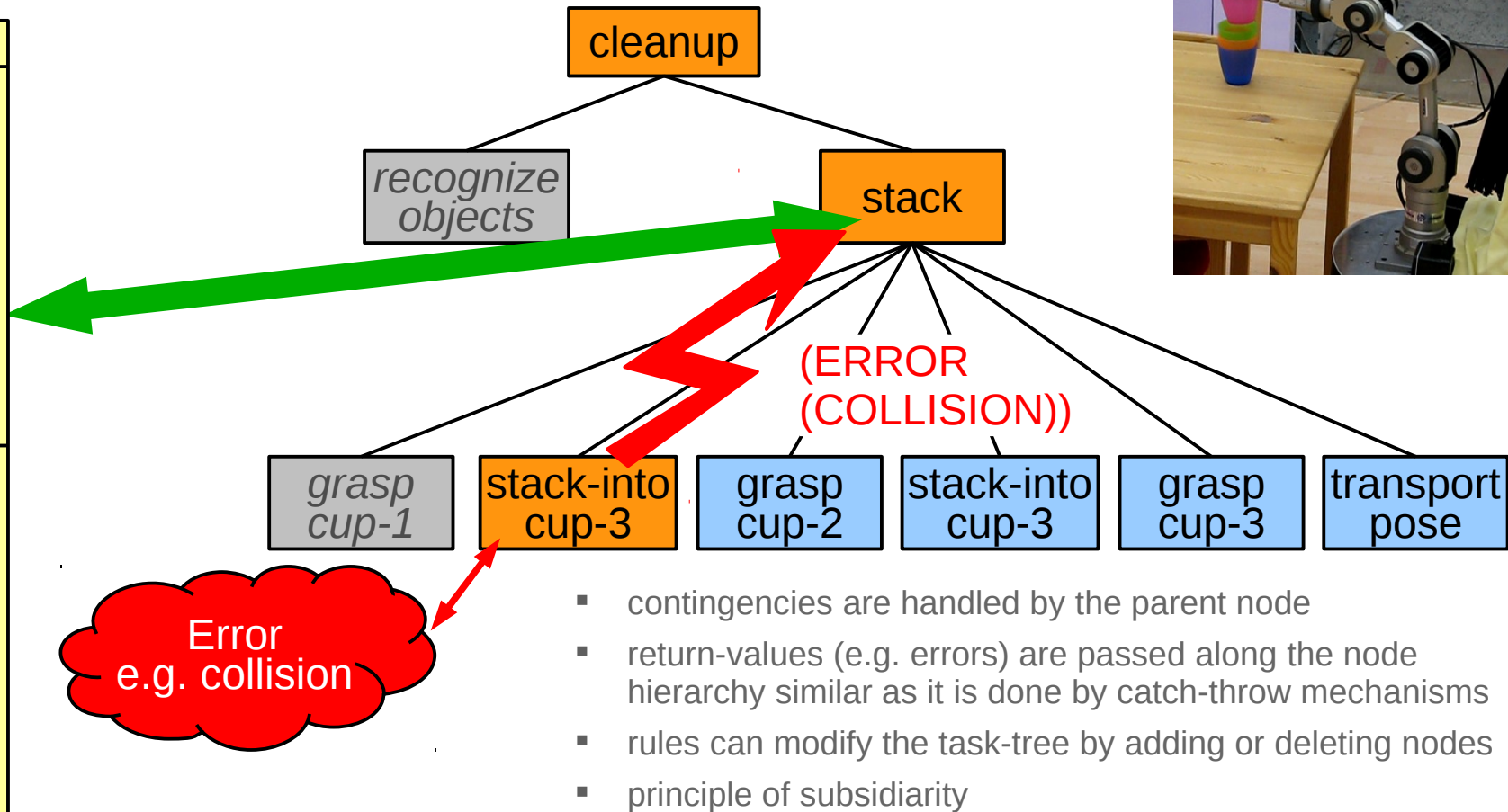
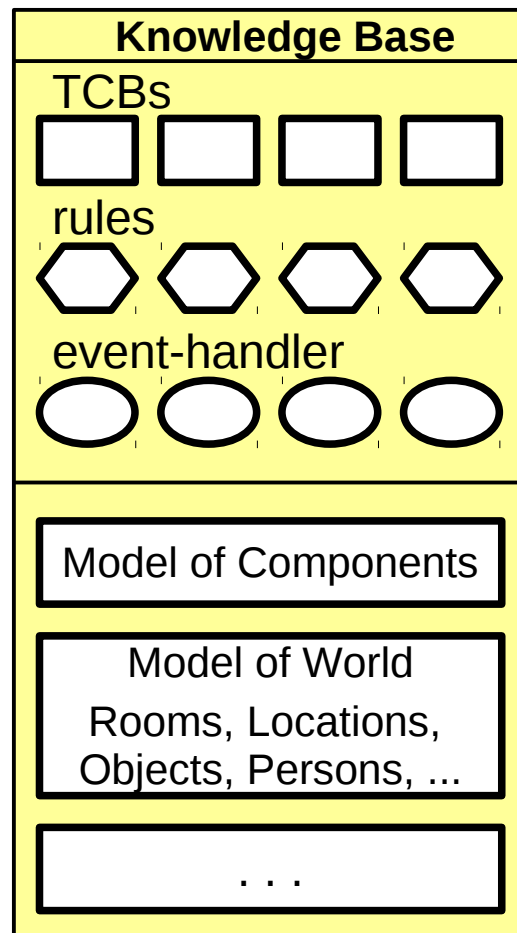
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**Run-time: managing execution variants,
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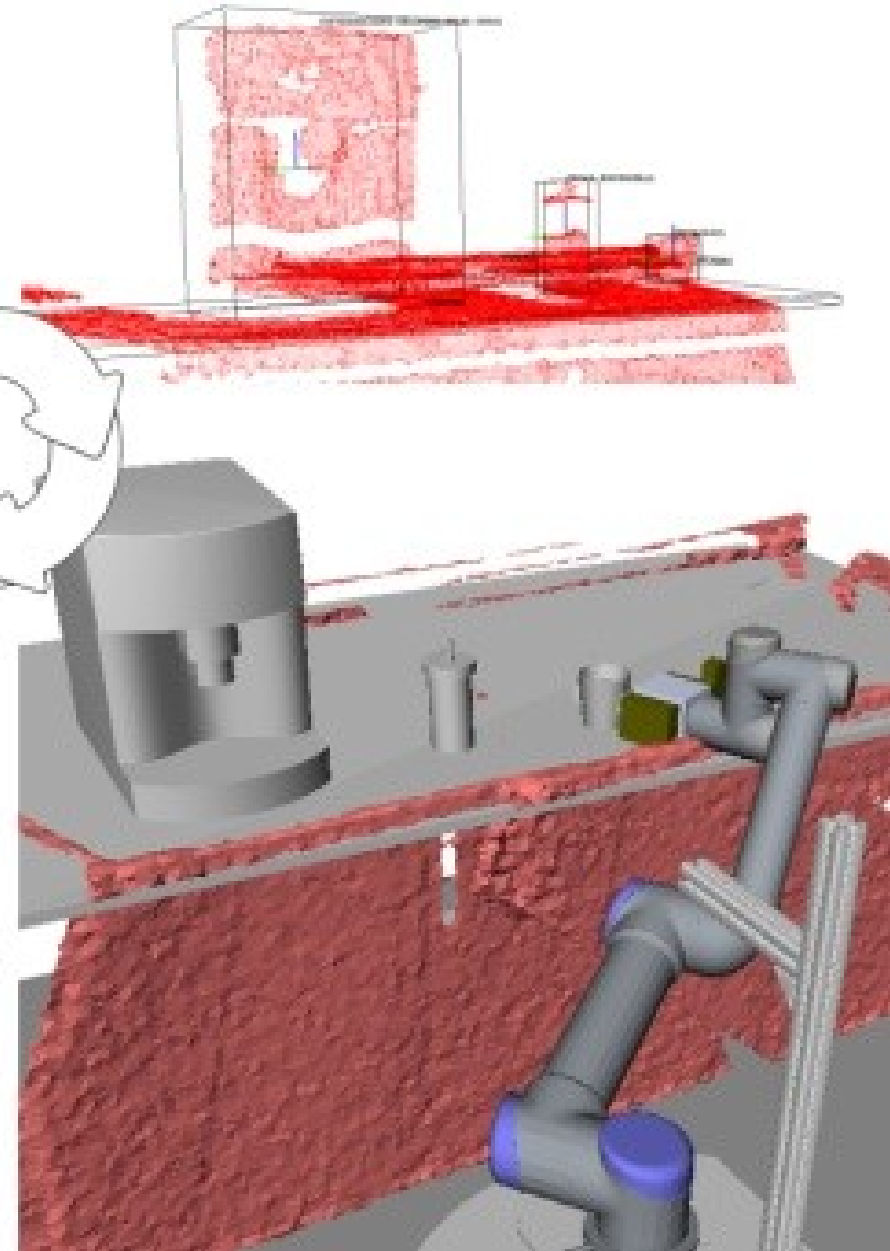


- as rules are associated to the parent node (stack), the contingency handling works independent from the concrete plan which was generated*
- rules "know" whether to repair the plan locally or to delete the plan and generate a new one.*

The Robotics Butler Scenario

Intel Core2Duo P8800
4 GB RAM

*„A coffee
with sugar,
please“*



Example: Pour sugar into coffee mug

```
; tcb-pour-sugar
(define-tcb (tcb-pour-sugar => ?cupId)
  (rules (rule-get-obj-no-obj-pour-sugar
    rule-sugar-grasp-obj-failed
    rule-sugar-grasp-obj-collision
    rule-sugar-position-object-failed
    rule-trigger-sugar-position-object-failed
    rule-manipulator-transport-no-path
    rule-manipulator-transport-collision))
  (action (
    (format t "=====>>> tcb-pour-sugar ~%"))
  (plan (
    (tcb-load-env-into-openrave-location kitchen-unit-1)
    (tcb-obj-recog-setup kitchen-unit-1)
    (tcb-obj-recog kitchen-unit-1 => ?envID)
    (tcb-get-obj-id ?envID SUGAR-DISPENSER => ?sugarId)
    (tcb-get-obj-id ?envID IKEA-CUP-SOLBRAEND => ?cupId)
    (tcb-say "I pour the sugar into the cup.")
    (tcb-grasp-object real ?sugarId)
    (tcb-get-sugar-cup-pose ?cupId => ?x1 ?y1 ?z1)
    (tcb-position-object real ?sugarId ?x1 ?y1 ?z1 -20 nil t)
    (tcb-manipulator-angles => ?j1 ?j2 ?j3 ?j4 ?j5)
    (tcb-manipulator-pose-direct ?j1 ?j2 ?j3 ?j4 5.5 NO_OP) ;; 5.5 = 315 Grad
    (tcb-get-obj-pose-kb ?sugarId => ?x2 ?y2 ?z2)
    (tcb-position-object real ?sugarId ?x2 ?y2 ?z2 0 t t)
    (tcb-grasp-object real ?cupId)
    (tcb-manipulator-pose transport))))))
```

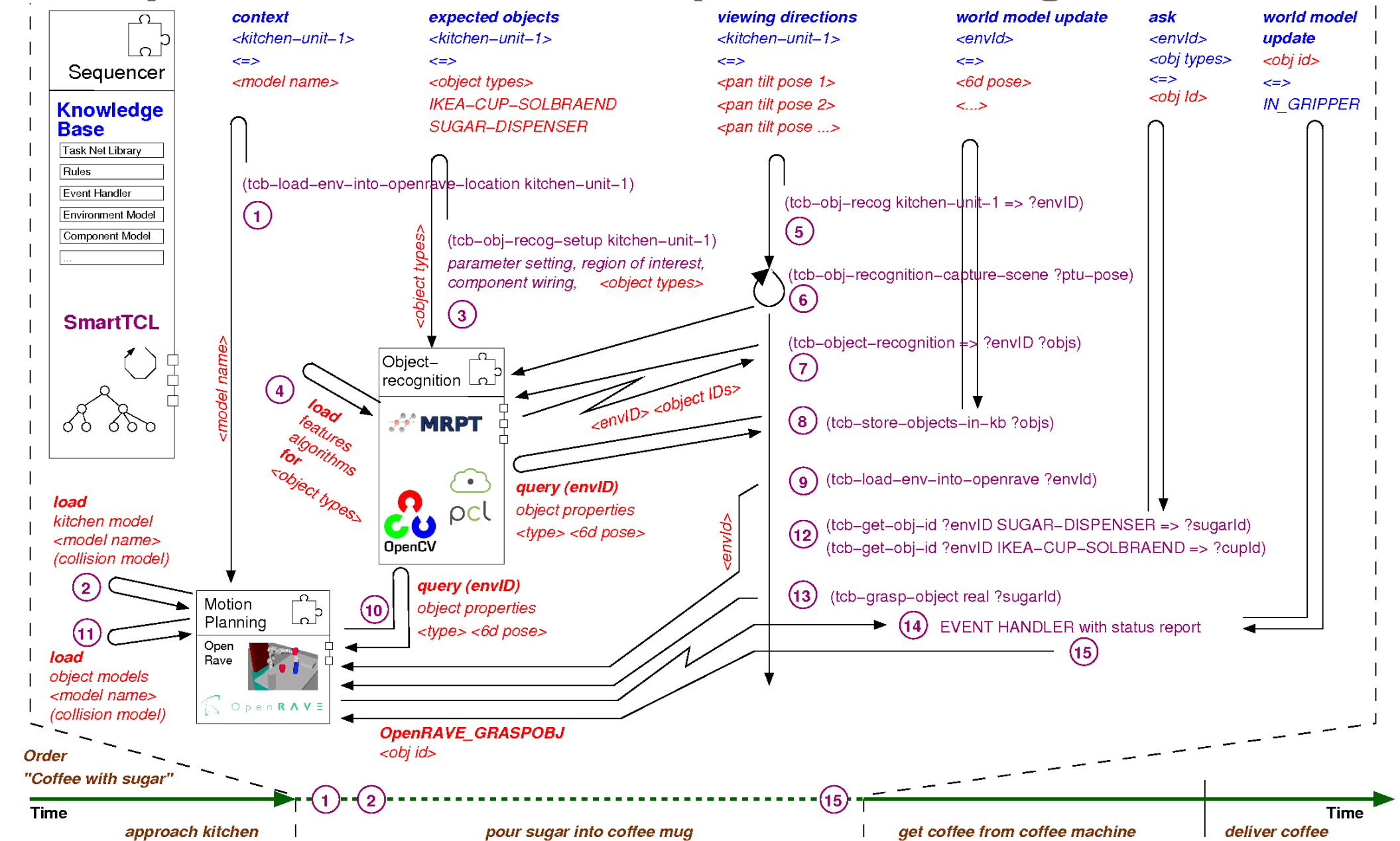
```
(define-rule (rule-sugar-position-object-failed)
  (tcb (tcb-position-object real ?obj-id ?x ?y ?z ?roll ?open ?level))
  (return-value (ERROR (POSITIONING FAILED)))
  (action (
    (format t "RULE: (ERROR (POSITIONING FAILED)) ~%")
    (tcl-delete-plan)
    (tcl-push-plan :plan `(
      (tcb-clear-env-openrave)
      (tcb-load-env-into-openrave-location kitchen-coffee-1)
      (tcb-get-obj-pose-kb ?sugarId => ?x2 ?y2 ?z2)
      (tcb-position-object real ?sugarId ?x2 ?y2 ?z2 0 t t)
      (tcb-trigger-return (ERROR (POUR-SUGAR-FAILED))))))
    '(ERROR (POUR-SUGAR-FAILED)))))
```


Example: Pour sugar into coffee mug

```
;; tcb-grasp-object
(define-tcb (tcb-grasp-object real ?obj-id)
  (action (
    (format t "=====>>> tcb-grasp-object real ~d ~%" '?obj-id)
    (let* ((obj (tcl-kb-query :key '(is-a id)
                              :value '((is-a object)(id ?obj-id))))
      (pose (get-value obj 'pose))
      (simple-grasping (get-value obj 'simple-grasping))
      (speech (get-value obj 'speech)))
    (tcl-state :server 'openrave :state "neutral")
    (format t "simple grasping ~s~%" simple-grasping)
    (tcl-param :server 'openrave :slot 'GRASPING_SIMPLE
               :value simple-grasping)
    (tcl-param :server 'openrave :slot 'PARALLELIZATION_ON)
    (tcl-state :server 'manipulator :state "trajectory")
    (tcl-state :server 'openrave :state "trajectory")
    (tcl-activate-event :name 'evt-traj
                        :handler 'handler-grasping
                        :server 'manipulator
                        :service 'manipulatorevent
                        :mode 'continuous)
    (tcl-activate-event :name 'evt-grasp-openrave
                        :handler 'handler-grasping-openrave
                        :server 'openrave
                        :service 'trajectoryevent
                        :mode 'continuous)
    (format t "pose: ~s ~%" pose)
    (tcl-send :server 'openrave
              :service 'trajectory
              :param (append (list 'POSE) pose (list 'OPEN_BEFORE_CLOSE_AFTER)))
    '(SUCCESS ())))))
```

```
;; handler-grasping
(define-event-handler (handler-grasping)
  (action (
    (format t "=====>>> HANDLER GRASPING ~s ~%" (tcl-event-message))
    (cond
      ;; ok
      ((equal (tcl-event-message) '(goal reached))
       (format t "=====>>> goal reached !!! obj-id ~s ~%" '?obj-id)
       (tcl-state :server 'openrave :state "neutral")
       (tcl-param :server 'openrave :slot 'OPENRAVE_GRASPOBJ :value '?obj-id)
       (tcl-kb-update :key '(is-a id)
                     :value `((is-a OBJECT) (id ,?obj-id) (status IN_GRIPPER)))
       (tcl-abort)
       '(SUCCESS ()))
      ;; slipped out
      ((equal (tcl-event-message) '(goal reached gripper empty))
       (format t "=====>>> goal reached gripper empty !!! obj-id ~s ~%" '?obj-id)
       (tcl-send :server 'tts
                 :service 'say
                 :param (format nil "Oh sorry, it seems that the object slipped out of my gripper."))
       (tcl-state :server 'openrave :state "neutral")
       (tcl-param :server 'openrave :slot 'OBJ_DELETE :value '?obj-id)
       (tcl-kb-update :key '(is-a id)
                     :value `((is-a OBJECT) (id ,?obj-id) (status NOT_GRASPABLE)))
       (tcl-abort)
       '(ERROR (GRASPING FAILED)))
      ;; collision
      ((equal (tcl-event-message) '(collision))
       (format t "=====>>> collision detected !!! obj-id ~s ~%" '?obj-id)
       (tcl-send :server 'tts
                 :service 'say
                 :param (format nil "Oh sorry, it seems that I collided with an object."))
       (tcl-kb-update :key '(is-a id)
                     :value `((is-a OBJECT) (id ,?obj-id) (status NOT_GRASPABLE)))
       (tcl-abort)
       '(ERROR (GRASPING COLLISION)))
      ((equal (tcl-event-message) '(value out of range))
       (format t "=====>>> value out of range !!! obj-id ~s ~%" '?obj-id)
       (tcl-send :server 'tts
                 :service 'say
                 :param (format nil "Oh sorry, it seems that the object is too far away."))
       (tcl-state :server 'openrave :state "neutral")
       (tcl-param :server 'openrave :slot 'OBJ_DELETE :value '?obj-id)
       (tcl-kb-update :key '(is-a id)
                     :value `((is-a OBJECT) (id ,?obj-id) (status NOT_GRASPABLE)))
       (tcl-abort)
       '(ERROR (GRASPING OUT OF RANGE)))
      (t (tcl-event-message)
        (format t "=====>>> unknown event !!! obj-id ~s ~%" '?obj-id)
        (tcl-send :server 'tts
                  :service 'say
                  :param (format nil "Unknown event: ~s" (tcl-event-message)))
        (tcl-state :server 'openrave :state "neutral")
        (tcl-param :server 'openrave :slot 'OBJ_DELETE :value '?obj-id)
        (tcl-kb-update :key '(is-a id)
                      :value `((is-a OBJECT) (id ,?obj-id) (status NOT_GRASPABLE)))
        (tcl-abort)
        '(ERROR (GRASPING UNKNOWN EVENT))))))
```

Example: World model / Update / Management



Details Active Object Recognition

Use Cases?

Task-nets for conditional
relative task execution

Overall principles
behind our work

Needs?

Model-driven software
development for robotics

Benefits?

Learning from
demonstration for
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Technology?

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 - separation of roles
 - separation of concerns
- focus on robust and efficient key functionalities and components
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Multi-Modal Object Recognition

Robust object recognition is a mandatory prerequisite for many applications

- Object recognition means...
 - Detecting possible objects
 - Identifying objects
 - Know their position and orientation
- Robust in our terms means...
 - Reliable
 - Fast (enough)
 - Situation dependent
- Difficult in everyday environments
 - Real challenge: similar objects

Combining algorithms

- Recognition by comparing features
 - Color
 - Texture
 - Shape
- Many different classes of objects
 - Requires many different features
- Recognition by combining features
 - Improves robustness



Color: Red

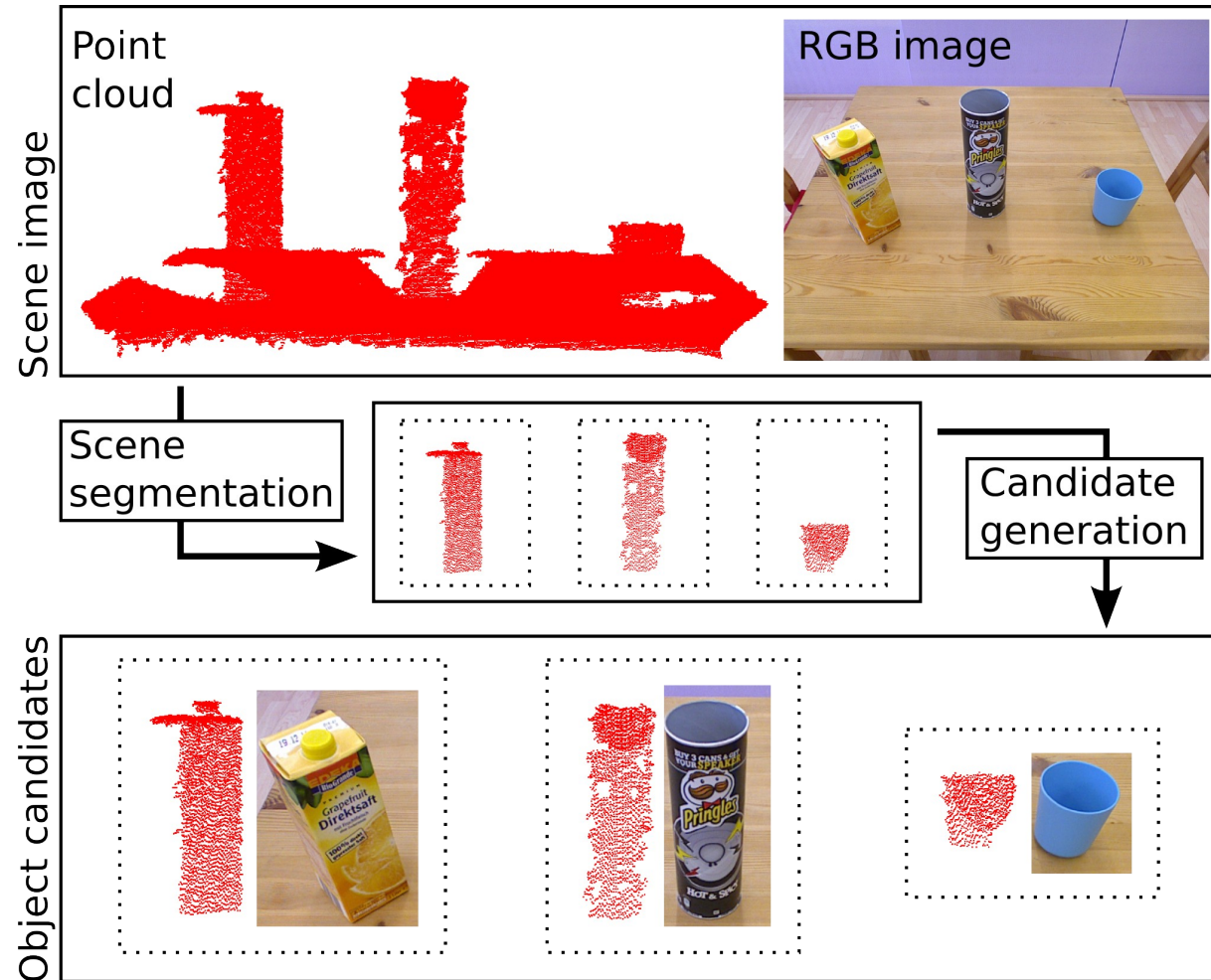


Shape: Cup



Multi-Modal Object Recognition

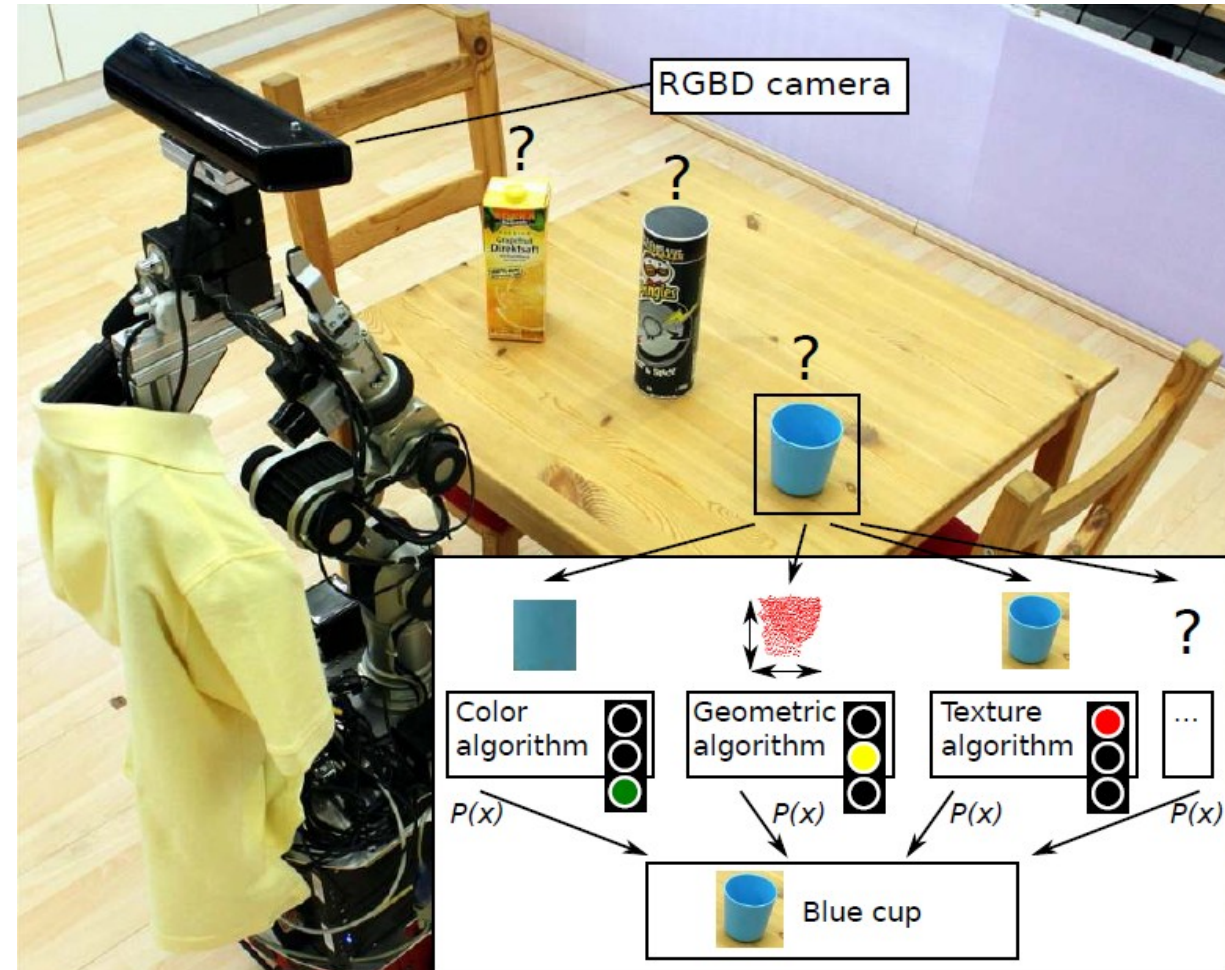
- Microsoft Kinect Kamera
 - Depth information for every pixel (3D pointcloud)
 - Color image
 - Cheap
- Detecting objects
 - Detecting table top in pointcloud
 - Cluster points above table top
 - Cut objects from RGB scene image



Multi-Modal Object Recognition

Combining algorithms

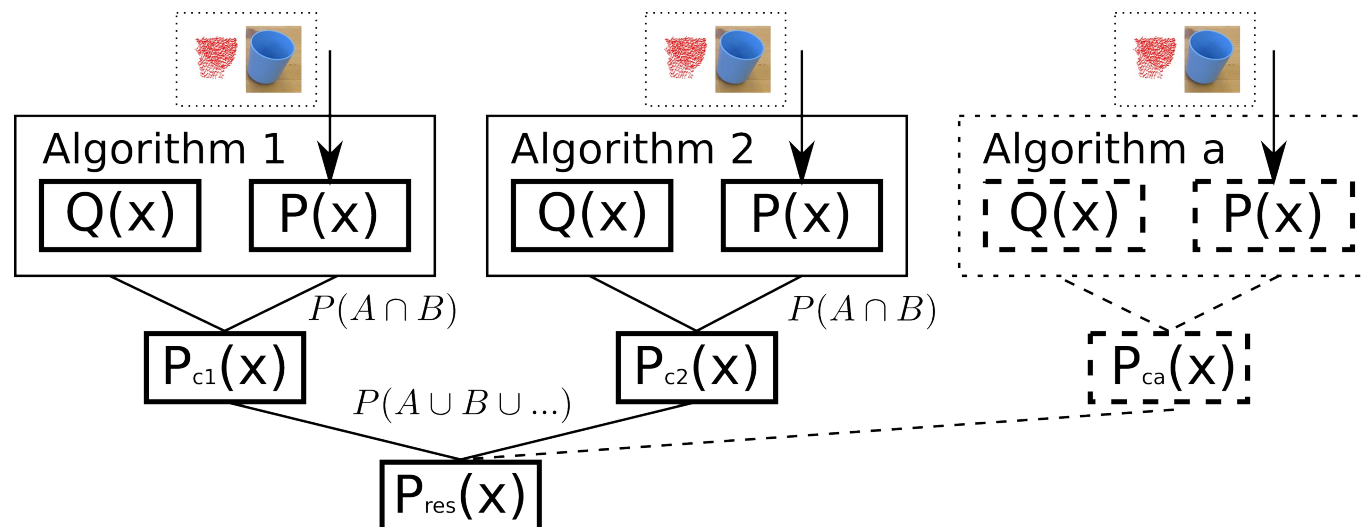
- Run multiple algorithms on every object candidate
 - Many algorithms available
 - Reduces recognition problem for the single algorithm
 - Requires an interface to collect and interpret the results
- Algorithms report recognition result as probability
 - Tells how reliable recognition is
 - Semantic interface
- Fusing the single hypotheses to a final result
 - Probabilistic
 - Use established probabilistic methods



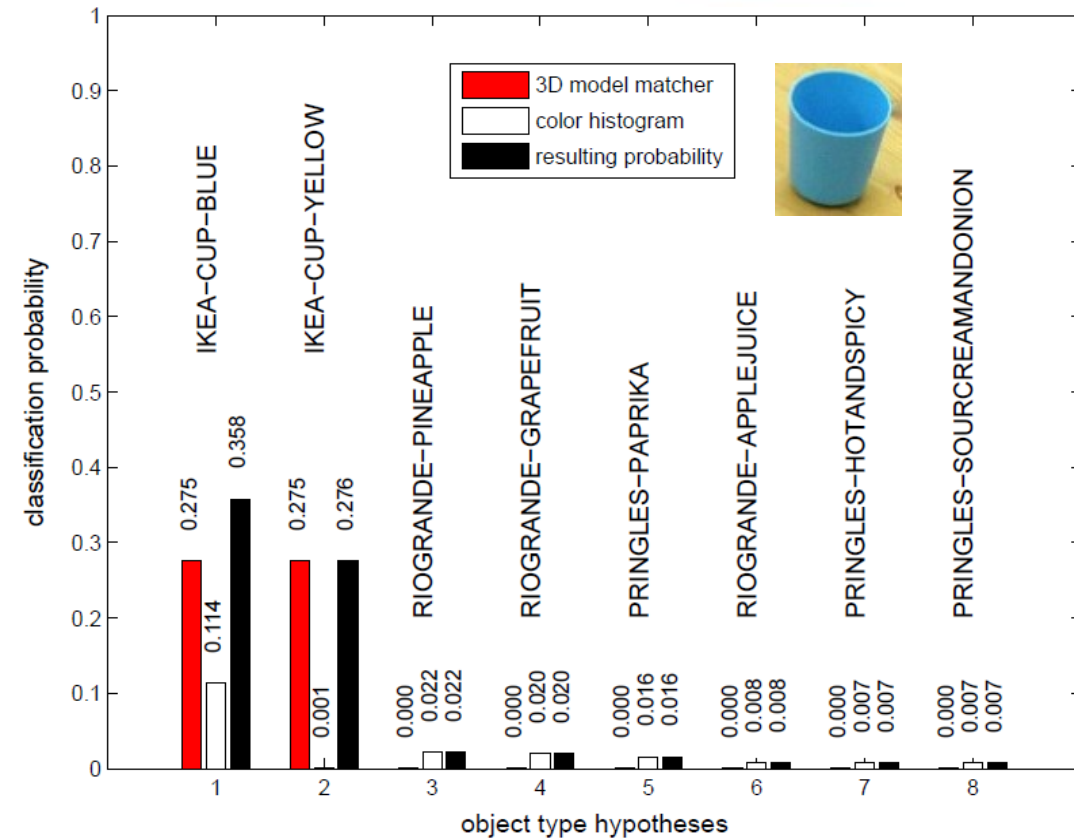
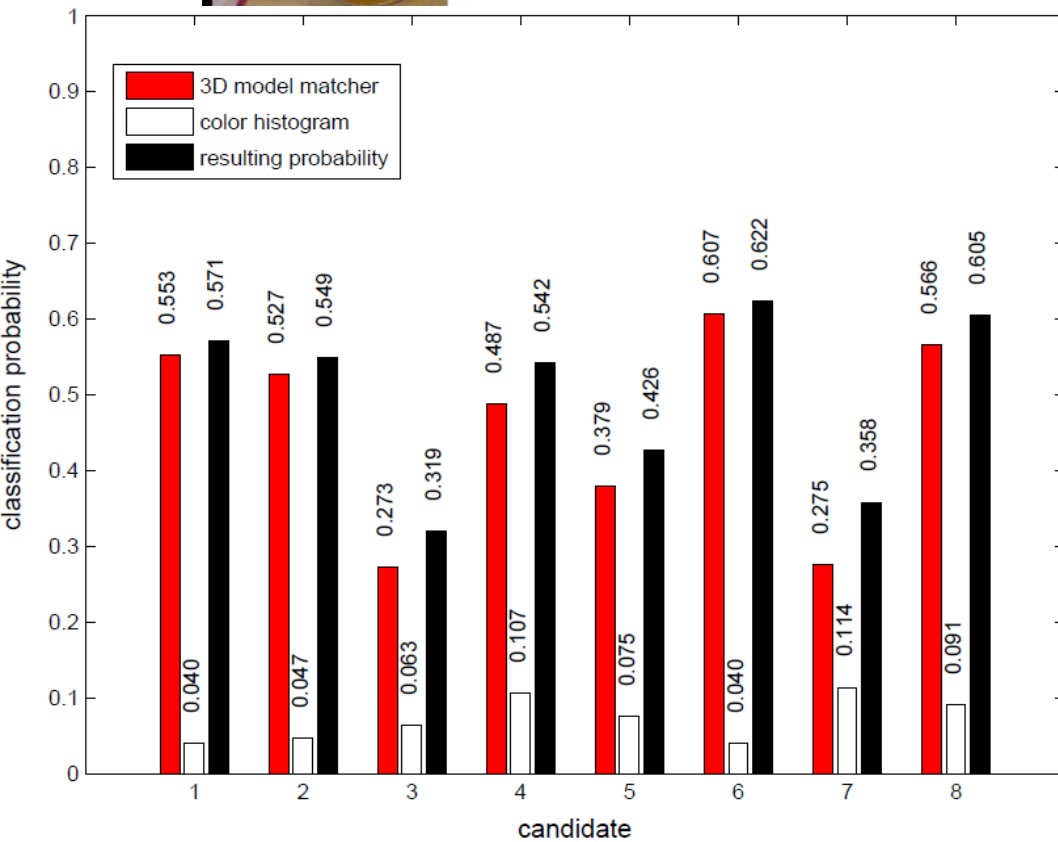
Multi-Modal Object Recognition

Combining Algorithms

- A measure of quality is required
 - Defines the quality of an algorithm
 - How useful is an algorithm to recognize an object?
 - Probabilistic
 - Depending on the object
- Fusing the algorithm results considering the recognition probability and algorithm quality

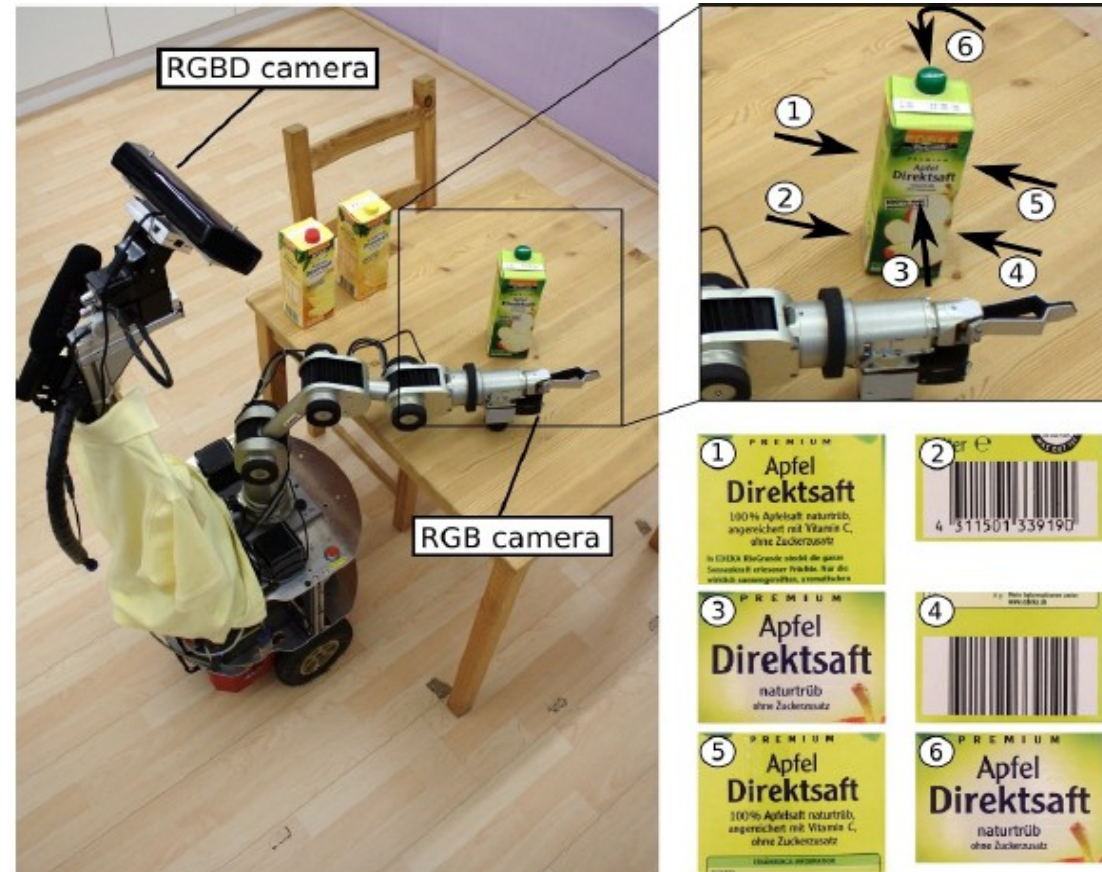


Multi-Modal Object Recognition - Results



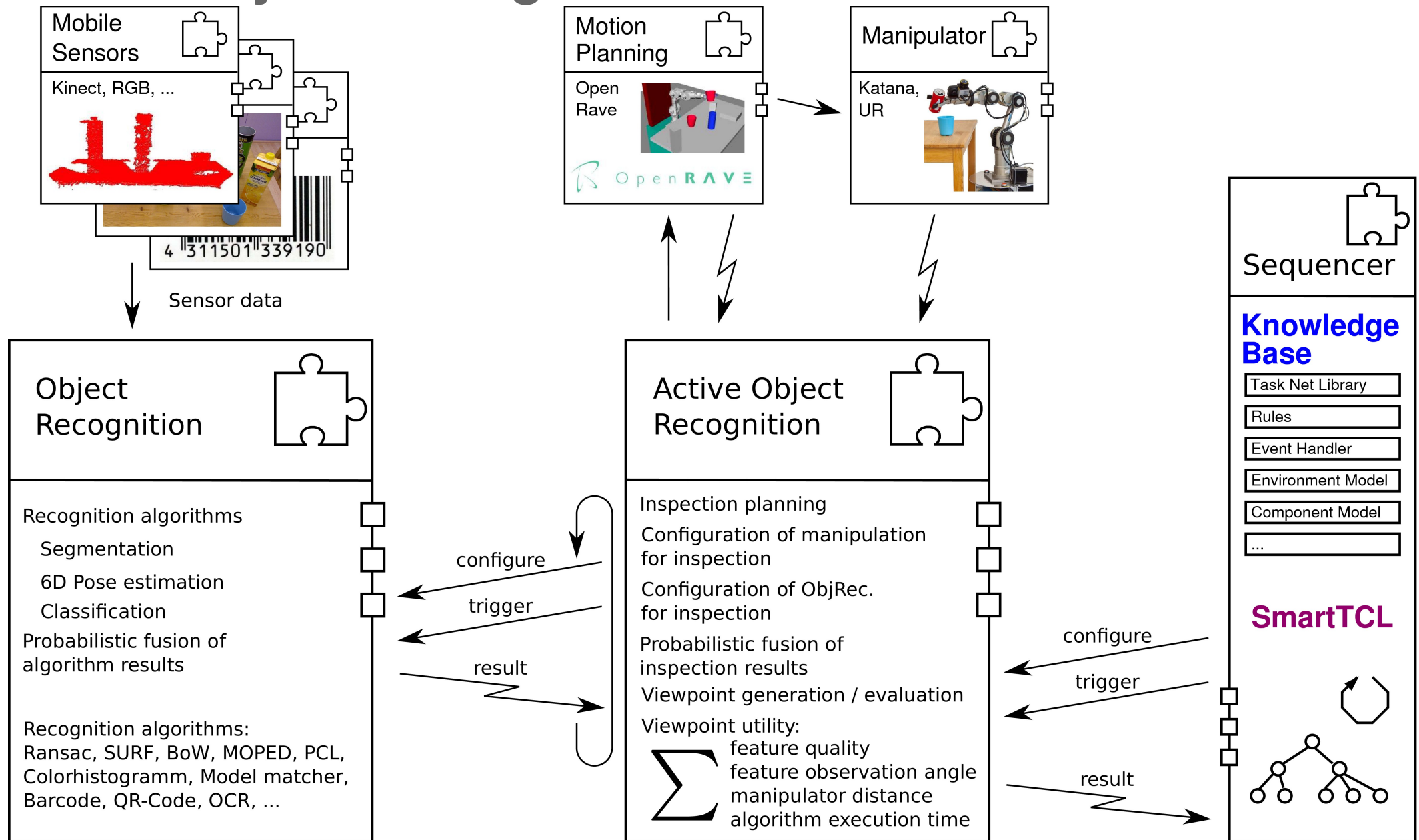
Active Object Recognition: Motivation

- Performance of “scene recognition” often not enough
 - Low / insufficient quality of sensor data,
 - Bad perspective,
 - Occlusion, etc.



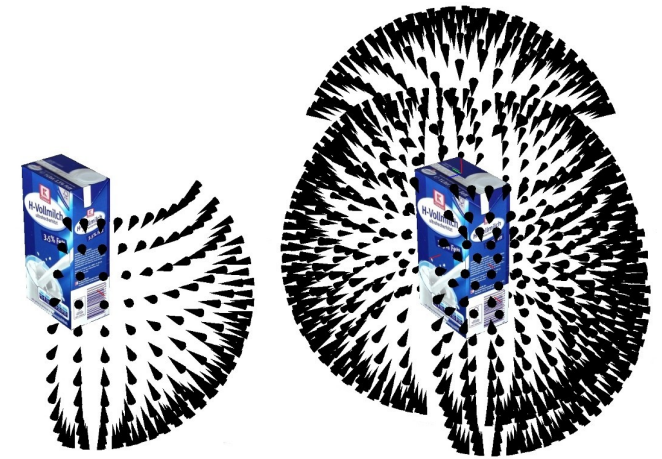
- Idea
 - Active acquisition of new sensor data from other views on the object
 - Use images from camera mounted on manipulator

Active Object Recognition: Structural Overview

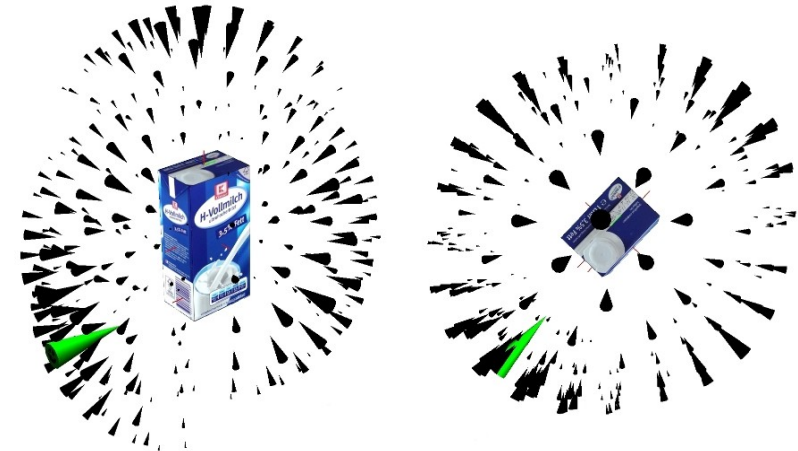


Active Object Recognition

- Extending object recognition by manipulation
 - Requires taking the environment into account
- Recognition process:
 - 1: Object recognition on full scene
 - 2: Generate viewpoints
 - 3: Select one viewpoint
 - 4: Simulate and manipulate
 - 5: Run object recognition on new data
 - 6: Include new observation
- Probabilistic fusion of results
- Repeats as necessary
 - Required certainty configurable
 - e.g. juice vs. medicine



Viewpoints generated for a milk box

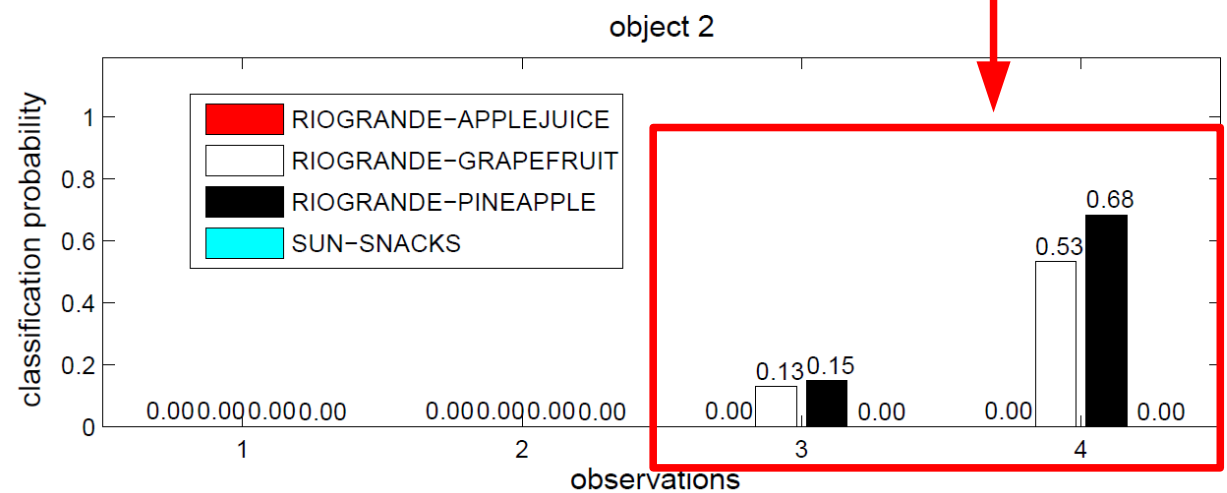
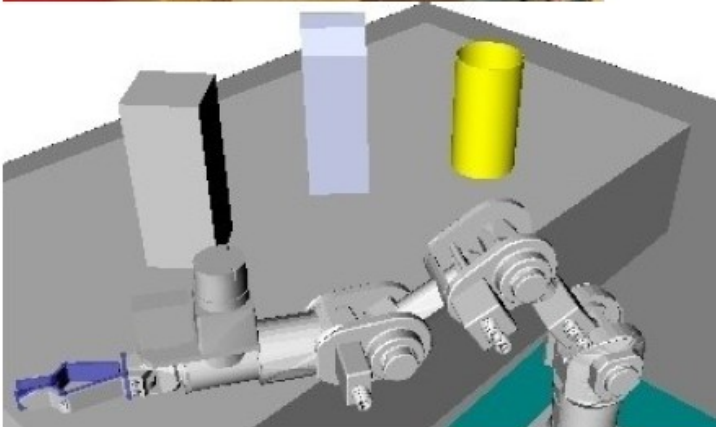
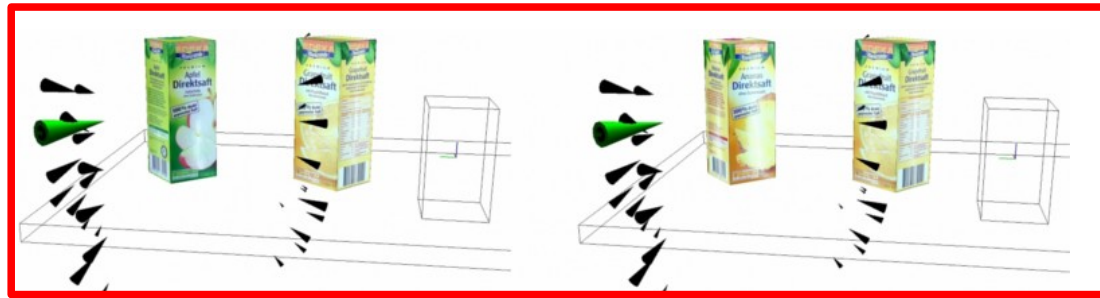
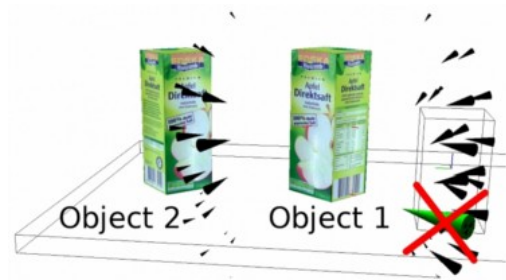


Evaluated viewpoints

Viewpoint generation and selection

- *Generating camera positions to point at features on the object*
 - *Barcodes*
 - *Texts/labels*
- *Evaluate viewpoints*
 - *The quality of a feature seen from viewpoint*
 - *Estimated quality of sensor data*
 - *Effort for manipulation*
- *Camera is positioned at “best” viewpoint with the highest utility*
- *All objects in the scene are considered for manipulation*

Active Object Recognition: Experiment



Observation 1: look at object 1 => manipulator collision

Observation 2: look at object 1 => successfully classified

Observation 3: look at object 2 => not sufficient classification quality

Observation 4: look at object 2 => now sufficient classification quality

Overview

Use Cases?

Overall principles
behind our work

Needs?

Benefits?

Goals?

Achieve suitability
for everyday life of
service robots

Approach?

- focus on tools for systematic engineering of service robotic applications (e.g. MDSD)
 - separation of roles
 - separation of concerns
- focus on robust and efficient key functionalities and components
 - extending and merging so far separated techniques

Task-nets for conditional
relative task execution

**Model-driven software
development for robotics**

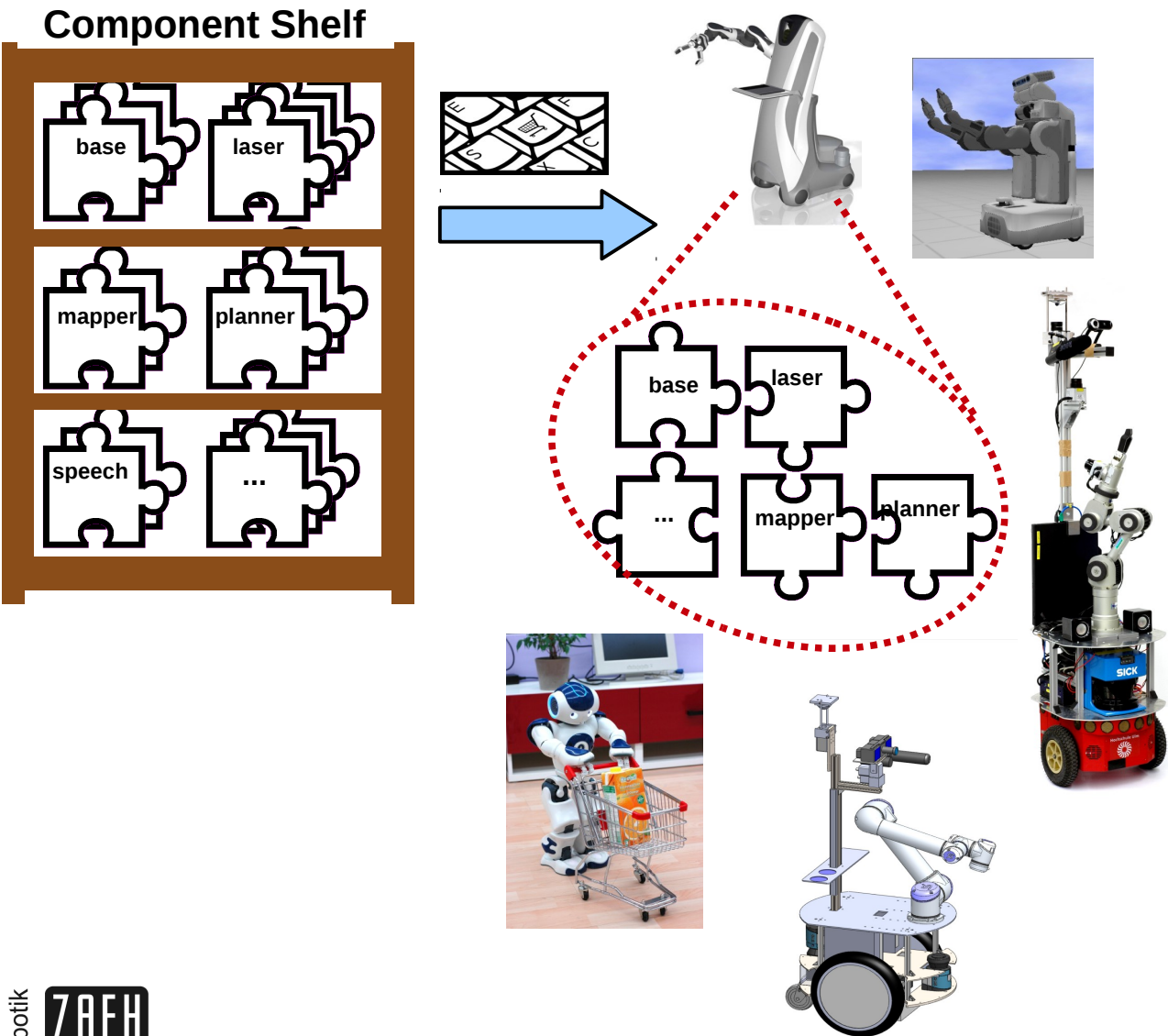
Learning from
demonstration for
manipulation

Technology?

Resource-aware SLAM

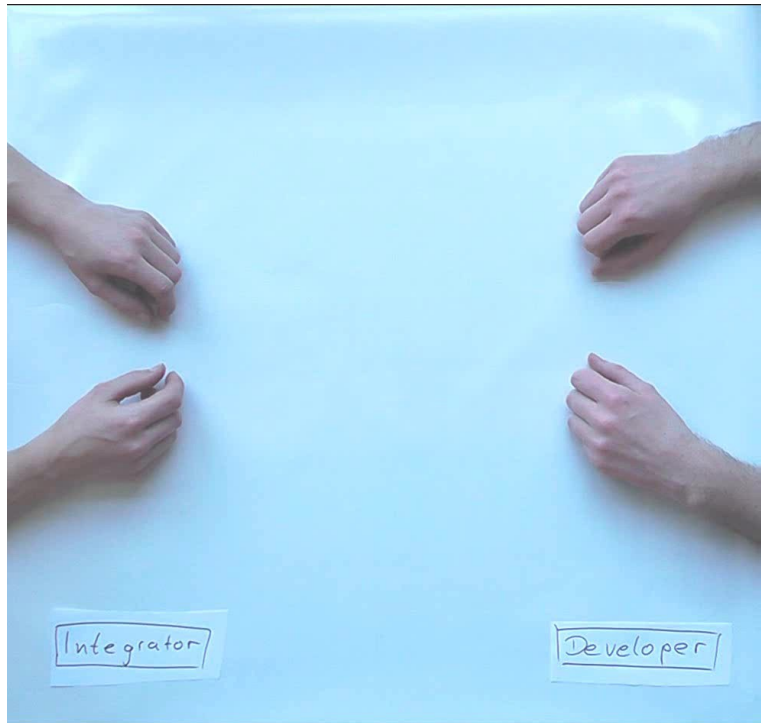
Active object recognition with
information-driven sensor
placement

Software Concepts for Service Robots: Model-Driven Software Development



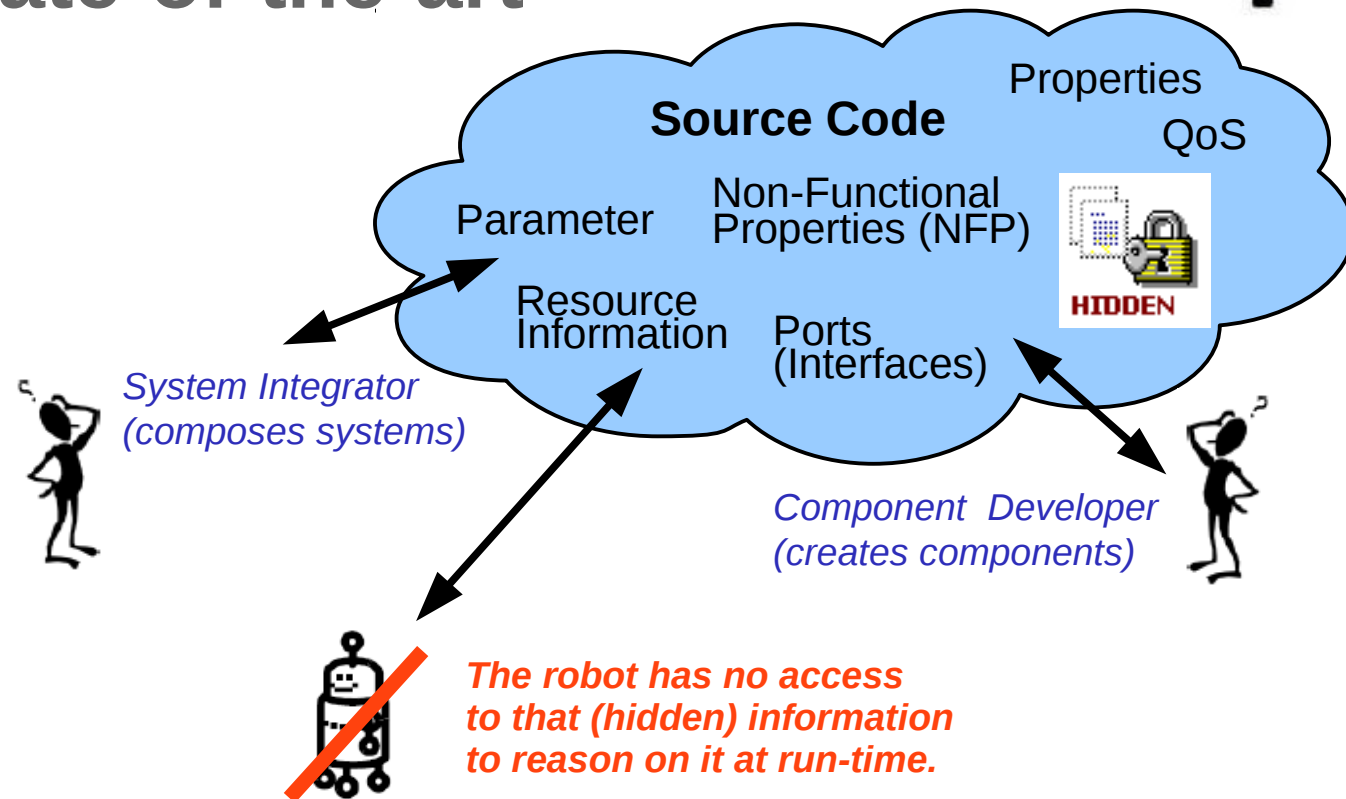
Software Concepts for Service Robots: Current Situation / State-of-the-art

?



System
Integrator

Component
Developer

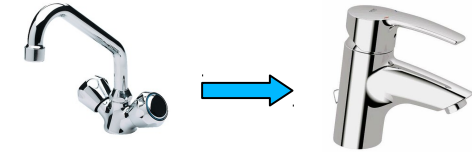


- relevant information is hidden in source files (parameters, properties, ports, resource information)
=> source code has to be analyzed
- no explicit descriptions of properties of software building blocks
=> no black box reuse possible
- **domain experts (e.g. cleaning business)**
need to become robotics experts (or vice versa)

Software Concepts for Service Robots: Current Situation / State-of-the-art

No separation of concerns (in order to reduce complexity)

- computation,
communication,
configuration (parameters at component and system level),
coordination (orchestration, resource management)

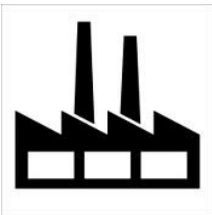


No separation of roles (in order to support specialization)

- end users, system integrators,
component developers, framework developers



Academia so far circumvented this challenge by not separating between component builders and system integrators

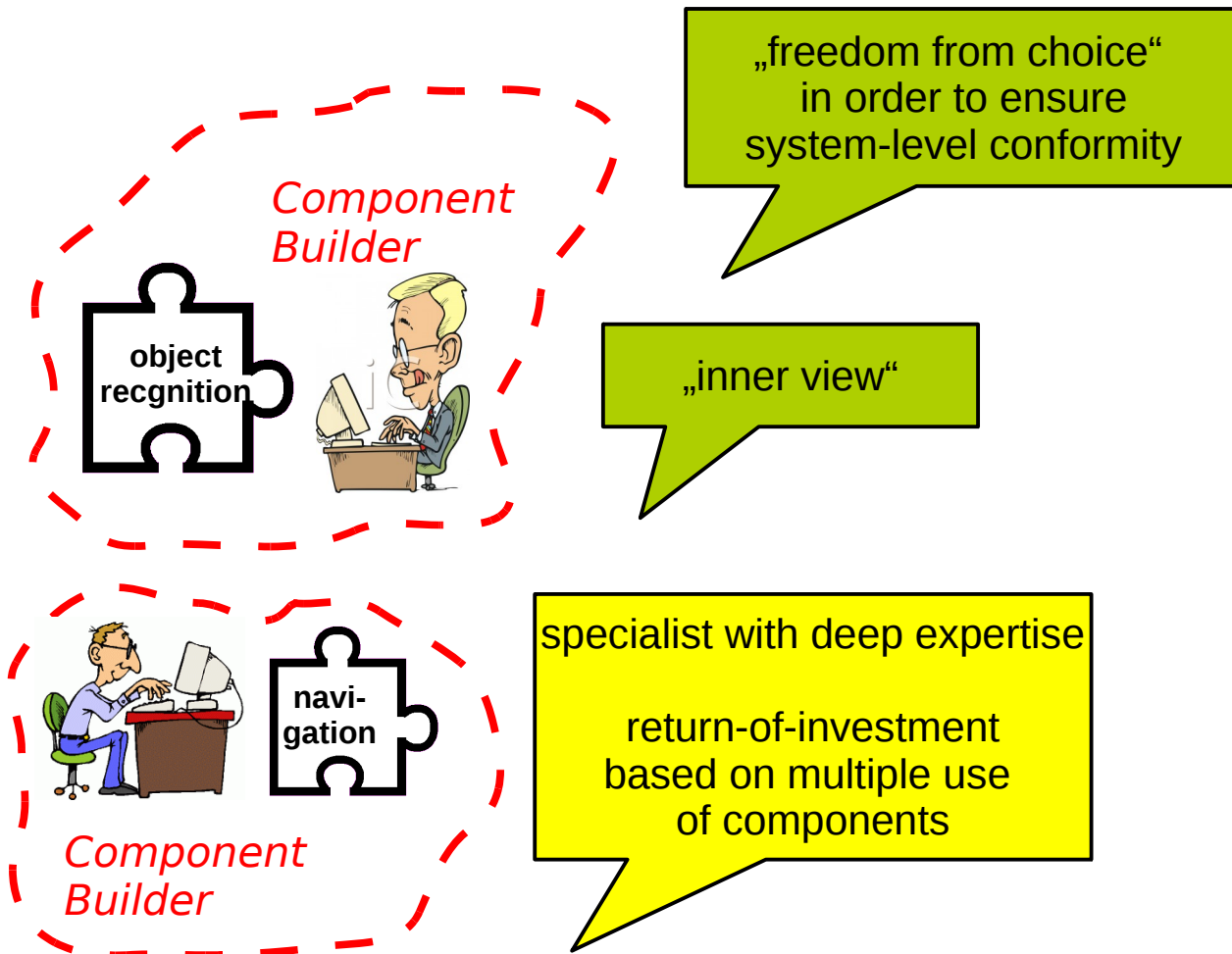


Separation of roles and separation of concerns is essential for successful markets

- lower risks, share efforts, provide second source, reduce costs, reduce development time, reduce time-to-market, increase robustness, increase quality, ...

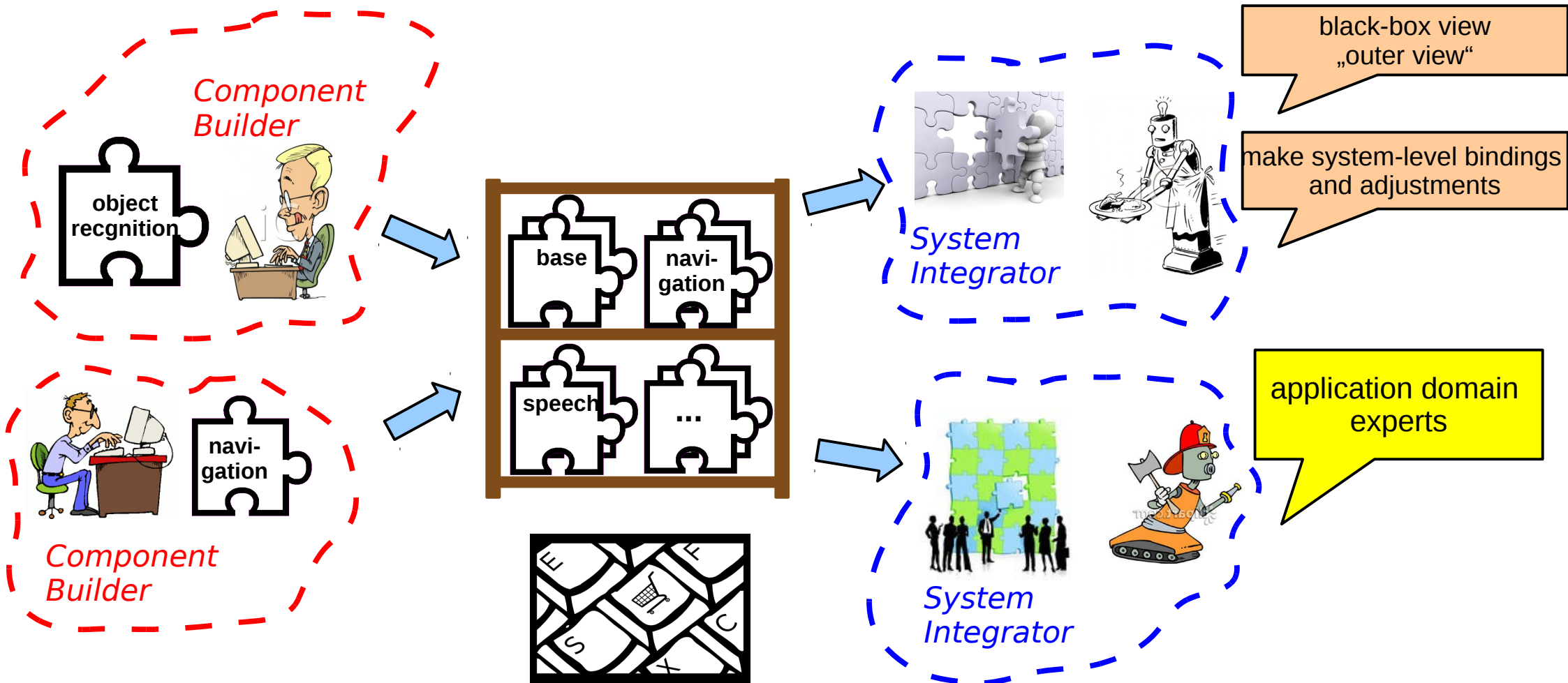
Software Concepts for Service Robots:

What we want to have: separation of roles, concerns



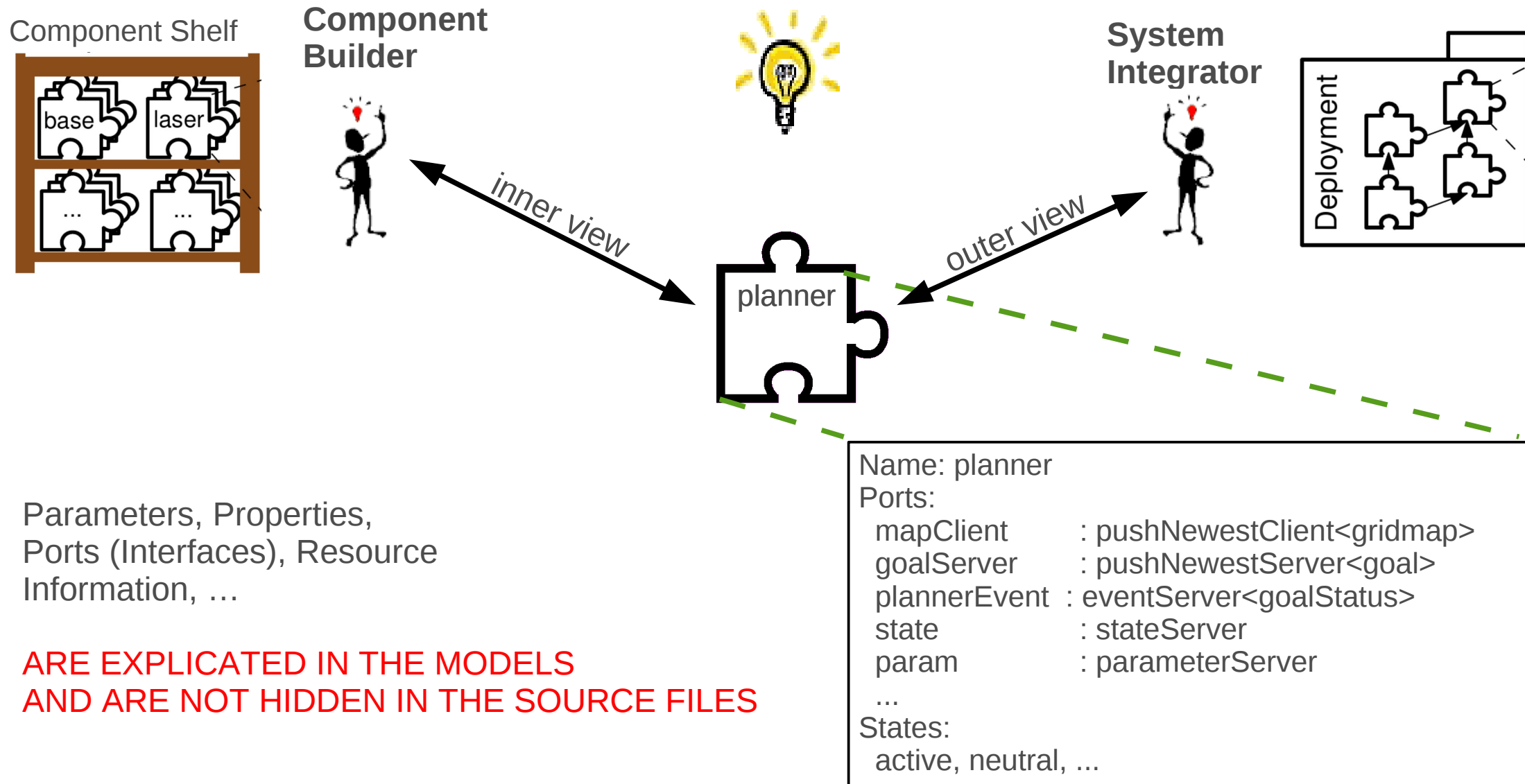
Software Concepts for Service Robots:

What we want to have: separation of roles, concerns



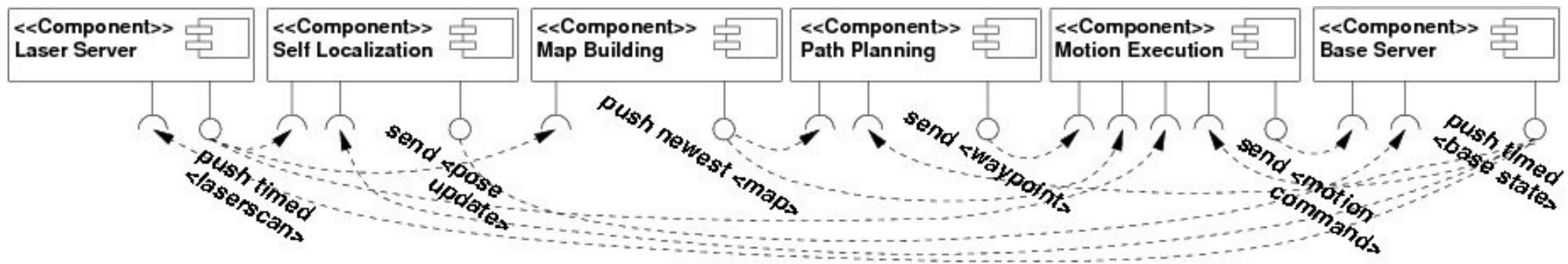
Software Concepts for Service Robots:

What we want to have: separation of roles, concerns



Software Concepts for Service Robots: Where to start?

- **CBSE** (Component Based Software Development)
- **SOA** (Service-Oriented Architecture)
- **MDSD** (Model-Driven Software Development)

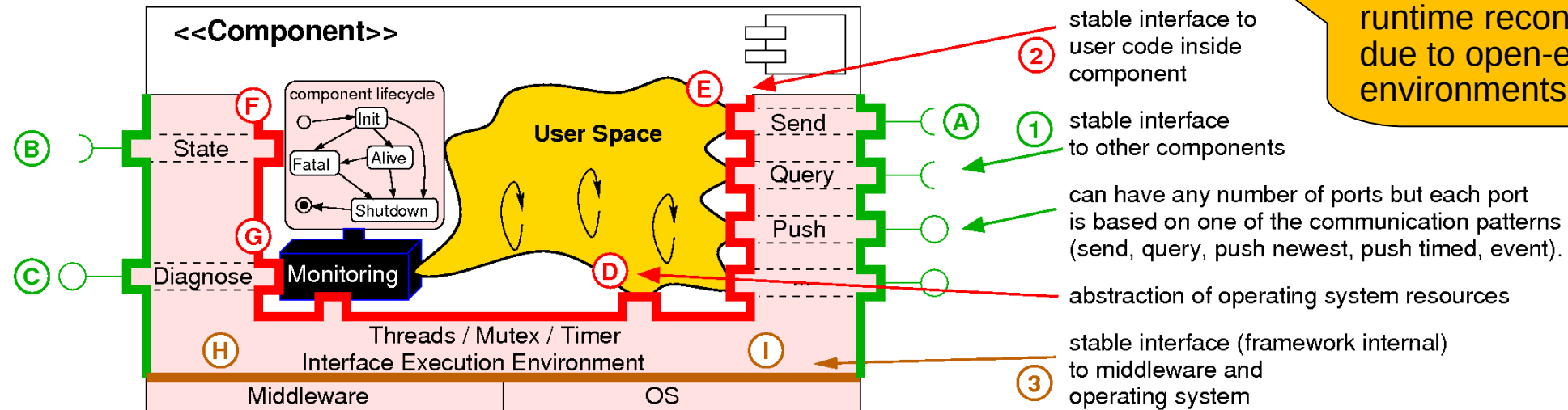


- Separating the roles of the component builder, system integrator and the robot requires to identify, specify and explicate stable structures as well as variation points each role can rely on.
- These stable structures and variation points build the ground for a model-based representation. Representing the structure of the component as meta-model enforces compliance of components with the meta-model via a MDSD-toolchain.
- We identified the component hull as the key structure to address the above challenges.

Approach: service-oriented component model

=> master component hull by MDSD

- Separate inside view (component builder) from outside view (system integrator)
- Separate stable execution container from implementational technologies (middleware, OS)
- MDSD to generate component hull ensures compliance at the component and system level while giving freedom within a component



Difference in robotics:
runtime reconfiguration
due to open-ended
environments

- *Services are defined by a Communication Pattern and Communication Objects*
- *Communication Objects are communicated between components: platform-independent, by-value*
- *Services are offered / used by components via Ports*

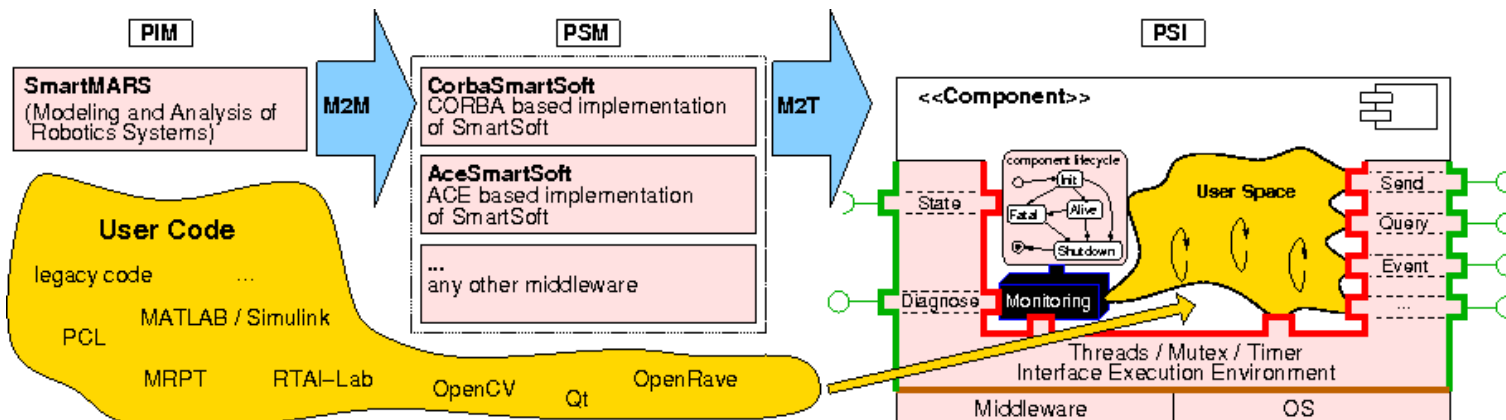
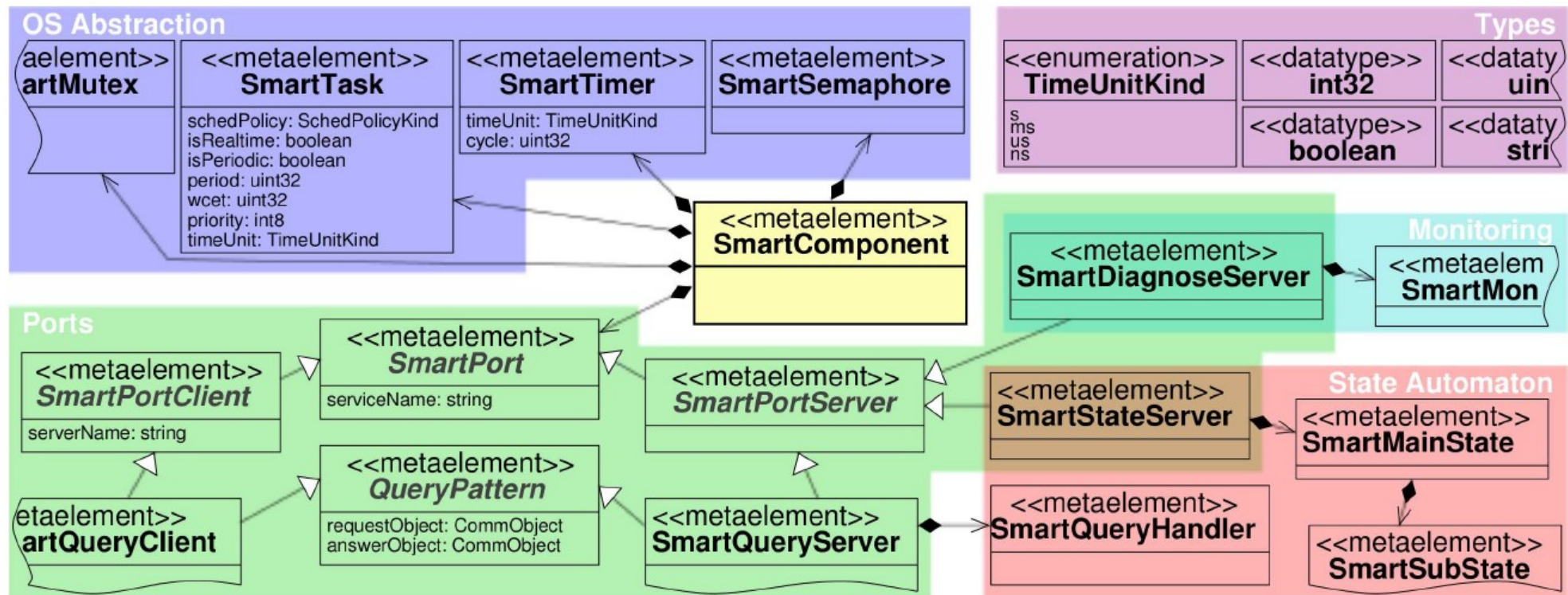
The SmartSoft Communication Patterns

send	one-way communication
query	two-way request/response
push newest	1-to-n distribution
push timed	1-to-n distribution
event	asynchronous conditioned notification

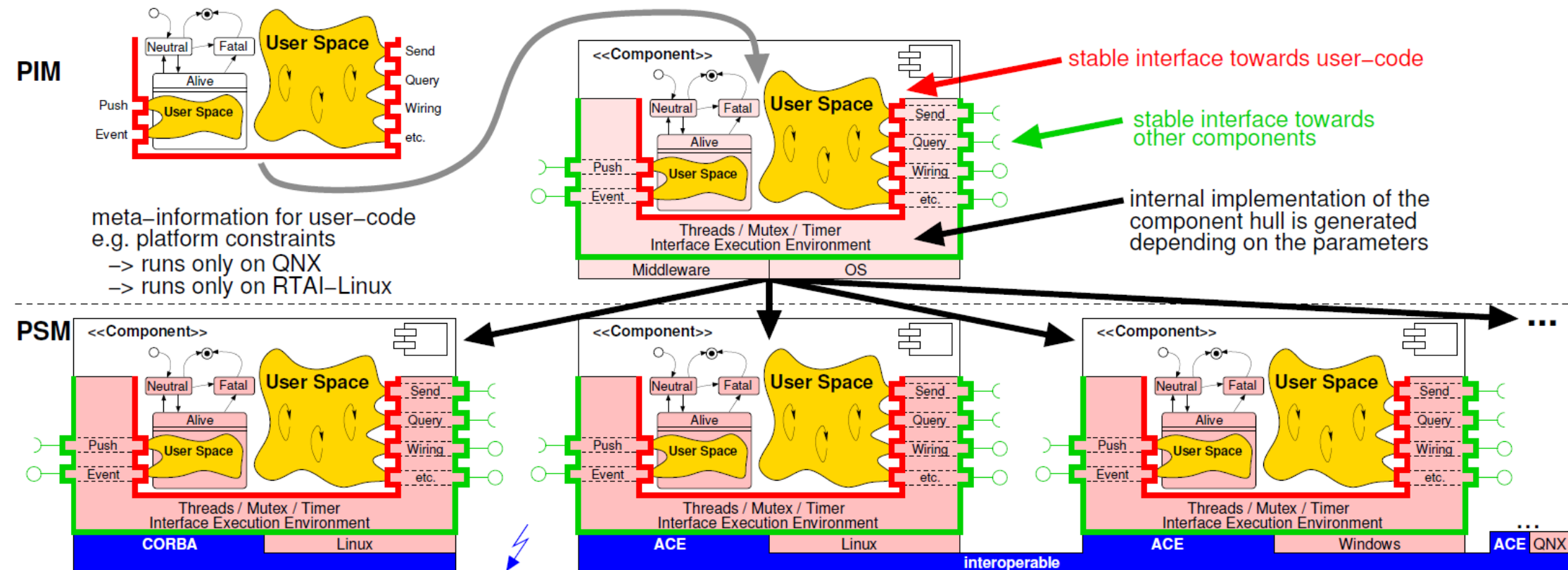
The SmartSoft Services

param	component configuration
state	activate/deactivate component services
wiring	dynamic component wiring
diagnose	introspection of components
<i>(internally based on communication patterns)</i>	

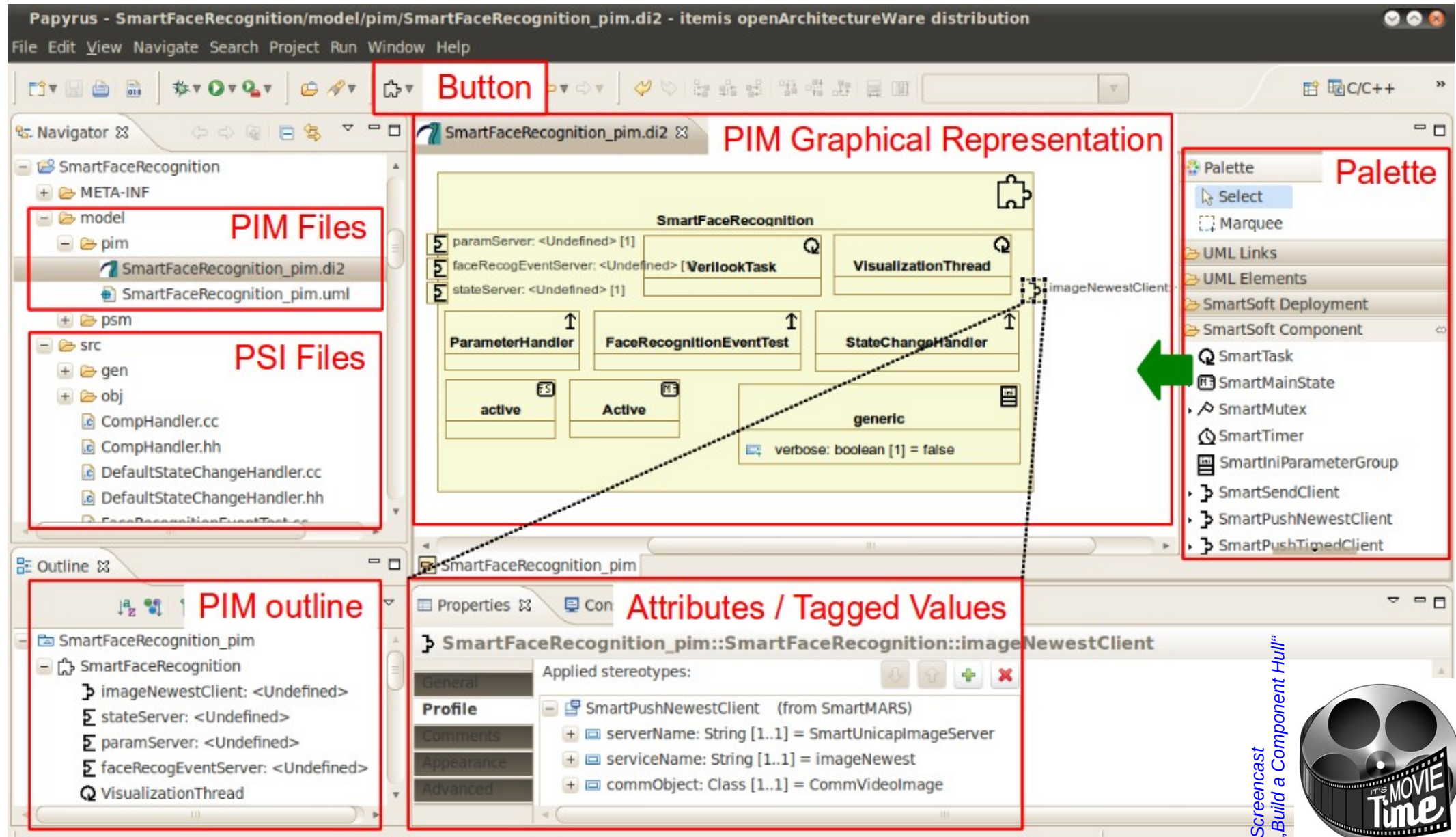
The SmartSoft Component Model: Excerpt of the SmartMARS Meta Model



The SmartSoft Component Model Mapping to different Middlewares



Model-Driven Software Development: Component Builder View



Model-Driven Software Development: System Integrator View

Papyrus - DeployNavTask/model/DeployNavTask.di2 - itemis openArchitectureWare distribution

File Edit View Navigate Search Project Run Window Help

Button

Deployment Model

DeployNavTask.di2

DeployNavTask.uml

Imported Components

- import SmartCdlServer
- SmartCdlServer
- import SmartMapperGridMap
- SmartMapperGridMap
- import SmartPioneerBaseServer
- SmartPioneerBaseServer
- import SmartPlannerBreadthFirstSearch
- SmartPlannerBreadthFirstSearch
- import SmartLaserLMS200Server
- SmartLaserLMS200Server
- import SmartRobotConsole
- SmartRobotConsole
- import SmartAmcl
- SmartAmcl
- import SmartColorBlobObjectRecognition

Graphical Representation of Deployment Model

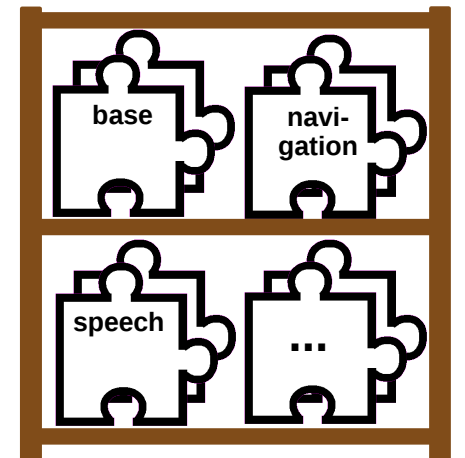
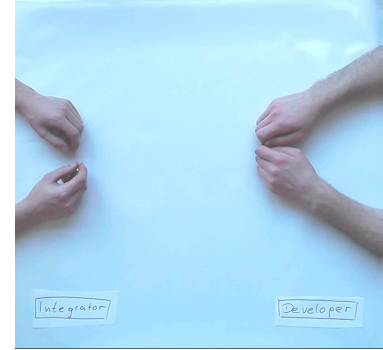
Palette

- Select
- Marquee
- UML Links
- UML Elements
- SmartSoft Deployment
- CorbaNamingService
- RTAISetup
- Connection

Deployment Properties

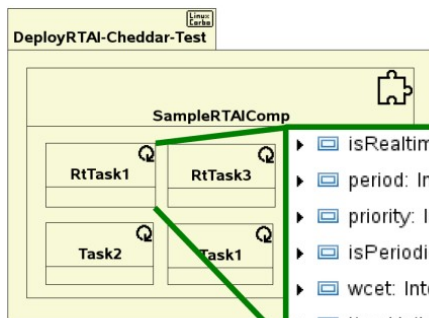
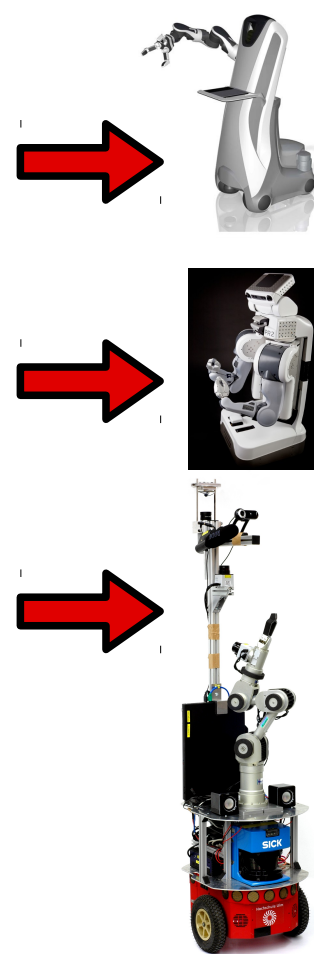
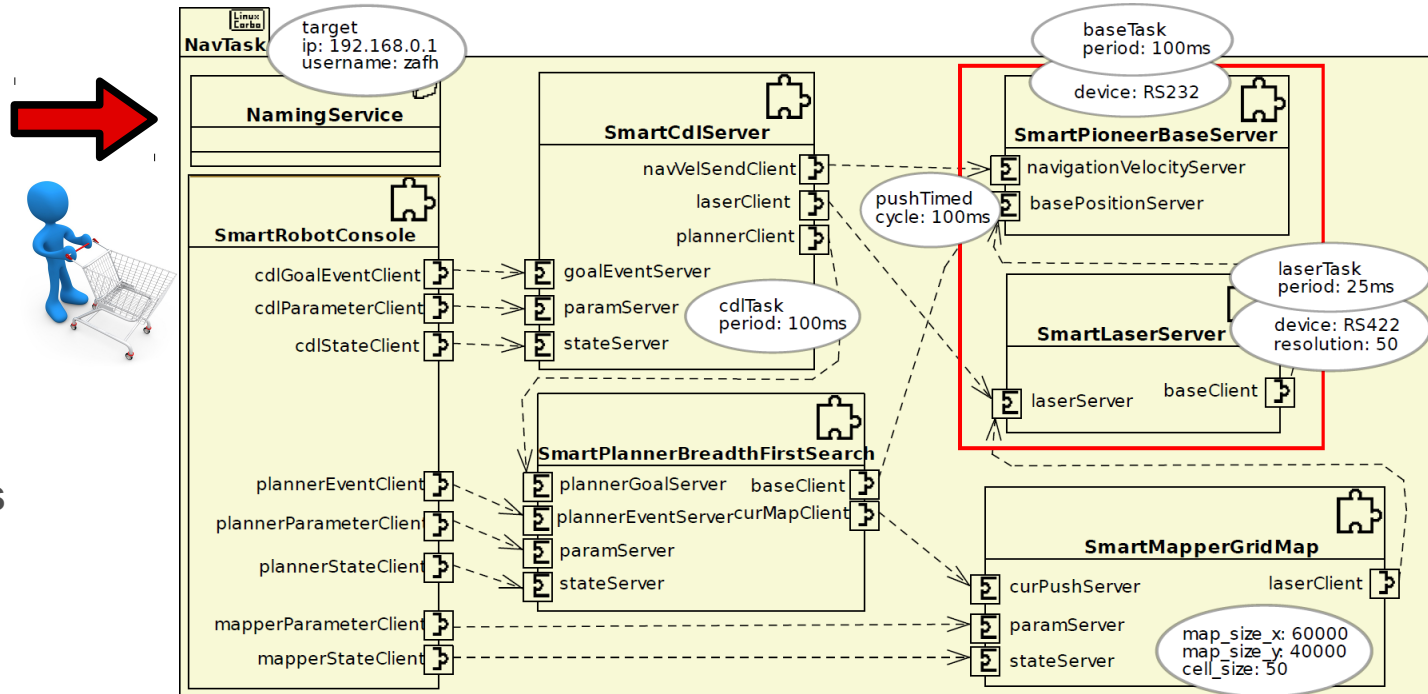
- ip: String [1..1] = 192.168.31.115
- deployed: DeployType [1..1] = remote
- username: String [1..1] = student
- directory: String [1..1] = tmp/autms

Model-Driven Software Development: System Integrator View

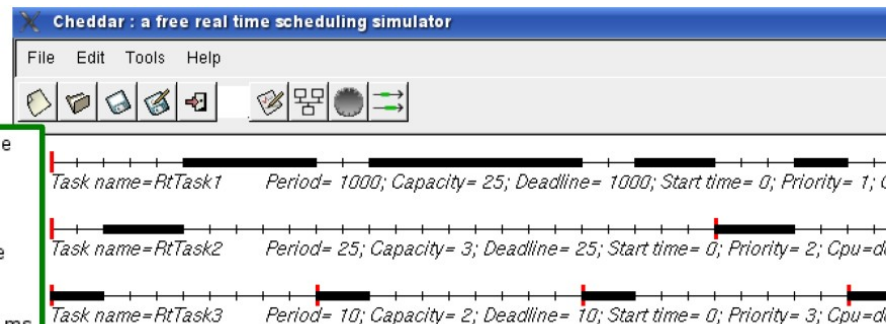


Component Shelf
Reusable Components

System Level Properties / Bindings / Conformance Checks

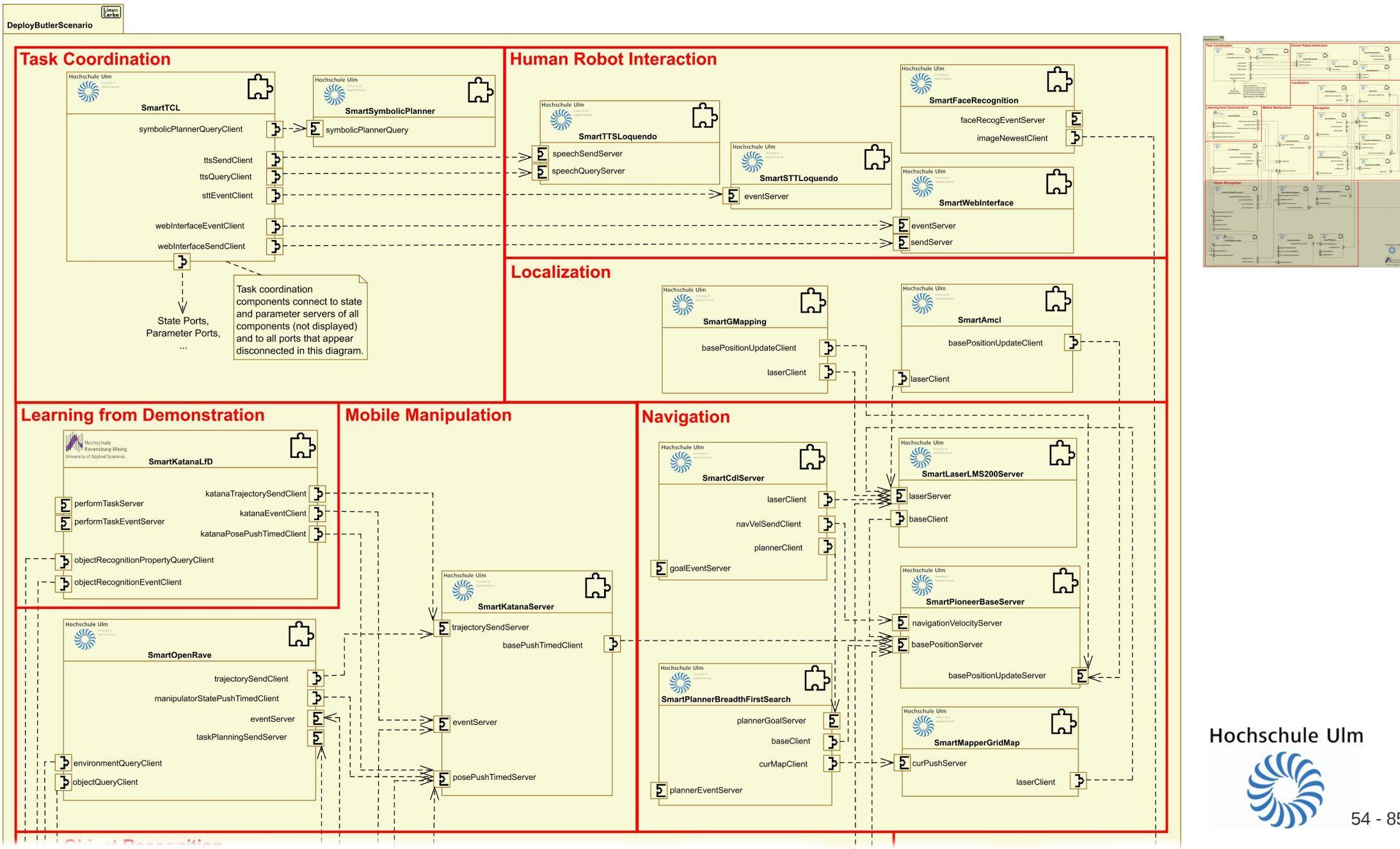


- isRealtime: Boolean [1..1] = true
- period: Integer [1..1] = 1000
- priority: Integer [1..1] = 1
- isPeriodic: Boolean [1..1] = true
- wcet: Integer [1..1] = 25
- timeUnit: TimeUnitKind [1..1] = ms



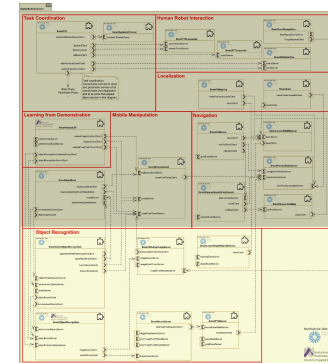
Model-Driven Software Development

System Integrator View – Butler Scenario

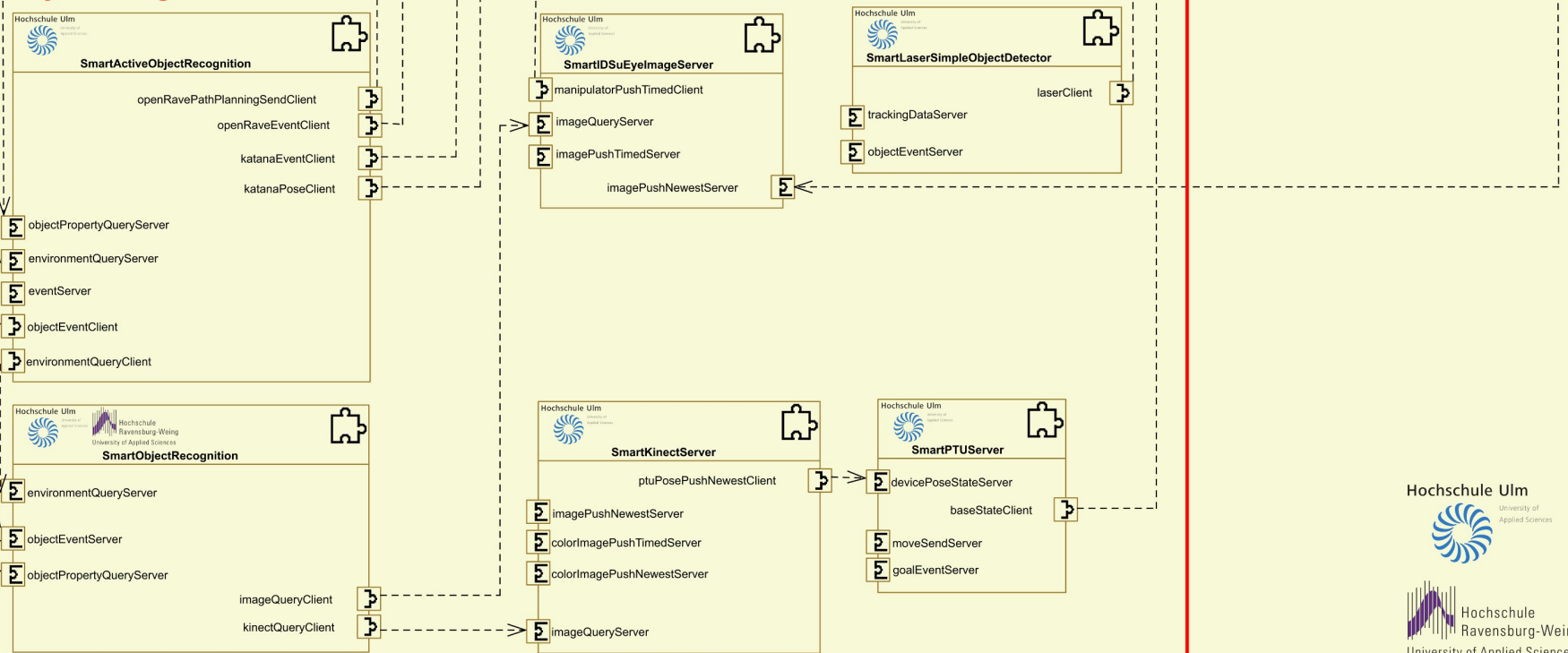


Model-Driven Software Development

System Integrator View – Butler Scenario



Object Recognition

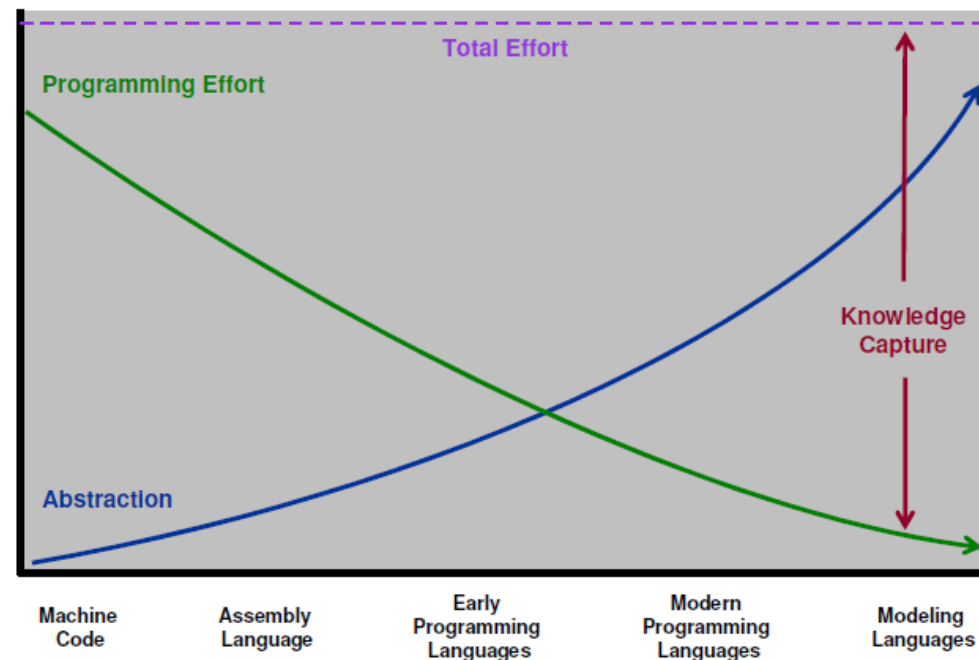


Model-Driven Software Development: The future of a service robotics market

- significant savings in terms of man power for setting new and different robots into service
- “separation of roles and concerns” supported by a model-driven software approach can initiate a shift in robotics from technology driven exploitation to use-case driven exploitation of robotics technology
- design-abstraction can bridge the gap between academia and industry => future perspective:
 - *collaborate* at the level of meta-models, models, software tools, etc.
 - *compete* at the level of implementations, specialized frameworks, proprietary functionalities, etc.
 - allow for a symbiotic eco-system of large companies and SMEs, specialists and integrators

D.J. Hoch, W. Huhn, U. Naeher, A.E. Zielke:
The Race to Master Automotive Embedded
Systems Development, McKinsey, 2006

- productivity gain in model-based software engineering is estimated to be about 30%
- MBD is one of the most influential levers and can lead to step-change increase in both productivity and quality



Summary

Open-ended environments: a tremendous amount of situations

- how to spend scarce resources in a most appropriate way?
 - acting efficiently
 - achieve a high degree of robustness
 - maintain a high success rate in task fulfillment

Goal

- flexible response to dynamic environments
- complexity and variety of tasks: multi-purpose robot
- be able to put in as much knowledge about tasks as possible

Challenges: always deviation between design-time/run-time optimality

- even most skilled robotics engineer is not able at design-time to
 - identify and enumerate all eventualities in advance
 - properly code configurations, resource assignments, reactions(even not efficient at all due to the combinatoric explosion of possible situations and skill parameterizations)
- not possible just to (re)plan at run time in order to take into account latest information as soon as it becomes available
(computational complexity of planning far too high when it comes to real-world problems, i.e. generate action plots given partial information while taking into account additional properties like safety and resources)

Motivation for a different approach:

- make it as simple as possible for the designer to express variability at design time
- robot needs to be able to bind variability at run time based on the then available information
- At design time, we also specify which problem solver (symbolic planner, constraint solver, etc.) to use to bind which variation point.
- At run time, the robot then involves the prearranged and dedicated problem solvers.

*Overall, this improves task execution quality,
optimizes robot performance and cleverly arranges
complexity & efforts between design time and run time.*



Handling of intellectual property rights Available as Open Source



SOURCEFORGE

Ready to run VMWare image

<http://smart-robotics.sourceforge.net/>

<http://www.youtube.com/roboticsAtHsUlm>

ROS-Gateway / Care-O-Bot Demo

GNU LGPL

SmartSoft navigation components: Mapper, Planner and
CDL (collision avoidance based on Curvature Distance Lookup)



Europäische Union
Europäischer Fonds für regionale Entwicklung

investition in
Ihre Zukunft!



Baden-Württemberg
MINISTERIUM FÜR WISSENSCHAFT, FORSCHUNG UND KUNST

ZAFH Servicerobotik – what is that?

Center for Applied Research at Universities for Applied Sciences

- University of Applied Sciences Ulm
 - Prof. Schlegel
- University of Applied Sciences Ravensburg-Weingarten
 - Prof. Ertel, Prof. Voos
- University of Applied Sciences Mannheim
 - Prof. Ihme, Prof. Wirnitzer

<http://www.zafh-servicerobotik.de/>

<http://www.zafh-servicerobotik.de/ULM/publikationen.php>

<http://servicerobotik.hs-weingarten.de/publikationen.php>



Addendum

What is different in robotics?

- The *difference* of robotics compared to other disciplines (e.g. automotive, avionics) is *neither* the huge variety of different sensors, actuators, hardware platforms *nor* the number of different disciplines being involved.
- We are convinced that *differences* of robotics compared to other domains *originate from* the need of a robot to cope with *open-ended environments* *while having* only *limited resources* at its disposal.

=> *The best matching between current situation, proper robot behavior and resource assignment becomes overwhelming even for the most skilled robot engineer!*

- *Limited resources* require decisions: when to assign which resources to what activity taking into account perceived situation, current context and tasks to be fulfilled.

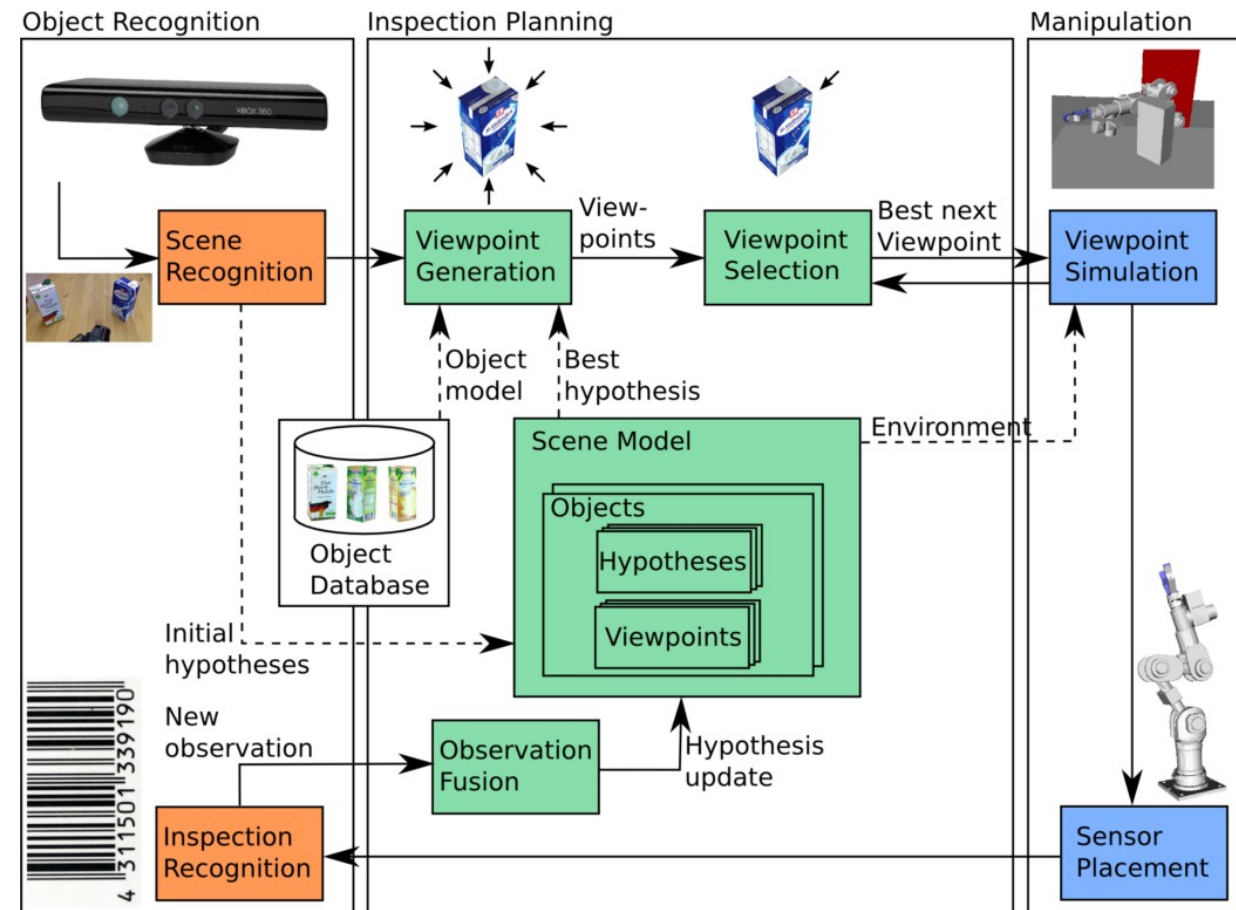
- Due to *open-ended real-world environments*, it is impossible to statically assign resources in advance in such a way that all potential situations arising at runtime are properly covered.

- Due to the *enormous sizes of the problem space and the solution space* in robotics, there will *always be a deviation between design-time and run-time optimality*.

- Therefore, there is a need for dynamic resource assignments at runtime: managing variants / variability at runtime by late bindings of purposefully left-open variation points (*models@runtime, accessible via MDSD + DSLs*)

Active Object Recognition: Structural Overview

- Extending object recognition by manipulation
 - Requires taking the environment into account
- Recognition process:
 - 1: Object recognition on full scene
 - 2: Generate viewpoints
 - 3: Select one viewpoint
 - 4: Simulate and manipulate
 - 5: Run object recognition on new data
 - 6: Include new observation
- Probabilistic fusion of results
- Repeats as necessary
 - Required certainty configurable
 - e.g. juice vs. medicine



Software Concepts for Service Robots: Motivation and goals of research/development efforts



Motivation: *Extensive software costs and high risks*



(see EFFIROB study / Fraunhofer IPA:

“efficient software engineering is decisive to lower development costs of service robotic applications”)

=> SWE already is bottleneck towards implementing service robotic applications in an economic and feasible way

=> SWE is a major hurdle when it comes to developing markets for service robots and economic success of service robotic applications

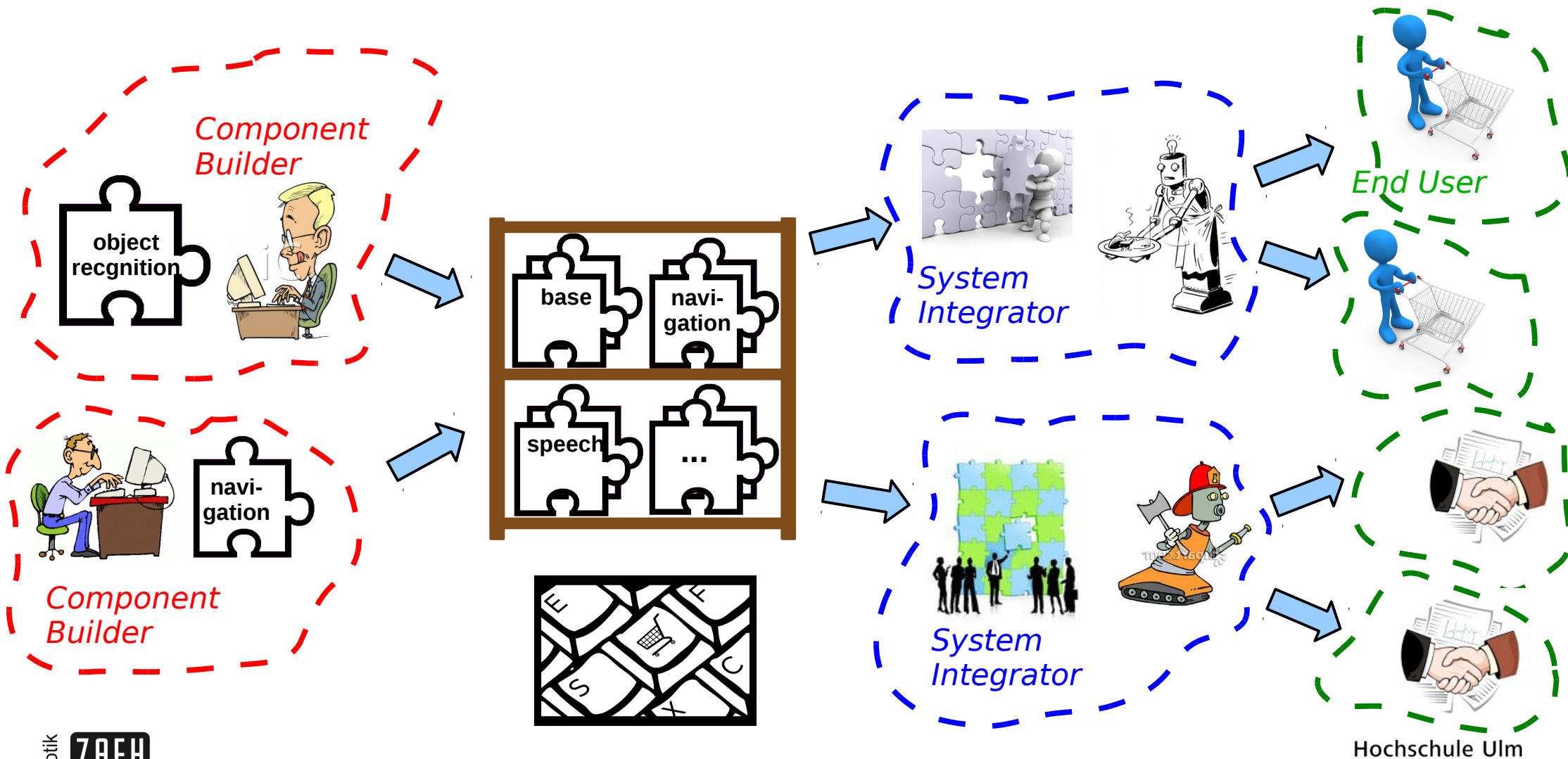
Goal:

- reduce risks and costs of software development for advanced service robotic systems in order to make a step ahead towards economically feasible service robotic applications
- allow for re-use of software components
- plan ability of software components



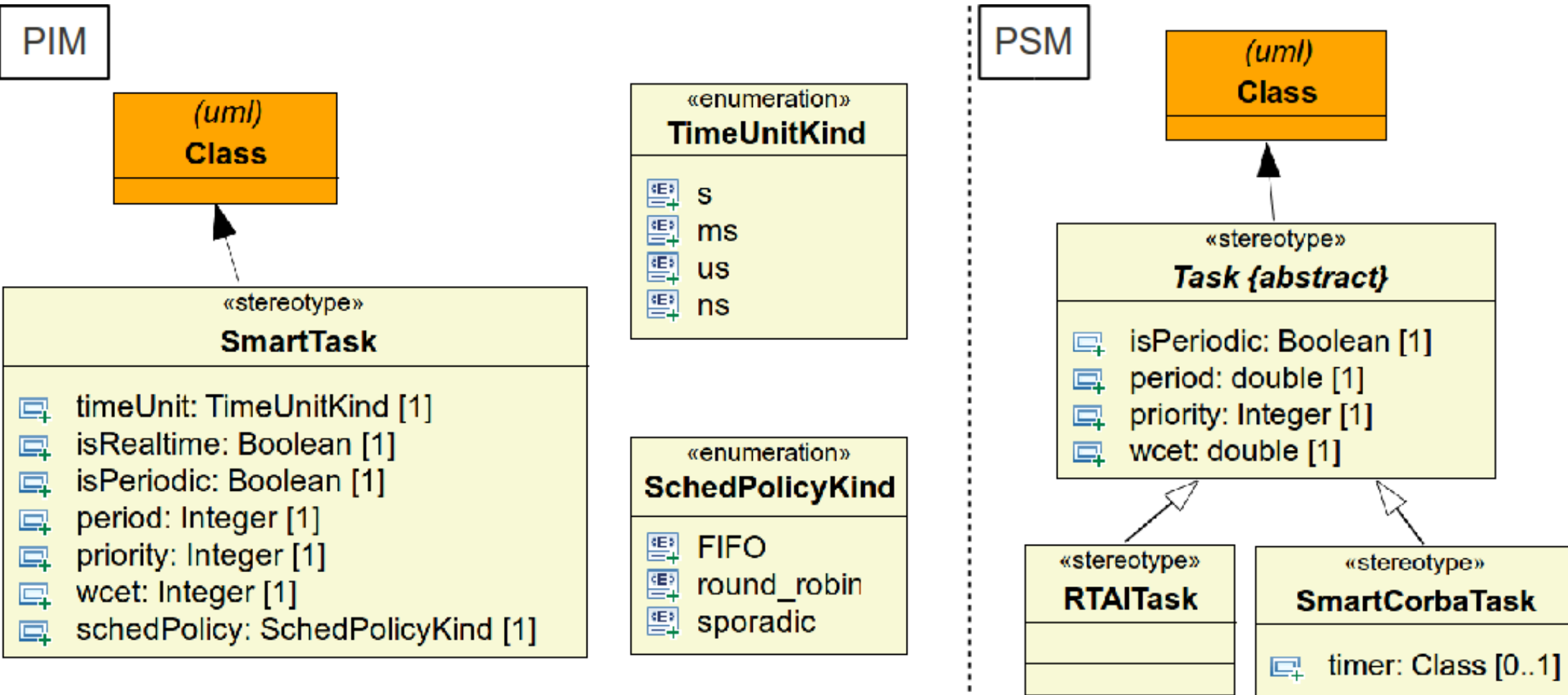
Software Concepts for Service Robots:

What we want to have: separation of roles, concerns



Model-Driven Software Development

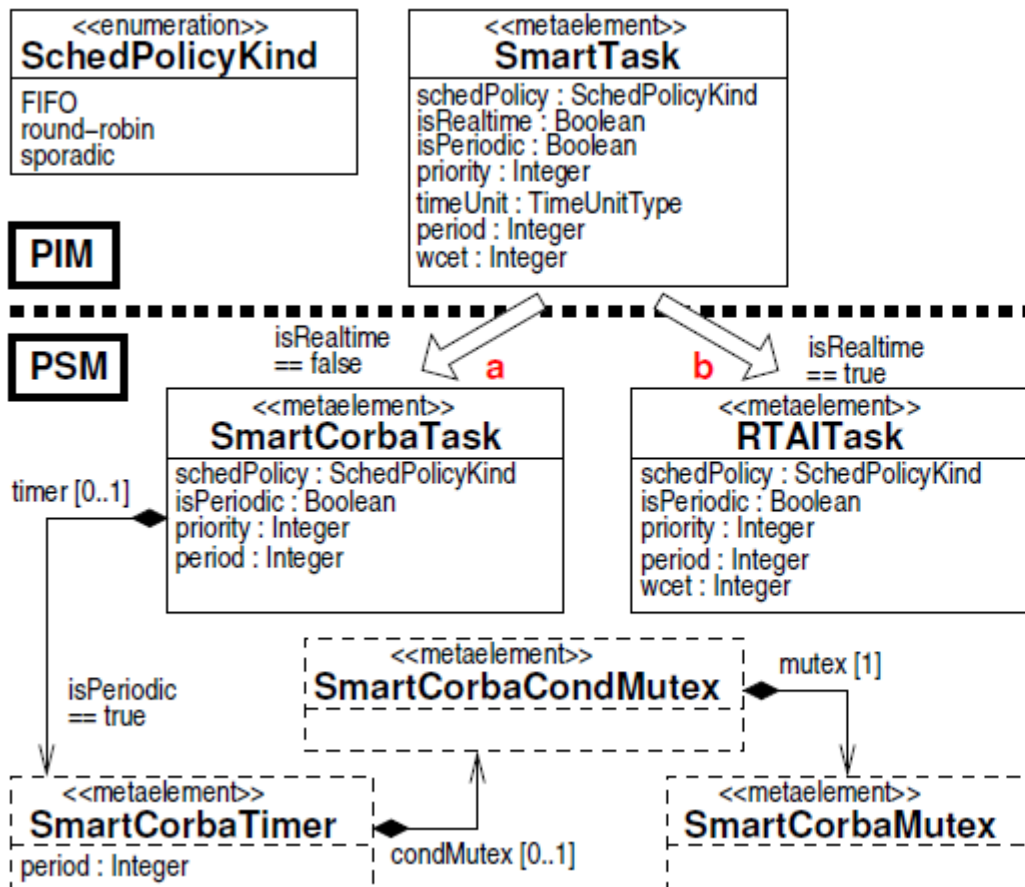
SmartMARS UML Profiles (PIM, PSM)



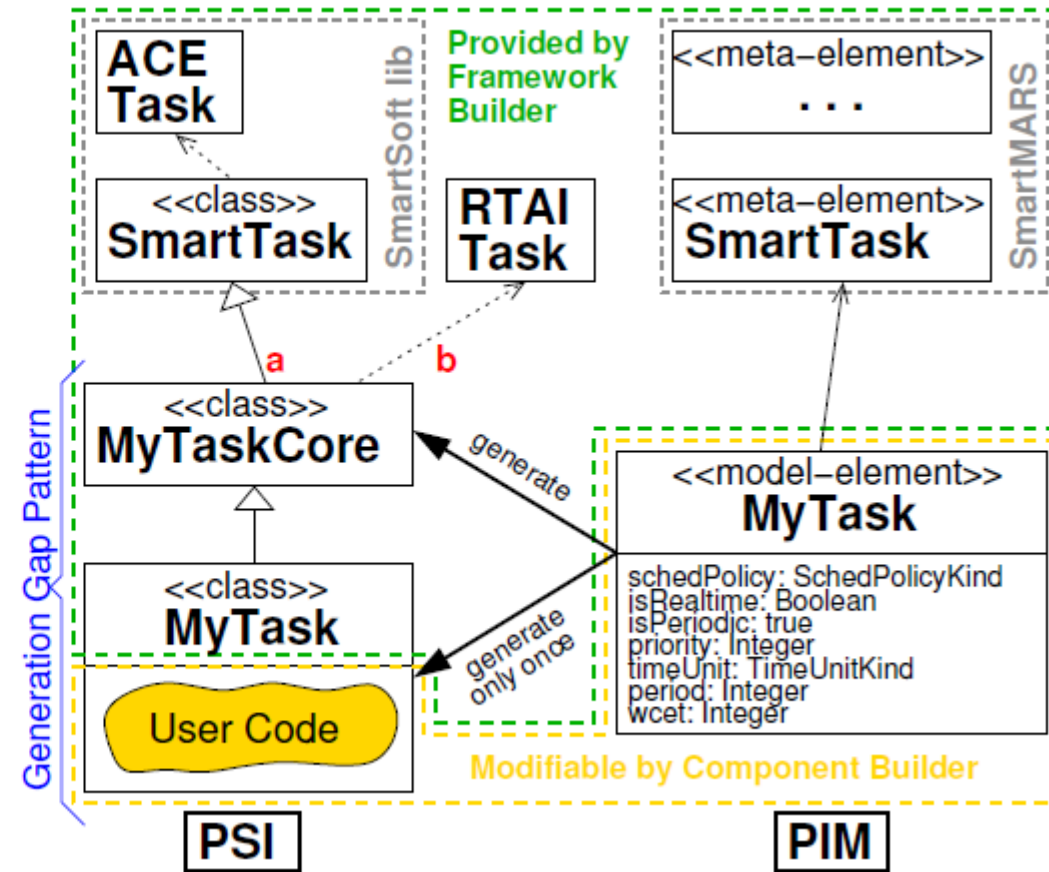
excerpts of UML Profile created with Papyrus UML (left PIM, right PSM)

Model-Driven Software Development Model Transformation + Code Generation

SmartSoft
- MDSD details -



Transformation PIM into PSM



Generation Gap Pattern

Model-Driven Software Development

PIM to PSM / SmartTask / isRealtime

```
task_mutex.ext
create uml::Class this addSmartTask(SmartMARS::SmartTask tsk, uml::Component cmp) :
    cmp.packagedElement.add(this) ->
    this.setName(tsk.name) ->
    if( tsk.isRealtime == true) then
    {
        this.applyStereotype("CorbaSmartSoft::RTAITask") ->
        setTaggedValue(this, "CorbaSmartSoft::RTAITask", "isPeriodic", tsk.isPeriodic) ->
        setTaggedValue(this, "CorbaSmartSoft::RTAITask", "wcet", tsk.wcet.toSecond(tsk.timeUnit.name)) ->
        setTaggedValue(this, "CorbaSmartSoft::RTAITask", "period", tsk.period.toSecond(tsk.timeUnit.name)) ->
        setTaggedValue(this, "CorbaSmartSoft::RTAITask", "priority", tsk.priority)
    }
    else
    {
        this.applyStereotype("CorbaSmartSoft::SmartCorbaTask") ->
        setTaggedValue(this, "CorbaSmartSoft::SmartCorbaTask", "isPeriodic", tsk.isPeriodic) ->
        setTaggedValue(this, "CorbaSmartSoft::SmartCorbaTask", "wcet", tsk.wcet.toSecond(tsk.timeUnit.name)) ->
        setTaggedValue(this, "CorbaSmartSoft::SmartCorbaTask", "period", tsk.period.toSecond(tsk.timeUnit.name)) ->
        setTaggedValue(this, "CorbaSmartSoft::SmartCorbaTask", "priority", tsk.priority) ->
        if( tsk.isPeriodic == true ) then
        {
            setTaggedValue(this, "CorbaSmartSoft::SmartCorbaTask", "timer", cmp.addTimer(tsk.name, tsk.period, tsk.timeUnit.name))
        }
    }
};
```

Xtend Transformation Rule (M2M):

PIM to PSM model transformation of the SmartTask depending on the attribute "isRealtime"

Model-Driven Software Development

PSM to PSI

```
smartTask.xpt PSM → PSI Template

«DEFINE TaskUserSourceFile FOR CorbaSmartSoft::Task-»
«FILE this.getUserSourceFilename() writeOnce-»
«getCopyrightWriteOnce()»
#include "«this.getUserHeaderFilename()»"
#include "gen/«((CorbaSmartSoft::SmartCorbaComponent)this.eContainer()).getCoreHeaderFilename()»"

#include <iostream>

«this.getName()»::«this.getName()»()
{
    std::cout << "constructor «this.getName()»\n";
}

int «this.getName()»::svc()
{
    // do something -- put your code here !!!
    while(1)
    {
        «IF this.isPeriodic == true-»
        std::cout << "Hello from «this.getName()» - periodic\n";
        smart_task_wait_period();
        «ELSE-»
        std::cout << "Hello from «this.getName()»\n";
        sleep(1);
        «ENDIF-»
    }
    return 0;
}
«ENDFILE»
«ENDDFINE»
```

```
ServoTask.cc PSI (user code .cc file)

#include "ServoTask.hh"
#include "gen/SmartServo.hh"

#include <iostream>

ServoTask::ServoTask()
{
    std::cout << "constructor ServoTask\n";
}

int ServoTask::svc()
{
    // do something -- put your code here !!!
    while (1)
    {
        std::cout << "Hello from ServoTask - periodic\n";
        smart_task_wait_period();
    }
    return 0;
}
```

Xpand / Xtend Transformation (M2T): PSM to PSI model transformation

Where to start?

CBSE – Component Based SWE

“A software component is a unit of composition with contractually specified interfaces and explicit context dependencies only. A software component can be developed independently and is subject to composition by third parties.” (Szyperski, 2002).

- explicitly consider reusable pieces of software including notions of independence and late composition
- composition can take place during different stages of the lifecycle of components:
 - » design phase (design and implementation)
 - » deployment phase (system integration)
 - » runtime phase (dynamic wiring of data flow according to situation and context).
- CBSE is based on the explication of all relevant information of a component to make it usable by other software elements **whose authors are not known**.

Encapsulation / Composability (Meyer 2000):

- may be used by other software elements (clients),
- may be used by clients without the intervention of the component's developers,
- includes a specification of all dependencies (hardware and software platform, versions, other components),
- includes a precise specification of the functionalities it offers,
- is usable on the sole basis of that specification,
- is composable with other components,
- can be integrated into a system quickly and smoothly

Where to start?

SOA – Service-Oriented Architecture

SOA are “the policies, practices, frameworks that enable application functionality to be provided and consumed as sets of services published at a granularity relevant to the service consumer. Services can be invoked, published and discovered, and are abstracted away from the implementation using a single, standards-based form of interface” (Sprott& Wilkes, 2004).

A SOA has to ensure that services don't get reduced to the status of interfaces, rather they have an identity of their own.

With SOA, it is critical to implement processes that ensure that there are at least two different and [separate processes - for providers and consumers](#) (Sprott & Wilkes, 2004).

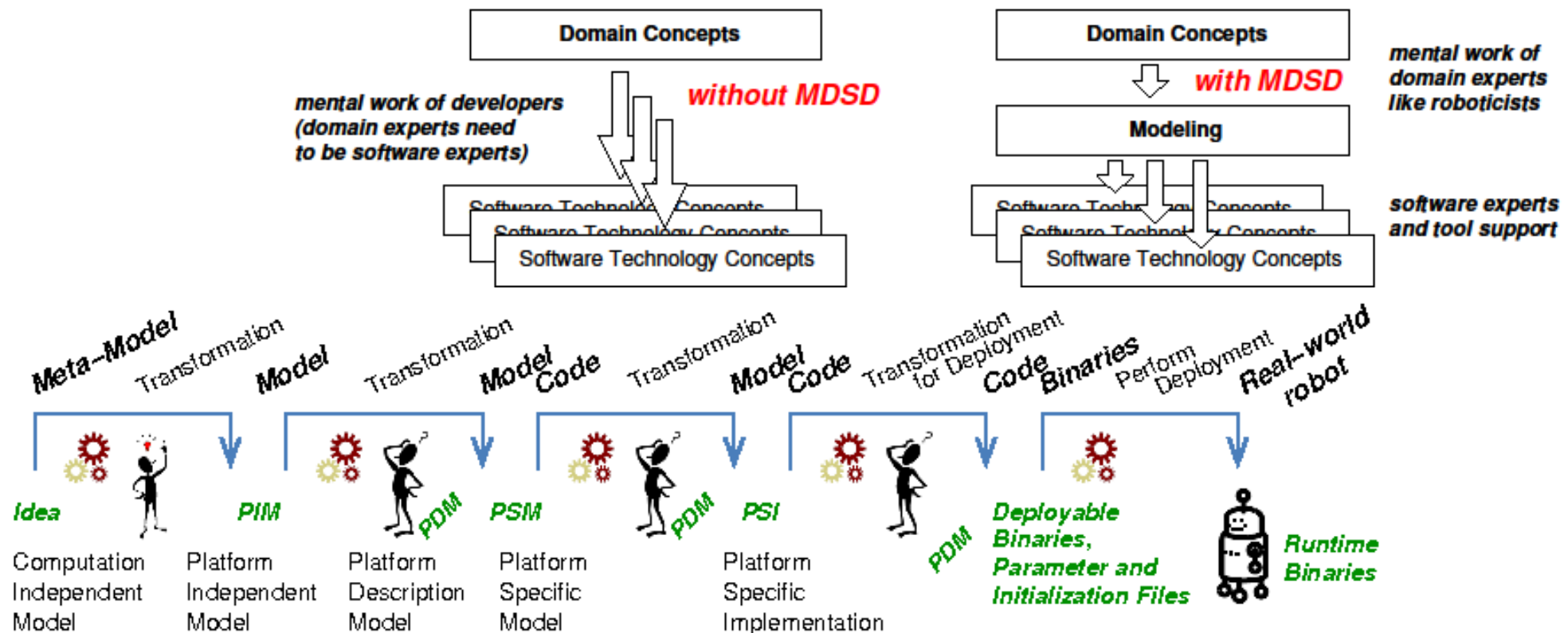
reusable	use of service, not reuse by copying of code/implementation
abstracted	service is abstracted from the implementation
published	precise, published specification functionality of service interface, not implementation
formal	formal contract between endpoints places obligations on provider and consumer
relevant	functionality is presented at a granularity recognized by the user as a meaningful service

Principles of good service design enabled by characteristics of SOA (Sprott & Wilkes, 2004)

Where to start?

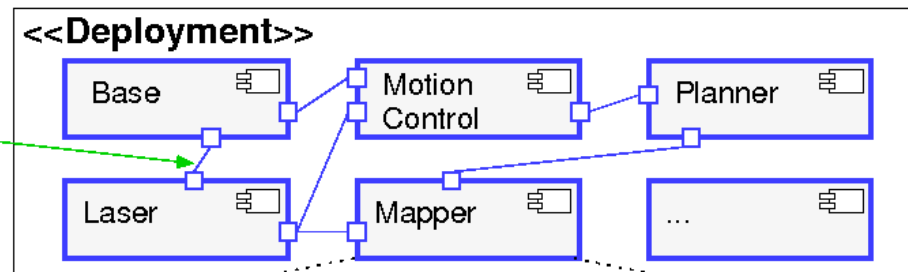
MDSD – Model-Driven SW Development

- make software development more domain related as opposed to computing related
- it is also about making software development in a certain domain more efficient and more robust due to design abstraction
- Analysis / requirements models are **non-computational**, MDSD models are **computational**
- MDSD models are no „paperwork“, they **are** the solution which is translated into code automatically



The SmartSoft Component Model

Stable Interfaces

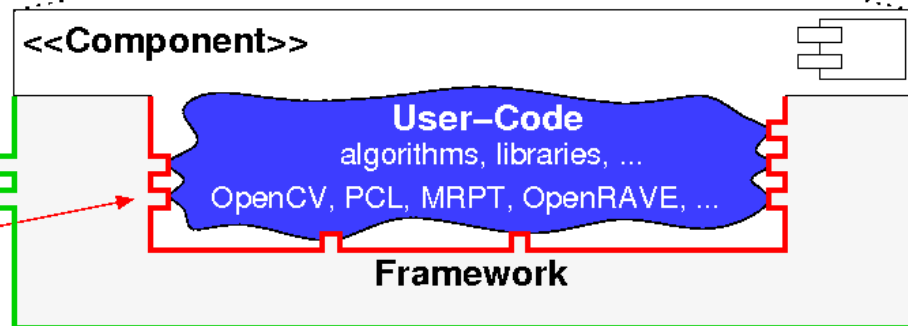


compose
components

System-Level (S)

- build system
- reuse components
- black-box view on components

Application
Builder

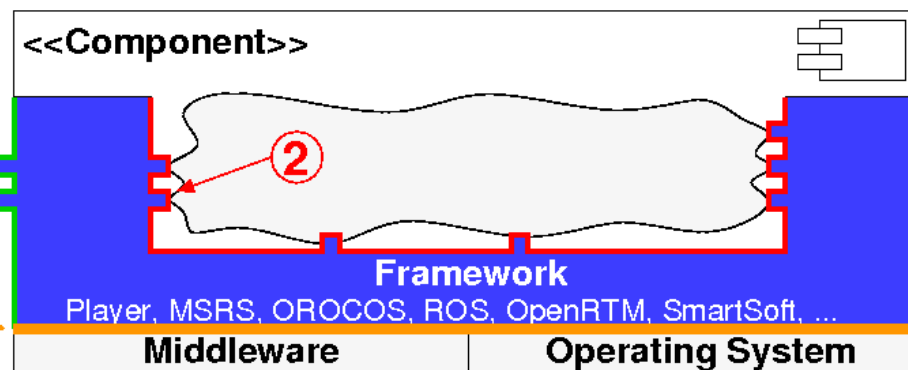


integrate
algorithms and
libraries

Component-Level (C)

- build component
- use framework
- black-box view on framework

Component
Builder



map component-
model onto specific
target platform

Framework-Level (F)

- build framework
- abstract middleware and OS details
- black-box view on middleware / OS

Framework
Builder

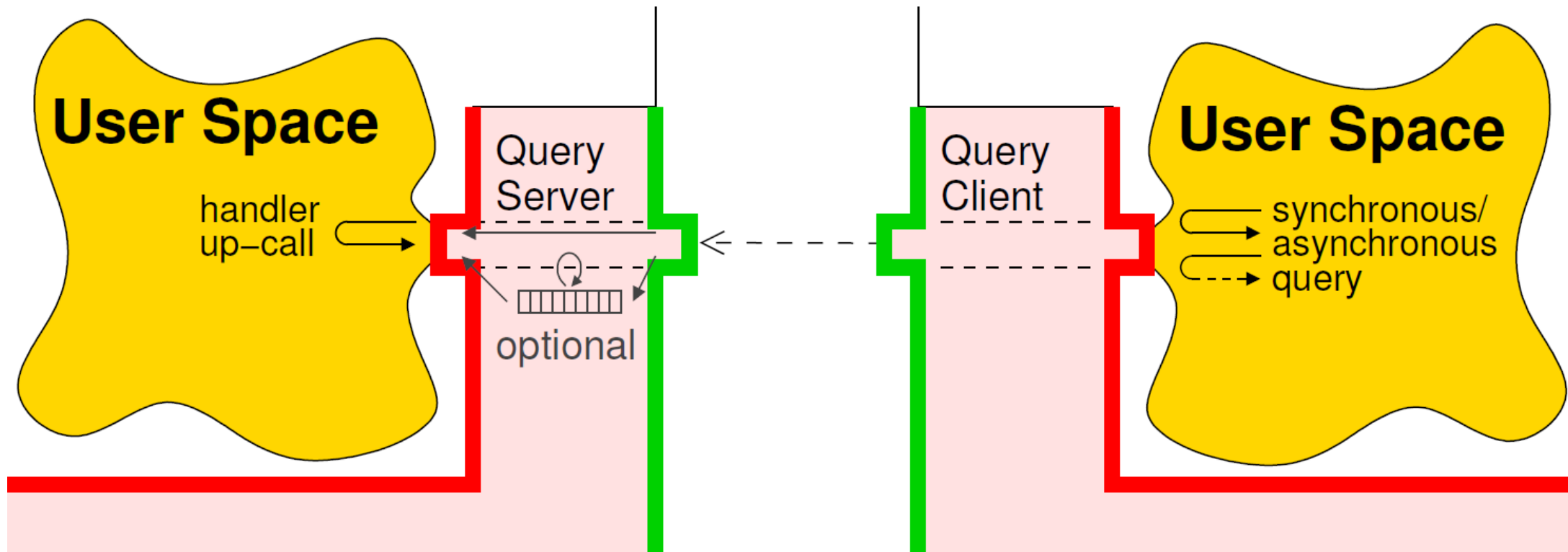
stable
provided / required
ports

stable interface
to user-code
inside component

stable interface
to middleware and
operating system

The SmartSoft Component Model

Stable Interfaces



The SmartSoft Component Model

Stable Interfaces

R
A

Query Client

```
+ QueryClient(:SmartComponent*) throw(SmartError)
+ QueryClient(:SmartComponent*, server:const string&, service:const string&) throw(SmartError)
+ QueryClient(:SmartComponent*, port:const string&, slave:WiringSlave*) throw(SmartError)
+ ~QueryClient() throw() [virtual]

+ add(:WiringSlave*, port:const string&) : StatusCode throw()
+ remove() : StatusCode throw()

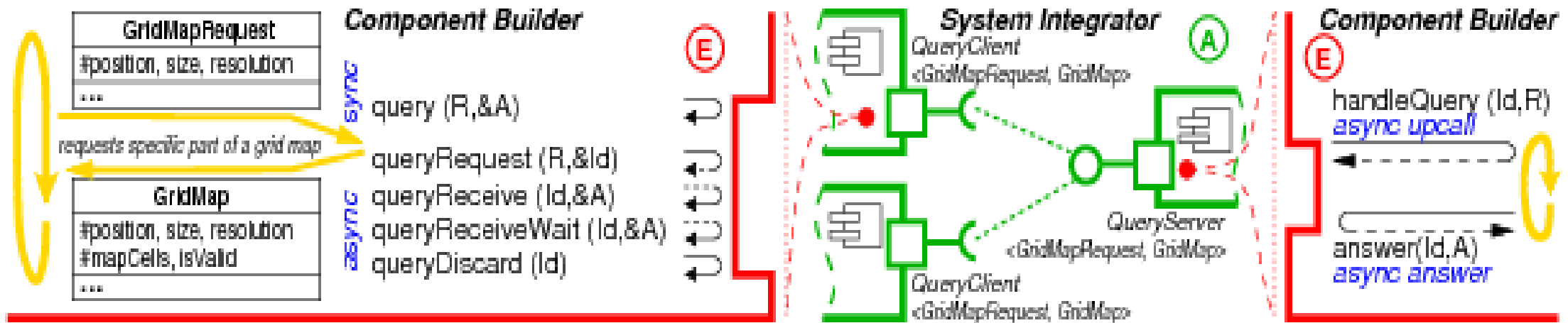
+ connect(server:const string&, service:const string&) : StatusCode throw()
+ disconnect() : StatusCode throw()

+ blocking(flag:const bool) : StatusCode throw()

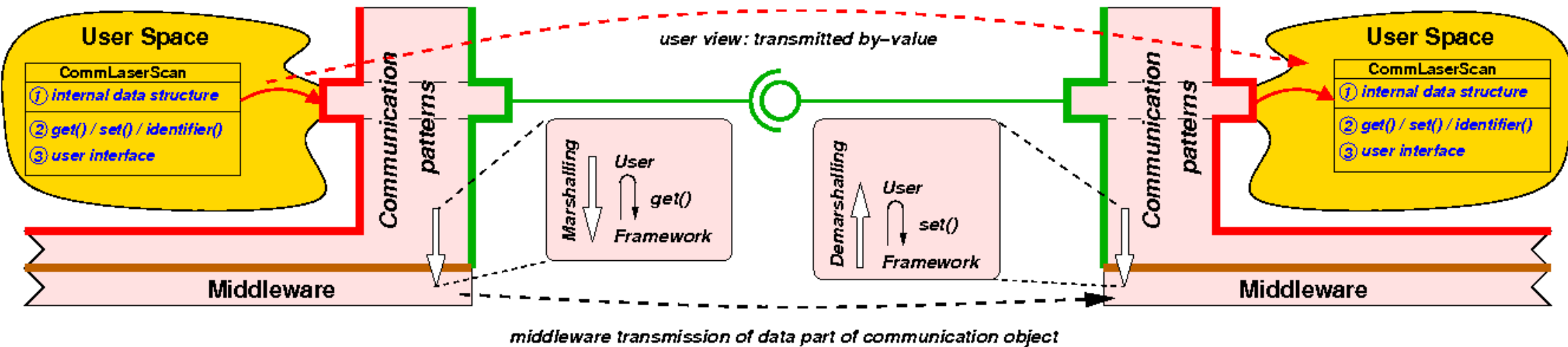
+ query(request:const R&, answer:A&) : StatusCode throw()
+ queryRequest(request:const R&, id:QueryId&) : StatusCode throw()
+ queryReceive(id:const QueryId, answer:A&) : StatusCode throw()
+ queryReceiveWait(id:const QueryId, answer:A&) : StatusCode throw()
+ queryDiscard(id:const QueryId) : StatusCode throw()
```

SmartSoft Component Model

Stable Interfaces

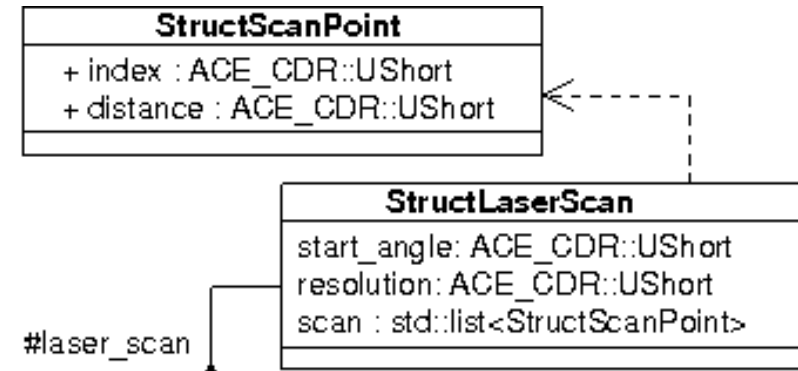
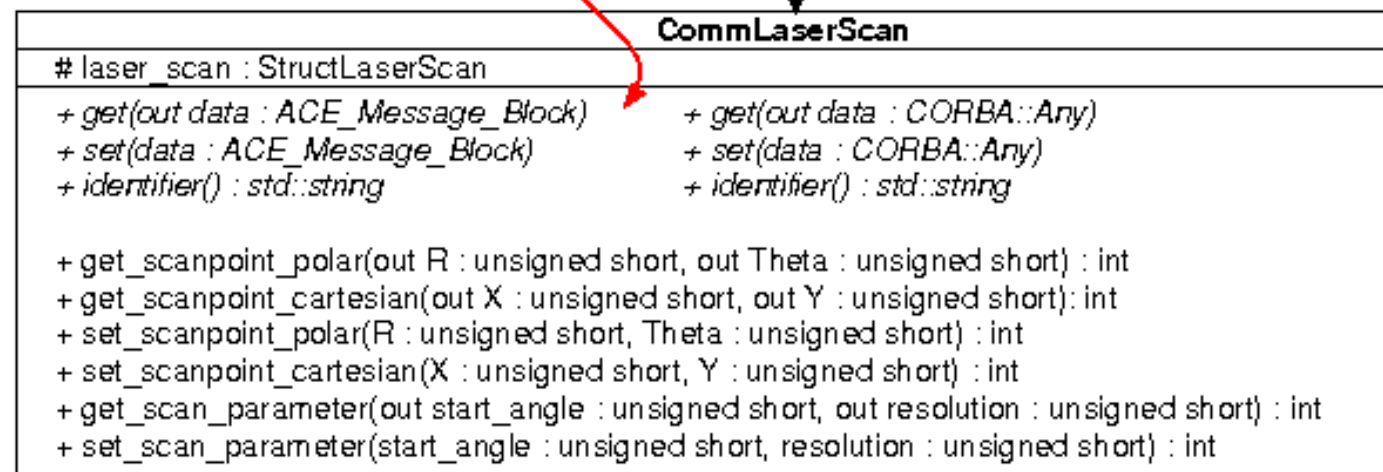


SmartSoft Technical Details

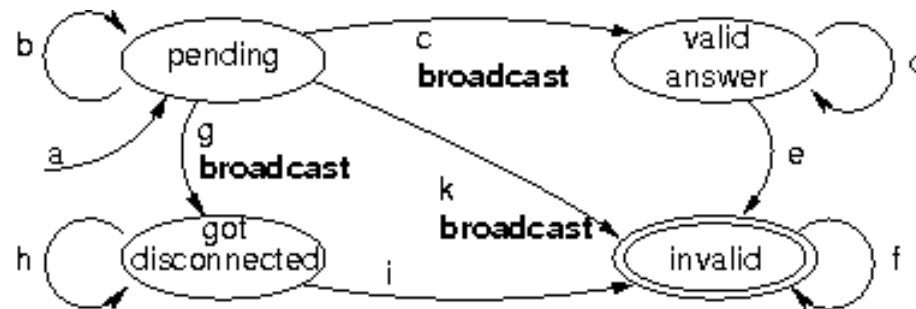


SmartSoft Technical Details

```
void CommLaserScan::get(ACE_Message_Block *&data) const {
    ACE_OutputCDR out(ACE_DEFAULT_CDR_BUFSIZE);
    ACE_CDR::ULong size = laser_scan.scan.size();
    out << laser_scan.start_angle;
    out << laser_scan.resolution;
    out << size;
    std::list<StructScanPoint>::const_iterator iter;
    for (iter=laser_scan.scan.begin(); iter != laser_scan.scan.end(); iter++)
        out << iter->index; out << iter->distance;
    data = out.begin()->clone();
}
```

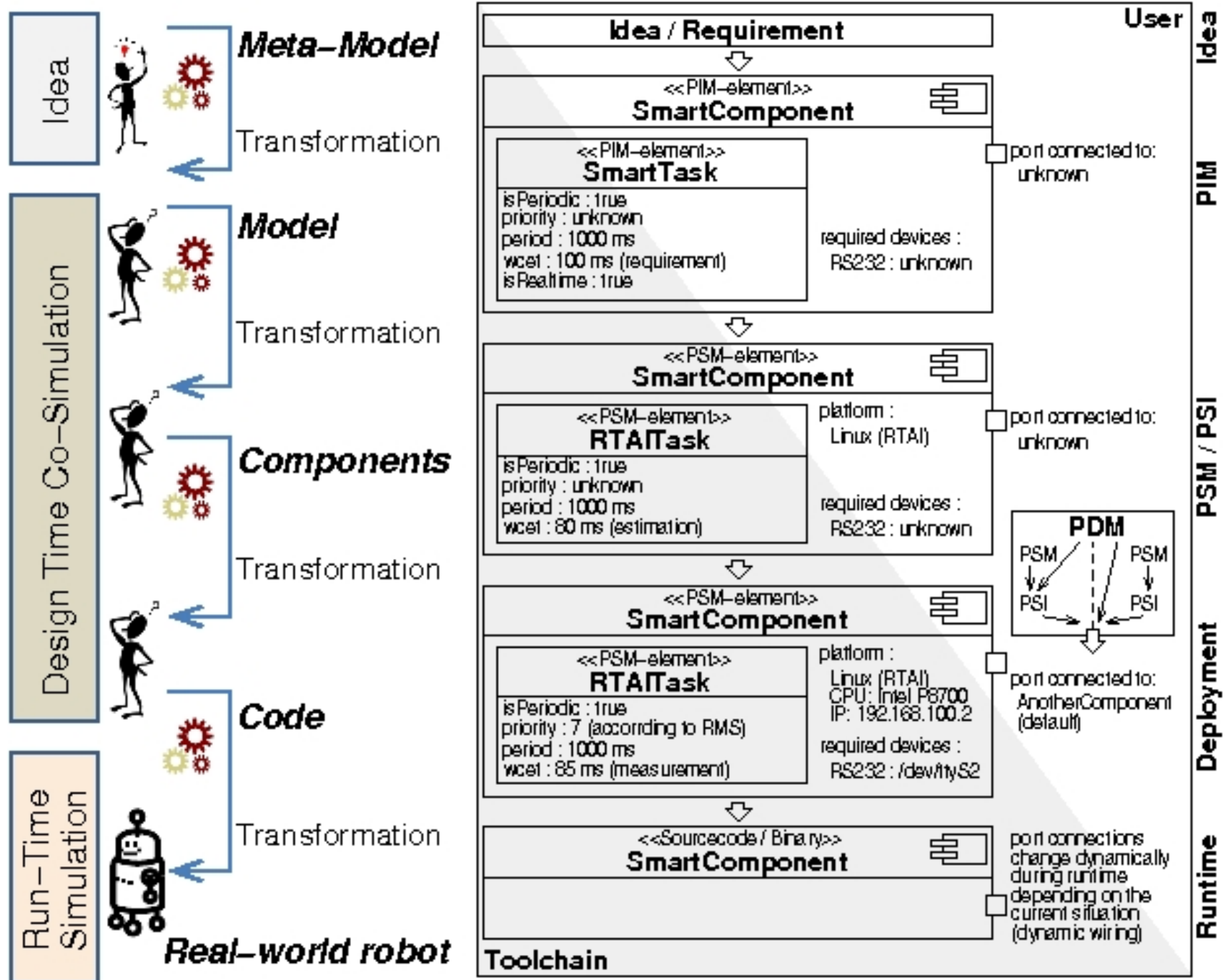
① *internal data structure*② *framework interface*③ *user interface*

SmartSoft Technical Details



Query: client side state automaton (per request)





Model Driven Software Development Glueing User Code / Legacy Code

```
*PlayerPushTimedHandler.cc
```

```
#include <iostream>

void PlayerPushTimedHandler::handlePushTimer(
    CHS::PushTimedServer<Smart::CommBaseState> & server) throw()
{
    COMP->PlayerClientMutex.acquire();
    COMP->robot->ReadIfWaiting();
    double xPos = COMP->position_2d_proxy->GetXPos();
    double yPos = COMP->position_2d_proxy->GetYPos();
    double aPos = COMP->position_2d_proxy->GetYaw();
    double xSpeed = COMP->position_2d_proxy->GetXSpeed();
    double ySpeed = COMP->position_2d_proxy->GetYSpeed();
    double yawSpeed = COMP->position_2d_proxy->GetYawSpeed();
    COMP->PlayerClientMutex.release();

    base_position.set_x(xPos, 1.0);
    base_position.set_y(yPos, 1.0);
    base_position.set_base_alpha(aPos);
    base_velocity.set_v(((xSpeed + ySpeed) / 2.0) * 1000.0);
    base_velocity.set_omega_base(yawSpeed);
    base_state.set_base_position(base_position);
    base_state.set_base_velocity(base_velocity);

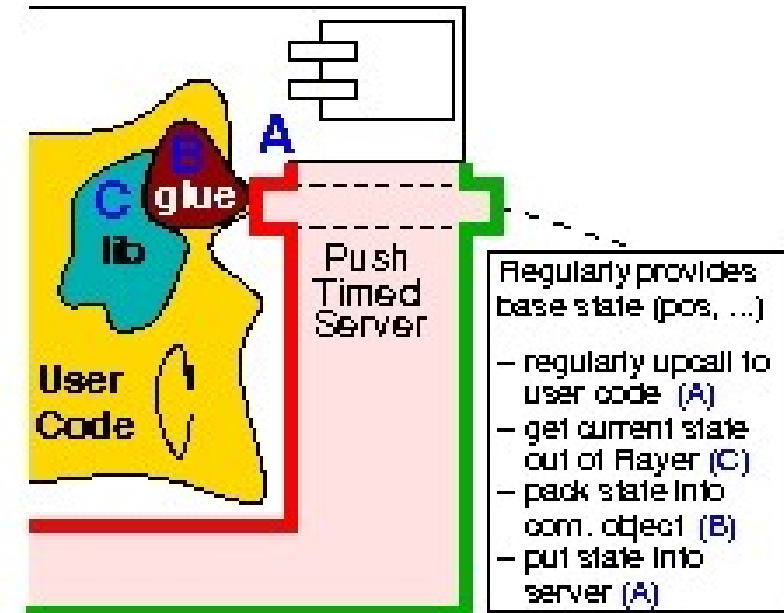
    server.put(base_state);
}
```

A

C

B

A

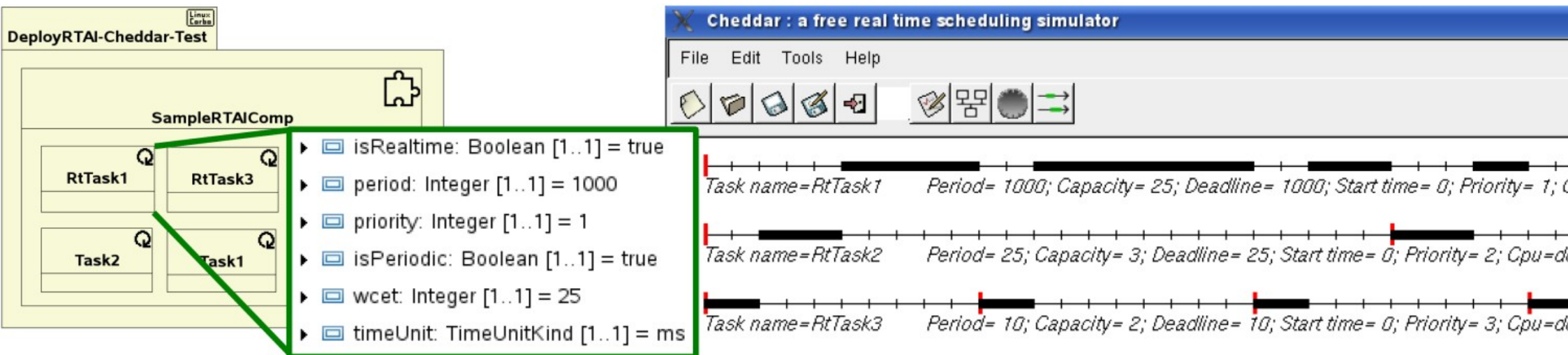


Model-Driven Software Development System-Integrator View / Deployment

System Level Properties / Bindings / Conformance Checks

Resource Awareness and Quality of Service

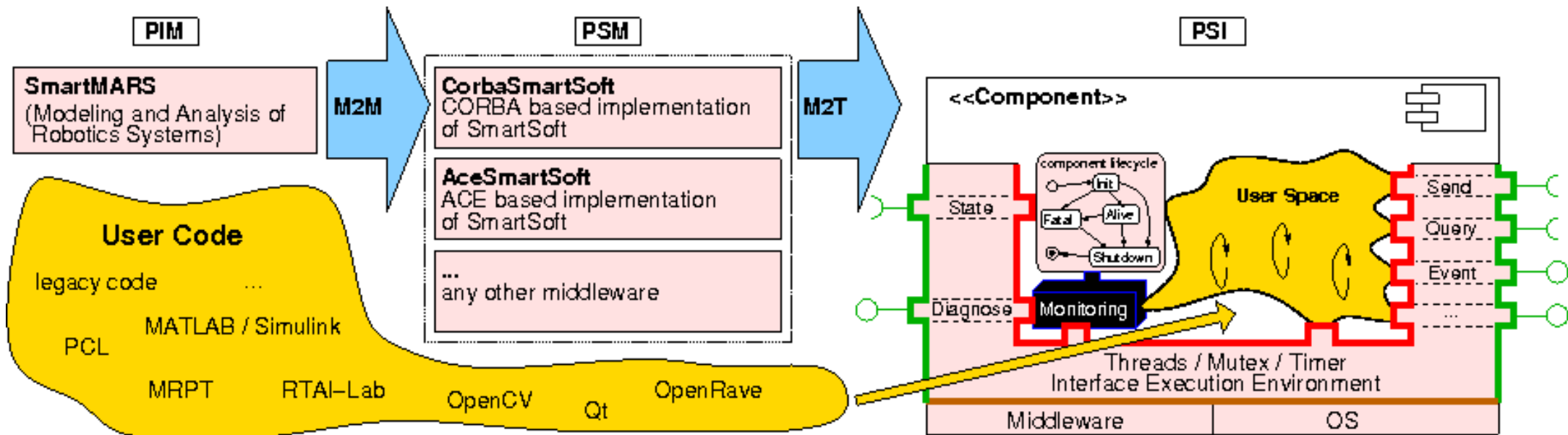
- Example: Schedulability Analysis (CHEDDAR)



Model-Driven Software Development SmartMDSD

Illustration of the Development Process

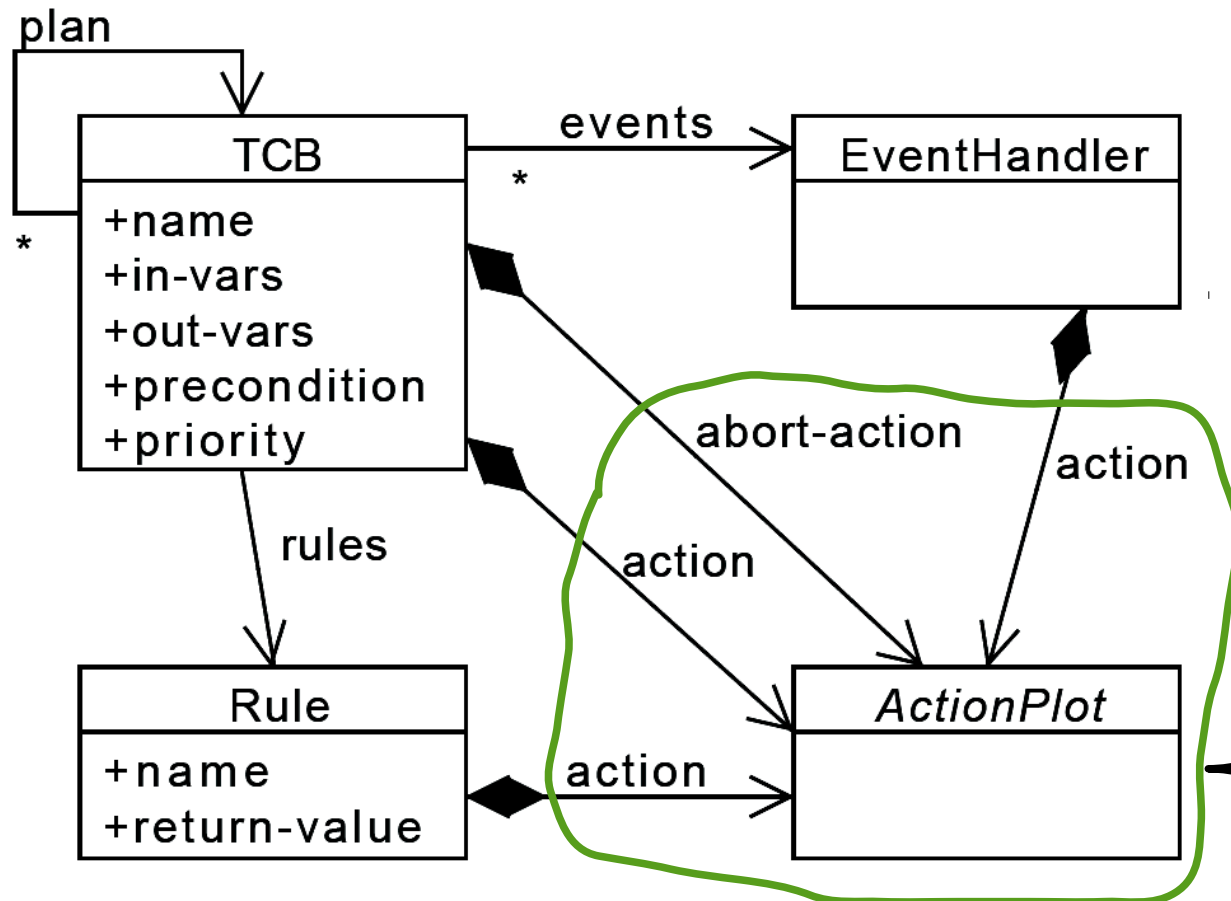
- Implemented as UML 2.0-Profile for Robotics Software Components
- supports Component Development, System Integration, Deployment
- based on standards: UML 2.0, Papyrus, Eclipse Modeling Project, etc.
- different Runtime-Platforms, Middleware-Systems etc.



2-step transformation workflow (framework builder view)

Run-Time: Managing Execution Variants

The SmartTCL Meta-Model



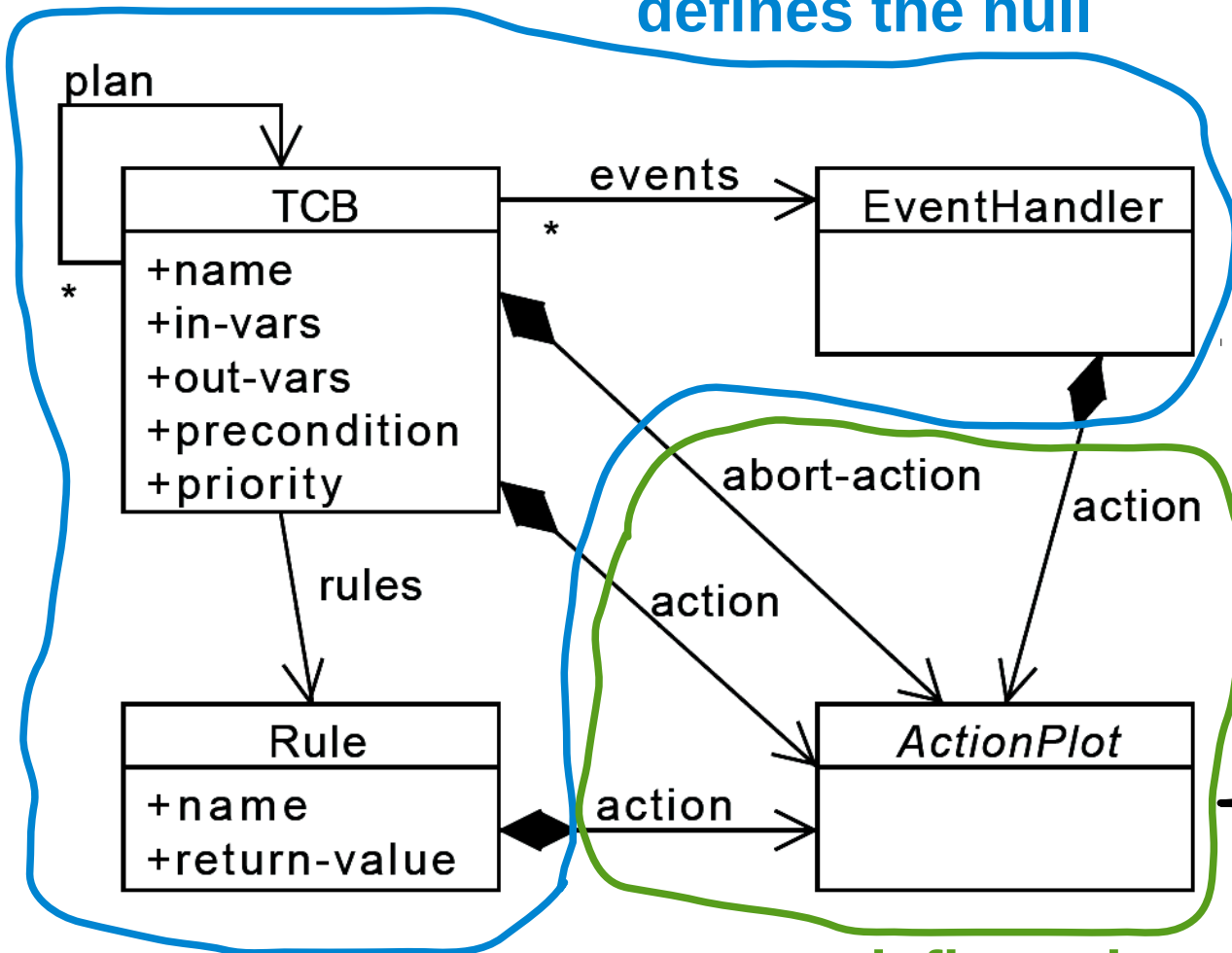
Lisp code (with restrictions):

- actions should not invoke blocking calls that take a long time relative to the reactivity which is expected from SmartTCL
- SmartTCL specific function:
 - tcl-param, tcl-state
 - tcl-wiring, tcl-query
 - tcl-activate-event
 - tcl-delete-event
 - ...

Run-Time: Managing Execution Variants

The SmartTCL Meta-Model

defines the hull



Actions are encapsulated by a hull:

- TCB
- EventHandler
- Rule

Lisp code (with restrictions):

- actions should not invoke blocking calls that take a long time relative to the reactivity which is expected from SmartTCL
- SmartTCL specific function:
 - tcl-param, tcl-state
 - tcl-wiring, tcl-query
 - tcl-activate-event
 - tcl-delete-event
 - ...