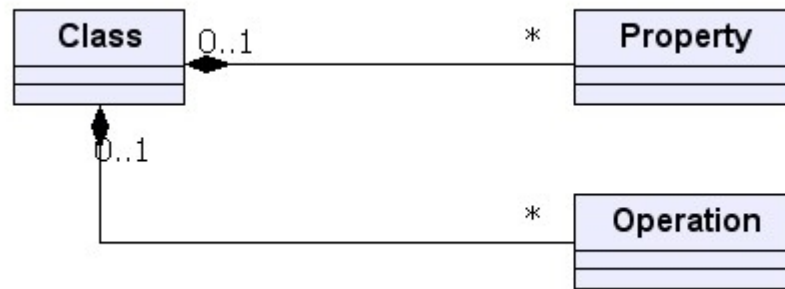


UML Meta Model

Introduction

- The UML meta model is a UML class model that describes UML.
UML is a language we can define using UML class diagrams.
- Each UML “word” can be defined using as a class diagram.
The following example was extracted from UML meta model. This diagram shows that a class can have an arbitrary number of properties and an arbitrary number of operations.

Simple UML Meta Model Example



UML Four Layers Architecture

- The UML language is defined in a meta model. This meta model is one abstract layer above the UML model we create.

In total there are four layers. The model we eventually get during runtime, a model of objects and classes related with each other in accordance with the UML model we created is the lowest layer. The UML model we created is one layer above. Above the UML model layer we can find the UML meta model layer and above it we can find the UML meta meta model layer, a layer that models the UML meta model.

UML Meta Model Packages

- The UML meta model is very big. For structuring reason, it was divided into separated packages.

This separation assists understanding the UML meta model.

UML Meta Model Abstract Classes

- In addition to the concrete classes, the UML meta model includes many abstract classes.

The abstract classes are not instantiated. They are not used on the UML diagram users create.

UML Meta Model

12/25/08

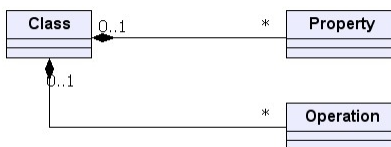
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