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A Simplified SysML-Based Approach for Modeling Complex Systems

# MBSE Grid

# Authors



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*Co-chair  
and one of the leading architects for the current  
OMG UPDM/UAF standard development group*



Holds PhD. in Informatics Engineering





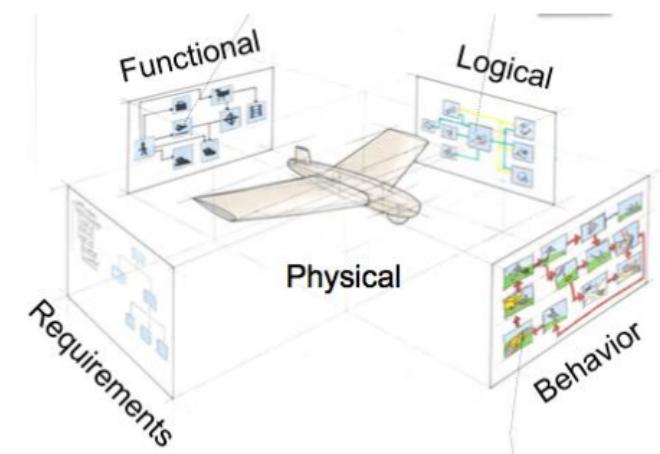
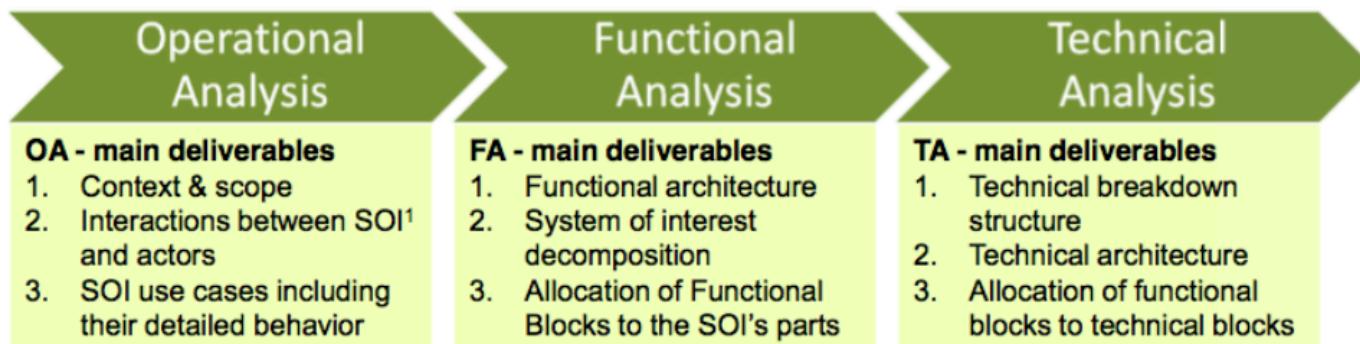
# Motivation

- It is common misunderstanding in MBSE, that SysML as modeling language is enough to successfully apply MBSE
- Modeling language is just the language, and must be combined with a methodology to be useful
- Quite a few methods available for MBSE
- The ones that exist are too abstract for solving a real-world problem

# Idea



- Decade working on standardization of military frameworks (UPDM, NAF, DoDAF, MODAF, UAF)
- Expertise acquired working on real-world projects in transportation and defense industries

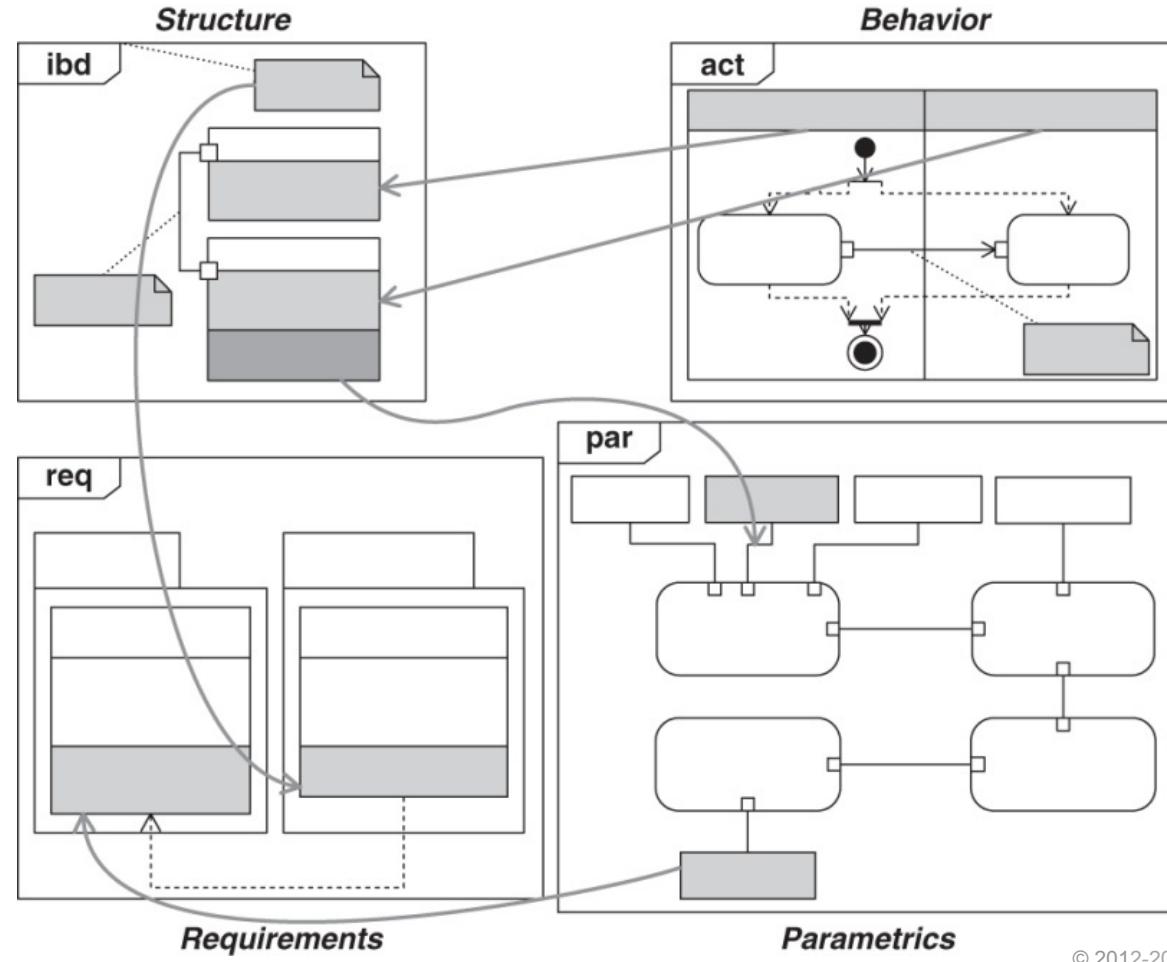


Bombardier Transportation System Modeling Method (Naas et al., 2015)

KDA System Architecture Framework



# The Four Pillars of SysML



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# MBSE Grid



		Pillar			
Layer of Abstraction	Problem	Requirements	Behavior	Structure	Parametrics
		B1 Stakeholder Needs	B2 Use Cases	B3 System Context	B4 Measurements of Effectiveness
	Solution	W1 System Requirements	W2 Functional Analysis	W3 Logical Subsystems Communication	W4 MoEs of Subsystems
		S1 Component Requirements	S2 Component Behavior	S3 Component Structure	S4 Component Parameters

# Case Study: Vehicle AC Unit





# Problem Domain: Black Box

		Pillar			
Domain	Problem	Requirements	Behavior	Structure	Parametrics
	Black Box	B1 Stakeholder Needs	B2 Use Cases	B3 System Context	B4 Measurements of Effectiveness
	White Box	W1 System Requirements	W2 Functional Analysis	W3 Logical Subsystems Communication	W4 MoEs of Subsystems
Solution	S1 Component Requirements	S2 Component Behavior	S3 Component Structure	S4 Component Parameters	

- Black-box perspective describes the Sol as a whole
- In this perspective, stakeholder needs, functions expected from the Sol, user scenarios, Sol interaction with environment, and measurements of effectiveness are defined
- The operational analysis of the system is performed

# Stakeholder Needs



		Pillar				
Domain		Requirements	Behavior	Structure	Parametrics	
	Black Box	B1 Stakeholder Needs	B2 Use Cases	B3 System Context	B4 Measurements of Effectiveness	
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# Stakeholder Needs

- captures stakeholder requirements, regulations, policies, principles, and internal guidelines to develop a system
- in Requirements Engineering process this is the raw information elicited from the user that needs to be refined, first by analysing, second by specifying more detailed system requirements



The screenshot shows a software interface titled 'Stakeholder Needs'. The top menu bar includes 'Add New', 'Add Nested', 'Add Existing...', 'Delete', 'Remove From Table', and a 'Criteria' dropdown. The main area is a table titled 'Criteria' with the following data:

#	Name	Text
1	SN-1 User Needs	
2	SN-1.1 Setting Temperature	It must be possible to set and maintain desired temperature in the cabin.
3	SN-1.2 Heat and Cool Modes	Unit shall be able to heat and cool.
4	SN-1.3 Noise Level	Climate control unit in max mode shall not be louder than engine.
5	SN-1.4 Climate Control Mass	Mass of the unit shall not exceed 5 percent of the total car mass.

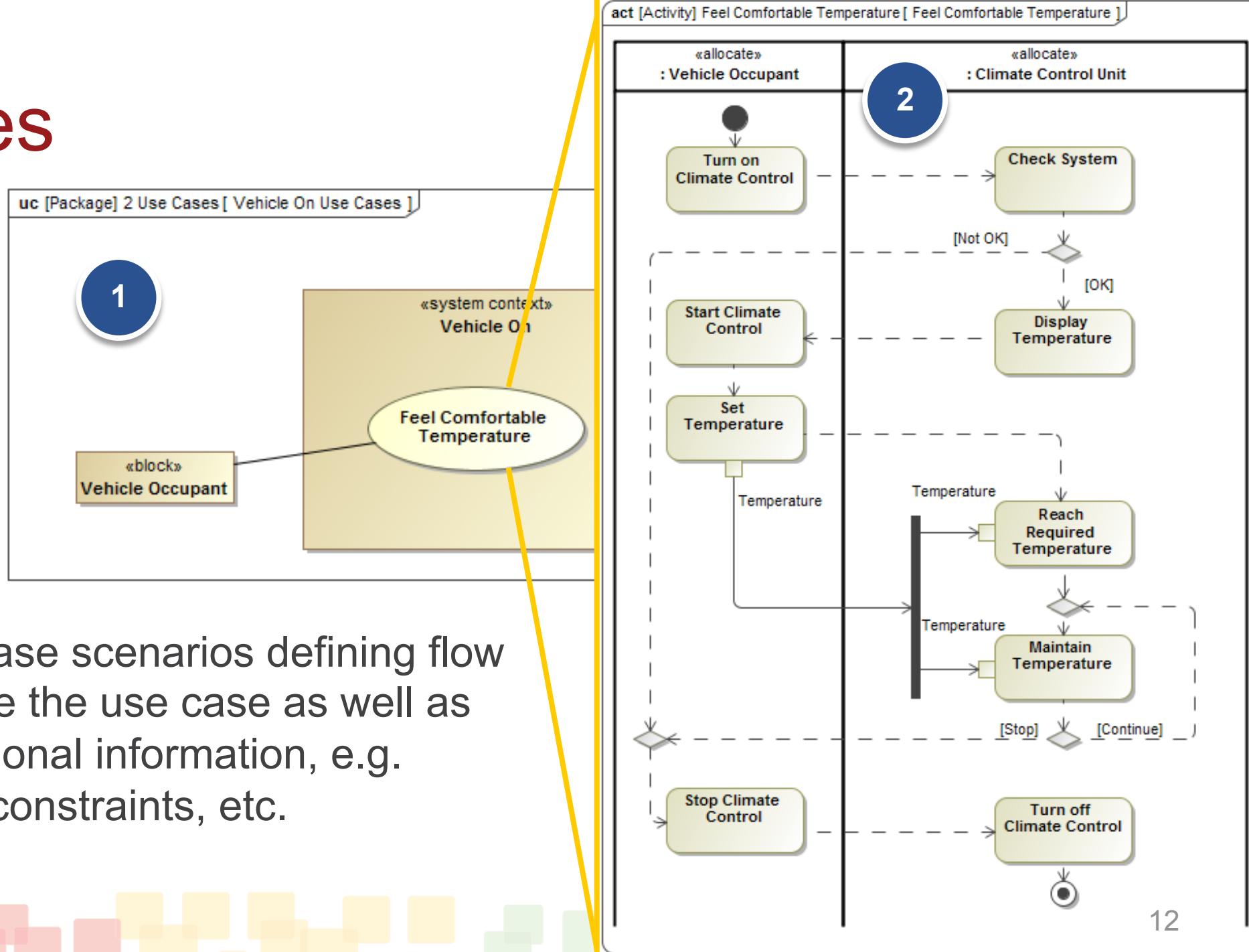
# Use Cases



		Pillar				
Domain		Requirements	Behavior	Structure	Parametrics	
	Problem	B1 Stakeholder Needs	B2 Use Cases	B3 System Context	B4 Measurements of Effectiveness	
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# Use Cases

- captures refinement of functional user needs in a form of a use case specification
- includes use case scenarios defining flow of events inside the use case as well as the other additional information, e.g. prerequisites, constraints, etc.



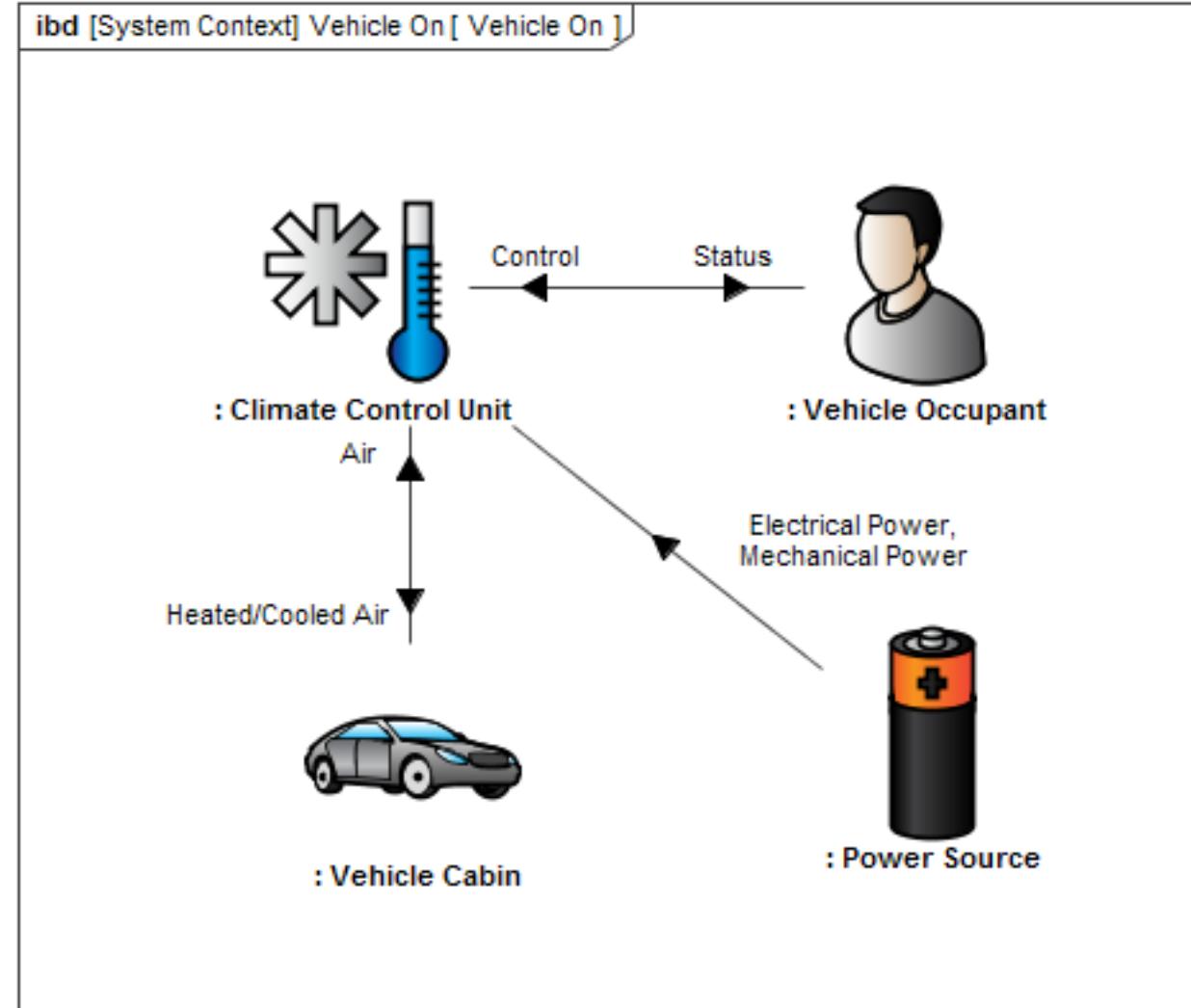
# System Context



		Pillar				
Domain	Problem	Requirements	Behavior	Structure	Parametrics	
		B1 Stakeholder Needs	B2 Use Cases	B3 System Context	B4 Measurements of Effectiveness	
	White Box	W1 System Requirements	W2 Functional Analysis	W3 Logical Subsystems Communication	W4 MoEs of Subsystems	
Solution		S1 Component Requirements	S2 Component Behavior	S3 Component Structure	S4 Component Parameters	

# System Context

- captures how Sol interacts with its environment
- origins of such model can be found in DoDAF, known as High Level Operational Context (HLOC)
- the purpose of the model is to depict high level interfaces needed for the system to communicate with its environment, e.g. GUI, UI, TCP/IP etc.
- can be supplemented with domain concept model





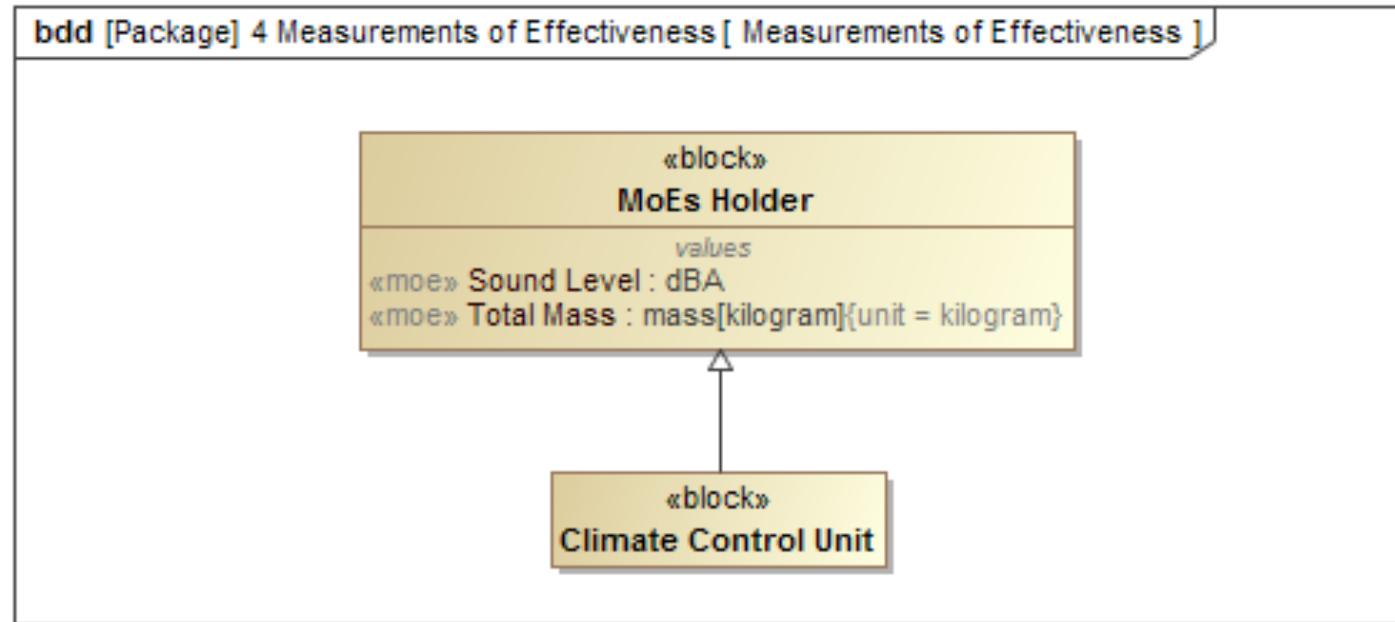
# Measurements of Effectiveness

		Pillar				
Domain	Problem	Requirements	Behavior	Structure	Parametrics	
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# Measurements of Effectiveness

- captures non-functional user set goals for the system expressed in numerical format



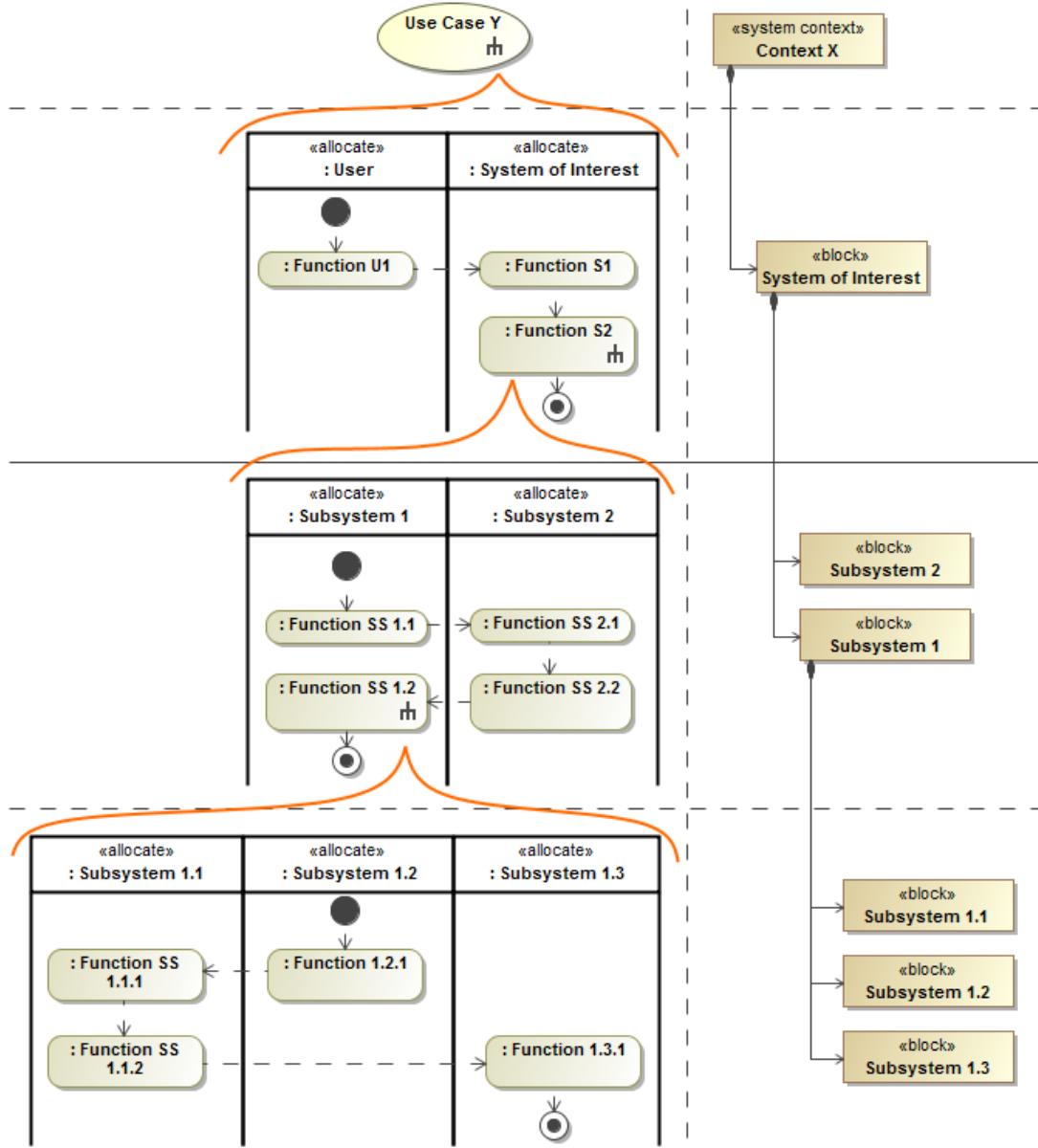


# Problem Domain: White Box

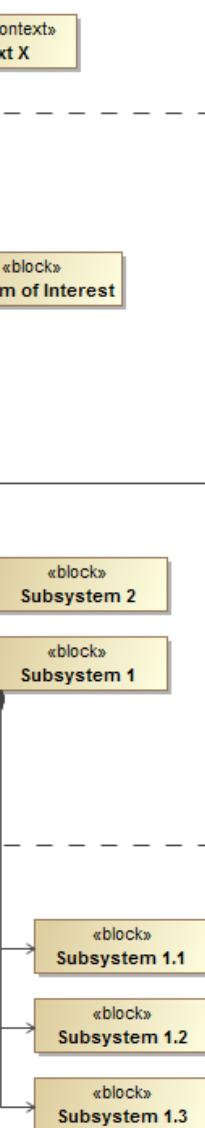
		Pillar			
Domain	Problem	Requirements	Behavior	Structure	Parametrics
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- White-box perspective, as opposed to the black-box, describes behaviors that are expected from subsystems of the Sol.
- In this perspective, environmental entities, are no longer considered: inputs and outputs of the Sol are delegated to its subsystems
- The result of the white-box analysis is system requirements specification (SRS)

## Behavior



## Structure



Black-box analysis

White-box analysis

# Functional Analysis



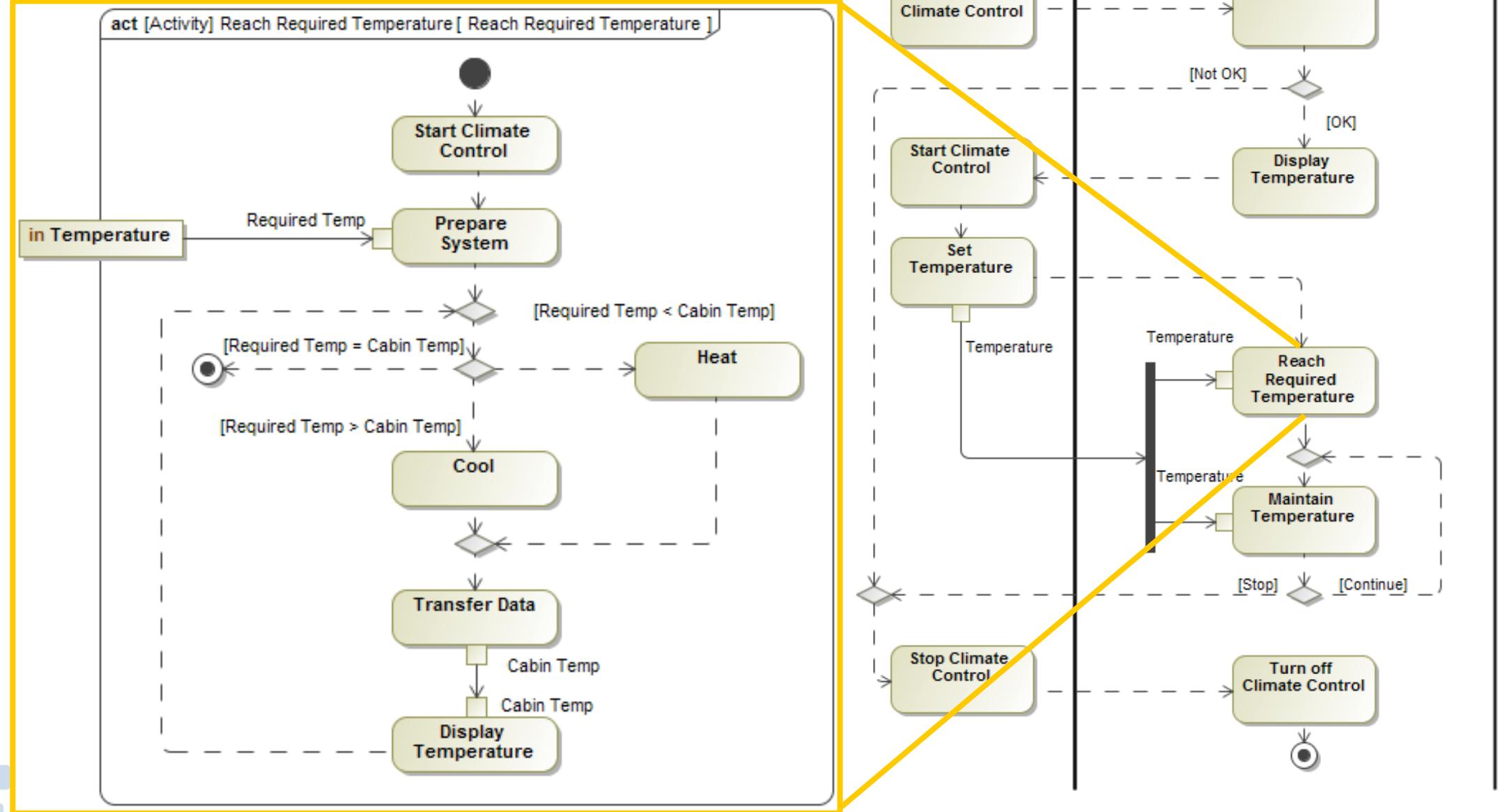
		Pillar				
Domain	Problem	Requirements		Behavior	Structure	Parametrics
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	Black Box					
	Solution					



# Functional Analysis

- continuation of functional use case analysis, where focus is internal system functions in some of the techniques known as processes
- functional analysis serves for identification of logical subsystems responsible for a group of functions

# Functional Analysis



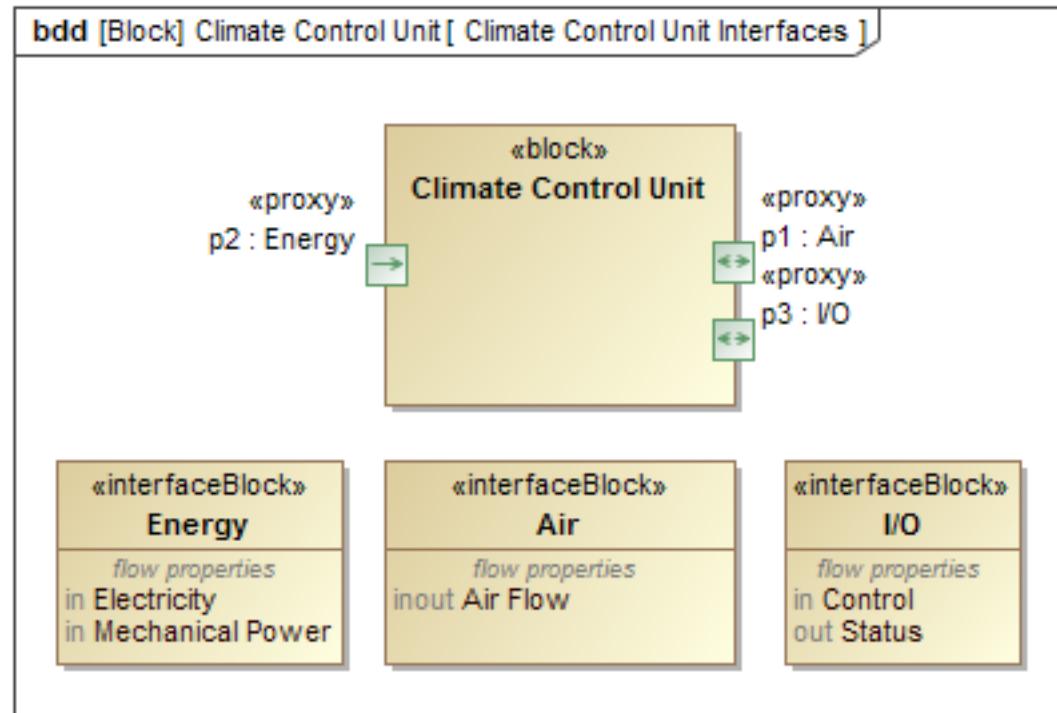


# Logical Subsystems Communication

		Pillar			
Domain	Problem	Requirements	Behavior	Structure	Parametrics
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# Logical Subsystems Communication



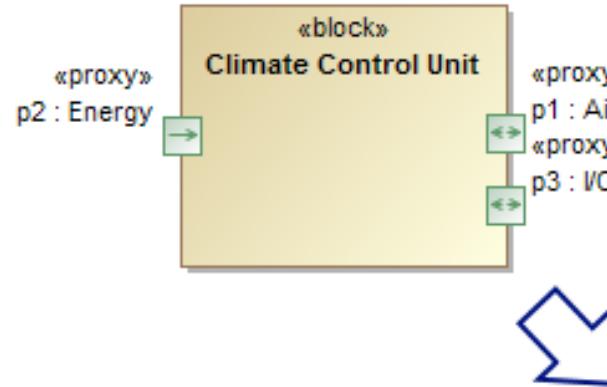
Criteria

Element Type: Port    ...    Block: Climate Control Unit (xy)    ...

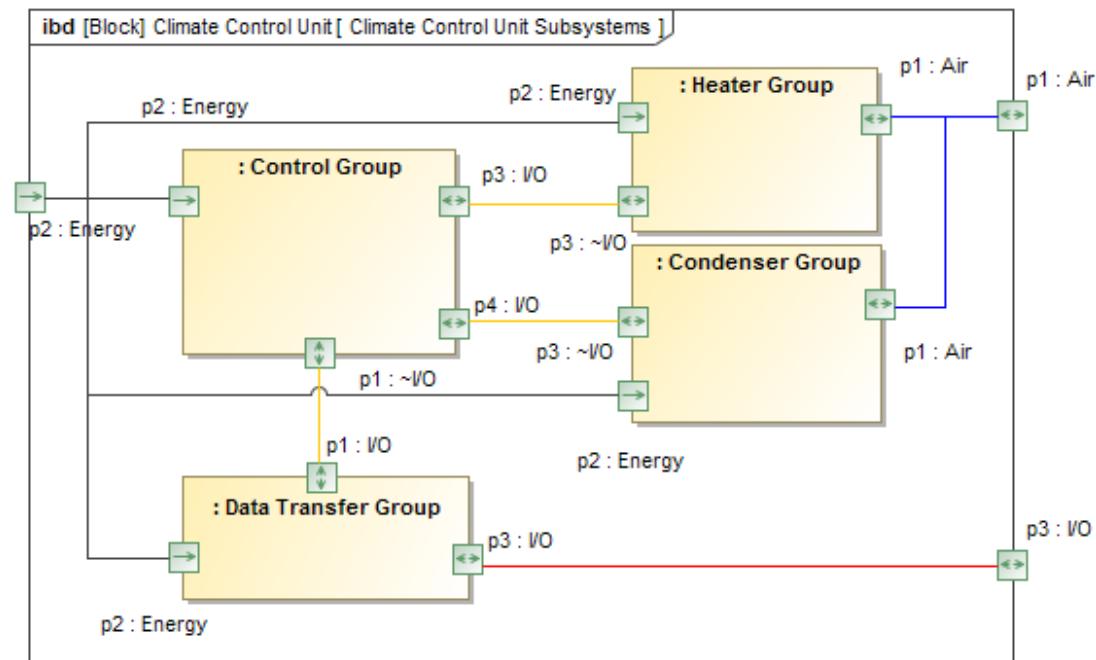
#	Port Name	Port Type	Type Features	Direction
1	p1	Air	<input type="checkbox"/> inout Air Flow	inout
2	p2	Energy	<input type="checkbox"/> in Electricity <input type="checkbox"/> in Mechanical Power	in
3	p3	I/O	<input type="checkbox"/> in Control <input type="checkbox"/> out Status	inout

- logical interfaces are identified and defined.
- interface control documents (ICD) can be generated.

# Logical Subsystems Communication

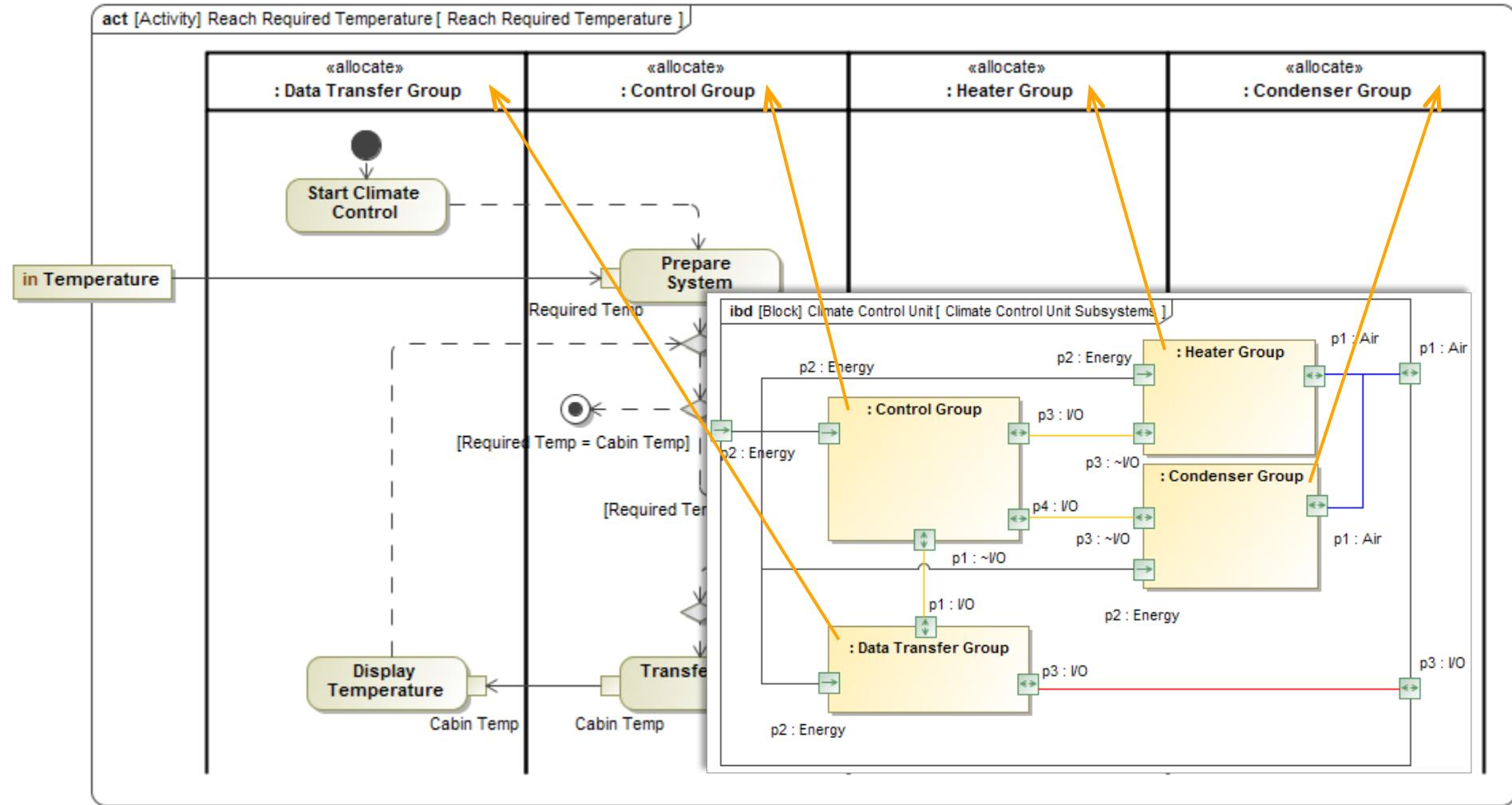


- identified logical subsystems, based on the control and resource flows captured in the functional analysis model, are connected with one another in terms of logical interfaces.





# Logical Subsystems Communication





# MoEs for Subsystems

		Pillar				
Domain		Requirements	Behavior	Structure	Parametrics	
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# MoEs for Subsystems

- In this cell, MoEs for one or more subsystems of the Sol are specified to make further refinements of non-functional stakeholder needs
- This cell is optional, as you might not need to specify MoEs additional to those defined for Sol

# System Requirements



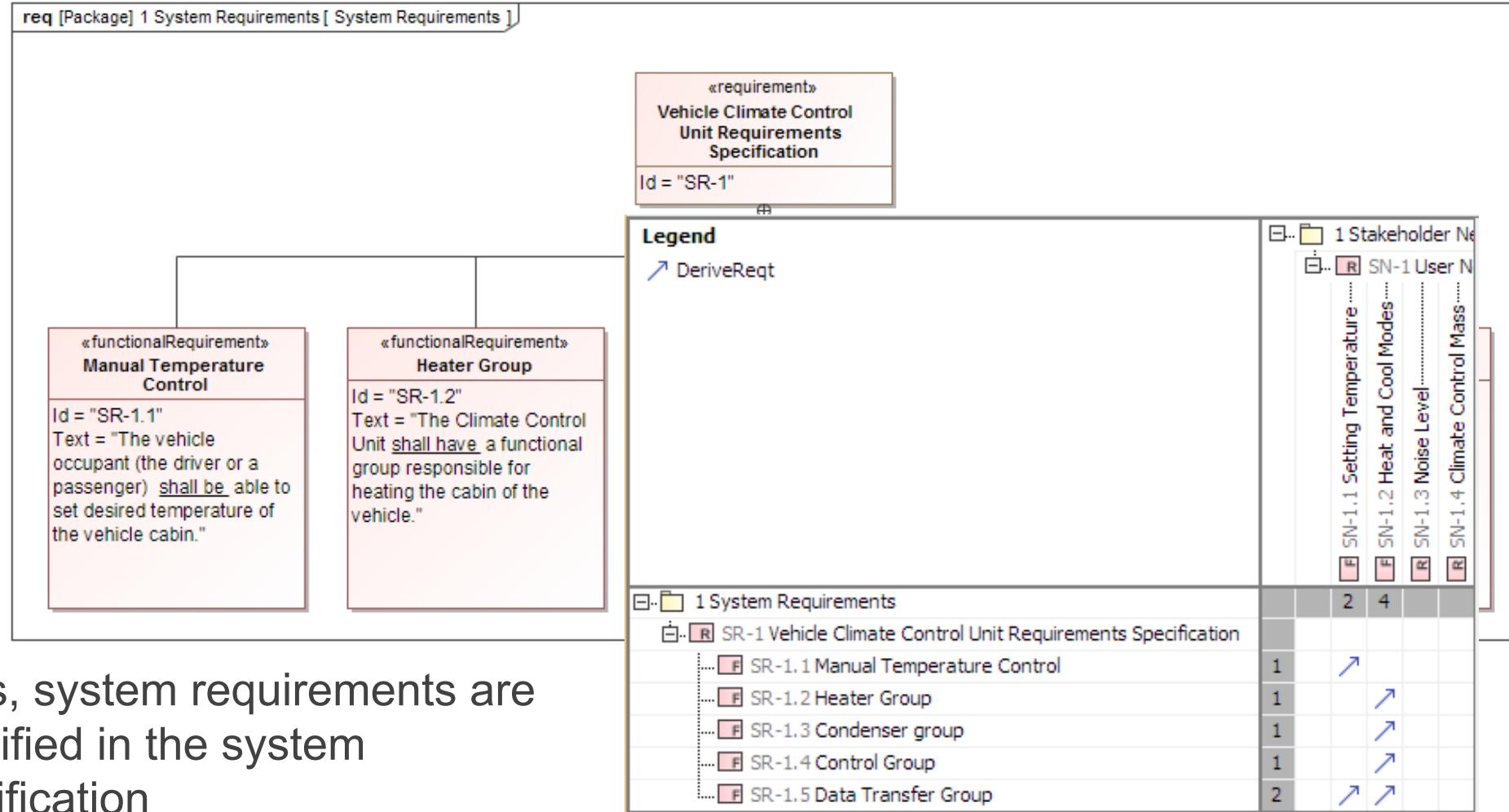
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# System Requirements



## Inputs:

- user needs
- functional analysis
- logical interfaces
- MoEs.



- by analysing inputs, system requirements are identified and specified in the system requirements specification

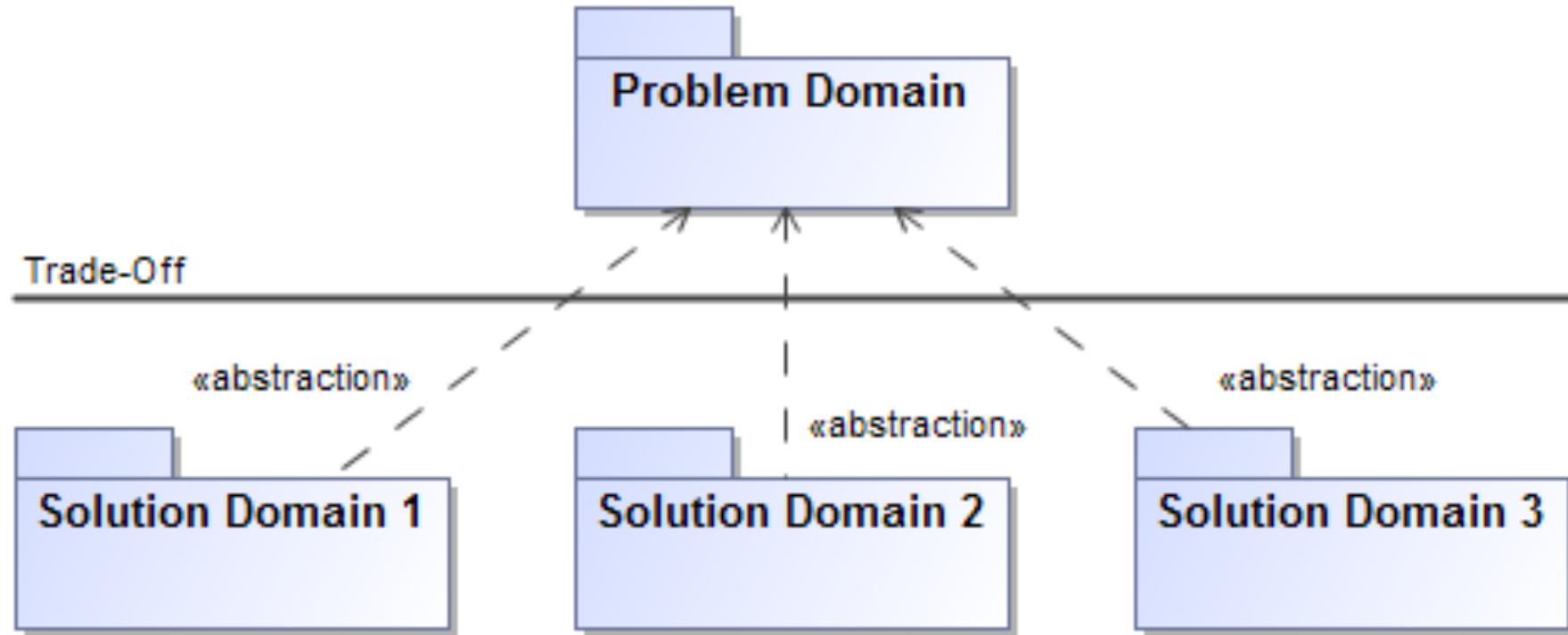
# Solution Domain



		Pillar				
Domain		Requirements	Behavior	Structure	Parametrics	
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# Trade-off Analysis

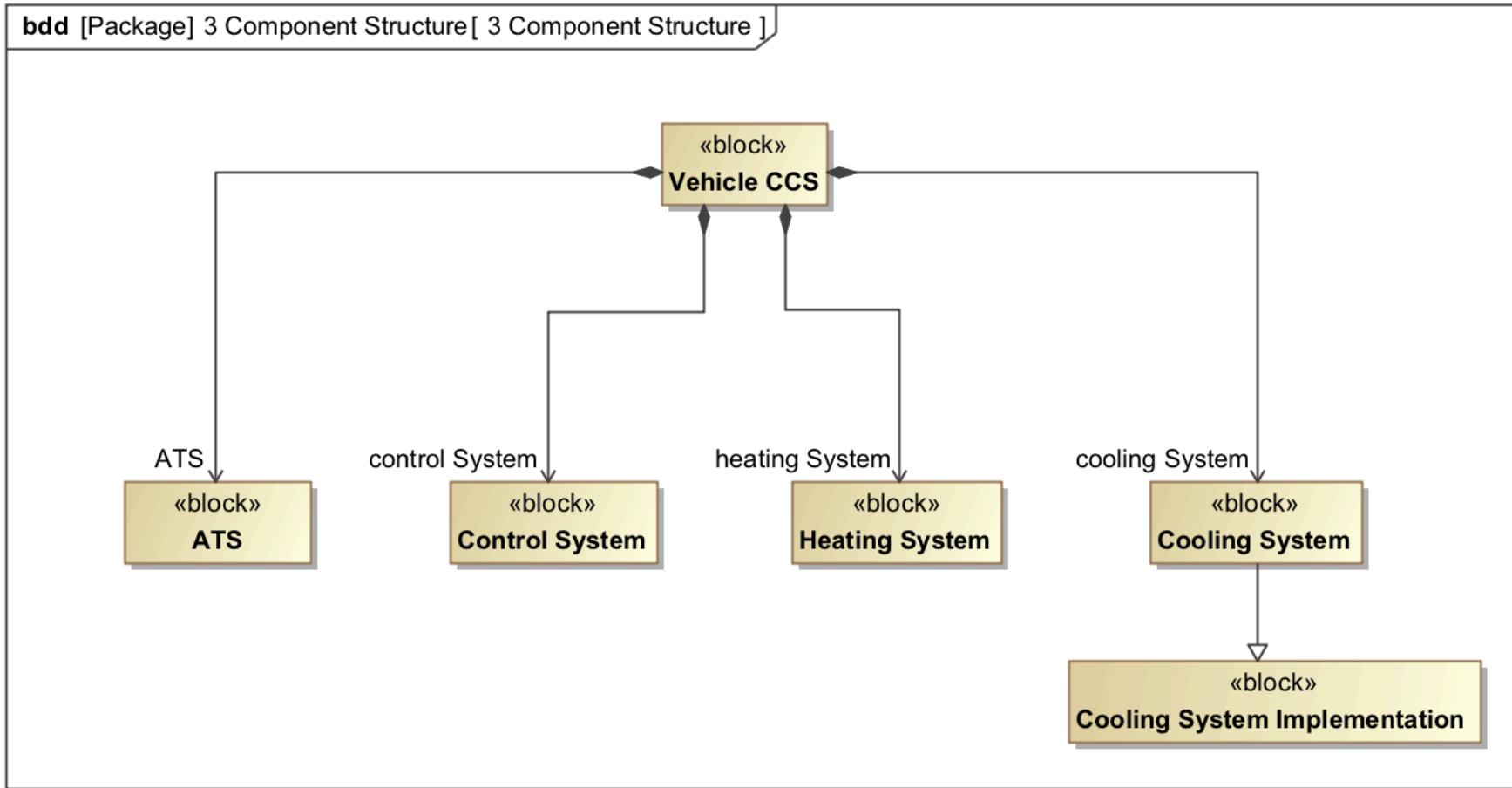


# Component Structure

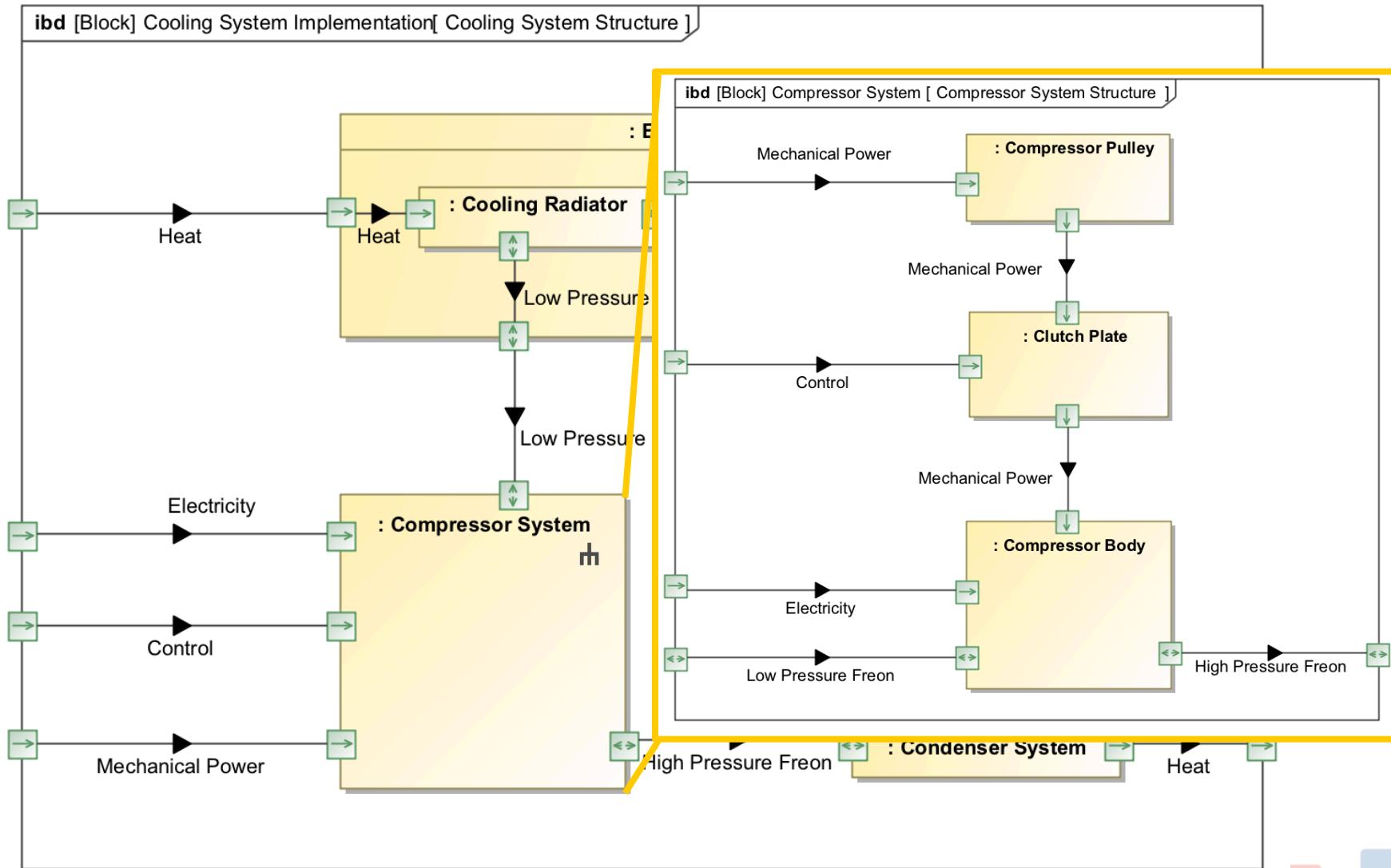


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# Component Structure



# Component Structure



# Component Behavior

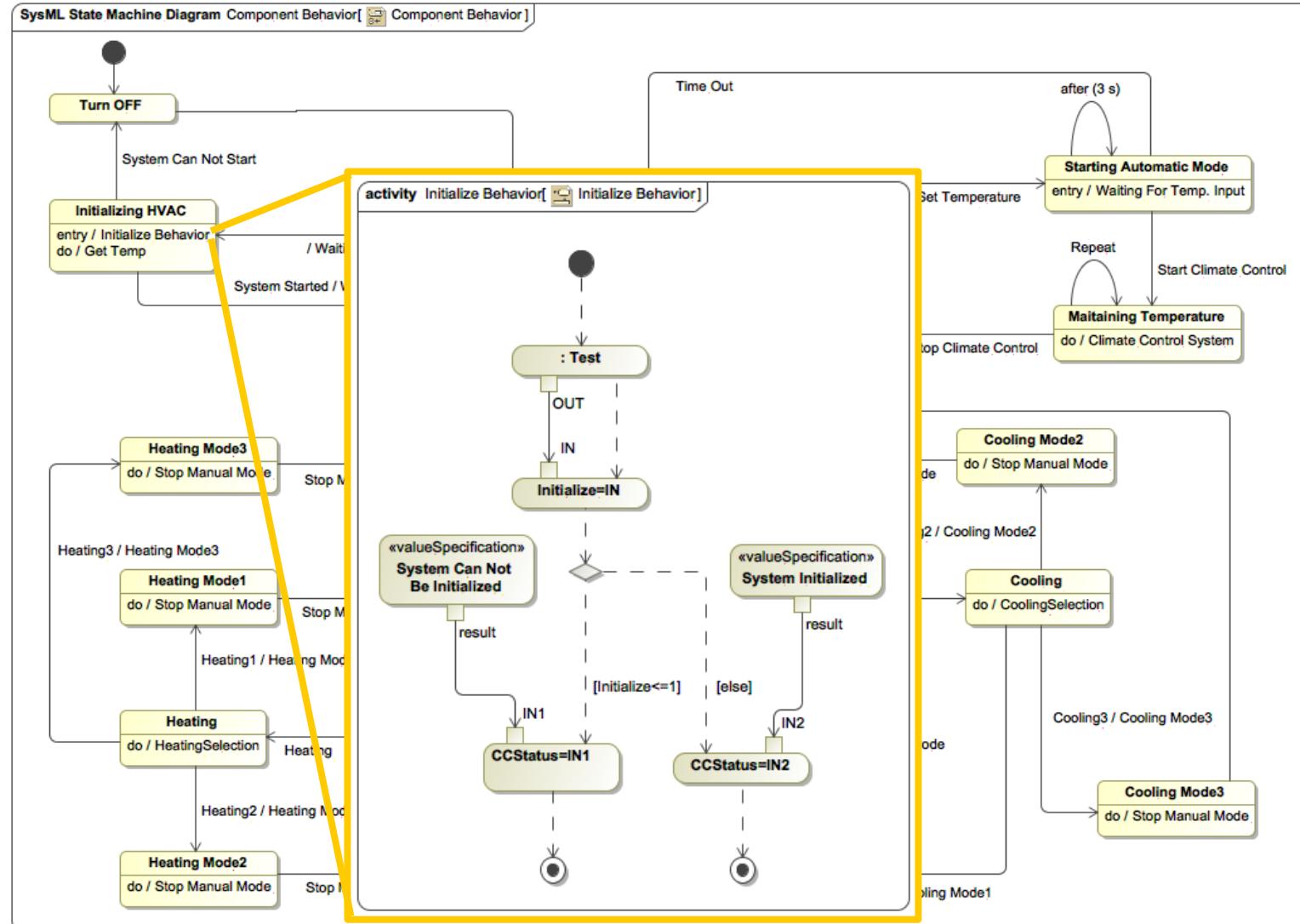


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# Component Behavior



- captures a detailed behaviour of a system/subsystem/component defining its states and actions, e.g. algorithm, operation call, signal handling, etc.
- a detailed behaviour is a subject of simulation.

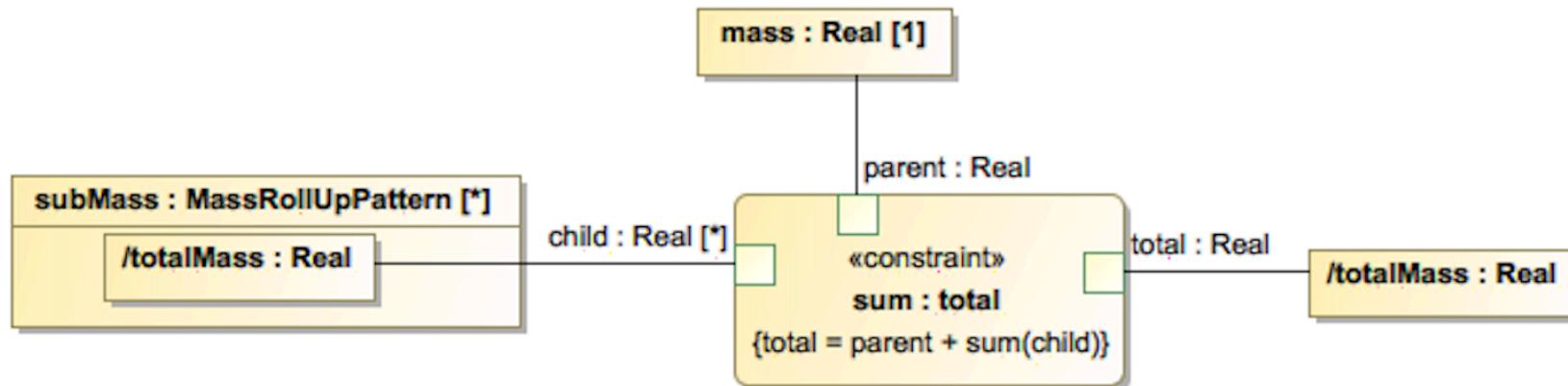




# Component Parameters

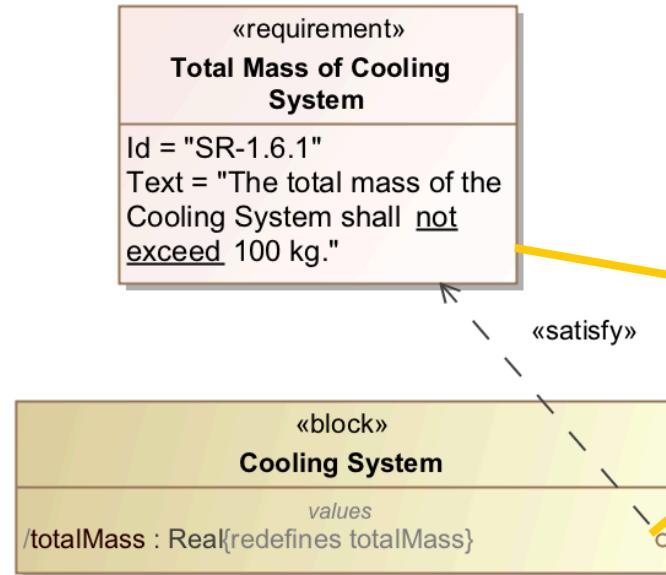
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# Component Parameters



#	Name	totalMass : Real	mass : Real
1	vehicle CCS	125.0	0.0
2	vehicle CCS.ats	10.0	10.0
3	vehicle CCS.cooling System	101.0	1.0
4	vehicle CCS.cooling System.evaporator System	15.0	0.0
5	vehicle CCS.cooling System.evaporator System.metering Orifice	7.0	7.0
6	vehicle CCS.cooling System.evaporator System.cooling Radiator	8.0	8.0
7	vehicle CCS.cooling System.condenser System	20.0	20.0
8	vehicle CCS.cooling System.compressor System	63.0	0.0
9	vehicle CCS.cooling System.compressor System.compressor Pulley	14.0	14.0
10	vehicle CCS.cooling System.compressor System.clutch Plate	14.0	14.0
11	vehicle CCS.cooling System.compressor System.compressor Body	35.0	35.0
12	vehicle CCS.cooling System.receiver Dryer	2.0	2.0
13	vehicle CCS.heating System	12.0	12.0
14	vehicle CCS.control System	2.0	2.0

# Component Parameters



Variables

Name	Value
Vehicle CCS	vehicle CCS : Vehicle CCS@1ea6e65f
└ mass : Real [1]	0,0000
└ /totalMass : Real	125,0000
└ ATS : ATS {subsets subMass}	vehicle CCS.ats : ATS@2d6aa292
└ control System : Control System {sub...}	vehicle CCS.control System : Control...
└ mass : Real [1]	2,0000
└ /totalMass : Real	2,0000
└ cooling System : Cooling System [Off]	vehicle CCS.cooling System : Cooling...
└ mass : Real [1]	1,0000
└ /totalMass : Real	101,0000
└ Total Mass : Real	98,0000
└ : Evaporator System {subsets su...}	vehicle CCS.cooling System.evapora...
└ : Condenser System {subsets sub...}	vehicle CCS.cooling System.condens...
└ : Compressor System {subsets su...}	vehicle CCS.cooling System.compres...
└ : Receiver Dryer {subsets subMass}	vehicle CCS.cooling System.receiver ...
└ heating System : Heating System {su...}	vehicle CCS.heating System : Heatin...

# Component Requirements

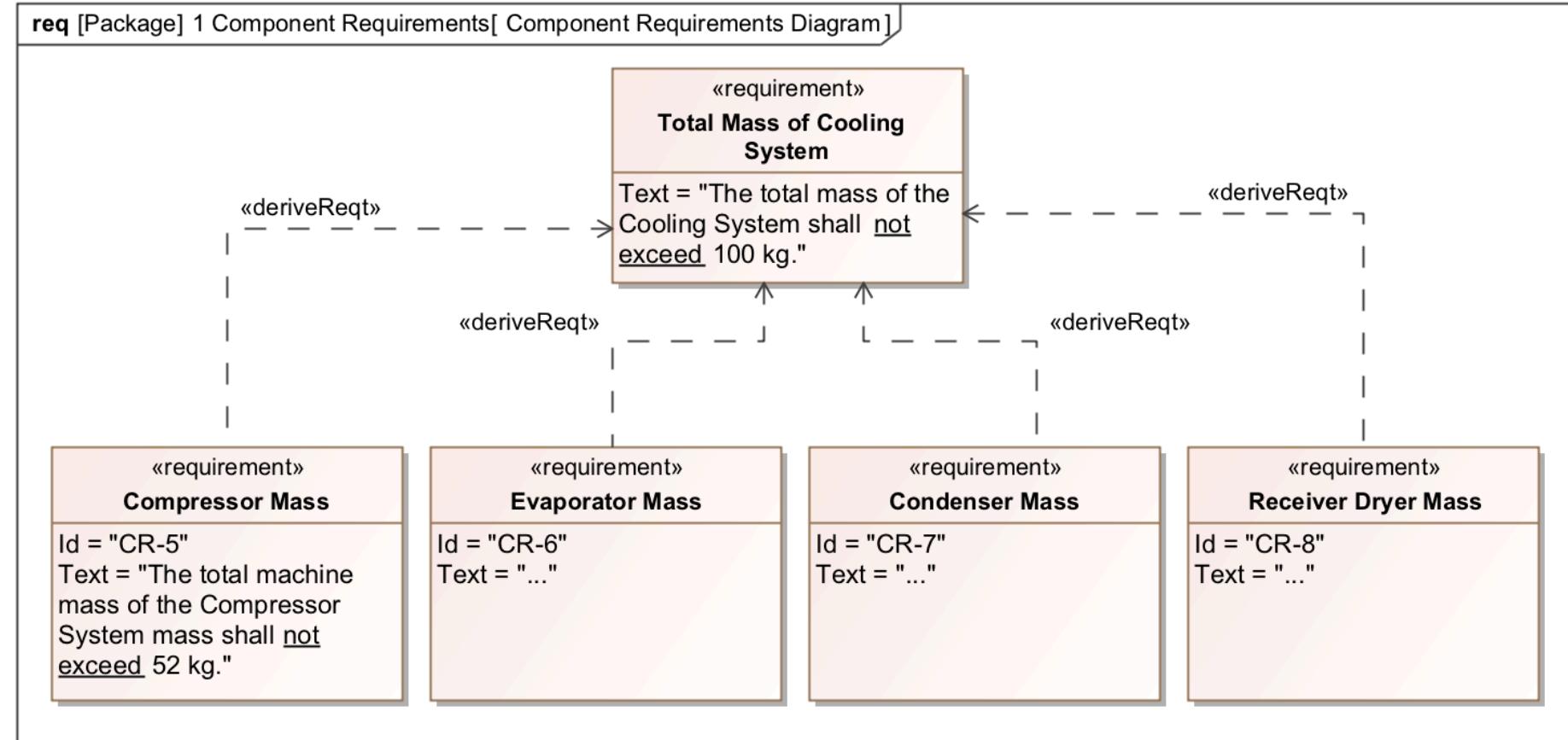


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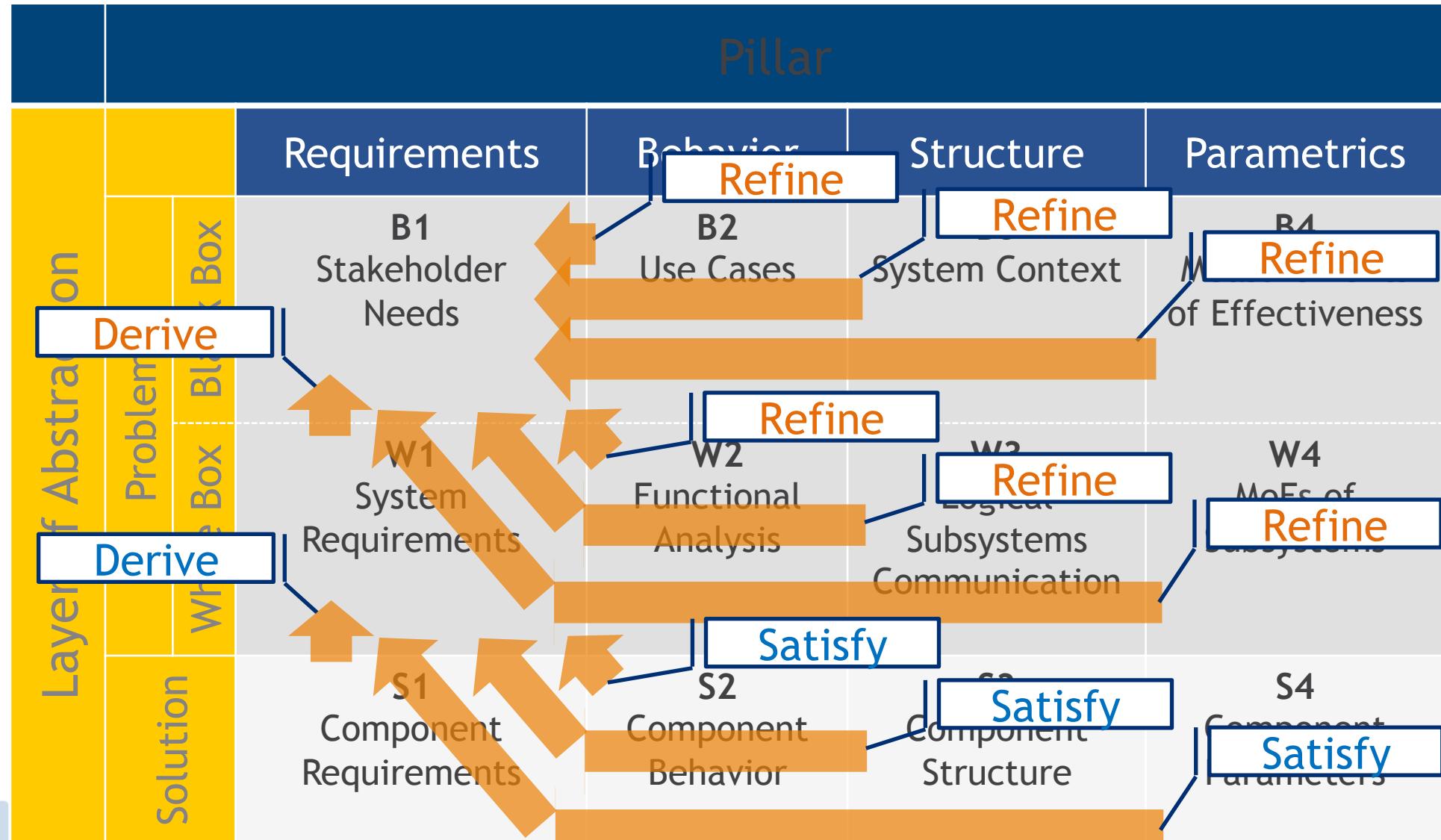
# Component Requirements



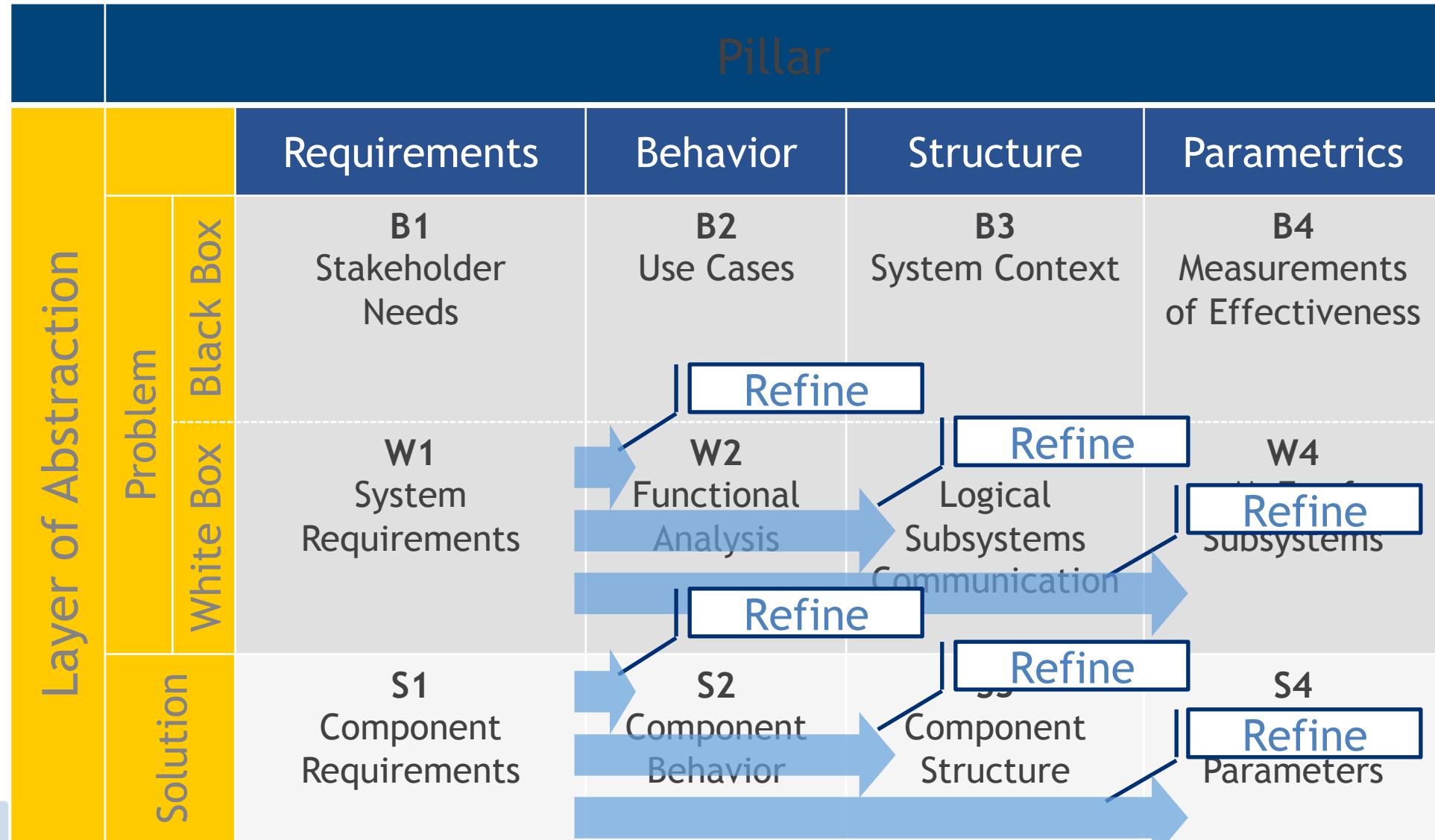
- captures detailed requirements for every identified subsystem/component
- component requirements are derived from system requirements



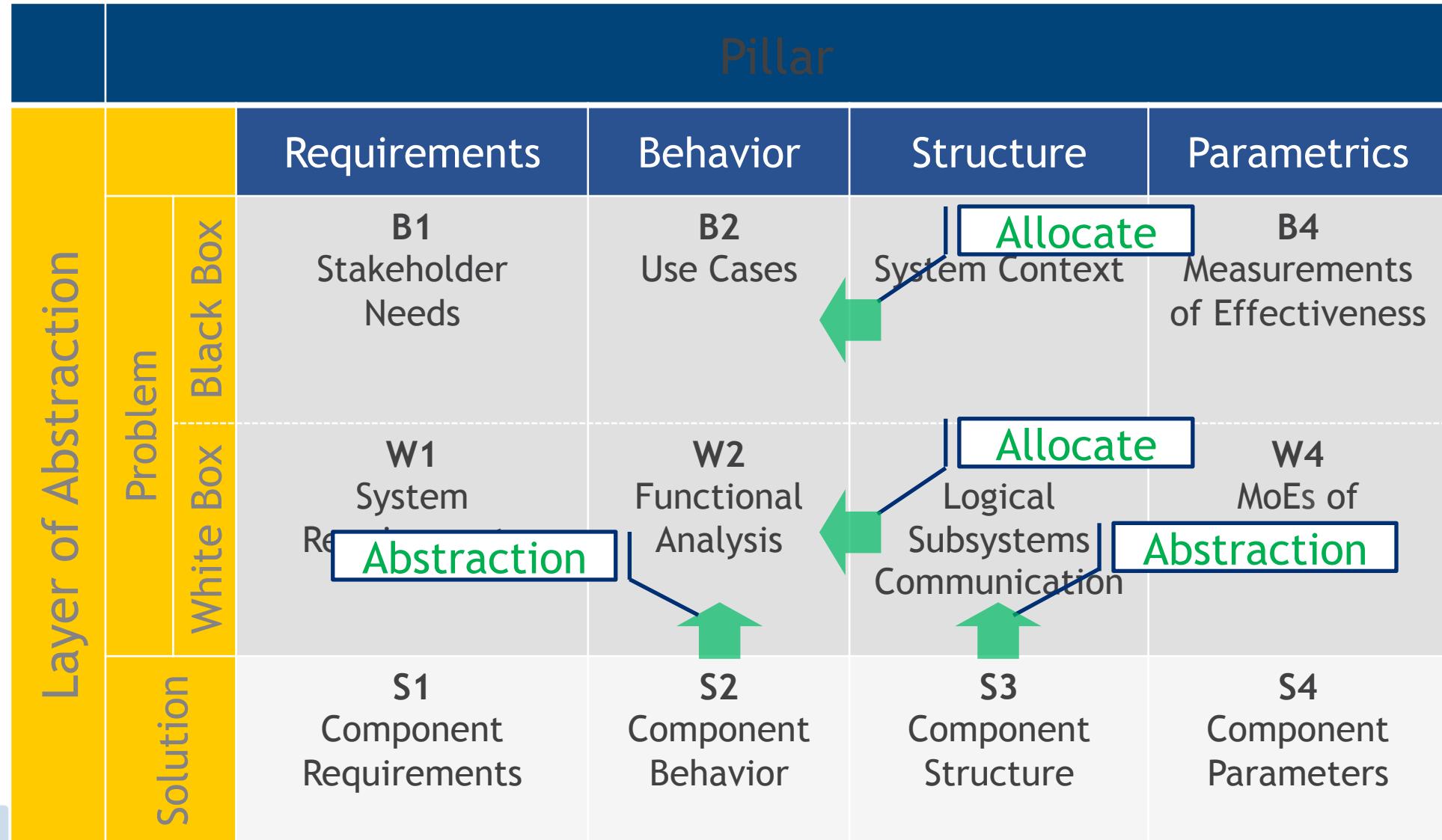
# Requirements Traceability



# Requirements Traceability



# Architecture Traceability





# Conclusions and future works

- Analysis of MBSE methods and enterprise architecture frameworks discloses that majority of them are conceptual and thus can hardly be used in combination with systems modeling techniques, such as SysML, in practice.
- In contrast to them, the MBSE Grid approach proposed in this paper is fully compatible with SysML. Based on the transparent system architecture framework,
  - it clearly defines the modeling process
  - reveals what model artifacts should be produced in each step of system specification and design
  - explains how to manage traceability relationships (both horizontal and vertical).
- The case study later in this paper proves applicability of MBSE Grid in combination with MagicDraw toolset, which supports SysML.
- Currently, the MBSE Grid approach is mainly oriented to the creation of a system model. Thus, it will be extended to include support of system variants, engineering analysis, and verification & validation.
- In the farther future, the approach is considered to support a full model lifecycle management, including its creation, usage, and configuration management.



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Thank You!

# Questions???