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From UAF to SysML: Transitioning from System of Systems to Systems Architecture

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Speakers (1)

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- ▷ PhD, MS, and BS in Software Systems Engineering
- ▷ 17 years in Software and Systems Engineering
- ▷ UAF co-chairman in OMG, member of INCOSE and NATO ACAT
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Speakers (2)



Aistė ALEKSANDRIČIENĖ
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- ▷ Co-author of MagicGrid BoK
- ▷ Lives in Kaunas, Lithuania





Outline

1. Motivation
2. Suggested approach
3. Case Study
4. Conclusions



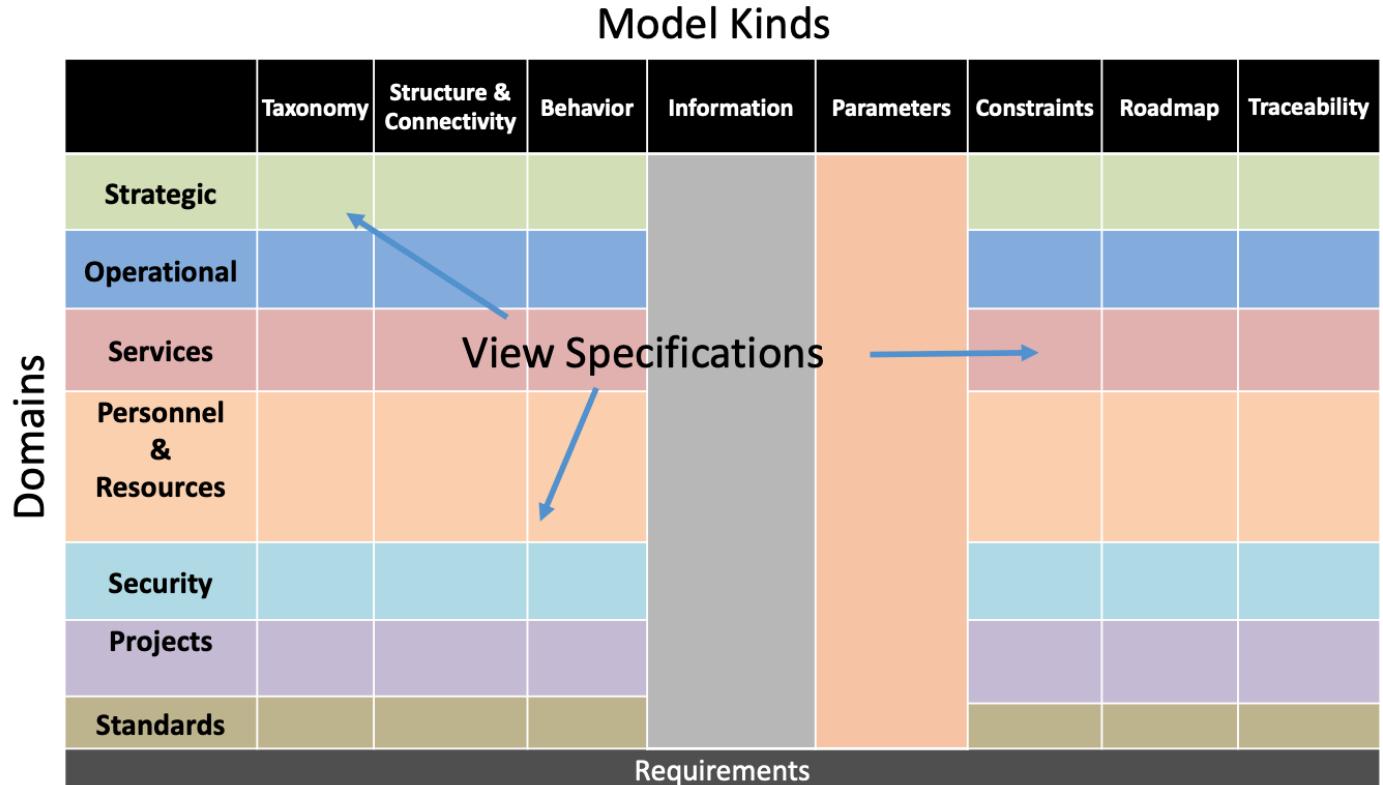
Motivation – Purpose

- In the scope of SoS, it is important to establish a digital environment for multiple organizations to interact, especially when transitioning from system of systems (SoS) architecture to architectures of different SOIs
- There are different Standards and Techniques for both and connection between the two is currently the Gap that is not well defined.
- The purpose of this presentation is to introduce a detailed approach for ensuring this digital continuity in the model-based environment utilizing standard-based modeling frameworks and languages.



UAF for System of Systems Engineering

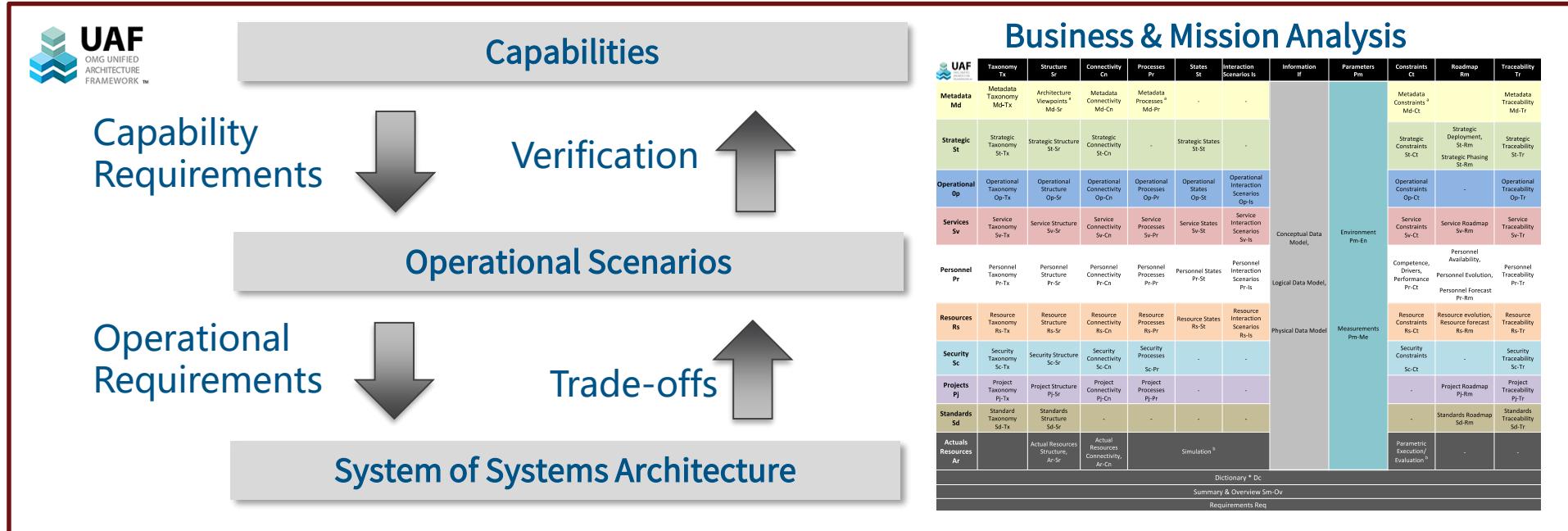
- Knowledge of an SoS can be captured using the Unified Architecture Framework (UAF)
- UAF layout (also known as a UAF Grid) is organized into rows and columns, where:
 - Rows are **domains**
 - Columns are **model kinds**
 - Intersection of a row and column is called a **view specification**



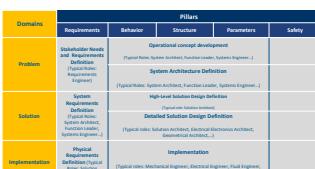
SoSE Meets SE



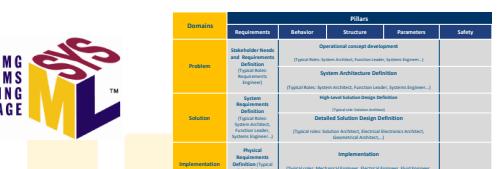
Enterprise Architecture



System 1 Engineering



System 2 Engineering



3

System .. N Engineering



| UAF UNIFIED ARCHITECTURE FRAMEWORK | | Taxonomy Tx | Structure Sr | Connectivity Cn | Processes Pr | States St | Interaction Scenarios Is | Information If | Parameters Pm | Constraints Ct | Roadmap Rm | Traceability Tr |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|---|-------------------------------|---|-------------------|---|---|------------------------------|
| Metadata Md | Metadata Taxonomy Md-Tx | Architecture Viewpoints ^a Md-Sr | Metadata Connectivity Md-Cn | Metadata Processes ^a Md-Pr | - | - | - | Conceptual Data Model, | Environment Pm-En | Metadata Constraints ^a Md-Ct | - | Metadata Traceability Md-Tr |
| Strategic St | Strategic Taxonomy St-Tx | Strategic Structure St-Sr | Strategic Connectivity St-Cn | - | Strategic States St-St | - | - | | | Strategic Constraints St-Ct | Strategic Deployment, St-Rm Strategic Phasing St-Rm | Strategic Traceability St-Tr |
| Operational Op | Operational Taxonomy Op-Tx | Operational Structure Op-Sr | Operational Connectivity Op-Cn | Operational Processes Op-Pr | Operational States Op-St | Operational Interaction Scenarios Op-Is | Operational Constraints Op-Ct | | | - | Operational Traceability Op-Tr | |
| Services Sv | Service Taxonomy Sv-Tx | Service Structure Sv-Sr | Service Connectivity Sv-Cn | Service Processes Sv-Pr | Service States Sv-St | Service Interaction Scenarios Sv-Is | Service Constraints Sv-Ct | | | Service Roadmap Sv-Rm | Service Traceability Sv-Tr | |
| Personnel Pr | Personnel Taxonomy Pr-Tx | Personnel Structure Pr-Sr | Personnel Connectivity Pr-Cn | Personnel Processes Pr-Pr | Personnel States Pr-St | Personnel Interaction Scenarios Pr-Is | Logical Data Model, | Physical Data Model, Architecture Pm-Me | Pr-Rm | Competence, Drivers, Performance Pr-Ct | Personnel Availability, Personnel Evolution, Personnel Forecast | Personnel Traceability Pr-Tr |

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|---|-------|---|---|------------------------------|
| Resources Rs | Resource Taxonomy Rs-Tx | Resource Structure Rs-Sr | Resource Connectivity Rs-Cn | Resource Processes Rs-Pr | Resource States Rs-St | Resource Interaction Scenarios Rs-Is | Physical Data Model, Architecture Pm-Me | Pr-Rm | Resource Constraints Rs-Ct | Resource evolution, Resource forecast Rs-Rm | Resource Traceability Rs-Tr |
| Security Sc | Security | Security Structure Sc-Sr | Security | Security | - | - | | | Security Constraints Sc-Ct | - | Security Sc-Tr |
| Projects Pj | Project Taxonomy Pj-Tx | Project Structure Pj-Sr | Project Connectivity Pj-Cn | Project Processes Pj-Pr | - | - | Architecture Pm-Me | Pr-Rm | - | Project Roadmap Pj-Rm | Project Traceability Pj-Tr |
| Standards Sd | Standard Taxonomy Sd-Tx | Standards Structure Sd-Sr | - | - | - | - | | | - | Standards Roadmap Sd-Rm | Standards Traceability Sd-Tr |
| Actuals Resources Ar | | Actual Resources Structure, Ar-Sr | Actual Resources Connectivity, Ar-Cn | Simulation ^b | | | | | Parametric Execution/ Evaluation ^b | - | - |

Dictionary * Dc

Summary & Overview Sm-Ov

SysML/MagicGrid for Systems Engineering

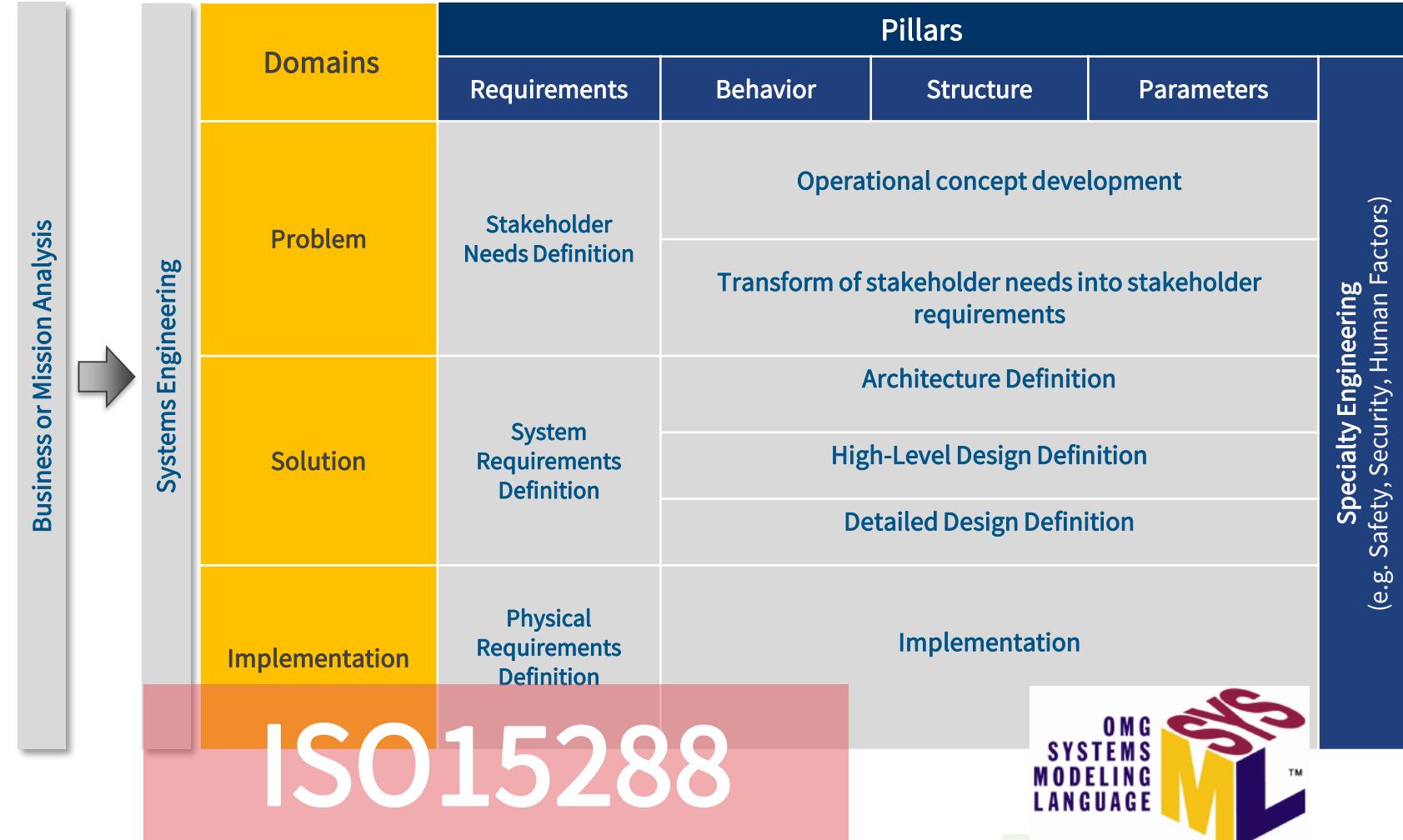


- Architecture of a single SOI can be captured using Systems Modeling Language (SysML) and MBSE Grid (MagicGrid) Framework
- MagicGrid defines the modeling workflow that aligns with technical processes determined by ISO/IEC/IEEE 15288:2015
- MagicGrid layout is organized into rows and columns, where:
 - Rows represent the **domains**
 - Columns represent the **four pillars of SysML**
 - Intersection of a row and a column represents a view specification, which can be visualized in the form of a relevant SysML diagram



| DOMAIN | PILLAR | | | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------|
| | | REQUIREMENTS | STRUCTURE | BEHAVIOR | PARAMETERS |
| PROBLEM (BLACK BOX) | Stakeholder Needs | System Context | Use Cases | Measures of Effectiveness | |
| | | Conceptual Subsystems | Functional Analysis | MoEs for Subsystems | |
| | System Requirements | System Structure | System Behavior | System Parameters | |
| PROBLEM (WHITE BOX) | Subsystem Requirements | Subsystem Structure | Subsystem Behavior | Subsystem Parameters | |
| | Component Requirements | Component Structure | Component Behavior | Component Parameters | |
| | Implementation Requirements | | | | |
| SOLUTION | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| IMPLEMENTATION | | | | | |

Systems Engineering Processes

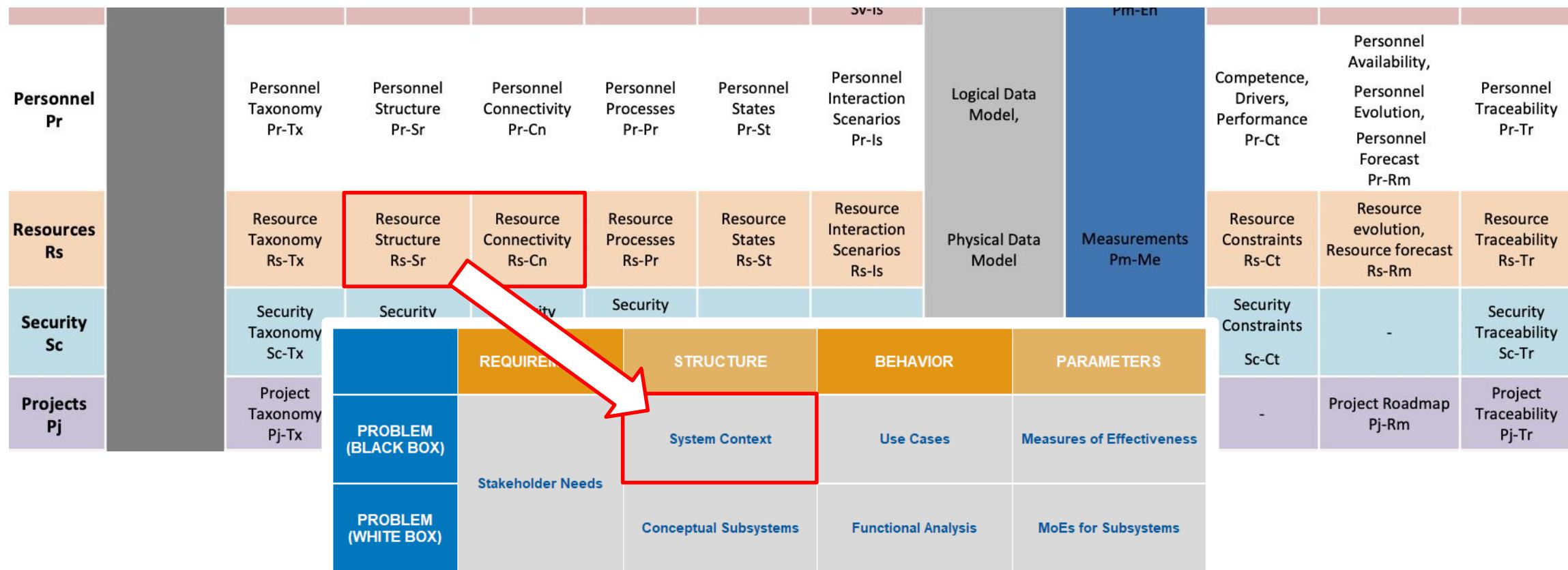




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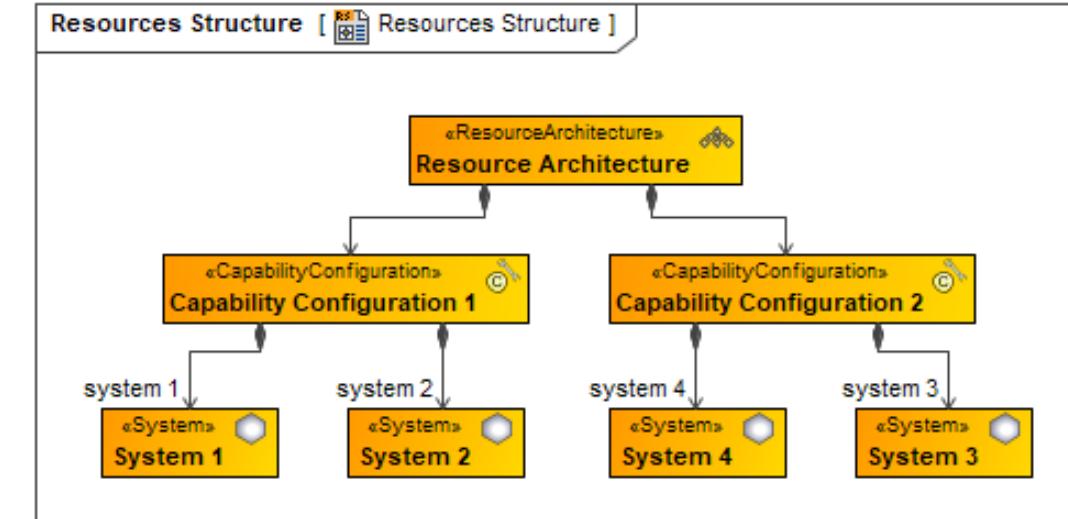
From Resource Structure & Connectivity Views (UAF) to System Context (SysML/MagicGrid)





Capability Configuration (UAF)

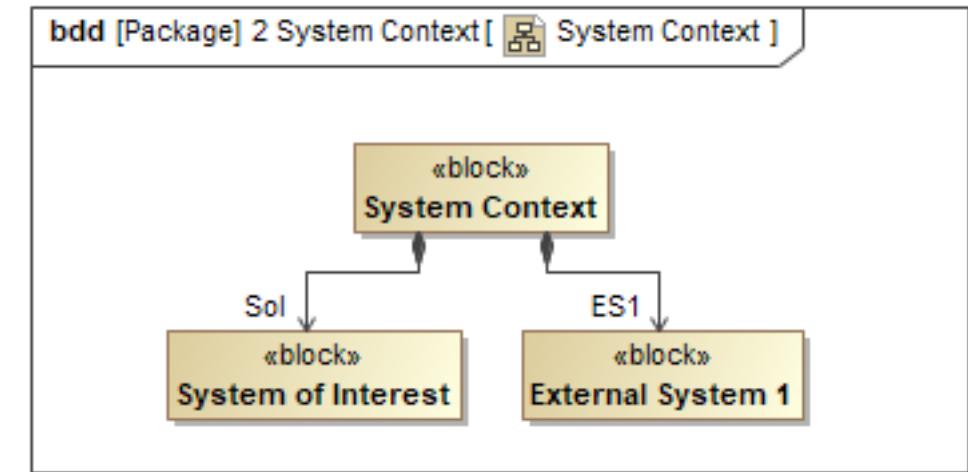
- The UAF **Resources domain** captures how **different resources** (including humans and systems) interact to implement operational needs and **achieve capabilities** of the SoS
- In the Resource Structure view, resources are grouped into logical containers – **capability configurations**. Each capability configuration relates to (exhibits) the capability it has to achieve
- **Multiple** capability configurations can be specified to achieve the **same** capability at the same or different periods of time





System Context (SysML/MagicGrid)

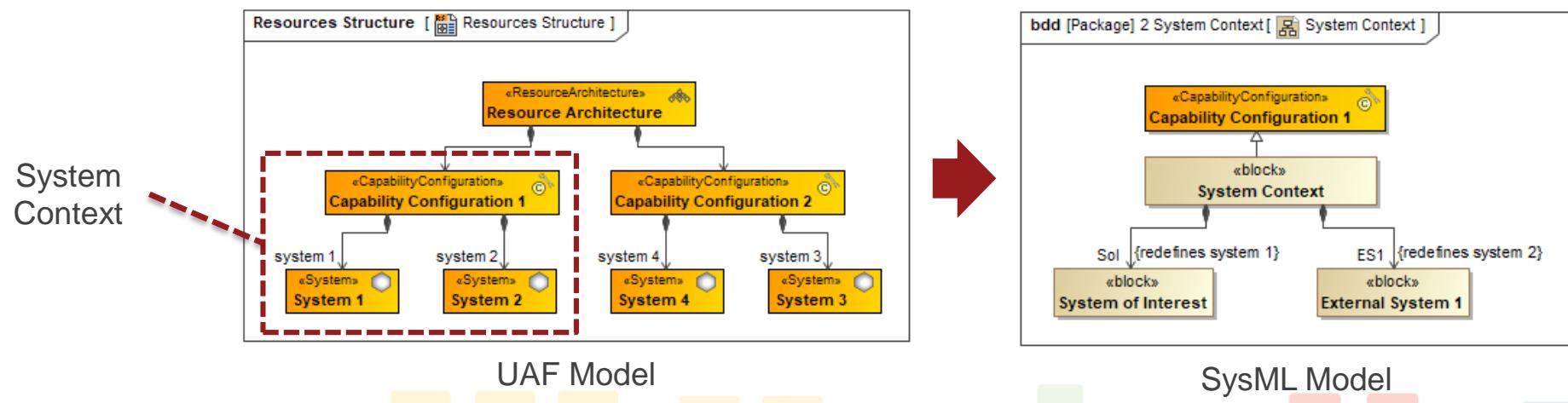
- **System context** determines the **external view** of the SOI
- It **includes SOI** itself as well as **external systems** and **users** that interact with the SOI to exchange data, matter, and energy
- They are all captured in the SysML model as blocks





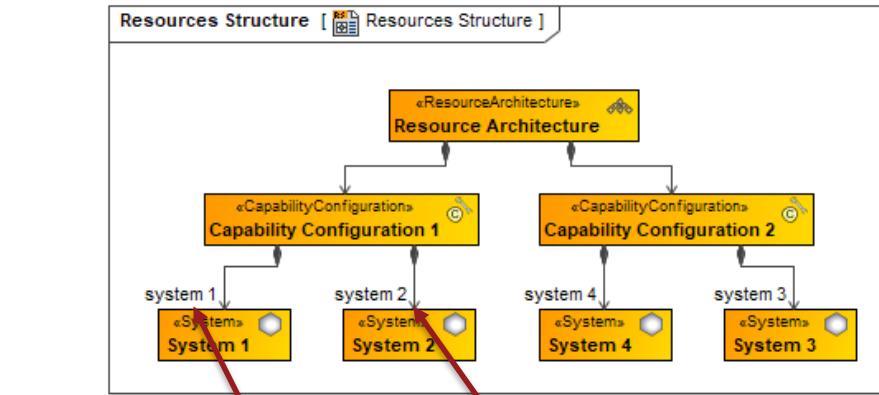
Specifying System Context

- The **System Context** view in the SysML model can be considered a **subset of the Resources Structure** view of the UAF model
- It is important to identify which **capability configuration** to choose as **an input to analyze the system context of the particular SOI**, by applying MagicGrid

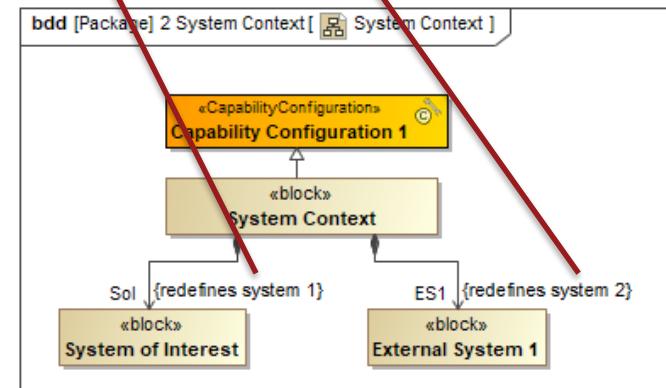


Specifying Participants of System Context

- Block that captures the **system context** becomes a **subtype of the capability configuration** and inherits all its parts
- These **parts are redefined to type them with blocks that capture copies** of the SOI, users, or external systems **in the SysML model**
- This enables to elaborate the system context information in the SysML model (without modifying the UAF model)



UAF Model

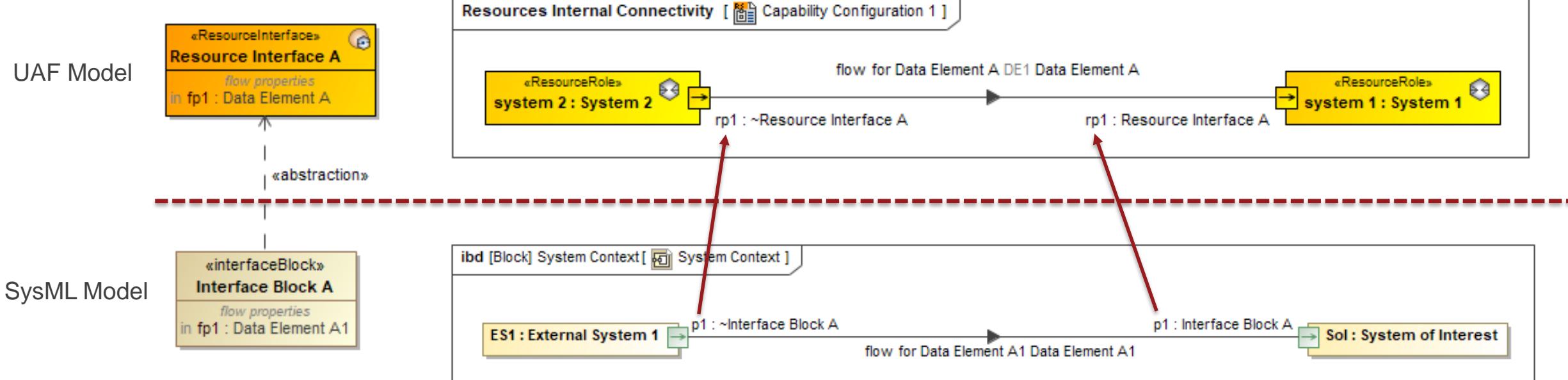


SysML Model



Specifying Interactions of System Context (1)

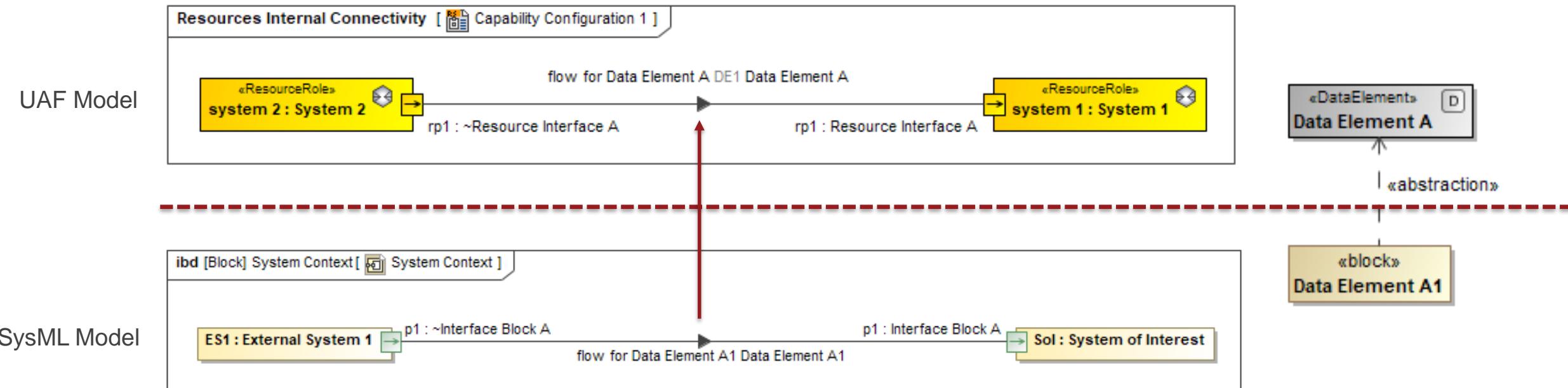
1. Create relevant SysML interface blocks
2. Create abstractions from the SysML interface blocks to UAF resource interfaces
3. Create proxy ports in SysML model and redefine UAF resource ports with them



Specifying Interactions of System Context (2)



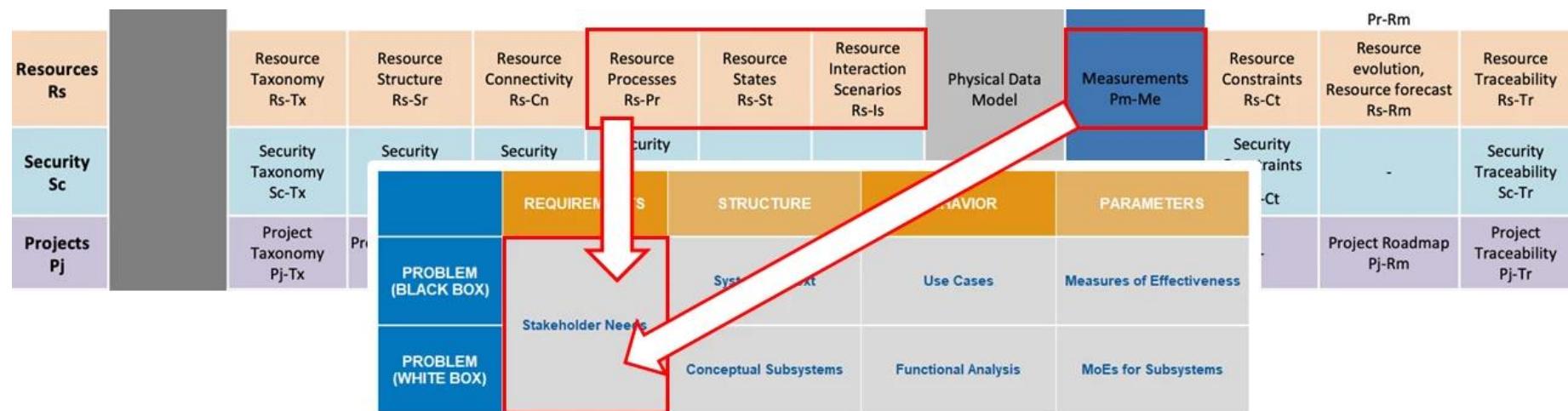
4. Create connectors in SysML and redefine UAF resource connectors with them
5. [optional] Create SysML element to capture the item that flows
6. [optional] Create abstraction from that SysML element to the relevant UAF element



From Resources Domain Views (UAF) to Stakeholder Needs (SysML/MagicGrid)



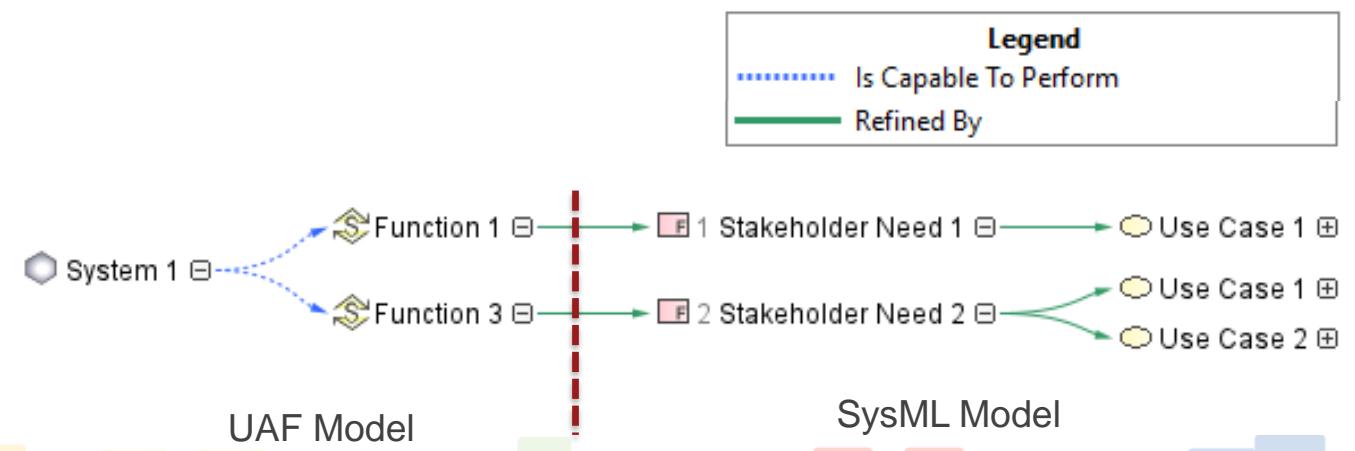
- According to MagicGrid, stakeholder needs for the single SOI can be captured by interviewing stakeholders, giving them questionnaires, discussing needs in focus groups, or studying documents written in diverse formats.
- In addition to these information sources, the **UAF model of the SoS** can serve as input to the **stakeholder needs as well**:
 - The **Resource Processes**, **Resource States**, and **Resource Interaction Scenarios** Viewpoints can be used for identifying functional stakeholder needs
 - The **Resources Measurements** Viewpoint can be used for non-functional SNs





Functional Stakeholder Needs

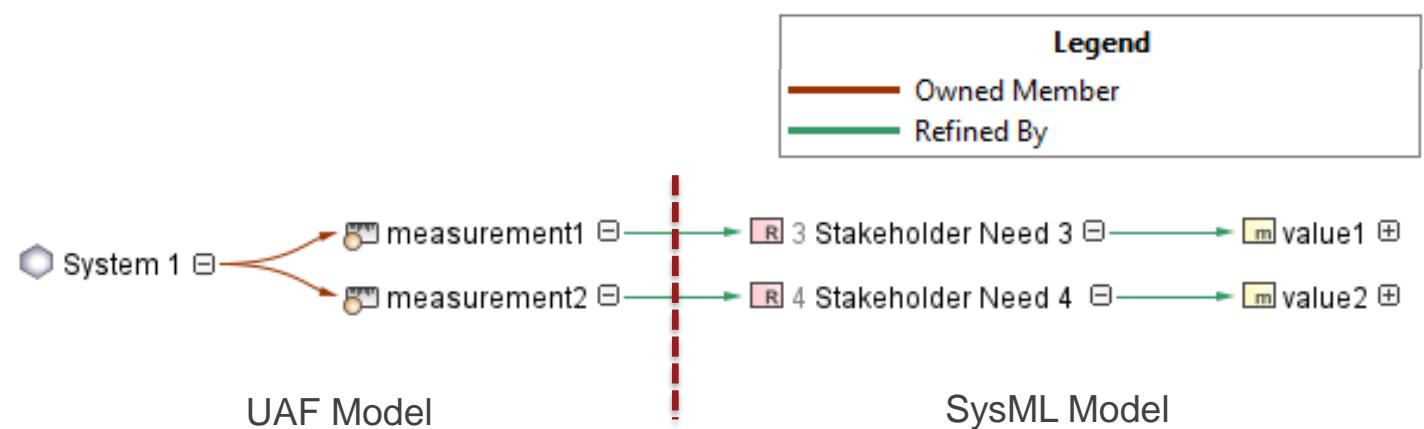
- The subset of functions defined in the **Resource Processes View**, that are allocated (using the **Is Capable To Perform** relationship) to the system which becomes the SOI in the SysML model, motivate the creation of one or more **functional stakeholder needs** for that SOI
- This also applies to the case of states and interactions allocated to the relevant system in the UAF model
- When stakeholder needs are captured, SysML refine relationships can be established from them to the relevant functions, states, or interactions in the UAF model
- When use cases of the SOI are captured in the SysML model, SysML refine relationships can help to convey which stakeholder needs these use cases refine





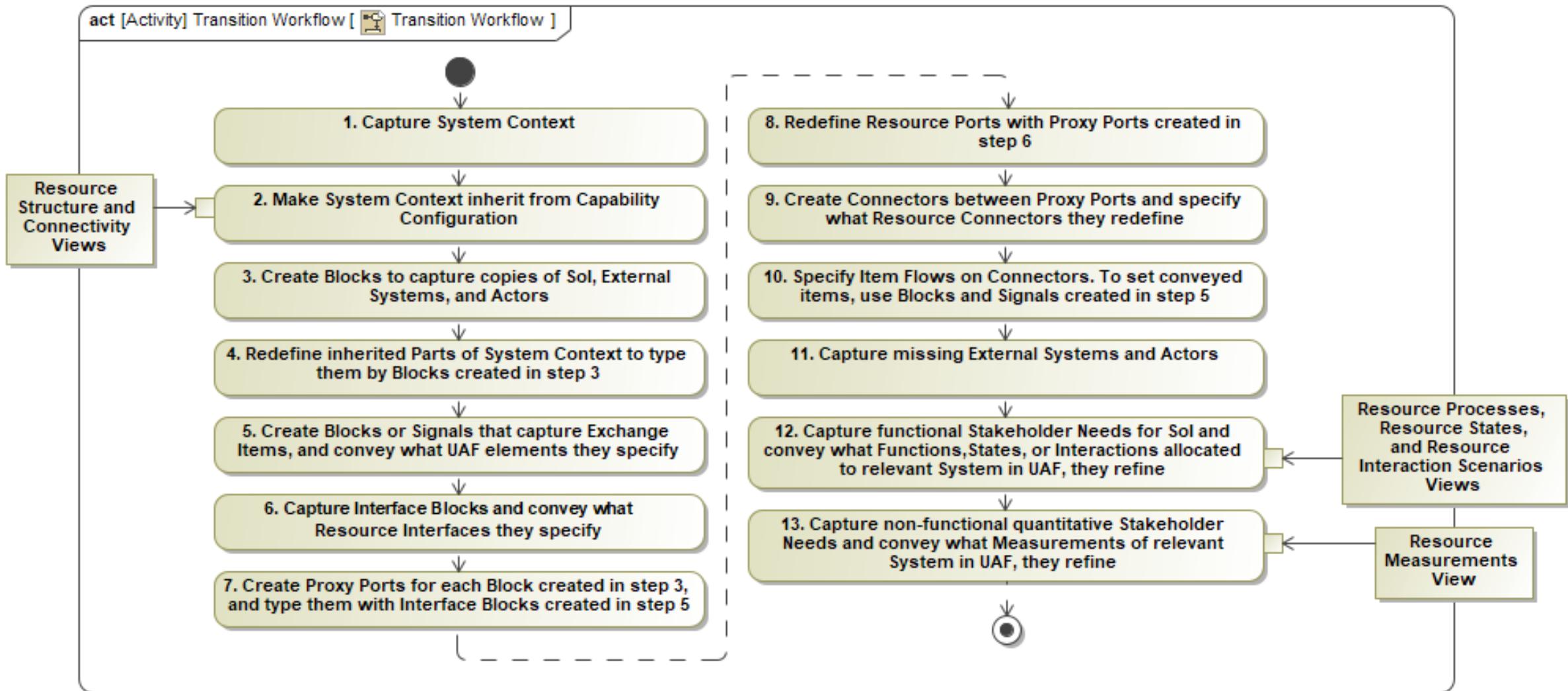
Non-Functional Stakeholder Needs

- **Measures** that are owned by the system which becomes the SOI in the SysML model motivate the creation of one or more **non-functional quantifiable stakeholder needs** for that SOI
- When stakeholder needs are captured, SysML refine relationships can be established from them to the relevant measures in the UAF model
- When MoEs of the SOI are captured in the SysML model, SysML refine relationships can help to convey which stakeholder needs these MoEs refine





Transition Workflow

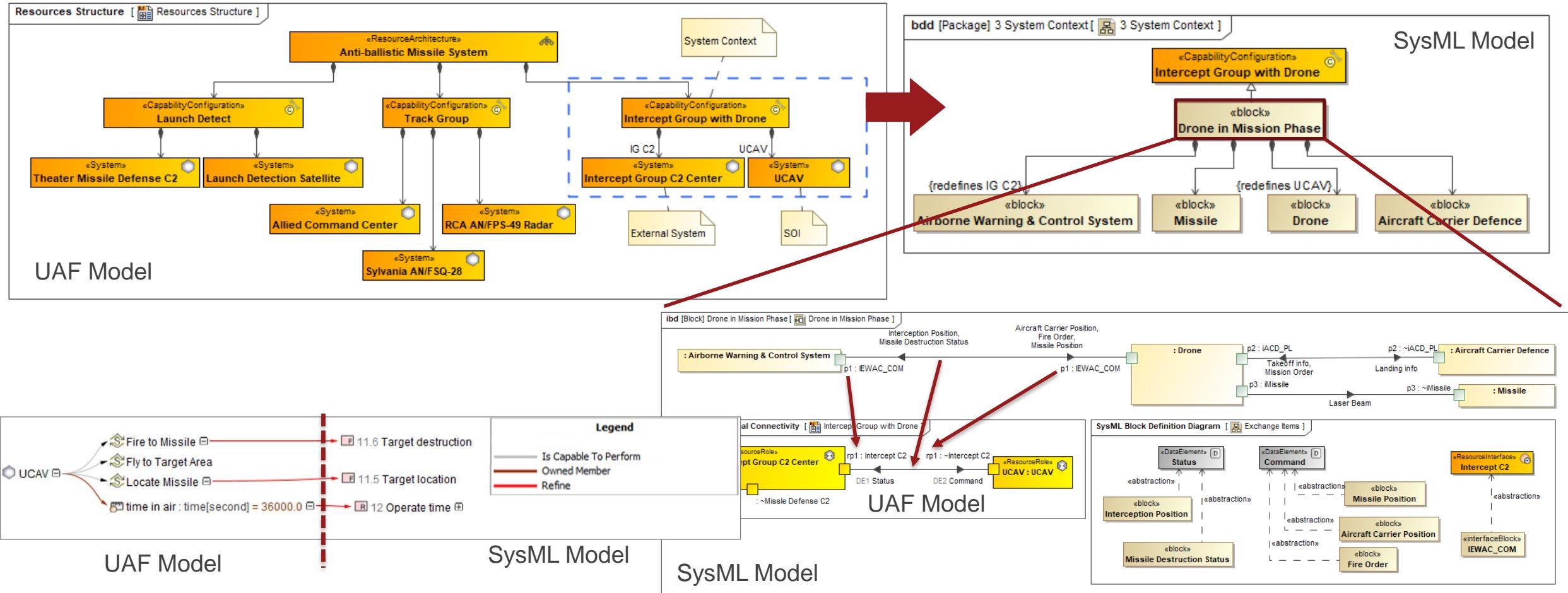




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Case Study





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Conclusions

- There is a growing demand in industry to digitally connect SoS engineering with systems engineering disciplines.
- At the moment there are no existing techniques clearly defining this transition.
- It is clear that to maintain digital continuity between the two, the MBSE approach is a necessity.
- We have chosen UAF as the tool to capture knowledge on SoS and MagicGrid with SysML to capture knowledge on Systems.
- We described a smooth standards-based approach of transitioning from SoS to SysML and proved it by applying it to a real-world example model.
- The work done is communicated to the OMG UAF working group and MagicGrid community with the goal of including the proposed methodology in the guidance documents for both frameworks.
- Automated support from the tool vendors could speed up the transition dramatically. We were working closely with one of the tool vendors, Dassault Systemes, to provide such functionality in their model-based engineering suite.



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