

## Structural specification: beyond class diagrams

Alexander Serebrenik









**TU** / **e**

Technische Universiteit  
**Eindhoven**  
University of Technology

# Before we start

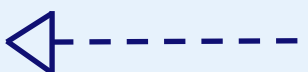





- Match the pairs

1	Association	A	
2	Aggregation	B	
3	Composition	C	
4	Implementation	D	
5	Generalization	E	
6	Dependency	F	

# Before we start

- Match the pairs

1E 2C 3F 4A 5D 6B

1	Association	A	
2	Aggregation	B	
3	Composition	C	
4	Implementation	D	
5	Generalization	E	
6	Dependency	F	

# Before we start

- A patient must be assigned to only one doctor, and a doctor can have one or more patients.



Determine  $x$  and  $y$

# This week sources



OMG Unified Modeling Language™ (OMG UML)

*Version 2.5*

Slides by

Site by



David Meredith,  
Aalborg University, DK



Marie-Elise Kontro,  
Tampere University, FI



Kirill Fakhroutdinov  
GE Healthcare, USA

***Structural diagram*** is a diagram that identifies **modules, activities, or other entities** in a system or computer program and **shows how larger or more general entities break down into smaller, more specific entities.**

*IEEE Standard Glossary of Software Engineering  
Terminology 610.12 1990*

# UML structure diagrams

Class diagram



Object diagram

Packages diagram

**TODAY**

Component diagram

Deployment diagram

Composite structure diagram

# Between specification and architecture

- **Packages diagram** and **deployment diagram**: the closest UML diagrams come to architecture
  - more about architecture: second half of the quartile



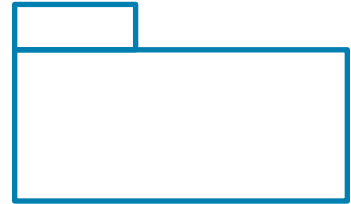
# Packages diagram

- Represents the system at a **higher abstraction level**
  - Android SDK – 69 packages vs. 1231 classes
  - less prone to change, ergo better suited for evolution, than lower level representations
  
- NB: *Packages diagram* (UML standard) is frequently called *package diagram*

# Packages diagram: Packages and Relations

- **Packages**

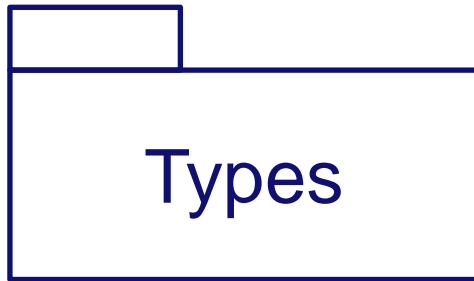
- groups of “basic elements”, e.g., classes or use cases
- namespaces, i.e., all members should have unique names
- represented as file folders
- can contain other packages, creating hierarchy



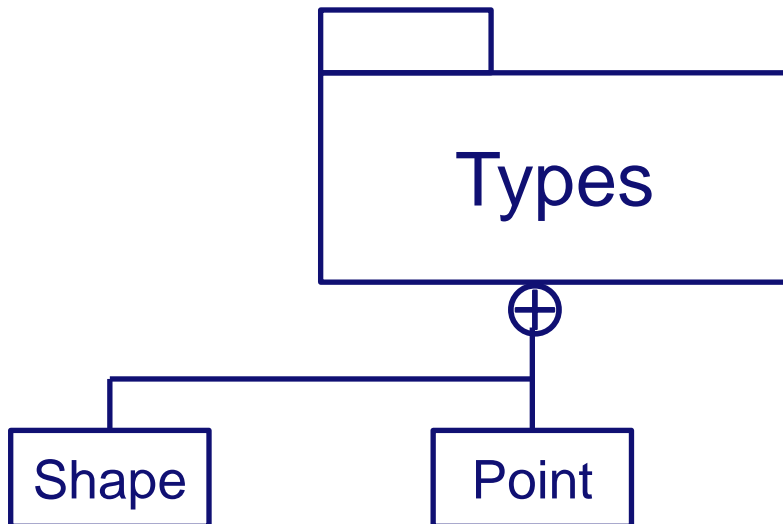
- **Relations**

- dependencies, implementations, ...
- *imports* and *merges*

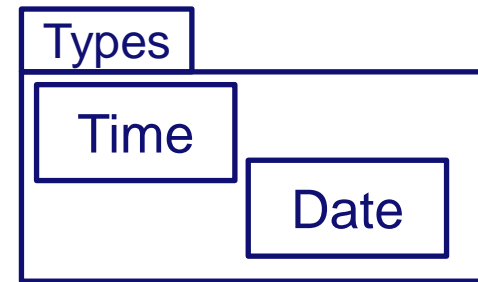
# Package representations



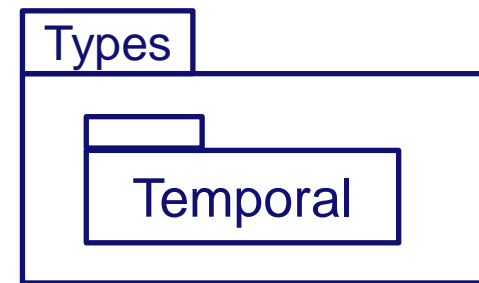
Package Types,  
members not shown



Package Types, **some** members  
shown using  $\oplus$ -notation



Package Types, **some** members  
within the borders of the package



Nested packages

# Relations

- **Dependency**
- **Implementation**
- **Import / access**
- **Merge**

# Relations: Dependencies

- Package A **depends** on package B if A contains a class which depends on a class in B
  - Summarise dependencies between classes
- Graphic representation:

----->

or

- - - <<use>> - - ->

# Relations: Dependencies

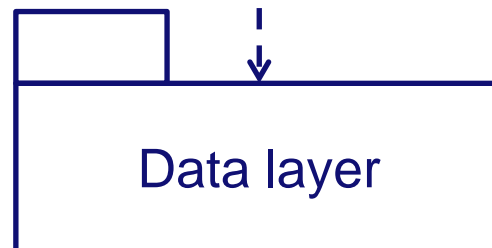
- Package A **depends** on package B if A contains a class which depends on a class in B
  - Summarise dependencies between classes
- Typical 3-tier application (*sketch*):



UI, web-interface,  
services to other  
systems



Core calculations,  
operations, etc



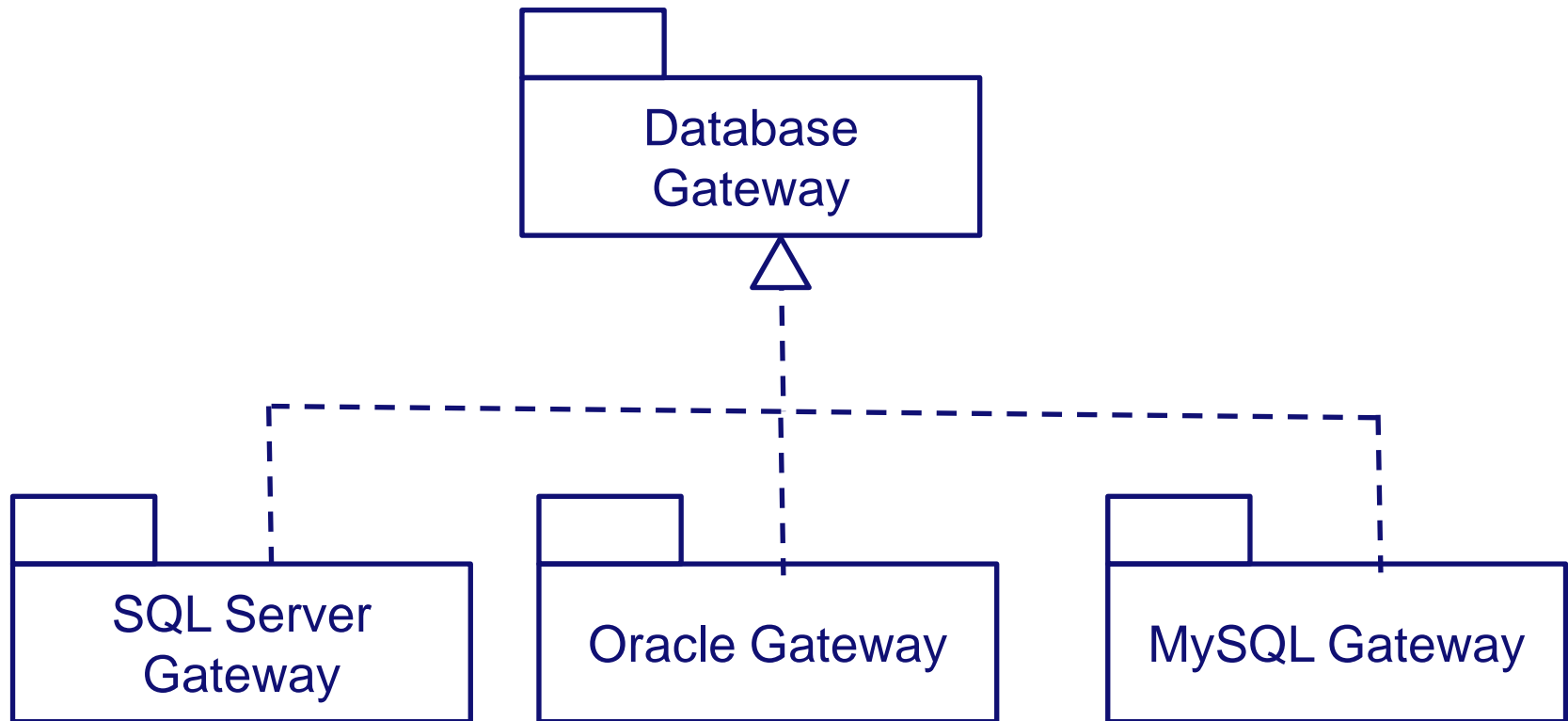
Data storage (DB)

# Relations: Dependencies

- Package A **depends** on package B if A contains a class which depends on a class in B
  - Summarise dependencies between classes
- Martin's **Acyclic Dependency Principle**
  - there should be no cycles in the dependencies*
- Fowler:
  - If there are cycles in dependencies, these cycles should be localized, and, in particular, should not cross the tiers*

# Relations: Implementations

- Meaningful if multiple variants are present

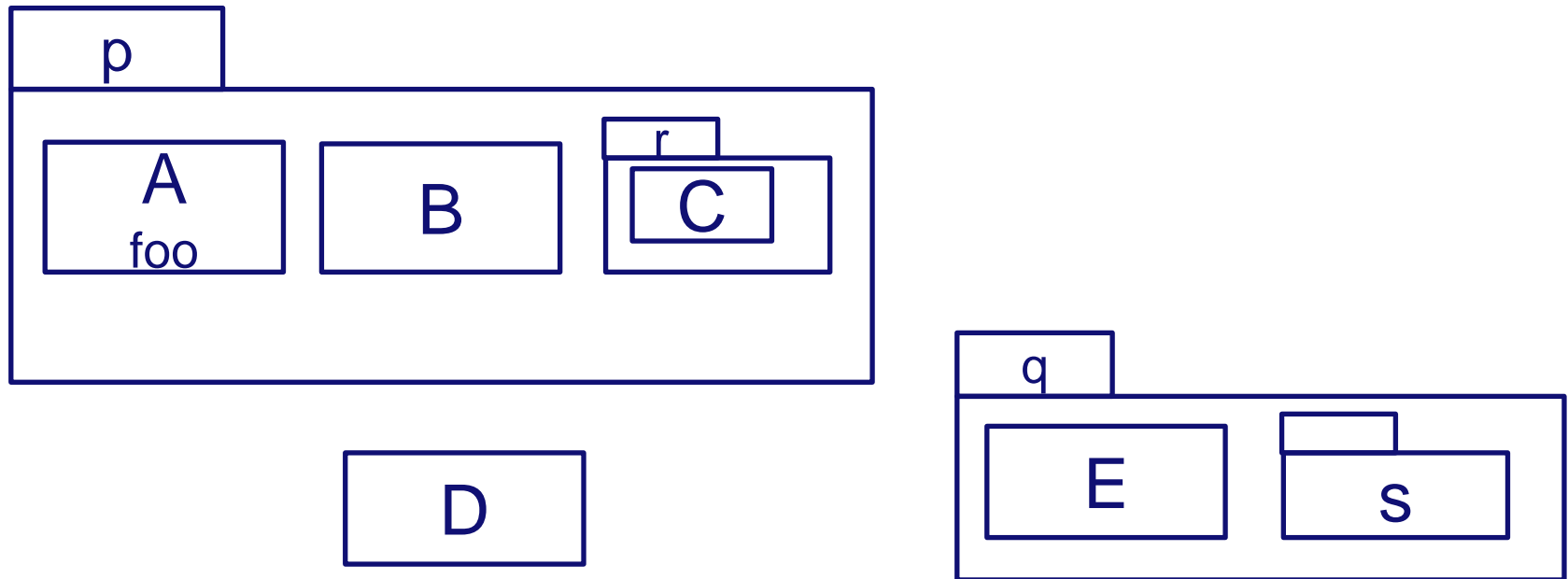




# Relations: Import / access

- To understand the **import / access** relation between packages
  - We need to know how **elements can reference each other**
  - What does an **element import / access** mean
  - How this notion can be generalized to **packages**

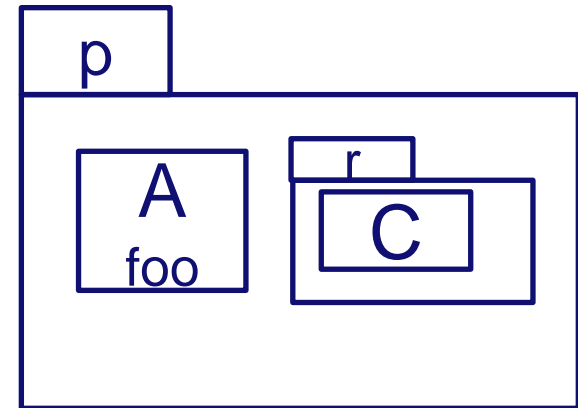
# How elements can reference each other? (1)



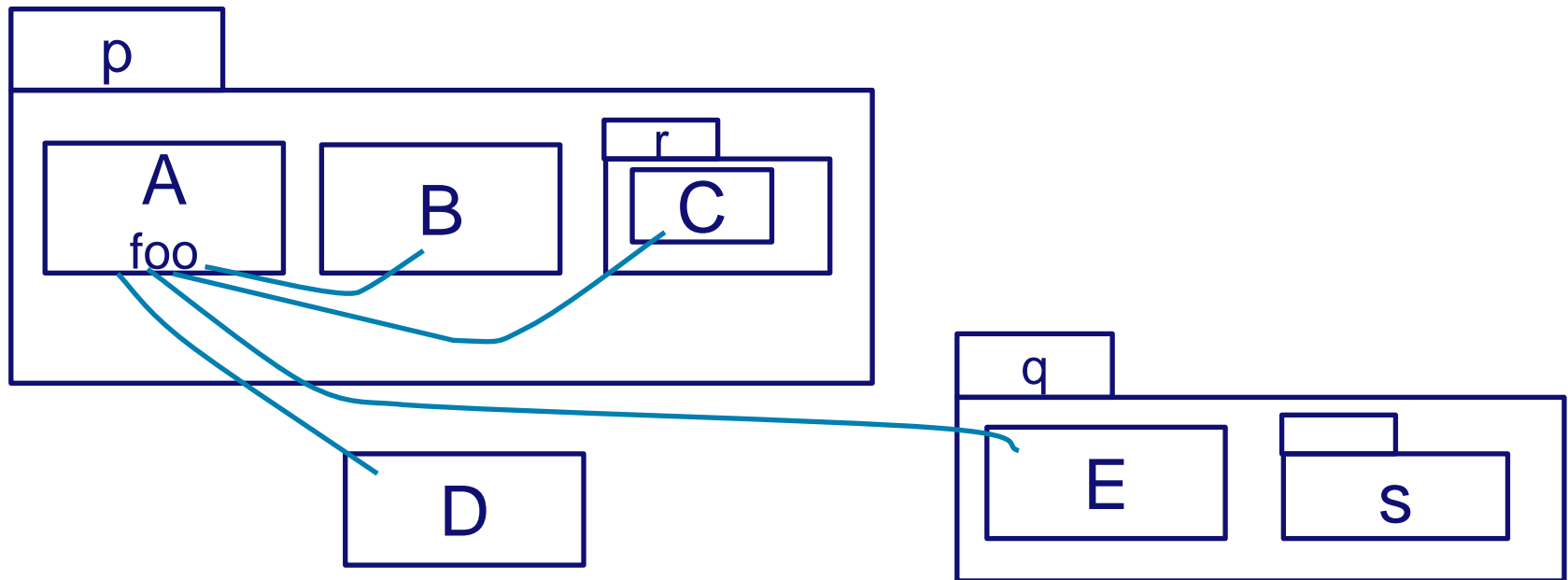
- Element can refer to other elements that are in its own package and in enclosing packages without using fully qualified names

# Do you remember?

- **Fully qualified name:** a globally unique identifier of a package, class, attribute, method.
- **Fully qualified name** is composed of
  - **qualifier:** all names in the hierarchic sequence above the given element
  - the **name** of the given element itself
- Notation
  - UML, C++, Perl, Ruby **p::A::foo**, **p::r::C**
  - Java, C# **p.A.foo**, **p.r.C**



## How elements can reference each other? (2)



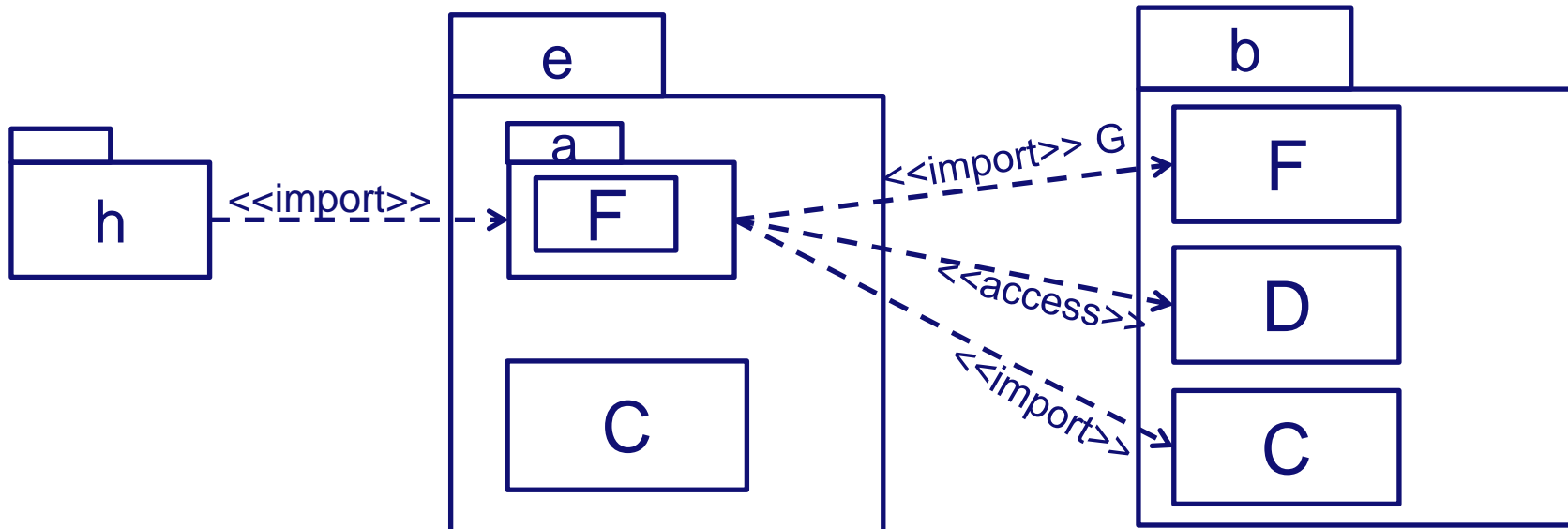
- Element can refer to other elements that are in its own package and in enclosing packages without using fully qualified names

# Element Import (1)

- Element import allows an element in another package to be referenced using its name without a qualifier
  - **<<import>>** imported element within importing package is public
  - **<<access>>** imported element within importing package is private

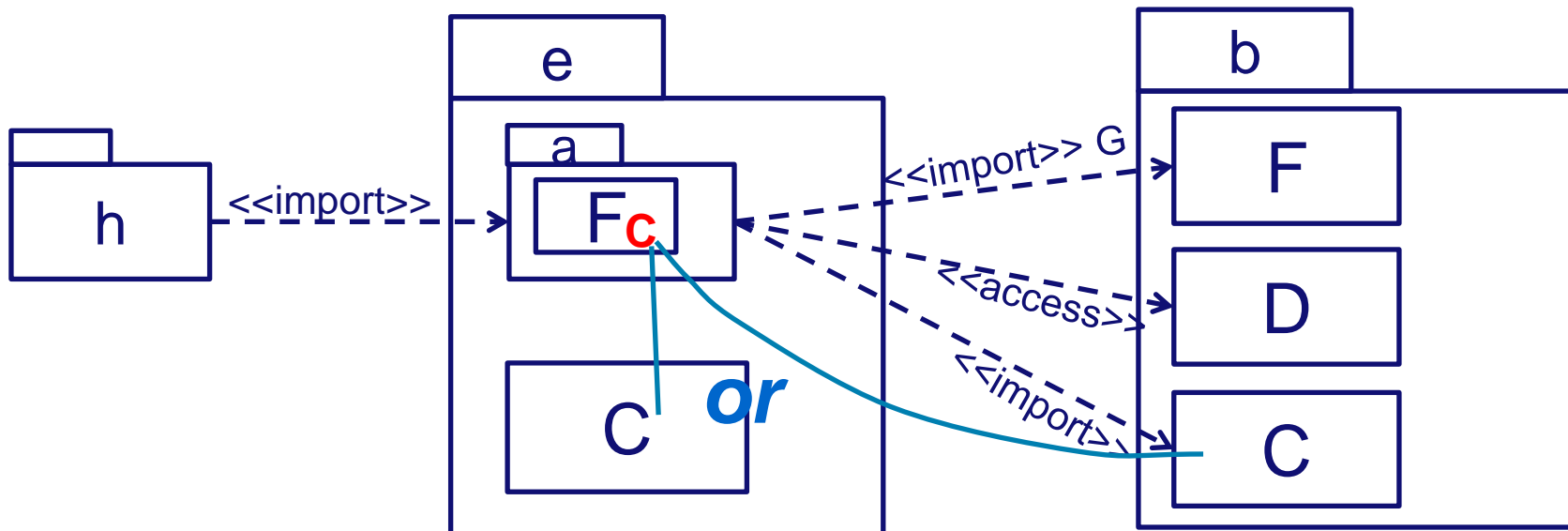
# Element Import (2)

- Element import allows an element in another package to be referenced using its name without a qualifier
  - **<<import>>** imported element within importing package is public
  - **<<access>>** imported element within importing package is private



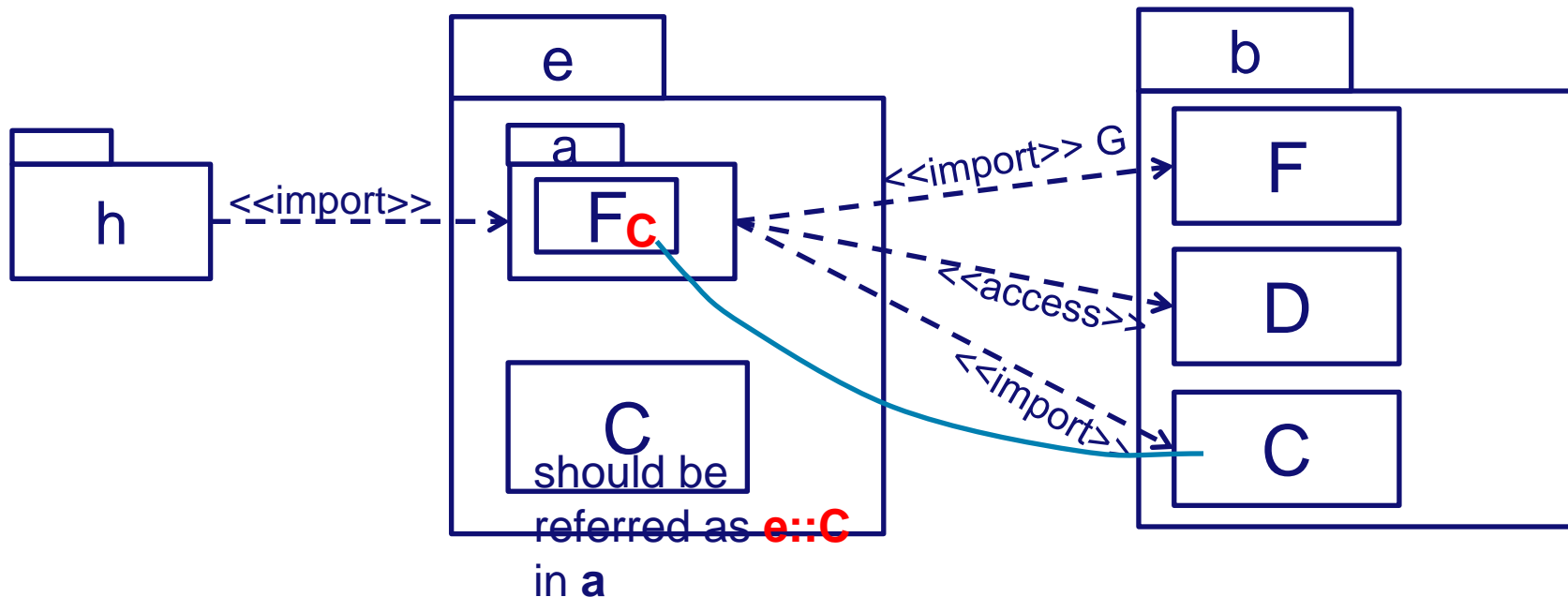
# Element Import (3)

- Element import allows an element in another package to be referenced using its name without a qualifier
  - `<<import>>` imported element within importing package is public
  - `<<access>>` imported element within importing package is private



# Element Import (4)

- Element import allows an element in another package to be referenced using its name without a qualifier
  - `<<import>>` imported element within importing package is public
  - `<<access>>` imported element within importing package is private

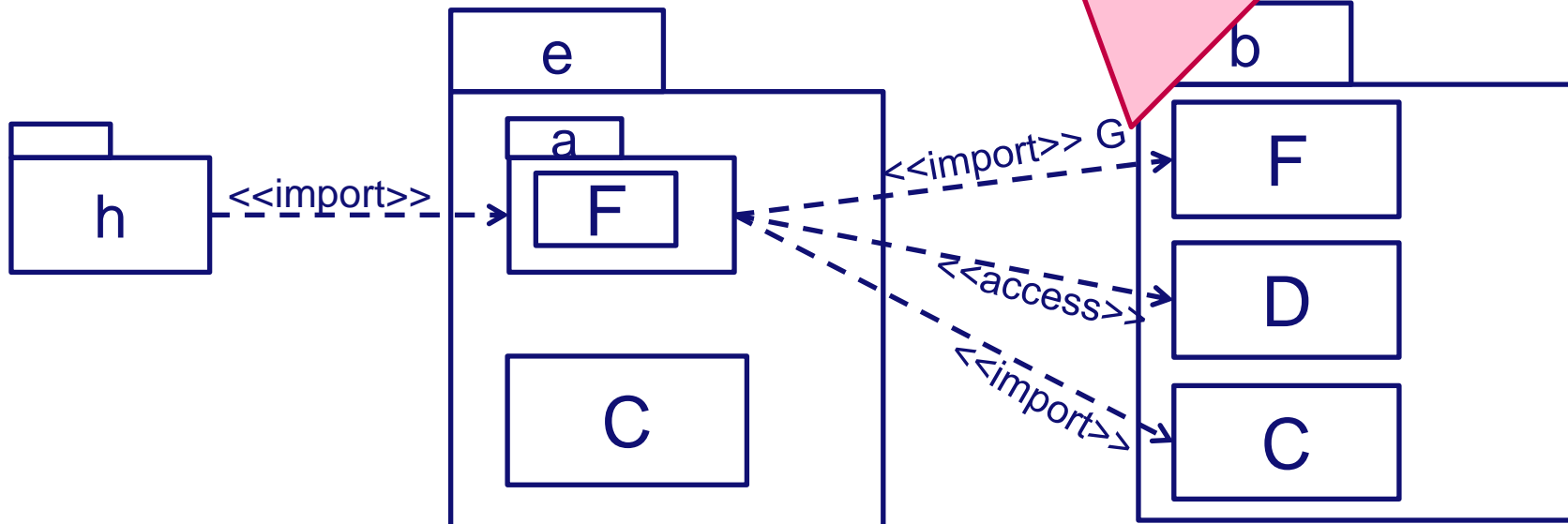




# Element Import (5)

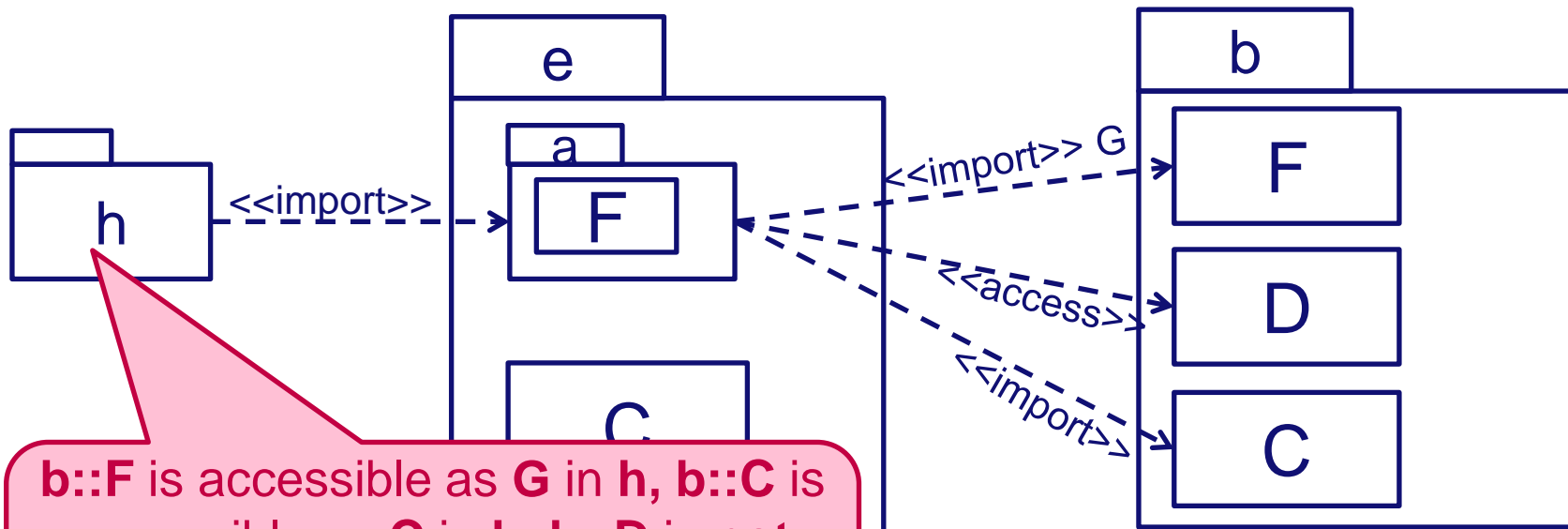
- Element import allows an element in another package to be referenced using:
  - `<<import>>` import
  - `<<access>>` import

**F** cannot be imported to **a** since there is already an **F** in **a**. Hence, we need to rename **b::F** to **G** in **a**.



# Element Import (6)

- Element import allows an element in another package to be referenced using its name without a qualifier
  - `<<import>>` imported element within importing package is public
  - `<<access>>` imported element within importing package is private



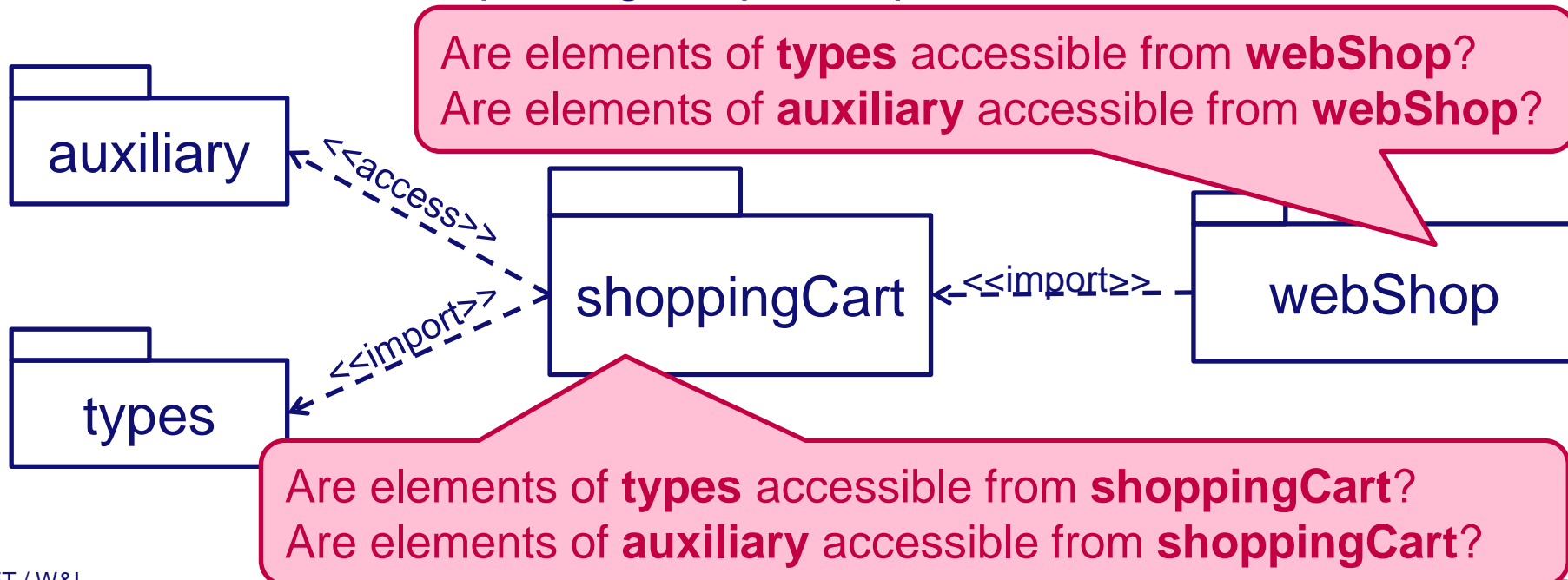
**b::F** is accessible as **G** in **h**, **b::C** is accessible as **C** in **h**, **b::D** is not accessible in **h** (private visibility of **b::D** in **a** due to `<<access>>`).

# Package import (1)

- A **package import** identifies a package whose members are to be imported
  - Conceptually equivalent to having an element import to each individual member of the imported package
  - **<<import>>** if package import is public
  - **<<access>>** if package import is private

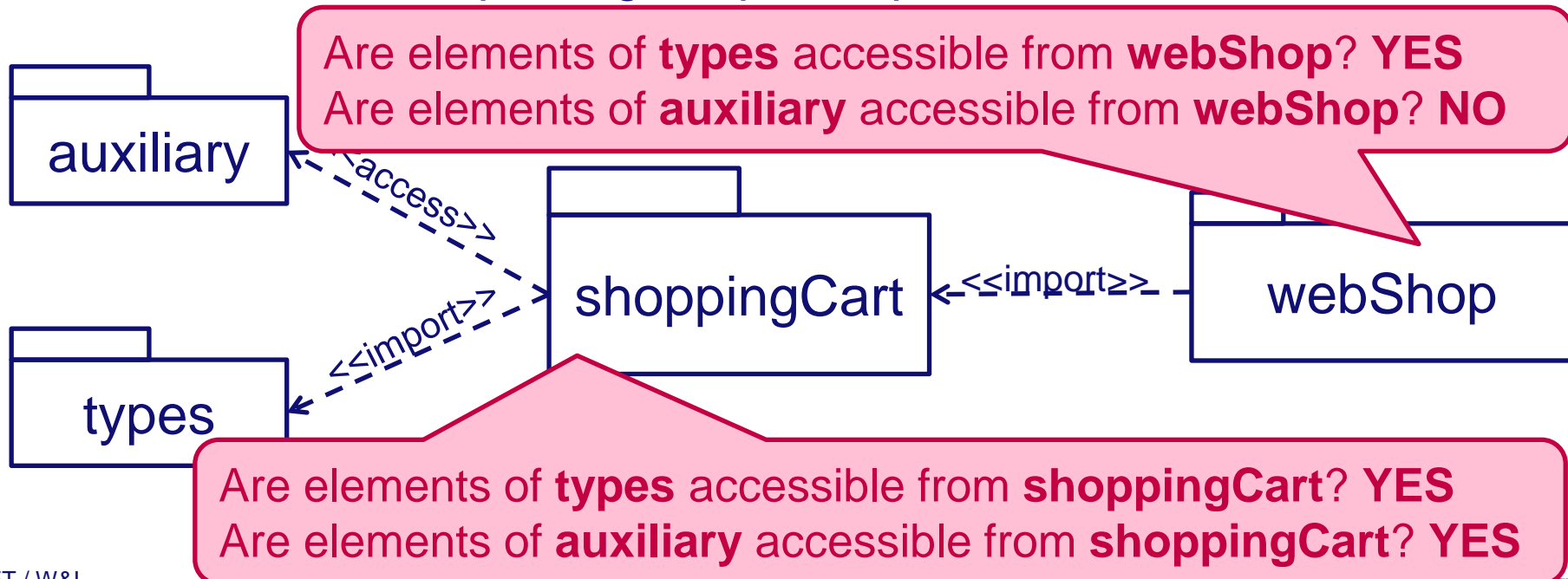
# Package import (2)

- A **package import** is a directed relationship that identifies a package whose members are to be imported
  - Conceptually equivalent to having an element import to each individual member of the imported package
  - `<<import>>` if package import is public
  - `<<access>>` if package import is private



# Package import (2)

- A **package import** is a directed relationship that identifies a package whose members are to be imported
  - Conceptually equivalent to having an element import to each individual member of the imported package
  - **<<import>>** if package import is public
  - **<<access>>** if package import is private



# Relations: Recap

- ✓ **Dependency**
- ✓ **Implementation**
- ✓ **Import / access**
- **Merge**

# Package merge

- A **package merge** indicates that the contents of the two packages are to be combined.
  - A (merged package) is merged into B (receiving package) that becomes B' (resulting package)

# Package merge

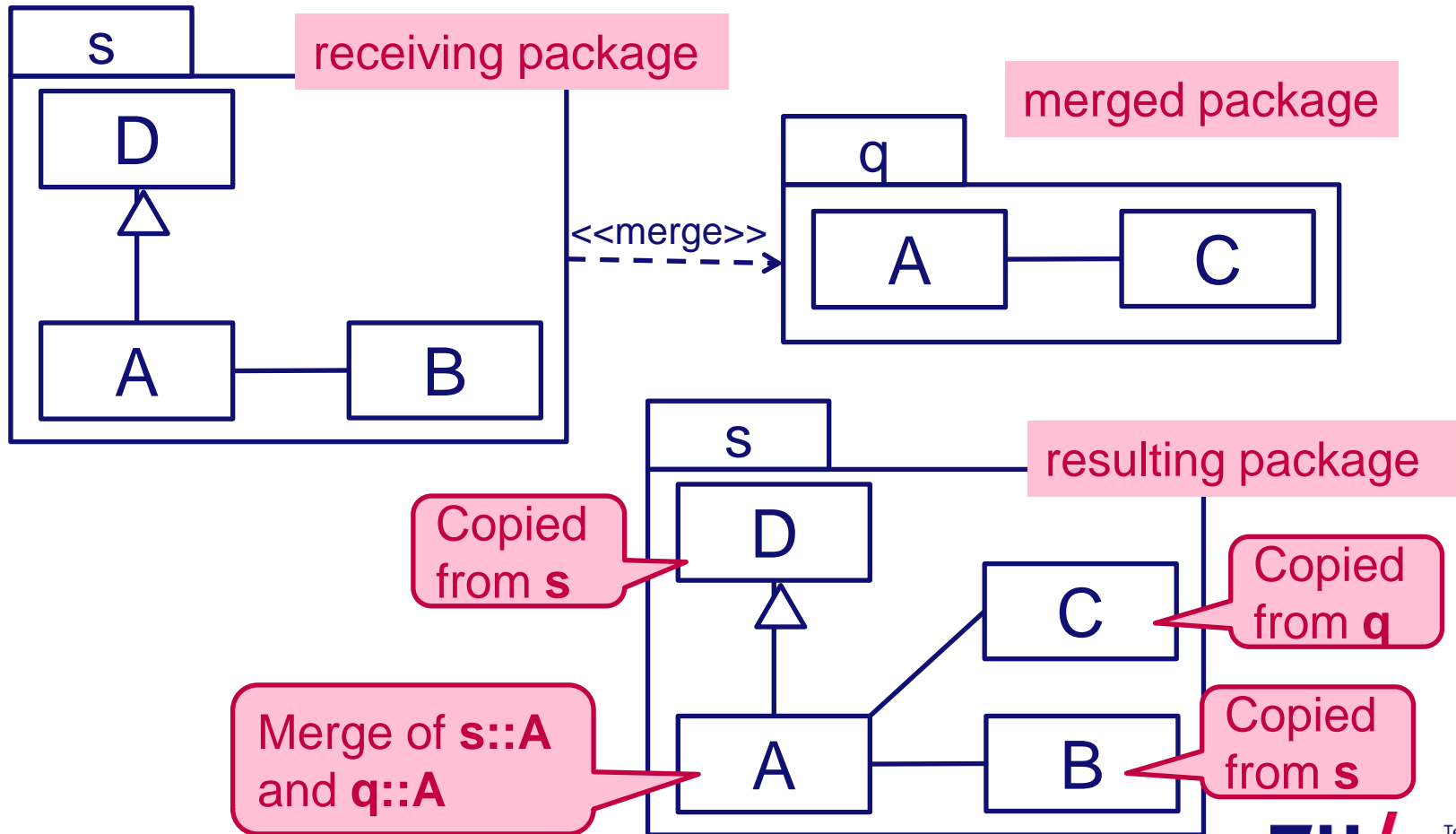
- A **package merge** indicates that the contents of the two packages are to be combined.
  - A (merged package) is merged into B (receiving package) that becomes B' (resulting package)
- Merge is **possible** only if
  - There is no cycle on “merge” dependencies
  - Receiving package does not contain the merged package
  - Receiving package is not contained in the merged package
  - Receiving element cannot have references to the merged element
  - Matching typed elements should have the same type (class) or a common supertype (superclass)



# Merge rules

UML 2.5 Beta 2, pp. 252-262

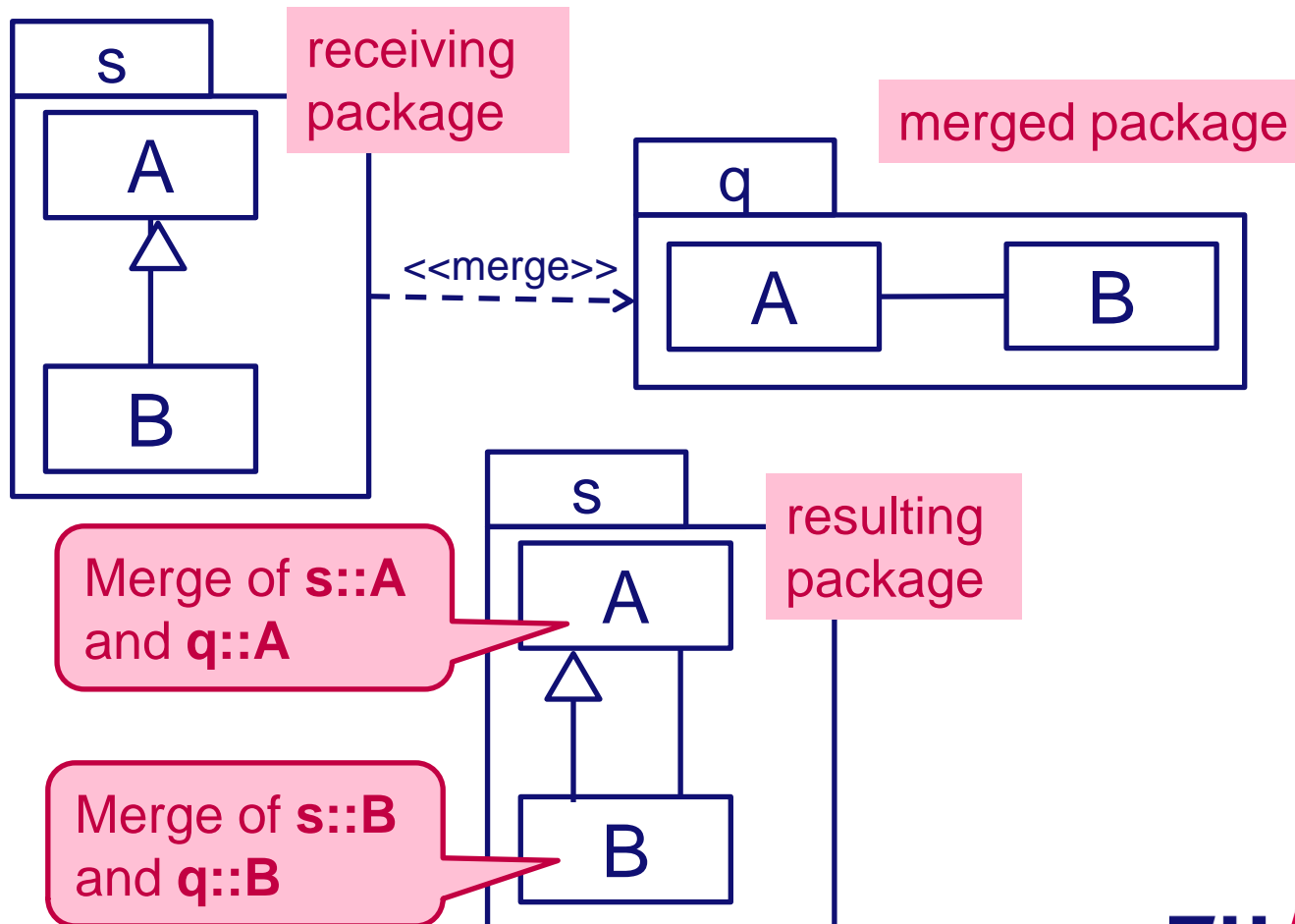
<http://www.omg.org/spec/UML/2.5/Beta2/>



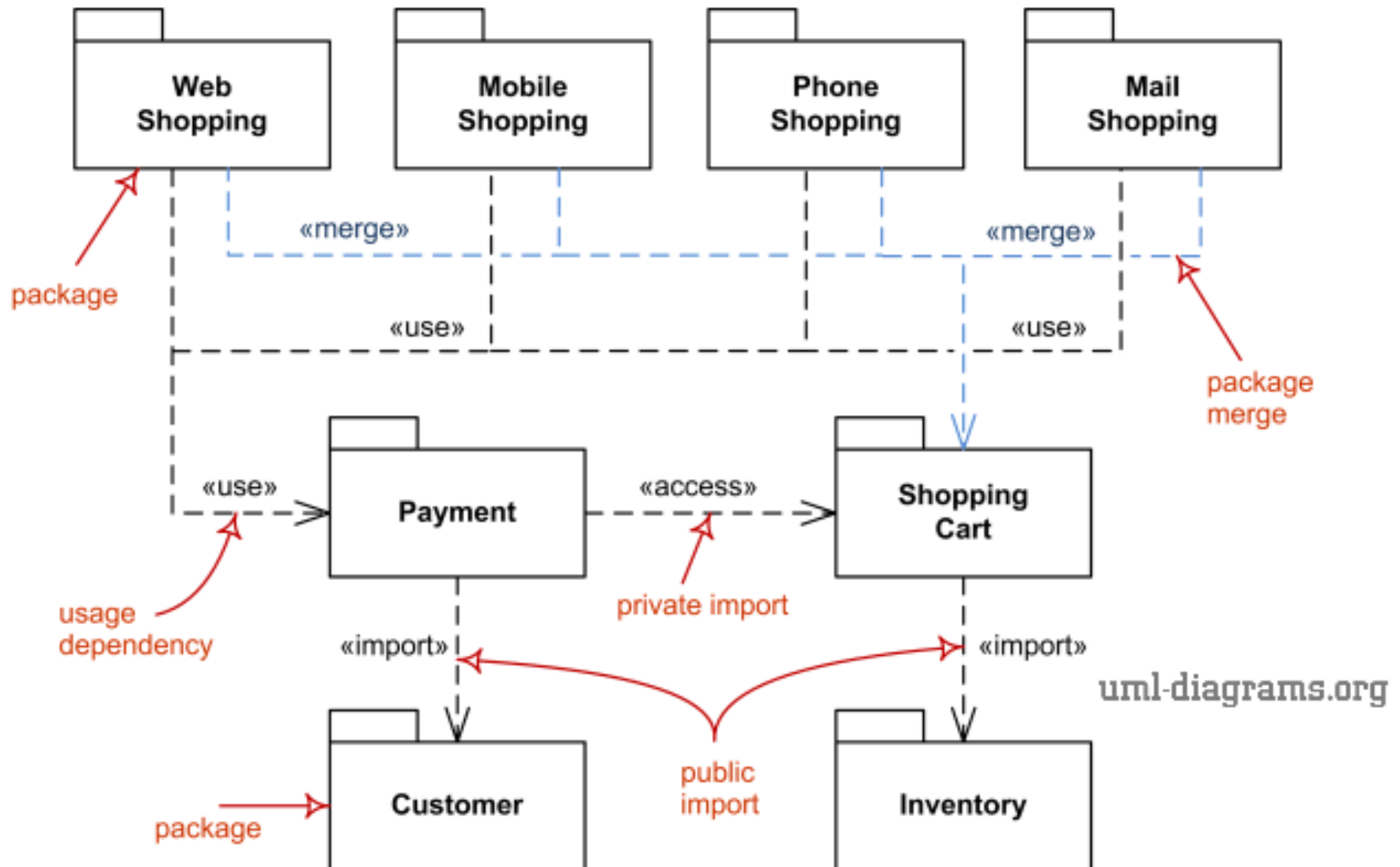
# Merge rules

UML 2.5 Beta 2, pp. 252-262

<http://www.omg.org/spec/UML/2.5/Beta2/>



# Summary: UML package diagrams



# How do we organize classes/use-cases in packages?

- **General:** try to give packages meaningful names
- Two special cases:
  - **Class package diagrams**
    - “basic elements” are class diagrams
    - The most popular special case
  - **Use-case package diagrams**
    - “basic elements” are use-case diagrams
    - Useful for larger projects to organize requirements

# Class Package Diagrams

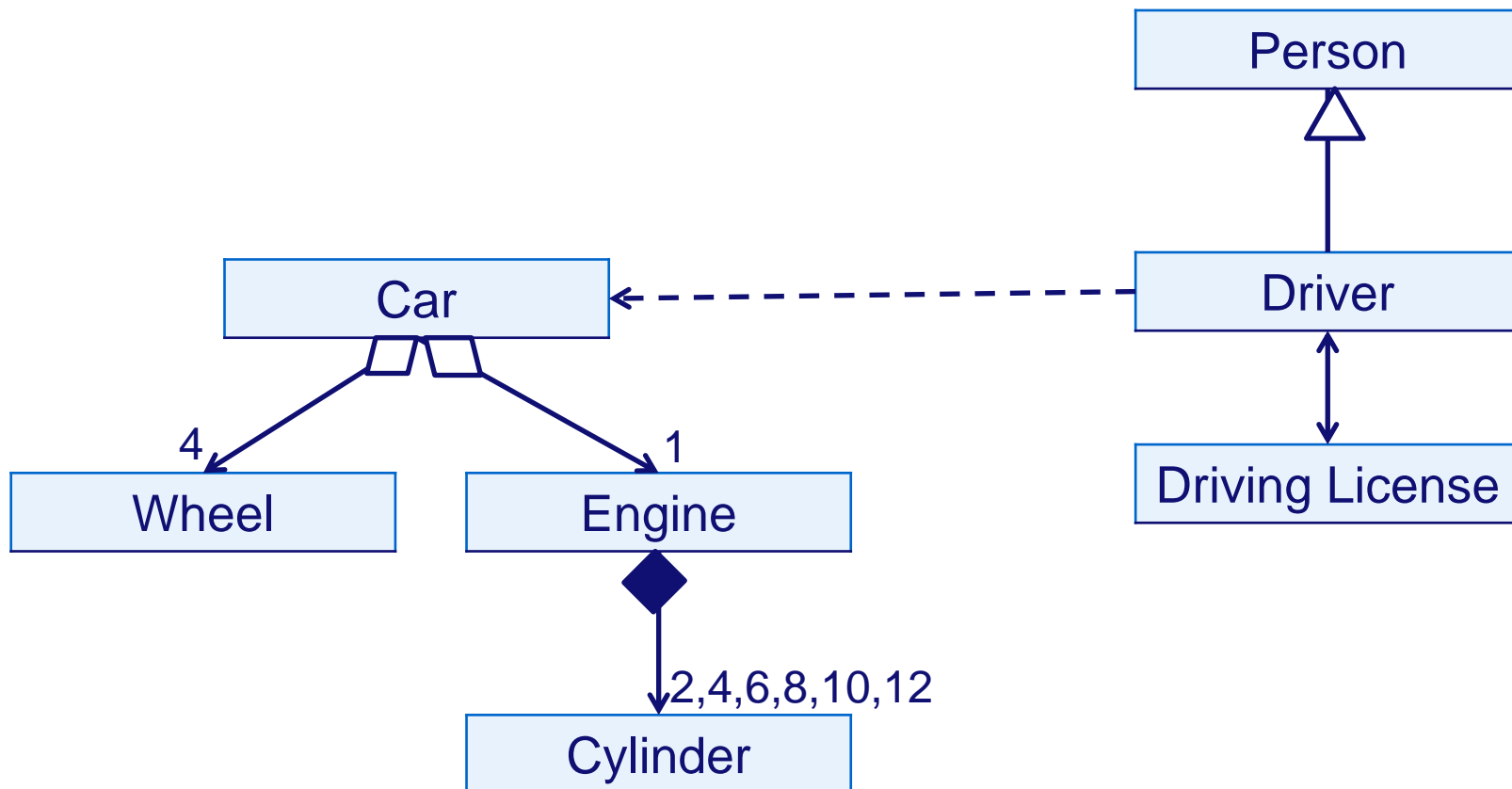
- **Heuristics** to organize classes into packages:
  - Classes of a framework belong in the same package.
  - Classes in the same inheritance hierarchy typically belong in the same package.
  - Classes related to one another via aggregation or composition often belong in the same package.
  - Classes that collaborate with each other a lot often belong in the same package.

# How would you organize into 2 packages?

- Car, Cylinder, Driver, Driving License, Engine, Person, Wheel

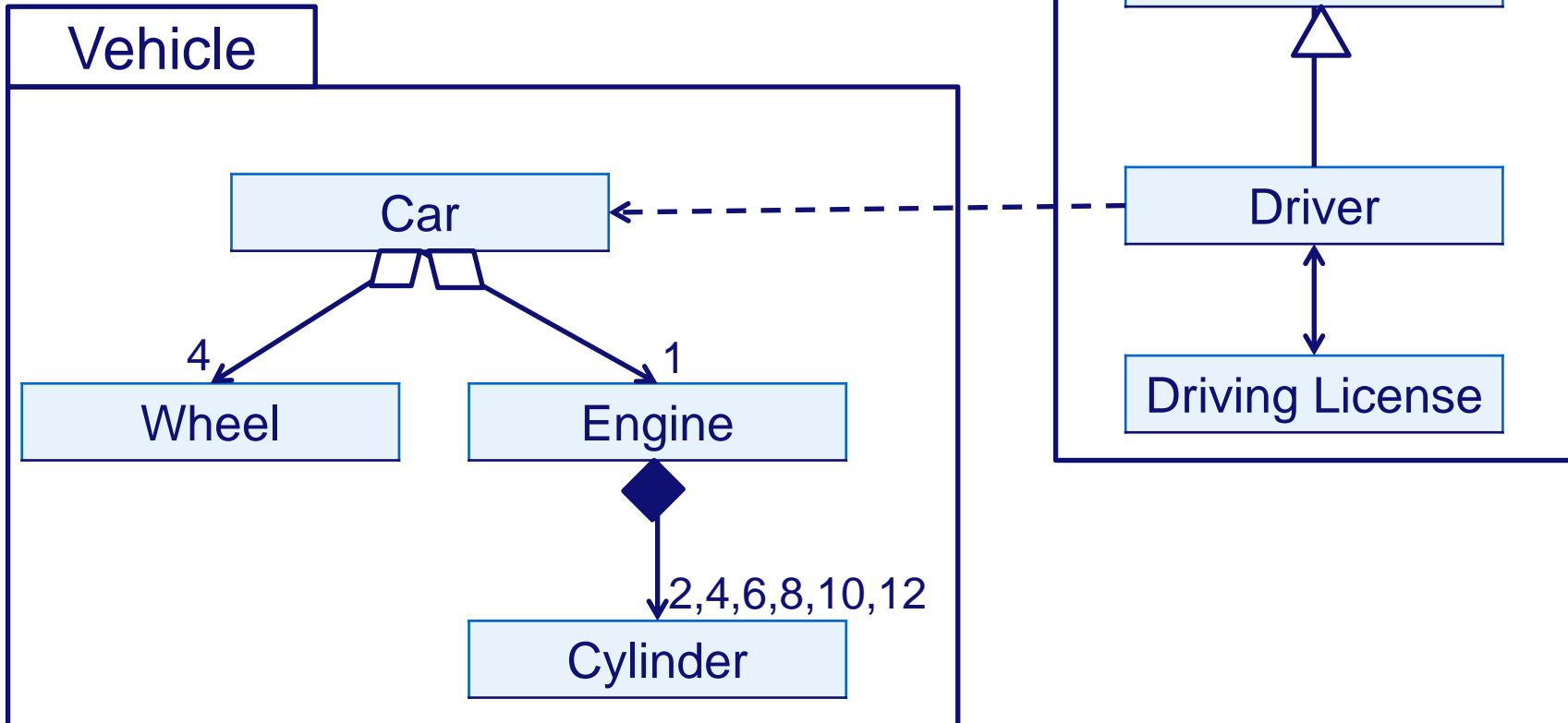
# How would you organize into 2 packages?

- Car, Cylinder, Driver, Driving License, Engine, Person, Wheel



# How would you organize into 2 packages?

- Car, Cylinder, Driver, Driving License, Engine, Person, Wheel





# How would you organize into 2 packages?

- Car, Cylinder, Driver, Driving License, Engine, Person, Wheel

```
classDiagram
    class Vehicle
    class Individual
    Individual ..> Vehicle
```

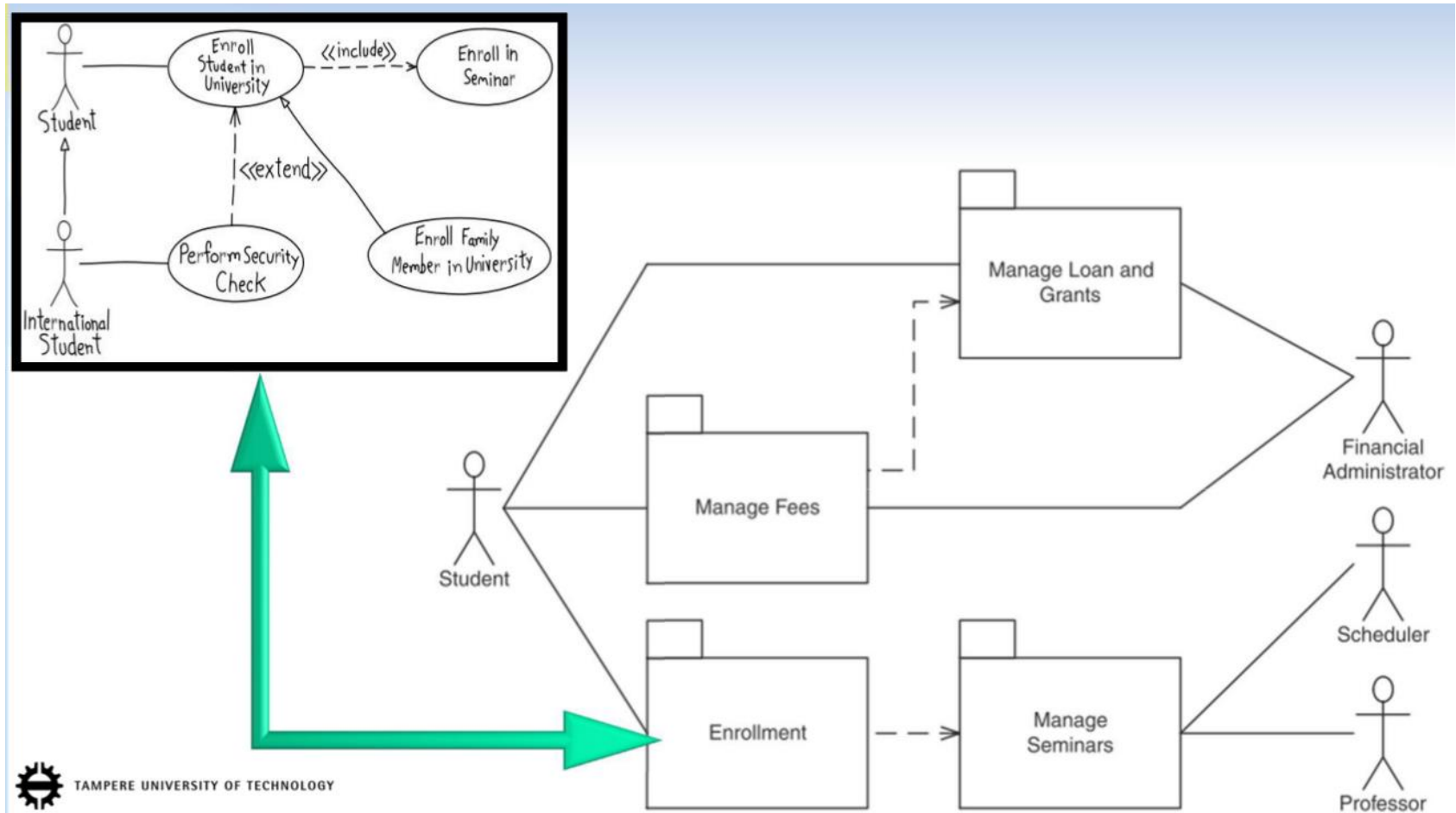
Vehicle

Individual

# Use-Case Package Diagrams

- **Heuristics** to organize use cases into packages:
  - Keep **associated** use cases together: included, extending and inheriting use cases belong in the same package.
  - Group use cases on the basis of the needs of the main actors.

# Use-Case Package Diagram Example



# UML structure diagrams

Class diagram 

Object diagram

Packages diagram 

Component diagram

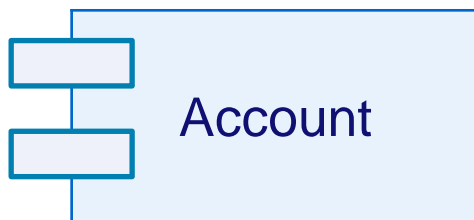
**TODAY**

Deployment diagram

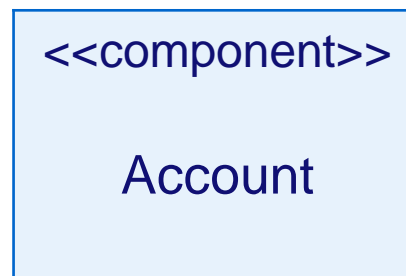
Composite structure diagram

# Component diagrams

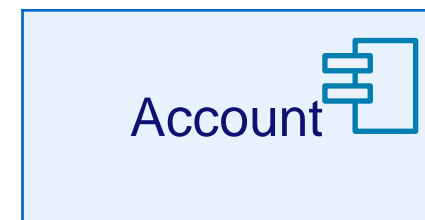
- **Component:** a modular unit with well-defined interfaces that is replaceable within its environment (UML Superstructure Specification, v.2.0, Chapter 8)
  - fosters reuse
  - stresses interfaces
- Graphical representation: **special kind of class**



**UML 1**

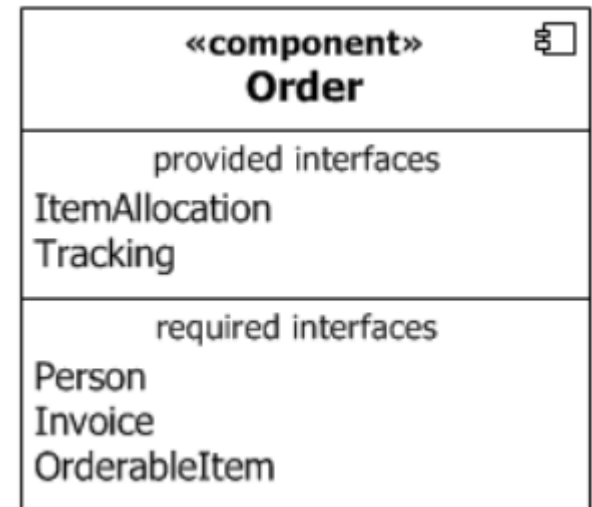
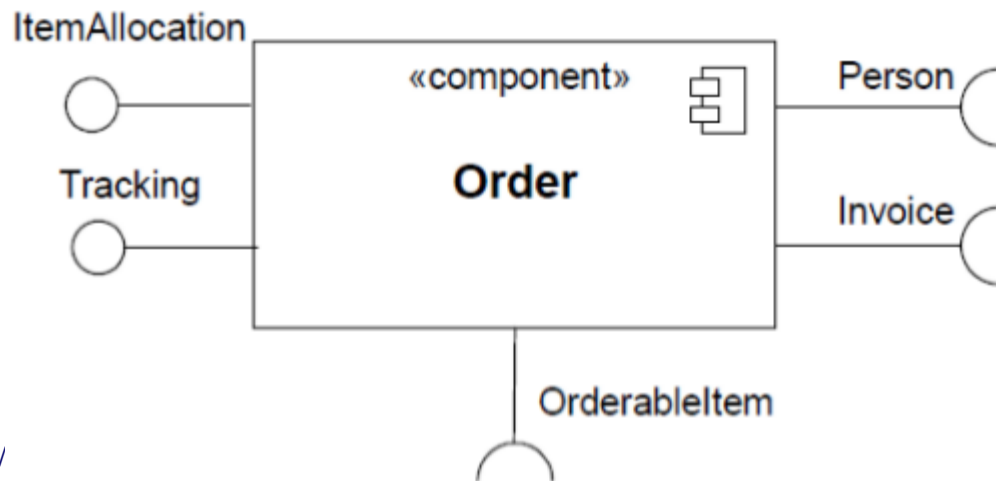


**UML 2**



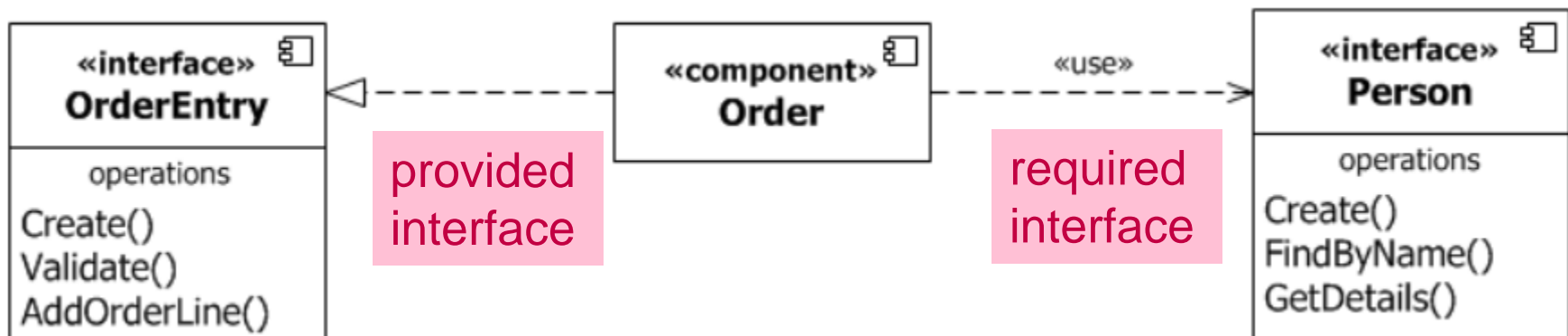
# Component diagrams

- **Component:** a modular unit with well-defined interfaces that is replaceable within its environment (UML Superstructure Specification, v.2.0, Chapter 8)
  - fosters reuse
  - stresses interfaces
- Two views: black-box and white-box
  - **Black-box** view: interfaces provided and required only



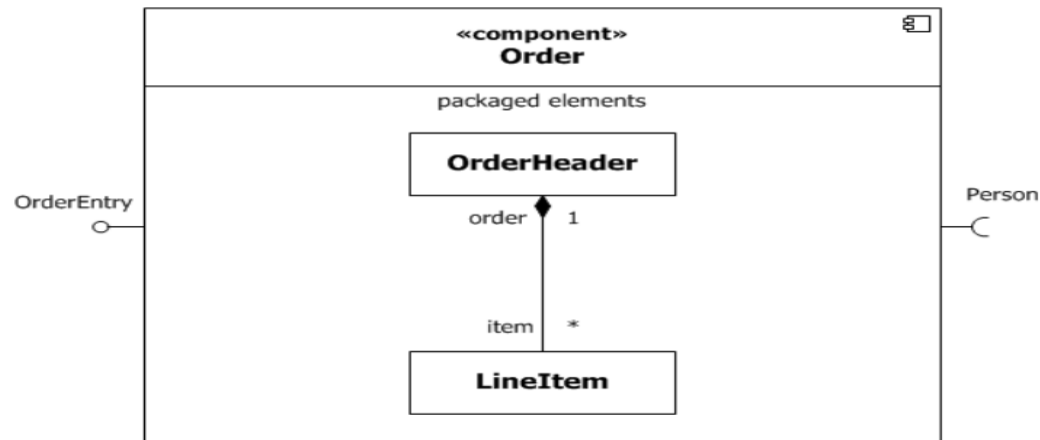
# Component diagrams

- **Component:** a modular unit with well-defined interfaces that is replaceable within its environment (UML Superstructure Specification, v.2.0, Chapter 8)
  - fosters reuse
  - stresses interfaces
- Two views: black-box and white-box
  - **Black-box** view: interfaces provided and required only
  - **White-box** view: *structure of interfaces* and/or internal structure



# Component diagrams

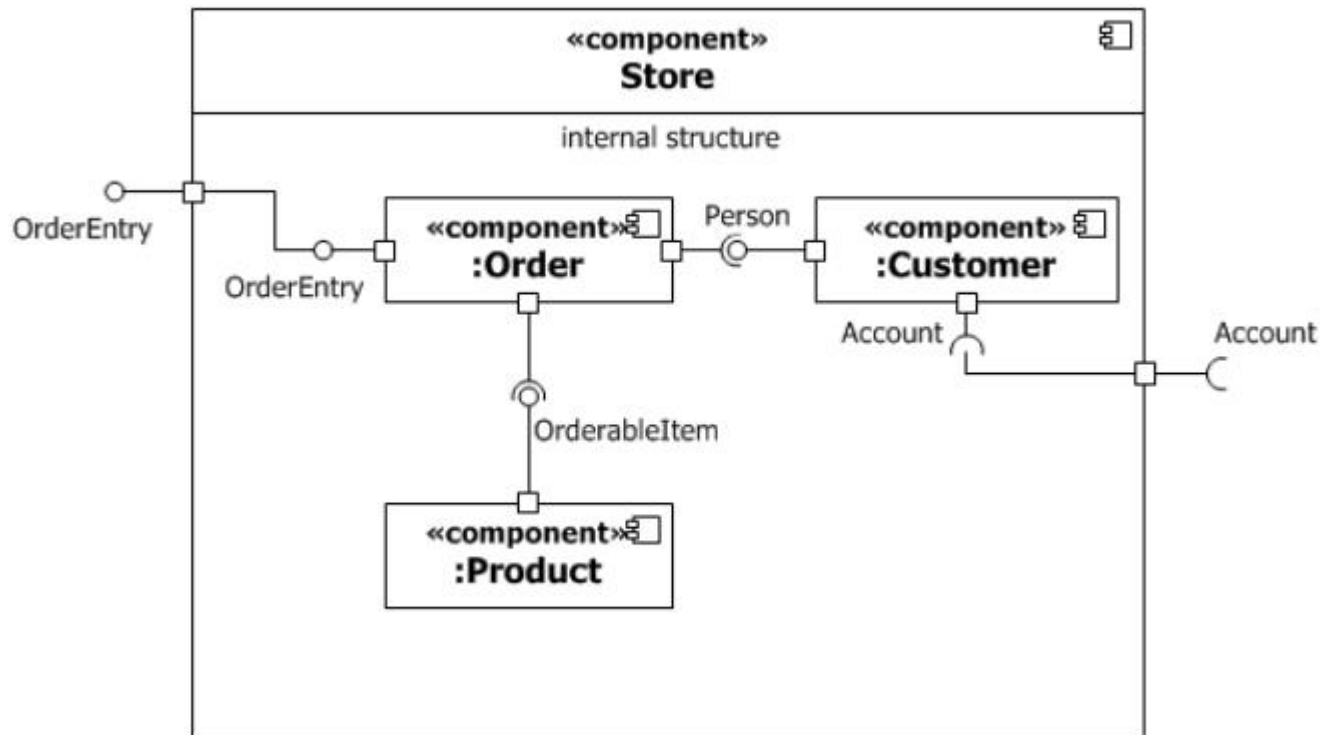
- **Component:** a modular unit with well-defined interfaces that is replaceable within its environment (UML Superstructure Specification, v.2.0, Chapter 8)
  - fosters reuse
  - stresses interfaces
- Two views: black-box and white-box
  - **Black-box** view: interfaces provided and required only
  - **White-box** view: structure of interfaces and/or *internal structure*



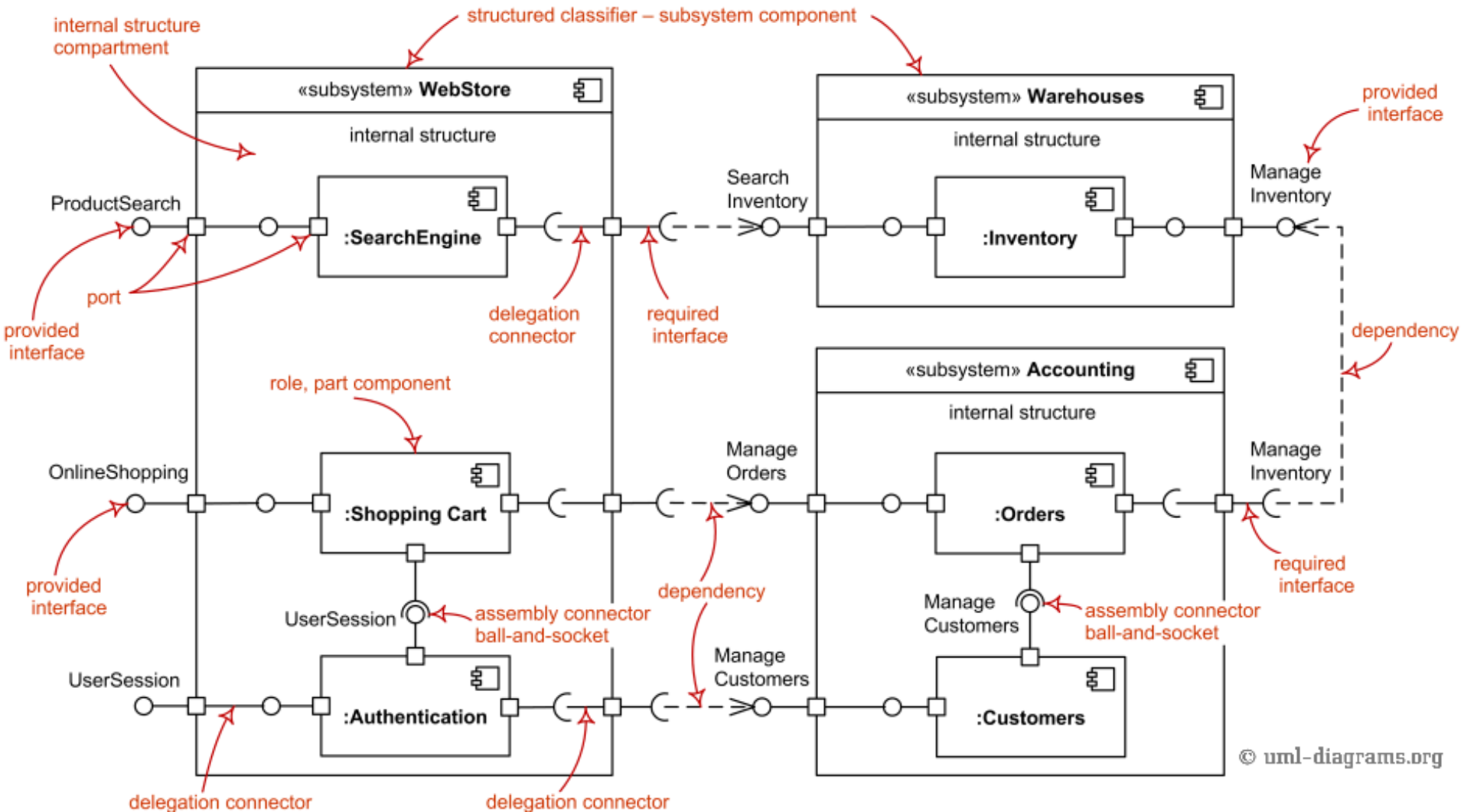


# Nested components

- Components can be **contained** in other components
- Interfaces can then be **delegated** through **ports**



# Summary: UML component diagrams



# UML structure diagrams

Class diagram 

Object diagram

Packages diagram 

Component diagram 

Deployment diagram

**TODAY**

Composite structure diagram

# Deployment

- **Deployment:** relationship between logical and/or physical elements of systems (**Nodes**) and information technology assets assigned to them (**Artefacts**).

# Deployment

- **Deployment:** relationship between logical and/or physical elements of systems (**Nodes**) and information technology assets assigned to them (**Artefacts**).
- **Nodes**
  - **devices:** application server, client workstation, ...
  - **execution environments:** DB system, J2EE container, ...
  - Graphical representation: **box**



# Deployment

- **Deployment:** relationship between logical and/or physical elements of systems (**Nodes**) and information technology assets assigned to them (**Artefacts**).
- **Nodes**
  - **devices:** application server, client workstation, ...
  - **execution environments:** DB system, J2EE container, ...
  - Graphical representation: **box**
- Nodes can be **physically connected** (e.g., via cables or wireless)
  - UML-parlance: CommunicationPath
  - Graphical representation: as an association



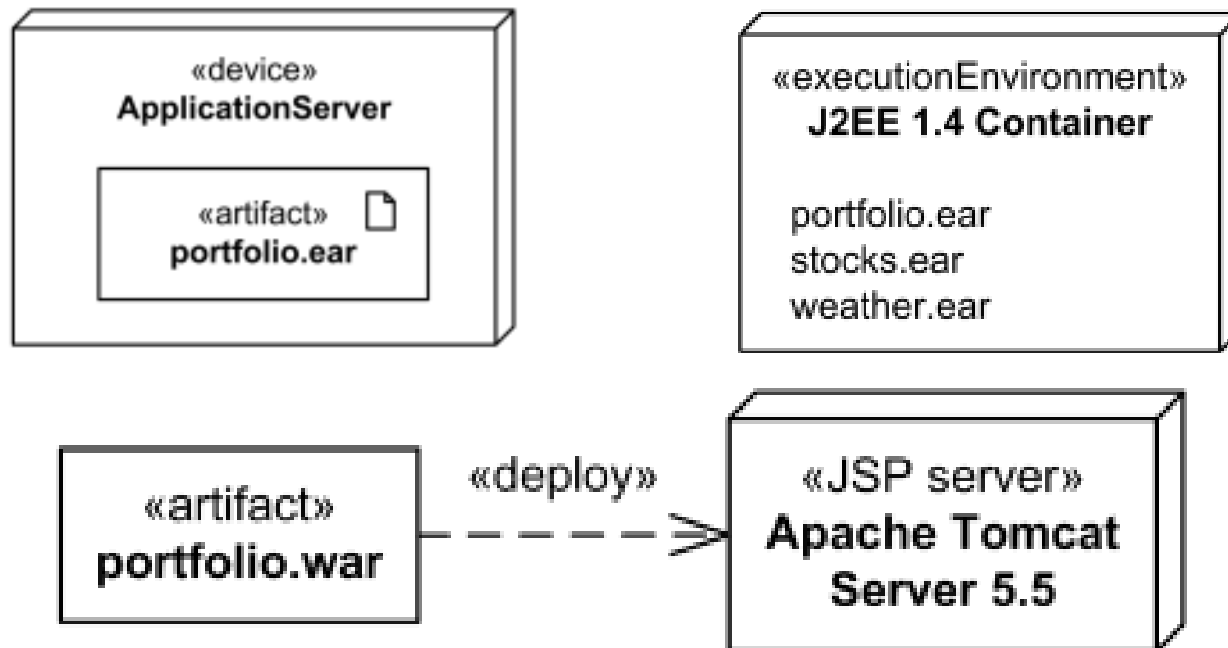
# Deployment

- **Deployment:** relationship between logical and/or physical elements of systems (**Nodes**) and information technology assets assigned to them (**Artefacts**).
- **Artefacts:** information items produced during software development or when operating the system
  - model files, source files, scripts, executable files, database tables, word-processing documents, mail messages, ...
  - Graphical representation: “class-like”
- Relations: dependencies



# Deployment

- **Deployment:** relationship between logical and/or physical elements of systems (**Nodes**) and information technology assets assigned to them (**Artefacts**).
- Deployment: three equally valid representations



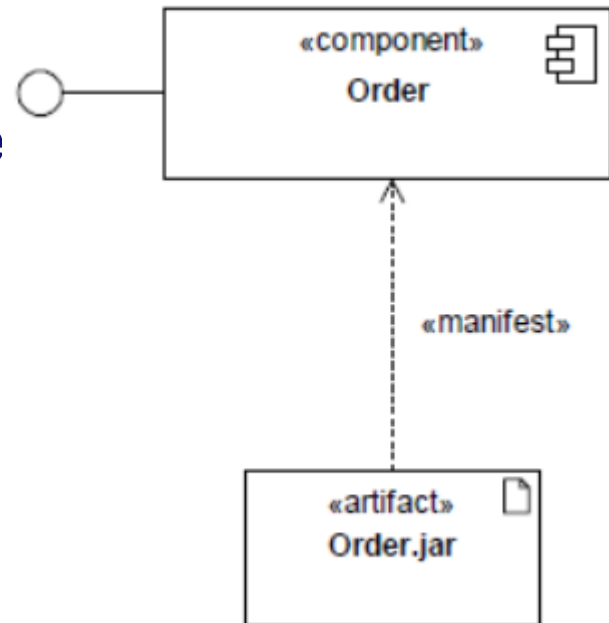


# Deployment: missing piece

- How do we know where a given use case, class, component, or package is deployed?
  - Use case / class / component / packages diagrams do not discuss deployment
  - Deployment diagrams do not discuss use cases / classes / components / packages but only artifacts

# Deployment: missing piece

- How do we know where a given use case, class, component, or package is deployed?
  - Use case / class / component / packages diagrams do not discuss deployment
  - Deployment diagrams do not discuss use cases / classes / components / packages but only artifacts
- **Manifestation** maps artifacts to use cases / classes / components / packages



# Summary: deployment diagrams

