



BUILDING A DSL FOR SUPPORTING COMPUTATIONAL DESIGN SYNTHESIS OF CYBER-PHYSICAL SYSTEMS

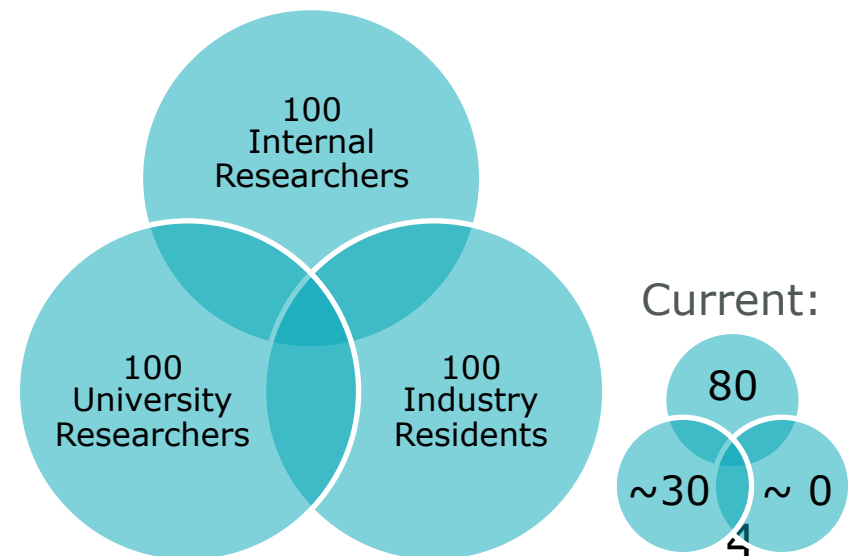
WHAT DOES IT TAKE?

KLAAS GADEYNE, FLANDERS MAKE



Flanders Make - Organisation

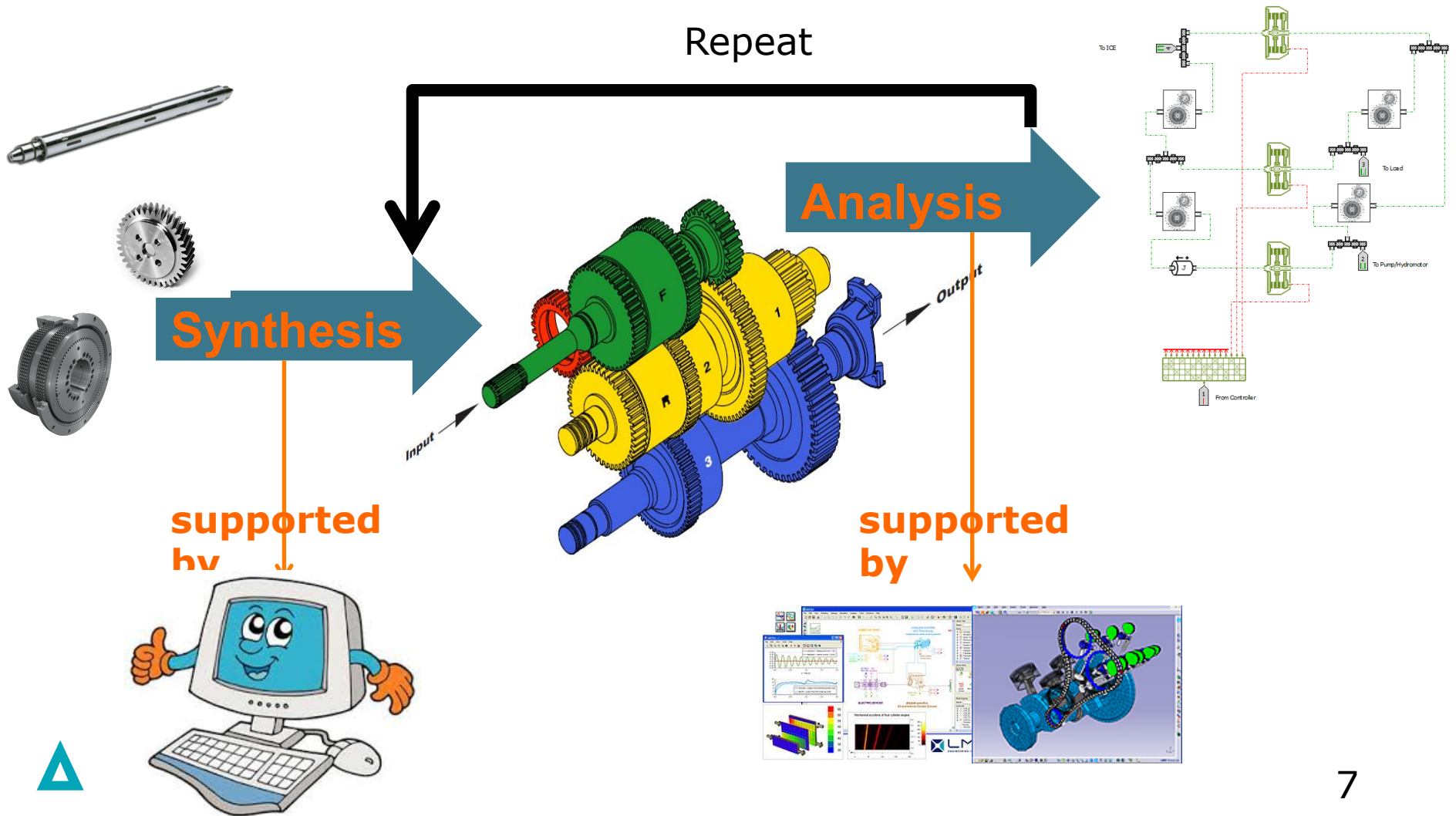
- ▲ Research initiative of/for the Flemish industry
- ▲ Government + industry sponsored
- ▲ Domains:
 - ▲ Mechatronics, cyberphysical (machines + automotive)
 - ▲ Product development methods (f.i. MBE/MDD)
 - ▲ Advanced manufacturing technologies (f.i. additive manufacturing)
- ▲ Founded in 2003, merged in 2014



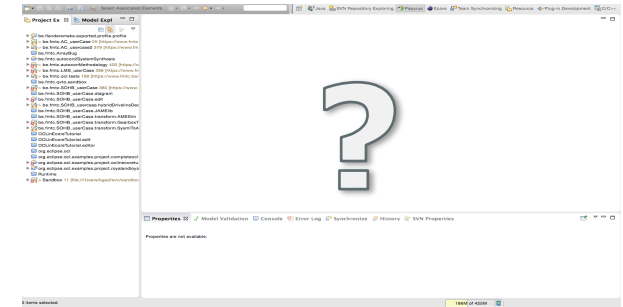
Actual industrial MEMBERS



What is computational design synthesis?

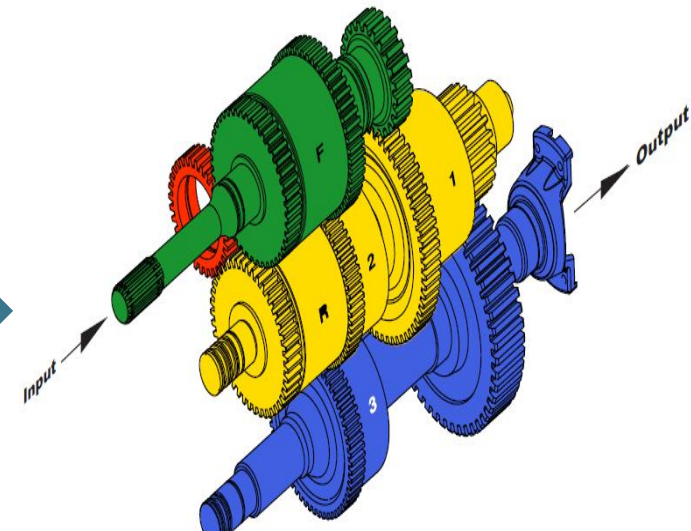
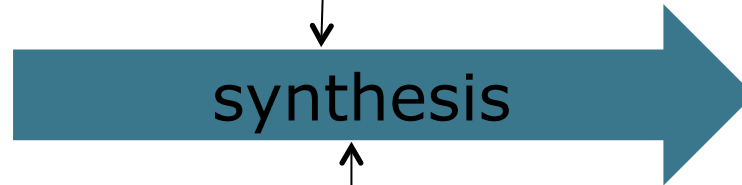


What do you need for CDS?

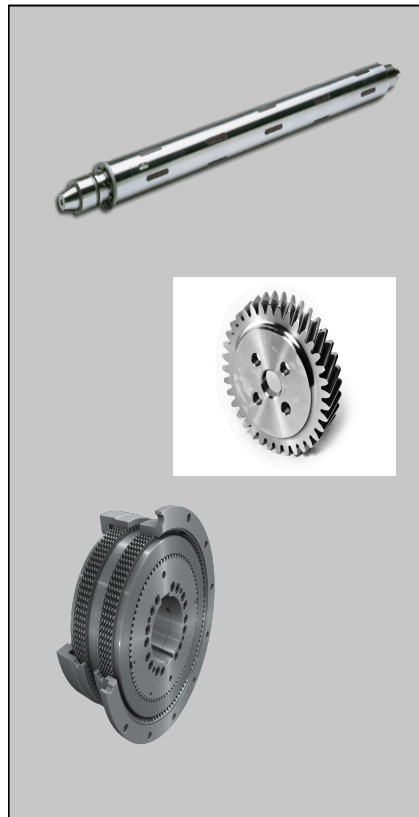


Requirements and objectives

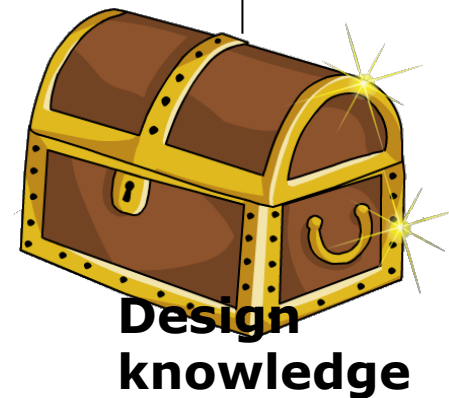
Optimize weight
Max Bounding Box = ...
Num Gears = ...
Ratios = ...



Valuable System architecture = topology + key properties

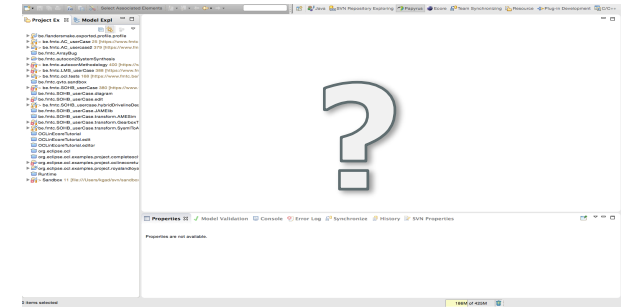


Component Types



Design knowledge

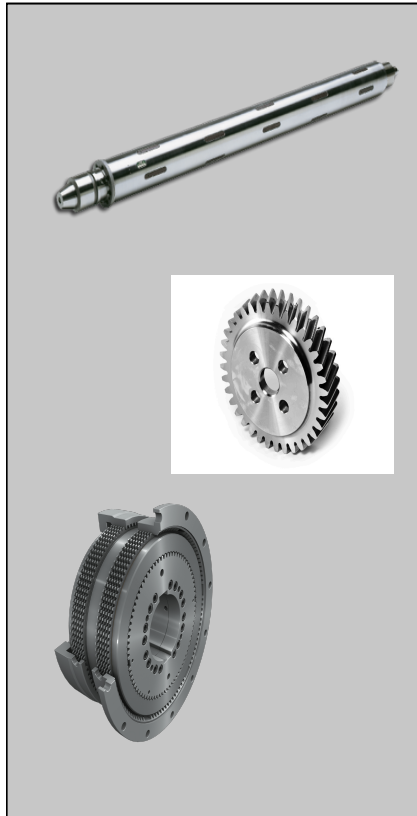
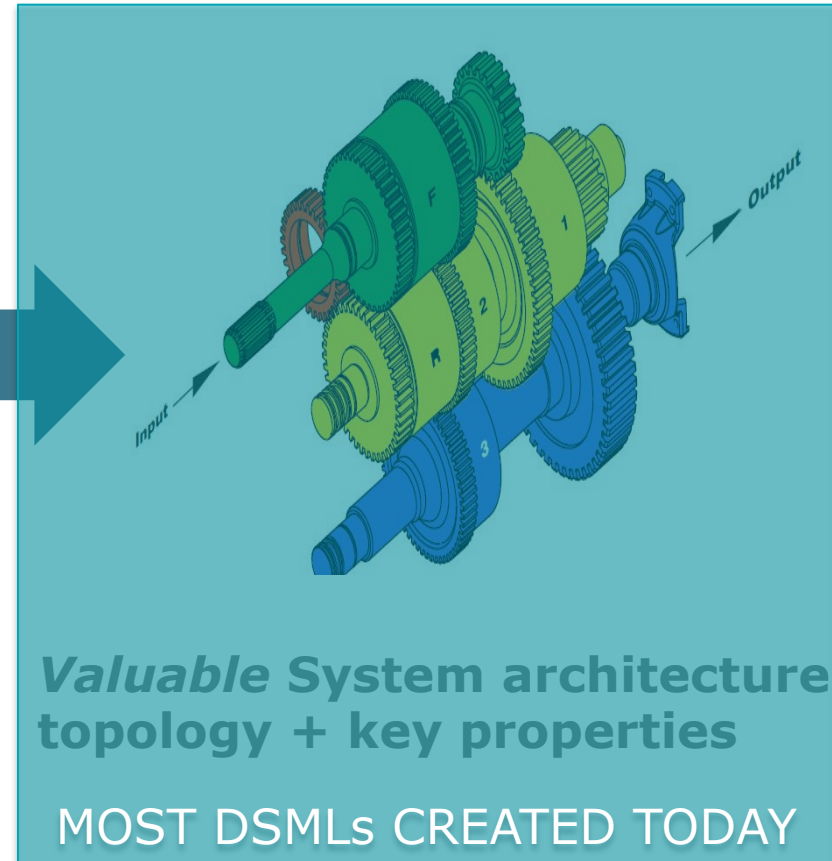
A DSML for CDS



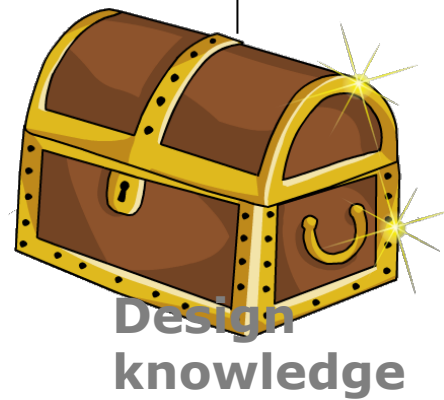
Requirements and objectives

Optimize weight
Max Bounding Box = ...
Num Gears = ...
Ratios = ...

synthesis



Component Types



Example: A DSML for gearbox design

The screenshot shows a software development environment with the following components:

- Project Explorer:** Shows a project structure with folders like 'Test 143', 'model 143', 'GearBox-ecore', '2by2Gearbo', 'Gear Box 0.', '2by2Gearbox.', '0.0', and 'GearBox-ecore'.
- Diagram:** A DSML diagram representing a gearbox design. It features three gear sets (represented by horizontal bars) connected in series. The connections are shown with dashed lines and symbols indicating gear meshing and shaft connections.
- Palette:** Lists available components: GearedSet, ConnectionPoint, GearWheel, Clutch, Axis, and Connection.
- Properties:** Shows a table of properties for the selected element.
- Error Log:** Shows a table of errors.
- Problems:** Shows a table of problems.

Properties Panel:

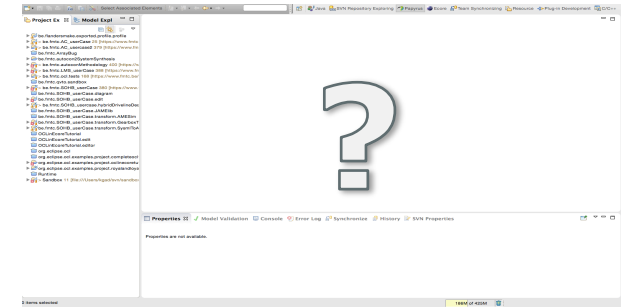
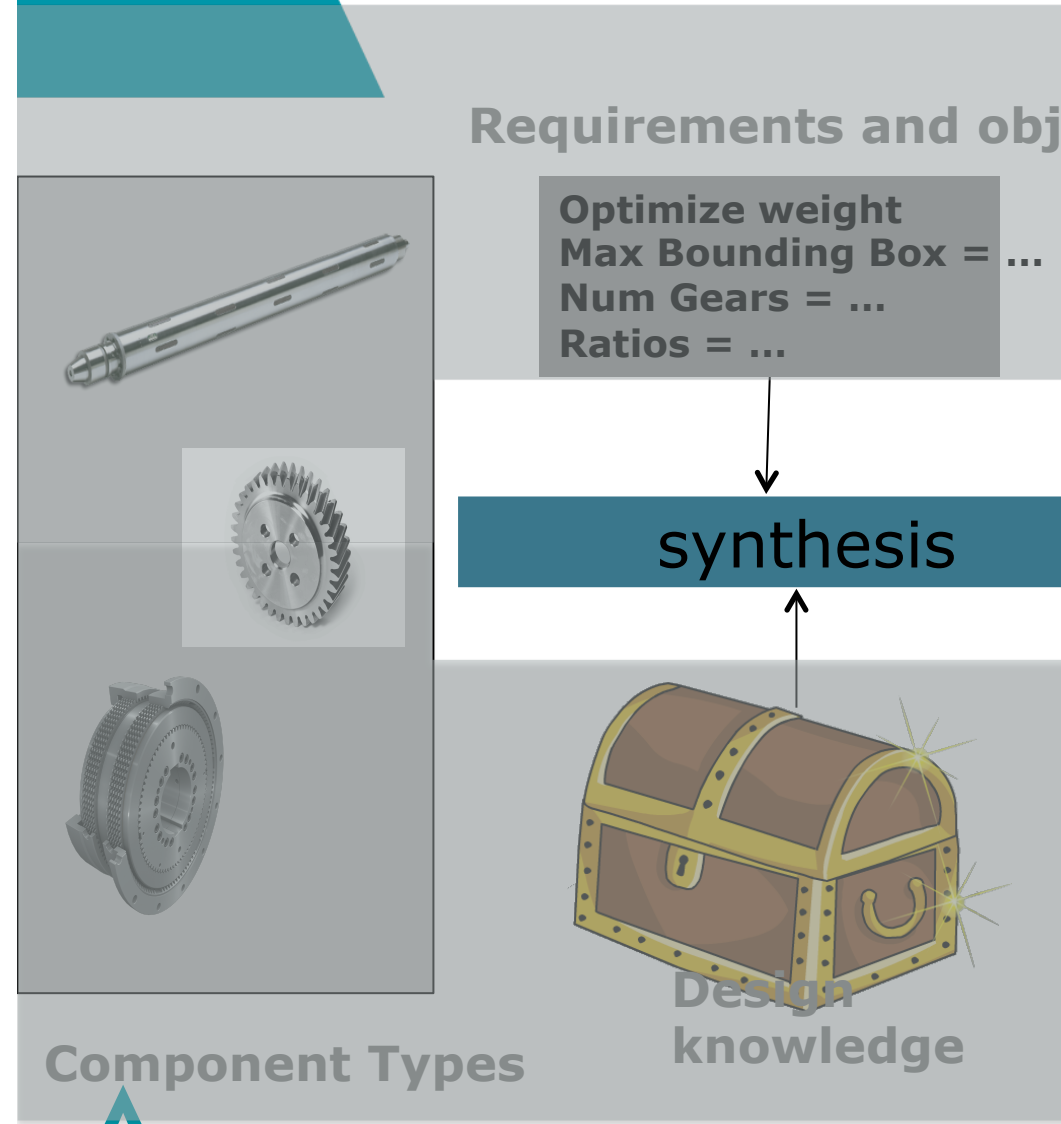
Undefined		
Core	Property	Value
	Actual Height	0.0
	Actual Length	0.0
	Actual Weight	18.0
	Actual Width	0.0
	Required Gears	2.0, 3.0, -2.0, -5.0, -7.0
	Required Height	0.0

Problems Panel:

Description	Resource	Path
Only 2 reverse gears. Requested: 3	2by2Gearbox.gearbox	/Test/model

The Required Gears of the Gear Box

A DSML for CDS



Valuable System architecture = topology + key properties



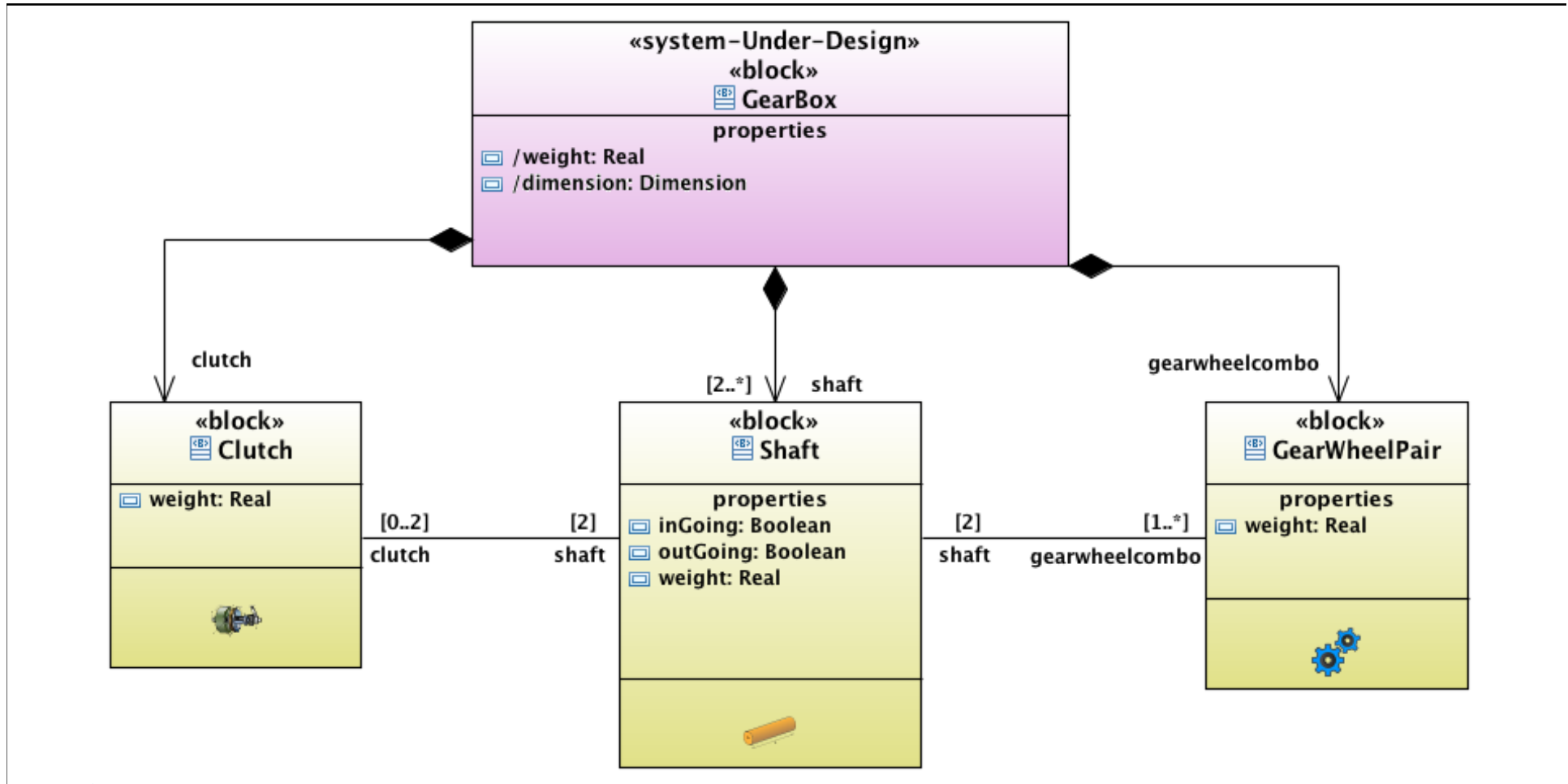


A DSML for supporting computational design synthesis of CPS

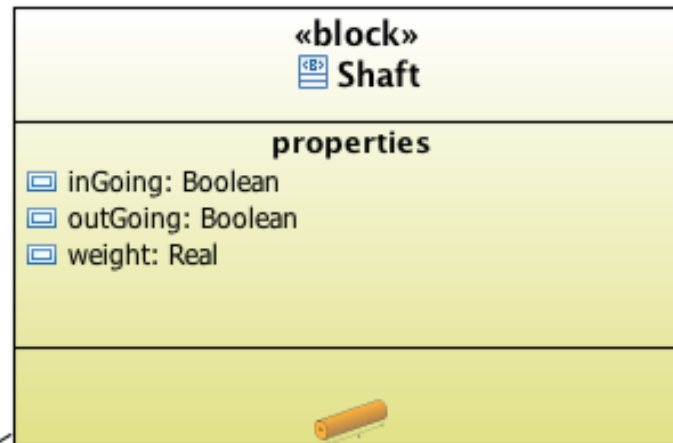
- ▲ The term 'design space' is often used to denote the Set of feasible CPS architectures that can satisfy the requirements
- ▲ A Synthesis algorithm then selects (and presents) valuable architectures to the designer
- ▲ The goal of a DSML that supports CDS is to **model this 'design space'**



Design space = meta-model?



with (a lot of) OCL constraints?



{?} inGoing <> outGoing
{{OCL}} self.inGoing = true
implies self.outGoing = false

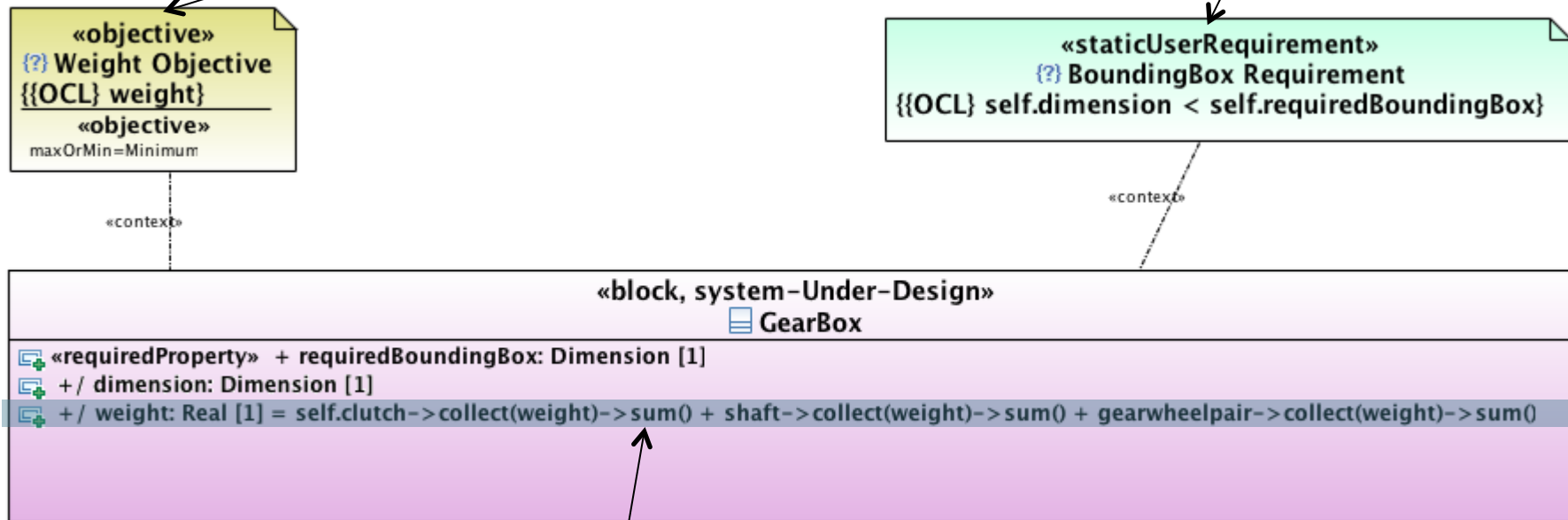
{?} Exactly One inGoing and One outGoing shaft
{{OCL}} self.allInstances()->select(inGoing = true)->size() = 1
and self.allInstances()->select(outGoing = true)->size() = 1



Design space = meta-model + requirements for the instances

objectives = minimal weight

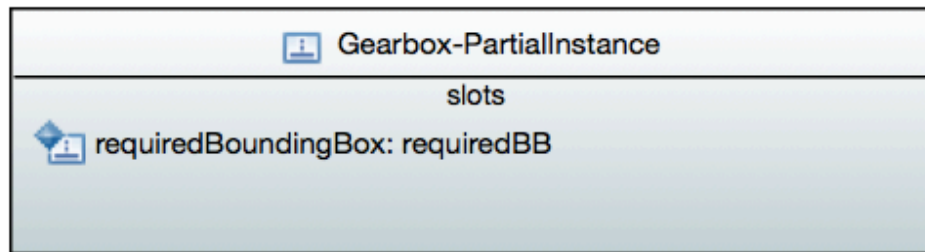
bounding box requirement




weight of the gearbox = sum of the weights of all its parts



Design space = meta-model + requirements for the instances





Going for a 'lightweight extension' approach

- ▲ SysML + OCL seem to be a good candidate to serve as a 'Host language' when creating a DSML for modeling the design space of CyberPhysical Systems,
 - ▲ and hence as a model that contains all necessary information for the Computational Design Synthesis 'engine'
- ▲ Extended by a ConfigurationDesign profile
 - ▲ <<objective>>, <<requiredProperty>>, ...





Accidental complexity

Remember req. #1 for creating DSLs...

If one model conveys the same information as another model, but in a more concise way using less modeling elements and concepts, it is less complex

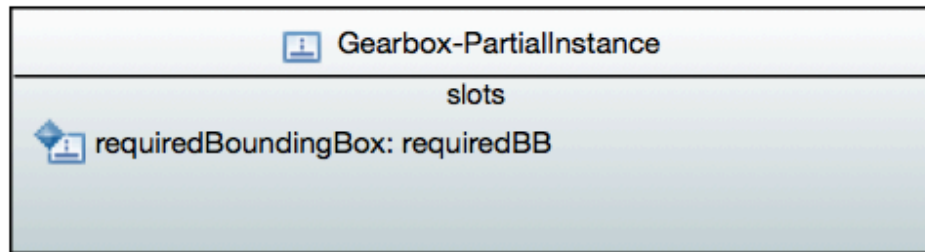
What could we do to further reduce the accidental complexity for modelers using the DSL4CDSofCPS?

- ▲ Brooks, F.P.: **No silver bullet: essence and accidents of software engineering.** Comput. Archive **20**(4), 10–19 (1987)
- ▲ Atkinson, C. and Kühne, T: **Reducing accidental complexity in domain models.** Softw Syst Model (2008) 7:345–359



'Run-time instance creation'

- ▲ Instances allow to
 - ▲ specify the requirements
 - ▲ specify partial architectures as 'expert knowledge' (*and validate them!*)
- ▲ UML `_allows_` run-time instance creation
 - ▲ But papyrus doesn't exploit it very well
 - ▲ Neither does it support graphical instances



Instances with minimal accidental complexity

The screenshot displays a CAD application window with the following components:

- Project Explorer:** Shows a tree view of the model structure, including folders for 'Test 143', 'model 143', 'GearBox-ecori', '2by2Gearbo', 'Gear Box 0.', '2by2Gearbox.', '0.0', and 'GearBox-ecori'.
- Diagram:** A 2D schematic of a gearbox assembly. It features three gear housing units connected in a line. Each housing contains a gear set. The assembly is connected to a central shaft.
- Palette:** Lists available components: GearedSet, ConnectionPoint, GearWheel, Clutch, Axis, and Connection.
- Properties Panel:** Shows the 'Undefined' properties for the selected component. The 'Required Gears' property is highlighted, showing a list of gear numbers: 2.0, 3.0, -2.0, -5.0, -7.0.
- Errors Panel:** Displays a single error: 'Only 2 reverse gears. Requested: 3'. The error is associated with the resource '2by2Gearbox.gearbox' and the path '/Test/model'.

Property	Value
Actual Height	0.0
Actual Length	0.0
Actual Weight	18.0
Actual Width	0.0
Required Gears	2.0, 3.0, -2.0, -5.0, -7.0
Required Height	0.0

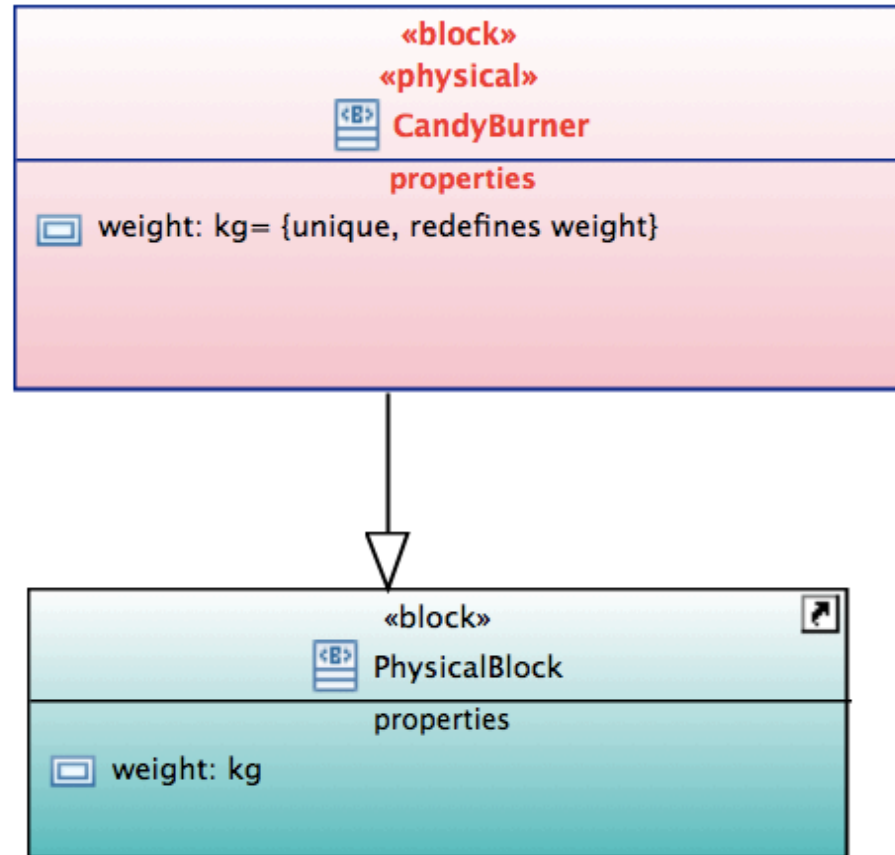
1 error, 0 warnings, 0 others

Description	Resource	Path
Only 2 reverse gears. Requested: 3	2by2Gearbox.gearbox	/Test/model

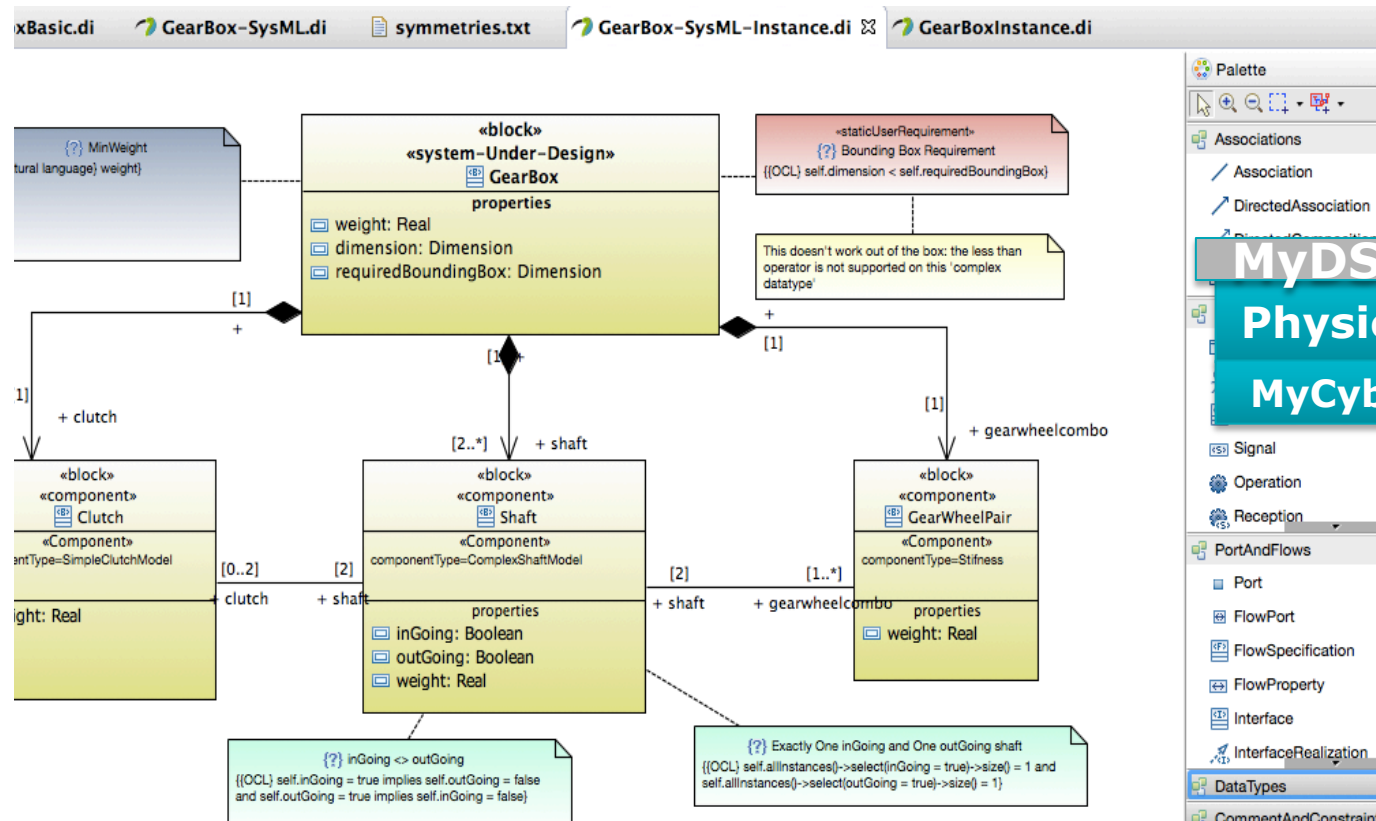
The Required Gears of the Gear Box

Sometimes, a profile is not enough to create a good DSML

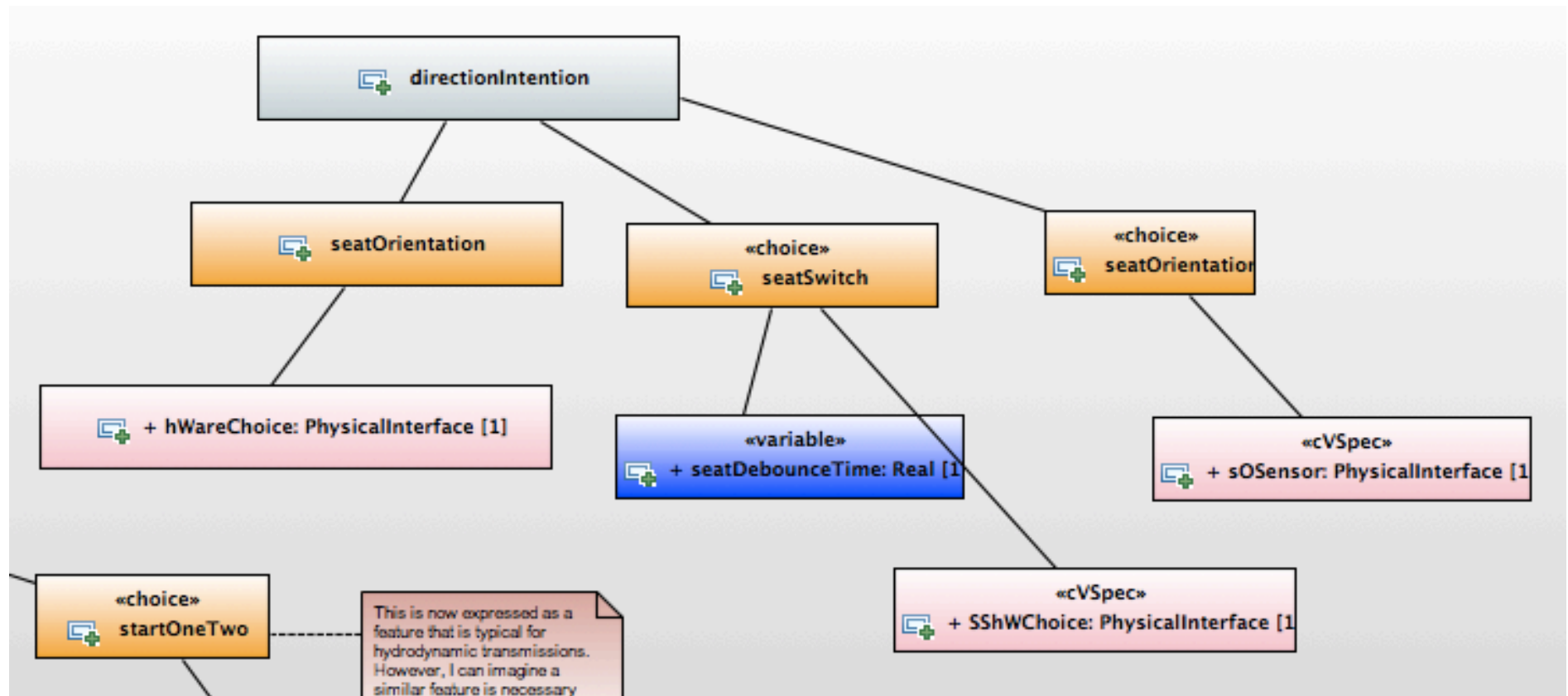
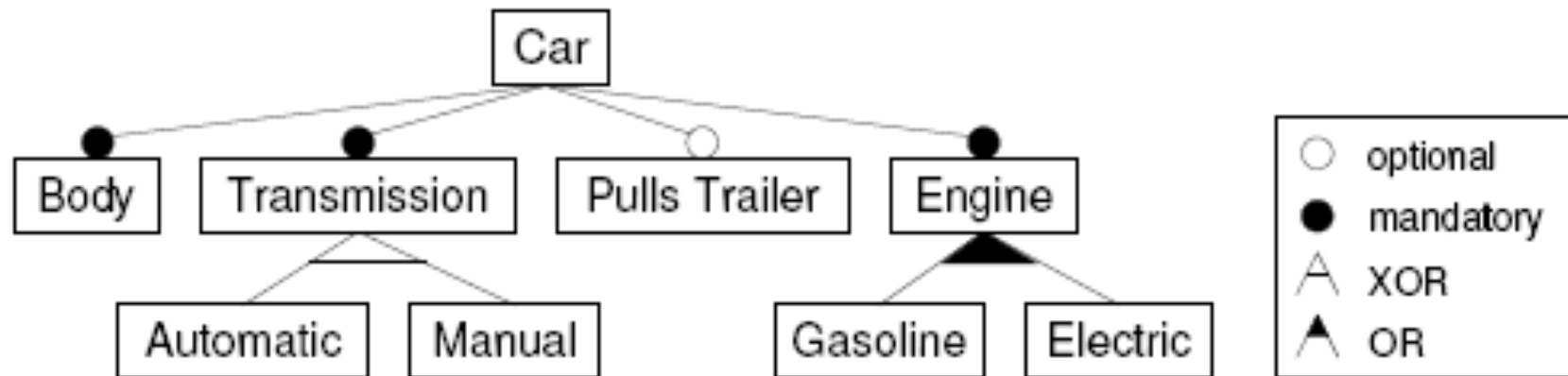
Support for easily extending *model libraries*



Better support for model libraries (2)



Hey, where's the Cyber?





CDS4CPS is not the only DSL

- ▲ “Cross”-tables
 - ▲ Example: SysML allocation Matrices
- ▲ Auto-laying capabilities
 - ▲ and in a second step: generated views
- ▲ Support for derived attributes
 - ▲ in stereotypes
 - ▲ in model instances
- ▲ Navigation: Show all diagrams in which a semantic element is used
- ▲ Filtering the read-only property views to avoid exposing the user to the UML meta-model





Deploying profile based DSLs

- ▲ Using heavyweight approaches (such as Sirius), 'deploying' a DSL is quite easy. In papyrus (luna), the customization 'code' seems to be more fragmented and a developer needs to know quite a lot in order to deploy his/her DSL
 - ▲ css customization for a particular type of diagram
 - ▲ shipping property view customizations and palette customization
 - ▲ Model explorer extensions





Conclusions: What could papyrus do to create an even better DSL for the CDS of CPS?

- ▲ Using UML as a host language does offer interesting capabilities for creating a DSL for the CDS of CPS
- ▲ Profiles are typically not enough to create good DSL, better support for model libraries would lower the accidental complexity
- ▲ Advanced graphical customization possibilities for stereotypes and UML instance specifications
- ▲ Semantic lay-out capabilities for modeling physical systems





abstract syntax 2 concrete syntax

[Not in presentation, since not a papyrus problem as such]

- ▲ The step from meta-model towards a profile for any non-trivial domain model is still a *_very_* difficult exercise
 - ▲ Finding a match on the abstract syntax level?
 - Could this be automated using some 'pattern recognition techniques'?
 - ▲ And additionally on the concrete syntax level...

