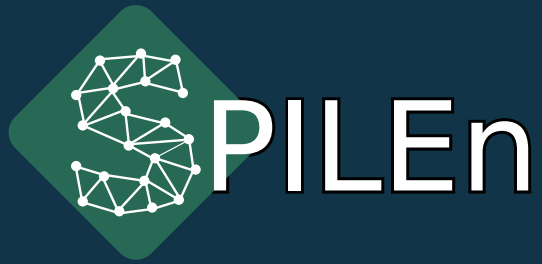
How can domain-specific modeling languages (DSML) help us formalize customer requirements?

EJCP 2022

Florian Galinier



Who am I?

Florian Galinier PhD
SPILEn CEO

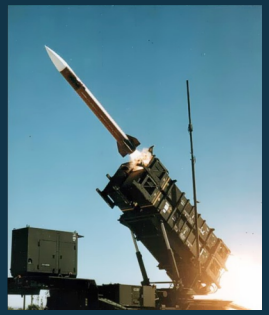
IRIT SM@RT

SPILEn

- 2020 - now: SPILEn, CEO
  Toulouse Tech Transfer technology transfer and financial support
- 2016 - 2021: PhD Thesis
  Seamless development of complex systems: a multirequirements approach

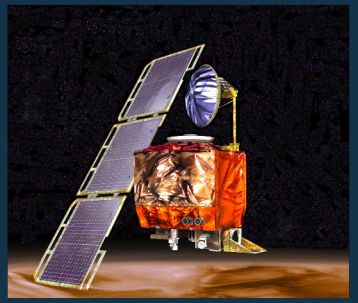
How can domain-specific modeling languages (DSML) help us **formalize customer requirements**?

Context: consequences of bad specification



Patriot missile battery
Error introduce by a truncation of radar timestamps.

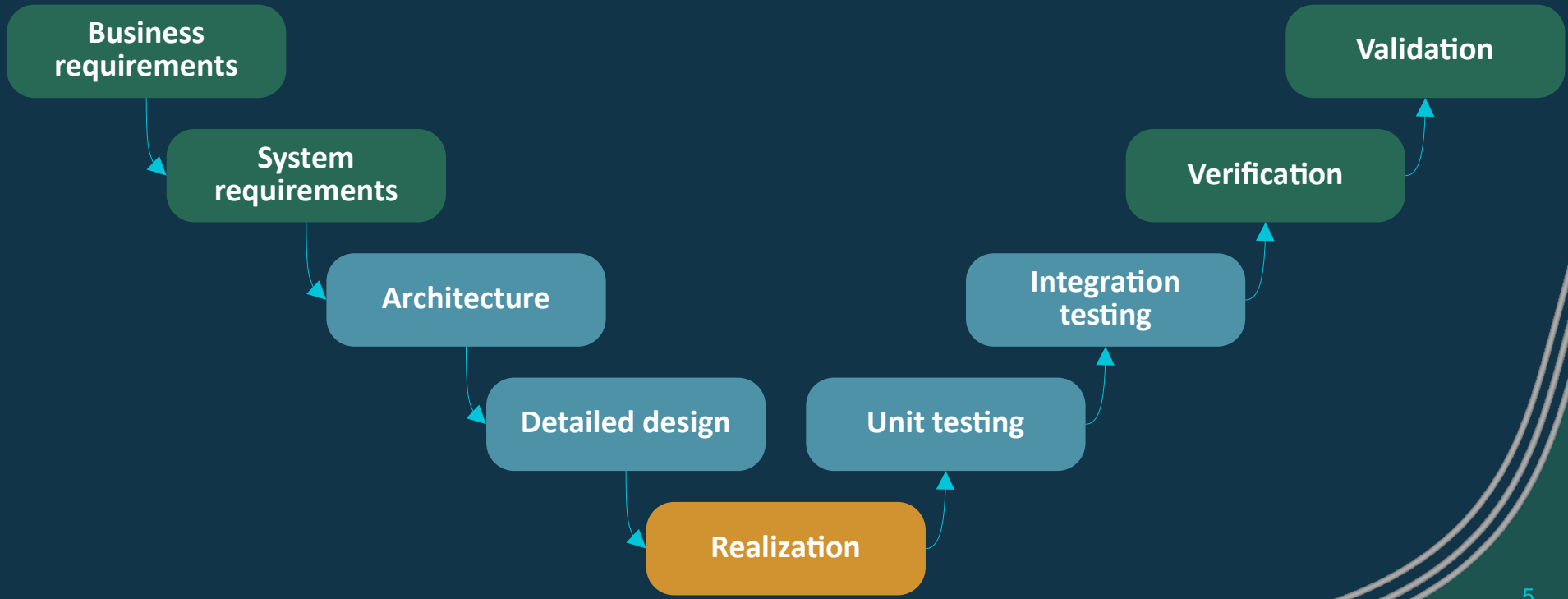
Therac 25
Several problems, including lack of specification and traceability with previous models.



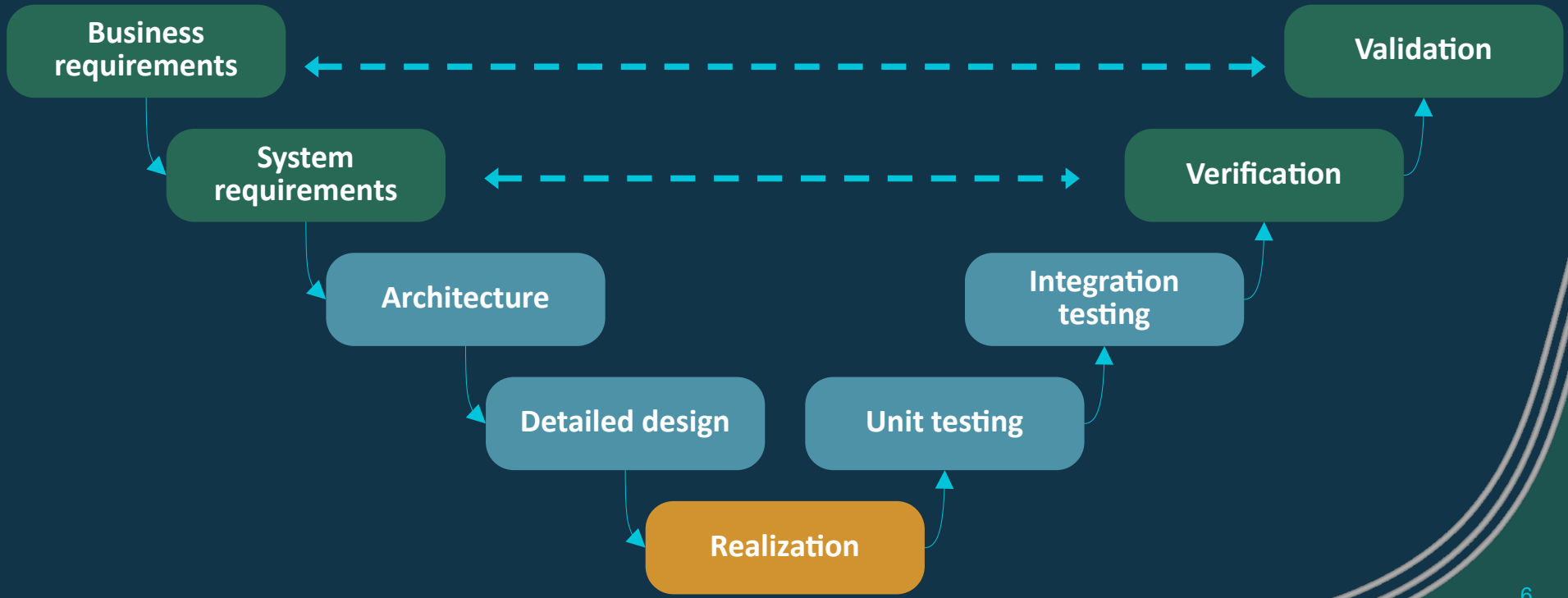
Mars Climate Orbiter
Different units of measurement.

Ariane 5 flight 501
Arithmetic overflow.

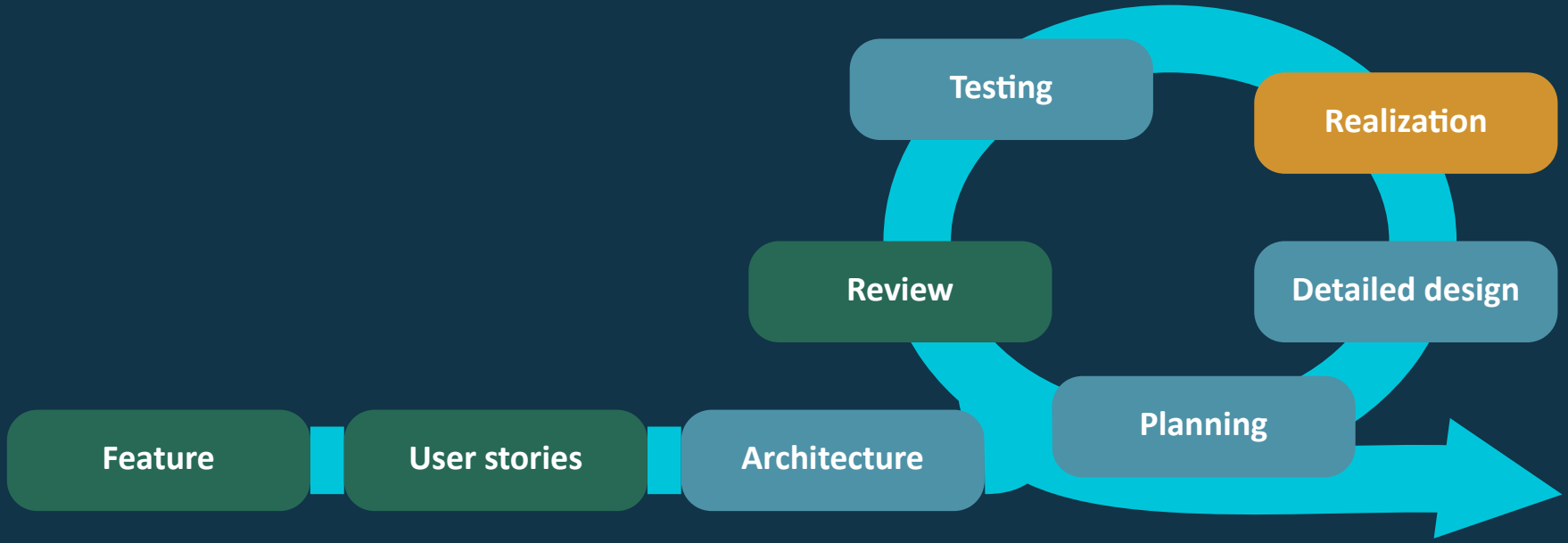
Requirements: basic building bricks of the system



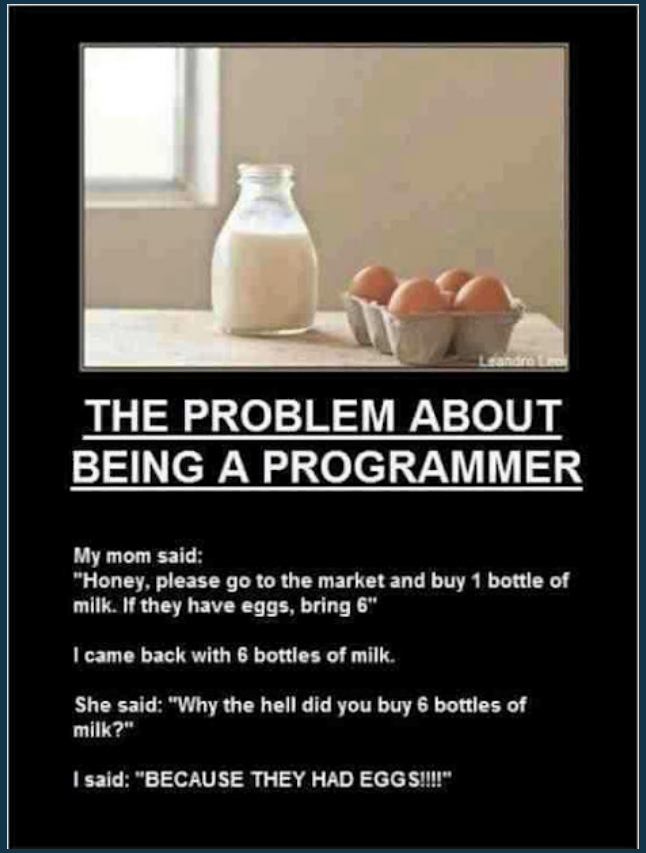
Requirements: basic building bricks of the system



Requirements: basic building bricks of the system



What is a good requirement?



What is a good requirement?

A good requirement is:

- necessary
- complete
- unambiguous
- singular
- feasible
- correct
- verifiable

Formal representation of requirements

A requirement *R* is:

- a set of properties $P_R = \{P_1, ..., P_m\}$ that

the system shall meet

- in a context $C_R = \{C_1, ..., C_n\}$.

$$sat(R) \equiv hold(C_R) \rightarrow hold(P_R)$$

Formal representation of requirements: example

R1 - When package status is assigned and destination is not null then status shall be mobilized.

C_{R1} = { package status = assigned ; destination ≠ null }

P_{R1} = { status = mobilized }

sat(R1) ≡ (package status = assigned ∧ destination ≠ null)
→ status = mobilized

How to express formal requirements?

How to express formal requirements?

- Express system and requirements in a same formalism (Single Model Principle[1,2])
- Use verification and validation tool (e.g., formal method[3], autoproof[4])

[1]**Richard F. Paige and Jonathan S. Ostroff. "The Single Model Principle".** In: Proceedings of the Fifth IEEE International Symposiumon Requirements Engineering. RE '01. Washington, DC, USA: IEEE Computer Society, 2001, pp. 292–311.

[2]**Bertrand Meyer. "Multirequirements".** In: Modelling and Quality in Requirements Engineering (Martin Glinz Festscrhift) (2013).Ed. by Norbert Seyff and Anne Koziolek.

[3]**Amel Mammar and Régine Laleau. "On the Use of Domain and System Knowledge Modeling in Goal-Based Event-B Specifications"**. en. In: Leveraging Applications of Formal Methods, Verification and Validation: Foundational Techniques. Ed. by Tiziana Margaria and Bernhard Steffen. LNCS 9952. Springer Int. Publishing, Oct. 2016, pp. 325–339.

[4]**Alexandr Naumchev, Bertrand Meyer, and Víctor Rivera. "Unifying Requirements and Code: an Example".** In: CoRRabs/1602.05395(2016).

Expressing formal requirements

```
Variable package_status: Set.
Variable assigned: package_status.
Variable unassigned: package_status.
Axiom package_status_value: forall x : package_status, x = assigned \/ x = unassigned.

Variable drone_status: Set.
Variable mobilized: drone_status.
Variable standby: drone_status.
Axiom drone_status_value: forall x : drone_status, x = mobilized \/ x = standby.

Variable package : package_status.
Variable destination : nat * nat.
Variable drone : drone_status.

Theorem R1 : package = assigned /\ ~ destination = (0 , 0) -> drone = mobilized.
```

Expressing the requirement as an artifact of code:

- contracts as proof obligations
- documentation as an understandable expression of the requirement

The SIRCOD approach: principle

```
invariant
  requirement_1:
    ((package_status = assigned) and (destination /= Void))
       implies
    (drone_status = mobilized)
```

The SIRCOD approach: principle

```
feature
  requirement_1
  note
    src: "{SHIPMENT_REQUIREMENTS}.requirement_1_doc"
  require
    package_assigned: (package_status = assigned)
    has_destination:  (destination /= Void)
  deferred
  ensure
    check_drone_status: (drone_status = mobilized)
  end
```

Refinement: inheriting requirements features

```
class SHIPMENT_CONTROLLER
  inherit
    SHIPMENT_FORMAL_REQUIREMENTS
  rename
    requirement_1 as mobilize
  end

  feature
    mobilize
    do
      drone_status := mobilized
    end
end
```

SHIPMENT_CONTROLLER.mobilize	Successfully verified.

One project; several stakeholders

« The drone shall avoid obstacles »

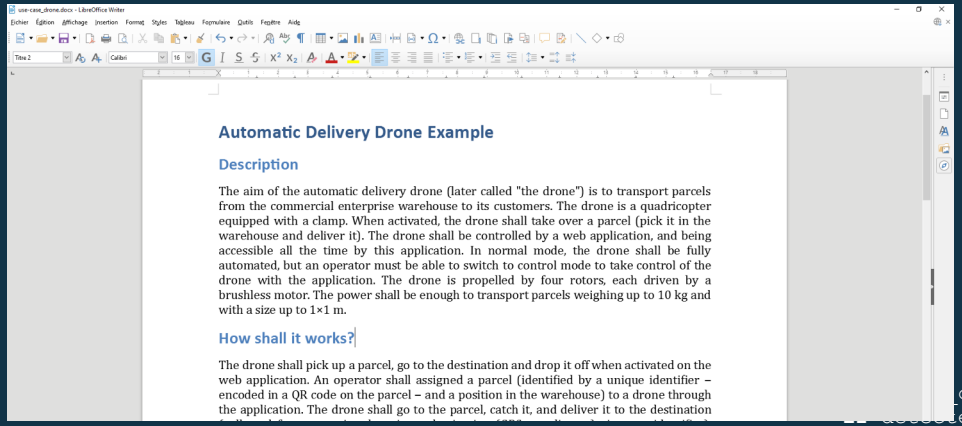
One project; several stakeholders

« The drone shall avoid obstacles »

```
avoid_obstacle
do
        detected_object := detect_object
        if detected_object /= Void then
                obstacle_detected :=
                  detected_object.distance_to (Current) <
                  2 * stopping_distance
                if obstacle_detected then
                        path := compute_new_path
                end
        end
ensure
        change_path_if_obstacle:
                obstacle_detected implies path /= old path
end
```

One project; several stakeholders

« The drone shall avoid obstacles »



Automatic Delivery Drone Example

Description

The aim of the automatic delivery drone (later called "the drone") is to transport parcels from the commercial enterprise warehouse to its customers. The drone is a quadricopter equipped with a clamp. When activated, the drone shall take over a parcel (pick it in the warehouse and deliver it). The drone shall be controlled by a web application, and being accessible all the time by this application. In normal mode, the drone shall be fully automated, but an operator must be able to switch to control mode to take control of the drone with the application. The drone is propelled by four rotors, each driven by a brushless motor. The power shall be enough to transport parcels weighing up to 10 kg and with a size up to 1×1 m.

How shall it works?

The drone shall pick up a parcel, go to the destination and drop it off when activated on the web application. An operator shall assigned a parcel (identified by a unique identifier – encoded in a QR code on the parcel – and a position in the warehouse) to a drone through the application. The drone shall go to the parcel, catch it, and deliver it to the destination

```
                object := detect_object
            if detected_object /= Void then
                obstacle_detected :=
                  detected_object.distance_to (Current) <
                  2 * stopping_distance
                if obstacle_detected then
                        path := compute_new_path
                end
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One project; several stakeholders

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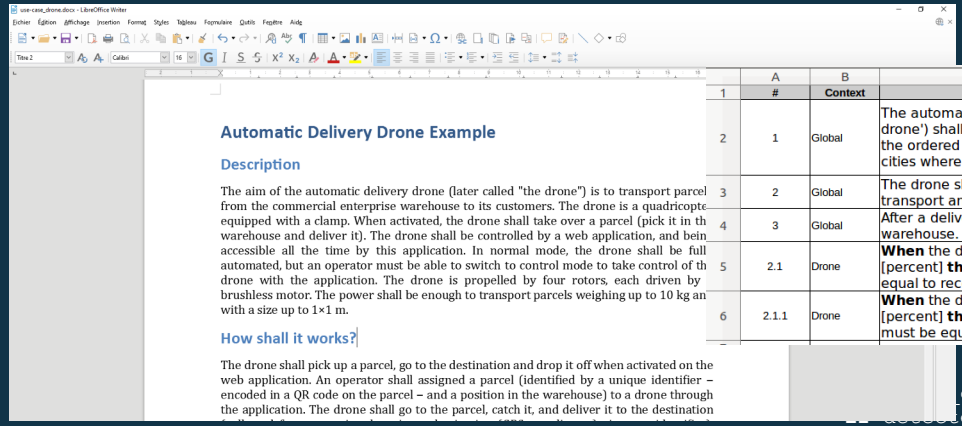

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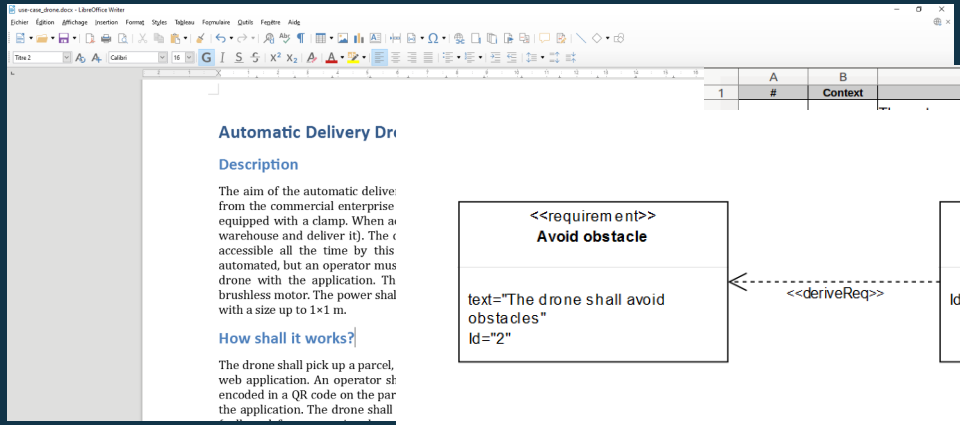
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
1	#	Context	Requirement description	Priority	Trace to	Addition to	Alternative to	Contained by	Refines	Constraints	Contradicts
2	1	Global	The automatic delivery drone (later called `the drone') shall allows the company to quickly deliver the ordered products to customer living in big cities where the company is based.								
3	2	Global	The drone shall be able to take in charge, transport and deliver a package carefully.								
4	3	Global	After a delivery, the drone shall come back to the warehouse.								
5	2.1	Drone	**When** the drone battery is less or equal to 10 [percent] **then immediately** mode must be equal to recovery.	MUST							
6	2.1.1	Drone	**When** the drone battery is less or equal to 10 [percent] **then eventually** the drone altitude must be equal to 0 **within** 30 [seconds].	MUST					2.1		

```
                _object := detect_object
            if detected_object /= Void then
                obstacle_detected :=
                  detected_object.distance_to (Current) <
                  2 * stopping_distance
                if obstacle_detected then
                        path := compute_new_path
                end
        end
ensure
        change_path_if_obstacle:
                obstacle_detected implies path /= old path
end
```

One project; several stakeholders

« The drone shall avoid obstacles »



Automatic Delivery Dr

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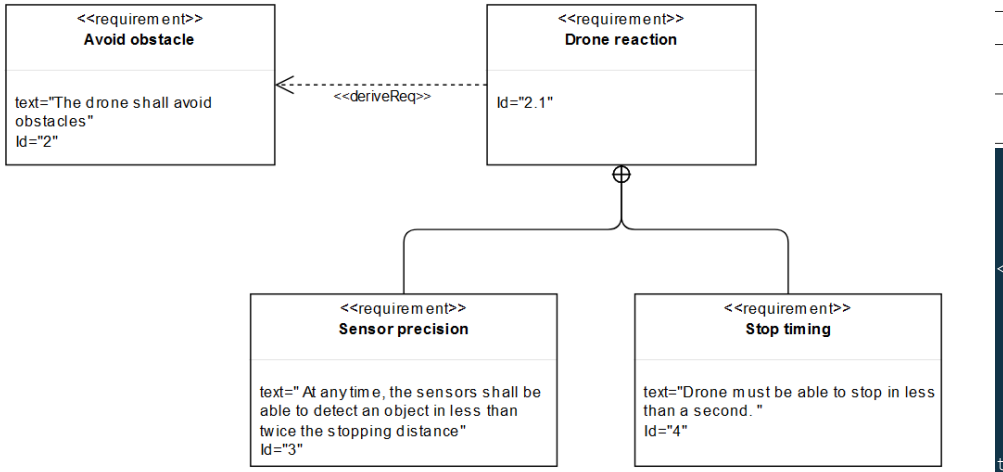

One project; several stakeholders

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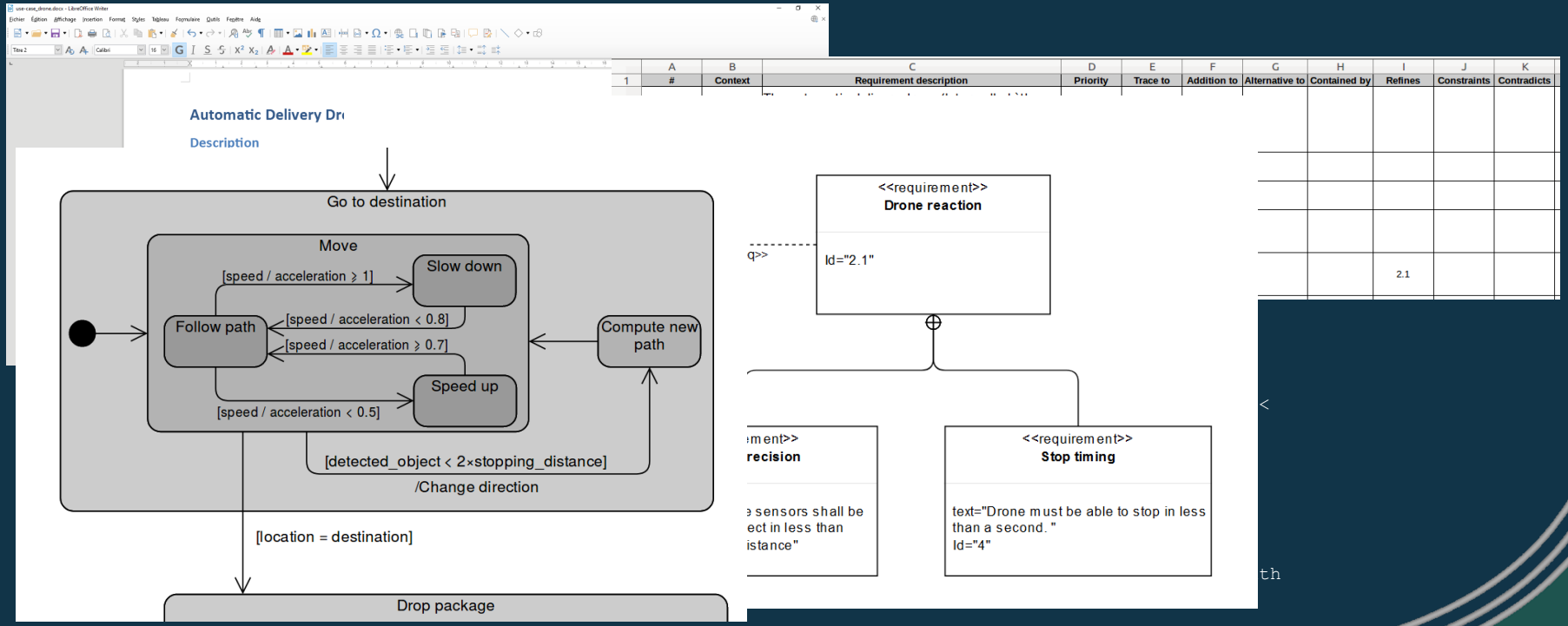

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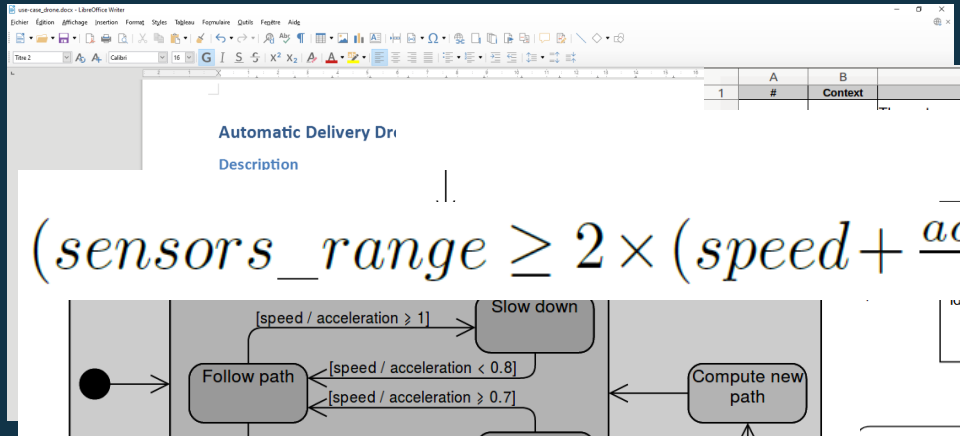
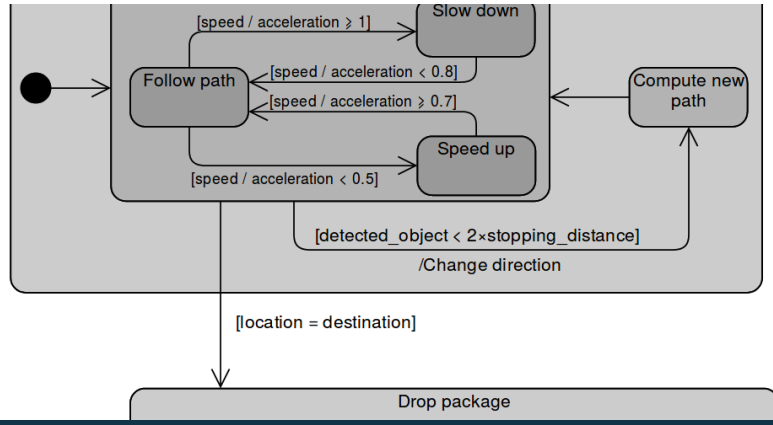
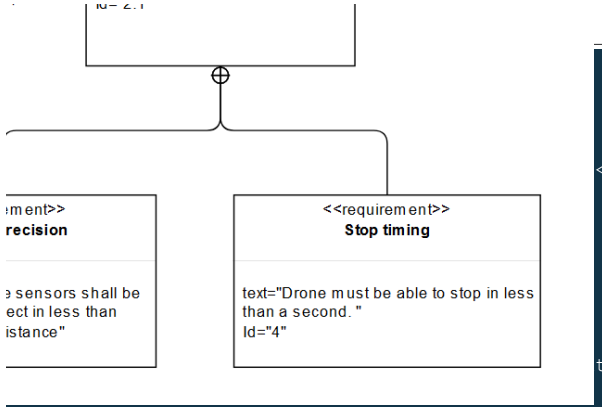


	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
1	#	Context	Requirement description	Priority	Trace to	Addition to	Alternative to	Contained by	Refines	Constraints	Contradicts
									2.1		

$$(sensors\_range \geq 2 \times (speed + \frac{acceleration}{2})) \wedge (\frac{speed}{acceleration} < 1)$$





How can **domain-specific modeling languages (DSML)** help us formalize customer requirements?

What is a DSL?

Domain Specific Language

```
ALTER TABLE `app\model\project` ADD `jira` VARCHAR(200) NULL DEFAULT NULL AFTER `gitlab`;
```

```
<button class="navbar-toggler" type="button" data-toggle="collapse" data-
target="#navbarsExampleDefault" aria-controls="navbarsExampleDefault"
aria-expanded="false" aria-label="Toggle navigation">
      <span class="navbar-toggler-awesome fas fa-bars"></span>
      <span class="navbar-toggler-awesome fas fa-times"></span>
 </button>
```

R1 - **When** package status **is** assigned **and** destination **is not** null **then** status **shall be** mobilized.

A requirement DSL: example

R1 - **When** package status **is** assigned **and** destination **is not** null **then** status **shall be** mobilized.

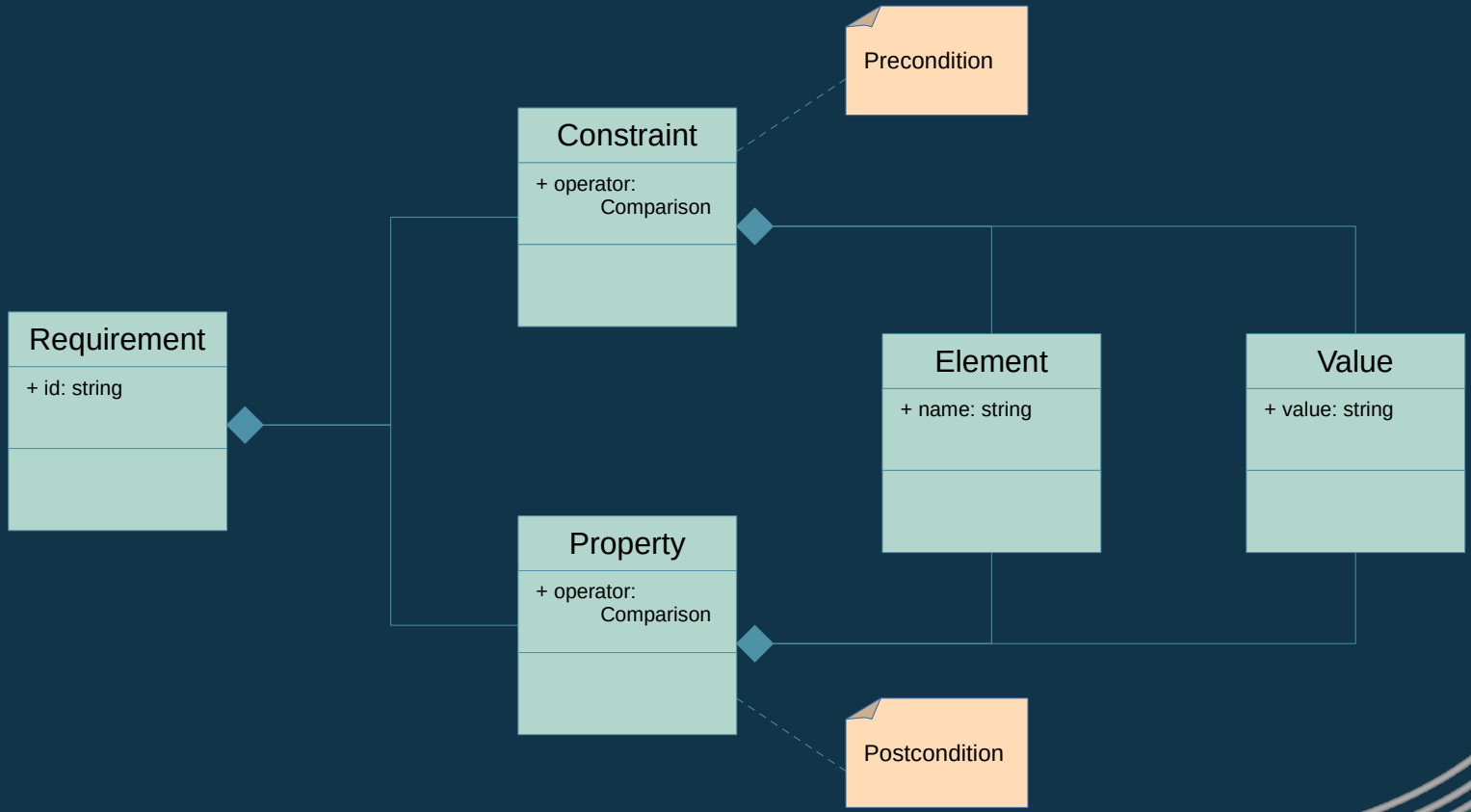
- **id**: *R1*
- **Constraint**: package status **is** assigned
  - **Element**: package status
  - **Comparison**: **is**
  - **Value**: assigned
- **Constraint**: destination **is not** null
  - **Element**: destination
  - **Comparison**: **is not**
  - **Value**: null
- **Property**: status **shall be** mobilized
  - **Element**: status
  - **Comparison**: **shall be**
  - **Value**: mobilized

Why model a requirement?

- Because a formal representation is already a model
- Because we can analyze and work with models
- Because we can transform models
- Because there are many tools for models and DSML*

*I'll talk about the M in DSML later

Modeling a requirement



Tools for creating DSML

MPS

Bison

Xtext

A DSL for our requirements: define a grammar

```
Requirement:
    id=REQID '-' "When" constraints+=Constraint ("and" constraints+=Constraint)*
                "then" properties+=Property ("and" properties+=Property)* '.'

Constraint:
    element=Element operator=Comparison value=Value

Property:
    element=Element operator=ModalComparison value=Value

terminal REQID:
    'R' INT ('.' REQID)* ;
```

A DSL for our requirements: define a grammar

```
Requirement:
        id=REQID '-' "When" constraints+=Constraint ("and" constraints+=Constraint)*
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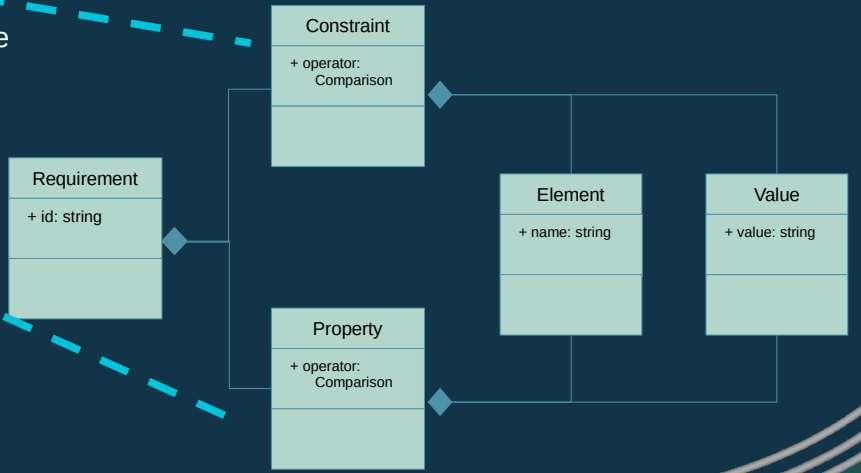
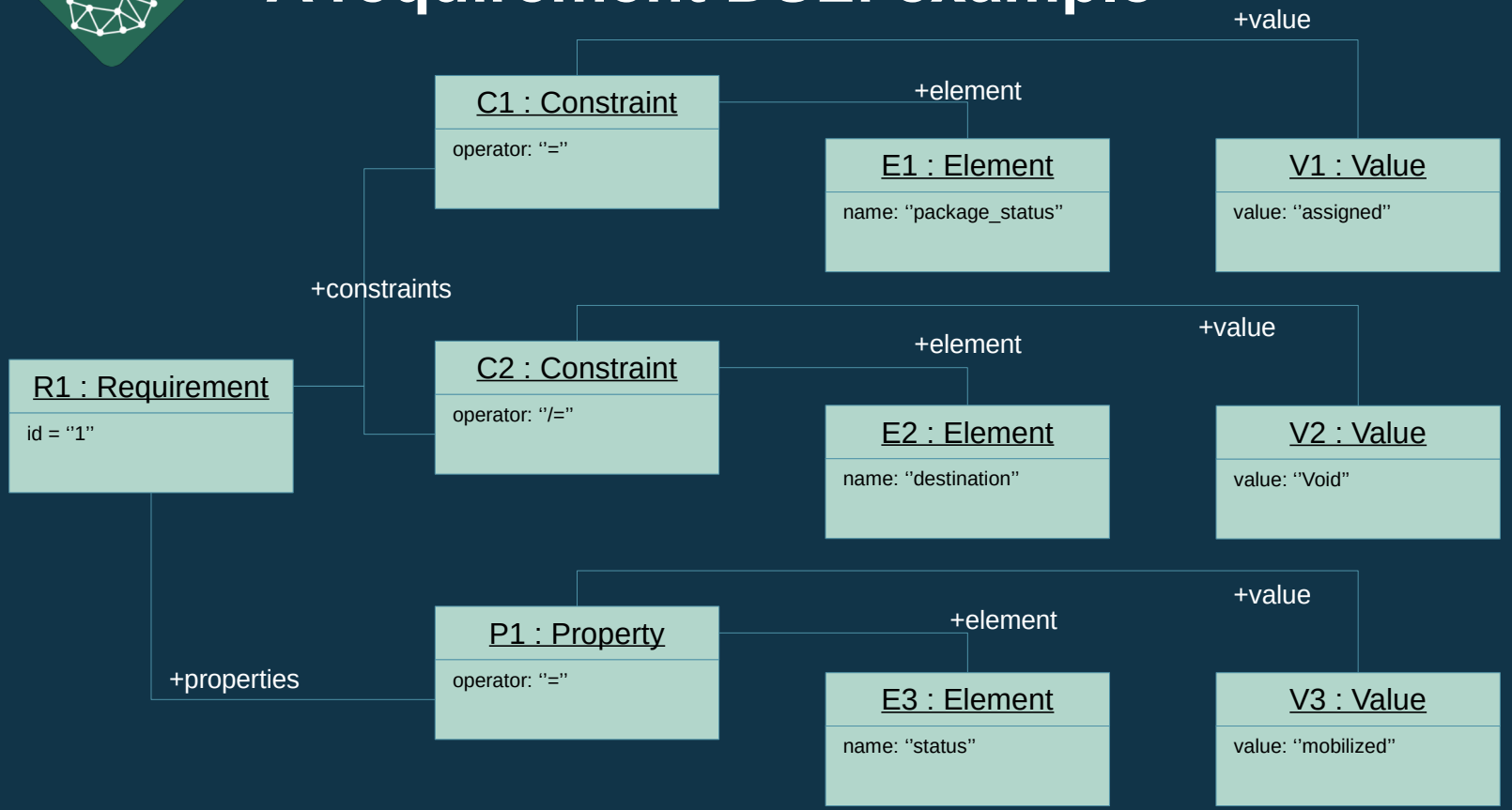
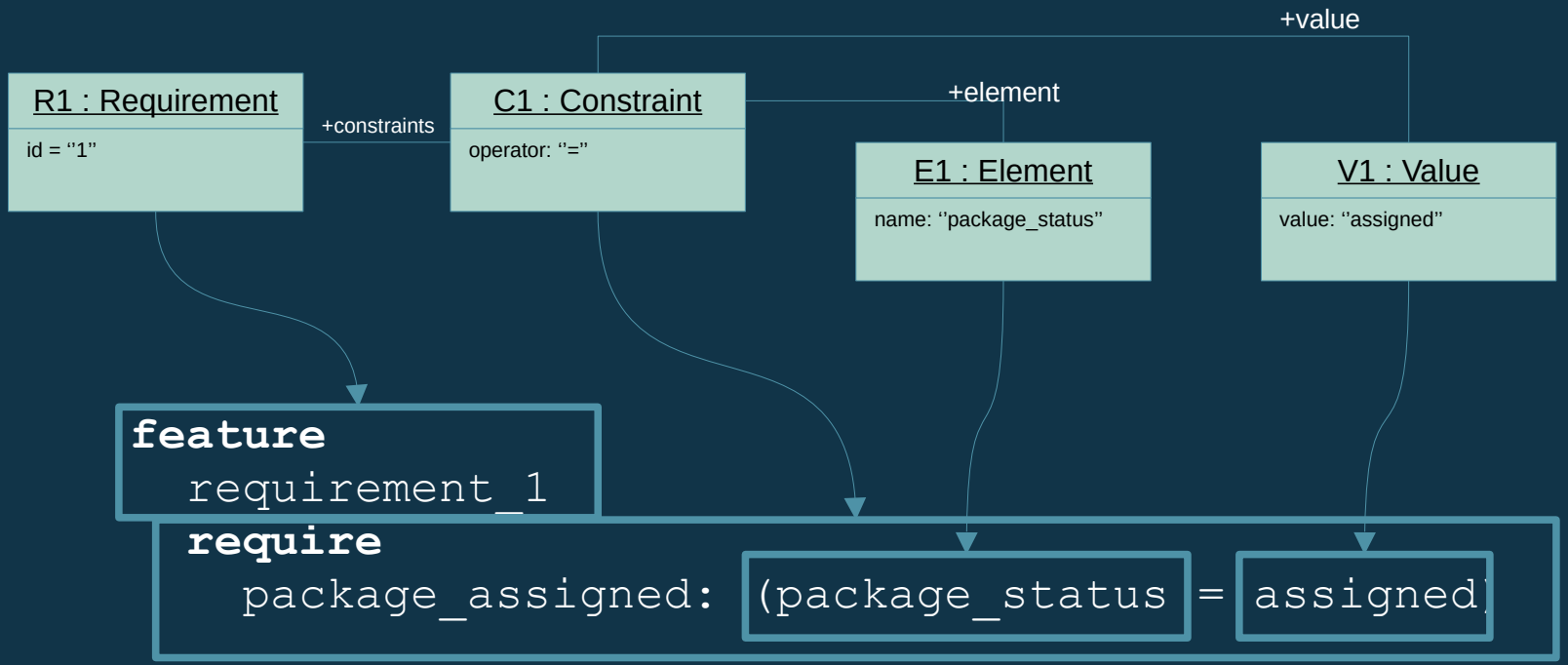


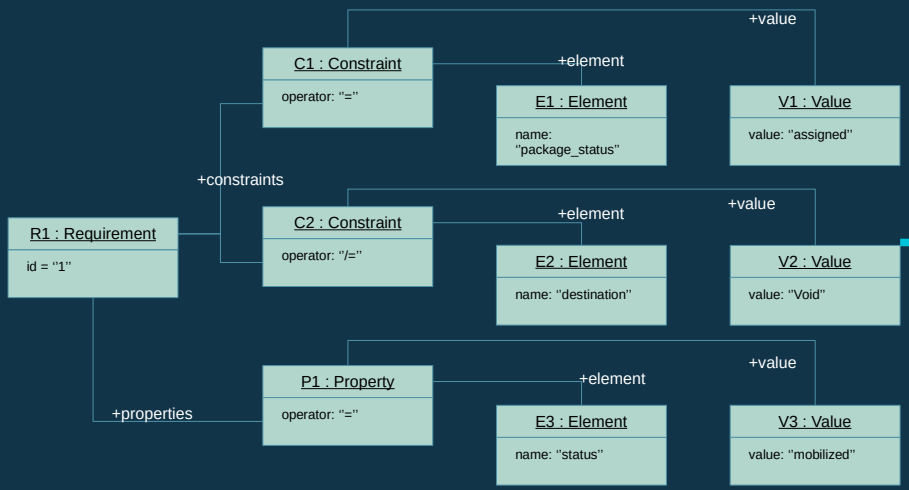
A requirement DSL: example



A requirement DSL: example



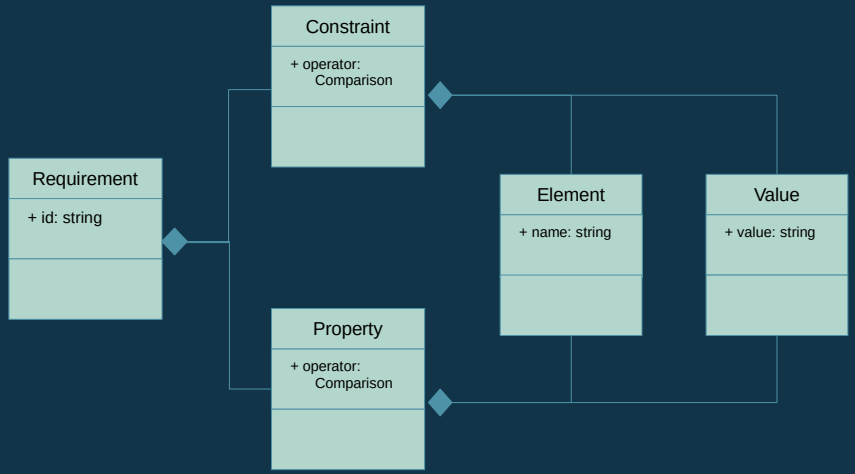
A requirement DSL: code generation

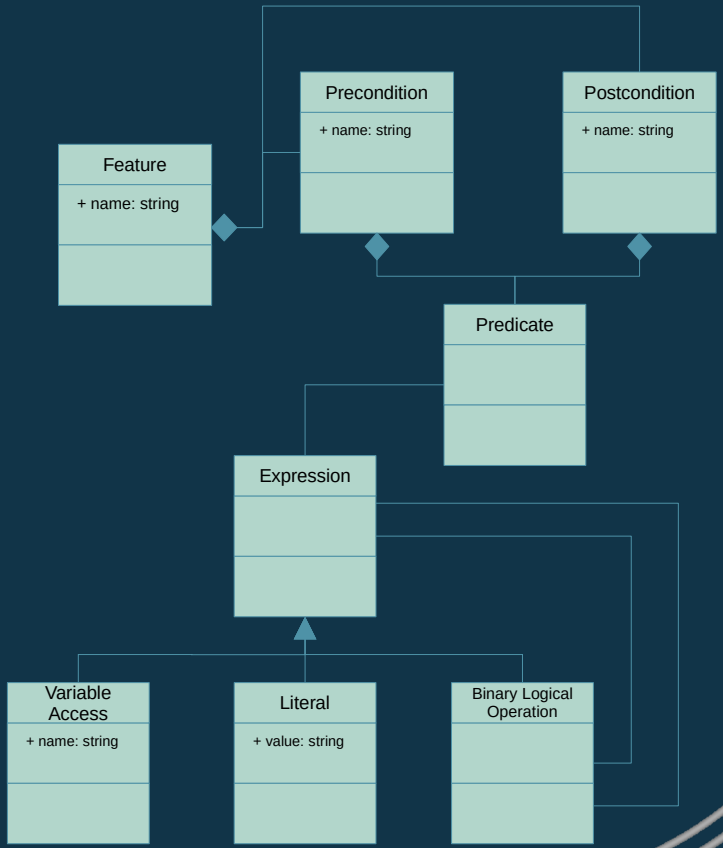


?

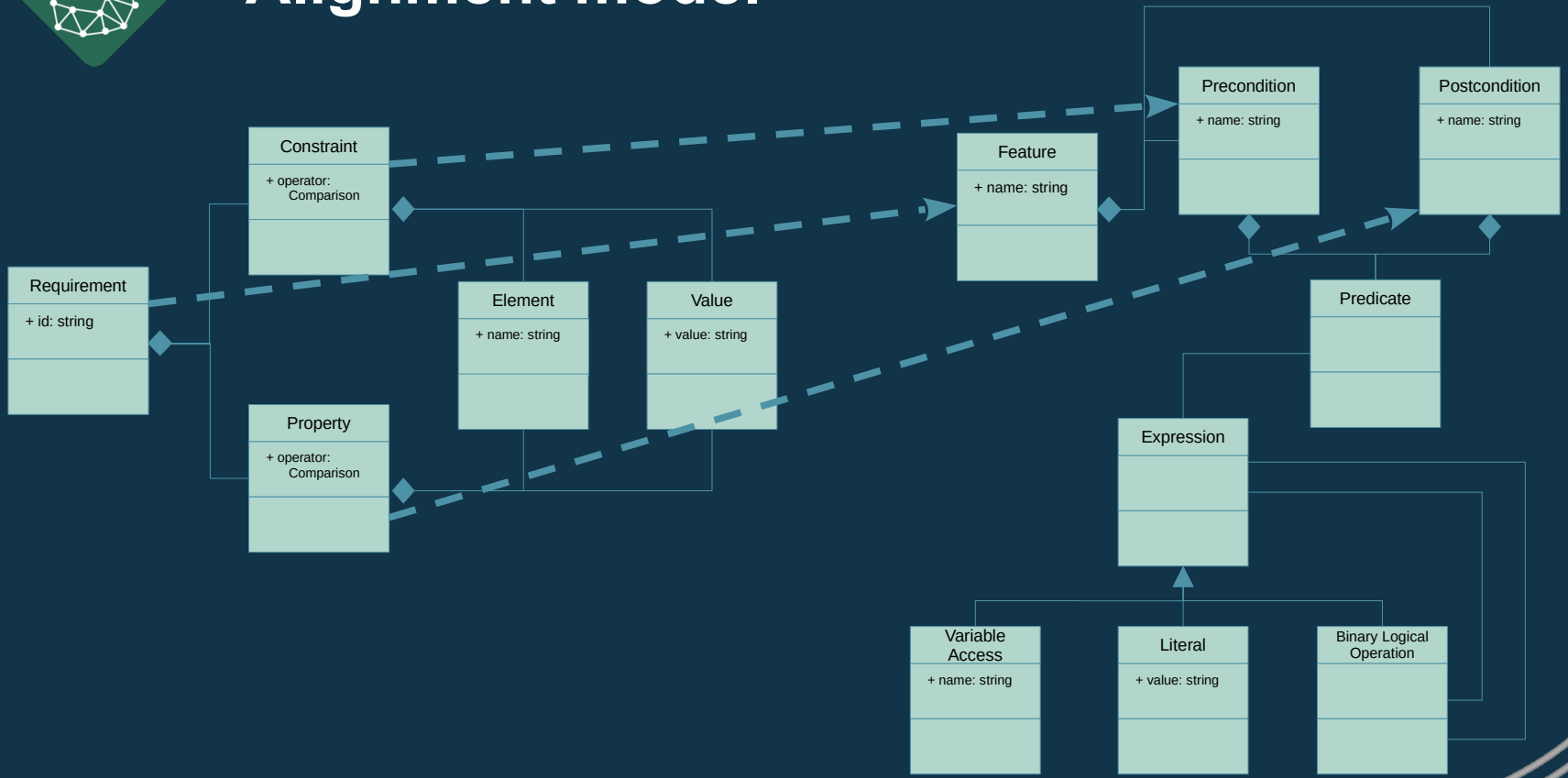
```
feature
  requirement_1
  note
    src: "{SHIPMENT_REQUIREMENTS}.requirement_1_doc"
  require
    package_assigned: (package_status = assigned)
    has_destination:  (destination /= Void)
  deferred
  ensure
    check_drone_status: (drone_status = mobilized)
  end
```

Alignment model





Alignment model



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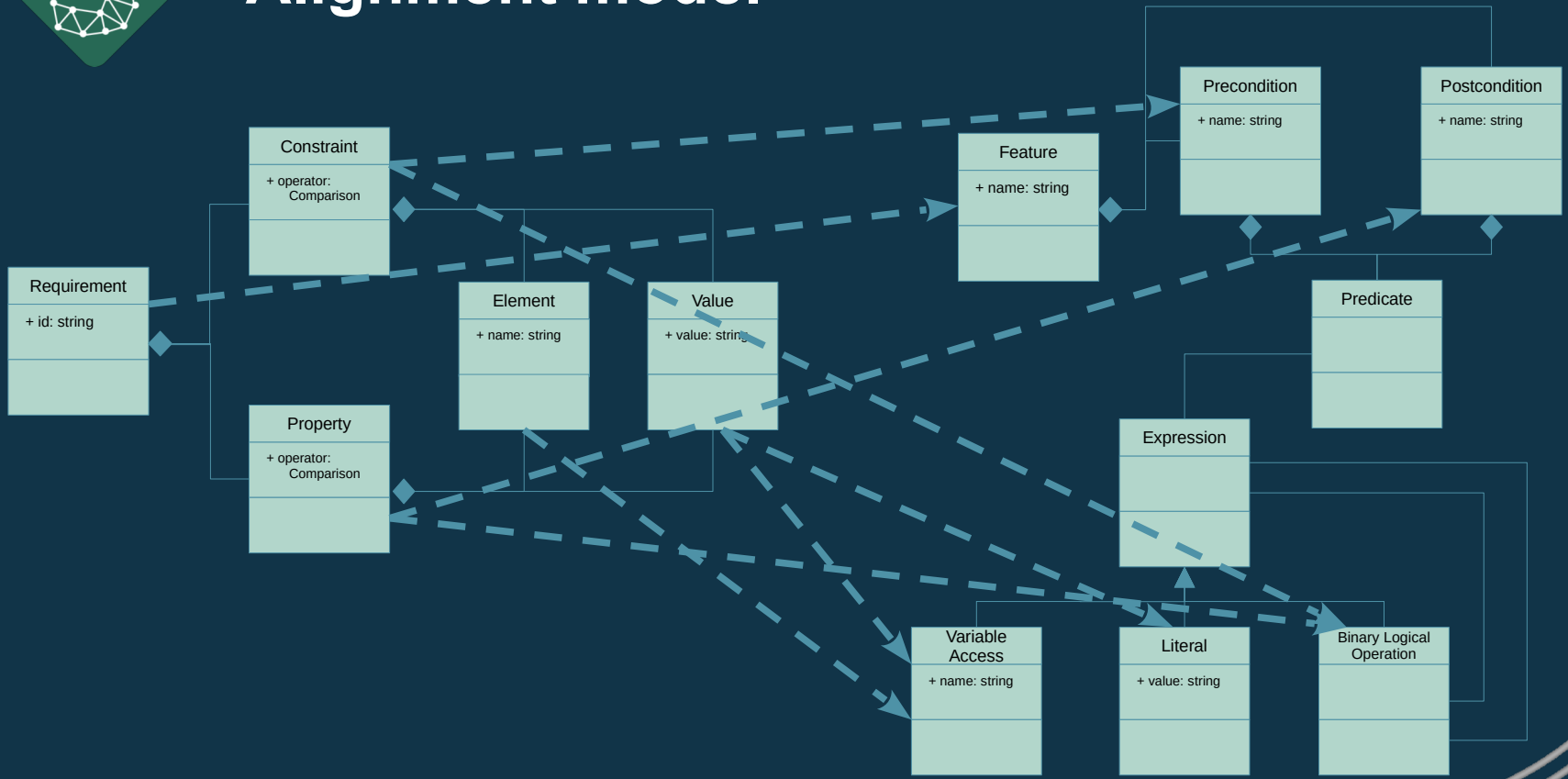

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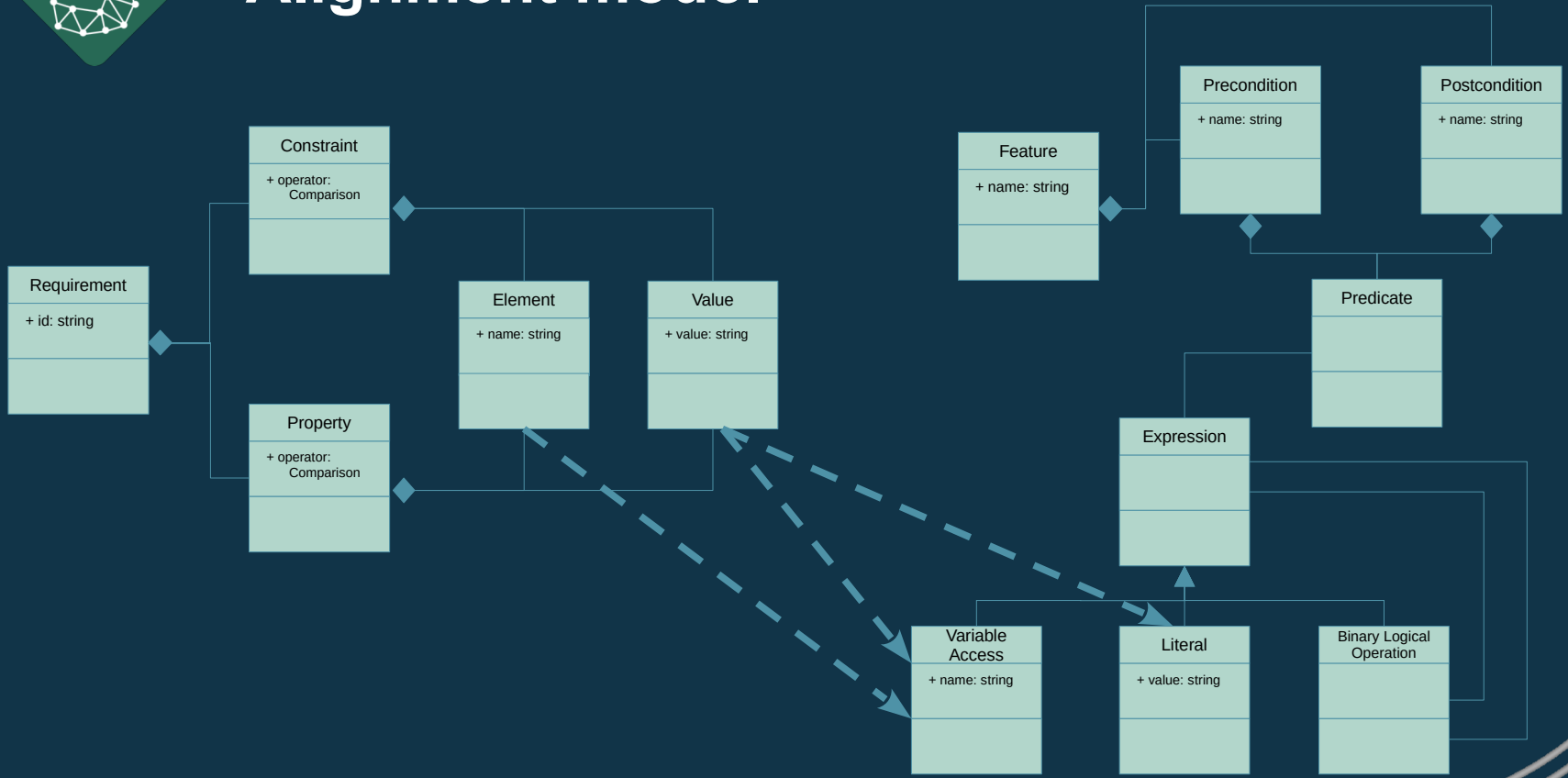
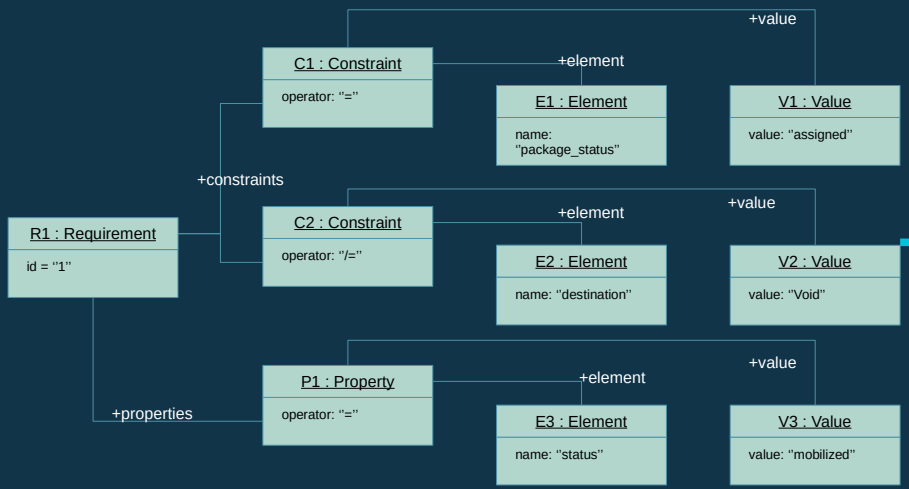


A requirement DSL: code generation




```
def compile(Requirement r) '''
feature
  «r.formattedName»
  note
    src: "«r.docClass.formattedName».«r.formattedName»_doc"
  «IF r.constraints.size > 0»
  require
    «FOR pre : r.constraints.toList»
      «pre.compileWithName»
    «ENDFOR»
  «ENDIF»
  deferred
  «IF r.assertions.size > 0»
  ensure
    «FOR post : r.assertions.toList»
      «post.compileWithName»
    «ENDFOR»
  «ENDIF»
end
'''
```

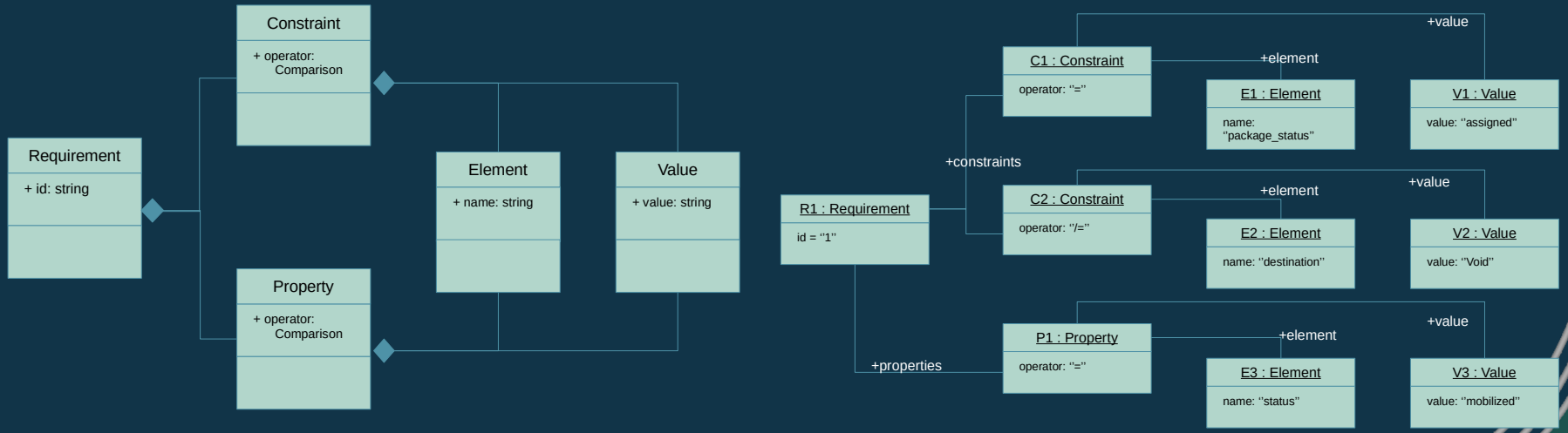
```
feature
  requirement_1
  note
    src: "{SHIPMENT_REQUIREMENTS}.requirement_1_doc"
  require
    package_assigned: (package_status = assigned)
    has_destination:  (destination /= Void)
  deferred
  ensure
    check_drone_status: (drone_status = mobilized)
  end
```

Demo

MPS

Why DSML?

Domain Specific **Modeling** Language



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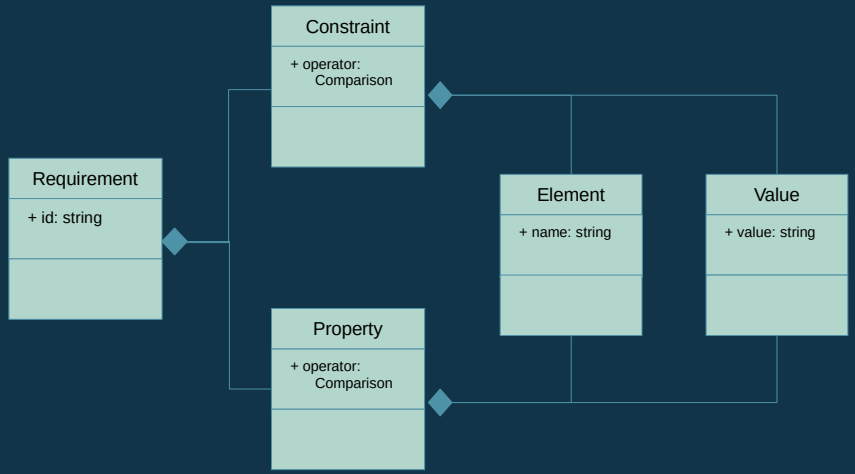
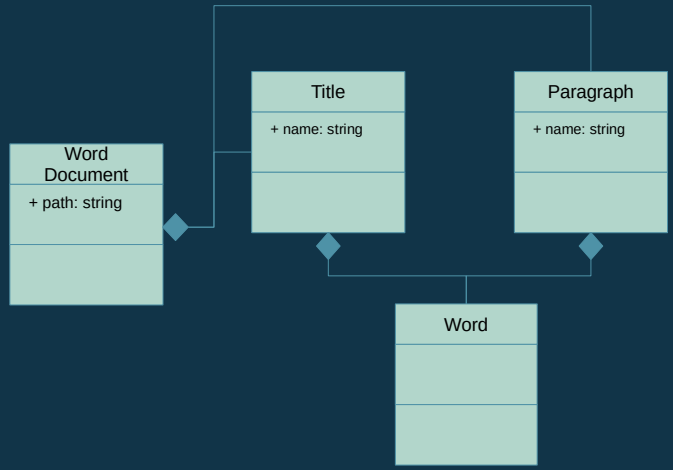
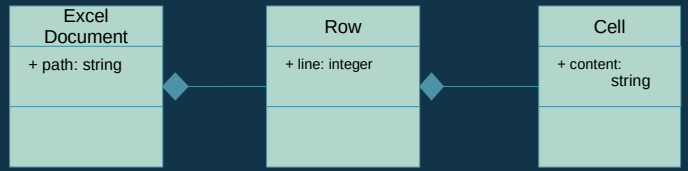
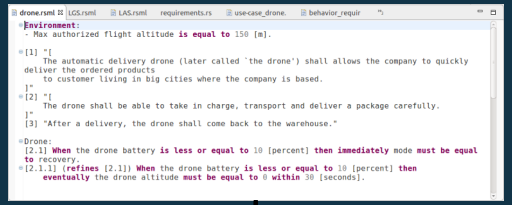






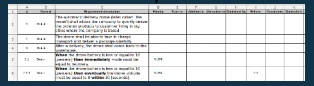
Example: RSML

RSML



Eiffel

C++



Example: From RSML to docx

Requirements document

Definitions

- Max authorized flight altitude is equal to 150 [m].

Global requirements

1. The automatic delivery drone (later called `the drone') shall allows the company to quickly deliver the ordered products to customer living in big cities where the company is based.
2. The drone shall be able to take in charge, transport and deliver a package carefully.
3. After a delivery, the drone shall come back to the warehouse.

Drone requirements

2.1. **When** the drone battery is less or equal to 10 [percent] **then immediately** mode must be equal to recovery.

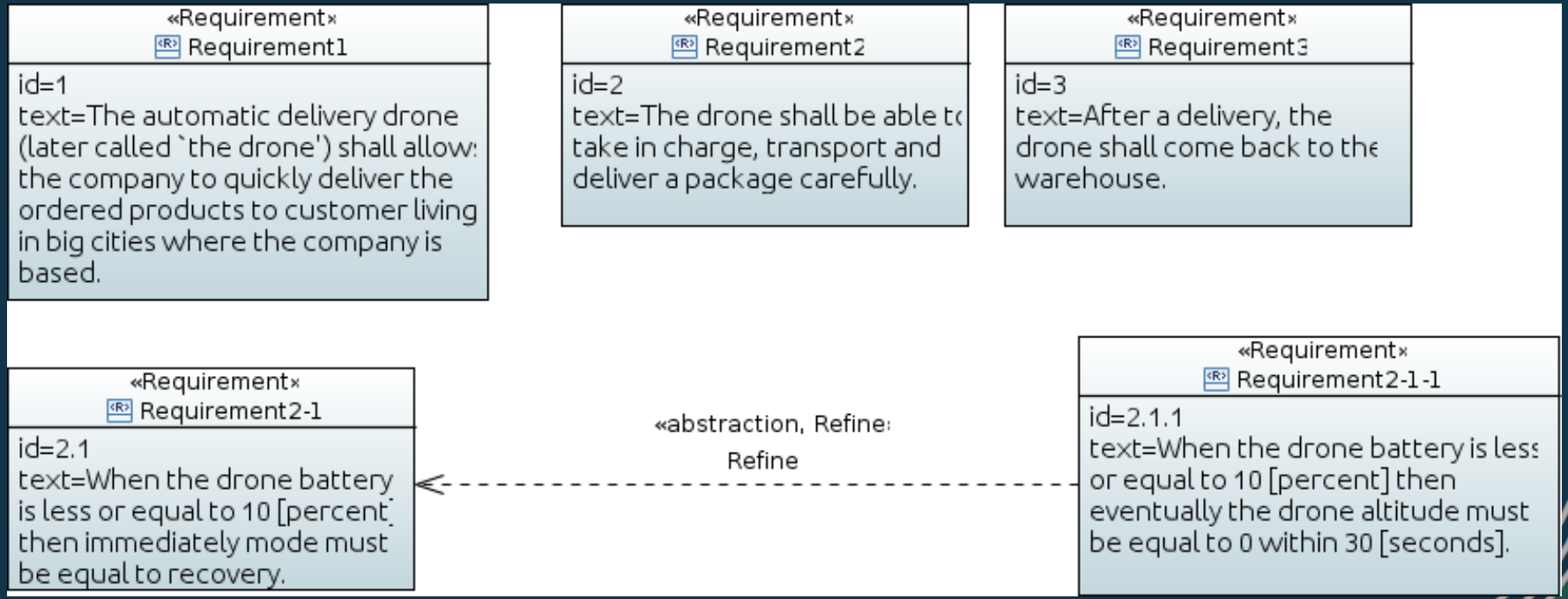
2.1.1. (refines [2.1])

When the drone battery is less or equal to 10 [percent] **then eventually** the drone altitude must be equal to 0 **within** 30 [seconds].

Example: From RSML to spreadsheet

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
1	#	Context	Requirement description	Priority	Trace to	Addition to	Alternative to	Contained by	Refines	Constraints	Contradicts
2	1	Global	The automatic delivery drone (later called `the drone') shall allows the company to quickly deliver the ordered products to customer living in big cities where the company is based.								
3	2	Global	The drone shall be able to take in charge, transport and deliver a package carefully.								
4	3	Global	After a delivery, the drone shall come back to the warehouse.								
5	2.1	Drone	**When** the drone battery is less or equal to 10 [percent] **then immediately** mode must be equal to recovery.	MUST							
6	2.1.1	Drone	**When** the drone battery is less or equal to 10 [percent] **then eventually** the drone altitude must be equal to 0 **within** 30 [seconds].	MUST					2.1		

Example: From SysML to RSML



Example: From SysML to RSML

SysML.xmi | drone.rsml

```
[1] "[
    The automatic delivery drone (later called `the drone') shall allows the company to quickly
deliver the ordered products
    to customer living in big cities where the company is based.
]"

[2] "[
    The drone shall be able to take in charge, transport and deliver a package carefully.
]"

[3] "[
    After a delivery, the drone shall come back to the warehouse.
]"

[2.1] "[ When the drone battery is less or equal to 10 [percent] then immediately mode must be
equal to recovery. ]"

[2.1.1] (refines [2.1]) "[ When the drone battery is less or equal to 10 [percent] then
    eventually the drone altitude must be equal to 0 within 30 [seconds]. ]"
```

Is it really useful?

Is it really useful?

PILEn

TOULOUSE TECH TRANSFER

DOC DOC D'occitanie
Le programme qui enrichit ton doctorat

- Startup created in December 2020
- *Toulouse Tech Transfer* technology transfer and financial support
- Laureate Doc d'Occitanie
- Test projects with two companies in the industry

Who are we?

Clément Simon - COO
Project manager

Jimmy Lopez - CRO
Multi-skilled developer

Manuel Chataigner - CTO
Technical expert

Florian Galinier PhD - CEO
Leader, project leader

SPILEn

Improving the technological world of tomorrow

Develop and provide:
innovative software engineering **tools**
for:
software companies

Our tools

MDElib

Inspecto need

for project managers and product owners

Instant verification of the compliance of the specifications with the customers' requests.

Project managers and product owners secure the start of projects by eliminating human interpretation errors when writing specifications.

Inspecto code

for developers

Continuous verification of program compliance with specifications.

Developers can detect and correct programming errors very early in the development cycle.

Demo

Inspecto need

SPILEn

Solutions Providers and Innovative Lab of Engineering