Engineering of Software Subsystems Domain Modeling





Domain modeling provides the initial analysis of the application problem space.



The domain model identifies important aspects of the application not the implementation.

- Only use vocabulary from the problem statement
 - For example, a unique identifier needed to store data with no meaning to the user would not be in a domain model.
- Establishes a common understanding of the problem for customer/user and software team



The domain model is typically drawn using a simplified class diagram notation.

- Show the following information
 - Domain objects
 - Attributes in domain objects
 - Associations between domain objects
- Use user vocabulary
 - Attributes do not indicate data type
- Associations come from the problem statement
 - Place label on the association line
 - Usually completes a phrase between two domain objects: DO₁ association DO₂ (LineItem records-sale-of Product)
 - Indicate multiplicity, if known
 - Use inheritance, if appropriate



This partial domain model for a game of Monopoly demonstrates these ideas.



Arrows indicate direction for reading the associations.

