

Slide 1

Administrivia

- Midterm reports and group evaluations due next week. (Officially due Wednesday, but accepted without penalty through noon Friday.)
- Links to useful-looking reading about use cases and UML added to “Useful links” page.

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Midterm Reports / Evaluations

- Each group turns in a report describing its analysis of the problem — use cases that describe functionality to be provided by the system/solution.
- Each person turns in a form describing his/her contribution to the group and evaluating others in the group. I will put these on the Web sometime this week. (Probably they will look a lot like the ones Dr. Lewis had you fill out last year.)

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Use Cases, My (First) Two Cents' Worth

- One of articles I found on the Web describes use cases as “stories about how the system is supposed to work.” Most of the other sources I reviewed say use cases are as much about writing prose (in a somewhat structured format) as about diagrams. Several of them mention that different formats have been proposed, and there’s not one right way, but you should do whatever seems to work.
- If you remember what you were taught last year and it makes sense to you, go from there. If you don’t remember very well, try reading the “Use Case Relationships and Diagrams” paper (H. Smith).

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Use Cases, Some Basic Ideas

- The idea is to define system/solution requirements in terms of
 - Actors — system users, sometimes system components.
(ATM example: Actors are customers and technicians.)
 - “Use cases” — each represents one thing the system is supposed to do for an actor (or actors).
(ATM example: Use cases are “withdraw money”, “deposit money”, “check balance”, and “run diagnostics”.)
- If there is common functionality among use cases, can factor it out — “includes” or “uses”.
- If a particular use case has some specialized versions (e.g., error situations), can split out — “extends”.

Use Cases, My (Second) Two Cents' Worth

- For this project, it might be enough to have one diagram showing all actors and use cases, plus not-too-long prose descriptions of each use case.
- Any other questions we should address? Tools for drawing diagrams?

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Minute Essay

- What did you think about the faculty candidate?
(Discuss, and then write down any other comments.)

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