



# Model-Based Testing

From theory to practice (2/3)

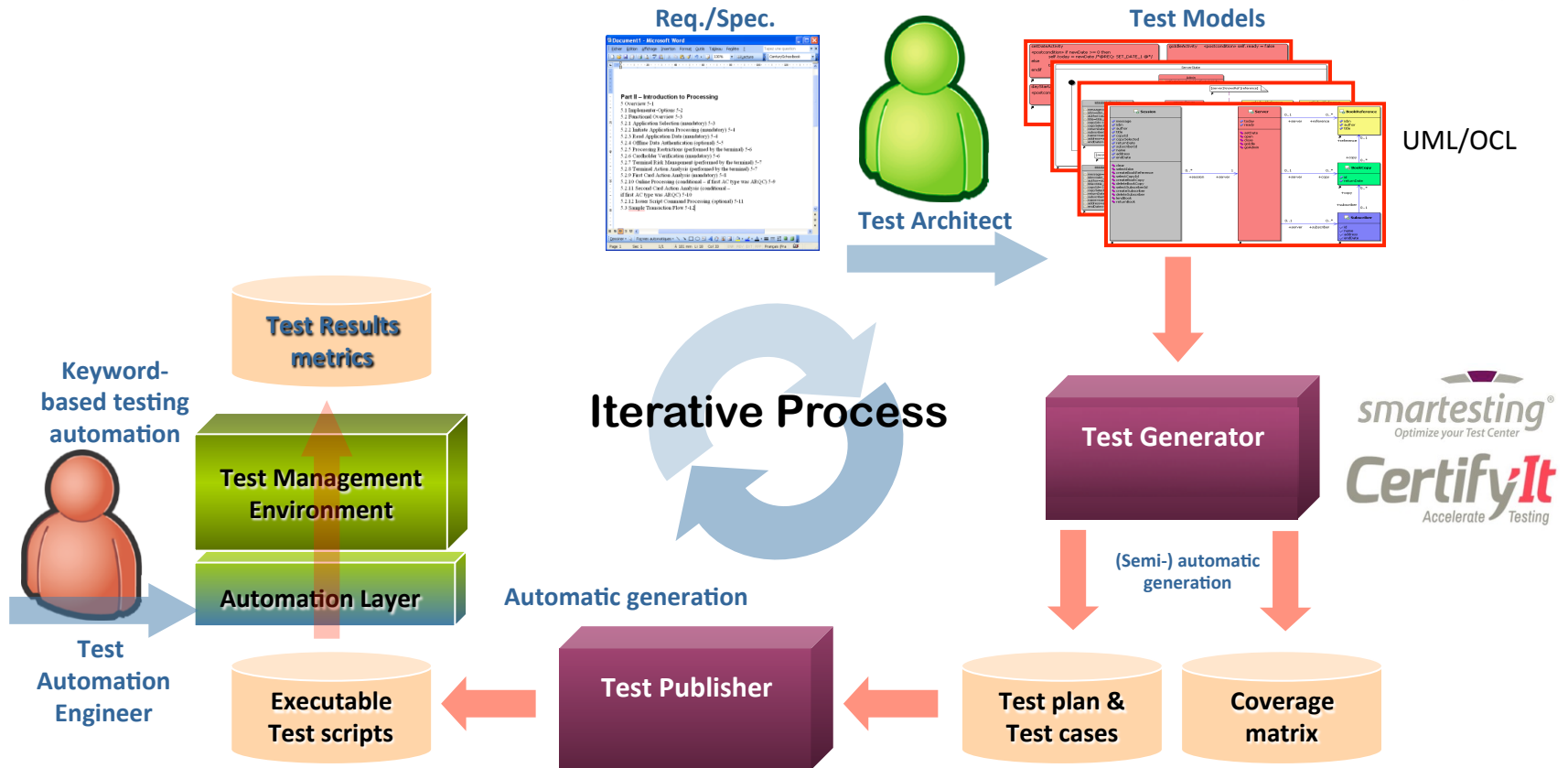
Bruno Legiard, **Frédéric Dadeau**, Elizabeta Fourneret

# Agenda

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1. Model-Based Testing with CertifyIt
2. Designing test models with UML/OCL
3. Test selection criteria & test generation processes
4. Concretization and conformance(s) relationship(s)
5. Summary: benefits/drawbacks of the MBT approaches

# 1. Model-Based Testing with CertifyIt



## 2. Models: UML/OCL

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- Unified Modeling Language + Object Constraint Language
  - use of a subset of UML, called UML4ST : no inheritance, binary associations, no dynamic creation of instances
  - adaptation of the usual semantics of OCL as an action language (to make OCL executable)  
→ test model ≠ design model
- Three kinds of UML diagrams are considered:
  - **class** diagram → data model,
  - **object** diagram → initial state, and
  - **statecharts** → dynamics – not considered here, for simplicity
- Instead, **OCL code** is used to describe the behaviour of the operations

# UML/OCL example

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Running example (listen carefully, you'll work on it this afternoon!)

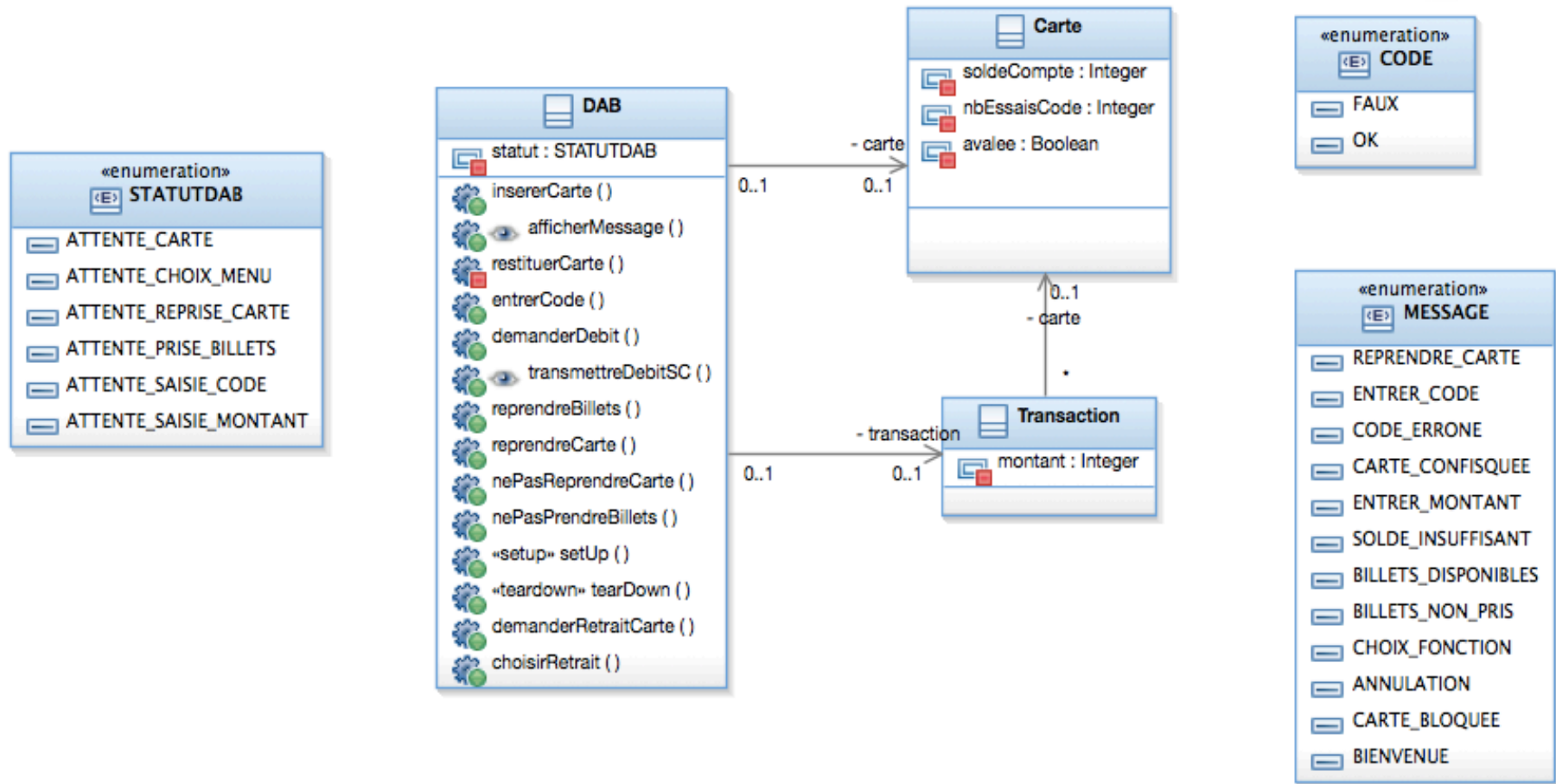
Automated Teller Machine (ATM) - withdraw cash with a credit card

- System Under Test (SUT) = cash machine
- Test data = credit cards with associated bank accounts
- Control points = reader, pad (0-9 + cancel, suppress, validate)  
→ abstracted into « actions » (insert card, type PIN, etc.)
- Observation points = messages on the screen, card/bills ejected
- Behaviours = « usual » behaviour of an ATM (functional testing)

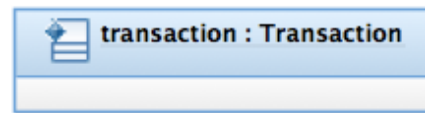
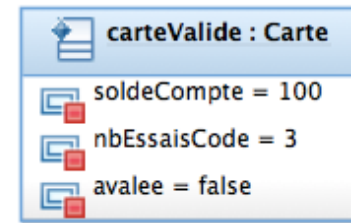
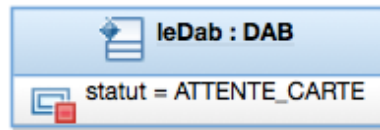


No physical device → simulation on a web application (HTML5+JS)

# Running example: ATM – Class diagram



# Running example: ATM – Object diagram



# Running example: ATM – OCL

- Precondition of the entrerCode(PIN) operation

```
.not carte.oclIsUndefined() and |statut=STATUTDAB::ATTENTE_SAISIE_CODE
```

- Postcondition of the entrerCode(PIN) operation

```
if (p_Code=CODE::FAUX)then
  ---@REQ:COUNTER_DECREASED
  carte.nbEssaisCode = carte.nbEssaisCode-1 and
  afficherMessage(MESSAGE::CODE_ERRONE) and
  if (carte.nbEssaisCode <= 0) then
    ---@REQ:CARD_BLOCKED
    afficherMessage(MESSAGE::CARTE_BLOQUEE) and
    restituerCarte()
  else
    ---@REQ:CARD_NOT_BLOCKED
    afficherMessage(MESSAGE::ENTRER_CODE)
  endif
else
  ---@REQ:OK
  statut = STATUTDAB::ATTENTE_SAISIE_MONTANT and
  carte.nbEssaisCode = 3 and
  afficherMessage(MESSAGE::ENTRER_MONTANT)
endif
```



### 3. Test selection criteria & test generation

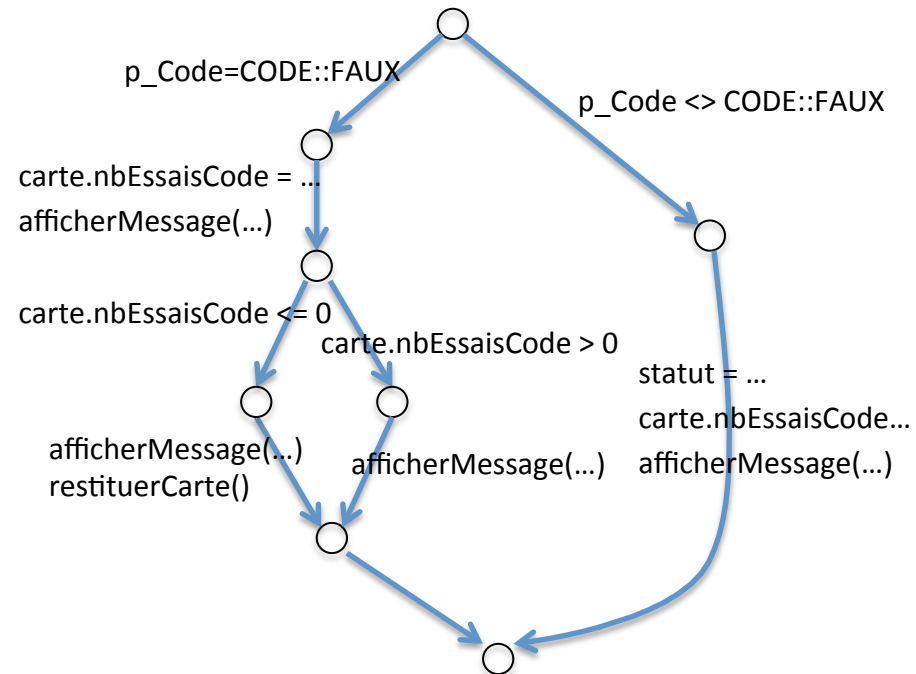
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- Static test selection criteria
  - Structural coverage of the OCL code
  - Requirement coverage
- Dynamic test selection criteria
  - Test purposes (abstract test scenarios)
  - Temporal properties

# Static test selection criteria

- Goal: activate each behaviour of each operation of the SUT
  - Behaviour = branch in the CFG of the operation
  - Test Target = state that makes the execution of the behavior possible

```
if (p_Code=CODE::FAUX)then
  ---@REQ:COUNTER_DECREASED
  carte.nbEssaisCode = carte.nbEssaisCode-1 and
  afficherMessage(MESSAGE::CODE_ERRONE) and
  if (carte.nbEssaisCode <= 0) then
    ---@REQ:CARD_BLOCKED
    afficherMessage(MESSAGE::CARTE_BLOQUEE) and
    restituerCarte()
  else
    ---@REQ:CARD_NOT_BLOCKED
    afficherMessage(MESSAGE::ENTRER_CODE)
  endif
else
  ---@REQ:OK
  statut = STATUTDAB::ATTENTE_SAISIE_MONTANT and
  carte.nbEssaisCode = 3 and
  afficherMessage(MESSAGE::ENTRER_MONTANT)
endif
```



# Static test selection criteria

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- For each test target, automatically explore the model states and compute a sequence of operations that reaches the target
- Shape of a test case:
  - <preamble> = sequence of operations, from the initial state that reaches the target
  - <body> = invocation of the operation to active the targeted behavior
  - <observation> = possible additional operations that can be executed to check that the targeted operation was correctly executed
- Test cases can be merged to minimize the size of the test suite

# Static test selection criteria

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Examples of functional tests:

- leDab.insererCarte(carteValide) // @REQ: OK  
leDab.choisirRetrait() // @REQ: OK  
leDab.entrerCode(OK) // @REQ: OK  
leDab.demanderDebit(50) // @REQ: OK  
leDab.reprendreCarte() // @REQ: OK, @REQ: TRANSACTION\_DONE  
leDab.reprendreBillets() // @REQ: OK
  
- leDab.insererCarte(carteValide) //@REQ: OK  
leDab.choisirRetrait() // @REQ: OK  
leDab.entrerCode(OK) // @REQ: OK  
leDab.demanderDebit(150) // @REQ: INSUFFICIENT\_BALANCE

# Static test selection criteria - limitations

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- Limitations of automated testing based on static criteria (structural/ requirement coverage)
  - test cases with **limited size** (steps)
  - difficulty to take into account the **dynamics** of the system (must be hard-coded into the model)
  - possible issues with the test target's reachability
- Two complementary ways to drive the test generation:
  - test scenarios
  - temporal test properties

# Dynamic criteria: test purposes

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- Test scenarios that help the user describing test sequences that cannot be computed by the tool
- Based on regular expressions involving operations and state predicates
- However, textual description, close to natural language (to help the test designer)
- Unfolded on the model to be instantiated as a test case

# Test purposes syntax



<i>test_purpose</i>	::=	( <i>quantifier_list</i> , )? <i>seq</i>	<i>seq</i>	::=	<i>bloc</i> (then <i>bloc</i> )*
<i>quantifier_list</i>	::=	<i>quantifier</i> ( , <i>quantifier</i> )*	<i>bloc</i>	::=	<u>use control restriction?</u> <i>target</i> ?
<i>quantifier</i>	::=	<u>for_each_behavior</u> <i>var</i> <u>from</u> <i>behavior_choice</i>	<i>restriction</i>	::=	<u>at_least_once</u>
		<u>for_each_operation</u> <i>var</i> <u>from</u> <i>operation_choice</i>			<u>any_number_of_time</u>
		<u>for_each_literal</u> <i>var</i> <u>from</u> <i>literal_choice</i>			<u>&lt;number&gt;</u> <u>times</u>
		<u>for_each_instance</u> <i>var</i> <u>from</u> <i>instance_choice</i>	<i>target</i>		<u>var</u> <u>times</u>
		<u>for_each_integer</u> <i>var</i> <u>from</u> <i>integer_choice</i>			<i>to_reach</i> <i>state</i>
		<u>for_each_call</u> <i>var</i> <u>from</u> <i>call_choice</i>			<u>to_activate</u> <i>behavior</i>
<i>operation_choice</i>	::=	<u>any_operation</u>	<i>control</i>	::=	<u>operation_choice</u>
		<u>operation_list</u>			<i>behavior_choice</i>
		<u>any_operation_but</u> <i>operation_list</i>			<i>var</i>
<i>call_choice</i>	::=	<i>call_list</i>			<i>call_choice</i>
<i>behavior_choice</i>	::=	<u>any_behavior_to_cover</u>	<i>call_list</i>	::=	<i>call</i> (or <i>call</i> )*
		<i>behavior_list</i>	<i>call</i>	::=	<i>instance_operation</i> ( <i>parameter_list</i> )
		<u>any_behavior_but</u> <i>behavior_list</i>	<i>operation_list</i>	::=	<i>operation</i> (or <i>operation</i> )*
<i>literal_choice</i>	::=	<u>&lt;identifier&gt;</u> (or <u>&lt;identifier&gt;</u> )*	<i>operation</i>	::=	<u>&lt;identifier&gt;</u>
<i>instance_choice</i>	::=	<i>instance</i> (or <i>instance</i> )*	<i>parameter_list</i>	::=	( <i>parameter</i> ( , <i>parameter</i> )*)?
<i>integer_choice</i>	::=	{ <u>&lt;number&gt;</u> ( , <u>&lt;number&gt;</u> )* }	<i>parameter</i>	::=	<i>free_value</i>
<i>var</i>	::=	<u>\$&lt;identifier&gt;</u>			<u>&lt;identifier&gt;</u>
<i>state</i>	::=	<i>ocl_constraint</i> <u>on_instance</u> <i>instance</i>			<u>&lt;number&gt;</u>
<i>ocl_constraint</i>	::=	<u>&lt;string&gt;</u>	<i>behavior_list</i>	::=	<i>var</i>
<i>instance</i>	::=	<u>&lt;identifier&gt;</u>	<i>behavior</i>	::=	<i>behavior</i> (or <i>behavior</i> )*
					<u>behavior_with_tag</u> <i>tag_list</i>
					<u>behavior_without_tag</u> <i>tag_list</i>
			<i>tag_list</i>	::=	{ <u>tag</u> ( , <u>tag</u> )* }
			<i>tag</i>	::=	@REQ: <u>&lt;identifier&gt;</u>
					@AIM: <u>&lt;identifier&gt;</u>

# Test purposes

Example on the ATM: a test scenario that checks that pin retry counter is correctly implemented

use any\_operation any\_number\_of\_times

to\_reach "nbEssaisCode = 1" on\_instance carte1

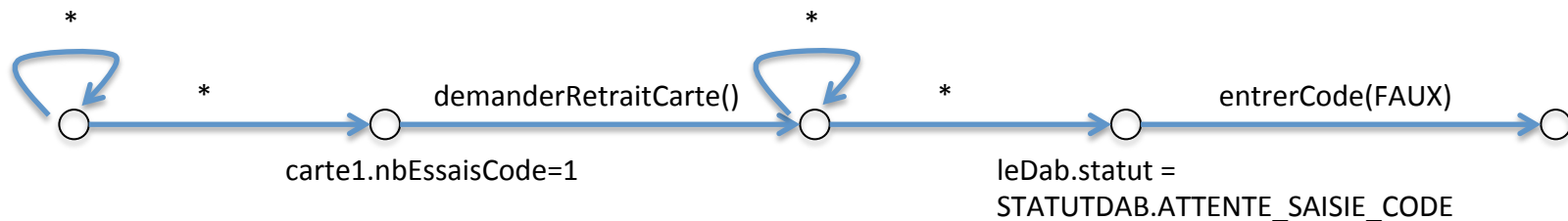
then use leDab.demanderRetraitCarte()

then use any\_operation any\_number\_of\_times

to\_reach "statut=STATUTDAB::ATTENTE\_SAISIE\_CODE" on\_instance leDab

then use leDab.entrerCode(FAUX)

// should block and eject the card





# Test purposes

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Example on the ATM: a test scenario that checks that pin retry counter is correctly implemented

Once unfolded on the model:

```
leDab.insererCarte(carteValide)
leDab.choisirRetrait()
leDab.entrerCode(FAUX)
leDab.entrerCode(FAUX)
leDab.demanderRetraitCarte()
leDab.reprendreCarte()
leDab.insererCarte(carteValide)
leDab.choisirRetrait()
leDab.entrerCode(FAUX)
```

# Dynamic criteria: test properties

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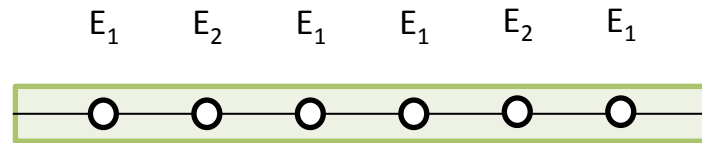
- Some test scenarios address specific test intentions, that could be formalized by high-level properties
- TOCL = Temporal OCL
  - overlay of OCL to express [temporal properties](#)
  - based on Dwyer *et al.* [property patterns](#) [DAC99]
  - does not require the use of a complex formalism (e.g. LTL, CTL)
- Property = Pattern + Scope
  - [Pattern](#): describes occurrences or orderings of events
  - [Scope](#): describes the observation window on which the pattern is supposed to hold

[DAC99] M. Dwyer, G. Avrunin, and J. Corbett. *Patterns in property specifications for finite-state verification*. ICSE'99.

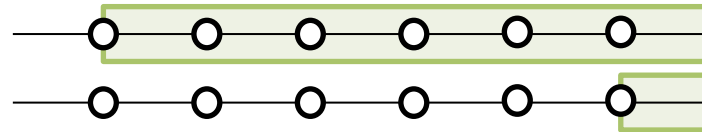
# Temporal Properties in TOCL

## Scopes

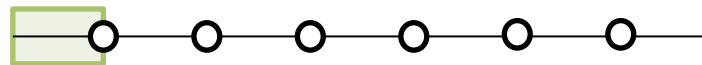
- globally



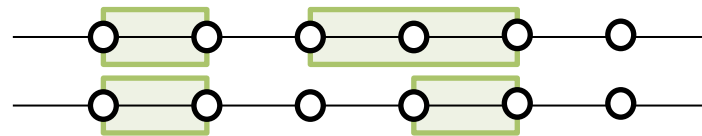
- after E<sub>1</sub>
  - after last E<sub>1</sub>



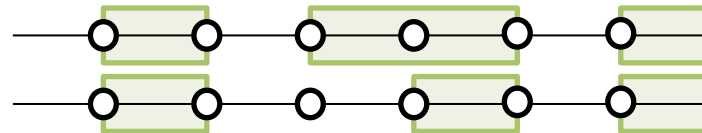
- before E<sub>1</sub>



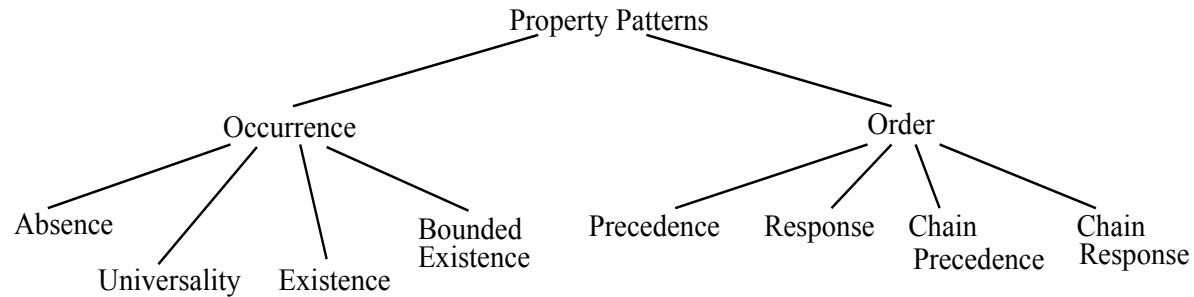
- between E<sub>1</sub> and E<sub>2</sub>
  - between last E<sub>1</sub> and E<sub>2</sub>



- after E<sub>1</sub> until E<sub>2</sub>
  - after last E<sub>1</sub> until E<sub>2</sub>



# Temporal Properties in TOCL

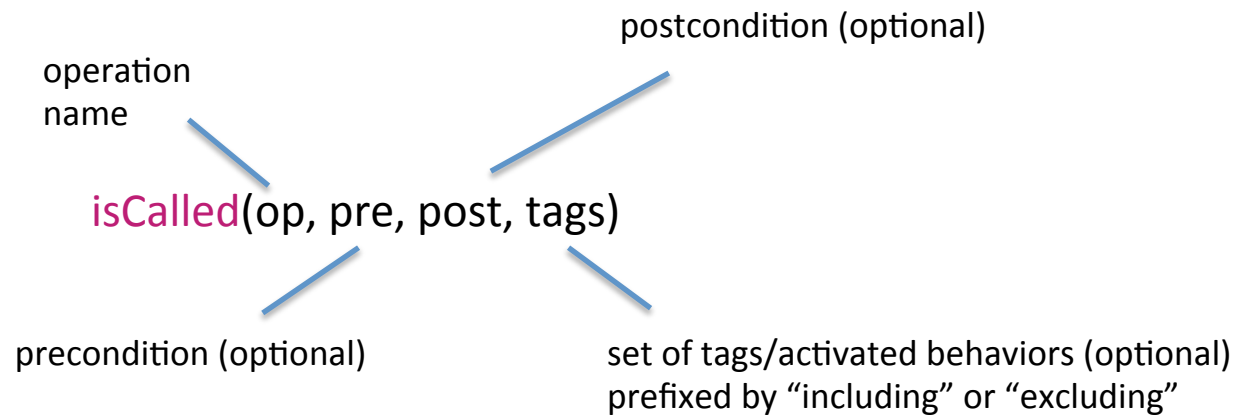


## Patterns

- always P
- never E
- eventually E at least/at most/exactly k times
- $E_1$  [directly] precedes  $E_2$
- $E_1$  [directly] follows  $E_2$

# Temporal Properties in TOCL

## Events: operation calls



# Temporal Properties in TOCL



“Once a card is inserted, it is necessary to authenticate to get bills.”

**between** `isCalled(leDab.insererCarte,including:{@REQ:OK})`

**and** `isCalled(leDab.reprendreBillets,including:{@REQ:OK})`

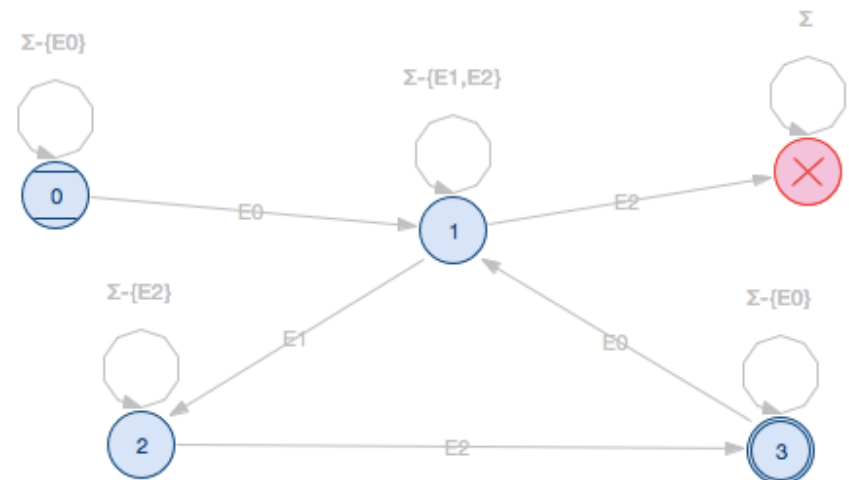
**eventually** `isCalled(leDab.entrerCode,including:{@REQ:OK})`

**at least 1 times**

E0 = `insererCarte`

E1 = `entrerCode`

E2 = `reprendreBillets`



# Using the properties for testing

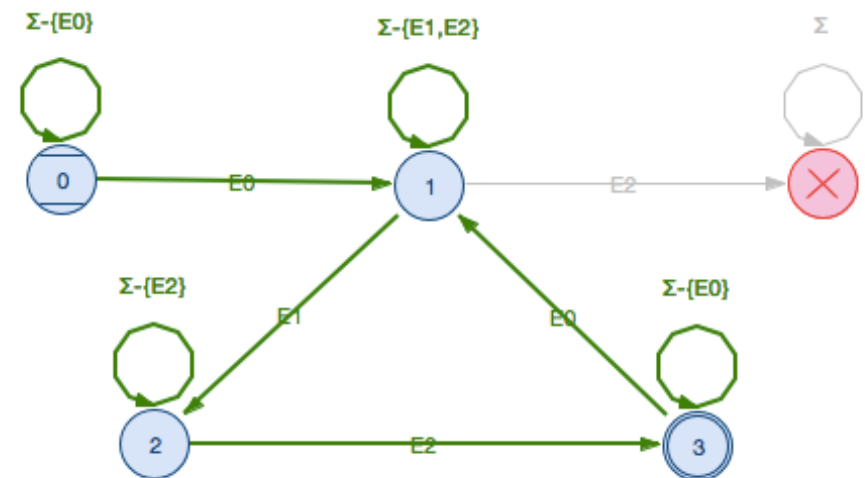
- Two possible uses for these properties

## 1. Measure the **quality** of a test suite

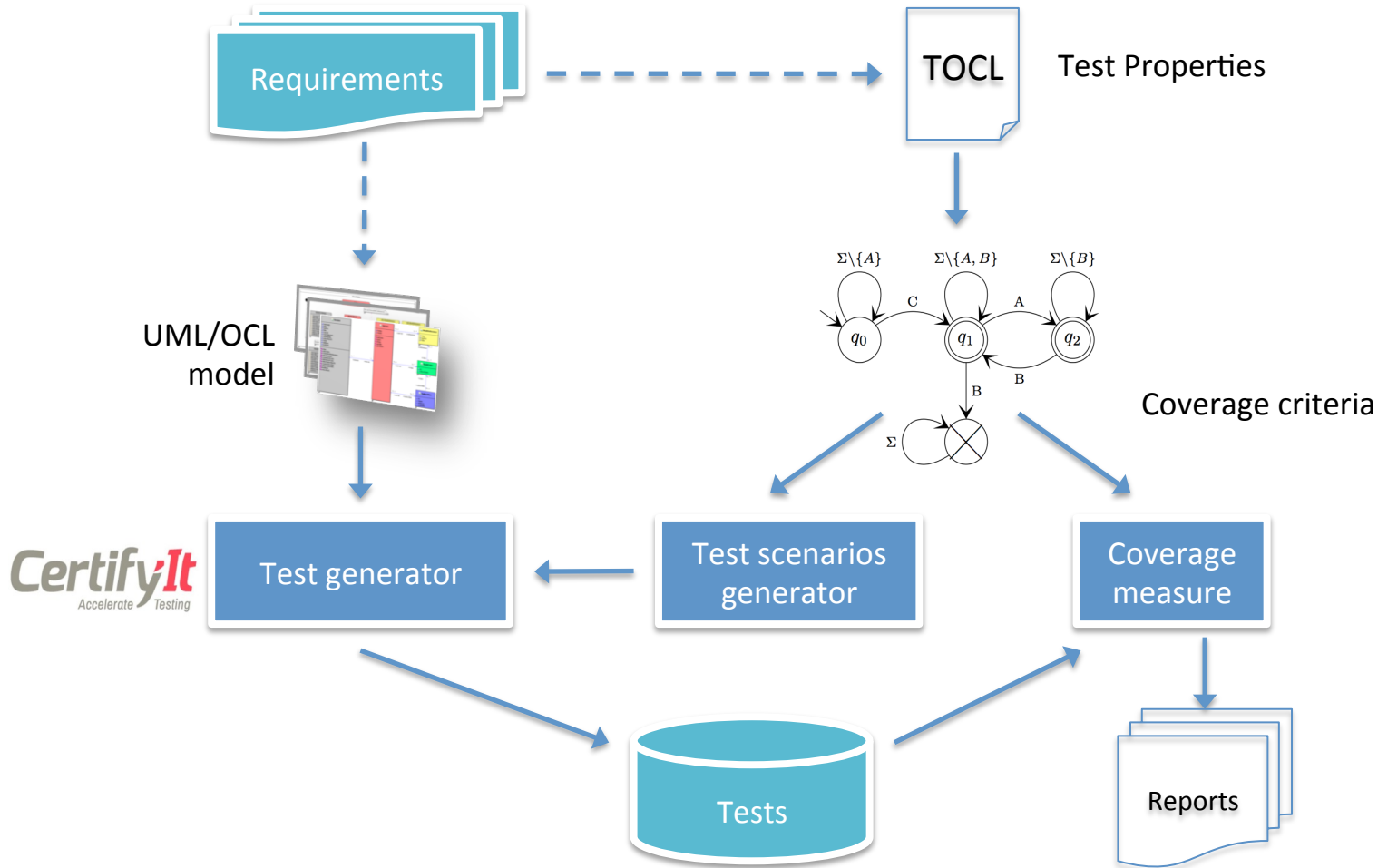
leDab.insererCarte(carteValide)	0 → 1
leDab.choisirRetrait()	1 → 1
leDab.entrerCode(OK)	1 → 2
leDab.demanderDebit(50)	2 → 2
leDab.reprendreCarte()	2 → 2
leDab.reprendreBillets()	2 → 3

## 2. Generate **new tests**

use any\_operation any\_number\_of\_times then  
use leDab.insererCarteValide to\_activate {@REQ:OK} then  
use any\_operation any\_number\_of\_times then  
use entrerCode() to\_activate {@REQ:OK} then  
use any\_operation any\_number\_of\_times then  
use reprendreBillets() to\_activate {@REQ:OK} ... x2



# Use of temporal test properties





# Interest of test properties

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- Language is **easy to learn and use** to design test properties
- **Usefulness** of the coverage reports
  - shows which part of the properties are not covered by the tests
- **Relevance** of the coverage criteria
  - Property automata are rarely 100% covered by the functional test suite
  - “Shows test configurations that one may not easily think of”
- Unintended use of the properties: **model validation**
  - Use of the test cases coverage measure to detect violations of the property by the model

## 4. Concretization and conformance

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- Two issues to consider:
  - Bridge the gap between the abstract and concrete level
    - Control : abstract operations + parameters
    - Observations : return values, specific operations
  - Implement the conformance relationship and establish the test verdict:
    - « Pass »
    - « Fail »
    - possibly, « Inconclusive »

# Concretization

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- abstract tests → concrete tests
  - Control points:
    - Map abstract operations with concrete « actions »
    - Also map parameters list (if necessary adapt it)
    - Translate abstract values into concrete ones (especially enumerations)
  - Observations:
    - Return values (to be translated) of the operations
    - Dedicated operations (stereotyped « observation » in the model)
- of the utmost importance: determines the accuracy of the test
- hopefully, the model provides the test oracle (the expected result)

# Conformance relationship

Many different conformance relationships: isomorphism, bisimulation, trace equivalence, etc.

Reasonable compromise: ioco [Tretmans'96] defined on IOLTS

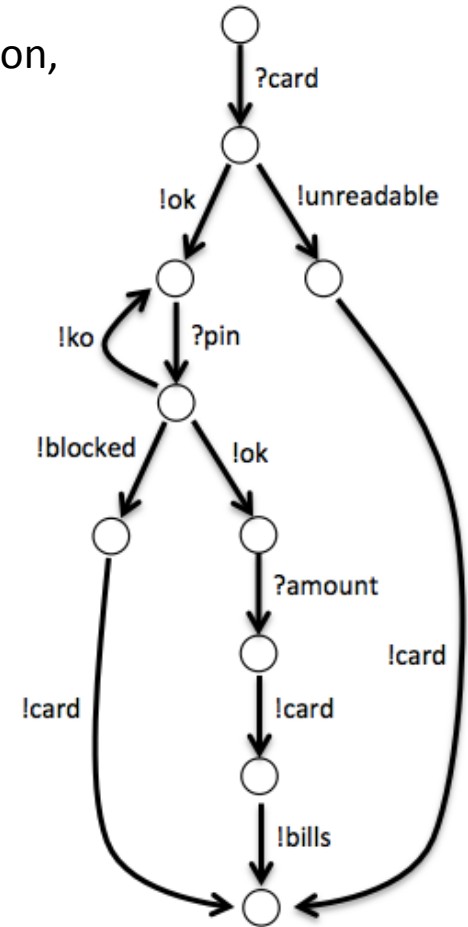
IOLTS =  $\langle Q, A, \rightarrow, q_0 \rangle$

- $Q$  = set of states
- $A = A_i \cup A_o \cup \{\tau\}$  with
  - $A_i$  = input actions (prefixed by ?)
  - $A_o$  = output actions (prefixed by !)
  - $\tau$  = internal action
- $\rightarrow \subseteq Q \times A \times Q$
- $q_0$  = initial state

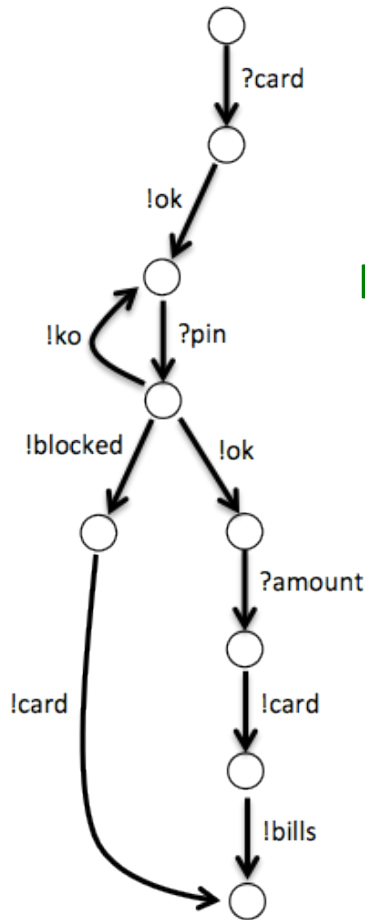
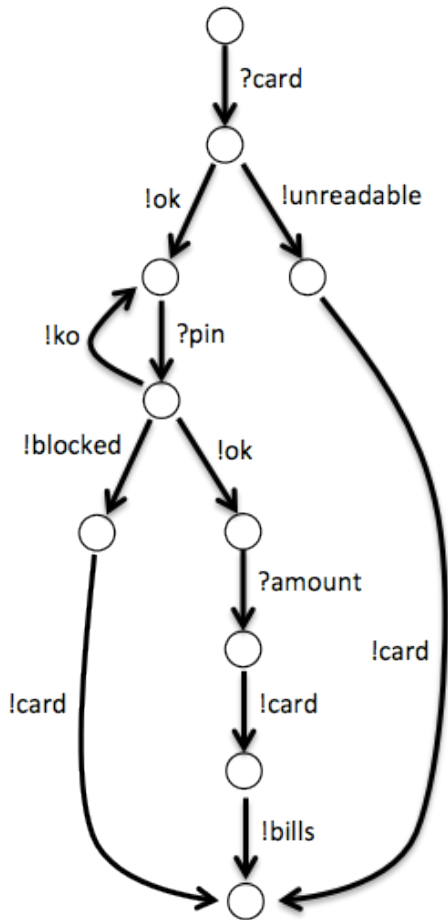
$\delta$  : quiescence (observation of no output) : deadlock/livelock

IUT ioco S:  $\forall \sigma : \text{Straces}(S) : \text{out}(\text{IUT after } \sigma) \subseteq \text{out}(S \text{ after } \sigma)$

After each suspended trace (ie. an execution up to a quiescence), IUT exhibits only outputs and quiescences present in S.

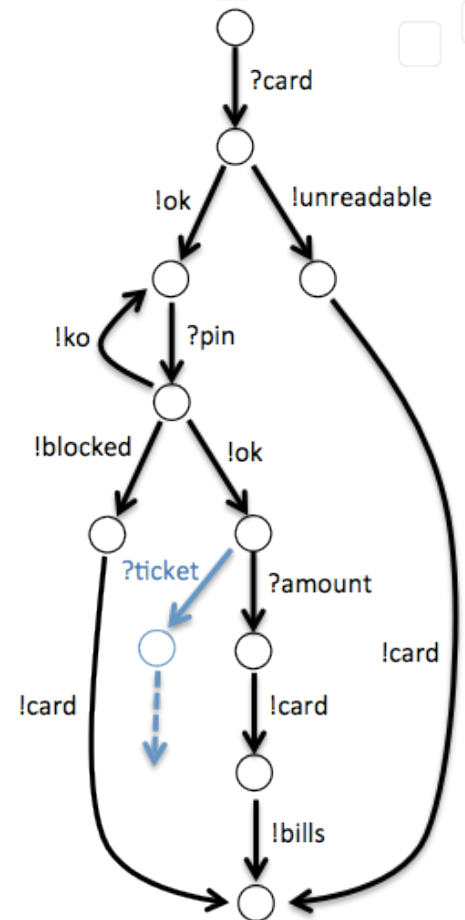


# Conformance relationship



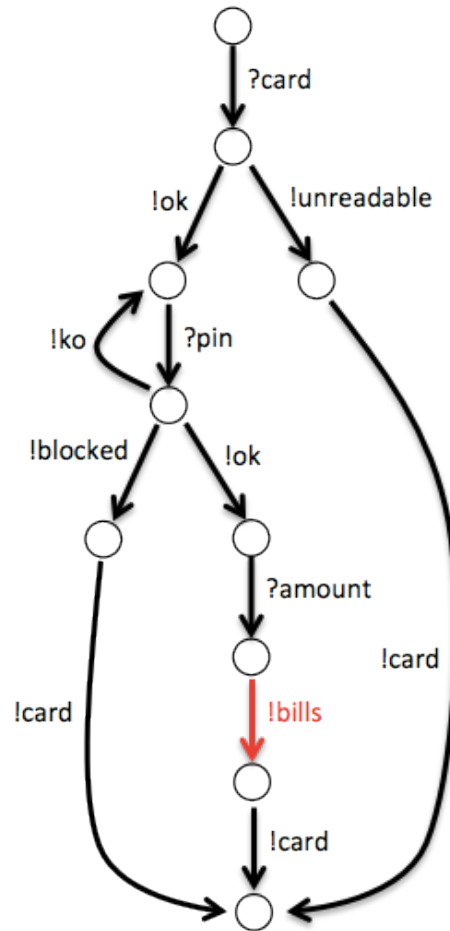
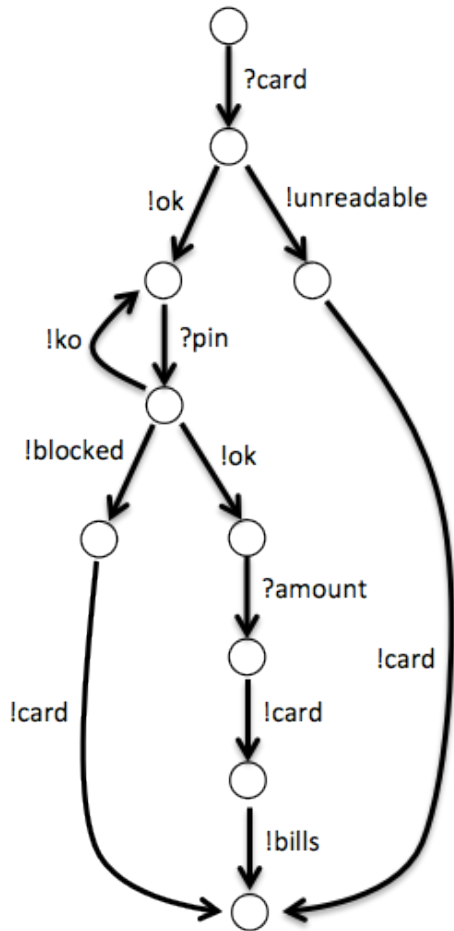
IOCO

Implementation choice



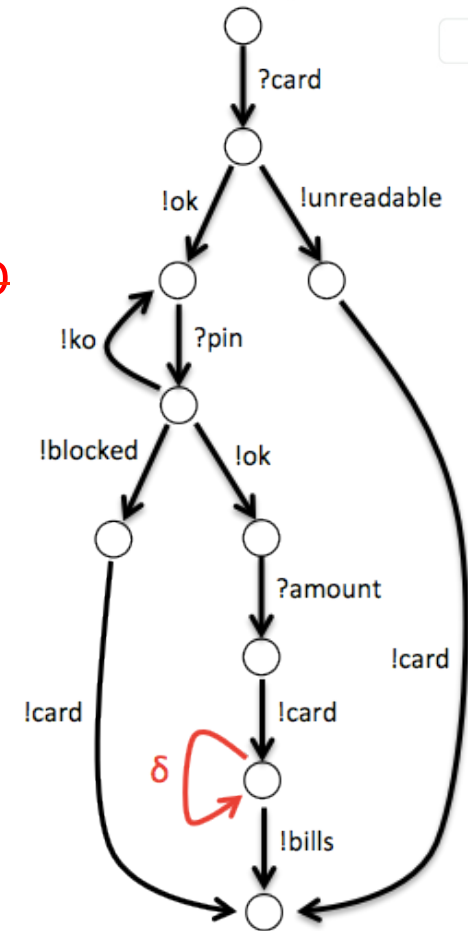
Implementation of partial specification

# Conformance relationship



Unexpected output

~~!ok~~



Unexpected quiescence

## 5. Conclusion: benefits and drawbacks

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### Benefits:

- back to back validation of a system: a comparison of two point of views
- functional testing: does not aim at runtime errors (null pointers, divisions by 0, etc.) but focus on specification mistakes (40% of the errors in a program)
- look for automation

### Drawbacks:

- Model design step:
  - learning curve to take into account (language)
  - keep in mind you design a test model, not a design model
- Test generator: need to know how it works to produce the right tests
- Test verdict:
  - implement the conformance relationship you want (ioco might not be sufficient!)
  - in case of non-conformance: where is the error?

Our advise: perform MBT iteratively and incrementally

# Some references

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- Kalou Cabrera Castillos, Frédéric Dadeau, and Jacques Julliand. Scenario-Based Testing from UML/OCL Behavioral Models -- Application to POSIX Compliance. *STTT, International Journal on Software Tools for Technology Transfer*, 13(5):431--448, 2011. Note: Special Issue on Verified Software: Tools, Theory and Experiments (VSTTE'09)
- Fabrice Bouquet, Christophe Grandpierre, Bruno Legeard, and Fabien Peureux. A test generation solution to automate software testing. In *AST'08, 3rd Int. workshop on Automation of Software Test*, Leipzig, Germany, pages 45--48, May 2008. ACM Press.