A New Foundation for Computing Science

A Research & Experimental Engineering Programme

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September 16, 2015: 09:08

In honour of Prof. José Nuno Oliveira

From Domain via Requirements to Software Design

1.1. The Compiler Development Approach

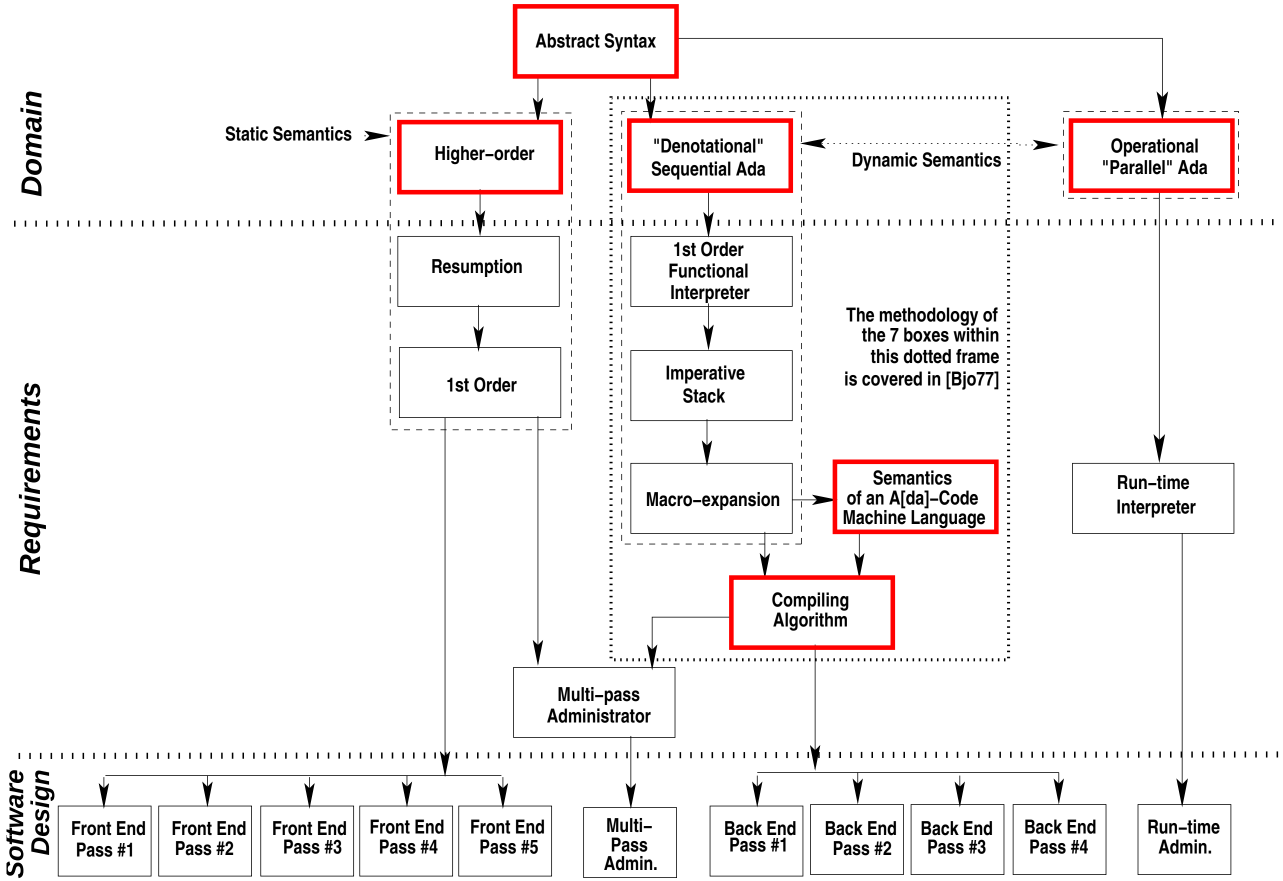


Figure 1: The Ada Compiler Software Development Graph [Bjø77]

1.2. – as 5 MSc Thesis Projects for 6 Students

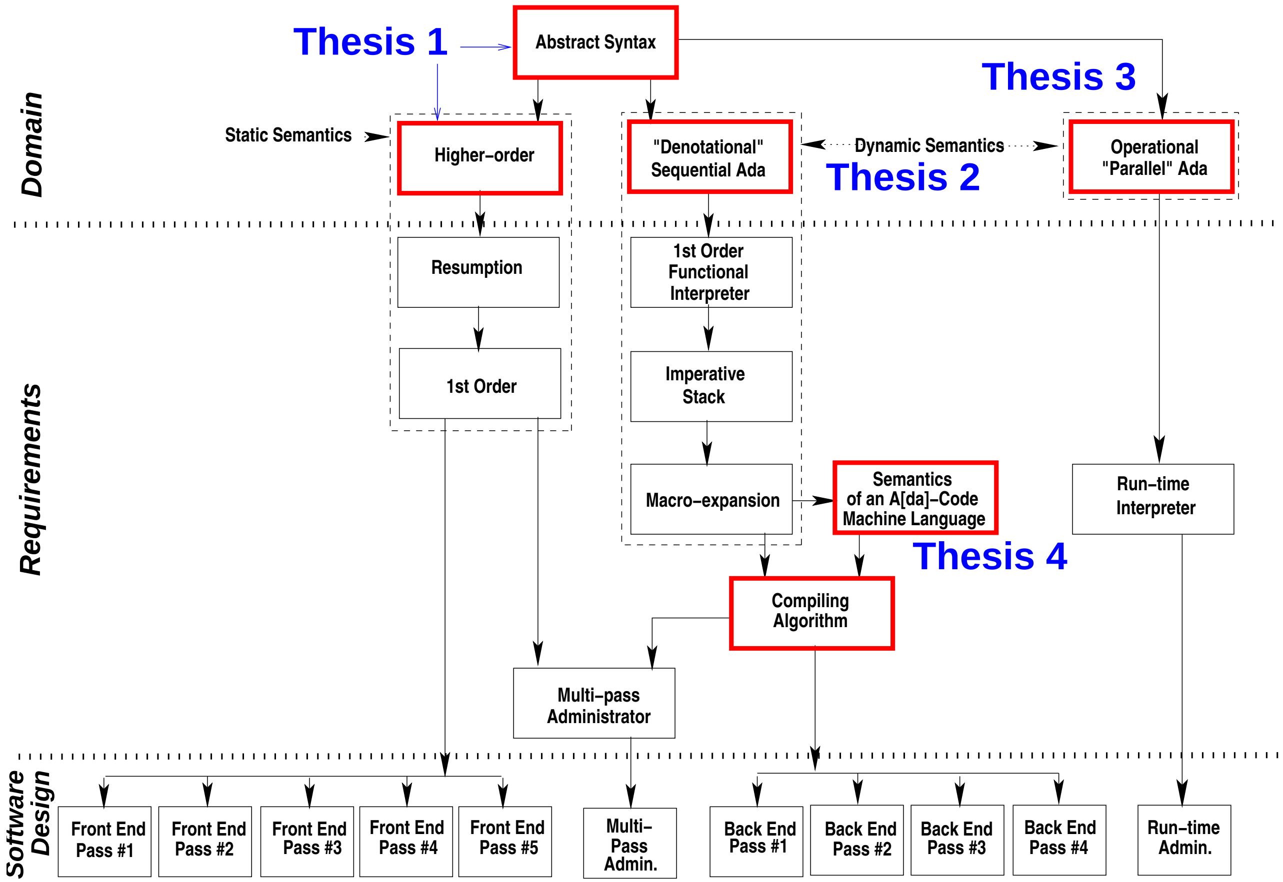


Figure 2: [BO80]

1.3. Domain Engineering

1.3.1. Denotational Semantics

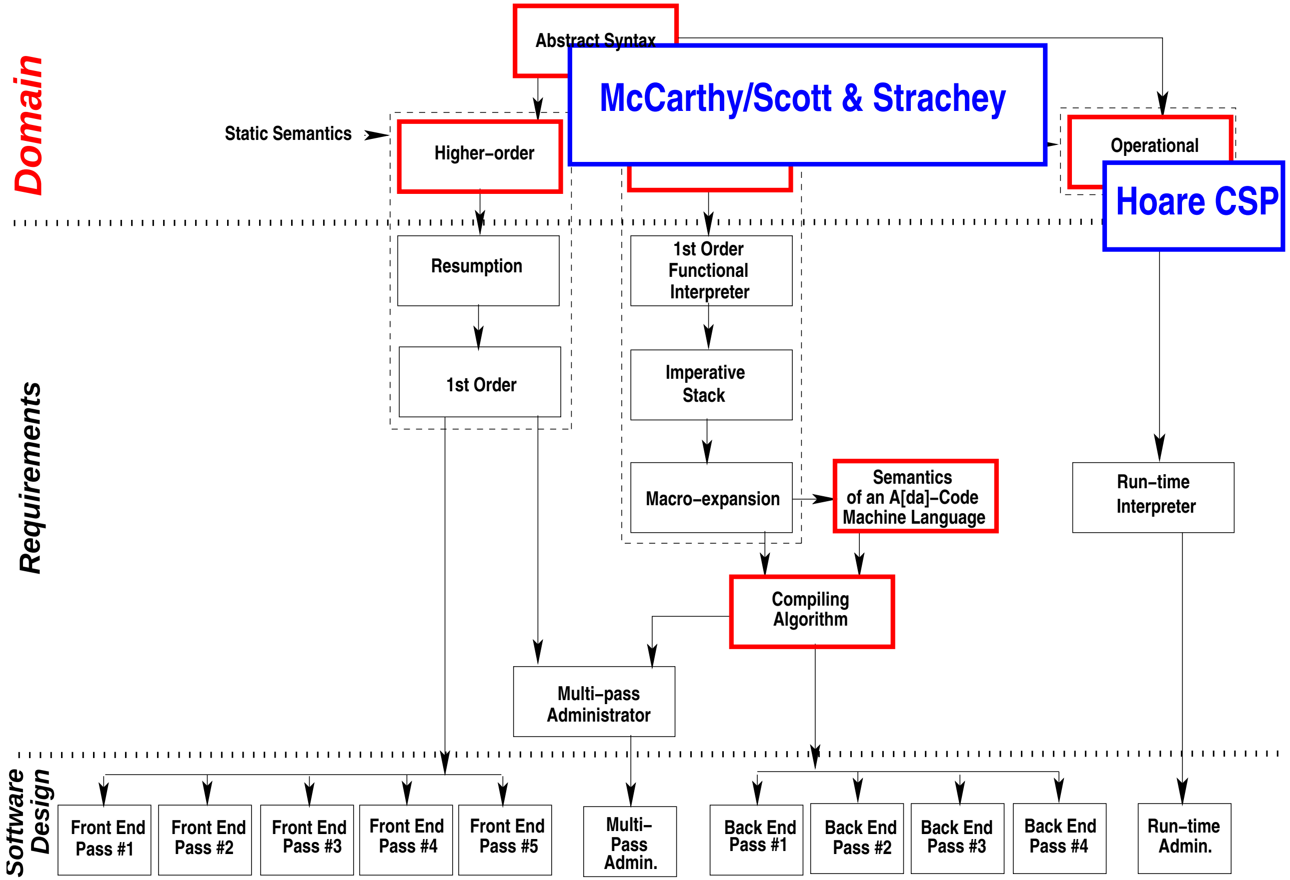


Figure 3: McCarthy [McC60, McC62], Strachey & Scott [Str68, Sco70, SS71, Sco72]

1.4. Requirements Engineering

1.4.1. The Landin SECD Machine and Reynolds Closures

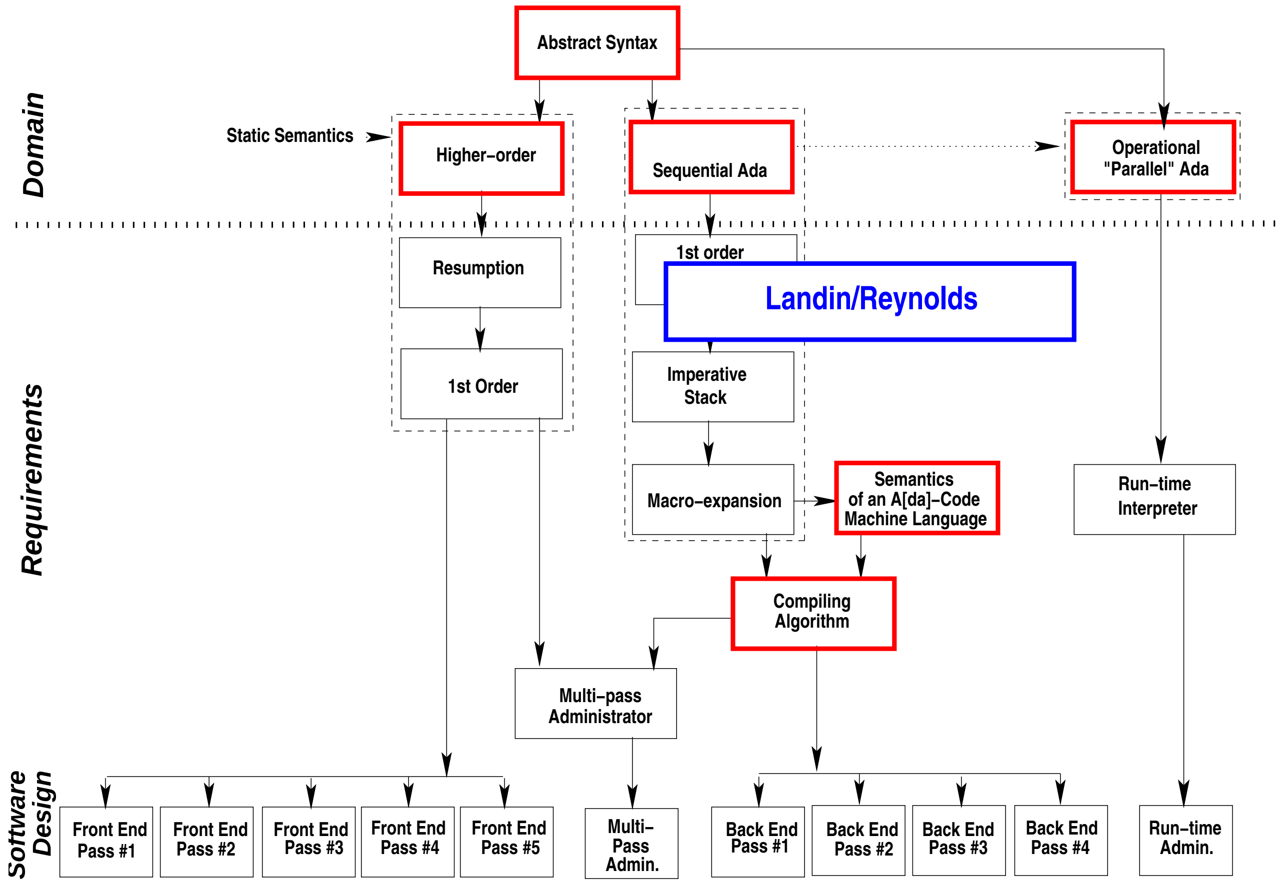


Figure 4: Landin [Lan64, Lan65a, Lan65b], Reynolds [Rey70, Rey72]

1.4.2. Macro-Expansion Semantics

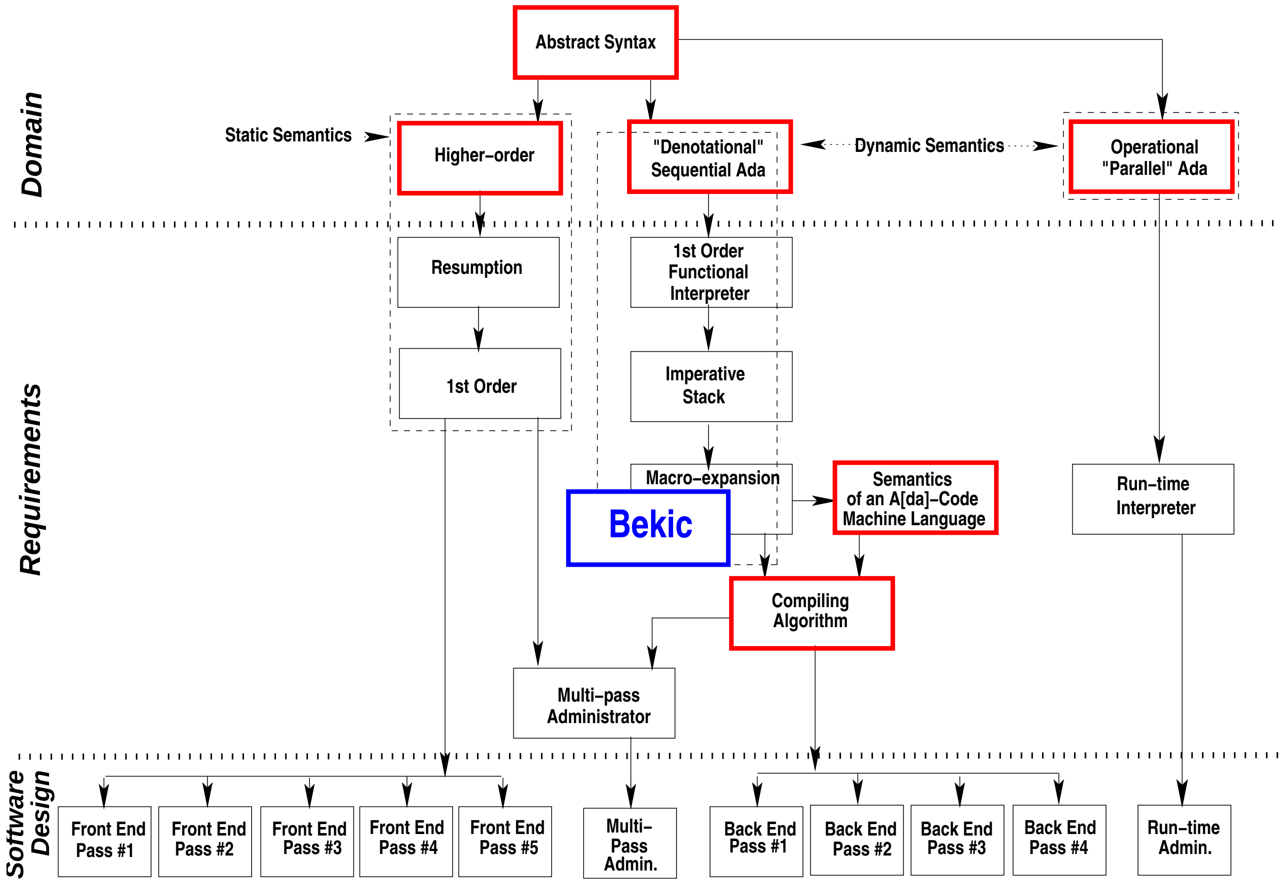


Figure 5: Bekič [Bek84]

1.4.3. Compiling Algorithm

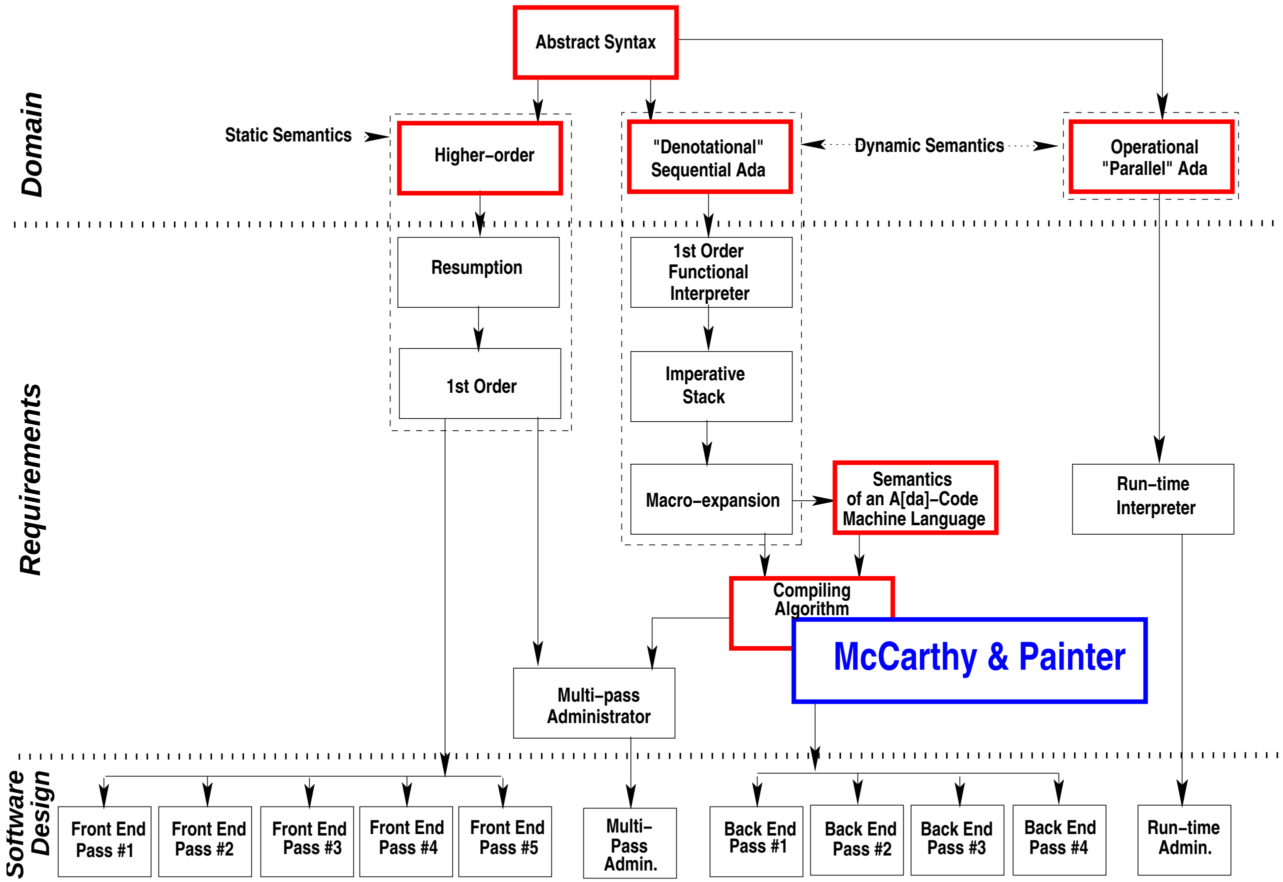


Figure 6: McCarthy & Painter [MP66]

1.4.4. Machine Requirements

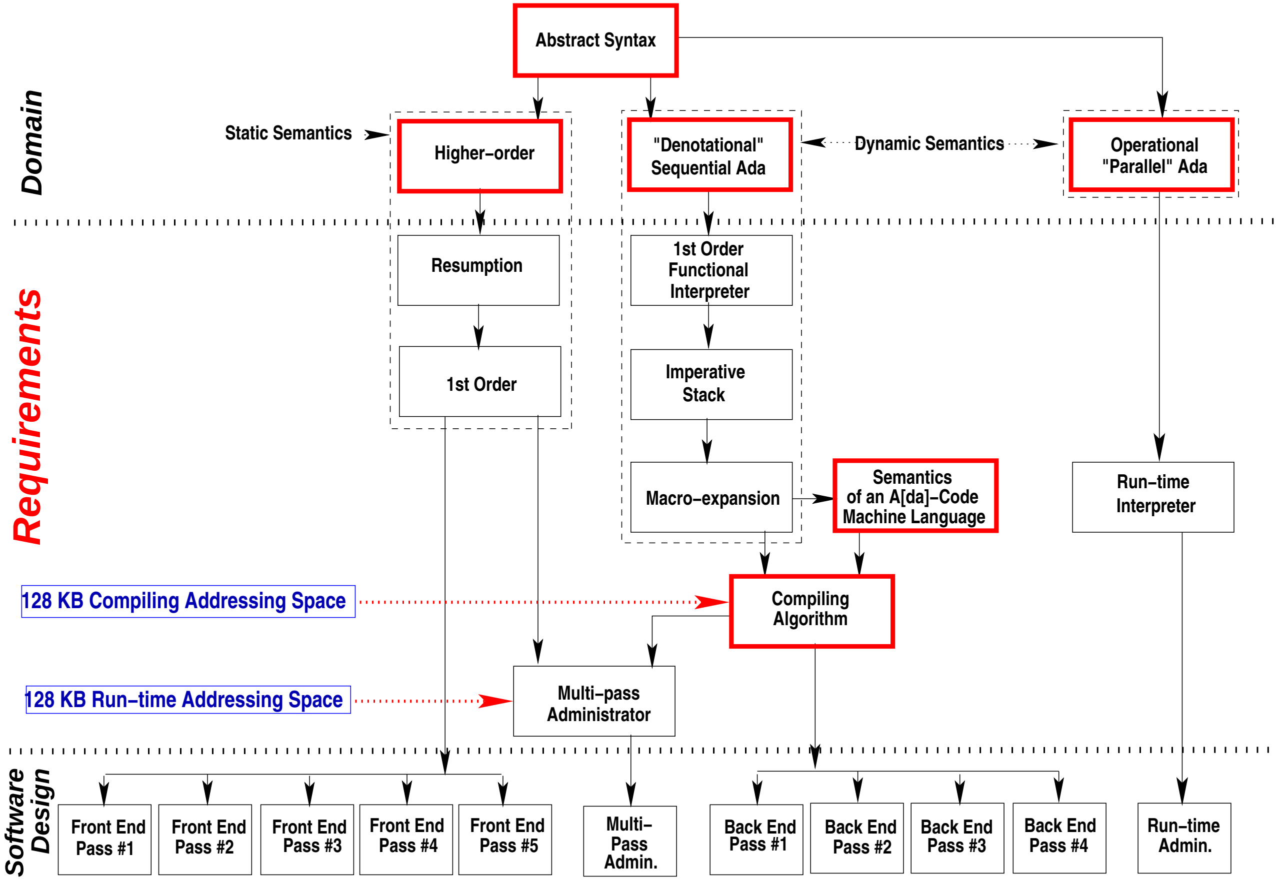


Figure 7: The Ada Compiler Software Development Graph

1.5. Lines of [VDM+comment] Specifications and Man Years

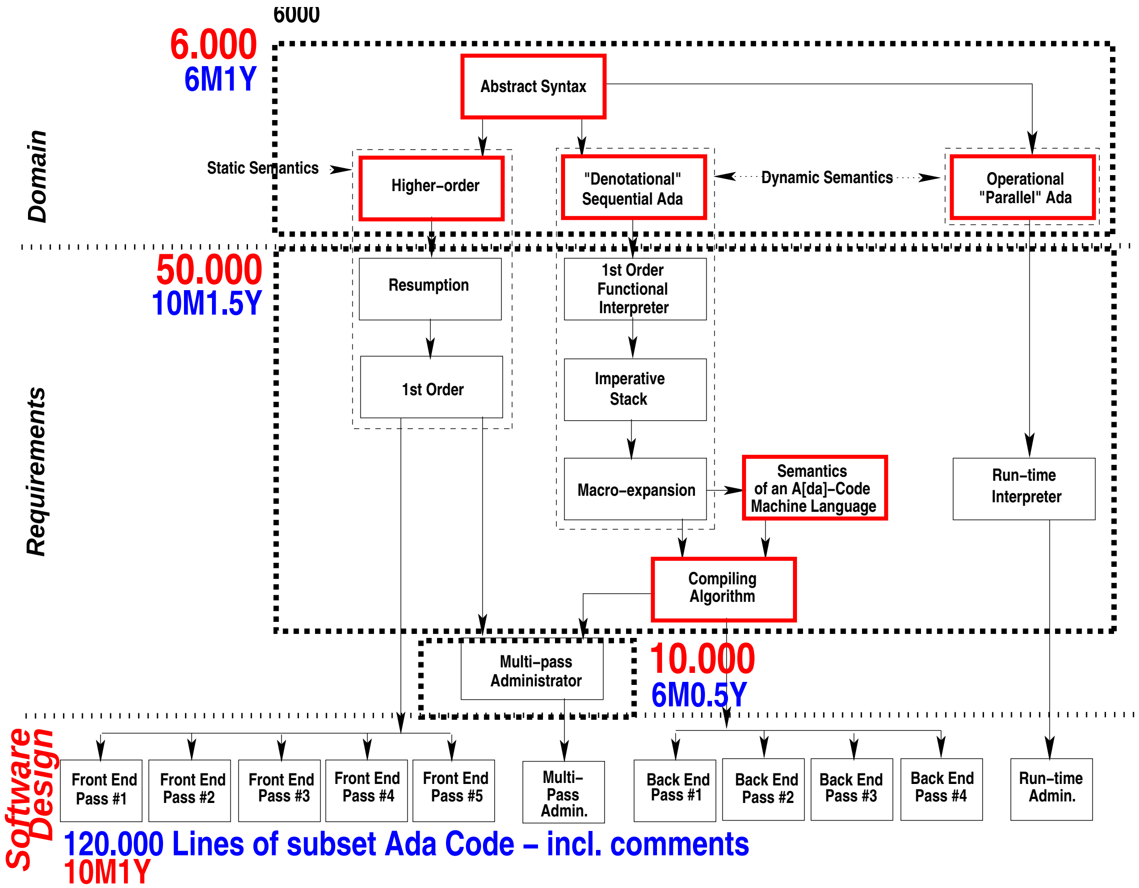


Figure 8: The Ada Compiler Software Development Graph

The Thesis of This Talk

- To describe a $\mathcal{D}$omain is to give semantics to its endurants and perdurants.
  - That is, a $\mathcal{D}$omain is viewed as a language.
  - Description emphasis is put on semantic domains
- To prescribe $\mathcal{R}$equirements is to "derive" these from a domain description.
  - The $\mathcal{R}$equirements are for an interpretive machine.
- To specify a/the $\mathcal{S}$oftware design is to refine it from the requirements prescription.

- To verify correctness of the software design is to
  - formally test,
  - model check and
  - prove property theorems.
- $\mathcal{D}, \mathcal{S} \models \mathcal{R}$

- $\mathcal{S} \models \mathcal{R}$ helps ensure correctness.
- $\mathcal{D}, \mathcal{S} \models \mathcal{R}$ helps ensure that product meets client expectations.

The Development Dogma

3.1. The Specification Dogma

- In order to develop $\mathcal{S}$oftware
  we must have a reasonable understanding of the requirements.

- In order to understand the $\mathcal{R}$equirements
  we must have a reasonable understanding of the domain.

- In order to understand the $\mathcal{D}$omain
  we must analyse & describe it.

3.2. The Verification Dogma

- In order to have trust in the $\mathcal{S}$oftware
  it must be related formally to a $\mathcal{R}$equirements.

- In order to have trust in the $\mathcal{R}$equirements
  it must be related formally to a $\mathcal{D}$omain description.

3.3. Domain Engineering

3.3.1. Domain Analysis: Manifest & Non-manifest Phenomena

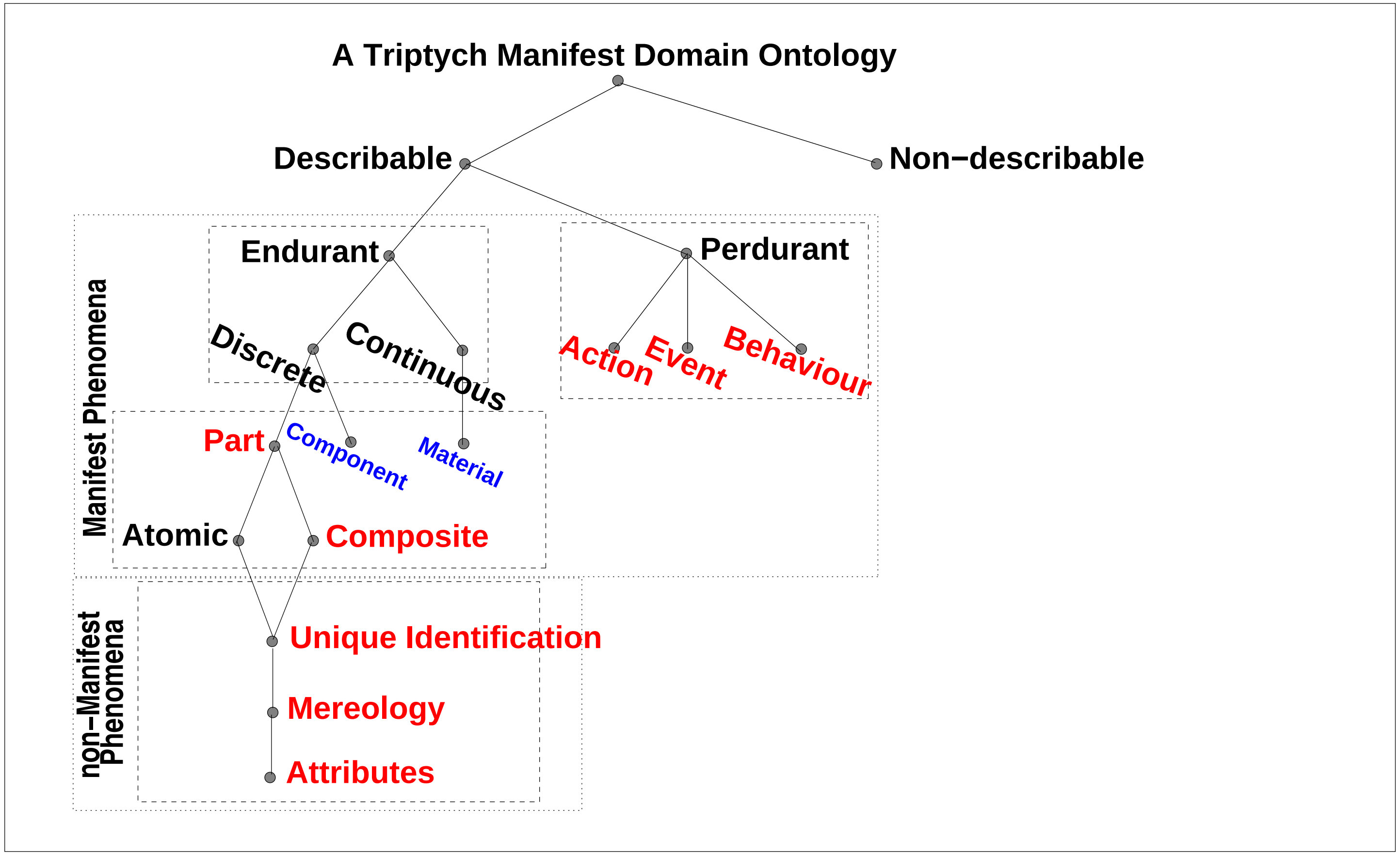
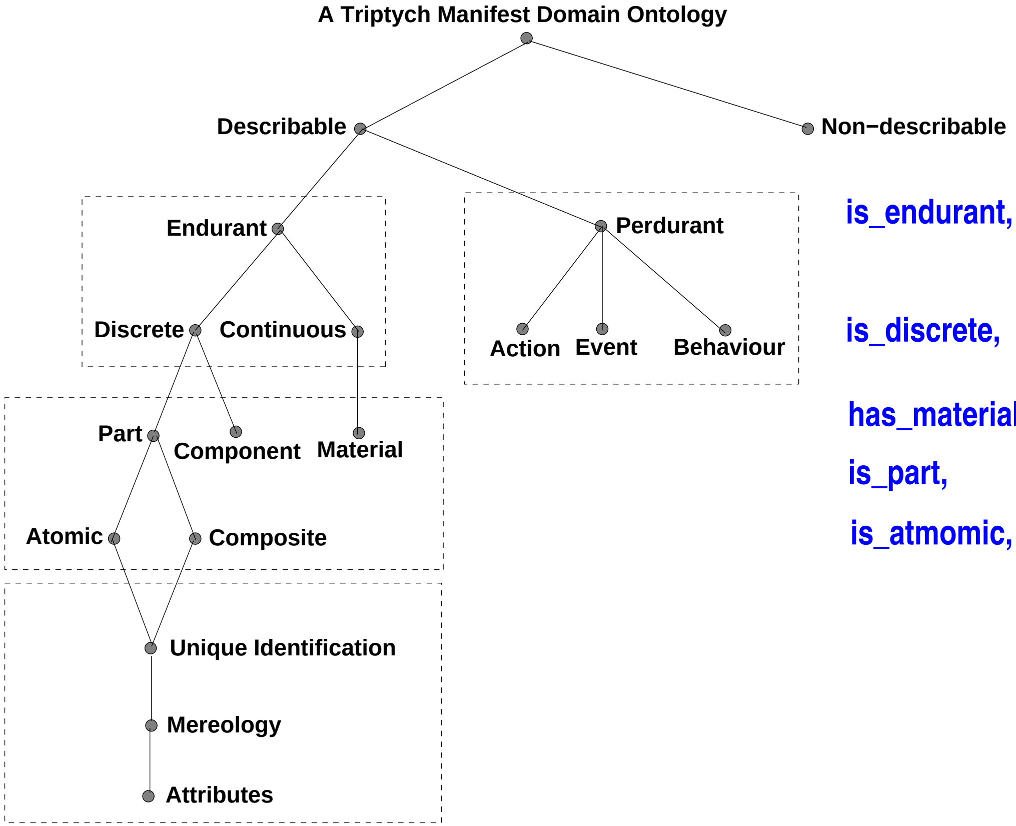


Figure 9: An **Ontology** of Manifest & Non-manifest Phenomena

3.3.2. Domain Analysis Prompts



is_endurant, is_perdurant

is_discrete, is_continuous

has_material, has_components

is_part, is_component, is_material

is_atmomic, is_composite

Figure 10: Analysis Prompts

3.3.3. Domain Description Prompts

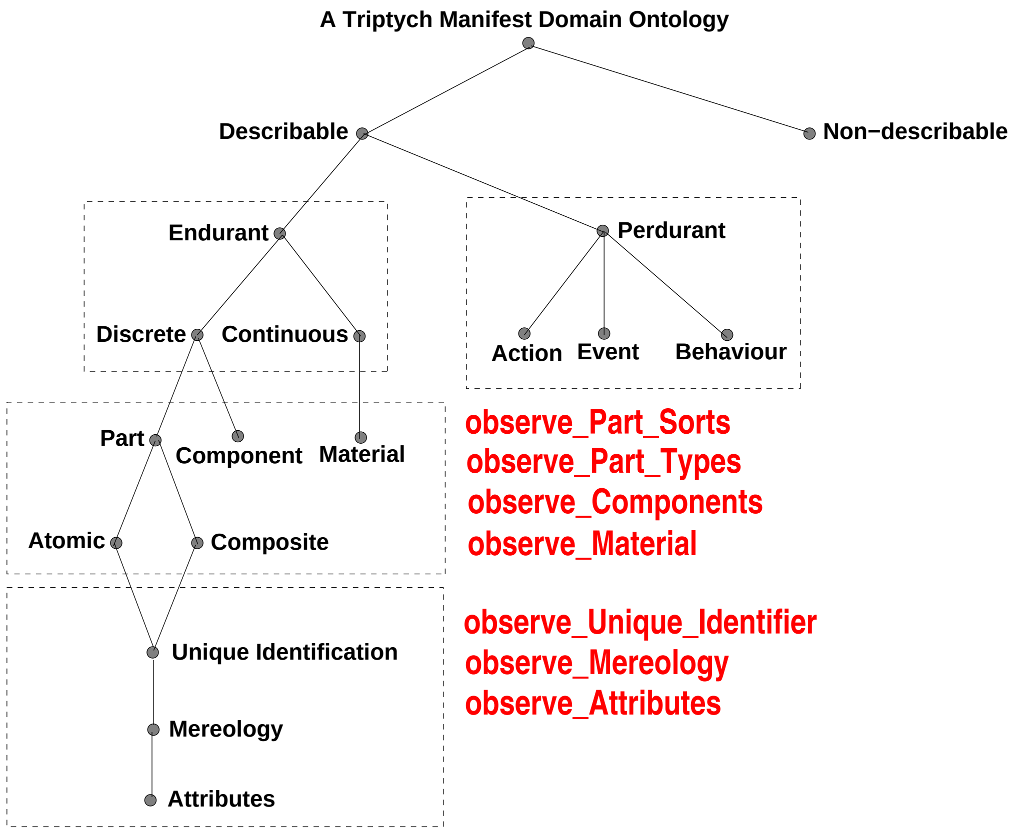


Figure 11: Description Prompts

3.3.4. Domain Analysis: Non-manifest Properties

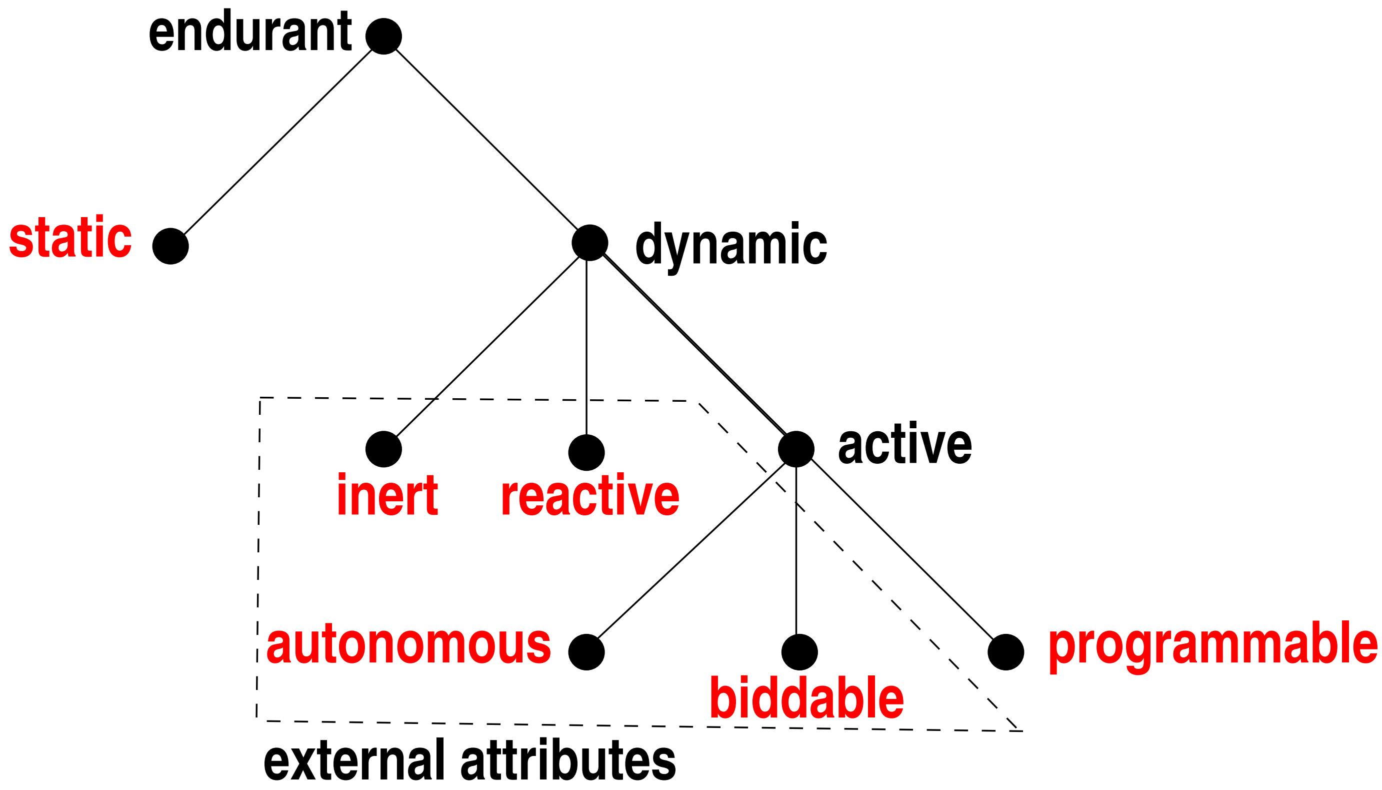


Figure 12: Attributes Analysis Prompts

3.4. Requirements Engineering

- Three Stages
  - Domain Requirements
  - Interface Requirements
  - Machine Requirements

- Domain Requirements
  - Projection
  - Instantiation
  - Determination
  - Extension
  - Fitting

- Interface Requirements
  - Shared Phenomena
  - Shared Endurants
  - Shared Actions
  - Shared Events
  - Shared Behaviours

So What's at Stake ?

4.1. "States-of-Affairs"

- It seems that compiler development using formal methods
  - such as in the DDC Ada Project (1981–1984)
  - is still **not developed** the right way in industry
  - and is also **not taught** that way at very, very many universities.

- It also seems that most other "application software"
  - is mostly not developed properly:
  - from domain descriptions
  - via (therefrom derived) requirements prescriptions
  - to software design etc.

4.2. What Would it Take ?

4.2.1. Computer Science

- By **computer science** we understand the study and knowledge of the artifacts that can exist inside computers.

4.2.2. Computing Science

- By **computing science** we understand the study and knowledge of how to construct those artifacts.

4.2.3. Formal Method

- By a **formal method** we understand a set of **principles** for **selecting** and **applying** **techniques** and **tools** for constructing an artifact — where the tools and techniques can be formalised, i.e., given a **logic/algebraic** basis.

4.2.4. A Remedy

- This speaker suggests, as far as universities are concerned,
  - that we put more emphasis on **computing science,**
  - that we do more **research** into and **teach** more **formal methods,**
  - that we **research** and **teach**
    - **domain science & engineering** and
    - **domain, interface & machine requirements.**
  - and that we
    - do **experimental research** into
    - and **pathfinder develop**

  domains and **domain applications.**

4.3. Justification

- The Dansk Datamatik Centers Ada Compiler project
  demonstrated that using formal methods
  can lead to trustworthy software:
  Less than 3% of original resources spent on
  corrective, perfective and adaptive maintenance since 1984.
- So for programming languages we know how to do it.
- But for application domain categories
  such as government systems: taxation, policing, social services, etc.
  we repeatedly hear of **"IT scandals"**.
- I am sure that many of the abstractions, concepts and ideas
  of programming languages and interpreter/compiler development
  can form a strong basis for **domain science & engineering.**

Relevant Publications & Reports

- **[Bjø16b, 2015]** is the definitive paper on **Manifest Domains: Analysis & Description**
- **[Bjø16a, 2015]** is the definitive paper on **From Domain Descriptions to Requirements Prescriptions – A Different Approach to Requirements Engineering**

5.1. Further Domain Science & Engineering Papers

- Web page **www.imm.dtu.dk/˜dibj/domains/** lists the published papers and reports mentioned below.
- I have thought about domain engineering for more than 25 years.
- But serious, focused writing only started to appear as from **[Bjø06, Part IV]** — with **[Bjø03, Bjø97]** being exceptions:
  - **[Bjø07, 2007]** suggests a number of domain science and engineering **research topics;**
  - **[Bjø10a, 2008]** covers the concept of **domain facets;**
  - **[BE10, 2008]** explores **compositionality** and **Galois connections.**

- **[Bjø08, Bjø10b, 2008,2009]** show how to systematically, but, of course, not automatically, "derive" **requirements prescriptions from domain descriptions;**
- **[Bjø11a, 2008]** takes the triptych software development as a basis for outlining principles for **believable software management;**
- **[Bjø09, Bjø14a, 2009,2013]** presents a model for **Stanisław Leśniewski's** [CV99] concept of **mereology;**
- **[Bjø11b, 2010]** presents, based on the `TripTych` view of software development as ideally proceeding from domain description via requirements prescription to software design, concepts such as software **demos and simulators;**

- **[Bjø13, 2012]** analyses the `TripTych`, especially its domain engineering, approach, with respect to **Maslow's Theory of Human Motivation.** Psychological Review 50(4) (1943):370-96; and **Motivation and Personality,** (Third Edition, Harper and Row Publishers, 1954.) and Peterson's and Seligman's **Character strengths and virtues: A handbook and classification.** (Oxford University Press, 2004);
- the first part of **[Bjø14b, 2014]** is a precursor for **[Bjø16b, 2015]** with its second part presenting a first **formal model of the elicitation process of analysis and description** based on the prompts more definitively presented in the current paper; and
- **[Bjø14c, 2014]** focus on **domain safety criticality.**

5.2. Some Domain Descriptions

5.2.1. 1990s: UNU–IIST

1 **Scheduling and Rescheduling of Trains (China)** [BGP95, BGH+97]

2 **Ministry of Finance (Vietnam)** [DCT+96] and [VGJM02, Chapter 5]

3 **Radio/Telecommunications System (The Philippines)** [DG96, LM97] and [VGJM02, Chapter 4]

4 **Airlines (Vietnam)** [AM96]

5 **Manufacturing: Production Processes** [VGJM02, Chapter 7]

6 **Travel Planning** [VGJM02, Chapter 8]

7 **Enterprise Management** [JA97]

5.2.2. 2000s and on ...

8 **A Railway Systems Domain**
`http://euler.fd.cvut.cz/railwaydomain/` (2003)

9 **Models of IT Security. Security Rules & Regulations**
`it-security.pdf` (2006)

10 **A Container Line Industry Domain**
`container-paper.pdf` (2007)

11 **The "Market":**
Consumers, Retailers, Wholesalers, Producers
`themarket.pdf` (2007)

12 **What is Logistics ?**
`logistics.pdf` (2009)

13 **A Domain Model of Oil Pipelines**
`pipeline.pdf` (2009)

14 **Transport Systems**
`comet/comet1.pdf` (2010)

15 **The Tokyo Stock Exchange**
`todai/tse-1.pdf` and `todai/tse-2.pdf` (2010)

16 **On Development of Web-based Software. A Divertimento**
`wfdftp.pdf` (2010)

17 **Documents (incomplete draft)**
`doc-p.pdf` (2013)

Conclusion

- So, welcome to a **wonderful world** of
  - **Domain Science & Engineering** !
- **What is there to wait for !?**
- Bring your Computing/Computer Science group up to speed !
- Your students will love it.
- Young researchers will thrive.

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