



A graphical model of an operation could be useful...

What do operations consist of?

A machine performs a certain operation upon a certain product, but it expects the product to be prepared

Does the machine itself has to check whether a product fulfills the conditions?

Industrieanlagen-Departement (Indus)

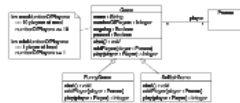
Can we dispatch any order?

An operation is like a service: the conditions of its realization are regulated by a contract
 But this contract is usually not expressed explicitly...

How to express a contract?
Contract conditions
 Preconditions
 Postconditions
 Invariants

A commitment:
 Given the preconditions, and if a service is provided, postconditions will be achieved.
 Invariants will be preserved.

Object Constraint Language (OCL)



context Game
 inv maxNumberOfPlayers:
 -- 10 players at most
 numberOfPlayers <= 10
 inv minNumberOfPlayers:
 -- 1 player at least
 numberOfPlayers >= 1

context Game::addPlayer(player : Person) : void
 pre addingAPlayerToGame:
 -- if the game is ongoing, it must be paused
 ongoing implies paused

Advanced OCL usage
 Model with formal logic rules (the UML specification)
 The QVT language for defining model transformations is the NDM approach (Model Driven Architecture)

Operations can be expressed by a graphical model on the final software realization level
 Not even a complete expressing of an operation by a model or code makes its intent and realization conditions directly readable
 To express conditions, a formal language is necessary: in UML modeling, OCL is used for this
 In overriding, operation preconditions must not be stronger, while postconditions and invariants must not be weaker (we must not ask for more, nor give less)

Can an existing operation change the realization conditions?
 Linear substitution principle



...and the substitution principle:
 Weakening a precondition

...and the substitution principle:
 Strengthening a precondition

...and the substitution principle:
 Strengthening an invariant precondition



Lecture 6:

Conditions and Constraints: OCL

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MSOFT 2019/20

29. 10. 2019

A graphical model of an operation could be useful...

What do operations consist of?

Operations can be
expressed by a graphical
model on the final
software realization level

A machine performs a certain operation upon a certain product, but it expects the product to be prepared

Does the machine itself has to check whether a product fulfills the conditions?

OrderManager::dispatchOrder(order: Order)

Can we dispatch any
order?

An operation is like a service: the conditions of its realization are regulated by a contract

But this contract is usually not expressed explicitly...

How to express a
contract?

Contract conditions

How to express a
contract?

Contract conditions

Preconditions

Postconditions

Invariants

Preconditions

Postconditions

Invariants

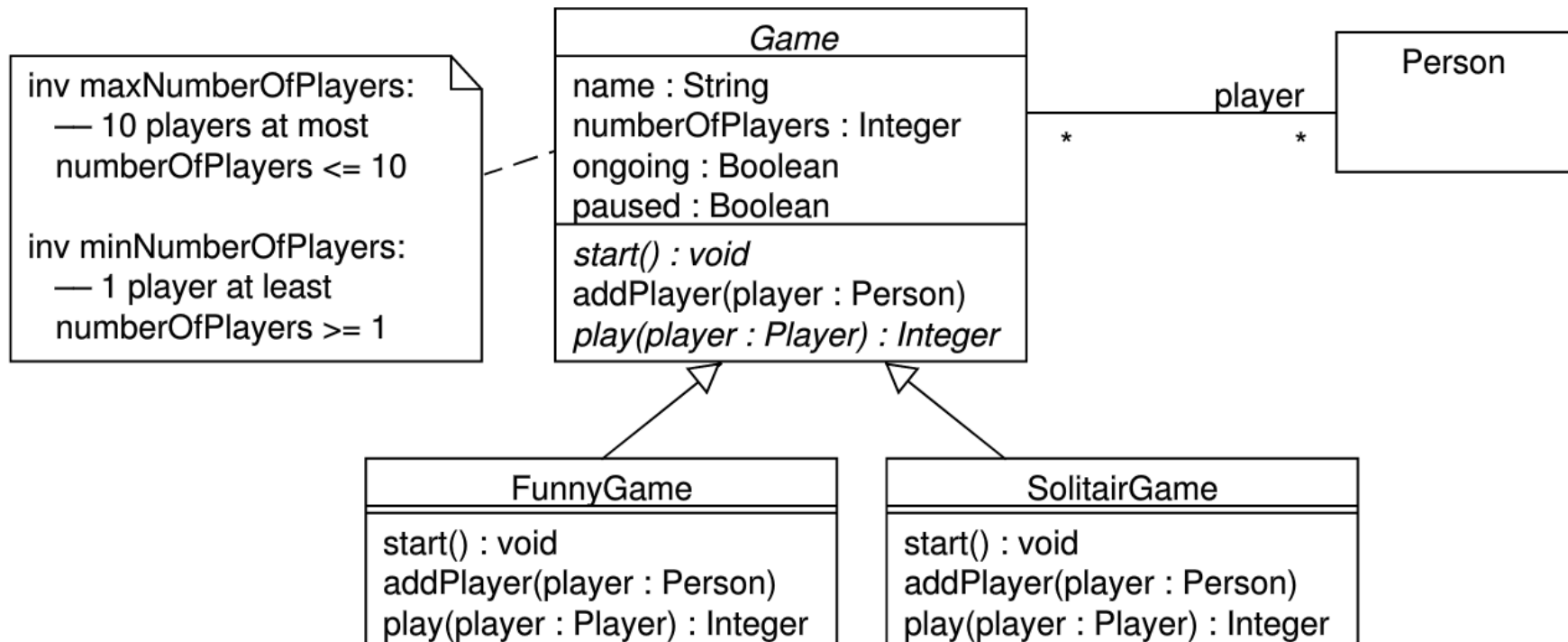
A commitment:

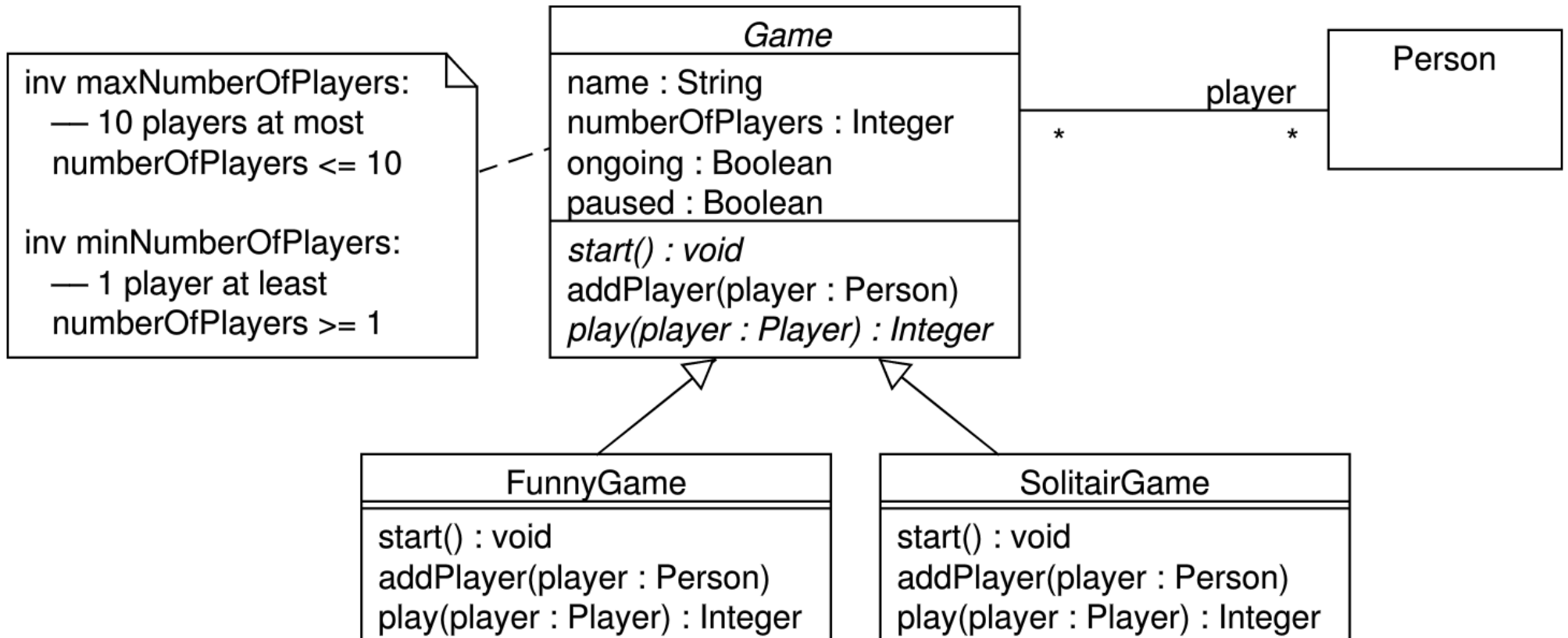
Given the preconditions,
and if a service is provided,
postconditions will be achieved.

Invariants will be preserved.

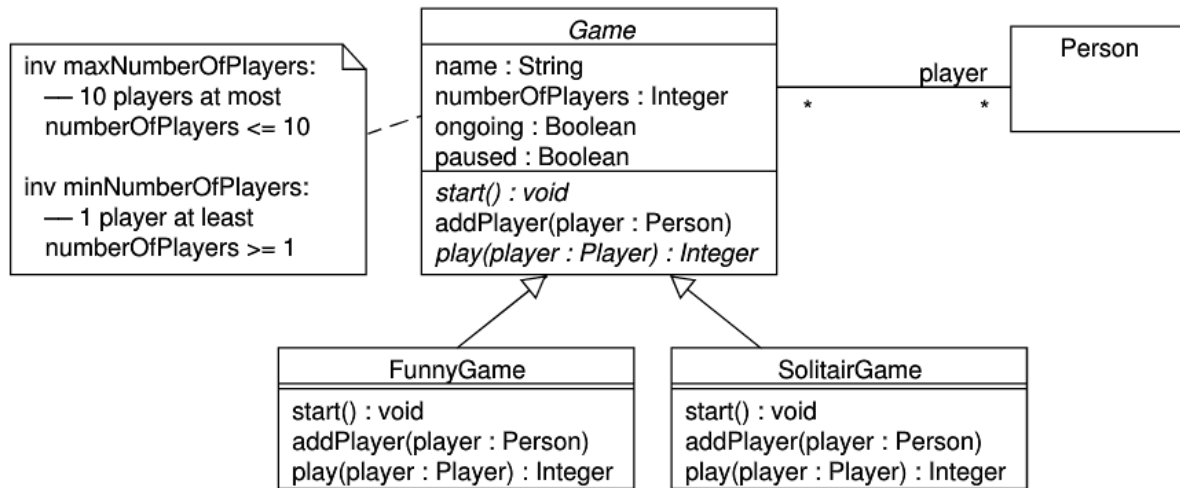
Not even a complete
expressing of an
operation by a model or
code makes its intent and
realization conditions
directly readable

Object Constraint Language (OCL)





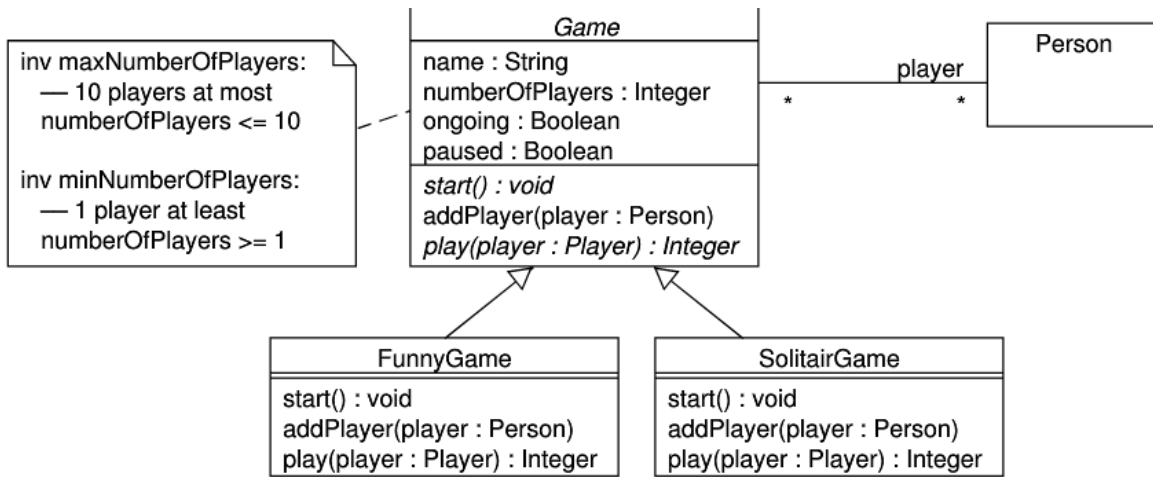
Object Constraint Language (OCL)



context Game

```
inv maxNumberOfPlayers:
-- 10 players at most
numberOfPlayers <= 10
```

```
inv minNumberOfPlayers:
-- 1 player at least
numberOfPlayers >= 1
```



context Game

inv maxNumberOfPlayers:
 -- 10 players at most
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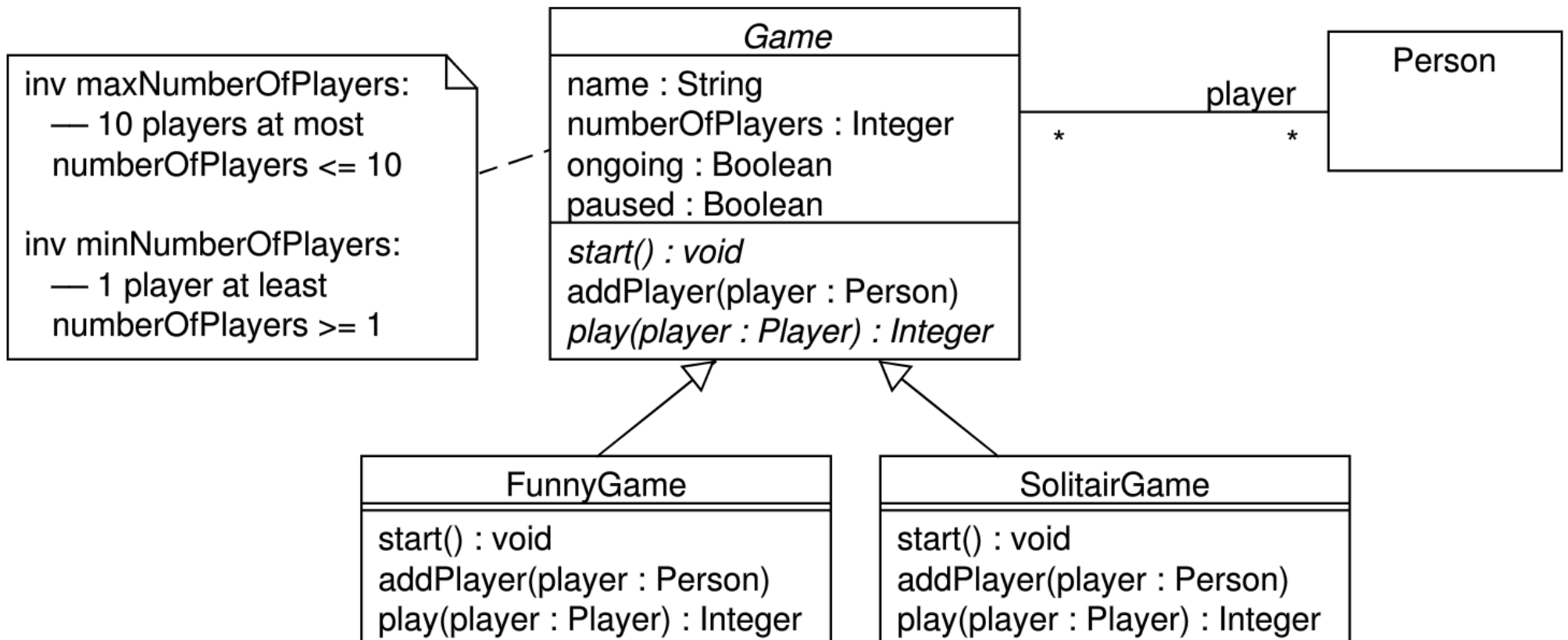
inv minNumberOfPlayers:
 -- 1 player at least
 numberOfPlayers >= 1

context Game::addPlayer(player : Person) : void
 pre addingAPlayerToGame:
 -- if the game is ongoing, it must be paused
 ongoing implies paused

To express conditions, a formal language is necessary: in UML modeling, OCL is used for this

Can an overriding operation change
the realization conditions?

Liskov substitution principle



```
context Game::addPlayer(player : Person) : void
pre addingAPlayerToAGame:
  -- if the game is ongoing, it must be paused
  ongoing implies paused
```

```
context FunnyGame::addPlayer(player : Person) : void
pre addingAPlayerToAGame:
  true
```

Weakening a precondition

```
context Game::addPlayer(player : Person) : void
  pre addingAPlayerToGame:
    -- if the game is ongoing, it must be paused
    ongoing implies paused
```

```
context FunnyGame::addPlayer(player : Person) : void
  pre addingAPlayerToGame:
    -- a game must not be ongoing
    not ongoing
```

Strengthening a precondition

```
for (Game game : allGames)
  if (!game.ongoing || game.paused) // ongoing => paused
    game.addPlayer(player)
```

A problem for a client!

```
context FunnyGame::addPlayer(player : Person) : void
  post addingAPlayerRaisesTheirNumber:
    -- the recorded number of players will be increased by 1
    numberOfPlayers = numberOfPlayers@pre + 1
```

Strengthening an (implicit) postcondition

```
numberOfPlayers >= numberOfPlayers@pre
```

Client

pre

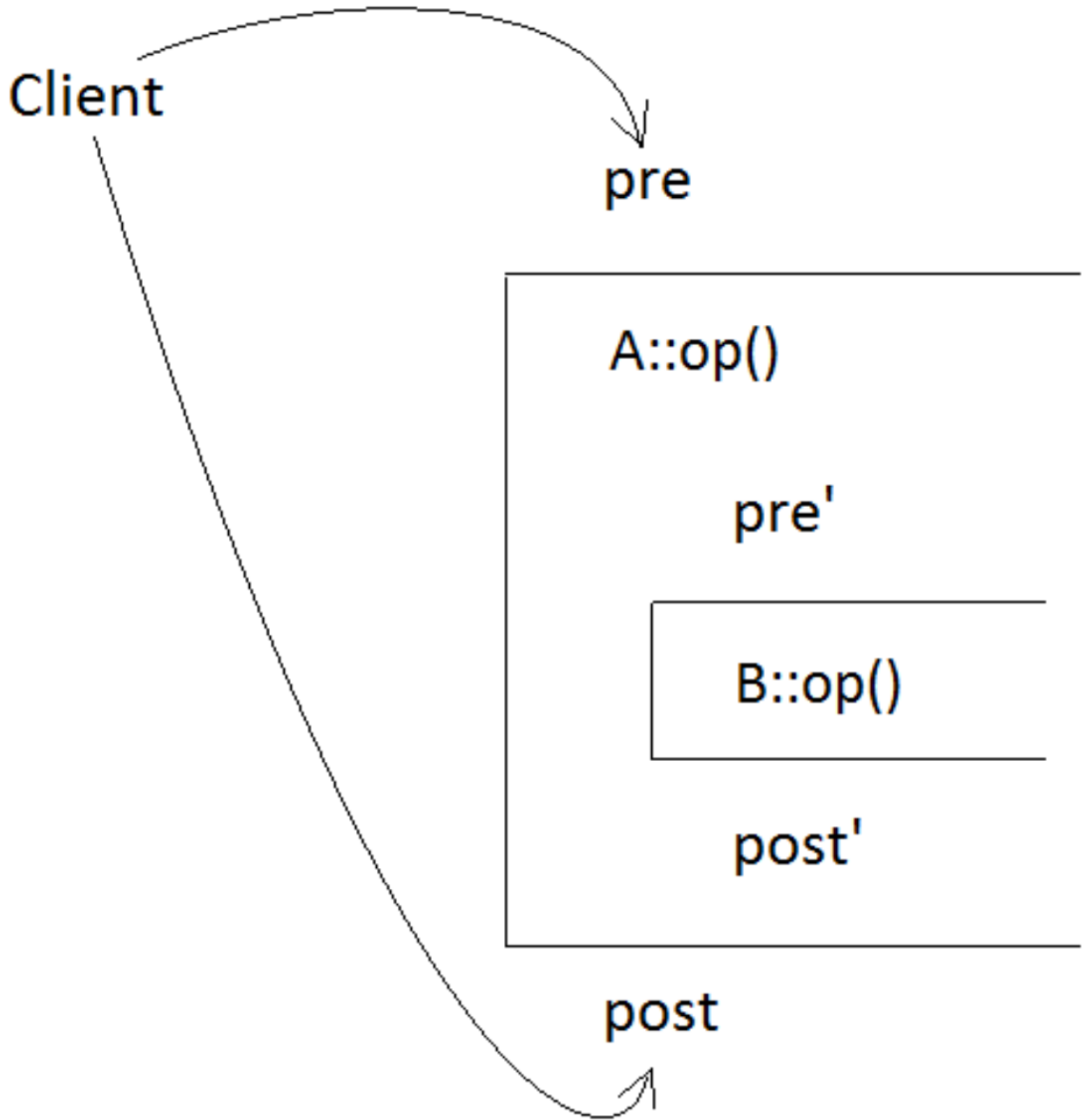
A::op()

pre'

B::op()

post'

post



In overriding, operation preconditions must not be stronger, while postconditions and invariants must not be weaker (we must not ask for more, nor give less)

Advanced OCL usage

- Model well-formedness rules
(the UML specification)
- The QVT language for defining
model transformations in the
MDA approach (Model Driven
Architecture)

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