

Scenarios and Use cases

DAT230, Requirements Engineering

Ali Shahrokni, 2010-09-16

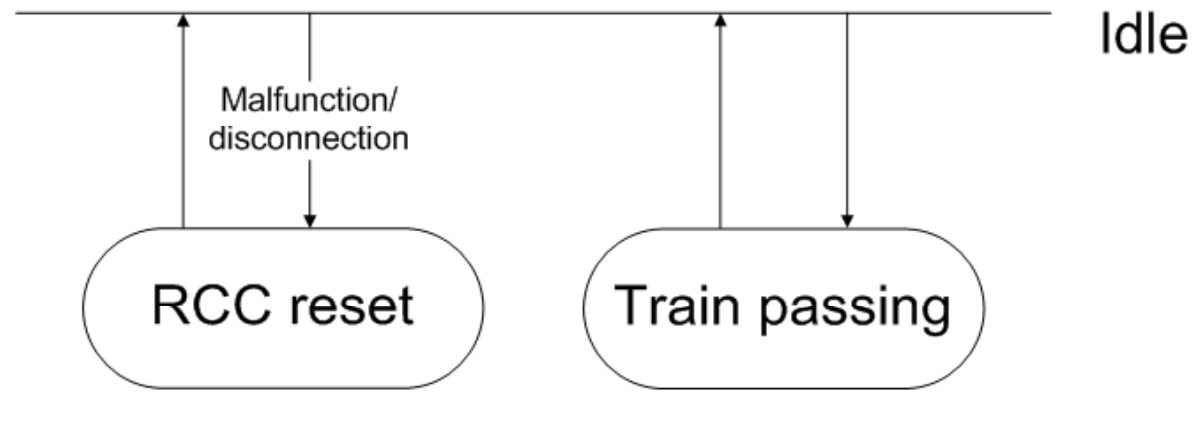
Scenarios

- “A *scenario* is an ordered set of interactions between partners, usually between a system and a set of actors external to the system. It may comprise a concrete sequence of interaction steps (instance scenario) or a set of possible interaction steps (type scenario).”
- Descriptions of how a system is used in practice
- For requirements elicitation since they are easier to understand than abstract statements and models
- Useful for adding detail to an outline requirements description
- Use cases are a type of scenarios
- Martin Glinz, “Improving the Quality of Requirements with Scenarios”

Railroad – Train passing

1. A train approaches the crossing and is detected by a sensor
2. The red light starts flashing, the bell rings and the bar is lowered.
3. Another sensor detects that the train has passed the crossing.
4. The bar is raised.
5. The flashing red light is turned off and the white light is turned on.

Structure of scenarios



Use cases

- <http://alistair.cockburn.us/Basic+use+case+template>
- <http://www.cs.colorado.edu/~kena/classes/6448/s01/examples/edmonb3.pdf>