

# Pattern-Based Development of User-Friendly Web Applications

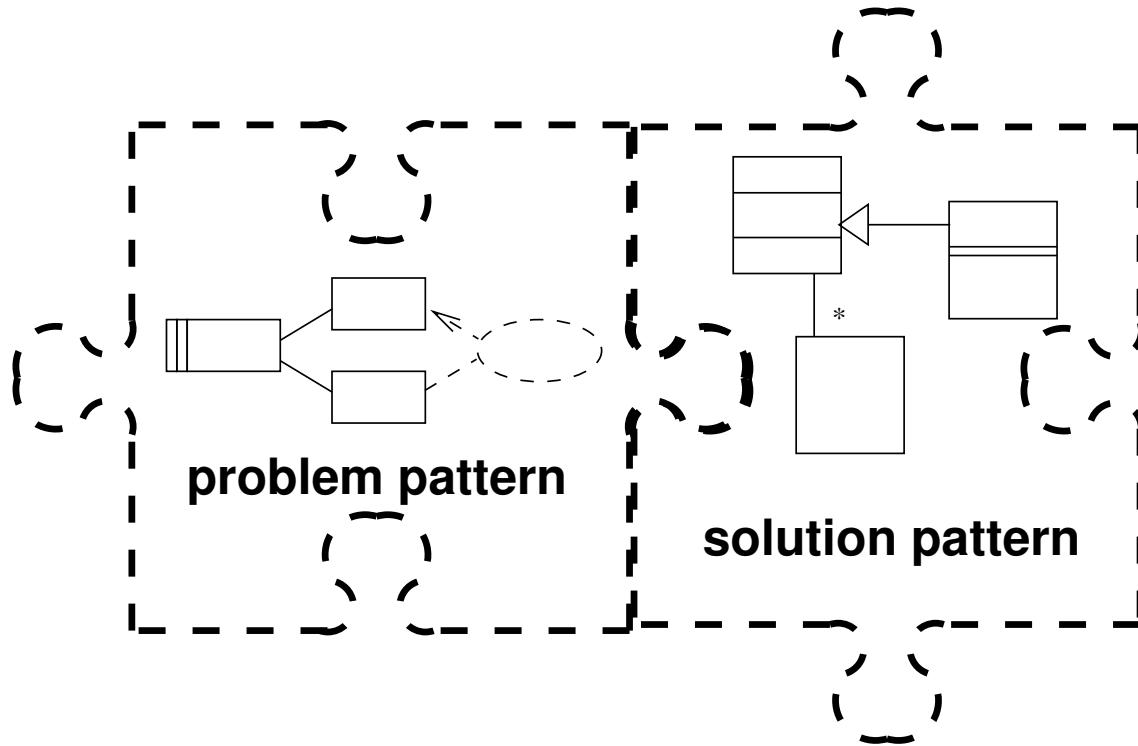
Workshop on Model-Driven Web Engineering 2006  
Palo Alto, California, USA.

Dipl.-Inform. Ina Wentzlaff and Dipl.-Inform. Markus Specker

University Duisburg-Essen · Faculty of Engineering · Department of Computer Science  
Software Engineering · Interactive Systems and Interaction Design

July 11th, 2006

# Overview



## Markus Specker

- ▶ Basic Concepts
- ▶ Analysis Step
- ▶ Patterns / HCI

## Ina Wentzlaff

- ▶ Pattern Transformations
- ▶ Design Step
- ▶ UML / CBR

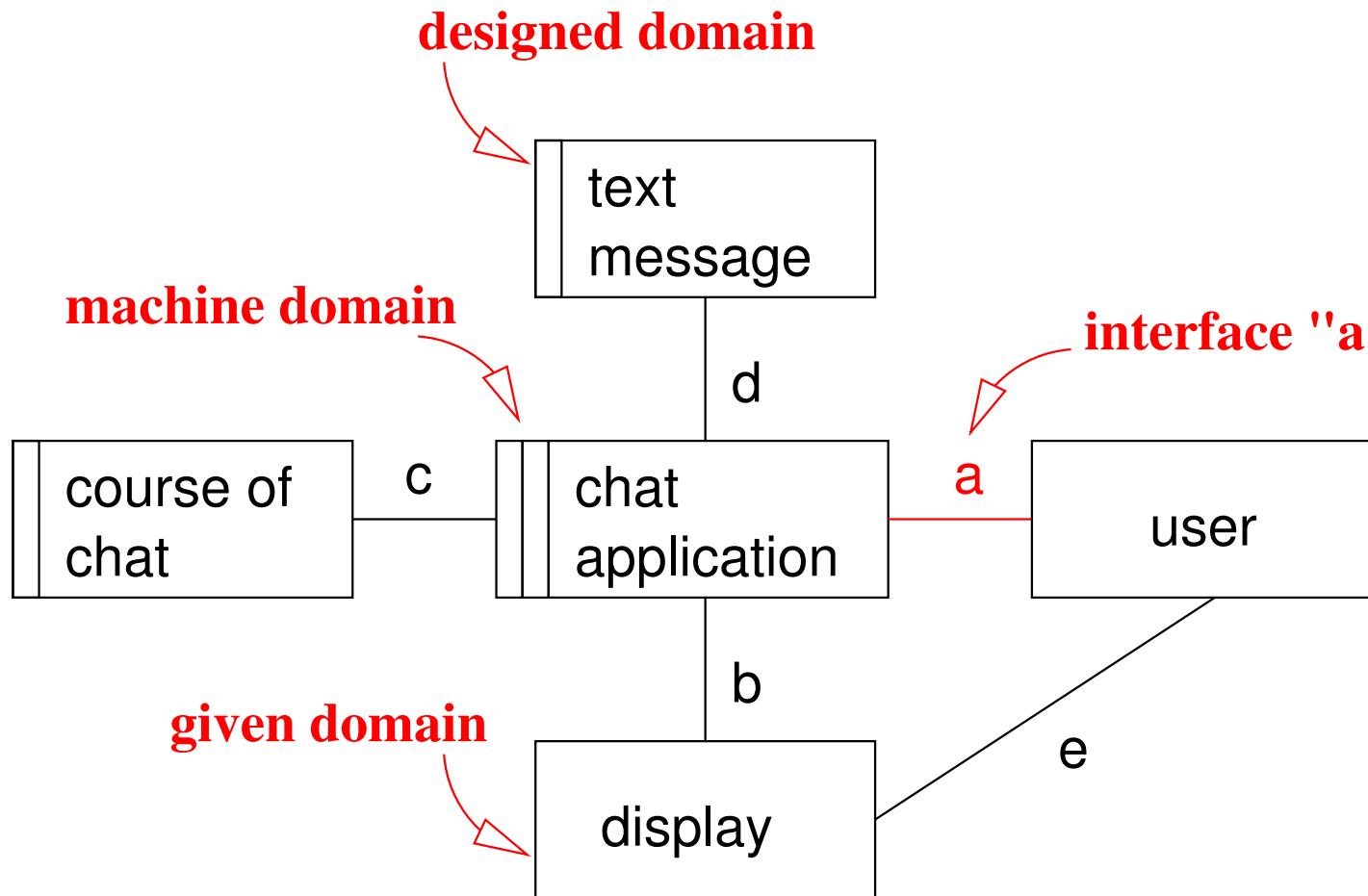
- ▶ Widespread usage of patterns
- ▶ Comparable or redundant pattern descriptions evolved
- ▶ Applicability of patterns through experience
- ▶ Gaining any benefits from that? **YES!** ☺
- ▶ Developing a chat application as an example
- ▶ Combining patterns from HCI with patterns from SE
- ▶ Role-based mapping problem patterns to solution patterns
- ▶ Achieving pattern-based software development method
- ▶ Especially, considering software quality aspects

- ▶ Starting from initial software development goal
- ▶ Detailing system mission by requirements
- ▶ Collecting relevant domain knowledge  
(facts and assumptions)
- ▶ Representing the overall problem situation in a  
**context diagram** [Jackson]

## System Mission: Chat Application

*“A text message-based communication platform  
shall be developed which allows multi-user communication  
via private I/O-devices.”*

R1	All users can phrase text messages.
R2	The phrased text messages are presented on a graphical display.
R3	...
R4	...
R5	...
R6	...
F1	Users can only understand the course of chat, if the text messages are presented in the correct temporal order (First In - First Out ( <i>FIFO</i> )).
A1	Users will follow the course of chat on the display.



a: {phraseTextmessage, sendTextmessage}

b: {showTextmessage, showCourseOfChat}

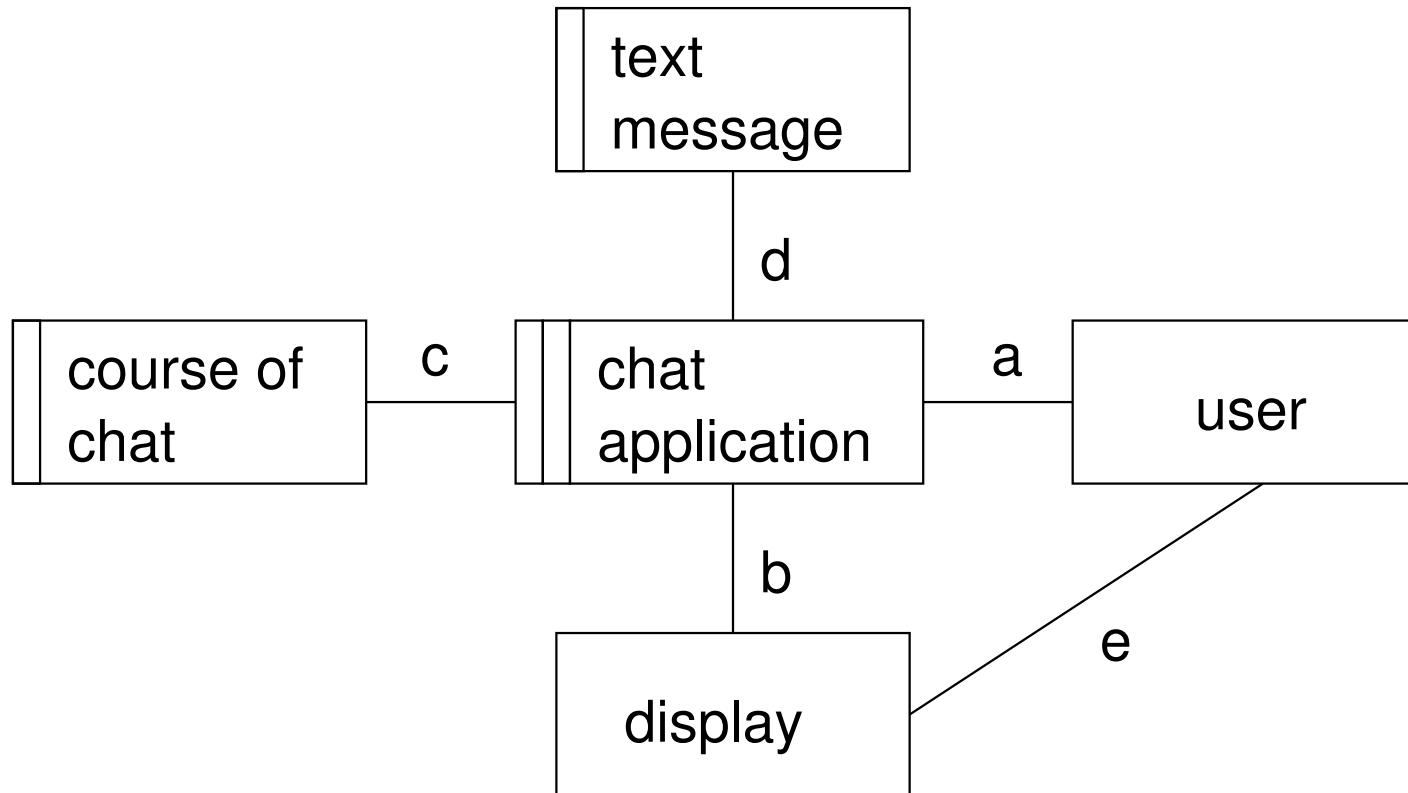
c: {registerTextmessage, CourseOfChat}

d: {editTextmessage, MessageText}

e: {followCourseOfChat}

set of  
shared phenomena

R1 All users can phrase text messages.

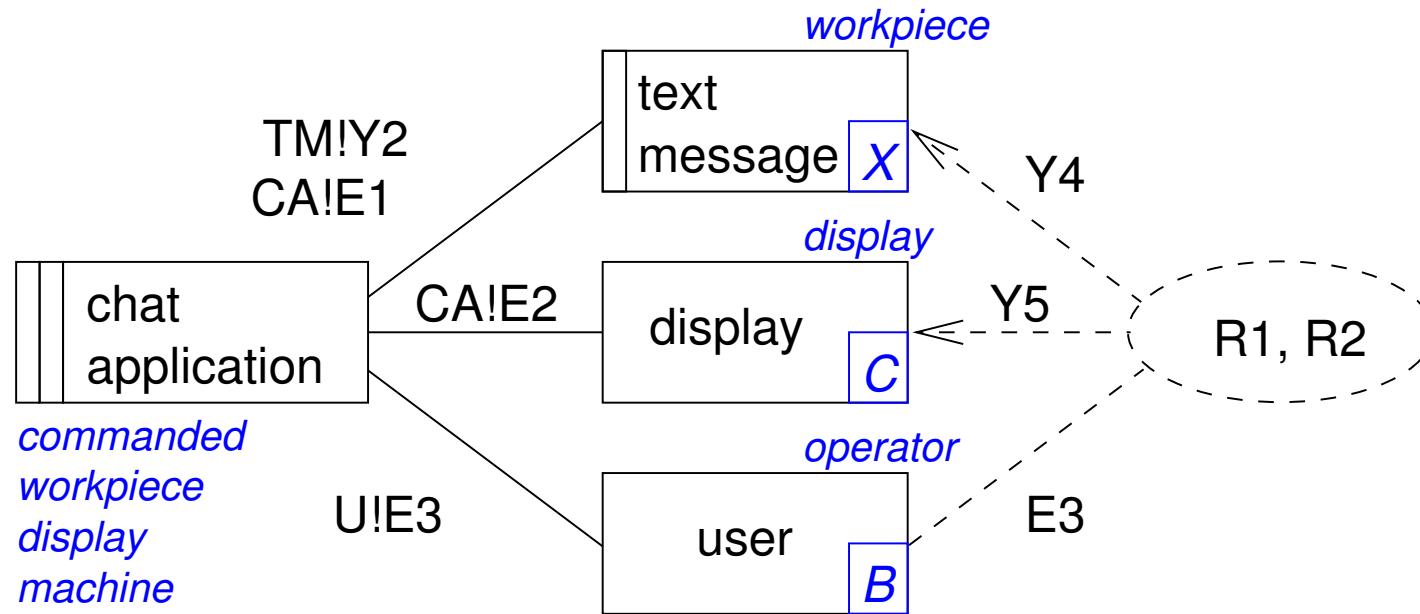


- a: {phraseTextmessage, sendTextmessage}
- b: {showTextmessage, showCourseOfChat}
- c: {registerTextmessage, CourseOfChat}
- d: {editTextmessage, MessageText}
- e: {followCourseOfChat}

- ▶ Splitting complex problem into simple subproblems
- ▶ Knowledge-based projection
- ▶ accompanied by requirements and decomposition operators
- ▶ independent, parallel subproblems (separation of concerns)  
can be instances of **problem frames**

## Problem Frames [Jackson]

*Patterns classifying software development problems*

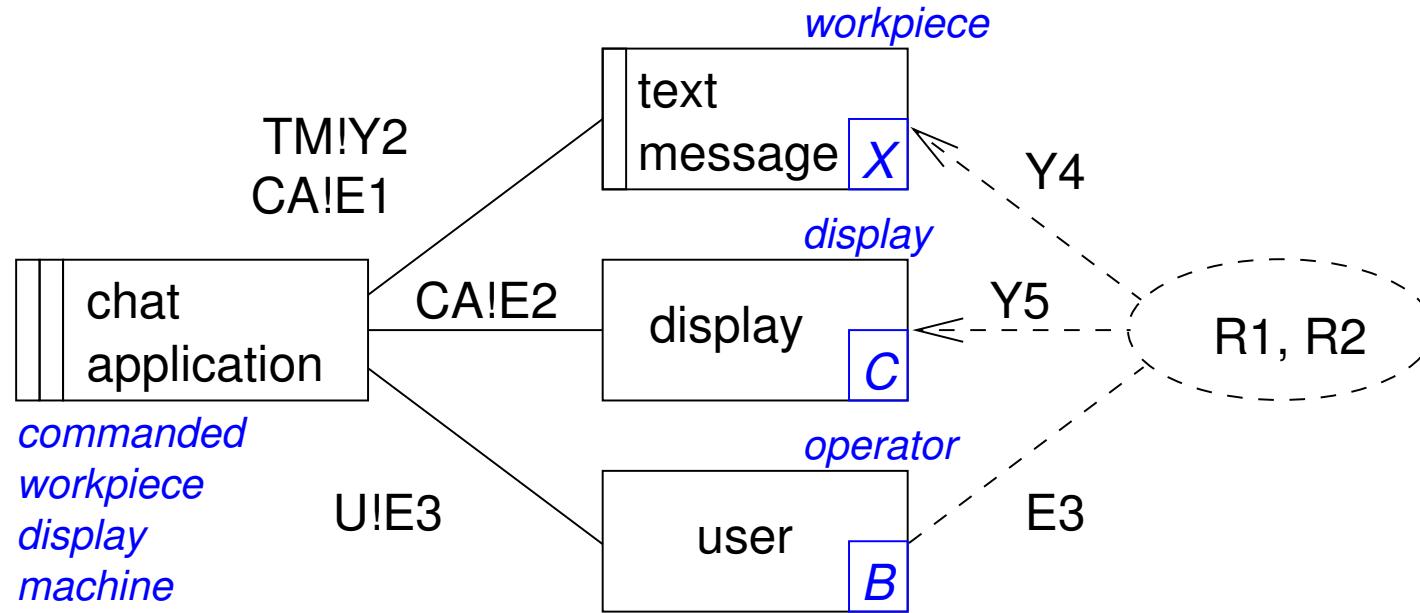


- E1: editTextmessage
- E2: showTextmessage
- E3: phraseTextmessage /  
"user phrases text message"
- Y2: MessageText
- Y4: "content of text message"
- Y5: "display text message"

- ▶ Instance of problem frame: commanded workpiece display

R1 All users can phrase text messages.

R2 The phrased text messages are presented on a display.



- E1: editTextmessage
- E2: showTextmessage
- E3: phraseTextmessage /  
"user phrases text message"
- Y2: MessageText
- Y4: "content of text message"
- Y5: "display text message"

- ▶ Functional representations lack of software quality aspects such as usability
- ▶ HCI design patterns [Rossi et al., Tidwell, van Welie]

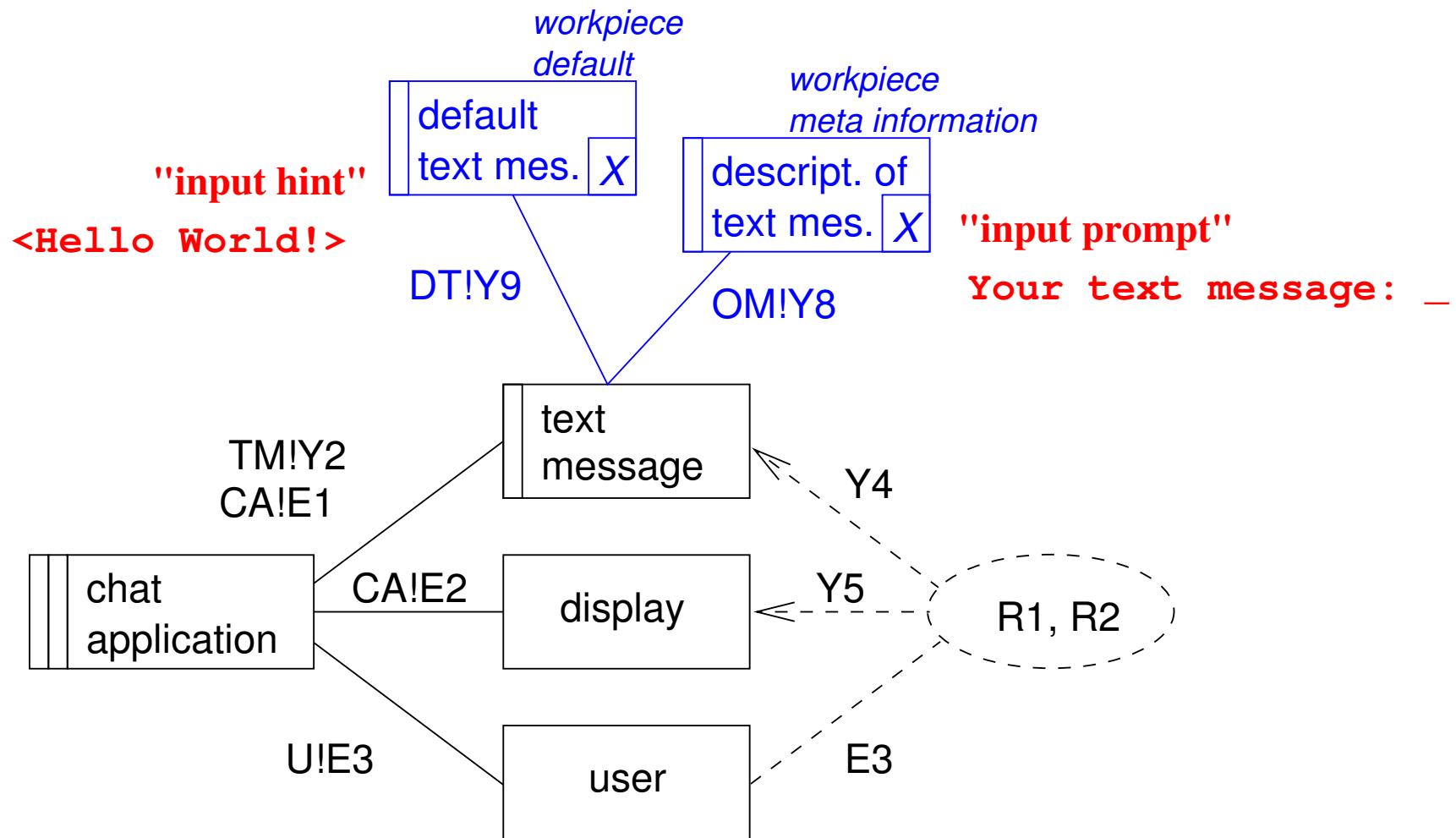
## Input Hints

*Place a sentence to explain what is required*

## Input Prompt

*Prefills telling the user what to do*

- ▶ Extending problem patterns of the software analysis phase by **problem description** of some *HCI design patterns*
- ▶ Pointing up software quality demands as user-friendliness
- ▶ Pointing out *where* to apply respective patterns



E1: editTextmessage

E2: showTextmessage, **showMetaInfo**,  
**showDefault**

E3: phraseTextmessage /  
"user works on text message"

Y2: MessageText, **Meta**, **Default**

Y4: "content of text message"

Y5: "show text message"

**Y8: TextMessageMetaInfo**

**Y9: MessageTextDefault**

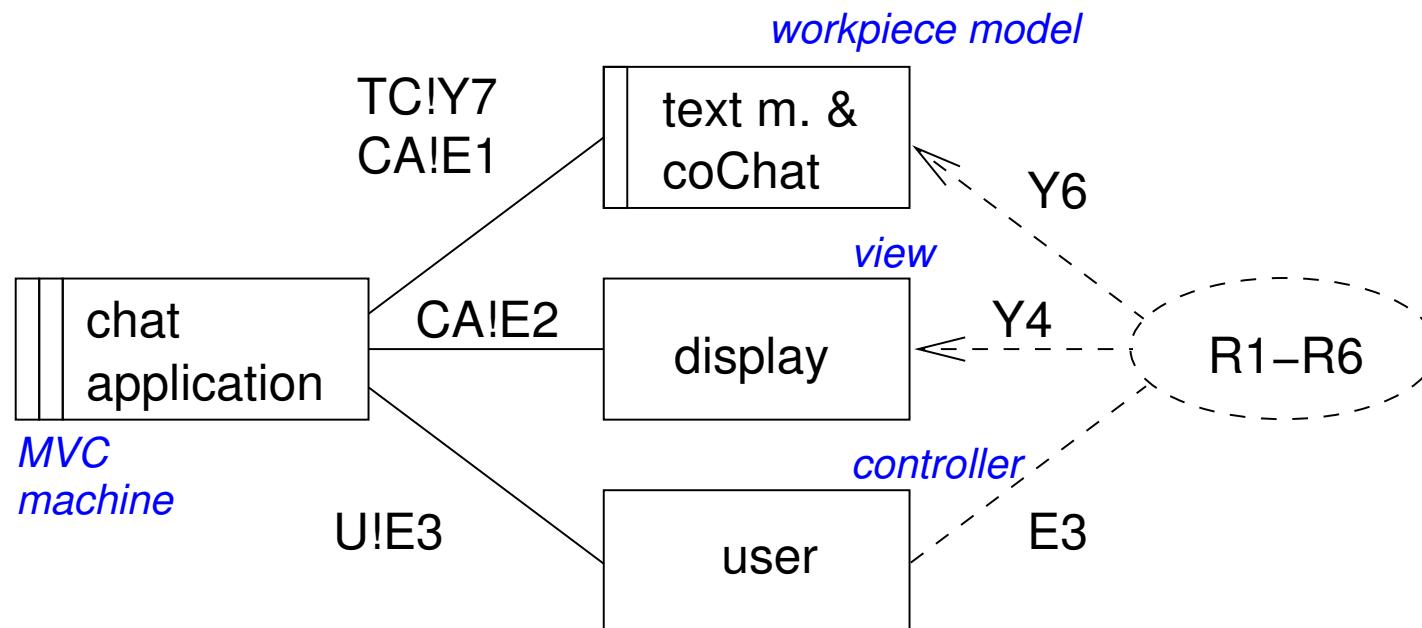
## Pattern-based software development process

- ▶ Smooth transition from problem patterns to solution patterns
- ▶ Role-based mapping of problem frames with architectural styles and design patterns

## Maintaining identified quality aspects

- ▶ Each found frame instance assigns values to accordant subsolution patterns
- ▶ Unified Modeling Language applicable
- ▶ Composing final software out of several subsolutions

## ► AFrame variant [Rapanotti et al.]



E1: editTextmessage, registerTextmessage

E2: showTextmessage, showMetaInfo, showDefault,  
showCourseOfChat, showTransformationInProcess

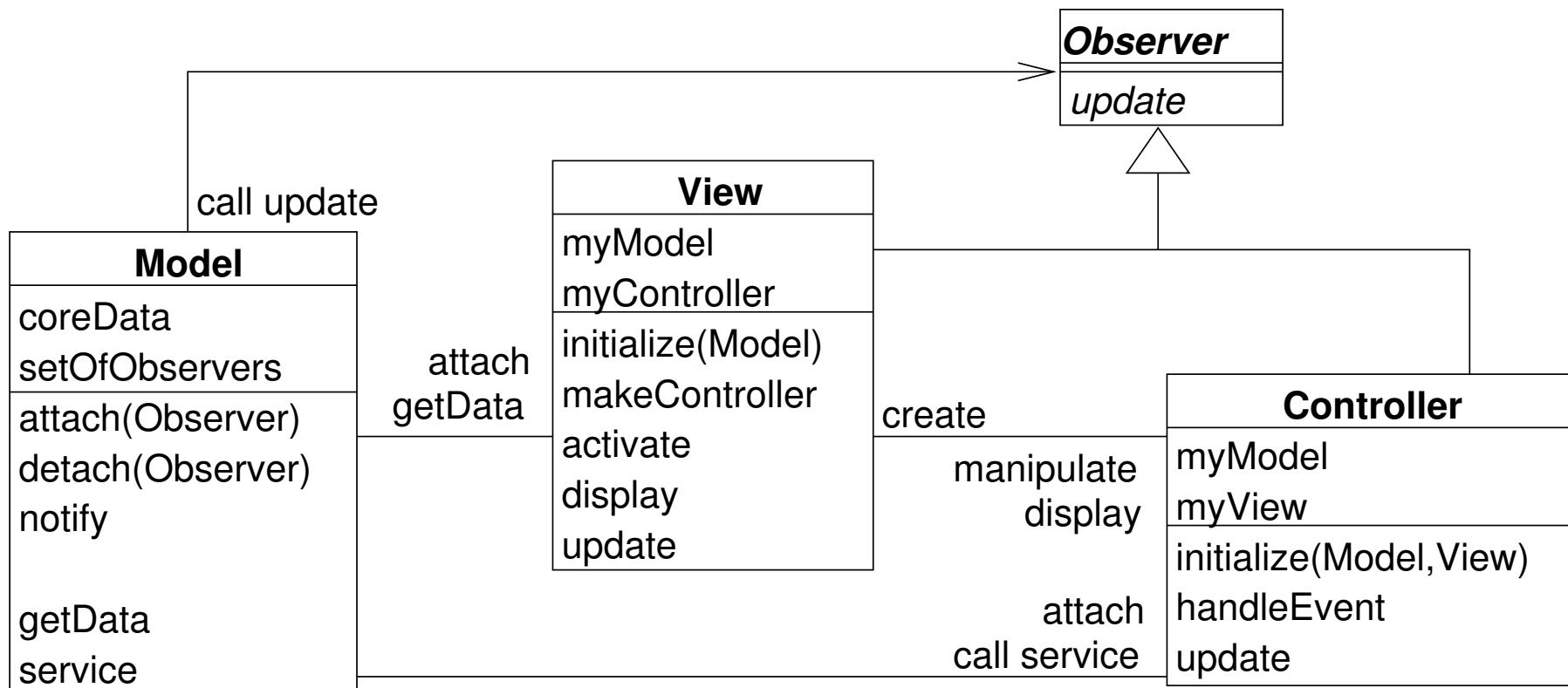
E3: sendTextmessage, phraseTextmessage / "user input"

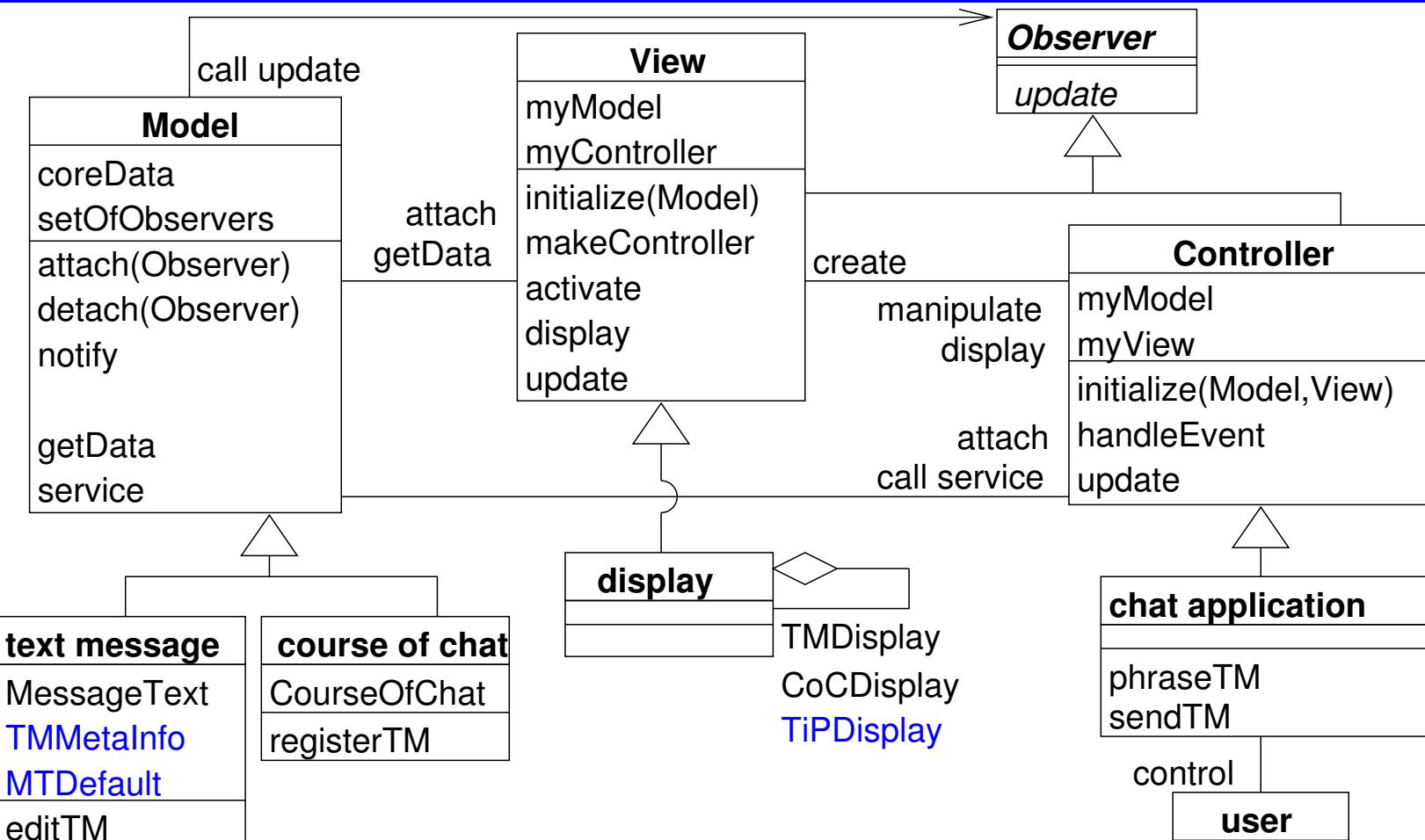
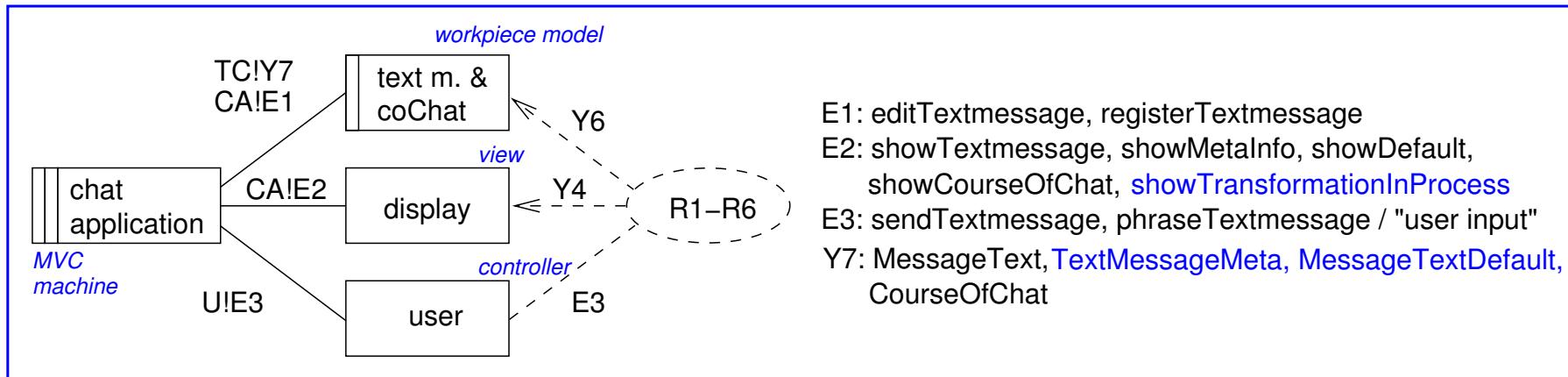
Y4: "show text message and course of chat"

Y6: "content of text message and course of chat"

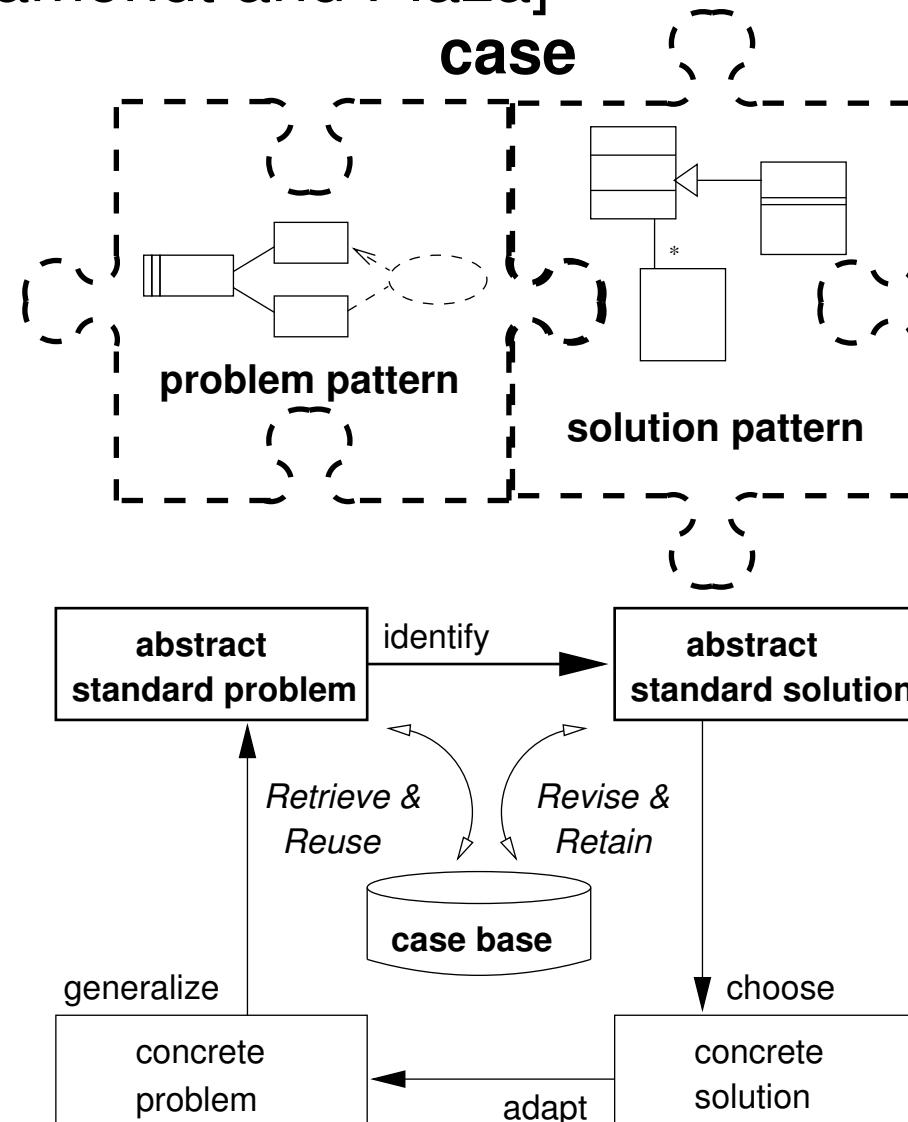
Y7: MessageText, TextMessageMeta, MessageTextDefault,  
CourseOfChat

► Model-View-Controller architectural style [Buschmann et al.]





- ▶ Methodological assistance by case-based reasoning (CBR) process [Aamondt and Plaza]



**Contribution:** linking patterns of software analysis with patterns of software design enables

- ▶ identification, representation and maintenance of software quality aspects
- ▶ guidance where to apply respective patterns
- ▶ value-adding software development process based upon patterns

**Vision:** aspect-oriented development of core functionality and user interface supported by our pattern-based quality software development approach

- ▶ sandwich-integration of GUI widgets and source code
- ▶ use of component technology for our purposes
- ▶ evolution of the chat application example

```
if (questions == true)  
    please.ask();  
  
else  
  
    goto.nextTalk();
```