

# Assurances for Self-Adaptive Systems

**SERENE Autumn School  
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# Your tutor this afternoon



Linnaeus University Växjö campus – Sweden

Research team focusing on software architecture and self-adaptive systems

# Motivation

- Engineering contemporary software systems is complex due to uncertainties at design time
  - Changing availability of resources
  - Faults that are difficult to predict
  - Changing or new user goals
- How to engineer such systems and guarantee system goals regarding of the uncertainties?

# Promise of self-adaptive systems\*

Self-adaptive systems are able to adjust their behavior in response to their perception of the environment and the system itself

to become more resilient, dependable, robust, energy-efficient [...]

\* B. Cheng et al., Software Engineering for Self-Adaptive Systems: A Research Roadmap, Lecture Notes in Computer Science, vol. 5525, 2009

# Promise of formal approaches for self-adaptive systems\*

Formal methods offer a means to provide evidence that the system requirements are satisfied during operation regarding the uncertainty of changes that may affect the system, its environment or its goals

\* Software Engineering for Self-Adaptive Systems: Assurances  
[www.dagstuhl.de/de/programm/kalender/semhp/?semnr=13511](http://www.dagstuhl.de/de/programm/kalender/semhp/?semnr=13511)

# Goals of this tutorial

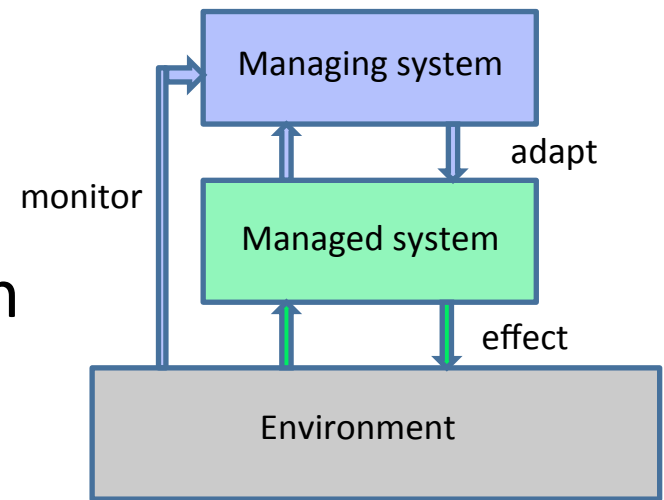
- Understand the notion of self-adaptation
- Get familiar with references approaches for architecture-based self-adaptation
- Get familiar with state of the art in formal methods for self-adaptive systems
- Understand the challenges in formal methods at runtime for self-adaptive systems

# Overview

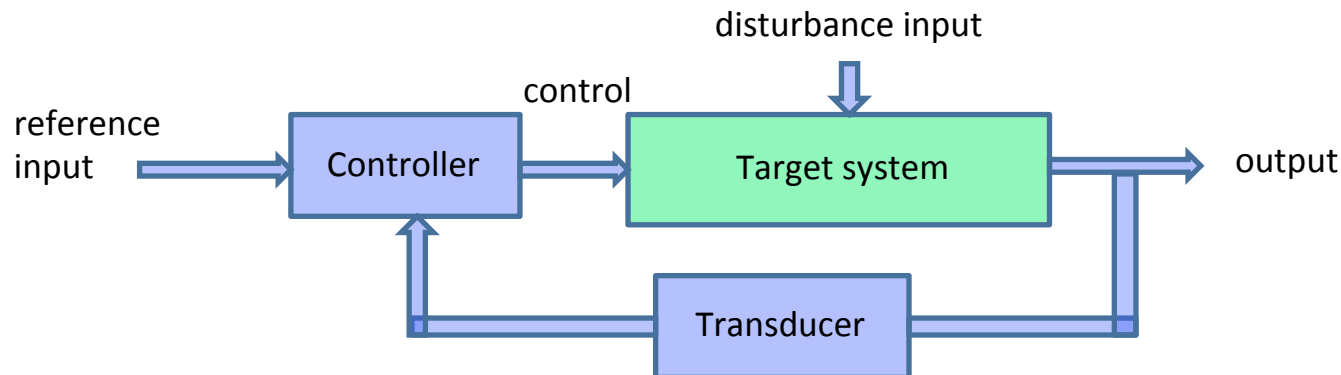
- Architecture-based self-adaptation vs. control-based self-adaptation
- Reference approaches for architecture-based self-adaptation
- Formal methods for self-adaptive systems
- Active formal methods for self-adaptation
- Wrap up

# Self-adaptation

## Architecture-based self-adaptation

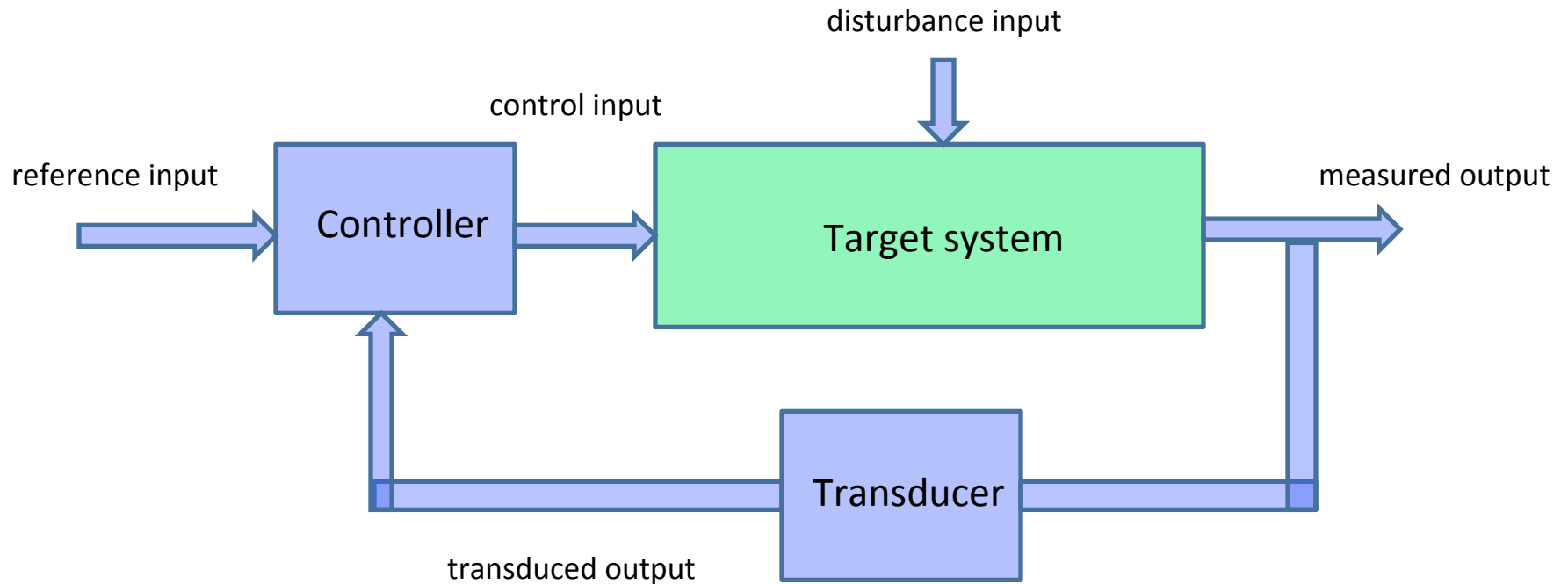


## Control-based self-adaptation





# Basic model control-based self-adaptation



*Discrete time dynamic system*

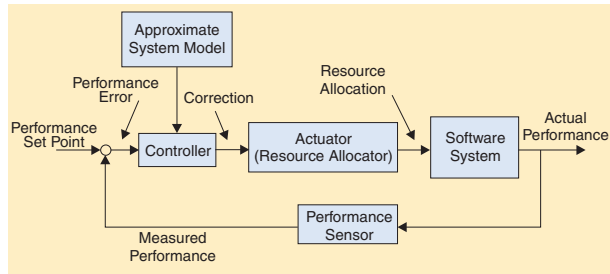
$$x(k+1) = f(x(k), u(k), dx(k))$$

*x: state; u: input; dx: state disturbances*

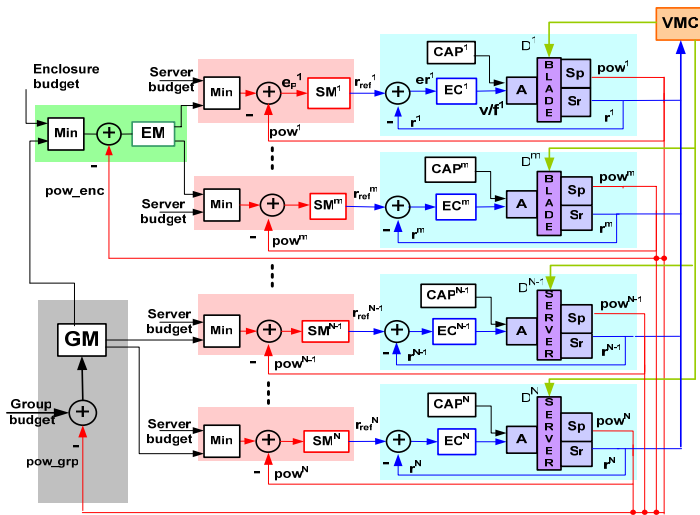
$$y(k) = g(x(k), u(k), dy(k))$$

*y: output; u: input; dy: output disturbances*

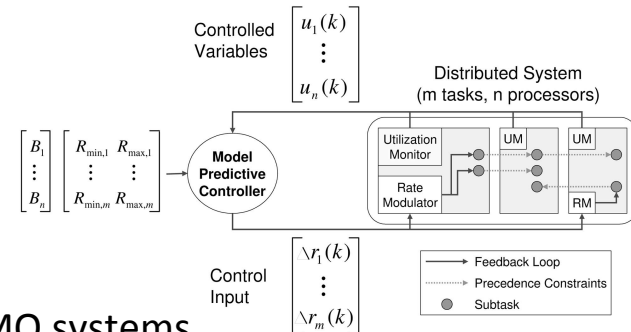
# Control-based self-adaptation



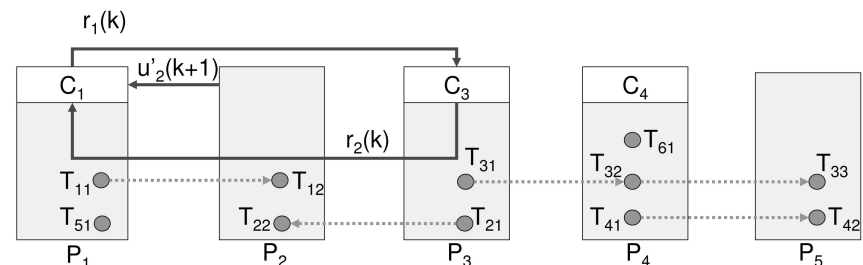
## Classic controllers (Abdelzaher et al. 2003)



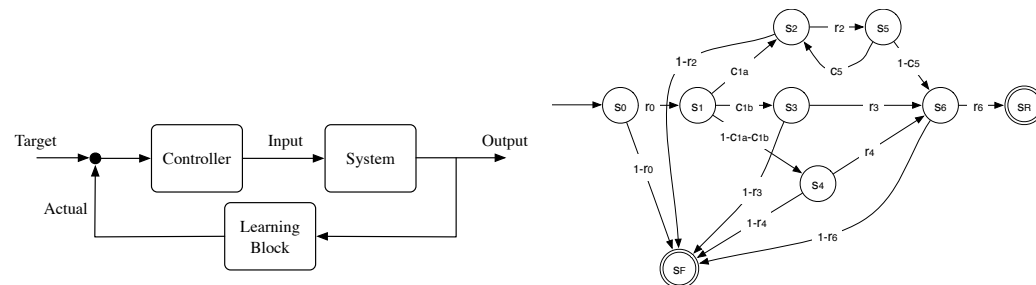
## Nested and layered architectures (Zhu et al. 2006; Kusic et al. 2009)



## MIMO systems (Dio et al., 2002, Lu et al. 2005)

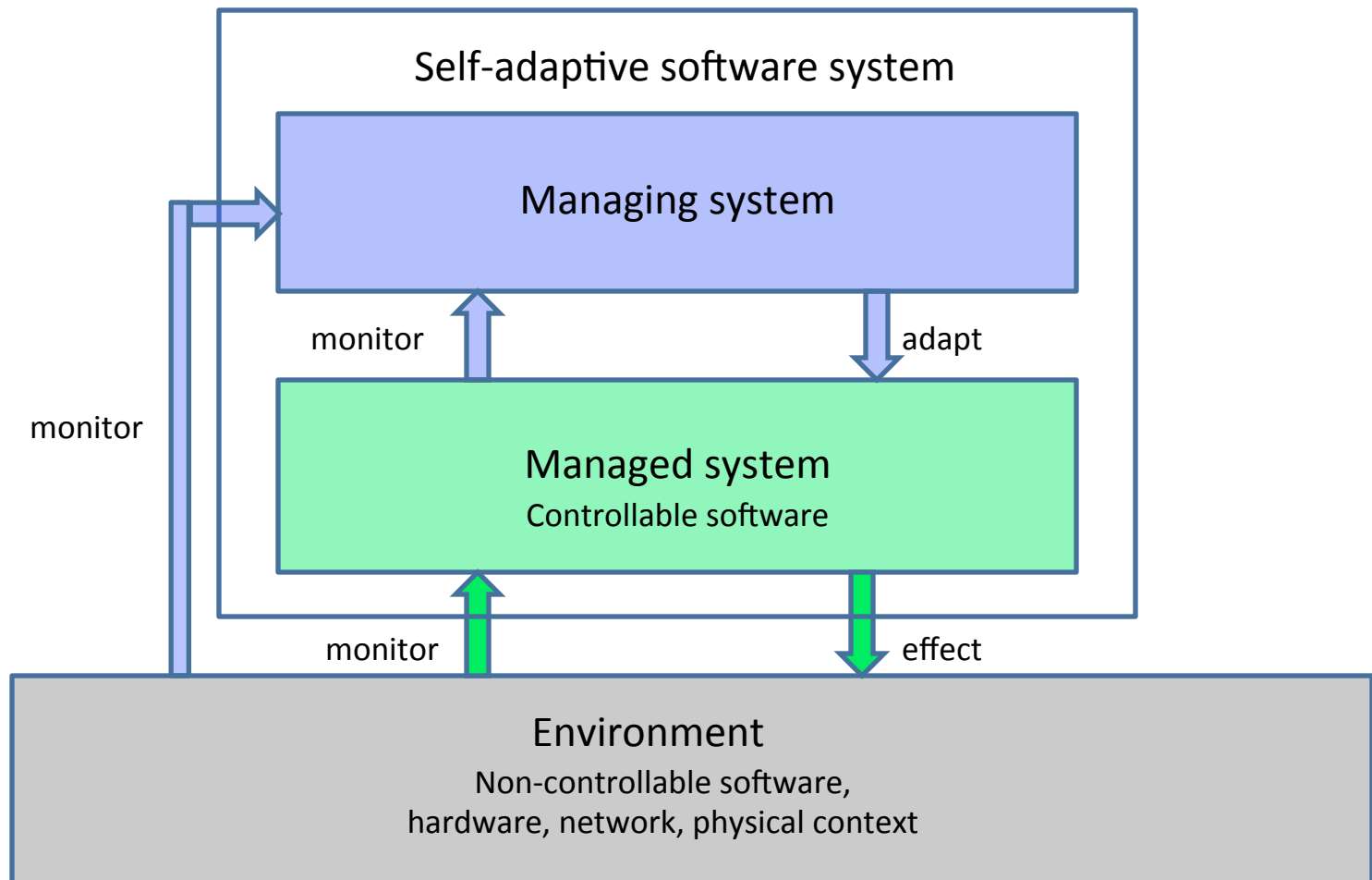


## Decentralized control (X. Wang et al., 2007; R. Wang et al 2012)



## Controlling software vs. resources (Fileri et al. 2011; Maggio et al. 2012)

# Basic model architecture-based self-adaptation



# Overview

- Architecture-based self-adaptation vs. control-based self-adaptation
- Reference approaches for architecture-based self-adaptation
- Formal methods for self-adaptive systems
- Active formal methods for self-adaptation
- Wrap up

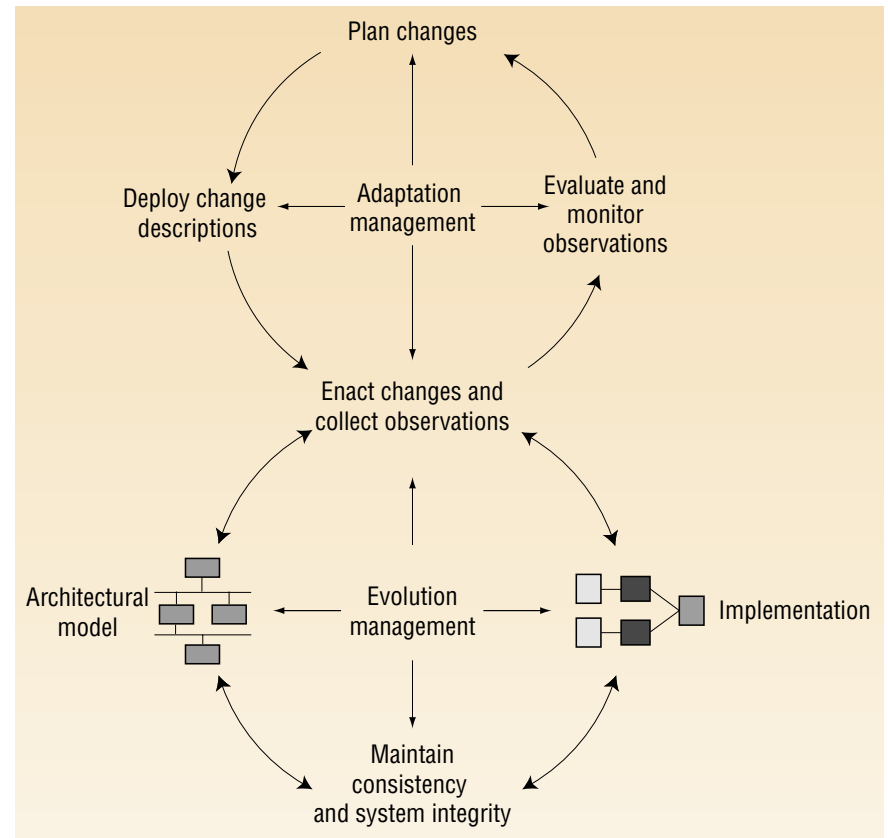
# Reference approaches for architecture-based self-adaptation

- 1999: Oreizy et al.
- 2003: MAPE-K IBM
- 2004: Rainbow
- 2007: 3-layer reference model
- 2012: FORMS

# Reference approaches for self-adaptation

## Oreizy et al. 1999

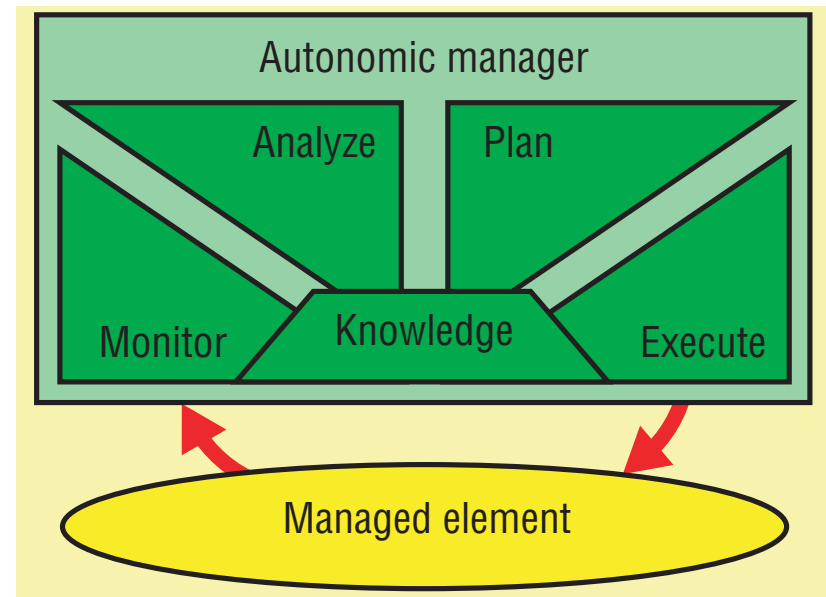
- Adaptation management
  - Life cycle of self-adaptation
  - System monitors and adapts itself
- Evolution management
  - Change of application software
  - Maintain consistency



# Reference approaches for self-adaptation

## IBM MAPE-K 2003

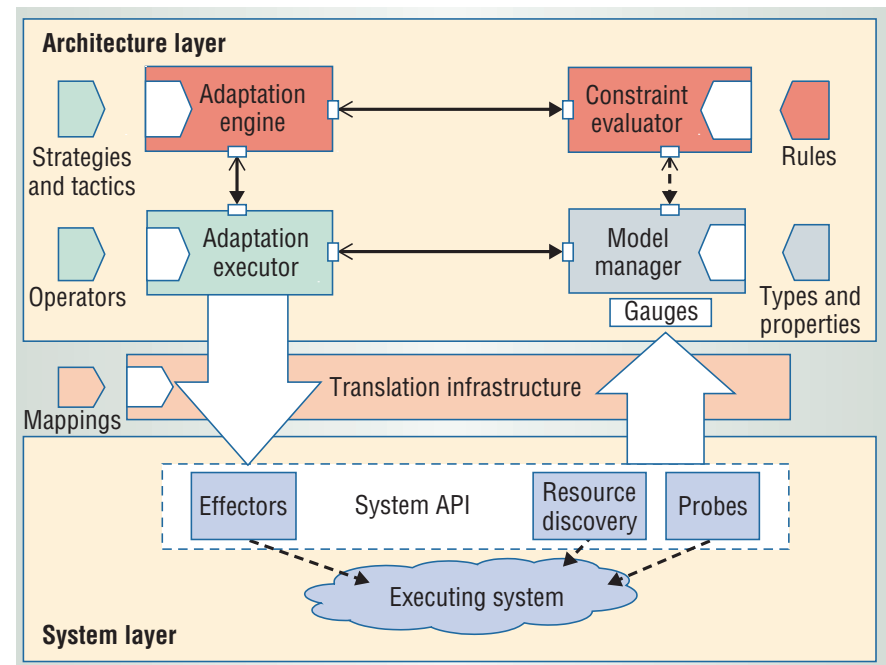
- Autonomic manager
  - Reference model
  - Four key functions + knowledge
- Four types of self-adaptations
  - Self-configuration
  - Self-optimization
  - Self-healing
  - Self-protection



# Reference approaches for self-adaptation

## Rainbow 2004

- Framework realizes MAPE control loop
- Uses architecture model of system and context
- Checks constraints
- Adapts running system if violation is detected

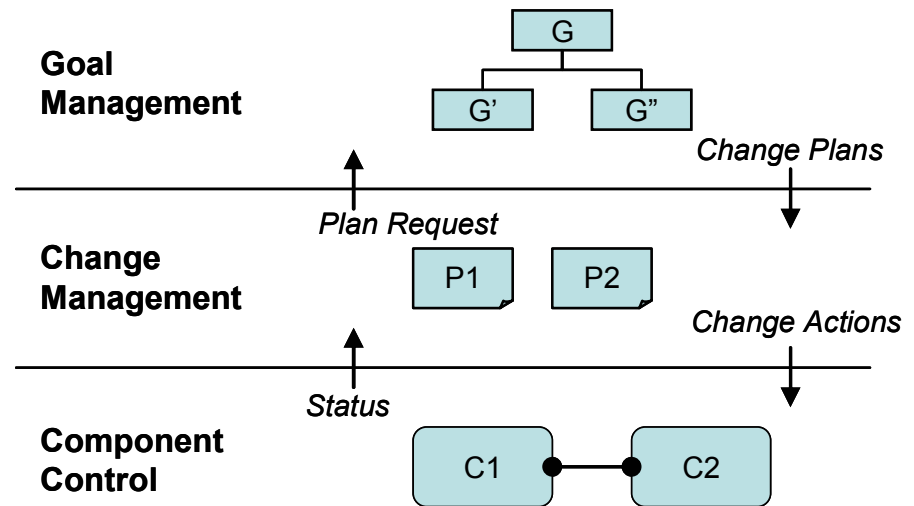




# Reference approaches for self-adaptation

## 3-Layer reference model 2007

- Reference model based on Gat's 3-layer robotics model
- Component control realizes application functions
- Change management handles adaptations of component layer based on set of plans
- Goal management produces change management plans when needed (e.g., to deal with new conditions or goals)



# Reference approaches for self-adaptation

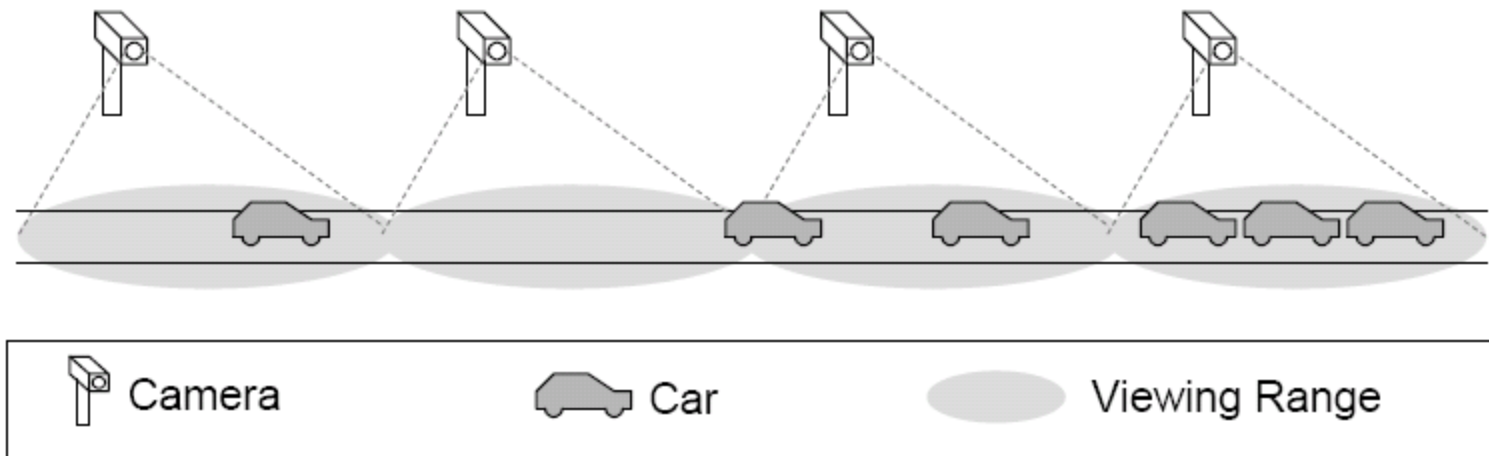
## FORMS 2012

- FOrmal Reference Model for Self-adaptation
- Integrates different perspectives on self-adaptation
  - Reflection perspective
  - MAPE-K perspective
  - Distribution perspective

D. Weyns, S. Malek, J. Andersson, FORMS: Formal reference model for self-adaptation, ACM Transactions on Autonomous and Adaptive Systems, TAAS 7(1), 2012

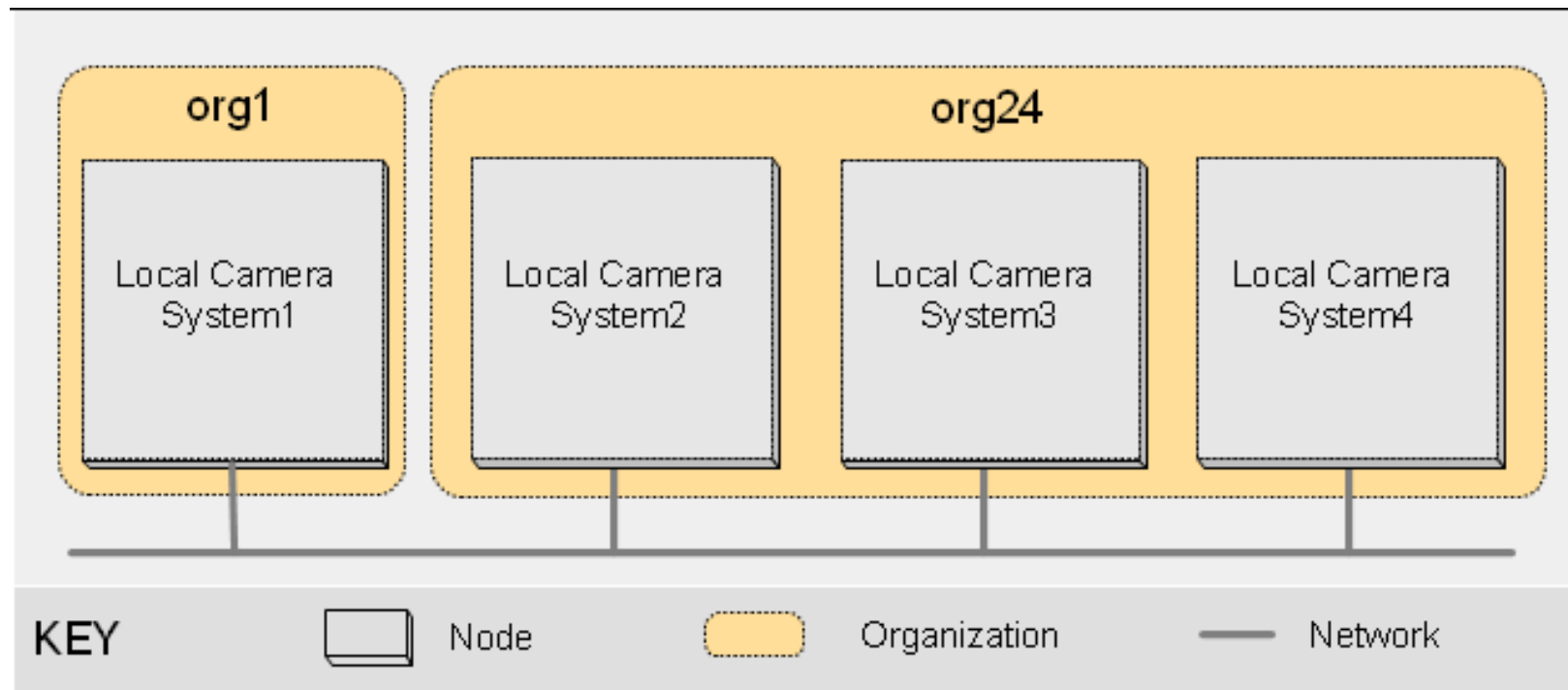
# FORMS: Running Example

## Traffic jam monitoring

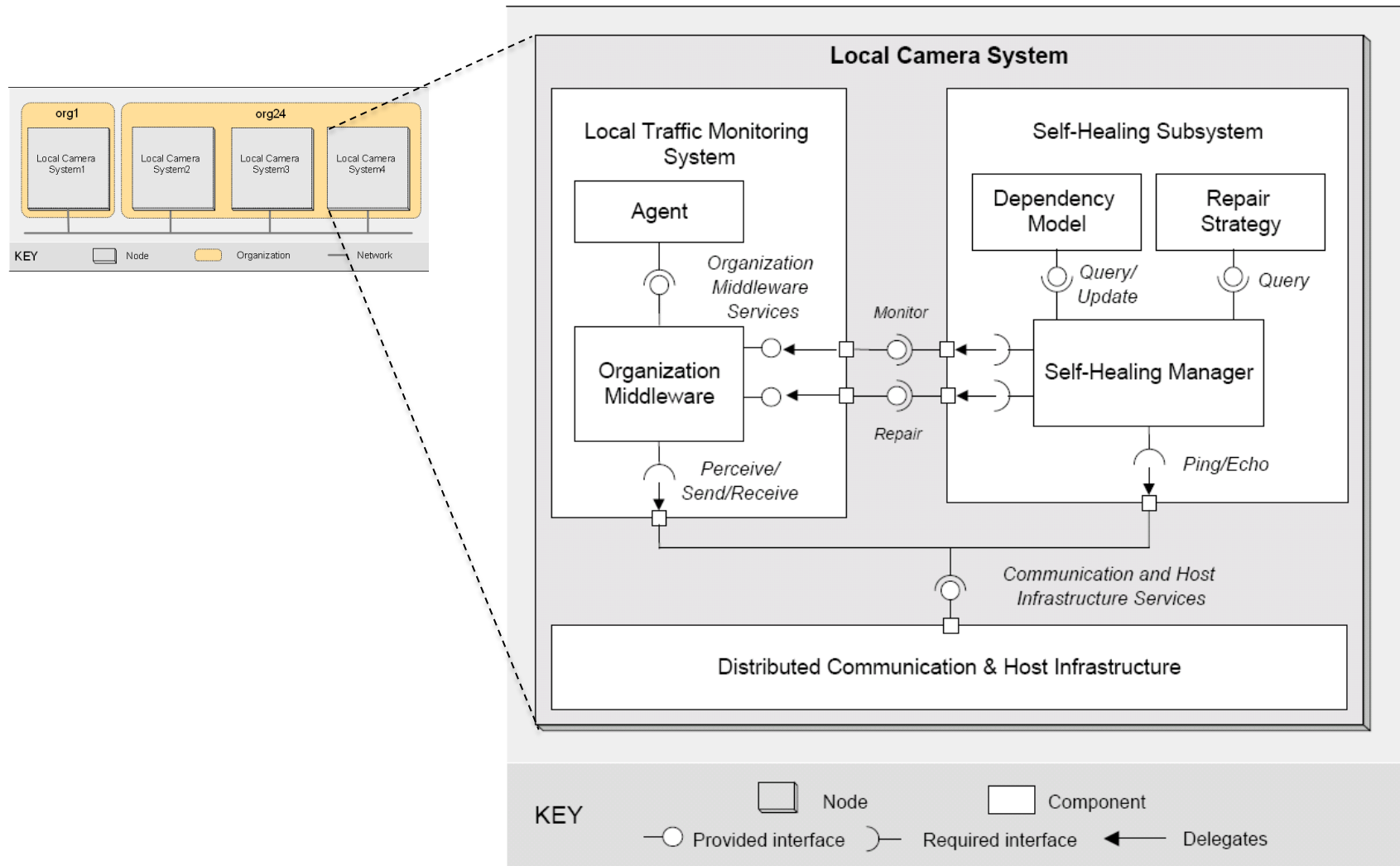


D. Weyns, R. Haesevoets, A. Helleboogh, T. Holvoet, W. Joosen, The MACODO Middleware for Context-Driven Dynamic Agent Organizations, ACM Transaction on Autonomous and Adaptive Systems, 5(1):3.1–3.29, 2010.

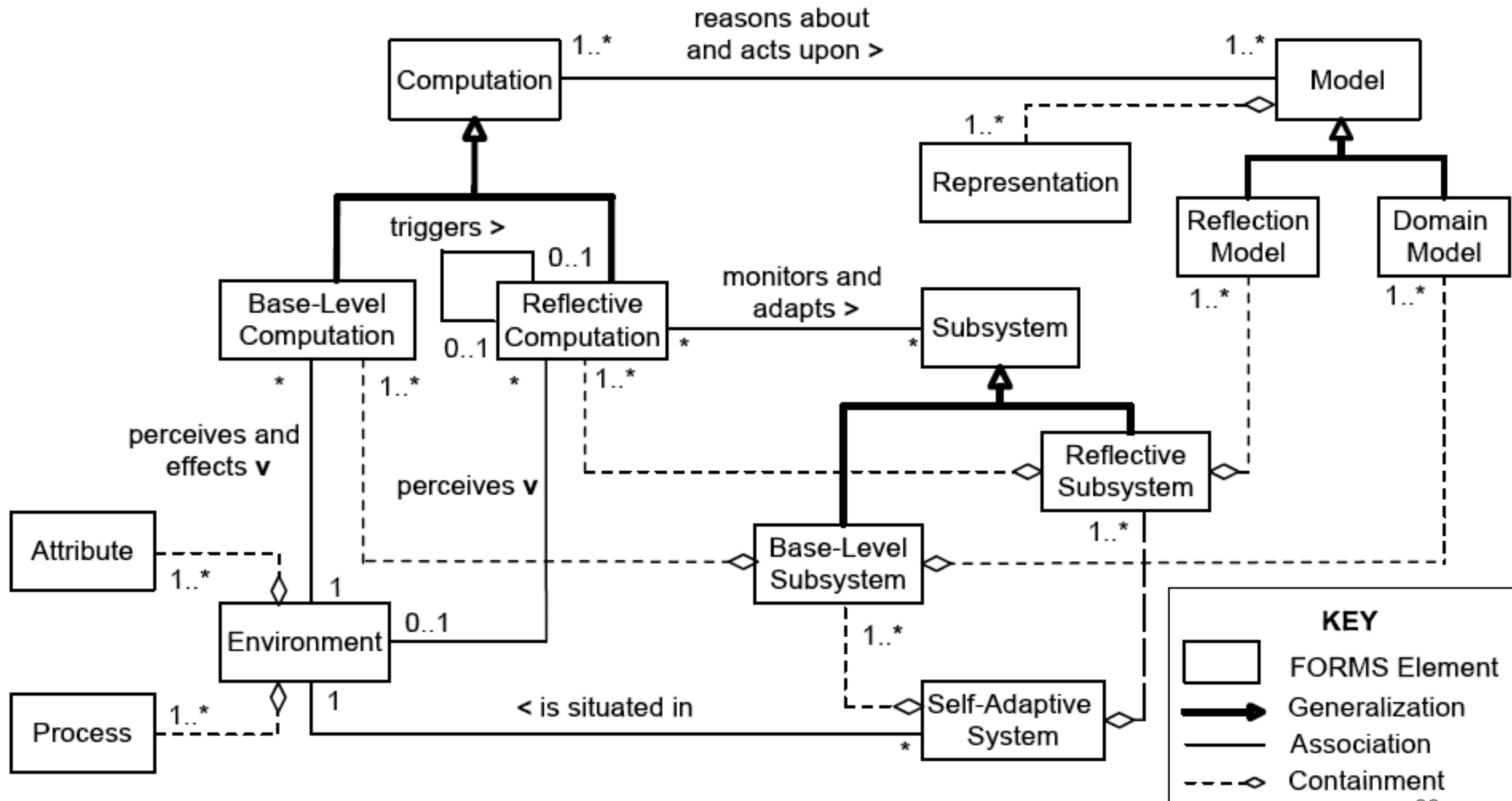
# Running Example: traffic jam monitoring



# Running Example: traffic jam monitoring

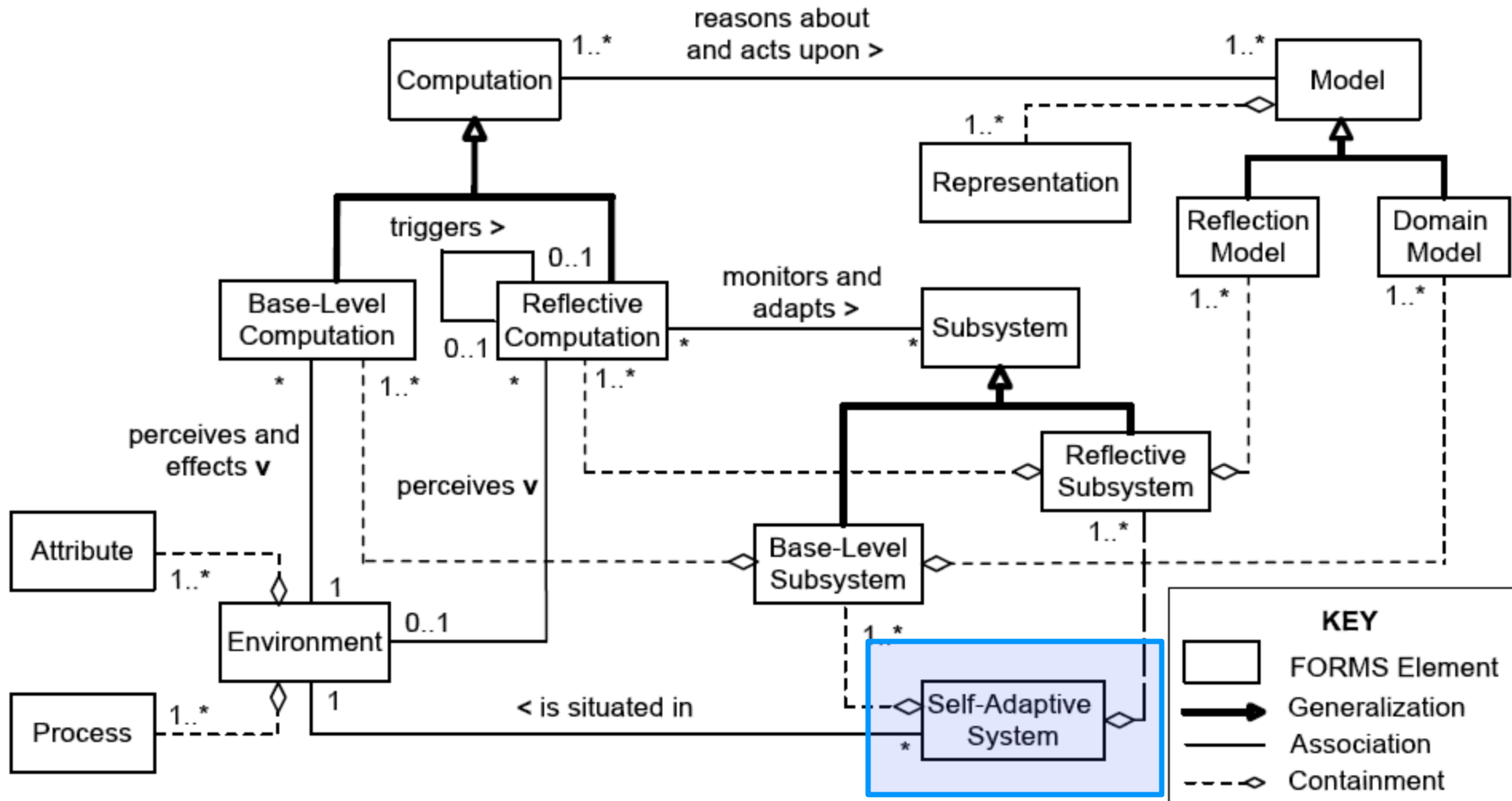


# FORMS Reflection Perspective



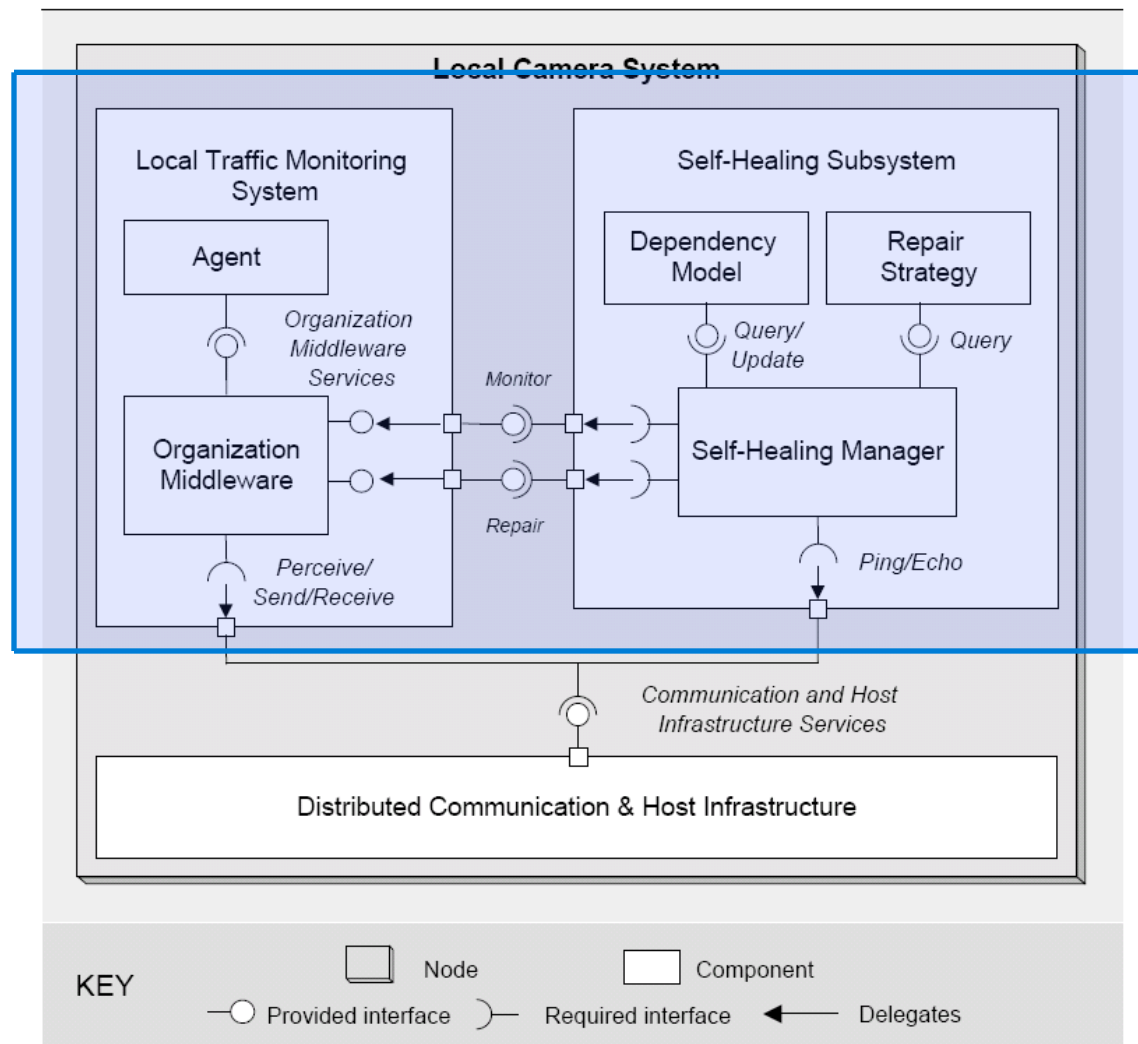
# FORMS Reflection Perspective

Self-adaptive system



# FORMS Reflection Perspective

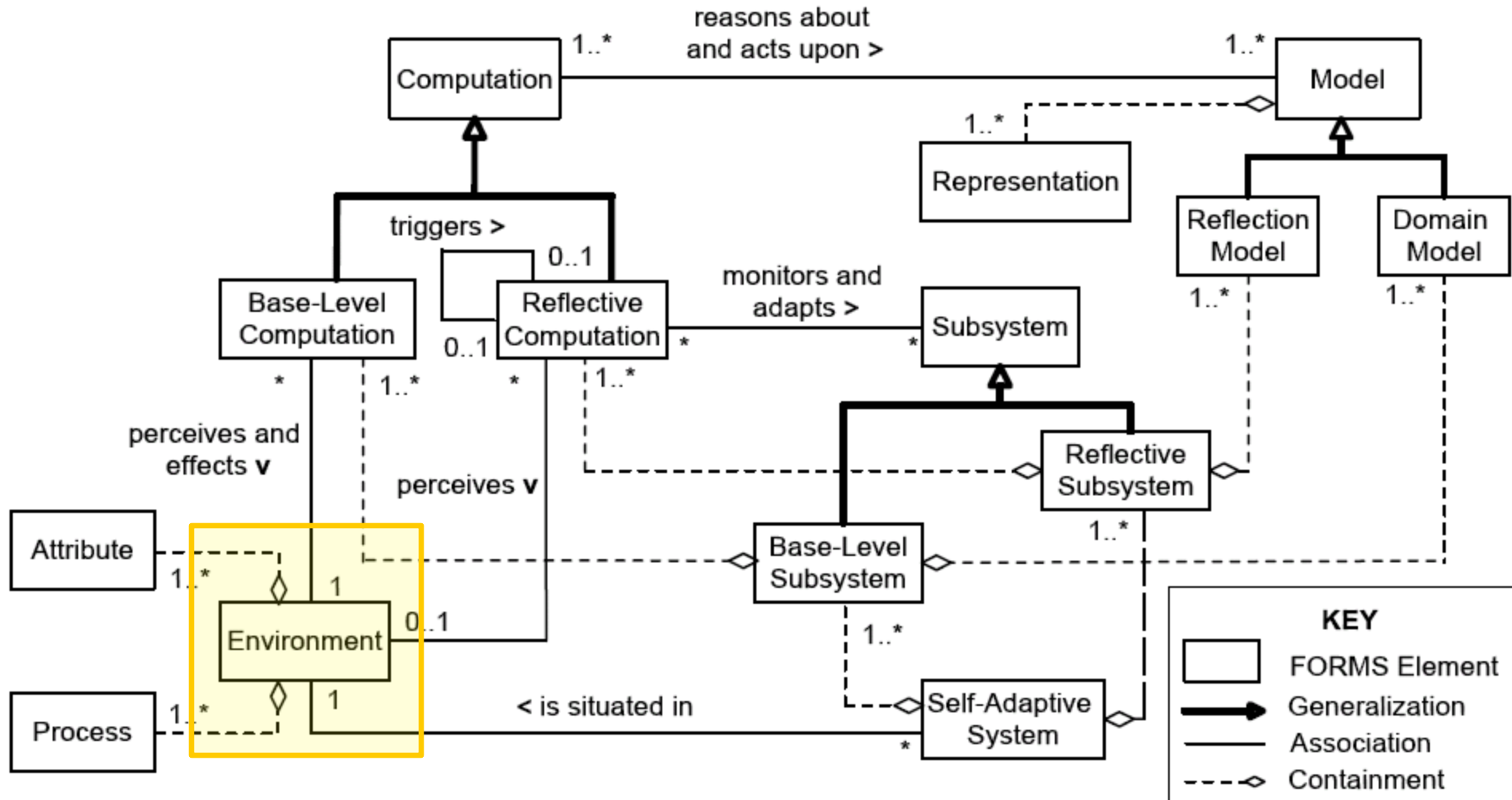
Self-adaptive system





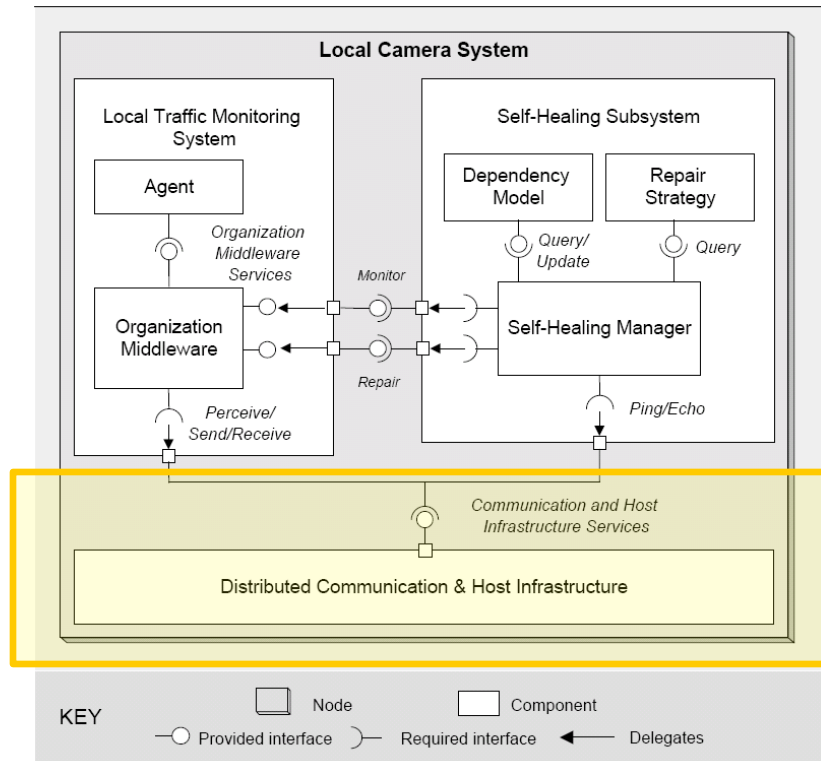
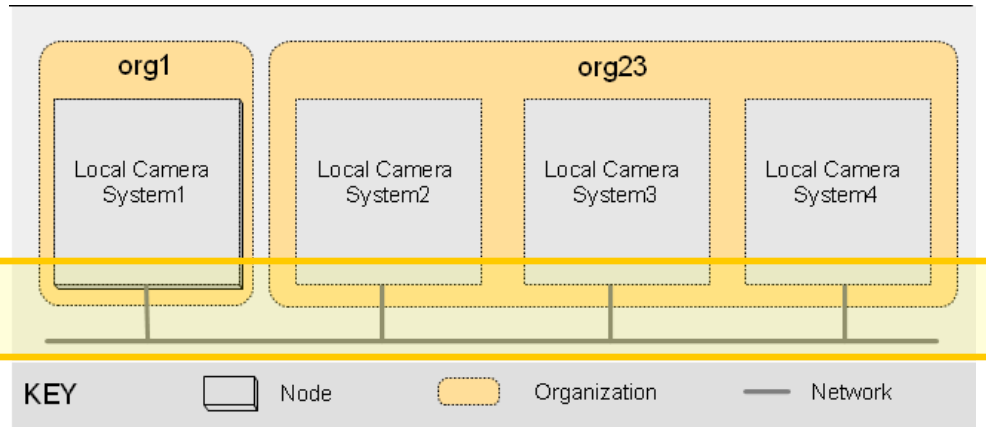
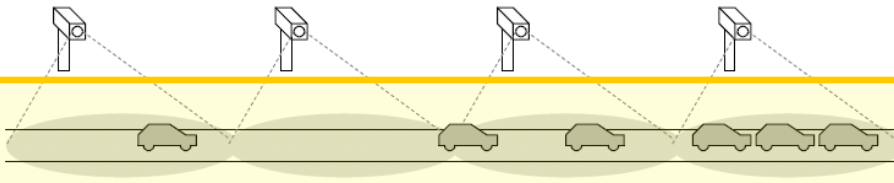
# FORMS Reflection Perspective

## Environment



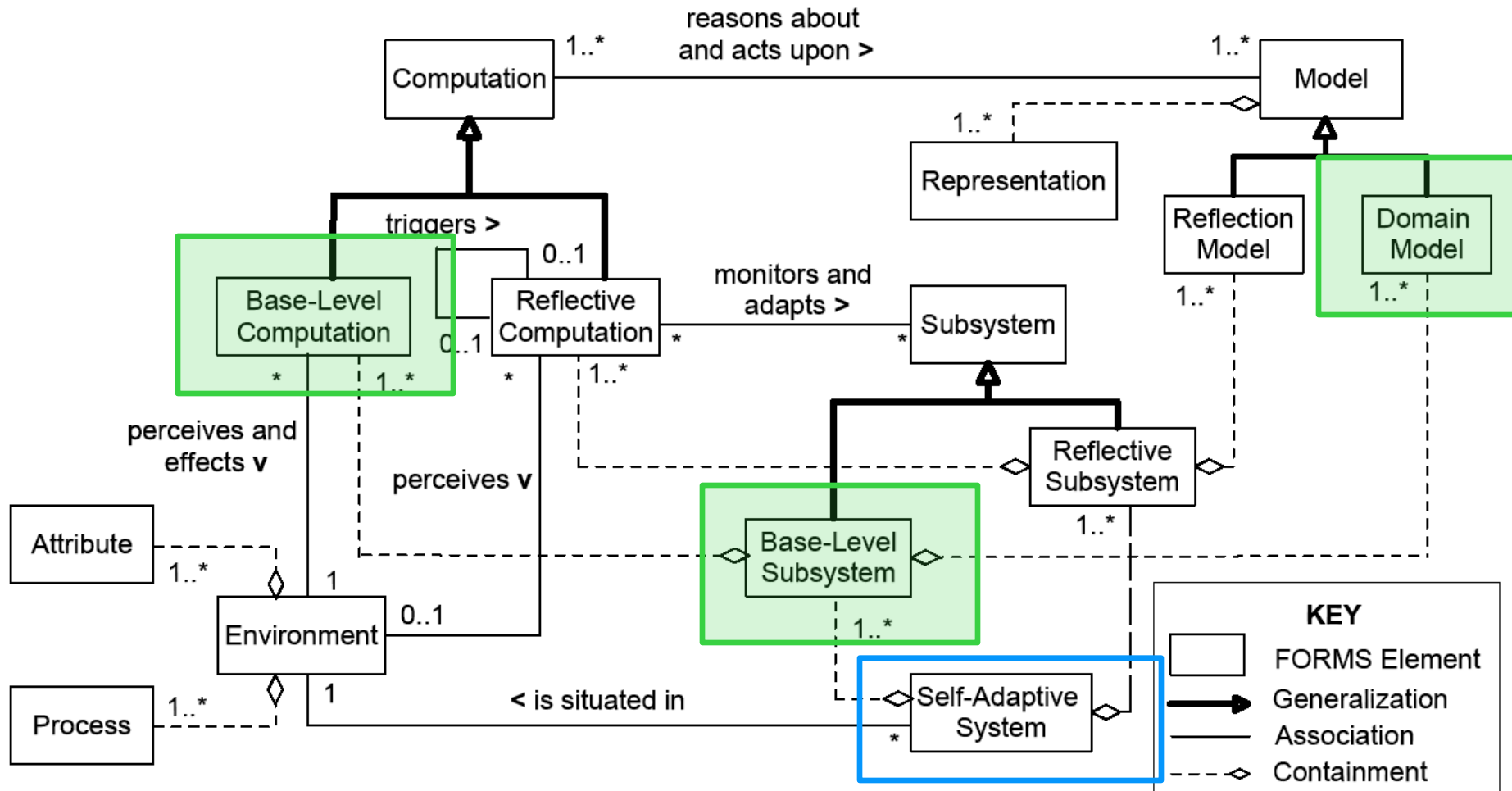
# FORMS Reflection Perspective

## Environment



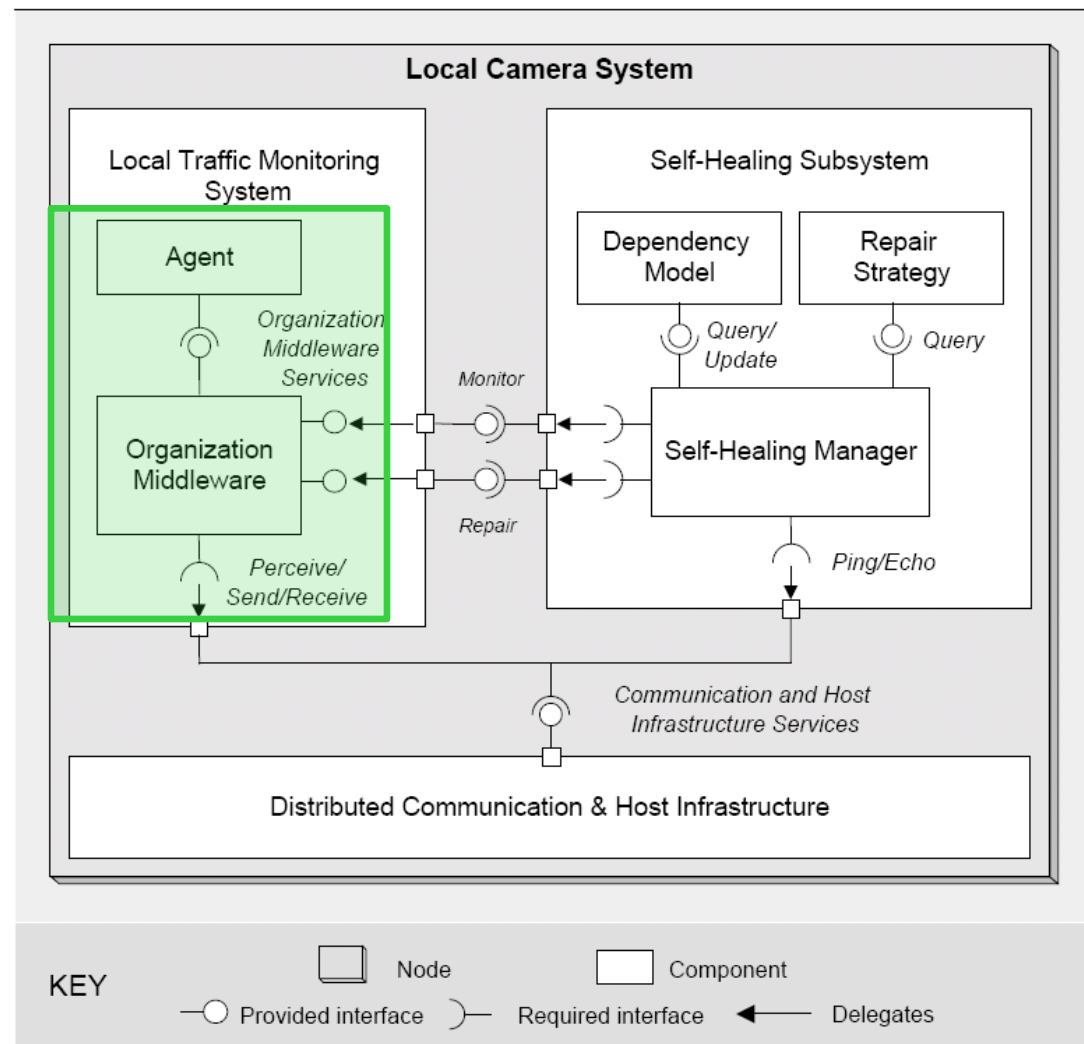
# FORMS Reflection Perspective

## Base-Level Subsystem



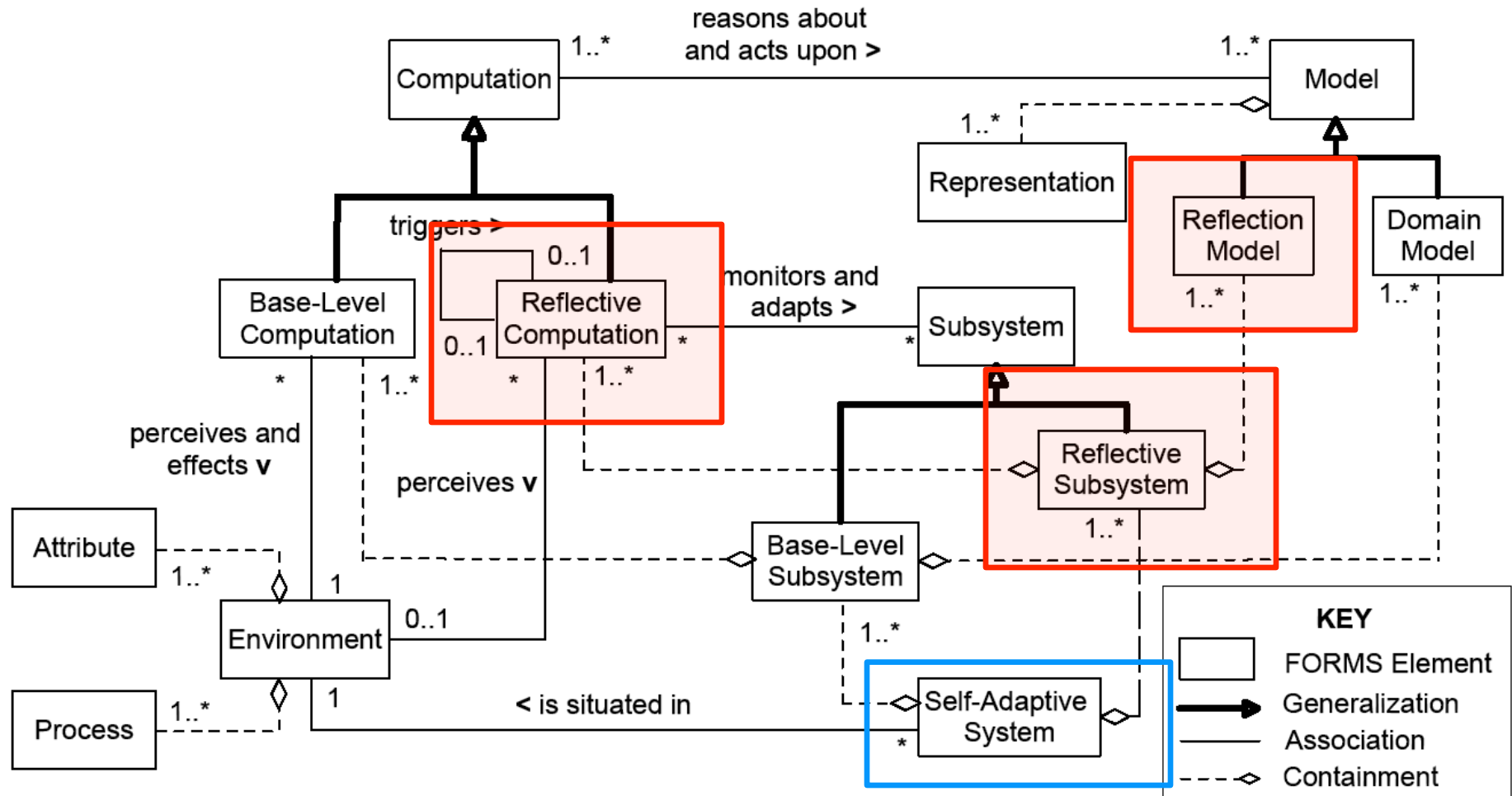
# FORMS Reflection Perspective

## Base-Level Subsystem



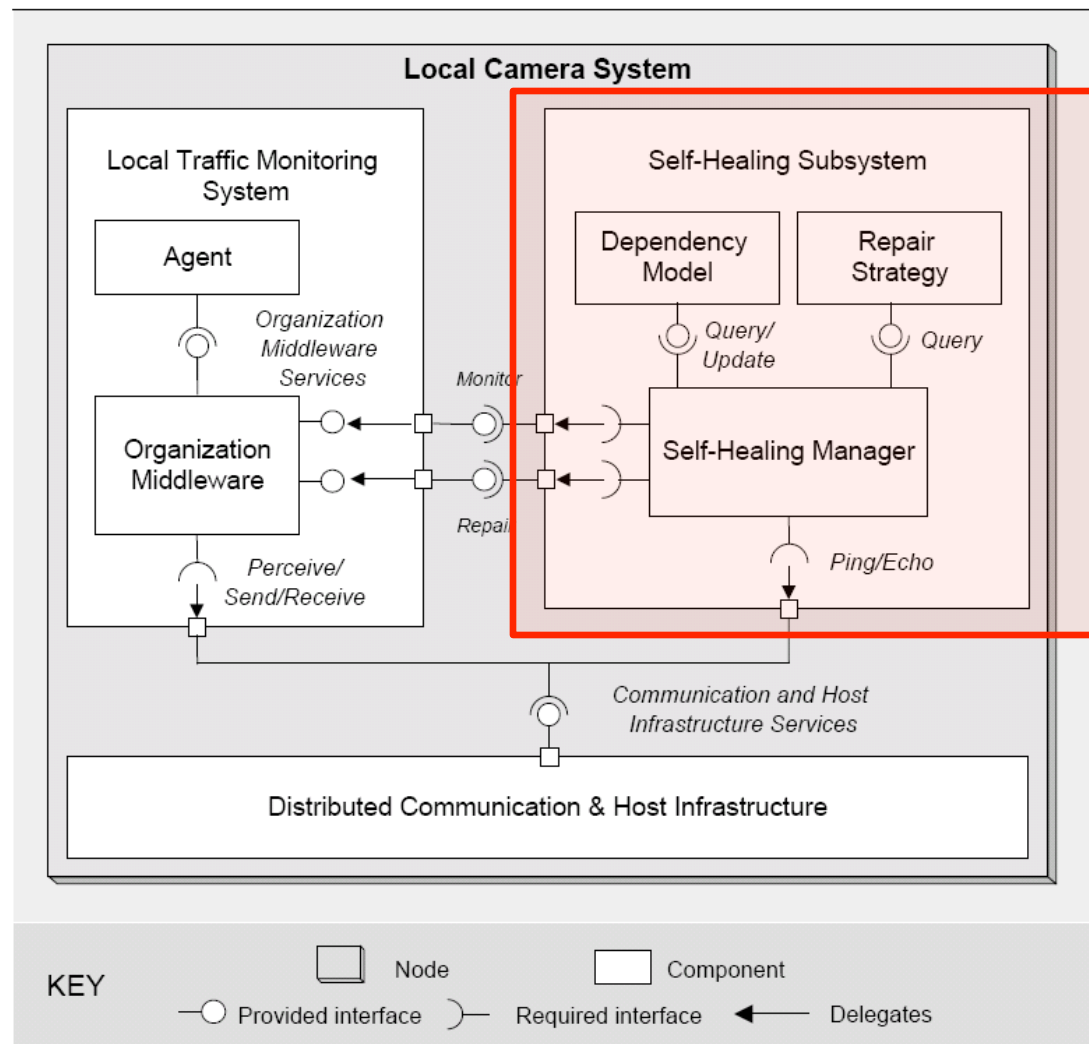
# FORMS Reflection Perspective

## Reflective Subsystem

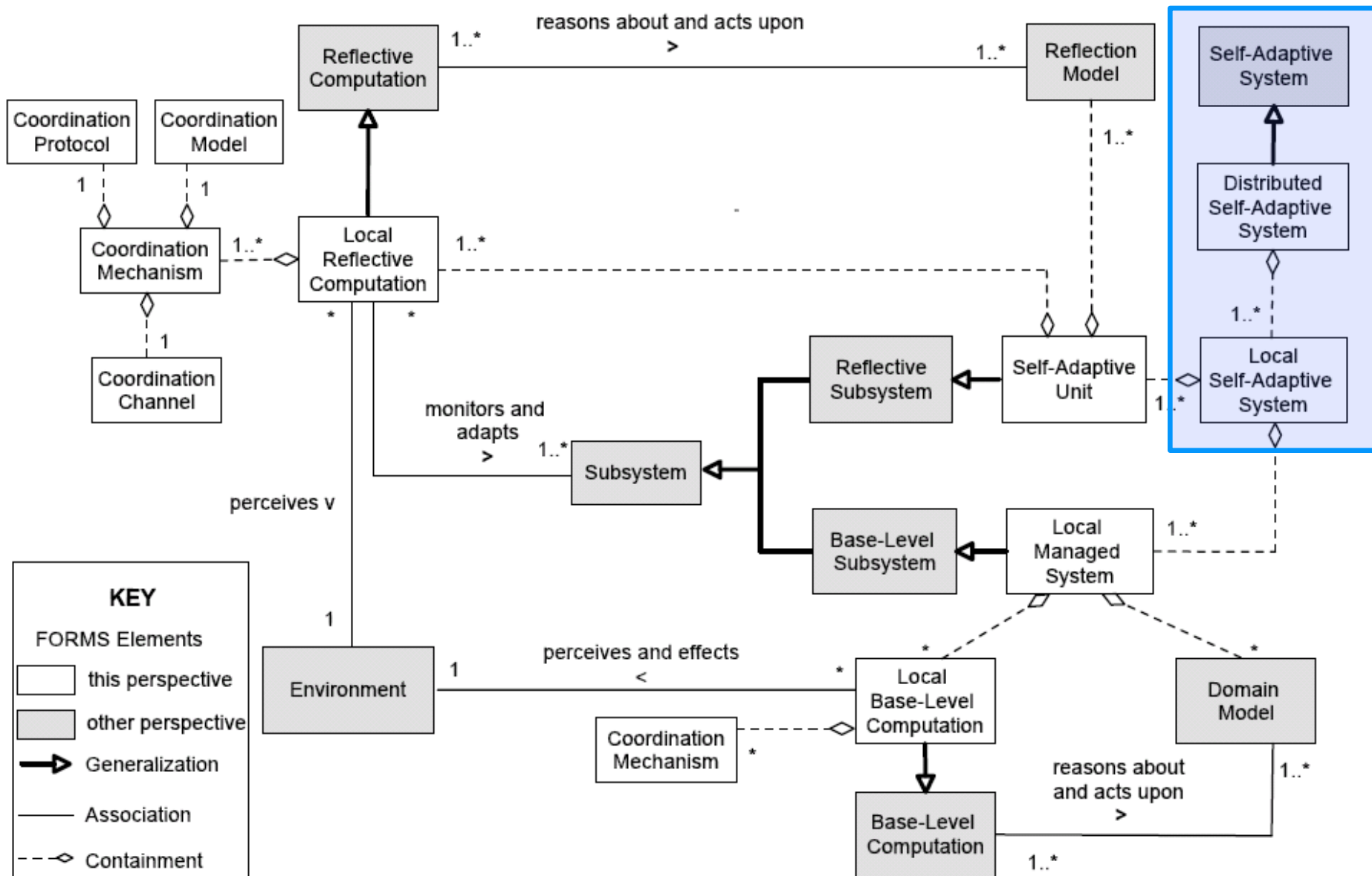


# FORMS Reflection Perspective

## Reflective Subsystem

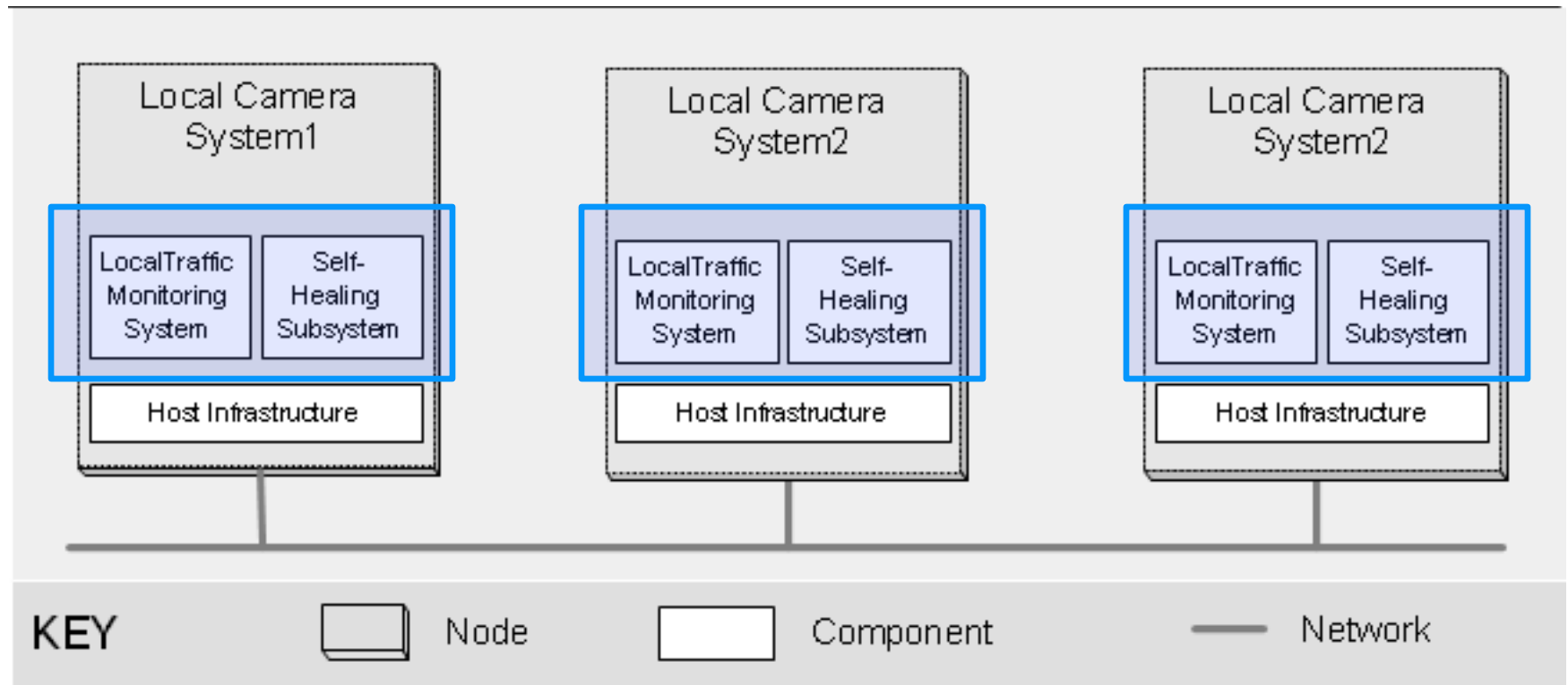


# FORMS Distributed Coordination Perspective



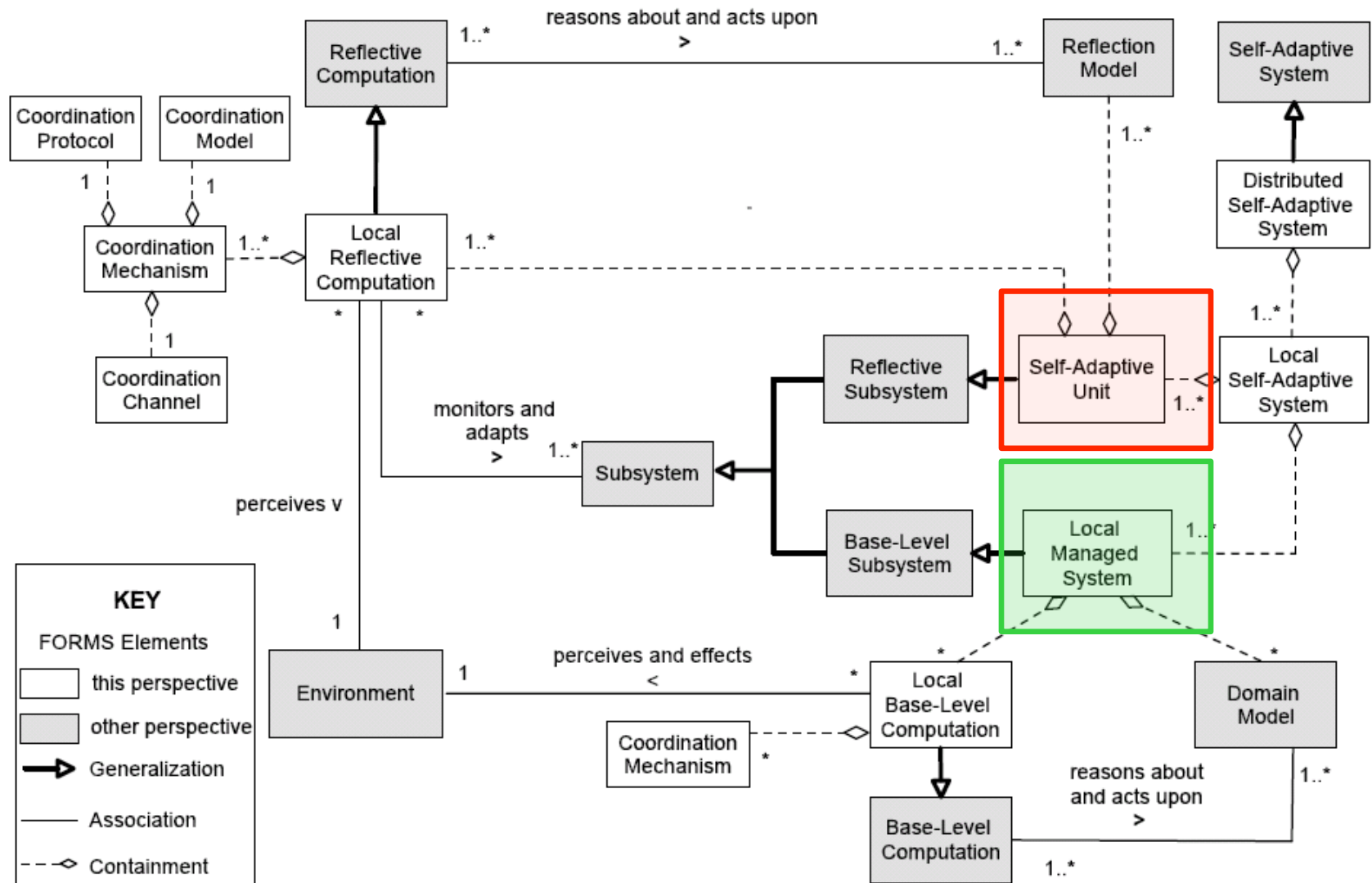
# FORMS Distributed Coordination Perspective

## Local Self-Adaptive System



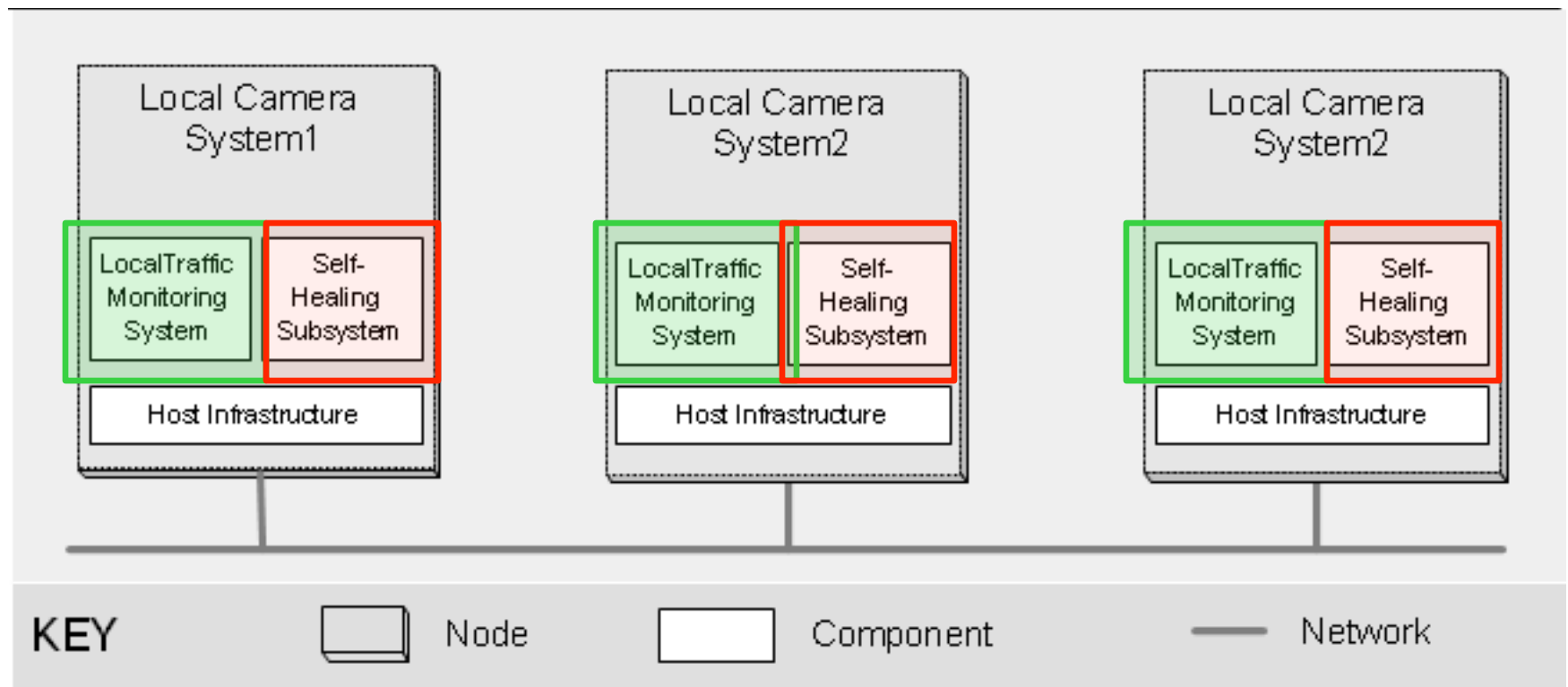


## Local Managed System – Self-Adaptive Unit

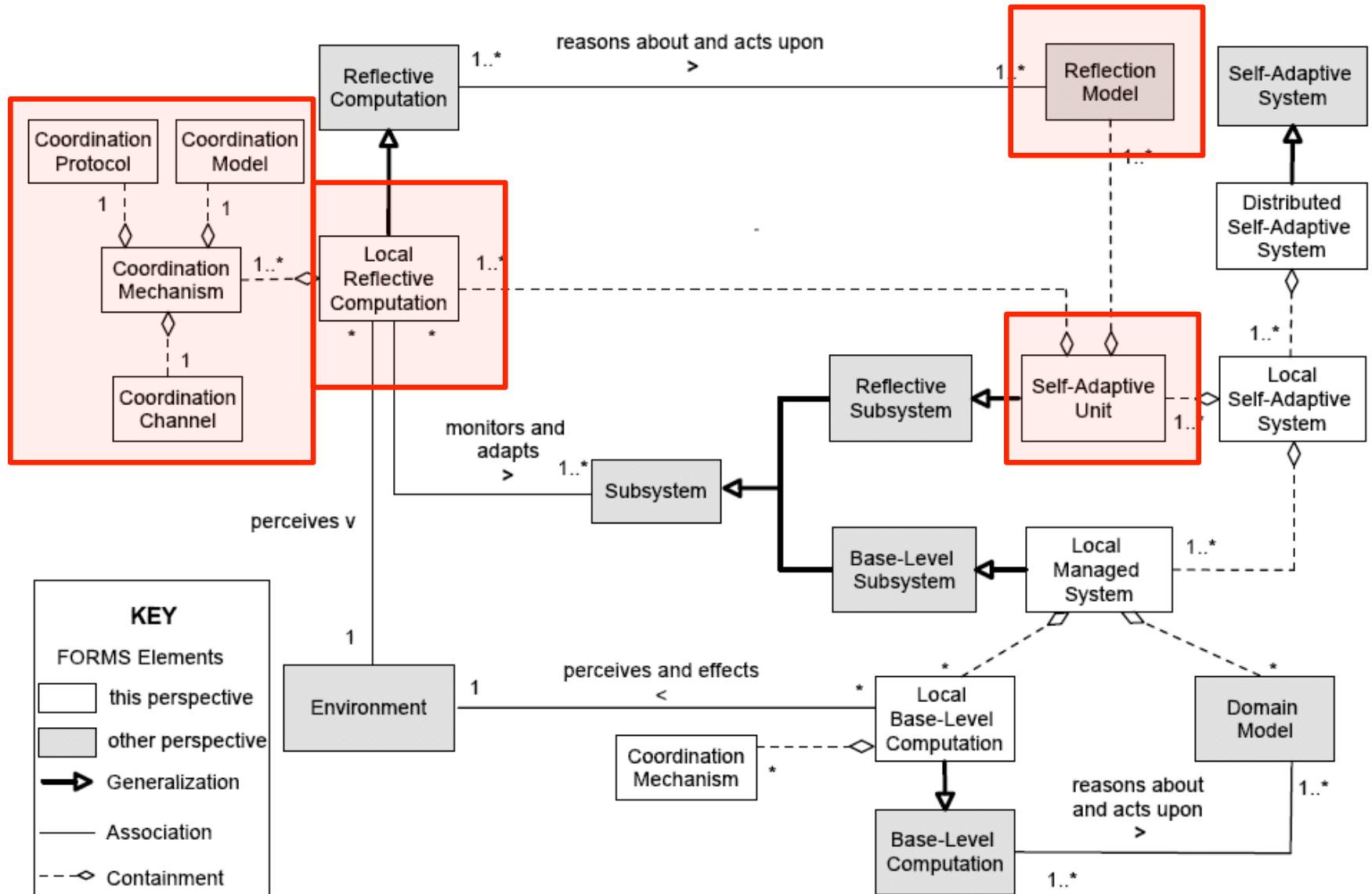


# FORMS Distributed Coordination Perspective

Local Managed System – Self-Adaptive Unit

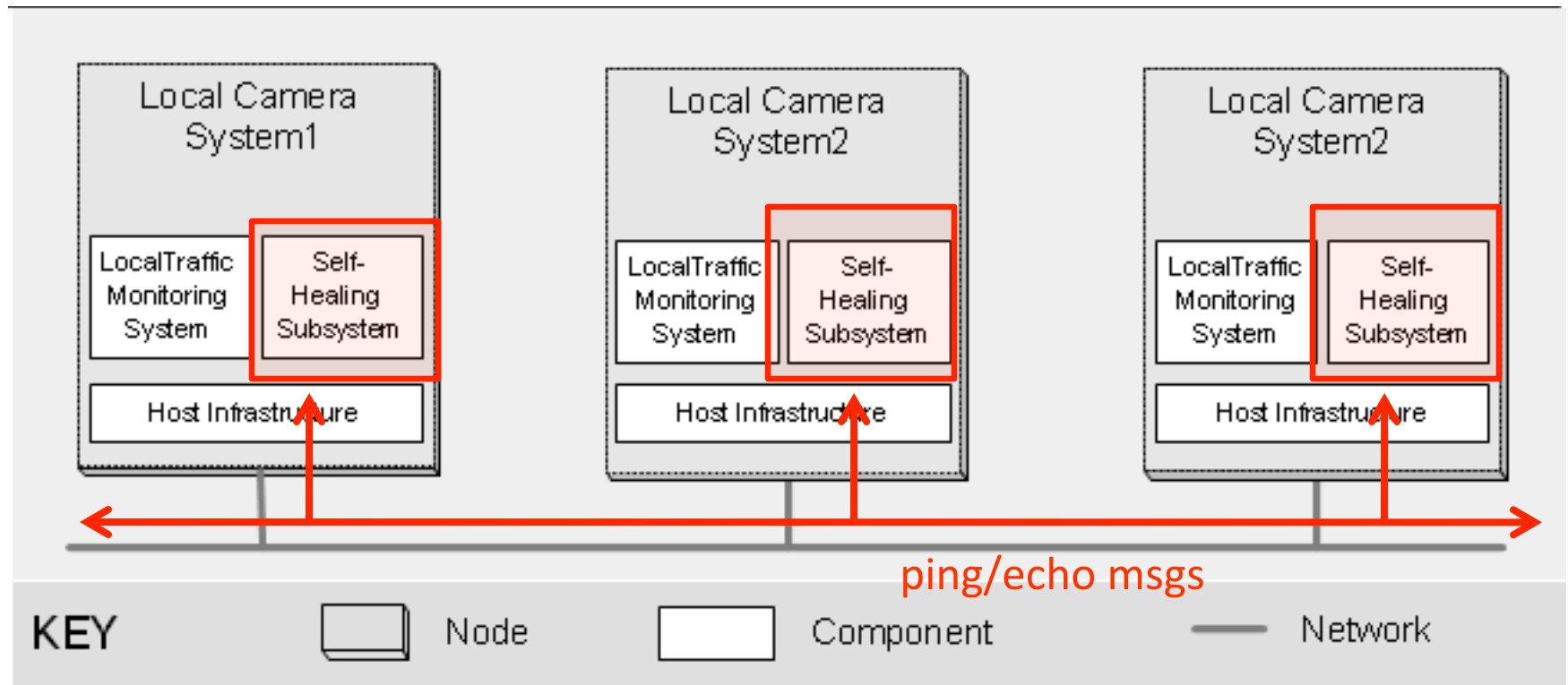


# Coordination Mechanism

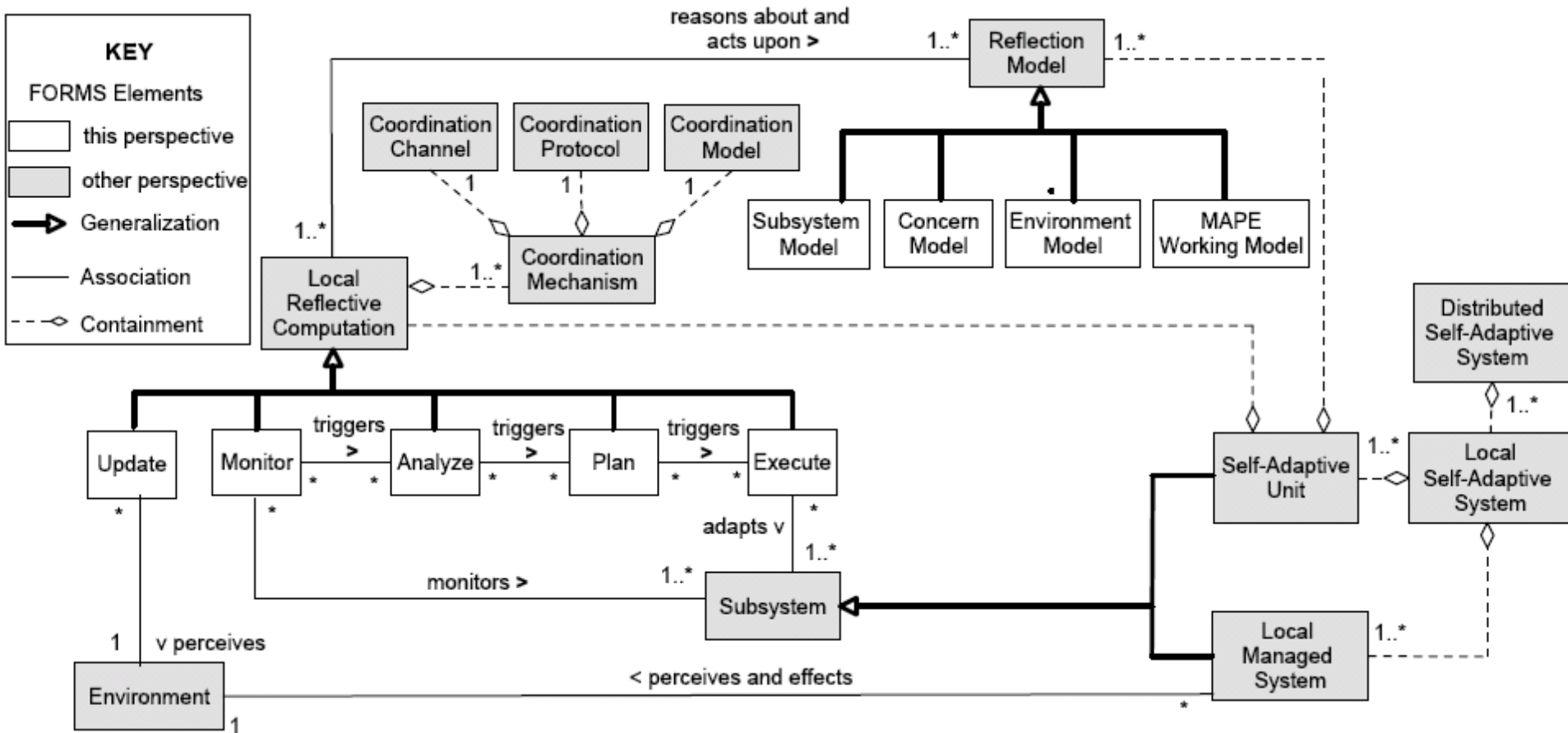


# FORMS Distributed Coordination Perspective

## Coordination Mechanism

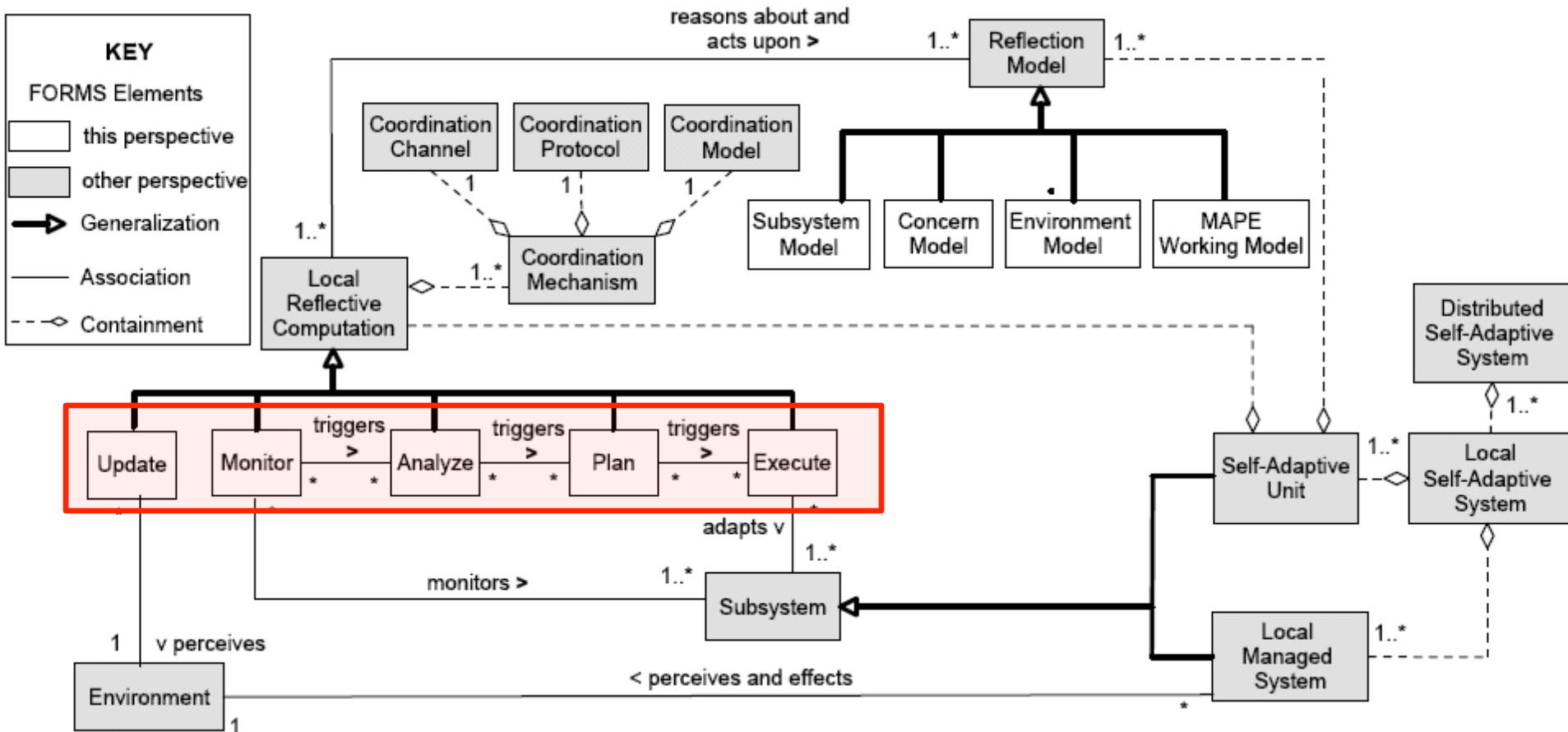


# FORMS MAPE Perspective



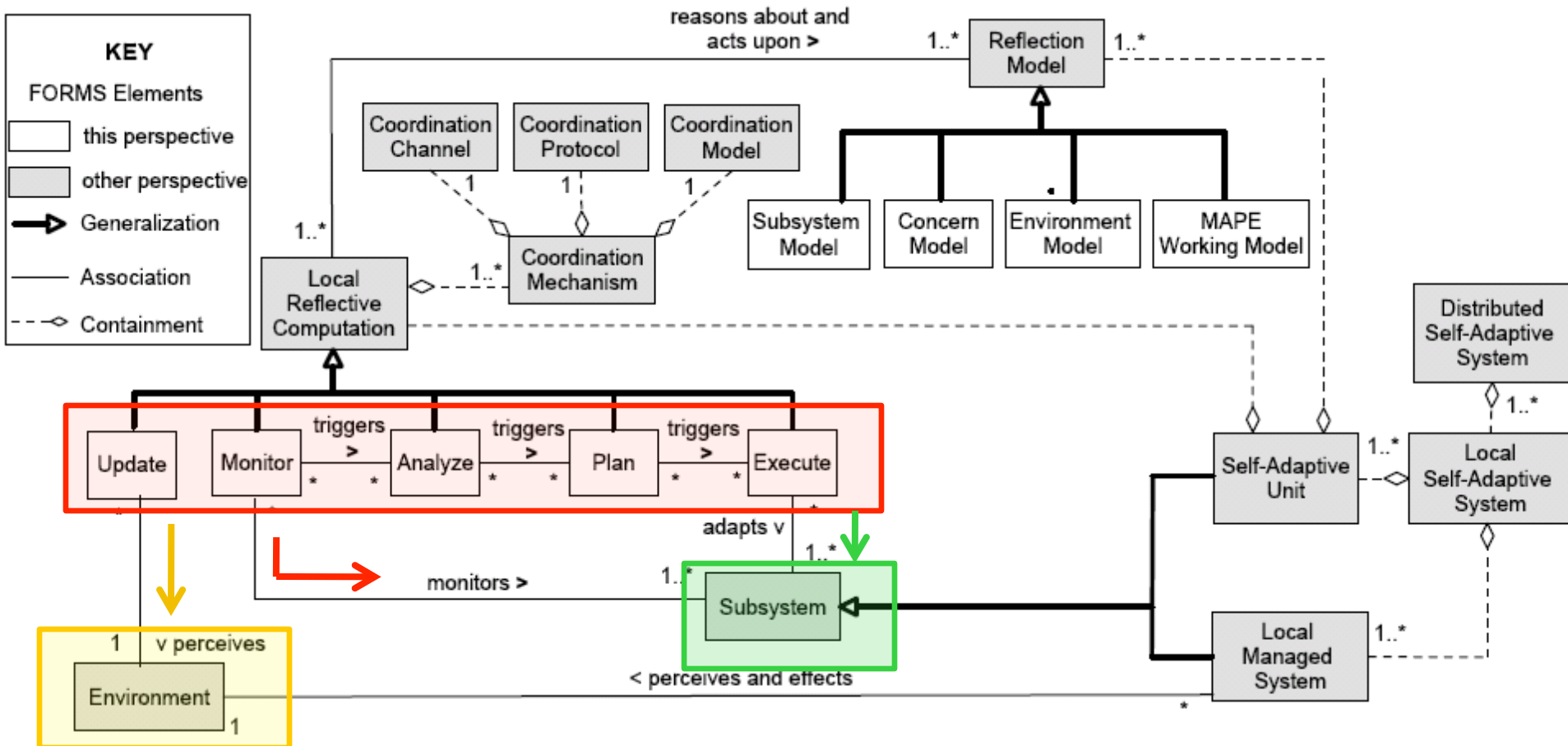
# FORMS MAPE Perspective

## Local Reflective Computations



# FORMS MAPE Perspective

## Local Reflective Computations



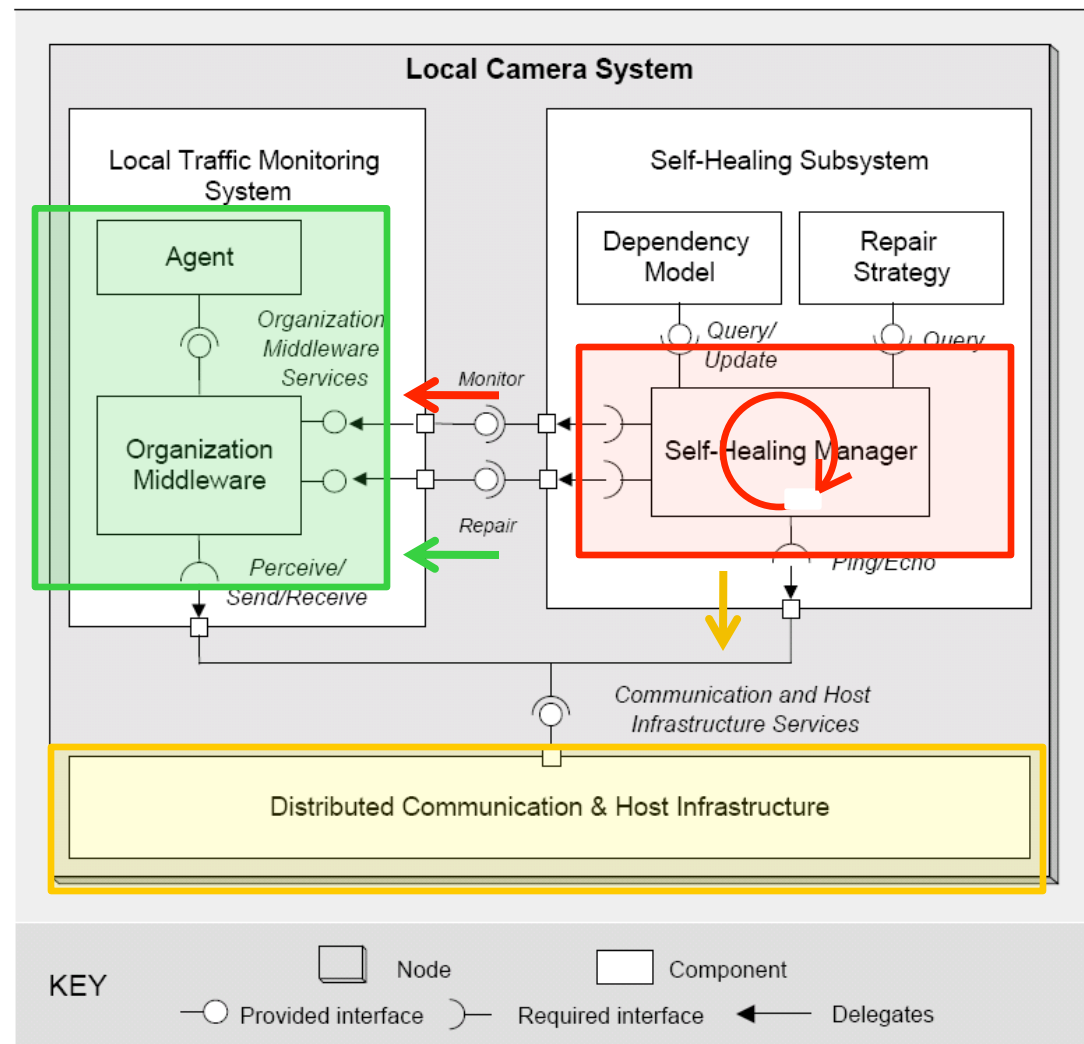
# FORMS MAPE Perspective

## Local Reflective Computations

← perceive

← sense

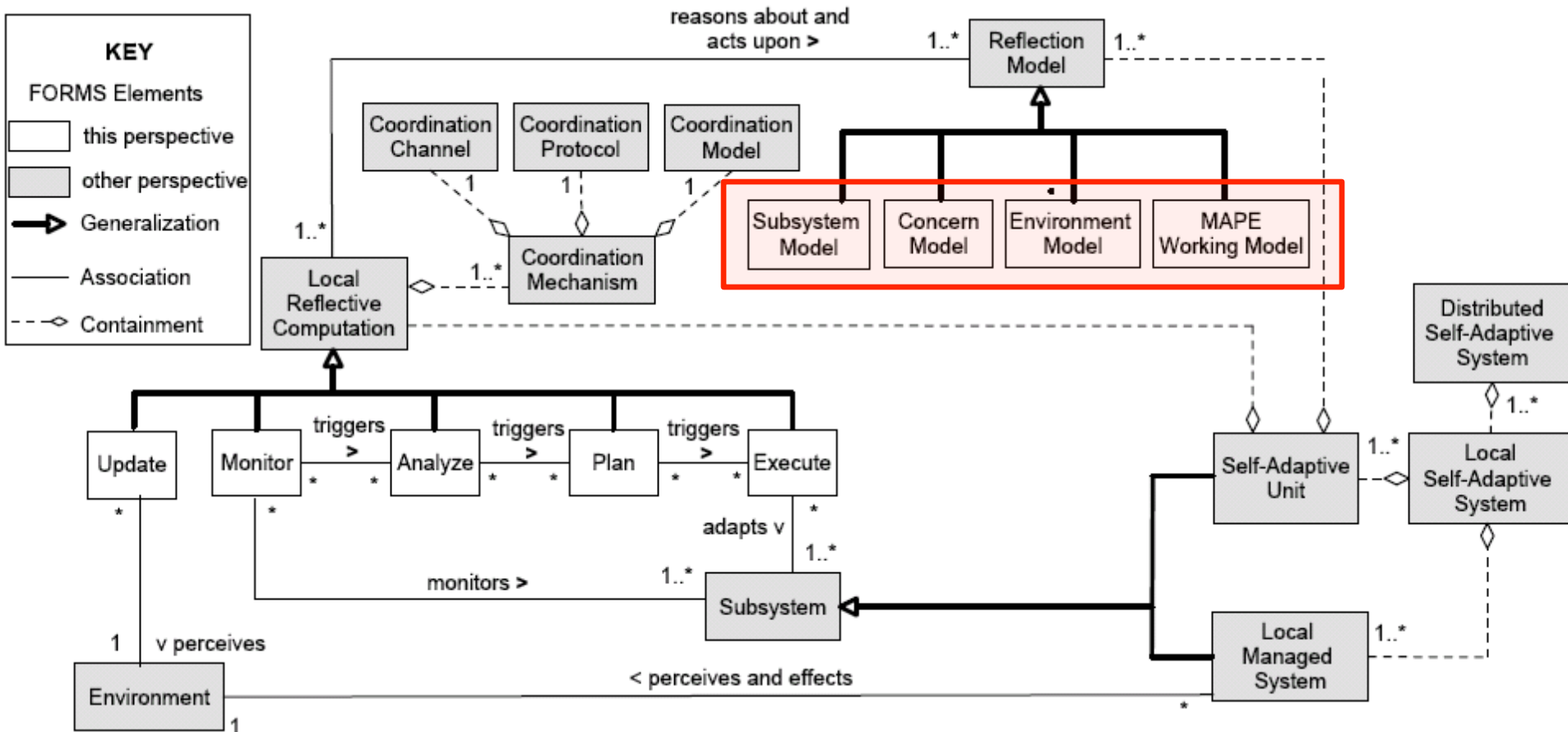
← adapt





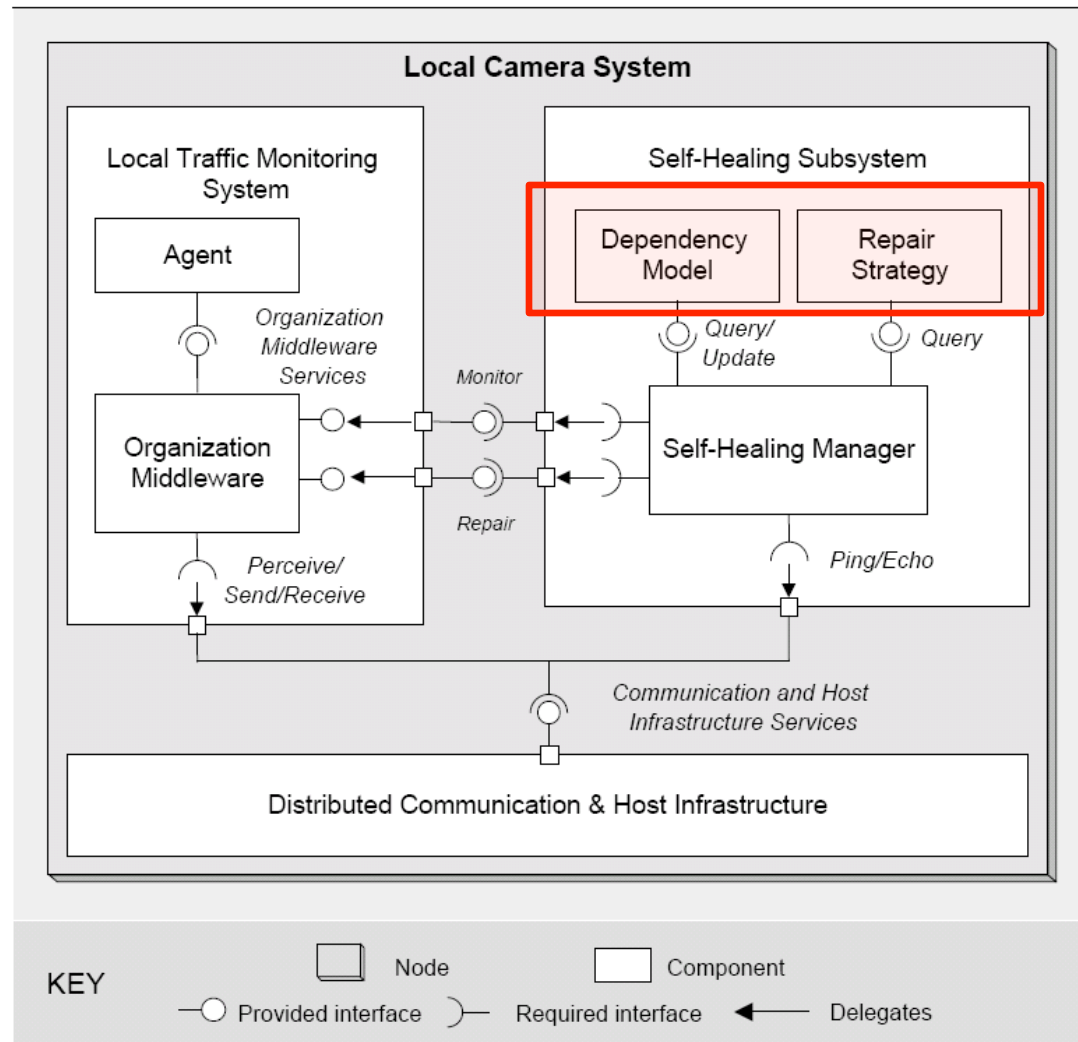
# FORMS MAPE Perspective

## Reflection Models

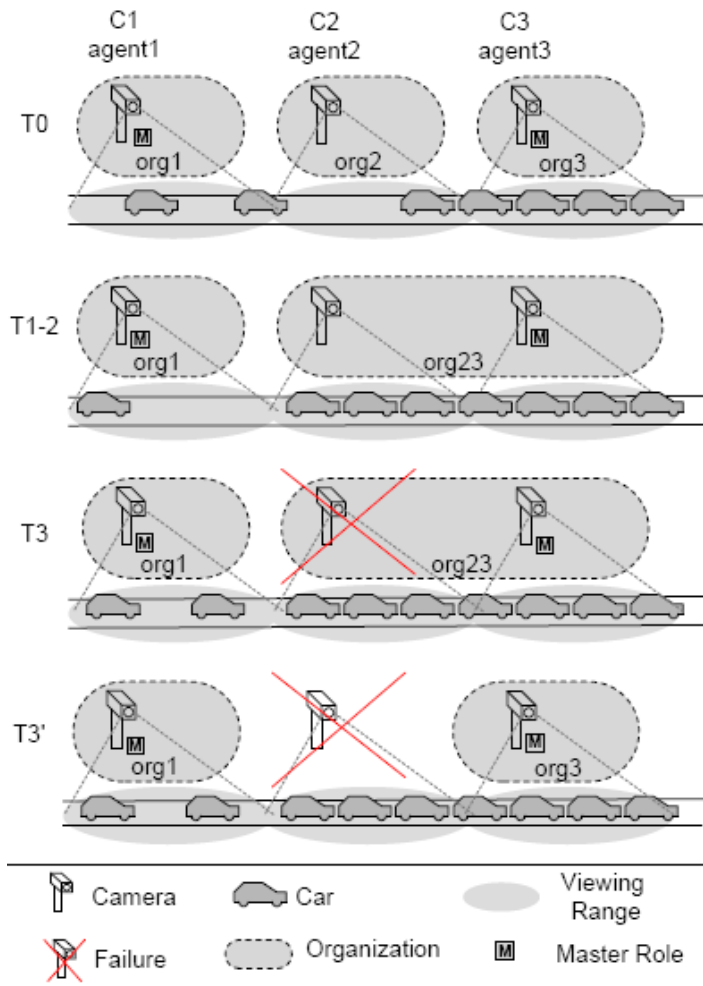


# FORMS MAPE Perspective

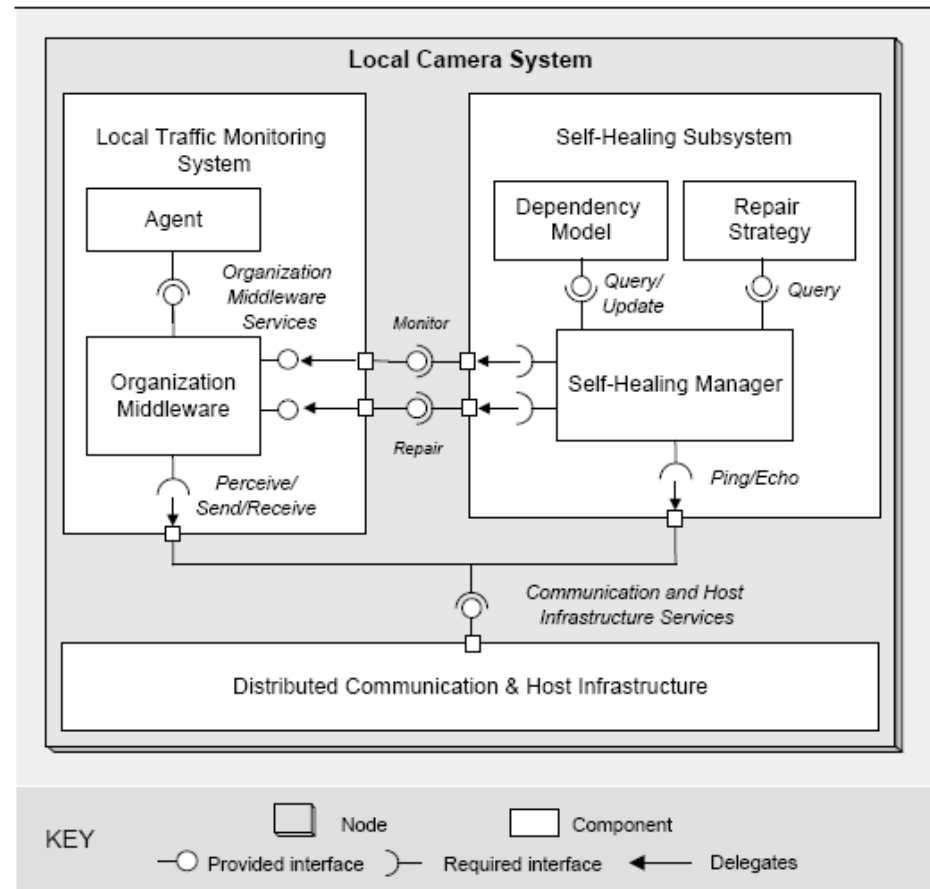
## Reflection Models



# (A glimpse of) FORMS in action

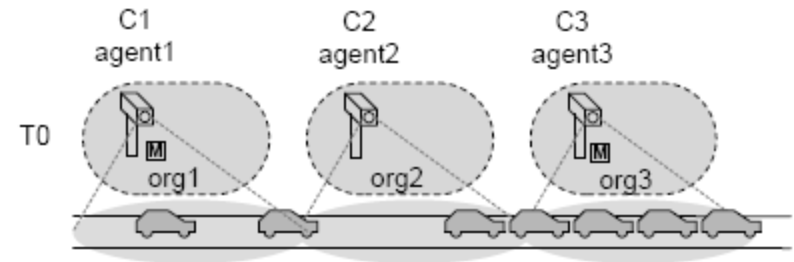


(a) Scenario with a failing camera



(b) Deployment view of one camera

# FORMS in action



*Environment*

*attributes* :  $\mathbb{P}$  *Attribute*

*processes* :  $\mathbb{P}$  *Process*

*attributes*  $\neq \emptyset$

*TrafficEnvironment*<sub>T0</sub>

*TrafficEnvironment*

*attributes* = { *camera*<sub>1</sub> , *camera*<sub>2</sub> , *camera*<sub>3</sub> , *freeflow\_zone*<sub>1</sub> ,  
*freeflow\_zone*<sub>2</sub> , *congested\_zone*<sub>3</sub> }

*processes* = *traffic\_domain\_processes*  $\cup$   
*communication\_infrastructure\_processes*

*traffic\_domain\_processes* ==

{ *monitor\_camera*<sub>1</sub> , *monitor\_camera*<sub>2</sub> , *monitor\_camera*<sub>3</sub> }

*communication\_infrastructure\_processes* == { *transmit* }

# FORMS in action

*LocalCameraSystem*

*localTrafficMonitoringSystem* : *LocalTrafficMonitoringSystem*  
*selfHealingSubsystem* : *SelfHealingSubsystem*  
*myName* : *Name*

...

*SituatedLocalCameraSystem*

*TrafficEnvironment*  
*LocalCameraSystem*  
*context* : *Context*

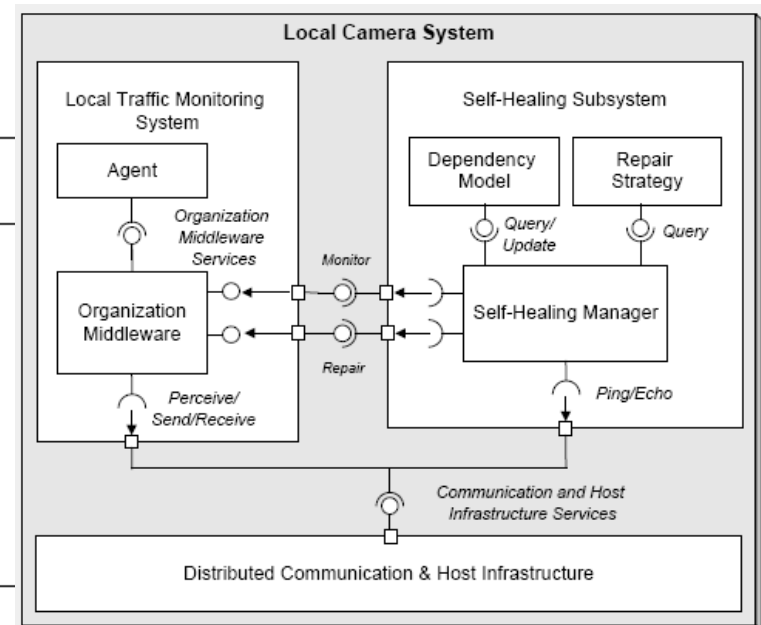
$context \subseteq attributes \wedge$

...

*TrafficJamMonitoringSystem*

*localCamaraSystems* :  $\mathbb{P}$  *SituatedLocalCameraSystem*

...



# FORMS in action

*TrafficEnvironment*<sub>T3</sub>

$\Delta$  *TrafficEnvironment*<sub>T2</sub>

*e?* : *events*

*s?* : *shutdowns*

$e? = \{camera_2\} \mapsto \{\}$

$s? = monitor\_camera_2$

$attributes' = attributes \setminus first(e?) \cup second(e?)$

$processes' = processes \setminus \{s?\}$

*Clock*

*time* : *Time*

*Tick*

$\Delta$  *Clock*

$time' = time + 1$

*Timeout*

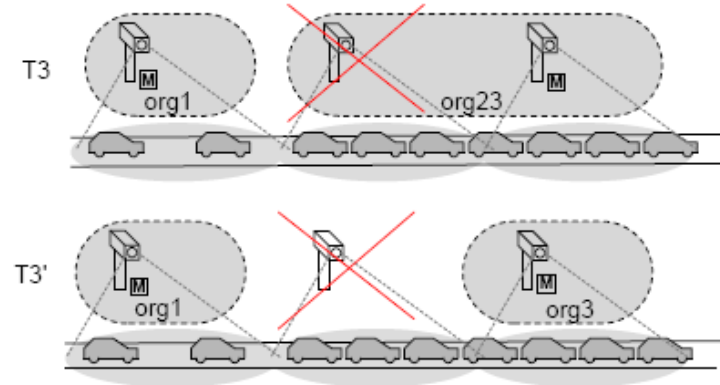
$\exists$  *SelfHealingManager*

*Tick*

*n!* : *Name*

$\exists n! : Name; t : Time \bullet$

$(n!, t) \in coordinationMechanism.ping\_time \wedge$   
 $t + coordinationMechanism.wait\_time > time'$



# FORMS in action

$TrafficEnvironment_{T3}$

$\Delta TrafficEnvironment_{T2}$

$e? : events$

$s? : shutdowns$

$e? = \{camera_2\} \mapsto \{\}$

$s? = monitor\_camera_2$

$attributes' = attributes \setminus first(e?) \cup second(e?)$

$processes' = processes \setminus \{s?\}$

$Timeout_1$

$Timeout$

$\Xi SelfHealingManagerOne_{T2}$

$time = 4470$

$n! = 2$

$CameraOneRecoversFromFailureCameraTwo$

$\Delta TrafficJamMonitoringSystem_{T3}$

$TrafficEnvironment_{T3}$

$Timeout_1$

$lcs1?, lcs1! : SituatedLocalCameraSystem$

$camera : Attribute$

$cam : EnvironmentRepresentation$

$n : Name$

$\{camera\} = first(e?) \wedge$

$traffic\_communication\_channel = traffic\_communication\_channel \setminus \{n \mapsto cam\} \wedge$

...

$lcs1?.myName = 1 \wedge$

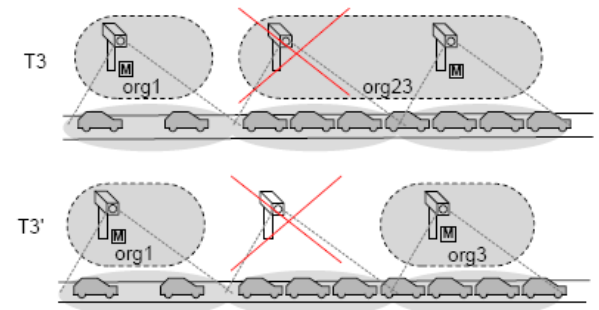
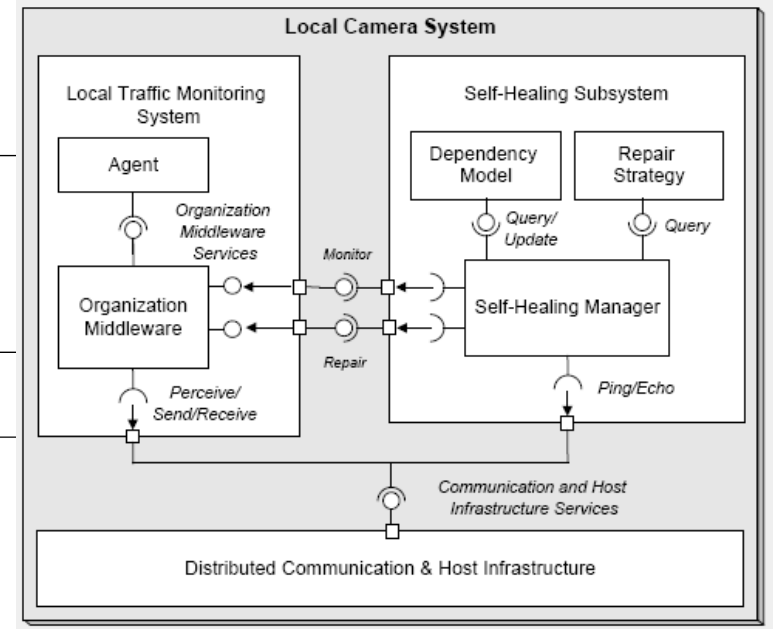
$lcs1!.context = lcs1?.context \setminus \{camera\} \wedge$

$lcs1!.selfHealingSubsystem = updateSelfHealingSubsystem(lcs1?, camera, cam, n) \wedge$

$lcs1!.localTrafficMonitoringSystem =$

$adaptLocalTrafficMonitoringSystem(lcs1?, camera, cam, n) \wedge$

$localCamaraSystems' = localCamaraSystems \setminus \{lcs1?\} \cup \{lcs1!\}$



# Reference approaches for self-adaptation

## FORMS 2012

- Integrated, extensible model
- Formal underpinning
- Focus on modeling and reasoning about structural aspects of self-adaptive systems
- Reference model can be mapped to different architectures
- Vocabulary for domain of self-adaptive systems



# Overview

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# Formal methods for self-adaptation

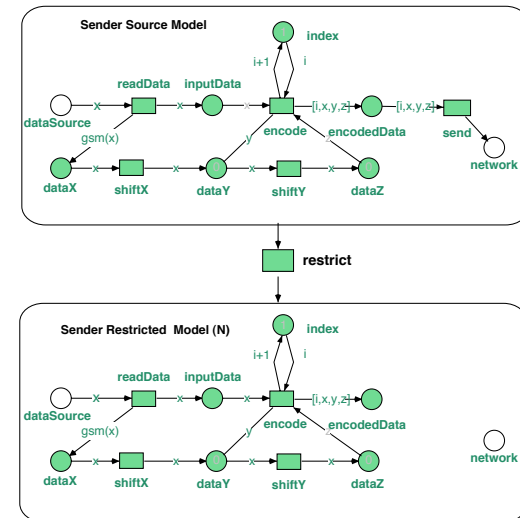
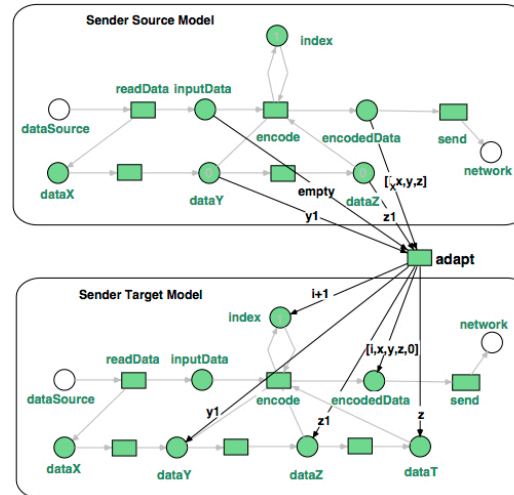
## A selection

- 2006: Zhang & Cheng (design time verification and model transformation)
- 2009: Epifani et al. (K models at runtime)
- 2011: Calinescu et al. (MAPE functions at runtime)
- 2013: Ghezzy et al. (model interpretation)

# Formal methods for self-adaptive systems

## Zhang and Cheng 2006

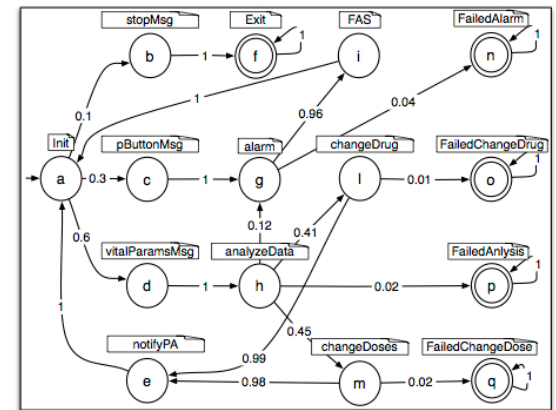
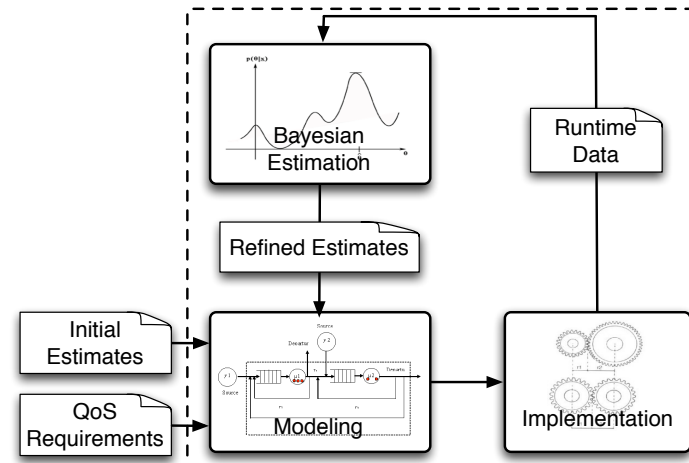
- Different classes of adaptations
  - one-point, guided adaptation, overlap adaptation
- Process to create and verify formal models (Petri nets and LTL)
- Automatically generate programs from them



# Formal methods for self-adaptive systems

## Epifani et al. 2006

- Probabilistic model represents reliability of execution flows of system
- Probabilities are dynamically updated based on observations
- Formal model of system behavior at runtime: focus on K of MAPE-K

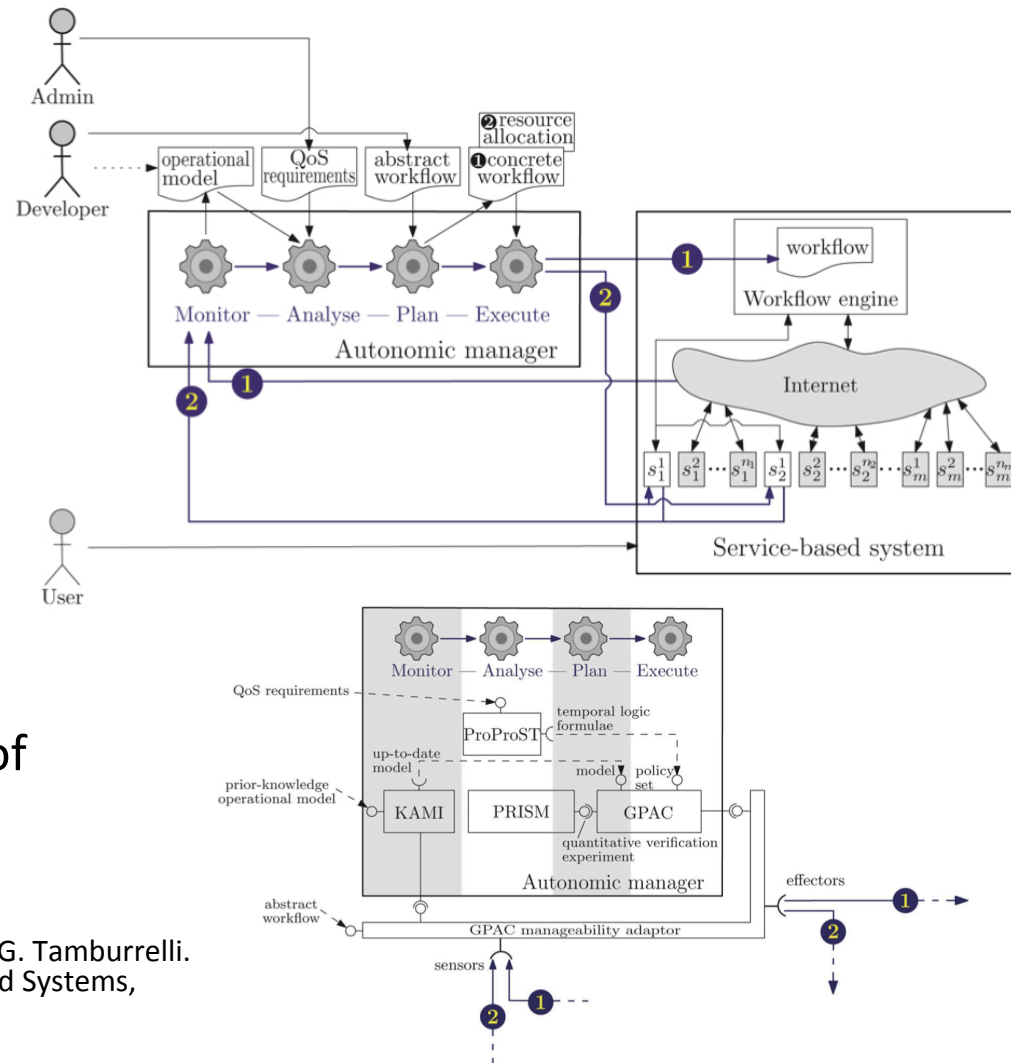


I. Epifani, C. Ghezzi, R. Mirandola, and G. Tamburrelli. 2009. Model evolution by run-time parameter adaptation, International Conference on Software Engineering, ICSE 2009

# Formal methods for self-adaptive systems

## Calinescu et al. 2011

- Probabilistic model of reliability and performance properties of service-based system
- Requirements specified in probabilistic computation tree logic
- Online verification of properties using Prism
- Adaptation of workflow engine (service selection + resources)
- Adaptation logic consists of set of tools that are glued together

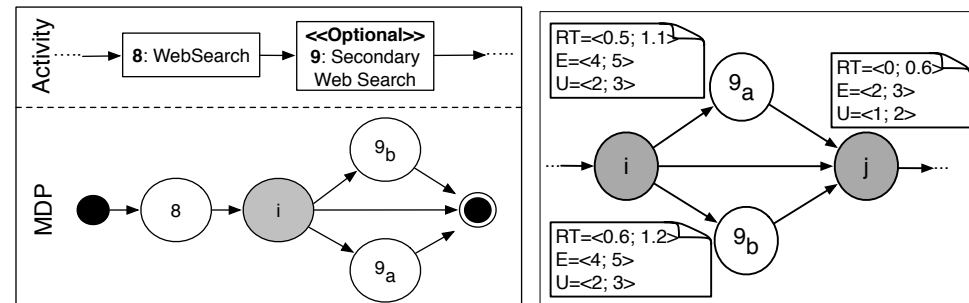
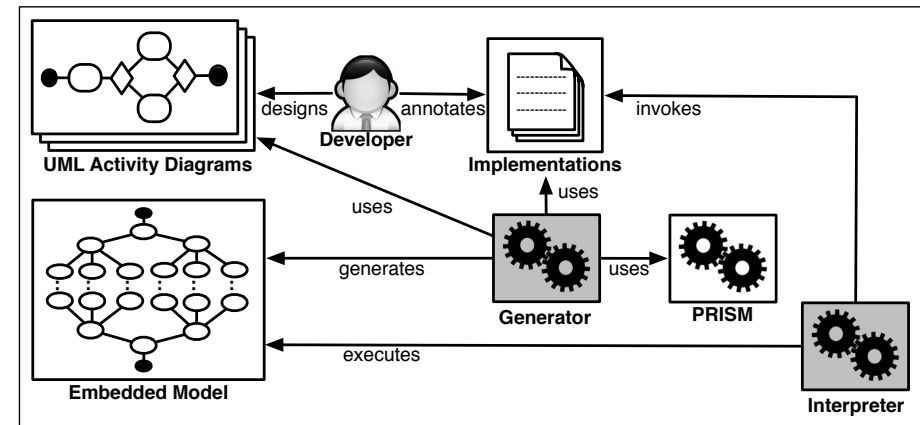


R. Calinescu, L. Grunske, M. Kwiatkowska, R. Mirandola, and G. Tamburrelli.  
Dynamic QoS Management and Optimization in Service-Based Systems,  
IEEE Transactions on Software Engineering, TSE 2011

# Formal methods for self-adaptive systems

## Ghezzy et al. 2013

- Annotated UML diagram models response time, energy consumption and usability of different execution paths of the system
- Diagram is automatically translated to Markov decision process using Prism
- Interpreter guides the execution of the system using the model
- Cumulative reward is used to select path with highest utility
- Adaptation logic is encoded in ad-hoc interpreter



# Summary SOTA

- Increasing attention for formal models at runtime to provide guarantees of adaptation
- Probabilistic approaches dominate
- Focus on formal models of system, environment and goals (K of MAPE-K)
- No systematic formalization and verification of adaptation functions (MAPE of MAPE-K)
- Limited support for unpredicted changes

# Overview

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# Starting points

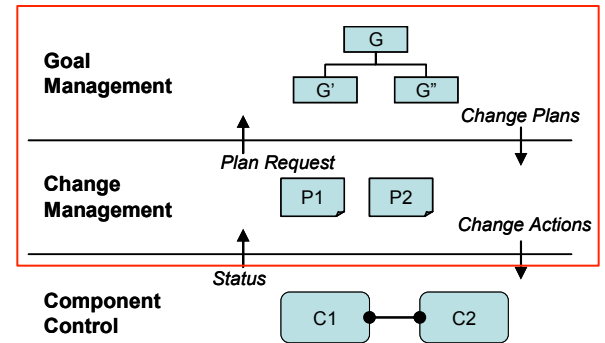
- Formalize adaptation functions to provide guarantees about adaptation capabilities
  - E.g., does analysis detect errors correctly?
  - Are adaptations performed in order of selected plan?
- Support unanticipated changes
  - Requires support for adaptations of adaptation functions

# ActivFORMS

Active formal models for self-adaptation

- Formal model of complete MAPE-K loop
- Model is directly executed to adapt the managed system
- Model directly supports online verification of goal satisfaction/violation
- Model can be adapted at runtime to support unanticipated changes

# Focus



- 3 layered model of Kramer & Magee
  - Component control (layer 1), change management (2), goal management (3)
- Focus on layer 2 and 3
  - Assumption: managed system is equipped with required sensors and effectors
  - Instrumentation of managed system is research subject in its own right
- Case study: logistic multi-robot system

# Case study

Robot System Manager

Tasks

Show Edit

Pick	Drop	Status
A	D	Done
B	D	Done
C	D	R1
B	D	R2
A	D	Pending
C	D	Pending

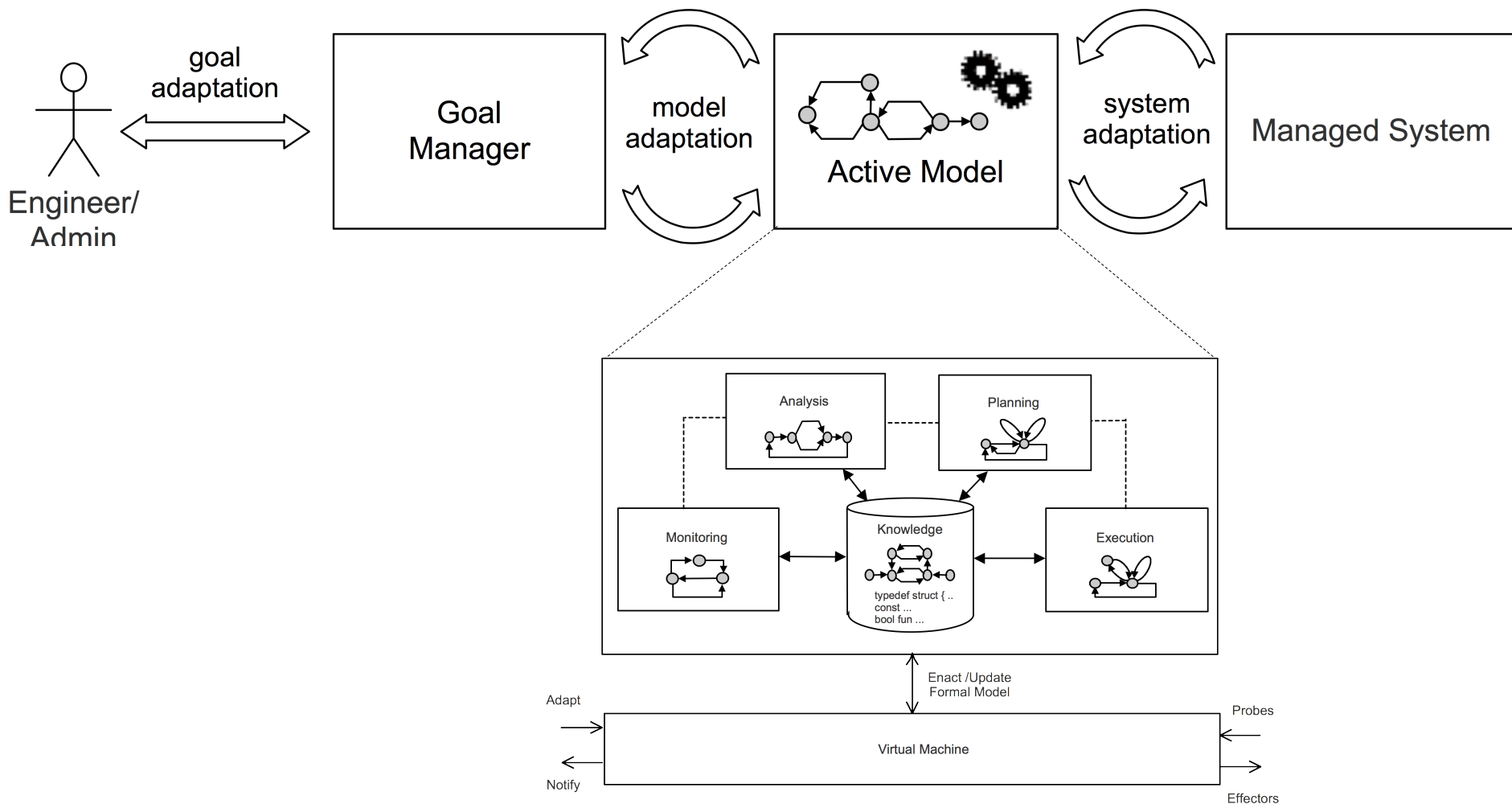
Map

Show Edit

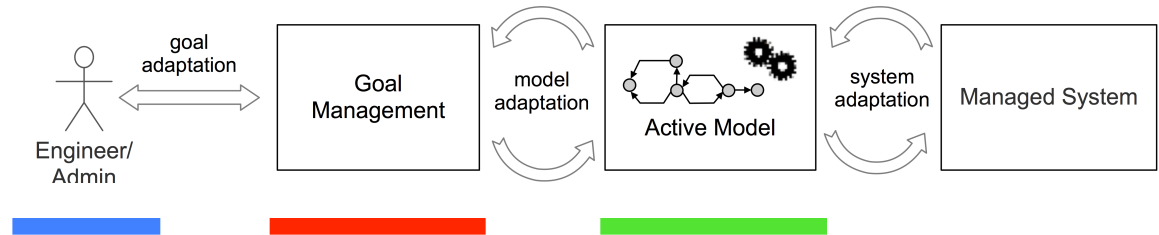
The map shows a grid environment. A yellow dot labeled 'D' is on the left. A cyan circle labeled 'R2' is at the top intersection. A cyan circle labeled 'R1' is at the bottom intersection. Three magenta dots labeled 'A', 'B', and 'C' are on the right side, aligned with the top, middle, and bottom intersections respectively.



# Approach

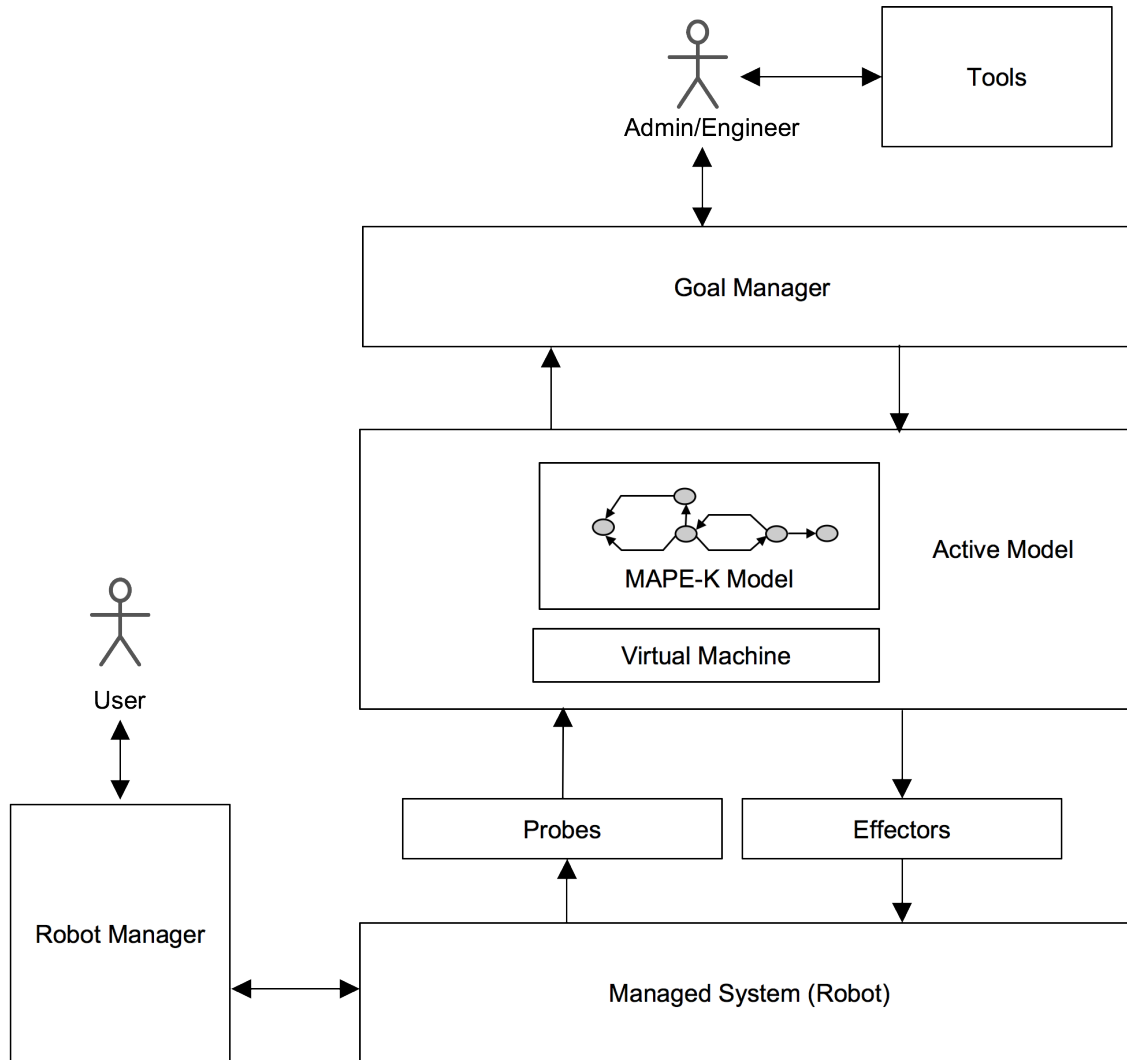


# Approach

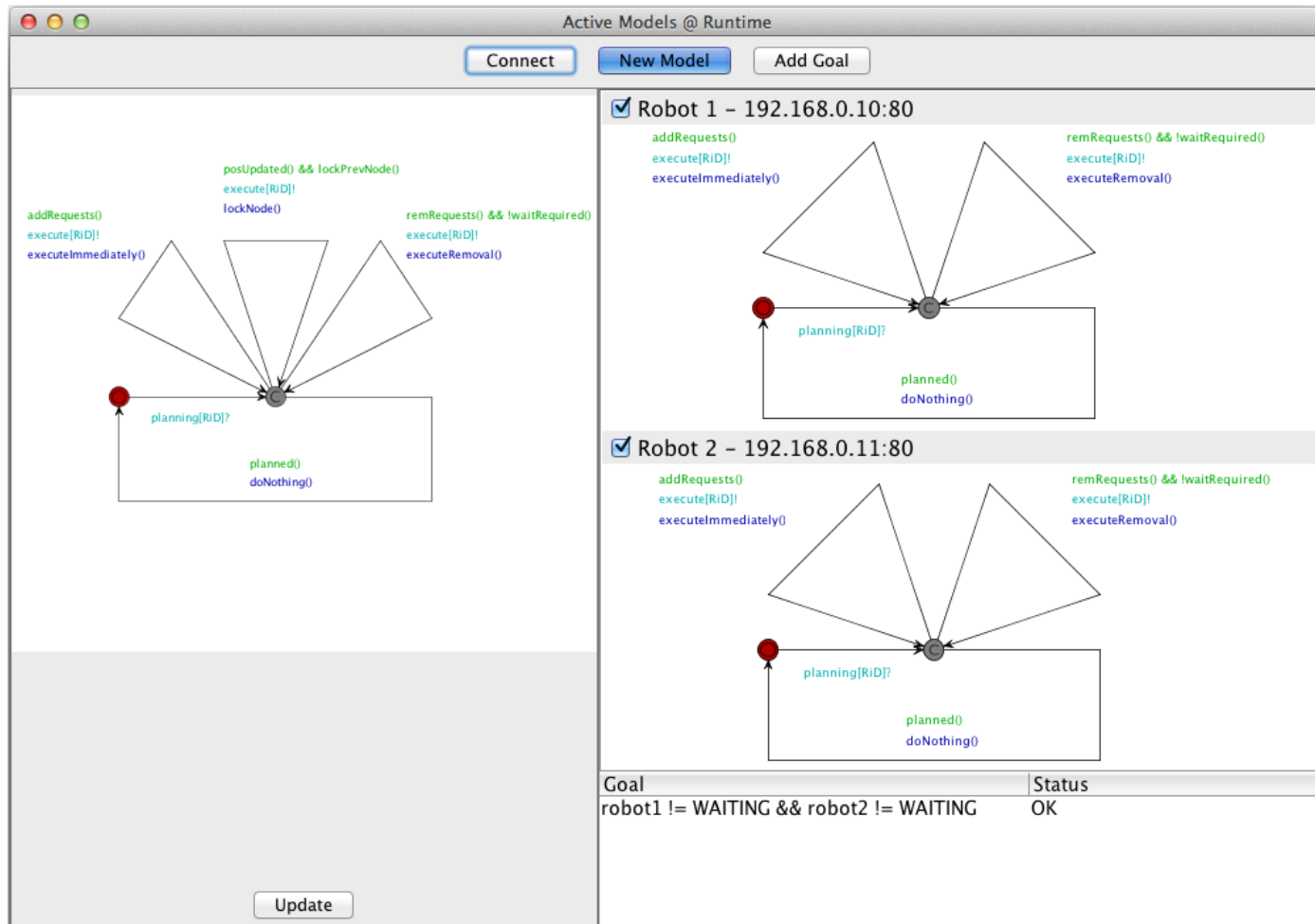


- Active model
  - Is a formally verified model
  - Realizes a MAPE-K loop
  - To adapt the managed system
- Goal management
  - Monitors the active model
  - Can adapt the active model (e.g., to improve it or deal with a particular adaptation problem)
- Engineer/Admin
  - Can monitor goal satisfaction/violation
  - Can change the active model, verify and deploy it, to manage (new) goals using goal management

# Realization



# Goal Management Interface





# Virtual machine

- Transforms a formal model (network of timed automata) into a graph representation
- Executes that model
- Can adapt the current model at runtime
- Can detect and notify goal violations

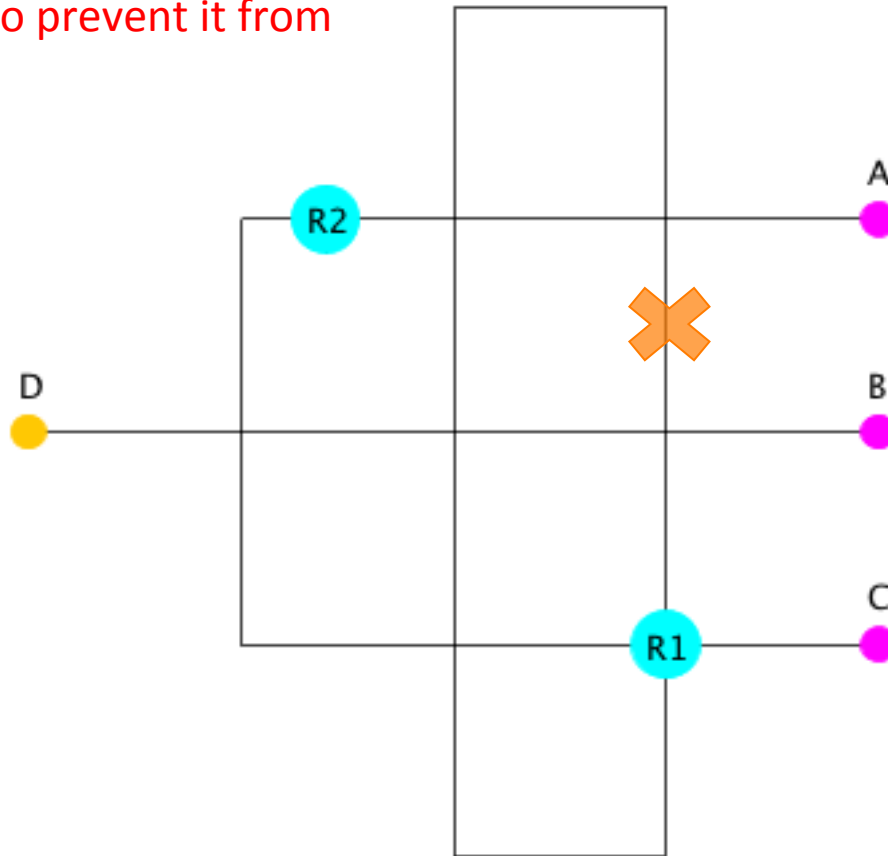
# Levels of adaptation

- Level 1: active model adapts the managed system
  - Close temporally a lane in the warehouse for maintenance
- Level 2: adapt the active model (adapt MAPE)
  - Add a new drop location in the warehouse

# Level 1 adaptations

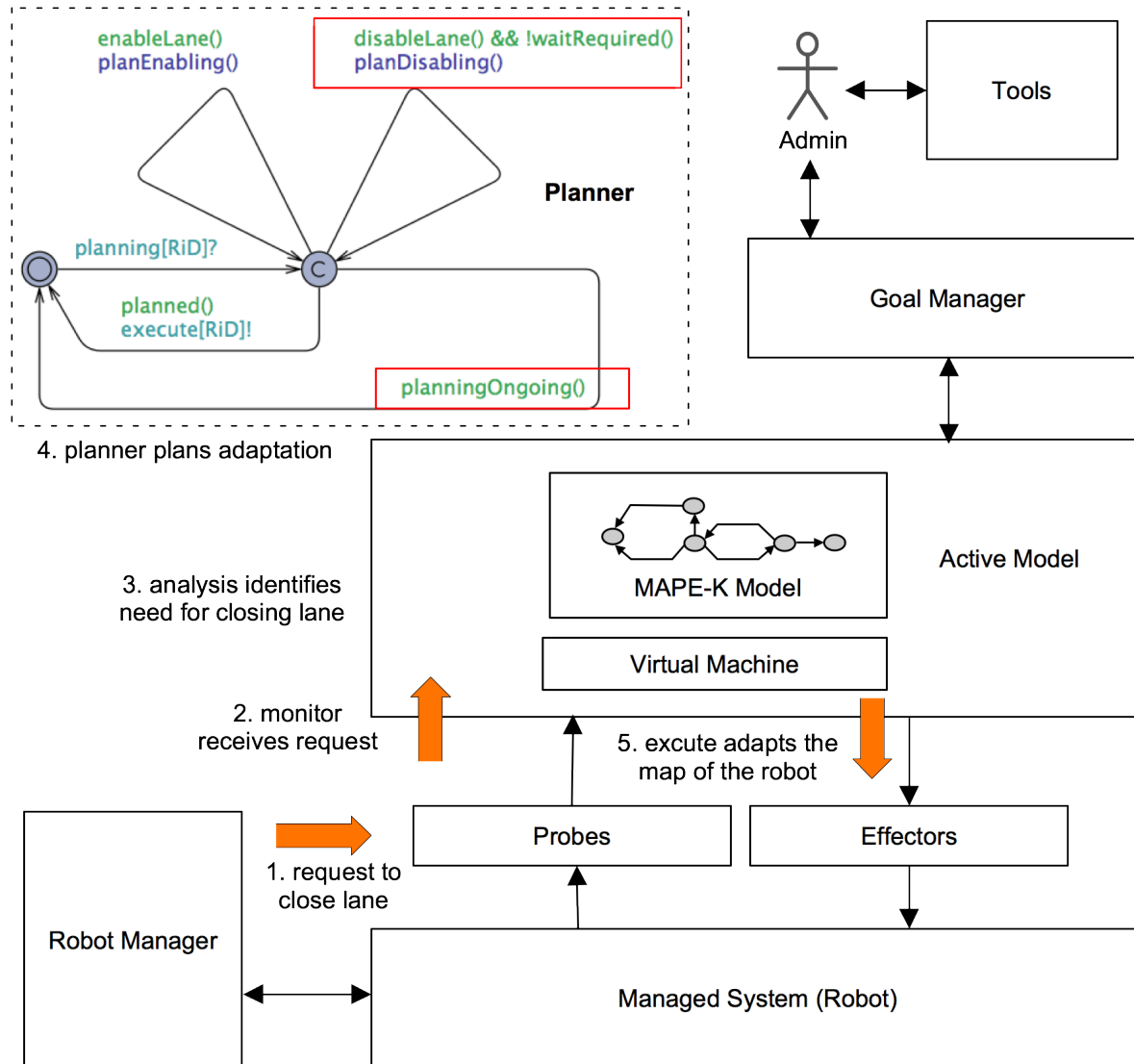
*Close temporally a lane in the warehouse for maintenance*

- Adapt the robot to prevent it from using a closed lane



# Level 1 adaptations

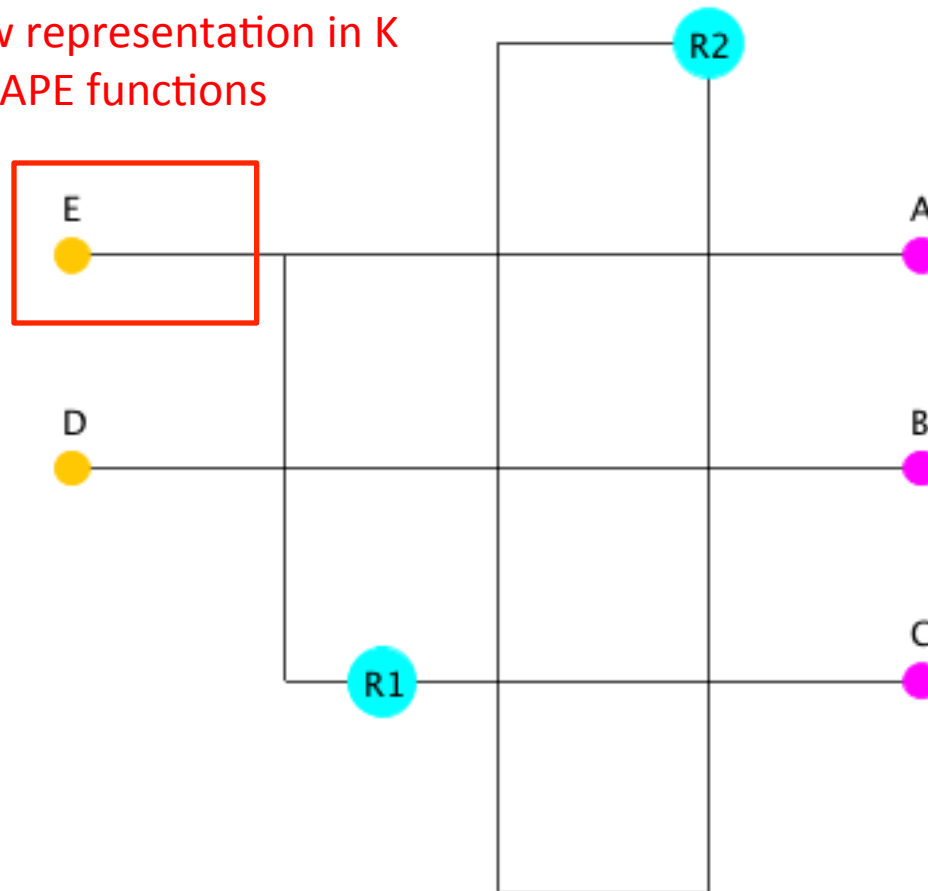
*Close temporally a lane in the warehouse for maintenance*



# Level 2 adaptations

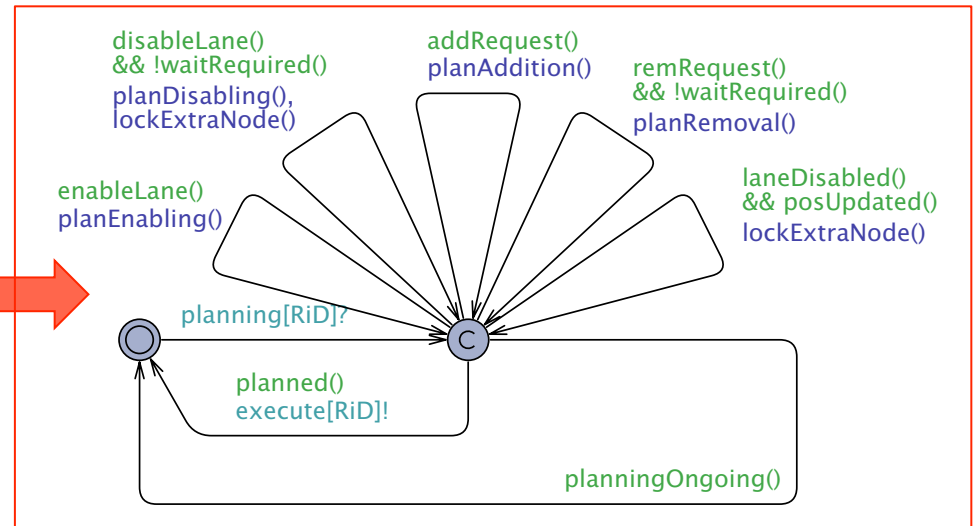
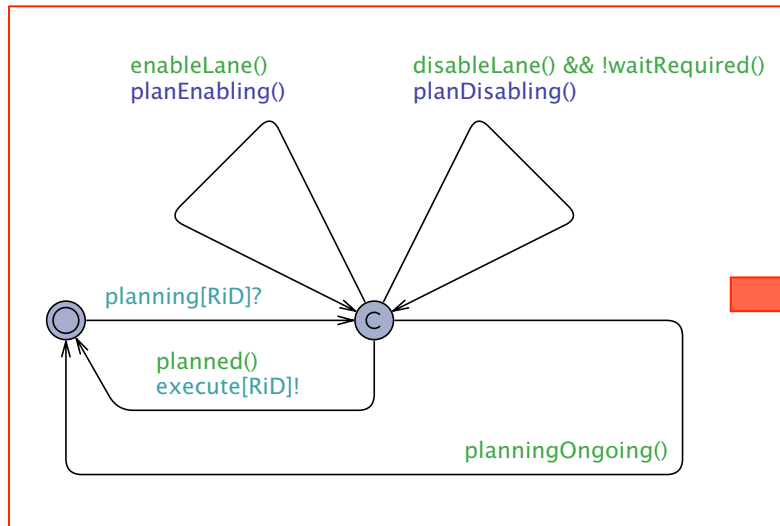
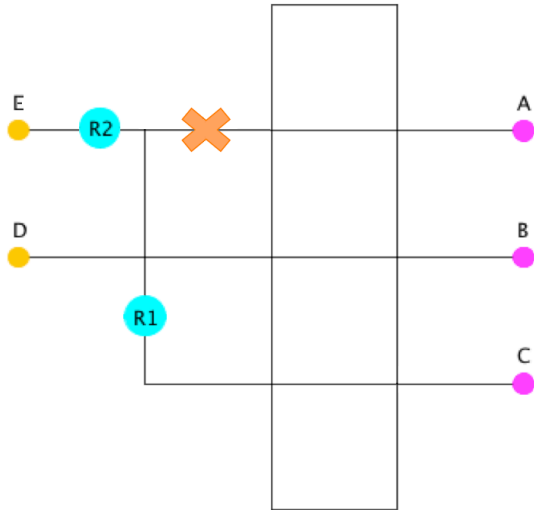
*Add a new drop location in the warehouse*

- Add new part of the map for the robot
- Creates new deadlock situations when certain lanes are disabled
- Requires adding new representation in K and adaptations of MAPE functions



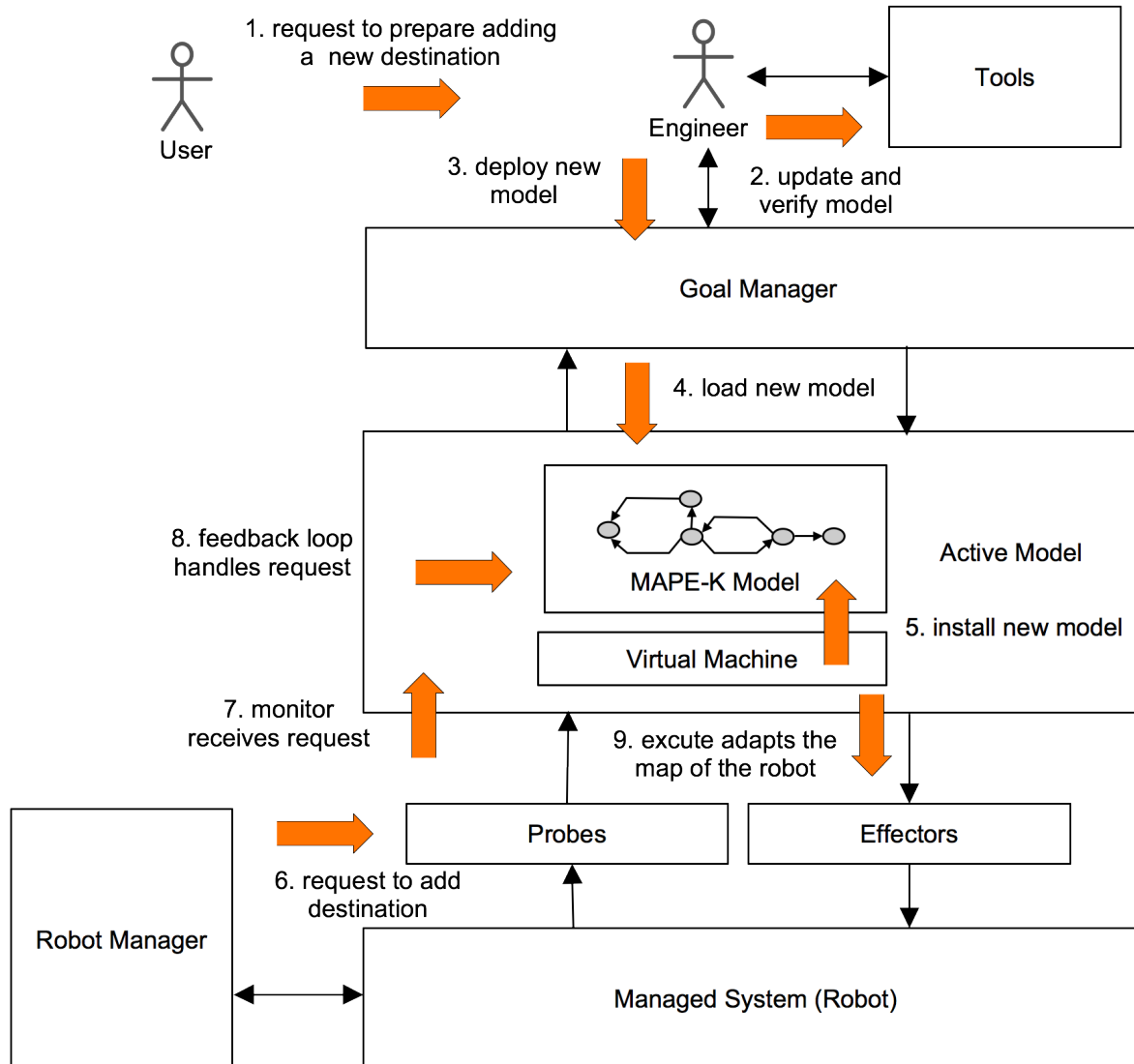
# Level 2 adaptations

*Deal with new deadlock threat (close additional lane): e.g., update planner*



# Level 2 adaptations

*Add a new drop location in the warehouse*



# ActivFORMS summary

- Formal active model guarantees verified properties of the adaption process
- Active model directly executes the adaptation: no coding, no model transformations
- Adaptation of adaptation functions: lightweight process to add new goals
- Online detection of goal violations



# Tradeoffs

- Expert knowledge to design and change the formal models
- Modeling is limited by the expressive power of the modeling language
- Language might not be appropriate to model adaption logic for particular types of systems
- Possible performance overhead

# Paves the way for future research

- Domain specific design primitives to support the designer
- Different modeling languages (e.g. probabilistic automata to model domain)
- Coordination between Active Models in decentralized setting
- Automation goal management by learning
- Scalable runtime verification

# Overview

- Architecture-based self-adaptation vs. control-based self-adaptation
- Reference approaches for architecture-based self-adaptation
- Formal methods for self-adaptive systems
- Active formal methods for self-adaptation
- **Wrap up**

# Wrap up: Goals of this tutorial

- Understand the notion of self-adaptation
- Get familiar with references approaches for architecture-based self-adaptation
- Get familiar with state of the art in formal methods for self-adaptive systems
- Understand the challenges in formal methods at runtime for self-adaptive systems

# Wrap up

## Understand the notion of self-adaptation

- Self-adaptation is motivated by the need to deal with design time uncertainties
- Two key families are
  - Control-based self-adaptation: controller design and analysis based on control theoretic foundation
  - Architecture-based self-adaptation: feedback loop reasons about self-model and adapts system when needed
- Separation between managed and managing system
  - Concerns of managed system are about the domain at hand
  - Concerns of managing system are about system

# Wrap up

Get familiar with reference approaches for architecture-based self-adaptation

- MAPE-K reference model
  - MAPE: primary functions to realize self-adaptation
  - K: domain models
- Rainbow framework maps reference model to concrete architecture and implementation
- 3 layer model of Kramer and Magee
  - Component control – adaptation management – goal management
- FORMS: rigorous specified model that integrates different perspectives on self-adaptation

# Wrap up

Get familiar with state of the art formal methods in self-adaptive systems

- Verification at construction time to provide guarantees about system goals
- Model driven approaches to guarantee conformance between models and implementation
- Recent years a clear trend towards the application of formal methods at runtime
- Dominating focus on probabilistic models of the domain
- Main focus on “parametric uncertainty” (e.g., reliability of services change over time)

# Wrap up

Understand the challenges on formal methods at runtime for self-adaptive systems

- Guaranteeing domain goals under uncertainty is one part of assurances of self-adaptation
- Guaranteeing correct adaptation behavior is the other part (lack of attention so far)
- Need for solutions that deal with “structural uncertainty”
  - i.e., unanticipated change; e.g., change goals
- Scalable runtime verification



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