Context-Oriented Programming for Adaptive Software Systems

Tetsuo Kamina (Ritsumeikan University)

Outline

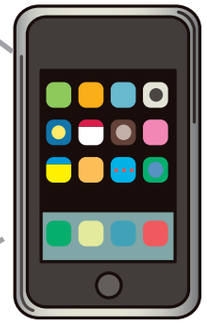
- Short introduction to context-oriented programming(COP)
  - ServalCJ: our achievement in COP language
- Our position & vision for context-oriented software engineering (COSE)
- Discussion on applying COP & COSE to adaptive software systems

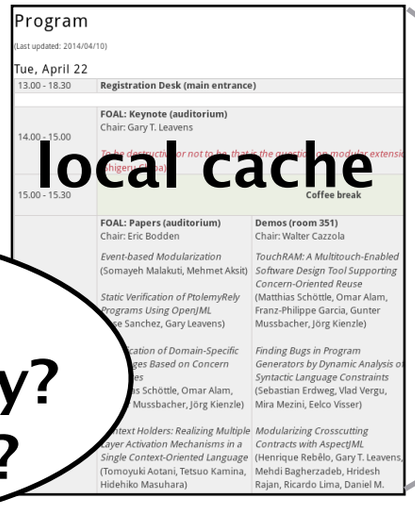
Context-Oriented Programming (COP)

[Costanza05, Hirschfeld08]

- New programming paradigm for modularizing context-dependent behavior
- Promising for context-aware systems
  - e.g. conference guide system

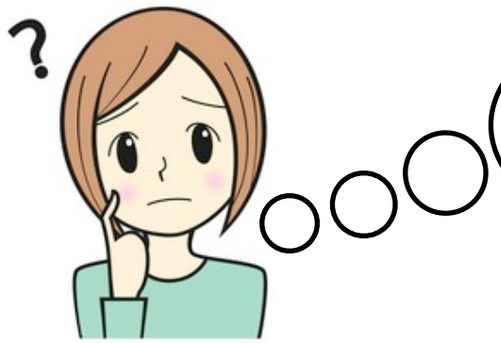
Network available





local cache

Program: Online, Local cache
Twitter: Available, Unavailable



consistency?
modularity?
complexity?

Network unavailable

Context-Oriented Programming (COP)

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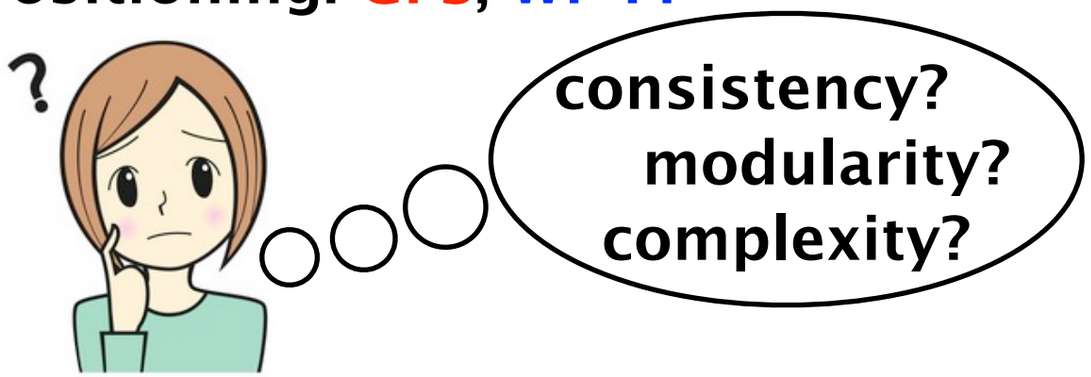
Outdoors

Map: City map, Floor plan
Positioning: GPS, Wi-Fi



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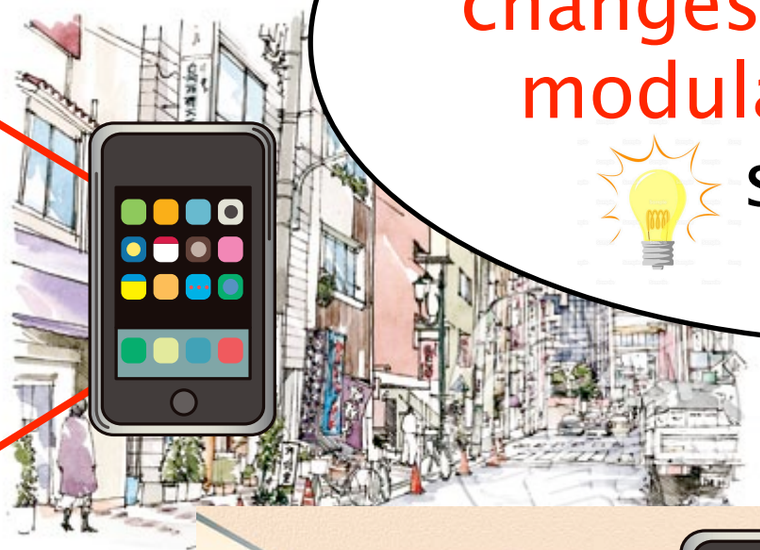
Supporting foreseeable dynamic changes in behavior and modularized systems structure



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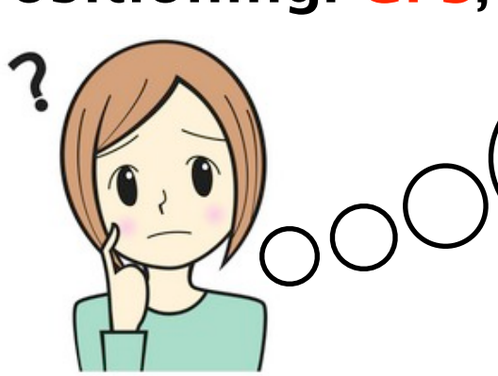

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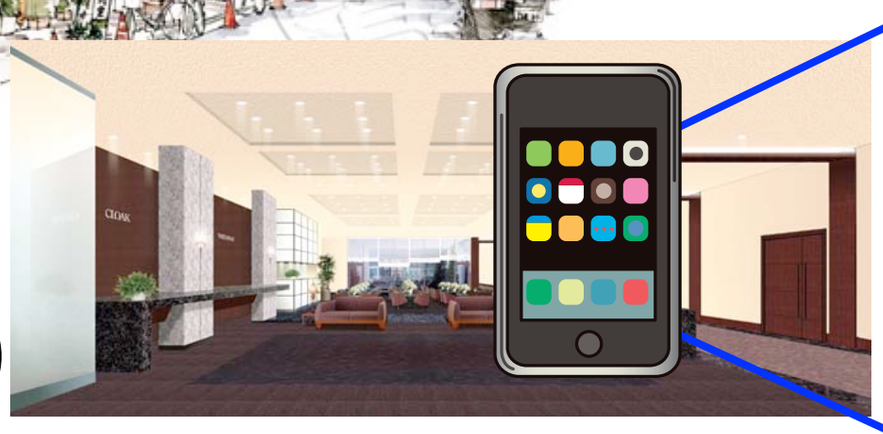

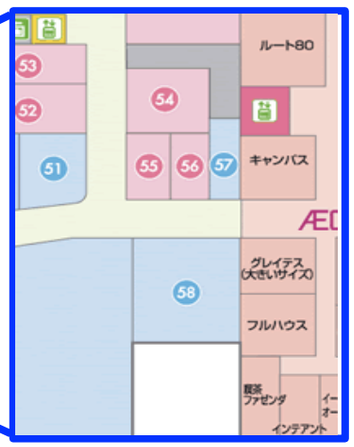

Indoors

Linguistic Constructs for COP

- **Layer**
  - Modularizing context-dependent behavior
  - Lightweight alternative to AOP/FOP
- **Layer activation**
  - Specifying the scope of effect of layers

```
d.display();

p.getPos();
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  class Display {
    void display() {..}}
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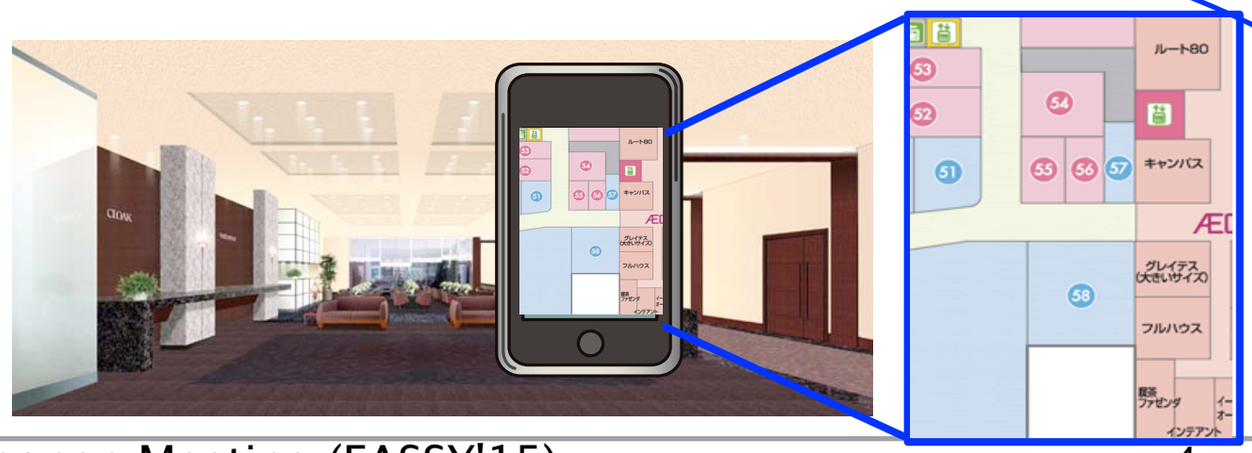


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syntax? semantics?

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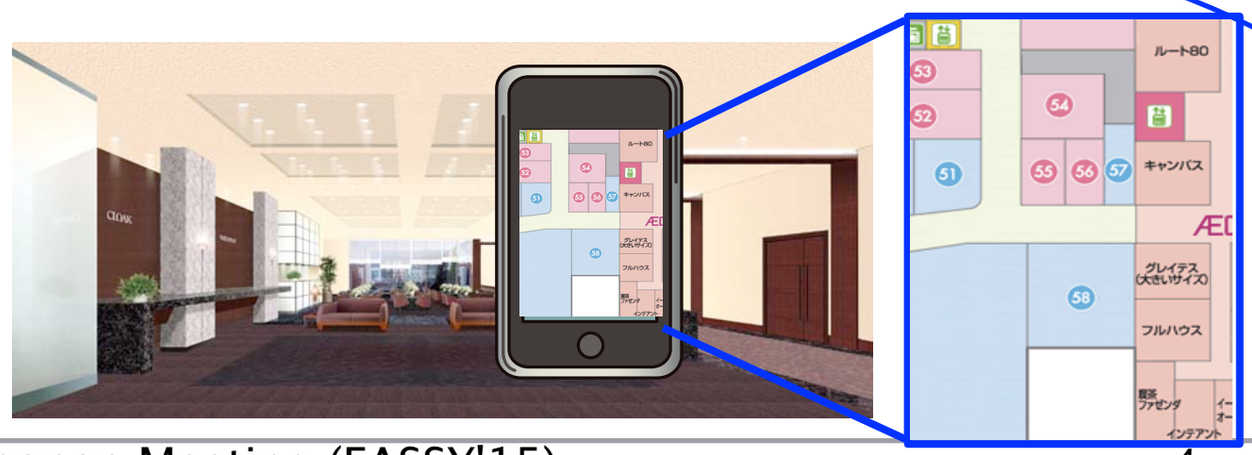


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Our motivation for new COP language

- Several activation mechanisms for specific use cases

- Just a combination is not sufficient

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control-flow specific activation

```
with (Outdoors) { .. }
```

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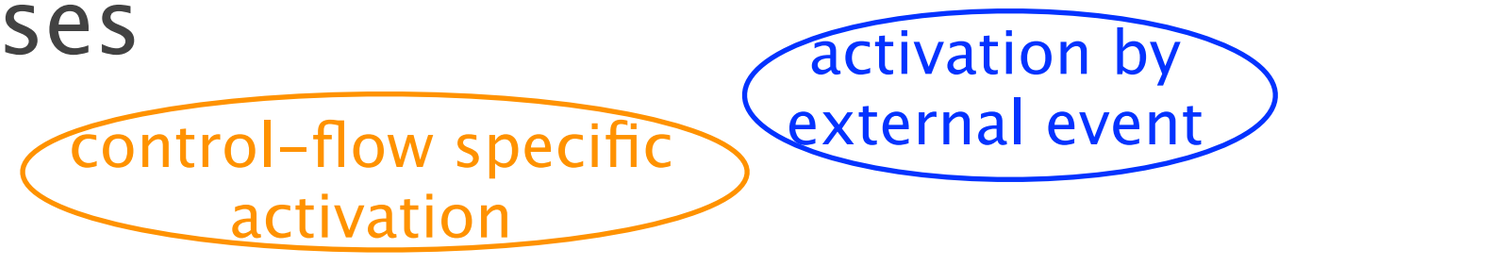

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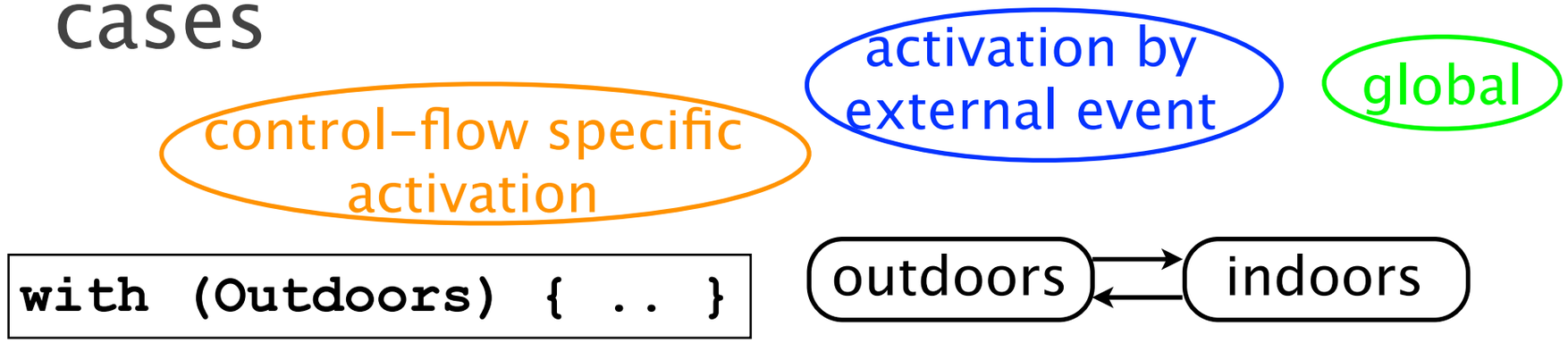

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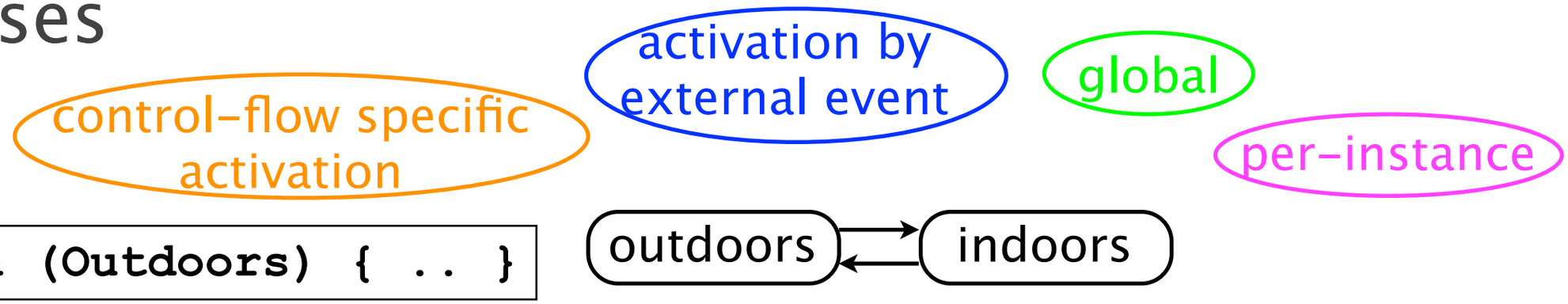

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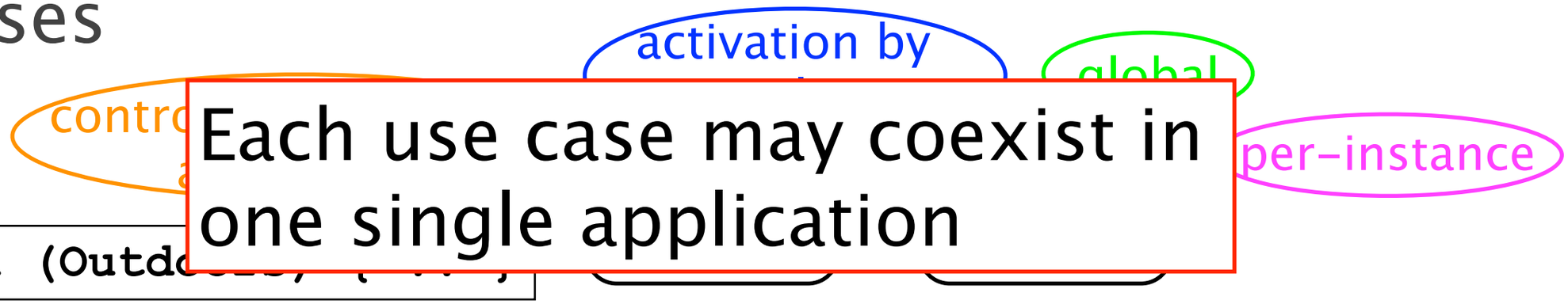

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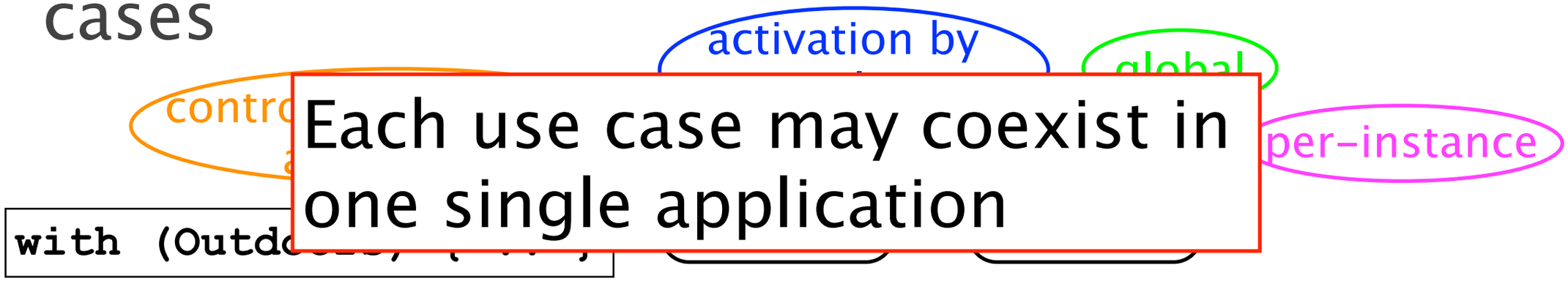

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	control-flow	event-based
per-thread		
global		

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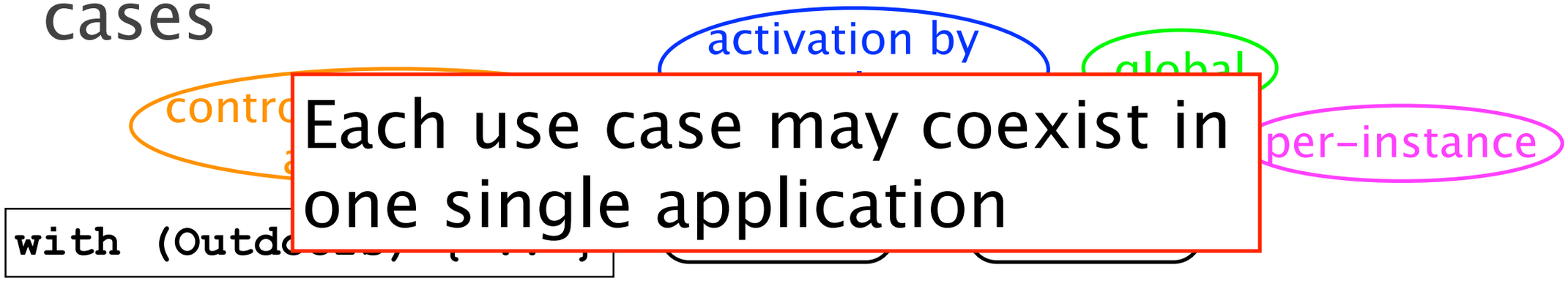

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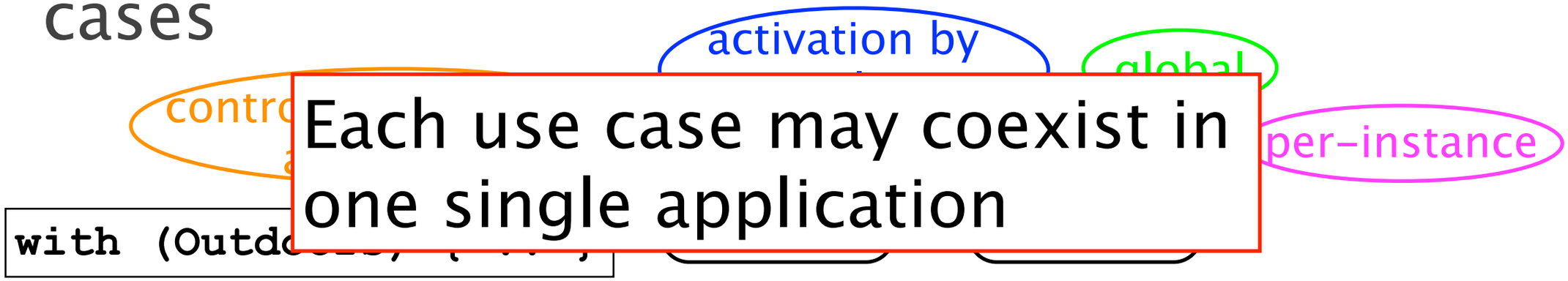

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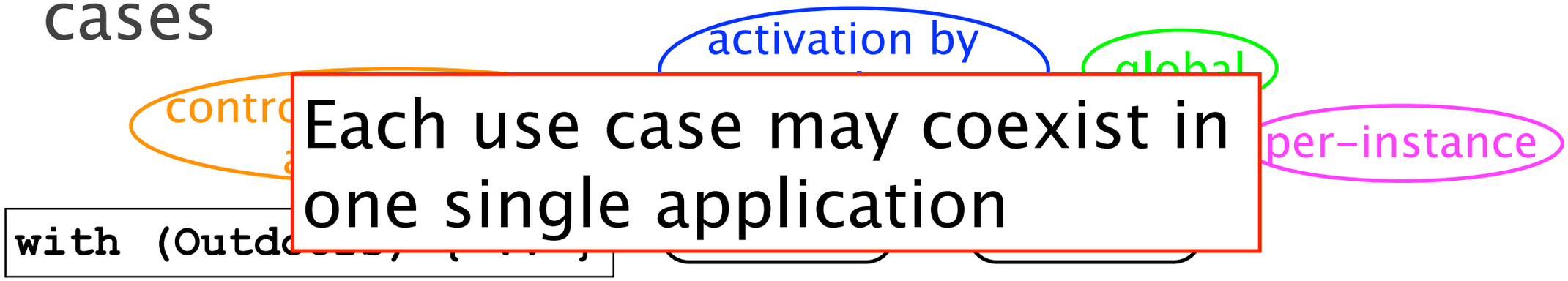

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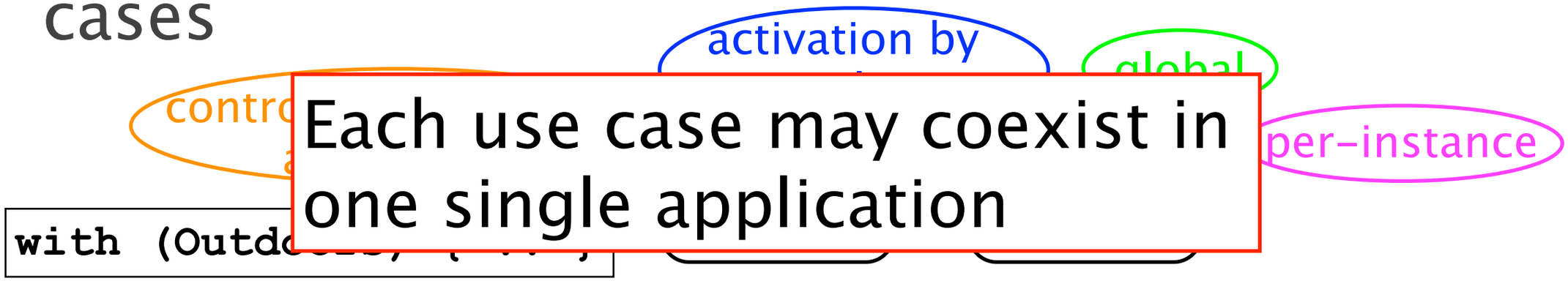

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	control-flow	event-based
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Activation mechanism **beyond** existing COP is required

Our achievement: ServalCJ

[Kamina15, presented in MODULARITY'15]

- Generalizing layer activation mechanisms
  - Contexts: duration of activation
  - Subscribers: the activation targets
    - Can be any sets of instances, whole application, and particular threads

T. Kamina et al., Generalized Layer Activation Mechanism through Contexts and Subscribers, In MODULARITY'15.

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activate Outdoors
  if(m.isProviderEnabled(m.GPS_PROVIDER))
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- Generalizing layer activation mechanisms
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activate Outdoors
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Name of Layer

Condition specifying when the layer is active (including control-flows and temporal terms)

- Subscribers: the activation targets
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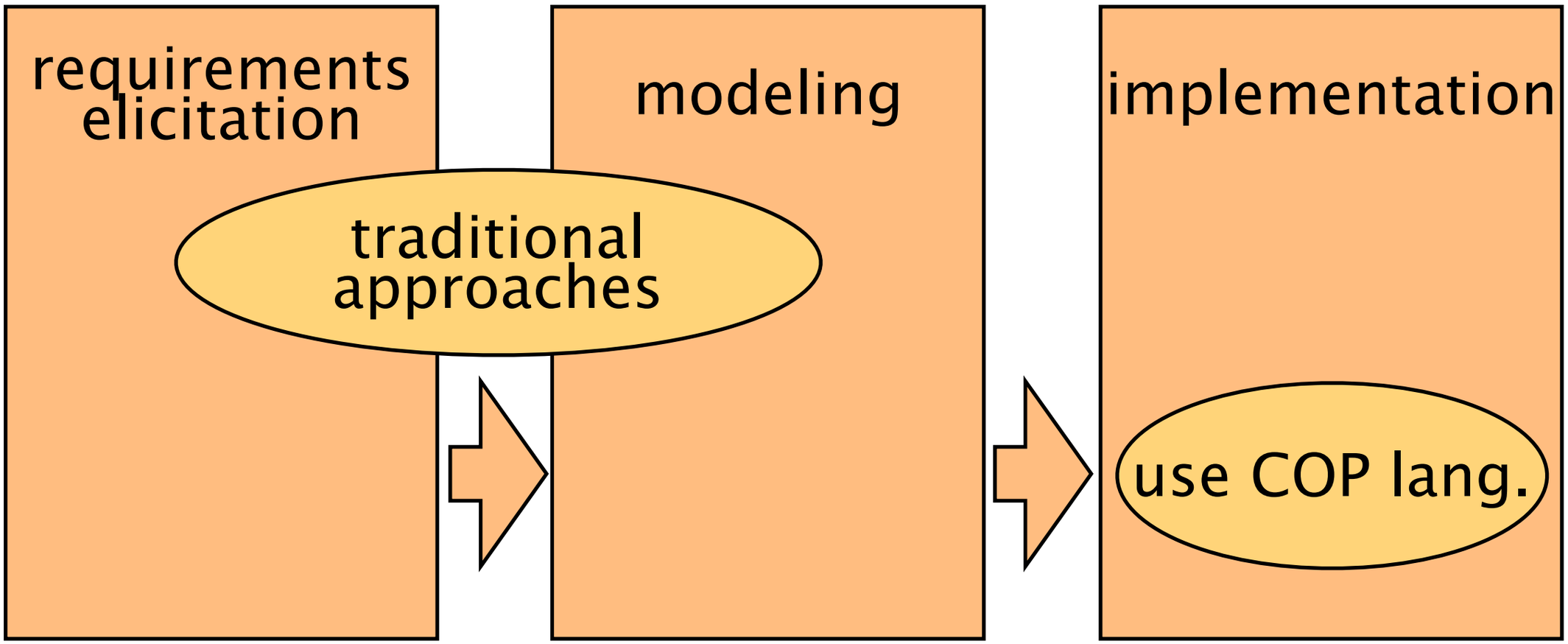
Problem: lack of methodology

- No methods to elicit and model context-dep. behavior



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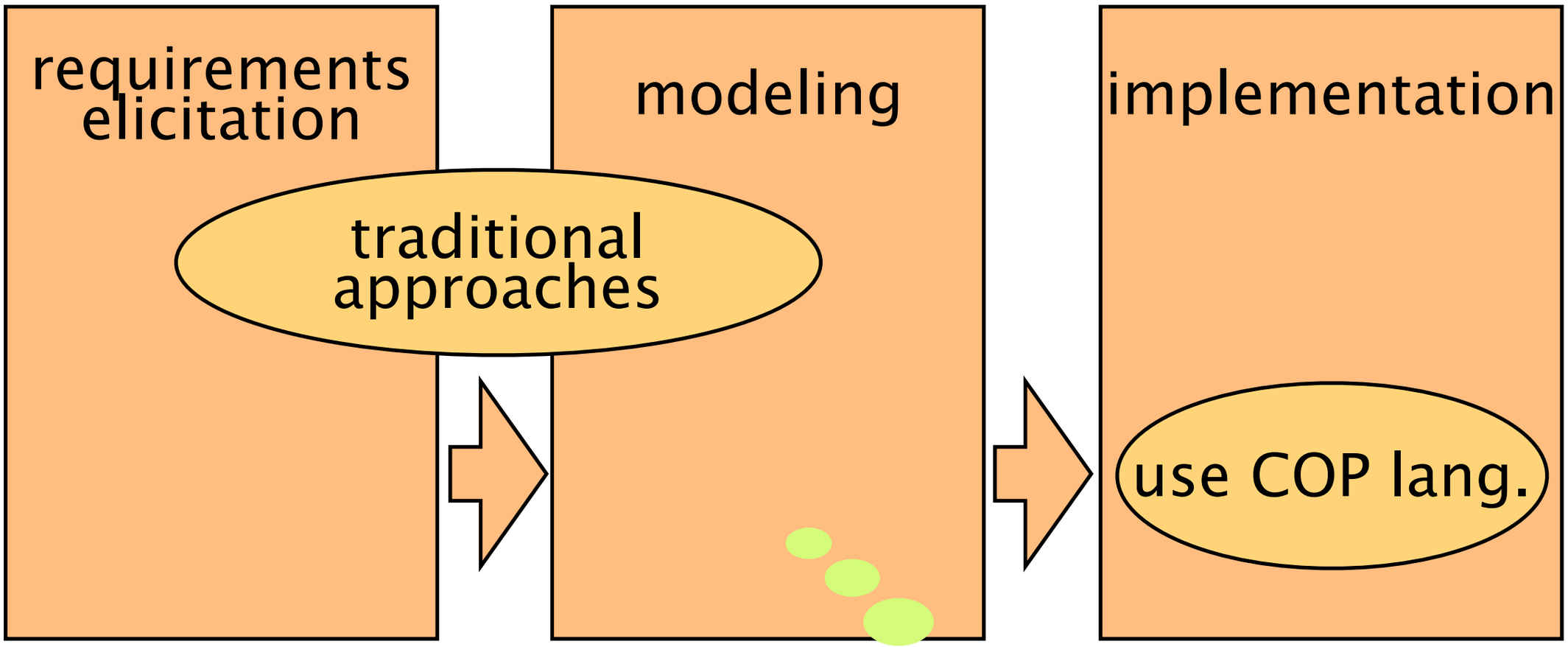

When we should use layers instead of design patterns?

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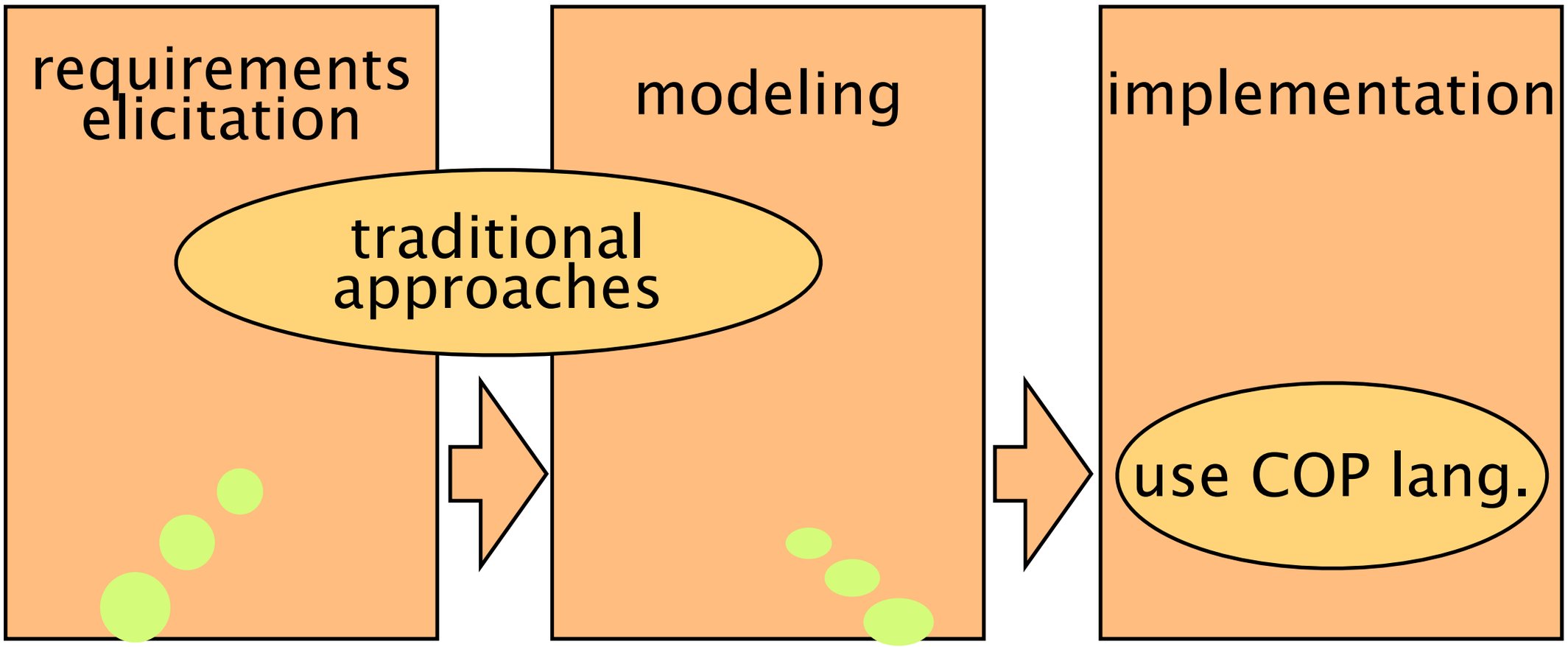

Requirements level contexts are vague
- outdoors, indoors are contexts ... why?
- the ID of the user is not a context ... why not?

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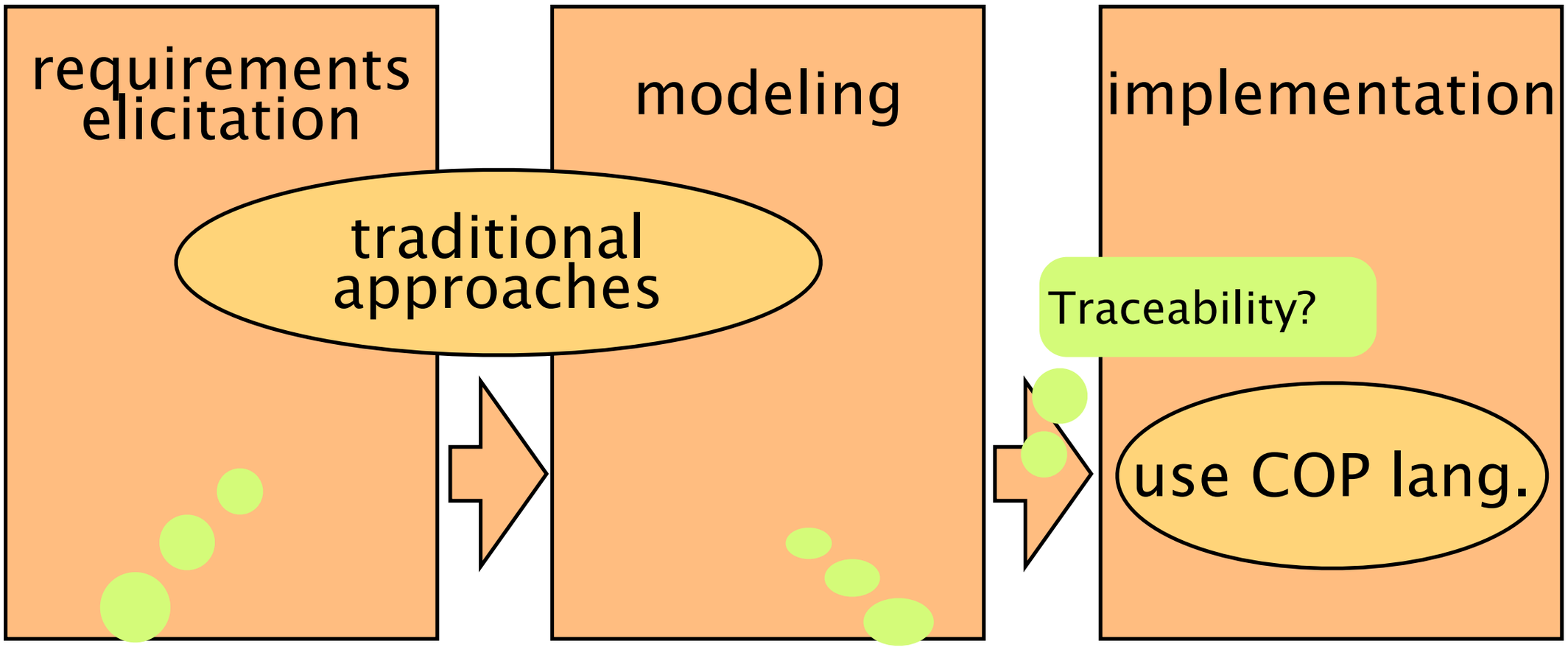

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When we should use layers instead of design patterns?

Our vision

- Presenting our preliminary study on COSE
  [Kamina14, presented in MODULARITY'14]]

Overview of the whole development process will lead us to further research on each stage of development process

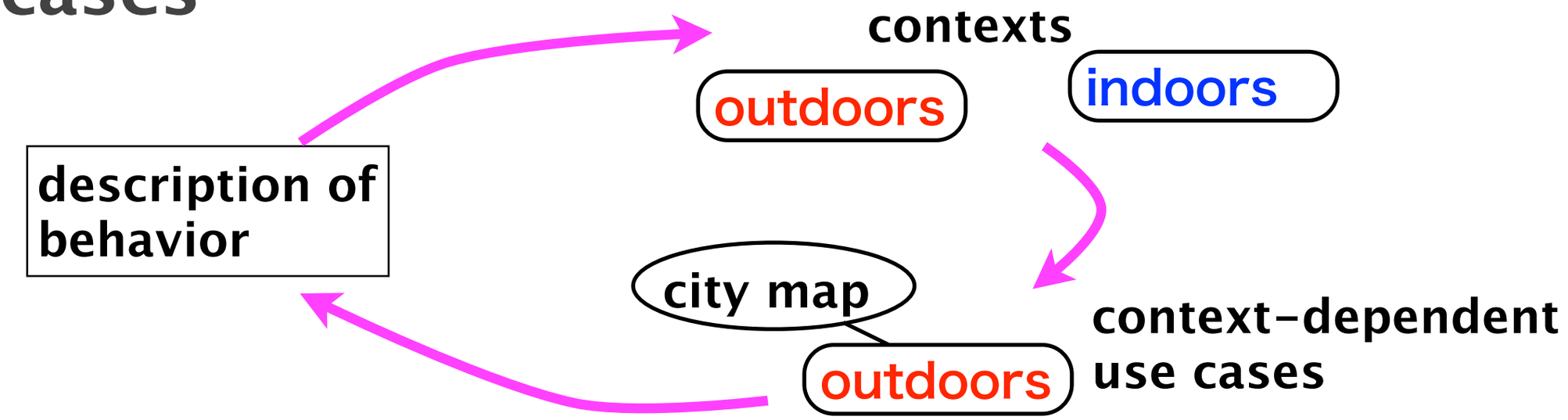
- Principles for finding context-dependent behavior
- Use-case-driven method based on those principles
- A case study

Principles

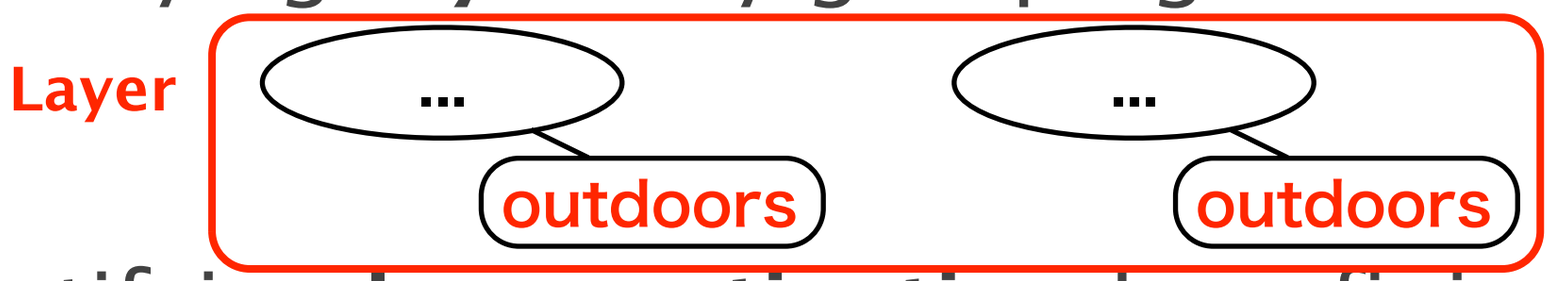
- Factors for dynamically changing behavior that exist outside the behavior are candidates for contexts
- Each such factor is a variable for a Boolean formula, which forms a context
- If multiple variations of behavior share the same context, they should be implemented by using a layer

Overview of COSE

- Identifying **contexts** and **context-dependent use cases**



- Identifying **layers** by grouping use cases



- Identifying **layer activation** by refining definition of contexts

Identifying contexts

- Twitter is available only when the Internet is available
- The user accesses the online program only when the Internet is available
- If the user is inside the venue, the system displays a floor plan
- The system can determine the position only when at least one positioning device is available

Identifying contexts

- Identifying candidates for Boolean variables, which will be used to define **contexts**

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  Find factors that change behavior

  (※conditions existing outside the behavior)

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indoors

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- Refining variables to make them orthogonal

outdoors

depends ↑

hasPositioning

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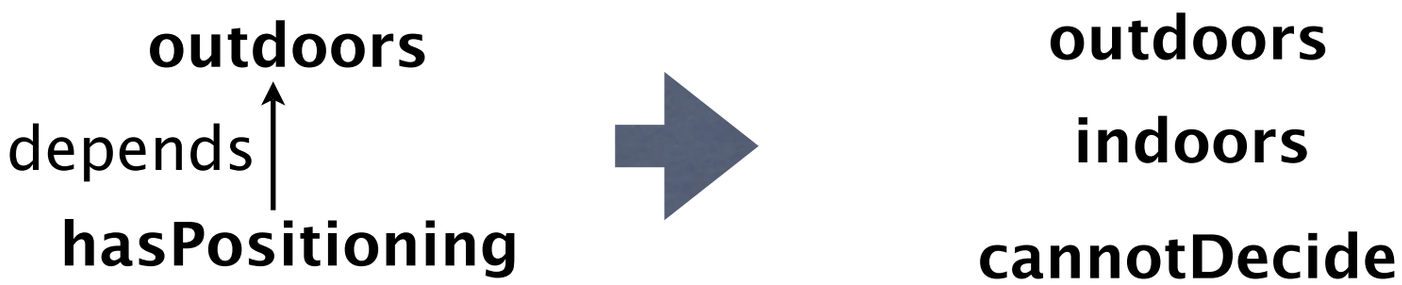

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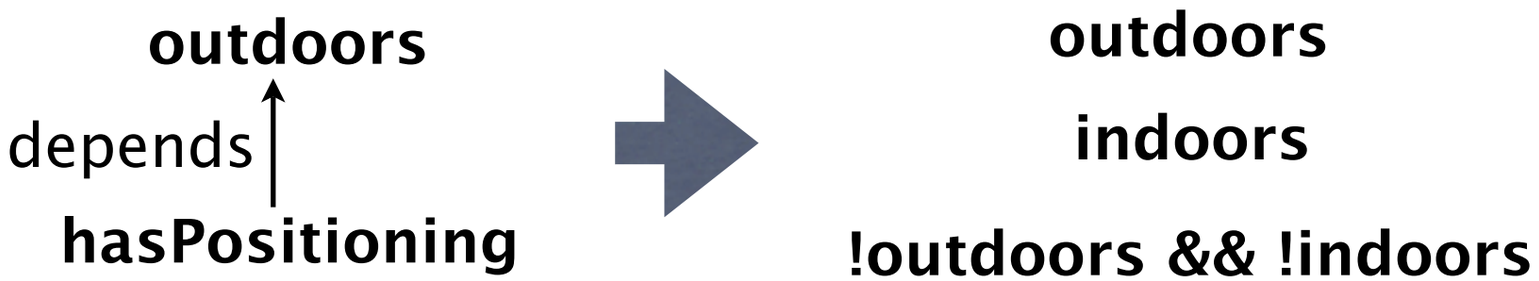
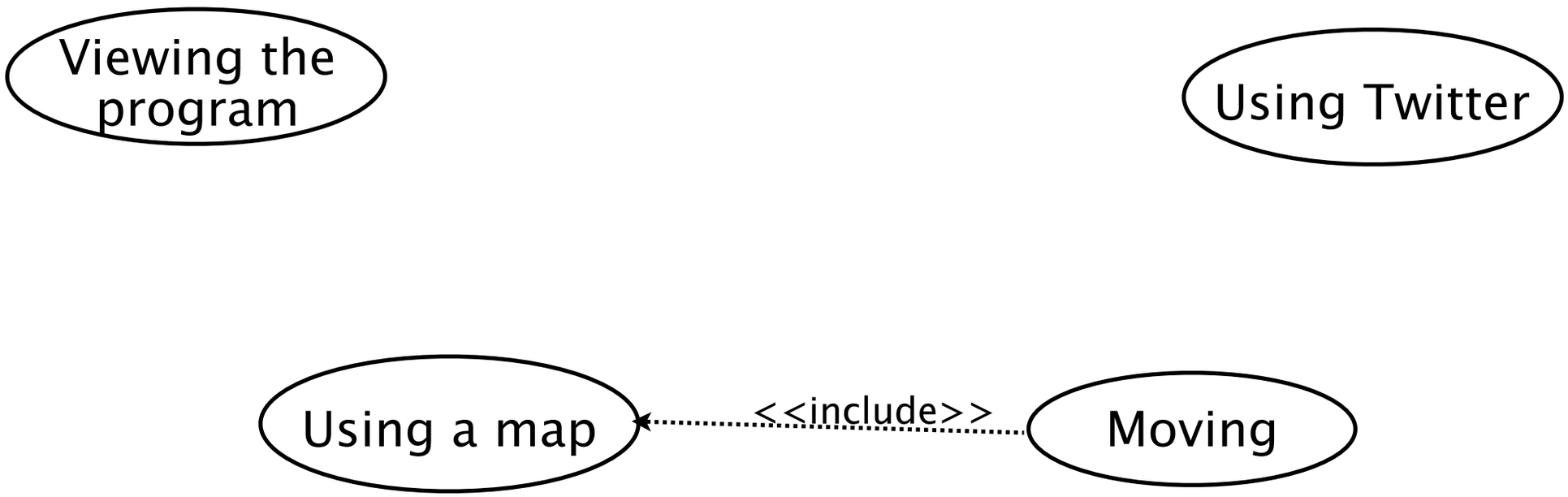


Defining context-dependent use cases

- Annotating use cases that are applicable in specific **contexts** (Boolean terms)



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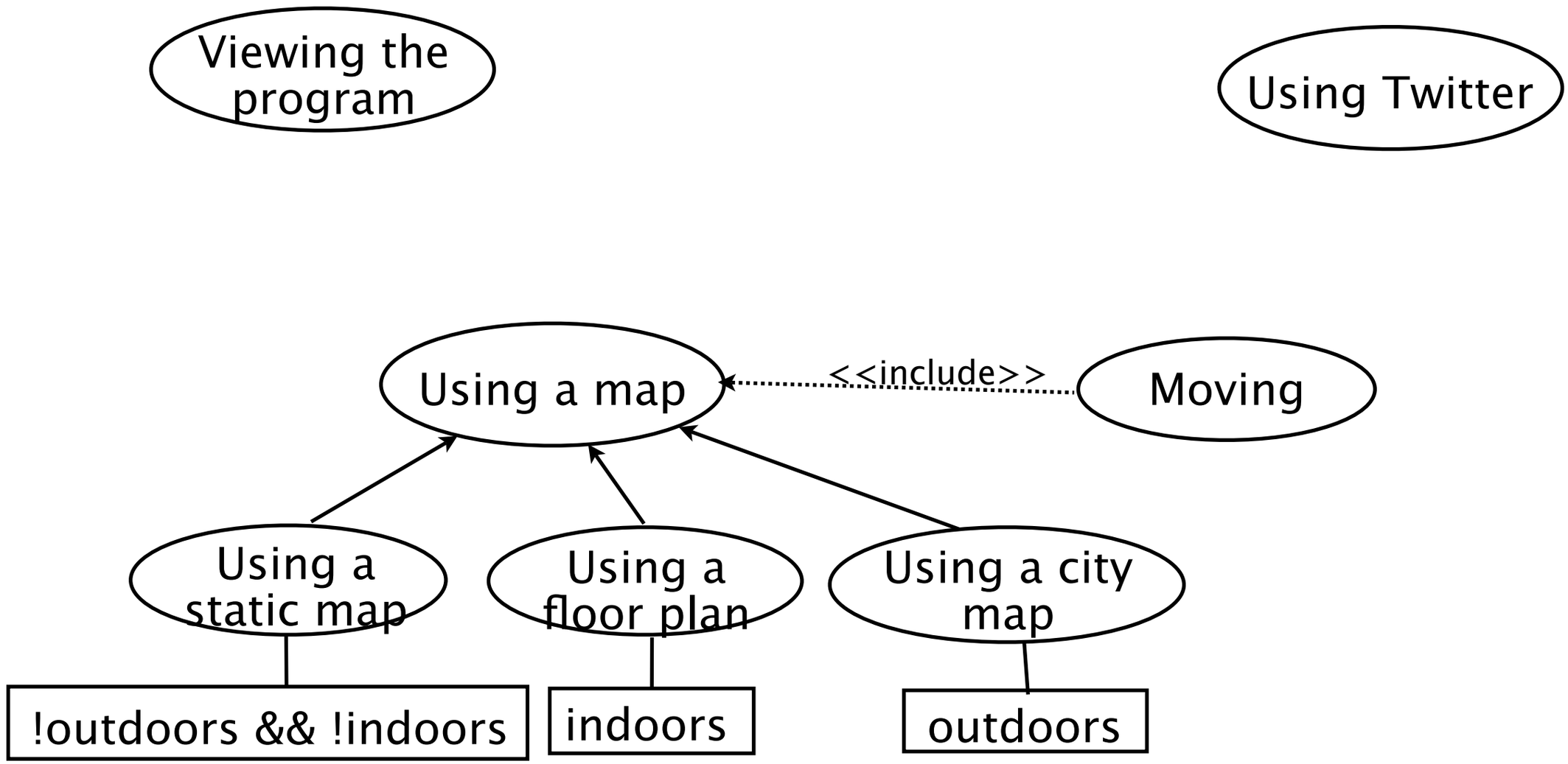

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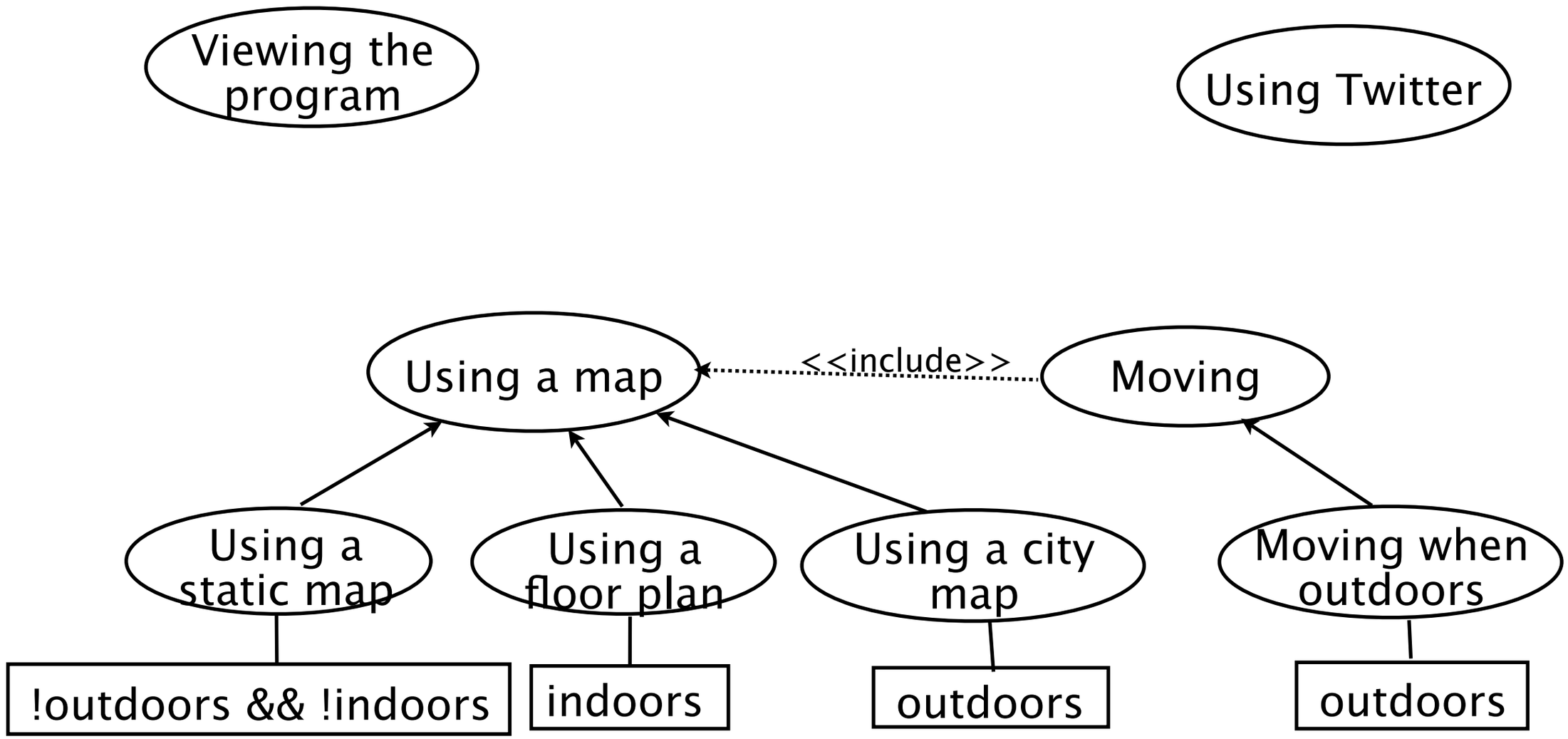

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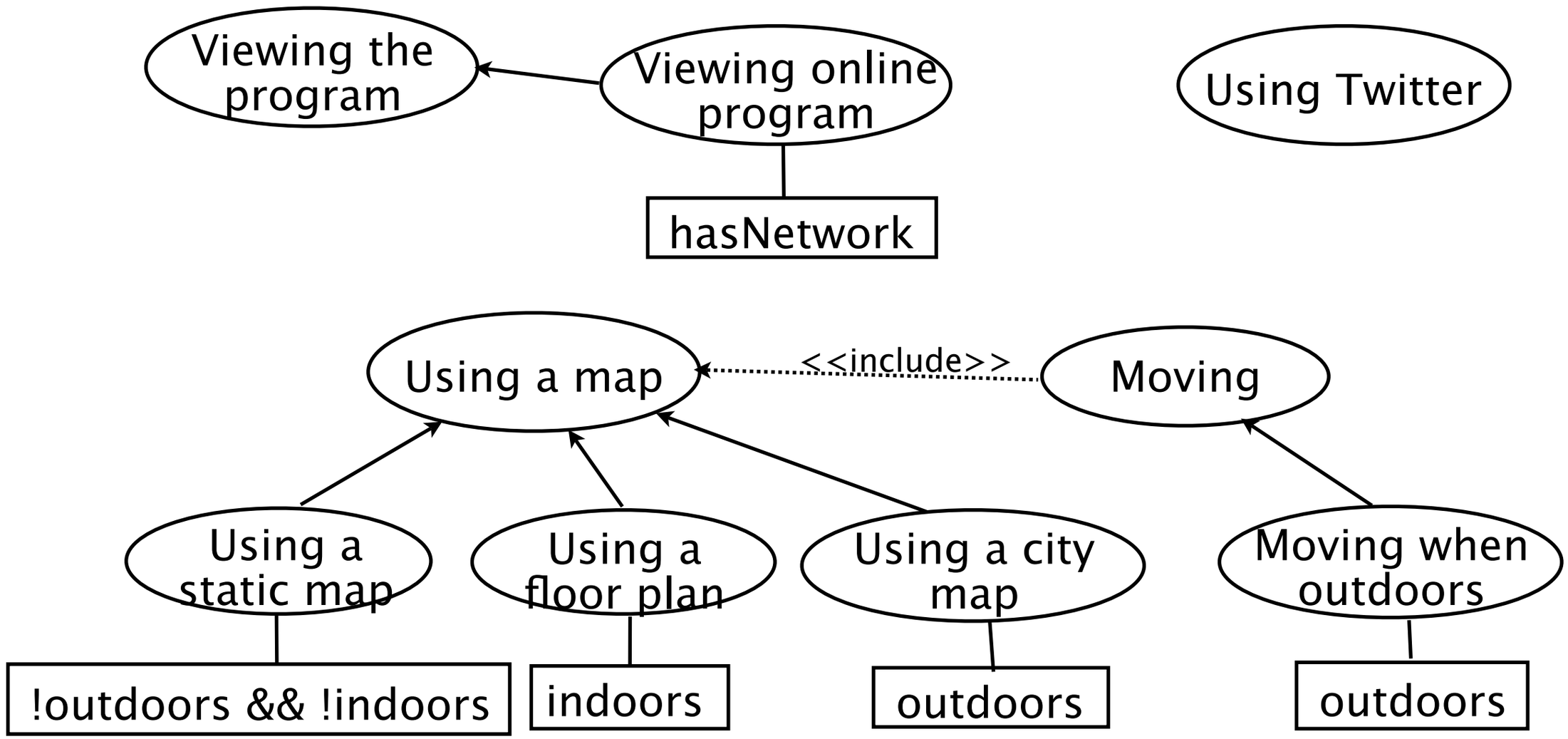

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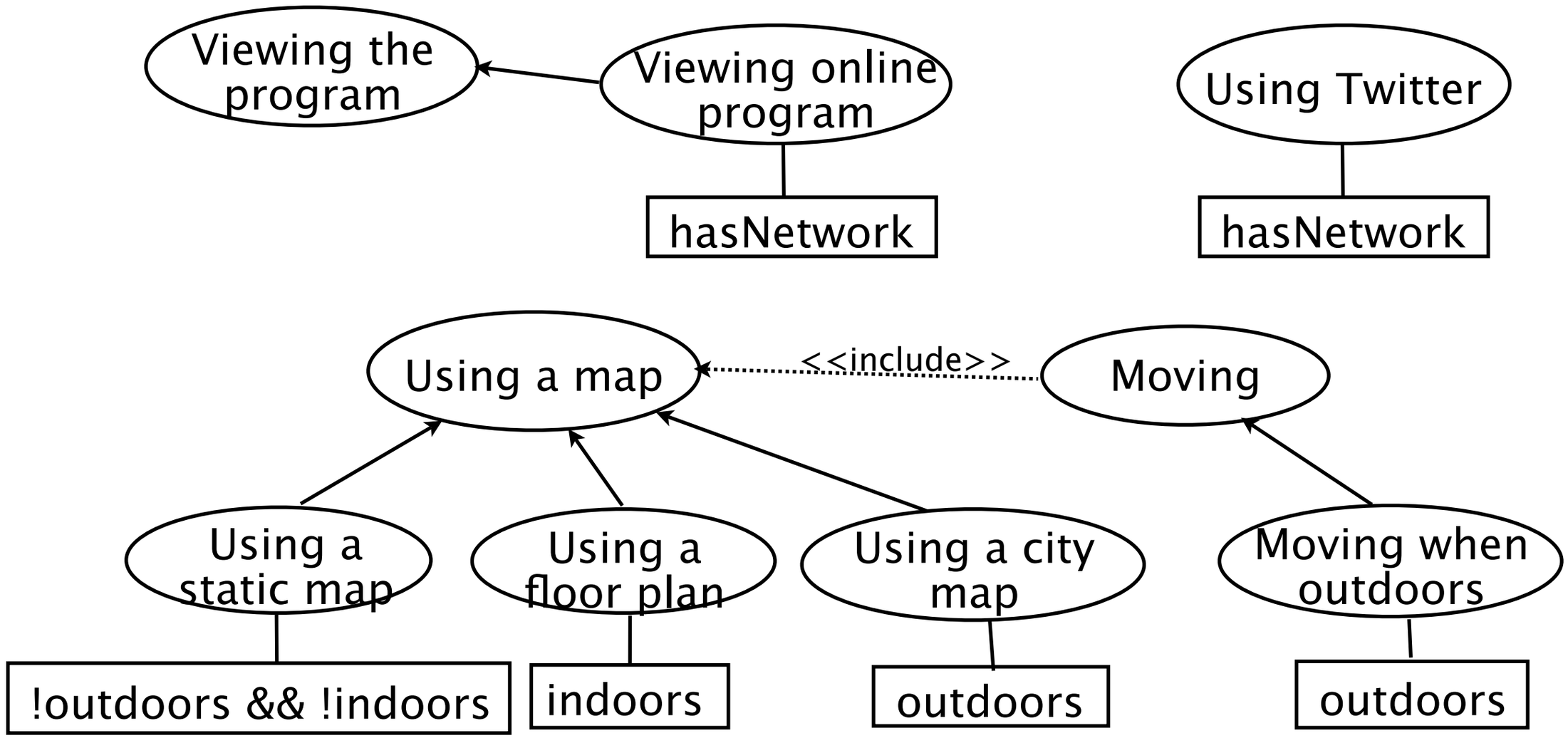

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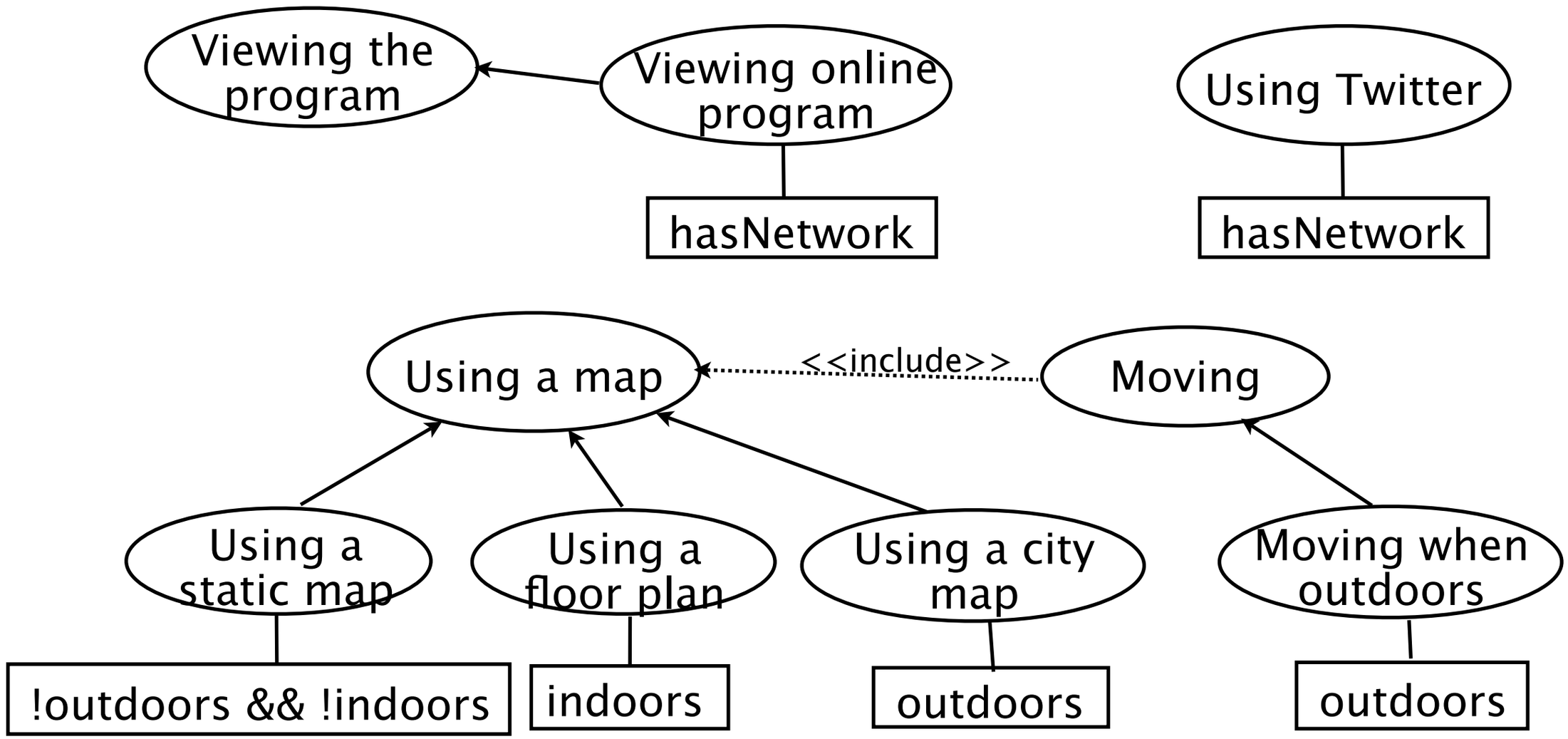
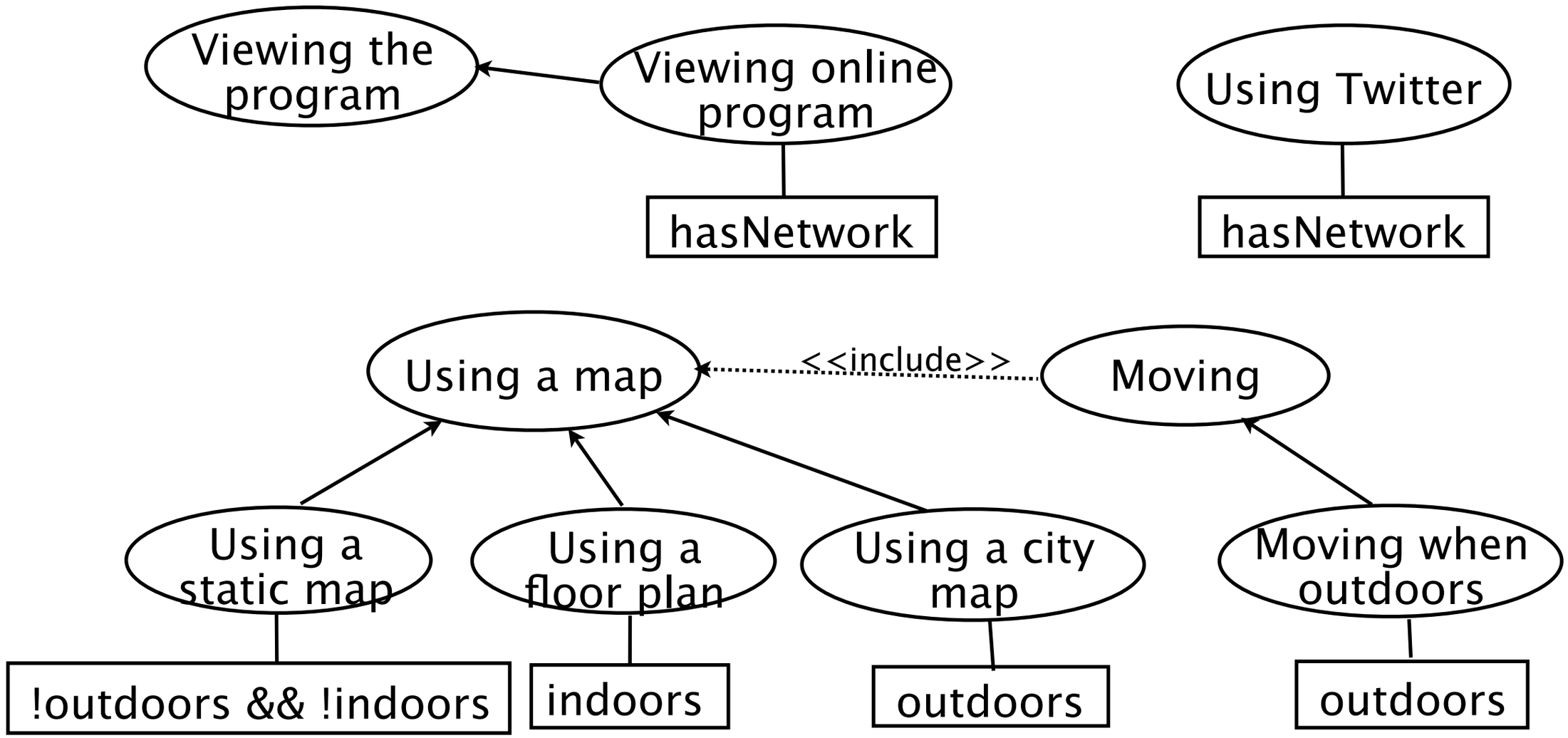


Grouping use cases

- Use cases sharing the same contexts are identified as a **layer**



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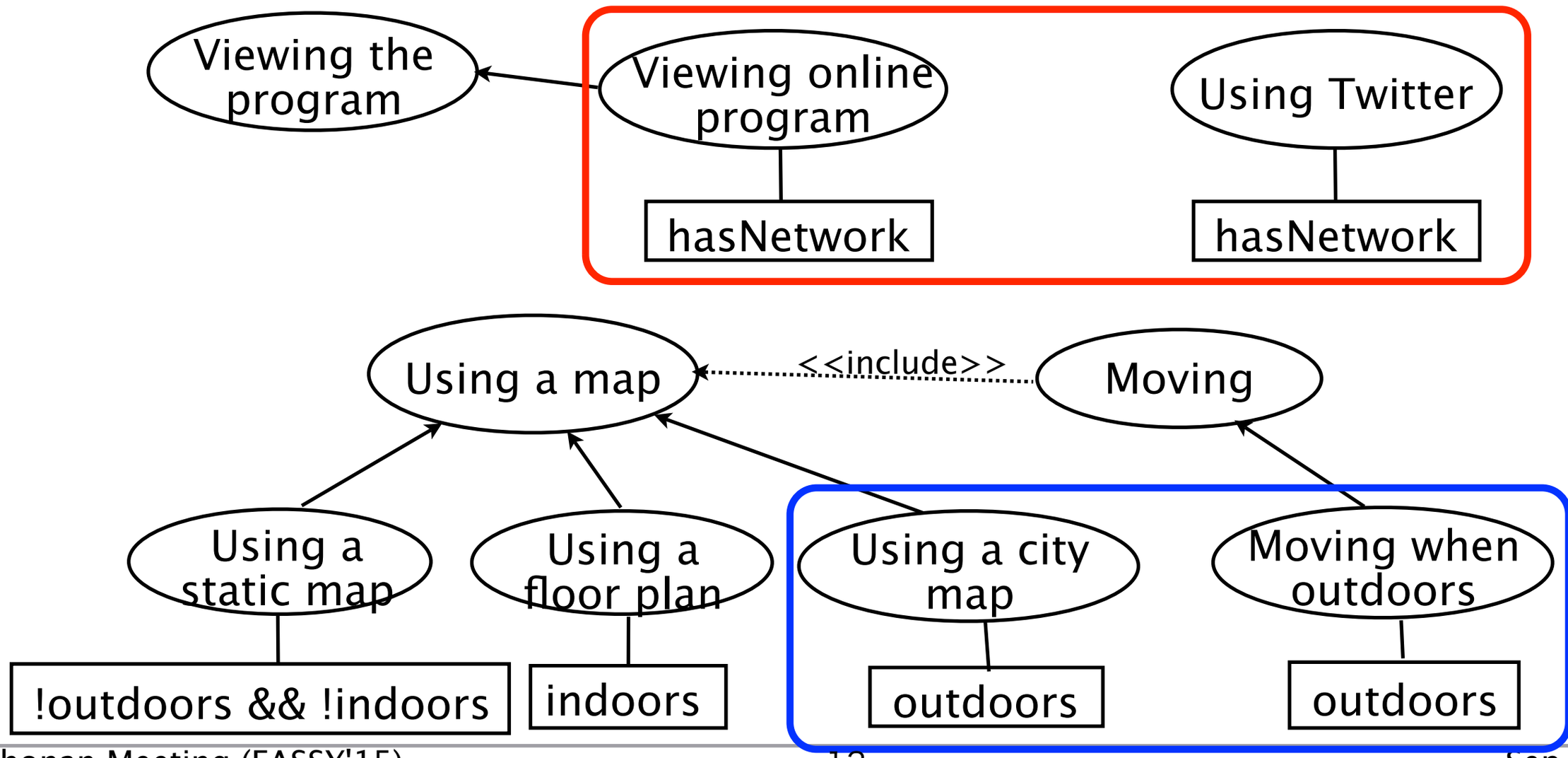
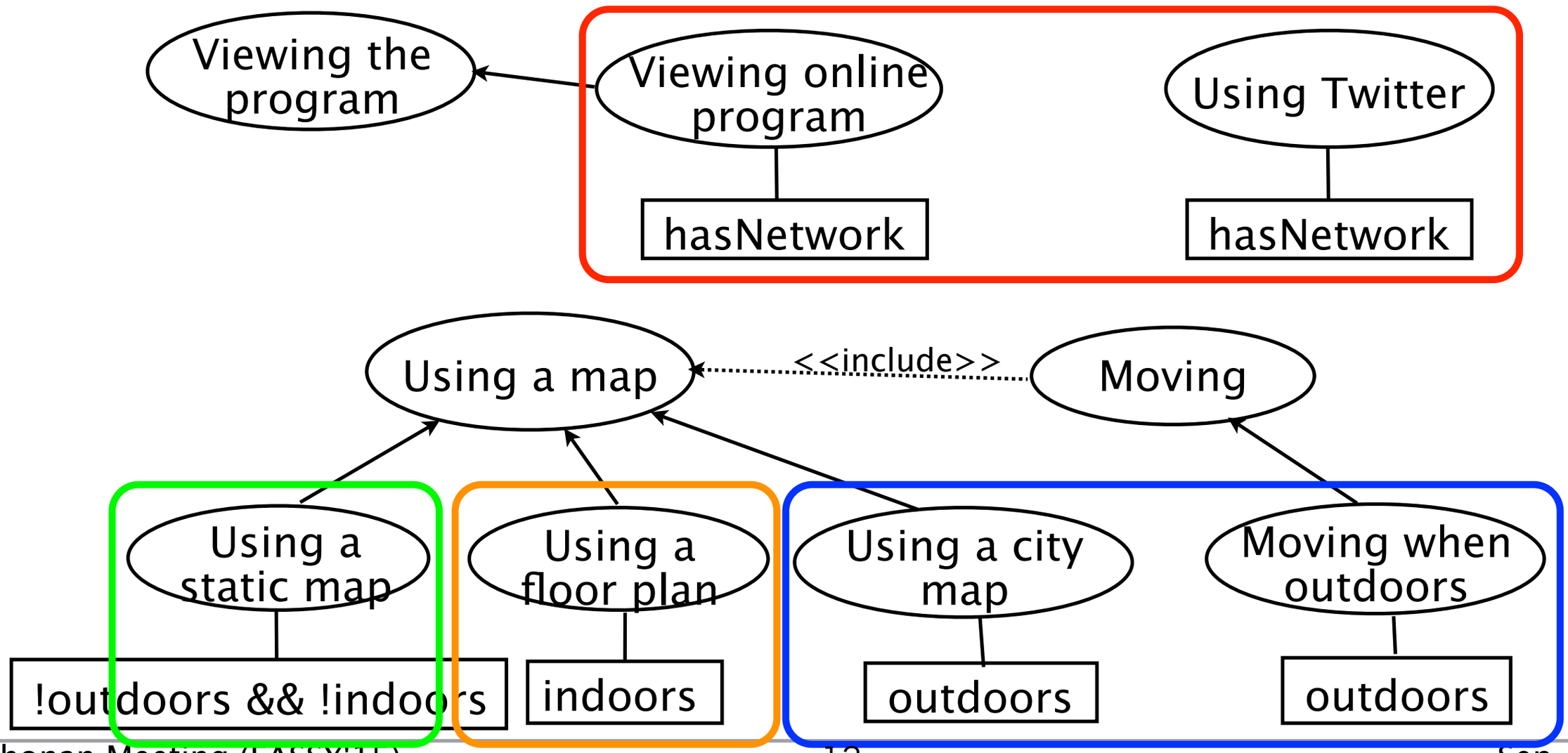


Grouping use cases

- Use cases sharing the same contexts are identified as a **layer**
- Sibling use cases of a layer are also layers

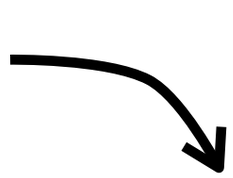


Deriving layer activation

- After designing classes and some implementation details, contexts in ServalCJ are derived...

Assuming Android SDK...

hasNetwork



```
HasNetwork(ConnectivityManager cm) :
  cm.getActiveNetworkInfo().getDetailedState() ==
    NetworkInfo.DetailedState.CONNECTED
```

Deriving layer activation

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```

expression using Android SDK

outdoors — decomposed as → GPSAvailable && !VenueWifiAvailable

not inside the venue

```
LocationManager.isProviderEnabled(
    LocationManager.GPS_PROVIDER) == true
```

Class structure of the system

- Context-dependent behavior crosscutting multiple classes

Outdoors

Indoors

```
class Map ... {
  public Intersection onStart() {
    ..
  }
  public int onLocationChanged() {
    ..
  }
  public void onProviderEnabled() {
    ..
  }
  public void onProviderDisabled() {
    ..
  }
    ..
  ..
}
```

Map.java

```
class MainActivity ... {
  public void onCreate() {
    ..
    ..
   ..
    ..
    ..
  }
  public void startUpScheduler() {
    ..
    ..
    ..
    ..
    ..
  }
  public void startUpTwitter() {
    ..
  }
  public void onStart() {
    ..
    ..
    ..
  }
  ..
}
```

Main.java

```
class Program ... {
  public void onCreate() {
    ..
    ..
  }
  public void loadCalendar() {
    ..
    ..
  }
  public void onClick() {
    ..
    ..
  }
  ..
  ..
}
```

Program.java

HasNetwork

Class structure of the system

- Context-dependent behavior crosscutting multiple classes

```
class Map ... {
  public Intersection onStart() {
    [                              ]
    [                              ]
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    [                              ]
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    ..
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class MainActivity ... {
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  }
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    ..
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    ..
    ..
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  ..
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}
```
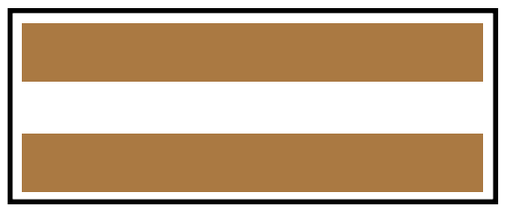

Program.java

Outdoors

Indoors



HasNetwork

Control of layer activation

```
global contextgroup CtxCtl(ConnectivityManager cm) {
  activate HasNetwork
    if(cm.getActiveNetworkInfo().getDetailedState() ==
       NetworkInfo.DetailedState.CONNECTED);
  context GPSAvailable is
    if(LocationManager.isProviderEnabled(
       LocationManager.GPS_PROVIDER) == true);
  context VenueWifiAvailable is if(C.isWifiConnected());
  activate Outdoors
    when GPSAvailable && not(when VenueWifiAvailable);
  activate Indoors
    when VenueWifiAvaileble && if(C.isWifiPosAllowed());
}
```

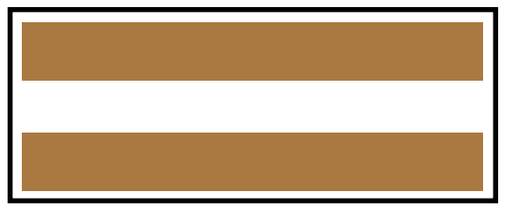
- Derived in the previous slide
- Specified separately from the base program

Map.java

Main.java

Outdoors

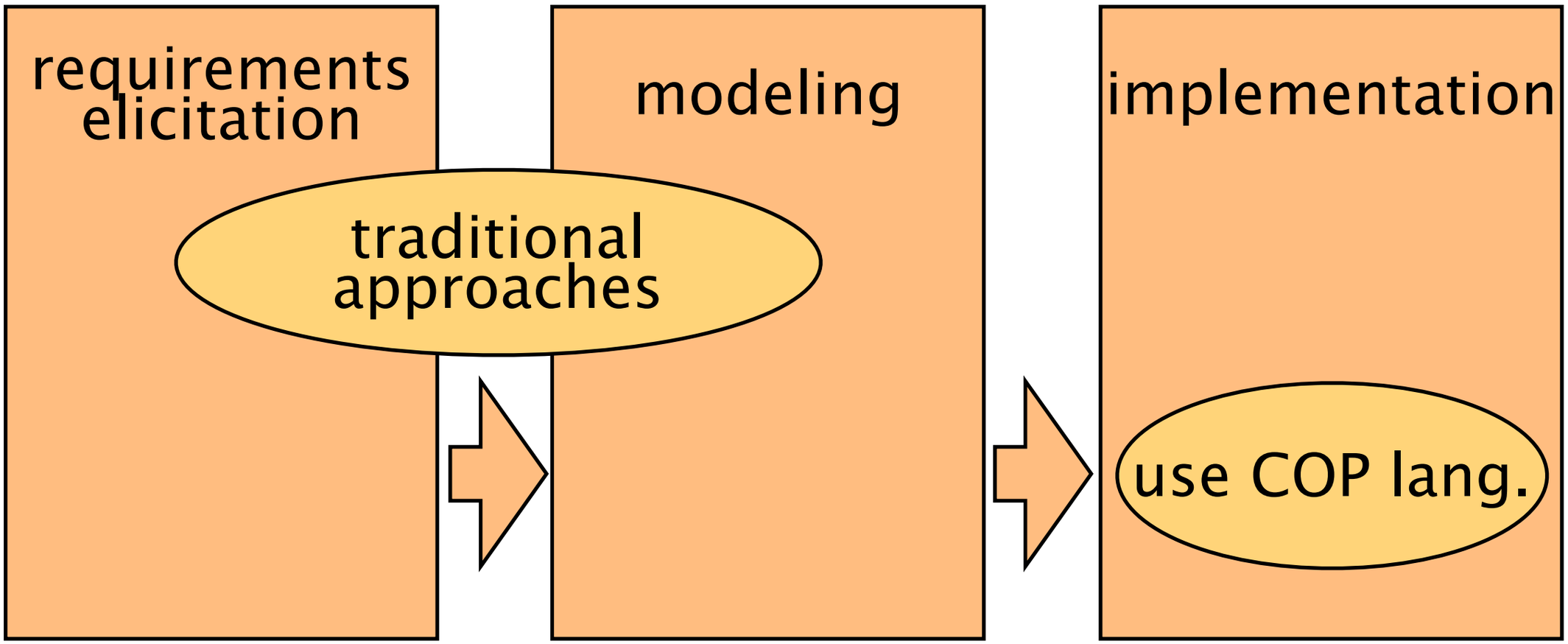
Indoors



HasNetwork

What COSE supports

- Elicitation and modeling of context-dep. behavior



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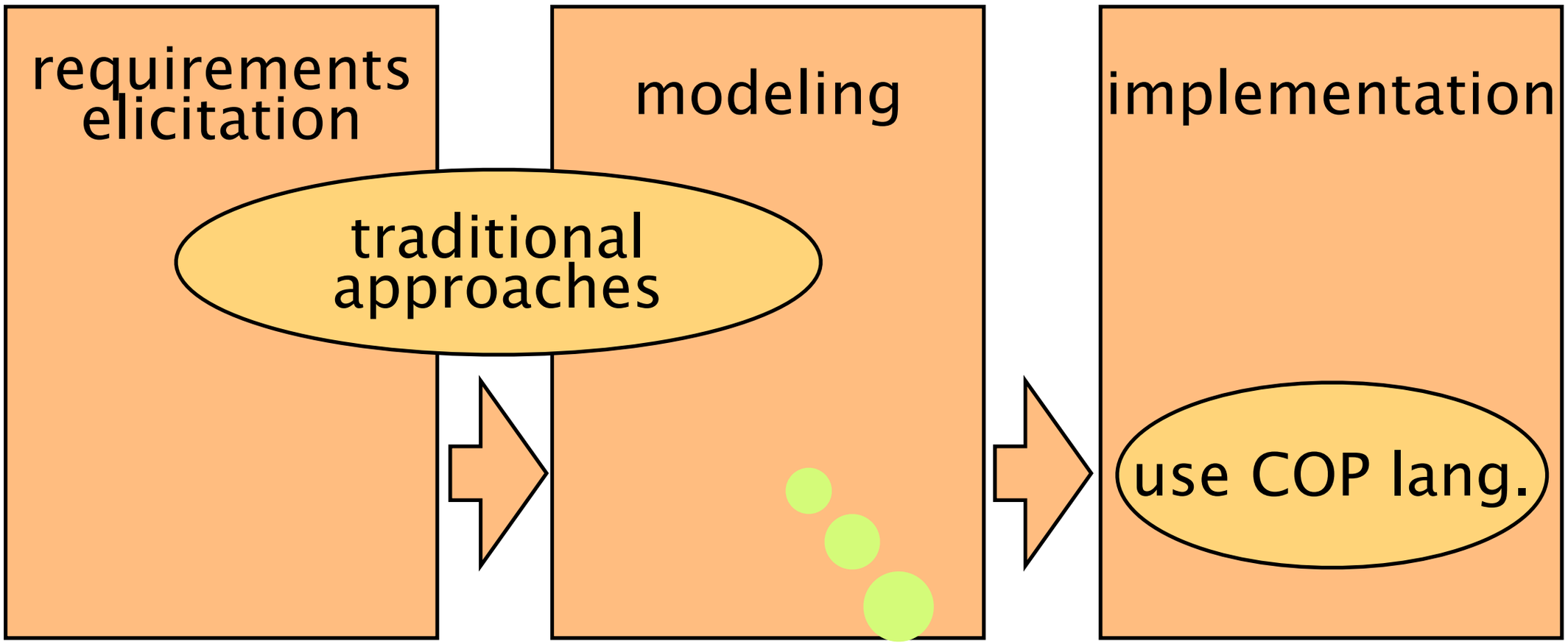
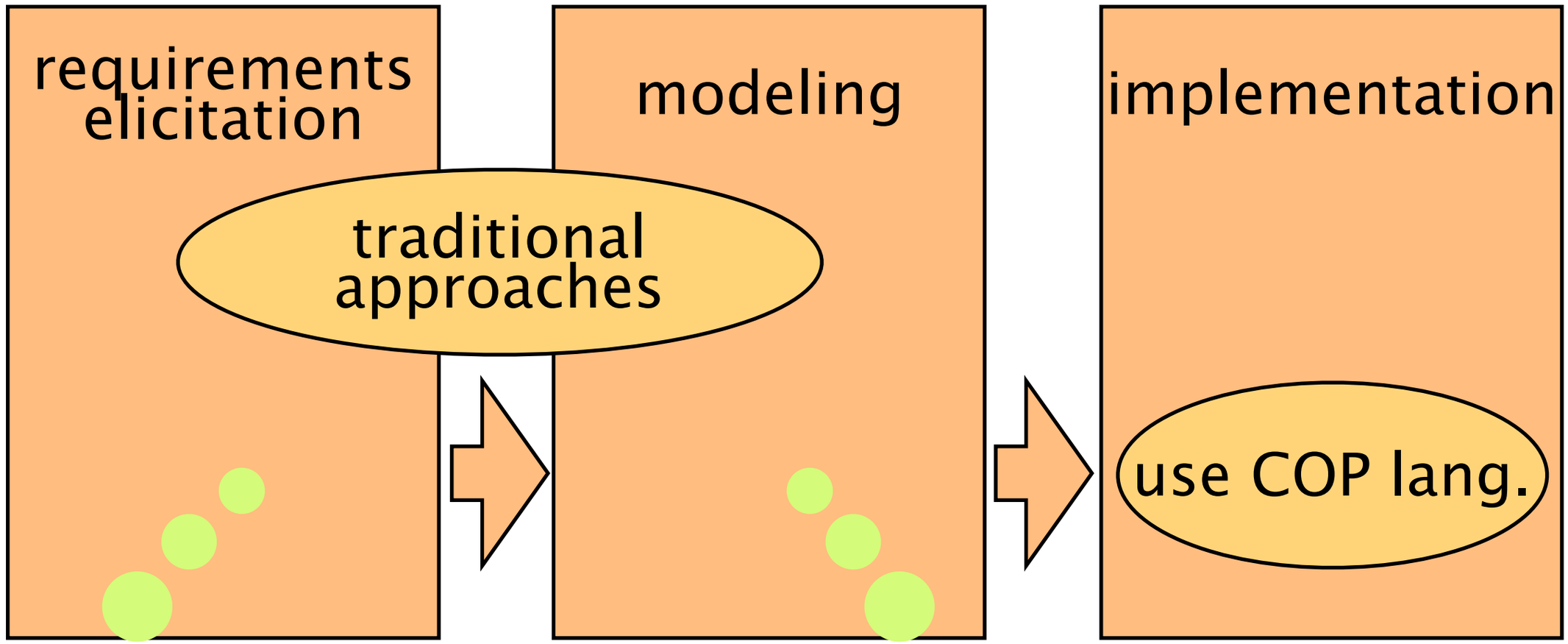


Identifying behavioral variations applicable in the same contexts

What COSE supports

- Elicitation and modeling of context-dep. behavior

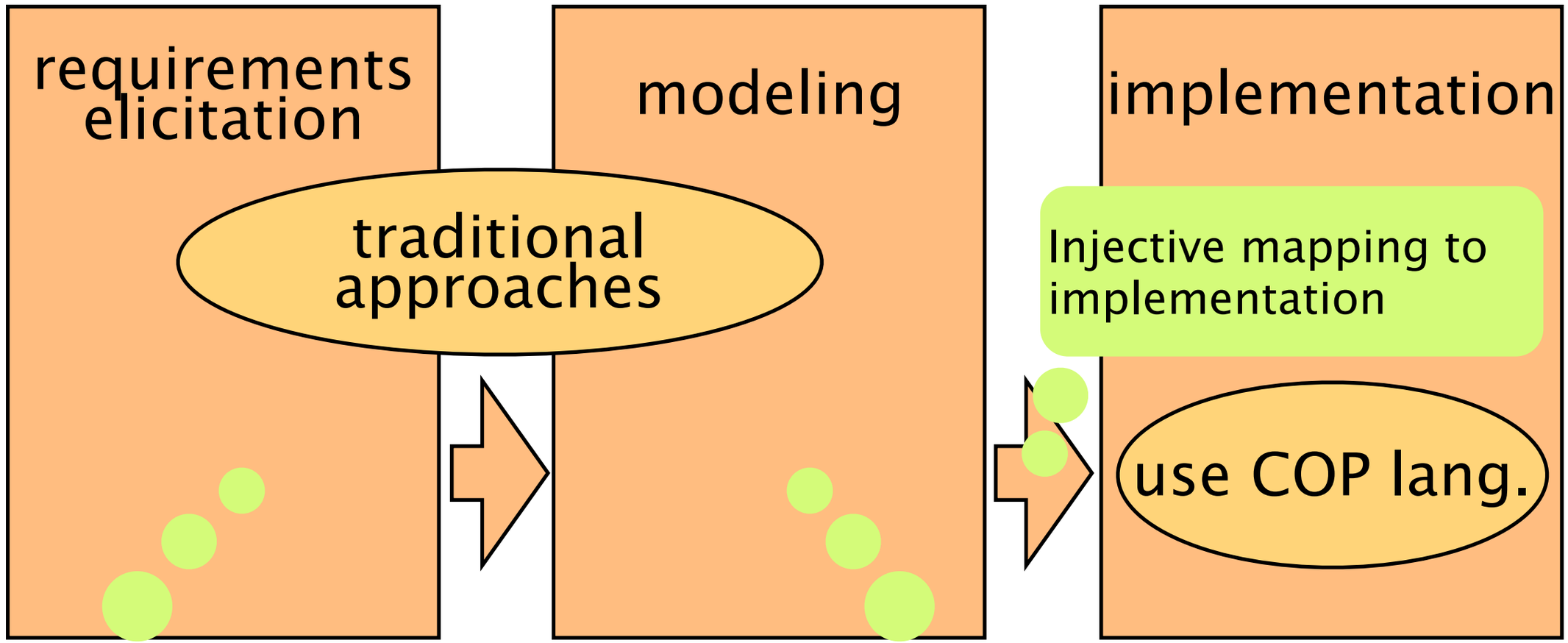


Identifying contexts relevant to development in COP

Identifying behavioral variations applicable in the same contexts

What COSE supports

- Elicitation and modeling of context-dep. behavior



COP for adaptive software systems —A rescue robot scenario—

- Model case: Sasago tunnel disaster in Japan (in 2012)
  - ceiling boards are collapsed
  - occurred 1700m far from the entrance

- Required services for rescue robots for such disaster
  - Recognizing contexts (location, obstacles..)
  - Supporting autonomous moving
    - Avoiding collisions with obstacles
    - Switching b/w multiple modes
      - **Flying** mode ... for avoiding large obstacles
      - **Running** mode ... for saving the energy
    - Changing b/w normal & abnormal (e.g. no signals from sensors) behavior

H. Watanabe et al., A Study of Context-Oriented Programming for Applying to Robot Development, In COP'15.

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layers are promising

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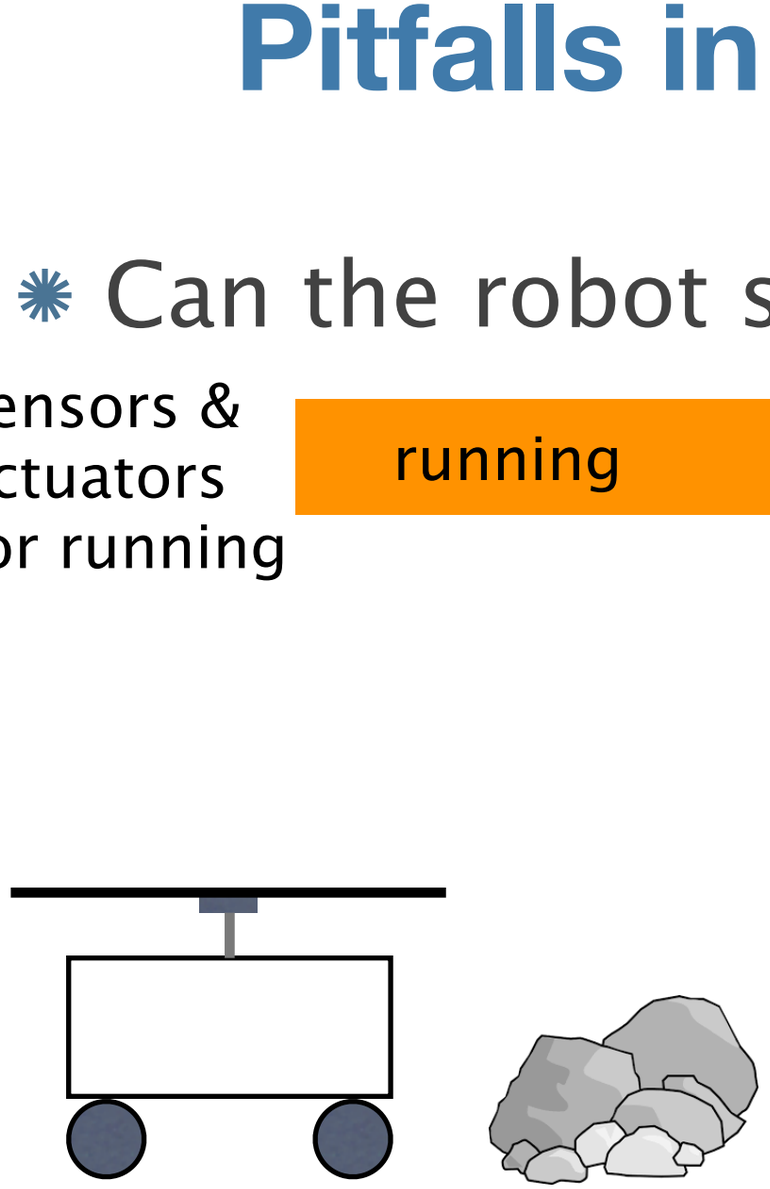
Pitfalls in context identification

- Can the robot switch from running to flying?

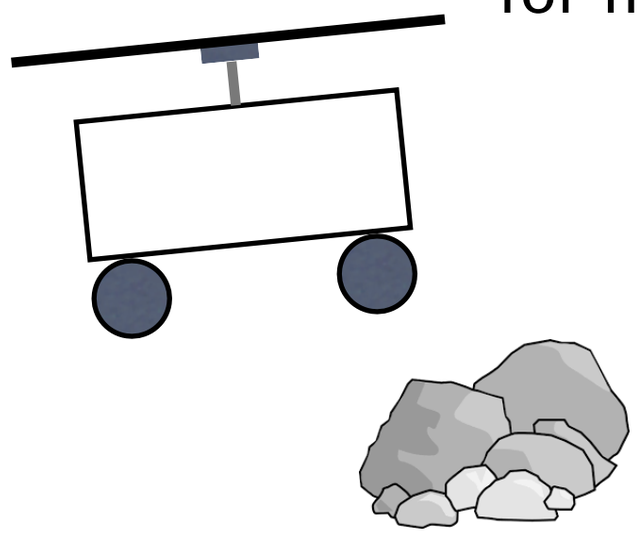
sensors & actuators for running

running



stably flying

sensors & actuators for flying



- Preemption for handling abnormal situations

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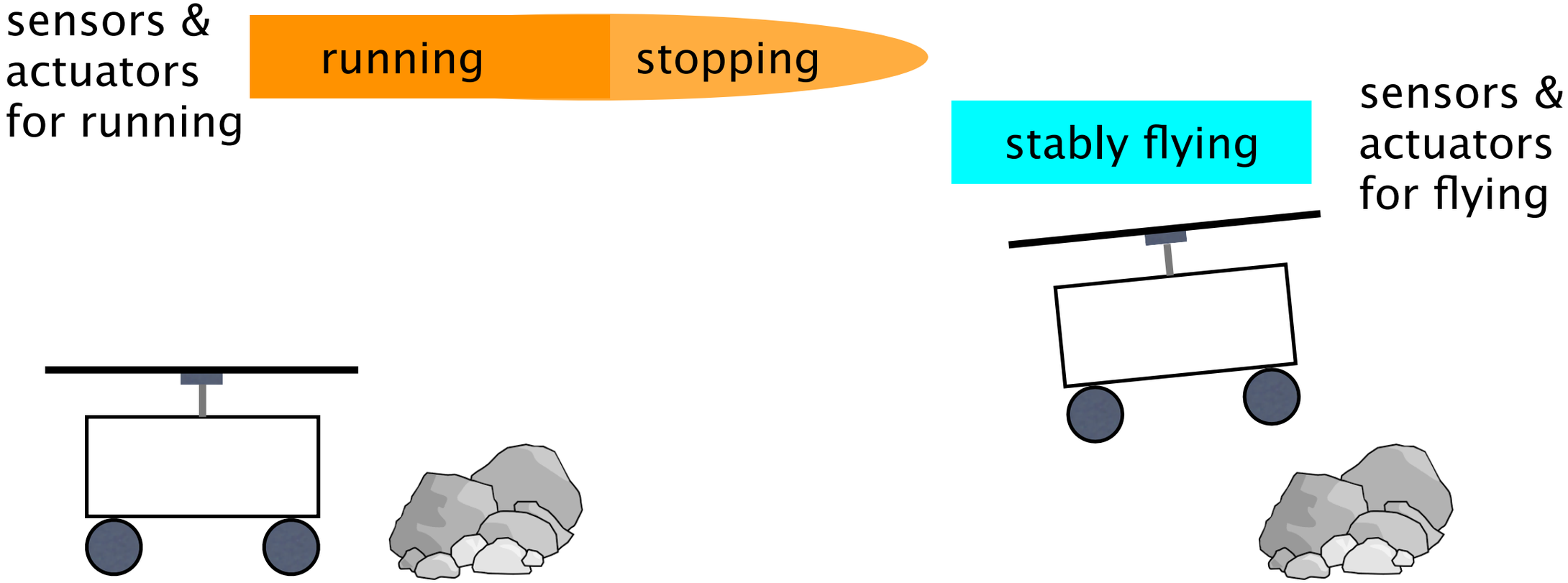

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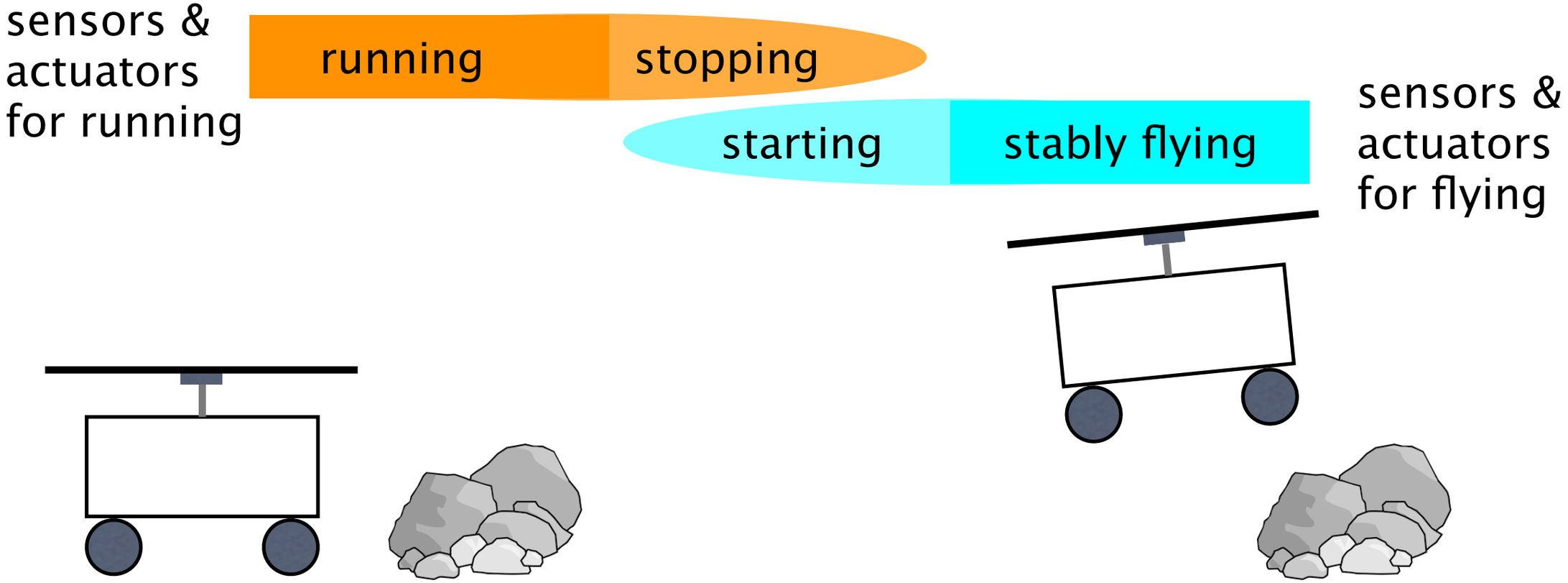

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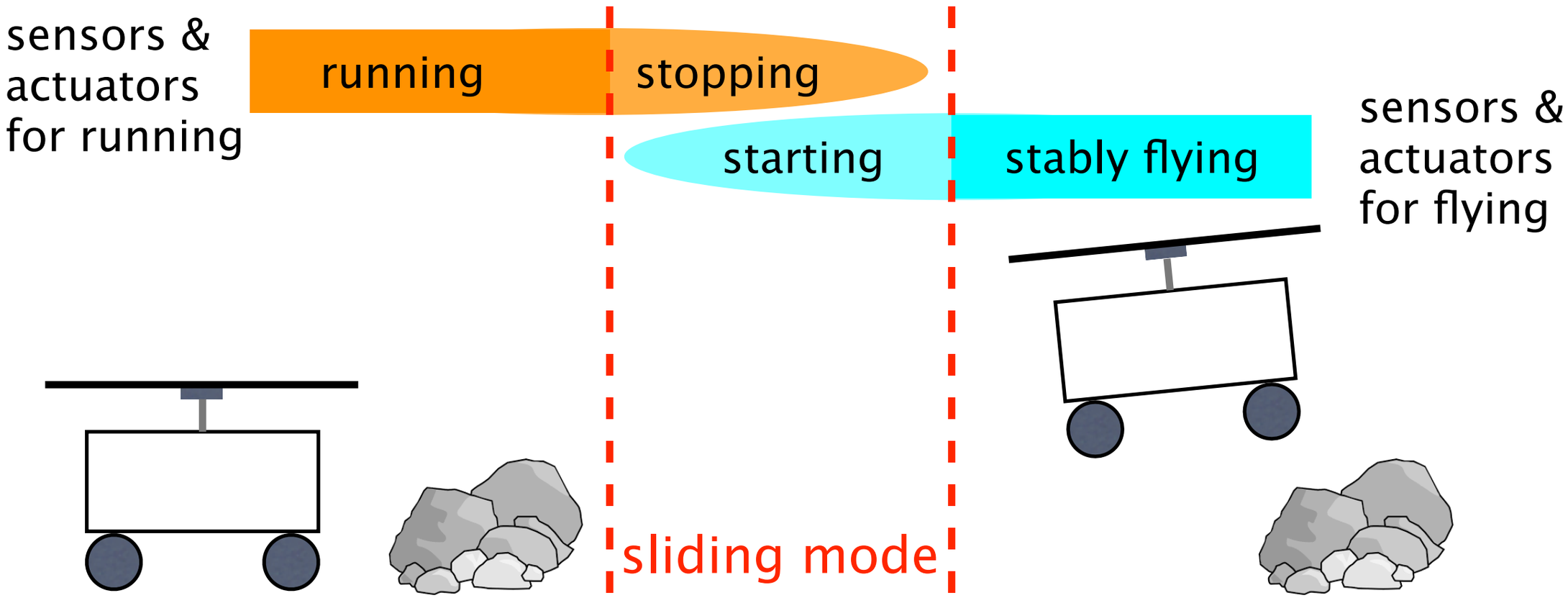

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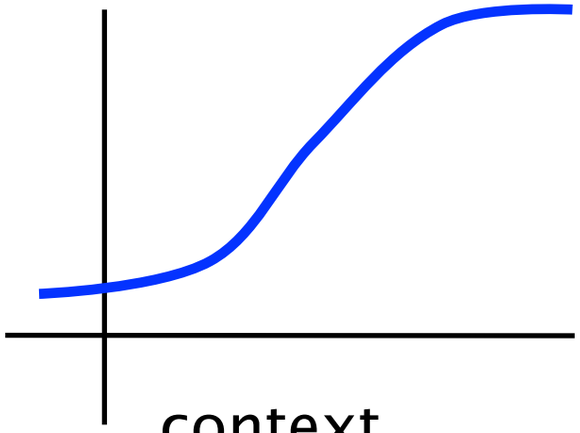
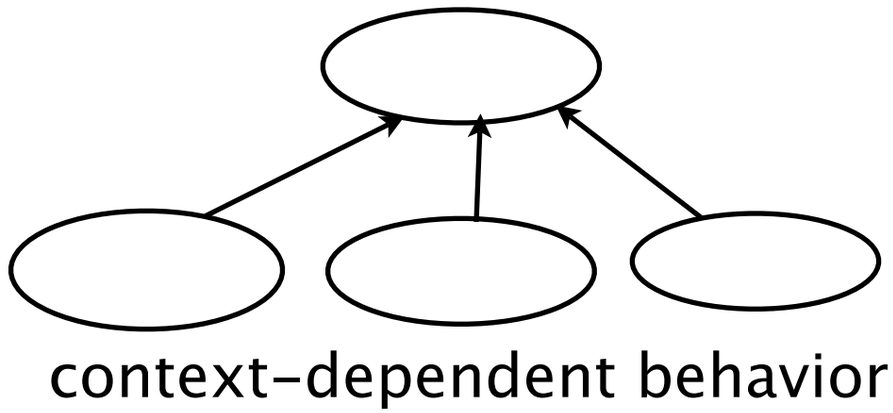
Towards COP for EASSY

- Mapping contexts in the real world to contexts in COP





- Installing layers at runtime for unknown situation
- Prioritize layers to handle preemption

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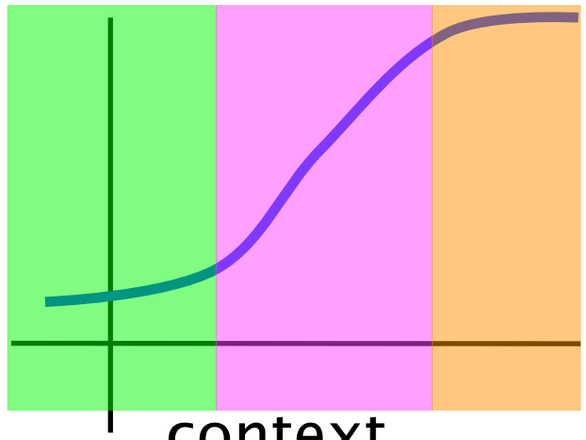
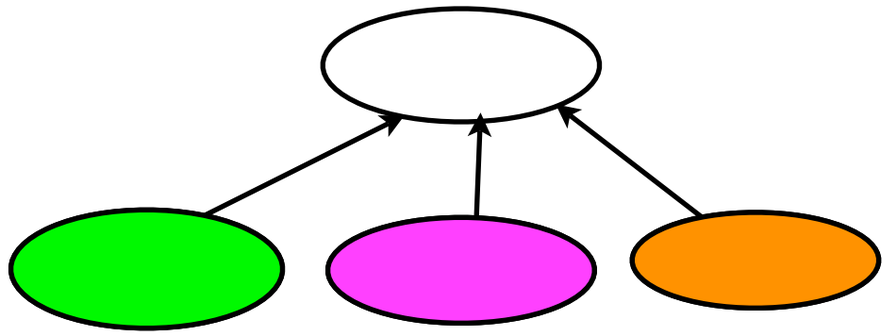


context
(e.g. sensor values)

map



context-dependent behavior

- Installing layers at runtime for unknown situation
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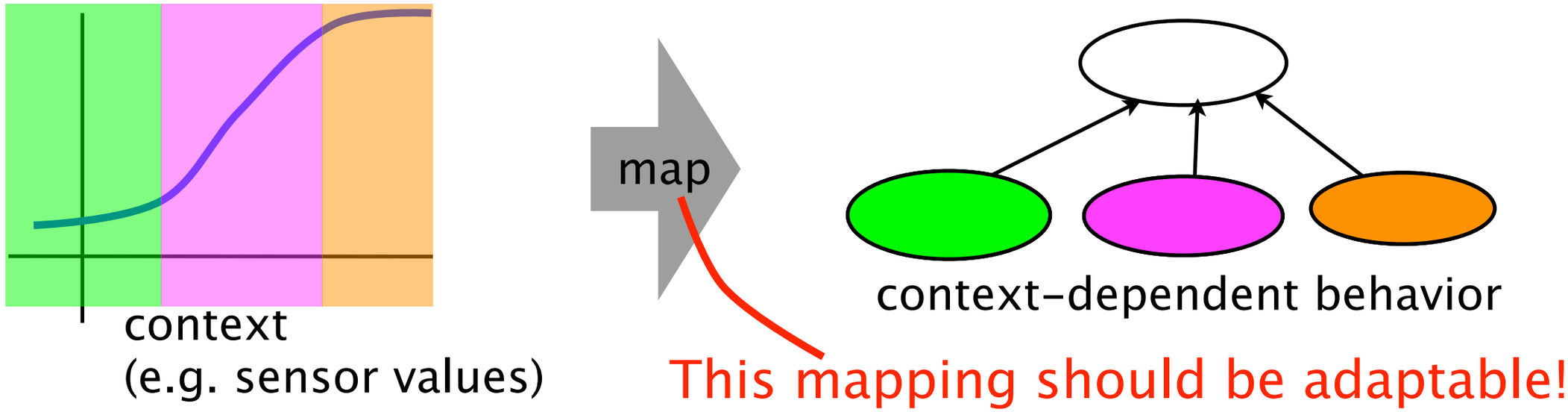

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