Using the PR*i*M method to Evaluate Requirements Models with COSMIC-FFP



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- Motivation
- The i* Framework
- Mapping COSMIC-FFP to PRiM
- Measuring COSMIC-FFP with PRiM
- Non-functional Measurements
- Conclusions and Future Work

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Motivation

- In the latest projects where you have been involved, did you use the current system as an starting point?
 - We did
 - We used the current system as an starting point
 - Maintain most of the existing functionality
 - Improve some non-functional requirements
 - Fulfil new organizational goals
- Use of Business Process Reengineering practices
 - We defined PRiM, a Process Reengineering i* Method
- Development of software systems can be viewed as an exercise of reengineering

Motivation

Traditional reengineering activities

- Model an the existing system
- Generate solutions
- Evaluate solutions

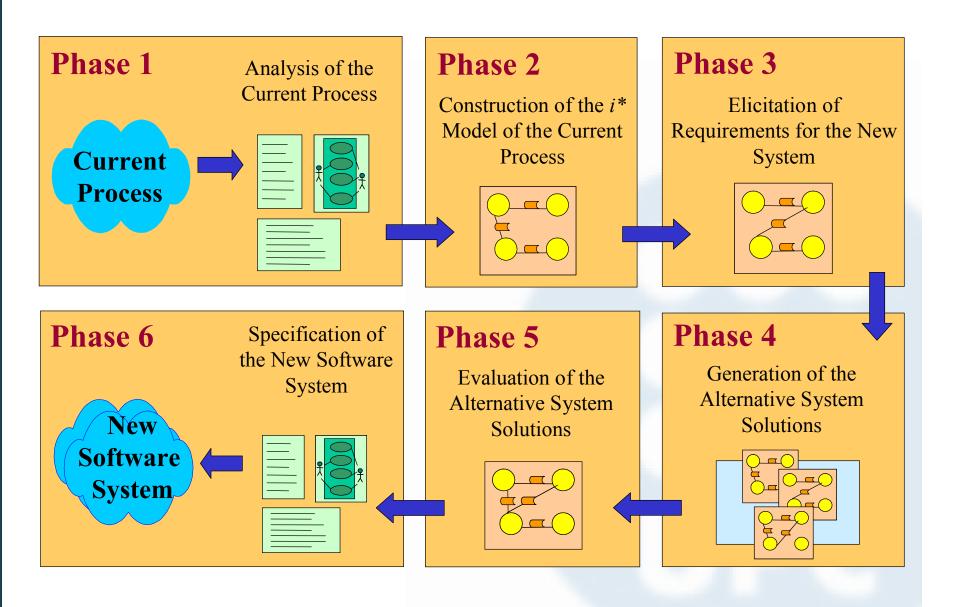
Some existing methods

- Support some of the reengineering activities
- Mention/Not mention the term "reengineering"

PRiM: A Process Reengineering i* Method

- Works during the requirements stage
- Uses the i* Framework to represent requirements

PRiM: a Process Reengineering i* Method

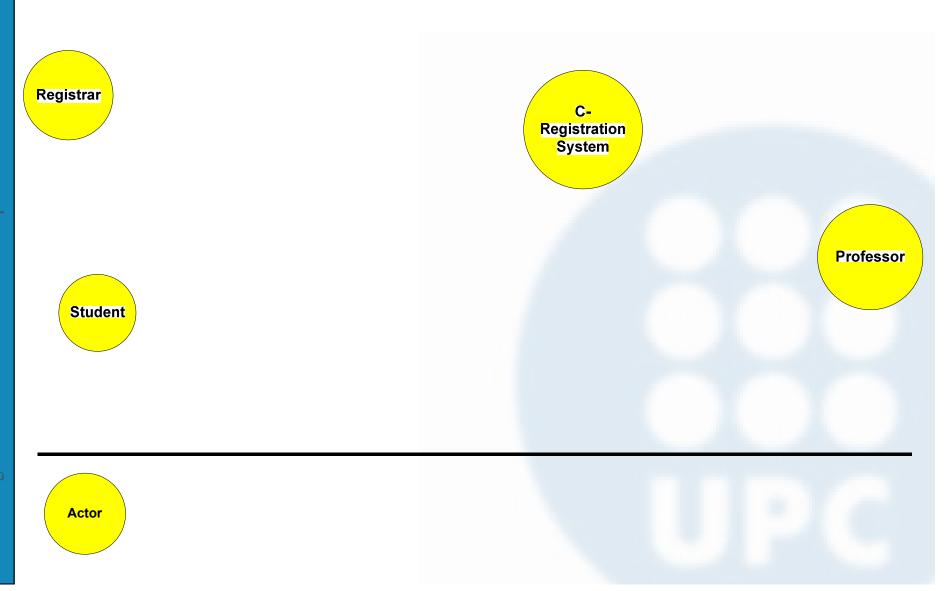


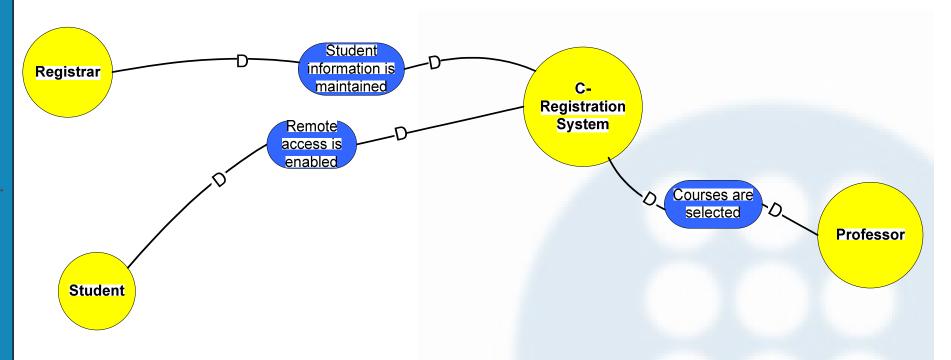
PRiM: a Process Reengineering i* Method

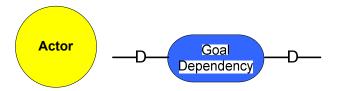
- Evaluation of Alternatives
 - Structural Metrics
 - Non-functional requirements
 - How to measure the functional size?
 - COSMIC-FFP

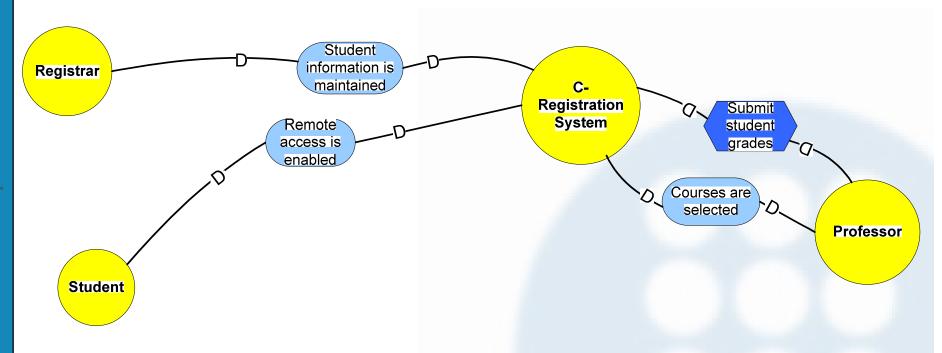
Phase 5 Evaluation of the Alternative System Solutions

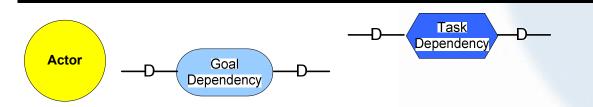
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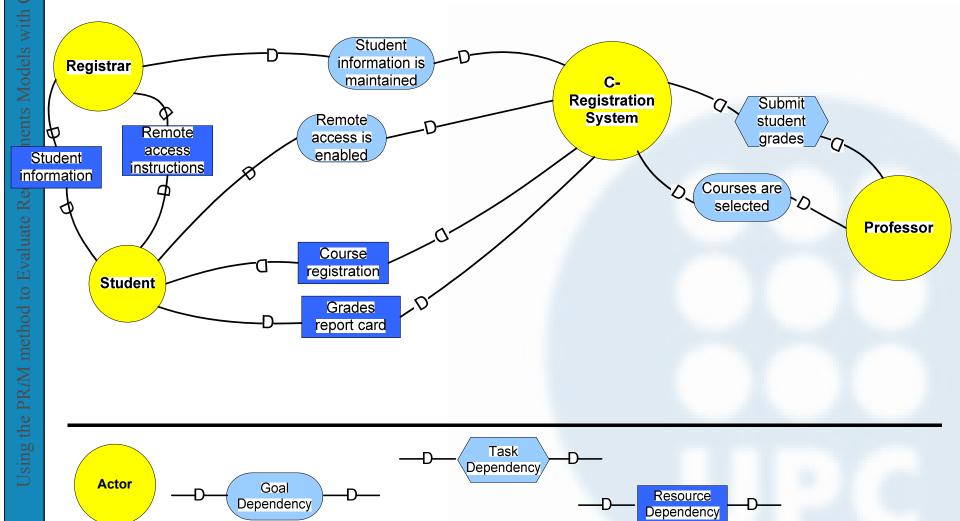


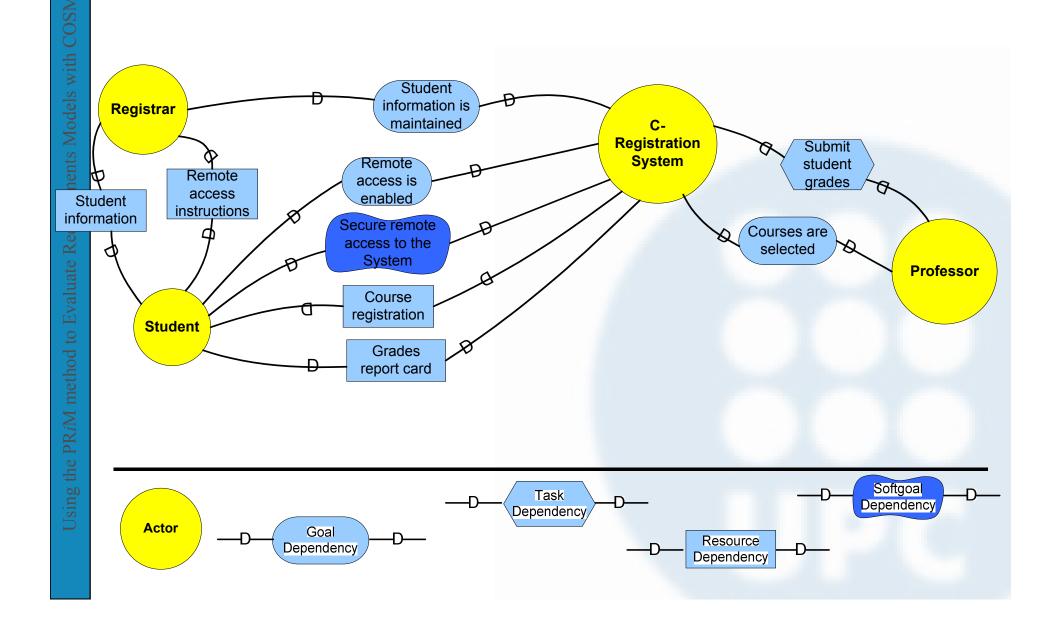






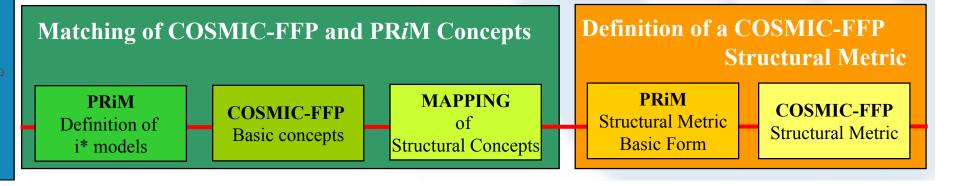






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Mapping COSMIC-FFP to PRiM



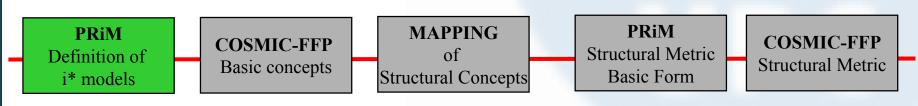
Defining i* Models with PRiM

Objective:

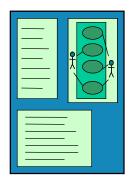
- Build the i* Model of the Current Process
 - Social or Socio-Technical

Strategy:

- Analyse the Current Process
- Document the Current Process into DIS
- Building the Operational i* Model:
 - Descriptive goals
 - Obtained by applying rules over the DIS tables
 - Resources and Tasks
- Building the intentional i* model
 - Prescriptive goals
 - Obtained from the organization needs and expectations
 - Goals and Softgoals



Defining i* Models with PRiM





- Scenario-based notation for documenting the Current Process
- One DIS for each activity

	_								
		DIS_3: Modify a Professor							
Sow	rce:	The C-Registration Case Study with ISO 19761 (2003)							
Actors:		Registrar, C-Registration System, Database							
Prec	ondition:								
Triggering event: Registrar selects the 'modify a professor'									
Acti	ons:								
	Actor	Action	Consumed	Produced	Provided	Action			
	Initiator		Resource	Resource	Resource	Addressee			
l	Registrar	Registrar enters Professor ID			Professor ID	C-Registration			
						System			
2	C-Registration	The system retrieves the professor	Professor data			Database			
	System	information							
3	C-Registration	The system displays the professor			Professor	Registrar			
	System	information			data				
4	Registrar	The registrar enters the modified		Professor data		C-Registration			
		professor data				System			
5	Registrar	When changes are complete, the	C-Registration						
		Registrar selects 'save'	System						
6	C-Registration	The system updates the Professor		Professor data		Database			
	System	information							
7	C-Registration	Display error message		Error message		Registrar			
	System								
Postcondition: The Registrar has modified the professor data									

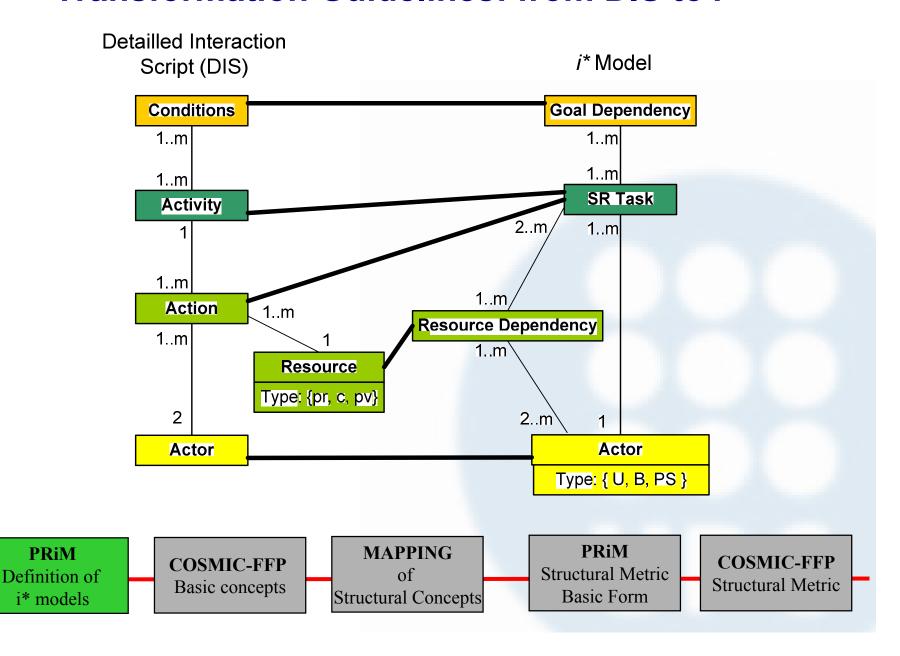
PRiM
Definition of i* models

COSMIC-FFP Basic concepts

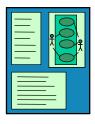
MAPPING of Structural Concepts PRiM
Structural Metric
Basic Form

COSMIC-FFP Structural Metric

Transformation Guidelines: from DIS to i*



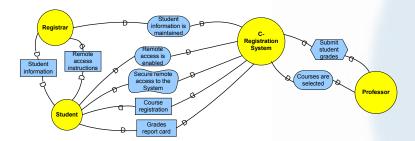
Defining i* Models with PRiM

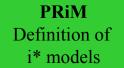




		DIS_3: Modify a Professor							
Source:		The C-Registration Case Study with ISO 19761 (2003)							
Actors:		Registrar, C-Registration System, Database							
Precondition:									
Tris	ggering event:	Registrar selects the 'modify a professor	ť						
Actions:									
	Actor Initiator	Action	Consumed Resource	Produced Resource	Provided Resource	Action Addressee			
1	Registrar	Registrar enters Professor ID			Professor ID	C-Registration System			
2	C-Registration System	The system retrieves the professor information	Professor data			Database			
3	C-Registration System	The system displays the professor information			Professor data	Registrar			
4	Registrar	The registrar enters the modified professor data		Professor data		C-Registration System			
5	Registrar	When changes are complete, the Registrar selects 'save'	C-Registration System						
6	C-Registration System	The system updates the Professor information		Professor data		Database			
7	C-Registration System	Display error message		Error message		Registrar			
	tcondition:	The Registrar has modified the professo	a data						







COSMIC-FFP Basic concepts

MAPPING of Structural Concepts

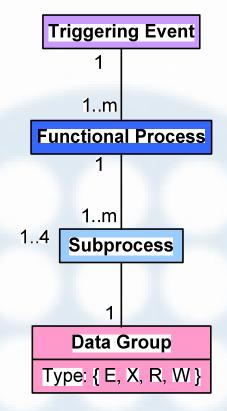
PRiM Structural Metric Basic Form

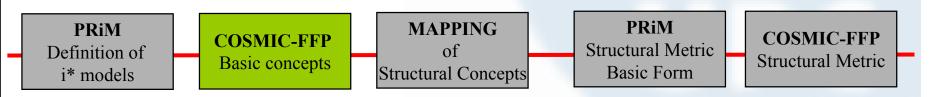
COSMIC-FFP Structural Metric

COSMIC-FFP

- Analyses the functional processes
- Considers three kinds of actors:
 - Users or Engineered Devices
 - System Boundary
 - Persistent Storage
- Identifies the data movements implied:
 - Entry
 - eXit
 - Read
 - Write

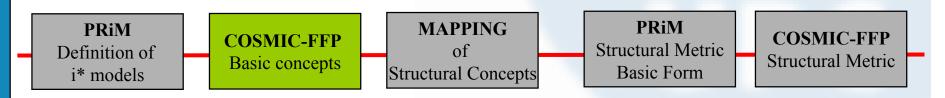
Functional User Requirements (FUR)



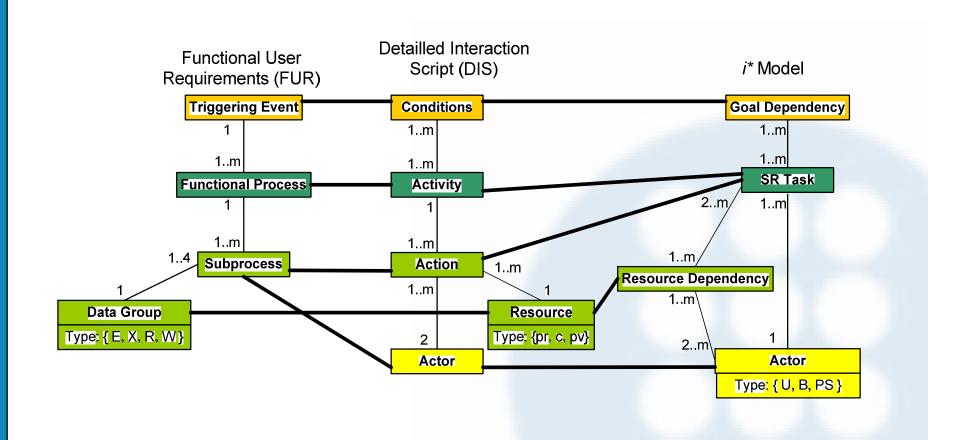


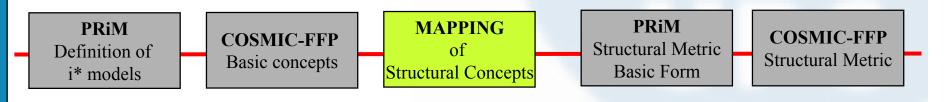
COSMIC-FFP

No	ID. of Require ments	Process descriptions		Sub-process Description	Data Group	Data movement Type	Cfsu	ΣCfsu
3	2,2,2,1	Modify a professor	Registrar selects the "modify a Professor" activity	Registrar enters Professor ID	Professor ID	Е	1	
	2.2.2.4			The system retrieves the Professor information	Professor data	R	1	
				The system displays the Professor information	Professor data	X	1	
				The Registrar enters the modified Professor data	Professor data	Е	1	
				When changes are complete, the Registrar selects 'Save'	This is not a distinct data movement. It only indicates that the Entry of the data (see above) is completed	This will be omitted from now on in all other use cases	0	
				The system updates the Professor information	Professor data	w	1	
				Display error message	Message	X	1	
								6

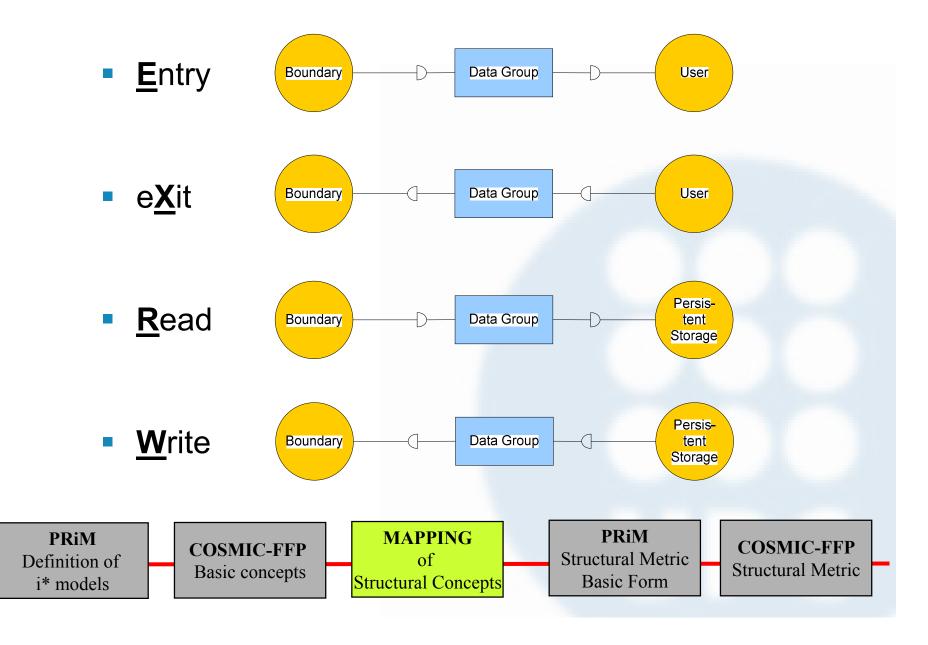


Mapping of Structural Concepts





Mapping of Structural Concepts



PRiM: Structural Metrics

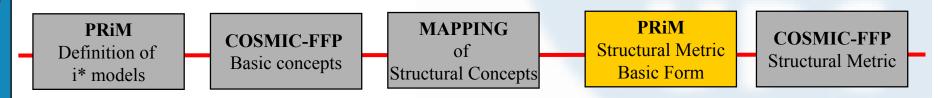
- Objective:
 - Evaluate non-functional properties of the models
- Technique:
 - Actor-based metrics and Dependency-based metrics

$$P(M) = \underline{\sum d: d \in D: (\text{filter}_M(d) \times \text{correctionFactor}_M(a,b))}$$
$$\text{limit}_p(D)$$

filter_M: $D \rightarrow [0, 1]$ a function that assigns a weight to the every dependency

correctionFactor_M: $A \rightarrow [0, 1]$ a function that corrects the weight of the dependency considering its depender and the dependee.

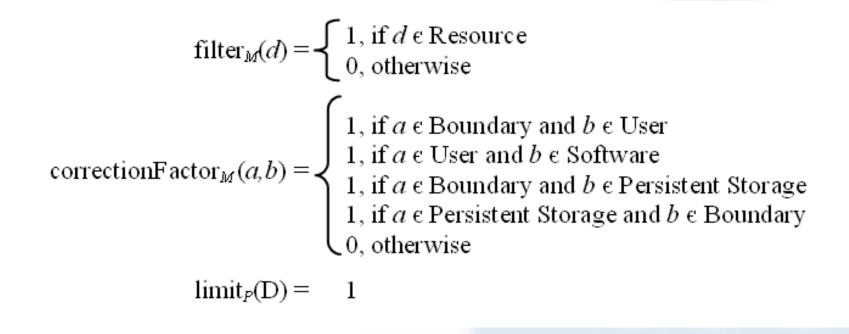
 $\lim_{M \to \infty} |\mathbf{I}...||\mathbf{A}||$ a function that normalizes the result obtained (if needed)



COSMIC-FFP: Structural Metric

Functional Size (M) = Σd : $d \in D$: functional_size(d) / limitp(D)

functional_size(d) = filterM(d) x correctionFactor(d)



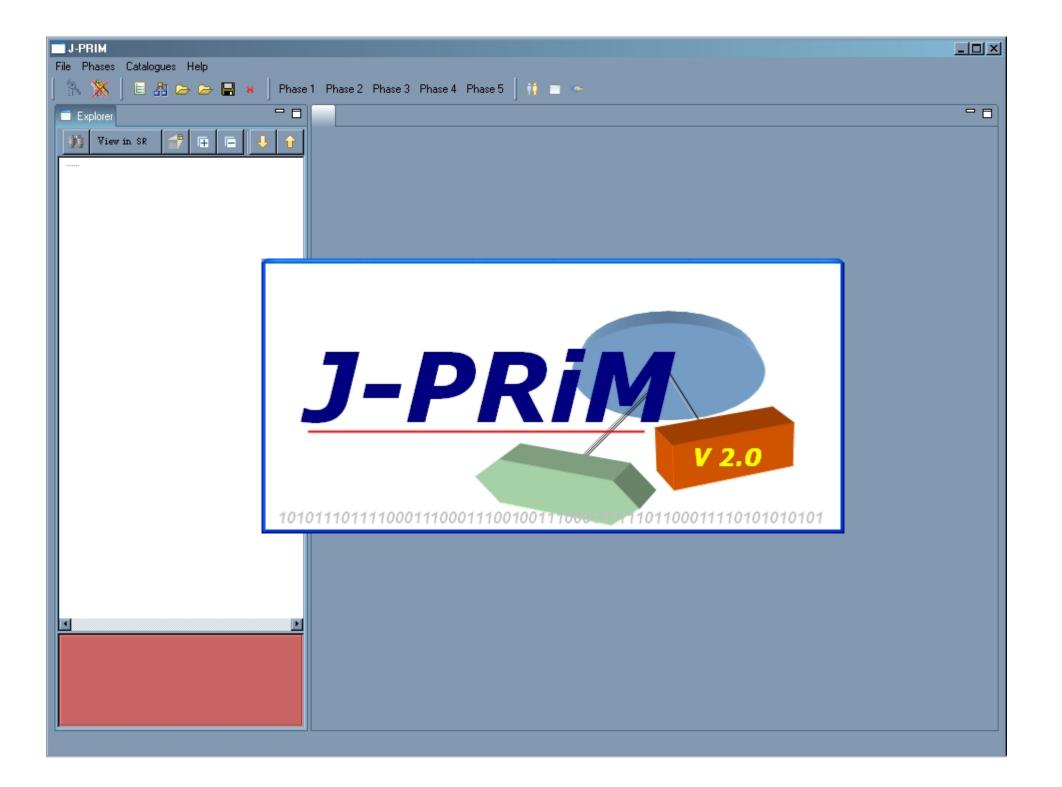
PRiM
Definition of
i* models

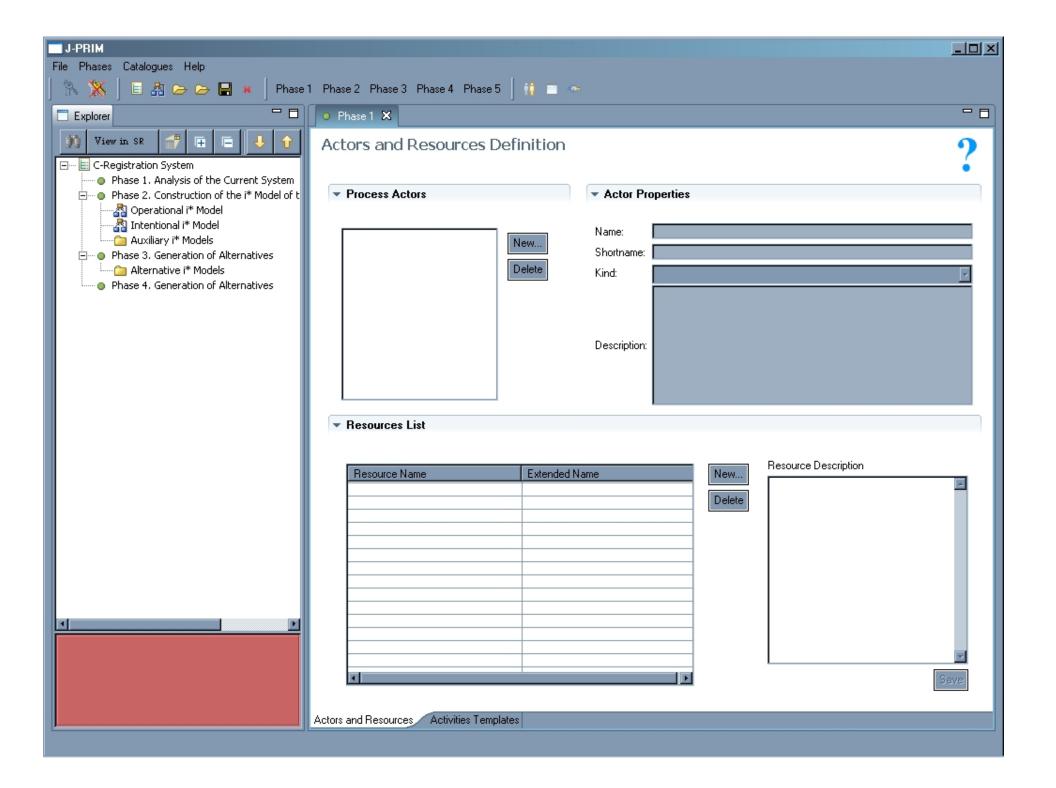
COSMIC-FFPBasic concepts

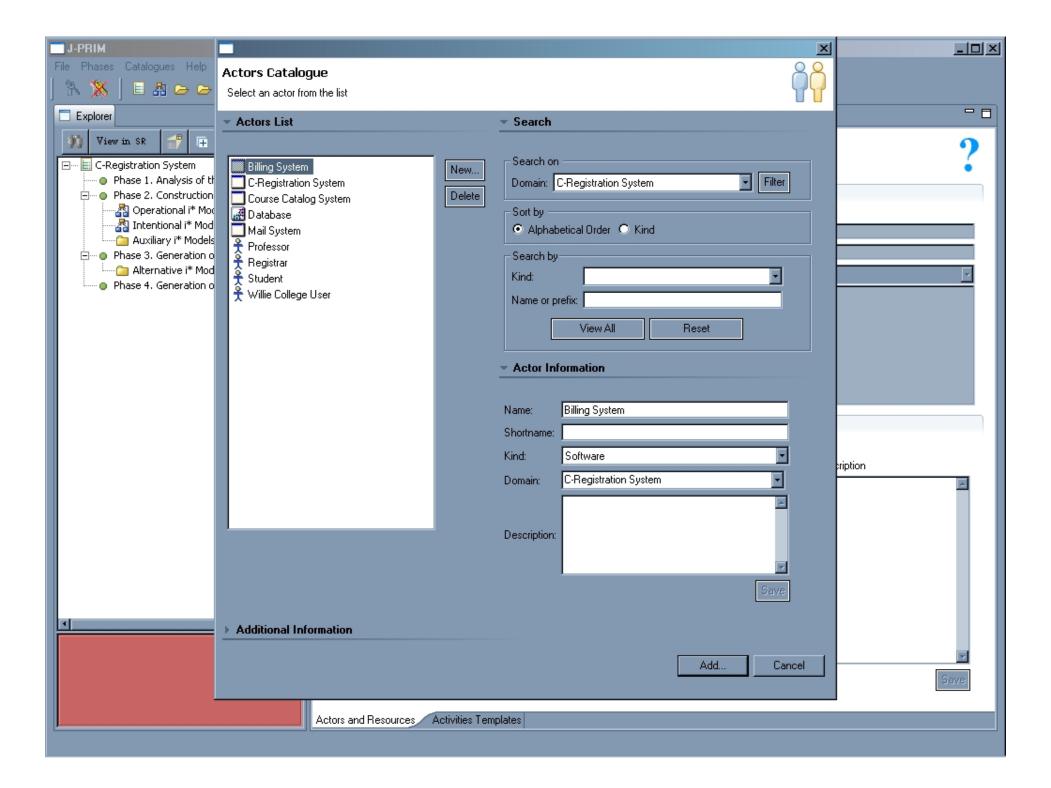
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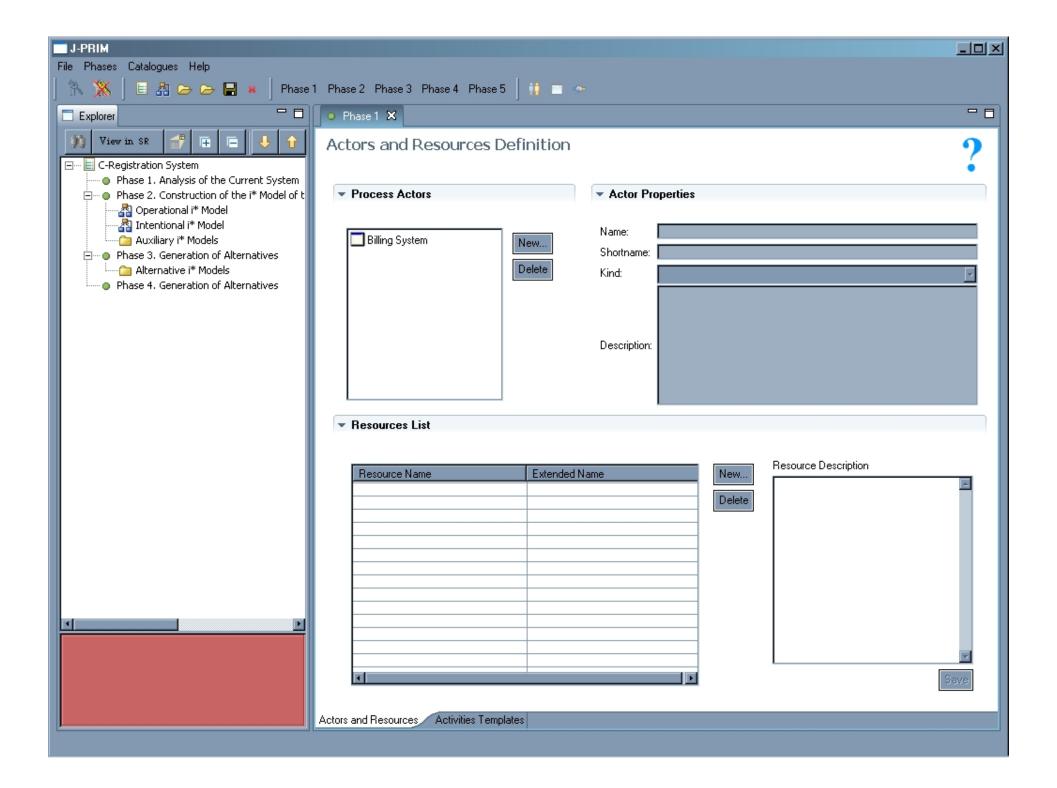
COSMIC-FFPStructural Metric

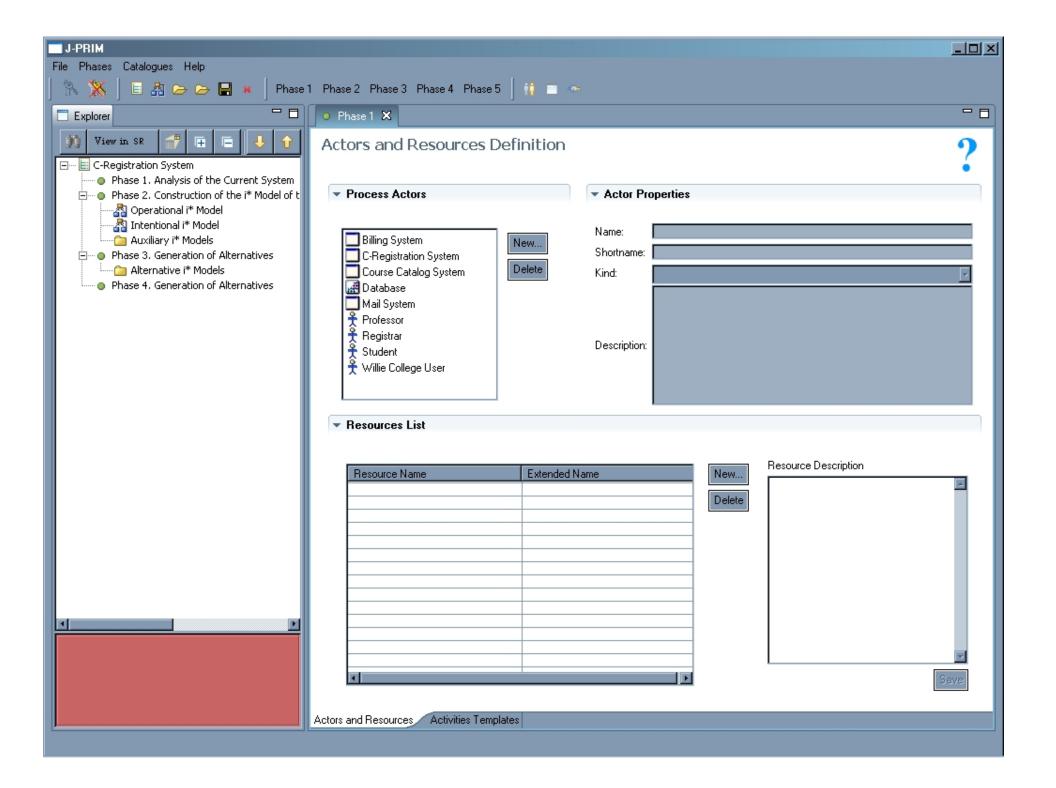
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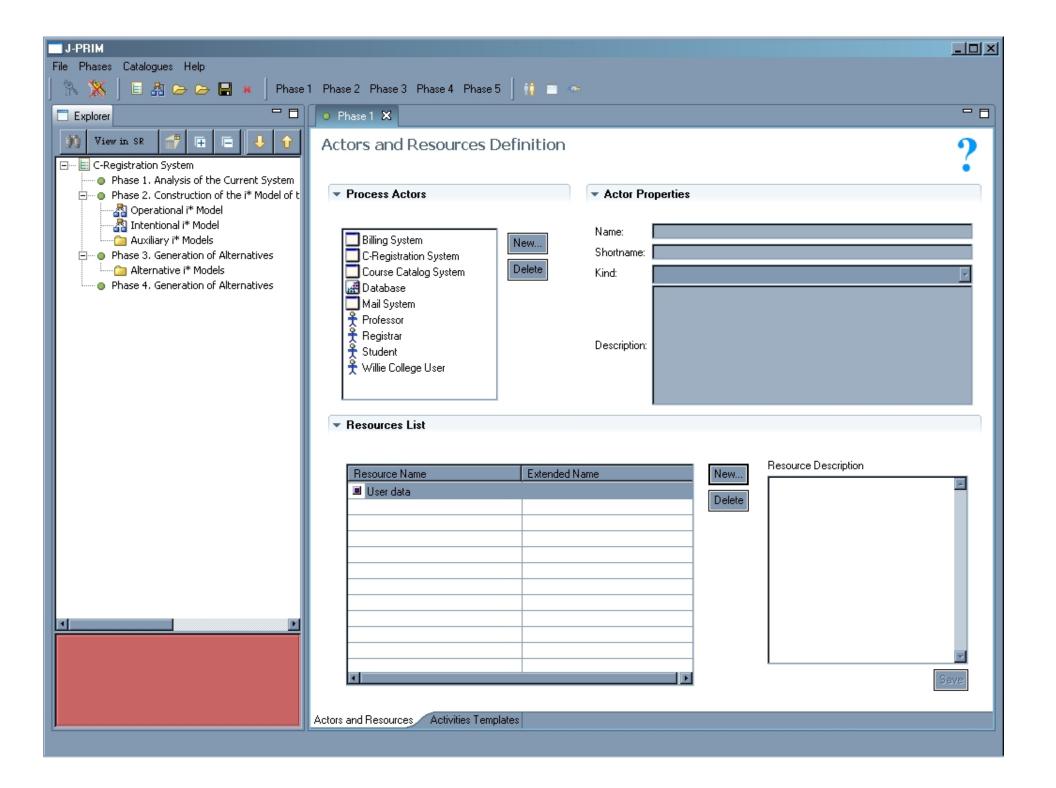


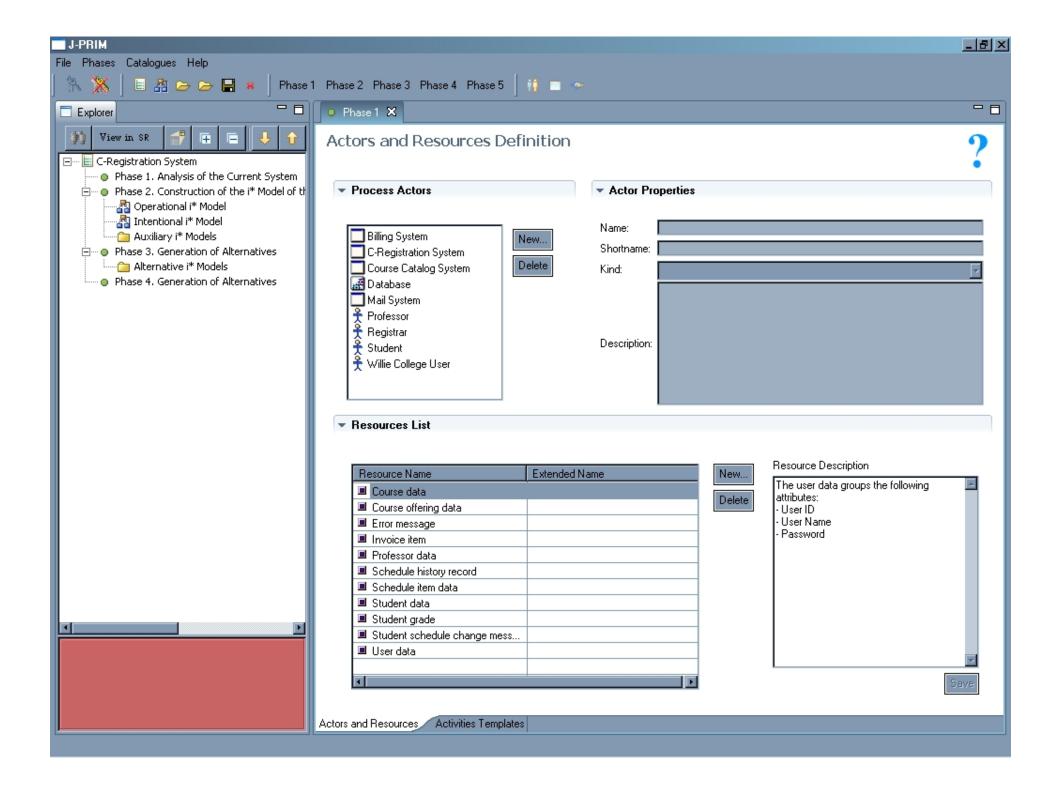


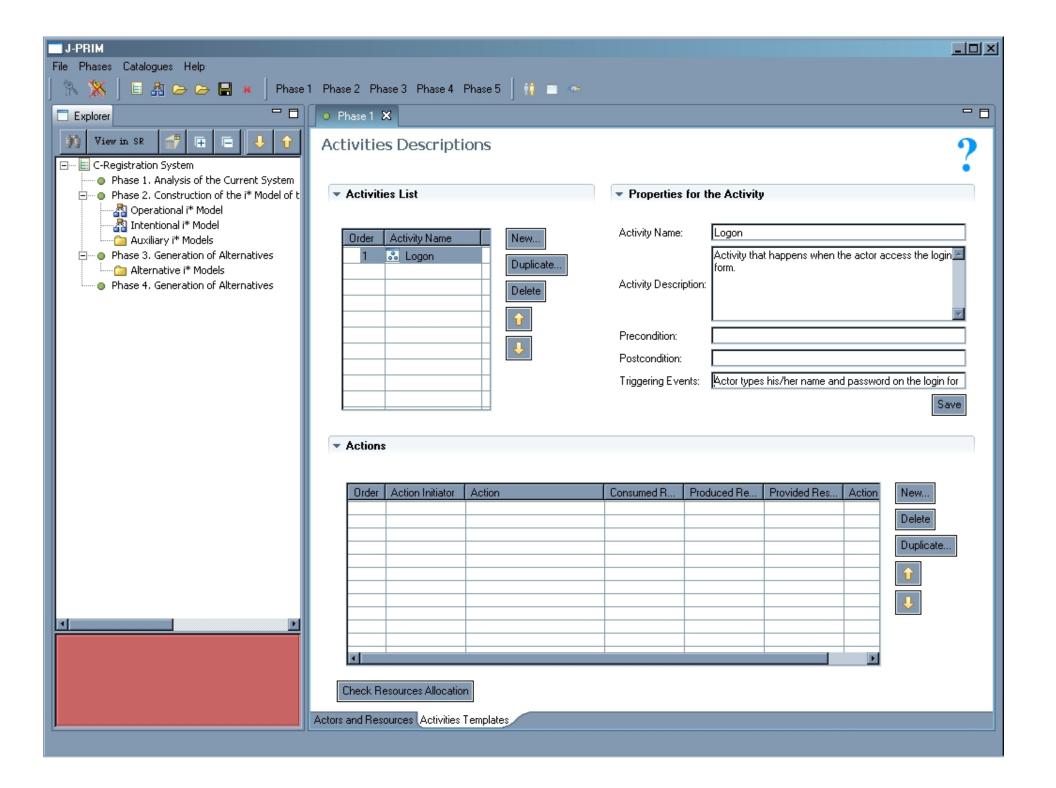


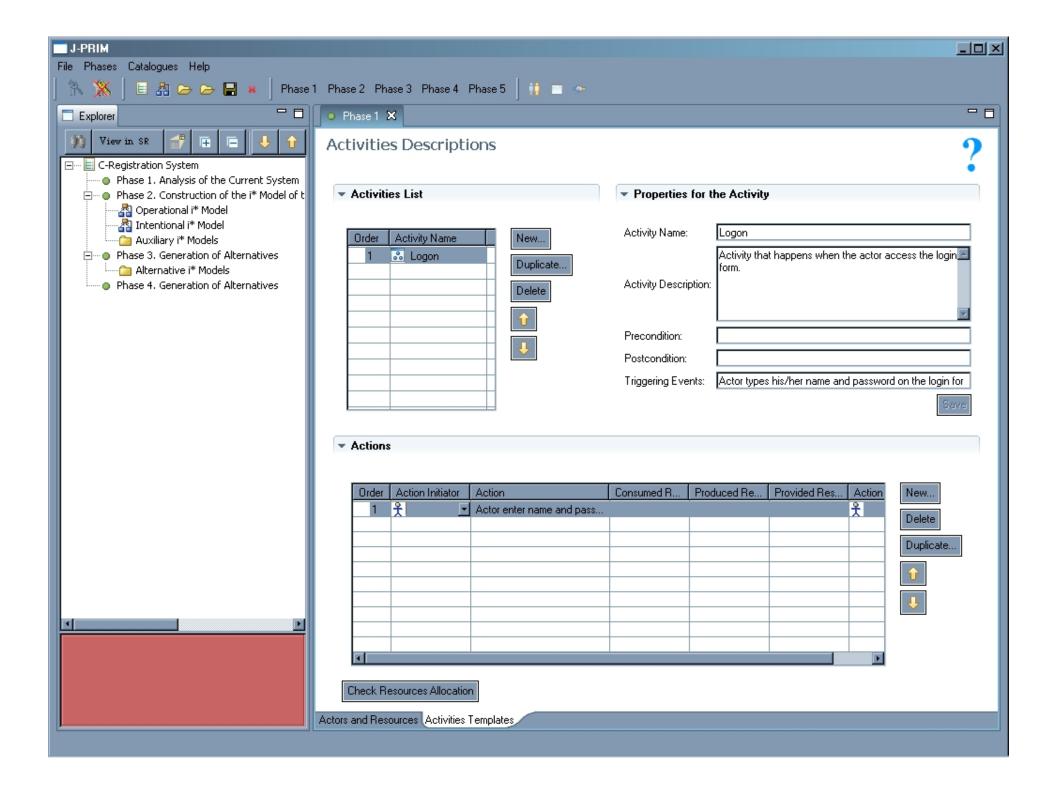


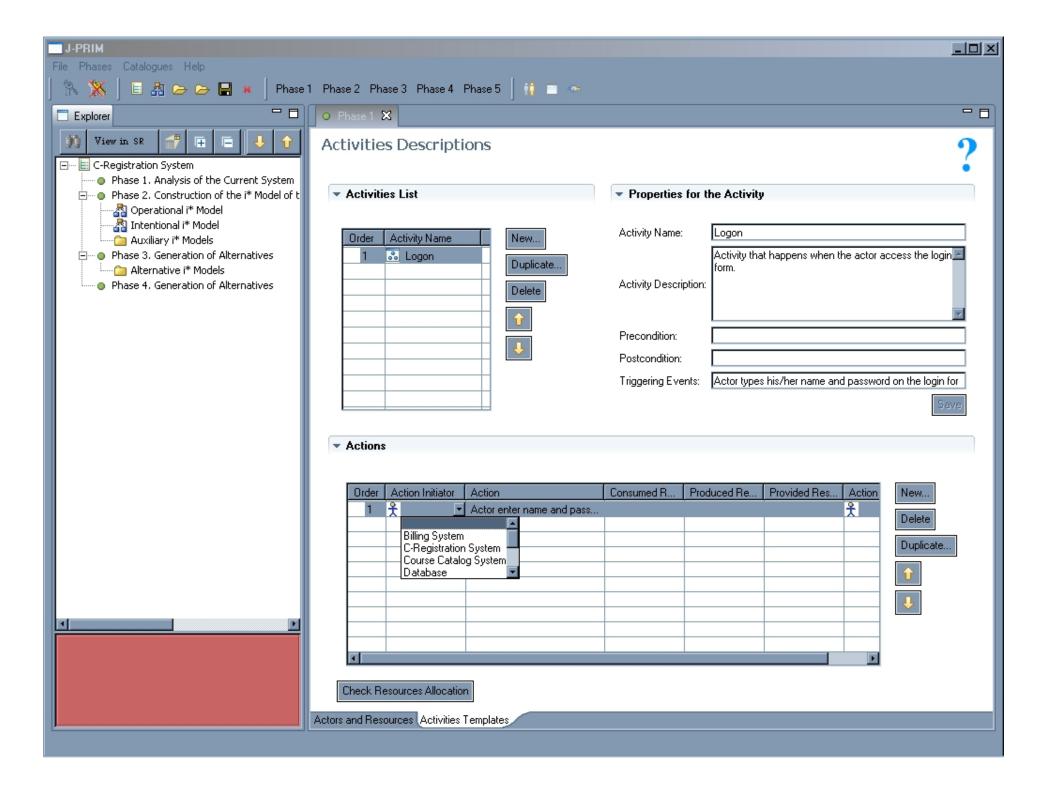


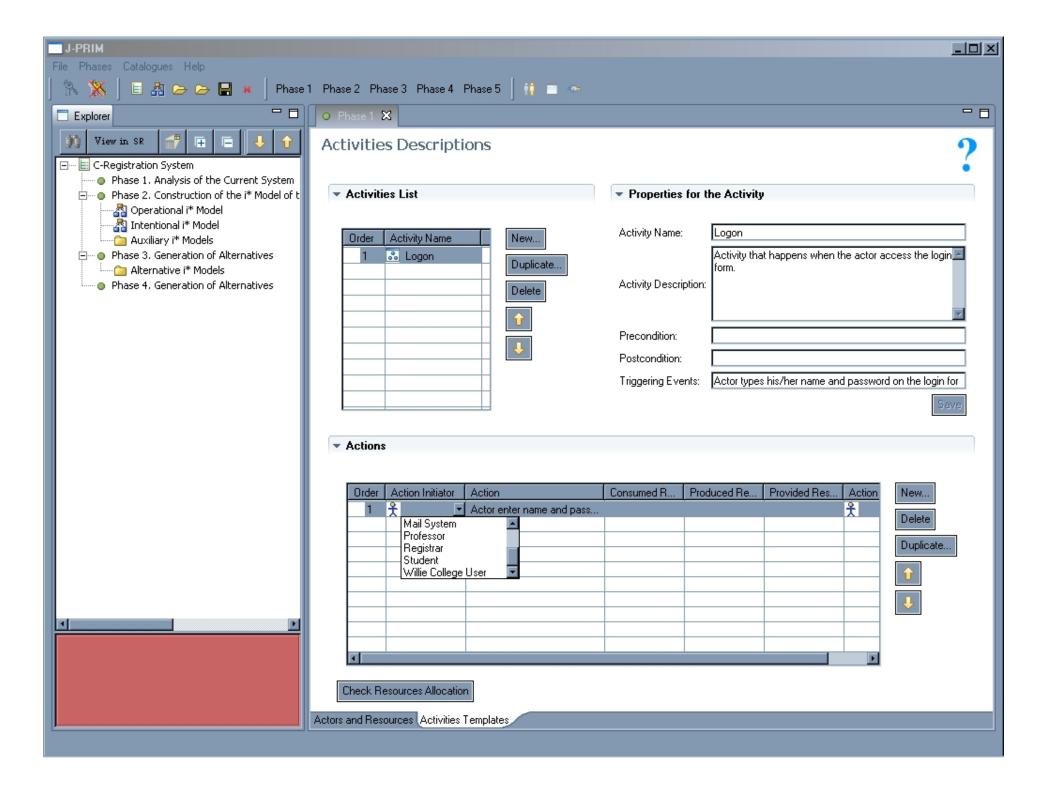


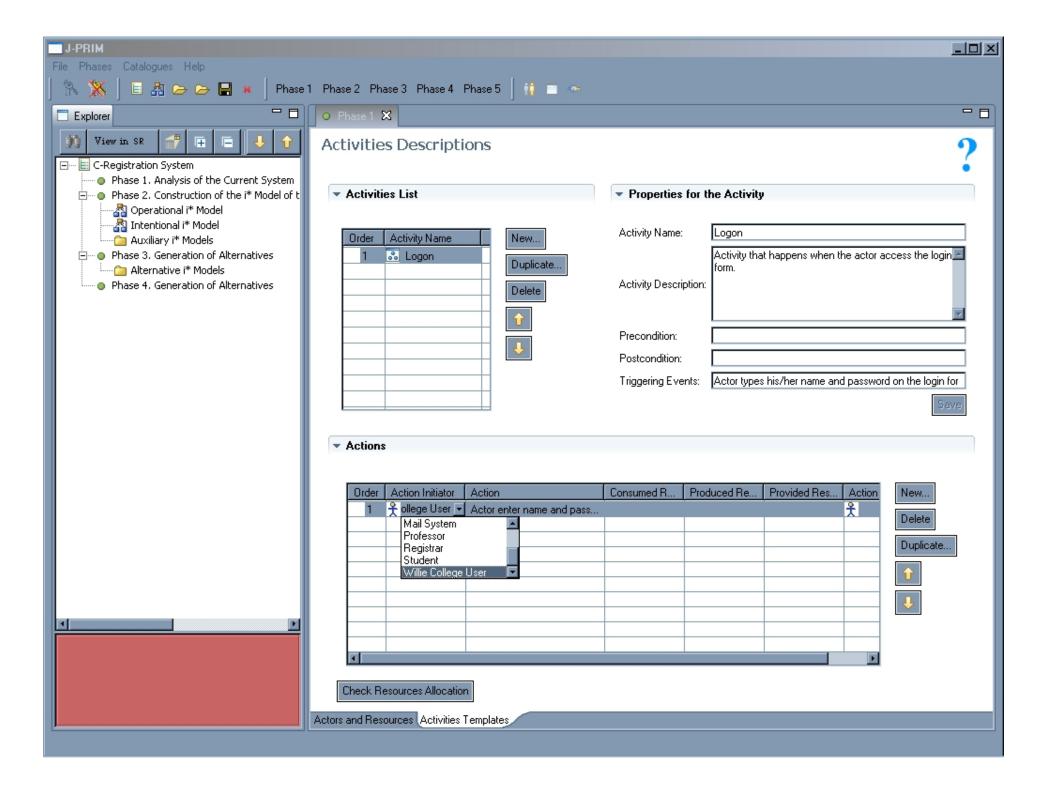


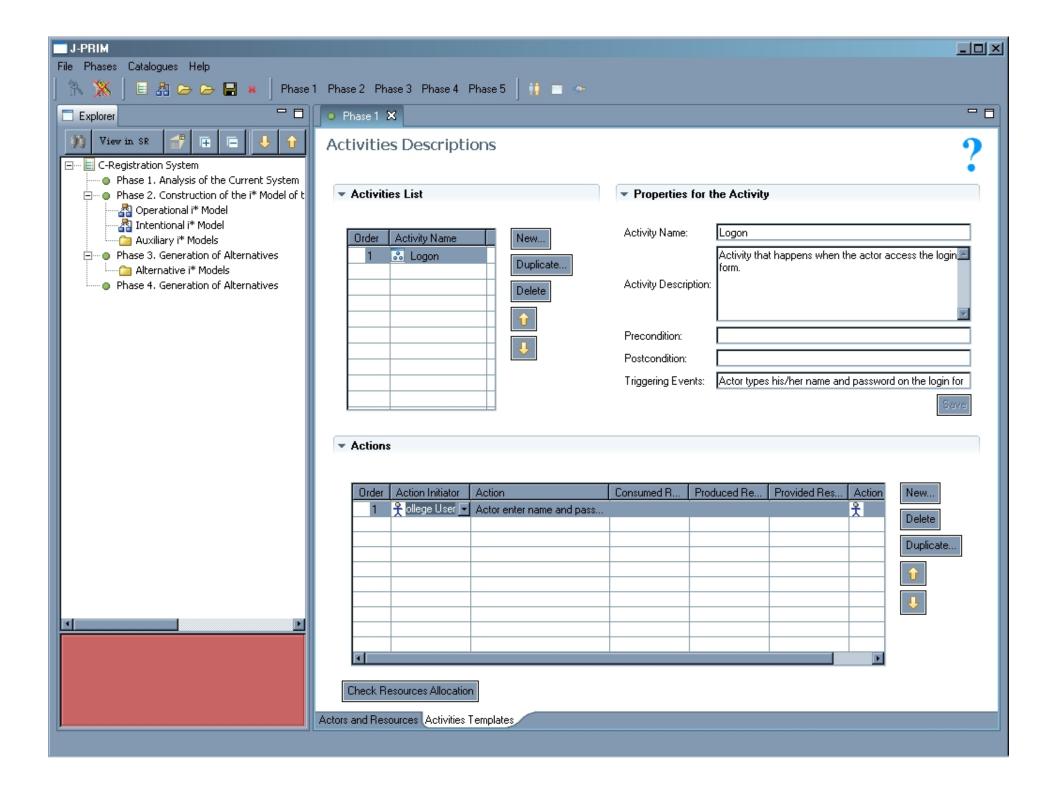


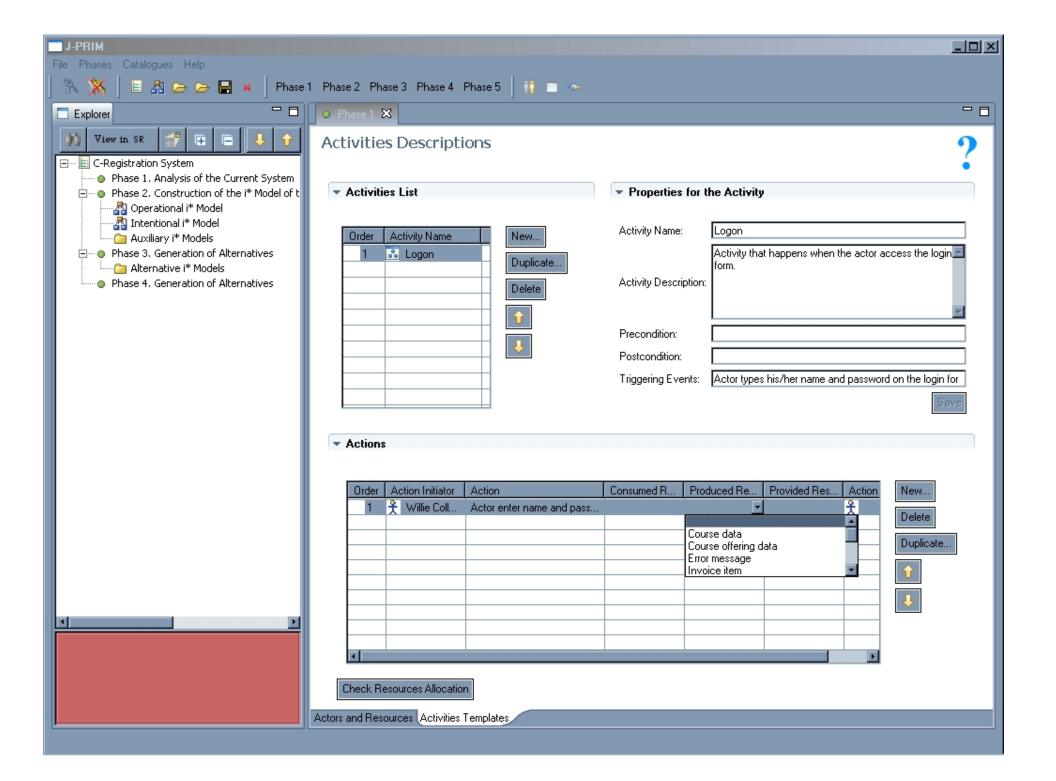


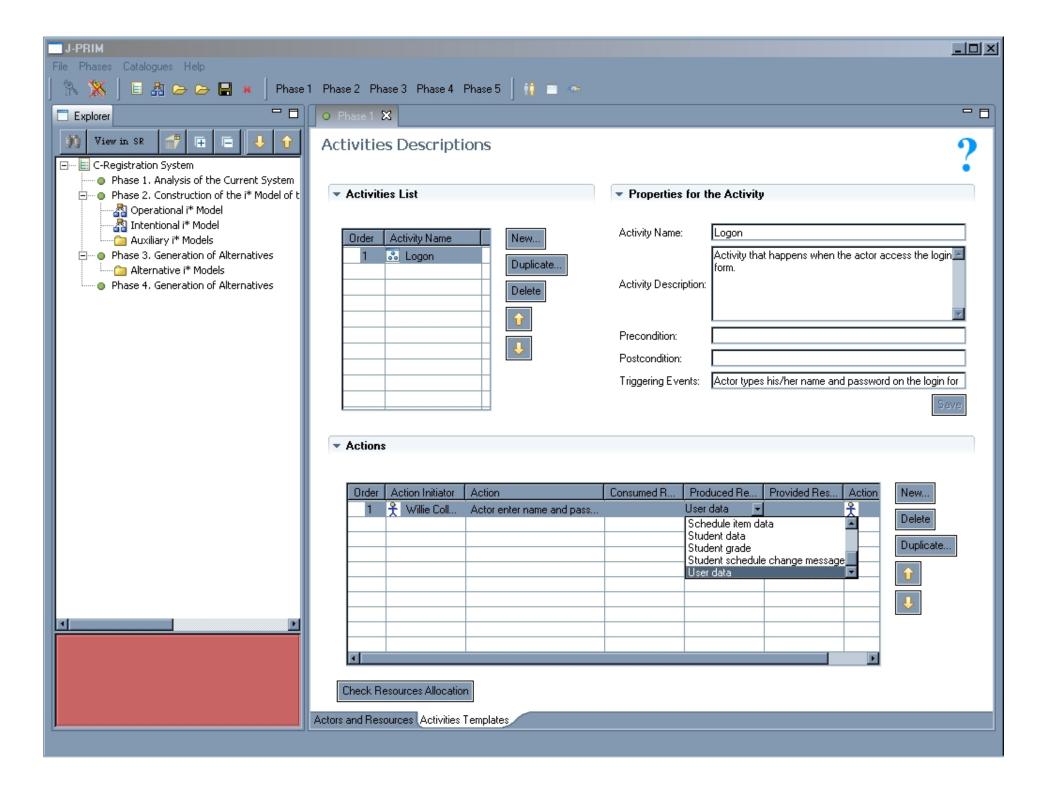


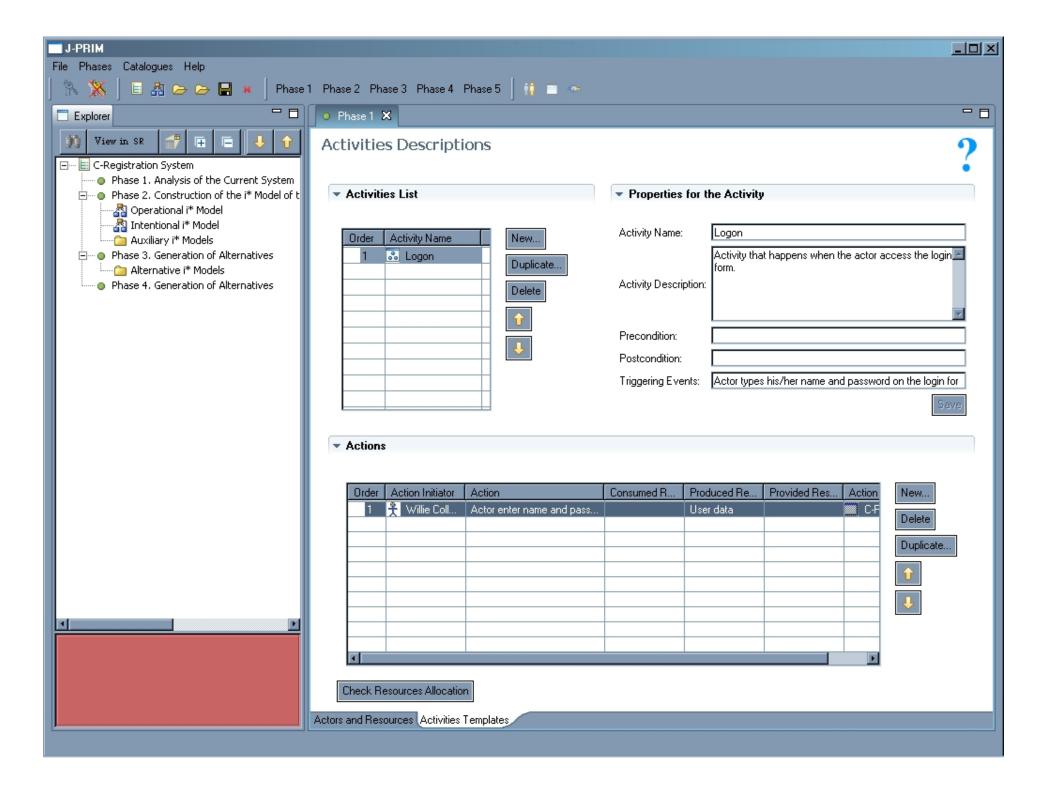


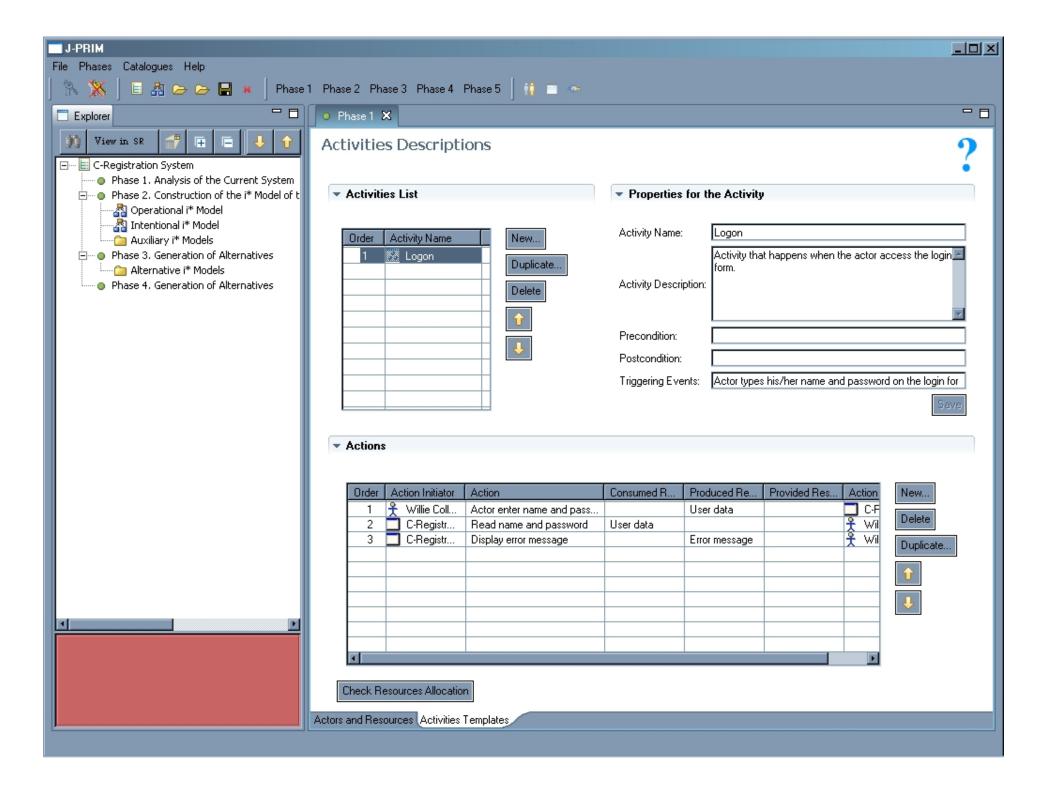


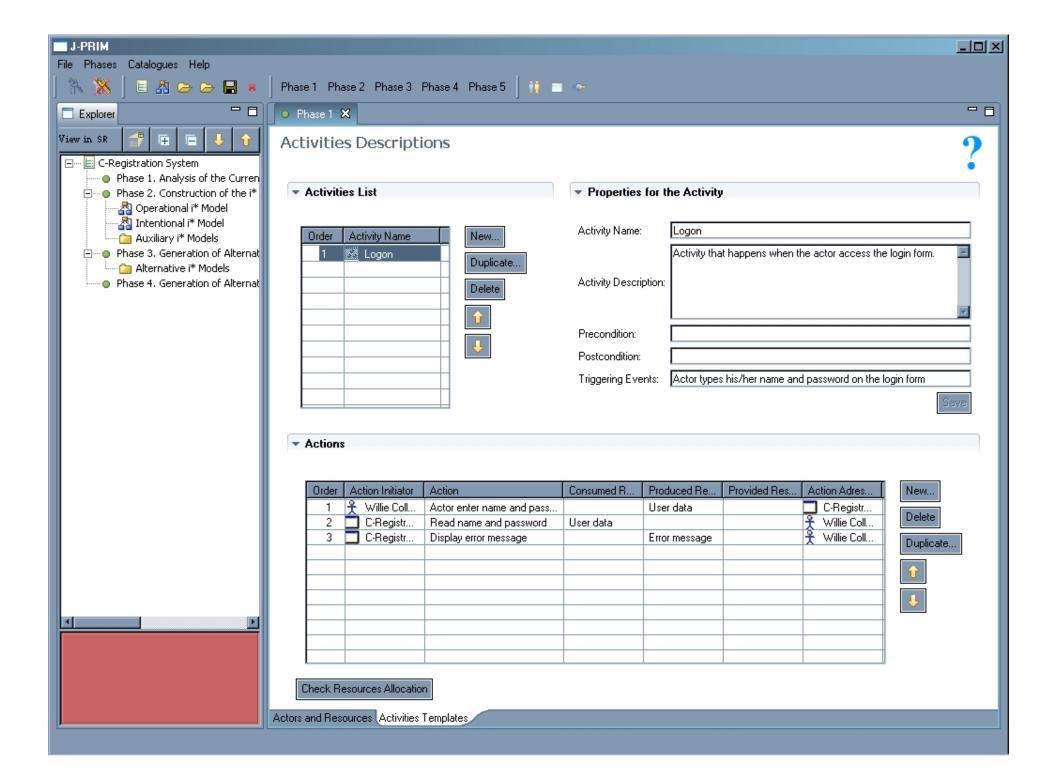


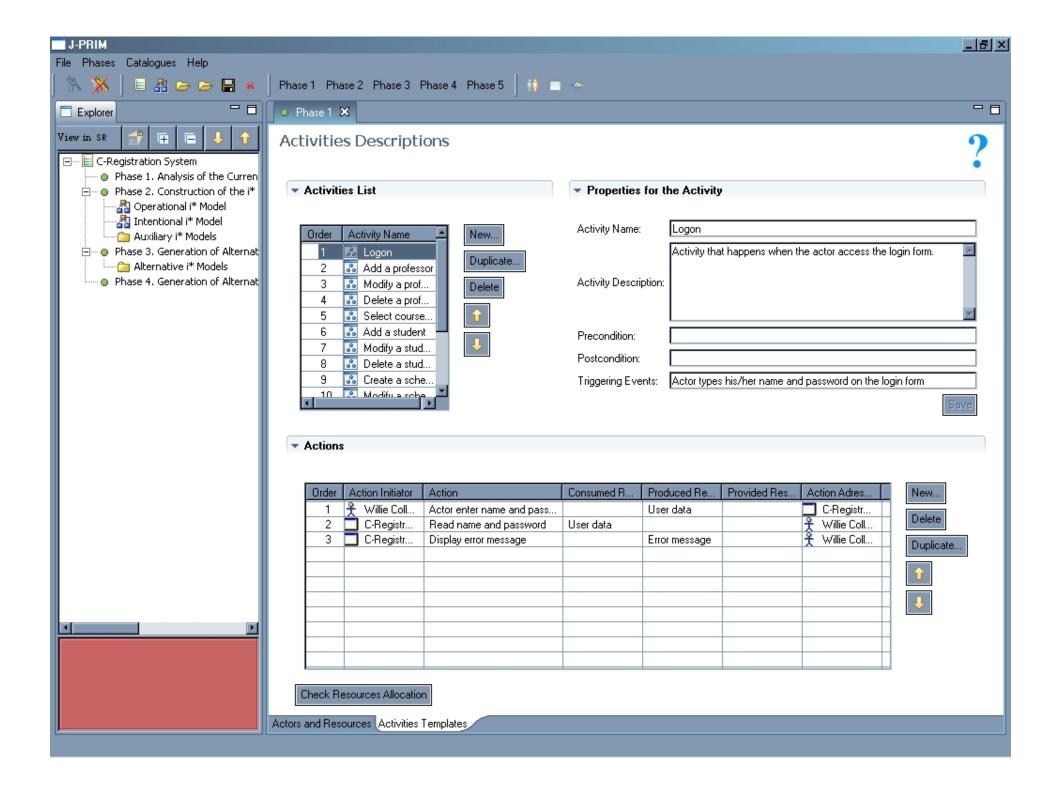


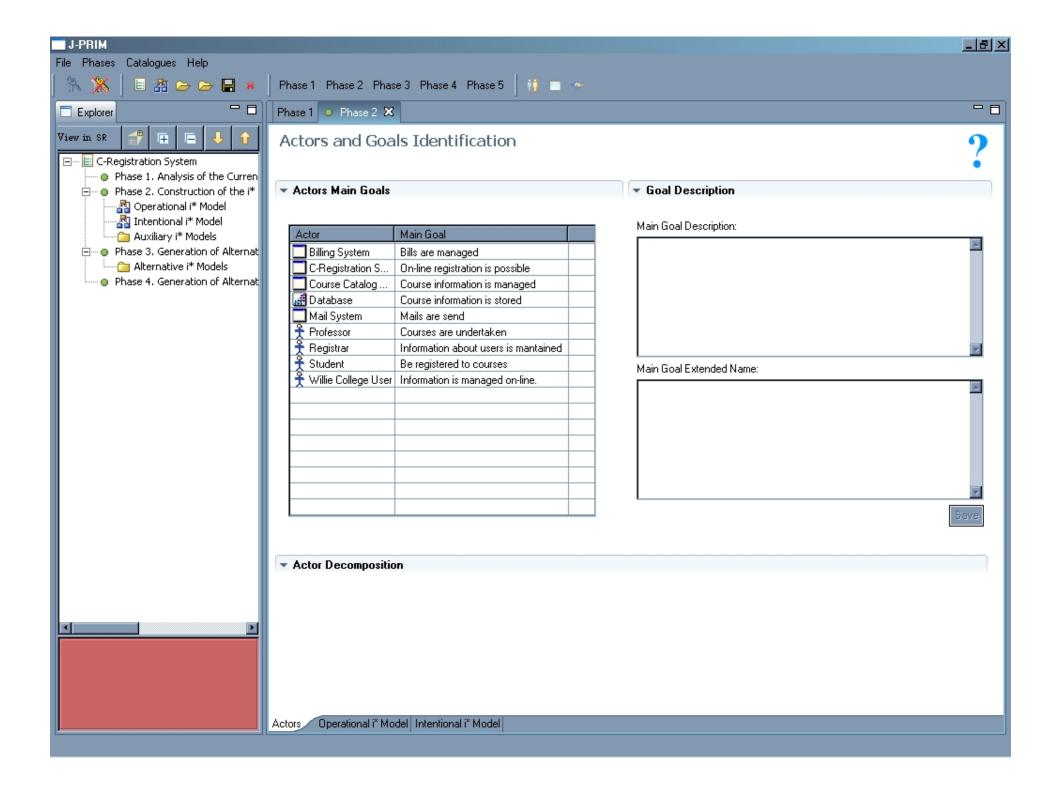


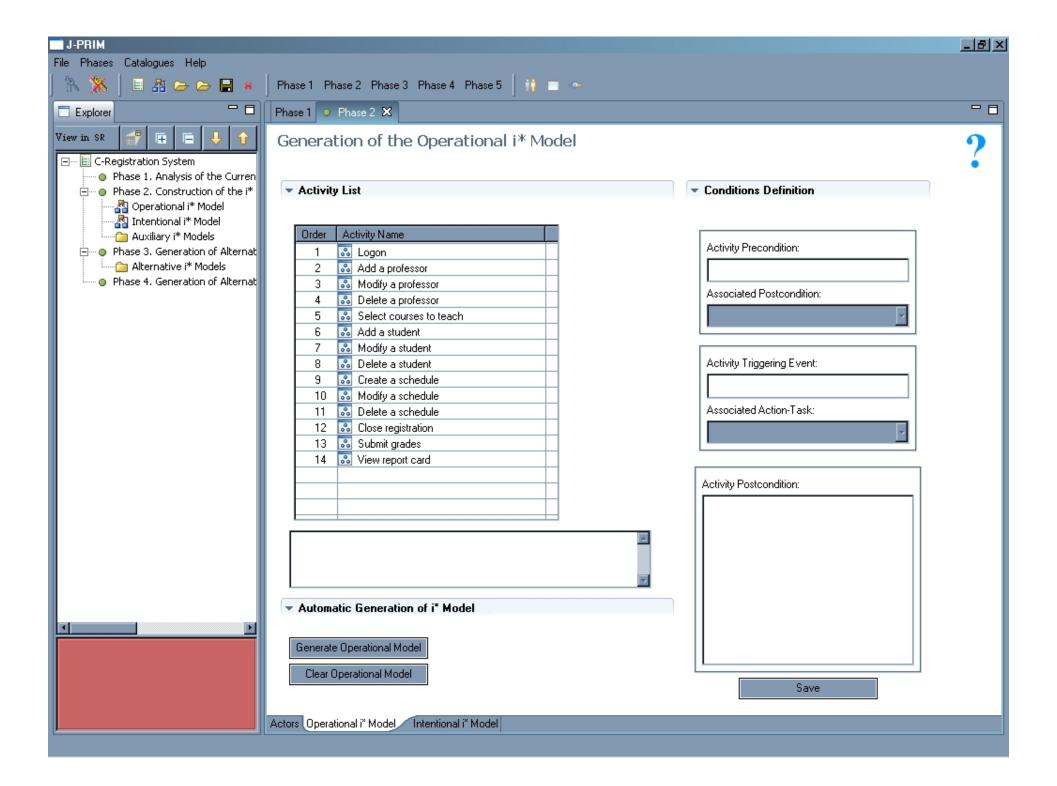


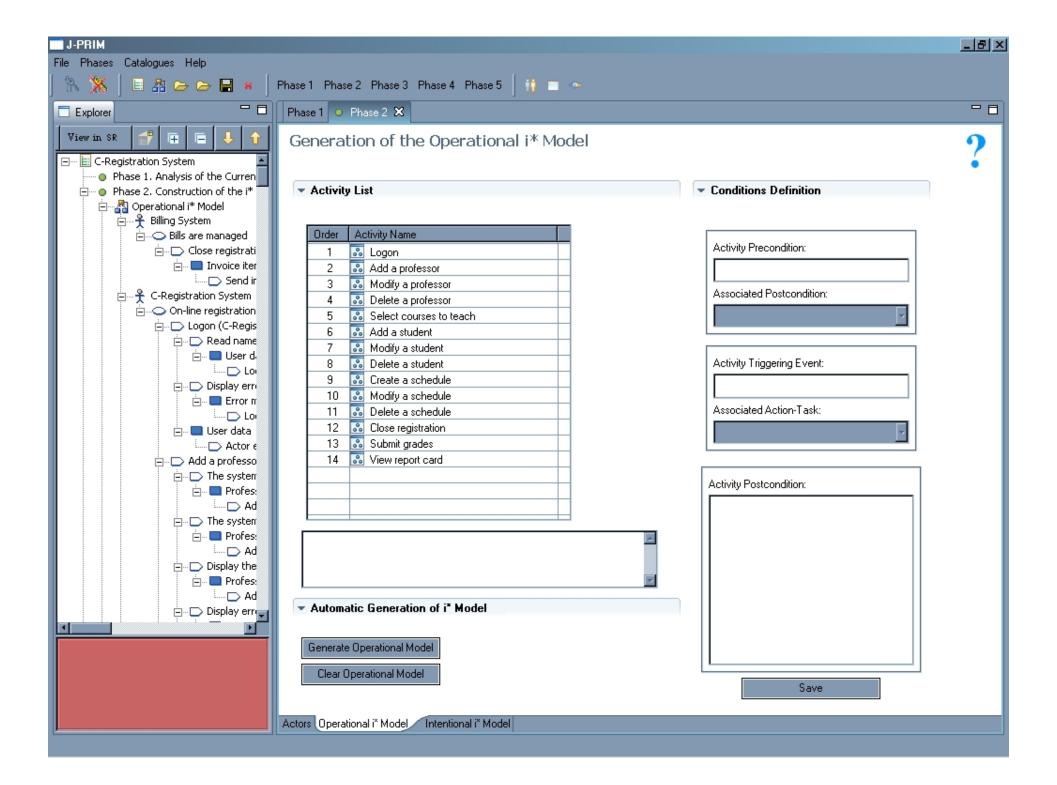


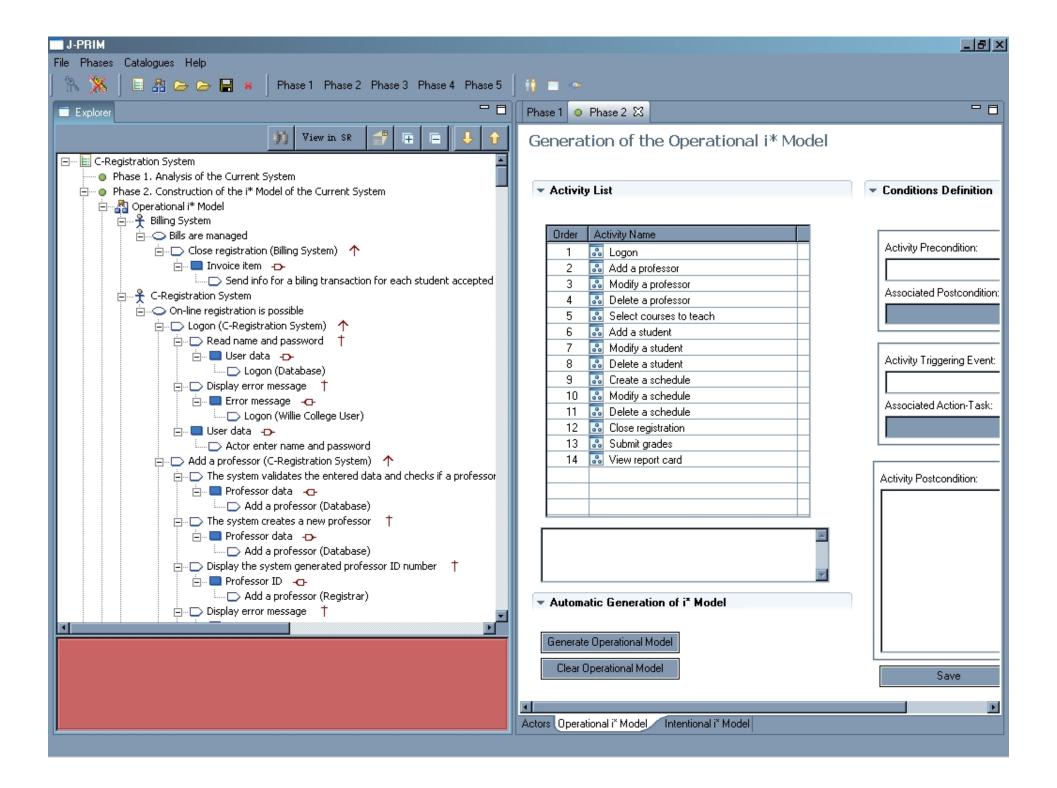


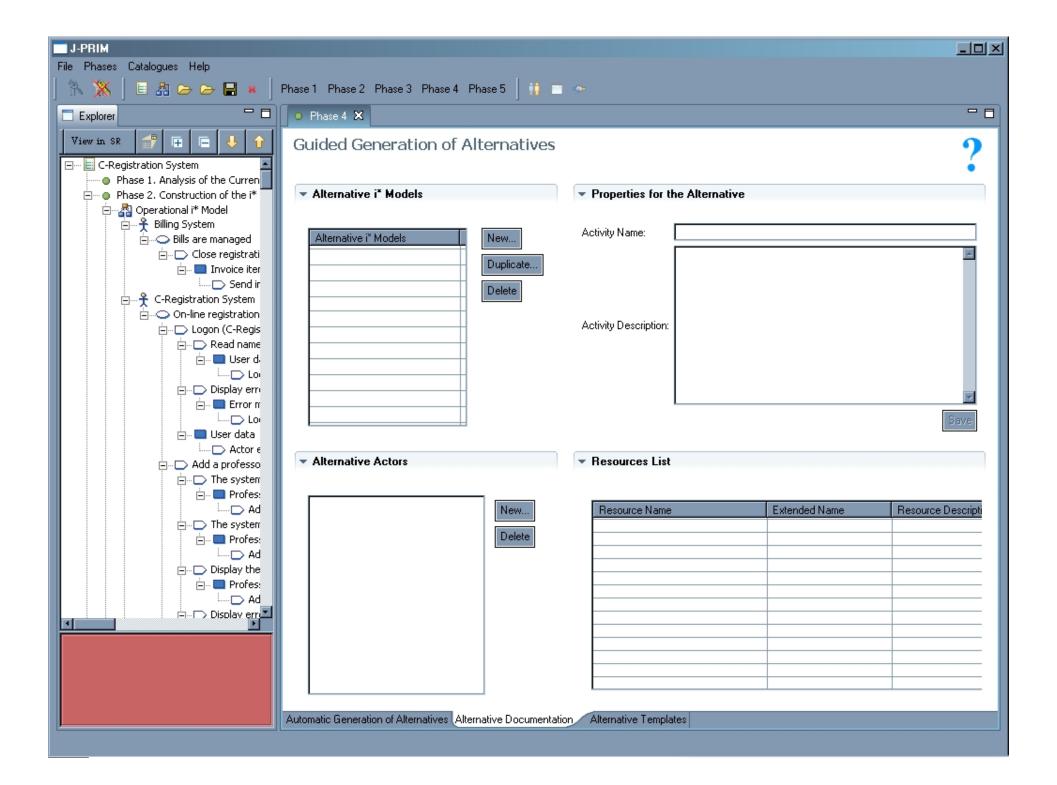


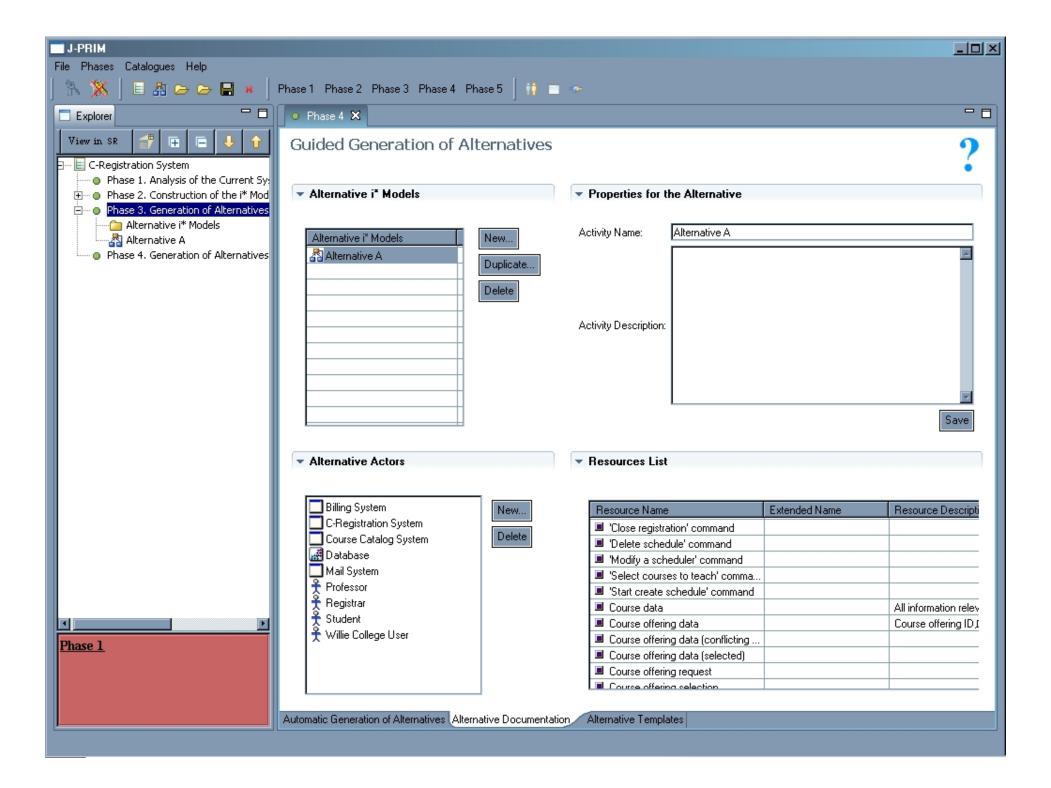


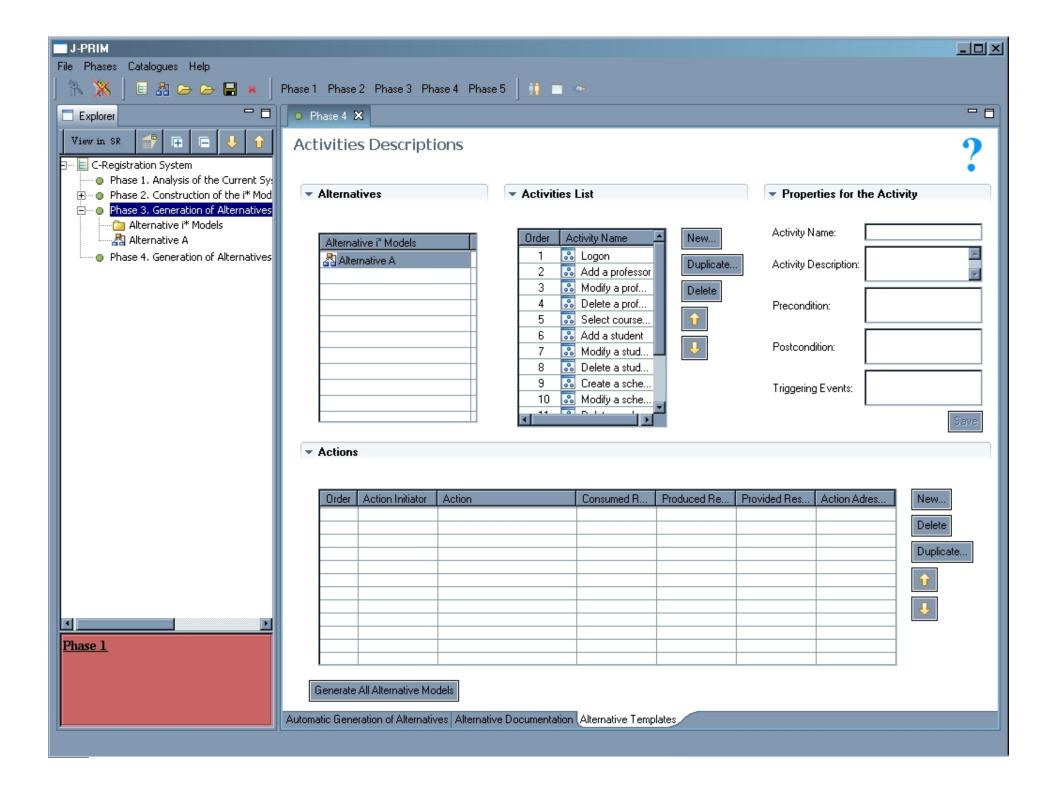


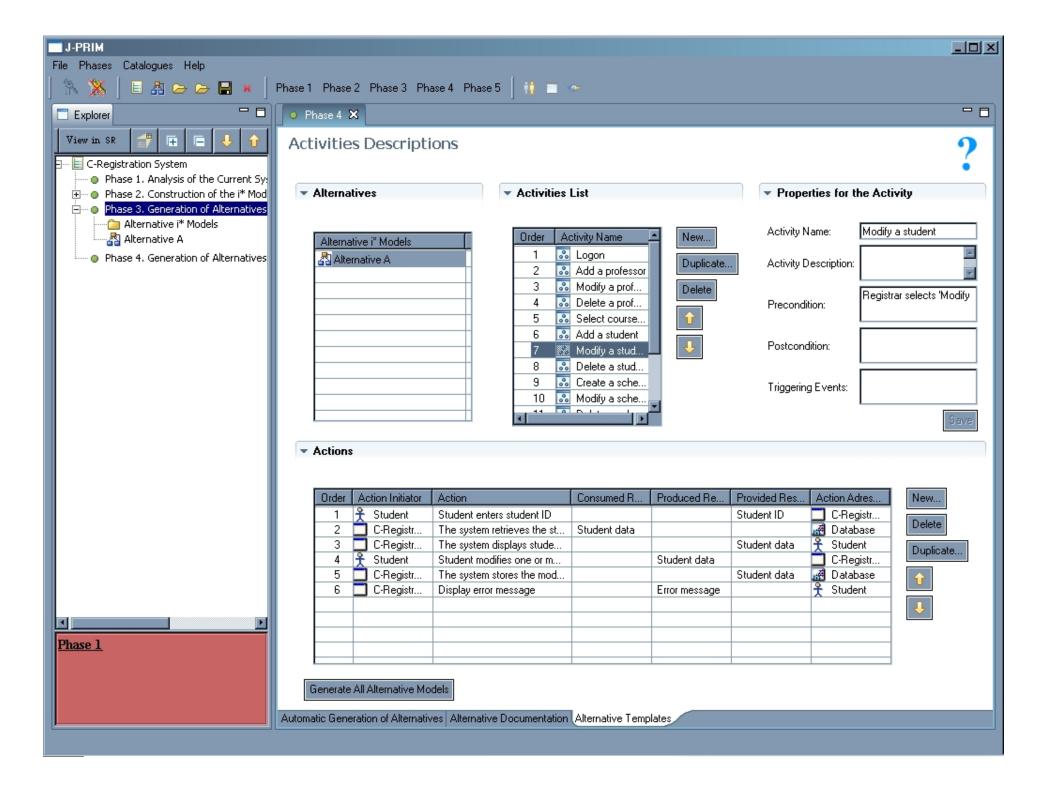


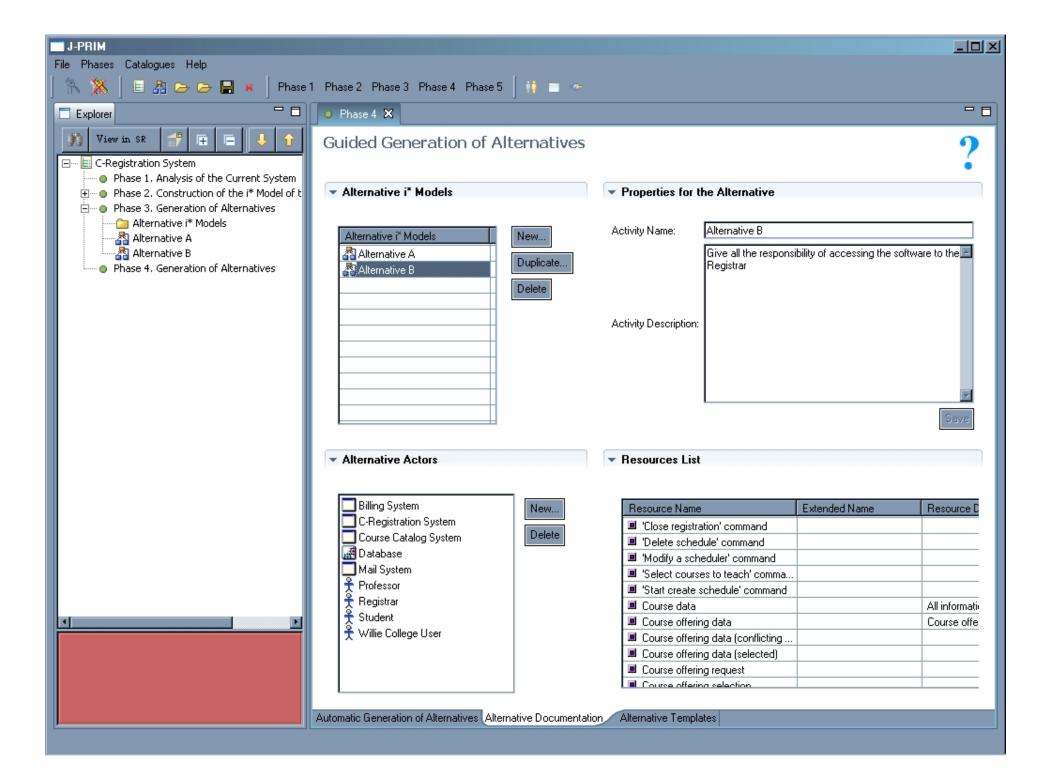


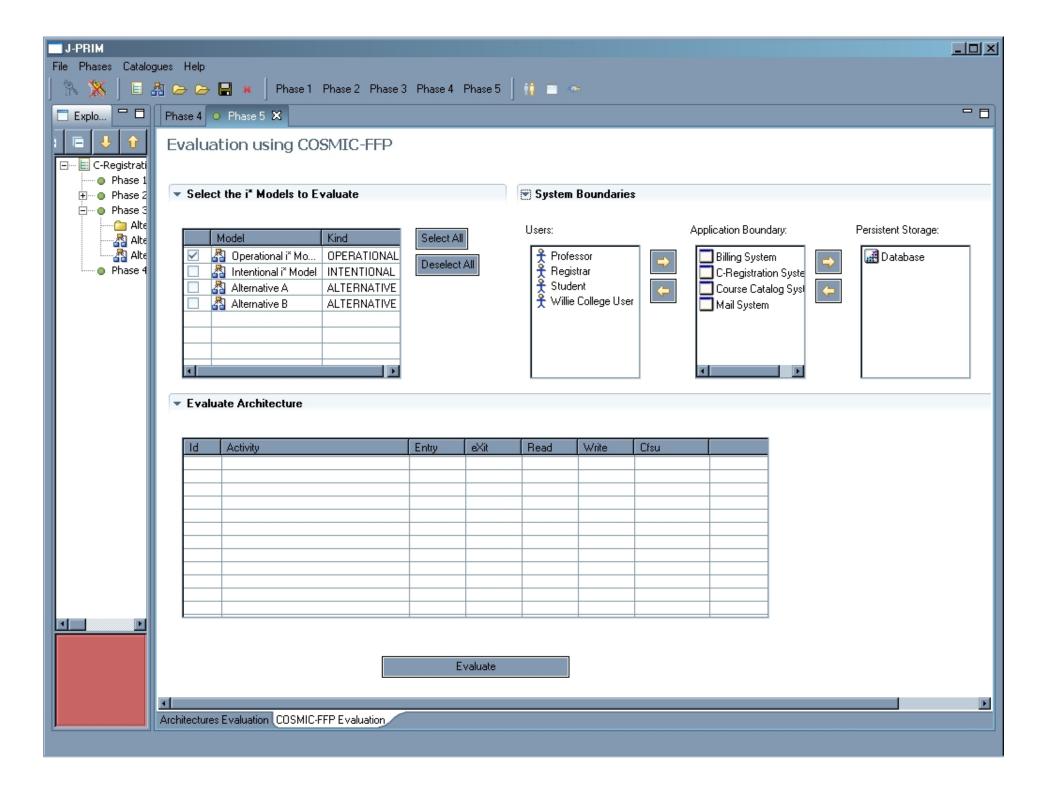


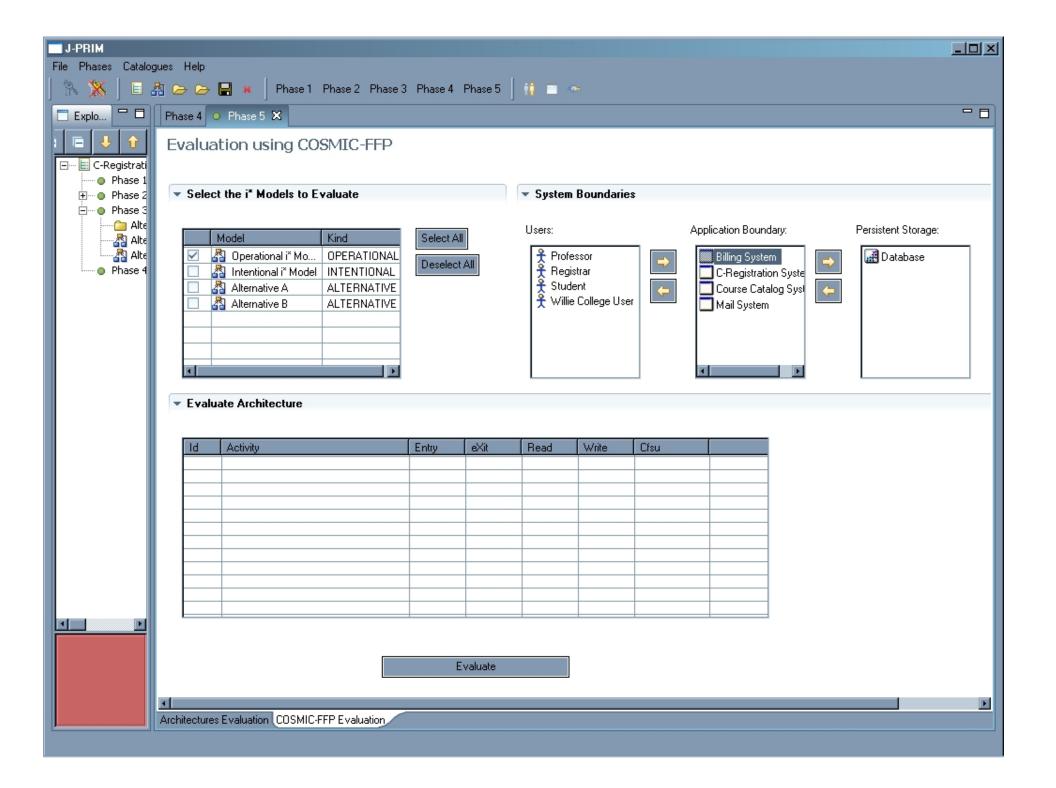


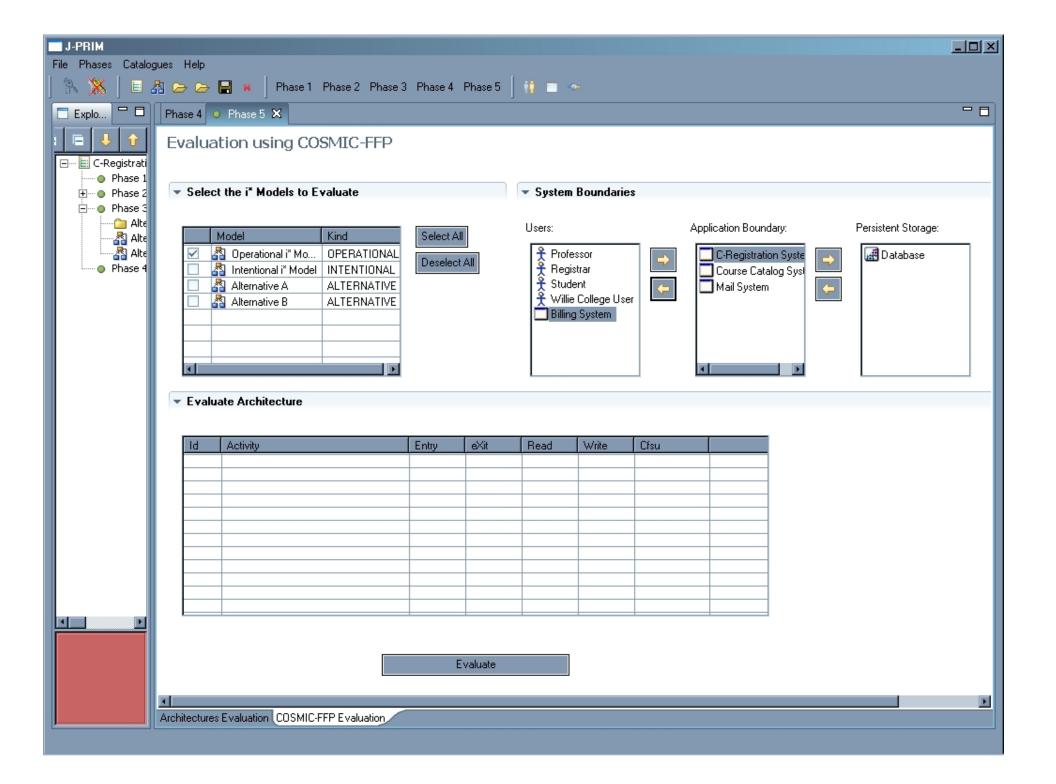


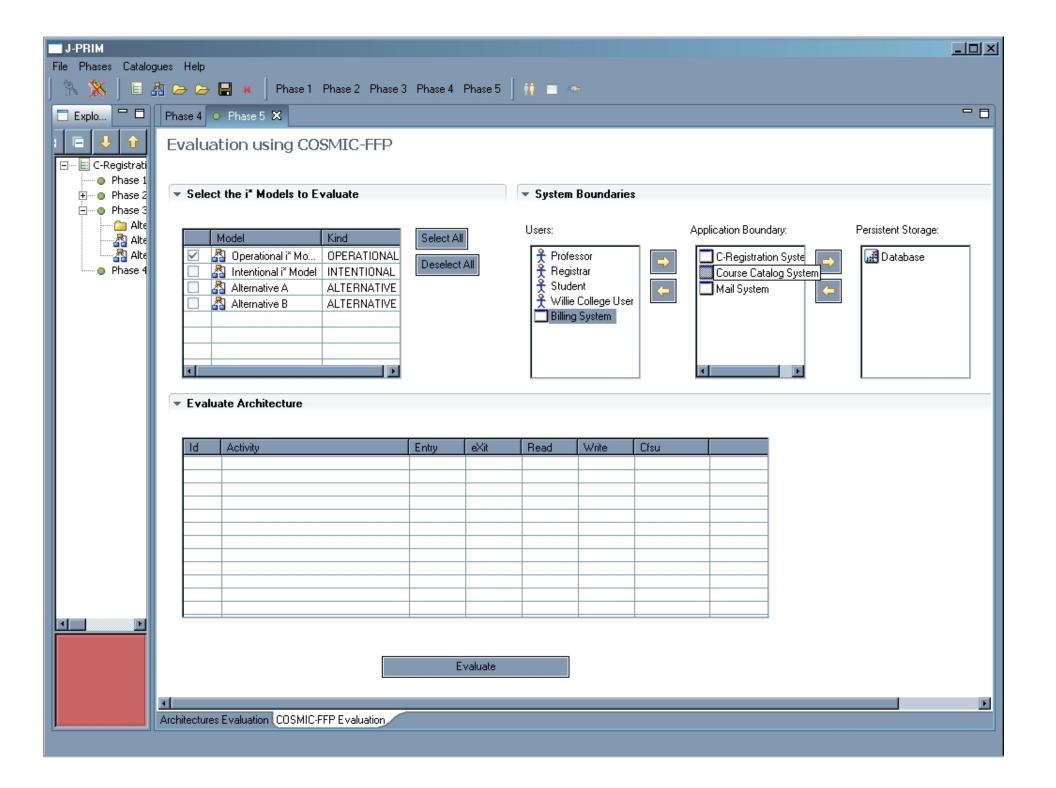


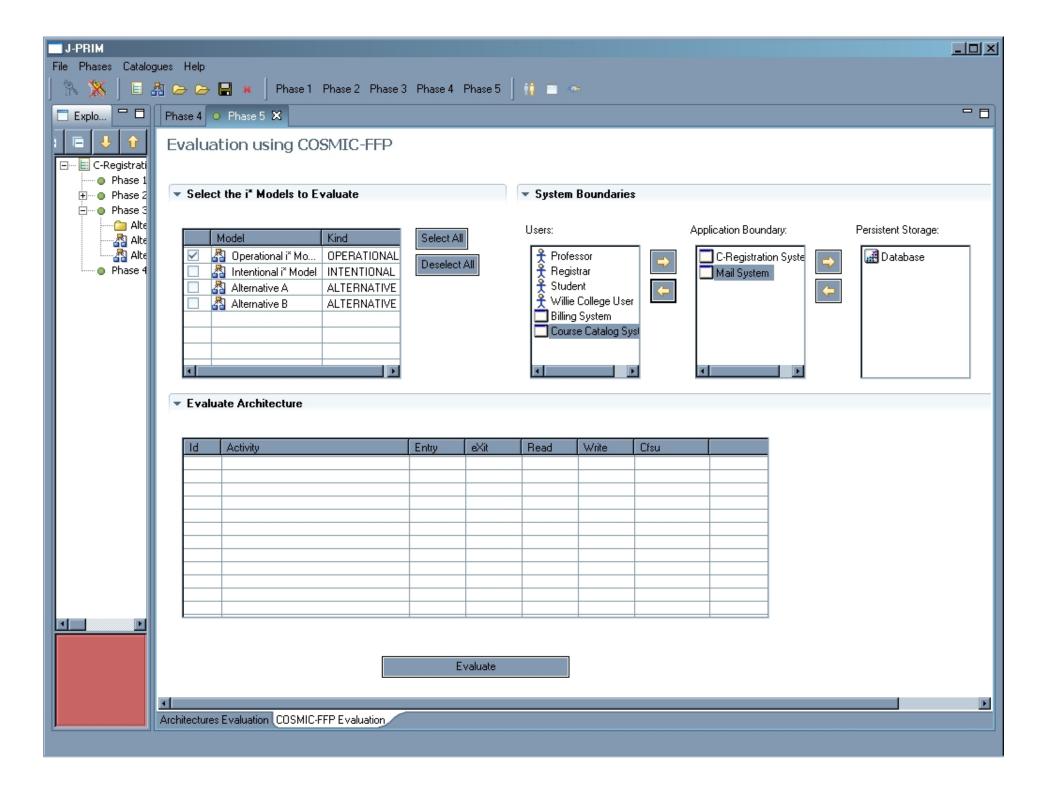


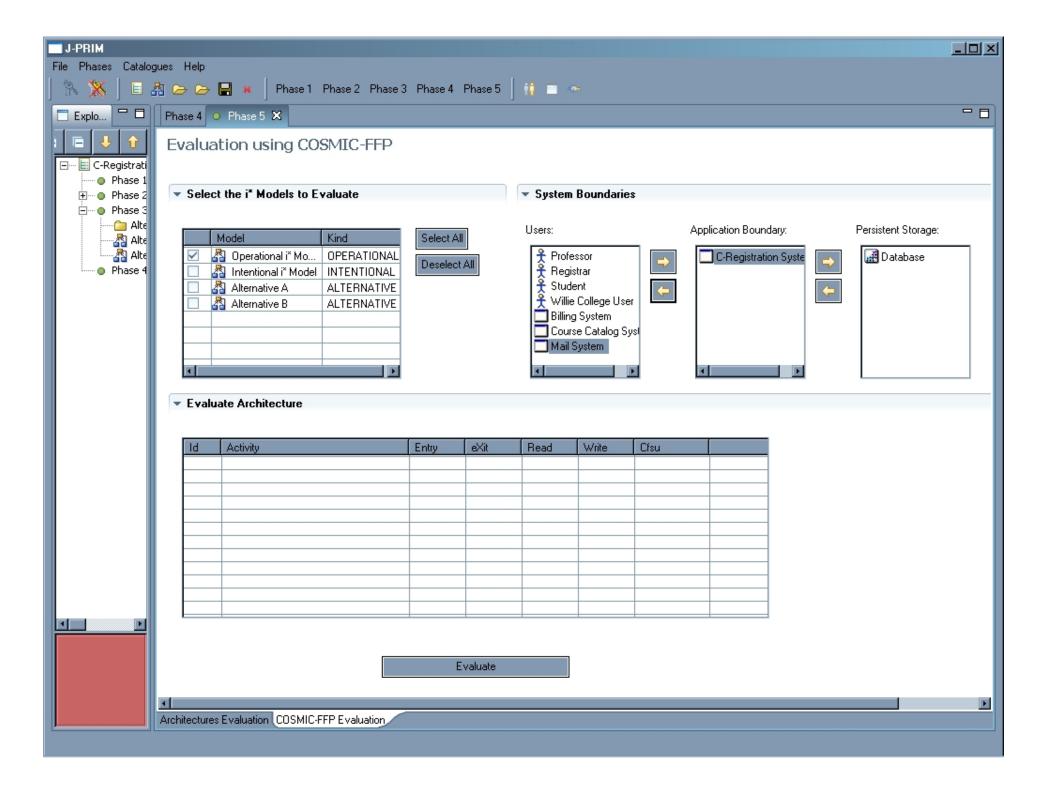


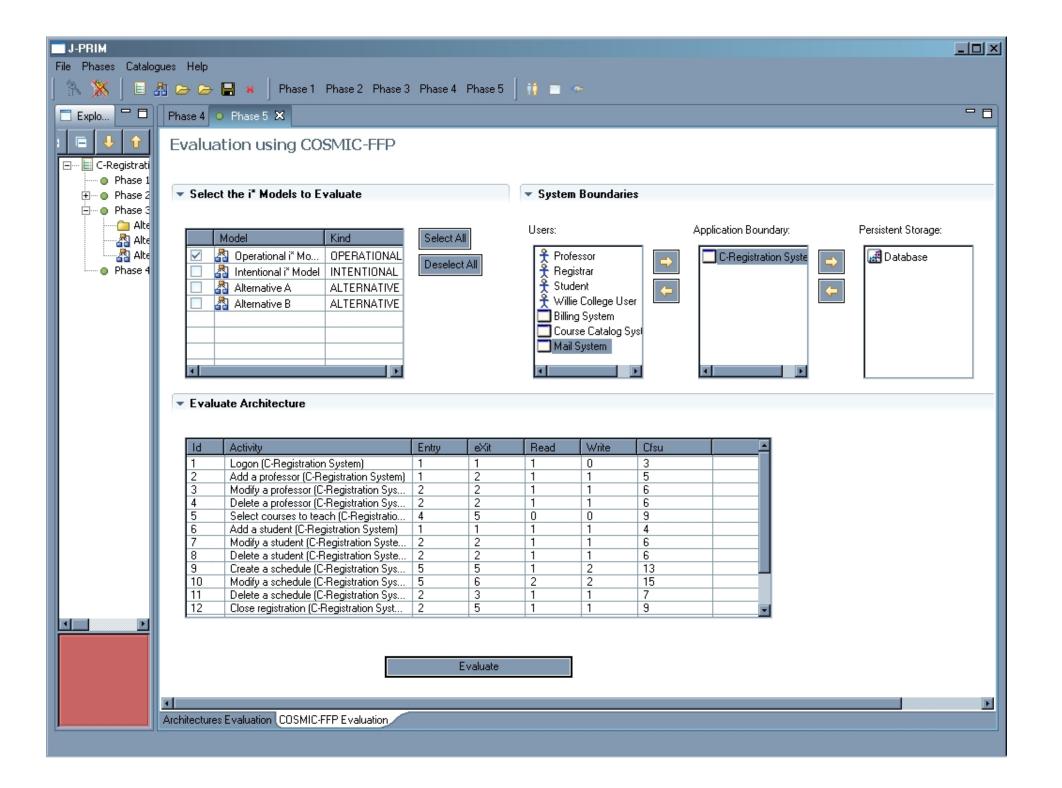


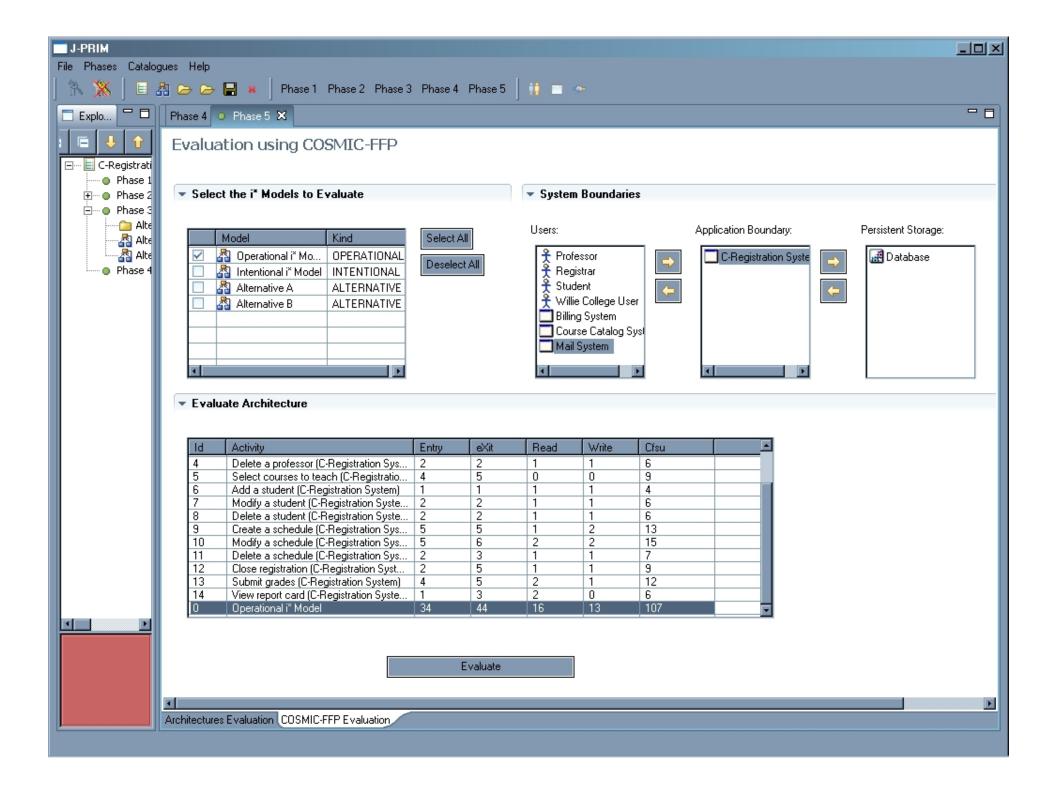












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Non-functional Measurements

Operational i* Model:

- The Registrar maintains Student Data
- The Registrar maintains the Professor Data
- The Student and the Professor access the System for other purposes

Alternative A:

- The Student modifies the Student Data
- The Professor modifies the Professor Data

Alternative B:

- The Registrar is the only actor that access the System
- The Student and the Professor request the Registrar

Evaluation of the Alternatives

Alternative	Cfsu	Ease of Communication	Process Agility
Operational <i>i*</i> Model	107	0.2824	0.7903
Alternative A	107	0.2796	0.8040
Alternative B	107	0.3761	0.6351

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Conclusions

- Our Proposal:
 - Adapting the COSMIC-FFP measurement process model to PRiM
 - Validation of the results:
 - COSMIC-FFP results by replicating case studies
 - Non-functional properties by generating alternatives
- COSMIC-FFP enriches PRiM:
 - It is a standardized measurement process for evaluating the functional size
 - It provides knowledge and experience:
 - Questions for validated COSMIC-FFP functional processes
 - Guidelines for the identification of the data movements types

Conclusions

- PRiM enriches COSMIC-FFP:
 - Use of a unique i* requirements model for representing functional and non-functional requirements
 - Guidelines for generating alternatives
 - Guidelines for defining structural metrics for evaluating nonfunctional properties
- i* actors types provide implicit identification of the Data Groups
 - Entry = depender (human) and dependee (software)
 - eXit = depender (software) and dependee (human)
 - Read = depender (software) and dependee (database)
 - Write = depender (database) and dependee (software)
- Tool support available: J-PRiM

Future Work

- Address other metrics based on the functional size
 - Software Product Lines
- Further specification facilities
 - Study how to get the class diagrams in addition to the use cases from i*-PRiM

Thank You



Contact me at: ggrau@lsi.upc.edu

Everything about *i** is at: http://istar.rwth-aachen.de/