

Extending OCL to Specify and Validate Integrity Constraints in UML-GeoFrame Conceptual Data Model

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Abstract: This paper describes a proposal for OCL (Object Constraint Language) by adding geographical features to assist the geographical data modeling. OCL can be used to complement the diagrams when the UML constructors do not allow the specification of all requirements related to the application domain. The objective is to complement and validate conceptual data diagrams built with constructors of the UML-GeoFrame data model, with and extended OCL used for constraint topological relationships in the data model itself and available in his diagram to access stereotypes for direct user defined constraints.

1 INTRODUCTION

The Unified Modeling Language (UML) (OMG, 2011) has a great acceptance as a language for modeling and designing software systems. However, the UML diagrams are not capable of including all its needs, thus requiring a mechanism so that the specific domain constraints can be documented in the modeling stage, named Object Constraint Language – OCL (Warmer and Kleppe, 2003); (OMG, 2012).

The OCL arises as a proposal to help in the declaration of these constraints, still in the process of conceptual modeling, ensuring that the modeling is done in order to produce diagrams without ambiguities, providing a higher quality stored data. According to Lisboa Filho and Stempliuć (2009), many integrity constraints cannot be directly expressed in the conceptual database modeling and are imposed by the application so that the stored data do not violate the rules established during the requirements phase.

As in conventional databases, in geographical databases it is not possible to use only UML diagrams to represent the integrity constraints that determine the aimed data quality. However, unlike conventional databases, OCL does not have enough operators to declare constraints considering the details of the geographical elements.

The objective of this paper is to proceed the

propositions of existent extensions to the OCL constructors, as presented in Duboisset et al. (2005), that help the declaration of integrity constraints in the geographical database modeling. Thus, the proposed extension's main objective is to complement the diagrams built using the UML-GeoFrame with the aid of an extended OCL expression. UML-GeoFrame is a conceptual data model that uses class diagrams from UML to extend the GeoFrame framework. Details about this model can be found in Lisboa Filho and Stempliuć (2009).

The remainder of the article is structured as follows. Section 2 describes the types of geometrical relationships involving points, lines and polygons elements proposed by Clementini et al., (1993). Section 3 presents a proposal to extend the OCL language, showing how it can be used to help in the modeling of geographical data. Section 4 shows an example of how to use the proposed OCL expression. Section 5 presents the final considerations and future works.

2 RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN GEOMETRICAL TYPES

As geographic elements are represented through the geometrical types Point, Line and Polygon, Clementini et al., (1993) propose an extended model to the 4-intersection matrix proposed by Egenhofer

and Franzosa (1991) in order to include information about the intersection dimension, as the largest resulting value of the intersection between two spatial objects. The resulting dimension of the two-dimensional intersection can be: empty (\emptyset), 0D (point), 1D (line) and 2D (area or polygon).

The interior and boundary are used in the method to describe the topological relationships existing between the interior and boundary of a spatial object. Clementini et al., (1993) shows the geometric elements having the following characteristics:

- ∂P : The limit of a point is always empty;
- ∂L : The limit of a line are two points of its end;
- ∂A : The limit of an area is a closed line.

The interior of a point is the own point and of a circular line is the own line.

The interior of a geometrical element is denoted by $\lambda^\circ = \lambda - \partial\lambda$, where the symbol λ represents a geographic type, the symbol $\partial\lambda$ represents its boundary and the symbol λ° represents its interior. Table 1 illustrates the resulting sets between the interiors and boundaries of the Point, Line and Polygon (area) types. There are four possible combinations between the interior and the boundary of a geometrical element: $S_1 = \partial\lambda_1 \cap \partial\lambda_2$, $S_2 = \partial\lambda_1 \cap \lambda_2^\circ$, $S_3 = \lambda_1^\circ \cap \partial\lambda_2$ and $S_4 = \lambda_1^\circ \cap \lambda_2^\circ$. The first and second operands of the intersections are associated to the first and second elements from the geometric type column present in Table 1.

Table 1: Dimension information about the intersection of the geometric elements.

Geometric Type	S ₁	S ₂	S ₃	S ₄
Point and Point	\emptyset	\emptyset	\emptyset	
$\emptyset, 0D$				
Point and Line	\emptyset	$\emptyset, 0D$	$\emptyset, 0D$	
Point and Area	\emptyset	$\emptyset, 0D$	$\emptyset, 0D$	
Line and Area	$\emptyset, 0D$	$\emptyset, 0D$	$\emptyset, 0D, 1D$	$\emptyset, 1D$
Line and Line	$\emptyset, 0D$	$\emptyset, 0D$	$\emptyset, 0D$	$\emptyset, 0D, 1D$
Area and Area	$\emptyset, 0D, 1D$	$\emptyset, 1D$	$\emptyset, 1D$	$\emptyset, 2D$

A relationship involving two geometrical types can be considered possible or real. A possible relationship is a specific combination between the dimensions of the geometrical elements involved, but it is not possible to represent it in the real world. On the other hand, a real relationship is a possible combination and can exist in the real world.

An example of a possible relationship is when a point must be inside an area and touches its boundary at the same time. Because the 0D nature of the point, it would not really be possible to establish

this relation.

However, a combination that establishes only that the point must be inside the area, besides being a possible combination is commonly used by the SIG community.

The real relationships involving the geometrical types of Table 1 are (Clementini et al., 1993):

- Point and Point: disjoint and in;
- Point and Line: disjoint, touch and in;
- Point e Area: disjoint, touch and in;
- Line and Area: disjoint, touch, in and cross;
- Line and Line: disjoint, touch, in, cross and overlap;
- Area e Area: disjoint, touch, in, overlap, equal e cover.

Table 2 complements the relationships between the geometrical types inverting the order of the operands. Comparing Table 1 with Table 2, it is possible to note that the cases are symmetrical and very similar, but not equal. Where the intersection involves the point element, such as the Area/Point and Line/Point, the intersections S₂ and S₃ of Table 2 will be different from the result found in Table 1, as the point has no boundary, and in all cases that the intersection about the point boundary is being verified, like in S₃, its intersection size will be empty (\emptyset). Other similar cases happen with the relationship Area/Line, where the relationship Line/Area will be different only in intersections S₂ and S₃.

Table 2: Dimension information from the intersection of elements that possess symmetric cases

Geometric Type	S ₁	S ₂	S ₃	S ₄
Line/Point	\emptyset	$\emptyset, 0D$	\emptyset	$\emptyset, 0D$
Area/Point	\emptyset	$\emptyset, 0D$	\emptyset	$\emptyset, 0D$
Area/Line	$\emptyset, 0D$	$\emptyset, 0D, 1D$	$\emptyset, 0D$	$\emptyset, 1D$

The real relationships involving the geometrical types of Table 2 are:

- Line and Point: disjoint, touch and crosses;
- Area and Point: disjoint and touch;
- Area and Line: disjoint, touch and crosses.

3 EXTENDING OCL FOR TOPOLOGICAL RELATIONS

The written expressions in the OCL are not ambiguous and add vital information for the object-oriented model and other modeling artifacts

(Warmer and Kleppe, 2003). Also according to the authors a lot of failures from diagrams are caused by limitations of the models which cannot express all data requirements of the complete application specification. Due to the fact that natural language lead to ambiguities during its interpretation process by different persons, the OCL proposes to complement the UML diagrams in an accurate and not ambiguous way, creating a more complete and satisfactory specification of the problem.

Duboisset et al., (2005) propose OCL expressions involving the relationship between areas, based in 8 topological relationships that are described in Egenhofer and Franzosa (1991). The extension proposed in this article is based in Duboisset et al., (2005), but extended to the topological relationships between point, line and polygon of section 2.

3.1 Validating the Topological Relationships on UML-GeoFrame

In the UML-GeoFrame data model, the geographic phenomena are modeled by classes with stereotypes of spatial representation corresponding to the symbols that can characterize its geometrical representation. A class of phenomenon in the object view can have a geometrical representation of type point (.), line (—) or polygon (⊙). A class can have multiple representations. This property can be used, for example, when an object can be stored as point and area, according to the scale of the application.

In addition to the phenomenon from the object view, there is a lot of phenomenon in the field view that can have a geometrical representation of grid cells (...), grid of points (—), adjacent polygons (···), isolines (∩) and irregular points (—) types. Based in the characteristics of the field view presented by Lisboa Filho et al. (1996), the topological constraints presented in section 2 do not apply, thereby this article will treat only the existent relationships in the object view.

Textual stereotypes (<<*stereotypes*>>) are used in the UML-GeoFrame diagrams to specify existing topological relationships between the geographical phenomenon classes, allowing the designer to have a better understanding of the diagram. However, the use of textual stereotypes itself may not make clear the topological relationship between the involved classes, since it contains no mechanism to indicate the order in which its reading can be realized.

A possible solution to the problem referring to the interpretation of topological relationships is to

use existing arrows of the UML. According to Dietrich and Urban (2005), an arrow can be used to indicate how the reading of the associations between the classes can be made.

However, even with the use of arrows to indicate a direction to read and the use of textual stereotypes to indicate spatial constraints between two classes, a less experienced designer could model the topological relationships in the incorrect form. For example, when modeling two distinct classes represented by the geometric type Point, the designer could specify the relationship “touch” although this type of relationship does not exist between the types Point and Point. The model alone cannot avoid that errors like this can be added in the conceptual modeling phase. Therefore, this paper proposes constraints using OCL defined about the own UML-GeoFrame to verify if relationships specified in diagrams are valid. Constraints are specified using the syntax in Code 1:

Code 1: OCL syntax for the UML-GeoFrame validation.

```
context Class1
inv: self.geometry.OclIsKindOf(geometricType)
inv: Class2.geometry.OclIsKindOf(geometricType)
inv: self.stereotype = PossibleRelationTypes
```

The proposed OCL expression, with the intention of validating the UML-GeoFrame diagram, uses syntax constructors from the standard OCL. These constructors are reserved words, like *Context*, that informs the class to which the OCL expression is related, specifying an entity defined in the UML diagram. It also possesses invariants (*inv*) that are boolean expressions, which define rules that must always be satisfied by all instances of defined type. The reserved word *self* is optional and used to explicitly refer to an instance that was specified in context. For example, in the expression in Code 1, *self* refers to an instance of Class1.

Besides the reserved words used in the OCL standard, the OCL expression presented in Code 1 extends the OCL by adding geographical constructors to help the validation of the diagram build using the UML-GeoFrame conceptual data model. Therefore, the reserved word *geometry* is added to the OCL and together with the existing reserved word *OCLIsKindOf*, verifies whether the modeled classes are of point, line or polygon type. *OCLIsKindOf* is used to verify if the declared type is equal to the one restrained in the context class.

This notation of the OCL expression proposed in Code 1 is used with the purpose of verifying if the relationship involving the classes are valid, thus avoiding errors during the modeling and the

subsequent errors during data insertion. The relationships will be valid if they obey what is described in the invariants, when both return true. An example of this validation through this syntax is in Code 2 to the diagram of Figure 1, which defines that one school must be inside a neighborhood.

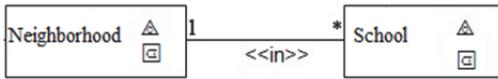


Figure 1: Representation of the Textual Stereotype.

Code 2: Validation of the diagram presented in Figure 1.

```
context School
inv: self.geometry.OclIsKindOf(area)
inv: Neighborhood.geometry.OclIsKindOf(area)
inv: self.stereotype = 'in'
    or self.stereotype = 'touch'
    or self.stereotype = 'overlap'
    or self.stereotype = 'equal'
    or self.stereotype = 'contains'
    or self.stereotype = 'disjoint'
```

The first invariant validate the *geometricType* of the context class (School). This verification is made through the expression *OCLIsKindOf*. The same is done to Class2 (Neighborhood) in second invariant, which represents the class to which the context is associated. The third invariant is verified and returns true if the textual stereotype that represent the topological relationship between the two classes involved is equal to one of the possible types between the same two geometrical elements presented in section 2. Besides, the keyword *stereotype* is a characteristic of the relationship that involves the School and Neighborhood classes, and it can be accessed from both. The use of *self.stereotype* helps understanding the relationship reading, indicating that a school must be inside a neighborhood and not the opposite.

3.2 Extending the OCL to use with UML-GeoFrame Diagrams

When the classes that are being modeled possess only one geographical stereotype to represent the geometrical element, the relationships between the existing classes can only be presented through the textual stereotypes, thus no requiring an OCL expression to complete the meaning of the diagram, but only to verify if the relationship between the classes is valid, once only the textual stereotypes and the arrows to read the relationship would make the diagram comprehensible.

For two classes with multiple geometrical representations have a valid relationship between

then according to the real relationships shown in section 2, all pairs of geometrical types of the classes must be valid and there is no need to use an OCL expression to complement the diagram. However, if a topological relationship is invalid between at least one pair of geometries it will be necessary to use an OCL expression to complete the diagram and show the geometries that will be involved in the topological relationship. If the topological relationship is not valid for any pair of the involved geometries, the designer must evaluate the relationship as it may have been modeled incorrectly. Figure 2 shows an example involving classes with multiple representations.



Figure 2: Using multiple representations.

Figure 2 shows two hypothetical geographical phenomena, modeled as Class1 and Class2, both represented by the geographical stereotypes Point and Polygon (Area). The topological relationship involving these two classes is the relationship *touch*. Analyzing the possible relationships between Class1 and Class2 and considering the *touch* relationship between the geometrical elements Area and Area or even between Point and Area, this relationship will be considered valid. However, when considering the geometric type Point in both classes, the relationship *touch* violates the topological constraint, as there is no such relationship between two points.

Therefore, most times when a relationship occurs between two classes that contain multiple geometrical representations, only the use of textual stereotypes is not capable of expressing correctly in the diagram a correct topological relationship without ambiguities. Therefore the OCL should be used to assist this process, showing which geometries are in fact involved in the expressed relationship within the diagram. Code 3 presents the proposed syntax so the designer could specify integrity constraints involving the geometries of the classes and topological relationships between them.

Code 3: OCL expression for topological relationships.

```
context <GeoClass1>
inv: <GeoClass1>.<geometry>.<relationship>.
    <GeoClass2>.<geometry>
{ inv: <GeoClass1>.<geometry>.<relationship>.
    <GeoClass2>.<geometry> }
inv: user_defined_constraints
```

The proposed OCL expression is divided in three parts. The first and second ones is used to specify

the topological constraints while the third is used to represent the constraints defined by the user. *GeoClass1* represents the context of the OCL expression and it is possible to use its name or the reserved word *self*. *<GeoClass2>* concerns the class to which the context has a topological relationship. *Geometry* refers to the geometrical type of the class and *<relationship>* refers to a possible binary relationship between the geometries of the involved classes, as presented in section 2. The brackets used in this invariant defines that the expression contained between them is optional and can repeat.

The relationship involving two classes must be a valid real relationship where, according to section 2, the *Class1* cannot touch and be inside *Class2* at the same time. However, when these classes are represented through multiple representations, the geometrical elements may possess different relationships from the one defined between them in the conceptual diagram. This will only happen when the defined topological relationship between them is a relationship that is not valid between the geometrical types, not being among those defined in section 2. This characteristic of the class with multiple representations makes the specification of the OCL expression necessary, so that the understanding of the relationship between the classes is clearer and without ambiguities. The topological relationship between each pair of geometries must be unique and consistent with the relationship defined on the diagram and cannot violate any topological constraint.

When using the OCL expression proposed in Section 3.1 to validate the diagram present in Figure 2, it will return an invalid relationship when both classes are point, because the *touch* relationship is not possible between two points, as it can be observed in section 2. Therefore, the designer must use the OCL to indicate the real relationships between the two classes.

An OCL expression for possible topological relationships between the classes in Figure 2 must have four invariants representing that at this point the diagram possesses four conditions that must be respected by the data to be considered valid. Therefore, this diagram can be interpreted as following: when the context class is an area, it will have the topological relationship *touch* with another area. When the context class is represented by a point, it will also have a relationship *touch* with the area. When the context class is represented by an area, it will also possess a relationship *touch* with the point. Lastly, if both classes are point, the relationship *touch* is not possible.

However, analyzing the possible relationships between two points, as shown in section 2, there are only two possible relationships between them: *in* and *disjoint*. Considering the case of Figure 2, the most consistent relationship would be the relationship *in*, once it is the closest one to *touch*. Code 4 shows a hypothetical example of the expression for Figure 2.

Code 4: Topological relationships between classes with multiple representations.

```
context Class1
inv: Class1.area.touch.Classe2.area
inv: Class1.area.touch.Classe2.point
inv: Class1.point.touch.Classe2.area
inv: Class1.point.in.Classe2.point
```

3.3 Validation of the extended OCL Expression

The elaboration of a OCL expression starting from diagrams that possess relationships between classes with multiple representations must be done quite carefully, once these classes possess more than one geometrical type and different topological relationships can exist between them. This can lead to the generation of OCL expressions that violate topological constraints, enforcing relationships that are not valid between classes. Code 5 presents an OCL expression to help the understanding of the diagram presented in Figure 2, in which a point possesses a relationship *touch* with another point.

A syntax analysis of Code 5 leads to the conclusion that this OCL expression is valid because it possesses two valid geometrical types, the name *touch* is between the textual stereotypes available for topological relationships and all the structure of the OCL expression is consistent with the syntax proposed in section 3.2. However, this relationship is topologically invalid, as presented in section 2. The *touch* relationship between the classes does not respect the topological constraint. Thus, mistakes could also be inserted in the design phase while writing OCL expressions.

Code 5: Example of an invalid OCL expression.

```
context Class1
inv: Class1.point.touch.Classe.point
```

To avoid such mistakes, OCL constraints were proposed with the intent of verifying if the constraints defined by the designers are valid. The notation of the OCL constraint proposed in Code 6 aims to verify if the constraints written in OCL respect the topological constraints concerning the spatial relationships involving the geometrical elements point, line and polygon.

The OCL syntax proposed in Code 6 is composed of three invariants that must be true so that the expression can be considered valid. The first invariant returns true if the *geometricType* is equal to the geometric type belonging to the *Context* class. This verification is done through the expression *OCLIsKindOf*. The second invariant verifies through the expression *OCLIsKindOf* the geometrical type of the *Class2* associated with the context class (*Class1*), returning true in case this class has as geometrical type point, line or polygon. The third invariant defines the types of topological relationships that can occur between the geometrical types involved in the association.

Code 6: OCL expression syntax to constraint the proposed expression.

```
Context Class1
inv: self.geometry.OclIsKindOf(geometricType)
inv: Class2.geometry.OclIsKindOf(geometricType)
inv:
self.relationship=TopologicalRelationshipTypes
```

Code 7 presents some OCL expressions that could be specified in UML-GeoFrame data model to validate user defined constraints. This expressions validate the OCL defined in Code 4.

4 EXAMPLE OF USE

This section presents an example of the usage of OCL expressions proposed for the UML-GeoFrame data model. It's necessary to highlight that the OCL expressions used to validate the topological relationships of the UML-GeoFrame diagram (section 3.1) and the expressions used to validate if the expression written by the designer is a valid OCL expression (section 3.3), all must be implemented in a CASE tool that has support to the OCL. Thus, they will not be discussed in this example. Figure 3 presents an example of the UML-GeoFrame diagram considering some elements of an urban administration.

Code 7: OCL expressions to validate user defined constraints specified in Code 4.

```
Context Class1
inv: self.geometry.OclIsKindOf(area)
inv: Class2.geometry.OclIsKindOf(area)
inv: self.relationship = disjoint or
self.relationship = in or
self.relationship = touch or
self.relationship = overlap or
self.relationship = equal or
self.relationship = cover
```

```
Context Class1
inv: self.geometry.OclIsKindOf(point)
inv: Class2.geometry.OclIsKindOf(area)
inv: self.relationship = disjoint or
self.relationship = touch or
self.relationship = in
```

```
Context Class1
inv: self.geometry.OclIsKindOf(point)
inv: Class2.geometry.OclIsKindOf(point)
inv: self.relationship = disjoint or
self.relationship = in
```

```
Context Class1
inv: self.geometry.OclIsKindOf(area)
inv: Class2.geometry.OclIsKindOf(point)
inv: self.relationship = disjoint or
self.relationship = touch or
self.relationship = cross
```

The *County* class is modeled as a geometric element of area type, and may be subdivided into various *Districts*, which can be represented by the geometric elements point or area. The *District* can also be subdivided in *Neighborhoods*. Each *Neighborhood* represented by the geometric type point or area belongs to only one *district*. Each *Neighborhood* has only a set of *Houses*, which can be represented as point or area. In this hypothetical *County*, every street belongs to one *Neighborhood*, in other words, the streets change their names when they trespass the limits of the *Neighborhood*. Each *Sidewalk* represented by the geometric type line or area must be constructed near a house. The *Lamp-post* represented by the geometric type point must stay in a sidewalk. For a better understanding of how to use the proposed OCL expressions in this diagram, some relationships that exist in the model presented in Figure 2 will be analyzed.

The reading direction of the relationship between *County* and *District* is indicated by the arrow direction. Thus, the reading of the relationship must be: "A *District* must be inside a *County*". As mentioned above, in Section 3.1, in some cases, the use of the arrow indicating the reading direction and the use of textual stereotypes is enough to understand the existing relationship between the classes. The *District* class has multiple representations, however this is a case in which, only with the use of the arrow and the stereotype, it is possible to understand the relationship between the classes, once the relationship *inside* (in) between the *District* and *County* classes is possible to all kinds of geometric types involved and it does not violate any kind of topologic constraint. In this case, using the OCL expression it is up to the designer and, in case he chooses to use it to reinforce the diagram, this must be as presented on Code 8.

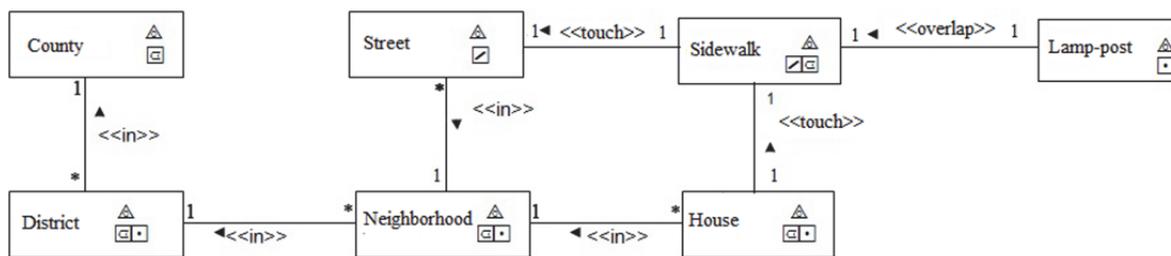


Figure 3: Example of an UML-GeoFrame diagram for urban administration.

Code 8: OCL expression for County and District.

```
context District
inv: self.area.in.County.area
inv: self.point.in.City.area
```

Observing a relationship between District and Neighborhood, where all classes have multiple representations, it is possible to define that the relationship between these classes would result in four distinct combinations of relationship: Area/Area, Area/Point, Point/Point, Point/Area. However, when realizing the validation of this class using the OCL code of section 3.1, this relationship will return an invalid one, once the area cannot be inside a point. Therefore, only an arrow and the stereotype are not enough, thus requiring the using of the OCL expression. Besides, only two relationships of these combinations are being considered valid, and will be represented in Code 9.

These relationships are possible between Area and Area, where the area of a Neighborhood must be inside the area of a District, and between Point and Area, when the coordinates of the points of the Neighborhoods serve only to store the mapping of the Neighborhoods inside an area of a district.

The Relationship between Neighborhood being Area and District being Point are not possible not even topologically, as it can be seen in Section 2. Other relationship that is not possible in this example is Neighborhoods being Point and District also being a Point. Although it is topologically possible, it does not make sense since the point coordinates stored for each Neighborhood relate only to the mapping of those within the district area.

With four different approaches about the possible and impossible cases, as well as those without relation, it becomes important to complement the diagram through the OCL. Code 9 addresses the cases Area/Area and Point/Area between Neighborhood and District to reinforce during the project that only these are important. If the topologic relationship *inside* were specified in the Neighborhood and District, considering Area/Point, the verification of the OCL expression should return

false. And finally, although between Point/Point the topological relationship may exist, as presented in section 2, in this example it is not necessary since it is not a constraint of the problem.

Code 9: OCL expression for Neighborhood and District.

```
context Neighborhood
inv: self.area.in.District.area
inv: self.point.in.District.area
```

The same occurs for the relationship between the classes Neighborhood and Street. The relationship shows that one Street must be inside one Neighborhood and only the relationship involving line and area can be considered valid. The relationship between line and point is invalid, because it is not possible that a line is inside a point. This relationship will be considered invalid when the diagram is validated by an OCL expression presented in section 3.1. Therefore, in this example it is fundamental that the designer uses the OCL to remove these ambiguities to which the geometry pair of topological relationships refers. Code 10 shows the OCL expression for this relationship.

Code 10: OCL expression for Street and Neighborhood.

```
context Street
inv: self.line.in.Neighborhood.area
```

The relationship between the classes Lamp-post and Sidewalk, shows that a lamp-post must *overlap* a sidewalk. The *overlap* relationship between the pairs of geometric elements Point/Line and Point/Area is not considered valid since, according to section 2, the point has no *overlap* relationship with any geometric type. When using the OCL expression to validate this diagram, it would return that both relationships are invalid. As presented in section 3.2, in this case the designer must reevaluate this relationship since it was certainly modeled in an incorrect way.

Analyzing the possible relationships between the classes, the topologic relationship must be modified to the *inside* type to be modeled correctly.

When using the OCL expression to validate this diagram in order that it has a valid relationship, although there is a class that contains multiple representations (Sidewalk), it is not necessary to use the OCL expression, since a Point can be *inside* a Line, as well as a Point can be inside an Area. In this case, an OCL expression informed by the designer can be used only if one wants to reinforce what is expressed in the diagram.

5 FINAL CONSIDERATIONS AND FUTURE WORKS

This paper aimed at demonstrating that the conceptual modeling of databases can be performed in order to specify all the requirements of stored data required to the application.

This work demonstrates an effort that has been performed so that the conceptual modeling of geographical databases can be realized, in a way to specify all the data storage requirements that is required by the application. This work aims to show that OCL expressions extended with common constructors of the geographic databases area can aid in conceptual modeling using UML-GeoFrame.

Just like it happens in default UML, the OCL can be used to verify if the model constructors are being used in the right way. More specifically in this context, OCL is used to verify if the topological constraints that exist between the geographical elements present in the diagram are being specified correctly, thus eliminating the errors found from the modeling data. Furthermore, it is also proposed the use of OCL inside the own UML-GeoFrame data model to validate the extended OCL expressions defined by the user.

These objectives were reached through the incorporation of geographical constructors in the OCL language and its use with the UML-GeoFrame model, thus making a precisely conceptual modeling, without ambiguities and according to the UML specifications.

In future works, it is intended to implement the extended OCL in a CASE tool. Thus, it will be possible to realize an automatic validation of the expressed spatial relationships in the diagram and in the OCL expressions. Furthermore, it is also intended to implement an automatic SQL code-generation module to geographical databases, capable of processing user defined constraints.

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