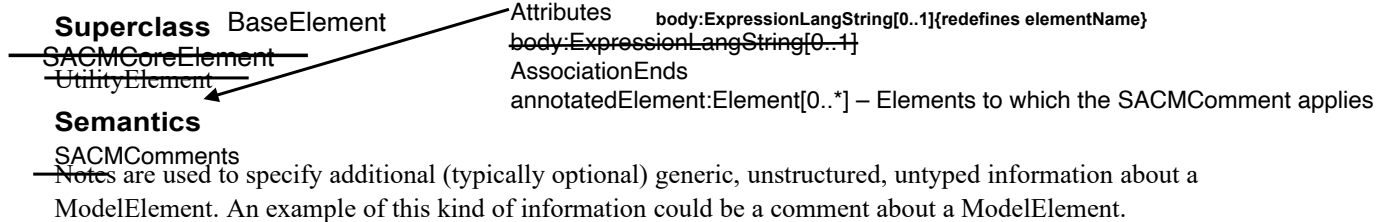


**Semantics**

ArtifactElement corresponds to the base class for specifying all the identifiable units of data modelled and managed in a structured assurance case effort.

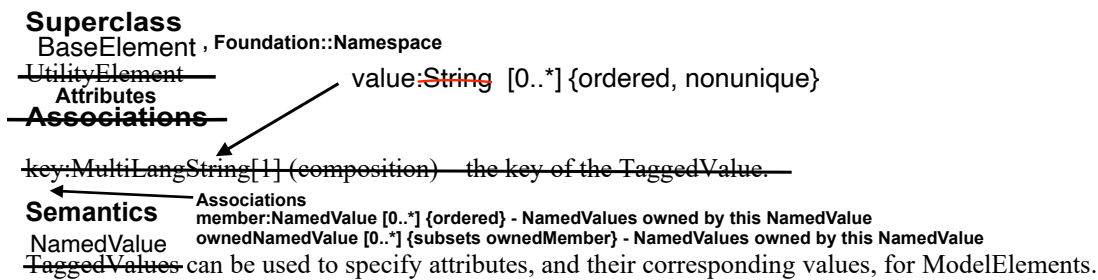
~~9.8.11~~ 8 **Note** SACMComment

This class specifies a generic note that may be associated with an Element. For example a note may include a number of explanatory comments.



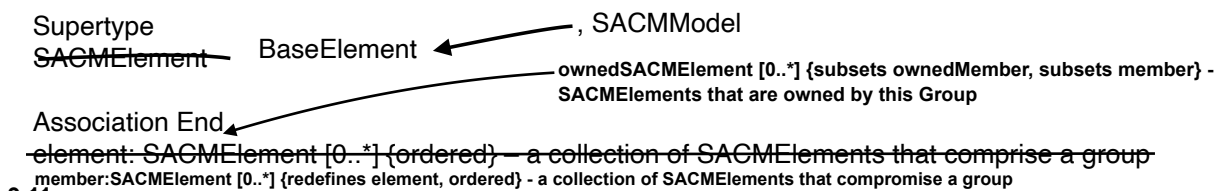
~~9.8.12~~ 9 **TaggedValue** NamedValue

This class represents a simple key/value pair that can be attached to any element in SACM. This is a simple extension mechanism to allow users to add attributes to each element beyond those already specified in SACM.



9.10 Group

Group can be used to associate a number of SACMElements to a common group (e.g., representing a common type or purpose, or being of interest to a particular stakeholder).

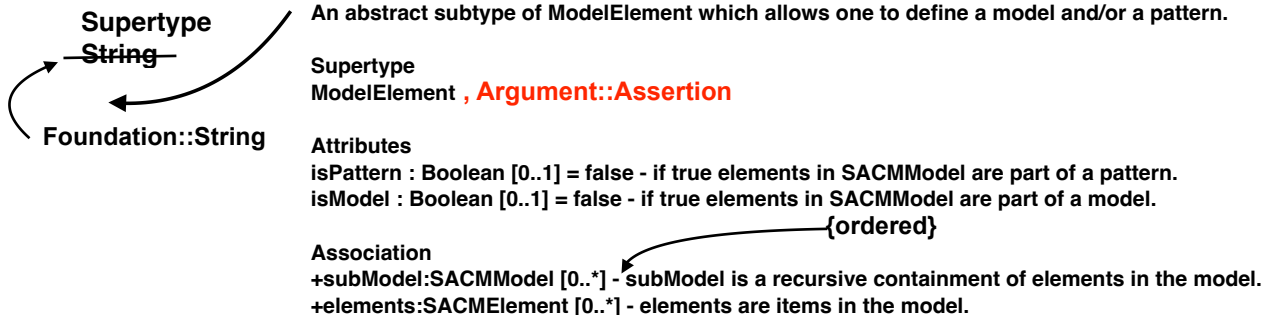


~~9.11~~ 9.10 IRI

IRI is a international resource identifier is a String and is formatted according to RFC 3987.

9.12 ~~9.11~~ SACMModel

An abstract subtype of ModelElement which allows one to define a model and/or a pattern.



# 13 SACM Argument Metamodel

## 13.1 General

This chapter presents the normative specification for the SACM Argument Package. It begins with an overview of the metamodel structure followed by a description of each element.

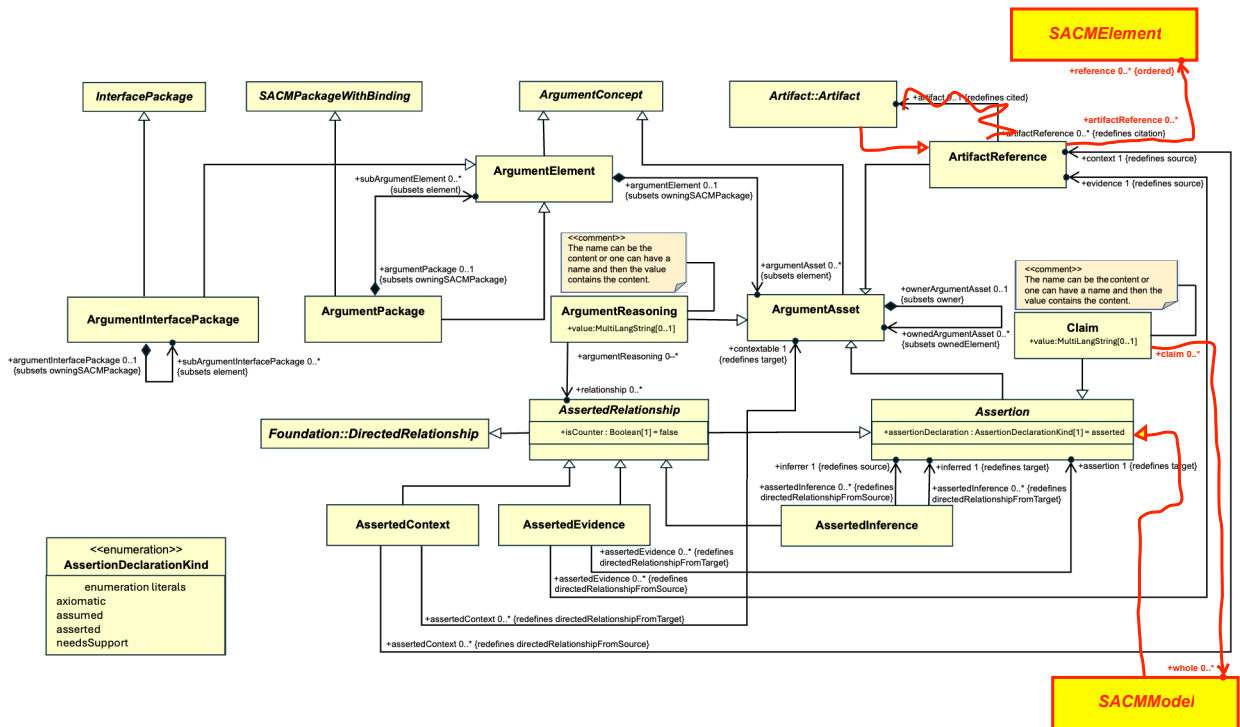


Figure 13.1 – Argument Package Diagram

This portion of the SACM model describes and defines the concepts required to model structured arguments. Arguments are represented in SACM through explicitly representing the Claims and citation of artifacts (e.g., as evidence) (ArtifactReference), and the ‘links’ between these elements – e.g., how one or more Claims are asserted to infer another Claim, or how one or more artifacts (referenced by ArtifactReference) are asserted as providing evidence for a Claim (AssertedEvidence). In addition to these core elements, in SACM it is possible to provide additional description of the ArgumentReasoning associated with inferential and evidential relationships, represent counter-arguments and counter-evidence (through isCounter:Boolean), and represent how artifacts provide the context in which arguments should be interpreted (through AssertedContext).

The packaging of structured arguments into ‘modular’ argument packages is enabled through ArgumentPackages. Users are able to declare interfaces for their packages through the use of ArgumentInterfacePackage. Within an ArgumentInterfacePackage, users create citations of the argument elements they select to disclose to external parties. Users are able to integrate ArgumentPackages through the use of ArgumentBindingPackage. An ArgumentBindingPackage binds ArgumentPackages together by including the declared ArgumentInterfacePackages for the ArgumentPackages, it may contain additional argument structures to provide the rationale of the binding. It is also possible within a package to cite elements contained within other argument packages (through ArtifactReference).

## Superclass

Artifact  
~~ArgumentAsset~~

## Associations Ends

~~artifact:Artifact[0..1] (redefine cited)~~  
~~referencedArtifactElement:Base::ArtifactElement[0..\*]~~ – reference to a collection of ArtifactElements.

## Semantics

It is necessary to be able to cite artifacts that provide supporting evidence, context, or additional description within an argument structure. ArtifactReferences allow there to be an objectified citation of this information within the structured argument, thereby allowing the relationship between this artifact and the argument to also be explicitly declared.

Constraints  
MustBelInArgumentPackage  
owner.oclKindOf(ArgumentElement)

reference:SACMElement[0..\*] {ordered} - artifactReference to the SACMElement

an Artifact.

reference SACMElement(s) to

referencing

## 13 12 11.10 Assertion (abstract)

Assertions are used to record the propositions of Argumentation (including both the Claims about the subject of the argument and the structure of the Argumentation being asserted). Propositions can be true or false, but cannot be true and false simultaneously.

## Superclass

ArgumentAsset

## Attributes

AssertionDeclarationKind[0..1]

assertionDeclaration:AssertionDeclaration[1] = asserted – the declaration indicating the state of the Assertion.

## Associations

~~metaClaim:Claim[0..\*]~~ – references Claims concerning (i.e., about) the Assertion (e.g., regarding the confidence in the Assertion)

## Semantics

Structured arguments are declared by stating claims, citing evidence and contextual information, and asserting how these elements relate to each other.

## 13 12 11.11 Claim

Claims are used to record the propositions of any structured argument contained in an ArgumentPackage. Propositions are instances of statements that could be true or false, but cannot be true and false simultaneously.

## Superclass

Assertion

Attributes  
value:MultiLangString[0..1]

Association Ends  
whole:SACMModel [0..\*] - the whole structure that this Claim is about

## Semantics

The core of any argument is a series of claims (premises) that are asserted to provide sufficient reasoning to support a (higher-level) claim (a conclusion). The name can be the content or one can have a name and then the value contains the content.

The core of any argument is a series of claims (premises) that are asserted to provide sufficient reasoning to support a (higher-level) claim (a conclusion).

A Claim that is intentionally declared without any supporting evidence or argumentation can be declared as being assumed (i.e., assertionDeclared = assumed). It is an assumption. However, it should be noted that a Claim that is not 'assumed' (i.e., assertionDeclared = asserted) is not being declared as false. However, there is the expectation of the provision of a supporting argument structure (e.g., it may represent part of an incomplete structure).

A Claim that is intentionally declared as requiring further evidence or argumentation can be denoted by setting +assertionDeclaration to "needsSupport".

A Claim that is being declared as axiomatically true can be denoted by setting +assertionDeclaration to "axiomatic".

A Claim that is defeated by counter evidence or counter argument can be denoted by setting +assertionDeclaration to "defeated".

A Claim which cites another claim and supported by the cited claim can be denoted by setting +assertionDeclaration to "asCited".

The name can be the content or one can have a name and then the value contains the content.

~~AssuranceCasePackageBinding. It contains references, using isCitation=True to each ArtifactAsset needed and defines relationships among ArtifactAssets from different ArtifactPackages.~~

**Constraints**

~~ArtifactBindingPackages  
ArtifactPackageBindings must only contain ArtifactAssetRelationships with source and target Artifacts, with isCitation = true citing ArtifactAssets contained within the ArtifactPackages associated by participantPackage.~~

14  
~~13~~12.5<sup>4</sup> **ArtifactPackageInterface**

~~ArtifactInterfacePackage  
ArtifactPackageInterface is a kind of ArtifactPackage that defines an interface that may be exchanged between users. An ArtifactPackage may define one or more ArtifactPackageInterfaces.~~

**Superclass**

~~ArtifactElement  
ArtifactPackage~~

ArtifactInterfacePackage

subArtifactInterfacePackage [0..1] {subsets owningSACMPackage} -  
ArtifactInterfacePackages that are contained in this ArtifactInterfacePackage

**Associations**

~~+asset : ArtifactAsset[0..\*]  
implements: ArtifactPackage[1] - a reference to the ArtifactPackage which the ArtifactPackageInterface declares.~~

**Semantics**

~~ArtifactPackageInterface enables the declaration of the elements of an ArtifactPackage that might be referred to (cited) in another ArtifactPackage. An ArtifactPackageInterface resides inside the ArtifactPackage to which it refers. It refers to ArtifactAssets using isCitation=True that reside within the same ArtifactPackage as itself.~~

**Constraints**

~~ArtifactPackageInterfaces are only allowed to contain Artifacts with +isCitation=True  
ArtifactPackage with which this ArtifactPackageInterface is associated.~~

All Elements that are cited in a BindingPackage must be contained in either the owner of that BindingPackage or a (recursively) sibling Package of that BindingPackage

inv CitedElementsAreScoped: element->forAll(ele.cited->notEmpty() implies e.cited->closure(glg.owningPackage).asSet()->one(plp=self.owningPackage))

Elements that are not either a Diagram or a BaseElement must be a citation.  
inv MustBeCited: element->forAll(e|not e->oclKindOf(SACMDiagram) and not e->oclKindOf(BaseElement) implies e.isCitation=true)

14  
~~13~~12.6<sup>5</sup> **ArtifactAsset (abstract)**

ArtifactAsset represents the artifact-specific pieces of information of an assurance case, in contrast to the argument-specific pieces of information.

**Superclass**

~~ArtifactConcept  
Base::ArtifactElement~~

**Association**

ownedArtifactAsset:ArtifactAsset[0..\*] {subsets ownedElement} - ArtifactAssets owned by this ArtifactAsset.

**Association**

~~property:Property[0..\*] (composition) - an optional collection of Property(ies) which enable the specification of the characteristics of an ArtifactAsset.~~

**Semantics**

Information about artifacts is essential for any assurance case. The artifacts correspond, for instance, to the evidence provided in support of the arguments and claims of an assurance case. It is also important to have access to related pieces of information such as the provenance of an artifact, its lifecycle, and its properties. All this information might have to be consulted for developing confidence in the validity of an assurance case.

14  
~~13~~12.7<sup>6</sup> **Artifact**

Artifact represents the distinguishable units of data used in a structured assurance case.

**Superclass**

ArtifactAsset, **ArtifactReference**