

DSM TP 2017

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Model Transformation

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with a little help from Hans Vangheluwe

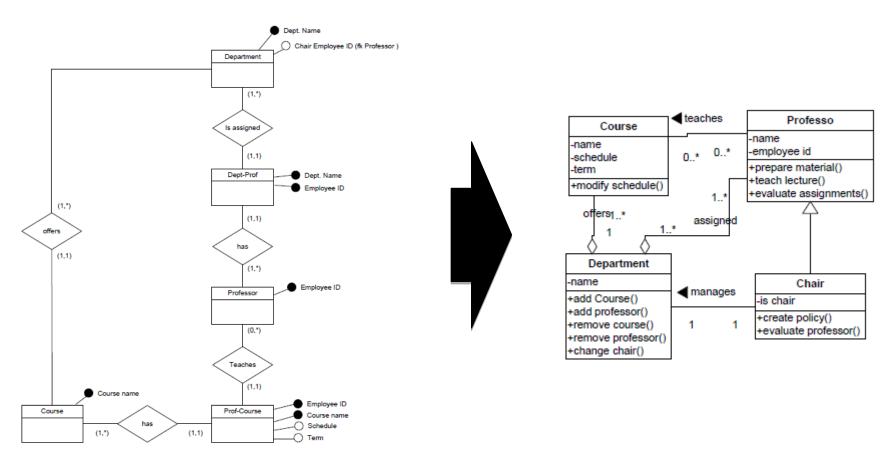






Motivation

Suppose I ask you to provide a software that converts any E-R diagram into a UML class diagram, how would you achieve that?



The "programming" solution

- Write a program that takes as input a .ER file and outputs a .UML file
- What are the issues?
 - What if the ER file is a diagram? in XML format? Probably end up limiting input from a specific tool only
 - Similarly in UML, should I output a diagram (in Dia or Visio)? In XMI? In code (Java, C#)?
 - How do I organize my program?
 - Requires knowledge from both domains
 - Need a loader (from input file)
 - Need some kind of visitor to traverse the model, probably graph-like data structure
 - Need to encode a "transformer"
 - Need to develop a UML printer
- Not an easy task after all...



The "modeling" way

- 1. Describe a meta-model of ER
 - Define concepts and concrete visual syntax
 - Generate an editor
- 2. Describe a meta-model of UML
- 3. Define a transformation T: $MM_{ER} \equiv MM_{UML}$
 - This is done in the form of rules with pre/post-conditions
 - describes "what" instead of "how"
- Transformation model is executed (compiled or interpreted) to produce the result
- Some model transformation languages give you a bidirectional solution (or at least trace-ability) for free!

What's the difference?

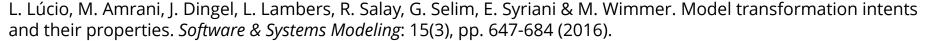
- Typically encounter the same problems (need for documentation, testing, debugging, ...) in modeling as in programming
- The difference is that you can **find** the problems more easily, **fix** them very quickly and **re-deploy** the solution automatically
- Changed the level of abstraction to reduce accidental complexity

What is a model transformation?

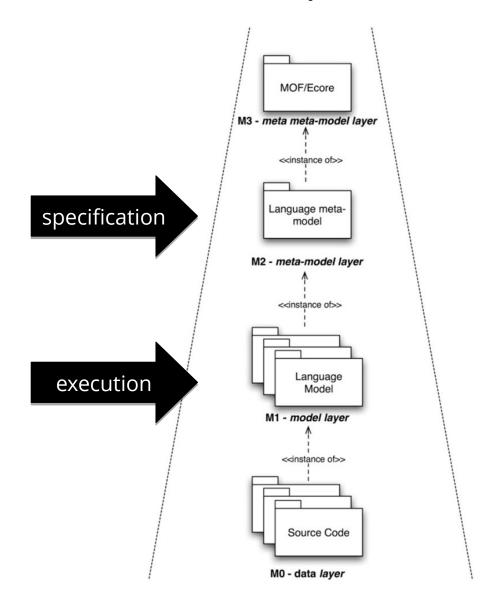


Definition

A model transformation is the automatic manipulation of input models to produce output models, that conforms to a specification and has a specific intent.

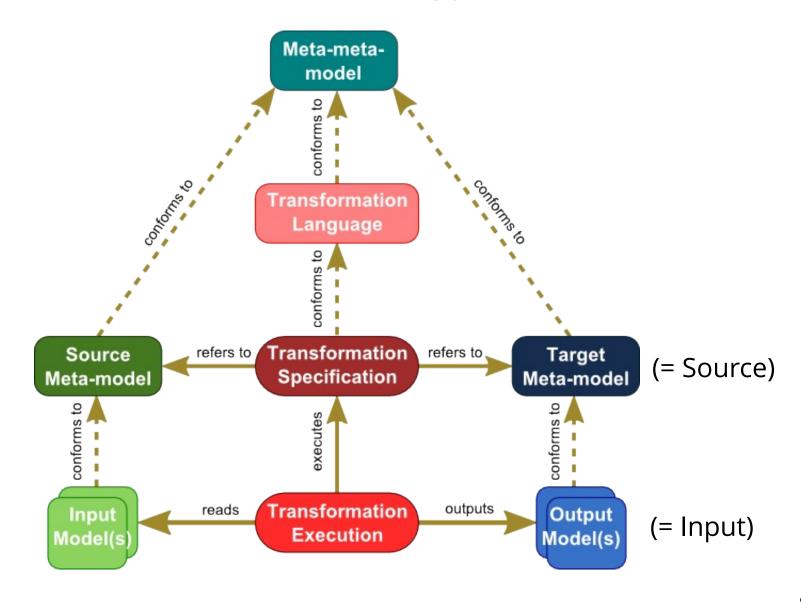


Where should MT be specified and executed?





Terminology





Data structures to transform

Sequence

- Linear sequence of symbols
 - Data: symbol
 - Connector: successor
- Example: string, iconic sentence
- Manipulation through string rewriting





String rewriting

- Model transformation paradigm: regular expression
 - Stream Editor (sed)
- Model "Hello world"
- Metamodel . *
- Model transformation1/g

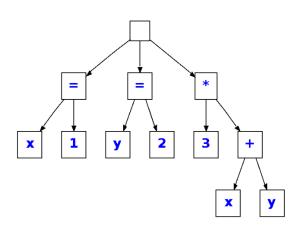
- Transformation language is rule-based, regular expression
 - s/ LHS to be matched
 - / RHS /g to rewrite, with labels



Data structures to transform

Tree

- Acyclic connected simple graph
 - Data: nodes N
 - Connector: edges $E \subseteq N \times N$: |E| = |N| 1
- Example: Abstract syntax tree of a program, XML
- Manipulation through tree rewriting



Tree rewriting

- Model transformation paradigm: parser
 - Gentle compiler construction system
- Model

```
expression ::= expression "+" expr2 |
expr2
expr2 ::= expr2 "*" expr2 | Number
```

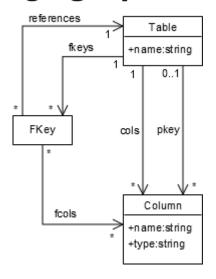
- Model transformation
 - Transformation language is term rewriting with production rules

```
root expr(->X)
nonterm expr(->Expr)
  rule expr(->X): expr2(->X)
  rule expr(->add(X,Y)): expr(->X) "+" expr2(-
>Y)
nonterm expr2(->Expr)
  rule expr2(->mult(X,Y)): expr2(->X) "*"
expr2(->Y)
  rule expr2(->num(X)): Number(->X)
token Number(->INT)
```



Data structures to transform **Graph**

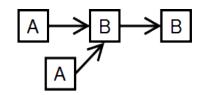
- Typed attributed graphs, hypergraphs, multigraphs
 - Data: nodes N
 - Connector: edges $E \subseteq N \times N$
- Example: Class diagrams, Statecharts
- Manipulation through graph transformation



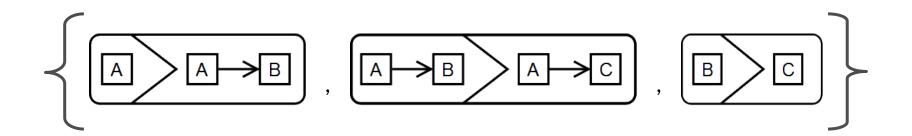


Graph transformation

- Model transformation paradigm: algebraic graph transformation
 - T-Core
- Model



- Model transformation
 - Rule-based Graph Transformation vs. Graph Grammar





Transformations for language engineering

- Abstract syntax to abstract syntax
 - Tree rewriting
 - Graph transformation (Model-to-model and simulation)
- Abstract syntax to concrete syntax (textual)
 - Model-to-text transformation
- Concrete syntax to concrete syntax (textual)
 - String rewriting
- Concrete syntax to abstract syntax
 - Tree rewriting (Parsing)

Two main transformation types in MDE

- Model-to-text
 - Visitor-based: traverse the model in an object-oriented framework
 - Template-based: target syntax with meta-code to access source model
- Model-to-Model
 - Direct manipulation: access to the API of M3 and modify the models directly
 - Operational: similar to direct manipulation but at the model-level (OCL)
 - Rule-based
 - Graph transformation: implements directly the theory of graph transformation, where models are represented as typed, attributed, labelled, graphs in category theory. It is a declarative way of describing operations on models.
 - Relational: declarative, describing mathematical relations. It define constraints relating source and target elements that need to be solved. They are naturally multi-directional, but in-place transformation is harder to achieve

K. Czarnecki and S. Helsen. Feature-based survey of model transformation approaches. *IBM Systems Journal:* 45(3), 621-645 (2006).

Typical use cases of model transformation



Model transformation intent classification

Refinement

- Refinement
- Synthesis
 - Serialization

Abstraction

- Abstraction
- Reverse Engineering
- Restrictive Query
- Approximation

Semantic Definition

- Translational Semantics
- Simulation

Language Translation

- Translation
- Migration

Constraint Satisfaction

- Model Finding
- Model Generation

Analysis

Editing

- Model Editing
- Optimization
- Model Refactoring
- Normalization
- Canonicalization

Model Visualization

- Animation
- Rendering
- Parsing

Model Composition

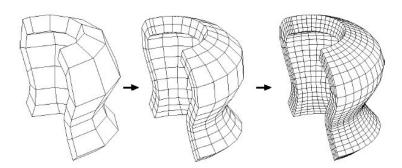
- Model Merging
- Model Matching
- Model Synchronization

L. Lúcio, M. Amrani, J. Dingel, L. Lambers, R. Salay, G. Selim, E. Syriani & M. Wimmer. Model transformation intents and their properties. *Software & Systems Modeling*: 15(3), pp. 647-684 (2016).

Refinement category

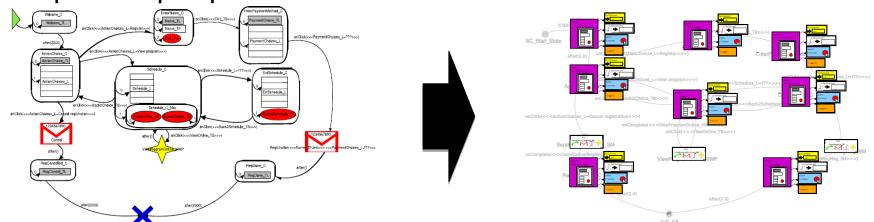
Groups intents that produce a more precise model by reducing design choices and ambiguities with respect to a target platform.

- Refinement (model-to-model)
- Synthesis (model-to-text)



Refinement

- Transform from a higher level specification (e.g., PIM) to a lower level description (e.g., PSM)
- Adds information to models
- M₁ refines M₂ if M₁ can answer all questions that M₂ can for a specific purpose



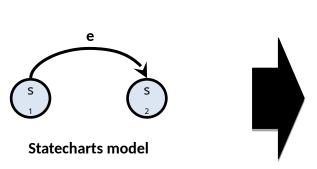
PhoneApps DSM of a conference registration mobile application Representation of the model in AndroidAppScreens

PhoneApps DSL To Android Activities

J. Denil, A. Cicchetti, M. Biehl, P. De Meulenaere, R. Eramo, S. Demeyer, & Vangheluwe, H. Automatic deployment space exploration using refinement transformations. *Electronic Communications of the EASST*: 50 (2012).

Synthesis

- Refinement where the output is an executable artifact expressed in a well-defined language format
 - Typically textual
- Model-to-code generation: transformation that produces source code in a target programming language
- Refinement often precedes synthesis



Statecharts to Python Compiler

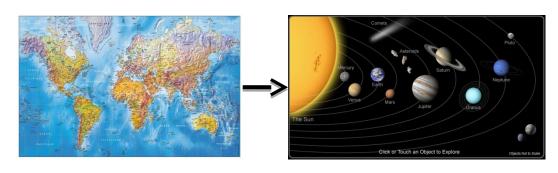
if table[1] and self.isInState(1) and self.testCondition(3): if (scheduler == self or scheduler == None) and table[1]: self.runActionCode(4) # output action(s1) self.runExitActionsForStates(-1) self.clearEnteredStates() self.changeState(1, 0) self.runEnterActionsForStates(self.StatesEntered, 1) self.applyMask(DigitalWatchStatechart.OrthogonalTable[1], table) handled = 1if table[0] and self.isInState(0) and self.testCondition(4): if (scheduler == self or scheduler == None) and **Generated Python** table[0]: self.runActionCode(5) code self.runExitActionsForStates(-1) self.clearEnteredStates() self.changeState(0, 0) self.runEnterActionsForStates(self.StatesEntered, 1) M. Raphael & H. Vangheluwe. Modular artifact synthesis from domain-specific models. *Innovations in Systems and* self-applyMask(DigitalWatchStatechart.OrthogonalTable[0], table) handled = 1

Abstraction category

Inverse of refinement category.

Groups intents where some information of a model is aggregated or discarded to simplify the model and emphasize specific information.

- Abstraction (model-to-model)
- Query
- Reverse Engineering
- Approximation



Abstraction

- Inverse of refinement
- Implication of satisfaction of properties
- If M₁ refines M₂ then M₂ is an abstraction of M₁

Example:

"Find all actors who played together in at least 3 movies and assign the average rating to each clique" outputs a view of a model representing a subset of IMDB represented as a graph composed of strongly connected components with the ratings aggregating individual ratings.



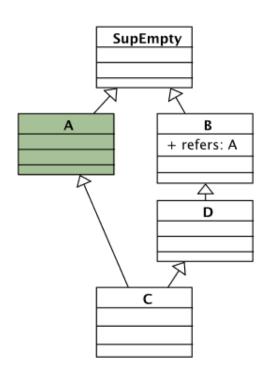
Query

- A query requests some information about a model and returns that information in the form of a proper sub-model or a view
 - Projection of a sub-set of of the properties of M
 - View of a model that is not a sub-model, but an aggregation of some of its information is also a abstraction
- Example: "Get all the leaves of a tree"

Tool support: EMF-IncQuery

Querying models with IncQuery

```
1 pattern superClass(sub : Class, sup : Class) {
    Generalization.specific(gen, sub);
    Generalization (gen);
    Generalization.general(gen, sup);
5
  }
7 pattern hasOperation(cl : Class, op : Operation) {
    Class.ownedOperation(cl, op);
  } or {
    find superClass+(cl, owner);
10
    Class.ownedOperation(owner, op);
11
12 }
13
14 pattern emptyClass(cl : Class) {
    neg find hasOperation(cl, _op);
15
    neg find hasProperty(cl, _pr);
16
    Class.name(cl, n);
17
    check(!(n.endsWith("Empty")));
18
19 }
```



Semantic Definition category

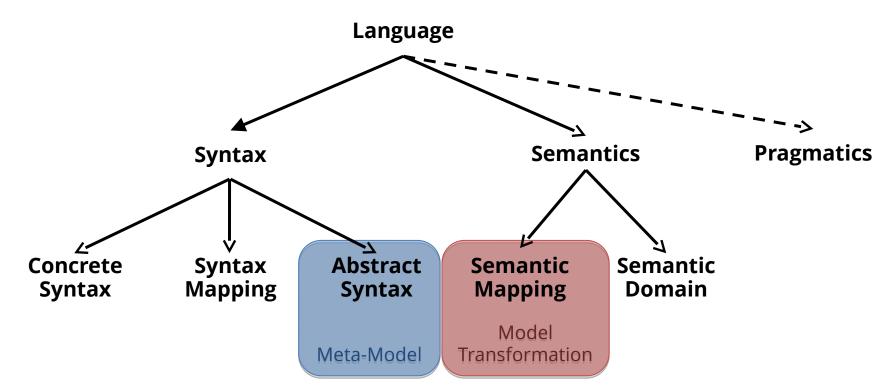
Groups intents whose purpose is to define the semantics of a modeling language.

- Translational Semantics (model-to-model)
- Operational Semantics
 (simulation by graph transformation)



Translational Semantics

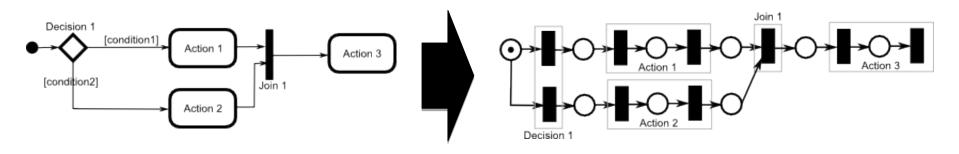
- Gives the **meaning** of a model in a source language in terms of the concepts of another target language
- Typically used to capture the semantics of new DSLs



Translational Semantics

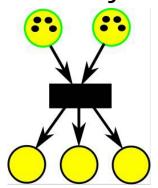
 Simulink Block Diagram's semantics expressed as Ordinary Differential Equations

• UML activity diagrams semantics expressed as Petri nets



Simulation

- Defines the operational semantics of a modeling language that updates the state of the system modeled
- The source and target meta-models are identical
- The target model is an "updated" version of the source model: no new model is created
- Simulation updates the abstract syntax, which may trigger modifications in the concrete syntax



Petri nets simulator



Generate JavaDocs from a class diagram.

Input: Class diagram

Output: HTML document

Synthesis



Augment a class diagram by adding navigability, role names, attribute types, method return and parameter

types.

Input: Class diagram

Output: Class diagram

Refinement



Define the actions performed by a traffic light to transition from one state to another.

Input: Traffic light model

Output: Traffic light model

Simulation



Extract the classes with no super-class from a class diagram.

Input: Class diagram

Output: Class diagram

Query

Analysis Animation Approximation Canonicalization Migration **Model Editing Model Finding Model Generation Model Matching Model Merging Model Refactoring Model Synchronization Normalization Optimization Parsing** Refinement Rendering Query **Reverse Engineering** Serialization **Simulation Synthesis Translation Translational Semantics**

Abstraction



Map a custom DSML for stop watches into a Statecharts model in order to define its behavior.

Input: Watch DSM

Output: Statechart

> Translational Semantics



Vocabulary

- Relationship between source & target meta-models
 - Endogenous: Source meta-model = Target meta-model
 - Exogenous: Source meta-model ≠ Target meta-model
- Relationship between source & target models
 - In-place: Transformation executed within the same model
 - Out-place: Transformation produces a different model

Exogenous	Outplace	Inplace
Refinement, Synthesis, Translational semantics	Refinement, Query	Simulation

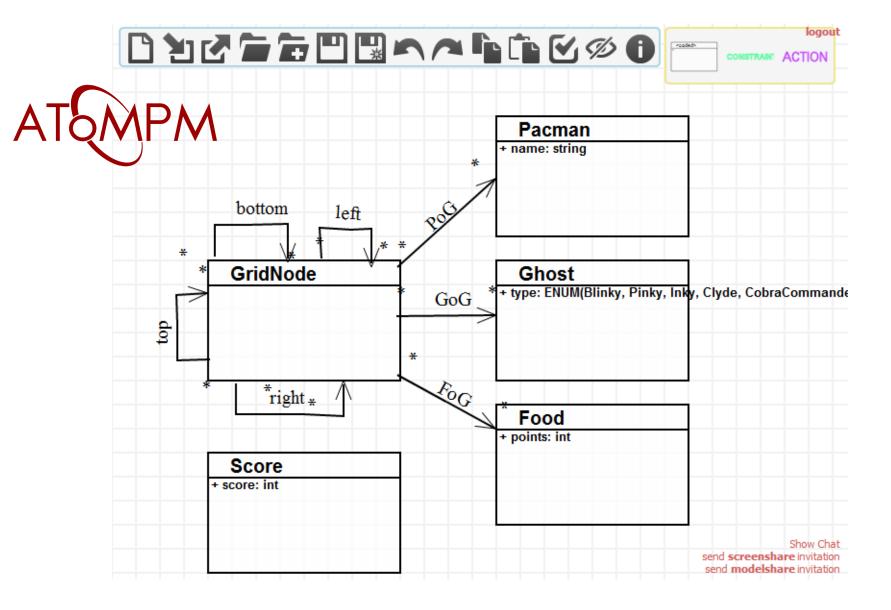
Rule-based model transformation

Graph transformation for simulation

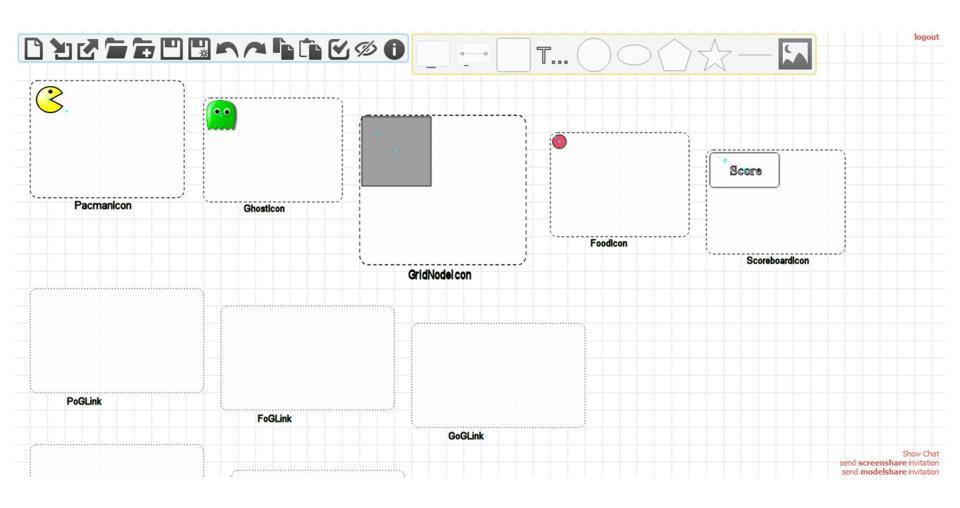
- Models are considered as directed, typed, attributed graphs
- Transformations on such graphs are considered as graph rewritings
- Features:
 - Declarative paradigm
 - Rules defined as pre- and post-conditions

• Tools: MoTif, Henshin, GReAT

Metamodel of Pacman

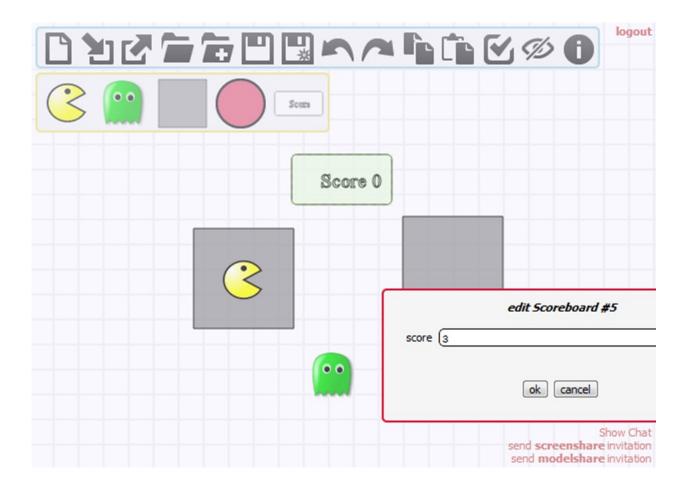


Concrete syntax

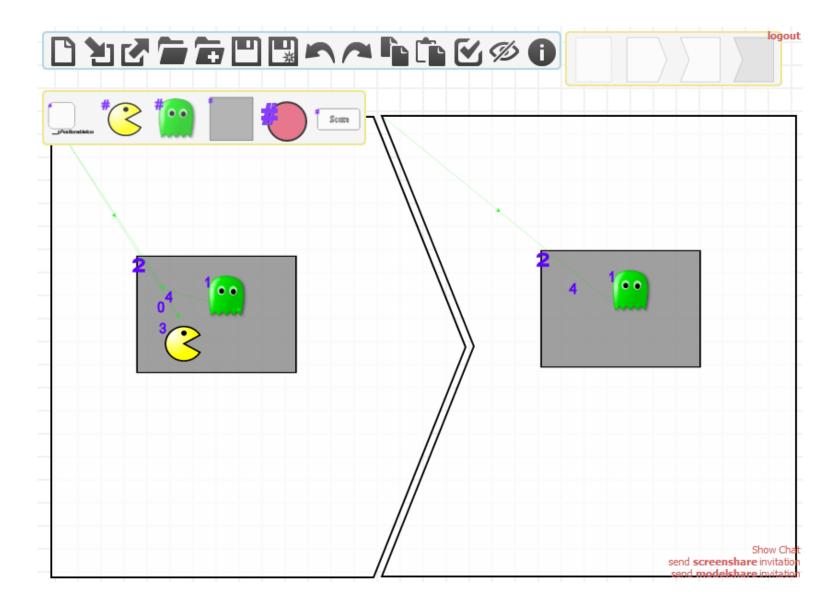




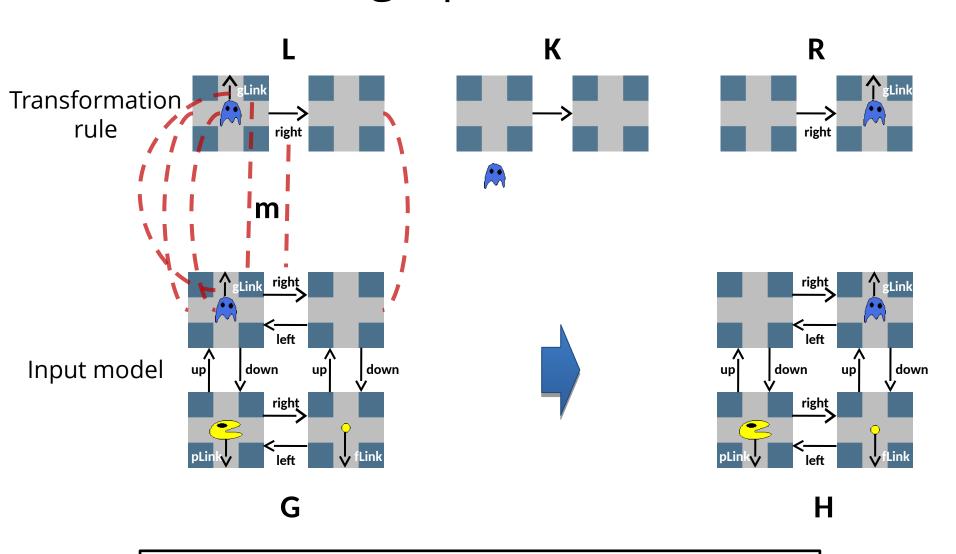
Generate modeling environment



Graph transformation rule



Rule-based graph transformation



If there exists an occurrence of **L** in **G** then replace it with **R**

Mechanics of rule application

1. Matching Phase

- Find an embedding m of the LHS pattern L in the host graph G
- An occurrence of L is called a **match**: m(L)
- Thus, m(L) is a sub-graph of G

2. Rewriting Phase

Transform *G* so that it satisfies the RHS pattern:

- **Remove** all elements from m(L K) from G
- **Create** the new elements of R K in G
- **Update** the properties of the elements in $m(L \cap K)$
- When a match of the LHS can be found in G, the rule is applicable
- When the rewriting phase has been performed, the rule was successfully applied

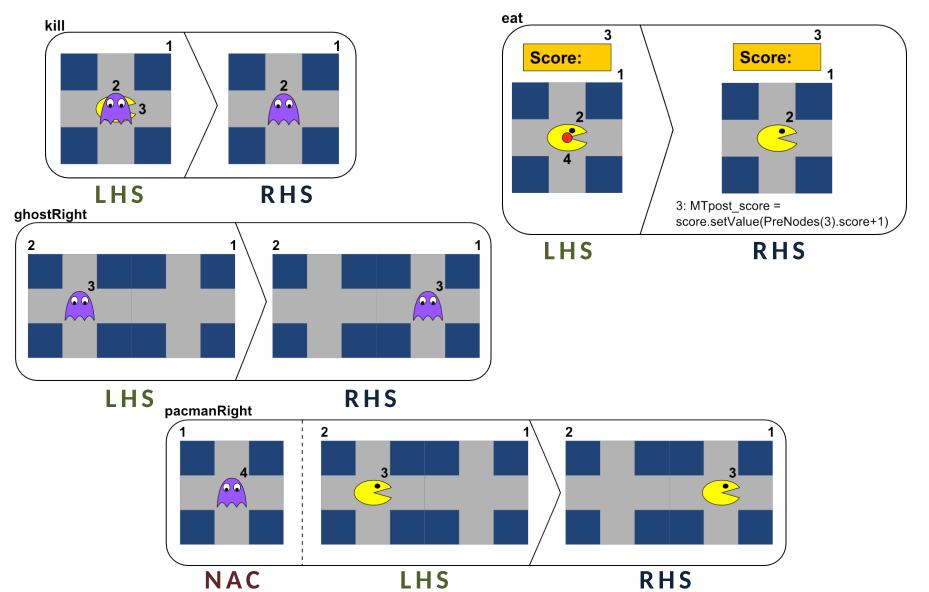


QUESTION

What is the worst upper-bound of the complexity for applying a graph transformation rule?

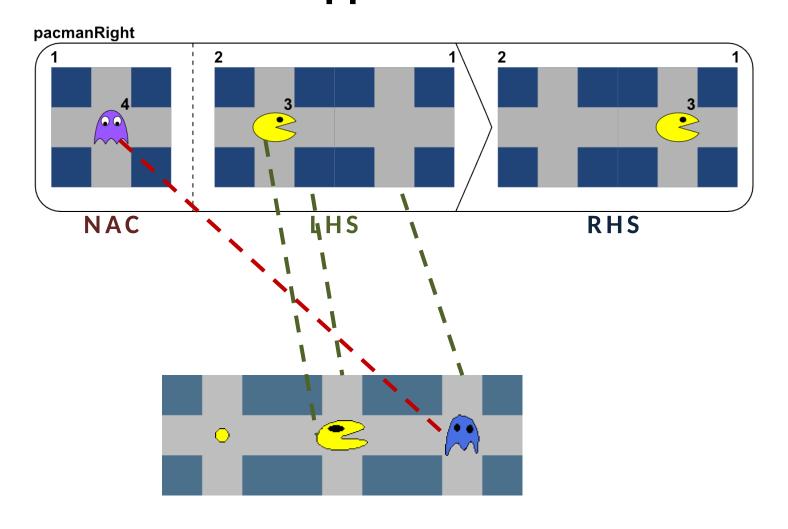
 $\triangleright \alpha(RGDD \oplus RA) \oplus \alpha(|G|^{|L|})$ CRUD operations

Operational semantics



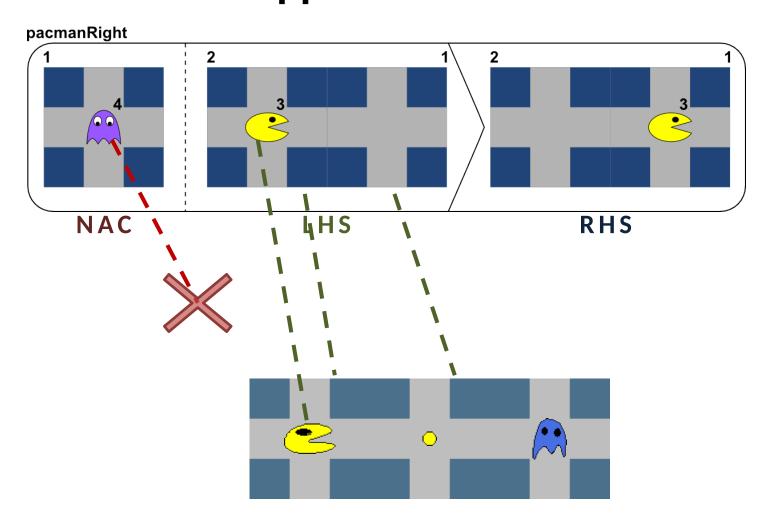


Negative application conditions Non-applicable rule



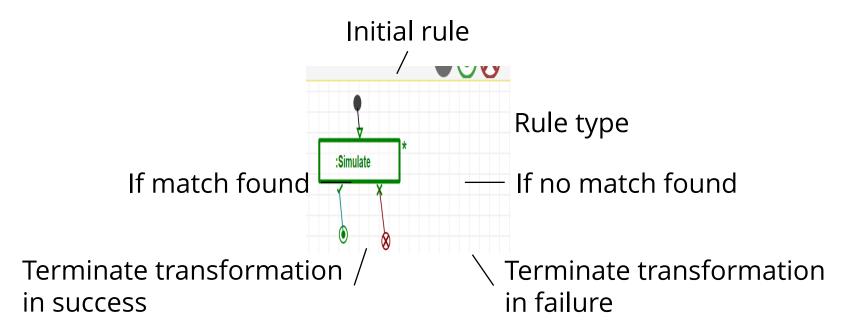


Negative application conditions **Applicable rule**



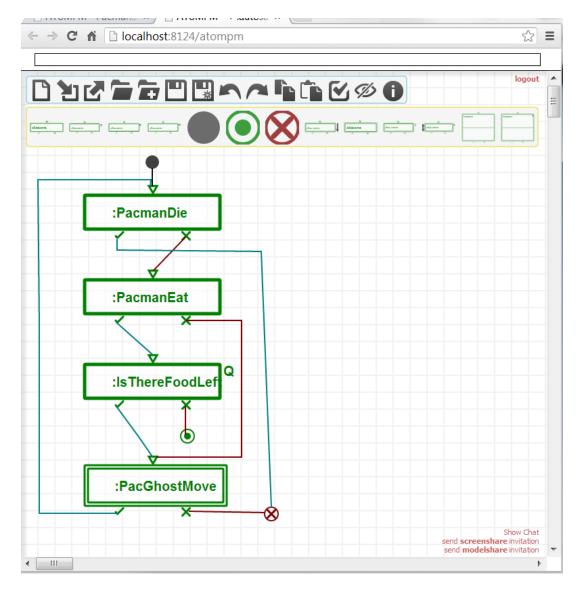
Rule scheduling

- In what order should the rules be executed?
 - Don't care: randomly, non-deterministically
 - Partial order
 - Explicit ordering
- MoTif is the transformation language of AToMPM





Scheduling of the rules





QUESTION

How to specify the rule IsThereFoodLeft?

- Rule with only a LHS
- LHS consists of solely a food element
- It will be encapsulated in a negative query
 - 1. If rule is applicable: FAIL
 - 2. Otherwise: SUCCESS

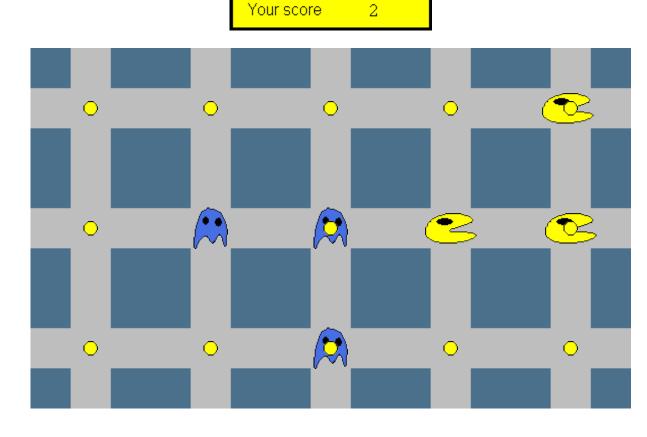


Simulation of a model

1. pacmanDie

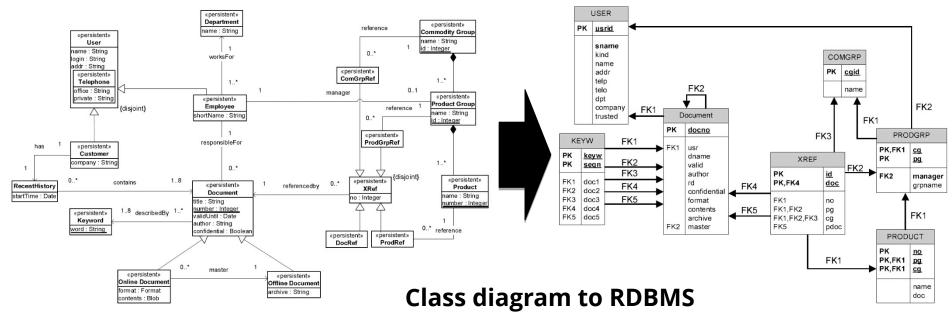
2. pacmanEat

- isThereFoodLeft
- 4. ghostMoveLeft
- 5. ghostMoveRight
- 6. ghostMoveUp
- 7. ghostMoveDown
- 8. pacmanMoveLeft
- 9. pacmanMoveRight
- pacmanMoveUp
- 11. pacmanMoveDown



Translation

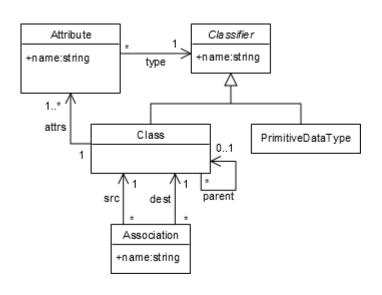
- Maps concepts of a model in a source language to concepts of another target language, while translating the semantics of the former in terms of the latter
- Similar to translational semantics, but the source language already has a semantics





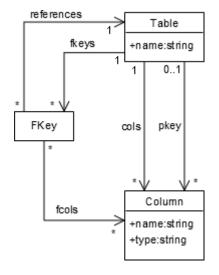
CD to RDBMS transformation

CD metamodel



RDBMS metamodel

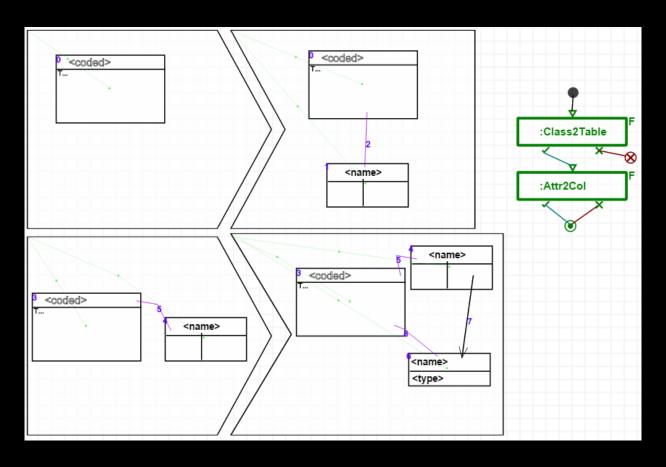






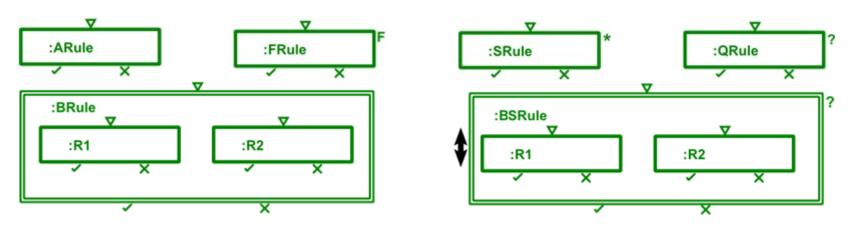
QUESTION

Implement in MoTif the transformation for:
Classes to tables
Attributes to columns

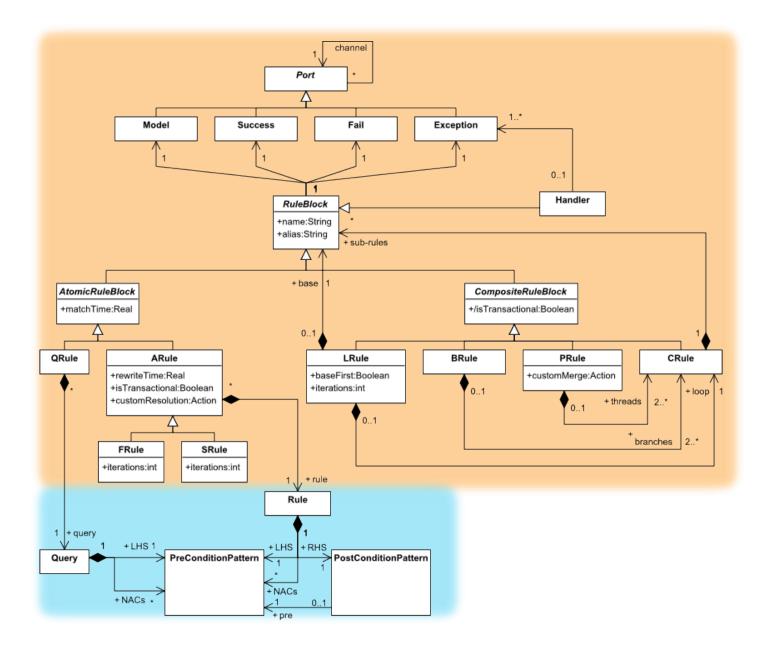




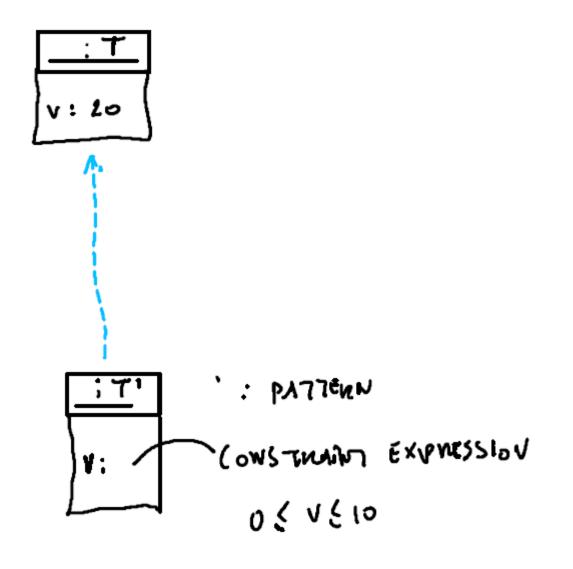
MoTif main rule types



- ARule: (atomic) Applies rule on one match
- FRule: (for all) Applies rule on all matches found in parallel
- SRule: (star) Applies rule recursively as long as a match is found
- QRule: (query) Finds a match, only LHS no RHS
- BRule: (branch) Randomly (uniformly!) selects one matching rule
- **BSRule:** (branch star) Applies BRule as long as one rule matches



Pattern model <> Instance model



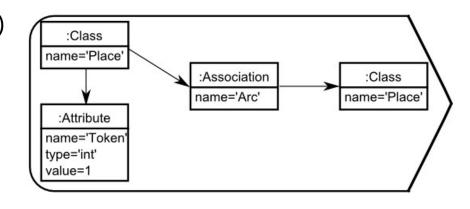
Instance model

Pattern model

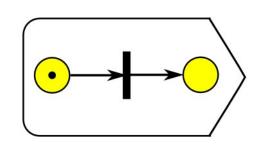


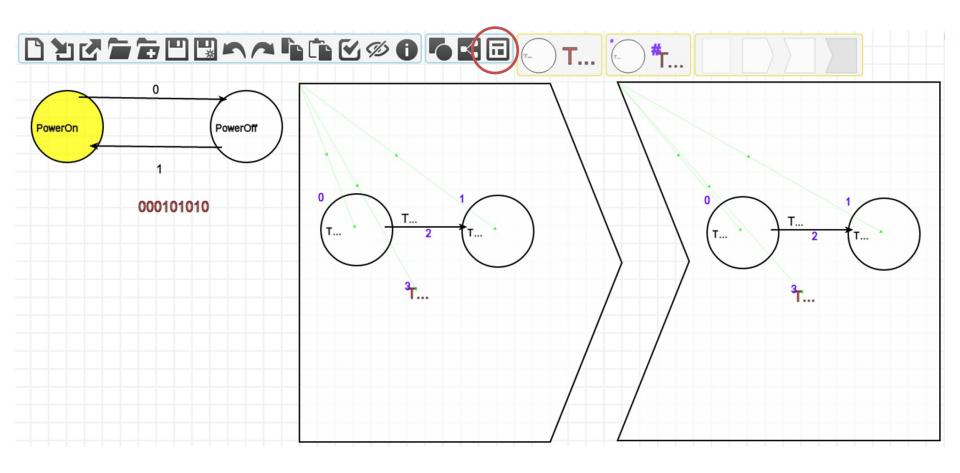
Pattern language

- 1. Generic pattern language
 - Most economic solution
 - Generic concrete syntax (MOF-like)
 - Allow to specify patterns that will never occur



- 2. Customized pattern language
 - + Concrete syntax adapted to the source/target languages (DSL)
 - + Exclude patterns that do not have a chance to match
 - More work for the tool builder



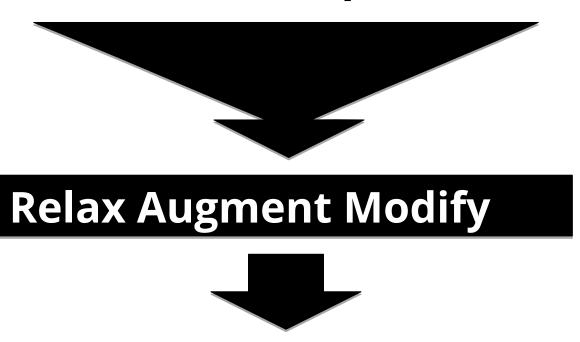




Domain-specific pattern languages

Ramification Process: automatically generated environment for pattern language

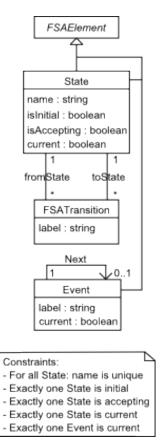
Input Meta-Model Output Meta-Model



Customized Pattern Meta-Model



RAMification process: starting point meta-model(s)

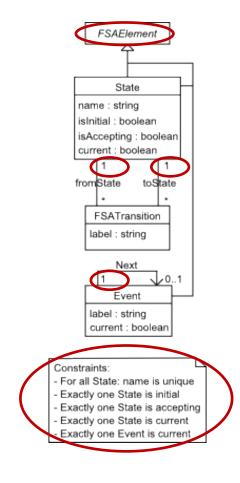




Relaxation

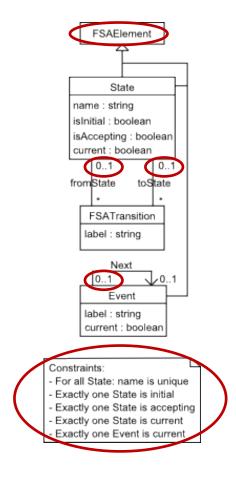
- Relaxes the constraints imposed by the meta-model(s) of the domain (source and target when exogenous)
- Make abstract classes concrete (to allow instantiation)
- Reduction of minimal multiplicity of every association end
- Constraints relaxation (manual)
 - Removed
 - Preserved
 - Depends on static semantics of the language(s)





Relax

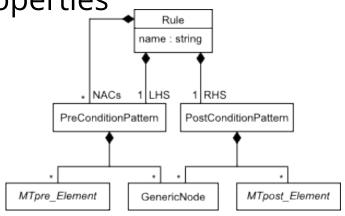




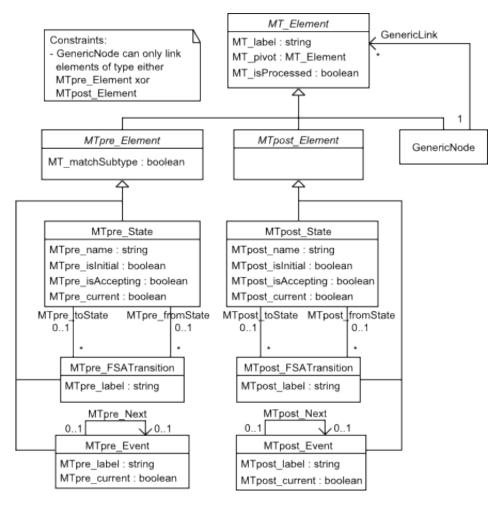
Relax

Augmentation

- Augments the resulting meta-model with additional information
- Classes and associations integrated in a rule meta-model
- Re-typing of all meta-model entities to pre/post
- Add model transformation-specific properties
 - Labels
 - Parameter passing (pivots)
- Allow abstract rules
- Augmented constraints
- Connection with generic/trace elements



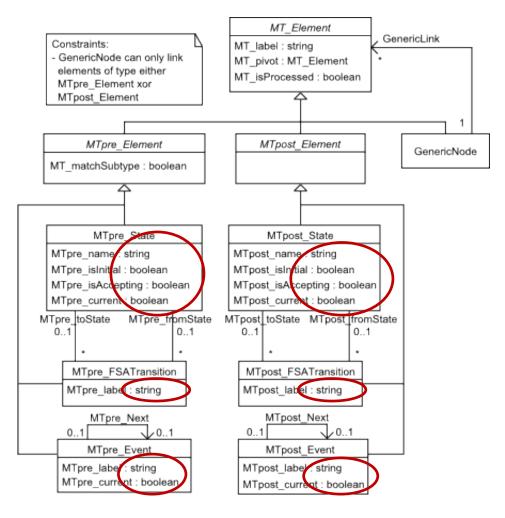




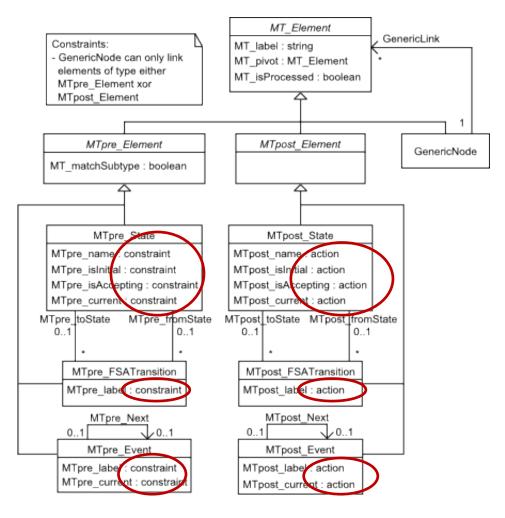
Augment

Modification

- Performs further modifications on the resulting meta-model
- Update namespaces
- Change type of attributes
 - Pre-condition classes: constraint type
 - Post-condition classes: action type
 - But preserve knowledge of original type for well-formedness
- Adaptation of concrete syntax (semi-automatic)
 - Abstract classes get a concrete syntax
 - Association ends
 - Other (e.g., replace topological visual syntax constraints)

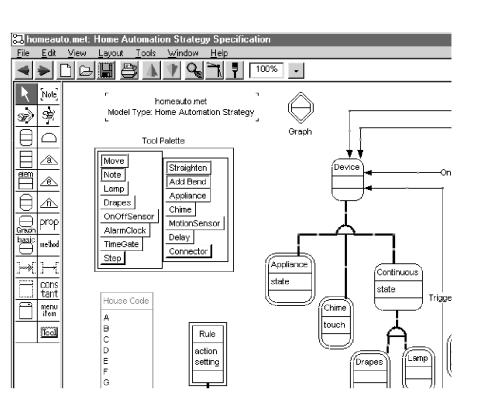


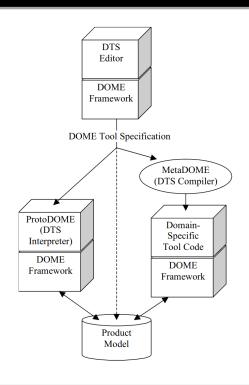
Modify

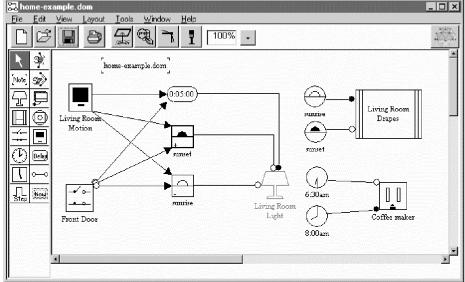


Modify

1990s: Honeywell's DoME Domain Modeling Environment







GME

GRAMMA R

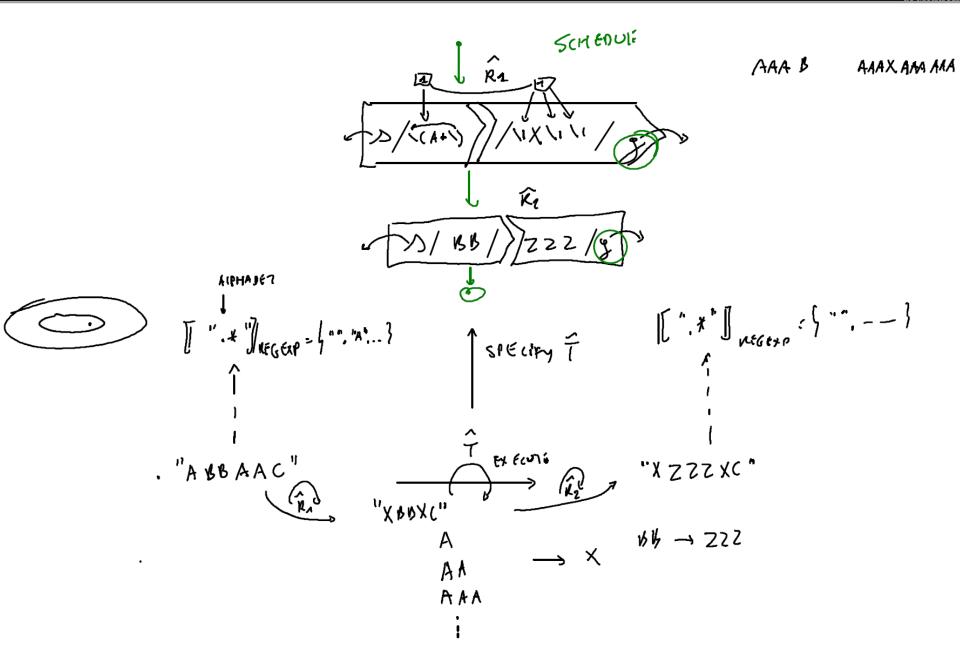
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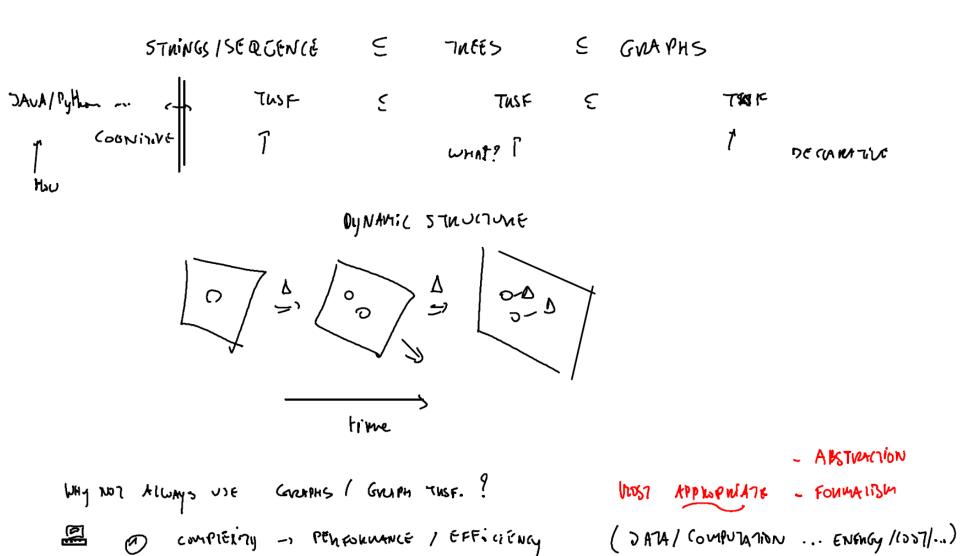
GRAPH GRANNAR

7 MNSFORMATION



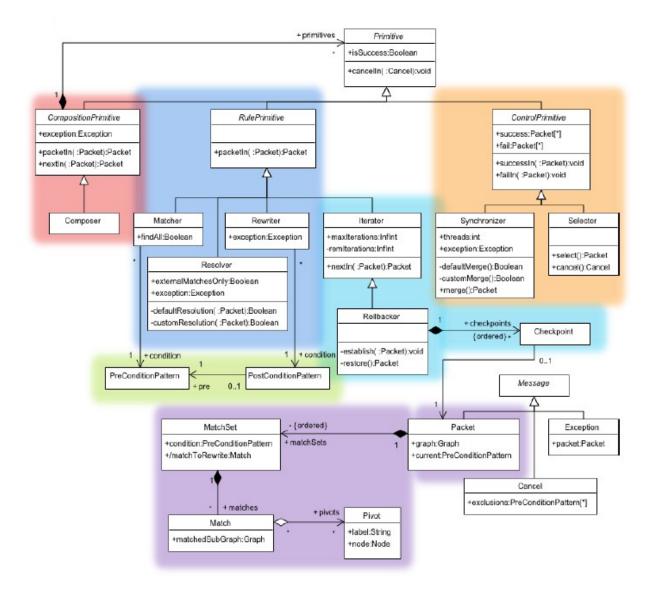
Transforming Strings, Trees, or Graphs?

1 COGNITIVE / UNDERSTANDING

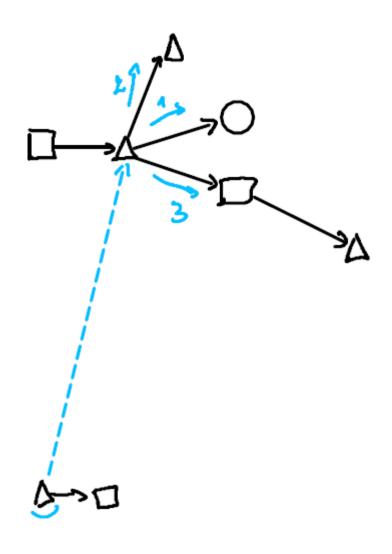




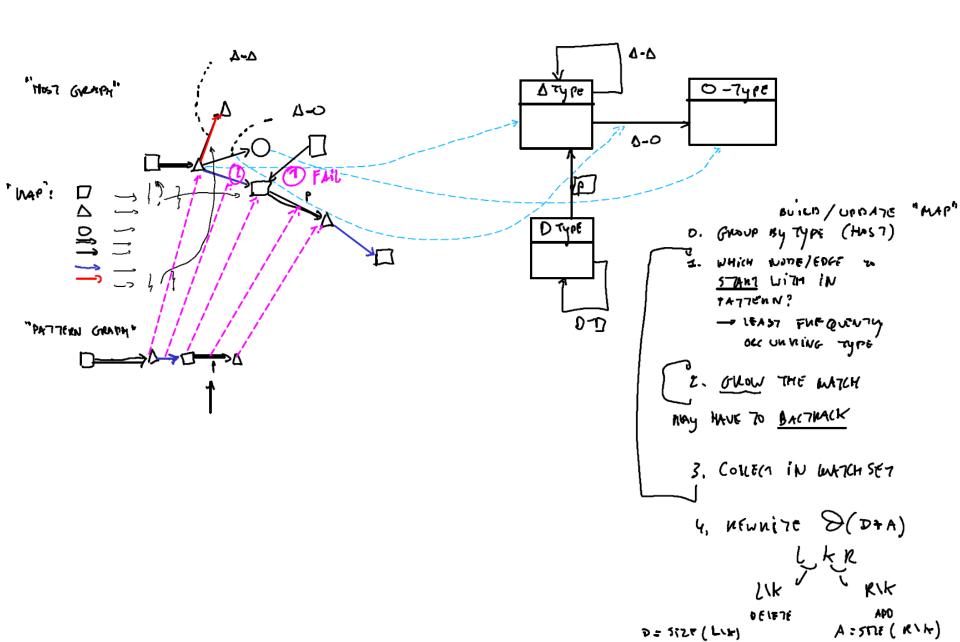
matching, pivot, scope



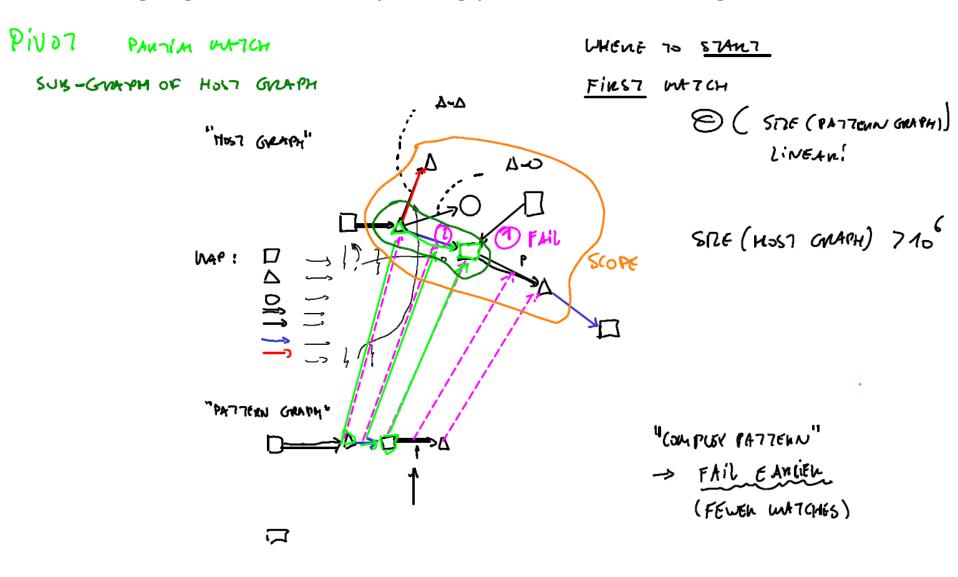
Matching Algorithms (1): Search Plans



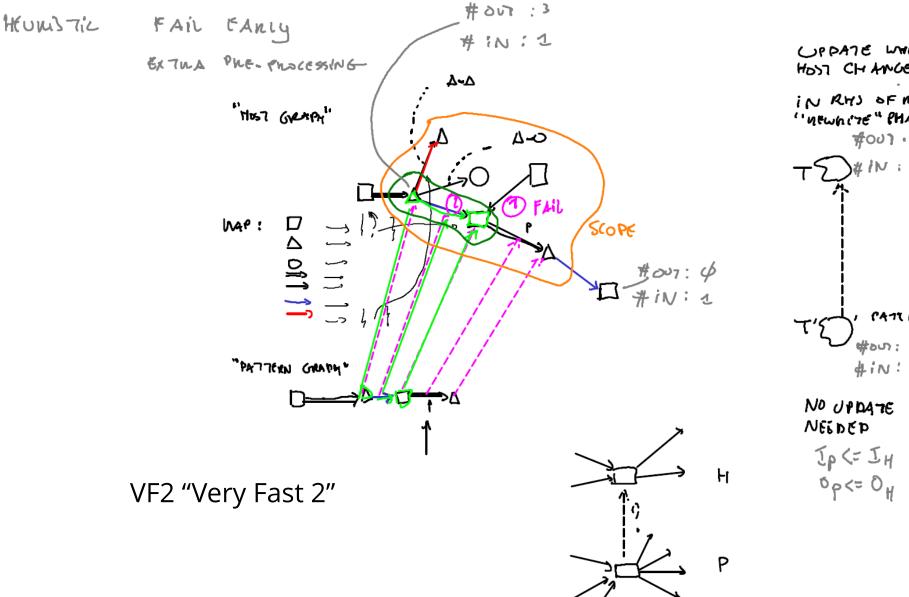
Matching Algorithms (2): Constraint Satisfaction



Matching Algorithms (2): improving performance through (user) "hints"



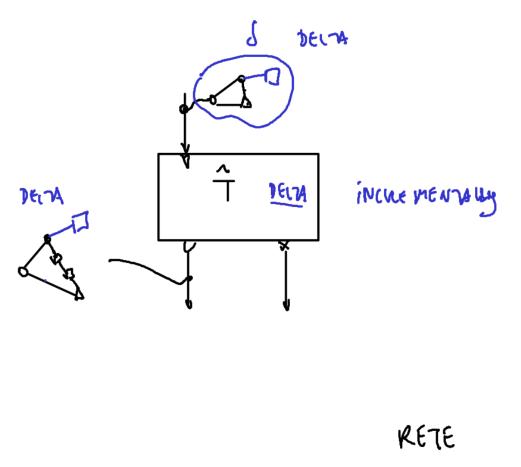
Matching Algorithms (2): improving performance through heuristics

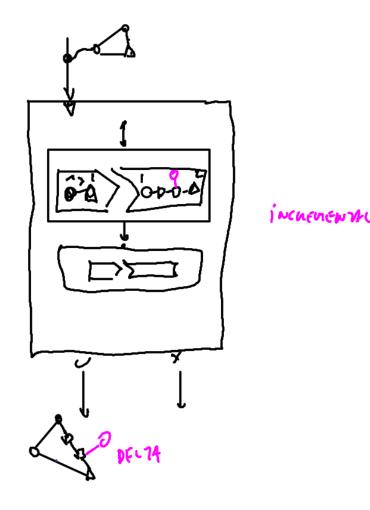




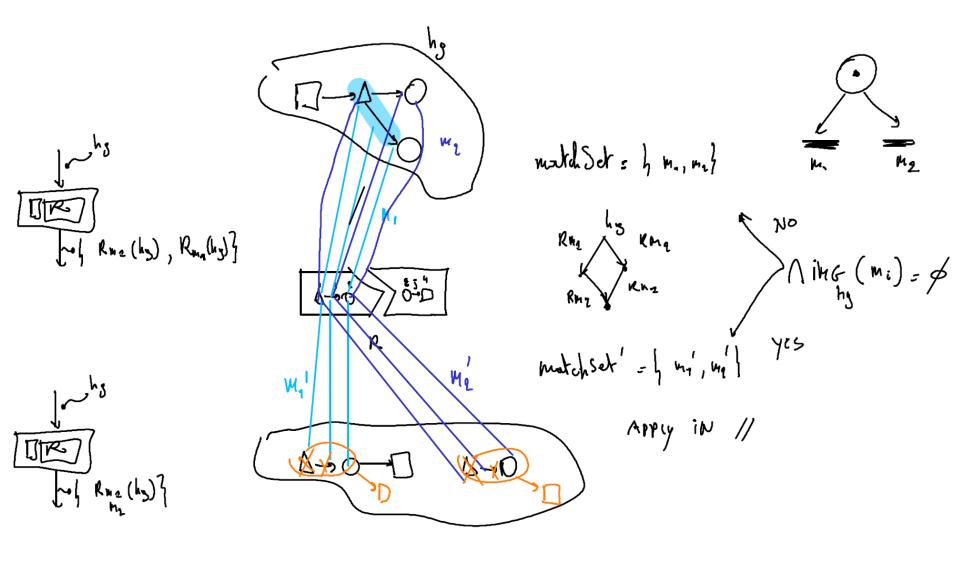
Matching Algorithms: improving performance of "incremental" model transformation: the Rete algorithm

PholoG





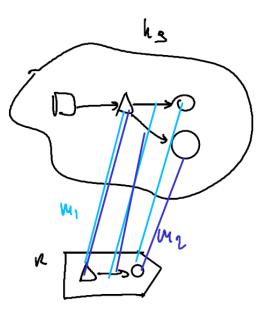
Choice → parallel independence, critical pairs



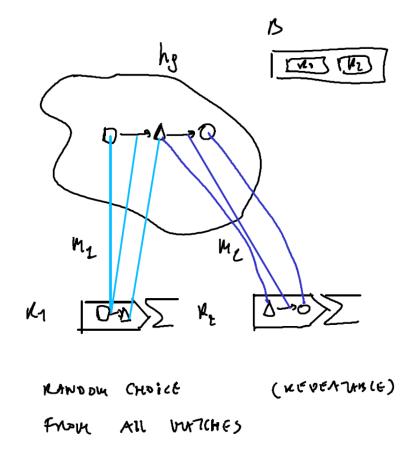
Model Transformation

Choice (vs. enumerate all, see Petri Nets reachability graph)

single rule, multiple matches

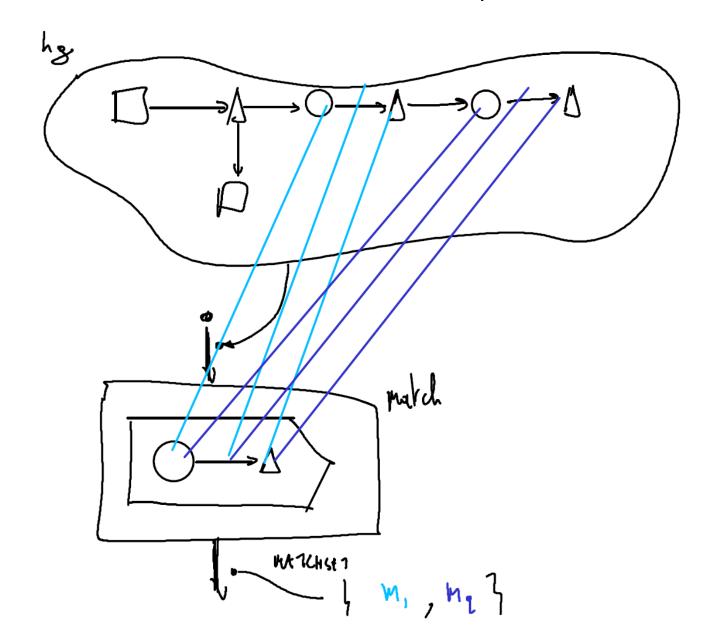


multiple rules, multiple matches

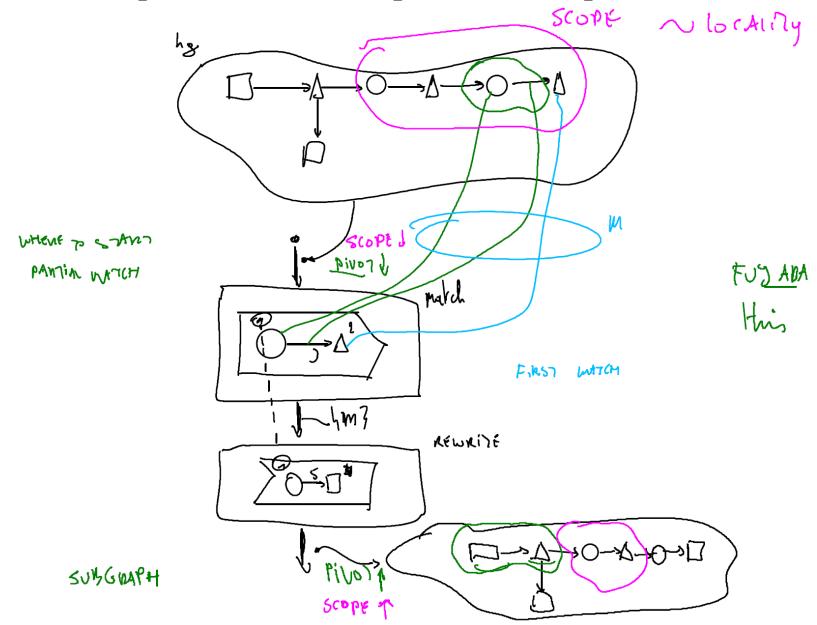


SEIELT (
$$|m_1, m_2|$$
)
$$U_{\Gamma}([0, 1])$$

MatchSet = the set of all the matches (morphisms)



De-constructing a rule into Matching and Re-Writing



Model-to-model transformation for translation

- Declarative paradigm
- Rules defined as non-destructing pre- and post-conditions
 - Source pattern to be matched in the source model
 - Target pattern to be created/updated in the target model for each match during rule application
- Typically models are represented in Ecore
- Input model is read-only
- Output model is write-only
- Tools: **ATL**, ETL, QVT-R



ATL transformation

Classes-Tables + Attributes-Columns

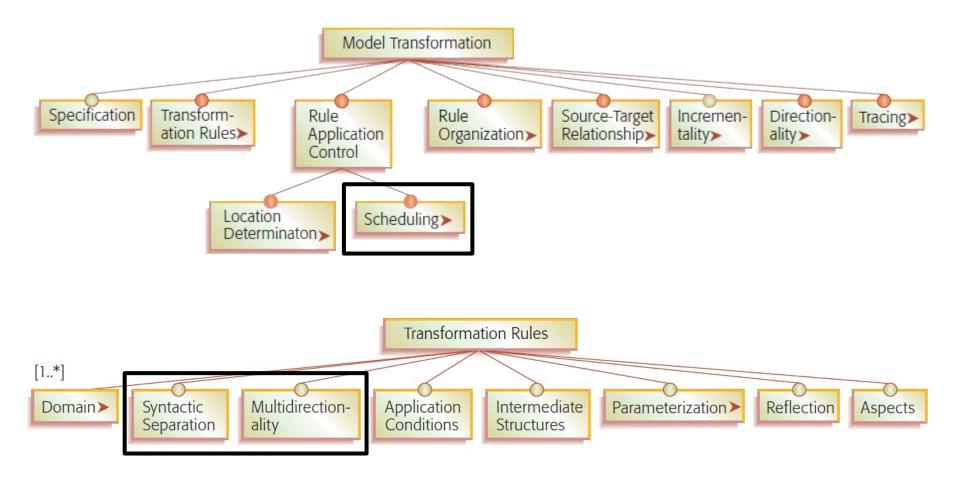
```
module CD2RDB;
Create new model
                                create DB: RDBMS from CD: CD;
                                rule Class2Table {
                                    from
                                                                                   LHS: 1 element type
   Standard rule
                                       c : CD!Class
                                      t : DB!Table (
                                         name <- c.name
                                                                                       RHS: elements
                                         cols <- c.attrs
                                         pkey <- pcol )
                                                                                         to create in
                                      pcol : DB!Columun (
                                         name <- 'id'
                                                                                          new model
                                         type <- 'int32' )
                              17⊖ rule Attr2Col {
                                    from
                                                                                        Call implicitly
                                      a : CD!Attribute
                                                                                         another rule
                                      t : DB!Column (
                                        name <- a.name
                                        type <- a.convertedType()
                                                                                       Call temporary
                                helper context CD!Attribute def: convertedType(): String =
   Helper in OCL
                                                                                            queries
                                    if a.type.name = 'String' then 'string'
                                    else if a.type.name = 'Int' then 'int32'
                                       else a.type.name
                                       endif
                                    endif;
```

Execution of a declarative rule in ATL

- 1. Find all possible matches in the source model
- 2. Create elements specified in the target pattern on a target model
- 3. Initialize attributes and links of the newly created elements
- 4. Create **traceability** links from the elements in the source model matched by the source pattern to the created elements in the target model

- Standard ATL rule applied once for each match
 - Like FRule

Feature-Based Survey of Model Transformation Approaches



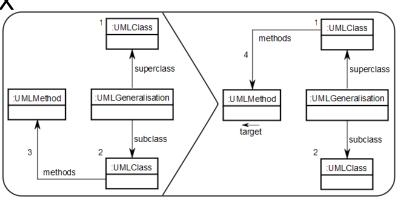
K. Czarnecki and S. Helsen. Feature-based survey of model transformation approaches. *IBM Systems Journal:* 45(3), 621-645 (2006).



Rule patterns

- Model fragments
- Using abstract or concrete syntax
- Syntactic separation

MoTif rule

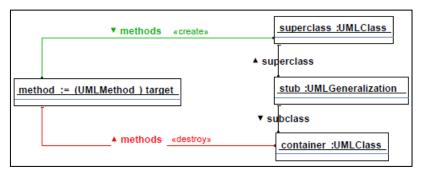


ATL rule

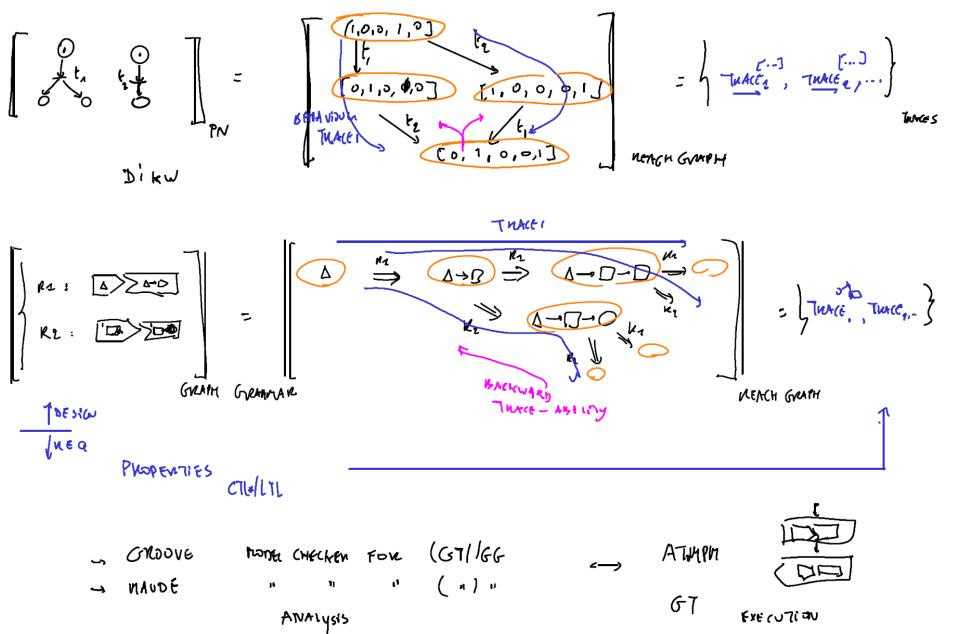
```
module Person2Contact;
create OUT: MMb from IN: MMa {

rule Start {
   form p: MMa!Person(
      p.function = 'Boss'
   )
   to c: MMb!Contact(
      name <- p.first_name + p.last_name)
}</pre>
```

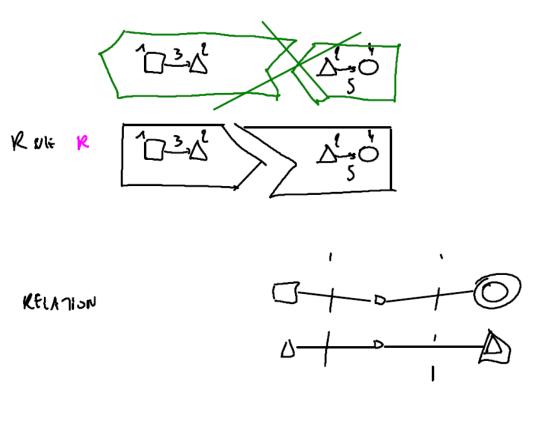
FUJABA/Henshin compact notation

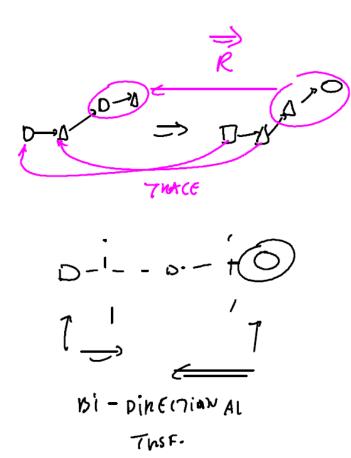


Choice → explore all possibilities → analysis over all traces



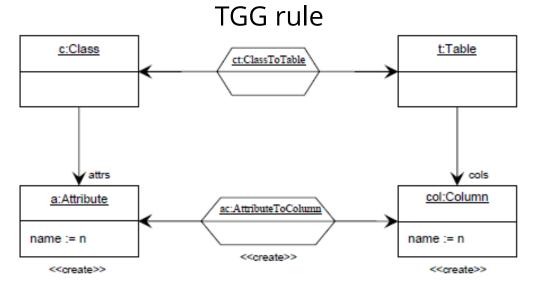
Trace of Transformation **Execution** vs. **Bi-Directional** Transformations





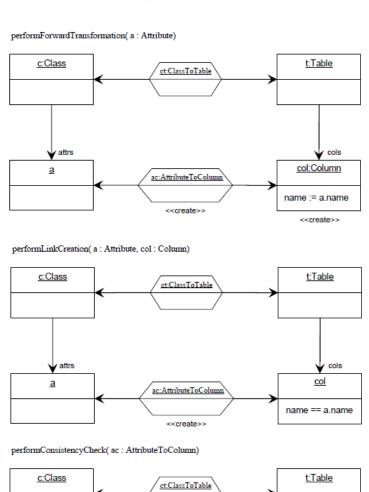
Multi-directional rules





TGG operational rules

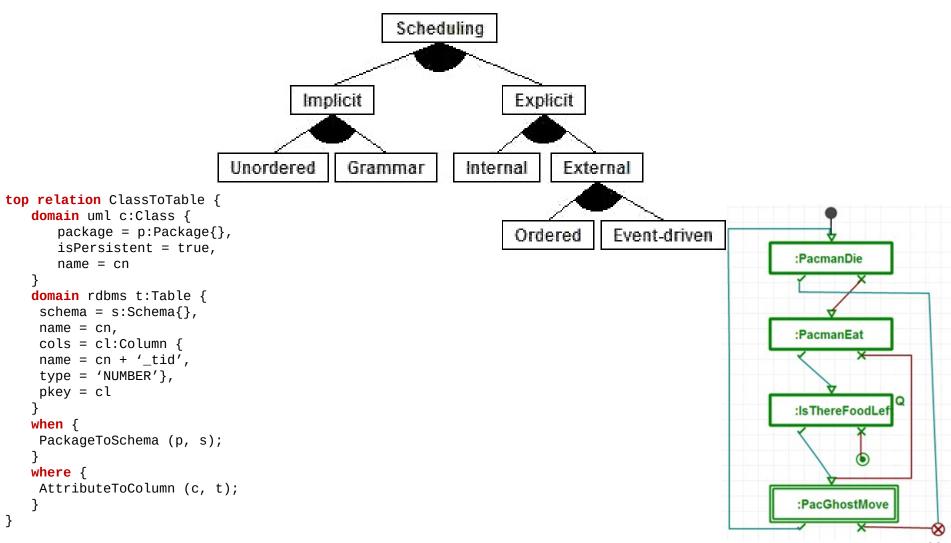
a: Attribute



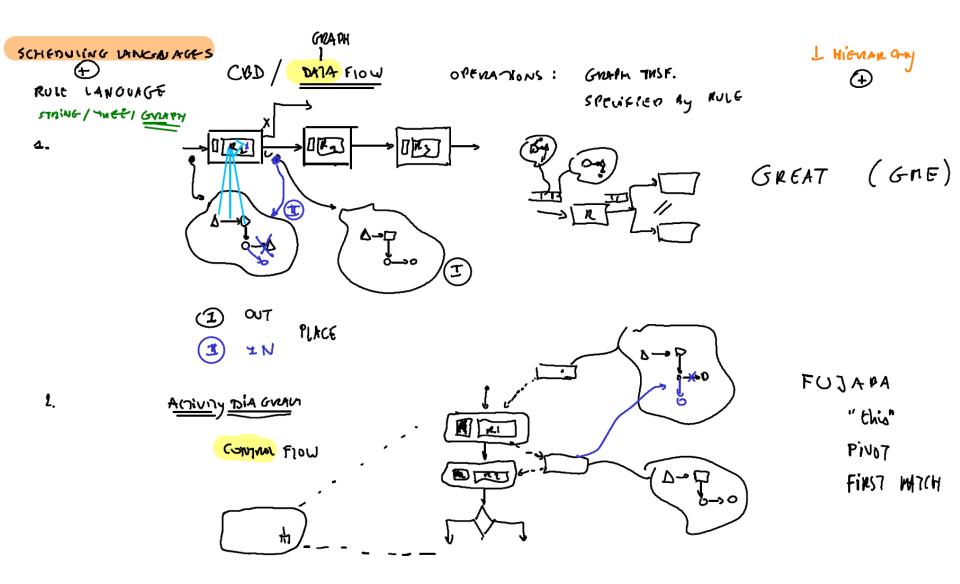
col: Column

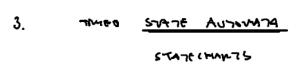
name == a.name

Rule scheduling strategies **Explicit**



Rule Scheduling (aka Control)



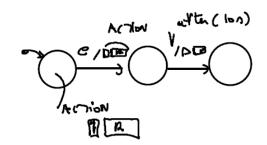


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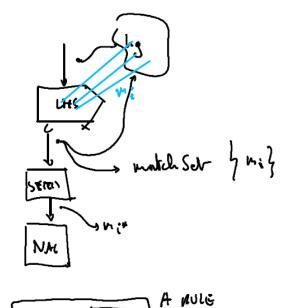
DEVS Hierary

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Rule Scheduling (aka Control)

S. PNO COVAMMING VANGUACH hg = GVLYPH()

modder = VATCHER()

LHSTULE = IHSKNIG()

match set = mortiber. match (Historile, hg)

mobile = release (mobile Set)

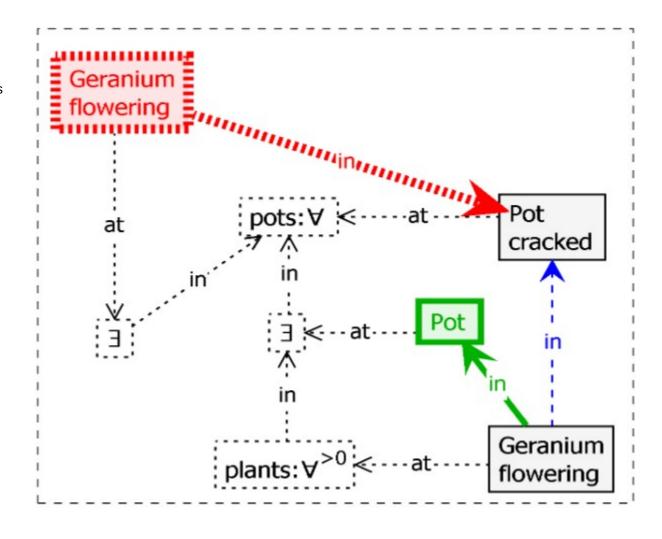
KEWNTEN()

Increased Expressiveness: rule amalgamation

Arend Rensink and Jan-Hendrik Kuperus. *Repotting the Geraniums: On Nested Graph Transformation Rules*. Graph Transformation and Visual Modeling Techniques (GT-VMT). In ECEASST Volume 18. 2009.

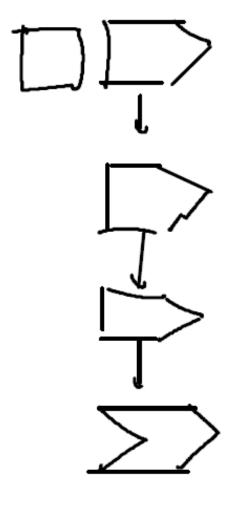
https://journal.ub.tu-berlin.de/eceasst/article/view/260

We have a number of flower pots, each of which contains a number of geranium plants. These tend to fill all available space with their roots, and so some of the pots have cracked. For each of the cracked pots that contains a geranium that is currently in flower, we want to create a new one, and moreover,to move all flowering plants from the old to the new pot. Create a single parallel rule that achieves this in a single application, without the use of control expressions.



Increased Expressiveness: rule amalgamation

Operationally (in terms of T-Core building blocks): Match – Match - ... - Re-Write

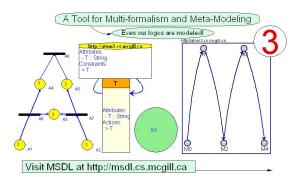


Plethora of model transformation languages













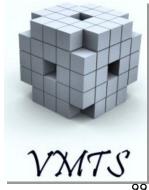














DSLTrans ProGReS

