

## 54. How to Synchronize Models with Triple Graph Grammars for Data Connection

Prof. Dr. U. Aßmann  
Technische Universität Dresden  
Institut für Software- und  
Multimediatechnik  
Gruppe Softwaretechnologie  
<http://st.inf.tu-dresden.de>  
Version 21-0.5, 29.01.22

- 1) Triple Graph Grammars
- 2) Specifying TGG in MOFLON
- 3) Using TGG in MOFLON
- 4) The Tornado mapping method

# Literature

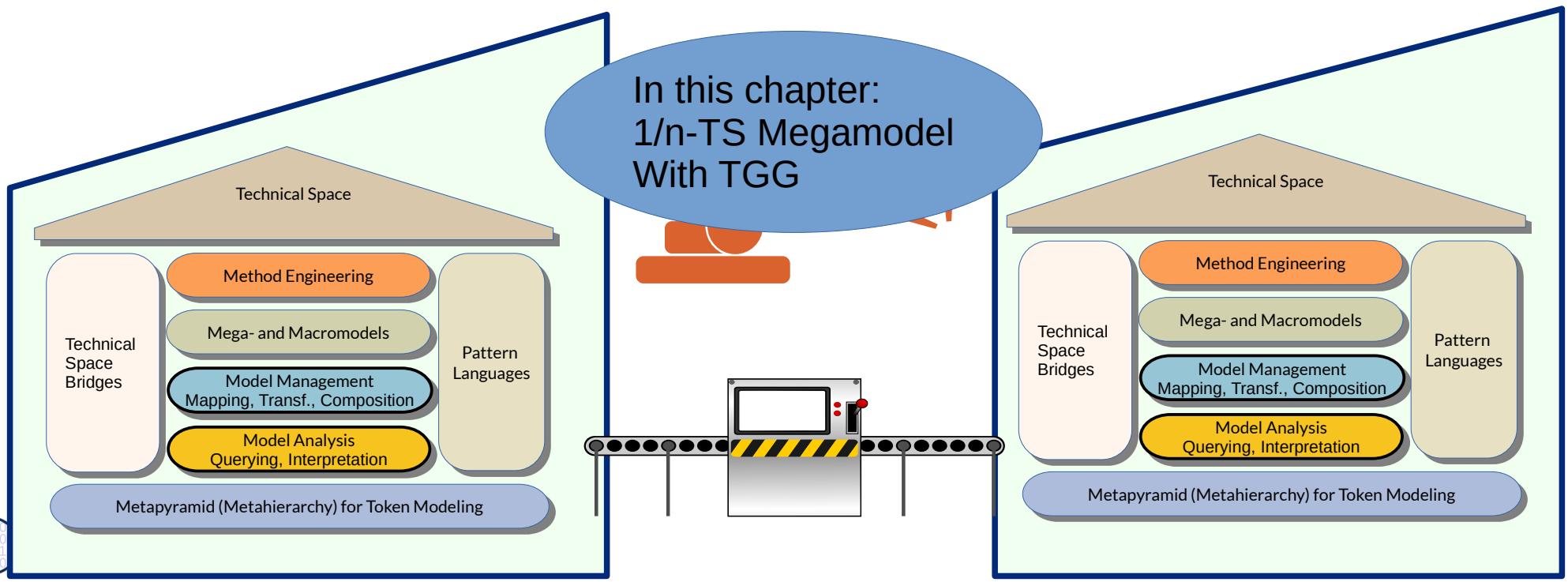
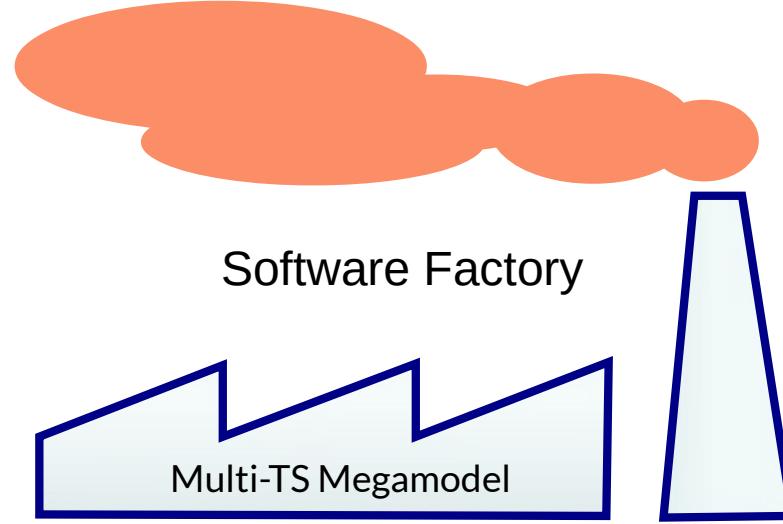
- ▶ [ES89] Gregor Engels, Wilhelm Schäfer. Programming Environments, Concepts and Realization (in German), 1989, Teubner-Verlag Stuttgart
- ▶ Anthony Anjorin, Erhan Leblebici, and Andy Schürr. 20 years of triple graph grammars: A roadmap for future research. ECEASST, 73, 2015.
- ▶ F. Klar, A. Königs, A. Schürr: "Model Transformation in the Large", Proceedings of the the 6th joint meeting of the European software engineering conference and the ACM SIGSOFT symposium on the foundations of software engineering, New York: ACM Press, 2007; 285-294. <http://www.idt.mdh.se/esec-fse-2007/>
- ▶ [www.fujaba.de](http://www.fujaba.de) [www.moflon.org](http://www.moflon.org), <https://emoflon.org/>
  - <https://paper.dropbox.com/doc/Meta-Modelling-with-eMoflonCore--ArVO3r~~geAdwkL9vVBUTzKZAg-zyOqELGZ0X9jL85TAs7pf>
- ▶ T. Fischer, J. Niere, L. Torunski, and A. Zündorf, 'Story Diagrams: A new Graph Rewrite Language based on the Unified Modeling Language', in Proc. of the 6th International Workshop on Theory and Application of Graph Transformation (TAGT), Paderborn, Germany (G. Engels and G. Rozenberg, eds.), LNCS 1764, pp. 296--309, Springer Verlag, November 1998.  
<http://www.upb.de/cs/ag-schaefer/Veroeffentlichungen/Quellen/Papers/1998/TAGT1998.pdf>

# Literature

- ▶ [KS05] Alexander Königs, Andy Schürr. Multi-Domain Integration with MOF and extended Triple Graph Grammars. Technical Report. University of Technology Darmstadt. Dagstuhl Seminar Proceedings 04101
    - <http://drops.dagstuhl.de/opus/volltexte/2005/22>
  - ▶ Alexander Königs, Andy Schürr. MDI: a rule-based multi-document and tool integration approach. Softw Syst Model (2006) 5:349–368 DOI 10.1007/s10270-006-0016-x
    - TGG between multiple documents and models
  - ▶ [HJSWB] Florian Heidenreich, Jendrik Johannes, Mirko Seifert, Christian Wende and Marcel Böhme: Generating Safe Template Languages. In Proceedings of the "Eighth International Conference on Generative Programming and Component Engineering", GPCE'09, 4 - 5 October 2009, Denver, Colorado

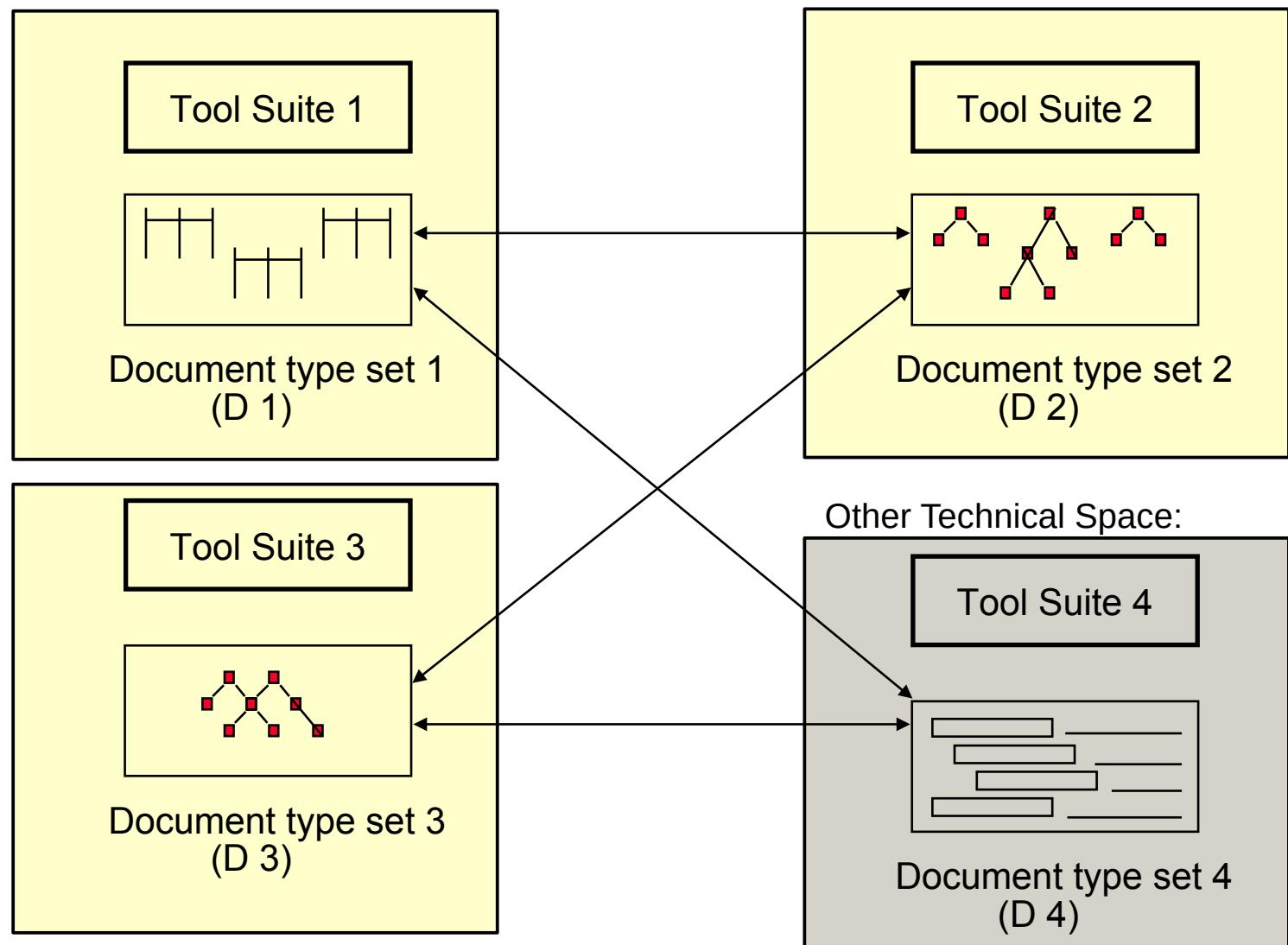


# Q13: A Software Factory's Heart: the Multi-TS Megamodel



# Integration of Tool Suites by Data Connection

- ▶ Material of several tool (suites) can be ***data-connected*** by transformations or access adaptations

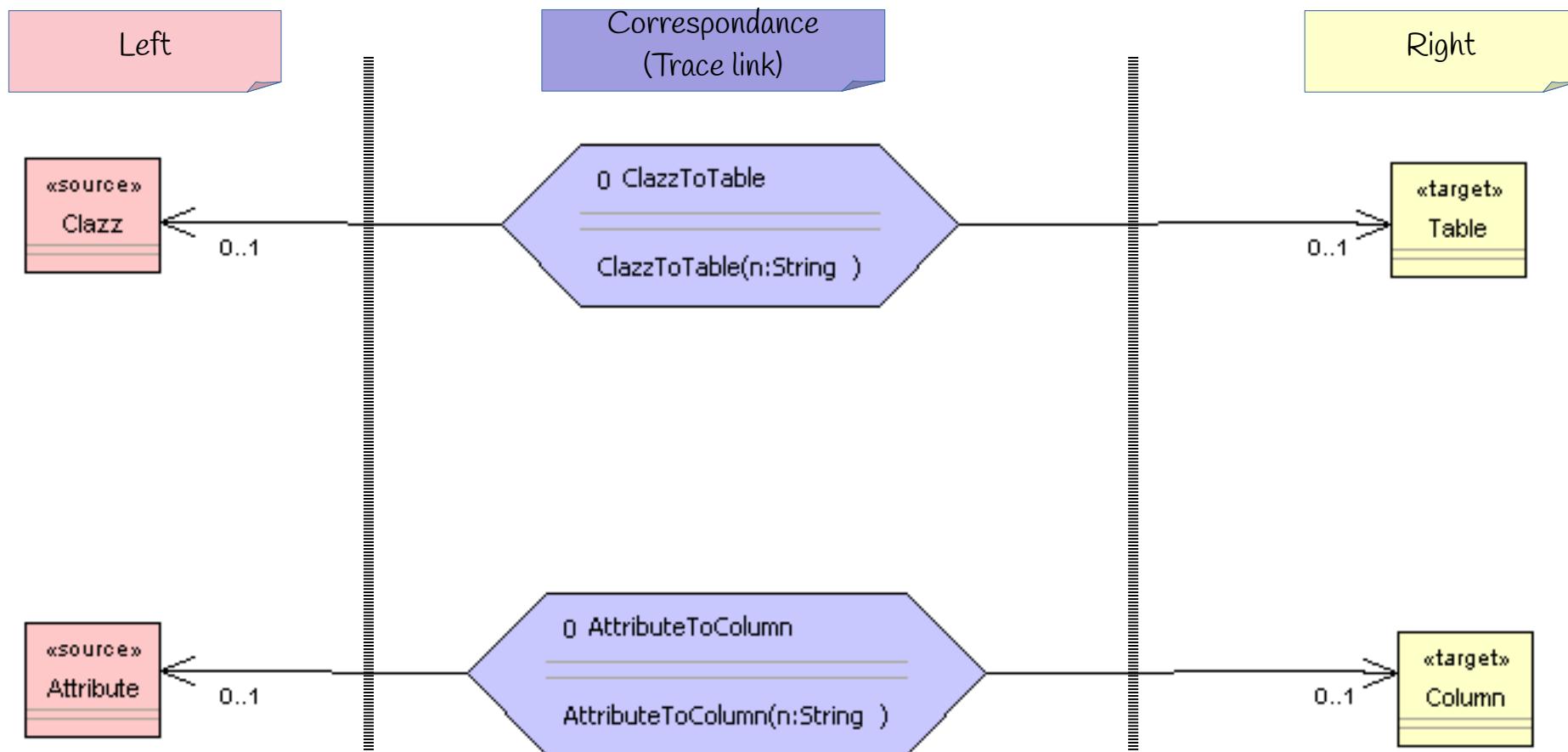


## 54.1 „Synchronizing“ Models with Triple Graph Grammars

- Mapping graphs to other graphs, also in data connections of different tools
- Specification of mappings with mapping rules
- Incremental transformation
- Traceability

# Triple Graph Grammars – Moflon Example

- ▶ A **Triple Graph Grammar (TGG)** is a mapping-oriented transformation system, consisting of rules with three „areas“ (better called **metamodel mapping grammars**)
  - Left side: (source) graph pattern 1 in (source) graph 1
  - Right side: (target) graph pattern 2 in (target) graph 2
  - **Middle: relational expression (net)** relating graph pattern 1 and 2 (trace model)



# Basic Types of Synchronization Rules

Depending on the modification colors, a TGG rule can be checking or creating the correspondance.

Rule classes from [KS05] Koenigs/Schuerr 2005:

- ▶ **Consistency Checking rules** – test whether both patterns exist
  - modification color is black (test)
- ▶ **Traceability relationship creating rule** – add a trace relation between elements of both sides
  - modification color is green in correspondance part (add)
- ▶ **Create model element** in one domain matching its correspondant
  - modification color is green on one side (add)
- ▶ **Lower layer create model element** – create model in a lower grammar layer
  - modification color is green on lower layer (add)

## 54.2.1. Mapping Objects to Tables (Object-Relational Mapping, ORM)

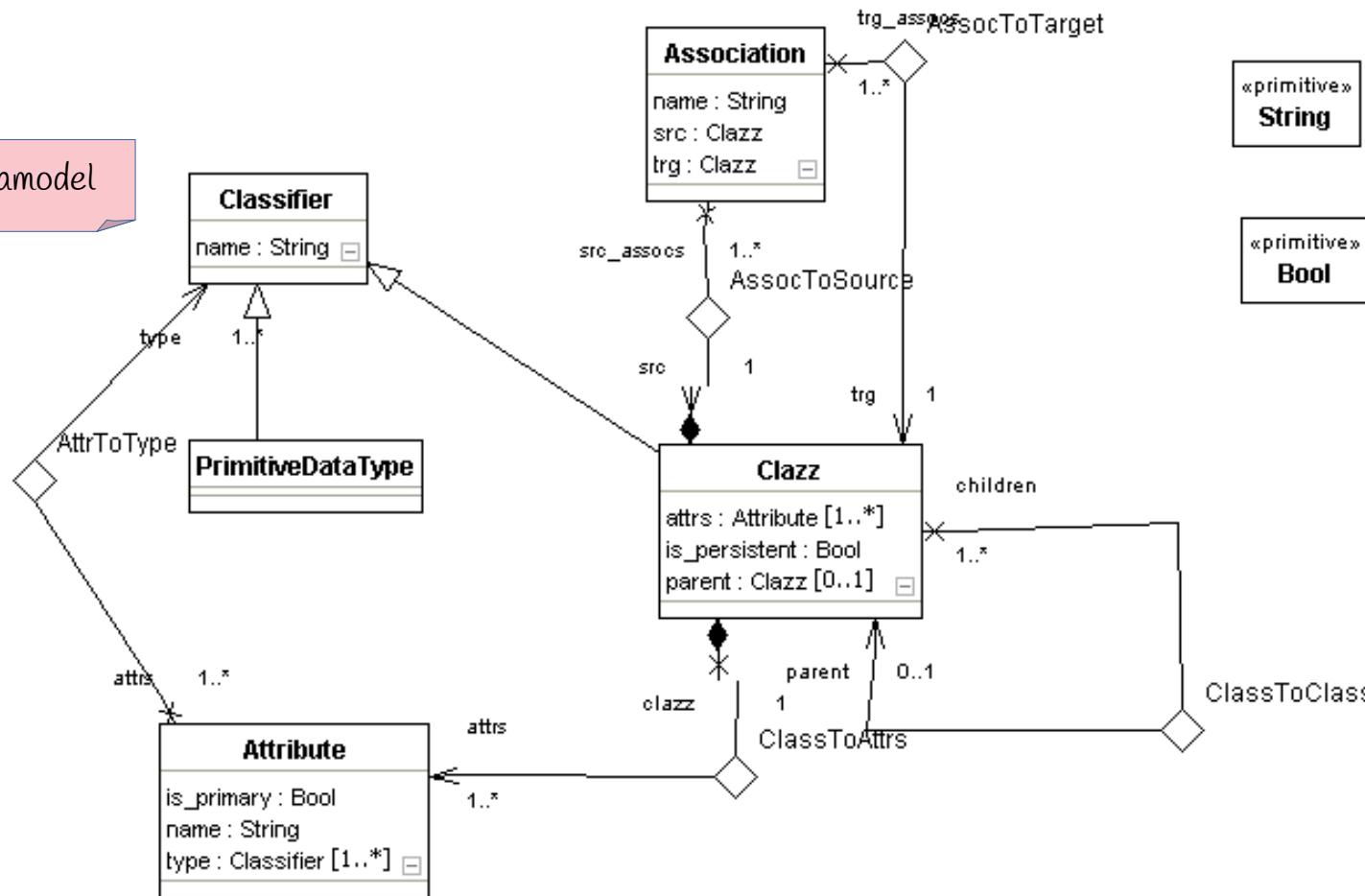
# TGG for Object-Relational Mapping (ORM)

## Left Metamodel: Class Diagram Metamodel (CD)

10

Model-Driven Software Development in Technical Spaces (MOST)

- ▶ Synchronize Class-Diagram-metamodel (CD) with a relational schema (RS): object-relational mapping (ORM)

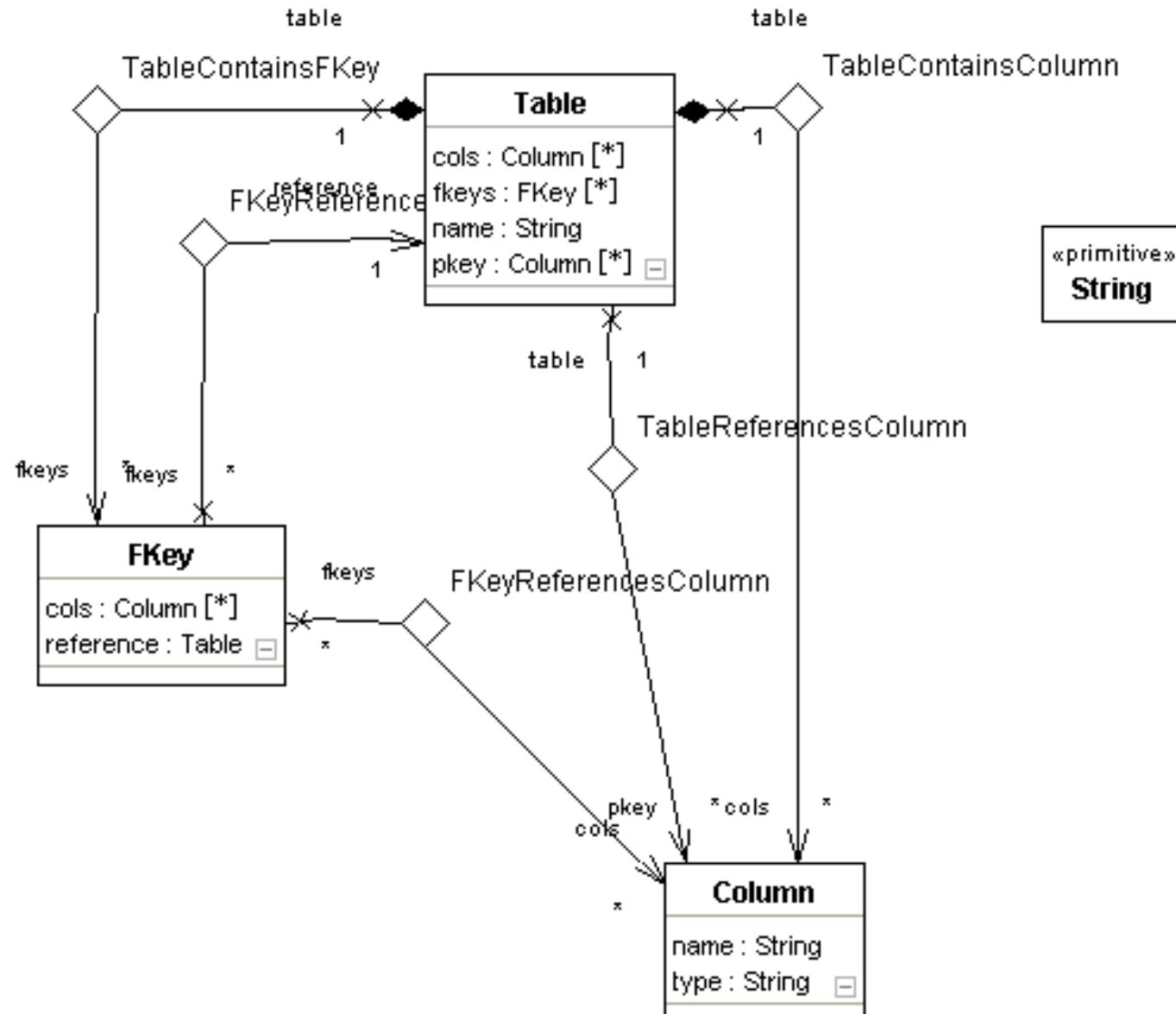


# Right Metamodel: Relational Metamodel (DB, relational schema)

11

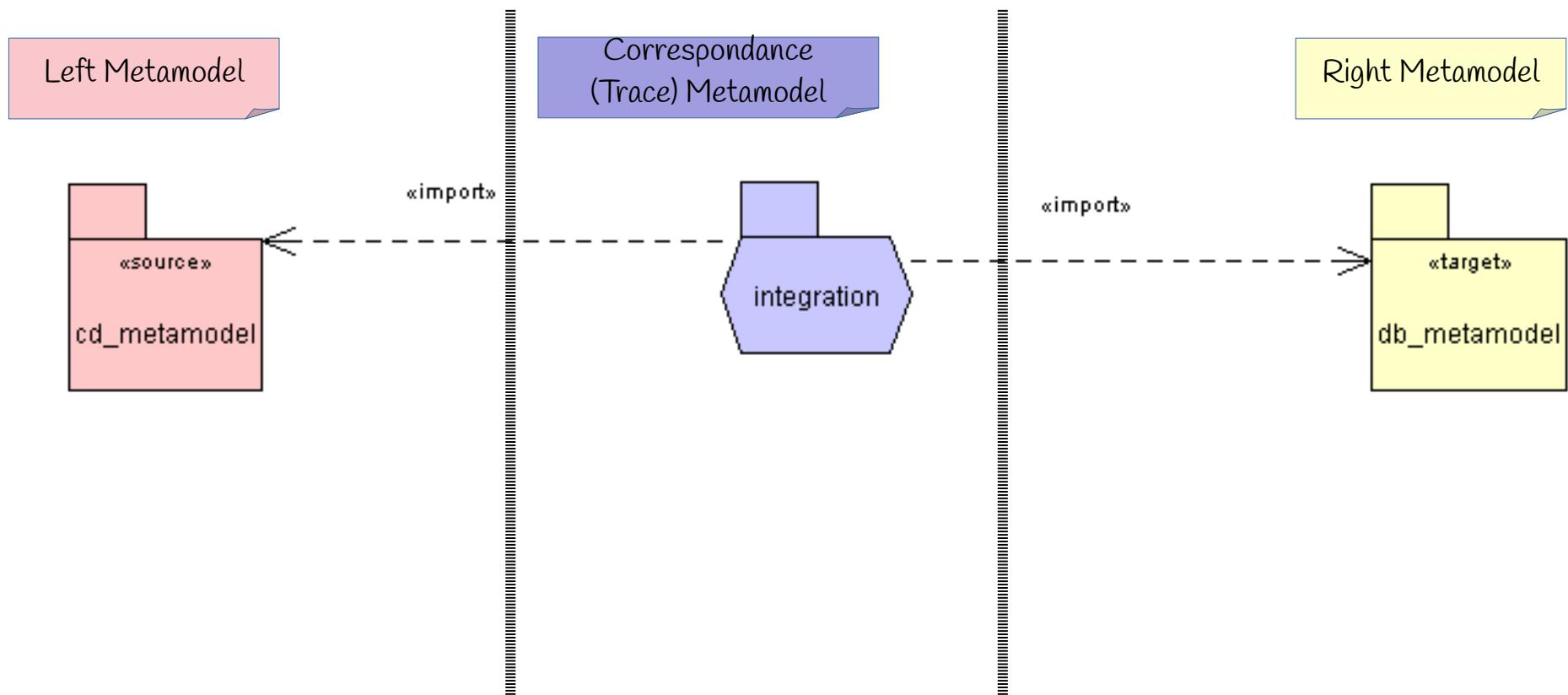
Model-Driven Software Development in Technical Spaces (MOST)

Right Metamodel



# TGG for Object-Relational Mapping (ORM)

- ▶ The metamodel mapping grammar of a TGG has a top rule (start rule) which describes the relationship of the graphs on topmost level

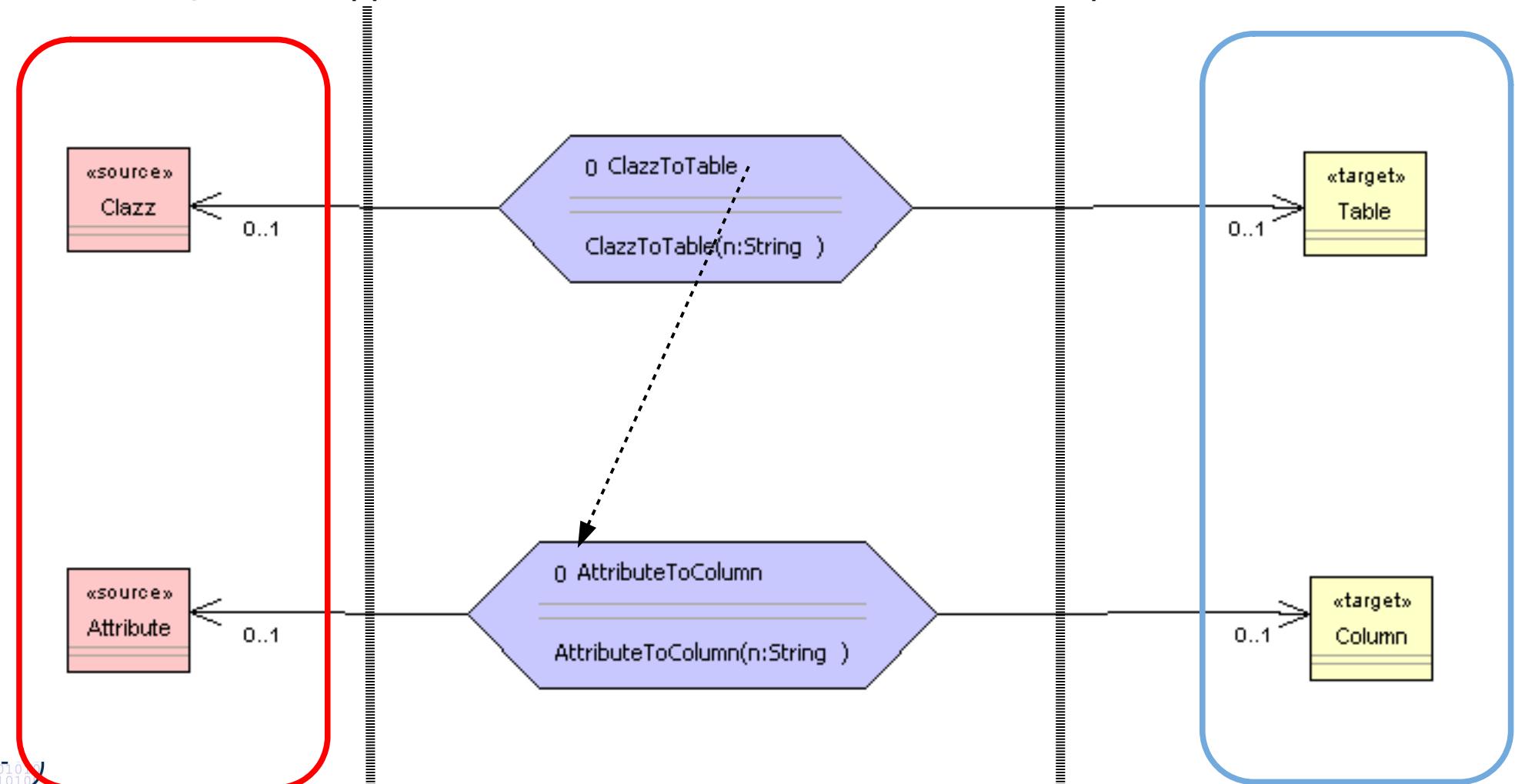


# Example of Consistency-Checking Rule

13

Model-Driven Software Development in Technical Spaces (MOST)

- ▶ From the top-rule ClazzToTable, other TGG rules are associated („called“/“invoked“)
- ▶ In this case, the TGG only checks (black color – TEST)
- ▶ Q: What happens, if both sides are in different Technical Spaces?



# TGG Specify Transformation Bridges Between Roles and Technical Spaces

14

Model-Driven Software Development in Technical Spaces (MOST)

- ▶ TGG can also be used to data-exchange and synchronize Material classes and roles
  - between two material objects
  - between two tools with different repositories
    - even in different technical spaces
- ▶ The only assumption: 1:1 mappings of model elements

TGG are a fine technique to build *transformation bridges for data connection* between tools, even in different technical spaces.



## 54.2. Triple Graph Grammars in MOFLON

- MOFLON in MOF Technical Space
- eMOFLON in EMOF TS

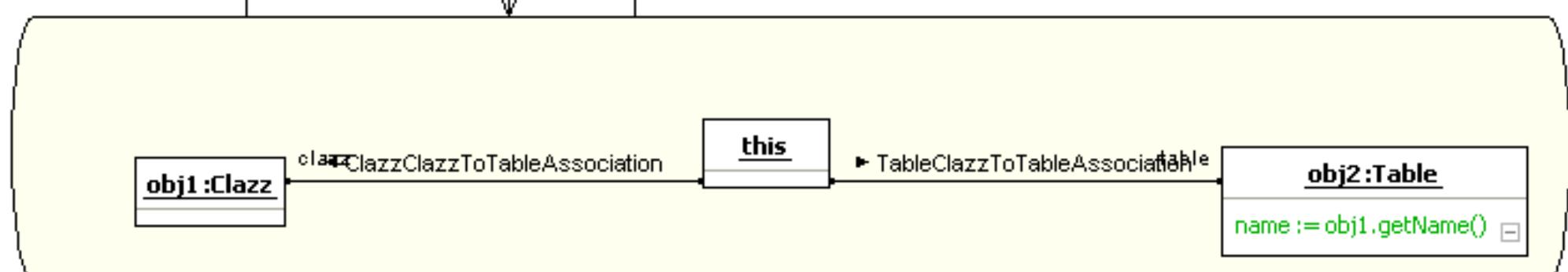
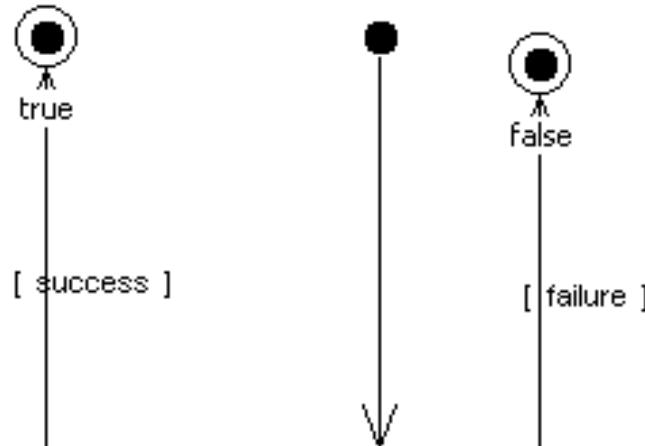
# Triple Graph Grammars – Moflon Example

17

Model-Driven Software Development in Technical Spaces (MOST)

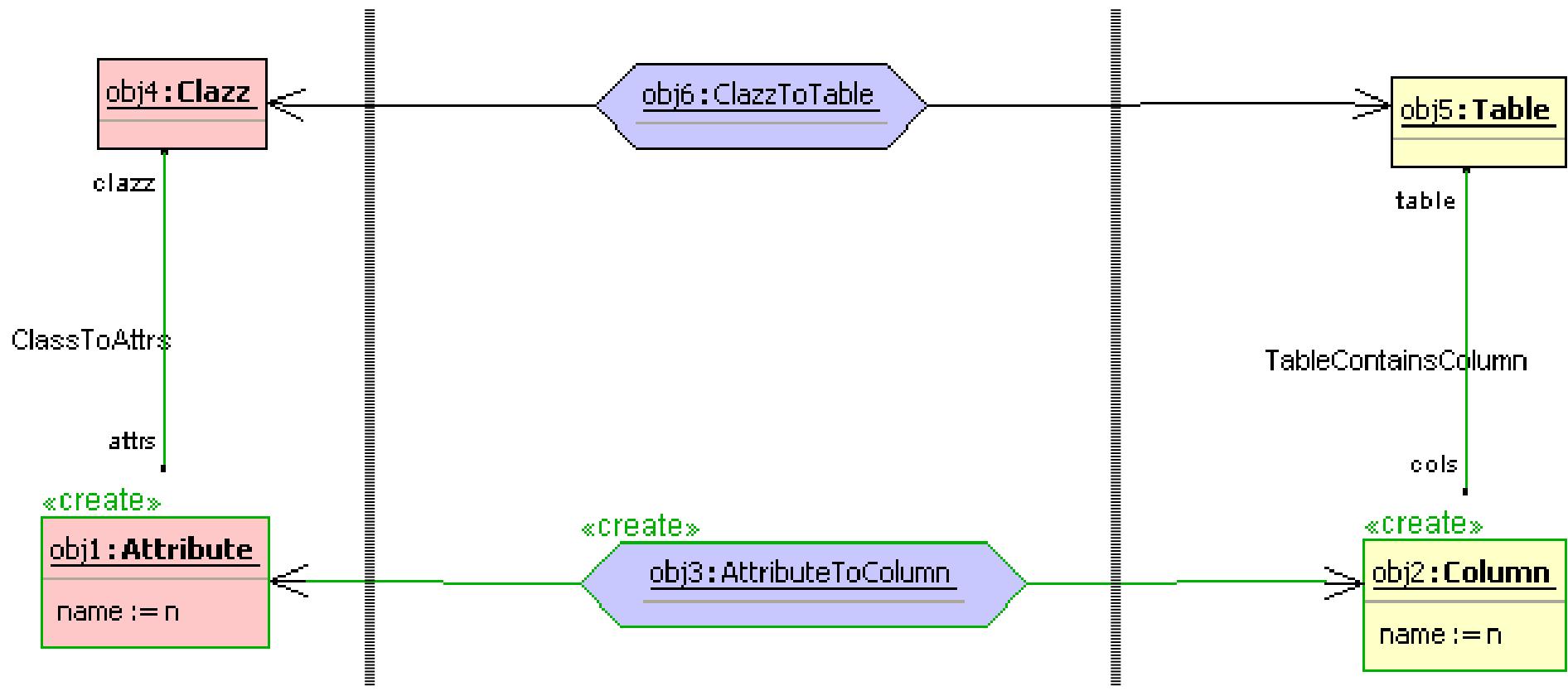
- ▶ Because they are named, TGG rules can be started by Fujaba Storyboards (activity diagrams)
- ▶ The activites can be associated to a transformation class Clazz.ToTable

Clazz.ToTable::performForwardAttributeValuePropagation (): Boolean



# Example of Lower-Level-Creation Rule

- ▶ *Lower-level-creation rule* creates lower level elements and a pairwise correspondance of model elements on both sides
  - Here, objects on the lower level are created anew if needed from the tested upper level

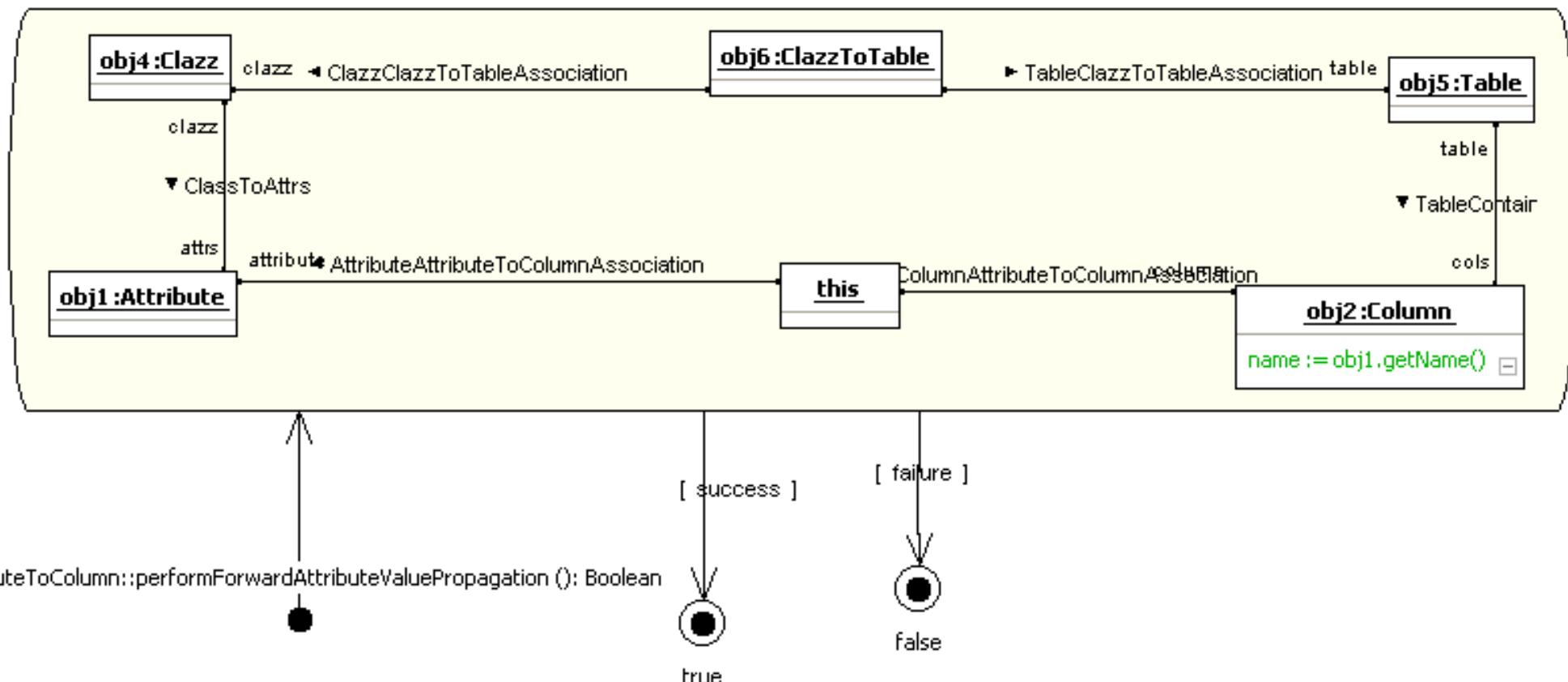


# Triple Graph Grammars – Moflon Example

19

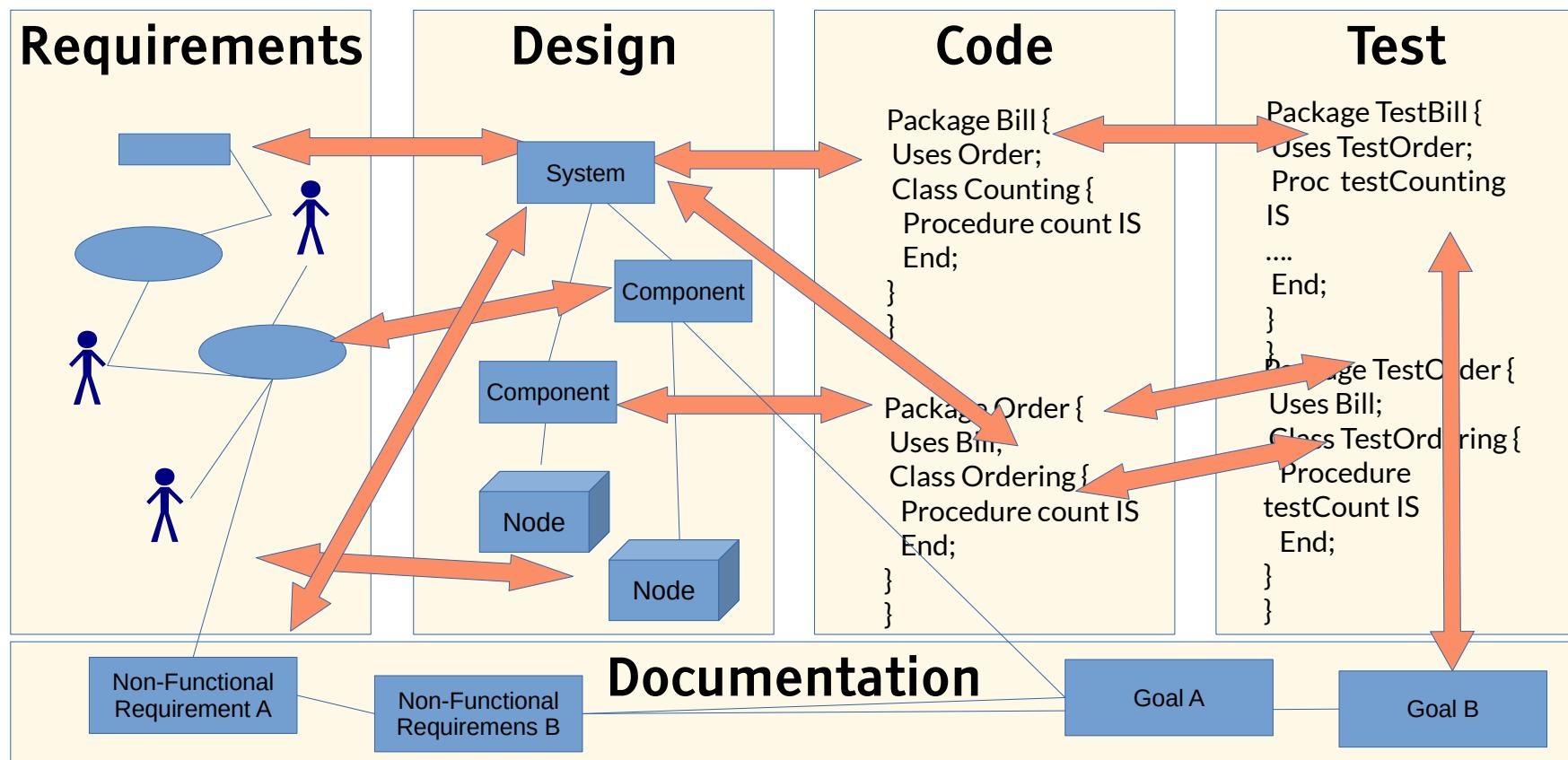
Model-Driven Software Development in Technical Spaces (MOST)

- ▶ Notation in Moflon/Fujaba Storyboards
- ▶ Checking a pattern with adding an attribute to obj2



# Q12: The ReDoDeCT Problem and its Macromodel

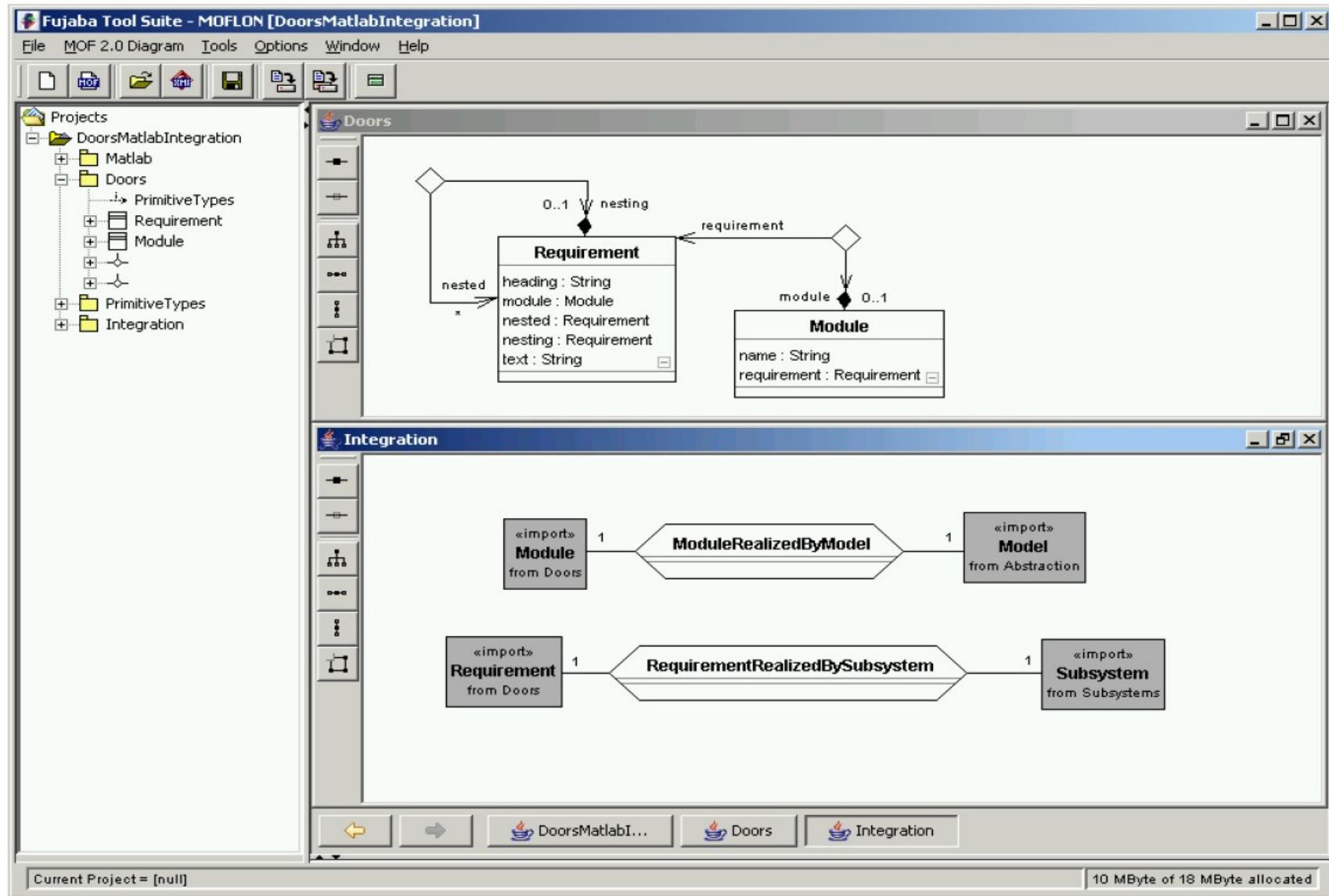
- ▶ The **ReDoDeCT problem** is the problem how requirements, documentation, design, code, and tests are related (→ V model)
- ▶ Mappings between the Requirements model, Documentation files, Design model, Code, Test cases
- ▶ A **ReDoDeCT macromodel** has maintained mappings between all 5 models



# Ex. 2: TGG Coupling of Requirements Specification and Design

21

Model-Driven Software Development in Technical Spaces (MOST)

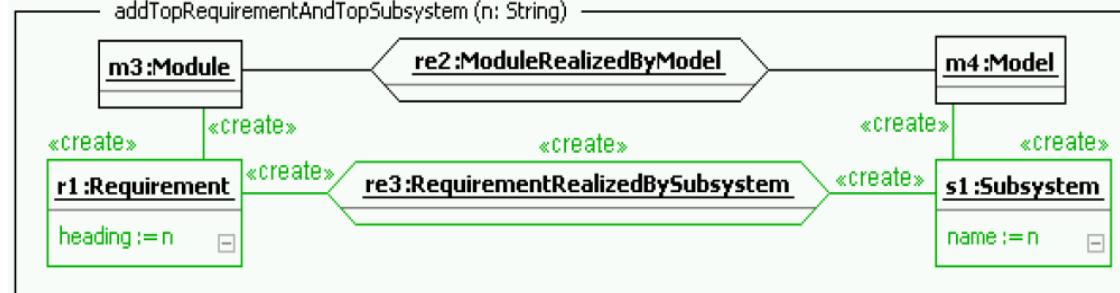


# TGG Coupling Requirements Specification and Design

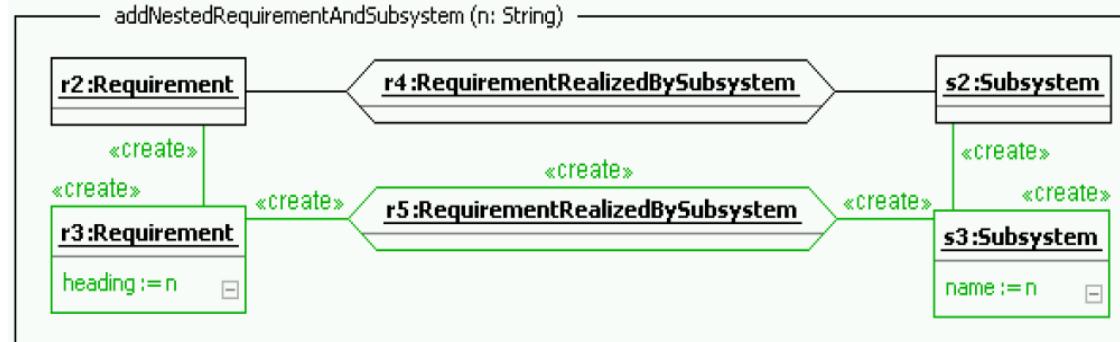
- ▶ This TGG grammar builds up a module-requirements graph
- ▶ Starting from a relation “ModuleRealizedByModel” and “RequirementRealizedBySubsystem”



initial, creational



lower-layer  
creational



lower-layer  
creational

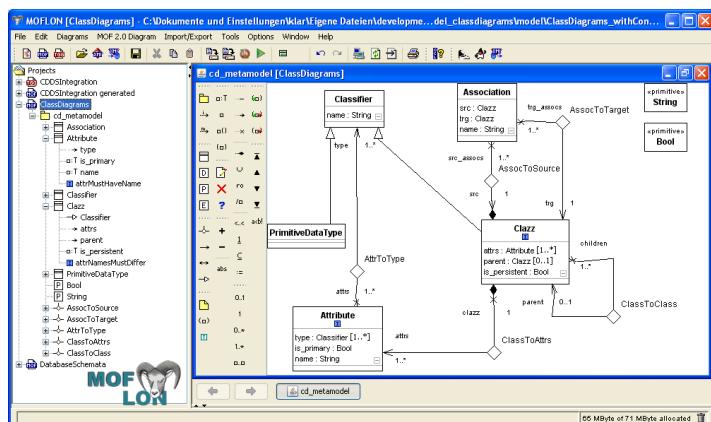
## 54.3. Using Triple Graph Grammars in MOFLON

# Example: Object-Relational Mapping “TiE-CD-DB”: (ClassDiagrams / DatabaseSchema)

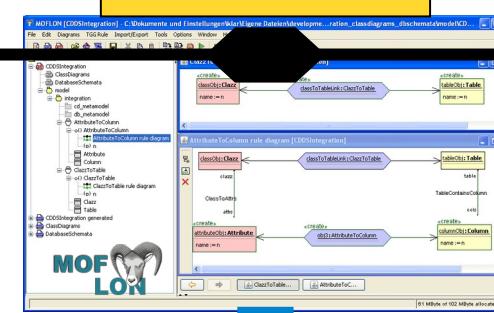
25

Model-Driven Software Development in Technical Spaces (MOST)

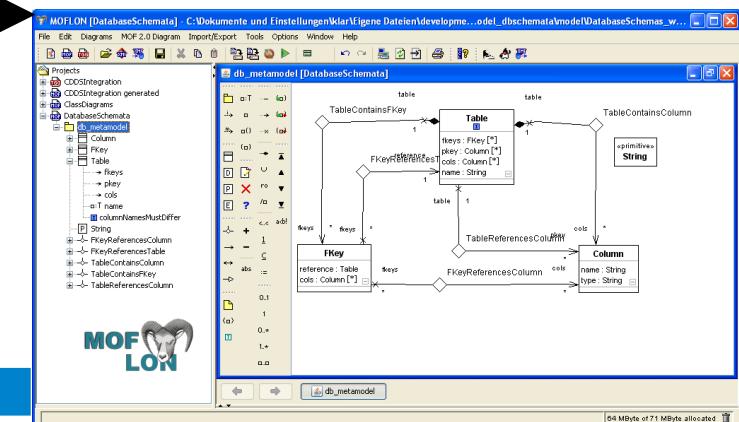
## Class Diagrams Metamodel



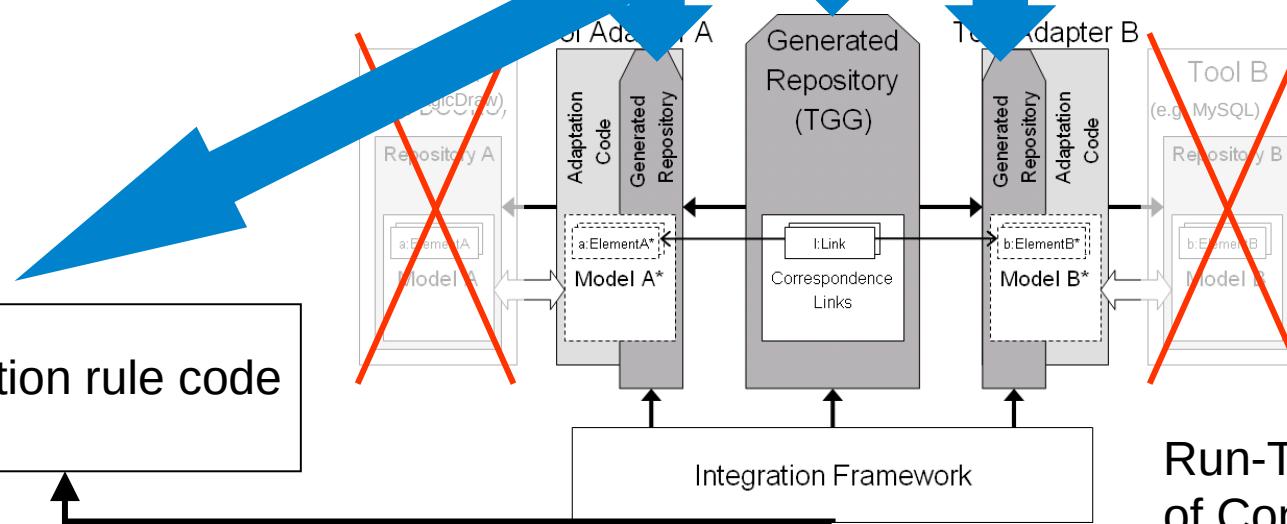
TGGs relate



## Database Schemata Metamodel



MOFLON generates



integration rule code

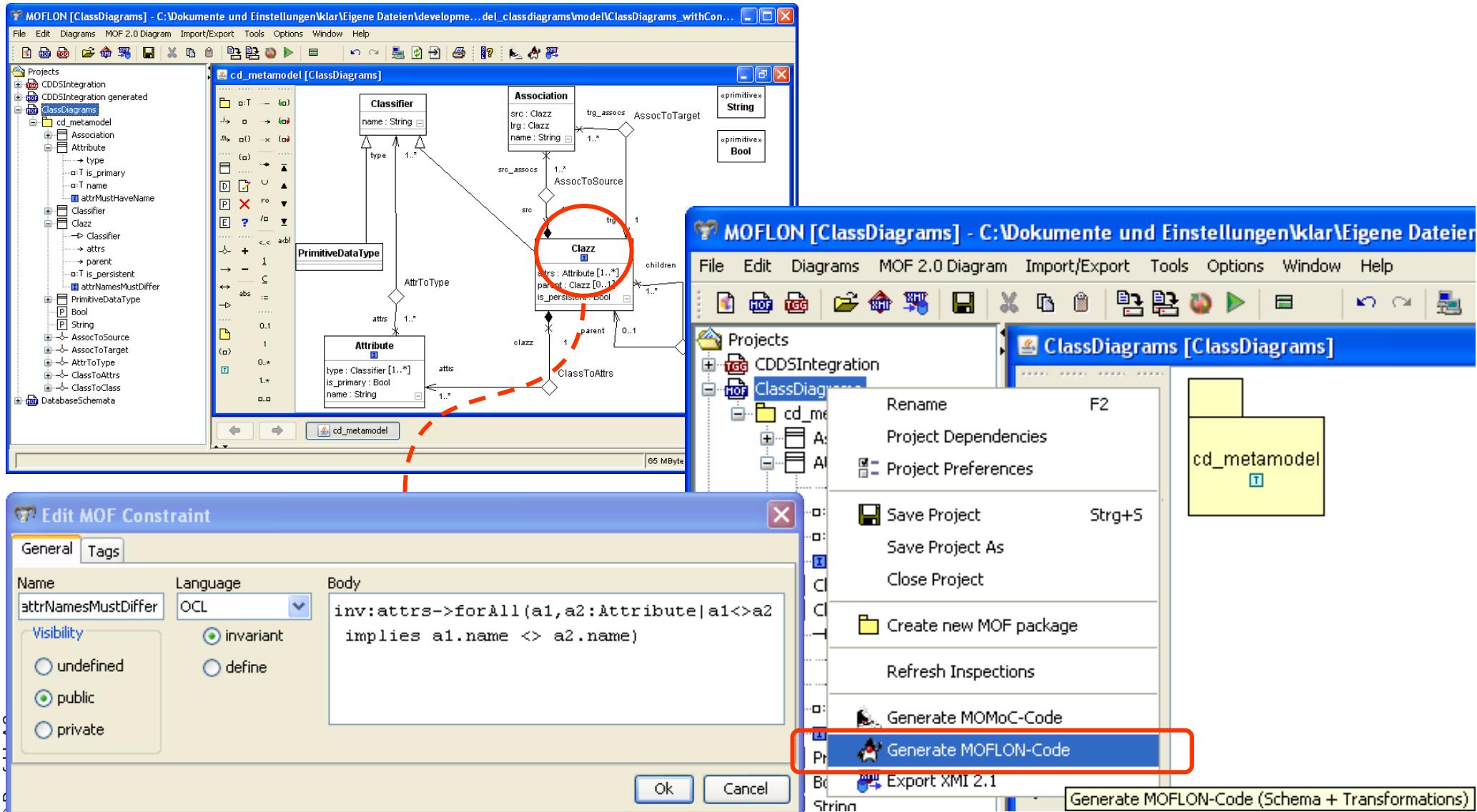
Run-Time Verification  
of Constraints

# TiE-CD-DB – Constraints in Class Diagrams (1)

## Generate Code from MOF model (CD metamodel)

26

Model-Driven Software Development in Technical Spaces (MOST)



# TiE-CD-DB – Constraints in Class Diagrams (2)

## Loading Metamodels and Models

27

Model-Driven Software Development in Technical Spaces (MOST)

The screenshot shows the TiE Integration Framework interface. At the top, there are two orange boxes labeled "load CD metamodel" and "load CD model". Below them is a toolbar with various icons for "Mode", "Icon", "Model" (set to "cd\_model.xmi"), "init", "save", "edit", and "merge". A red box highlights the "Model" dropdown and its selection. To the left is a configuration panel with sections for "Tool Adapter", "Source Domain" (jmi\_adapter\_classdiagrams\_offline.jar), "Target Domain" (jmi\_adapter\_dbschemas\_offline.jar), and "Link Domain" (integration\_classdiagrams\_dbschemas.jar). A "Configuration File" dropdown is set to "CDofflineDSooffline.conf".

A large red box encloses a "Constraint Validation" dialog window. It contains an error icon and a list of validation errors:

- source domain model does not fulfill its constraints:
- constraint named 'attrNamesMustDiffer' is violated in instance: Customer: inv:attrs->forAll(a1,a2:Attribute|a1<>a2 implies a1.name <> a2.name)
- constraint named 'attrMustHaveName' is violated in instance: : inv:name.size()>0
- association 'cd\_metamodel.ClassToAttrs', memberEnd 'attrs': size of links is out of bounds in context 'Order:cd\_metamodel.Clazz': should be [1,unbounded] but is 0: inv: attrs->size()>=1 and attrs->size()<=unbounded

An "OK" button is at the bottom right of the dialog.

Below the dialog, the main workspace shows a "SOURCE" tab with a tree view of classes and attributes. A red box highlights the "Customer" class node. A blue arrow points from this node to a callout box containing the text "model violates constraints:" followed by a bulleted list of violations. Another callout box below says "visualization of classdiagrams model (here: source domain)".

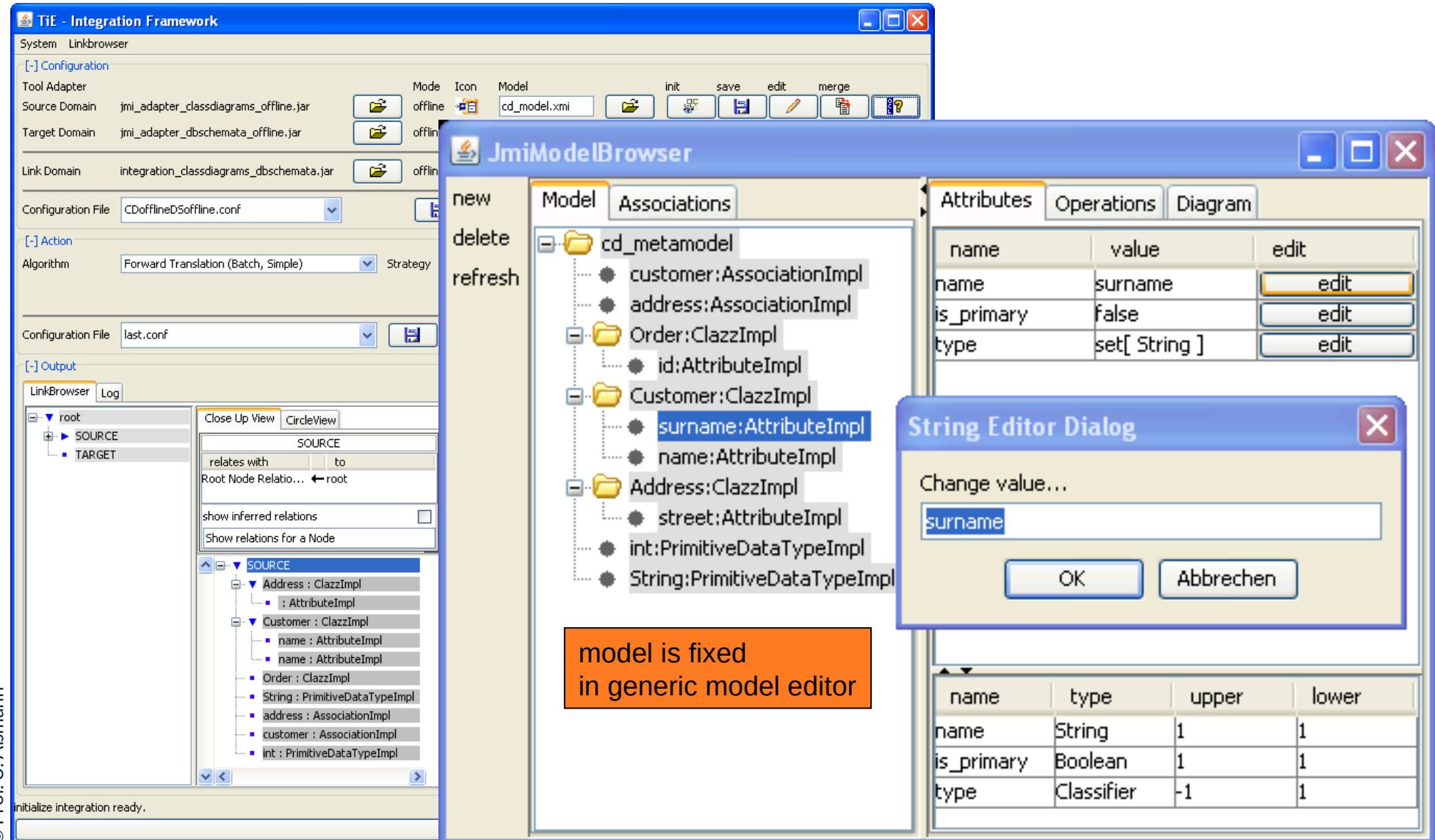
The "TARGET" tab is also visible in the workspace.

# TiE-CD-DB – Constraints in Class Diagrams (3)

## Model Browser

28

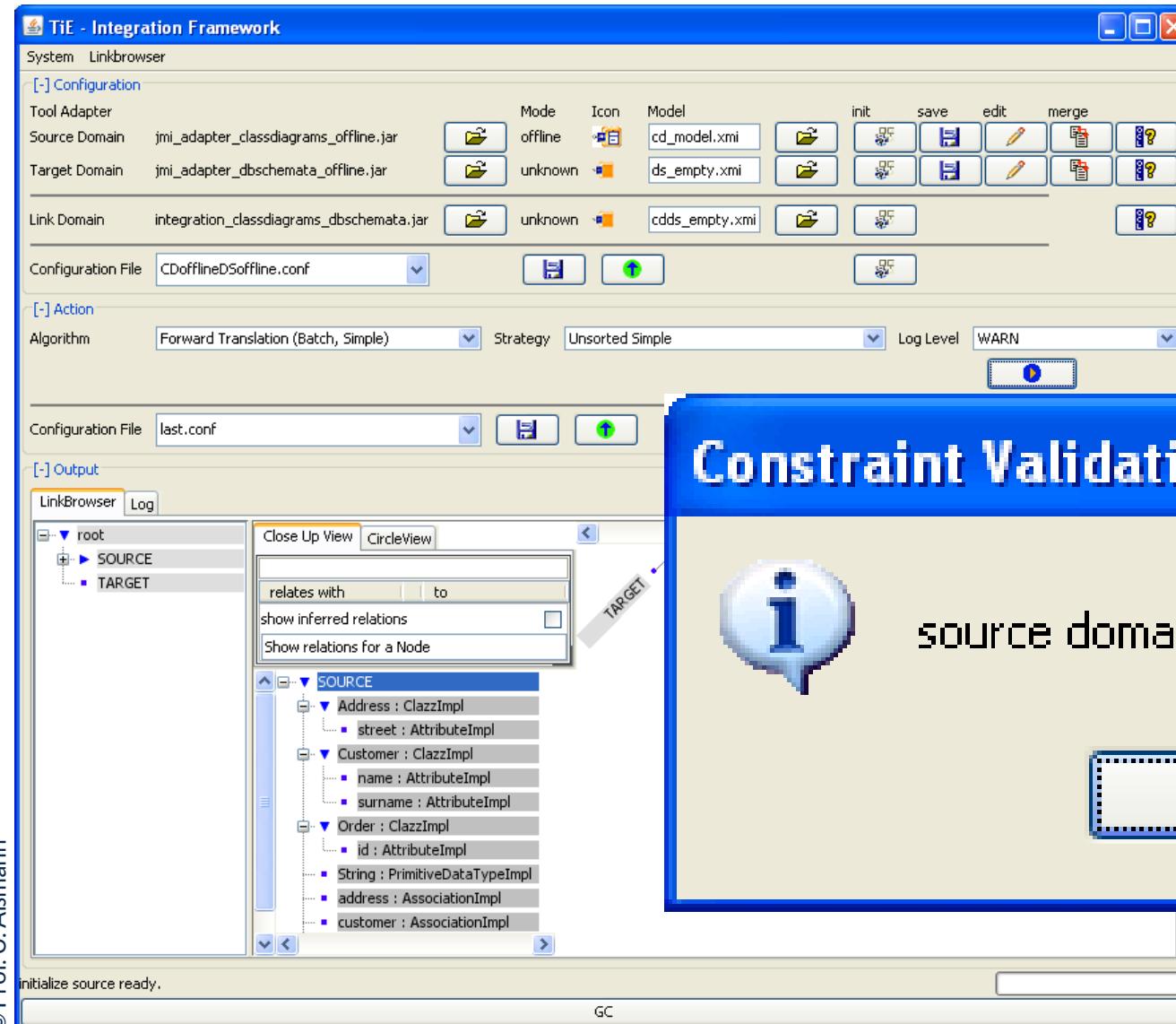
Model-Driven Software Development in Technical Spaces (MOST)



# TiE-CD-DB – Constraints in Class Diagrams (4) Integration Framework

29

Model-Driven Software Development in Technical Spaces (MOST)



translation process  
may start now...



## Constraint Validation

source domain model fulfills its constraints

Ok

# TiE-CD-DB – Constraints in Class Diagrams (5)

## Forward Translation to DB representation

30

Model-Driven Software Development in Technical Spaces (MOST)

**TiE - Integration Framework**

System Linkbrowser

[ - ] Configuration

Tool Adapter	Mode	Icon	Model
Source Domain	jmi_adapter_classdiagrams_offline.jar	offline	cd_model.xmi
Target Domain	jmi_adapter_dbschemata_offline.jar	unknown	ds_empty.xmi

Link Domain integration\_classdiagrams\_dbschemata.jar Mode unknown Model cdds\_empty.xmi

Configuration File CDofflineDSoffline.conf

[ - ] Action

Algorithm Forward Translation (Batch, Simple) Strategy Unsorted Simple

Configuration File last.conf

[ - ] Output

LinkBrowser Log

Close Up View CircleView

relates with | to  
show inferred relations  
Show relations for a Node

SOURCE

- Address : ClazzImpl
  - street : AttributeImpl
- Customer : ClazzImpl
  - name : AttributeImpl
  - surname : AttributeImpl
- Order : ClazzImpl
  - id : AttributeImpl
  - String : PrimitiveDataTypeImpl
  - address : AssociationImpl
  - customer : AssociationImpl

TARGET

initialize source ready.

**TiE - Integration Framework**

System Linkbrowser

[ - ] Configuration

Tool Adapter	Mode	Icon	Model	init	save	edit	merge
Source Domain	jmi_adapter_classdiagrams_offline.jar	offline	cd_model.xmi	cd_model.xmi	cd_model.xmi	cd_model.xmi	cd_model.xmi
Target Domain	jmi_adapter_dbschemata_offline.jar	offline	2414.xmi	2414.xmi	2414.xmi	2414.xmi	2414.xmi

Link Domain integration\_classdiagrams\_dbschemata.jar Mode offline Model 2414.xmi init 2414.xmi save 2414.xmi edit 2414.xmi merge 2414.xmi

Configuration File CDofflineDSoffline.conf

[ - ] Action

Algorithm Forward Translation (Batch, Simple) Strategy Unsorted Simple Log Level WARN

Configuration File last.conf

[ - ] Output

LinkBrowser Log

Close Up View CircleView

relates with | to  
show inferred relations  
Show relations for a Node

SOURCE

- Address : ClazzImpl
  - street : AttributeImpl
- Customer : ClazzImpl
  - name : AttributeImpl
  - surname : AttributeImpl
- Order : ClazzImpl
  - id : AttributeImpl
  - String : PrimitiveDataTypeImpl
  - address : AssociationImpl
  - customer : AssociationImpl
  - int : PrimitiveDataTypeImpl

TARGET

perform operation ready.

# Other Software Engineering Applications of Model Synchronization

31

Model-Driven Software Development in Technical Spaces (MOST)

- ▶ Mapping a PIM to a PSM in Model-Driven Architecture
- ▶ Graph Structurings (see course ST-II)
- ▶ Refactorings (see Course DPF)
- ▶ Semantic refinements
- ▶ Round-Trip Engineering (RTE)



## 54.4 The Tornado Method: Specification of TGG Rules using Textual Concrete Syntax

- Slides about Tornado courtesy to Mirko Seifert and Christian Werner
- Presented at Fujaba Days 2009, Eindhoven, The Netherlands, 16.11.2009
- Christian Werner. Konzeption und Implementierung eines Debuggers für textuelle Triple Graph Grammar Regeln. Belegarbeit, Lehrstuhl Softwaretechnologie, 2010, TU Dresden
- available on request

# Motivation for Textual Syntax of TGG

- ▶ TGGs are fine for model synchronization, but writing TGG rules is not always easy

Why?

- ▶ Rule specification typically on the level of abstract syntax
  - Complex abstract syntax (AS) graphs vs. simple concrete syntax (CS) fragments
  - Rule designers not always familiar with AS
- ▶ Rule specification is based on graphical syntax
  - But: There is lots of textual (modelling) languages
  - Gap: Graphical rules vs. textual models
  - Large graphical rules are hard to read

Can we do better?

# Idea for Rule Specification in EMFText

- ▶ employ EMFText; use concrete textual syntax of involved languages
- ▶ derive rules from pairs of models
- ▶ do it in a generic way (automatic application to any language)

The screenshot shows two code editors side-by-side. The left editor is titled 'MyForm.forms' and contains the following text:

```
1 FORM "A simple example form"
2 GROUP "General questions"
3   ITEM "Name" : FREETEXT
4   ITEM "Age" : NUMBER
5   ITEM "Gender" : CHOICE ( "male", "female" )
6
```

The right editor is titled 'MyForm.java' and contains the following Java code:

```
public class MyForm {
    public final static String name =
        "A simple example form";
    public void group_GeneralQuestions() {
    }
    public String question_Name() {
        return null;
    }
    //...
}
```

Orange arrows highlight the correspondence between the 'ITEM' declarations in the forms file and the 'group\_GeneralQuestions()' method in the Java code. Another arrow points from the 'CHOICE' declaration to the method body.

Instead of arrows use textual annotations:

The screenshot shows two code editors side-by-side. The left editor is titled 'track2arc.pr' and contains the following text:

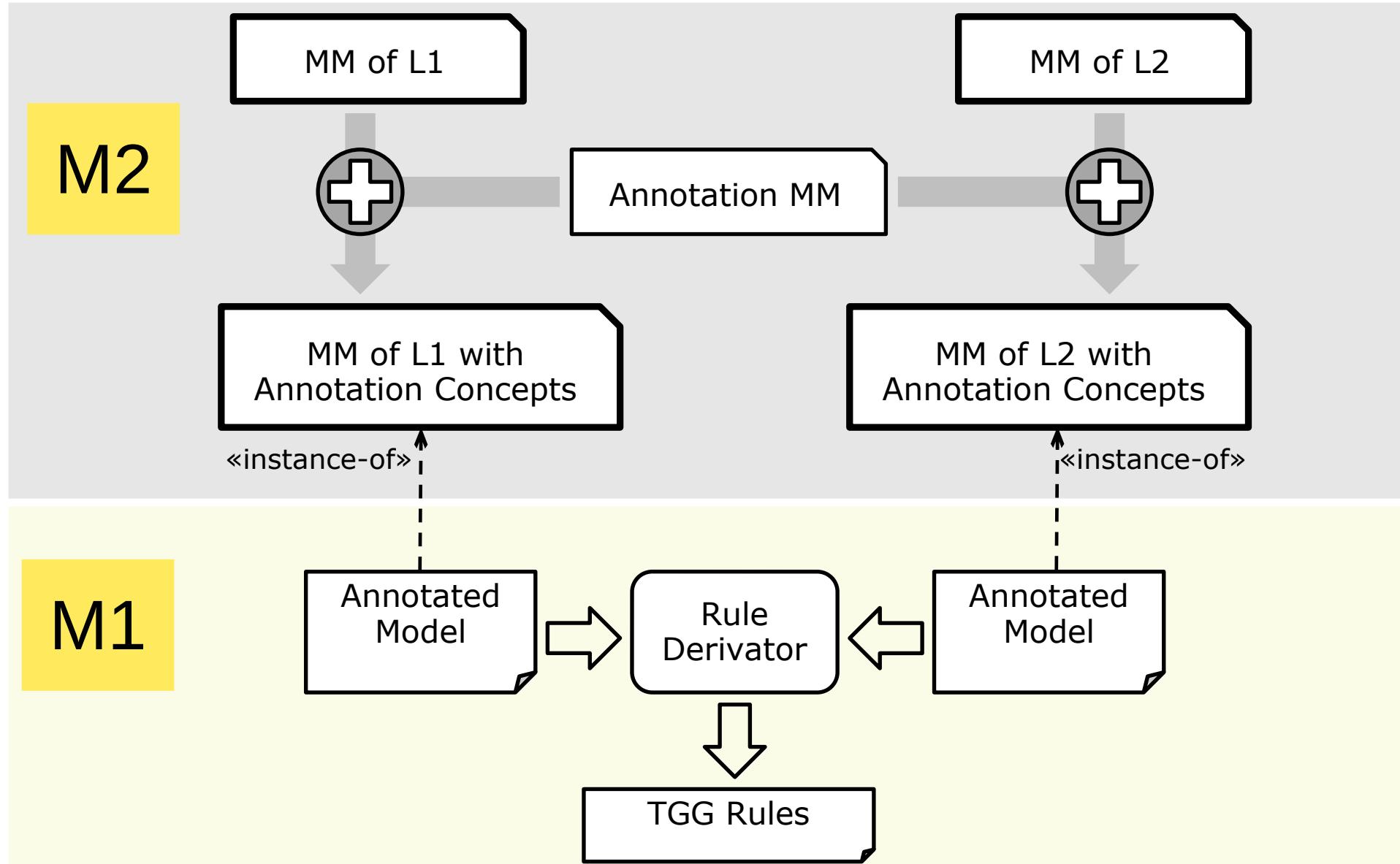
```
@Pr2PN project {
    @Cp2PN++ track {
        @IP2P1++ in:
        @OP2Tr++ out:
    }
}
```

The right editor is titled 'track2arc.pn' and contains the following text:

```
@Pr2PN net {
    @IP2P1++ place p {}
    @OP2Tr++ transition tr
    @Cp2PN++ arc p -> tr
}
```

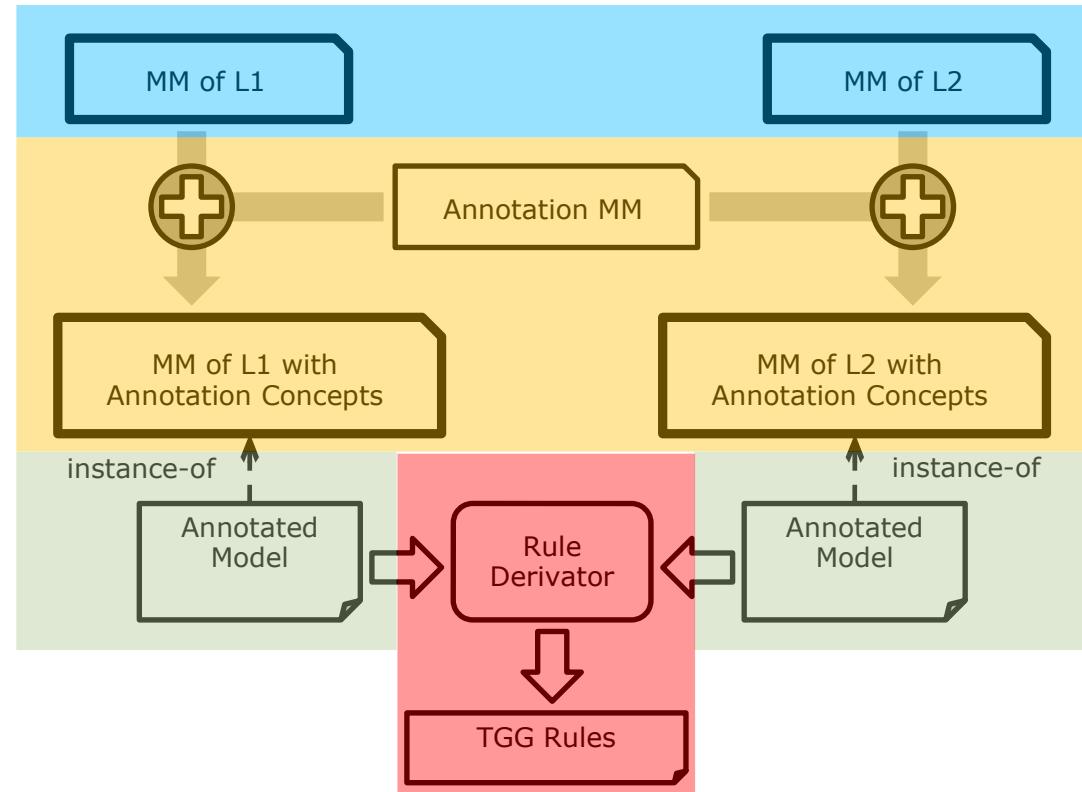
Orange annotations (tags) are placed on specific lines to indicate correspondences. In 'track2arc.pr', '@Pr2PN project' has an annotation pointing to '@Pr2PN net'. '@Cp2PN++ track' has annotations pointing to '@IP2P1++ place p {}' and '@OP2Tr++ transition tr'. '@IP2P1++ in:' and '@OP2Tr++ out:' have annotations pointing to '@Cp2PN++ arc p -> tr'.

# Tornado Generation Process of TGG Rules



# Generation Steps of Tornado Method

1. Make meta models extensible
2. Extend meta models  
(with annotation concepts)
3. Extend concrete syntax
4. Derive rules from  
model pairs



# Step 1 – Getting (more) Extensible Metamodels

Extensibility provided by Ecore (EMOF):

- ▶ Add new metaclasses (i.e., new complex types)
- ▶ Reference existing metaclasses (Reuse)
- ▶ Subclass existing metaclasses

What is missing in EMOF:

- ▶ Distinction between subtyping and inheritance
- ▶ Extensibility for primitive types
- ▶ Example:
  - Can't add things that do not have a property year
  - Can't add subtypes for EString



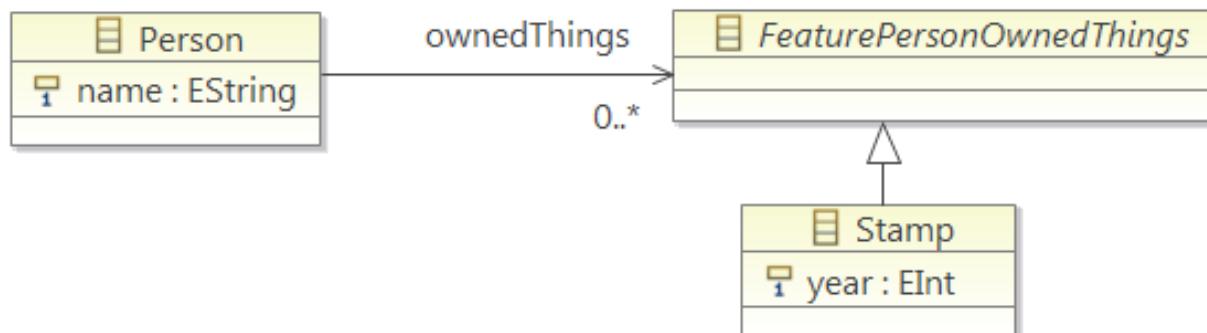
# Step 1a – Getting Extensible Metamodels

Separate subtyping and inheritance (algorithm from [HJSWB]):

For each feature's type that has at least one superclass or defines at least one feature:

- ▶ Introduce a new abstract metaclass `Feature<ClassName><FeatureName>`
- ▶ Change the type of the feature to the new metaclass
- ▶ Make the former type of the feature a subclass of the new metaclass

Example:



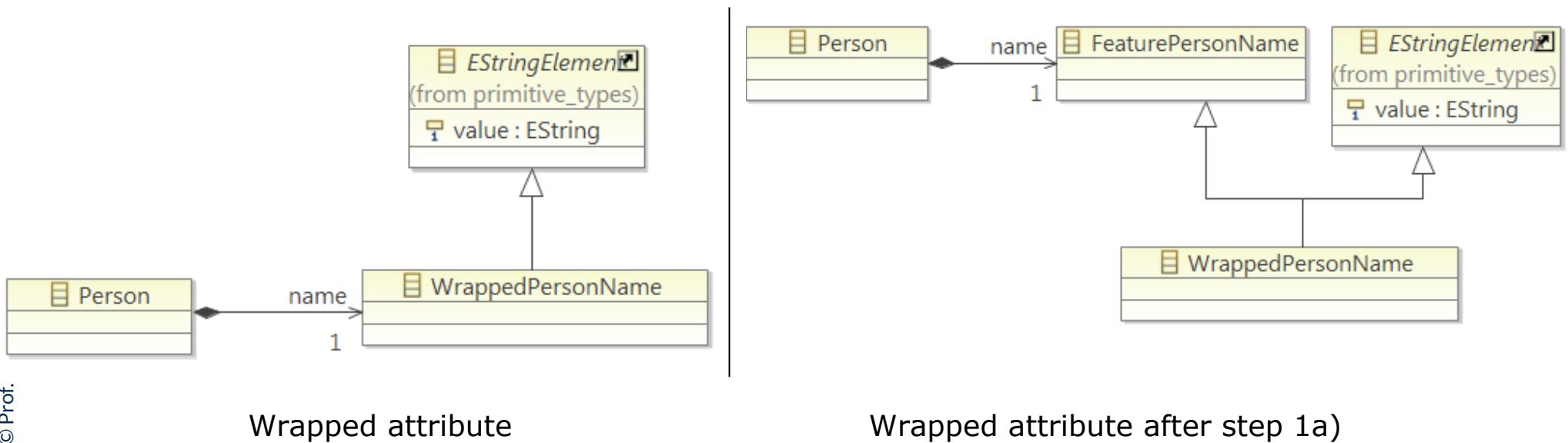
# Step 1b - Getting Extensible Metamodels

Wrap primitive types (also from [HJSWB]):

For each attribute that has a primitive type:

- ▶ Create a new subclass of the primitive type wrapper class
- ▶ Replace attribute with reference to new subclass

Example:



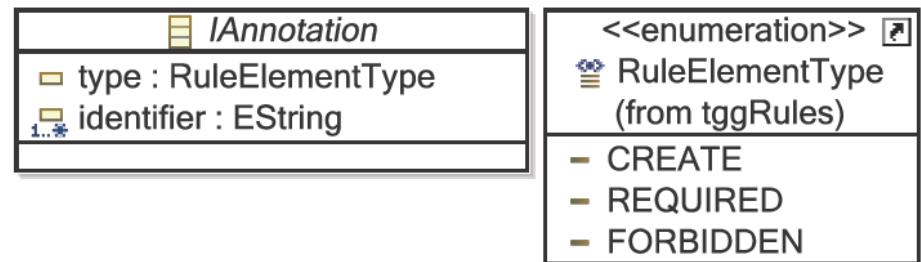
# Step 2 – Extending Metamodels with Annotation Concepts

40

Model-Driven Software Development in Technical Spaces (MOST)

Goal:

- ▶ Every model element can be annotated



HowTo:

- ▶ For each meta class X create new metaclass AnnotableX with
  - Reference to class Annotation  
(to store the annotation)
  - Reference to the original class X  
(to store the data of X)
  - Make AnnotableX a subclass of each feature class that X inherits from  
(to make AnnotableX usable wherever X can be used)

# Step 3 – Extending the Concrete Syntax Specification

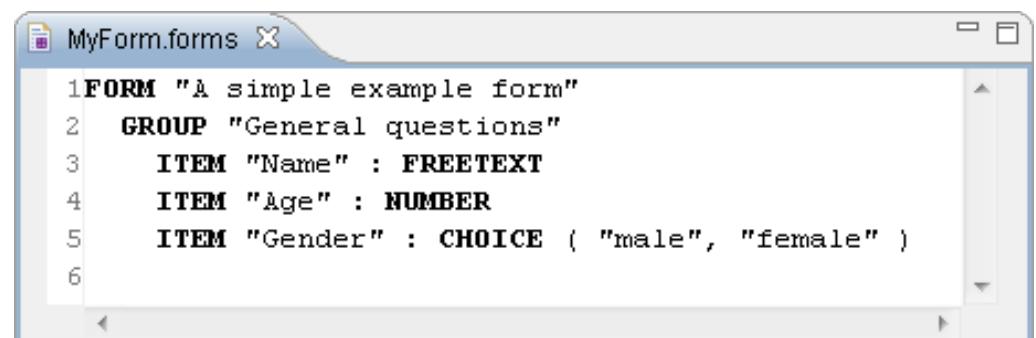
- ▶ Steps 1 and 2 added annotations concepts on the level of abstract syntax, but concrete one is need to write them down
- ▶ Textual syntax tools (e.g., EMFText, xText and TCS) use one rule per metaclass
  - Retain the existing syntax rules
  - Add syntax rules for new annotation classes in meta model

```
Form      ::= "FORM" name[' ', ''] groups*;  
AnnotableForm ::= (identifier[IDENT])+ (type[TYPE])? form;
```

↓      ↙      ↓

**@1 ! FORM "A simple example form"**

IDENT is some identifier starting  
with an @  
TYPE is !, ++ or --



The screenshot shows a text editor window titled "MyForm.forms" containing the following text:

```
1 FORM "A simple example form"  
2 GROUP "General questions"  
3 ITEM "Name" : FREETEXT  
4 ITEM "Age" : NUMBER  
5 ITEM "Gender" : CHOICE ( "male", "female" )  
6
```

# Step 3 – Extended Concrete Syntax

42

Model-Driven Software Development in Technical Spaces (MOST)

Rail tracks to Petrinet example

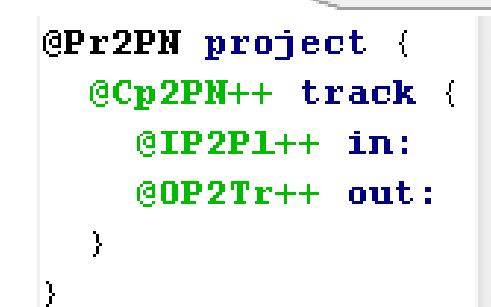
```
track2arc.pr
@Pr2PN project {
    @Cp2PN++ track {
        @IP2P1++ in:
        @OP2Tr++ out:
    }
}
```

```
track2arc.pn
@Pr2PN net {
    @IP2P1++ place p {}
    @OP2Tr++ transition tr
    @Cp2PN++ arc p -> tr
}
```

(bold black and green elements are new – TGG rule annotations)

# Step 4 – Deriving Rules from Model Pairs

- ▶ For each annotated model element, create a rule node
  - ▶ For each set of model elements that are annotated with the same identifier,
    - create a correspondence node and create links connecting the new correspondence node with the respective rule nodes
  - ▶ Mark all rule nodes as “create” where the corresponding model element is annotated as create element
  - ▶ For each pair of model elements that is connected by exactly one reference
    - create a link between the respective rule nodes
  - ▶ For each pair of model elements that is connected by multiple references
    - use the references specified in the annotation
    - and create links between the respective rule nodes



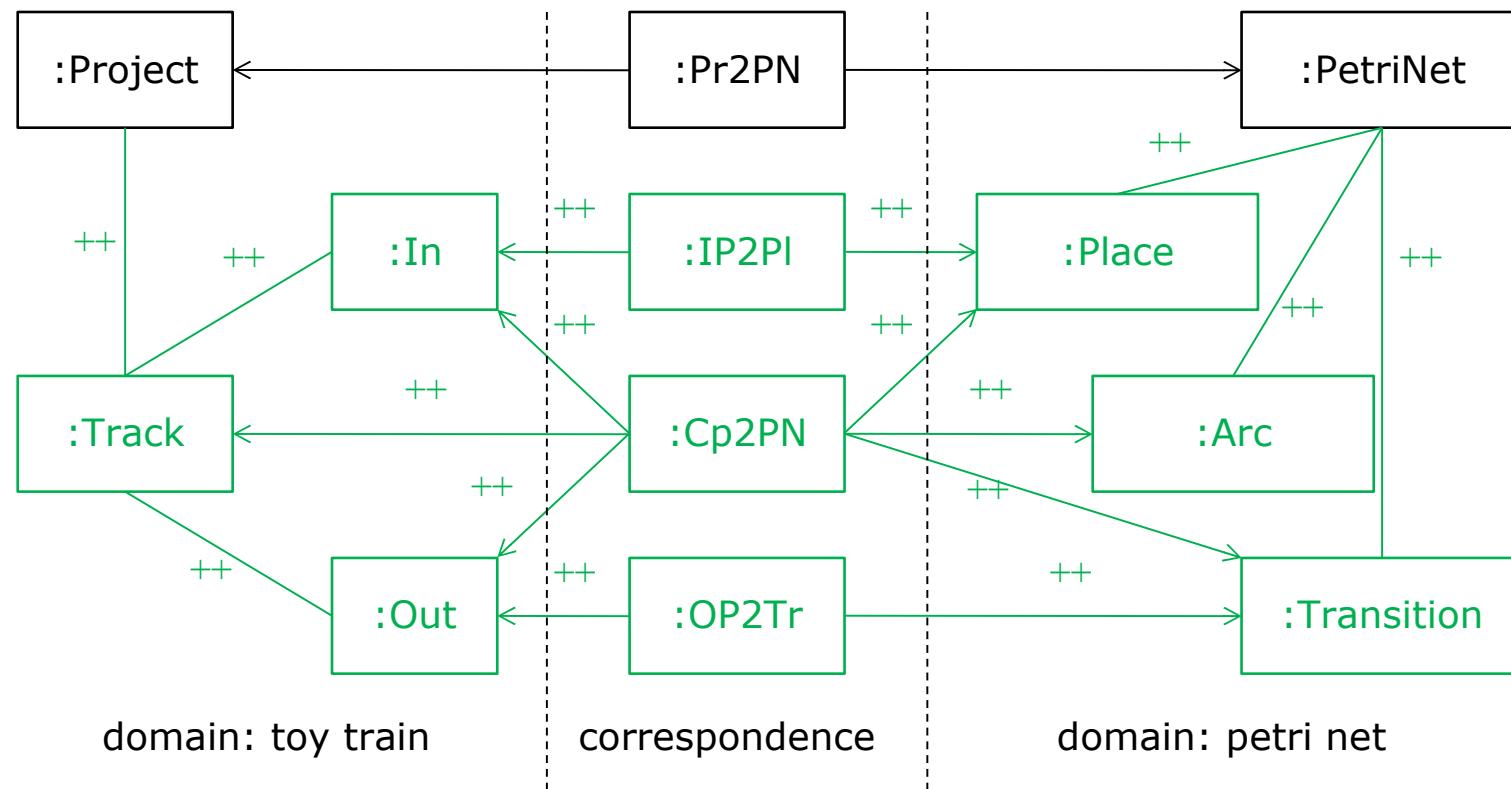
```
@Pr2PN project {
    @P2PN++ track (
        @IP2P1++ in:
        @OP2Tr++ out:
    )
}
```

```
track2arc.pn
```

```
@Pr2PN net {
    @IP2P1++ place p ()
    @OP2Tr++ transition tr
    @Cp2PN++ arc p -> tr
}
```

# Step 4 – Deriving Rules from Model Pairs

Rail tracks to Petrinet example



# Restrictions of Tornado

## Constraints

- ▶ Can be derived (e.g., equality if attribute values match), but:
  - What about boolean attributes?
  - What about more complex constraints (`a.name == b.id`)?

## Negative Application Conditions

- ▶ May need additional annotations

Concrete Syntax (CS) restricts rules that can be specified

- ▶ If AS is less restrictive than CS (e.g., metaclasses with empty CS)

# Conclusion of (Experimental) Tornado Method

Textual (modelling) languages can be automatically extended with:

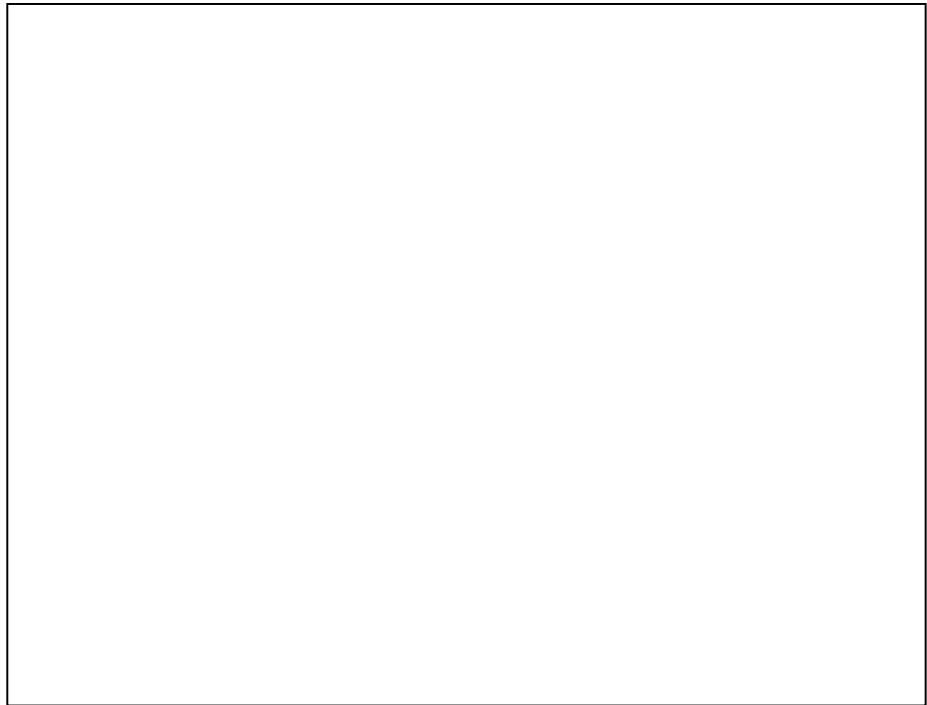
- annotation support (This whole stuff is for free!)
- other features (More stuff is for free as well! See e.g. [1])
- ▶ Rule specification using concrete syntax seems intuitive
- ▶ Combines benefits of specification by example (CS) and classic rule specification (precision)
- ▶ Debugging based on CS is enabled
- ▶ More annotations may be needed, but can easily be added
- ▶ Metamodelling languages should support extensibility to its full extent



Looking for a student to combine  
Tornado with GrGen!

# The End: What Have We Learned

- ▶ Graph rewrite systems are tools to transform graph-based models and graph-based program representations
- ▶ MOFLON supports OCL queries and constraints
- ▶ TGG enable to bidirectionally map models and synchronize them
- ▶ Why can a TGG also be called a *metamodel mapping grammar*?
- ▶ Correspondances in models can be expressed by annotations



This slide set needs much more care and examples.  
NOT, FORALL, etc.

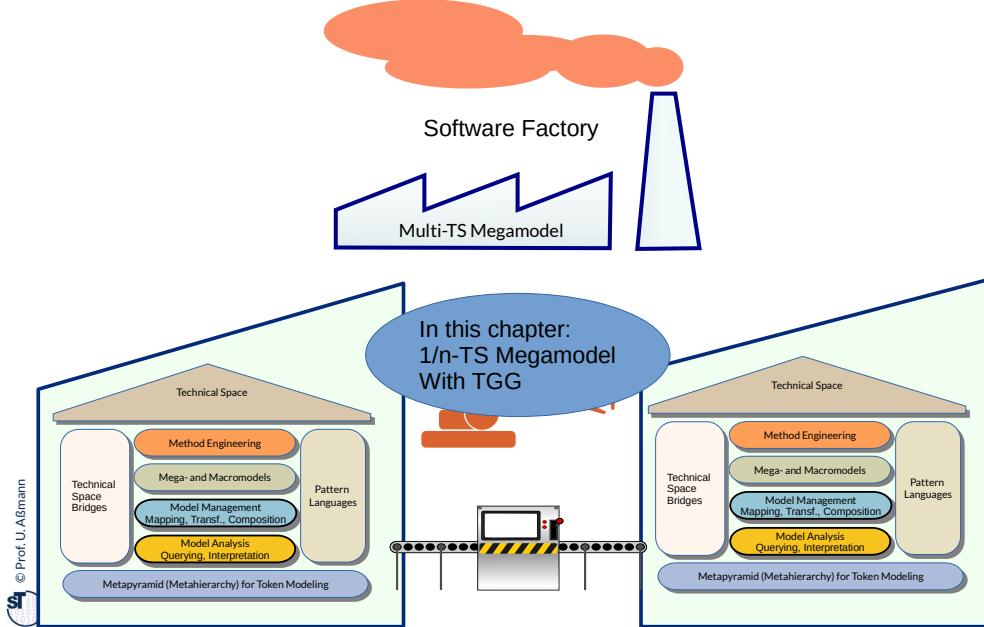
## Literature

- ▶ [ES89] Gregor Engels, Wilhelm Schäfer. Programming Environments, Concepts and Realization (in German), 1989, Teubner-Verlag Stuttgart
- ▶ Anthony Anjorin, Erhan Leblebici, and Andy Schürr. 20 years of triple graph grammars: A roadmap for future research. ECEASST, 73, 2015.
- ▶ F. Klar, A. Königs, A. Schürr: "Model Transformation in the Large", Proceedings of the the 6th joint meeting of the European software engineering conference and the ACM SIGSOFT symposium on the foundations of software engineering, New York: ACM Press, 2007; 285-294. <http://www.idt.mdh.se/esec-fse-2007/>
- ▶ [www.fujaba.de](http://www.fujaba.de) [www.moflon.org](http://www.moflon.org), <https://emoflon.org/>
  - <https://paper.dropbox.com/doc/Meta-Modelling-with-eMoflonCore--ArVO3r~~geAdwkL9vVBUTzKZAg-zyOqELGZ0X9jL85TAs7pf>
- ▶ T. Fischer, J. Niere, L. Torunski, and A. Zündorf, 'Story Diagrams: A new Graph Rewrite Language based on the Unified Modeling Language', in Proc. of the 6th International Workshop on Theory and Application of Graph Transformation (TAGT), Paderborn, Germany (G. Engels and G. Rozenberg, eds.), LNCS 1764, pp. 296--309, Springer Verlag, November 1998.  
<http://www.upb.de/cs/ag-schaefer/Veroeffentlichungen/Quellen/Papers/1998/TAGT1998.pdf>

## Literature

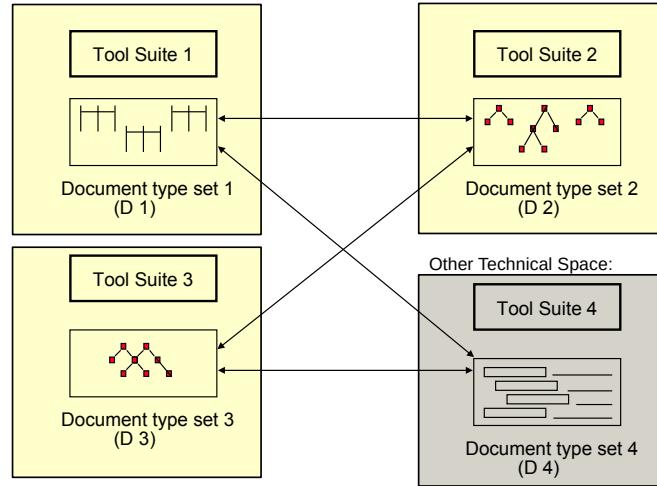
- ▶ [KS05] Alexander Königs, Andy Schürr. Multi-Domain Integration with MOF and extended Triple Graph Grammars. Technical Report. University of Technology Darmstadt. Dagstuhl Seminar Proceedings 04101
  - <http://drops.dagstuhl.de/opus/volltexte/2005/22>
- ▶ Alexander Königs, Andy Schürr. MDI: a rule-based multi-document and tool integration approach. *Softw Syst Model* (2006) 5:349–368 DOI 10.1007/s10270-006-0016-x
  - TGG between multiple documents and models
- ▶ [HJSWB] Florian Heidenreich, Jendrik Johannes, Mirko Seifert, Christian Wende and Marcel Böhme: Generating Safe Template Languages. In Proceedings of the "Eighth International Conference on Generative Programming and Component Engineering", GPCE'09, 4 - 5 October 2009, Denver, Colorado

# Q13: A Software Factory's Heart: the Multi-TS Megamodel



## Integration of Tool Suites by Data Connection

- ▶ Material of several tool (suites) can be **data-connected** by transformations or access adaptations

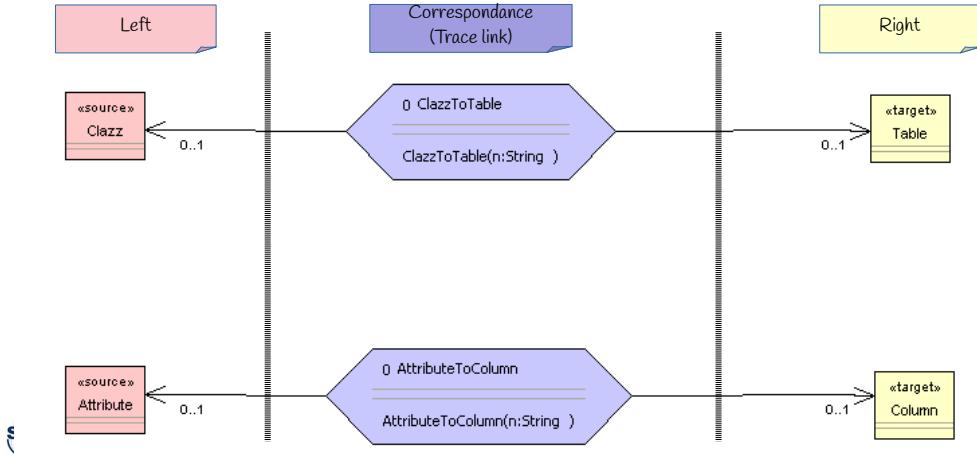


## 54.1 „Synchronizing“ Models with Triple Graph Grammars

- Mapping graphs to other graphs, also in data connections of different tools
- Specification of mappings with mapping rules
- Incremental transformation
- Traceability

# Triple Graph Grammars – Moflon Example

- ▶ A **Triple Graph Grammar (TGG)** is a mapping-oriented transformation system, consisting of rules with three „areas“ (better called **metamodel mapping grammars**)
  - Left side: (source) graph pattern 1 in (source) graph 1
  - Right side: (target) graph pattern 2 in (target) graph 2
  - **Middle: relational expression (net)** relating graph pattern 1 and 2 (trace model)



## Basic Types of Synchronization Rules

Depending on the modification colors, a TGG rule can be checking or creating the correspondance.

Rule classes from [KS05] Koenigs/Schuerr 2005:

- ▶ **Consistency Checking rules** – test whether both patterns exist
  - modification color is black (test)
- ▶ **Traceability relationship creating rule** – add a trace relation between elements of both sides
  - modification color is green in correspondance part (add)
- ▶ **Create model element** in one domain matching its correspondant
  - modification color is green on one side (add)
- ▶ **Lower layer create model element** – create model in a lower grammar layer
  - modification color is green on lower layer (add)

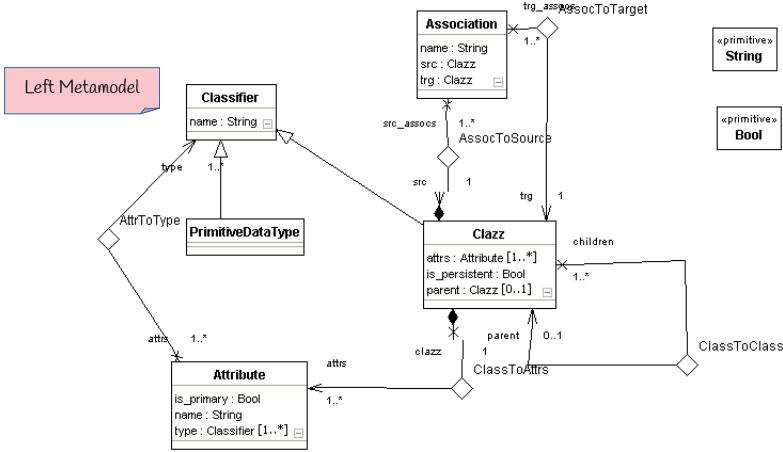


### 54.2.1. Mapping Objects to Tables (Object-Relational Mapping, ORM)

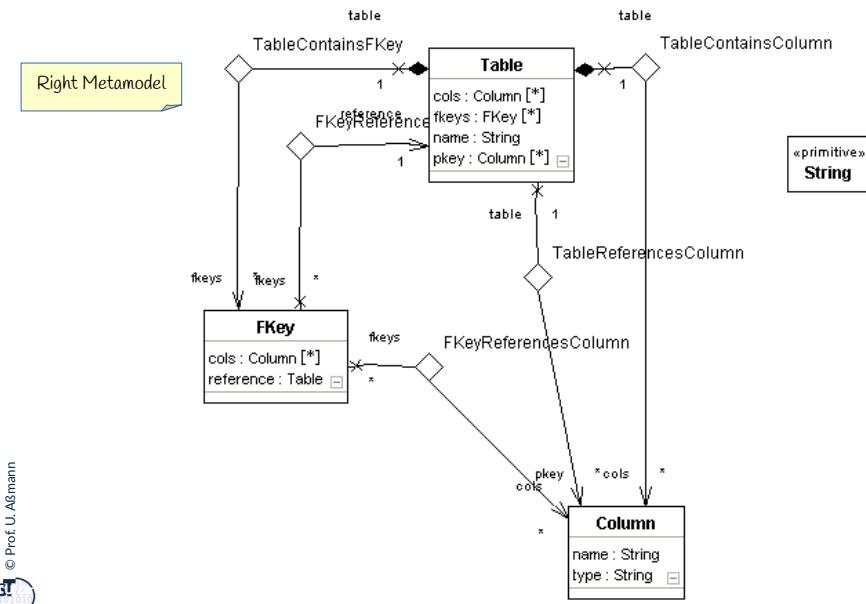
# TGG for Object-Relational Mapping (ORM)

## Left Metamodel: Class Diagram Metamodel (CD)

- ▶ Synchronize Class-Diagram-metamodel (CD) with a relational schema (RS): object-relational mapping (ORM)

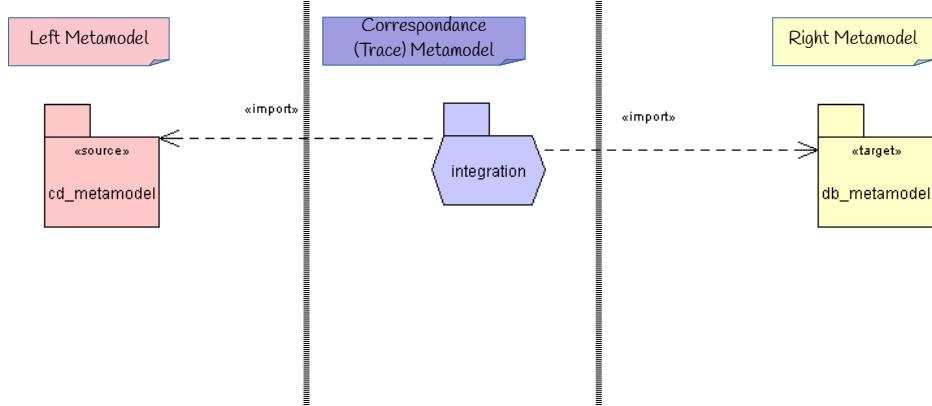


# Right Metamodel: Relational Metamodel (DB, relational schema)



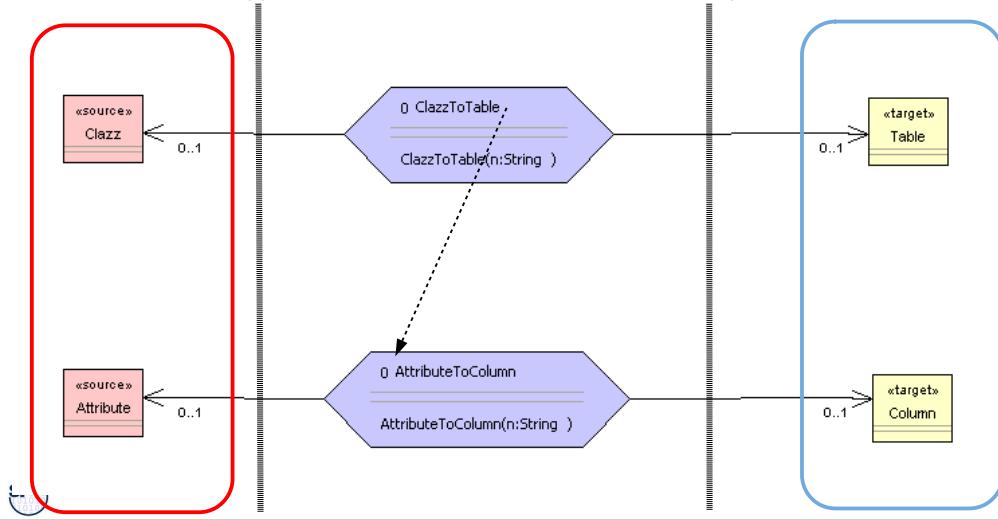
# TGG for Object-Relational Mapping (ORM)

- ▶ The metamodel mapping grammar of a TGG has a top rule (start rule) which describes the relationship of the graphs on topmost level



## Example of Consistency-Checking Rule

- ▶ From the top-rule ClazzToTable, other TGG rules are associated („called“ / „invoked“)
- ▶ In this case, the TGG only checks (black color – TEST)
- ▶ Q: What happens, if both sides are in different Technical Spaces?



## TGG Specify Transformation Bridges Between Roles and Technical Spaces

14

Model-Driven Software Development in Technical Spaces (MOST)

- ▶ TGG can also be used to data-exchange and synchronize Material classes and roles
  - between two material objects
  - between two tools with different repositories
    - even in different technical spaces
- ▶ The only assumption: 1:1 mappings of model elements

TGG are a fine technique to build *transformation bridges for data connection* between tools, even in different technical spaces.



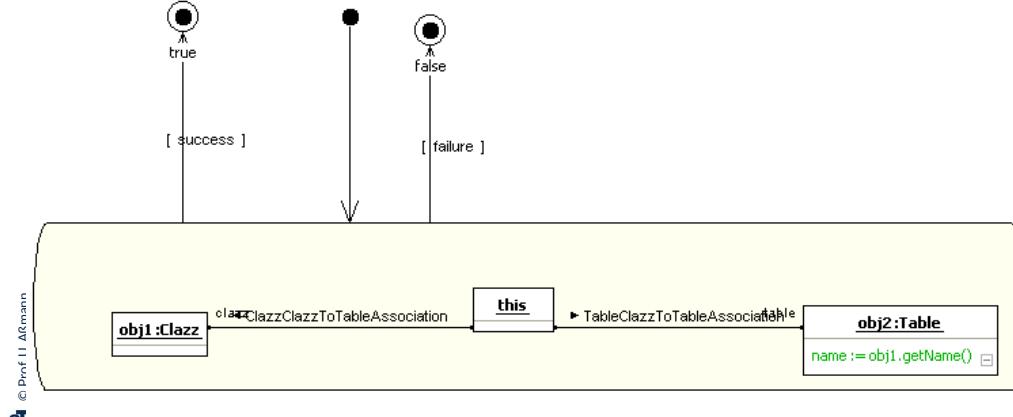
## 54.2. Triple Graph Grammars in MOFLON

- MOFLON in MOF Technical Space
- eMOFLON in EMOF TS

## Triple Graph Grammars – Moflon Example

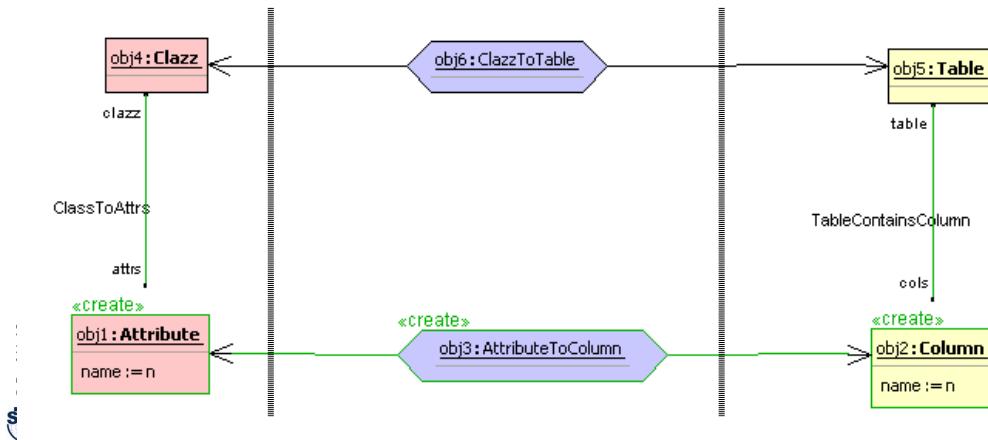
- ▶ Because they are named, TGG rules can be started by Fujaba Storyboards (activity diagrams)
- ▶ The activites can be associated to a transformation class ClazzToTable

ClazzToTable::performForwardAttributeValuePropagation (): Boolean



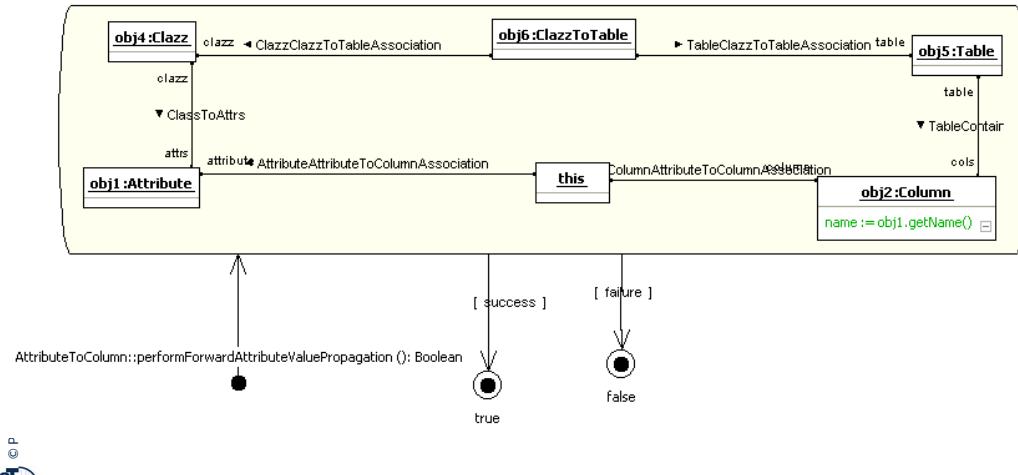
## Example of Lower-Level-Creation Rule

- ▶ *Lower-level-creation rule* creates lower level elements and a pairwise correspondance of model elements on both sides
  - Here, objects on the lower level are created anew if needed from the tested upper level



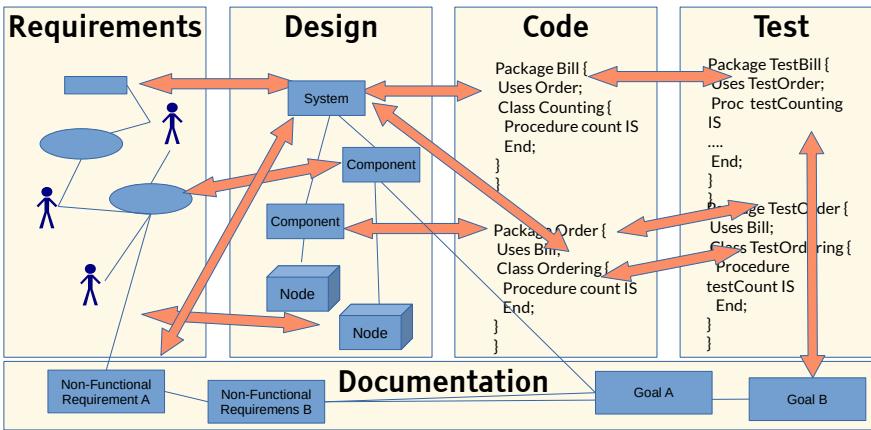
# Triple Graph Grammars – Moflon Example

- ▶ Notation in Moflon/Fujaba Storyboards
- ▶ Checking a pattern with adding an attribute to obj2



## Q12: The ReDoDeCT Problem and its Macromodel

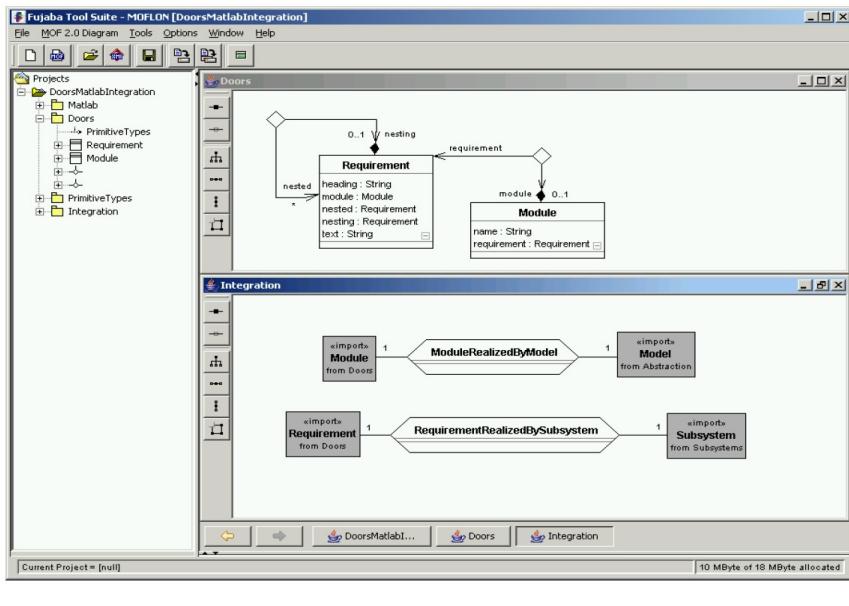
- ▶ The **ReDoDeCT problem** is the problem how requirements, documentation, design, code, and tests are related ( $\rightarrow$  V model)
- ▶ Mappings between the Requirements model, Documentation files, Design model, Code, Test cases
- ▶ A **ReDoDeCT macromodel** has maintained mappings between all 5 models



## Ex. 2: TGG Coupling of Requirements Specification and Design

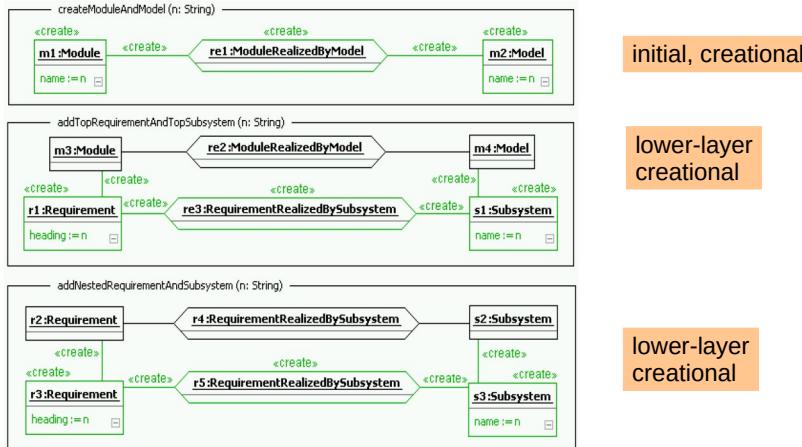
21

Model-Driven Software Development in Technical Spaces (MOST)



# TGG Coupling Requirements Specification and Design

- ▶ This TGG grammar builds up a module-requirements graph
- ▶ Starting from a relation “ModuleRealizedByModel” and “RequirementRealizedBySubsystem”

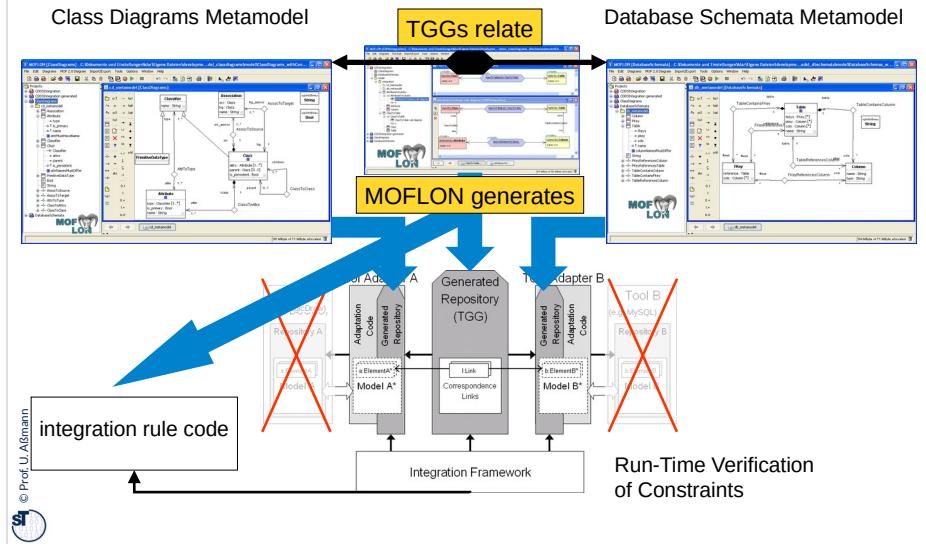




## 54.3. Using Triple Graph Grammars in MOFLON

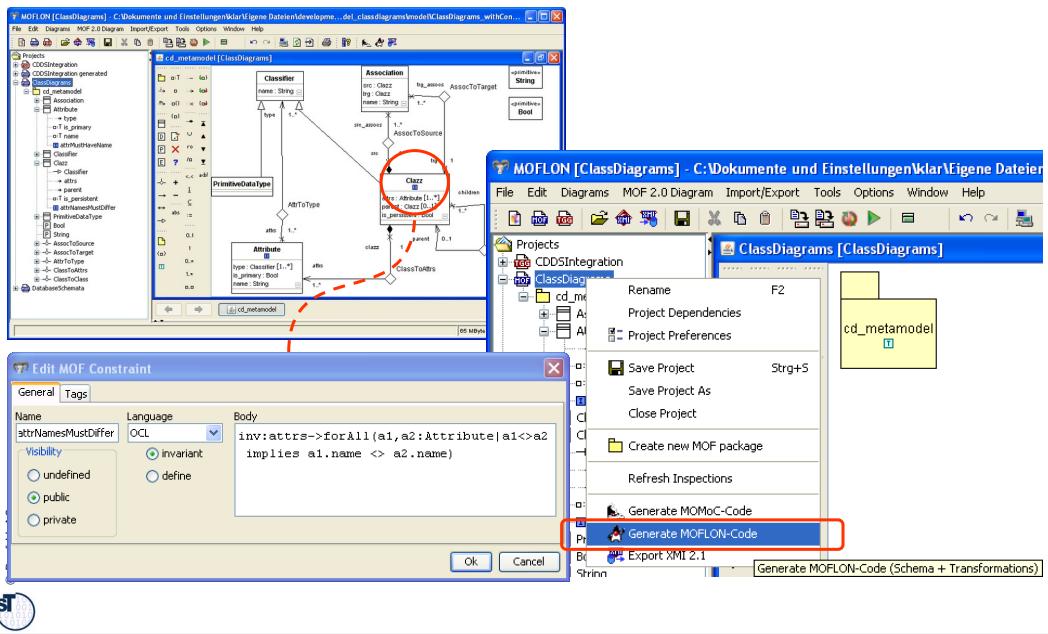
## Example: Object-Relational Mapping “TiE-CD-DB”: (ClassDiagrams / DatabaseSchema)

25 Model-Driven Software Development in Technical Spaces (MOST)



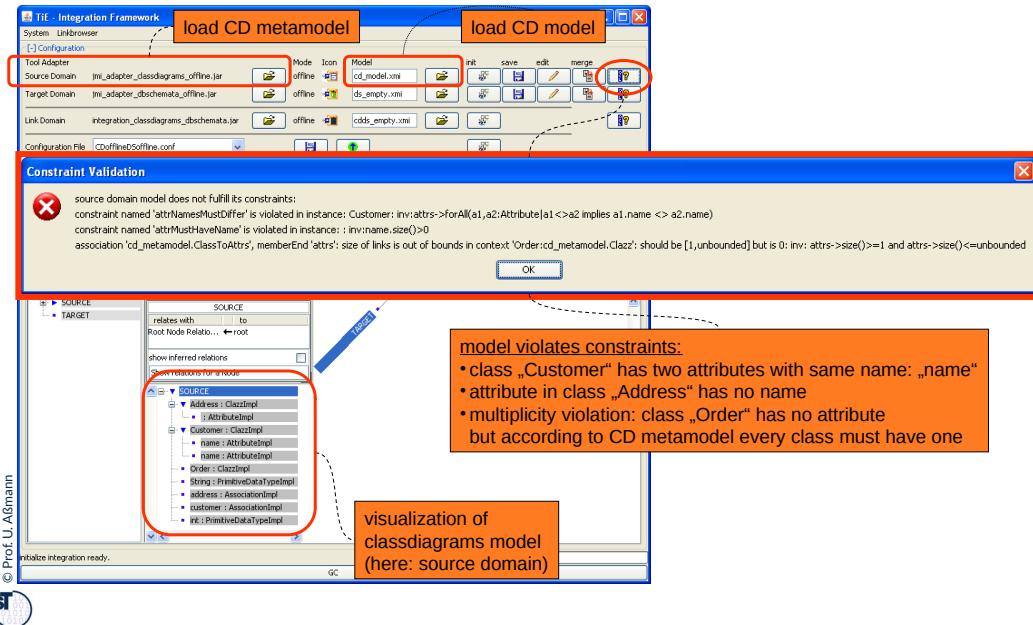
shows how our architecture is realized with the MOFLON metamodeling and translation specification approach

## TiE-CD-DB – Constraints in Class Diagrams (1) Generate Code from MOF model (CD metamodel)



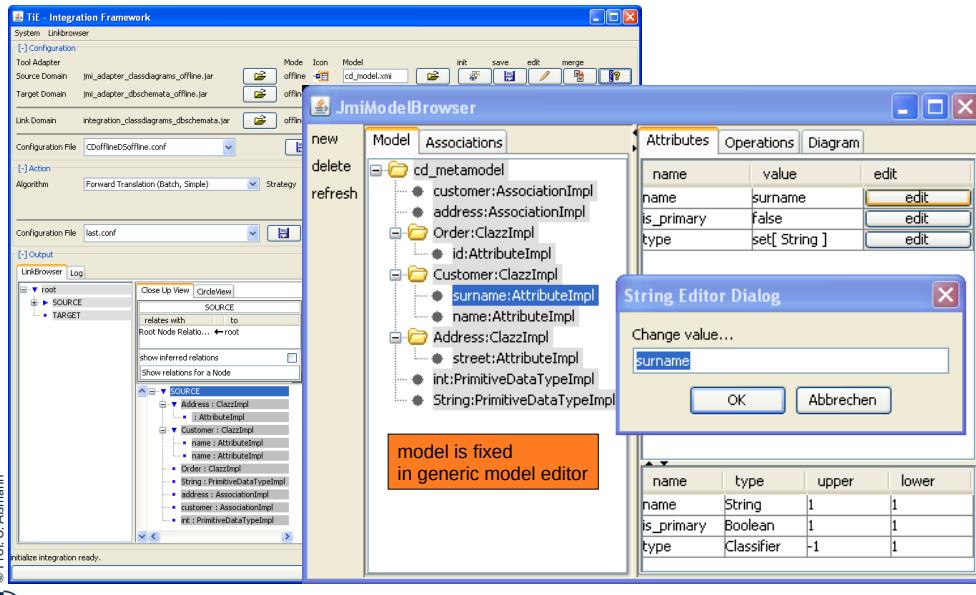
# TiE-CD-DB – Constraints in Class Diagrams (2)

## Loading Metamodels and Models

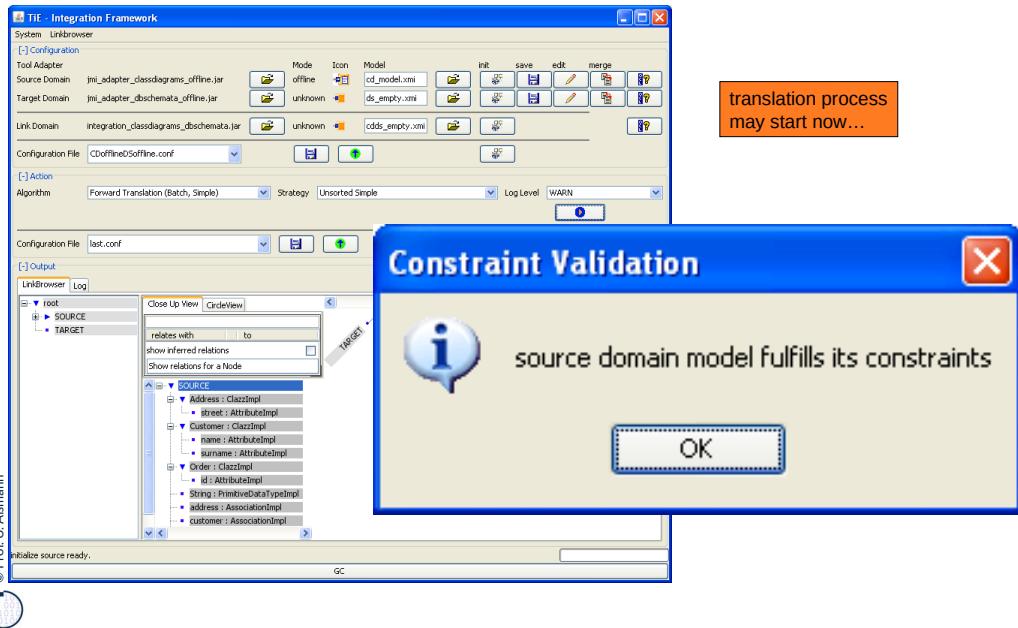


# TiE-CD-DB – Constraints in Class Diagrams (3)

## Model Browser

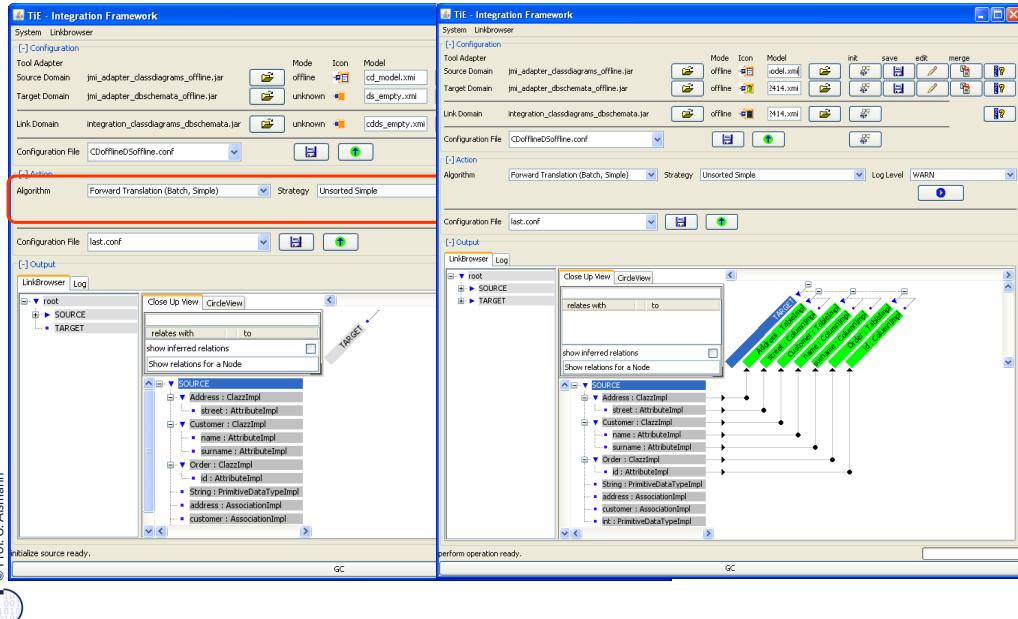


# TiE-CD-DB – Constraints in Class Diagrams (4) Integration Framework



# TiE-CD-DB – Constraints in Class Diagrams (5)

## Forward Translation to DB representation



# Other Software Engineering Applications of Model Synchronization

- ▶ Mapping a PIM to a PSM in Model-Driven Architecture
- ▶ Graph Structurings (see course ST-II)
- ▶ Refactorings (see Course DPF)
- ▶ Semantic refinements
- ▶ Round-Trip Engineering (RTE)



## 54.4 The Tornado Method: Specification of TGG Rules using Textual Concrete Syntax

- Slides about Tornado courtesy to Mirko Seifert and Christian Werner
- Presented at Fujaba Days 2009, Eindhoven, The Netherlands, 16.11.2009
- Christian Werner. Konzeption und Implementierung eines Debuggers für textuelle Triple Graph Grammar Regeln. Belegarbeit, Lehrstuhl Softwaretechnologie, 2010, TU Dresden
- available on request

## Motivation for Textual Syntax of TGG

- ▶ TGGs are fine for model synchronization, but writing TGG rules is not always easy

Why?

- ▶ Rule specification typically on the level of abstract syntax
  - Complex abstract syntax (AS) graphs vs. simple concrete syntax (CS) fragments
  - Rule designers not always familiar with AS
- ▶ Rule specification is based on graphical syntax
  - But: There is lots of textual (modelling) languages
  - Gap: Graphical rules vs. textual models
  - Large graphical rules are hard to read

Can we do better?

## Idea for Rule Specification in EMFText

- ▶ employ EMFText; use concrete textual syntax of involved languages
- ▶ derive rules from pairs of models
- ▶ do it in a generic way (automatic application to any language)

```
MyForm.forms
1 FORM "A simple example form"
2 GROUP "General questions"
3 ITEM "Name" : FREETEXT
4 ITEM "Age" : NUMBER
5 ITEM "Gender" : CHOICE { "male", "female" }
6
```

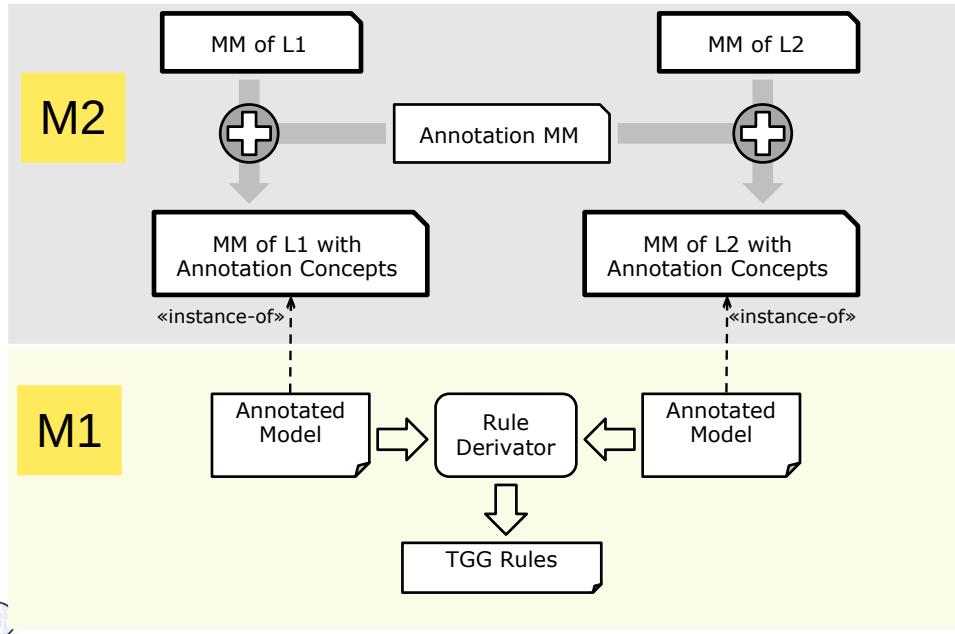
```
MyForm.java
public class MyForm {
    public final static String name =
        "A simple example form";
    public void group_GeneralQuestions() {
    }
    public String question_Name() {
        return null;
    }
    // ...
}
```

Instead of arrows use textual annotations:

```
track2arc.prn
@Pr2PN project {
    @Cp2PN++ track {
        @IP2P1++ in:
        @OP2Tr++ out:
    }
}
```

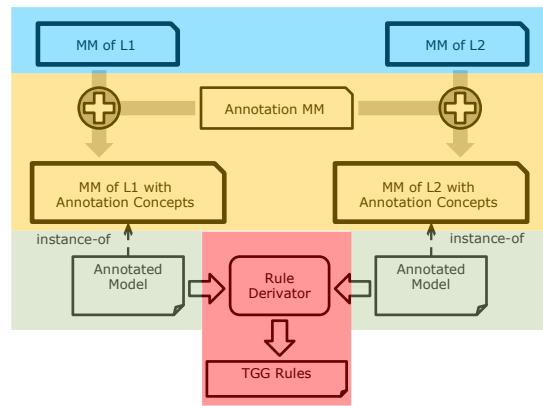
```
track2arc.pn
@Pr2PN net {
    @IP2P1++ place p {}
    @OP2Tr++ transition tr
    @Cp2PN++ arc p -> tr
}
```

## Tornado Generation Process of TGG Rules



# Generation Steps of Tornado Method

1. Make meta models extensible
2. Extend meta models  
(with annotation concepts)
3. Extend concrete syntax
4. Derive rules from  
model pairs



## Step 1 – Getting (more) Extensible Metamodels

Extensibility provided by Ecore (EMOF):

- ▶ Add new metaclasses (i.e., new complex types)
- ▶ Reference existing metaclasses (Reuse)
- ▶ Subclass existing metaclasses

What is missing in EMOF:

- ▶ Distinction between subtyping and inheritance
- ▶ Extensibility for primitive types
- ▶ Example:
  - Can't add things that do not have a property year
  - Can't add subtypes for EString



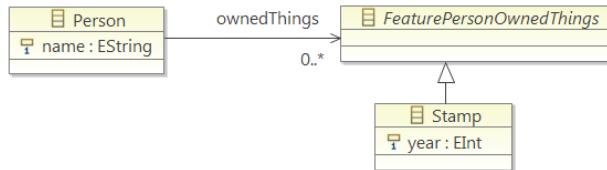
## Step 1a - Getting Extensible Metamodels

Separate subtyping and inheritance (algorithm from [HJSWB]):

For each feature's type that has at least one superclass or defines at least one feature:

- ▶ Introduce a new abstract metaclass `Feature<ClassName><FeatureName>`
- ▶ Change the type of the feature to the new metaclass
- ▶ Make the former type of the feature a subclass of the new metaclass

Example:



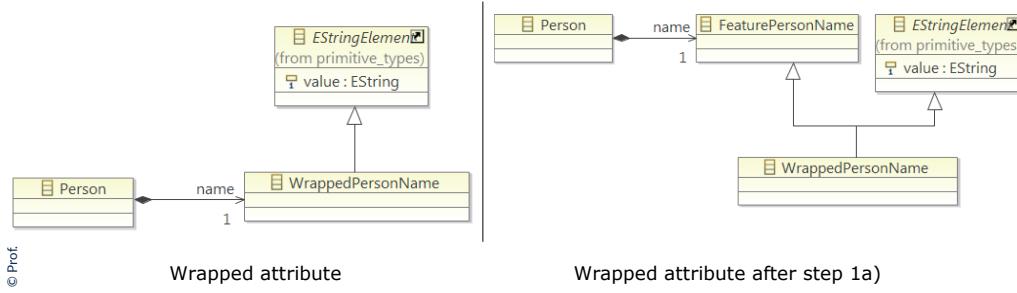
## Step 1b – Getting Extensible Metamodels

Wrap primitive types (also from [HJSWB]):

For each attribute that has a primitive type:

- ▶ Create a new subclass of the primitive type wrapper class
- ▶ Replace attribute with reference to new subclass

Example:



## Step 2 – Extending Metamodels with Annotation Concepts

Goal:

- ▶ Every model element can be annotated



HowTo:

- ▶ For each meta class X create new metaclass AnnotableX with
  - Reference to class Annotation  
(to store the annotation)
  - Reference to the original class X  
(to store the data of X)
  - Make AnnotableX a subclass of each feature class that X inherits from  
(to make AnnotableX usable wherever X can be used)

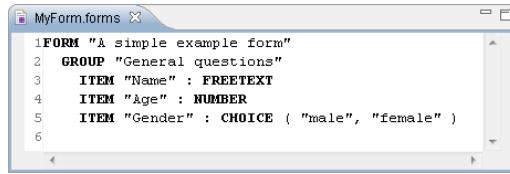
## Step 3 – Extending the Concrete Syntax Specification

- ▶ Steps 1 and 2 added annotations concepts on the level of abstract syntax, but concrete one is need to write them down
- ▶ Textual syntax tools (e.g., EMFText, xText and TCS) use one rule per metaclass
  - Retain the existing syntax rules
  - Add syntax rules for new annotation classes in meta model

```
Form      ::= "FORM" name[''', '''] groups*;  
AnnotableForm ::= (identifier[IDENT])+ (type[TYPE])? form;
```

↓      ↓      ↓  
@1 !    FORM "A simple example form"

IDENT is some identifier starting  
with an @  
TYPE is !, ++ or --



The screenshot shows a text editor window titled "MyForm.forms". The content of the file is:

```
1FORM "A simple example form"  
2 GROUP "General questions"  
3 ITEM "Name" : FREETEXT  
4 ITEM "Age" : NUMBER  
5 ITEM "Gender" : CHOICE ( "male", "female" )
```

## Step 3 - Extended Concrete Syntax

Rail tracks to Petrinet example

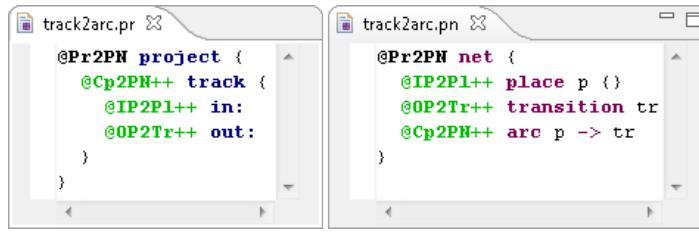
```
track2arc.pr
@Pr2PN project {
    @Cp2PN++ track {
        @IP2P1++ in:
        @OP2Tr++ out:
    }
}
```

```
track2arc.pn
@Pr2PN net {
    @IP2P1++ place p {}
    @OP2Tr++ transition tr
    @Cp2PN++ arc p -> tr
}
```

(bold black and green elements are new – TGG rule annotations)

## Step 4 – Deriving Rules from Model Pairs

- ▶ For each annotated model element, create a rule node
- ▶ For each set of model elements that are annotated with the same identifier,
  - create a correspondence node and create links connecting the new correspondence node with the respective rule nodes
- ▶ Mark all rule nodes as “create” where the corresponding model element is annotated as create element
- ▶ For each pair of model elements that is connected by exactly one reference
  - create a link between the respective rule nodes
- ▶ For each pair of model elements that is connected by multiple references
  - use the references specified in the annotation
  - and create links between the respective rule nodes



The image shows two side-by-side code editors. The left editor is titled 'track2arc.pr' and contains the following UML annotation code:

```
@Pr2PN project {
    @Cp2PN++ track {
        @IP2P1++ in:
        @OP2Tr++ out:
    }
}
```

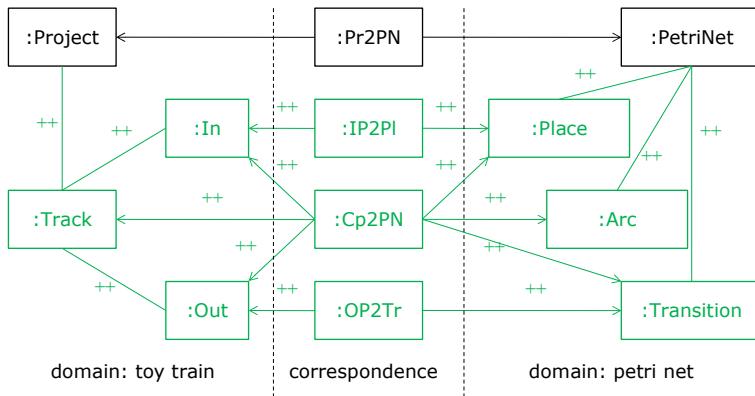
The right editor is titled 'track2arc.pn' and contains the following UML annotation code:

```
@Pr2PN net {
    @IP2P1++ place p {}
    @OP2Tr++ transition tr
    @Cp2PN++ arc p -> tr
}
```

43

## Step 4 - Deriving Rules from Model Pairs

Rail tracks to Petrinet example



# Restrictions of Tornado

## Constraints

- ▶ Can be derived (e.g., equality if attribute values match), but:
  - What about boolean attributes?
  - What about more complex constraints (`a.name == b.id`)?

## Negative Application Conditions

- ▶ May need additional annotations

## Concrete Syntax (CS) restricts rules that can be specified

- ▶ If AS is less restrictive than CS (e.g., metaclasses with empty CS)

## Conclusion of (Experimental) Tornado Method

Textual (modelling) languages can be automatically extended with:

- annotation support (This whole stuff is for free!)
- other features (More stuff is for free as well! See e.g. [1])
- ▶ Rule specification using concrete syntax seems intuitive
- ▶ Combines benefits of specification by example (CS) and classic rule specification (precision)
- ▶ Debugging based on CS is enabled
- ▶ More annotations may be needed, but can easily be added
- ▶ Metamodelling languages should support extensibility to its full extent

Looking for a student to combine  
Tornado with GrGen!

## The End: What Have We Learned

- ▶ Graph rewrite systems are tools to transform graph-based models and graph-based program representations
- ▶ MOFLON supports OCL queries and constraints
- ▶ TGG enable to bidirectionally map models and synchronize them
- ▶ Why can a TGG also be called a *metamodel mapping grammar*?
- ▶ Correspondances in models can be expressed by annotations