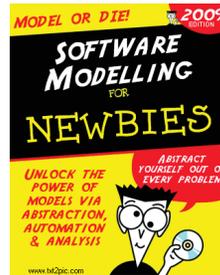


CISC836: Beyond code: An Introduction to Model-Driven Software Development



Topic: EMF

- Meta modeling
- Languages for meta models: Ecore
- Using EMF and Ecore to define a data model
- Using EMF to generate code for data model
⇒ Prep for Xtext

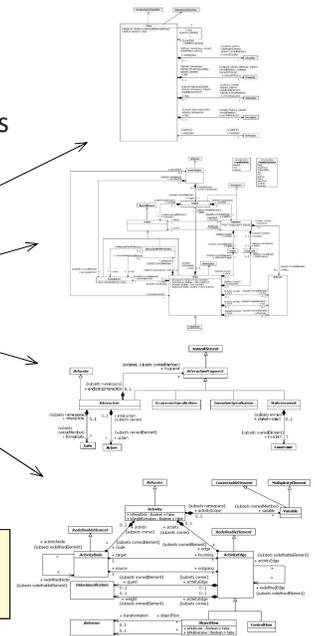
Juergen Dingel
Feb 2021

Metamodeling

Can use concepts from Class models/diagrams to describe structure (“abstract syntax”) of modeling concepts in UML:

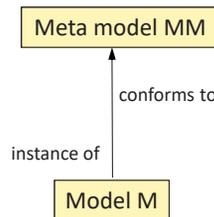
- **Classes:** Section 11.4.2 in [UML2.5](#)
- **Statemachines:** Section 14.2.2
- **Interactions:** Section 17.2.2
- **Activities:** Section 15.2.2
- **Packages:** Section 12.2.2
- **Behaviour**
- **Classification:** Classifiers, Features, Properties, Operations

These class models are **metamodels**, i.e., models describing models

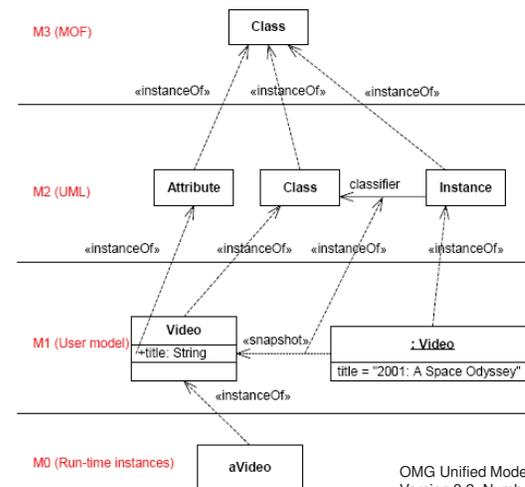


Metamodeling (Cont'd)

- **Meta model MM:** model (a specification) of a set of models (i.e., a modeling language L(MM))
- **Instance M of meta model MM:** well-formed model in modeling language L (i.e., $M \in L(MM)$)
- **Languages for expressing meta models**
 - **Meta Object Facility (MOF):**
 - OMG standardized language for defining modeling languages
 - **subset of UML class diagrams:** types (classes, primitive, enumeration), generalization, attributes, associations, operations
 - **ECore:**
 - Eclipse version of MOF; used by Xtext
 - **Object Constraint Language (OCL):**
 - declarative language to express well-formedness rules (e.g., “the inheritance hierarchy is acyclic”)



Metamodeling (Cont'd)

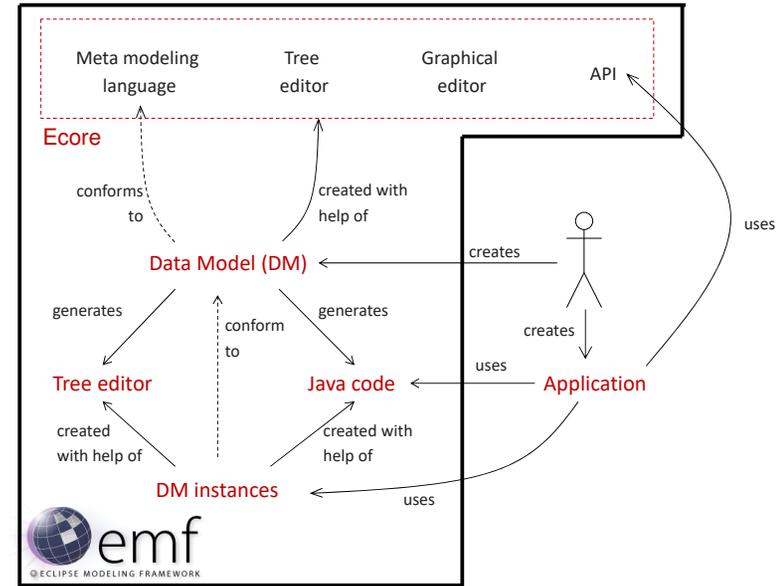


OMG Unified Modeling Language, Infrastructure, Version 2.2. Number: formal/2009-02-04

Eclipse Modeling Framework

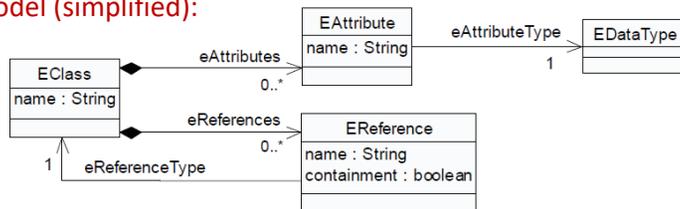


- Eclipse-based open-source framework supporting the development of applications requiring a structured **data model (DM)**
- Consists of
 - Ecore**
 - Meta modelling language for the description of DMs with support for
 - change notification (via the Observer design pattern),
 - persistence (via XML serialization), and
 - generic object manipulation (via reflective API)
 - EMF.Codegen**
 - Generates code implementing the DM and supporting the development of tools creating and manipulating data model instances:
 - Model**: Java interfaces and implementation of DM (using Factory design pattern)
 - Editor**: plugin for tree-based editor of DM instances
 - Edit**: implementation classes adapting DM classes for editing and display (via Adapter Factory design pattern)
 - Large user community**: <http://www.eclipse.org/emf>



Ecore: Metamodeling Language

Metamodel (simplified):



EObject

- Base of every Ecore class and every generated class
- Provides support for **notification** and **persistence**

```

EObject
+eClass(): EClass
+eIsProxy(): boolean
+eResource(): EResource
+eContainer(): EObject
+eContainingFeature(): EStructuralFeature
+eContainmentFeature(): EReference
+eContents(): EEList
+eAllContents(): ETreeIterator
+eCrossReferences(): EEList
+eGet(feature: EStructuralFeature): EJavaObject
+eGet(feature: EStructuralFeature, resolve: boolean): EJavaObject
+eSet(feature: EStructuralFeature, newValue: EJavaObject)
+eIsSet(feature: EStructuralFeature): boolean
+eUnset(feature: EStructuralFeature)
    
```

[Summary of package org.eclipse.emf.ecore]

[Steinberg, Budinsky, Paternostro, Merks. EMF: Eclipse Modeling Framework (2nd Ed.). 2008]

EMF: Supporting Technology

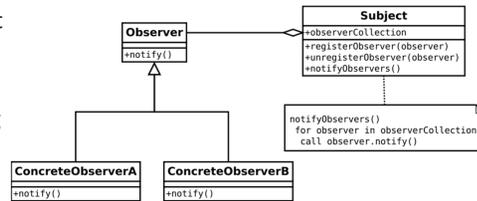
- Eclipse**
 - Editors are Eclipse plugins
- Sirius**
 - Framework for automatic generation of graphical editors
- JUnit**
 - Supported by generated test code
- Design patterns**
 - Observer
 - Factory
 - Adapter Factory



Observer Design Pattern

Object, called **subject**, maintains list of its dependents, called **observers**, and **notifies them automatically of any state changes**, usually by calling one of their methods.

Used for **MVC pattern**.



```
import java.util.Observable;
import static java.lang.System.out;

class MyApp {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        out.println("Enter Text >");
        EventSource eventSource = new EventSource();

        eventSource.addObserver((Observable obj, Object arg) -> {
            out.println("\nReceived response: " + arg);
        });

        new Thread(eventSource).start();
    }
}

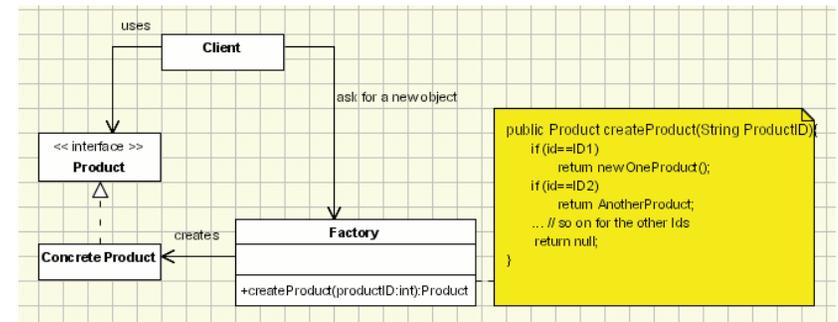
import java.util.Observable;
import java.util.Scanner;

class EventSource extends Observable implements Runnable {
    public void run() {
        while (true) {
            String response = new Scanner(System.in).next();
            setChanged();
            notifyObservers(response);
        }
    }
}
```

[Wikipedia. Observer pattern. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Observer_pattern. 2016]

Factory Design Pattern

Object, called the **Factory**, encapsulates details of creation of different **Products**

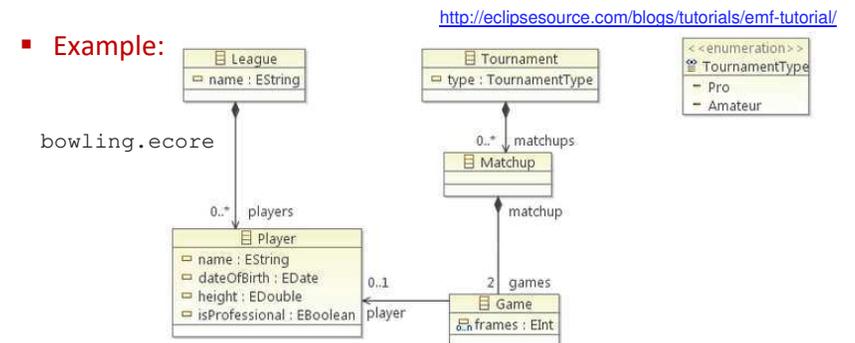


[OODesign.com. Factory pattern. <http://www.oodesign.com/factory-pattern.html>. 2016]

Using EMF: Getting Started

- Download and installation
 - <http://www.eclipse.org/modeling/emf>
- Documentation
 - <http://www.eclipse.org/modeling/emf/docs/>
- Tutorials
 - <http://www.vogella.com/tutorials/EclipseEMF/article.html>
 - <http://eclipsesource.com/blogs/tutorials/emf-tutorial/>
 - <http://www.philmann-dark.de/EMFDocs/tutorial.html>

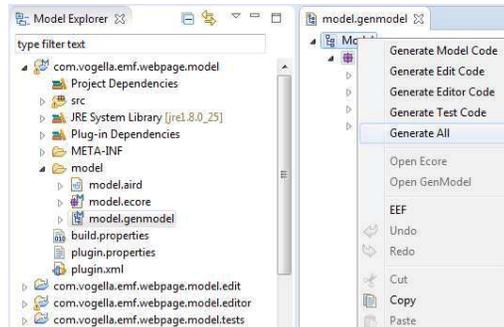
Using EMF: Create Domain Model (DM)



- Root classes: League, Tournament
- Containment relationship b/w Matchup and Game is **bi-directional**
 - “Containment = true” for reference games
 - matchup is opposite of games:
 - for all `m:Matchup`, if `g:Game` in `m.games`, then `g.matchup == m`

Using EMF: Generate Code from DM

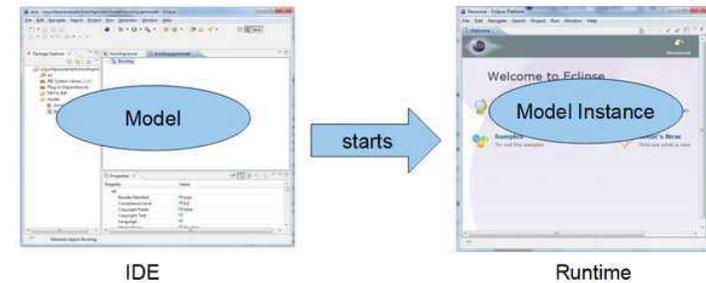
- **Genmodel**
 - Generated from .ecore model
 - Contains additional info necessary for code generation (package names, source paths, project names, generator settings)
 - Automatically synchronized with .ecore model when .ecore model is saved
- **To generate:**
 - Open .genmodel
 - right-click root node
 - select plugin to generate



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Using EMF: Use Generated DM Editor

- Code for DM editor generated as Eclipse plugin
- Invocation of the editor will create another instance of Eclipse in which the editor will execute

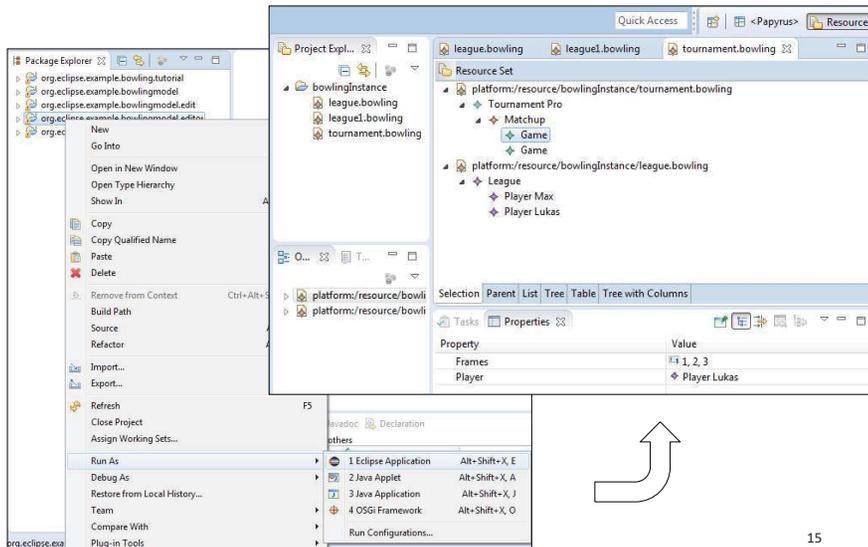


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EMF

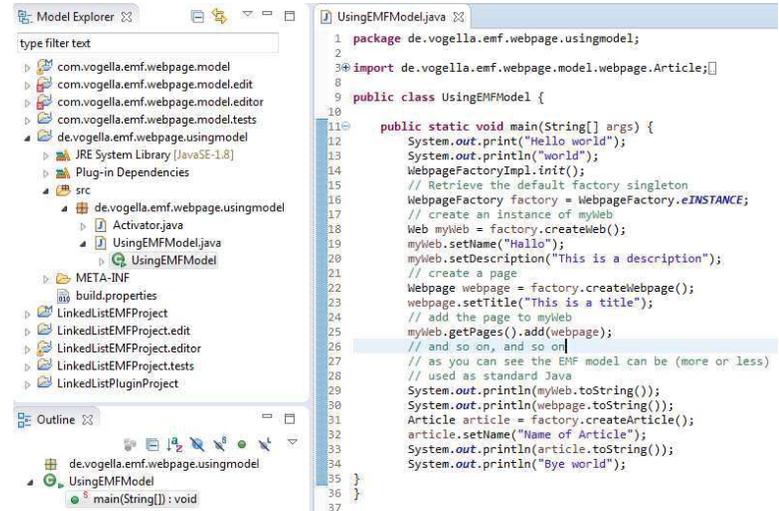
14

Using EMF: Use Generated DM Editor (Cont'd)



15

Using EMF: Use Generated DM Java Code



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EMF

16

Using EMF: Demo

- Using generated test code
- Generating JavaDoc
- Generating method bodies



EMF: Pros and Cons

- **Pros**
 - Quite powerful, stable, adequate documentation
 - Integral part of Eclipse Modeling ecosystem:
 - EMF Forms: for generation of form-based UI
 - Xtext: for DSL implementation
 - ATL: for model-to-model transformation
- **Cons**
 - Inherit Eclipse “baggage” (but can use Rich Client Platform)

EMF: More Info

- **Installation**
 - <http://www.eclipse.org/modeling/emf>
- **Documentation**
 - <http://www.eclipse.org/modeling/emf/docs/>
- **Tutorials**
 - <http://eclipsesource.com/blogs/tutorials/emf-tutorial/>
 - <http://www.vogella.com/tutorials/EclipseEMF/article.html>
 - <http://www.philmann-dark.de/EMFDocs/tutorial.html>
- **Book**
 - Steinberg, Budinsky, Paternostro, Merks.
EMF: Eclipse Modeling Framework (2nd Ed.).
Addison-Wesley Professional. 2008.

