

Active transformation within Kermeta

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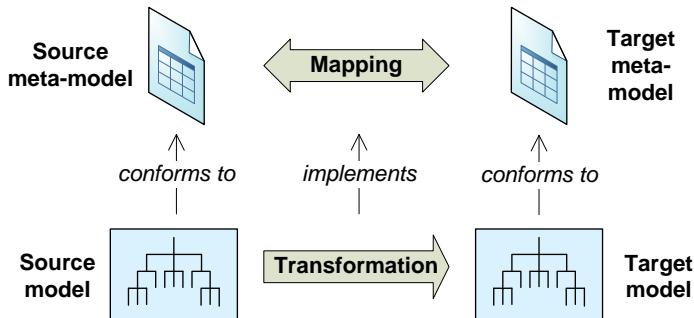
GRI - ESEO

Kermeta Day 2009

Plan

- 1 Mapping versus Transformation
 - Overview
 - Solutions
- 2 Application to GUI
 - MVC
 - From data to GUI
- 3 Active Transformation: AcT.Kermeta
 - Observables and Observable Sets
 - Active sets
 - Mappings
- 4 Conclusion
 - Contribution
 - Perspectives

Overview (1)



Overview (2)

Definition

- A mapping **declares** a relation between model elements.
- A transformation **implements** this relation at the model level.

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- A transformation **implements** this relation at the model level.

Problem

- Transformation = batch process
- Does not update the target T while the source S changes

Solutions

Incremental transformations

- 1 Computation of the source change $\Delta S = S(t+1) - S(t)$
- 2 Elicitation of a rule that matches ΔS
- 3 Re-evaluation of the rule in order to produce $T(t+1)$

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Use of the observable/observer design pattern:

- The observable is the source (can also be the target).
- The observer is the transformation.

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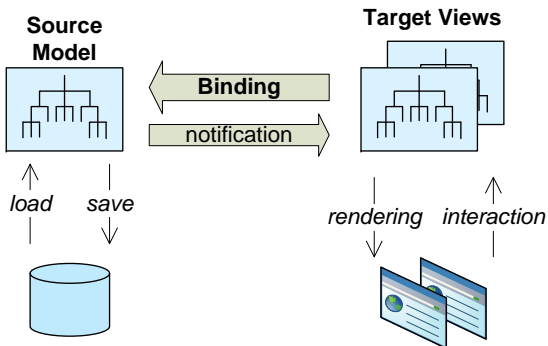
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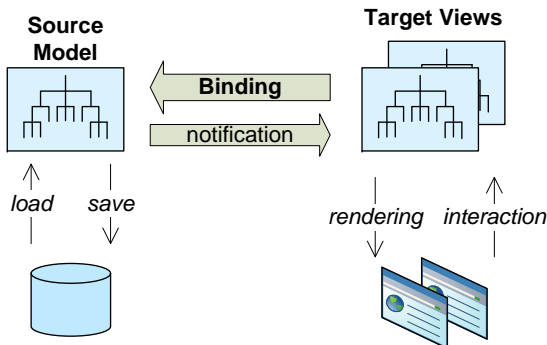
→ **A more complex transformation...**

... but generated from the mapping

MVC (1)



MVC (1)



- The observable is the source model (M).
- The observer is the target view (V).

MVC (2)

Pros

- A clear separation between models and views
- Multiple synchronized views
- Sharable models

MVC (2)

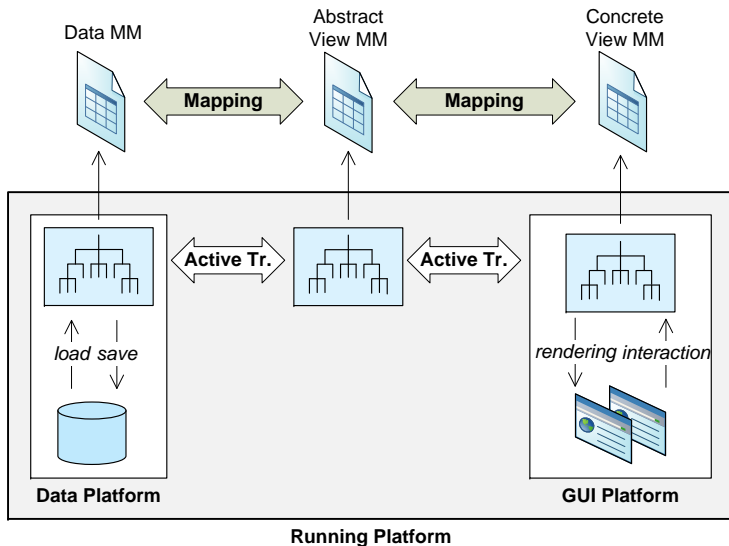
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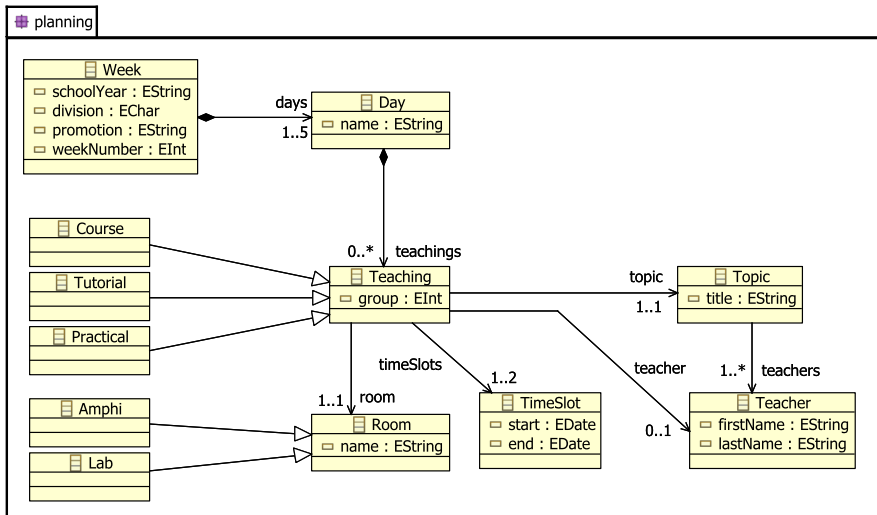
Cons

- Complex implementation
- Depends on the GUI toolkit
- **M is the abstract model of V, not of the application data!**
(e.g. the *TableModel* is the model of the widget *JTable*)

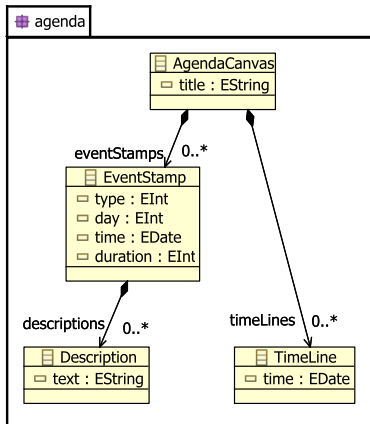
From data to GUI



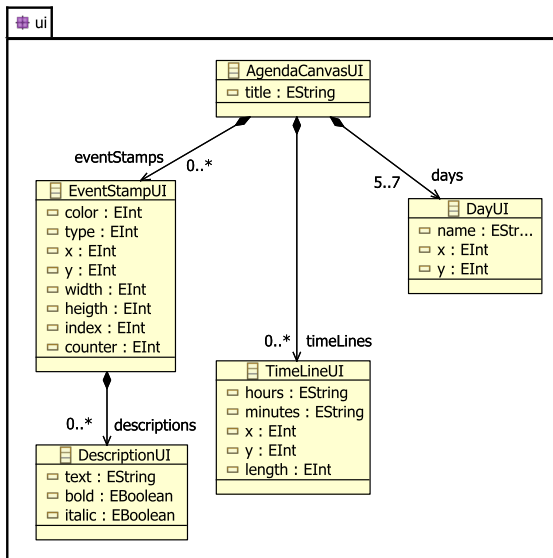
Example (1)



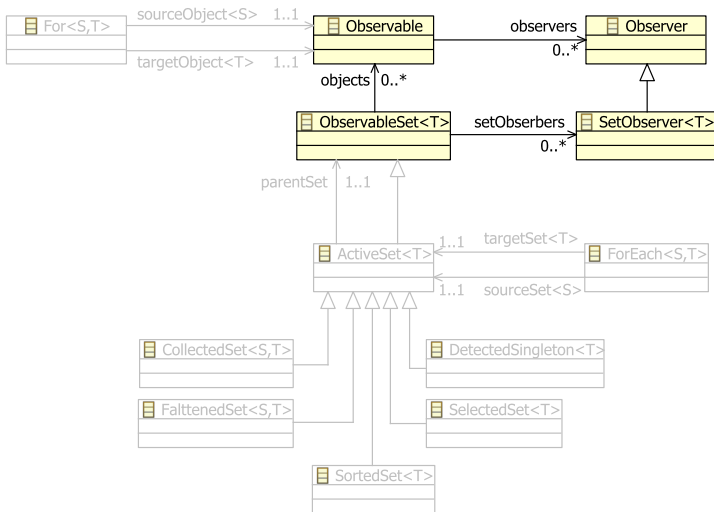
Example (2)



Example (3)



Observables and Observable Sets (1)



Observables and Observable Sets (2)

Base code:

```
class Week {  
    attribute number: Integer  
    attribute days: OrderedSet<Day>  
}
```

Observables and Observable Sets (2)

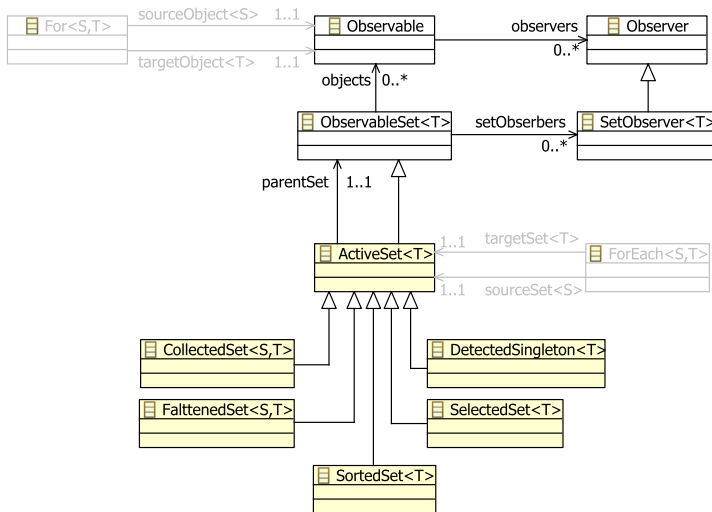
Base code:

```
class Week {  
    attribute number: Integer  
    attribute days: OrderedSet<Day>  
}
```

Generated code:

```
class Week inherits Observable {  
    attribute _number: Integer  
  
    property number: Integer  
        getter is do result := _number end  
        setter is do _number := value objectChanged() end  
  
    attribute days: ObservableSet<Day>  
}
```

Active sets (1)



Active sets (2)

- Select and collect:

```
var teachings: ObservableSet<Teaching>
var tutorials: CollectedSet<Tutorial>
tutorials := teachings
    .select{teaching | teaching.isKindOf(Tutorial)}
    .collect{tutorial | tutorial.asType(Tutorial)}
tutorials.eachAdded{index, tutorial |
    stdio.writeln(tutorial.topic.title) }
}
// populate 'teachings' afterward
...
```

Active sets (3)

- Detect:

```
var weeks: ObservableSet<Week>
var week37: DetectedSingleton<Week>
week37 := weeks.detect{week | week.number == 37 }
...
```


Active sets (3)

- Detect:

```
var weeks: ObservableSet<Week>
var week37: DetectedSingleton<Week>
week37 := weeks.detect{week | week.number == 37 }
...
```

- Flatten:

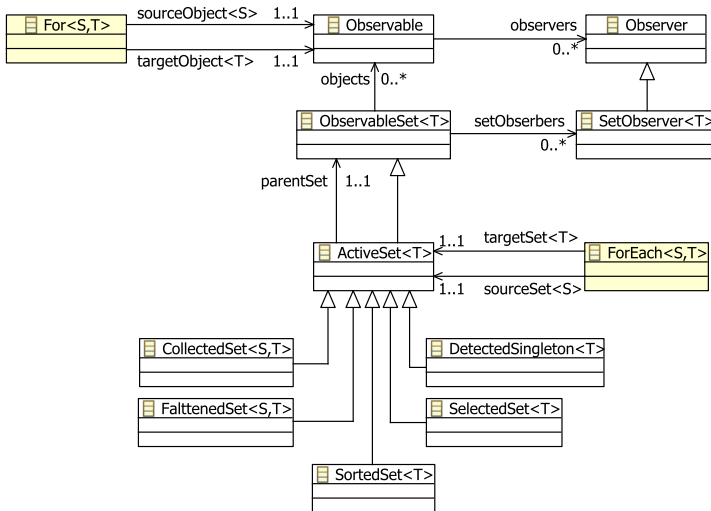
```
var week: Week
...
var courses: FlattenedSet<Course>
courses := week.days.flatten{day | day.courses}
// 'courses' represents 'week.days.courses'
...
```

Active sets (4)

- Sort:

```
var teachers: ObservableSet<Teacher>
var sortedTeachers: SortedSet<Teacher>
sortedTeachers := teachers.sort{t1, t2 |
    t1.lastName < t2.lastName or
    (t1.lastName == t2.lastName and
    t1.firstName < t2.firstName)
}
...
```

Mappings (1)



Mappings (2)

```
Week.new()  
  .for(AgendaCanvas.new())  
  .map{week, agenda |  
    agenda.title := "Week " + week.weekNumber.toString()  
    week.days  
      .flatten{day | day.teachings}  
      .forEach(agenda.eventStamps)  
      .map{teaching, eventStamp |  
        eventStamp.type :=  
          if teaching.isKindOf(Course) then 1  
          else if teaching.isKindOf(Tutorial) then 2  
          else 3  
          end  
        end  
      }  
    eventStamp.descriptions.setAt(0, teaching.topic.title)
```

...

Current Limitations

Limites

- AcT.NET (IDM09) and AcT.Kermeta: only attributes and relations of *self* are observed.
- Example: *teaching.topic.title* is reevaluated only if the topic *instance* changes.

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- AcT.NET (IDM09) and AcT.Kermeta: only attributes and relations of *self* are observed.
- Example: *teaching.topic.title* is reevaluated only if the topic *instance* changes.

Solution

- Mapping codes must be parsed.
- AcT.Kermeta: by using the Kermeta interpreter

Contribution

- AcT.Kermeta: Active OCL sets \Rightarrow active transformations
- Kermeta is both the MM platform and the running platform for active transformations
- Currently limited to “instance-to-instance” and “relation-to-relation” mappings
- Web site (alpha version):
<http://gri.eseo.fr/software/act/kermeta>

Perspectives

- A DSL dedicated to mappings (textual and graphical)
- A meta-model of active transformations + its implementation (will use active sets)
- Interaction model (based on instruments)
- Complex mappings (e.g. information visualization)
- Groupware (based on «event points»)
- Other application domains than GUI

Questions?