Exploiting Traditional Versioning Operators for Managing Variability in Model-based Software

Experiences and Future Perspectives

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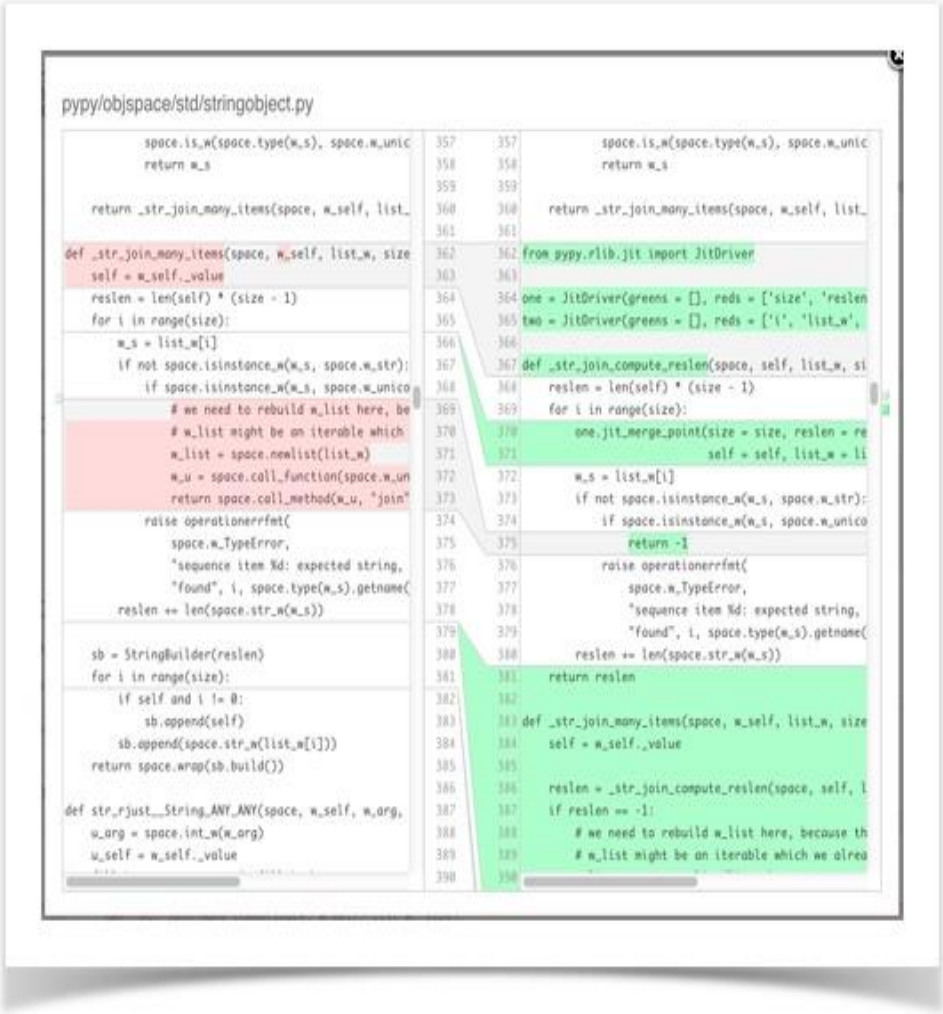
From Traditional Text-based Versioning to Model Versioning

Sample extraction from the Subversion command list:

```
[kehrer@tkmobil1 ~]$ svn help
   checkout (co)
   commit (ci)
   diff (di)
   info
   lock
   log
   merge
   patch
   revert
   status (stat, st)
   switch (sw)
   unlock
   update (up)
```



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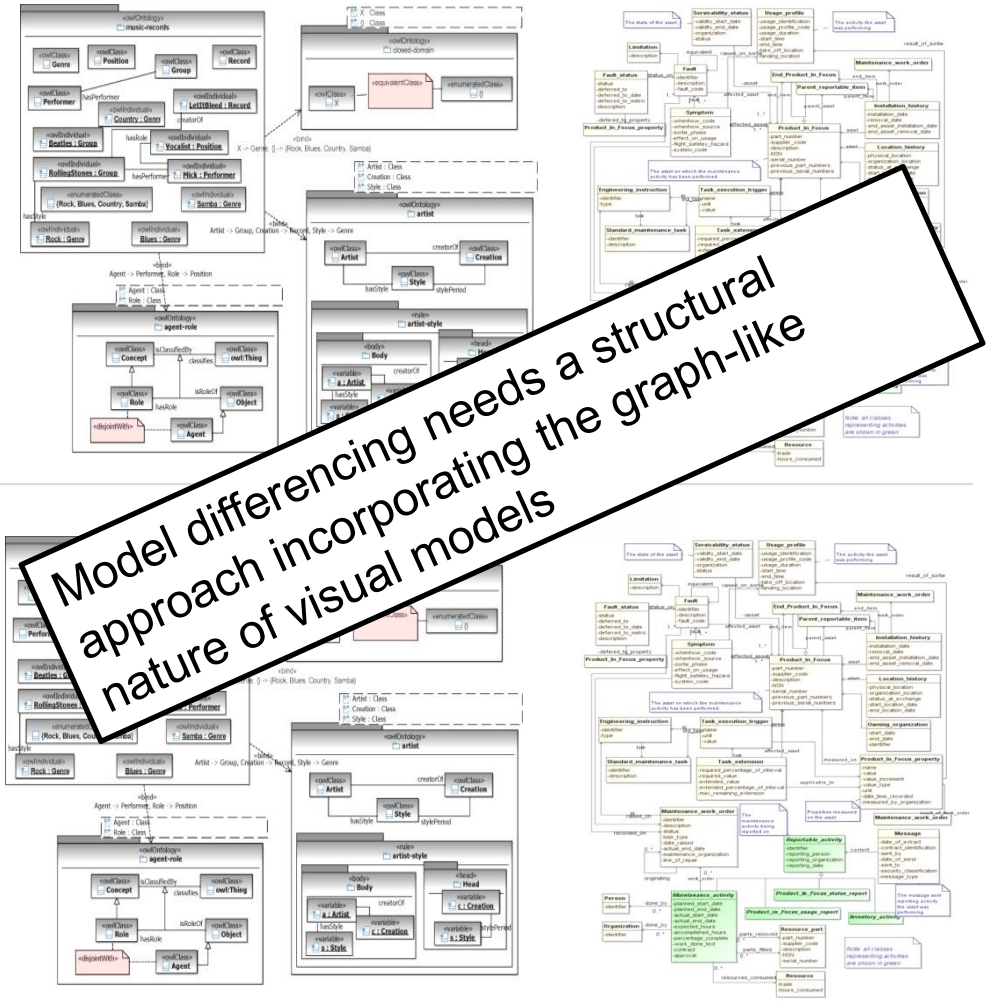
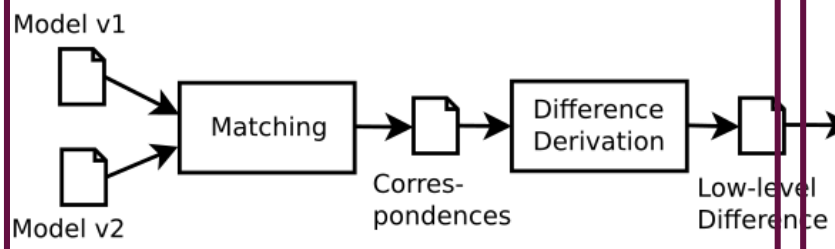


Research on Model Versioning in Several Research Projects

SiDiff [2005 - 2011]

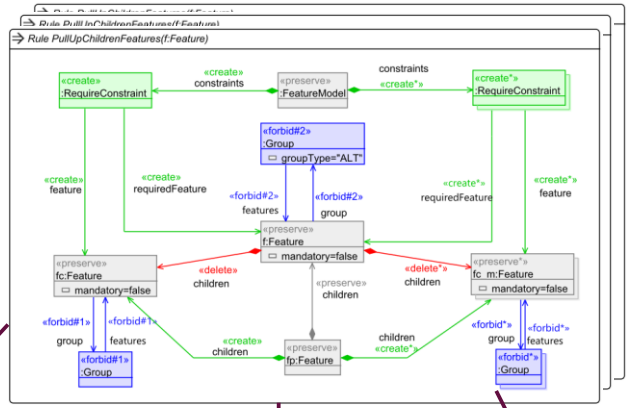
Results:

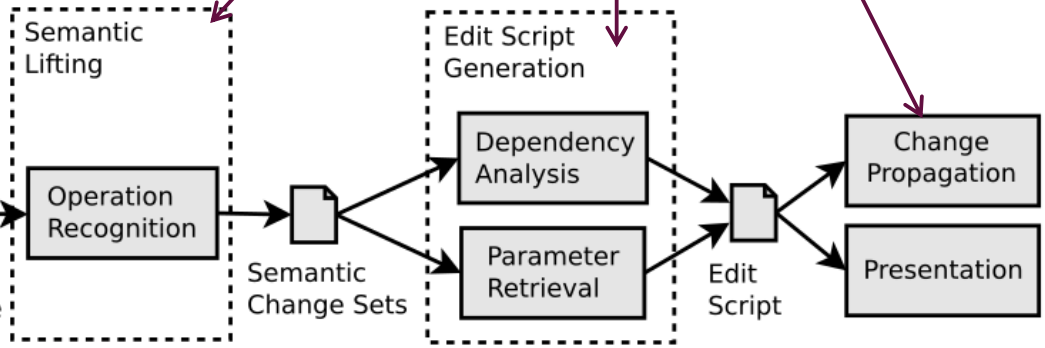
- A set of configurable incremental matchers
- A DSL to control their application



MOCA DFG Design For Future [2012 - 2015]

Extended differencing pipeline configured by formal specifications of editing operations





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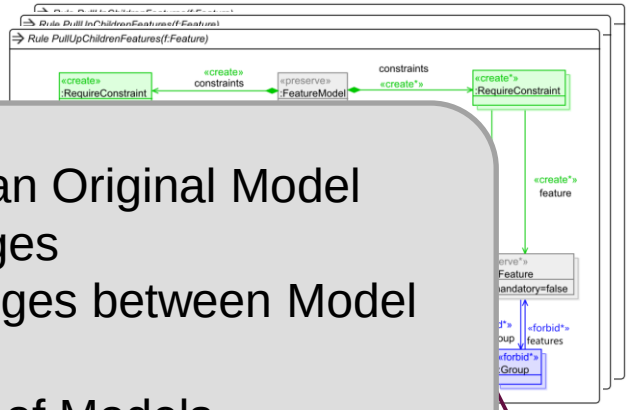
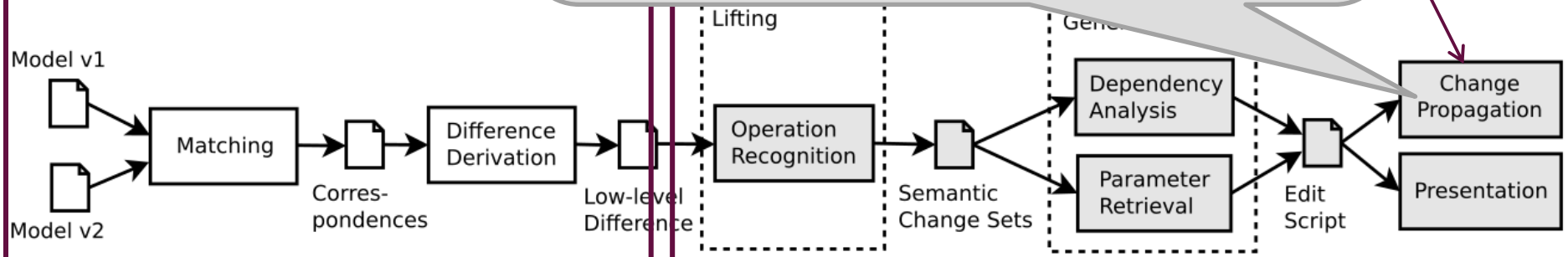
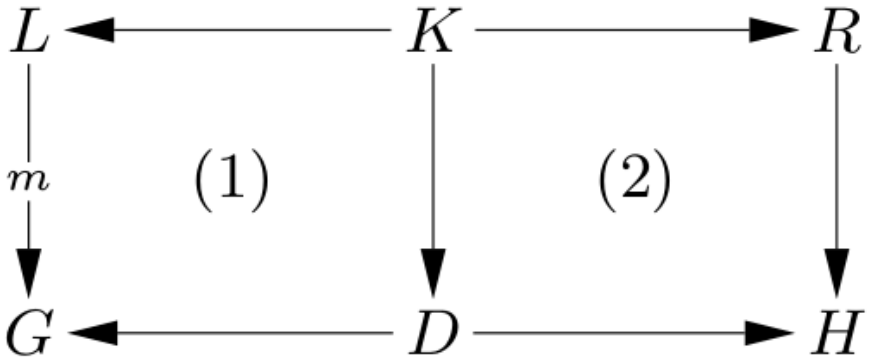


- Updating a Copy of an Original Model
- Cherrypicking Changes
- Propagation of Changes between Model Variants
- Workspace Updates of Models

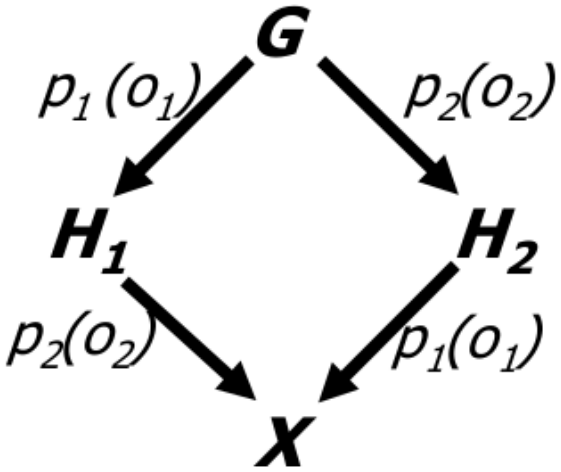


Unlocks Potential for Exploiting Graph Transformation Concepts

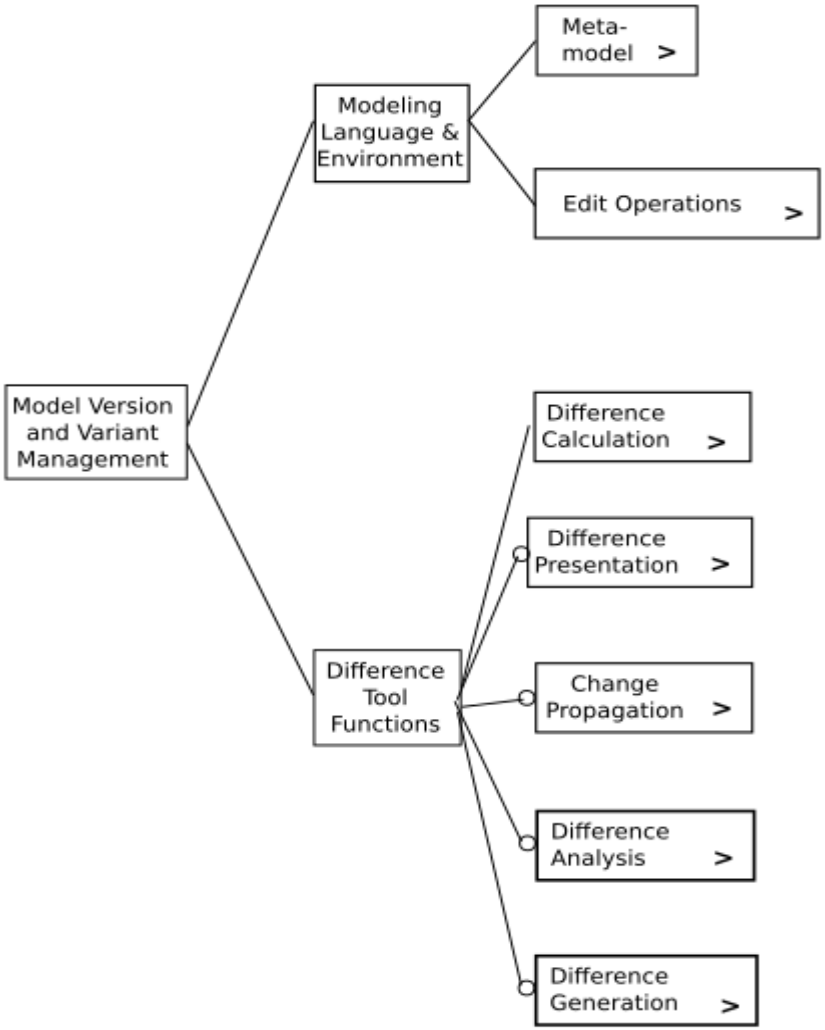
Formal semantics and declarative nature of transformation rules



Critical pair analysis, potential conflicts and dependencies



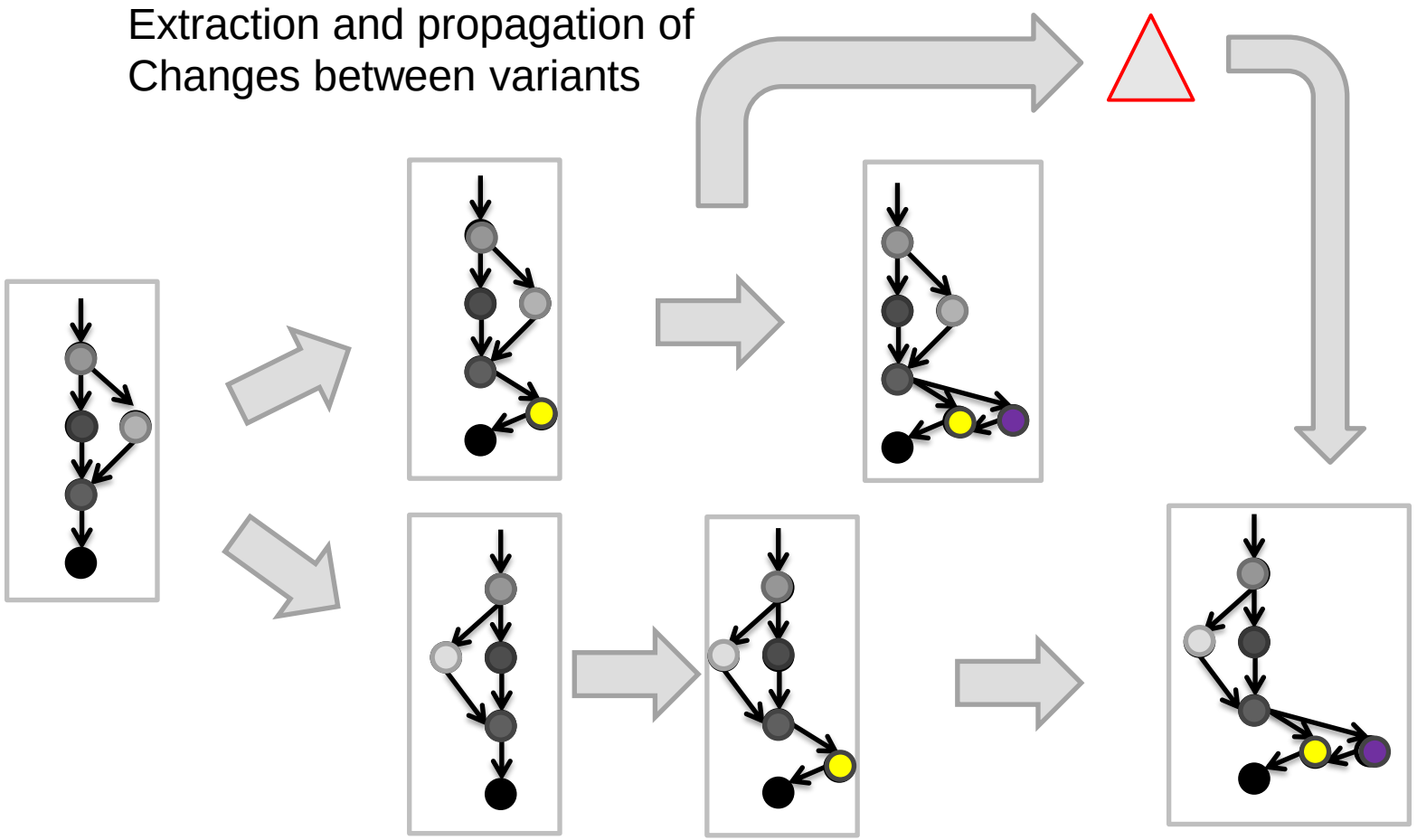
A Family of Flexible and Adaptable Versioning Operators



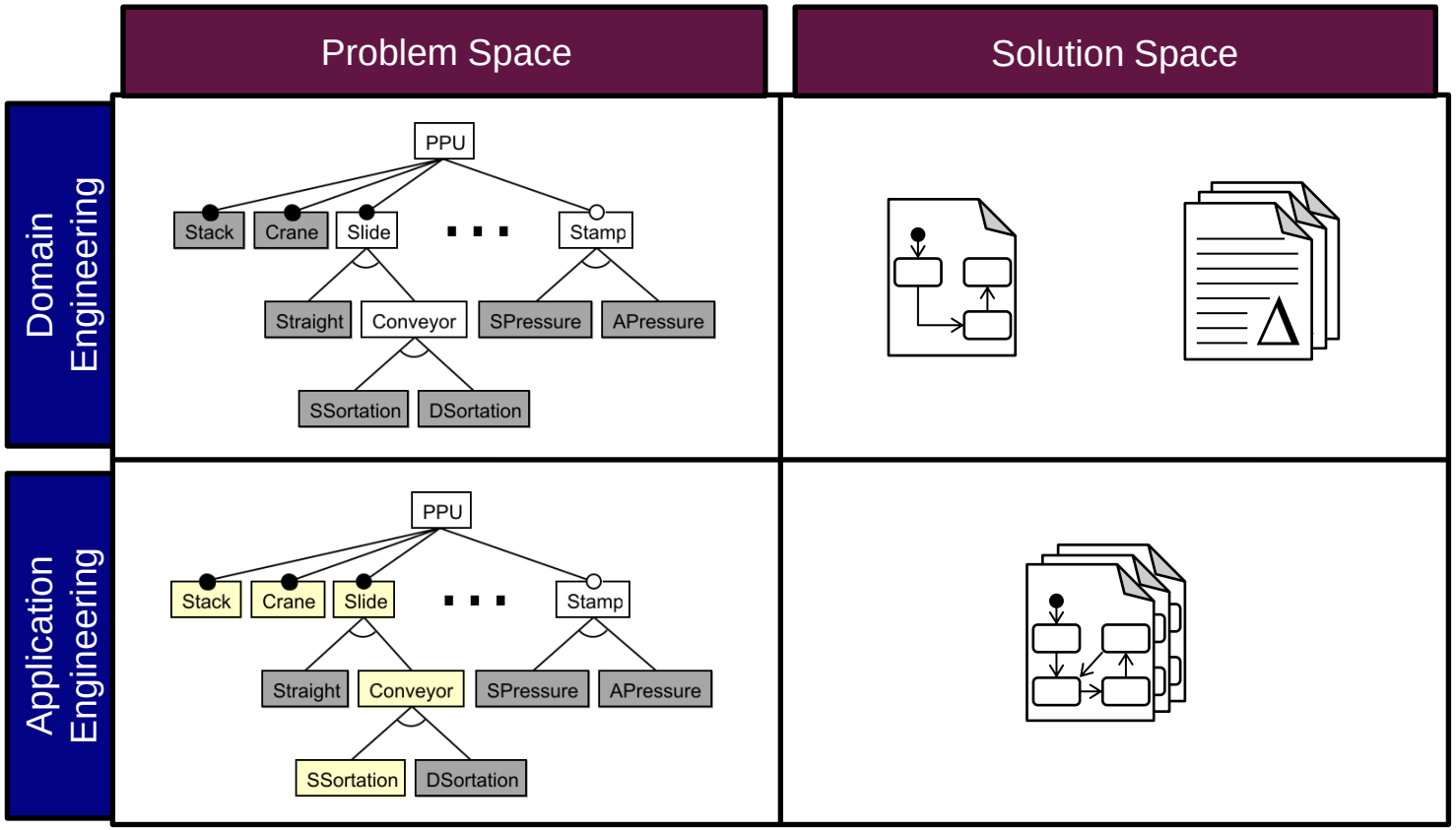
Adaptation to modeling language and environment

Adaptation to use case and application scenario

Instantiation for Ad-hoc Management of Variants Evolving in Parallel



Instantiation in the Context of Delta-oriented MBSPLE



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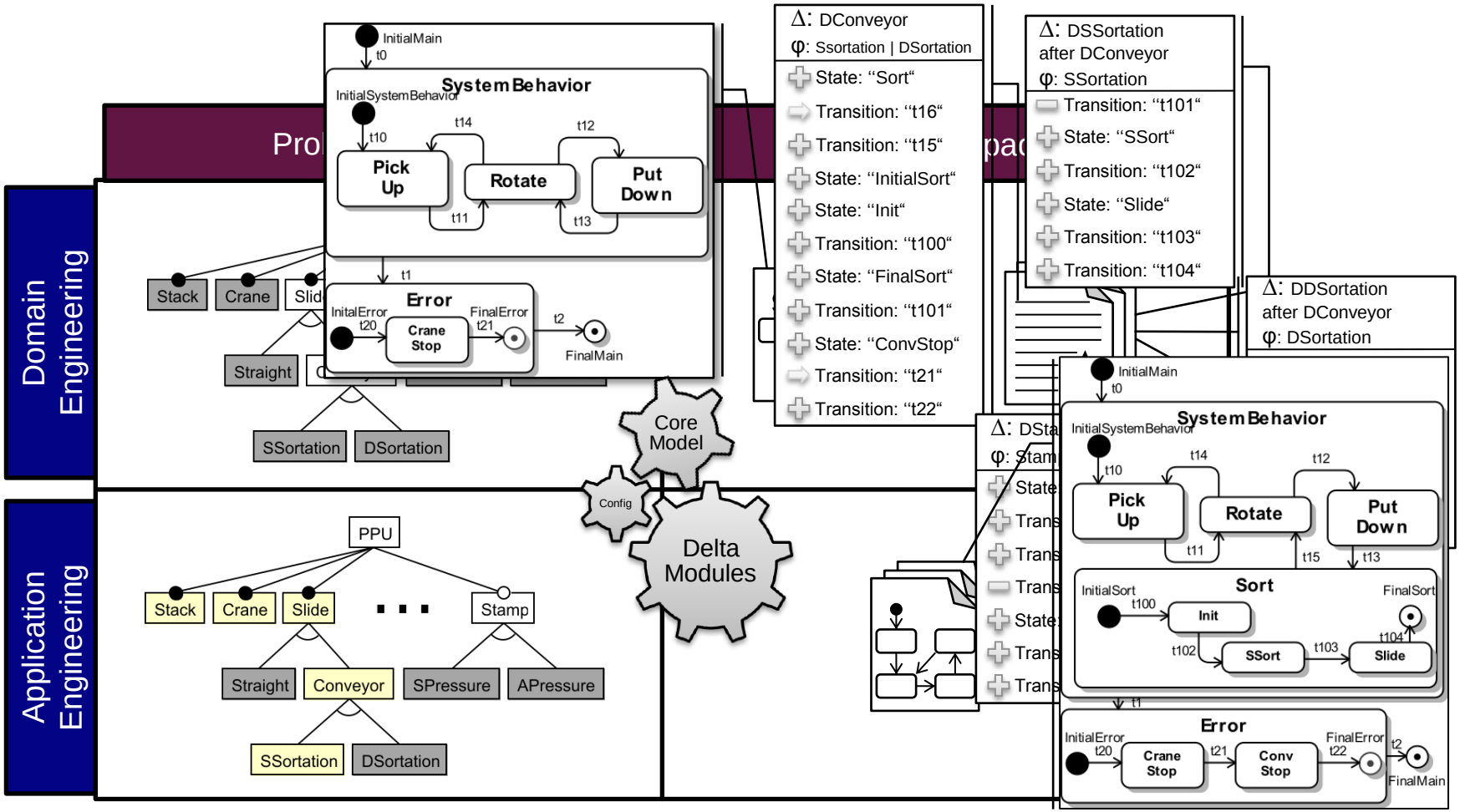
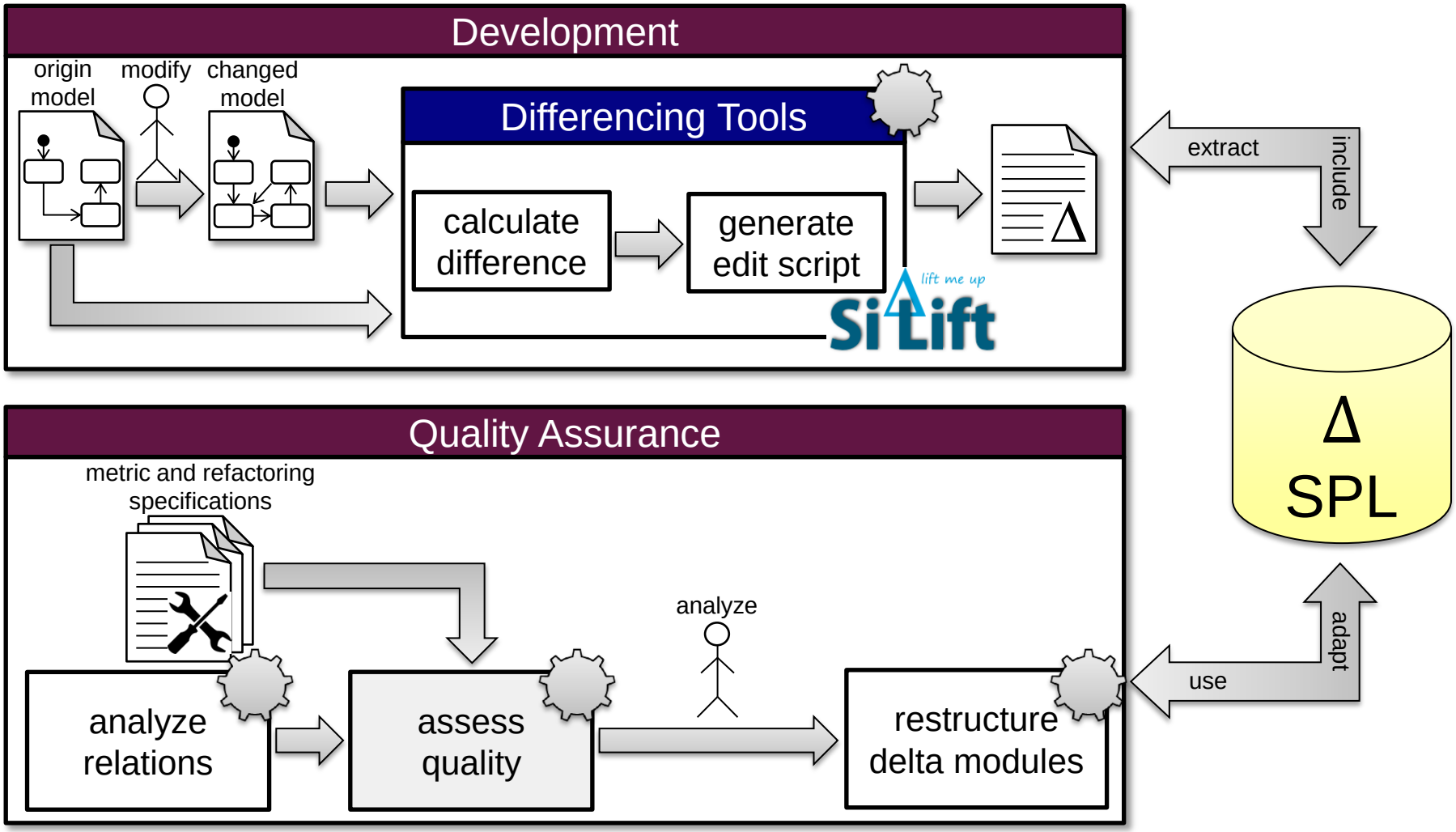


SiPL: A Framework for delta-oriented model-based SPL Engineering



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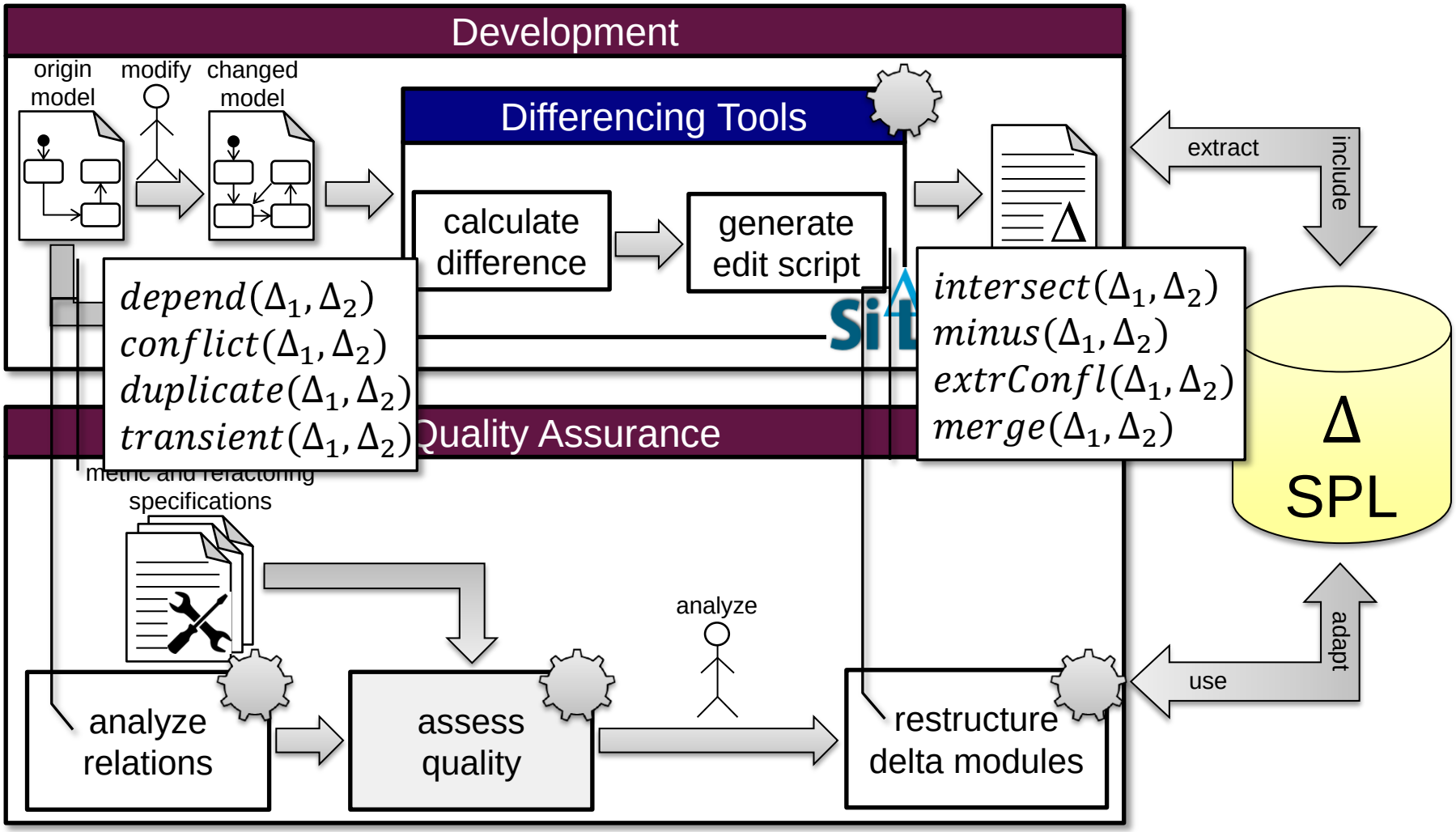

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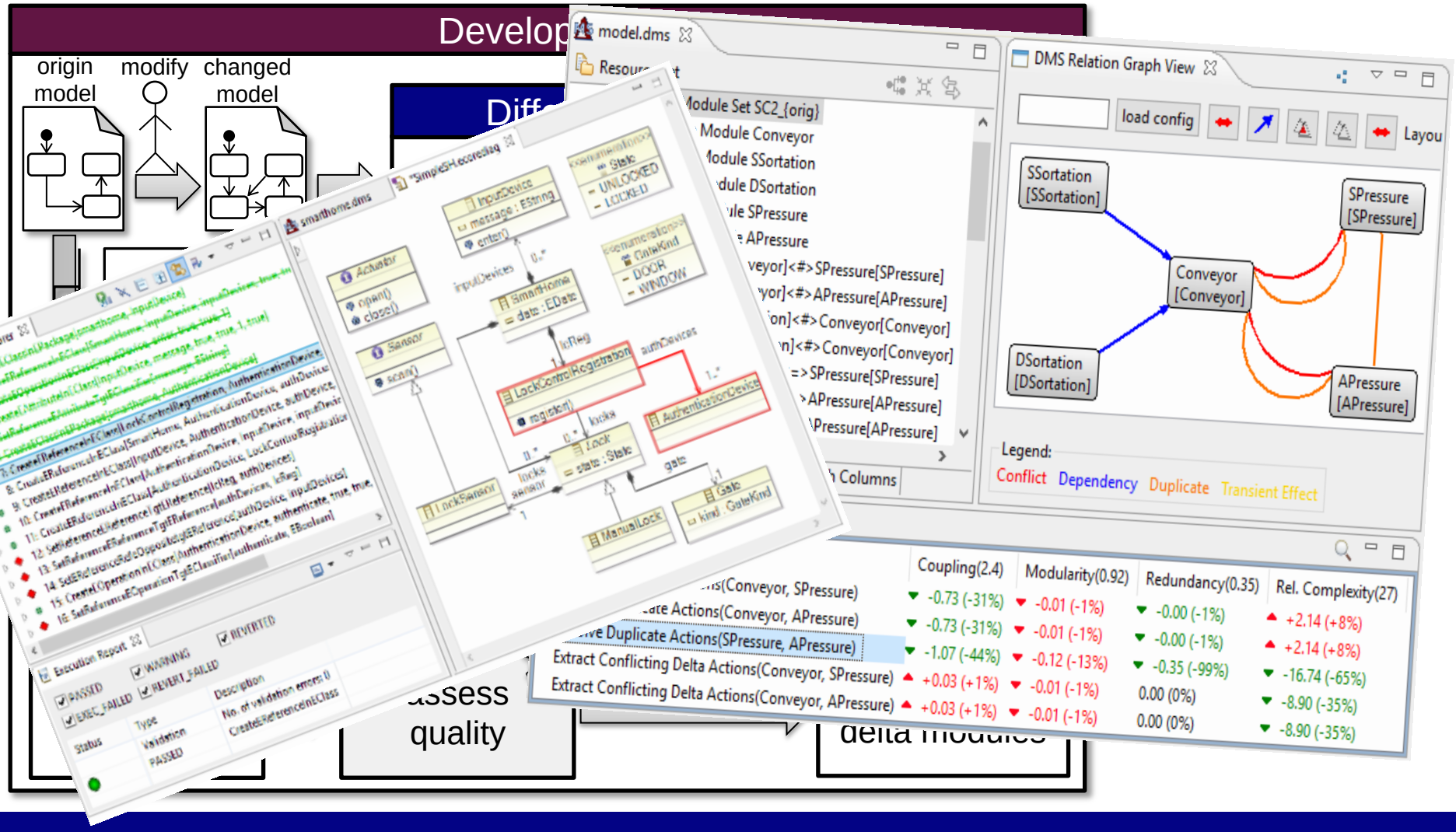
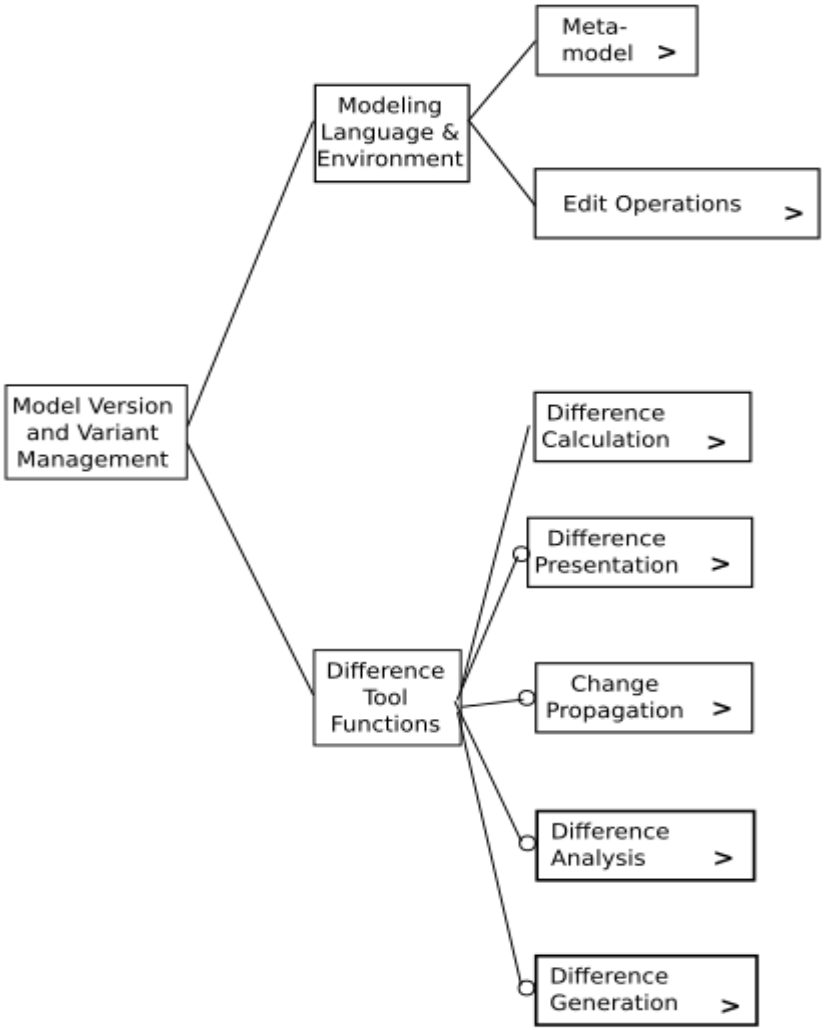


Future Perspective: From Binary to N-ary Operators

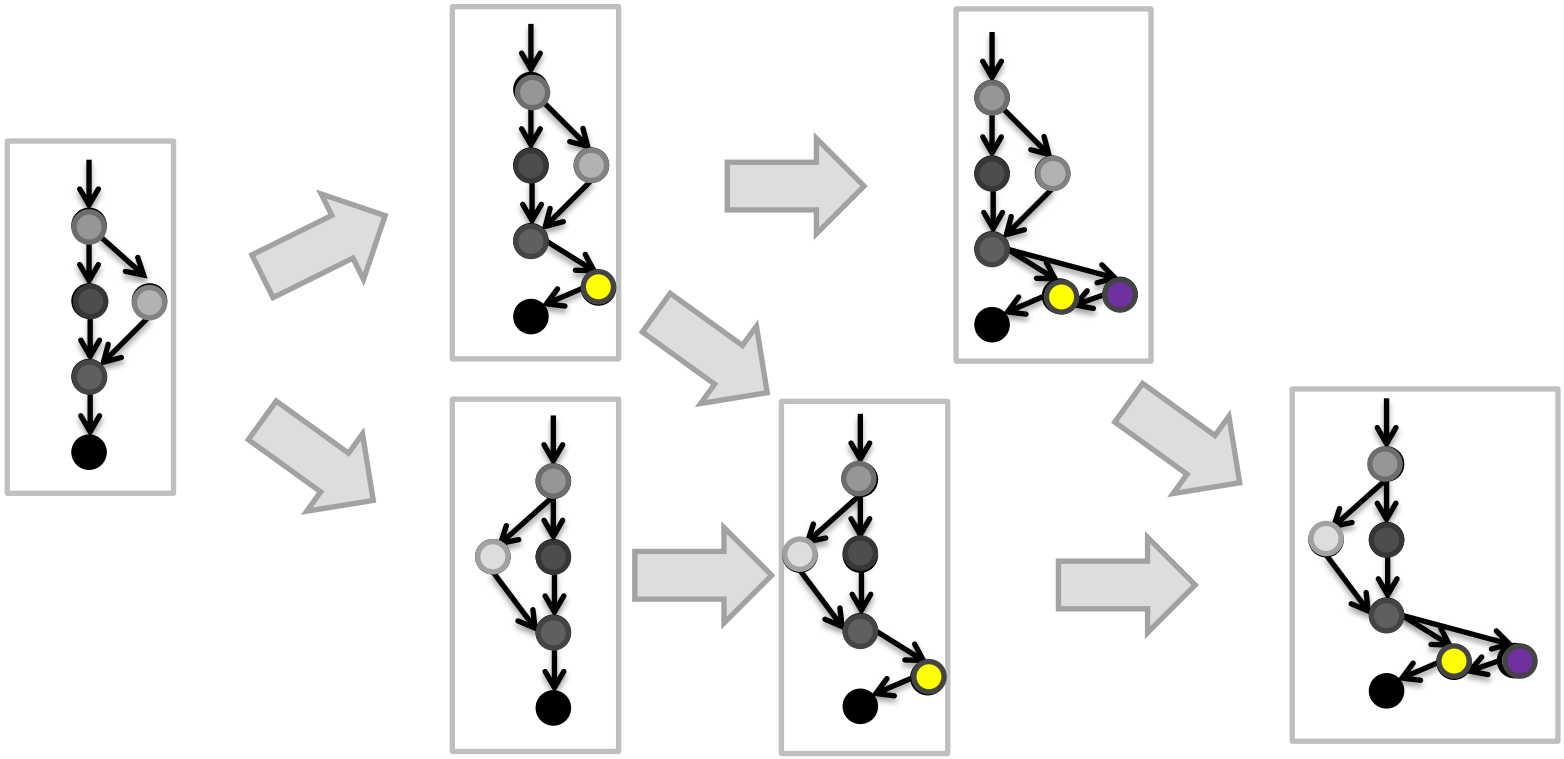


Adaptation to modeling language and environment

Adaptation to use case and application scenario

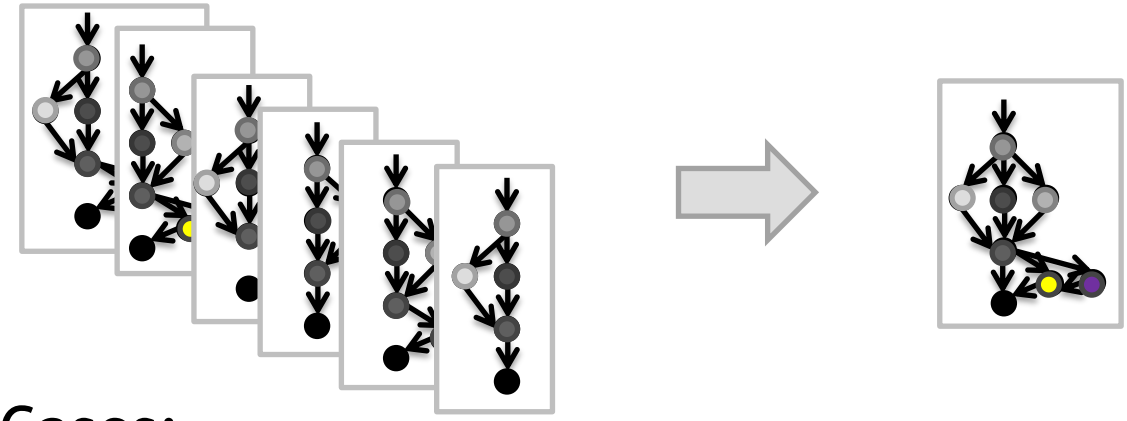
Example: N-Way Matching and Merging

- Context:
  - Parallel development of arbitrary many (autonomous) model variants using “clone-and-own” approach



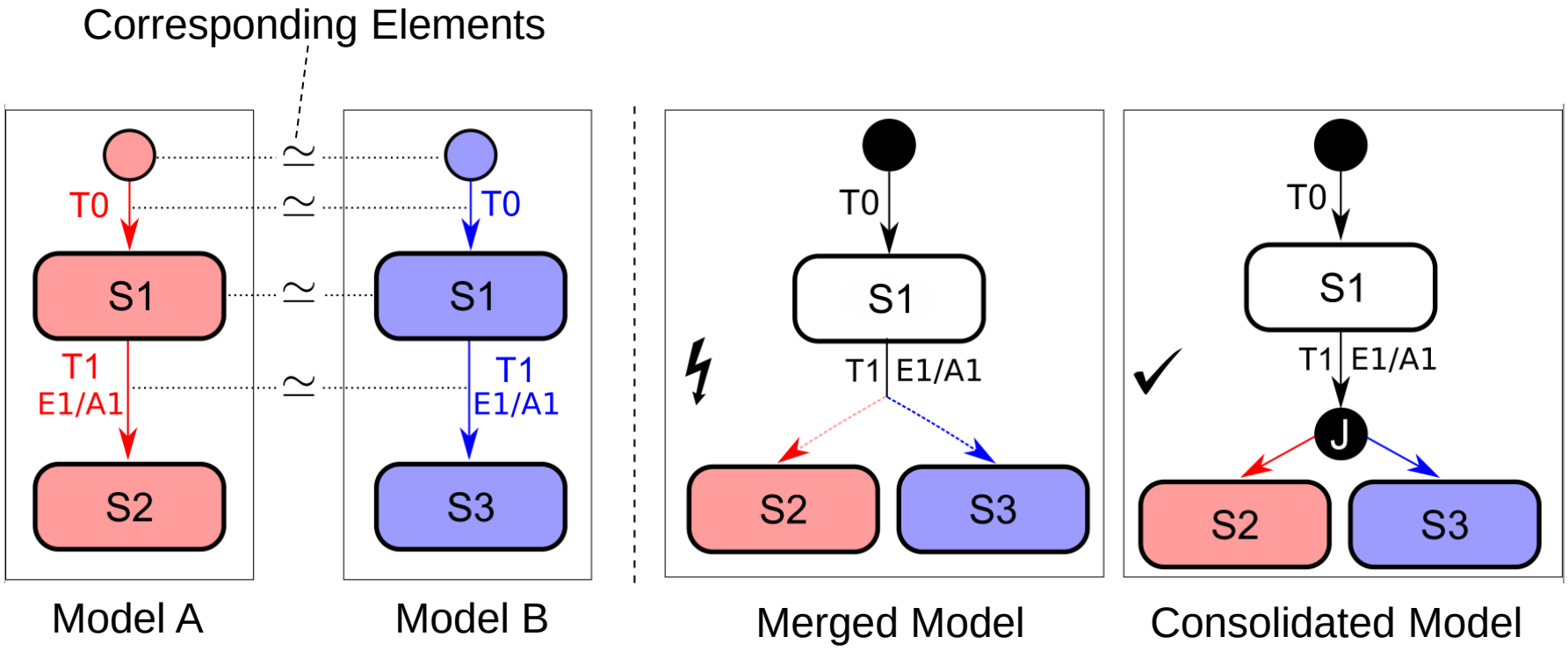
Example: N-Way Matching and Merging

- Goal:
  - Derive family model which integrates (superimposes) all variants into one representation:

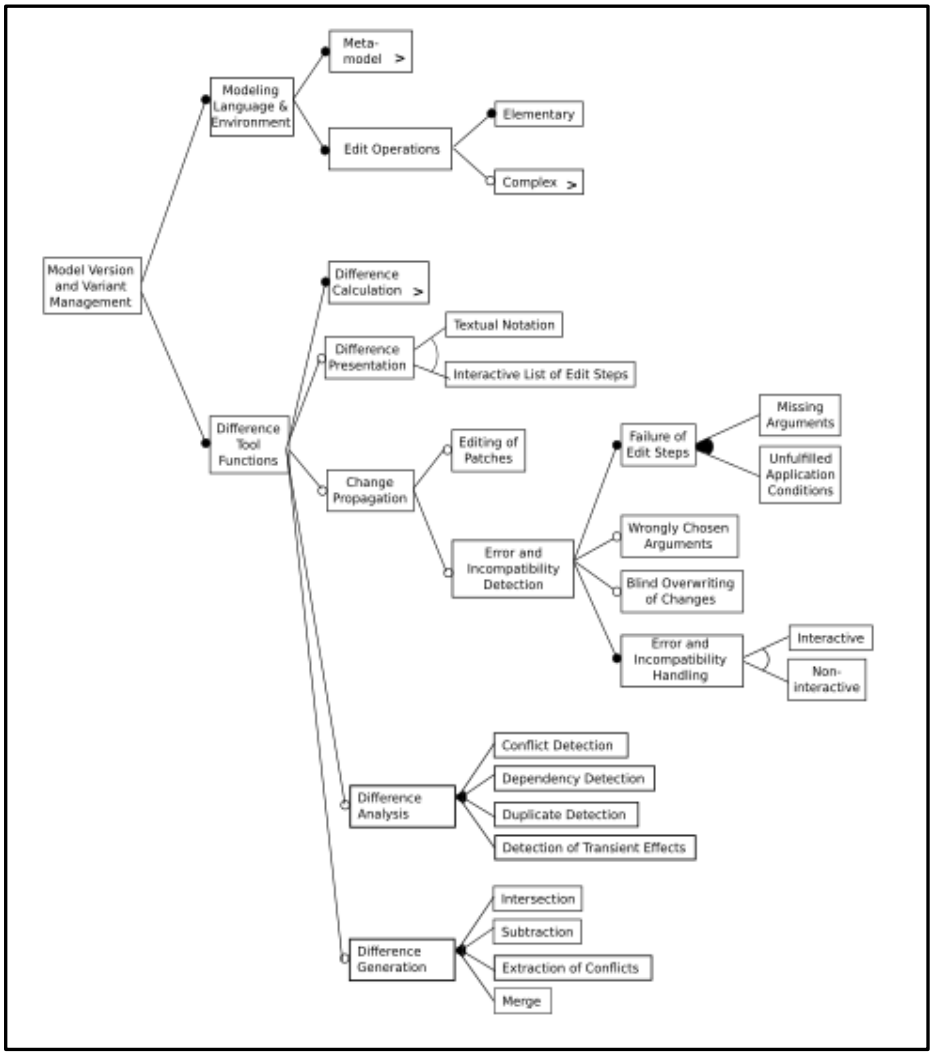


- Use Cases:
  - Visualization / Understanding family relations
  - Family-Based Analysis (Testing, Model-Checking,…)
  - Propagate changes (e.g. bug fixes) to all variants at once

Consolidation as a Generalization of Matching and Merging



Summary



- Family of flexible and adaptable versioning operators
- Re-used for several development tasks in the context of managing model variability
- Definitely further re-use potential, e.g.
  - Optimizing change logs obtained from Delta Recorder
  - Supporting variability model evolution in DarwinSPL
  - Optimizing Model-based delta module generation
  - …
- Ongoing work on generalization of operations, e.g. from binary to n-ary

Some Pointers

- Pietsch, C., Reuling, D., Kelter, U. and Kehrer, T., 2017, February. A tool environment for quality assurance of delta-oriented model-based SPLs. In Proceedings of the Eleventh International Workshop on Variability Modelling of Software-intensive Systems (pp. 84-91). ACM.
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