

Model Transformation

MT² Tutorial

James Williams
University of York



James Williams

Research Associate
Enterprise Systems Group
University of York

**How many of you are
familiar with MDE?**

**Overview
of MDE**

**Model
Transformation**

Example

**Overview
of MDE**

**Model
Transformation**

Example

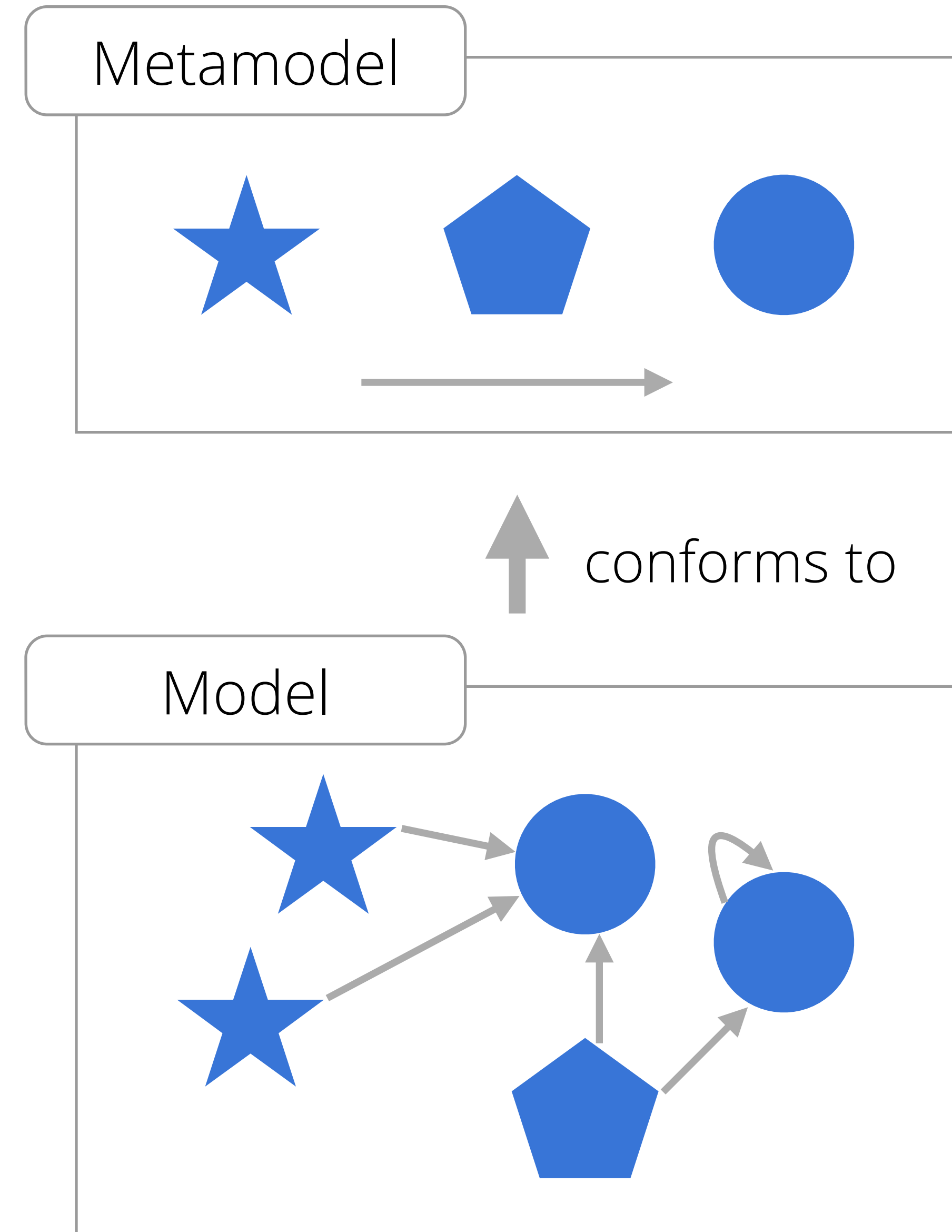
Model-Driven Engineering

Treats **models** as first class artefacts in the development lifecycle.

Models are structured; amenable to automated processing.

Overview of MDE

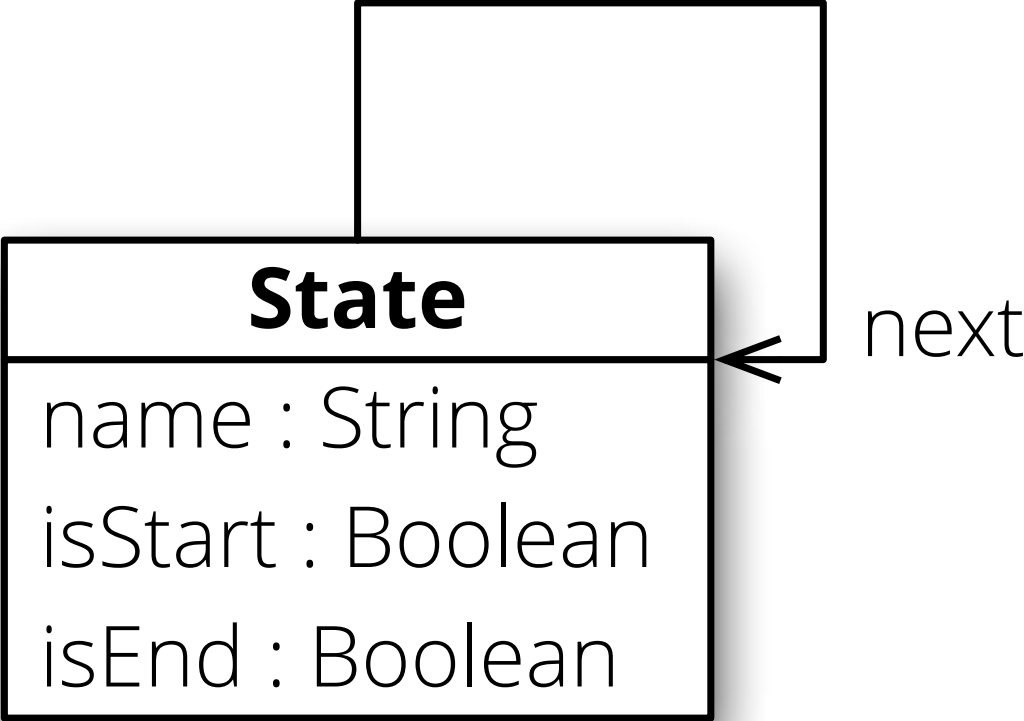
Model Transformation



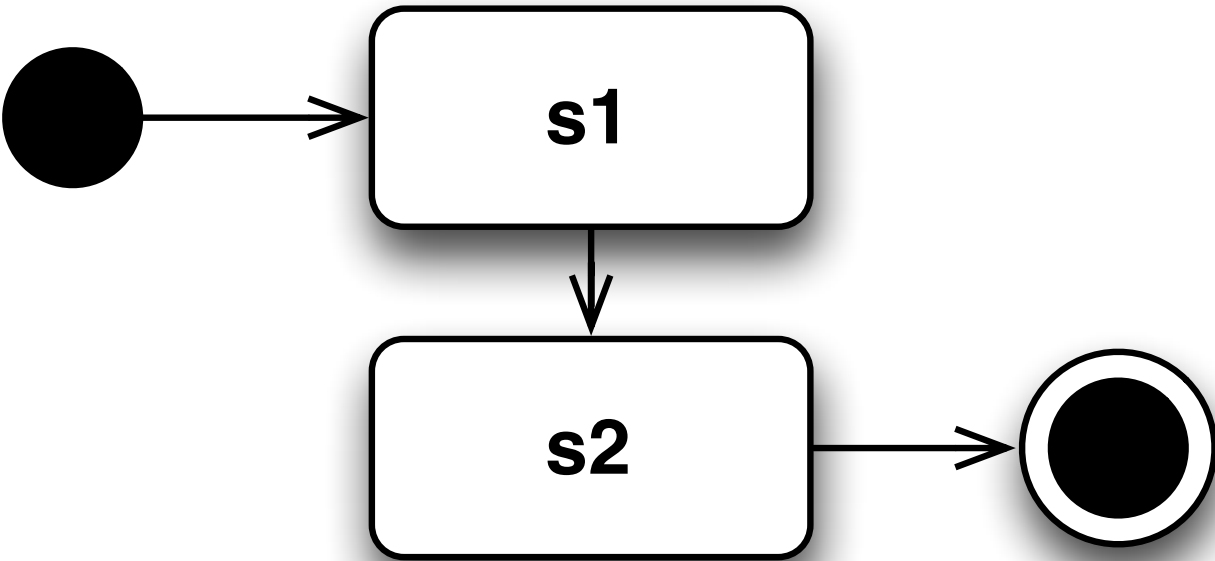
Example

Domain-Specific Languages

Metamodels define domain-specific modelling languages.



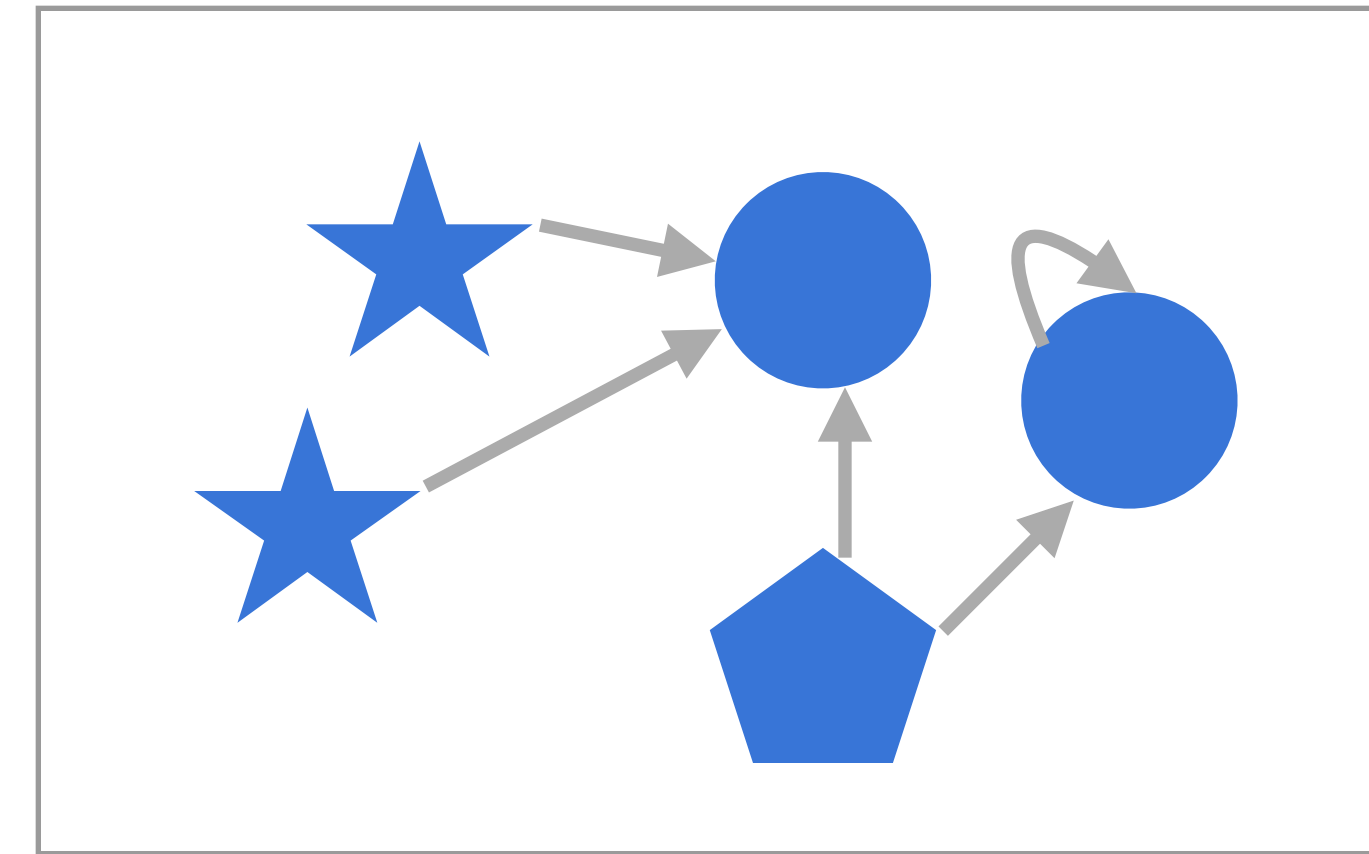
```
Start {  
    next : s1  
}  
  
s1 : State {  
    next : s2  
}  
  
s2 : State {  
    next : End  
}  
  
End { }
```



Model Management

Programmatic management of models:

- validation
- transformation
- comparison
- merge
- analysis (e.g. pattern detection)



Model Management Operations

Overview
of MDE

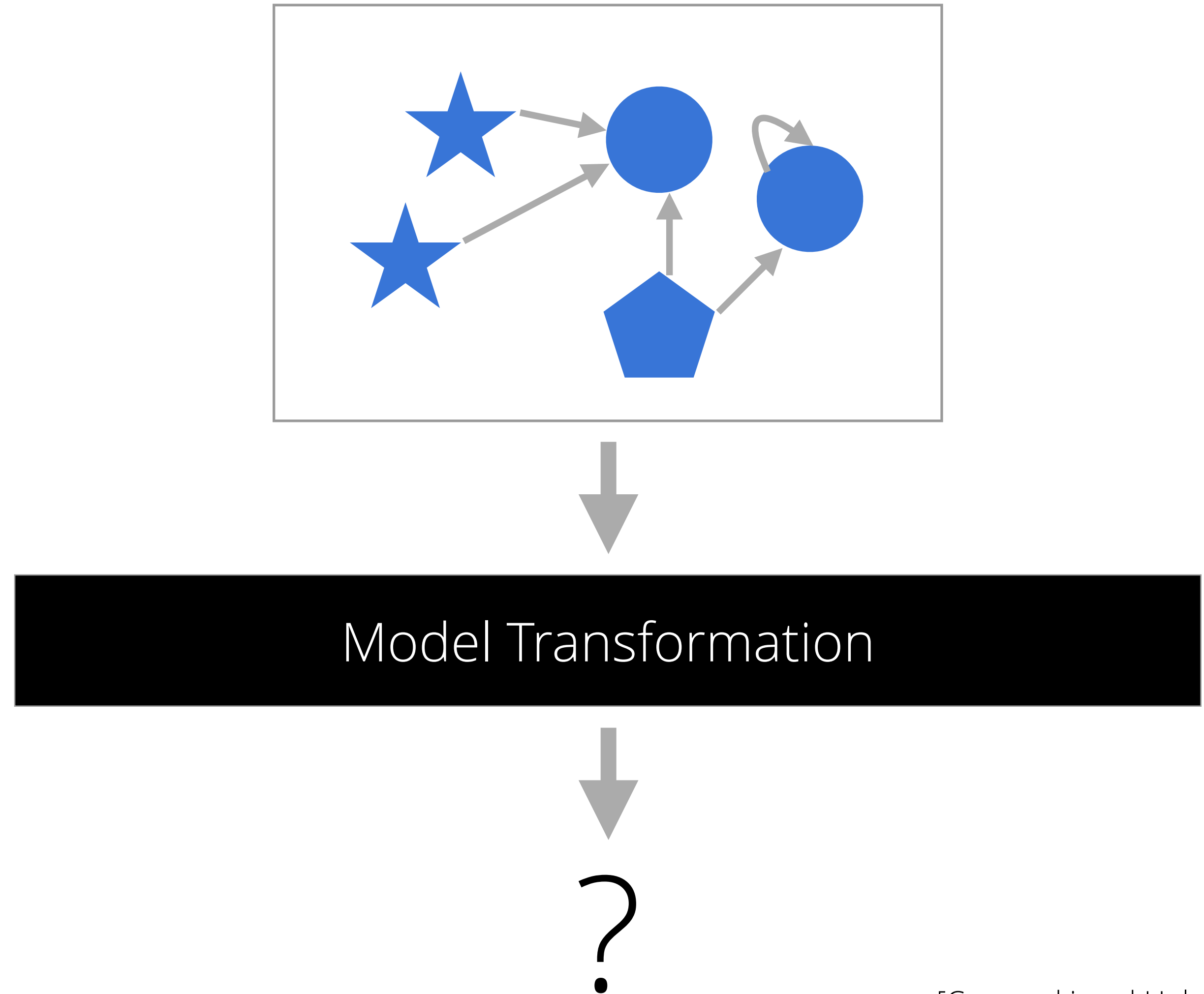
**Model
Transformation**

Example

Model Transformation

Transforms a model into some other useful artefact.

Can have multiple inputs and multiple outputs.



[Czarnecki and Helsen, 2006]

Overview
of MDE

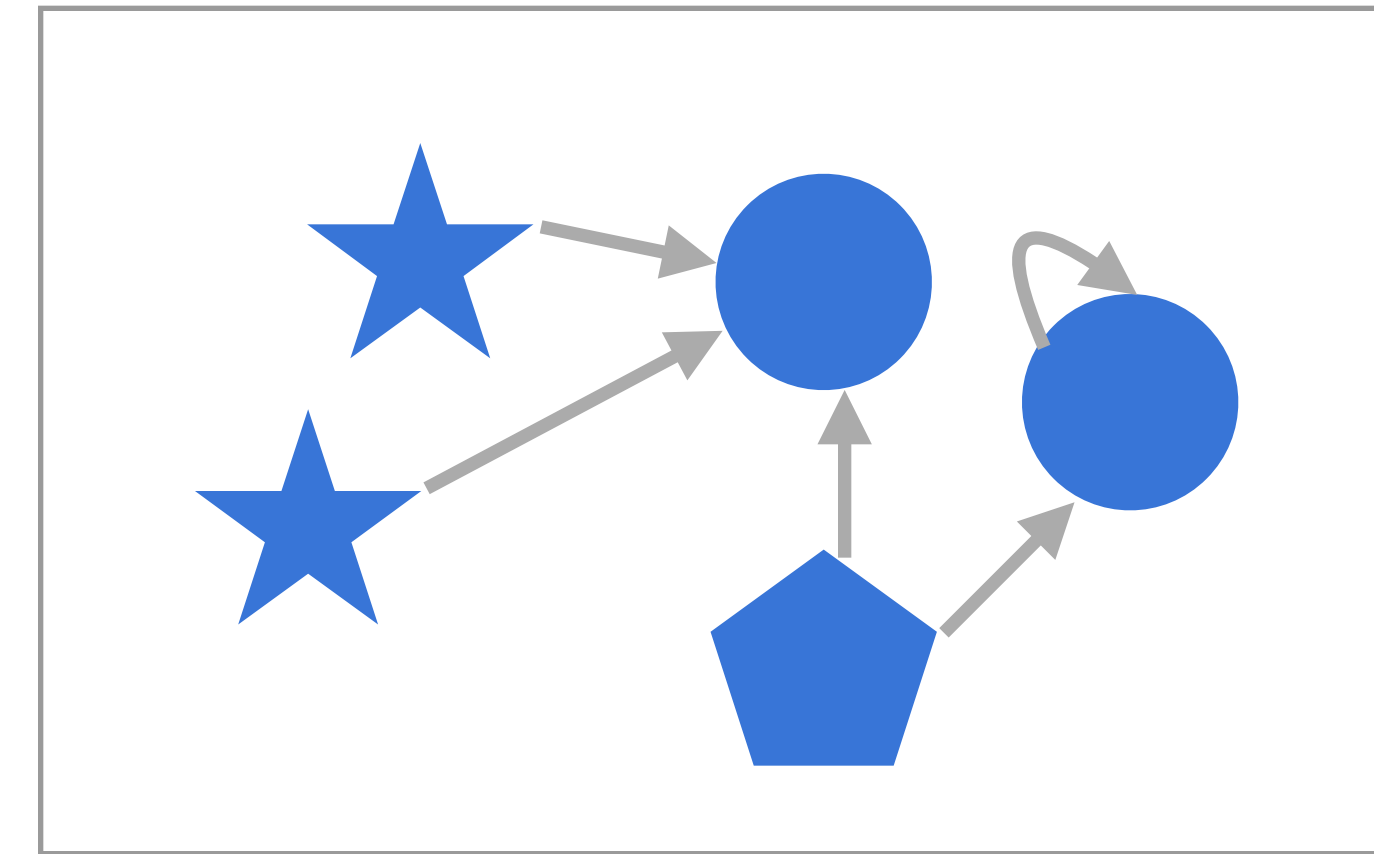
Model
Transformation

Example

Model Transformation

Applications:

- Elaboration
- Synchronisation
- View creation
- Model evolution/refactoring
- Abstraction



Model Transformation

?

Overview
of MDE

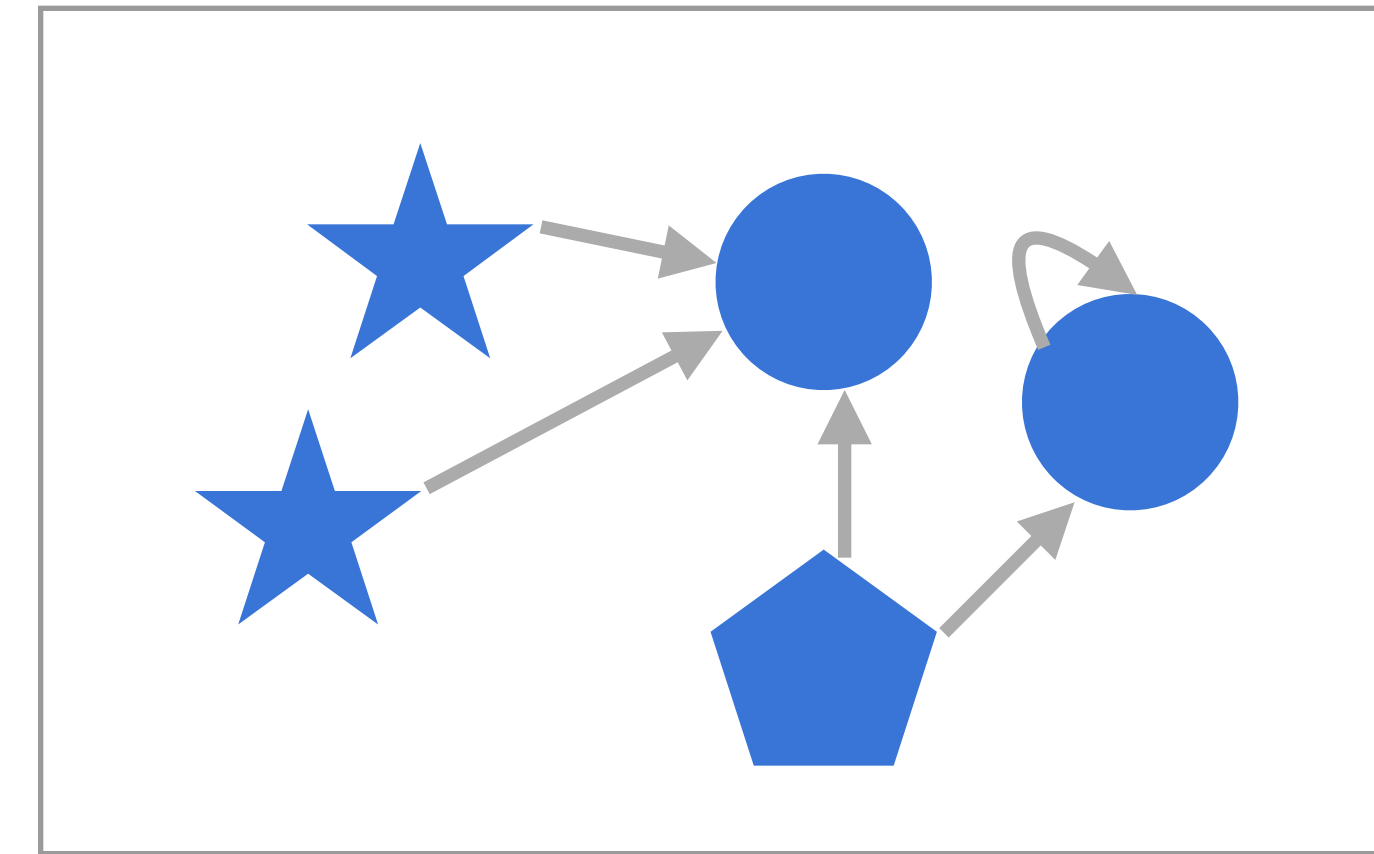
Model
Transformation

Example

Model Transformation

Transformations are not necessarily:

- semantic preserving
- refinements
- specified in a way that allows interesting properties to be checked



Model Transformation

?

Overview
of MDE

Model
Transformation

Example

Transformation Languages

Numerous mature tools

- QVT
- VIATRA2
- Tefkat
- ETL
- ATL
- GReAT
- KerMeta
- ...

Overview
of MDE

Model
Transformation

Example



Transformation Languages

Much variety in implementation:

- APIs in GPLs
- Operational (procedural)
- Relational (declarative)
- Graph matching
- ...

Overview
of MDE

Model
Transformation

Example

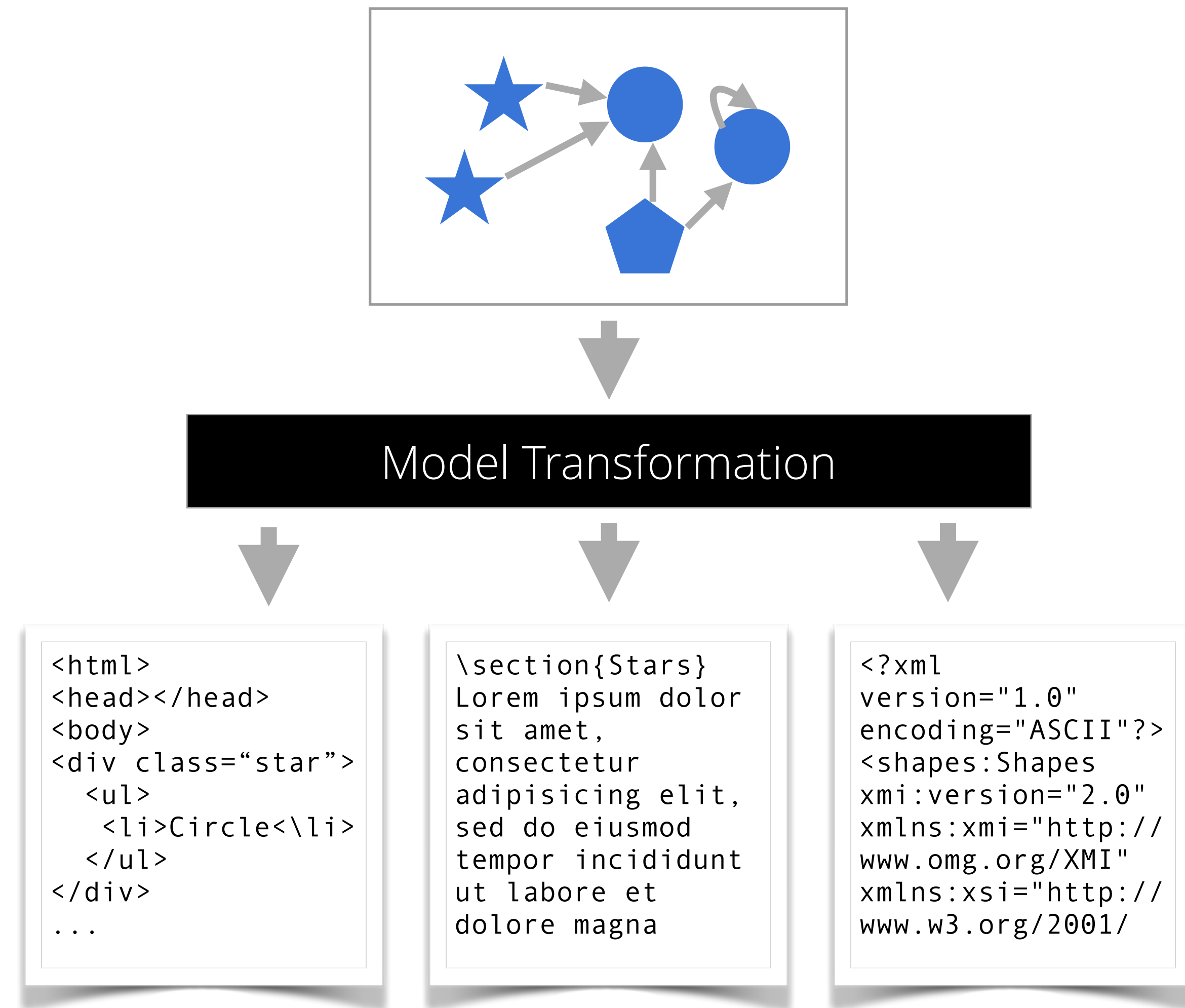


M2T / M2M

Model-to-Text Transformation

Output is a string.

e.g. source code, documentation
(HTML, LaTeX, Markdown),
visualise models (svg, dot),
serialise models (JSON, XMI)



Overview
of MDE

Model
Transformation

Example

Model-to-Text Transformation

Approaches:

- Visitor-based
- Template-based

```
<html>
<head></head>
<body>

[% for (s in Stars.all) { %]
<div class="star">
  <ul>
[% for (c in s.circles) { %]
    <li>Circle<\li>
[% } %]
  </ul>
</div>
[% } %]
...

```

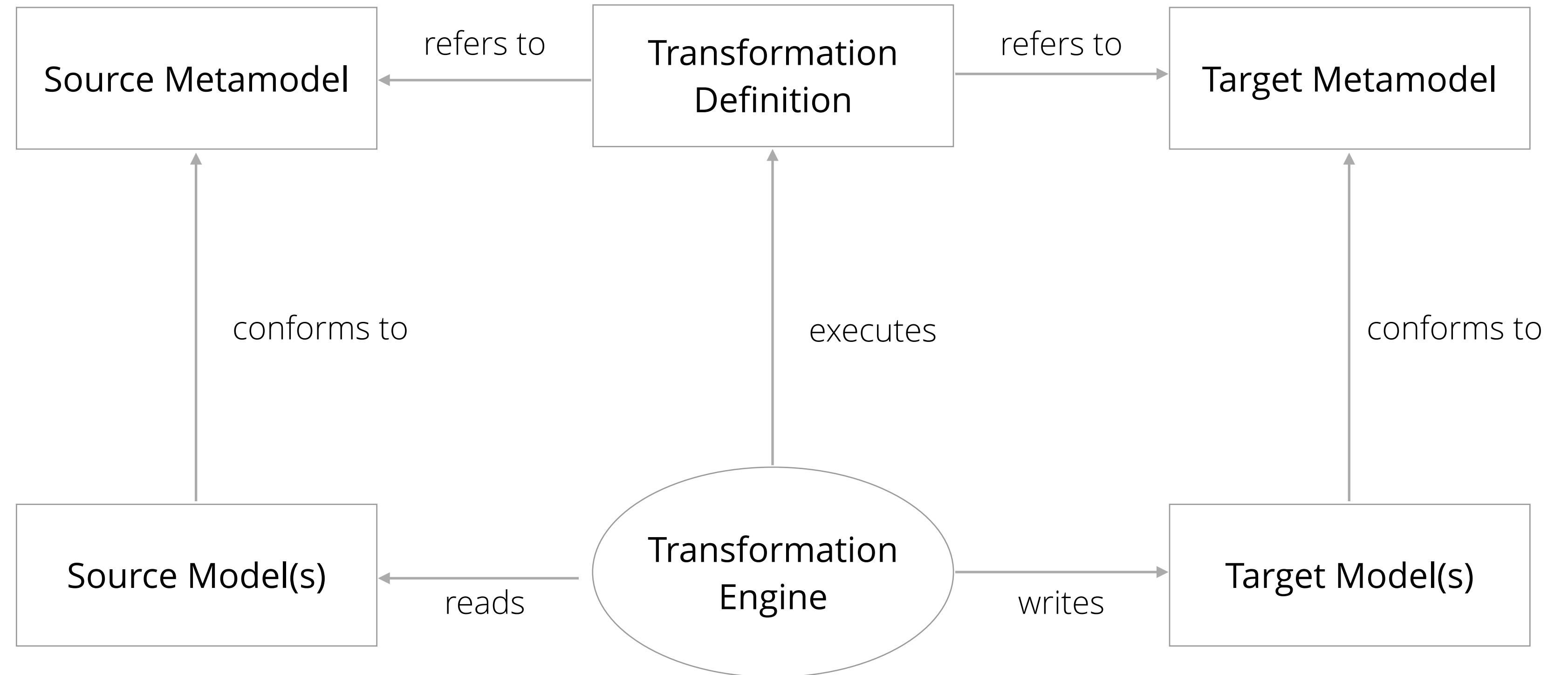
Overview
of MDE

Model
Transformation

Example

Model-to-Model Transformation

Generate a (set of) model(s) from a (set of) model(s).



[Czarnecki and Helsen, 2006]

Overview
of MDE

Model
Transformation

Example

Model-to-Model Transformation

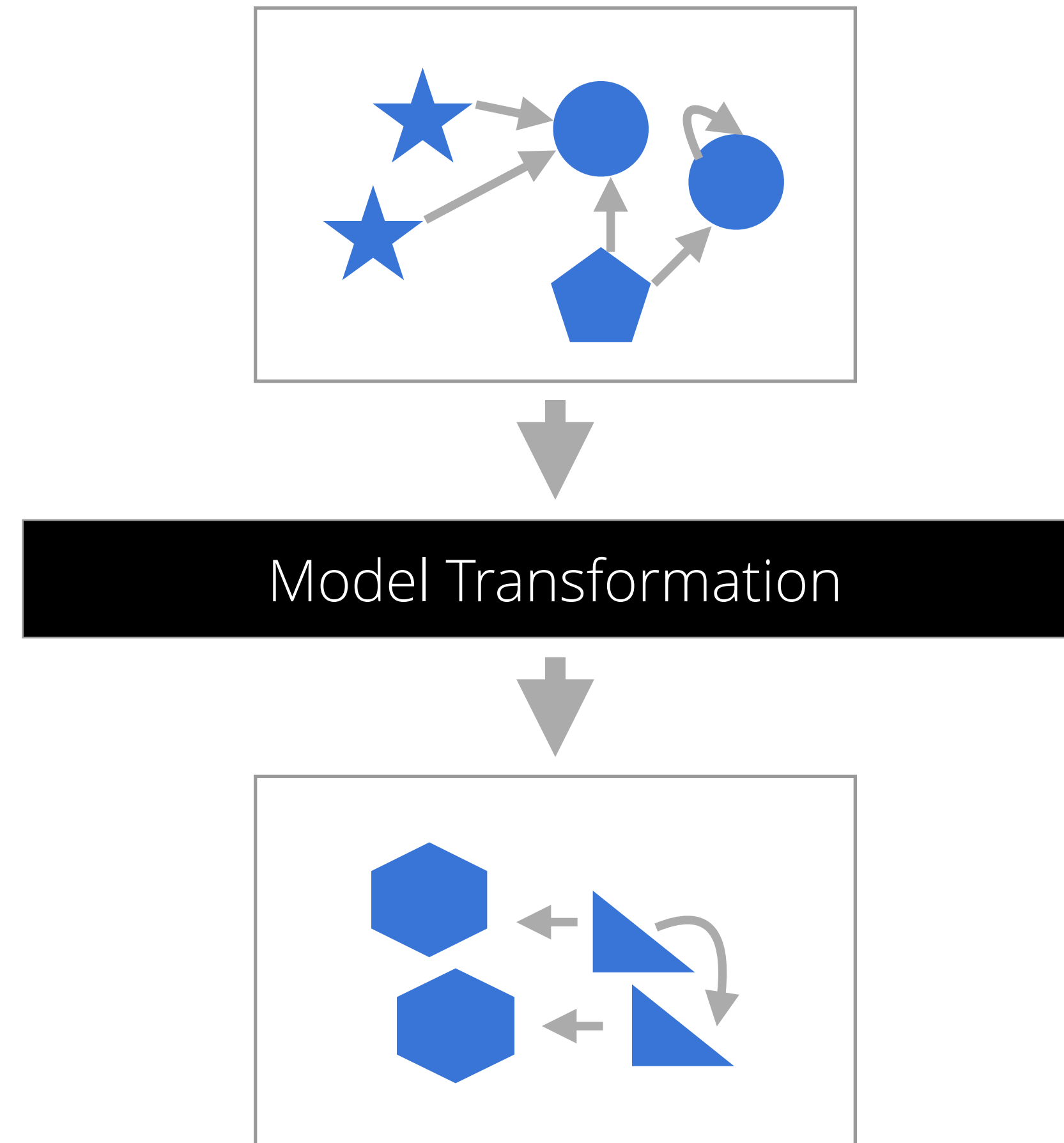
```
rule StarToHexagon
  transform star : Star
  to hex : Hexagon {

    // Describe process

  }
```

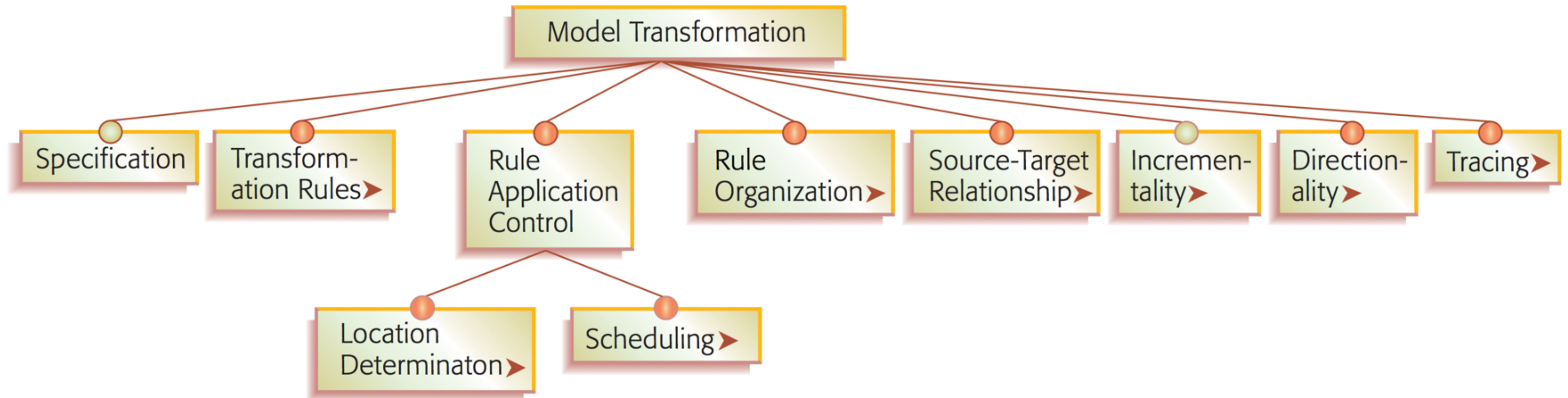
Overview
of MDE

Model
Transformation



Example

Model-to-Model Transformation



[Czarnecki and Helsen, 2006]

Overview
of MDE

Model
Transformation

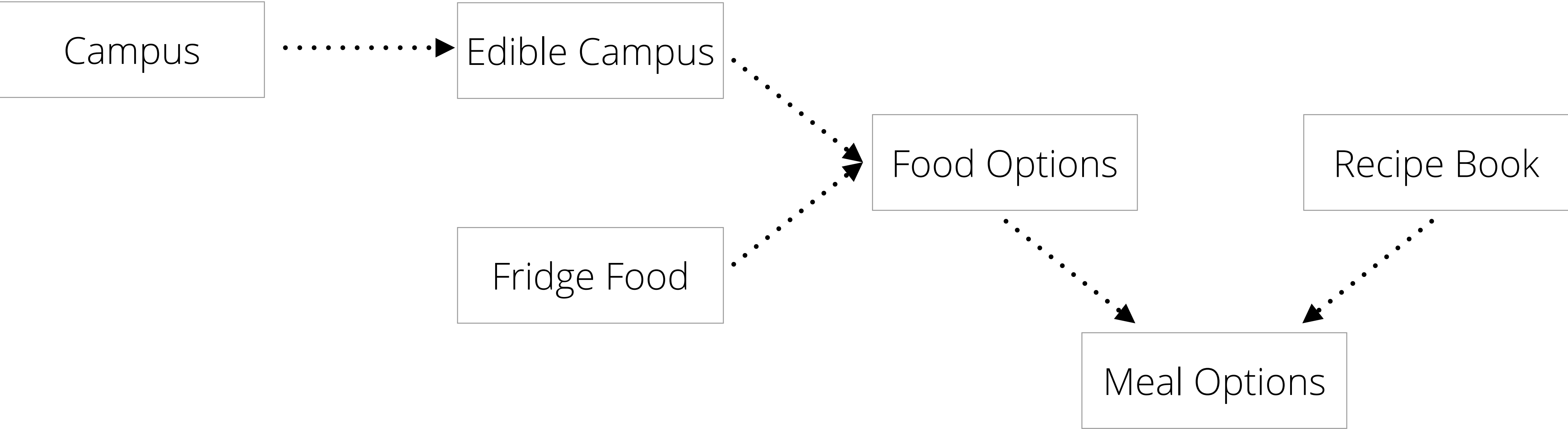
Example

Overview
MDE+MT

M2M + M2T

Example

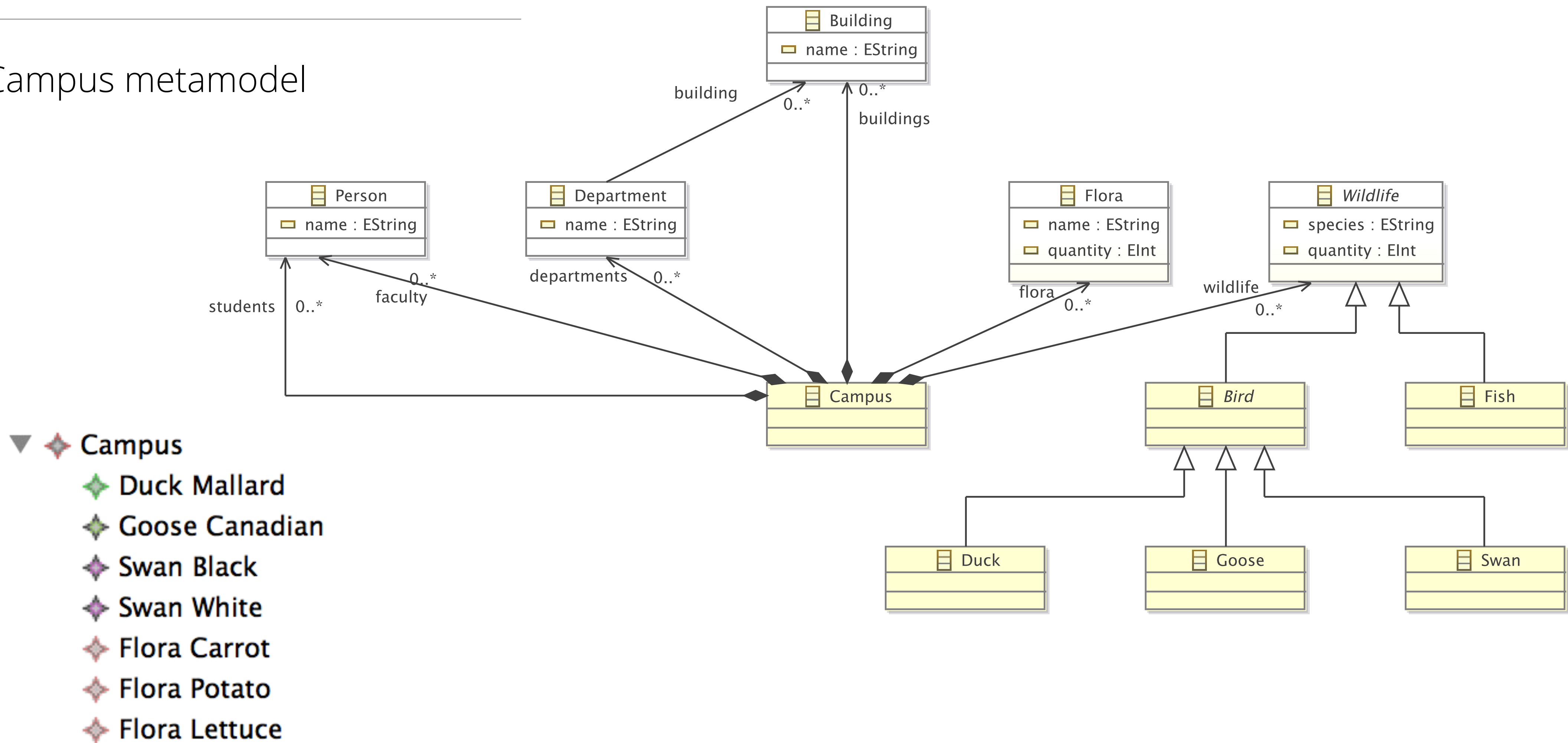
Example: Campus Menu



Example:

Campus Menu

Campus metamodel



Overview
MDE+MT

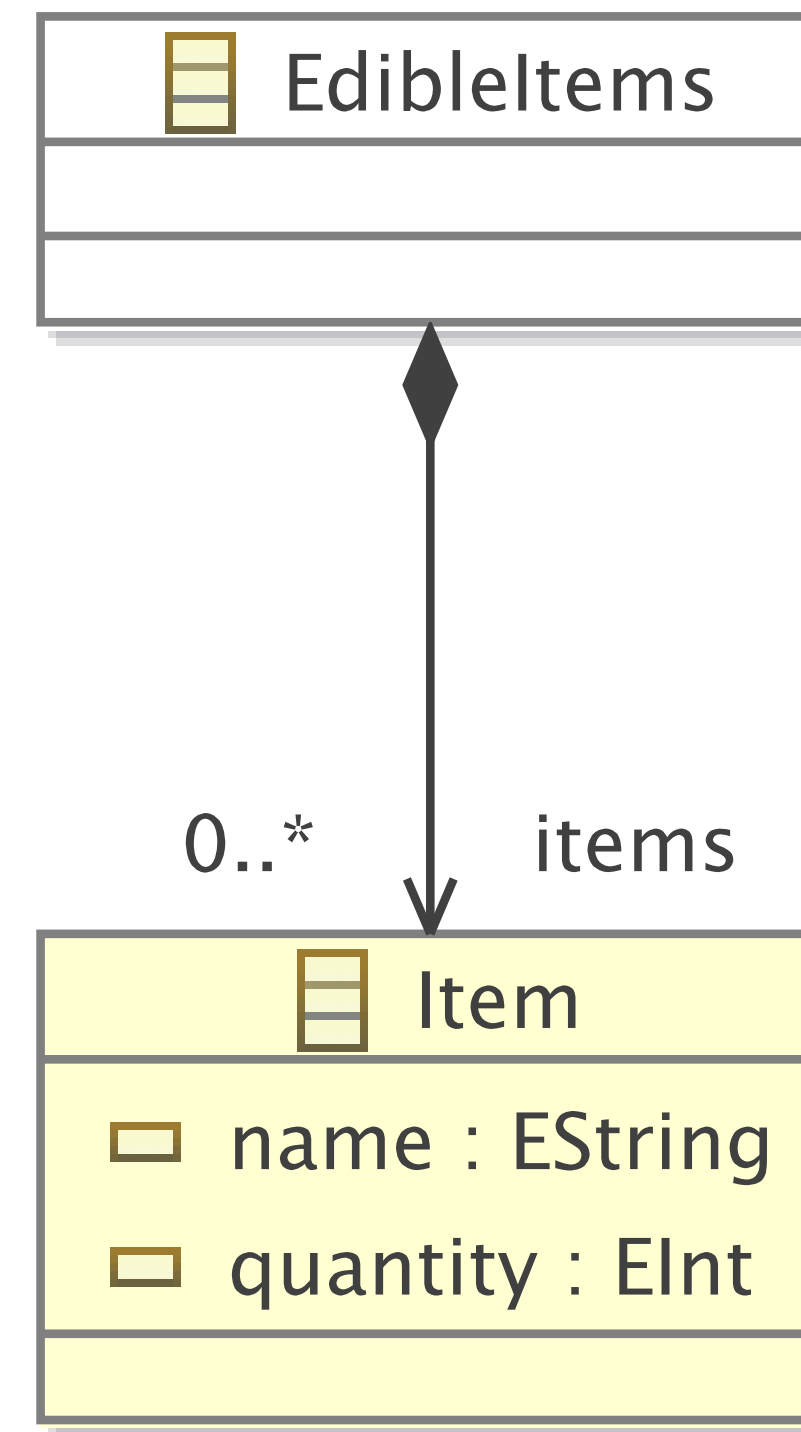
M2M + M2T

Example

Example:

Campus Menu

Edible items metamodel



Example: Campus Menu

```
rule CampusToEdibleItems
  transform c : CAMPUS!Campus
  to e : FOOD!EdibleItems {

    e.items.addAll(c.wildlife.equivalents().flatten());
    e.items.addAll(c.flora.equivalents().flatten());

  }
```

```
@greedy
rule WildlifeToEdible
  transform w : CAMPUS!Wildlife
  to e : FOOD!Item {

    guard : not w.isTypeOf(CAMPUS!Swan)

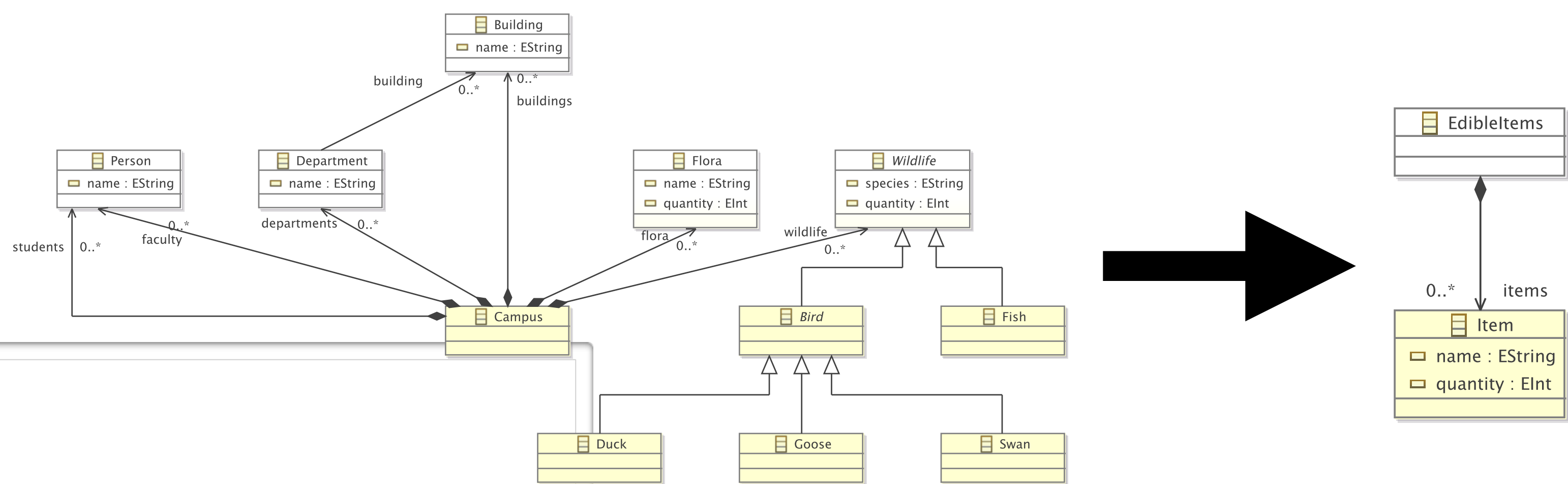
    e.name = w.eClass.name;
    e.quantity = w.quantity;

  }
```

```
@lazy
rule FloraToEdible
  transform f : CAMPUS!Flora
  to e : FOOD!Item {

    e.name = f.name;
    e.quantity = f.quantity;

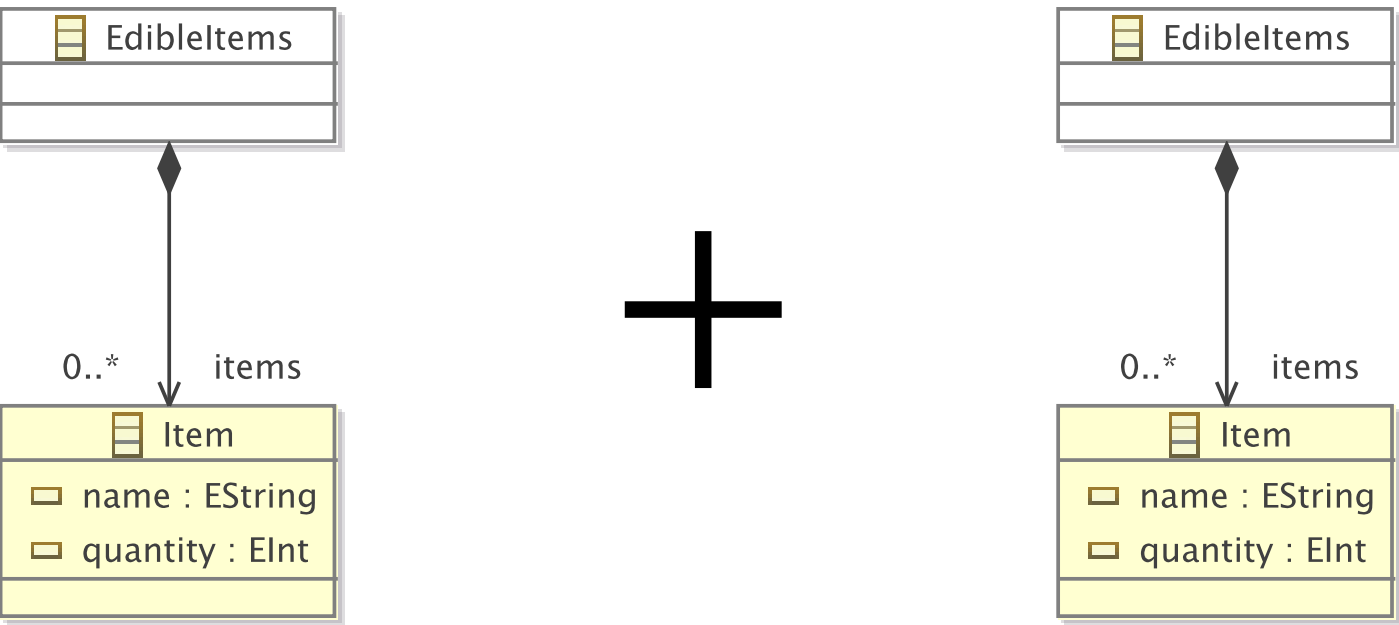
  }
```



Example

Example: Campus Menu

Merge the fridge food and edible
campus food



```
var edibleItems = new OUT!EdibleItems;  
edibleItems.items.addAll(FOOD!Item.all);
```

Example: Campus Menu

Print the available meals

```
[% var book = RECIPE!RecipeBook.all.first();
var rs = new Sequence;
for (recipe in book.recipes) {
    var canMake = true;
    for (item in recipe.items) {
        if (FOOD!Item.all.select(i | i.name == item.name and i.quantity >= item.quantity).size() == 0) {
            canMake = false;
            break;
        }
    }
    if (canMake) {
        rs.add(recipe);
    }
}
%]
<html>
<head>
    <title>Recipes</title>
</head>
<body>
[% if (rs.size() == 0) {%]
    <p>Sorry, you don't have enough food to make a meal! Maybe you should go shopping!</p>
[%} else {%]
    <p>Available recipes:</p>
    <ul>
[%for (r in rs) {%]
        <li>[%=r.name%]</li>
[%}%]
    </ul>
[%}%]
</body>
</html>
```

Example: Campus Menu

Print the available meals

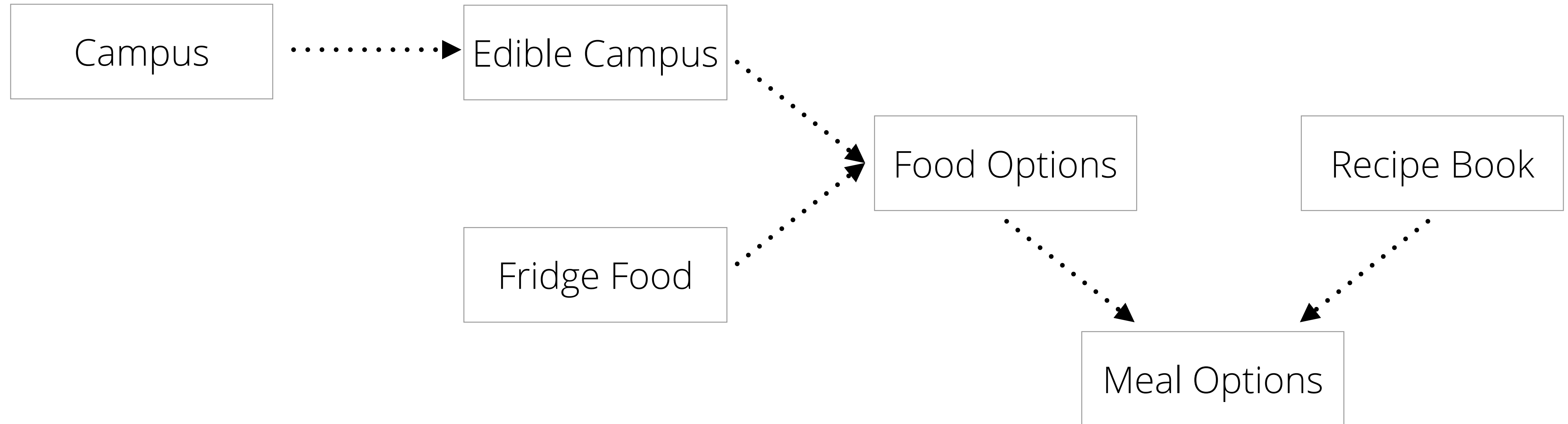
```
<html>
<head>
  <title>Recipes</title>
</head>
<body>
  <p>Sorry, you don't have enough food to make
    a meal! Maybe you should go shopping!</p>

</body>
</html>
```

```
<html>
<head>
  <title>Recipes</title>
</head>
<body>
  <p>Available recipes:</p>
  <ul>
    <li>Duck Cassoulet</li>
  </ul>

</body>
</html>
```

Example: Campus Menu



Code for example available at:

<https://github.com/UOY-Enterprise/mt2-tutorial>

Overview
MDE+MT

M2M + M2T

Example

Open Research Areas

Testing MTs [Baudry 2009]

- Oracle
 - Test data
 - Language heterogeneity
 - Test coverage
-
- Incrementality
 - Scalability
-
- Semantics
-
- “Learning” transformations from examples

Further Reading

Epsilon: www.eclipse.org/epsilon

Example code: <https://github.com/UOY-Enterprise/mt2-tutorial>

General overview: Marco Brambilla, Jordi Cabot, and Manuel Wimmer. *Model-Driven Software Engineering in Practice*. Morgan and Claypool, 2012.

Shane Sendall and Wojtek Kozaczynski. *Model transformation: The heart and soul of model-driven software development*. IEEE Software, pages 42–45, 2003.

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

B. Baudry, S. Ghosh, F. Fleurey, R. France, Y. La Traon, and J-M. Mottu. *Barriers to systematic model transformation testing*. Communications of the ACM, 53(6):139– 143, 2009.

Workshops and conferences: ICMT, VOLT, AMT, TTC, ...

Please Don't Eat the Ducks

Thank you

@j_r_williams

