Model Transformation with Triple Graph Grammars and Non-terminal Symbols

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Organization

Introduction

Background

- Model-driven software development as a technique to enhance quality of software

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- Models as formal specifications of safety-critical systems

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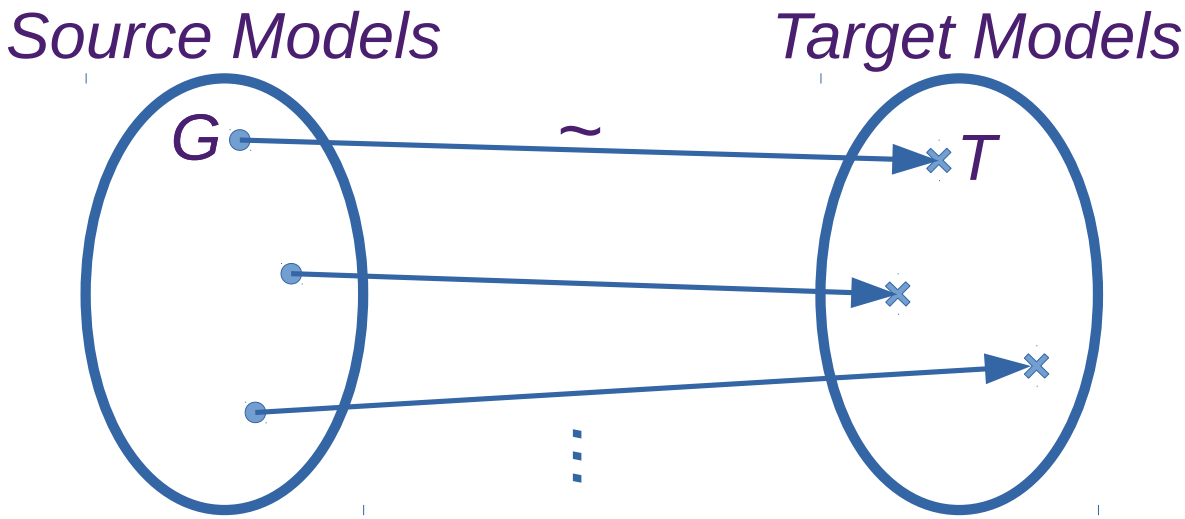
- Models as formal specifications of safety-critical systems
- Transformation between models (e.g. from a formal specification to high-level source-code and vice-versa)
- **Goal:** Comprehensible and reliable transformations
  - Efficient representation of abstract concepts
  - Small size

The Model Transformation Problem



- $G \sim T$ iff G is correctly transformed into T
- $\sim$ is the *correctly-transformed relation* between source and target models
- **Batch forward transformation:**
  Given G, find a T, such that $G \sim T$

The Triple Graph Grammar Approach

- Models are graphs

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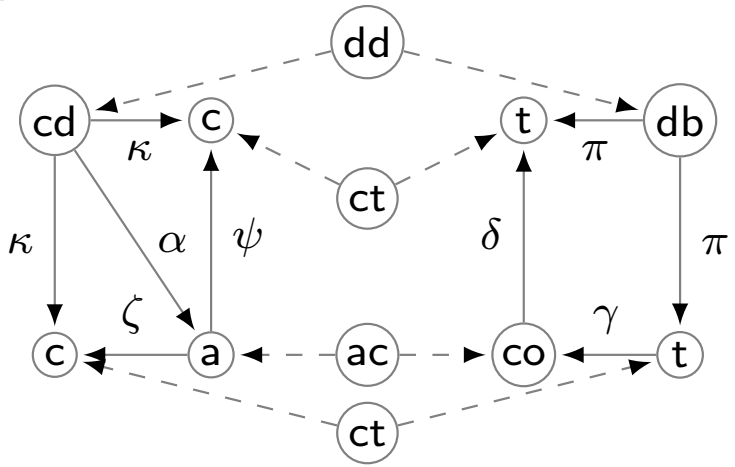
- Two correctly-transformed graphs G and T are in a triple graph $G \leftarrow C \rightarrow T$



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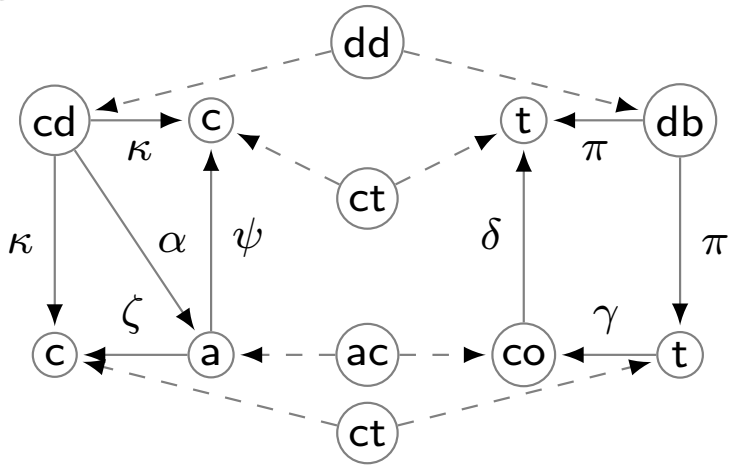

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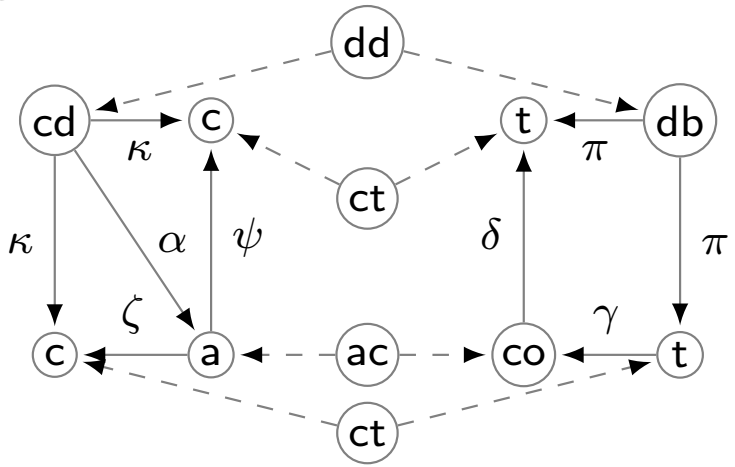
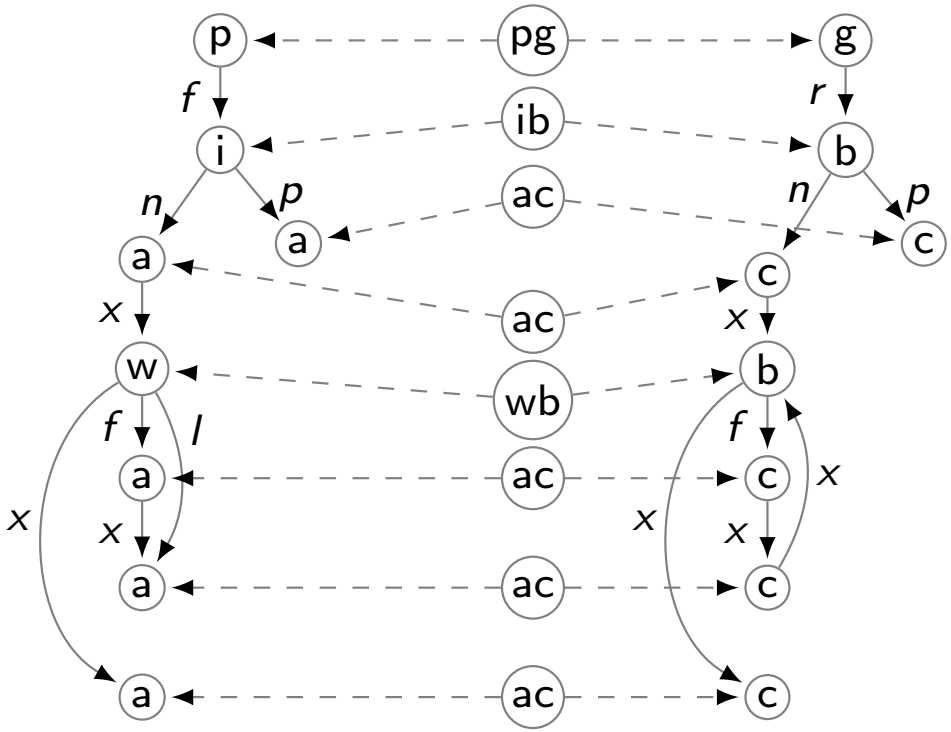


- A triple graph grammar TGG is a generator of a set of triple graphs $L(TGG)$
- The correctly-transformed relation $\sim$ between graphs is described in terms of a triple graph grammar TGG
  - $G \sim T$ iff $(G \leftarrow C \rightarrow T) \in L(TGG)$

TGG – An Example

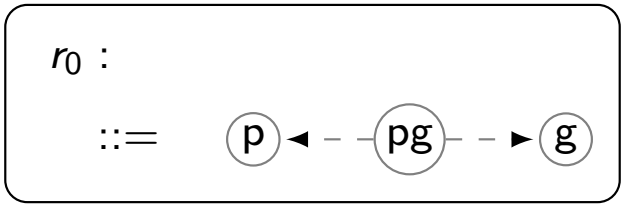
- *Pseudocode* to *Controlflow*

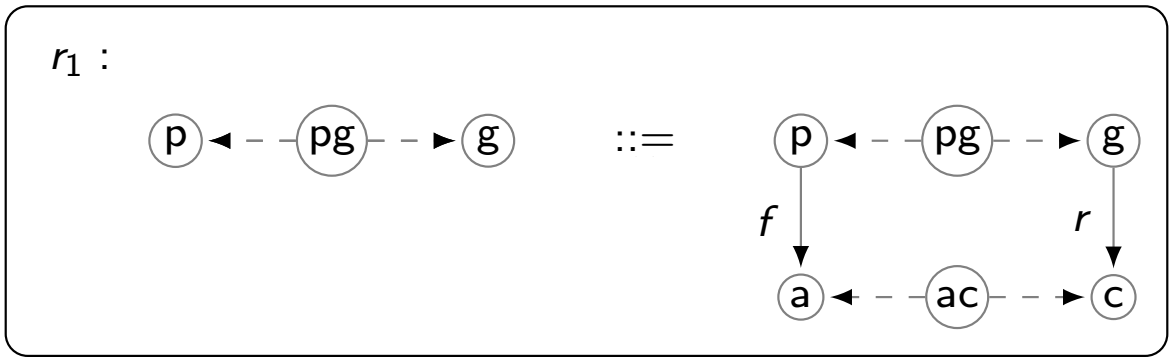
```
program main(n)
if n < 0 then
    return Nothing
else
    f ← 1
    while n > 0 do
        f ← f ∗ n
        n ← n − 1
    end while
    return Just f
end if
```

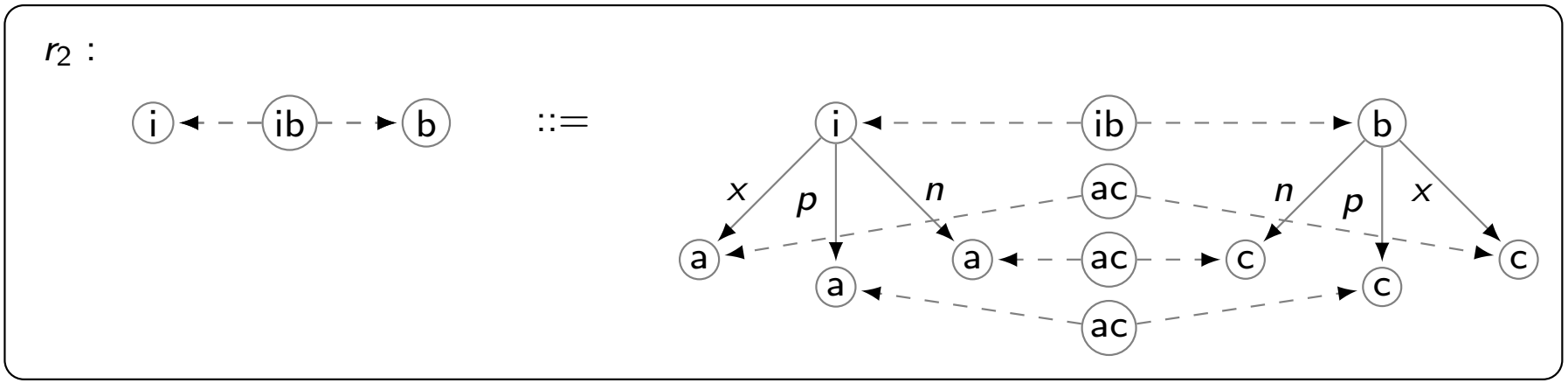


TGG - An Example

- *Pseudocode* to *Controlflow*







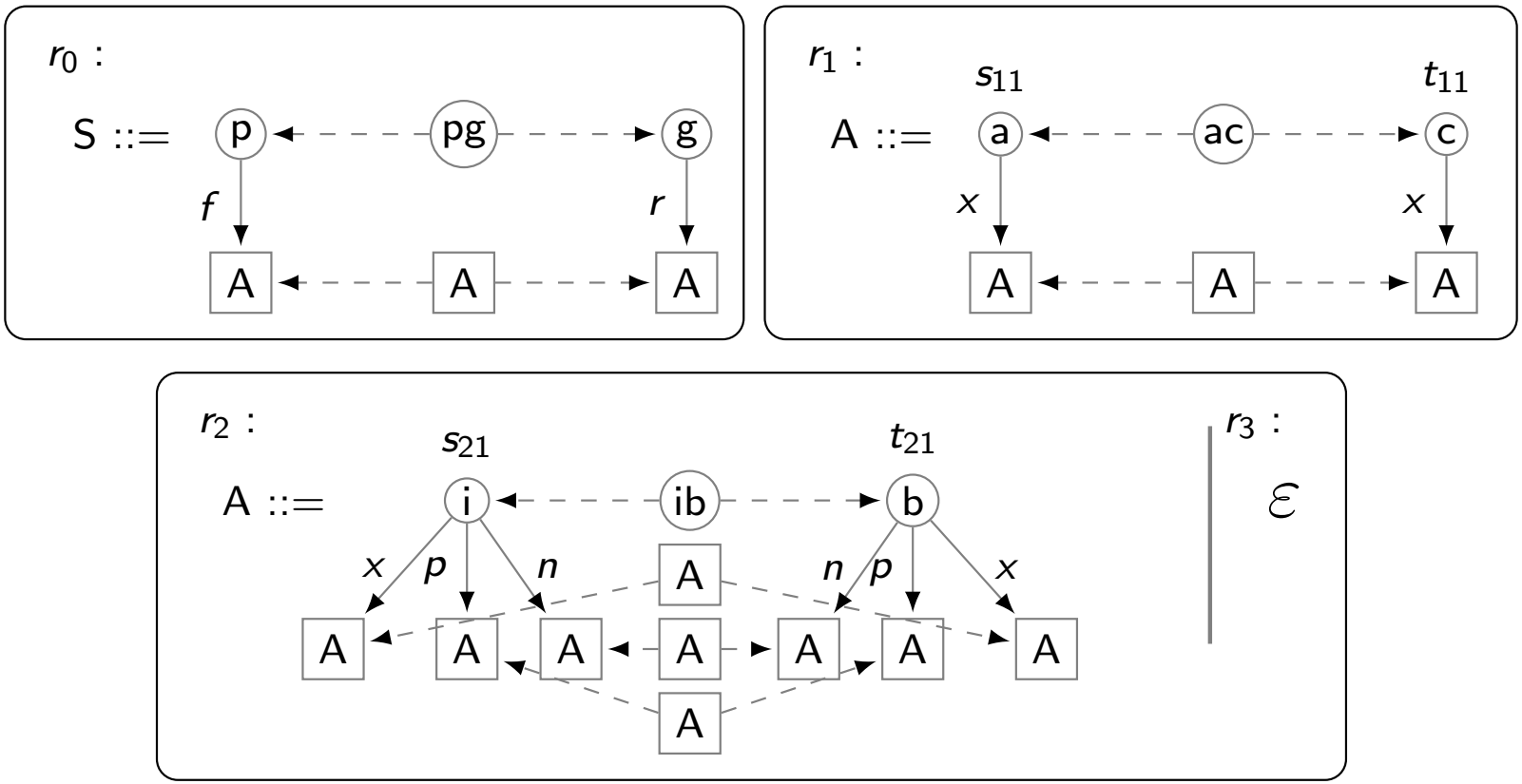
Triple Graph Grammars with Non-terminal Symbols

Our Contribution – NCE TGG

- New formalism: NCE TGG
  - *Graph Grammar with Neighborhood-controlled Embedding* (NCE) [Janssens and Rozenberg(1982)]
  - *Triple Graph Grammar* (TGG) [Schürr(1994)]
- Non-terminal symbols
- Context-free

NCE TGG – An Example

- *Pseudocode* to *Controlflow*



Evaluation

Usability Evaluation

	Standard TGG		BNCE TGG	
Transformation	Rules	Elements	Rules	Elements
Pseudocode2Controlflow	47	1085	**7**	**185**
BTree2XBTree	**4**	**50**	5	80
Star2Wheel	-	-	**6**	**89**
Class2Database	**5**	**80**	-	-

Table: Results of the usability evaluation of the BNCE TGG formalism in comparison with the standard TGG for the model transformation problem

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- New context-free TGG formalism
  - Used to specify model transformations
  - Outperforms standard TGG in 2 evaluated cases
  - Special potential for code-generation
  - Cannot model important transformations (e.g. Class Diagrams)

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- New context-free TGG formalism
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  - Special potential for code-generation
  - Cannot model important transformations (e.g. Class Diagrams)
- Future Work
  - Application conditions: Positive experimental results
  - Broader evaluation including empirical assessment with engineers and performance reports
  - Model synchronization

References

References

Dirk Janssens and Grzegorz Rozenberg.

Graph grammars with neighbourhood-controlled embedding.
Theoretical Computer Science, 21(1):55–74, 1982.

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Specification of graph translators with triple graph grammars.
In *International Workshop on Graph-Theoretic Concepts in Computer Science*, pages 151–163. Springer, 1994.