A Pattern-based Approach to DSL Development

Christian Schäfer

christian.schaefer@iese.fhg.de



Current DSL development

- Good tool support reduces implementation effort
- DSLs become applicable in many business contexts
- Major effort used for requirements elicitation
- Lack of language engineering guidelines
- DSL development creatively driven
- Outcome of DSL development not predictable

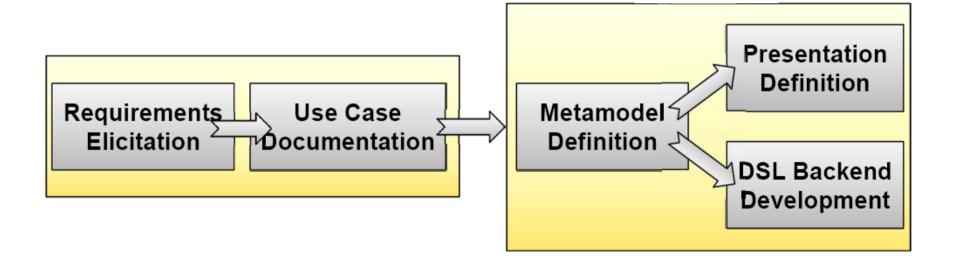


Idea

Pattern-based DSL Development

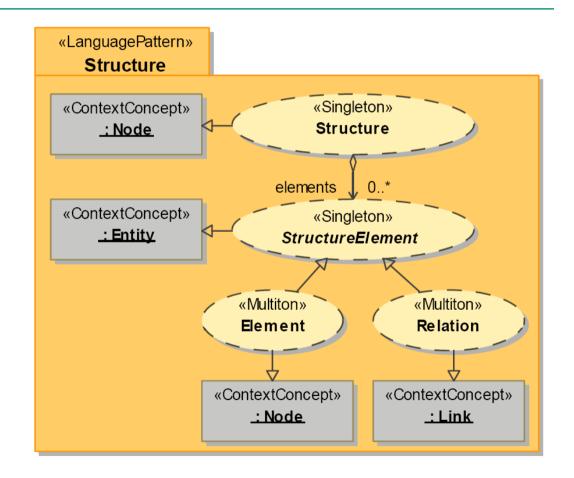
- Patterns capture best practices
- Stepwise application of patterns yield metamodel
- DSL development becomes systematic & predictable
- Language elements are traceable to requirements

DSL Development Workflow



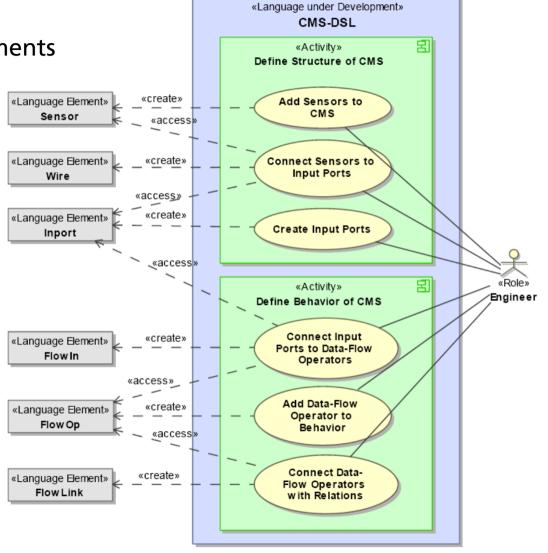
Description of a Language Pattern

- Name: ...
- Problem: ...
- Context: ...
- Forces: ...
- Solution: ...
- Rationale: ...
- Related Patterns: ...



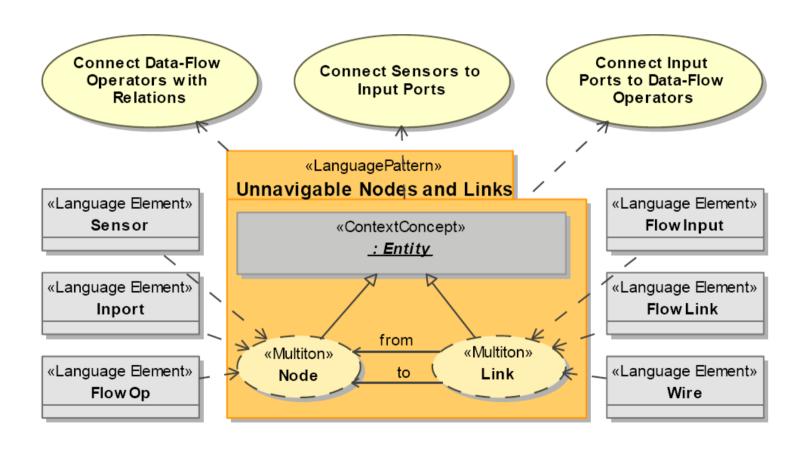


Use Cases & Language Elements

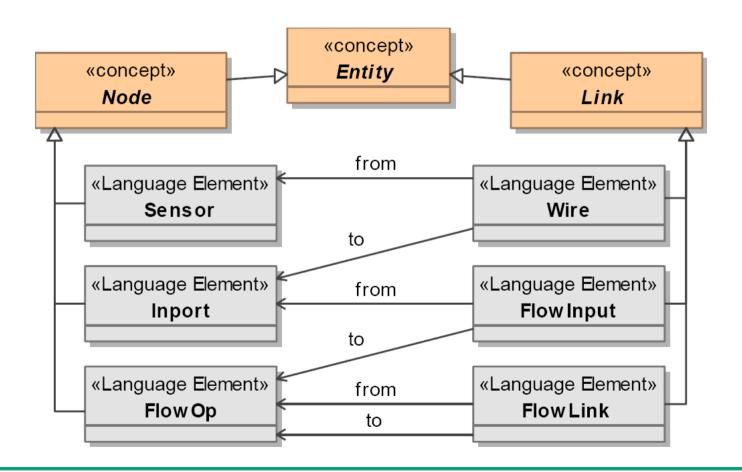




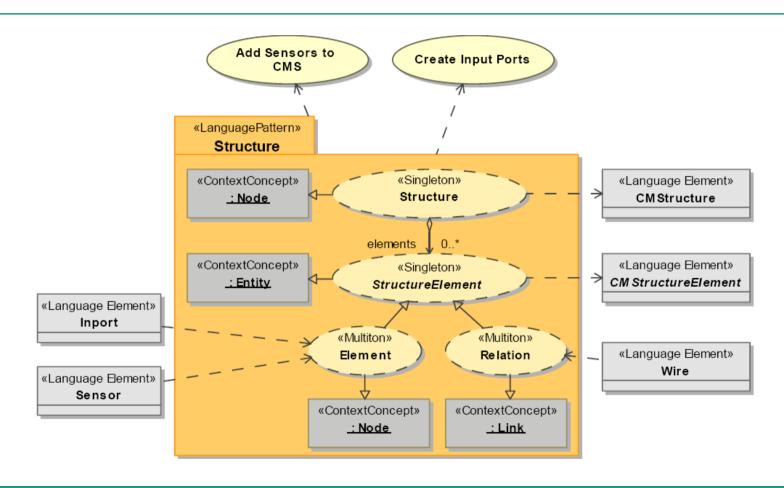
Pattern Application



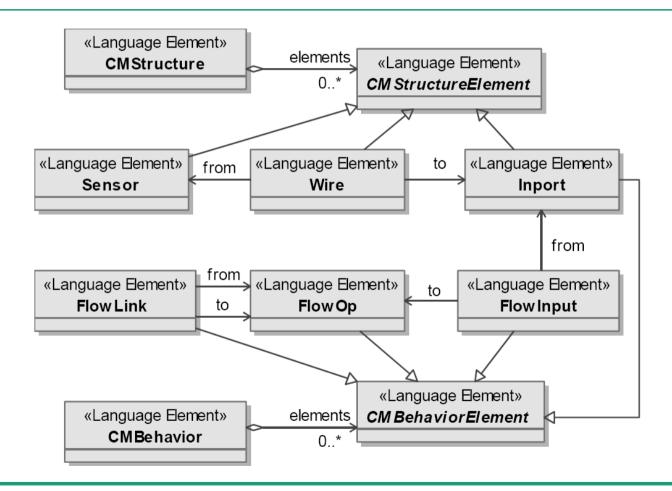
Intermediate Metamodel



Pattern Application



Resulting Metamodel





Questions?