

# ProMoBox: Domain-Specific Modelling Languages for Verification and Testing

Bart Meyers

**Hans Vangheluwe**



**MODEL**  
**EVERYTHING!**

**at the most appropriate level(s) of abstraction  
using the most appropriate formalism(s)  
explicitly modelling processes**

**Enabler: (domain-specific) modelling language engineering,  
including model transformation**

# A Methodology For The Development Of Complex Domain Specific Languages

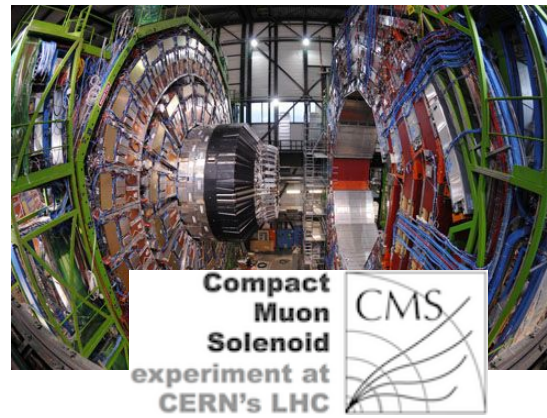
THÈSE

présentée à la Faculté des sciences de l'Université de Genève  
 pour obtenir le grade de Docteur ès sciences, mention informatique

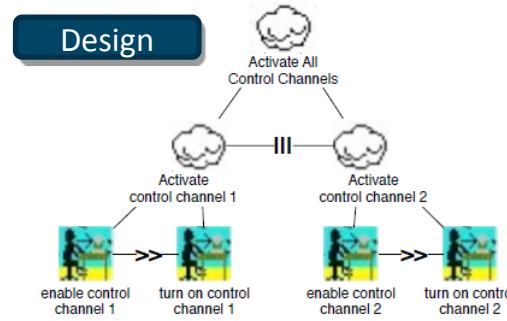


2010

**Matteo Risoldi**



CMS Tracker Cosmic Rack



Property

```
*PG-Layer-4-Rod-2.apnmm_diagram properties.prop
import 'PG-Layer-4-Rod-2.apnmm'
import 'blackToken.adt'

Expressions

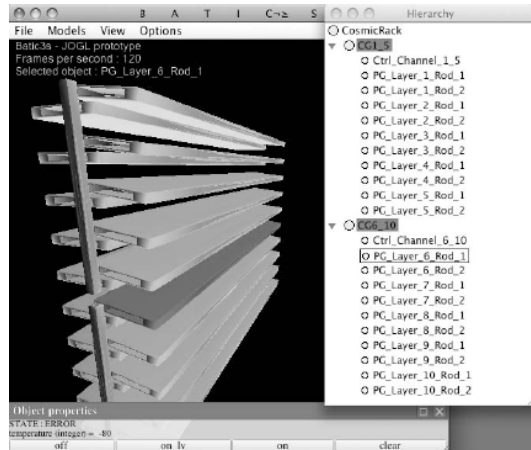
MUTUAL_EXCLUSION : (((card($on in ON) + card($onlv in ONLV)) + card($off in OFF)
NOSTATE : (((card($on in ON) + card($onlv in ONLV)) + card($off in OFF)) + card

TEMP : card($tmp in temp)=1;
TEMP1 : card($tmp in temp1)=1;
TEMP2 : card($tmp in temp2)=1;
TEMP3 : card($tmp in temp3)=1;
TEMP4 : card($tmp in temp4)=1;
TEMP5 : card($tmp in temp5)=1;
TEMP6 : card($tmp in temp6)=1;
TEMP7 : card($tmp in temp7)=1;
TEMP8 : card($tmp in temp8)=1;
TEMP9 : card($tmp in temp9)=1;
TEMP10 : card($tmp in temp10)=1;
INTERMEDIATE_STATE : (((((((@TEMP | @TEMP1 | @TEMP2 | @TEMP3 | @TEMP4 |

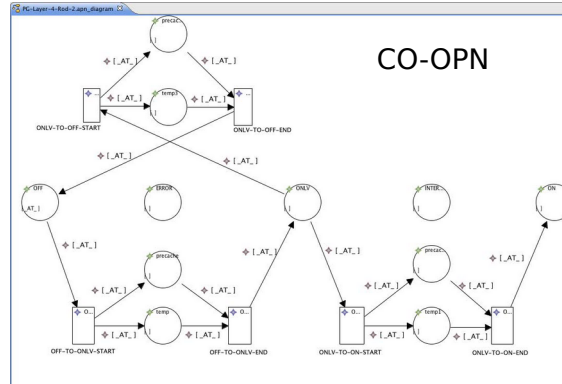
Check
(!(@INTERMEDIATE_STATE) => @MUTUAL_EXCLUSION);
```

Figure 4.8. CTT for the turn on control channels task

Application



UI prototype



CO-OPN

```
Properties Specification Imports Variables Console Problems
AIPINA Model Checker Engine: [Java Application] /System/Library/Frameworks/Java
Compute State Space...
Reachability Time : 8 ms
State Space has been fully generated.
Check the properties...
Check property : [!( (((((((Card(tmp in temp:TRUE) EQUALS 1) | (Card(tmp in
temp1:TRUE) EQUALS 1)) | (Card(tmp in temp2:TRUE) EQUALS 1)) | (Card(tmp in t
emp3:TRUE) EQUALS 1)) | (Card(tmp in temp4:TRUE) EQUALS 1)) | (Card(tmp in t
emp5:TRUE) EQUALS 1)) | (Card(tmp in temp6:TRUE) EQUALS 1)) | (Card(tmp in temp7:T
RUE) EQUALS 1)) | (Card(tmp in temp8:TRUE) EQUALS 1)) | (Card(tmp in temp9:T
RUE) EQUALS 1)) | (Card(tmp in temp10:TRUE) EQUALS 1)) implies (((Card(on in
ON:TRUE) plus Card(onlv in ONLV:TRUE)) plus Card(off in OFF:TRUE)) plus Card(er
ror in ERROR:TRUE) plus Card(int in INTERLOCKED:TRUE) EQUALS 1))]
Property holds : OK
Property Check is finished.
```

Alpina

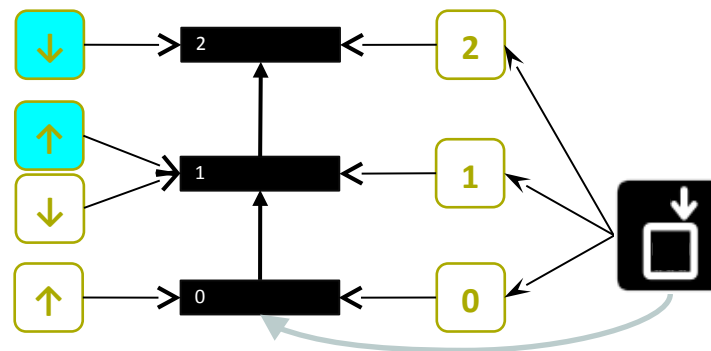
# Domain-Specific Modelling

Modelling of complex systems for **domain users**

- Familiar domain **concepts** (reduces cognitive gap)
- Incorporate domain **constraints** (maximally constrain)

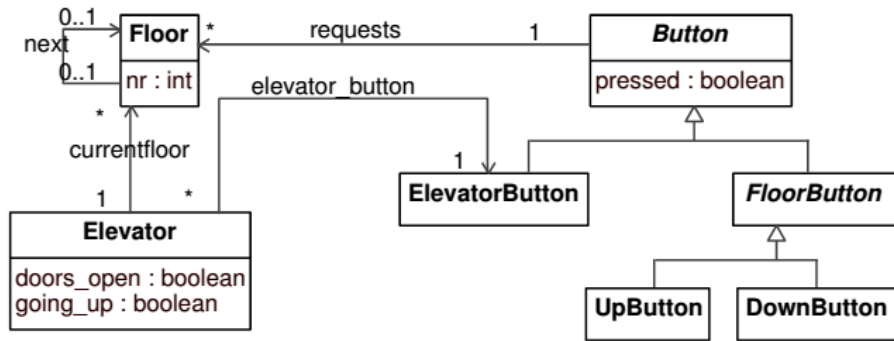
**Precisely defined** (semantics) models

Example: elevator system model in an Elevator DSL

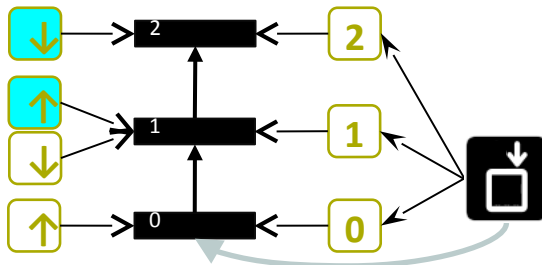


# Modelling Language Engineering

Meta-modeling  
(to specify language abstract syntax)



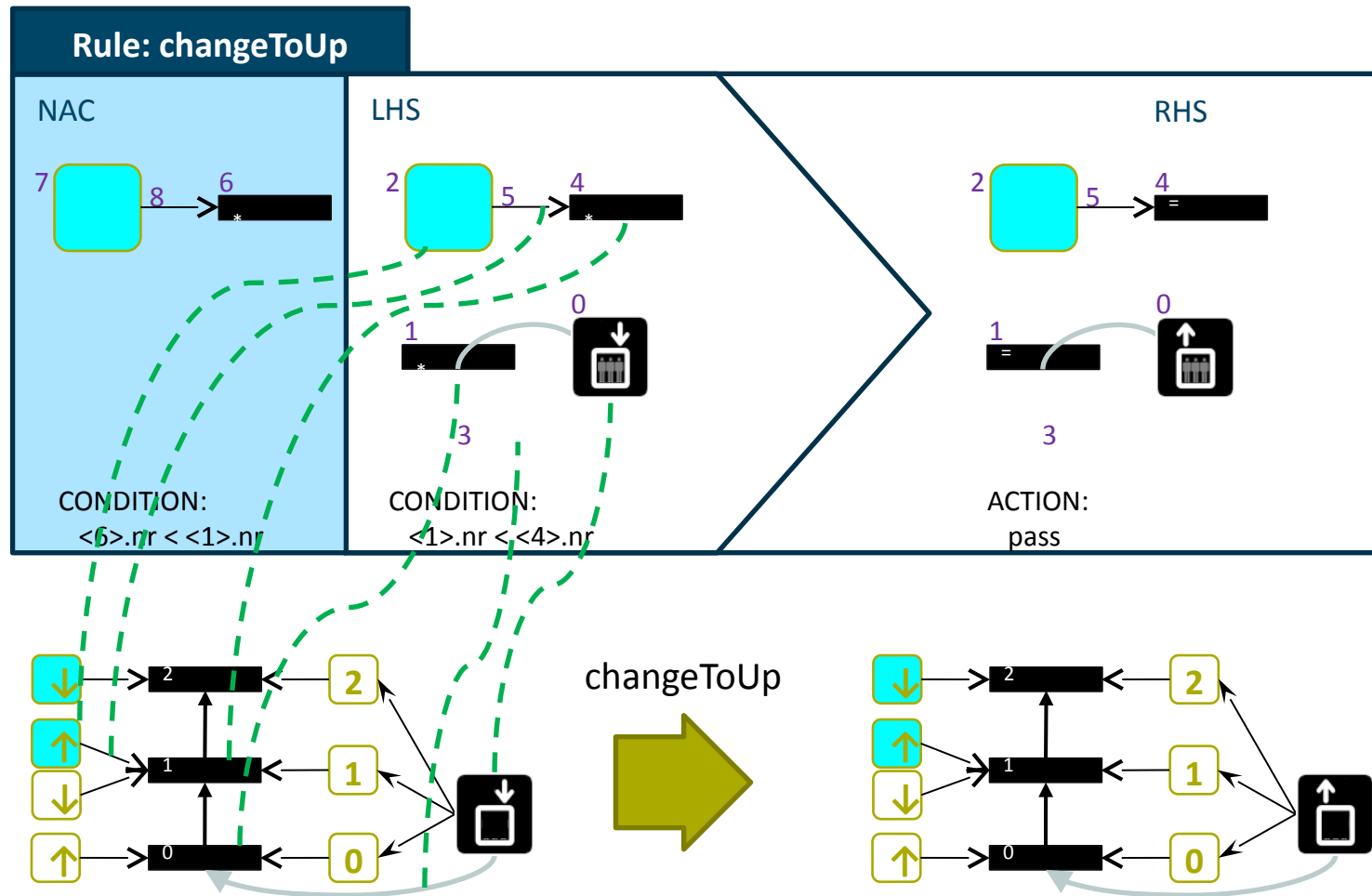
↑ conforms to



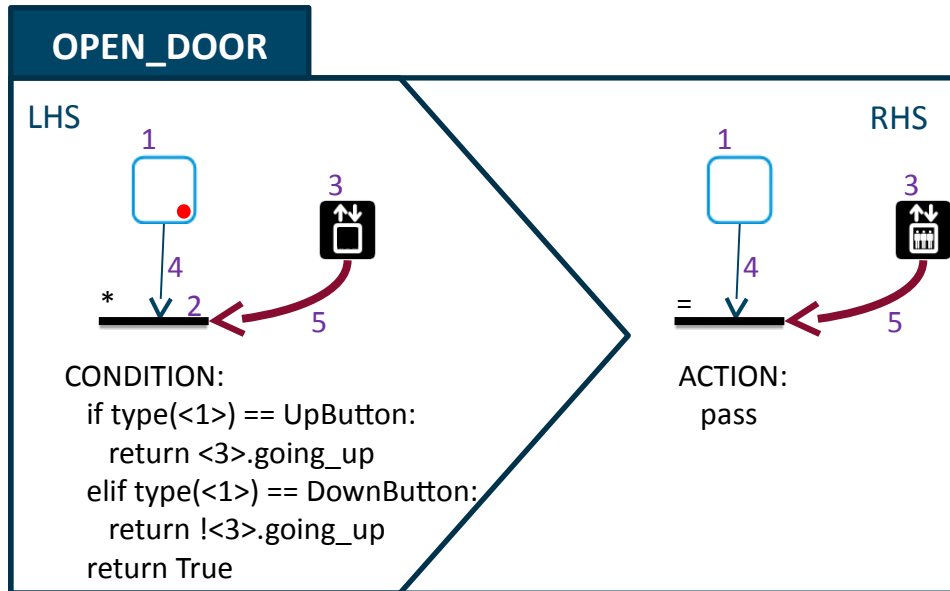
Model Transformation  
(to specify language semantics)



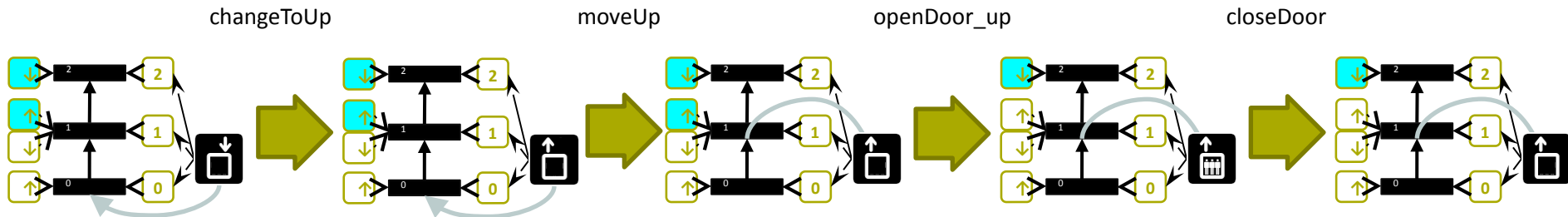
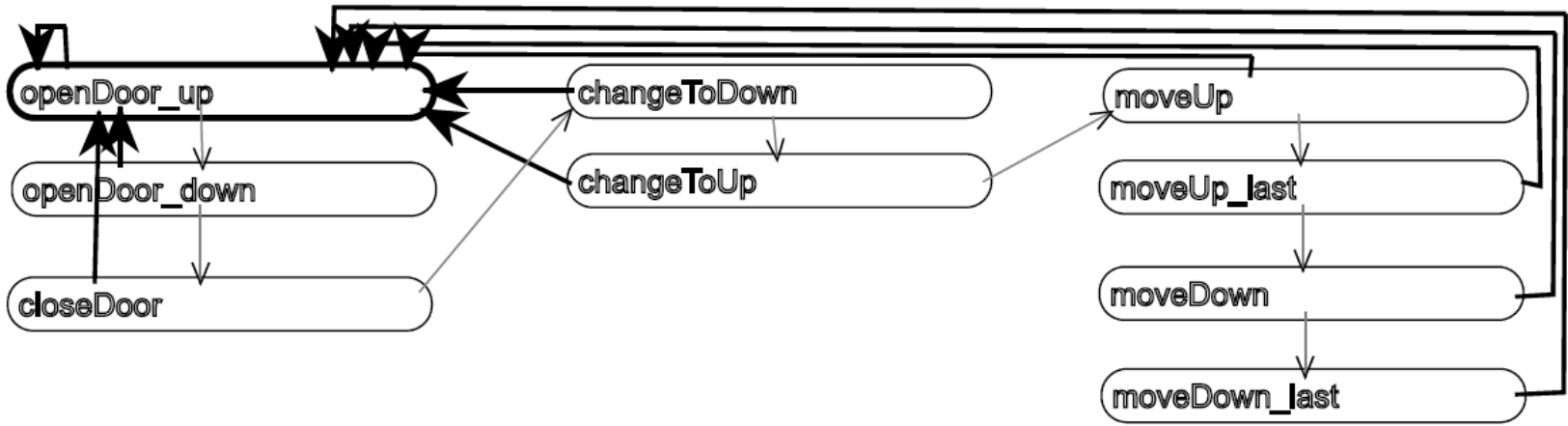
# Rule-Based Transformation (rule)



# Rule-Based Transformation (rule)

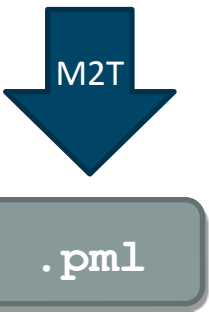
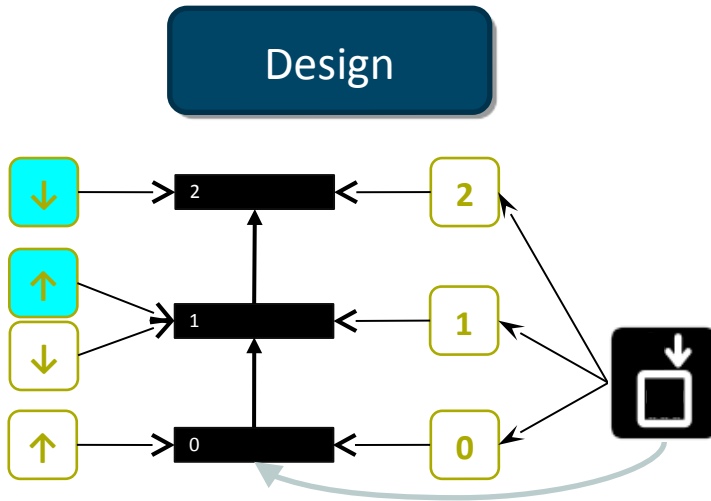


# Rule-Based Transformation (schedule)





# Properties for DSMLs: State of the Art



≡

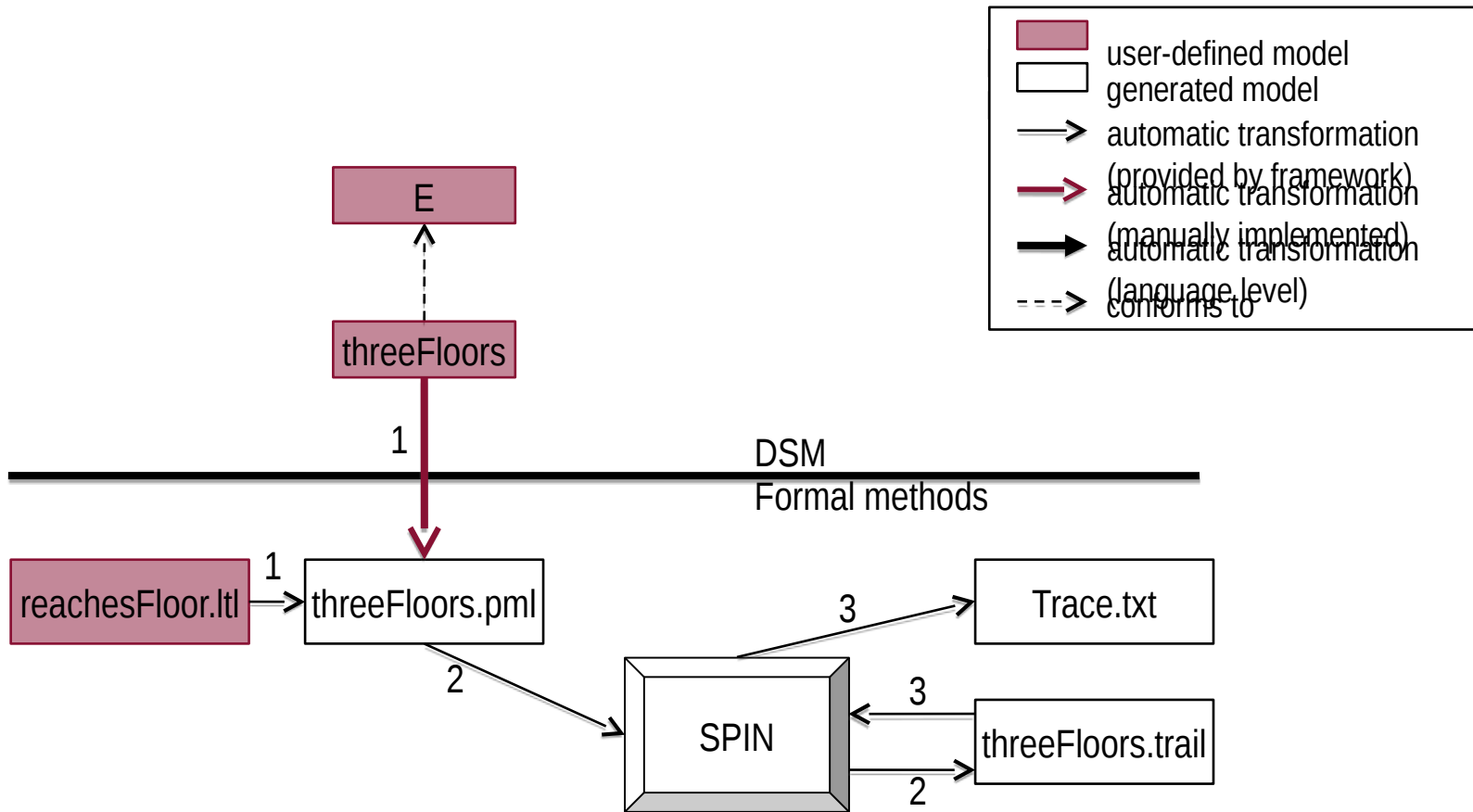


LTL formula

≡

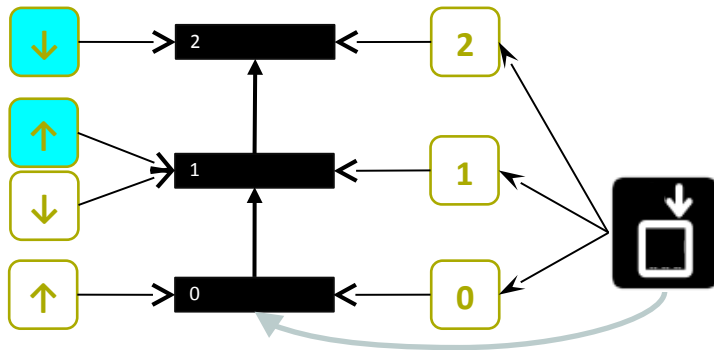
$$\begin{aligned} & \Box(((go0 \wedge up0) \vee \Diamond(floor0 \vee idle)) \rightarrow ((\neg(floor0) \vee \neg(floor0 \vee \\ & idle)) \mathcal{U}((floor0 \vee idle) \wedge (((floor0) \vee \neg(floor0 \vee idle)) \mathcal{U}((floor0 \vee \\ & idle) \wedge ((\neg(floor0) \vee \neg(floor0 \vee idle)) \mathcal{U}((floor0 \vee idle) \wedge \\ & (((floor0) \vee \neg(floor0 \vee idle)) \mathcal{U}((floor0 \vee idle) \wedge (\neg(floor0) \mathcal{U}(floor0 \vee \\ & idle)))))))))) \vee \Box(((go1 \wedge up1 \wedge down1) \vee \Diamond(floor1 \vee idle)) \rightarrow \\ & ((\neg(floor1) \vee \neg(floor1 \vee idle)) \mathcal{U}((floor1 \vee idle) \wedge (((floor1) \vee \\ & \neg(floor1 \vee idle)) \mathcal{U}((floor1 \vee idle) \wedge ((\neg(floor1) \vee \neg(floor1 \vee \\ & idle)) \mathcal{U}((floor1 \vee idle) \wedge (((floor1) \vee \neg(floor1 \vee idle)) \mathcal{U}((floor1 \vee \\ & idle) \wedge (\neg(floor1) \mathcal{U}(floor1 \vee idle)))))))))) \vee \Box(((go2 \wedge down2) \vee \\ & \Diamond(floor2 \vee idle)) \rightarrow ((\neg(floor2) \vee \neg(floor2 \vee idle)) \mathcal{U}((floor2 \vee \\ & idle) \wedge (((floor2) \vee \neg(floor2 \vee idle)) \mathcal{U}((floor2 \vee idle) \wedge ((\neg(floor2) \vee \\ & \neg(floor2 \vee idle)) \mathcal{U}((floor2 \vee idle) \wedge (((floor2) \vee \neg(floor2 \vee \\ & idle)) \mathcal{U}((floor2 \vee idle) \wedge (\neg(floor2) \mathcal{U}(floor2 \vee idle)))))))))) \end{aligned}$$

# State of the Art: Architecture



# Properties for DSMLs: Property DSML

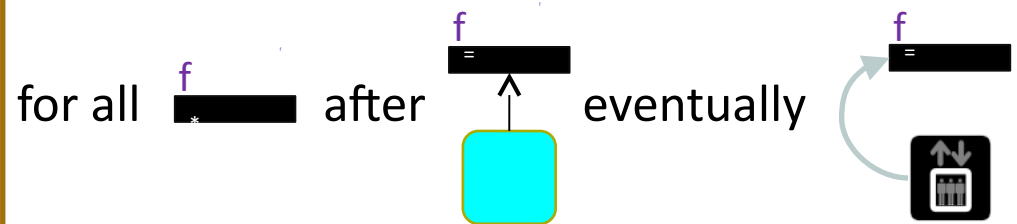
Design



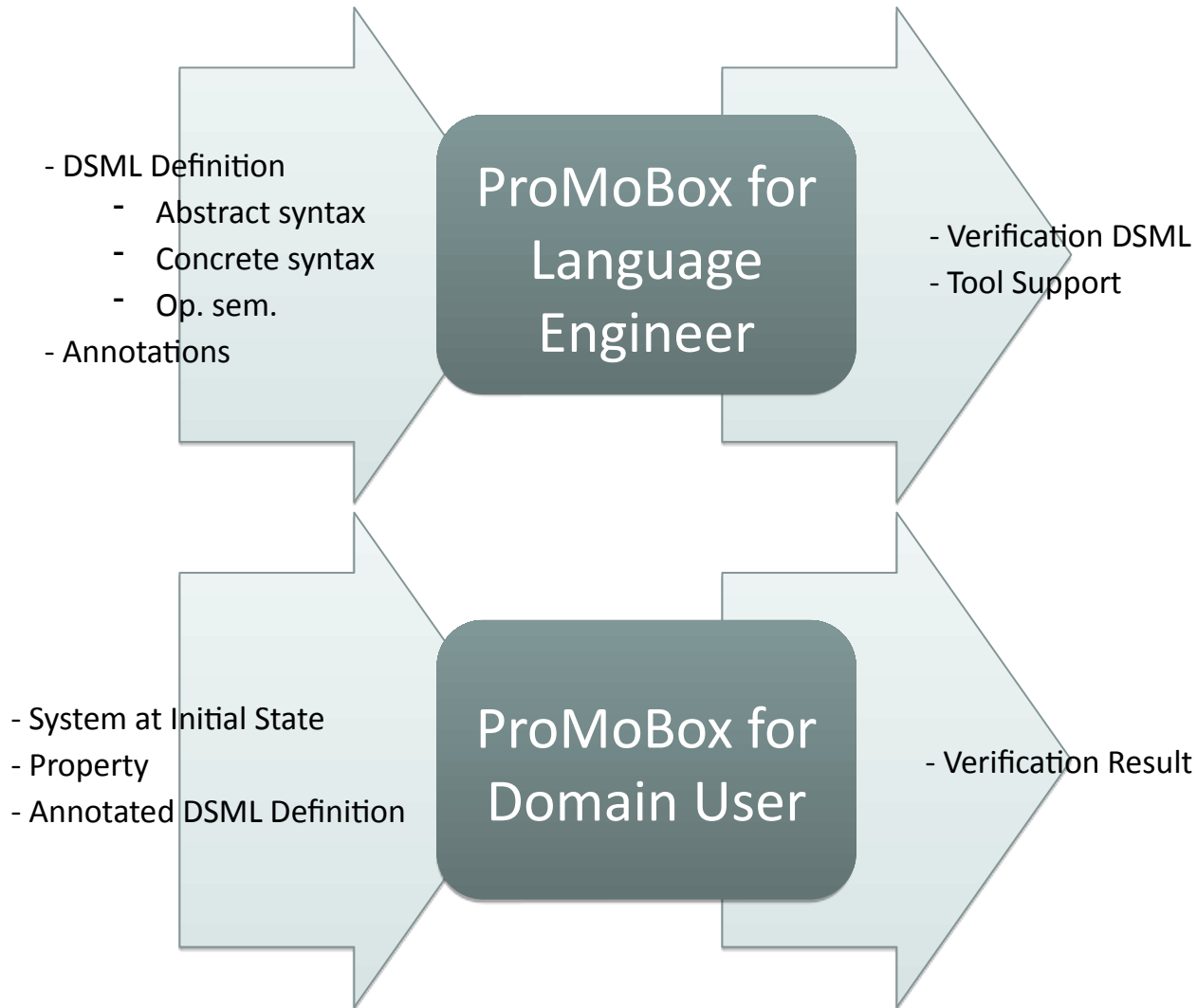
$\models$

Property

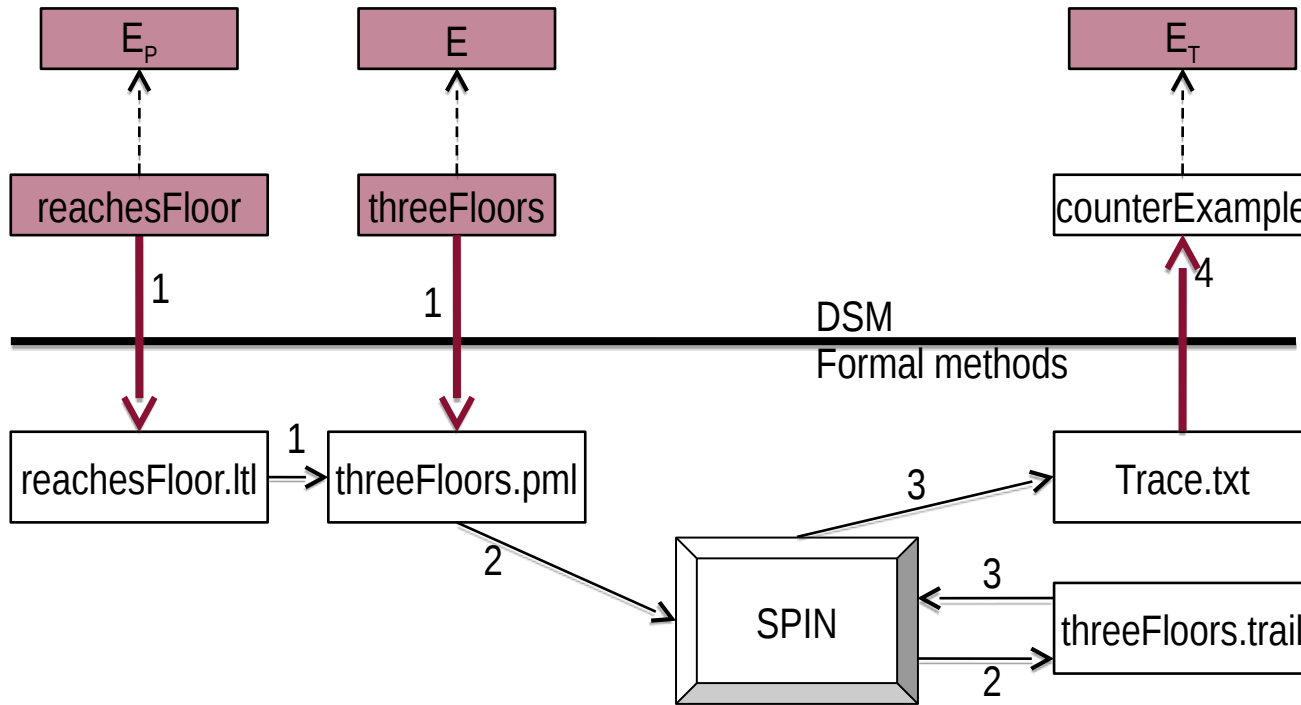
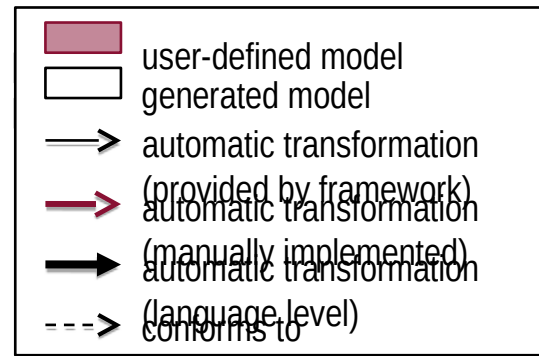
property: ReachesFloor




# Verification Support for DSMLs



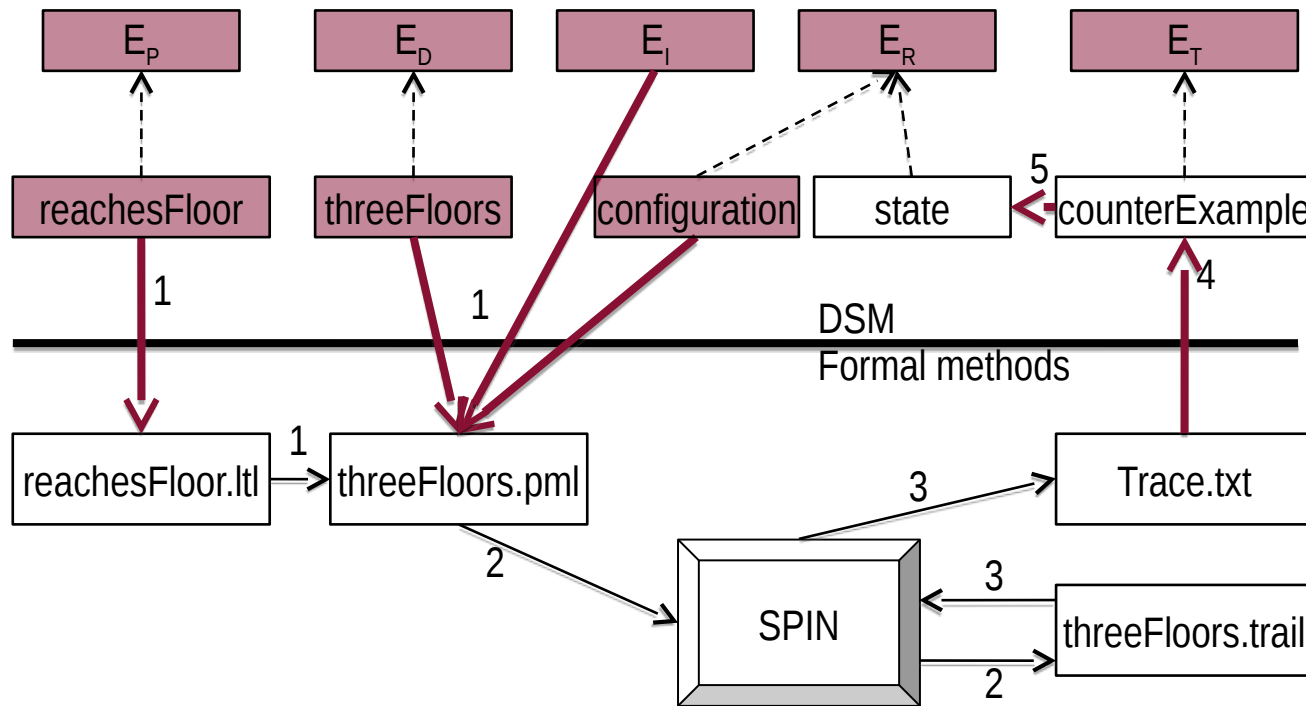
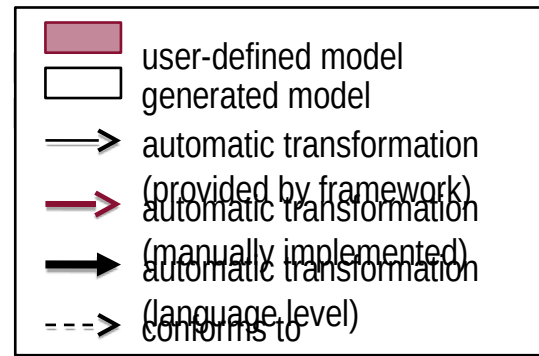
# Pull up to DSL Level



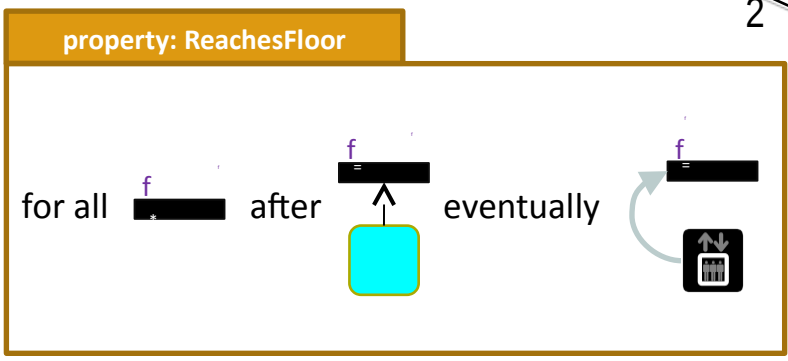
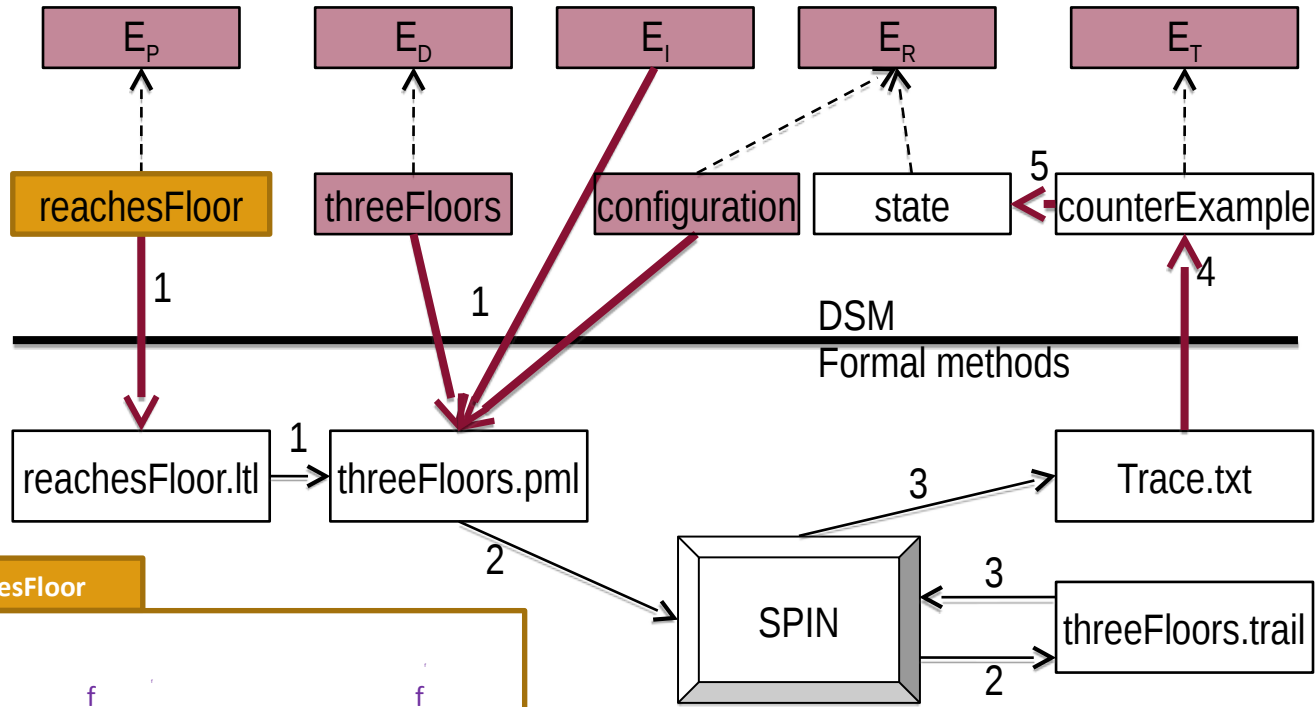
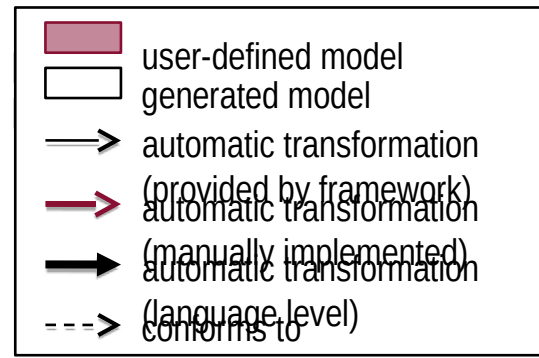
A young girl with her hair in two buns is sitting on a colorful modular seating arrangement made of large, padded blocks in red, yellow, blue, and green. She is wearing a light blue short-sleeved shirt and black pants, and is reading an open book. The book has colorful illustrations and text. In the background, there are stacks of colorful circular objects on a wooden cart. The floor is made of light-colored wood.

modular  
modeling  
language  
engineering  
with ProMoBox

# 5 related languages

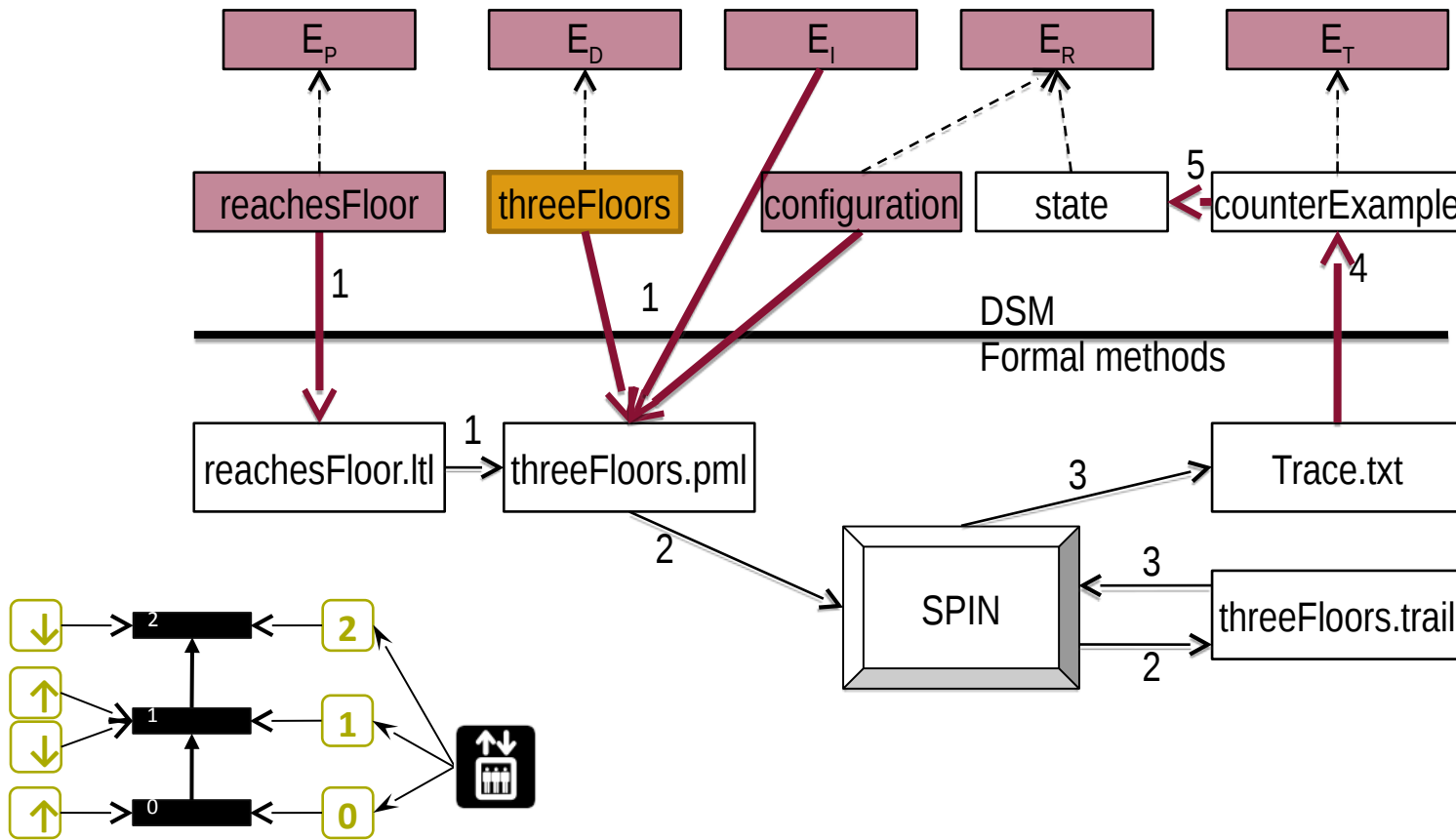
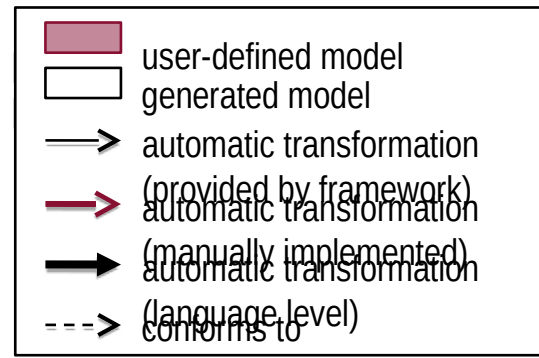


# Property language

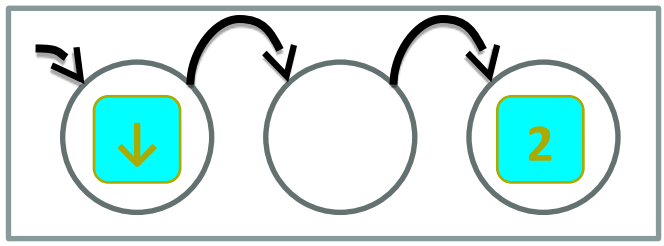
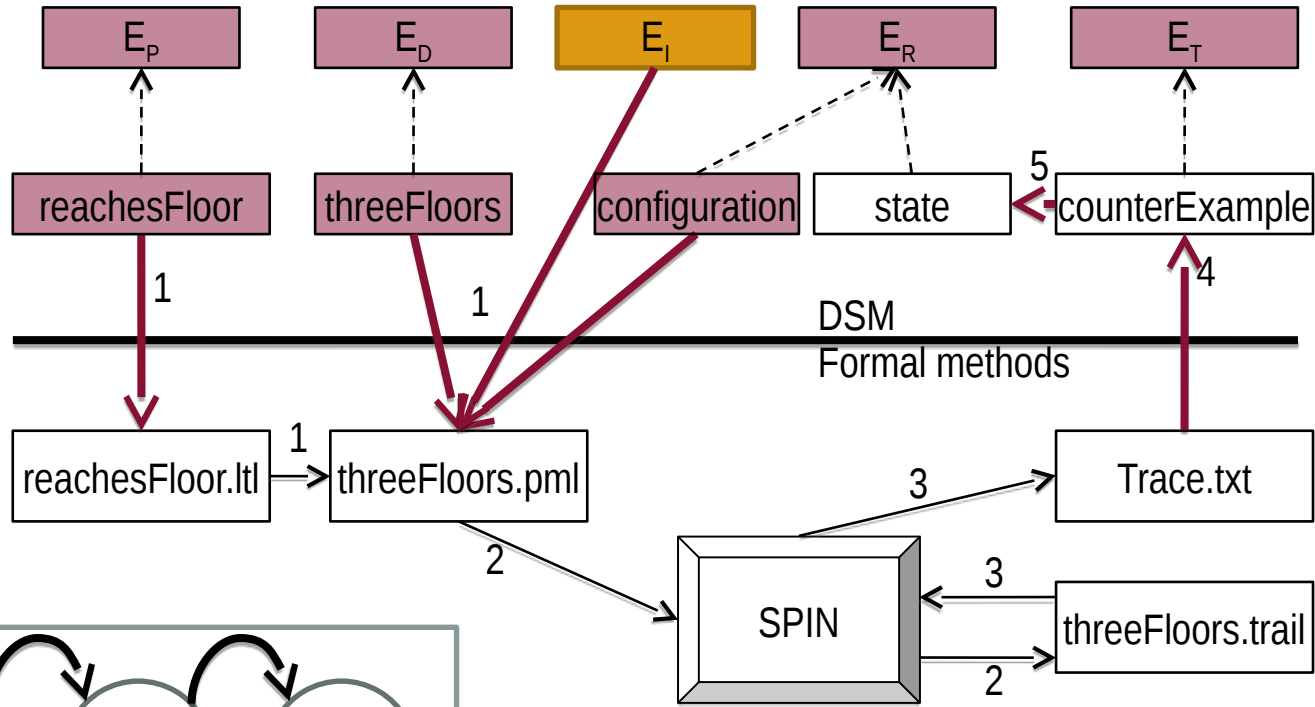
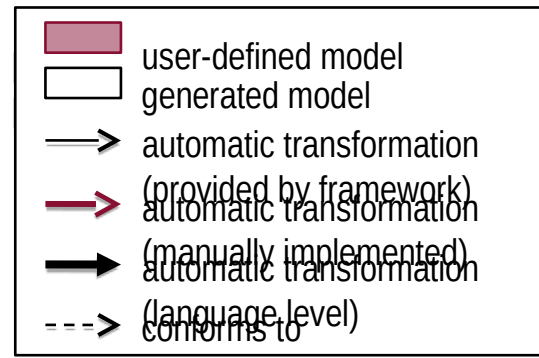




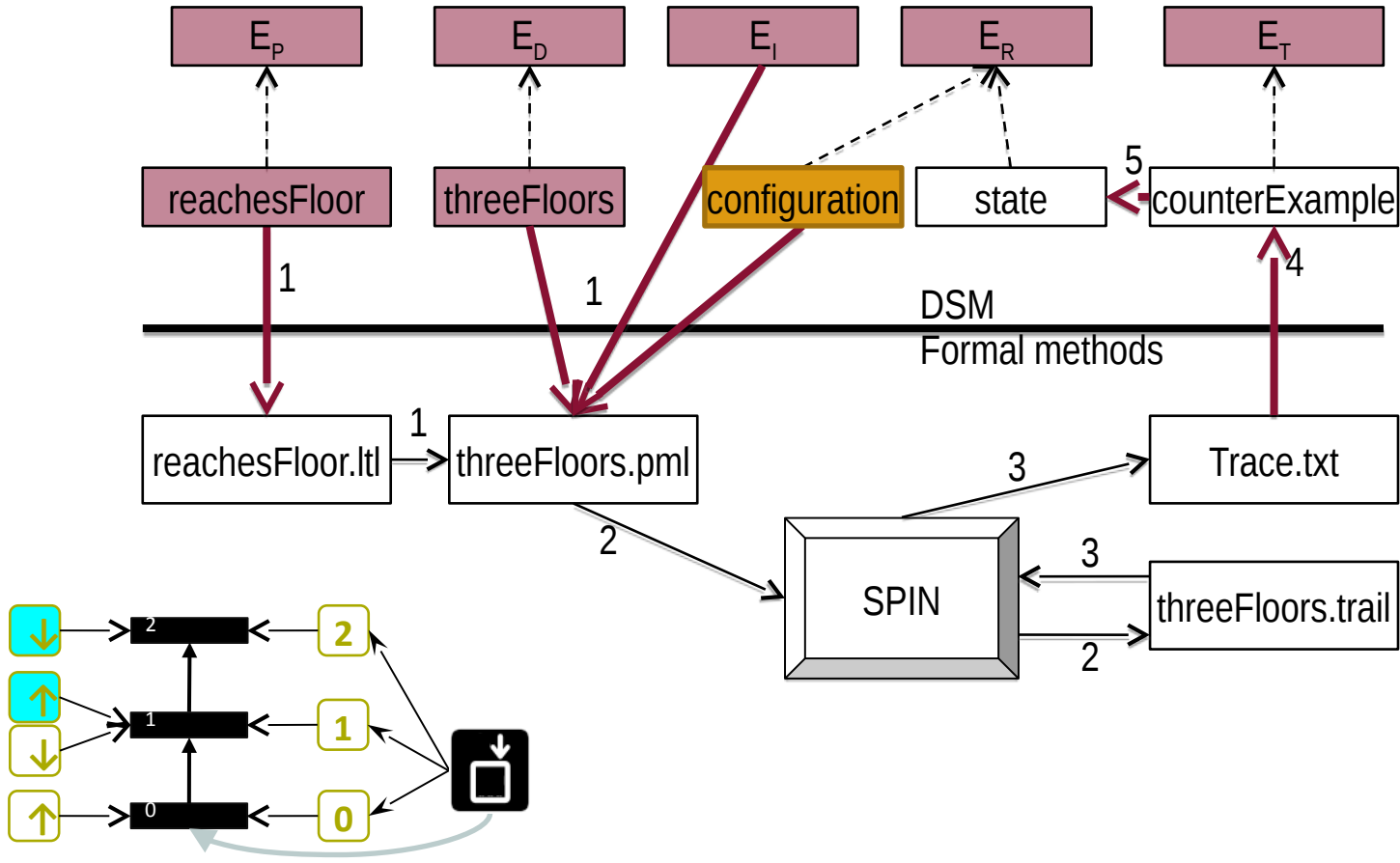
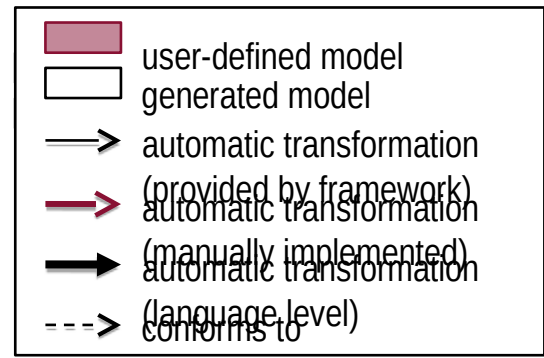
# Design language



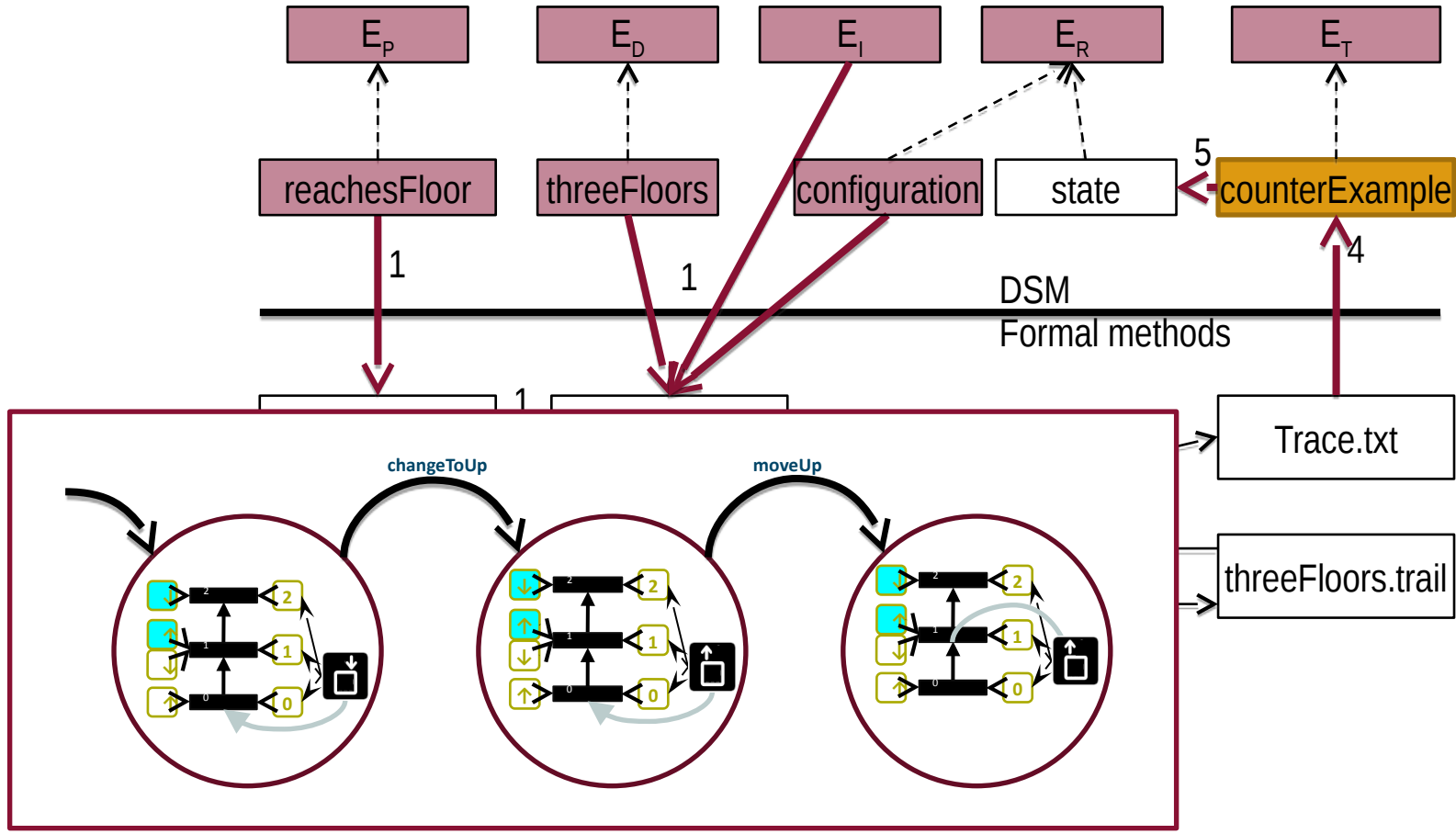
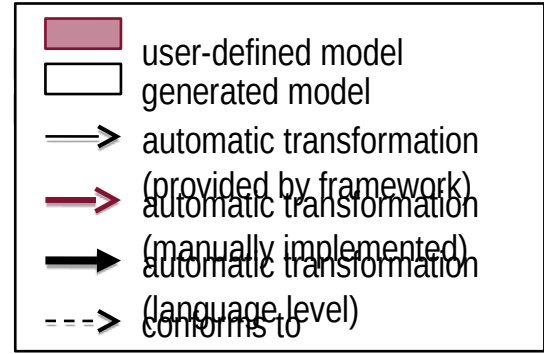
# Input language



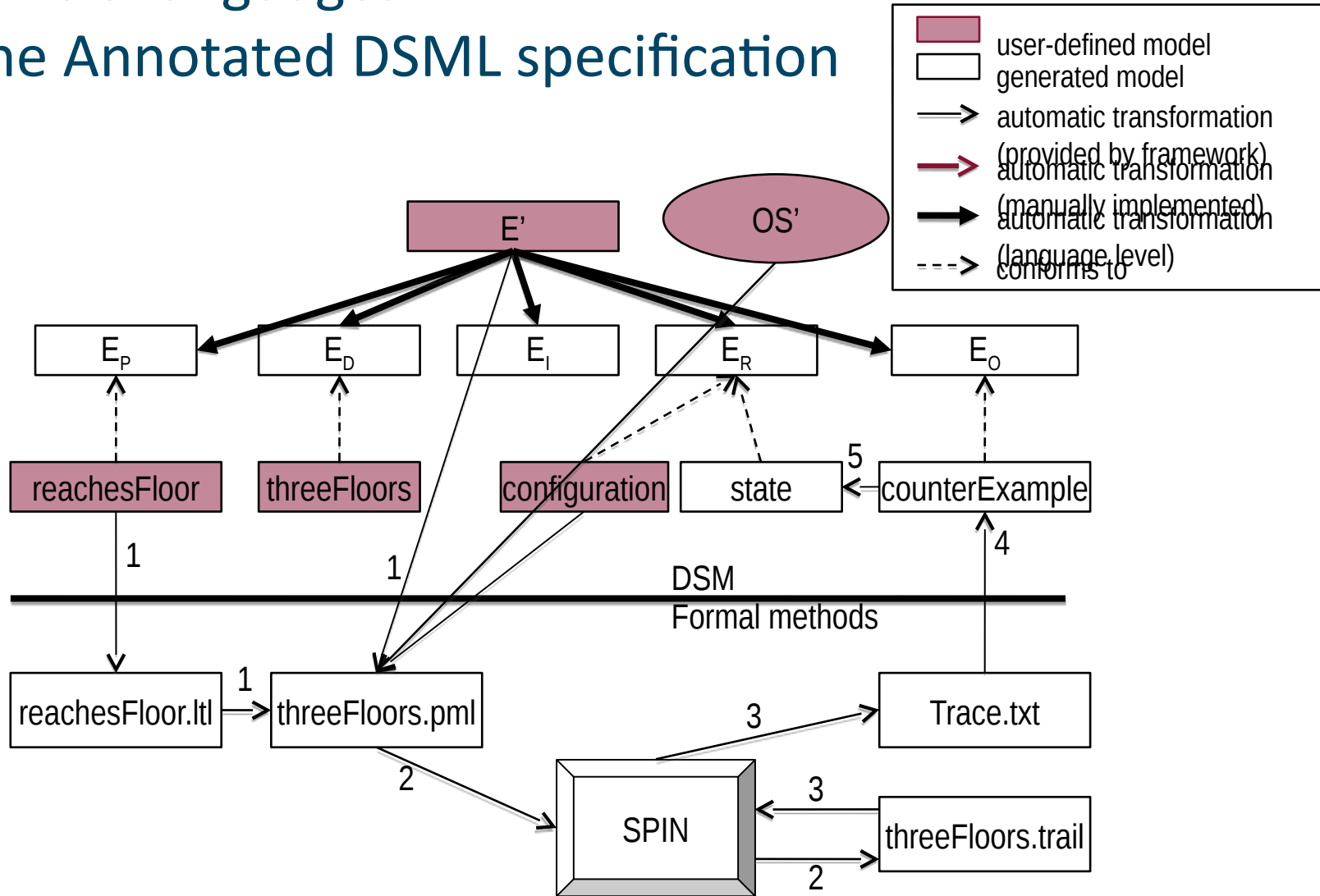
# Runtime language



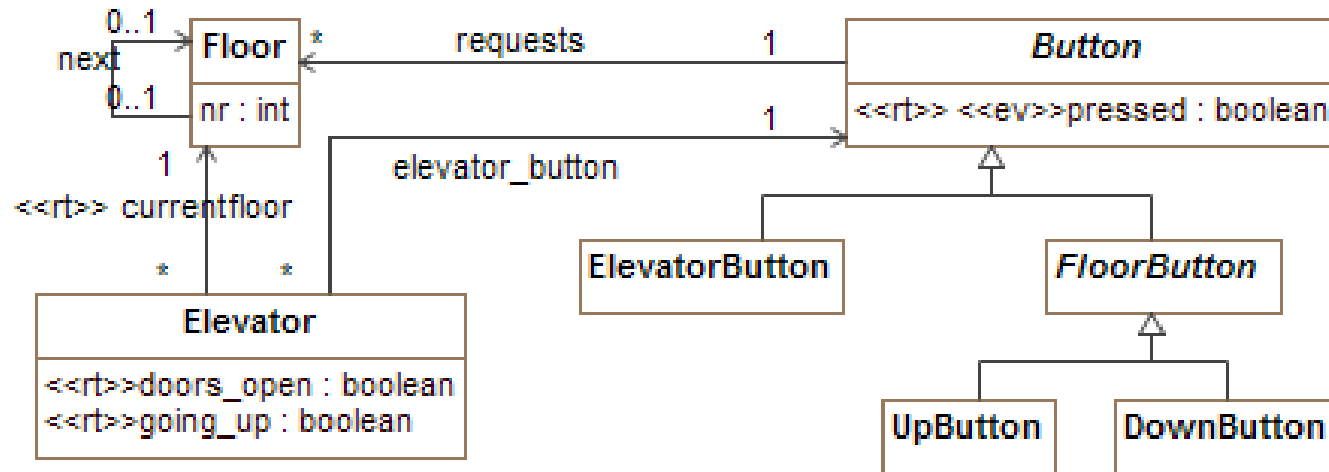
# Trace language



# Synthesize 5 languages from one Annotated DSML specification

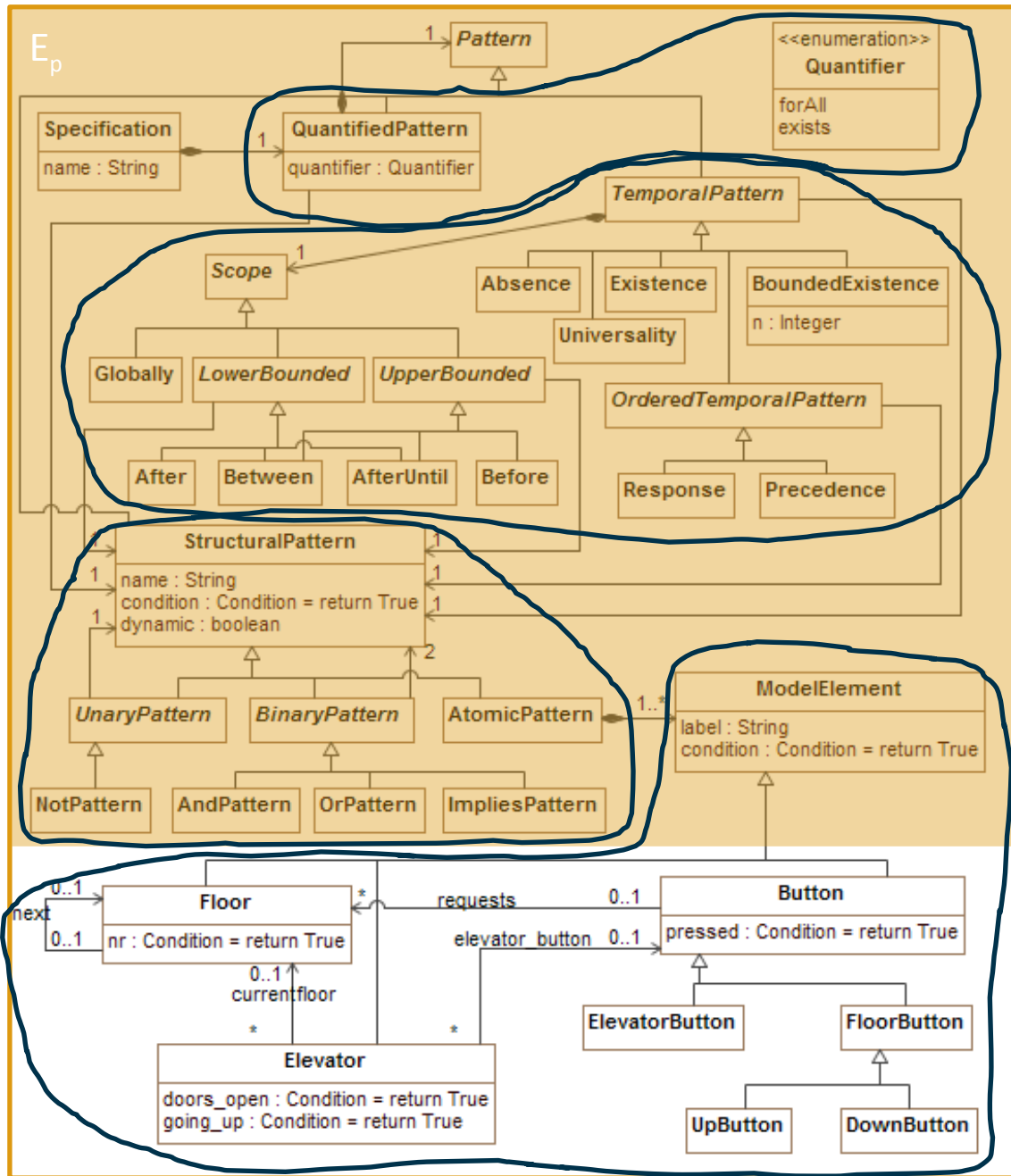


# Annotated metamodel



Annotation	Design	Runtime	Input	Output	Property
	X	X		X	X
<<rt>>		X		X	X
<<ev>>			X		
<<tr>>	X	X	X	X	X

$E_p$




## Quantification

Matthew B. Dwyer, George S. Avrunin, James C. Corbett. Patterns in Property Specifications for Finite-State Verification. ICSE 1999: 411-420

## Temporal Patterns

Structural Patterns

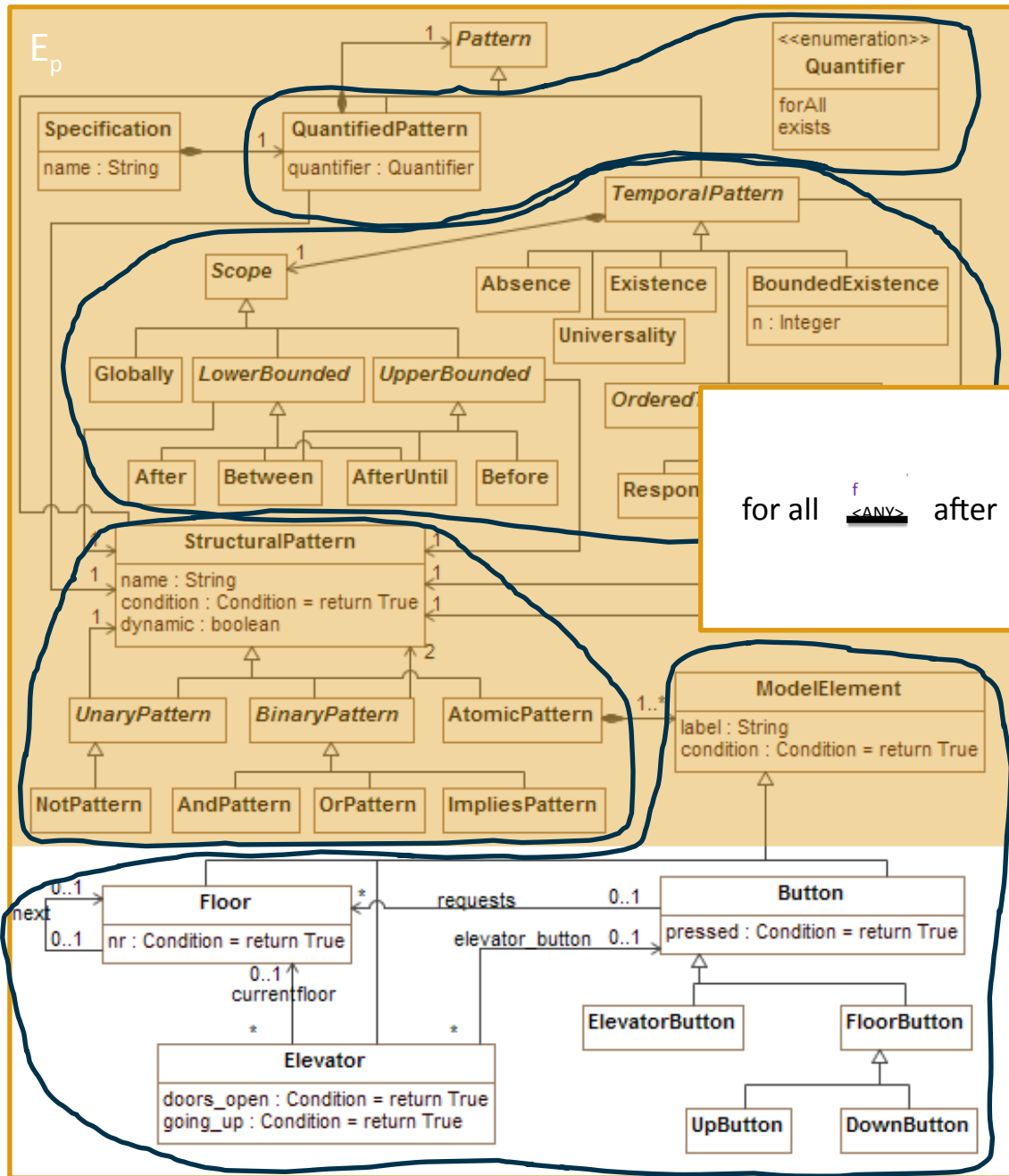
DSL-specific Elements

A young girl with her hair in two buns is sitting on a colorful modular seating arrangement made of large, padded blocks in red, yellow, blue, and green. She is wearing a light blue short-sleeved shirt and black pants, and is reading an open book. The book has colorful illustrations and text. In the background, there are stacks of colorful circular discs on a wooden cart with wheels. The floor is made of light-colored wood.

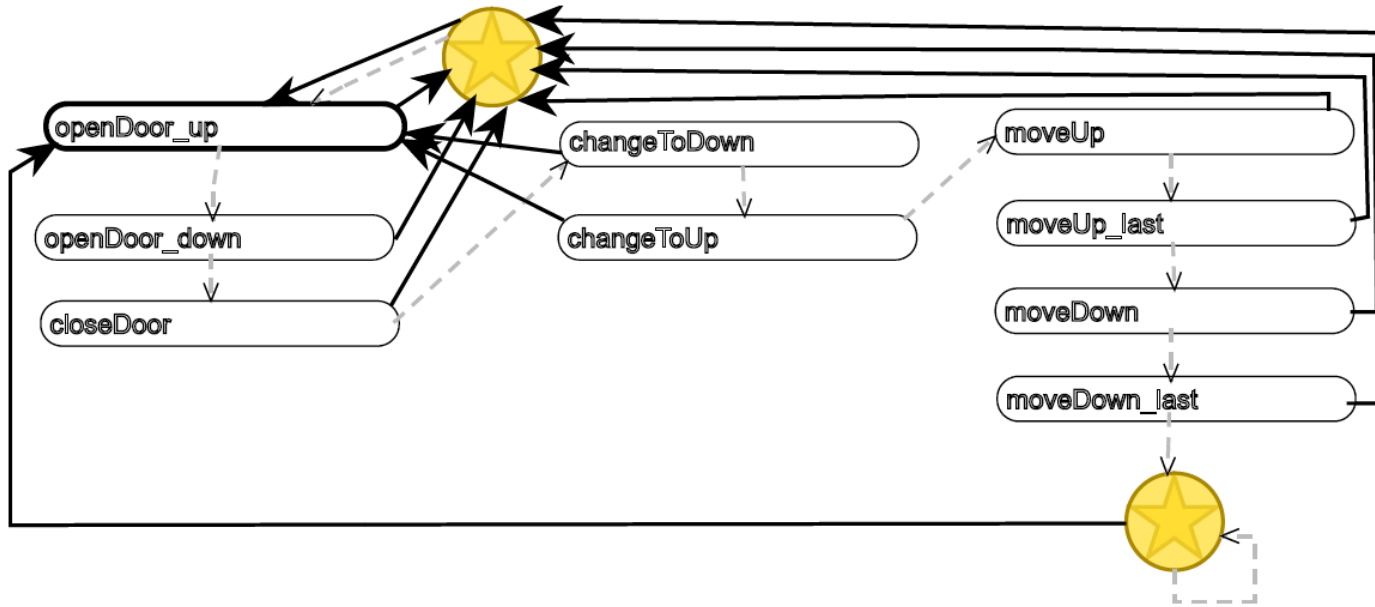
modular  
modeling  
language  
engineering  
with ProMoBox



$E_p$

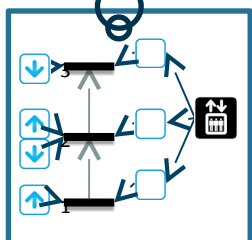
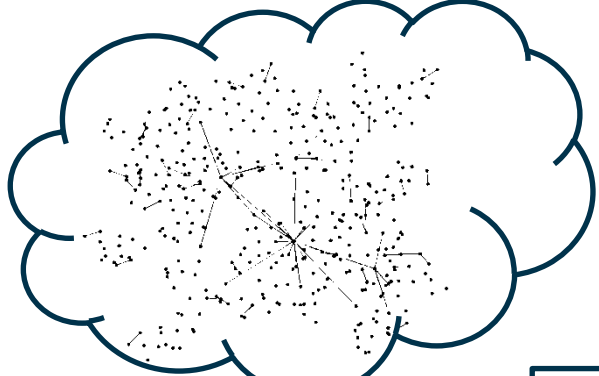


# Annotated Operational Semantics



Specify:

- **Input step:** when can an input event occur?
- **Output step:** what does a trace look like?



```

else:
    return str(val)

def create_typedef(self, clazz):
    self.writeln("typedef %s (" % clazz)
    self.inc()
    # get all subclasses
    subclasses = [clazz] + self.mm.subclasses[clazz]
    #print (getattr(self.NAME, sc) for sc in subclasses)
    # add _subtype attribute
    self.writeln("%s %s;" % ("short", "_subtype"))
    # get all attributes, in/outlinks (but not yet their maximum cardinality)
    # attributes
    for attr in [item for sublist in [self.mm.attributes[sc] for sc in subcl
    type = self.get_type(attr[self.mm.ATTRTYPE])
    name = attr[self.mm.ATTRNAME]
    cardinalities_placeholder = "%s%s.%s" % (getattr(self.NAME, clazz
    self.writeln("%s %s;" % (type, name, cardinalities_placeholder))

    # associations
    for link in [item for sublist in [self.mm.associations[sc] for sc in sub
    dir = "out" if link["dir"] == self.mm.OUT else "in"
    name = "%s_%s" % (link["name"], dir)
    cardinalities_placeholder = "%s.%s" % (clazz, name)
    target_class = link["type"]
    self.writeln("short %s;" % "%s %s" % (name, cardinalities_placeholder
    self.dec()
    self.writeln(")")
    self.writeln()

# compile metamodel: creates typedefs that kind of serve as metamodel (leav
def compile_metamodel(self):
    self.set_stream(self.metamodel)
    self.metamodel.clear()
    self.mm = MMASG()
    print self.mm
    self.writeln("*****")
    self.writeln("METAMODEL")
    self.writeln("*****")
    self.writeln()
    self.writeln()

```

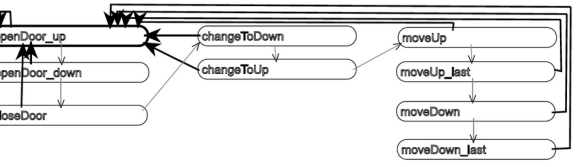
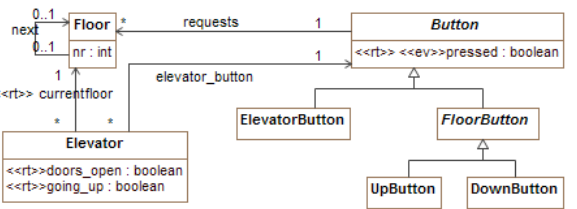


Generic code generator

```

MOVEUP_schedule:
if
:: (success == 1) -> // when successful
rule = moveup_;
nextrule = environmentstep1_;
goto OUTPUT;
:: else -> // when not applicable
nextrule = moveup_last_;
goto NEXTSTEP;
fi;
CLOSEDOOR_schedule:
if
:: (success == 1) -> // when successful
rule = closedoor_;
nextrule = environmentstep1_;
goto OUTPUT;
:: else -> // when not applicable
nextrule = moveup_;
goto NEXTSTEP;
fi;
ENVIRONMENTSTEP2_schedule:
if
:: (success == 1) -> // when successful
rule = environmentstep2_;
nextrule = opendoor_up_;
goto OUTPUT;
:: else -> // when not applicable
nextrule = environmentstep2_;
goto NEXTSTEP;
fi;
ENVIRONMENTSTEP1_schedule:
if
:: (success == 1) -> // when successful
rule = environmentstep1_;
nextrule = opendoor_up_;
goto OUTPUT;
:: else -> // when not applicable
nextrule = opendoor_up_;
goto NEXTSTEP;
fi;
MOVEUP:
success = 0;
// looking for node elevator5 type Elevator, Elevator from None by
// looking for node floor1 type Floor, Floor from elevator5 by follow
// looking for node floor2 type Floor, Floor from floor1 by follow
// looking for node button3 type Button, Button from None by follow
// looking for node floor0 type Floor, Floor from button3 by follow
elevator5 = 0; // this is the only Elevator so index must be 0
button3_max = 7;
button3_index_map[0] = 0;
button3_index_map[1] = 1;
button3_index_map[2] = 2;
button3_index_map[3] = 3;
button3_index_map[4] = 4;
button3_index_map[5] = 5;
button3_index_map[6] = 6;
do
:: ((elevator5 >= 0) && (s.elevator_[elevator5]._subtype == Elevat
(r.elevator_[elevator5].going_up == 1) && r.elevator_[elevator5].current
(s.floor_[r.elevator_[elevator5].currentfloor_out]._subtype == FloorTy
(s.floor_[r.elevator_[elevator5].currentfloor_out].next_out != r.elevat
(s.floor_[s.floor_[r.elevator_[elevator5].currentfloor_out].next_out]._
if
:: ((button3_max > 0) && (button3_index_map[0] >= 0) && (s.button
s.button_[button3_index_map[0]]._subtype == DownButtonType || s.button
(r.button_[button3_index_map[0]].pressed == 1) && (elevator5 >= 0) && (
(r.elevator_[elevator5].doors_open == 0) && (r.elevator_[elevator5].goi
(r.elevator_[elevator5].currentfloor_out >= 0) && (s.floor_[r.elevator_
(s.floor_[r.elevator_[elevator5].currentfloor_out].next_out >= 0) && (s
r.elevator_[elevator5].currentfloor_out) && (s.floor_[s.floor_[r.elevat
(s.button_[button3_index_map[0]].requests_out >= 0) && (s.button_[butto
s.floor_[r.elevator_[elevator5].currentfloor_out].next_out) && (s.butto
r.elevator_[elevator5].currentfloor_out) && (s.floor_[s.button_[button3
(s.floor_[s.button_[button3_index_map[0]].requests_out].nr > s.floor_[r
:: ((button3_max > 1) && (button3_index_map[1] >= 0) && (s.button

```



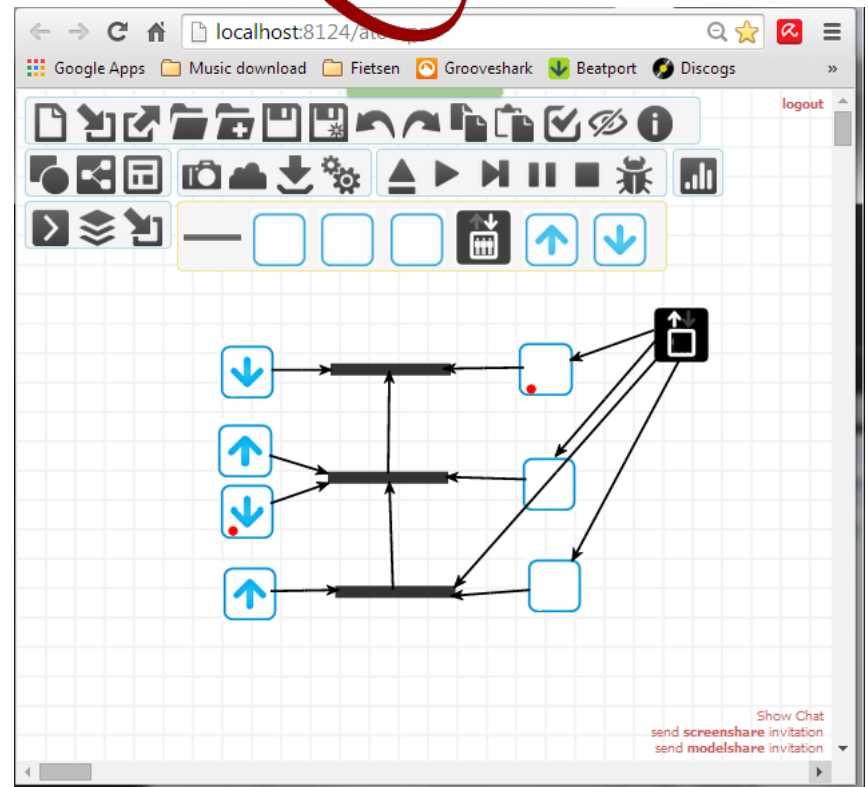
Optimizations!

Can use valuable system- and property-specific information

# DSM implementation

- "A Tool for Multi-Paradigm Modeling"
- Successor to AToM<sup>3</sup>
- Cloud- and browser based
- Model everything!
  - At the most appropriate level(s) of abstraction
  - Using the most appropriate formalism(s)

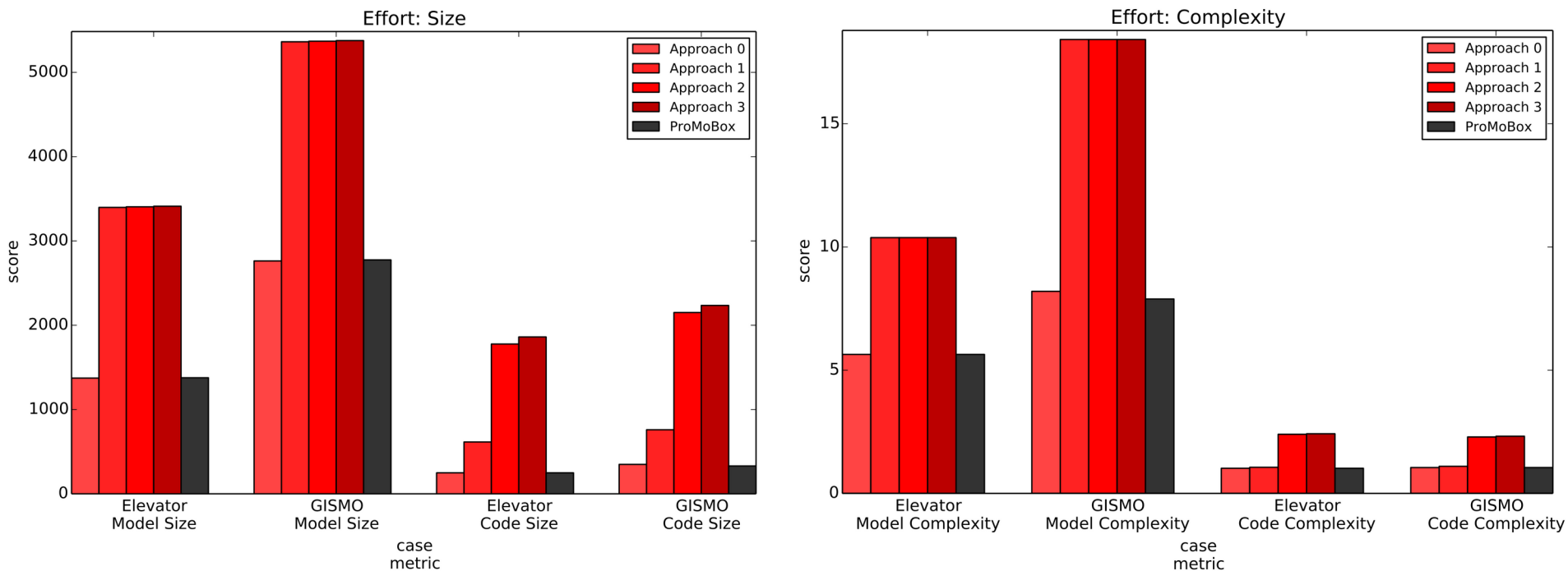
# ATOMPM



# Evaluation (modelling effort)

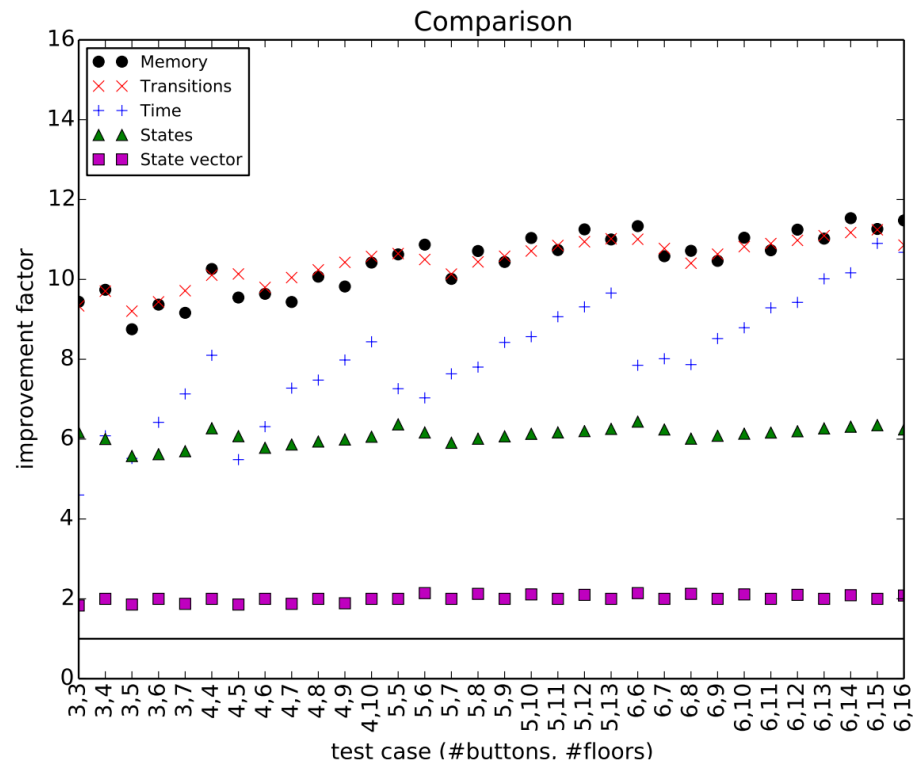
## In comparison with existing approaches:

- **Approach 1:** no DSML for properties is available. Instead, properties are directly modelled in logic, but there is a mapping to a formal language
- **Approach 2:** a DSML for properties is created including a mapping to a verification backbone, but no counterexample parsing is supported
- **Approach 3:** a DSML for properties is created including a mapping to and counterexample parsing from a verification backbone. This is in fact the only approach that offers the same functionality as *ProMoBox*



# Evaluation (model checking performance)

Elevator case study, in comparison with an adapted elevator implementation from the literature [merz08]



[merz08] Stephan Merz. An introduction to model checking. In Stephan Merz and Nicolas Navet, editors, Modeling and Verification of Real-Time Systems - Formalisms and Software Tools, pages 81–116. ISTE Publishing, 2008.

State Space Explosion  
Problem

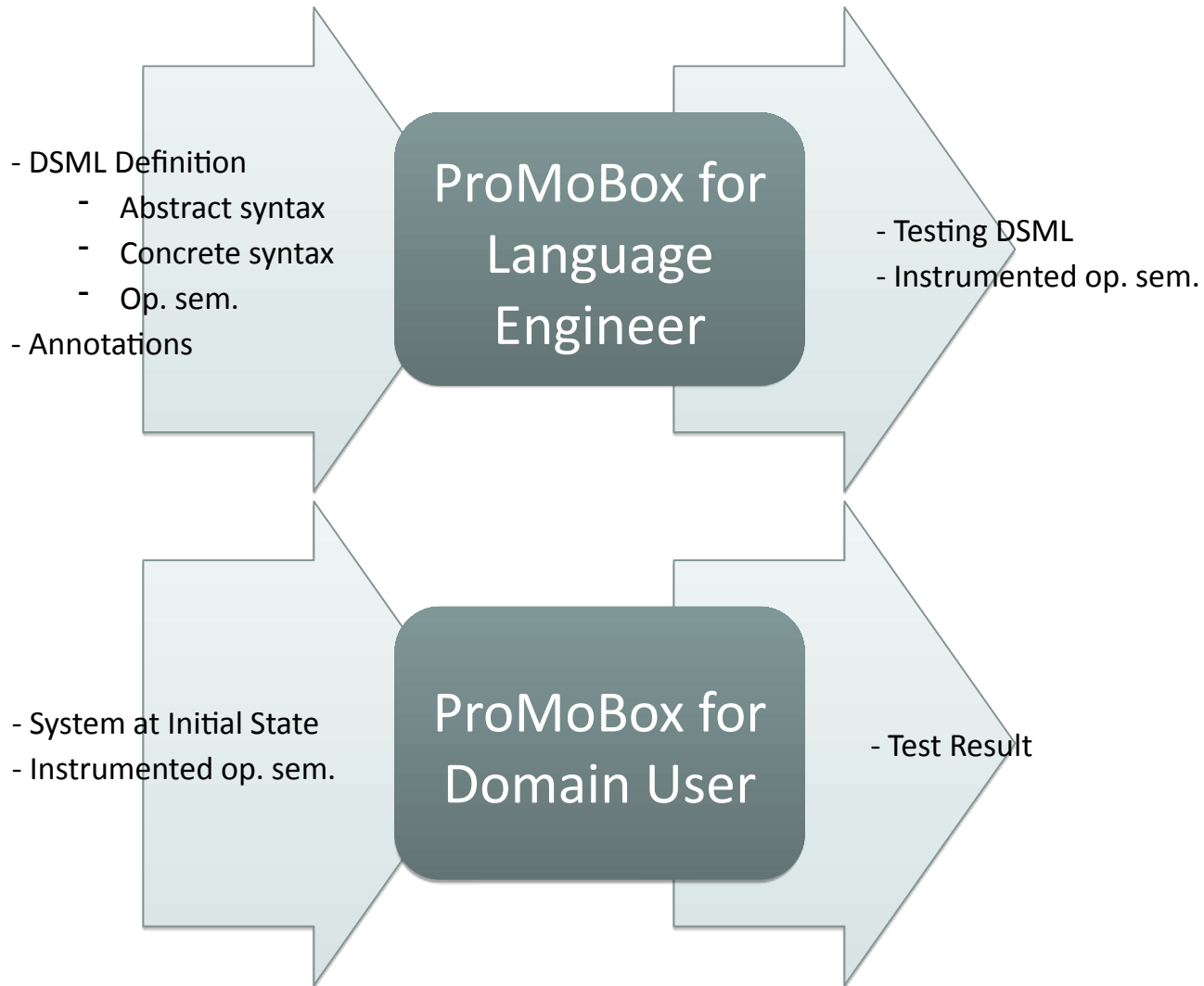


# Testing in DSM?

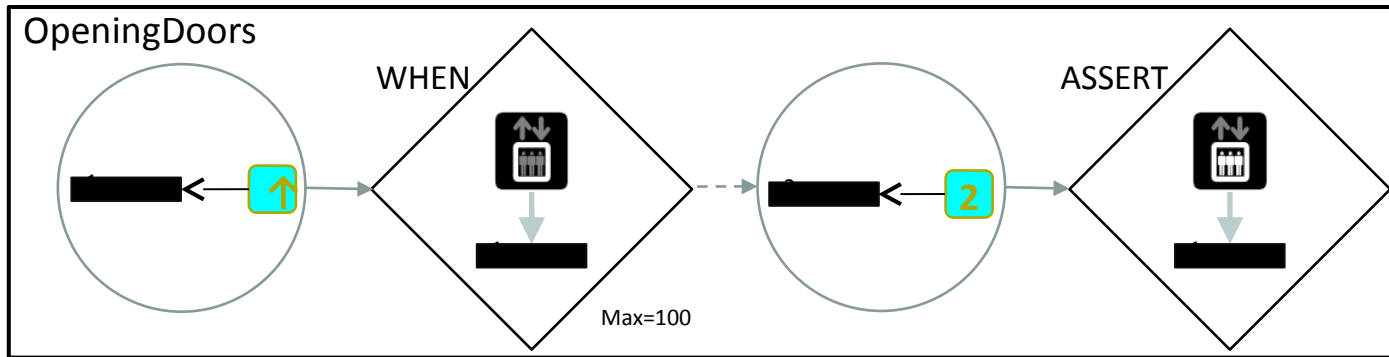




# Test Support for DSMLs



# Test case in Testing models in a DSML (caveat: not testing the DSML)



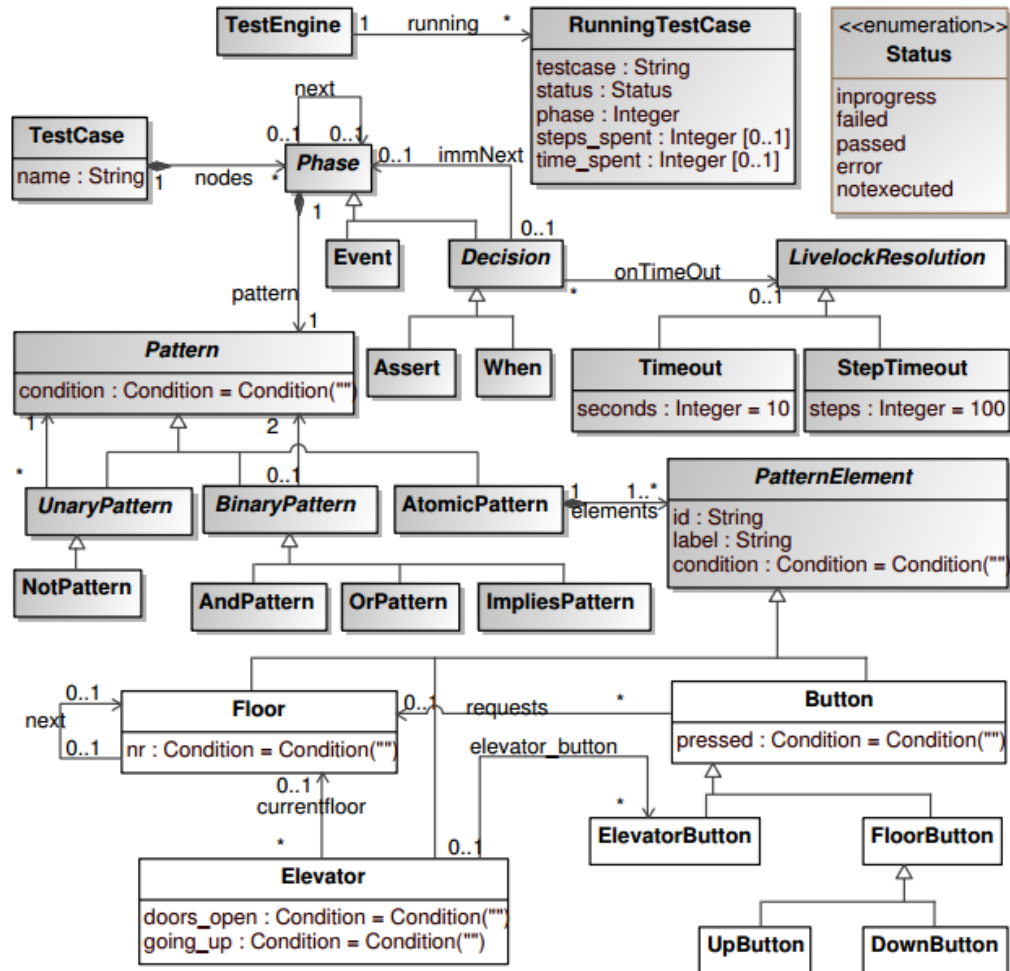
Inspired by unit testing

Domain-specific syntax

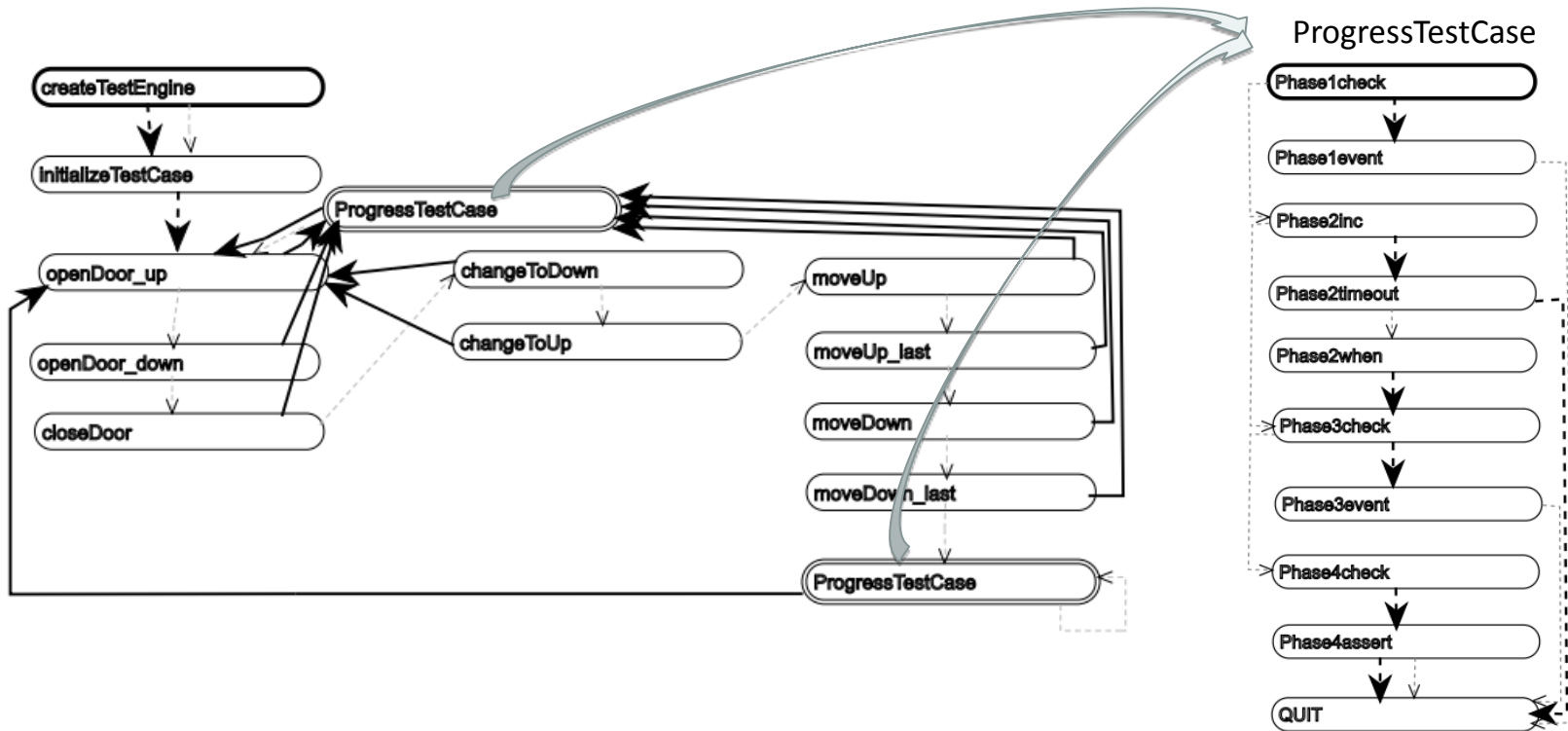
Includes oracle

Can also be used for runtime monitoring (~ trace-matches)

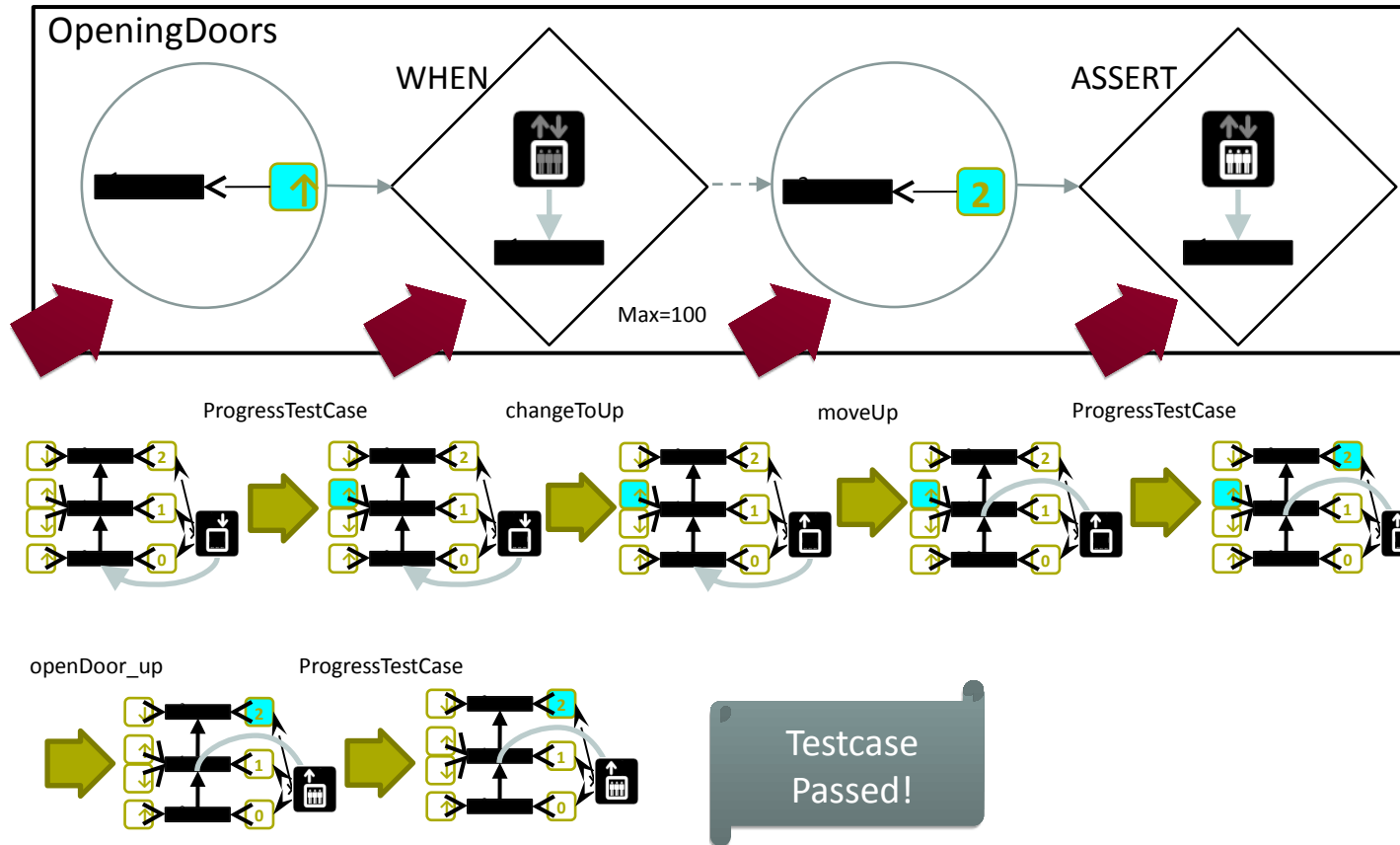
# Testing DSML (generated)



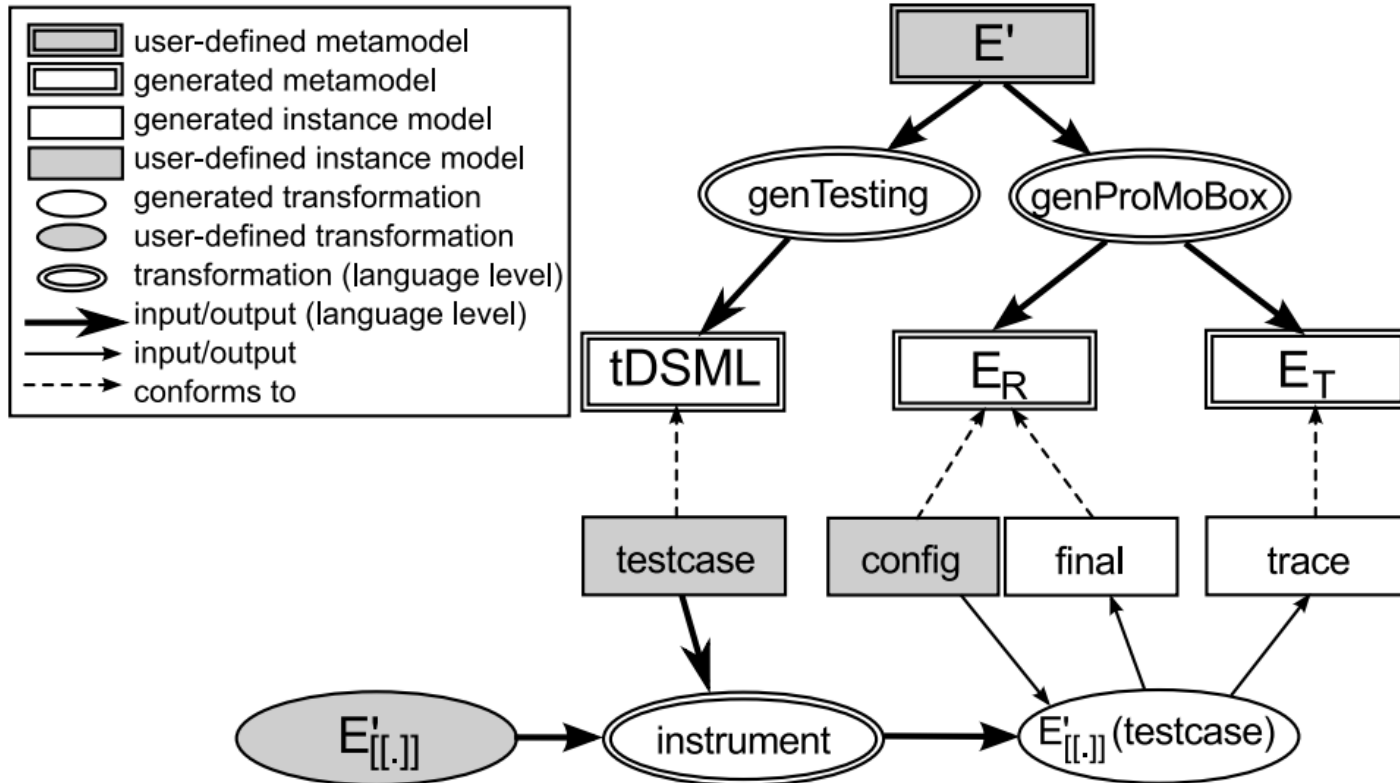
# Instrumented Operational Semantics (generated)



# Test Case Execution



# Architecture of the Approach



# Conclusion

- Definition of **family** of five related domain-specific sublanguages
- **Generative** approach
  - Language generation
  - Generic compiler
- **Insight** in and **support** for various tasks, e.g.,
  - Simulation
  - Model checking
  - Test case generation
- Future Work: Test Case Generation(with good coverage) from properties
- Future Work: Application to Design Space Exploration
  - Generate a language for specifying DSE optimization rules
  - Generate tool support

# References

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- Bart Meyers, Romuald Deshayes, Levi Lucio, Eugene Syriani, Manuel Wimmer and Hans Vangheluwe. ProMoBox: A Framework for Generating Domain-Specific Property Languages. In "*Proceedings of the 7th International Conference on Software Languages Engineering (SLE 2014)*", Lecture Notes on Computer Science, vol. 8706, p. 1-20, 2014.
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- Bart Meyers, Manuel Wimmer, and Hans Vangheluwe. Towards Domain-specific Property Languages: The ProMoBox Approach. In "Proceedings of the 2013 ACM Workshop on Domain-specific Modeling", p. 39-44, ACM New York, NY, USA, 2013.
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