# **Model-Driven Development**

Model-Driven Methods in Software Engineering

Alar Raabe

# Content

- Introduction
  - Common Language some Definitions
  - The Problem
  - Beginning (Excursion into the History)
- Models in Software Development
  - Direct Modeling
    - Convergent Engineering
    - Domain-Driven Design
  - Models as Primary Artifacts
    - Model-Driven Development Methods
    - Generative Programming
    - Domain Specific Languages
- Practical Aspects
  - Model Management
  - Best Practices
  - Examples
- Conclusions
- References

## Alar Raabe



- Over 30 years in IT
  - held various roles from programmer to a software architect
- 15 years in insurance and last 5 years in banking domain
  - developed model-driven technology for insurance applications product-line
    - models
    - method/process
    - tools and platform framework
  - developing/implementing business architecture framework and methods for a banking group
- Interests
  - software engineering (tools and technologies)
  - software architectures
  - model-driven software development
  - industry reference models (e.g. IBM IAA, IFW)
  - domain specific languages

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## Common Language – some Definitions 1

#### • Abstraction

- a view of an object that focuses on the information relevant to a particular purpose and ignores the remainder of the information
- the process of formulating a view

#### Model

 an interpretation of a theory for which all the axioms of the theory are true A set of structured information NOT JUST A PICTURE !

- a semantically closed abstraction of a system or a complete description of a system from a particular perspective
- anything that can be used to answer questions about system
  - Marvin Minsky & Doug Ross

#### Metamodel

- a model of models (or a language for models)
- a logical information model that specifies the modeling elements used within another (or the same) modeling notation
- model defining the concepts and their relations for some modeling notation

# Common Language – Some Definitions 2

#### Model Transformations

 changing the form of the model while preserving semantics and some desirable properties (like correctness)

#### Model Refinements

– changing (enlarging) the content of the model – adding details

#### • Domain

- a problem space
- a distinct scope, within which common characteristics are exhibited, common rules observed, and over which a distribution transparency is preserved
- an area of knowledge or activity characterized by a set of concepts and terminology understood by practitioners in that area (UML)
- Domain Specific Language (DSL)
  - language dedicated to a specific problem domain, problem representation technique, and/or problem solution technique

### How we did Business Yesterday



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### How we do Business Today



### How we do Business Tomorrow



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### How we Develop Software Today



#### PROBLEM Consistency of Implementation



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#### **PROBLEM** Mapping to Different Implementations



### $Problems \rightarrow Solution$

- Requirements for today's business information systems
  - fast time-to-market rapid delivery of initial results
  - flexibility effortless and cheap change during the life-cycle
  - independence of business know-how from technology know-how
  - minimal (acquisition and ownership) cost
  - independence of technological platform
- Problem  $\rightarrow$  Manual work
  - communication errors (systematic defects)
  - construction errors (random defects)
  - insufficient scalability of development process (sourcing)
  - difficult transfer of knowledge (continuity)
  - low reuse of both analysis and construction results (high cost)
  - long development time (low productivity)
  - insufficient flexibility of systems (high cost of changes)
- Solution → Automation

### How we should Develop Software



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## Beginning (Excursion into the History)

What has been will be again, what has been done will be done again; there is nothing new under the sun.

-- Ecclesiastes 1:9

- Programming Languages to automate coding
  - FORTRAN (1954), Lisp (1956)
  - APT (MIT 1957)  $\leftarrow$  First DSL!
  - Algol (1958)
- Problem-Oriented Languages/Systems to automate programming
  - ICES (MIT 1961)
    - CÒGO, STRUDL, BRIDGE, ...
  - PRIZ (ETA Kübl)
- Compiler Generators generation of solution from model of problem – Yacc/Lex (1979)
- Application Generators
  - MetaTool & GENII/GENOA & ... (Bell Labs 1980s)
- CASE (Computer-Aided Software Engineering) Tools
  - GraphiText, DesignAid (Nastec 1982)

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#### Models in Software Development

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### Using Models in Software Development

Most usual – we will not deal with this

Models as Descriptions and Illustrations (Documentation)



Software as Model – Direct Modeling (of Domain)



Models as Primary Artifacts (Executable Models)



## **Direct Modeling**

• History

- Structured Programming / Structured Design [Jackson 1975]

"program structure should correspond to the structure of the problem"

- Convergent Engineering
  - structure of business and business software should converge
  - flexibility and multiple usages of same software
- Domain-Driven Design
  - designing by building a domain model
- Examples
  - Modeling programs programs that directly model something
    - Recursive descent parser implements grammar (model) of language
  - Meta-programs (or generating programs) programs, which being models, generate other programs

### **Convergent Engineering**

- Convergent engineering construct business software as a model of business (organization and processes) [Taylor]
  - business and the supporting software can be designed together
  - changes in business are easier greater flexibility of software



## **Domain-Driven Design**

- Domain-Driven Design a way of thinking and a set of priorities, for accelerating software projects, which deal with complicated domains [Evans]
  - the primary focus should be on the domain and domain logic
  - complex domain designs should be based on a model
- Some techniques an practices of Domain-Driven Design
  - Declarative design (executable specification)
    - intention revealing interfaces (fluent interfaces)
    - side-effect-free functions & closure of operations (for value objects)
    - assertions (explicit constraints contracts & invariants)
  - Conceptual contours (modules)
    - bounded context (explicit context incl. description of boundary)
    - context map (connecting models)
    - shared kernel (common subset of models)
    - anticorruption layer (interface between models)
  - Distillation (separation of essential)
    - *core domain + generic sub-domains*
    - knowledge level (meta-level separation)

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### History of Model-Driven Software Development (MDSD)

- Real-time and embedded systems
  - Model-Integrated Computing (MIC) and model-based software synthesis – (Vanderbilt Univ. (ISIS), 1993; Abbott et al., 1994)
  - Model-based development (Mellor, 1995)
- Generative programming
  - GenVoca (Batory, 1992)
  - Family-Oriented Abstraction, Specification, and Translation (FAST)
     (Weiss, 1996; AT&T, Lucent, 1999)
- Software system families (a.k.a. product-lines)
  - Model-Based Software Engineering (MBSE) (SEI, 1993)
- Integration and interoperability
  - Model-Driven Architecture (MDA) (OMG, 2001)
  - fUML & Alf (OMG, 2011 ...)

## Four Components of MDSD

#### Models

- Analysis and design meta-models
- Domain (reference) models
- Architecture
  - Architecture style(s)
  - Domain (reference) architecture (in selected architecture style(s))

#### Process

- Generation/transformation rules
- Process of application of generation rules
- Tools
  - Model manipulation tools
  - Generators



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## Extended MDSD Approach



## MDSD and DDD $\rightarrow$ Executable Model





## OMG Executable Models

- Shlaer-Mellor method (models with precise semantics)
- OMG Standards for Executable UML
  - fUML (Foundational Subset for Executable UML Models)
    - For describing, in an operational style, structural and behavioral semantics of the system
  - Alf (Action Language for fUML)
    - For describing textually fine-grained behavior of the system concrete syntax corresponding to fUML abtract syntax

#### Domain model consists of

- Domain chart provides a view of the domain being modeled, and the dependencies it has on other domains
- Class diagram defines the classes and class associations for the domain
- Statechart diagram defines the states, events, and state transitions for a class or class instance
- Action language defines the actions or operations that perform processing on model elements

### **Generative Programming**



[Czarnecki, Eisenecker]

### **Generative Programming Technologies**

#### **Problem Space**

domain specific conceptsfeatures

### Configuration knowledge

illegal feature
combinations
default settings
default dependencies
construction rules
optimizations

#### **Solution Space**

elementary
components
maximum
combinability
minimum
redundancy

#### **DSL** Technologies

programming language
extensible languages
textual languages
graphical languages
interactive wizards
any mixture of above

#### **Generator Technologies**

simple traversal
templates and frames
transformation systems
languages with metaprogramming support
extensible programming systems

#### **Component Technologies**

•generic components

- component models
- •AOP approaches

## **Generator Technologies**

- Model traversal
- Templates and frames
  - text with meta-instructions (referencing model)
    - retrieval of information from domain/problem model
    - conditional configuration of output
  - JSP, XSL, Velocity
- Transformation systems
  - operate on abstract syntax trees
    - rewrite rules
    - transformation procedures
  - DMS, XT, QVT
- Languages with meta-programming support
  - template meta-programming in C++

- Domain-Specific Languages (DSLs) customized languages that provide a high-level of abstraction for specifying a problem concept in a particular domain
- Defining DSL
  - concrete syntax
    - specific representation of a DSL in a human-usable form
      - style: declarative | imperative
      - representation: textual, graphical, table, form(wizard), ...
  - abstract syntax
    - elements + relationships of a domain without representation
  - semantics
    - the meaning of the phrases and sentences that the domain expert may express
      - static semantics: typing rules, truth value
      - dynamic semantics: evaluation rules, change in context
      - defined: formally | informally (interpreters, generators, transformers, ...)

## **DSL** Technologies

WARNING: Don't be too Clever !

- Internal DSLs
  - Built-in features of programming languages
    - C++ templates
    - Lisp Macros
  - Extensible languages
    - Scala, Ruby, Groovy, JavaScript, ...
    - Seed7, XL, ... (with extensible syntax)
  - Well-Designed APIs
- External DSLs
  - Textual languages
    - XML, xText, ...
  - Graphical languages
    - UML, MetaCASE, ...
  - Interactive wizards

### Internal DSL Example

		lleername
	Oiav ( JavaScript internal DSL )	Username
		Email
		Confirm email
		Title
		Date of birth
		No. tickets
		Telephone
	Define come velidation nules	Accept Ts+Cs?
//	Deline some valuation rules	Sign up!
	<pre>form('signup')</pre>	
	.requires('username') .toHaveLength({mi	nimum: 6})
	.requires('email') .toMatch(EMAIL FO	RMAT, 'must be a valid email address'
	.expects('email conf') .toConfirm('email	.')
	.expects('title') .toBeOneOf(['Mr',	'Mrs', 'Miss'])
	.requires('dob', 'Birth date').toMatch(/^	\d{4}\D*\d{2}\D*\d{2}\$/)
	.requires('tickets') .toHaveValue({max	ximum: 12})
	.requires('phone')	
	.requires('accept', 'Terms and conditions	<pre>').toBeChecked('must be accepted');</pre>

## External DSL Example

#### Model in EBNF

	<entity></entity>	::=	"entity" <name> [ "extends" <name> ]</name></name>
xText (oAW)	<feature> <attribute> <reference></reference></attribute></feature>	::= ::= ::=	<pre>"{" { <feature> } "}" <attribute>   <reference> <type> <name> ";" "ref" [ "+" ] <type> <name> [ "&lt;-&gt;" <name> ] ";"</name></name></type></name></type></reference></attribute></feature></pre>

```
Entity :
```

```
"entity" name=ID ("extends" superType=[Entity])?
"{"
    (features+=Feature)*
    "}";
Feature :
    Attribute | Reference;
Attribute :
    type=ID name=ID ";";
Reference :
    "ref" (containment?"+")? type=ID name=ID ("<->" oppositeName=ID)? ";";
```

#### • Example

```
entity Customer {
   String fullName;
   ref +Address address <-> resident;
   Integer ageInFullYears;
   Boolean isPremiumCustomer;
}
```

# DSL Implementation 1

Compiler-Based


## DSL Implementation 2

#### Language Workbench



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#### Practical Aspects

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#### PROBLEM

#### Network of Problem Domains



#### **PROBLEM** Different Problem and Solution Domains in a Specific System – Many Dimensions

		Business Services		Business Support		
		Financial Services		Customer Mgmt.	Resource Mgmt.	
		Banking	Insurance		Accounting	Billing
User Interface	Interaction					
	Reporting					
Functionality	Processes					
	Rules					
	Calculations					
Persistence						

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### Model Management

- Relationships between Models
  - "inheritance" extension of models (package/model merge in UML2)
  - correspondence mappings between models
  - references to external models (package/model import in UML 2)
- Operations on Models (e.g. Epsilon & Atlas on Eclipse)
  - calculations on models
    - model validation
    - comparing models
    - transformations of models (to other models or to text)
  - editing models
    - graphical model editors
    - form-based model editors
    - · text-based model editors
  - storing models
    - repository
    - source code control
    - embedding into code

### **Domain-Driven Design Best Practices**

- Use the Domain Model as **Ubiquitous Language**
- Design Part of the System to Reflect Domain Model Avoid Divide between Analysis and Design
  - Domain Model is Constrained to Support Efficient Implementation
- Express Domain Model in Code Hands-On Modeling
  - with Services, Entities, Aggregates and Value Objects
    - Encapsulate Entities, Value Objects and Aggregates with Factories and Value Objects with Aggregates
    - Maintain Integrity with Aggregates (Entities act as roots of Aggregates)
    - Access Entities and Aggregates with Repositories
- Isolate Domain with Layered Architecture
  - Presentation Layer
    Application Layer
    Domain Layer

  - Infrastructure Layer

[Evans]

- Separate the Generated and Manually Created Code
  - protected regions (generated code must be revision controlled)
  - separate directory (e.g. src-gen)
  - language mechanisms (e.g. sub-classing/inheritance, wrapping/containment, aspects, ...)
- Don't Manage Generated Code in Revision Control System
  - exception when using protected regions or when generator can't be integrated with build
- Integrate the Generator/Generation into the Build Process

   generation phase must be added before the compilation phase
- Generate Clean and Readable Code
  - code is primarily meant for humans
  - follow coding styles used for manually written code
  - generate comments that identify generated code and describe the used (parts of) source model
  - use code formatter

- Use the Native Techniques of Target Platform for Separating Generated and Manually Created Code
  - object languages sub-classing/inheritance, wrapping/containment
  - aspect languages aspects/pointcuts (weaving)
  - procedural languages preprocessing (e.g. includes), libraries
- Use the Compiler (to Guide the Developer)
  - let compiler check the constraints for manually written code (e.g. overriding of mandatory methods)
  - generate dummy code as example for manually written code
- Use Meta-Model as Ubiquitous Language
  - use consistent terminology that connects generated code with other parts of project
  - verify the adequacy of DSLs through constant usage of metamodel concepts

### MDSD Best Practices <sub>3</sub>

- Develop DSLs Incrementally
  - DSLs should be developed as understanding grows
  - DSLs are public interfaces should be developed and evolved like APIs
  - provide facilities for migrating old models to new metamodel (e.g. model transformation)
- Develop Model Validation (Iteratively)
  - semantics cannot be represented by metamodel alone (it describes only static aspects of model – structure)
  - constraints representing semantics should be added incrementally
  - integrate model validation into build process
- Test the Generator(s) (using Reference Model)
  - use reference (test) models as unit tests to test the generator
  - generate unit tests for combination of generated and manually created code

- Select Suitable Technology Avoid too Complex Meta-Models
  - define core abstractions clearly and expandable
  - models should be quickly editable and turnaround (model  $\longrightarrow$  generate  $\longrightarrow$  execute) should be quick
  - avoid overly complex metamodels (like UML) or encapsulate these
  - transform complex metamodels into simpler metamodels targeted for specific domains
  - formulate domain specific constraints on simpler metamodels
- Use Graphical and Textual Syntax Correctly (to Support Modeller)
  - don't overburden model with details use implicit knowledge
  - compromise between compactness and comprehensiveness
- Use Configuration by Exception
  - use defaults for normal configurations (e.g. only specify the exceptions)
  - remember, that defaults become the part of interface (API)

- Teamwork Prefers Textual DSLs
  - use exclusive locking for graphical models
  - if possible, use both textual and graphical DSL (both representations of same model)
- Use Model Transformations to Reduce Complexity
  - divide the step between source model and code into several transformation steps to fight complexity
- Generate towards a Comprehensive Platform Keep Translation Steps as Small as Possible
  - develop domain specific platforms to reduce the complexity of generators
- Many Small DSLs Concentrate on the Task
  - Swiss army knife is nice as present, but specialised tools are used for serious work
  - divide et impera models should be modular

- Don't Reverse Engineer Model is Primary Artifact
  - all changes should be done in model, and then all derived artifacts should be regenerated
- Regenerate Frequently
  - include generation into continuous build process
  - frequent regeneration ensures compliance with model and architectural constraints (embedded into generator)

### Examples of MDSD

- Example of Model-Driven Development in Insurance
  - Once & Done a model-driven technology for insurance systems product-line
- Example of Model-Driven Development in Banking
  - RISLA a DSL for credit products
  - MLFi a DSL for financial instruments and contracts

### **Overview of OD Software Process**

- Beginning
- Analysis
  - Business Domain Analysis
  - Modeling Domain Objects
  - Modeling Insurance Products
- Design
  - Refinement of Analysis Models
  - Design of the Database Schema
  - Design of the User Interface
  - Design of the Printouts
- Implementation
  - Generation of Code
  - Implementation of Business Logic
  - Installation of Business Objects into the Base System
- Finalisation

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#### Extended OOA/OOD Meta-Model



#### Example of Using Once&Done

- "Gadget Insurance"
  - Gadgets consist of Widgets
  - Gadgets can be insured against Fire and Theft
- Analysis model of "Gadget Insurance"
- Extending insurance domain model with "Gadget Insurance"
- "Gadget Insurance" product model
- Design model for "Gadget Insurance" policy management system

#### "Gadget Insurance" Analysis Model



# "Gadget Insurance" Model as Extension to Insurance Domain Model



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#### "Gadget Insurance" Product Model



#### "Gadget Insurance" Design Model



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#### Once&Done – Results

- Reduction of development time
  - standard functionality generated from model
  - some parts of the model interpreted at run-time
- Quality of developed code
  - generated code had hints for developers
  - regeneration forced to conform to architecture
- Flexibility of resulting systems
  - business people were able to maintain parameters
- Technology independence of domain knowledge
  - easy transition from C/C++ client-server to
    - Java-based Rich Client, further
    - HTML-based web-application

### Comparing Model-Driven Method with Traditional

- Effort for First Iteration Basically CRUD Application
- Manually coded Claims application
  - Volume
    - Domain Model: 30 entities, 30 relationships
    - Functionality: 10 use-cases (CRUD excl.)
    - User Interface: 34 screens
  - Effort: ~800 man-days (~50 analysis, ~550 implementation)
- Generated Claims application
  - Volume
    - Domain Model: 20 entities, 45 relationships
    - Functionality: 15 use-cases (CRUD excl.), 20 business rules
    - User Interface: 25 screens
  - Effort: ~130 man-days (~80 analysis, ~2 implementation)
- Generated Claims was regenerated on different platform

#### Comparing Model-Driven Method with Traditional



#### Lessons Learned

- Modeling is hard work and requires domain knowledge
- Project budget structure changes when using generation
- Generated system can be used as analysis tool
- Repository is good for concurrent work, analysis and synthesis, model checking and transformations, but has problems with versioning and version management
- Textual models can be versioned as code, but this is not best for concurrent work with graphical models
- Interpreters of meta-info (heavily parametric software components) are very difficult to debug – here generation/compilation is better

#### **RISLA – Language for Product Models**

- Started 1990 CAP, MeesPierson, ING, CWI
- Describes interest rate products
  - Characterised by cash-flows
- product LOAN Generates declaration Database contract data %% Principal Amount **PAMOUNT** : amount - User Interface STARTDATE : date %% Starting date %% Maturity data MATURDATE : date – Product Logic %% Interest rate **INTRATE** : int-rate RDMLIST := [] : cashflow-list %% List of redemptions. Example: information **%% Principal Amount Flow** PAF : cashflow-list – Loan IAF : cashflow-list %% Interest Amount Flow registration %% Register one redemption. RDM (AMOUNT : amount, DATE : date) . . .

#### **RISLA – Result**

#### Success

- Business people use appropriate level of abstraction
- Time to market decreased from 3 months to 3 weeks
- Library of 100 components and 50 products
- Survived merger flexibility



#### MLFi – Language for Financial Instruments and Contracts

#### • Financial Instrument (American Option)

```
american :: (Date,Date) -> Contract -> Contract
american (t1,t2) u
        = get (truncate t1 opt) `then` opt
where
        opt :: Contract
        opt = anytime (perhaps t2 u)
```

Custom-built Contract

```
on 11.12, to choose between
                                                      receiving €2.20 on 28.12, or having
let option1 =
                                                      the right, on 18.12, to choose
  let strike = cashflow(USD:2.00, 2001-12-27) in
                                                       between receiving \pm 1.20 on 30.12,
  let option2 =
                                                       or paying immediately €1.0 and
                                                       receiving €3.20 on 29.12.
    let option3 =
      let t = 2001-12-18T15:00 in either
         ("--> GBP payment", cashflow(GBP:1.20, 2001-12-30))
         ("reinvest in EUR + receive cash later",
          (give(cashflow(EUR:1.00, t))) 'and' cashflow(EUR:3.20, 2001-12-29))
        t in either
      ("--> EUR payment", cashflow(EUR:2.20, 2001-12-28))
      ("wait for last option", option3) 2001-12-11T15:00 in
   (either
     ("--> USD payment", cashflow(USD:1.95, 2001-12-29))
     ("wait for second option", option2) 2001-12-04T15:00) 'and' (give (strike))
```

Against the promise to pay \$2.00 on

27.12, the holder has the right, on 04.12, to choose between receiving

\$1.95 on 29.12, or having the right,

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### Generating Code for Financial Instrument Agreement Valuation



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#### Conclusions

#### No Round-Trips

 when you are Model-Driven, models are primary artifacts (models are your code)

#### Model is Not the Picture

 model is a collection of structured information in the form, which is best fore given Domain (pictures should be Model-Driven)

#### Keep Focus, Don't Mix Domains (fight Complexity)

- to represent information about problems/solutions in different Domains use several Models with different Meta-Models
- Let the Models drive the Analysis & Design
  - models are the ubiquitous language for stakeholders
- This is not a Religion !
  - use Model-Driven Approaches only where it makes sense and brings value

### References

- Some books to read
  - Krzysztof Czarnecki and Ulrich W. Eisenecker, Generative Programming Methods, Tools, and Applications, 2000
    - http://www.generaative-programming.org/
  - Tom Stahl, Markus Völter, Model-Driven Software Development: Technology, Engineering, Management, 2006
    - http://www.voelter.de/publications/books-mdsd-en.html
  - Eric Evans, Domain-Driven Design: Tackling Complexity in the Heart of Software, 2004
    - http://domaindrivendesign.org/

#### Some WWW sites to look

- http://www.omg.org/mda
- http://www.eclipse.org/modeling/emf/
- http://www.infoq.com/minibooks/domain-driven-design-quickly
- http://www.andromda.org/
- http://www.openarchitectureware.org/
- http://www.voelter.de/services/mdsd-tutorial.html
- http://www.martinfowler.com/bliki/dsl.html
- http://www.prakinf.tu-ilmenau.de/~czarn/gpsummerschool02/

#### Thank You!

#### Questions?

### Steps of Model-Oriented Software Development



### MDSD Benefits (1)

#### Reasons for MDSD

- domain experts can formally specify their knowledge
- need to provide different implementations of the same model
- need to capture knowledge about the domains and their mapping
- separate functionality from implementation details
- same model is source for several targets (consistency)
- domain specific product-lines and software system families

#### Benefits MDSD

- models directly represent domain knowledge are free from implementation artifacts (separation of concerns)
- generation for various platforms is possible
- experts of different domains don't interfere
- domain experts are directly involved in development
- due to automation development is more efficient
- enforcement of architectural constraints/rules/patterns
- cross-cutting concerns are easily addressed by generators

### MDSD Benefits (2)

#### • Benefits for Quality

- explicit, well-defined architecture is needed
- transformations capture expert knowledge
- architecture defines strict programming model for manually developed parts
- generator doesn't produce accidental/random errors
- documentation is always up-to-date
- You are forced to
  - do domain/application scoping
  - do variability management
  - create well-defined architecture
  - understand domain and target architecture
#### **MDSD** Costs

#### You need additional skills

- domain analysis
- metamodeling
- generator development
- architecture
- Development process is more complex
  - domain architecture development
  - application development

### Some Statistics (from CA Technologies)



 For MDD projects, project work effort becomes more predictable

#### Examples of 4 Layers of Models

- M<sub>3</sub> meta-metamodel
  - a language for compilers Yacc language syntax definition (maybe in Yacc or in EBNF)
  - XML definition in EBNF
- M<sub>2</sub> metamodel
  - C language syntax definition in Yacc (".y" file)
  - XSD schema definition in XSD (or in DTD)
- $M_1 model$ 
  - program in C (".c" file)
  - schema definition in XSD (or in DTD)
- M<sub>0</sub> an instance of a model
  - executable code
  - XML file

# Definitions 1

- System
  - a collection of interacting components organized to accomplish a specific function or set of functions within a specific environment
- Interface (Connection)
  - a shared boundary between two functional units, defined by various characteristics of the functions
  - component that connects two or more other components for the purpose of passing information from one to the other
- Module (Component)
  - a logically separable part of a system
- Encapsulation
  - isolating some parts of the system from the rest of the system
  - a module has an outside that is distinct from its inside (an external interface and an internal implementation)

# Definitions 2

- Modularity
  - the degree to which a system is composed of discrete components such that a change to one component has minimal impact on other components
  - the extent to which a module is like a black box
- Coupling
  - the manner and degree of interdependence between modules
  - the strength of the relationships between modules
  - a measure of how closely connected two modules are
- Cohesion
  - the manner and degree to which the tasks performed by a single module are related to one another
  - a measure of the strength of association of the elements within a module

## Definitions <sub>3</sub>

- Model
  - an interpretation of a theory for which all the axioms of the theory are true
  - a semantically closed abstraction of a system or a complete description of a system from a particular perspective
  - anything that can be used to answer questions about system
    - to an observer B, an object  $M_{_A}$  is a model of an object A to the extent that B can use  $M_{_A}$  to answer questions that interest him about A

Marvin Minsky

• M is a model of A with respect to question set Q if and only if M may be used to answer questions about A in Q within tolerance T

Doug Ross