

ON THE FORMALIZATION OF
MODEL-DRIVEN SOFTWARE ENGINEERING

Vom Promotionsausschuss der
Technischen Universität Hamburg-Harburg
zur Erlangung des akademischen Grades

Doktor-Ingenieur

genehmigte Dissertation

von

Miguel Alfredo GARCIA GUTIERREZ

aus San Juan, Argentinien

2009

1. Gutachter: Prof. Dr. Ralf Möller, TU Hamburg-Harburg.
 2. Gutachter: Prof. Dr. Friedrich H. Vogt, TU Hamburg-Harburg.
- Tag der mündlichen Prüfung: 27. Februar 2009

Abstract

Model-Driven Software Engineering (MDSE) encompasses traditional areas of language design, tool engineering, and system validation and verification, following a unified conceptual and technical framework (metamodeling, declarative model transformations, model-based analysis). This work presents design cases of methodologies and tools for MDSE, where the state-of-the-art is advanced as a result of applying formal techniques. The contributions encompass (a) the application of metamodeling techniques to industrially relevant languages, capturing their static semantics in a machine-processable manner; (b) the formulation of a methodology for the design-time certification of transformation algorithms; (c) the design of algorithms for efficiently evaluating Object Constraint Language (OCL) invariants for both the secondary-storage and main-memory cases; and (d) several contributions focused on the generation of Integrated Development Environments (IDEs) derived from language definitions for Domain Specific Languages (DSLs). Venues for further progress and an appraisal of the impact of our research are also reported.

Kurzfassung

Modellgetriebene Softwareentwicklung (MGSE) umfasst die traditionellen Gebiete des Sprachentwurfs, der Werkzeugentwicklung, und der Systemvalidierung in einem einheitlichen konzeptuellen und technischen Rahmen (Meta-Modellierung, deklarative Modell-Transformation, und modellbasierte Analyse). Diese Arbeit untersucht Entwurfsfälle für Methodologien und Werkzeuge im Rahmen der MGSE, wobei der Stand der Kunst durch die Anwendung formaler Techniken erhöht wird. Die Forschungsbeiträge dieser Arbeit umfassen (a) die Anwendung von Techniken der Meta-Modellierung auf industriell relevante Programmiersprachen, (b) die Formulierung einer methodischen Vorgehensweise zur Zertifizierung von Transformations-Algorithmen zur Entwurfszeit, (c) der Entwurf von Algorithmen zur effizienten Evaluierung von in der Object Constraint Language (OCL) formulierten Invarianten im Sekundär- und im Hauptspeicher und (d) diverse Beiträge zur Generierung von Integrierten Entwicklungsumgebungen (Integrated Development Environments, IDEs) aus Sprachspezifikationen für Domänenspezifische Sprachen (Domain Specific Languages). Ebenso wird ein Ausblick für zukünftige Forschungsarbeiten gegeben, und der Einfluss unserer Forschungsarbeiten auf industrielle Praxis diskutiert.

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