



EGF Tutorial EMF Generation Patterns

Benoît Langlois – Thales/EPM

● Introduction

● Process

● Benefits of the Pattern Technique

● Best Practices for the EMF Generation

- ▶ EGF (Eclipse Generation Factories) is an Eclipse open source project under the **EMFT project**

- ▶ **Purpose:** providing a **model-based generation framework**
- ▶ **Operational objectives:**
 - ▶ Supporting complex, large-scale and customizable generations
 - ▶ Promoting the constitution of generation portfolios in order to capitalize on generation solutions
 - ▶ Providing an extensible generation structure

- **The EMF generation is central for model-based developments,**
- **But limits exist to the EMF generation today, e.g.:**
 - ▶ Some Jet files are monolithic, problem of readability due to the generation complexity
 - ▶ Reuse / customization: problem of capitalization and scalability for large-scale applications with common and specific needs
- **Work realized with EGF:**
 - ▶ Transformation of the Jet files for the EMF generation into patterns
- **Added-value:**
 - ▶ Clarification of the EMF generation
 - ▶ Taking profit from the pattern technique



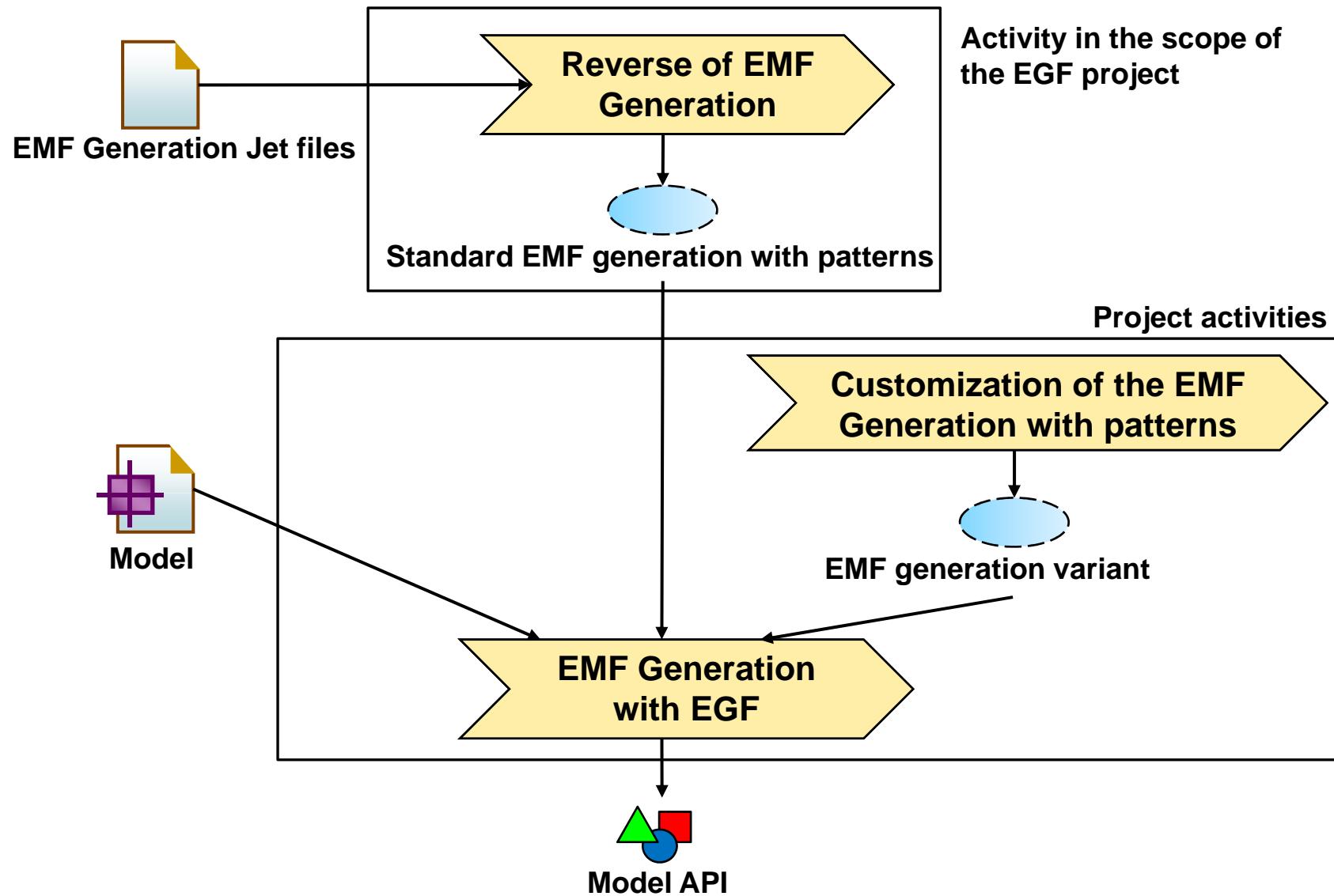
● Introduction

● Process

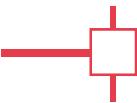
● Benefits of the Pattern Technique

● Best Practices for the EMF Generation

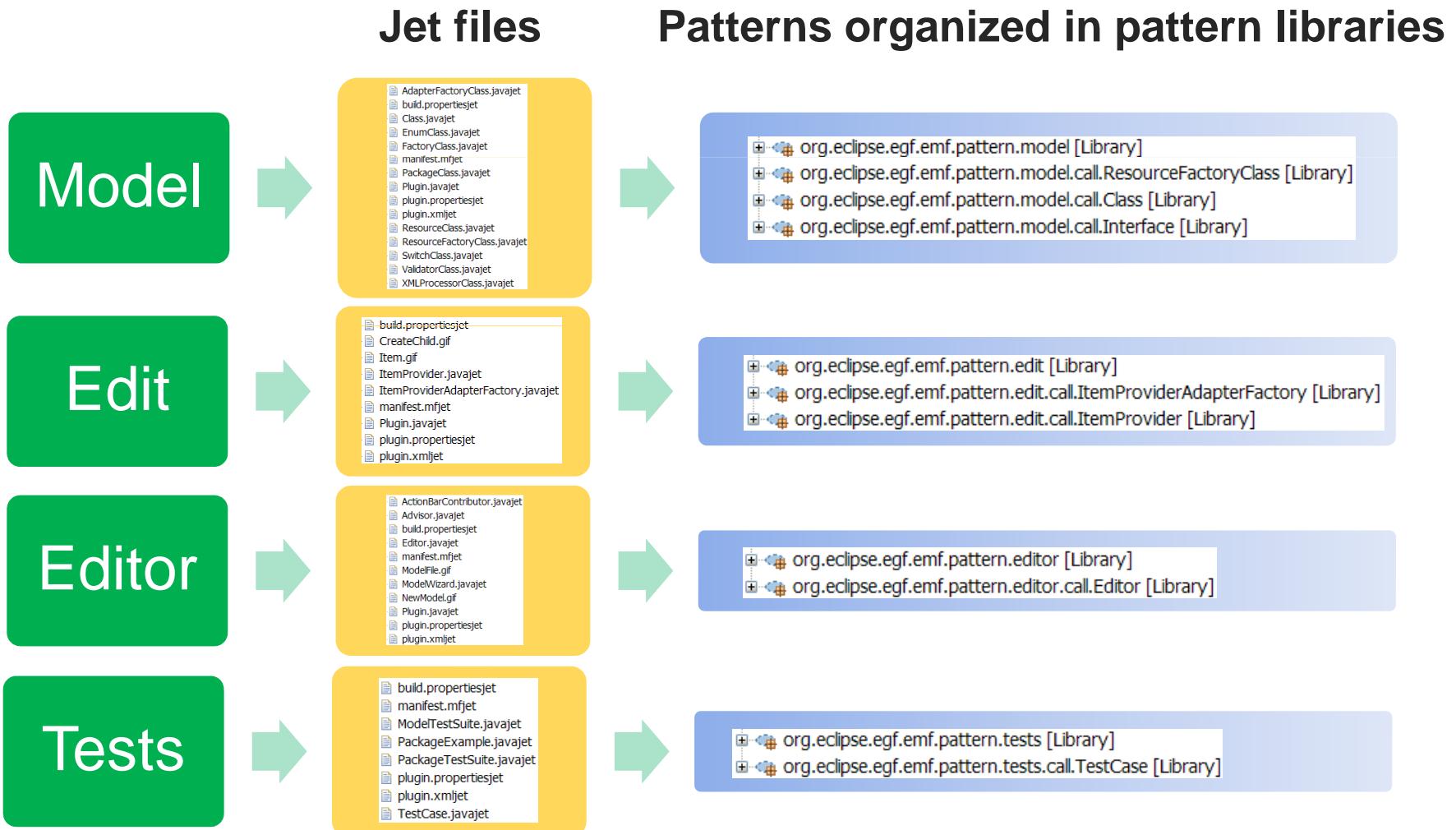
Process Overview



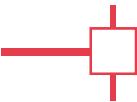
Reverse of the EMF Generation into Patterns



EGF: Eclipse Generation Factories – Thales Corporate Services/EPM



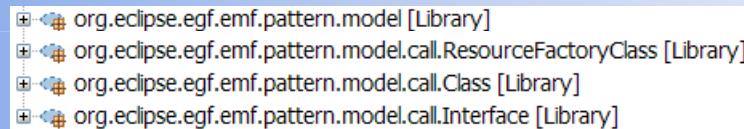
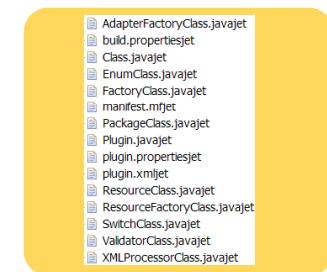
Reverse of EMF Generation



Jet files

Patterns organized in pattern libraries

Model



Example of Decomposition



The screenshot illustrates the decomposition of a pattern across multiple files and editors.

- Package Explorer:** Shows the project structure with files like `ItemProvider.javajet`, `ItemProviderAdapterFactory.javajet`, and `manifest.mfjet`.
- EMF_Pattern.ecore Editor:** Displays the Ecore model for the `ItemProvider` pattern, which includes various operations and features.
- Overview Dialog:** Provides a high-level view of the pattern's structure, including sections for General Information, Pattern Content, and Description. It also lists the operations that this pattern calls.
- Relationships:** A large blue arrow labeled "Reverse" points from the `ItemProvider.javajet` file in the Package Explorer towards the `ItemProvider` section in the Overview dialog. Another blue arrow labeled "calls" points from the "This pattern calls:" section in the Overview dialog down to the corresponding entries in the Ecore model.

Jet code is distributed in the implementation part of the different patterns accordingly

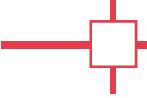
● Introduction

● Process

● Benefits of the Pattern Technique

● Best Practices for the EMF Generation

- **Definition:**
 - ▶ Definition #1 – Rationale: A pattern is a solution to a recurrent problem
 - ▶ Definition #2 – Structural: A pattern is a formalism to express systematic behavior
- **Key points:**
 - ▶ A pattern conforms to a language and is executable
 - ▶ The pattern specification reflects the external view (e.g., parameters), while pattern implementation reflects the internal view (e.g., methods)
- **Introduction to patterns:**
 - ▶ Tutorials: “EGF Tutorial”, “Reuse and Customization”
 - ▶ Examples: Pattern Use Cases 1 and 2, EMF generation use cases



Benefits for the EMF Generation



- **Pattern = generation unit**
 - ▶ Interest of the problem decomposition by pattern
- **Extensibility**
 - ▶ Interest of the pattern inheritance and pattern call mechanisms
 - ▶ Ability to change / extend patterns by a substitution mechanism
 - ▶ Ability to combine patterns written in different languages
- **Team management**
 - ▶ Possibility to have several contributors
- **Toward product lines**
 - ▶ Autonomy to create generation variants

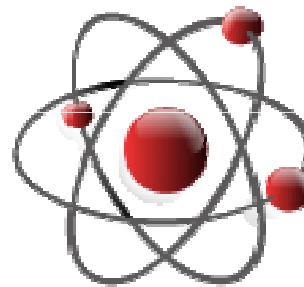
● Introduction

● Process

● Benefits of the Pattern Technique

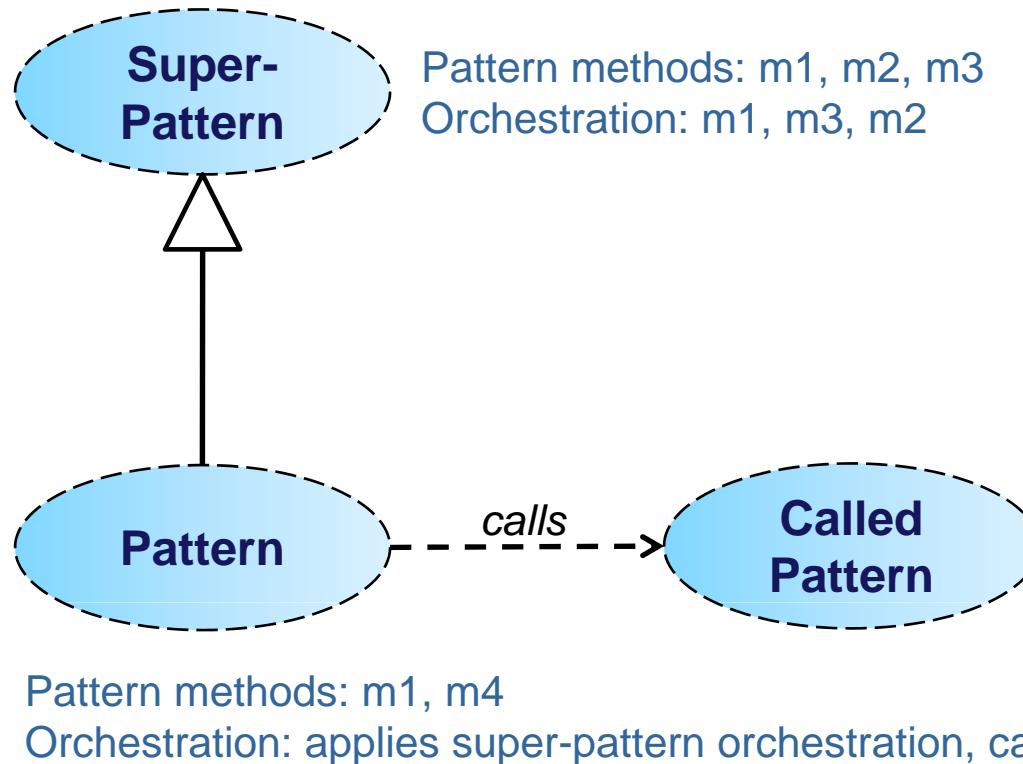
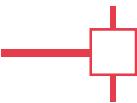
● Best Practices for the EMF Generation

- Next slides present best practices that can be introduced in the EMF generation
- **Level of confidence:**
 - ● ● Tested
 - ● ● Experimented
 - ● ● Operational



Pattern Best Practices

★★★ Pattern Adaptation

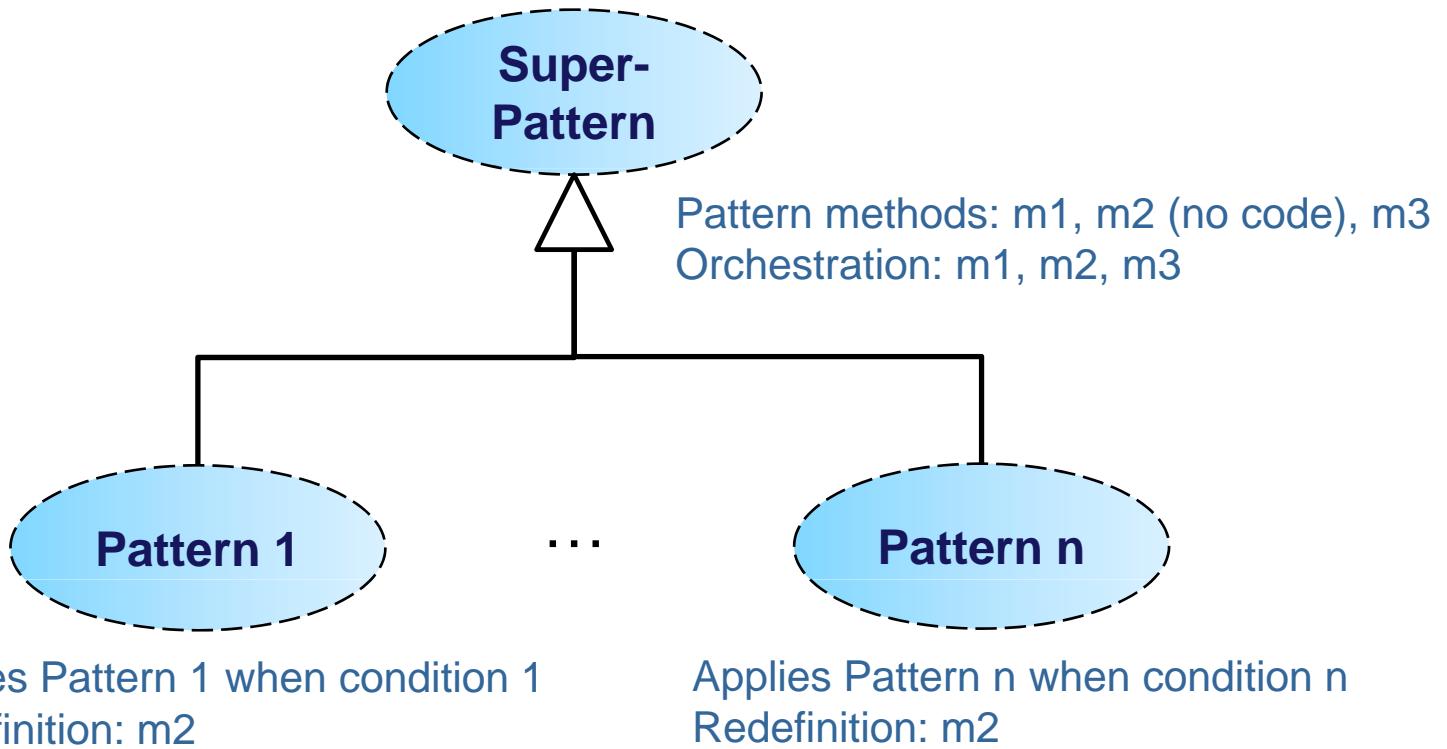
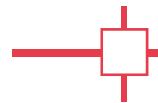


Pattern Adaptation: Reusing orchestration of the parent pattern and adding orchestration specificities (e.g., method polymorphism, pattern call)

Example: Redefinition of the getText pattern

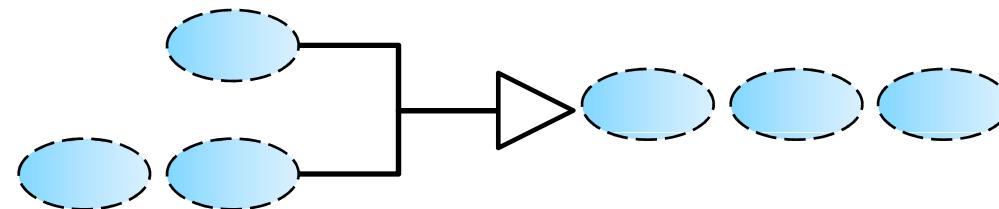
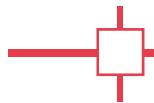


Pattern Alternative



Pattern Alternative: A super-pattern defines a prototype; a sub-pattern is applied when its condition is satisfied; the prototype is redefined. Possibility of exclusive / inclusive alternatives.

Example: Method contents depends on metamodel conditions



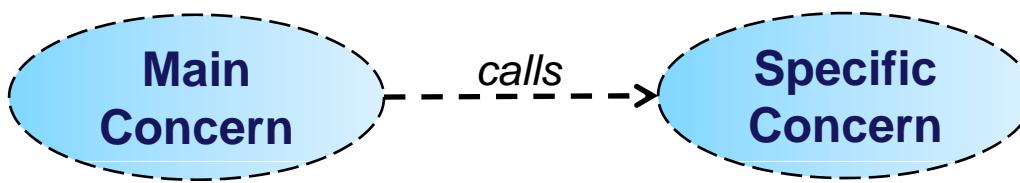
Merge operation

Pattern Merge: Merge of two pattern lists

Example: Combining standard and customized generations



Separation of Concerns

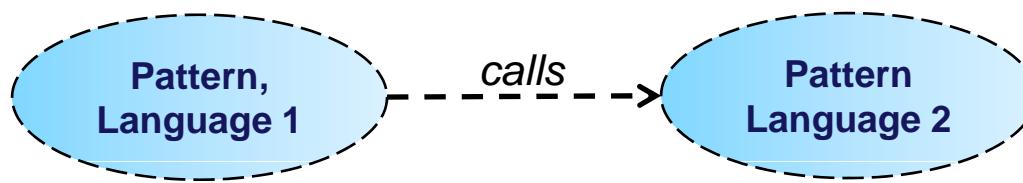
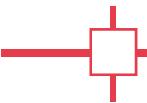


Separation of Concerns: A standard generation delegates processing for a specific concern

Example: During an EMF generation, invocation of pattern for a text-to-text transformation based on an AST analysis in order to modify method content



Bridge of Language



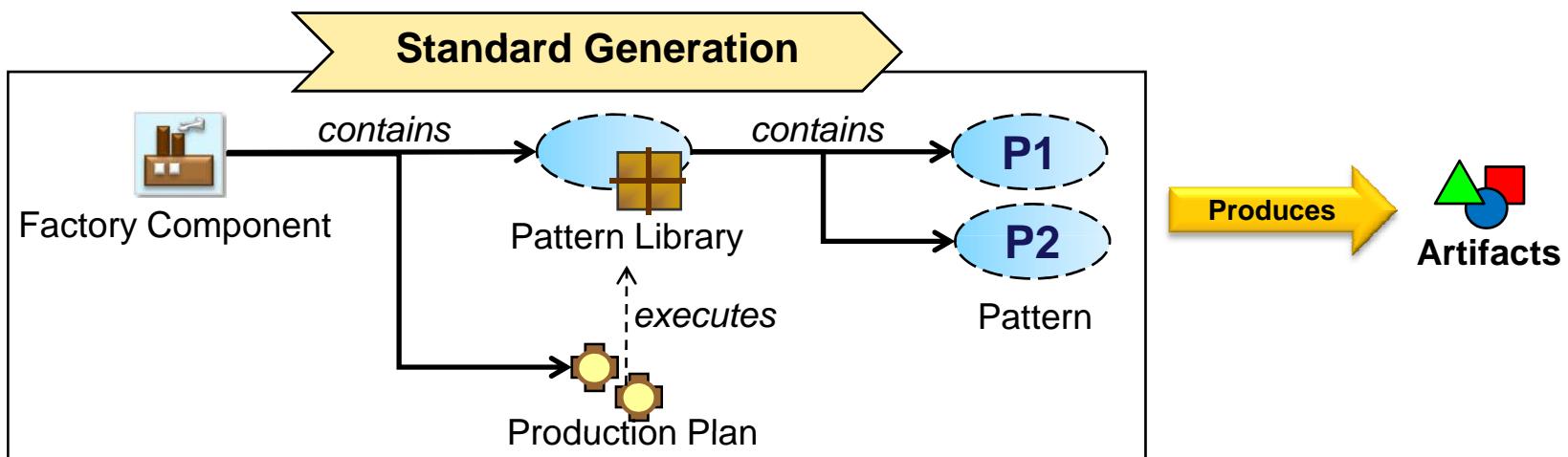
Bridge of Language: A pattern written in a language calls a pattern written in another language

Example: a Jet pattern calls a pattern in Java / in another model-to-text language



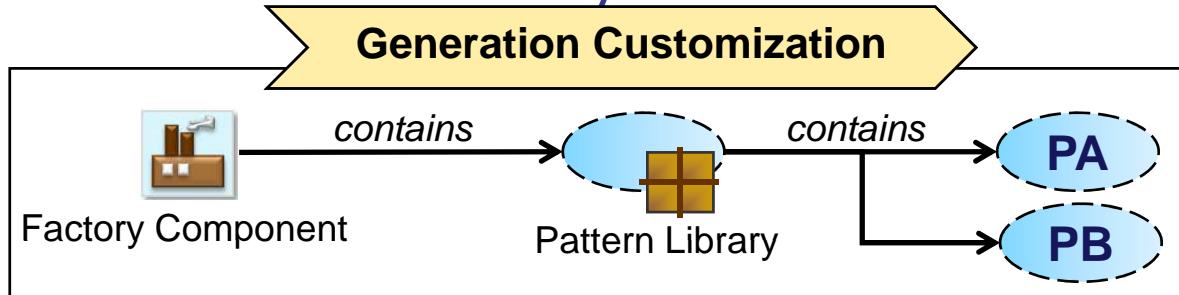
Portfolio Best Practices

★★★ Customization by Substitution



extends

Substitution: P1 becomes PA and PB

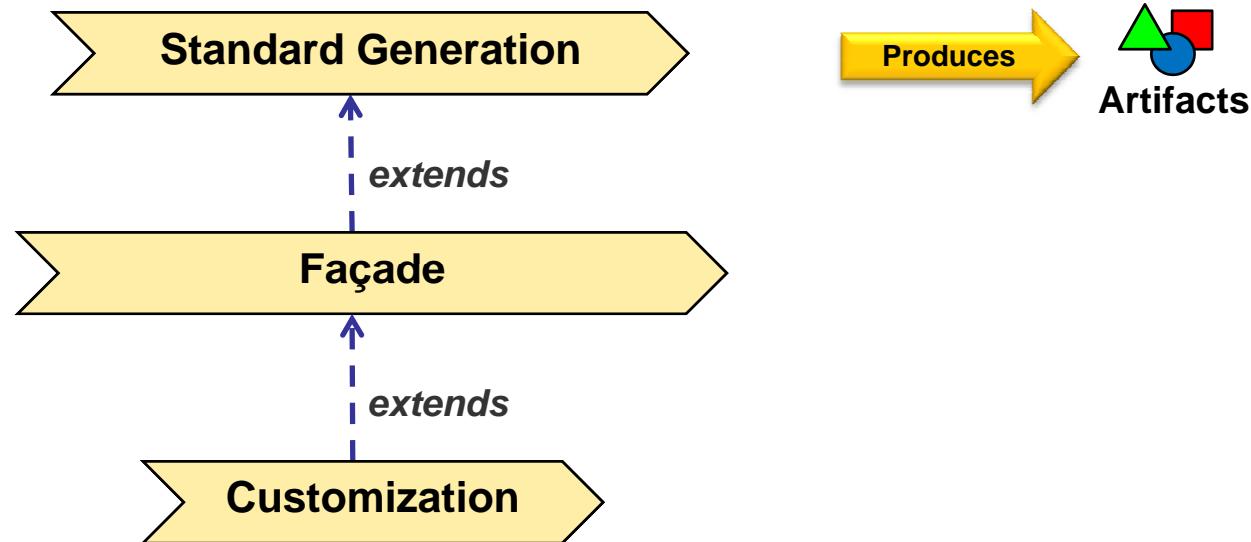
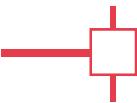


Customization by Substitution: Extension of a pattern-based standard generation with patterns for customization

Example: Redefinition of the insert/override patterns

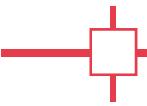


Generation Façade



Generation Façade: A façade hides a standard generation and customization in the façade, and takes into account provided customizations

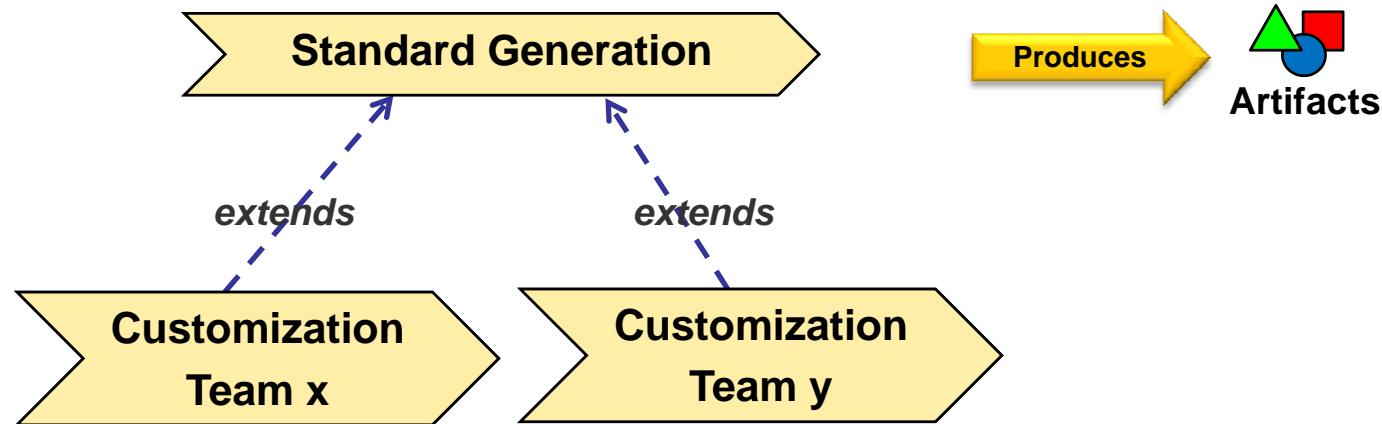
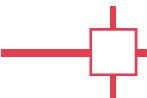
Example: Creation of a standard EMF generation for a company / department



Organizational Best Practices



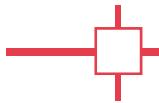
Generation Variation



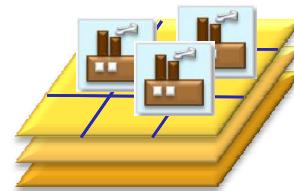
EGF: Eclipse Generation Factories – Thales Corporate Services/EPM

Generation Variation: Teams isolate and apply different generations based on the same standard generation

Example: Two teams extends differently the EMF generation



Scenario of Customization in series

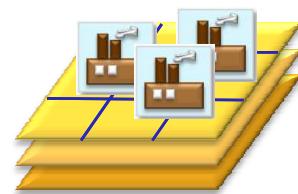


Portfolio

EMF Generation



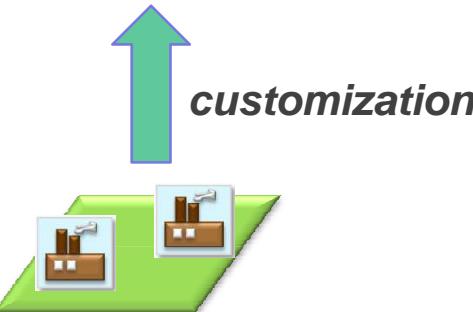
Scenario of Customization in series



EMF Generation

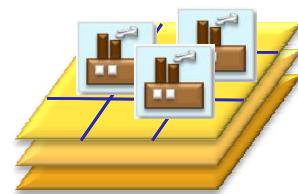
Portfolio

Portfolio Adaptation
Team #1





Scenario of Customization in series

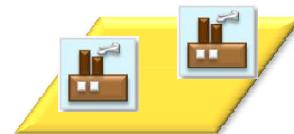


EMF Generation

Portfolio



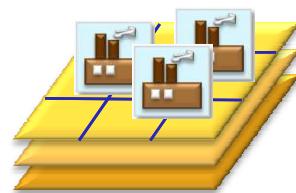
customization



EMF Generation Variant #1



Scenario of Customization in series



Portfolio

EMF Generation



customization



EMF Generation Variant #1



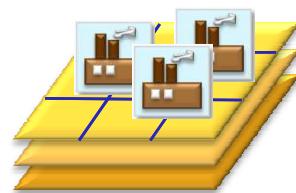
customization



Portfolio Adaptation
Team #2



Scenario of Customization in series

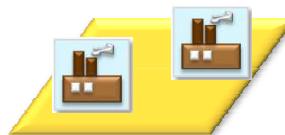


Portfolio

EMF Generation



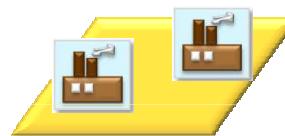
customization



EMF Generation Variant #1



customization



EMF Generation Variant #2