

Category Theory Framework for Variability Models with Non-Functional Requirements



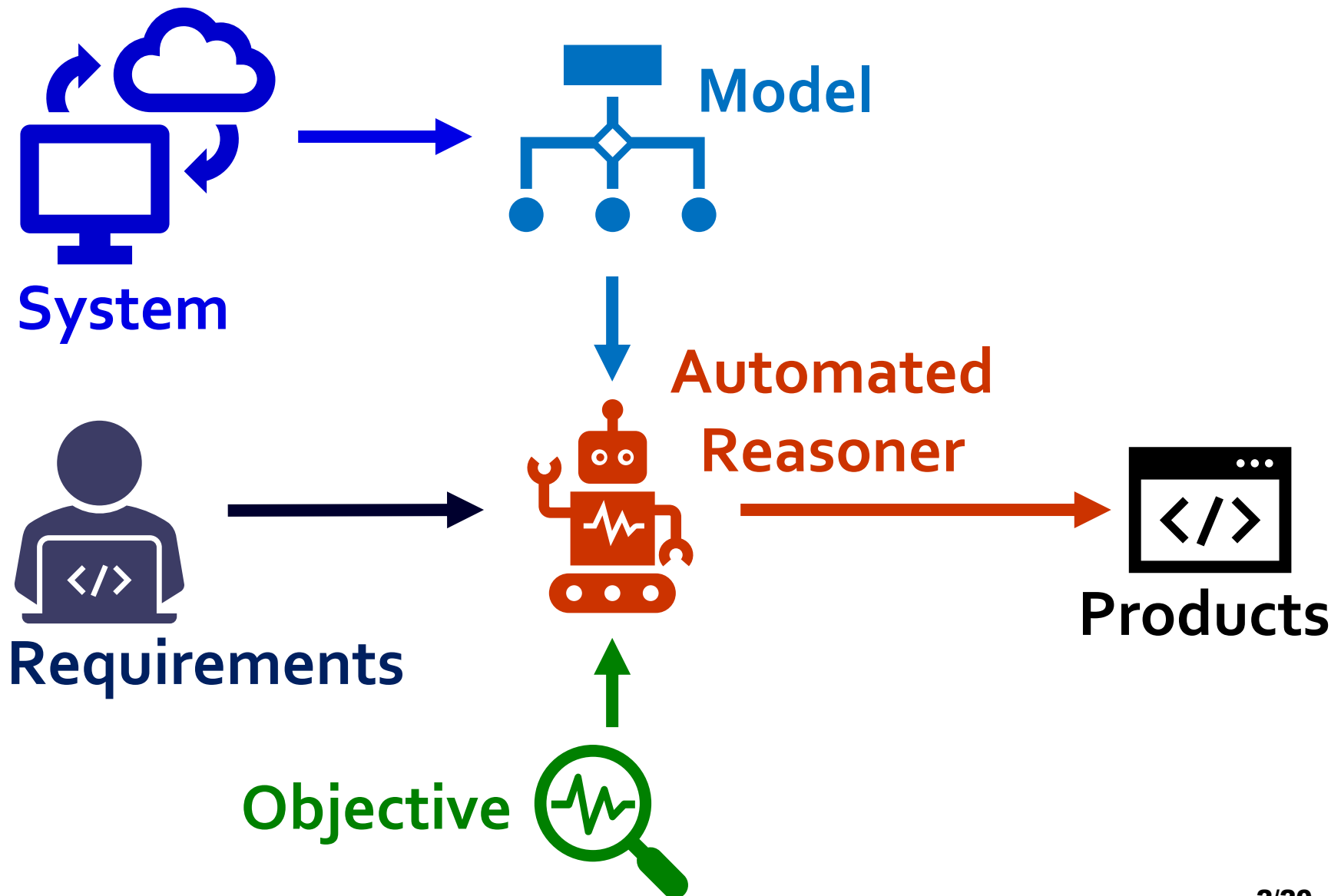
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Software Product Lines Analyses



The Situation

- Client: Could you analyse our highly configurable systems?
- Software Product Line engineer: Absolutely! Describe one:
- These are the components and alternatives | Ok, a SAT...
- ...,some arithmetical requirements | an SMT/CP could...
- ...,products quality measurements | a hybrid model...
- ..., system requirements | then cross-constraints...
- ..., crossed quality requirements | WAIT!
- Dear Santa Claus...

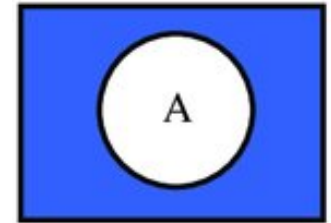


Our Scenario: Edge Computing

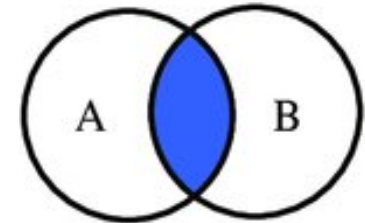


The SPLE Trend in Modelling

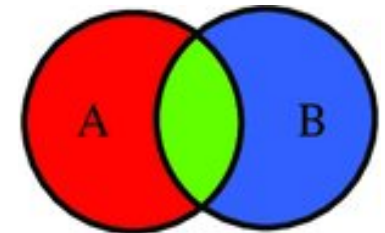
1. Extending pseudo-standards:



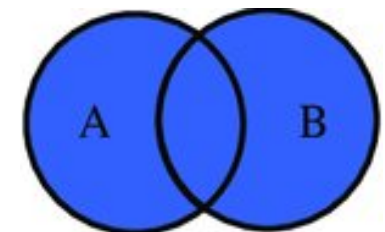
2. Creating new pseudo-standards:



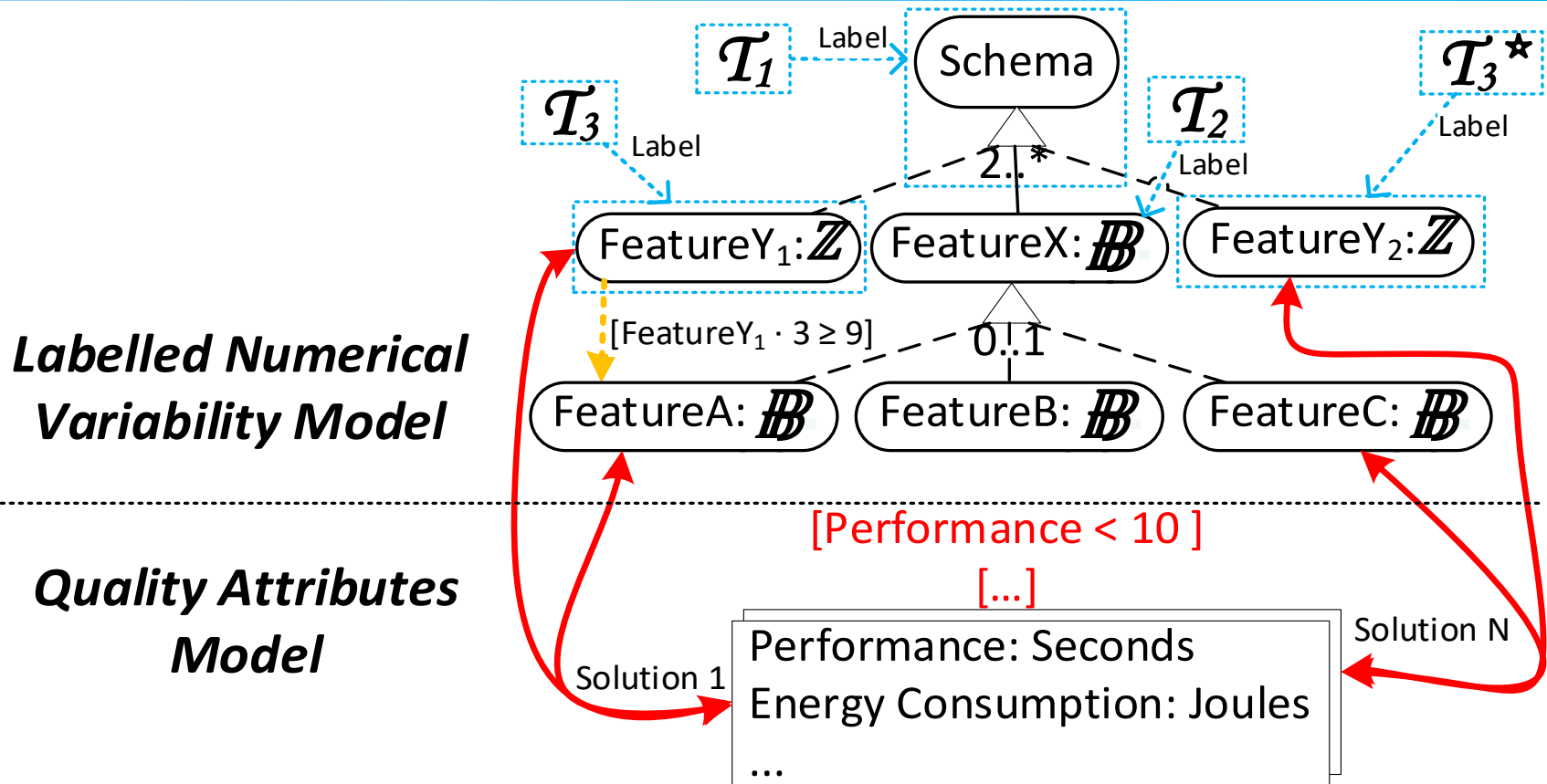
3. Transformations or hybrid models:



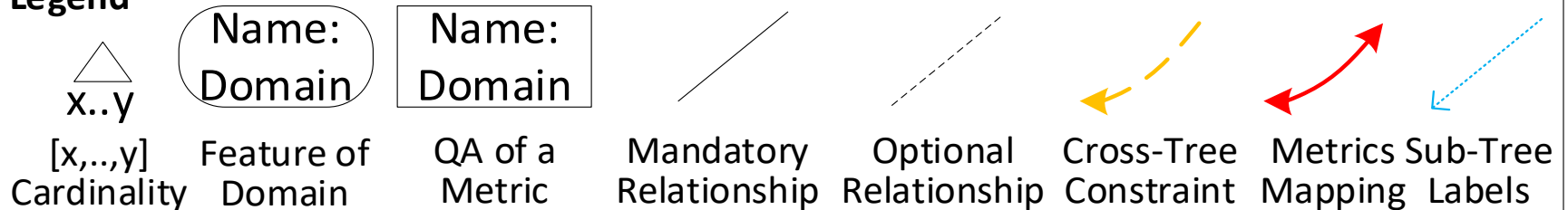
4. Unification:



Variability and Quality Attributes Modelling

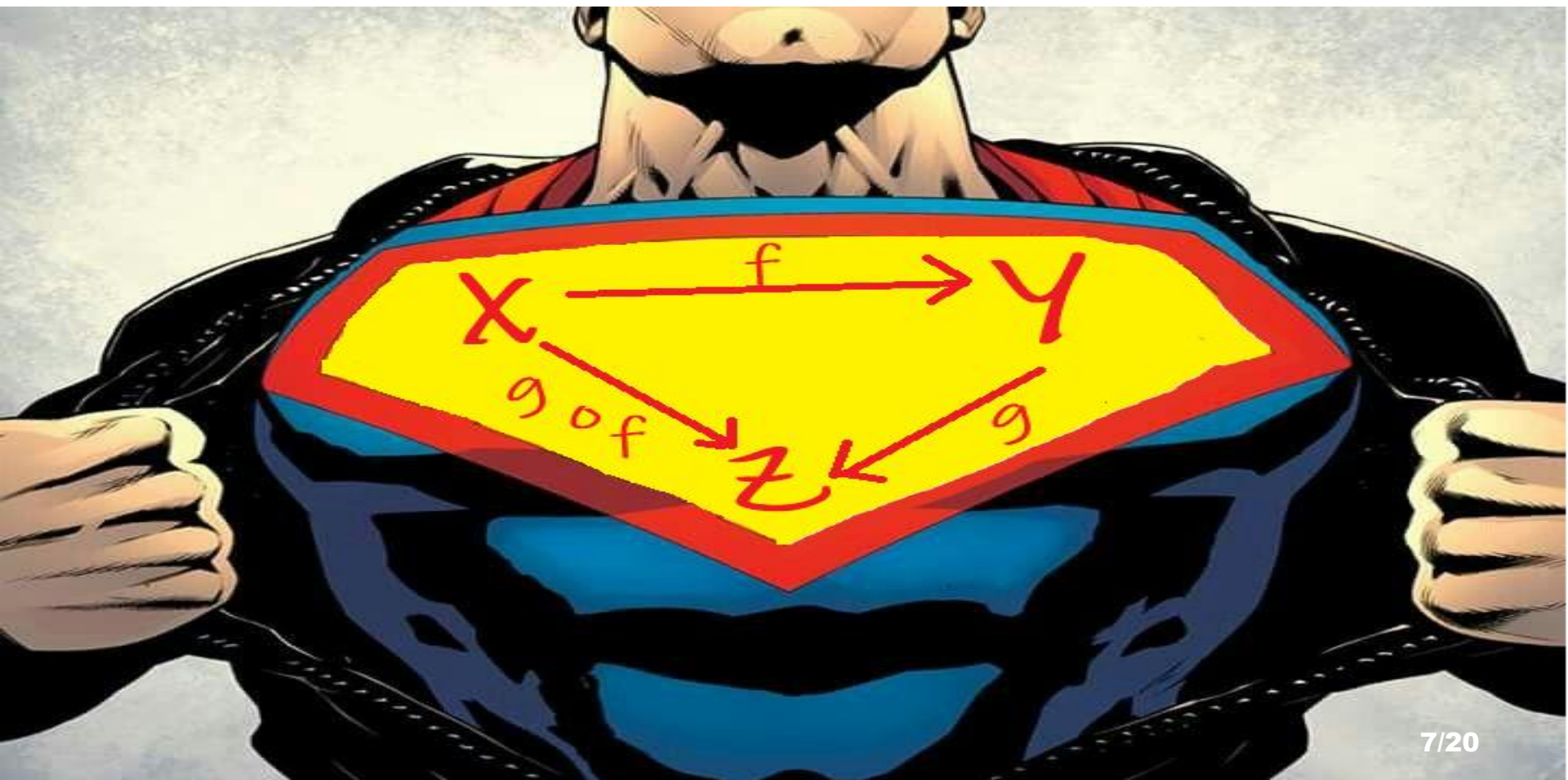


Legend



Category Theory to the Rescue!

The unifier of apparently dissimilar models
while abstracting individual specifics



Applied Category Theory: Crash Course

■ Category: Represent related spaces

□ Objects: Structured classes ($\bullet X$)

□ Arrows: Structure preserving functions ($\bullet X \xrightarrow{a} \bullet Y$)

➤ Identity: $\bullet X \xrightarrow{\text{identity}} \bullet X$

➤ (Associative) Composition: $\bullet X \xrightarrow{a_1 \circ a_2} \bullet Z$

❖ Functor: Mapping among Categories ($\bullet C \xrightarrow{F} \bullet D$)

❖ Path: $\bullet X_0 \xrightarrow{a_1} \bullet X_1 \dots \bullet X_{n-1} \xrightarrow{a_n} \bullet X_n$

❖ Generalised Element: Select $\bullet U \xrightarrow{\text{element}} \bullet X$

❖ Instance: A set-valued functor for elements.

Category Theory Flexibility

- A single object can form a category
- A category can be formed by, and divided into, sub-categories.

Our Proposal: A Category Theory Framework

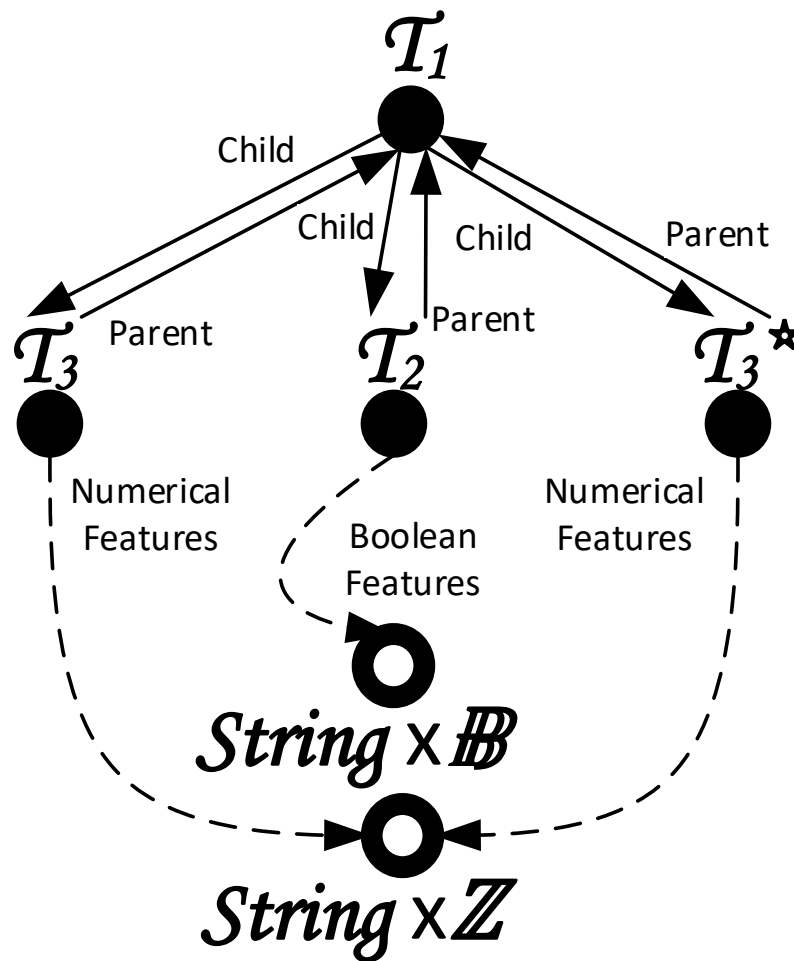
- Models are **categories**.
- Relationships, constraints and requirements are **arrows**.
- Features definitions (i.e., nodes) are **generalised elements**, and their values are **instances**.

Category: Numerical Variability Model

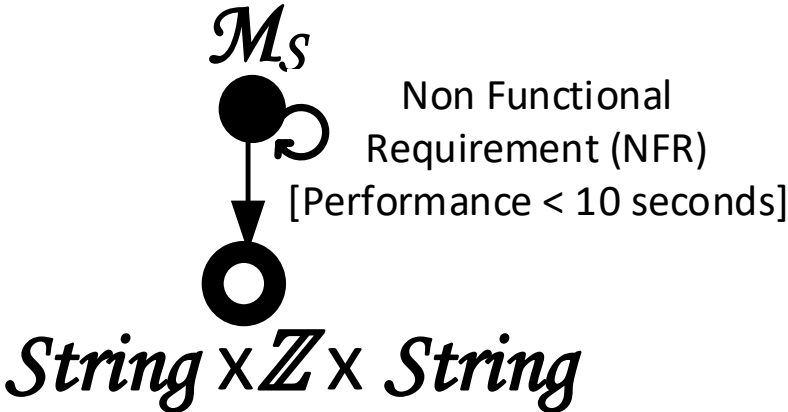




NVM Objects:

Tree₁: \mathcal{T}_1
 Tree₂: \mathcal{T}_2
 Tree₃: \mathcal{T}_3
 Tree₃ Clone: \mathcal{T}_3^\star
 Integer Set: \mathbb{Z}
 Character Set: *String*
 Boolean Set: \mathbb{B}

NVM Category Example



Category: Quality Attributes Model

<u><i>QAM</i></u> Objects:	<u><i>QAM</i></u> Category Example	<u>Legend:</u>
Metric Set: \mathcal{M}_S		DataType Object 
Integer Set: \mathbb{Z}		Structured Object 
Character Set: <i>String</i>		DataType or NFR Arrow  Cross Product 

Category: Solution Space

Abstract Components:

Numerical Variability Model Category: \mathcal{NVM}

Measured NVM Sub-Category: $\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{NVM}}$

Quality Attributes Model Category: \mathcal{QAM}

Complete Solution Object: CS

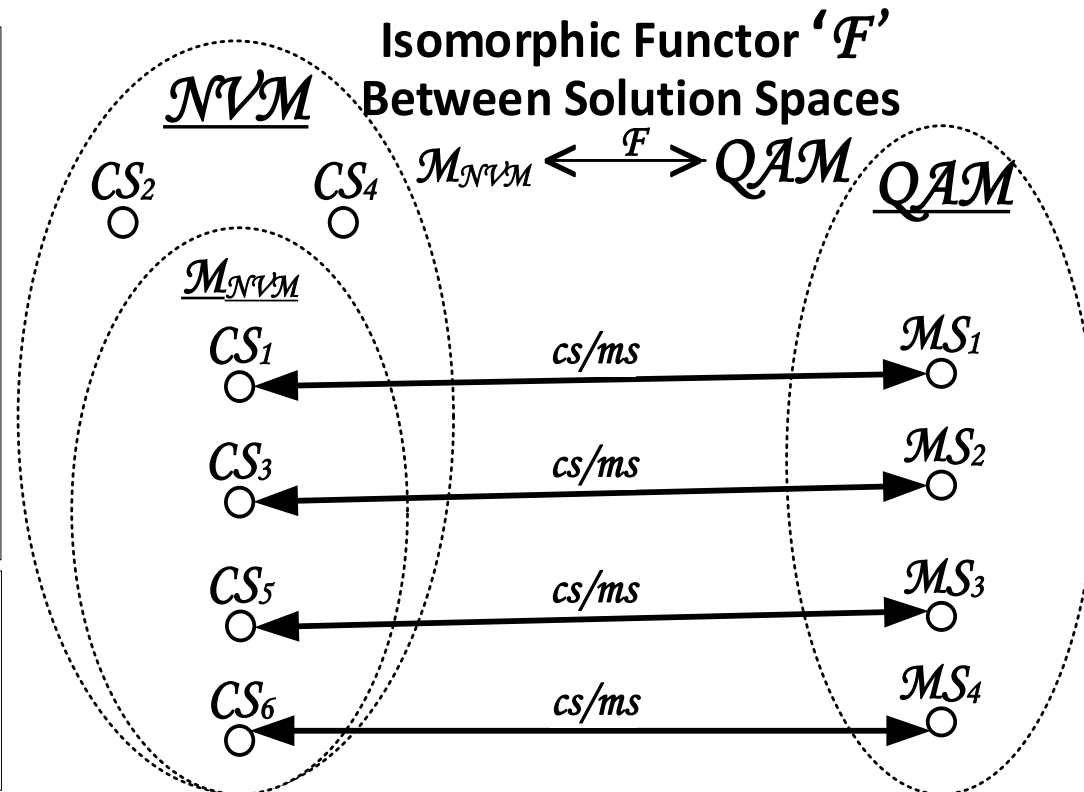
Measurements Set Object: MS

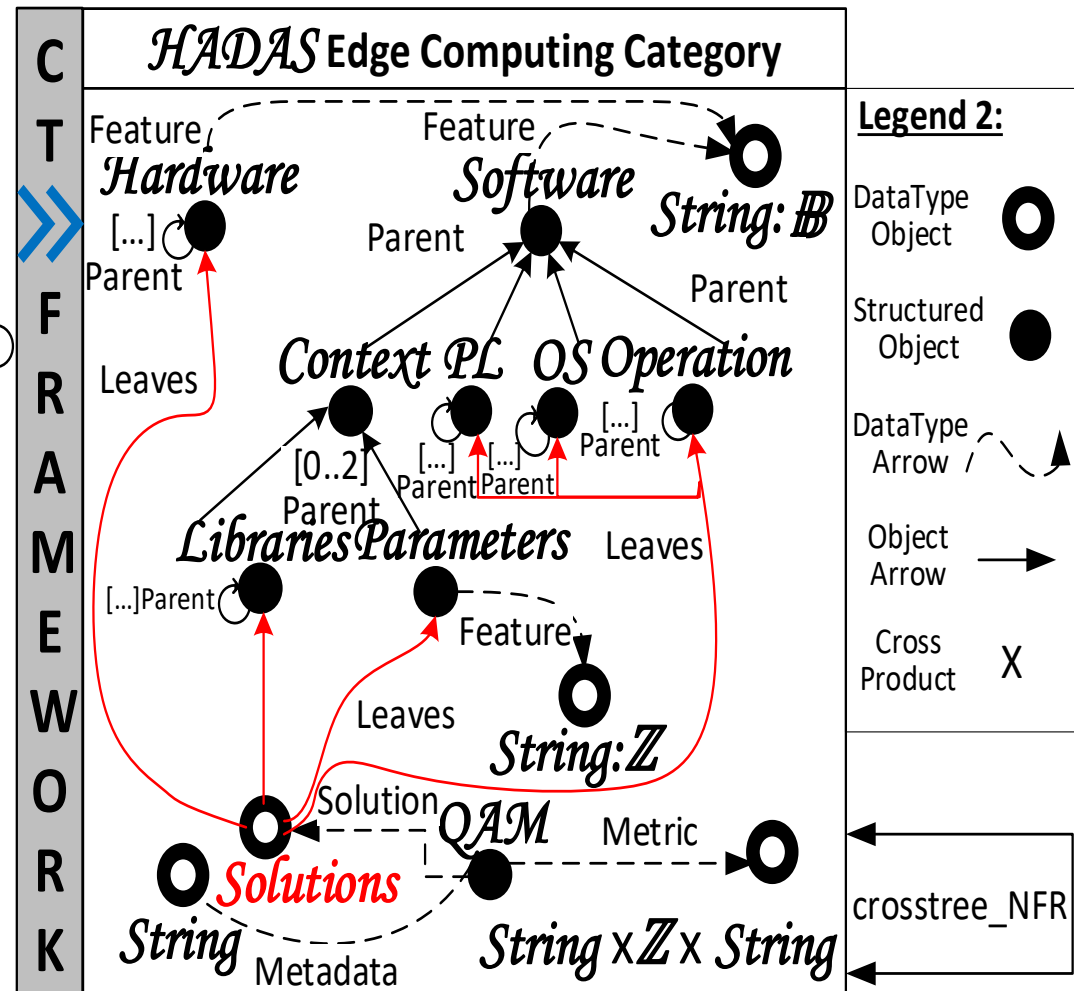
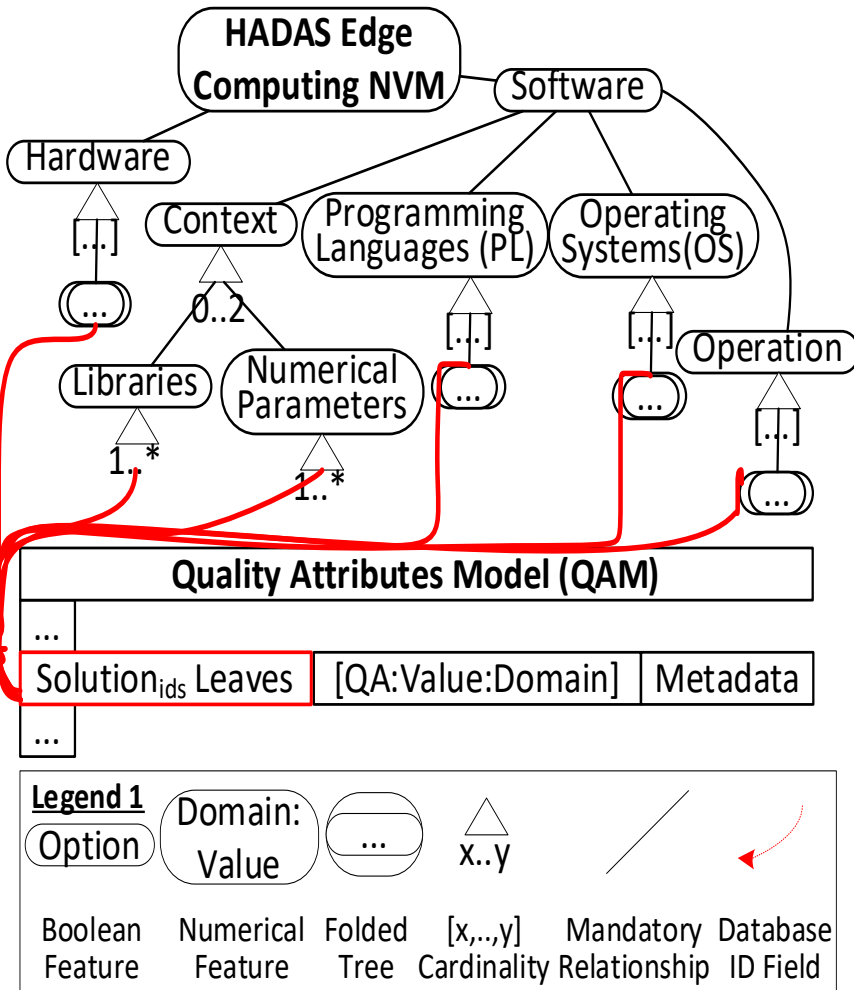
Legend

Schema
Solution Space

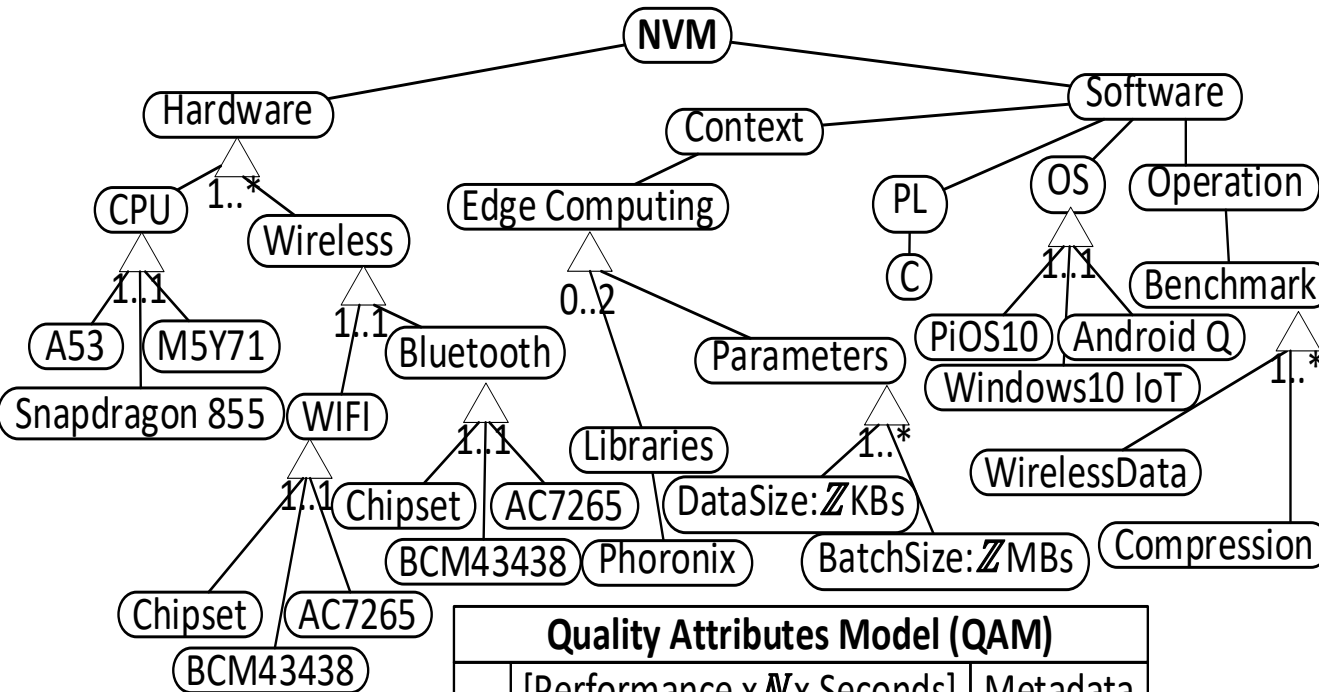
Instances

Object Arrow
(Relationship)





Evaluation: Edge Computing Case Study



Quality Attributes Model (QAM)

...	[Performance x N x Seconds]	Metadata
...	[Energy rate x N x mWatts]	Metadata

Legend

Option

Name:Value
:Domain

x..y

Boolean
FeatureNumerical
Feature[x,..,y]
CardinalityMandatory
RelationshipC
T
F
R
A
M
E
W
O
R
K

```

Bool    = "Boolean.parseBoolean"
Int      = "Integer.parseInt"
String  = "input[0]"

```

```

java_functions

```

```

Solutions : String,list

```

```

schema HADAS = literal : Type
entities

```

Hardware

Software

OS

PL

Operations

Context

Libraries

Parameters

QAM

CQL
IDE

Different Automated Reasoning

From a constraint programming solver for variability plus MariaDB for quality attributes to...

...an automated theorem prover with Knuth-Bendix completion for logic and equations, and hashing, balanced trees and chasing for data-type and cross-object arrows.

CQL IDE Scalability with our Models

- We generated 162 products with their respective 324 measurements with a reasoning time of 0.1 seconds.
- Sub-categories also takes 0.1 seconds
- 3 times cross-product takes 0.2 seconds.
- Hence, CQL IDE scales linearly, and the minimum runtime is 0.1 seconds.

Results and Optimisation Analysis

- Compressing data increases the energy-rate.
- More powerful CPUs barely affects energy consumption besides if compressing.
- While communication peripherals affect similarly, WiFi is slightly more energy efficient for large data sizes, and vice-versa.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Conclusions and Future Work

1. Extended Variability models with quality requirements can be represented as categorical objects and arrows.
2. Our category theory framework is a viable approach, and CQL IDE is a scalable eco-system that can support efficient SPLE analyses.

1. Support more types of extensions and analyses.
2. Integrate quality models and larger SPLEs.

Thank You!

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- A close-up photograph of a hand holding a white rectangular card. The hand is positioned with the thumb and index finger gripping the card. The background is dark, making the hand and the white card stand out. The card contains a list of four items, each preceded by a blue diamond symbol.
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