

Combining Variability and Consistency

Dirk Neumann • 25.03.2026



Questions

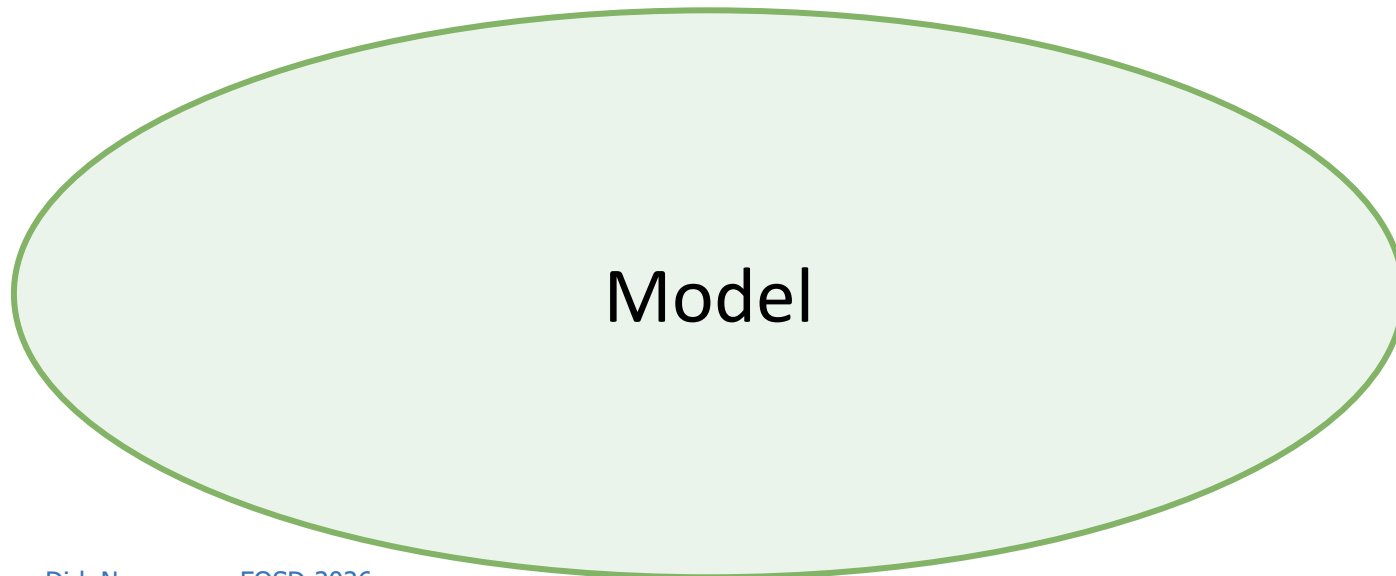


How to combine variability and consistency?

How to work with a possible combination?

How can consistency in variable systems be categorized?

Model-Driven (Software) Engineering

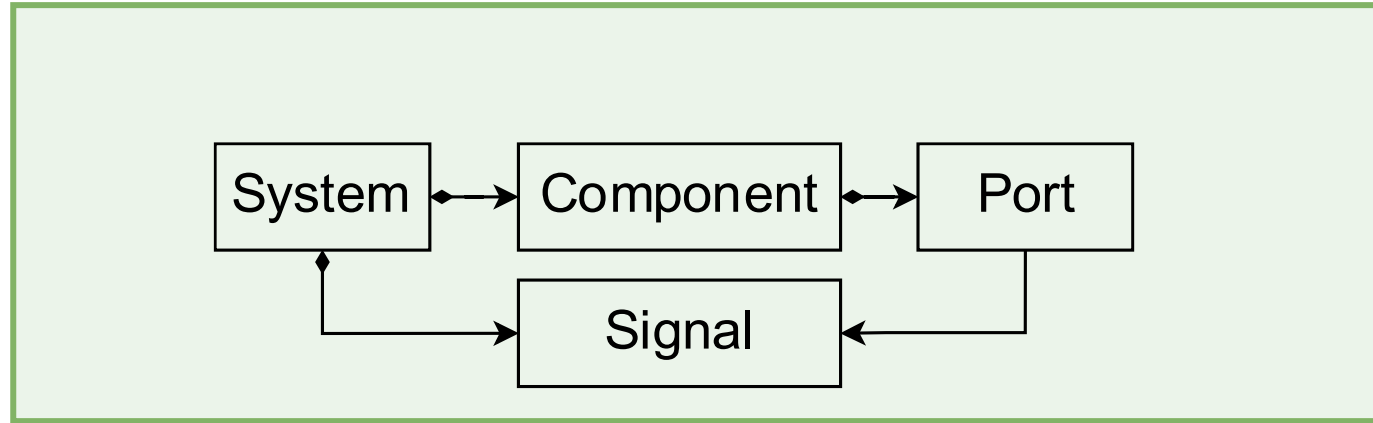




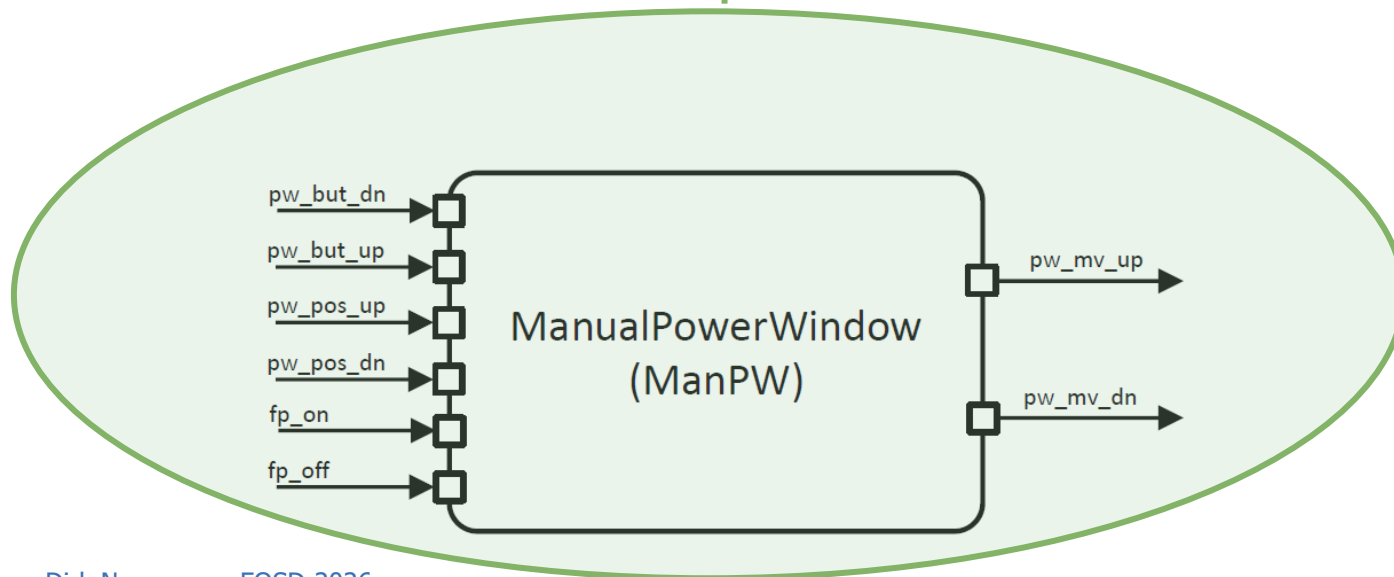
Metamodel

instance of

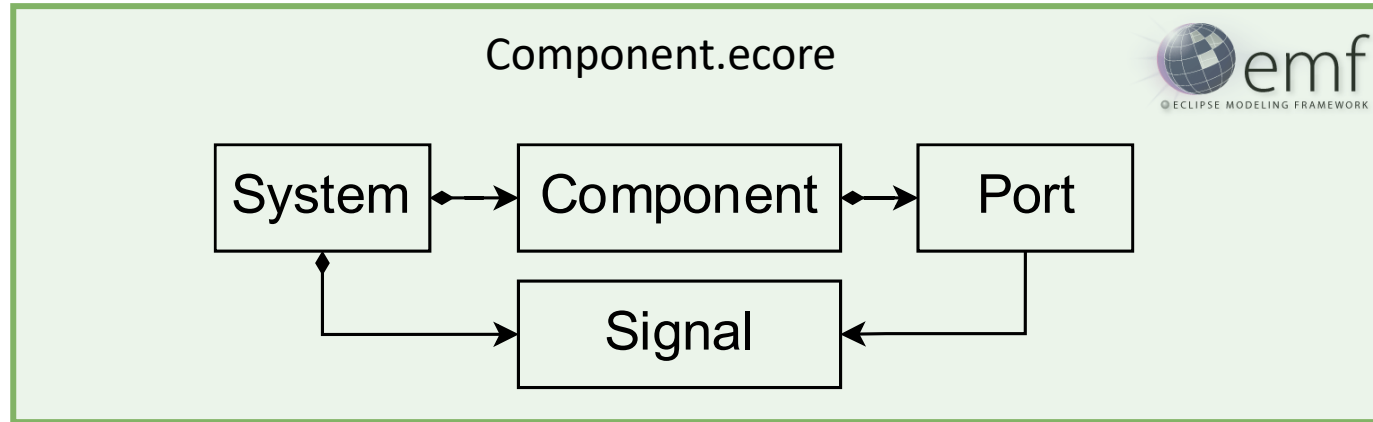
Model



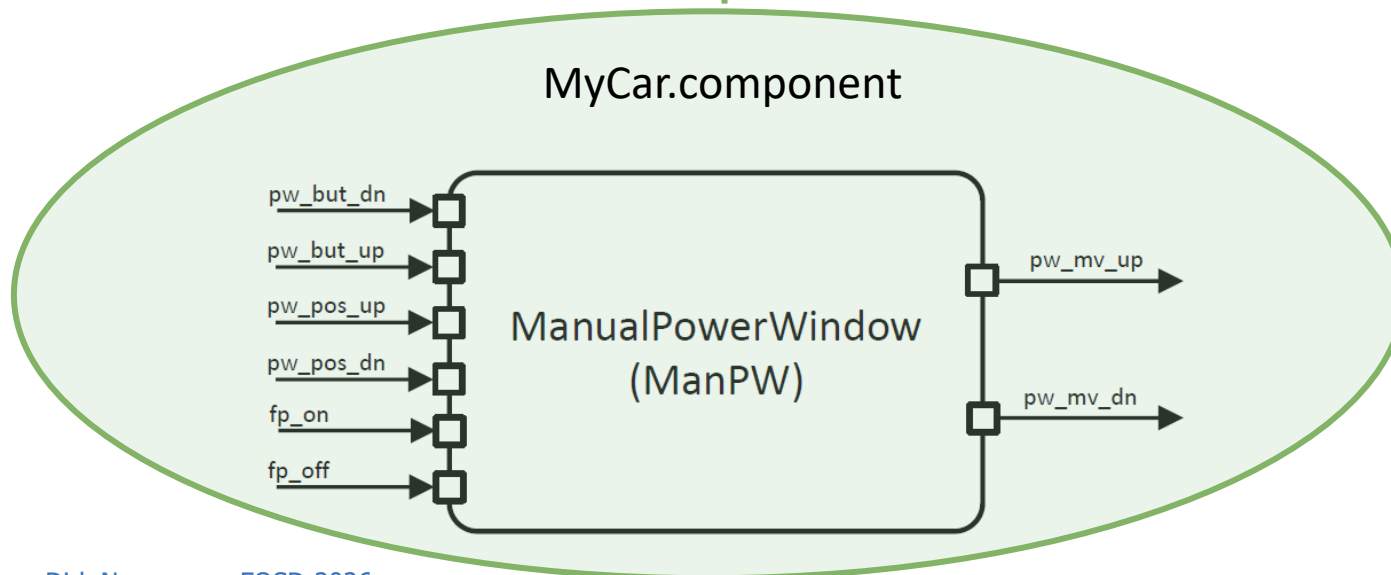
instance of



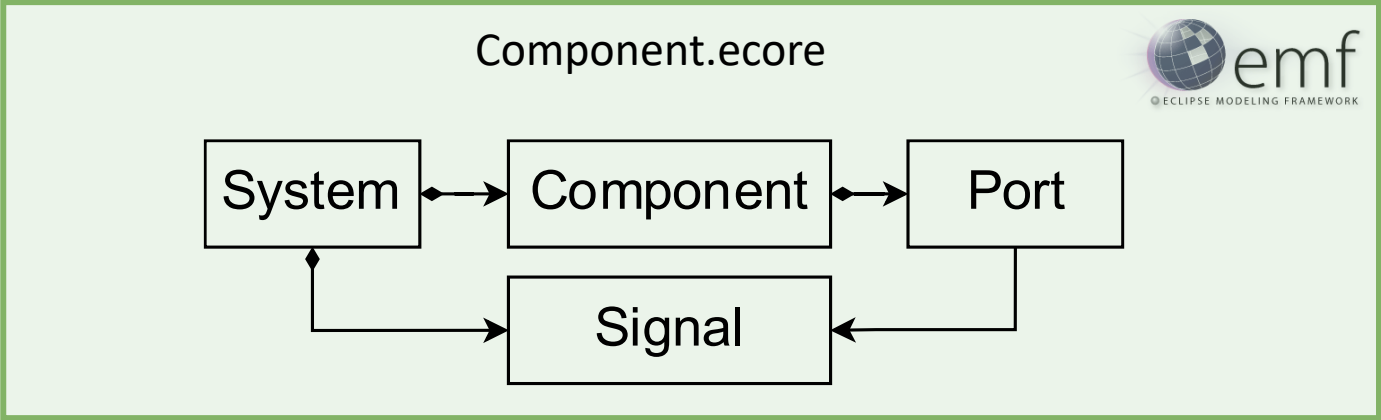
Model-Driven Engineering



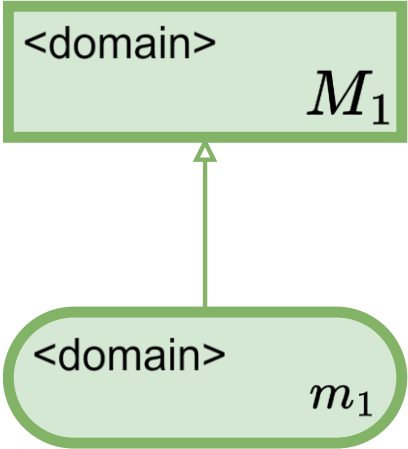
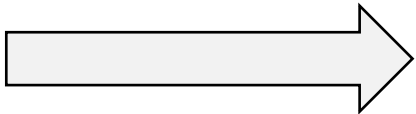
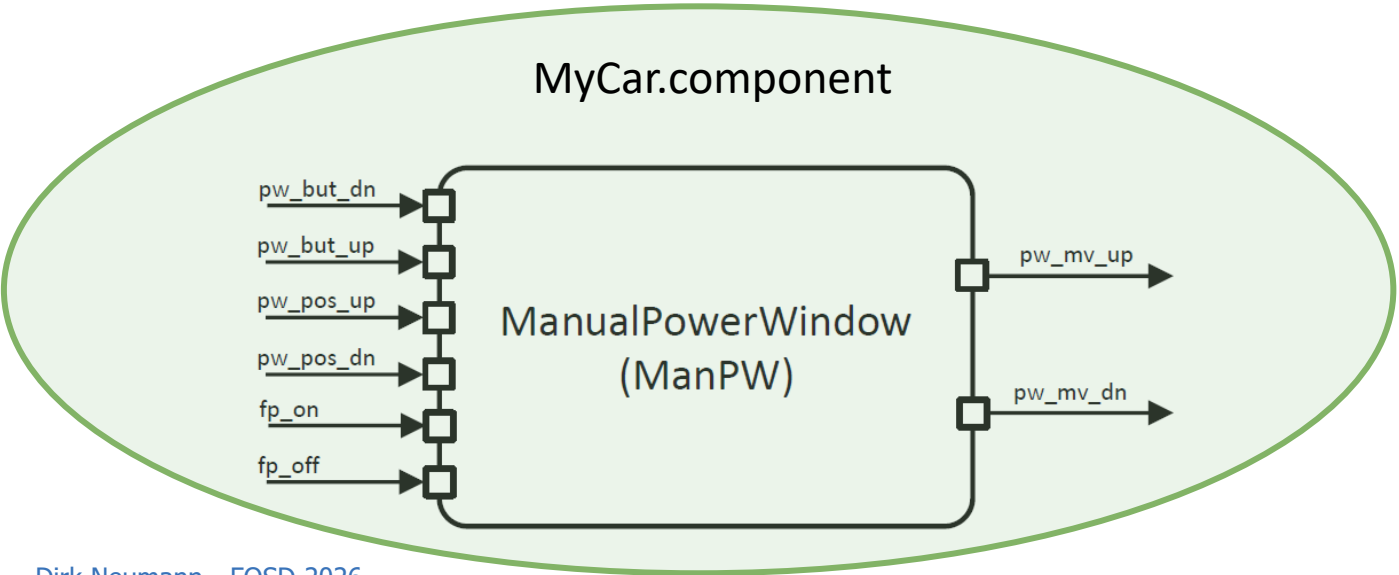
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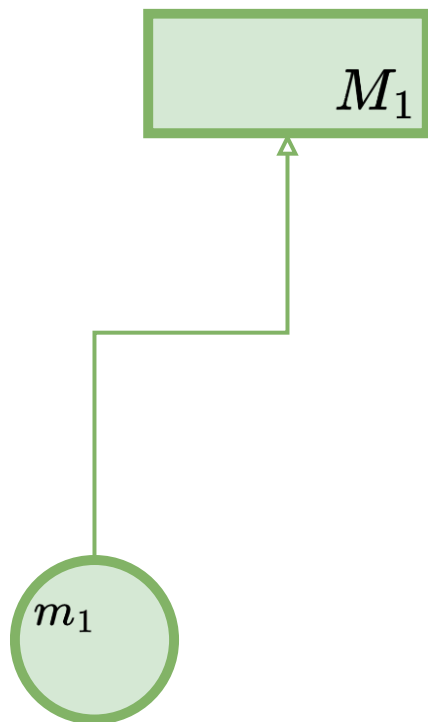
Model-Driven Engineering



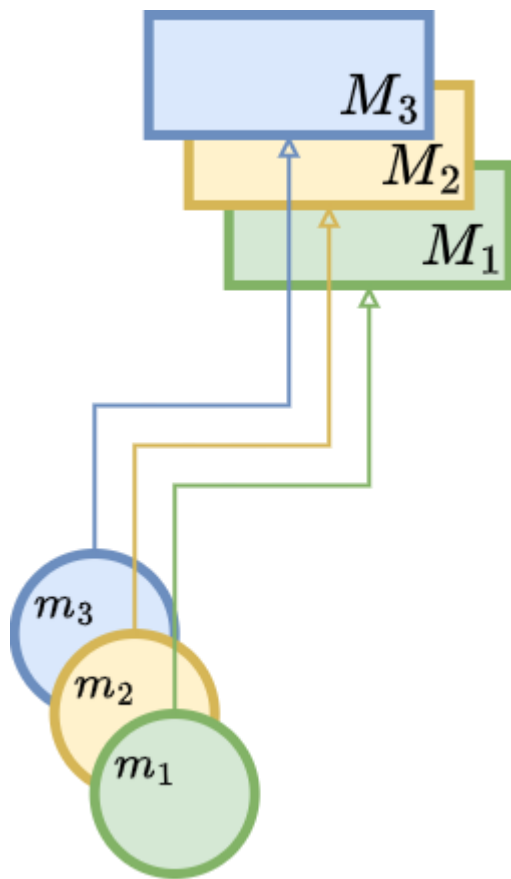
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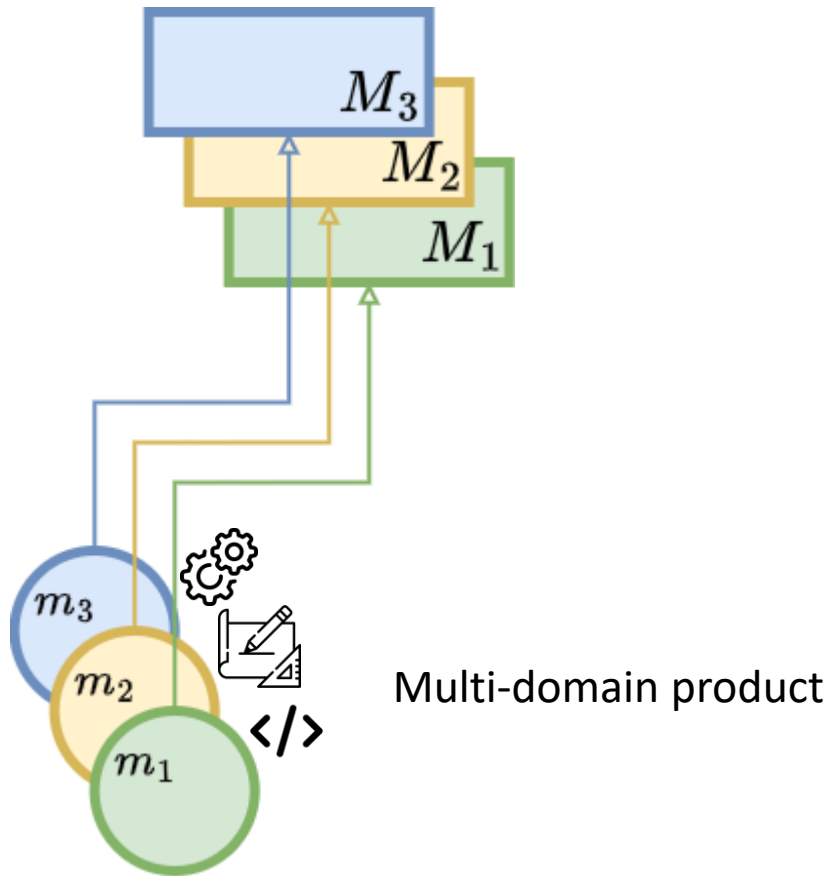
Multiple Domains



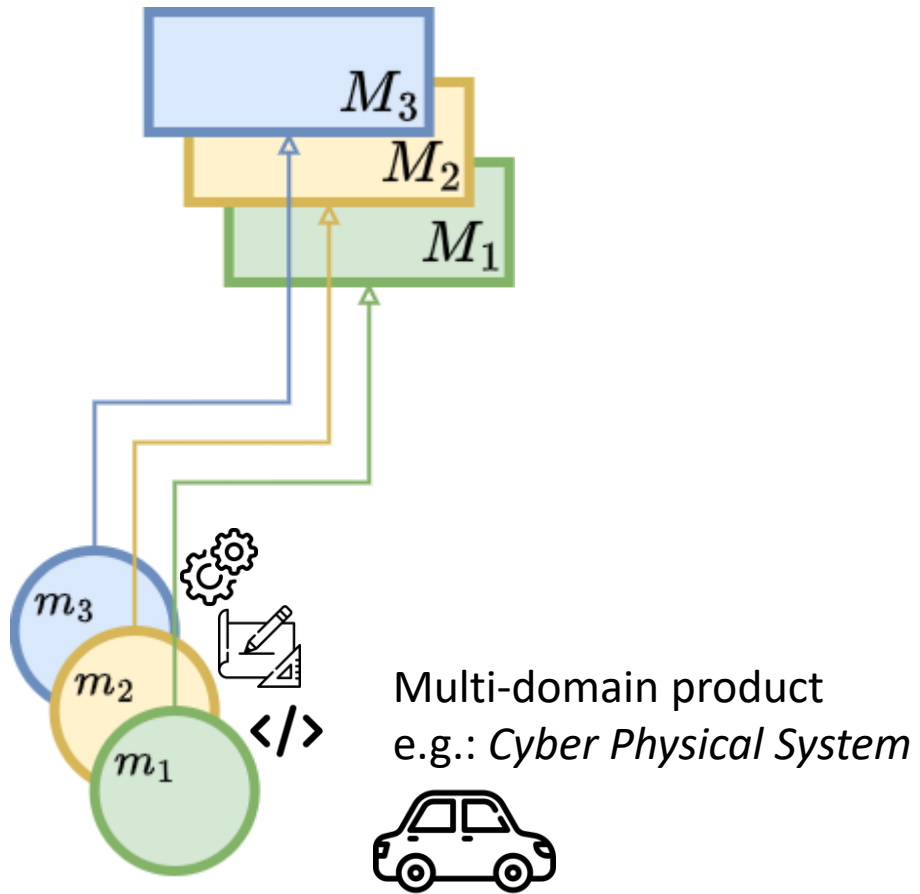
Multiple Domains



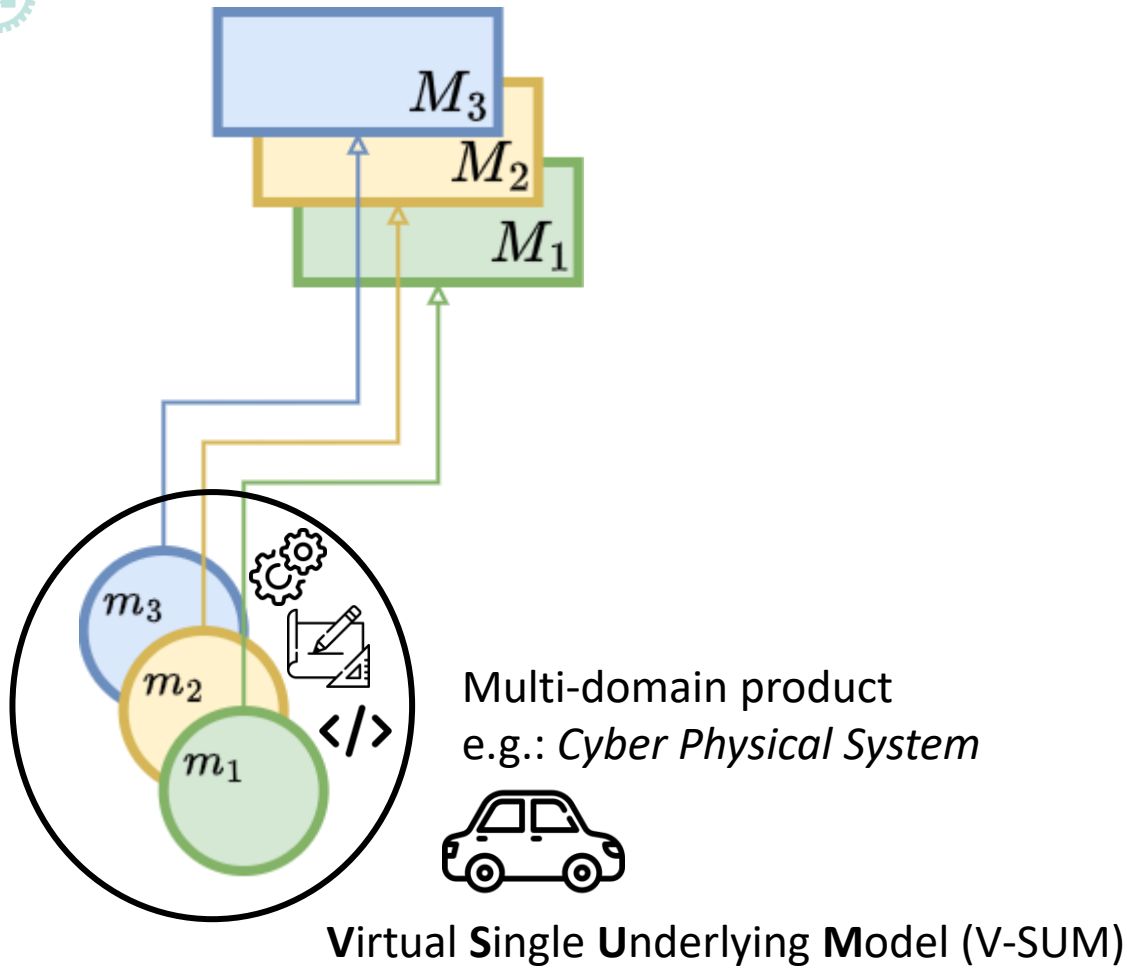
Multiple Domains



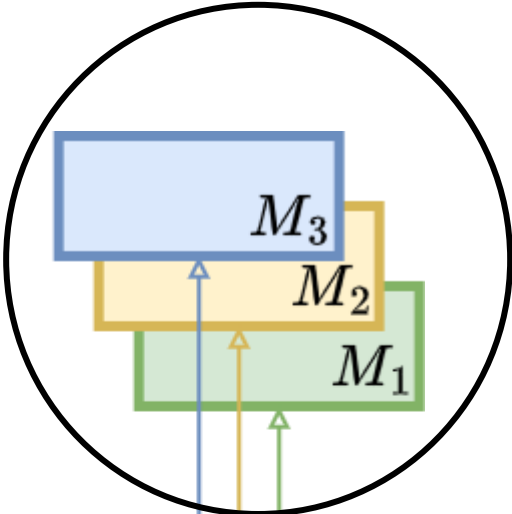
Multiple Domains



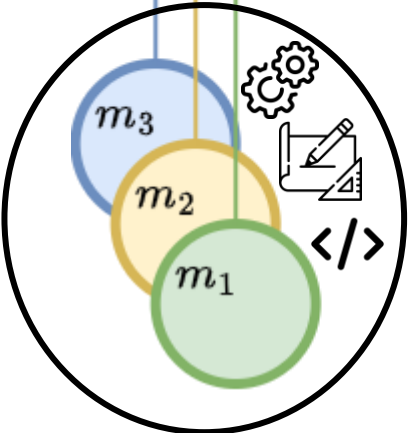
Multiple Domains



Multiple Domains



Virtual Single **U**nderlying **M**etamodel (V-SUMM)

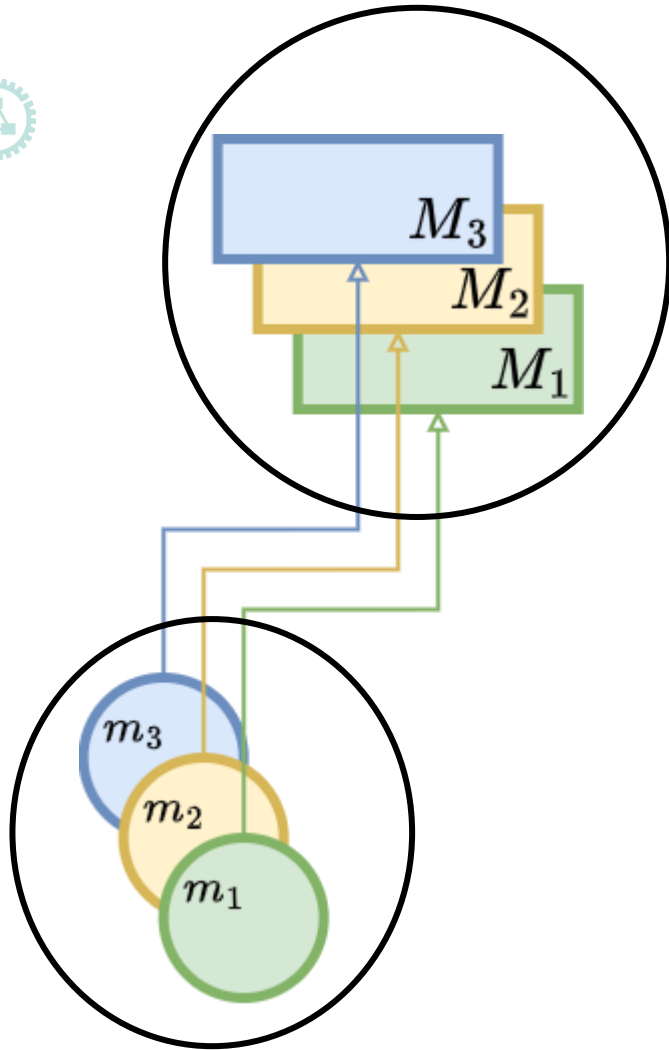


Multi-domain product
e.g.: *Cyber Physical System*

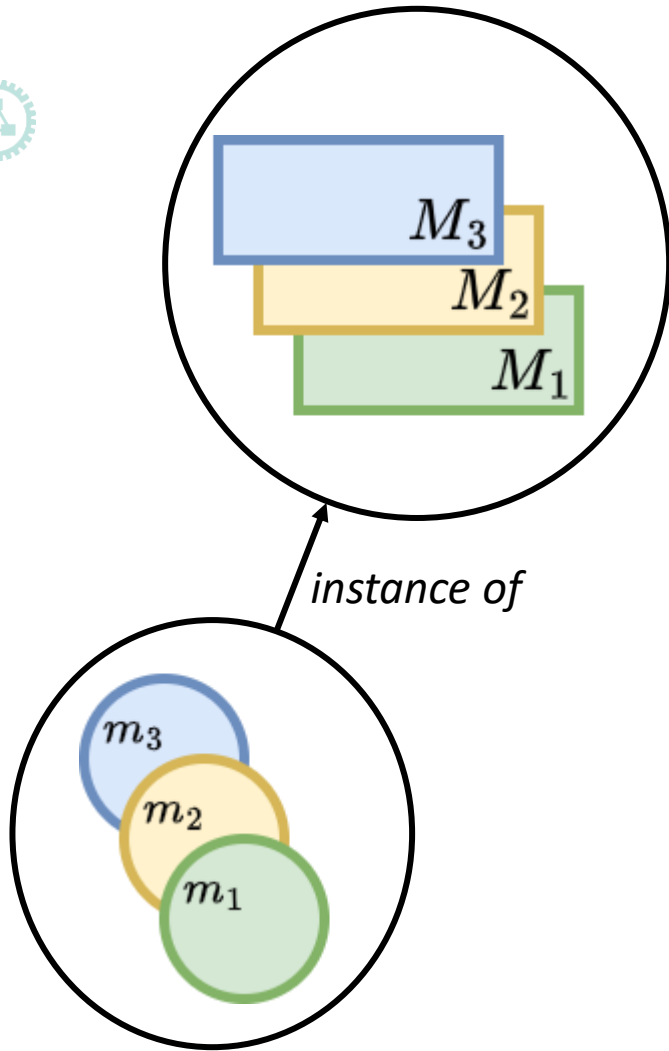


Virtual Single **U**nderlying **M**odel (V-SUM)

Multiple Domains



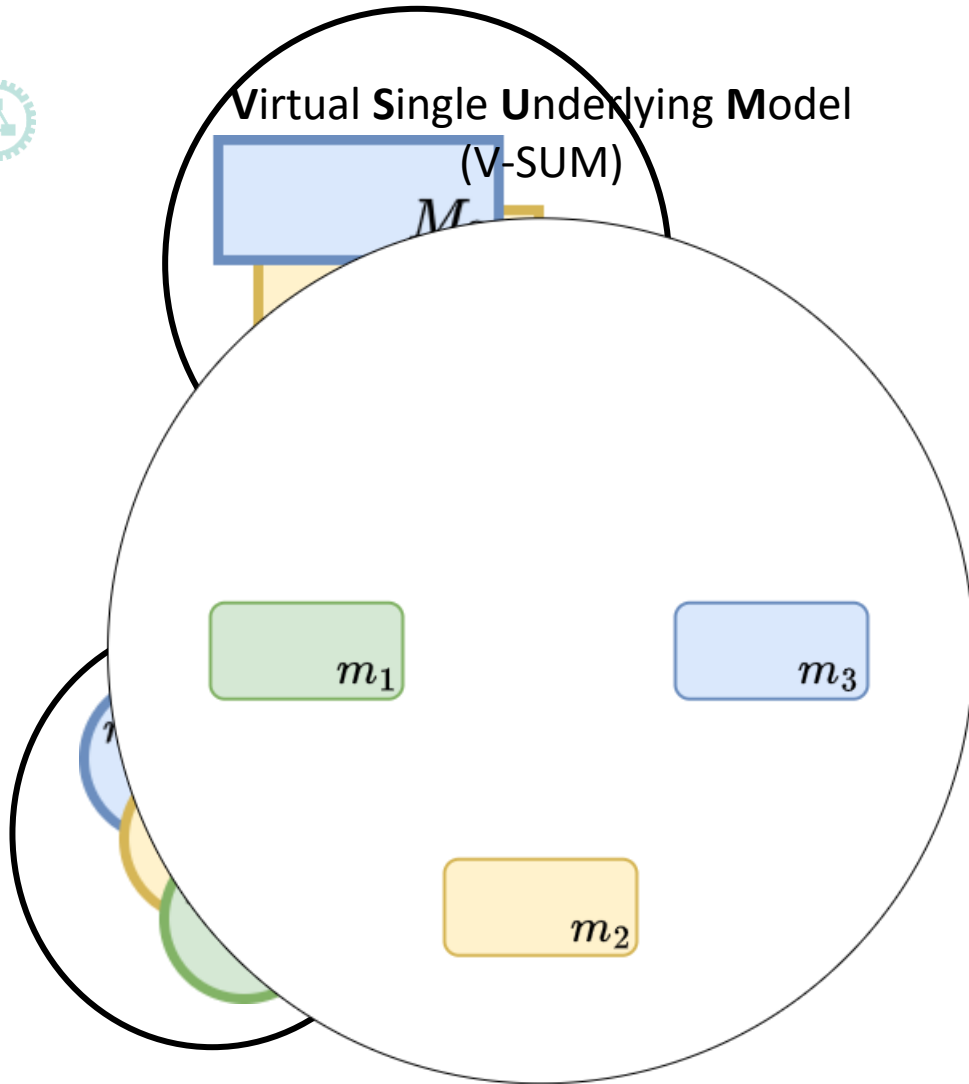
Multiple Domains



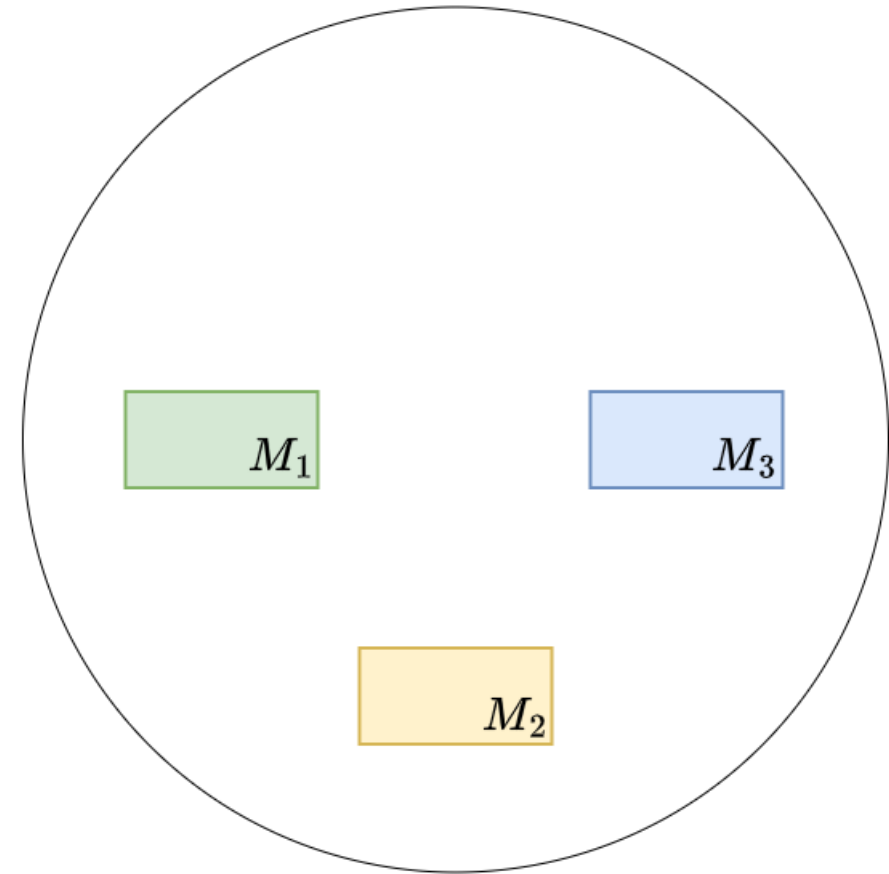
Multiple Domains



Virtual Single Underlying Model
(V-SUM)



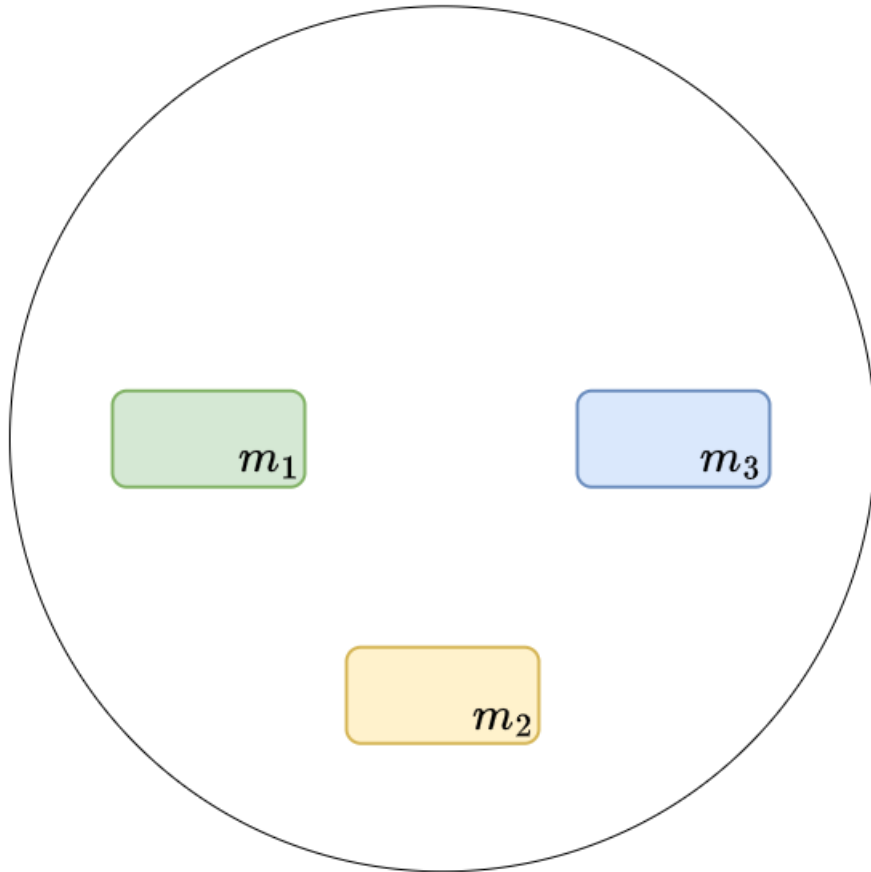
Virtual Single Underlying Metamodel
(V-SUMM)



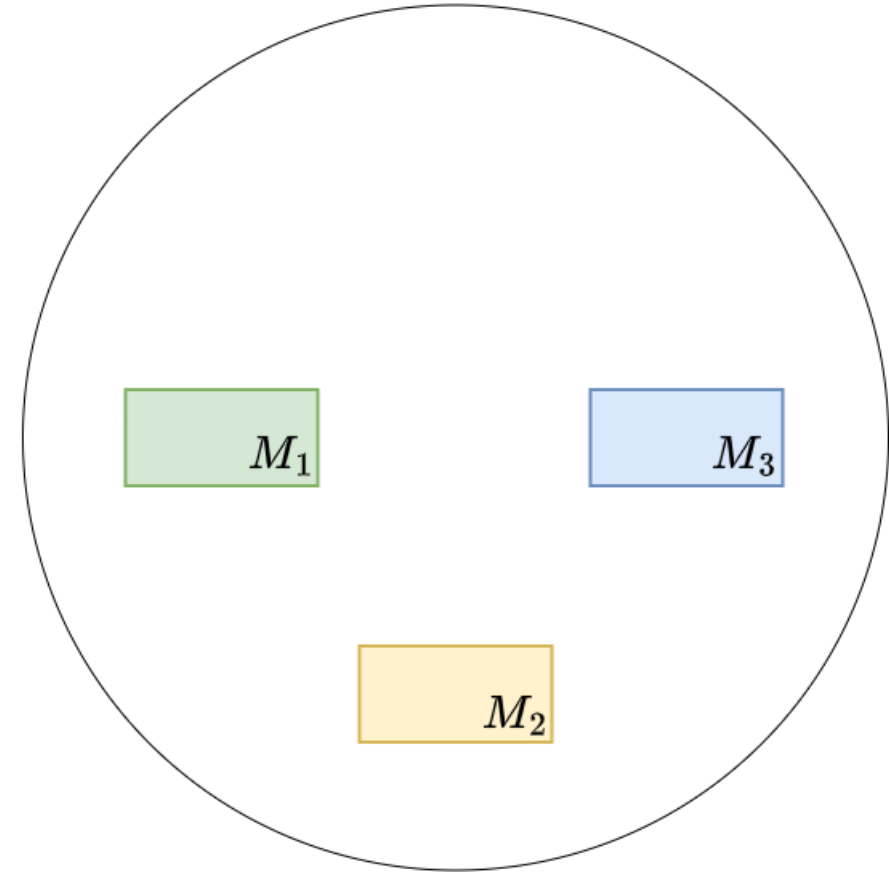
Part 1: Consistency



Virtual Single Underlying Model
(V-SUM)



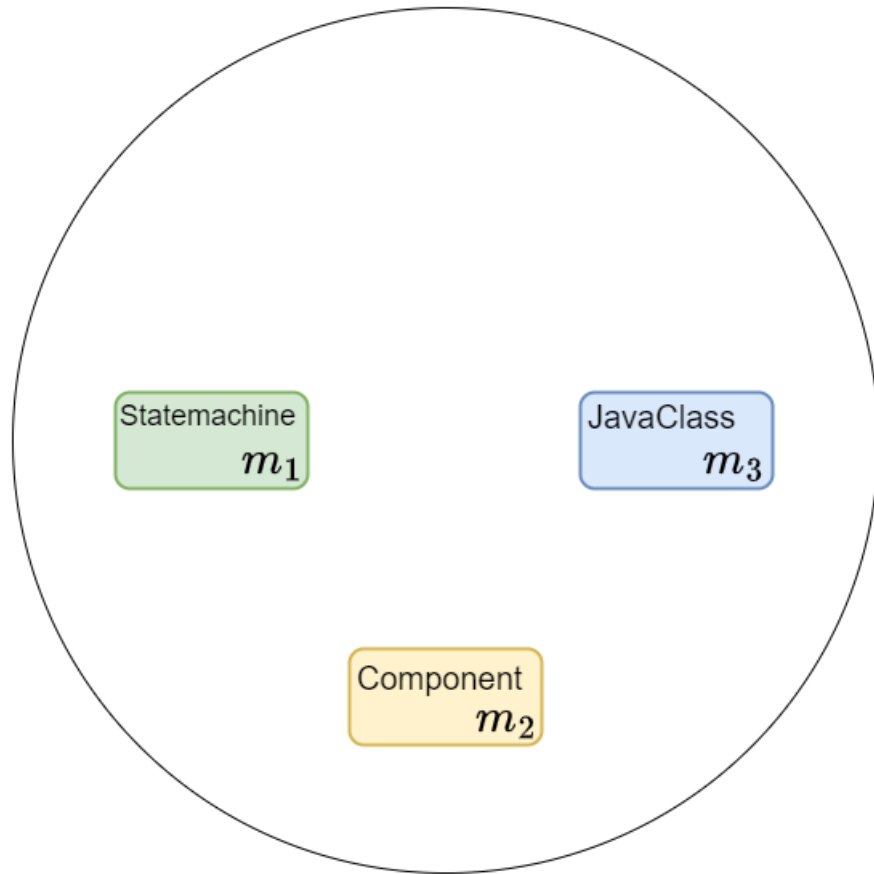
Virtual Single Underlying Metamodel
(V-SUMM)



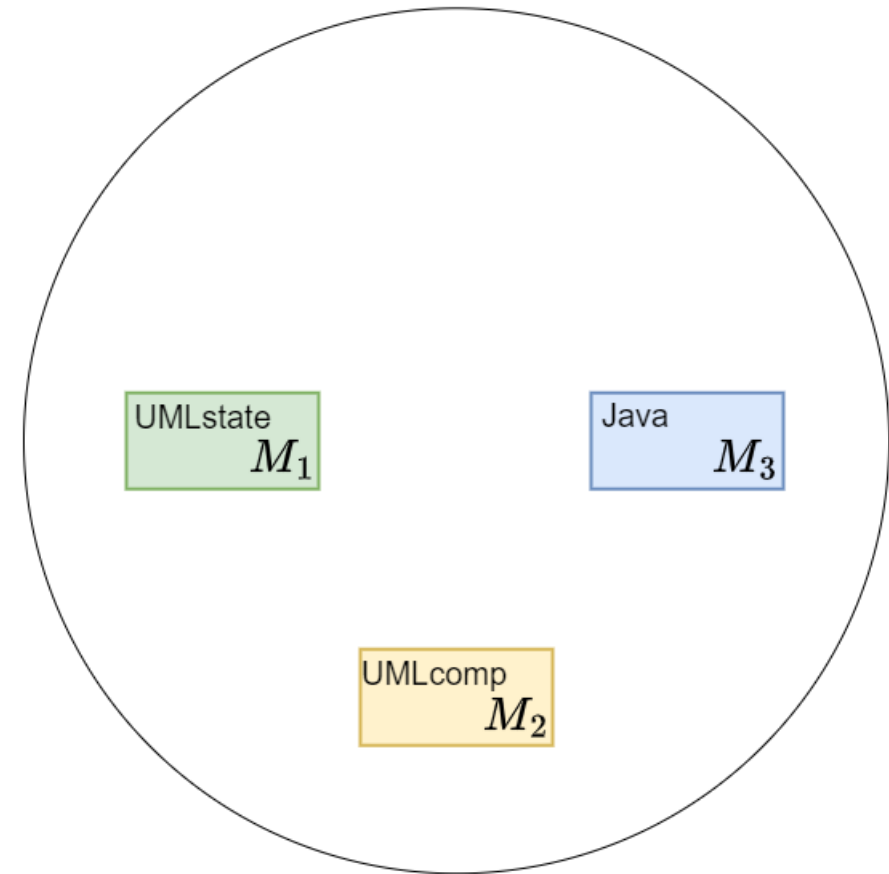
Part 1: Consistency



V-SUM



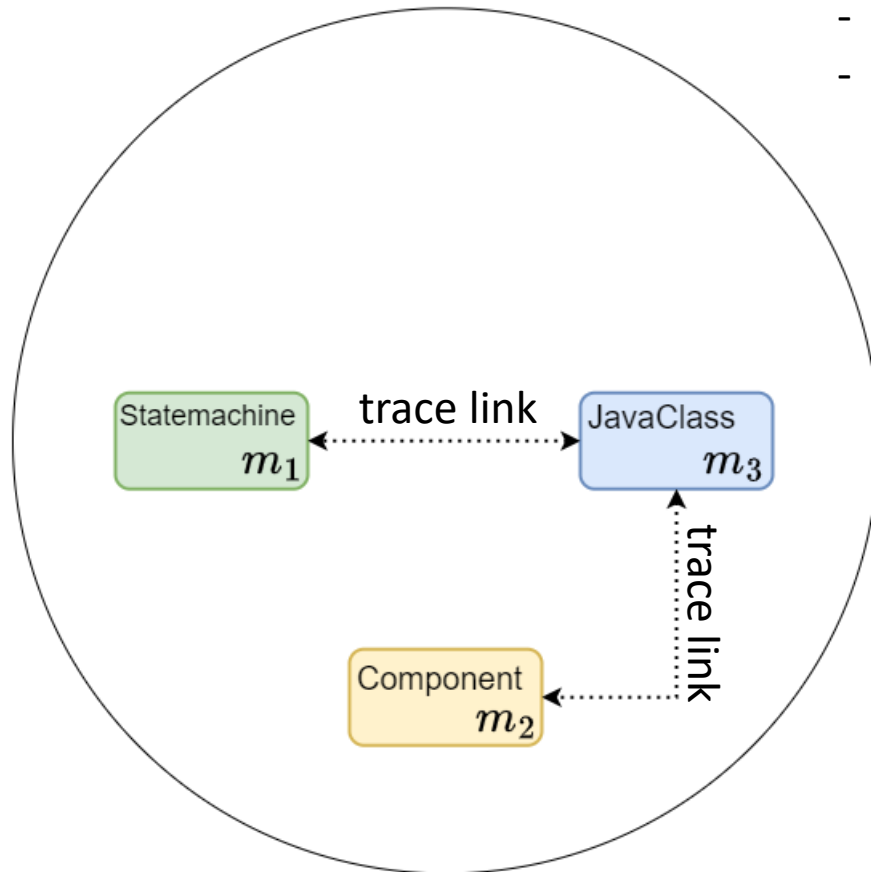
V-SUMM



Part 1: Consistency



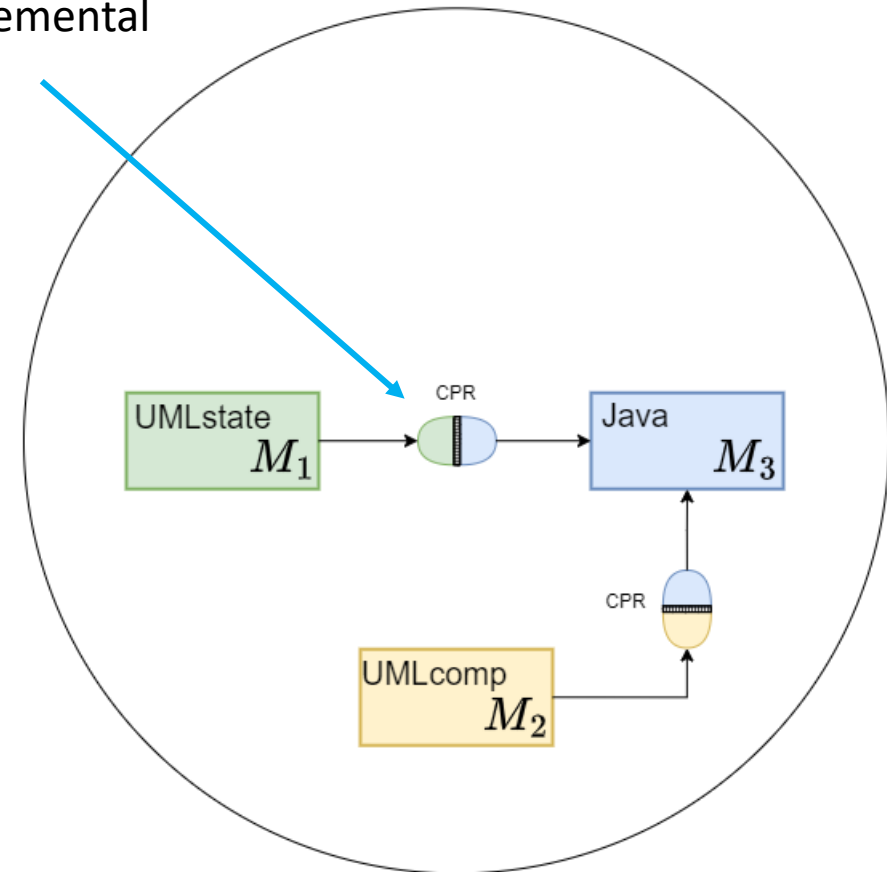
V-SUM



Consistency Preservation Rules

- model transformations
- Imperative, incremental
- Uni-directional

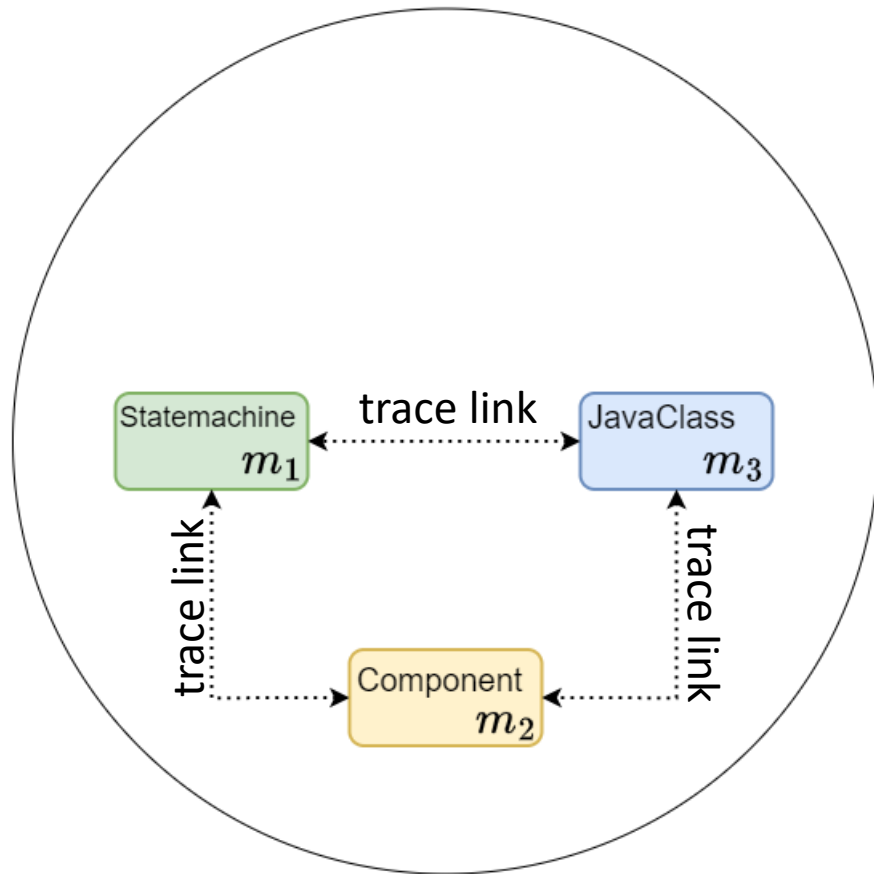
V-SUMM



Part 1: Consistency

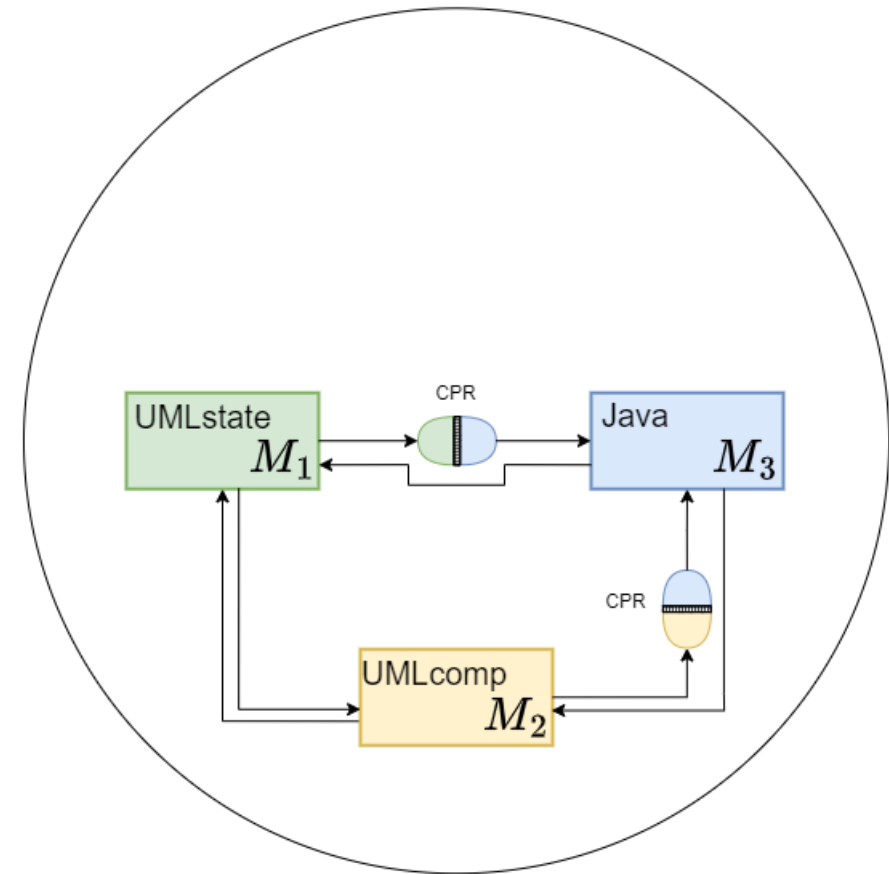


V-SUM



fully connected

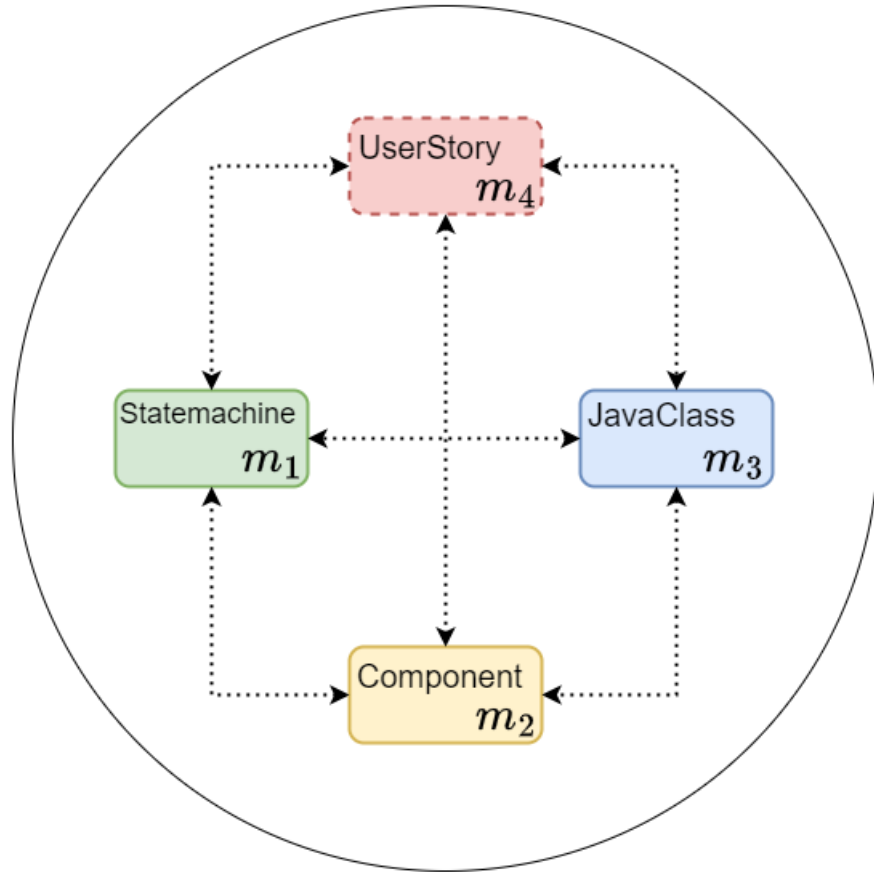
V-SUMM



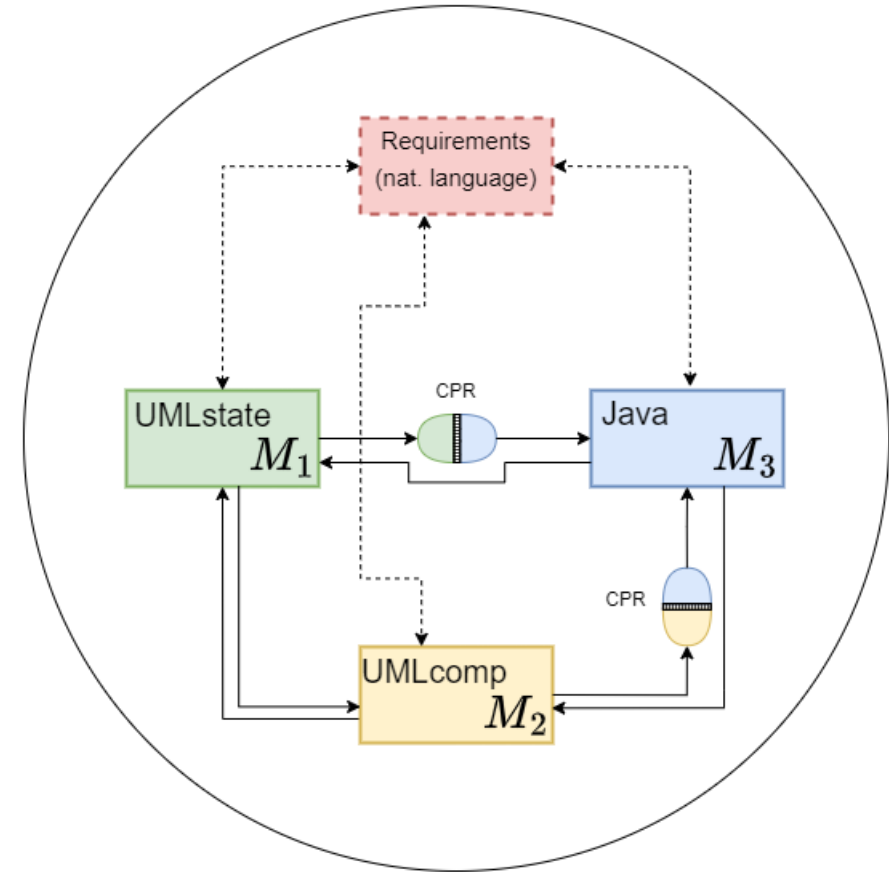
Part 1: Consistency



V-SUM



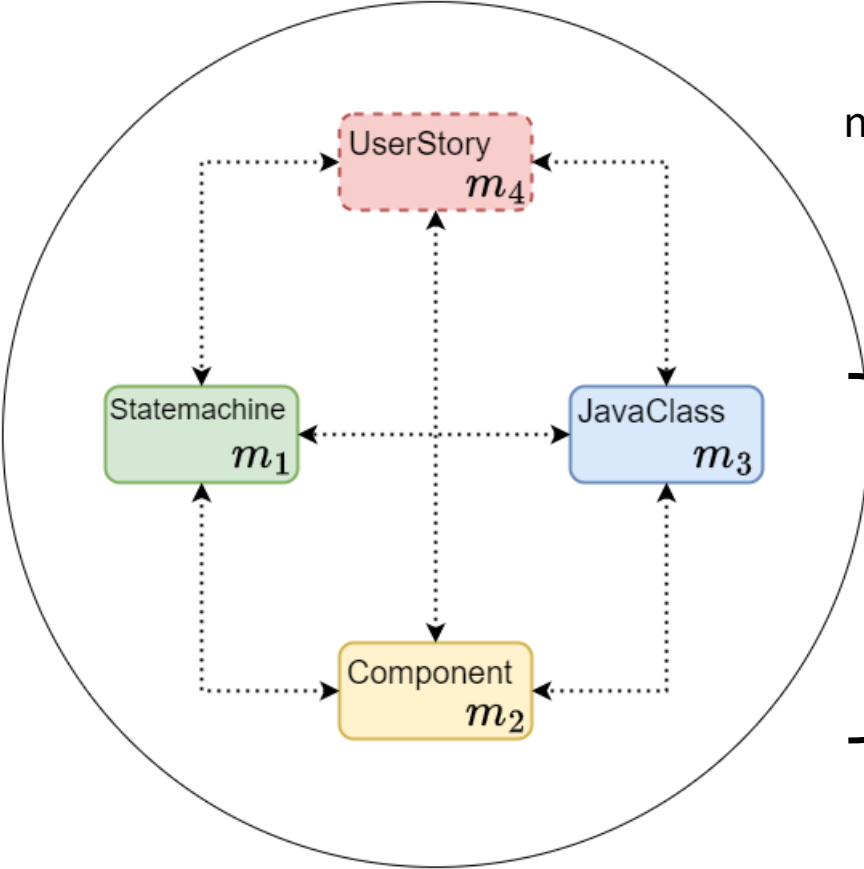
V-SUMM



Part 1: Consistency



V-SUM

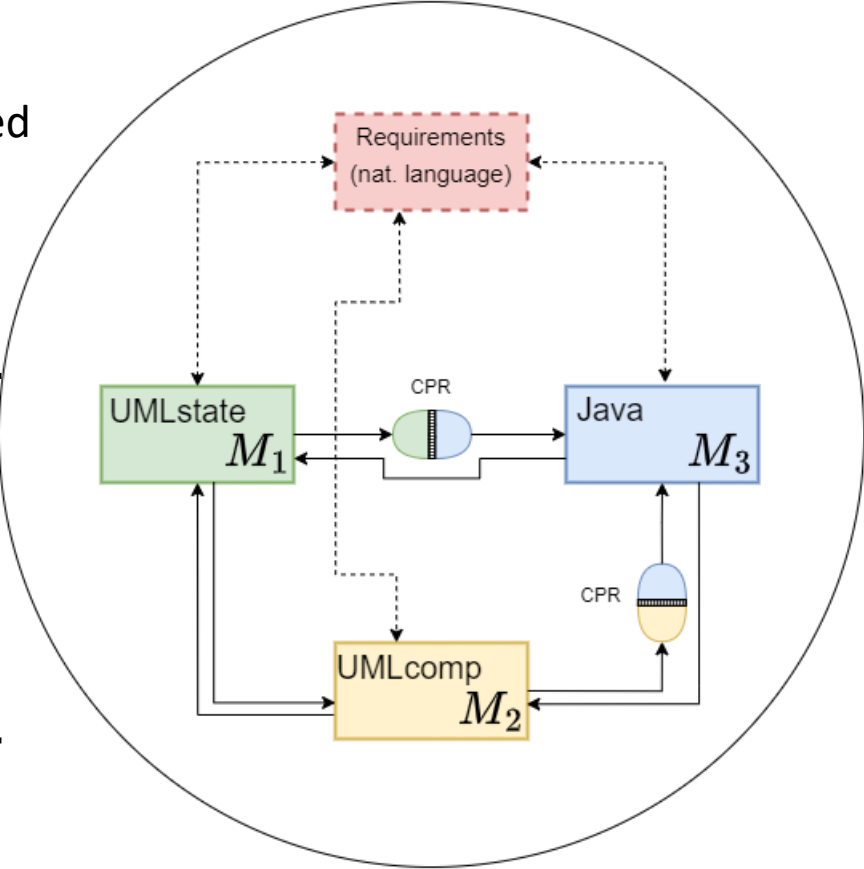


natural, unstructured
„schema-driven“

strictly,
structured



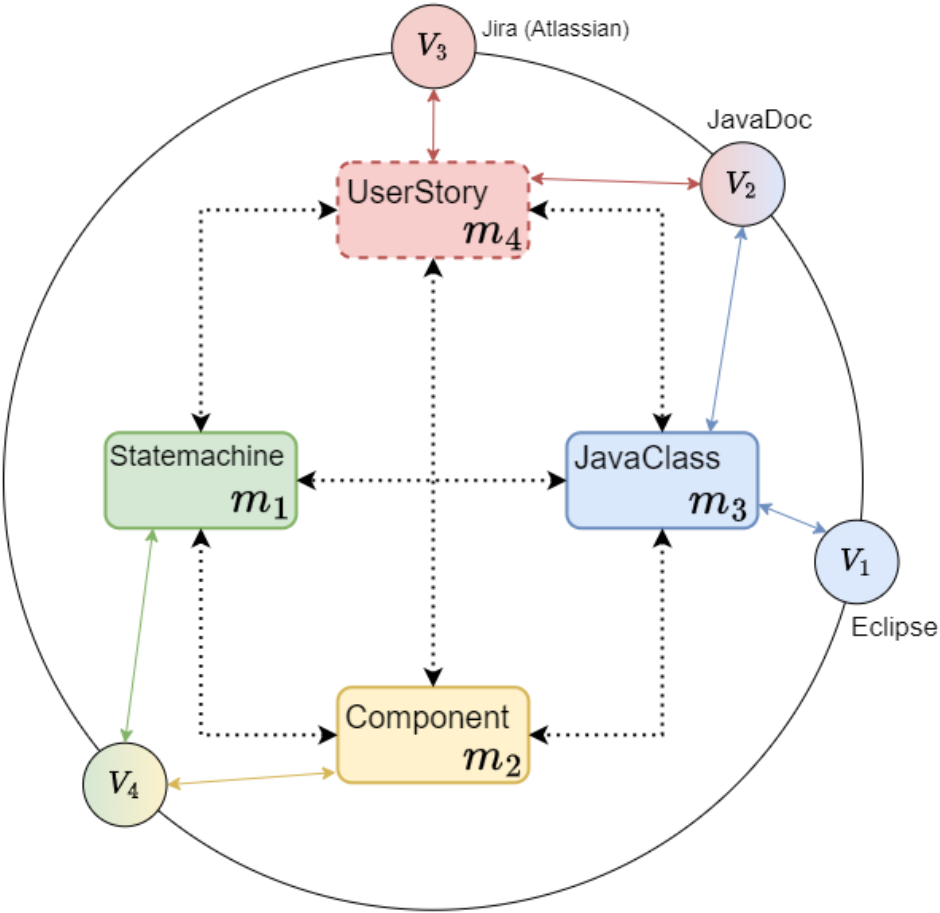
V-SUMM



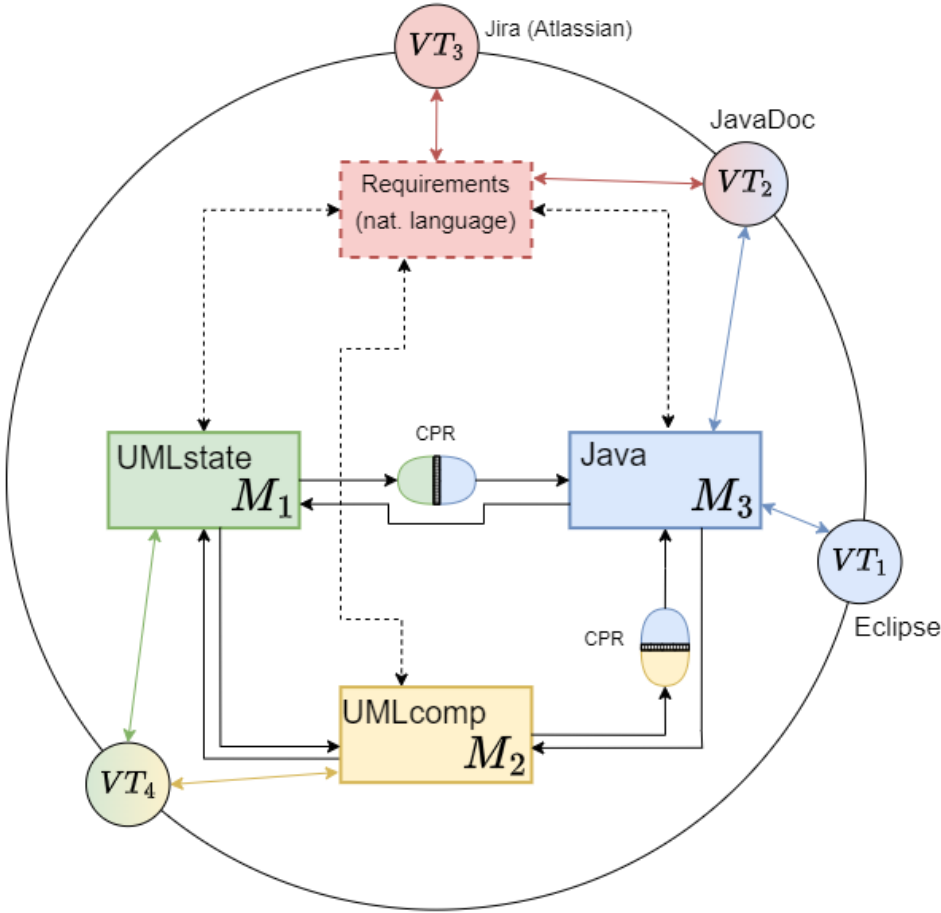
Part 1: Consistency



V-Single-UM



V-Single-UMM

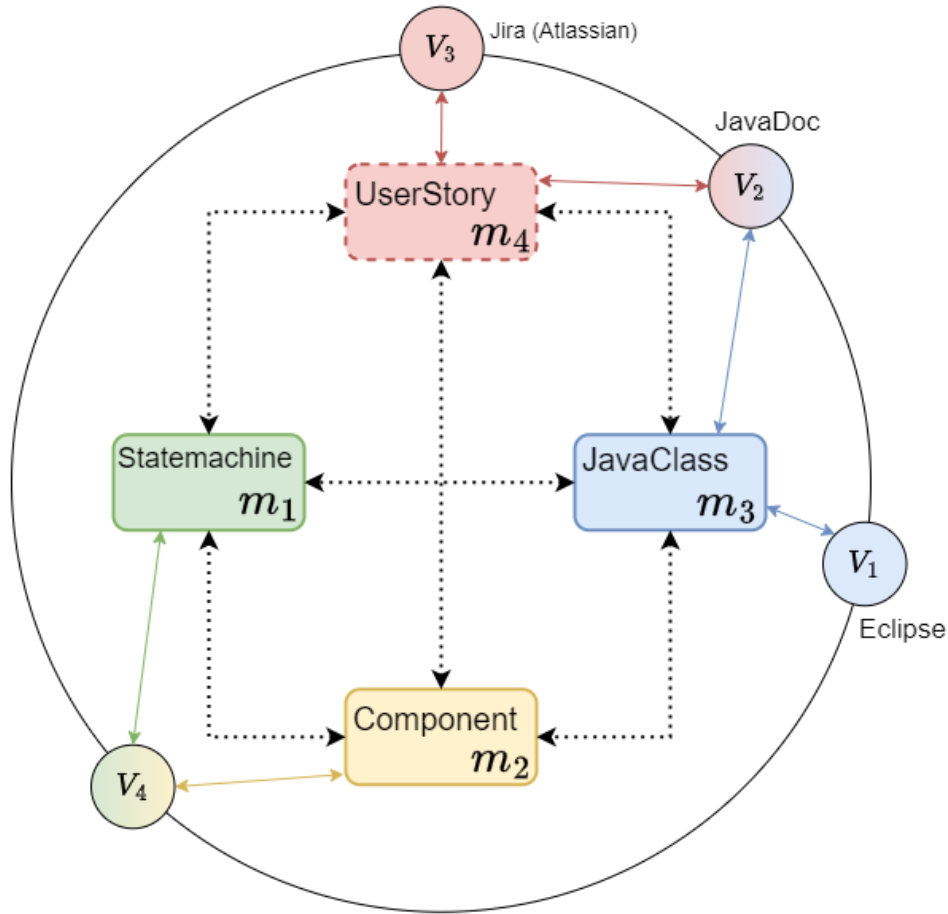


Part 1: Consistency

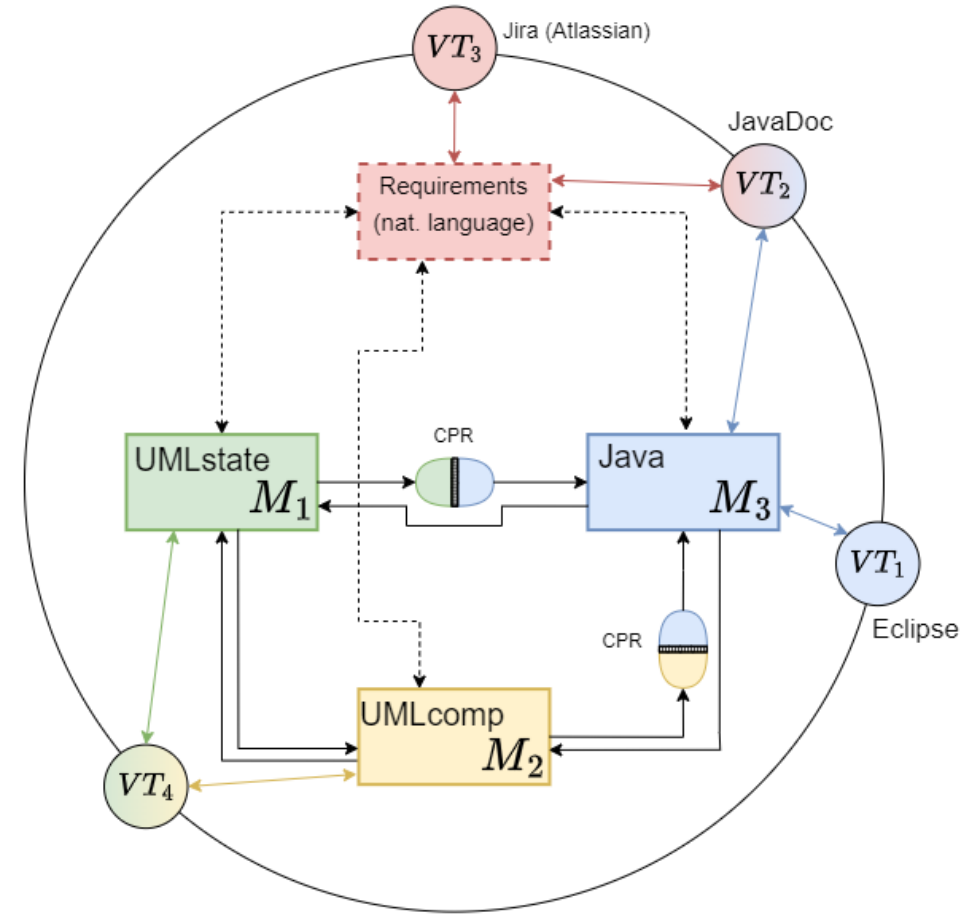


V-Single-UM

We do not want everybody to always work on the complete big picture.

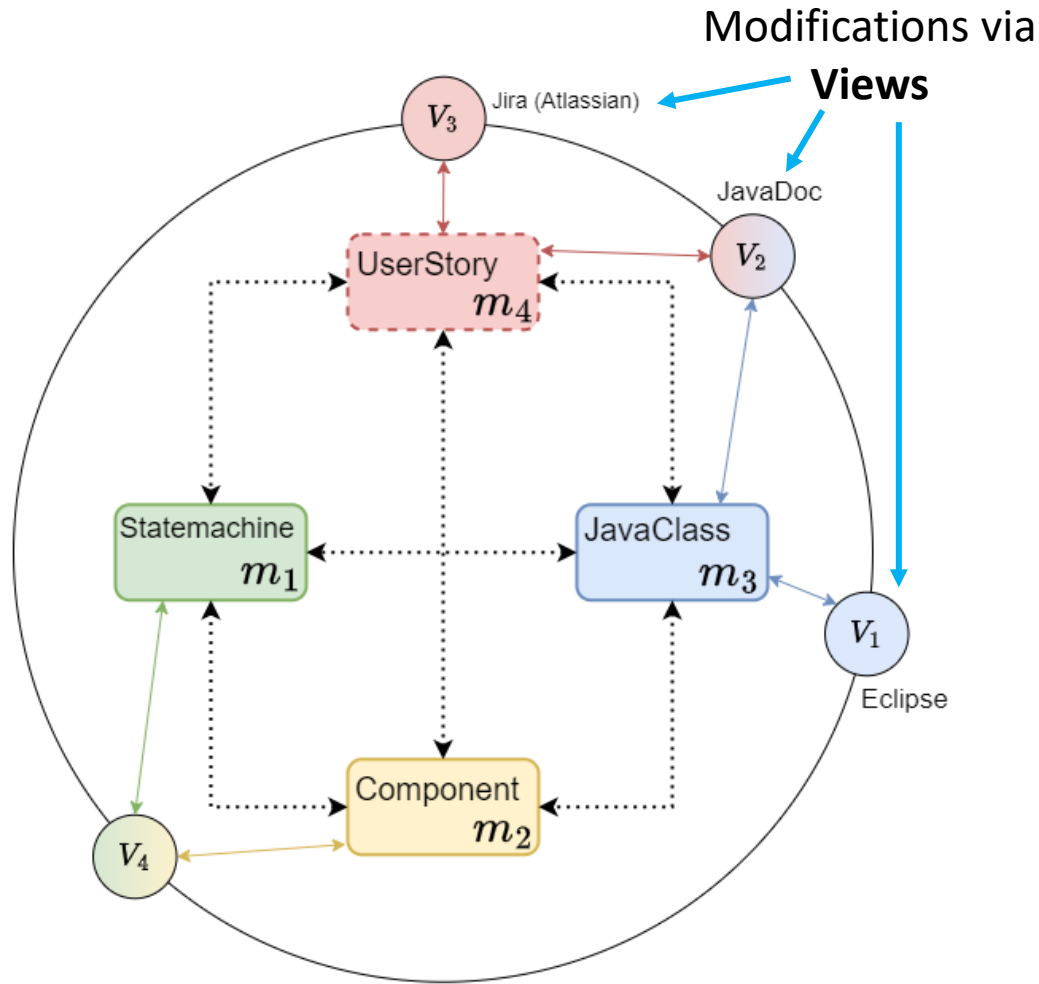


V-Single-UMM

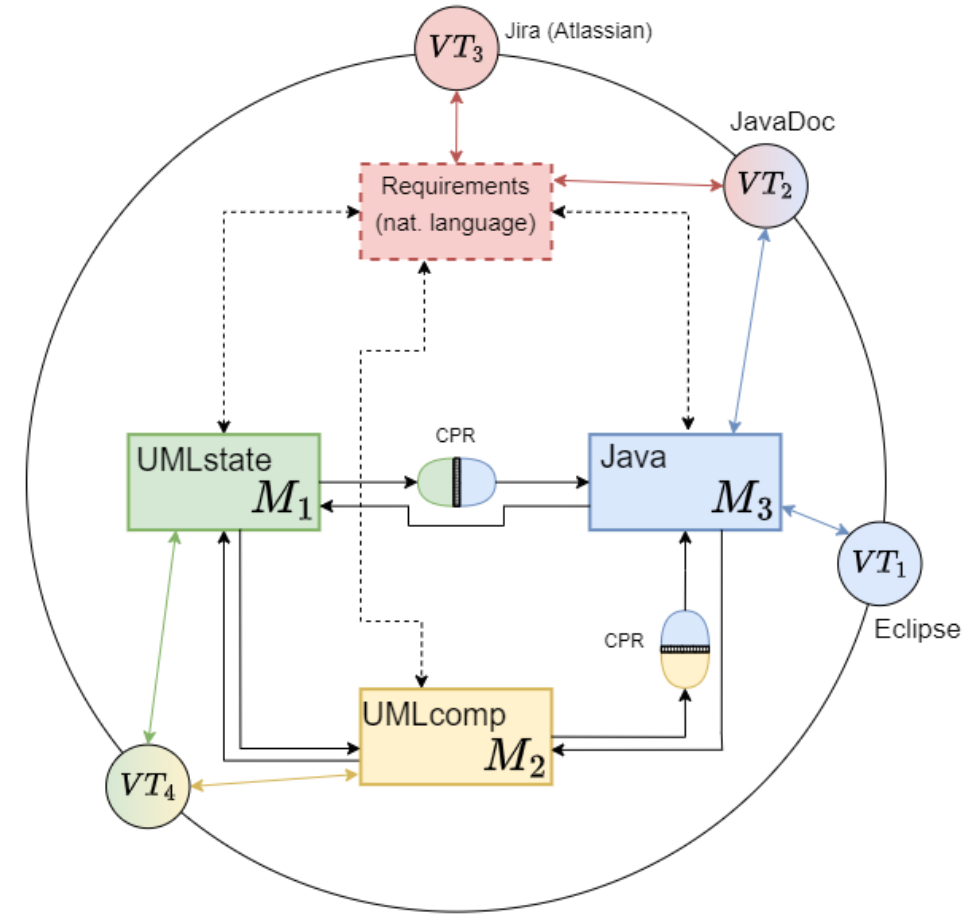


Part 1: Consistency

V-Single-UM



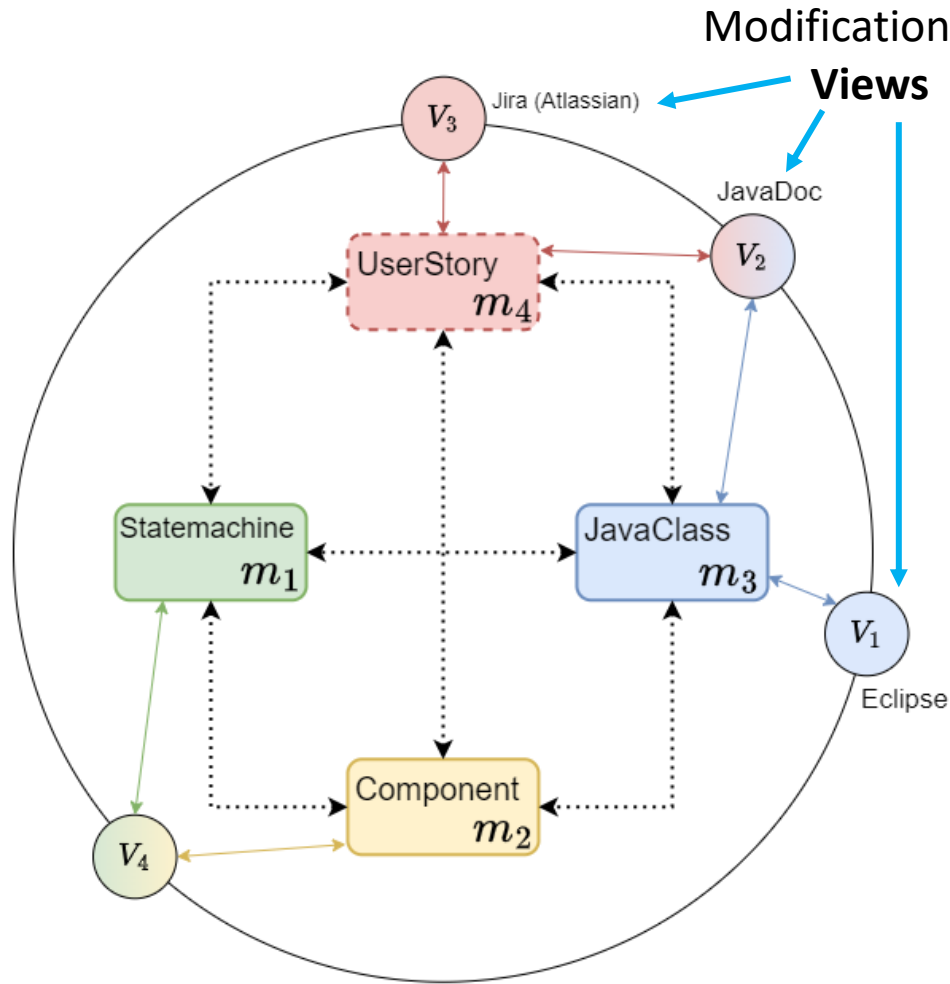
V-Single-UMM



Part 1: Consistency

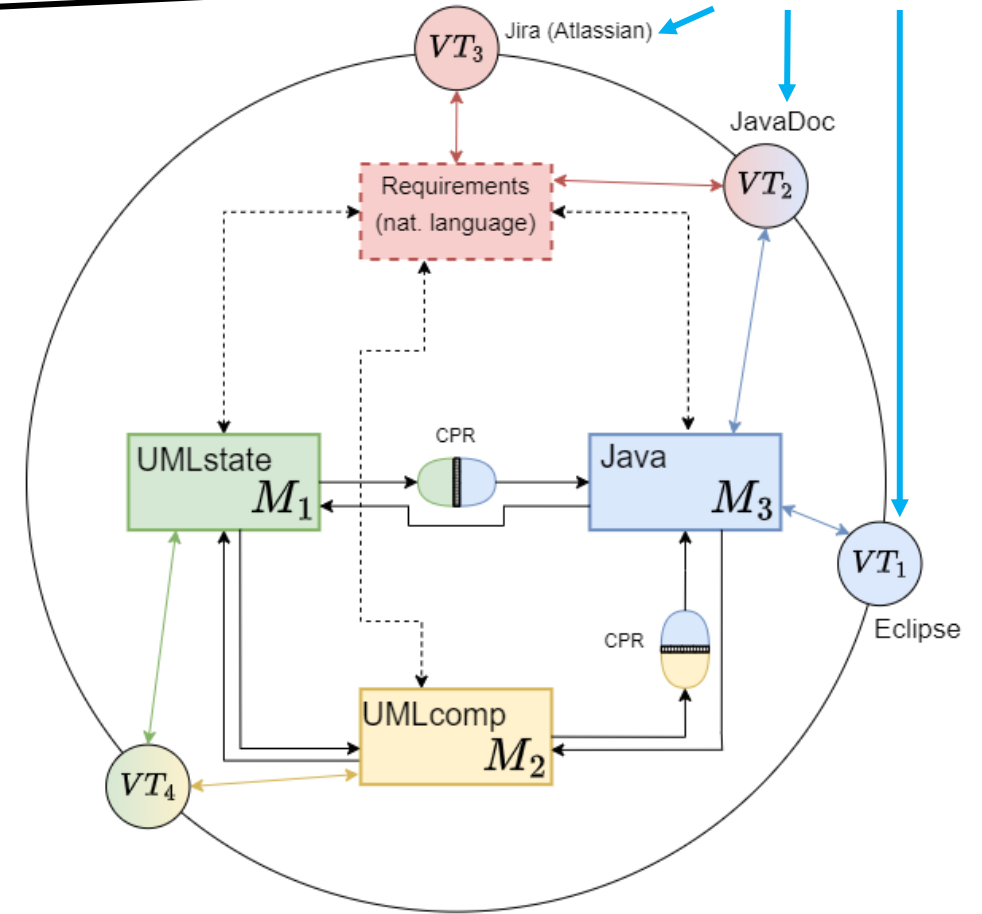
V-Single-UM

V-Single-UMM



instance of

ViewTypes



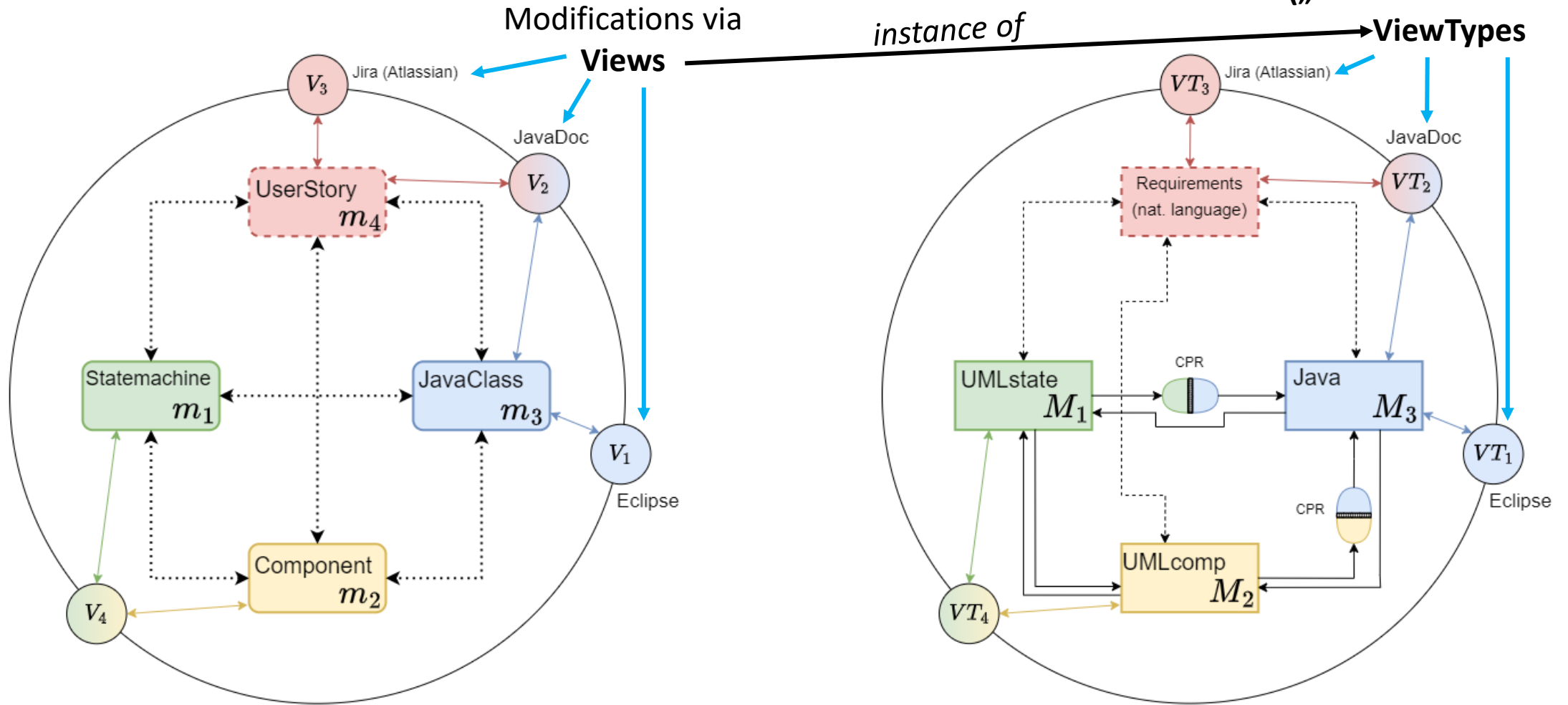
Part 1: Consistency



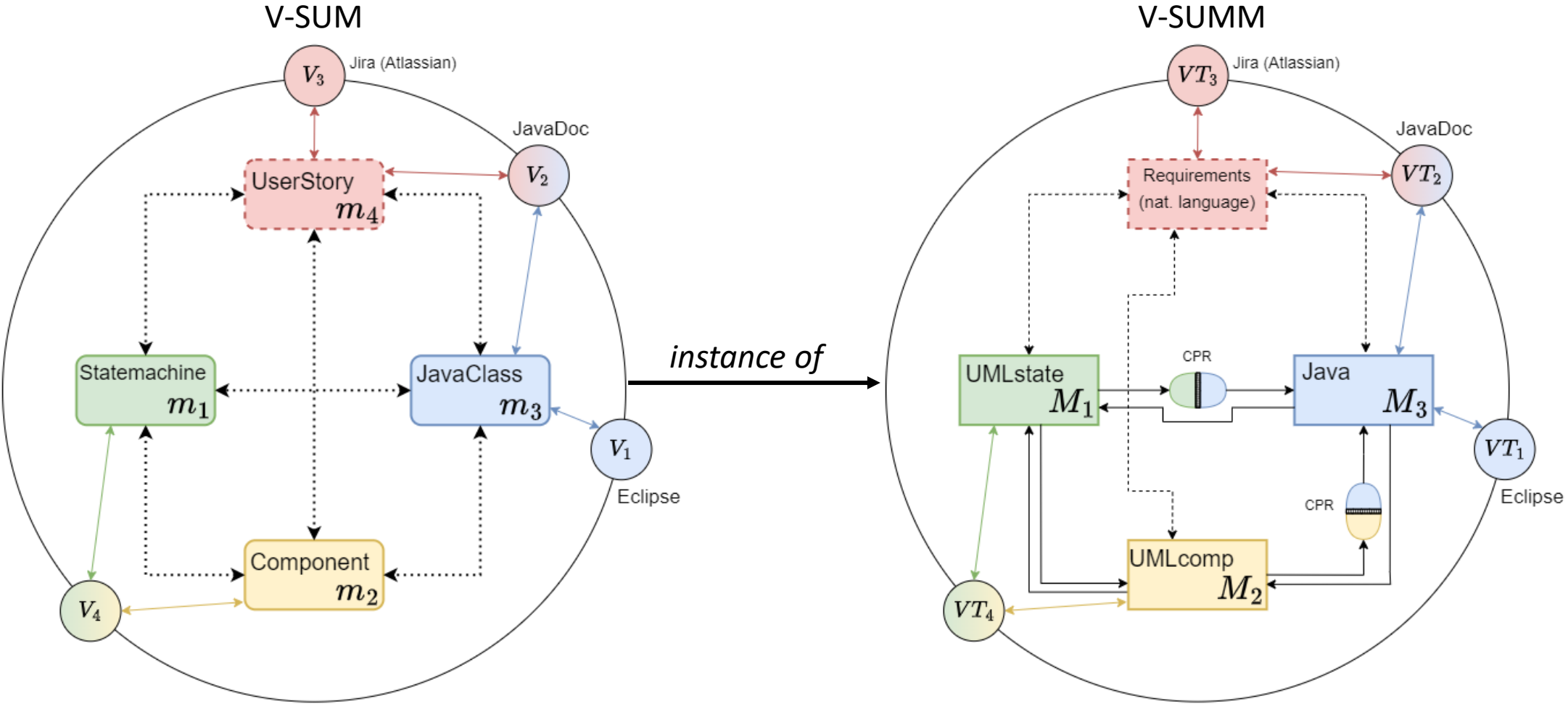
V-Single-UM

V-Single-UMM

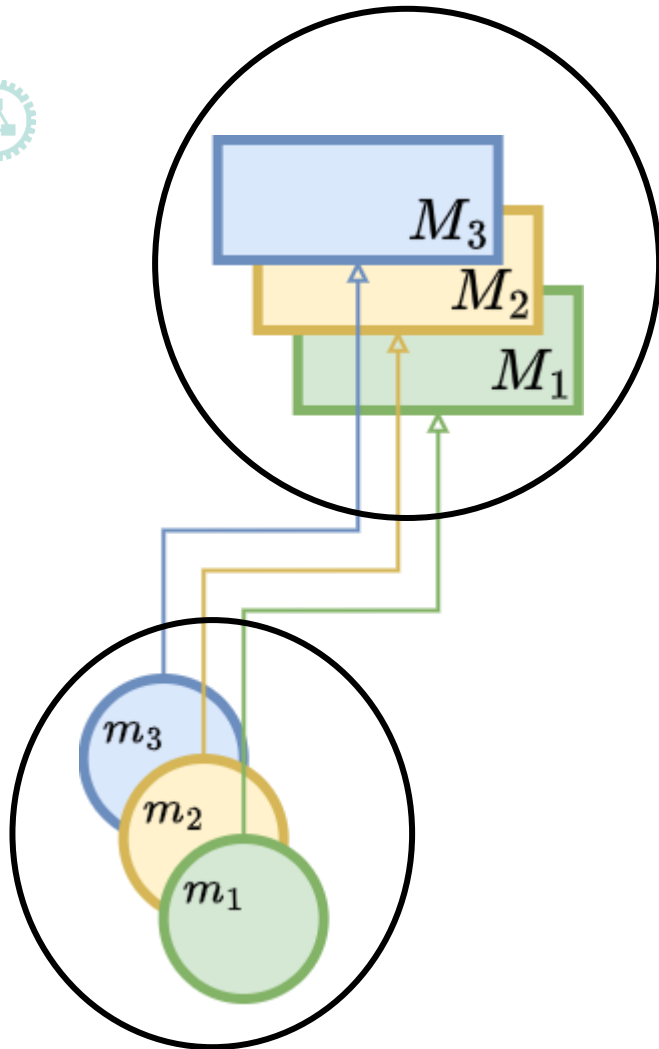
(„subsets of VSUMM“)



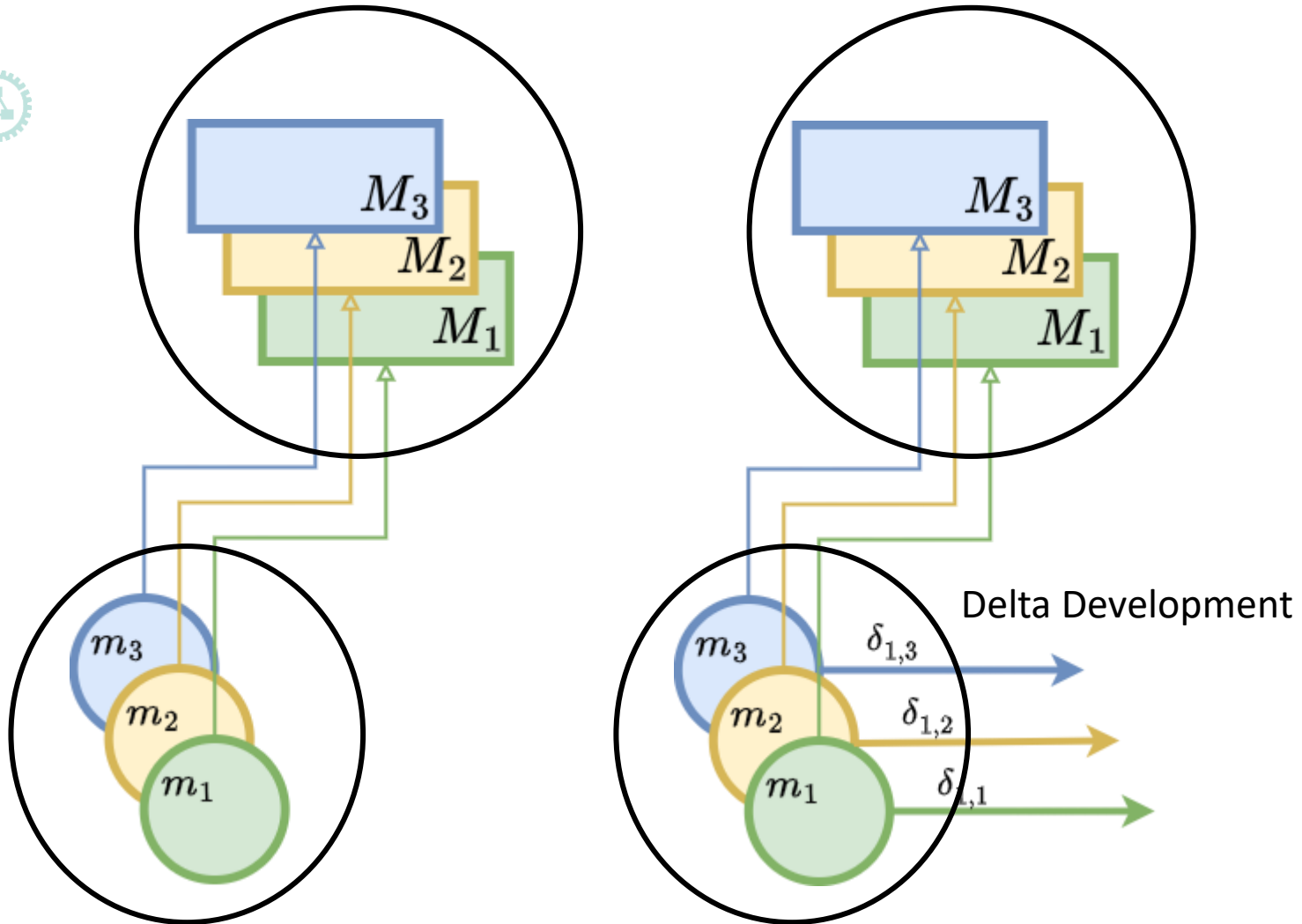
Part 1: Consistency



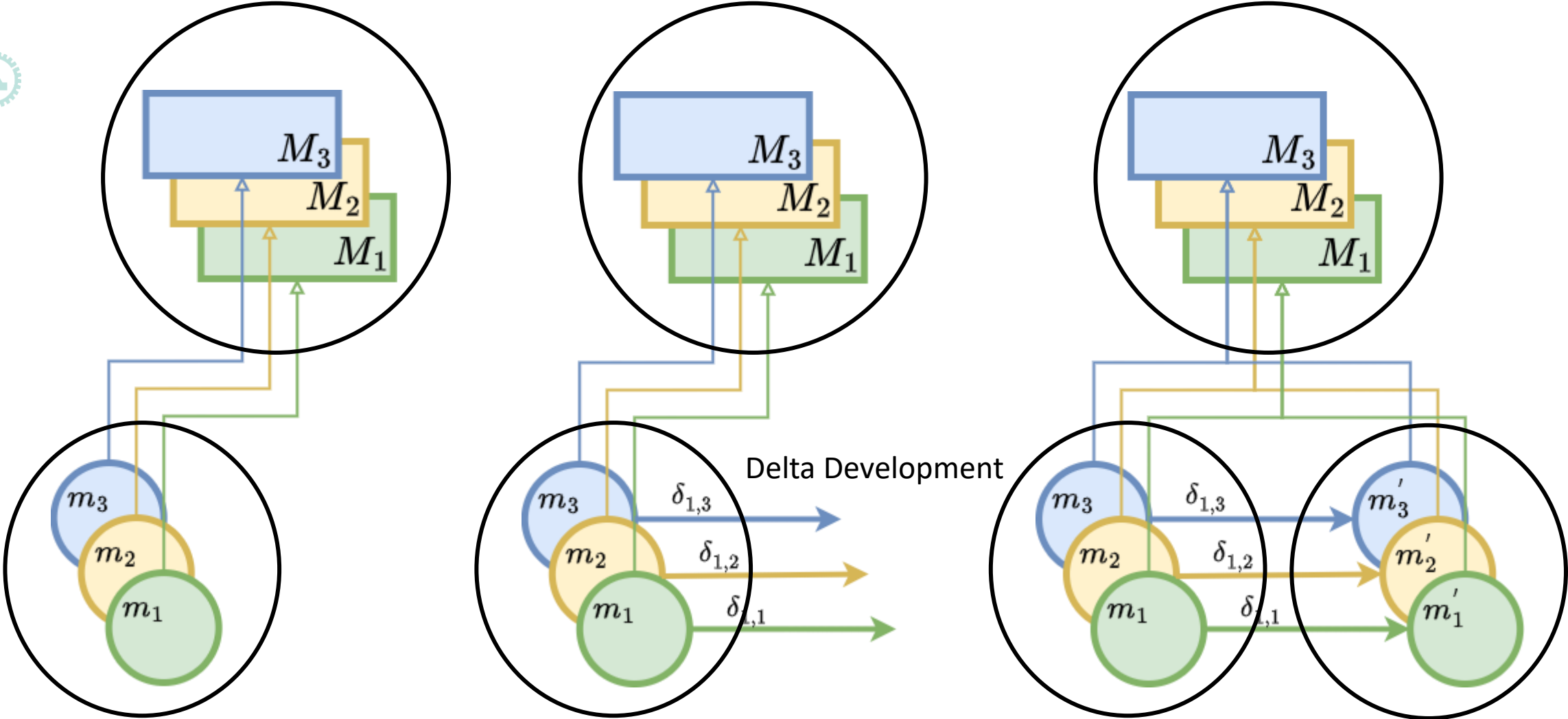
Part 2: Variability



Part 2: Delta-oriented Variability



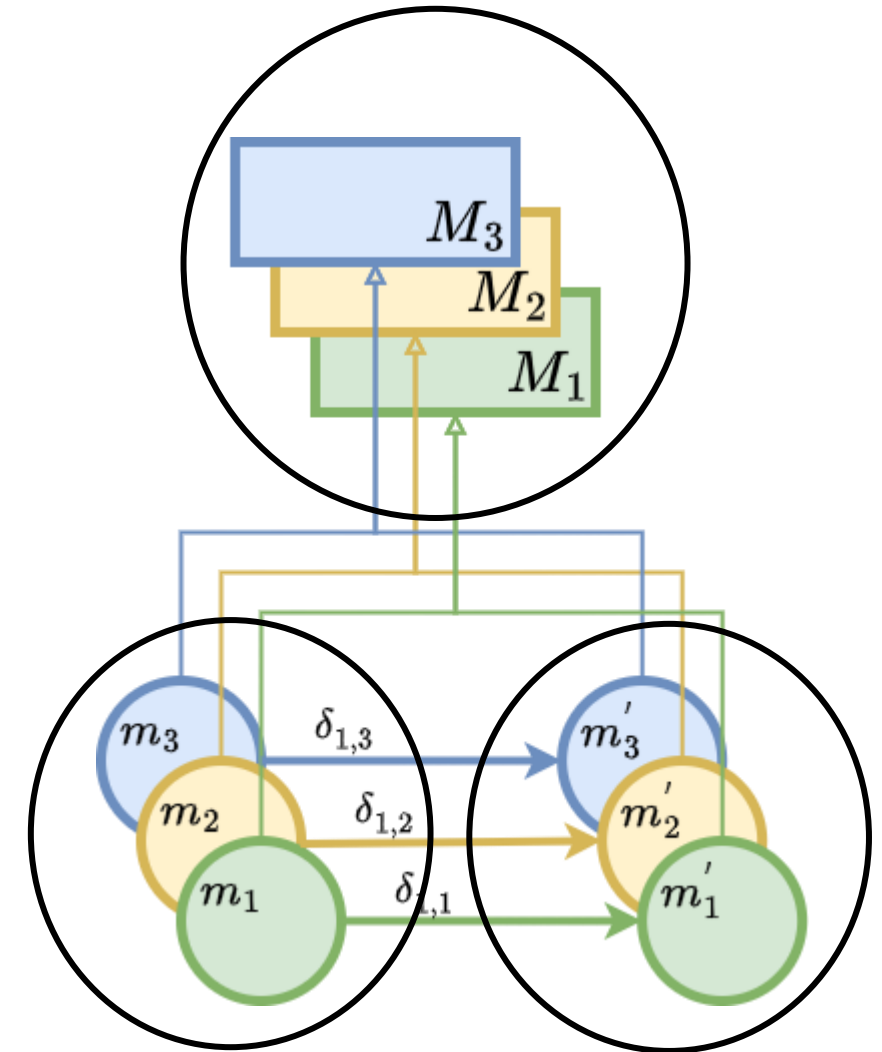
Part 2: Delta-oriented Variability



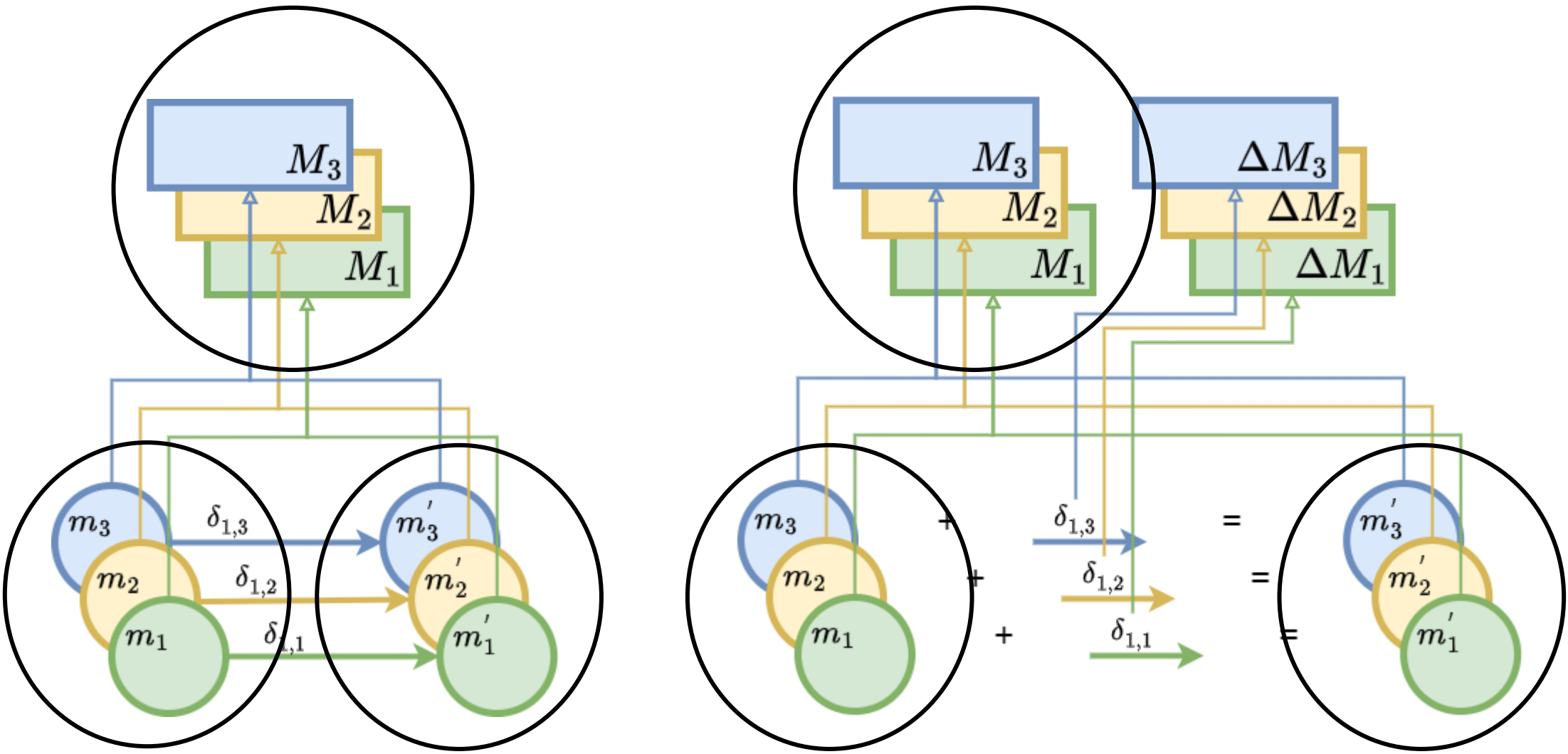
How to combine variability and consistency?



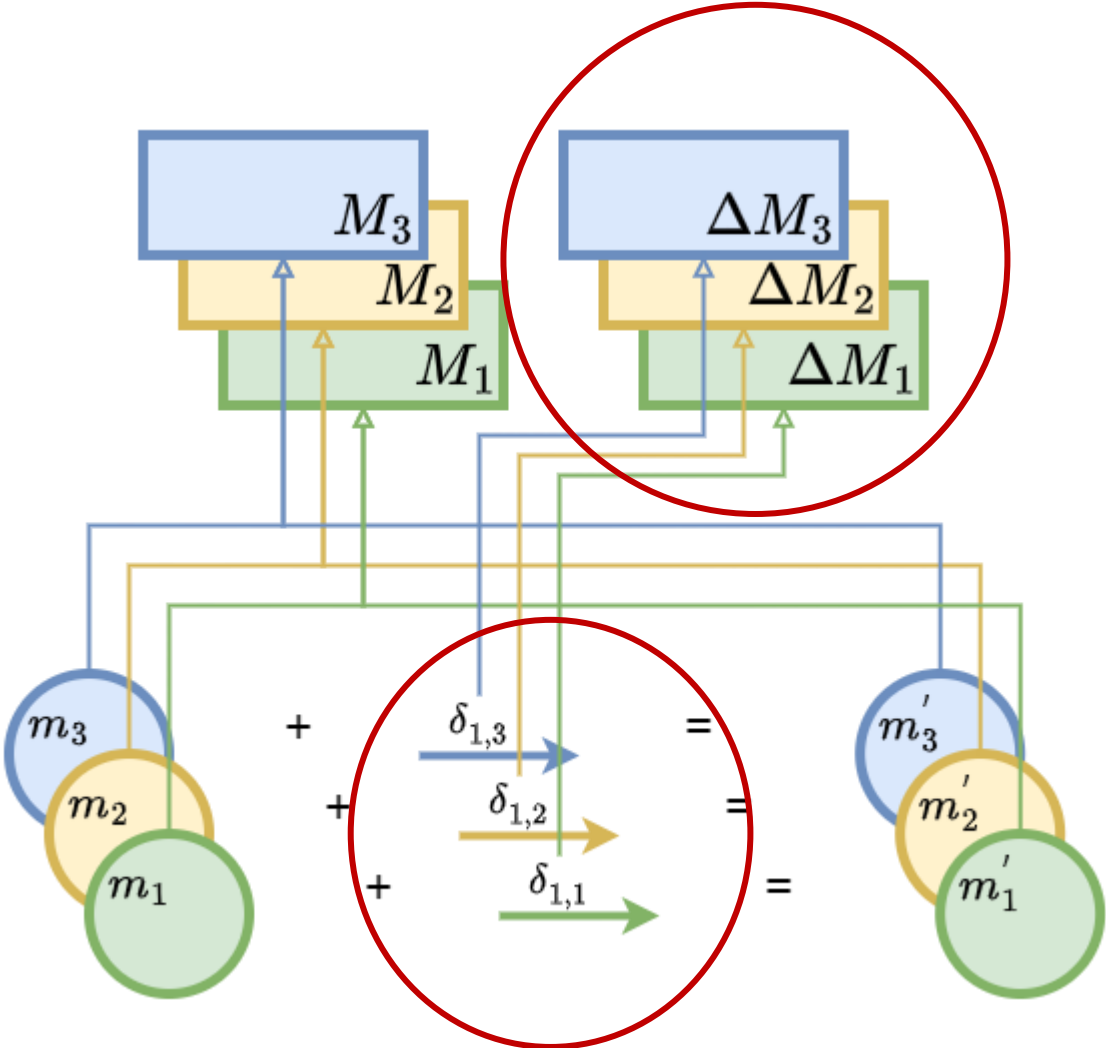
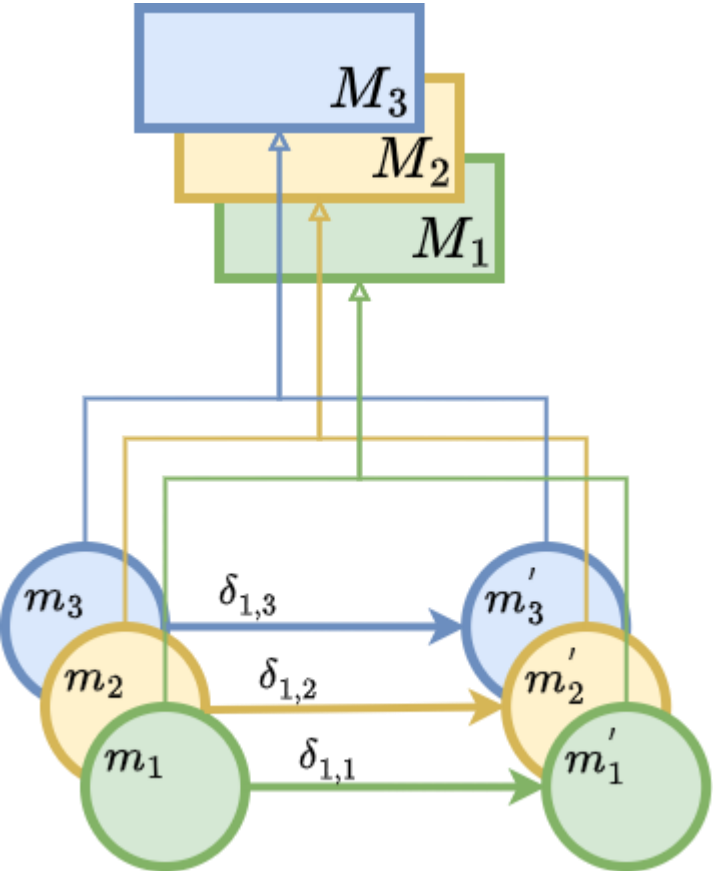
Part 2: Delta-oriented Variability



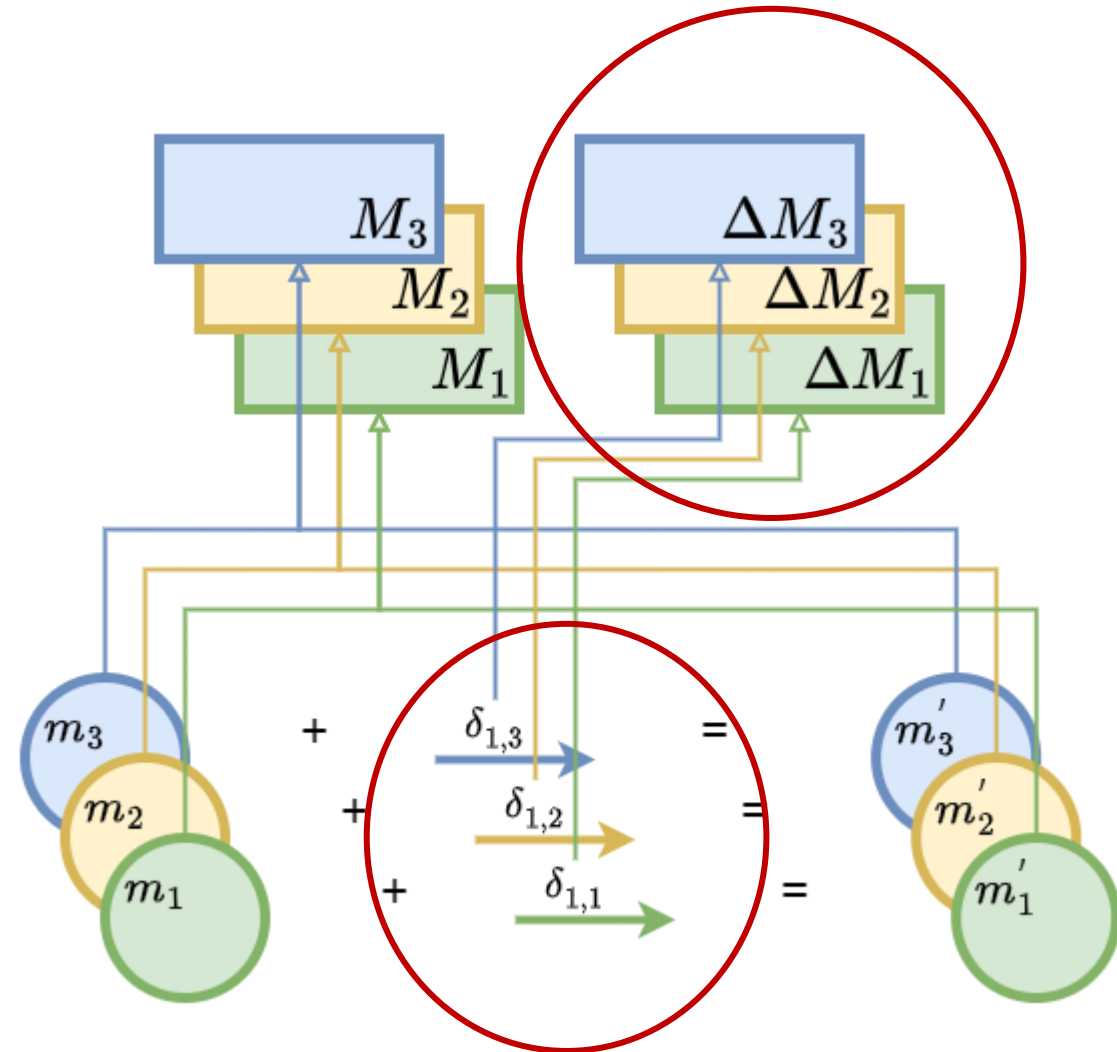
Part 2: Delta-oriented Variability (Meta-)Modeling

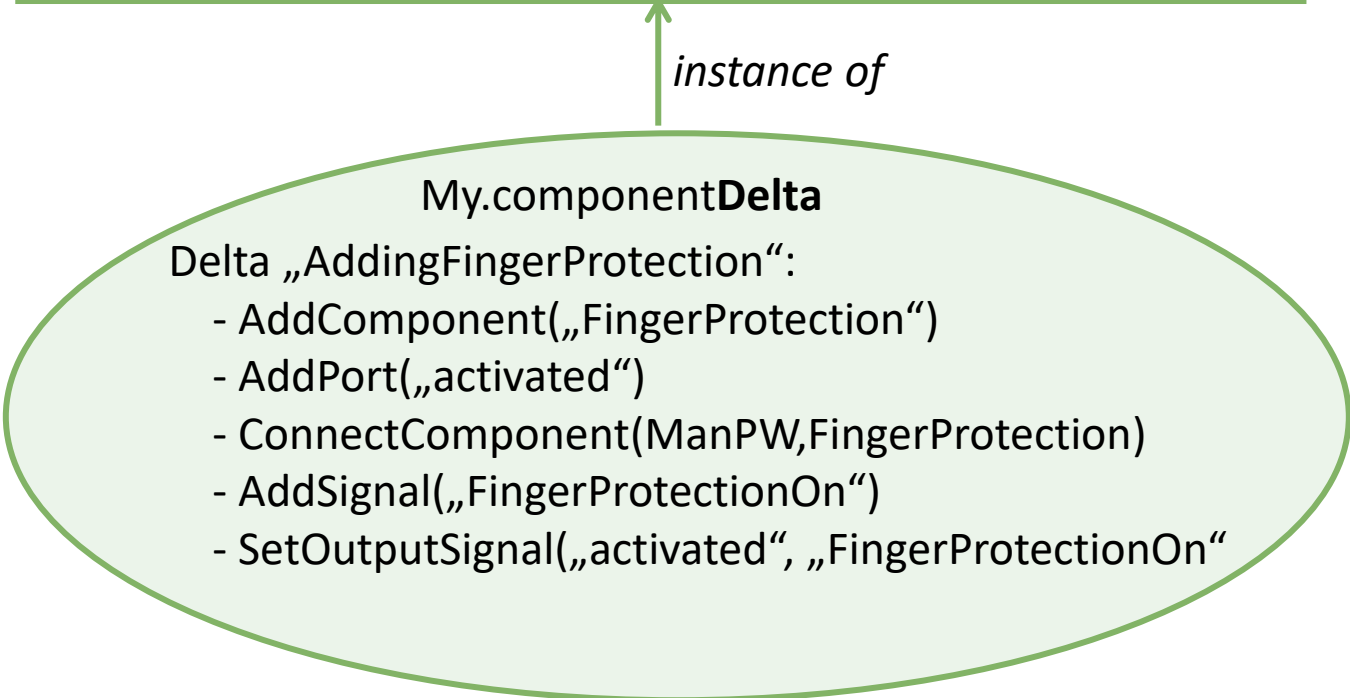
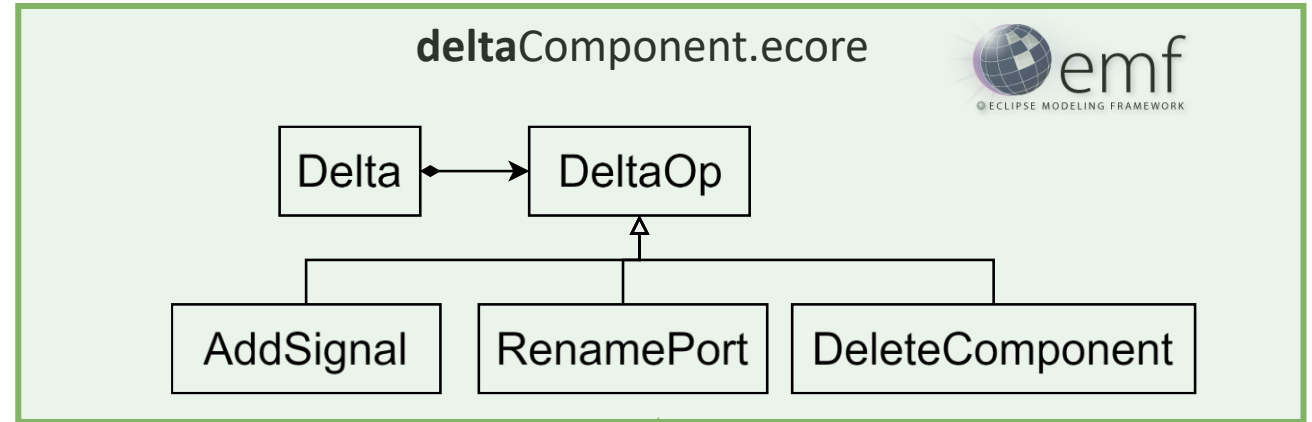
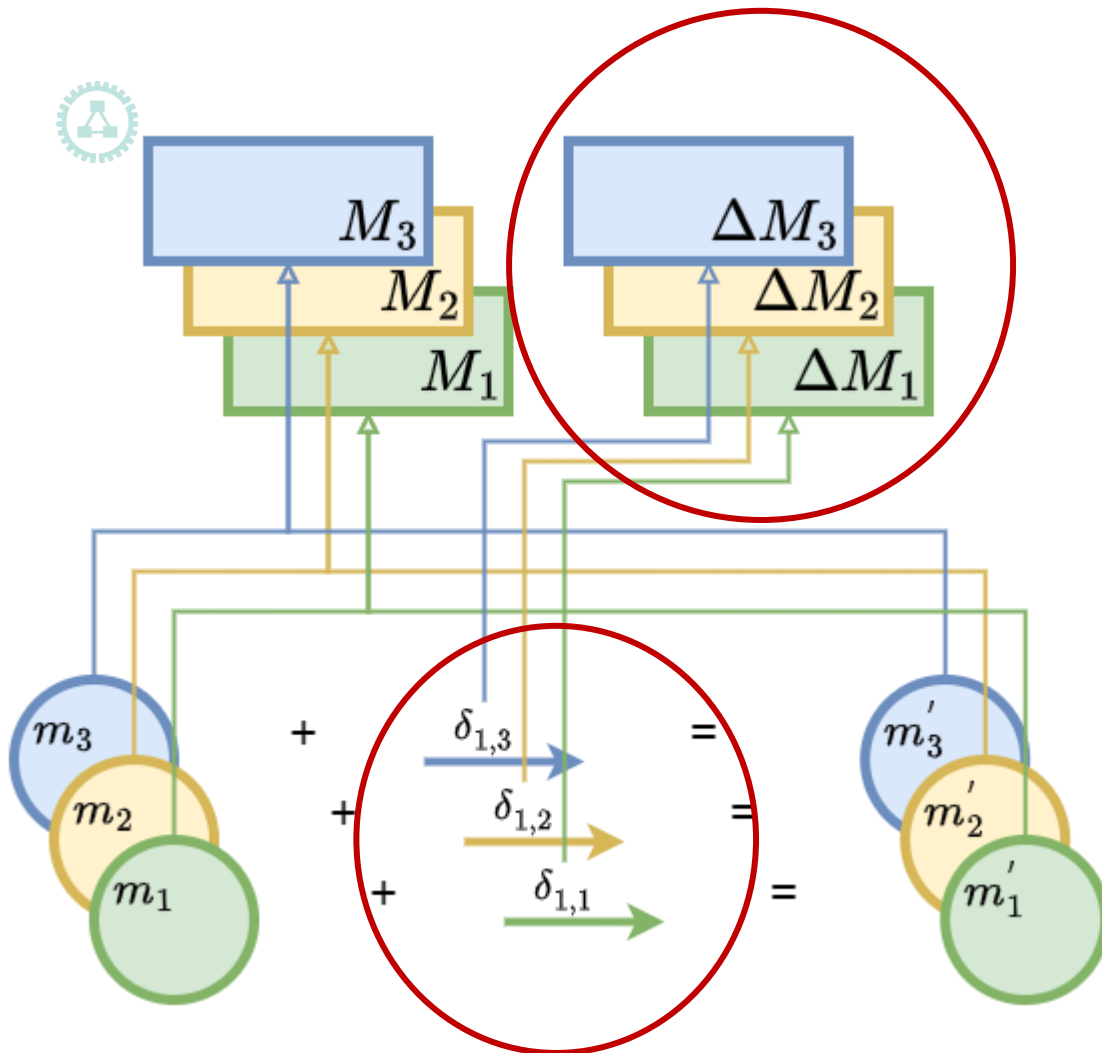


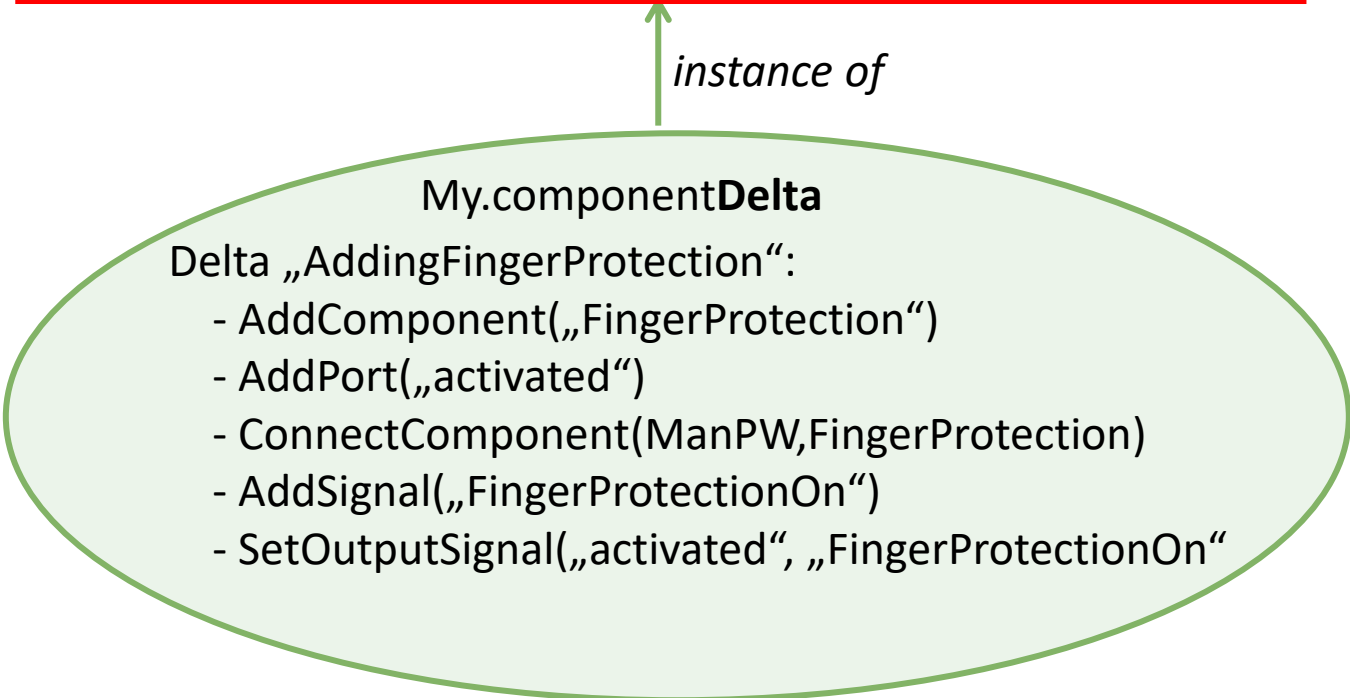
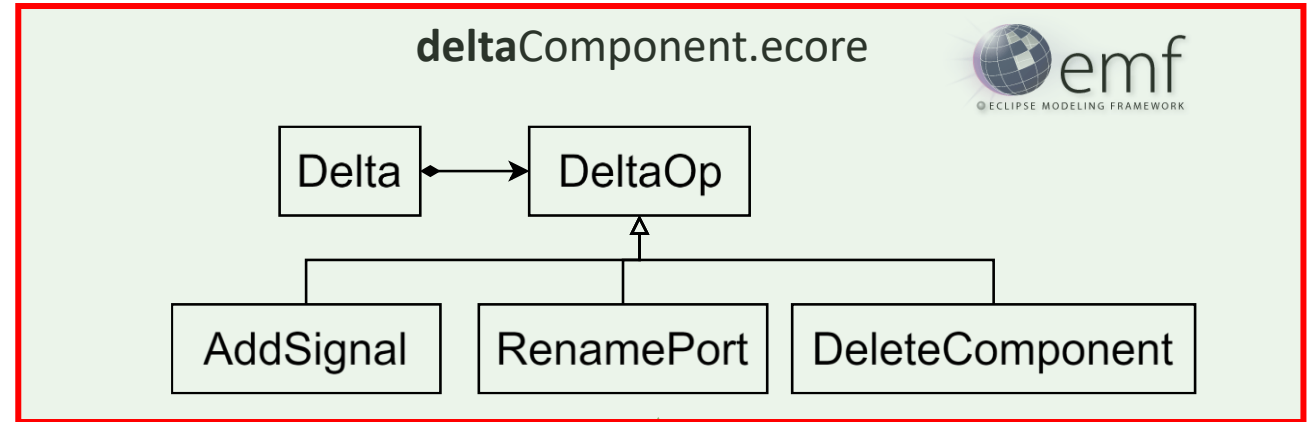
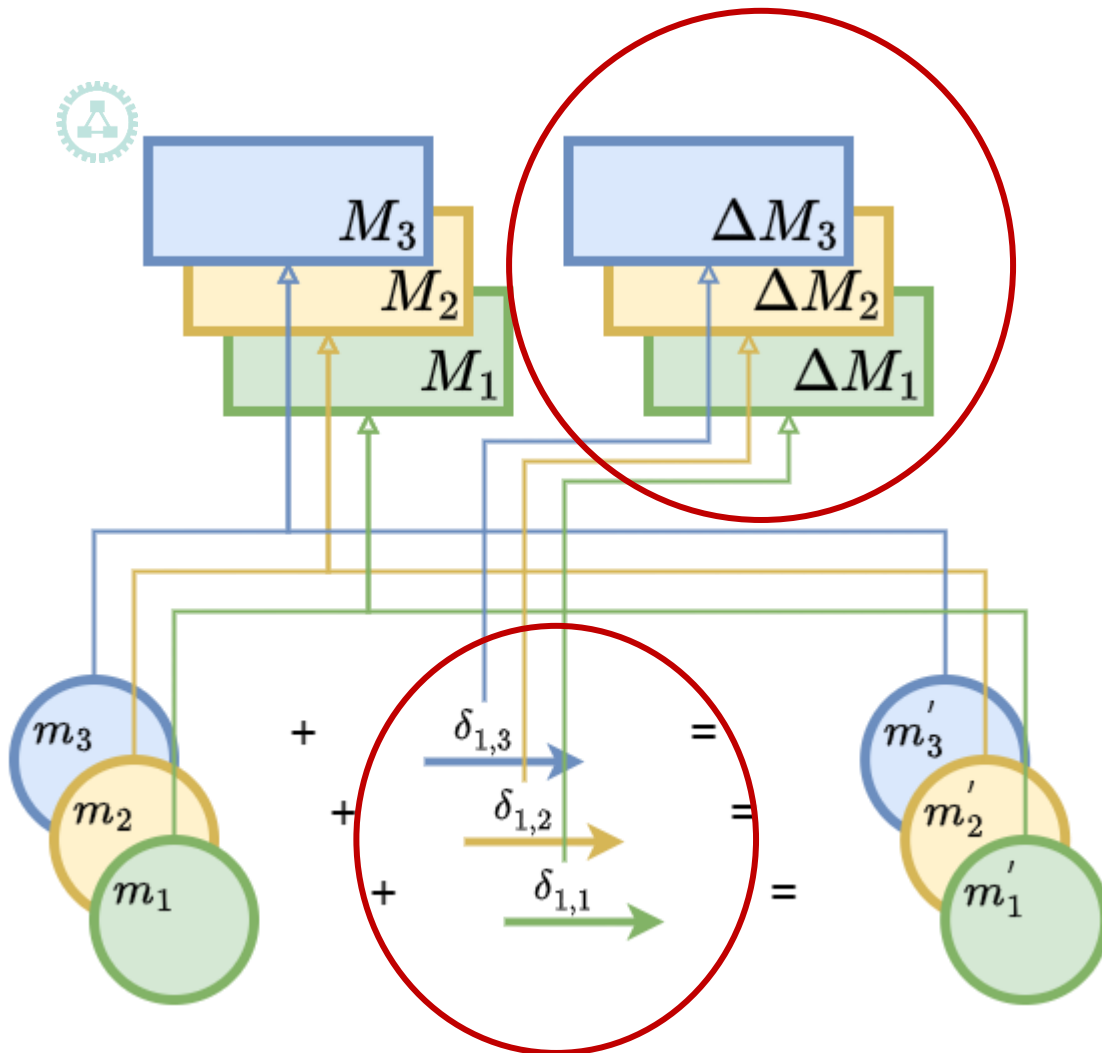
New: **Consistent** Delta-oriented Variability (Meta-)Modeling



New: **Consistent** Delta-oriented Variability (Meta-)Modeling





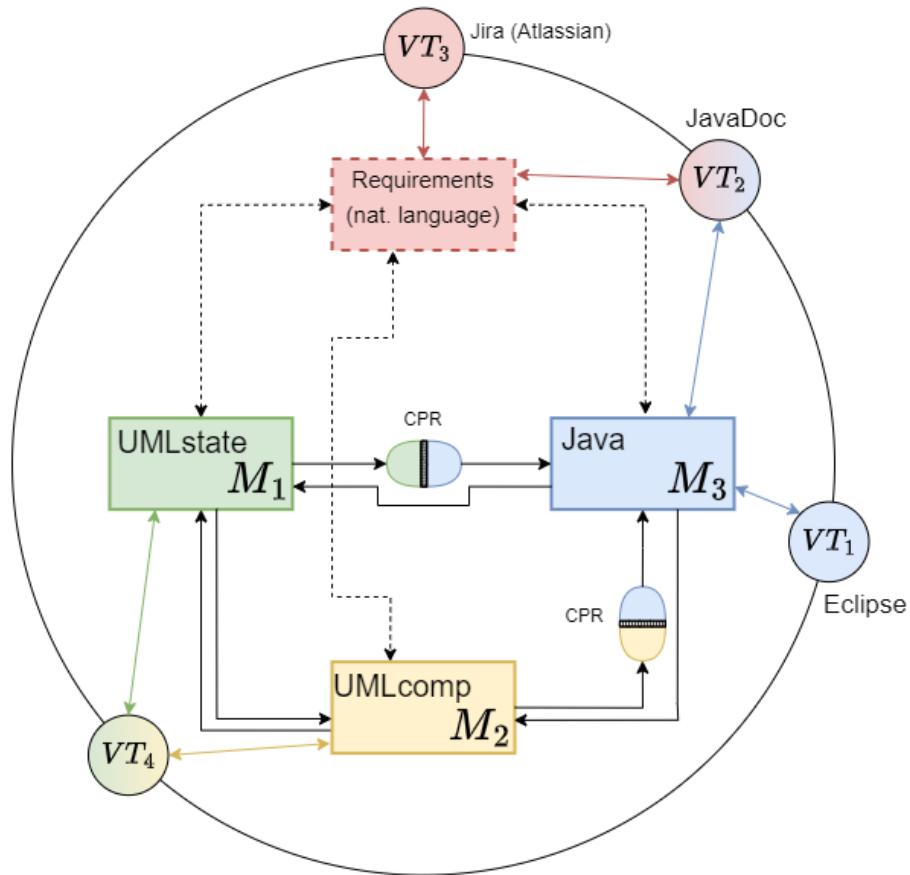


Constructing a Var-V-SUMM from a V-SUMM

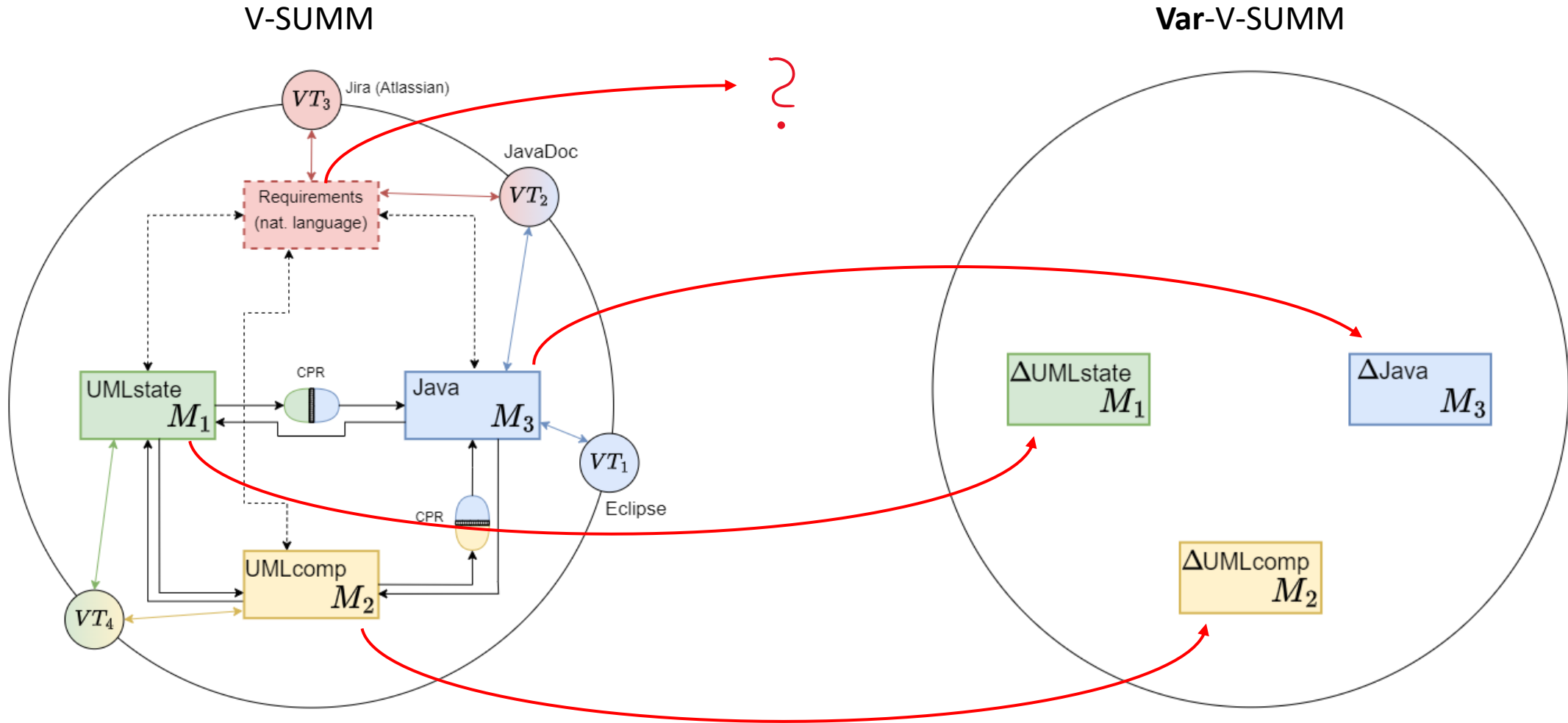


Virtual Single Underlying Metamodel
(V-SUMM)

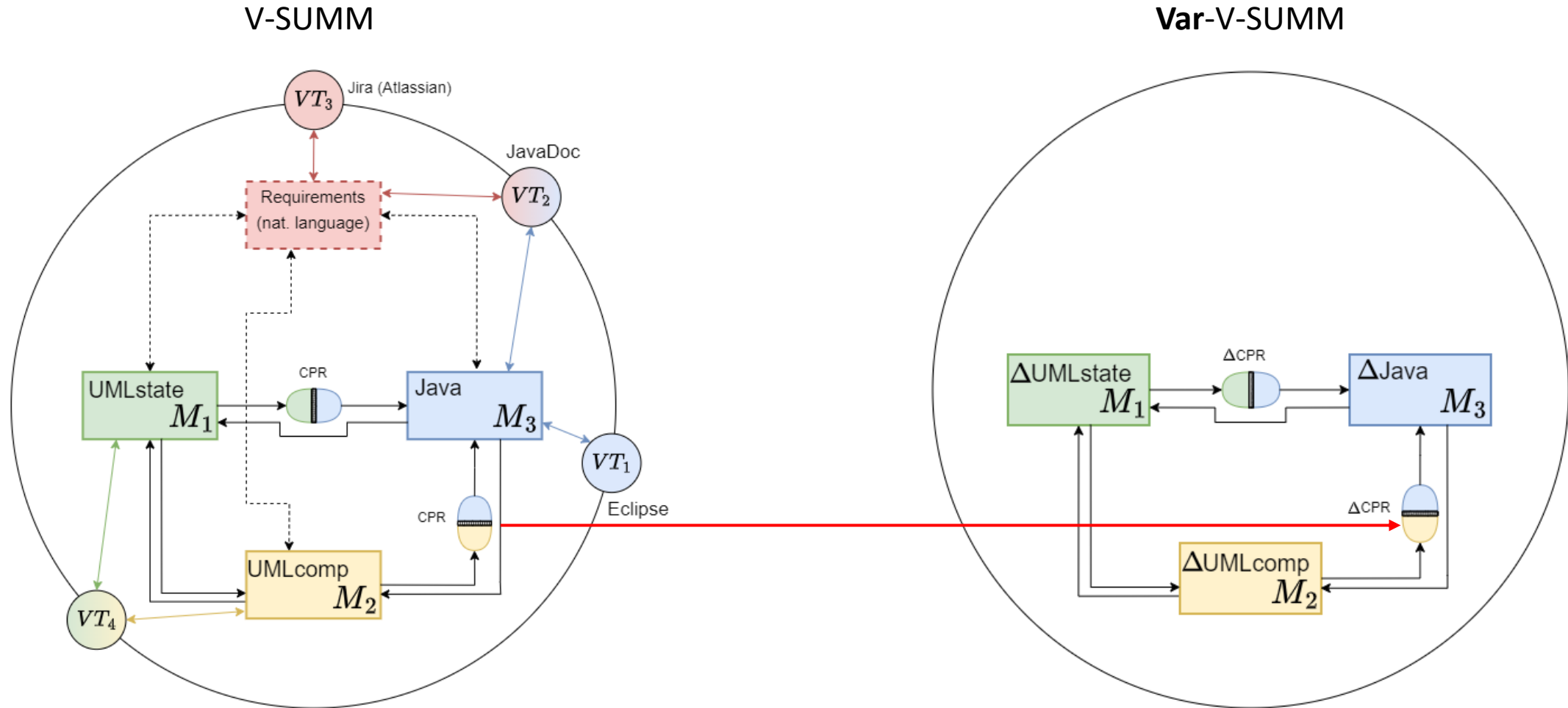
Variability-aware Virtual Single Underlying Metamodel
(**Var-V-SUMM**)



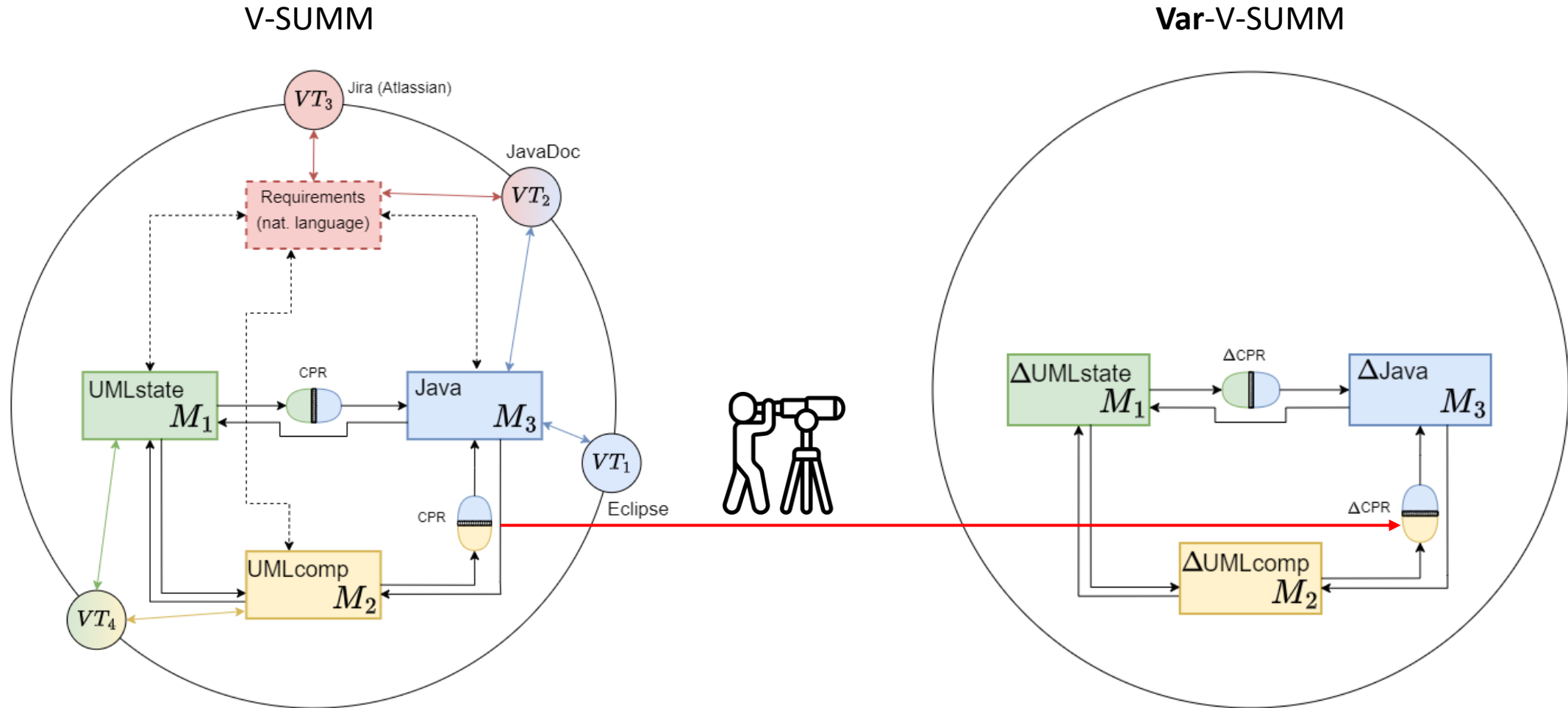
Constructing a Var-V-SUMM from a V-SUMM



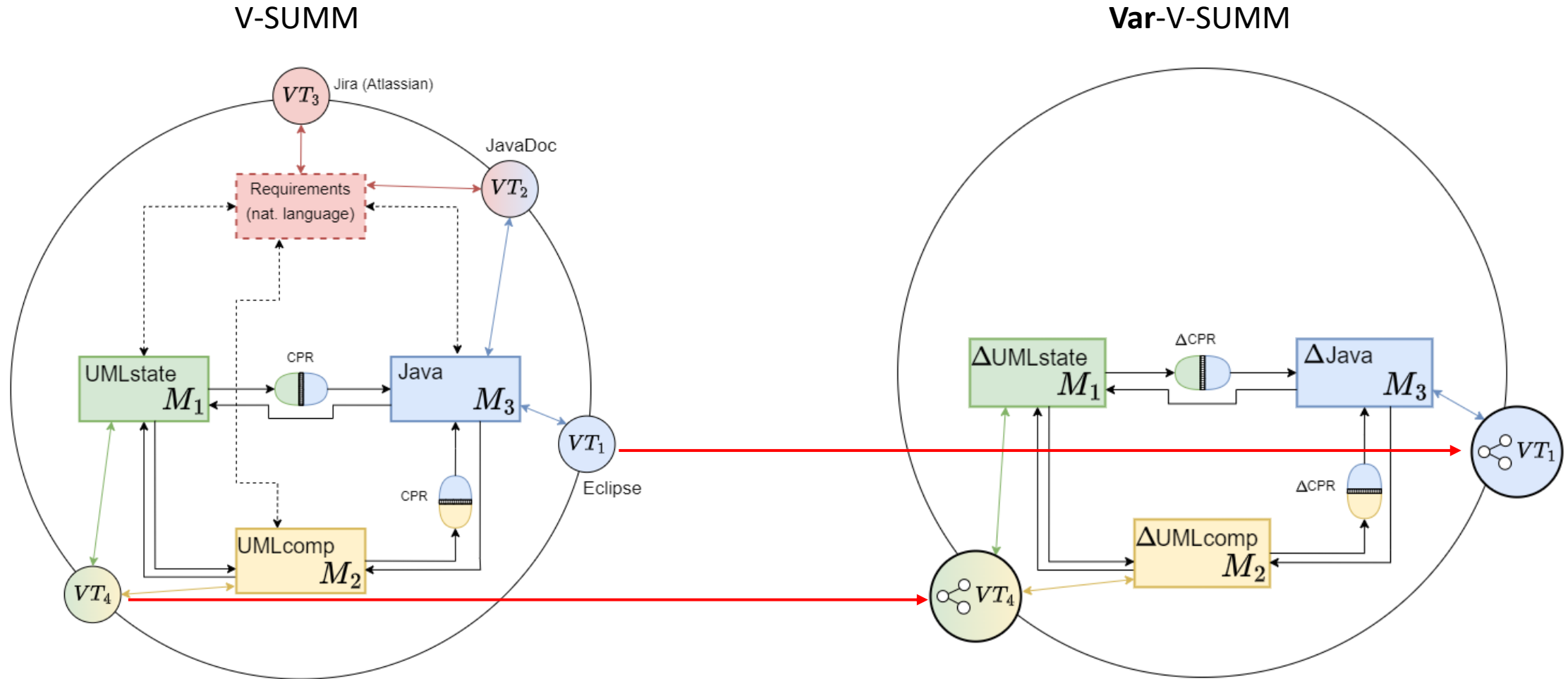
Constructing a Var-V-SUMM from a V-SUMM



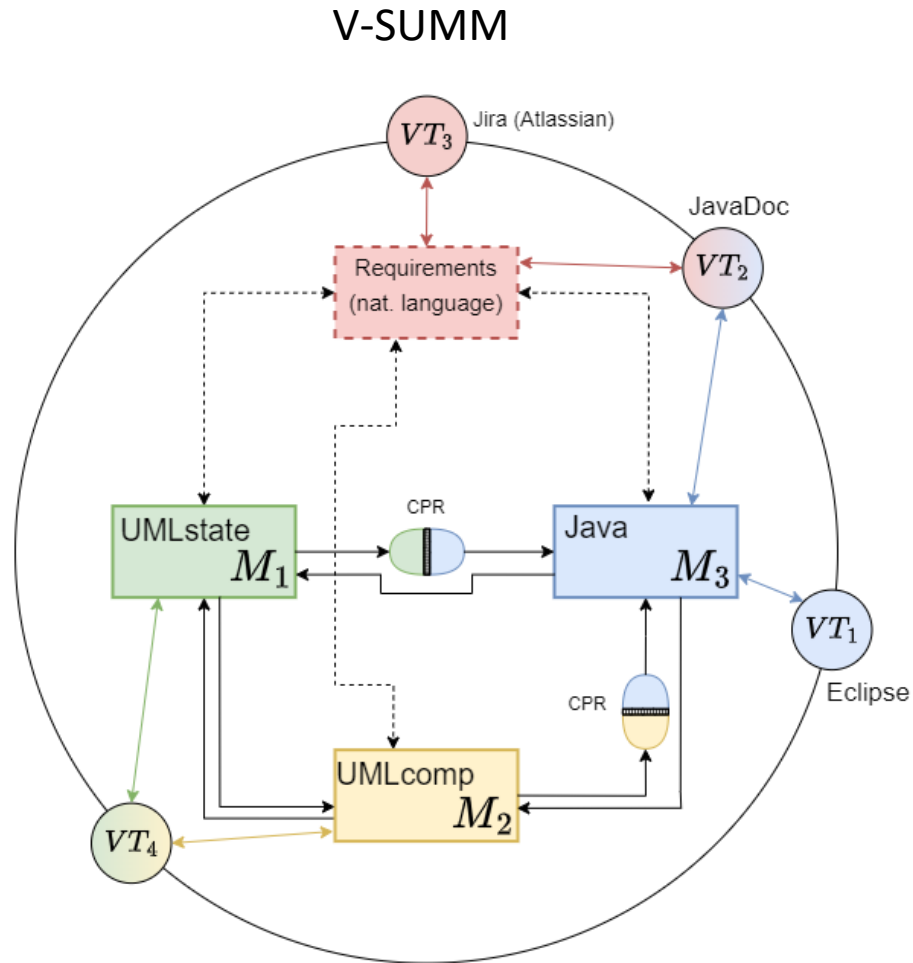
Constructing a Var-V-SUMM from a V-SUMM



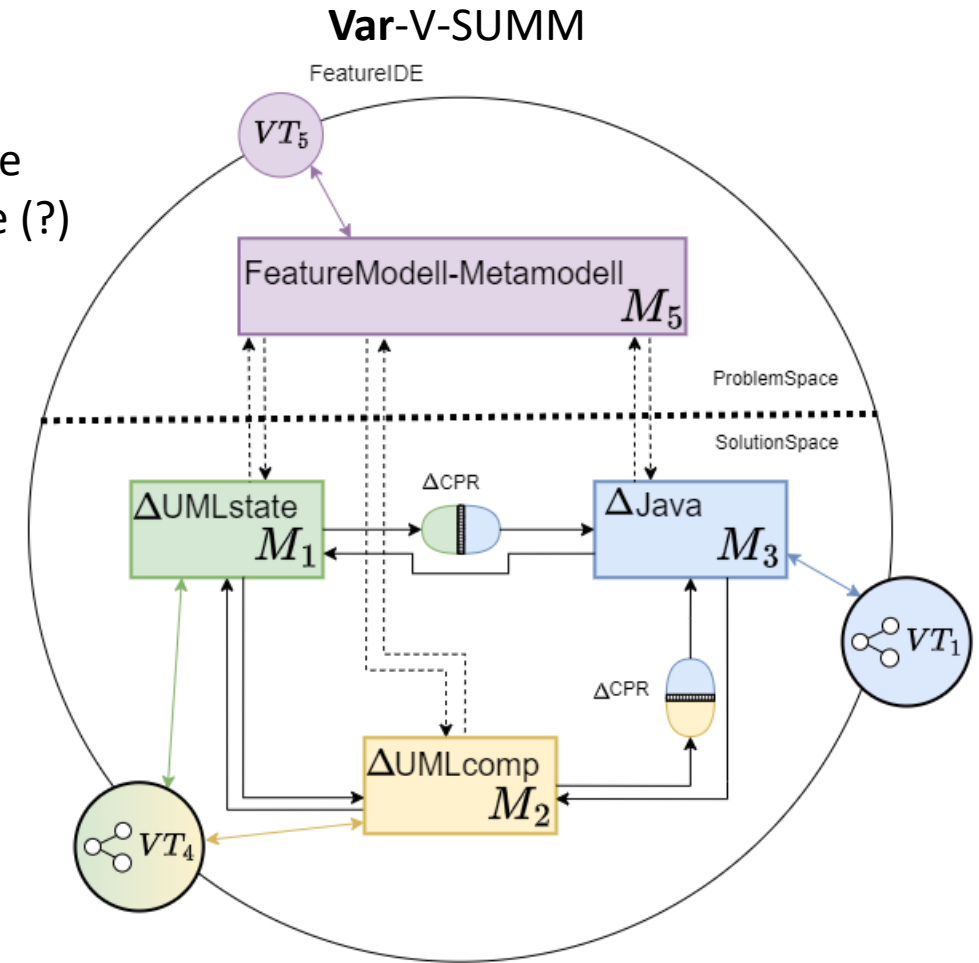
Constructing a Var-V-SUMM from a V-SUMM



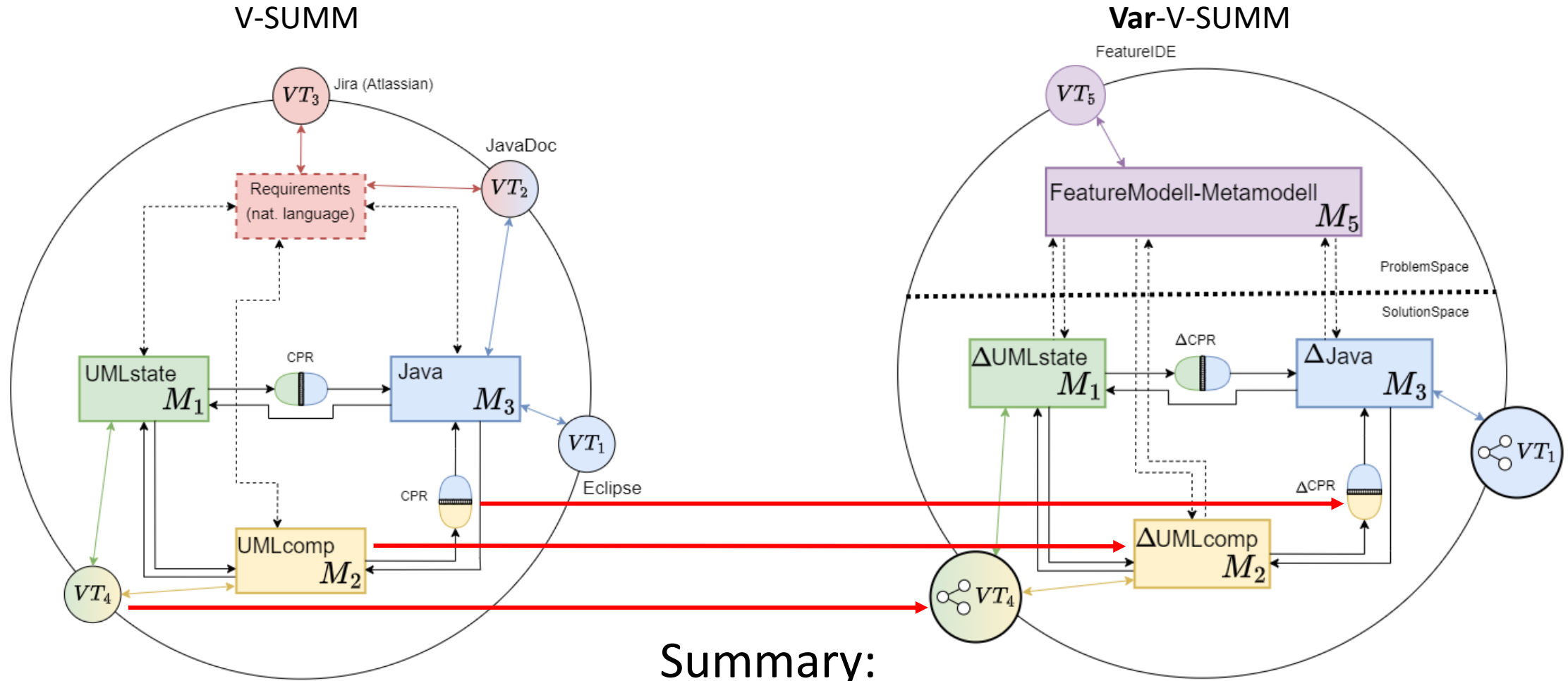
Constructing a Var-V-SUMM from a V-SUMM



Including the Problem Space (?)



How to derive a Var-V-SUMM from a V-SUMM?



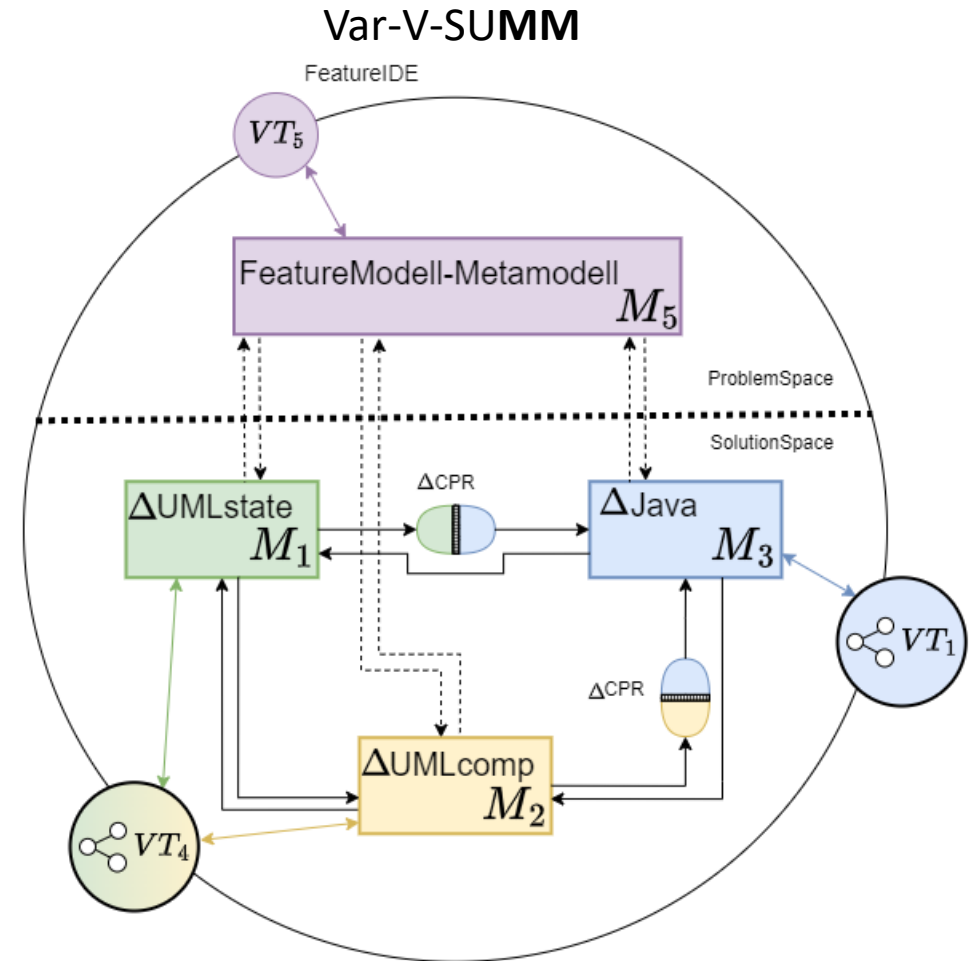
Summary:
3 „conversion steps“

Instantiating the Var-V-SUM



?

instance of →



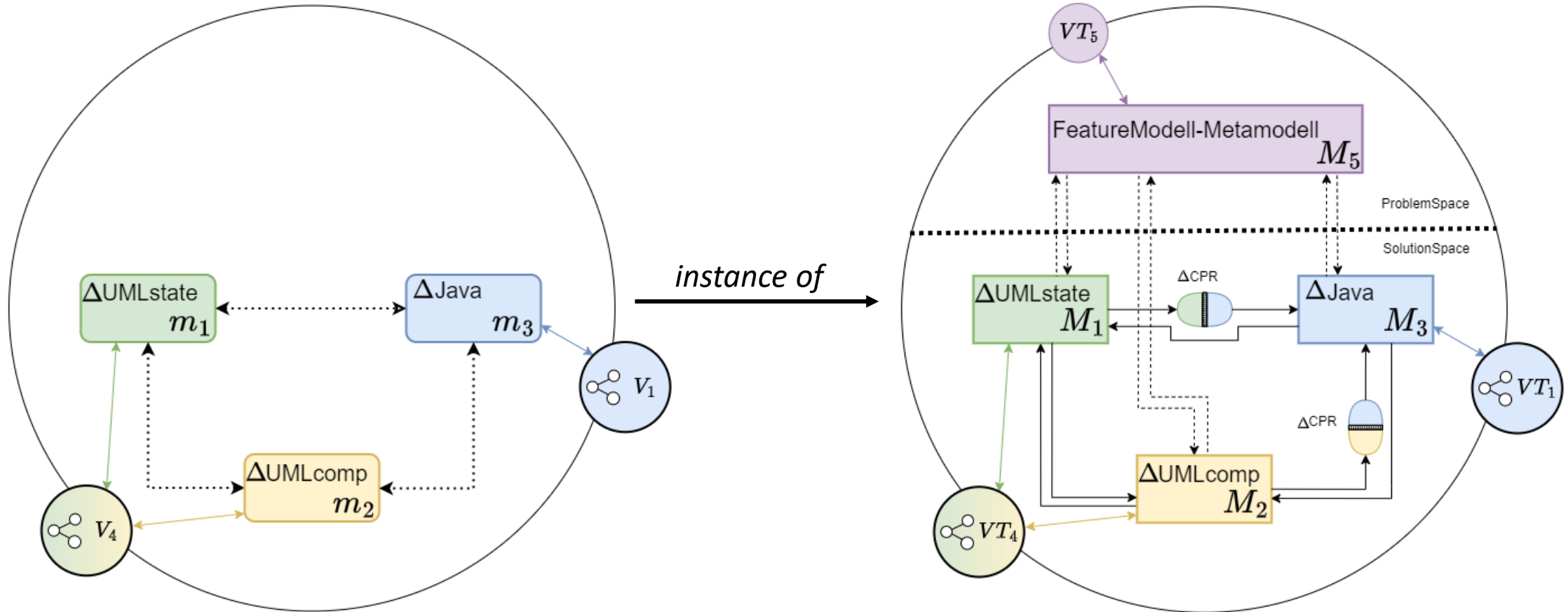
Instantiating the Var-V-SUM



Variability-aware V-SUM
(Var-V-SUM)

Var-V-SUMM

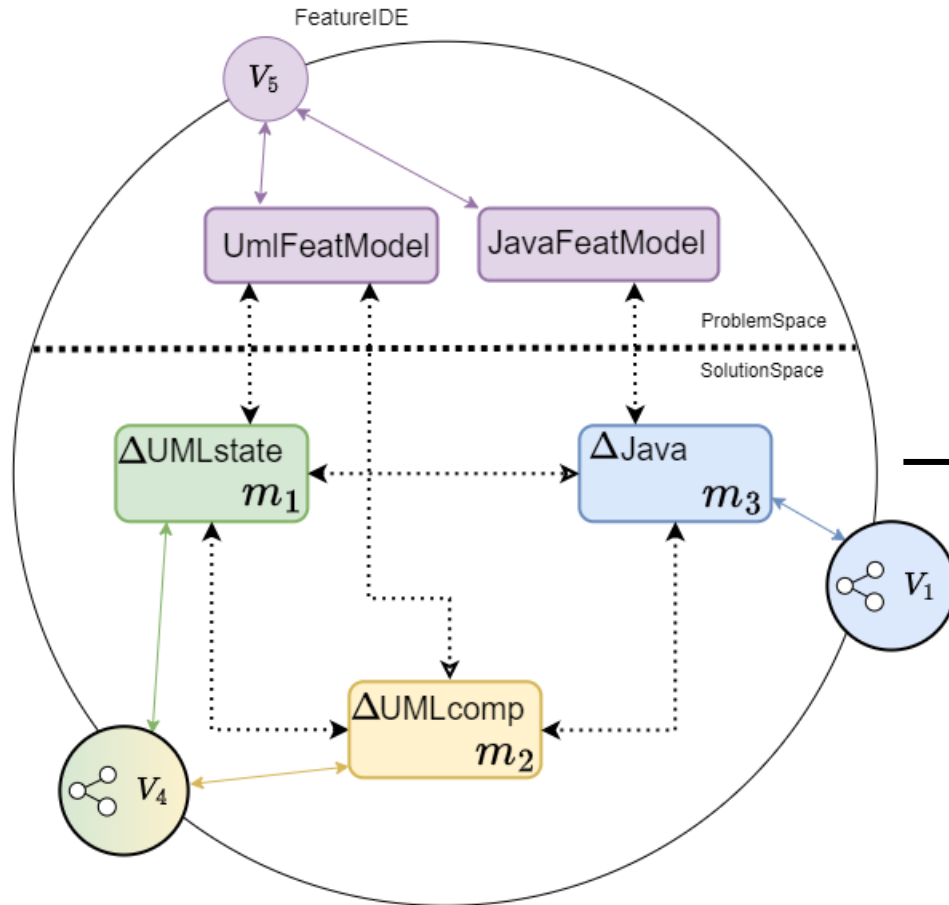
FeatureIDE



Instantiating the Var-V-SUM

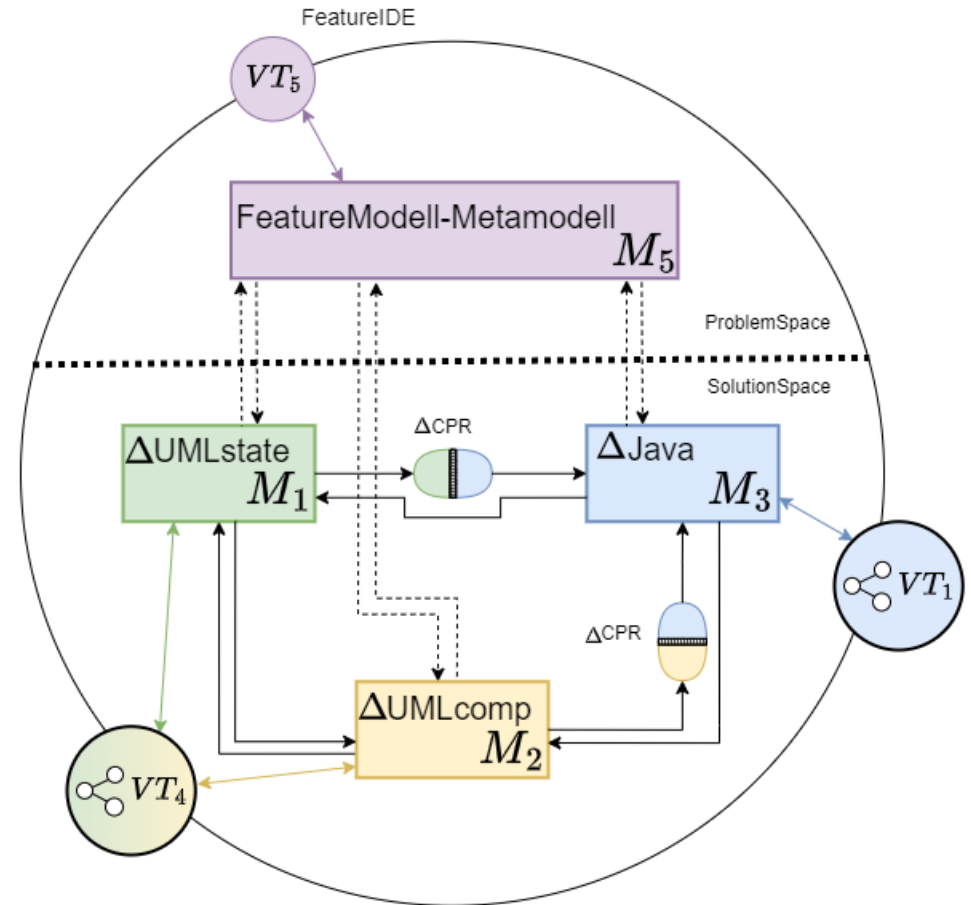


Variability-aware V-SUM
(Var-V-SUM)



instance of

Var-V-SUMM



How to work with a (Var-)V-SU(M)M?



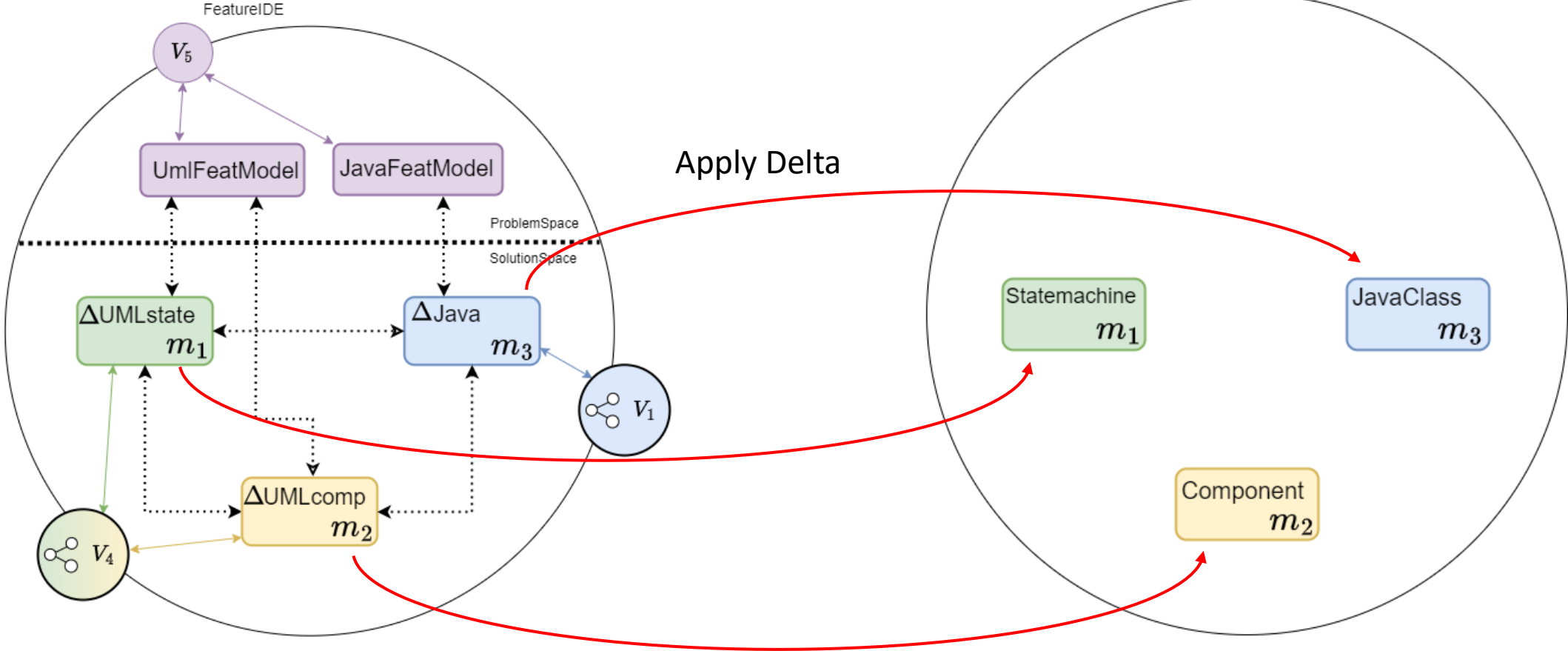
Product-oriented development

Deriving and working on a single product



Var-V-SUM

V-SUM



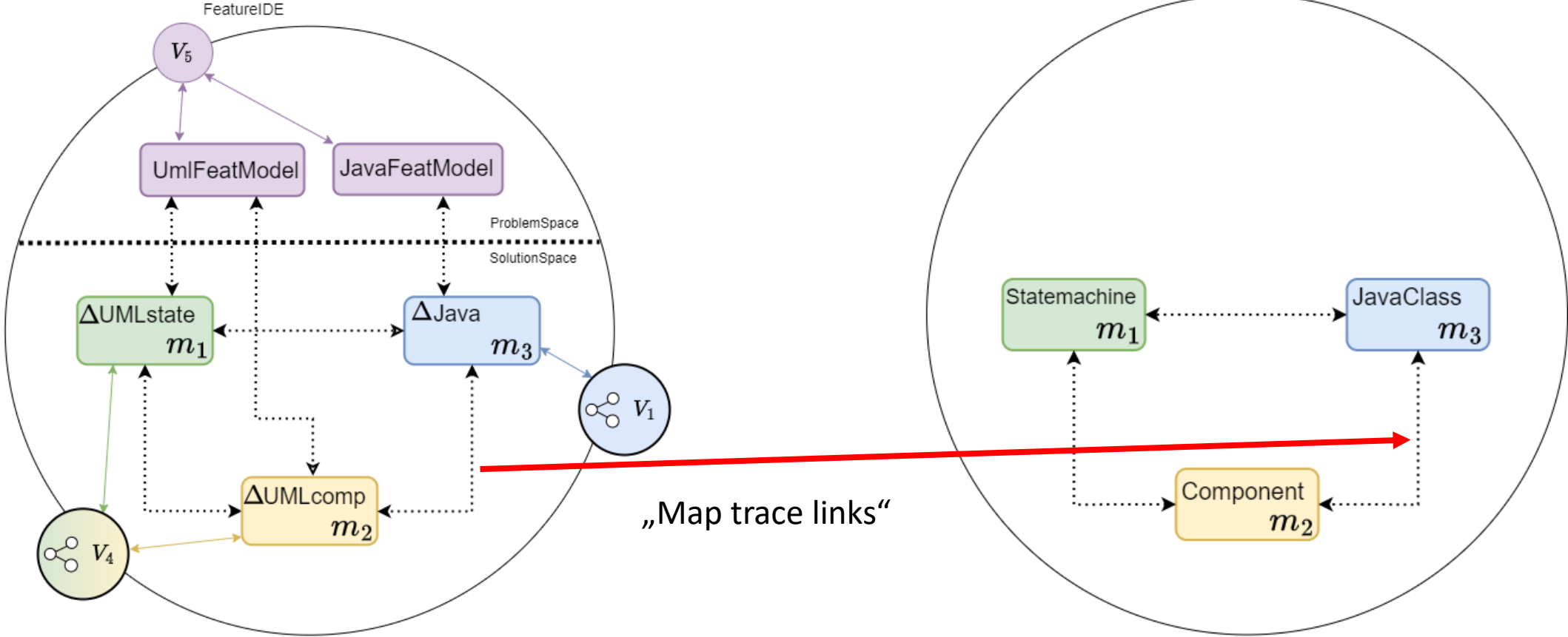
Product-oriented development

Deriving and working on a single product



Var-V-SUM

V-SUM

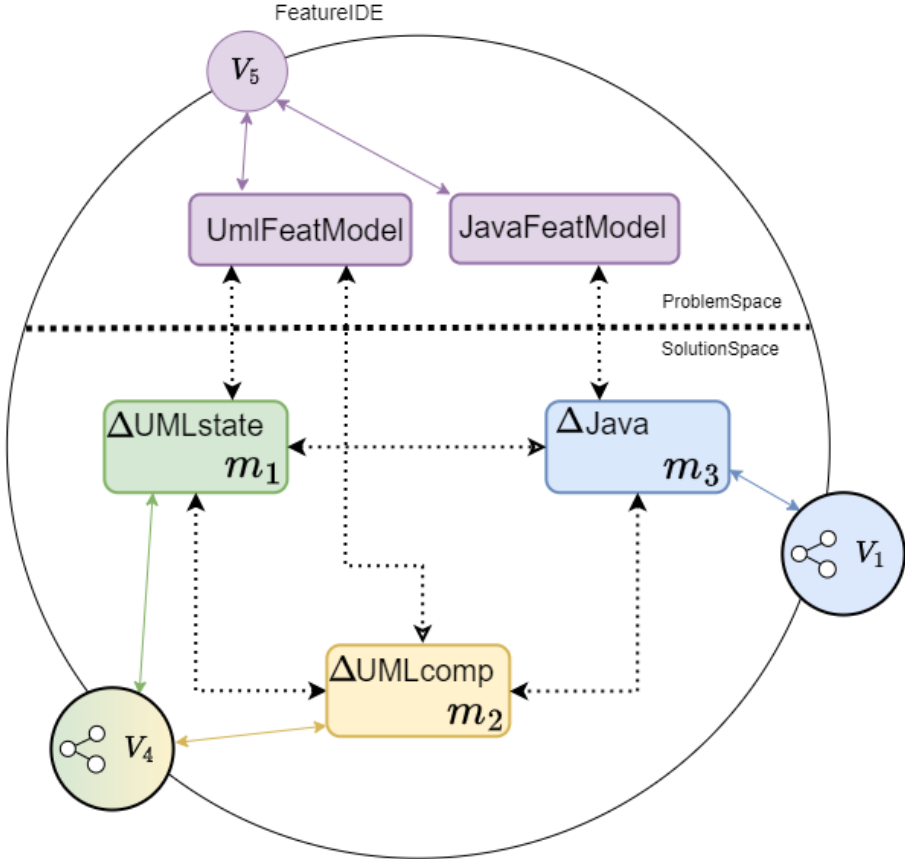


Product-oriented development

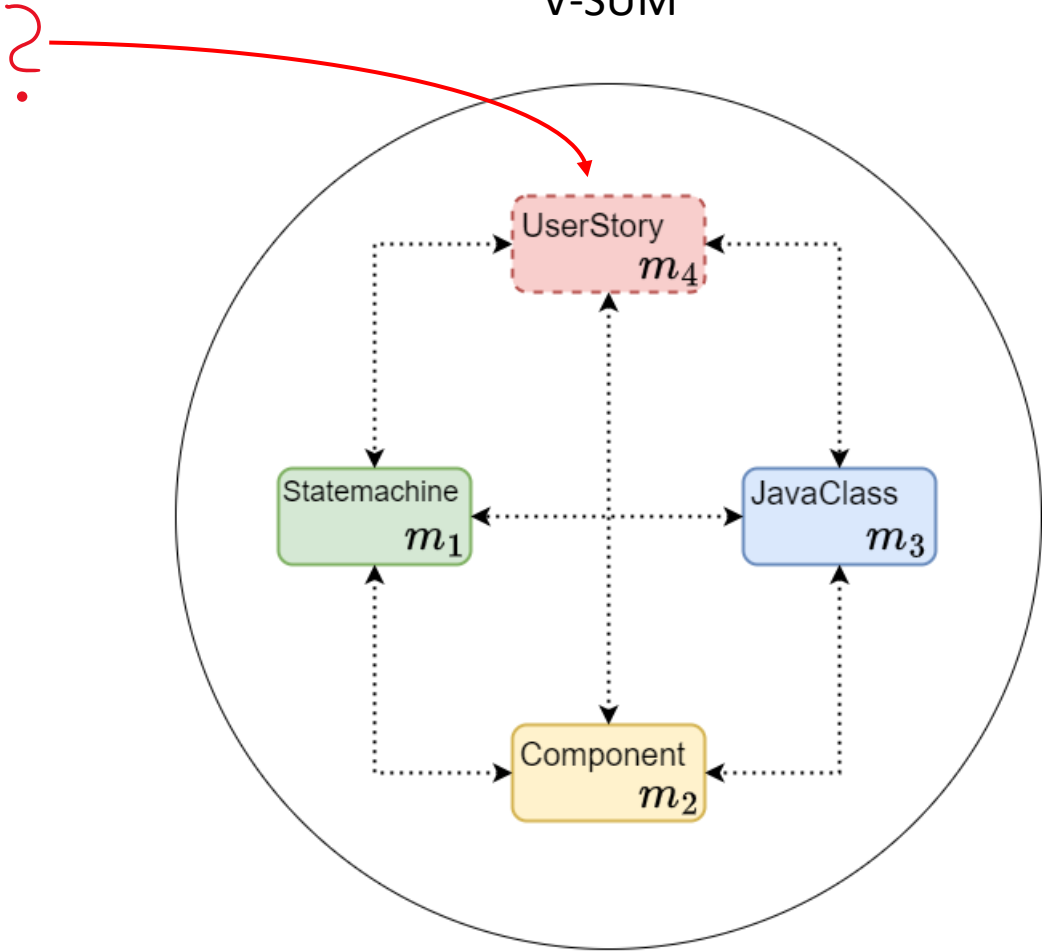
Deriving and working on a single product



Var-V-SUM



V-SUM

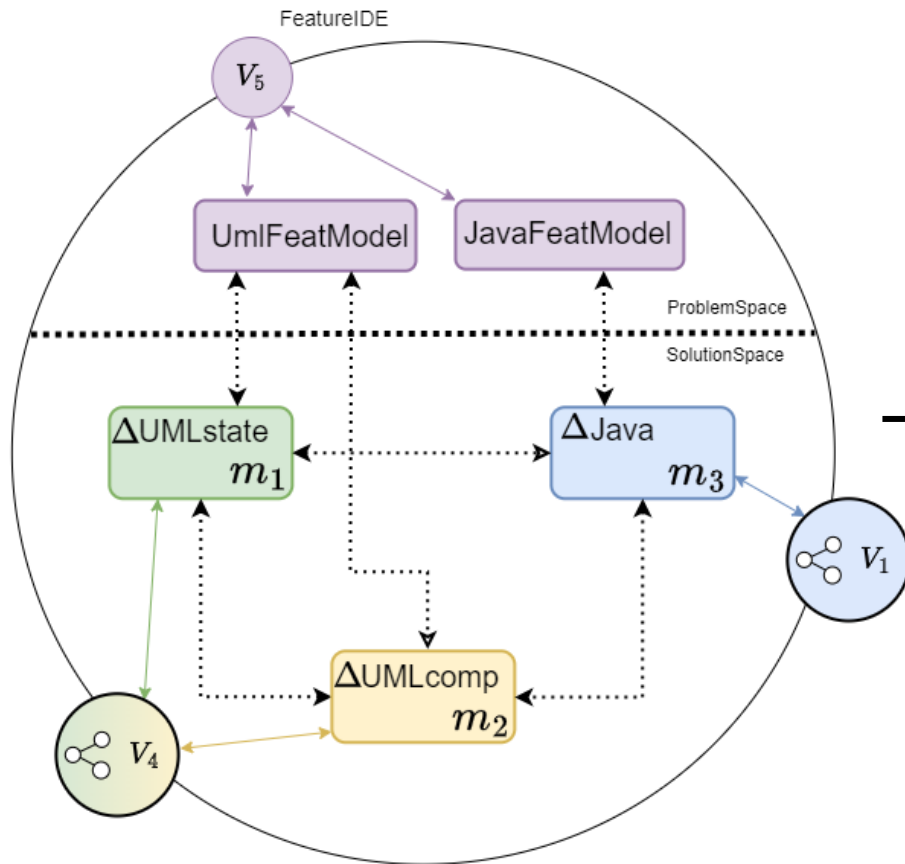


Product-oriented development

Deriving and working on a single product

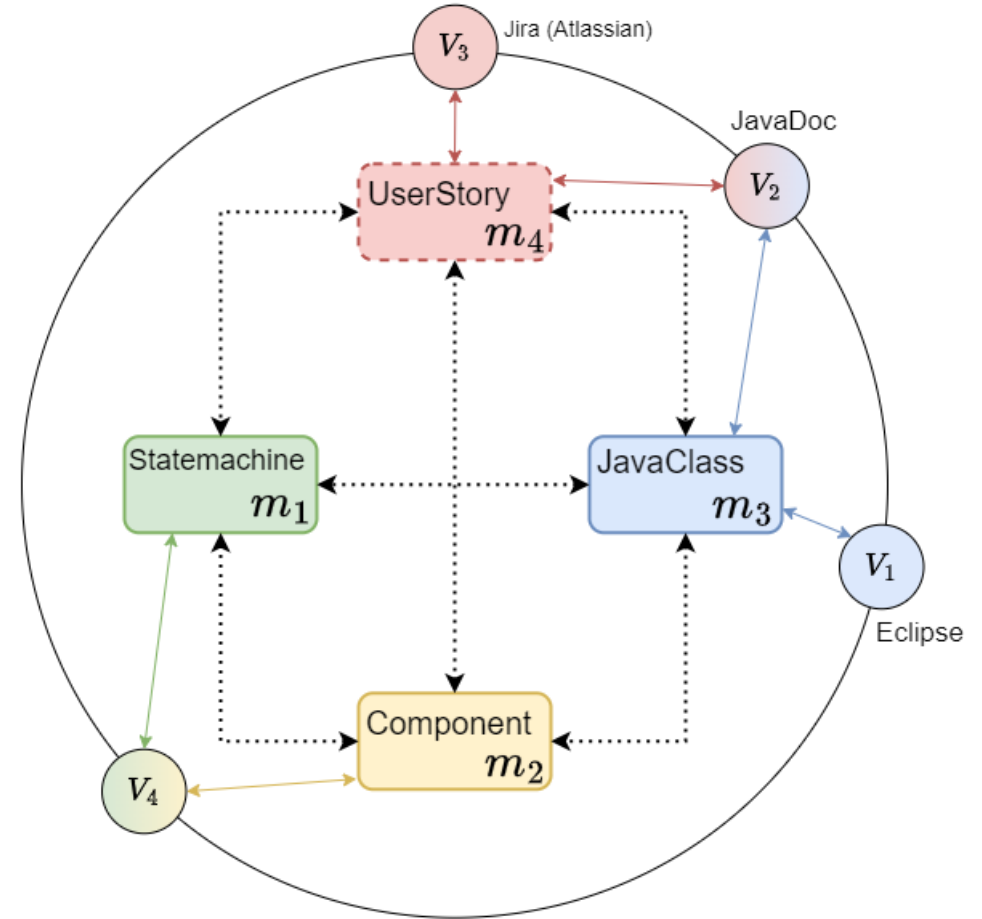


Var-V-SUM



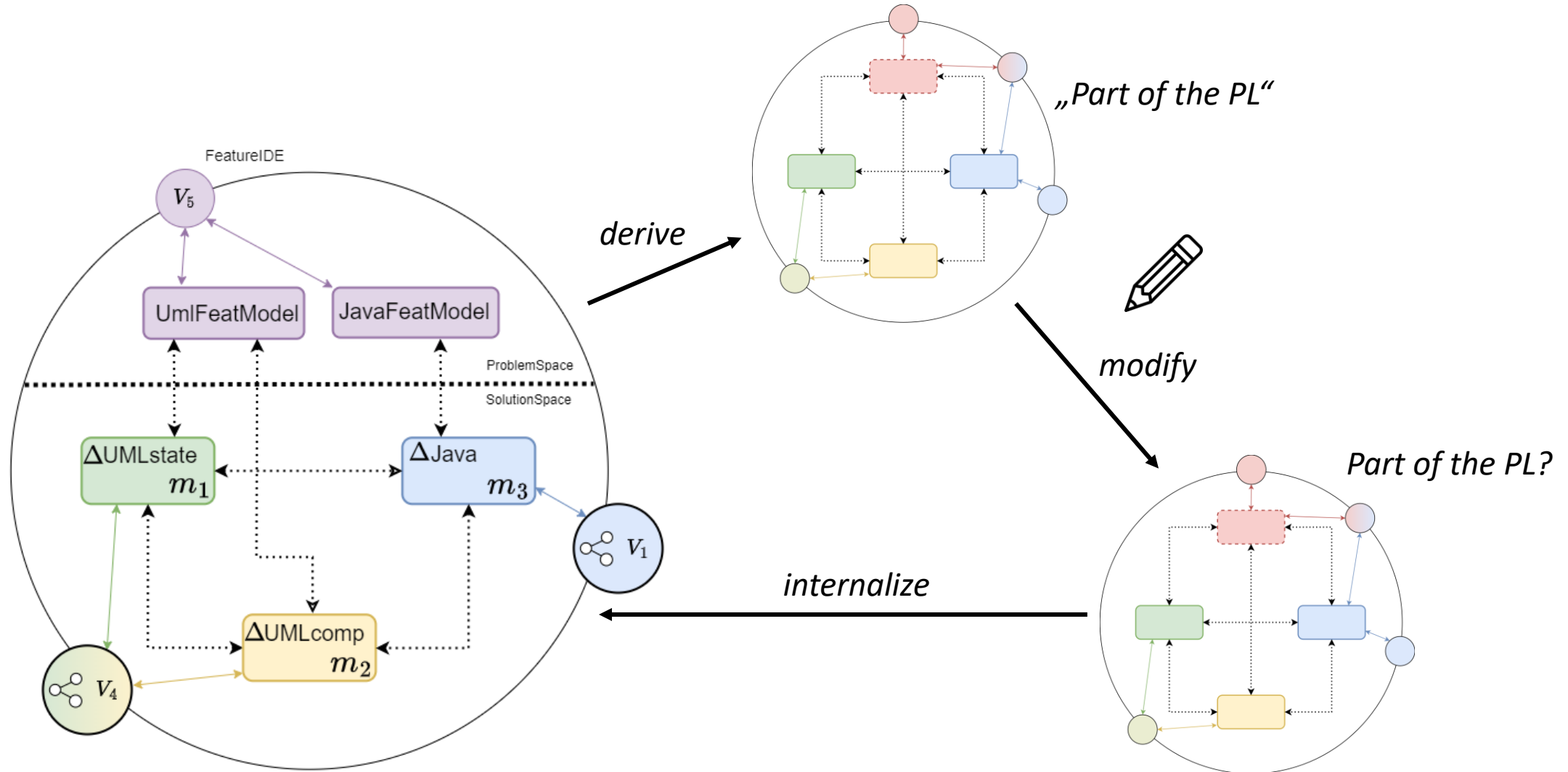
derive

V-SUM



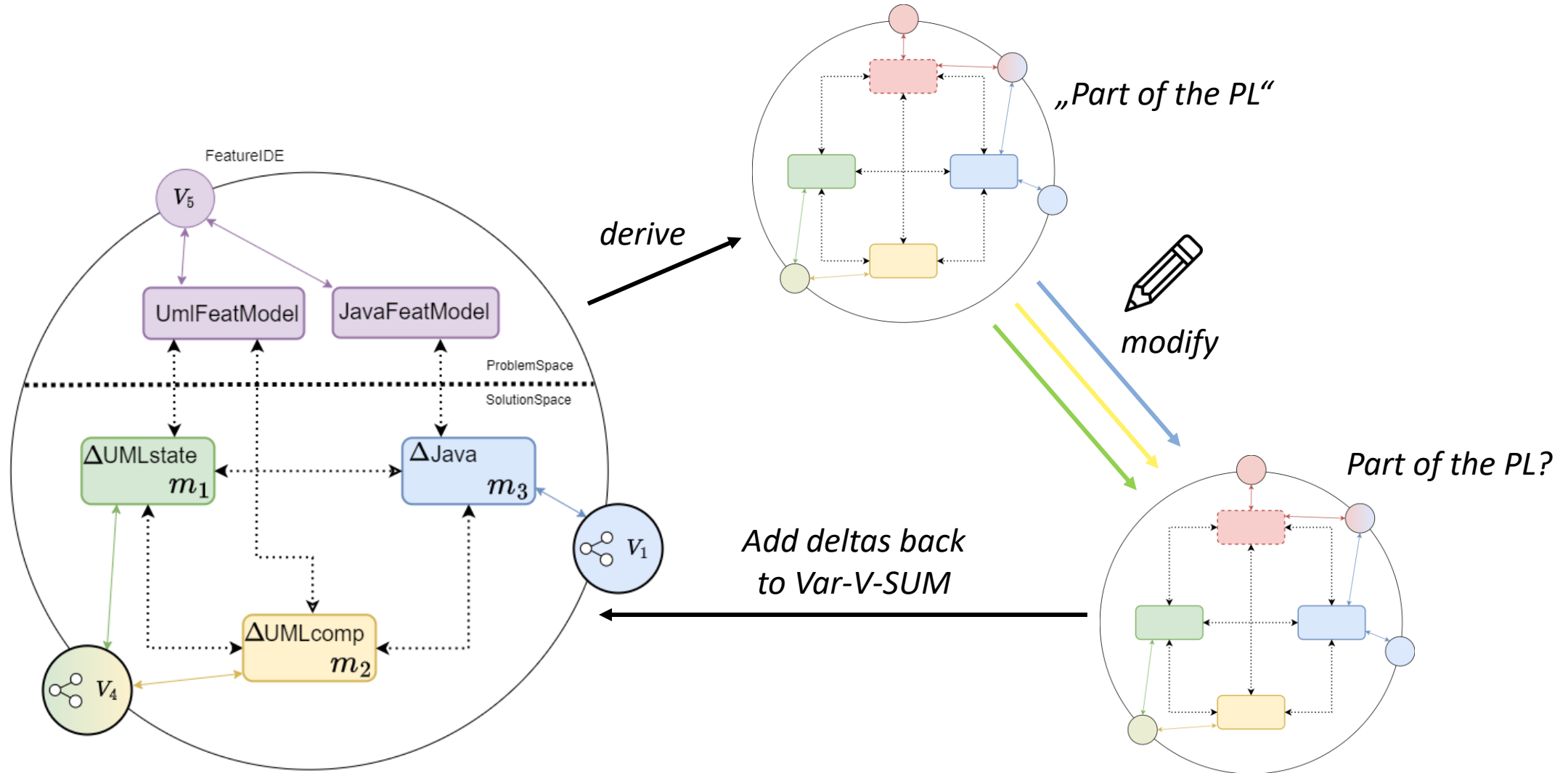
Product-oriented development

Deriving and working on a single product



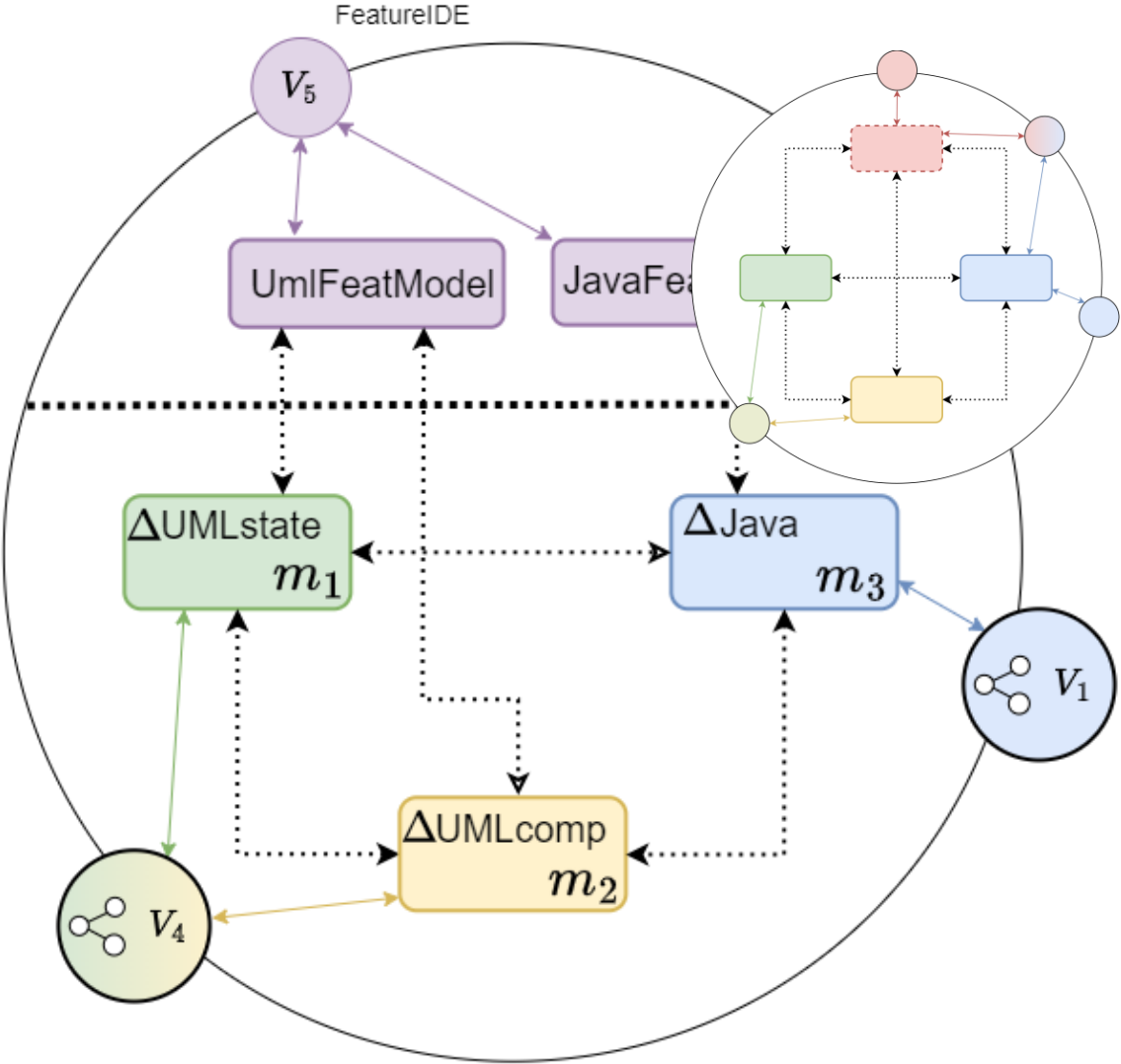
Product-oriented development

Deriving and working on a single product



Product-oriented development

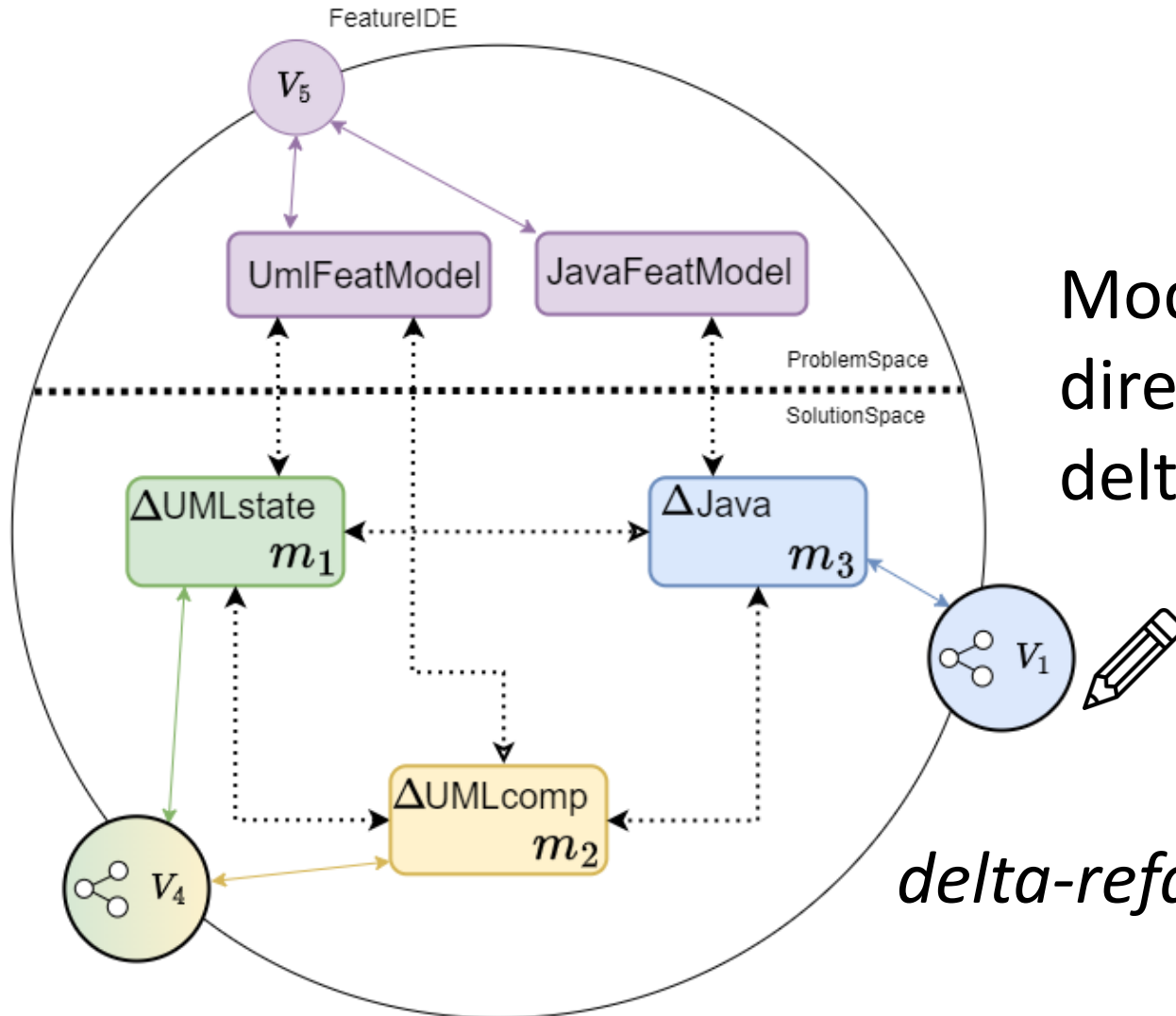
Deriving and working on a single product



The V-SUM as a view of the Var-V-SUM

Plattform-oriented development

Deriving and working on a single product



Modify the product line directly. Delta-CPRs keep the delta-models consistent.

higher-order deltas

delta-refactoring

safe PL evolution

Can all this be better categorized?



Consistency Categories

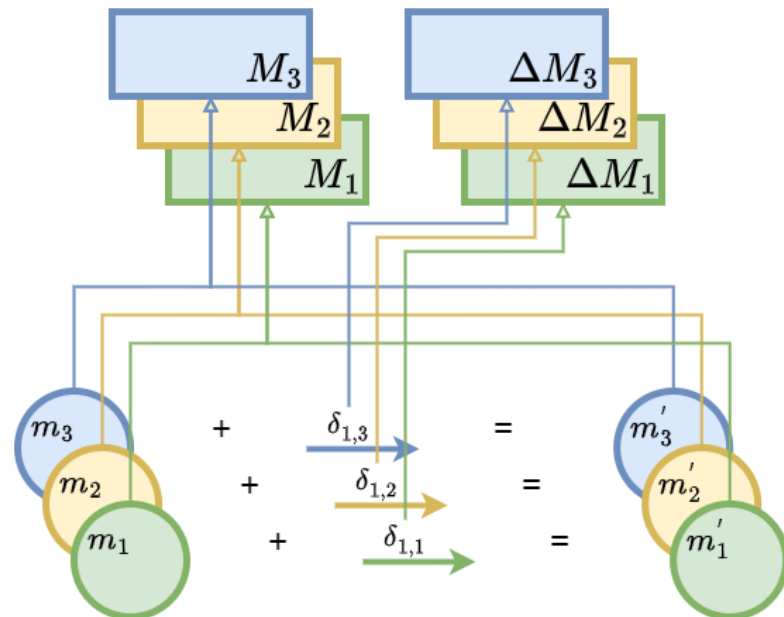


	FeatureModel	Metamodel	Model	DeltaLanguage	DeltaModel
FeatureModel	?				
Metamodel	?	?			
Model	?	?	?		
DeltaLanguage	?	?	?	?	
DeltaModel	?	?	?	?	?

Consistency Categories



	FeatureModel	Metamodel	Model	DeltaLanguage	DeltaModel
FeatureModel	?				
Metamodel	?	?			
Model	?	<i>instance of</i>	?		
DeltaLanguage	?	?	?	?	
DeltaModel	?	?	?	<i>instance of</i>	?

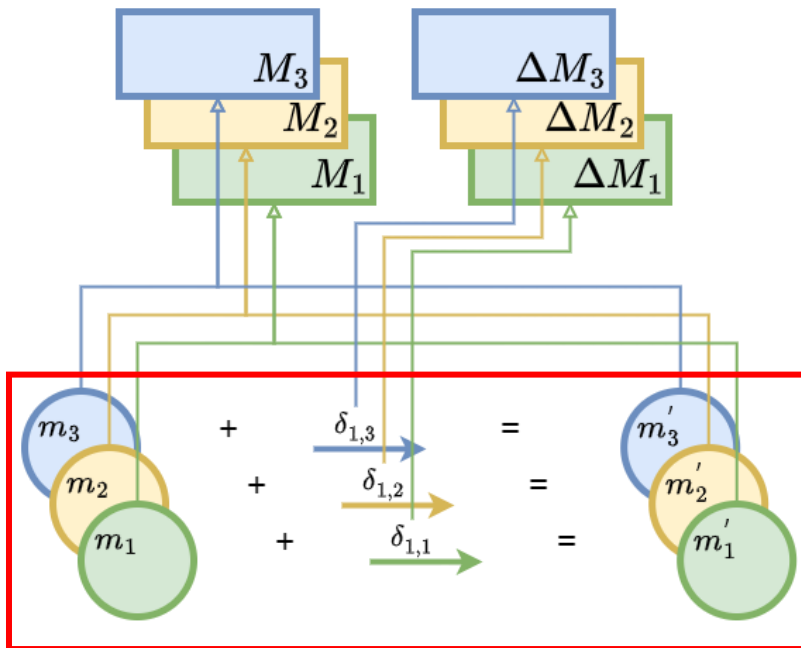


1. How is consistency defined?
2. How can consistency established initially?
3. How can consistency preserved if artifacts change due to variability?

Consistency Categories



	FeatureModel	Metamodel	Model	DeltaLanguage	DeltaModel
FeatureModel	?				
Metamodel	?	?			
Model	?	<i>instance of</i>	?		
DeltaLanguage	?	?	?	?	
DeltaModel	?	?	apply-to/derive	<i>instance of</i>	?

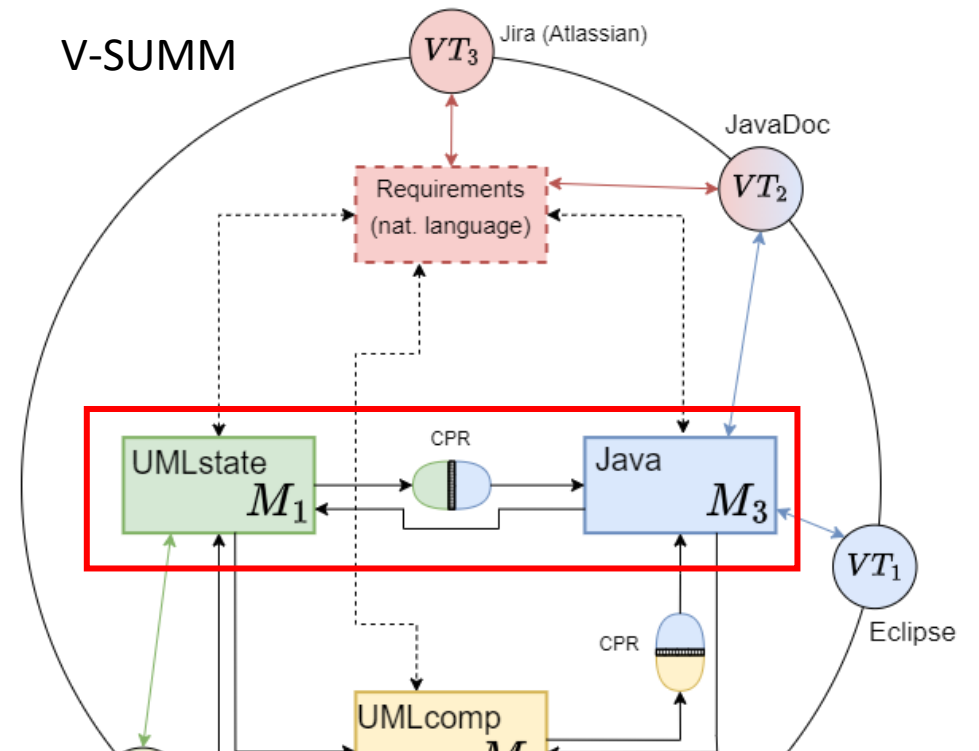
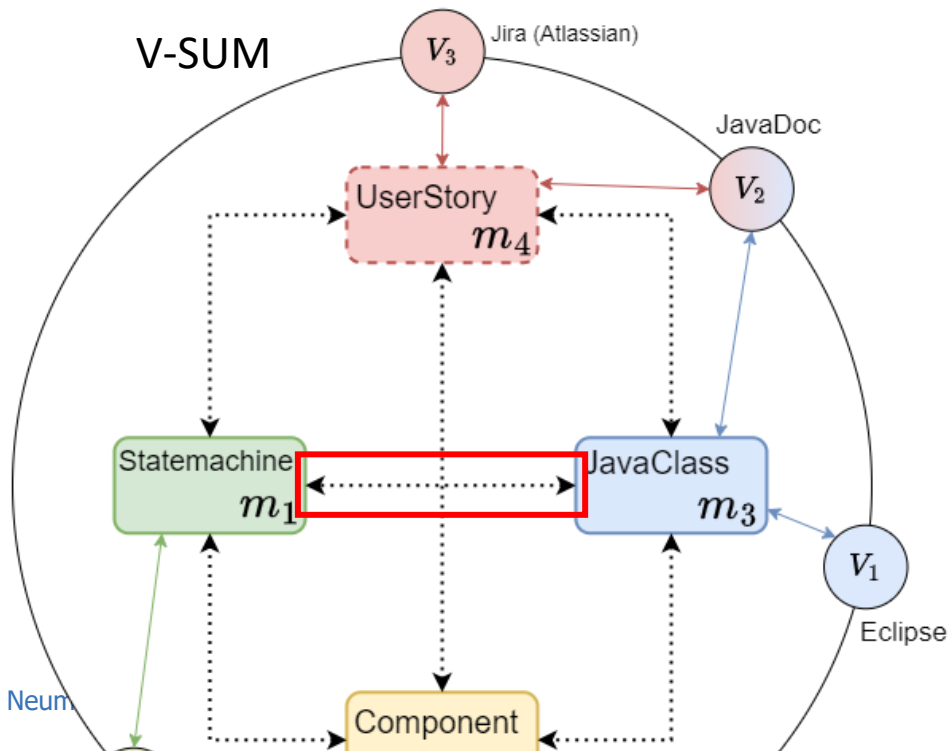


1. How is consistency defined?
2. How can consistency established initially?
3. How can consistency preserved if artifacts change due to variability?

Consistency Categories



	FeatureModel	Metamodel	Model	DeltaLanguage	DeltaModel
FeatureModel	?				
Metamodel	?	Product-CPR			
Model	?	instance of	Trace Links		
DeltaLanguage	?	?	?	?	
DeltaModel	?	?	apply-to/derive	instance of	?

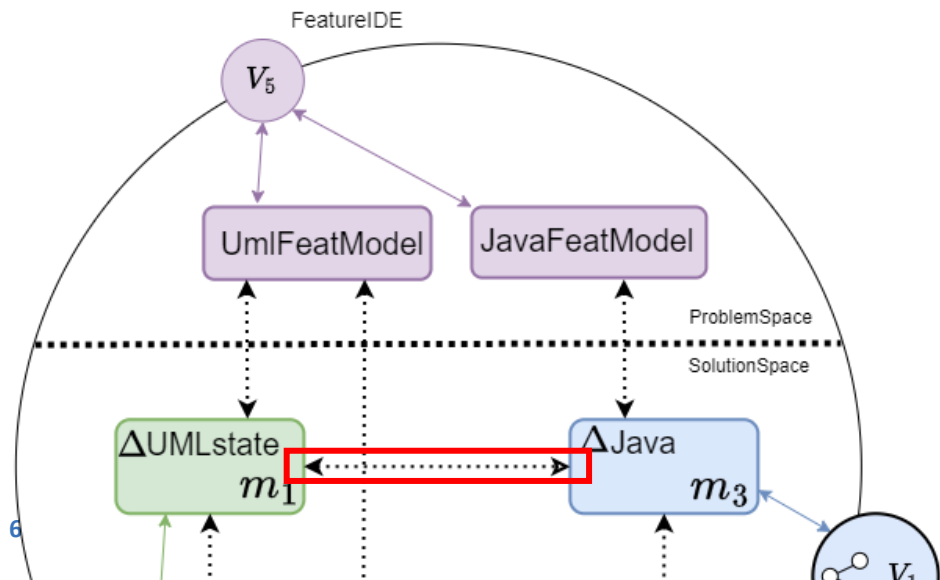


Consistency Categories

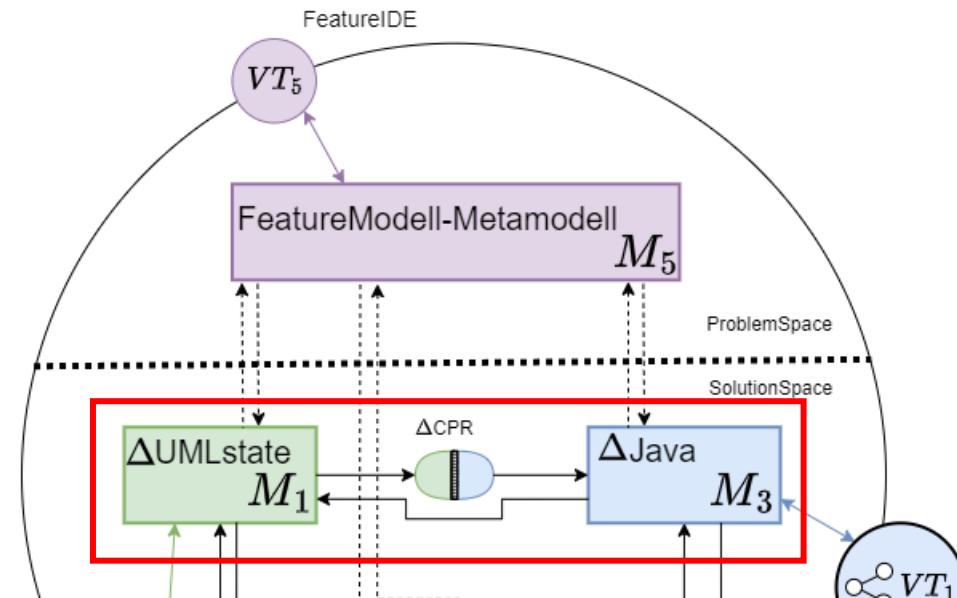


	FeatureModel	Metamodel	Model	DeltaLanguage	DeltaModel
FeatureModel	?				
Metamodel	?	Product-CPR			
Model	?	<i>instance of</i>	TraceLinks		
DeltaLanguage	?	?	?	Delta-CPR	
DeltaModel	?	?	apply-to/derive	<i>instance of</i>	TraceLinks, Order

Var-V-SUM



Var-V-SUMM

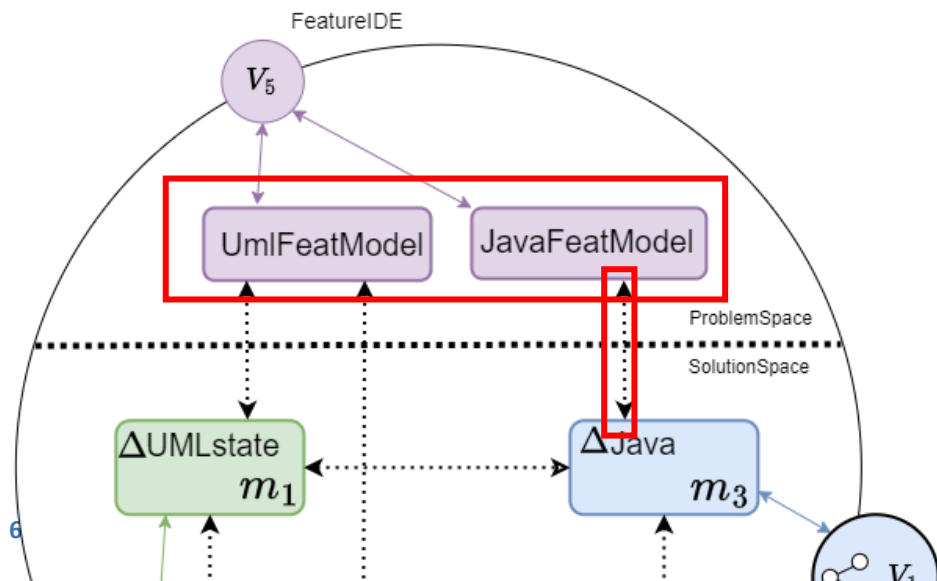


Consistency Categories

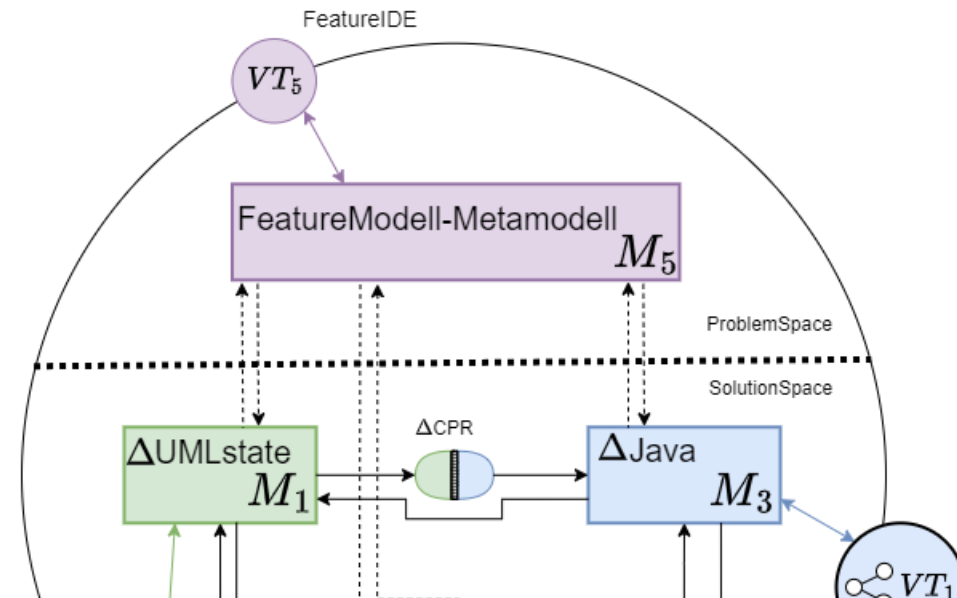


	FeatureModel	Metamodel	Model	DeltaLanguage	DeltaModel
FeatureModel	Implicit Constraints				
Metamodel	?	Product-CPR			
Model	?	instance of	TraceLinks		
DeltaLanguage	?	?	?	Delta-CPR	
DeltaModel	FeatureMapping	?	apply-to/derive	instance of	TraceLinks, Order

Var-V-SUM



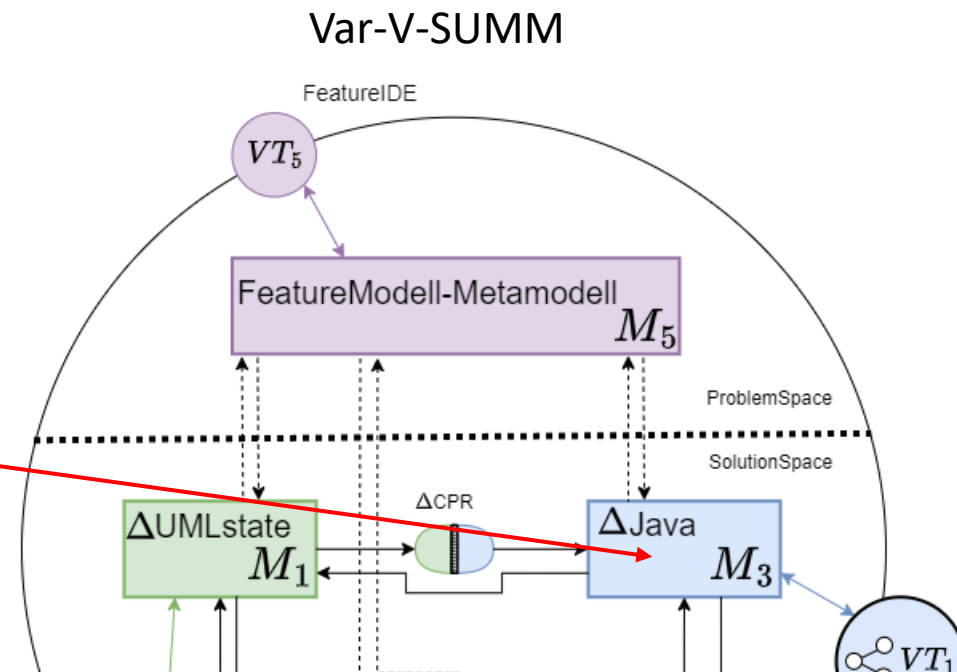
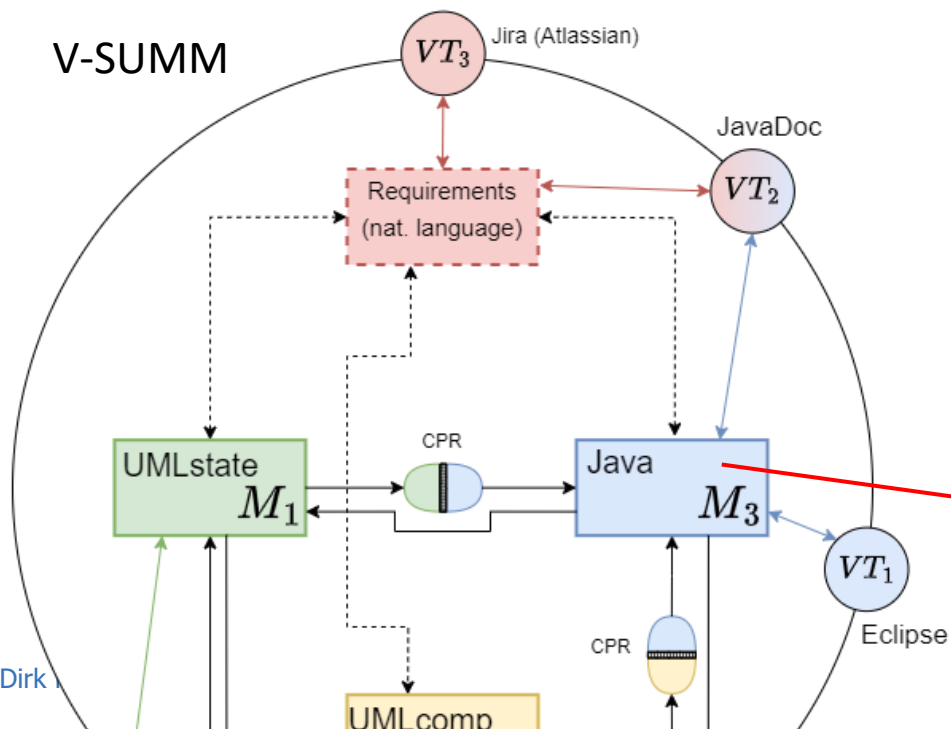
Var-V-SUMM



Consistency Categories



	FeatureModel	Metamodel	Model	DeltaLanguage	DeltaModel
FeatureModel	Implicit Constraints				
Metamodel	?	Product-CPR			
Model	?	<i>instance of</i>	TraceLinks		
DeltaLanguage	?	Synthesis	?	Delta-CPR	
DeltaModel	FeatureMapping	?	apply-to/derive	<i>instance of</i>	TraceLinks, Order



„The 3 pillars of my research“



How to combine variability and consistency? (Var-V-SUM)

How to work with a Var-V-SUM...

- product-oriented?
- plattform-oriented?

How can consistency be categorized? (Table)

„The 3 pillars of my research“



How to combine variability and consistency? (Var-V-SUM)

How to work with a Var-V-SUM...

- product-oriented?
- plattform-oriented?

How can consistency in variable systems be categorized? (Table)

My Questions for you

Which aspects are interesting?

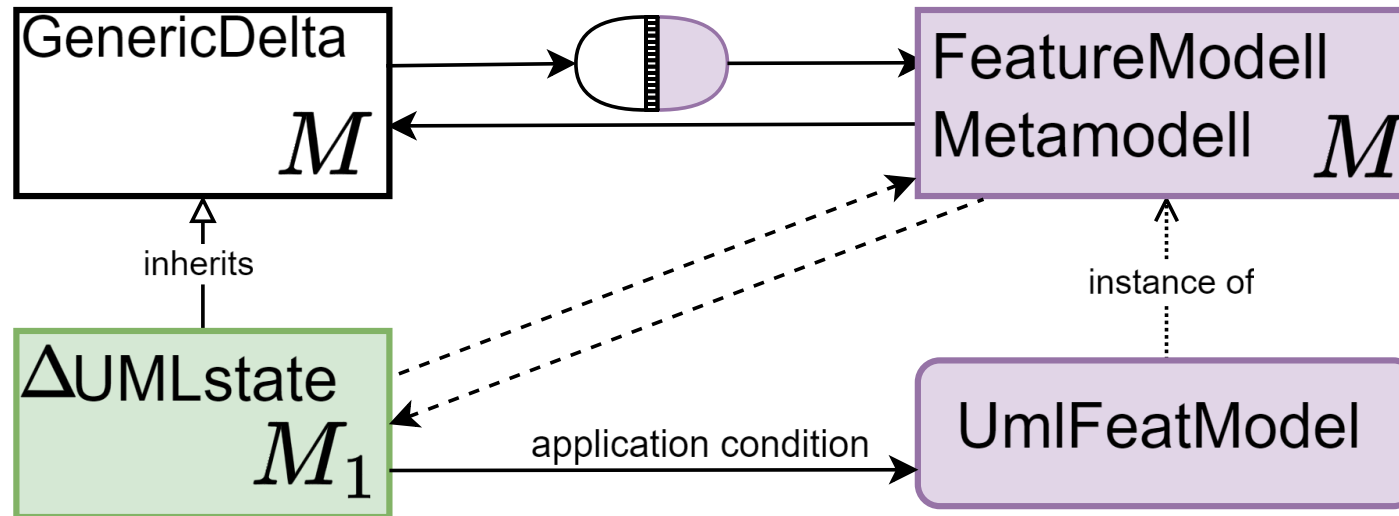
What similar approaches or solutions do you know from the problem space of SPLE that could be applied here?

Was there something that you consider impossible or more complex than shown?

Thank you! - Appendix



Connection FeatureModel & Deltas



Example CPR



```
import "statemachine_metamodel.ecore" as STMA;
import "component_metamodel.ecore" as COMP;
reaction TransitionAdded {
    after adding to STMA::Region[transitions]
    call addPort(affectedObject, newValue)
}
routine addPort(STMA::Region region, STMA::Transition trans){
}
}
```

Example CPR



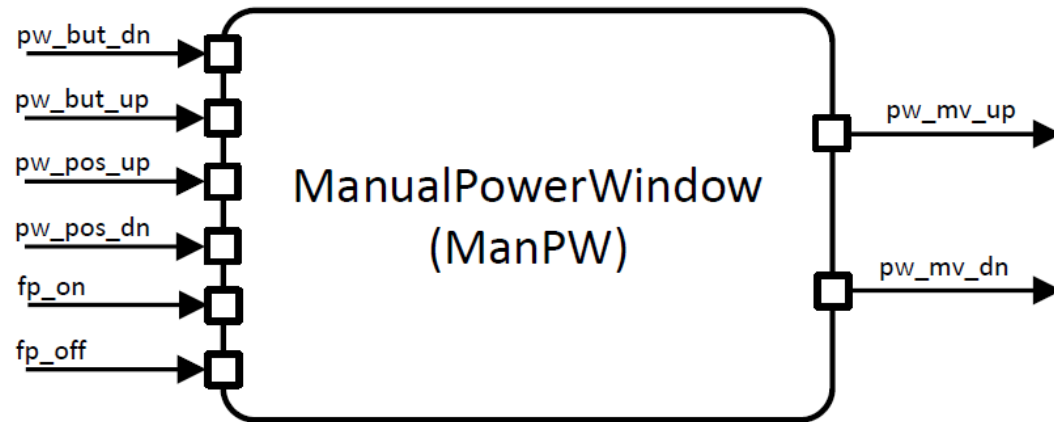
```
import "statemachine_metamodel.ecore" as STMA;
import "component_metamodel.ecore" as COMP;
reaction TransitionAdded {
    after adding to STMA::Region[transitions]
    call addPort(affectedObject, newValue)
}
routine addPort(STMA::Region region, STMA::Transition trans){
    match {
        assert(trans.trigger != null);
        val comp = retrieve COMP::Component corresponding to region;
        assert(comp.hasNoInput(trans.trigger));
    }
}
```

Example CPR

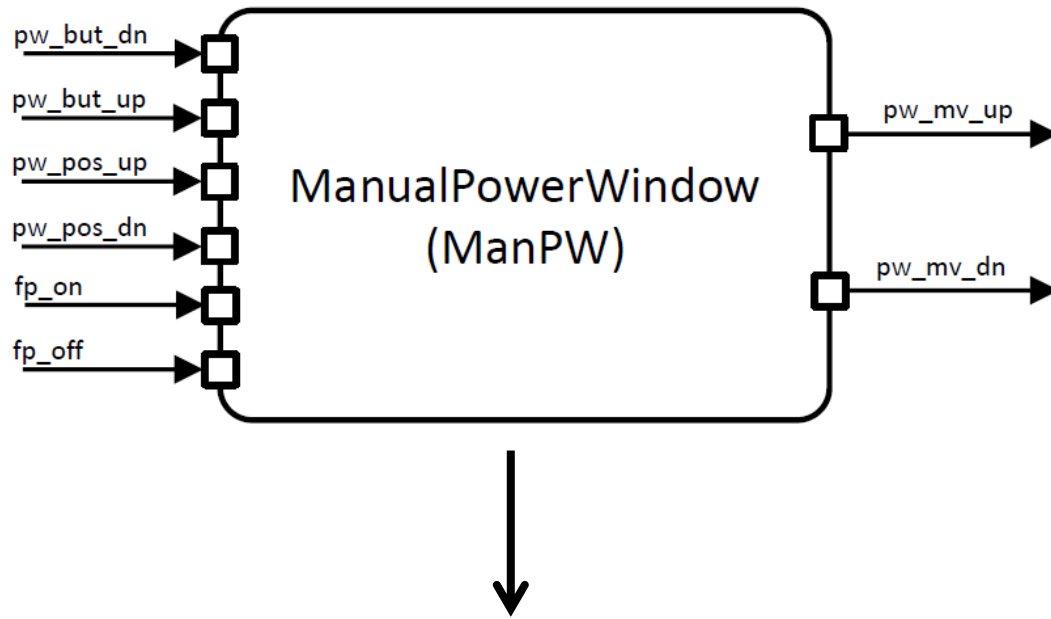


```
import "statemachine_metamodel.ecore" as STMA;
import "component_metamodel.ecore" as COMP;
reaction TransitionAdded {
    after adding to STMA::Region[transitions]
    call addPort(affectedObject, newValue)
}
routine addPort(STMA::Region region, STMA::Transition trans){
    match {
        assert(trans.trigger != null);
        val comp = retrieve COMP::Component corresponding to region;
        assert(comp.hasNoInput(trans.trigger));
    }
    update {
        val newPort = new COMP::Port(trans.signal);
        comp.inputPorts.add(newPort);
    }
}
```

Example Delta



Example Delta

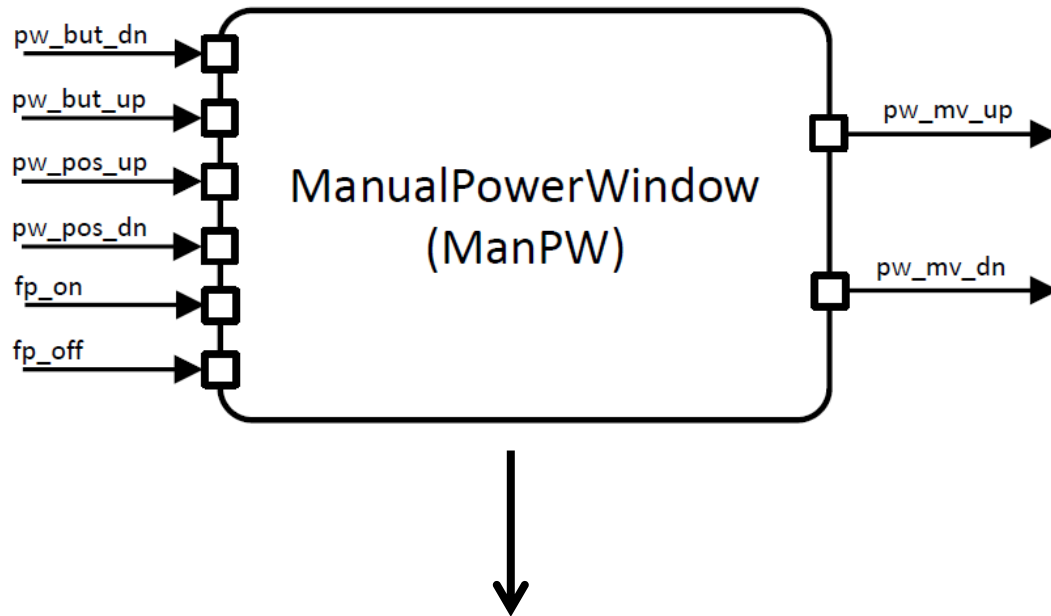


ComponentDelta: Component_PW_Man2Auto {

```
    rem_connector(cnt1)
    rem_connector(cnt2)
    rem_port(p1)
    rem_port(p2)
    rem_signal(pw_mv_up)
    rem_signal(pw_mv_dn)
```

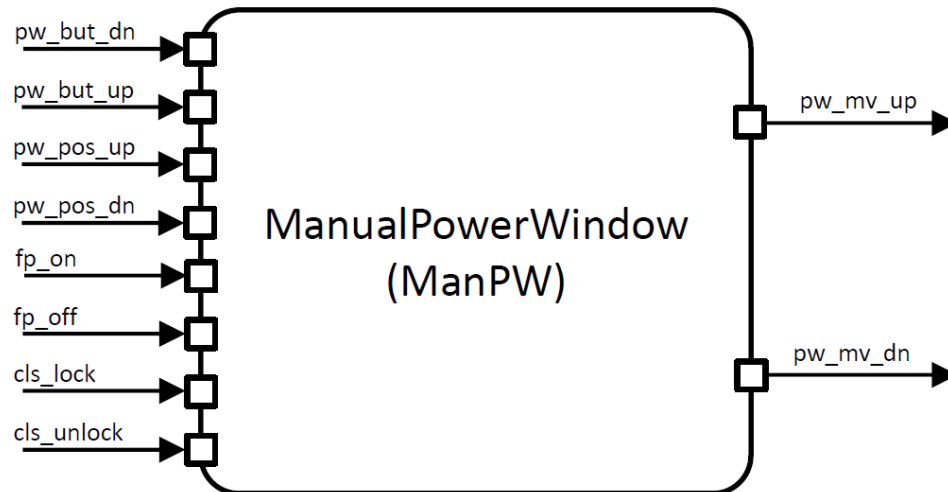
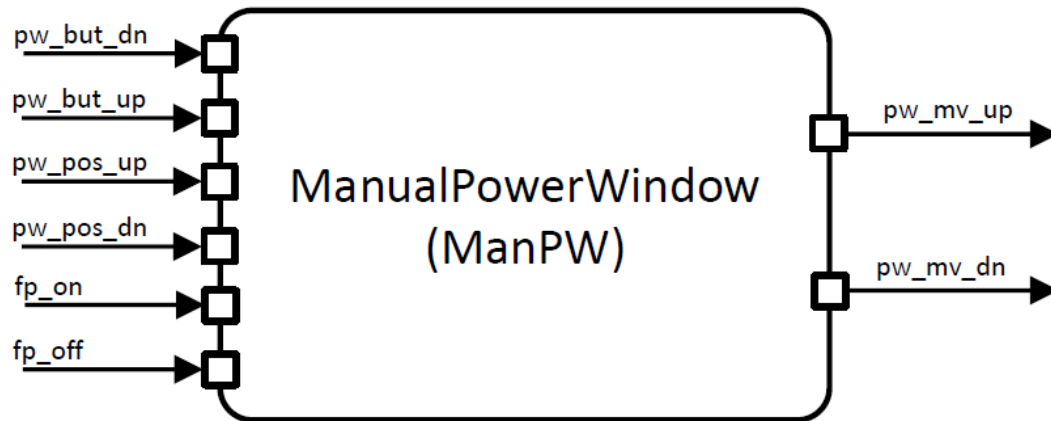
}

Example Delta



```
ComponentDelta: Component_PW_Man2Auto {  
    rem_connector(cnt1)  
    rem_connector(cnt2)  
    rem_port(p1)  
    rem_port(p2)  
    rem_signal(pw_mv_up)  
    rem_signal(pw_mv_dn)  
  
    add_signal(pw_auto_mv_up)  
    add_signal(pw_auto_mv_dn)  
    add_signal(pw_auto_mv_stop)  
    add_port(p3, comp1, pw_auto_mv_up, out)  
    add_port(p4, comp1, pw_auto_mv_dn, out)  
    add_port(p5, comp1, pw_auto_mv_stop, out)  
    add_connector(cnt3, p3, ENV)  
    add_connector(cnt4, p4, ENV)  
    add_connector(cnt5, p5, ENV)  
}
```

Example Delta



```
ComponentDelta: Component_PW_Man2Auto {  
    rem_connector(cnt1)  
    rem_connector(cnt2)  
    rem_port(p1)  
    rem_port(p2)  
    rem_signal(pw_mv_up)  
    rem_signal(pw_mv_dn)  
  
    add_signal(pw_auto_mv_up)  
    add_signal(pw_auto_mv_dn)  
    add_signal(pw_auto_mv_stop)  
    add_port(p3, comp1, pw_auto_mv_up, out)  
    add_port(p4, comp1, pw_auto_mv_dn, out)  
    add_port(p5, comp1, pw_auto_mv_stop, out)  
    add_connector(cnt3, p3, ENV)  
    add_connector(cnt4, p4, ENV)  
    add_connector(cnt5, p5, ENV)  
  
    mod_comp(comp1, name, "AutoPW")  
}
```

Whole Approach in one figure

