



Modelling Method Conceptualization within OMiLAB: The 4EM Case

Janis Stirna (Stockholm University) Birger Lantow (University of Rostock) Dominik Bork (University of Vienna)

Outline

- Introduction 4EM
- Conceptualization of the 4EM tool on ADOxx
- 4EM Goal Modeling and Theory
- Case Study: Goal Modeling with ADOxx
 - Introduction of the Book case
 - * Hands on goals modeling with ADOxx
- Summary and discussion

DMiLAB, ADOXX, 4EM, POEM'2017

INTRODUCTION TO 4EM

Enterprise Modelling (EM)

- EM is a method for developing, acquiring, and communicating enterprise knowledge and user requirements by a structured, iterative, and modelling approach.
- The approach is guided by a number of conceptual sub-models, each focusing on a particular aspect of the application.
- The EM process involves a group of stakeholders and a modelling facilitator
- EM application in practice is usually supported by computerized tools – EM tools





4EM

- 4EM in general
 - is a framework for EM, which was designed for ill-structured ("wicked") problem situations, typically occurring in organisational planning and/or design.
 - focuses on "systems" of human as well as technological components
- 4EM is the successor of the "Enterprise Knowledge Development" method EKD
 - EKD originates from the EU-financed projects F3, ELEKTRA, HyperKnowledge
 - Other contributing projects: MAPPER, InfoFlow, CaaS
 - 4EM is used for teaching purposes at several universities

4EM modelling

4EM consists of three core elements:

- A defined procedure to modeling using a fixed notation (defined procedure and notation)
- Performance of enterprise modeling in the form of a project with predetermined roles (project organization and roles)
- A participatory process to involve enterprise stakeholders and domain experts (stakeholder participation)



Product models of the 4EM framework



OMILAB, ADOXX, 4EM, POEM'2017

7

Efforts on tool support for 4EM

- MetaEdit+ (90s)
- Flowcharter (90s and early 00s)
- Metis (early 00s)
- Visio (00s and onwards)
- Experiments with DIA
- Partial support developed in the CaaS project (2013-2016)

Current development – ADOxx

CONCEPTUALIZATION OF THE 4EM TOOL ON ADO_{XX}

GENERIC MODELLING METHOD FRAMEWORK



Reference: Karagiannis, D., Kühn, H.: "Metamodelling Platforms". In Bauknecht, K., Min Tjoa, A., Quirchmayer, G. (Eds.): Proceedings of the Third International Conference EC-Web 2002 – Dexa 2002, Aix-en-Provence, France, September 2002, LNCS 2455, Springer, Berlin/Heidelberg, p. 182 ff.

OMiLAB: Core Development Environment



Metamodelling in ADOxx



MM ... Modelling Method

Reference: Kühn, H. (2004). Methodenintegration im Business Engineering. PhD Thesis, University of Vienna

GOAL: DEVELOPMENT OF MODELLING TOOLKITS





OMLAB ENVIRONMENT

Innovation Environment consists of

- Agile Modelling Method Engineering Framework
- Conceptualisation Lifecycle
- Tools and support Services
- Trainings

Technological Environment supports

- Platforms, i.e. ADOxx, ConceptBase, olive
- Tools (open source): e.g. GraphRep Generator, Model Annotator, MLEA-Assistant etc.
- Services, i.e. packaging and deployment capabilities

Collaboration Environment provides

- Web-platform for virtual interaction
- Nodes with physical and virtual infrastructure
- Community events like **conferences**, workshops, **summer schools**
- Publications like books, conference and journal papers
- Exploitation of results and project networking activities
- Communication and public relations (newsletters, media and OM-TV)



Environement

DMilab, ADOxx, 4EM, Poem[·]2017



General Representation Structure of the 4EM Tool 1. Individual 4EM Sub-Models (1/2)







Business Rule Model

General Representation Structure of the 4EM Tool 1. Individual 4EM Sub-Models (2/2)







General Representation Structure of the 4EM Tool 2. Overarching 4EM Model

A combination of all other sub-models

Used to visually encode model-spanning relationships



4EM Modeling Procedure

- The 4EM ADOxx modelling tool features two ways of creating 4EM models
 - Construction of all single sub-models and then linking the concepts of different models via semantic links (ongoing implementation)
 - Construction of an overarching 4EM model and then automatically decomposing this model into its constituting submodels via algorithms



4EM GOAL MODELING AND THEORY

Goals Model

Purpose:

- to describe what the enterprise and its employees want to achieve, or to avoid, and when
- to describe the goals of the enterprise along with the problems associated with achieving these goals
- to explain why, or why not, processes, rules and requirements exist or do not exist

OMilab, ADOxx, 4EM, Poem'2017

Goals Model

Components:

- goal, used for expressing goals regarding the business or state of business affairs the individual or organisation wishes to achieve. They may be expressed as a measurable set of states, or as general aims, visions or directions. Goals can be several meanings, such as, goals, needs, requirements, desired states, etc.
- problem, used for expressing that the environment is, or may become, in some non-desirable state, which hinders the achievement of goals. There may be two sub-types of problems: threat and weakness.
- constraint, used for expressing business restrictions, rules, laws, policies from outside world affecting components and links within the Enterprise Model.
- opportunity, used for expressing situations that we may want to take advantage of. If so, the Opportunity should be transformed into a Goal.

Relationships – supports, hinders, and conflicts

- supports relationship used to show that fulfilling one goal supports fulfilling another.
- hinders relationship used to show negative influences between components of the Goals Model, and can be considered as opposite to "supports".
- conflicts relationship used in a situation when an achievement of a goal is in conflict with another.



DMiLAB, ADOXX, 4EM, POEM'2017

Goal decomposition – AND, OR, AND/OR

- The AND-decomposition relationship specifies a set of unique sub-goals that are necessary to satisfy a goal.
- The OR-decomposition relationship specifies a set of alternative sub-goals that support a goal. It is sufficient to satisfy only one goal from the set.
- The AND/OR decomposition specifies a set of alternative sub-goals – to support a goal. A combination of sub-goals from the set will satisfy a goal.





Example of a Goals Model



Most important inter-model relationships of goals

- Goals refer to concepts
- Goals motivate business processes
- Rules support goals



DMiLAB, ADOxx, 4EM, POEM'2017

Driving questions of Goals Modeling

- What are the strategies of this part of the enterprise?
- Are there stated policies in the enterprise that may influence this model?
- Which conventions, rules, regulations and laws are relevant?
- What would you like to achieve?
- Taking a particular goal, how can we make this goal more specific, more relevant to our project/company?
- Are there any particular problems hindering this?
- Is this problem related to a particular goal?
- What is the cause of this problem?
- How can this problem be eliminated?
- Are there any particular opportunities that one could use?
- What actions could be taken to improve the situation?
- How can this goal be achieved? Can this goal be defined in operational terms, by identifying a number of supporting sub-goals? ²⁸

Meta-model of 4EM Goals Model (Intra-Model)



Meta-model of 4EM Goals Model (Inter-Model)



CASE STUDY: GOAL MODELING WITH ADOxx

4EM-Modeling-Tool: Case Study A4Y

- E-Commerce Company specializing in sales of accessories and jewelry with individual engravings.
- Main turnover via E-Shop but also a conventional shop
- Manufacturing on site, additionally personal engravings
- Main Goals:
 - Goal 1: Increase Profits by 15%
 - Goal 2: Increase Sales
 - Goal 3: Reduce Operating Costs by 10%
- Several Problems:
 - Insufficient Monitoring Capabilities for Offline Marketing
 - Missing Resources for Product Innovation
 - * ...
- Possible Constraints:
 - Minimum wages
 - Work time regulations

4EM-Modeling-Tool: Goal Modeling

🚈 4EM Modelling Toolkit (Admin) - [emptymod (Goal Model)]



OMilab, ADOxx, 4EM, Poem'2017

4EM-Modeling-Tool: Example Model



OMİLAB, ADOXX, 4EM, POEM'2017

4EM-Modeling-Tool: Problem Type



DMiLAB, ADOxx, 4EM, POEM'2017



DMiLAB, ADOxx, 4EM, POEM'2017

4EM-Modeling-Tool: Sub-Models

36

4EM-Modeling-Tool: Sub-Models



OMILAB, ADOXX, 4EM, POEM'2017

37

4EM-Modeling-Tool: Sub-Models



DMiLAB, ADOXX, 4EM, POEM'2017

Case Study A4Y: Excercise

Create a Goal Model/ a set of linked Goal Models that fit to the situation of A4Y.

Already known ...

- Main Goals: Goal 1: Increase Profits by 15%, Goal 2: Increase Sales, Goal 3: Reduce Operating Costs by 10%
- Several Problems: Insufficient Monitoring Capabilities for Offline Marketing, Missing Resources for Product Innovation, ...
- Possible Constraints: Minimum wages, Work time regulations, ...

Some more information about A4Y you should know ...

- In order to increase sales, an expansion of the marketing activities is planned.
- New products could be developed in order to attract new customers.
- A main driver for production costs is the workforce.
- The workers union of the shipping service provider is going to fight for higher salaries next year.
- So far, A4Y provides limited payment options. However, PayPal offers an easy integration of additional payment options.

DMiLAB, ADOXX, 4EM, POEM'2017

SUMMARY AND DISCUSSION

4EM-Modeling-Tool: Further Development

Feature	Remark
Relationship Assistant	Prototype GM Implementation
Model Management Functionality	Ongoing Student Project
Advanced / Simple Modelling Mode	Long Term
View Concept	Long Term
Meta Model Extension	Long Term

Additional reading...

K. Sandkuhl, M. Wißotzki, J.Stirna, Unternehmensmodellierung: Grundlagen, Methode und Praktiken, Springer, 2013, ISBN 978-3-642-31093-5, http://link.springer.com/book/10.1007%2F978-3-642-31093-5

Sandkuhl, K.; Stirna, J.; Persson, A. and M. Wißotzki (2014)Enterprise Modeling: Tackling Business Challenges with the 4EM Method, The Enterprise Engineering Series, Springer Verlag, Berlin Heidelberg. ISBN 978-3662437247.http://link.springer.com/book/10.1007%2F978-3-662-43725-4

Karagiannis D., Mayr H.C., Mylopoulos J. (2016) Domain-Specific Conceptual Modeling, Concepts, Methods and Tools, Springer, ISBN 978-3-319-39416-9 https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-319-39417-6#toc

http://austria.omilab.org/psm/content/4em/info?view=home

