

# Graph eXchange Language

- Overview and Current Status -

Andreas Winter

# Contents

## Motivation and Idea

## GXL: Overview

- Exchanging graphs with GXL
- Exchanging schemas with GXL

## GXL: Current Status

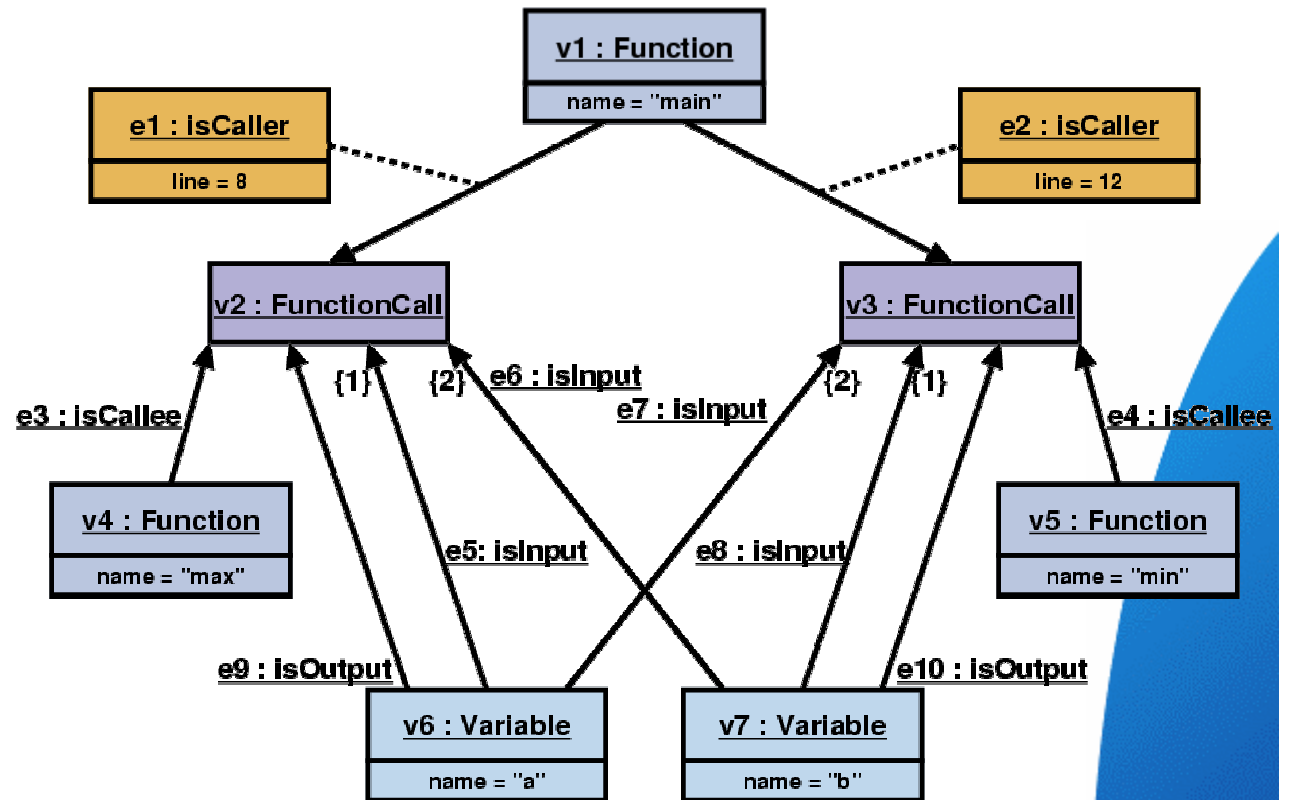
- GXL Tools
- GXL Change Requests

## Conclusion

# GXL - Example

```
myDummy.c
File Edit Search Preferences
Shell Macro Windows Help

1 int main()
2 {
3     int a;
4     int b;
5     ...
6     ...
7     a = max(a,b);
8     ...
9     b = min(b,a);
10    ...
11    ...
12    ...
13    ...
14    ...
15    ...
16 }
```



# GXL - Example

```
<?xml version = "1.0" ?>
<!DOCTYPE gxl SYSTEM "gxl.dtd" >
<gxl>
<graph id = "simpleGraph"
      edgesids = "true">
  <type xlink:href = "schema.gxl" />
  <node id = "v1" >
    <type xlink:href =
      "schema.gxl#Function"/>
    <attr name = "name" >
      <string>main</string>
    </attr>
  <node id = "v2" >
    <type xlink:href =
      "schema.gxl#FunctionCall"/>
  </node>
  <node id = "v3" >
    <type xlink:href =
      "schema.gxl#FunctionCall"/>
  </node>
  <node id = "v4" >
    <type xlink:href =
      "schema.gxl#Function"/>
    <attr name = "name" >
      <string>max</string>
    </attr>
  </node>
  <node id = "v5" >
    <type xlink:href =
      "schema.gxl#Function"/>
    <attr name = "name" >
      <string>min</string>
    </attr>
  </node>
  <node id = "v6" >
    <type xlink:href =
      "schema.gxl#Variable"/>
    <attr name = "name" >
      <string>a</string>
    </attr>
  </node>
  <node id = "v7" >
    <type xlink:href =
      "schema.gxl#Variable"/>
    <attr name = "name" >
      <string>b</string>
    </attr>
  </node>
  <edge id = "e1"
    from = "v2" to = v1"/>
    <type xlink:href =
      "schema.gxl#isCaller"/>
    <attr name = "line" >
      <int>8</int>
    </attr>
  </edge>
  <edge id = "e2"
    from = "v3" to = v1"/>
    <type xlink:href =
      "schema.gxl#isCaller"/>
    <attr name = "line" >
      <int>19</int>
    </attr>
  </edge>
  <edge id = "e3"
    from = "v4" to = v2"/>
    <type xlink:href =
      "schema.gxl#isCallee"/>
  </edge>
  <edge id = "e9"
    from = "v6" to = v2"
    <type xlink:href =
      "schema.gxl#isOutput"/>
  </edge>
  <edge id = "e5"
    from = "v6" to = v2"
    toorder = "1"/>
    <type xlink:href =
      "schema.gxl#isInput"/>
  </edge>
  <edge id = "e6"
    from = "v7" to = v2"
    toorder = "2"/>
    <type xlink:href =
      "schema.gxl#isInput"/>
  </edge>
  <edge id = "e7"
    from = "v6" to = v3"
    toorder = "2"/>
    <type xlink:href =
      "schema.gxl#isInput"/>
  </edge>
  <edge id = "e8"
    from = "v7" to = v3"
    toorder = "1"/>
    <type xlink:href =
      "schema.gxl#isInput"/>
  </edge>
  <edge id = "e9"
    from = "v6" to = v2"
    <type xlink:href =
      "schema.gxl#isOutput"/>
  </edge>
  <edge id = "e10"
    from = "v7" to = v3"
    <type xlink:href =
      "schema.gxl#isOutput"/>
  </edge>
</graph>
</gxl>
```

# History

WCRE 1999  
 AIGra 2000  
 GROOM 2000

WoSEF 2000

APPLIGRAPH meeting on  
 exchange formats for Graph  
 Transformation 2000

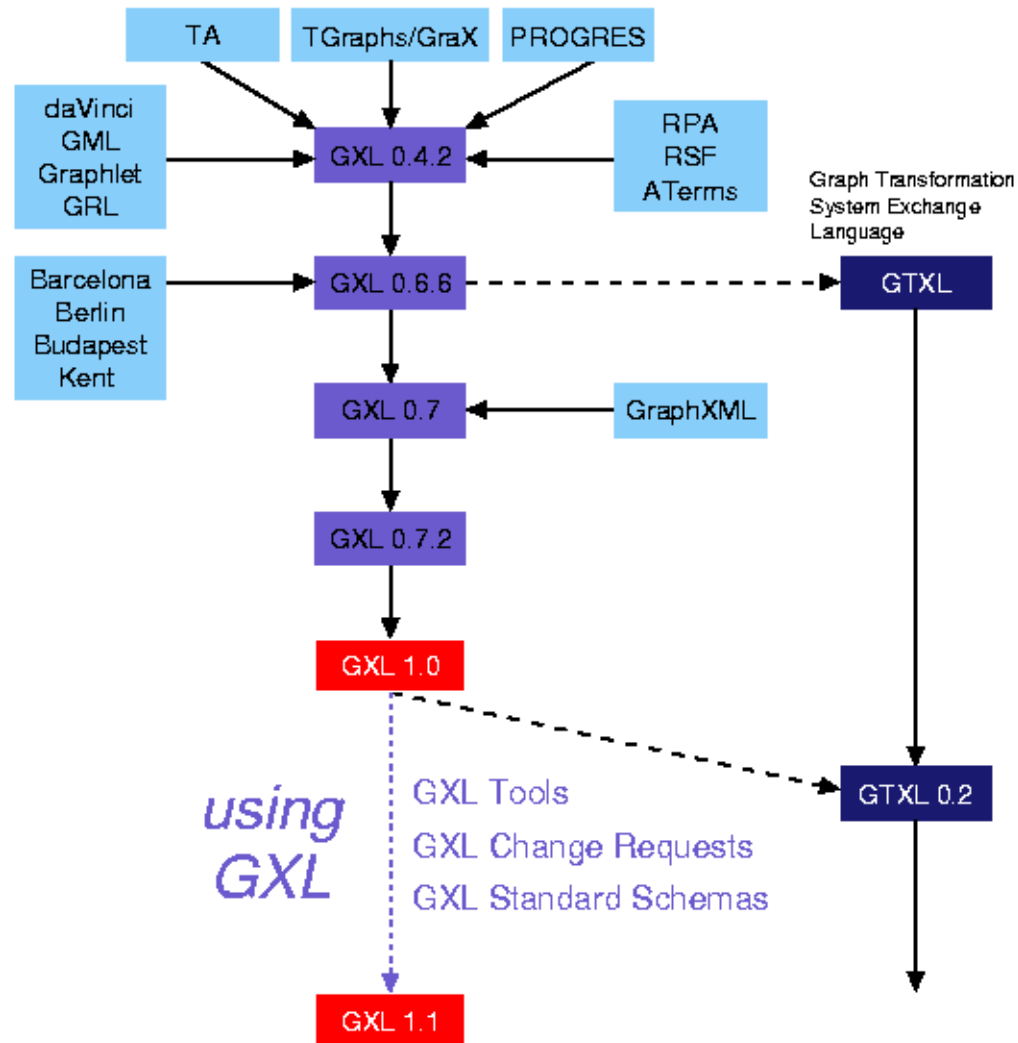
Graph Drawing 2000  
 workshop on data  
 exchange formats

CASCON 2000  
 WCRE 2000

Dagstuhl 2001  
 "Interoperability of  
 Reengineering Tools"

APPLIGRAPH meeting on  
 exchange formats for Graph  
 Transformation 2001

Dagstuhl 2001  
 "Software Visualization"  
 Graph Drawing 2001  
 WCRE 2001



# Requirements of Exchange Formats

## Independence

- application independence
  - language independence
    - C/C++, Cobol, Java, JCL, SQL, multi-language, ...
  - abstraction level independence
    - AST, "middle level", Architecture, ...
  - aspect independence
    - data flow, control flow, code structure, ...
- tool independence
  - data structure independence
    - syntax trees, various types of graphs, relational databases, object oriented databases, file and directory structures, ...

# Requirements of Exchange Formats

## Efficiency

- efficiency in time
- efficiency in space
- efficiency in "building tools"

## Extensibility

- extensible for further applications
  - (graph transformation tools, CASE tools, visualization tools, etc)

## Universality

- used by others
- standardized format

# GXL Objective

## Exchanged Data

- instance data
- schemas data

## Mathematical Model

- **typed, attributed, ordered, directed graphs**
- expanded by
  - hypergraphs and hierarchical graphs

## Notation

- eXtensible Markup Language (XML)
- Unified Modeling Language (UML)

# GXL Graph Model

graph part

typed graphs

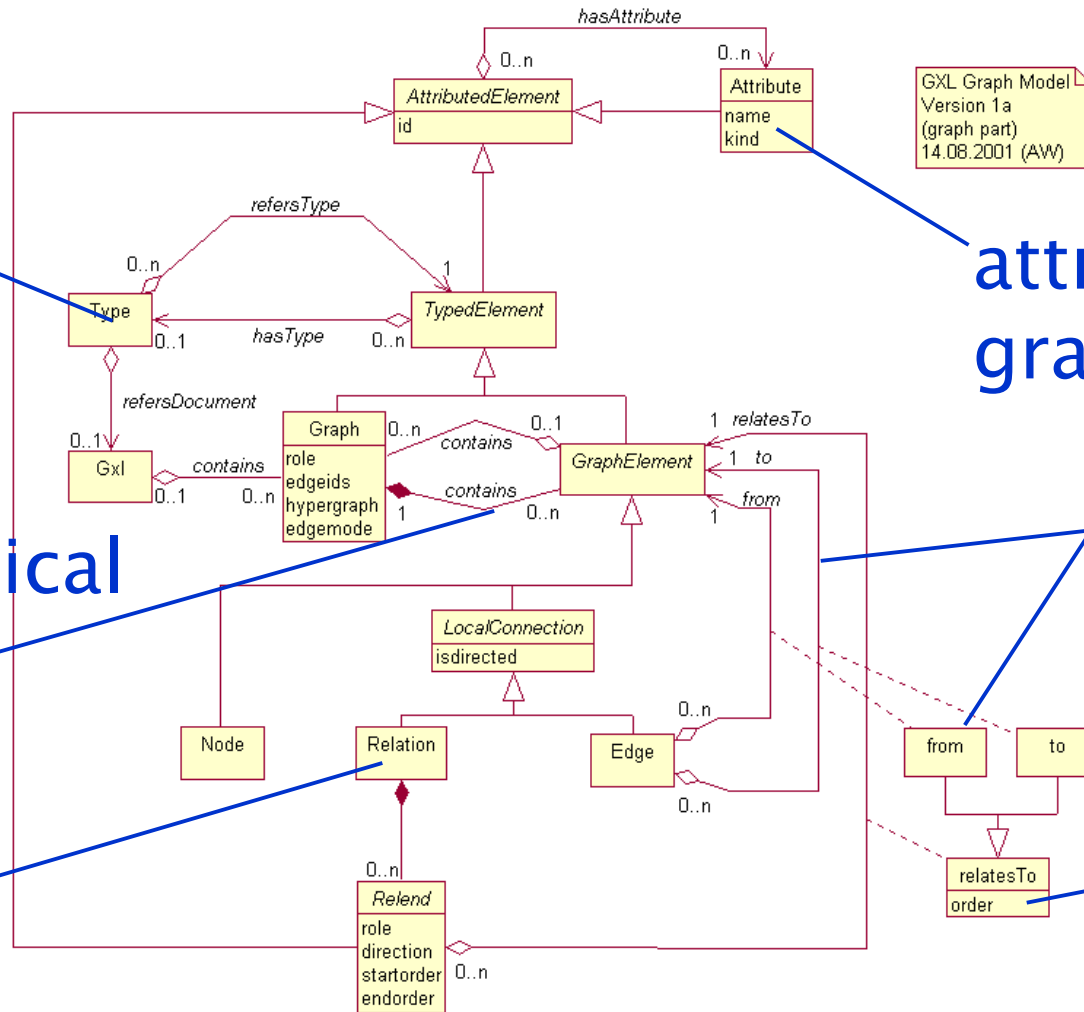
attributed graphs

hierarchical graphs

directed graphs

hyper-graphs

ordered graphs



GXL Graph Model  
Version 1a  
(graph part)  
14.08.2001 (AW)

# GXL Document Type Definition (1.0)

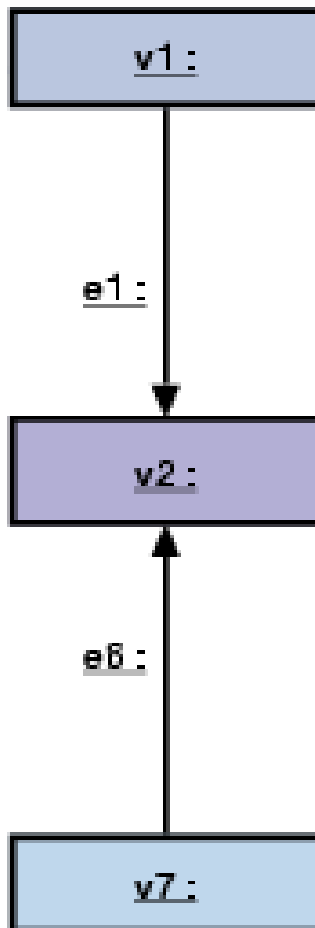
```
<!ENTITY % *-extension "" >
<!ENTITY % *-attr-extension "" >
<!ELEMENT gxl (graph* %gxl-extension; ) >
<!ATTLIST gxl xmlns:xlink CDATA #FIXED
  "www.w3.org/1999/xlink"
  %gxl-attr-extension>
<!ELEMENT type EMPTY>
<!ATTLIST type xlink:type (simple) #FIXED "simple"
  xlink:href CDATA #REQUIRED>
<!ELEMENT graph (type?, attr*, ( node | edge | rel )*
  %graph-extension; ) >
<!ATTLIST graph id ID #REQUIRED
  role NMTOKEN #IMPLIED
  edgeids ( true | false ) "false"
  hypergraph ( true | false ) "false"
  edgemode ( directed | undirected |
  defaultdirected | defaultundirected ) "directed"
  %graph-attr-extension;>
<!ELEMENT node (type?, attr*, graph* %node-extension; ) >
<!ATTLIST node id ID #REQUIRED
  %node-attr-extension;>
<!ELEMENT edge (type?, attr*, graph* edge-extension; ) >
<!ATTLIST edge id ID #IMPLIED
  from IDREF #REQUIRED
  to IDREF #REQUIRED
  fromorder CDATA #IMPLIED
  toorder CDATA #IMPLIED
  isdirected ( true | false ) #IMPLIED
  %edge-attr-extension;>
<!ELEMENT rel (type?, attr*, graph*, relend*
  %rel-extension; ) >
<!ATTLIST rel id ID #IMPLIED
  isdirected ( true | false ) #IMPLIED
  %rel-attr-extension;>
<!ELEMENT relend (attr* %relend-extension; ) >
<!ATTLIST relend target IDREF #REQUIRED
  role NMTOKEN #IMPLIED
  direction ( in | out | none ) #IMPLIED
  startorder CDATA #IMPLIED
  endorder CDATA #IMPLIED
  %relend-attr-extension;>
<!ELEMENT attr (type?, attr*, (%val;)) >
<!ATTLIST attr id IDREF #IMPLIED
  name NMTOKEN #REQUIRED
  kind NMTOKEN #IMPLIED >
<!ENTITY % val " locator | bool | int | float | string | enum |
  seq | set | bag | tup %value-extension; ">
<!ELEMENT locator EMPTY >
<!ATTLIST locator xlink:type (simple) #FIXED "simple"
  xlink:href CDATA #IMPLIED >
<!ELEMENT bool | int | float | string (#PCDATA) >
<!ELEMENT enum (#PCDATA) >
<!ELEMENT seq | set | bag | tup (%val;)* >
```

# Exchanging Graphs with GXL

## Graph types supported by GXL:

- Typed Graphs
- Attributed Graphs
- Directed Graphs
- Undirected Graphs
- Ordered Graphs
- Hypergraphs
- Hierarchical Graphs
- ...

# Directed Graphs



```
<node id = "v1">
```

```
<edge id = "e1"  
  from = "v1"  
  to = "v2">
```

```
</node>
```

```
<node id = "v2">
```

```
</edge>
```

```
</node>
```

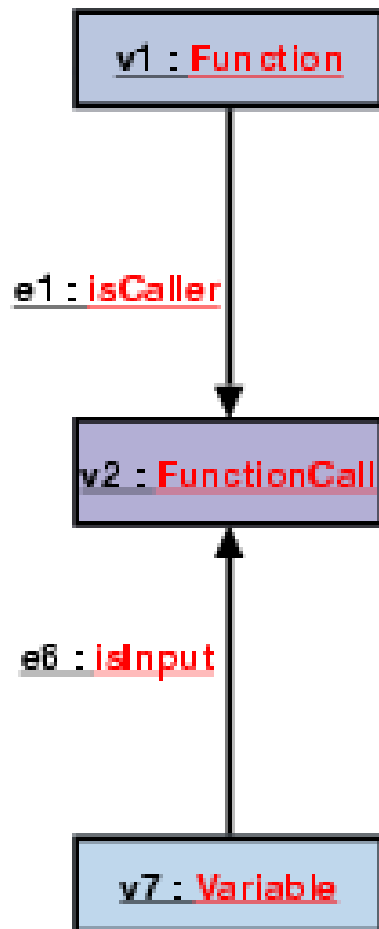
```
<node id = "v7">
```

```
<edge id = "e6"  
  from = "v7"  
  to = "v2">
```

```
</edge>
```

```
</node>
```

# Directed Typed Graphs



```
<node id = "v1">  
  <type xlink:href =s.gxl  
    #Function" />  
  
  </attr>  
</node>
```

```
<node id = "v2">  
  <type xlink:href ="s.gxl  
    #FunctionCall" />  
  
</node>
```

```
<node id = "v7">  
  <type xlink:href ="s.gxl#  
    Variable" />  
  
  </attr>  
</node>
```

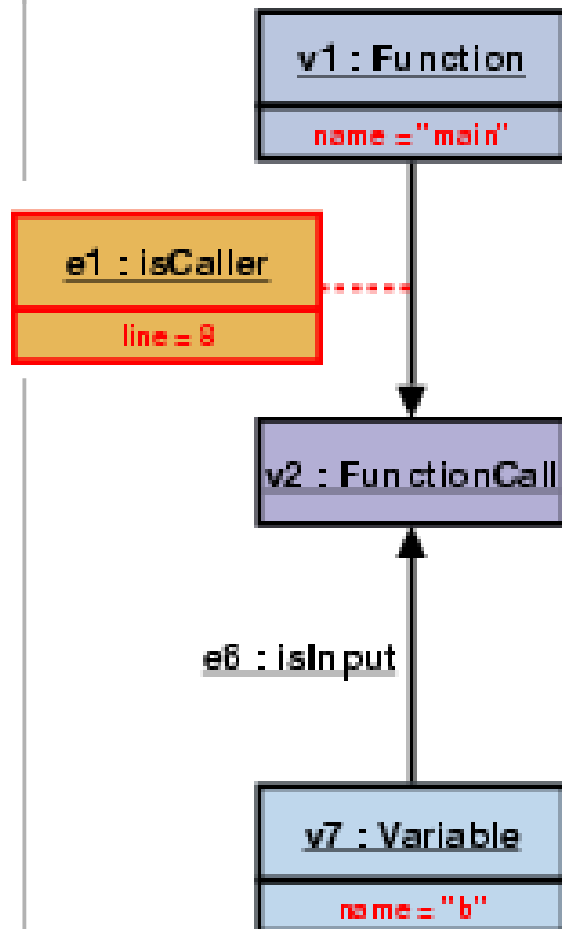
```
<edge id = "e1"  
  from = "v1"  
  to = "v2">  
  <type xlink:href =s.gxl  
    #isCaller" />
```

```
</attr>  
</edge>
```

```
<edge id = "e6"  
  from = "v7"  
  to = "v2">
```

```
  <type xlink:href =s.gxl  
    #isInput" />  
</edge>
```

# Typed, Attributed, Directed Graphs



```

<node id = "v1">
  <type xlink:href =s.gxl
    #Function" />
  <attr name = "name">
    <string>main</string>
  </attr>
</node>
  
```

```

<node id = "v2">
  <type xlink:href ="s.gxl
    #FunctionCall" />
</node>
  
```

```

<node id = "v7">
  <type xlink:href ="s.gxl#
    Variable" />
  <attr name = "name">
    <string>b</string>
  </attr>
</node>
  
```

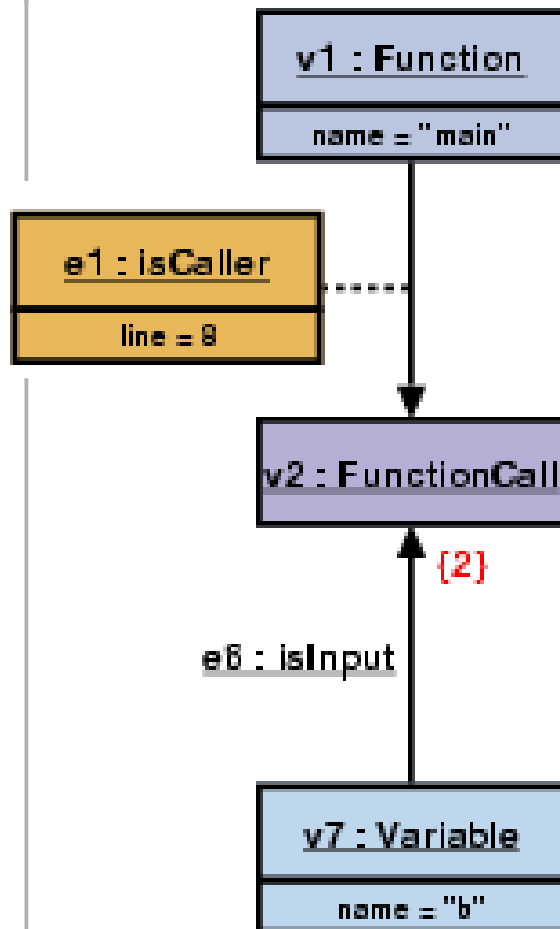
```

<edge id = "e1"
  from = "v1"
  to = "v2">
  <type xlink:href =s.gxl
    #isCaller" />
  <attr name = "line">
    <int>8</int>
  </attr>
</edge>
  
```

```

<edge id = "e6"
  from = "v7"
  to = "v2">
  <type xlink:href =s.gxl
    #isInput" />
</edge>
  
```

# Typed, Attributed, Directed, Ordered Graphs



```

<node id = "v1">
  <type xlink:href =s.gxl
    #Function" />
  <attr name = "name">
    <string>main</string>
  </attr>
</node>
  
```

```

<node id = "v2">
  <type xlink:href ="s.gxl
    #FunctionCall" />
</node>
  
```

```

<node id = "v7">
  <type xlink:href ="s.gxl#
    Variable" />
  <attr name = "name">
    <string>b</string>
  </attr>
</node>
  
```

```

<edge id = "e1"
  from = "v1"
  to = "v2">
  <type xlink:href =s.gxl
    #isCaller" />
  <attr name = "line">
    <int>8</int>
  </attr>
</edge>
  
```

```

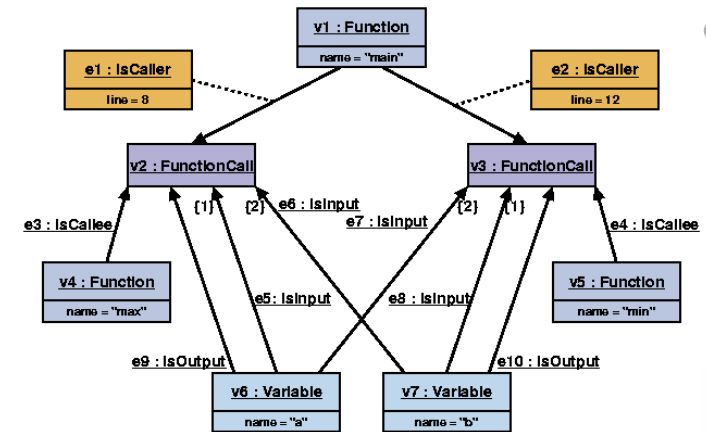
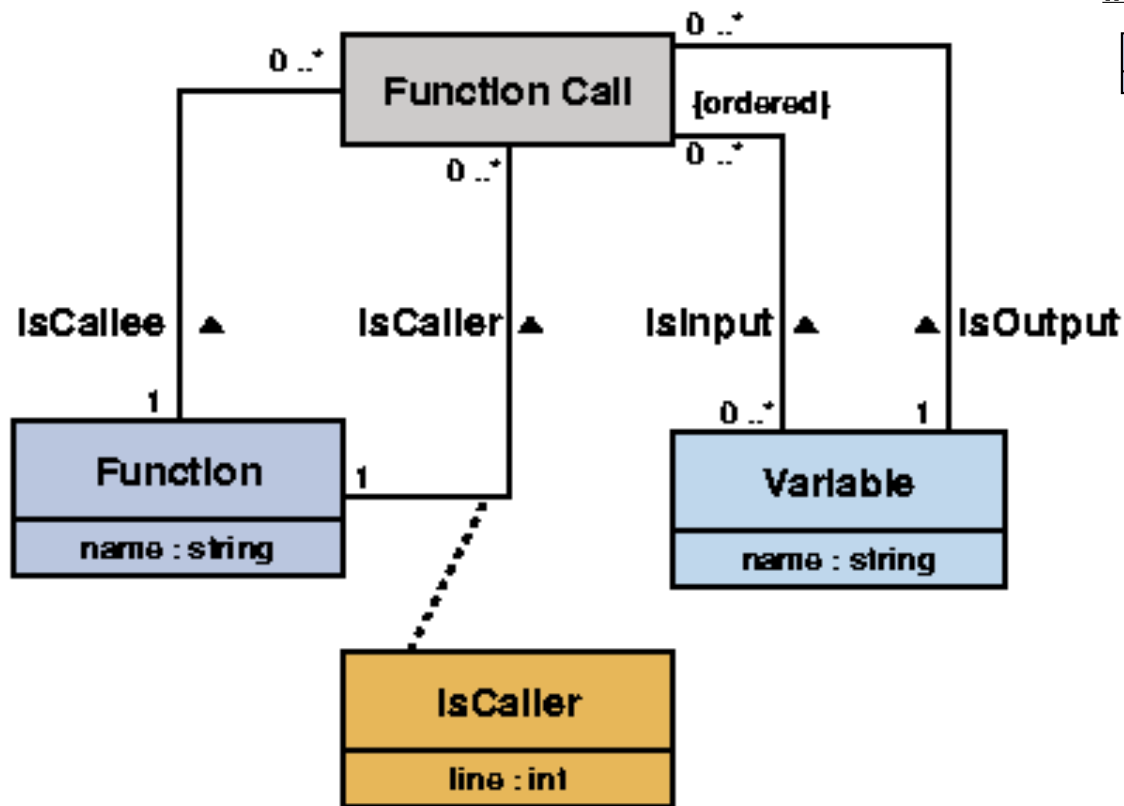
<edge id = "e6
  from = "v7"
  to = "v2">
  <type xlink:href =s.gxl
    #isInput" />
  <attr name = "toorder">
    <int>2</int>
  </attr>
</edge>
  
```

# Exchanging Schemas with GXL

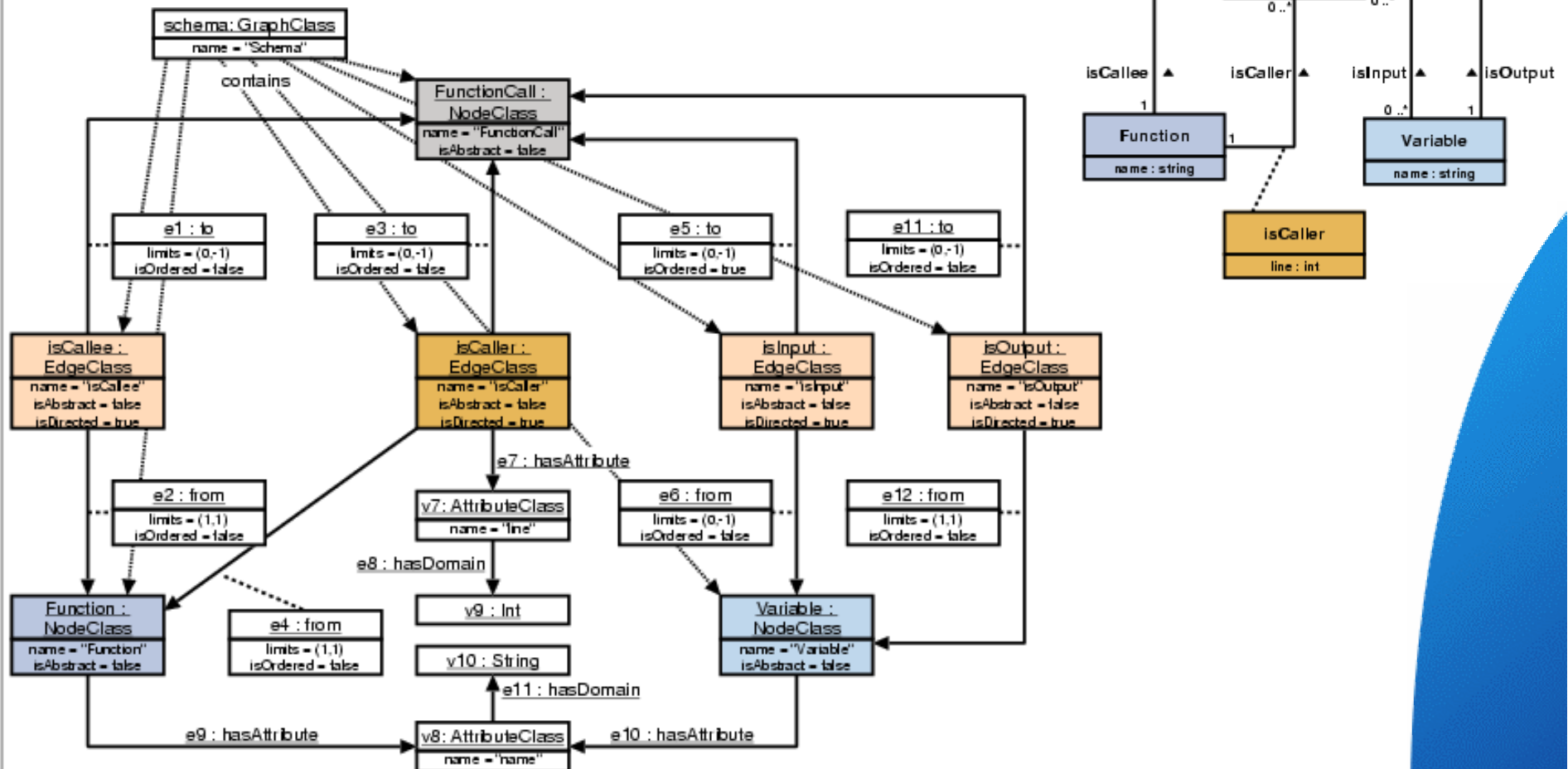
## GXL Approach:

- Defining Graph-Structured (Graph Schemas) by UML Class Diagrams
- Representing UML Class Diagrams by Graphs (Schema Graphs)
- Exchanging Schemas Graphs by GXL Documents

# Graph Schemas



# Schema Graphs





# GXL Metaschema - GXL Document

```
<?xml version="1.0"?>
<!DOCTYPE gxl SYSTEM "gxl.dtd">
<gxl>
  <graph id = "gxl">
    <type xlink:href = "gxl.gxl#gxl"/>

    <node id = "NodeClass">
      <type xlink:href =
        "gxl.gxl#NodeClass"/>
      <attr name = "name">
        <string>NodeClass</string>
      </attr>
      <attr name = "isAbstract">
        <bool>>false</bool>
      </attr>
    </node>

    ...
  </graph>

```

```
<node id = "GraphClassElement">
  <type xlink:href =
    "gxl.gxl#NodeClass"/>
  <attr name = "name">
    <string>GraphClassElement</string>
  </attr>
  <attr name = "isAbstract">
    <bool>>true</bool>
  </attr>
</node>
...
<edge
  from = "NodeClass"
  to = "GraphClassElement">
  <type xlink:href =
    "gxl.gxl#isA"/>
</edge>
...
</gxl>

```

# GXL - Current Status

## GXL Usage

- Software Reengineering
- Graph Transformation Systems (GTXL)

## GXL Current Activities

- Development of GXL Tools
- Definition of GXL Reference Schemas for Reverse-Engineering
- Collection of Change Requests for GXL 1.1

## GXL Mailinglist

- 87 Members

# GXL Tools and Applications

## Filter/Converter

- Bauhaus Resource Graphs (Univ. Stuttgart)
- FAMIX (Nokia)
- GraLab (Univ. Koblenz)
- Progres (RWTH Aachen)
- RPA (Philips, Eindhoven)
- RSF (Univ. Victoria)
- TA (Univ. Waterloo)
- XMI (Univ. BW München)

## Reverse Engineering Tools

- Bauhaus (Univ. Stuttgart)
- Columbus (Univ. Szeged)
- CPPX (Univ. Kingston, Univ. Waterloo)
- GUPRO (Univ. Koblenz)
- Missing Link (Merlin, Karlsruhe)
- Rigi (Univ. Victoria)
- PBS/Swagkit (Univ. Waterloo)
- TKSee/SN (Univ. Ottawa)
- Venice (Univ. Helsinki, Nokia)

# GXL Tools and Applications

## Graph Transformation Systems

- AGG (TU Berlin)
- DiaGen (Univ. Erlangen)
- Fujaba (Univ. Paderborn)
- Genset (Univ. Oregon)
- Progres (RWTH Aachen)

## Software Engineering Tools

- Chi-Bel (Univ. Toronto)
- Edinburgh Concurrency Workbench (Univ. Edinburgh)
- Upgrade (RWTH Aachen)

## Graph Visualizer

- Graph Tool (Univ. Durham)
- Shrimp (Univ. Victoria)
- Touch Graph (Alex Shapiro)
- yFiles (Univ. Tübingen)
- JGraph (Zürich)

## Graph Databases

- Gras (RWTH Aachen)

# GXL Reference Schemas

## C++ Reference Schema

- *Rudi Ferenc*, Tibor Gyimothy (Univ. Szeged)
- Ric Holt, *Andrew Malton* (Univ. Waterloo)

## Dagstuhl Middle Level Model

- *Tim Lethbridge*, Sergei Marchenko (Univ. Ottawa)
- Panos Linos (Butler Univ. Indianapolis )
- Erhard Plödereder (Univ. Stuttgart)
- Sander Tichelar (Univ. Bern)

## Data Reverse Engineering Reference-Schema

- *Jens Jahnke* (Univ. Victoria)
- Jean Luc Hainault, Jean Henrard (Univ. Namur)
- John Mylopoulos (Univ. Toronto)
- Jörg Wadsack (Univ. Paderborn)

# GXL Change Requests

## XML Schema

- more powerful schemas

## Packages

- attributes - structure (GXL) - GTXL - GraphML ...

## Hierarchical Graphs

- graph valued attributes
- references to graphs

## Additional Attribute Types

- free type attributes
- structs

## References to GXL Schemas

- textual attributes instead of XLINK-references

## Namespaces

- better usage of GXL within other XML documents

## Superfluous Aspects

- schema related data in instance graphs
- attributes of attributes

## Document Information

- header information about GXL-Version, used tools, etc.

## Additional features

- implicit nodes, defined by edges
- classification of attributes (derived, frozen)
- explicitly defined ordering of graph elements
- support for partial graphs
- support to express undefined values and infinity

# Next Steps

## August 1, 2002

- Deadline for GXL Change Request

## December, 2002

- Release of GXL 1.1 *alpha*

## January, 2003

- Request for Comments for GXL 1.1 *alpha*

## February 14, 2003

- GXL 2nd Birthday
- Release of GXL 1.1

# Conclusion

## GXL: uniform language for

- exchanging graphs
- exchanging graph schemas

## GXL: ratified as standard exchange format

- Software Reengineering community (Dagstuhl, January 26. 2001)
- Usage within GTXL Graph Transformationsystems Exchange Language (APPLIGRAPH Subgroup Meeting, Bremen, March, 1.-2., 2001)

## more information

- [http: www.gupro.de/GXL](http://www.gupro.de/GXL)
- [mailto: gxl@uni-koblenz.de](mailto:gxl@uni-koblenz.de)