# CEP-ML: META-LANGUAGE TO SUPPORT INTEROPERABILITY BETWEEN HETEROGENEOUS COMPLEX EVENT PROCESSING SYSTEMS

W.D. Amila Iroshani Paranawithana

(158231T)

Degree of Master of Science

Department of Computer Science & Engineering

University of Moratuwa Sri Lanka

May 2019

# CEP-ML: META-LANGUAGE TO SUPPORT INTEROPERABILITY BETWEEN HETEROGENEOUS COMPLEX EVENT PROCESSING SYSTEMS

W.D. Amila Iroshani Paranawithana

## (158231T)

Thesis submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree Master of Science in Computer Science and Engineering

Department of Computer Science & Engineering

University of Moratuwa Sri Lanka

May 2019

#### DECLARATION

I declare that this is my own work and this thesis does not incorporate without acknowledgement any material previously submitted for a Degree or Diploma in any other University or institute of higher learning and to the best of my knowledge and belief it does not contain any material previously published or written by another person except where the acknowledgement is made in the text.

Also, I hereby grant to the University of Moratuwa the non-exclusive right to reproduce and distribute my thesis, in whole or in part in print, electronic or another medium. I retain the right to use this content in whole or part in future works (such as articles or books).

.....

.....

W.D. Amila Iroshani Paranawithana

Date

The above candidate has carried out research for the Master of Science thesis under my supervision.

.....

.....

Dr. Surangika Ranathunga

Date

#### ABSTRACT

Distributed complex event processing systems give many benefits over centralized systems mainly in terms of scalability and extendibility. There are many types of CEP engines with different characteristics and query languages specialized to each domain. When it comes to deploying these distributed CEP systems in an industrial context, supporting interoperability between these heterogeneous event processing systems has become a major problem.

Not having a generally accepted definition language is a prime problem when integrating different CEP engines to achieve one goal in a distributed environment. There have been introduced new systems and languages to be operated efficiently in a distributed environment but, they have not addressed the problem of not having a generally accepted language when communicating between different CEP engines. There has been little quantitative analysis done on developing a meta-language and a language conversion parser. The absence of a language parser to convert between any available meta-language and other existing CEP languages is another noticeable shortage when migrating between different CEP systems.

This research presents a generally accepted definition meta-language for complex event processing to support interoperability between CEP systems along with a language parser to convert between this meta-language and existing languages. It acts as an intermediate language format in language conversion. The meta-language supports the main common language functions to reach the industrial level. CEP ML language parser supports three popular languages SiddhiQL, EPL and Stream that have dominated the field for years. Further, we have developed a web-based try-out tool which users can easily use to convert between these languages.

#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to my supervisor Dr. Surangika Ranathunga of the Computer Science Department at the University of Moratuwa for her continuous support for completing my research and thesis. Her motivation, patience and continues support always helped to follow the right path and resolve problems I faced during this journey.

I would like to thank all the staff from the Department of Computer Science and Engineering, University of Moratuwa, for their kindness they expressed on all occasions.

Finally, I must convey my sincere gratitude to my parents, husband and friends for their unfading support and continual motivation throughout this journey of my masters. This achievement would not have been realizable without all of them. Thank you.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

DECLARATIONI
ABSTRACT II
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS III
LIST OF FIGURES
LIST OF TABLES
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS
1. INTRODUCTION
1.1. Overview
1.2. PROBLEM AND MOTIVATION 2
1.3. OBJECTIVES
1.4. Contributions
1.5. ORGANIZATION OF THE THESIS
2. LITERATURE SURVEY
2.1. Overview
2.2. Complex Event Processing engines
2.3. CHALLENGES IN INTEROPERABILITY BETWEEN HETEROGENEOUS CEP
ENGINES
2.4. CEP QUERY LANGUAGE CATEGORIZATION
2.4.1. Expressibility of different query types by CEP query languages10
2.4.2. EPL in ESPER
2.4.3. SiddhiQL in Siddhi
2.4.4. CQL in STREAM
2.4.5. Comparison on Functions of EPL, SiddhiQL and CQL13
2.5. RULEML
2.5.1. Reaction RuleML for CEP15
2.5.2. RuleML limitations
2.6. XML FOR QUERY LANGUAGE DESIGNS17
3. METHODOLOGY18

3.1. OVERVIEW
3.2. CEP-ML – META-LANGUAGE FOR CEP QUERY LANGUAGES 18
3.2.1. Structure of the language
3.2.2. CEP-ML operators
3.2.3. CEP-ML syntax compared with other languages syntax
3.2.4. CEP-ML as a mediator language
3.3. LANGUAGE PARSER
3.3.1. Parse languages using CEP-ML language parser
3.3.2. Query Parser and Query Printer
3.3.3. Language parser implementation
3.3.4. Query Model
3.4. WEBUI
4. EVALUATION
4.1. Overview
4.2. EVALUATING CHARACTERISTICS OF CEP-ML SYSTEM
4.2.1. Readability and understandability
4.2.2. Extensibility
4.2.3. Platform independent language parser and tools
4.2.4. Expressibility of CEP-ML
5 CONCLUSION AND FUTURE WORK
REFERENCES
APPENDIX A: DOM TREE VIEW OF THE CEP XML LANGUAGE
APPENDIX B: CEP XML LANGUAGE OPERATIONS TAGS
APPENDIX C: CEP ML IMPLEMENTATION MODELS CLASS DIAGRAM 46
APPENDIX D: LANGUAGE PARSER API METHODS
APPENDIX E: CEP ML TRY-OUT TOOL

### **LIST OF FIGURES**

Figure 1.0	Distributed Complex Event Processing	2
Figure 2.1	Data stream query languages operation pattern	9
Figure 2.2	Taxonomy of RuleML rule	15
Figure 2.3	CEP RuleML sample	16
Figure 3.1	Structure of CEP ML	19
Figure 3.2	Projection with conditions	21
Figure 3.3	Window filters	21
Figure 3.4	Grouping with conditions	22
Figure 3.5	Conjunction	23
Figure 3.6	Aggregation functions	24
Figure 3.7	Outline of language parser	28
Figure 3.8	Model Driven architecture of language parser	31
Figure 3.9	JAXB Query model	31
Figure 3.10	CEP ML Try-out web UI	32
Figure 3.11	CEP-ML complete system component Diagram	33

### LIST OF TABLES

Table 2.1	Symbolic meanings	10
Table 2.2	Different query types	11
Table 2.3	Expressibility of each query by language	10
Table 2.4	Comparison of functions of query languages	15
Table 3.1	Comparison between language query syntax	26
Table 4.1	Expressibility of CEP - ML language	36

## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

Abbreviation	Description
API	Application Programming Interface
BPM	Business Process Management
CEP	Complex Event Processing
CPU	Central Processing Unit
CQL	Continuous Query Language
EPL	Event Processing Language
JAXB	Java Architecture for XML Binding
REST	Representational State Transfer
SQL	Structured Query Language
SiddhiQL	Siddhi Query Language
UI	User Interface
WAR	Web application Archive
XML	eXtensible Markup Language