



SMW Metaproperties:

An alternative to Page Schema and XML to facilitate form management

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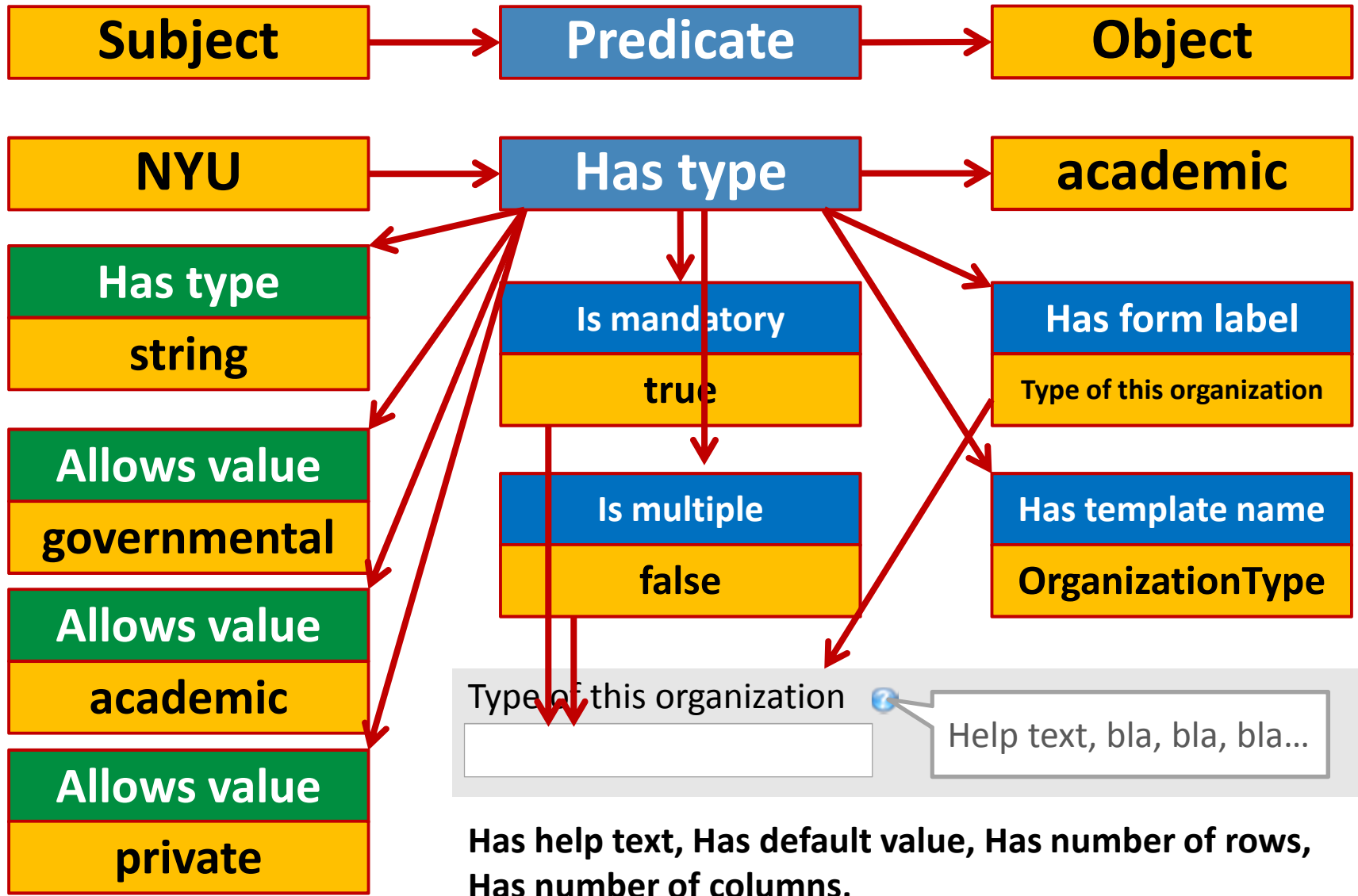
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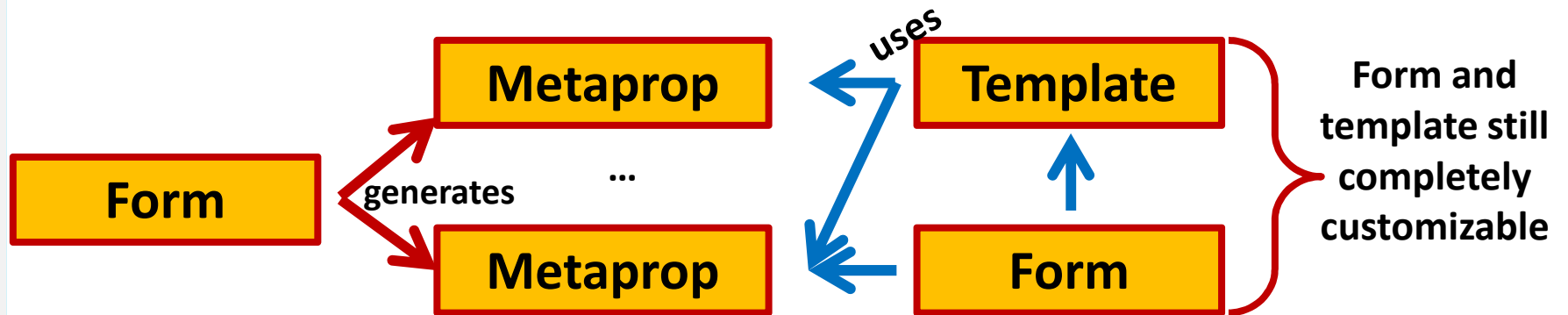
Metaproperties



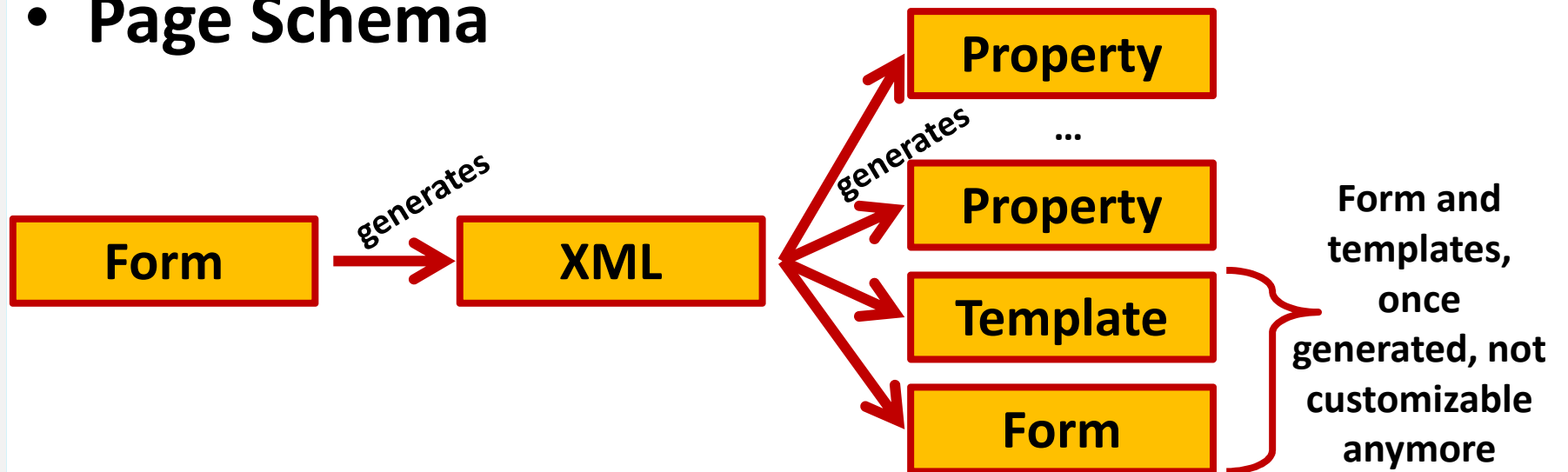


Metaproperties VS Page Schema

- **Metaproperties**



- **Page Schema**





Recipe

1. Create Metaproperties (they are just properties).
2. Create a Property template and a Property form.
3. Create a FormField template using `{{#show: Property:{{{1}}} | ?Metaproperty#}}`
“{”, “|” & “}” have to be escaped in the `{{{field}}}` tag with “{”, “|” & “}”
4. Add a “Create new property” link.

For each new form

1. Create all the properties required by the form using the Property form.
2. Create the template.
3. Create the forms using the FormField template (quite easy).

`{{FormField | Property1}}`

`{{FormField | Property2}}`

...

The screenshot shows a form with two input fields. The first field is labeled "Name of this organization" and has a help text box next to it containing "Help text, bla, bla, bla...". The second field is labeled "Type of this organization" and also has a help text box next to it containing "Help text, bla, bla, bla...".

- Want to change an element of a form which is related to a property? Just edit the metaproperties of the property with the Property form.
- Want to customize the form? Change the form. (Not possible with PageSchema)
- Want to change the template? Change the template. (Not possible with PageSchema)



Advantages of metaproperties over Page Schema

- **No XML: SMW is already a system to define data structures. XML is unnecessary and incongruous. Metaproperties are more natural to SMW.**
- **Forms inputs properties are all defined close to and at the same time as each property in a centralized form and forms and templates stays completely customizable.**
- **Users can define their own metaproperties without having to mess with PHP.**
- **Metaproperties are just normal properties. They can be used for many other purposes.**



Automatic Partial Forms

Name: OK Cancel 

Type: **Academic**

Edit Organization name

OK Cancel

All constructed with only one template!



Thanks



Geospatial Elucubrations



@geoelucubration



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