


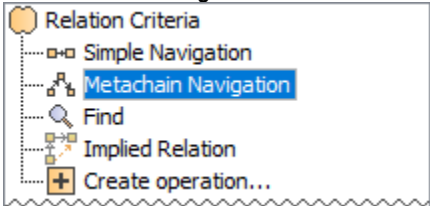
Using Metachain Navigation


Metachain operation is one of the operation types used to specify criteria for querying models. Use the **Metachain Navigation** operation type when specifying indirect (multi-level) relations between elements through the chains of properties.

**Note**
Metachains allow you to search for indirectly related elements, although they do not support loops and recursive relations.

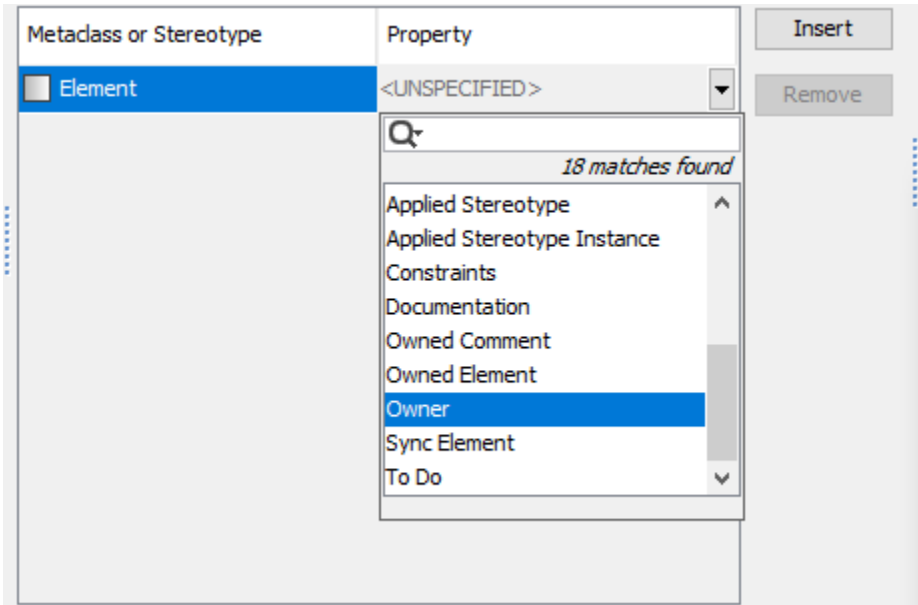
How to specify a Metachain Navigation as a criterion

1. Click **Metachain Navigation** on the left side of the dialog box.





2. Change the name of the operation, if needed.
3. Click  to set a style that represents the specified metachain navigation symbol.
4. Click the **Insert** button to create a new step of the metachain. A new row is added to the list in which you need to specify a metaclass or stereotype and a property or operation for a metachain navigation as shown in the following table:

Column	Description
Metaclasses or Stereotype	Either a metaclass or a stereotype of a metachain step (see the image below). The first step, when created, already has a metaclass or a stereotype selected by default. This value is the context element type. The default metaclass or stereotype of the first step can be changed. The second step and all further steps are more specific: the values suggested for selection are limited according to the values selected in the first step, since you will not be able to add a new step until the current step is not specified.
Property	A property or operation of the selected metaclass or stereotype.



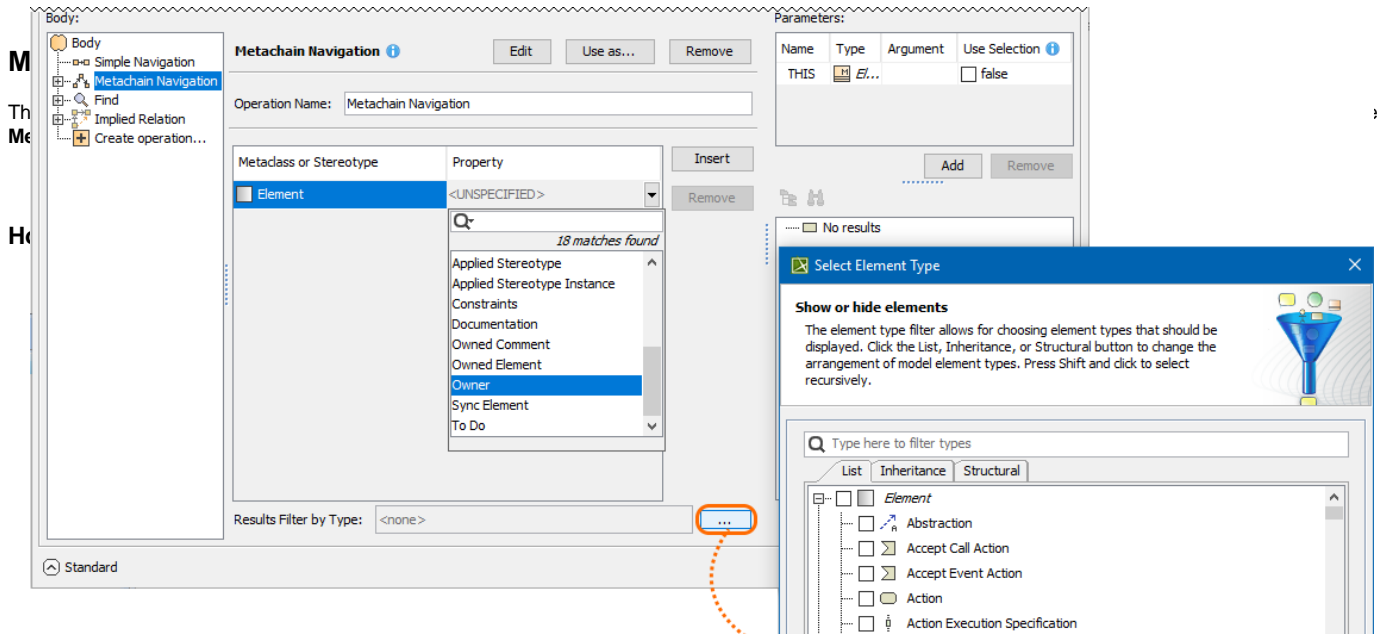
5. Repeat the previous step to create as many steps of the metachain as you need for specifying the criteria.

**Note**
To remove a step from the metachain, click the **Remove** button.

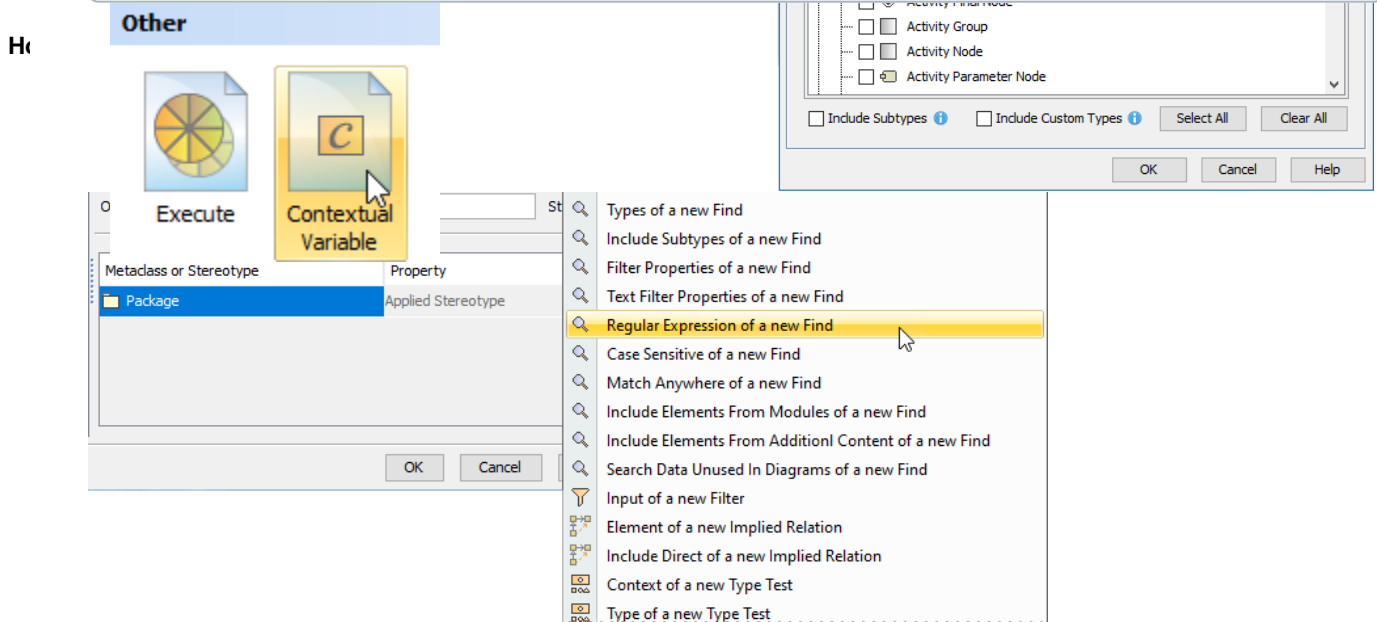
**Information**
You can [add a new metachain operation](#).

Please note that the Metachain Navigation operation returns a set.

Tip
To use the **Result Filter by Type**, open the Metachain Navigation operation via the **Expression Evaluation** dialog and then select the element types and specify the options.



Information
To restore the original context, expand the **Other** group, and click **Contextual Variable**.



3. Specify other parameters of the new operation.

Related pages

- [Selecting element types](#)
- [Specifying criteria for querying model](#)
 - [Getting started with specifying criteria](#)
 - [Using Simple Navigation](#)
 - [Using Find operation](#)

- Using Implied Relations
- Creating new operations
 - Calling operations from the model
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