

Activity Diagrams



Activity Diagram

- **Models dynamic behaviour**
 - process workflows
 - use case scenarios
 - operations
- **Steps involved in performing a task**
 - like an algorithm

Activity Diagrams & Use Cases

- **Model flow of control in scenarios**
 - all scenarios can be shown on one diagram, if required
- **Flow-chart *like* representation of a use case**
 - can be useful for workshop reviews of scenarios

Activity Diagrams & BPM

- **Model activities carried out by actors in business domain**
- **Can establish the business context**
 - *before* use cases are extracted from the processes
- **Illustrates interactions between actors in a process**
 - using partitions (swimlanes)

Activities

Select
Transaction

- **Simple Action**
 - lowest level of detail shown in diagram

Process
Order 

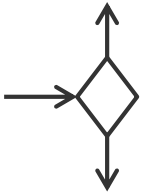
- **Invoke Activity**
 - includes a number of steps shown in another diagram

End of
Financial
Year 

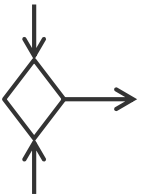
- **Time Event**
 - triggered by some time related condition
 - » e.g. date, time, period (e.g. n days since)

Nodes

- **Initial Node** – one per diagram
- ◎ **Final Node** – optional & multiple allowed
– *all* flows stop when reached
- ⊗ **Flow Final Node** – flow stops, others continue



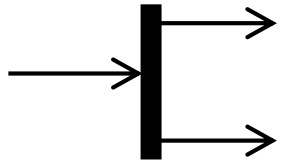
Decision Node – one in, multiple out



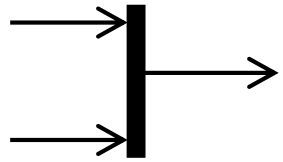
Merge Node – multiple in, one out

Parallel Flows

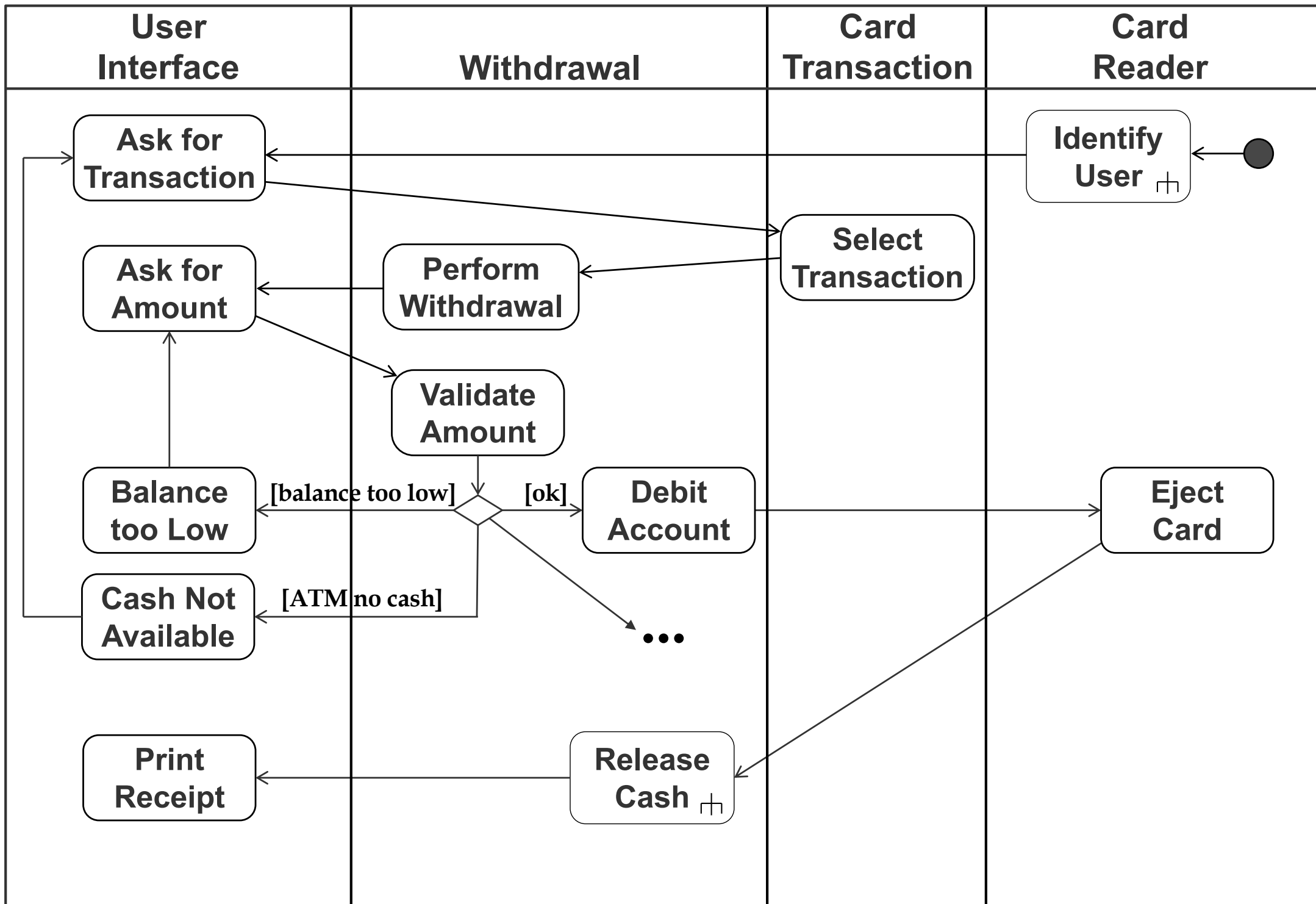
Can have concurrent process flows



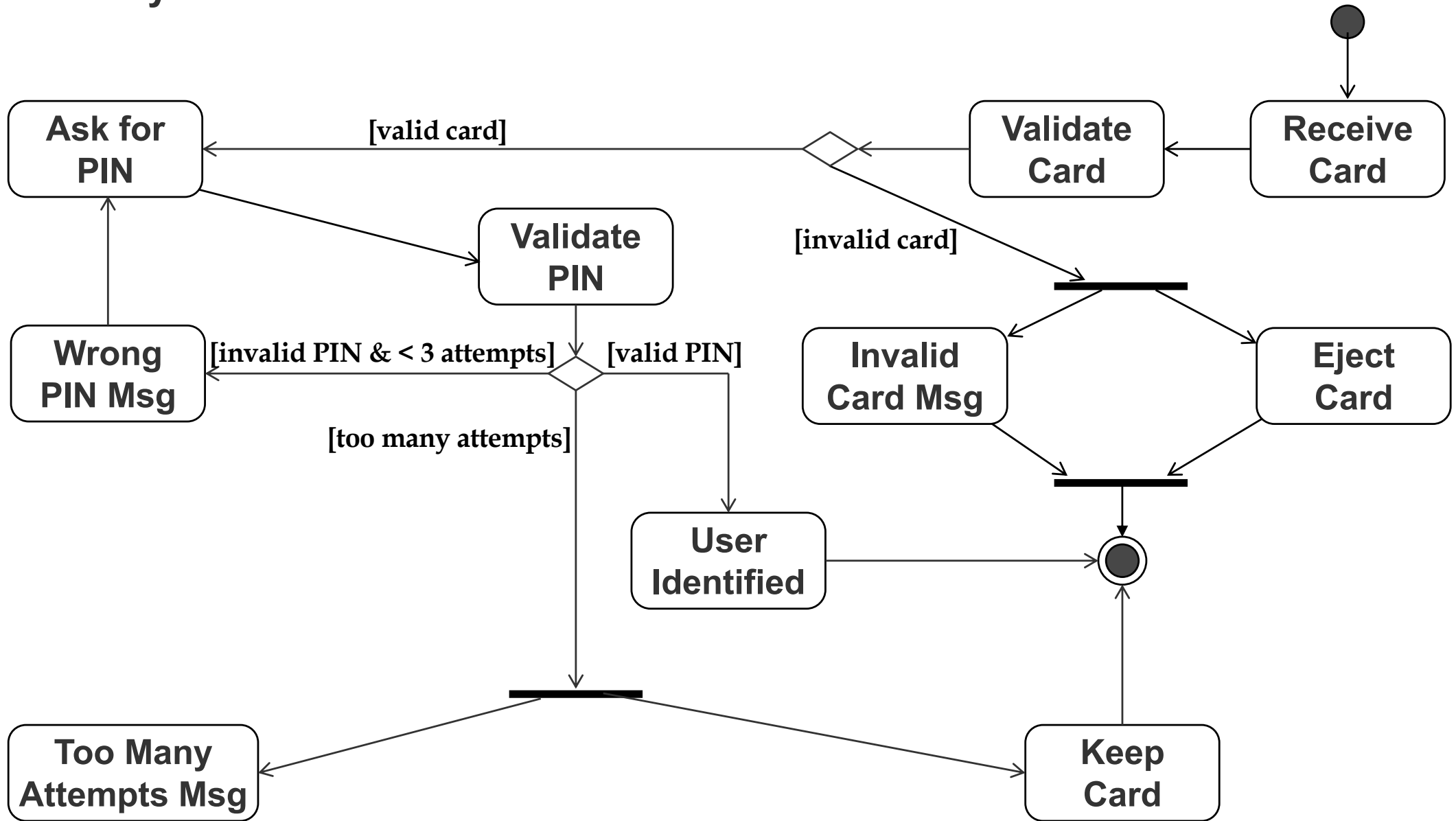
Fork Node – start concurrent flows



Join Node – joins concurrent flows



Identify User



Activity Diagrams in Use Case Modelling

- Determine triggering event that starts use case flow
- Identify actions and determine control flow
- Add guard conditions and decision points
- Add forking and joining to show parallel activity
- Create invoke activities to manage complexity
- Group activities into partitions, *if needed*
- Add flows corresponding to alternative scenarios
- Each *path* should correspond to an *individual* scenario

Reading

- Larman
 - Section 6.18
 - Chapter 28