



WS 23/24: Guided Project 08 - Business Process Automation Lab 2

Introduction, deliverable and grading Schema

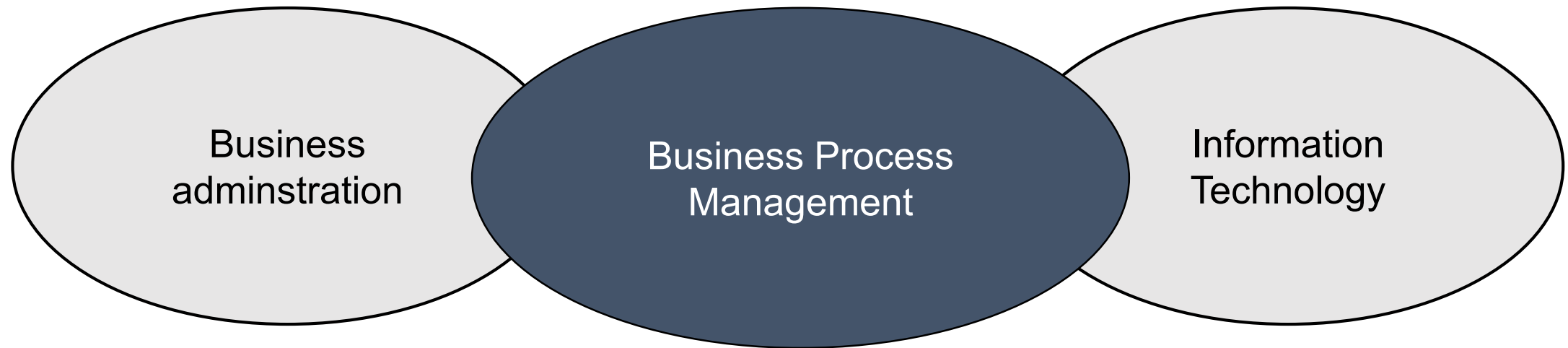
Supervisor: Prof. Matthias Zapp

Agenda

- **Background**
- BPA Lab at a glance
- BPA Lab as a Learning Factory
- BPA Lab as a Demonstration Factory
- Guided project: Organization and grading scheme

Teaching and research field

Business Process Management



Teaching and research area

Examples

„End-to-End“
business
processes

Procure to Pay

Purchase requisition to
payment

Order to Cash

Customer order to payment
received

...

other business
processe

Invoice Processing

Invoice receipt to payment

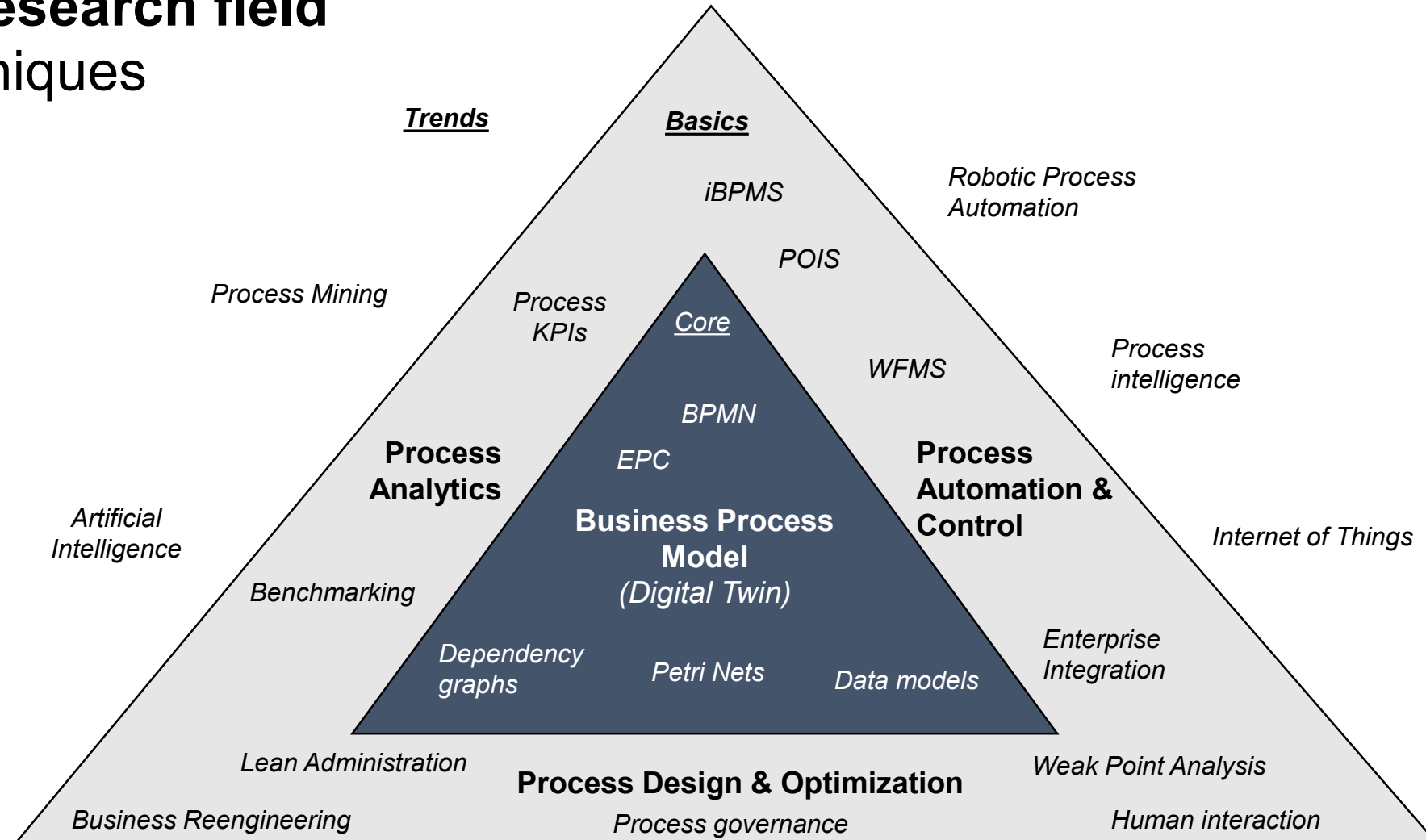
Transport Management

Delivery planned to shipment
cost calculation



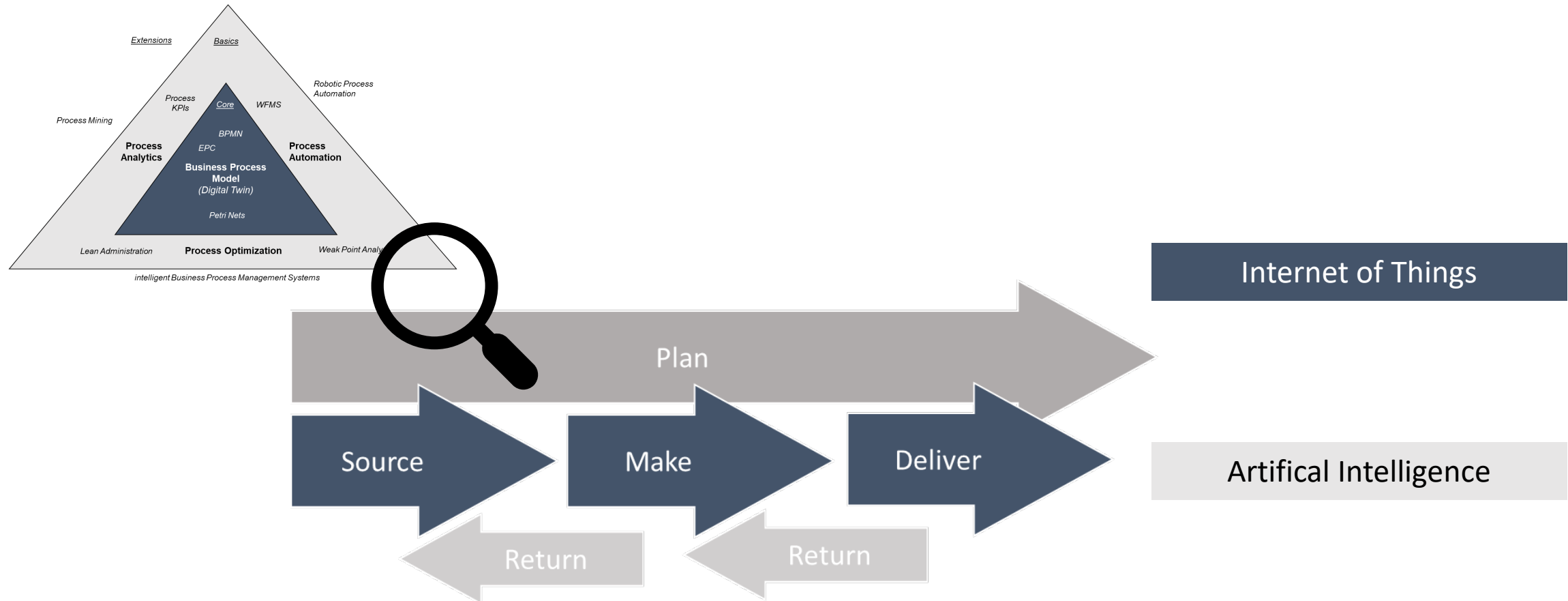
Teaching and research field

Methods & techniques



Focus area

Business Process Automation and Analytics @ Production & Logistic



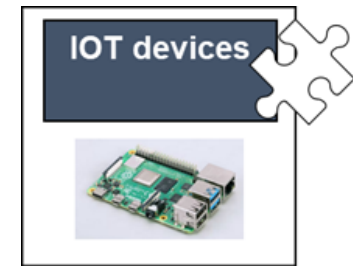
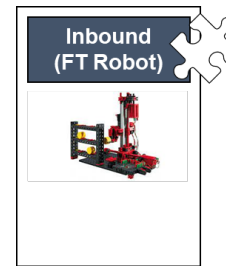
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Business Process Automation Lab

Definition and objectives

Lightweight and modular model factory for intelligent process automation and analysis in the application area of production and logistics (project phase 1: 2022-2024).



The BPA Lab shall be used for:

- 1) **Teaching:** Use in teaching in the field of process analysis and automation.
- 2) **Demonstration:** Demonstration of modern concepts and technologies in process automation and analysis for students and company representatives
- 3) **Research:** Development and evaluation of new concepts

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BPA Lab as a demonstration factory

Simulating an end-to-end business process

Scenario: A bicycle manufacturer offers highly customizable bicycles to consumers

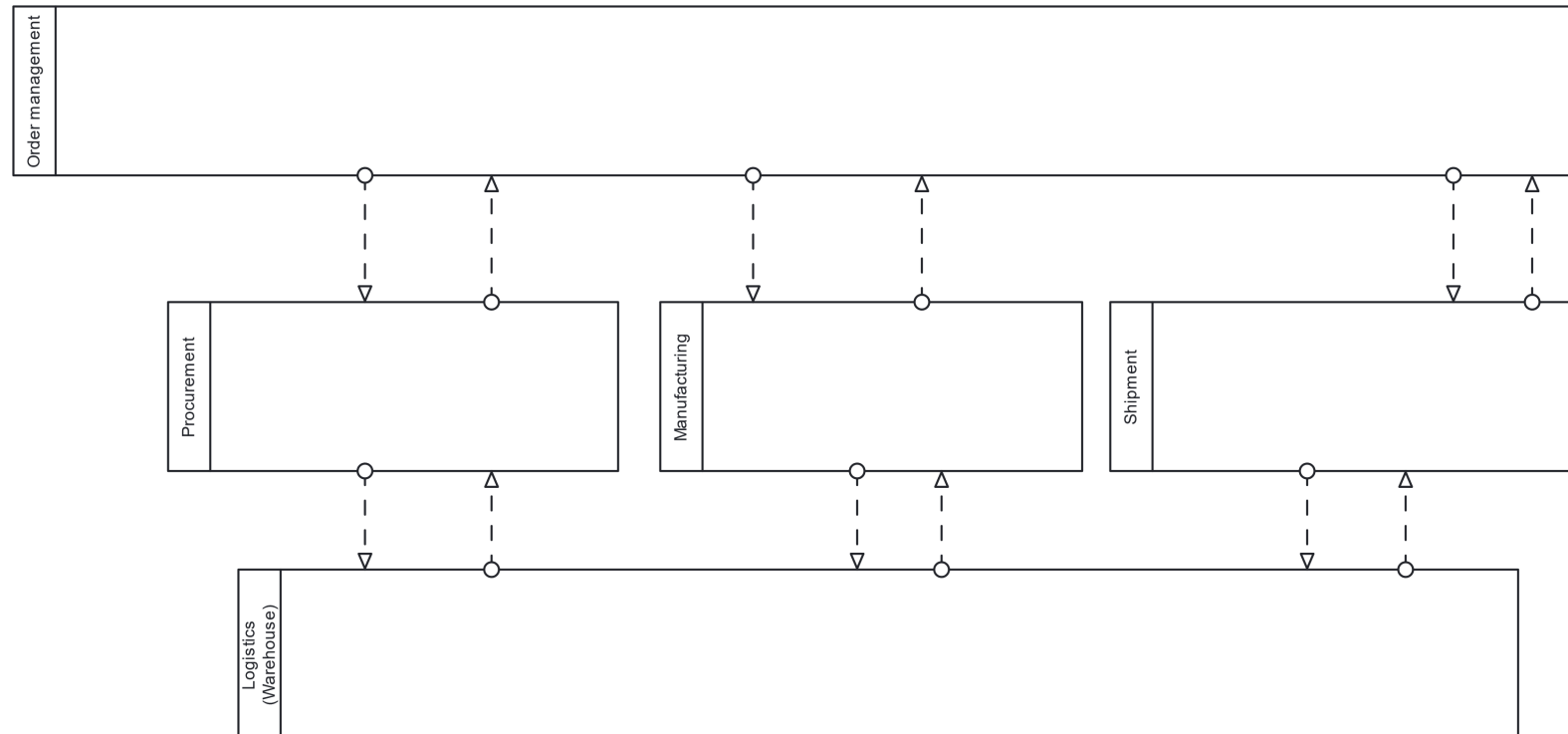


Fig. Process landscape - BPA Lab

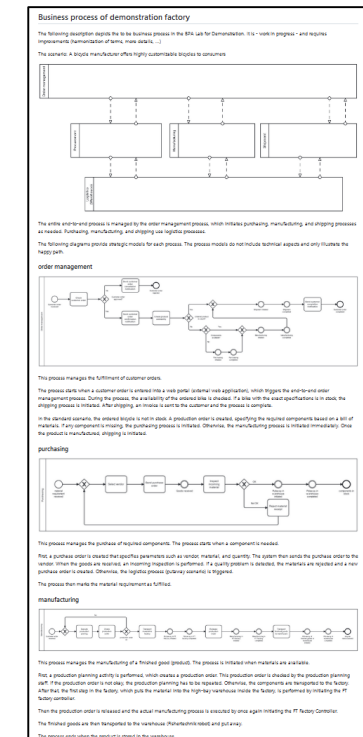
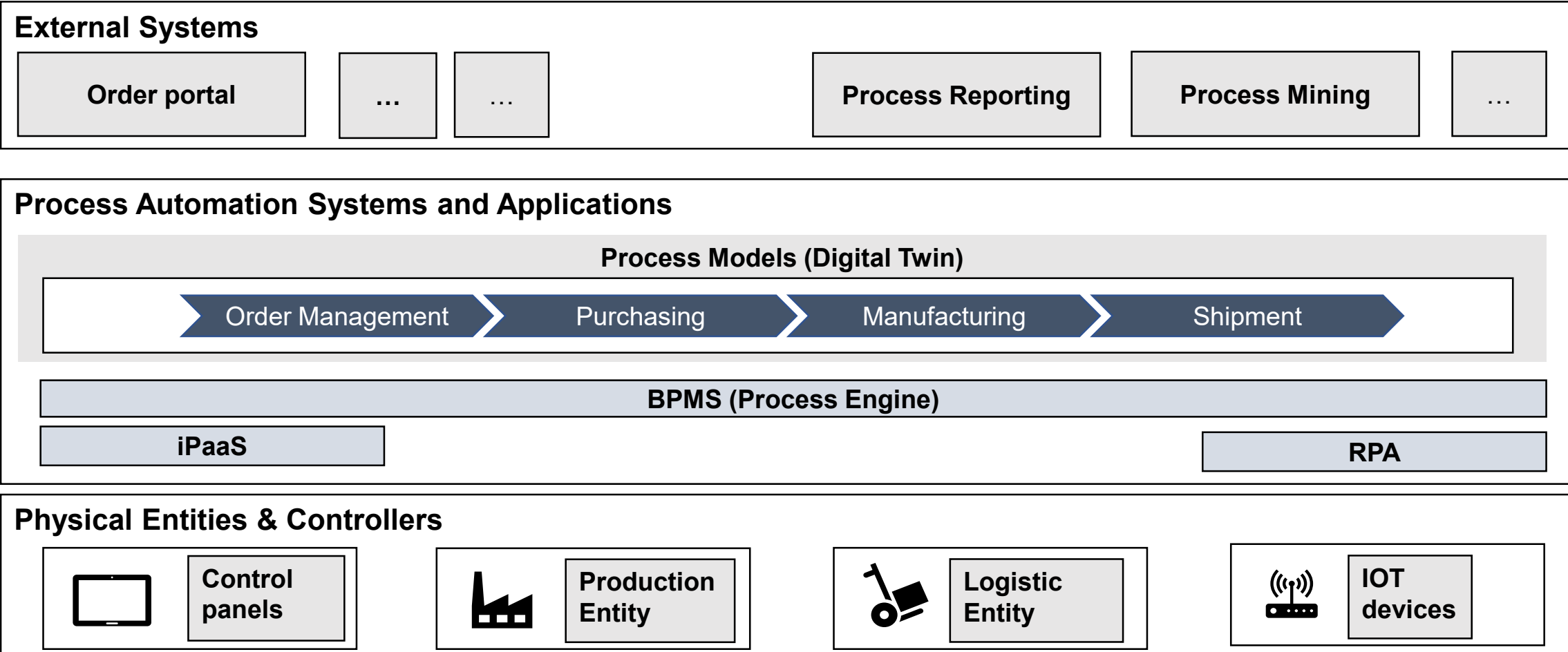


Fig. Process description

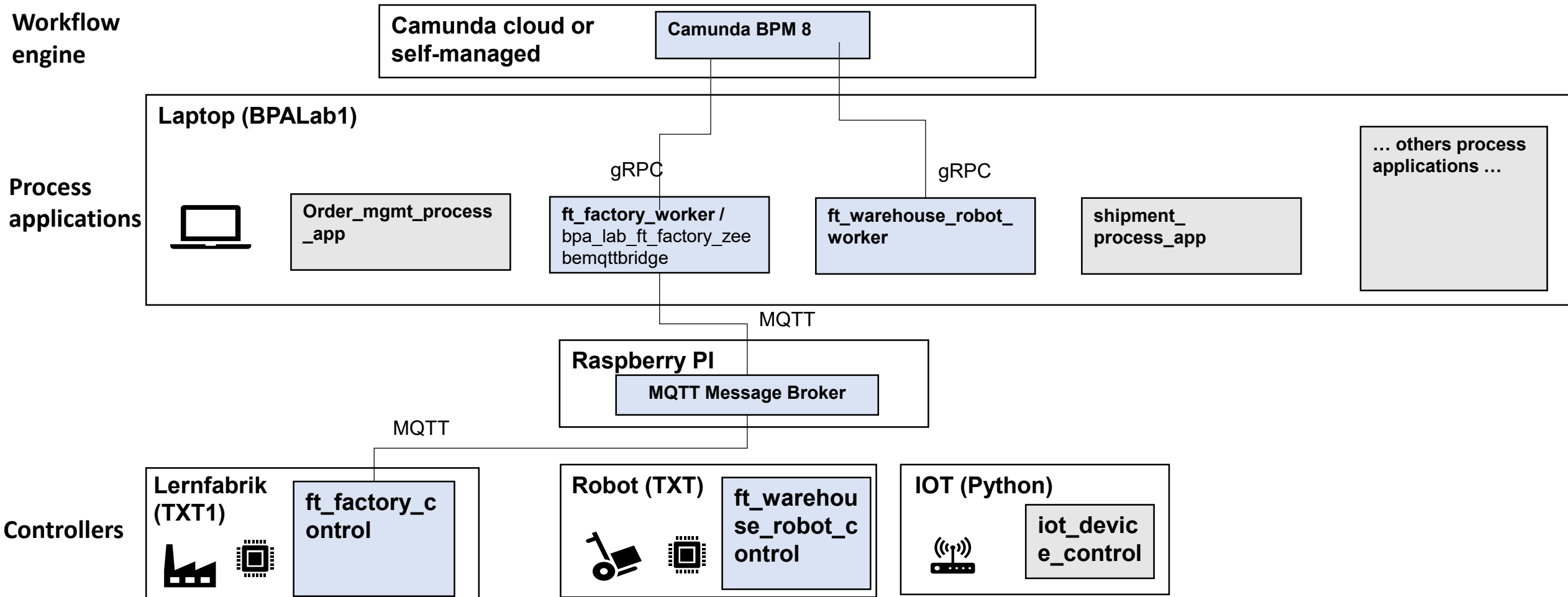
BPA Lab a a demonstration factory

Concept



BPA Lab a a demonstration factory

Simplified architecture (work in progress)



BPA Lab a a demonstration factory

Next steps

- **Documentation** of requirements / business process
- Develop **architecture** step by step and documentation of architecture and architecture decisions
- Agreement and implementation of **naming conventions** and specifications for (development of) elements
- **Further development in the context of the Guided Project:**
 - Design of processes (process model, forms, data models)
 - (Further) development of process applications

BPA Lab as a demonstration factory



the journey is (part of the reward)

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BPA Lab in teaching

Motivation: Improvement of teaching in the field of process automation

Subject of teaching: optimization and automation of business processes

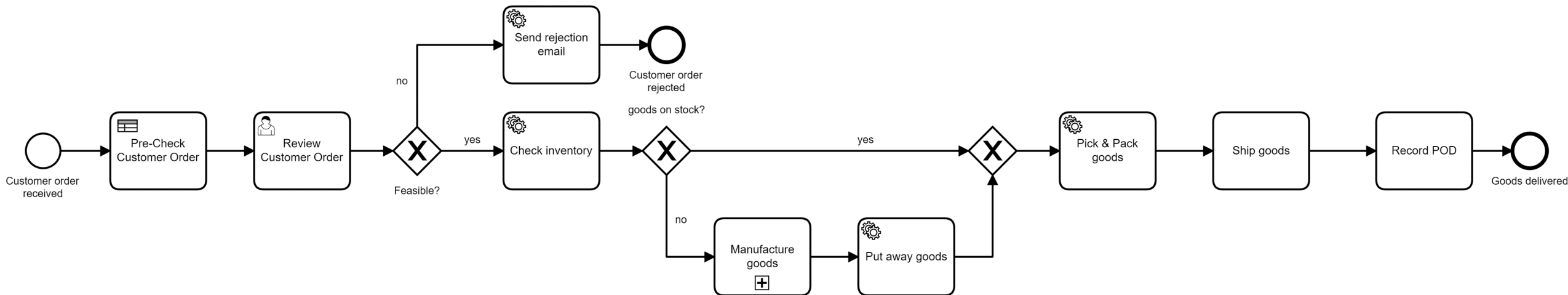
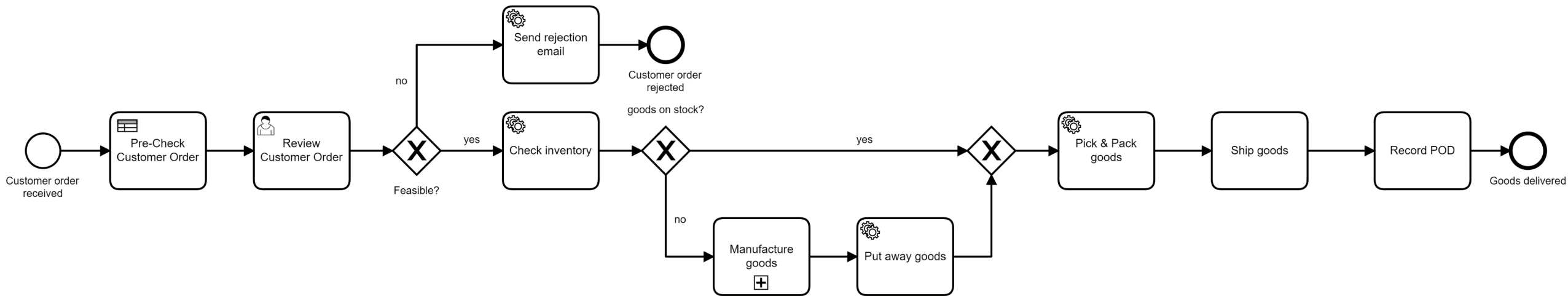


Illustration.: Simplified Order-to-Cash process

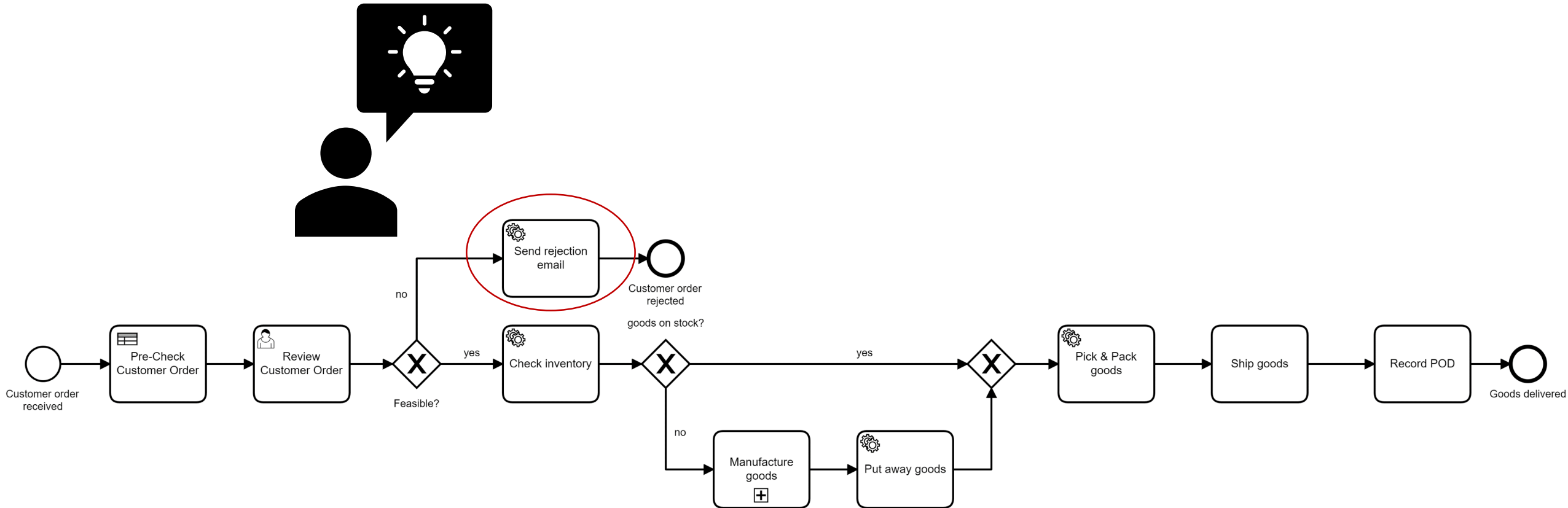
Learning objectives (1/3)

Discover and model cross-functional business processes



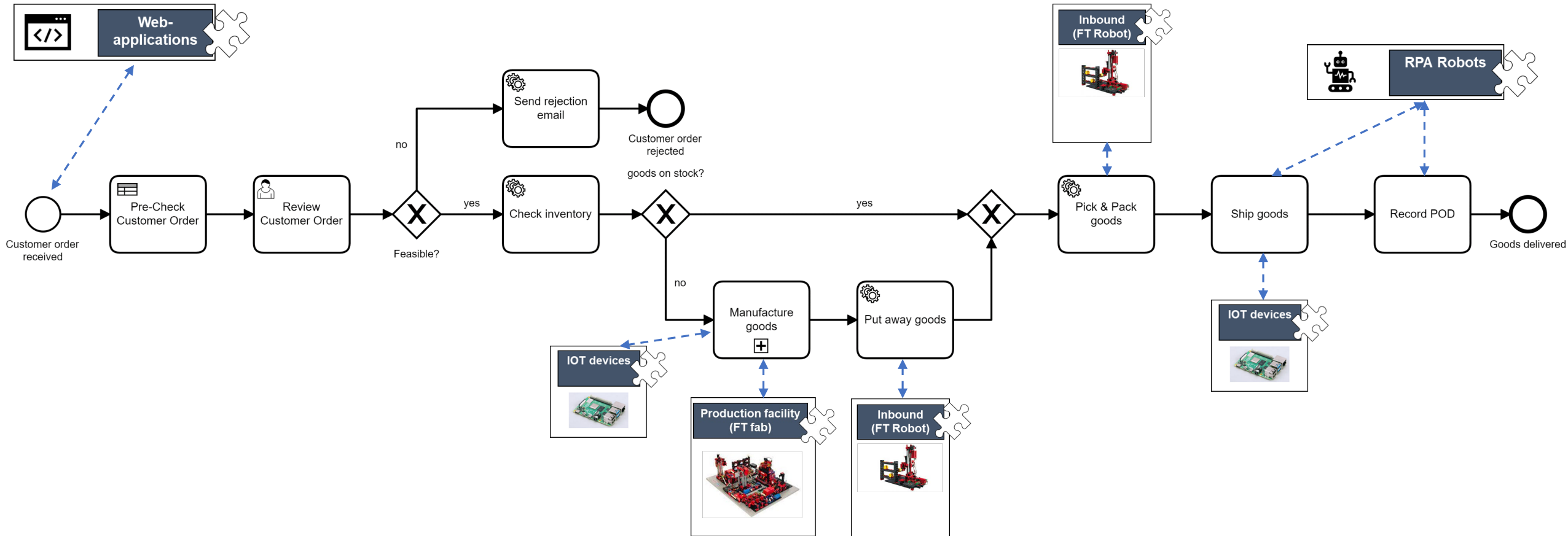
Learning objectives (2/3)

Analyse and optimize business processes



Learning objectives (3/3)

Automate business processes integrating applications



BPA Lab as a Learning Factory

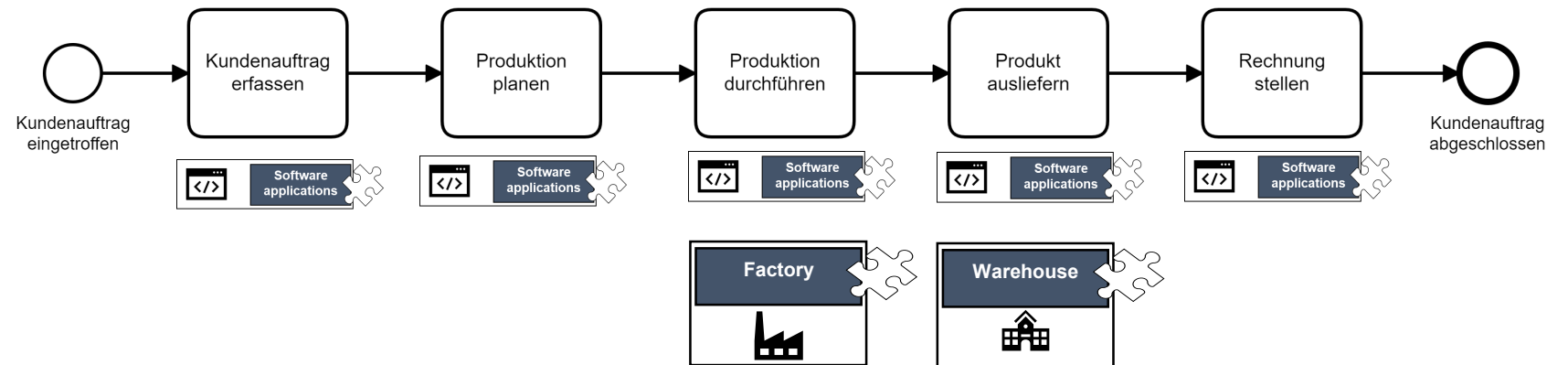
Initial situation and problem

Initial situation with regard to process automation

- Students learn about the use of process automation platforms and develop - in a second module - simple process automation solutions based on requirements

Problem definition

- Applicability as well as complexity of real process automation solutions does not appear to be sufficiently transferred (simple approval processes vs. complex cross-application processes)



BPA Lab as a Learning Factory

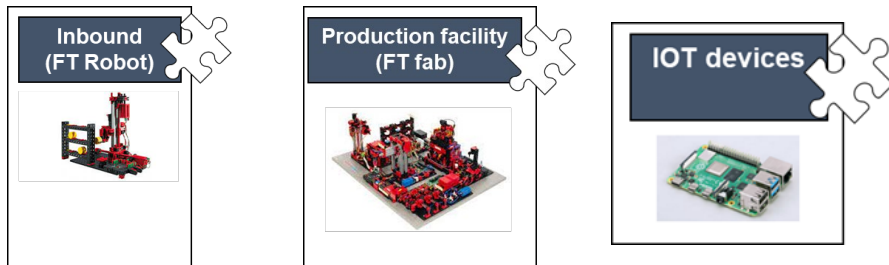
Teaching concept

Research question in TransferING project

- “(How) Can the use of hardware components improve learning in business process automation?”

Teaching concepts

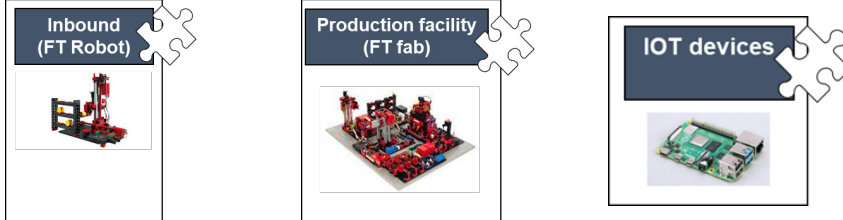
- Use of the model factory (Business Process Automation Lab) as a **demonstrator** in lectures and exercises (course: Information and Process Management).
- Use of the **building blocks** of the BPA Lab **as part of the process automation solution** to be developed by student teams (course: Business Engineering).



BPA Lab as a Learning Factory

Past and next steps

- 1) Investigation of **the initial situation, problem definition and use of learning factories** (Completed)
- 2) Development of a **teaching concept** for the integration of the building blocks into the courses in the bachelor's degree program (in progress)
- 3) **Configuration and documentation of building blocks** of the Business Process Automation Lab (in progress)



- 4) **Evaluation** and further development of the concept with selected students in WS 23/24 (**Guided Project in the Master**) and use as demonstrators in Bachelor lecture
- 5) Depending on results: Further evaluation in bachelor program in summer 24 (Open)

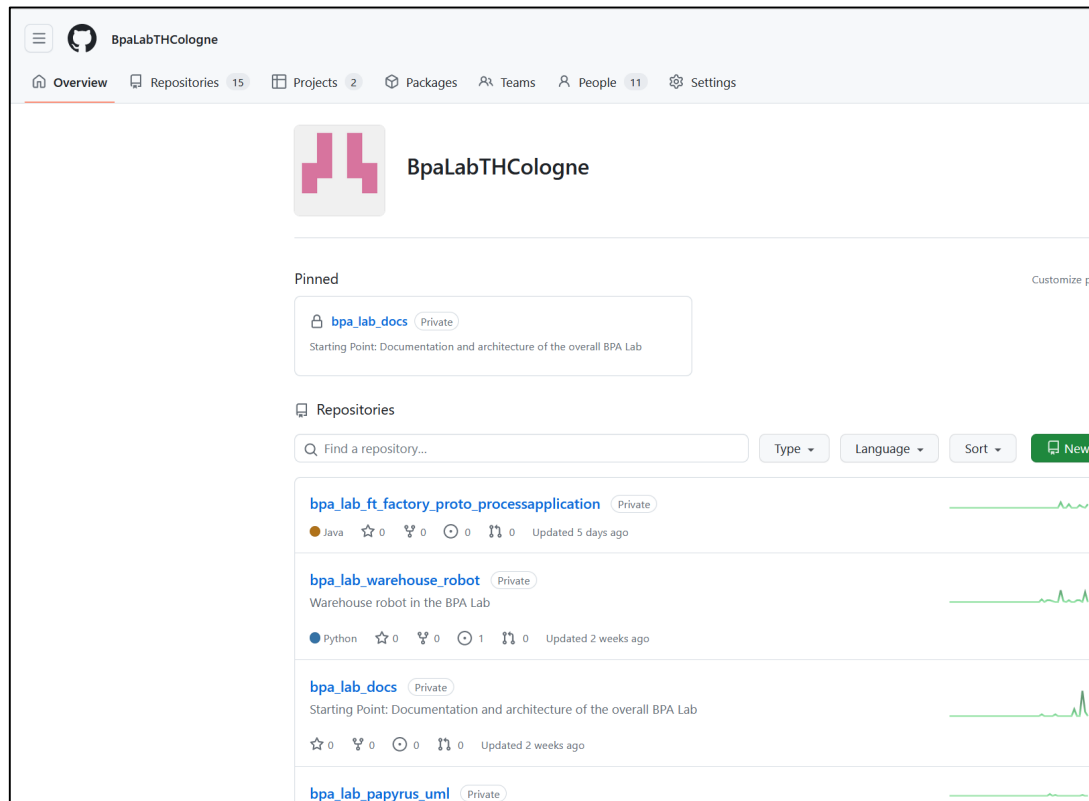
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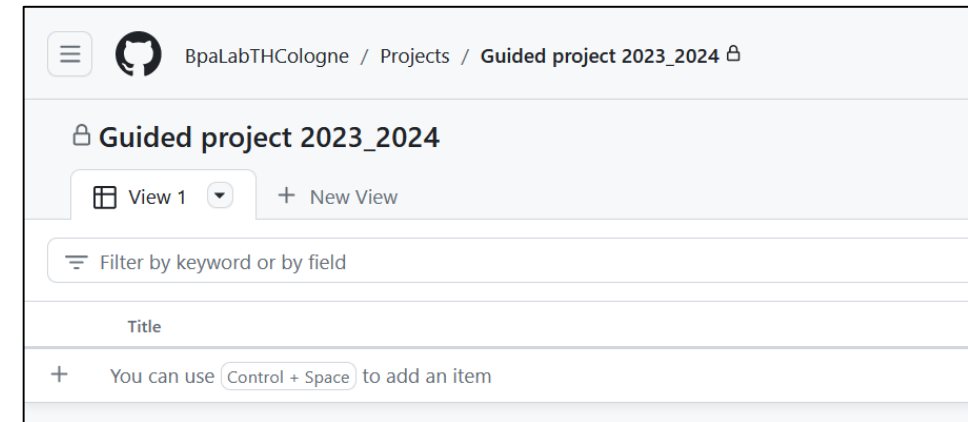
Project organization

GitHub BpaLabTHCologne

<https://github.com/BpaLabTHCologne>



Management of items in GitHub



Grading Scheme (Master Digital Science - 12 ECTS)

Evaluation of “BPA Lab as a learning factory” (2 ECTS)

- Quality of your findings, suggestions, ...

Intermediate contribution (2 ECTS)

- Active participation and contribution in workshops
- Presentation / sharing of your intermediate results in workshops (quality)
- Taking over coordinating functions (and fulfilling them!)

Your individual deliverables and documentation (7 ECTS)

- Deliverables itself
- Testing and quality assurance
- Documentation

Final presentation at guided project day (1 ECTS)

- 4-6 slides (10 min) per team member expected
- Content, competence and presentation itself