

# SIMULATION MODELS CONCEPTUALIZATION



Pau Fonseca i Casas; [pau@fib.upc.edu](mailto:pau@fib.upc.edu)

# The need of a conceptual model



How the customer explained it



How the Project Leader understood it



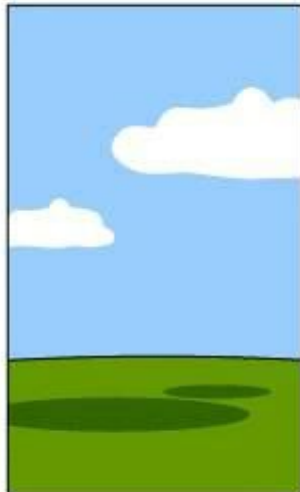
How the Analyst designed it



How the Programmer wrote it



How the Business Consultant described it



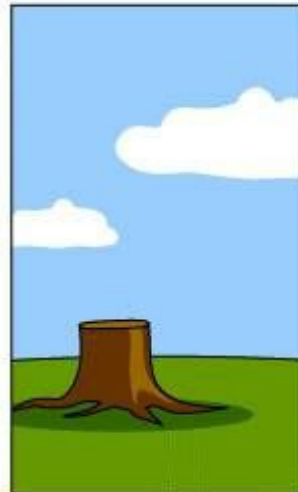
How the project was documented



What operations installed



How the customer was billed



How it was supported



What the customer really needed

# Hypotheses

- What is inside the model?
- Hypotheses
  - ▣ Systemic / Structural
  - ▣ Simplification



# Advantages of use a conceptual model

- Textual specification is less precise.
- Conceptual model have in a detailed manner, the dynamical relations between the different elements of the interest process.
  - ▣ Constitutes an specification by itself.
- Simplifies the dialog between the different parts that are involved in the project.
- Constitutes a representation of the simulation model independent of the selected tool used to build the model.

# Conceptual model formalization

- Formalism must be **independent** from the simulation tools.
- The formalized model must **allow** some **analysis**.
  - ▣ To **determine relations** between components.

# Conceptual model formalization

- Formalism must allow an easy transformation to the representations supported by the existing simulation frameworks.
  - ▣ Simplify the codification process.
  - ▣ To evaluate alternatives.

# Conceptual model formalization

- Some aspects of the model can be not specified, without causing problems in the transformation to other representations. MODULARITY
- The model must be defined in terms that **no constrain** its codification in a **particular mechanism** of simulation **clock update**.

# Modularity

- The capacity to describe the behavior of each subsystem, independent from the other subsystems that compose the model
  - ▣ Incremental design of the model.
  - ▣ Simplifies the verification and the validation of the model.



# Assure the Modularity

1. A module cannot access directly to the state of other modules or components.
2. A module must own a set of ports (input/output) to allow the interaction with the other parts of the model.

# Conceptual models

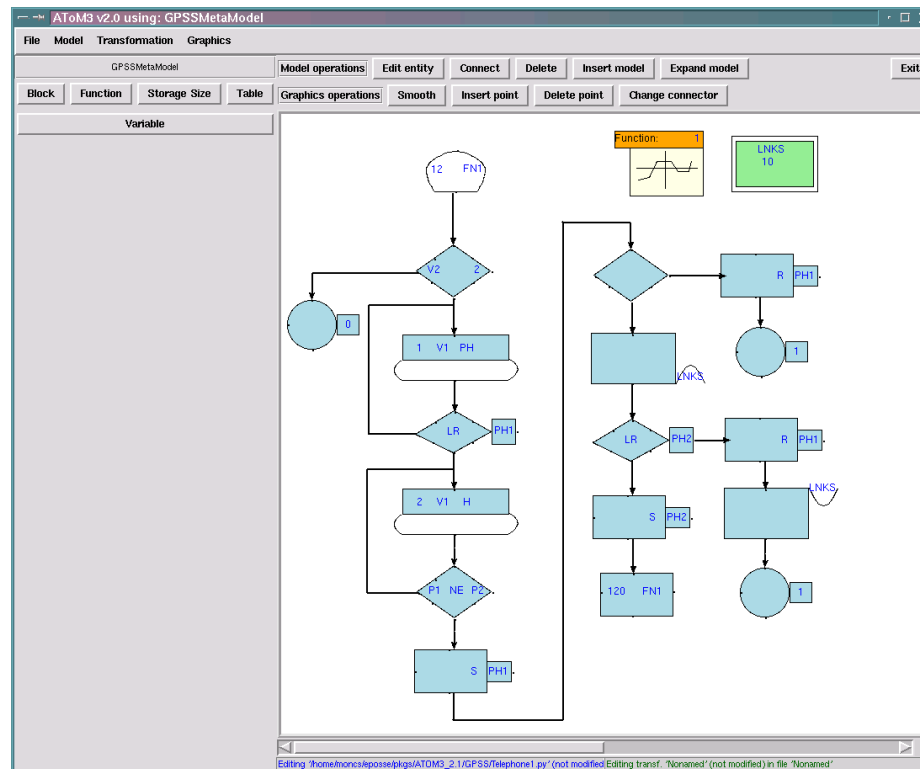
- Flow models.
- Queue networks.
- BPM.
- Service Blueprint.
- Petri nets.
- Colored Petri nets.
- SDL language
- DEVS
- Causal and Forrester diagrams.

# Working with different formal languages

- Three of the main mechanisms for doing this:
  - ▣ Meta-formalism.
  - ▣ Common formalism.
  - ▣ Co-simulation.
- Vangheluwe, H. L. (2000). DEVS as a common denominator for multi-formalism hybrid systems modelling. *IEEE International Symposium on Computer-Aided Control System Design* (pp. 129--134). IEEE Computer Society Press.

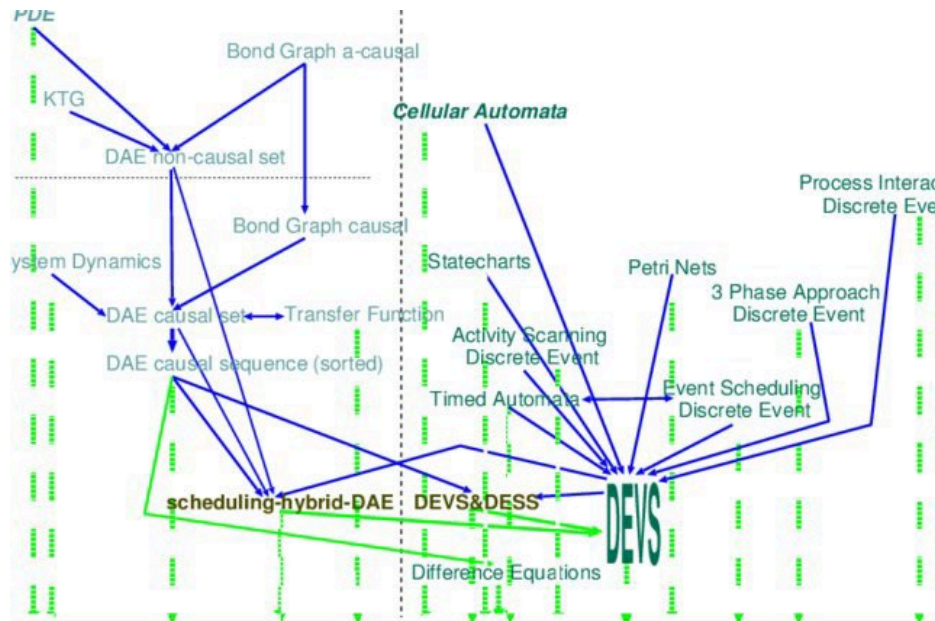
# Meta-formalism

- A formalism that incorporates the different formalisms of the various sub models that makes up the system.
- ATOM3: <http://atom3.cs.mcgill.ca/>



# Common formalism

- A mechanism that converts all formalisms to a common formalism.
- Transforming algorithms from:
  - $\text{SDL} \rightarrow \text{DEVS} \rightarrow \text{Petri Nets} \dots$



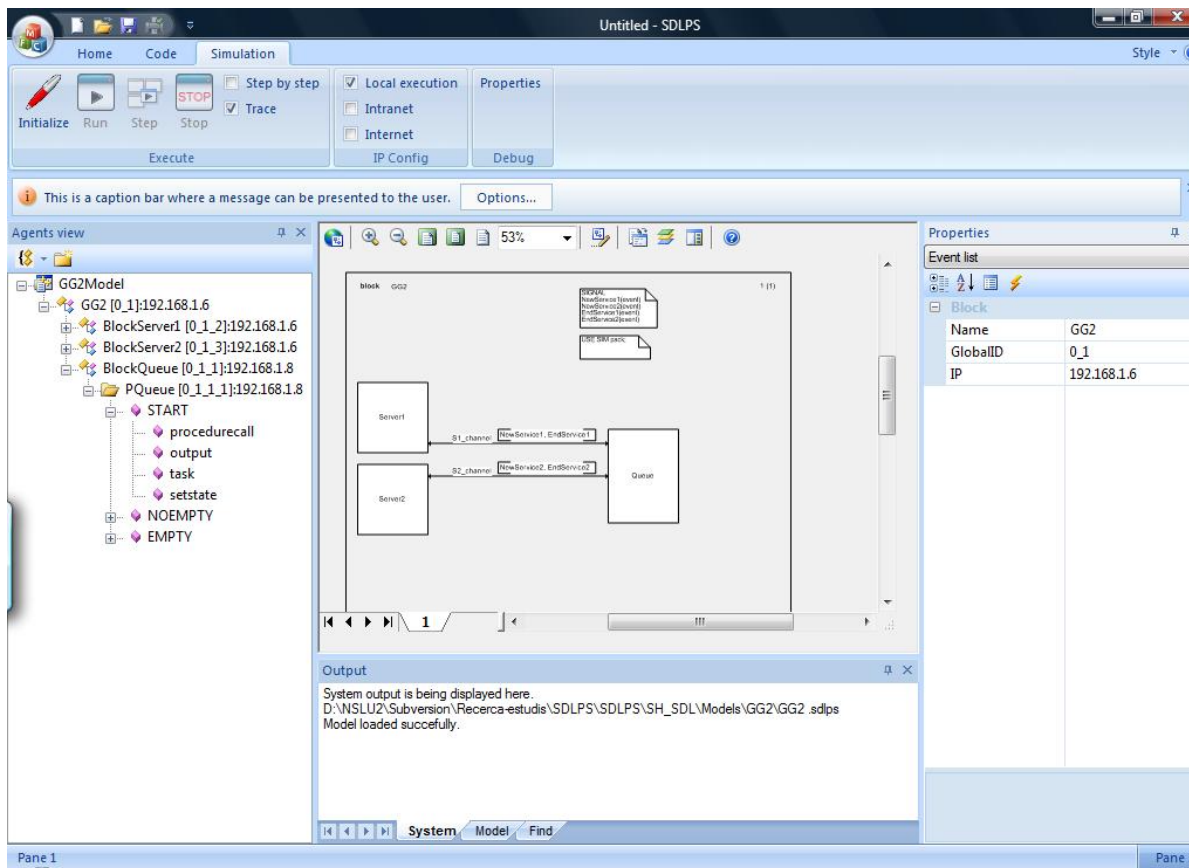
[https://www.researchgate.net/publication/220713394\\_Computer\\_Aided\\_Multi-paradigm\\_Modelling\\_to\\_Process\\_Petri-Nets\\_and\\_Statecharts](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/220713394_Computer_Aided_Multi-paradigm_Modelling_to_Process_Petri-Nets_and_Statecharts)

# Co-simulation

- Independent simulators that work together
- HLA: The **High-Level Architecture (HLA)** is a general-purpose architecture for distributed computer simulation systems. Using HLA, computer simulations can interact to other computer simulations regardless of the computing platforms. The interaction between simulations is managed by a Run-Time Infrastructure (RTI).

# Co-simulation with SDL

- We use SDLPS (on the practical sessions)





# Flow models

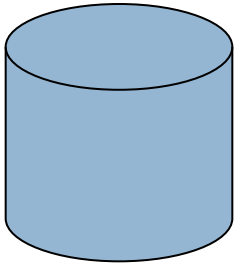
Simulation models formalization



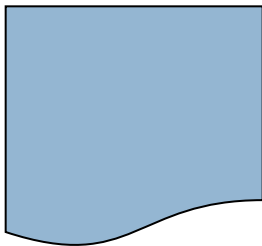
# Flow diagrams

- Flow chart or flow diagram... is a diagram that visually displays interrelated information such as events, steps in a process, functions, etc., in an organized fashion, such as sequentially or chronologically.
- Flow diagram [is] a graphic representation of the physical route or flow of people, materials, paperwork's, vehicles, or communication associated with a process, procedure plan, or investigation.
- See *Information Graphics: A Comprehensive Investigative Illustrated Reference* by Harris (1999)

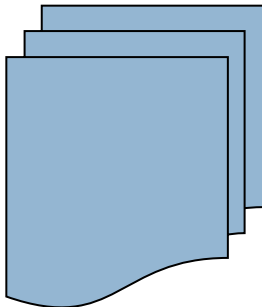
# Flow models (data)



□ Magnetic disc



□ Document

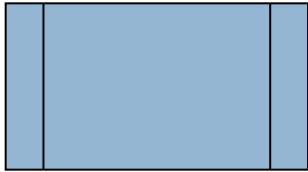


□ Multiple document

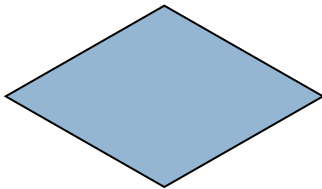
# Flows models (Processes)



□ State



□ Process

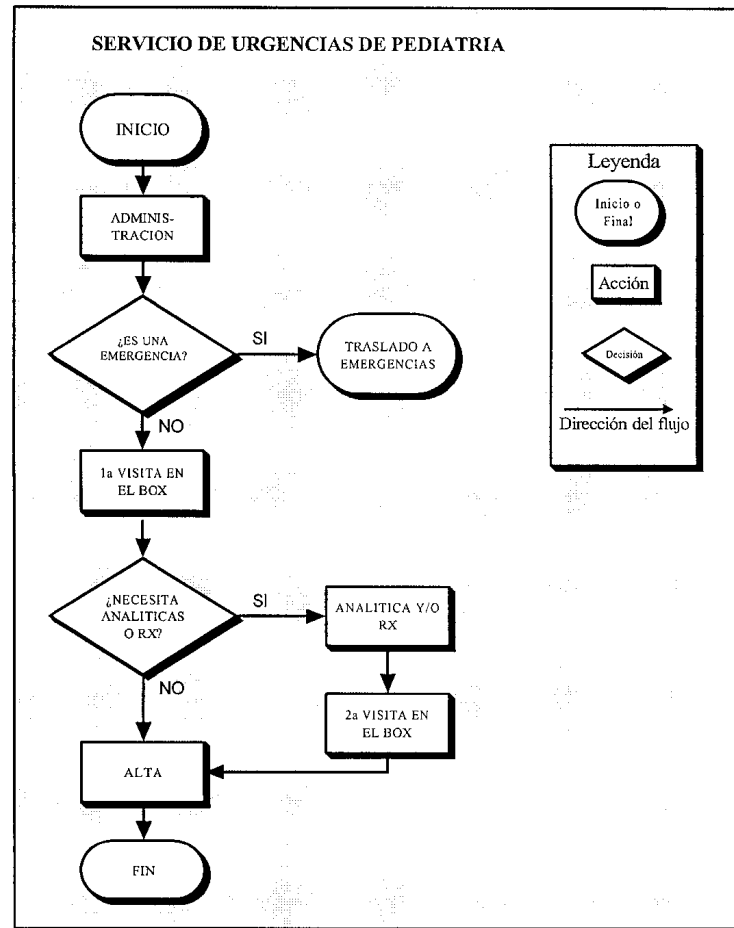


□ Decision point

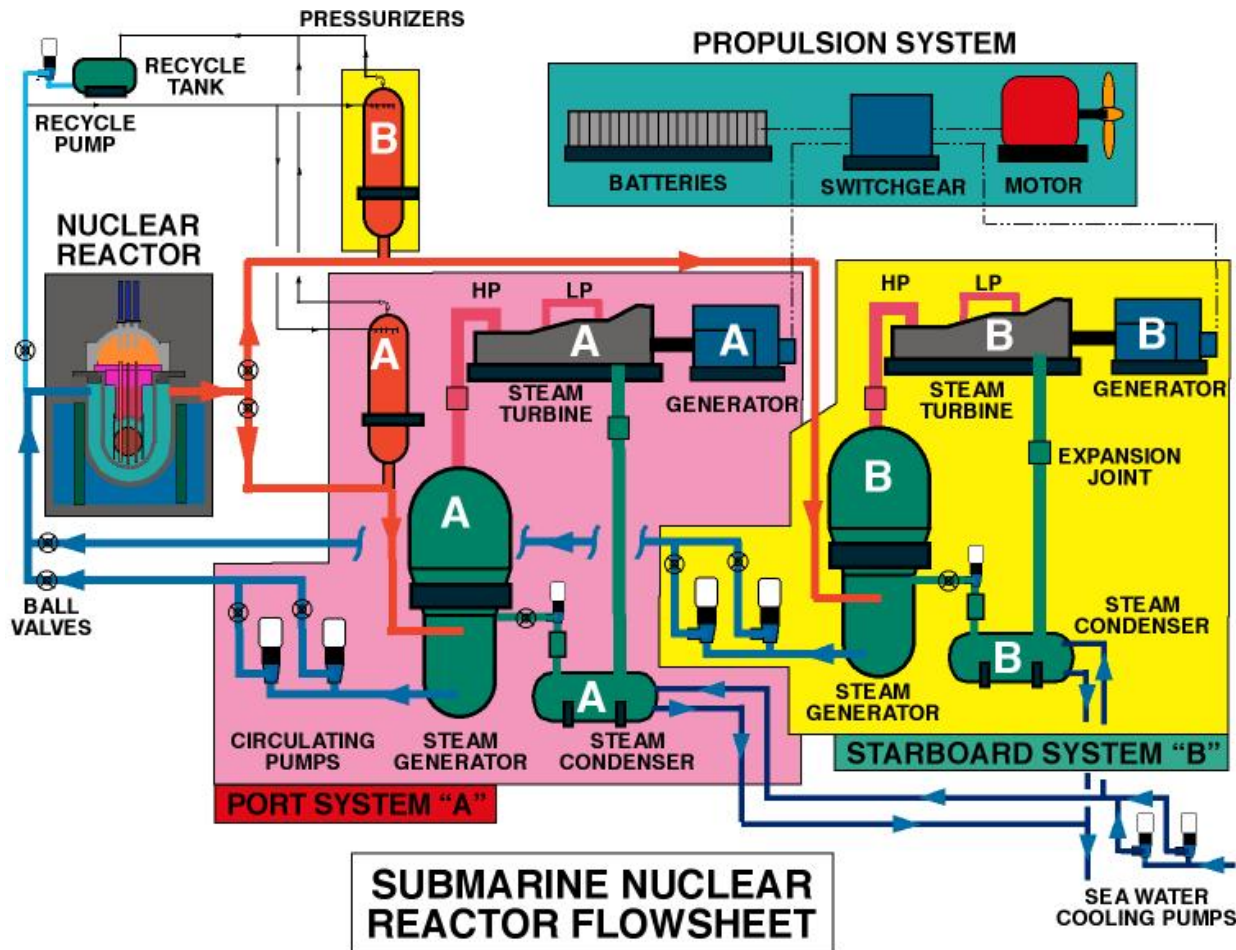
# Pediatrics example

- Models a pediatrics example.
- If a new emergency arrives a special process takes cure of it.
- If X ray is needed, or blood analysis, is done in a second visit
- Finally the patient release the system.

# Flows models



# Submarine nuclear reactor



"SUB REACTOR SYSTEM FLOW". Licensed under Public Domain via Wikimedia Commons -

[http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:SUB\\_REACTOR\\_SYSTEM\\_FLOW.jpg#mediaviewer/File:SUB\\_REACTOR\\_SYSTEM\\_FLOW.jpg](http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:SUB_REACTOR_SYSTEM_FLOW.jpg#mediaviewer/File:SUB_REACTOR_SYSTEM_FLOW.jpg)

# Flows models

## Good

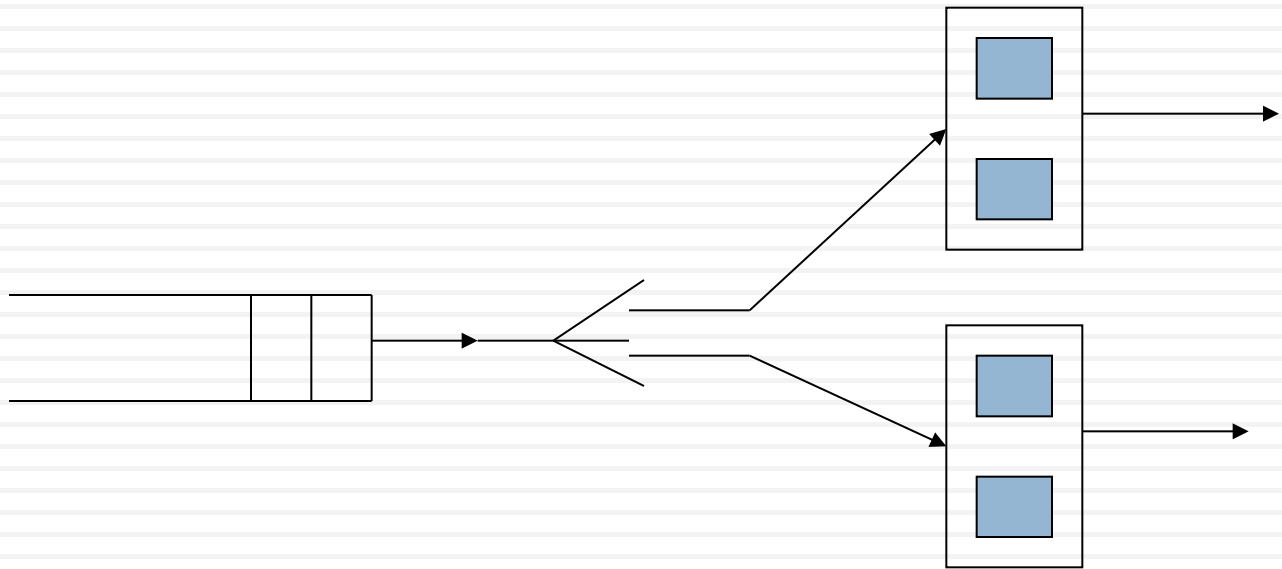
- ❑ Simple
- ❑ Allows to describe the system faster.

## Bad

- ❑ No description about the codification.
- ❑ No description about the events.
- ❑ Is not calculable.
- ❑ Not structured methodology, not specific of the OR.

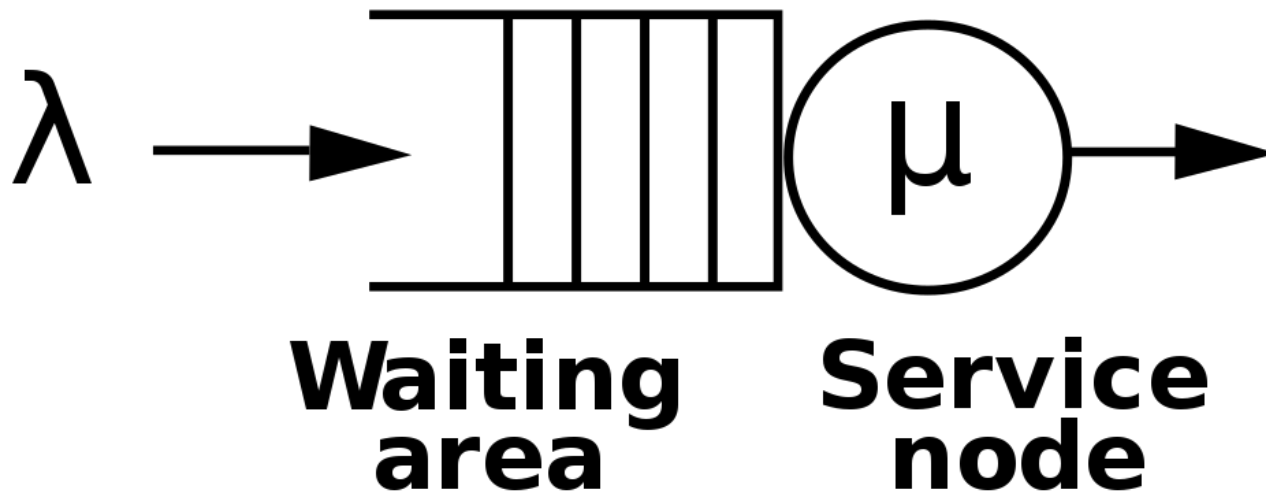
# Queue networks

## Simulation models formalization

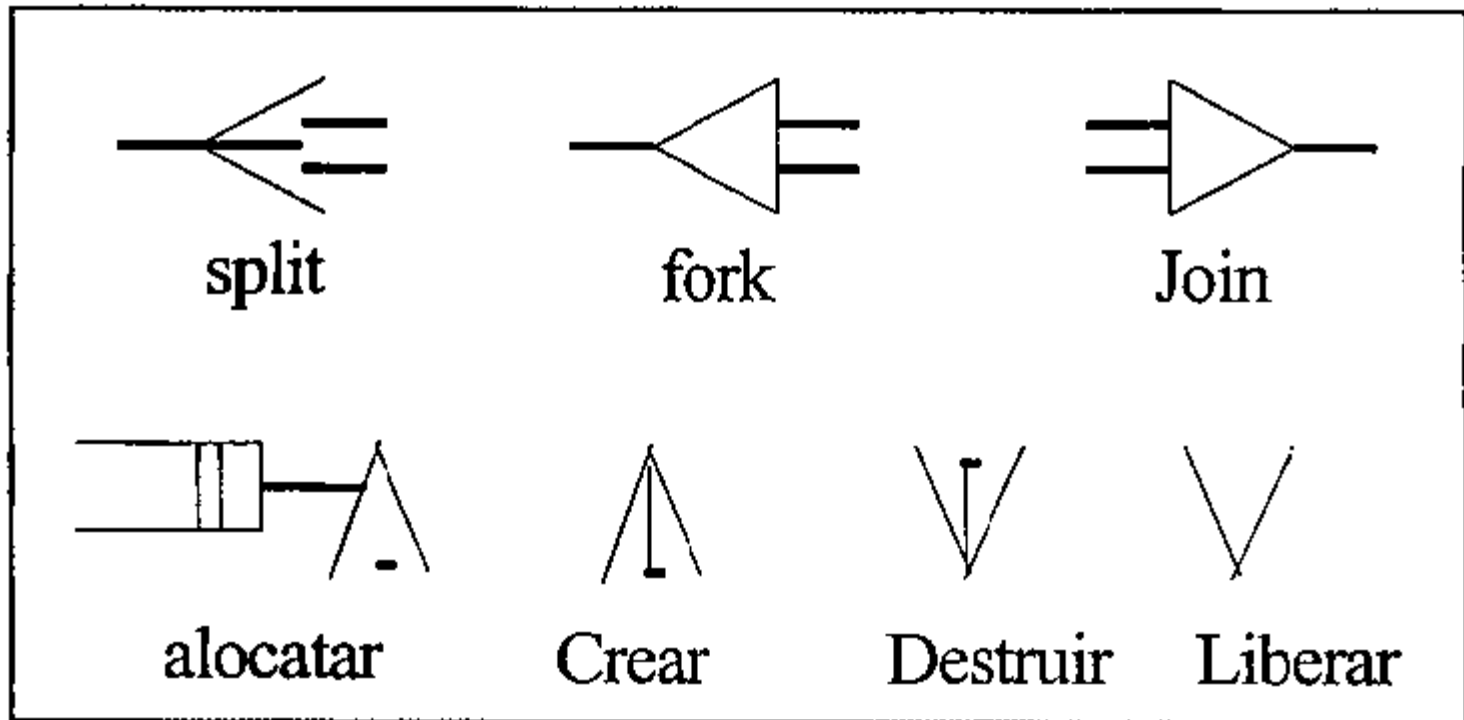




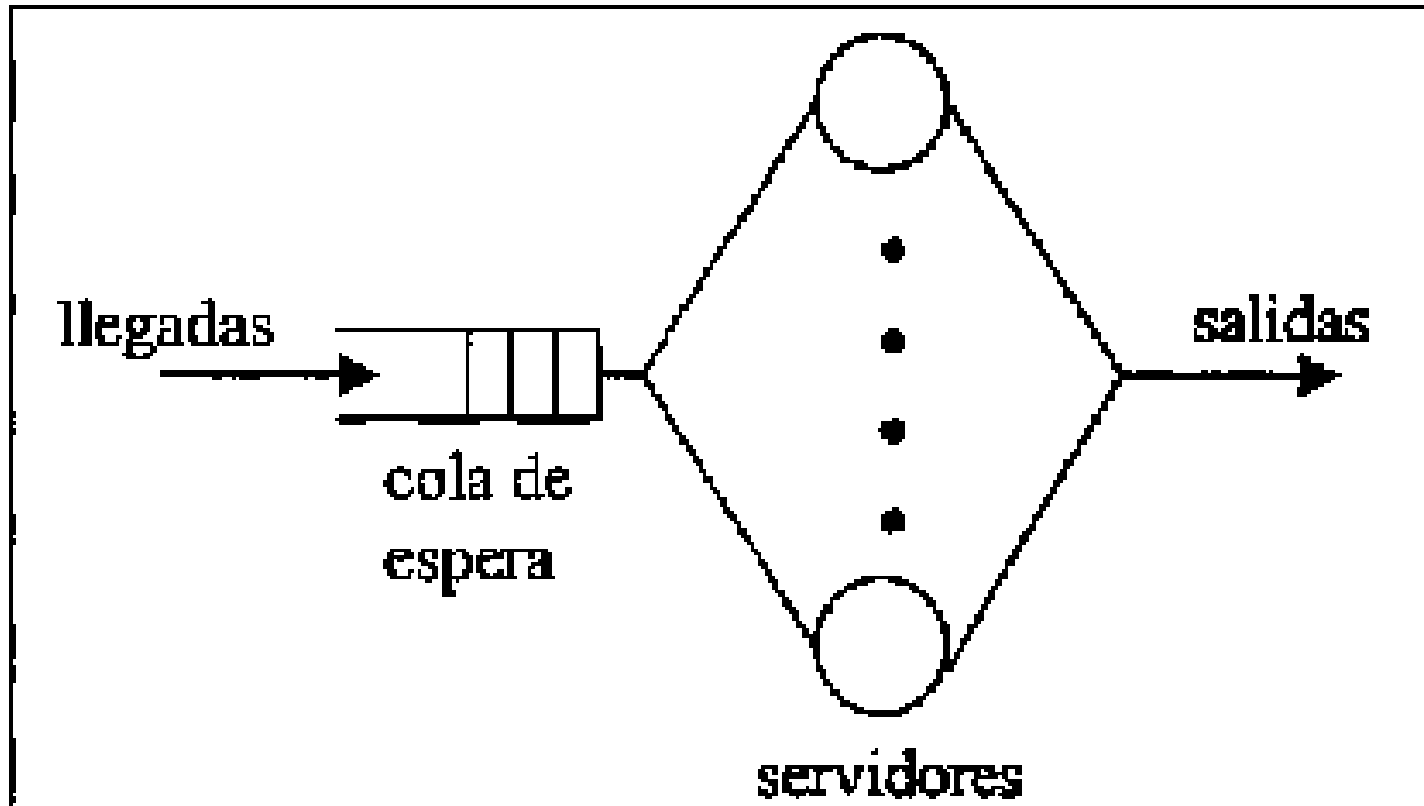
# Basic structure of queue models



# Queue networks

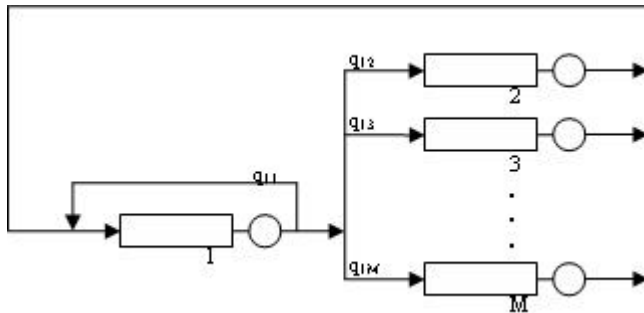


# Queue networks ( $M | M | S$ )



# Queue networks (best)

- Simple
- Allows to understand the system faster.
- Specific to describe queue models.



# Queue networks (worse)

- No description about the implementation.
- Do not describe too much about the events management.
- Is not always calculable.
  - ▣ Some models can be calculated following the queue theory.



# Service blueprint

From the customer perspective

# Service Blueprint

- The **service blueprint** is a technique originally used for service design and innovation but has also found applications in diagnosing problems with operational efficiency.
- The technique was first described by G. Lynn Shostack, a bank executive, in the Harvard Business Review in 1984.<sup>[1]</sup>
- The service blueprint is an applied process chart which shows the service delivery process from the customer's perspective. The service blueprint has become one of the most widely used tools to manage service operations, service design and service positioning.

# Farm example

## Key element of CS Blue Print

**Physical evidence** : All tangible that the pig experience during within in box.

**Pig action** : Any step, choices, interaction or activities of the pig experience while entering o exit from the box.

**Front stage** : current interaction or steps that are visible to the pig.

**Back stage** : current interaction or steps that are invisible to the pig.

**Support Process** : system that support the action of the pig.

### Physical Evidence

Time to eat

Farm &  
Food box

Helper  
Person

Pig side to  
Food side

### Pigs Action

Call for food  
(Hungry)

To enter in the  
box

Interaction  
with other pig

Start to eat

Process start  
Food side

Untill pig full

Line of interaction

### Front Stage

Line of visibilty

Took them to  
the food

Eating food

### Back Stage

Line of internal interaction

Prepare food

Recording  
system

### Support Process

Getting to the  
food box

Start  
processing

Electronic chip

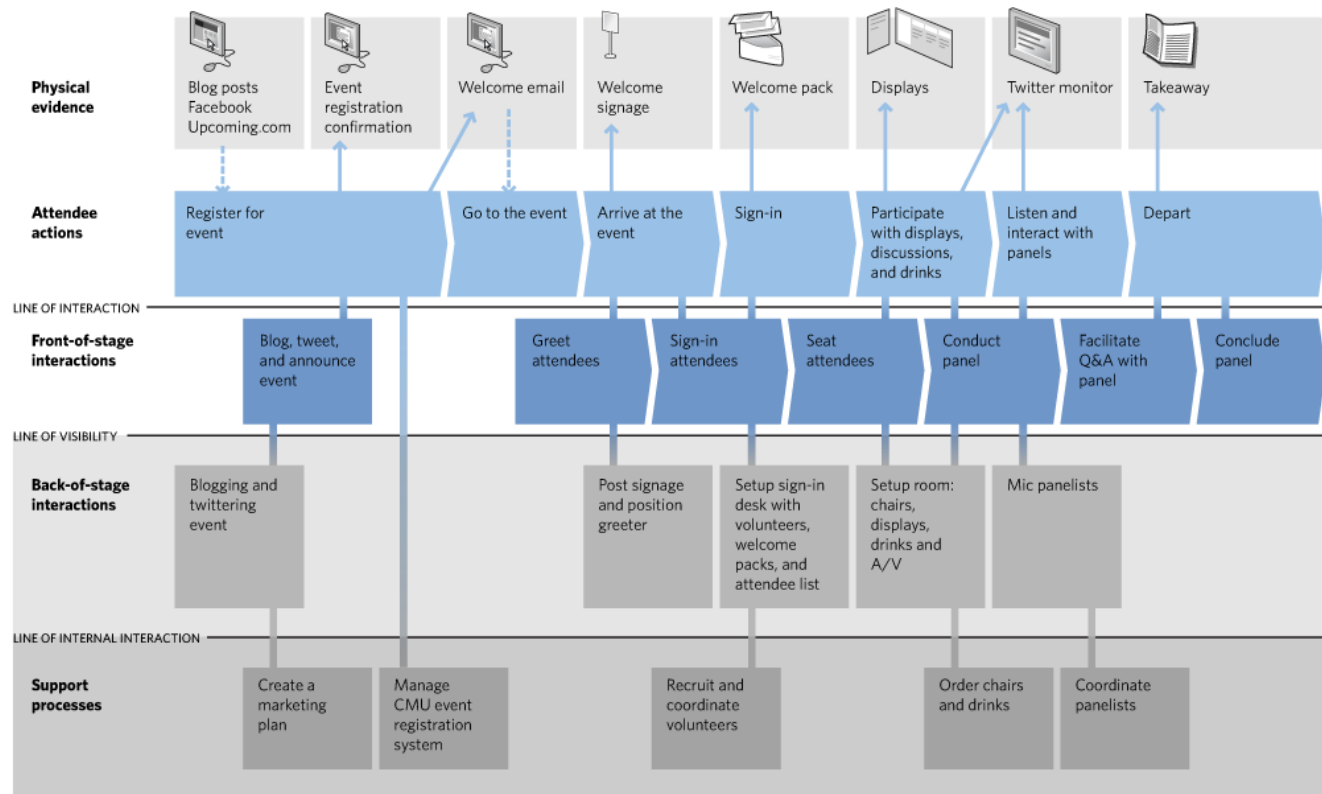
Register the  
entire system



# Service Blueprint

## Service Blueprint for Seeing Tomorrow's Services Panel

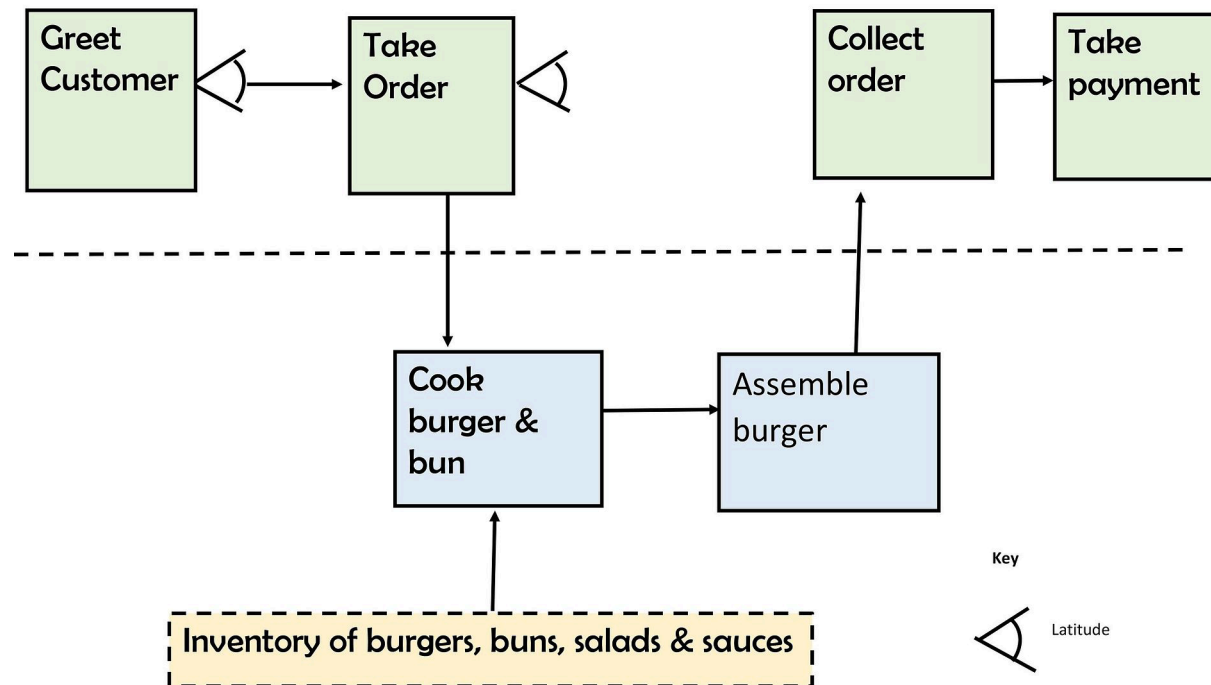
find out more: <http://upcoming.yahoo.com/event/1768041>



Brandon Schauer, Adaptive Path  
This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 3.0 United States License

# Service Blueprint

## Service Blueprint for a Fast Food Outlet



# Blueprint common symbols



## Divergence

*(the amount of latitude afforded service staff to vary the process)*



## Fail Point

*(any point where process can go awry)*



## Risk of Excessive Waits

*(standard times should be specified)*



## Line of Visibility

*(may also include other relevant lines including Line of Internal Physical Interaction, Line of IT Interaction)*



## Direction of steps in the sequence

**Av**

Average waiting time

**Tol**

Minimum tolerable waiting time

The logo consists of a horizontal bar divided into two sections: an orange section on the left and a blue section on the right. The letters 'BPM' are written in white, bold, sans-serif font, positioned over the blue section.

BPM

Business Process Modeling

The logo consists of a solid orange square on the left and a solid blue rectangle on the right. The letters "BPML" are written in white, bold, sans-serif font within the blue rectangle.

BPML

Business Process Modeling Language

# BPML

- BPML was designed as a formally **complete language**, able to model any process, and, via a BPMS (business process management system), deployed as an executable software process without generation of any software code.
- This is not possible with BPEL, since BPEL is not a complete process language. In practice BPEL is often used in conjunction with Java to fill in the "missing" semantics. In addition, BPEL is often tied to proprietary implementations of workflow or integration broker engines. Whereas, BPML was designed, and implemented, as a pure concurrent and distributed processing engine. It was designed to be semantically complete according to the Pi-calculus formal representation of computational processes.
- BPEL and BPML are examples of a trend towards process-oriented programming. BPEL and BPML herald the concept of a BPMS as an IT capability for management of business processes, playing a role similar to a RDBMS for business data.



BPEL

Business Process Execution Language

- The **Web Services Business Process Execution Language (WS-BPEL)**, commonly known as **BPEL (Business Process Execution Language)**, is an OASIS<sup>[1]</sup> standard executable language for specifying actions within business processes with web services. Processes in BPEL export and import information by using web service interfaces exclusively.

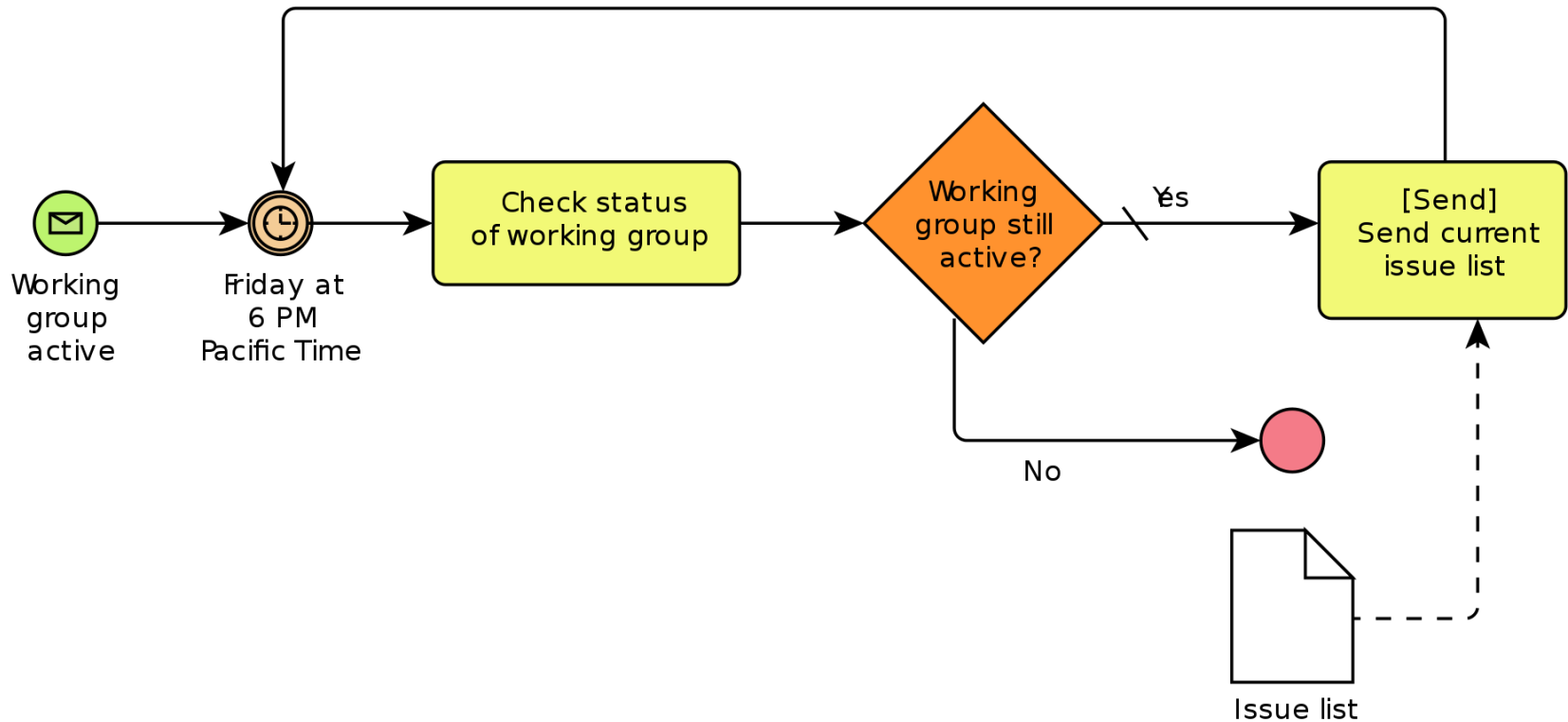


The logo consists of a solid orange square on the left and a solid blue rectangle on the right. The letters 'BPMN' are written in white, bold, sans-serif font within the blue rectangle.

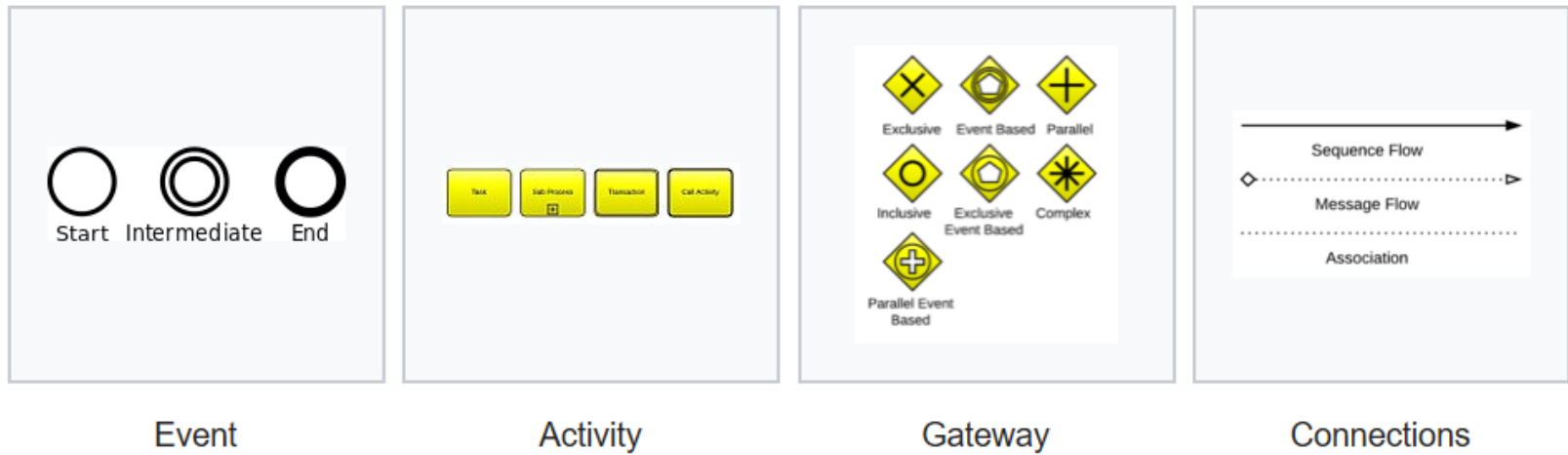
BPMN

Business Process Model and Notation

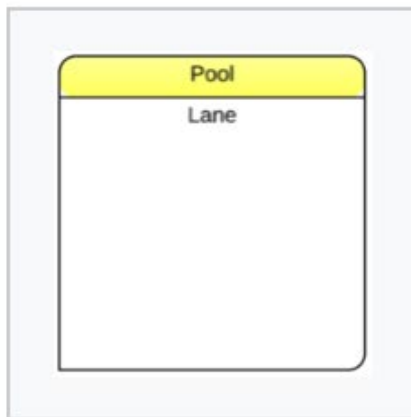
# BPMN



# BPMN



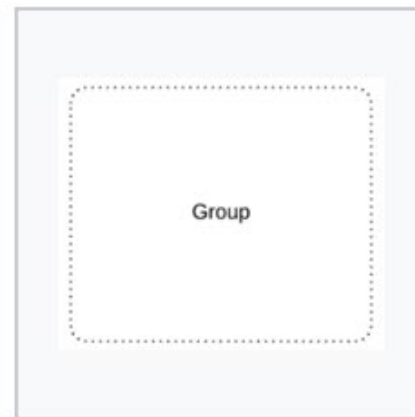
# Swim lanes and artifacts



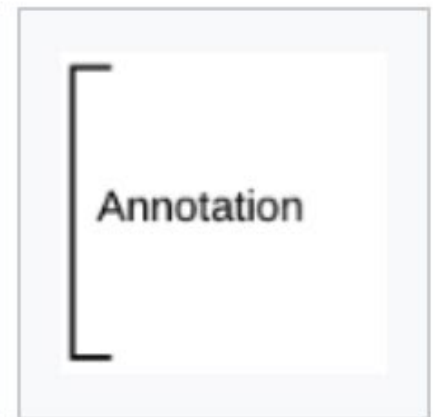
Swimlanes



Data objects



Groups



Annotation

# Discussion cycle BPMN example

