

INTEROPERABILITY

- Service-oriented Architectures: Process-Orientation-

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Outline



4.1 Motivation

4.2 Business Process Modeling Notation (BPMN)

4.3 Modeling Process Choreographies

4.4 Process Choreography Design

4.5 Process Choreography Implementation

4.6 Business Process Execution Language (BPEL)

4.7 Summary and Current Research

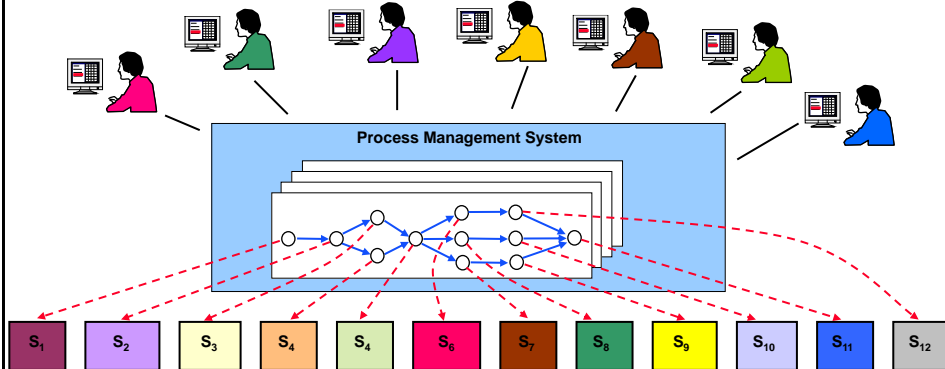
References

4.1 Motivation



□ Again: Vision of SOA (*Service-Oriented Architecture*)

- Application functions (services) that can be individually invoked
- Explicitly defined processes, managed by a process management system



Chapter based on : M. Reichert, R. Pryss: DBIS-Softwarelabor: Service-Oriented Computing, University of Ulm (2009)

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4.1 Motivation



Very important to distinguish:

□ Process Orchestration

- One (executable) business process from the perspective and under the control of one particular partner (end point)

□ Process Choreography

- Exchange of messages between partners according to defined interaction rules between two or more partners (endpoints); also called global process!

Chapter based on : M. Reichert, R. Pryss: DBIS-Softwarelabor: Service-Oriented Computing, University of Ulm (2009)

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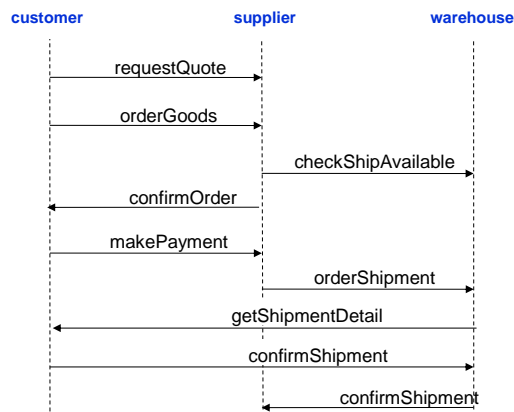
4.6 Business Process Execution Language (BPEL)

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4.2 Business Process Modeling Notation

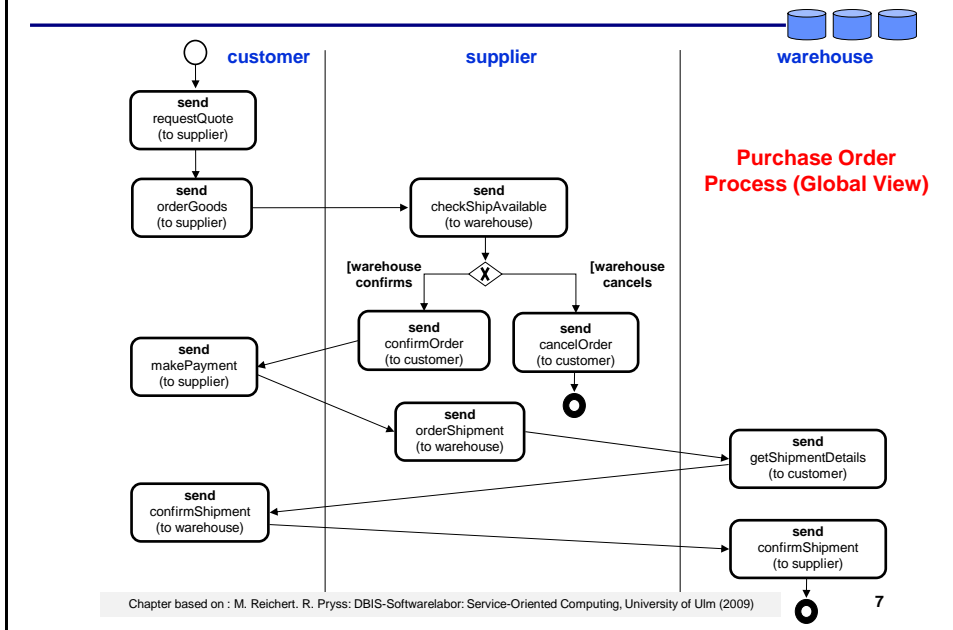


Purchase Order Process

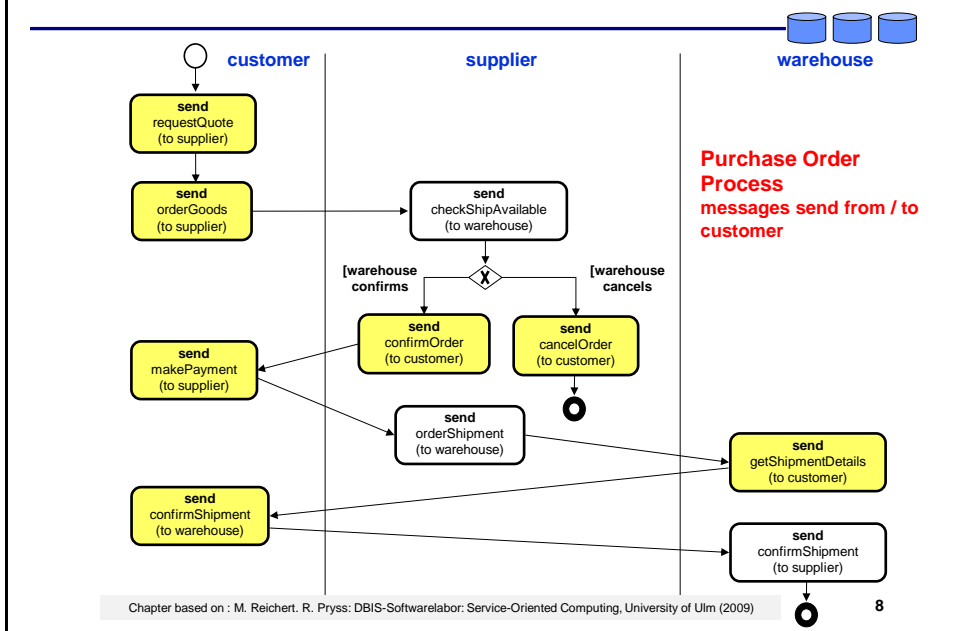
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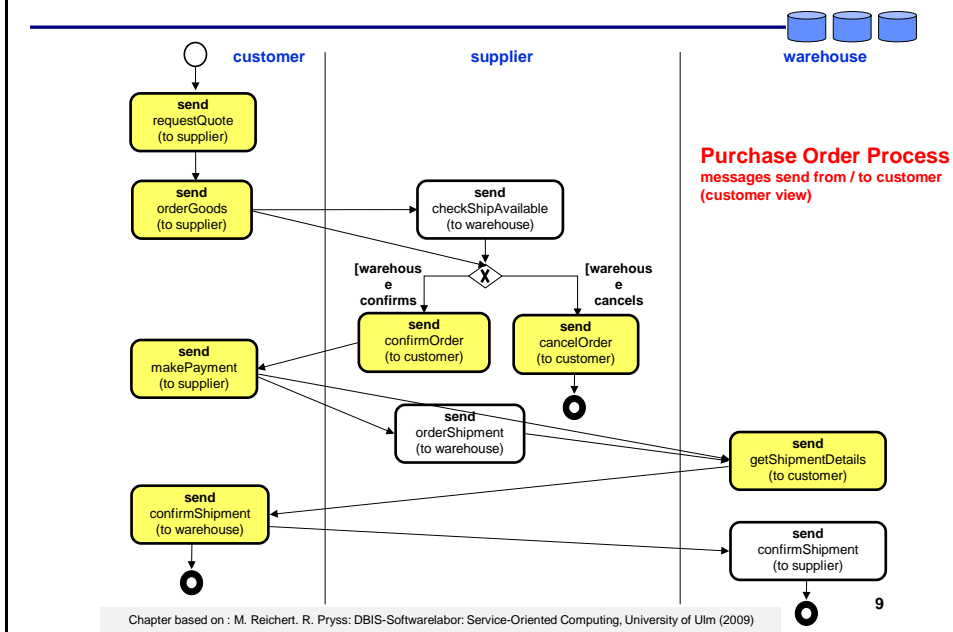
4.2 Business Process Modeling Notation



4.2 Business Process Modeling Notation



4.2 Business Process Modeling Notation



4.2 Business Process Modeling Notation

Example of a BPMN Diagram

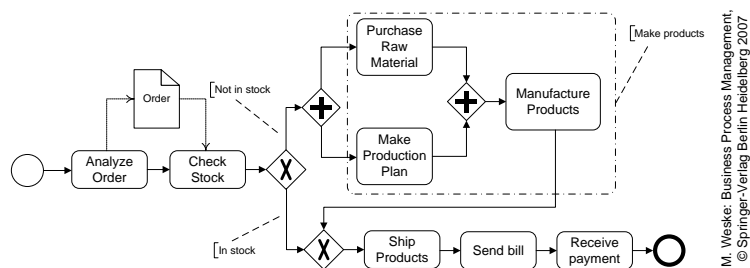
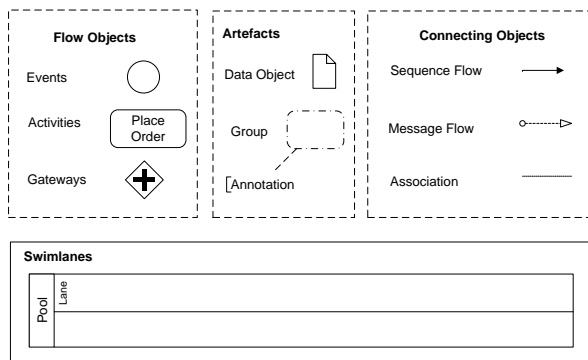


Fig 4.77. Business process diagram expressed in BPMN

4.2 Business Process Modeling Notation



Categories of Elements



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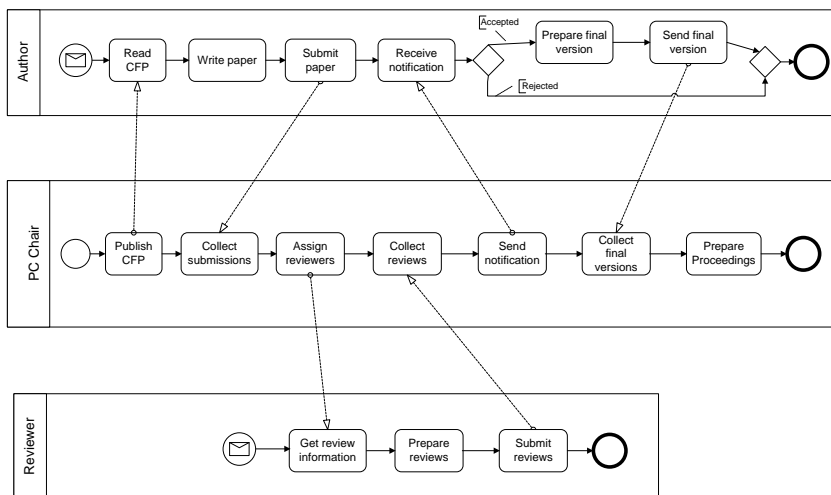
Fig 4.78. Business Process Modeling Notation: categories of elements

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4.2 Business Process Modeling Notation



Example: Scientific conference review process



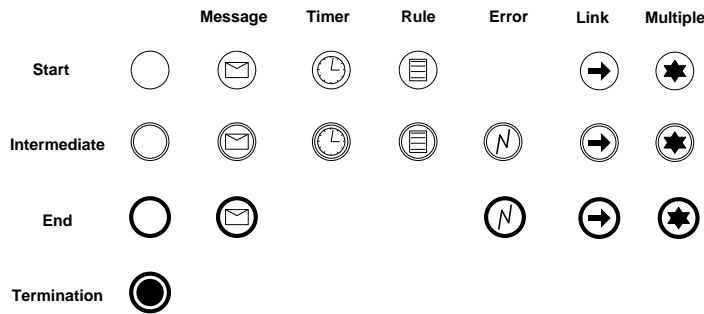
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Fig 4.79. Business process diagram of a scientific conference review process

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4.2 Business Process Modeling Notation

Events

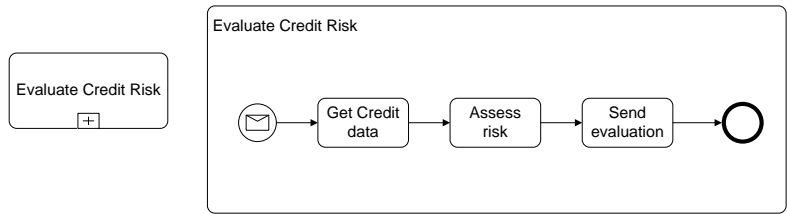


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Fig 4.80. Event types in the BPMN, Object Management Group (2006)

4.2 Business Process Modeling Notation

Activities and Subprocesses



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Fig 4.81. Collapsed and expanded subprocess

4.2 Business Process Modeling Notation

Ad-hoc Process

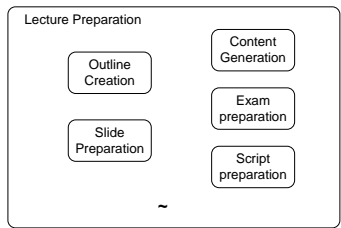


Fig 4.82. Sample adhoc process

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Sequence Flow and Exception Flows

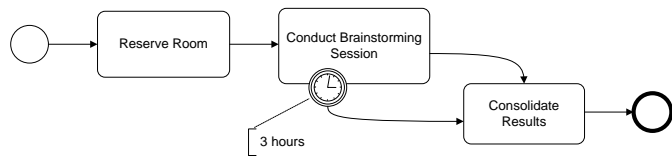


Fig 4.83. Exception flow, triggered by intermediate timer event

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Gateways

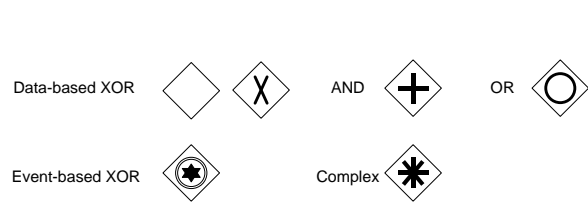


Fig 4.84. Gateway types in the BPMN, Object Management Group (2006)

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4.2 Business Process Modeling Notation

Gateways: Event-based *Exclusive Or*-Gateway

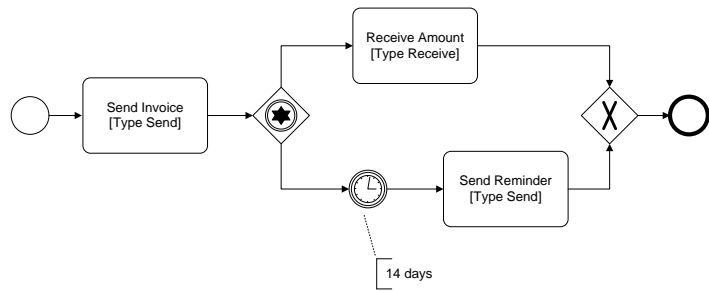
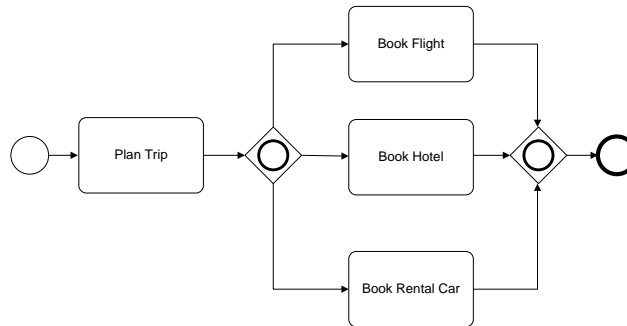


Fig 4.85. Example of an event-based exclusive or gateway

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4.2 Business Process Modeling Notation

Gateways: *Inclusive Or-Gateway*



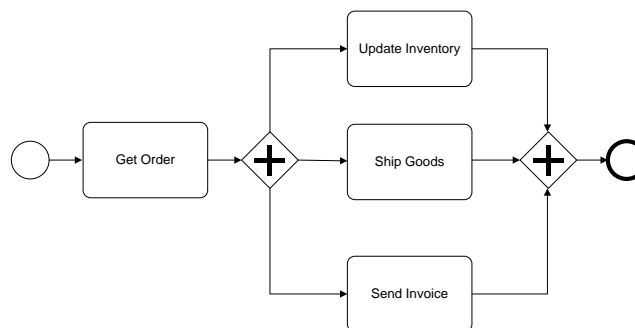
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Fig 4.86. Example of an *inclusive or* gateway

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Gateways: *AND-Split and AND-Join Gateway*



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Fig 4.87. Example of an *and split* and *and join* gateway

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Gateways: Default Paths

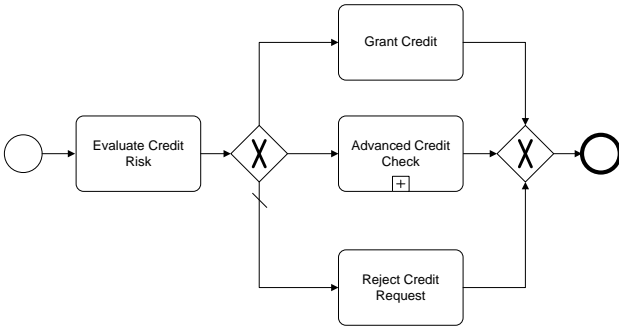


Fig 4.88. Sample business process with sequence flow and default sequence flow

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Interacting Processes

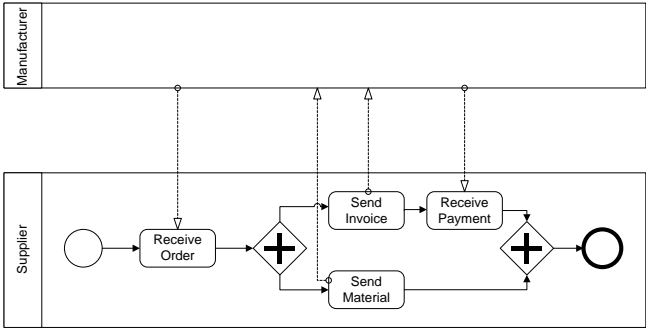


Fig 4.89. Business processes interacting by message flow

4.2 Business Process Modeling Notation

Interacting Processes

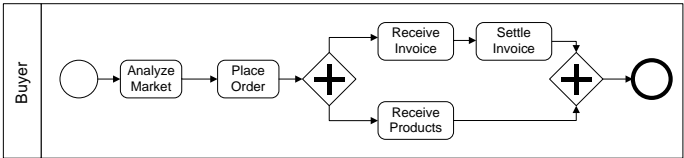


Fig 4.90. Private business process

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Interacting Processes

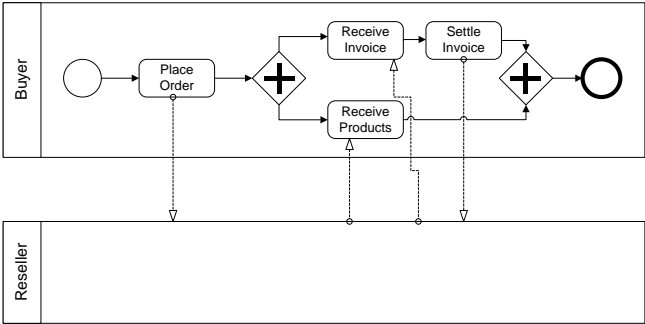


Fig 4.91. Public business process of buyer and corresponding abstract business process of reseller

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Interacting Processes

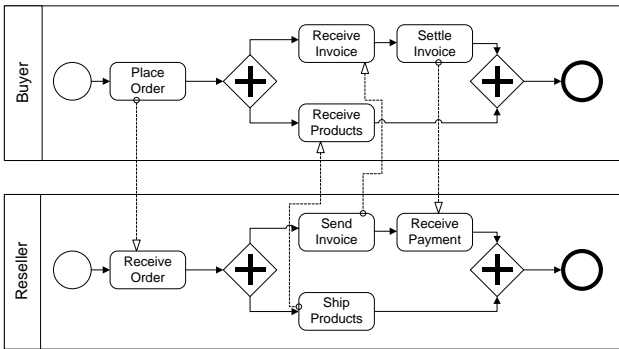


Fig 4.92. Collaborative business process, representing the combined public business processes

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Interacting Processes

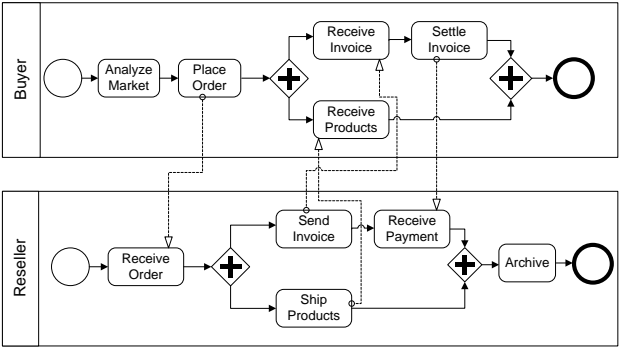
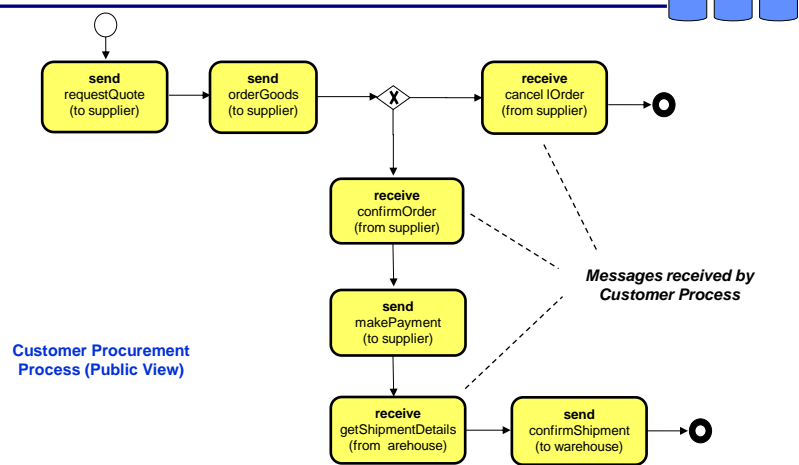


Fig 4.93. Global business process, enriching collaborative business process with activities that do not expose communication behaviour

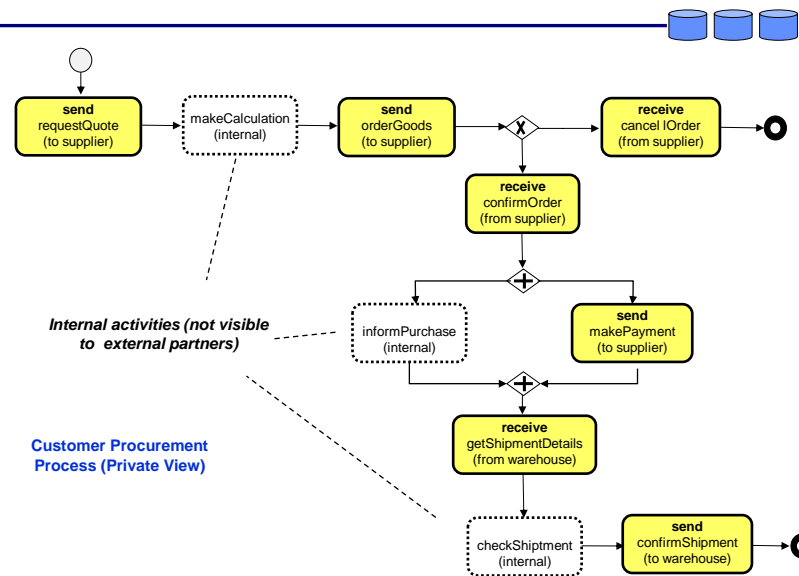
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4.2 Business Process Modeling Notation



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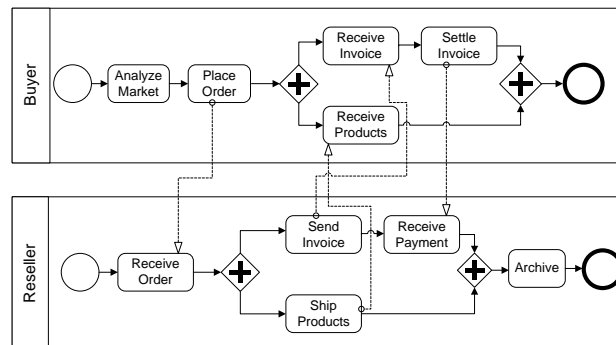
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4.3 Modeling Process Choreographies



- BPMN suitable for modeling process choreographies
- Example:



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Fig 4.93. Global business process, enriching collaborative business process with activities that do not expose communication behaviour

4.3 Modeling Process Choreographies

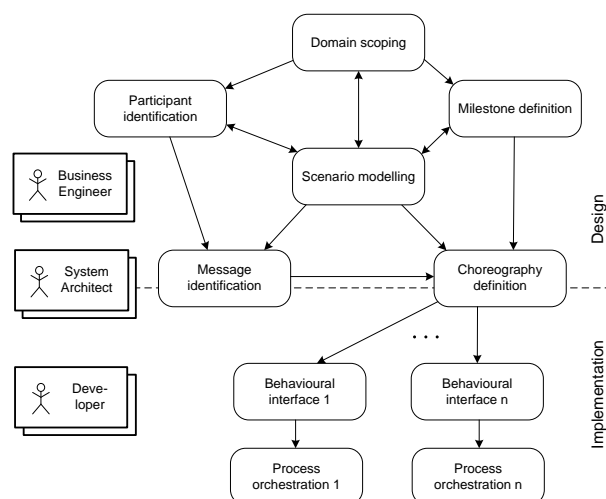


- One basic challenge: Ensuring correctness of a modeled choreography; i.e., compatibility of the interacting process orchestrations
- Example of a choreography model „containing“ a deadlock

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4.3 Modeling Process Choreographies



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Fig 5.4. Phases during choreography design and implementation

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4.4 Process Choreography Design



1. **High-level Structure Design**
 - Identifying participant roles and their communication structure
 - Conducted during the *participant identification phase*
2. **High-level Behavioral Design**
 - Specifying the milestones of the collaboration and the order in which they are reached
 - Conducted during the *milestone definition phase*
3. **Collaboration Scenarios**
 - Refining high-level choreographies by introducing dedicated collaboration scenarios that relate the reaching of milestones to the communication between participating roles
 - Developed in the *choreography definition phase*, based on scenarios informally specified during *scenario modelling*
4. **Behavioral Interfaces**
 - Deriving a behavioral interface for each participant role from the collaboration scenarios

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4.4.1 High-Level Design



- High-level structure diagram for participants in a **bidding scenario**
- High-level behavioral model for **bidding scenario** represented by milestones

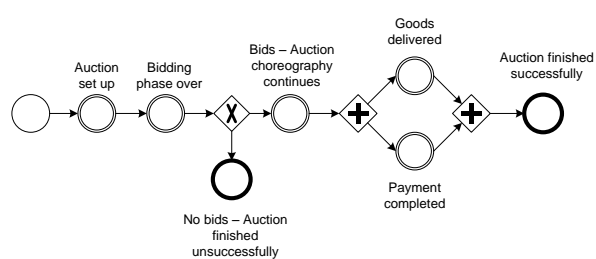
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4.4.1 High-Level Design



- A certain milestone might be not reached in a certain conversation
- This situation occurs in the bidding scenario, for example, if no single bid is placed during the acution!
- High-level behavioral model for **bidding scenario** with different outcomes



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Fig 5.7. High-level behavioural model for bidding scenario, with different outcomes

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4.4.2 Collaboration Scenarios



- **Collaboration scenario:** reaching milestones through interactions (i.e., message exchanges)

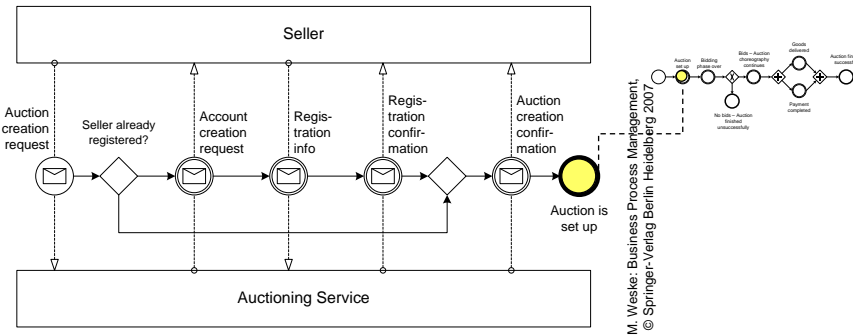


Fig 5.8. Collaboration scenario: reaching milestones through interactions

4.4.2 Collaboration Scenarios



- **Behavioral interface for participant role Seller (partial view)**

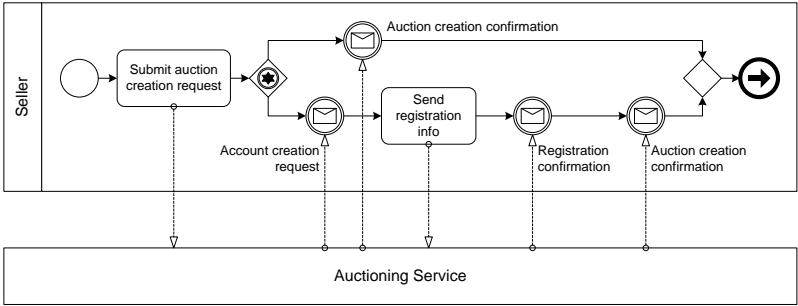


Fig 5.9. Behavioural interface for seller

4.4.3. Compatibility



- The design of a process choreography needs to ensure that the process orchestrations of the participants play together well in the overall collaboration
- **Compatibility** → Ability of a set of participants to interact successfully according to a given process choreography!
- Sources of incompatibility:
 - Different messages are used in a collaboration and one participant does not understand the content of a message sent by another participant
 - Wrong or misaligned interactions; e.g., if a participant expects a notification at some point in its process before it can proceed and none of the other participants sends such notification message → **DEADLOCK**
- Compatibility of interacting processes aims at avoiding such undesired behavior; i.e., to exclude erroneous interactions between orchestrations

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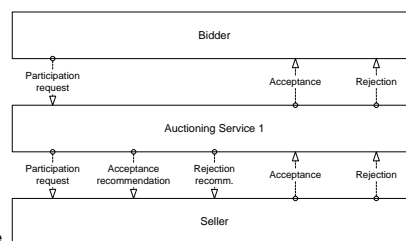
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4.4.3.1 Example



□ Interactions between participants in auctioning scenario

- A potential bidder must be accepted for participation before she can place her bid.
- The bidder needs to send a *Participation request* to the auctioning service
- As response the latter can send an *Acceptance* notification or a *Rejection* notification
- In some cases the seller is requested to make the final decision on whether or not a bidder shall be accepted.
 - To perform this interaction, the auctioning service forwards the request of the bidder to the seller
 - It might also give a recommendation for accepting / rejecting the bidder
 - The seller can send a notification about his decision back to the auctioning service



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- *Participants represented by pools that interact by sending and receiving messages*
- *Above figure does not show any behavioral dependencies between the different message exchanges*

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4.4.3.2 Structural Compatibility



□ **Weak structural compatibility**

- Messages that can be sent by a participant correspond to messages that other participants can receive!
- Ensures that all messages sent can actually be received by participants
- Does not forbid that participants may receive additional messages not sent by any of the other participants (in the given choreography)

□ **Strong structural compatibility**

- For every message that can be sent there is a participant that can receive it, and
- for every message that can be received there is a participant that can send it

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4.4.3.3 Behavioral Compatibility



□ **Behavioral compatibility**

- Considers behavioral dependencies (i.e., control flow) between interaction instances of a conversation as well
- The process orchestrations of the interacting partners are interconnected, and the resulting process structure is analyzed
- Such analysis of the dynamic behavior requires a formal, unambiguous representation

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4.4.3.3 Behavioral Compatibility



□ **Checking behavioral compatibility**

- Representing process orchestrations by a specific class of Petri Nets, namely workflow modules
- Workflow modules: WF Nets with additional communication places that are used to represent message flow between participants
- Whenever a participant sends a message, the process orchestration of that partner features a transition with an output communication place that can hold messages sent
- At the receiver side, the workflow module requires a matching input communication place → input place of the transition that receives the message

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4.4.3.3 Behavioral Compatibility



- Each process orchestration is represented by a workflow module that defines its internal behavior and its external communication behavior
- **Definition (Workflow Module):** A Petri Net $PN = (P, T, F)$ is a **workflow module** if and only if the following conditions hold
 - P is the set of places that is partitioned into sets P^N of internal places, P^I of incoming places, and P^O of outgoing places
 - T is a nonempty set of transitions
 - The flow relation F is partitioned into an internal flow relation $F^N \subseteq (P^N \times T) \cup (T \times P^N)$ and a communication flow relation $F^C \subseteq (P^I \times T) \cup (T \times P^O)$
 - (P^N, T, F^N) is a workflow net (i.e. a Petri Net with single start / end place)
 - There is no transition t connected to both an incoming place and an outgoing place

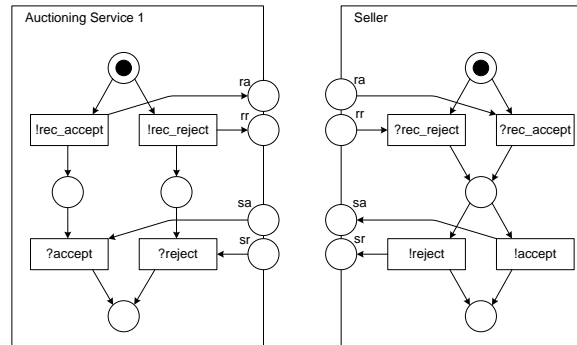
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4.4.3.3 Behavioral Compatibility



- ❑ The following figure shows workflow modules for participants **Auctioning Service 1** and **Seller**
- ❑ For the sake of readability, the workflow modules only represent a small part of the auctioning and seller process orchestrations



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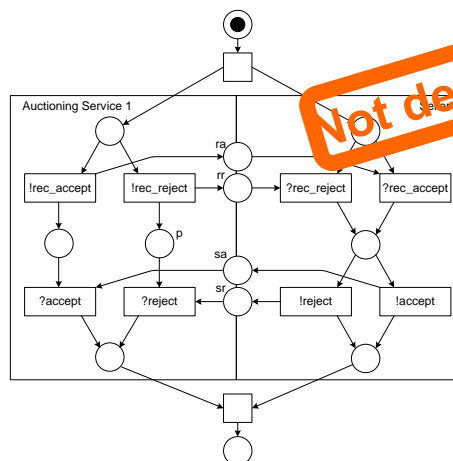
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4.4.3.3 Behavioral Compatibility



- ❑ **Workflow net as composition of the workflow modules (requires strong structural compatibility of the workflow modules)**

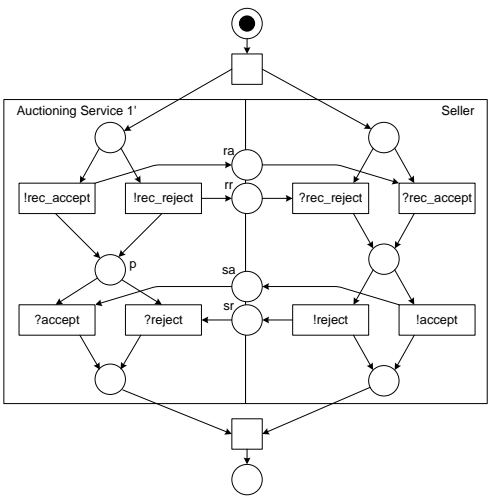


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4.4.3.3 Behavioral Compatibility



□ Workflow modules that are compatible



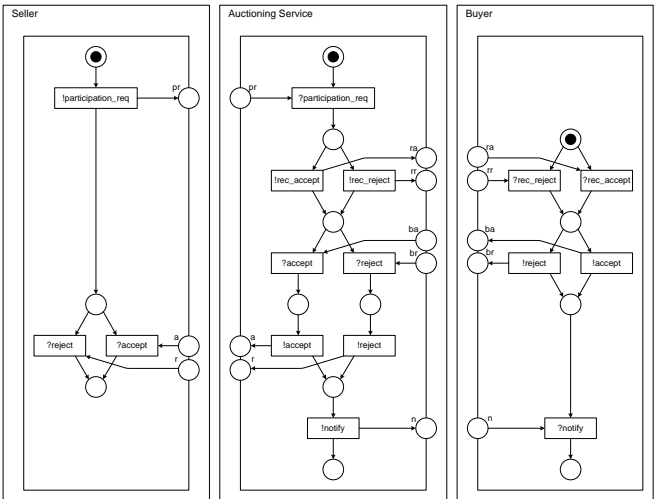
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Fig 5.14. Workflow modules that are compatible

4.4.3.3 Behavioral Compatibility



□ A larger part of the collaboration is depicted in the following figure:



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Fig 5.15. Behavioural interfaces: getting a participation permission

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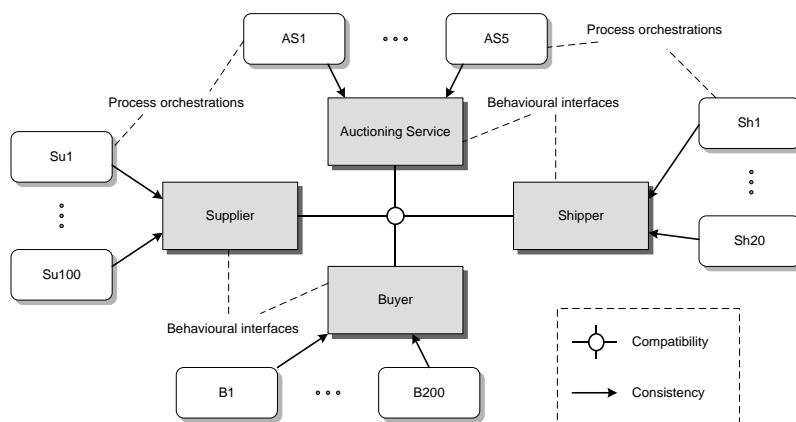
References

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4.5 Process Choreography Implementation



□ Participants and roles in an auctioning scenario



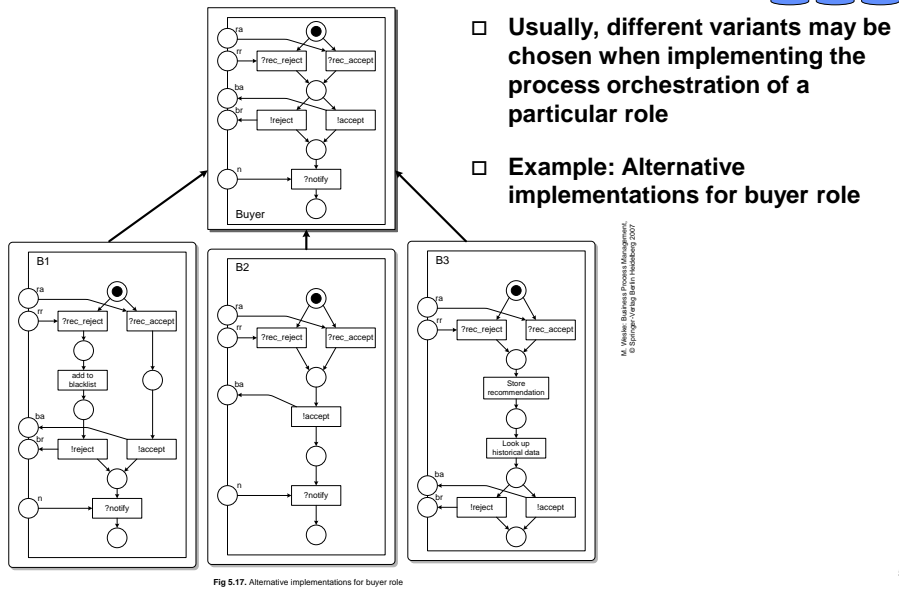
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Fig 5.16. Participants and roles in a reverse auctioning scenario

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4.5 Process Choreography Implementation



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4.6 Business Process Execution Languages (BPEL)



WS-BPEL is...

- ☐ A standardized language to define executable processes
- ☐ Not bound to a certain implementation
- ☐ Based on WSDL and other XML standards
 - WSDL → interface description of involved Web Services
 - Data context and business rules are defined by XML schemata and XPath expressions

WS-BPEL (Business Process Execution Language for Web Services)

WSDL (Web Service Description Language)

XPath (XML Path Language)

XSD (XML Schema)

XML

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4.6 Business Process Execution Languages (BPEL)



History

- ☐ WS-BPEL (also: BPEL; BPEL4WS):
Business Process Execution Language for Web Services
- ☐ XML based description language for executable processes
 - Standard for Web Service Composition
 - Based on WSDL and SOAP
- ☐ Current status:
 - 2002: first specification (IBM, Microsoft, BEA)
 - Merging two languages: IBM WSFL + Microsoft XLANG
 - 2003: submission of version V 1.1 to OASIS;
 - 2007: Version 2.0
 - Plattformen: WebSphere Process Server, BizTalk, Oracle BPEL Process Manager, Intalio, ...
 - Extensions: BPEL4People, BPEL4J(ava), ...

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4.6 Business Process Execution Languages (BPEL)



Original goals ...

- ❑ **Exchangeable process descriptions**

Defined on basis of interoperable WS infrastructure

- ❑ **Industry-wide language for specification of executable business processes**

Common Skill Set + language for workflow implementation

- ❑ **Freedom when choosing process engine**

Supporting BPEL standards by different vendors

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4.6 Business Process Execution Languages (BPEL)



... and its pragmatic implementation in practice:

- ❑ **WSFL (IBM)**

- Process description by acyclic, directed graphs (→ activity nets)
- Based on WS basis standards (SOAP, WSDL, UDDI)
- Supports definition of control and data flow

- ❑ **XLANG (Microsoft)**

- Block-structured process description
- Supports long-running transactions (by rollback and compensation of activities in case of errors; Sagas)
- Supports message correlation

→ **BPEL4WS = WSFL "+" XLANG**

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Which were the technical goals when designing WS-BPEL?

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Goal 1

- ❑ Define business processes that interact with external entities through web service operations defined using WSDL
- ❑ Interactions are abstract in the sense that the dependence is on `portType` definitions, not on `port` definitions.
- ❑ BPEL has to stay compatible with WSDL.

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Goal 2

- ❑ **BPEL defines business processes using an XML based language.**
- ❑ **BPEL is neither concerned with the graphical representation of processes nor defines it any particular design methodology for processes.**



Goal 3

- ❑ **BPEL web service orchestration concepts meant to be used in common by both external (abstract) and internal (executable) views of a process.**
- ❑ **A process defines the behavior of a single autonomous entity, typically operating in interaction with other similar peer entities.**



Goal 4

- ❑ **BPEL should enable both block structured and graph-like control flow modeling.**



Goal 5

- ❑ **BPEL should provide limited data manipulation functions that are sufficient for the simple manipulation of data that is needed to define process relevant data and control flow.**



Goal 6

- ❑ **BPEL should support an identification mechanism for process instances that allows the definition of instance identifiers [correlation id's] at the application message level.**



Goal 7

- ❑ **No explicit distinction between stateless and stateful services or processes.**
- ❑ **Implicit lifecycle management of a process: instance automatically created when message is sent to appropriately annotated receiving operation of service, and deleted when control reaches terminal activity.**
- ❑ **Advanced lifecycle operations (suspend, resume) may be added later processes.**



Goal 8

- ❑ **BPEL should define a long-running transaction model that is based on practically proven techniques like compensation actions and scoping to support failure recovery for parts of long-running business processes.**



Goal 9

- ❑ **BPEL should use web services as the model for process decomposition and assembly.**

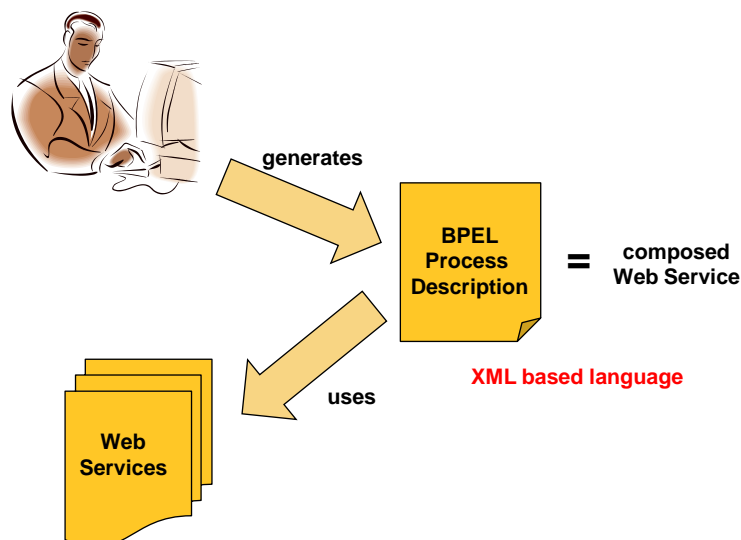


Goal 10

- ❑ BPEL should build on compatible Web services standards and standards proposals as much as possible in a composable and modular manner.
- ❑ Only if no appropriate standard or standards proposal is available for a particular requirement, an appropriate specification should [be] developed within the BPEL specification or as a separate Web services standards proposal.

Based on : M. Reichert, R. Pryss DBIS-Softwarelabor: Service-Oriented Computing, University of Ulm (2009)

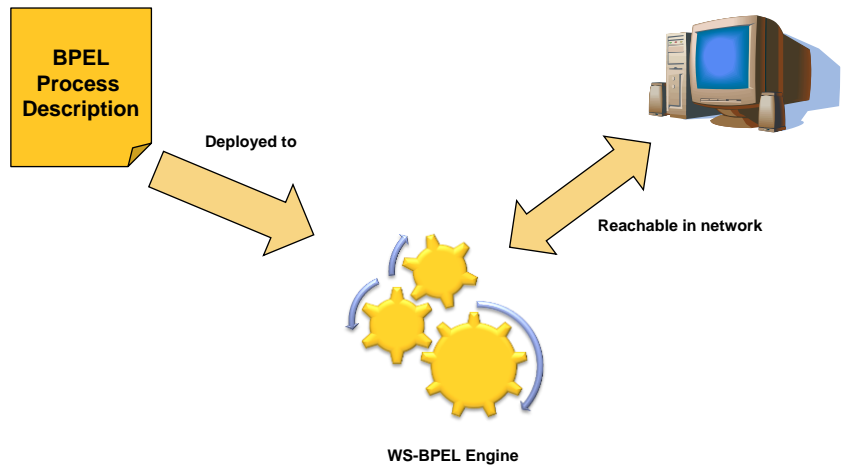
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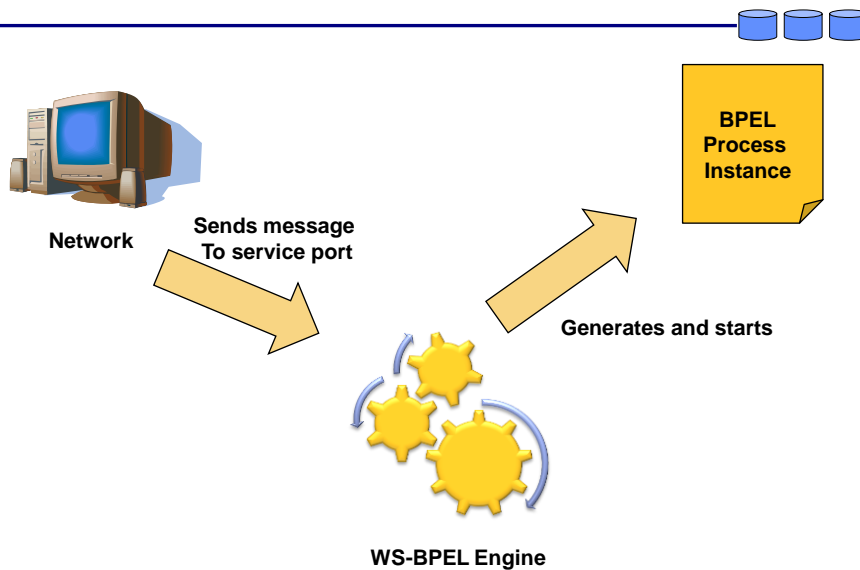
4.6 Business Process Execution Languages (BPEL)



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4.6 Business Process Execution Languages (BPEL)

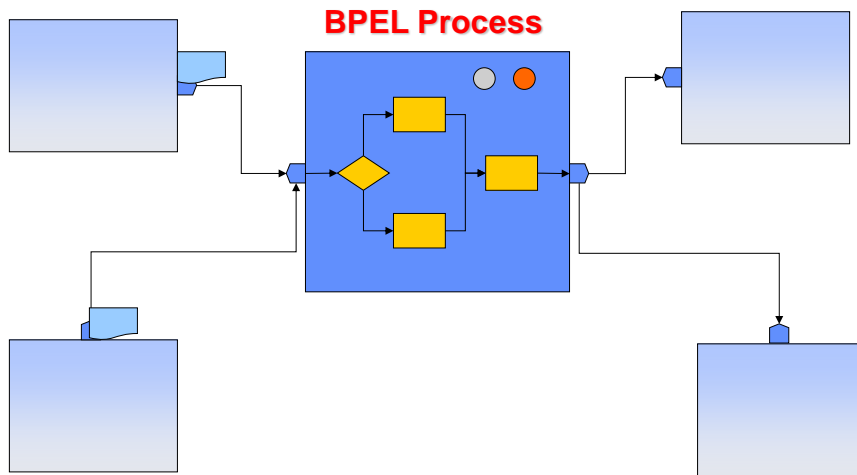


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4.6 Business Process Execution Languages (BPEL)

Topology of a BPEL Process (general)

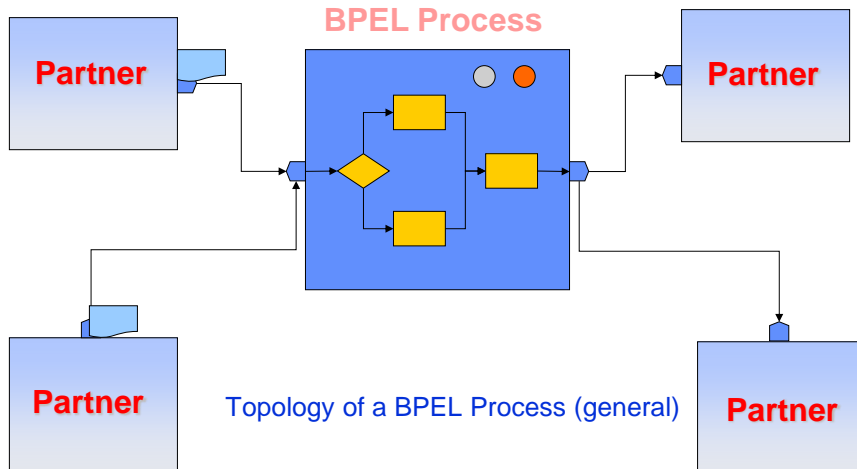


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4.6 Business Process Execution Languages (BPEL)

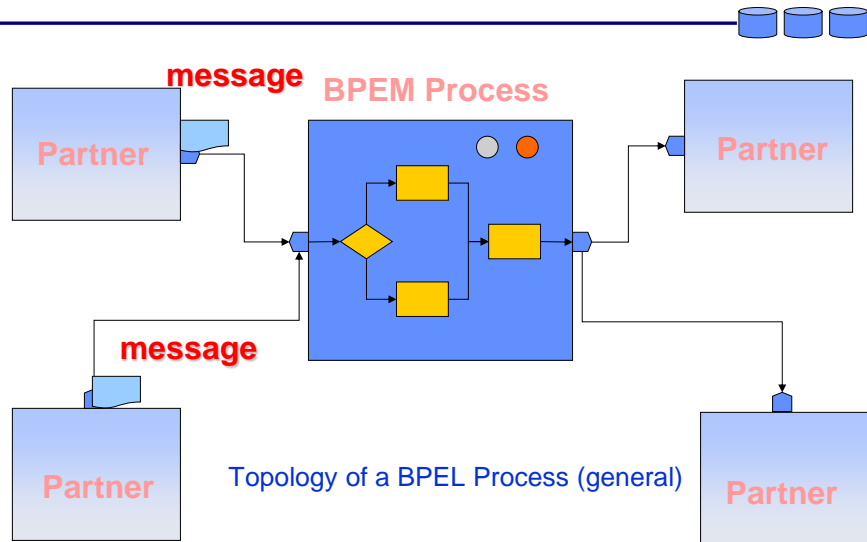
Topology of a BPEL Process (general)



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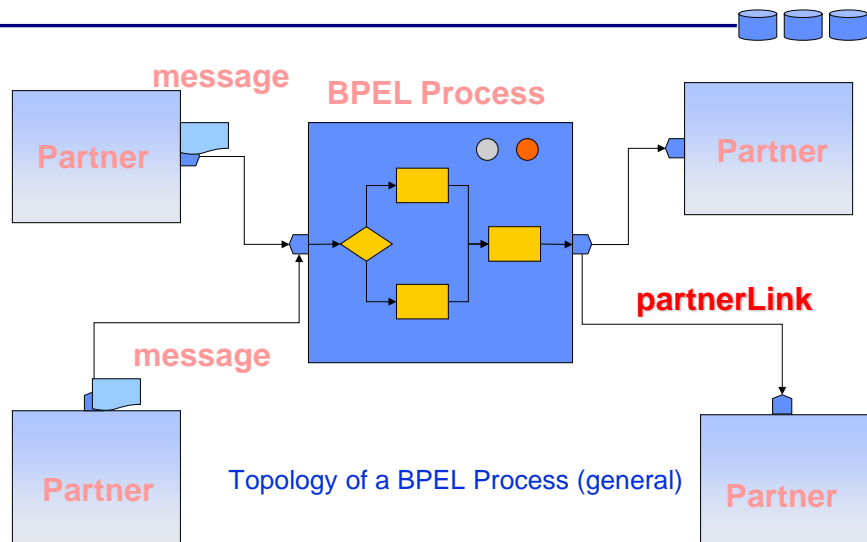
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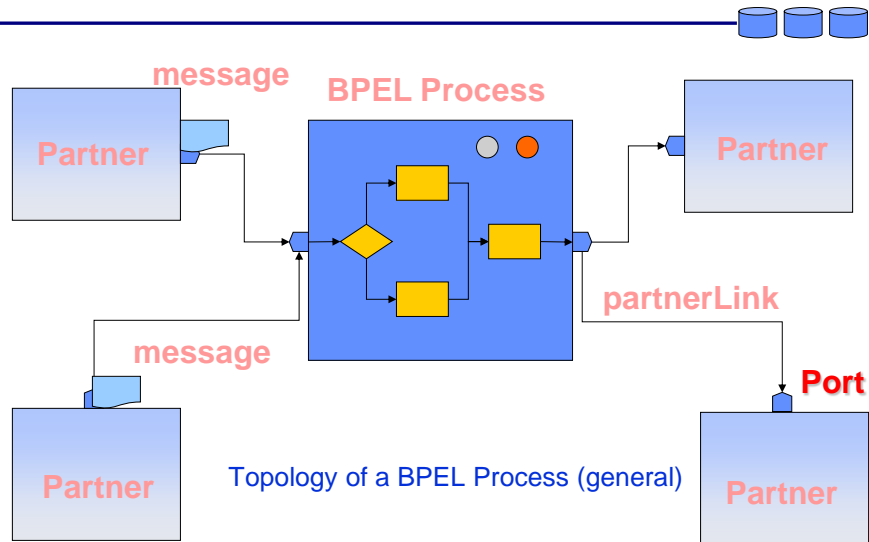
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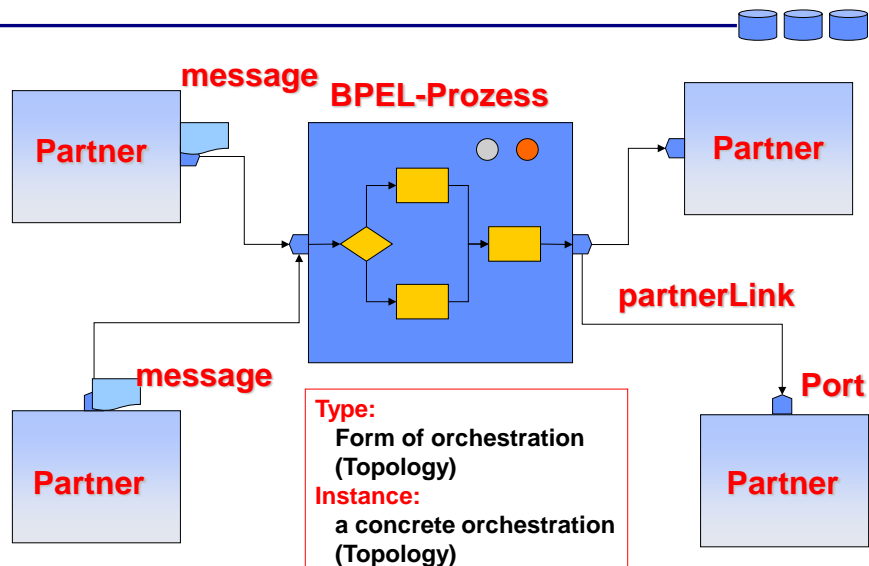
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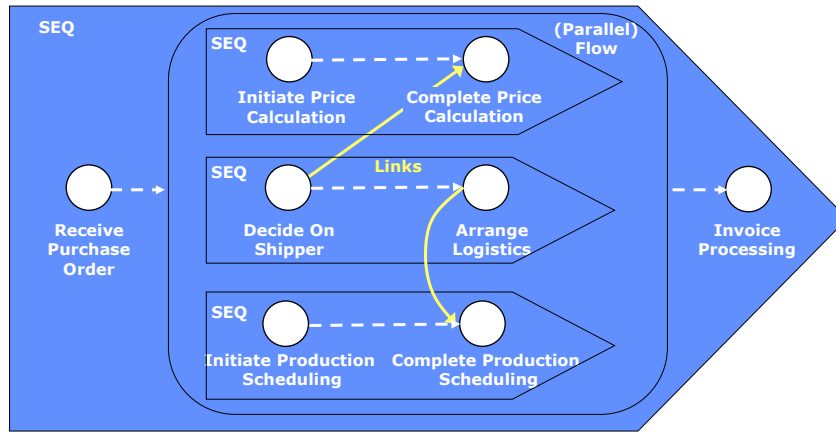


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4.6 Business Process Execution Languages (BPEL)

Basic description elements:



Application Example

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4.6 Business Process Execution Languages (BPEL)

Structure and aspects of a process description with WS-BPEL

```
<process>
  process header
  <partners>
</partners>
  <variables>
</variables>
  <correlationSets>
</correlationSets>
  <faultHandlers>
</faultHandlers>
  <compensationHandler>
</compensationHandler>
  <eventHandlers>
</eventHandlers>
  <sequence>
</sequence>
</process>
```

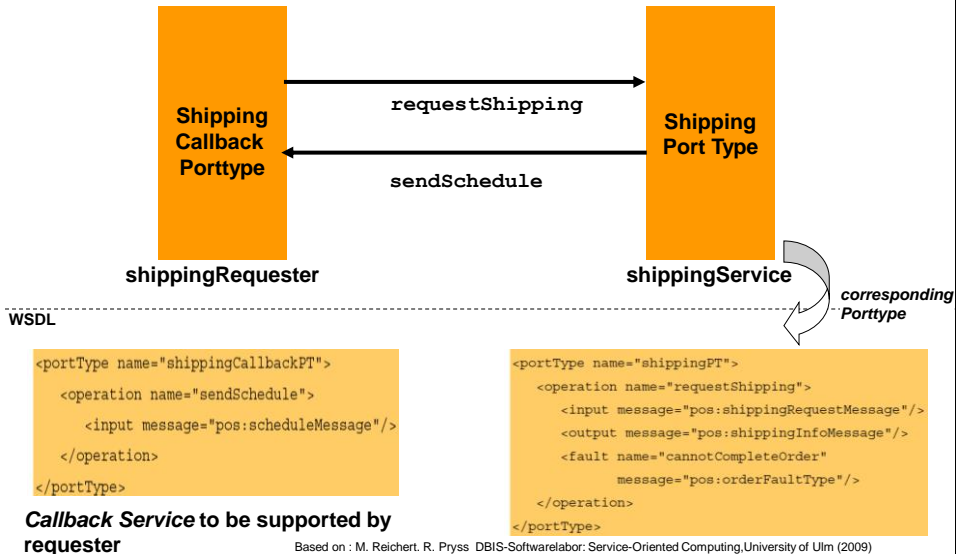
Description of Service Interactions:
With which partners does the BPEL Process interact and which roles does it take within these interactions?

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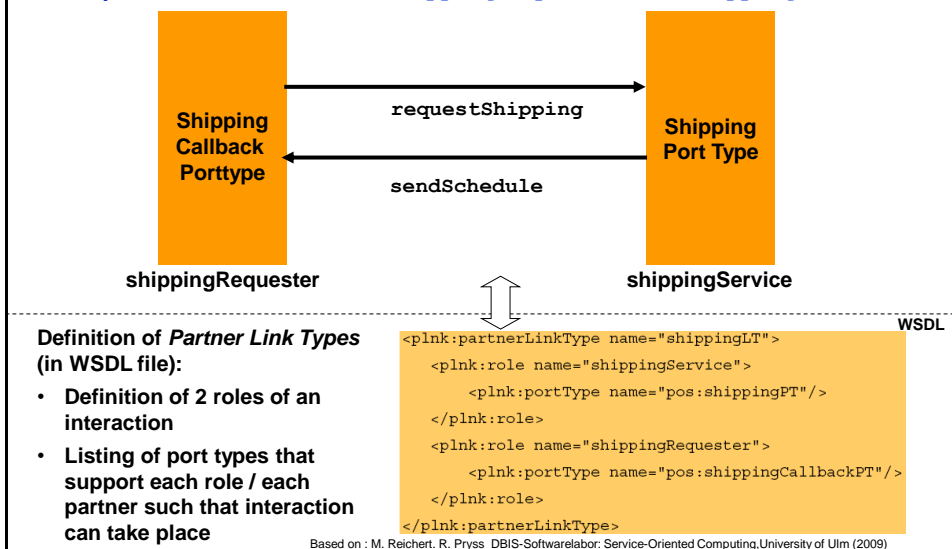
4.6 Business Process Execution Languages (BPEL)

Example: Interaction between shippingRequester and Shipping Service



4.6 Business Process Execution Languages (BPEL)

Example: Interaction between shippingRequester and Shipping Service



4.6 Business Process Execution Languages (BPEL)

Linking a WS-BPEL Process with partners + determining the role that the process takes



```
<partnerLinks>
  <partnerLink name="purchasing"
    partnerLinkType="lms:purchasingLT"
    myRole="purchaseService"/>
  <partnerLink name="invoicing"
    partnerLinkType="lms:invoicingLT"
    myRole="invoiceRequester"
    partnerRole="invoiceService"/>
  <partnerLink name="shipping"
    partnerLinkType="lms:shippingLT"
    myRole="shippingRequester"
    partnerRole="shippingService"/>
  <partnerLink name="scheduling"
    partnerLinkType="lms:schedulingLT"
    partnerRole="schedulingService"/>
</partnerLinks>
```

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4.6 Business Process Execution Languages (BPEL)

Process Variables and Data Flows: Structure and aspects of a process description with WSBPEL



```
<process>
  process header
  <partners>
  </partners>
  <variables>
  </variables>
  <correlationSets>
  </correlationSets>
    <faultHandlers>
  </faultHandlers>
  <compensationHandler>
  </compensationHandler>
    <eventHandlers>
  </eventHandlers>
    <sequence>
  </sequence>
</process>
```

**Description of data and
message flow between
services**

Based on : M. Reichert, R. Pryss DBIS-Softwarelabor: Service-Oriented Computing, University of Ulm (2009)

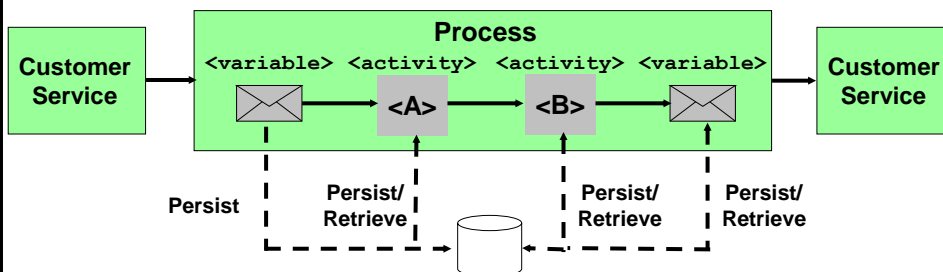
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Process Variables and Data Flows:

Message sent / received to / from partner

- Message types are defined with WSDL
- Have to be made persistent at runtime (→ long-running interactions)



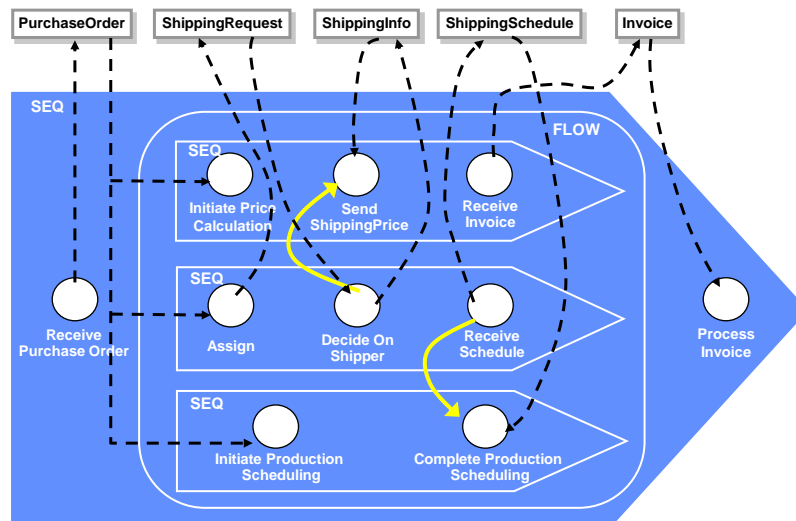
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Messages flows and process variables in our example:



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4.6 Business Process Execution Languages (BPEL)



Determining process variables in WS-BPEL:

Part of
BPEL
specification

```
<variables>
  <variable name="PO" messageType="lns:POMessage"/>
  <variable name="Invoice"
    messageType="lns:InvMessage"/>
  <variable name="POFault"
    messageType="lns:orderFaultType"/>
  <variable name="shippingRequest"
    messageType="lns:shippingRequestMessage"/>
  <variable name="shippingInfo"
    messageType="lns:shippingInfoMessage"/>
  <variable name="shippingSchedule"
    messageType="lns:scheduleMessage"/>
</variables>
```

Message types are defined based on
WSDL

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4.6 Business Process Execution Languages (BPEL)



Read / write access on process variables within service interactions (i.e. invoking Web Services)

```
<invoke partnerLink="shipping"
  portType="lns:shippingPT"
  operation="requestShipping"
  inputVariable="shippingRequest"
  outputVariable="shippingInfo">
  <source linkName="ship-to-invoice"/>
</invoke>
```

Based on : M. Reichert, R. Pryss DBIS-Softwarelabor: Service-Oriented Computing, University of Ulm (2009)

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4.6 Business Process Execution Languages (BPEL)



Problem:

„Mismatches“ between exchanged messages → Mapping!

- By using BPEL statements `<assign>` and `<copy>` data fields can be copied and transformed (from messages)
- `<copy>` supports Xpath expressions

```
<assign>
  <copy>
    <from variable="PO" part="customerInfo"/>
    <to variable="shippingRequest"
      part="customerInfo"/>
  </copy>
</assign>
```

Based on : M. Reichert, R. Pryss DBIS-Softwarelabor: Service-Oriented Computing, University of Ulm (2009)

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4.6 Business Process Execution Languages (BPEL)

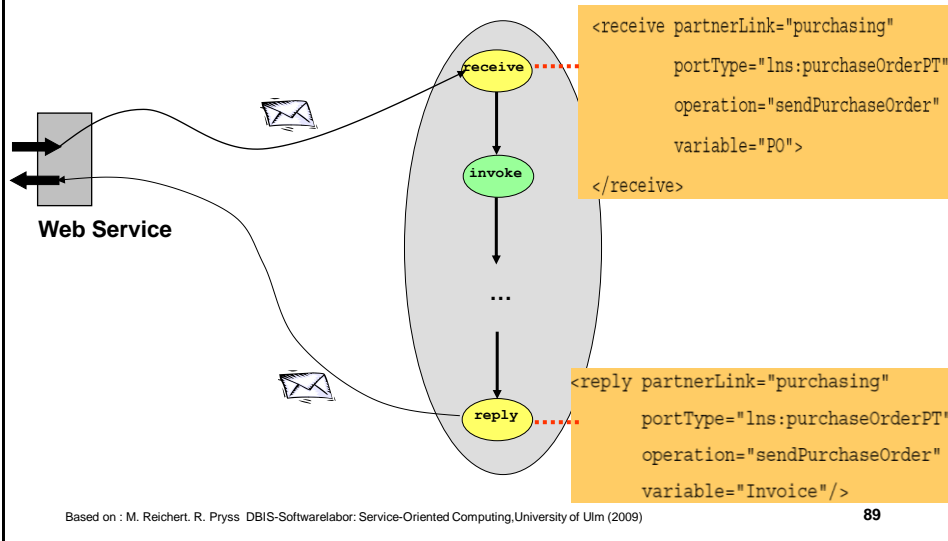


Elementary activities in WS-BPEL

- **receive**
 - Activity waits for incoming message and is then finished
 - BPEL processes often start with `receive`-activity → receiving of message leads to (implicitly) generating a new process instance
- **reply**
 - Reply message to precedent `receive`-activity
- **invoke**
 - Synchronous or asynchronous invocation of a WS operation offered by one of the partners
- **pick**
 - Defines a set of possibly incoming messages
 - Activity is finished as soon as one of the messages is coming in
 - Can (like `receive`) lead to generating new process instances

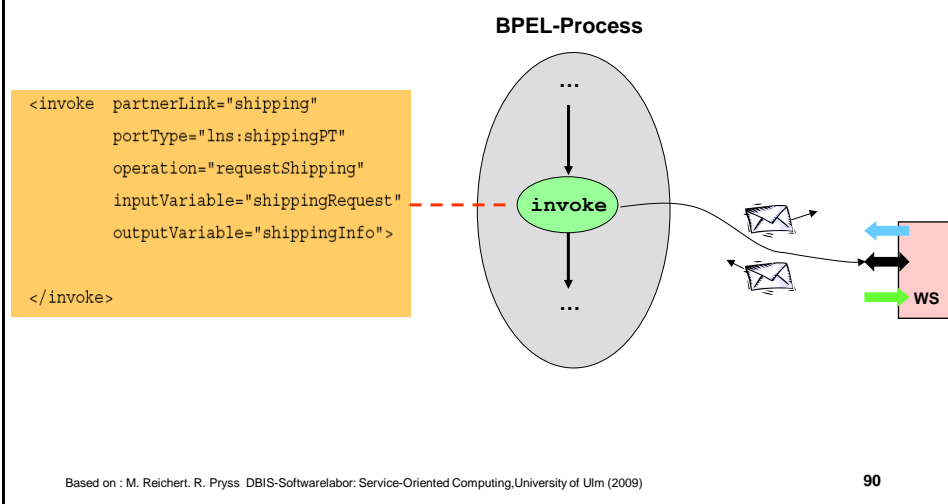
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Example for using of <receive> / <reply>:



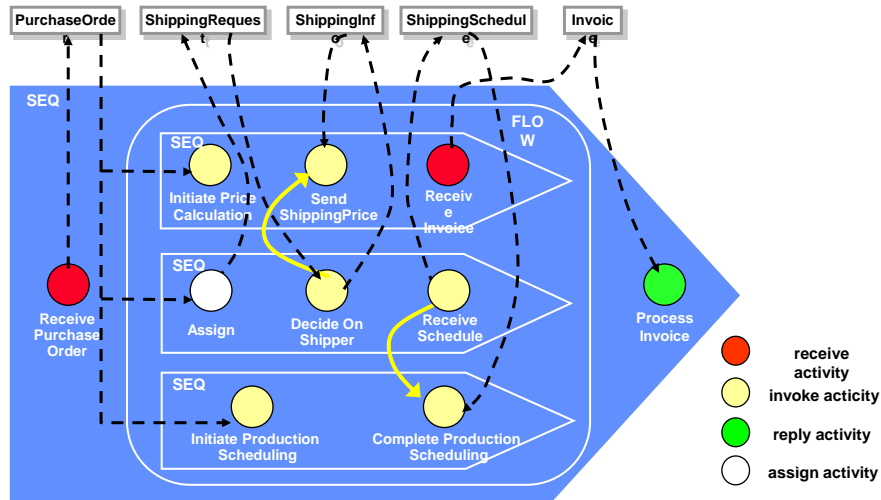
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Example for using <invoke>:



4.6 Business Process Execution Languages (BPEL)

Elementary activities in our example:



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4.6 Business Process Execution Languages (BPEL)

□ Structured activities...

- Follow block-based approach
- Enable the composition of elementary and complex activities
- Can be arbitrarily nested

□ Structured activities in WS-BEPL:

- <sequence> (→ Sequence)
- <switch> (→ Alternative paths)
- <flow> (→ parallel execution)
- <while> (→ loops)
- <scope> (→ spheres of control)

□ Further element: links

- Similar to *control connector* as used in Activity Nets
- Can be used for describing control dependencies between parallel ordered activities
- Can be connected with a transition condition

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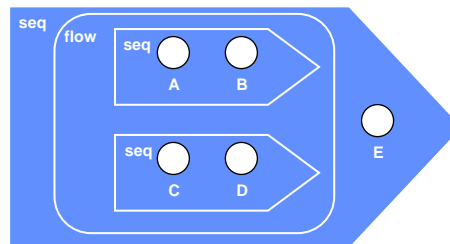
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4.6 Business Process Execution Languages (BPEL)



Example: well-structured BPEL process

```
...  
<sequence>  
  <flow>  
    <sequence>  
      activity A  
      activity B  
    </sequence>  
    <sequence>  
      activity C  
      activity D  
    </sequence>  
  </flow>  
  activity E  
</sequence>
```



graphical visualization

BPEL Process

→ Parallel structured modeled using **F1ow**

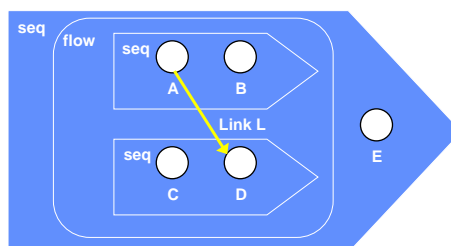
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4.6 Business Process Execution Languages (BPEL)



Example: BPEL Process by using links



graphical visualization

```
...  
<sequence>  
  <flow>  
    <links>  
      <link name = "L"/>  
    </links>  
    <sequence>  
      activity A  
      <source linkName = "L"/>  
      activity B  
    </sequence>  
    <sequence>  
      activity C  
      activity D  
      <target linkName = "L"/>  
    </sequence>  
  </flow>  
  activity E  
</sequence>  
...
```

BPEL Process

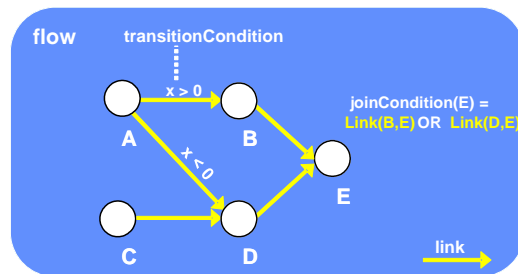
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4.6 Business Process Execution Languages (BPEL)



Example: Link-based BPEL Process



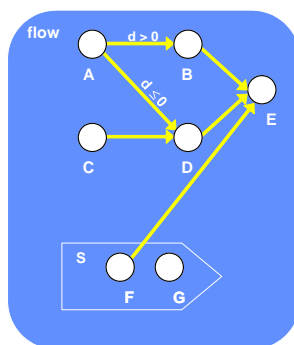
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4.6 Business Process Execution Languages (BPEL)



example: mixed usage of structured activities and links



```
...
<flow>
  <links>
    <link name = "L_AB"/>
    <link name = "L_AD"/>
    <link name = "L_FE"/>
  ...
  </links>
  activity A
    <source linkName = "L_AB" transitionCondition = "d < 0"/>
    <source linkName = "L_AD" transitionCondition = "d <= 0"/>
  activity B
    <target linkName = "L_AB"/>
    <source linkName = "L_BE"/>
  ...
  activity E
    joinCondition = "(L_BE OR L_DE) AND L_FE"
    <target linkName = "L_BE"/>
    <target linkName = "L_DE"/>
    <target linkName = "L_EB"/>
    <sequence name = "S">
      activity F
        <source linkName = "L_FE"/>
      activity G
    </sequence>
  </flow>
  ...
```

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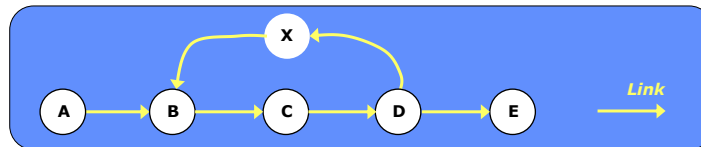
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4.6 Business Process Execution Languages (BPEL)



Example: rules for using links

→ Links must not lead to cycles in execution graph



Cycle

→ Deadlock

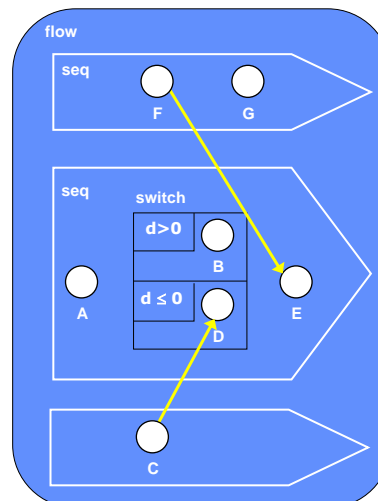
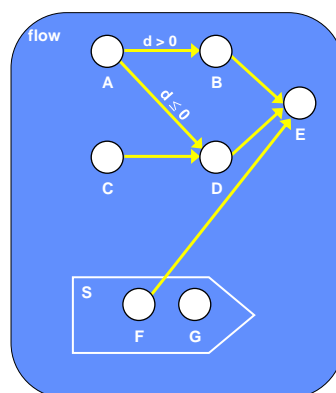
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4.6 Business Process Execution Languages (BPEL)



WS-BPEL offers many possibilities to describe the same behavior

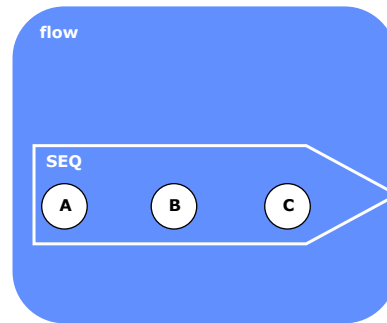
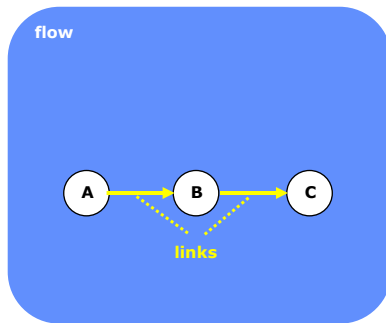


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4.6 Business Process Execution Languages (BPEL)

However: many undesired side-effects when changing the execution graph due to the high expressiveness and parametrization of the language



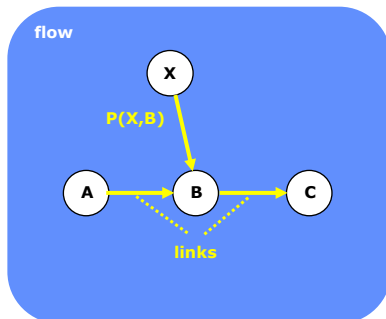
→ equivalent execution behavior

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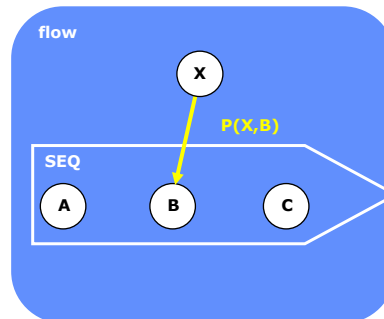
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4.6 Business Process Execution Languages (BPEL)

However: many undesired side-effects when changing the execution graph due to the high expressiveness and parametrization of the language



$\text{joinCond}(B) = P(X,B) \vee \text{True} = \text{True}$ (Default)



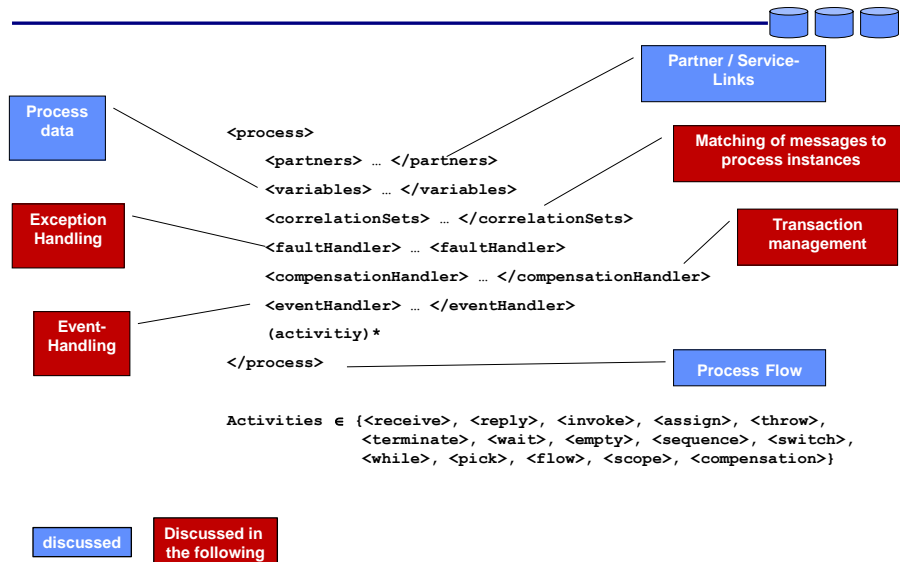
$\text{joinCond}(B) = P(X,B)$ (Default)

→ different execution behavior

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4.6 Business Process Execution Languages (BPEL)



BPEL 1.1 Syntax

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4.6 Business Process Execution Languages (BPEL)

Message Correlation

□ Problem:

- Messages incoming into the BPEL engines are not necessarily assigned to the right process instance!
- Following the theory, there is no (global) process instance ID generated by the engine that is known to all partners

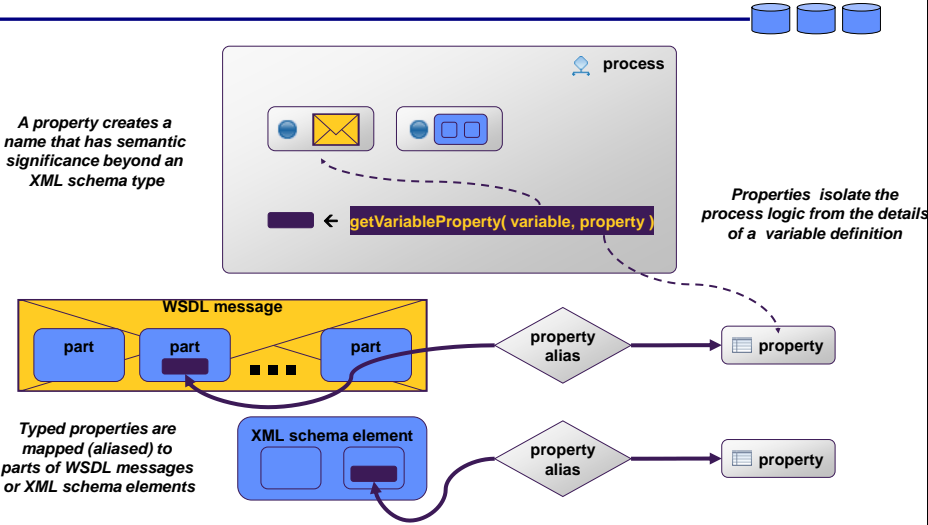
□ Solution: correlation

- Assigning a message to a process instances is based on application data that are contained within the message (unique)
- example: OfferNr, OrderNr, InvoiceNo → **Correlation Identifier**
- Possibly several **Correlation Identifier** are used in combination to uniquely identify a process instance → **Correlation Set**
- **Correlation Set** can be changed during a process instance execution
- Example:
 - Initially the instance of an order process could be identified by the order identifier
 - At a later point in time, the seller associates an invoice number with the order and send both of them to the buyer
 - From this point in time all exchanged messages are assigned to the right process instance based on the invoice number

Based on : M. Reichert, R. Pryss DBIS-Softwarelabor: Service-Oriented Computing, University of Ulm (2009)

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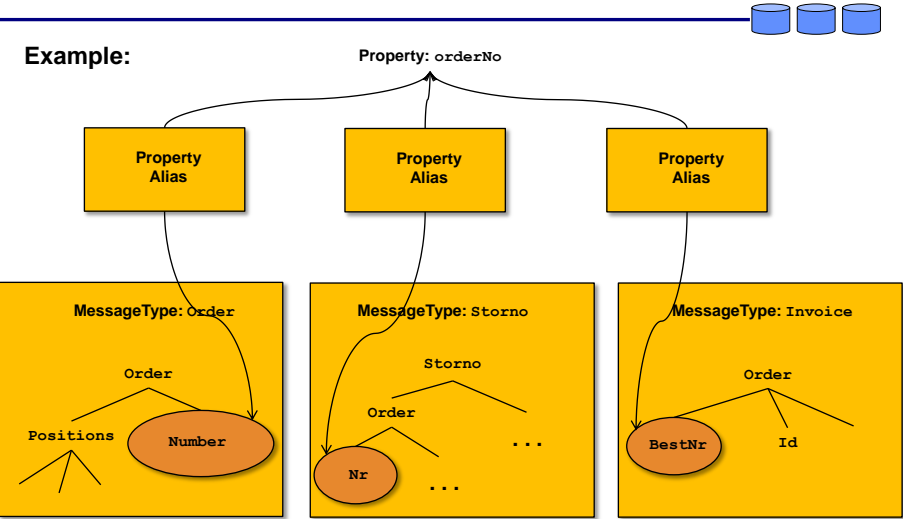
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4.6 Business Process Execution Languages (BPEL)

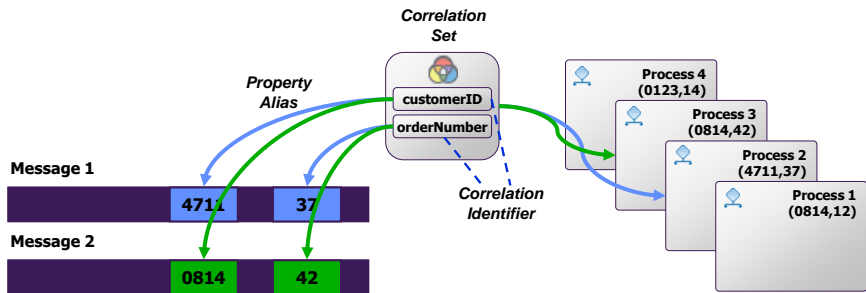


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4.6 Business Process Execution Languages (BPEL)

Functioning

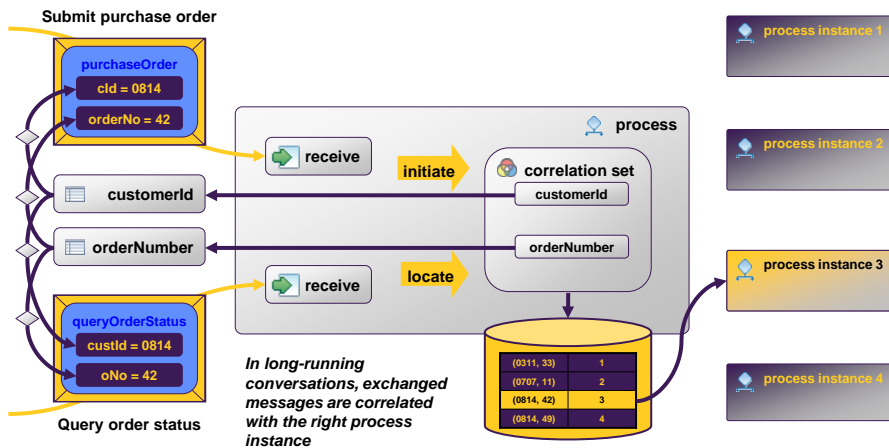


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4.6 Business Process Execution Languages (BPEL)

Example:



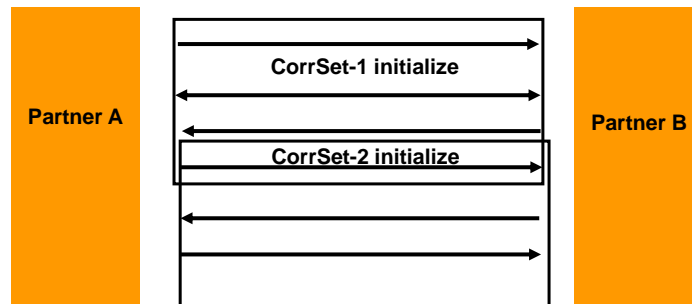
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4.6 Business Process Execution Languages (BPEL)



Multiple Correlation Sets



→ *Correlation Set* can change at runtime!

→ Change must be exchanged between partners!

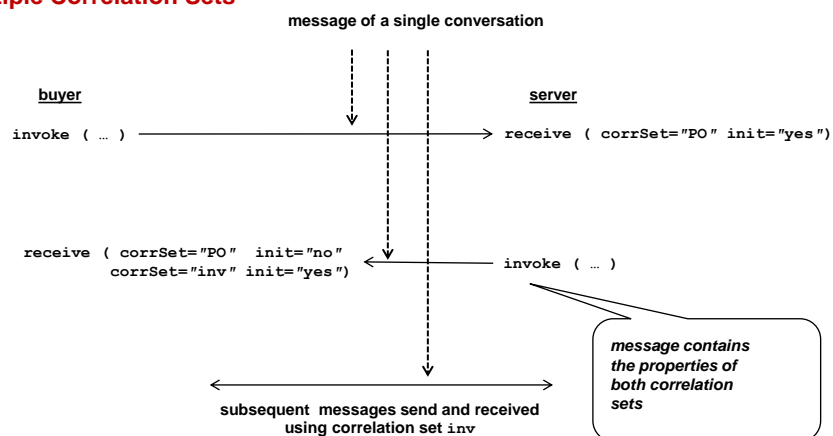
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4.6 Business Process Execution Languages (BPEL)



Multiple Correlation Sets



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4.6 Business Process Execution Languages (BPEL)



Multiple Correlation Sets

A Correlation Set is logically connected with a message. In principle, for Input-/Output-Message of a synchronous service call (invoke) different Correlation Sets can be used (→ example)

```
<invoke partnerLink="Buyer" interface="SP:BuyerIf"
  operation="synchPurchaseResp"
  inputVariable="PO" outputVariable="invoice">
  <correlations>
    <correlation set="PurchaseOrder" initiate="yes" pattern="out"/>
      (initiated in outbound msg)
    <correlation set="InvoiceResp" initiate="yes" pattern="in"/>
      (initiated in inbound msg,
      which contains both sets)
  </correlations>
</invoke>
```

Based on : M. Reichert, R. Pryss DBIS-Softwarelabor: Service-Oriented Computing, University of Ulm (2009)

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4.6 Business Process Execution Languages (BPEL)



Scopes, Compensation, Event Handling

- ❑ WS-BPEL offers a number of further useful implementation concepts, e.g., for exception and event handling
- ❑ In the following, we discuss the following BPEL elements:
 - Scopes
 - Compensation
 - Event Handling

Based on : M. Reichert, R. Pryss DBIS-Softwarelabor: Service-Oriented Computing, University of Ulm (2009)

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4.6 Business Process Execution Languages (BPEL)



Scopes

- ❑ Offer common context for a sub set of activities
- ❑ A Scope either contains ...
 - Fault handler
 - Event handler
 - Compensation handler
 - Correlation sets
- ❑ By using scopes, exception and error handling can be defined specifically for certain parts of the process
- ❑ Can serialize parallel accesses on process variables

```
<scope
  variableAccessSerializable="yes|no"
  ...>
  <variables>
  </variables>

  <correlationSets>? ...
  </correlationSets>

  <faultHandlers>
  </faultHandlers>

  <compensationHandler>? ...
  </compensationHandler>

  <eventHandlers>
  </eventHandlers>
  (activities)*
</scope>
```

Based on : M. Reichert, R. Pryss DBIS-Softwarelabor: Service-Oriented Computing, University of Ulm (2009)

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4.6 Business Process Execution Languages (BPEL)

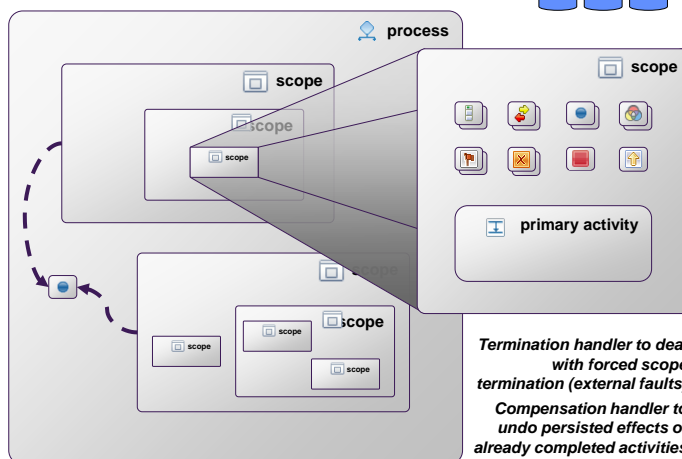


Scopes provide a context which influences the execution behavior of its enclosed activities

Local declarations: partner links, message exchanges, variables, correlation sets

Local handlers: event handlers, fault handlers, a termination handler, and a compensation handler

Isolated scopes provide control of concurrent access to shared resources



Scopes in WSBPEL

Based on : M. Reichert, R. Pryss DBIS-Softwarelabor: Service-Oriented Computing, University of Ulm (2009)

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Compensation in WS-BPEL

- ❑ During execution of a single process activity an error might occur, for example, if a web service that is invoked by this activity cannot be reached or is terminated with an error message
- ❑ When such error situations occur, the process cannot be continued as planned, but an exception handling becomes necessary:
 - ❑ Controlled termination of process instance
 - ❑ Backward / Forward Recovery
- ❑ In the following we discuss possibilities that WS-BPEL offers in this context!

Based on : M. Reichert, R. Pryss DBIS-Softwarelabor: Service-Oriented Computing, University of Ulm (2009)



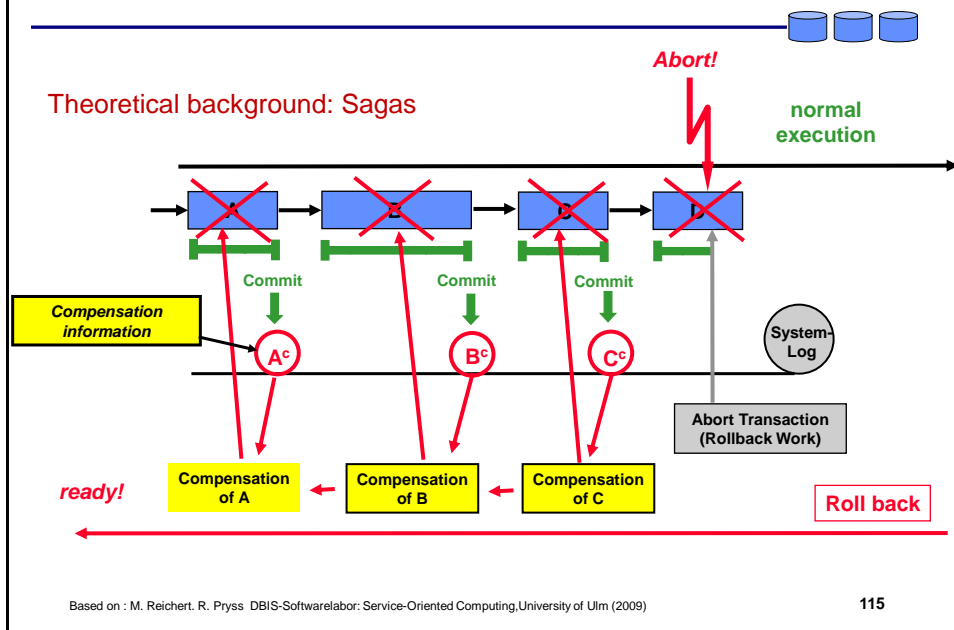
Theoretical background: Sagas

- ❑ Principle of ACID transactions („All-or-nothing“) in connection with long-running processes is usually not applicable
- ❑ Atomicity or isolation is too restrictive:
 - Long-running transactions → locks have to be hold very long
 - Not all applications support Two-Phase-Commit
→ „intermediate results“ are visible to the outside
- ❑ Basic idea: → **Sagas** [Garcia-Molina, ACM-Sigmod Conf. 1987]
 - Linking part-transactions (with ACID properties)
 - Classical Rollback for aborted (i.e., incompletely executed) part transactions
 - Semantic compensation of already finished transactions

Based on : M. Reichert, R. Pryss DBIS-Softwarelabor: Service-Oriented Computing, University of Ulm (2009)

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4.6 Business Process Execution Languages (BPEL)

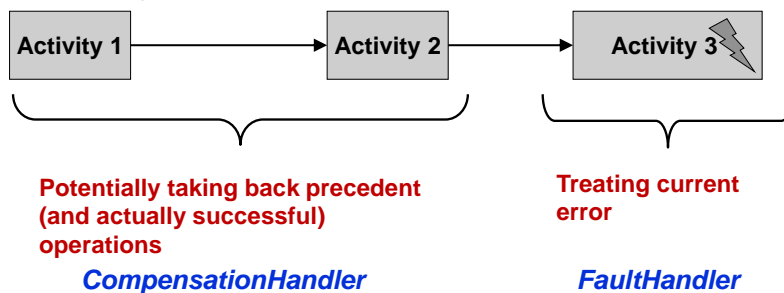


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4.6 Business Process Execution Languages (BPEL)

Compensation Handler and Fault Handler

- BPEL offers extended transactional support similar to Sagas
- Important parts: Compensation Handler + Fault Handler
- Example: Sequence of 3 activities and error when executing the third activity



Based on : M. Reichert, R. Pryss DBIS-Softwarelabor: Service-Oriented Computing, University of Ulm (2009)

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4.6 Business Process Execution Languages (BPEL)



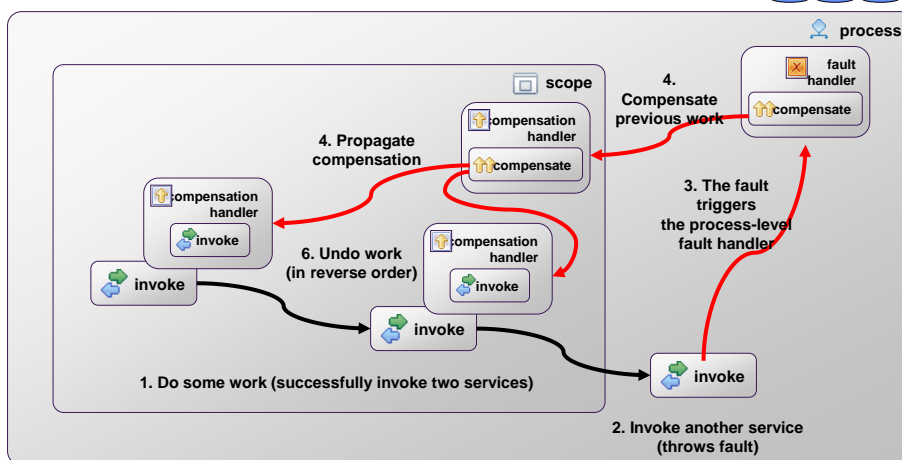
Scopes and Compensation

- ❑ Compensation behavior of a process can be defined based on *scopes* (i.e., spheres)
- ❑ In case of an error during scope execution, the running activities of the scope are aborted and already finished activities are compensated (default behavior)
- ❑ Depending on the scope at time of the errors, a more specific compensation can take place
- ❑ For this purpose, a separate compensation handler can be assigned to each scope
- ❑ High expressiveness when nesting scopes!

Based on : M. Reichert, R. Pryss DBIS-Softwarelabor: Service-Oriented Computing, University of Ulm (2009)

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4.6 Business Process Execution Languages (BPEL)



Based on : M. Reichert, R. Pryss DBIS-Softwarelabor: Service-Oriented Computing, University of Ulm (2009)

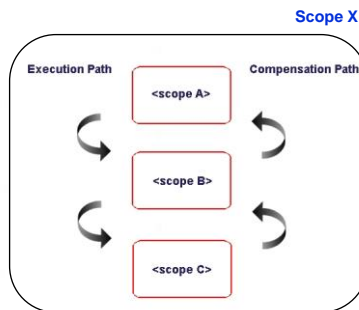
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4.6 Business Process Execution Languages (BPEL)



Nested Compensation

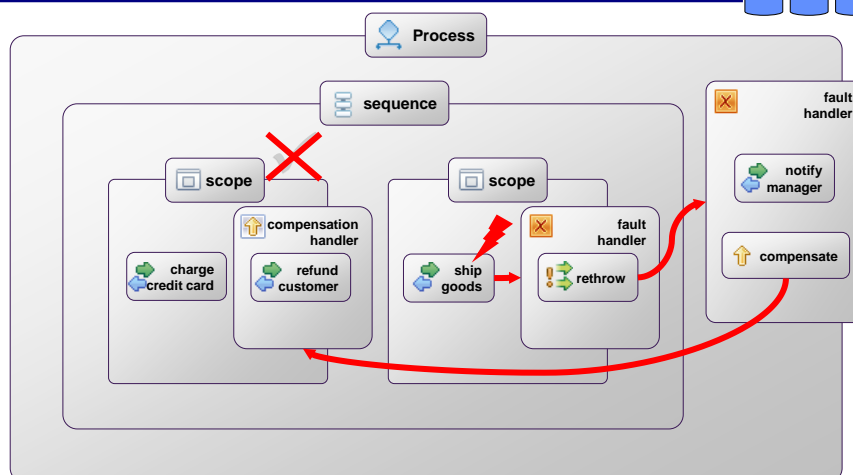
Compensation semantics can be flexibly defined when nesting scopes



Based on : M. Reichert, R. Pryss DBIS-Softwarelabor: Service-Oriented Computing, University of Ulm (2009)

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4.6 Business Process Execution Languages (BPEL)

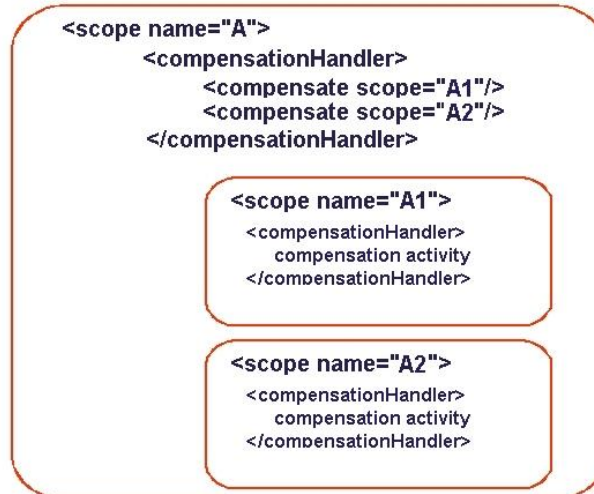


Nested Compensation

Based on : M. Reichert, R. Pryss DBIS-Softwarelabor: Service-Oriented Computing, University of Ulm (2009)

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4.6 Business Process Execution Languages (BPEL)



Nested Compensation

Quelle: activebpel.org

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Based on : M. Reichert, R. Pryss DBIS-Softwarelabor: Service-Oriented Computing, University of Ulm (2009)

4.6 Business Process Execution Languages (BPEL)



Faults and Fault Handler

- ❑ Fault messages of a Web Service Operation can be explicitly defined in WSDL
- ❑ Errors can be caused during process instance runtime by:
 1. Failure of a synchronous WS call, i.e., an `invoke` activity of a process instance does not yield a standard output message, but an error message
 2. A partner process or service sends a `Reply` with error message as reaction on a received message (`receive` from process instance perspective).

```
<reply partnerLink="selling" portType="SellerPT"
  operation="buy" faultName="OutOfStockFault"/>
```

3. Internally with `throw`

```
<throw faultName="NoDatabaseConnectionFault"/>
```

Based on : M. Reichert, R. Pryss DBIS-Softwarelabor: Service-Oriented Computing, University of Ulm (2009)

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4.6 Business Process Execution Languages (BPEL)



Faults and Fault Handler

- ❑ Fault Handler: handles faults by defining procedures for certain error types

```
<faultHandlers>
  <catch faultName="NoDatabaseConnectionFault">
    <compensate/> /* Anstossen einer Kompensation */
  </catch>
  <catchAll>
    <terminate/> /* Beende Prozess ansonsten */
  </catchAll>
</faultHandlers>
```

Based on : M. Reichert, R. Pryss DBIS-Softwarelabor: Service-Oriented Computing, University of Ulm (2009)

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4.6 Business Process Execution Languages (BPEL)



BPEL Syntax for defining a compensation handler

- ❑ Is triggered by `compensate`

```
<compensate/>
```

- ❑ Is handled by *CompensationHandler*

```
<compensationHandler>
  <invoke partnerLink="bidding" portType="AuctionPT"
    operation="undoBid" outputVariable="productID">

    <correlations>
      <correlation set="visitorID" initiate="no"
        pattern="out"/>
    </correlations>
  </invoke>
</compensationHandler>
```

Based on : M. Reichert, R. Pryss DBIS-Softwarelabor: Service-Oriented Computing, University of Ulm (2009)

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4.6 Business Process Execution Languages (BPEL)



Event Handling

- ❑ *eventHandler*: can handle incoming calls and messages in parallel to normal process
- ❑ *onMessage*

```
<onMessage partnerLink="buyer"
  portType="car"
  operation="cancel"
  variable="cancelDetails">
  <terminate/>
</onMessage>
```

- ❑ Event that is invoked by external partner

```
<onAlarm (for="duration-expr" | until="deadline-expr")>*
  <!-- activity -->
</onAlarm>
```

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4.6 Business Process Execution Languages (BPEL)

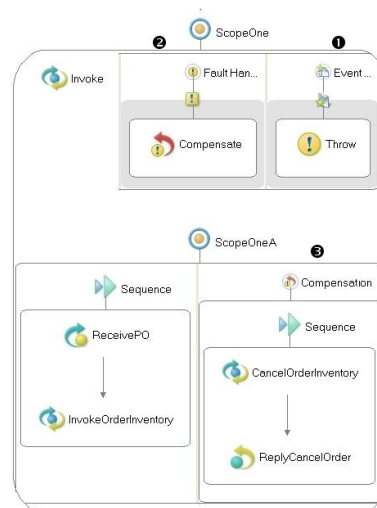


Event Handling

Example: Events in ActiveBPEL

With an *EventHandler* the termination of a process instance and the compensation activities required in this context can be triggered!

1. When the event handler receives an order cancellation message, it throws a fault to the fault handler.
2. The fault handler executes a compensate activity for the previously completed scope to which it is linked.
3. The compensation handler for the completed scope rolls back the work of the *InvokeOrderInventory* service.



Based on : M. Reichert, R. Pryss DBIS-Softwarelabor: Service-Oriented Computing, University of Ulm (2009)

Quelle: activebpel.org

4.6 Business Process Execution Languages (BPEL)



Abstract Processes In WS-BPEL

- ❑ BPEL-Syntax does not only allow for specification of **executable processes** but also for definition of **abstract processes**
- ❑ In the following:
 - Hiding process details
 - Basic principle of abstract processes
 - Typical applications in detail

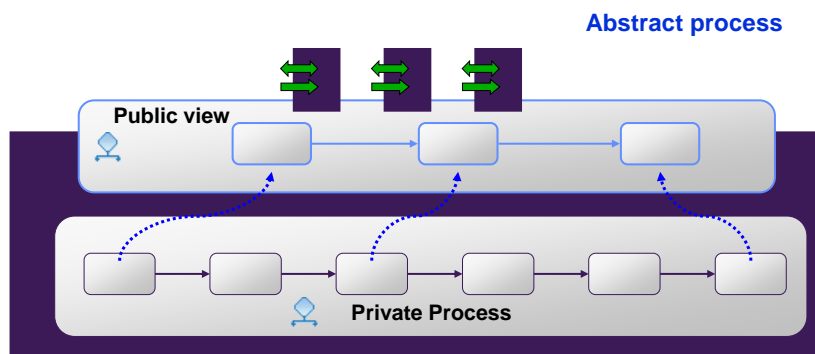
Based on : M. Reichert, R. Pryss DBIS-Softwarelabor: Service-Oriented Computing, University of Ulm (2009)

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4.6 Business Process Execution Languages (BPEL)



Hiding process details



Executable process

Based on : M. Reichert, R. Pryss DBIS-Softwarelabor: Service-Oriented Computing, University of Ulm (2009)

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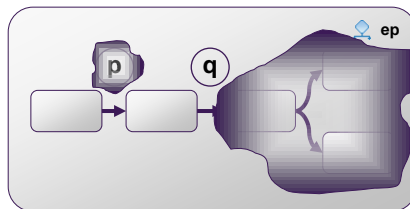
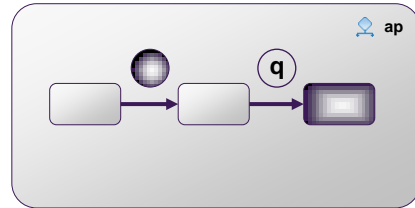
4.6 Business Process Execution Languages (BPEL)

Basic principle of abstract processes:

An abstract process describes "behavior", but is not executable itself!

Abstract process builds a view on the concrete process!

Abstraction



Concretization / Executable process

Left out information represents artifacts that are later defined within a top-down-design

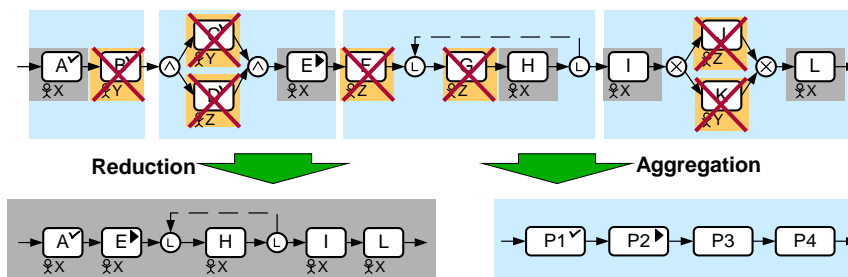
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4.6 Business Process Execution Languages (BPEL)

Basic Principle of abstract processes:

Background: Techniques for building abstract processes (i.e., views) on executable process models



Based on : M. Reichert, R. Pryss DBIS-Softwarelabor: Service-Oriented Computing, University of Ulm (2009)

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4.6 Business Process Execution Languages (BPEL)



Typical use cases:

□ Use Case 1: View on internal process

- Only a projection of an internal (executable) process is made visible to the outside
 - ...to protect process model as corporate asset
 - ...to hide non-optimal parts of a process model

□ Use Case 2: Template as “best practice”

- Specification of common activities, major data structures, and main control flow
- Must be refined into an executable processes on a case-by-case basis

□ Use Case 3: Constraints on Message Exchanges / Service Operations

- Specification about the order in which messages are consumed or produced
 - Business functionality is implemented as a (set of) port types, and operations must be used in a certain order to achieve intended business goal

Based on : M. Reichert, R. Pryss DBIS-Softwarelabor: Service-Oriented Computing, University of Ulm (2009)

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4.6 Business Process Execution Languages (BPEL)



View on Internal Processes

□ Use Case 1: An abstract process as view on an internal one

An abstract process is derived from an executable process by abstracting away parts that are not part of the behavior one wishes to expose

□ Examples:

- Show a particular business partner the interactions that the partner must follow
 - Interactions with all other partners are dropped
- Use an abstract process to represent common behavior in a set of executables, and drop any non-repeated behavior

Based on : M. Reichert, R. Pryss DBIS-Softwarelabor: Service-Oriented Computing, University of Ulm (2009)

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Template as “Best Practice”

□ Use Case 2: Template as Best Practice

An abstract process is basis to create one or more executables, or more detailed abstract processes

□ Example:

- One needs to create an implementation of an abstract process provided as a behavioral prescription for complying with a known, domain-specific business function
- One wants to implement “best practices” while maintaining some company specifics
 - The abstract process may have been purchased from a consulting firm, as a model of an optimized approach to a problem



Constraints on Service Operations

□ Use Case 3: Constraints on the orders of service operations

□ Typically, the operations of a service may not be used in arbitrary order

- Example: It doesn't make sense to use the `Cancel` operation of an `Order` service before using its `Buy` operation.

□ To describe such ordering constraints an abstract process can be used that only refers to operations of a single port type

□ The port type of a service may be associated with a process which describes the order in which the operations of the port type can be used

4.6 Business Process Execution Languages (BPEL)



Innovations in WS-BPEL 2.0 when compared to BPEL4WS 1.1

□ Data access and data manipulation

- XML schema complex-typed variables
- Simplified XPath expressions
- Simplified WSDL message access
- Elaborated **<copy>** operation behavior in **<assign>**
- Attribute *keepSrcElementName* in **<copy>**
- Attribute *ignoreMissingFromData* in **<copy>**
- Extension operations in **<assign>**
- XSLT 1.0 function for use within XPath expressions
- XML data validation
- New **<validate>** activity
- Inline variable initialization within variable declarations

Based on : M. Reichert, R. Pryss DBIS-Softwarelabor: Service-Oriented Computing, University of Ulm (2009)

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4.6 Business Process Execution Languages (BPEL)



Do a blocking wait for a matching message to arrive / send a message in reply

Invoke a one-way or request-response operation

Update the values of variables or partner links with new data

Validate XML data stored in variables

Generate a fault from inside the business process

Forward a fault from inside a fault handler



Immediately terminate execution of a business process instance

Invoke compensation on all completed child scopes in default order

Invoke compensation on one completed child scope

Wait for a given time period or until a certain time has passed

No-op instruction for a business process

Wrapper for language extensions

New in WS-BPEL 2.0

Based on : M. Reichert, R. Pryss DBIS-Softwarelabor: Service-Oriented Computing, University of Ulm (2009)

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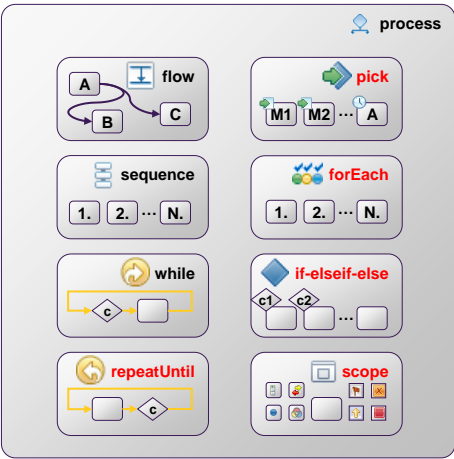
4.6 Business Process Execution Languages (BPEL)

Contained activities are executed in parallel, partially ordered through control links

Contained activities are performed sequentially in lexical order

Contained activity is repeated while a predicate holds

Contained activity is repeated until a predicate holds



Block and wait for a suitable message to arrive (or time out)

Contained activity is performed sequentially or in parallel, controlled by a specified counter variable

Select exactly one branch of activity from a set of choices

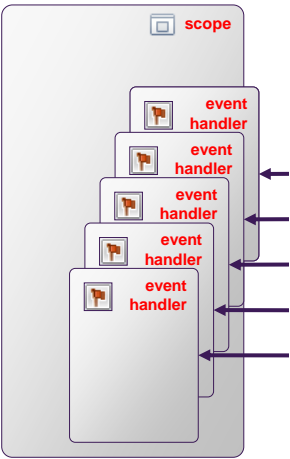
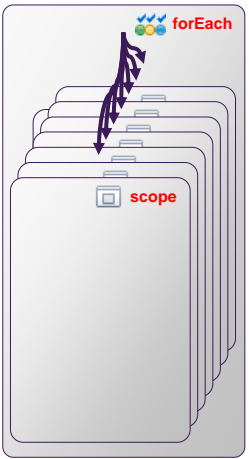
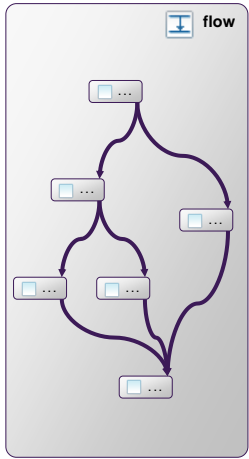
Associate contained activity with its own local variables, partner links, etc., and handlers

New in WS-BPEL

Structured Activities in BPEL4WS 1.1 and WS-BPEL 2.0

Based on : M. Reichert, R. Pryss DBIS-Softwarelabor: Service-Oriented Computing, University of Ulm (2009)

4.6 Business Process Execution Languages (BPEL)



New in WS-BPEL

Parallel execution BPEL4WS 1.1 and WS-BPEL 2.0

Based on : M. Reichert, R. Pryss DBIS-Softwarelabor: Service-Oriented Computing, University of Ulm (2009)

Outline



4.1 Motivation

4.2 Business Process Modeling Notation (BPMN)

4.3 Modeling Process Choreographies

4.4 Process Choreography Design

4.5 Process Choreography Implementation

4.6 Business Process Execution Language (BPEL)

4.7 Summary and Current Research

References

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4.7 Summary and Outlook

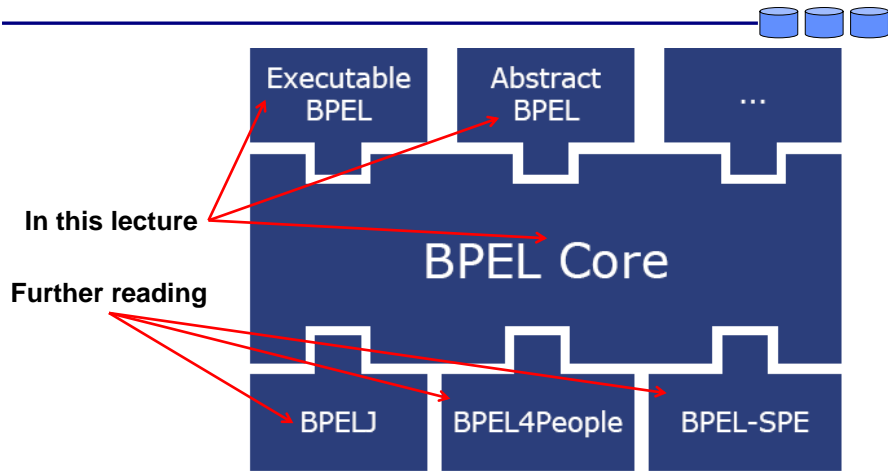


- ❑ WS-BPEL accepted as de facto standard for process-oriented composition and orchestration of services
- ❑ Support by many vendors
- ❑ Many possibilities for configuration and execution behavior (e.g., for exception handling)
- ❑ However: expressiveness also causes high complexity and errors
- ❑ Partly unclear or imprecise (formal) semantics
- ❑ Vendor-independence more a dream than reality
 - Vendors often implement subsets of BPEL on the one side
 - And do a lot of extension on the other side!
- ❑ Currently: support of transforming BPMN into BPEL

Based on : M. Reichert, R. Pryss DBIS-Softwarelabor: Service-Oriented Computing, University of Ulm (2009)

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4.7 Summary and Outlook



Based on : M. Reichert, R. Pryss DBIS-Softwarelabor: Service-Oriented Computing, University of Ulm (2009)

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References

Internet:

- ❑ WS-BPEL 2.0 – Approved Standard (04/11/2007):
<http://docs.oasis-open.org/wsbpel/2.0/wsbpel-v2.0.html>
- ❑ OASIS Technical Committee
<http://www.oasis-open.org>
- ❑ BPEL4WS on IBM:
<http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/abstracts/sg246381.html?Open>

Books:

- ❑ Buch Michael Papazoglou: *Web Services: Principles and Technology* (Pearson (Prentice Hall) , ISBN-10: 0321144446)
- ❑ Buch Fabio Casati: *Web Services. Concepts, Architectures and Applications* (Springer-Verlag, ISBN-10: 3440440089)

Based on : M. Reichert, R. Pryss DBIS-Softwarelabor: Service-Oriented Computing, University of Ulm (2009)

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Commercial Products



- ❑ Active Endpoints ActiveBPEL
<http://www.activevos.com/bpel.php>
- ❑ Apache Orchestration Director Engine (Ode)
<http://ode.apache.org/ws-bpel-20.html>
- ❑ IBM WebSphere Process Server
http://www.ibm.com/developerworks/websphere/library/techarticles/0608_kagan/0608_kagan.html
- ❑ Microsoft BizTalk Integration Platform
<http://www.microsoft.com/germany/biztalk/interop/prozessmodellierung.msp>
- ❑ OpenLink Virtuoso Universal Server
<http://www.openlinksw.com/virtuoso/overview/VOSRelease/index.htm>
- ❑ Oracle BPEL Process Manager
<http://www.oracle.com/technetwork/middleware/bpel/overview/index.html>
- ❑ Parasoft BPEL Maestro
<http://parasoft-bpel-maestro.software.informer.com/5.0/>
- ❑ SAP NetWeaver
<http://scn.sap.com/community/netweaver>

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Current Research

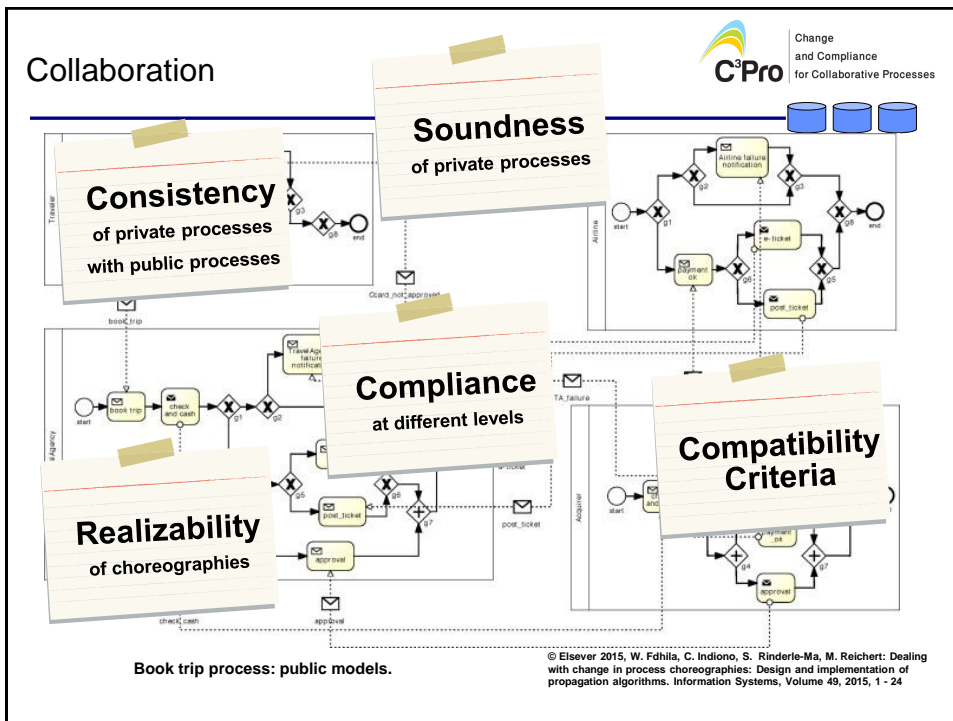


C³Pro: Change and Compliance for Collaborative Processes


- ❑ <http://www.wst.univie.ac.at/communities/c3pro/>
- ❑ Funded by FWF (lead agency) and DFG



Change
and Compliance
for Collaborative Processes



Collaborative Processes



Change and Compliance
for Collaborative Processes

C³Pro project:

funded by FWF (lead agency) and DFG under D-A-CH principles

Cooperation University of Vienna (lead) and University of Ulm

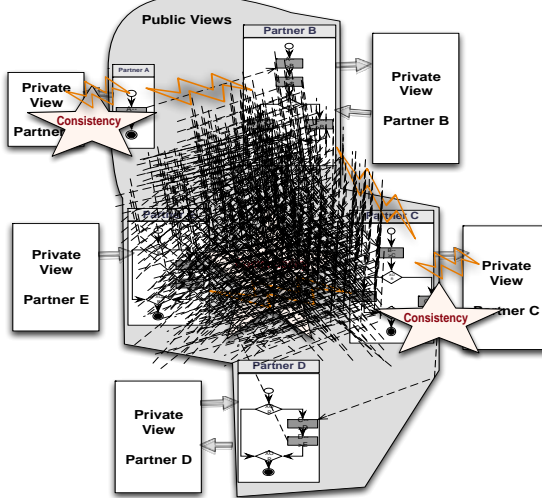
Objectives

- ❑ Change and change propagation in collaborative processes
- ❑ Compliance in collaborative processes
- ❑ Interplay between different aspects

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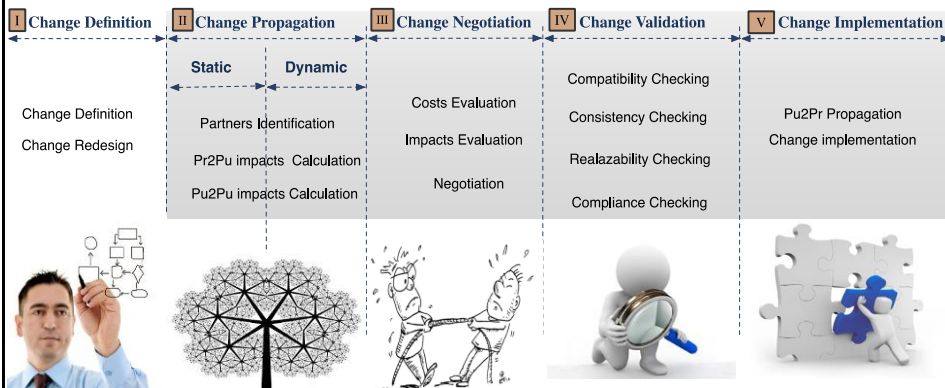
2 Change in Collaborations



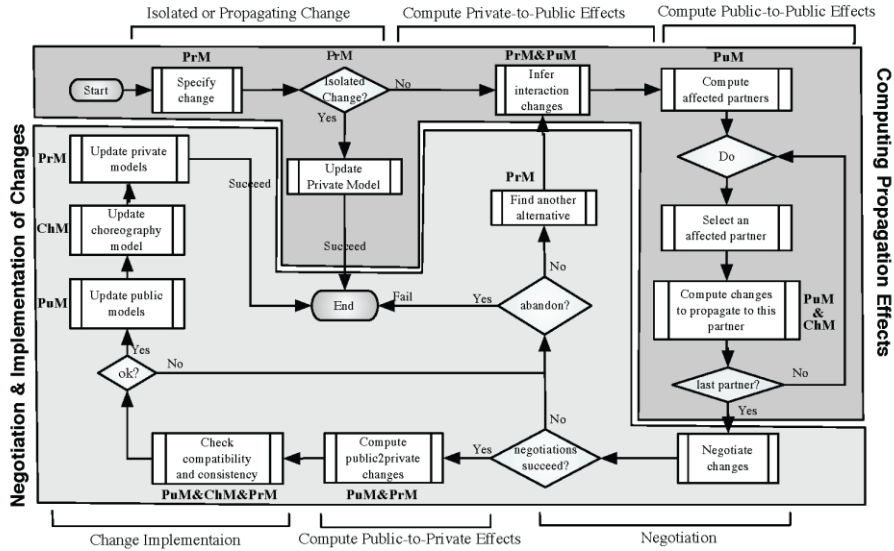
Challenges:

- ☐ Consistency
- ☐ Behavioral Compatibility
 - Waiting for a message which would never arrive
 - Sending message which would not be consumed
- ☐ Structural compatibility
- ☐ Transitivity effects
- ☐ Negotiation
- ☐ Compliance!

Change Propagation: Overall Picture



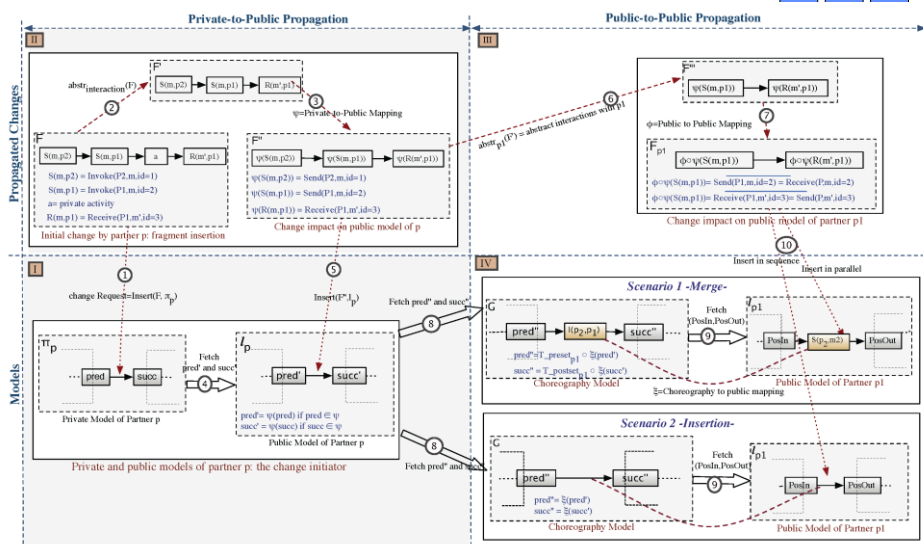
Change Propagation: Overall Picture



Legend: ChM Uses Choreography Model PrM Uses Private Model PuM Uses Public Model

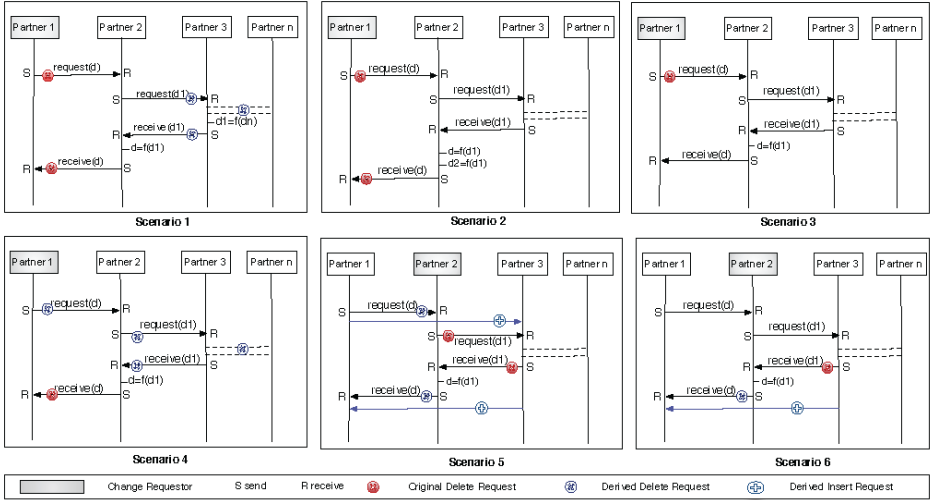
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Example of propagating an INSERT



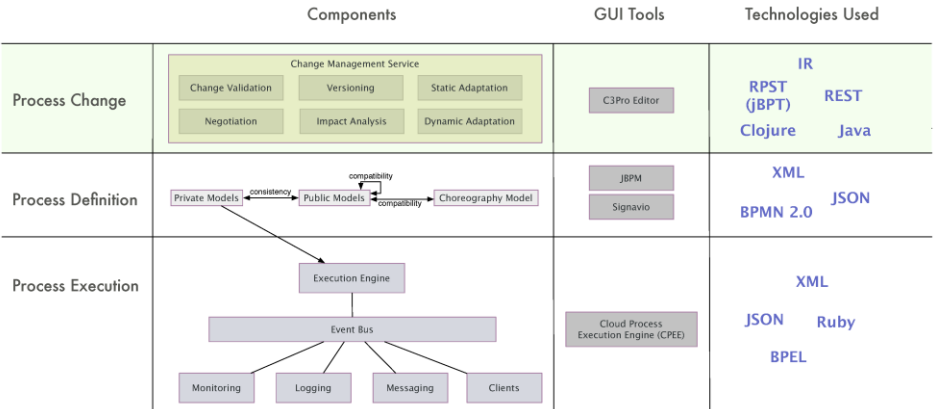
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Transitivity in Change Propagation



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Change Propagation Prototype



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Check also out: Cloud Process Execution Engine: cpee.org

Change Propagation Prototype

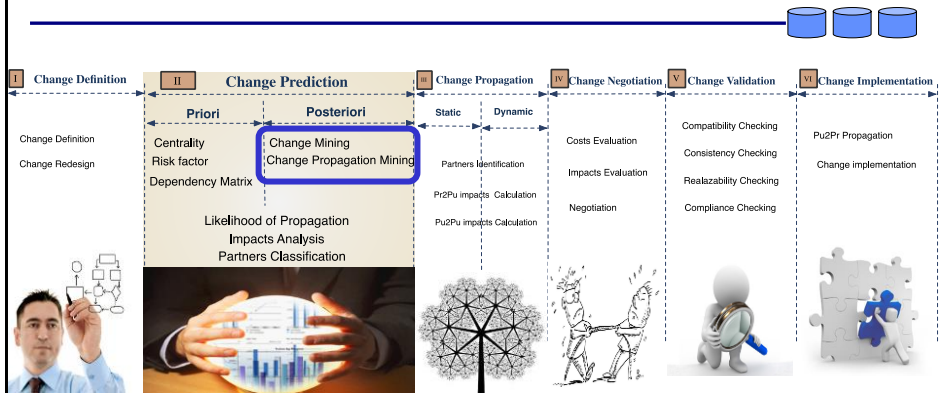
<http://www.wst.univie.ac.at/communities/c3pro/index.php?t=downloads>

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Change Impact Analysis and Prediction

- Change can become expensive
- Particularly in case of propagation and negotiations

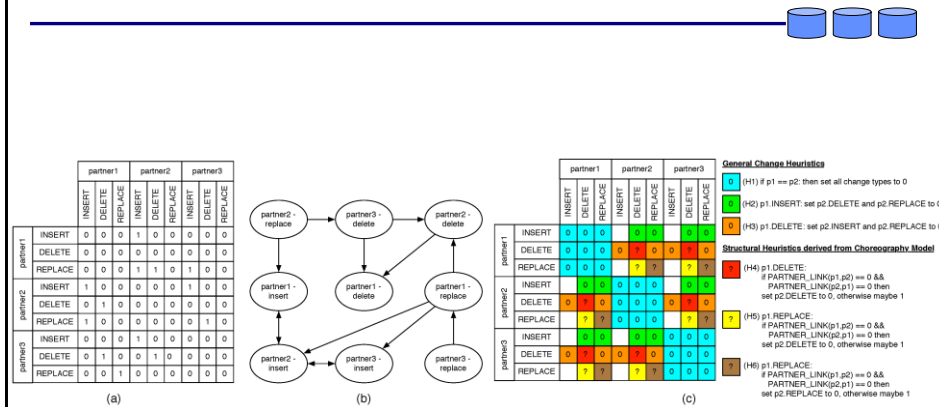
2 Change Impact Analysis and Prediction



- Change propagation mining: input data change propagation logs (CPL)
- Change mining: input data change event logs (CEL)

More challenging, but
also more realistic
(privacy!)

Change Impact Analysis and Prediction





Achieved so far:

- ❑ Generic approach (Refined Process Structure Tree RPST)
- ❑ Four change patterns
- ❑ Transitive effects
- ❑ Implementation of C³Pro Editor

Still many open challenges

- ❑ **Compliance and Security**
- ❑ Change impact analysis
- ❑ Behavioral correctness
- ❑ Concurrent changes

C³Pro (Selected Publications)



Linh Thao Ly, Fabrizio Maria Maggi, Marco Montali, Stefanie Rinderle-Ma, Wil M. P. van der Aalst: A Framework for the Systematic Comparison and Evaluation of Compliance Monitoring Approaches. EDOC 2013: 7-1

David Knuplesch, Manfred Reichert, Walid Fdhila, Stefanie Rinderle-Ma: On Enabling Compliance of Cross-Organizational Business Processes. BPM 2013: 146-154

David Knuplesch, Manfred Reichert, Rüdiger Pryss, Walid Fdhila, Stefanie Rinderle-Ma: Ensuring compliance of distributed and collaborative workflows. CollaborateCom 2013: 133-142

David Knuplesch, Manfred Reichert, Linh Thao Ly, Akhil Kumar, Stefanie Rinderle-Ma: Visual Modeling of Business Process Compliance Rules with the Support of Multiple Perspectives. ER 2013: 106-120

Walid Fdhila, Stefanie Rinderle-Ma, Manfred Reichert: Change propagation in collaborative processes scenarios. CollaborateCom 2012: 452-461

Walid Fdhila, Stefanie Rinderle-Ma, Aymen Baouab, Olivier Perrin, Claude Godart: On evolving partitioned Web Service orchestrations. SOCA 2012: 1-6