

Increasing Data Reliability in Business Processes

Mohamad Gharib¹, Pnina Soffer² and Paolo Giorgini¹

University of Trento¹

Trento, Italy

{gharib, paolo.giorgini}@disi.unitn.it

University of Haifa²

Haifa, Israel

spnina@is.haifa.ac.il

Contents

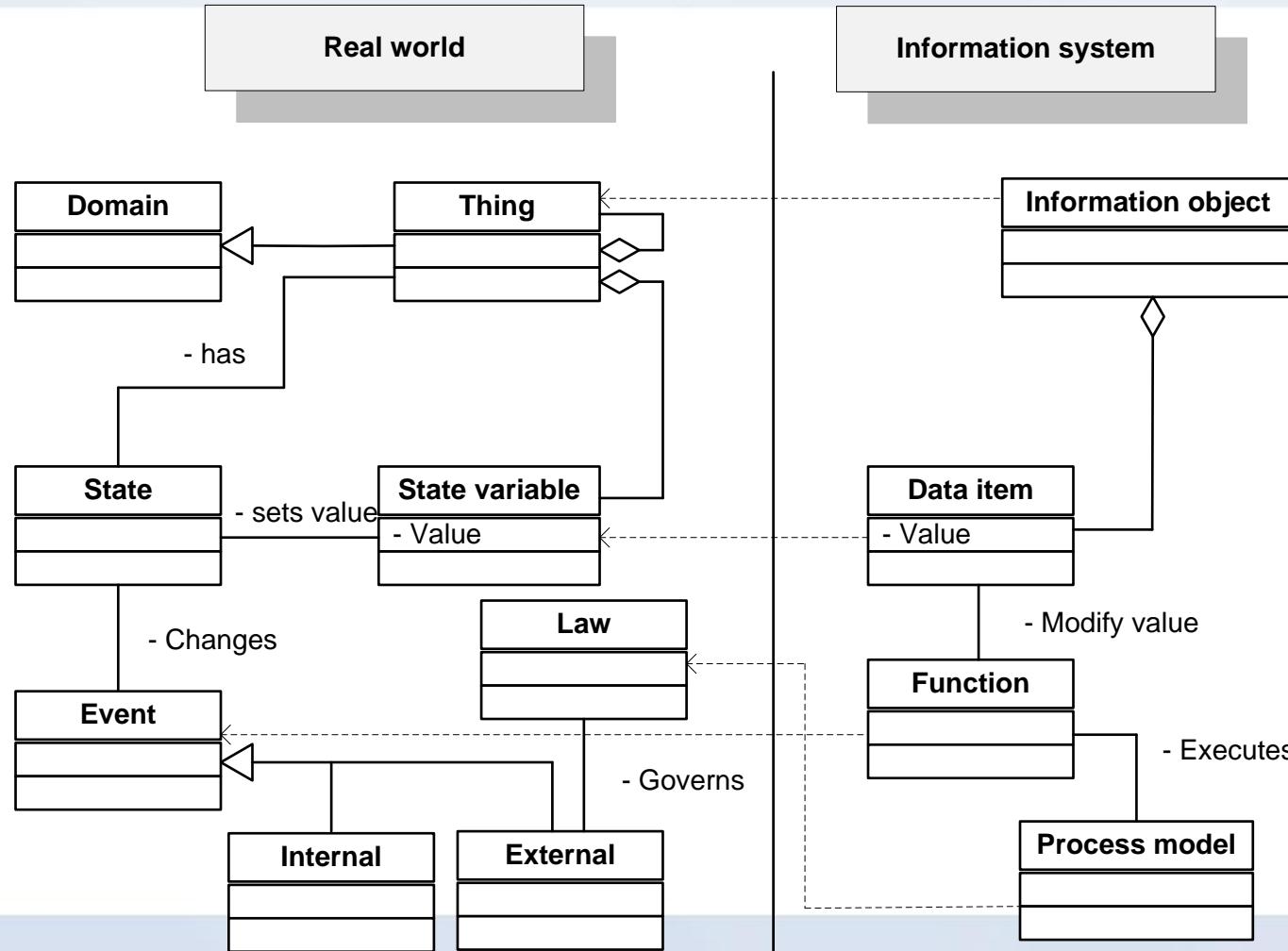
1. Business processes
2. Data inaccuracy
 - Generic Process Model (GPM)
 - Workflow net with data (WFD-net)
3. Actors and data verification
 - i*/Tropos
 - Workflow net with data and actors (WFDA-net)

Business processes

- A **business process** is a collection of related, structured activities or tasks that produce a specific service or product (serve a particular goal) for a particular customer or customers.
- It often can be visualized with a flowchart as a sequence of activities with interleaving decision points.

Data inaccuracy

1- Generic Process Model (GPM) :

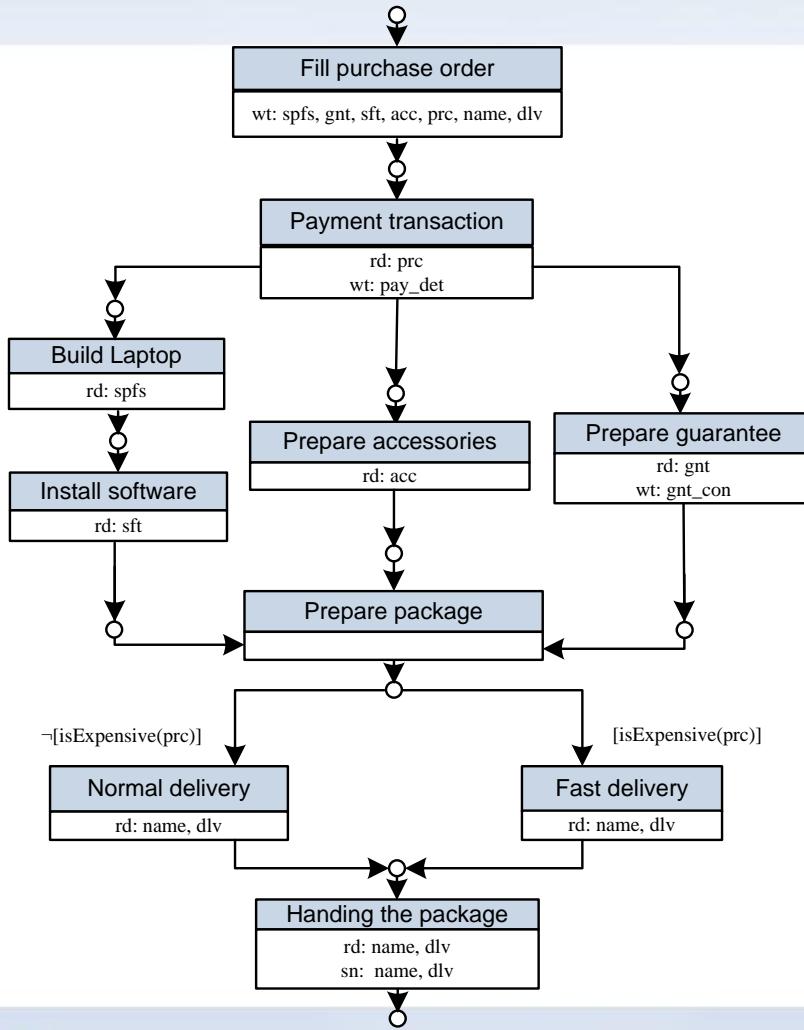


Data inaccuracy

2- Data inaccuracy formalization

- A domain state $X = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$, is truly reflected by an information system $R = \{d_1, d_2, \dots, d_n\}$ IFF $x_i = d_i$ for all corresponding couple $\langle x_i, d_i \rangle$.
- **Inaccuracy** of data is a situation where, there is a corresponding couple $\langle x_i, d_i \rangle$ such that $x_i \neq d_i$.

Workflow net with data (WFD-net)



Workflow net with data (WFD-net) $N = \langle P, T, F, rd, wt, del, grd, sn \rangle$ consists of

a WF-net $\langle P, T, F \rangle$:

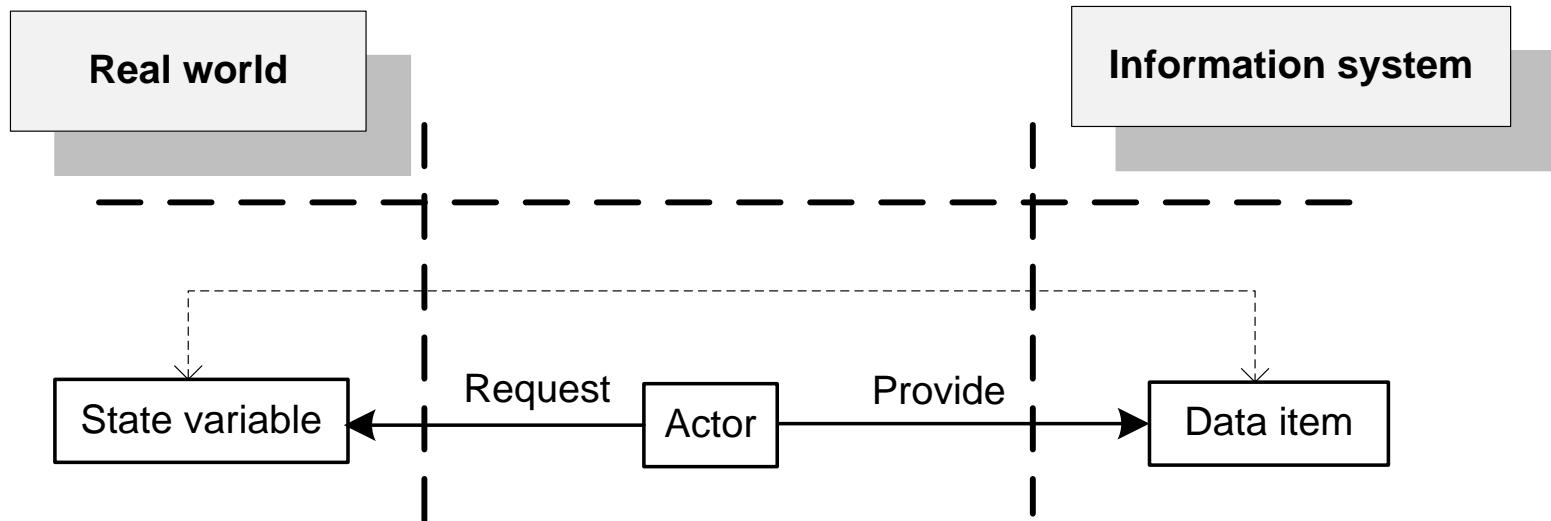
P is a non-empty and finite set of places,
 T is a non-empty and finite set of transitions,
 F is a flow relation,

And

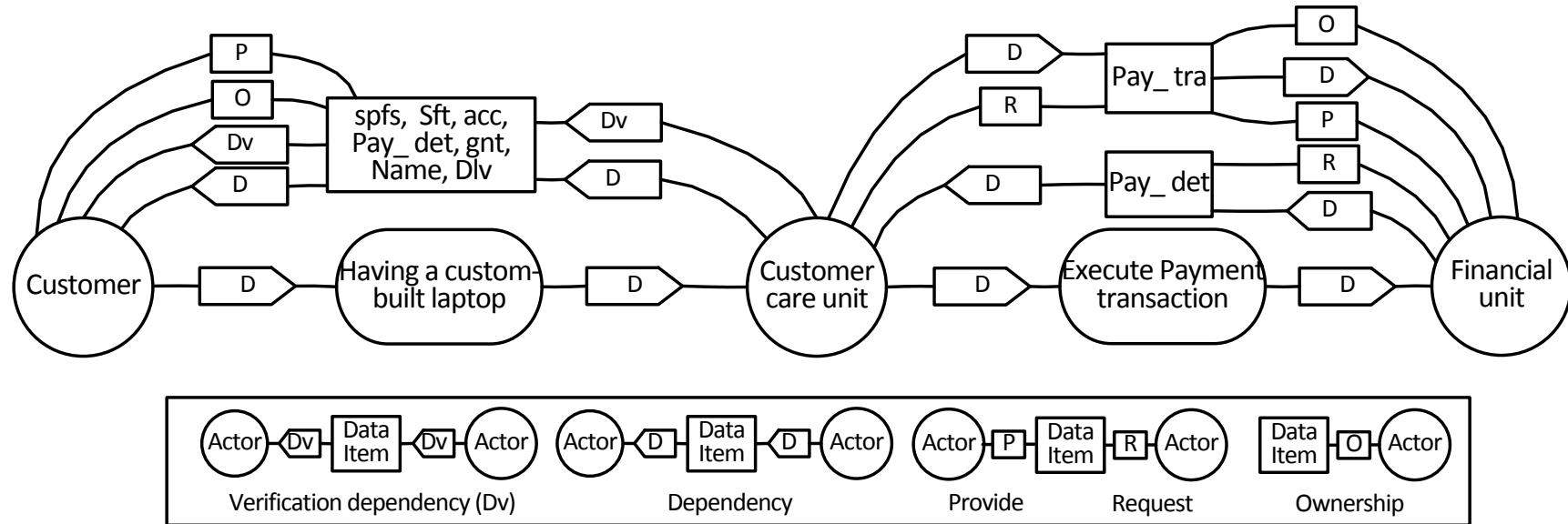
a reading data labeling function $rd : T \rightarrow 2^D$,
a writing data labeling function $wt : T \rightarrow 2^D$,
a deleting data labeling function $del : T \rightarrow 2^D$,
a data synch labeling function $sn : T \rightarrow 2^D$,
a guard function $grd : T \rightarrow G^D$ assigning guards to transitions.

$D = \langle d_1, \dots, d_m \rangle$ is a finite set of data elements, and a set of all guards is denoted by GD .

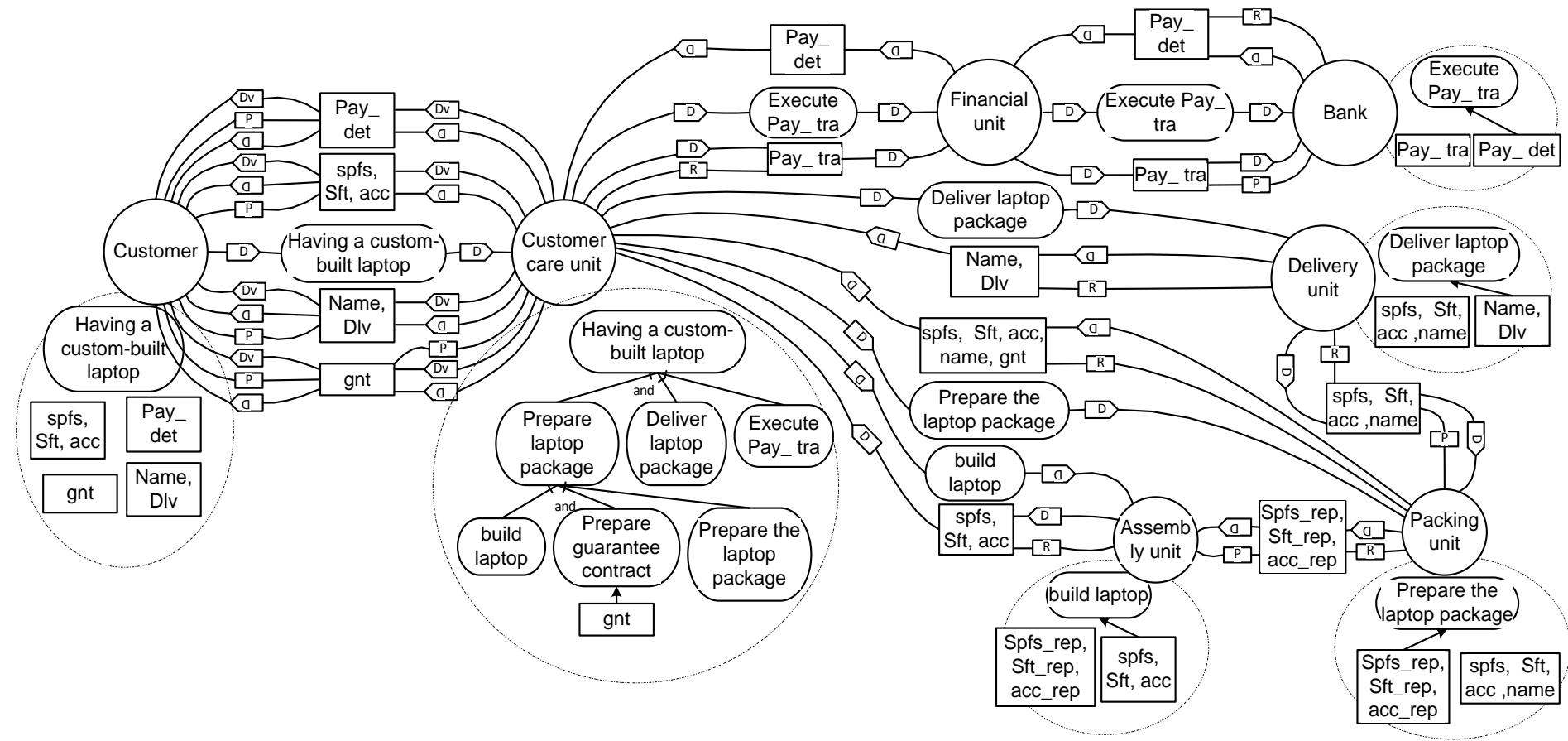
Actors and data verification



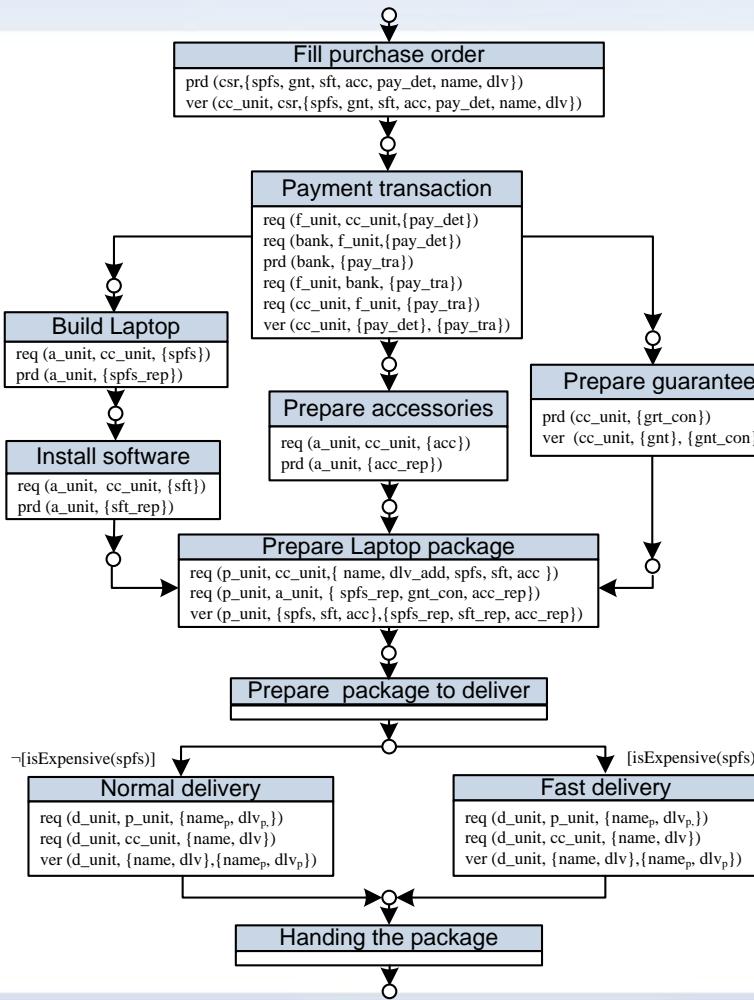
i*/Tropos



i*/Tropos



Workflow net with data (WFDA-net)



Workflow net with data (WFDA-net) $N = \langle P, T, F, \text{prd}, \text{req}, \text{ver}, \text{grd} \rangle$ consists of

a WF-net $\langle P, T, F \rangle$:

P is a non-empty and finite set of places,
T is a non-empty and finite set of transitions,

F is a flow relation,

And

a $\text{prd}(a, \{d_1, d_2, \dots, d_n\})$,

a $\text{req}(a, b, \{d_1, d_2, \dots, d_n\})$,

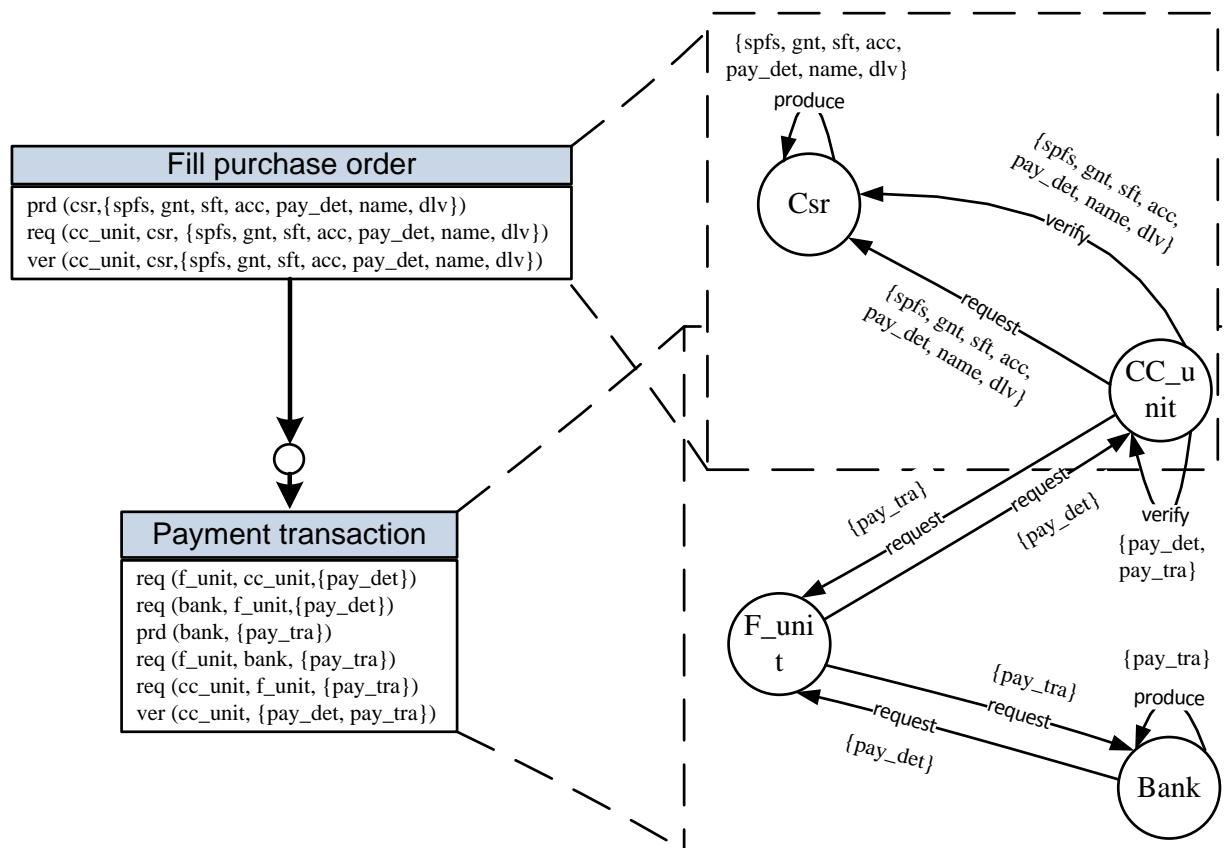
a $\text{ver}(a, b, \{d_1, d_2, \dots, d_n\})$,

a $\text{ver}(a, \{d_1, d_2, \dots, d_n\}, \{d'_1, d'_2, \dots, d'_n\})$

a guard function $\text{grd} : T \rightarrow G^D$ assigning guards to transitions.

$D = \langle d_1, \dots, d_n, d'_1, \dots, d'_n \rangle$ is a finite set of data elements, $A = \langle a_1, \dots, a_n \rangle$ is a finite set of actors, and a set of all guards is denoted by GD .

Adding actors to WFD-nets



References

1. Agmon, N. & Ahituv, N. Assessing data reliability in an information system. *Journal of Management Information Systems*, JSTOR, 1987, 34-44.
2. Basin, D.; Doser, J. & Lodderstedt, T. Model driven security: From UML models to access control infrastructures. *ACM Transactions on Software Engineering and Methodology (TOSEM)*, 2006, 15, 39-91.
3. Bauer, B. & Odell, J. UML 2.0 and agents: how to build agent-based systems with the new UML standard. *Engineering applications of articial intelligence*, Elsevier, 2005, 18, 141-157.
4. Boritz, J. IS practitioners' views on core concepts of information integrity. *International Journal of Accounting Information Systems*, Elsevier, 2005, 6, 260-279.
5. Bovee, M.; Srivastava, R. & Mak, B. A conceptual framework and belief-function approach to assessing overall information quality. *International journal of intelligent systems*, Wiley Online Library, 2003, 18, 51-74.
6. Bresciani, P.; Perini, A.; Giorgini, P.; Giunchiglia, F. & Mylopoulos, J. *Tropos: An agent-oriented software development methodology*. *Autonomous Agents and Multi-Agent Systems*, Springer, 2004, 8, 203-236.
7. Bunge, M. & Ontology, I. *The Furniture of the World, Treatise on Basic Philosophy*, vol. 3, D Reidel Publishing Company, Dordrecht, Holland, 1977.
8. Cohn, D. & Hull, R. Business artifacts: A data-centric approach to modeling business operations and processes. *IEEE Data Eng. Bull*, 2009, 32, 3-9.
9. Community, E. E. *Information Technology Security Evaluation Criteria (ITSEC)* ITSEC, 1990.
10. Jrjens, J. *Secure systems development with UML*. Springer Verlag, 2005.
11. Kunzle, V. & Reichert, M. Towards object-aware process management systems: Issues, challenges, benefits. *Enterprise, Business-Process and Information Systems Modeling*, Springer, 2009, 197-210.
12. Lin, L.; Nuseibeh, B.; Ince, D.; Jackson, M. & Moett, J. Introducing abuse frames for analysing security requirements. *IEEE Computer Society*, 2003
13. Mandke, V. & Nayar, M. *Implementing Information Integrity Technology{A Feedback Control System Approach. Integrity and internal control in information systems: strategic views on the need for control: IFIP TC11 WG11. 5 , November 18-19, 1999, Amsterdam,The Netherlands*, 2000, 23.
14. McDermott, J. & Fox, C. Using abuse case models for security requirements analysis. *Computer Security Applications Conference, 1999.(ACSAC'99) Proceedings*. 15th Annual, 1999, 55-64.
15. Muller, D.; Reichert, M. & Herbst, J. A new paradigm for the enactment and dynamic adaptation of data-driven process structures. *Advanced Information Systems Engineering*, 2008, 48-63.

References

16. Reichert, M.; Rinderle-Ma, S. & Dadam, P. Flexibility in process-aware information systems. *Transactions on Petri Nets and Other Models of Concurrency II*, Springer, 2009, 115-135.
17. Russell, N.; ter Hofstede, A.; Edmond, D. & van der Aalst, W. Workflow data patterns: Identification, representation and tool support. *Conceptual Modeling{ER} 2005*, Springer, 2005, 353-368.
18. Russell, N.; van der Aalst, W. & ter Hofstede, A. Exception handling patterns in process-aware information systems. *BPM Center Report BPM-06-04*, BPMcenter. Org, 2006, 06-04.
19. Sadiq, S.; Orlowska, M.; Sadiq, W. & Foulger, C. Dataflow and validation in workflow modeling. *Proceedings of the 15th Australasian database conference-Volume 27*, 2004, 207-214.
20. Sidorova, N.; Stahl, C. & Truka, N. Workflow soundness revisited: checking correctness in the presence of data while staying conceptual. *Advanced Information Systems Engineering*, 2010, 530-544.
21. Sindre, G. & Opdahl, A. Eliciting security requirements by misuse cases. *Technology of Object-Oriented Languages and Systems*, 2000. *TOOLS-Pacifc 2000. Proceedings. 37th International Conference*, 2000, 120-131.
22. Soer, P. Mirror, mirror on the wall, can i count on you at all? exploring data inaccuracy in business processes. *Enterprise, Business-Process and Information Systems Modeling*, Springer, 2010, 14-25.
23. Soffer, P. & Wand, Y. Goal-driven analysis of process model validity. *Advanced Information Systems Engineering*, 2004, 229-319.
24. Soffer, P. & Wand, Y. Goal-driven multi-process analysis. *Journal of the Association for Information Systems*, 2007, 8, 175-202.
25. Sun, S.; Zhao, J.; Nunamaker, J. & Sheng, O. Formulating the data-flow perspective for business process management. *Information Systems Research*, INFORMS, 2006, 17, 374-391.
26. Tracka, N.; van der Aalst, W. & Sidorova, N. Data-flow anti-patterns: Discovering data-flow errors in workflows. *Advanced Information Systems Engineering*, 2009, 425-439.
27. Tracka, N.; van der Aalst, W. & Sidorova, N. Analyzing control-flow and data-flow in workflow processes in a unified way. *Computer Science Report*, 2008.
28. Van der Aalst, W.; Weske, M. & Grunbauer, D. Case handling: a new paradigm for business process support. *Data & Knowledge Engineering*, Elsevier, 2005, 53, 129-162.
29. Vanderfeesten, I.; Reijers, H. & van der Aalst, W. Product based workflow support: dynamic workflow execution. *Advanced Information Systems Engineering*, 2008, 571-574.
30. Wand, Y. & Wang, R. Anchoring data quality dimensions in ontological foundations. *Communications of the ACM*, 1996, 39, 86-95.
31. Yu, E. Agent-oriented modeling: software versus the world. *Agent-Oriented Software Engineering II*, Springer, 2002, 206-225.
32. Yu, E. S.-K. Modeling strategic relationships for process reengineering. Ph.D. thesis, University of Toronto, (1996).

Questions ?