

BPMN - Business Process Modeling Notation

Gateways

- Data-based Exclusive Gateway**
When splitting, it routes the sequence flow to exactly one of the outgoing branches based on conditions. When merging, it awaits one incoming branch to complete before triggering the outgoing flow.
- Event-based Exclusive Gateway**
Is always followed by catching events or receive tasks. Sequence flow is routed to the subsequent event/task which happens first.
- Parallel Gateway**
When used to split the sequence flow, all outgoing branches are activated simultaneously. When merging parallel branches it waits for all incoming branches to complete before triggering the outgoing flow.
- Inclusive Gateway**
When splitting, one or more branches are activated based on branching conditions. When merging, it awaits all active incoming branches to complete.
- Complex Gateway**
It triggers one or more branches based on complex conditions or verbal descriptions. Use it sparingly as the semantics might not be clear.

Activities

- Multiple Instances**
Multiple Instances of the same activity are started in parallel or sequentially, e.g. for each line item in an order.
- Loop**
Loop Activity is iterated if a loop condition is true. The condition is either tested before or after the activity execution.
- Ad-hoc Subprocess**
Ad-hoc Subprocesses contain tasks only. Each task can be executed arbitrarily often until a completion condition is fulfilled.
- Task**
A Task is a unit of work, the job to be performed.
- Collapsed Subprocess**
A Subprocess is a decomposable activity. It can be collapsed to hide the details.
- Expanded Subprocess**
An Expanded Subprocess contains a valid BPMN diagram.
- Sequence Flow** defines the execution order of activities.
- Conditional Flow** has a condition assigned that defines whether or not the flow is used.
- Default Flow** is the default branch to be chosen if all other conditions evaluate to false.

Data

- A **Data Object** represents information flowing through the process, such as business documents, e-mails or letters.
 - Attaching a data object with an **Undirected Association** to a sequence flow indicates hand-over of information between the activities involved.
 - A **Directed Association** indicates information flow. A data object can be read at the start of an activity or written upon completion.
 - A **Bidirected Association** indicates that the data object is modified, i.e. read and written during the execution of an activity.
-

Events

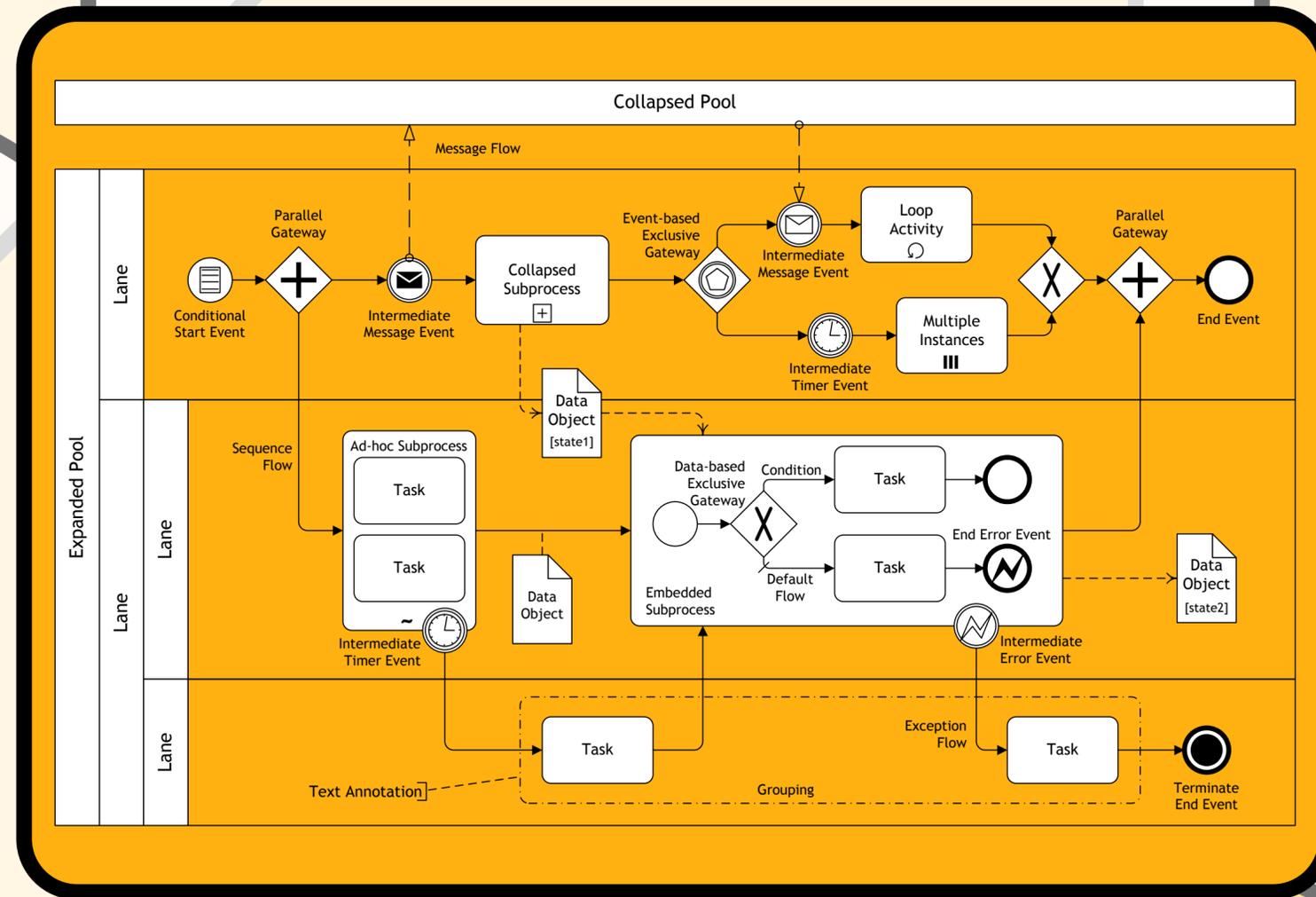
	Start		Intermediate		End		
	Catching		Throwing				
Plain							Untyped events, typically showing where the process starts or ends.
Message							Receiving and sending messages.
Timer							Cyclic timer events, points in time, time spans or timeouts.
Error							Catching or throwing named errors.
Cancel							Reacting to cancelled transactions or triggering cancellation.
Compensation							Compensation handling or triggering compensation.
Conditional							Reacting to changed business conditions or integrating business rules.
Signal							Signalling across different processes. One signal thrown can be caught multiple times.
Multiple							Catching or throwing one out of a set of events.
Link							Off-page connectors. Two corresponding link events equal a sequence flow.
Terminate							Triggering the immediate termination of a process.

Transactions

- A **Transaction** is a set of activities that logically belong together; it might follow a specified transaction protocol.
- Attached **Intermediate Cancel Events** indicate reactions to the cancellation of a transaction. Activities inside the transaction are compensated upon cancellation.
- Completed activities can be compensated. An activity and the corresponding **Compensate Activity** are related using an attached **Intermediate Compensation Event**.

Documentation

- Group**
An arbitrary set of objects can be defined as a **Group** to show that they logically belong together.
- Text Annotation**
Any object can be associated with a **Text Annotation** to provide additional documentation.



Swimlanes

- Pools and Lanes** represent responsibilities for activities in a process. A pool or a lane can be an organization, a role, or a system. Lanes sub-divide pools or other lanes hierarchically.
- Collapsed Pools** hide all internals of the contained processes.
- Message Flow** symbolizes information flow across organizational boundaries. Message flow can be attached to pools, activities, or message events.
- The order of message exchanges can be specified by combining message flow and sequence flow.

Catching

Throwing

- Start Event:** Catching an event starts a new process instance.
- Intermediate Event (catching):** The process can only continue once an event has been caught.
- Attached Intermediate Event:** The activity is aborted once an event is caught.
- End Event:** An event is thrown when the end of the process is reached.
- Intermediate Event (throwing):** An event is thrown and the process continues.

Business Process Technology
Prof. Dr. Mathias Weske
Web: bpt.hpi.uni-potsdam.de
Oryx: oryx-project.org
Blog: bpmn.info
BPMN Version 1.2



Authors
Gero Decker
Alexander Grosskopf
Sven Wagner-Boysen

