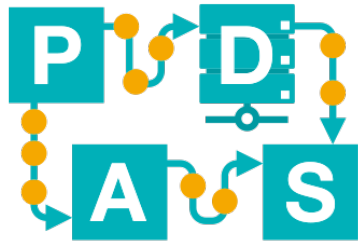


Data Models in the Middle

Keynote 7th International Workshop on Business Processes
Meet the Internet-of-Things (BP-Meet-IoT)

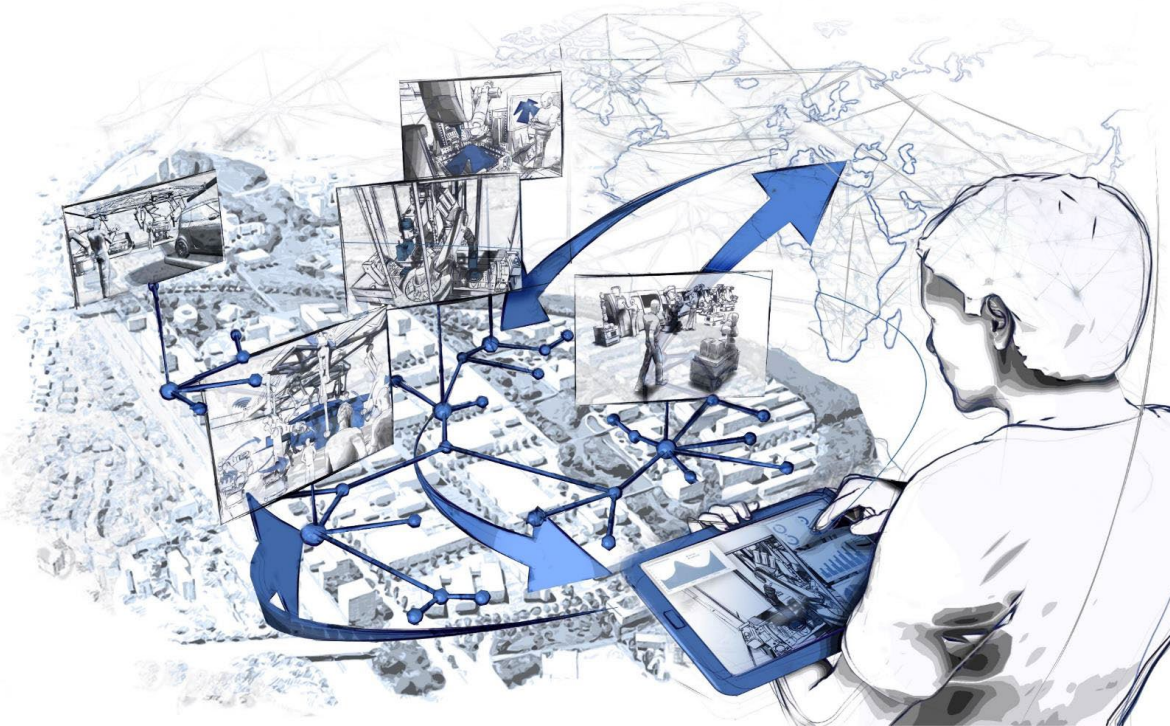
prof.dr.ir. Wil van der Aalst
RWTH Aachen University
W: vdaalst.com T:@wvdaalst



**Chair of Process
and Data Science**

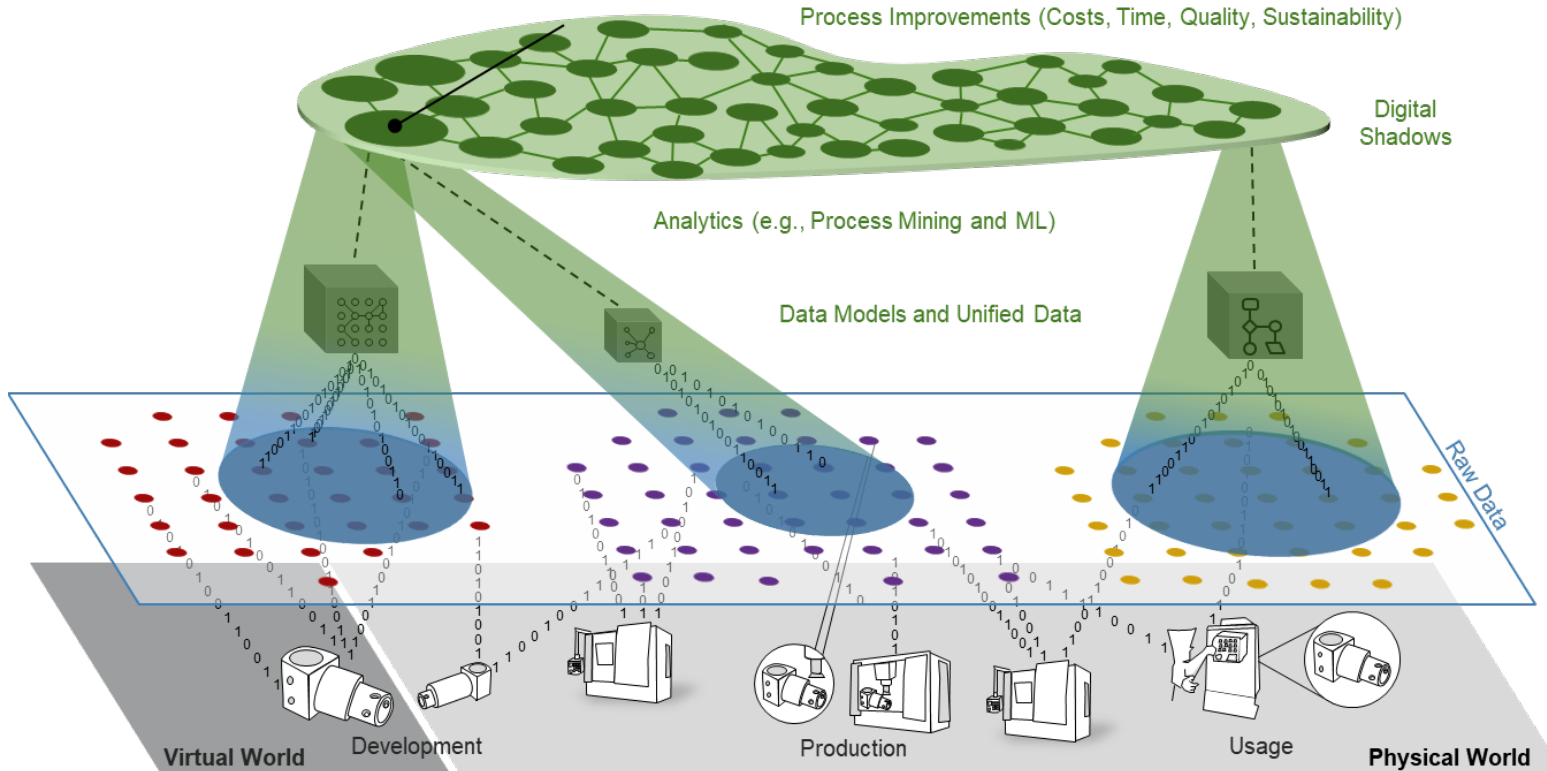
**RWTHAACHEN
UNIVERSITY**

The Internet-of-Production @ RWTH



- ~ 50 Mio €
- ~ 35 groups
- ~ 200 researchers
- Production and Computer Science
- Main concepts: World-Wide-Lab and Digital Shadows
- Process mining plays a key role in IoP

The Internet-of-Production @ RWTH



Spectrum Internet-of-Production



Christian Brecher

from a single machine ...



Günther Schuh

... to complete production systems

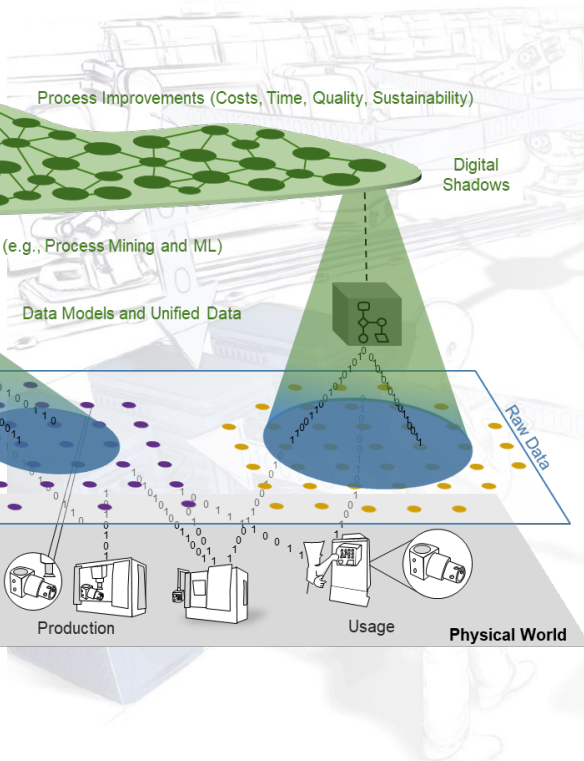
The Challenge



The Tower of Babel by Pieter Bruegel (1563)

- Different languages
 - different notations, terms, etc.
 - different disciplines
- Working at different levels
 - machine level
 - process/system/chain level
- This is not (just) a syntactical problem!
- When talking about (data) models, a “middle ground” is missing

The Challenge



Artificial Intelligence (AI), Machine Learning (ML), Data Science (DS), etc. Techniques and Tools

general purpose TXT, CSV, XLS, JSON, etc. files

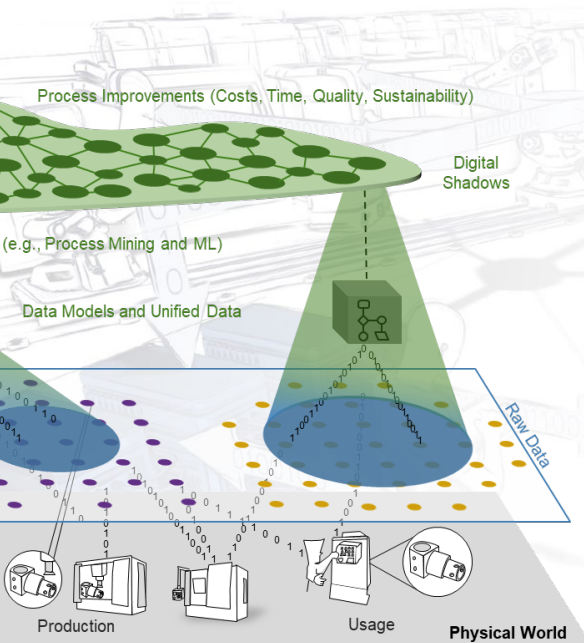
ad-hoc collections of TXT, CSV, XLS, JSON, etc. files

Application-specific data (often stored in an ad-hoc manner without unified access and using no or heterogeneous data models)

Knime, RapidMiner, Scikit-learn, PyTorch, Tensorflow, Weka, ProM, Celonis, etc.

80+ different data sources

The Challenge



Artificial Intelligence (AI), Machine Learning (ML), Data Science (DS), etc. Techniques and Tools

general purpose TXT, CSV, XLS, JSON, etc. files

**No explicit semantics,
ad-hoc transformations,
no reuse, no sharing, etc.**

ad-hoc collections of TXT, CSV, XLS, JSON, etc. files

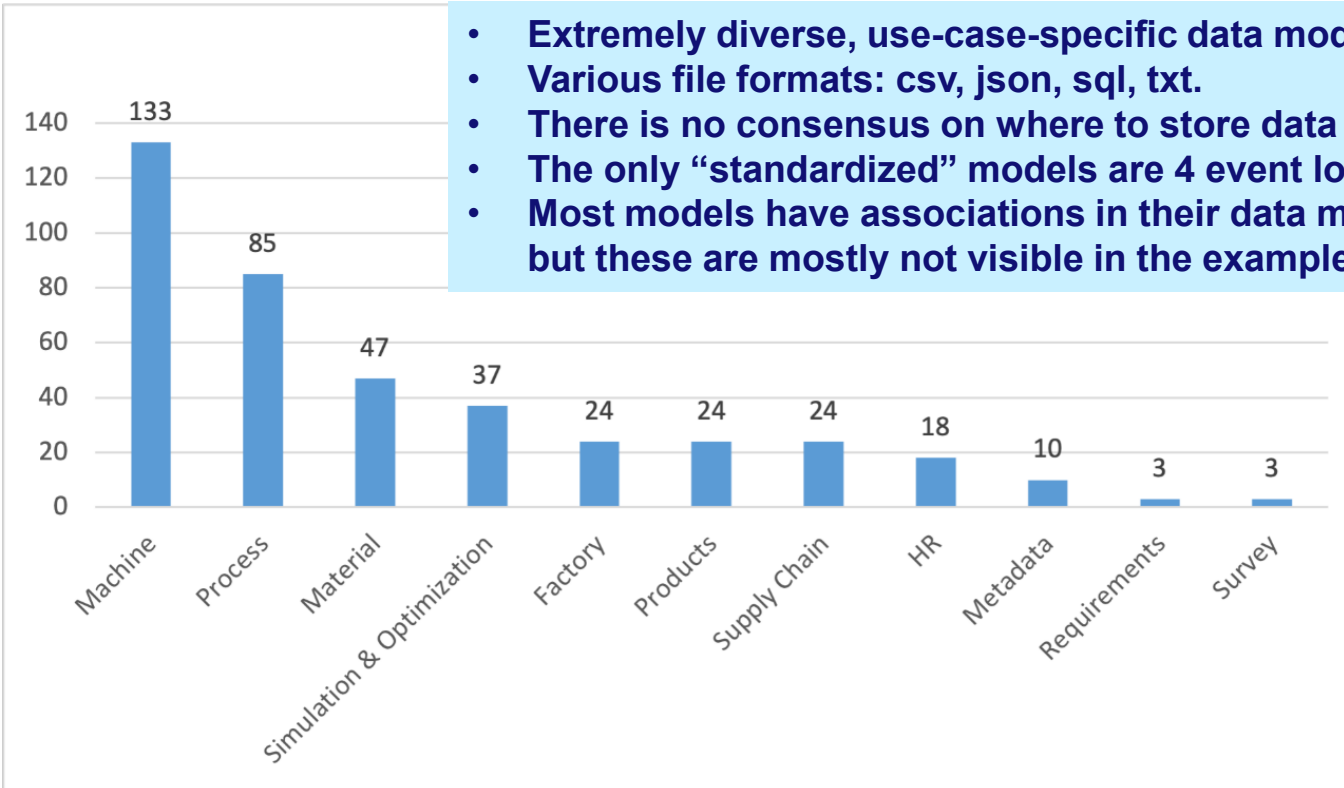
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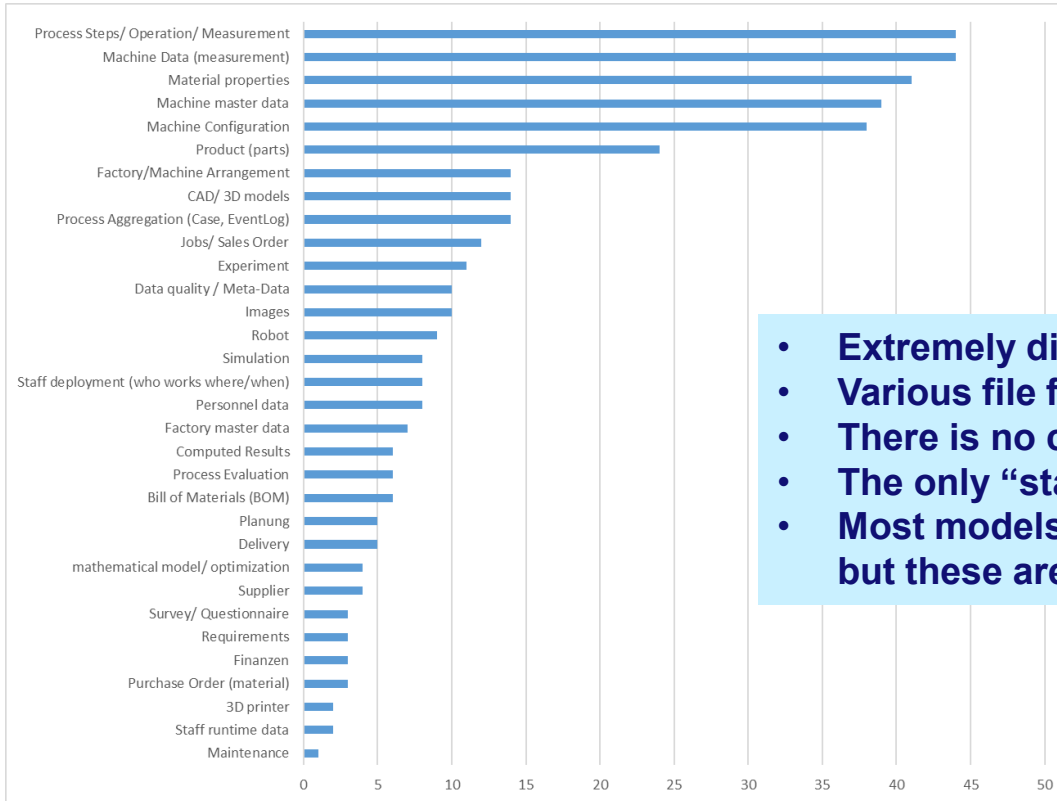
80+ different data sources

Empirical Analysis (80+ data models)

- Extremely diverse, use-case-specific data models
- Various file formats: csv, json, sql, txt.
- There is no consensus on where to store data
- The only “standardized” models are 4 event logs.
- Most models have associations in their data model, but these are mostly not visible in the example data.

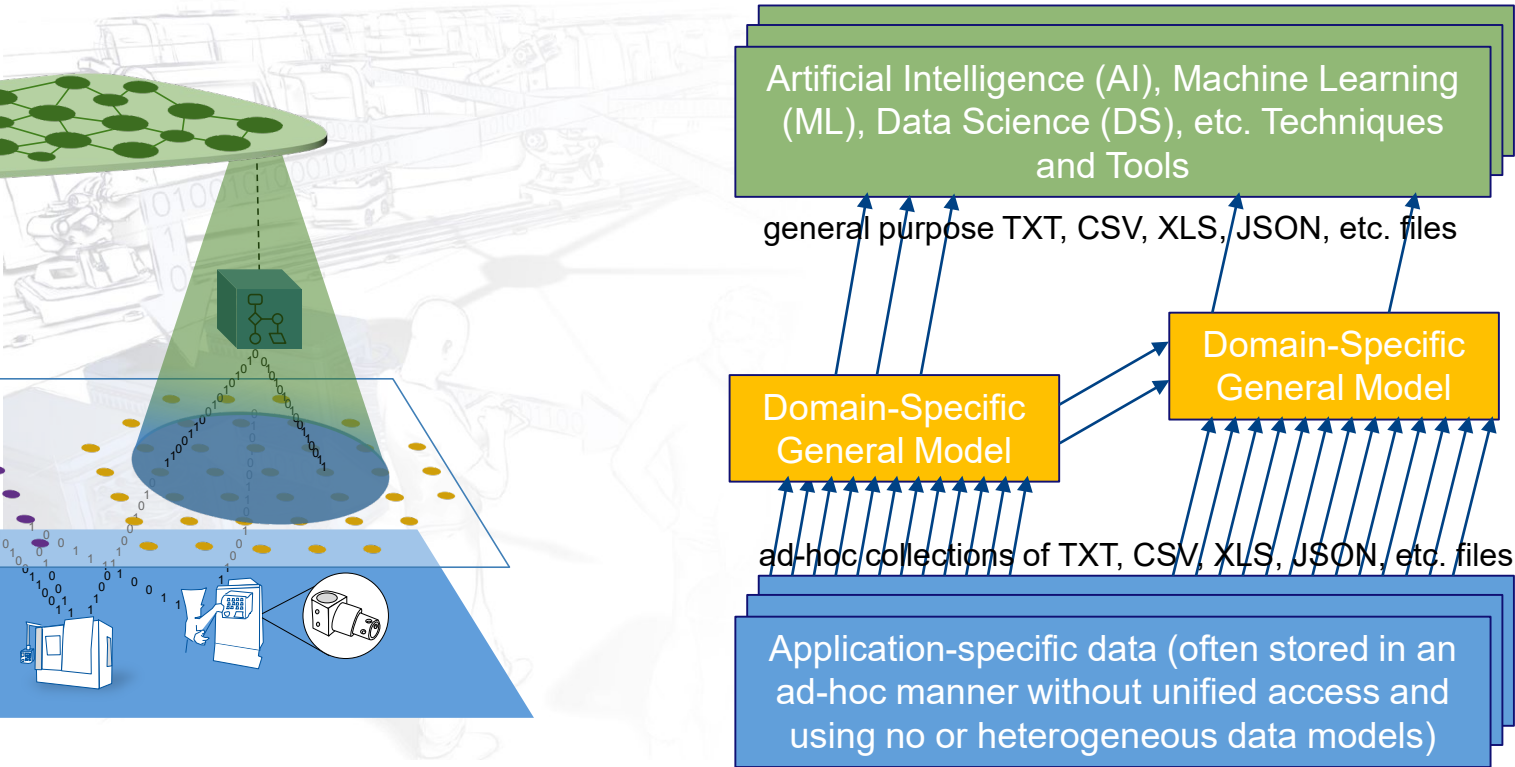


Empirical Analysis (80+ data models)



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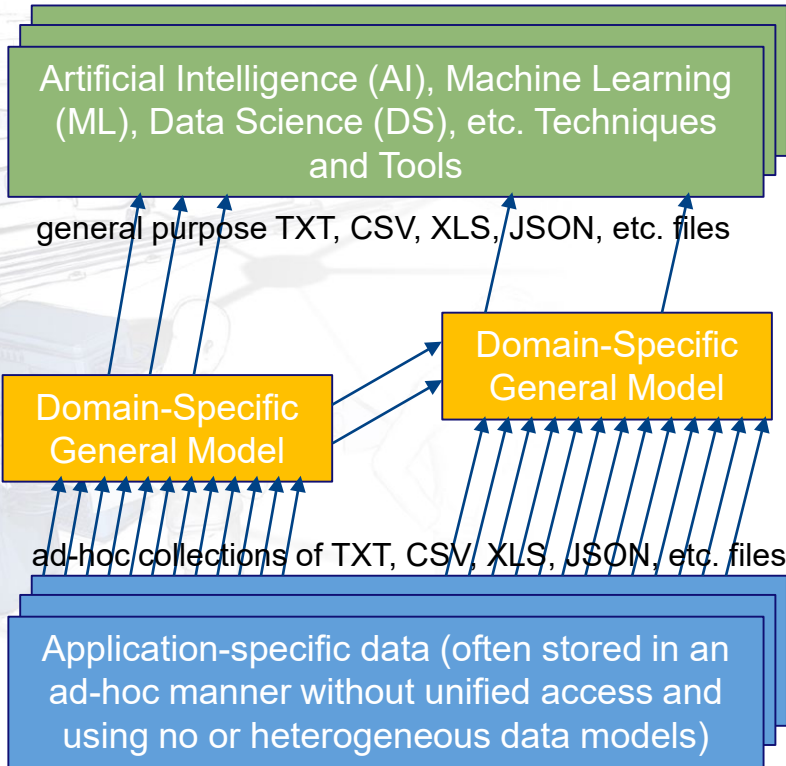
Proposed Solution: Models-in-the-Middle



Knime, RapidMiner,
Scikit-learn,
PyTorch,
Tensorflow, Weka,
ProM, Celonis, etc.

80+ different
data sources

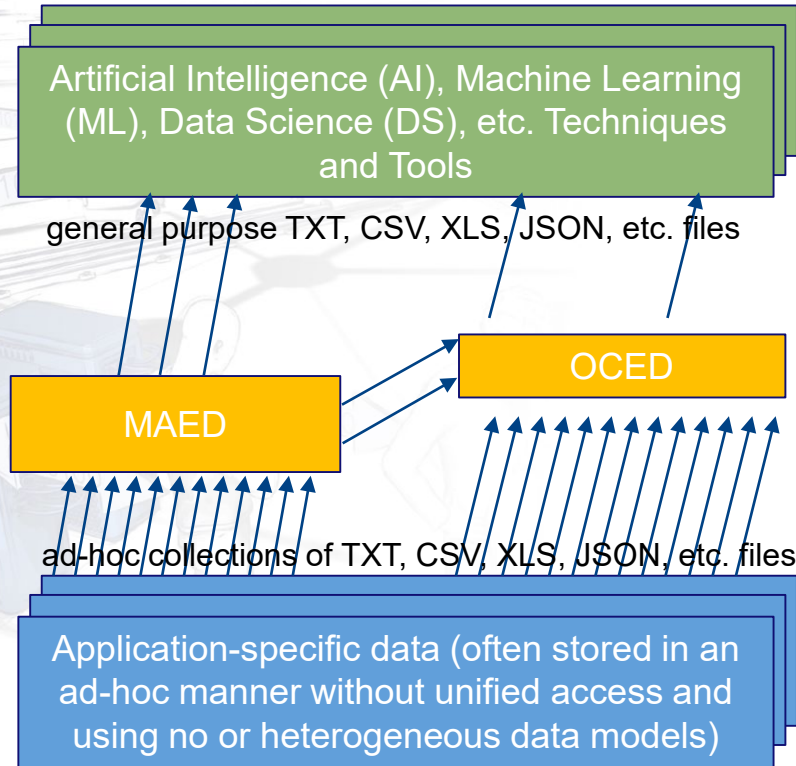
Picking The Right Level



Too high: Too far away from the application (mapping is difficult).

Too low: Not able to reuse efforts (need to develop ad-hoc analysis software).

Two Candidate Data Models



- **Measurement and Event Data (MAED)**
- **Object-Centric Event data (OCED)**

Disclaimer: There can be many more, but this is what we are developing!

Acknowledgements

- Leah Tacke genannt Unterberg, István Koren, and people from WZL: **Measurement and Event Data (MAED)**
- Alessandro Berti, Niklas Adams, István Koren, and many other PADS team members: **Object-Centric Event data (OCED)**
- István Koren, Judith Michael, and other SE & PADS members: Analysis and coding of the 80+ **IoP data models**

Thanks!



Internet-of-Things Meets BPM

"The Internet of Things Meets Business Process Management: A Manifesto," in *IEEE Systems, Man, and Cybernetics Magazine*, vol. 6, no. 4, pp. 34-44, Oct. 2020, doi: 10.1109/MSMC.2020.3003135.

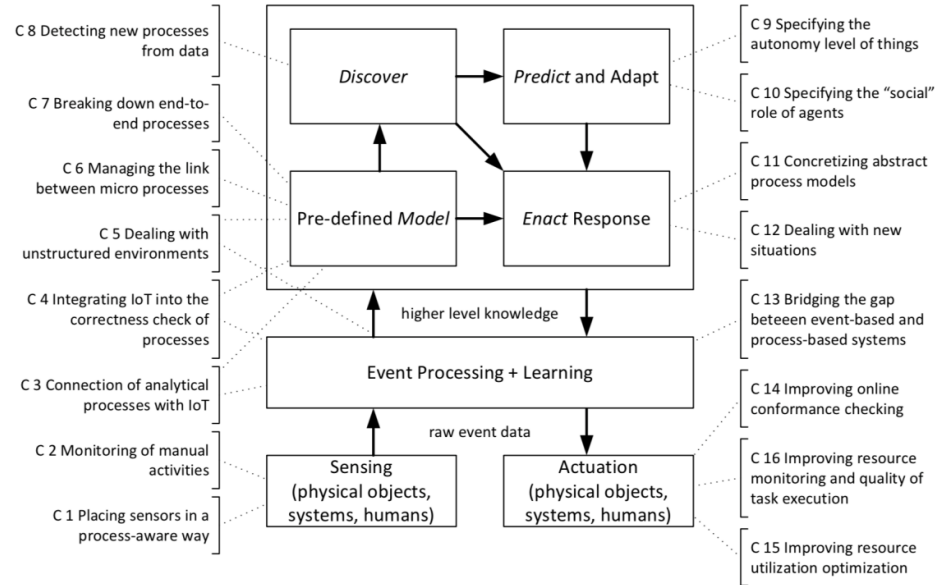
The Internet-of-Things Meets Business Process Management. A Manifesto

Christian Janiesch, Agnes Koschmider, Massimo Mecella, Barbara Weber,
Andrea Burattin, Claudio Di Ciccio, Giancarlo Fortino, Avigdor Gal, Udo Kannengiesser,
Francesco Leotta, Felix Mannhardt, Andrea Marrella, Jan Mendling, Andreas Oberweis,
Manfred Reichert, Stefanie Rinderle-Ma, Estefania Serral Asensio, WenZhan Song, Jianwen Su,
Victoria Torres, Matthias Weidlich, Mathias Weske, and Liang Zhang

The Internet of Things (IoT) refers to a network of connected devices collecting and exchanging data over the Internet. These things can be artificial or natural and interact as autonomous agents forming a complex system. In turn, Business Process Management (BPM) was established to analyze, discover, design, implement, execute, monitor and evolve collaborative business processes within and across organizations. While the IoT and BPM have been regarded as separate topics in research and practice, we strongly believe that the management of IoT applications will strongly benefit from BPM concepts, methods and technologies on the one hand; on the other one, the IoT poses challenges that will require enhancements and extensions of the current state-of-the-art in the BPM field. In this paper, we question to what extent these two paradigms can be combined and we discuss the emerging challenges and intersections from a research and practitioner's point of view in terms of complex software systems development.

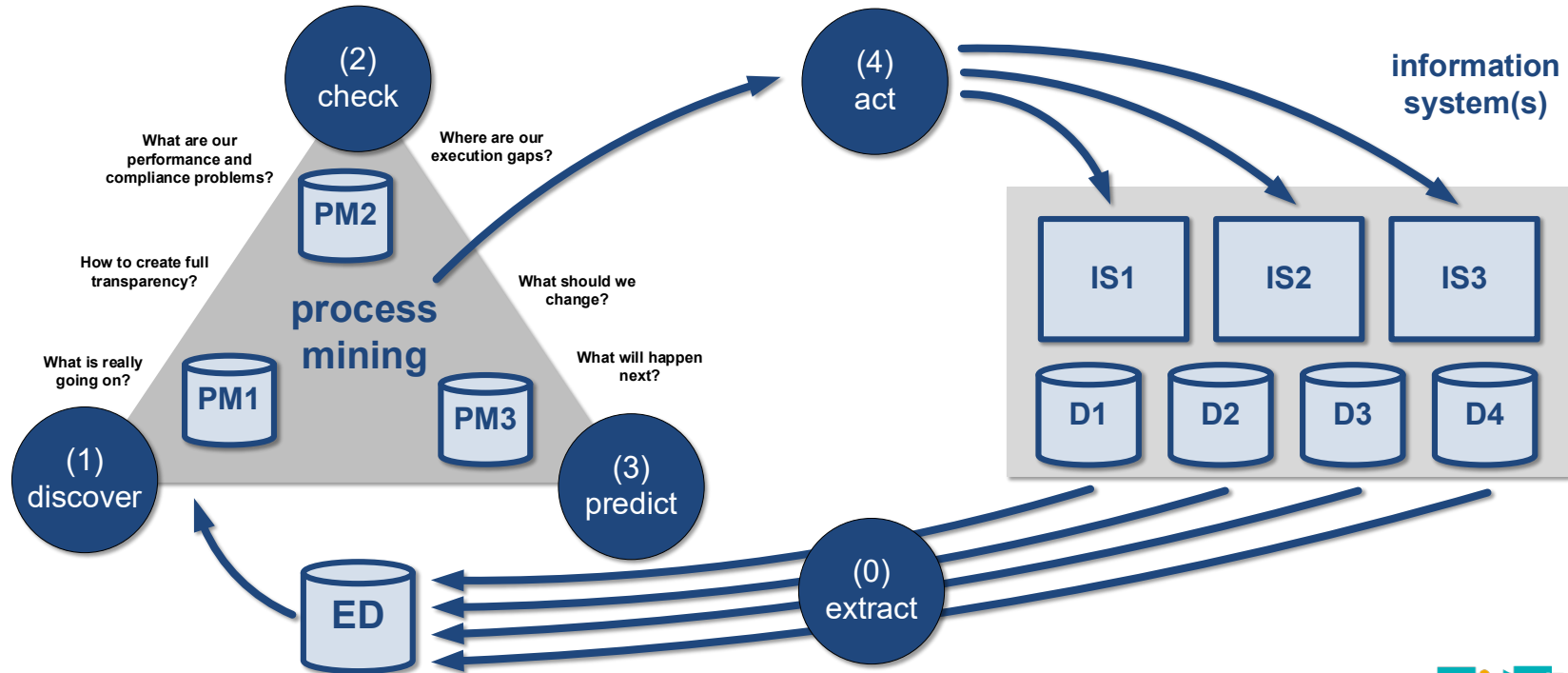
"Sensor data then must be aggregated and interpreted in order to detect activities that can be used as input for process mining algorithms supporting decision-making."

"A challenge is to bridge the gap between clouds of sensor data and event logs for process mining. Events captured by sensors are available in high volume, velocity, and variety."

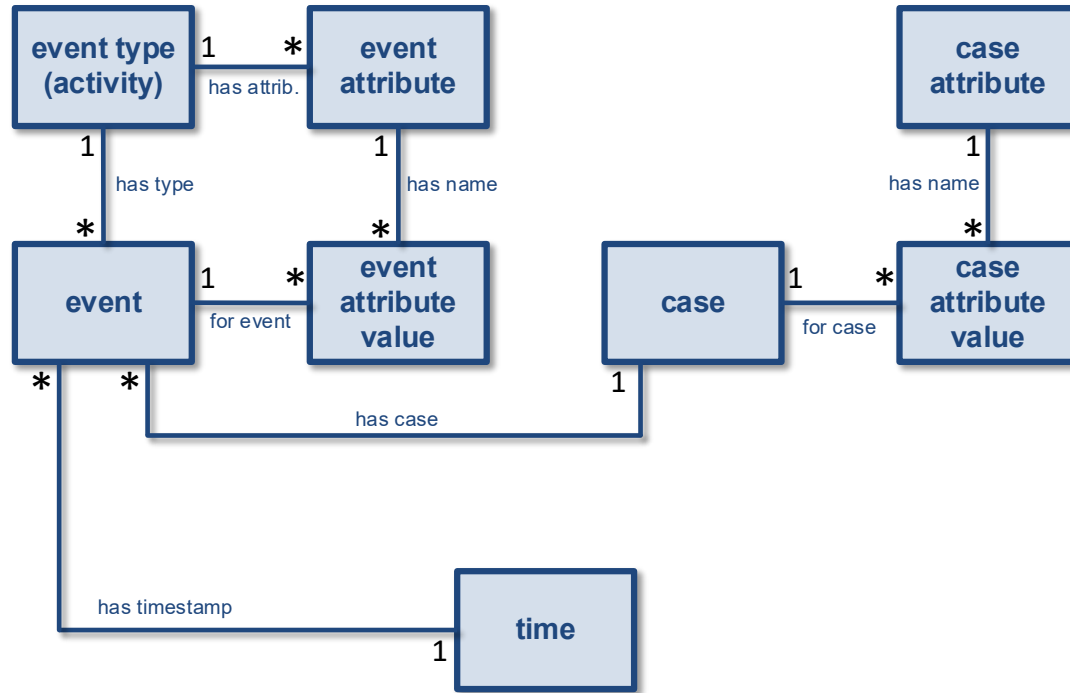


Object-Centric Event data (OCED)

Process Mining: High-Level View

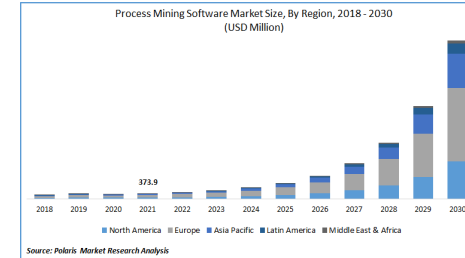
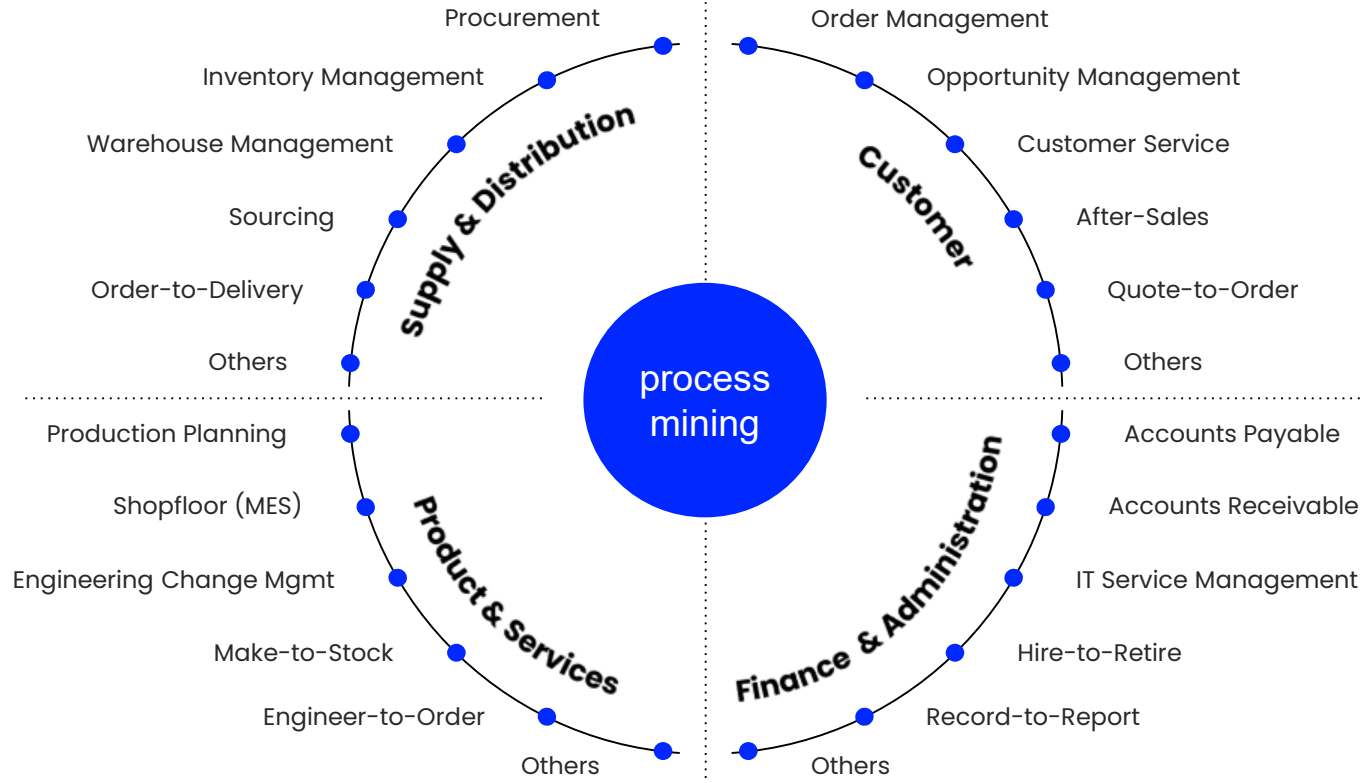


Traditional Event Data



- An event has a type (activity) and a timestamp, and refers to one case.
- Events and cases can have arbitrary other attributes (e.g., costs).

Good News



Bad News: What are my cases?



What are my cases?

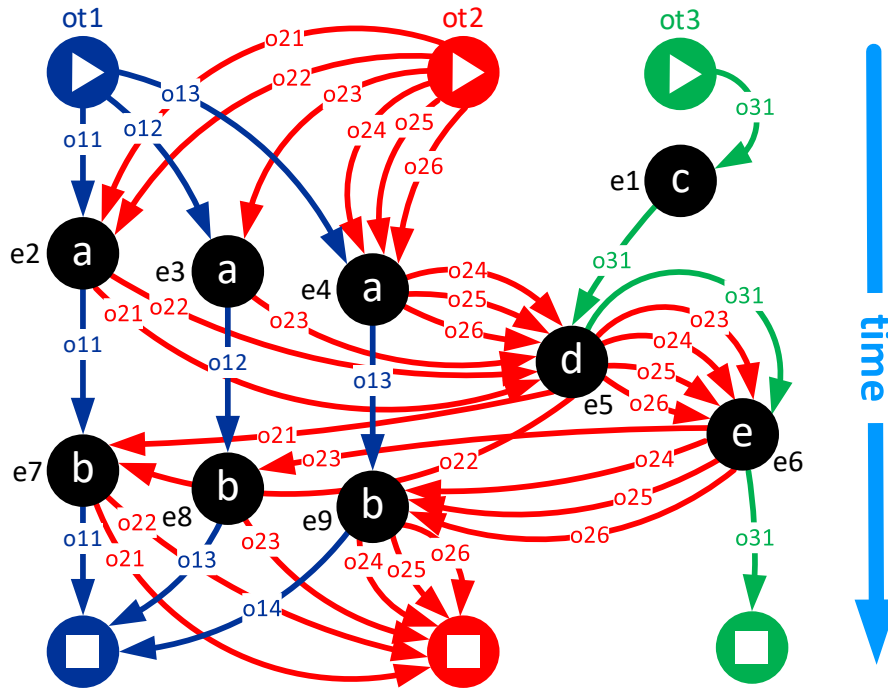


Well-Known Problems

- The **convergence problem**: Events referring to multiple objects of the selected type are replicated, possibly leading to unintentional duplication. The replication of events can lead to misleading diagnostics.
- The **divergence problem**: There are multiple events that refer to the same case and activity, however, they differ with respect to one of the not-selected object types. In other words, events referring to different objects of a type not selected as the case notion become indistinguishable looking only at the case and activity (i.e., event type).



Visualizing Objects and Events

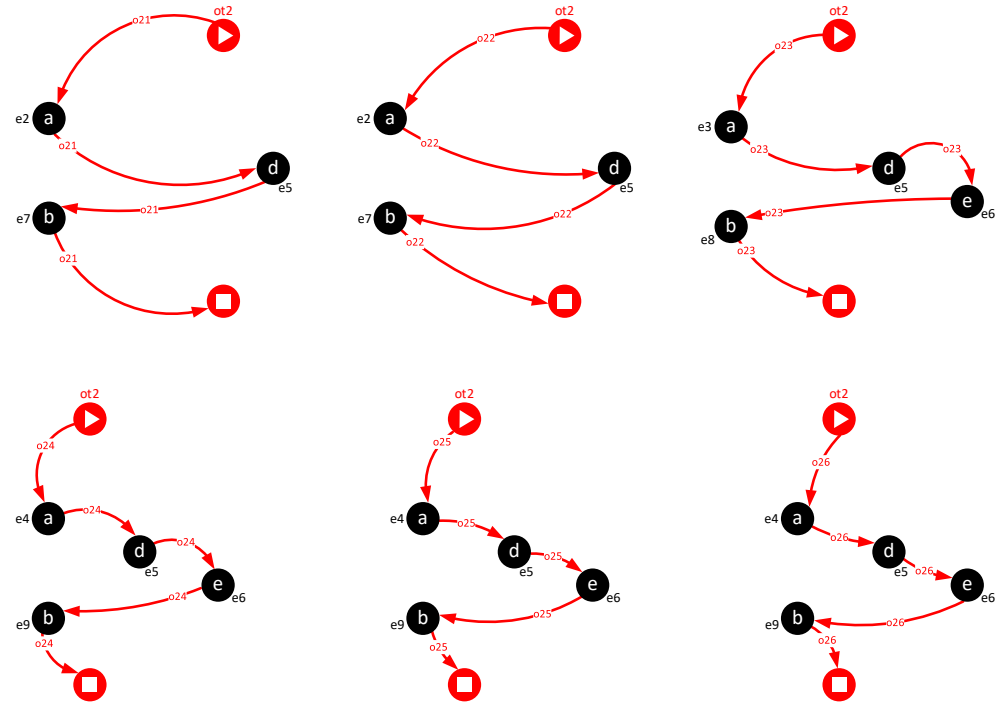
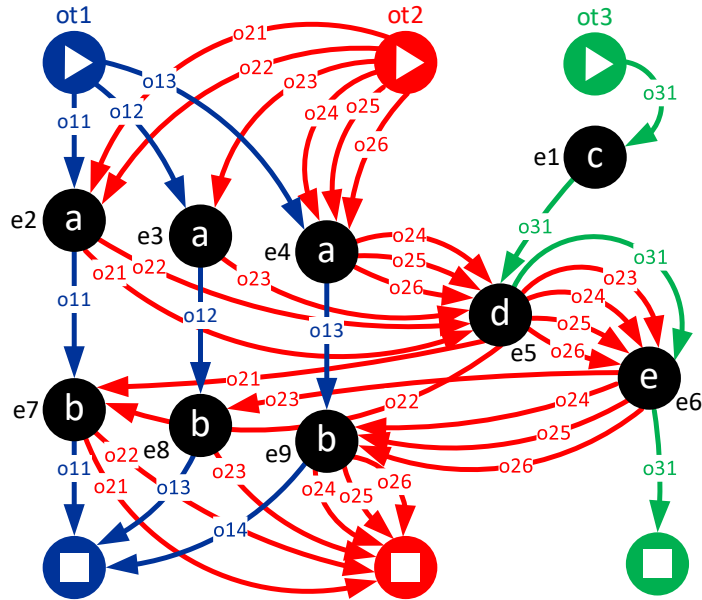
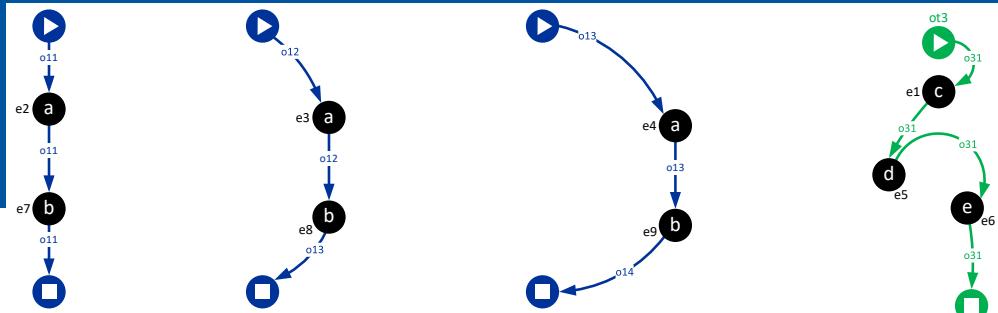


Example object types:

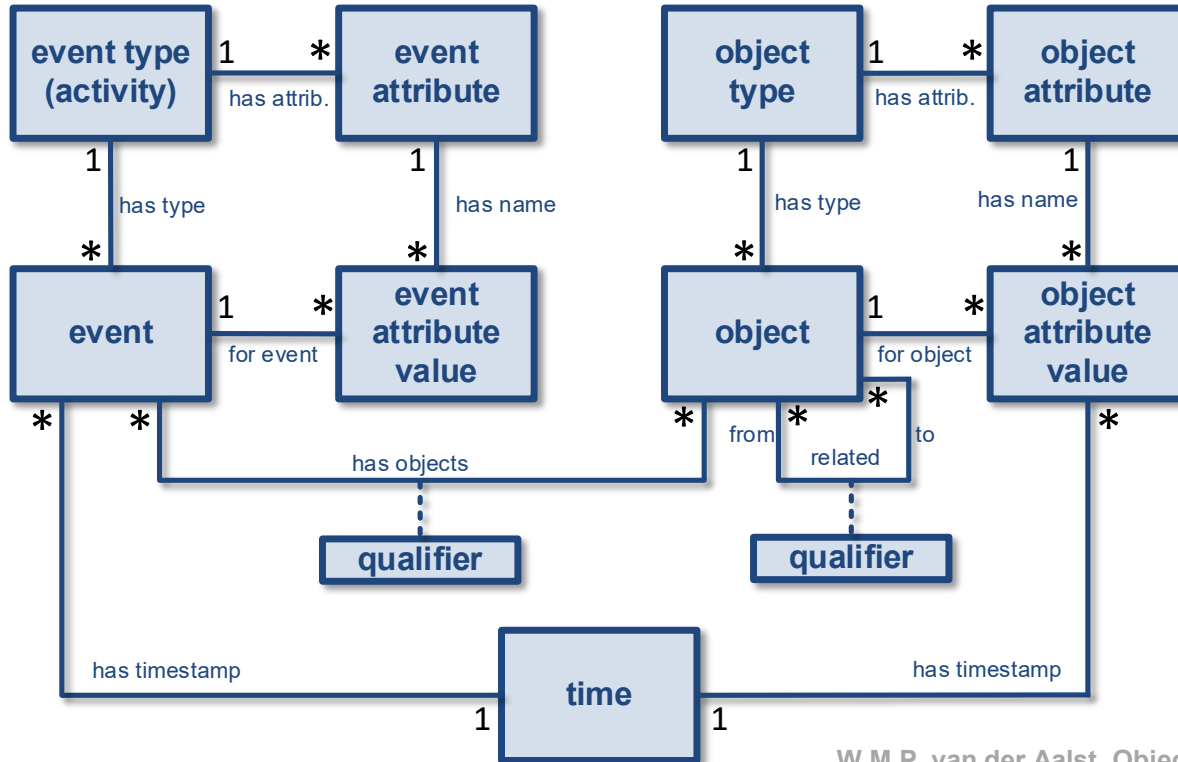
- Orders
- Items
- Packages
- Machines
- Employees
- Patients
- Customers
- Machines
- Containers
- Payments
- Car
- Room
- Etc.

Object flows

Note the convergence problem

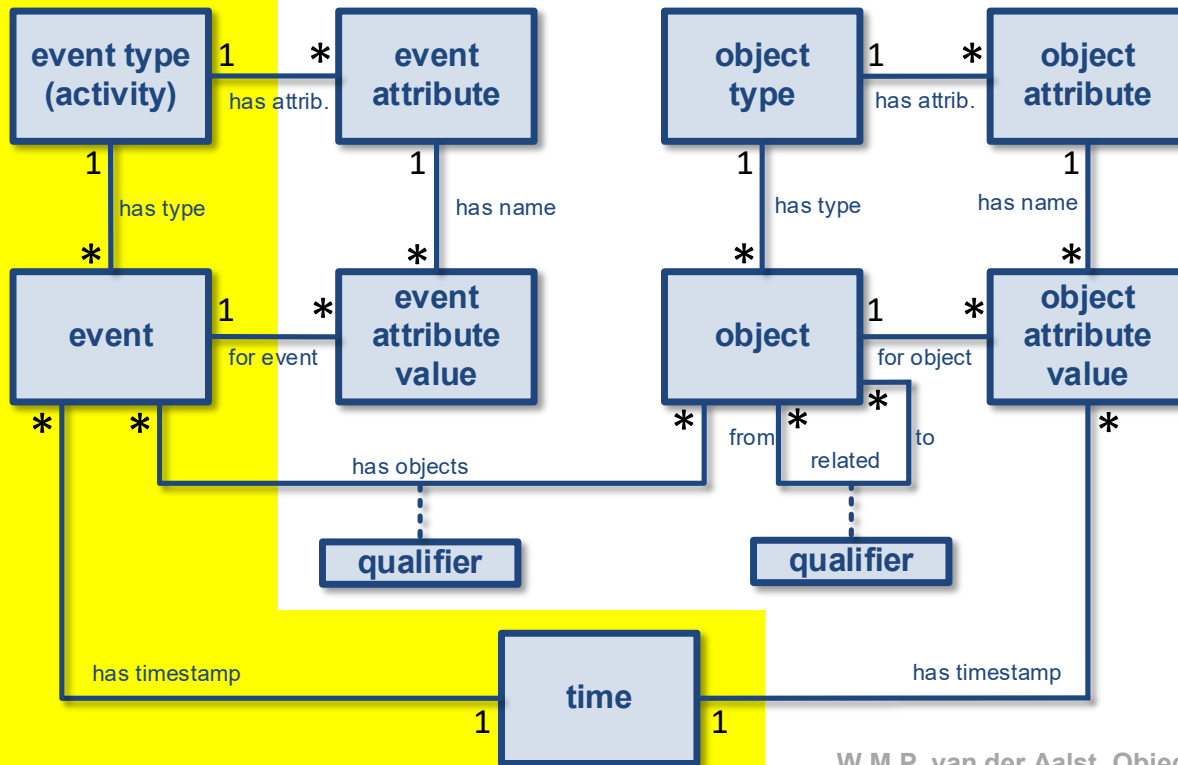


Solved: Object-Centric Event Data



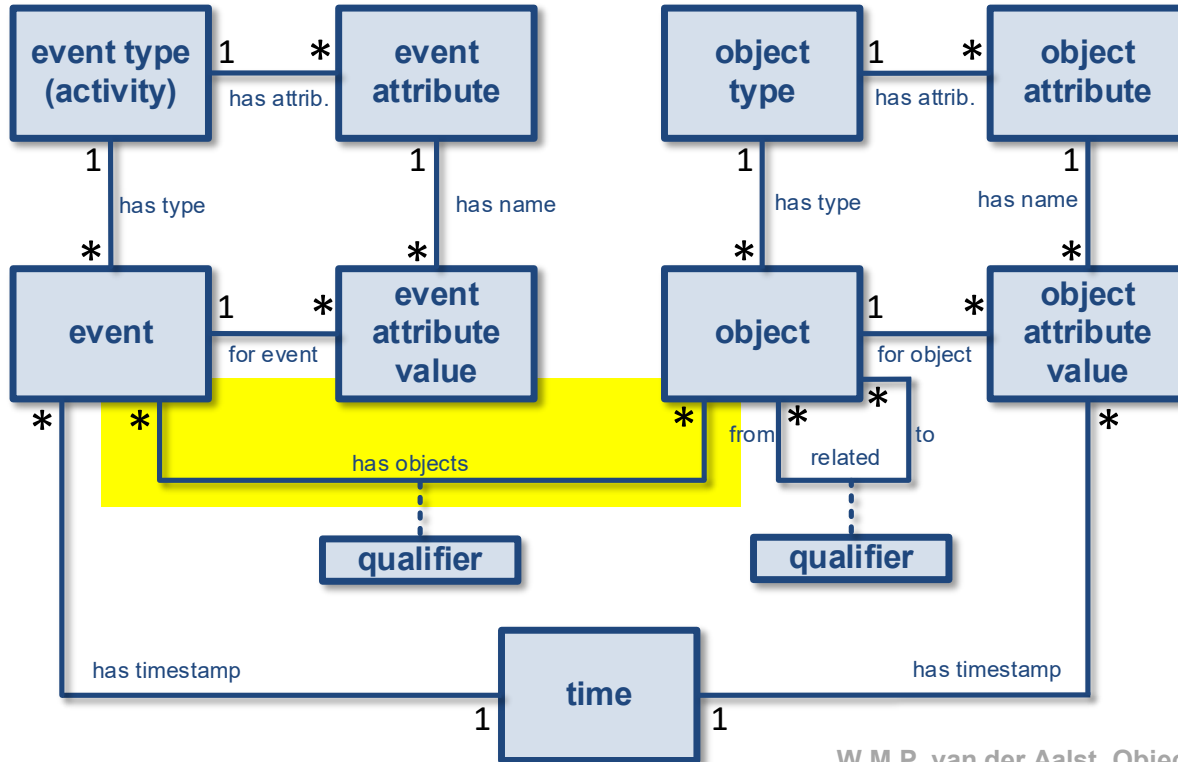
- An event has a type (activity) and a timestamp, and may refer to any number of typed objects (E2O relations).
- Objects are also typed.
- Both events and objects may have any number of additional attributes.
- Object attribute values may be timed.
- Objects may be related (O2O relations).
- E2O and O2O relations can be qualified.

Solved: Object-Centric Event Data



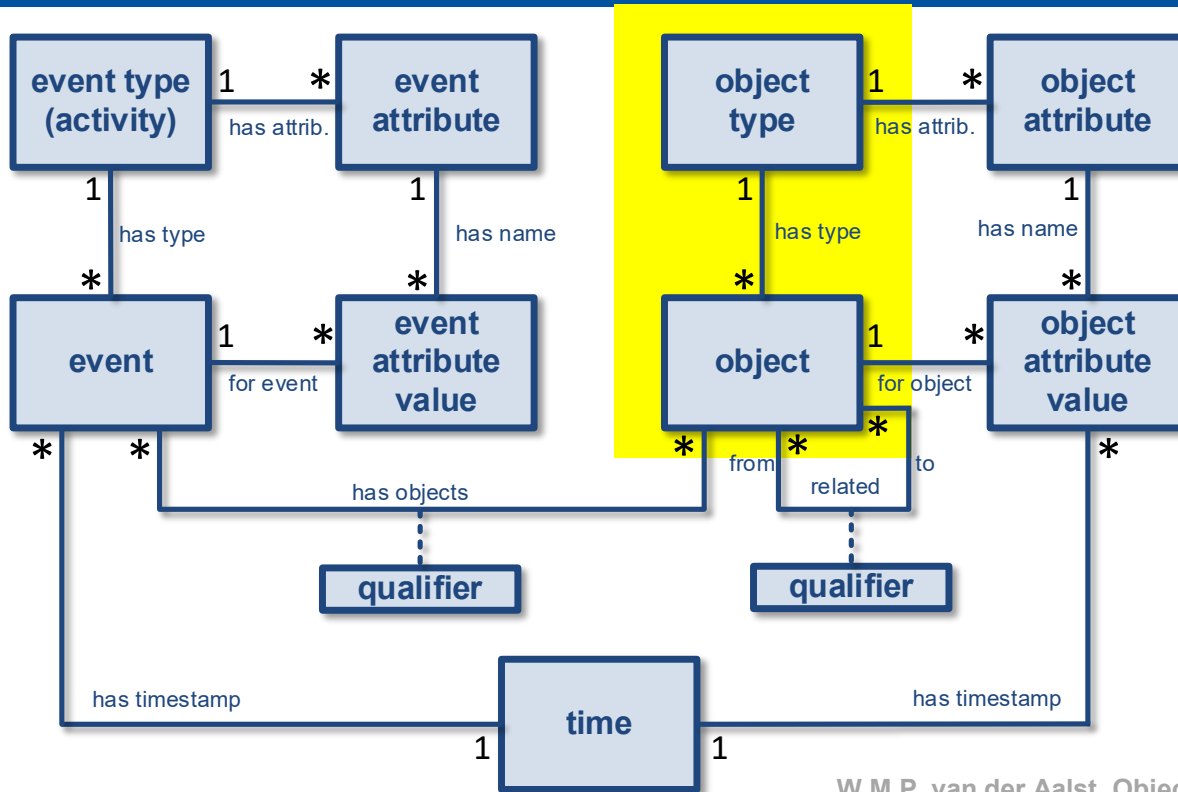
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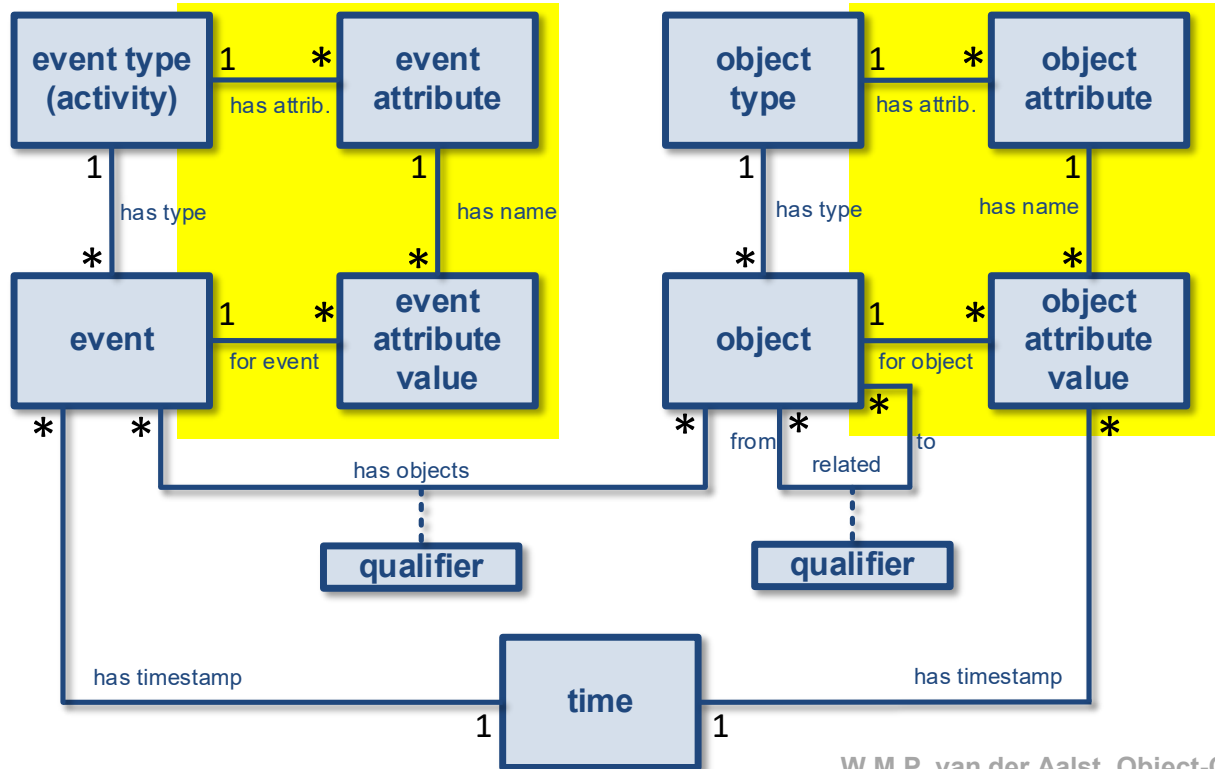
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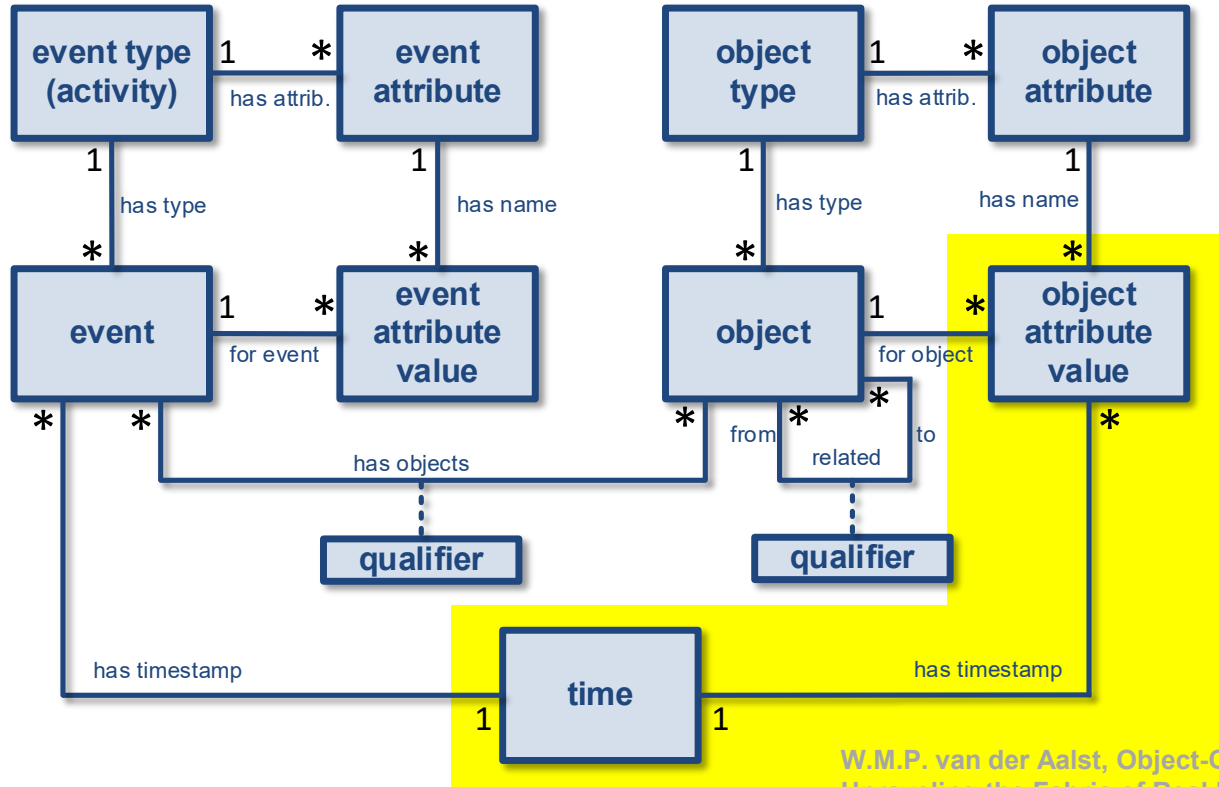
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Solved: Object-Centric Event Data



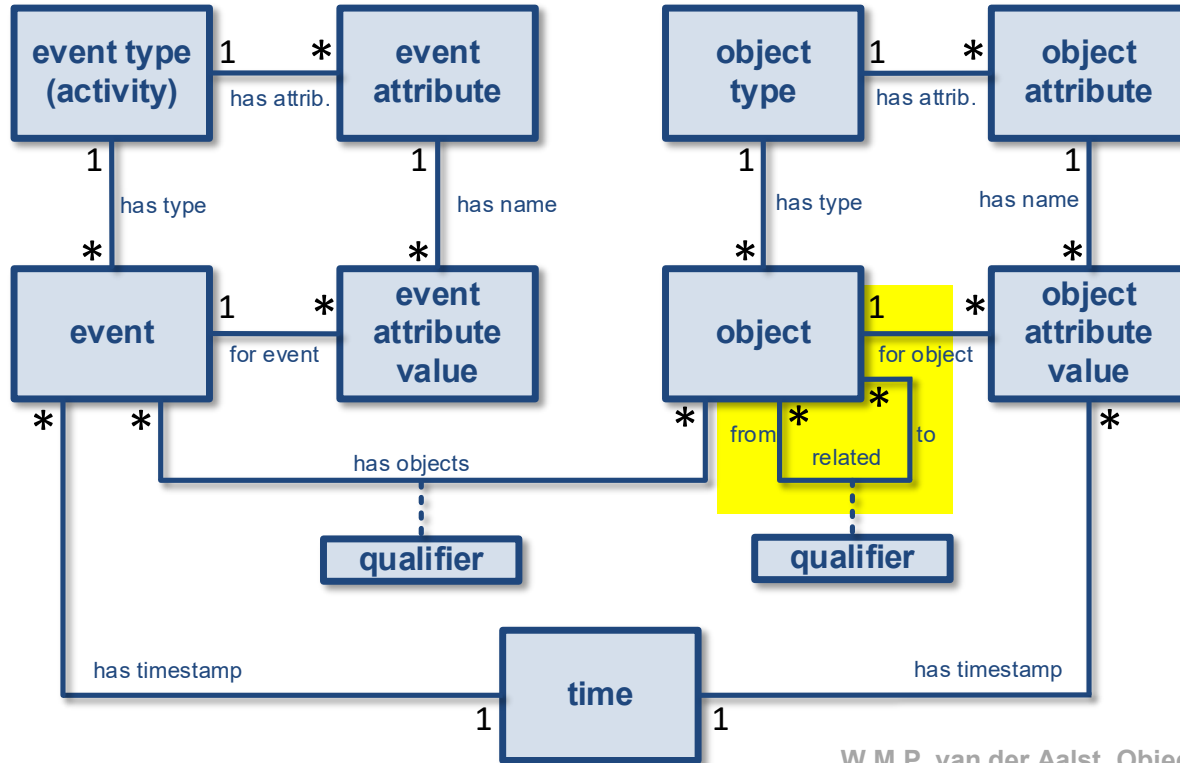
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Solved: Object-Centric Event Data



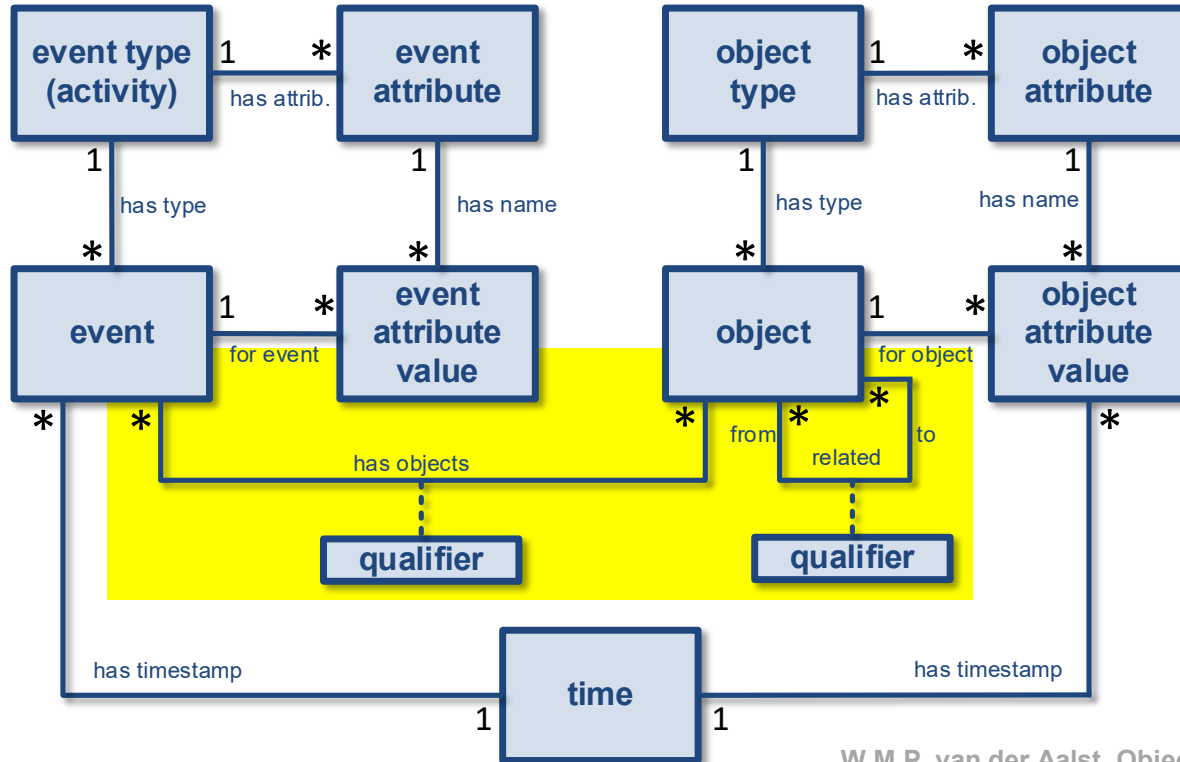
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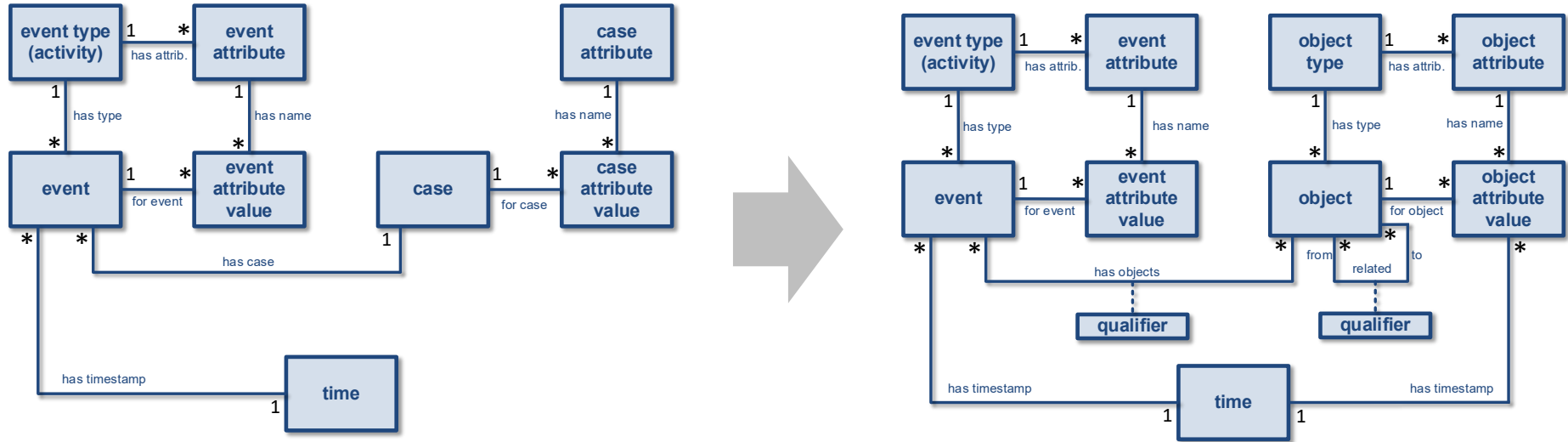
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Solved: Object-Centric Event Data



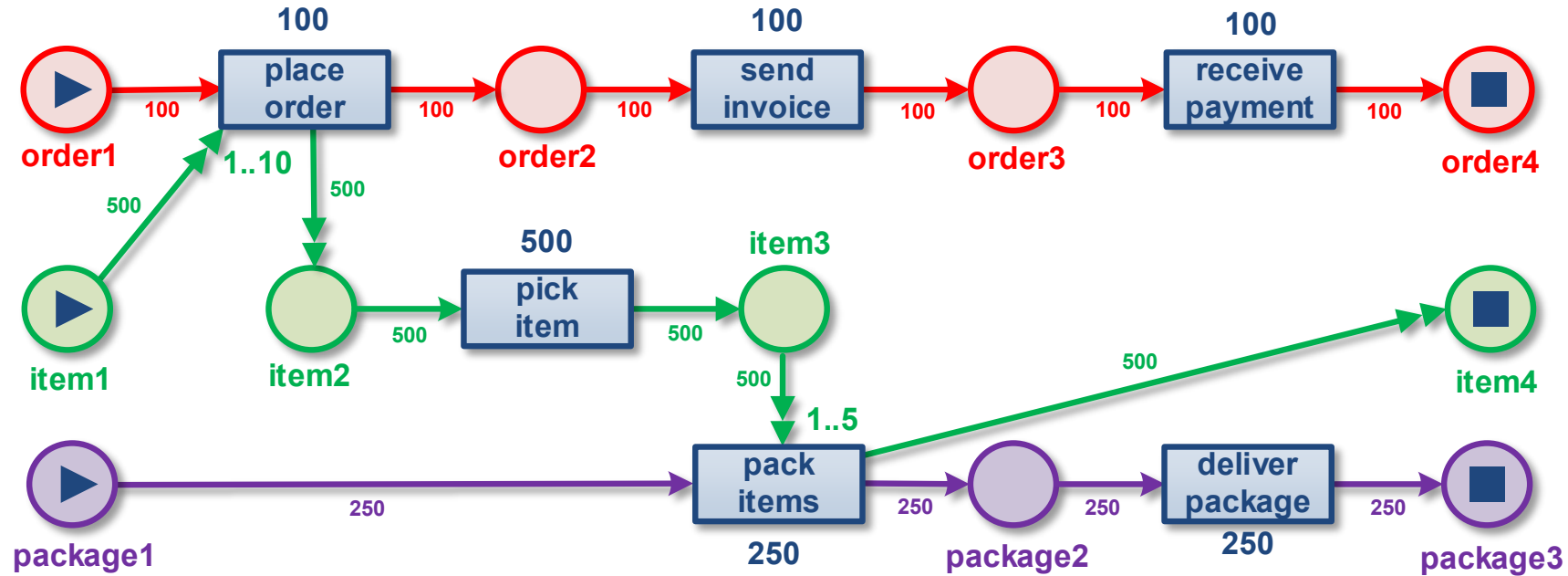
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Summary Object-Centric Event Data



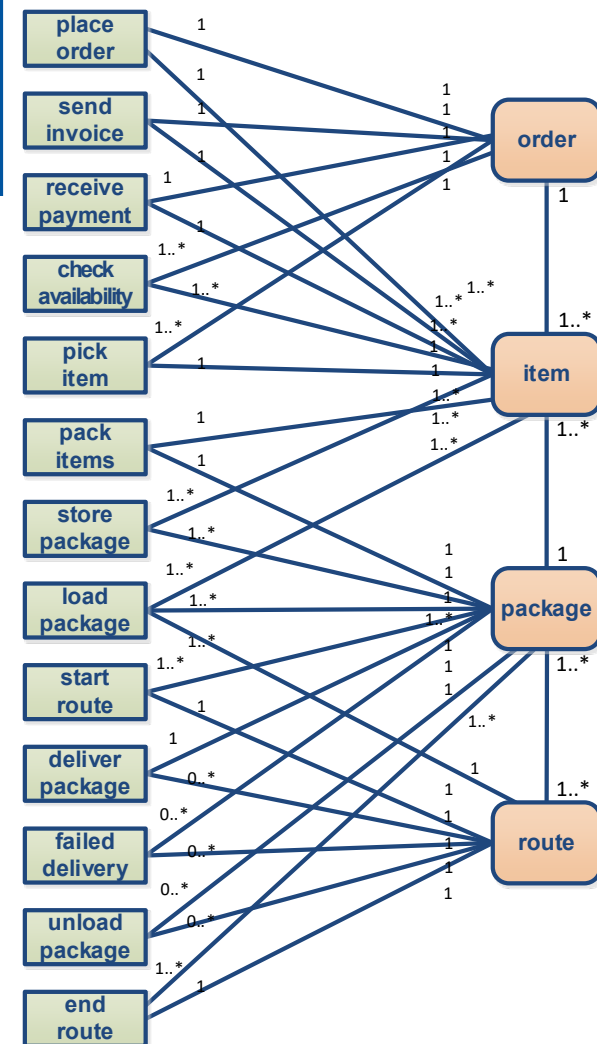
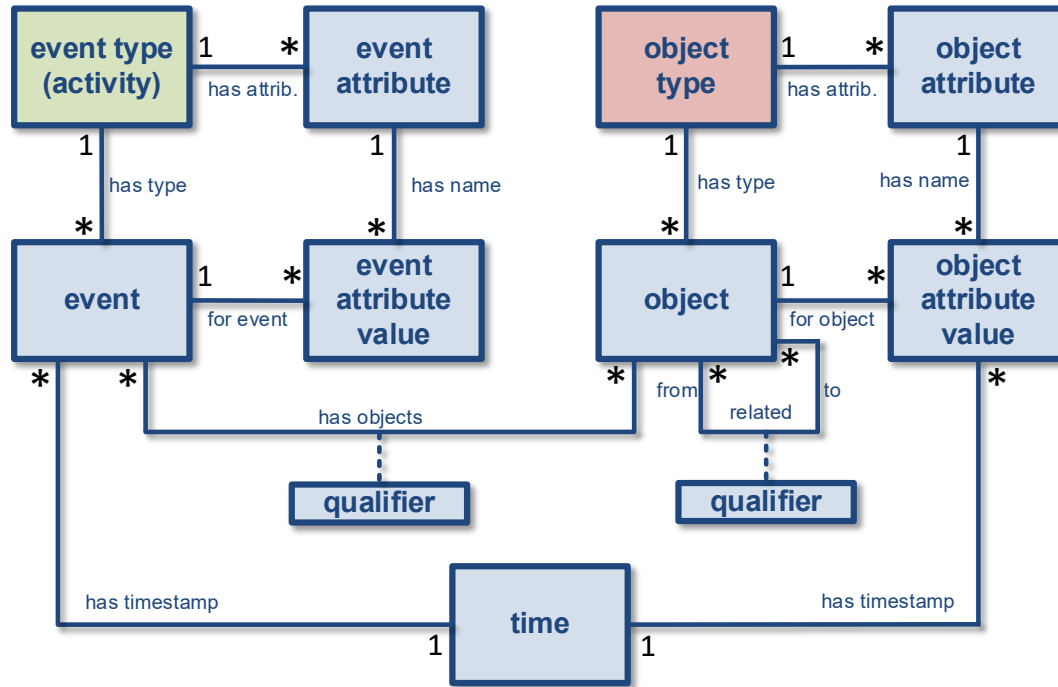
Sneak preview: OCEL 2.0 will be released before ICPM 2023!

All Process Mining Algorithms Need To Be Reinvented: Not So Hard As It Seems



W.M.P. van der Aalst, Object-Centric Process Mining:
Unraveling the Fabric of Real Processes. Mathematics
2023, 11, 2691. <https://doi.org/10.3390/math11122691>

Managing Complexity

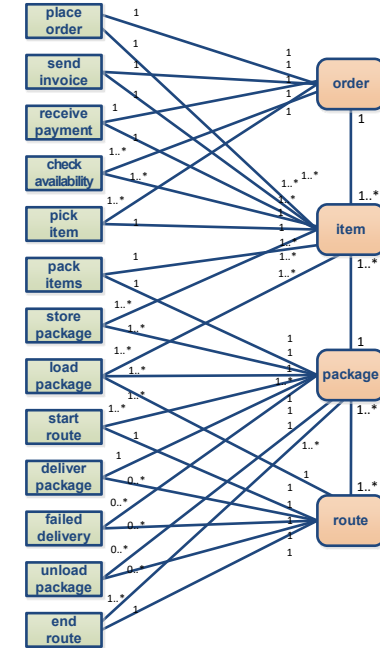


Managing Complexity

Pick the rows, columns, cells you need

Contingency Table

	Order	Item	Package	Route
place order	✓	✓		
send invoice	✓	✓		
receive payment	✓	✓		
check availability	✓	✓		
pick item		✓		
pack items		✓	✓	
store package		✓	✓	
load package		✓	✓	
start route			✓	✓
deliver package			✓	✓
failed delivery			✓	✓
unload package			✓	✓
end route			✓	✓



Profiles/Perspective: A selection of rows and columns or even individual cells

Advantages OCED and OCPM

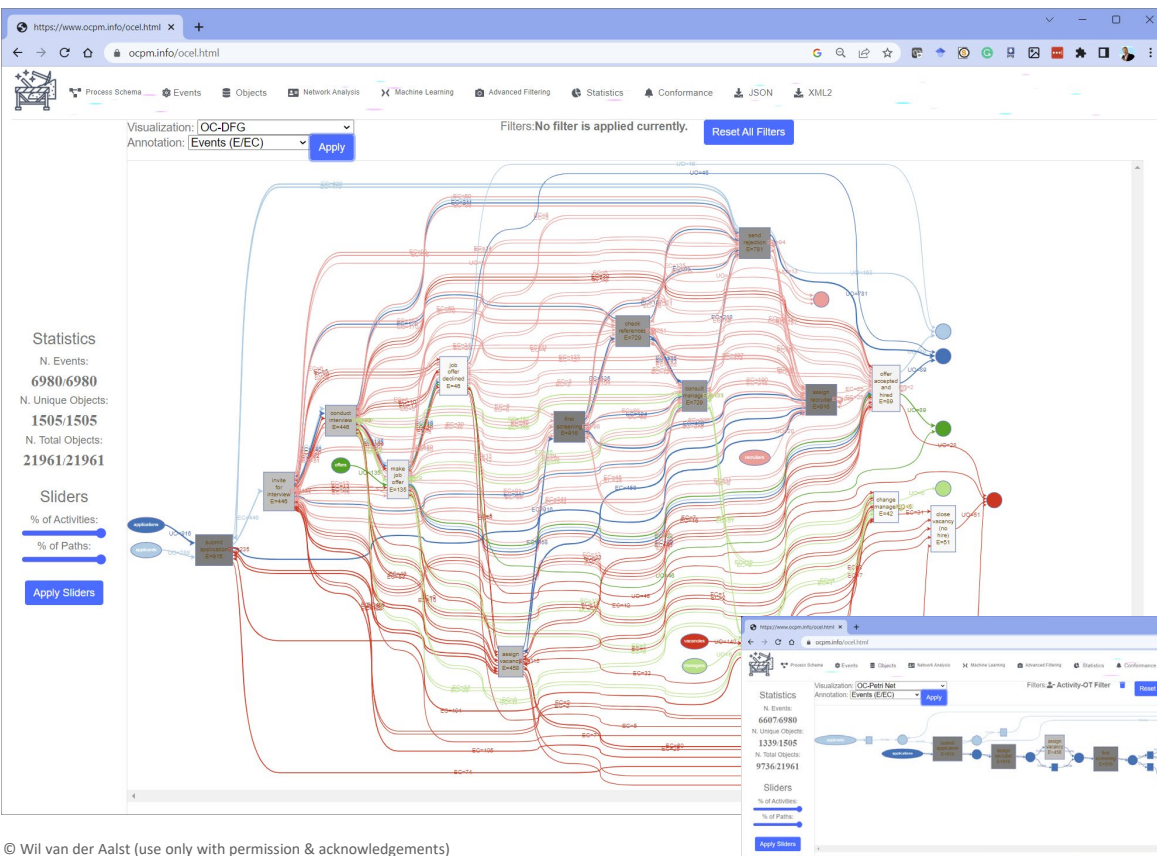
- View your processes from **any perspective** using a **single source of truth**.
- **On-demand** process-mining **views** as a way to **manage complexity**.
- Address otherwise invisible problems that often live at the **intersection points**.
- Obtain a **three-dimensional dynamic view** of the **entire** organization and its processes.



Tool Support (e.g. ocpm.info & ocpi.ai)

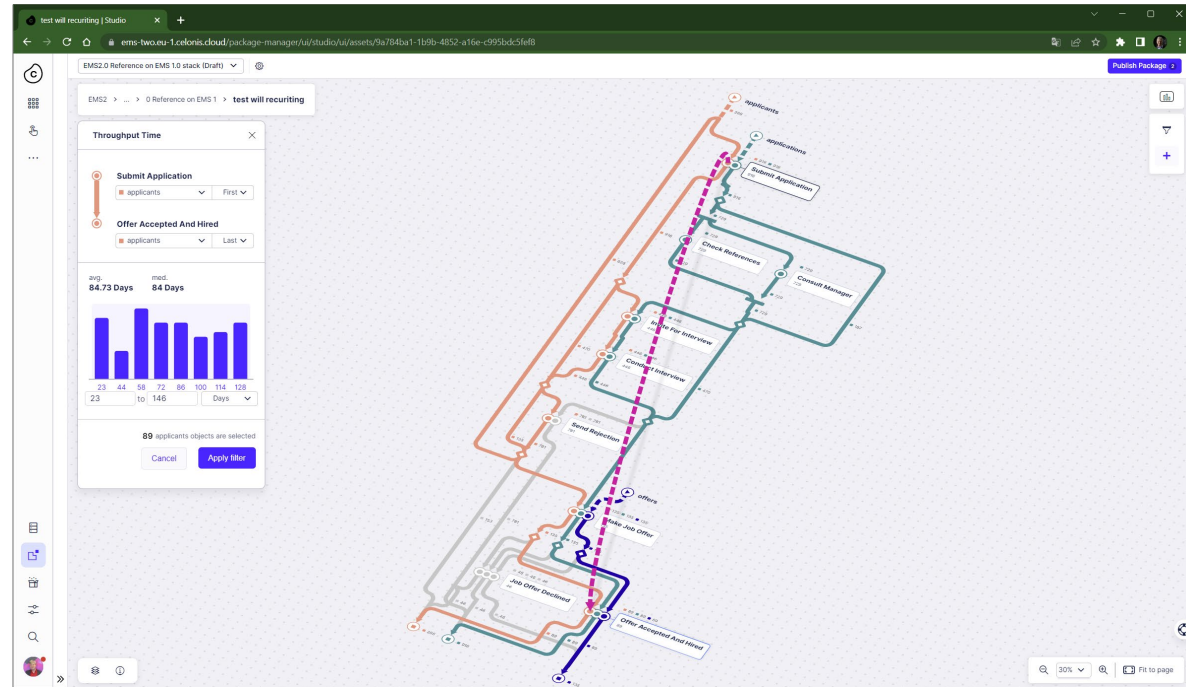
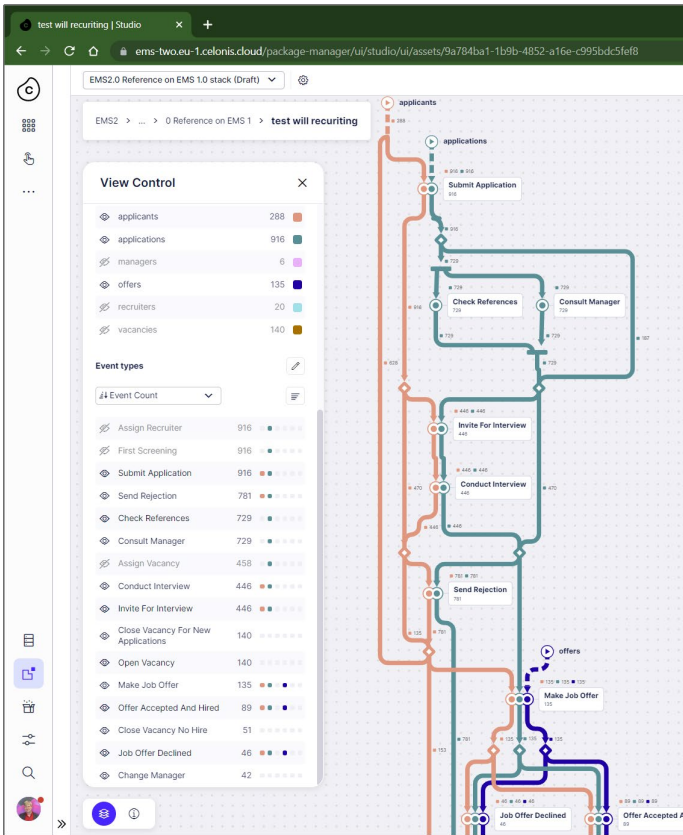
Alessandro Berti

Niklas Adams



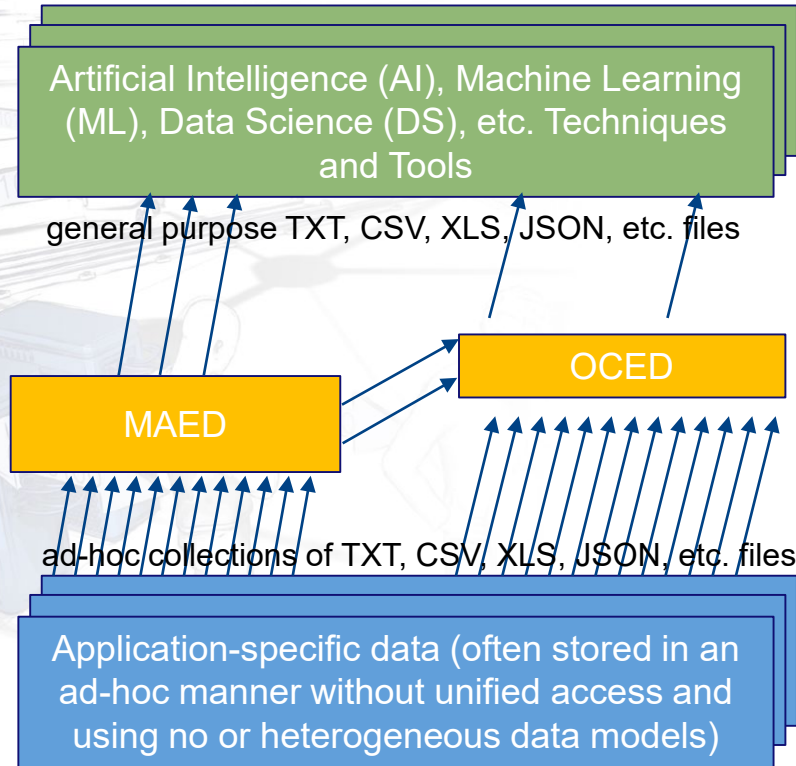
	vacancies	managers	applicants	applications	recruiters	offers
open vacancy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
submit application	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
assign recruiter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
first screening	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
check references	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
assign vacancy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
send rejection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
close vacancy for new applications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
change manager	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
consult manager	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
invite for interview	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
conduct interview	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
make job offer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
offer accepted and hired	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
job offer declined	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
close vacancy (no hire)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Tool Support (e.g. Celonis Process Sphere)



MOPE (Multi-Object Process Explorer)
is already general availability

OCED Works! How about MAED?



- Object-Centric Event data (OCED)
- **Measurement and Event Data (MAED)**

Disclaimer: MAED is still under development and the presentation simplifies many things.

Measurement and Event Data (MAED)



Event data are not enough!

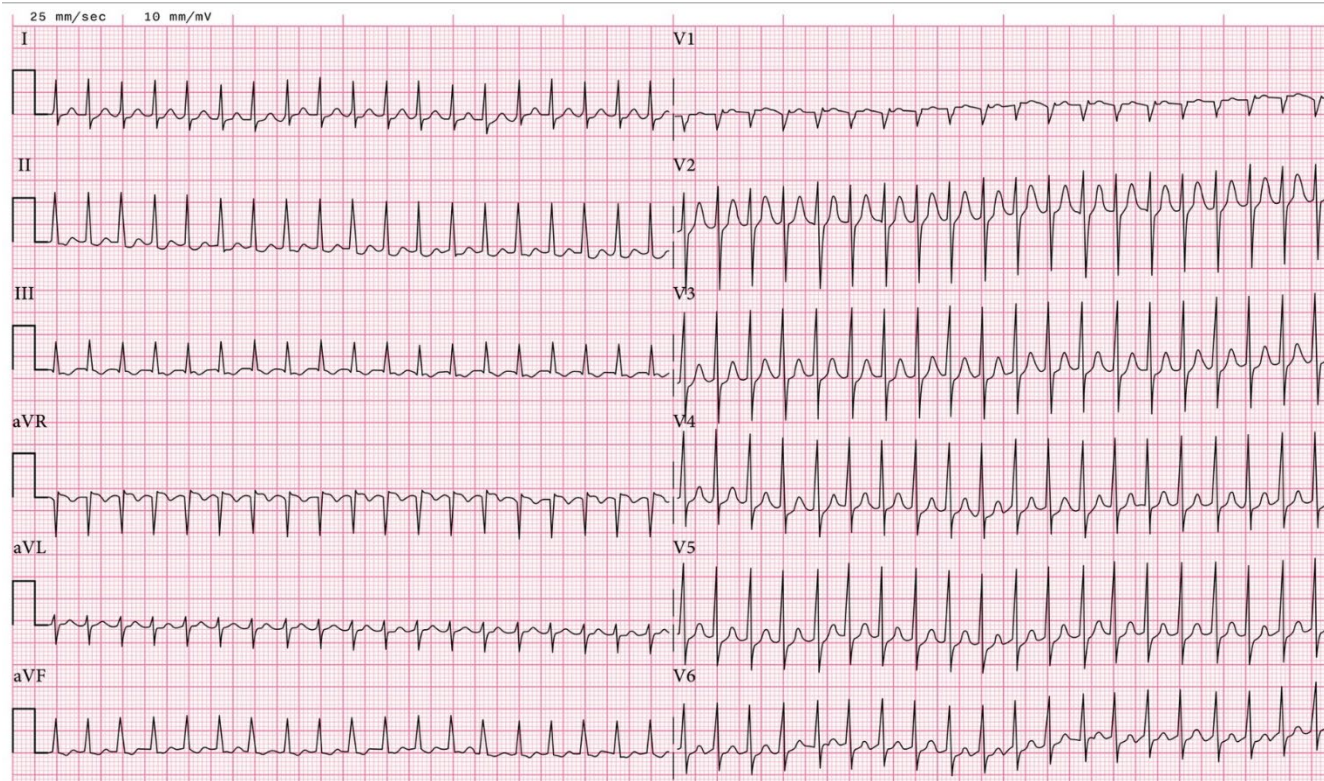
Challenges Dealing With Machine Data

- There may be explicit events, but most **data are low-level**.
- **Measurements** are supposed to happen: Their occurrence carries no information (only the values).
- **Continuous** behavior mapped onto **discrete data points** (time series).
- **Real-valued** attributes (position, temperature, force, speed, etc.).

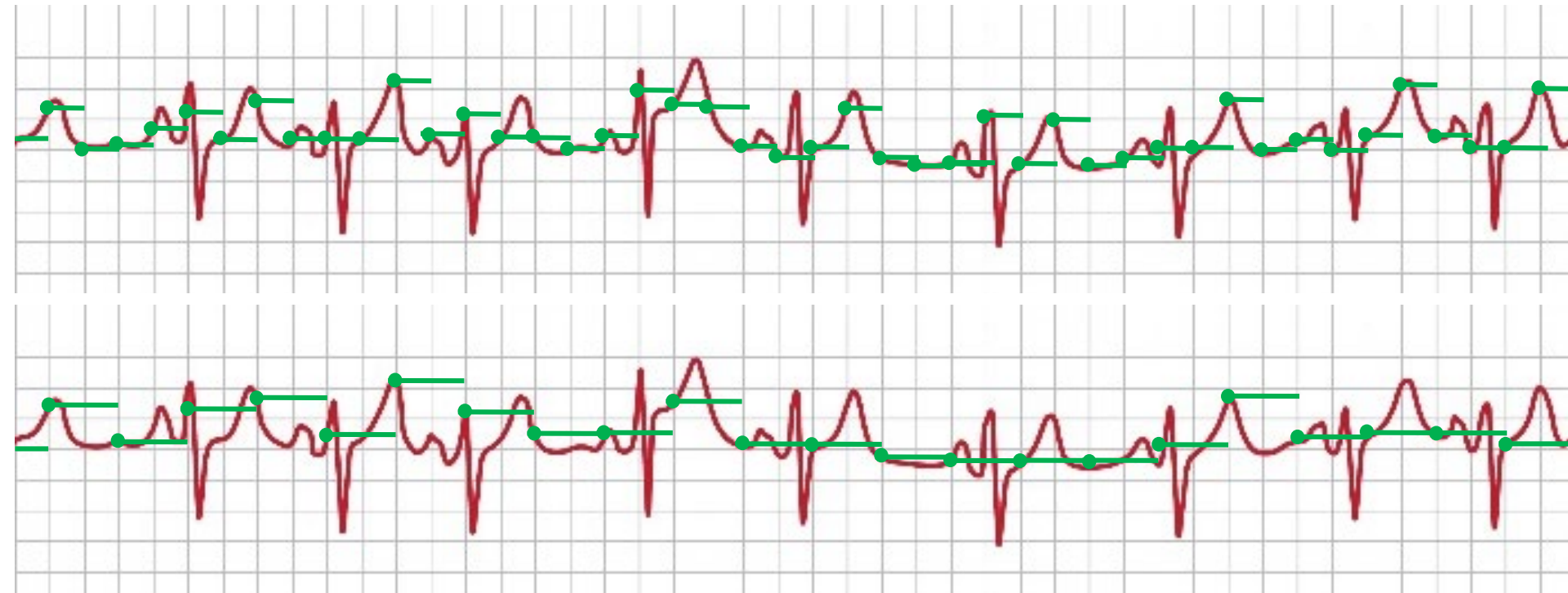


5-axis simultaneous machining/milling, i.e., cutting to remove material from the surface of a work piece

Time Series Data Are Everywhere

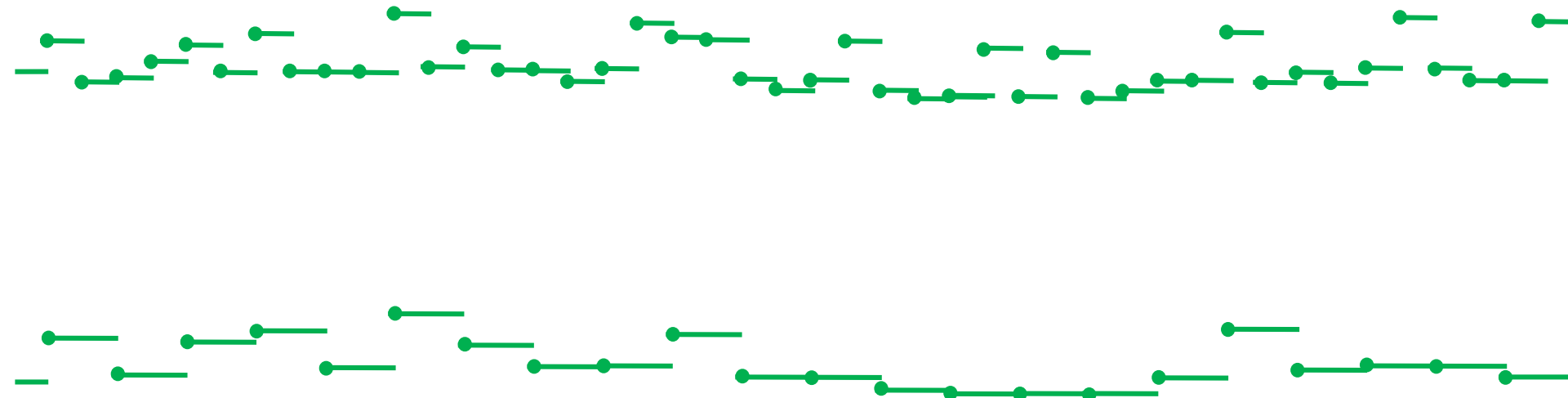


Time Series: Sampling Rate

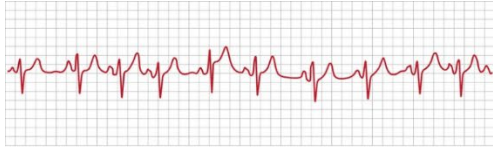


brianmcfee.net

Time Series: Sampling Rate



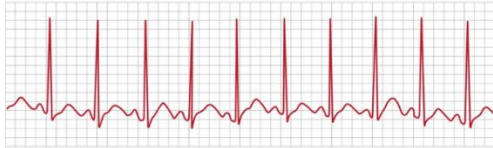
Time Series Data: Pattern Detection



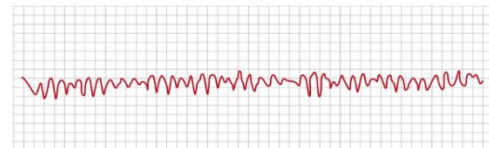
Sinus arrhythmia



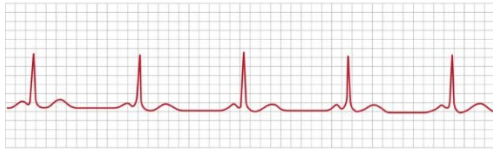
Atrioventricular block



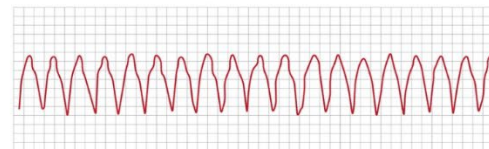
Sinus tachycardia



Ventricular fibrillation



Sinus bradycardia



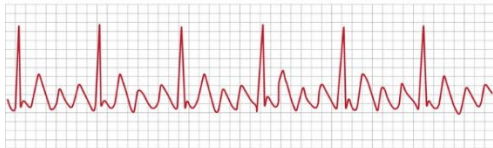
Ventricular tachycardia



Atrial fibrillation



Second-degree partial block

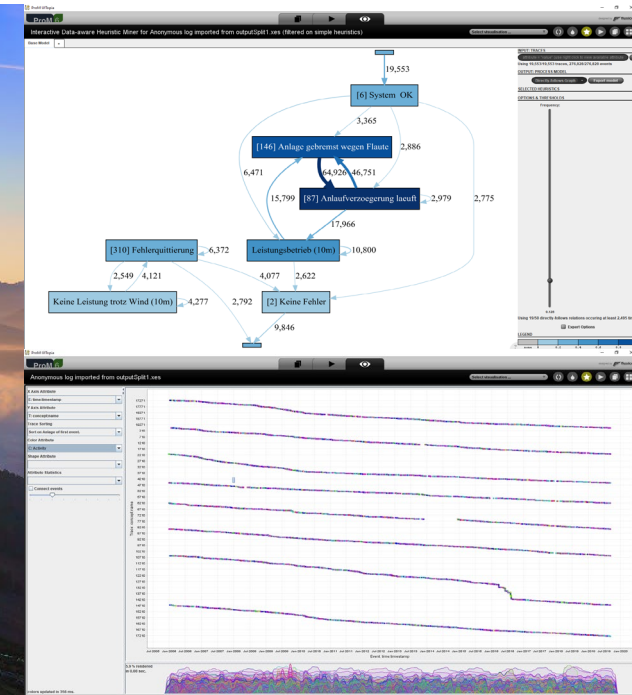


Atrial flutter



Third-degree partial block

Wind Turbine Events and Measurements

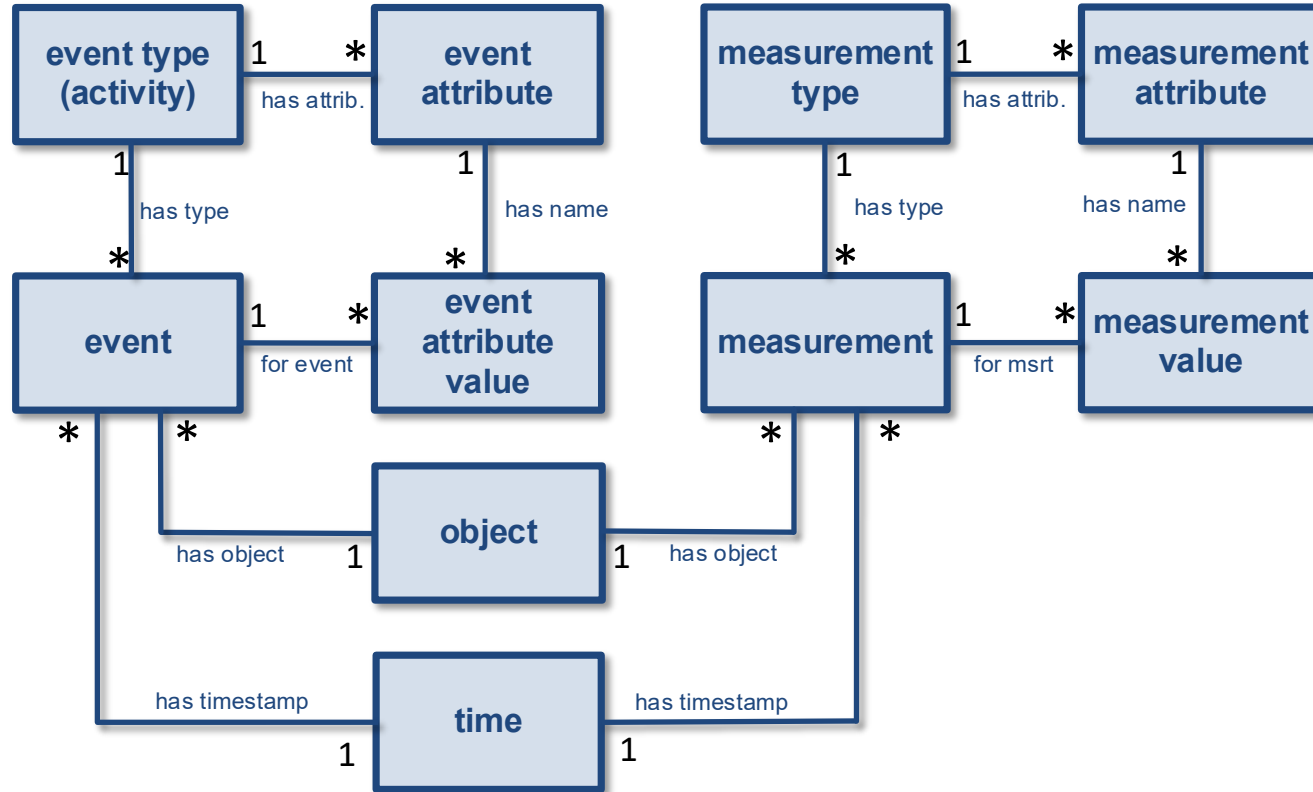
[illegible]

Medical Events and Measurements

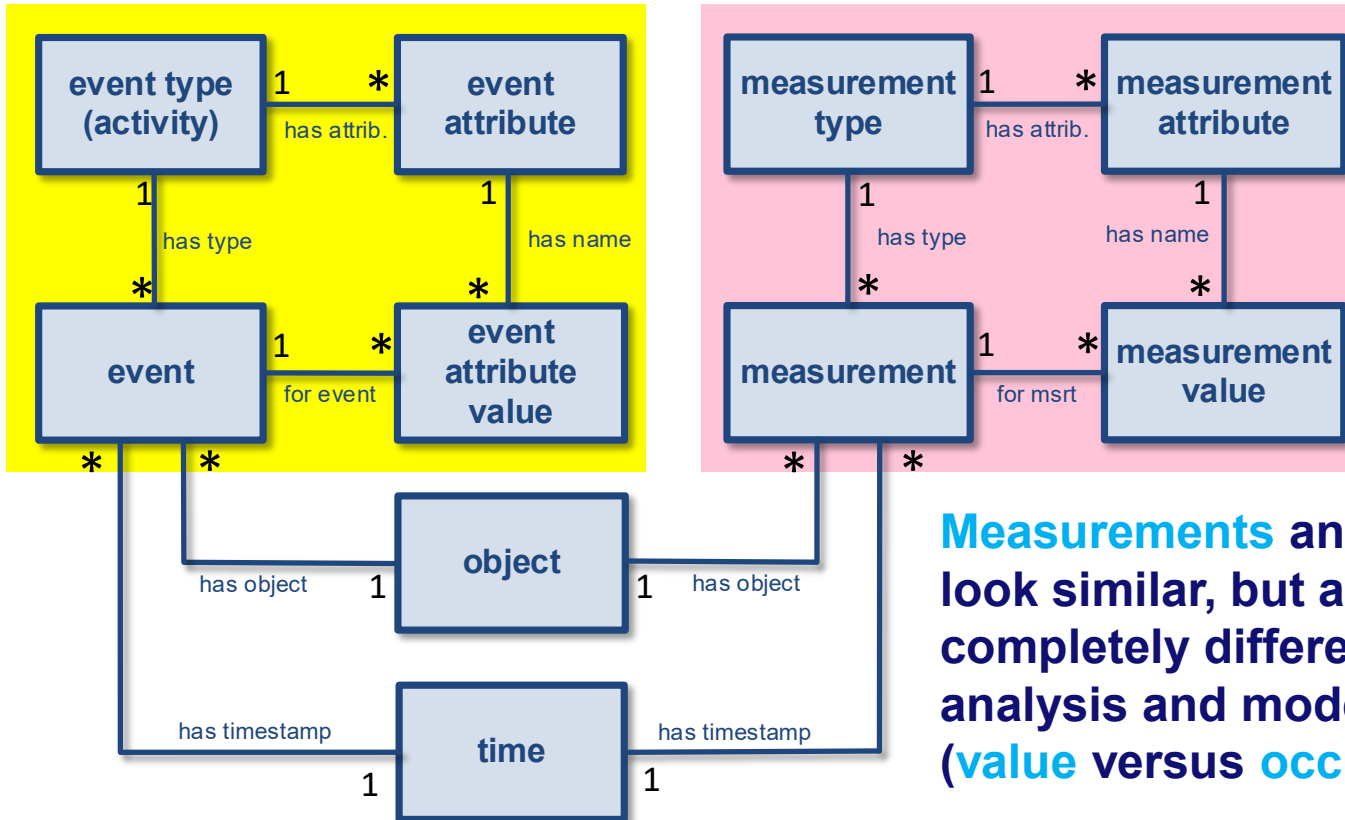


- **Measurements**
(only value matters)
 - Blood pressure
 - SpO2%
 - ...
- **Events**
(occurrence matters)
 - Cardiac arrest
 - Surgery
 - ...

Measurement and Event Data (MAED)



Measurement and Event Data (MAED)



Measurements and events look similar, but are handled completely different during analysis and model building (value versus occurrence).

Example Milling WZL (Thanks to Leah Tacke genannt Unterberg and WZL)



physical machine

database representation

machine_tool	
id	UUID
id_serial	SERIAL
machine_hall	CHARACTER VARYING
company	CHARACTER VARYING
location	CHARACTER VARYING
name	CHARACTER VARYING
mqtt_topic	CHARACTER VARYING
show_on_dashboard	BOOLEAN
wqm_folder_name	CHARACTER VARYING

Foreign Key

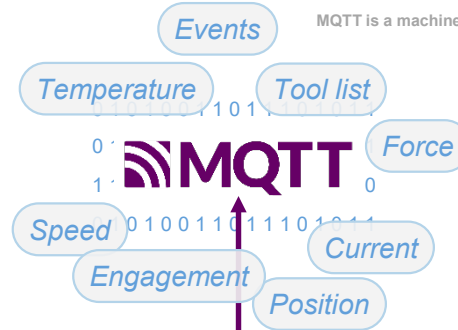
machine_trace	
id	UUID
id_serial	SERIAL
machine_id	INTEGER
nc_name	CHARACTER VARYING
time	TIMESTAMP(6) WITH TIME ZONE
time_end	TIMESTAMP(6) WITH TIME ZONE
wqm_data_available	BOOLEAN

Foreign Key

event_data	
time	TIMESTAMP(6) WITH TIME ZONE
trace_id	INTEGER
name	CHARACTER VARYING
value	JSONB

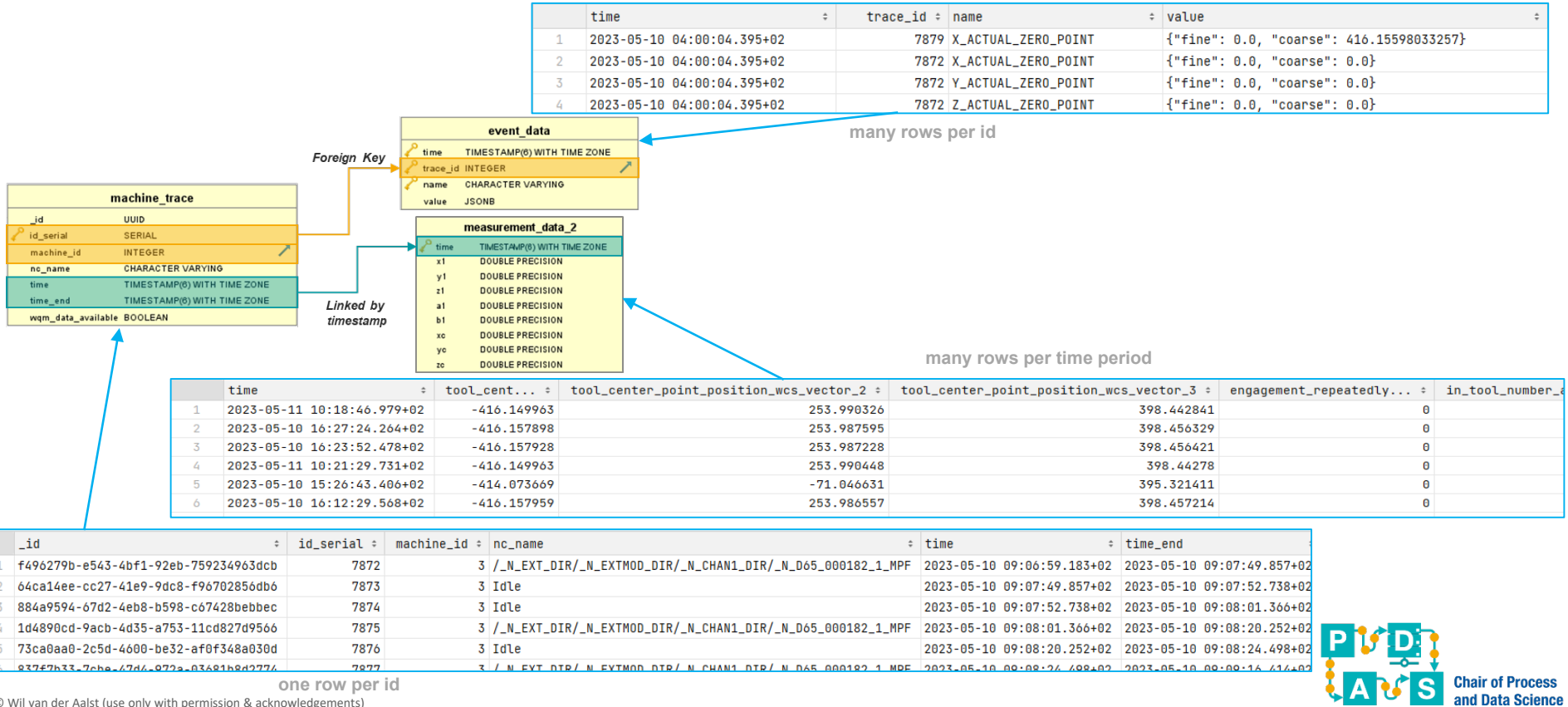
Linked by timestamp

measurement_data_2	
time	TIMESTAMP(6) WITH TIME ZONE
x1	DOUBLE PRECISION
y1	DOUBLE PRECISION
z1	DOUBLE PRECISION
a1	DOUBLE PRECISION
b1	DOUBLE PRECISION
xc	DOUBLE PRECISION
yc	DOUBLE PRECISION
zc	DOUBLE PRECISION

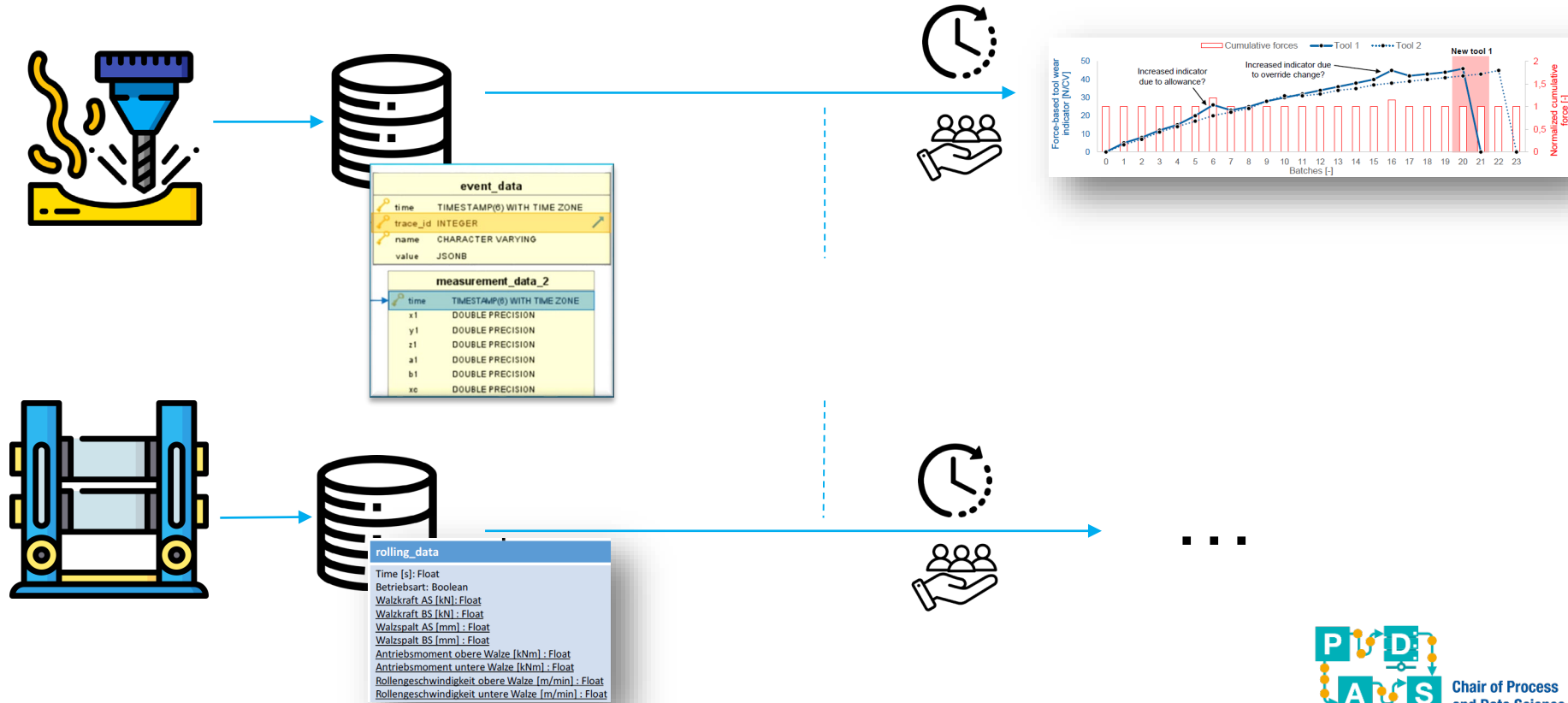


MQTT is a machine-to-machine network protocol for message passing

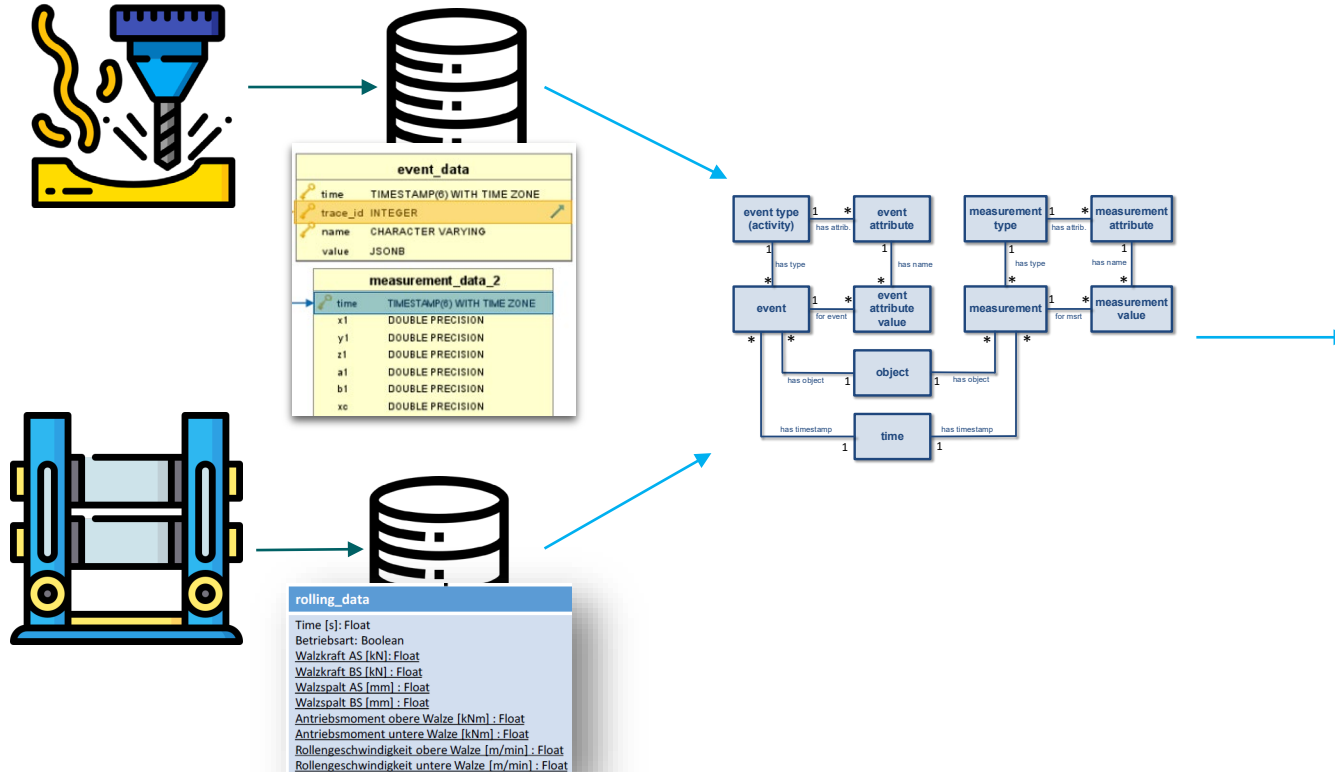
Example Milling WZL



Current Situation: Application Specific and Limited Reuse



Using Our Model-in-the-Middle

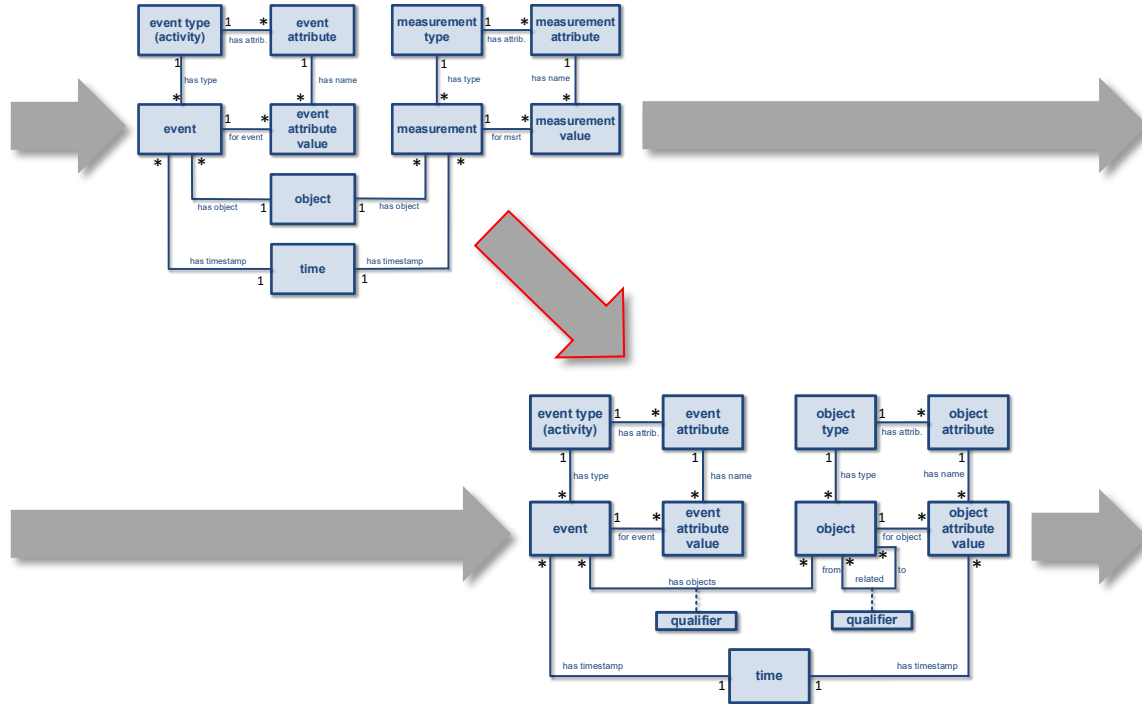


Under Construction



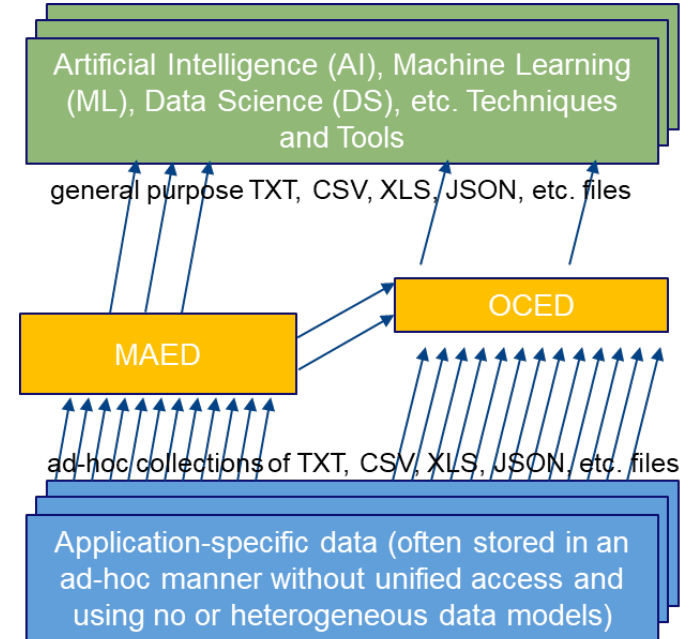
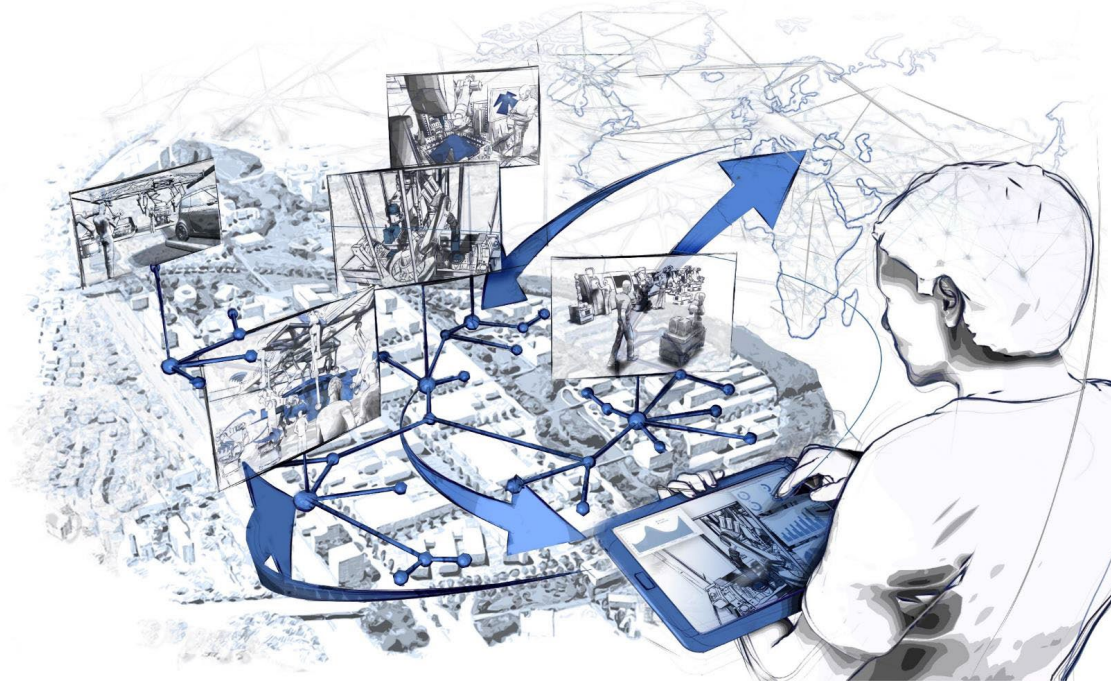
ProM for Machine Data

Connecting Both Worlds



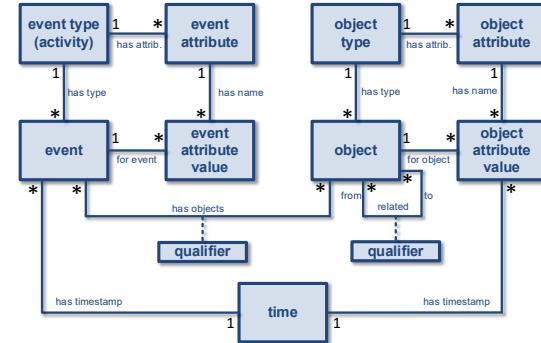
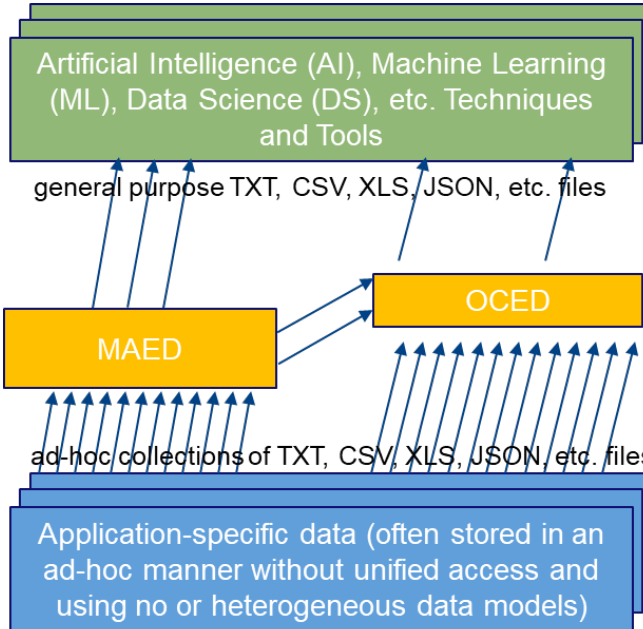
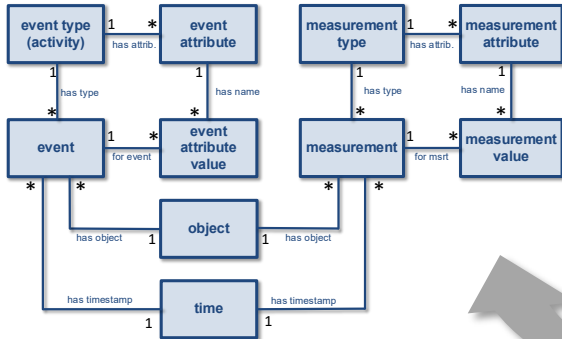
Conclusion

Models-in-the-Middle Inspired by IoP



Two Selectively Chosen Examples

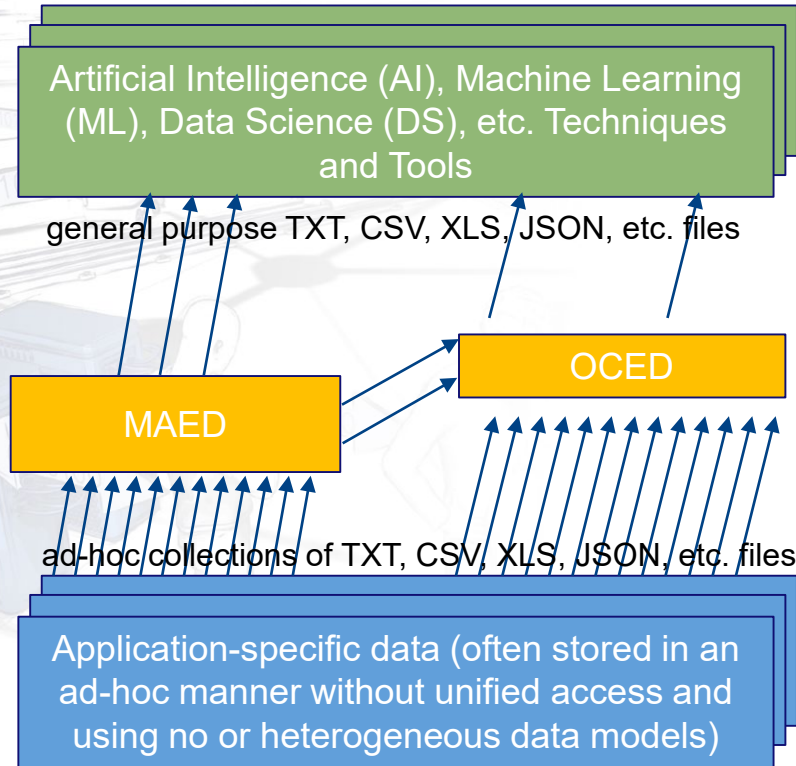
Under Construction



Upcoming Industry Standard

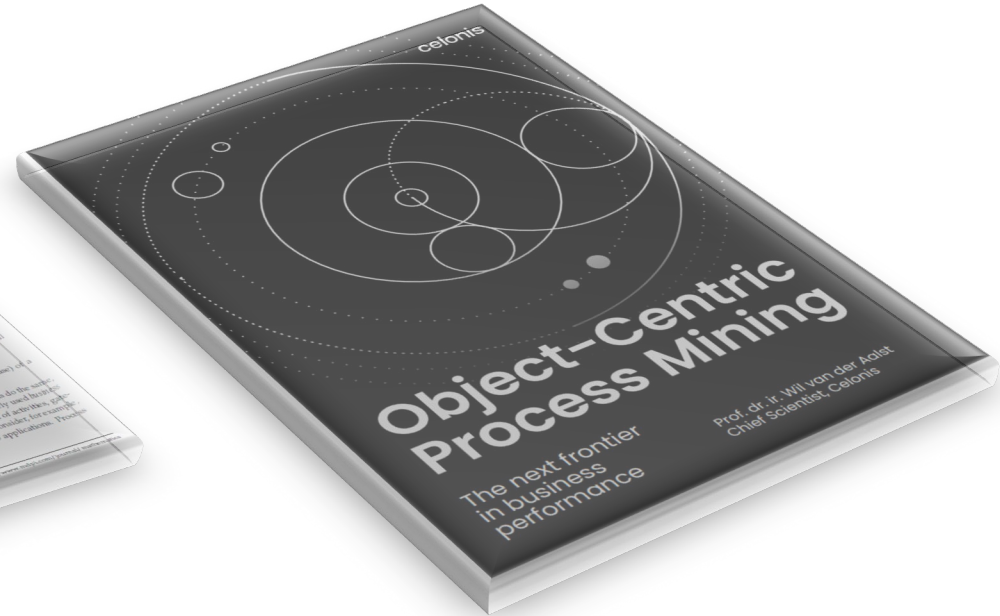
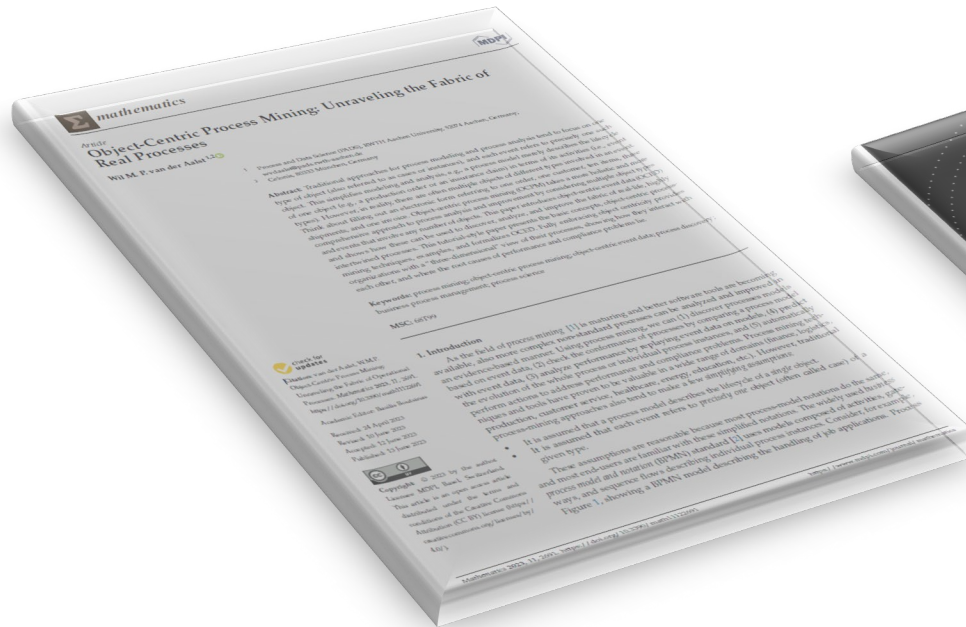
transfer
experiences

Outlook



- Both trigger many research questions.
- **MAED-to-OCED**
- **Hierarchies of Models-in-the-Middle.**
- **Domain-specific instances of these models (e.g., predefined event and object types organized in a taxonomy/ontology).**

More on Object-Centric Process Mining



W.M.P. van der Aalst, Object-Centric Process Mining: Unraveling the Fabric of Real Processes. Mathematics 2023, 11, 2691. <https://doi.org/10.3390/math11122691>

W. van der Aalst, Object-Centric Process Mining: The Next Frontier in Business Performance. 2023. Available online: celonis.com/OCPM-Whitepaper