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JBoss Drools: State of the Union

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September 2009

Agenda

- Business Knowledge
- Drools Expert
- Drools Flow
- Drools Fusion
- Drools Guvnor
- Demo

Business Knowledge

What is **Business Knowledge**?

Is legislation Business Knowledge?

“**Dept Store:** All products sold in California, are due 8.25% of state sales tax.”

Legislation ✓ YES

Are company policies Business Knowledge?

“**Telco:** any new subscribers in September/2009 are entitled to a 50% discount on their subscription fees for 60 days.”

Company policy ✓ YES

Is Business Intelligence Business Knowledge?

“**Algorithmic Trading:** when a given asset falls more than 5% in 2 minutes, after a government economic announcement, reevaluate our position and adjust the exposure to that asset.”

Business Intelligence

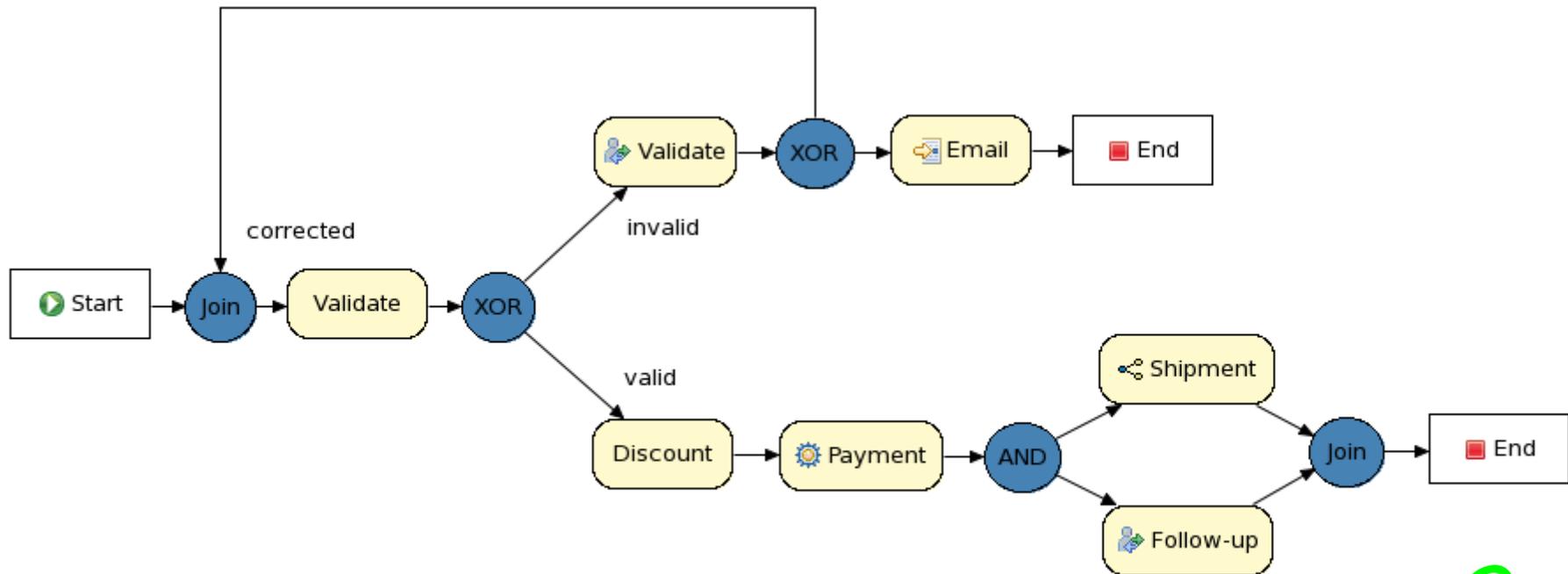


Is Operational Data Business Knowledge?

| Country of Residence | Age | Gender | Risk Factor |
|----------------------|-------|--------|-------------|
| US | < 21 | Male | 1.00 |
| | | Female | 0.80 |
| | >= 21 | Male | 1.20 |
| | | Female | 1.30 |
| Canada | < 18 | Male | 0.90 |
| | | Female | 1.00 |
| | >= 18 | Male | 1.20 |
| | | Female | 1.10 |

Operational Data  **YES**

Are Business Processes Business Knowledge?



Business process ✓ YES

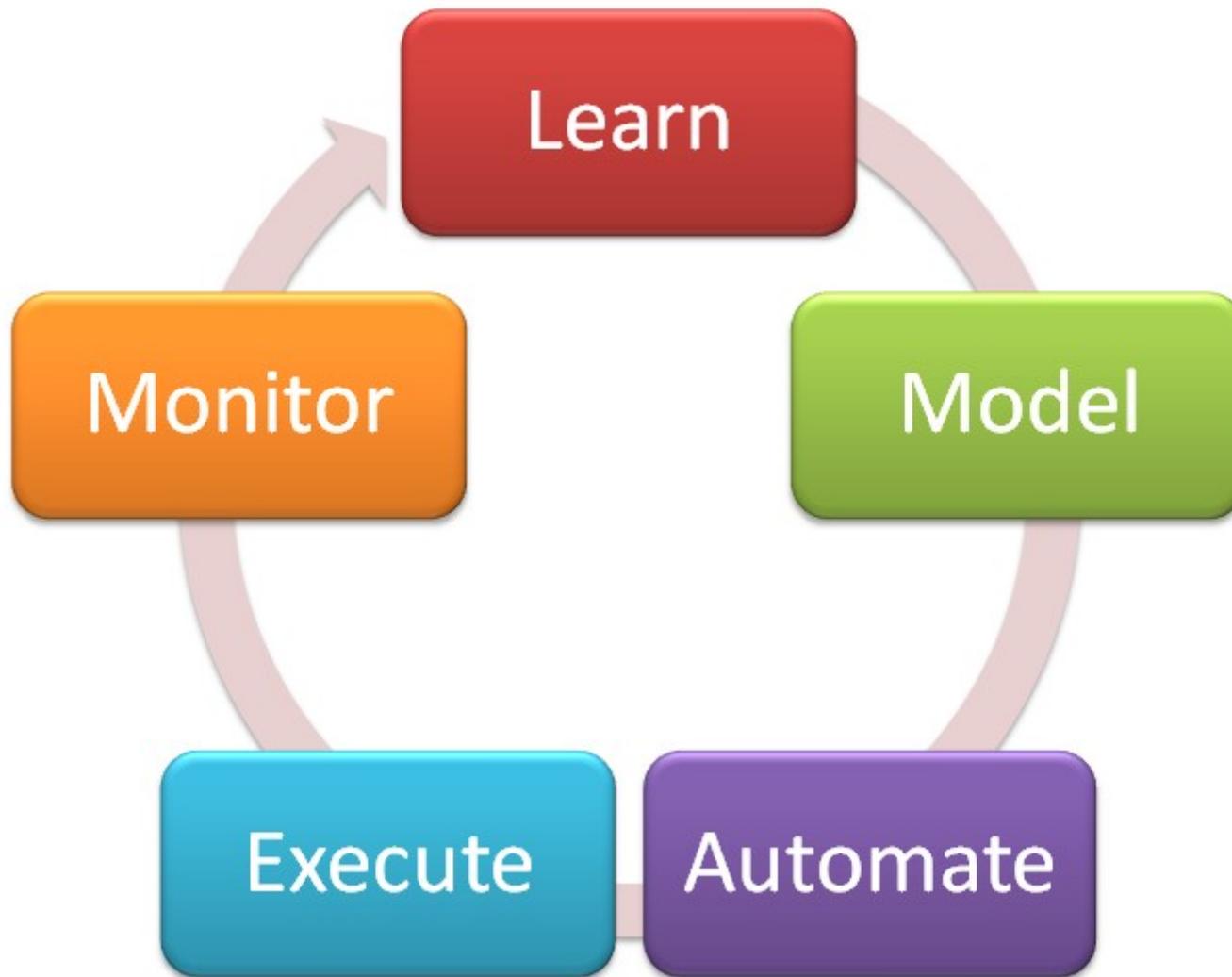
Business Knowledge is:

- Using a loose definition:
 - **Business Logic:** the understanding of **what** to do and **when** to do things in order to run a business.



- **Operational Logic:** the understanding of **how** to do things in order to run a business.

Business Logic Management



Business Logic Management



Drools Vision



Guvnor 

Expert 

Fusion 

Flow 

“A common platform to manage the business logic of the enterprise.”

Drools Business Logic Integration Platform



Drools Expert

- State of the art Rules Engine
 - Full Forward Chaining ReteOO algorithm
 - Multiple execution modes
 - Completely dynamic Knowledge Base management
 - Full support for Predicate Logic and First Order Logic
 - Complete set of flow control features
 - POJOs as facts (no mapping/data copy required)

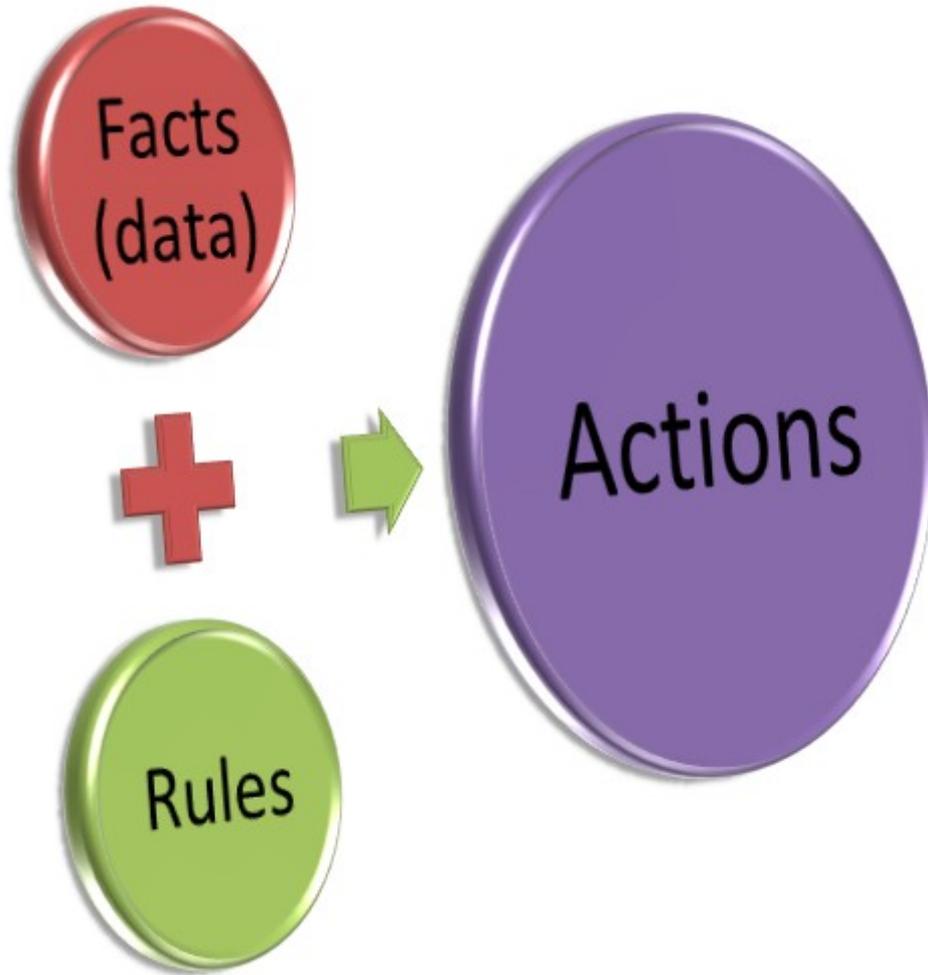
Drools Expert

- Rules format:
 - DRL: Drools Rule Language (native)
 - DSL: Domain Specific Language (user defined)
 - BRL: Business Rule Language (web authoring tools)
 - XML: helps with integration
 - Decision tables: Excel, Open Office, Web

Benefits of a Rules Engine

- Decouples application code from business rules
- Enables independent lifecycle management
- Simplifies the development of complex use cases
- Improves business rules maintainability
- Decreases turn-around times for business changes
- Improves performance for complex set of rules
- Closes the gap between Business Users and IT

How a rules engine work?



- Compares all facts against all rules
- Matches trigger rule consequences (actions)
- Actions might cause new rules to match (chaining)

Learn by example: Domain Model

Account

- accountNumber
- balance

Transaction

- accountNumber
- date
- type
- amount

AccountingPeriod

- startDate
- endDate

Learn by example: Rule (using DSL)

rule “Decrease balance on a debit operation”

when

There is an **account**

There is a **transaction** whose **type** is DEBIT

then

Decrease the **account balance** by the **transaction amount**

end

Learn by example: Rule (using DRL)

rule “Decrease balance on a debit operation”

when

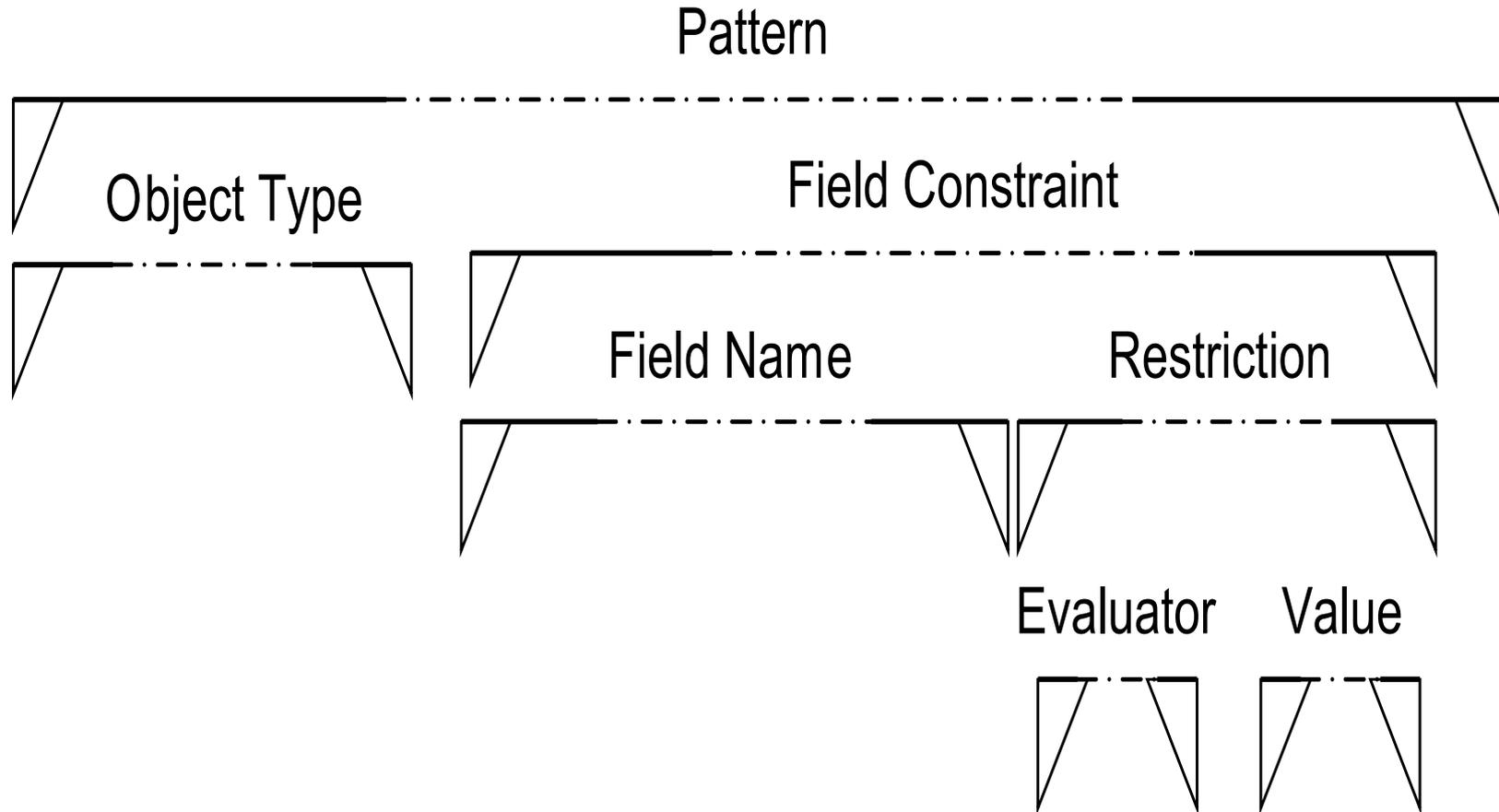
```
$account : Account( $actNbr : accountNumber )  
$transaction : Transaction( accountNumber == $actNbr,  
                             type == DEBIT )
```

then

```
$account.balance -= $transaction.amount;
```

end

Learn by example: Pattern



Show(temperature == "hot")

Learn by example: Patterns

```
CashFlow( type == "credit" )
```

```
$ap : AccountPeriod()
```

```
CashFlow( date >= $ap.start )
```

```
$ap : AccountPeriod()
```

```
CashFlow( date >= $ap.start && <= $ap.end )
```

```
$ap : AccountPeriod()
```

```
CashFlow( type == "credit",  
          date >= $ap.start && <= $ap.end )
```

Learn by example: more Patterns

```
Person( $age : age )
```

```
Person( age == ( $age + 1 ) )
```

```
Person( $age : age )
```

```
Person( eval( age == $age + 1 ) )
```

Learn by examples: yet more Patterns

```
Person(age > 30 && < 40 || hair == "black")
```

```
Person(age > 30 && < 40 || hair in ("black", "brown"))
```

```
Person( (age > 30 && < 40 && hair == "black")
```

```
||
```

```
(age > 50 && hair == "grey"))
```

```
Person(pets contain $rover)
```

```
Person(pets['rover'].type == "dog")
```

Learn by example: Conditional Elements

not Bus(color = "red")

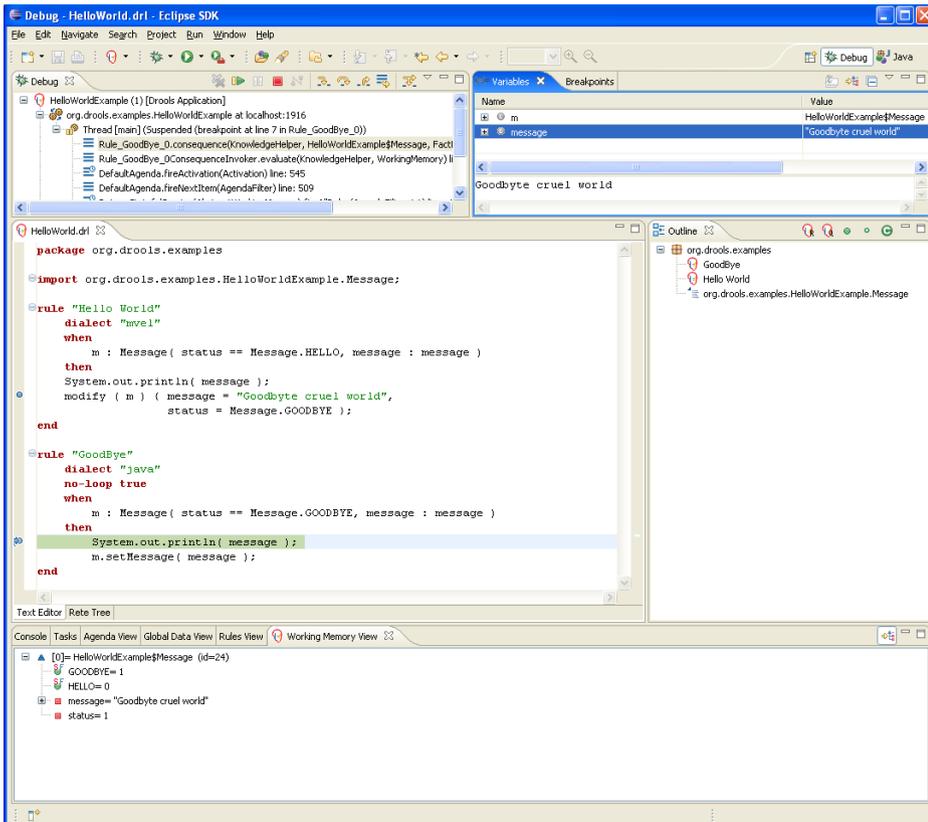
exists Bus(color = "red")

forall (\$bus : Bus(color == "red"))

forall (\$bus : Bus(floors == 2)
 Bus(this == \$bus, color == "red"))

Drools Expert: IDE

- Eclipse-based
- Full feature enabled:
 - Editor
 - Compiler
 - Debugging
 - Audit



Drools Expert: Guided Editor

The screenshot shows the 'Guided rule editor' window with two tabs: 'Person.java' and 'rules.br1'. The editor is divided into three main sections: 'WHEN', 'THEN', and '(options)'.
- The 'WHEN' section is expanded and contains two object types: 'Person' and 'Vehicle'.
- Under 'Person', there are two conditions: 'age' is less than 42, and 'name' is equal to 'Bob'.
- Under 'Vehicle', there is one condition: 'type' is equal to an empty field.
- The 'THEN' section contains one action: 'Assert Alert' with a 'message' field.
- The '(options)' section is currently empty.
- At the bottom, there are three tabs: 'Rule Builder' (selected), 'BRL Source', and 'Generated DRL (read-only)'.

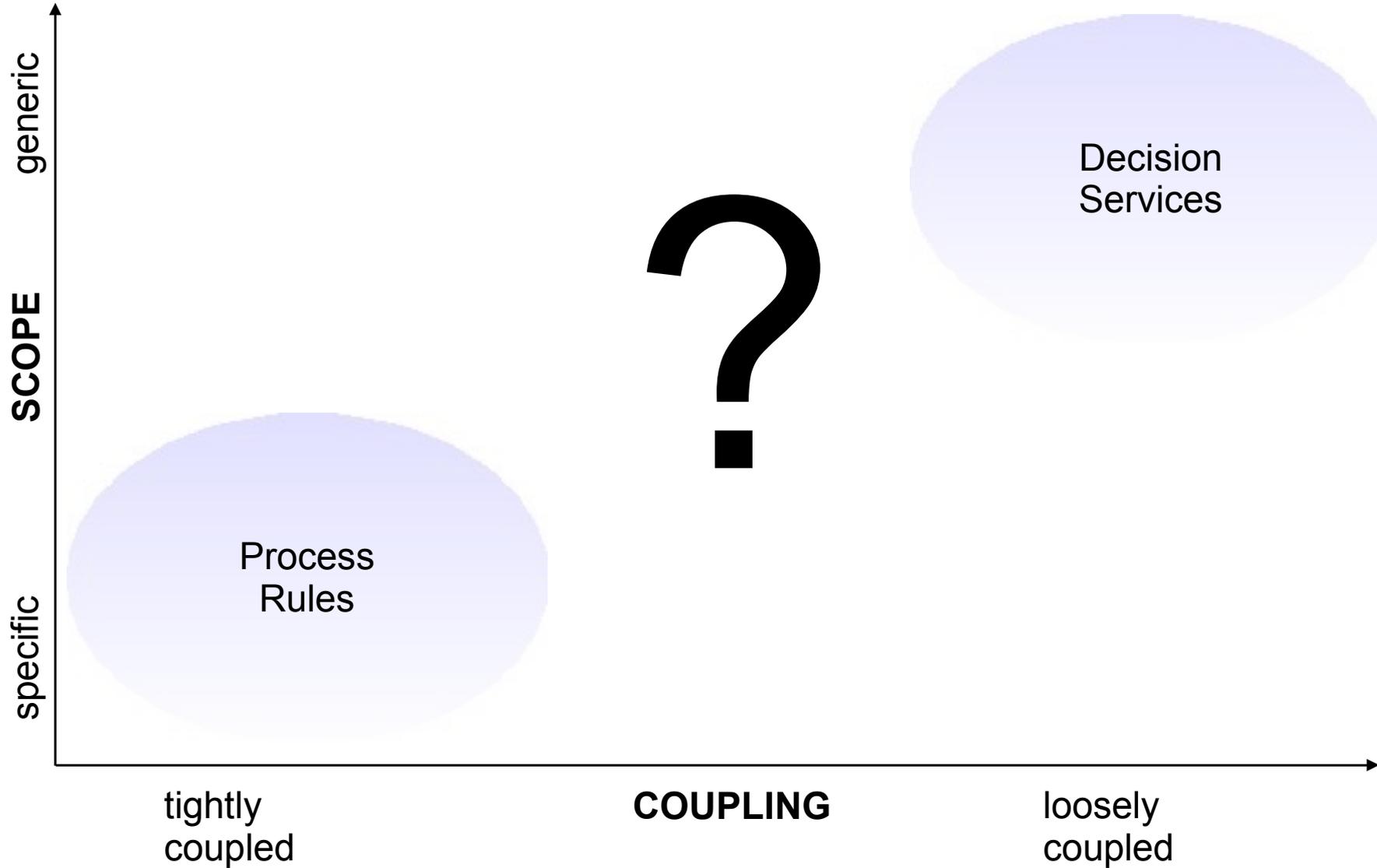
Drools Expert: Decision Tables

| | B | C | D | E | F | G |
|----|--------------------|-------------|-----------------------|------------------------|---|---------------|
| 1 | | | | | | |
| 4 | | | | | | |
| 8 | Base pricing rules | Age Bracket | Location risk profile | Number of prior claims | Policy type applying for | Base \$ AUD |
| 9 | Young safe package | 18, 24 | LOW | 1 | COMPREHENSIVE COMPREHENSIVE FIRE_THEFT THIRD_PARTY | 450 |
| 10 | | 18, 24 | MED | | FIRE_THEFT | 200 |
| 11 | | 18,24 | MED | 0 | COMPREHENSIVE | 300 |
| 12 | | 18,24 | LOW | | FIRE_THEFT | 150 |
| 13 | | 18,24 | LOW | 0 | COMPREHENSIVE | 150 |
| 14 | | Young risk | 18,24 | MED | 1 | COMPREHENSIVE |
| 15 | 18,24 | | HIGH | 0 | COMPREHENSIVE | 700 |
| 16 | 18,24 | | HIGH | | FIRE_THEFT | 550 |

Drools Business Logic Integration Platform

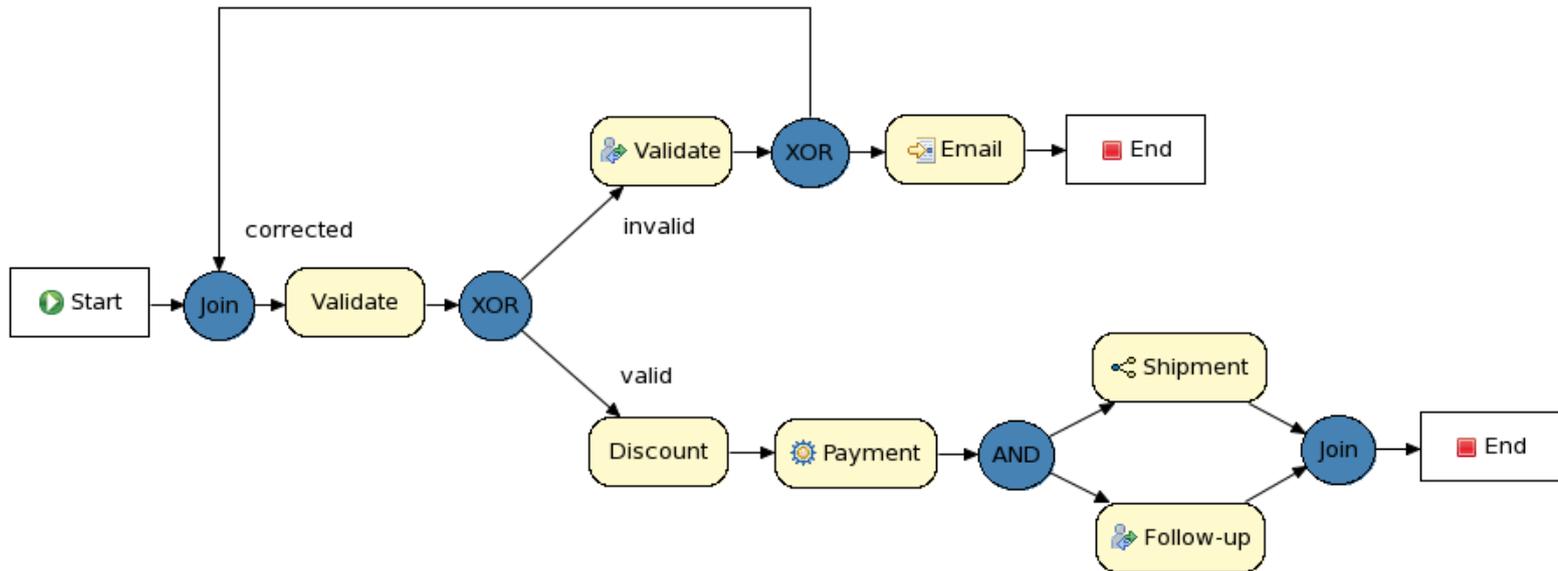


Rules and Processes

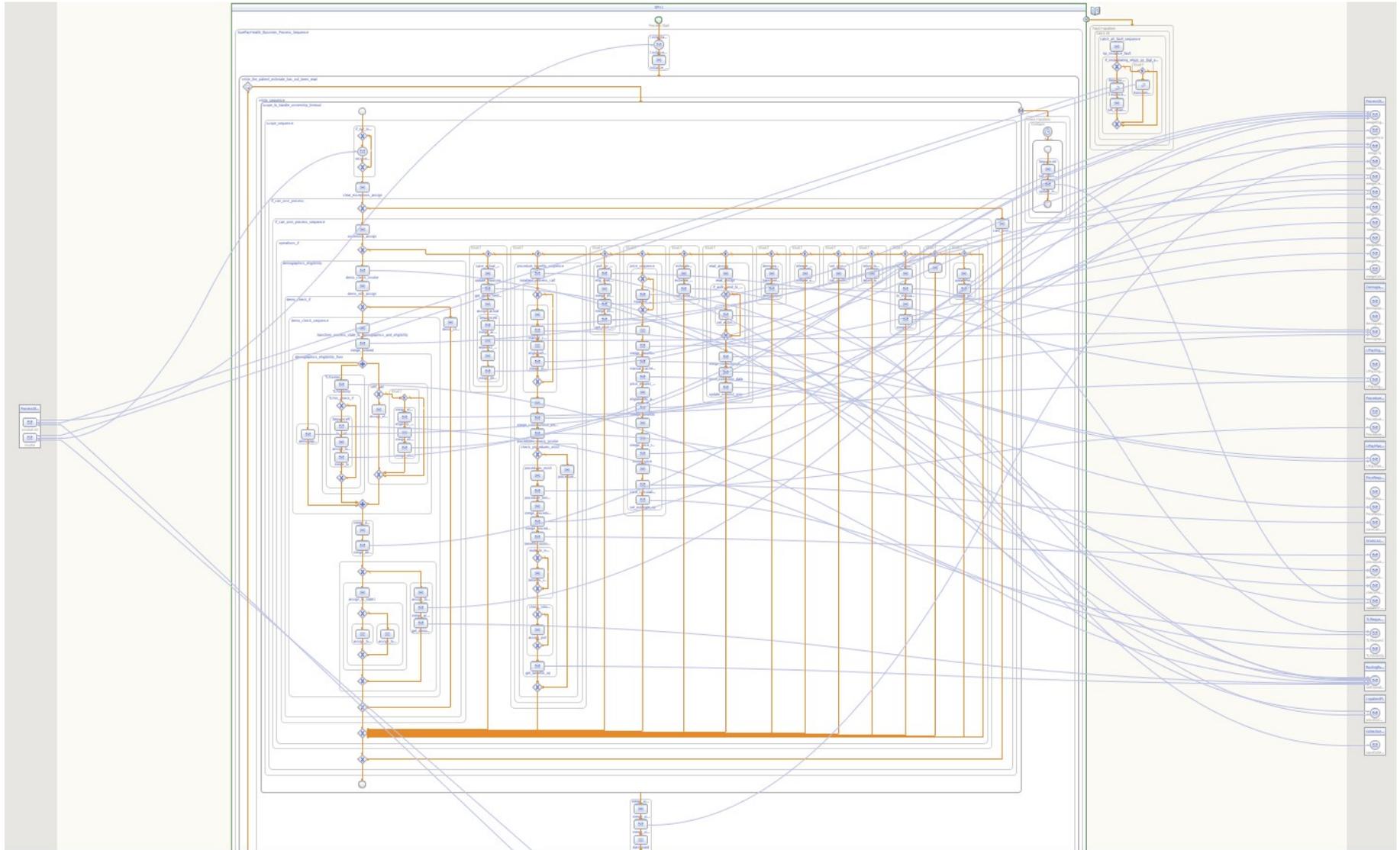


Drools Flow

- Select
- Marquee
- Connection Creation
- Components
- Start
- End
- RuleFlowGr...
- Split
- Join
- Event Wait
- SubFlow
- Action
- Timer
- Fault
- Event
- Human Task
- Composite
- For Each
- Work Items
- Email
- Payment
- Log

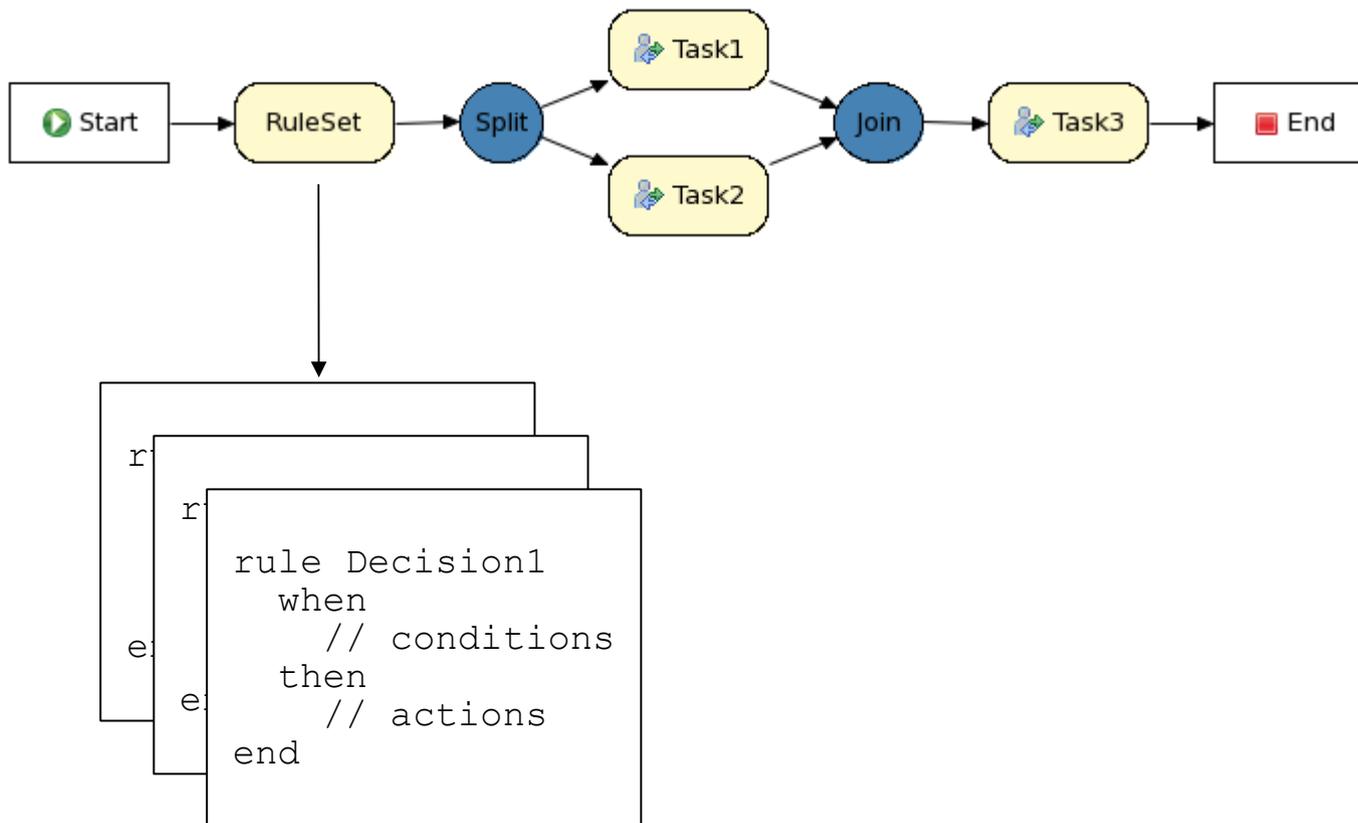


BPEL Hell

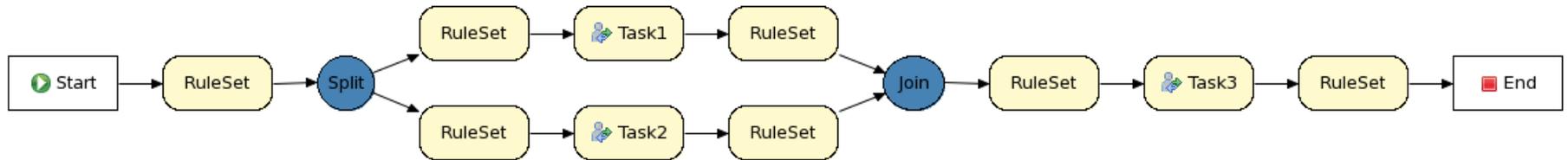


Using Decision Services in a Process

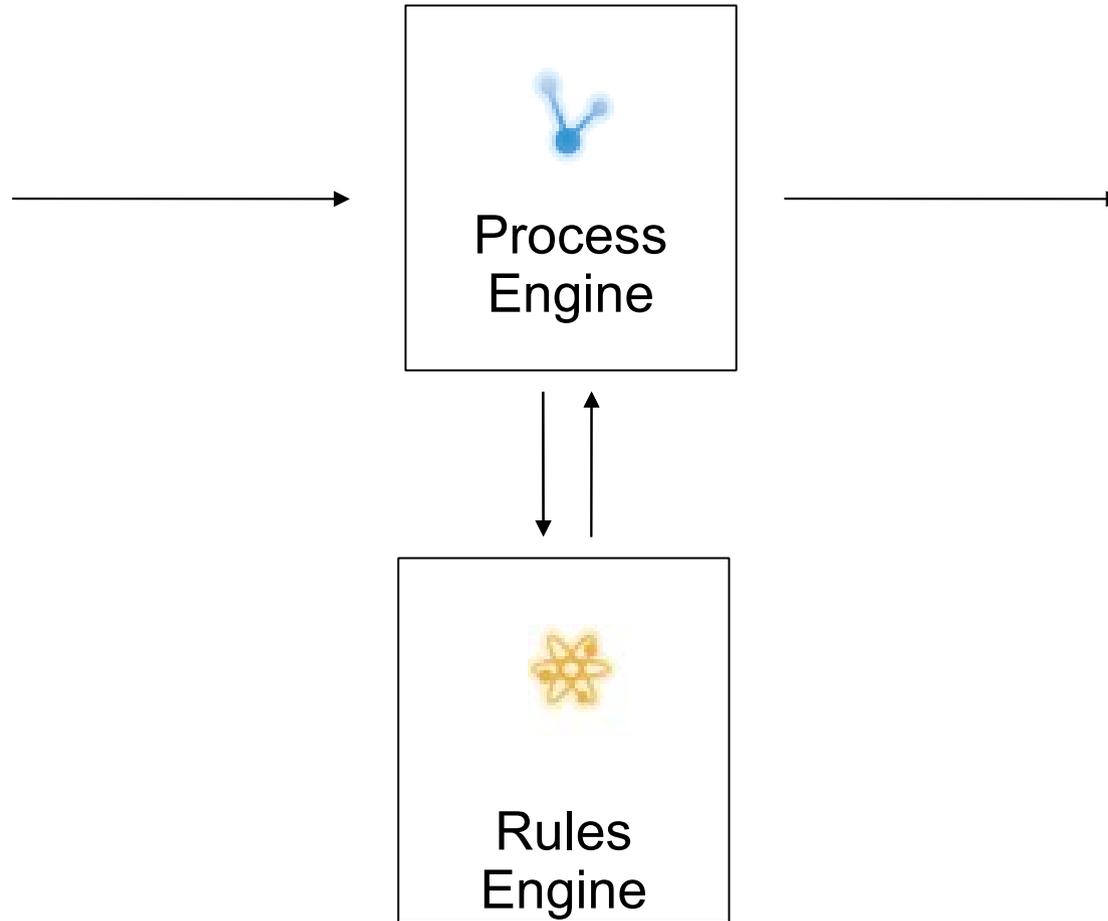
Business decisions are externalized using a decision service



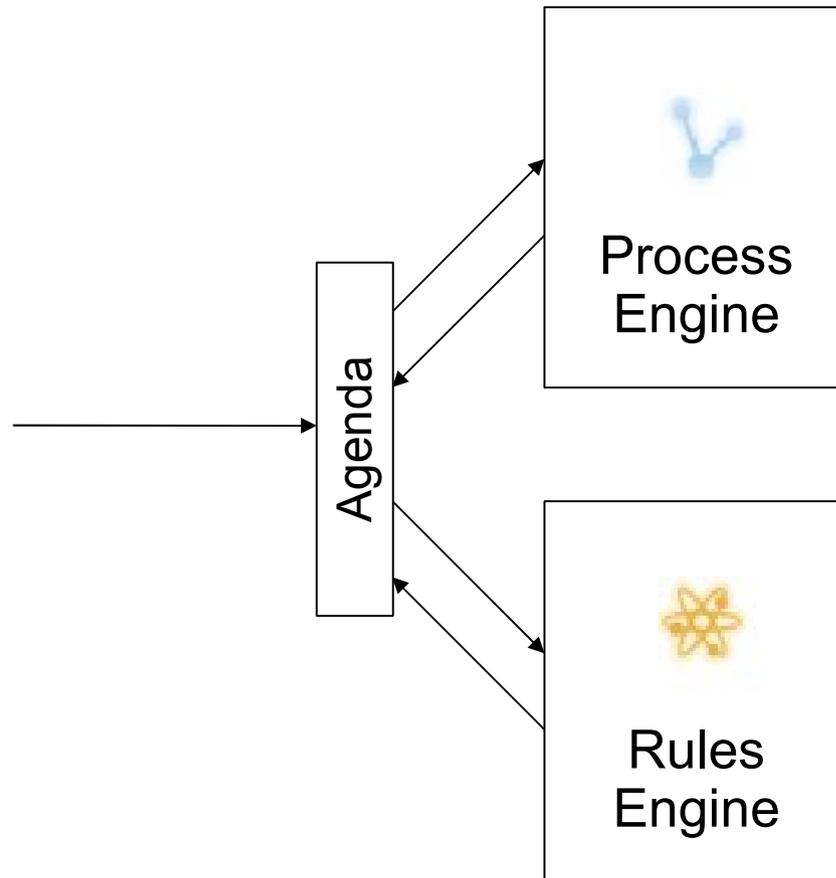
Example



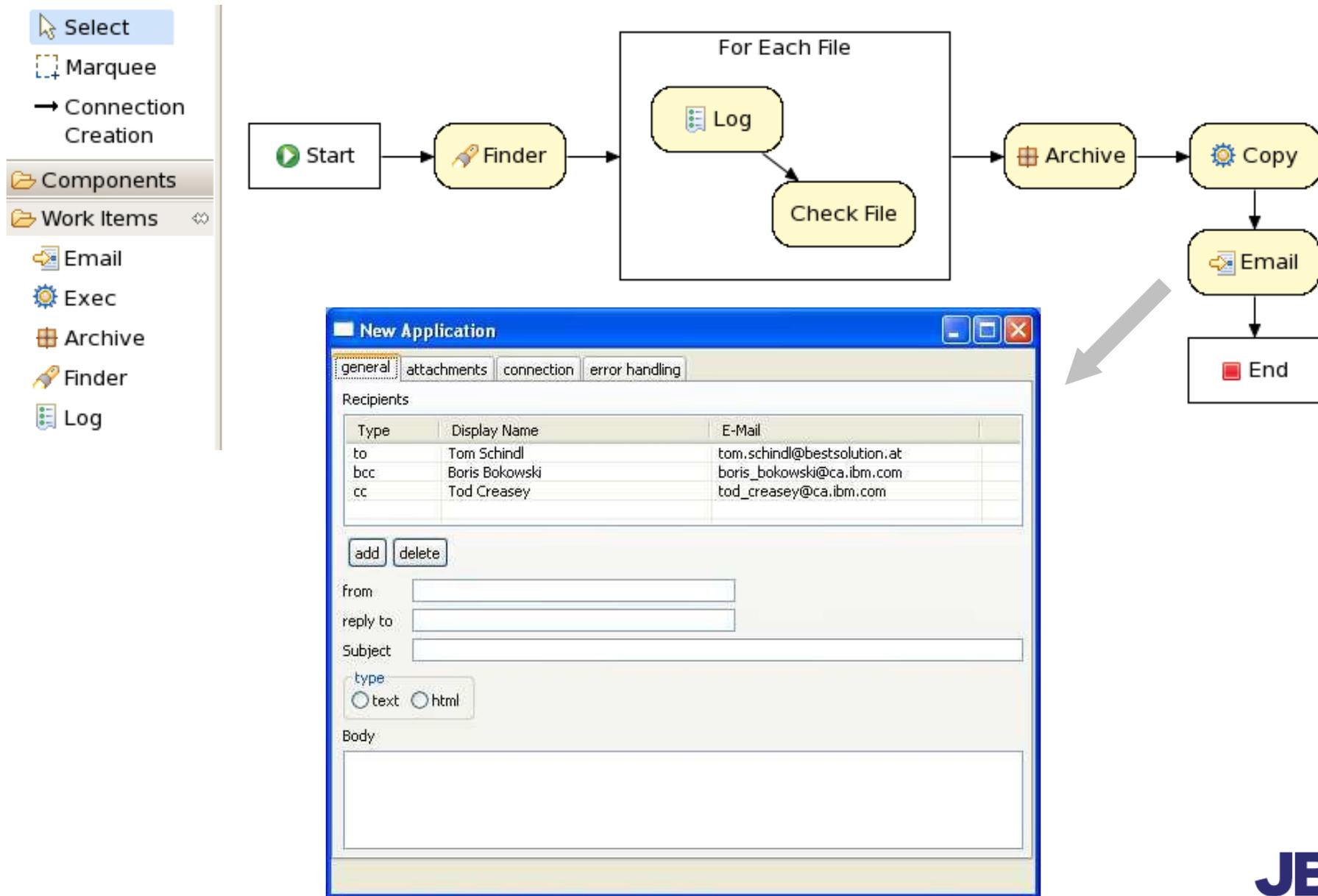
Drools Flow: Usual flow of control



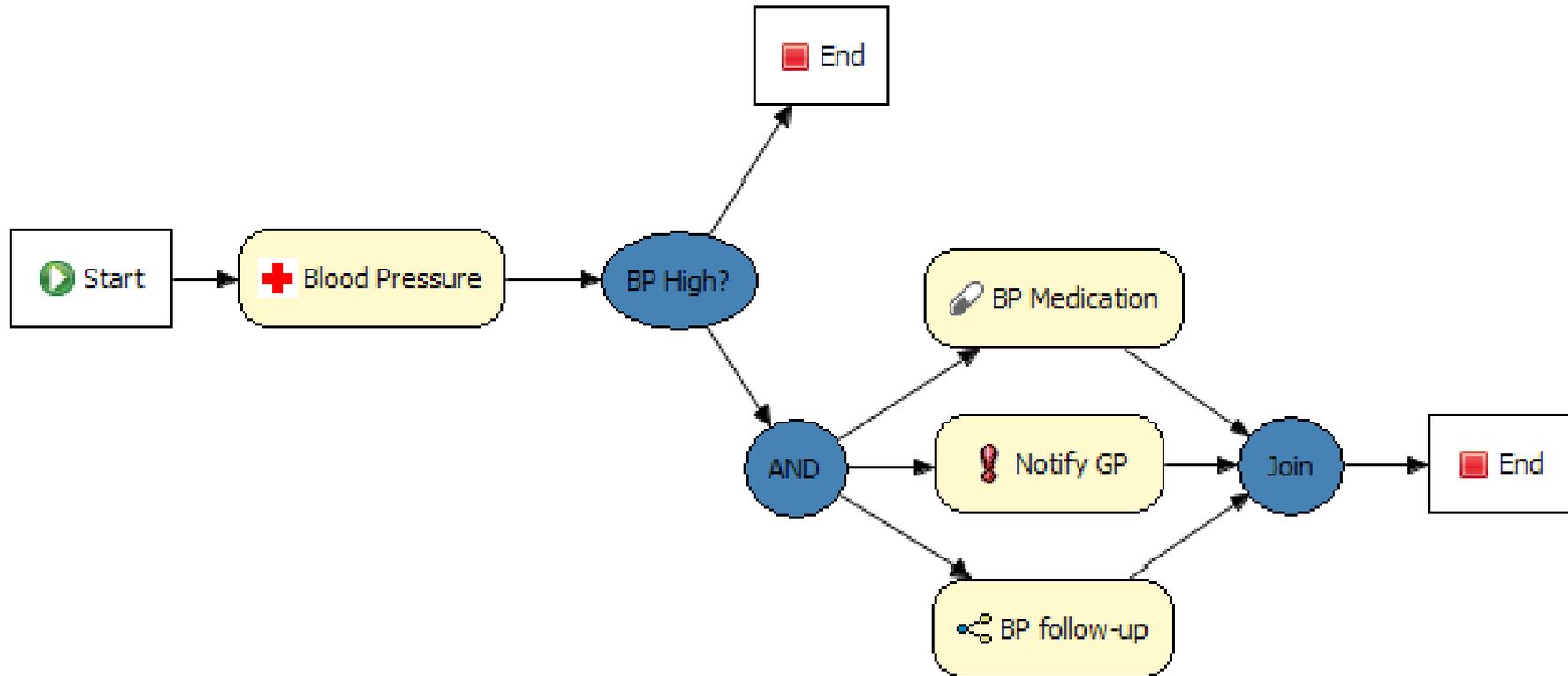
Drools Flow: Inversion of Control



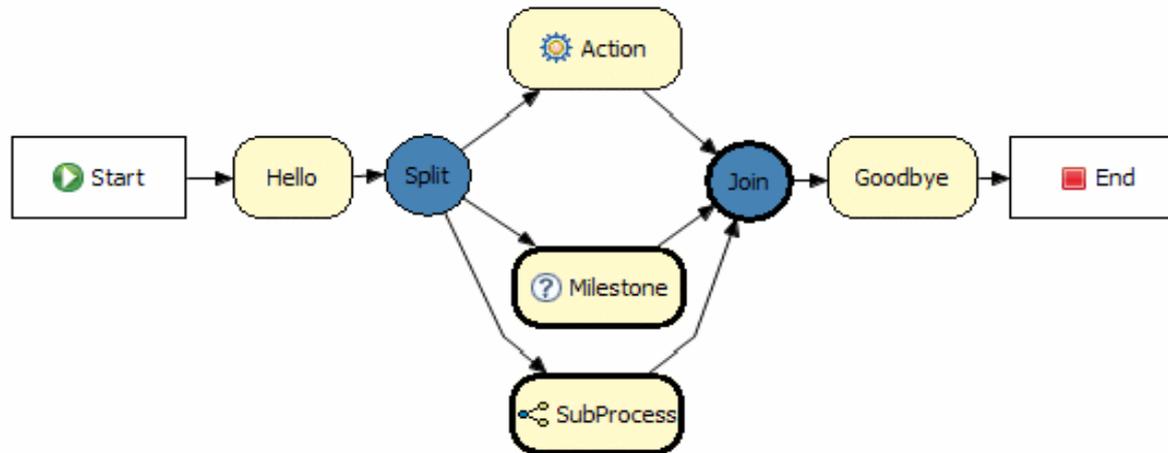
Drools Flow: Domain Specific Processes



Drools Flow: Domain Specific Processes



Drools Flow: integrated debug and audit



Problems Properties Audit View Error Log Console

- Object inserted (1): com.sample.RuleFlowTest\$Message@17200b4
 - Activation created: Rule Hello World m=com.sample.RuleFlowTest\$Message@17200b4(1); message=Hello World(1)
- RuleFlow started: ruleflow[com.sample.ruleflow]
 - RuleFlow node triggered: Start in process ruleflow[com.sample.ruleflow]
 - RuleFlow node triggered: Hello in process ruleflow[com.sample.ruleflow]
 - RuleFlowGroup activated: hello[size=1]
 - Activation executed: Rule Hello World m=com.sample.RuleFlowTest\$Message@17200b4(1); message=Hello World(1)
 - Object updated (1): com.sample.RuleFlowTest\$Message@17200b4
 - Activation created: Rule GoodBye m=com.sample.RuleFlowTest\$Message@17200b4(1); message=Goodbye cruel world(1)
 - RuleFlowGroup deactivated: hello[size=0]
 - RuleFlow node triggered: Goodbye in process ruleflow[com.sample.ruleflow]
 - RuleFlowGroup activated: goodbye[size=1]
 - Activation executed: Rule GoodBye m=com.sample.RuleFlowTest\$Message@17200b4(1); message=Goodbye cruel world(1)
 - RuleFlowGroup deactivated: goodbye[size=0]
 - RuleFlow node triggered: End in process ruleflow[com.sample.ruleflow]
 - RuleFlow completed: ruleflow[com.sample.ruleflow]

Drools Flow: BPMN

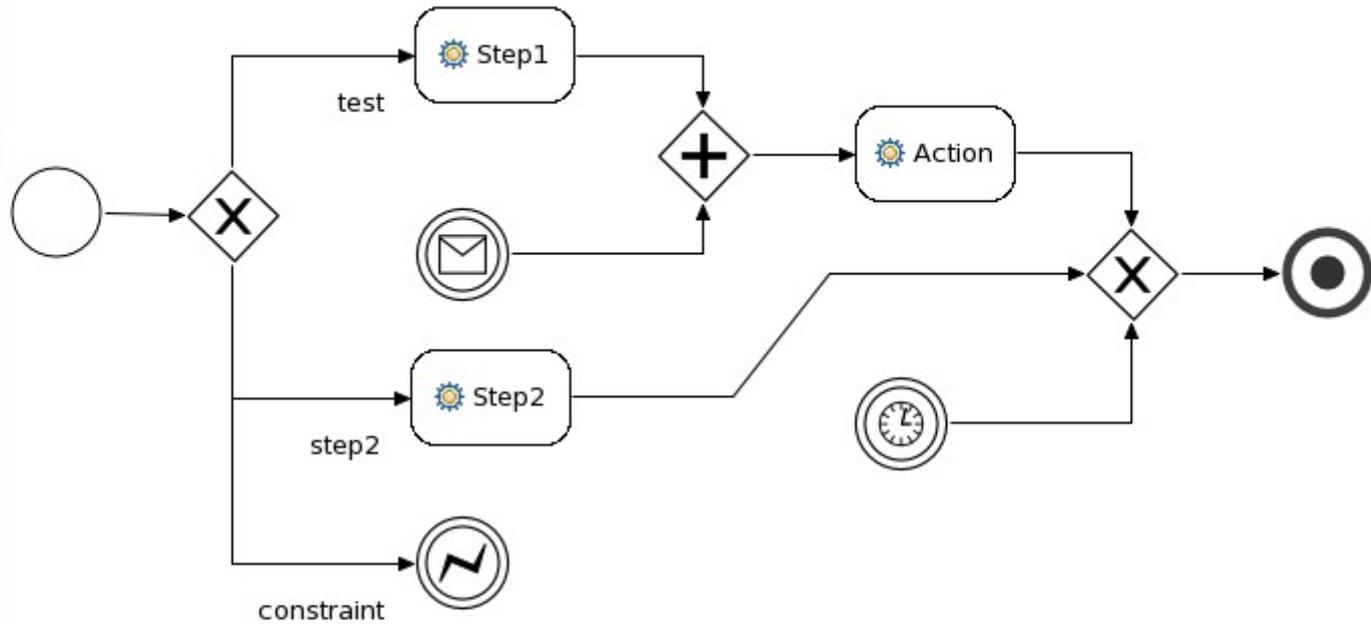
- Select
- Marquee
- Sequence Flow

Components

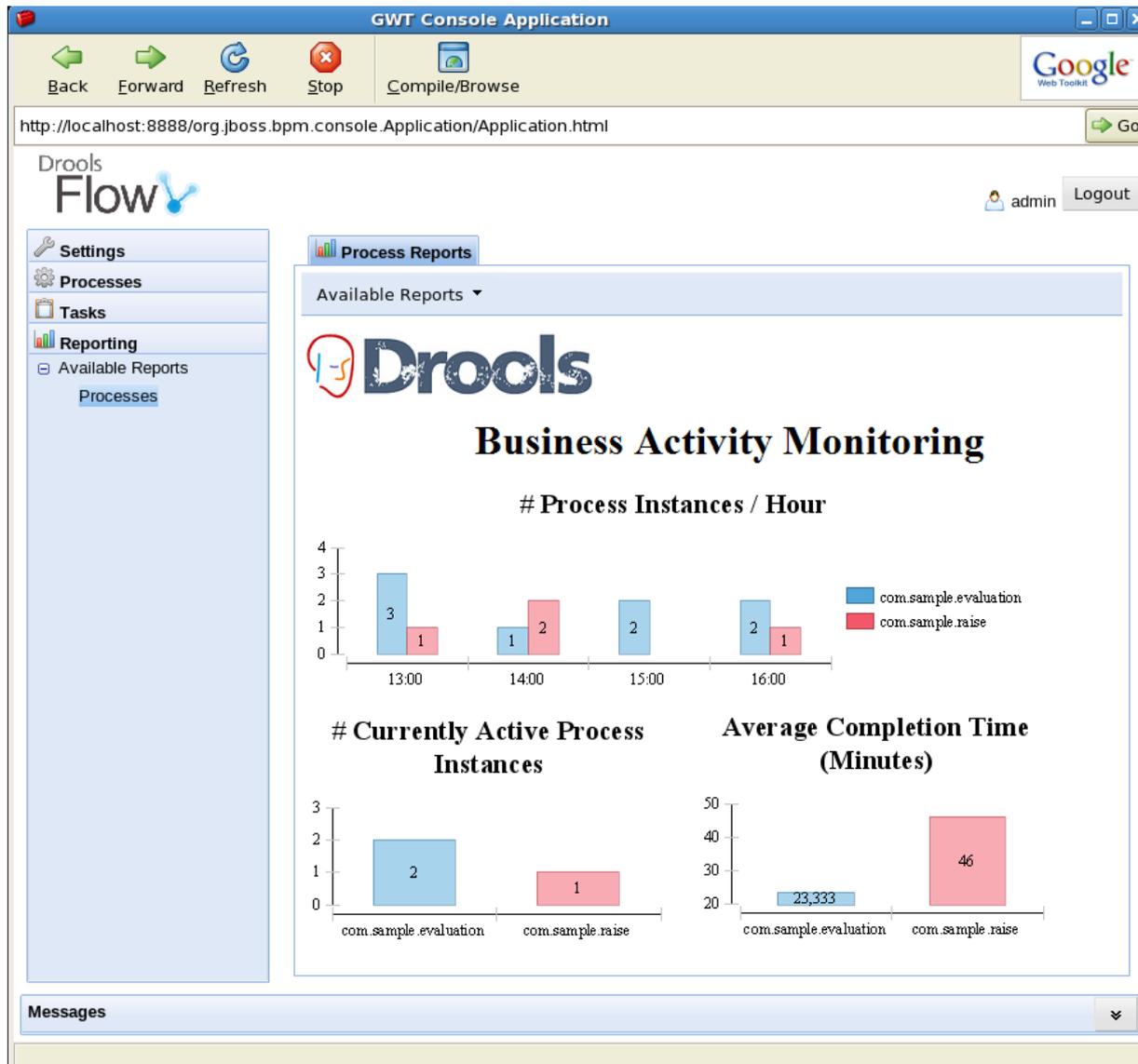
- Start Event
- End Event
- Rule Task
- Gateway [diverge]
- Gateway [converge]
- Wait Task
- Reusable Sub-Process
- Script Task
- Timer Event
- Error Event
- Message Event
- User Task
- Embedded Sub-Process
- Multiple Instances

Work Items

- Email
- Log



Drools Flow: Business Activity Monitoring



Drools Business Logic Integration Platform



Complex Event Processing

“Complex Event Processing, or CEP, is primarily an event processing concept that deals with the task of processing multiple events with the goal of identifying the meaningful events within the event cloud.

CEP employs techniques such as detection of complex patterns of many events, event correlation and abstraction, event hierarchies, and relationships between events such as causality, membership, and timing, and event-driven processes.”

-- wikipedia

Complex Event Processing

- **A few characteristics of common CEP scenarios:**
 - Huge amount of events, but only a few of real interest
 - Usually events are immutable
 - Usually queries/rules have to run in reactive mode
 - Strong temporal relationships between events
 - Individual events are usually not important
 - The composition and aggregation of events is important

Drools Fusion: Characteristics

- Support processing high volume **Streams** of Events
- Typically fed from **SOA endpoints** such as JMS Queues, Web Service calls, Databases, flat files, or sockets.
- An **Event** is a record of state change. It is something that already happened, and the past cannot be changed, events are immutable.

Drools Fusion: Enables...

- **Event Detection:**

- From an event cloud or set of streams, select all the meaningful events, and only them.

- **[Temporal] Event Correlation:**

- Ability to correlate events and facts declaring both temporal and non-temporal constraints between them.
- Ability to reason over event aggregation.

- **Event Abstraction:**

- Ability to compose complex events from atomic events AND reason over them

Drools Fusion: Features

- **Engine Extension for Event Processing and Temporal Reasoning:**
 - New: Support to Event Semantics
 - New: Event Detection, Correlation and Composition
 - New: Support to both Cloud and Stream modes
 - New: Support to Stream Processing
 - New: Temporal Constraints
 - New: Sliding Windows
 - New: Session Clock
 - New: RuleBase Partitioning and Multithread: scalability
 - New: Active Queries and Rules
 - New: Data Loaders

Drools Fusion: Temporal Reasoning

| | Point-Point | Point-Interval | Interval-Interval |
|---------------|-------------|----------------|-------------------|
| A before B | | | |
| A meets B | | | |
| A overlaps B | | | |
| A finishes B | | | |
| A includes B | | | |
| A starts B | | | |
| A coincides B | | | |

Drools Business Logic Integration Platform



Drools Guvnor: Business Knowledge Governance

The screenshot displays the Drools Guvnor web interface. On the left is a 'Navigate Guvnor' sidebar with a tree view of assets. The main area shows a search for 'Business rule as' with 10 items listed in a table.

Navigate Guvnor

- Assets
- Packages
- Create New
- Packages
 - Payments
 - defaultPackage
 - merchant
 - mortgages
 - Business rule assets
 - Technical rule assets
 - Functions
 - DSL configurations
 - Model
 - Rule Flows
 - Enumerations
 - Test Scenarios
 - XML, Properties
 - Other assets, documentation
 - test1

Find Business rule as

Showing #10 of 10 items. [refresh list] [open selected]

| Name | Last modified | Status | Categories |
|--------------------------|---------------|--------|-------------------|
| Underage | Dec 19, 2008 | Draft | Eligibility rules |
| Bankruptcy history | Oct 1, 2008 | Draft | Eligibility rules |
| No bad credit checks | Oct 1, 2008 | Draft | Eligibility rules |
| no NINJAs No ninjas ! | Oct 2, 2008 | Draft | Eligibility rules |
| Pricing loans | Jan 27, 2009 | Draft | Pricing rules |
| CreditApproval | Oct 22, 2008 | Draft | Eligibility rules |
| DateDslRule | Oct 24, 2008 | Draft | Technical |
| CheckBoxDslRule | Oct 23, 2008 | Draft | Technical |
| RegexDslRule | Oct 23, 2008 | Draft | Technical |
| wee | Jan 27, 2009 | Draft | Home Mortgage |

Drools Guvnor: Web decision tables

| Decision table | | | | | | | |
|--|--------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|----------------|
| Modify... ▼ | | | | | | | |
| | Description | Advertiser type | age is at least | Postcode gre... | Postcode les... | Set the value... | Set the rea... |
| Advertiser type: Agency (3 Items) | | | | | | | |
| 1 | Good suburbs | Agency | 10 | 4000 | 4100 | → 42 | Loyal |
| 2 | Good suburbs | Agency | | 2000 | 2100 | → 43 | Good region |
| 4 | Good suburbs | Agency | | 2200 | 2300 | → 43 | Good region |
| Advertiser type: Partner (1 Item) | | | | | | | |
| 3 | Partners | Partner | 1 | | | → 49 | Other |

Drools Guvnor: Integrated Testing

Run scenario

Results: 100%

Summary: [p] field [age] was [42].
 [p] field [name] was [bob].
 [b] field [name] was [boogie] expected [booger].

+ GIVEN

insert [Board] ▶

[b]

name:

insert [Person] ▶

[p]

name:

age:

+ EXPECT

Use real date and time ▶

1 rules fired in 0ms.

Board [b] has values: ▶

Person [p] has values: ▶

age:

name:

+ GIVEN

insert [Board] ▶

[b2]

cost:

+ EXPECT

Use real date and time ▶

0 rules fired in 0ms.

Board [b] has values: ▶

name: (Actual: boogie)

More...

(configuration)

+ (globals)

All rules may fire ▶

Drools: Demo



Guvnor 

Expert 

Fusion 

Flow 

QUESTIONS?

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