

Rethinking BPM Concepts for Cases and Decisions (Keynote)

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Abstract: Recently, the scope of research in business process management has widened considerably. In this talk, two key areas will be investigated, case management and decision management. While case management has been discussed for a while, it has not yet found its way into practice, the lack of an established syntax and of a concise semantics being among the reasons. This talk sketches a novel approach to case management, which is based on dynamically combining process fragments as required by knowledge workers. The conceptual results are prototypically implemented in the Chimera platform. Decision management is a recent research area with massive interest by the financial industry in its quest to support compliance and auditing requirements. While the principles of combining process and decision models are well understood and even standardized, a number of conceptual issues remain open. We have investigated the classic soundness property of processes in presence of decision models. With decision soundness, a novel correctness criterion is introduced, which takes into account decision logic when analysing behavioural properties of business processes. The talk concludes with thoughts on research in business process management and the role of the BPM conference.

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