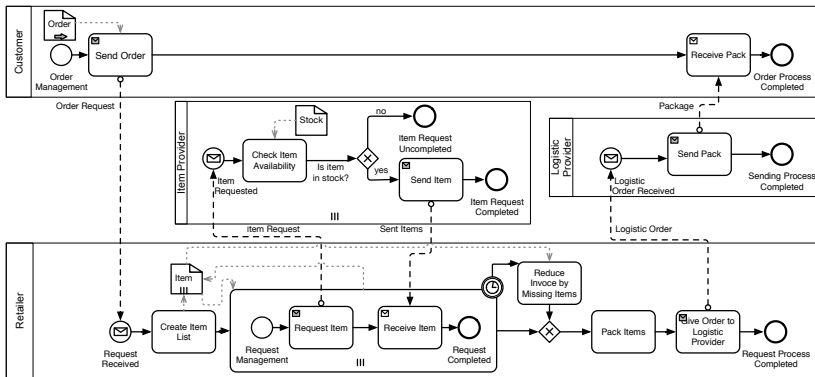


Formalising BPMN Service Interaction Patterns

Barbara Re

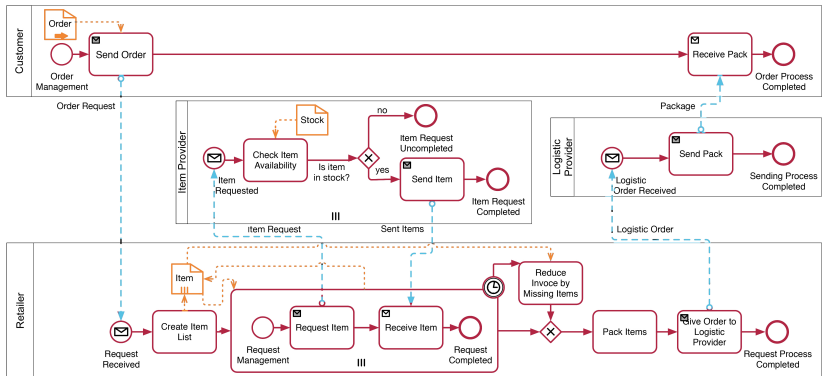
December 10, 2018

Interactions are first-class citizens in BPMN collaborations



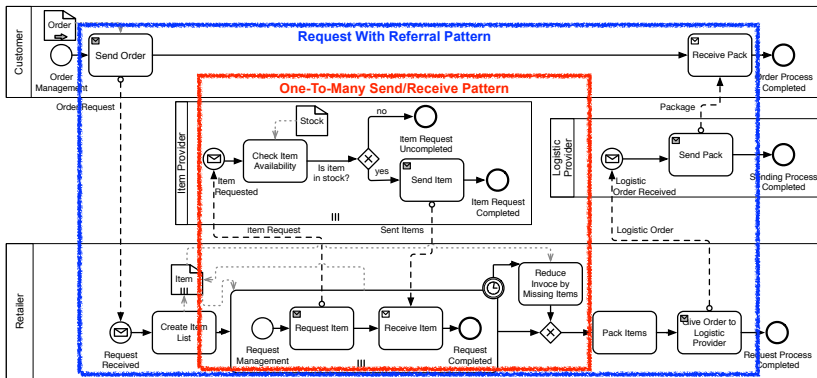
Organisations often **interact** with other parties

Interactions are first-class citizens in BPMN collaborations



BPMN provides an intuitive description of the process behaviour, distinguishing **control**, **message** and **data** flow

Interactions are first-class citizens in BPMN collaborations



Researchers spent a lot of efforts to identify the most common interaction scenarios: the **Service Interaction Patterns**

Motivations

Service interaction patterns¹ are textually provided

- A **visualisation** as well as a **formalisation** is crucial to precisely render the message exchanges between participants
- Without a clear understanding of the interplay of control, message and data flow **different interpretations** may easily arise

Service interactions range from a single message exchange, to multiple instance participants communications and routing behaviours

¹Barros A., Dumas M., ter Hofstede A.H.M. (2005) Service Interaction Patterns. In: Business Process Management. BPM 2005. LNCS, vol 3649. Springer.

Formalise the execution semantics of service interaction patterns specified in BPMN

- A **formal semantics** for BPMN, given in **SOS** style: that associates a LTS to each model
- A BPMN collaboration model and its formalisation in terms of **LTS transitions** for each interaction pattern
- The tool MIDA for **pattern animations**, that faithfully implements the semantics

A direct semantics for BPMN multi-instance collaborations

Formal Semantics

To simplify the formal treatment we resort to a **textual representation**

$$C ::= \text{pool}(p, P) \mid \text{miPool}(p, P) \mid C_1 \parallel C_2$$

$$P ::= \text{start}(e_{\text{enb}}, e_o) \mid \text{startRcv}(m:\tilde{t}, e_o) \mid \text{end}(e_i) \mid \text{endSnd}(e_i, m:e\tilde{x}p) \mid \text{terminate}(e_i)$$

$$\mid \text{andSplit}(e_i, E_o) \mid \text{xorSplit}(e_i, G) \mid \text{andJoin}(E_i, e_o) \mid \text{xorJoin}(E_i, e_o)$$

$$\mid \text{eventBased}(e_i, (m_1:\tilde{t}_1, e_{o1}), \dots, (m_h:\tilde{t}_h, e_{oh}))$$

$$\mid \text{task}(e_i, \text{exp}, A, e_o) \mid \text{taskRcv}(e_i, \text{exp}, A, m:\tilde{t}, e_o) \mid \text{taskSnd}(e_i, \text{exp}, A, m:e\tilde{x}p, e_o)$$

$$\mid \text{interRcv}(e_i, m:\tilde{t}, e_o) \mid \text{interSnd}(e_i, m:e\tilde{x}p, e_o) \mid P_1 \parallel P_2$$

$$A ::= \epsilon \mid \text{d.f} ::= \text{exp}, A$$

Formal Semantics

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$$C ::= \text{pool}(p, P) \mid \text{miPool}(p, P) \mid C_1 \parallel C_2$$

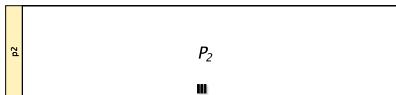
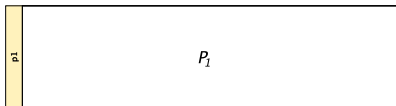
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$$\mid \text{task}(e_i, \text{exp}, A, e_o) \mid \text{taskRcv}(e_i, \text{exp}, A, m:\tilde{t}, e_o) \mid \text{taskSnd}(e_i, \text{exp}, A, m:e\tilde{x}p, e_o)$$

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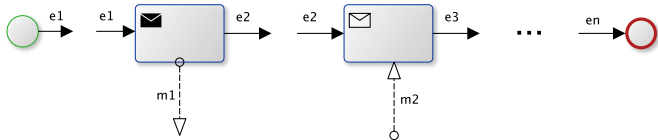
Formal Semantics

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$C ::= \text{pool}(p, P) \mid \text{miPool}(p, P) \mid C_1 \parallel C_2$

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 $\mid \text{eventBased}(e_i, (m_1:\tilde{t}_1, e_{o1}), \dots, (m_h:\tilde{t}_h, e_{oh}))$
 $\mid \text{task}(e_i, \text{exp}, A, e_o) \mid \text{taskRcv}(e_i, \text{exp}, A, m:\tilde{t}, e_o) \mid \text{taskSnd}(e_i, \text{exp}, A, m:e\tilde{x}p, e_o)$
 $\mid \text{interRcv}(e_i, m:\tilde{t}, e_o) \mid \text{interSnd}(e_i, m:e\tilde{x}p, e_o) \mid P_1 \parallel P_2$

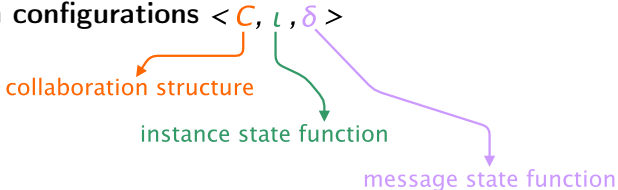
$A ::= \epsilon \mid \text{d.f} ::= \text{exp}, A$



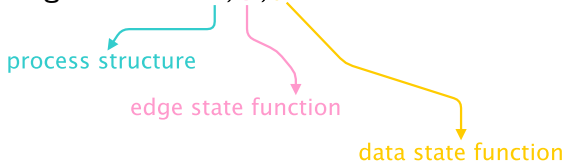
We support models with **arbitrary topology**

Formal Semantics

- The textual representation represents the mere structure of processes and collaborations
- The semantics is given in terms of **stateful** descriptions, called **collaboration configurations** $\langle C, l, \delta \rangle$



and **process configurations** $\langle P, \sigma, \alpha \rangle$



Formal Semantics: Operational Rules

- **Operational Semantics:** labelled transitions defined by rules of the form

$$\frac{\text{premise}_1 \dots \text{premise}_n}{\text{conclusion}} \text{conditions}$$

- **Compositional** approach

- Collaboration semantics is given in terms of the semantics of its pools
- Pool semantics is given in terms of the semantics of its process
- Process semantics is given in terms of the semantics of its elements
- Each process element has its semantic rules

$$\langle \text{taskSnd}(e_i, \text{exp}', A, m:\text{e}\tilde{\text{x}}p, e_o), \sigma, \alpha \rangle \xrightarrow{!m : \tilde{v}} \langle \text{inc}(\text{dec}(\sigma, e_i), e_o), \alpha' \rangle$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \sigma(e_i) > 0, \\ & \text{eval}(\text{exp}', \alpha, \text{true}), \\ & \text{upd}(\alpha, A, \alpha'), \\ & \text{eval}(\text{e}\tilde{\text{x}}p, \alpha, \tilde{v}) \end{aligned}$$

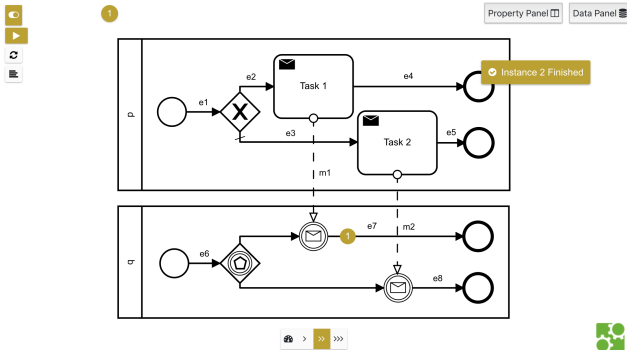
$\langle \text{start}(e_{enb}, e_o), \sigma, \alpha \rangle \xrightarrow{\epsilon} \text{inc}(\text{reset}(\sigma, e_{enb}), e_o)$	$\sigma(e_{enb}) > 0$	(P-Start)
$\langle \text{end}(e_i), \sigma, \alpha \rangle \xrightarrow{\epsilon} \text{dec}(\sigma, e_i)$	$\sigma(e_i) > 0$	(P-End)
$\langle \text{startRcv}(m: \tilde{t}, e_o), \sigma, \alpha \rangle \xrightarrow{\text{new } m: \tilde{e}t} \text{inc}(\sigma, e_o)$	$\text{eval}(\tilde{t}, \alpha, \tilde{e}t)$	(P-StartRcv)
$\langle \text{xorSplit}(e_i, \{(e, \text{exp})\} \cup G), \sigma, \alpha \rangle \xrightarrow{\epsilon} \text{inc}(\text{dec}(\sigma, e_i), e)$	$\sigma(e_i) > 0,$ $\text{eval}(\text{exp}, \alpha, \text{true})$	(P-XorSplit ₁)
$\langle \text{xorSplit}(e_i, \{(e, \text{default})\} \cup G), \sigma, \alpha \rangle \xrightarrow{\epsilon} \text{inc}(\text{dec}(\sigma, e_i), e)$	$\sigma(e_i) > 0,$ $\forall (e_j, \text{exp}_j) \in G. \text{eval}(\text{exp}_j, \alpha, \text{false})$	(P-XorSplit ₂)
$\langle \text{xorJoin}(\{e\} \cup E_i, e_o), \sigma, \alpha \rangle \xrightarrow{\epsilon} \text{inc}(\text{dec}(\sigma, e), e_o)$	$\sigma(e) > 0$	(P-XorJoin)
$\langle \text{task}(e_i, \text{exp}, A, e_o), \sigma, \alpha \rangle \xrightarrow{\epsilon} \text{inc}(\text{dec}(\sigma, e_i), e_o), \alpha'$	$\sigma(e_i) > 0,$ $\text{eval}(\text{exp}, \alpha, \text{true}),$ $\text{upd}(\alpha, A, \alpha')$	(P-Task)
$\langle \text{taskRcv}(e_i, \text{exp}, A, m: \tilde{t}, e_o), \sigma, \alpha \rangle \xrightarrow{?m: \tilde{e}t, A} \text{inc}(\text{dec}(\sigma, e_i), e_o)$	$\sigma(e_i) > 0,$ $\text{eval}(\text{exp}, \alpha, \text{true}),$ $\text{eval}(\tilde{t}, \alpha, \tilde{e}t)$	(P-TaskRcv)
$\langle \text{taskSnd}(e_i, \text{exp}', A, m: \tilde{e}xp, e_o), \sigma, \alpha \rangle \xrightarrow{!m: \tilde{v}} \text{inc}(\text{dec}(\sigma, e_i), e_o), \alpha'$	$\sigma(e_i) > 0,$ $\text{eval}(\text{exp}', \alpha, \text{true}),$ $\text{upd}(\alpha, A, \alpha'),$ $\text{eval}(\tilde{e}xp, \alpha, \tilde{v})$	(P-TaskSnd)
$\frac{\langle P_1, \sigma, \alpha \rangle \xrightarrow{\ell} \langle \sigma', \alpha' \rangle}{\langle P_1 \parallel P_2, \sigma, \alpha \rangle \xrightarrow{\ell} \langle \sigma', \alpha' \rangle}$	$\ell \neq \text{kill}$	(P-Int ₁)

Formal Semantics: Operational Rules - Collaboration

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{\langle P, \sigma_0, \alpha_0 \rangle \xrightarrow{\text{new } m: \tilde{e}t} \langle \sigma', \alpha' \rangle \quad \tilde{v} \in \delta(m) \quad \text{match}(\tilde{e}t, \tilde{v}) = A \quad \text{upd}(\alpha', A, \alpha'')}{\langle \text{miPool}(p, P), \iota, \delta \rangle \xrightarrow{\text{new } m: \tilde{v}} \langle \text{newI}(\iota, p, \sigma', \alpha''), \text{rm}(\delta, m, \tilde{v}) \rangle} \quad (C\text{-CreateMi}) \\
 \\
 \frac{\iota(p) = \{\langle \sigma, \alpha \rangle\} + I \quad \langle P, \sigma, \alpha \rangle \xrightarrow{\tau} \langle \sigma', \alpha' \rangle}{\langle \text{miPool}(p, P), \iota, \delta \rangle \xrightarrow{\tau} \langle \text{updI}(\iota, p, \{\langle \sigma', \alpha' \rangle\} + I), \delta \rangle} \quad (C\text{-InternalMi}) \\
 \\
 \frac{\iota(p) = \{\langle \sigma, \alpha \rangle\} + I \quad \langle P, \sigma, \alpha \rangle \xrightarrow{?m: \tilde{e}t, A} \langle \sigma', \alpha' \rangle \quad \tilde{v} \in \delta(m) \quad \text{match}(\tilde{e}t, \tilde{v}) = A' \quad \text{upd}(\alpha', (A', A), \alpha'')}{\langle \text{miPool}(p, P), \iota, \delta \rangle \xrightarrow{?m: \tilde{v}} \langle \text{updI}(\iota, p, \{\langle \sigma', \alpha' \rangle\} + I), \text{rm}(\delta, m, \tilde{v}) \rangle} \quad (C\text{-ReceiveMi}) \\
 \\
 \frac{\iota(p) = \{\langle \sigma, \alpha \rangle\} + I \quad \langle P, \sigma, \alpha \rangle \xrightarrow{\text{!m}: \tilde{v}} \langle \sigma', \alpha' \rangle}{\langle \text{miPool}(p, P), \iota, \delta \rangle \xrightarrow{\text{!m}: \tilde{v}} \langle \text{updI}(\iota, p, \{\langle \sigma', \alpha' \rangle\} + I), \text{add}(\delta, m, \tilde{v}) \rangle} \quad (C\text{-DeliverMi}) \\
 \\
 \frac{\langle C_1, \iota, \delta \rangle \xrightarrow{\downarrow} \langle \iota', \delta' \rangle}{\langle C_1 \parallel C_2, \iota, \delta \rangle \xrightarrow{\downarrow} \langle \iota', \delta' \rangle} \quad (C\text{-Int}_1)
 \end{array}$$

Process animation in MIDA

MIDA is a free web application for animating BPMN collaboration with multiple instances, data and messages



We designed all the formalised pattern with MIDA providing their animation here
<http://pros.unicam.it/service-interaction-patterns/>

Patterns Formalisation

Patterns Formalisation

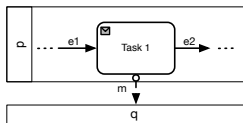
BPMN supports a subset of service patterns:

- Send
- Racing Incoming
- One To Many Send/Receive
- Receive
- One To Many Send
- Request With Referral
- Send/Receive
- One From Many Receive
- Request With Relay

- A textual specification of the corresponding **BPMN fragment**
- The formal semantics in terms of **operational rules** applied for execute the pattern
- The fragment **animation** in MIDA

Send Pattern

Informal Description: A party sends a message to another one.



Textual Specification:

$$C = \text{pool}(p, P) \parallel \text{pool}(q, Q), \text{ where}$$

$$P = \text{taskSnd}(e_1, \text{exp}_1, \epsilon, m : e\tilde{x}p_2, e_2) \parallel P'$$

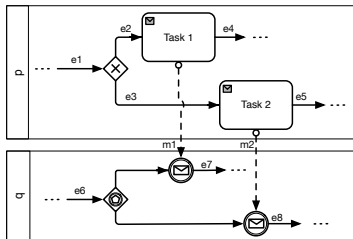
Formal Semantics: p execute Task 1 applying the rule P -TaskSnd

$$\langle \text{taskSnd}(e_i, \text{exp}', A, m : e\tilde{x}p, e_o), \sigma, \alpha \rangle \xrightarrow{!m : \tilde{v}} \begin{array}{l} \sigma(e_i) > 0, \\ \text{eval}(\text{exp}', \alpha, \text{true}), \\ \text{upd}(\alpha, A, \alpha'), \\ \text{eval}(e\tilde{x}p, \alpha, \tilde{v}) \end{array}$$

$$\langle \text{inc}(\text{dec}(\sigma, e_i), e_o), \alpha' \rangle$$

Racing Incoming Message Pattern

Informal Description: A party expects to receive one among a set of messages.

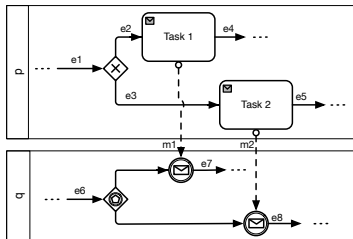


Textual Specification:

$$C = \text{pool}(p, P) \parallel \text{pool}(q, Q), \text{ where}$$

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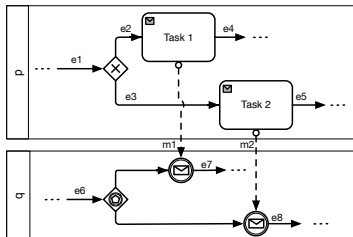


Textual Specification:

$$\begin{aligned}
 P &= \text{xorSplit}(e1, \{(e2, \text{exp}_1), (e3, \text{exp}_2)\}) \parallel \text{taskSnd}(e2, \text{exp}_3, \epsilon, m1 : \text{exp}_4, e4) \parallel \\
 &\quad \text{taskSnd}(e3, \text{exp}_5, \epsilon, m2 : \text{exp}_6, e5) \parallel P' \\
 Q &= \text{eventBased}(e6, (m1 : \tilde{t}_1, e7), (m2 : \tilde{t}_2, e8)) \parallel Q'
 \end{aligned}$$

Racing Incoming Message Pattern

Informal Description: A party expects to receive one among a set of messages.



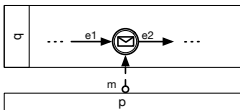
Formal Semantics: process q apply rule P-EventG

$$\langle \text{eventBased}(e_i, (m_1 : \tilde{t}_1, e_{o1}), \dots, (m_h : \tilde{t}_h, e_{oh})), \sigma, \alpha \rangle \quad \sigma(e_i) > 0, 1 \leq j \leq h$$

$$\xrightarrow{?m_j : \tilde{e}_j, \epsilon} \text{inc}(\text{dec}(\sigma, e_i), e_{oj}) \quad \text{eval}(\tilde{t}_j, \alpha, \tilde{e}_j)$$

Receive Pattern

Informal Description: A party receives a message from another party.



Textual Specification:

$$C = \text{pool}(p, P) \parallel \text{pool}(q, Q), \text{ where}$$

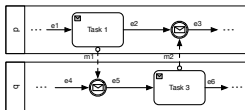
$$Q = \text{interRcv}(e_1, m : \tilde{t}, e_2) \parallel Q'$$

Formal Semantics: q receive message m applying the rule $P\text{-InterRcv}$

$$\langle \text{interRcv}(e_i, m : \tilde{t}, e_o), \sigma, \alpha \rangle \xrightarrow{?m : \tilde{t}, \epsilon} \langle \text{inc}(\text{dec}(\sigma, e_i), e_o), \alpha \rangle \quad \begin{array}{l} \sigma(e_i) > 0, \\ \text{eval}(\tilde{t}, \alpha, \tilde{t}) \end{array}$$

Send/Receive Pattern

Informal Description: Two parties, p and q , engage in two causally related interactions.



Textual Specification:

$$C = \text{pool}(p, P) \parallel \text{pool}(q, Q), \text{ where}$$

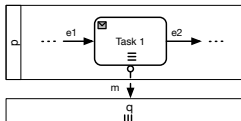
$$P = \text{taskSnd}(e1, \text{exp}_1, \epsilon, m1 : \tilde{e}\tilde{p}_2, e2) \parallel \text{interRcv}(e2, m2 : \tilde{t}_1, e3) \parallel P'$$

$$Q = \text{interRcv}(e4, m1 : \tilde{t}_2, e5) \parallel \text{taskSnd}(e5, \text{exp}_3, \epsilon, m2 : \tilde{e}\tilde{p}_4, e6) \parallel Q'$$

Formal Semantics: p sends message $m1$ to q that reply with $m2$ applying the rules $C\text{-Deliver}$ and $P\text{-InterRcv}$

One-To-Many Send Pattern

Informal Description: A party sends messages to several parties.



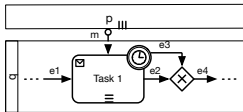
Textual Specification:

$$C = \text{pool}(p, P) \parallel \text{miPool}(q, Q), \text{ where}$$

$$P = \text{xorJoin}(\{e1, e1'''\}, e1') \parallel \text{taskSnd}(e1', c_1.c \neq \text{null}, c_1.c := c_1.c + 1, m: e\tilde{x}p_1, e1'') \\ \parallel \text{xorSplit}(e1''', \{(e1''', c_1.c \leq n), (e2, \text{default})\}) \parallel P'$$

One-From-Many Receive Pattern

Informal Description: A party receives several messages.



Textual Specification:

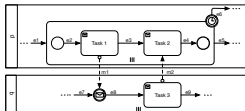
$C = \text{miPool}(p, P) \parallel \text{pool}(q, Q) \parallel \text{pool}(t, T)$, where

$$Q = \text{taskSnd}(e1, \text{exp}_1, \epsilon, m_{\text{startTimer}} : \text{exp}_2, e') \parallel \text{xorJoin}(\{e', e^v\}, e'') \parallel \\ \text{eventBased}(e'', (m : \tilde{t}_1, e'''), (m_{\text{timeout}} : \tilde{t}_2, e3)) \parallel \\ \text{task}(e''', c_1.c \neq \text{null}, c_1.c := c_1.c + 1, e^{iv}) \parallel \\ \text{xorSplit}(e^{iv}, \{(e^v, c_1.c \leq n), (e2, \text{default})\}) \parallel \text{xorJoin}(\{e2, e3\}, e4) \parallel Q'$$

$$T = \text{startRcv}(m_{\text{startTimer}} : \tilde{t}_3, e5) \parallel \text{taskSnd}(e5, \text{exp}_3, \epsilon, m_{\text{timeout}} : \text{exp}_4, e6) \parallel \text{end}(e6)$$

One-To-Many Send/Receive Pattern

Informal Description: A party sends requests to several other parties.



Textual Specification:

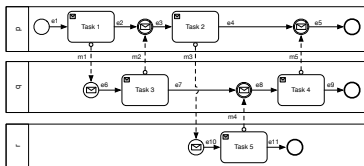
$C = \text{pool}(p, P) \parallel \text{miPool}(q, Q)$, where

$Q = \text{interRcv}(e7, m1 : \tilde{t}_1, e8) \parallel \text{taskSnd}(e8, \text{exp}, A, m2 : e\tilde{x}p, e9) \parallel Q'$

$P = \dots$

Request With Referral Pattern

Informal Description: A party p makes a request to party q which delegate r to answer.



Textual Specification:

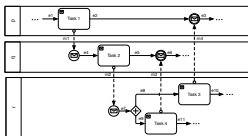
$C = \text{pool}(p, P) \parallel \text{pool}(q, Q) \parallel \text{pool}(r, R)$, where

$P = \text{start}(e_{enb}, e1) \parallel \text{taskSnd}(e1, \text{exp}_1, A_1, m1 : e\tilde{x}p_2, e2) \parallel \text{interRcv}(e2, m2 : \tilde{t}_1, e3) \parallel$
 $\text{taskSnd}(e3, \text{exp}_3, A_2, m3 : e\tilde{x}p_4, e4) \parallel \text{interRcv}(e4, m4 : \tilde{t}_2, e5) \parallel \text{end}(e5)$

Q and R are defined similarly.

Request With Referral Pattern

Informal Description: A party p makes a request to party q , which delegates the request processing to another party r .



Textual Specification:

$$C = \text{pool}(p, P) \parallel \text{pool}(q, Q) \parallel \text{pool}(r, R), \text{ where}$$

$$R = \text{startRcv}(m2: \tilde{t}_1, e7) \parallel \text{andSplit}(e7, \{e8, e9\}) \parallel \\ \text{taskSnd}(e8, \text{exp}_1, \epsilon, m4: \tilde{e}x\tilde{p}_2, e10) \parallel \text{taskSnd}(e9, \text{exp}_3, \epsilon, m3: \tilde{e}x\tilde{p}_4, e11) \parallel R'$$

P and Q are defined similarly.

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