

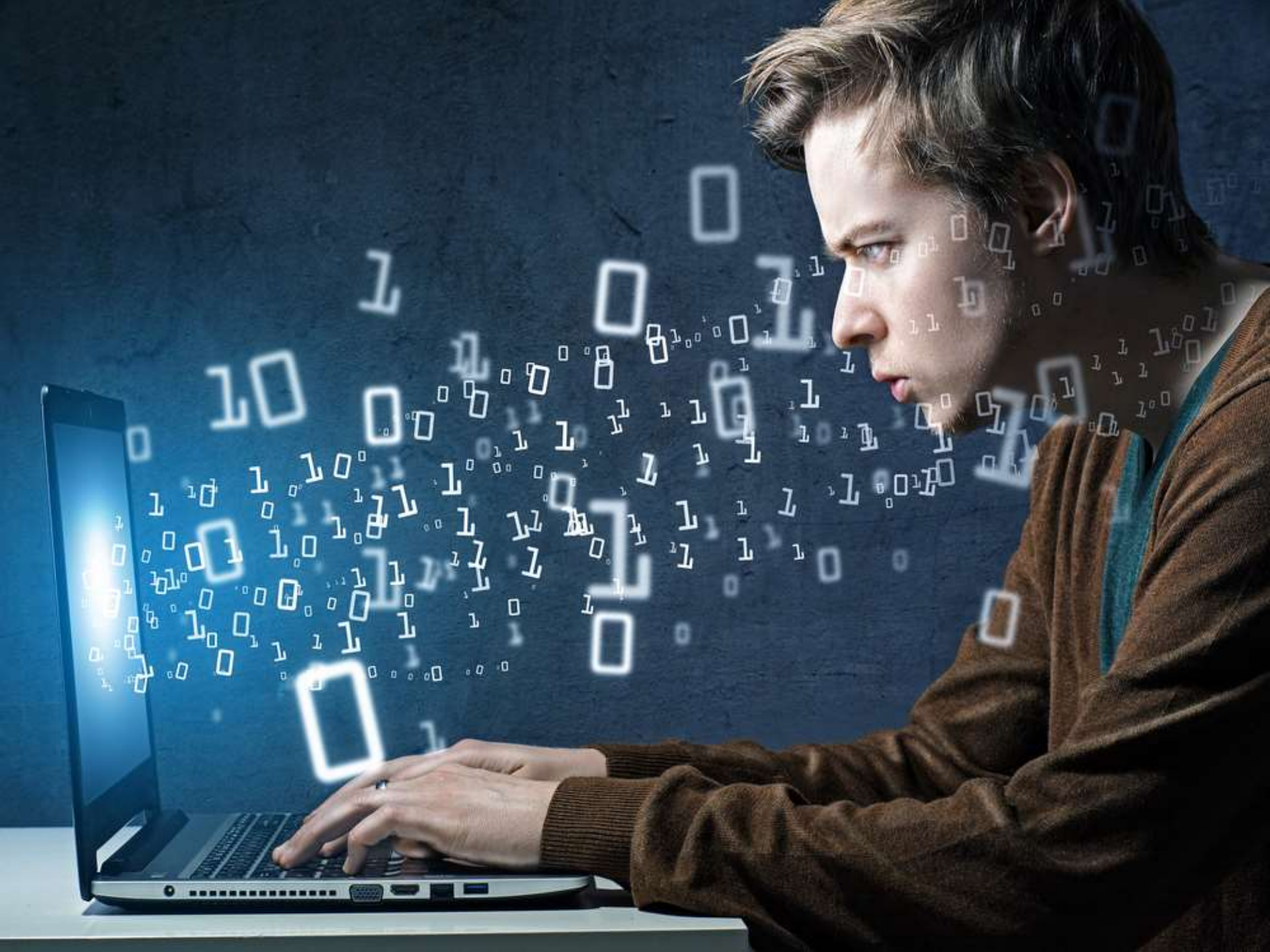
# How People Really (Like To) Work

## Comparative Process Mining to Unravel Human Behavior



**prof.dr.ir. Wil van der Aalst**

*5th International Conference on Human-Centered Software  
Engineering (HCSE 2014), Paderborn, 16-9-2014.*



**process mining**

# Process mining: The missing link



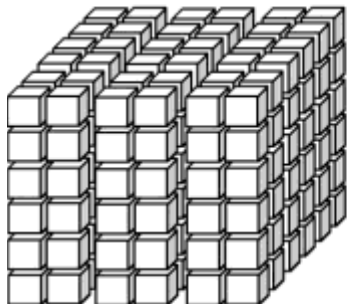
## process model analysis

(simulation, verification, optimization, gaming, etc.)



performance-oriented questions, problems and solutions

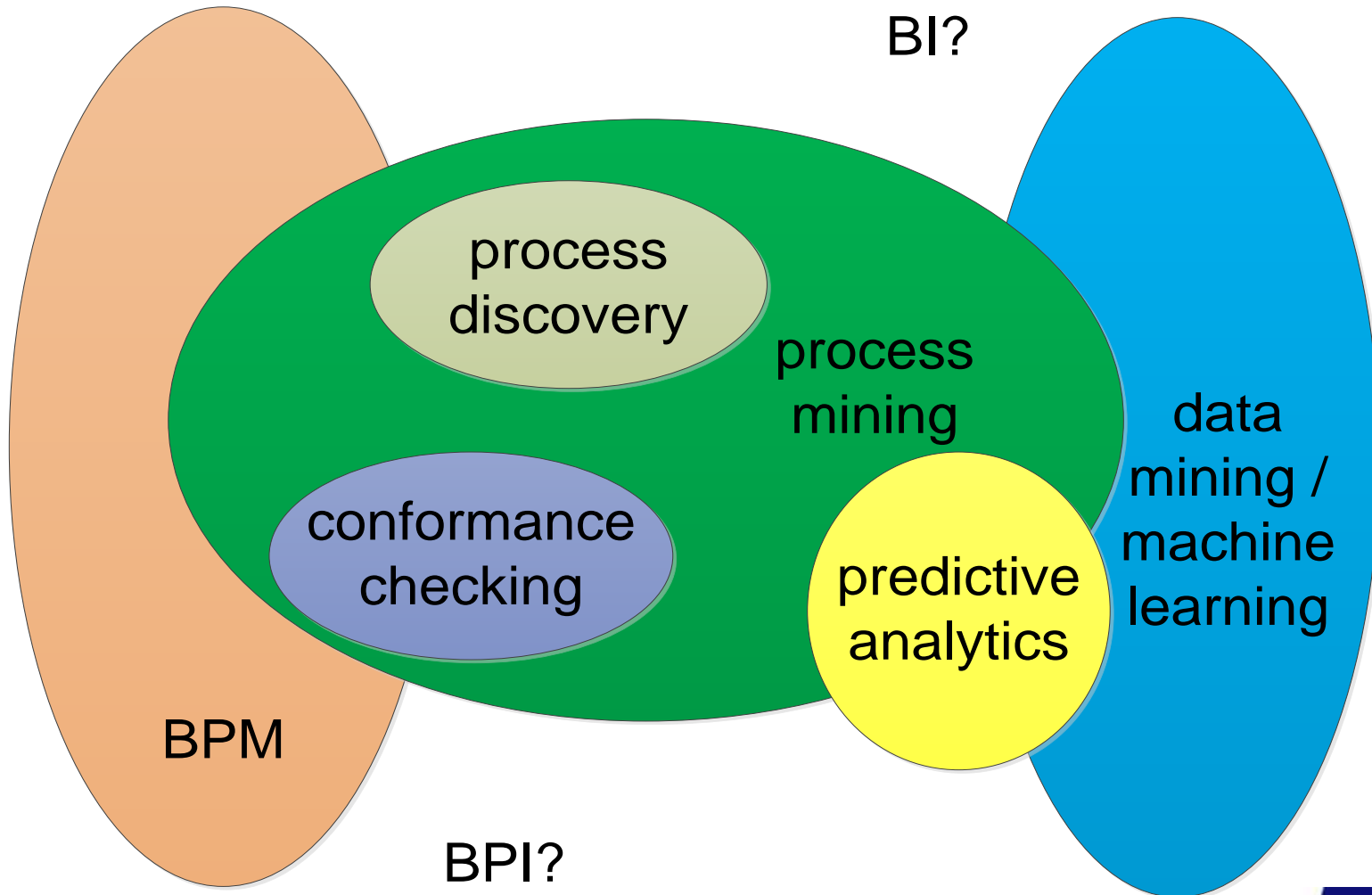
compliance-oriented questions, problems and solutions



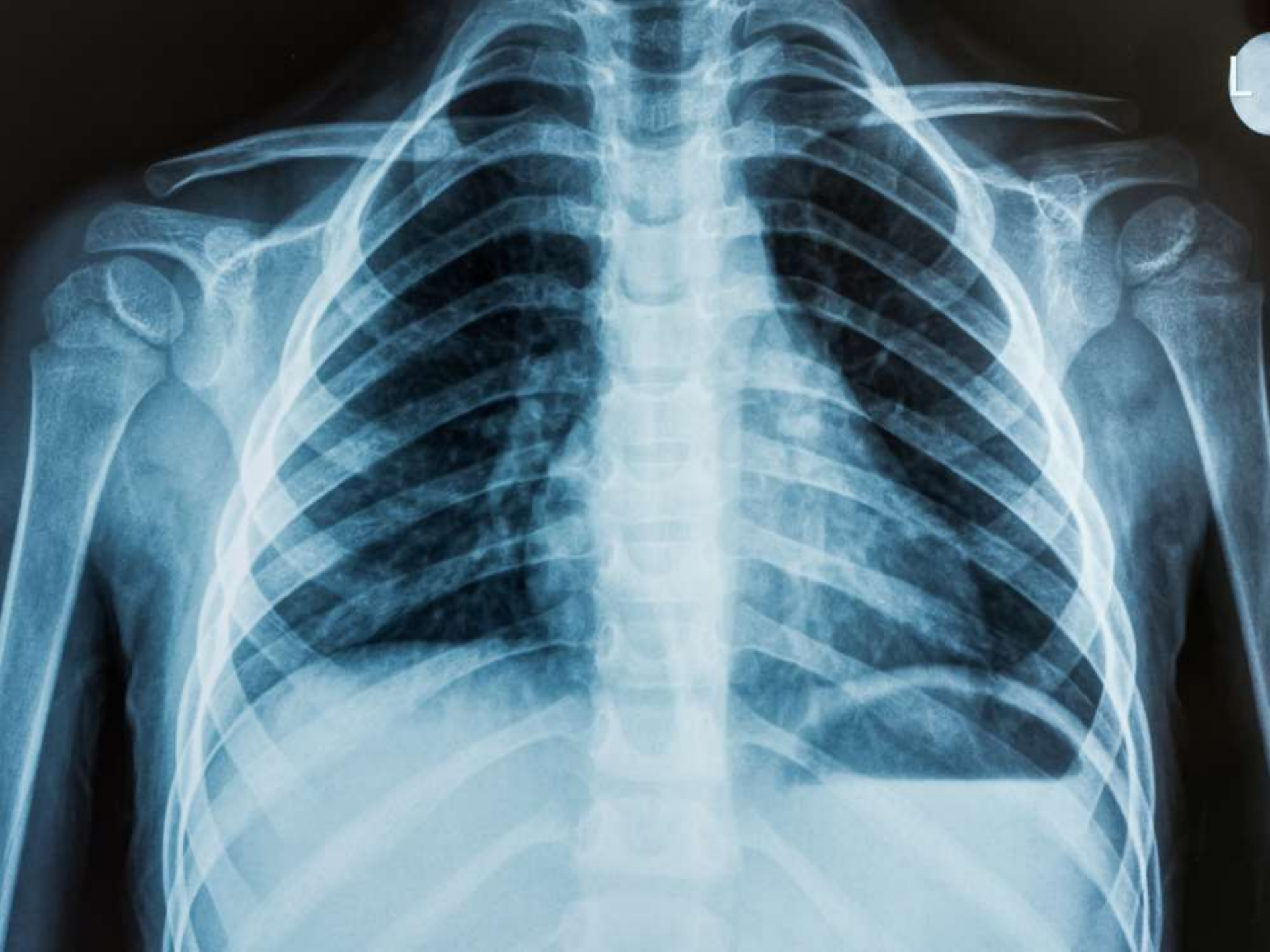
## data-oriented analysis

(data mining, machine learning, business intelligence)

# Positioning Process Mining







# Starting point for process mining:

## Event data

every row is an event  
(here: an exam attempt)

| student name  | course name                  | exam date | mark |
|---------------|------------------------------|-----------|------|
| Peter Jones   | Business Information systems | 16-1-2014 | 8    |
| Sandy Scott   | Business Information systems | 16-1-2014 | 5    |
| Bridget White | Business Information systems | 16-1-2014 | 9    |
| John Anderson | Business Information systems | 16-1-2014 | 8    |
| Sandy Scott   | BPM Systems                  | 17-1-2014 | 7    |
| Bridget White | BPM Systems                  | 17-1-2014 | 8    |
| Sandy Scott   | Process Mining               | 20-1-2014 | 5    |
| Bridget White | Process Mining               | 20-1-2014 | 9    |
| John Anderson | Process Mining               | 20-1-2014 | 8    |
| ...           | ...                          | ...       | ...  |

case id

activity  
name

timestamp

other data



# Another event log: order handling

| order number | activity       | timestamp       | user       | product  | quantity |
|--------------|----------------|-----------------|------------|----------|----------|
| 9901         | register order | 22-1-2014@09.15 | Sara Jones | iPhone5S | 1        |
| 9902         | register order | 22-1-2014@09.18 | Sara Jones | iPhone5S | 2        |
| 9903         | register order | 22-1-2014@09.27 | Sara Jones | iPhone4S | 1        |
| 9901         | check stock    | 22-1-2014@09.49 | Pete Scott | iPhone5S | 1        |
| 9901         | ship order     | 22-1-2014@10.11 | Sue Fox    | iPhone5S | 1        |
| 9903         | check stock    | 22-1-2014@10.34 | Pete Scott | iPhone4S | 1        |
| 9901         | handle payment | 22-1-2014@10.41 | Carol Hope | iPhone5S | 1        |
| 9902         | check stock    | 22-1-2014@10.57 | Pete Scott | iPhone5S | 2        |
| 9902         | cancel order   | 22-1-2014@11.08 | Carol Hope | iPhone5S | 2        |
| ...          | ...            | ...             | ...        | ...      | ...      |

case id

activity name

timestamp

resource

other data

# Another event log: patient treatment

| patient | activity          | timestamp       | doctor     | age | cost    |
|---------|-------------------|-----------------|------------|-----|---------|
| 5781    | make X-ray        | 23-1-2014@10.30 | Dr. Jones  | 45  | 70.00   |
| 5541    | blood test        | 23-1-2014@10.18 | Dr. Scott  | 61  | 40.00   |
| 5833    | blood test        | 23-1-2014@10.27 | Dr. Scott  | 24  | 40.00   |
| 5781    | blood test        | 23-1-2014@10.49 | Dr. Scott  | 45  | 40.00   |
| 5781    | CT scan           | 23-1-2014@11.10 | Dr. Fox    | 45  | 1200.00 |
| 5833    | surgery           | 23-1-2014@12.34 | Dr. Scott  | 24  | 2300.00 |
| 5781    | handle payment    | 23-1-2014@12.41 | Carol Hope | 45  | 0.00    |
| 5541    | radiation therapy | 23-1-2014@13.57 | Dr. Jones  | 61  | 140.00  |
| 5541    | radiation therapy | 23-1-2014@13.08 | Dr. Jones  | 61  | 140.00  |
| ...     | ...               | ...             | ...        | ... | ...     |

case id

activity  
name

timestamp

resource

other data

0100110011010101010

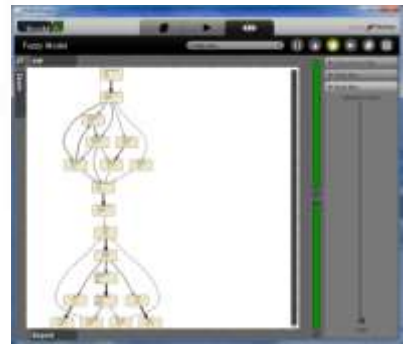
010011010101010





**demo**

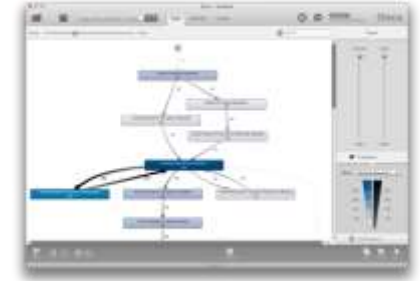
600+ plug-ins available covering the whole process mining spectrum





**Disco**  
by Fluxicon.

**perceptive**software  
a Lexmark company

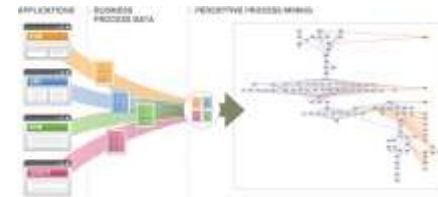


**QPR**  
Quality. Processes. Results.

**celonis**  
process mining



**XMPRO**  
GET BETTER AT GETTING WORK DONE

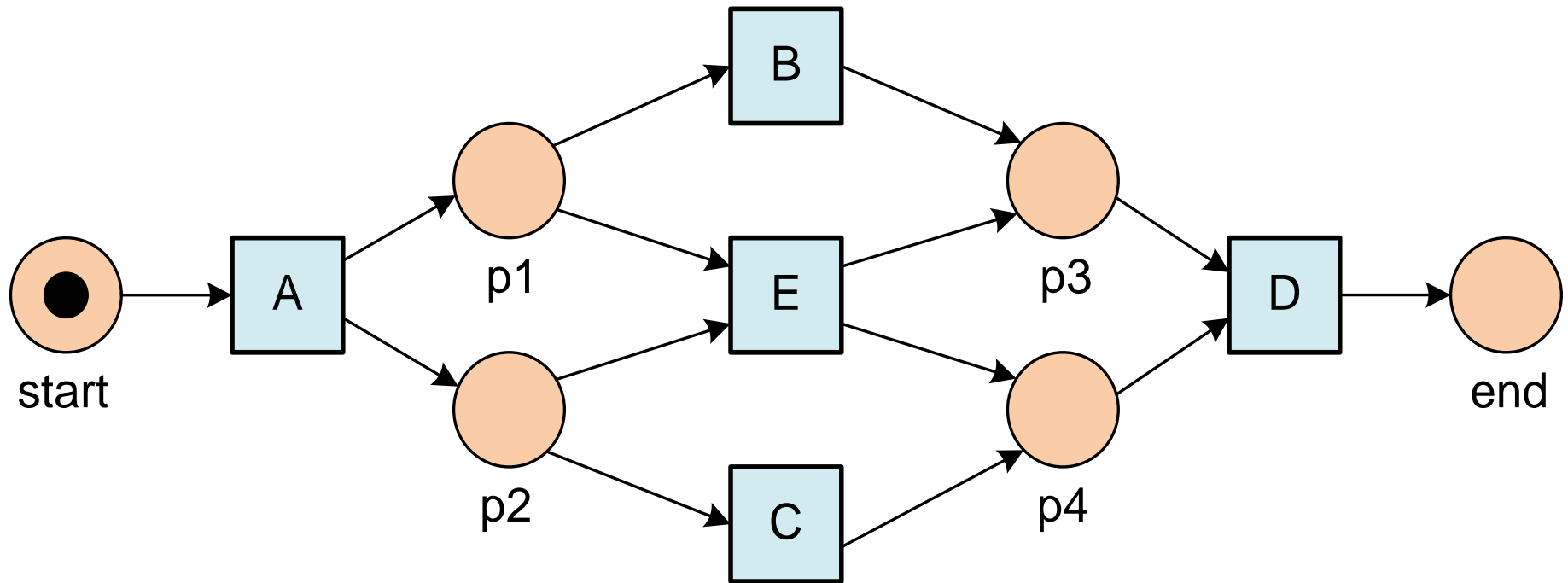


**ARIS**  
Process Performance Manager

**FUJITSU**



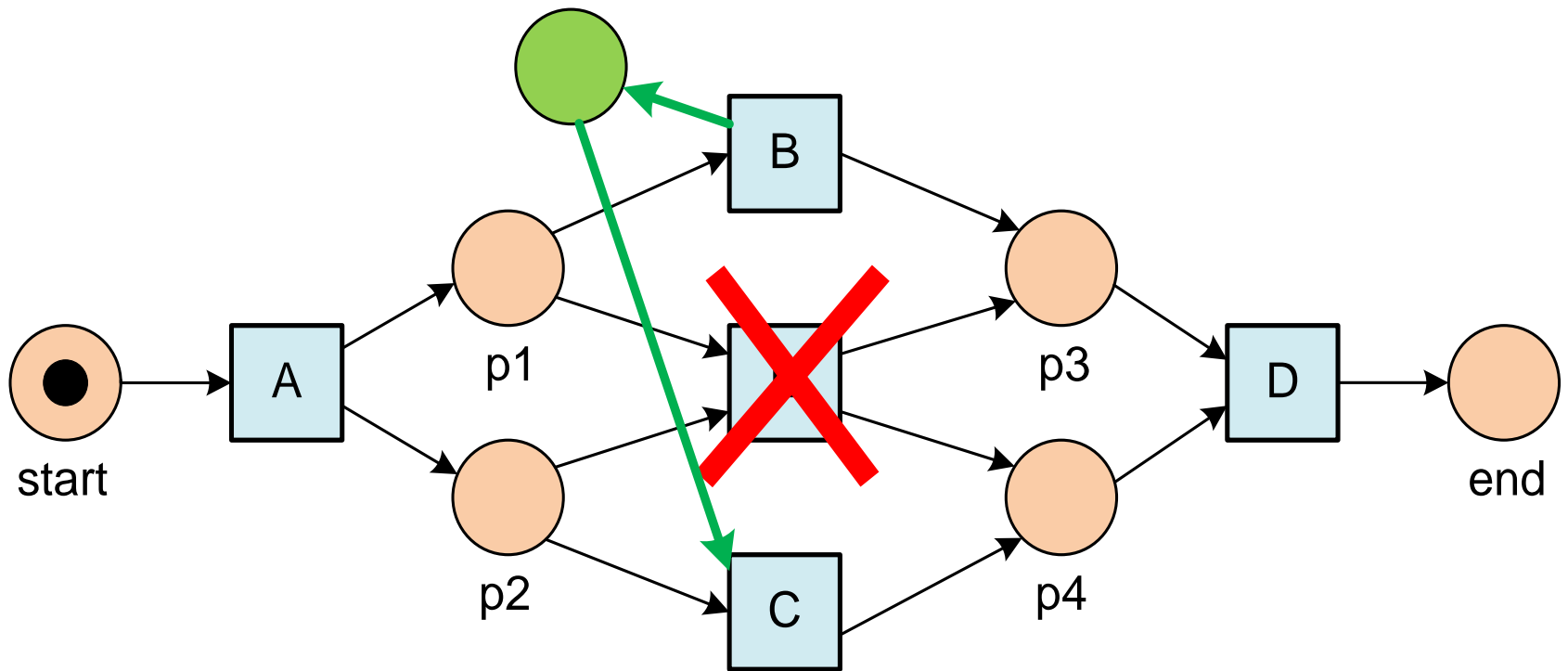
# Quiz Question: How to remove behavior?



**ACBD**      **ABCD**      **AED**      **ACBD**      **ABCD**      **AED**      **ABCD**

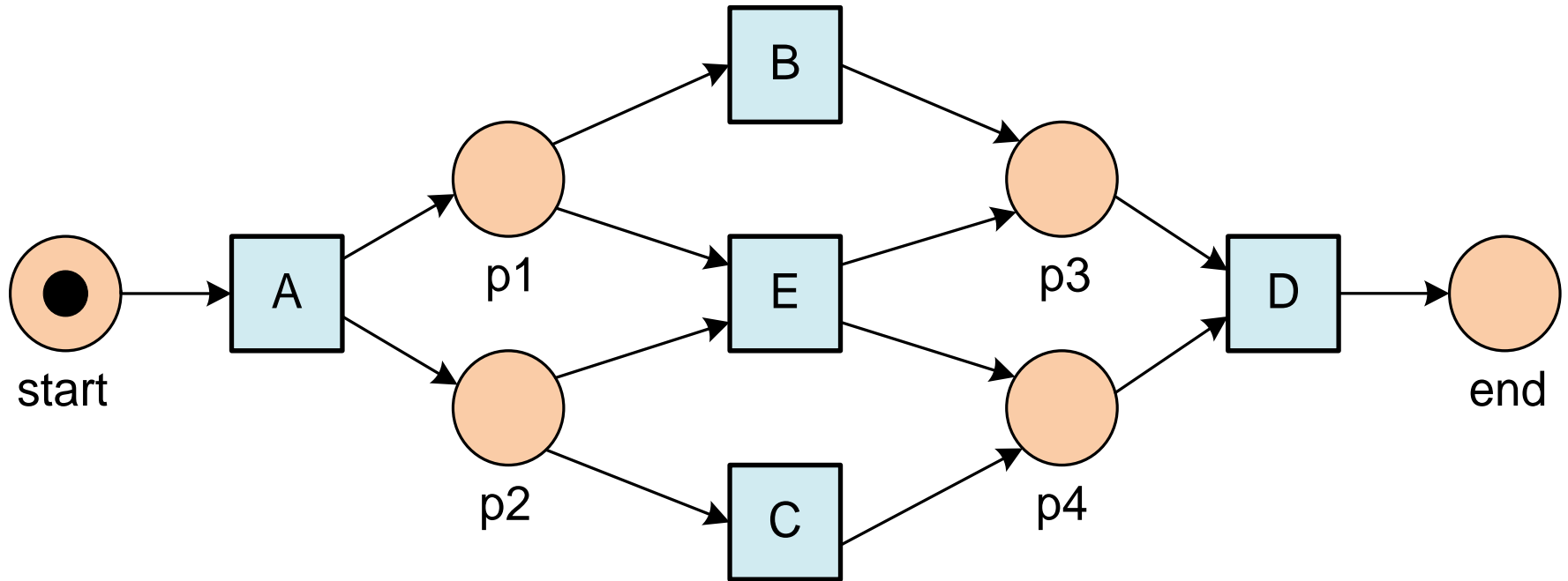


# Answer: Add places or remove transitions



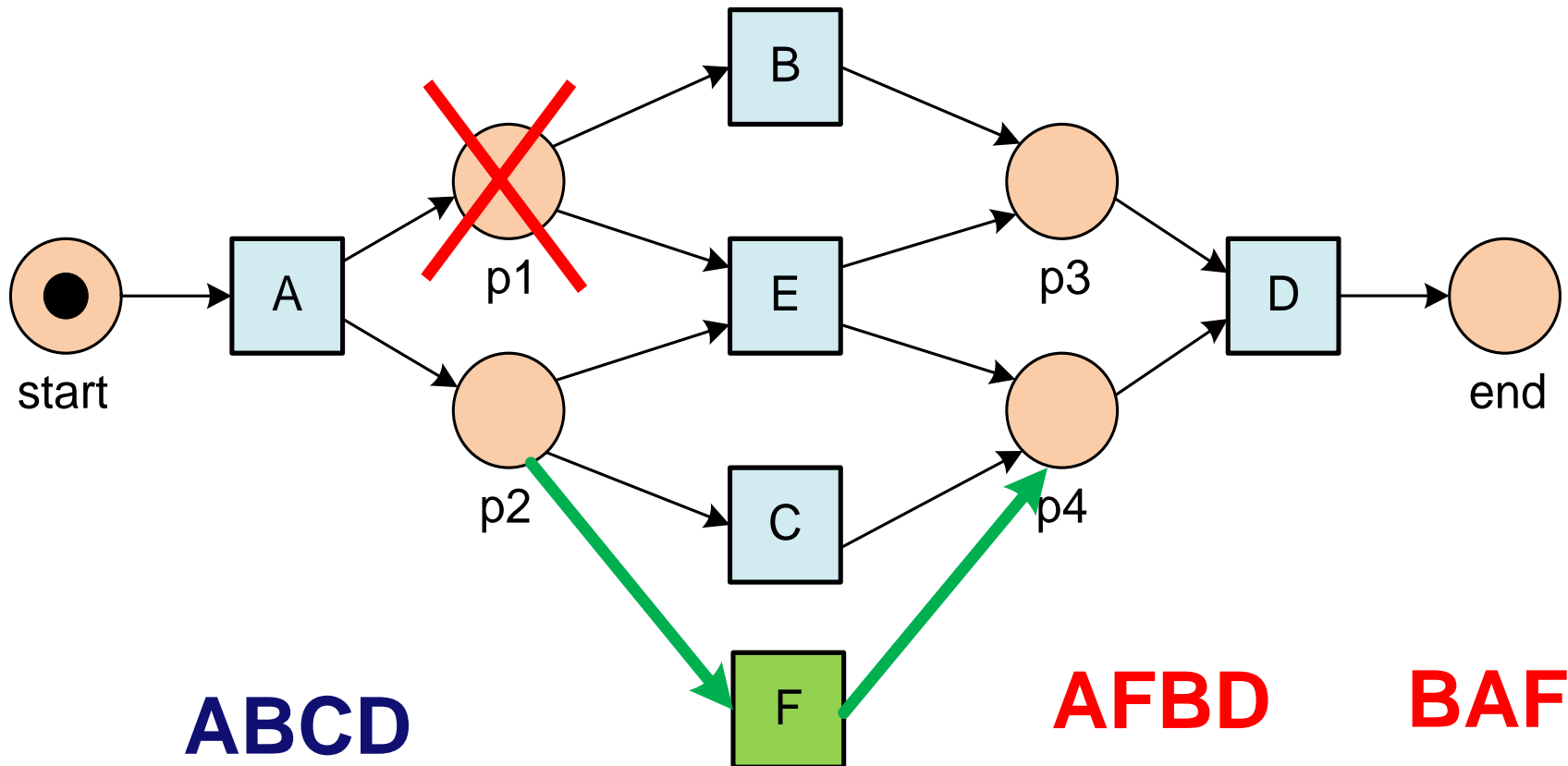
~~ACBD~~      **ABCD**      ~~AED~~      ~~ACBD~~      **ABCD**      ~~ABCD~~  
**ABCD**      **ABCD**      **AED**

# Quiz Question: How to add behavior?



# Answer:

## Add transitions or remove places!



**ABCD**  
**ACBD**

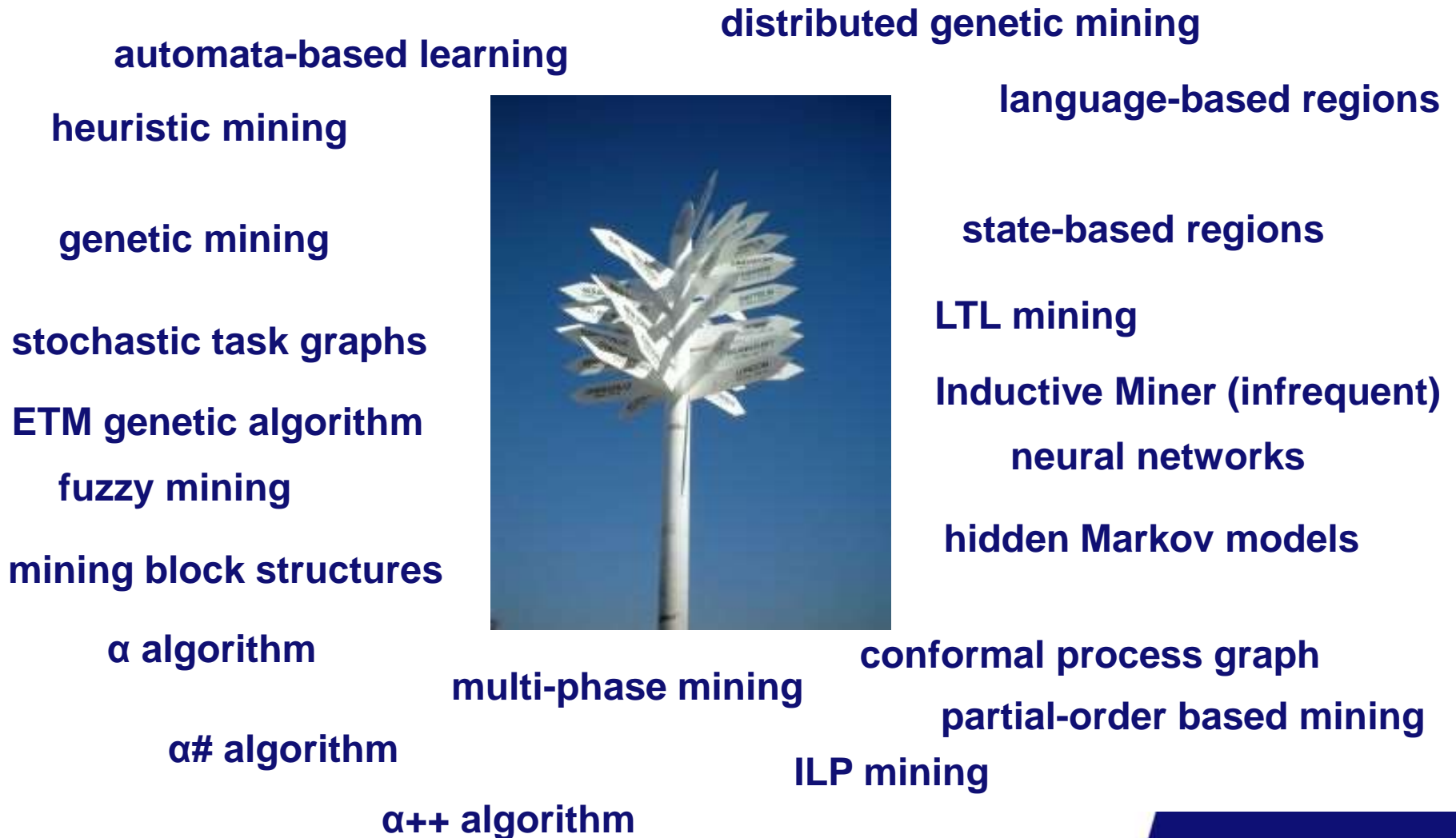
**AED**

**ABCD**

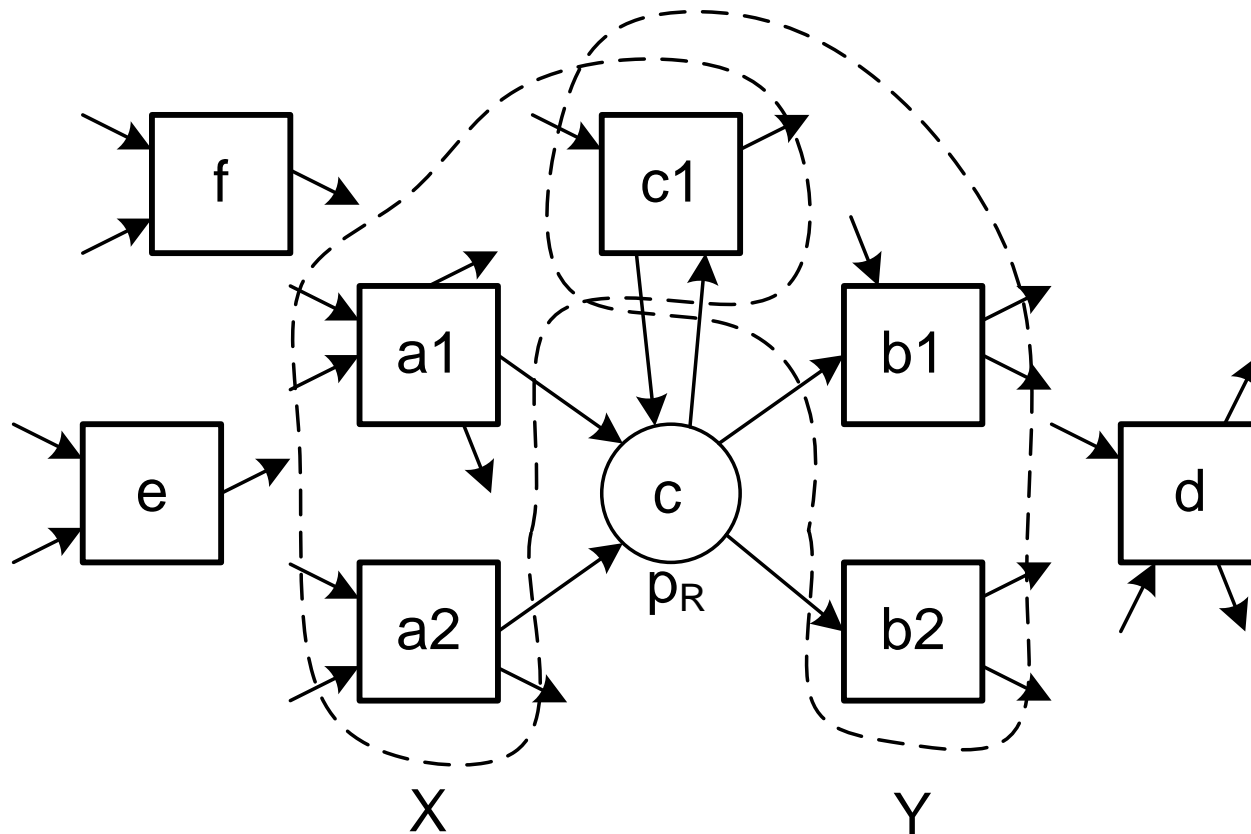
**ABCD**

**AFBD**      **BAFD**  
**ABFD**      **BACD**

# Process discovery algorithms (small selection)

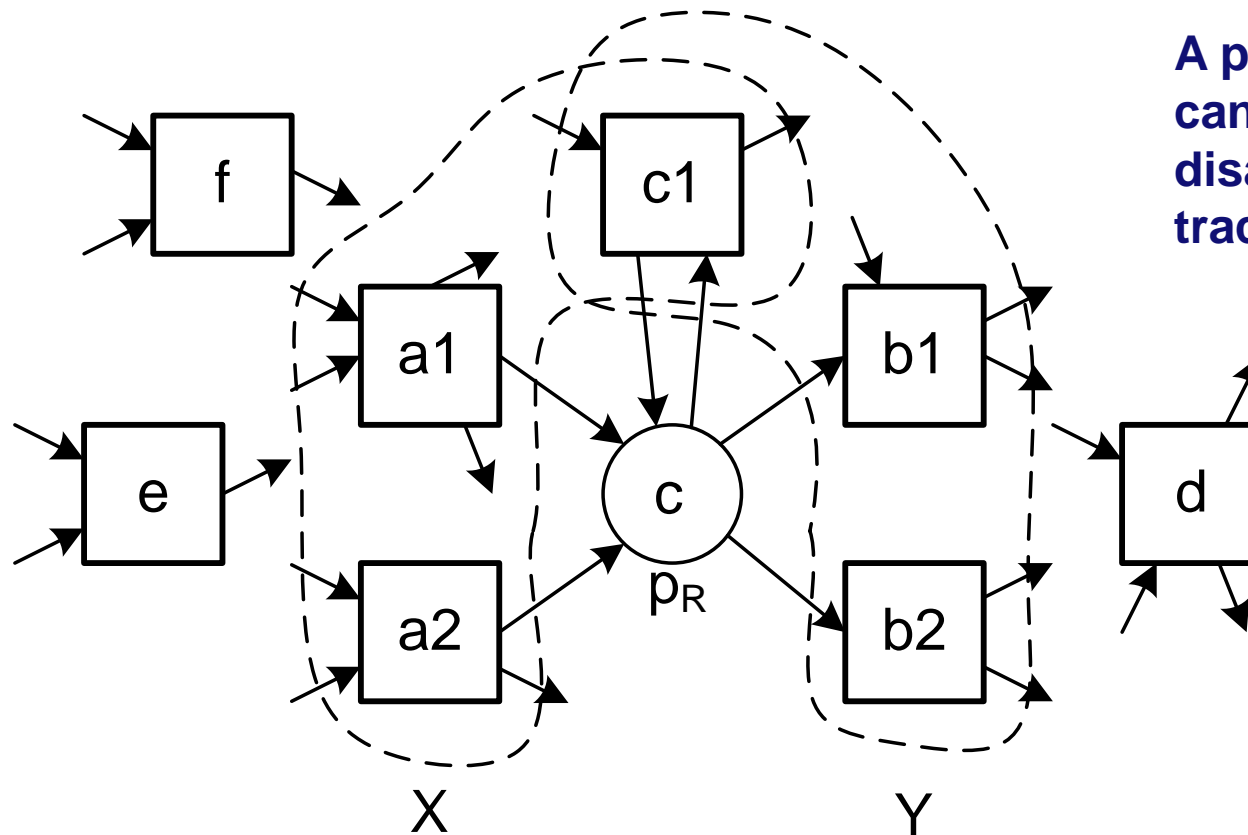


# Language based regions



Region  $R = (X, Y, c)$  corresponding to place  $p_R$ :  $X = \{a1, a2, c1\}$  = transitions producing a token for  $p_R$ ,  $Y = \{b1, b2, c1\}$  = transitions consuming a token from  $p_R$ , and  $c$  is the initial marking of  $p_R$ .

# Basic idea: enough tokens should be present when consuming



A place is **feasible** if it can be added without disabling any of the traces in the event log.

for any  $\sigma \in L, k \in \{1, \dots, |\sigma|\}, \sigma_1 = hd^{k-1}(\sigma), a = \sigma(k), \sigma_2 = hd^k(\sigma) = \sigma_1 \oplus a$ :

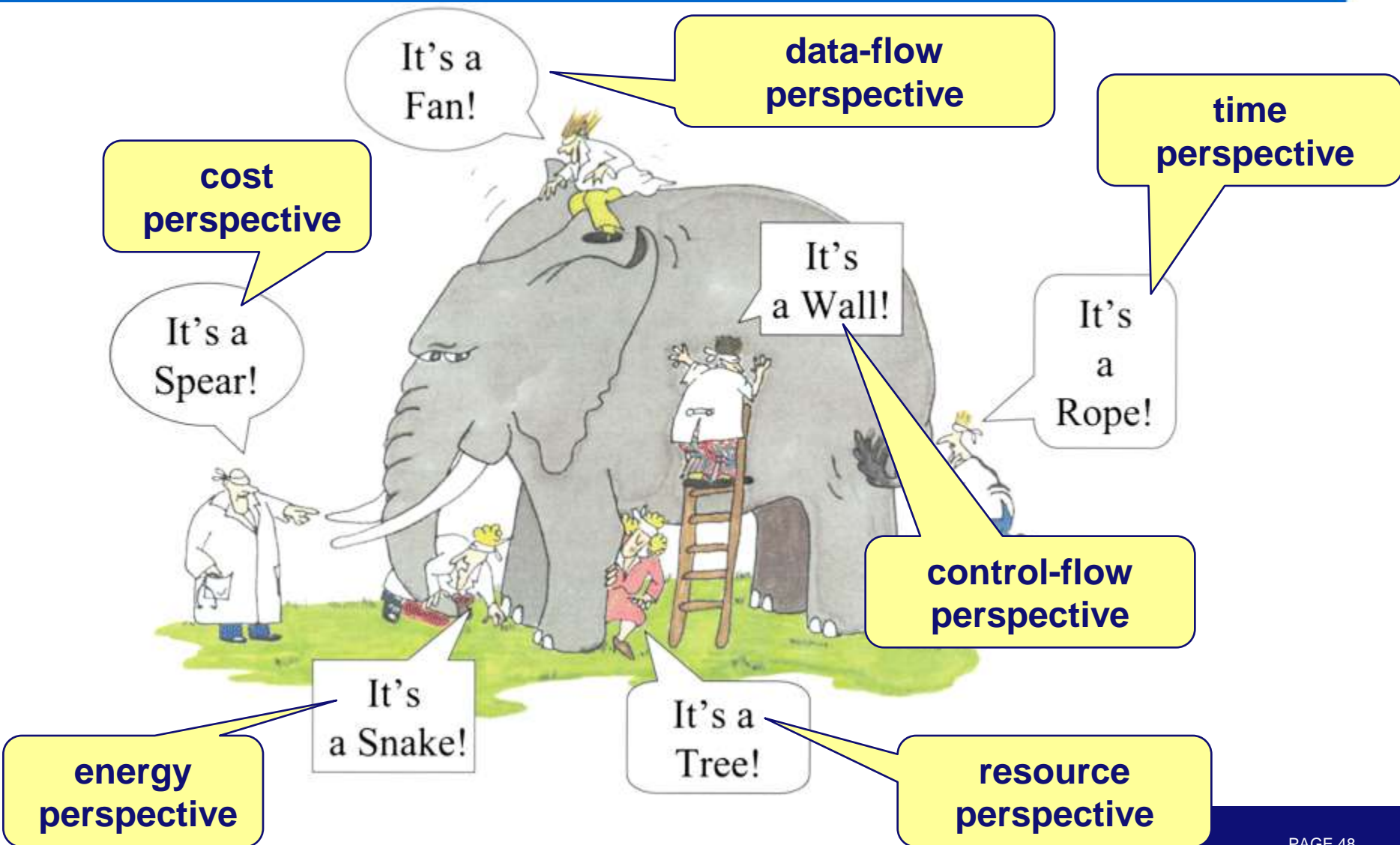
$$c + \sum_{t \in X} \partial_{\text{multiset}}(\sigma_1)(t) - \sum_{t \in Y} \partial_{\text{multiset}}(\sigma_2)(t) \geq 0.$$

# Process mining is about connecting things

- **Data – Process**
- **Business – IT**
- **Business Intelligence – Business Process Management**
- **Performance – Compliance**
- **Runtime – Design time**
- ...

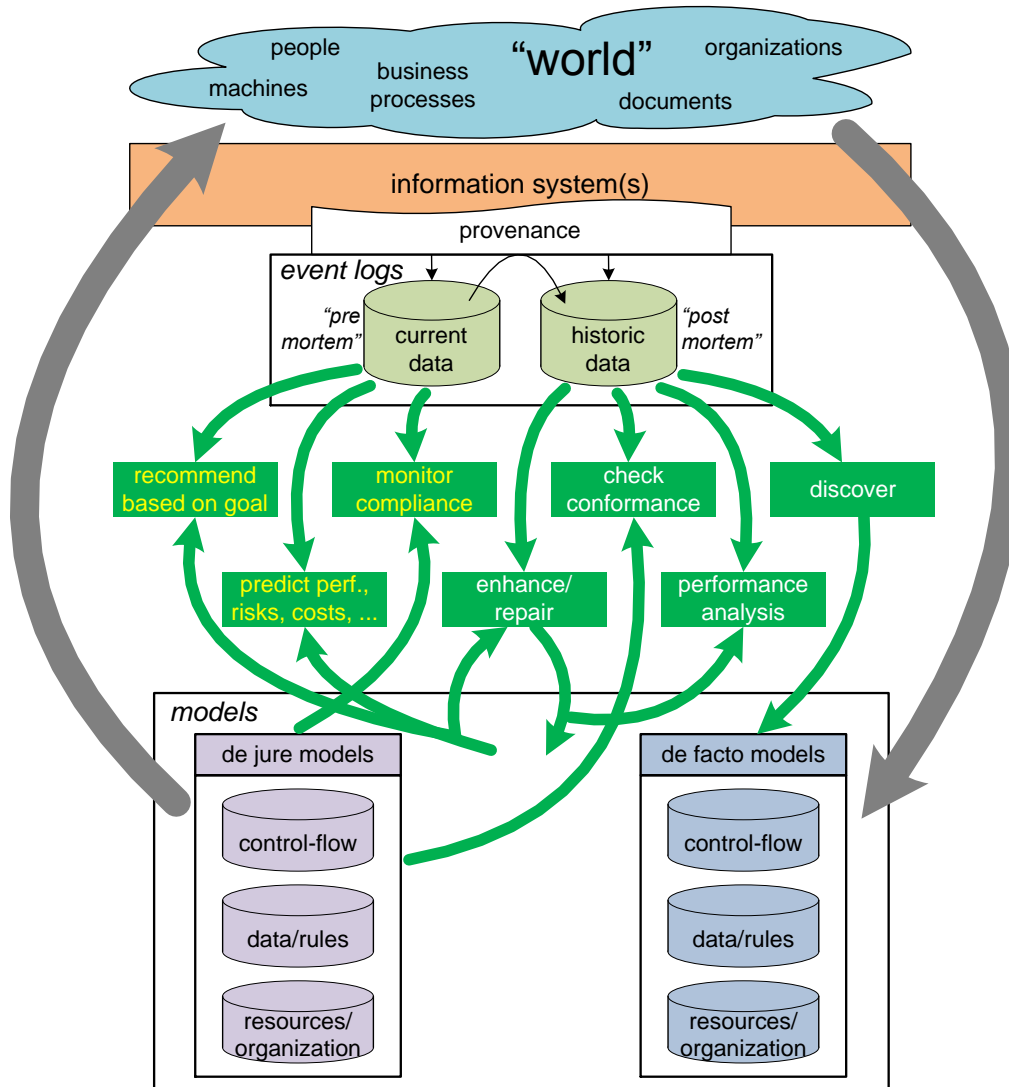


# Processes are not just about control-flow!





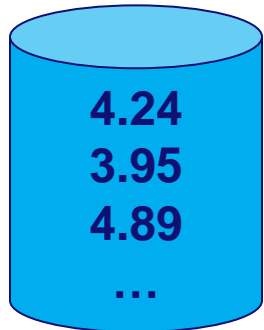
# Process mining spectrum



- Online and offline (near realtime).
- All perspectives.
- De facto models are descriptive/predictive.
- De jure models are normative/prescriptive.
- Process discovery is just one element: Aligning model and reality is the key thing.

**process cubes**

# Process discovery is like applying a function

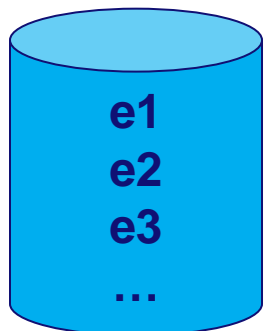


**compute average**



(freq., sum, variance, mode, ...)

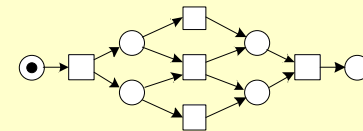
**4.56**



**create model**



(alpha, heuristic, fuzzy, social,  
dotted, compliance, etc., etc.)



# 2 dimensions: model = number

|        | TU/e                      | HSE                       | QUT                       |
|--------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| passed | hours: 50.5<br>number: 32 | hours: 48.5<br>number: 55 | hours: 23.2<br>number: 49 |
| failed | hours: 23.5<br>number: 23 | hours: 10.5<br>number: 4  | hours: 24.5<br>number: 8  |

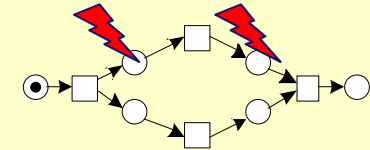
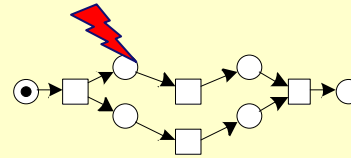
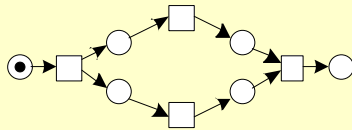
# Process models are computed on two dimensional event data

TU/e

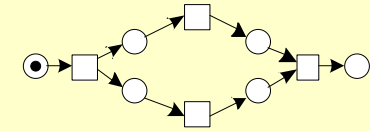
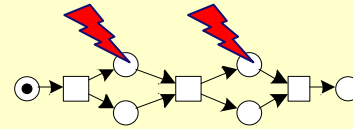
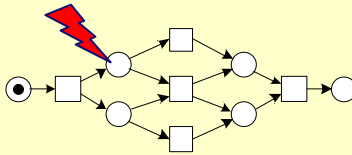
HSE

QUT

passed



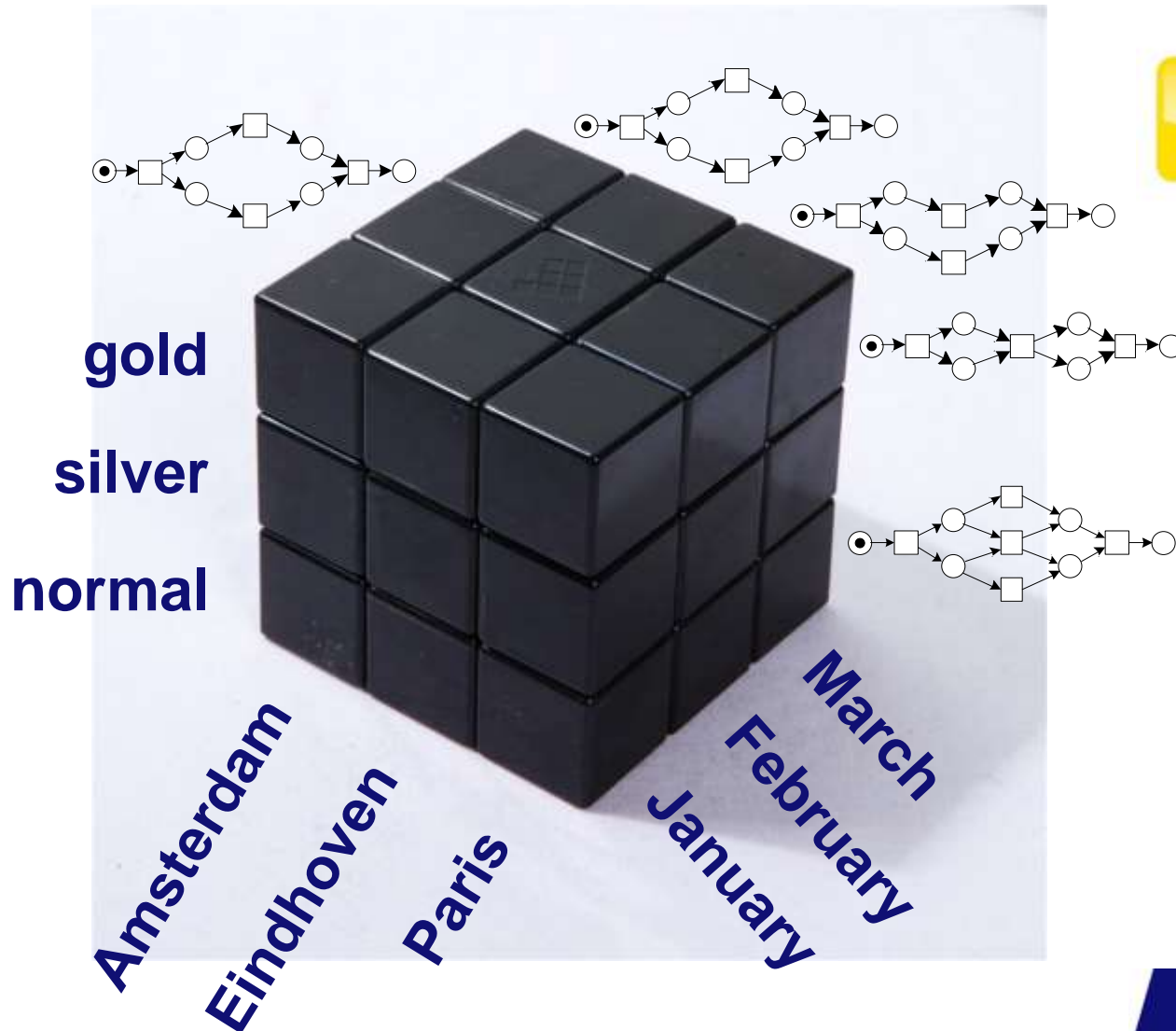
failed



# What are the differences?



# Example: Hertz has 8,650 rental locations and different types of customers



# Example: All Dutch municipalities need to handle building permits

>100k  
>50k & ≤100k  
≤50k

Eersel  
Bladel  
Reusel



Q1  
Q2  
Q3





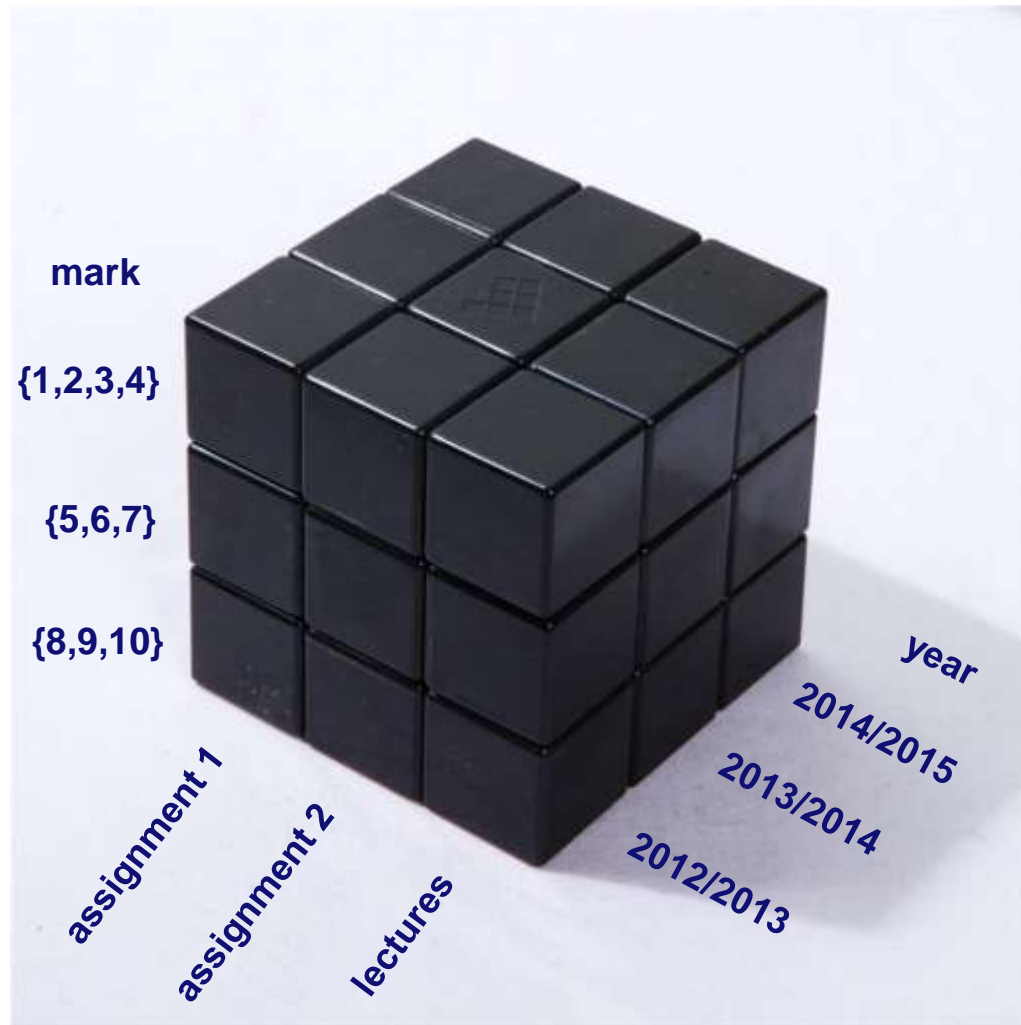
# Example: Suncorp has different brands and different types of insurance



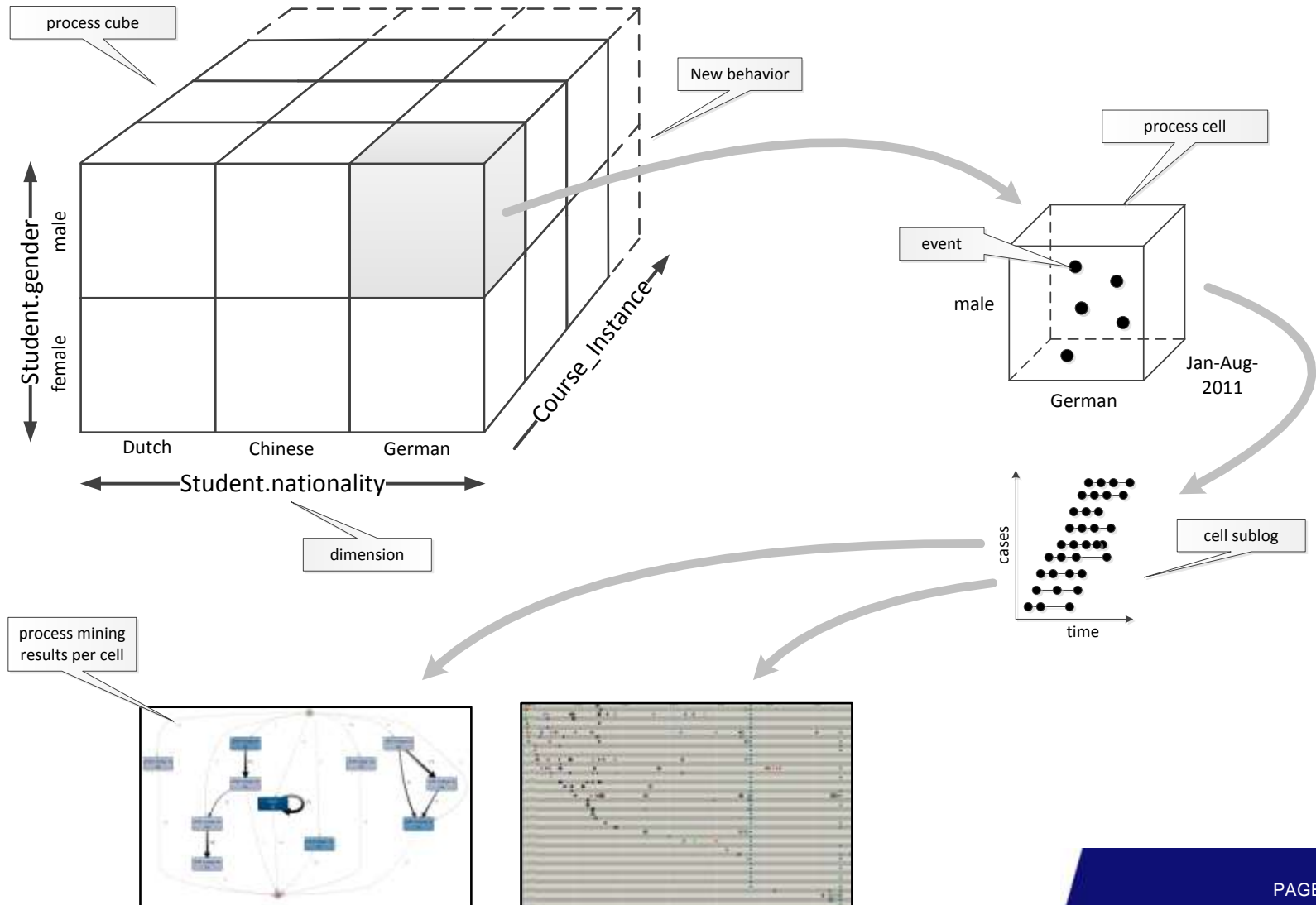
after flooding  
during flooding  
before flooding



# Example: students watching recorded video lectures and making exams



# Process Cubes (OLAP for processes)



# Overview data for a particular course



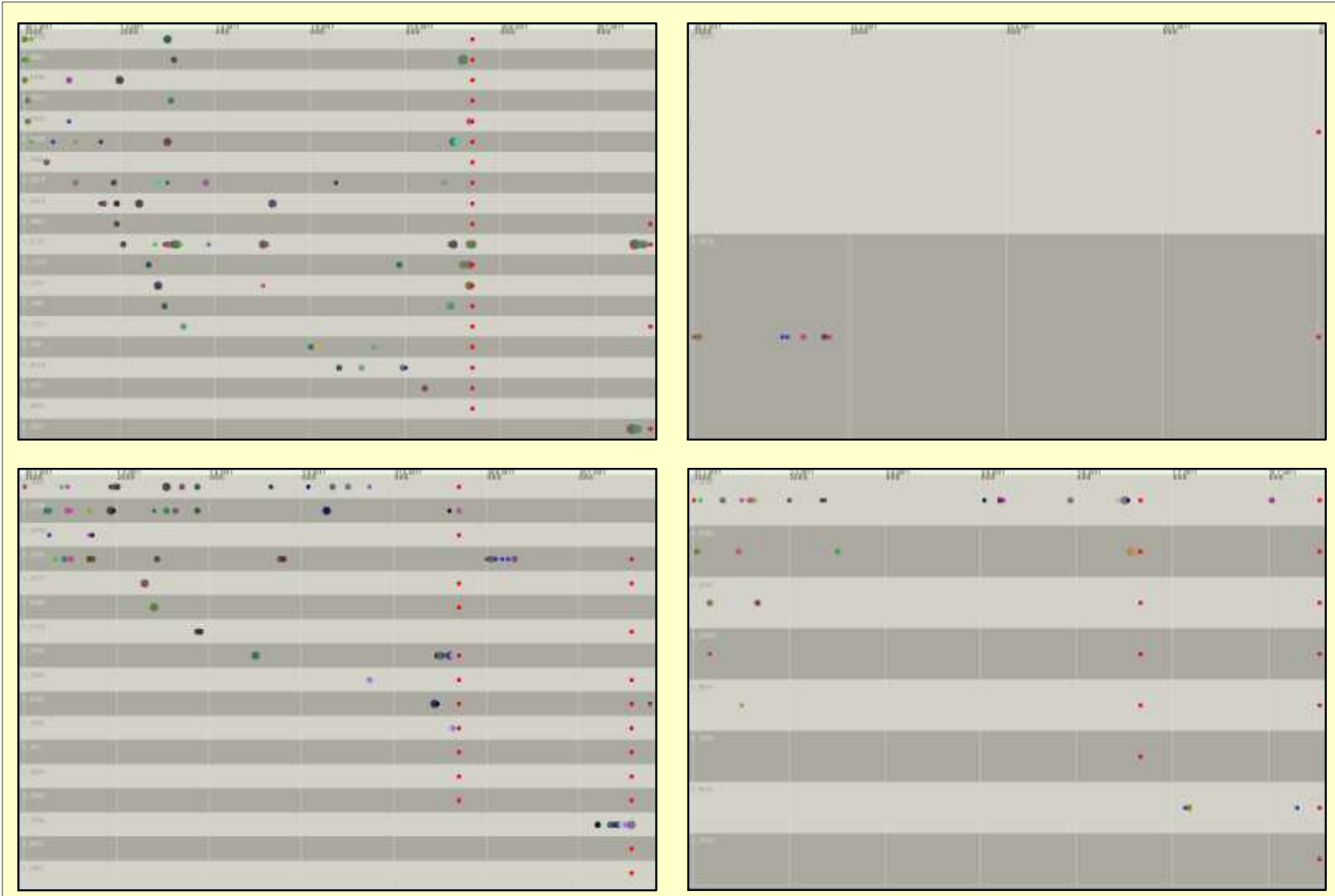
# Drilling-down into a course instance

Dutch students

International students

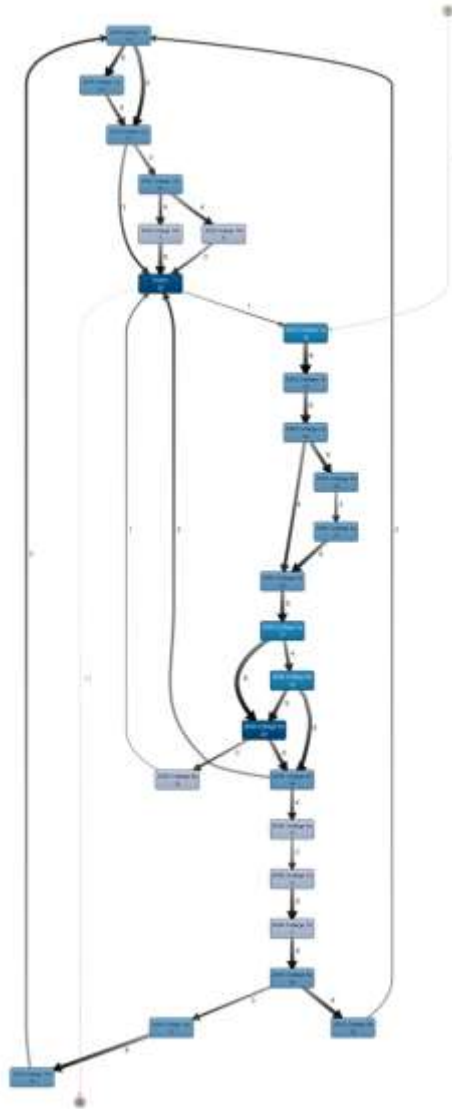
Students that passed

Students that did not pass



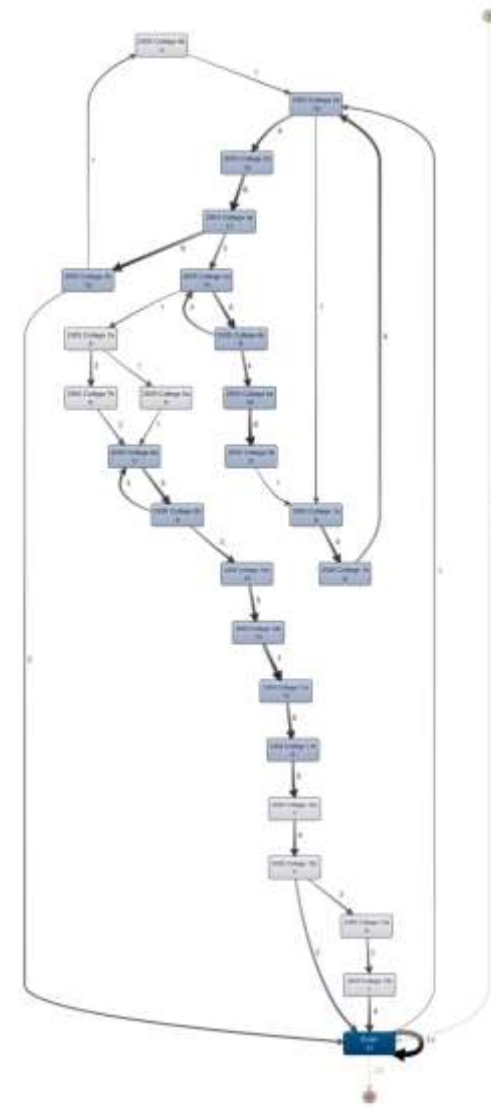
# Comparing processes

**PASSED**



Fitness of event log wrt idealized model is 0.37

**FAILED**

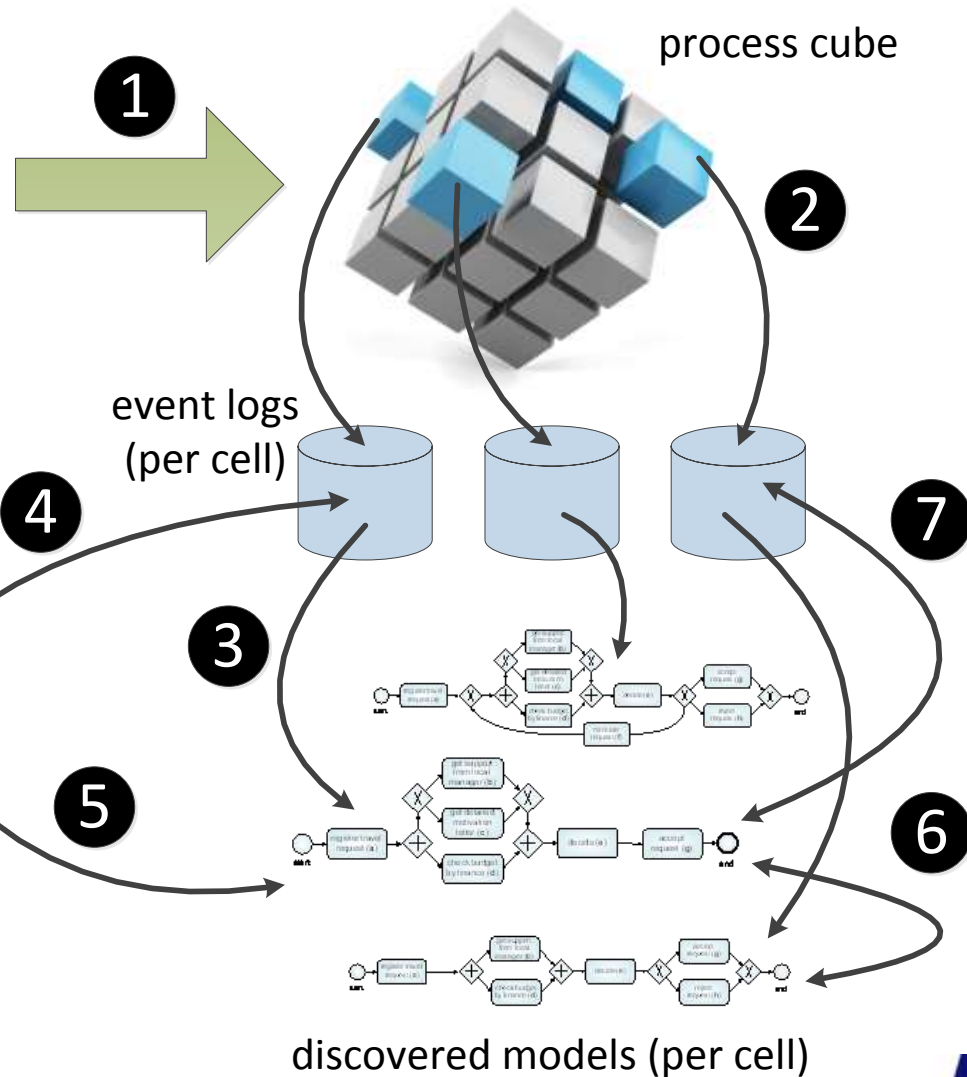


Fitness of event log wrt idealized model is 0.28

# Overview of approach



event data



process cube

event logs  
(per cell)

normative models

discovered models (per cell)

1. Store events in the process cube.
2. Materialize the events in a cell as an event log that can be analyzed.
3. Automatically discover models per cell (e.g., a BPMN or UML model).
4. Check conformance by replaying event data on normative (process) models.
5. Compare discovered models and normative models.
6. Compare discovered models corresponding to different cells.
7. Compare different behaviors by replaying event data of one cell on another cell's model.

**splitting event logs**





Star Trek



data

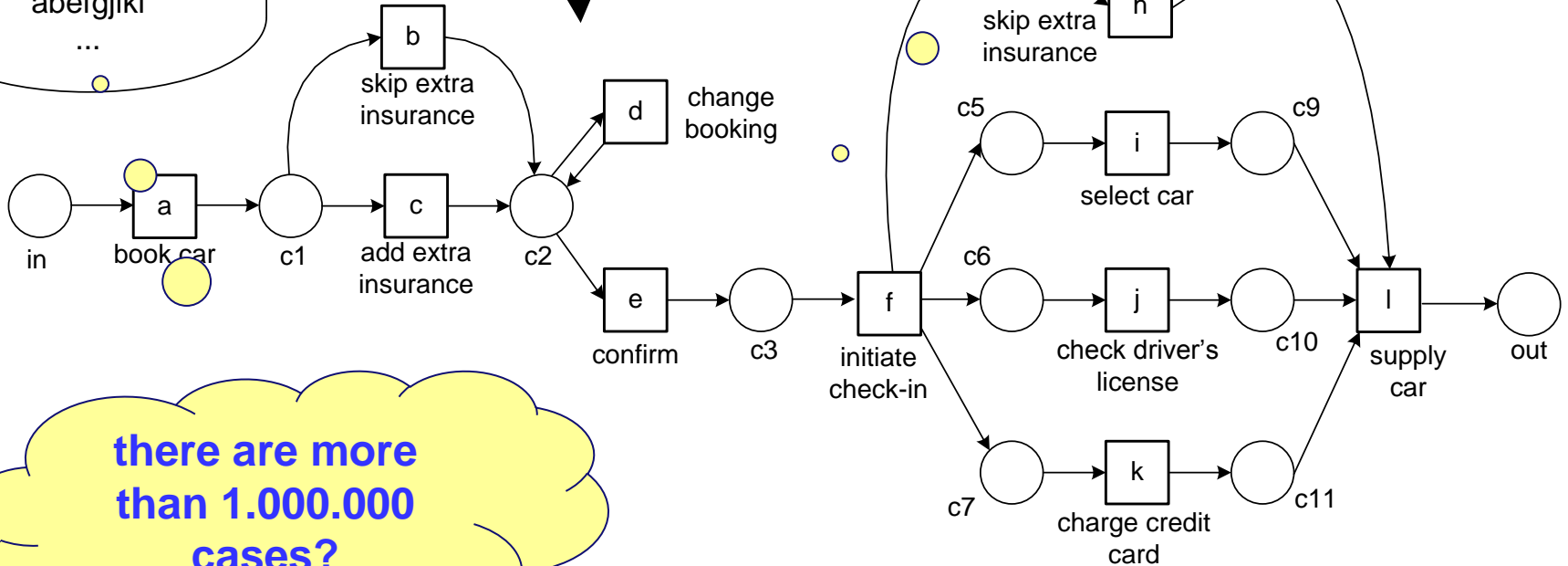
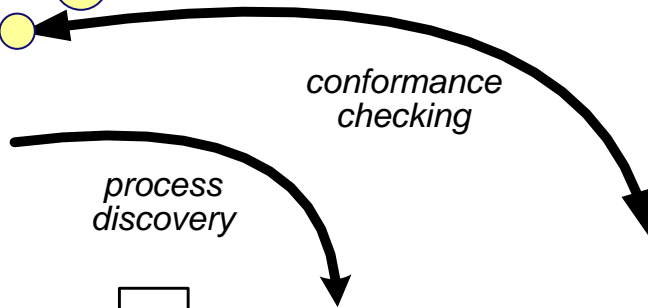


Big data

# What if?

there are more than 100.000.000 events?

there are more than 1000 different activities?



there are more than 1.000.000 cases?

# Decompose event log!

vertical or horizontal



sets of cases

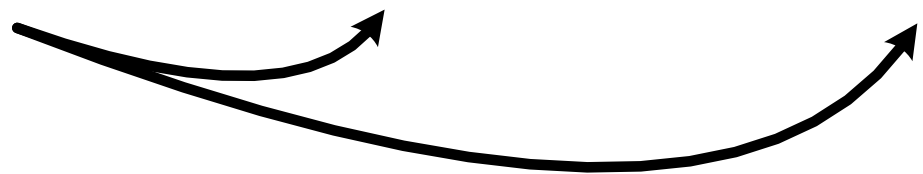
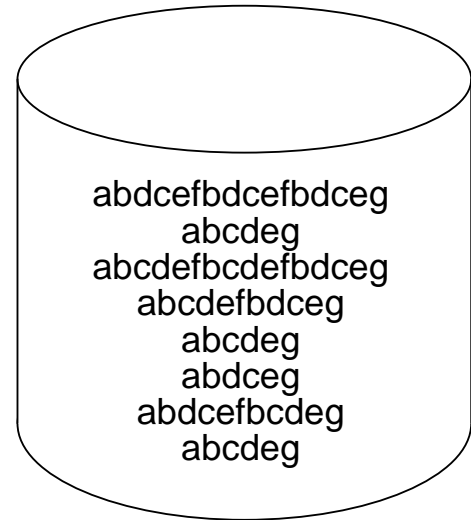
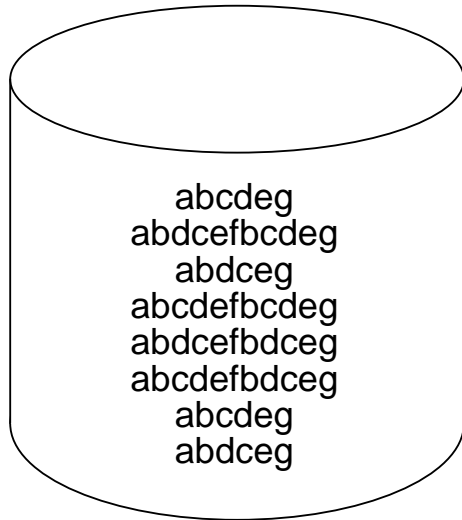
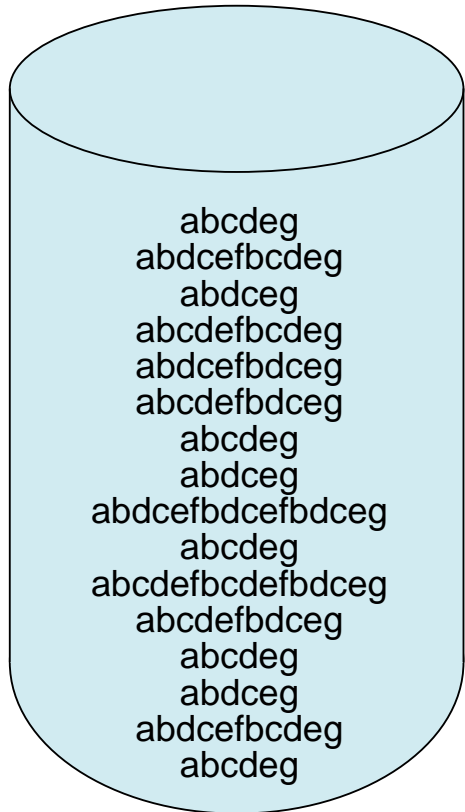
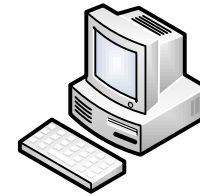
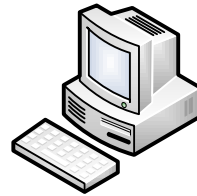
sets of activities



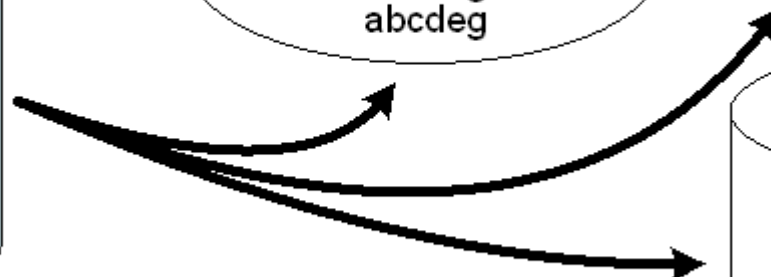
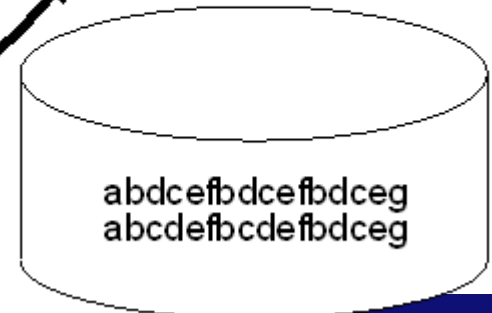
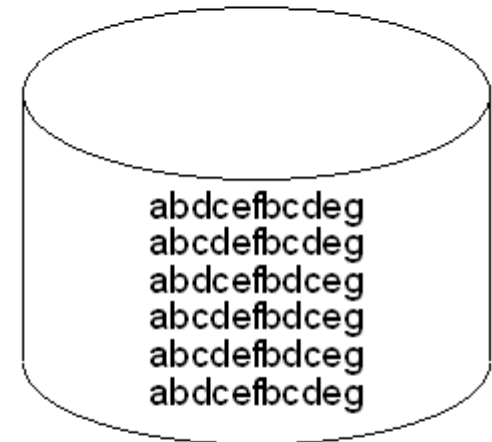
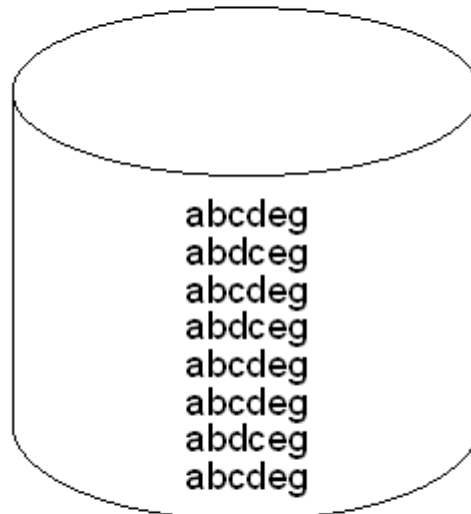
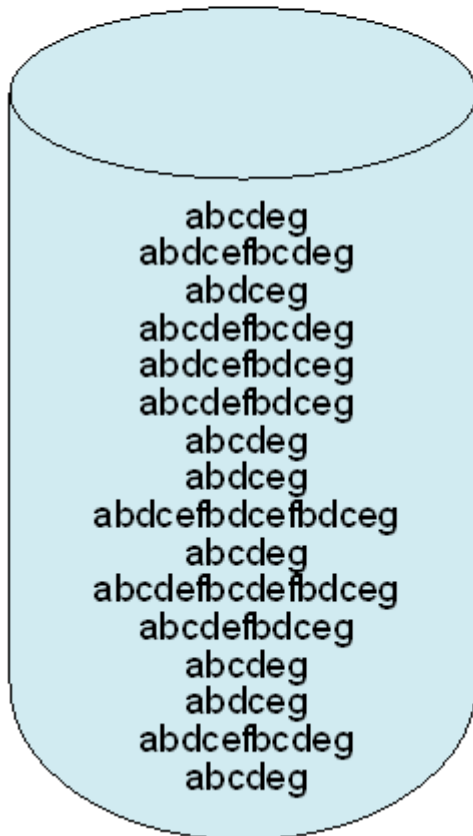
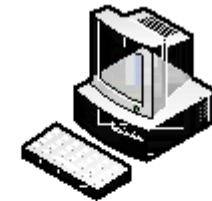
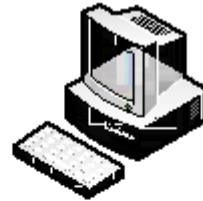
# Vertical distribution I: Split cases arbitrarily



sets of cases

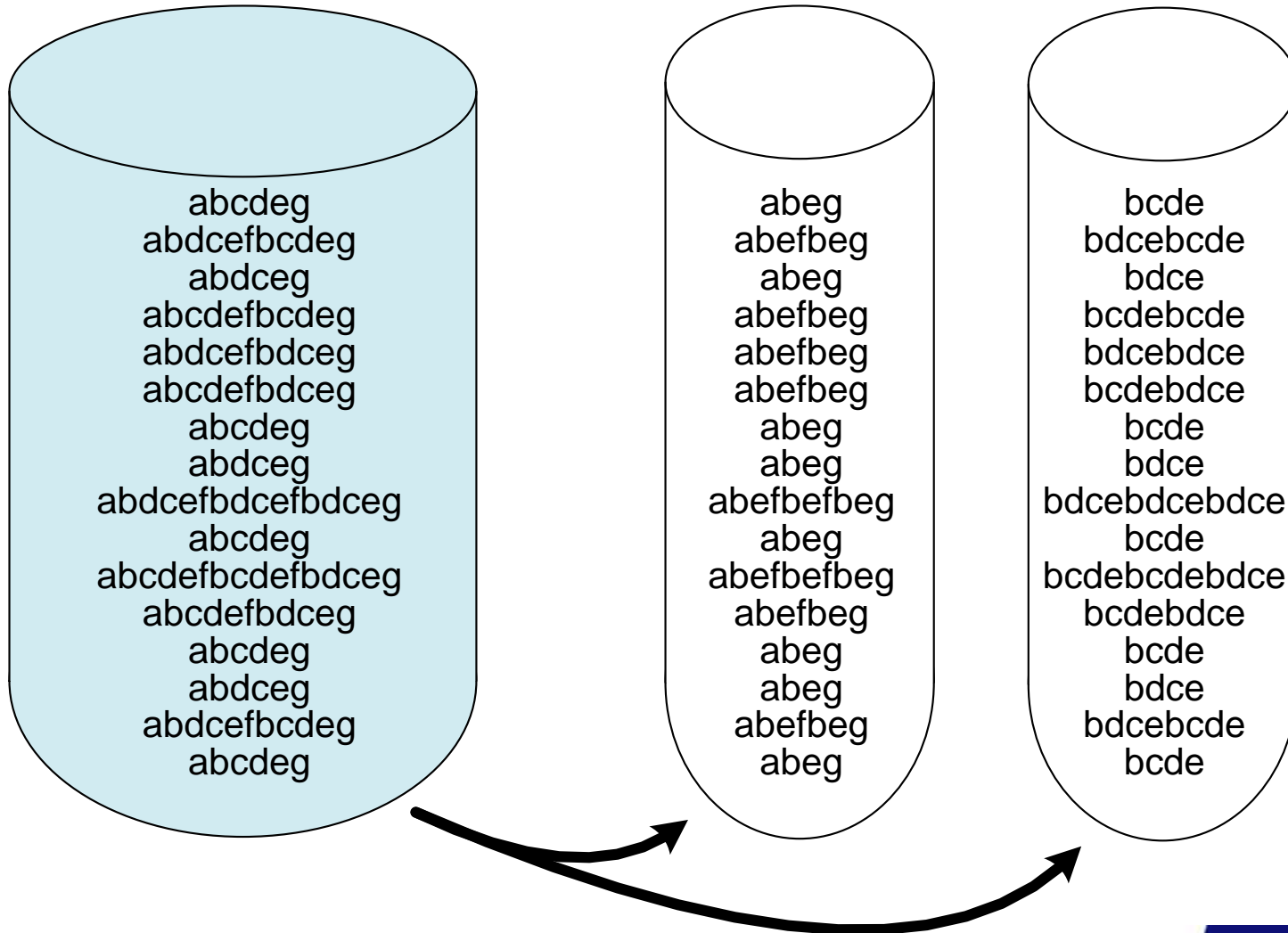


# Vertical distribution II: Split cases based on a specific feature



# Horizontal distribution

sets of activities

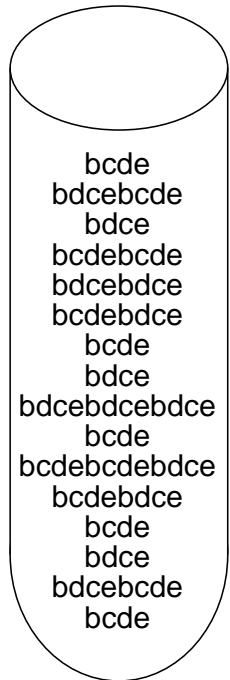
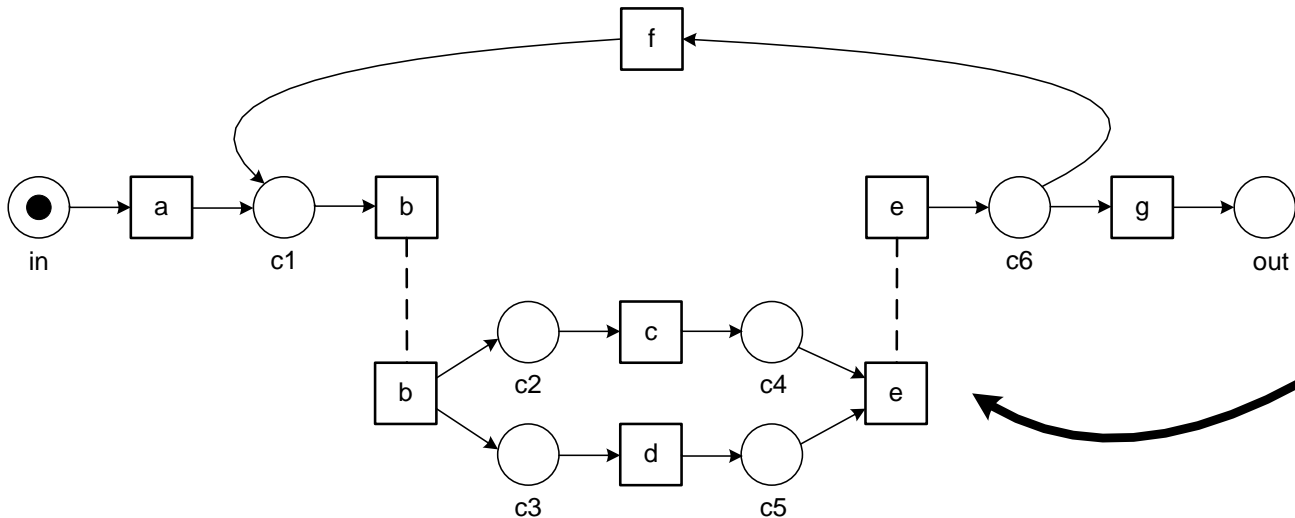
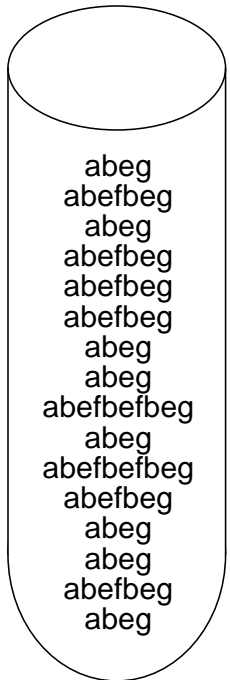


# Horizontal distribution: The key idea

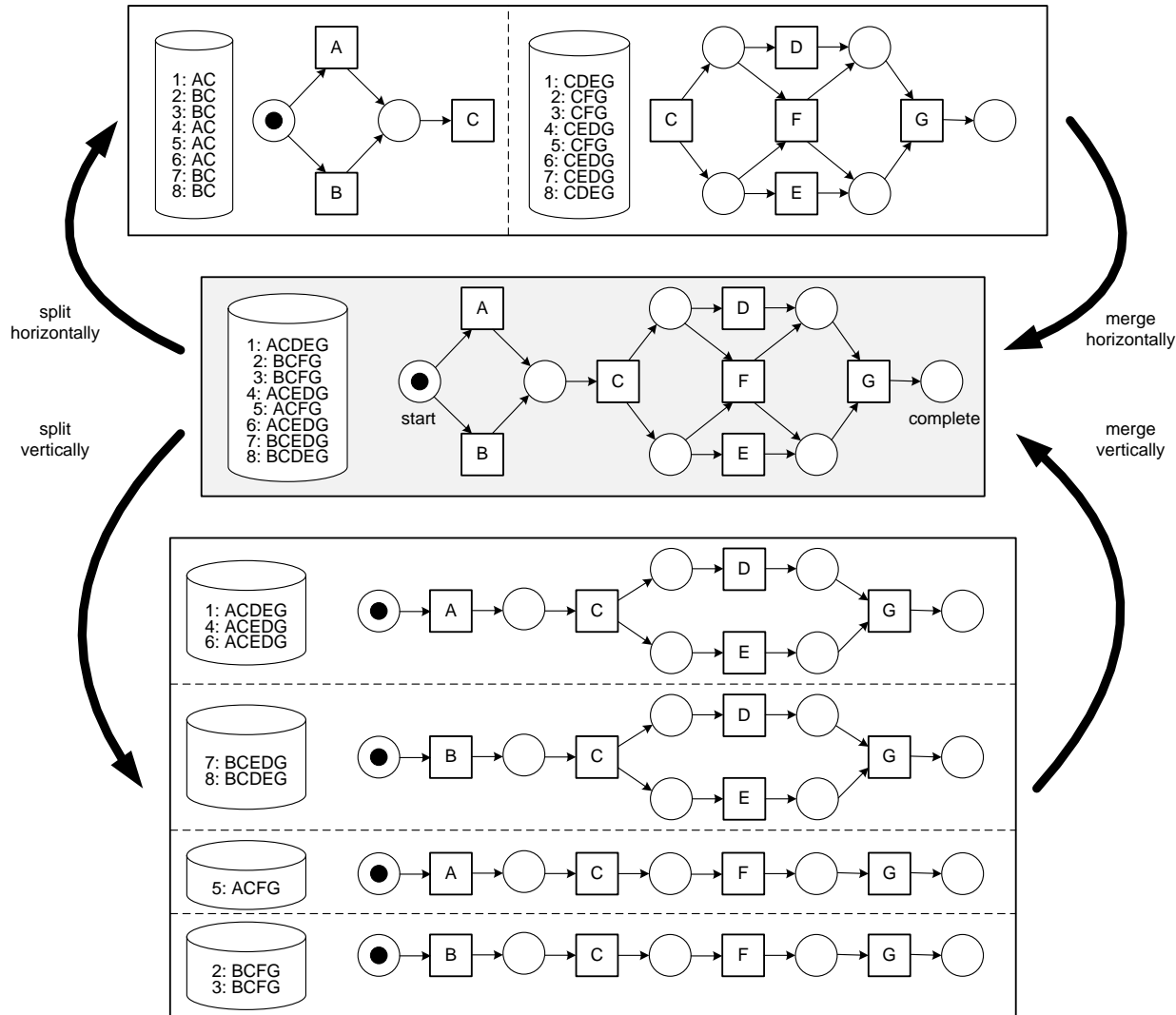


projected on  
a,b,e,f,g

projected on  
b,c,d,e



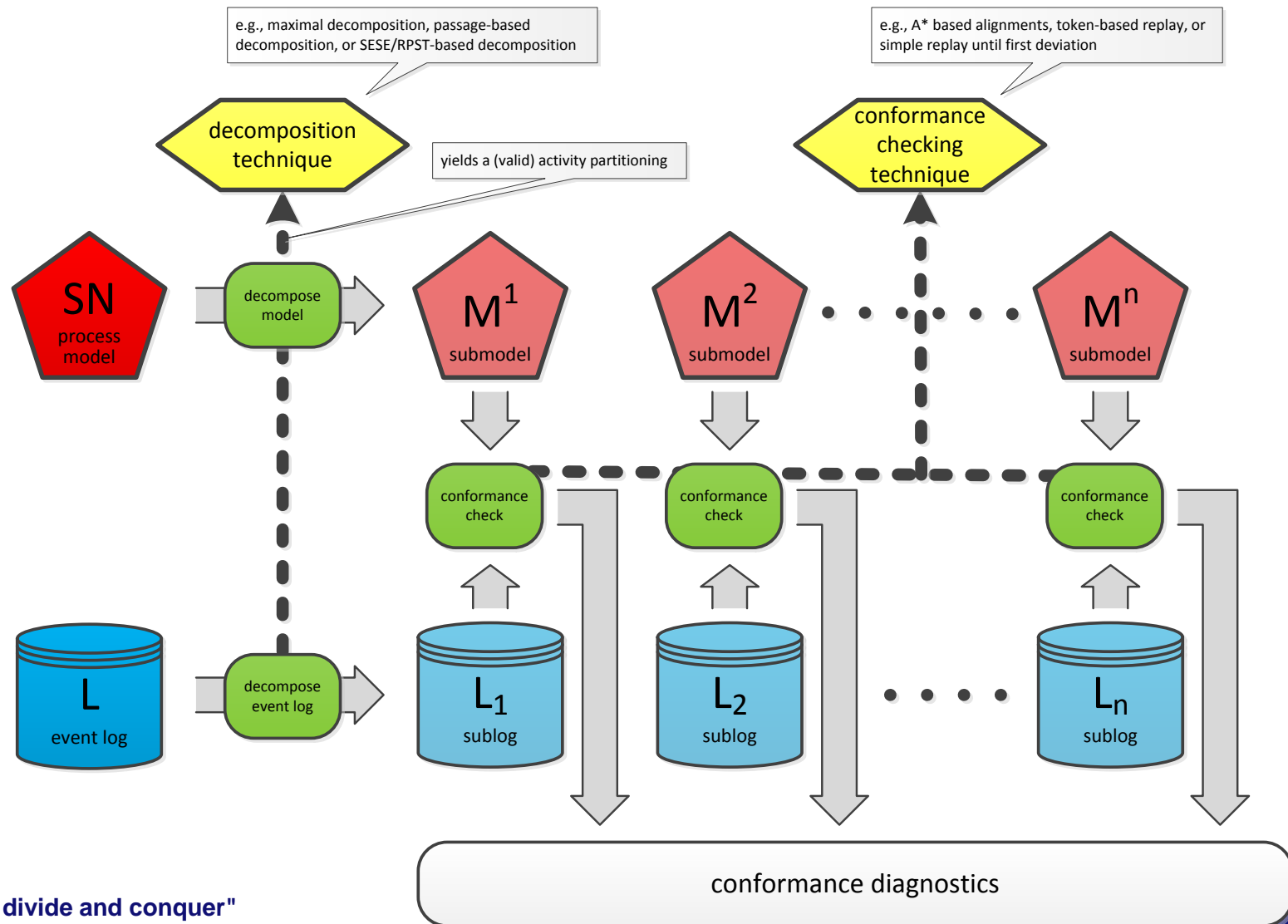
# Two foundational ways of spitting event data: horizontal or vertical





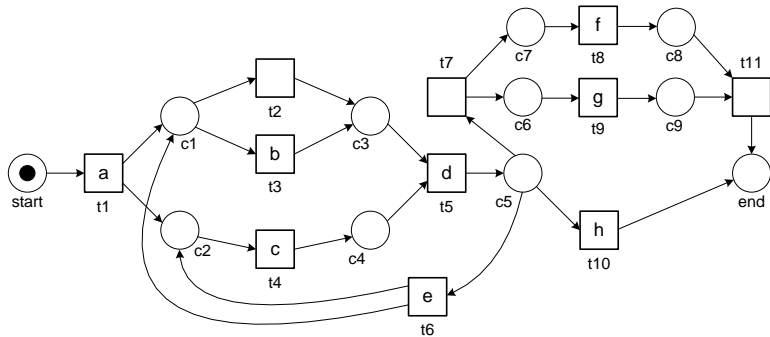
# **decomposed process mining**

# Decomposing Conformance Checking

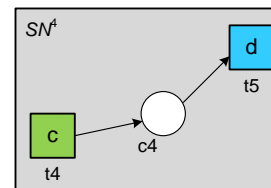
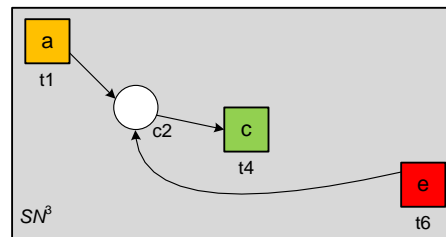
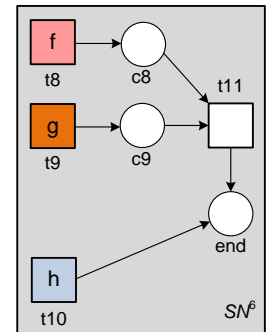
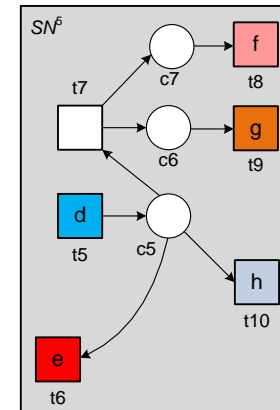
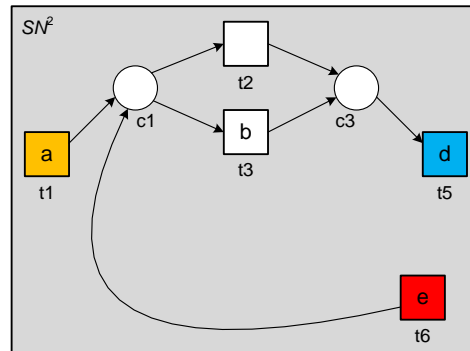
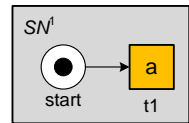


See "divide and conquer" framework by Eric Verbeek.

# Example of a valid decomposition

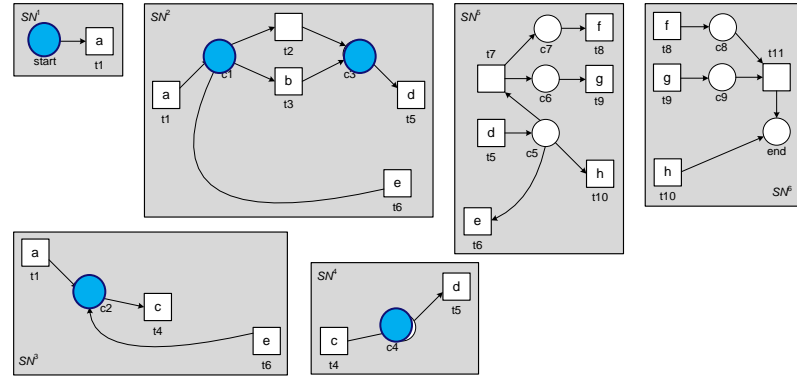
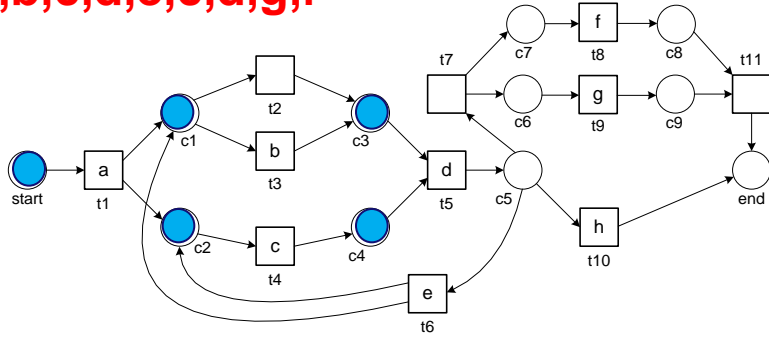


Log can be split in the same way!



# Example of an alignment for observed trace a,b,c,d,e,c,d,g,f

a,b,c,d,e,c,d,g,f



↓ ↓ ↓

$$\gamma_3 = \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 & 10 & 11 & 12 \\ \hline a & b & c & d & e & c & \gg & d & \gg & g & f & \gg \\ \hline a & b & c & d & e & c & \tau & d & \tau & g & f & \tau \\ \hline t1 & t3 & t4 & t5 & t6 & t4 & t2 & t5 & t7 & t9 & t8 & t11 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

Etc.

↓      ↓ ↓      ↓ ↓

$$\gamma_3^1 = \begin{array}{|c|} \hline 1 \\ \hline a \\ \hline a \\ \hline t1 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\gamma_3^2 = \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 & 4 & 5 & 7 & 8 \\ \hline a & b & d & e & \gg & d \\ \hline a & b & d & e & \tau & d \\ \hline t1 & t3 & t5 & t6 & t2 & t5 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\gamma_3^3 = \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 3 & 5 & 6 \\ \hline a & c & e & e \\ \hline a & c & e & e \\ \hline t1 & t4 & t6 & t4 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

↓

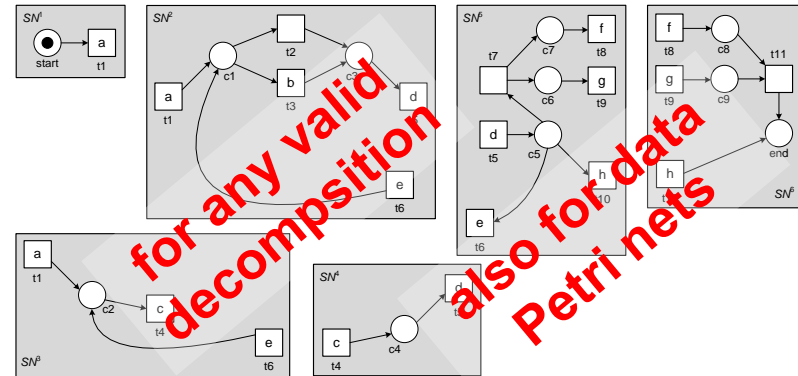
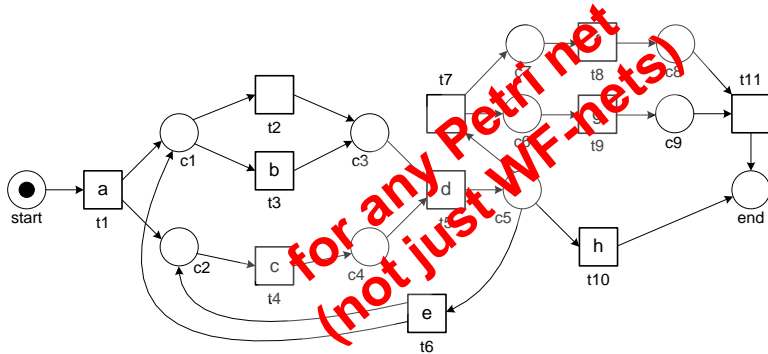
$$\gamma_3^4 = \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|} \hline 3 & 4 & 6 & 8 \\ \hline c & d & c & d \\ \hline c & d & c & d \\ \hline t4 & t5 & t4 & t5 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\gamma_3^5 = \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|} \hline 4 & 5 & 8 & 9 & 10 & 11 \\ \hline d & e & d & \gg & g & f \\ \hline d & e & d & \tau & g & f \\ \hline t5 & t6 & t5 & t7 & t9 & t8 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\gamma_3^6 = \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 10 & 11 & 12 \\ \hline g & f & \gg \\ \hline g & f & \tau \\ \hline t9 & t8 & t11 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

# Conformance checking can be decomposed !!!

- **General result for any valid decomposition: Any event log or trace is perfectly fitting the overall model if and only if it is also fitting all the individual fragments**



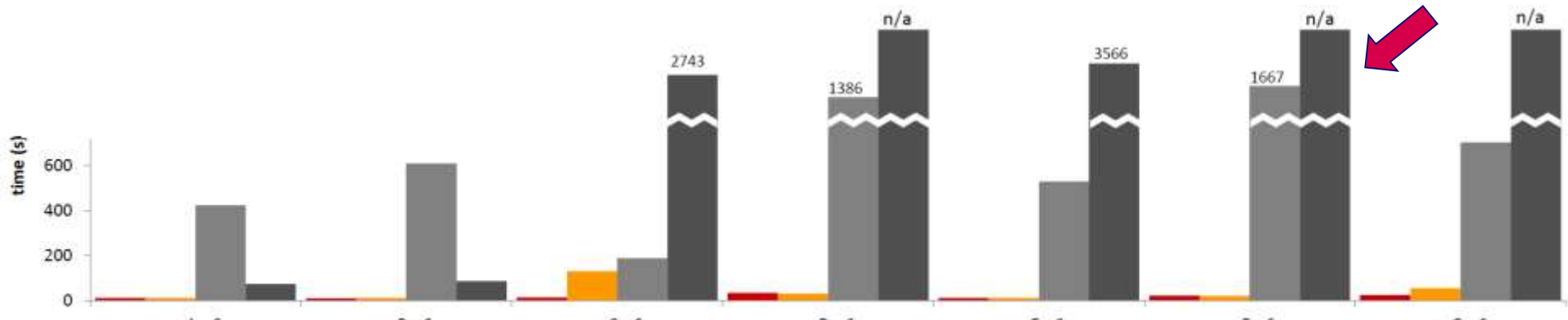
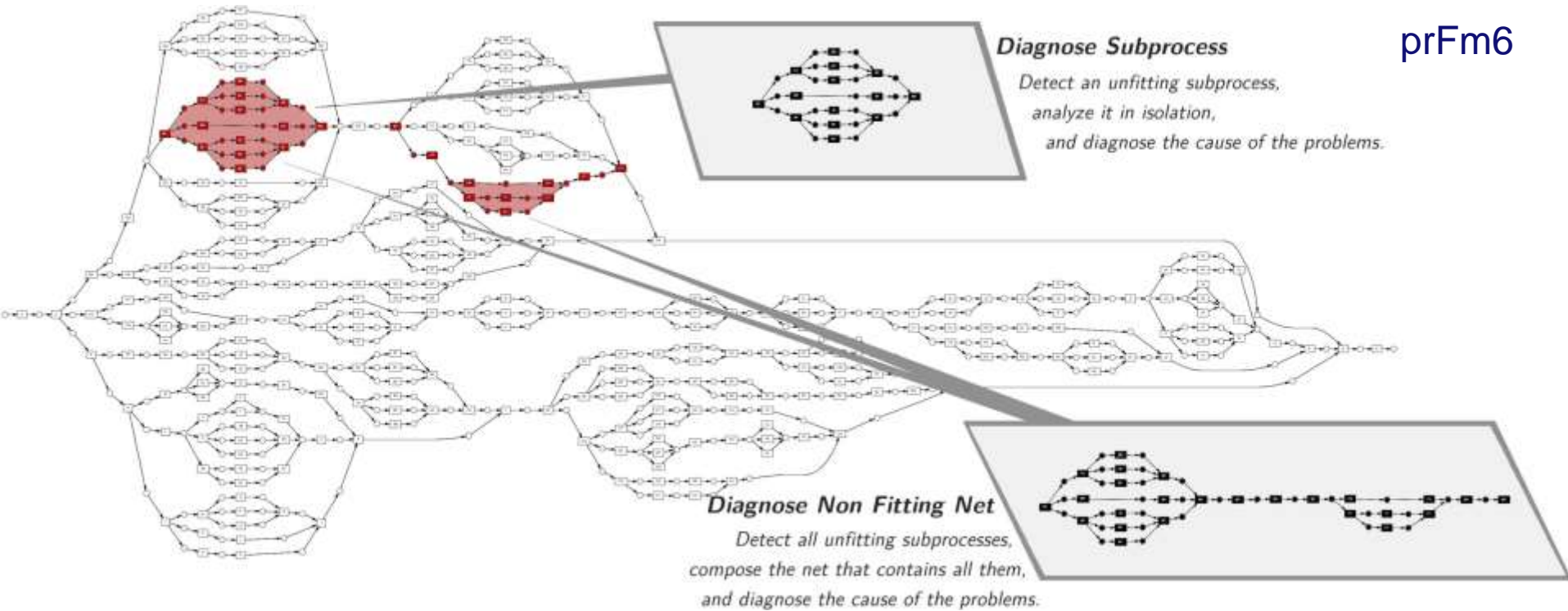
Wil van der Aalst, Decomposing Petri nets for process mining: A generic approach. Distributed and Parallel Databases, Volume 31, Issue 4, pp 471-507, 2013



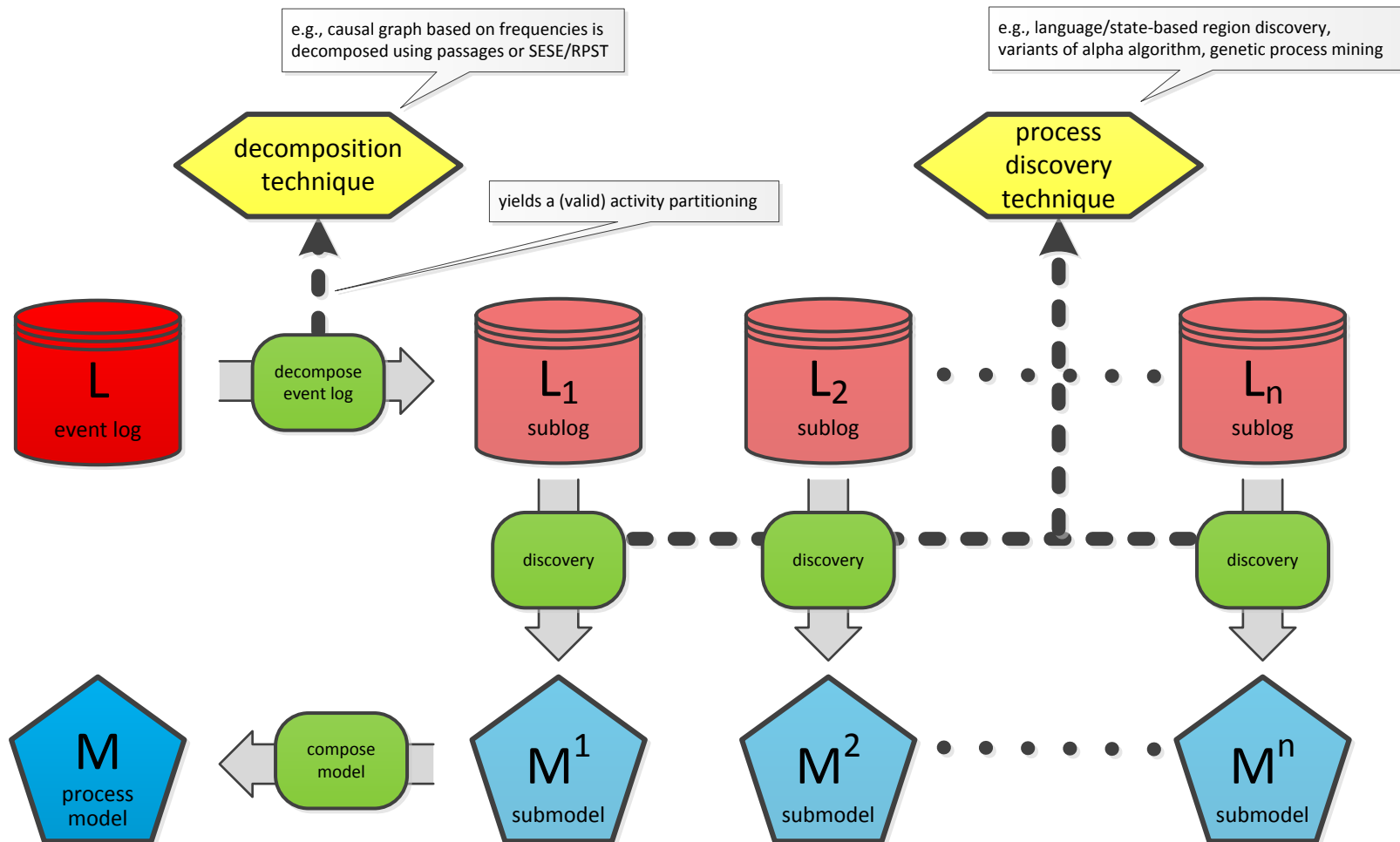
# Example

(work with Jorge Munoz-Gama and Josep Carmona)

prFm6



# Decomposing Process Discovery



**conclusion**



**Event data is everywhere!  
Processes are everywhere!  
Why not connect them?**

## **Process mining!**

**Challenges:**

- **comparative process mining**
- **Big event data, Big processes**

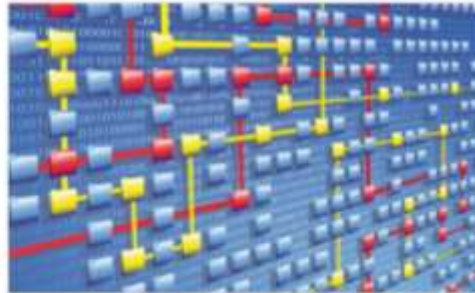
# Process Mining: Data Science in Action

<https://www.coursera.org/course/procmin>

TU/e Technische Universiteit Eindhoven University of Technology

## Process Mining: Data science in Action

Process mining is the missing link between model-based process analysis and data-oriented analysis techniques. Through concrete data sets and easy to use software the course provides data science knowledge that can be applied directly to analyze and improve processes in a variety of domains.



## First Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) on Process Mining

### About the Course

**Data science** is the profession of the future, because organizations that are unable to use (big) data in a smart way will not survive. It is not sufficient to focus on data storage and data analysis. The data scientist also needs to relate data to process analysis. **Process mining bridges the gap between traditional model-based process analysis (e.g., simulation and other business process management techniques) and data-centric analysis techniques such as machine learning and data mining.** Process mining seeks the confrontation between event data (i.e., observed behavior) and process models (hand-made or discovered automatically). This technology has become available only recently, but it can be applied to any type of operational processes (organizations and systems). Example applications include: analyzing treatment processes in hospitals, improving customer service processes in a multinational, understanding the browsing behavior of customers using a booking site, analyzing failures of a baggage handling system, and improving the user interface of an X-ray machine. All of these applications have in common that dynamic behavior needs to be related to process models. Hence, we refer to this as 'data science in action'.

The course explains the key analysis techniques in process mining. Participants will learn various process discovery algorithms. These can be used to automatically learn process models from raw event data. Various other process analysis techniques that use event data will be presented. Moreover, the course will provide **easy-to-use software, real-life data sets, and practical skills to directly apply the theory in**

### Sessions

Nov 12th 2014 - Dec 24th 2014  
Starts in 2 months

### Eligible for

Statement of Accomplishment

### Course at a Glance

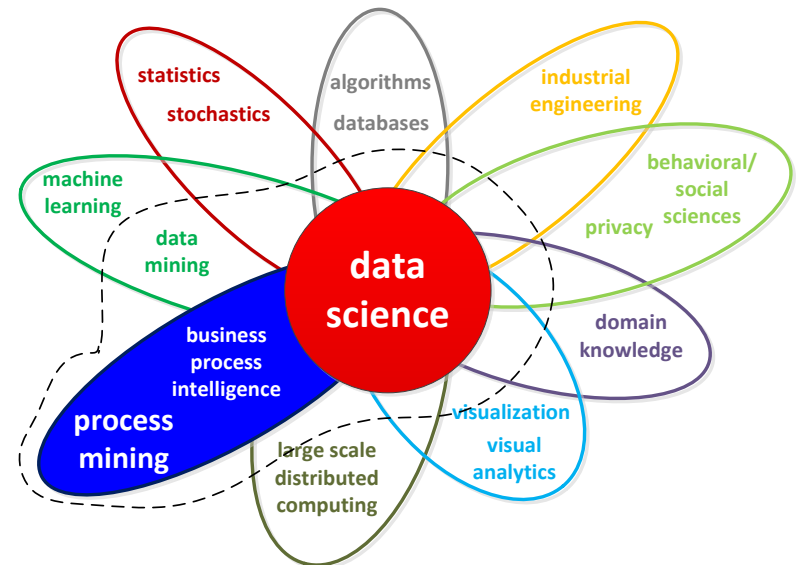
- 6 weeks of study
- 4-6 hours of work / week
- English
- English subtitles

### Instructors



Wil van der Aalst  
Eindhoven University of Technology

### Categories



TU/e Technische Universiteit Eindhoven University of Technology

Data Science Center Eindhoven

**coursera**

Wil M. P. van der Aalst

## Process Mining

Discovery, Conformance and Enhancement of Business Processes

More and more information about business processes is recorded by information systems in the form of so-called "event logs." Despite the omnipresence of such data, most organizations diagnose problems based on fiction rather than facts. Process mining is an emerging discipline based on process model-driven approaches and data mining. It not only allows organizations to fully benefit from the information stored in their systems, but it can also be used to check the conformance of processes, detect bottlenecks, and predict execution problems.

Wil van der Aalst delivers the first book on process mining. It aims to be self-contained while covering the entire process mining spectrum from process discovery to operational support. In Part I, the author provides the basics of business process modeling and data mining necessary to understand the remainder of the book. Part II focuses on process discovery as the most important process mining task. Part III moves beyond discovering the control flow of processes and highlights conformance checking, and organizational and time perspectives. Part IV guides the reader in successfully applying process mining in practice, including an introduction to the widely used open-source tool ProM. Finally, Part V takes a step back, reflecting on the material presented and the key open challenges.

Overall, this book provides a comprehensive overview of the state of the art in process mining. It is intended for business process analysts, business consultants, process managers, graduate students, and BPM researchers.

### Features and Benefits:

- First book on process mining, bridging the gap between business process modeling and business intelligence.
- Written by one of the most influential and most-cited computer scientists and the best-known BPM researcher.
- Self-contained and comprehensive overview for a broad audience in academia and industry.
- The reader can put process mining into practice immediately due to the applicability of the techniques and the availability of the open-source process mining software ProM.

Computer Science

ISBN 978-3-642-19344-6



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van der Aalst



Process Mining



Wil M. P. van der Aalst

# Process Mining

Discovery, Conformance and  
Enhancement of Business Processes

[www.processmining.org](http://www.processmining.org)

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