

Querying and Monitoring Business Processes

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Abstract:

We present in this talk BPQL, a novel query language for querying and monitoring business processes. The BPQL language is based on an intuitive model of business processes, an abstraction of the emerging BPEL (Business Process Execution Language) standard. It allows users to query business processes specifications, as well as their run time behavior, visually, in a manner very analogous to how such processes are typically specified, and can be employed in a distributed setting, where process components may be provided by distinct providers (peers).

We describe here the query language as well as its underlying formal model. We consider the properties of the various language components and explain how they influenced the language design. In particular we distinguish features that can be efficiently supported, and those that incur a prohibitively high cost, or cannot be computed at all. We also present our implementation which complies with real life standards for business process specifications, XML, and Web services, and is used in the BPQL system.