



*Integrating Process and Object Life Cycle Modeling
in Business Process Management*

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ABSTRACT

In business process management, process models and object life cycles can be seen as two different views on the same system. Whereas a process model defines tasks that need to be performed to achieve a particular business goal, an object life cycle captures how objects of the same type traverse different states during their existence. Modeling processes and object life cycles side by side can be beneficial during development, as these two views are complementary, each focusing on a different aspect of the system. However, the relationship between these models is not yet well-understood, which is why such integrated modeling is not adequately supported in the existing tools.

In our current work, we are developing an approach for a seamless integration of process and object life cycle modeling that is based on transformations between these models and management of their consistency. In this talk, we give an overview of our approach and discuss different scenarios in which such a combined modeling of processes and object life cycles can be especially beneficial. We also present several techniques developed as part of our approach, including extraction of object life cycles from process models and handling of side-effects during resolution of inconsistencies between process models and object life cycles. We conclude with a demo of a prototype developed as an extension to the IBM WebSphere Business.

SPEAKER

Ksenia Ryndina is a PhD student in the Business Integration Technologies group at the IBM Zurich Research Laboratory, advised by Prof. H. C. Gall at the Department of Informatics, University of Zurich and Dr J. M. Küster at IBM. Her PhD thesis is concerned with turning object life cycles into first-class citizens in the development of process-centric systems. Before coming to Zurich, Ksenia completed an MSc degree in Computer Science at the University of Cape Town, South Africa.