

Int. Late-Breaking News Event

Reaction RuleML

Nov. 9th, 2006

Athens, GA, USA

at ISWC'06/RuleML'06



Int. Late-Breaking News Event

Reaction RuleML

<http://ibis.in.tum.de/research/ReactionRuleML>

Nov. 9th, 17.30 – 18.30

Athens, GA, USA at ISWC'06/RuleML'06

**Adrian Paschke (Co-Chair Reaction RuleML) and Alexander
Kozlenkov (Co-Chair RuleML)**

Reaction RuleML Technical Group



Agenda

1. Reaction RuleML: Introduction + News 15 minutes
2. Reaction RuleML 0.1 5 minutes
3. Talks:
 - ECA-LP and Prova Agent Architecture by Adrian Paschke and A. Kozlenkov 5 minutes
 - Transaction Logics and Active Rules by Michael Kifer 5 minutes
 - Production Rule Programs by Benjamin Grosf 5 minutes
 - XChange by Michael Eckert and Paula Patrajan 5 minutes
3. Discussion 20 minutes

Reaction RuleML is ...

- An open, general, practical, compact and user-friendly **XML-serialization language** for the **family of reaction rules** including:
 - ECA rules and variants such as ECAP rules and triggers (EA rules)
 - Production rules (CA rules)
 - Active rules (rule execution sequences)
 - Event notification and messaging rules including agent communications, negotiation and coordination protocol rules
 - Temporal event / action and state/fluent processing logics
 - Dynamic, update, transaction, process and transition logics
- ... but not limited to, due to extensible language design

Reaction RuleML is intended for e.g., ...

- Event Processing Networks
- Event Driven Architectures (EDAs)
- Reactive, rule-based Service-Oriented Architectures (SOAs)
- Active Semantic Web Applications
- Real-Time Enterprise (RTE)
- Business Activity Management (BAM)
- Business Performance Management (BPM)
- Service Level Management (SLM) with active monitoring and enforcing of Service Level Agreements (SLAs) or e-Contracts
- Supply Chain Event Management
- Policies
- ...

... where reaction rules of the various kinds need to be ...

- serialized in a homogeneous combination with other rule types such as conditional derivation rules, normative rules, exceptional, default, prioritized rules or integrity constraints;
- managed, maintained and interchanged in a common rule markup and interchange language;
- internally layered to capture sublanguages such as production rules, ECA rules, event notification rules, KR event/action/state processing and reasoning rules;
- managed and maintained distributed in closed or open environments such as the (Semantic) Web including different domain-specific vocabularies which must be dynamically mapped into domain-independent rule specifications during runtime
- interchanged, translated and executed in different target environments with different operational, execution and declarative semantics;
- engineered collaboratively and verified/validated statically and dynamically according to extensional but also intensional knowledge update actions which dynamically change the behavioral logic of the event-driven rules systems

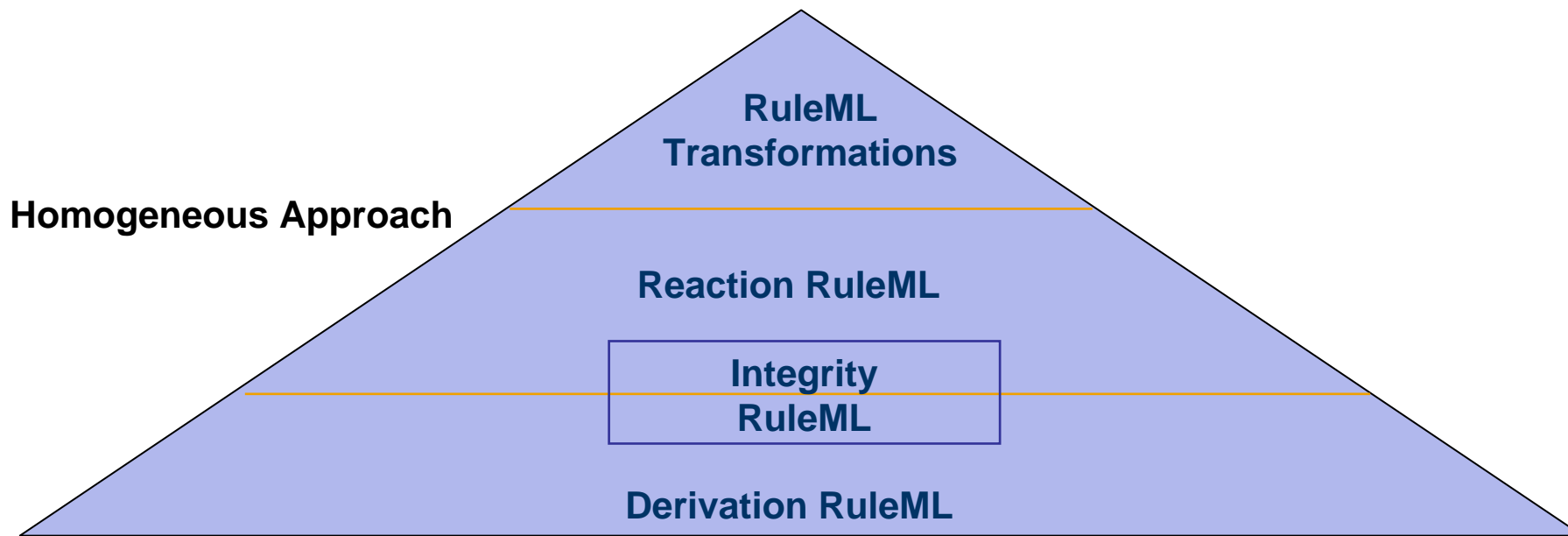
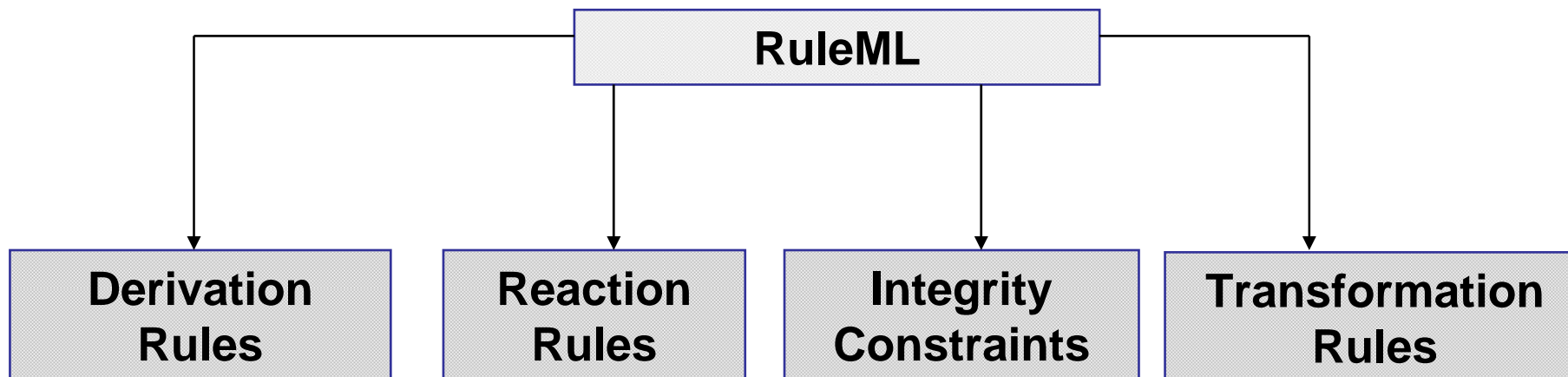
Our goals are ...

- to enable interoperation between various domains of event/action definition and processing such as:
 - Active Databases, Production Rules Systems, (Multi) Agent Systems, KR Event/Action Logics and Transactional Dynamic Update Logics, Transition and State Process Systems
- to be an general and open intermediate between various “specialized” vendors, applications, industrial and research working groups and standardization efforts such as:
 - OMG PRR
 - W3C RIF
 - Rewerse (e.g. XChange, R2ML, Rewerse ECA)

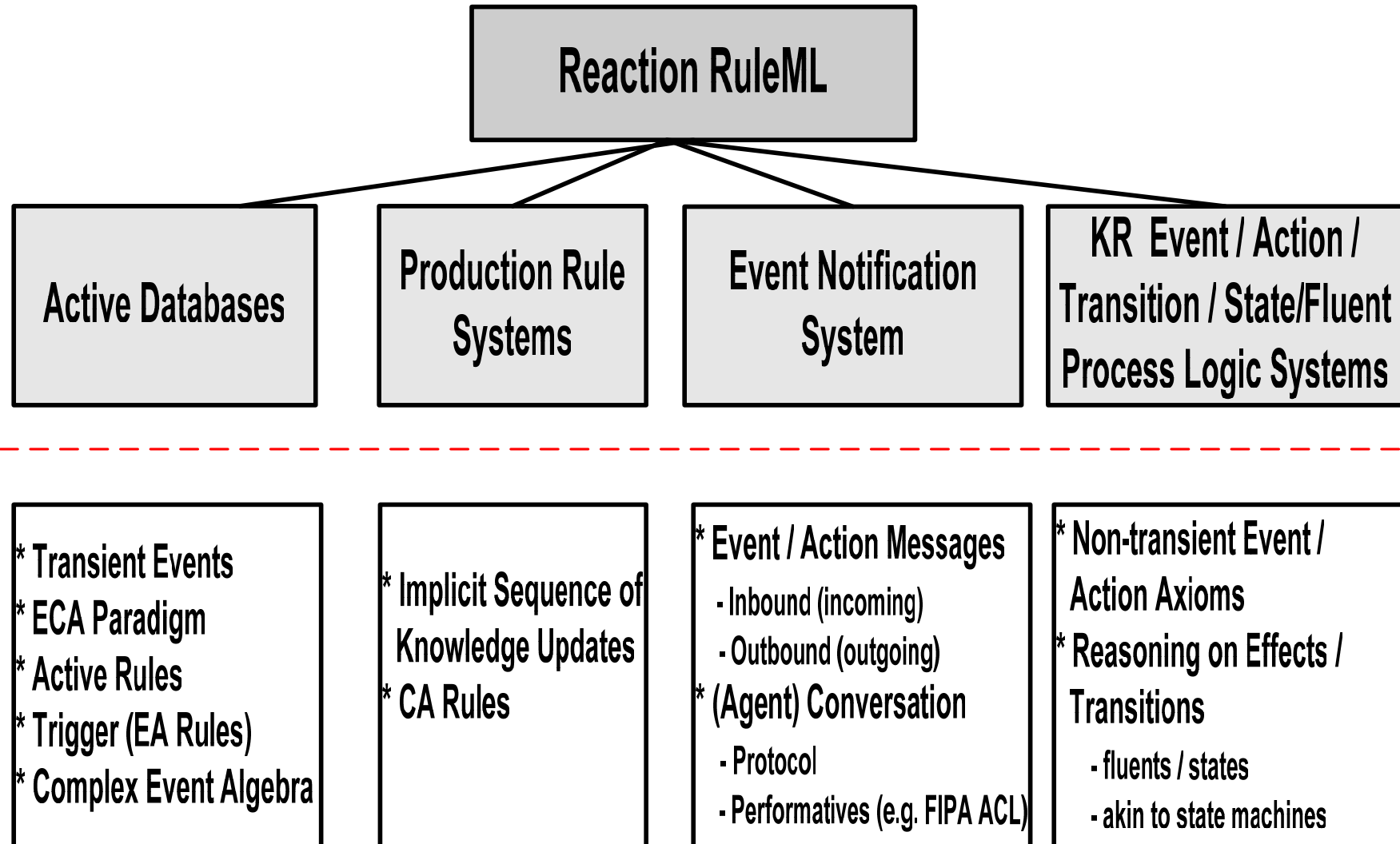
Reaction RuleML as “GLUE” between different separated approaches on event/action/state definitions and processing/reasoning techniques

Bridging the gap between the divergent notations and terminologies via a general syntactical and semantically design

How does Reaction RuleML relate to RuleML?



Scope of Reaction RuleML (1)



Classification of Event Space – 1. Dimension

- **Processing** (a.k.a. situation detection or event/action computation resp. reasoning)
 - **Short term:** Transient, non-persistent, real-time selection and consumption (e.g. triggers, ECA rules): *immediate reaction*
 - **Long term:** Transient, persistent events, typically processed in retrospective e.g. via KR event reasoning or event algebra computations on event sequence history; but also prospective planning / proactive, e.g. KR abductive planning: *deferred or retrospective/prospective*
 - **Complex event processing:** computation of complex events from event sequence histories of previously detected raw or other computed complex event (event selection and possible consumption) or transitions (e.g. dynamic LPs or state machines); typically by means of event algebra operators (event definition) (e.g. ECA rules and active rules, i.e. sequences of rules which trigger other rules via knowledge/state updates leading to knowledge state transitions)
 - **Deterministic vs. non-deterministic:** simultaneous occurred events give rise to only one model or two or more models
 - **Active vs. Passive:** actively detect / compute / reason event (e.g. via monitoring, sensing akin to periodic pull model or on-demand retrieve queries) vs. passively listen / wait for incoming events or internal changes (akin to push models e.g. publish-subscribe)

Derived from: Paschke, A.: **ECA-RuleML: An Approach combining ECA Rules with temporal interval-based KR Event/Action Logics and Transactional Update Logics**, Internet-based Information Systems, Technical University Munich, Technical Report 11 / 2005.

Classification of Event Space – 2. Dimension

■ Type

- **Flat vs. semi-structured compound data structure/type**, e.g. simple String representations or complex objects with or without attributes, functions and variables
- **Primitive vs. complex**, e.g. atomic, raw event or complex derived/computed event
- **Temporal**: Absolute (e.g. calendar dates, clock times), relative/delayed (e.g. 5 minutes after ...), durable (occurs over an interval), durable with continuous, gradual change (e.g. clocks, countdowns, flows)
- **State or Situation**: flow oriented event (e.g. “server started”, “fire alarm stopped”)
- **Spatio / Location**: durable with continuous, gradual change (approaching an object, e.g. 5 meters before wall, “bottle half empty”)
- **Knowledge Producing**: changes agents knowledge belief and not the state of the external world, e.g. look at the program → effect

Classification of Event Space – 3. Dimension

■ Source

- **Implicit** (changing conditions according to self-updates) vs. **explicit (internal or external occurred/computed/detected events)** (e.g. production rules vs. ECA rules)
- **By request** (query on database/knowledge base or call to external system) vs. **by trigger** (e.g. incoming event message, publish-subscribe, agent protocol / coordination)
- **Internal database/KB update events** (e.g. add, remove, update, retrieve) or **external explicit events** (inbound event messages, events detected by external systems): **belief update and revision**
- **Generated/Produced** (e.g. phenomenon, derived action effects) vs. **occurred (detected or received event)**

Classification of the Action Space (1)

■ Similar dimensions as for events

■ Temporal KR event/action perspective: (e.g. Event, Situation, Fluent Calculus, TAL)

- Actions with effects on changeable properties / states, i.e. actions ~ events

→ Focus: reasoning on effects of events/actions on knowledge states and properties

■ KR transaction, update, transition and (state) processing perspective: (e.g. transaction logics, dynamic LPs, LP update logics, transition logics, process algebra formalism)

- Internal knowledge self-updates of extensional KB (facts / data) and intensional KB (rules)

- Transactional updates possibly safeguarded by post-conditional integrity constraints / test case tests

- Complex actions (sequences of actions) modeled by action algebras (~event algebras), e.g. delayed reactions, sequences of bulk updates, concurrent actions

→ Focus: declarative semantics for internal transactional knowledge self-update sequences (dynamic programs)

- External actions on external systems via (procedural) calls, outbound messages, triggering/effecting

Classification of the Action Space (2)

■ Event Messaging / Notification System perspective

- Event/action messages (inbound / outbound messages)
- Often: agent / automated web) service communication; sometimes with broker, distributed environment, language primitives (e.g. FIPA ACL) and protocols; event notification systems, publish / subscribe
- Focus: often follow some protocol (negotiation and coordination protocols such as contract net) or publish-subscribe mechanism

Classification of the Action Space (3)

- Production rules (OPS5, Clips, Jess, JBoss Rules/Drools, Fair Isaac Blaze Advisor, ILog Rules, CA Aion, Haley, ESI Logist)
 - Mostly forward-directed non-deterministic operational semantics for Condition-Action rules
 - Primitive update actions (assert, retract); update actions (interpreted as implicit events) lead to changing conditions which trigger further actions, leading to sequences of triggering production rules
 - But: approaches to integrate negation-as-failure and declarative semantics exist:
 - ◆ E.g. for subclasses of production rules systems such as stratified production rules with priority assignments or transformation of the PR program into a normal LP
 - ◆ Related to serial Horn Rule Programs

Classification of the Action Space (4)

- Active Database perspective (e.g. ACCOOD, Chimera, ADL, COMPOSE, NAOS, HiPac)
 - ECA paradigm: “*on Event and Condition do Action*”; mostly operational semantics
 - Instantaneous, transient events/actions according to their detection time
 - Complex events: event algebra (e.g. Snoop, SAMOS, COMPOSE) and active rules (sequences of self-triggering ECA rules)

Classification of the Event / Action / State Definition and Processing / Reasoning Space (1)

1. Event/Action Definition

- Definition of event/action pattern by event algebra
- Based on declarative formalization or procedural implementation
- Defined over an atomic instant or an interval of time, events/actions, situation, transition etc.

2. Event/Action Selection

- Defines selection function to select one event from several occurred events (stored in an event instance sequence e.g. in memory, database/KB) of a particular type, e.g. “*first*”, “*last*”
- Crucial for the outcome of a reaction rule, since the events may contain different (context) information, e.g. different message payloads or sensing information
- **KR view**: Derivation over event/action history of happened or future planned events/actions

3. Event/Action Consumption / Execution

- Defines which events are consumed after the detection of a complex event
- An event may contribute to the detection of several complex events, if it is not consumed
- Distinction in event messaging between “multiple receive” and “single receive”
- Events which can no longer contribute, e.g. are outdated, should be removed
- **KR view**: events/actions are not consumed but persist in the fact base

Classification of the Event / Action / State Definition and Processing / Reasoning Space (2)

4. State / Transition Processing

- Actions might have an internal effect i.e. change the knowledge state leading to state transition from (pre)-condition state to post-condition state.
 - The effect might be hypothetical (e.g. a hypothetical state via a computation) or persistent (update of the knowledge base),
 - Actions might have an external side effect
- Separation of this phases is crucial for the outcome of a reaction rule base since typically event occur in a context and interchange context data to the condition or action (e.g. via variables, data fields).
- Declarative configuration and semantics of different selection and consumption policies is desirably (also on the syntax layer)

Design Principles of Reaction RuleML (1)

- XML Schema + EBNF Syntax
- Full RDF compatibility via type and role tags (akin to triple syntax) which can be omitted
- XML Schema Modularization: Layered and uniform design
 - easier to learn the language and to understand the relationship
 - facilitates reusability and complex language assemblings from modules
 - provides certain guidance to vendors who might be interested only in a particular subset of the features
 - easier to maintain, manage and extend in a distributed environment
- Not organized around complexity, but add different modeling expressiveness

Design Principles of Reaction RuleML (2)

- Reaction RuleML is a **declarative programming language for state / event / action processing rules** and not just a specification language;
 - but might be reduced to it for the business practitioner via predefined functionalities (implemented by a rule engineer and stored in a repository)
- Fulfils typical criteria for good language design such as *minimality, symmetry and orthogonality*
- Satisfies typical KR adequacy criteria such as *epistemological adequacy* in view of expressiveness of the language
- Reaction RuleML is intended to be transformed into a target execution languages of an underlying rule-based or event/action-driven systems

Reaction RuleML brings the following benefits ...

- Compared to traditional event-driven systems, this approach has the following major advantages:
 - rules are externalized and easily shared among multiple applications (avoiding vendor lock-in) ;
 - encourages reuse and shortens development time;
 - changes can be made faster and with less risk;
 - lowers cost incurred in the modification of business and reaction logic;
 - Allows to continuously adapt the rule-based behavioral logic to a rapidly changing business environments, and overcomes the restricting nature of slow change IT application cycles;

“Reaction rules constitute the next step in the application of flexible information system (IS) and decision support systems (DSS) technology aimed at automating reactions to events occurring in open service-oriented Web applications (SOAs)”



Part II: Reaction RuleML 0.1

General Concepts (1)

■ General reaction rule form that can be specialized as needed

■ Three general execution styles:

- ◆ **Active:** 'actively' polls/detects occurred events, e.g. by a ping on a service/system or a query on an internal or external event database
- ◆ **Passive:** 'passively' waits for incoming events, e.g. an event message
- ◆ **Reasoning:** KR event/action logic reasoning and transitions (as e.g. in Event Calculus, Situation Calculus, ACTL formalizations)

■ Appearance

- ◆ **Global:** 'globally' defined reaction rule
- ◆ **Local:** 'locally' defined (inline) reaction rule nested in a outer rule

■ Event: event of reaction rule

- ◆ Production rule systems: Event implicit in starting next cycle
- ◆ Active execution: Actively detect / listen to events (possibly clocked by a time function / monitoring schedule)
- ◆ Passive execution: Passively wait / listen for matching event pattern (e.g. event message)

General Concepts (2)

■ Condition

- ◆ Production rule system: trigger for action
- ◆ Backward reasoning: top-down goal proof attempt based on derivation rules
- ◆ **Strong condition**: on failure completely terminates the execution, e.g. the message sequence or the derivation process
- ◆ **Weak condition**: on failure proceeds with the derivation or waits for further messages without execution of the action

■ Action

- ◆ Executes action either as internal knowledge self-update or externally, e.g. as sendMessage or procedural call on an external system

■ Postcondition

- ◆ Evaluated after action has been performed
- ◆ **Transactional postcondition**: rolls back action (knowledge update) if failed

■ Alternative Action

- ◆ Executes alternative action if condition or action fails (akin to “if then else” logic)

Reaction RuleML Syntax – Basic Constructs

- **<Reaction>** General reaction rule construct
 - **@exec** = "*active | passive | reasoning*"; default = "*passive*"
 - Attribute denoting “active”, “passive” or “reasoning” **execution** style
 - **@kind** Attribute denoting the **kind** of the reaction rule, i.e. its combination of constituent parts, e.g. „*eca*“, „*ca*“, „*ecap*“
 - **@eval** Attribute denoting the interpretation of a rule: “*strong | weak*”
 - **<event>**, **<body>**, **<action>**, **<postcond>**, **<alternative>**
 - role tags; may be omitted when they can be uniquely reconstructed from positions
 - **<Message>** Defines an inbound or outbound message
 - **@mode** = *inbound | outbound*
 - Attribute defining the type of a message
 - **@directive** = [directive, e.g. FIPA ACL]
 - **<Assert>** | **<Retract>** Performatives for internal knowledge updates
- ... glossary on further constructs such as complex event/action algebra on website

General Syntax for Reaction Rules

```
<Reaction exec="active" kind="ecapa" eval="strong">
```

```
  <event>
```

```
    <!-- event -->
```

```
  </event>
```

```
  <body>
```

```
    <!-- condition -->
```

```
  </body>
```

```
  <action>
```

```
    <!-- action -->
```

```
  </action>
```

```
  <postcond>
```

```
    <!-- postcondition -->
```

```
  </postcond>
```

```
  <alternative>
```

```
    <!-- alternative/else action -->
```

```
  </alternative>
```

```
</Reaction>
```

Example 1: Active Global Reaction Rule (ECA) (1)

```
<Reaction kind="eca" exec="active">
  <event> <!-- the role tag might be omitted -->
    <Reaction kind="ea">
      <event>
        <Atom>
          <Rel>everyMinute</Rel>
          <Var>T</Var>
        </Atom>
      </event>
      <action>
        <Atom>
          <Rel>detect</Rel>
          <Var type="event:EventType1"
            mode="-">TroubleTicket</Var>
          <Var>T</Var>
        </Atom>
      </action>
    </Reaction>
  </event>
... next slide
```

Example 1: Active Global Reaction Rule (ECA) (1)

```
<body>
  <Atom>
    <Rel>maintenance</Rel>
    <Var>T</Var>
  </Atom>
</body>
<action>
  <!-- Boolean-valued procedural attachment on
    incident management system -->
  <Atom>
    <!-- class/object -->
    <oid><Ind uri="rbsla.utils.TroubleSystem"/></oid>
    <!-- method -->
    <Rel in="effect" lang="java">processTicket</Rel>
    <!-- parameter -->
    <Var type="event:EventType1"
      mode="+">TroubleTicket</Var>
  </Atom>
</action>
</Reaction>
```

Example 2: Active Global Reaction Rule (CA / Production) (1)

```
<Reaction kind="ca" exec="active">
  <body>
    <Atom>
      <Rel>occurs</Rel>
      <Expr in="no">
        <Fun>heartbeat</Fun><Var>Service</Var>
      </Expr>
      <Var>T</Var>
    </Atom>
  </body>
  <action>
    <Assert>
      <oid><Ind>availability values</Ind></oid> <!-- OID of update -->
      <Atom>
        <Rel>alive</Rel>
        <Var>Service</Var>
        <Var>T</Var>
      </Atom>
    </Assert>
  </action>
</Reaction>
```

Example 3: Passive Global Notification Reaction Rule

```
<Reaction kind="ea" exec="passive" eval="strong">

  <event>
    <Message mode="inbound" directive="ACL:inform">
      <oid><Var>XID</Var></oid>
      <protocol><Var>Protocol</Var>
      <sender><Var>From</Var></sender>
      <content><Var>Payload</Var></content> <!--message payload-->
    </Message>
  </event>

  <action>
    <Assert>
      <oid><Ind>opinions</Ind></oid> <!-- OID of update -->
      <Atom>
        <Rel>opinion</Rel>
        <Var>From</Var>
        <Var>Payload</Var>
      </Atom>
    </Assert>
  </action>
</Reaction>
```



Web Site Demonstration

<http://ibis.in.tum.de/research/ReactionRuleML/>



Part III: Talks



ContractLog ECA-LP: An Event-Condition-Action Logic Programming Language

by Adrian Paschke

and

Prova Agent Architecture

by Alexander Kozlenkov

ECA-LP: A Homogeneous Event-Condition-Action Logic Programming Language

ECA rule: $eca (<Time>, <Event>, <Condition>, <Action>, <Post-Cond.>, <Else Action>)^*$

* All ECA rule parts are optional, except of action; An ECA rule is interpreted as top query

(Time): Pre-conditional time function used as clock / timer

(Event): Actively detect/listen to internal and external (complex) events (clocked by time function)

(Condition) : Conditional test

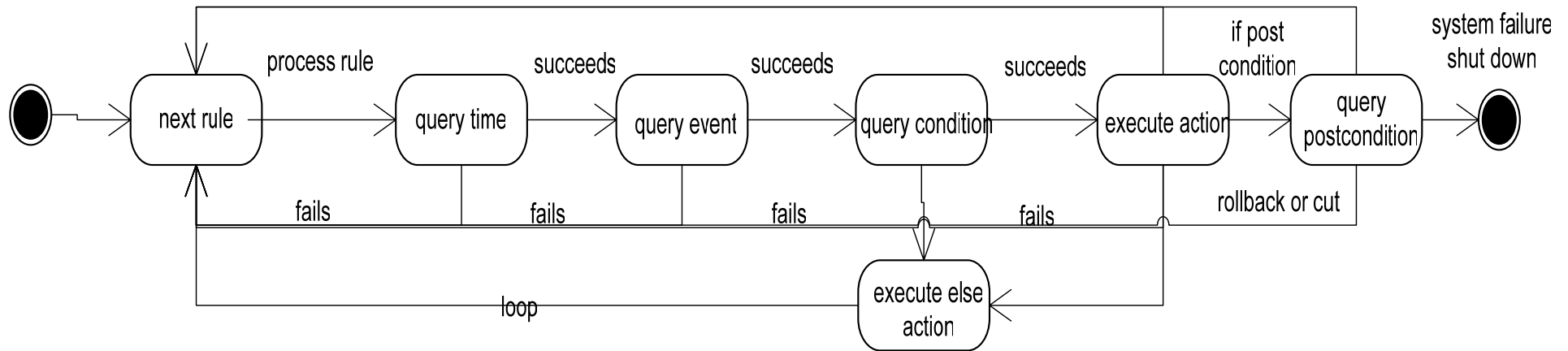
(Action): Internal self-update action or external action with side effects; might be complex and transactional

(Post-Condition): Post-conditional test; might commit or rollback action; supports cuts and variable quantifications

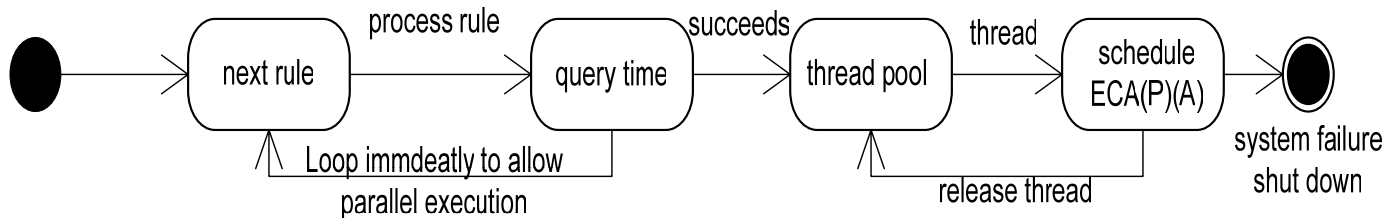
(Else Action): Executes alternative action if condition or action fails (akin to "if then else" logic)

ECA-LP: Operational Semantics

ECA Interpreter with Active Query Daemon for arbitrary Rule Engines
 succeeds → loop



Multi-Threading Parallel Scheduling of Reaction Rules



ECA-LP: Decl. Logic Programming Semantics for ECA rules

- ECA rule is top query: $T \wedge E \wedge ((C \wedge A \wedge P) \vee EL) ?$.
- Declarative Logic Programming semantics for **PROGRAMMING** of ECA functionalities in terms of derivation rules or Boolean-valued procedural attachments (assigning truth values):
 - Model-theoretic semantics based on 3-valued truth-valued semantics of LP language, e.g. extended WFS: $SEM(ECA LP) \subseteq MOD_{3-val}^{Herb}(ECA LP)$
- Post-conditional integrity constraints and test cases to dynamically test transactional self-update actions and do rollbacks / commits
 - $U^{pos/neg}_{oid} := \{rule^N : H \leftarrow B, fact_M : A \leftarrow\} oid$, where $N=0,\dots,n$, $M=0,\dots,m$ and $oid=update\ label\ (\sim module)$
 - $P_i = P_{i-1} \cup U_{oid}^{pos}$ or $P_i = P_{i-1} \setminus U_{oid}^{neg}$;
 - Sequence of transitions: $\langle P, E, U \rangle \rightarrow \langle P', U, U' \rangle \rightarrow \langle P'', U, U'' \rangle \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow \langle P_{n+1}, U_n, A \rangle$
- Interval Based Event Calculus
 - Rich expressive events/actions definitions
 - State/fluent processing / KR reasoning
 - complex interval-based event / action algebra (KR EC semantics):
 - ◆ Paschke, A.: **ECA-RuleML: An Approach combining ECA Rules with temporal interval-based KR Event/Action Logics and Transactional Update Logics**, Internet-based Information Systems, Technical University Munich, Technical Report 11 / 2005.
- 3-Phases for event processing:
(1) definition (2) selection (3) consumption
 - Configurable selection and consumption policies
- Transactional complex updates or external actions
 - Dynamic OID-based transactional LP updates
 - Sequence of transitions with post-conditional integrity tests and possible rollbacks
 - External actions with side effects via highly expressive attachments

Example 1: Active Global Reaction Rule (ECA) (1)

```
<Reaction kind="eca" exec="active">
  <event> <!-- the role tag might be omitted if still unambiguous -->
    <Reaction kind="ea">
      <event>
        <Atom><Rel>everyMinute</Rel><Var>T</Var></Atom>
      </event>
      <action>
        <Atom>
          <Rel>detect</Rel> <Var type="event:EventType1" mode="-">TroubleTicket</Var>
          <Var>T</Var>
        </Atom>
      </action>
    </Reaction>
  </event>

  <body>
    <Atom>
      <Rel>maintenance</Rel>
      <Var>T</Var>
    </Atom>
  </body>
  <action>
    <!-- Boolean-valued procedural attachment -->
    <Atom>
      <oid><Ind uri="rbsla.utils.TroubleSystem,"/></oid> <!-- class/object -->
      <Rel in="effect" lang="java">processTicket</Rel> <!-- method -->
      <Var type="event:EventType1" mode="+">TroubleTicket</Var> <!-- parameter -->
    </Atom>
  </action>
</Reaction>
```

Example 1: Active Global Reaction Rule (ECA) (2)

■ ECA-LP/Prova Syntax (related to ISO Prolog notation)

```
eca(  
    everyMinute(T),           %time  precondition(clock)  
    detect(TroubleTicket,T), % event  
    maintenance(T),          % condition  
    rbsla.utils.TroubleSystem.ProcessTicket( % action  
        TroubleTicket  
    )  
).  
  
% Formalization of time function „everyMinute(T)“  
everyMinute(T):-  
    sysTime(T), % get actual system time/date  
    interval(timespan(0,0,1,0), T).% interval function
```

Example 1: Active Global Reaction Rule (ECA) (3)

```
% Formalization of event detection
detect(TroubleTicket:event_EventType1,T) :-
    occurs(TroubleTicket:event_EventType1,T),
    consume(TroubleTicket:event_EventType1,T).

% Formalization of condition
maintenance(T) :- neg(holdsAt(maintenance,T)).

% Event Calculus state processing rules
initiates(startingMaintenance,maintenance,T).
terminates(stoppingMaintenance,maintenance,T).
```

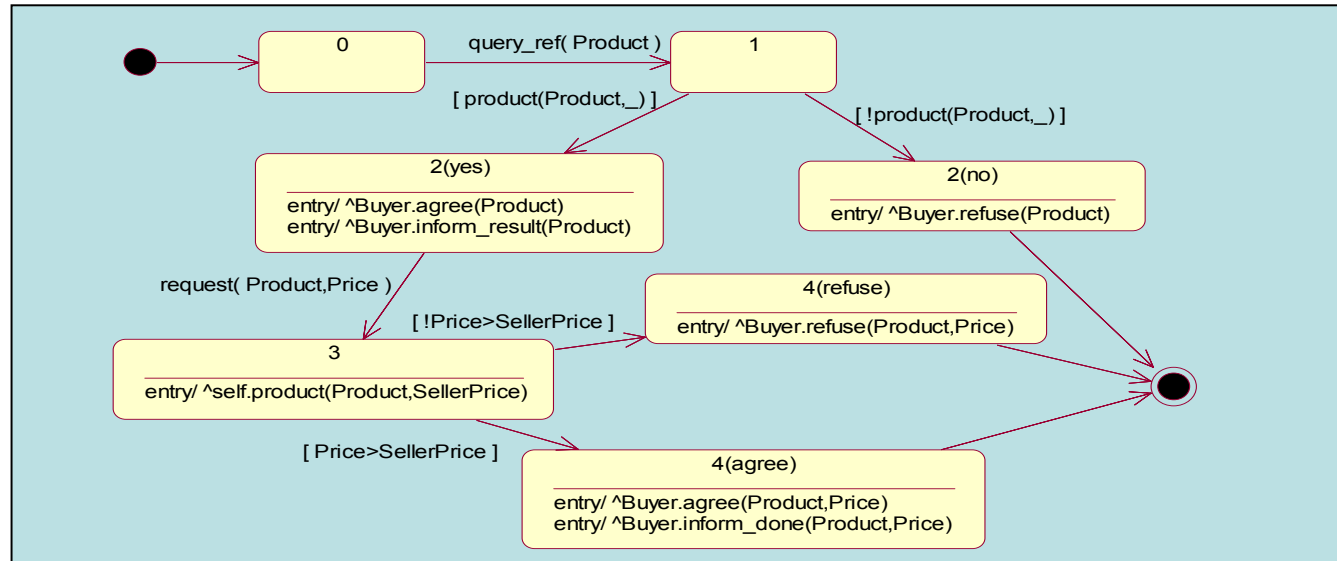
Agents Architecture Prova-AA

Prova Agents Architecture is an intrinsic part of the Prova rule language providing reactive agent functionality.

Prova-AA offers

- ✓ reaction rules;
- ✓ message sending and receiving for local and remote communication actions;
- ✓ uniform handling of communication protocols (JMS, JADE, plus any Mule ESB).
- ✓ message payload as complex terms containing typed or untyped Java variables and serializable Java objects;
- ✓ state machine, Petri nets, or pi-calculus based conversation protocols;
- ✓ context-dependent inline reactions for asynchronous message exchange;
- ✓ ability to distribute mobile rulebases to remote agents;
- ✓ *Communicator* class for simplified embedding of Prova agents in Java and Web applications;
- ✓ Prova Universal Message Object gateway for reactive agents on Mule ESB.
- ✓ Multi-threaded Swing programming with Prova Java calls and reaction rules.

State machines based conversations



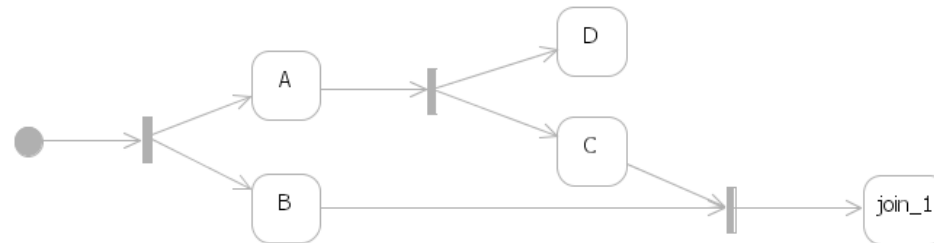
```

directbuy_seller_1(XID,Protocol,From,Product) :-
    product(Product | _),
    !,
    sendMsg(XID,Protocol,From,agree,Product,seller),
    sendMsg(XID,Protocol,From,inform_result,Product,seller),
    directbuy_seller_2(yes,XID,Protocol,From,Product).
directbuy_seller_1(XID,Protocol,From,Product) :-
    sendMsg(XID,Protocol,From,refuse,Product,seller),
    directbuy_seller_2(no,XID,Protocol,From,Product).
directbuy_seller_2(yes,XID,Protocol,From,Product) :-
    !,
    rcvMsg(XID,Protocol,From,request,[Product,Price],buyer),
    product(Product,SellerPrice),
    directbuy_seller_3(XID,Protocol,From,Product,Price,SellerPrice).
directbuy_seller_2(no,XID,Protocol,From,Product).
    
```

Prova as a pattern- and rule-based workflow language (1/2)

- State machines cannot represent some business processes involving parallelism;
- More focused workflow languages are required;
- Typical semantics are based on Petri nets and pi-calculus;
- Prova offers
 - unification of message patterns and performatives;
 - *fork* via rule non-determinism;
 - *join* via a built-in predicate with join patterns;
 - conversations distinguished by conversation-ids;
 - easy programmability and ability to run a memory-limited number of conversations in parallel.
 - branching logic with BPEL-like links for selective termination reaction;

Prova as a pattern- and rule-based workflow language (2/2)



```
process_join() :-
    iam(Me),
    init_join(XID,join_1,[c(_),b(_)]),
    fork_a_b(Me,XID).
fork_a_b(Me,XID) :-
    rcvMsg(XID,self,Me,reply,a(1)),
    fork_c_d(Me,XID).
fork_a_b(Me,XID) :-
    rcvMsg(XID,self,Me,reply,b(1)),
    join(Me,XID,join_1,b(1)).
fork_c_d(Me,XID) :-
    rcvMsg(XID,self,Me,reply,c(1)),
    % Tell the join join_1 that a new pattern is ready
    join(Me,XID,join_1,c(1)).

% The following rule is invoked by join once all the inputs are assembled.
join_1(Me,XID,Inputs) :-
    println(["Joined for XID=",XID," with inputs: ",Inputs]).

% Prints
% Joined for XID=agent@hostname001 with inputs [[b,1],[c,1]]
```

Example 3: Passive Global Notification Reaction Rule (1)

```
<Reaction kind="ea" exec="passive" eval="strong">

  <event>
    <Message mode="inbound" directive="ACL:inform">
      <oid><Var>XID</Var></oid>
      <protocol><Var>Protocol</Var>
      <sender><Var>From</Var></sender>
      <content><Var>Payload</Var></content> <!--message payload-->
    </Message>
  </event>

  <action>
    <Assert>
      <oid><Ind>opinions</Ind></oid> <!-- OID of update -->
      <Atom>
        <Rel>opinion</Rel>
        <Var>From</Var>
        <Var>Payload</Var>
      </Atom>
    </Assert>
  </action>
</Reaction>
```

Example 3: Passive Global Notification Reaction Rule (2)

- Prova AA Syntax (related to ISO Prolog notation)

```
rcvMsg(XID, Protocol, From, "inform", Payload) :-  
    add(opinions, "opinion(_0, _1).", [From, Payload]).
```



Prova AA and ECA-LP Demonstration



Transaction Logics

by

Michael Kifer



Production Logic Programs

by

Benjamin Grosf



XChange

by

Michael Eckert and Paula-Lavinia Patranjan



Part IV: Discussion