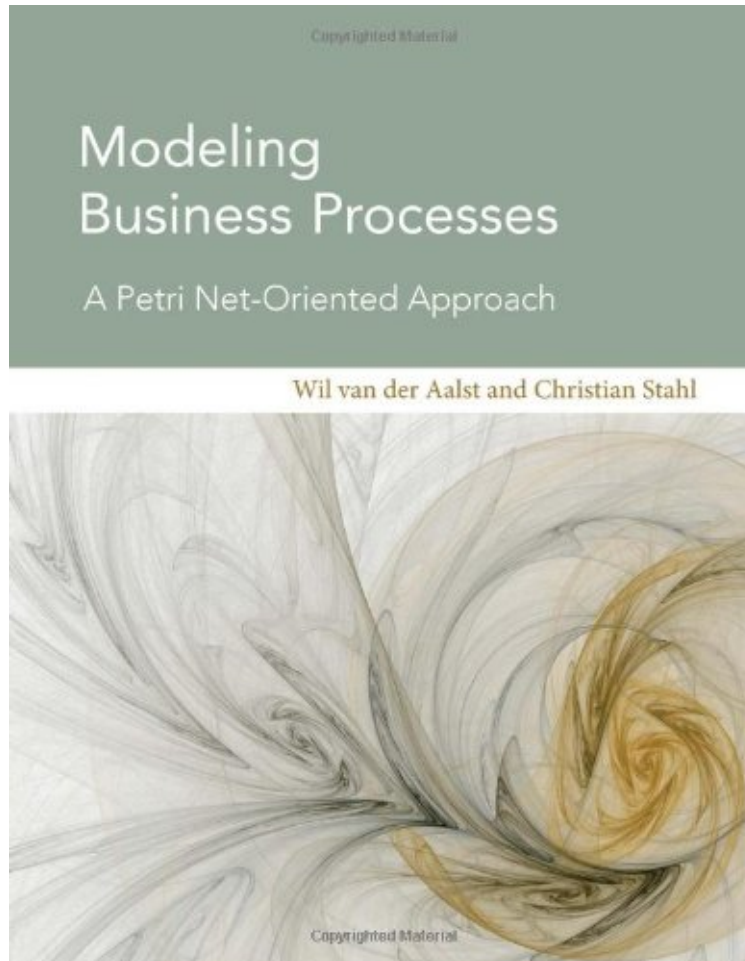


Modeling Business Processes: A Petri Net-Oriented Approach (Information Systems)

Wil M.P. van der Aalst, Christian Stahl
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wants to start, and the writer is probably one of two most famous people in this field.

An introduction to the modeling of business information systems, with processes formally modeled using Petri nets. This comprehensive introduction to modeling business-information systems focuses on business processes. It describes and demonstrates the formal modeling of processes in terms of Petri nets, using a well-established theory for capturing and analyzing models with concurrency. The precise semantics of this formal method offers a distinct advantage for modeling processes over the industrial modeling languages found in other books on the subject. Moreover, the simplicity and expressiveness of the Petri nets concept make it an ideal language for explaining foundational concepts and constructing exercises. After an overview of business information systems, the book introduces the modeling of processes in terms of classical Petri nets. This is then extended with data, time, and hierarchy to model all aspects of a process. Finally, the book explores analysis of Petri net models to detect design flaws and errors in the design process. The text, accessible to a broad audience of professionals and students, keeps technicalities to a minimum and offers numerous examples to illustrate the concepts covered. Exercises at different levels of difficulty make the book ideal for independent study or classroom use.

This book is a must-read for anybody interested in the foundations of process modeling using Petri nets; with dozens of exercises (and solutions!), it also serves as an excellent textbook. (Mathias Weske, Hasso Plattner Institute, University of Potsdam) This book is about using Petri nets to model business processes in their relation to information systems. But it is much more. It characterizes different types of information systems based on their capability to support complex business processes. It teaches how to translate informal requirements into explicit models and how to cope with changes and adaptation. But most importantly it provides an efficient and unambiguous way to translate dynamic complex behavior into static understandable models. Petri nets are back again and they are here to stay. (John Hoogland, CEO, Pallas Athena International) This book is an absolute must for everyone who wants to learn the state of the art for modeling of business processes by means of colored Petri nets. Wil van der Aalst's group at Eindhoven University of Technology is world-leading in the field -- both when it comes to the theoretical foundation, and in practical applications and tool support. The book can be read with little or no prior knowledge of Petri nets and I highly recommend it both for classes and for individuals. It is brilliant. (Kurt Jensen, Aarhus University, Denmark) About the Author Christian Stahl is a postdoctoral researcher at Eindhoven University of Technology. Wil van der Aalst is Professor of Information Systems and Chair of the Information and Technology Department at Eindhoven University of Technology, the Netherlands.