

Decision Tables and Activity Diagrams

Dave Levitt

CS 2000: Systems Analysis & Design

Agenda

- Inception Phase Due!
- Questions Review
- Discuss Decision Tables
- Activity Diagrams / Rose Demo
- Review Elaboration Phase 1
- Next Week – Team Jeopardy!

Decision Tables

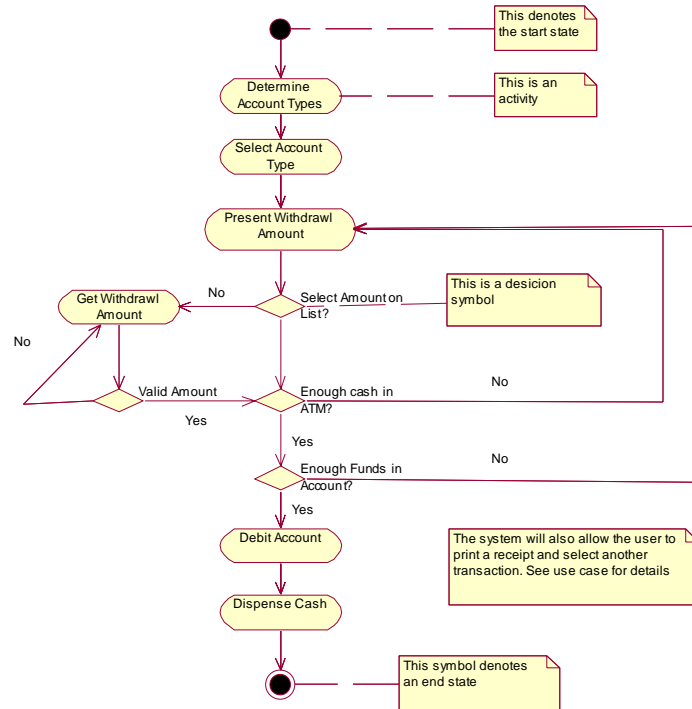
- Capture complex logic flows.
- Useful when structured English will not work well.
- Technique (see handout)
 - Identify the decision points. Put each one in a separate row. Example: YTD Purchases
 - For each decision point, identify the decision variables. Put each one in a separate column. Example: Number of Items
 - Order the rows by the number of decision variables. Example: YTD Purchases before Number of Items.
 - Identify the result and put it into a separate row. Hint: the name of this row should be the name of the table. Example: Calculate Shipping Charge.
 - Fill in the table.

Activity Diagrams

- Used to describe a sequence of activities.
- They can support parallel and conditional behavior.
- Are popular with understanding business workflow, visualizing a use case, describing a complicated algorithm, dealing with multithreaded applications.
- Like a flowchart but more powerful. Flowcharts usually sequential, activity diagrams can handle parallel processes.

Activity Diagrams (con't)

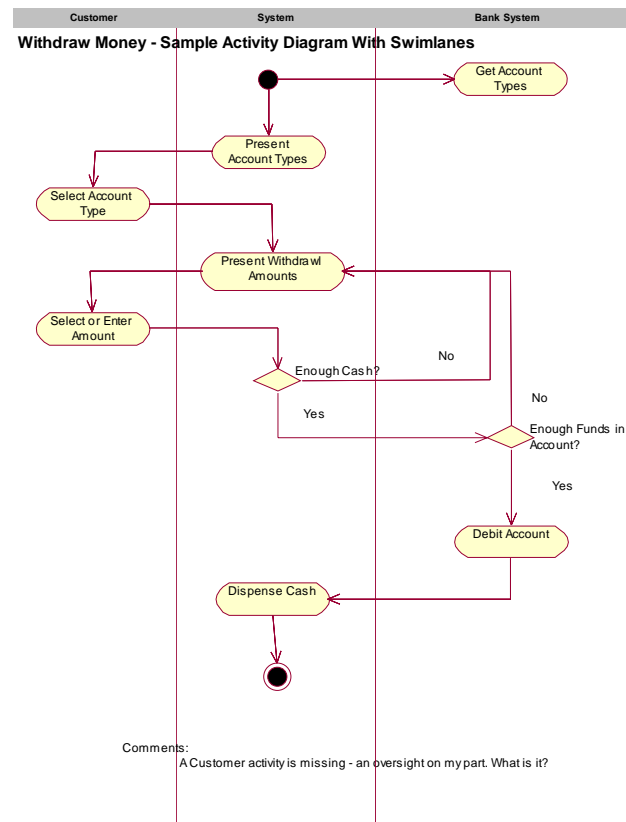
Withdraw Money - Sample Activity Diagram 1



General Comments:

I choose to show some exception flows. Usually I don't because it clutters up the diagram.
Note how some notes are anchored and others are not. Either way, notes are very important!
What happens when there are not enough funds in the account? Does this raise any questions?

Activity Diagrams (con't)



Activity Diagrams (con't)

