



# Feature Based Design of Web Service Transaction Compensations

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Ireland

# Outline

IWIS group and background

General problem

Business transactions

Middleware for advanced compensations

Service provider and client feature modelling

Matchmaking and restriction model

Further Challenges

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# Intelligent Web and Information Systems

<http://iwis.cs.aau.dk>

**Adaptation  
Techniques  
and Algorithms**

**Different  
Application  
Areas**

**Engineering  
Adaptation**

**Adaptive  
Infrastructures/Middleware**

## Adaptation/Customization

- Customization by humans (designers)
- Dynamic adaptation by a system itself
- Adaptation is about decision on which information resource or function variant to provide or recommend access to,
- We need a knowledge to decide about appropriate information or service configuration in a certain processing step (user or other):
  - Resource and information access environment
  - Application domain
  - User/Context
  - And their configuration – variants and their meaningful combinations for certain purposes

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# Open Web Service Environment

## Service Providers

- A number of autonomous service providers exist
- They can provide similar functionality
- They can dis-/appear any time
- Each wants to maximize its profit for executing provided services by external consumers

## Service Consumers

- Number of consumers with similar requirements exist
- They want to achieve high value for their expense
- To maximize their service
- By composing matched available services from different providers

# Software Product Lines

## Software Providers

- Number of reusable software assets exist
- They may vary in its functionality
- They want to maximize its profit by providing the assets in an application in a family mostly from one company

## Software Consumers

- Number of consumers with similar requirements
- They want to achieve high value for their expense
- To maximize their service
- By composing a final application from the reusable assets



# Difference

Client is composing in web service world

Client is composing from different providers in web service world

Services used in the composition may be exchanged

Question:

- What can be achieved by current state of the art software product lines techniques?

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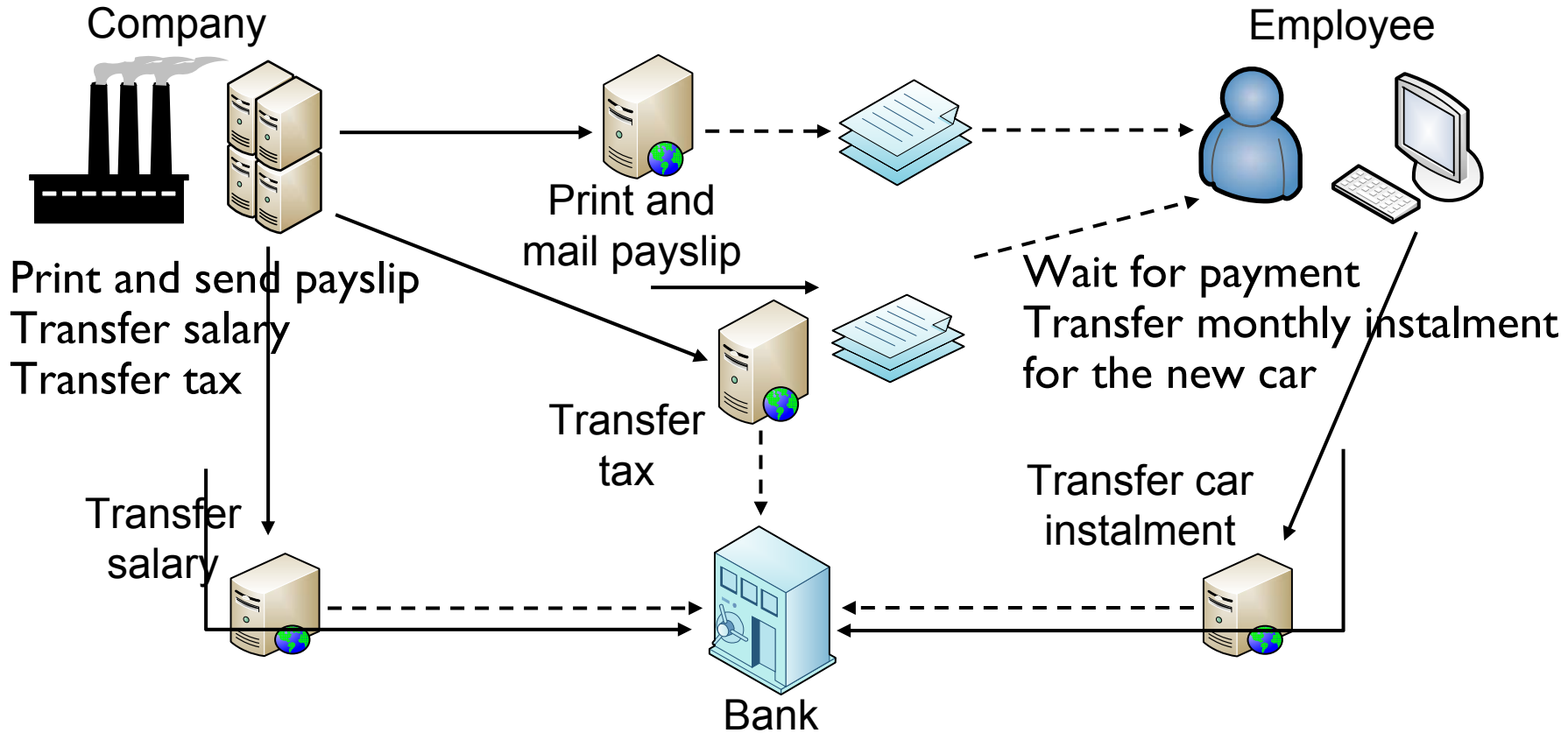
Middleware for advanced compensations

Service provider and client feature modelling

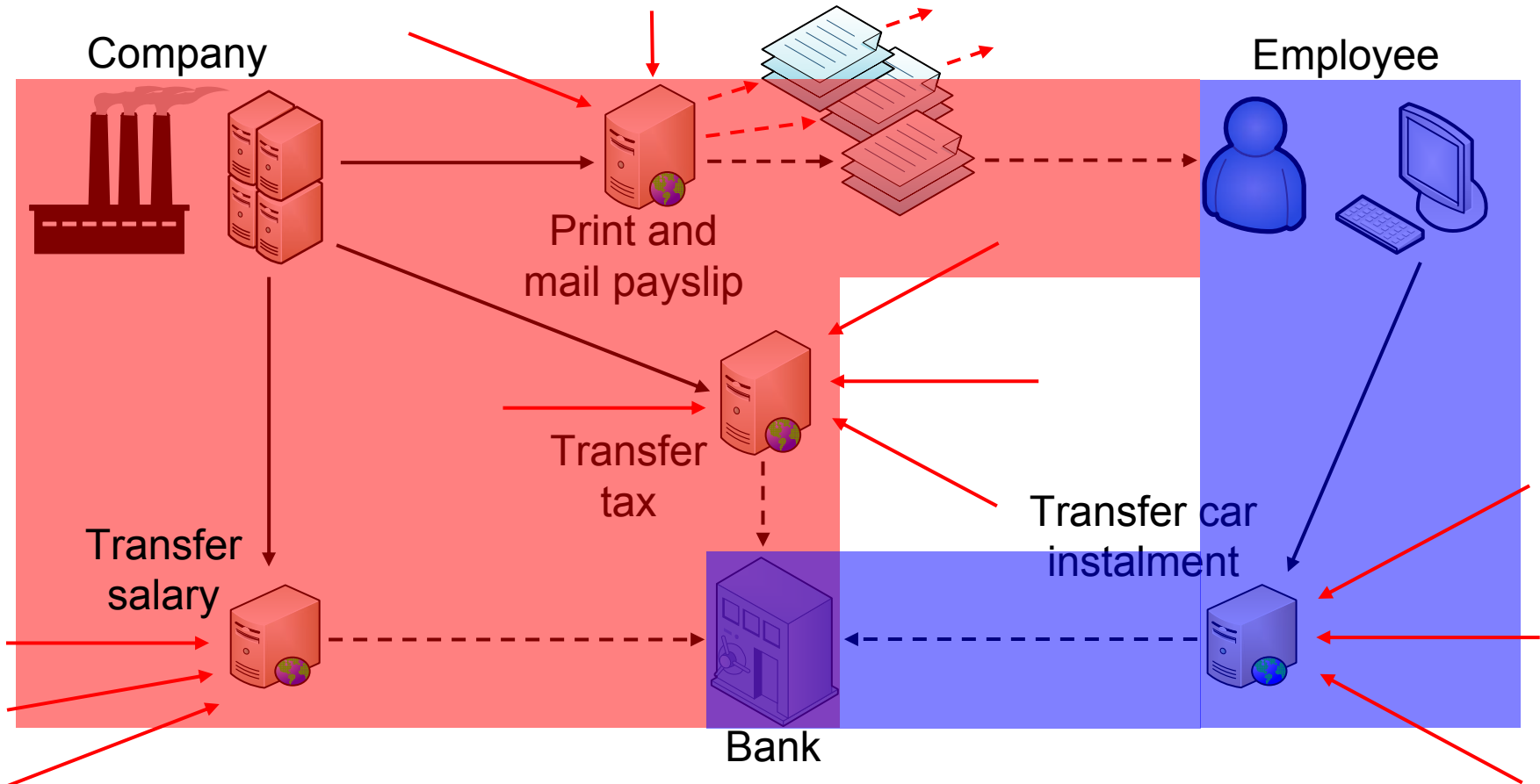
Matchmaking and restriction model

Further Challenges

# Payroll Scenario



# Service Oriented Payroll Scenario



To reach mutually-agreed outcome (commit/cancel)  
 In environment with concurrent access

# Transactions

Control the execution of the required operations on the external services.

Consist of a set of operations (e.g. database operations) that are performed by multiple participants.

Control the collective outcome of the operations.

*Distributed transactions* control the execution of operations on multiple providers.

- Participant
- Coordinator

# Error Compensation

Different transaction specifications exist for different purposes

## Backward recovery

Normally, predefined *rollback operations* are executed in order to restore the state before the transaction.

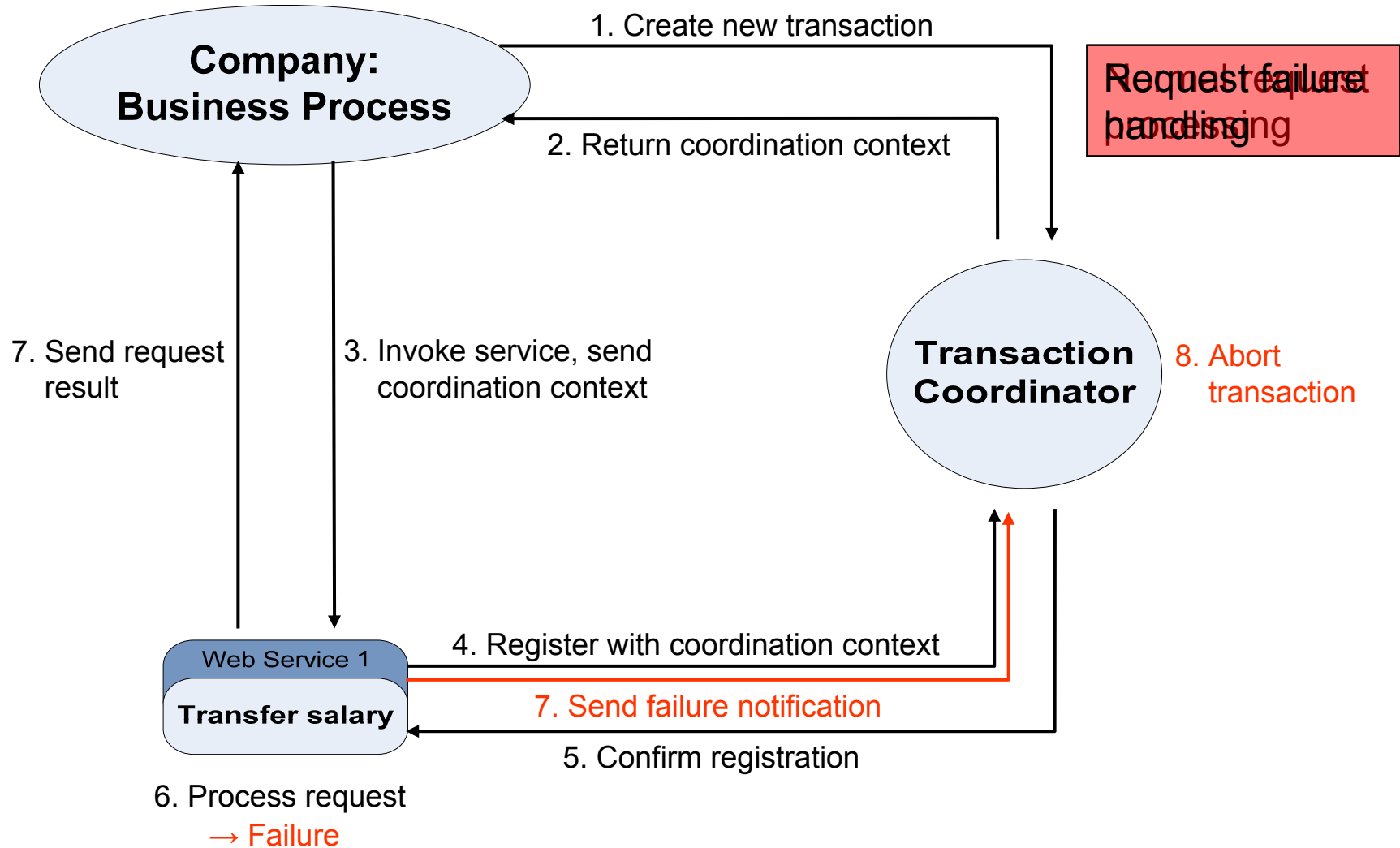
- Time and money is lost
- *Dependent transactions* also have to roll back (*domino effect*)

## Forward recovery

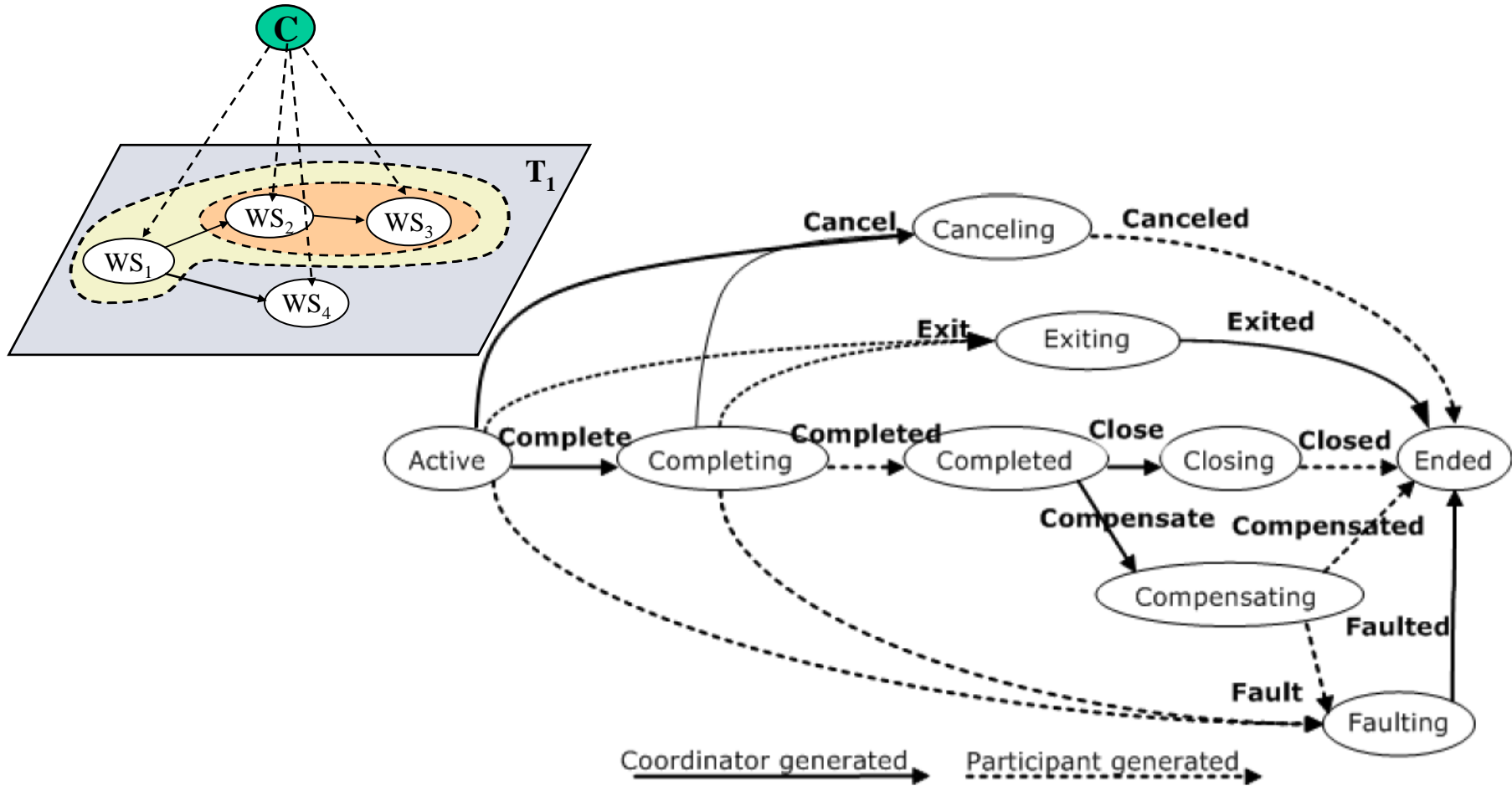
Aims at changing pro-actively the state of the participant or transaction to enable a successful execution after a failure.

- Complex
- Can normally only be performed semi-automatically

# Traditional WS-Transaction Coordin. Structure



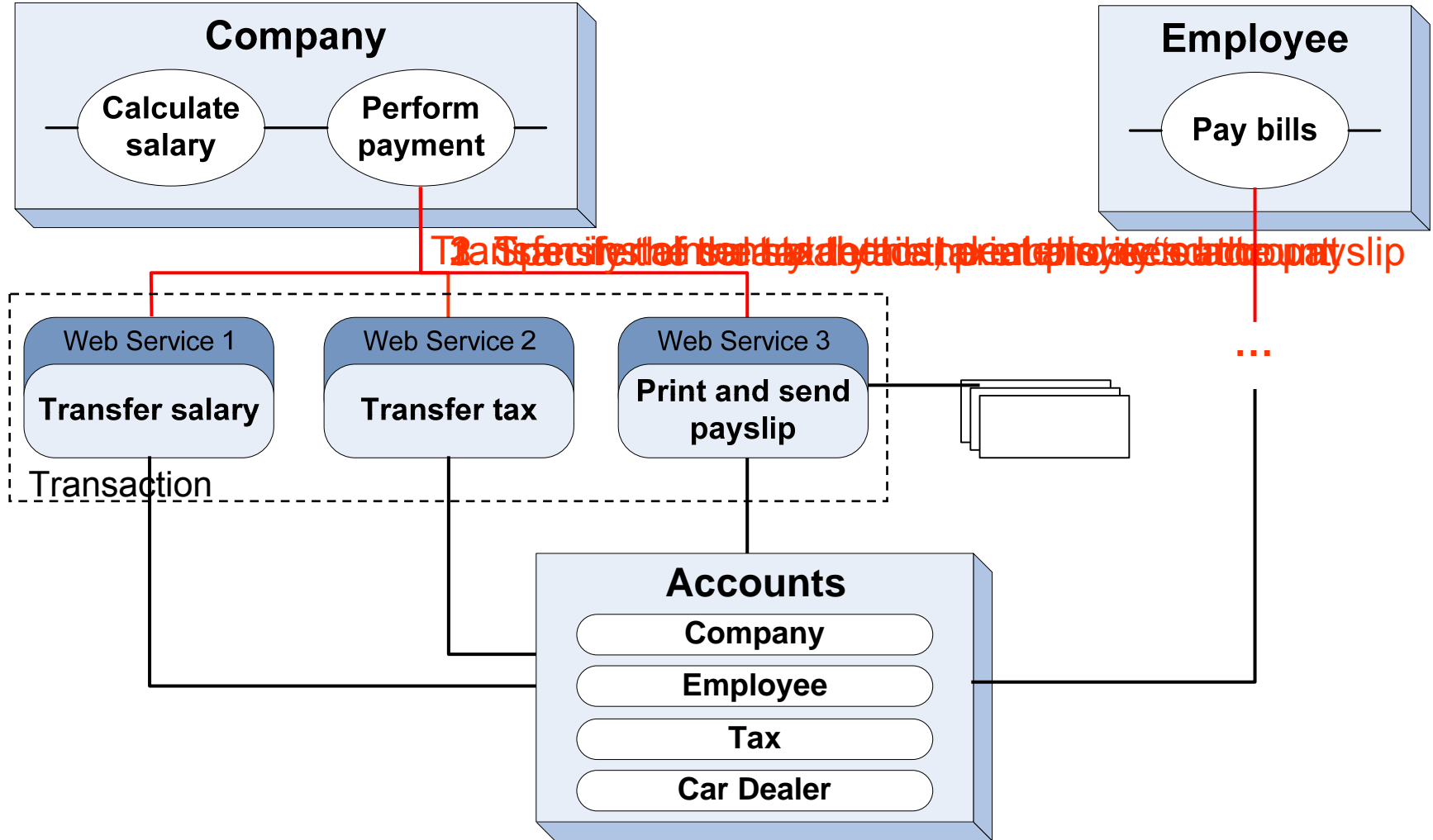
# WS – Tx / Business Activity Coordination Type



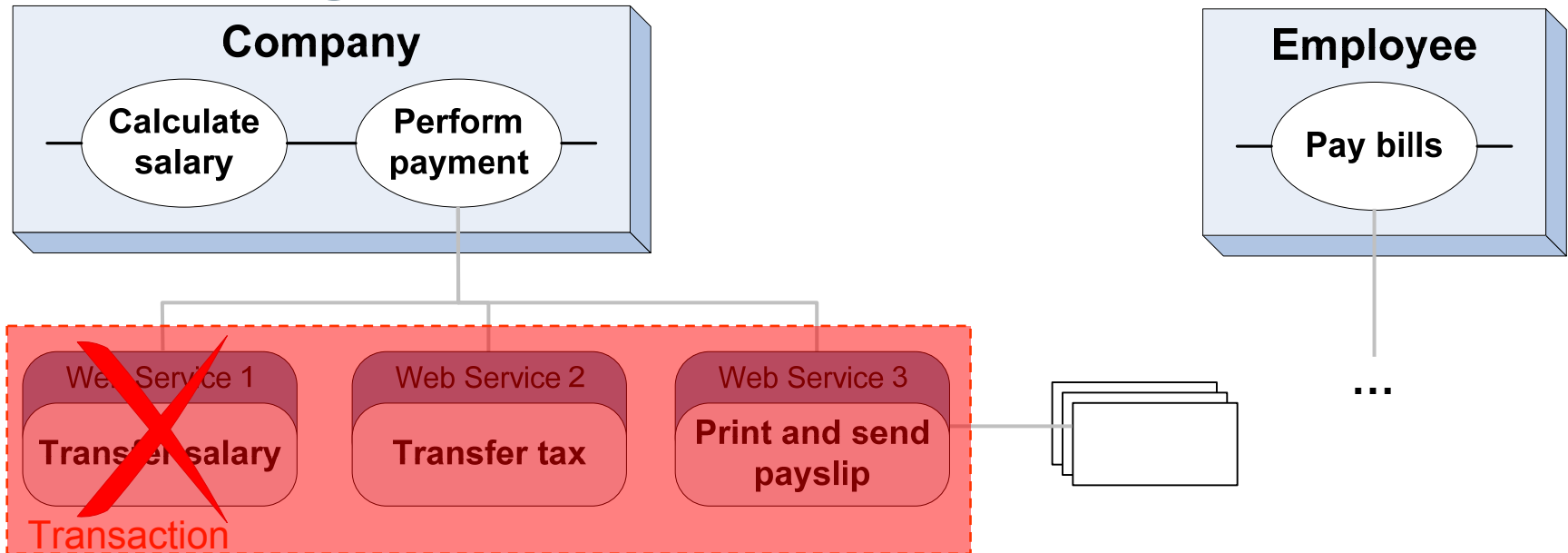
abstract state diagram



# Payroll Processing



# Motivating Scenario – Problem



A service fails due to an internal error.  
 The error can only be compensated by aborting the complete transaction.  
 Why should the transaction be aborted, if a different service exists that can perform the same operations?

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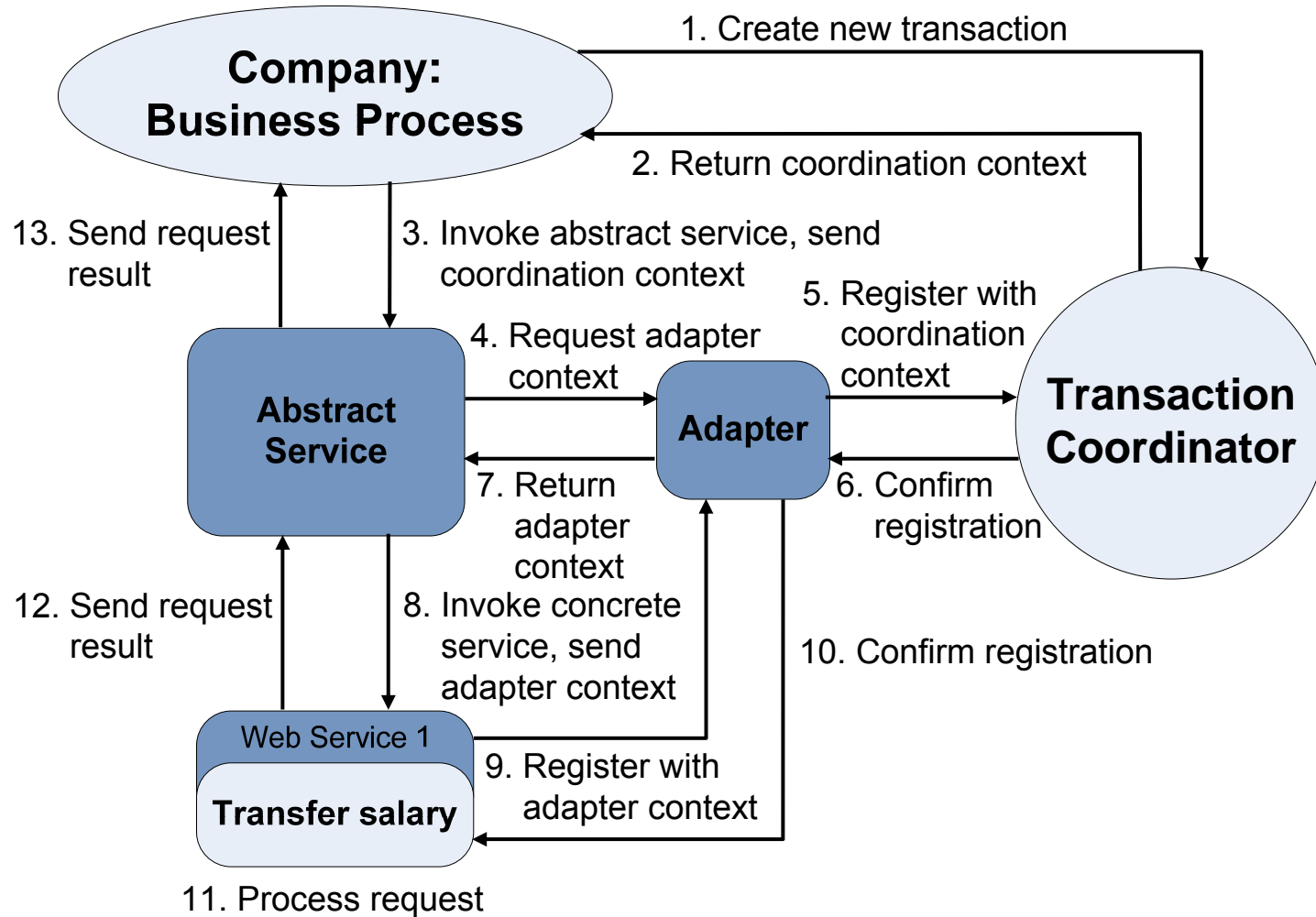
**Middleware for advanced compensations**

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# Extended Transaction Coordination Structure



# New Components - Abstract Service

Does not directly implement functionalities.

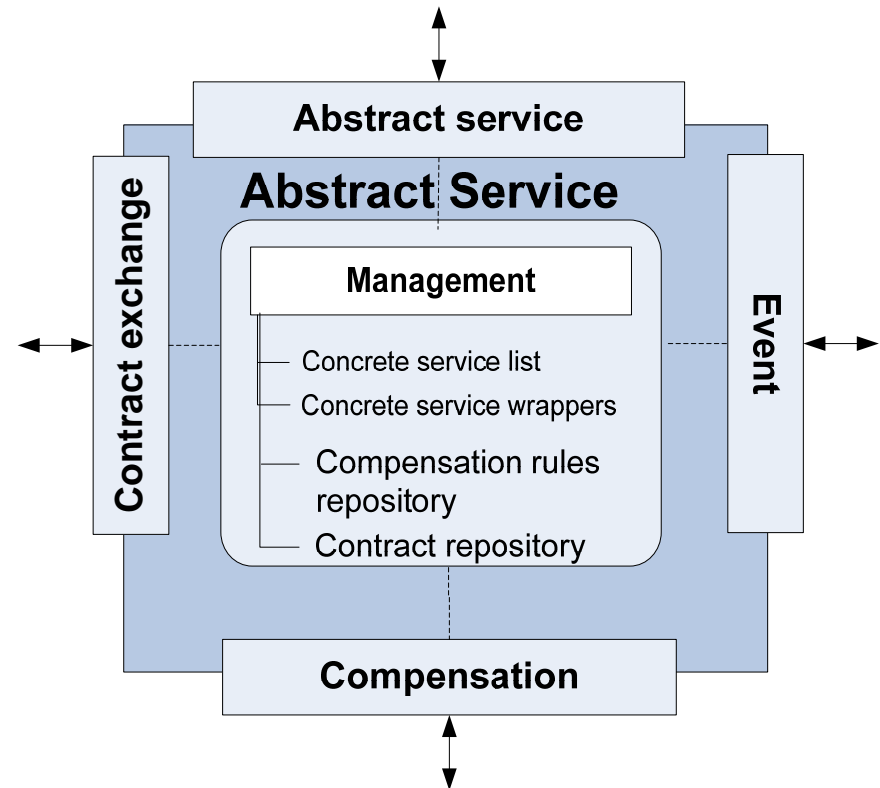
Manages a list of *concrete services*.

Is a mediator between the client and the concrete service.

Manages and performs compensation actions.

Interfaces:

- Service
- Event (internal compensation handling)
- Compensation (external compensation handling)
- Contract exchange



# Compensation Activities and Types

Nr.		Compensation Type	Compensation Activities										
			ServiceReplacement	LastRequestRepetition	PartialRequestRepetition	AllRequestRepetition	CompensationForwarding	AdditionalServiceInvocation	AdditionalRequestGeneration	ServiceAbortInitiation	RequestSequenceChange	ResultResending	
01		NoCompensation											
02	Internal	Repetition		X									
03					X								X
04		Replacement	X	X									
05			X		X								X
06			X			X						X	
07	External	Forwarding	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	X	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
08		AdditionalService							X				
09		AdditionalRequest								X			
10		SessionRestart				X					X	X	X

X Included compensation activity

(X) Possibly included compensation activity

# Example: Internal Compensation Rule

```

<cmp:InternalCompensationRule identifier="internalFailureLastRequestResending">
  <cmp:CompensationCondition>
    <cmp:ParticipantEvent eventCode=
      "http://sourceforge.net/projects/frogs/AdapterInteraction/ParticipantFault"/>
    <cmp:ParticipantState
      stateType='http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/ws/2004/10/wsba/Faulting' />
    <cmp:ReplacementService exists="true" isDirectReplacement="true" />
    <cmp:RequestSequence>
      <cmp:Request identifier="transferSalaryMethod" />
    </cmp:RequestSequence>
  </cmp:CompensationCondition>
  <cmp:CompensationPlan>
    <cmp:Compensation>
      <cmp:ServiceReplacement/>
    </cmp:Compensation>
    <cmp:Compensation>
      <cmp:RequestResending lastN="1" />
    </cmp:Compensation>
  </cmp:CompensationPlan>
</cmp:InternalCompensationRule>

```

Step 2: Replace the fault condition  
 with the condition that the  
 replacement service exists

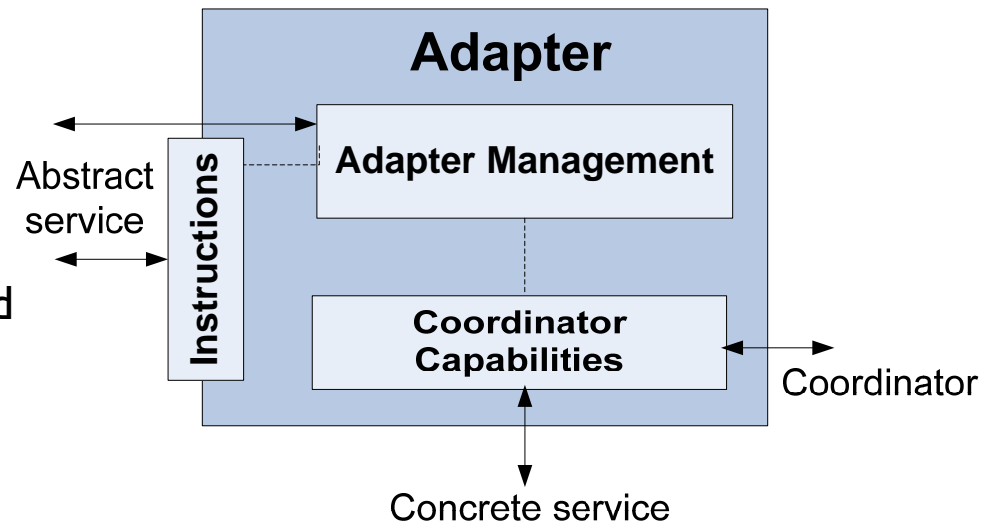
# New Components - Adapter

Encapsulates coordinator-specific functionality.

Functions as a coordinator for the concrete service.

Manages messaging:

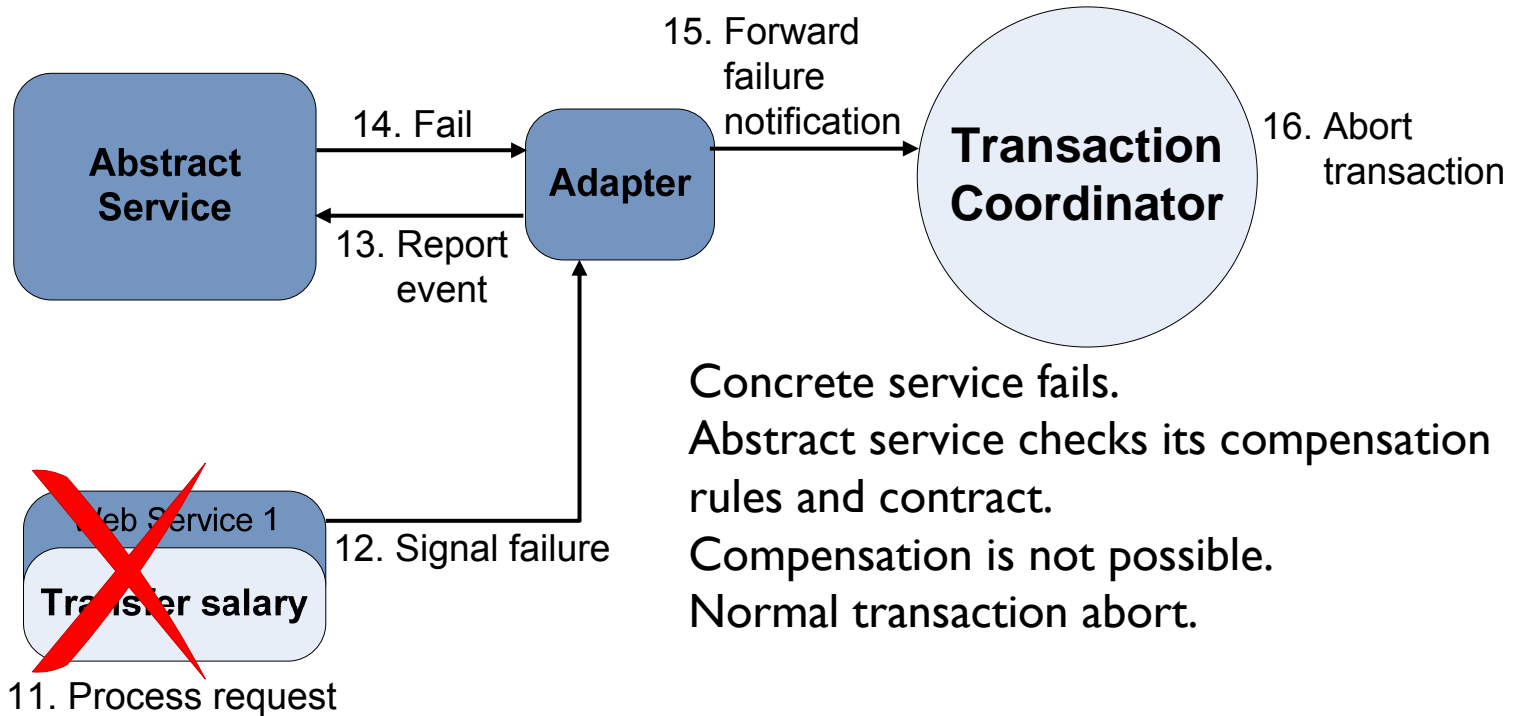
- Forwards normal messages between the real coordinator and the concrete service.
- Intercepts failure messages and informs the abstract service.
- Creates additional notifications as part of a compensation process.



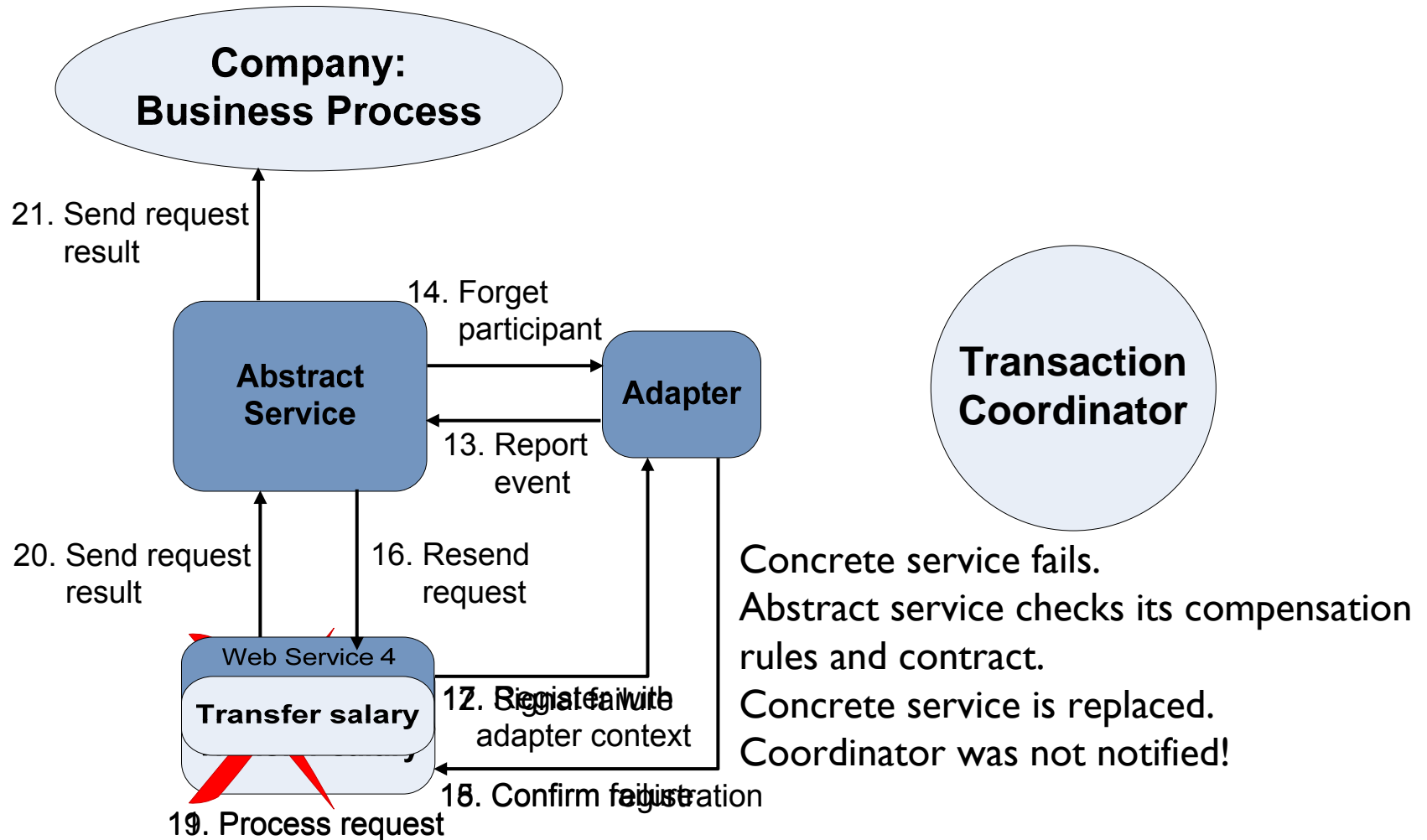


# Internal Compensation Handling – No Action

**Company:  
Business Process**



# Internal Compensation Handling – Replacement



# Evaluation

Multiple scenarios for internal and external compensation handling have been implemented and tested.

An evaluation model has been created, which calculates *net values* for the standard environment and the abstract service environment.

- Allows an assessment whether the utilization of the new design is economical and beneficial.

Experiment performed on a simulated environment

More in ACM TWEB paper

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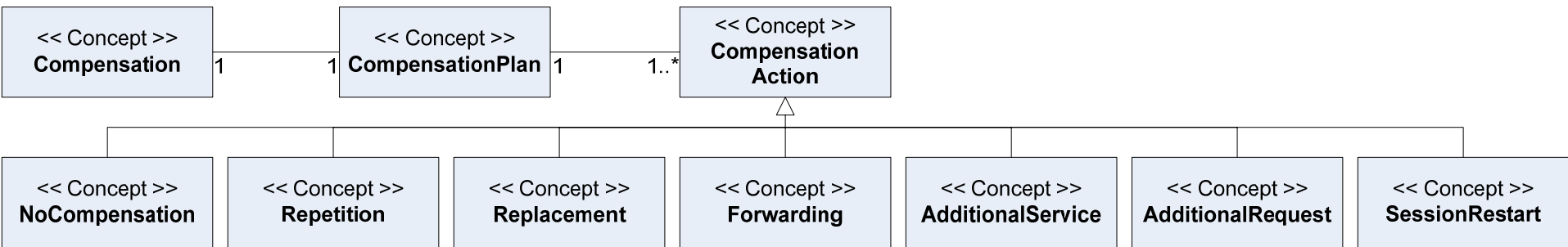
Middleware for advanced compensations

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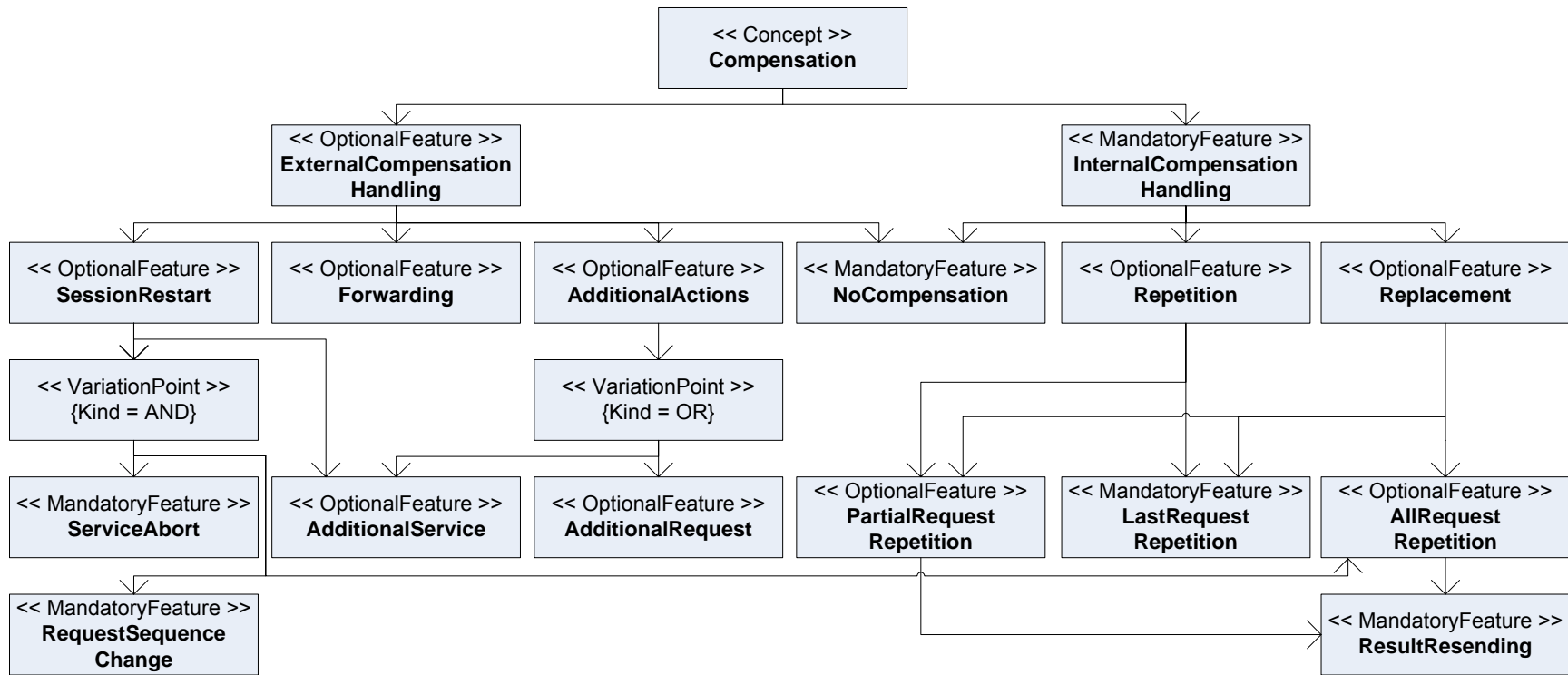
Matchmaking and restriction model

Further Challenges

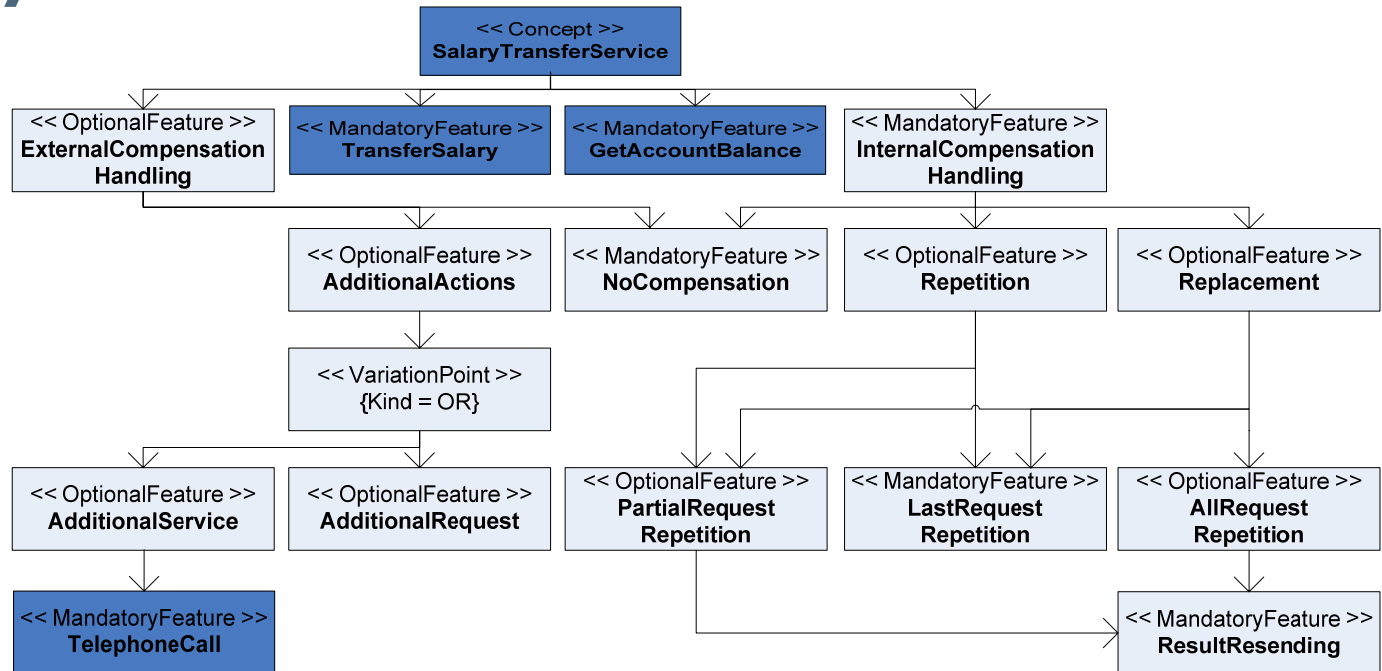
# Compensation Types



# Compensation Features



# Capability Feature Model

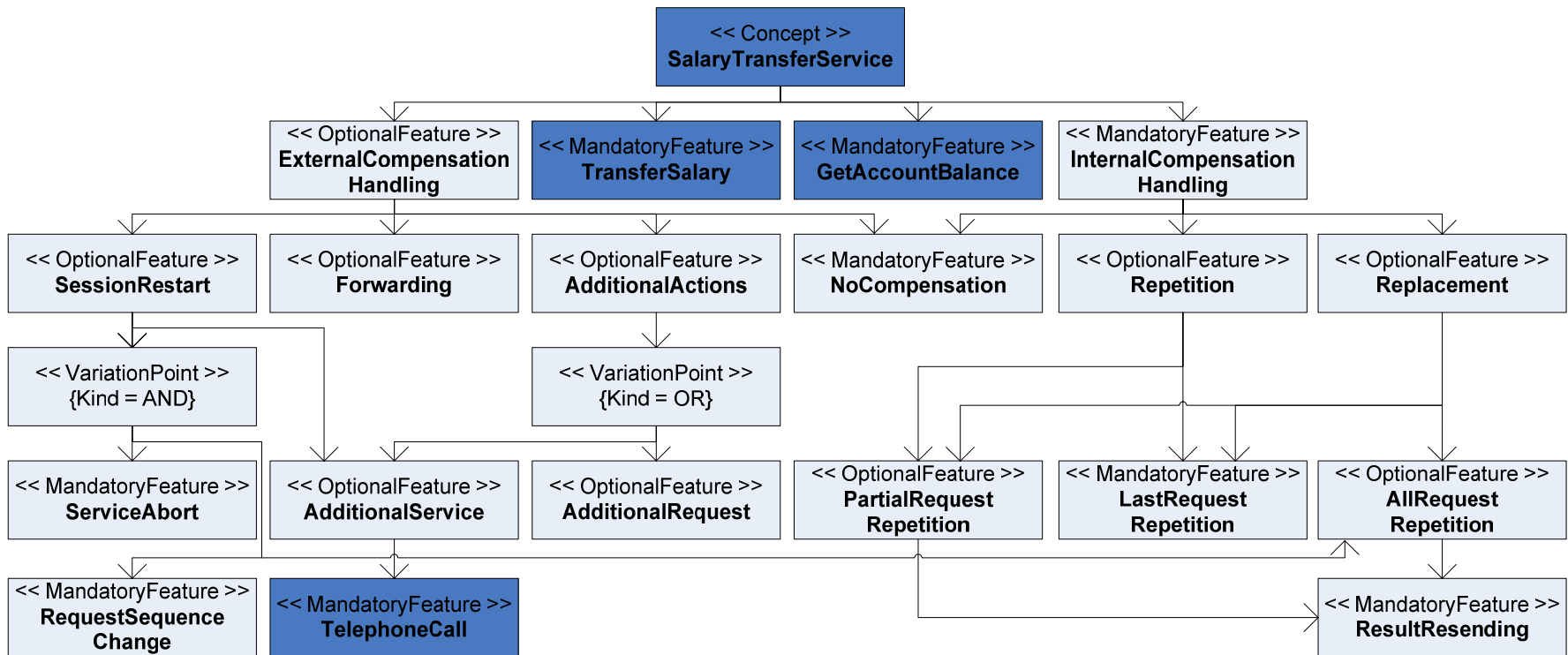


Consists of:

- *functionality feature model*
- *compensation feature model*

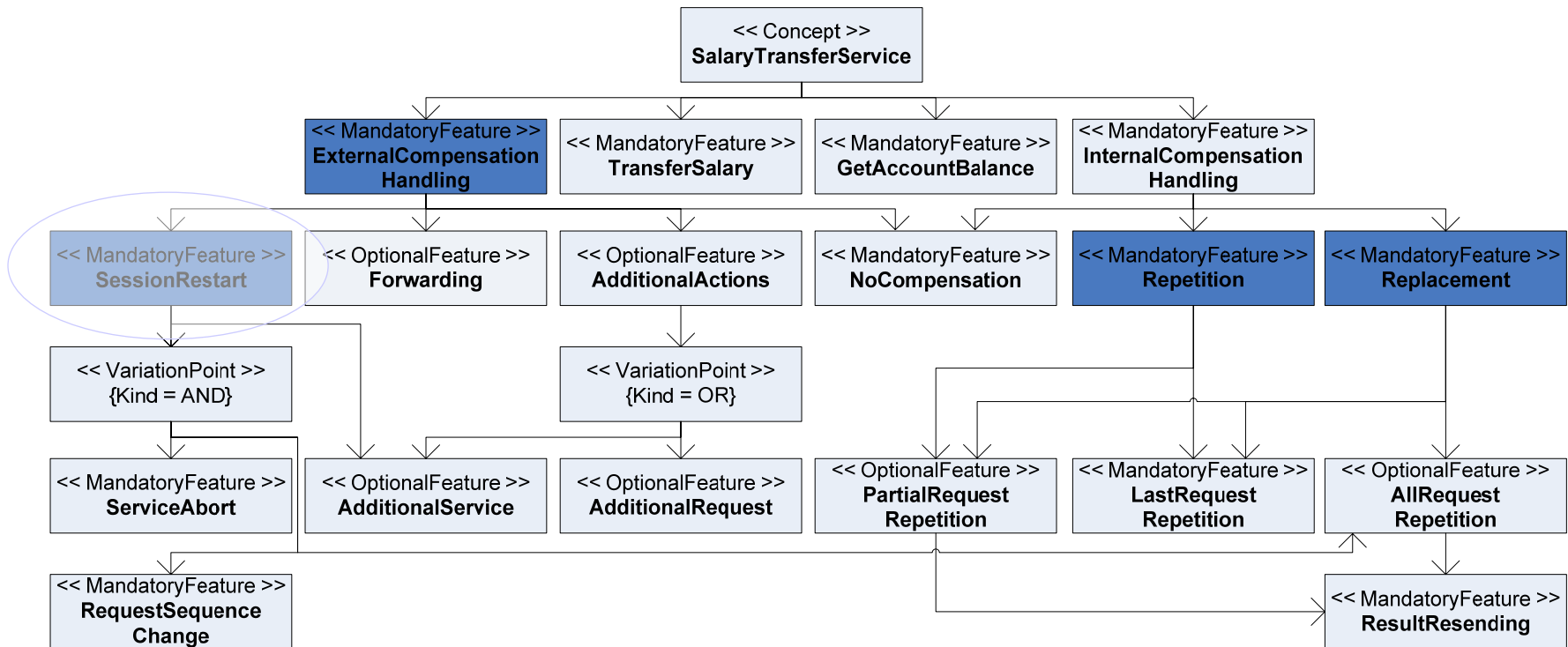
The compensation feature model can contain custom features.

# Service Capabilities





# Consumer Requirements



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## Matchmaking between service and consumer feature models

Compatibility score calculation

Iteratively compares feature models

Features must appear at the same place in the graph

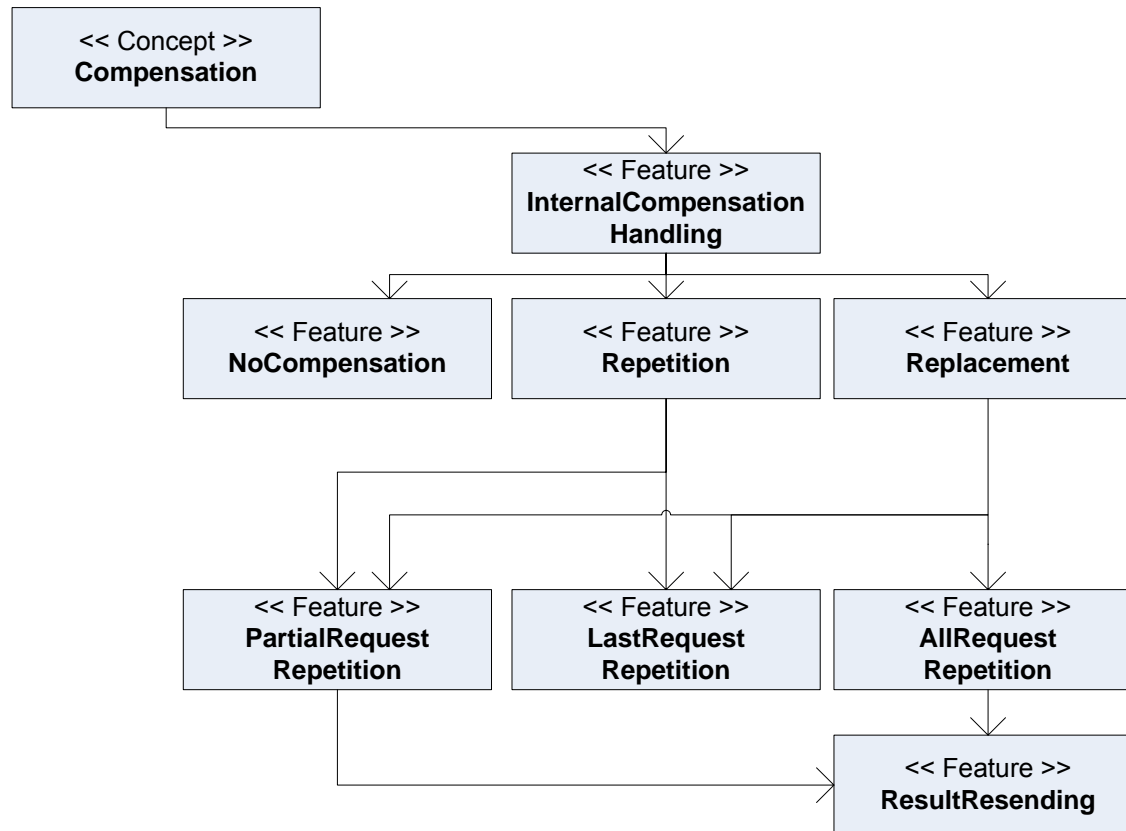
Mandatory features must all match but do not contribute to the compatibility score

If a mismatch is found in a mandatory feature, algorithm stops and a negative score is returned

Optional features add to the compatibility score when a match is found (in our case +1)

Additional features may contribute with different scores

# Restriction Feature Model



# Example: Internal Compensation Rule

```

<cmp:InternalCompensationRule identifier="internalFailureLastRequestResending">
  <cmp:CompensationCondition>
    <cmp:ParticipantEvent eventCode=
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    <cmp:Compensation>
      <cmp:RequestResending lastN="1" />
    </cmp:Compensation>
  </cmp:CompensationPlan>
</cmp:InternalCompensationRule>

```

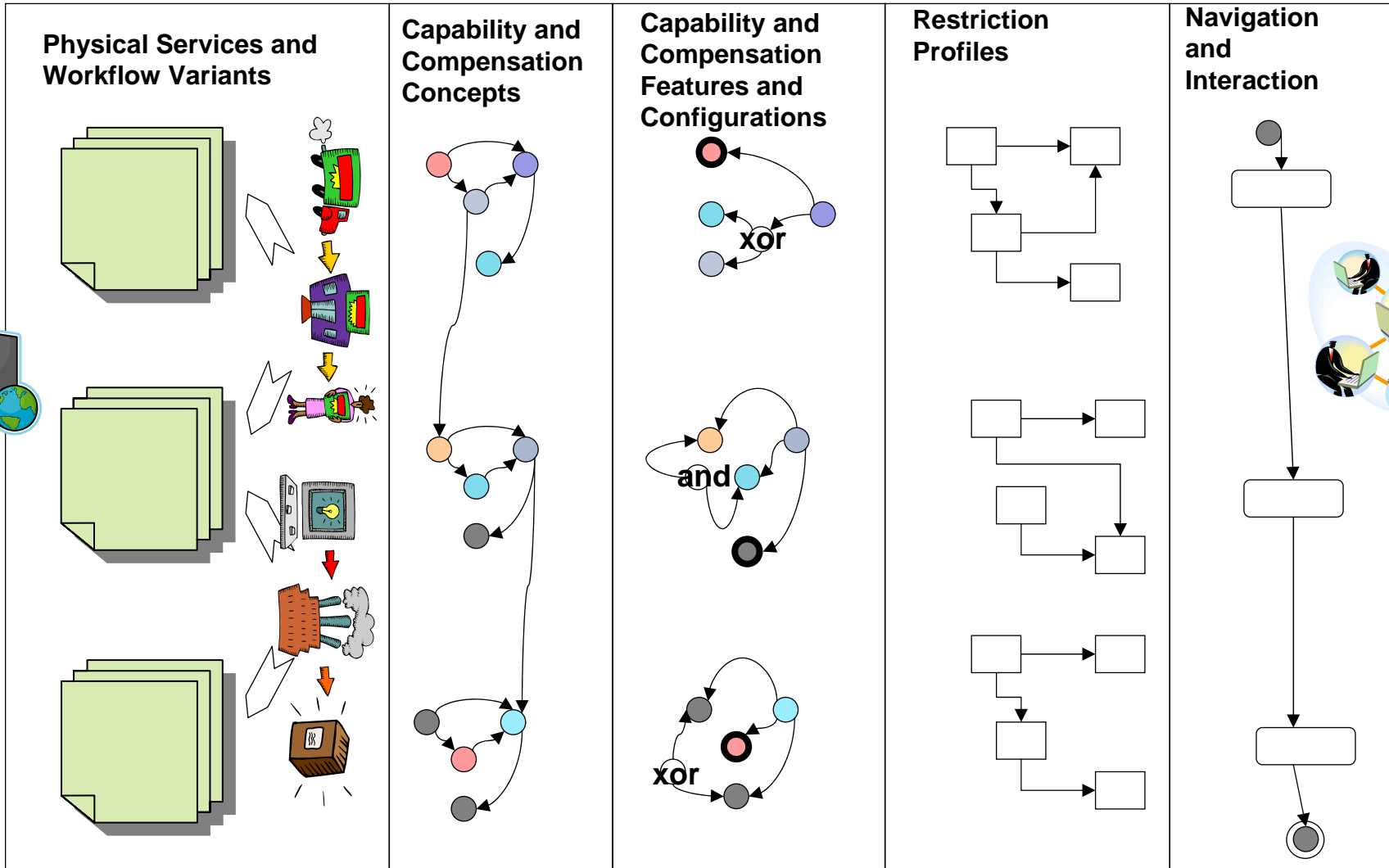
# Feature Model

```

<feature name="Compensation" type="NONE" id="compensation">
  <feature name="InternalCompensationHandling" type="NONE"
    id="internalCompensationHandling">
    ...
  <feature name="PartialRequestRepetition" type="NONE"
    id="reference3IXIpartialRequestRepetition">
    <feature name="ResultResending" type="NONE"
      id="reference3IXIreferenceIXIresultResending">
      </feature>
    </feature>
  </feature>
  <feature name="Replacement" type="NONE" id="replacement">
    <feature name="LastRequestRepetition" type="NONE"
      id="reference4IXIlastRequestRepetition">
      </feature>
    <feature name="PartialRequestRepetition" type="NONE"
      id="reference5IXIpartialRequestRepetition">
      <feature name="ResultResending" type="NONE"
        id="reference5IXIreferenceIXIresultResending">
        </feature>
      </feature>
    <feature name="AllRequestRepetition" type="NONE"
      id="reference6IXIallRequestRepetition">
      <feature name="ResultResending" type="NONE"
        id="reference6IXIreferenceIXIresultResending">
        </feature>
      </feature>
    </feature>
  </feature>
  ...
</feature>

```

# Layers of Abstraction



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## Workflows vs. Middleware

Compensations and adaptations can be specified at the design level in workflows

Compensations and adaptations can be encoded in an intelligent middleware

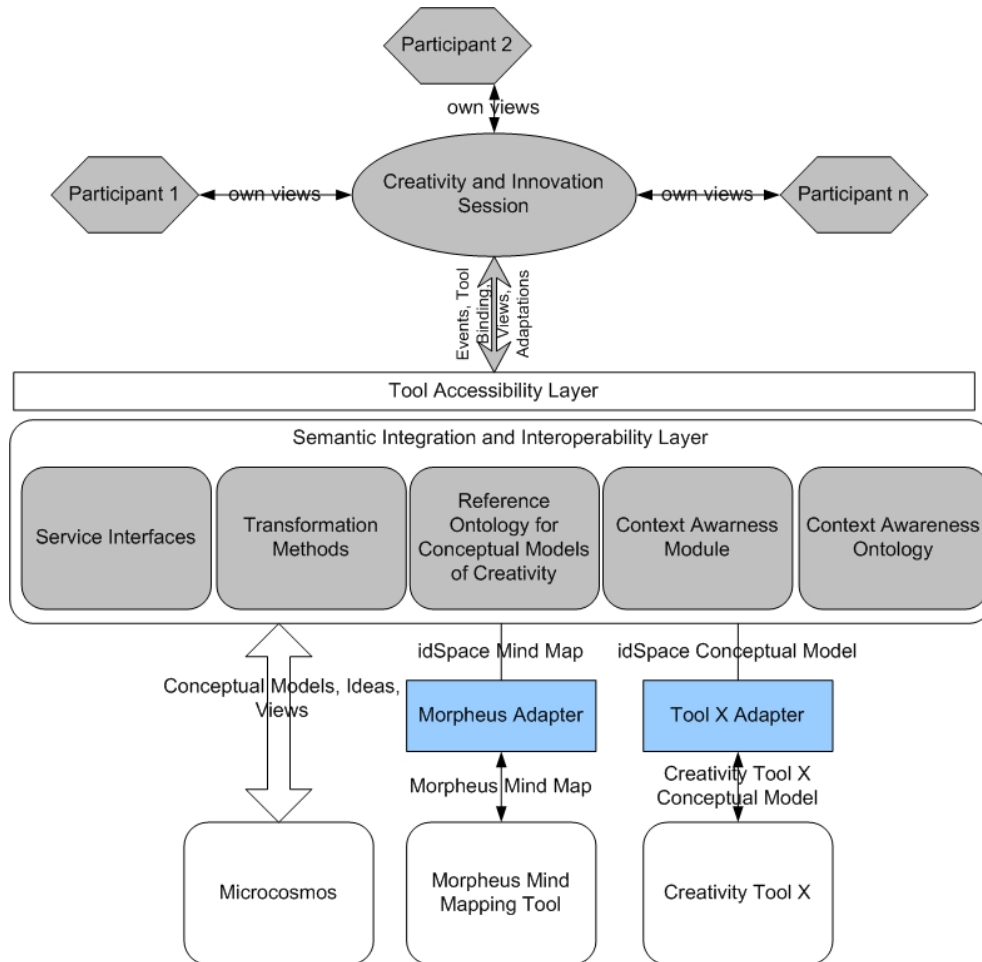
How to combine them

How to compose them

How to ensure consistency

...

# FP7 ICT EU idSpace: Tooling of and training for collaborative, distributed product



## References

- M. Schäfer, P. Dolog, W. Nejdl: An Environment for Flexible Advanced Compensations of Web Service Transactions. ACM TWEB, 2(2), 2008
- P. Dolog, W. Nejdl: Using UML-based feature models and UML collaboration diagrams to information modelling for web-based applications. UML 2004.

# Thanks!!! Questions?

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