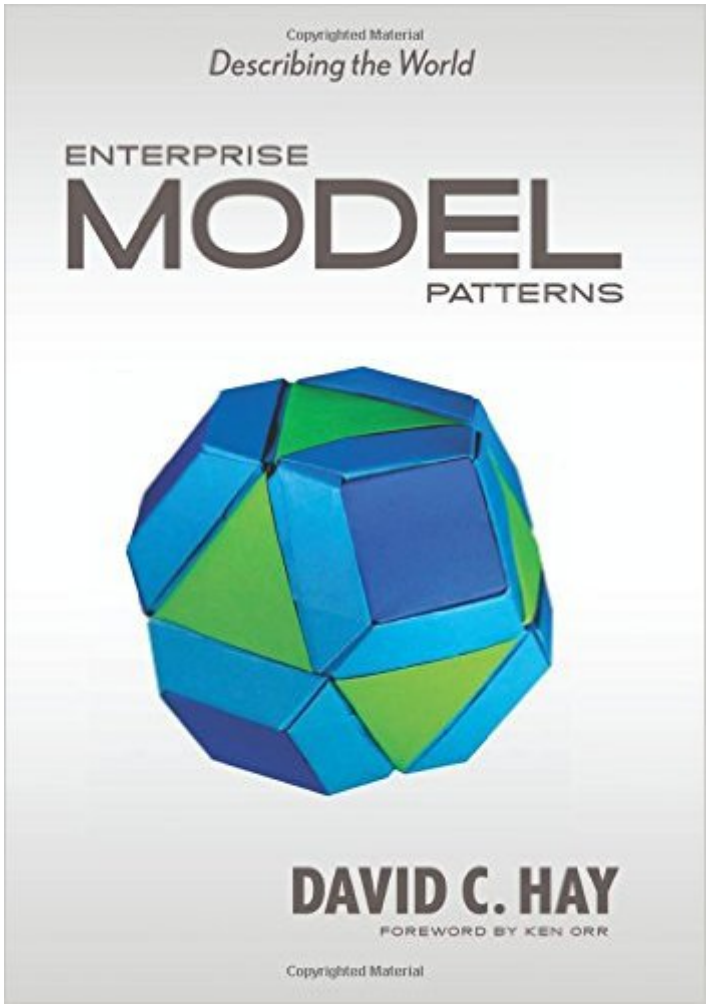
Enterprise Model Patterns: Describing The World (UML Version)



Synopsis

This book teaches you how to capture and communicate both the abstract and concrete building blocks of your organizationâ ™s data, in order to provide a coherent and comprehensive foundation for systems development. â œThis book presents the most comprehensive treatment of high-level abstractions I’ve seen. Any event, business, and/or systems analyst should have this book available, both as a learning text and as an indispensible reference book. The knowledge packed away in this book takes decades to acquire and gestate. We are all fortunate to have it in a single volume.â •James OdellCo-chair, OMG - Analysis and Design "UML and SoaML" Task Force"David addresses a key, difficult, challenge for data modelling (and ontology) in this book - extracting the common pattern that underlies and unifies the variety of real data models that people use. And, what is almost as important to many readers, he does this in a clear and understandable way."Chris PartridgeChief Ontologist, The BORO Centre"A great data model, one that lays the essence of a business bare, is a thing of beauty. It simplifies process, eases communication, and brings order to chaos. A great data model serves for a lifetime. Powerful stuff, this."Tom Redman, PresidentNavesink Consulting Group, LLC"Finally, choosing a level of abstraction for a data model is addressed methodically. David should be applauded for grasping this thorny issue and producing a wonderfully readable book. Every data modeler should have one".Cliff Longman, PresidentAdaptable DataIn 1995, David Hay published Data Model Patterns: Conventions of Thought - the groundbreaking book on how to use standard data models to describe the standard business situations. Enterprise Model Patterns: Describing the World builds on the concepts presented there, adds 15 years of practical experience, and presents a more comprehensive view.This model addresses your enterprise via four levels of abstraction:Level 0: An abstract template that underlies the Level 1 model, plus two meta models: Information Resources and Accounting. Each of these itself represents the rest of the enterprise, so to model it is to â œmodel a modelâ •, so to speak.Level 1: An enterprise model that is generic enough to apply to any company or government agency, but concrete enough to be readily understood by all. It describes people and organizations, geographic locations, (physical) assets, activities, and time. Level 2: A more detailed model describing specific functional areas: facilities and other addresses, human resources, communications and marketing, contracts, manufacturing, and the laboratory.Level 3: Examples of the details that can be added to a model to address what is truly unique in a particular industry. Here you see how to address the unique bits in areas as diverse as criminal justice, microbiology, banking, oil field production, and highway maintenance.

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Customer Reviews

When I first started reading this book I became discouraged because it seemed as thought the author had bastardized UML. As I read on it became apparent that the author had merely created a DSL (Domain Specific Language) using the UML syntax. The domain? Business, from the highest to the lowest level of abstraction. He simply calls it data modeling.The author starts the book out with an explanation as to why a new way of data modeling (using his UML syntax) is needed. He then covers the conventions of his DSL (by the way, he does not refer to is as a DSL... that is just how I classified it in my own mind) which is a constrained UML language consisting of only class diagrams.Using only class diagrams bothered me at first too. How do you show state, communication, timing, deployment, etc.? Well it turns out that one of the constraints of the DSL is to limit activities to the data in an activity, not the activities themselves. He leaves that to the other diagrams, that are not part of his modeling goals.I became more and more comfortable with the constraints as I read on. I think the author made the right choice in limiting the DSL the way he did. He goes through 4 levels of abstraction in his process. If he had not out boundaries in place, it would have been way too big in scope to be usable.The author the then continues on with several chapters that take you through all 4 levels (Level 0, 1, 2, and 3) of abstraction used in the author's modeling process.Level 0: An abstract template that underlies level 1Level 1: A model of an enterprise in general. Includes chapters on People and Organization, Geographic Locations, Assets, Activities, and Timing.Level 2: A more detailed model describing specific functional areas. Includes chapters on Facilities, Human Resources, Communications and Marketing, Contracts,

Manufacturing, and The Laboratory.Level 3: A model of a specific industry. Includes chapters on Criminal Justice, Microbiology, Banking, Oil Field Production, and Highway Maintenance.Each chapter contains tons of diagrams.This book is an excellent guide to abstraction as well as business modeling. Following the author through the different levels of models will greatly increase your analysis skills and modeling skills.If you are a business analyst, DBA, or software architect this book is mandatory reading.

As a great fan of David Hay's earlier book, Data Model Patterns: Conventions of Thought, I was pleased to see his newest work. That earlier work helped me to think like a data modeler and to produce data models that flexibly adapt to the changing needs of business. The new book does not disappoint.The author explains how data modeling can be applied to understanding an organization and its functions. He uses the Zachman Framework which explains multiple perspectives on systems development: planner, owner, architect, designer, builder and functioning system user. Be ready to think like an architect who is modeling the business rather than as a database designer who is concerned with designing tables and columns.David Hay has organized data models into multiple levels and explains the purpose and structure of each level. Upon reflection, I see that these levels correspond to the levels in the TOGAF Enterprise Continuum. The data models in the book are rendered using Unified Modeling Language (UML). This was a good choice in understanding data modeling and data architecture.The last part of the book focuses on applying data models to specific industries: criminal justice, microbiology, banking, oil field production and highway maintenance. These topics are thought provoking and can be extended to other industries. For example, I can see parallels between banking industry and the insurance industry data models.I give this book very high marks and find it thought provoking - it is what I would expect in a great book about data modeling. The topics are very current. The information resource model is helpful in understanding Big Data and the activity model is useful in understanding business process management and workflow. Thumbs up for Enterprise Model Patterns: Describing the World by David Hay.

David Hay does it again with a solid, comprehensive set of enterprise models, complete with a good overview of his design and modeling philosophy and how his syntactically rigorous, patterned, approach leads to clearer, more useful, flexible models and provide a better communication tool for communication between IT and the business. Just looking at the dominant data modeling tools, with their inflexible and confusing coat-hanger sub-type notation, one could say Hay has lost the

argument, but his book is the best rebuttal to ugly, spaghetti models those tools produce and, with his adoption of the customized UML-tool adaptation he suggests, may still prevail. Bravo David.

Even when I’m not the best friend of UML-Notations, I had no problem at all reading the Text and the models. The models are very clear and evolve themselves from a simple world to the more complex, real world, so that it is easy to understant the final models.Also various aspects of metamodelling or template modelling as David Hay is naming it gives you very good tools into your rucksack of thoughts.I’m not a native english speaking person but nevertheless the examples and concepts are very illustralively written and shown, so that it’s a pleasure to read.It’s no problem at all to pick a chapter in the middle of the book; very quickly you’ll find the pages necessary to read in advance.Alltogether a very usefull book for modelling experts to proove their thoughts and ideas and find new ones, but also for intermediates or even beginners.David Hay is not boring you with modelling theory but pragmatically brings you further with many real-world examples, and nevertheless he is very precise and consistent with notifications and his patterns.Even, when you own his previous book "Data Model Patterns", go for It! it’s worth every buck.

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