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So much knowledge so little time

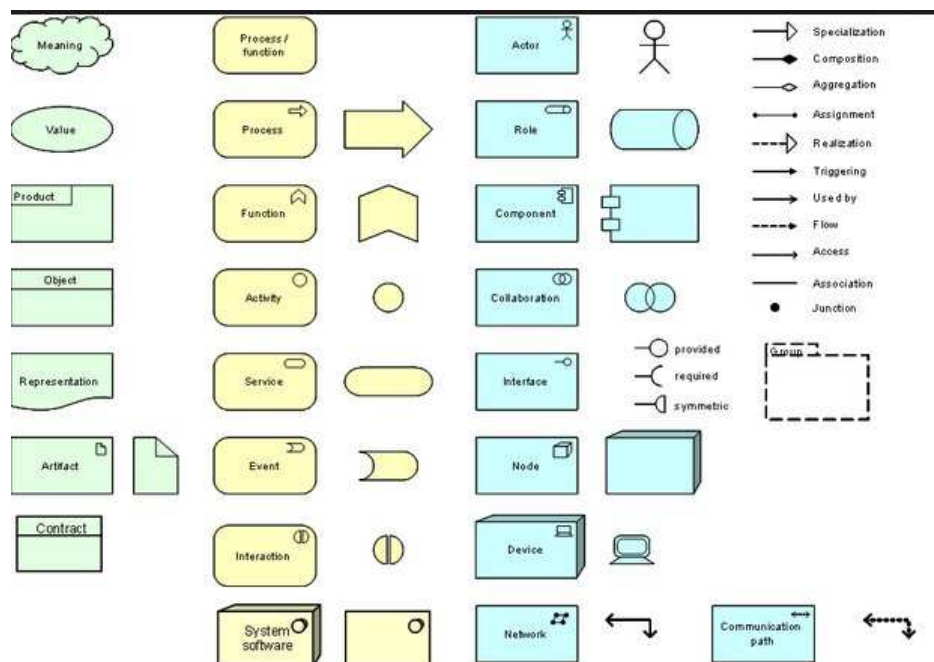


In my previous [article](#) I introduced the idea of crafting knowledge. I hopefully demonstrated that the bottom-up approach using just one business document did not give data analysts/architects/modellers the capability of designing databases that aligned themselves with business needs as the data contained in just one document although explicit, was implicit when it came to extending the reach of the document. For example, what or who is the 'supplier' as well as who is the 'customer'. If anyone designs a customer database, they had better be sure that the database covered every aspect of a 'customer' ie a person or an organisation, a debtor or a prospect or a target etc. Knowledge crafting will ultimately uncover these polymorphic (exclusive and inclusive views).

What is now needed is a link back to the business objectives that decides on what applicable knowledge is required. The driving objective which will assist senior and middle management focus on that knowledge are the measures or performance indicators.

So not only do the performance indicators provide the ability for management to set initial budgets, they also provide the focus (through the prioritised goal called the 'values') to uncover the business knowledge.

CAD drawing tools, no matter how pretty the pictures still rely on the artificial intelligence built into the 30 – 60 symbols.



To try to link the performance measures to not only the knowledge model but also to every table in the physical databases requires a tremendous amount of effort. Backward reengineering will take too long and prove to be inefficient and inaccurate.

Back in the 1970s, we used to use a template like the one below.



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