



ELM workshop explained

January 2021

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Ensemble Logical Modeling Workshops

Mapping your business!

Effective data management starts with mapping your organization through interactive, facilitated, business driven, design sessions. That is the goal of the ELM workshops. The result of this process is a documented ELM model with associated artifacts which can serve as a base for the enterprise data warehouse. Where the best fit is a data warehouse based upon one of the Ensemble modelling patterns, like Data Vault.

Ensemble Logical Model (ELM)

The Ensemble Logical Model is an enterprise-wide business model which, in an agile way, maps the business concepts within a given organization into a simple and readable model. Business representatives have the major input in mapping the business into the ELM during the interactive workshops. ELM is based upon Core Business Concepts (CBC) – events, persons, places, things and other concepts plus their Natural Business Relationships (NBR). In other words, all that has a specific meaning or interest for the organization and the way these are logically connected to each other.

The approach

A facilitator will lead the workshops and invite all to join and contribute to the process. Each workshop starts with the listing of all the concepts mentioned which are described on the CBC-List. Next step is to categorize these named concepts into “Event / Person / Place / Thing / Other”. Within each category named concepts are analyzed to determine if they are unique or if they may be a synonym. The CBC Form and CBC canvas are designed to guide this process. With the connections, the NBR matrix and NBR form help to guide the team in uncovering the Unique, Specific, Natural Business Relationships. These are then documented and refined for grain and cardinality.

The whole purpose of this guided process is to have a documented overview of Core Business Concepts and their Natural Business Relations which will lead to a logical data model recognized by the business. This logical data model is a direct blue print for any of the ensemble modelling patterns, such as Data Vault, Anchor Modeling and Focal Point.

On average it will take 3 to 6 workshops with a duration off 2-3 hours each to model and document a given subject area. This forms the basis of an Ensemble Logical Model. The facilitator and scribe of these workshops will need an additional 8 to 12 hrs per workshop to process the input from the workshops into the artifacts and a base ELM model. The finalization of the CBC Forms and NBR Forms will be done after the workshop and is the responsibility for the organization. Most likely the data steward plays the main role in this process since it involves formalization of the business definition and attributes plus sample data on the NBR Forms.

Training and Guidance

See GeneseeAcademy.com for the latest schedule of a training near you. For more information or guidance please send a mail to info@GeneseeAcademy.com.

CBC Canvas

Event 

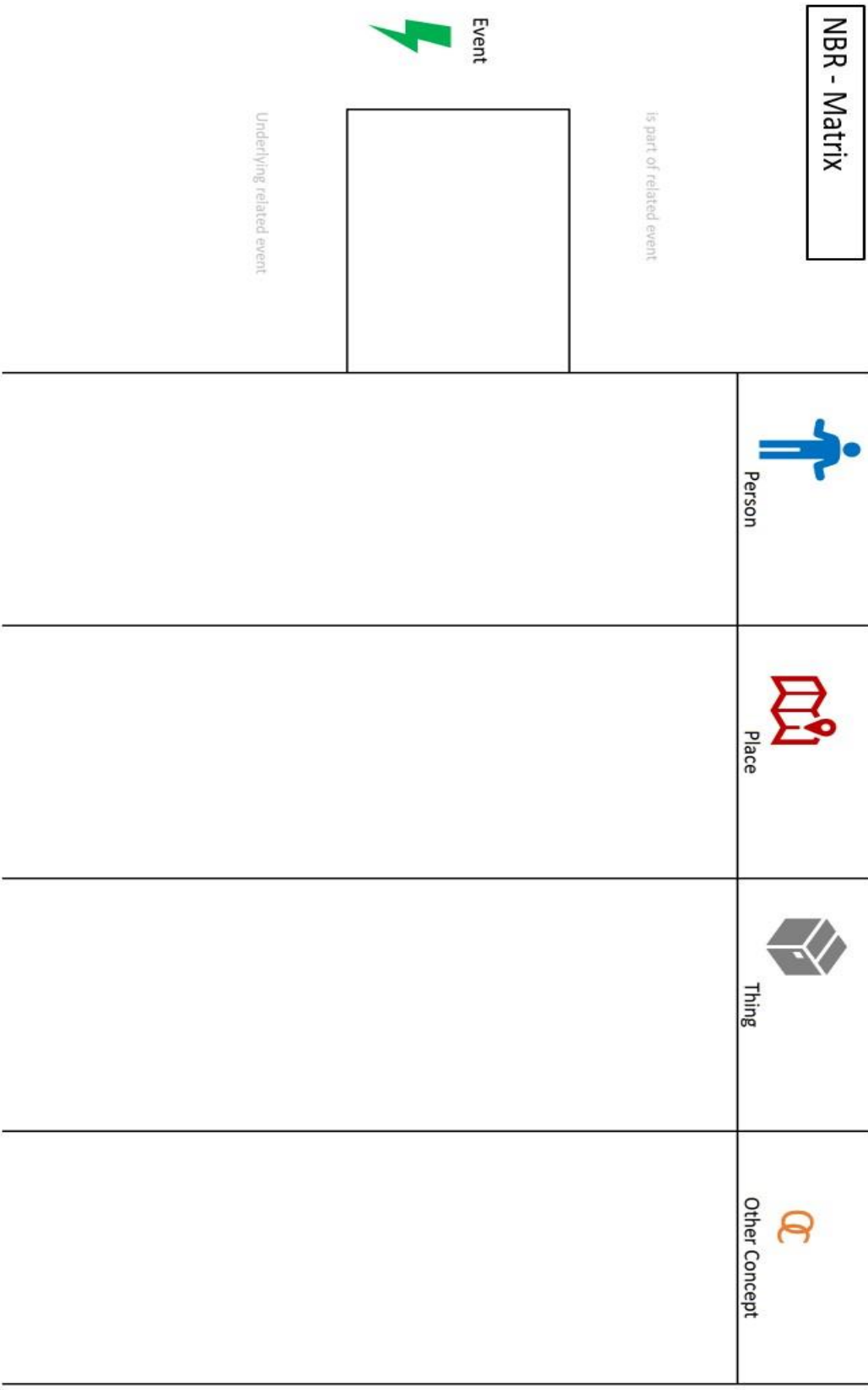
Person 

Place 

Thing 

Other Concept 

NBR - Matrix



NBR-Form

NBR Name					
• • • • • • • • • •			• • • •		
Involved CBC's			Simultaneous events		
Example records					