RPA Specialization

Course 4: Control Flow in RPA

Sequences vs. Flowcharts

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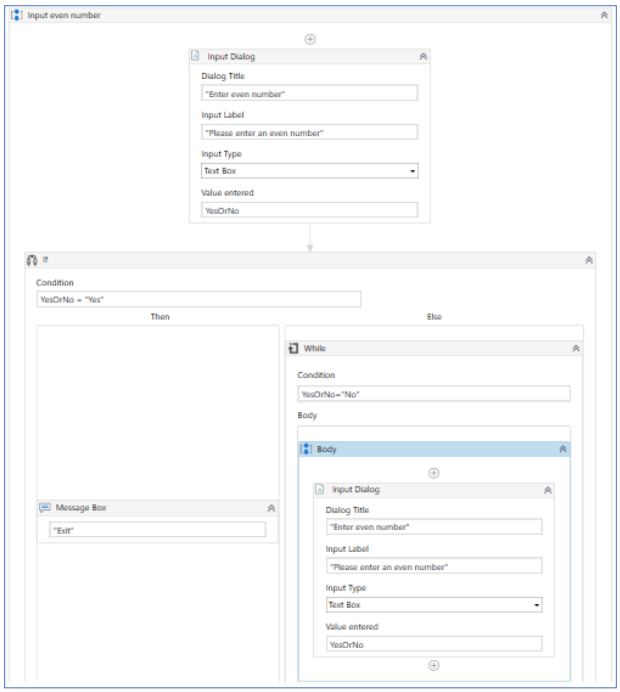
The differences between sequences and flowcharts are:

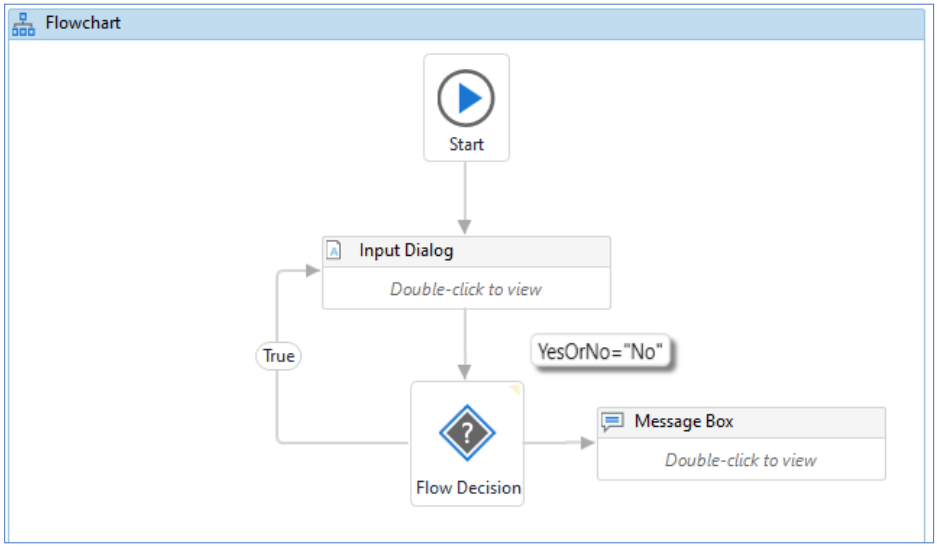
Sequences	Flowcharts
Suitable for linear processes	Suitable for complex processes
Seamless movement from one activity to another	Complex movement between two activities, but easier to understand as a whole
Act as a single block of activity	Connect multiple blocks of activities through branching

Let's take an example that performs the same output but through different approaches using sequences and flowcharts to understand the difference. In this example, we will check for user input. If the user inputs "Yes", the execution ends, and if the user inputs "No", we will again ask the user for the input. In the following figure, we have designed the workflow using sequences.



In the figure above, notice that the activities are placed in a sequence and are executed linearly.

Using the same example, let's create a workflow inside a flowchart.



In the above figure, notice the workflow created using a flowchart. It starts with the input dialog, and then based on the output of the input dialog, it sets the condition. Till the user enters “No”, the flow decision outputs true. If it outputs true, notice the node that goes back to the Input Dialog to prompt the user to input again. If the user enters “Yes”, a Message Box is shown, which exits the execution.

In both the workflows, we can see the differences we discussed in the above table. Flowcharts make complex workflows look simple. In comparison, sequences are suitable for linear processes, which are not very complex.