International Journal for Multidisciplinary Research (IJFMR)

Automating Repetitive Work Using RPA Tools: A Case Study on Automation Edge

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Abstract

This paper presents a comprehensive overview of Robotic Process Automation (RPA), a transformative technology that automates repetitive, rule-based digital tasks using software robots. We analyze its architecture, types, benefits, tools, and pro- vide a generalized business use case to illustrate its effectiveness.

Keywords: RPA, Automation, Business Process, Workflow Automation, Digital Workforce

INTRODUCTION

Robotic Process Automation (RPA) is a software technology that uses software bots to automate structured, rule-based digital tasks. These bots mimic human actions such as logging into applications, entering data, and generating reports. This paper explores the fundamentals, types, architecture, and tools of RPA.

WHAT IS ROBOTIC PROCESS AUTOMATION (RPA)?

RPA allows automation of repetitive digital tasks without altering existing infrastructure. Bots are trained to interact with user interfaces in the same way humans do.

Key Capabilities:

- Log into web and desktop applications
- Move files and folders
- Copy and paste data
- Fill in forms and extract structured data
- Read and write to databases
- Open emails and attachments

TYPES OF RPA

Attended RPA: Operates on user desktops and is trig- gered by the user. Useful for tasks requiring human validation.

Unattended RPA: Operates without human intervention. Useful for background processing. **Hybrid RPA:** Combines attended and unattended au- tomation for complex workflows.

RPA ARCHITECTURE OVERVIEW Components:



Development Studio: Tool to design automation work- flows Robot (Bot): Executes tasks as per workflow design Orchestrator: Schedules, manages and monitors bots Database: Stores logs and process data



Fig. 1: Generic RPA Architecture

TOOLS OF RPA

TABLE I: Popular RPA Tools

| - | |
|-------------------------|--|
| Key Feature | Use Case |
| Drag-and-drop interface | Data entry, email automation |
| Cloud-native bots | Invoice processing |
| High security | Banking, finance |
| Microsoft integration | Office automation |
| IT and business tasks | IT ticketing, onboarding |
| | Key Feature Drag-and-drop interface Cloud-native bots High security Microsoft integration IT and business tasks |

BUSINESS USE CASE: EMPLOYEE ONBOARDING

Manual Process

- HR fills forms and emails IT 0
- IT manually creates accounts 0
- Documents are shared over emails 0

Automated Process using RPA

- Bot reads new employee details
- Auto-fills HRMS and emails credentials 0
- Sets up system access 0

| TABLE II: Manual vs Automated Onboarding | | |
|--|---------------|----------------------|
| Activity | Manual | Automated |
| Data Entry | Manual by HR | Bot reads inputs |
| Account Creation | IT dependent | Auto provisioned |
| Notification | Manual emails | Auto emails sent |
| Document Storage | Email folders | Saved to cloud drive |



International Journal for Multidisciplinary Research (IJFMR)

E-ISSN: 2582-2160 • Website: www.ijfmr.com • Email: editor@ijfmr.com



Fig. 2: RPA-Based Onboarding Process Flow

ADVANTAGES OF RPA

RPA helps companies by using software robots (bots) to do simple and repetitive tasks. Here are some of the main benefits:

Fast Work

Bots work much faster than humans.

Example: A bot can process hundreds of invoices in a few hours, which may take a human 2–3 days.

No Mistakes

Bots follow instructions exactly, so they don't make typing or calculation errors.

Example: A bot copying data from one system to another will do it perfectly without mistakes.

Keeps Records

Bots save everything they do, which helps in audits and tracking.

Example: A bank bot logs every transaction it processes.

Grows with Business

More bots can be added when work increases. *Example:* During busy times, a company can use extra bots to manage the extra work.

No Changes to Existing Systems

Bots can work with the systems a company already uses. *Example:* A bot can use Excel or web apps without changing the software.

CHALLENGES OF RPA

Even though RPA is helpful, it has some challenges:

High Starting Cost

Setting up RPA can be expensive.

Example: Buying software and training people can cost a lot in the beginning.

Only Works on Simple Rules

Bots can only follow fixed steps and can't make smart decisions.

Example: A bot can't decide how to reply to a difficult customer email.

Needs Supervision

Bots need someone to watch them and fix issues. *Example:* If a pop-up appears, the bot might stop, and a person has to help.

Employee Worries

Some people may worry that bots will take their jobs. *Example:* Companies need to train employees for new roles and explain how bots help.



CONCLUSION

RPA is a useful tool that helps businesses do boring and repetitive tasks quickly and correctly. It saves time, reduces costs, and avoids mistakes. In the future, RPA will become even smarter with AI (Artificial Intelligence), and will be able to do more complex jobs.

FUTURE OF RPA

Smarter Bots with AI and Machine Learning *Example*: Bots will be able to read and understand emails and documents.

Full Process Automation (Hyper automation) *Example:* Automating a whole process like ordering, billing, and delivery without human help.

Used in Many Industries

Examples:

- Finance: Automating tax filing or loan processing.
- Healthcare: Managing patient records and appoint- ments.
- **Retail:** Handling online orders and updating stock.

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