Dependable Off-The-Shelf based middleware systems for Large-scale Complex Critical Infrastructures

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Winter School on Hot Topics in Secure and Dependable Computing for Critical Infrastructures *Cortina d'Ampezzo, 16-19/01/2012*

Software Architectures for Large-Scale Critical Systems

Iniversità degl

Studi di ROM

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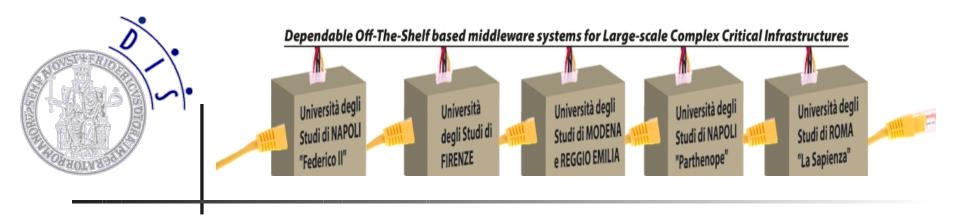
The MobiLab Group www.mobilab.unina.it





Outline

- Definitions, history, standard, key design principles
- Stakeholders, viewpoints, views
- Types of software assets
- Defining software architectures
- The role of the software architect
- Evaluating software architectures
- Decomposition techniques
- Architectural styles

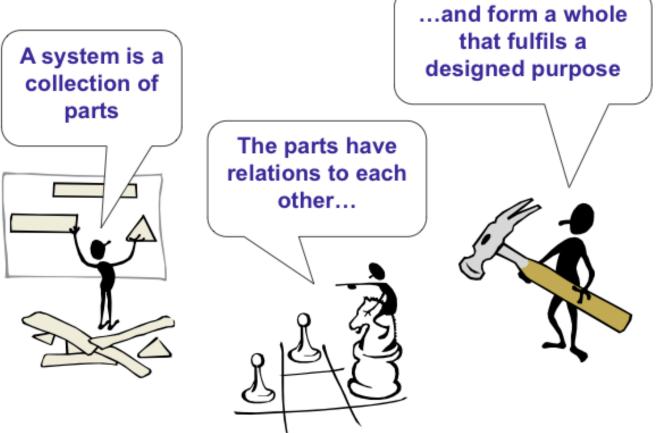


Software Architectures

Definitions, brief history, standards, key principles, software architecting process, documenting architectures, patterns, architectural styles



Definitions...





What is the role of architecture?



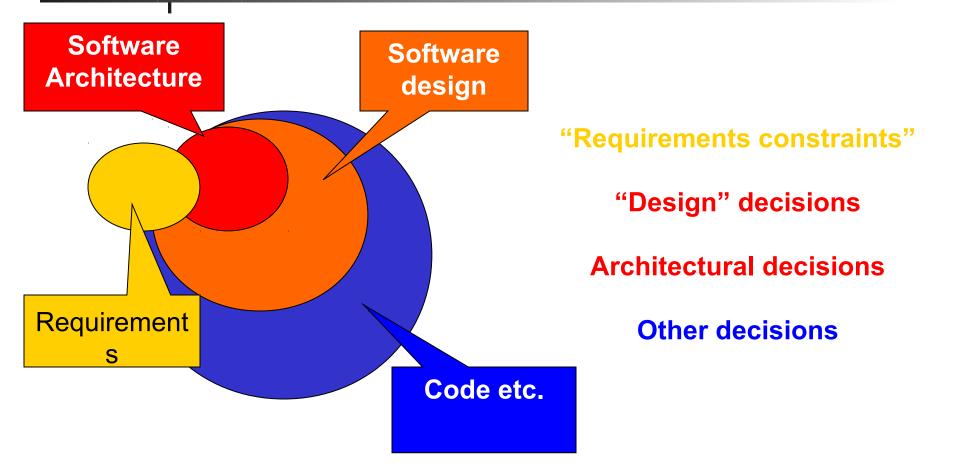








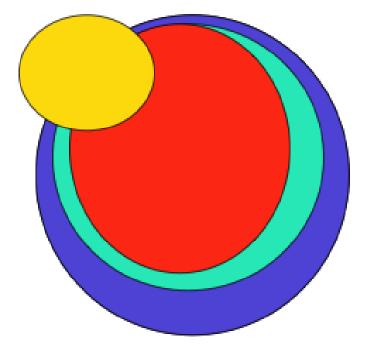
Architecture = design decisions



All choices are binding in the final product



Architecture = design? No!



"Do not dilute the meaning of the term architecture by applying it to everything in sight." Mary Shaw



- Intuitively, the architecture of a software system represents its internal structure, in terms of the single components of which it is made up and of the interactions among them
- According to the IEEE/ANSI 1471-2000 standard, the architecture of a software system is its basic organization, in terms of its components, of the interactions among components and with the external environments, as well as of the basic, driving, principles for system design and evolution



- From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia
 - The <u>software architecture</u> of a program or computing system is the **structure** or structures of the system, which comprise **software components**, the **externally visible properties** of those components, and the **relationships** between them.
 - The term also refers to documentation of a system's software architecture. Documenting software architecture facilitates communication between stakeholders, documents early decisions about high-level design, and allows reuse of design components and patterns between projects



- The basics of software architectures have been introduced by Dijkstra (1968) and Parnas (1970), who argued:
 - The key role of the structure of a software system, and
 - How tricky the definition of the *right structure* for a given system is
- A great deal of research has been conducted on software architectures during '90s, mainly focusing on:
 - Architectural styles;
 - How to solve recurrent problems (*pattern*);
 - The definition of languages to describe software architectures (ADL)
 - Documentation of the architecture of a system



- Software Engineering is a discipline studying the methods to produce software, the theories at their basis, and the tools to effectively develop and measure the qualities of software systems
- Software engineering deals with limited resources
- It is a discipline strongly empirical, that is based on experience and past projects

Is software architecture a discipline?

 Claim originated with the book by Shaw & Garlan, Software Architecture: Perspectives on an Emerging Discipline, Prentice Hall, 1996



- The discipline of software architecture is centered on the idea of managing the design complexity of software systems through abstraction and separation of concerns
- The discipline has developed a number of design styles and patterns that help in designing or integrating software intensive systems
- However, it is hard to find software architects who agree on the right way to architect a software system
- Wrong decisions in crafting the software architecture are a major cause of project cancellation



- Design is typically driven by functional requirements
- Architecture is driven more by non-functional requirements / software quality attributes
- Some standards in specific domains are posing some emphasis (directly or indirectly) on software architecture
 - E.g, DO-178B in the avionic domain
- Need to trace requirements through architecture up to software modules and code



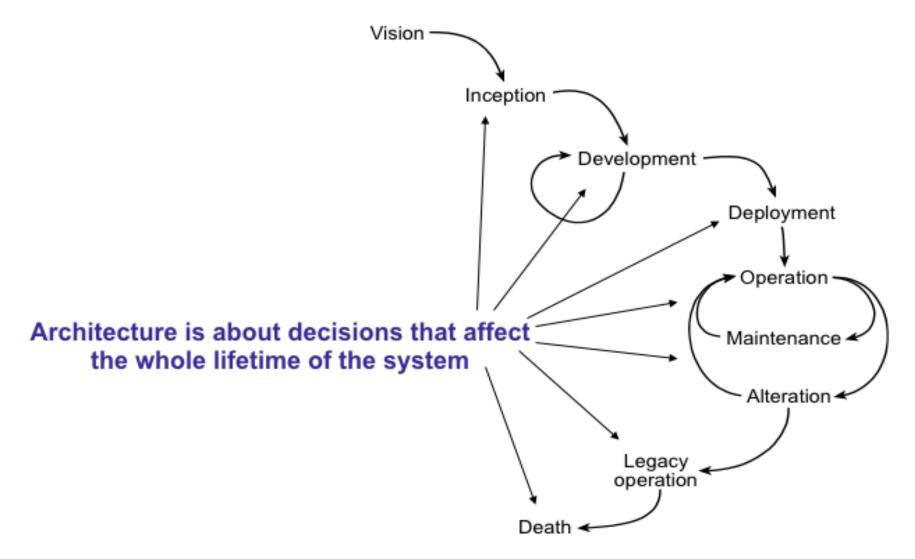
- Every software system has an architecture
- Many kind of complex systems demand for putting proper effort in the definition of the software architecture:
 - Large-scale systems
 - Software intensive systems
 - Dependable systems
 - Safety critical systems
 - Mission critical systems
 - Business-critical
 - Operation-critical
 - Long-lived systems
 - Example: software systems for critical infrastructures



- In complex systems quality attributes cannot be achieved in isolation
 - Achieving one will have an effect, maybe positive or negative, on others
- Examples:
 - Security and reliability
 - The most secure system has fewest points of failures, the most reliable system has typically the most
 - Portability and performance
 - Portability is usually achieved isolating system dependencies, which introduces overhead
- The architecture definition process helps finding the tradeoffs that ensure meeting requirements and desired quality factors

- Companies are increasingly perceiving the importance of software architecture
 - Software companies / System integrators
- These companies are setting up ad hoc <u>software</u> <u>architectures divisions</u>, that have to develop a longterm vision of their products/product lines
 - Different from Business Units and from product engineering/development teams → SA div. responsible for enforcing reuse (of any artifacts)
 - A bridge between BUs (sys requirements) and Engineering divisions (software design and implem.)
- Each large project has at least a software architect
 - A senior IT and/or software specialist with proper skills

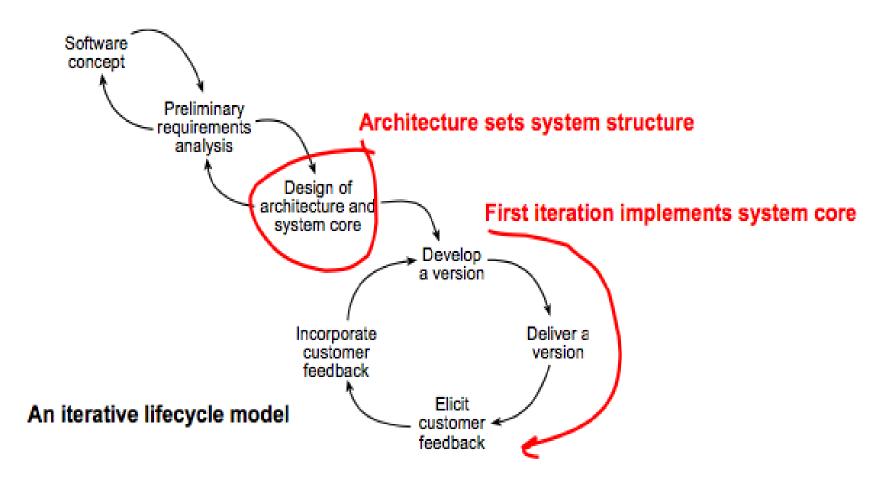
Architecture and system lifetime





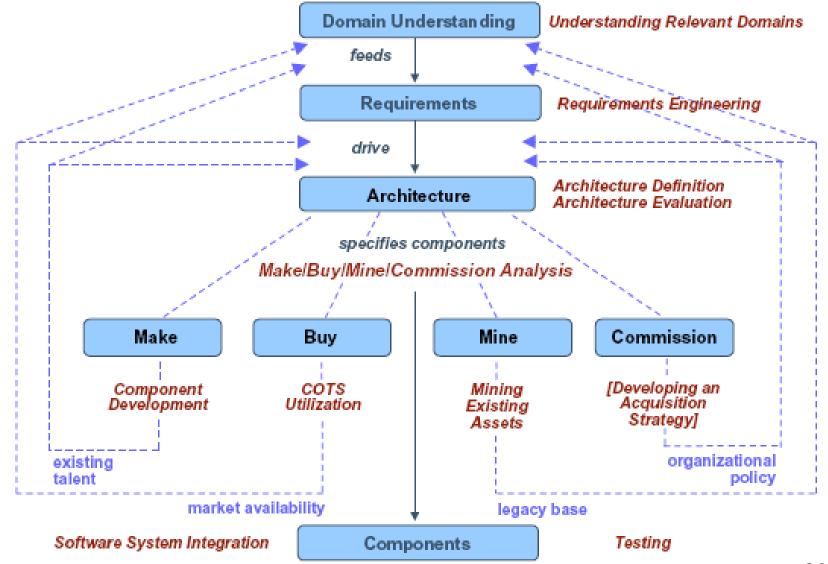
- [Architectural decisions are] conscious design decisions concerning a software system as a whole, or one or more of its core components. These decisions determine the non-functional characteristics and quality factors of the system. [Zimmermann]
- Architectural decisions are strategic decisions
 Architecture = strategic design
 (Functional) design = tactical design
- Decision rationale may come from experience, method or some other asset

The role of architecture in software



Architecture plays a vital role in establishing the structure of the system, early in the development lifecycle

The role of architecture in software





- Productivity in software development depends on reuse: algorithms, data structures, components
- A software library is a typical example of code reuse
- A web server is a typical example of component reuse
- A goal of architecture definition is the reuse of components
- An important issue is the reuse of design ideas: major examples are design patterns and architectural styles



Style: layered

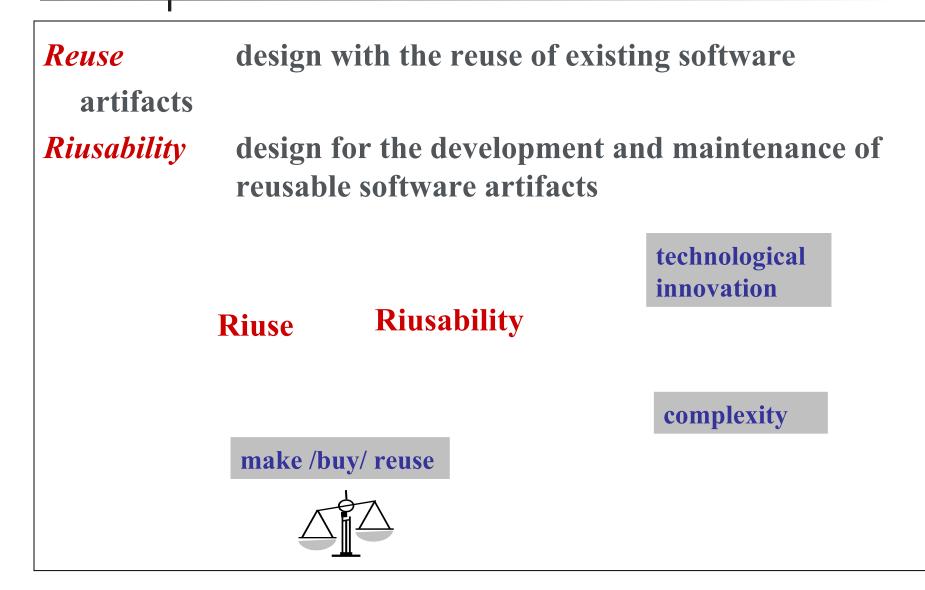
An example of architectural styles: layered architecture



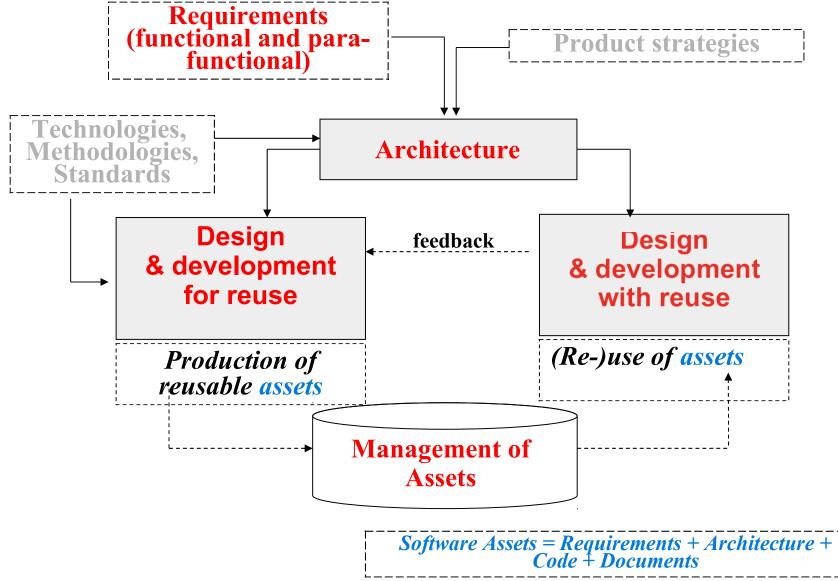
Portuguese francesinha



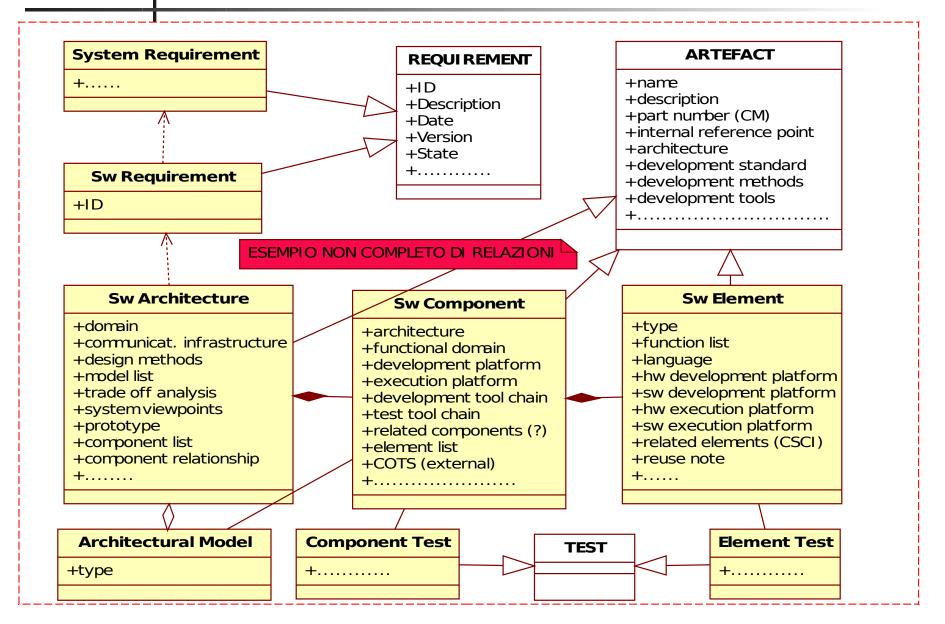
Duality of the reuse concept



Reuse in software life cycle

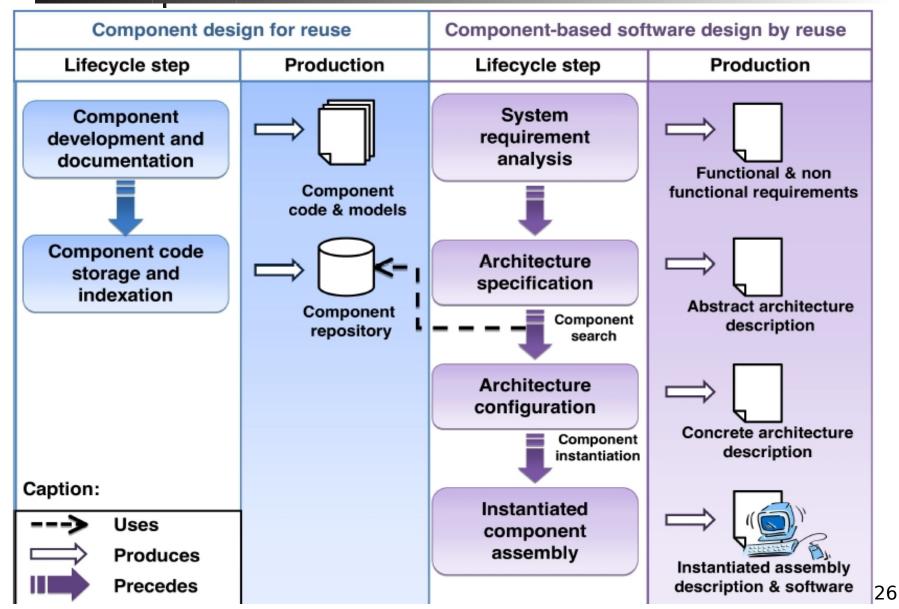


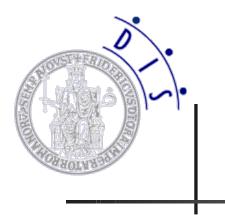
Relationships among artifacts





An architecture goal: reuse of components





Standards



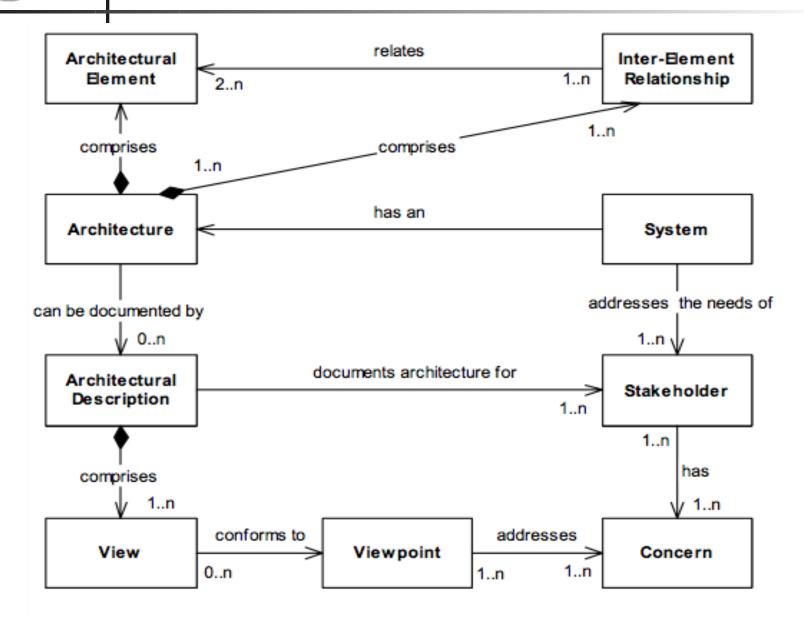
- The first standard in the field of software architectures is ANSI/IEEE 1471-2000:
 Recommended Practice for Architecture Description of Software-Intensive Systems
 - better known as IEEE 1471 standards
- In fact it is a "recommended practice"
 - the "weakest" type of IEEE standards, whose adoption and interpretation are the responsibility of the using organization
- It has been adopted by ISO/IEC JTC1/SC7 as ISO/IEC 42010:2007, in 2007



IEEE 1471 standard

- It focuses on the description of an architecture as the concrete artifact representing the abstraction that is software architecture or system architecture.
- IEEE 1471's contributions lie in the following:
 - It provides definitions and a meta-model for the description of architecture
 - It states that an architecture exists to respond to specific stakeholder concerns about the software/system being described
 - It asserts that architecture descriptions are inherently multi-view, no single view captures all stakeholder concerns about an architecture
 - It separates the notion of view from viewpoint, where a viewpoint identifies the set of concerns and the representations/modeling techniques, etc used to describe the architecture to address those concerns
 - It establishes that a conforming architecture description has a 1-to-1 correspondence between its viewpoints and its views

IEEE 1471 conceptual model



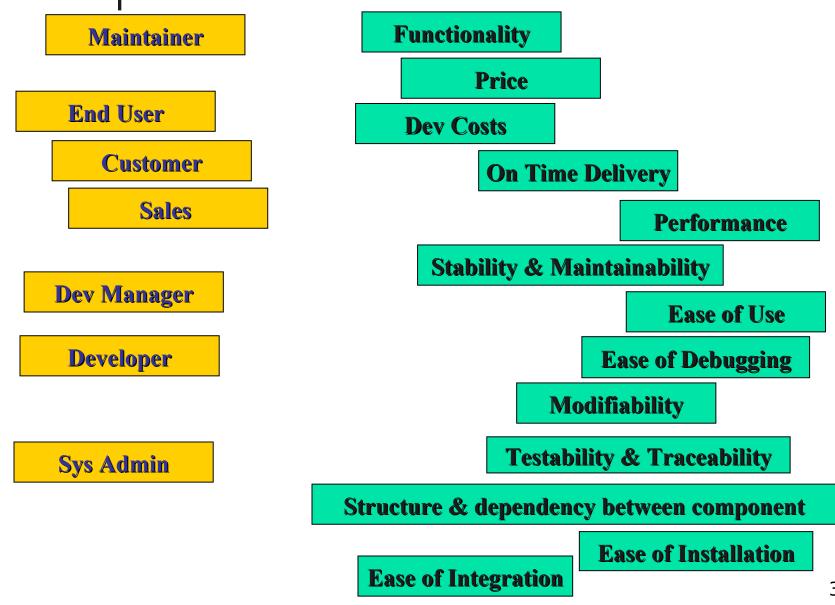
- Stakeholders are the people for (users) and with (developers) whom we build a system; they have complex, overlapping, and often conflicting needs
- Viewpoints are ways to structure the description of a system. Viewpoints guide the creation of the system architecture, depicted by a particular view (or set of views) and based on the principle of separation of concerns



Stakeholders

- Customer
- User
- Project manager
- System engineer
- Software architect
- Developer
- Maintainer
- Tester
- Network administrator
- Quality assurance engineer

Stakeholders and their concerns



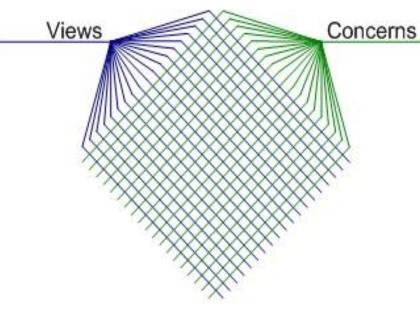
- An architectural description (AD) is a set of artifacts which collectively document an architecture in a way understandable by its stakeholders, and demonstrates that the architecture meets their concerns
- The artifacts in an AD include views, models, principles, contraints, etc., to present the essence of the architecture and its details, so that it can be validated and the described system can be built
- The AD can include also relevant information like business drivers, scope or requirements overview



- A view is a description of a system according to the perspective (viewpoint) of some stakeholder, who has to satisfy some interest (concern)
 - Example: a user view describes the typical scenarios where a system can be used
- An architectural view is a description of some relevant issues of a software architecture
 - Example: the architectural view of packages necessary to install a software system, depicting their dependencies

Architectural views and concerns

Code Distribution Data Storage Data Transmission Deployment Function/Logic/Services Events Hardware Network System Interface User Interface Usage





Accuracy Availability Concurrency Consumability Customization Points Environment (Green) Internationalization Layering/Partitioning Maintenance Operations Quality Performance Regulations Reliability Reuse Security Serviceability Support Timeliness Usability Validation

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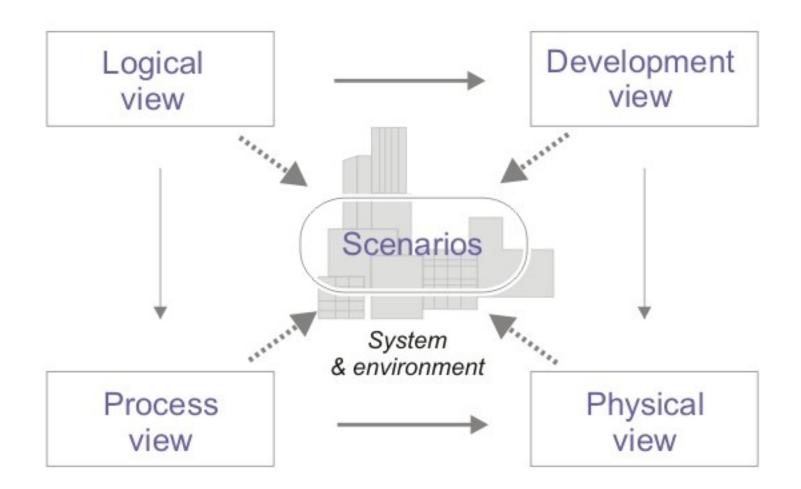
	Module Views					C&C Views	Allocation Views				Other Documentation					
Views and stakeholders	Decomposition	Uses	Generalization	Layered	Data Model	Various	Deployment	Implementation	Install	Work Assignment	Interface Documentation	Context Diagrams	Mapping Between Views	Variability Guides	Analysis Results	Rationale and Constraints
Project managers	S	s		s			d			d		0				S
Members of development team	d	d	d	d	d	d	s	s	d		d	d	d	d		S
Testers and integrators	d	d	d	d	d	S	S	s	S		d	d	S	d		S
Designers of other systems					s						d	ο				
Maintainers	d	d	d	d	d	d	S	s			d	d	d	d		d
Product-line application builders	d	d	S	ο	S	S	S	s	S		S	d	S	d		S
Customers							0			ο		ο			s	
End users						S	S		ο						s	
Analysts	d	d	S	d	d	S	d		S		d	d		S	d	S
Infrastructure support personnel	s	s			s	S	d	d	ο					s		
New stakeholders	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	х	x	x	x
Current and future architects	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	s	d	s	d	d	d	d	d	d
	Key: $d = detailed$ information, $s = some$ details, $o = overview$ information, $x = anything$							anyth	ing	37						



- Structure: the source code of an operating system has a structure, that for instance separates the kernel (eg. concerning processes and scheduling) from the services (eg. concerning the file system)
- Behavior: the operation of an operating system like Unix can be described as a set of concurrent processes which can invoke system calls; each call can raise events which can suspend or activate processes; we can say that a running Unix system is made of processes coordinated by events

	Behavioral View	Structural View					
Conceptual Architecture (abstract)	Collaboration trace	Image: Specs (CRC-R)					
Logical Architecture (detailed)	Collaboration Diagrams	Architecture Diagram with I/Fs Specs					
Execution Architecture (Process View and Deployment View)	Collaboration Diagrams showing processes	Architecture Diagram showing Active Components					

Views (Krutchen 4+1)



Views (Rozanski and Woods')

- Functional View: runtime elements which deliver functionality, including their responsibilities, interfaces and interactions
- Information View: how the architecture stores, manipulates, manages, and distributes information
- Concurrency View: state-related structure and constraints
- Development View: module organization and related tools
- Deployment View: physical environment in which the system runs
- Operational View: how the system will be operated, administered, and supported when it is running in its production environment

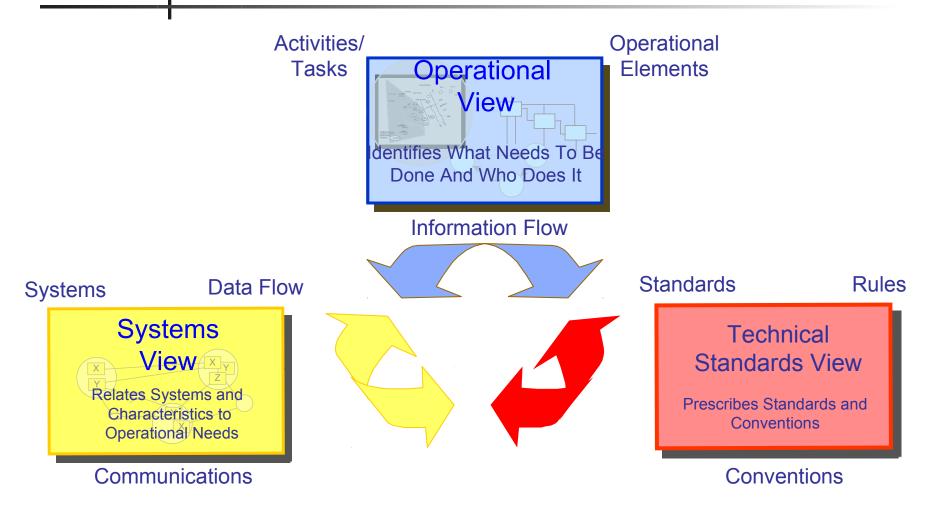


Views (Clements and others)

- Module views
- Components-and-connectors views
- Allocation views



Views (DODAF)



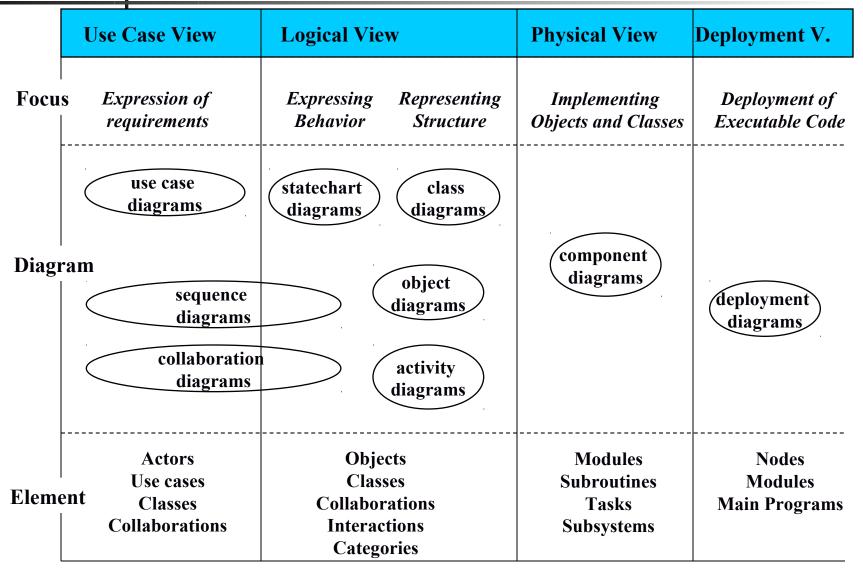


DODAF views

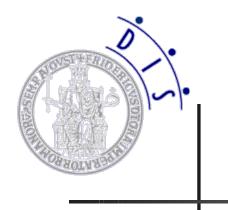
- All View: is the overarching information describing the architecture plans, scope, and definitions
- Operational View: focuses on the behaviours and functions describing the mission aspects
- System View: describes the system and applications supporting the mission functions
- Technical Standards View (TV): describes the policies, standards and constraints



UML diagrams for documentation



UML diagrams model a system from different perspectives



Architecture design principles

The definition of the architecture is the first highlevel step of software design (i.e., architectural design)

Architecture = Design in the large

- Its first aim is the a structural decomposition of the system into sub-entities:
 - Divide et impera approach: to develop single entities in simpler than to develop the entire system
 - It allows to perform several development activities at the same time (i.e., different entities developed in parallel)
 - It significantly favors modifiability, reusability as well as the portability of the system

Defining software architecture – 2/2

- The definition of the criteria for identification of sub-entities is the preliminary step :
 - A typical criterion is the <u>functional</u>one, i.e., sub-entities may be identified by mapping software functionalities to its parts:
 - E.g., user interfaces, database access, security management...
- Among the key principles for the architecture definition there are (must be!) High Cohesion and Low Coupling among components
 - Each sub-system has to contain homogeneous modules (e.g., modules providing services which are strictly related one to each other),
 - Minimize interactions between subsystems



Key architectural design principles

- Abstraction
- Modularity
- Simplicity
- Separation of concerns
- Postponing decisions
- Encapsulation
- Information hiding
- Clear interface design
- High cohesion
- Low coupling



- A **module** is a component that:
 - Provides an abstraction
 - Has a clear separation between:
 - Interface
 - Body
- The interface specifies "what" the module is (the abstraction provided) and "how" it can be used
 - The interface is the *contract* between the user and the provider of the abstraction
- The **body** describes "how" the abstraction is implemented



Interface (visible from outside)

Body (hidden and protected)

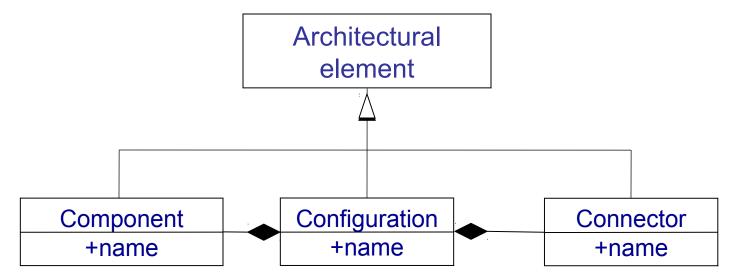


- A component is a run-time entity, and usually offers no visibility into the implementation structure
- Thus, the concept of module is more abstract, while the concept of component is more physical, however they overlap
- In many architectures there is a one-to-one mapping between modules and components
- We could consider components as modules inserted in an architecture, however a single module can turn into several components, and a single component can correspond to many modules



Main elements of a sw architecture

- Components
- Connectors
- Configurations





Component

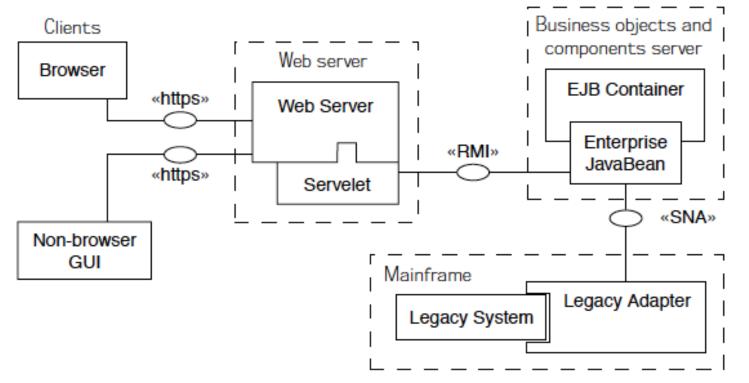
- A software component is a unit of composition with contractually specified interfaces (including some *ports*) and explicit *dependencies*
- Example: a web server
- A software component can be deployed independently and is subject to composition by third parties
- A component model defines rules (standards) for naming, meta data, behavior specification, implementation, interoperability, customization, composition, and deployment of components
- Example: the CORBA Component Model (CCM)



- A software connector specifies the mechanisms by which components transfer control or data
- Examples: procedure call, protocol, pipe, repository
- A connector defines the possible interactions among components: the interfaces of connectors are called **roles**, which are attached to ports of components

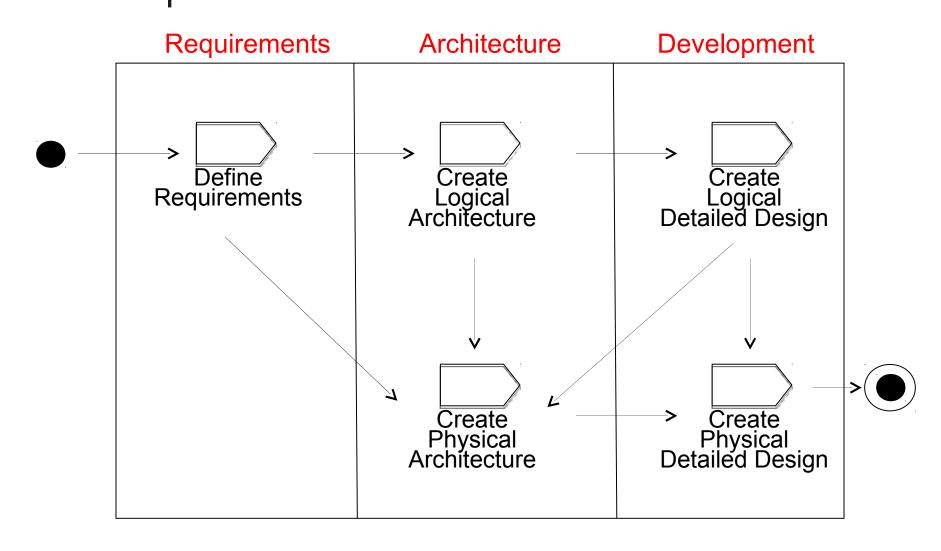


- An architectural configuration is a connected graph of components and connectors that describes basic configuration aspects of a software system
- Example:

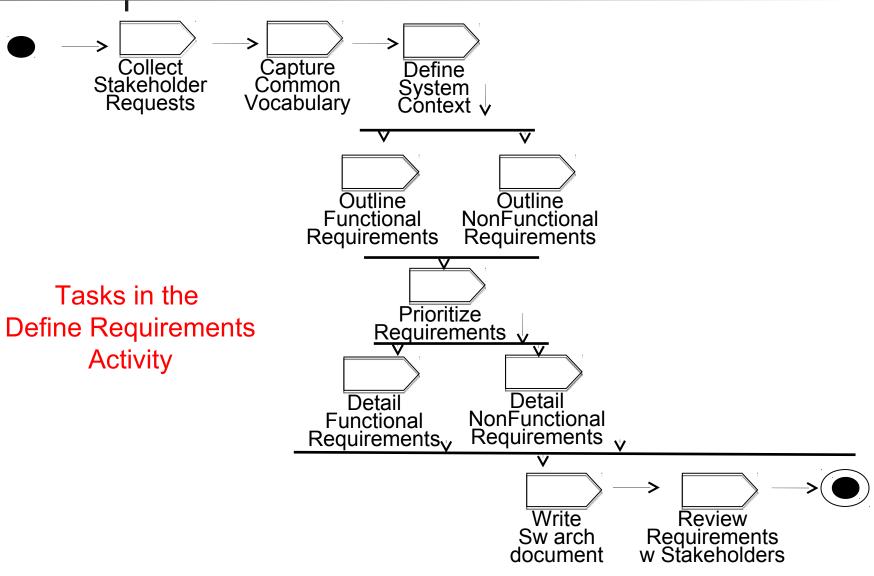




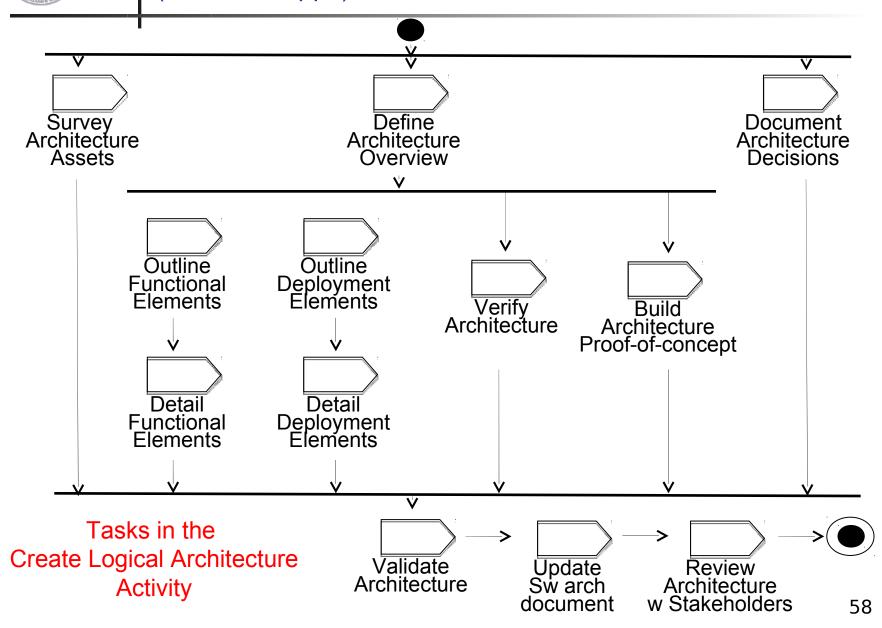
A software architecting process (Eeles & Cripps)



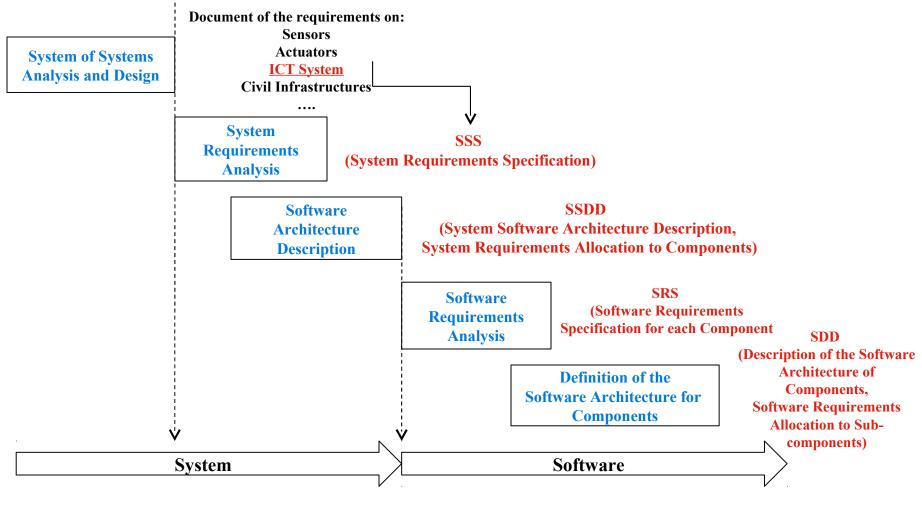
A software architecting process (Eeles & Cripps)



A software architecting process (Eeles & Cripps)

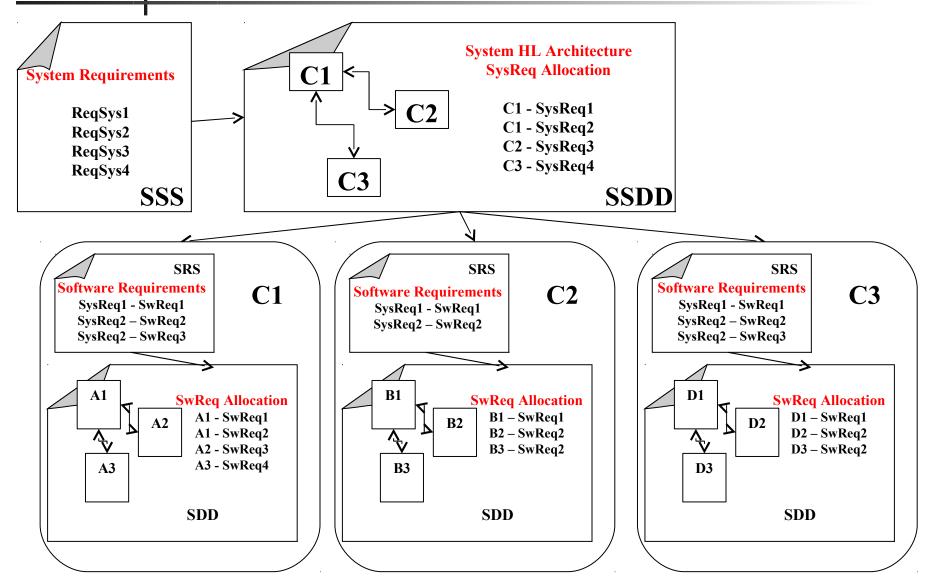


A typical industrial (sub)process – 1/3



Number of requirements ~ 1000 Number of requirements ~ 10000

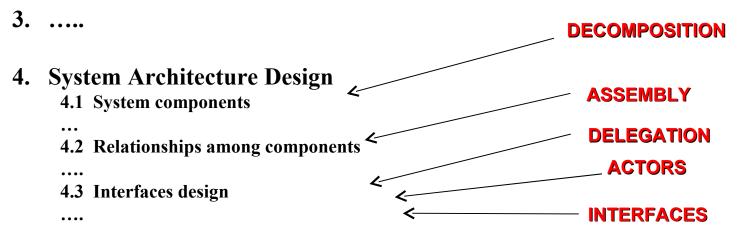
A typical industrial (sub)process – 2/3



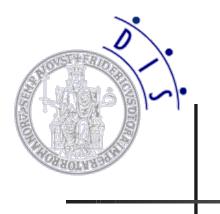


Decomposition -> Which components in the system? Assembly -> How are components structurally related? Delegation -> Which components are delegated the external interfaces to?





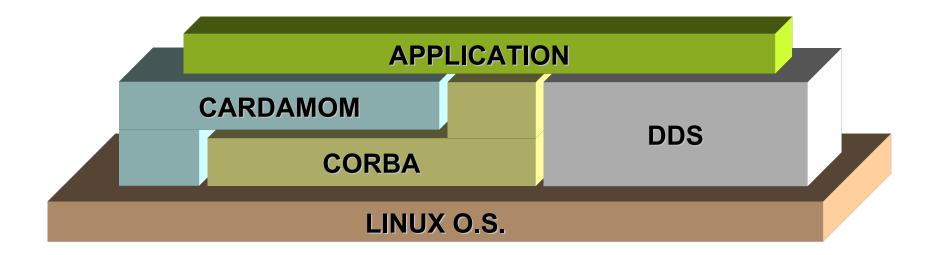




Example

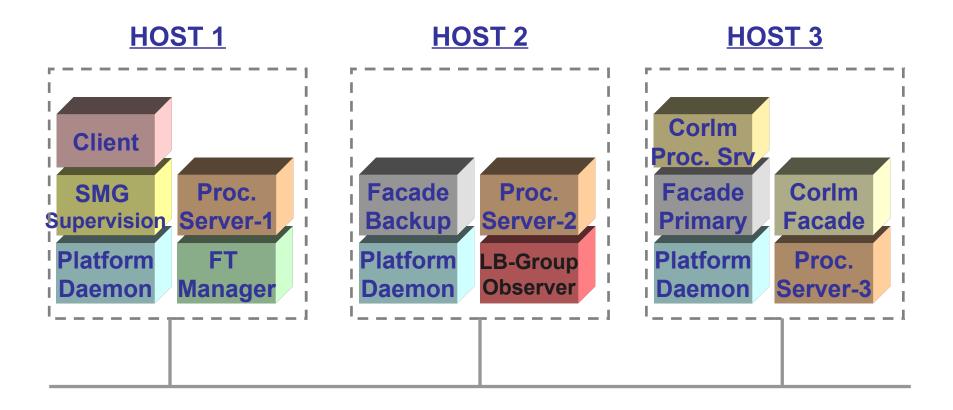


- The scenario provides an example of a real ATC system;
- Layered software organization



- The application uses the following underlying layers:
 - CARDAMOM services:
 - System Management, Load Balancing, Fault Tolerance, …
 - CORBA
 - Interaction mean between remote objects
 - DDS
 - Data exchange according to the publishsubcribe model

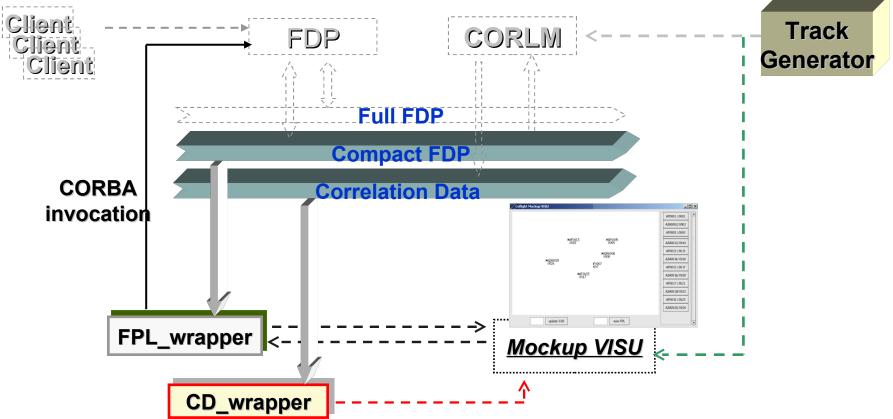
A sample 3-host deployment





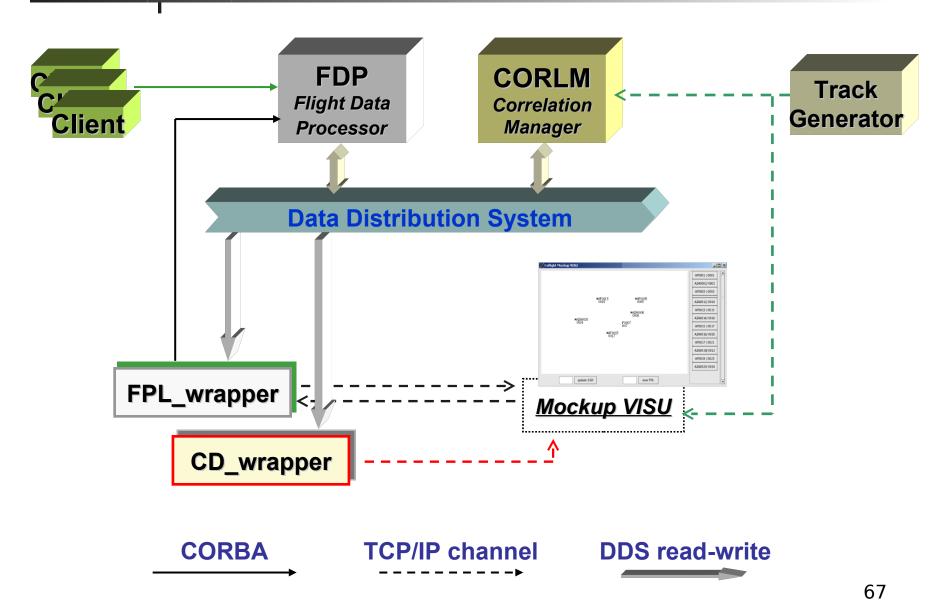
Adding external components

External components are *de-coupled* from the system using the DDS





System overview

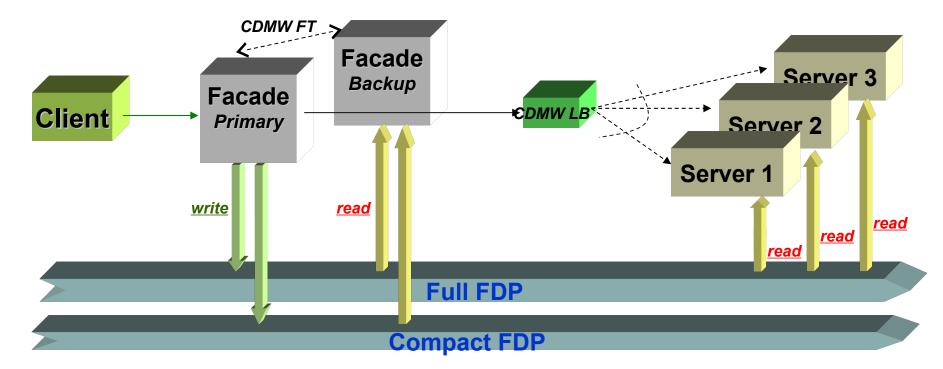


- FDP Flight Data Processor
 - Manages several flight-plan instances
 - Provides methods to insert, delete, update them
- CORLM Correlation Manager
 - Correlates the FPLs with the radar information (simulated via the trackgenerator component)
 - Generates the Correlation Data



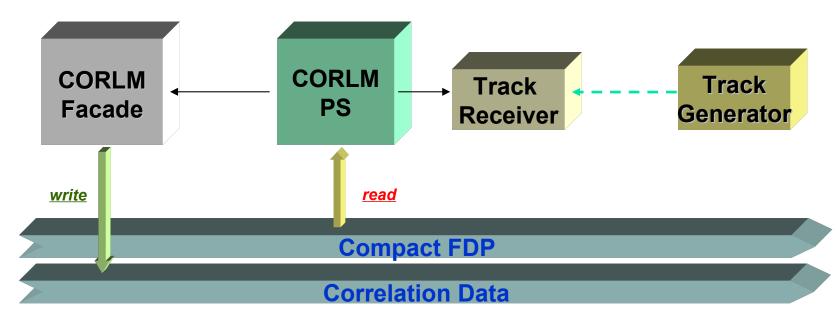
FDP logical organization

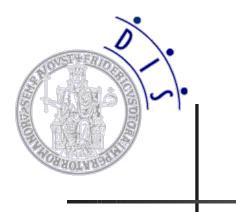
- 2 Facade servers replicated via CDMW Fault Tolerance
- 3 Processing servers under CDMW Load Balancing





- Track Receiver: manages the radar output (may be simulated with the Track Generator)
- Corlm PS and Corlm Facade



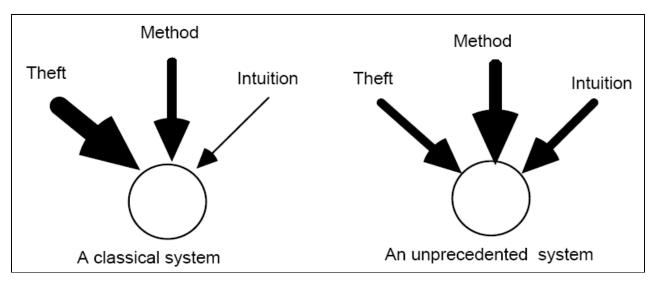


Architectural assets



Sources of Architecture

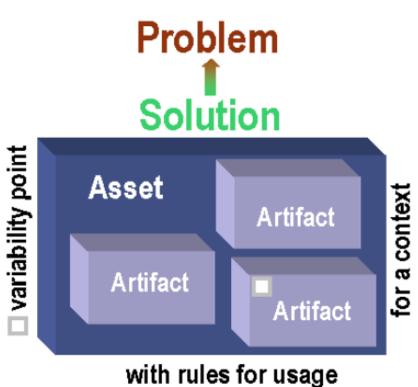
- Theft
 - From a previous system or from technical literature
- Method
 - An approach to deriving the architecture from the requirements
- Intuition
 - The experience of the architect



From "*Mommy, Where Do Software Architectures Come From?*", Philippe Kruchten 1st International Workshop on Architectures for Software Systems, Seattle, 1995

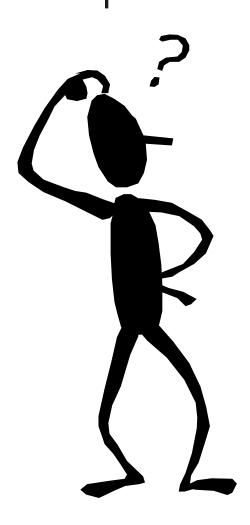


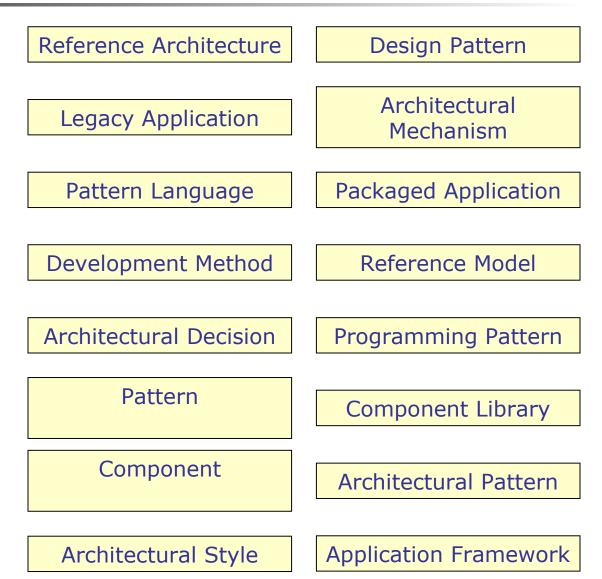
- A (reusable) software asset is a set of artifacts providing a solution to a problem in a given context
- An asset may have a variability point, which is a part of the asset that may have a value provided or customized by the asset consumer
- The asset has rules for usage which are the instructions describing how the asset should be used





What Types of Architectural Assets are there?







 [A pattern is] a common solution to a common problem in a given context. [UML User Guide]

Pattern types

- Architectural Patterns
 - Distribution patterns
 - Security Patterns
- Design Patterns
- Programming Patterns
- Requirements Patterns
- Testing Patterns
- Project Management Patterns
- Process Patterns
- Organizational Patterns

. . .



Architectural Pattern

- An architectural pattern expresses a fundamental structural organization schema for software systems. It provides a set of predefined subsystems, specifies their responsibilities, and includes rules and guidelines for organizing the relationships between them. [Buschmann]
- Example:

Pattern: Layers

<u>Context</u> A system that requires decomposition

Problem

High-level elements rely on lower-level elements and the following forces must be balanced:

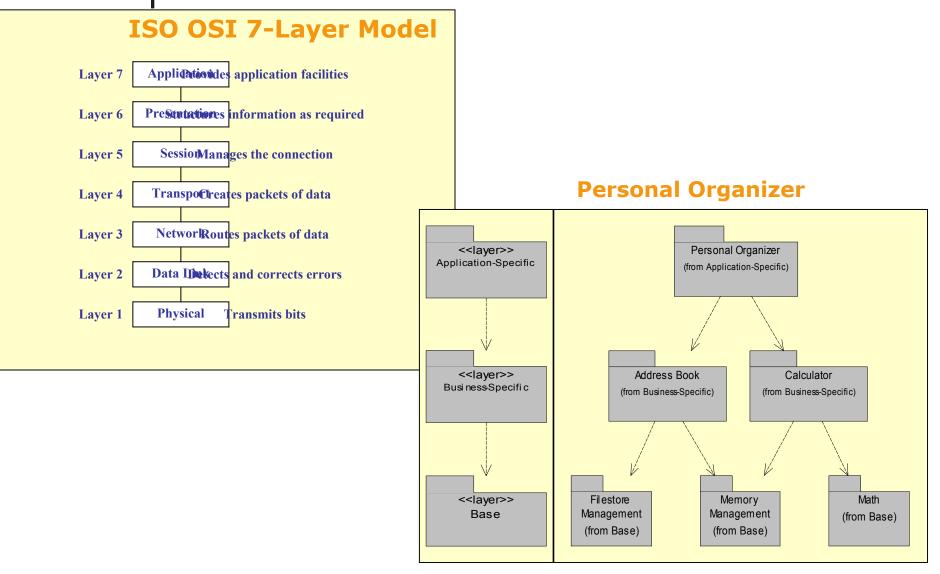
- Interfaces should be stable
- Parts of the system should be exchangeable
- Source code changes should not ripple through the system

Solution

Structure the system into layers



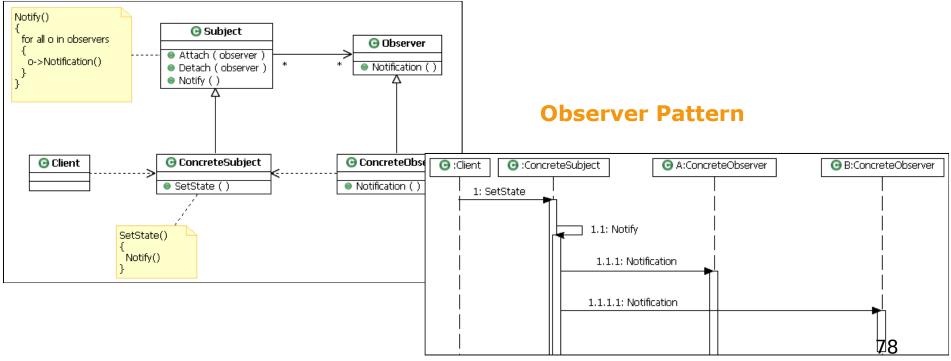
Architectural pattern – Layers





Design Pattern

A design pattern provides a scheme for refining the subsystems or components of a software system, or the relationships between them. It describes a commonlyrecurring structure of communicating components that solves a general design problem within a particular context. [Gamma]





Programming Pattern

An idiom is a low-level pattern specific to a programming language. An idiom describes how to implement particular aspects of components or the relationships between them using the features of the given language. [Buschmann]

```
// Swap the values of 2 variables
temp = a;
a = b;
b = temp;
```



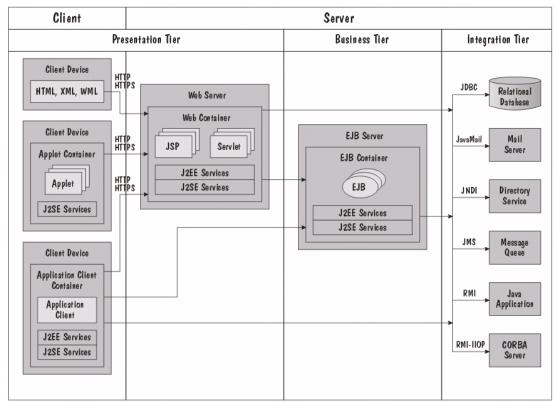
Architectural Style

- [An architectural style] defines a family of systems in terms of a pattern of structural organization. More specifically, an architectural style defines a vocabulary of components and connector types, and a set of constraints on how they can be combined. [Shaw]
- Client-server
 - Supports the physical separation of client-side processing (such as a browser) and server-side processing (such as an application server that accesses a database)
- Event-based
 - Promotes a publish-subscribe way of working, applied across large areas of the architecture
- Pipes-and-filters
 - A series of filters that provide data transformation, and pipes that connect the filters. Examples include compilers, signal processing



Reference Architecture

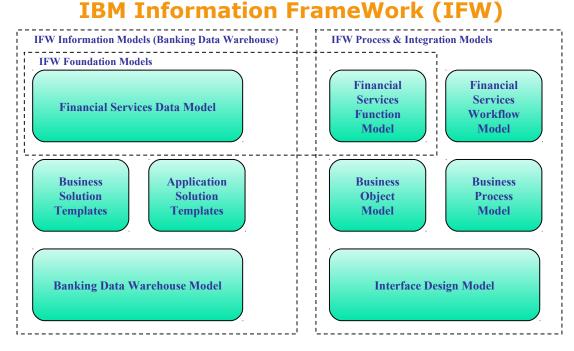
- A reference architecture is an architecture representation of a particular domain of interest. It typically includes many different architectural patterns, applied in different areas of its structure
- Examples include J2EE and .NET





Reference Model

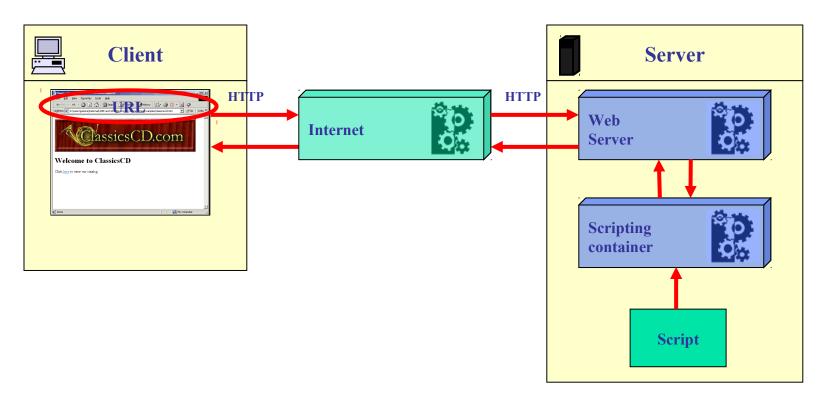
- A reference model is an abstract representation of entities, their relationships and behavior, in a given domain of interest, and which typically forms the conceptual basis for the development of more concrete elements
- Examples include a business model, an information model and a glossary of terms





Application Framework

- An application framework represents the partial implementation of a specific area of an application
- Most widely-known frameworks support user interfaces
 - Java Server Pages
 - ASP.NET

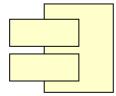


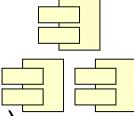


- A packaged application is a large-grained Commercial-Off-The-Shelf (COTS) product that provides a significant amount of capability (and reuse)
- Examples
 - Customer Relationship Management (CRM) application (e.g. Siebel)
 - Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) application (e.g. SAP)
- The amount of custom development required is greatly reduced
- Primary focus is on configuring the application

- Component examples
 - GUI widget (such as a table)
 - Service

- Component library examples
 - Class libraries (e.g. Java class library)
 - Procedure libraries

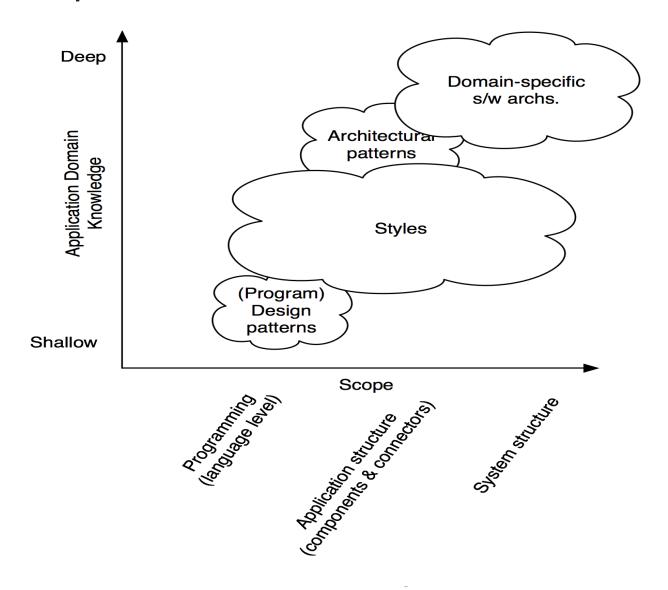




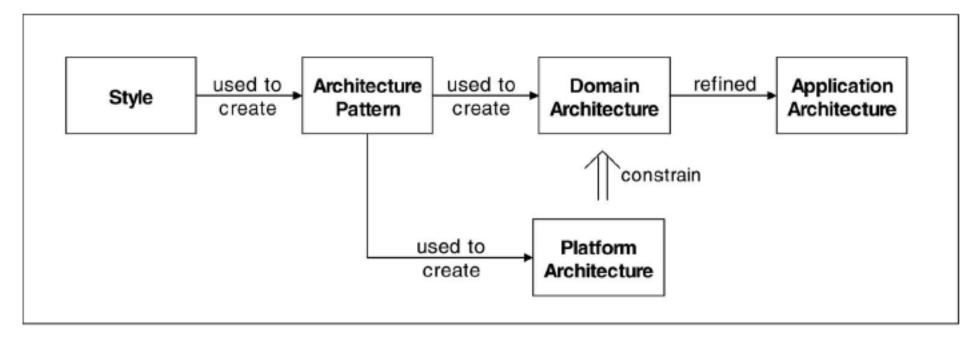


- A legacy application is a system that continues to be used because the owning organization cannot replace or redesign it
- Tends to be a focus on integration rather than new development
- Often results in a focus on enterprise application integration (EAI)

Patterns, styles, and DSSAs



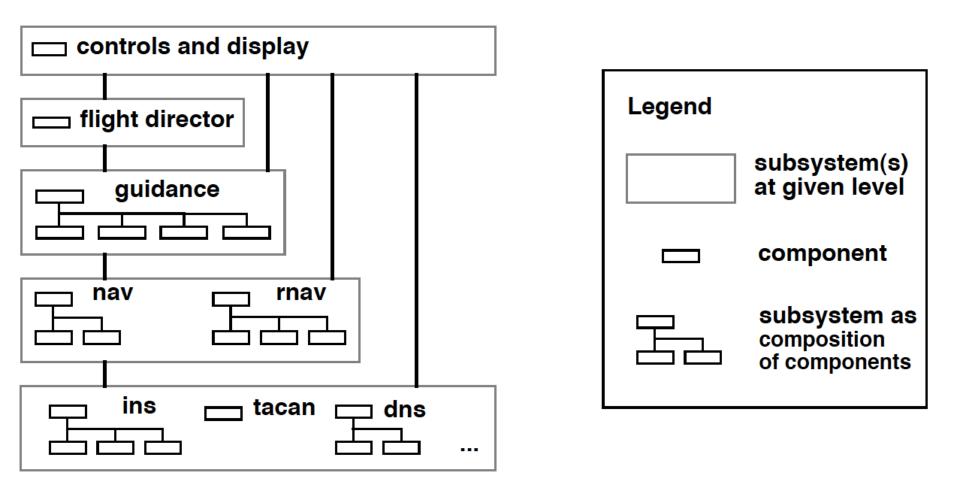
A map of architectural concepts



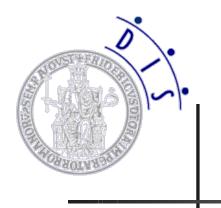
- A DSSA is an assemblage of software components
 - specialized for a particular type of domain,
 - generalized for effective use across that domain, and
 - composed in a standardized structure (topology) effective for building domain specific applications.
- Since DSSAs are specialized for a particular domain they are only of value if one exists for the domain wherein the engineer is tasked with building a new application.
- DSSAs are the pre-eminent means for maximal reuse of knowledge and prior development and hence for developing a new architectural design.



DSSA Example



D.Batory and others, Creating Reference Architectures: An Example from Avionics, 1995



The role of the software architect



- The role of the software architect involves not just technical activities, but others that are more "political" and strategic in nature, and more like those of a consultant
- Not all good technologists have the skills that make them good architects
- The best architects are good technologists, that command respect in the technical community, but also are good strategists, organizational politicians and leaders



The architect must be a prophet... in the true sense of the term ... if he can't see at least ten years ahead,

don't call him an architect

Frank Lloyd Wright

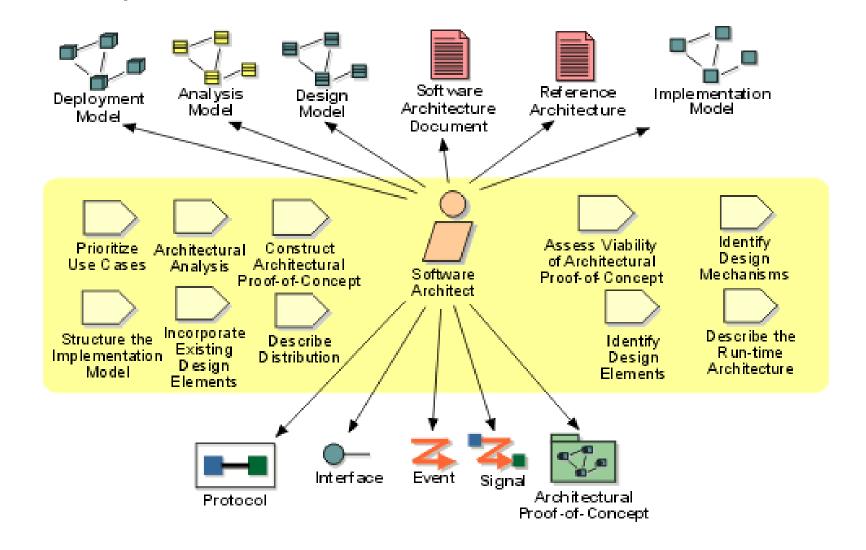


- The best architectures are the product of
 - A single mind or
 - A very small, carefully structured team
 - Rechtin, Systems Architecting: Creating & Building Complex Systems, 1991, p21

Every project should have exactly 1 architect

- For larger projects, the principal architect should be backed up by architect team of small size
 - Booch, *Object Solutions*, 1996

The role of software architect





Developer/Integrator/Architect skills

Software Developer

- Typically involved in new applications / components
- Ability to compare technologies and solutions, in order to choose the best one
- Analisys, design, programming and testing skills
- Tipically a young professional
- Low cost

Application Integrator

- Reuse of legacy applications (usually badly documented), and use of COTS components
- Faces constraints on OSs, protocols, languages, development environments to be used; and technologies of legacy systems which often are not interoperable
- Re-engineering, reuse, interface design and components adaptation skills
- Familiar with pre-existing systems
- Typically a senior professional
- Medium/high cost

Software Architect

- Master technology trends
- Ability to interface both business/organization key people and technical teams
- Strategic vision
- Organizational skills
- Communication skills
- Ability to design for change
- Manage risk identification and risk mitigation strategies
- Cost estimator
- Leading skill
- High cost

- Must understand details of software development
 - Principles
 - Methods & techniques
 - Methodologies
 - Tools
- Need not be world-class software programmers
- Should understand consequences of architectural choices
 - Some architectural choices constrain implementation options
 - Some implementation-level techniques & tools constrain architectural choices

- Software engineering expertise is not enough
- Problem domain knowledge
 - Maturity
 - Stability
 - System user profile
- May affect selected & developed architectural solutions
 - Distribution
 - Scale
 - Evolvability
- Requires artifacts that model problem space
 - Not solution space



- At least 1/2 of the job
- Must
 - Listen to stakeholder concerns
 - Explain the architecture
 - Negotiate compromises, acquire consensus
- Need good communication skills
 - Writing
 - Speaking
 - Presenting



Architects communicate with

- Managers
 - Must relay key messages
 - Architecture is useful & important
 - Ensure support throughout project
 - Must listen to concerns
 - Cost
 - Schedule
- Developers
 - Convince them that the architecture is effective
 - Justify local suboptimal choices
 - Listen to problems
 - Tools, methods, design/implementation choices
- Other software architects
 - Ensure conceptual integrity
 - Ensure desired system properties & evolution



- System engineers
 - Coordinate requirements & solutions
 - Explain how architecture addresses key concerns
- Customers
 - Determine needs
 - Explain how architecture addresses requirements
- Users
 - Determine needs
 - Explain how architecture addresses those needs
 - Listen to problems
- Marketers
 - Get/help set goals & directions
 - Explain how architecture addresses marketing objectives



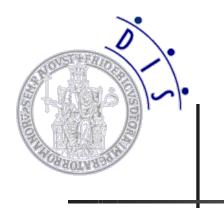
- Developing an architecture is not enough
 - Technology is only part of picture
 - Architecture must be right for organization
- Must fit organization's
 - business strategy and rationale behind it,
 - business practices,
 - planning cycles,
 - decision making processes
- Must also be aware of competitors'
 - Products
 - Strategies
 - Processes

Architects as cost estimators

- Must understand financial ramifications of architectural choices
 - Make or buy
 - Cost of COTS adoption
 - Cost of development for reuse
 - Company's financial stability & position in marketplace
- Technologically superior solution is not always the most appropriate one
 - Impact on cost & schedule
- Quick, approximate cost estimations are often sufficient
 - Detailed cost estimation techniques can be applied once set of candidate solutions is narrowed down



- Designate architect or assemble architecture team to be creators & proponents of common system goal/vision
- Architects must be experienced at least in problem domain & software development
- Software architect is a full-time job
- Charter of software architecture team should
 - Clearly define its roles & responsibilities
 - Clearly specify its authority
- Do not isolate software architecture team from the rest of project personnel
- Avoid pitfalls



Evaluating software architectures

- Evaluating the candidate architecture before it becomes the project blueprint can be of great economic value
- Useful to:
 - Assess whether the candidate can deliver the expected benefits
 - Assessment against stakeholders' requirements/software quality attributes/quality managers concerns
 - Evaluate a large software system with a long expected lifetime before acquiring it
 - Compare alternatives
 - Architecture refactoring
- Repeatable, structured architecture evaluation methods are available now

- Evaluation can take place at many points
- As usual: the earlier, the better
 - Software quality cannot be appended late in a project, it must be built in from the beginning
- Typically, when the architecture is finished, before the project commits to expensive development
- But also:
 - Compare two competing architectures
 - Evaluate the architecture of a legacy system undergoing evolution
 - Evaluate the architecture of a system to be acquired
 - Evaluate OTS (Off-The-Shelf) (sub)systems



Evaluating architectures – How?

- Some architecture evaluation methodologies are available
 - ATAM
 - CBAM
- Planned
 - Scheduled well in advance
 - Built into the project's plan and budget
- Unplanned
 - When the management perceives that the project has risks of failure or needs a correction
 - Reactive Tension filled

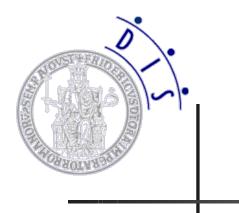
Preconditions:

- A few high-priority goals 3 to 5
- Availability of key personnel
- Competent evaluation team
- Cost: a few tens of staff-days in a large project
 - ATAM requires approximately 36 staff-days

Result:

- A report describing all issues of concern, along with supporting data
- Report should include costs of the evaluation and estimated benefits if concerns are addressed
- Report to be first circulated in draft form among participants
- Issues should be ranked by potential impact on the project if unaddressed

- (Especially for planned evaluations)
- Economic / financial
- Preparation for review
- Captured rationale
- Early detection of problems
- Validation of requirements
- Improved final architecture
- Ensuring proper documentation



Architectural styles



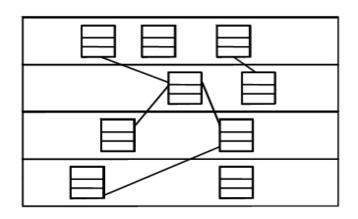
- The architectural definition of a system is generally achieved by breaking up the system into subsystems, following a *layered* and/or *partitions* based approach (*tiers*).
- These are orthogonal approaches:
 - A layer is a level in charge of providing services (e.g., a user interface)
 - A tier is the organization of several peer modules (within the same layer, in most of the cases)



- A system which has a hierarchical structure, consisting of an ordered set of layers
- A layer is given by a set of subsystems which are able to provide related services, that can even be realized by exploiting services from other layers
- A layer depends only on lower layers (i.e., layers which are located at a lower level into the architecture)
 - A layer is only aware of lower layers
- Closed architecture: the *i-th* layer can only have access to the layer (i-1)-th
- Open architecture: the *i-th* layer can have access to all the underlying layers (i.e., the layers lower than *i*)



- The i-th layer can only invoke the services and the operations which are provided by the layer (i-1)-th
- The main goals are the system maintainability and high portability

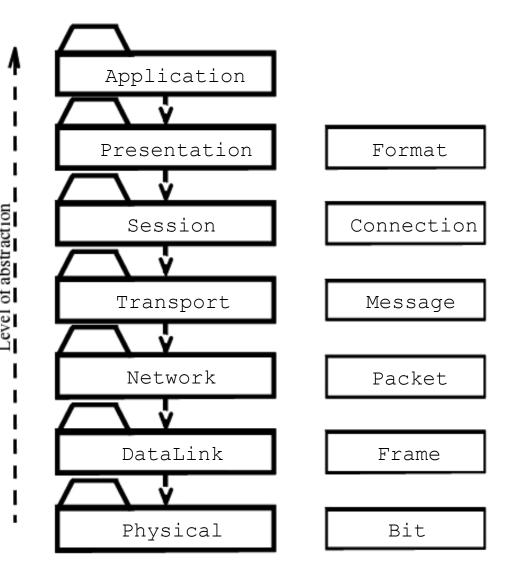




An example of closed architecture

ISO/OSI stack

 The ISO/OSI reference model defines 7 network layers, characterized by an increasing level of abstraction





- The i-th layer can invoke the services and the operations which are provided by all the lower layers (the layers lower than i)
- The main goals are the execution time and efficiency

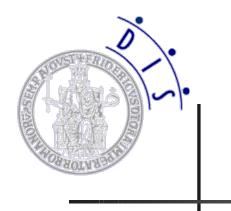


- A further approach to manage system complexity consists of *partitioning* the system into peer subsystems (*peers*), which are responsible for a class of services
- Typically, a complete decomposition of a given system comes from both layering and partitioning
 - First, the system in divided into top level subsystems which are responsible for certain functionalities (*partitioning*)
 - Second, each subsystem is organized into several layers, if necessary, up to the definition of *simple enough* layers



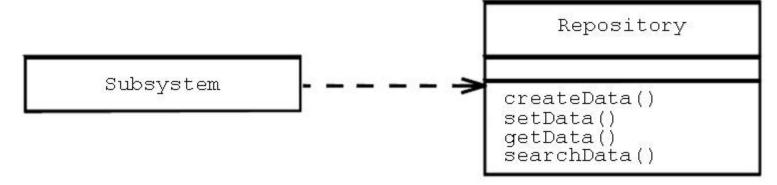
Architectural styles

- Several architectural styles have been defined in the literature of software engineering. They can be used as the basis for software architectures. They include:
 - Repository
 - Client/Server
 - two-tiers; three-tiers; n-tiers
 - Model/View/Controller
 - Distributed objects
 - Distributed components
 - Service-Oriented
 - Peer-To-Peer

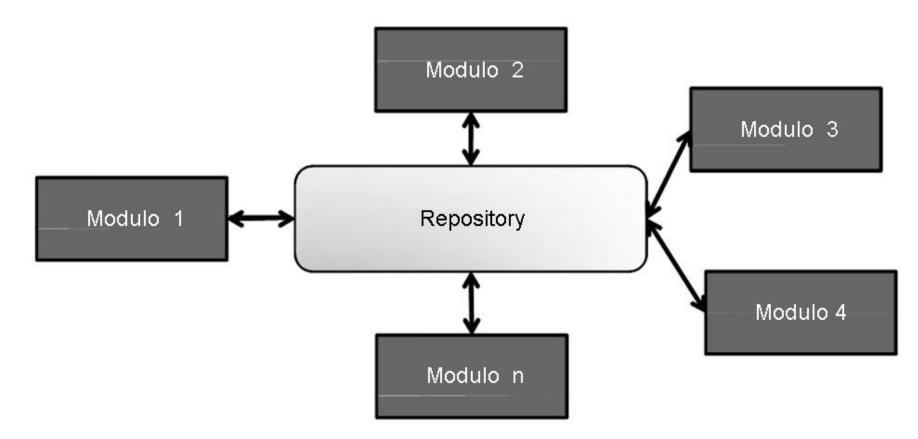


Repository-based architectures

- The subsystems use and modify (i.e., they have access to) a data structure named repository.
- They are relatively independent, in that they interact only through the repository
- The control flow into the system can be managed both by the repository (if stored data have to be modified) and by the subsystems (independent control flow)



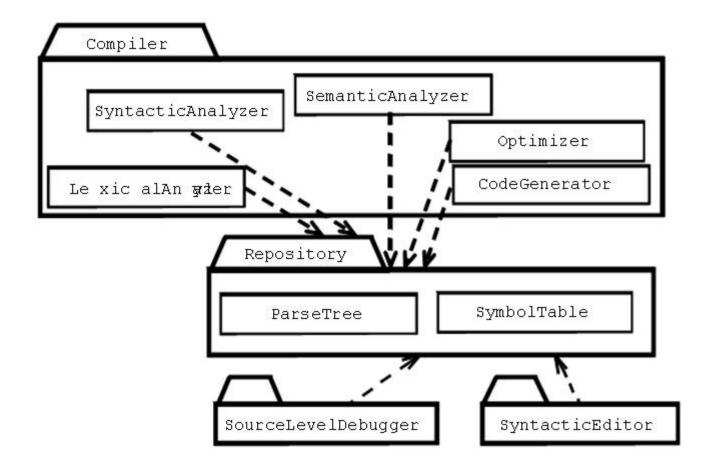






Repository Architecture – 3/4

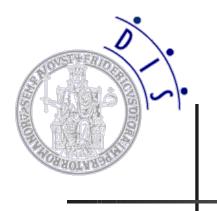
An example: a compiler architecture





Repository Architecture – 4/4

- Benefits
 - It is an effective mean to share huge amount of data: write once for all to read
 - Each subsystems has not to take care of how data are produced/consumed by other subsystems
 - It allows a centralized management of system backups, as well as of security and recovery procedures
 - The data sharing model is available as the *repository schema*, hence it is easy to plug new subsystems
- Pitfalls
 - Subsystems have to agree on a data model, thus impacting on performance
 - Data evolution: it is "expensive" to adopt a new data model since (a) it has to be applied on the entire repository, and (b) all the subsystems have to be updated
 - Not all the subsystems requirements in terms of backup, security are always supported by the repository
 - It is tricky to deploy the repository on several machines, preserving the logical vision of a centralized entity, due to redundancy and data consistency matters



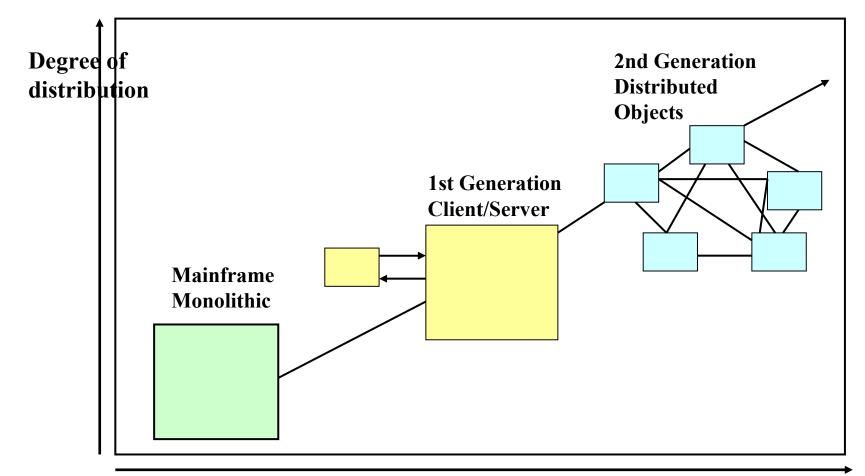
(CSA)

Client-Server Architectures

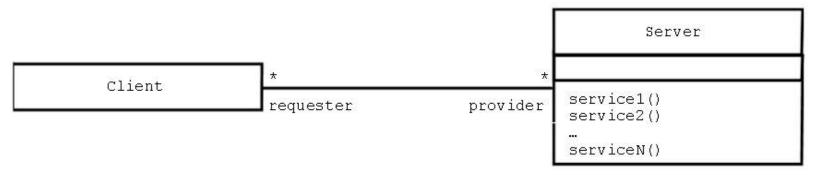
- It has been conceived in the context of distributed systems, aiming to solve a synchronization issue:
 - A protocol was needed to allow the communication between two different entities
- The driving idea is to make unbalanced the partners' roles within a communication process
 - Passive entities (named server):
 - They cannot initiate a communication
 - ... they can only answer to incoming requests (reactive entities)
 - Active entities (named *client*):
 - They trigger the communication process
 - They forward requests to the servers, then they wait for responses



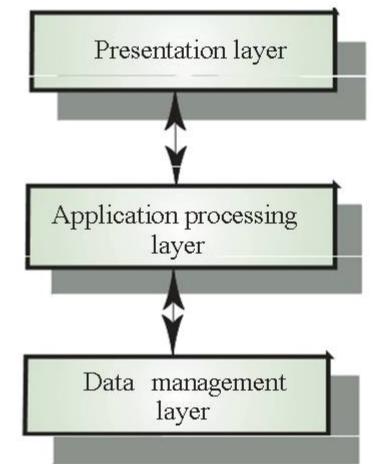
The first generation of software distributed systems was based on the client server paradigm



- From the architectural viewpoint, a C/S software system is made up of components which can be classified according to the service abstraction:
 - Who provides services is a server;
 - Who requires a service is a client;
- Clients are typically responsible for the interaction between the system and its users
 - ...but a server can be a client for a different service
- Clients are aware of the server interface
- Servers cannot foresee clients' requests

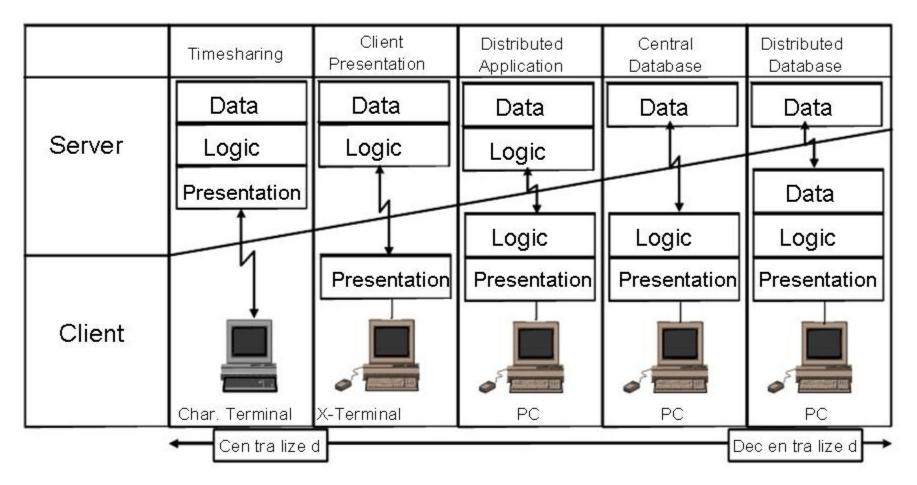


- In fact, a system can be logically divided into three parts:
 - The presentation, which is in charge of managing the user interface (graphic events, input fields check, help..)
 - The actual application logic
 - The data management layer for the management of persistent data.
- The system architecture is defined according to how these parts are organized :
 - 2-tiered
 - 3-tiered
 - n-tiered





2 tiers Client/Server architectures

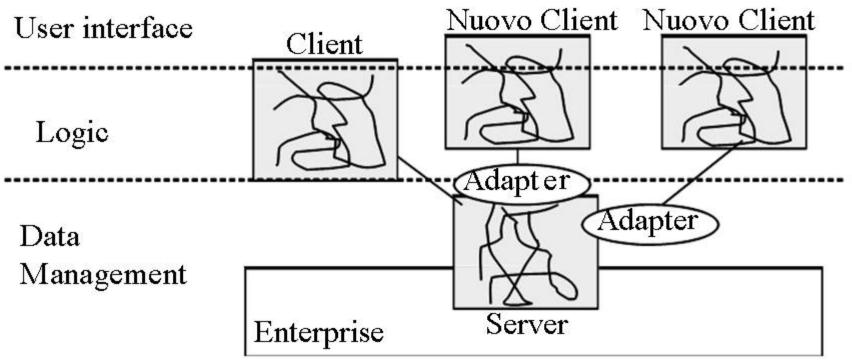


Two-tier C/S architectures – 1/2

- Pitfalls:
 - They exhibit a heavy message traffic since front-end and the servers communicate intensively
 - The business logic is not managed by a ad-hoc component, but is it "shared" by front-end and back-end
 - client and server depend one from each other
 - It is difficult to reuse the same interface to access to different data
 - It is difficult to interact with databases which have different frontend
 - The business logic is encapsulated into the user interface
 - If the logic changes, the interface has to change as well

Recurrent problem:

- Business and presentation logic are not clearly separate
 - E.g., if there is a service which can be accessed by several devices (e.g., mobile phone, desktop PC)
 - The same logic but different interface

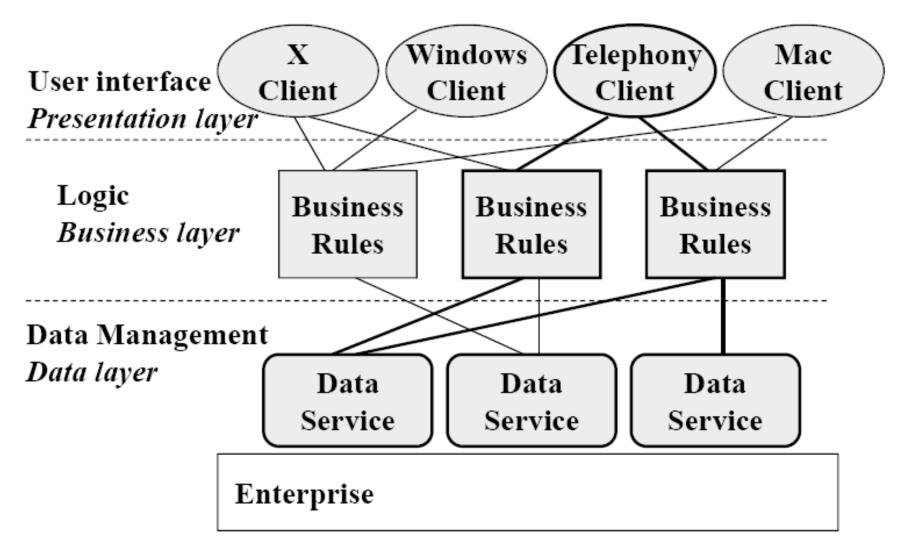




- Early 90's; they propose a clear separation among logics:
 - Level 1: data management (DBMS, XML files,)
 - Level 2: business logic (application processing, ...)
 - Level 3: user interface (data presentation and services)
- Each layer has its own goals, as well as specific design constraints
- No assumptions at all about the structure and/or the implementation of the other layers, i.e.:
 - Level 2 does not make any assumptions neither on how data are represented, nor on how user interfaces are made
 - Level 3 does not make any assumptions on how business logic works

- Levels 1 and 3 do not communicate, i.e.:
 - The user interface neither receives any data from data management, nor it can write data
 - Information passing (in both the directions) are filterer by the business logic
- Levels work as they were not part of a specific application:
 - Applications are conceived as collections of interacting components
 - Each component can take part to several applications at the same time





Three-tier architectures – 4/6

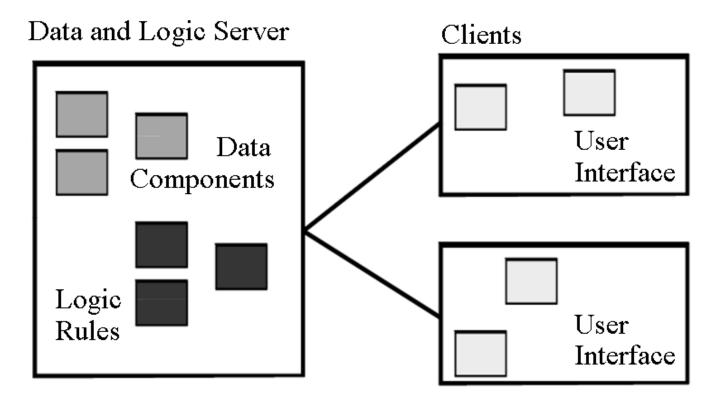
- Benefits:
 - They leverage the flexibility of and the high modifiability of modular systems
 - Components can be used in several systems
 - A change into a given component do not have any impacts on the system (apart from changes into the API)
 - It is easier to localize a bug since the system functionalities are isolated
 - New functionalities can be added to the system by only modifying the components which are in charge of realizing them, or by plugging new components

Three-tier architectures - 5/6

- Pitfalls:
 - Application dimensions and efficiency:
 - Heavy network traffic
 - High latency for service delivering
 - Ad hoc software libraries have to be used to allow the communication among components
 - Many LoCs!
 - Legacy software
 - Many industries make use of preexisting software, monolithic, systems to manage data
 - Adapters have to be implemented to interoperate with the legacy SW



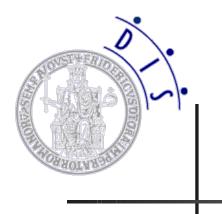
- Levels are logical abstractions, not physical entities
 - Three-tier architectures can even be realized by using one or two levels of machines





N-tier architectures

- They provide high flexibility
- Fundamental items:
 - User Interface (UI): e.g., a browser, a WAP minibrowser, a graphical user interface (GUI)
 - Presentation logic, which defines what the UI has to show and how to manage users' requests
 - Business logic, which manages the application business rules
 - Infrastructure services
 - The provides further functionalities to the application components (messaging, transactions support);
 - Data layer:
 - Application Data level



MVC

Model/View/Controller Architectures



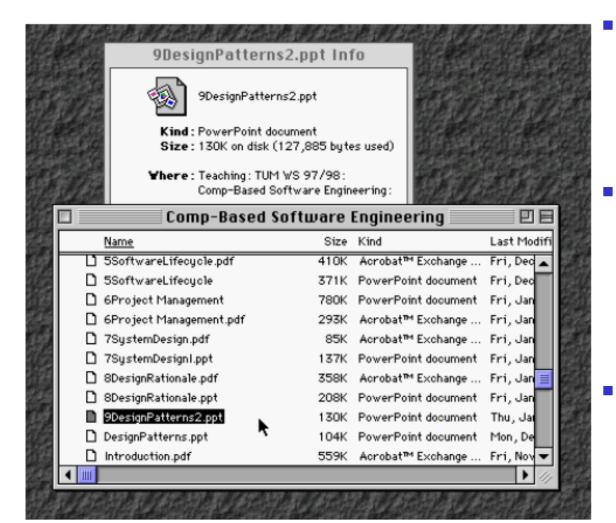
- Three kinds of subsystems:
 - Model, which keep the knowledge about the application domain
 - View, which takes care of making application objects visible to system users
 - Controller, which manages the interactions between the system and it users.





- Model subsystems do not depend on any View and/or Controller subsystems. Changes into their state are communicated to the viewer (View subs) by means of a "subscribe/notify" protocol
- MVC represents a meeting point between the repository and the three tier architecture:
 - The Model implements the centralizes data structure;
 - The Controller manages the control flow: it receives inputs from users and forwards messages to the Model
 - The Viewer pictures the model.

MVC: An example – 1/2



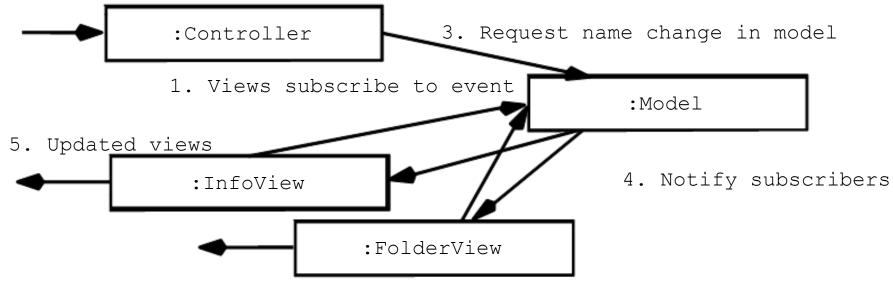
- Two different views of a file system:
- The bottom window visualizes the Component Based Software Engineering folder
- The up windows, instead, visualizes information related to the 9DesignPatterns2.p pt file
- The file name is
 visualized into three
 different places



MVC: An example – 2/2

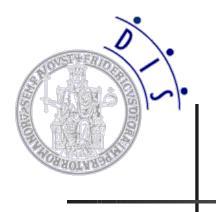
- 1. Both InfoView and FolderView subscribe the changes to the model File when created
- 2. The user enters the new filename
- 3. The Controller forwards the request to the model
- 4. The model actually changes the filename and notifies the operation to subscribers
- 5. InfoView and FolderView are updated so that the user perceives the changes in a consistent way

2.User types new filename





- The main reason behind the separation subsystems (Model, View and Controller) is that user interface are changed much more frequently then the knowledge about the application domain (Model)
- The MVC architecture is effective in the case of interactive systems, especially when several views of the same model have to be provided



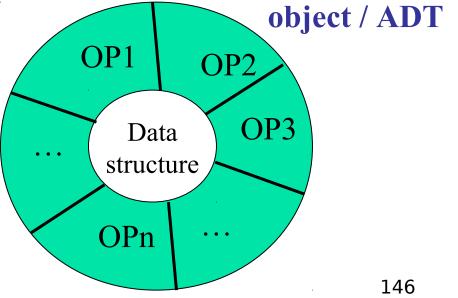
DOA

Distributed Objects Architectures



Objects

- An object is the encapsulation of a concrete data structure into the operations (those and only those) to access (read/write) it
- In typed languages, an alternative definition of object is an instance of an Abstract Data Type
 - ADT: the specification of a data structure and of the operations to access it
- Untyped languages (eg., Smalltalk) are typically interpreted
- Typed languages (C++, Java) are compiled
 - the compiler performs static type-checking



The power of objects

- In programming languages, subprograms (procedure / functions) and objects are "good" software modules
 - abstraction, interface, body, information hiding
- ... but subprograms provide only a *functional* abstraction
 - The hidden information is the algorithm that implements the functionality

A Car AD

PowerOn()

Decelerate()

Accelerate

PowerOff()

147

Engine,

Chassis

- Objects provide data abstraction
 - The hidden information are:
 - data structures encapsulated
 - algorithms inside operations



- Object-based techniques based on:
 - Classes
 - a way to implement abstract data types
 - Objects
 - instances of classes

Object-oriented techniques are based on:

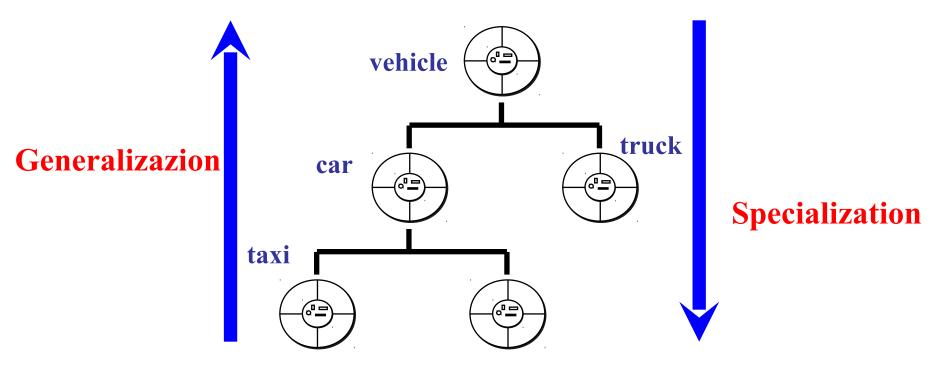
- Classes
- Objects
- Inheritance, and / or
- Polymorphism



- Inheritance induces a hierarchical structure into the software architecture
- It allows to build generalization/specialization relationships between classes
 - A class (base class) offers services that are common to a set of derived classes (subclasses)
 - Subclasses offer specialized services/behavior with respect to the base class
- Example:
 - Base class/type: Animal
 - Derived classes/types: Dog, Cat, Horse, …



- Generalization: the process of moving from particular to general
- Specialization: the process of moving from general to particular





- Inheritance offers the advantage of reducing the development time, since it minimizes the code to add when:
 - defining a new user type (class) that is inherently a subtype of an existing one
 - adapting an existing class to new needs



- Polymorphism is the property of an entity to assume several forms
- In O-O languages, polymorphism refers to the property of a reference (to an object) to refer in different moments to objects of different classes

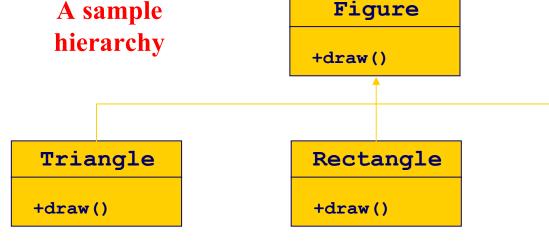
existing code (eg,: main program):

Square

+draw()

for i = 1 to N do A[i]->draw()

What about adding to the hierarchy a new class Circle? With polymorphism, the existing code does not need to be recompiled!



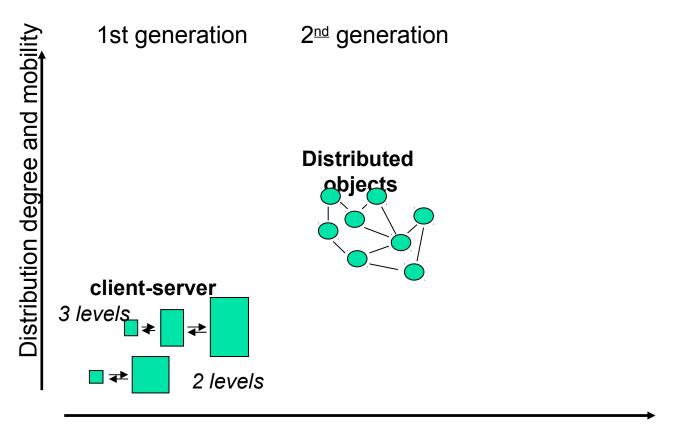


The benefits of polymorphism

- Polymorphism offers the advantage of reducing the development time, in that it minimizes the existing code to modify when adding new user types (classes)
- For this reason, polymorphism supports the property of extensibility of a software systems
- Polymorphism is typically implemented in O-O languages by means of *late binding*
 - Late binding consists in defining run time (instead of compilation time) the code to execute upon method invocation, depending on the actual (current) object type



The second generation of software distributed systems is based on DOA architectures





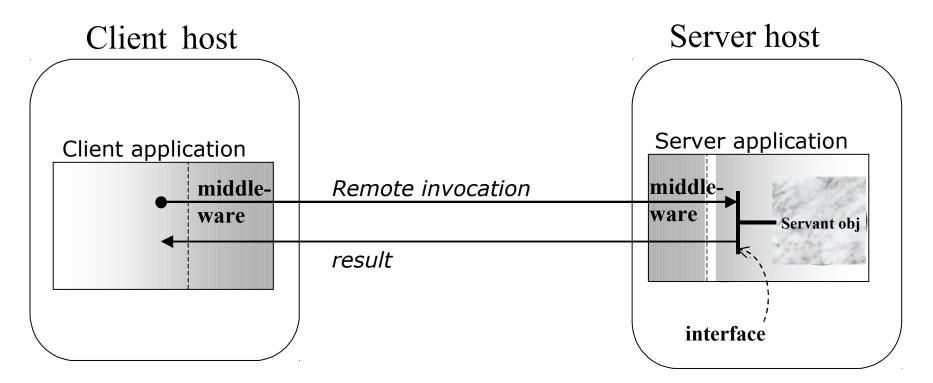
- Distributed objects architectures extend the principles of object orientation to a distributed environment
- Schematically:



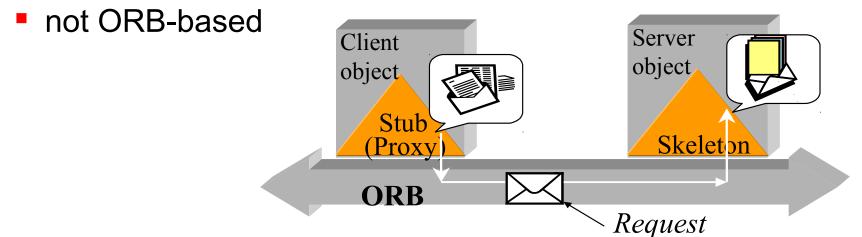
Distributed objects = object-oriented programming + client-server

- Both objects and servers:
 - Are passive entities
 - Are able to provide services (operations)
 - Have got an interface
 - Are unaware of the clients

In a DOA, components are objects which are deployed on different machines and which communicate by invoking <u>remote methods</u>



- DOAs are based on *middleware platforms* (DOM), that allow to call a remote method as if it were local
- DOA platforms may be
 - based on an Object Request Broker

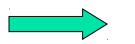


- Examples of DOM technologies are:
 - CORBA (OMG standard); ORB-based, language independent
 - Java RMI; not ORB-based, language-dependent

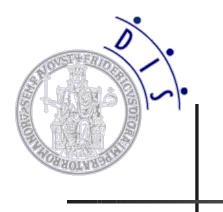


DOA pitfalls

- In O-O techniques, the reusable software modules (classes) are not executable entities
- In O-O applications, dependencies between objects are not made explicit in their interfaces
 - An object's interface states what it offers (the services it provides), not what it uses (the object/services it requires)
- Interactions among objects are hidden in the application code
- Objects are often a too fine-grained abstraction for large distributed complex systems



from objects to components



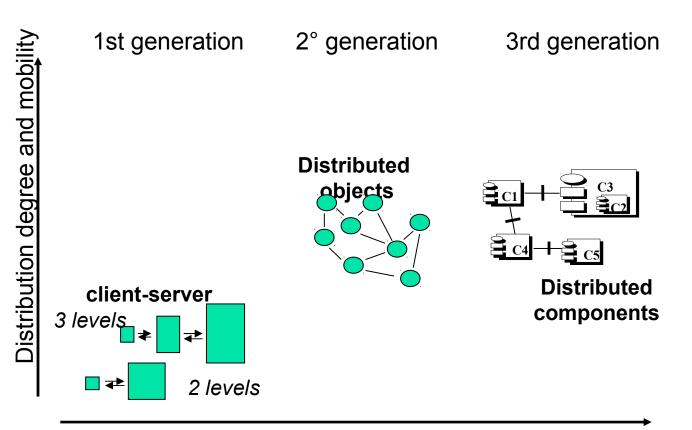
Component-based Architectures



- Component:
 - An executable software module with a clear interface
 - Dependencies from other modules are stated explicitly in its interface
 - Can be released and executed autonomously
 - Can be assembled with other modules to build more complex modules
- Component Based Software Engineering (CBSE)
 - Better reuse opportunities wrt O-O
 - Reuse whole applications, not only classes
- The Component Model (CM) is an evolution of the O-O model

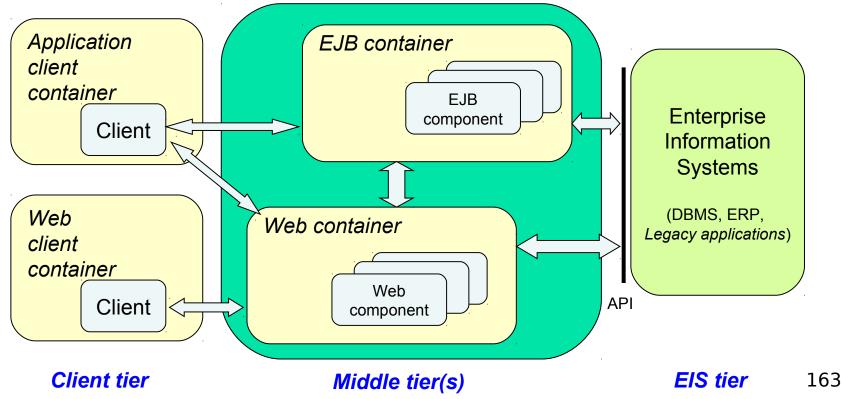


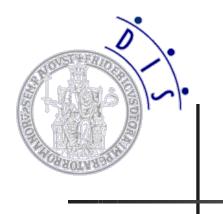
- The third generation of distributed software systems
 - Components are coarser grained than objects



- Component-based architectures rely on component middleware platforms
- Component platforms are based on containers
- Container:
 - Components' execution environment
 - Manages components' life cycle (creation, activation, execution, de-activation)
 - Example: a server has to be running when a client issues a request; a component can be active but not in execution till requested, in order to avoid resource consumption
 - Offers pre-defined standard services
 - Security,
- Advantage: much of the development effort is shifted from programming to assembly/deployment

- Sun Java 2 Enterprise Edition (J2EE)
- Three-tiered architecture
- Four types of components
 - generic client, web client, web server, Ent. Java Beans



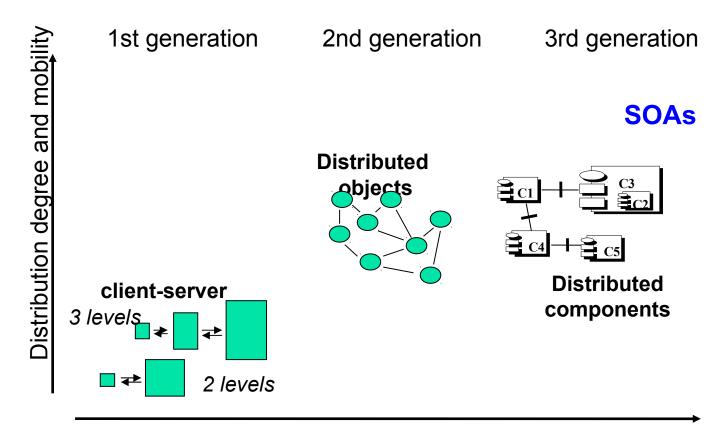


(SOA)

Service-Oriented Architectures



 SOAs represent an evolution of component based architectures (i.e., the 3th generation of distributed software systems)





- Service-oriented architecture (SOA) is an approach to <u>loosely coupled</u>, <u>protocol</u> <u>independent</u>, <u>standards-based</u> distributed computing where software resources available on the network are considered as Services
- SOA is believed the enterprise technology solution that provides the agility and flexibility the business users have been looking for by leveraging the integration process through composition of the services spanning multiple enterprises

- The following guiding principles define the ground rules for development, maintenance, and usage of the SOA:
 - Reuse, granularity, modularity, composability, componentization, and interoperability
 - Compliance to standards (both common and industryspecific)
 - Services identification and categorization, provisioning and delivery, and monitoring and tracking



- Service encapsulation Many web-services are consolidated to be used under the SOA Architecture. Often such services have not been planned to be under SOA
- Service loose coupling Services maintain a relationship that minimizes dependencies and only requires that they maintain an awareness of each other
- Service contract Services adhere to a communications agreement, as defined collectively by one or more service description documents
- Service abstraction Beyond what is described in the service contract, services hide logic from the outside world



- Service reusability Logic is divided into services with the intention of promoting reuse
- Service composability Services can be coordinated/assembled to form composite services
- Service autonomy Services have control over the logic they encapsulate
- Service optimization All else equal, high-quality services are generally considered preferable to lowquality ones
- Service discoverability Services are designed to be outwardly descriptive so that they can be found and assessed via available discovery mechanisms

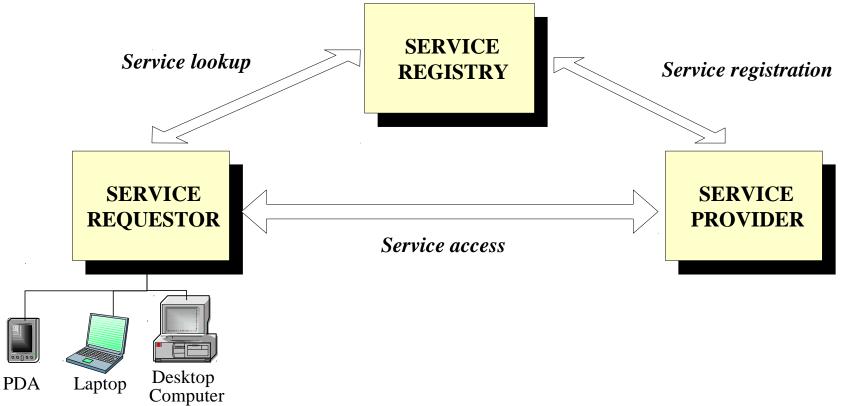


- Service Consumer (also known as Service Requestor): it locates entries in the Registry using various find operations and then binds to the service provider in order to invoke one of its services
- Service Provider: it creates a service and publishes its interface and access information to the Service registry
- Service Registry (also known as Service Broker): it is responsible for making the Service interface and implementation access information available to any potential service requestor



SOA building blocks – 2/2

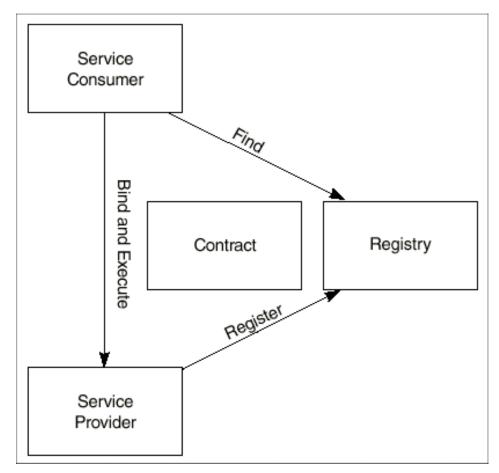
- Service registration (provider) and lookup (requestor) in the registry
- Service access



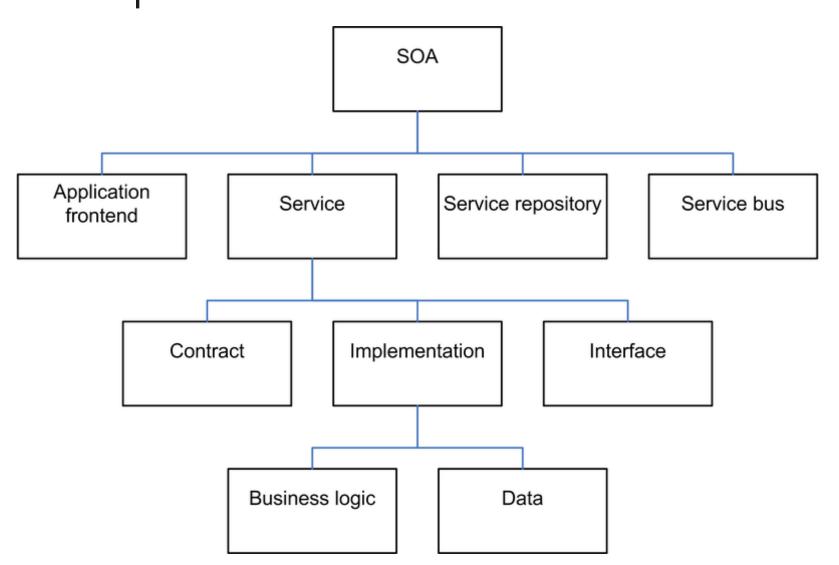


SOA model

- 1 Service Consumer
- 2 Service Provider
- 3 Service Registry
- 4 Service Contract
- 5 Service Proxy
- 6 Service Lease









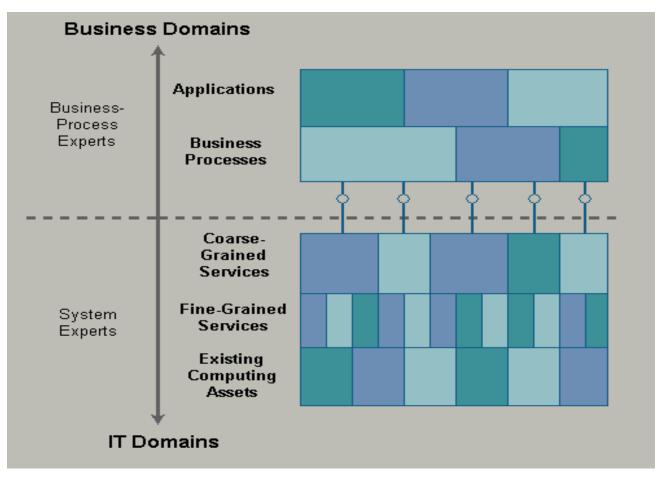
SOA characteristics

- The software components in a SOA are services based on standard protocols
- Services in SOA have minimum amount of interdependencies
- Communication infrastructure used within an SOA should be designed to be independent of the underlying protocol layer
- Offers coarse-grained business services, as opposed to fine-grained software-oriented function calls
- Uses service granularity to provide effective composition, encapsulation and management of services



- Service granularity refers to the scope of functionality a service exposes
- Fine-grained services provide a small amount of business-process usefulness, such as basic data access
- Coarse-grained services are constructed from finegrained services that are intelligently structured to meet specific business needs.





Jeff Hanson, Coarse-grained Interfaces Enable Service Composition in SOA, JavaOne, August 29, 2003

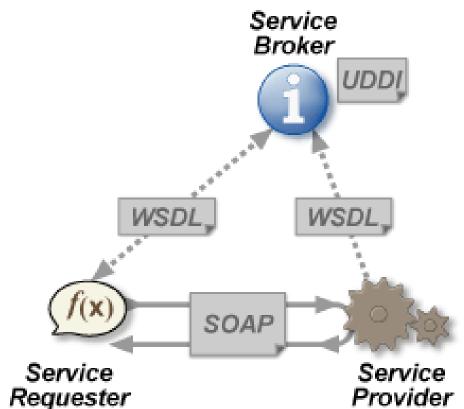


- A W3C standard suite for SOAs
- Definition:
 - A Web service is a software application identified by a URI, whose interfaces and bindings are capable of being defined, described, and discovered as XML artifacts. A Web service supports direct interactions with other software agents using XML based messages exchanged via internet-based protocols.'



WS underlying technologies

- The basic standards for web services are:
 - XML (Extensible Markup Language)
 - SOAP (Simple Object Access Protocol)
 - WSDL (Web Services Description Language)
 - UDDI (Universal Description, Discovery and Integration)





- XML 1.0 fairly stable, although Schema are in the process of replacing DTDs (currently Schema 1.1 being worked on).
- SOAP 1.2
- WSDL 2.0 (coming out, 1.2 current)
- UDDI version 3 (Aug 2003)
- BPEL 1.1 (Business Process Execution Language)
- choreography description language (web services work flows)
 - started January 2003



- Web Services involve three major roles
 - Service Provider
 - Service Registry
 - Service Consumer

Three major operations surround web services

- Publishing making a service available
- Finding locating web services
- Binding using web services



- In order for someone to use your service they have to know about it
- To allow users to discover a service it is published to a registry (UDDI)
- To allow users to interact with a service you must publish a description of it's interface (methods & arguments)
- This is done using WSDL

Making

- Making a service available
- Once you have published a description of your service you must have a host set up to serve it.
- A web server is often used to deliver services (although custom application – application communication is also possible).
- This functionality has to be added to the web server. In the case of the *Apache* web server a 'container' application (*Tomcat*) can be used to make the application (servlet) available to *Apache* (deploying).



- Web services are layered on top of existing, mature transfer protocols
- HTTP, SMTP are still used over TCP/IP to pass the messages
- Web services (like grids) can be seen as a functionality enhancement to the existing technologies

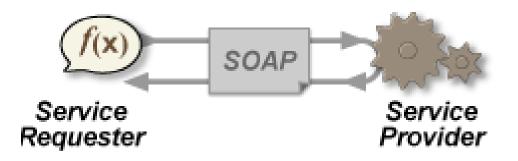


WS and XML

- All Web Services documents are written in XML
- XML Schema are used to define the elements used in Web Services communication



- SOAP is the protocol actually used to communicate with the Web Service
- Both the request and the response are SOAP messages
- The body of the message (whose grammar is defined by the WSDL) is contained within a SOAP "envelope"
- "Binds" the client to the web service





- Describes the Web Service and defines the functions that are exposed in the Web Service
- Defines the XML grammar to be used in the messages
- Uses the W3C Schema language



- UDDI is used to <u>register</u> and <u>look up</u> services with a central registry
- Service Providers can publish information about their business and the services that they offer
- Service consumers can look up services that are available by
 - Business
 - Service category
 - Specific service



- Web Services are an open standards-based way of creating and offering SOAs
- Web Services are able to exchange structured documents that contain different amounts of information, as well as information about that information, known as metadata
- In other words, Web Services can be coarse grained. Such coarse granularity is one of the most important features of SOAs



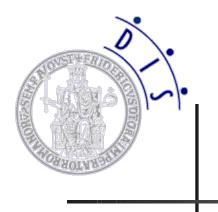
- Encapsulate software components, applications and underlying systems with Web Services interfaces
- Compose (virtualizing) these fine-grained functional Web Services into coarse-grained business services



- Provides location independence: Services need not be associated with a particular system on a particular network
- Protocol-independent communication framework renders code reusability
- Offers better adaptability and faster response rate to changing business requirements
- Allows easier application development, run-time deployment and better service management
- Loosely coupled system architecture allows easy integration by composition of applications, processes, or more complex services from other less complex services
- Provides authentication and authorization of Service consumers, and all security functionality via Services interfaces rather than tightly-coupled mechanisms
- Allows service consumers (ex. Web Services) to find and connect to available Services dynamically



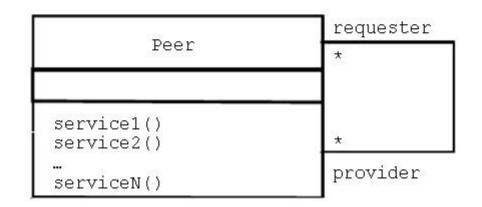
- For a stable or homogeneous enterprise IT environment, SOA may not be important or cost effective to implement
- If an organization is not offering software functionality as services to external parties or not using external services, which require flexibility and standard-based accessibility, SOA may not be useful
- SOA is not desirable in case of real time requirements because SOA relies on loosely coupled asynchronous communication



P2P

Peer-to-peer Architectures

- They can be considered a generalization of the client/server architecture
- Each subsystem is able to provide services, as well as to make requests
 - Each subsystem acts both as a server and as a client



- In P2P architectures, all nodes have the same abilities, as well as the same responsibilities. All communications are (potentially) bidirectional
- The goal:
 - To share resources and services (data, CPU cycles, disk space, ...)
- P2P systems are characterized by:
 - Decentralized control
 - Adaptability
 - Self-organization and self-management capabilities

- Functional characteristics of typical P2P systems
 - File sharing system
 - File storage system
 - Distributed file system
 - Redundant storage
 - Distributed computation
- Nonfunctional requirements
 - Availability
 - Reliability
 - Performance
 - Scalability
 - Anonymity

- Although they were proposed 30 years ago, they mainly evolved in the last decade
- File sharing systems contributed to increase the interest (Napster, 1999; Gnutella, 2000)
- In 2000, the Napster client has been downloaded by 50 millions users
 - It has recorded a traffic peak of 7 TB in a day!
- Gnutella followed Napster's footprint
 - The first release has been delivered on March 14th, 2003, by (14 hours!)
 - Host servers are listed at gnutellahost.com



- A P2P application is organized in three phases:
 - Boot, during which a peer finds the networks and actually performs the connections (P2P boot is made rarely)
 - Lookup, during which a peer looks for a provider for a given service/information (generally providers are SuperPeers)
 - Resource sharing



- P2P applications can be categorized as follows:
 - Pure P2P applications:
 - All the phases are based on P2P
 - P2P applications :
 - lookup and resource sharing are performed according to the P2P paradigm;
 - Some SERVERS are used to make the boot;

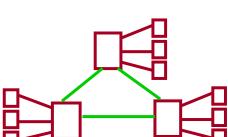
Hybrid P2P applications :

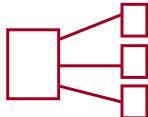
- The resource sharing is performed according to the P2P paradigm;
- Some SERVERS are used to make the boot;
- Specific peers are used to perform lookup.

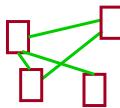
- With respect to lookup phase:
 - Centralized Lookup
 - Centralized index of providers

- Decentralized Lookup
 - Distributed index

- Hybrid Lookup
 - Several centralized systems which are linked into a decentralized system











- The performances of a P2P system (e.g., the time to find a file) become worse as the number of nodes increases (linearly)
 - The "work" for a node increases linearly with respect to the number of nodes
- The protocols used by Napster and Gnutella are not scalable
- A second generation of P2P protocols has been realized to improve the scalability which support DHT (Distributed Hash Table).
 - Examples are Tapestry, Chord, Can, Viceroy, Koorde, kademlia, kelips ...



- The degree of scalability of a given protocol depends on the efficiency of the adopted routing algorithm (lookup)
- In this directions, two are the main objectives:
 - To minimize the number of message to complete the lookup
 - To minimize, for each node, information about other nodes in the network
- DHT differ into the routing strategy they adopt



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