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# Runtime/behaviour



S O F T W A R E ARCHITECTURE

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# Runtime behaviour

## Also called: Components and connectors



# 1st part. Basic and monolith styles

# Data flow

Batch Pipes & Filters

Pipes & Filters with uniform interface

# Independent programs are executed sequentially Data is passed from one program to the next



## Elements:

Independent executable programs

Constraints

Output of one stage is linked to input of the next

A program usually waits for the previous one to finish its execution



#### Advantages

Low coupling between components Re-configurability

Debugging

It is possible to debug each input independently

## Challenges

It does not offer interactive interface Requires external intervention No support for concurrency Low throughput High latency

Stage

Stage

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#### **Definitions**:

 Throughput: rate at which something can be processed.

 Example: number of jobs/second

 Latency: time delay experienced by a process

 Example: 2 seconds

# Pipes & Filters

Data flows through pipes and is processed by filters



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# Pipes & Filters

## Elements

Filter: component that transforms data

- Filters can be executed concurrently
- Types of filters:
  - Data sources (input to the system)
  - Flow
  - Sinks (output of the system)

Pipe: Takes output data from one filter to the input of another filter

- Properties to consider: Buffer size
  - Data format
  - Interaction protocol



## **Constraints**

Pipes connect outputs from one filter to inputs of other filters Filters must agree on the exchange format they admit



# Pipes & Filters

#### Advantages

Better understanding of global system Total behavior = sum of each filter behavior

Reusability:

Filters can be recombined

Evolution and extensibility:

It is possible to create/add new filters It is possible to substitute old filters by new ones

#### Testability

Independent verification of each filter Performance

It enables concurrent execution of filters

#### Challenges

Possible delays in case of long pipes It may be difficult to pass complex data structures

#### Non interactivity

A filter can not interact with its environment Backpressure

When consumers receive more data than they can process



# Pipes & Filters

## **Examples & Applications**

Unix who | wc -l Yahoo Pipes Java Streams Flow based programming https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flow-based\_programming Stream programming

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# Pipes & Filters - uniform interface

## Variant of Pipes & Filters where filters have the same interface Elements

The same as in Pipes & Filters

Constraints

Filters must have a uniform interface



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# Pipes & Filters - uniform interface

Advantages:

Independent development of filters

- **Re-configurability**
- Facilitates system understanding

## Challenges:

Performance can be affected if data have to be converted to the uniform interface

Marshalling

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# Pipes & Filters - uniform interface

## Examples:

Unix operating system Programs with a text input (*stdin*) and 2 text outputs (*stdout* y *stderr*) Web architecture: REST



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# Job organization

Master-Slave

Master divides work in sub-tasks Assigns each sub-task to different nodes The computational result is obtained as the combination of the slaves results results



### Elements

Master: Coordinates execution

Slave: does a task and returns the result

## Constraints

Slave nodes are only in charge of the computation Control is done by the Master node



Advantages Parallel computation

Fault tolerance

Challenges

Difficult to coordinate work between *slaves* Dependency on Master node Dependency on physical configuration



Applications:

Process control systems Embedded systems Fault tolerant systems Search systems



# Interactive systems

MVC: Model - view - controller

#### MVC variants

PAC: Presentation - Abstraction - Control

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## MVC: Model - View - Controller

Proposed by Trygve Reenskaug (end of 70's)

Popular solution for GUIs

Controller separates model from view

"Mental model" offered through views



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#### Elements

Model: represents business logic and state View: Offers state representation to the user Controller: Coordinates interaction, views and model



## Constraints

Controller processes user events Creates/removes views Handles interaction Views only show values Models are independent of controllers/views



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# MVC

## Advantages

Supports multiple views of the same model Views synchronization Separation of concerns Interaction (controller), state (model) It is easy to create new views and controllers Easy to modify look & feel Creation of generic frameworks

#### Challenges

Increases complexity of GUI development
Coupling between controllers and views
Controllers/Views should depend on a model interface
Some difficulties for GUI tools



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## Applications

Lots of web frameworks follow MVC Ruby on Rails, Spring MVC, Play, etc. Some variants Push: controllers send orders to views Ruby on Rails, Struts1 Pull: controllers receive orders from views Play framework, Struts2



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## Model-View-Presenter Model View ViewModel Model View Update

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## PAC: Presentation-Abstraction-Control

### Hierarchy of agents

#### Each agent contains 3 components



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## Elements

### Agents with

Presentation: visualization aspects

Abstraction: data model of an agent

Control: connects presentation and abstraction components and enables communication between agents

Hierarchical relationship between agents

## Constraints

Each agent is in charge of some functionality

- No direct communication between abstraction and presentation in each agent
- Communication through the control component



PAC

# Advantages

Separation of concerns Identifies functionalities Support for changes and extensions

It is possible to modify an agent without affecting others

## Multitask

Agents can reside in different threads, processes or machines

### Challenges

Complexity of the system

Too many agents can generate a complex structure which can be difficult tom maintain

### Complexity of control components

Control components handle communication Quality of control components is important for whole quality of the system

#### Performance

Communication overload between agents



PAC

## Applications

Network monitoring systems Mobile robots Drupal is based on PAC

## Relationships

This patterns is related with MVC

MVC has no agent hierarchy

This pattern was re-discovered as Hierarchical MVC

# Repository

Shared data Blackboard Rule based

# Shared data

Independent components access the same state Applications based on centralized data repositories



## Shared data

### Elements

Shared data

Database or centralized repository

Components

Processors that interact with shared data



## Shared data

## Constraints

Components interact with the global state Components don't communicate between each other Only through shared state Shared data repository handles data stability and consistency



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## Advantages

Independent components They don't need to be aware of the existence of other components Data consistency Centralized global state Unique *Backup* of all the system state

## Challenges

Unique point of failure A failure in the central repository can affect the whole system Distributing the central data can be difficult Possible bottleneck Inefficient communication Problems for scalability Synchronization to access shared data



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## Shared data

Applications Lots of systems use this approach Some variants This style is also known as: Shared Memory, Repository, Shared data, etc. Blackboard Rule based systems



## Blackboard

#### Complex problems which are difficult to solve

Knowledge sources solve parts of the problem Each knowledge source aggregates partial solutions to the *blackboard* 



## Blackboard

#### Elements

*Blackboard*: Central data repository Knowledge source: solves part of the problem and aggregates partial results Control: Manages tasks and checks the work state



#### Constraints

Problem can be divided in parts Each knowledge source solves a part of the problem *Blackboard* contains partial solutions that are improving



## Blackboard

#### Advantages

Experimentability Can be used for open problems Facilitates strategy changes Reusability Knowledge sources can be reused Fault tolerance

## Challenges

#### Debugging

No warranty that the right solution will be found Difficult to establish control strategy

#### Performance

It may need to review incorrect hypothesis

#### High development cost

Parallelism implementation

It is necessary to synchronize blackboard access



### Applications

Some speech recognition systems HEARSAY-II Pattern recognition Weather forecasts Games Analysis of molecular structure Crystalis



Variant of shared memory Shared memory = Knowledge base Contains rules and facts



#### Elements:

Knowledge base: Rules and facts about some domain User interface: Queries/modifies knowledge base Inference engine: Answers queries from data and knowledge base



Constraints:

Domain knowledge captured in knowledge base Limit imperative access to knowledge base It is based on rules like:

IF antecedents THEN consequent

Limits expressiveness with regards to imperative languages



#### Advantages

Maintainability

- It may be easy to modify the knowledge base
- Specially tailored to be modified by domain experts

#### Separation of concerns

Algorithm Domain knowledge Reusability

### Challenges Debugging Performance **Rules creation and maintenance** Introspection Automatic rule learning Runtime update of rules Knowledge base



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#### Applications

Expert system Production systems Rules libraries in Java JRules, Drools, JESS Declarative, rule based languages Prolog (logic programming) BRMS (Business Rules Management Systems)

## Invocation

Call-return Client-Server Event based architectures Publish-Subscribe Actor models A component calls another component and waits for the answer



## Call-return

#### Elements

Component that does the call Component that sends the answer Constraints

Synchronous communication:

The caller waits for the answer



## Call-return

Advantages Easy to implement

#### Challenges

Problems for concurrent computation
If component is blocked waiting for the answer
It can be using unneeded resources
Distributed environments
Little utilization of computational capabilities

Variant of layers

2 layers physically separated (2-tier) Functionality is divided in several servers Clients connect to services

Interface request/response



Server: offers services through a query/answer protocol Client: does queries and process answers Network protocol: communication management between clients and servers



Clients communicate with servers

- Not the other way
- Clients are independent from other clients
- Servers don't have knowledge about clients

Network protocol establishes some communication warranties



#### Advantages Distribution Servers can be distributed

Low coupling

Separation of functionality between clients/servers

Independent development

Scalability

#### Availability

Functionality available to all clients But not all the servers need to offer all functionality

#### Challenges

Each server can be a single point of failure

Server attacks

#### Unpredictable performance

- Dependency on the system and the network
- Problems when servers belong to other organizations
  - How can quality of service be warranted?

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# Or Client-Server Variants

**Stateless** Replicated server With cache

## **Client-Server stateless**

Constraint

Server does not store information about clients Same query implies same answer



## **Client-Server stateless**

Advantages Scalability

#### Challenges

Application state management Client must remember requests Handle information between requests

## **Replicated server**

#### Constraint

Several servers offer the same service

Offer the client the appearance that there is only one server



## **Replicated server**

Advantages

Better answer times

- Less latency
- Fault tolerance

#### Challenges

Consistency management between replicated servers Synchronization

## **Client-server with cache**

#### Cache = mediator between client/server

Stores copies of previous answers to the server

When a query is received it return the cached answer without asking the original server



## Client-server with cache

#### Elements:

Intermediate cache nodes

Constraints

Some queries are directly answered by the cache node Cache node has a policy for answer management Expiration time

## Client-server with cache

Advantages:

Less network overload Lots of repeated requests can be stored in the cache Less answer time Cached answers arrive earlier

#### Challenges

Complexity of configuration Expiration policy Not appropriate for certain domains When high fidelity of answers is needed Example: real time systems

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## Event driven architecture (EDA)



#### Elements:

Event:

Something that has happened (≠ request)

Event producer

Event generator (sensors, systems, ...)

Event consumer

DB, applications, scorecards, ...

Event processor

**Transmission channel** 

Filters and transforms events



Constraints:

Asynchronous communication

Producers generate events at any moment

Consumers can be notified of events at any moment

Relationship one-to-many

An event can be sent to several consumers



#### Advantages

#### Decoupling

Producer does not depend on consumer, nor vice versa.

#### Timelessness

Events are published without any need to wait for the termination of any cycle

#### Asynchronous

In order to publish an event there is no need to finish any process

#### Challenges

Event

Producer

Non sequential execution Possible lack of control Consistency Difficult to debug

Event

Processor

event

event

Event

Consumer

#### Applications

Event processing networks *Event-Stream-Processing (ESP) Complex-event-processing* Variants Publish-subscribe

Actor models

#### **Related patterns**

CQRS, Event sourcing



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## Components subscribe to a channel to receive messages from other components



#### Elements:

Component:

Component that subscribes to a channel

**Publication port** 

It is registered to publish messages

Subscription port

It is registered to receive some kind of messages

Event bus (message channel):

Transmits messages to subscribers





#### Constraints:

Separation between subscription/publication port

A component may have both ports

Non-direct communication

Asynchronous communication in general

Components delegate communication responsibility to the channel



#### Advantages

Communication quality Improves performance Debugging Low coupling between components Consumers do not depend on publishers ...nor vice versa...



## Challenges

It adds a new indirection level Direct communication may be more efficient in some domains Complex implementation It may require COTS

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Used for concurrent computation Actors instead of objects There is no shared state between actors Asynchronous message passing Theoretical developments since 1973 (Carl Hewitt)



#### Elements

Actor: computational entity with state It communicates with other actors sending messages It process messages one by one Messages Addresses: Identify actors (*mailing address*)



## Constraints

An actor can only:

Send messages to other actors Messages are immutable Create new actors Modify how it will process next message

Actors are decoupled

Receiver does not depend on sender



## Constraints (2)

- Local addresses
  - An actor can only send messages to known addresses
  - Because they were given to it or because he created them

#### Parallelism:

All actions are in parallel No shared global state Messages can arrive in any order



#### **Advantages**

Highly parallel Transparency and scalability Internal vs external addresses Non-local actor models Web Services Multi-agent systems

## Challenges

Message sending How to handle arriving messages Actor Coordination Non-consistent systems by definition

#### Implementations

Erlang (programming language) Akka (library)

## Applications

Reactive systems

Examples: Ericsson, Facebook, twitter



## Command Query Responsibility Segregation

Separate models in 2 parts Command: Does changes (updates information) Query: Only queries (get information)



## CQRS

#### Command Query Responsibility Segregation Separate models in 2 parts Command: Does changes (updates information)

Query: Only queries (get information)



# CQRS

#### Advantages

#### Scalability

Optimize queries (read-only) Asynchronous commands

# Facilitates team decomposition and organization

One team for read access (queries) Another team for write/update access (command)

> Applications Axon Framework

#### Challenges

Hybrid operations Both query and command Example: *pop()* in a stack Complexity For simple CRUD applications it can be too complex Synchronization

Possibility of queries over non-updated data

All changes to application state are stored as a sequence of events Every change is captured in an event store It is possible to trace and undo changes



Elements

Events: something that has happened, in the past Event store: Events are always added (append-only) Event driver: handles the different events Snapshots of aggregated state (optional)



Advantages

Fault tolerance

Traceability

Determine the state of the application at any time

#### Rebuild and event-replay

It is possible to discard an application state and re-run the events to rebuild a new state

Scalability

Append-only DB can be optimized

#### Challenges

Novelty of development Different with traditional systems Eventual consistency Software updates Different event versions together? Resource management Granularity of events Event storage grows with time Snapshots can be used for optimization

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Applications Database systems Datomic EventStore

# **Adaptable Systems**

Plugins

Microkernel

Reflection

Interpreters and DSL

Mobile code

- Code on demand

- Remote evaluation
- Mobile agents

It allows to extend the system using plugins that add new functionality



## Elements

Base system: System that allows plugins *Plugins:* Components that can be added/removed dynamically Runtime engine:

Starts, localizes, initializes, executes, and stops plugins



# Plugins

#### Constraints

Runtime engine manages plugins

- System can add/remove plugins
- Some plugins can depend on other plugins
  - The plugin must declare dependencies and the exported API



## Advantages

## Extensibility

Application can get new functionalities in some ways that were not foreseen by the original developers

Customization

Application can have a small kernel that is extended on demand

## Challenges

#### Consistency

Plugins must be added to the system in a sound way

#### Performance

Delay searching/configuring plugins Security

Plugins made by third parties can compromise security

Plugin management and dependencies

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Plugins Examples Eclipse

Firefox

Technologies Component systems: OSGi

## Microkernel

Identify minimal functionality in a microkernel Extra functionality is added using internal servers External server handles communication with other systems



## Microkernel

#### Elements

Microkernel: Minimal functionality Internal server: Extra functionality External server: Offers external API Client: External application

Adapter: Component that establish communication with external server



Constraints:

*Microkernel* implements only minimal functionality The rest of the functionality is implemented using internal servers Communication with clients by external servers



## Microkernel

## Advantages

#### Portability It is only needed to port the kernel Flexibility and extensibility Adding new functionality with new internal servers Security and reliability

Critical parts of the system are encapsulated

Errors in external parts don't affect the microkernel

## Challenges

#### Performance

A monolithic can be more efficient Design complexity Identify components in the microkernel It may be difficult to separate parts to internal servers Unique point of failure If microkernel fails, the whole system may fail

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## Microkernel

Applications Operating systems Games Editors

## Reflection

## Change the structure and behavior of an application dynamically

Systems that can modify themselves

#### Elements

Base level: Implements application logic

Metalevel: Aspects that can be modified

Metaobject protocol: Interface that can modify the metalevel



## Reflection

#### Constraints

Base level uses metalevel aspects for its behavior At runtime, it is possible to modify the metalevel using the metaobject protocol



## Advantages

Flexibility

Adapt to changing conditions Change behavior of running system without changing source code or stopping execution

## Challenges

Implementation Not all languages enable metaprogramming More difficult to combine with static type systems Performance It may be necessary to do some optimizations to limit reflection Security: **Consistency maintenance** 

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## Reflection

#### Applications

Most dynamic languages support reflection Scheme, CLOS, Ruby, Python, .... Intelligent systems Self-modifiable code



# Include a domain specific language (DSL) that is interpreted by the system



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## Elements

Interpreter: Module that executes the program Program: Written in the DSL

DSL can be designed so the end user can write programs

Context: Environment where the program is executed



Constraints

Interpreter runs the program interacting with the context It is necessary to define a DSL Syntax (grammar, parsing,...) Semantics (behavior)



## Advantages

## Flexibility

Adapt application behavior to user needs

#### Usability

End users can write their own programs

## Adaptability

Easy to adapt to unforeseen situations

Program Interpreter in DSL User Context Challenges Design of the DSL **Complexity of implementation** Interpreter Separation of context/interpreter Performance Possible programs may be not optimal Security Handle wrong programs

Application

#### Variants: Embedded DSLs

# Embedded DSLs

Embedded DSLs

Domain specific languages that are embedded in general purpose host languages

Popular approach in some languages like Haskell, Ruby, Scala, etc.

## Advantages:

Reuse of host language syntax

Access to libraries and IDEs of host language

## Challenges

Separation between DSL and host language End users may have too many expressivity



## Mobile code

## Code that is transferred from one machine to another

System A sends a program to be run by system B

System B must contain an interpreter for the language in which the program is written



## Mobile code

#### Elements

Interpreter: Runs the code Program: Program that is transferred Network: Transfers the program


### Mobile code

Constraints

The program must be run in the receiver system The network protocol transfers the program



### Mobile code

#### Advantages

Flexibility and adaptability to new environments Parallelism

#### Challenges

#### Complexity of implementation Security



### Mobile code

#### Variants

Code on demand Remote evaluation Mobile Agents

Code is downloaded and run by the client Combination between mobile code and client-server Example: ECMAScript



#### Elements

Client

Server

Code that is transferred from server to client

#### Constraints

Code resides or is generated by the server

- It is transferred to the client when it asks for it
- It is run by the client
  - Client must have an interpreter for the corresponding language

#### Advantages

Improves user experience Extensibility: Application can add new functionalities that were not foreseen

No need to install or download a whole application

Always Beta

Adaptability to client environment

### Challenges

#### Security

#### Coherence

It may be difficult to ensure an homogeneous behavior in different types of clients Client can even decide not to run the

program

Reminder: Responsive design

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Applications:

RIA (Rich Internet Applications) HTML5 standardizes a lot of APIs Improves coherence between clients

#### Variants

AJAX

Initially: *Asynchronous Javascript and XML* The program that is running at the client side sends asynchronous requests to the server without stopping its running

System A sends program to system B to be run and obtain its results



#### Elements

Sender: Does the query including the program Receiver: Runs the program and returns the results

#### Constraints

#### Receiver runs the program

It must contain some interpreter of the program language or the program could be in machine code

Network protocol transfers program and results

Advantages

Exploits capabilities of third parties Computational capabilities, memory, resources, etc.

Challenges

Security Untrusted code Virus = variant of this style Configuration

#### Example:

Volunteer computation

- SETI@HOME
  - It was the basis for the BOINC system

Berkeley Open Infrastructure for Network Computing

Other projects: Folding@HOME, Predictor@Home, AQUA@HOME, etc.

Code and data can move from one machine to another to be run The process takes its state from machine to machine Code can move autonomously



Elements

Mobile agent: Program that travels and is run from one machine or another autonomously

System: Execution environment where the mobile agents are run

Network protocol: transfers state between agents



Constraints

Systems host and run mobile agents Mobile agents can decide to change its running from one system to another

They can communicate with other agents



#### Advantages

- It can reduce network traffic Code blocks that are run are transmitted Implicit parallelism Fault tolerance to network failures Agents can be conceptually simple Agent = independent unit of execution It is possible to create mobile agent systems **Emergent behaviour** Adaptability to environtment changes
  - Reactive and learning systems

Challenges Complexity of configuration Security Malicious or incorrect code

#### Challenges Complexity

Complexity of configuration Security Malicious or incorrect code



Applications

Information retrieval

- Web crawlers
- Peer-to-peer systems
- **Telecommunications**
- Remote control and monitoring

#### Systems:

JADE (Java Agent DEvelopment framework) IBM Aglets

# End of presentation