Architectural Views

Software Architecture

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February 23, 2026

Interesting Software is Complex

Many aspects to the design of its architecture.

Architectural Design

Managing technical complexity.

Question

How do you describe a complex architecture, without making it too difficult to understand?

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Answer

Architectural Views

– Only consider one aspect at a time.

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- C4 Model [Brown, 2023]
  - context, structure, behaviour, infrastructure

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  - concepts, service, logical, physical resource, architecture foundation
- The Open Group Architecture Framework (TOGAF)[Forum, 2022]
- ISO/IEC/IEEE 42010:2011[iso, 2022]

Diagrams & Notation

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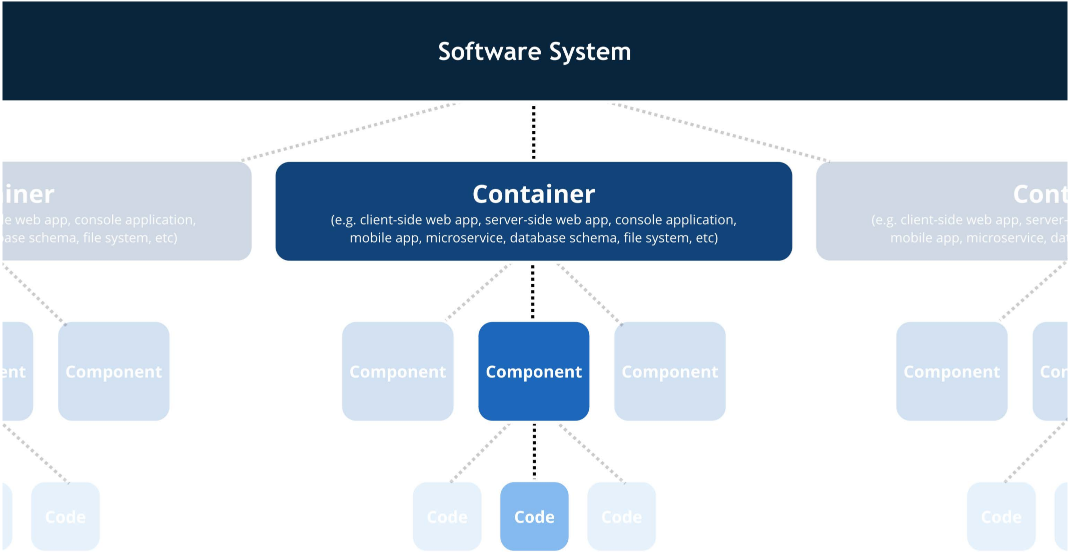
- C4 – informal, simple structure *[Brown, 2023]*
- UML – formal, well-defined language *[uml, 2017]*
- You probably don't want to know about alternatives

C4 Model: Levels


Software System
iner
le web app, console application,
ase schema, file system, etc)
Container
(e.g. client-side web app, server-side web app, console application,
mobile app, microservice, database schema, file system, etc)
Cont
(e.g. client-side web app, server-
mobile app, microservice, dat
ent
Component
Component
Component
Component
Component
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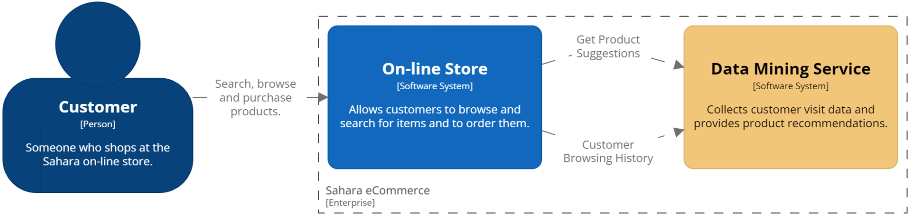
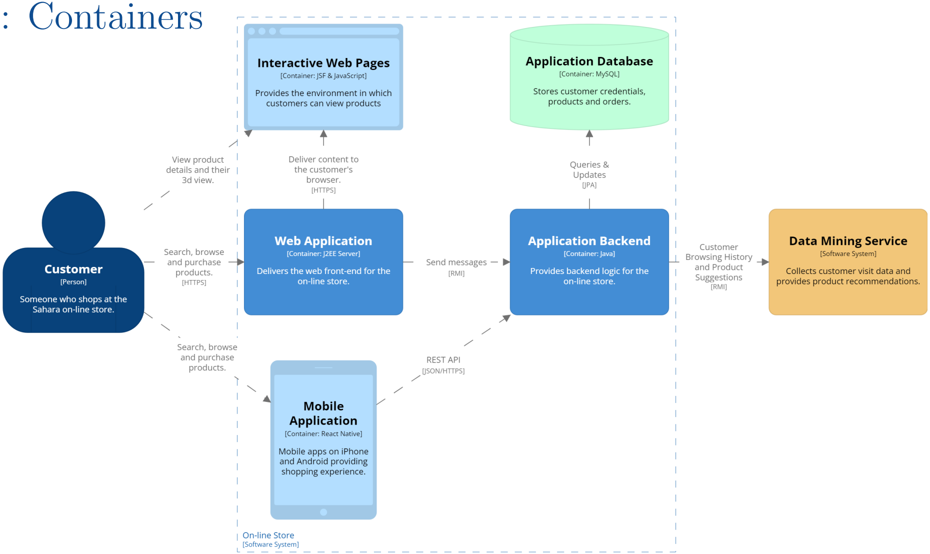
Code
Code
Code
Code
Code

C4 Model: Context


Customer
[Person]
Someone who shops at the Sahara on-line store.
Search, browse and purchase products.
On-line Store
[Software System]
Allows customers to browse and search for items and to order them.
Get Product Suggestions
Customer Browsing History
Data Mining Service
[Software System]
Collects customer visit data and provides product recommendations.
Sahara eCommerce
[Enterprise]

How software system fits into broader *environment*

C4 Model: Containers



Customer
[Person]
Someone who shops at the Sahara on-line store.

View product details and their 3d view.

Search, browse and purchase products.
[HTTPS]

Search, browse and purchase products.

Interactive Web Pages
[Container: JSF & JavaScript]
Provides the environment in which customers can view products

Deliver content to the customer's browser.
[HTTPS]

Web Application
[Container: J2EE Server]
Delivers the web front-end for the on-line store.

Send messages
[RMI]

Mobile Application
[Container: React Native]
Mobile apps on iPhone and Android providing shopping experience.

REST API
[JSON/HTTPS]

Application Database
[Container: MySQL]
Stores customer credentials, products and orders.

Queries & Updates
[JPA]

Application Backend
[Container: Java]
Provides backend logic for the on-line store.

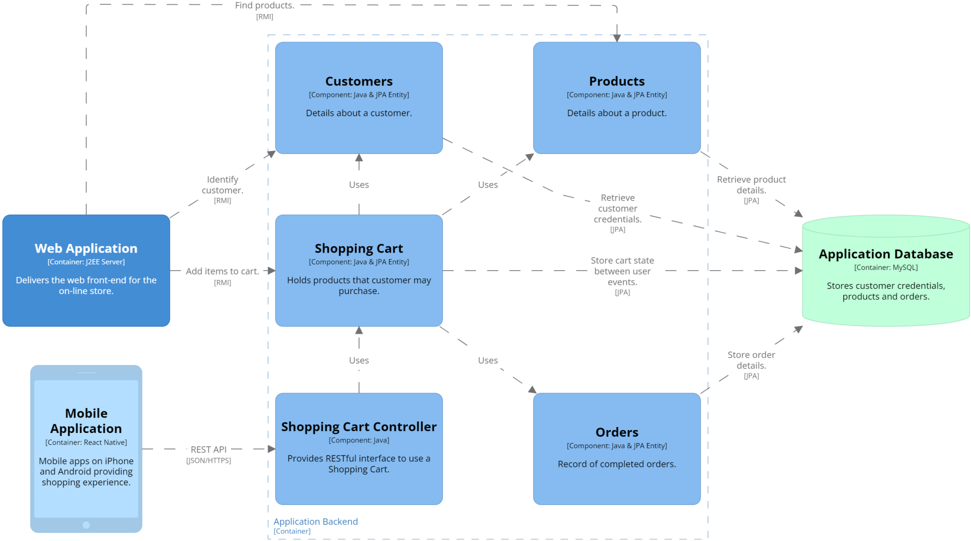
Customer Browsing History and Product Suggestions
[RMI]

Data Mining Service
[Software System]
Collects customer visit data and provides product recommendations.

On-line Store
[Software System]

Structure of the software system

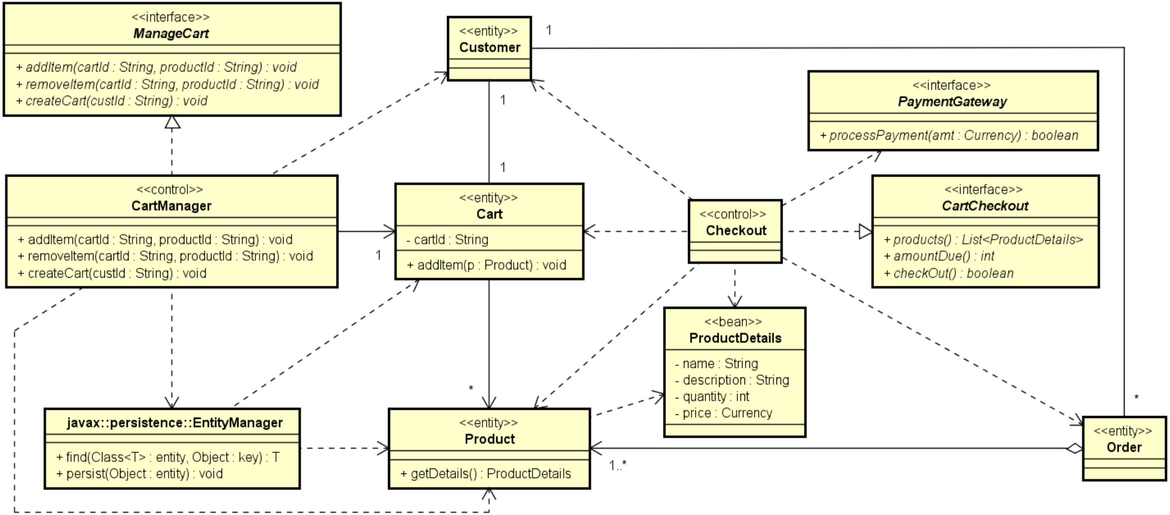
C4 Model: Components



Find products.
[RMI]
Customers
[Component: Java & JPA Entity]
Details about a customer.
Products
[Component: Java & JPA Entity]
Details about a product.
Identify customer.
[RMI]
Uses
Uses
Retrieve customer credentials.
[JPA]
Retrieve product details.
[JPA]
Web Application
[Container: J2EE Server]
Delivers the web front-end for the on-line store.
Add items to cart.
[RMI]
Shopping Cart
[Component: Java & JPA Entity]
Holds products that customer may purchase.
Store cart state between user events.
[JPA]
Application Database
[Container: MySQL]
Stores customer credentials, products and orders.
Uses
Uses
Store order details.
[JPA]
Mobile Application
[Container: React Native]
Mobile apps on iPhone and Android providing shopping experience.
REST API
[JSON/HTTPS]
Shopping Cart Controller
[Component: Java]
Provides RESTful interface to use a Shopping Cart.
Orders
[Component: Java & JPA Entity]
Record of completed orders.
Application Backend
[Container]

Elements that implement a container

C4 Model: Code



<<interface>>
ManageCart

+ *addItem(cartId : String, productId : String) : void*
+ *removeItem(cartId : String, productId : String) : void*
+ *createCart(custId : String) : void*

<<entity>>
Customer

<<interface>>
PaymentGateway

+ *processPayment(amt : Currency) : boolean*

<<control>>
CartManager

+ addItem(cartId : String, productId : String) : void
+ removeItem(cartId : String, productId : String) : void
+ createCart(custId : String) : void

<<entity>>
Cart

- cartId : String

+ addItem(p : Product) : void

<<control>>
Checkout

<<interface>>
CartCheckout

+ *products() : List<ProductDetails>*
+ *amountDue() : int*
+ *checkOut() : boolean*

<<bean>>
ProductDetails

- name : String
- description : String
- quantity : int
- price : Currency

javax::persistence::EntityManager

+ find(Class<T> : entity, Object : key) : T
+ persist(Object : entity) : void

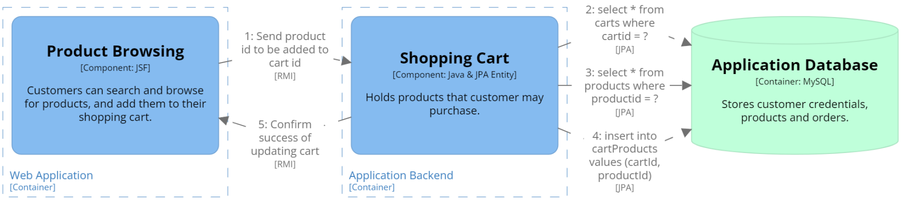
<<entity>>
Product

+ getDetails() : ProductDetails

<<entity>>
Order

Structure of code implementing a component

C4 Model: Dynamic



Product Browsing
[Component: JSF]
Customers can search and browse for products, and add them to their shopping cart.

Web Application
[Container]

1: Send product id to be added to cart id
[RMI]

5: Confirm success of updating cart
[RMI]

Shopping Cart
[Component: Java & JPA Entity]
Holds products that customer may purchase.

Application Backend
[Container]

2: select * from carts where cartid = ?
[JPA]

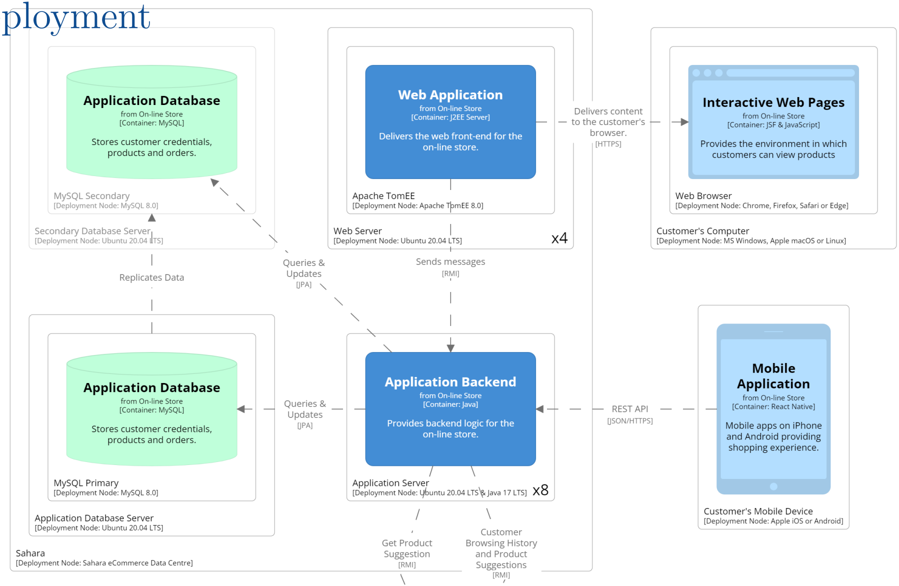
3: select * from products where productid = ?
[JPA]

4: insert into cartProducts values (cartId, productId)
[JPA]

Application Database
[Container: MySQL]
Stores customer credentials, products and orders.

How parts of the model *collaborate* to deliver *behaviour*

C4 Model: Deployment


Application Database
from On-line Store
[Container: MySQL]
Stores customer credentials, products and orders.
MySQL Secondary
[Deployment Node: MySQL 8.0]
Secondary Database Server
[Deployment Node: Ubuntu 20.04 LTS]
Web Application
from On-line Store
[Container: J2EE Server]
Delivers the web front-end for the on-line store.
Apache TomEE
[Deployment Node: Apache TomEE 8.0]
Web Server
[Deployment Node: Ubuntu 20.04 LTS]
x4
Delivers content to the customer's browser.
[HTTPS]
Interactive Web Pages
from On-line Store
[Container: JSF & JavaScript]
Provides the environment in which customers can view products
Web Browser
[Deployment Node: Chrome, Firefox, Safari or Edge]
Customer's Computer
[Deployment Node: MS Windows, Apple macOS or Linux]
Replicates Data
Queries & Updates
[JPA]
Sends messages
[RMI]
Application Database
from On-line Store
[Container: MySQL]
Stores customer credentials, products and orders.
MySQL Primary
[Deployment Node: MySQL 8.0]
Application Database Server
[Deployment Node: Ubuntu 20.04 LTS]
Queries & Updates
[JPA]
Application Backend
from On-line Store
[Container: Java]
Provides backend logic for the on-line store.
Application Server
[Deployment Node: Ubuntu 20.04 LTS & Java 17 LTS]
x8
REST API
[JSON/HTTPS]
Mobile Application
from On-line Store
[Container: React Native]
Mobile apps on iPhone and Android providing shopping experience.
Customer's Mobile Device
[Deployment Node: Apple iOS or Android]
Sahara
[Deployment Node: Sahara eCommerce Data Centre]
Get Product Suggestion
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Customer Browsing History and Product Suggestions
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Infrastructure on which system will be deployed

4+1 Views

Logical – *Structure* of how the software is implemented

- components/classes, relationships, interactions

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Process – *Dynamic* behaviour

- concurrency & distribution, fault tolerance, process control, ...

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Development – *Organisation* of the software in the development environment

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Physical – *Map* executable software containers to hardware

- address non-functional requirements
    - availability, reliability, scalability, throughput, ...

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Scenario – *Demonstrate* functionality delivered by architecture

- use case details
  - *drive* functional design of architecture
  - *validate* design of architecture
  - *illustrate* purpose of architecture

Reading...

"Architectural Views" Notes[1] *[Thomas and Webb, 2023]*

[1] Remember, I said you had to read the notes.

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