

Multi-tenancy in scientific literature from Software as a Service perspective

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Research questions and data collection

- 1. How is multi-tenancy defined in scientific literature?*
 - 2. What is the connection between multi-tenancy and SaaS business model?*
 - 3. What challenges the characteristics of multi-tenancy can cause?*
- Search for academic papers → filter out papers → select relevant papers

The definition of multi-tenancy

Multi-tenancy is a property of a system where multiple customers, so-called tenants, transparently share the system's resources, such as services, applications, databases, or hardware, with the aim of lowering costs, while still being able to exclusively configure the system to the needs of the tenant. [1]

The characteristics of multi-tenancy

*Multi-tenancy is a property of a system where multiple customers, so-called **tenants**, **transparently share** the system's resources, such as services, **applications, databases**, or hardware, with the aim of lowering costs, while still being able to exclusively configure the system to the needs of the tenant. [1]*

The characteristics of multi-tenancy

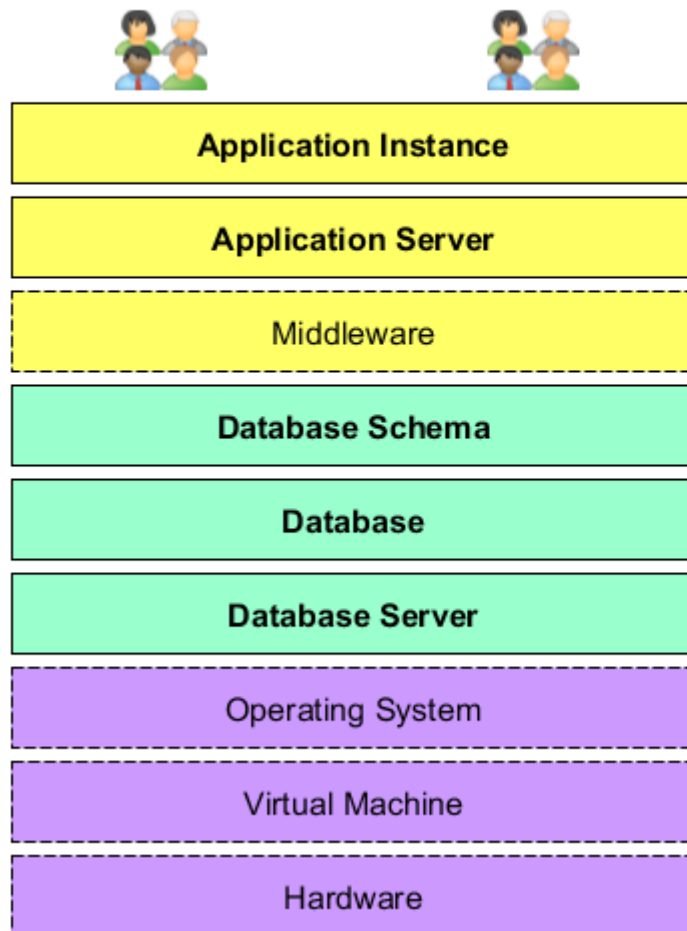
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The characteristics of multi-tenancy

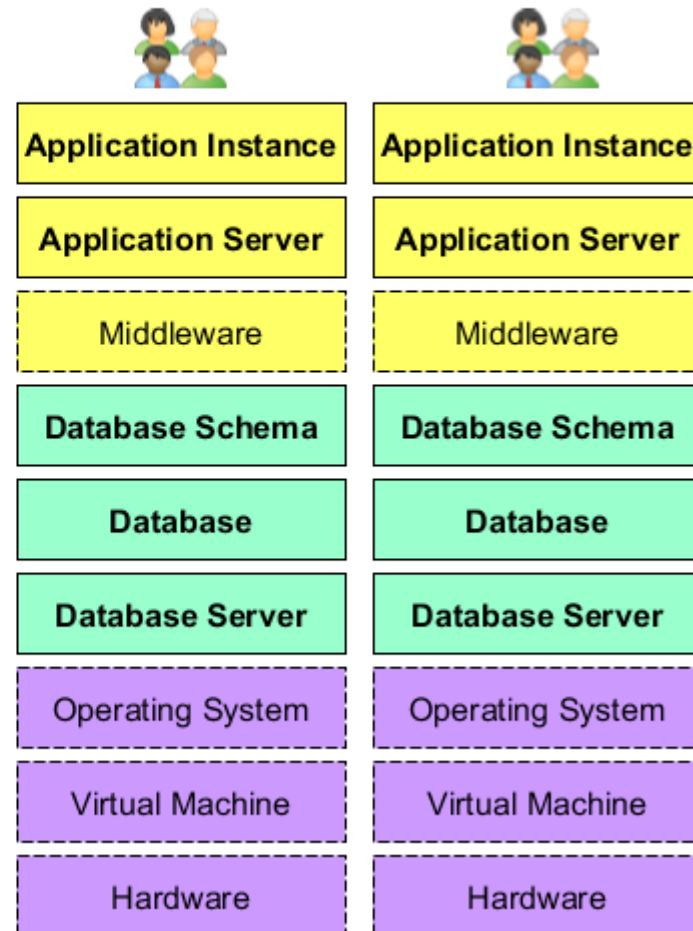
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Multi-tenancy and single-tenancy

Native multi-tenancy (shared application, shared database, shared schema)



Single-tenancy

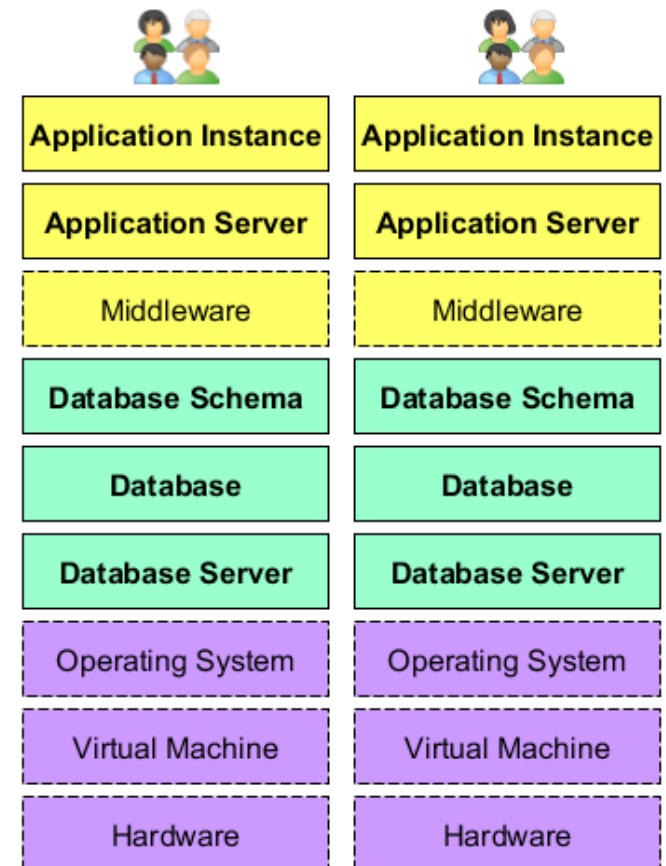
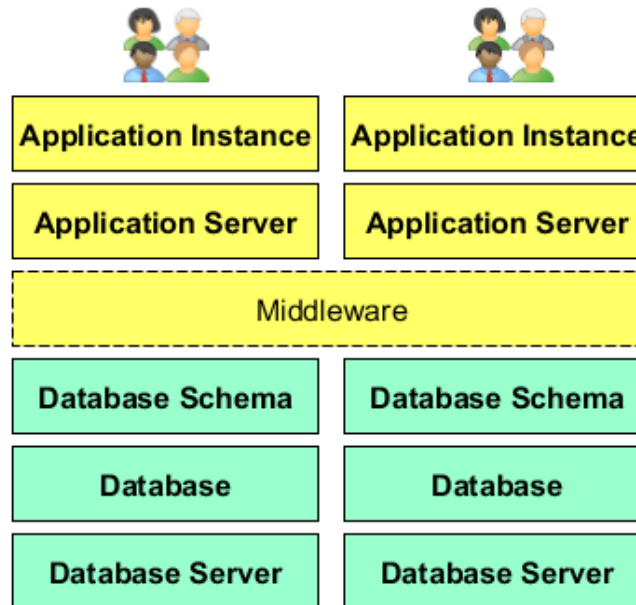
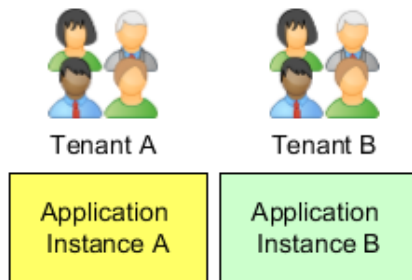


Multi-tenancy variants and SaaS

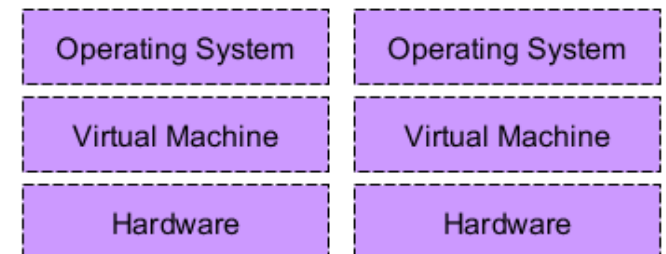
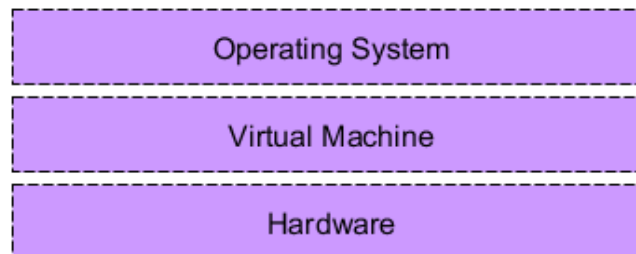
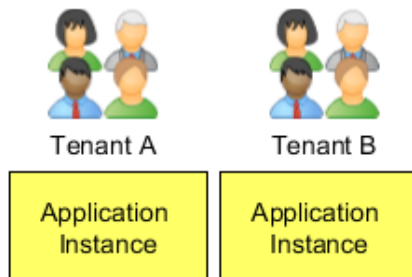
Multiple instances multi-tenancy

Single-tenancy

Level I: Ad Hoc/Custom

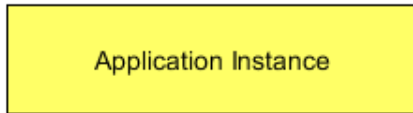


Level II: Configurable

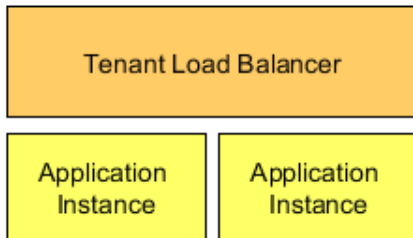


Multi-tenancy variants and SaaS

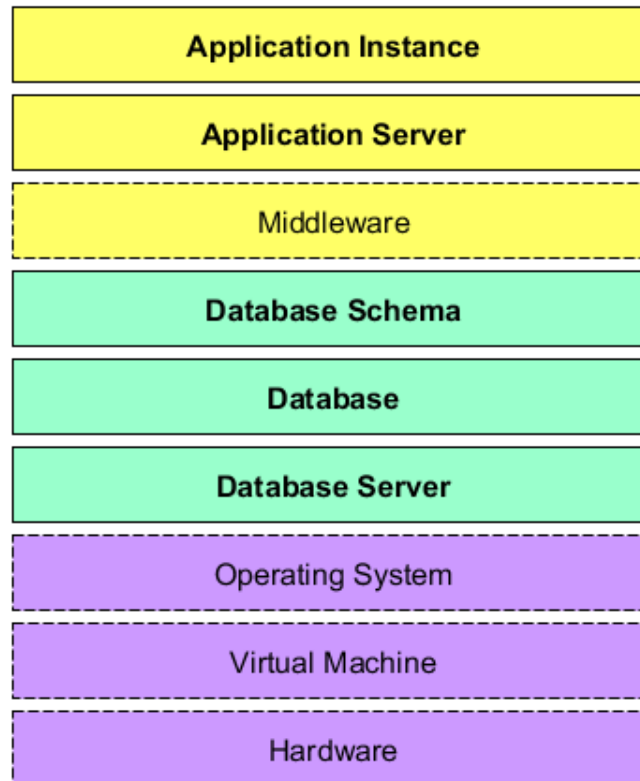
Level III: Configurable, Multi-Tenant Efficient



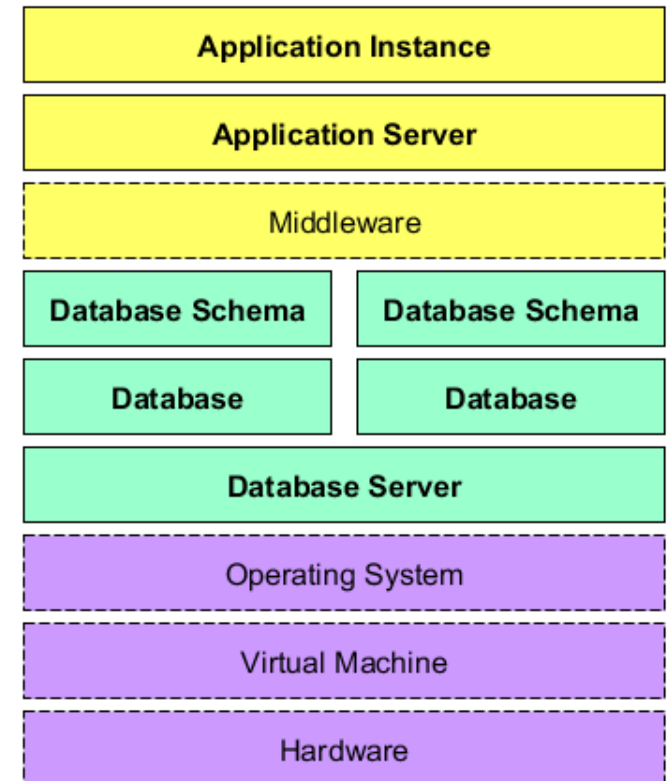
Level IV: Configurable, Multi-Tenant Efficient, Scalable



Native multi-tenancy (shared application, shared database, shared schema)



Semi-multi-tenancy (shared application, separate databases)



Conclusion

- 1. Many definitions – three main characteristics*
- 2. Variants of multi-tenancy – attribute of a mature well-defined SaaS application*
- 3. Challenges in performance, maintenance and security areas*

References

- [1] J. Kabbedijk, C.-P. Bezemer, S. Jansen, and A. Zaidman, "Defining multi-tenancy: A systematic mapping study on the academic and the industrial perspective," *Journal of Systems and Software*, vol. 100, pp. 139 – 148, 2015. [Online]. Available: <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0164121214002313>
- [2] C. J. Guo, W. Sun, Y. Huang, Z. H. Wang, and B. Gao, "A framework for native multi-tenancy application development and management," in *The 9th IEEE International Conference on E-Commerce Technology and The 4th IEEE International Conference on Enterprise Computing, Ecommerce and E-Services (CEC-EEE 2007)*, July 2007, pp. 551–558.
- [3] F. Chong, G. Carraro, and R. Wolter, "Multi-tenant data architecture," 2006, accessed: 23.03.2017. [Online]. Available: <https://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/aa479086.aspx>
- [4] F. Chong and G. Carraro, "Architecture strategies for catching the long tail," 2006, accessed: 23.03.2017. [Online]. Available: <https://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/aa479069.aspx>