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Software Architecture

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Conceptual Architecture



- Definition
- Designing Conceptual Architecture
- Behaviour Model
- Component Stereotypes
- Design Guidelines

Exemplary, simplified step-by-step guide to start the conceptual architecture

示范性的、简化的逐步指导，以启动概念架构

- 1 Identify actors with the systems (e.g. external system, users)
系统参与者
- 2 Identify data flow
数据流
- 3 Identify functional requirements
- 4 Identify non functional requirements
- 5 Prioritise requirements
需求优先级
- 6 Define use-cases
用例
- 7 Define data items
数据项目

Model abstraction and granularity level



- Models can be created at varying levels of abstraction
模型可以在不同的抽象和细节级别上创建，例如，汽车的面向对象模型
and details E.g., an object-oriented model of a car
- At the lowest detail level: car has engine, wheels, brakes,
在最低的细节水平: 汽车有引擎，车轮，刹车等。
etc.
- At the highest detail level: car objects with variables,
在最高的细节级别: 带有变量的car对象，与其他对象交互
interacting with other objects
- OO programming model **abstracts** assembly, operating
面向对象编程模型对程序集、操作系统和硬件进行抽象
system, hardware, ...

- A software architecture is a collection of models of a software system at various abstraction and detail levels.

软件体系结构是软件系统在各种抽象和细节级别上的模型集合

The models describe:

- the system as a whole system components

系统作为一个整体系统组件，组件连接

component connections

- how component interact to fulfill the system purpose.

组件如何交互以实现系统目的

需求分析的结果

The results of the requirements analysis:

- ① Functional requirements
- ② Non-functional requirements
 - (a) Runtime qualities
 - (b) Non-runtime qualities
- ③ Contextual requirements

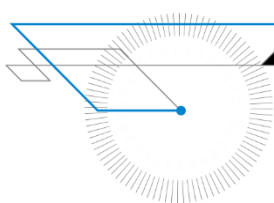
- Design is the process of creating models (recollect the definition of SA) Two basic types of architectural models
设计是创建模型(回想一下SA的定义)的过程，这是两种基本类型的架构模型
- Structure and behaviour
- **Architectural structure** is a ^{静态}static model of a system (i.e. how the system is divided into components)
架构结构是系统的静态模型(即系统如何划分为组件)
- **Architectural behaviour** is a ^{动态}dynamic model of a system (i.e. how the components interact with each other to perform some useful work)
架构行为是一个系统的动态模型(即组件如何相互交互以执行一些有用的工作)



- 我们可以从不同的角度来研究一个系统
We can examine a system from different points of view
Different kinds of views
- **Conceptual:** components are set of responsibilities and connectors are flow of information
概念: 组件是一组职责, 连接器是信息流
- **Execution:** components are execution units (processes) and connectors are messages between processes
执行: 组件是执行单元(进程), 连接器是进程之间的消息
- **Implementation:** components are libraries, source code, files, etc and connectors are protocols, api calls, etc.
实现: 组件是库、源代码、文件等, 连接器是协议、api 调用等



Definition



What is conceptual architecture?

- 关注域级别的职责
Focuses on **domain-level responsibilities**
- 最初的架构设计
Initial architectural design
- 对涉众需求的第一个响应
First response to stakeholder needs
- 需求分析设计
Design by analysing requirements
- Contains components and connectors (box-and-line)
- → Provides an at a glance overview of the structure of a system in terms of its functionality
静态
提供系统功能方面的结构概览

Components in conceptual architecture



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- 一组相关的域级职责
Set of related domain-level responsibilities
- 最初，职责来自于功能需求
Initially, responsibilities arise from functional requirements
- 内部迭代
设计是一个迭代的过程
However, design is an iterative process
- 进一步的迭代会考虑非功能性需求
Further iterations take into account non-functional requirements

Connectors in conceptual architecture



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- Connectors indicate that connected components exchange information
连接器指示被连接的组件交换信息
- Arrows indicate information flow
箭头表示信息流
- Labels describe kind of information
标签描述了信息的种类
- In some cases two-directional connectors: labels should be put near arrows
在某些情况下，双向连接器：标签应该放在箭头附近
- Conceptual components often have no direct counterpart in the final software
概念上的组件通常在最终的软件中没有直接的对等物
- ... no need to care about physical location
不需要关心物理位置

Simple example

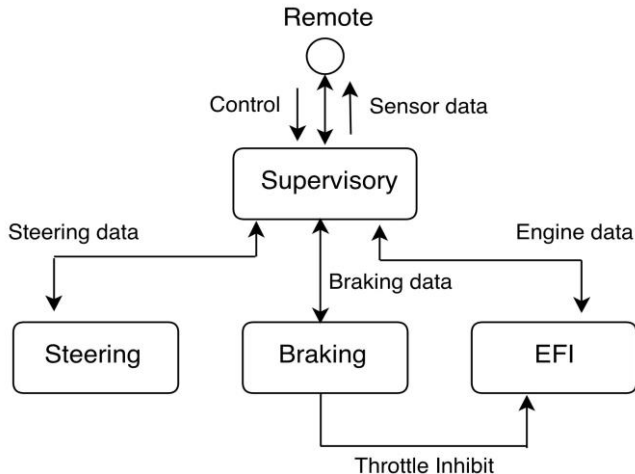


Figure: Model-car control system from Software Architecture Primer

Simple example



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• Supervisory

- ▶ Receive commands and decode them
- ▶ Send command data to real-time components
- ▶ Send selected data to remote interface

监督

- 接收命令并解码
- 将命令数据发送给实时组件
- 将选择的数据发送到远程接口

• Braking

- ▶ Apply braking force in percentage amount
- ▶ Generate throttle inhibit signal

制动

- 以百分比为单位施制动力
- 产生节流抑制信号

• Steering

- ▶ Set steering gear to selected angle

• EFI

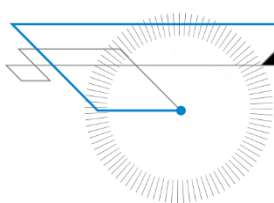
- ▶ Control spark and injection timing
- ▶ Control amount of fuel injected

EFI

- 控制火花和喷射时间
- 控制喷油量



Designing Conceptual Architecture



How to approach conceptual architecture design?

Design process



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- 1 根据需求创建初始的概念架构
Create the initial conceptual architecture from requirements
- 2 专注于功能来精化
Elaborate focusing on functionality
- 3 关注质量属性(非功能需求、上下文需求)来精化
Elaborate focusing on quality attributes (non-functional requirements, contextual requirements)
- 4 Iterate over 2 and 3

- Identify key concepts
 - ▶ Within requirements
 - ▶ Within narratives
- Assign key concepts to categories
 - ▶ Data, Function, Stakeholder, System, Abstract Concept

识别关键概念

• 符合要求

• 在叙事中

将关键概念划分为类别

用户

The first step



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- Underline the key concepts in the requirements (ask yourself does this concept relates to the functionality?)
强调在需求中的关键概念(问问自己这个概念是否与功能相关?)
- Copy key concepts onto a sheet of paper (consider each one to see if it is a viable component)
将关键概念复制到一张纸上(考虑每一个概念,看看它是否是一个可行的组成部分)
- Draw the components and add connectors (add arrows and labels)
绘制组件并添加连接器(添加箭头和标签)



该系统是一个导航工具。系统可以计算出以下最优路径

- **UR1:** The system is a navigation tool.
The system can calculate the following optimal routes.
 - **UR1.1:** Shortest path
 - **UR1.2:** Fastest route
 - **UR1.3:** Most economical (lowest CO2 emissions)
 - **UR1.4:** Cheapest
 - **UR1.5:** Pleasant
 - **UR1.5.1:** Quietest
 - **UR1.5.2:** Most sightseeing spots
 - **UR1.5.3:** Along rivers and through parks

Example Application - Functional Requirements



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- **UR2:** The places are stored in a database
- **UR3:** The connections between the places are stored in the database
- **UR4:** The connections need to contain the transportation mode and provider
- **UR5:** The administrator can add/remove new places and connections
- **UR6:** The user can search for places

Example Application - Functional Requirements



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- **UR7:** The system needs to interact with external services
 - ▶ **UR7.1:** The system needs to buy tickets for the tramway
- **UR8:** The system needs to draw the route on a interactive map
- **UR9:** The system needs to provide user management
 - ▶ **UR9.1:** Register new users
 - ▶ **UR9.2:** Log-in / Log-out
 - ▶ **UR9.3:** Store user preferences
 - ▶ **UR9.4:** Store credentials for purchase
- ...

The second step



- Assign every possible concept from the requirements to a category:
从需求中分配每一个可能的概念到一个类别中
- **Data:** information that is stored, processed, etc. → Not directly a component but you might need components for data management
数据: 被存储、处理等的信息, 不直接是组件, 但可能需要组件进行数据管理
- **Function:** Something done by something → typically components
功能: 由某物完成的某事 典型的组件
- **Stakeholder:** users, organizations → never components
利益相关者: 用户、组织 不是组件

The second step



- Assign every possible concept in a system narrative to a category:
将一个系统描述中的每一个可能的概念分配到一个类别
- **System:** external systems → sometimes you need an interface component
系统: 外部系统 有时你需要一个接口组件
- **Hardware** → physical components
硬件 物理组件
- **Abstract concept:** explanation of something → rarely components With the goal to identify all components...
抽象概念: 解释某物 很少成分, 目的是识别所有组件

Key Concepts



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- navigation tool

Key Concepts



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- navigation tool **Abstract concept**
- calculate

Key Concepts



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- navigation tool **Abstract concept**
- calculate **Function**
- optimal route

Key Concepts



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- navigation tool **Abstract concept**
- calculate **Function**
- optimal route **Abstract concept**
- shortest path

Key Concepts



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- navigation tool **Abstract concept**
- calculate **Function**
- optimal route **Abstract concept**
- shortest path **Abstract concept**
- fastest route

Key Concepts



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- navigation tool **Abstract concept**
- calculate **Function**
- optimal route **Abstract concept**
- shortest path **Abstract concept**
- fastest route **Abstract concept**
- most economical

Key Concepts



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- navigation tool **Abstract concept**
- calculate **Function**
- optimal route **Abstract concept**
- shortest path **Abstract concept**
- fastest route **Abstract concept**
- most economical **Abstract concept**
- cheapest

Key Concepts



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- navigation tool **Abstract concept**
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Key Concepts



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- navigation tool **Abstract concept**
- calculate **Function**
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- shortest path **Abstract concept**
- fastest route **Abstract concept**
- most economical **Abstract concept**
- cheapest **Abstract concept**
- pleasant **Abstract concept**

Key Concepts



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- places **Data**
- database **Data**
- connections **Data**
- transportation mode **Data**
- administrator **Stakeholder**
- add/remove (places) **Function**
- user **Stakeholder**
- search **Function**

Key Concepts



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external services **System**

buy (ticket) **Function**

ticket **Data**

tramway **Data**

draw **Function**

route **Data**

interactive map **Abstract concept**

user management **Function**

register **Function**

users **Data**

log-in / log-out **Function**

user preference **Data**

credentials **Data**

purchase **Function**

Categorisation



Data	Function	Stakeholder	System	Abs.concept
places	calculate	administrator	external services	navigation tool
database	add/remove (places)	user		optimal route
connections	search			shortest path
transp. mode	buy (ticket)			fastest route
tramway	draw			most economical
route	user management			cheapest
users	register			pleasant
user preference	log-in / log-out			interactive map
credentials	purchase			
ticket	download			
	register			
	log in			

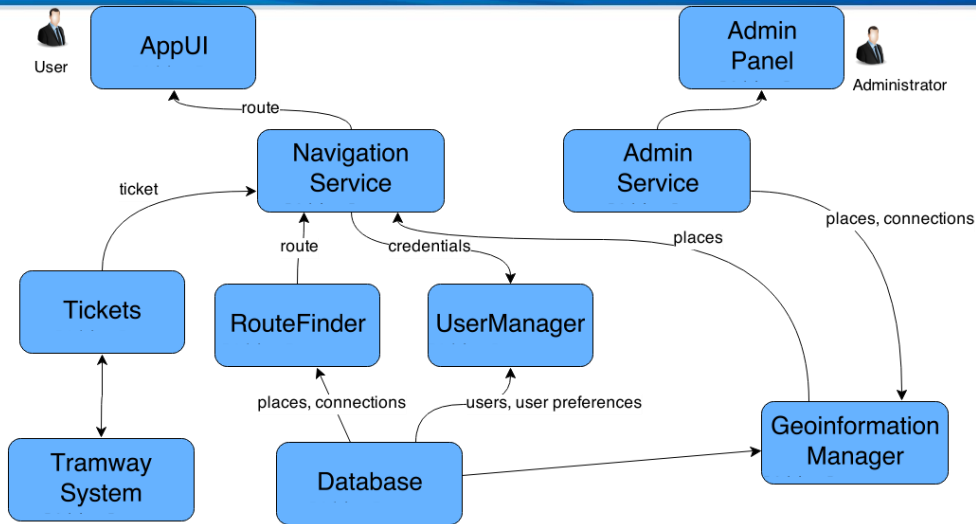
Conceptual Architecture: Best Practice

- Start with stakeholders and external systems
 - Think about the data, data exchange and data storage
 - Think about active components, that trigger events
 - Combine the functions into groups of related functionality
 - Optionally, use narratives as guide how to group the components
 - → draw a first iteration
 - Validate the first iteration
- 从涉众和外部系统开始
 - 想想数据、数据交换和数据存储
 - 想想那些触发事件的活动组件
 - 将功能组合到相关功能组中
 - 可以选择使用说明来指导如何对组件进行分组
 - 绘制第一次迭代
 - 验证第一次迭代

Conceptual Architecture: Iteration 1



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Component responsibilities



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- AppUI
 - ▢ ShowPlaces
 - ▢ DisplayMap
 - ▢ DrawRoute
 - ▢ DisplayTicket
- AdminPanel
 - ▢ ListPlaces
 - ▢ ListConnections
- NavigationService
 - ▢ StartCalculation
 - ▢ BuyTicket
 - ▢ RouteComputed
 - ▢ TicketPurchased
- AdminService
 - ▢ AddPlace
 - ▢ RemovePlace

Component responsibilities



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- RouteFinder

- ▶ ComputeRoute

- Tickets

- ▶ ListPrices

- ▶ StartPurchase

- UserManager

- ▶ RegisterUser

- ▶ LoginUser

- ▶ GetSeasonalTickets

- GeoinformationManager

- ▶ AddPlace

- ▶ RemovePlace

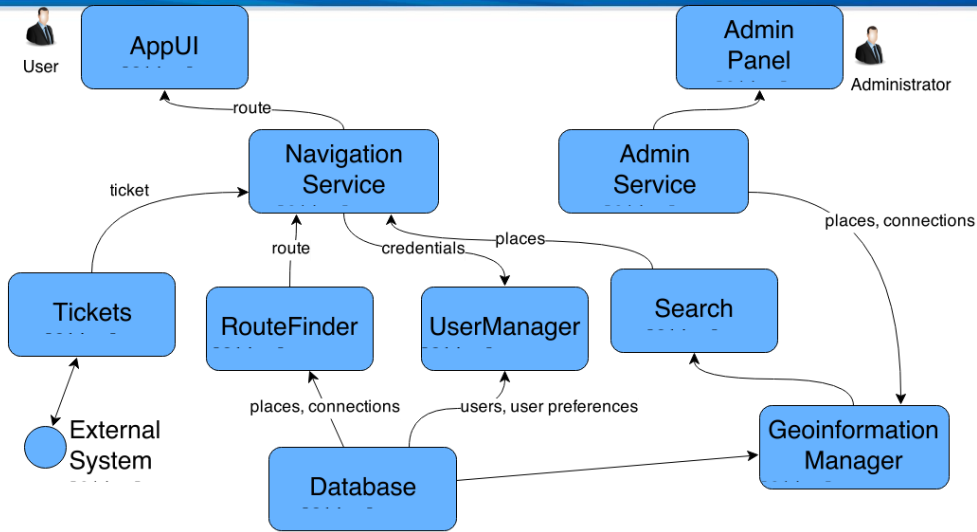
- ▶ SearchPlace

- Iterate over functional and non-functional requirements:
在功能性和非功能性需求上进行迭代
- Functional seems to be OK
功能似乎没有问题
- Non-functional: performance as a quality attribute
非功能性: 性能作为质量属性
- → Factor out the search functionality (e.g. search for places, ...) Also, design for change
排除搜索功能(例如搜索地点,...)另外, 为变化而设计
- → Abstract external systems through interface (e.g. new public transportation system)
通过接口的抽象外部系统(例如新的公共交通系统)

Conceptual Architecture: Iteration 2



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Component responsibilities

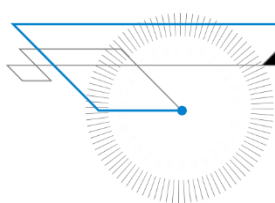


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- Search
 - ▢ SearchPlaces
- PublicTransportAPI
 - ▢ ListPrices
 - ▢ BuyTicket



Behaviour Model



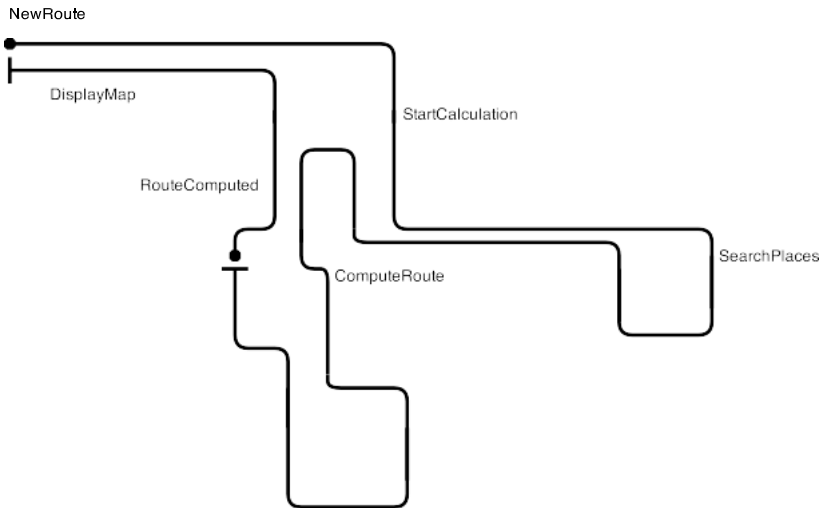
The dynamic aspect of conceptual architecture?

- 到目前为止，只有结构架构
Until now only structural architecture
- 我们需要考虑系统的行为
We need to take into account behaviour of the system
- 通常通过使用说明来完成
Typically accomplished through usage narratives
- 我们可以采用两个或三个使用场景并绘制用例图
We can take two/three usage scenarios and draw use-case maps

Behavioural exploration



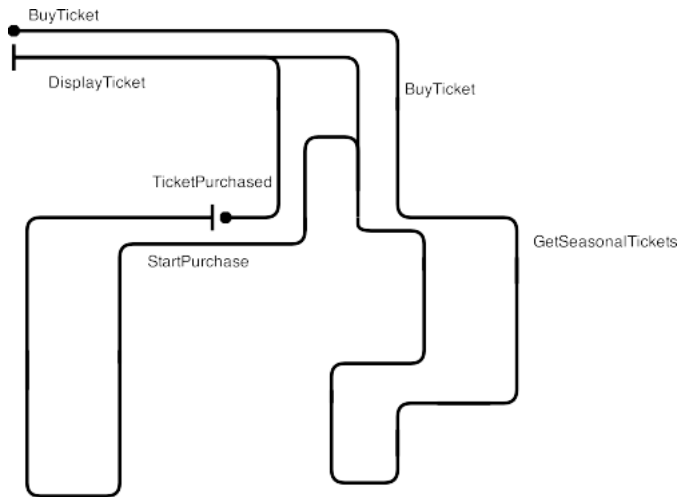
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Behavioural exploration



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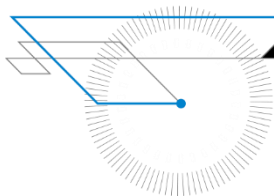




Component Stereotypes

概念架构中的组件和连接器类型

Types of components and connectors in conceptual architecture



- 通过原型标记向组件添加语义
Adding semantics to components through stereotypes Tagging
- 表示组件: 表示某些属性的组件
Presentation component: components to indicate certain properties
- 与用户交互
interactions with users
- 持久存储: 持久数据或来自外部系统的数据
Persistent storage: persistent data or data from external systems
- 实时组件: “快速” 处理请求的组件
Real-time components: components that handle requests “quickly”

Component stereotypes



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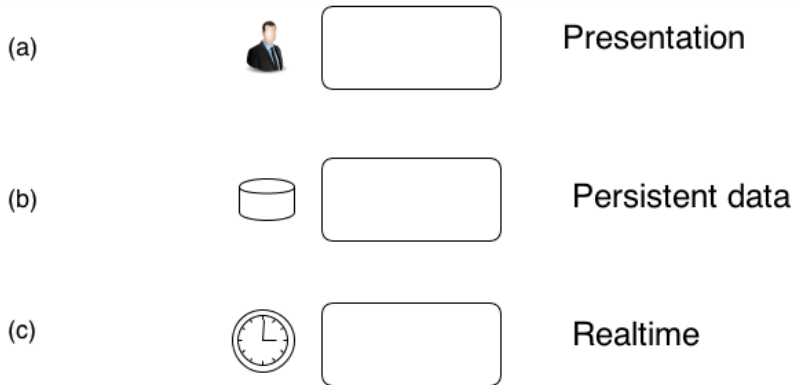


Figure: Source: Software Architecture Primer

Component stereotypes



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User



Administrator





- 数据模型捕获域内信息的本质
 - 如果组件之间交换的数据很复杂，我们可能需要创建数据模型
 - 在我们的例子中: 数据集和计算
 - 在这两种情况下，我们都需要定义一种格式，例如UML
- Data models capture the nature of information in the domain
 - If data exchanged between components is complex we might need to create data models
 - In our case: datasets and calculations
 - In both cases we need to define a format, e.g. UML



Steps of developing the conceptual architecture

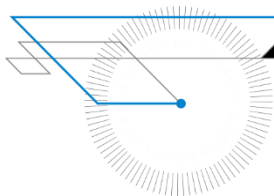
- 1 Clarify components & responsibilities
 - ▣ → e.g. by use of use-case maps
- 2 Clarify connectors
 - ▣ → e.g. by labelling information flow
- 3 Evaluate behaviour (against expected scenarios)
- 4 Identify stereotypes & structures
- 5 Define the data structure & models Simplify
- 6 architecture

开发概念架构的步骤

- 阐明组件, 责任
如, 通过使用用例映射
- 阐明连接器
如, 通过标记信息流
- 评估行为(针对预期场景)
- 识别的原型, 结构
- 定义数据结构, 模型简化
- 体系结构



Design Guidelines



Practical aspects of conceptual architecture?



- **Guidelines for defining components**
- **Granularity Cohesion Coupling**
 - 定义组件的指导原则
 - 粒度内聚耦合



- 组件的粒度
- 分配给单个组件的功能数量
- 取决于组件的上下文

- **Granularity of components**
- Amount of functionality assigned to a single component
- Depends on the context of the component

Conceptual arch. design rules



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- Avoid **blobs**: components that have too much responsibilities
- Recognized by: one component has all the responsibility, others have single responsibilities
- Reason 1: too much details in responsibilities
- Reason 2: too lazy to divide responsibilities
- Put more effort in dividing responsibilities



- 避免指令集群: 两个组件都具有单个职责, 但都是相互连接的
- 可以识别为: 一组组件之间有太多的连接器
- 原因: 责任实际上是相关的
- 将组件组合成单个组件
- Avoid **command clusters**: a couple of components all with a single responsibility but all interconnected
- Recognized by: too many connectors between a set of components
- Reason: responsibilities are in fact related
- Combine components into a single component

Cohesion

- 内聚性: 组件的职责相互关联的程度
- 如果关系高, 那么凝聚力也高
- 高内聚被认为是好的, 因为它使架构更容易理解
- 将有助于维护系统
- 有助于设计可重用的组件



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- Cohesion: how well are the responsibilities of a component related to each other
- If the relationship is high, then the cohesion is high as well
- High cohesion is considered to be good, as it makes the architecture easier to understand
- Will help to maintain the system
- Will help to design components that will be reused

- Coupling: degree to which software components **depend** on each other
- The degree is influenced on a couple of aspects (more than in OO languages)
- E.g. how generic is the protocol?
 - 耦合: 软件组件相互依赖的程度
 - 程度受几个方面的影响(比OO语言的影响更大)
 - 例如: 协议有多通用?



- **Loose coupling vs. tight coupling**
- These are the both extremes
- In existing systems this is often a continuum
- Components might be tightly in one aspect and loosely coupled in another

松散耦合vs. 紧密耦合

- 这是两个极端
- 在现有系统中，这通常是连续的
- 组件可能在一个方面紧密耦合而在另一个方面松散耦合

Aspects of Coupling



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Level	Loose Coupling	Tight Coupling
Physical coupling	Physic intermediary	Direct physical link required
Communication style	Asynchronous	Synchronous
Type system	Data-centric, self-contained messages	OO-Style, complex object trees
Control of process logic	Distributed logic components	Central control
Platform dependencies	OS- and programming language independent	Strong OS and programming language dependencies

Consequences of Tight Coupling



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- If one software component changes, the other (dependant) components need to be changed as well
- API/protocol specific to the needed requirements
Often enforced by cross-cutting concerns
- Typically it is easier (less effort) to create tightly coupled components

- 如果一个软件组件改变了，那么其他(依赖的)组件也需要改变
- 特定于所需需求的API/协议，通常由横切关注点强制执行
- 通常，创建紧密耦合的组件更容易(工作量更小)

Consequences of Loose Coupling



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- Components can be easily exchanged
- Components will be better suited to be reused
- Components are required to be more generic
- E.g. use standard protocols instead of custom ones
- Will typically require more effort and better design/planning
 - 组件可以很容易地交换
 - 组件将更适合被重用
 - 组件需要更加通用
 - 例如，使用标准协议而不是自定义协议
 - 通常需要更多的努力和更好的设计/规划

Type of Coupling in Regard to Quality Attributes



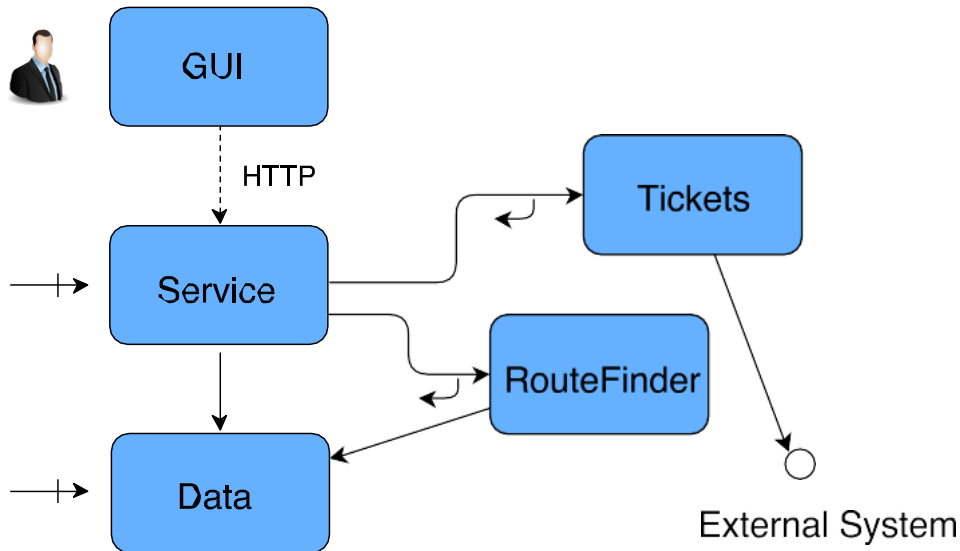
- 耦合对质量属性有影响
- 松耦合通常会提高可维护性、可进化性和可重用性
- 紧密耦合通常会提高可实现的性能(和可跟踪性)
- 有些属性不清楚, 例如可测试性
- 因此, 稍微偏好松耦合

- Coupling has an **impact on quality attributes**
- Loose coupling will typically improve maintainability, evolvability, reusability
- Tight coupling will typically improve the achievable performance (and traceability)
- For some attributes it is not clear, e.g. testability
- ⇒ Therefore slight preference to loose coupling

Examples of Coupling



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Examples of Coupling



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- **Tight coupling** between Service and the RouteFinder
- Due to callback (both need to know each other, there might even be a temporal coupling here)
- **Loose coupling** between Tickets and External System
- The external system does not need to know the Ticket component
 - 服务和RouteFinder之间的紧密耦合
 - 由于回调(两者都需要了解对方, 这里甚至可能存在暂时耦合)
 - 票证与外部系统之间的松散耦合
 - 外部系统不需要知道票据组件
- The external system might use a standard protocol
 - 外部系统可能使用标准协议
- ⇒ Easy to exchange the external system
 - 易于交换外部系统