



Let's start hands on – IT architecture



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ATTENTION: Experimental session – please don't expect perfection !

Github account: <https://github.com/signup>

Agenda

01

IT Architects in the wild

15 min – Why architecture

15 min - discover my workspace

02

Business Context

15 min - Purpose, Goal, Stakeholder

15 min - Context, Constraints

Biobreak?



03

Building blocks

15min - Services, Black/Whitebox

15min - System, Conceptual

04

Quality & implementation

15min - Quality scenarios

15min - Steering & consistency

“

What is the thingy in a project...

... everybody cries for

... magically disappears when needed

... used as popular excuse for delays ?

Architecture

Is the balance of 3 aspects:

- **Usefulness („utilitas“)**

The system contributes to business by fulfilling the functional and non-functional requirements of all important stakeholders using it and the ones who pay for (in this sequence 😊).

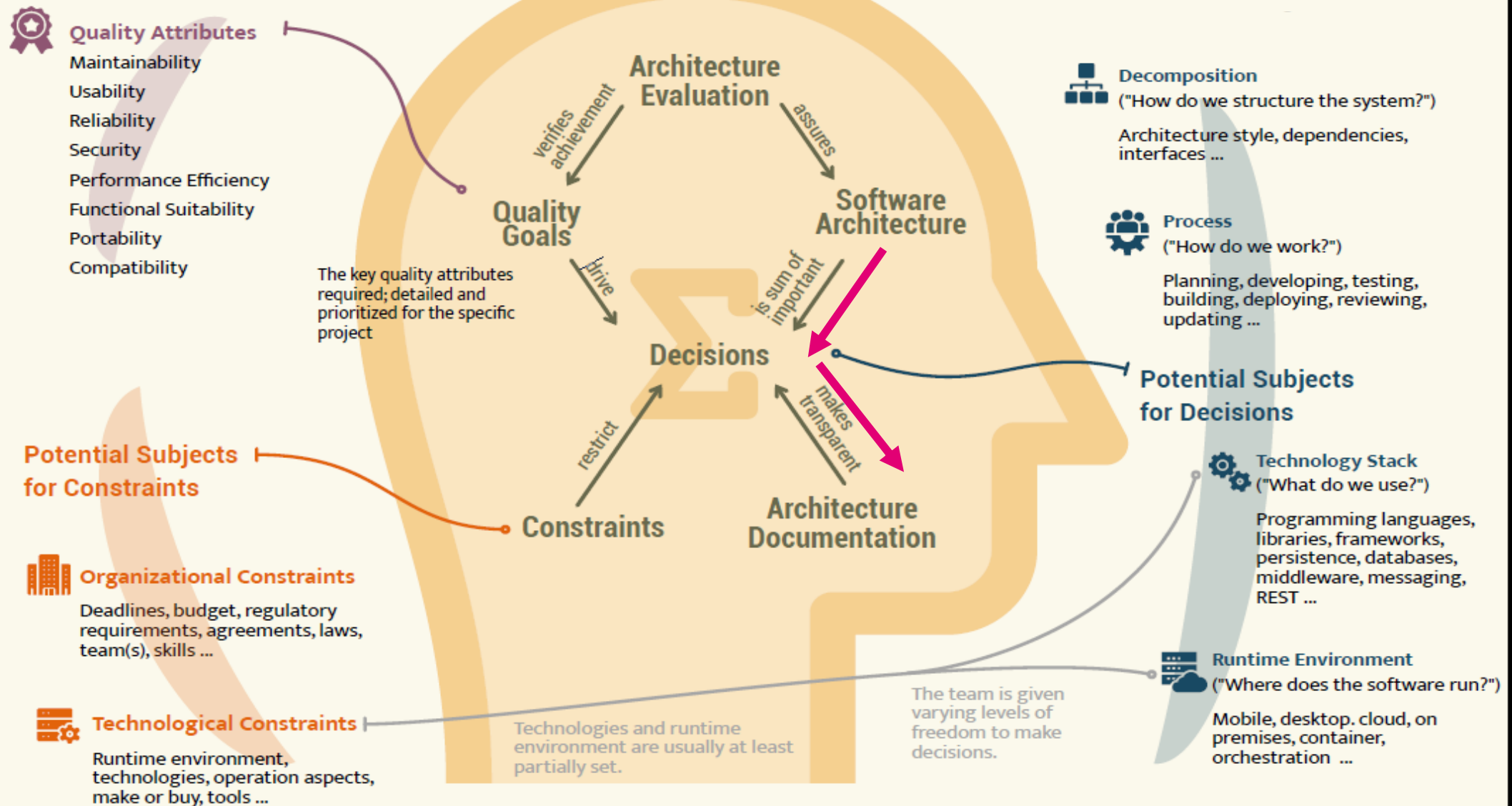
- **Solidity („firmitas“)**

The software/system/service is stable „by itself“ in terms of the specified quality requirements (and not permanently under intensive care).

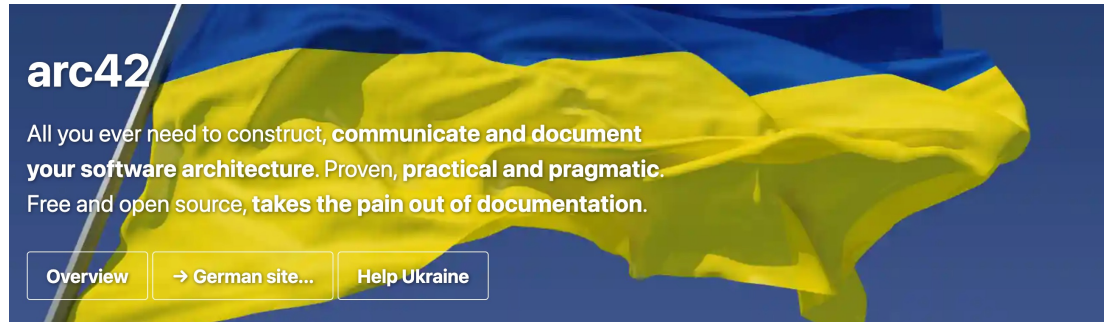
- **Elegance („venustas“)**

The software/system/service structures makes it intuitive to use, but also easy to maintain and develop.

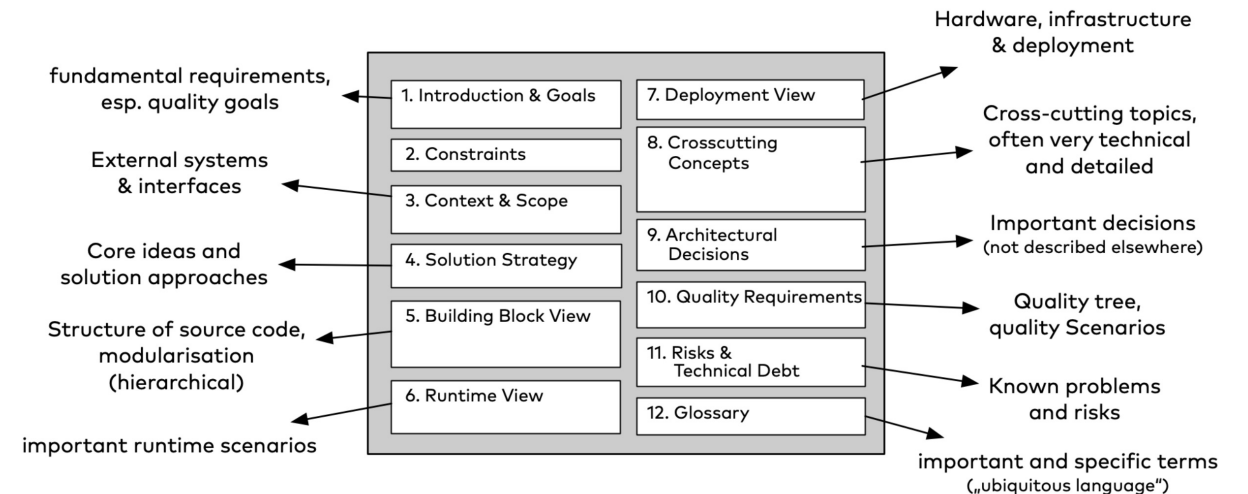
A MIND FULL OF SOFTWARE ARCHITECTURE



Widespread approach – arc42



<https://arc42.org>



keep arc42 section, reuse all the experienced tips

- structured around software work (history) → **leverage system architecture**
- „tear down“ customer to system level language vs. bring nerd speech to customer level language → **change reading flow: from biz to tech**
- not magenta 😞 → **Magentaify**

Why is it not there when needed?

- Office tools \leftrightarrow „live in a different place, feel like a different world“
- Powerpoint \leftrightarrow imprecise in detail
- Wiki \leftrightarrow stakeholders with different views and information needs
- **typical project mechanisms not easily applicable to documentation:**
 - parallel work on different parts
 - keeping old versions (in GIT)
 - Continuous delivery: tag all fragments for a deployment
 - replicated information from JIRA, ProjectNOW, ConfigMgmt, Automation

**! outdated
before
useful**

IT architecture in the wild

**If digital is about coding
why not code architecture?**

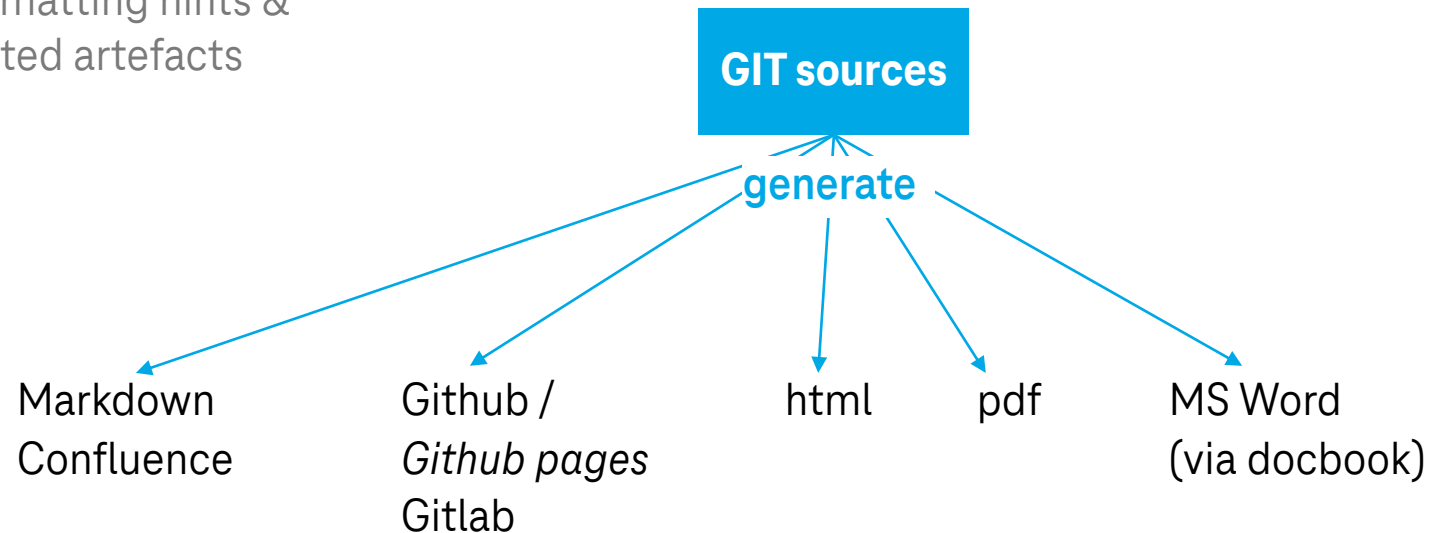
Architecture as OpenSource project - documentation as code



= Markdown / wiki language
with formatting hints &
distributed artefacts



Asciidoctor



Dirty hands ahead! (Demo)

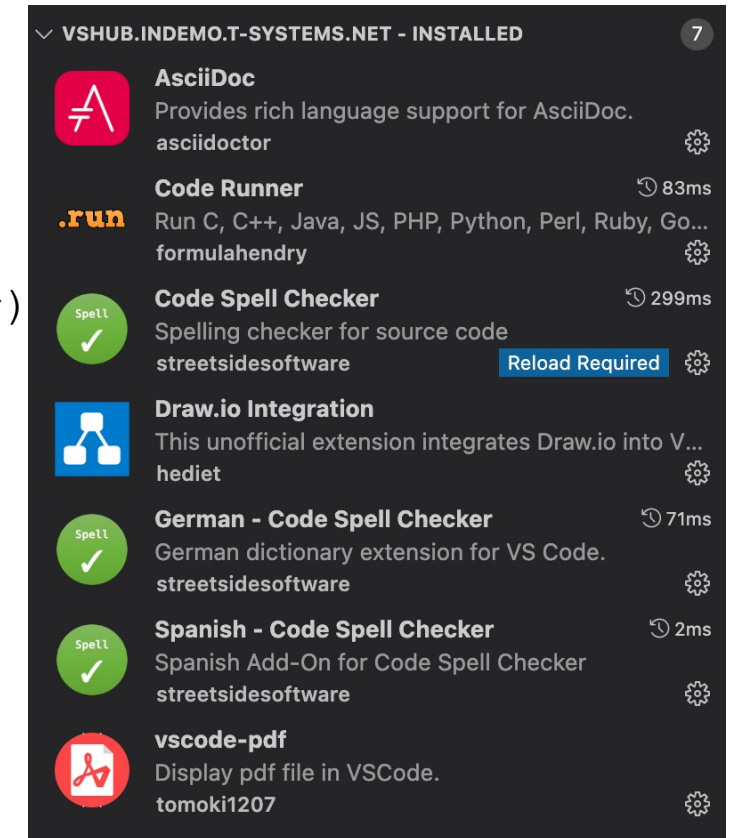
<https://vshub.indemo.t-systems.net>

git clone <https://github.com/tsdicloud/arcdoc-template>

Self-installation steps

- **Visual Studio Code, git (OpenSource)**
- **Install AsciiDoctor:**
<https://docs.asciidoctor.org/asciidoctor/latest/install/>
- **recommended Visual Studio Code extensions**
 - AsciiDoc (`asciidoctor.asciidoctor-vscode`)
 - Code Spell Checker (`streetsidesoftware.code-spell-checker`)
+ Language packages
(e.g. `streetsidesoftware.code-spell-checker-german`)
 - Draw.io integration (`hediet.vscode-drawio`)
 - vscode-pdf (`tomoki1207.pdf`)
- **add Preview/spell checker settings to settings.json**
See Appendix B „Tips, tricks, tools“ in architecture template as copy template.

[git is a problem on T-Workstations]



Business Context



Purpose, goal, stakeholder

Architecture purpose / goals

Purpose

Design and build a 2 family apartment building with integrated architecture studio at <parcel>, Pustertal, Südtirol

Goals (not more than 5 +/-2)

- Work out a modern design following „Vorarlberger Schule“
- use sustainable materials wherever affordable
- building produces at least 60% of required energy itself
- Grounding/isolation withstands extreme wet conditions

**Purpose drives relevance and priorities,
goals are „general decision trajectories“**



Generate your first documentation

```
cd arcdoc-template
asciidoctor-pdf -a toc\
--destination-dir="gen/en/pdf"\
-a imagesdir=../../images\
-a pdf-fontsdir="themes/telefluid-pdf"\
-a pdf-themesdir="themes/telefluid-pdf"\
-a pdf-theme="telefluid-pdf" --trace -verbose\
src/en/architecture-book.adoc
```

→ **copy**

or

→ **use** adocpdf

An IT architecture template

T-Systems, PU Digital - BA Emerging Industries „ : internal

T Systems

Sidenote: Architecture doc vs README

Many architecture documentations are a mixture of actual architecture (conceptual) artefacts and technical details.

Architecture documentation is NOT an installation manual.

Architecture documentation is NOT a collection of HowTos.

Recommendations

1) Use top-level repo README for installation and HowTo details

`Readme.md ... Readme.adoc`

2) Shift „HowTo“ content to appendices in architecture documentation

Example: `tools.adoc`

TIP: Keep it where it is most „natural“ to keep information up to date.

Context, Constraints



Architecture models reality

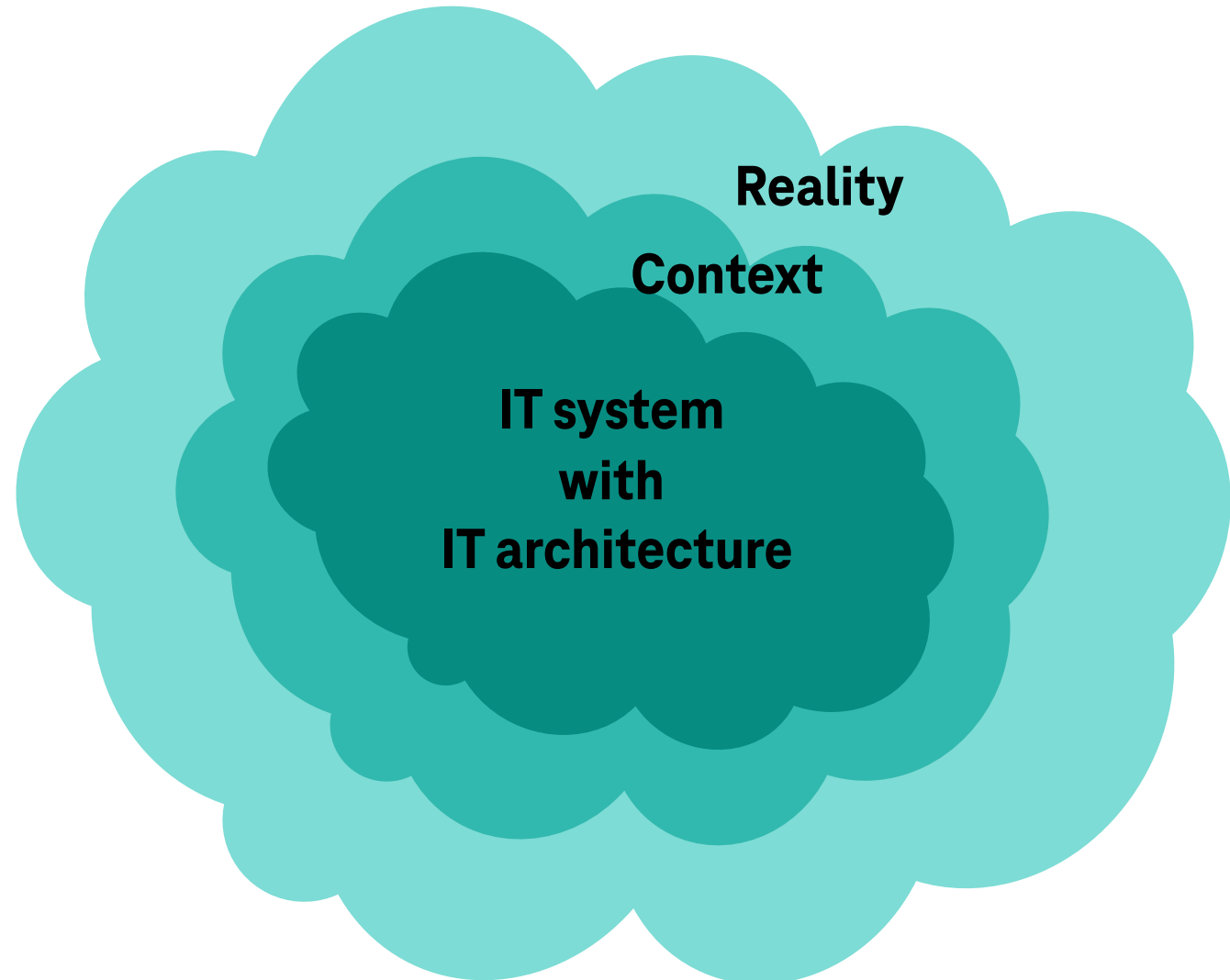
A model is
a simplified representation of reality.

Every IT system realizes a model.

Due to this simplification, the model is
only valid in a defined context.

Thus, defining the context of the
architecture model is essential.

Stakeholders are also part of context.



A thick, bright pink arc curves from the bottom left corner towards the center of the slide, adding a modern, graphic touch to the design.

“

**The most wanted thing in architecture doc
is clean and consistent diagrams.**

**The most boring and time consuming part
in architecture is
keeping diagrams clean and consistent.**

UML component diagrams ++

→ **Feel free to use any modelling tool - that can produce scalable vector graphics (SVG)**

Note: You can edit any .svg file using `Inkscape` OpenSource tool.

→ **UML is still a good way to sketch IT system details**

→ **„Formal“ UML is usually too restrictive**

→ **System modelling: Hypescaler have their own iconsets most experts expect to see.**

Recommendation

- `diagram.net`
- `PlantUML`

Remember: Diagrams help, but the most powerful modelling tool is code.

Tip: Safeguard work on own Github repo

(Hint: works similar for MagentaCI/CD, different URL path)

- **Github: Create public/private project**

- **Github: Personal auth2 token:**

Settings > Developer settings > Personal access token > Fine-grained token > Generate new token

- **Push to GitHub:**

```
# config for your repo
git remote set-url origin https://oauth2:<mytoken>@github.com/<myusername>/<myproject>
git remote user.name <myemail or myusername>
git remote user.email <myemail>
# commit changes
git commit -m „Change xyz“ <files or wildcards>
# push to remote
git push origin main
```

Congrats, you own your work now!

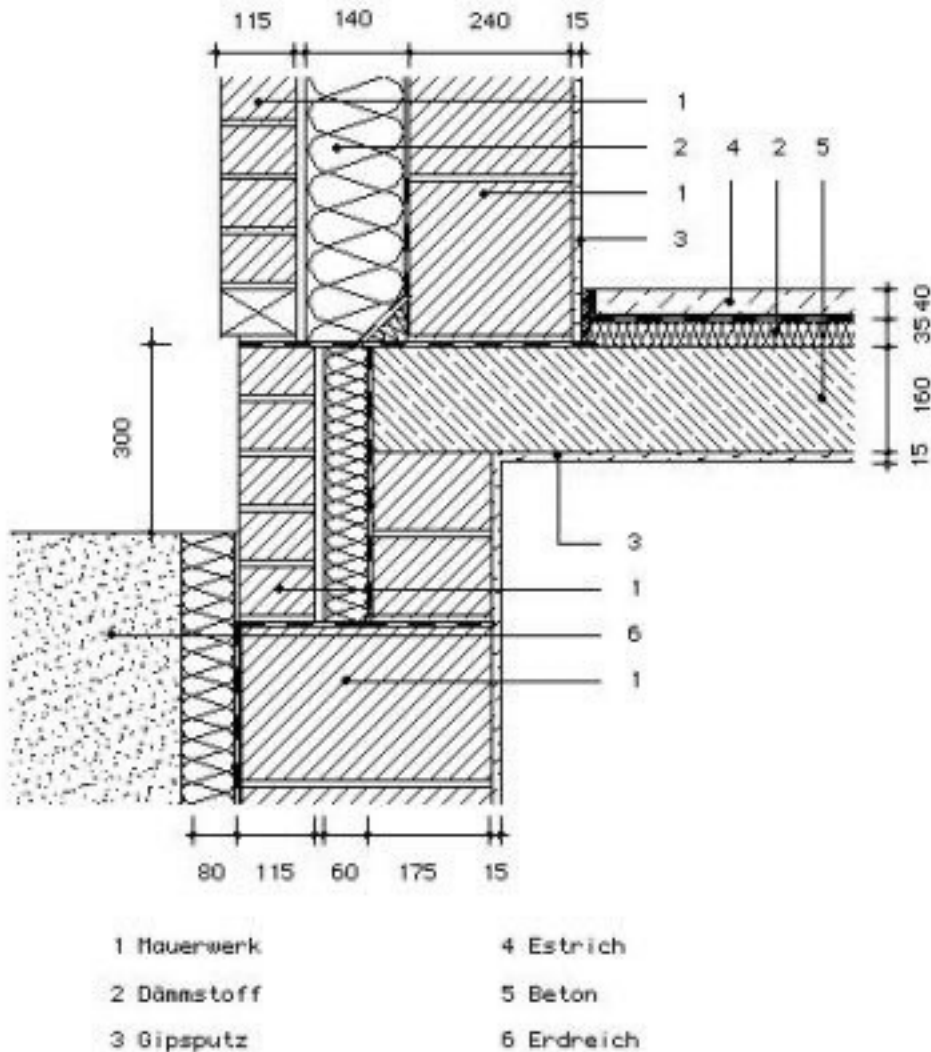
[For MagentaCI/CD:]

```
git remote set-url origin https://oauth2:<mytoken>@gitlab.devops.telekom.de/<path to myproject>
```

Building blocks



Views = architecture (de-)construction drawings



An architecture view [...] expresses the architecture of the system of interest from the perspective of one or more stakeholders to address specific concerns,[...]. An architecture view consists of one or more architecture models [\[ISO/IEC/IEEE 42010\]](#).

→ Take care that the „perspective“ is clear, i.e. what view is effective for a section?

“

**An architecture tapestry can be
nice and impressive for discussions.**

**But tapestry is never a complete
architecture documentation.**

“Picture puzzles” \leftrightarrow structured architecture

Blackbox / Whitebox



Blackbox – Whitebox metaphore

Blackbox



Whitebox



Services view

An IT architecture template

T-Systems, PU Digital - BA Emerging Industries „, : internal

T Systems

System architecture / concepts walkthrough



Quality & Implementation



Steer with principles

„Form follows function.“

**„Simplicity
Friendliness
Minimalism
Precision
Focus“**

Quality scenarios

OpenSource-like architecture

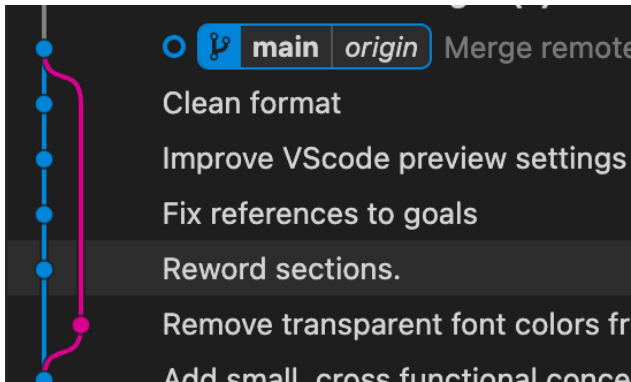


(OpenSource) project mechanisms

Parallel work

„this section is new but incomplete“

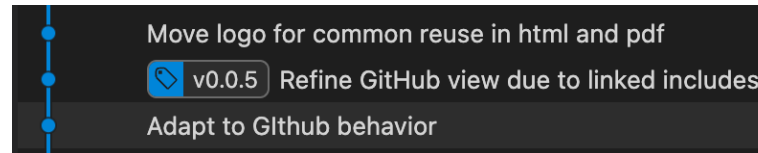
git branch ...



Historical versions / version mapping

„different concept
in the older release“

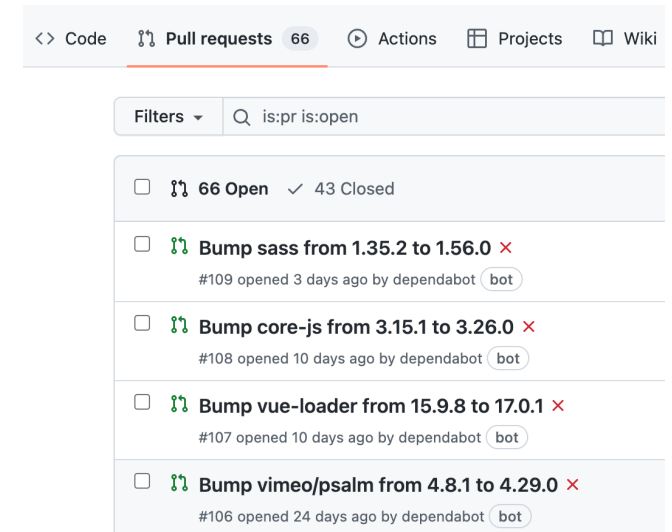
git tag ...



Pull requests

Project community
architecture review process

New pull request



Generators

Attribute / commandline

by attribute & commandline

```
alias arcnumber="git tag ..."  
alias arcdate="git log -q -- ..."  
  
asciidoctor-pdf ... \  
-a revdate="$(arcdate)" \  
-a revnumber=", $(arcnumber)" ...
```

Text template generators

by text template generators

e.g. Jinja2 et al.

xyz.adoc.tmpl:

```
|====  
|Id|Subject  
{% for ticket in tickets %}  
|{{ticket.id}}|{{ticket.subject}}  
{% endfor %}  
|====
```

Scripting

by (ruby) scripting

e.g. JIRA integration

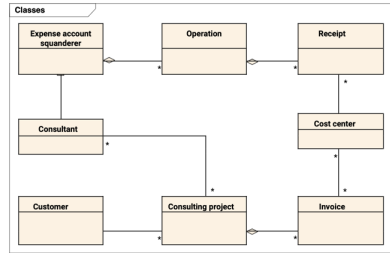
example.adoc:

The effect is related to
jira:DOC-1234[] .

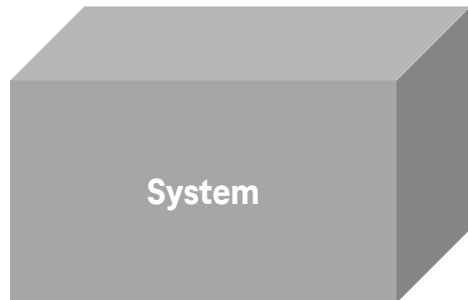
```
=== Technical debts  
jiraIssues:DOC[jql=  
"resolution='Unresolved' ORDER BY  
priority DESC"]
```

Generated diagrams

Old: truth in diagram („model-driven“)



⚡ Semantic precision
(→ metadata)
„Tapestry programming“



⚡ „Visual debugging“

New: truth in code

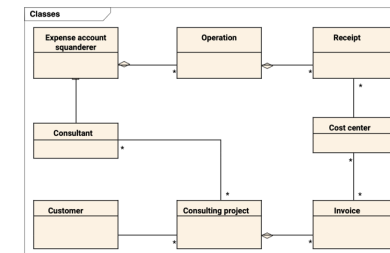
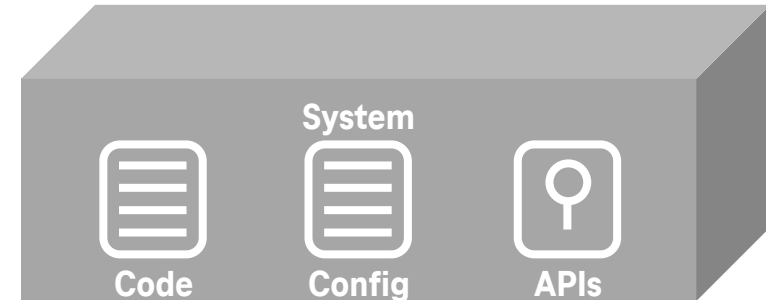


diagram.net/draw.io: it is a code library!

<https://jgraph.github.io/mxgraph/>

<https://github.com/plantuml/plantuml>

Finalize architecture template walkthrough

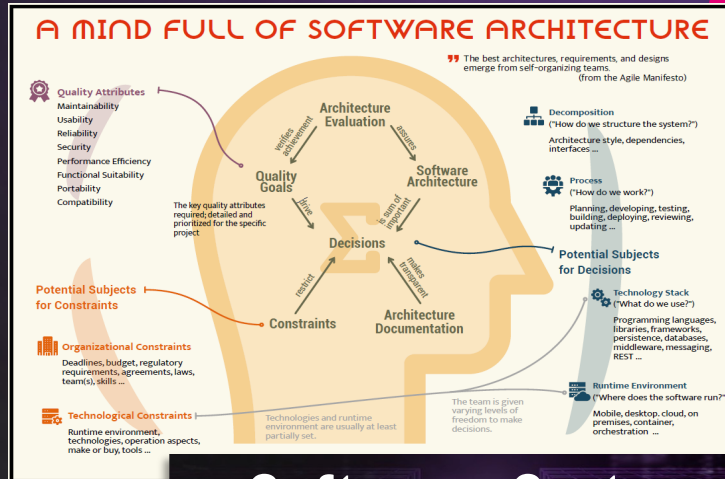


THANK YOU!

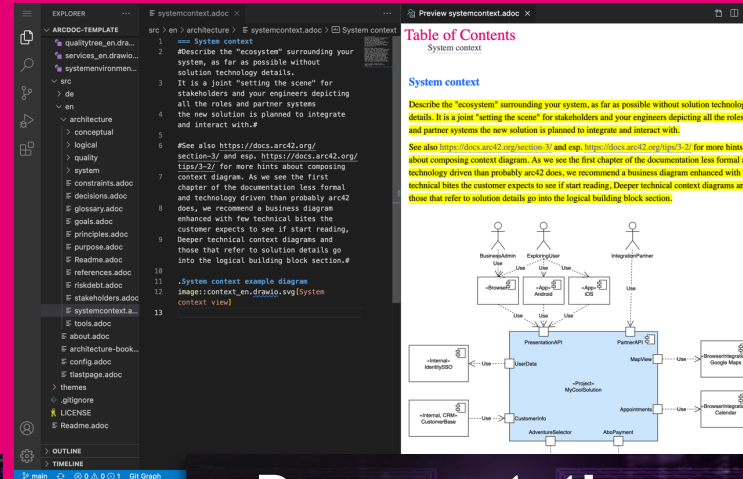


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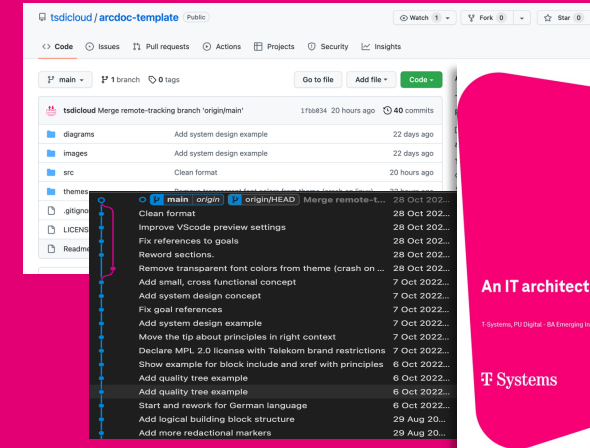
Wednesday, 9th, 11:55 – 14:00
TSI Hub (please register)



Software, System
& Quality architecture



Documentation as
Code



Architecture as
OpenSource