Chapter 6 : Foundation for Systems Design

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Outline

- What Is Systems Design?
- Design Activities
- System Controls and Security

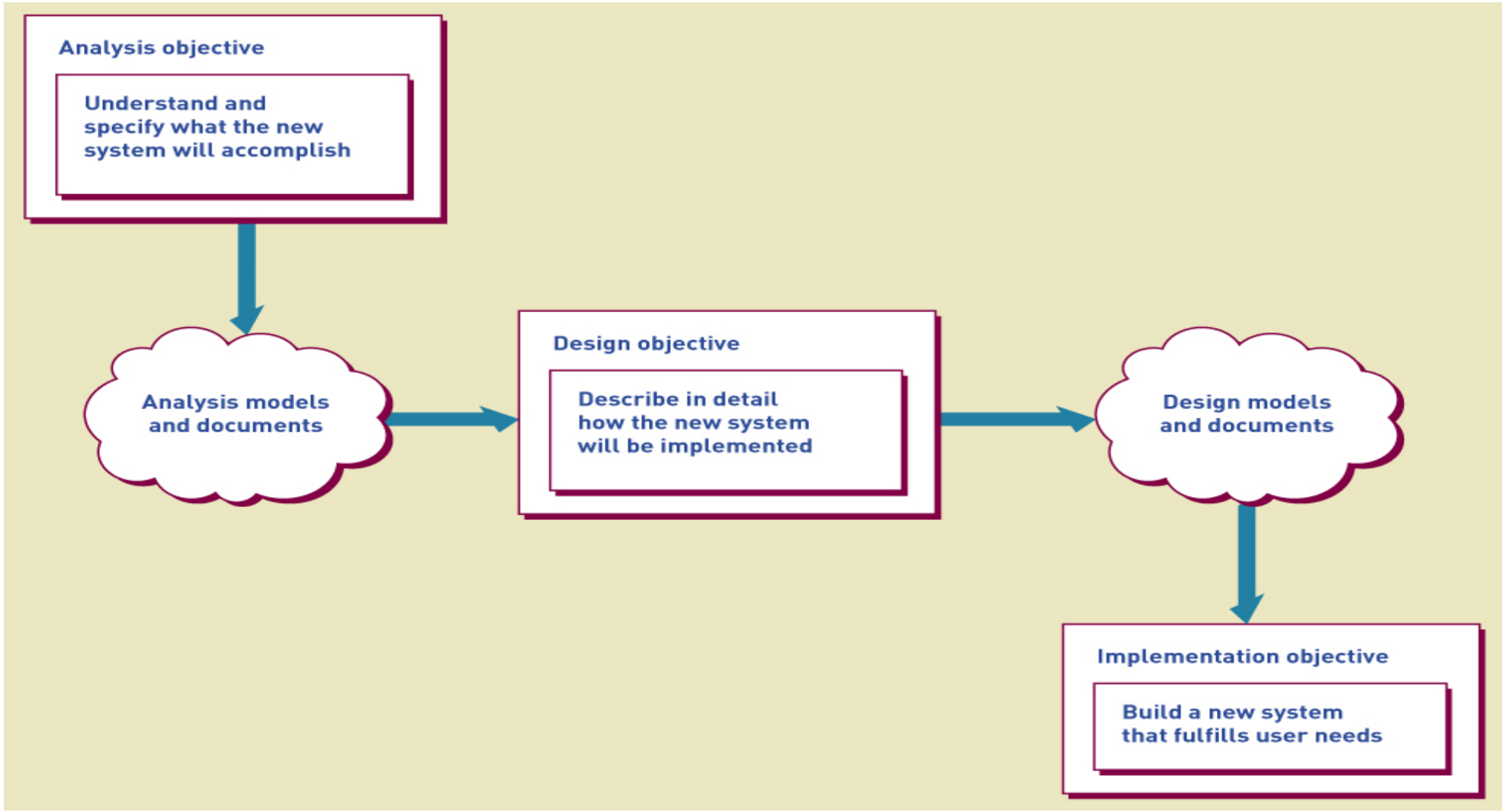
Overview

- Analysis says “what” is required and design tells us “how” the system will be configured and constructed
- Chapters 2, 3, 4 and 5 covered systems analysis activities (requirements)
- This chapter introduces system design and the design activities involved in systems development
- Design bridges the gap between requirements to actual implementation

What Is Systems Design

- Analysis provides the starting point for design
- Design provides the starting point for implementation
- Analysis and design results are documented to coordinate the work
- *Objective of design is to define, organize, and structure the components of the final solution to serve as a blue print for construction*

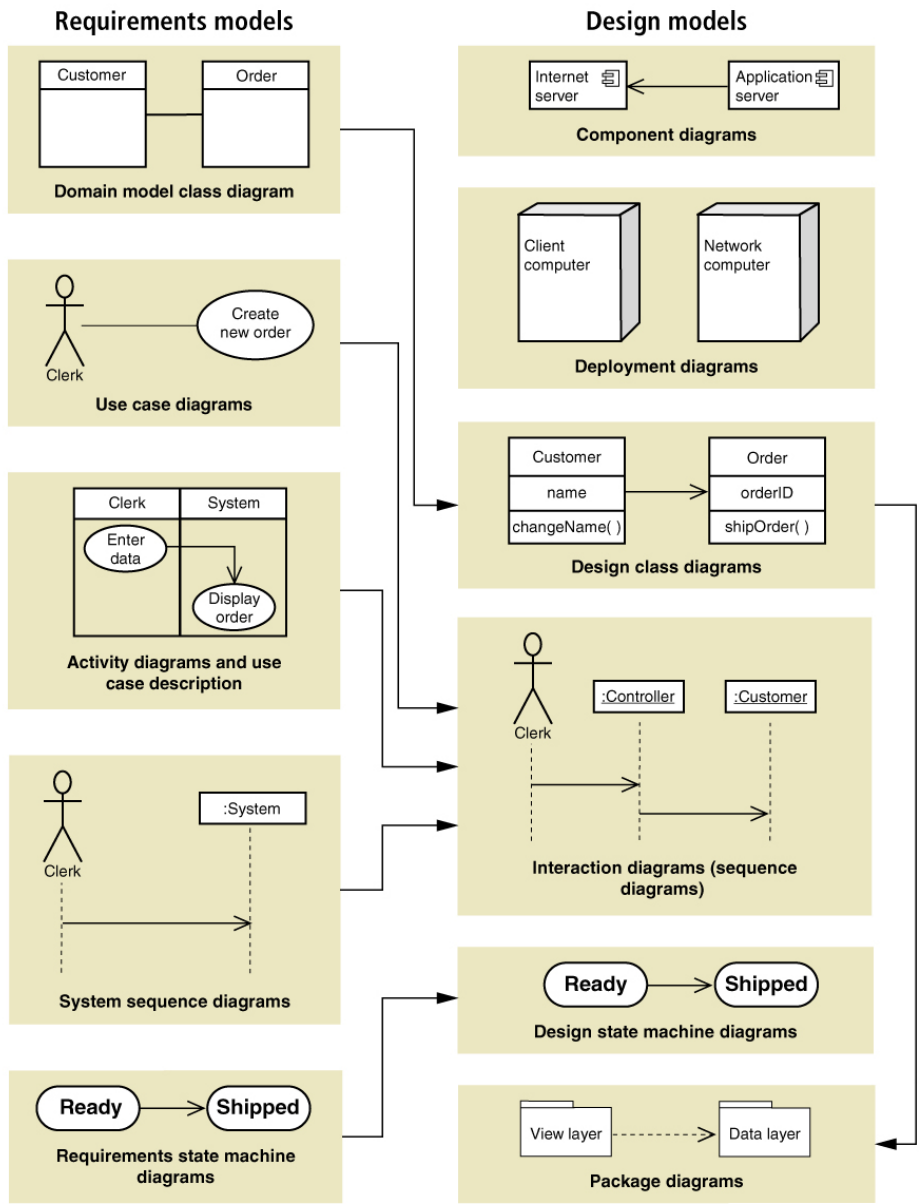
Analysis to Design to Implementation



Design Models

- Design is a model building activity
- The formality of the project will dictate the type, complexity, and depth of models
- *Agile/iteration projects typically build fewer models, but models are still created*
- ***Jumping to programming without design often causes less than optimum solutions and may require rework***

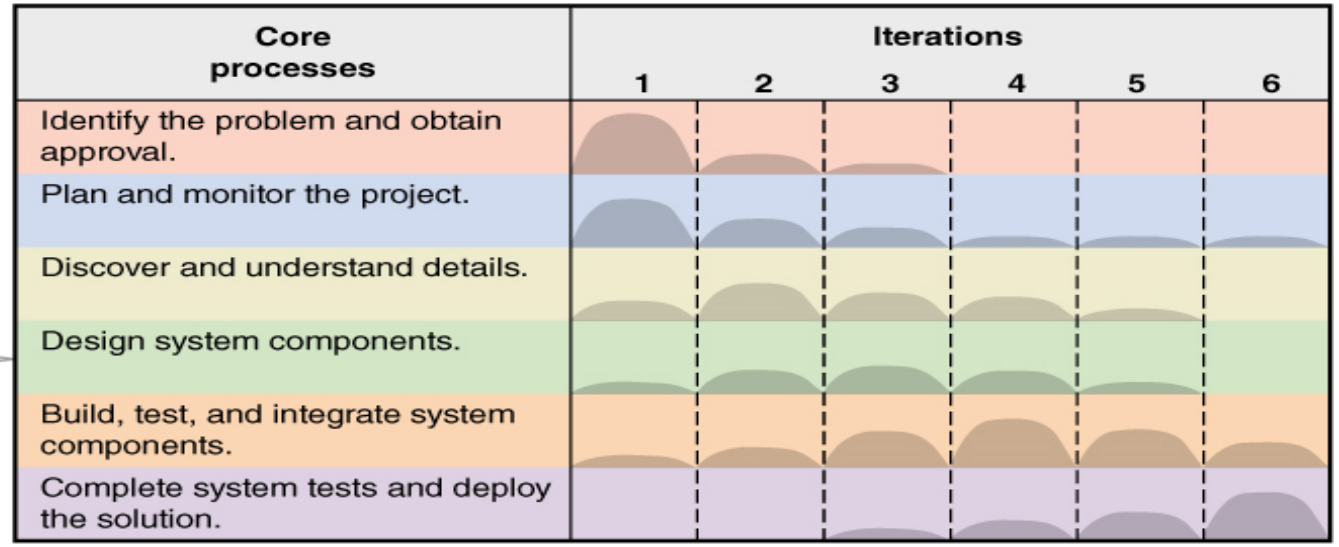
Analysis Models to Design Models



Design Activities

- Design activities correspond to components of the new system
  - The environment
  - Application components
  - User interface
  - Database
  - Software classes and methods

Design activities
Describe the environment. Design the application components. Design user interface. Design the database. Design the software classes and methods.



Key Design Questions for Each Activity

Design activity	Key question
Describe the environment	How will this system interact with other systems and with the organization's existing technologies?
Design the application components	What are the key parts of the information system and how will they interact when the system is deployed?
Design the user interface	How will users interact with the information system?
Design the database	How will data be captured, structured, and stored for later use by the information system?
Design the software classes and methods	What internal structure for each application component will ensure efficient construction, rapid deployment, and reliable operation?

Design the Environment

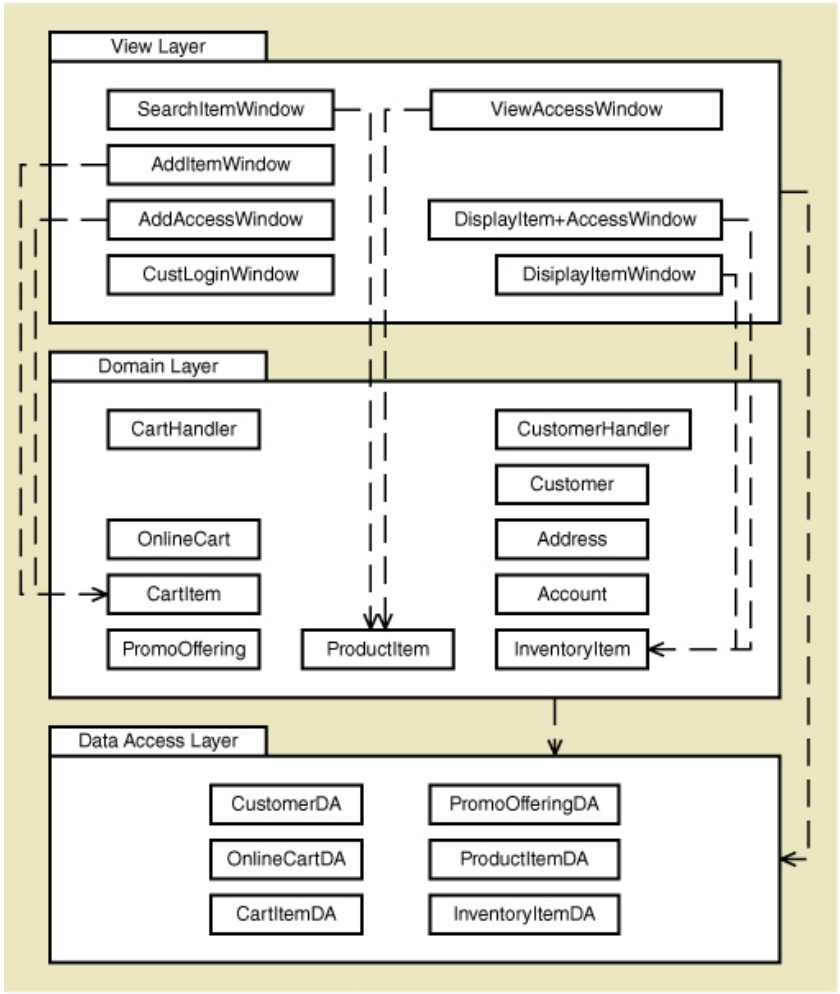
The environment is all of the technology required to support the software application

- Servers, Desktop computers , mobile devices ..
- Operating systems
- Communication capabilities, Input and output capabilities

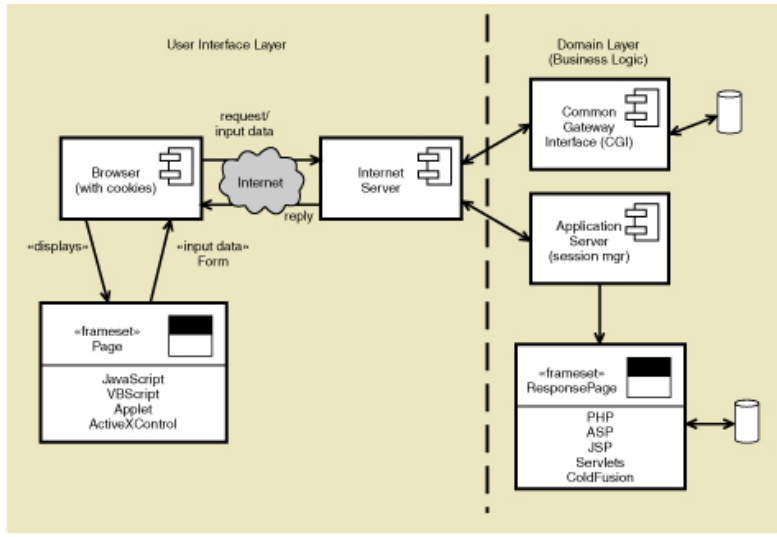
Design the Application Components

- ***Application component is a well defined unit of software that performs some function(s)***
- **Issues involve** how to package components including
  - Scope and size – what are the functions, boundaries, interfaces?
  - Programming language – what are the accepted languages?
  - Build or buy – is an acceptable version available to purchase?

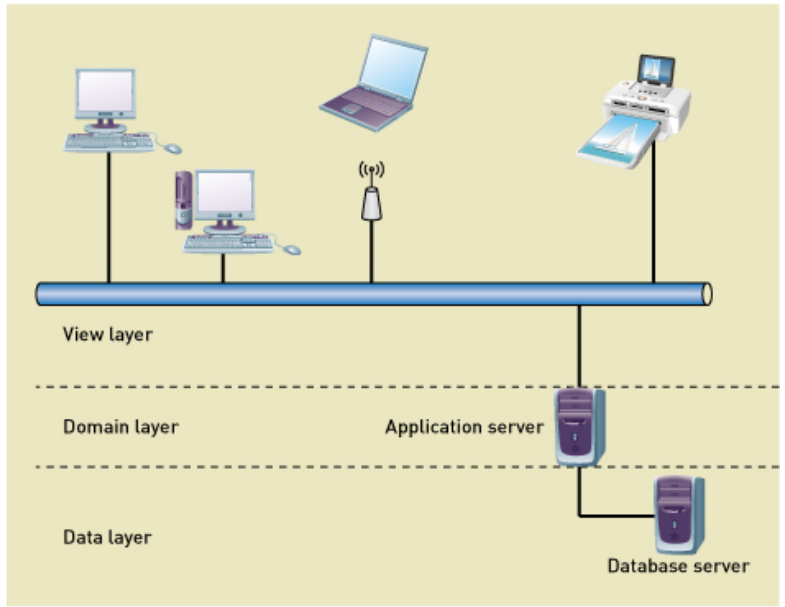
Typical Models for Designing Application Components



Package diagram



Component diagram

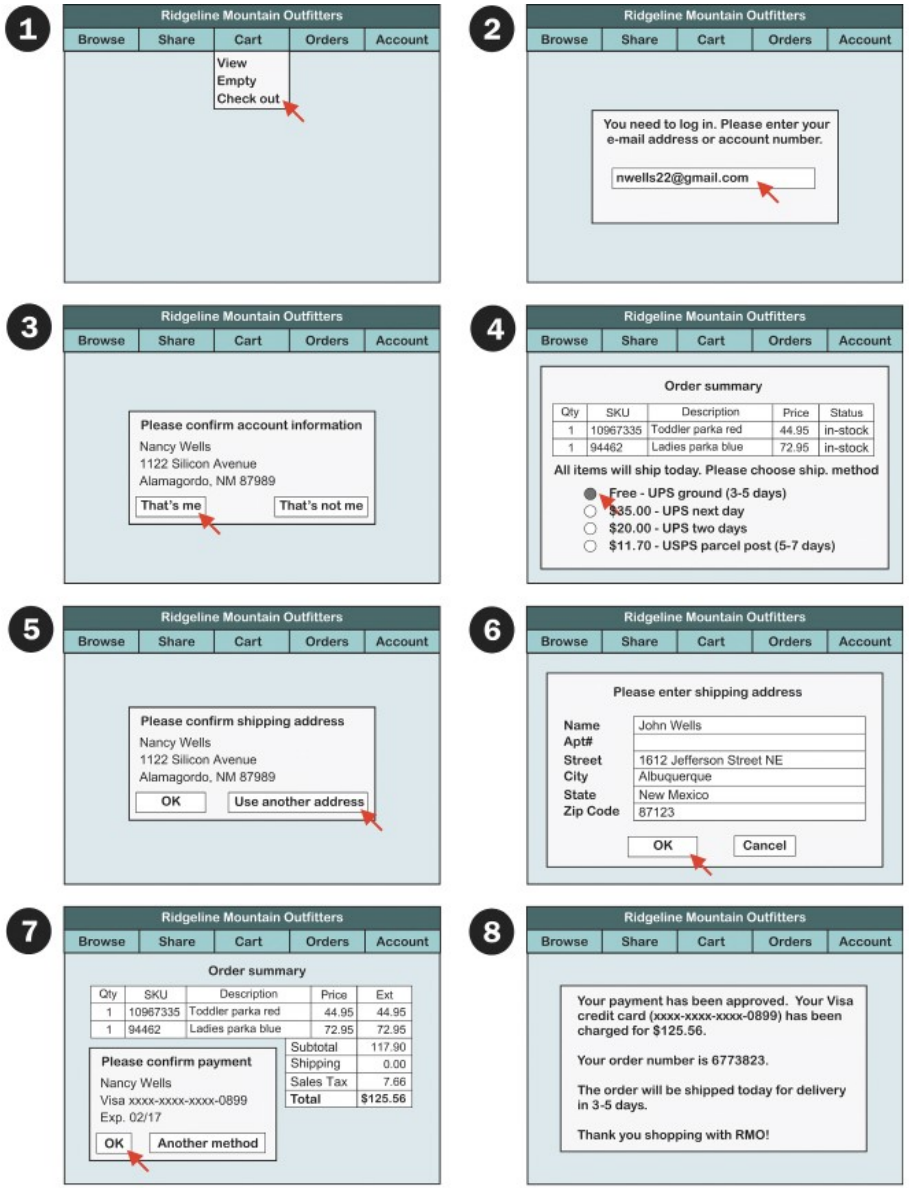


Deployment diagram

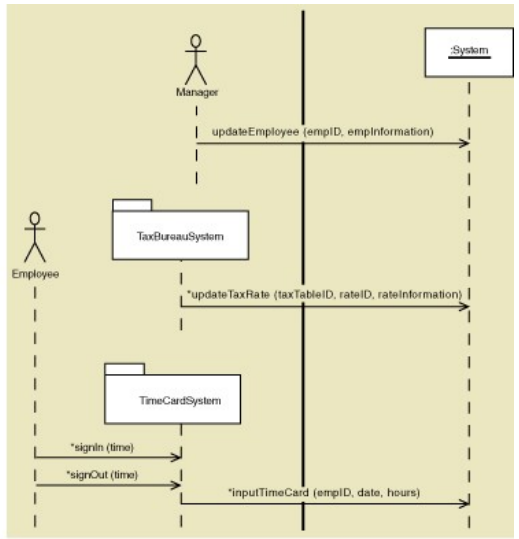
Design the User Interface

- To the user, the User Interface **is** the system.
- The user interface has large impact of user productivity
- Includes both Analysis and Design tasks
  - Requires heavy user involvement

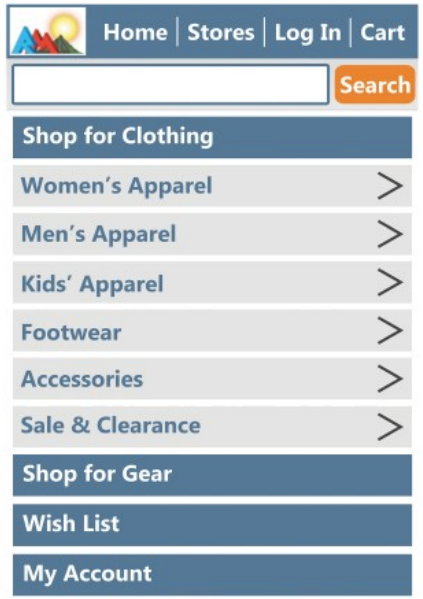
Typical Models for User Interface Design



Storyboard



System sequence diagram

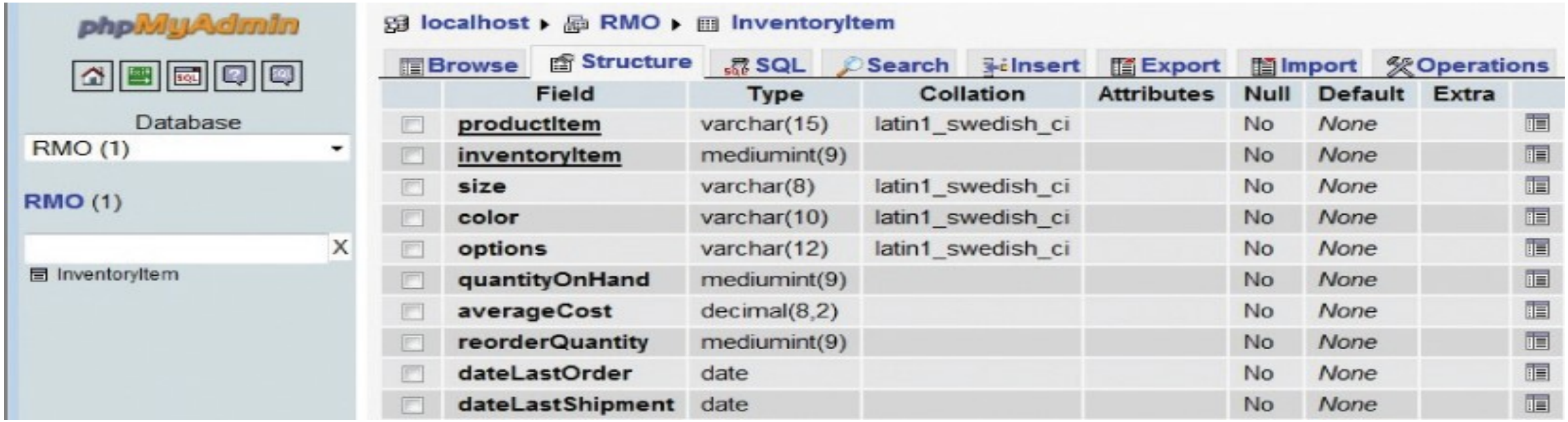


Small screen menu prototype

Design the Database

- ***By definition, an Information System requires data – usually in a database***
- Current technology frequently use Relational Database Management Systems (RDBMS)
- *Requires converting the data model to a relational database*
- Requires addressing of many other technical issues
  - Throughput and response time
  - Security

Typical Table Definition as Part of Database Scheme

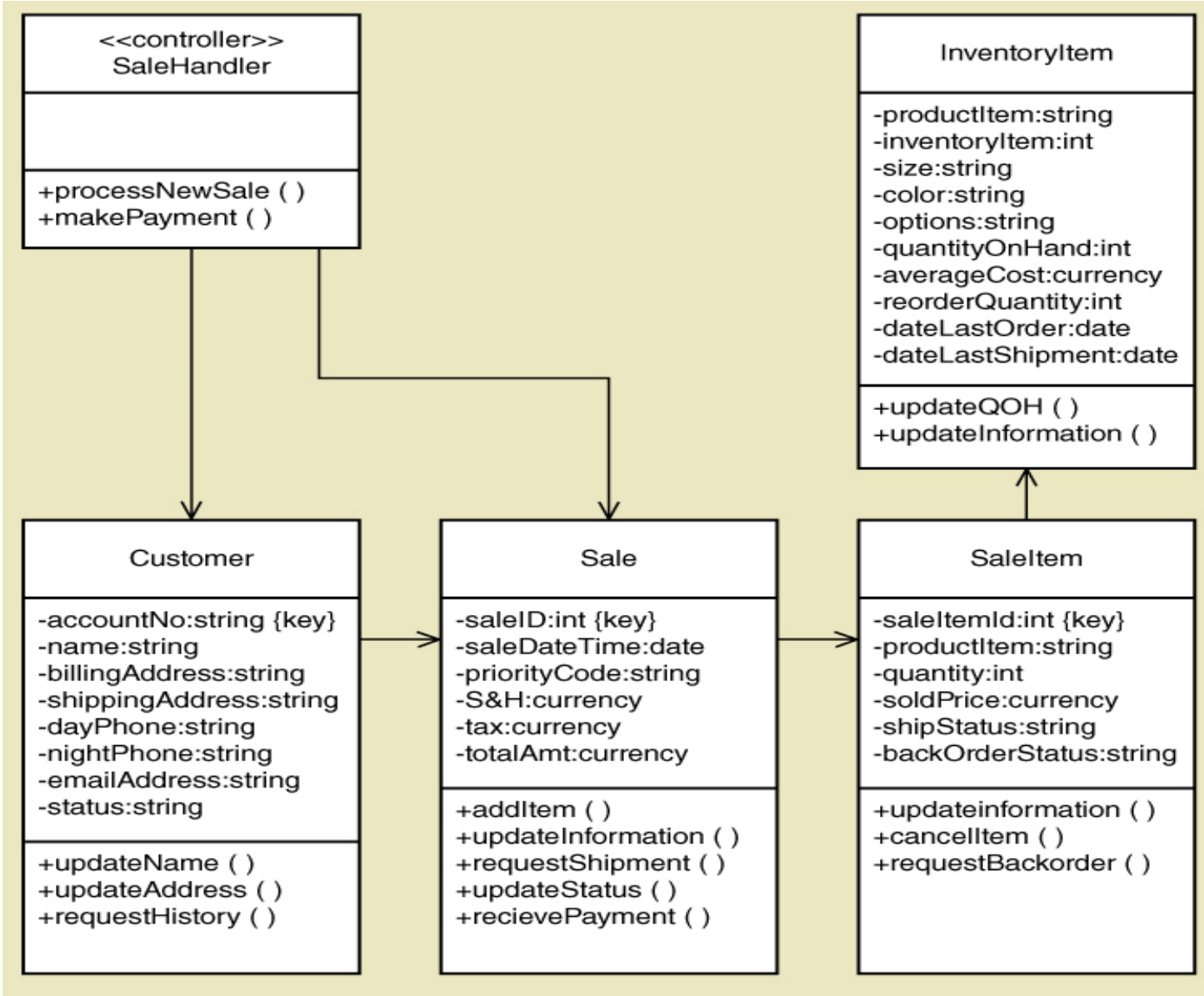


Field	Type	Collation	Attributes	Null	Default	Extra
productItem	varchar(15)	latin1_swedish_ci		No	None	
inventoryItem	mediumint(9)			No	None	
size	varchar(8)	latin1_swedish_ci		No	None	
color	varchar(10)	latin1_swedish_ci		No	None	
options	varchar(12)	latin1_swedish_ci		No	None	
quantityOnHand	mediumint(9)			No	None	
averageCost	decimal(8,2)			No	None	
reorderQuantity	mediumint(9)			No	None	
dateLastOrder	date			No	None	
dateLastShipment	date			No	None	

Design Software Classes and Methods

- AKA Detailed Design
- A model building activity
  - Design Class Diagram
  - Sequence Diagrams
  - State-Machine Diagrams

Typical Design Class Diagram with Attributes and Methods



System Controls and Security

- Integrity Controls
  - Controls that maintain integrity of inputs, outputs and data and programs
- Security Controls
  - Controls that protect the assets from threats, internal and external

Designing Integrity Controls

- Integrated into application programs and DBMS
- Objectives of Integrity Controls
  - Ensure that only appropriate and correct business transactions are accepted
  - Ensure that transactions are recorded and processed correctly
  - To protect and safeguard assets such as the database

Input Controls

- Prevent invalid or erroneous data from entering the system
- Value Limit Controls
  - Check the range of inputs for reasonableness
- Completeness Controls
  - Ensure all the data has been entered
- Data Validation Controls
  - Ensure that specific data values are correct
- Field Combination Controls
  - Ensure data is correct based on relationships between fields

Output Controls

- To ensure that output arrives at proper destination (for authorized eyes) and is accurate, current, and complete
- Examples
  - Physical access to printers and display devices
  - Discarded data – protect from “dumpster diving”
  - Labels on printed and electronic output to correctly identify source of data

Redundancy, Backup and Recovery

- Protect data and systems from catastrophes
  - Databases
  - Hardware
  - Software applications
  - Networks
- On-site versus off-site copies

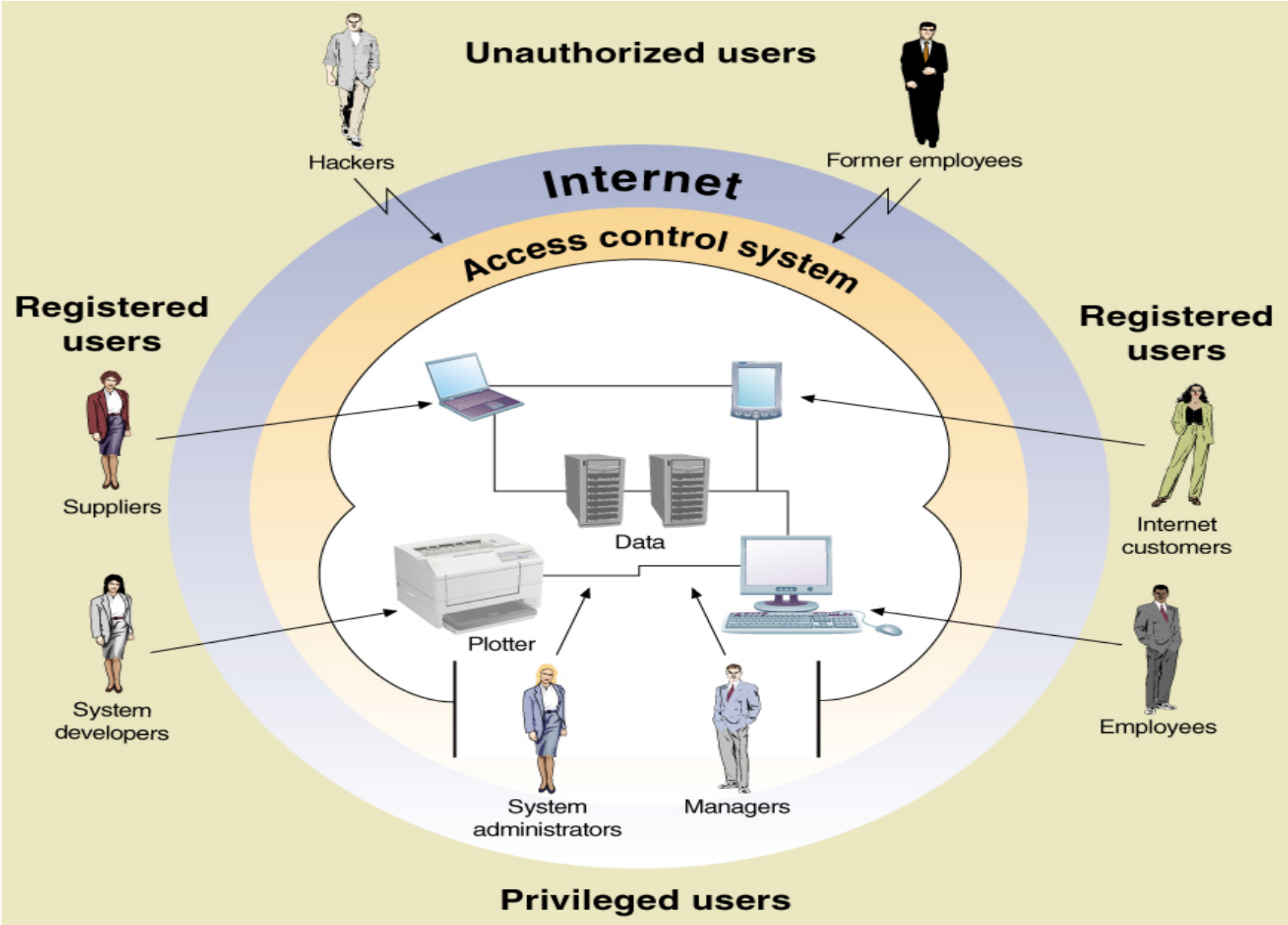
Designing Security Controls

- Protect all assets against external threats
- Other objectives
  - Protect and maintain a stable, functioning operating environment 24/7 (equipment, operating systems, DBMSs)
  - Protect information and transactions during transmission across networks and Internet

Designing Security Controls

- Access Controls – Limit a person's ability to access servers, files, data, applications
  - Authentication – to identify users
    - Multifactor Authentication
  - Access control list – list of valid users
  - Authorization – authenticated user's list of permission level for each resource
- Registered Users – those with authorization
- Unauthorized Users – anyone not registered
- Privileged Users – those that maintain lists and systems

Types of Users

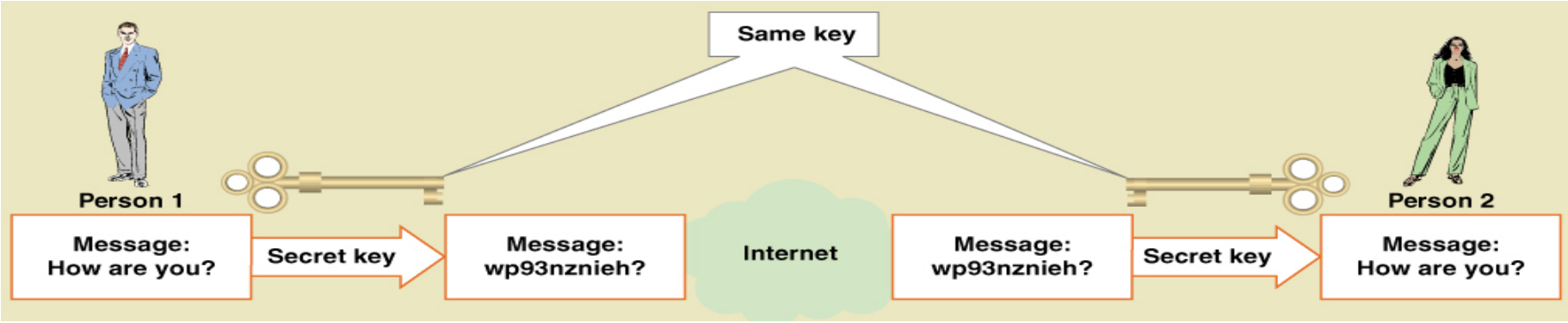


Data Encryption

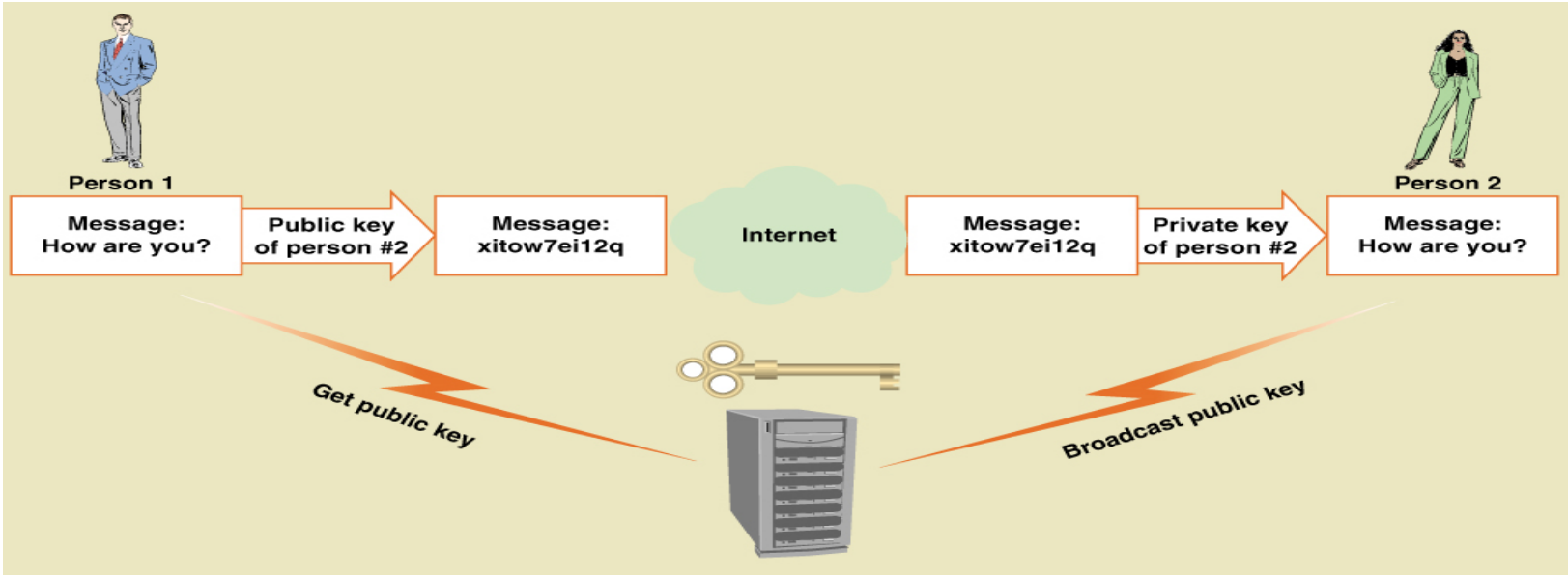
- Method to secure data – stored or in transmission
- Encryption – alter data so it is unrecognizable
- Decryption – converted encrypted data back to readable format
- Encryption Algorithm – mathematical transformation of the data
- Encryption Key – a long data string that allows the same algorithm to produce unique encryptions

Symmetric Vs. Asymmetric Key Encryption

- Symmetric : Encryption method that uses the same key to encrypt and decrypt



- Asymmetric : Encryption method that uses different keys to encrypt and decrypt
  - AKA Public Key Encryption



Secure Transactions

- Secure Sockets Layer (SSL) – standard set of protocols for authentication and authorization
- Transport Layer Security (TLS) – an Internet standard equivalent to SSL
- IP Security (IPSec) – Internet security protocol at a low-level transmission
- Hypertext Transfer Protocol Secure (HTTPS) – Internet standard to transmit Web pages

Summary

- This chapter introduced the concept of Systems Design
  - Analysis is fact finding and modeling
  - Design is modeling to specify how system will be implemented
  - Design is bridge between analysis an implementation
- Activities of Systems Design
  - Describe the environment
  - Design the application components
  - Design the User Interface
  - Design the database
  - Design the software classes and methods

Summary (Cont'd)

- System Controls and Security
  - Integrity Controls
    - Input controls
    - Output controls
    - Backup and recovery
    - Fraud prevention
  - Security Controls
    - Access controls
    - Data encryption
    - Digital signatures and certificates
    - Secure transactions