

SPRING CORE

1. Overview of Web Application Components

A typical web application is built using **3-tier architecture**, ensuring modularity, reusability, and maintainability. These tiers divide responsibilities clearly among presentation, business and persistence layers.

a. Presentation Tier Components

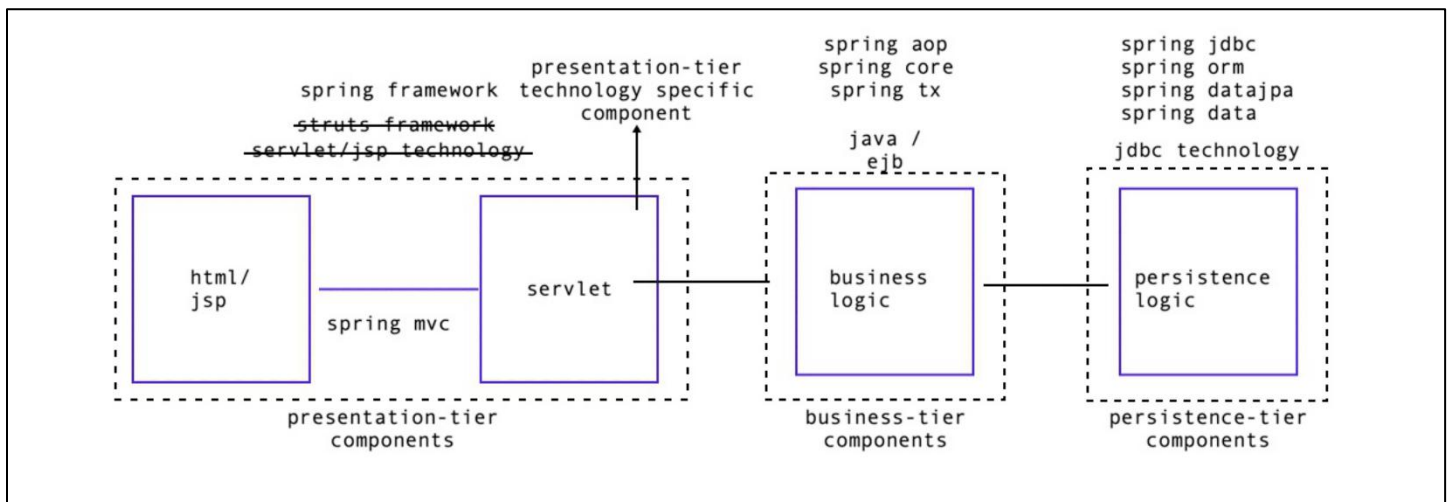
- Handles **user interaction** and acts as the **face of the application**.
- Responsible for **receiving requests from the end-user** and **sending response back**.
- Examples: HTML, JSP Servlets, Spring MVC.
- These components **define how the user interacts with the System** – not what business operation happen.

b. Business Tier Components

- Contains **business logic** – the core rules and operations of the application.
- Validates data, applies computations, enforces business rules, and communicates with persistence layer.
- Typically implemented **Java classes, Spring Core, Spring AOP, Spring TX, or EJBs**.

c. Persistence Tier Components

- Responsible for **data storage, retrieval, and management**.
- Interact with underlying databases or files.
- Technologies: Spring JDBC, Spring ORM, Spring Data JPA, Hibernate, etc.
- Encapsulated through DAO (Data Access Object) classes.



2. Why We Shouldn't Write Business & Persistence Logic Inside Servlets

Even though Servlets can technically handle all logic, it's considered **bad design practice**.

There are **two main reasons**:

Reason 1: Servlets Are Presentation-Tier Specific Components

- A Servlet is tightly coupled with **Servlet/JSP technology**.
- If in future, the project migrates from **Servlets** to another presentation framework (e.g., **Struts, JSF, Spring MVC, or Portlets**), all business and persistence logic written inside the Servlet will also need to be re-written.
- This means we lose not only the presentation logic but also all functional code.
- Result: **High redevelopment cost, poor reusability, and tight coupling** between layers.

Reason 2: Servlets Are Managed by Servlet Container

- A Servlet is controlled by the Servlet Container (e.g., Tomcat, Jetty).
- It **cannot be instantiated or invoked directly** by other classes outside the container.
- Therefore, if business or persistence logic is embedded in a Servlet, it becomes **non-reusable** by any other class or context (like CLI tools, batch jobs, or REST services).
- This breaks the **principle of separation of concerns (SoC)** and **reusability**.

Summary Points:

Servlets should focus only on handling HTTP requests/responses, delegating business logic to **Service Layer** and persistence logic to **DAO Layer**.

3. Advantages of Layered (Tiered) Architecture

Layer	Responsibility	Benefit
Presentation Tier	Handles input/output, user interaction	Easy to modify UI without affecting logic
Business Tier	Holds core logic & rules	Centralized rules, easier testing & reuse
Persistence Tier	Handles data storage/retrieval	Easier DB maintenance and flexibility

Key Benefits:

- **Separation of Concerns:** Each tier performs a distinct role.
- **Reusability:** Logic can be reused across multiple apps or interfaces.
- **Maintainability:** Easier to debug, test, and modify one layer without touching others.
- **Flexibility:** UI or DB tech can change independently of the core logic.
- **Scalability:** Layers can be scaled or distributed as needed.

4. Example – How It All Connects

- End-User** – interacts through browser (HTML/JSP).
- Servlet (Presentation Layer)** – receives request, validates input format, calls Business Layer.
- Business Logic Layer** – performs validation, rules, calculations, then call Persistence Layer.
- Persistence Layer** – performs actual CRUD operations with the database.
- Response** – flows back in reverse: Persistence – Business – Servlet – JSP/HTML – User.

5. Core Principle Demonstrated

“Keep Presentation, Business, and Persistence Layers Independent.”

Mixing all logic into Servlets Causes:

- Tight coupling with the servlet container.
- Loss of flexibility for technology change.
- Reduced maintainability and testability.
- Poor code organization and duplication.

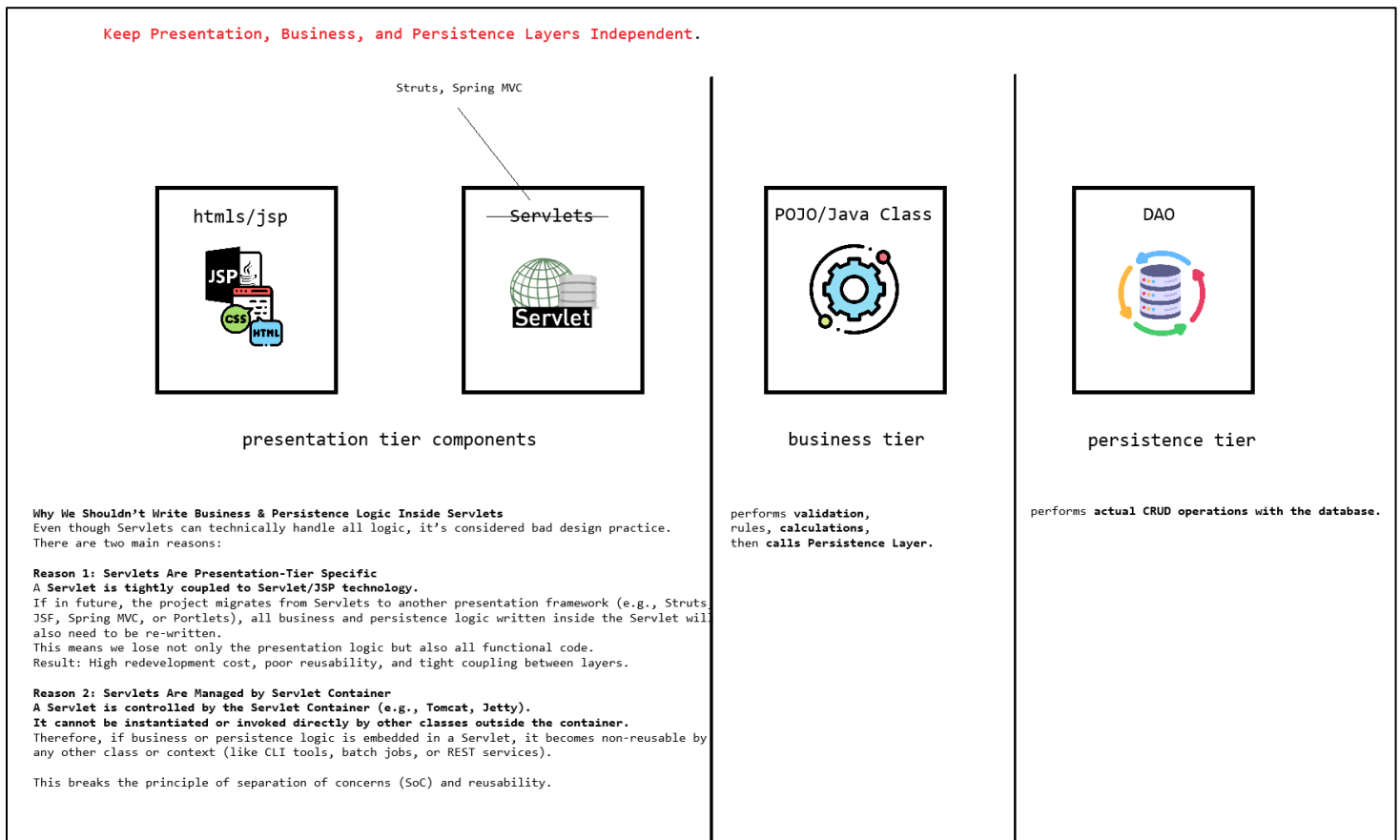
6. Conclusion

A well-structured web application separates concerns into three layers:

- **Presentation Tier:** User Interface (HTML, JSP, Servlet, Spring MVC).
- **Business Tier:** Application logic (Java classes, Spring Core, EJB).
- **Persistence Tier:** Data handling (JDBC, JPA, Hibernate)

By avoiding business and persistence logic in Servlets, we achieve:

- Better maintainability.
- Reusability across technologies.
- Clear modular structure.
- Reduced code duplication



picture 1.0 (3 Tier Architecture)