

Persistence with Java EE

Olivier Liechti
Open Source Frameworks
Master Of Science in Engineering (MSE)

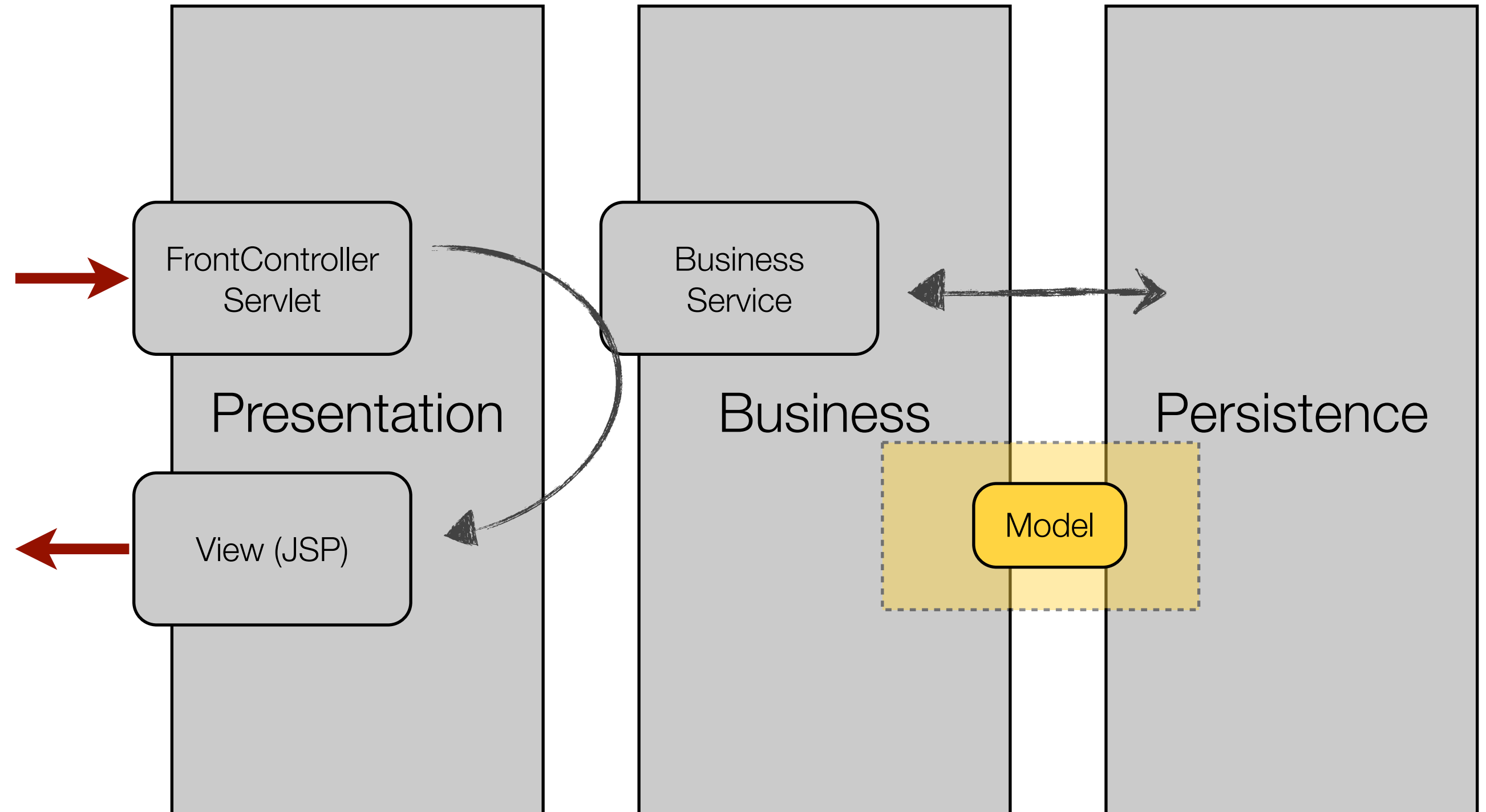


MASTER OF SCIENCE
IN ENGINEERING

Planning

Date	Java EE Frameworks	Gamification Project
20.02.13	Overview + Business Tier (EJB)	Group formation + domain model analysis
27.02.13	Web Services (JAX-RS / JAX-WS)	10' presentation of the domain model + review
06.03.13	Design of the gamification REST API / project setup on Github	
13.03.13	15' presentation of the REST API + 15' discussion / documentation on Github	
20.03.13	Intro to javascript / node.js frameworks	node.js + express.js tutorial
27.03.13	Spring Framework	Implementation of the REST API
03.04.13	<i>Eastern Break</i>	<i>Eastern Break</i>
10.04.13	Persistence Tier (JPA)	NoSQL tutorial + relevance to the project
17.04.13	Project implementation	
24.04.13	Message Oriented Middleware (JMS)	Project implementation
01.05.13	20' presentation of your NoSQL back-end and its role in your project	
08.05.13	Presentation Tier (MVC / Frameworks)	javascript framework tutorial
15.05.13	Project implementation	
22.05.13	Project implementation	
29.05.13	Final Presentations & Demos (30')	

The Business Tier



Agenda

- Approaches to persistence
 - “Direct” approach (e.g. JDBC)
 - Object-Relational Mapping (ORM) approach
- Java Persistence API
 - Persistence as a service provided by the environment
 - Programming model and abstractions defined in the API
- References
 - [Java EE tutorial](#)
 - <http://weblogs.java.net/blog/2006/06/09/ejb-30-sessions-2006-javaone>
 - <http://www.agiledata.org/essays/impedanceMismatch.html>

Approaches to persistence

- “Traditional” approach
 - JDBC is a standardized API for interacting with a RDBS from Java.
 - You connect to the DB, submit SQL requests, process tabular result sets
 - In the J2EE days, the Data Access Object (DAO) was very popular to create a persistence layer in your application (e.g. CustomerDAO)
- Object Relational Mapping (ORM) approach
 - You use a higher-level API and don’t directly work at the SQL level
 - You declaratively specify how your object-oriented model should be mapped to a relational model
 - The middleware takes care of the SQL queries.
- The two approaches are **not mutually exclusive**: even if you use an ORM, it is sometimes useful/necessary to have low-level access to SQL. **Balance** productivity with performance.

Java Persistence API

- Java Persistence API is an Object Relational Mapping (ORM) API
- Java Persistence API is defined in JSR 220 (JPA 2.0 in 317)
- **Step 1: you design your object-oriented domain model**
 - With JPA, every business object is defined as an “entity”
 - Some coding conventions are defined for JPA entities
 - The persistence properties and behavior are specified declaratively with special annotations (XML is also possible)
- **Step 2: you interact with a “persistence service”**
 - The environment provides a “persistence service”, that one can use to find, insert, update and delete business objects
 - JPA defines interfaces and classes for this “persistence service”
 - Note: JPA can be used in the EJB container, in the Web container, but also in Java SE applications!

Java Persistence API

With JPA, you define an object-oriented domain model. You work with business objects, specify relationships between them.

You live in the wonderful world of objects.

And you let JPA handle the interactions with the database. The schema can be generated automatically, the SQL queries as well.

Java Persistence API

*With JPA, like with other Java EE API, you can rely on **conventions**. You don't have to explicitly specify all aspects of the configuration. If you don't, the **standard behavior** applies.*

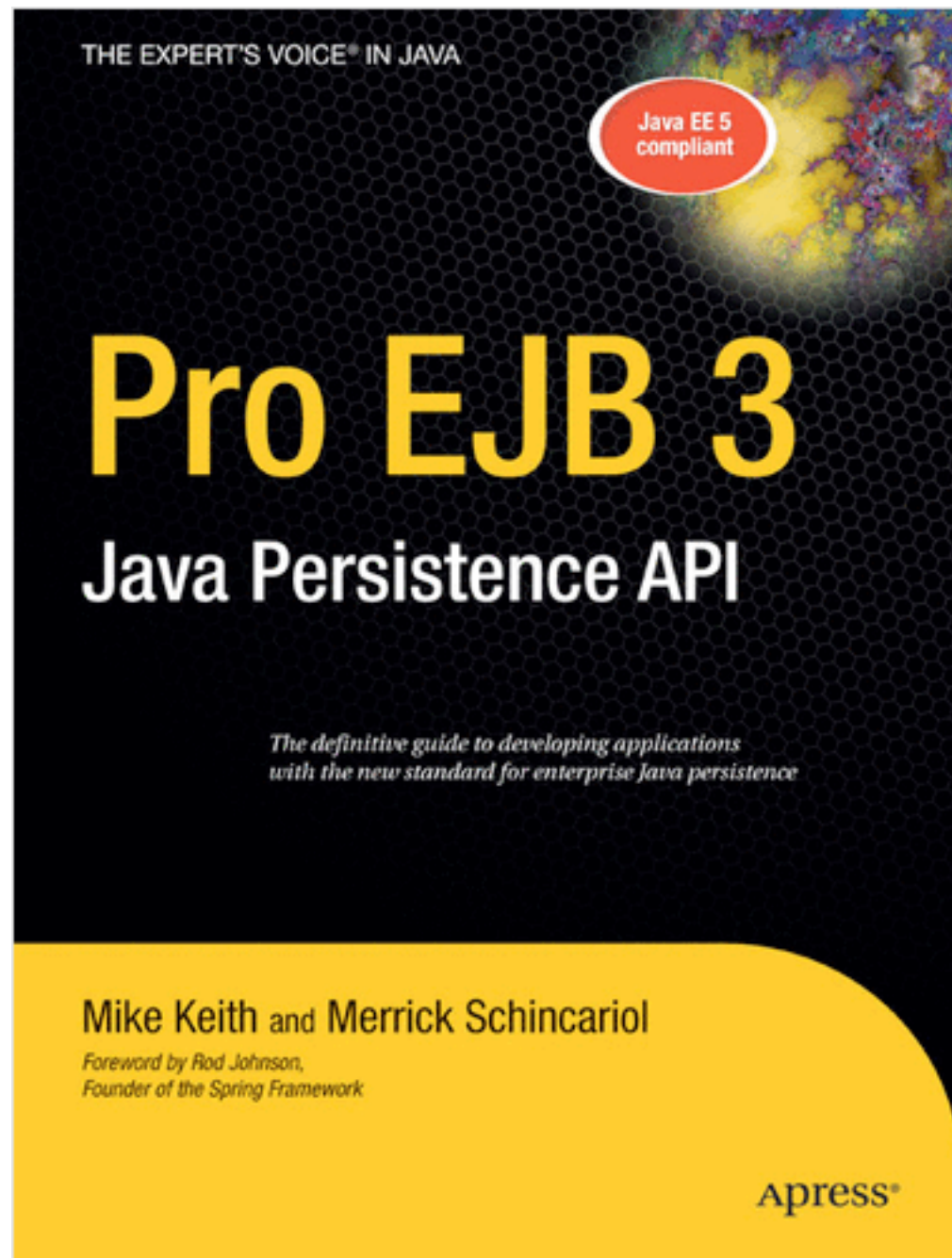
*But you **stay in control**: if there is something that you don't like about the default behavior, you can change it with different annotations.*

Java Persistence API

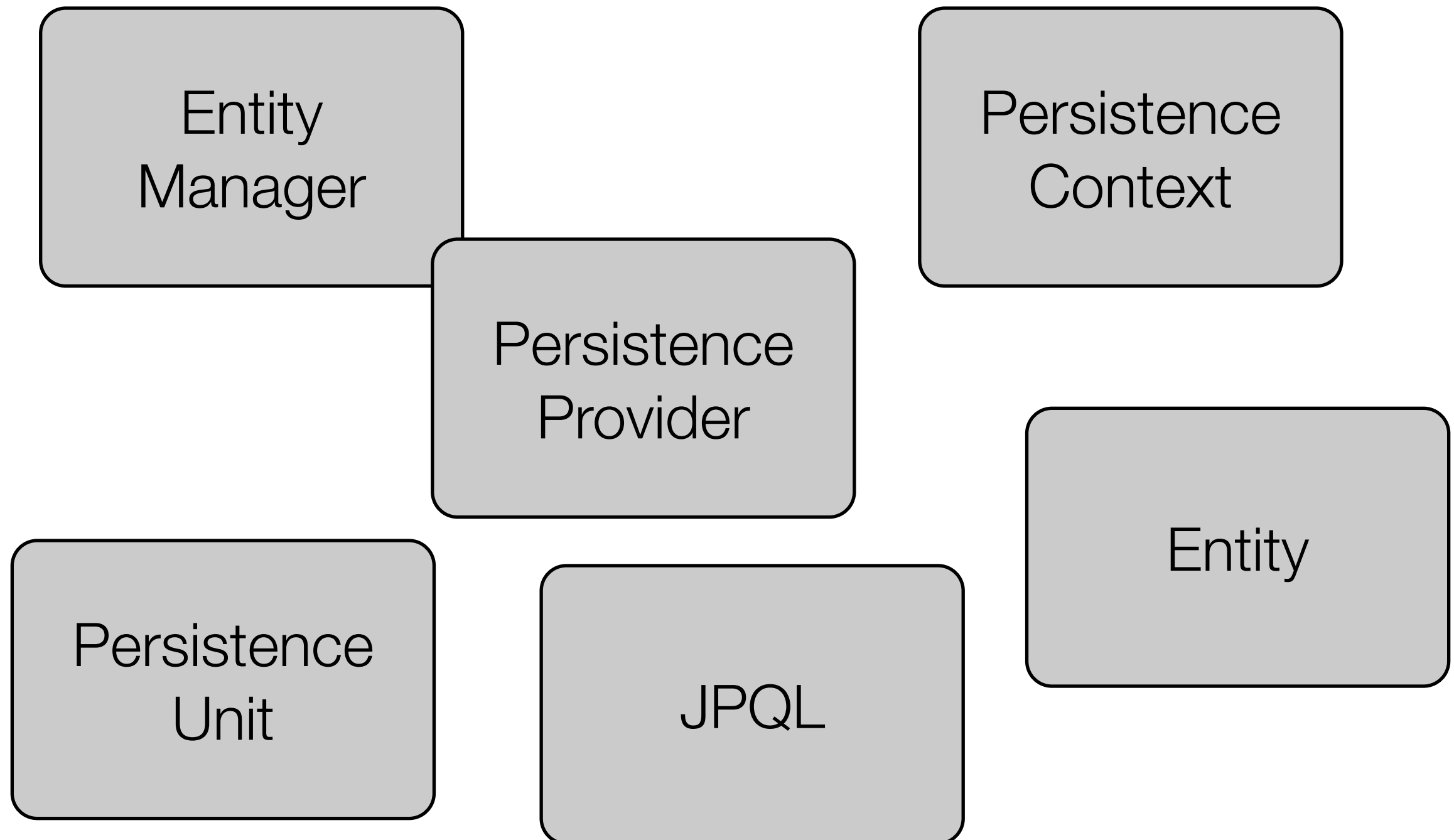
*If you start a project from scratch and do not have to use an existing database, you can **generate the schema** from the Java model. In general, specifying the OR mapping will be pretty easy...*

*If you have an **existing database schema**, then you will need fine control over the OR mapping. JPA gives you this control.*

The JPA Bible



Abstractions defined in the JPA API



Persistence Provider

- A Persistence Provider is an **implementation** of the JPA API.
- **TopLink Essentials** and **Hibernate** are two examples of JPA Persistence Providers.
- Persistence Providers are “pluggable”. This means that if you use only standard JPA features, you can for example decide to switch from TopLink to Hibernate at some point.
- Many JPA Persistence Providers have been created on the basis of **existing ORM solutions** (Hibernate existed before JPA, TopLink as well).
- Many Persistence Providers give you access to non-standard features. **Balance** functionality with portability...

JPA entities

- **Remember:** it is not the same thing as a J2EE 1.x/2.x Entity Bean (EJB).
- It is a Plain Old Java Object (**POJO**).
- It does not need to extend any particular class, nor to implement any particular interface.
- This is important, because inheritance can be used to capture business domain relationships (vs. for technical reasons).
- It has a “**persistent state**”, i.e. a set of attributes that should be saved in the persistent store.
- An entity can have **relationships** with other entities. **Cardinality** and **navigability** can be specified for every relationship.

```
@Entity
public class Student implements Serializable {
    private static final long serialVersionUID = 1L;
    @Id
    @GeneratedValue(strategy = GenerationType.AUTO)
    private Long id;

    private String firstName;
    private String lastName;

    public Long getId() {
        return id;
    }

    public void setId(Long id) {
        this.id = id;
    }

    public String getFirstName() {
        return firstName;
    }

    public void setFirstName(String firstName) {
        this.firstName = firstName;
    }

    public String getLastName() {
        return lastName;
    }

    public void setLastName(String lastName) {
        this.lastName = lastName;
    }

    ...
}
```

← This is an entity class

← An entity needs a unique id

← There are different ways to generate these id values

← The attributes will be automatically part of the “persistent state” for this entity.

If you do not want to persist a field, use the @Transient annotation

Requirement for a JPA Entity

- The class must be annotated with the `javax.persistence.Entity` annotation.
- The class must have a **public or protected, no-argument constructor**. The class may have other constructors.
- The class must not be declared final. No methods or persistent instance variables must be declared final.
- If an entity instance be passed by value as a detached object, such as through a session bean's remote business interface, the class must implement the **Serializable** interface.
- Entities may **extend** both entity and non-entity classes, and non-entity classes may extend entity classes.
- Persistent instance variables must be declared private, protected, or package-private, and can only be accessed directly by the entity class's methods. **Clients must access the entity's state through accessor or business methods.**

Entity Relationships

- Cardinalities
 - one-to-one
 - one-to-many
 - many-to-many
 - many-to-one
- Bi-directional relationships
 - **Warning:** the developer is responsible for maintaining both “sides” of the relationship!
- Key questions
 - loading behavior: eager vs. lazy
 - cascading behavior: cascading or not? for what operations?

```
employee.setOffice(office);  
office.setEmployee(employee);
```


Entity Relationships

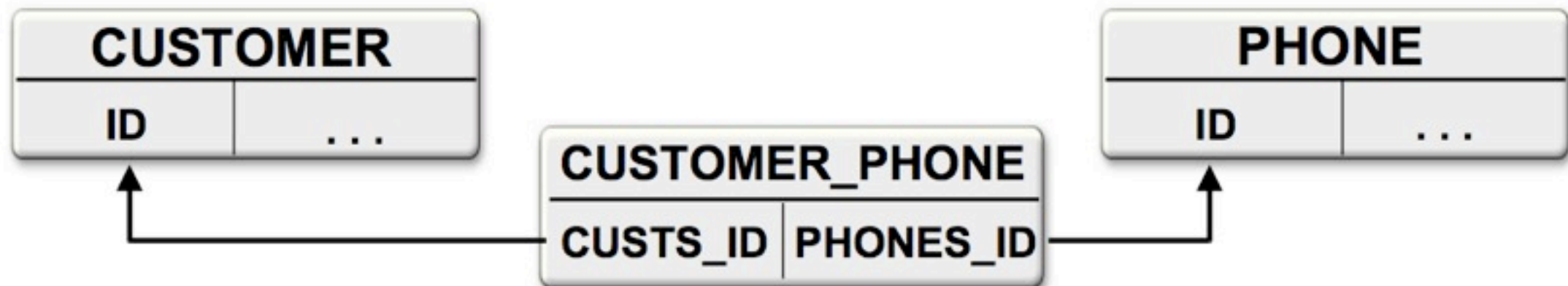
```
@Entity public class Customer {
    @Id protected Long id;
    ...
    @OneToMany protected Set<Order> orders = new HashSet();
    @ManyToOne protected SalesRep rep;
    ...
    public Set<Order> getOrders() {return orders;}
    public SalesRep getSalesRep() {return rep;}
    public void setSalesRep(SalesRep rep) {this.rep = rep;}
}
```

```
@Entity public class SalesRep {
    @Id protected Long id;
    ...
    @OneToMany(mappedBy="rep")
    protected Set<Customer> customers = new HashSet();
    ...
    public Set<Customer> getCustomers() {return customers;}
    public void addCustomer(Customer customer) {
        getCustomers().add(customer);
        customer.setSalesRep(this);
    }
}
```

Entity Relationships

```
@Entity
public class Customer {
    @Id
    int id;
    ...
    @ManyToMany
    Collection<Phone> phones;
}
```

```
@Entity
public class Phone {
    @Id
    int id;
    ...
    @ManyToMany(mappedBy="phones")
    Collection<Customer> custs;
}
```



Entity Manager

- The Entity Manager is the **interface** to the “**persistence service**”.
- In other words, it is through the Entity Manager that you:
 - **retrieve** and **load** information from the database
 - **create** new information in the database
 - **delete** data information the database

```
javax.persistence.EntityManager
```

```
<T> T find(Class<T> entityClass, Object primaryKey);  
void persist(Object entity)  
void remove(Object entity)  
Query createNamedQuery(String name)  
Query createNativeQuery(String sqlString)  
...
```

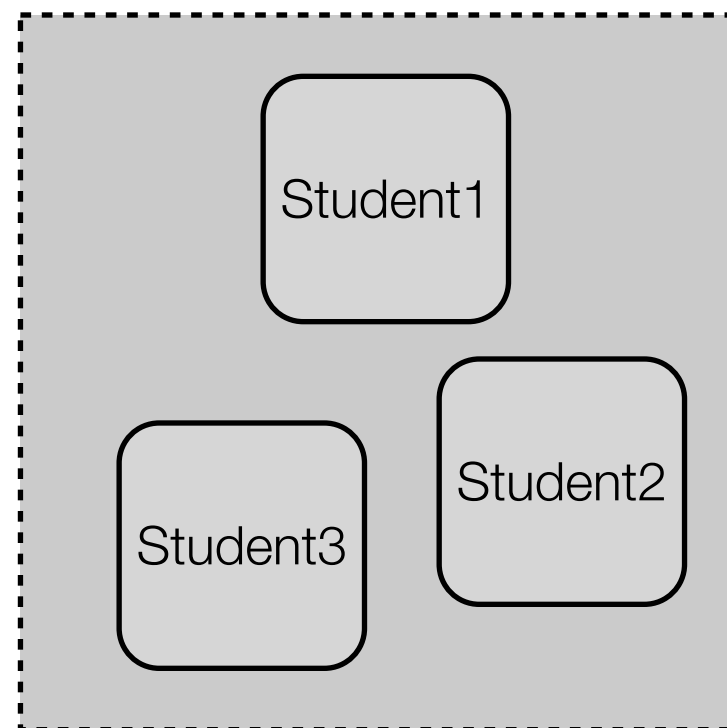
Using the Entity Manager

- You can use the Entity Manager in **different types of components**: EJBs, servlets, java applications, etc.
- Using the Entity Manager from **EJBs** is easy. You simply ask the container to inject a reference to the Entity Manager in a variable, with an annotation.
- Using the Entity Manager in the **web tier** requires some care to deal with concurrency (EntityManager is not thread-safe, EntityManagerFactory is thread-safe).

```
@Stateless
public class StudentsManagerBean implements StudentsManagerLocal {
    @PersistenceContext
    EntityManager em;
    public long createStudent(String firstName, String lastName) {
        Student student = new Student();
        student.setFirstName(firstName); student.setLastName(lastName);
        em.persist(student); em.flush();
        return student.getId();
    }
}
```


Persistence Context

- A Persistence Context is a set of entity instances at **runtime**.
- Think of a temporary “bag” of objects that come from the database, that are managed by JPA and that will go back to the database at some point.
 - If you modify the state of one of these objects, you don’t have to save it explicitly. It will be persisted back automatically at commit time.
- Using the JPA API, you can manage the persistence context, populate it, etc.



Persistence Context

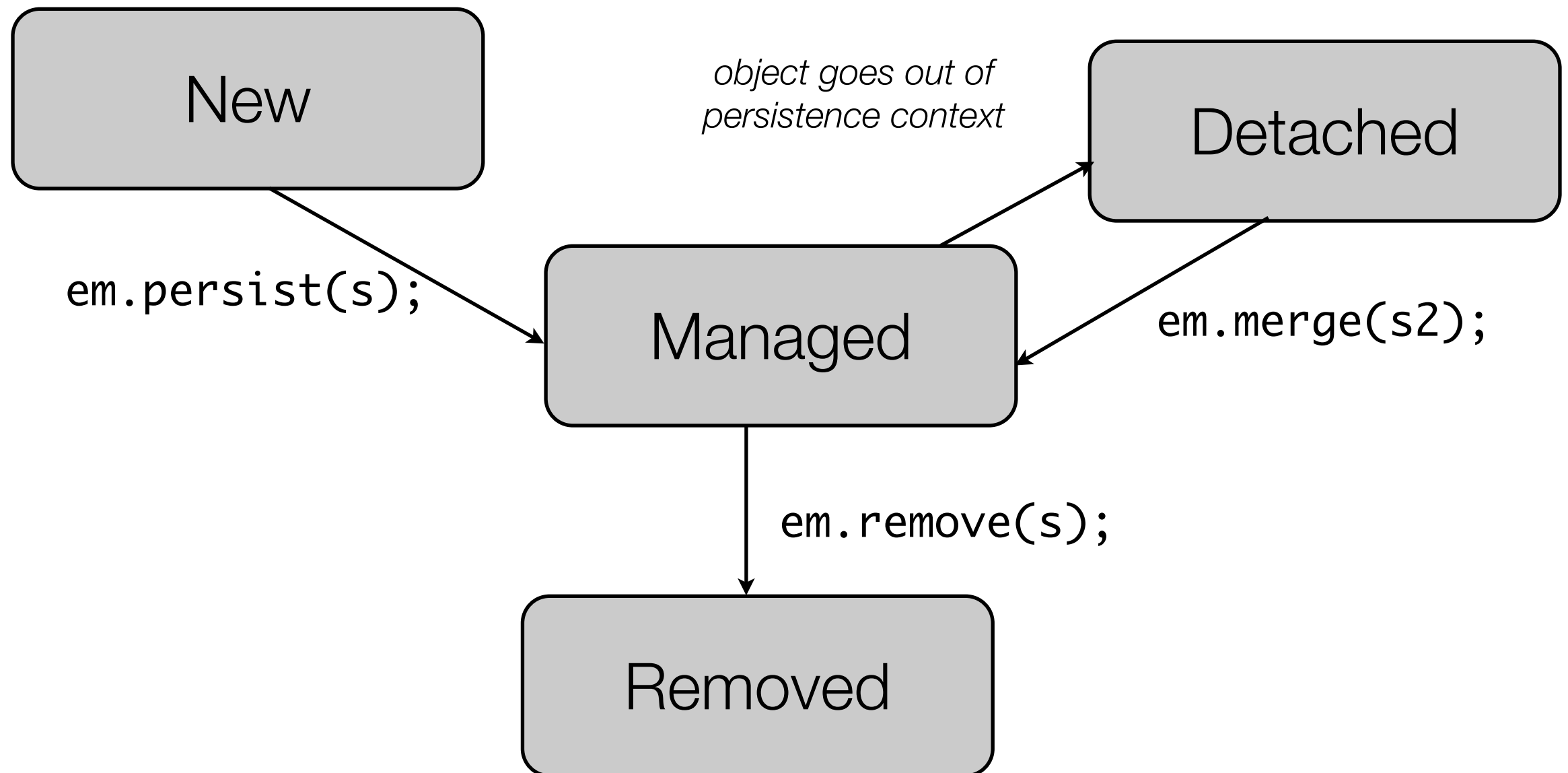
Persistence Context

- “A persistence context is a **set of managed entity instances** in which for any persistent entity identity there is a **unique entity instance**.”
- Within the persistence context, the entity instances and their **lifecycle** are managed by the **entity manager**.
 - “A **new entity instance** has no persistent identity, and is not yet associated with a persistence context.
 - A **managed entity instance** is an instance with a persistent identity that is currently associated with a persistence context.
 - A **detached entity instance** is an instance with a persistent identity that is not (or no longer) associated with a persistence context.
 - A **removed entity instance** is an instance with a persistent identity, associated with a persistence context, that is scheduled for removal from the database.”

Life-cycle for JPA Entities

`Student s = new Student();`

*Think what happens when
an EJB returns an object
to a servlet!*



Persistence Context Types

- In Java EE, we typically use a **transaction-scoped persistence context**:
 - The client invokes a method on a **Stateless Session Bean**
 - The container intercepts a call and **starts a transaction**
 - The Stateless Session Bean uses JPA, a persistence context is created
 - Entities are loaded into the **persistence context**, modified, added, etc.
 - The method returns, the container **commits** the transaction
 - At this stage, entities in the persistence context are **sent back** to the DB.
- JPA also defines **extended persistence context**:
 - Entities remain managed as long as the Entity Manager lives
 - The JBoss SEAM framework uses extended persistence contexts: a persistence context lives during a whole “conversation”.

Persistence Unit

- The Persistence Unit defines a list of entity classes that “belong together”.
- All entities in one Persistence Unit are stored in the same database.
- Persistence Units are declared in `persistence.xml` file, in the META-INF directory of your `.jar` file (it is possible to define several Persistence Units in the same xml file).

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<persistence ...>
  <persistence-unit name="SimplePersistenceExample-ejbPU" transaction-type="JTA">
    <provider>oracle.toplink.essentials.PersistenceProvider</provider>
    <jta-data-source>jdbc/demo</jta-data-source>
    <class>ch.heigvd.osf.demo.model.Student</class>
    <exclude-unlisted-classes>true</exclude-unlisted-classes>
    <properties>
      <property name="toplink.ddl-generation" value="drop-and-create-tables"/>
    </properties>
  </persistence-unit>
</persistence>
```

Java Persistence Query Language (JPQL)

- SQL-like query language
- Includes constructs for exploiting the OR mapping. For instance, you can define polymorphic queries if you have defined inheritance relationships.

```
SELECT p
FROM Player p
WHERE p.position = :position AND p.name = :name
```

```
public List findWithName(String name) {
    return em.createQuery(
        "SELECT c FROM Customer c WHERE c.name LIKE :custName")
        .setParameter("custName", name)
        .setMaxResults(10)
        .getResultList();
}
```

Java Persistence Query Language (JPQL)

- You can group all your queries at the same place (vs. directly in the service method). Common practice is to use the `@NamedQuery` in the Entity Class source.

```
@NamedQuery(  
    name="findAllCustomersWithName",  
    query="SELECT c FROM Customer c WHERE c.name  
    LIKE :custName"  
)
```

```
@PersistenceContext  
public EntityManager em;  
...  
customers = em.createNamedQuery("findAllCustomersWithName")  
    .setParameter("custName", "Smith")  
    .getResultList();
```

Summary

