

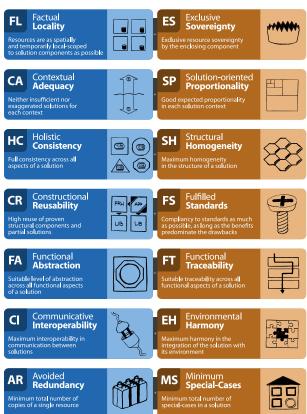
Software Engineering in Industrial Practice (SEIP)

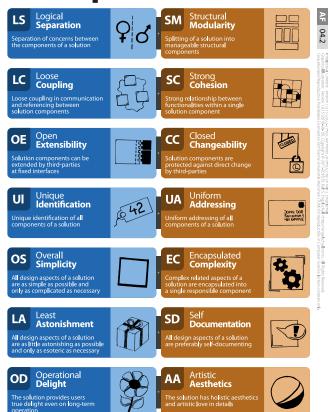
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Architecture Principles







In IT Architecture, one follows **Architecture Principles**, which summarize basic principles and procedures. One knows 28 principles that can be grouped into 14 pairs since always two principles are very close regarding the content. The architect should follow the principles in general, but he may violate them as long as he has a good reason for it. The best reason would be a particular project-specific requirement.

Note: The principle **Logical Separation** (aka **Separation of Concern**) is one of the most important, since from it several other principles almost automatically follow, including, e.g., **Structural Modularity**.

Note: The principles **Loose Coupling** and **Strong Cohesion** are known in the literature as the combined principle "Loose Coupling, Strong Cohesion." The principles **Open Extensibility** and **Closed Changeability** are known in the literature as the combined principle "Open-Close."

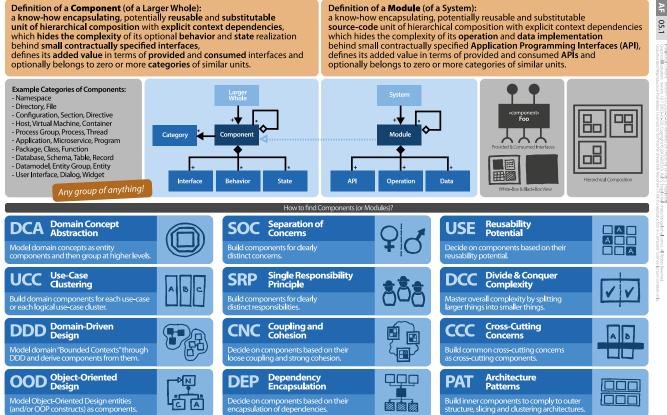
Note: The principle **Overall Simplicity** is one of the hardest to implement because nothing in IT is really easy. Everything only looks simple as long as one does not have enough understanding about it. After that, one first has to make it "simple" painstakingly. That's the art of architecture: simplify difficult things! If something cannot be simplified further and still has a certain complexity, following the principle **Encapsulated Complexity**, one at least can try to shadow it.

Questions



Component Design





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Software Architecture is all about Components and **Interfaces.** Therefore, **Component Design** is a central task of the architect.

A component encapsulates a certain know-how, is potentially reusable and replaceable. A component has a behaviour and a state and hides the internal complexity of both behind "small" contractual interfaces. It provides its added value through the difference between provided and consumed interfaces. It can be considered as a Whitebox or as a Blackbox, depending on whether the internal details can be viewed from outside or not. Components are arranged hierarchically, may belong to specific categories and have explicit dependencies among each other.

A distinction is made between the more general concept of Component ("any group of anything") and the more specific concept of the (via Source code defined) Module.

Components can be found in many different ways. Most of them are directly derived from existing methods, principles, or patterns. The two most important ways for a component cut in practice are: Separation of Concerns (which unique concern or task has the component?) and Single Responsibility **Principle** (what is the unique responsibility of the component?).

Questions

- List at least 7 properties/aspects which a Component has!
- What are the two most important ways to find a component cut in practice?

Graphical III



Interface Design





An interface is a well-defined, shielding, abstracting boundary of a passive providing component, which consists of one or more clearly distinguishable interaction endpoints.

Examples: GraphQL-IO, HTTP/REST, SOAP, RMI, WebSockets, AMQP, MQTT, etc.

At each interaction endpoint, an active, consuming component is accessed through the **exchange** of **input/output information** and is operated under a specific **syntactical** and **semantical contract**.

There are numerous kinds of interfaces, all of which meet this definition. In addition, "good" interfaces have specific Properties/Characteristics. The four of the best properties are: **Proportional** (the interface is smaller and in size proportional to the functionality behind it), **Expressive** (the interface provides a powerful programming model), **Orthogonal** (the interface allows combinatorial Use-Cases), and **Concise** (the interface generates little "Boilerplate Code" during use).

There are numerous software patterns for interfaces. An interesting pattern is the **Leaky Two-Layer Facade**, in which a library has two interfaces: an upper, convenient, and Use-Case-related interface and a lower, orthogonal Feature-related interface. The trick is that the upper interface is implemented by the lower interface only and that the lower interface "shines through" ("leaky" or Open Layering).

Support humans and machines in outputs through both description and parsing-free info

Questions

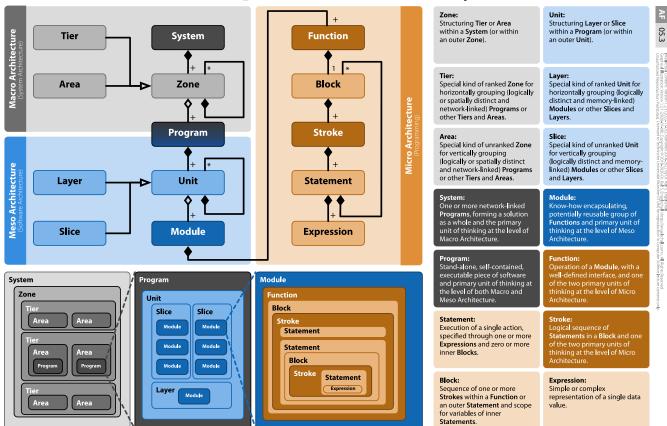
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- 2 List at least 8 properties/aspects which define an Interface!
- List at least 4 properties/characteristics of good Interfaces!



Component Hierarchy





A Component is "any group of anything" in Software Architecture. Nevertheless, there are prominent component categories that form an particular, omnipresent Component Hierarchy in Software Engineering. This consists of the three levels Macro Architecture (aka System Architecture), Meso Architecture (aka Software Architecture) and Micro Architecture (aka Programming).

In the Macro Architecture level, one has to deal with **Systems** (aka Applications) which consist of hierarchically arranged infrastructural **Zones**, which can be either (horizontal) **Tiers** or (vertical) **Areas**. The **Zones** themselves consist of **Programs**.

These **Programs**, at the level of the Meso Architecture, consist of hierarchically arranged **Units**, which can be either (horizontal) **Layers** or (vertical) **Slices**. The **Units** themselves consist of **Modules**.

The **Modules**, at the level of the Micro Architecture, consist of **Functions** and these consist of hierarchically arranged (lexical) **Blocks**, which in turn consist of **Strokes** (aka "Thoughts"), which in turn consist of **Statements** and these at the end consist of individual **Expressions**.

The five Primary Units of Thinking are Systems, Programs, Modules, Functions and Strokes.

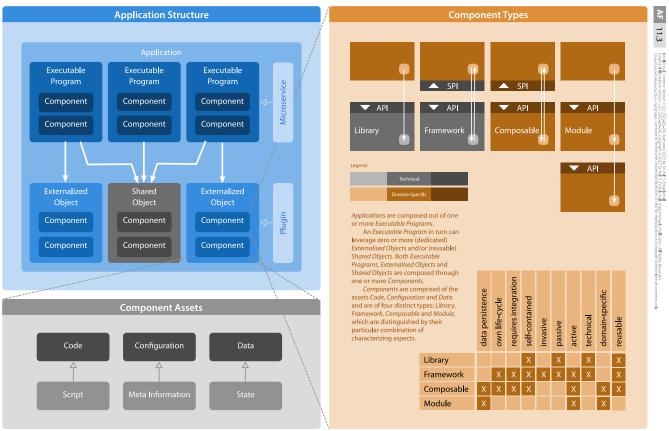
Questions

- Which three component categories are known at the level of Macro Architecture (aka System Architecture)?
- Which three component categories are known at the level of Meso Architecture (aka Software Architecure)?
- Which five component categories are known at the level of Micro Architecture (aka Programming)?



Application Composition





Applications are composed out of one or more Executable Programs. An Executable Program in turn can leverage zero or more (dedicated) Externalised Objects and/or (reusable) Shared Objects. Both Executable Programs, Externalised Objects and Shared Objects are composed through one or more Components. In a Microservice Architecture, the Executable Programs are called Microservices. In a Plugin Architecture, the Externalised Objects are called Plugins.

There are four distinct types of Components: Library, Framework, Composable and Module. They can be distinguished by their particular combination of characterizing aspects. Most prominently, whether they provide an Application Programming Interface (API) to the consumer of the Component and/or whether they require the consumer of the Component to fulfill some sort of Service Provider Interface (SPI).

Questions

What is the main difference between a Library and a Framework?