

The Component-and-Connector viewtype styles

- ❑ Elements, Relations and Properties for the Component-and-Connector viewtype
- ❑ Pipe-and-Filter Style
- ❑ Data-Centered Style
- ❑ Publish-Subscribe Style
- ❑ Client-Server Style
- ❑ Peer-to-Peer Style
- ❑ Communicating-Processes Style

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Elements, Relations and Properties

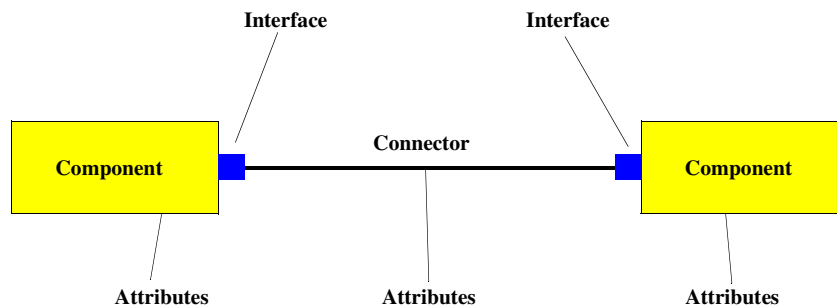
- ❑ An architectural of a system includes
 - Components - elements
where the computation is performed:
objects, filters, databases
 - Connectors - relations
performs the interaction among components:
procedure calls, pipes, event broadcast
 - Attributes properties
gives information for analysis and design:
signatures, pre/post conditions
- ❑ An architectural style defines a family of architectures constrained by
 - Component/connector definitions
 - Topology rules
 - Semantic constraints

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Architectural Elements

Ref: Stephen H. Kaisler: Software Paradigms, Wiley, 2005.



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Components

- ❑ Basic building blocks
 - active computational entities in a system.
 - communicates with its environment through one or more **ports** or **interfaces**
- ❑ A port may be
 - a user interface,
 - a shared variable,
 - a procedure name that can be called by another component,
 - a set of events that can be emitted,
 - or some other mechanism

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Attributes

- Attributes of the component specify information for analysis and development of the software:
 - protocols
 - real-time constraints
 - behavioral constraints

Connectors

- Connectors define the interaction between components.
- A connector
 - links the ports of two or more components
 - has a Role attached to it as an attribute that describes the behavior of the attached components, e.g. source and receiver in an unidirectional communication.
 - can have other attributes:
 - rates
 - capacities
 - latencies

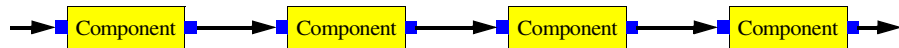
Interfaces

- A component
 - defines an interface through which a component links one component with another.
 - might have multiple interfaces.
- An interface
 - is associated with one and only one component
 - may connect to multiple interfaces in other components
 - may have attributes, e.g.
 - direction of communication
 - buffering capacity
 - protocols accepted

Configuration

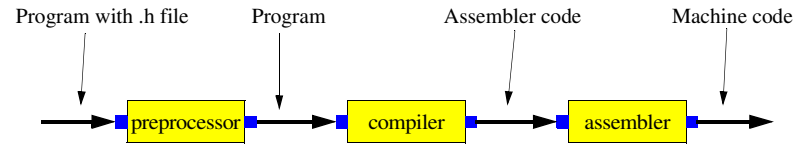
- A configuration (topology) is a connected graph of components and connectors describing architectural structure.
- The configuration must:
 - adhere to the rules for proper connectivity
 - satisfy concurrent and distributed properties
 - adhere to constraints such as design heuristics and style rules. e.g. end-to-end connectivity may not be longer than four components.
- Configuration is analyzed for:
 - performance
 - bottlenecks
 - concurrency
 - system reliability
 - security

Pipe-and-Filter Style



- Data flows from one process to the next, through a series of processes that do operations on the data.
- Each component is isolated from performance of upstream component,
 - Different speeds is taken care of by buffers.
might lead to **overflow error**
- Components may be memoryless (no internal state preserved).
Only memoryless components can be replaced at runtime.
- The availability of data controls the computation process.
- Data centered: **what** to compute (not how).
- Data flows from one process to the next, through a series of processes that do operations on the data.

Pipe-and-Filter Example — A Compiler



- In UNIX this will be implemented as:

```
pp | cc | as defs.h program.c
```

where

- `pp` is the pre-processor
- `cc1` is the first step of the compiler - lexical analysis
- `cc2` is the second step of the compiler
- `as` is the assembler

Pipes and Filters Systems

- data sets are processed in discrete, separable stages.
- each stage is represented by a component.
- each component operates on the entire data set and passes the results to next stage.
the component act as a filter.
- connectors serves as links
act as pipes

Filters

- Basic activities:
 - enrich input data
add data, e.g. from a data store or computed values
 - refine input data
delete or sort data
 - transform input data
e.g. from one type to another
- Two types of Filter:
 - Active Filter
drives the data flow
 - Passive Filter
driven by the dataflow

In a Pipes and Filters Architecture at least one of the filters must be active.
This active filter can be the environment, e.g. user input.

Filters cont.

- ❑ If the input filter is active:
 - A push system
- ❑ If the output filter is active:
 - A pull system

Pipes

- ❑ A Pipe
 - transfers data from one data source to one data sink
 - may implement a (bounded/unbounded) buffer
 - may connect
 - two threads of a single process
 - may contain references to shared language objects
 - two processes on a single host computer
 - may contain references to shared operating systems objects (e.g. files)
 - two processes on any host computer
 - distributed system

Pipes and Filters — Properties

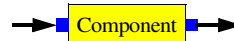
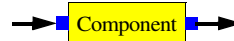
- ❑ Pure data-driven interaction.
- ❑ Each component has a set of inputs and a set of outputs.
- ❑ Data transmitted as a whole between Filters.
- ❑ Filters are independent programs that can be recombined freely to build family of systems.
- ❑ Each transformation step is completed before the next step starts.
- ❑ Filters ignore identity of other filters.

Pipes and Filters — Composition Rules

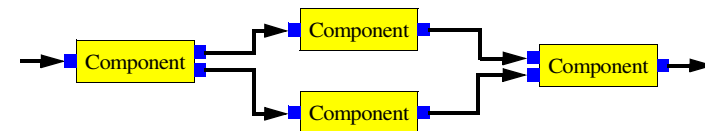
- ❑ Sequential Composition
UNIX: F1 | F2



- ❑ Parallel Composition
UNIX: F1 & F2

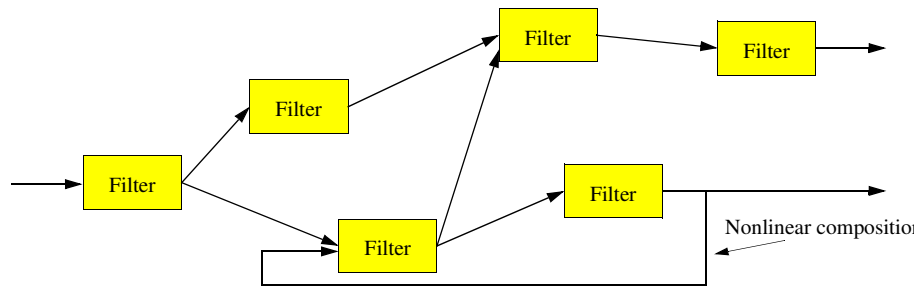


Tee and Join



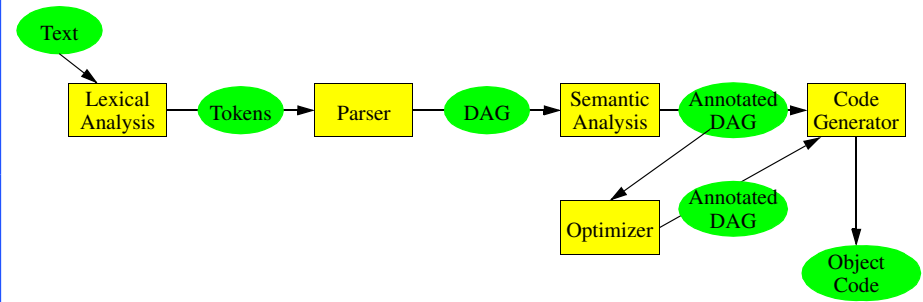
- ❑ Restricted to Linear Composition (not all agree with this!)

Pipes and Filters — General Topology



Pipes and Filters — Example

- A compiler

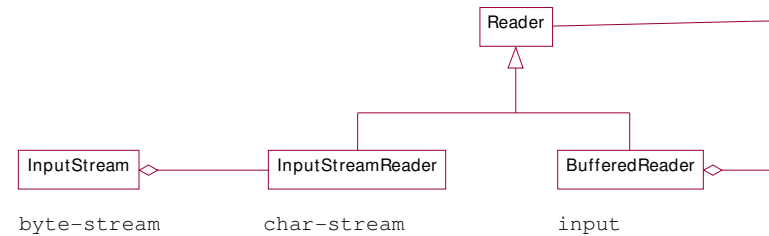


Pipes and Filters — Other examples

- Radar Tracking System
- Excel spreadsheets
- Shell scripts
- In Java: The Decorator Design Pattern for files.

Java: The Decorator Design Pattern for files

- Java I/O: Reading a file



```
BufferedReader input = new BufferedReader
(
    new InputStreamReader(System.In)
);
```

What are **NOT** Pipe-and-Filter Systems

- ❑ File-sharing systems
- ❑ CVS system
- ❑ Word processing

Pipes and Filters Systems

Advantages

- ❑ Easy to understand system input/output.
- ❑ Support for reuse
Any two filters can be hooked together provided they agree on data transmission.
- ❑ Easy maintenance:
 - new filters can be added
 - old filters can be replaced
- ❑ Throughput and deadlock analysis possible.
- ❑ Natural support for concurrency.
 - Different programs.
 - No shared memory.

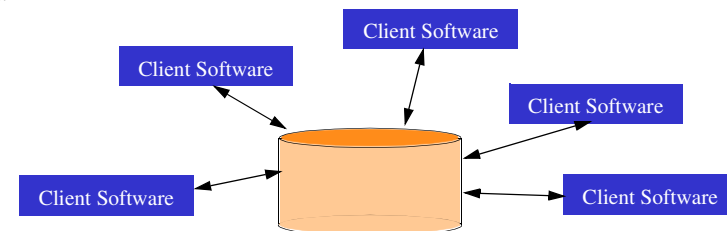
Pipes and Filters Systems

Disadvantages

- ❑ Filter ordering crucial.
- ❑ Multiple I/O:
 - difficult to maintain correspondence between two separate but related streams.
 - difference in arrival data rate might impose a performance bottleneck.

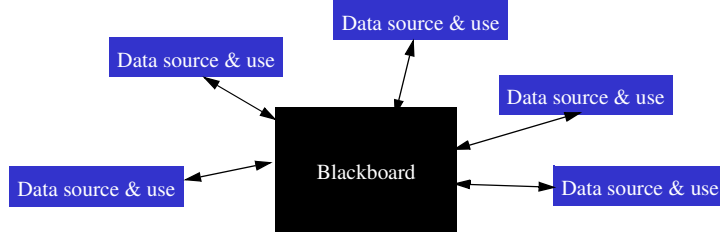
Data-Centered Style

- ❑ Data-centered systems use a central data store to store all problem-related information.
 - Database
 - Blackboard
 - Repository
 - ...



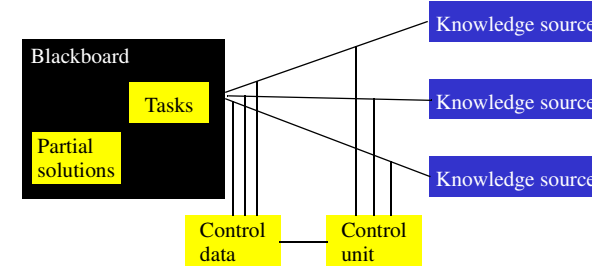
Blackboard System

- ❑ A Blackboard is a database into which a process can insert, retrieve, or remove data.



Blackboard System

- ❑ Allows multiple processes to communicate by reading and writing information and requests to a global data store.
- ❑ Each participating process has expert knowledge in its own field and some knowledge of how to solve the problem. A problem can not be solved by one process alone.
- ❑ Processes communicate strictly through the common blackboard whose content is visible to all processes.
- ❑ A **control unit** is responsible for selecting an appropriate process to solve it.



Blackboard System

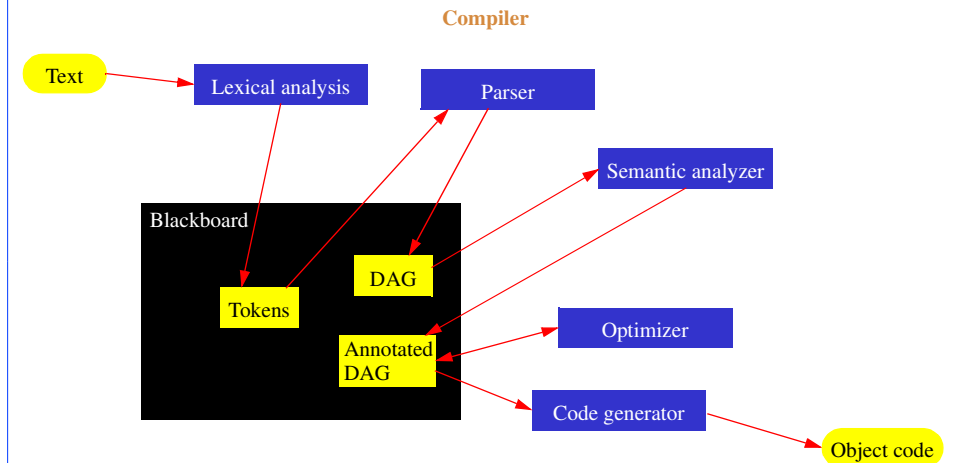
Advantages

- ❑ Suitable when there are diverse sources of data.
- ❑ Suitable for physically distributed environments.
- ❑ Suitable for scheduling and postponement of tasks and decisions.
- ❑ Suitable for team problem-solving approaches.
 - Posting of problem subcomponents and partial results.

Disadvantages

- ❑ Expensiveness.
- ❑ Difficult to determine partition of knowledge
- ❑ Control unit can be very complex.

Blackboard System — Example



- ❑ Compare with the Pipe and Filter solution!

Data Centered Style

Advantages

- ❑ **Data Integrity:** Data is entered at one place. No risk for duplicates.
- ❑ **Design Reuse:** Accurate, reliable data are available when needed.
- ❑ **View-Generation:** Alternate views of the data are facilitated by a single source of data.
- ❑ **Process Flexibility:** The data management process is not constrained to application usage or sequence.
- ❑ **Data Interaction Independent of Application:** Data can be accessed by the user through multiple applications.
- ❑ **Scalability:** The database can grow when needed.

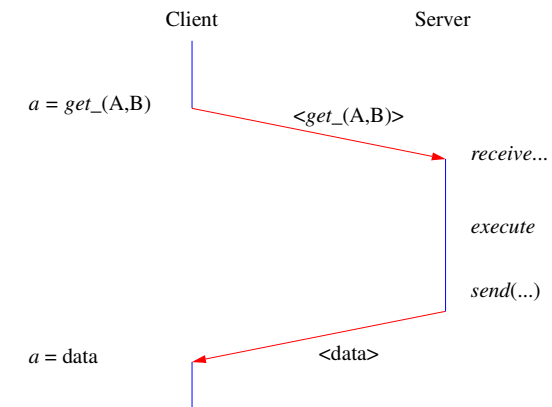
Publish-Subscribe Style

- ❑ Elements:
 - Component types: Independent C&C components that publish and/or subscribes to events.
 - Connector types: publish-subscribe
- ❑ An arbitrary number
 - call-back
- ❑ Example:
 - Observer design pattern

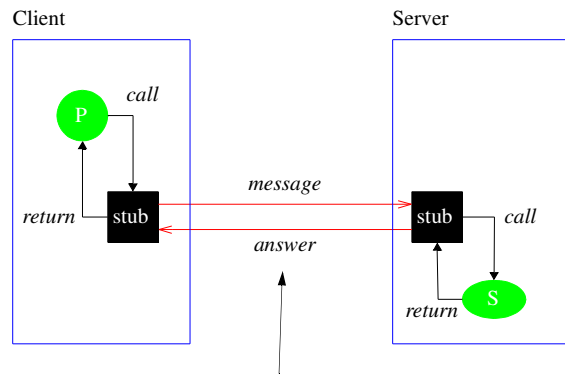
Client-Server Style

- ❑ A **Server** provides different services.
- ❑ A **Client** uses the services as (remote) subroutines from one or more Servers.
- ❑ The Server might be a Client to another Server.
- ❑ A variant of the Main Program and Subroutines **but** the clients and servers
 - are implemented as separate entities (processes),
 - might be situated at different processors, and
 - can be implemented in another style (most often some variant of object oriented style).
- ❑ The mechanism for calling a server is called Remote Procedure Call, RPC.
 - This will require a **protocol**.

Remote Procedure Call



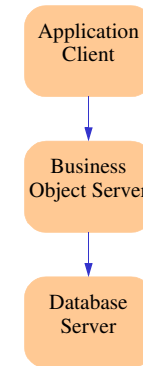
Remote Procedure Call



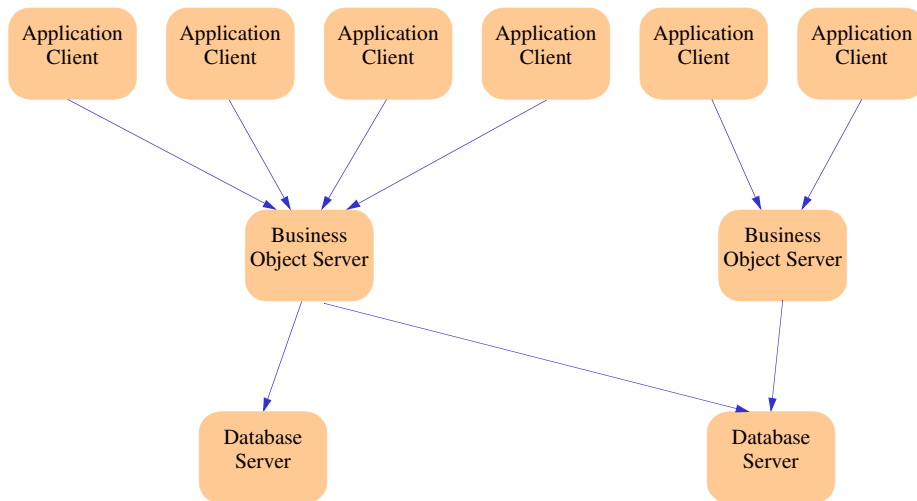
The data formats and special events (e.g. exceptions) must be standardized here

Client-Server Systems

- ❑ 3-tier: Functionality divided into three logical partitions:
 - Application services
 - Business services
 - Data services



Client-Server Systems (3-tier)



Client-Server Systems

- ❑ **Fat Client**
more functionality placed in the client.
- ❑ **Fat Server**
more functionality placed in the server.
- ❑ There can be many versions of this:
 - all business services in the client
 - part of business services in the client
 - only GUI in client.

Client-Server Systems

Stateless vs. Stateful Servers

- ❑ Information about the Client state can be maintained in the Server.
- ❑ Stateful:
Information about the Client state is maintained by the Server.
 - Might be useful if there is multiple messages sent to the server.
 - The information in messages can be reduced.
 - Security might be easier to implement.
 - But can lead to complex protocols and error handling.
- ❑ Stateless:
Information about the Client state is not maintained by the Server.
 - The normal solution if there is only service requests that are independent of each other and only use a single message each.
 - Simple protocols and error handling must be performed by the client.
 - If it is used for multiple dependant requests the server must rely on the client that is doing right.
 - Security problem. e.g. NFS protocol.

Client-Server Systems

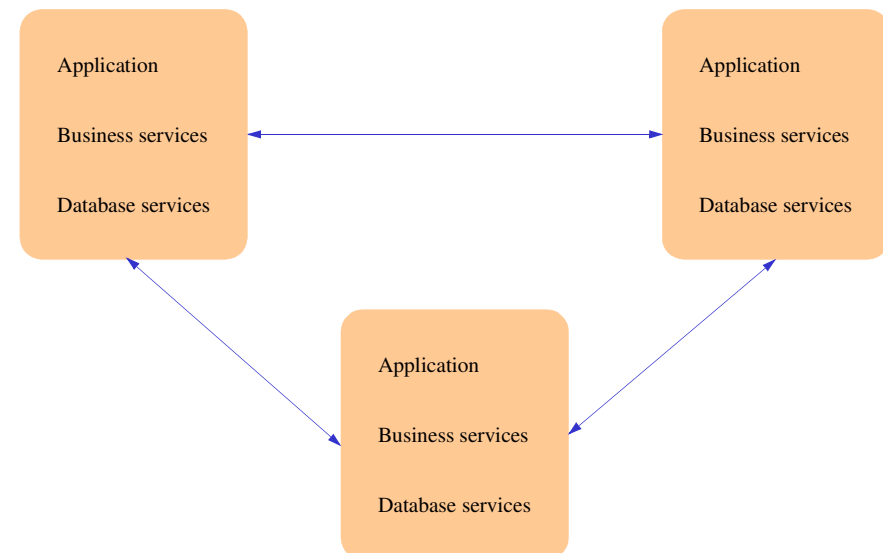
Issues

- ❑ When designing client-server systems the following must be considered:
 - Authentication:
Verifying the identity of the client **and** the server.
 - Authorization:
verifying the rights/privileges of the client.
 - Data security:
Protect the data stored on the server.
 - Protection:
Protect the server from malfunctioning clients.
 - Middleware:
How to connect the clients to the server.

Peer-to-Peer Style

- ❑ Peer-to-Peer Systems, P2P are
 - like Client-Server but all processes can be both clients and servers.
 - more flexible but also more complicated there might occur:
 - deadlock
 - starvation

Peer-to-Peer Systems



Communicating-Processes Style

- Generally communicating processes
- Distributed systems
- Concurrent operations.
- No common memory
 - Synchronization problems
- All big systems are more or less distributed!

Distributed Systems

Advantages

- Computing power follows physical reality.
- Sharing of data and computing power.
- Modular extension of the system.
 - simple installation of units (step wise)
- Simpler support
- Increased availability:
Can be used for achieving:
 - Fault Tolerance.
 - Reliability.
 - Performance - processor grid

Distributed Systems

Disadvantages

- Expensive to develop
 - Synchronization problems
- Performs problems
 - Computer Communication delay