

Software Architecture

as Code



Simon Brown
@simonbrown

...the architecture
diagrams don't
match the code



Kristijan | Криштиџн

@Krishtidzn

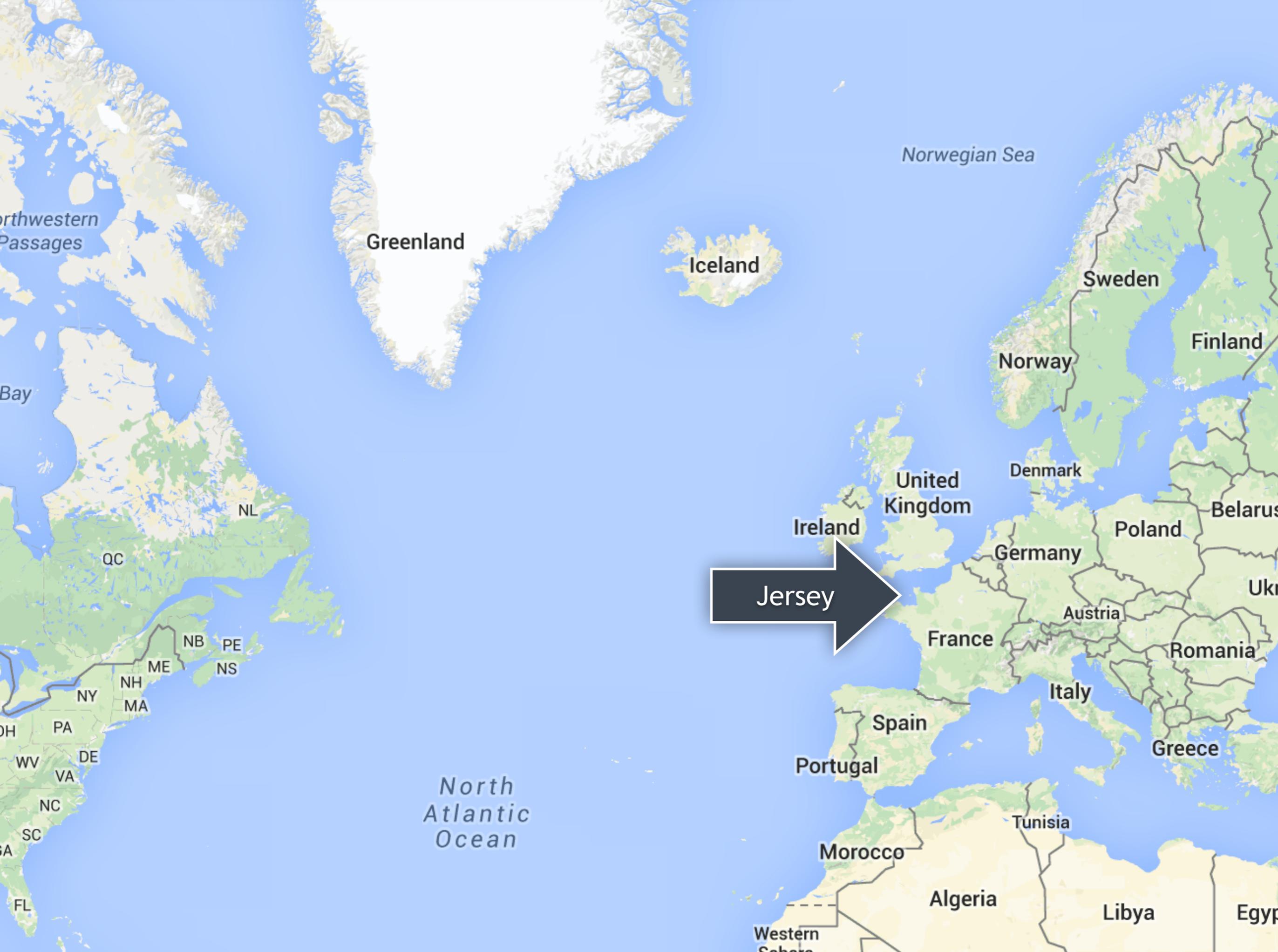


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Any recommendations for software for drawing software architecture but not MS Visio?



11:11 AM - 16 Apr 2015



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Finland

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Poland

Belarus

Ukraine

Jersey

Germany

Austria

Romania

France

Italy

Greece

Spain

Portugal

Tunisia

Morocco

Algeria

Libya

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Northwestern Passages

Bay

NL

QC

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NS

ME

NH

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NY

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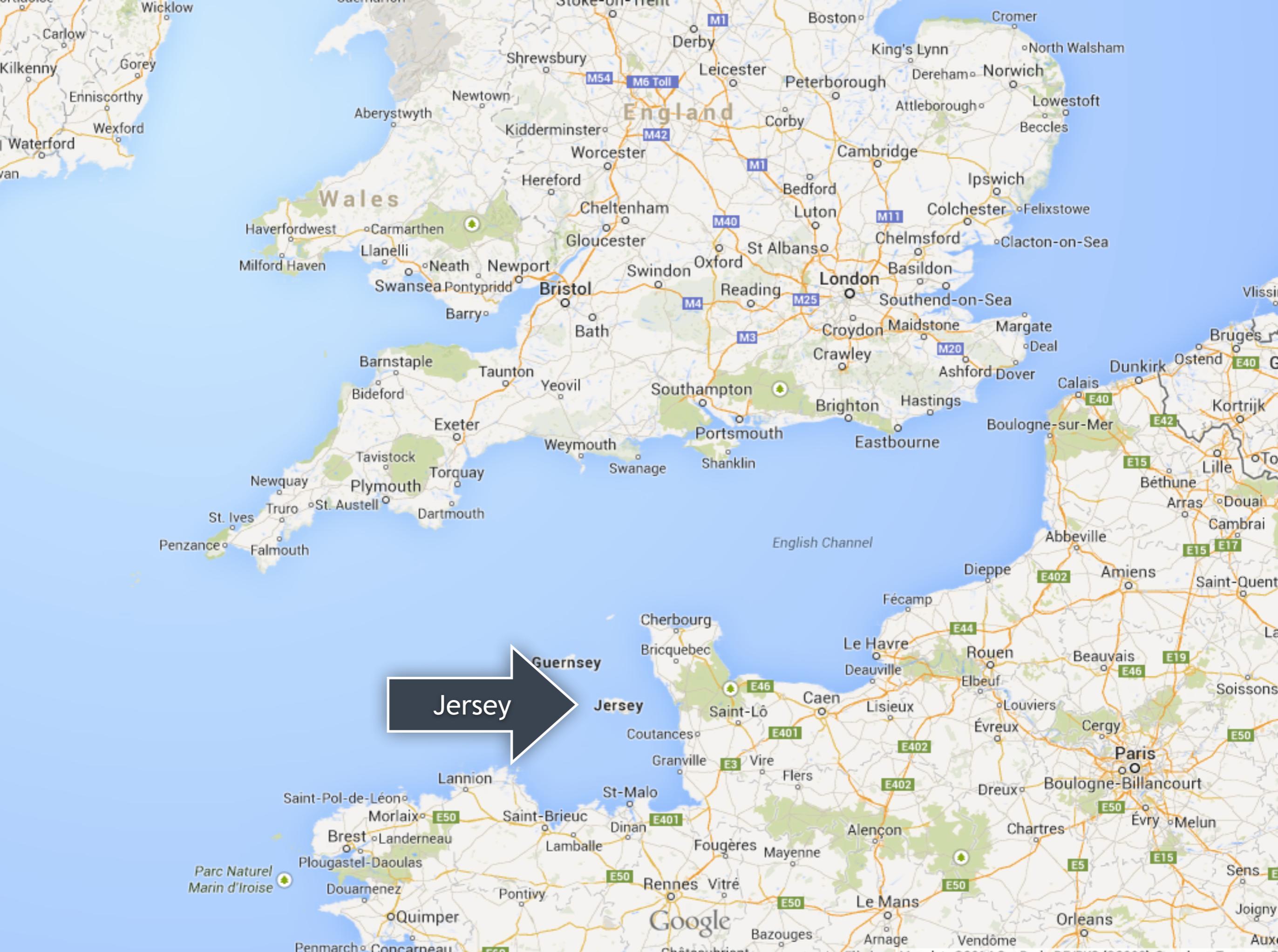
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Jersey

St Ouen

Trinity

St Martin

St Helier

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A8

Flaman



I help software teams understand
software architecture,
technical leadership and
the balance with agility



Software architecture
needs to be more

accessible

coding
(the)
architecture

Software Architecture *for Developers*

Technical leadership by `coding`, coaching,
collaboration, *architecture sketching*
and just enough up front design

Simon Brown



Leanpub

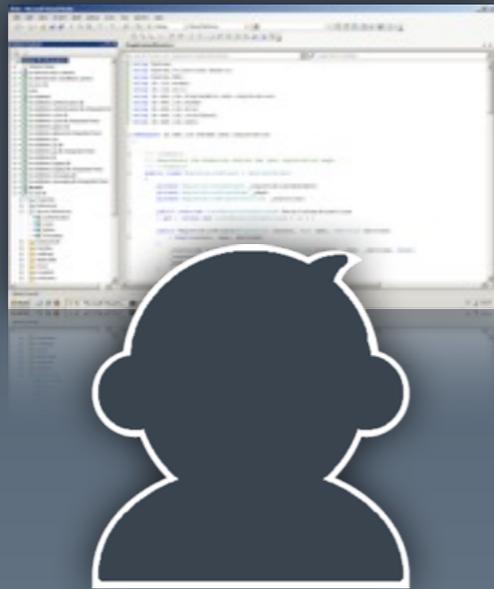
coding
(the)
architecture

The Art of *Visualising* Software Architecture

Communicating software architecture with
sketches, diagrams and the C4 model

Simon Brown

Free!



I code too



The intersection between

software

architecture

and

code

The tension between software architecture and code

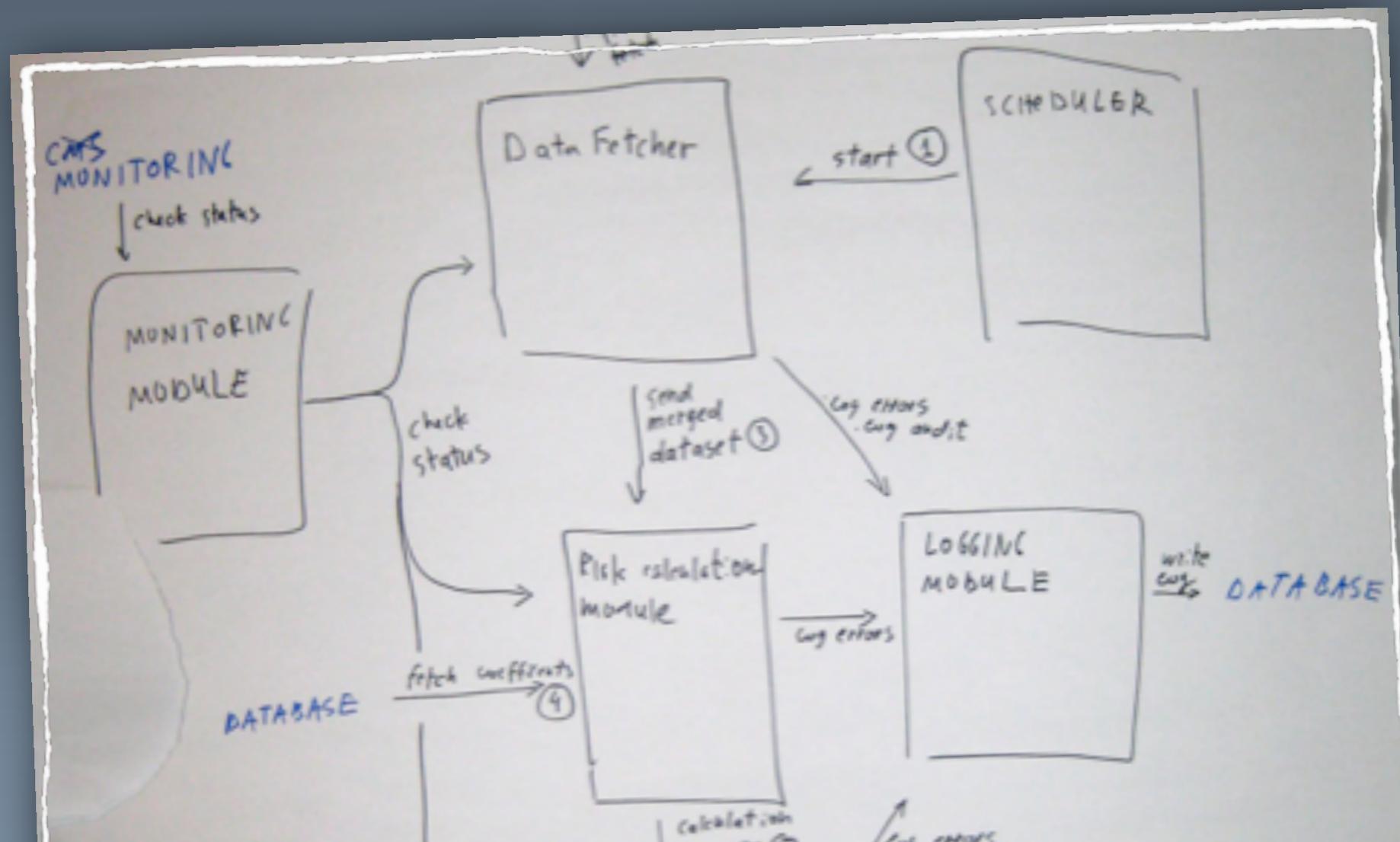
How do we

communicate

software architecture?

Abstraction

is about reducing detail rather than creating a different representation



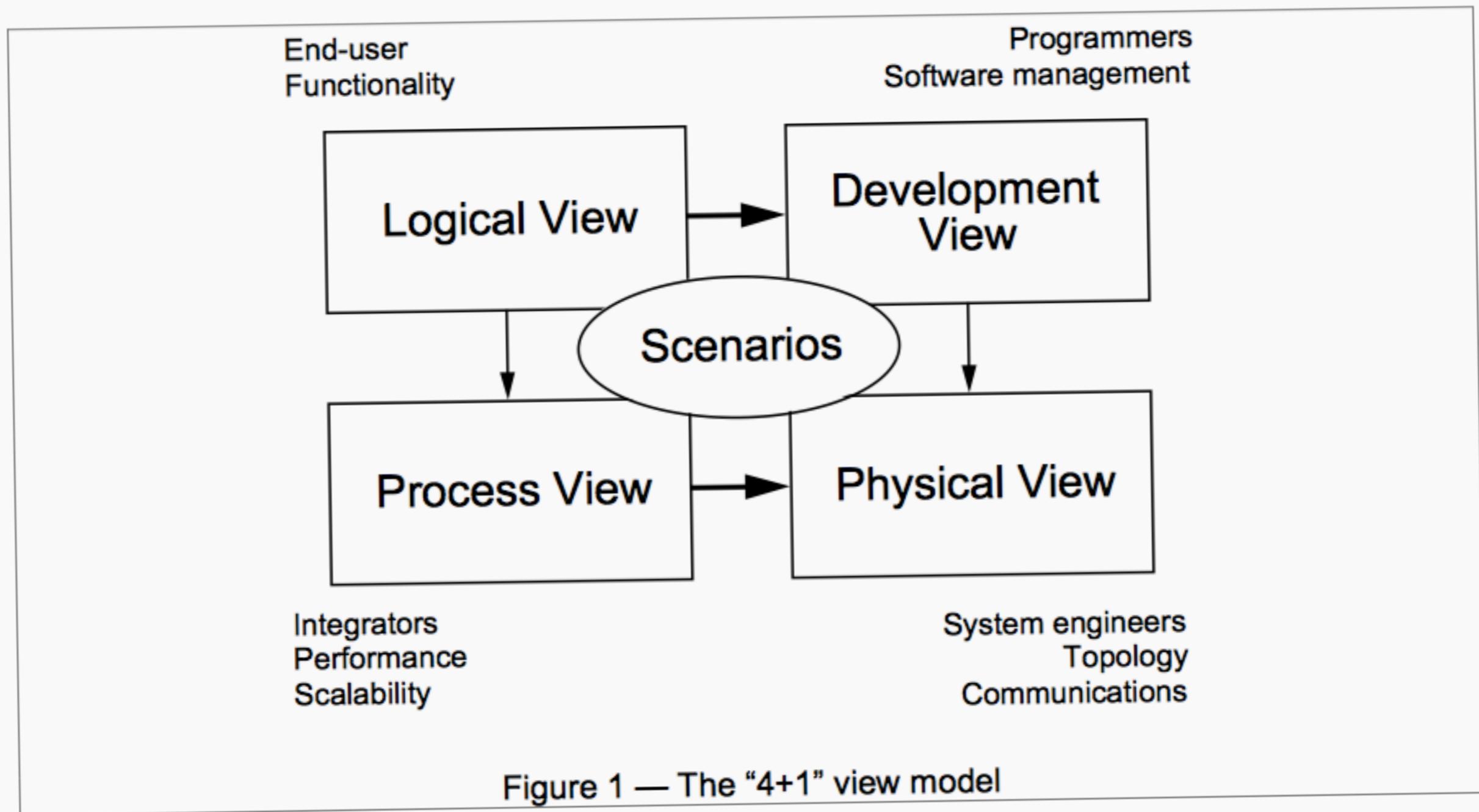
Abstractions help us
reason about
a big and/or complex
software system

Software architecture deals with abstraction, with decomposition and composition, with style and esthetics.

To describe a software architecture, we use a model composed of multiple views or perspectives.

Architectural Blueprints—The “4+1” View Model of Software Architecture
by Philippe Kruchten

The description of an architecture—the decisions made—can be organized around these four views, and then illustrated by a few selected *use cases*, or *scenarios* which become a fifth view. The architecture is in fact partially evolved from these scenarios as we will see later.



We apply Perry & Wolf's equation independently on each view, i.e., for each view we define the set of elements to use (components, containers, and connectors), we capture the forms and patterns that work, and we capture the rationale and constraints, connecting the architecture to some of the requirements.

Do the **names**
of those views make sense?

Conceptual vs Logical

Process vs Functional

Development vs Physical

Development vs Implementation

Physical vs Implementation

Physical vs Deployment

Logical and
development

views are often

separated

Would we

code

it that way?

Did we

code

it that way?

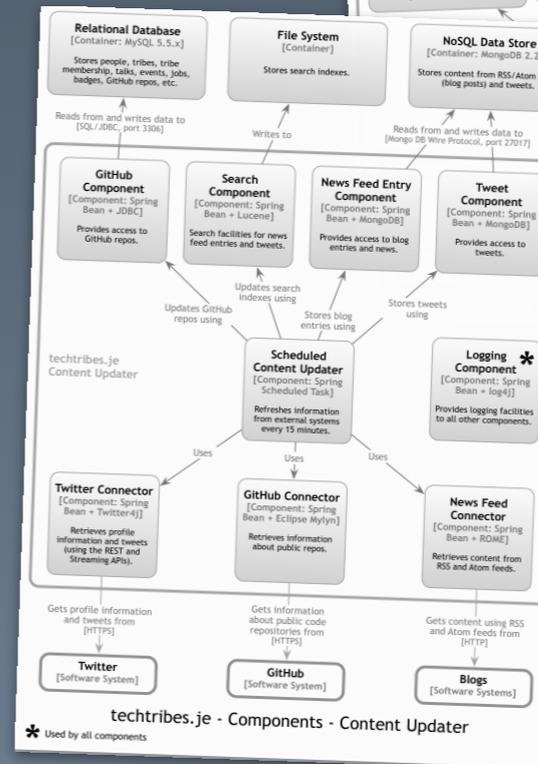
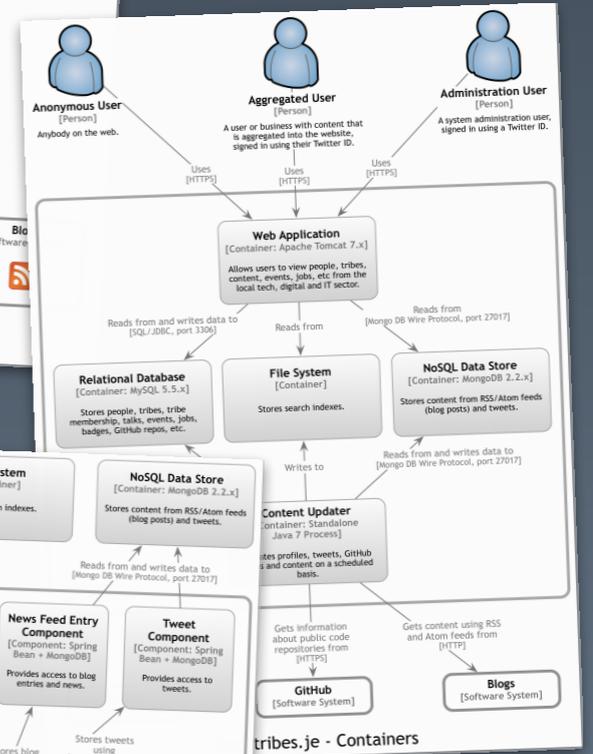
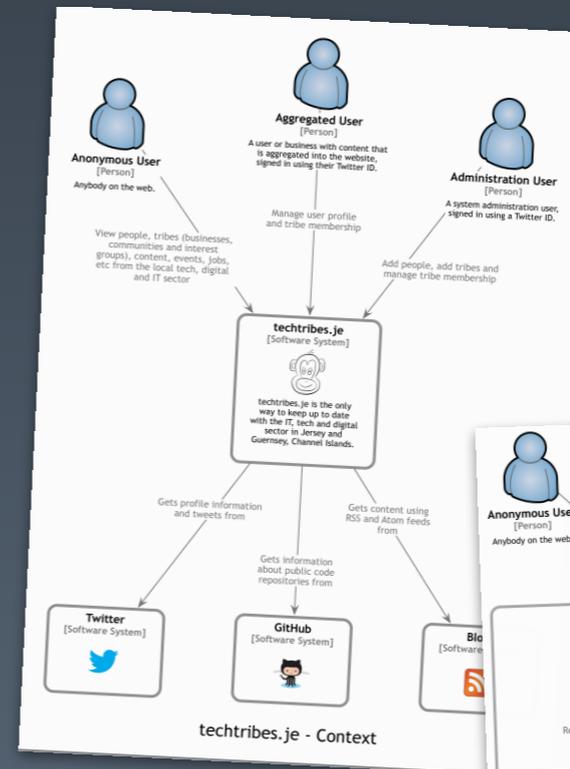
As an industry, **we lack a**
common vocabulary
with which to think about, describe
and communicate software architecture



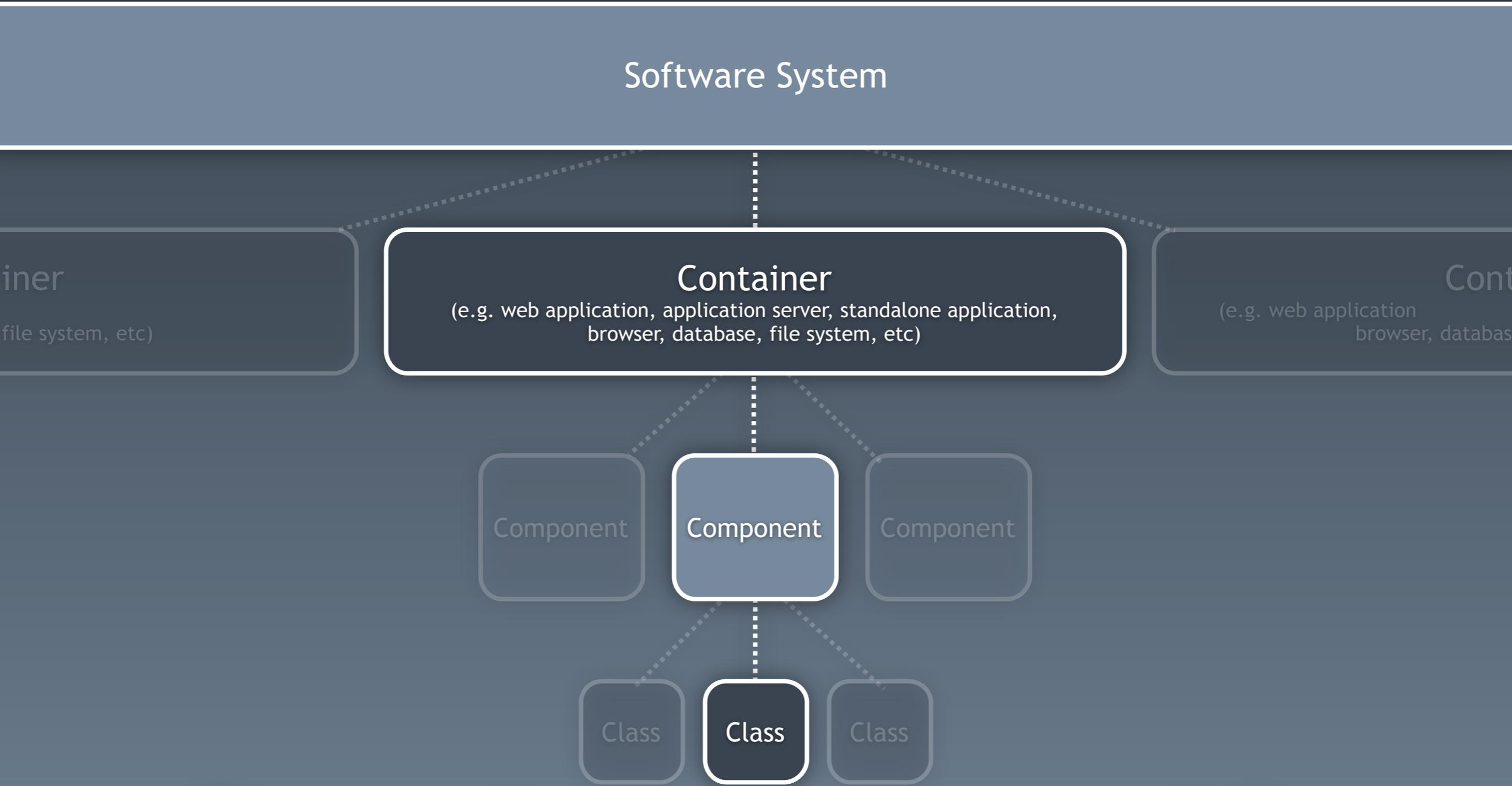
9 out of 10 people
don't use UMI

(in my experience)

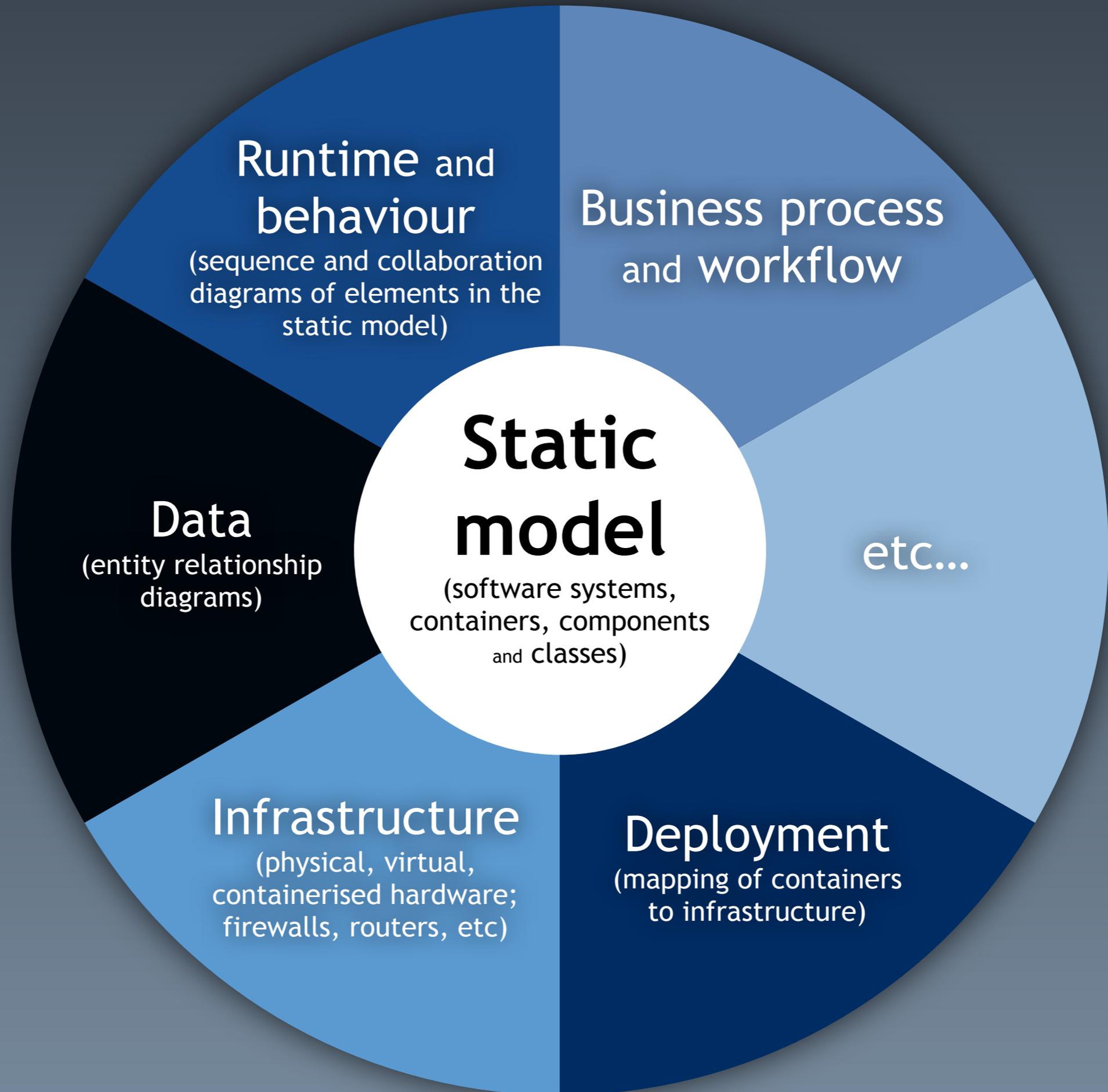
A common set of
abstractions
is more important than
a common notation



Diagrams are maps that help a team navigate a complex codebase



A **software system** is made up of one or more **containers**,
each of which contains one or more **components**,
which in turn are implemented by one or more **classes**.



C4++

Enterprise context

User interface mockups and wireframes

Domain model

Sequence and collaboration diagrams

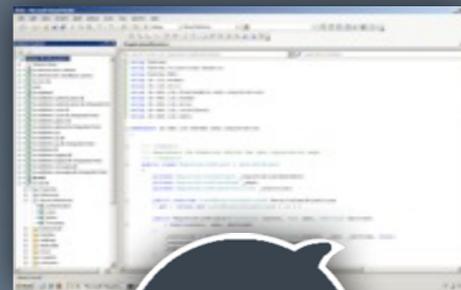
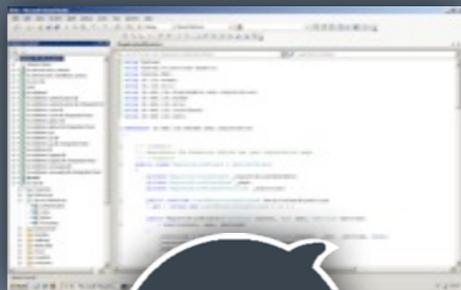
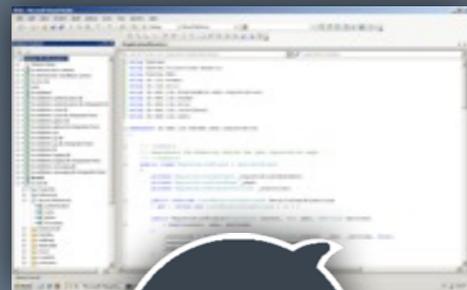
Business process and workflow models

Infrastructure model

Deployment model

...

Software developers are
the most important
stakeholders
of software architecture



Context diagram

(level 1)

Container diagram

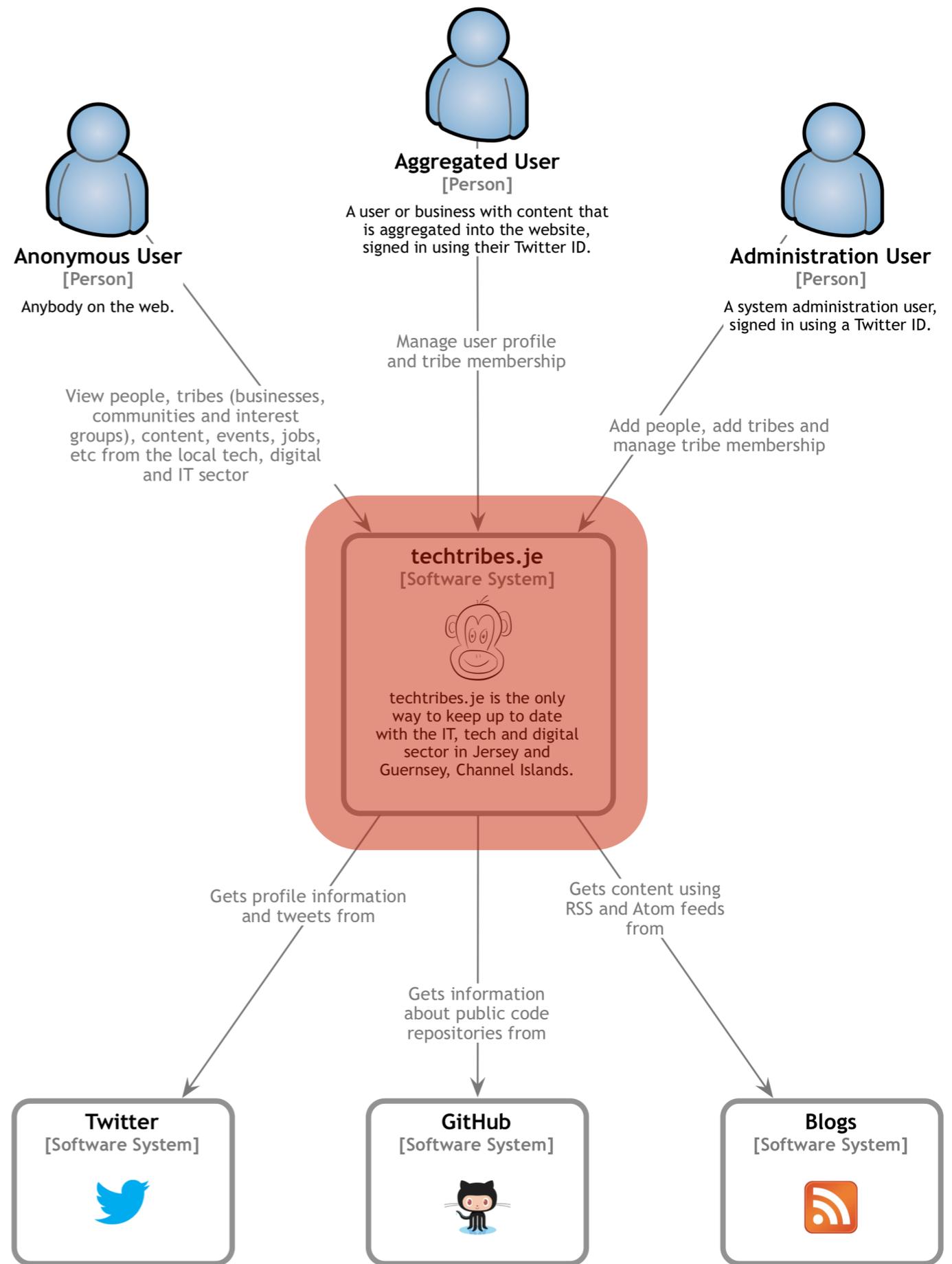
(level 2)

Component diagram

(level 3)

Class diagram

(level 4)



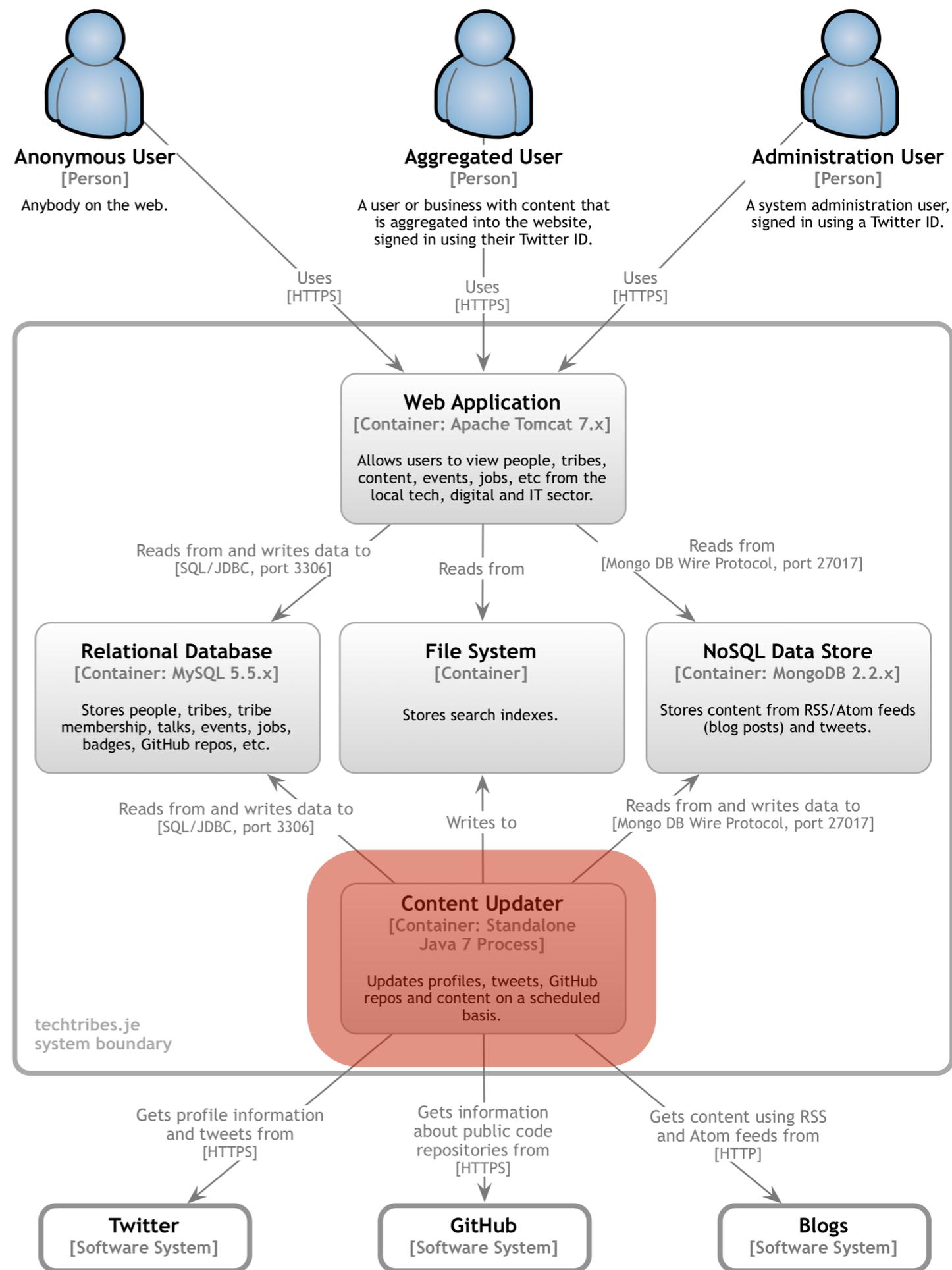
techtribes.je - Context

Context diagram
(level 1)

Container diagram (level 2)

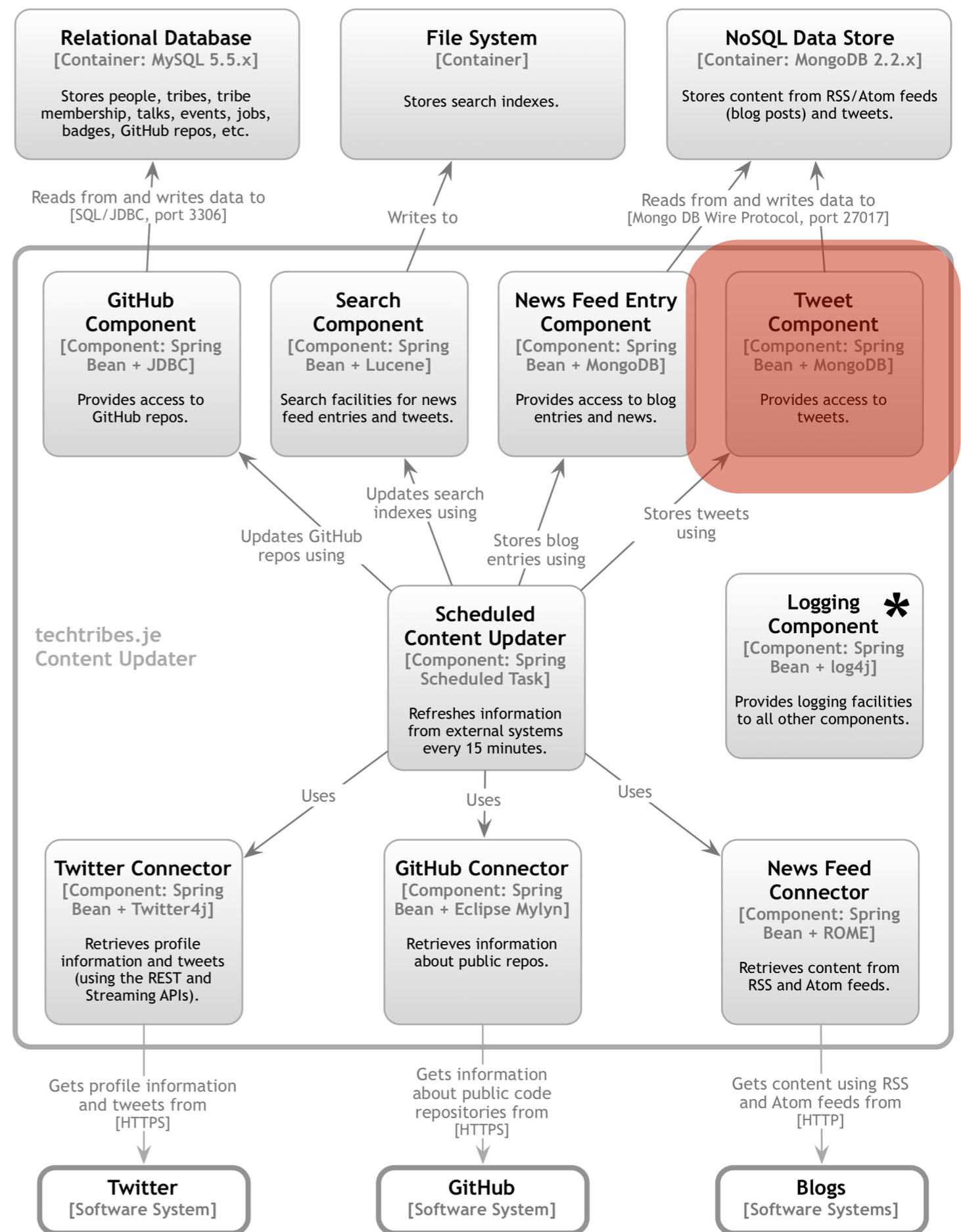
Component diagram
(level 3)

Class diagram
(level 4)



Component diagram

(level 3)



techtribes.je - Components - Content Updater

* Used by all components

Context
diagram

(level 1)

Container
diagram

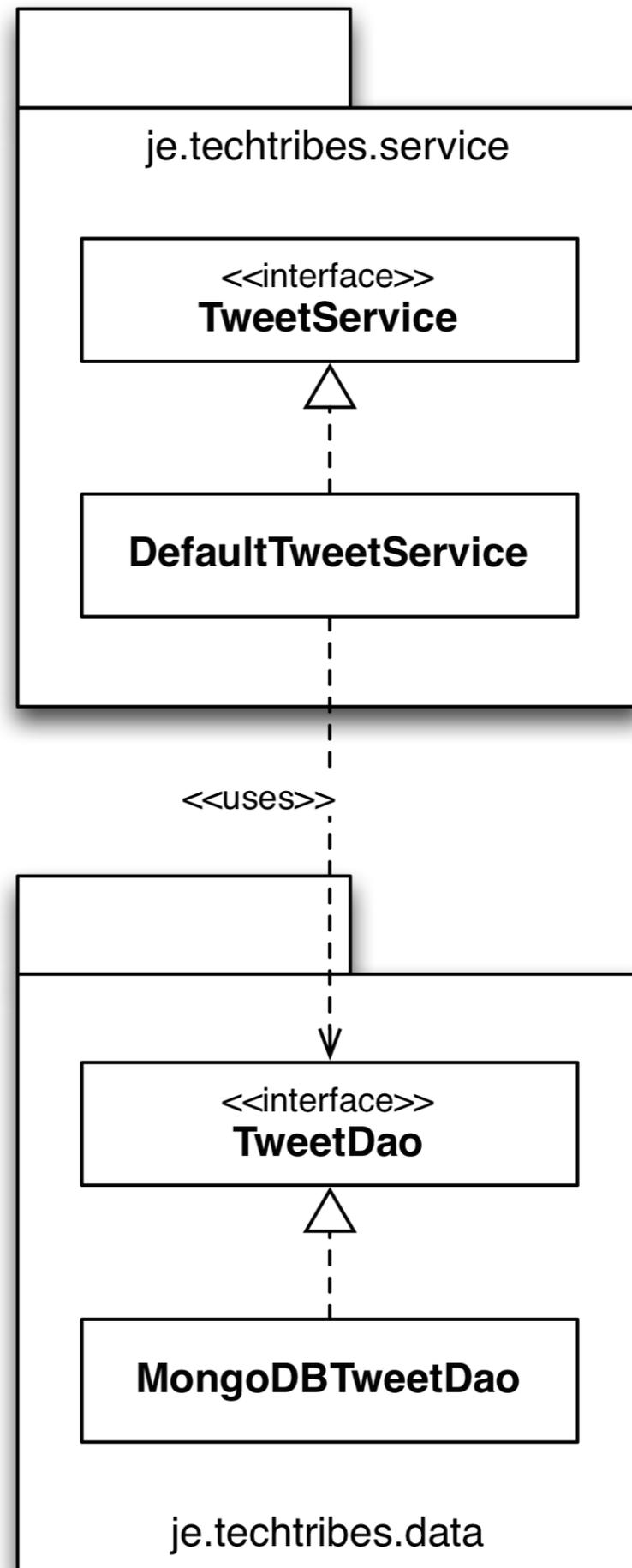
(level 2)

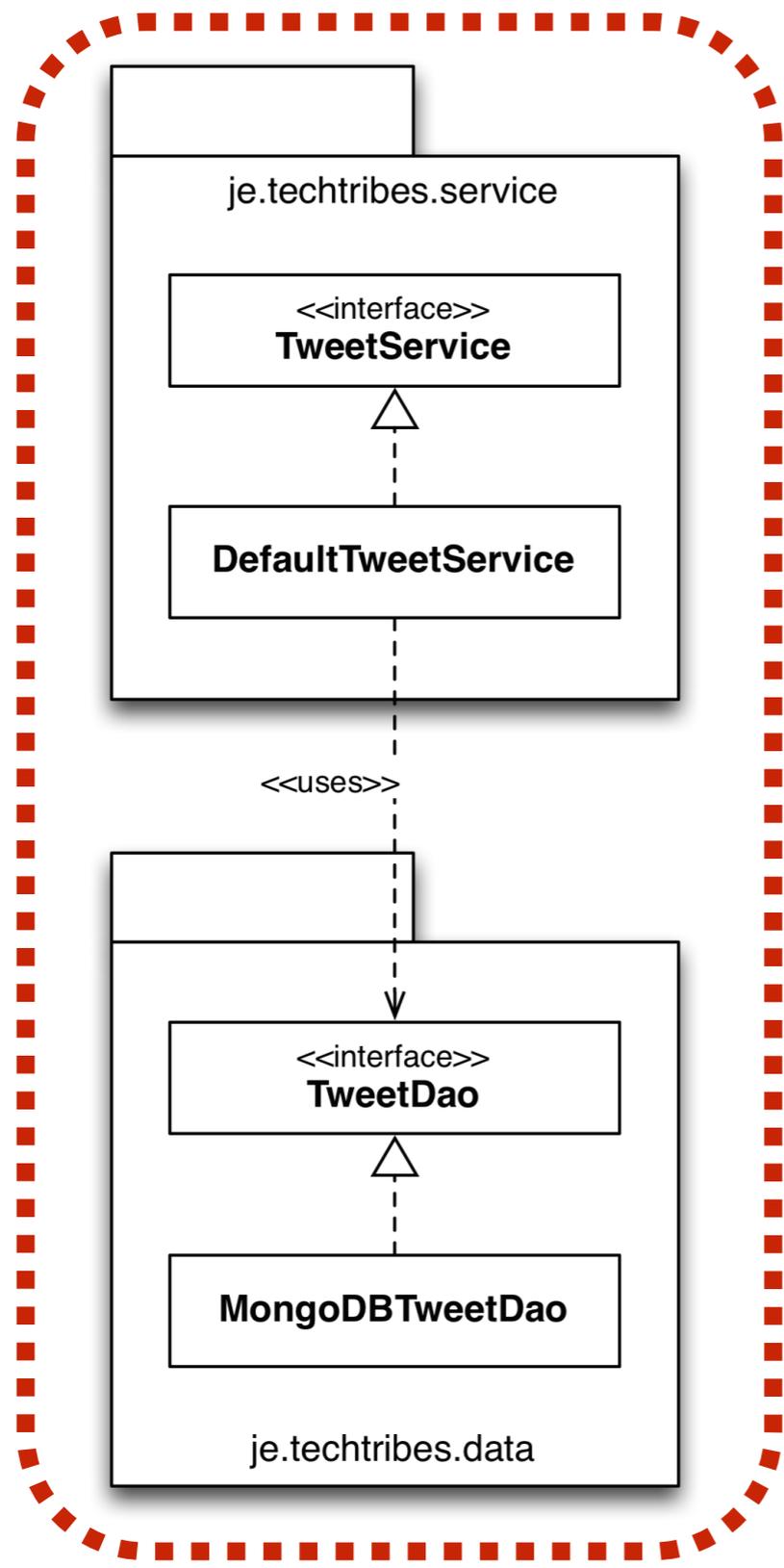
Component
diagram

(level 3)

Class
diagram

(level 4)

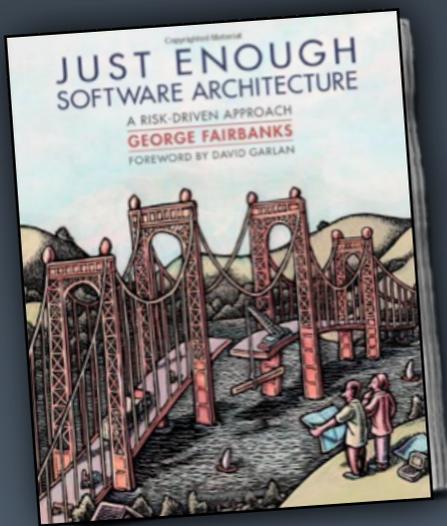




The
“Tweet Component”
doesn’t exist as a
single thing ...
it’s a combination of
interfaces and classes
across a layered
architecture

Where’s my component?

Does your code reflect the
abstractions
that you think about?



“the model-code gap”

Model-code gap. Your architecture models and your source code will not show the same things. The difference between them is the *model-code gap*. Your architecture models include some abstract concepts, like components, that your programming language does not, but could. Beyond that, architecture models include intensional elements, like design decisions and constraints, that cannot be expressed in procedural source code at all.

Consequently, the relationship between the architecture model and source code is complicated. It is mostly a refinement relationship, where the extensional elements in the architecture model are refined into extensional elements in source code. This is shown in Figure 10.3. However, intensional elements are not refined into corresponding elements in source code.

Upon learning about the model-code gap, your first instinct may be to avoid it. But reflecting on the origins of the gap gives little hope of a general solution in the short term: architecture models help you reason about complexity and scale because they are abstract and intensional; source code executes on machines because it is concrete and extensional.

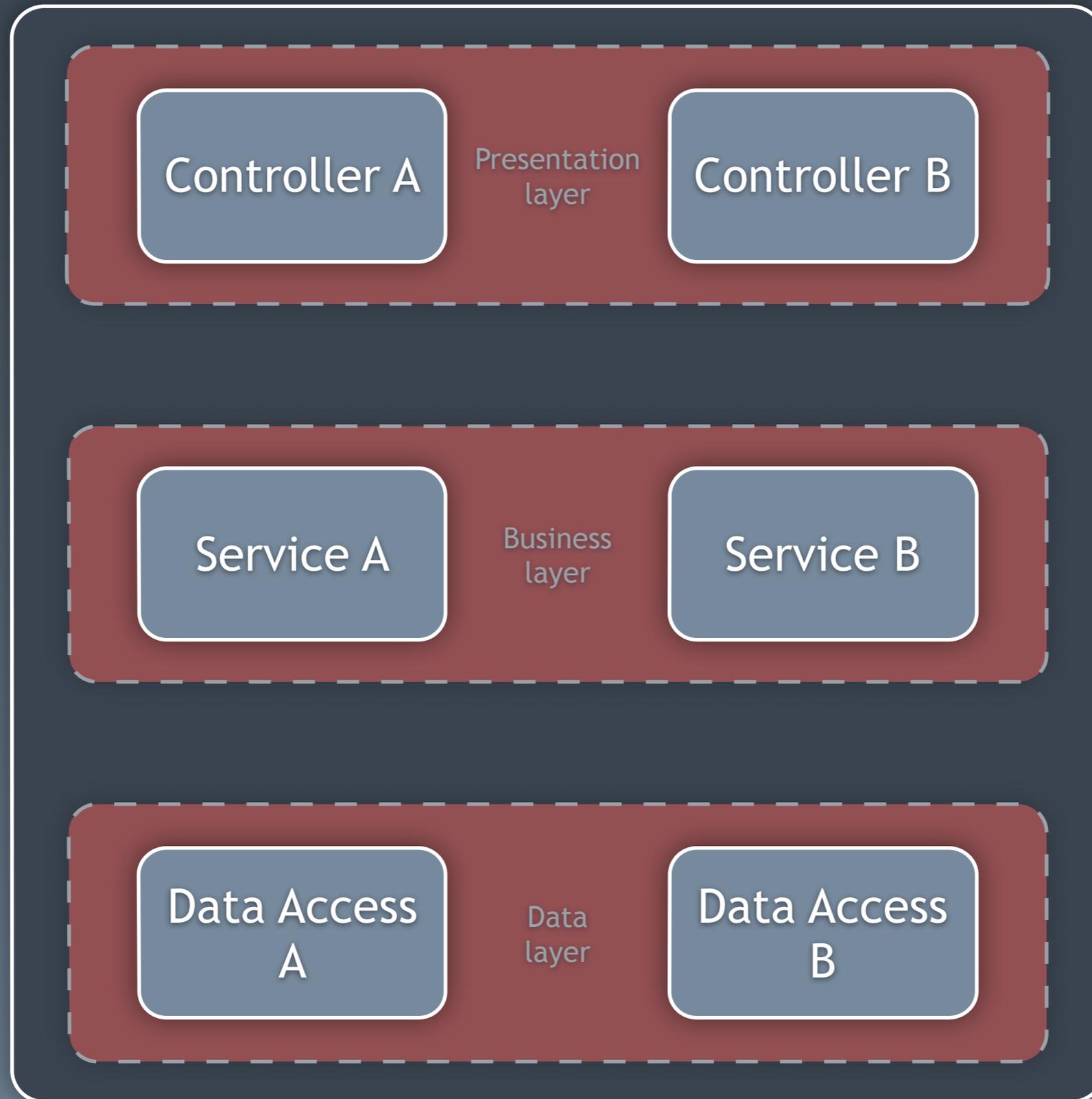
Organisation

of code

vs

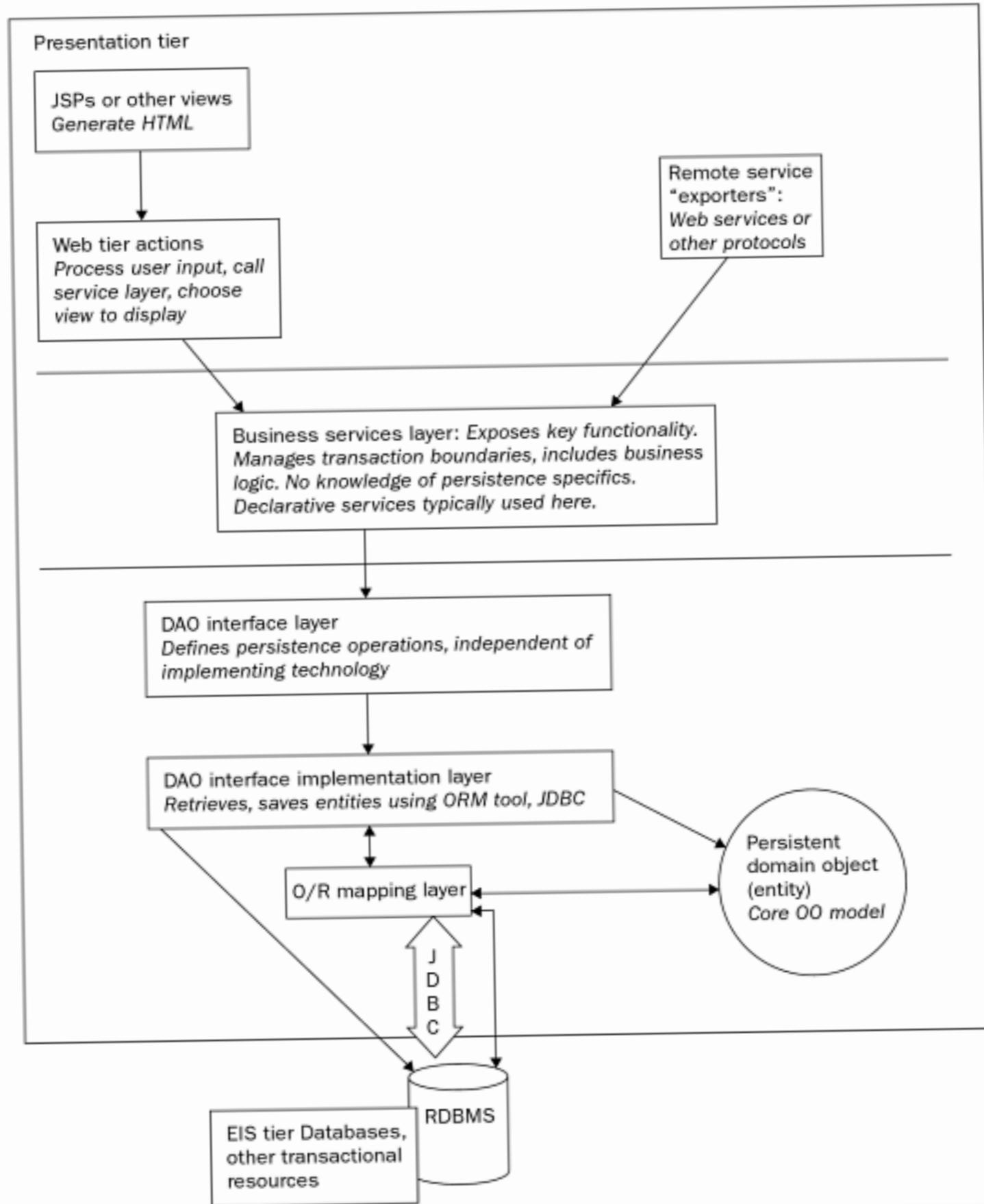
the architectural views

We often **think**
in **components**
but **write classes**
(usually in layers)



Package by layer (horizontal slicing)

Chapter 1



Let's summarize each layer and its responsibilities, beginning closest to the database or other enterprise resources:

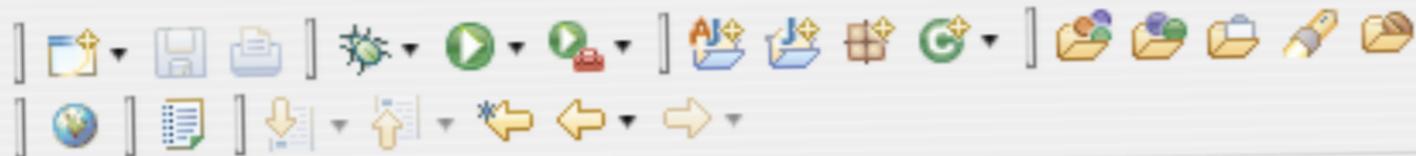
- ❑ **Presentation layer:** This is most likely to be a web tier. This layer should be as thin as possible. It should be possible to have alternative presentation layers — such as a web tier or remote web services facade — on a single, well-designed middle tier.
- ❑ **Business services layer:** This is responsible for transactional boundaries and providing an entry point for operations on the system as a whole. This layer should have no knowledge of presentation concerns, and should be reusable.
- ❑ **DAO interface layer:** This is a layer of interfaces *independent of any data access technology* that is used to find and persist persistent objects. This layer effectively consists of *Strategy* interfaces for the Business services layer. This layer should not contain business logic. Implementations of these interfaces will normally use an O/R mapping technology or Spring's JDBC abstraction.
- ❑ **Persistent domain objects:** These model real objects or concepts such as a bank account.
- ❑ **Databases and legacy systems:** By far the most common case is a single RDBMS. However, there may be multiple databases, or a mix of databases and other transactional or non-transactional legacy systems or other enterprise resources. The same fundamental architecture is applicable in either case. This is often referred to as the *EIS (Enterprise Information System)* tier.

In a J2EE application, all layers except the EIS tier will run in the application server or web container. Domain objects will typically be passed up to the presentation layer, which will display data they contain, *but not modify them*, which will occur only within the transactional boundaries defined by the business services layer. Thus there is no need for distinct Transfer Objects, as used in traditional J2EE architecture.

In the following sections we'll discuss each of these layers in turn, beginning closest to the database.

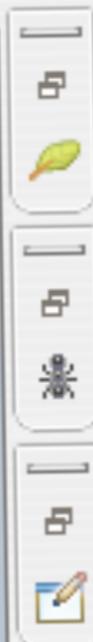
Spring aims to decouple architectural layers, so that each layer can be modified as

Spring aims to decouple architectural layers, so that each layer can be modified as far as possible without impacting other layers. No layer is aware of the concerns of the layer above; as far as possible, dependency is purely on the layer immediately below. Dependency between layers is normally in the form of interfaces, ensuring that coupling is as loose as possible.



Package Explorer x JUnit

- springapp
 - src
 - springapp.domain
 - Product.java
 - springapp.repository
 - JdbcProductDao.java
 - ProductDao.java
 - springapp.service
 - PriceIncrease.java
 - PriceIncreaseValidator.java
 - ProductManager.java
 - SimpleProductManager.java
 - springapp.web
 - test
 - JRE System Library [JVM 1.5.0 (MacOS X Default)]
 - Referenced Libraries
 - db
 - war
 - WEB-INF
 - classes
 - springapp
 - jdbc.properties
 - messages.properties
 - jsp
 - hello.jsp
 - include.jsp



1 Answer

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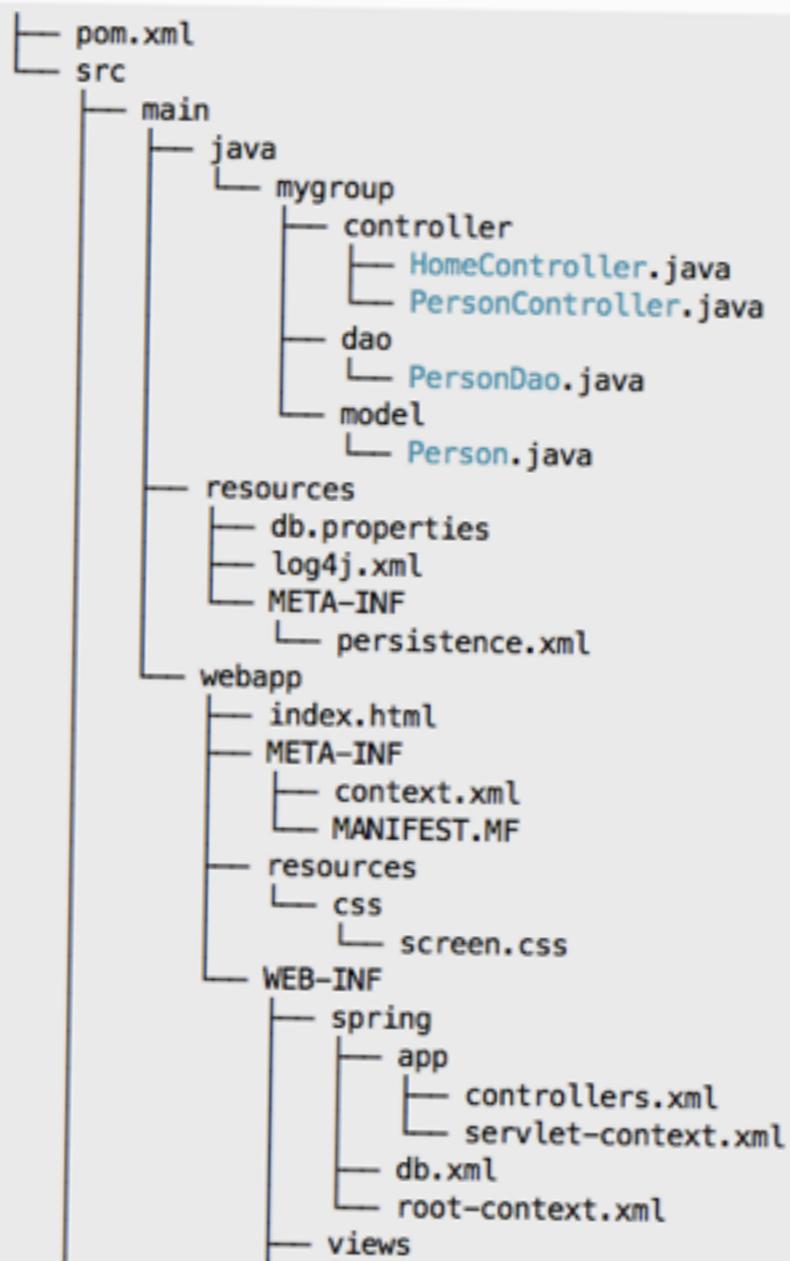


If you are using maven, it's best to follow the standard maven project layout. You can get maven to generate this structure for you by doing,

```
mvn archetype:generate
```

and select spring-mvc-jpa-archetype from the list of choices

This will give you a package structure like,



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- 0 package structure for Spring MVC project with multiple sub projects using maven
- 0 How to add a setup



HomeController.cs

MvcMovie.Controllers.HomeCont Index()

```
using System;
using System.Collections.Generic;
using System.Linq;
using System.Web;
using System.Web.Mvc;

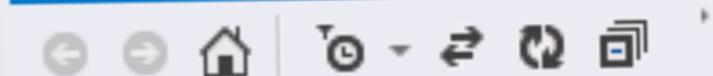
namespace MvcMovie.Controllers
{
    public class HomeController : Controller
    {
        public ActionResult Index()
        {
            ViewBag.Message = "Modify this template to create your app's home page."

            return View();
        }

        public ActionResult About()
        {
            ViewBag.Message = "Your app description here."

            return View();
        }
    }
}
```

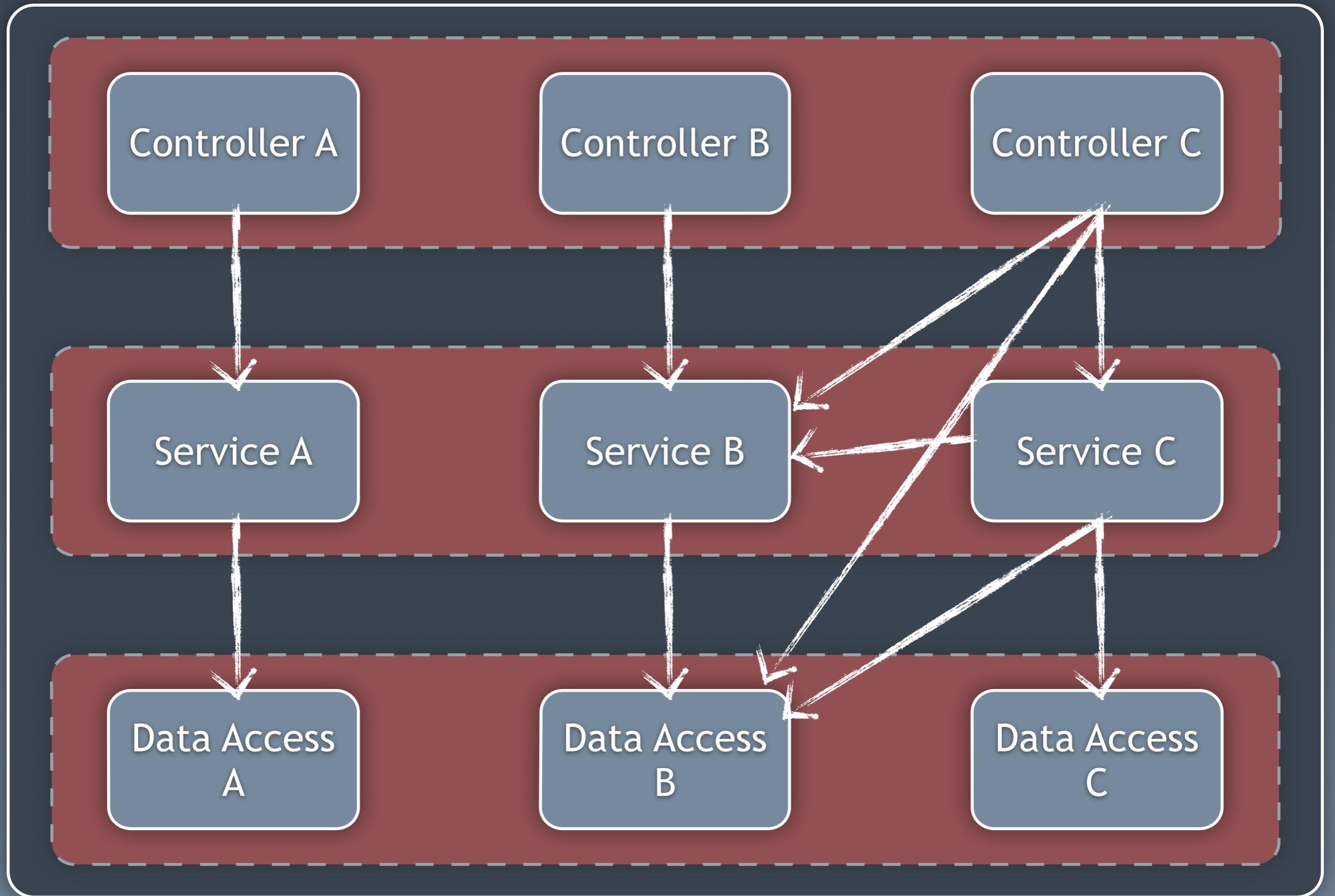
Solution Explorer



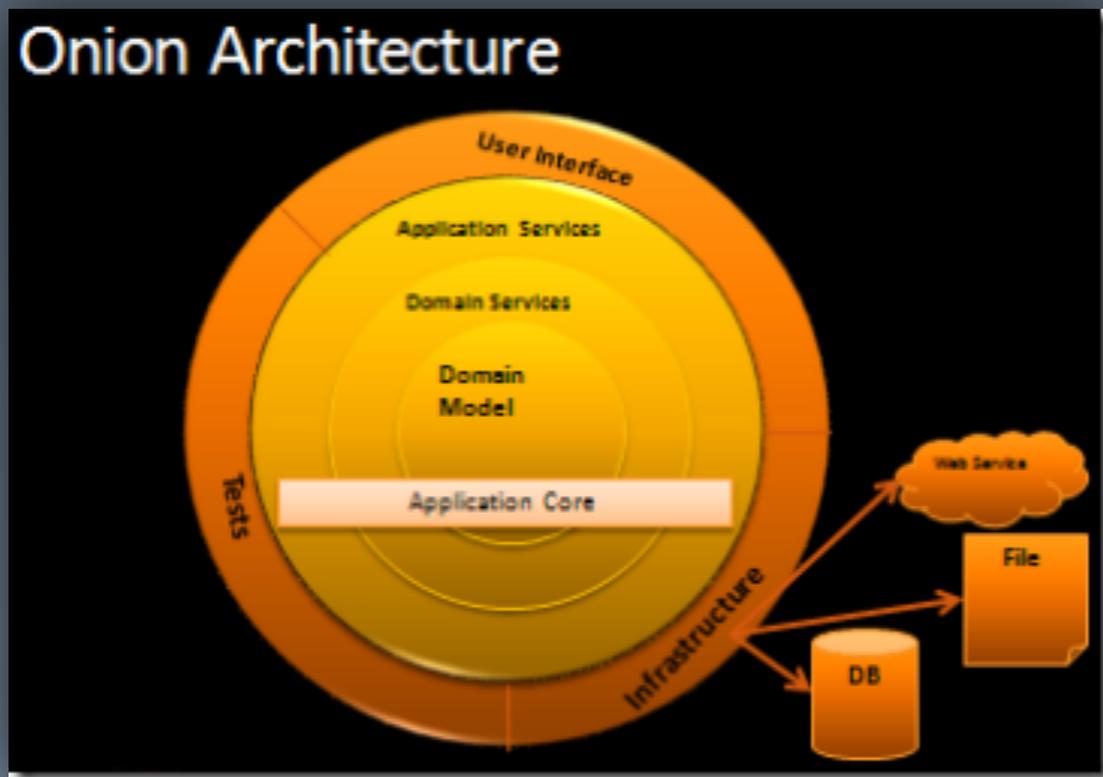
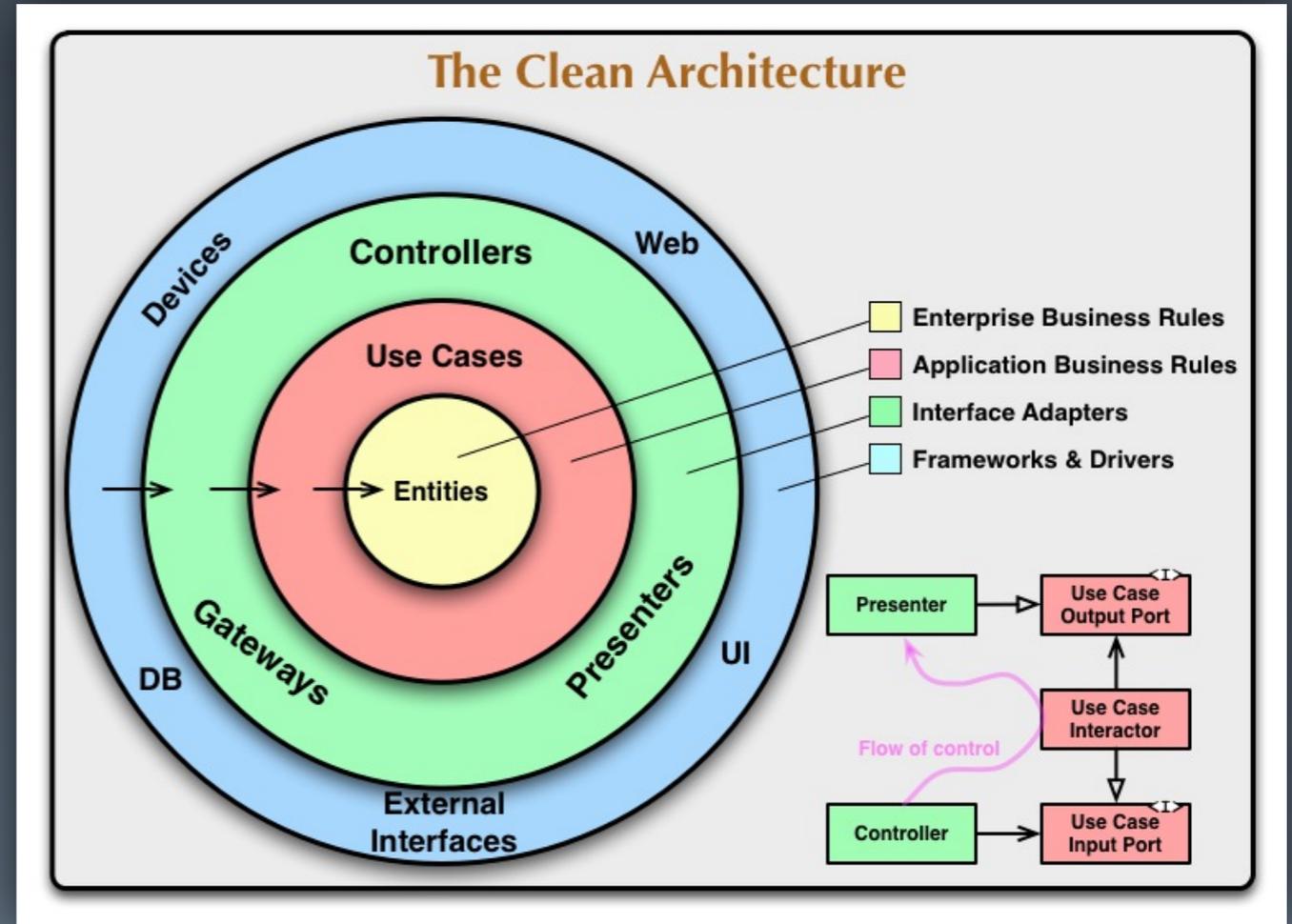
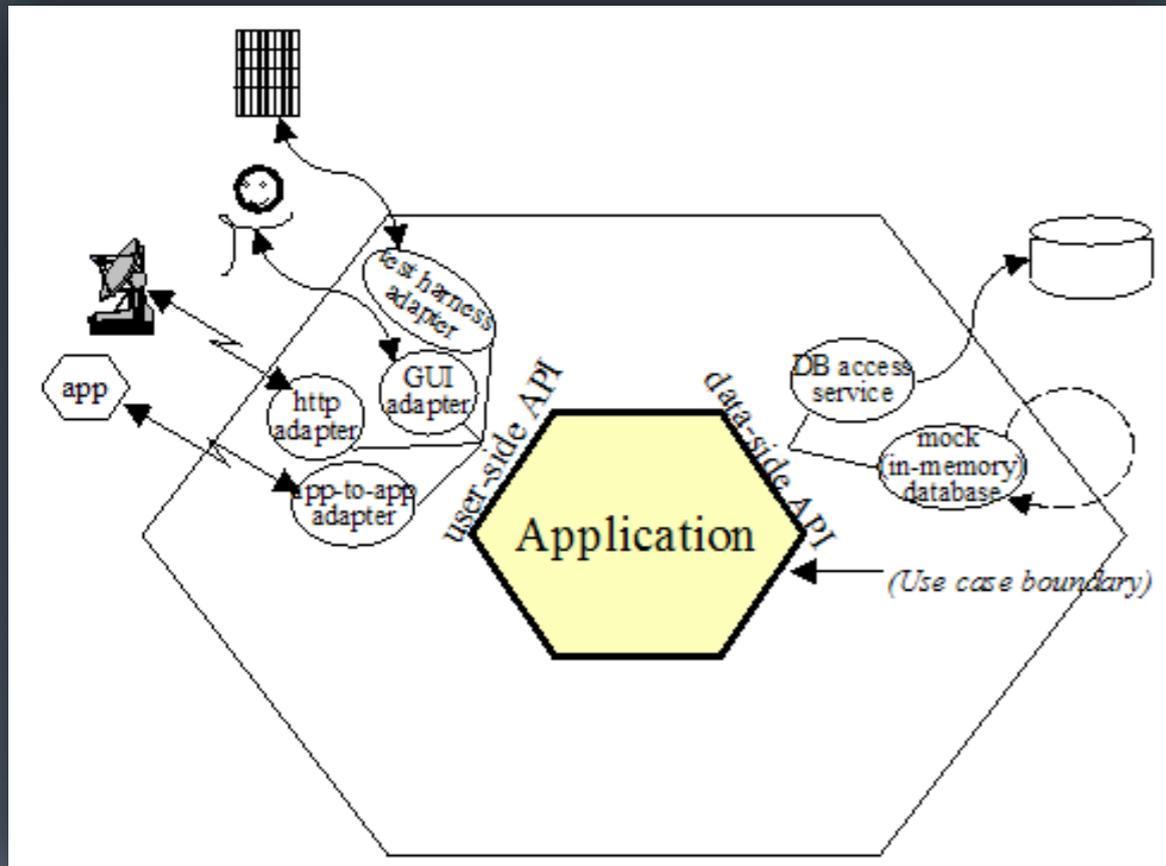
Search Solution Explorer (Ctrl+;)

- Solution 'MvcMovie' (1 project)
- MvcMovie**
- Properties
- References
- App_Data
- App_Start
- Content
- Controllers
- Filters
- Images
- Models
- Scripts
- Views
- favicon.ico
- Global.asax
- packages.config
- Web.config

100 %



Package by layer (horizontal slicing)



Hexagons
and onions

Should layers be
considered
harmful?

Are layers significant

structural

elements

or just an

implementation

detail?



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Screaming Architecture

[Uncle Bob](#) → 30 Sep 2011 + [Architecture](#)

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Imagine that you are looking at the blueprints of a building. This document, prepared by an architect, tells you the plans for the building. What do these plans tell you?

If the plans you are looking at are for a single family residence, then you'll likely see a front entrance, a foyer leading to a living room and perhaps a dining room. There'll likely be a kitchen a short distance away, close to the dining room. Perhaps a dinette area next to the kitchen, and probably a family room close to that. As you looked at those plans, there'd be no question that you were looking at a *house*. The architecture would *scream*: **house**.

Or if you were looking at the architecture of a library, you'd likely see a grand entrance, an area for check-in-out clerks, reading areas, small conference rooms, and gallery after gallery capable of holding bookshelves for all the books in the library. That architecture would *scream*: **Library**.

So what does the architecture of your application scream? When you look at the top level directory structure, and the source files in the highest level package; do they scream: **Health Care System**, or **Accounting System**, or **Inventory Management System**? Or do they scream: **Rails**, or **Spring/Hibernate**, or **ASP**?

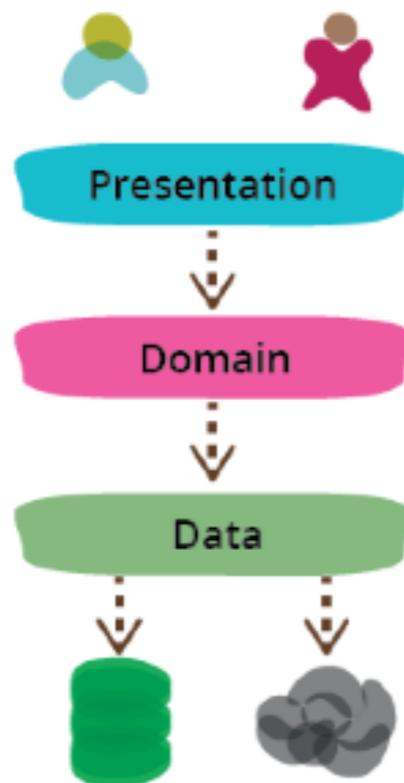
The Theme of an Architecture

PresentationDomainDataLayering



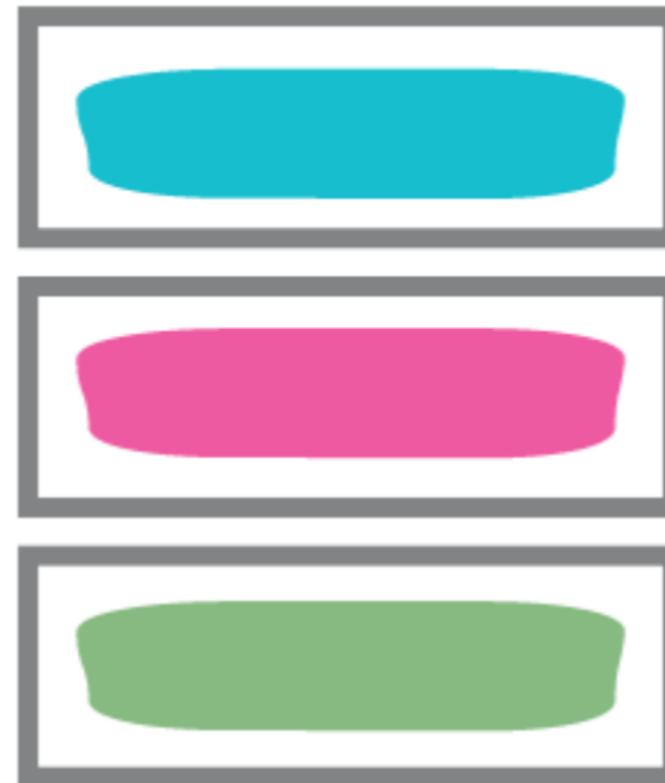
Martin Fowler
26 August 2015

One of the most common ways to modularize an information-rich application is to separate it into three broad layers: presentation (UI), domain logic (business logic), and data access. So you often see web applications split into a web layer that knows about handling http requests and rendering HTML, a business logic layer that contains validations and calculations, and a data access layer that sorts out how to manage persistent data in a database or remote services.

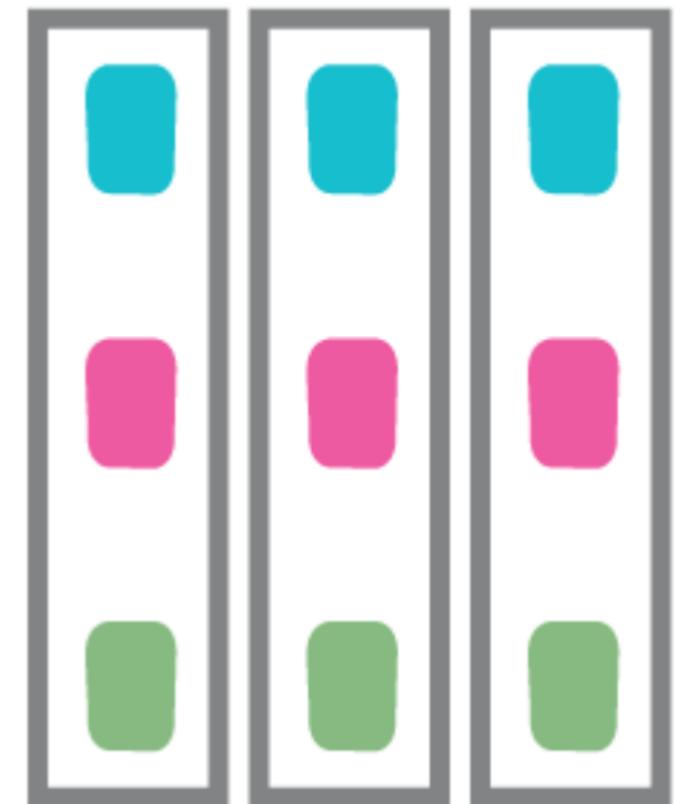


On the whole I've found this to be an effective form of modularization in many applications and one that I regularly use and encourage. Its main advantage (for me) is that it allows me to **reduce the scope of n**

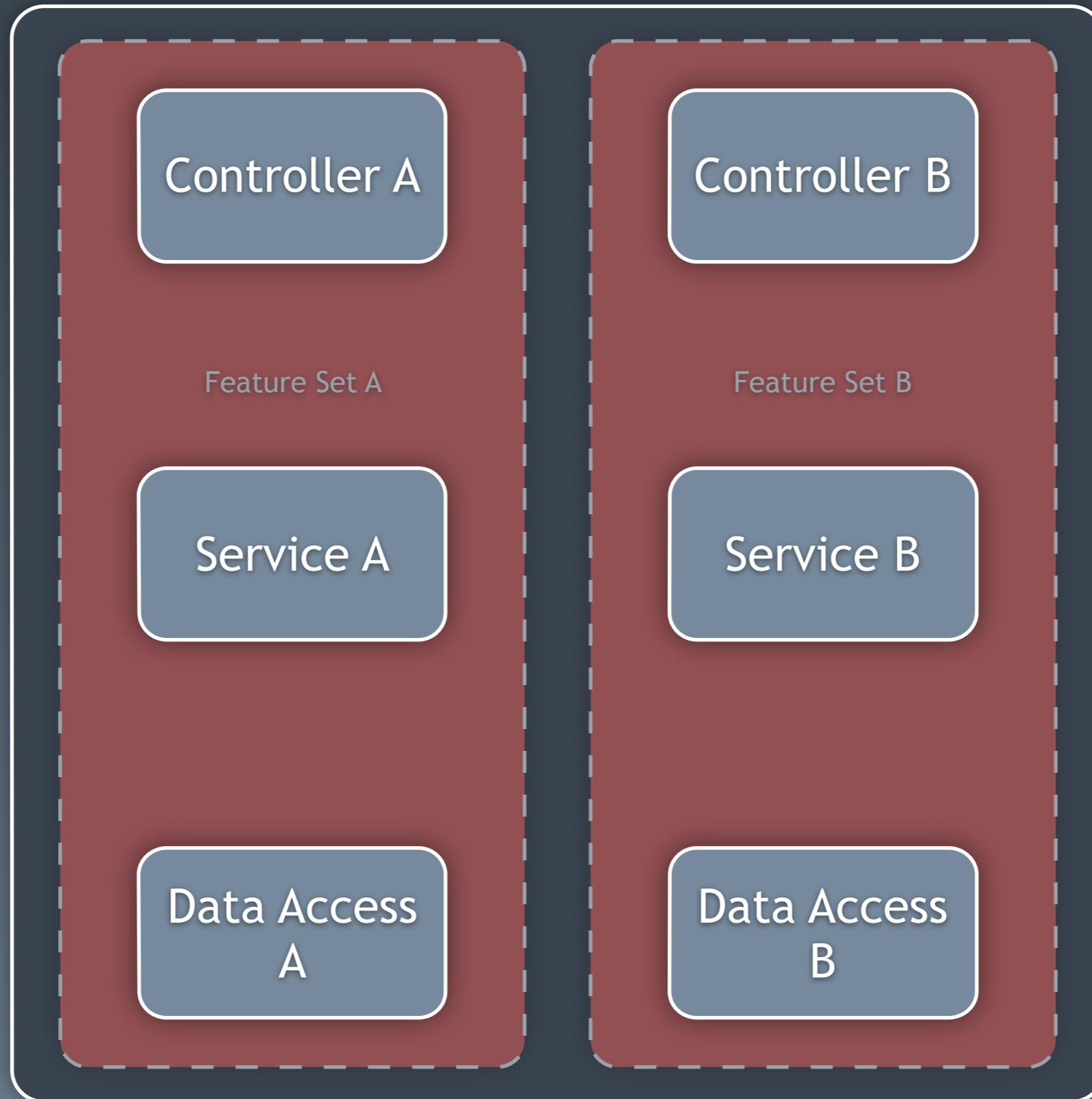
Although presentation-domain-data separation is a common approach, it should only be applied at a relatively small granularity. As an application grows, each layer can get sufficiently complex on its own that you need to modularize further. When this happens it's usually not best to use presentation-domain-data as the higher level of modules. Often frameworks encourage you to have something like view-model-data as the top level namespaces; that's ok for smaller systems, but once any of these layers gets too big you should split your top level into domain oriented modules which are internally layered.



Don't use layers as the top level modules in a complex application...



... instead make your top level modules be full-stack



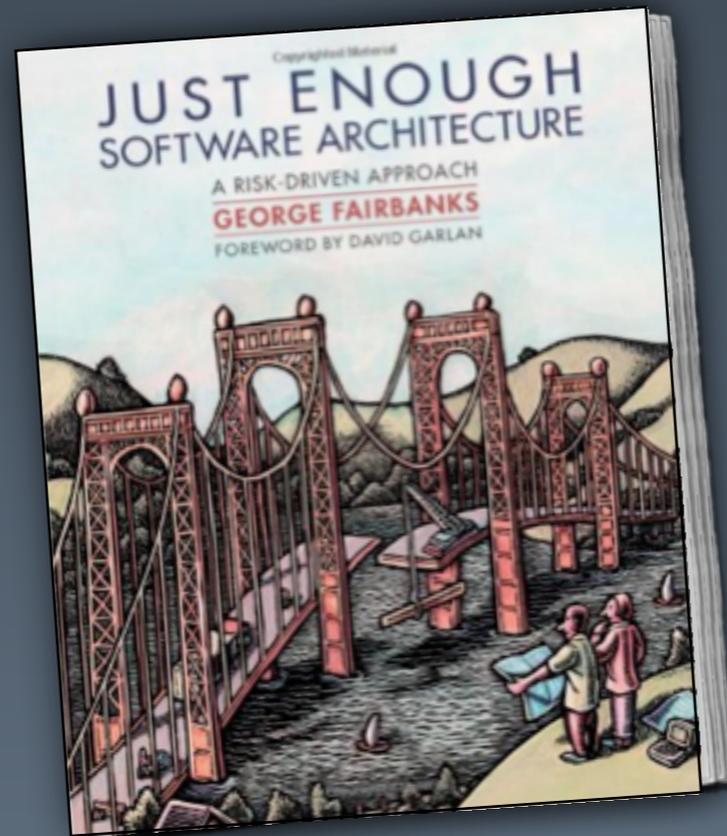
Package by feature (vertical slicing)

The intersection of
software architecture
and code

Abstractions

on diagrams
should reflect the

code



“architecturally-evident
coding style”

Architecturally-evident coding styles include:

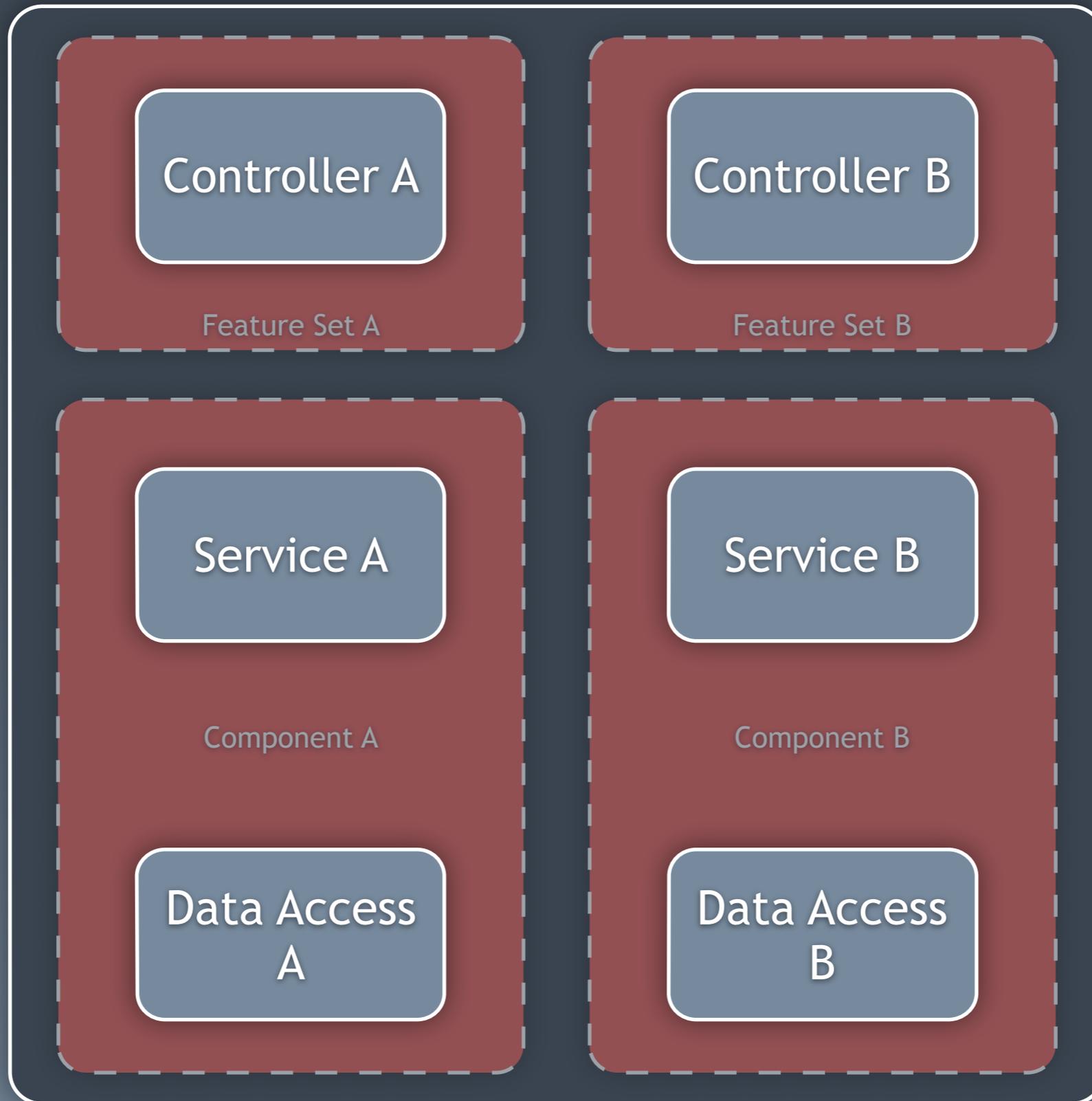
Annotations/attributes (`@Component`, `[Component]`, etc)

Naming conventions (`*Service`)

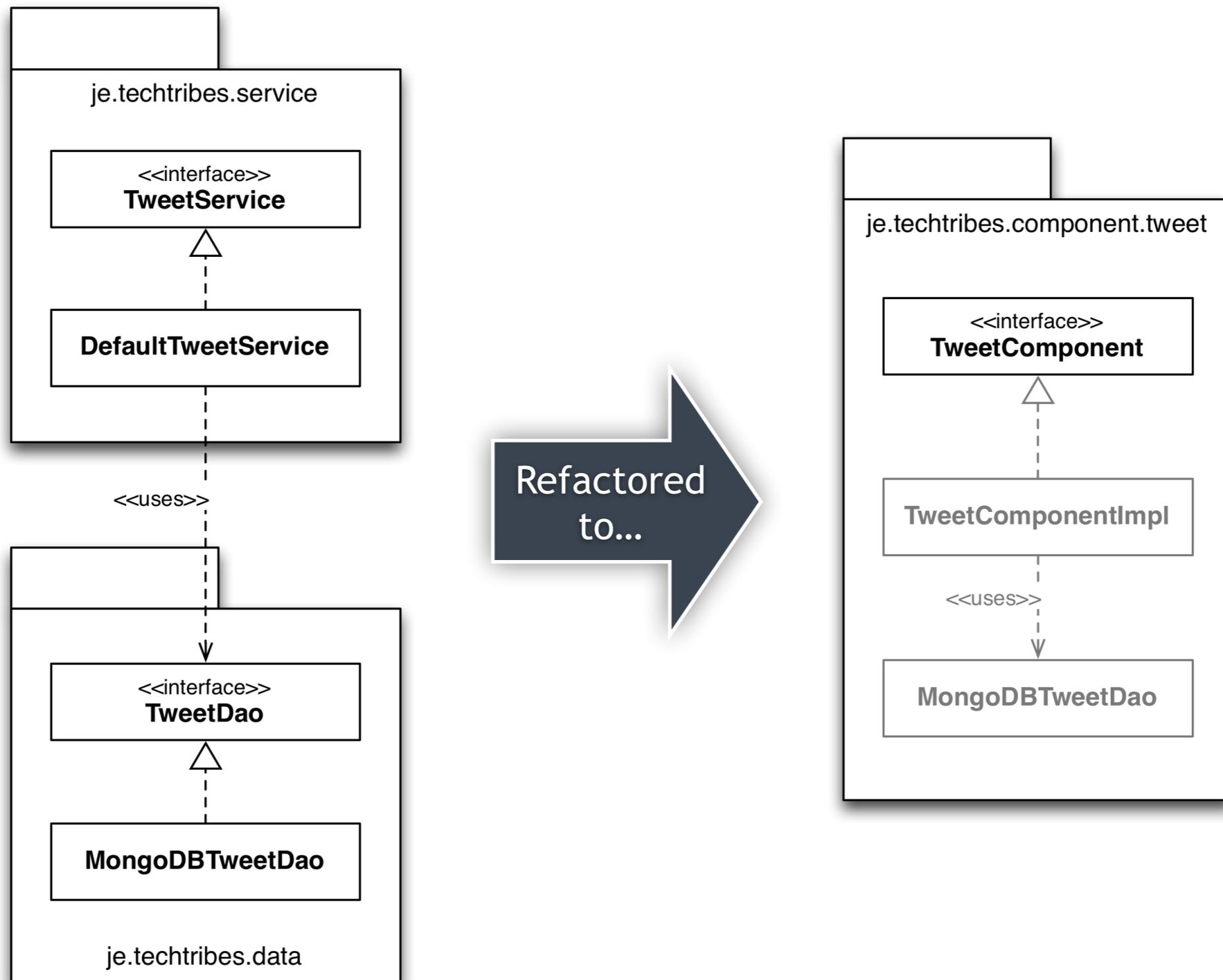
Namespacing/packaging

(`com.mycompany.system.components.*`)

Maven modules, OSGi modules, Java 9 and Jigsaw, JavaScript module patterns, ECMAScript 6 modules, microservices, etc

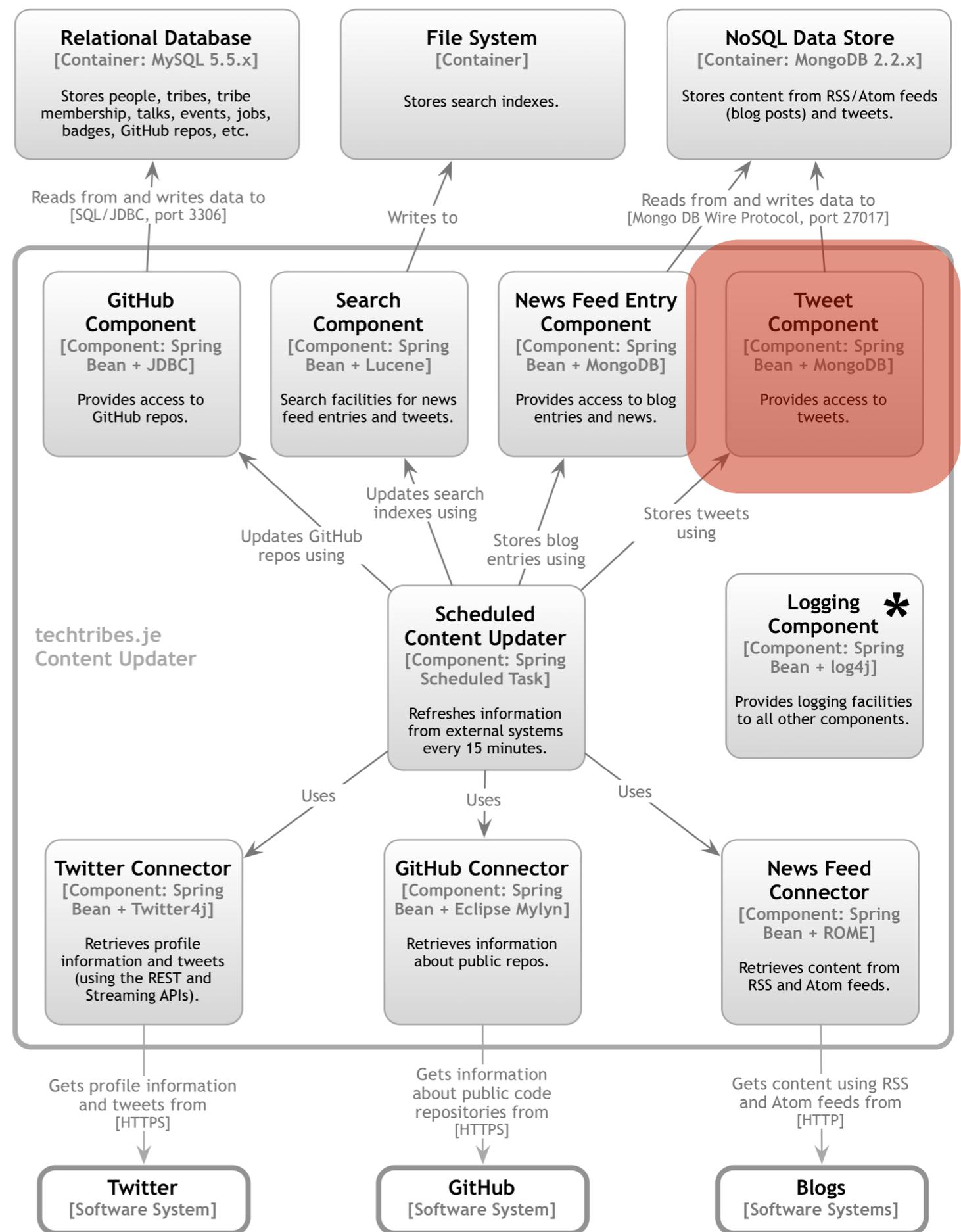


Package by component



An example of an
architecturally-evident coding style

Component diagram



techtribes.je - Components - Content Updater

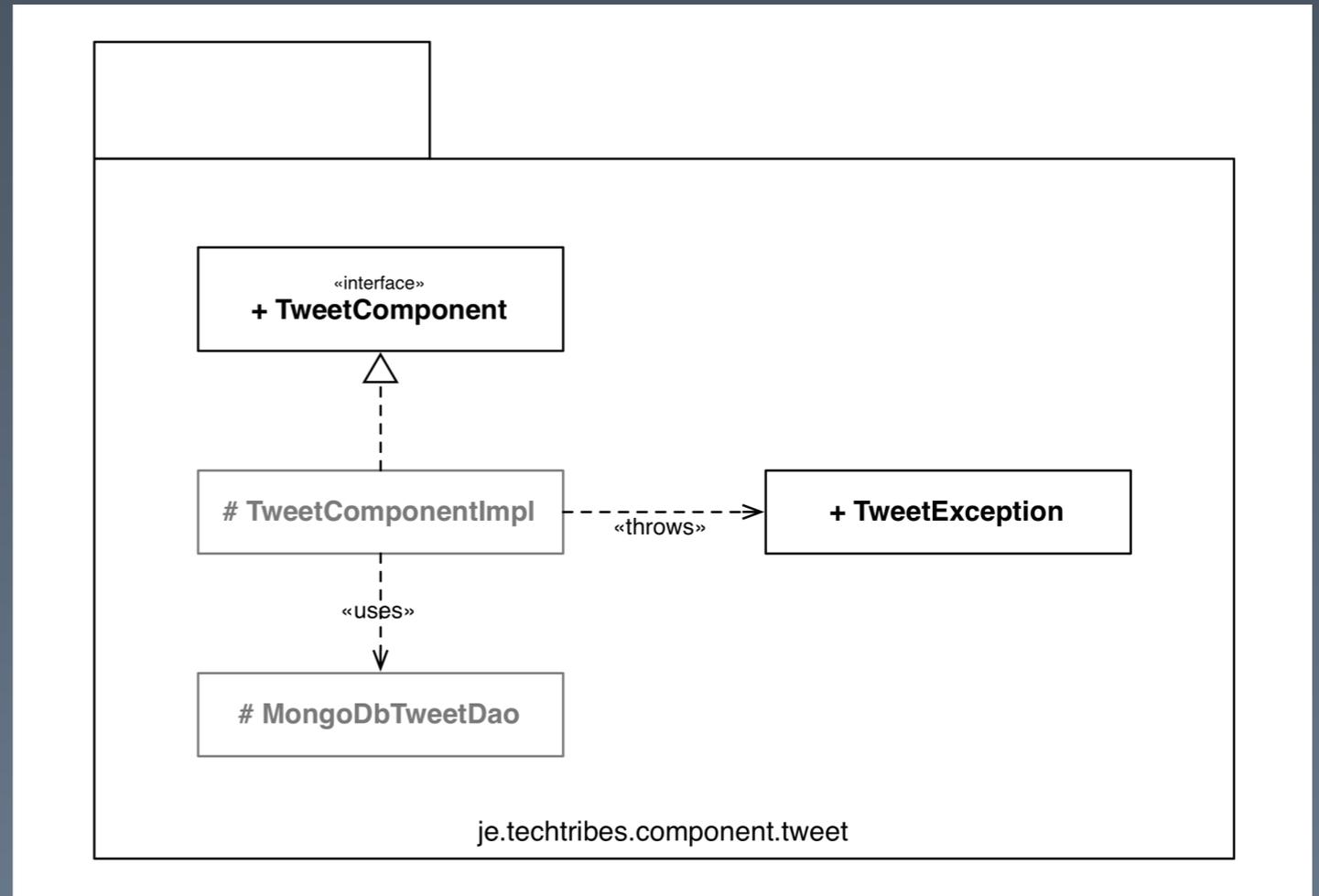
* Used by all components

Context
diagram
(level 1)

Container
diagram
(level 2)

Component
diagram
(level 3)

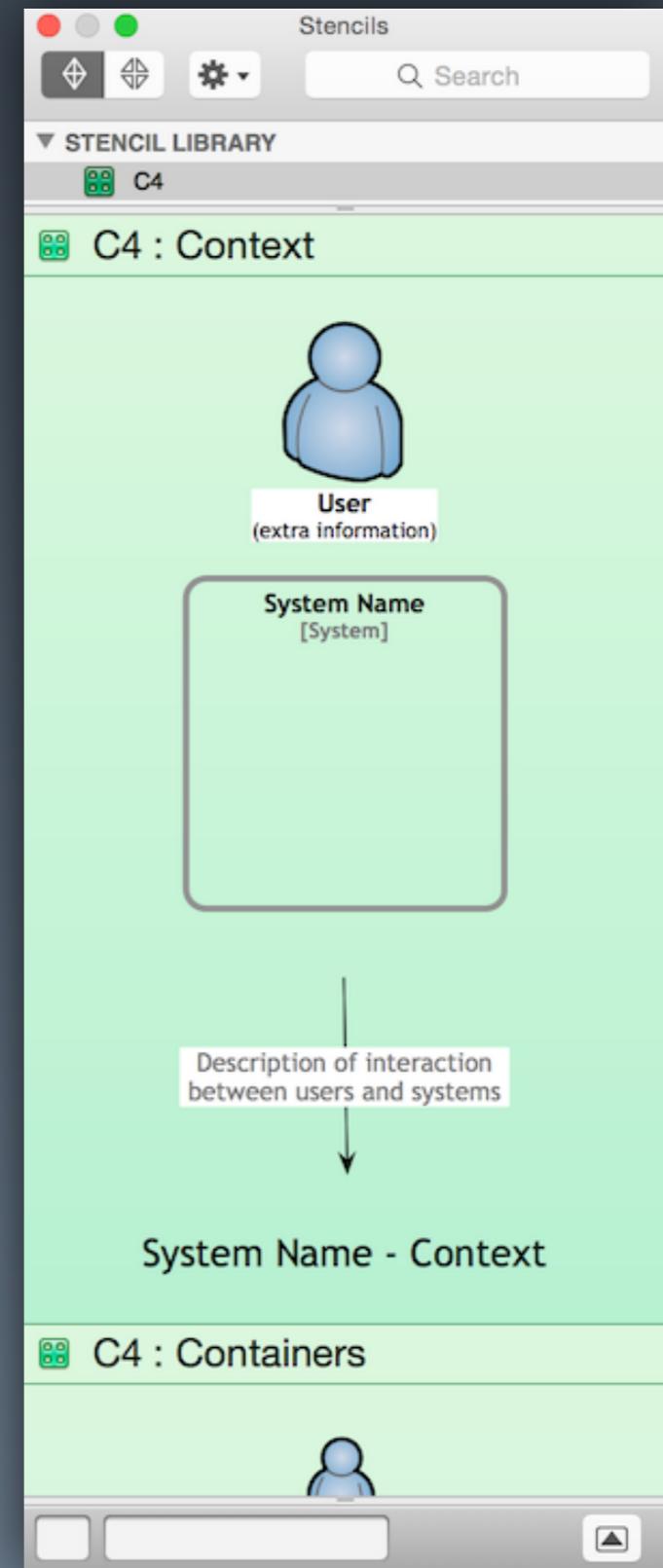
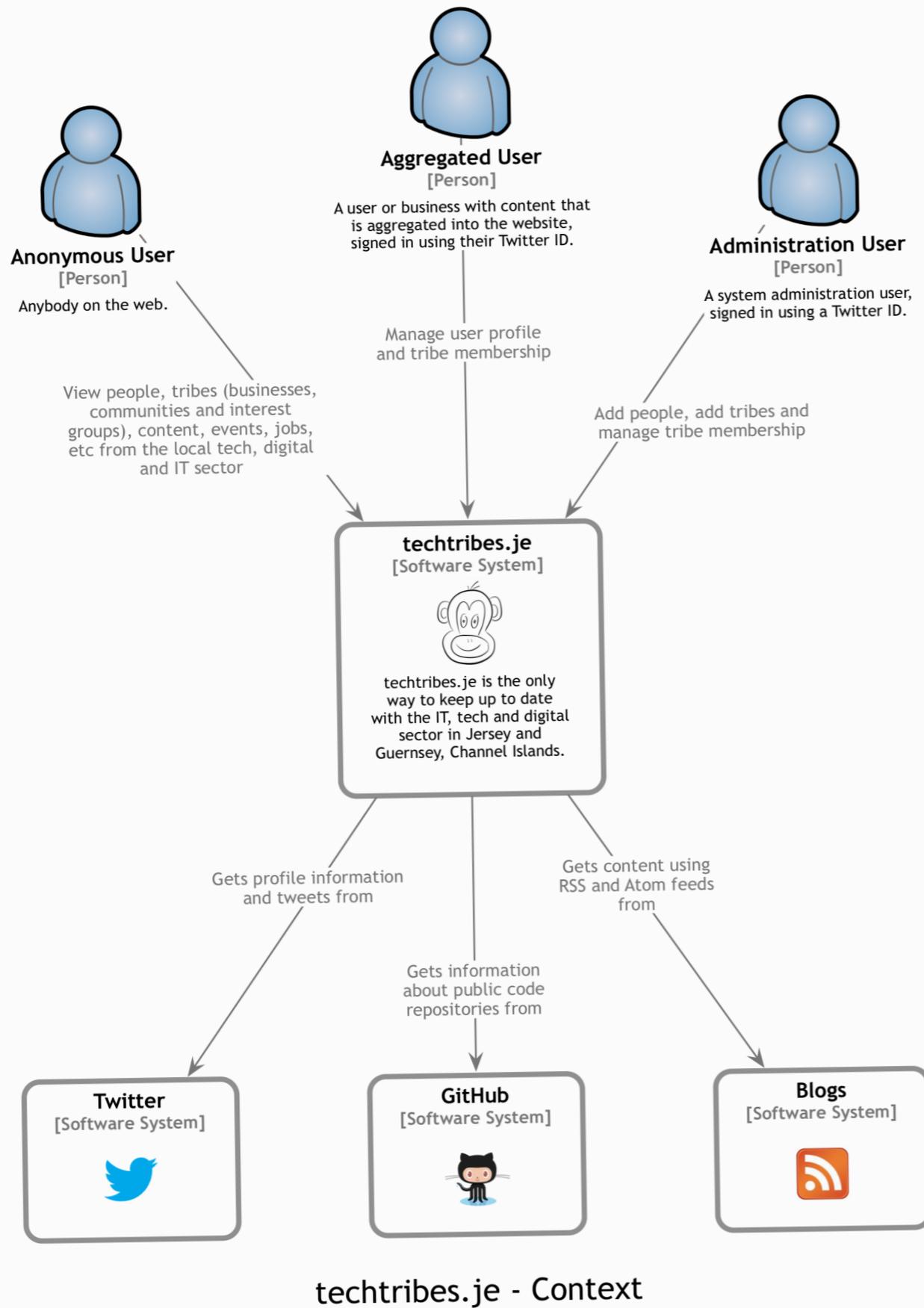
Class
diagram
(level 4)



Modularity

as a principle

Why?



Tools?

Sketches get out of date,

so why not

auto-generate

the diagrams?

Diagramming tools see

packages

and classes

rather than components

What is a
“component”?

Spring PetClinic

<https://github.com/spring-projects/spring-petclinic/>



Views

- JSP with custom tags
- Thymeleaf
- Bootstrap (CSS)
- webjars
- Dandelion

Controller

- Spring @MVC annotations
- Bean Validation

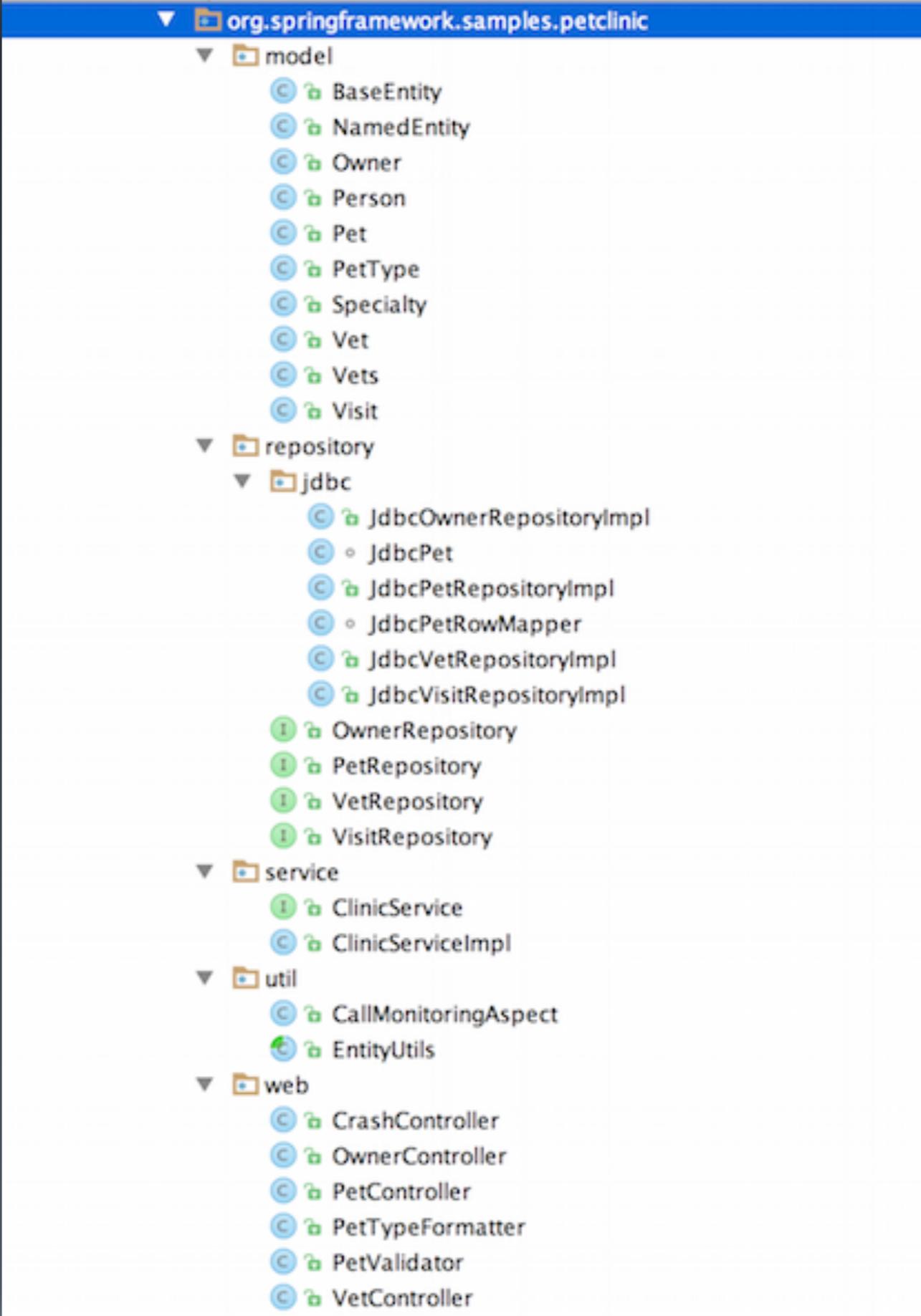
Service

- @Cacheable
- @Transactional

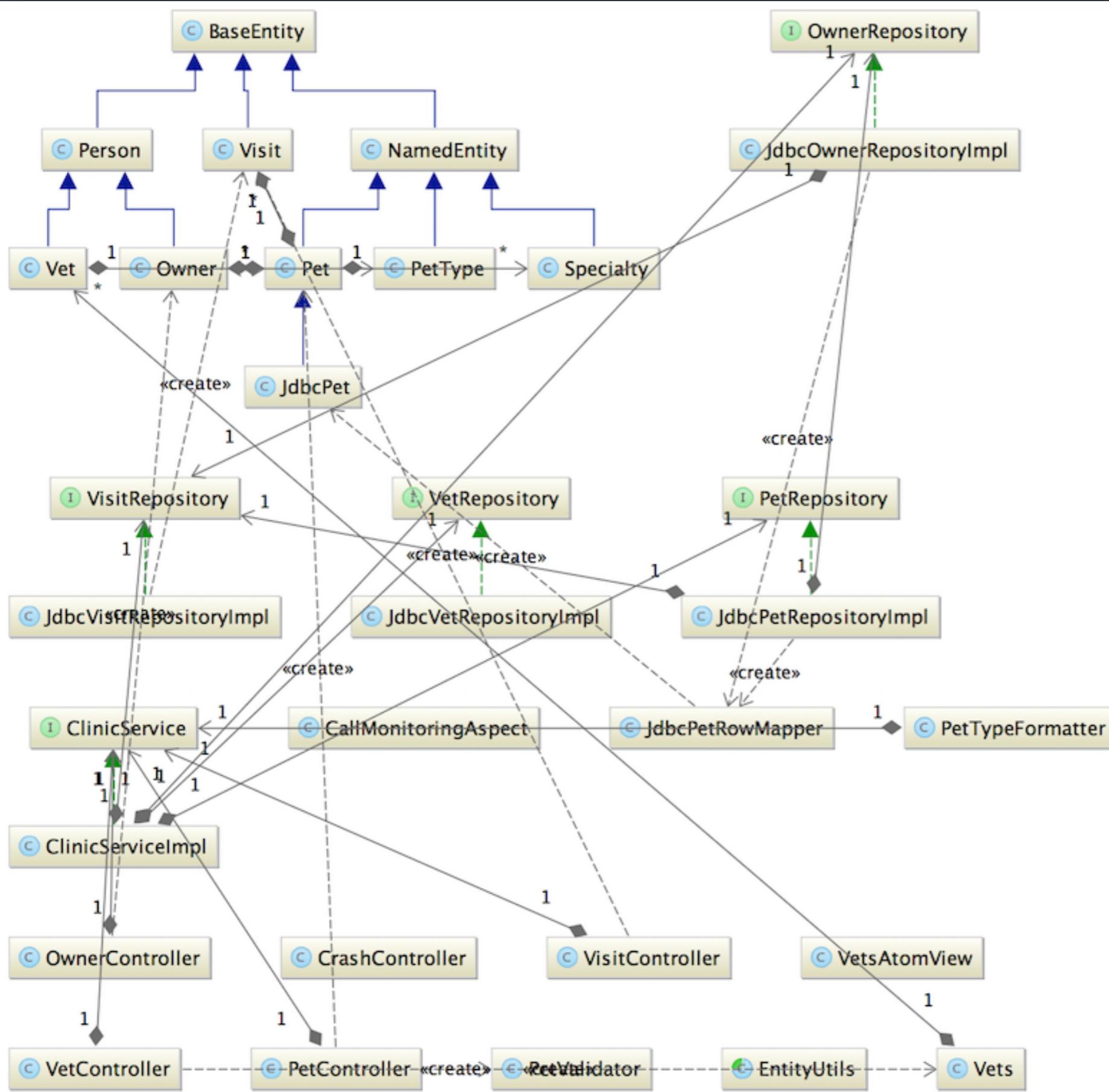
Repository

- 3 profiles
 - Spring Data JPA
 - default (JPA)
 - jdbc

<https://speakerdeck.com/michaelisvy/spring-petclinic-sample-application>

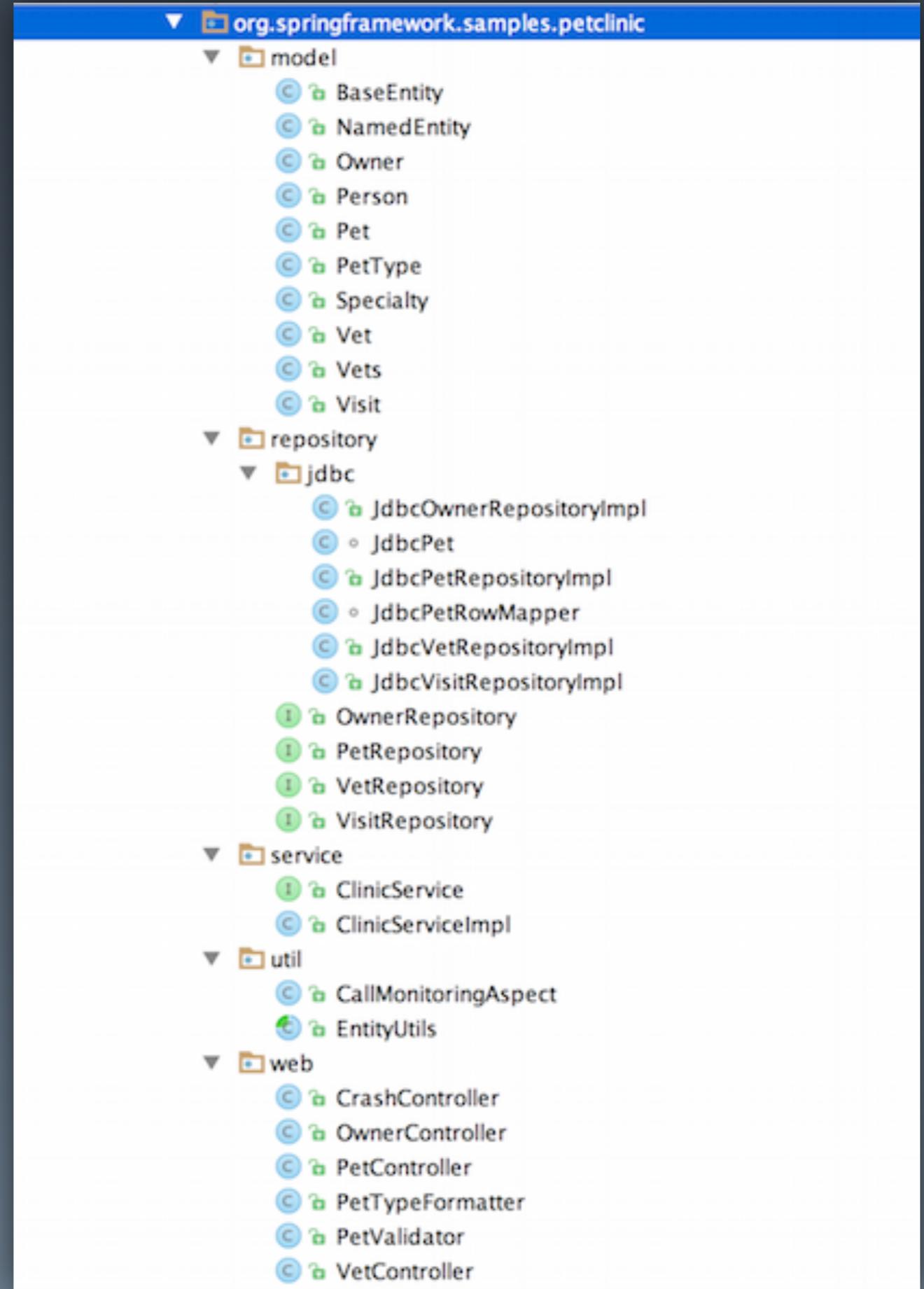


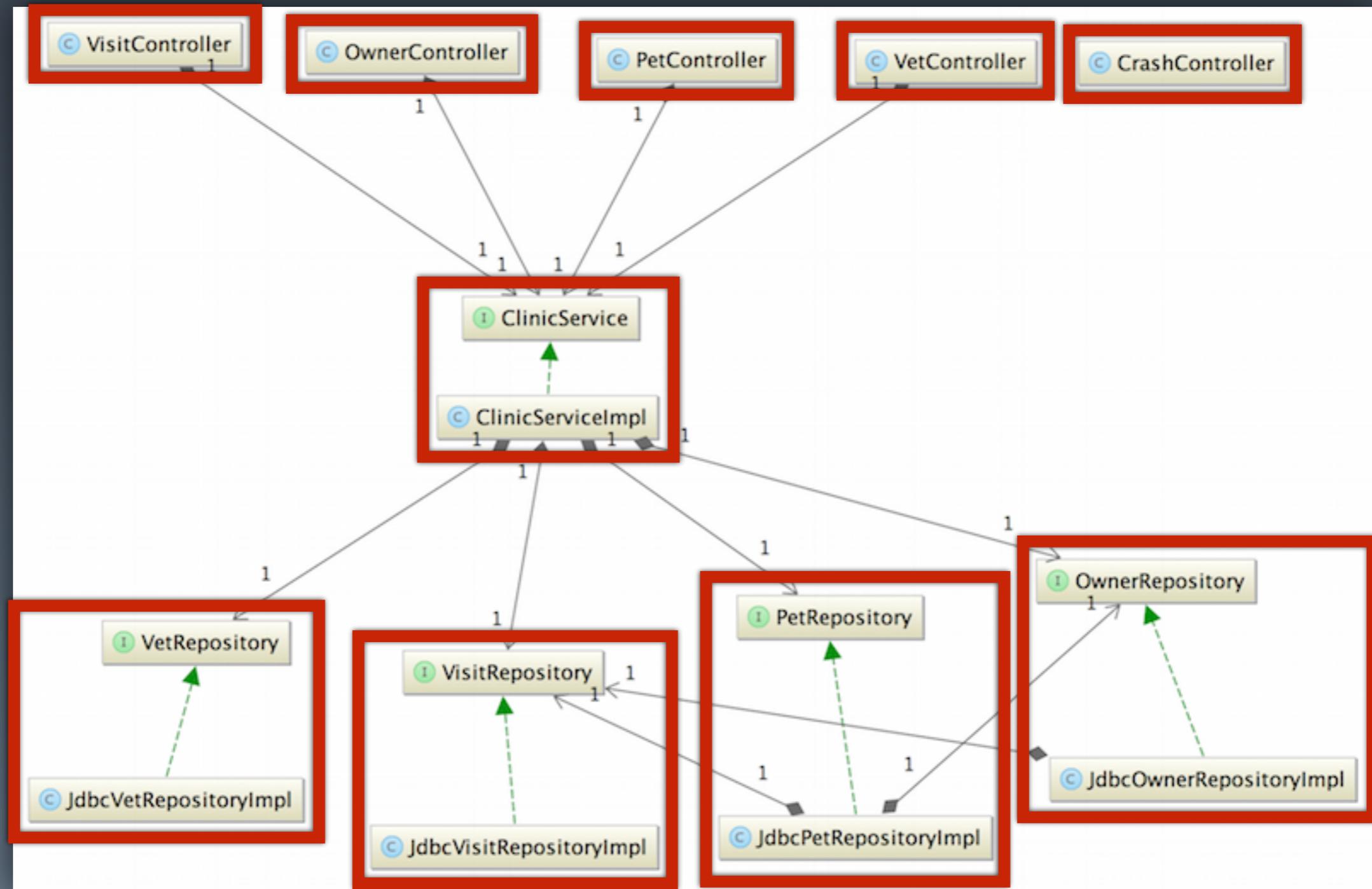
```
org.springframework.samples.petclinic
├── model
│   ├── BaseEntity
│   ├── NamedEntity
│   ├── Owner
│   ├── Person
│   ├── Pet
│   ├── PetType
│   ├── Specialty
│   ├── Vet
│   ├── Vets
│   └── Visit
├── repository
│   └── jdbc
│       ├── JdbcOwnerRepositoryImpl
│       ├── JdbcPet
│       ├── JdbcPetRepositoryImpl
│       ├── JdbcPetRowMapper
│       ├── JdbcVetRepositoryImpl
│       ├── JdbcVisitRepositoryImpl
│       ├── OwnerRepository
│       ├── PetRepository
│       ├── VetRepository
│       └── VisitRepository
├── service
│   ├── ClinicService
│   └── ClinicServiceImpl
├── util
│   ├── CallMonitoringAspect
│   └── EntityUtils
└── web
    ├── CrashController
    ├── OwnerController
    ├── PetController
    ├── PetTypeFormatter
    ├── PetValidator
    └── VetController
```



An auto-generated UML class diagram

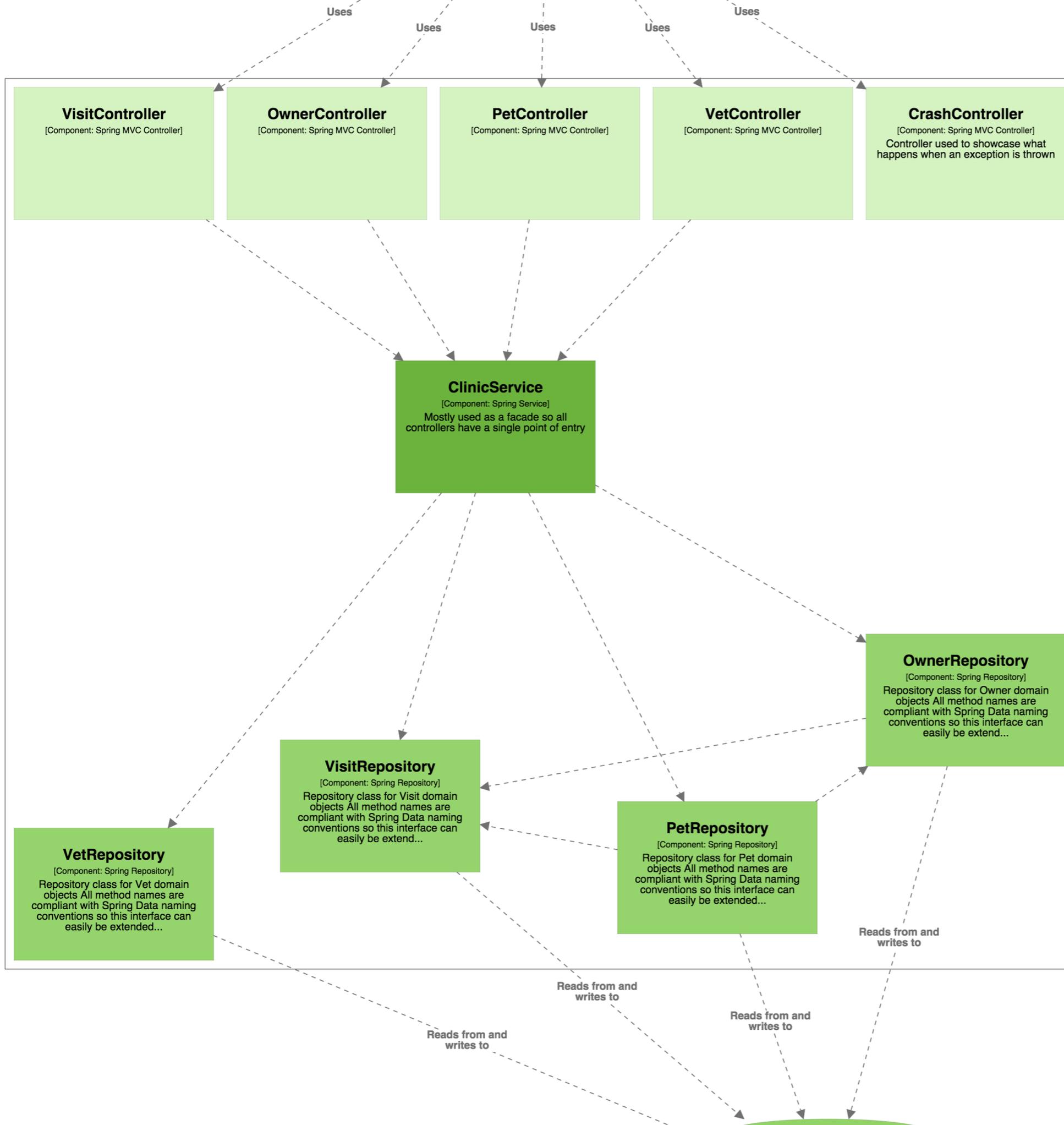
What are the architecturally significant elements?





A UML class diagram showing architecturally significant elements

A component diagram, based upon the code



The code is the
embodiment
of the architecture

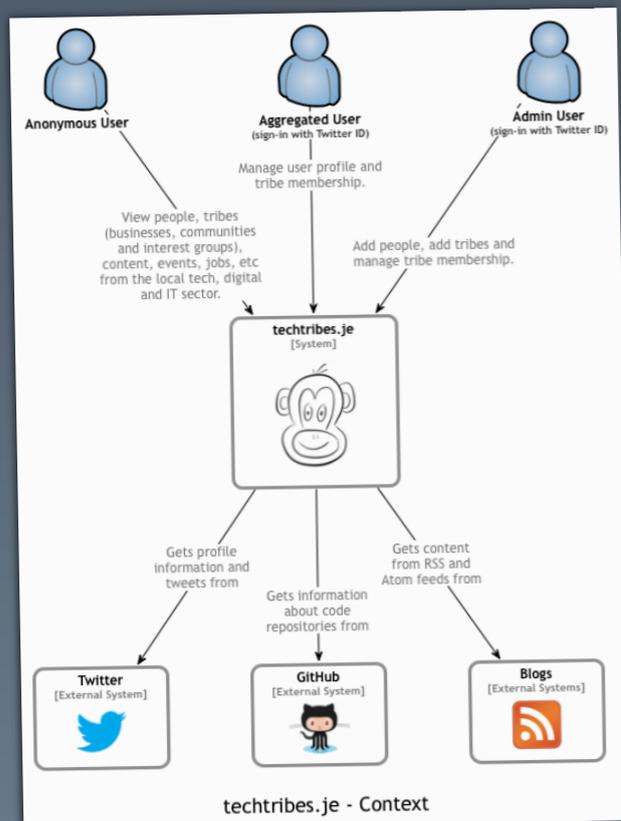
Is the architecture
in the code?

In practice, architecture is embodied and recoverable from code, and many languages provide architecture-level views of the system.

A Survey of Architecture Description Languages

by Paul C. Clements

Context



People

Security groups/roles in configuration files, etc.

Software Systems

Integration points, APIs, known libraries, credentials for inbound consumers, etc.

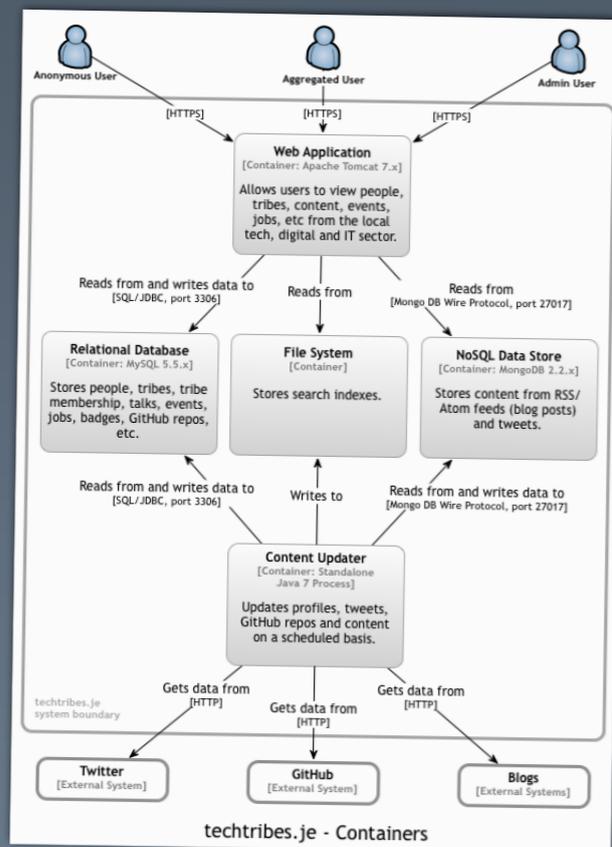
Containers

IDE projects/modules, build output (code and infrastructure), etc.

Components

Extractable from the code if an architecturally-evident coding style has been adopted.

Containers



People

Security groups/roles in configuration files, etc.

Software Systems

Integration points, APIs, known libraries, credentials for inbound consumers, etc.

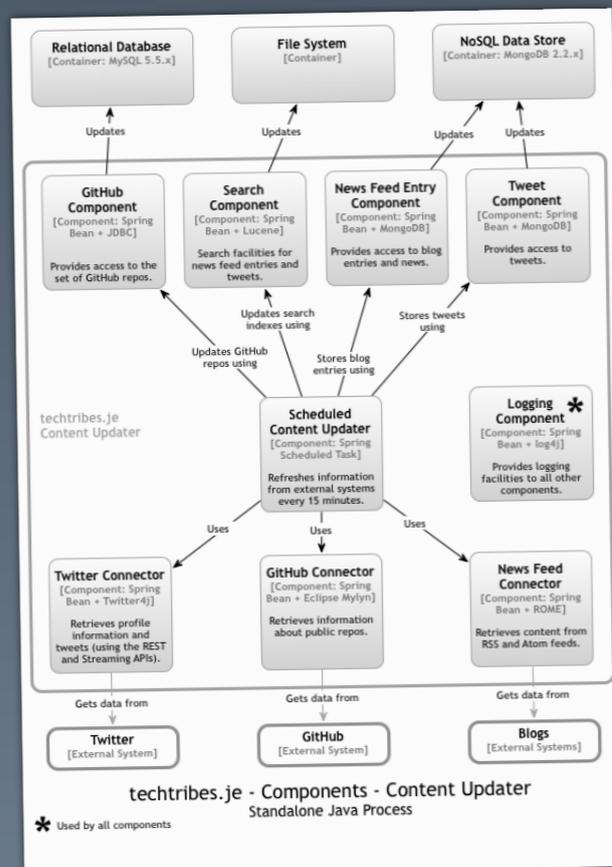
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Extractable from the code if an architecturally-evident coding style has been adopted.

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People

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Integration points, APIs, known libraries, credentials for inbound consumers, etc.

Containers

IDE projects/modules, build output (code and infrastructure), etc.

Components

Extractable from the code if an architecturally-evident coding style has been adopted.

Extract as much of the software
architecture from the code as possible,
and supplement
where necessary

Create an architecture
description language
using code

```
/**
 * This is a C4 representation of the Spring PetClinic sample app
 * (https://github.com/spring-projects/spring-petclinic/).
 *
 * Use the examples/springpetclinic.sh file to run this example -
 * you'll need a compiled version of the app on the CLASSPATH.
 */
public class SpringPetClinic {

    public static void main(String[] args) throws Exception {
        Workspace workspace = new Workspace("Spring PetClinic",
            "This is a C4 representation of the Spring PetClinic sample app (https://github.com/spring-projects/spring-petclinic/).");
        Model model = workspace.getModel();

        // create the basic model (the stuff we can't get from the code)
        SoftwareSystem springPetClinic = model.addSoftwareSystem("Spring PetClinic", "Allows employees to view and manage information regarding the veterinarians and their clients");
        Person user = model.addPerson("Clinic Employee", "An employee of the clinic");
        user.uses(springPetClinic, "Uses");

        Container webApplication = springPetClinic.addContainer(
            "Web Application", "Allows employees to view and manage information regarding the veterinarians and their clients");
        Container relationalDatabase = springPetClinic.addContainer(
            "Relational Database", "Stores information regarding the veterinarians, the clients, and their information");
        user.uses(webApplication, "Uses", "HTTP");
        webApplication.uses(relationalDatabase, "Reads from and writes to", "JDBC, port 9001");

        // and now automatically find all Spring @Controller, @Component, @Service and @Repository components
        ComponentFinder componentFinder = new ComponentFinder(
            webApplication, "org.springframework.samples.petclinic",
            new SpringComponentFinderStrategy(),
            new JavadocComponentFinderStrategy(new File("/Users/simon/Documents/sandbox/spring/spring-petclinic")));
        componentFinder.findComponents();

        // connect the user to all of the Spring MVC controllers
        webApplication.getComponents().stream()
            .filter(c -> c.getTechnology().equals("Spring MVC Controller"))
            .forEach(c -> user.uses(c, "Uses"));

        // connect all of the repository components to the relational database
    }
}
```

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webApplication.getComponents().stream()
    .filter(c -> c.getTechnology().equals("Spring Repository"))
    .forEach(c -> c.uses(relationalDatabase, "Reads from and writes to"));

// finally create some views
ViewSet viewSet = workspace.getViews();
SystemContextView contextView = viewSet.createContextView(springPetClinic);
contextView.addAllSoftwareSystems();
contextView.addAllPeople();

ContainerView containerView = viewSet.createContainerView(springPetClinic);
containerView.addAllPeople();
containerView.addAllSoftwareSystems();
containerView.addAllContainers();

ComponentView componentView = viewSet.createComponentView(webApplication);
componentView.addAllComponents();
componentView.addAllPeople();
componentView.add(relationalDatabase);

// link the architecture model with the code
for (Component component : webApplication.getComponents()) {
    if (component.getSourcePath() != null) {
        component.setSourcePath(component.getSourcePath().replace(
            "/Users/simon/Documents/sandbox/spring/spring-petclinic/",
            ""));
    }
}
```

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            ""));
    }
}
```

Structurizr for Java

(open source on GitHub)



GitHub This repository Search Explore Features Enterprise Blog Sign up Sign in

structurizr / java Watch 24 Star 59 Fork 30

Java tools

131 commits 1 branch 0 releases 3 contributors

branch: master java / +

Added a software architecture model for the Java EE Hands on Lab "Mov... ..

simonbrowndotje authored 14 days ago latest commit 90dea447f9

gradle	Gradle Support: cleanup workspace, commit gradle wrapper, remove ant/ivy	2 months ago
structurizr-annotations/src/co...	Some refactoring and an initial version of a Javadoc component finder...	25 days ago
structurizr-client	This saves a little bandwidth. :-)	14 days ago
structurizr-core	Fixed a bug where layout information wasn't getting copied when inter...	14 days ago
structurizr-examples	Added a software architecture model for the Java EE Hands on Lab "Mov...	14 days ago
structurizr-spring	Added a sourcePath property to components ... which is automatically ...	23 days ago
.gitignore	Added some comments.	2 months ago
LICENSE	Initial commit	10 months ago
README.md	Added build instructions.	2 months ago
build.gradle	Changed styles -> configuration.styles	27 days ago
copyJars.sh	Added fixed some bugs and added an initial implementation to copy lay...	2 months ago
gradle.properties	Renamed components and messing with Maven repo publication.	2 months ago
gradlew	Trimmed down the Gradle config and stopped tracking the IDEA project ...	2 months ago
gradlew.bat	Gradle support	2 months ago
settings.gradle	Renamed components and messing with Maven repo publication.	2 months ago

README.md

Structurizr for Java

Structurizr is an implementation of the C4 model as described in Simon Brown's [Software Architecture for Developers](#) book, which provides a way to easily and effectively communicate the software architecture of a software system. Structurizr allows you to create **software architecture models and diagrams as code**. This project contains the Java implementation and tooling.

Everything you see here is a work in progress. See www.structurizr.com for more information.

Building

To build Struterizr for Java from the sources (you'll need Java 8)...

```
git clone https://github.com/structurizr/java.git
./gradlew build
```

Code Issues 1 Pull requests 1 Pulse Graphs

HTTPS clone URL <https://github.com>

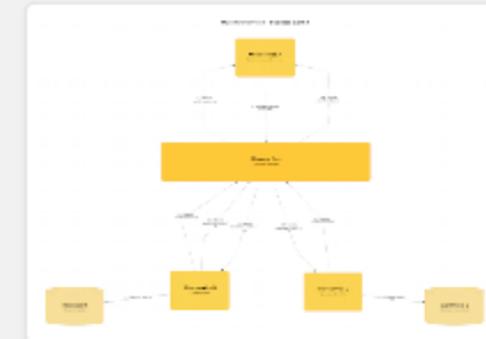
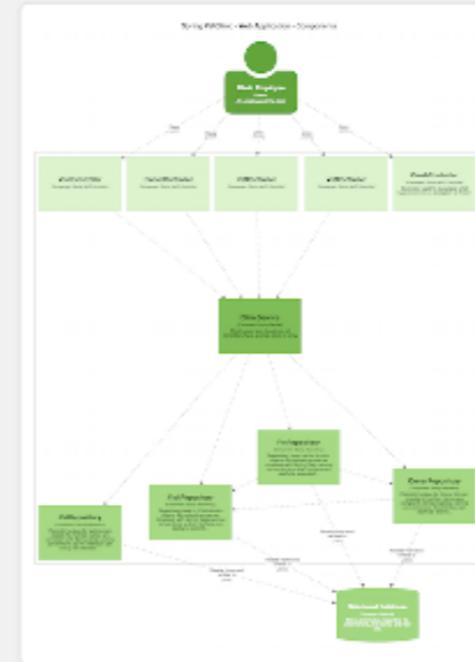
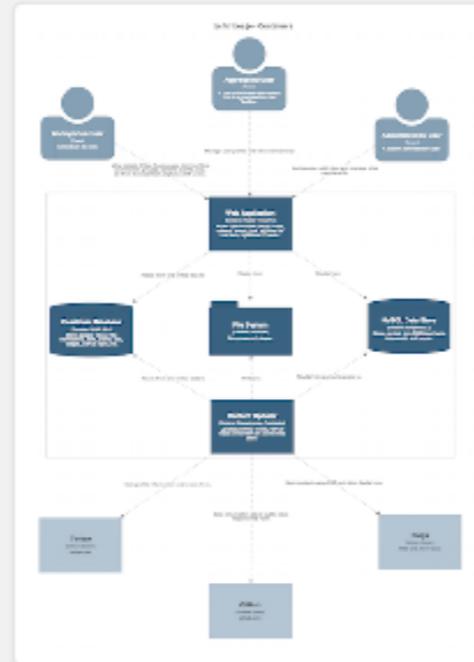
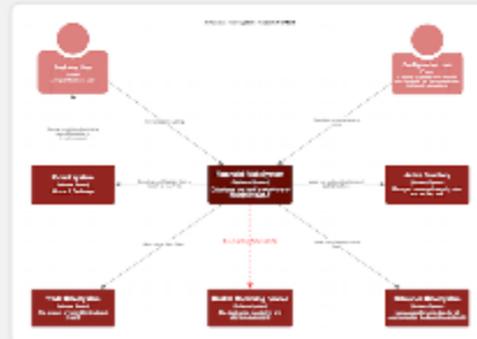
You can clone with [HTTPS](#) or [Subversion](#).

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Structurizr

Create web-based software architecture diagrams using code.



Simple

No more endless hours spent messing with drawing tools, manually drawing boxes and lines. You create a software architecture model using code, Structurizr visualises it for you.

Versionable

The software architecture model is created using code, so it can be easily versioned alongside your production code.

Up-to-date

Integration with your build process means your software architecture model can be continuously kept up to date, especially if you extract parts of the model from your codebase.

Scalable

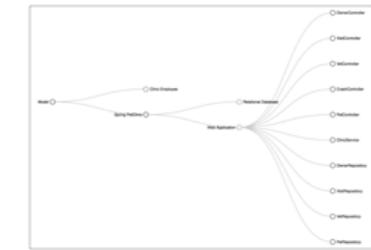
Static diagrams are hard to change and work with once they start to get large. Having the software architecture model as code puts you in control.



Structurizr Client



2. Upload the software architecture model to Structurizr using the web API



1. Write one or more programs to create a software architecture model of your software system

Manually create model elements using code or extract them from your software system by parsing source code or using reflection and static analysis techniques



Software System

3. Explore, visualise and share your software architecture model with web-based software architecture diagrams

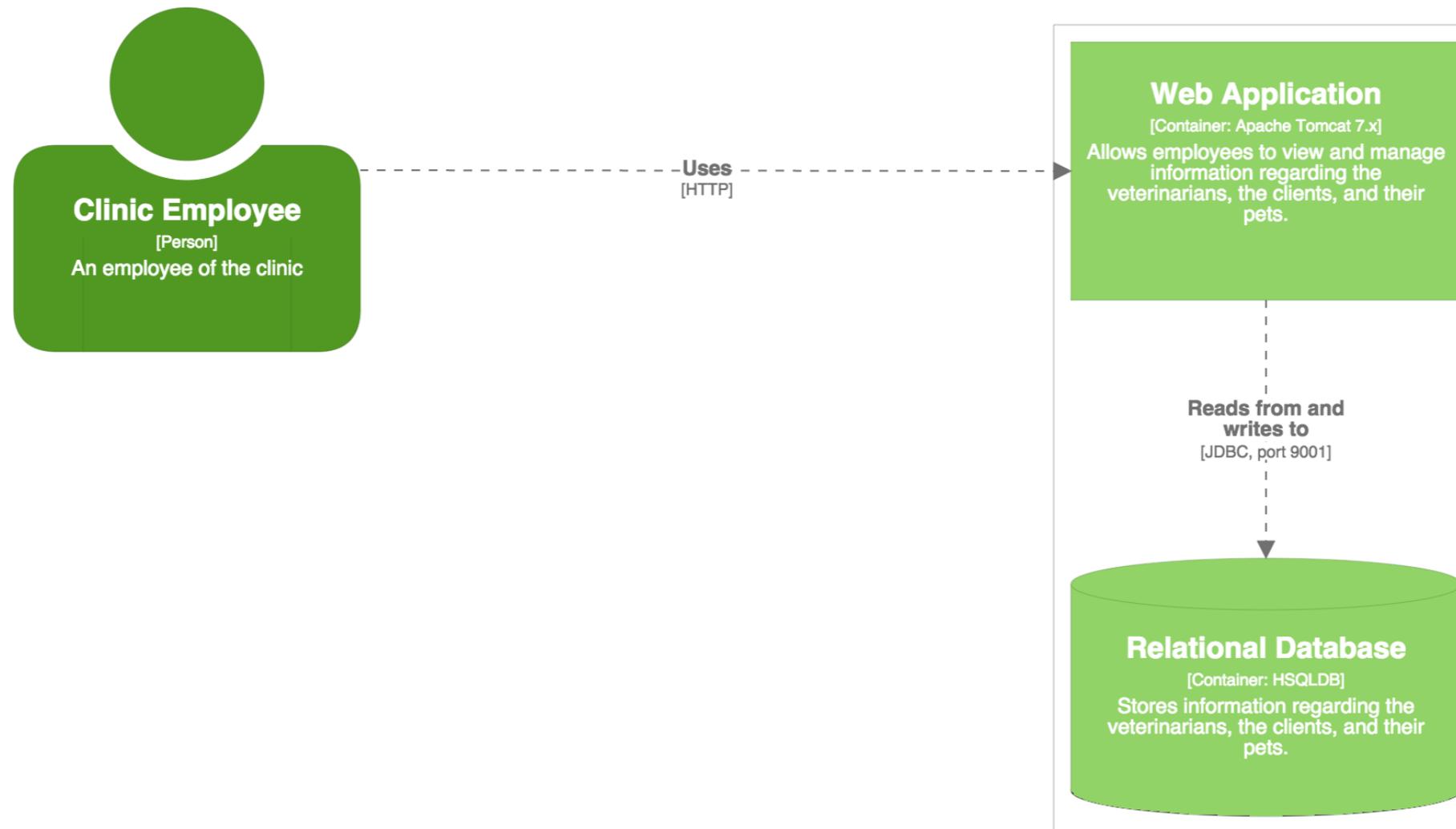
Structurizr is a web-based tool that creates diagrams for you, based upon the software architecture model and views defined in your code

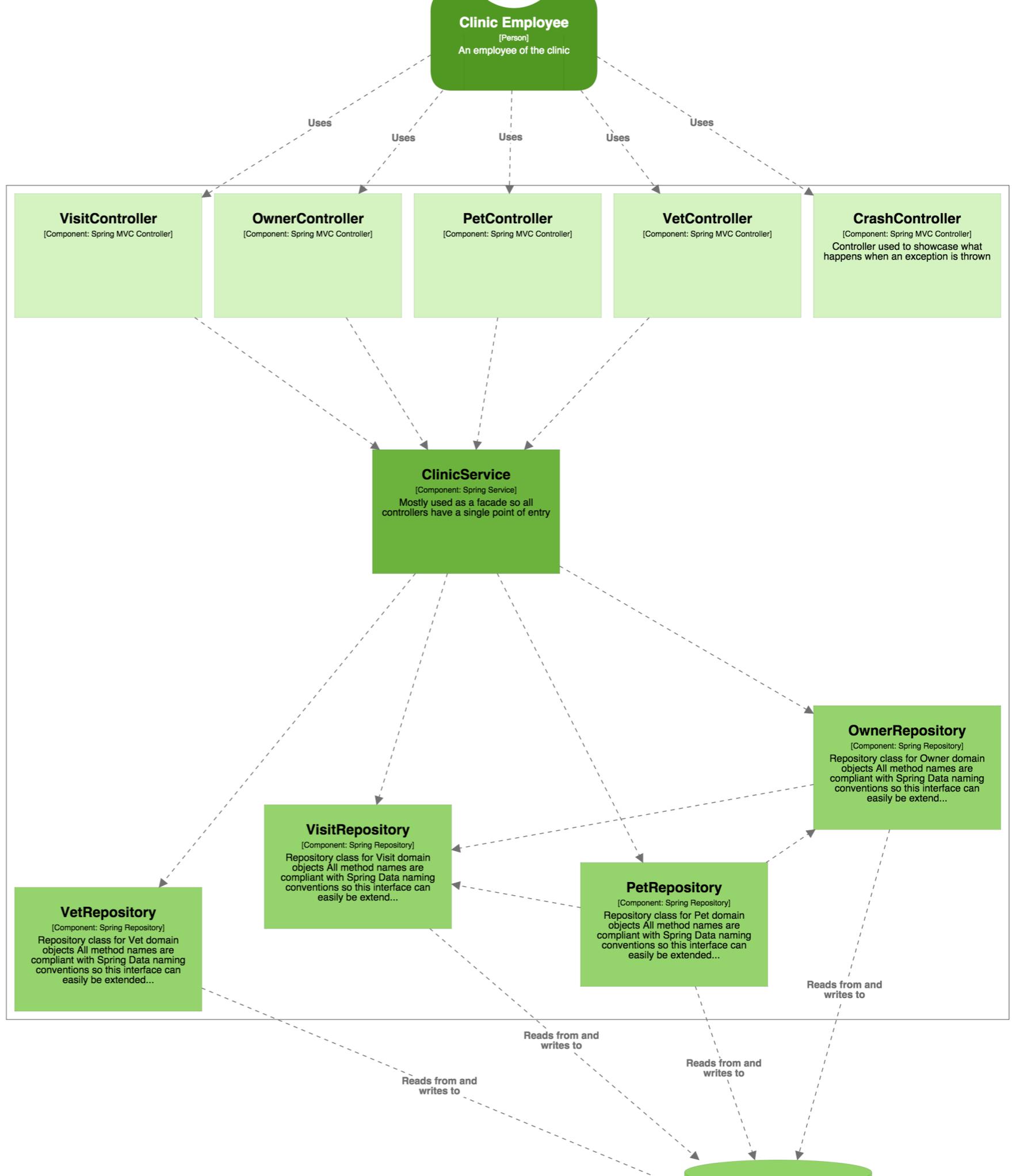
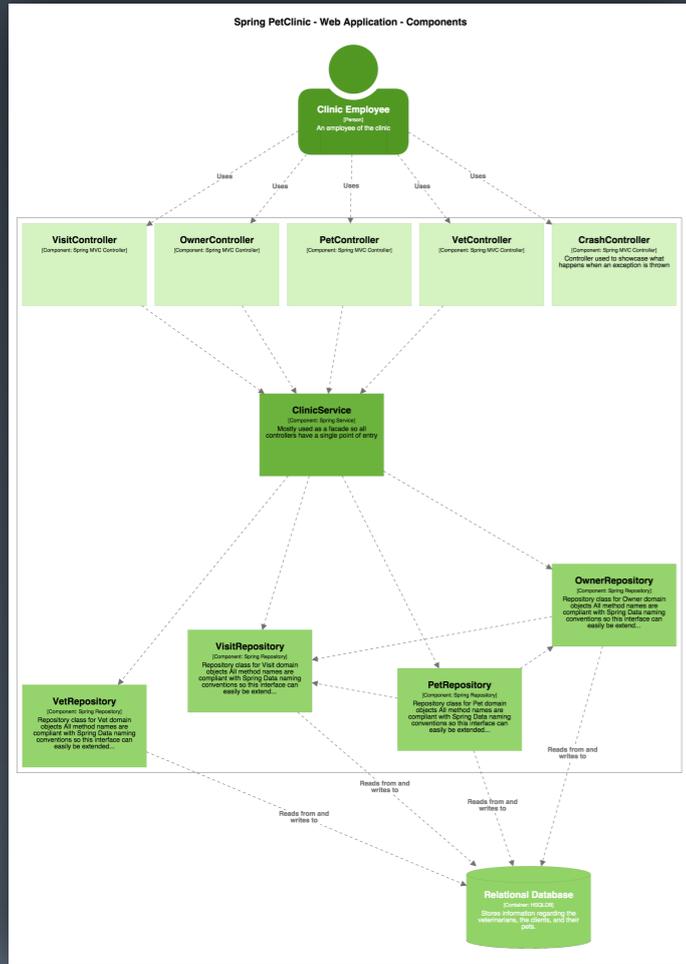
What is Structurizr?

Spring PetClinic - System Context

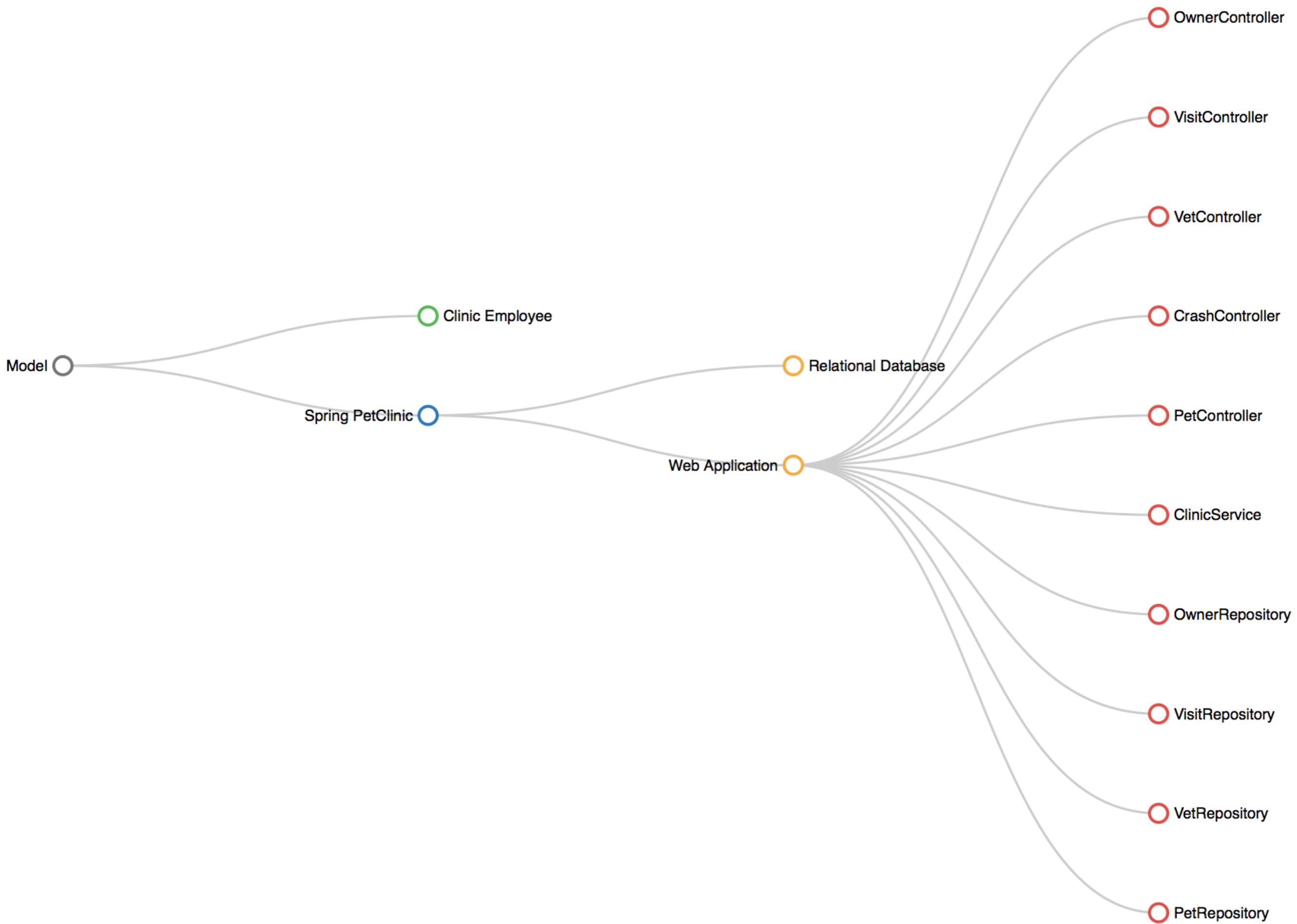


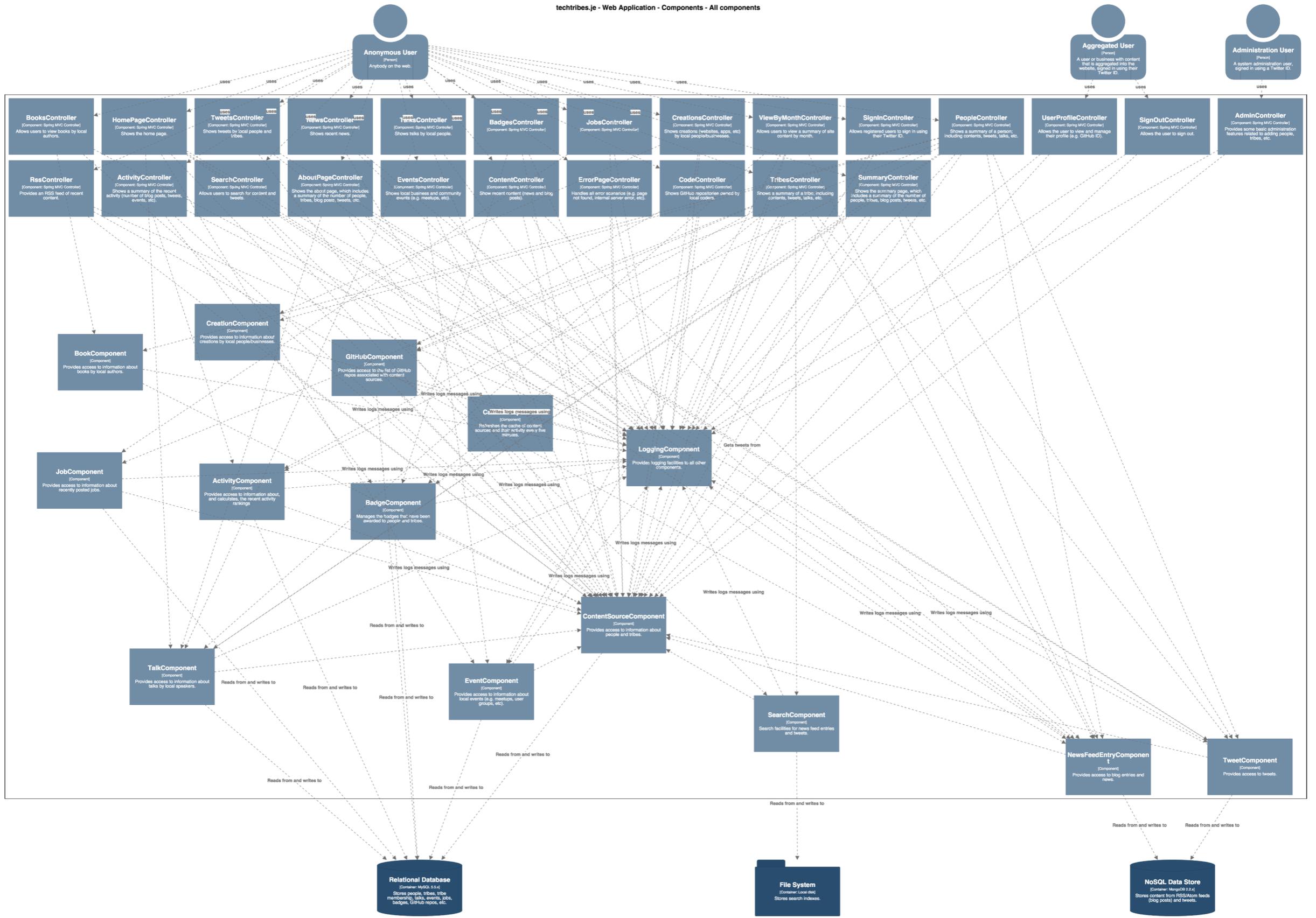
Spring PetClinic - Containers





Spring PetClinic - Web Application - Components





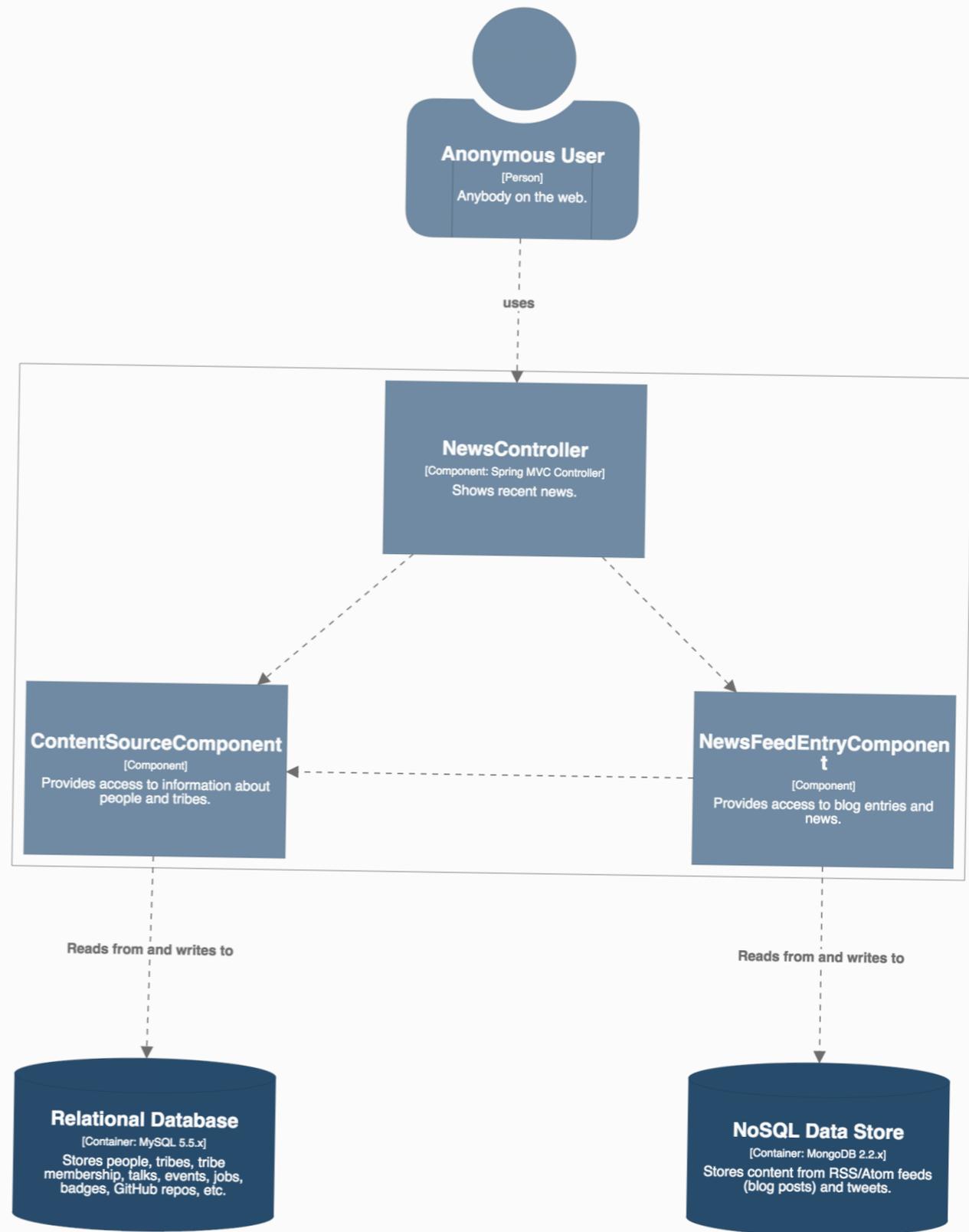
Does this approach scale?

```
private static void createComponentViewsForWebApp
SoftwareSystem techTribes = model.getSoftwa
Container contentUpdater = techTribes.getCo
Container webApplication = techTribes.getCo

// create one component view per Spring con
Set<Component> controllers = webApplication
```

- techtribes.je - System Context
- techtribes.je - Containers
- techtribes.je - Content Updater - Components - Awarding badges
- techtribes.je - Content Updater - Components - Updating information from exter
- techtribes.je - Content Updater - Components - Updating recent activity
- techtribes.je - Web Application - Components - AboutPageController
- techtribes.je - Web Application - Components - ActivityController
- techtribes.je - Web Application - Components - AdminController
- ✓ techtribes.je - Web Application - Components - All components
- techtribes.je - Web Application - Components - BadgesController
- techtribes.je - Web Application - Components - BooksController
- techtribes.je - Web Application - Components - CodeController
- techtribes.je - Web Application - Components - ContentController
- techtribes.je - Web Application - Components - CreationsController
- techtribes.je - Web Application - Components - ErrorPageController
- techtribes.je - Web Application - Components - EventsController
- techtribes.je - Web Application - Components - HomePageController
- techtribes.je - Web Application - Components - JobsController
- techtribes.je - Web Application - Components - NewsController
- techtribes.je - Web Application - Components - PeopleController
- techtribes.je - Web Application - Components - RssController
- techtribes.je - Web Application - Components - SearchController
- techtribes.je - Web Application - Components - SignInController
- techtribes.je - Web Application - Components - SignOutController
- techtribes.je - Web Application - Components - SummaryController
- techtribes.je - Web Application - Components - TalksController
- techtribes.je - Web Application - Components - TribesController
- techtribes.je - Web Application - Components - TweetsController
- techtribes.je - Web Application - Components - UserProfileController
- techtribes.je - Web Application - Components - ViewByMonthController

techtribes.je - Web Application - Components - NewsController



A model as code provides opportunities...



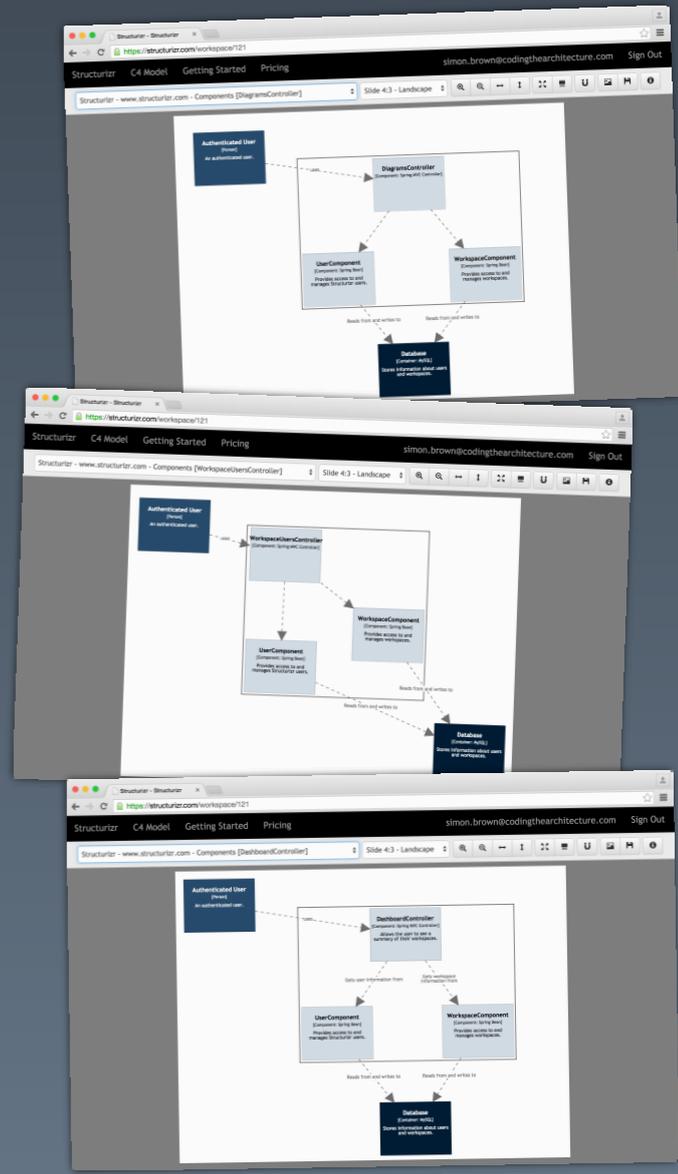
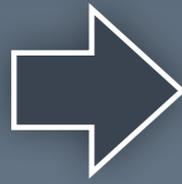
TC TeamCity

<APACHE ANT>

gradle

maven

 **Jenkins**



...and build pipeline integration keeps software architecture models up-to-date

If the software architecture
model is *in* the code,
it can be extracted
from the code



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[@simonbrown](https://twitter.com/simonbrown) on Twitter