



Software Architecture

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Architectural Styles

Part 2

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Learning Objectives

- Introduce three popular distributed architecture styles
- Look at the relationships between styles and attributes.
- Provide implementation tactics for these styles
- Discuss these styles key selection criteria

Main Reference:

Fundamentals of Software Architecture, an engineering approach

by Neal Ford; Mark Richards *Published by O'Reilly Media, Inc., 2020*

Agenda



Warm up in Style



Peer-to-Peer Style



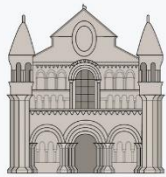
Microservices Style



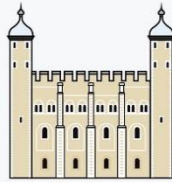
Event-Driven Style



Choosing a Style



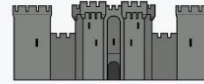
ROMANESQUE



NORMAN



GOTHIC



MEDIEVAL



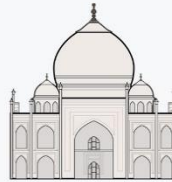
RENAISSANCE



TUDOR



ELIZABETHAN



INDOISLAMIC



BAROQUE



JACOBEOAN



PALLADIAN



ROCOCO



GEORGIAN



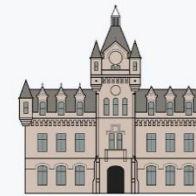
NEOCLASSICAL



GOTHIC REVIVAL



MOORISH REVIVAL



BARONIAL



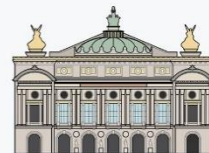
FEDERAL



REGENCY



ITALIANATE



EMPIRE



INDOSARACENIC



JACOBETHAN



CHICAGO SCHOOL

Architectural style defined

Architectural patterns/styles and tactics are ways of capturing proven good design structures, so that they can be reused for similar projects and context.

An Architecture style is a set of rules and constraints that prescribe

- vocabulary/metaphor:

which types of components, interfaces & connectors must/may be used in a system. Possibly introducing domain-specific types

- structure:

How components and connectors may be combined

- behavior:

How the system behaves

- guidelines:

These support the application of the style
(how to achieve certain system properties)

Architectural style defined

- Architectural styles are design paradigms for a set of design dimensions

Some architectural styles emphasize different aspects such as: Subdivision of functionality, Topology or Interaction style

- Styles are open-ended; new styles will emerge
- A single architecture can use several architectural styles
- Architectural styles are not disjoint, they can exist in hybrid mix
- Reusability and use cases define popularity of certain styles

Architectural style types

Monolithic vs. Distributed Architectures

Architecture styles are two types: *monolithic* (single deployment unit of all code) and *distributed* (multiple deployment units connected through access protocols).

Monolithic

- Layered architecture (n -tier or client-server architecture)
- Pipeline architecture
- Microkernel architecture

Distributed

- Peer-to-Peer architecture
- Microservices architecture
- Event-driven architecture
- Service-oriented architecture

Architectural style types

Distributed architectures all share a common set of challenges and issues not found in the monolithic architecture styles *Monolithic, this includes:*

- 1- *The network may not be reliable or secured*
- 2- *Latency is not zero (microsecond vs. millisecond)*
- 3- *Bandwidth is not infinite*
- 4- *The network topology always changes (unpredicted performance)*
- 5- *There are many network administrators, not just one*

TECHNIQUE FOR ARCHITECTURE DESIGN

This technique consists of five steps that are performed iteratively:

1. Identify architecture objectives.

Provide **scope of design**

2. Identify key scenarios.

Key scenarios represent **architecture drivers**, **significant use cases**, intersections between quality **attributes and functionality**, or **tradeoffs across quality attributes**.

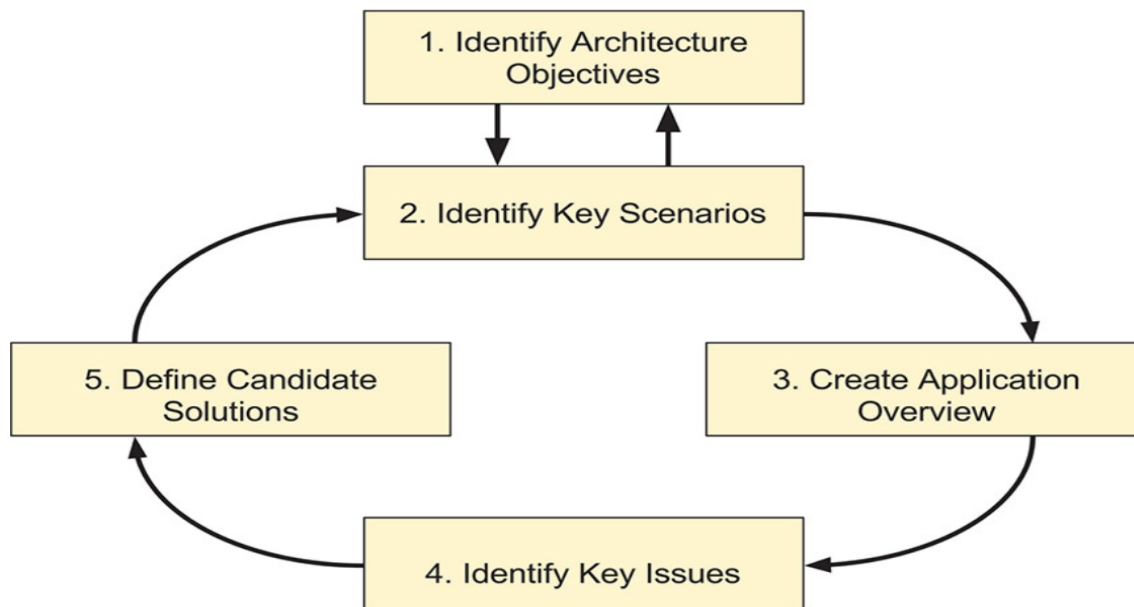


FIGURE 7.5 Iterative steps of the technique for architecture and design

3. Create application overview.

This step is divided into the following set of activities:

- a. Determining **application type**, b. Identifying **deployment constraints**, c. Identifying important **architecture design styles**, d. Determining **relevant technologies**

4. Identify key issues.

Such as **quality attributes and crosscutting concerns**. Crosscutting concerns are **features of the design that may apply across all layers**, components, and tiers, such as the following:

- a. Authentication and authorization, b. Caching, c. Communication, d. Configuration management, e. Exception management, f. Validation and testing

5. Define candidate solutions.

Candidate architectures include an application type, deployment architecture, architectural style, technology choices, quality attributes, and crosscutting concerns.

Synch. vs. Asynch. & Decoupling

Synchronous calls between two distributed services have the caller **wait for the response** from the callee (real-time chat) .

Asynchronous calls allow **fire-and-forget** (or **choose when to respond like sensors**) semantics in **event-driven architectures**, allowing two different services to differ in operational architecture

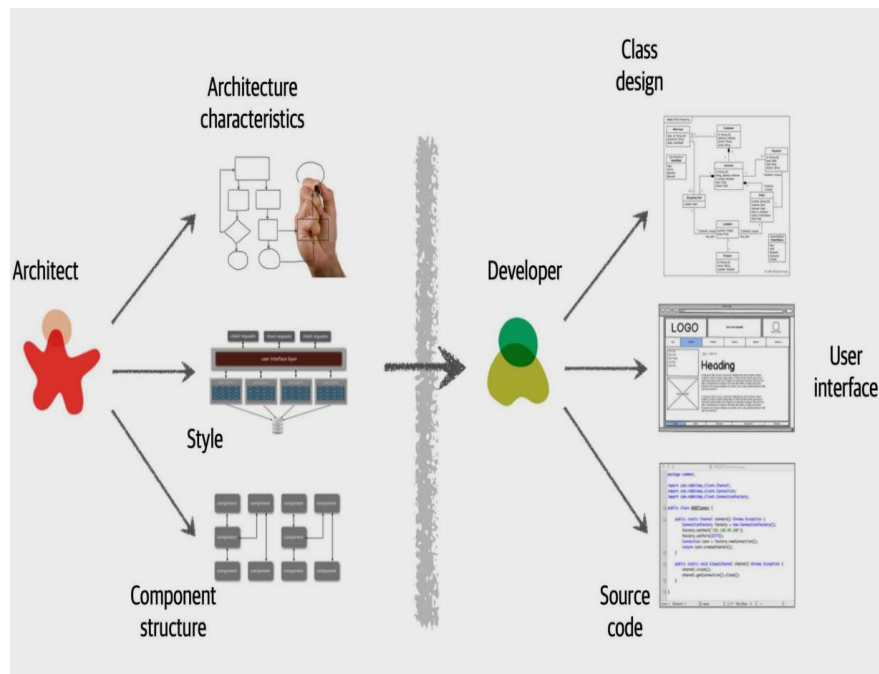
What does *Decoupled Architecture* mean?

Decoupled architecture is also used in software development to develop, execute, test and debug application modules independently. Cloud computing architecture implements decoupled architecture where the vendor and consumer independently operate and manage their resources.

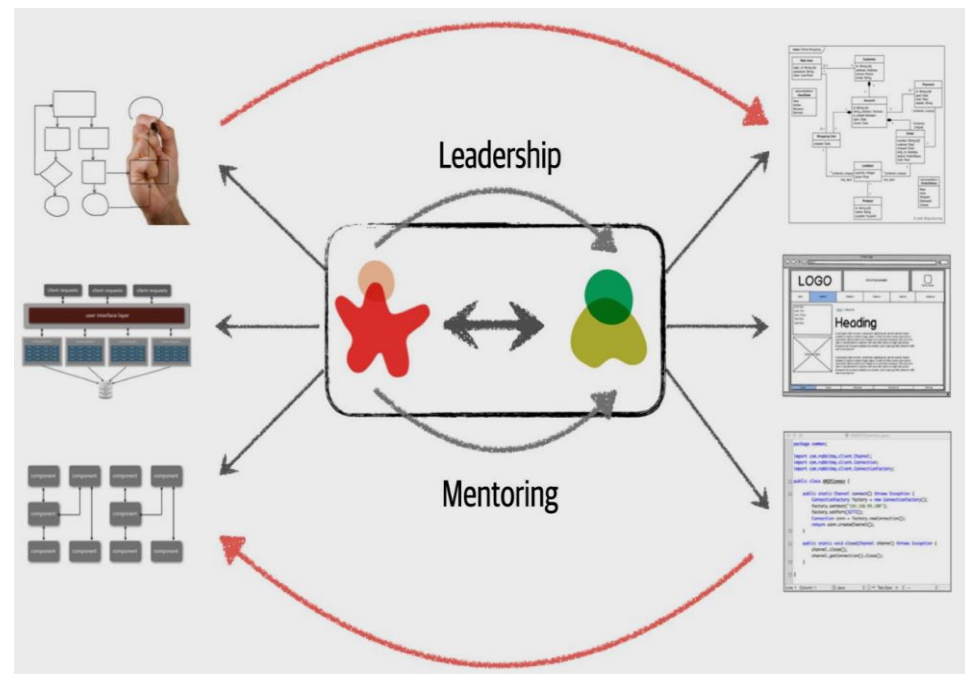
Decoupled architecture helps achieve higher computing performance, deployment, reusability, and testability by isolating and executing individual components independently and in parallel.

Architect vs. Developer

- A tight collaboration between the architect and the development team is essential.
- Due to Lean Agile, and DevOps practice this collaboration is a must.



Old way



New way

Agenda



Warm up in Style



Peer-to-Peer Style



Microservices Style



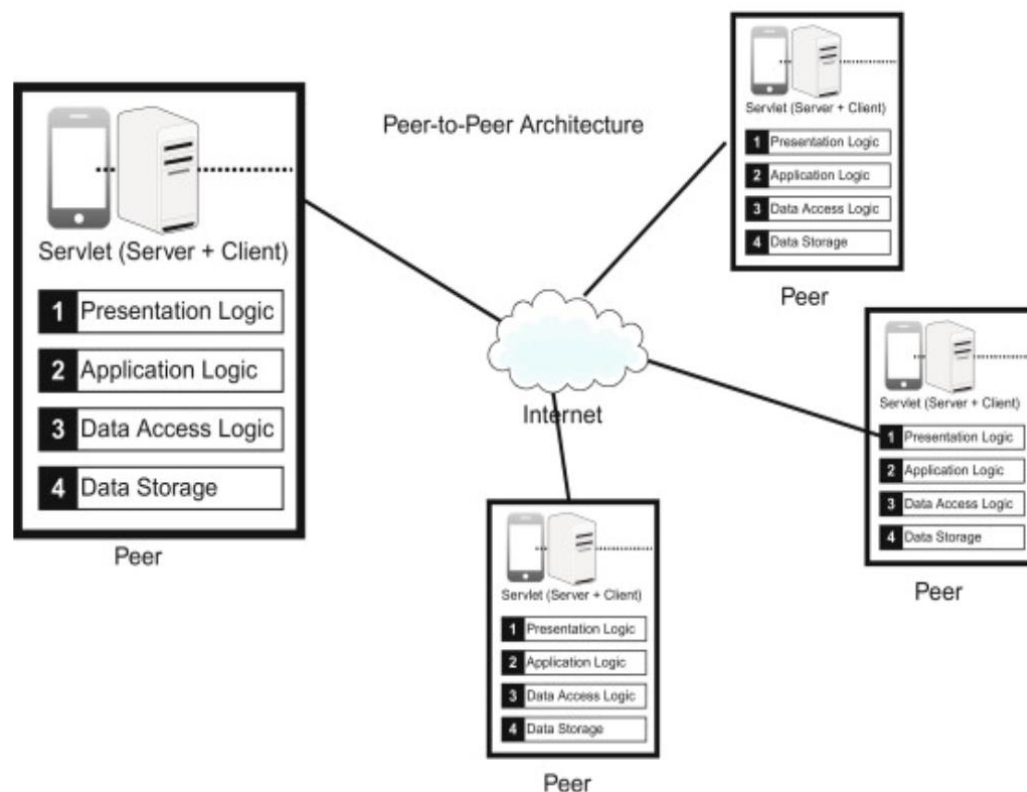
Event-Driven Style



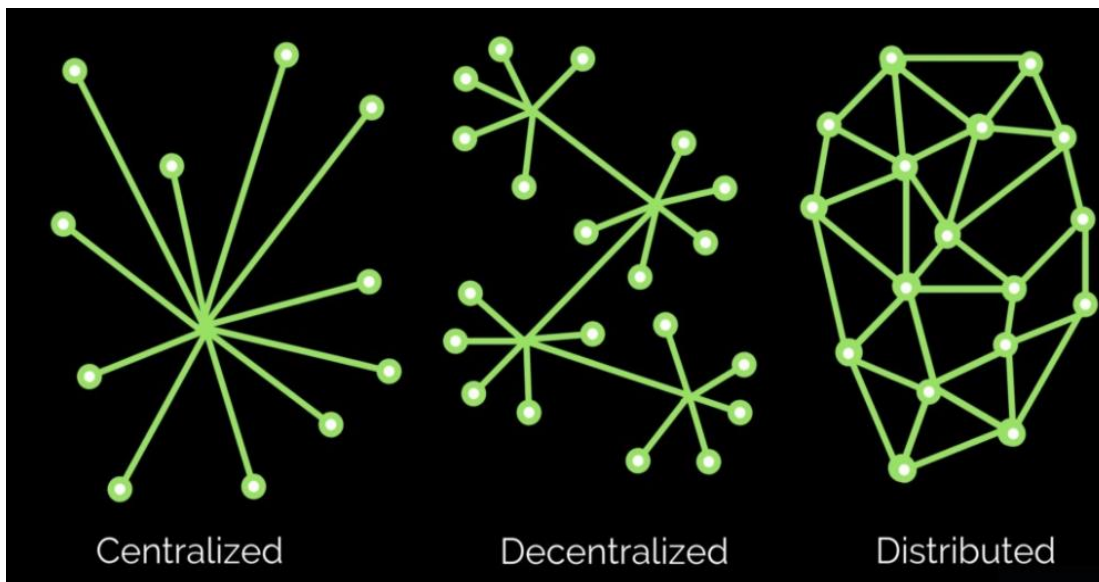
Choosing a Style

P2P Architecture Style

- Peer-to-peer (P2P) is a **distributed computing** architecture
- **Divides tasks or workloads** across several computer systems (of nodes or peer).
- P2P networks can be used to share any kind of digital assets, such as data, or smart contracts.
- The structure of a **pure P2P network** is sustained by its users, who can provide governance and use resources.
- A single peer can be an independent client-server Servlet structure.



How P2P is different?



 Fault tolerance:

- Low: Centralized systems
- Moderate: Decentralized systems
- High: Distributed systems

 Maintenance:

- Low: Centralized systems
- Moderate: Decentralized systems
- High: Distributed systems

 Scalability:

- Low: Centralized systems
- Moderate: Decentralized systems
- High: Distributed systems

Decentralized Systems:

Every node makes its own decision.

The final behavior of the system is the aggregate of the decisions of the individual nodes. Note that there is no single entity that receives and responds to the request. eg. blockchain,

Distributed Systems:

Means that the processing is shared across multiple nodes, but the decisions may still be centralized and use complete system knowledge. eg. AWS, Cloud Instances, Google, Facebook, Netflix, etc.

P2P Implementations

- Windows 10 updates are delivered both from Microsoft's servers and through P2P (**bandwidth sharing**)
- The decentralized framework of P2P systems makes them highly available and **resistant to cyber attacks and also more scalable**.
- The more users join it, the more resilient and scalable it gets. Bigger P2P networks achieve high levels of security because there is **no single point of failure**.
- The peer-to-peer architecture popular examples with varying use cases include:
 - BitTorrent (file-sharing)
 - Tor* (anonymous communication software),
 - Many more decentralized apps (See Blockchain lecture)

*The Onion routing is implemented by encryption in the application layer of a communication protocol stack, nested like the layers of an onion. Tor encrypts the data, including the next node destination IP address, multiple times and sends it through a virtual circuit comprising successive, random-selection Tor relays.

P2P Implementations

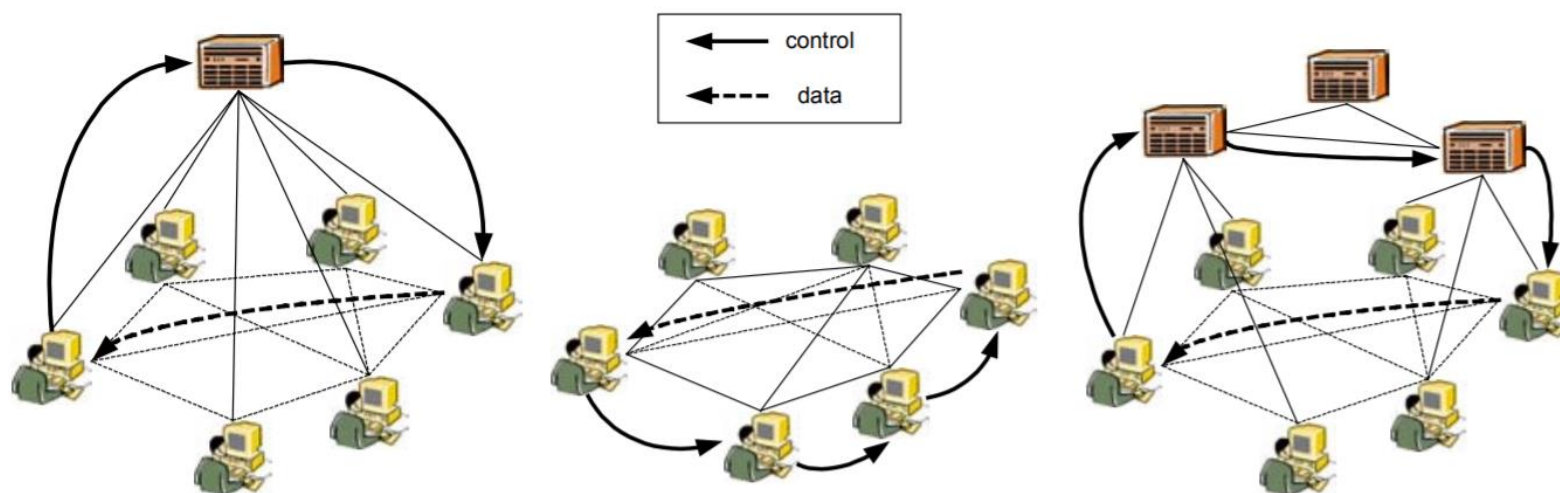
- Unstructured vs. Structured (public vs. private) MPLS Multi-protocol label switching
- Security, Resilience and Scalability concerns
- Controlling authority (pure vs. hybrid)

dApps can run on both a P2P network as well as a blockchain network.

It is challenging to achieve **pure dApps** network due to the need of some governance (to be covered in blockchain)

P2P Architectural styles

We present here three popular P2P styles*



Three peer-to-peer architectures: mediated (left), pure (middle) and hybrid (right)

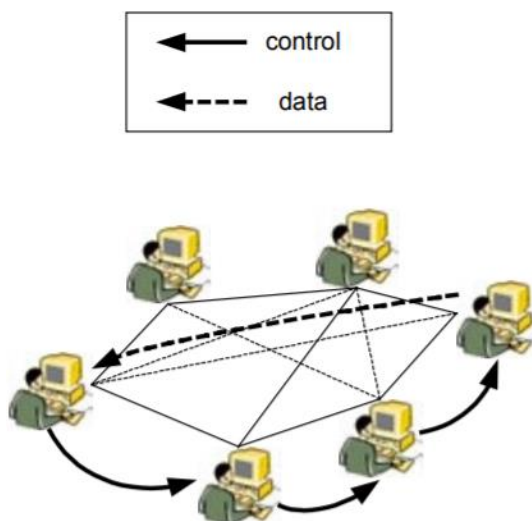
*A comparison of peer-to-peer architectures

Peter Backx, Tim Wauters, Bart Dhoedt, Piet Demeester
Broadband Communication Networks Group (IBCN),
Department of Information Technology (INTEC), Ghent University, Belgium

P2P Architectural styles

Pure peer-to-peer architecture

- Applications will not use a central server at all (except possibly for logging onto the network).
- Queries for files can be flooded through the network or more intelligent mechanisms can be used.
- Have become quite unpopular because they generate a lot of overhead traffic to keep the network up and running.
- Some adopters still use this model because it offers an unprecedented anonymity, not found in any other architecture.



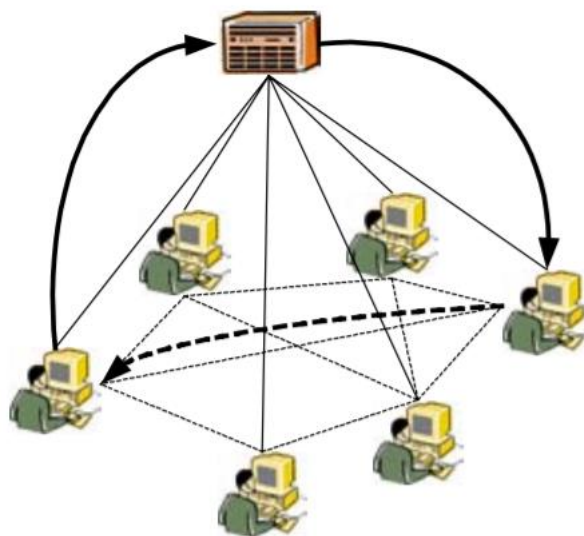
P2P Architectural styles

Mediated architecture

Uses a client-server setup for its **control operations**. All peers **log on** to a central server that manages the file and user databases.

Searches for a file are sent to the server and, if found, the file can be downloaded directly from a peer.

In most cases the server will have a database of files shared by peers. Afterwards the **server functions as a proxy** that distributes the searches towards the peers.



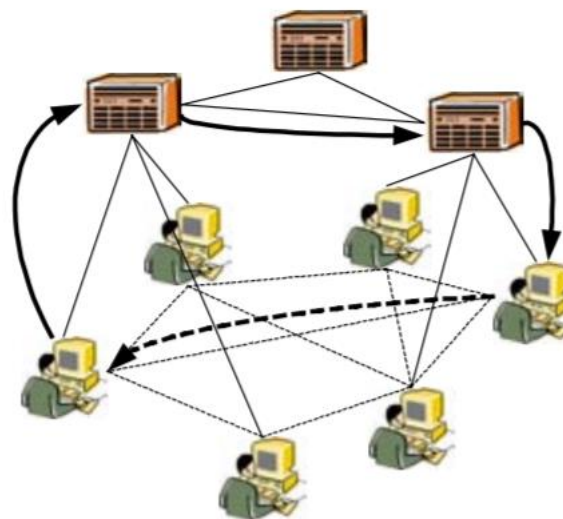
P2P Architectural styles

Hybrid architectures

Hybrid architectures introduce **two layers in the control plane**:

one of “normal” **peers connecting to ultrapeers** in a client-server fashion and one of **ultrapeers connected with each other via a pure peer-to-peer network**.

Both pure and hybrid architectures build an overlay network over the existing IP network.



P2P Architectural styles

P2P implementation considerations

P2P style Advantages	P2P style Disadvantages
Resilient, Highly available	No central governance
Cost effective, less overhead	Risk of data integrity
Less complex, easy to deploy	Security exposure
Allow for bandwidth sharing	Sensitive to network performance
Flexible and faster enquiries	Less practical without central log
Flexible hybrid models	May force you to upload files
Enable anonymity	May include illegal content
Support Decoupling	Not suitable for small systems

P2P Architectural styles

Learning Unit Obligation

- Reviewed the Architecture style of P2P
- Realised the different topologies and use of P2P
- Reviewed the strength and weaknesses of P2P
- Realised how to mitigate P2P shortcomings

Agenda



Warm up in Style



Peer-to-Peer Style



Microservices Style



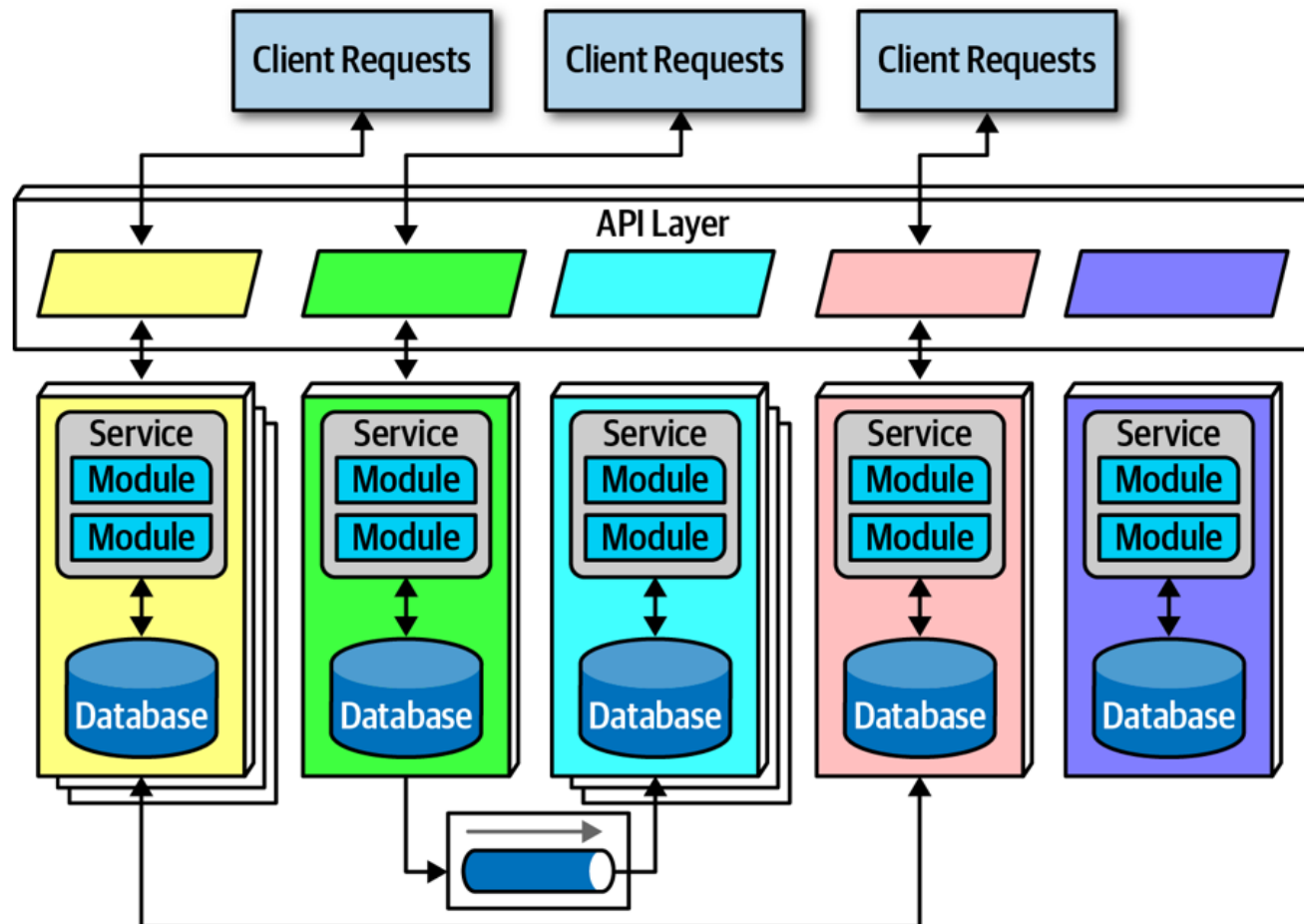
Event-Driven Style



Choosing a Style

Microservices Style

Extremely popular architecture style that has gained significant momentum in recent years due to mobile and cloud computing.



According to a [recent O'Reilly radar survey](#) on the growth of cloud computing, one of the more interesting metrics stated that **52 percent** of the 1,283 responses say they use microservices concepts, tools, or methods for software development.

Figure 17-1. The topology of the microservices architecture style

Microservices Style-Features

- **Microservices form a *distributed architecture***: each service runs in its **own process**, which originally implied a physical computer but quickly evolved to **virtual machines and containers**.
- **Decoupling the services** to this degree allows for a simple solution to a common problem in architectures that heavily feature **multitenant infrastructure** for hosting applications. Now, however, with cloud resources and container technology, teams can reap the benefits of extreme decoupling, both at the domain and operational level.
- **Granularity** correct granularity for services in microservices, and often make the mistake of making their services too small, which requires them to build communication links back between the services to do useful work. *The term “microservice” is a label, not a description.* Designing the right level of service component granularity is one of the biggest challenges within a microservices architecture.

Microservices Style-Features

Performance is negative side effect of the distributed microservices. Network calls take much longer than method calls, and security verification at every endpoint adds additional processing time, requiring architects to think carefully about the implications of granularity when designing the system.

Microservices is a distributed architecture. Architects advise against the use of transactions across service boundaries, making determining the granularity of services the key to success in this architecture.

Bounded Context. The driving philosophy of microservices is the notion of *bounded context*: each service models a domain or workflow. Thus, each service includes everything necessary to operate within the application, including classes, methods, and other subcomponents, and database schemas.

Microservices adopt a domain-partitioned architecture to the extreme.

Each service is meant to represent a domain or subdomain; it is domain-driven design.

Microservices Style-Features

Data Isolation. Another requirement of microservices, driven by the **bounded context concept**, is **data isolation**. Many other architecture styles use a single database for persistence. However, microservices tries to avoid all kinds of coupling, including **shared schemas and databases** to be used as integration points.

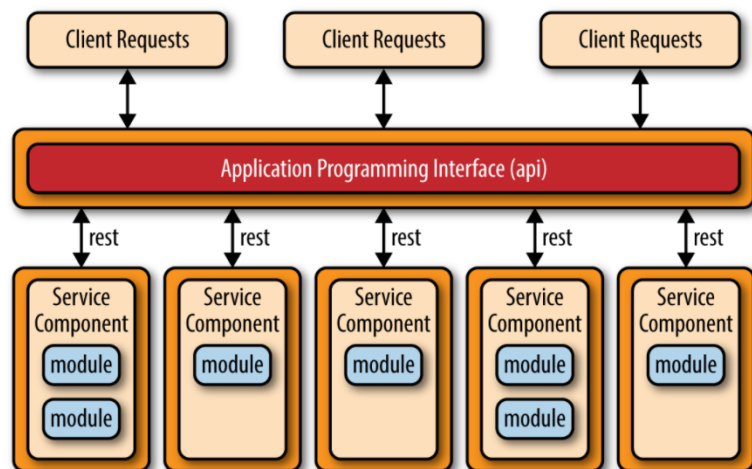
API Layer **API gateway** will handle a large amount of the communication and **administrative roles**, allowing the microservices to remain lightweight. They can also **authenticate, cache and manage requests**, as well as **monitor messaging and perform load balancing** as necessary.

CD of DevOps The evolutionary path from monolithic applications to a microservices architecture style was prompted primarily through the development of continuous delivery.

Microservices Style-Interface

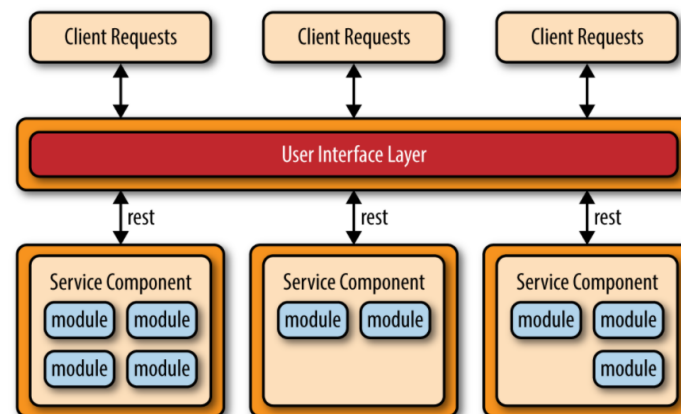
The User Interface is critical to the performance of Microservice design.

There are 3 different designs to deal with the APIs. Mainly this is suitable for remote web application environment.



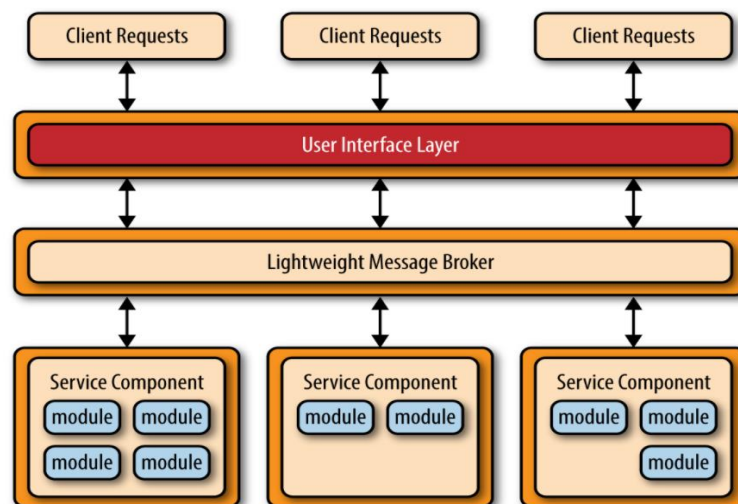
Traditional web-based or fat-client business application

Message brokers can validate, store, route, and deliver messages to the appropriate destinations. They serve as intermediaries between services. This facilitates decoupling of processes and services within systems.



Rest:
Remote
access
protocol

Web application remotely accesses separately deployed service.



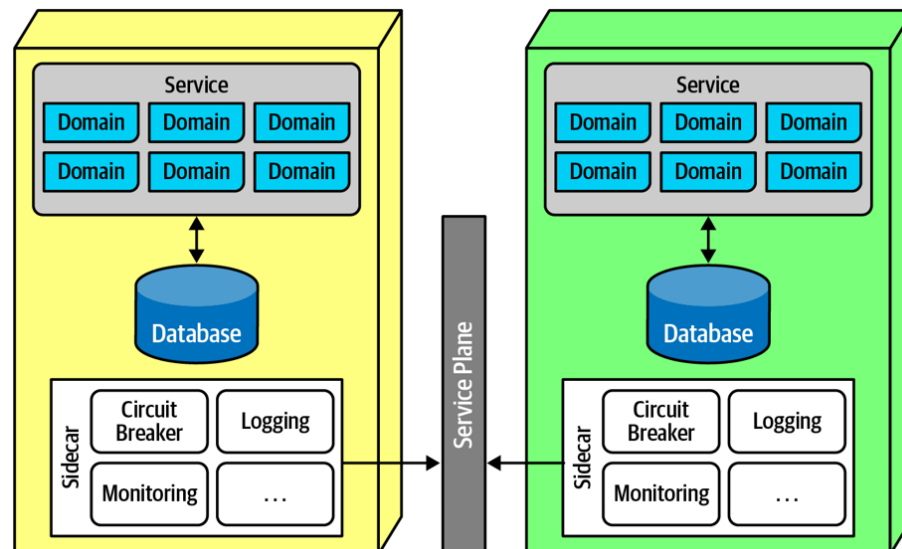
lightweight centralized message broker to access remote service components

Microservices Style-Sidecar

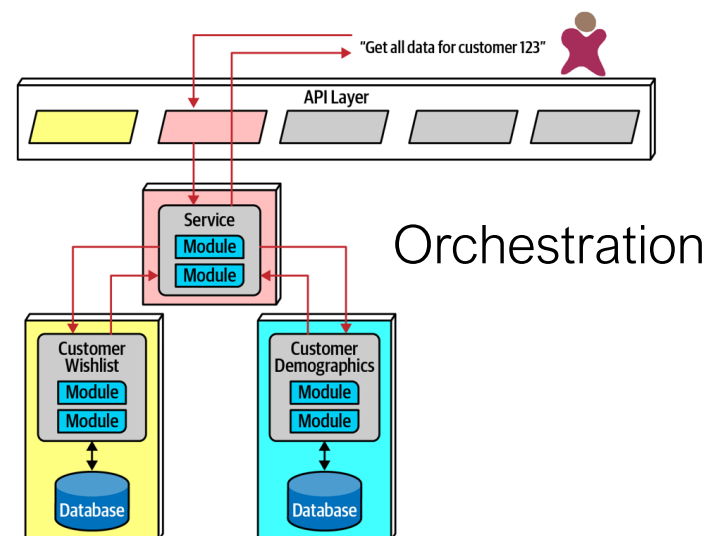
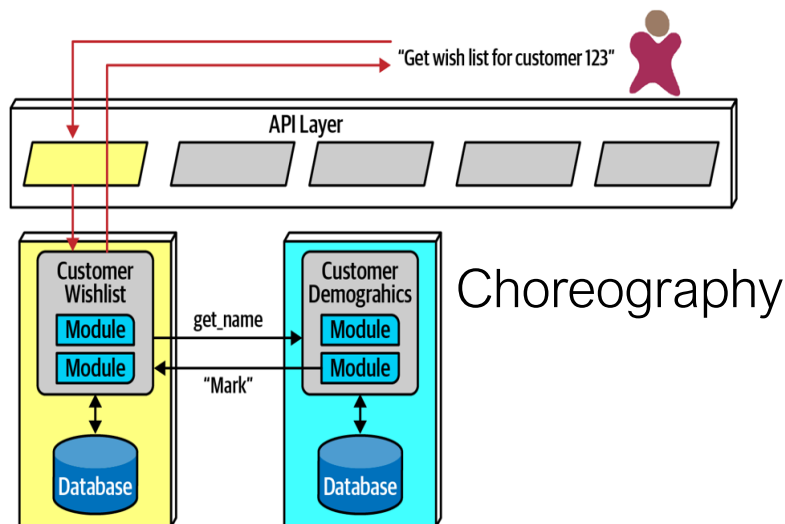
When a **common operational concerns** appear within each service as a separate component, the sidecar component can handle all the operational concerns.

The shared infrastructure can be done by **updating the sidecar**, and each microservices receives that new functionality.

The common sidecar components **connect to form a consistent operational interface** across all microservices



Microservices Style-Communication



Choreography: utilizes the same communication style as a broker event-driven architecture. In other words, no central coordinator exists in this architecture, respecting the bounded context philosophy. Thus, architects find it natural to implement decoupled events between services. However, error handling and coordination become more complex.

Orchestration the developers create a service whose sole responsibility is coordinating the call to get all information for a particular customer. The user calls the ReportCustomerInformation mediator (light weight message broker).

Microservices Style

Architecture Characteristics

Offers high support for modern engineering practices such as **automated deployment, and testability**.

Microservices couldn't exist without the **DevOps revolution** and the relentless march toward **automating operational concerns**.

Fault tolerance and reliability are impacted when too much interservice communication is used. independent, **single-purpose services generally lead to high fault tolerance**.

High scalability, elasticity, and evolutionary systems utilized this style to great success.

The architecture relies heavily on **automation and intelligent integration** with operations, developers can also build **elasticity support** into the architecture.

Microservices Style

Architecture Characteristics

Favors **high decoupling at an incremental level**, it supports **evolutionary change**.

By building an architecture that has extremely **small deployment units** that are highly **decoupled**, that can support a **faster rate of change**. Make **many network calls** to complete work, which has **high performance overhead**, and also **invoke security checks** to verify identity and access for each endpoint.

Many **patterns/tactics exist** in the microservices world **to increase performance**, including **intelligent data caching and replication** to prevent an excess of network calls.

Performance is another reason that microservices often use **choreography rather than orchestration**, as **some coupling allows for faster communication and fewer bottlenecks**.

Architects must understand the
rules to break them intelligently

Microservices Style

Microservices style implementation considerations

MS style Advantages	MS style Disadvantages
High scalability, & agility	Overall high cost
High reliability	Performance bottlenecks
High deployability/testability	Can get complex
High Fault tolerance	High overhead for security
Very high modularity	Hybrid tactics needed
Automation & Integration	

P2P Architectural styles

Learning Unit Obligation

- Reviewed the Architecture style of MS
- Realised the design features and properties of MS
- Reviewed Choreography & Orchestration designs
- Reviewed the strength and weaknesses of MS
- Reviewed the deployment environment of MS
- Realised how to mitigate MS shortcomings

Agenda



Warm up in Style



Peer-to-Peer Style



Microservices Style



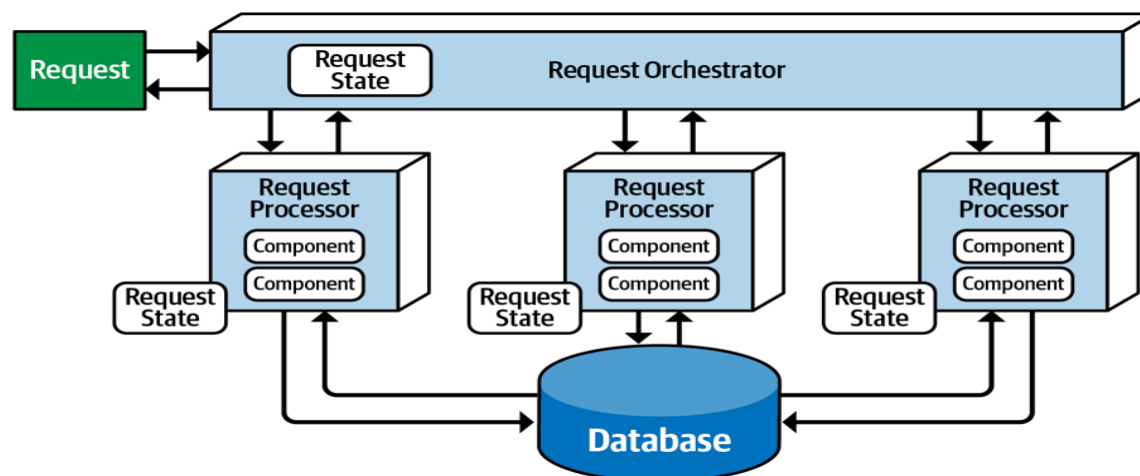
Event-Driven Style



Choosing a Style

Event-Driven Architecture Style

- The *event-driven* architecture style is a popular distributed asynchronous architecture style used to produce highly scalable and high-performance applications.
- It is also highly adaptable and can be used for small applications and as well as large, complex ones.
- Event-driven architecture is made up of decoupled event processing components that asynchronously receive and process events.
- It can be used as a standalone architecture style or embedded within other architecture styles (such as an event-driven microservices architecture).
- Most applications follow what is called a *request-based* model as shown:



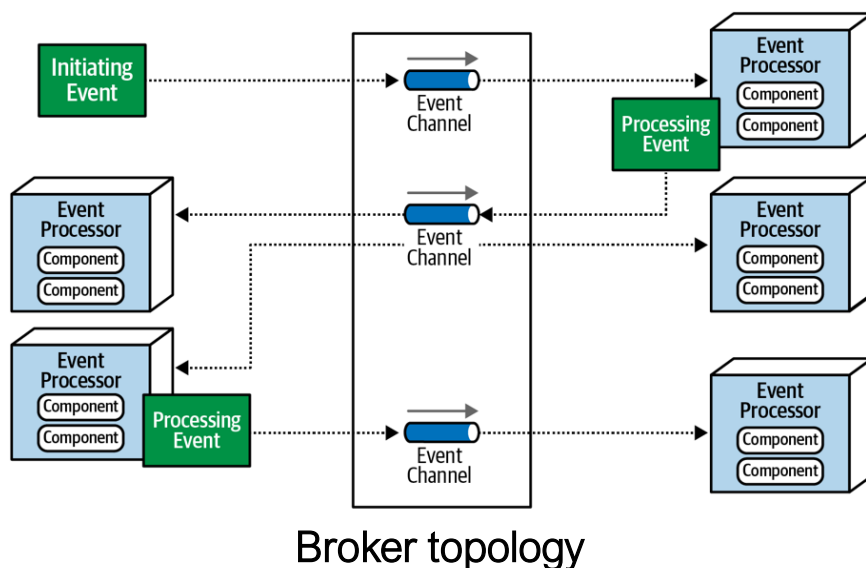
Event-Driven Architecture Style

Topology

There are two primary topologies within event-driven architecture:

Mediator topology: is commonly used when you require **control over the workflow of an event process**, we shall discuss this later.

Broker topology: is used when you require a **high degree of responsiveness and dynamic control over the processing of an event**. There is no central event mediator. The message flow is distributed across the event processor components in a chain-like broadcasting fashion through a lightweight message broker.

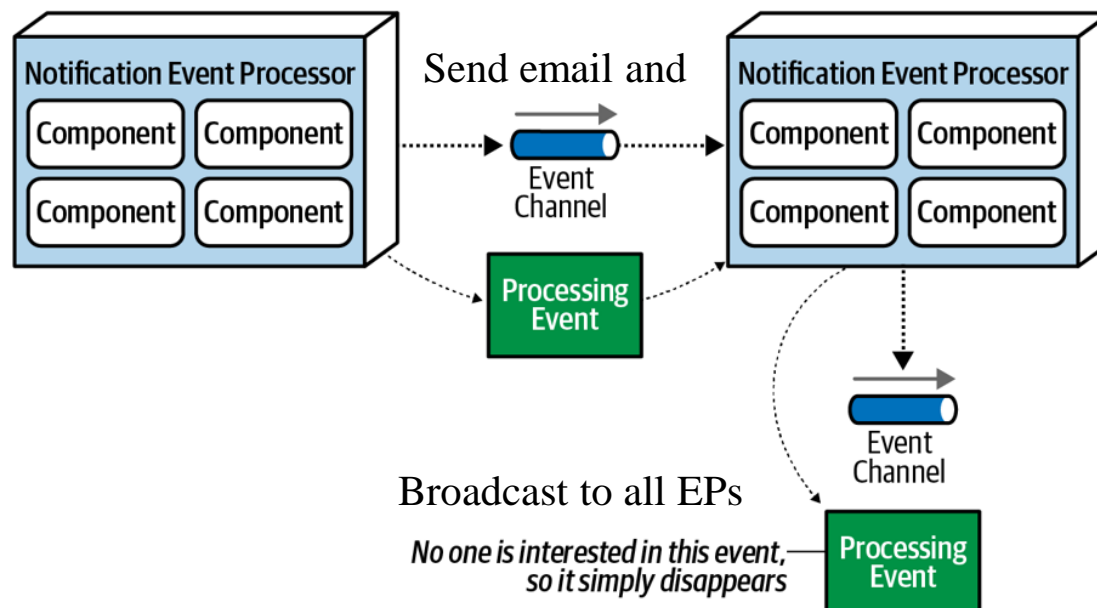


The event processor that **accepted the initiating event** performs a specific task associated with the processing of that event, then **asynchronously advertises what it did to the rest of the system by creating what is called a processing event**. This processing event is then asynchronously sent to the event broker for further processing, if needed.

Event-Driven Architecture Style

Broker topology

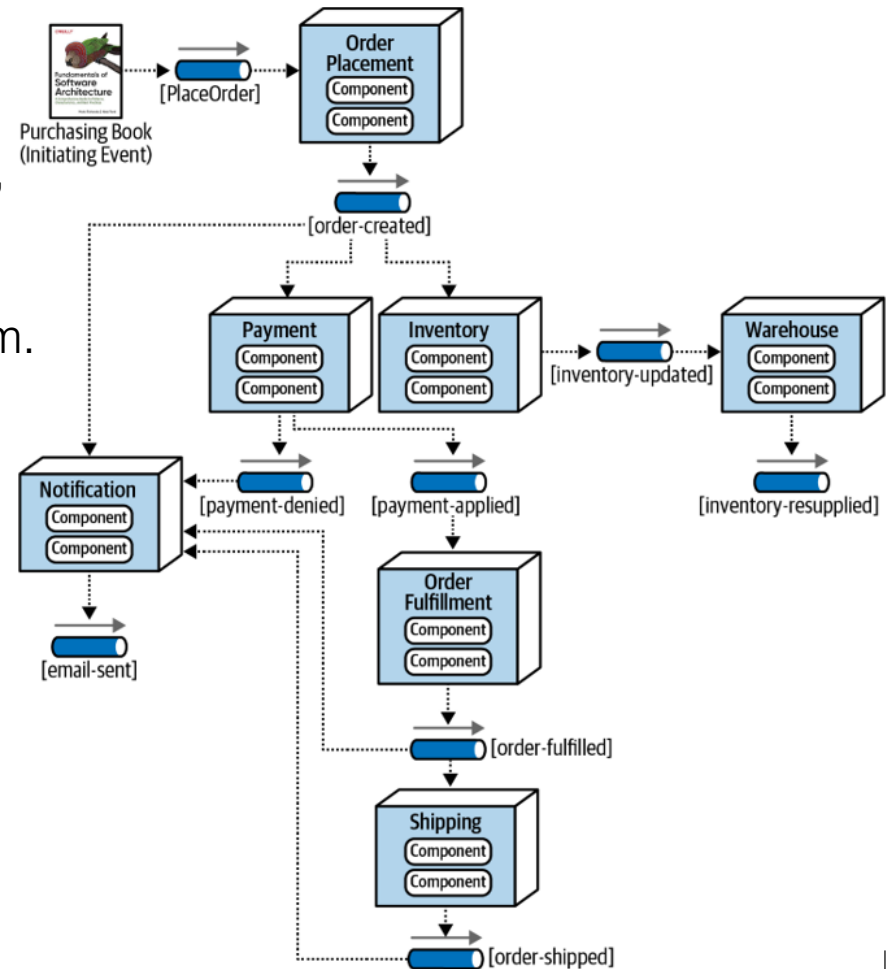
A good practice within the broker topology for each event processor to advertise what it did to the rest of the system, regardless of whether or not any other event processor cares about what that action was. This practice provides **architectural extensibility** if additional functionality is required for the processing of that event.



Event-Driven Architecture Style

Broker topology

To illustrate how the **broker topology works**, consider the processing flow in a typical **retail order system** as it is placed for an item. In this example, the **OrderPlacement event processor** receives the initiating event (PlaceOrder), inserts the order in a database table, and returns an order ID to the customer. It then advertises to the rest of the system that it created an order through an order-created processing event.

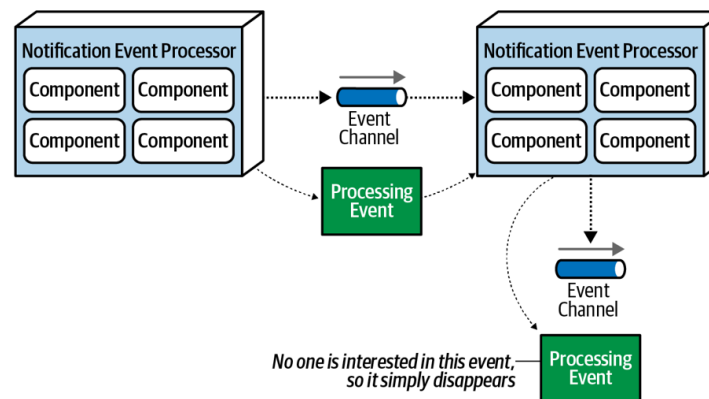


Event-Driven Architecture Style

Broker topology

While **performance, responsiveness, and scalability** are all great benefits of the broker topology, there are also **some negatives drawbacks**:

- There is **no control over the overall workflow** associated with the initiating event
- **Error handling is also a big challenge** with the broker topology without mediator.
- **All other processes are moving along without regard for the error.** For example, the Inventory event processor still decrements the inventory, and all other event processors react as though everything is fine.



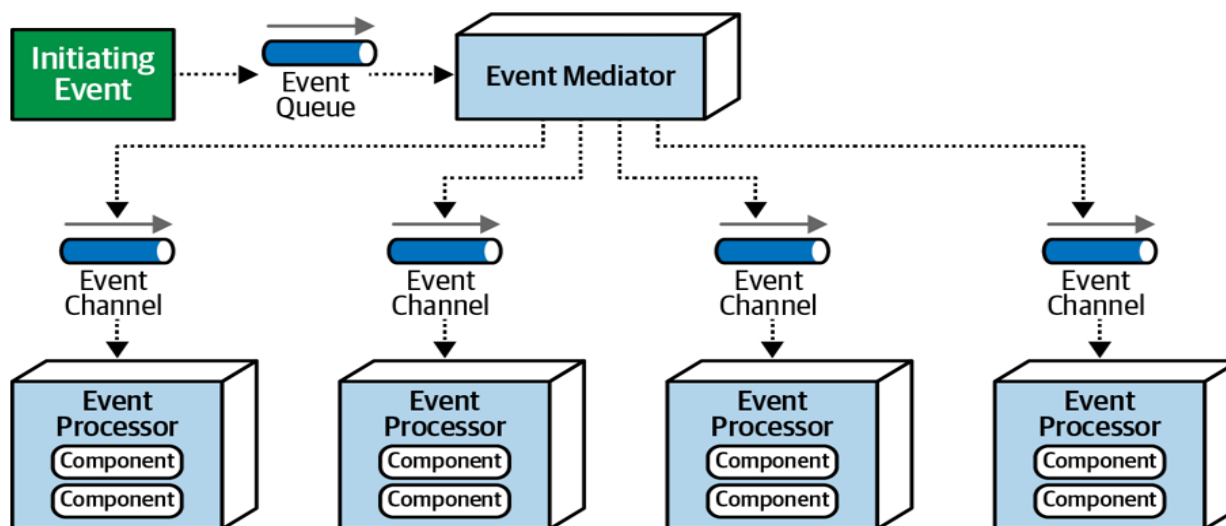
Event-Driven Architecture Style

Mediator Topology

The mediator topology of event-driven architecture addresses some of the shortcomings of the broker topology.

Central to this topology is an event mediator, which manages and controls the workflow for initiating events that require the coordination of multiple event processors.

The architecture components that make up the mediator topology are an initiating event, an event queue, an event mediator, event channels, and event processors.

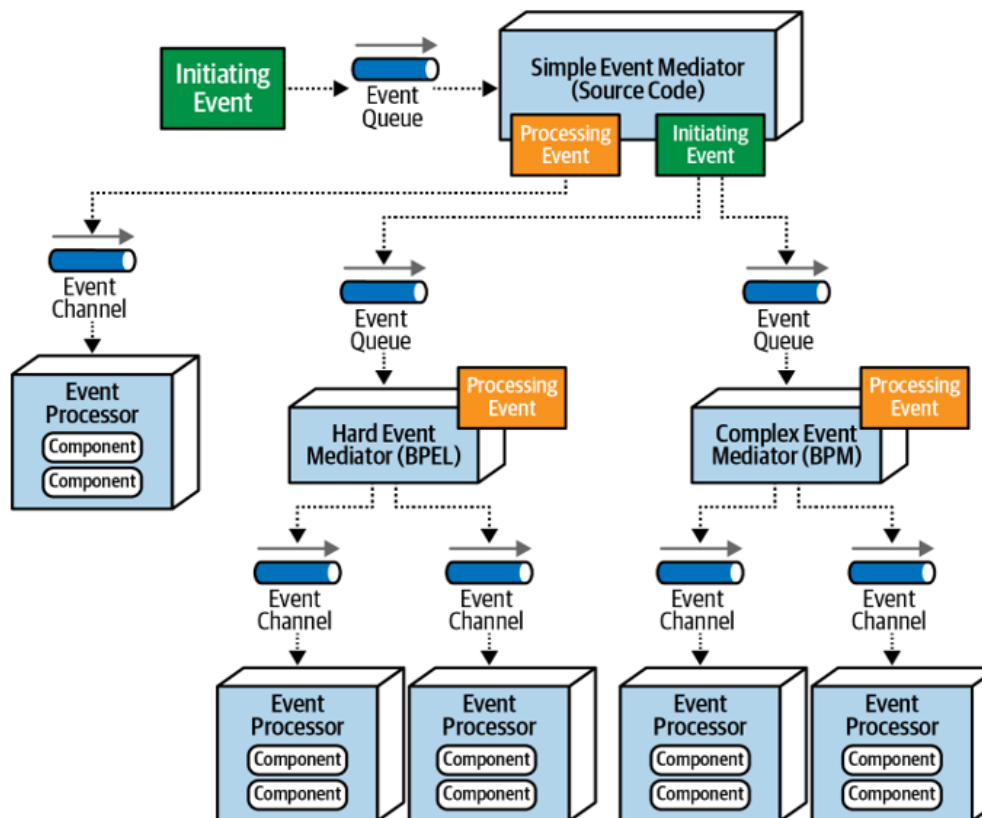


To reduce SPOF and also increase overall throughput and performance, **Event Mediator** are made redundant.

Event-Driven Architecture Style

Mediator delegation model

We recommend classifying events as **simple, hard, or complex**. The simple mediator can then interrogate the classification of the event, and based on that classification, **handle the event itself or forward it to another event initiator if it is more complex**.

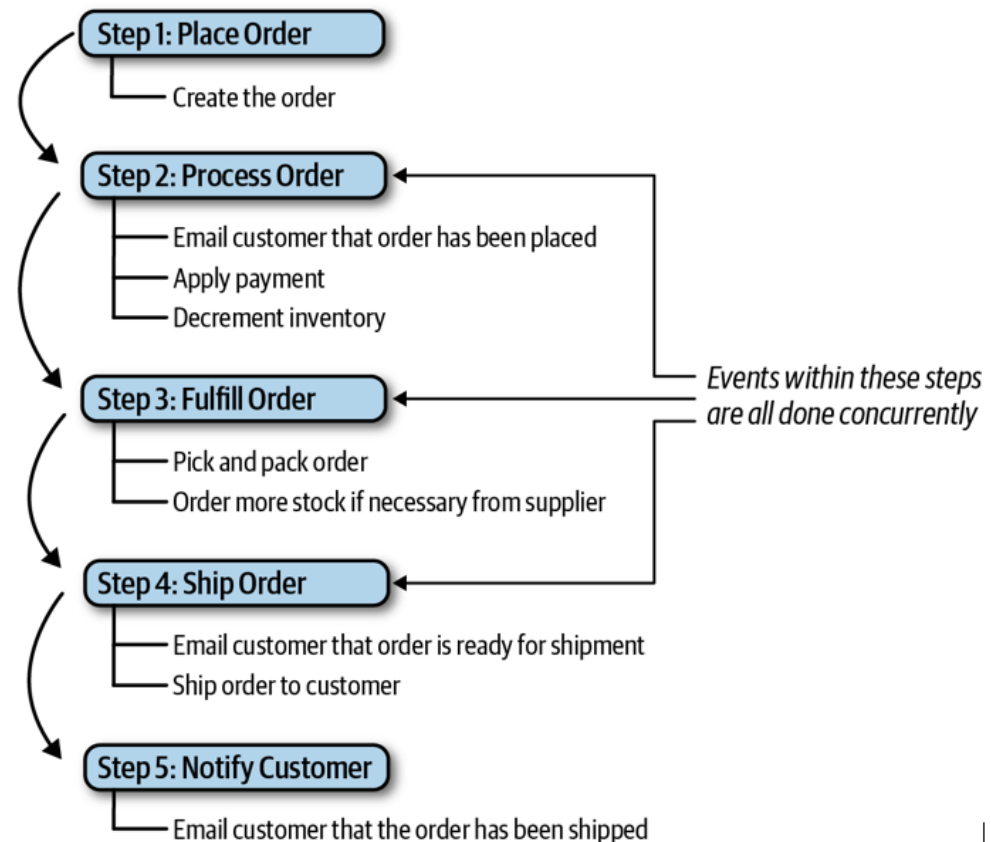


Event-Driven Architecture Style

Mediator Topology

Notice that when the initiating event is classified as either hard or complex, it forwards the original initiating event to the corresponding mediators. To illustrate how the mediator topology works, consider the

same retail order entry system example described in the prior broker topology section, but this time using the mediator topology.



Event-Driven Architecture Style

Event-Driven style implementation considerations

E-D style Advantages	E-D style Disadvantages
High scalability	Testability challenge
High performance	Can get complex
High Fault tolerance	High overhead for security
Very high modularity	Hybrid tactics needed
Highly evolutionary	Complex workflow

Event-Driven Architecture Style

Learning Unit Obligation

- Reviewed the two styles of ED architecture
- Realized the design features and properties of ED style
- Reviewed Broker and Mediator ED strength and weakness
- Reviewed the difference in handling simple and complex events
- Reviewed the ED implementation considerations

Agenda



Warm up in Style



Peer-to-Peer Style



Microservices Style



Event-Driven Style



Choosing a Style

Choosing a Style

Choosing an architecture style (pattern) represents the culmination of analysis about:

- Trade-offs for architecture characteristics (attributes)
- Domain considerations
- Strategic goals
- Optimization tactics,
- Agility and CD considerations
- Business and market considerations
- Reusability and SPLs consideration

However contextual the decision is, some general advice exists around choosing an appropriate architecture style, based on decision criteria.

Choosing a Style

Decision Criteria

Architects should go into the design decision with the following things:

The domain (analysis & implementation)

Domain affects **operational architecture attributes**. Architects must have at least a good general understanding of the major aspects of the **domain features** under design.

Attributes that impact Architecture

Architects must discover the architecture attributes needed to support the domain and other external factors.

Data architecture

Architects and DB Admins must collaborate on database, schema, and other data-related design concerns.

Choosing a Style

Decision Criteria

Knowledge of process, teams, and operational concerns

Many specific project factors influence an architect's design, such as the software development process, interaction (or lack of) with operations, and the QA process.

For instance, an insurance company application consisting of multipage forms, each of which is based on the context of previous pages, would be difficult to model in microservices.

Choosing a Style

Decision Criteria

Monolith versus distributed

Where should data live?

If the architecture is monolithic, architects commonly assume a single relational database or a few of them. In a distributed architecture, the architect must decide which services should **persist data**, which also implies thinking about how **data must flow throughout the architecture to build workflows**.

Choosing a Style

Decision Criteria

What communication styles between services—synchronous or asynchronous?

Once the architect has determined data partitioning, their next design consideration is the communication between services—synchronous or asynchronous?

Synchronous communication **is more convenient in most cases**, but it can lead to **scalability, reliability, and other undesirable characteristics**.

Asynchronous communication can provide unique benefits in terms of **performance and scale** but can present a host of headaches: **data synchronization, deadlocks, race conditions, debugging, and so on**.

Architects should default to synchronous when possible and use asynchronous when necessary (IoT, Sensors).