

Context-oriented Programming for Software Variability at Runtime

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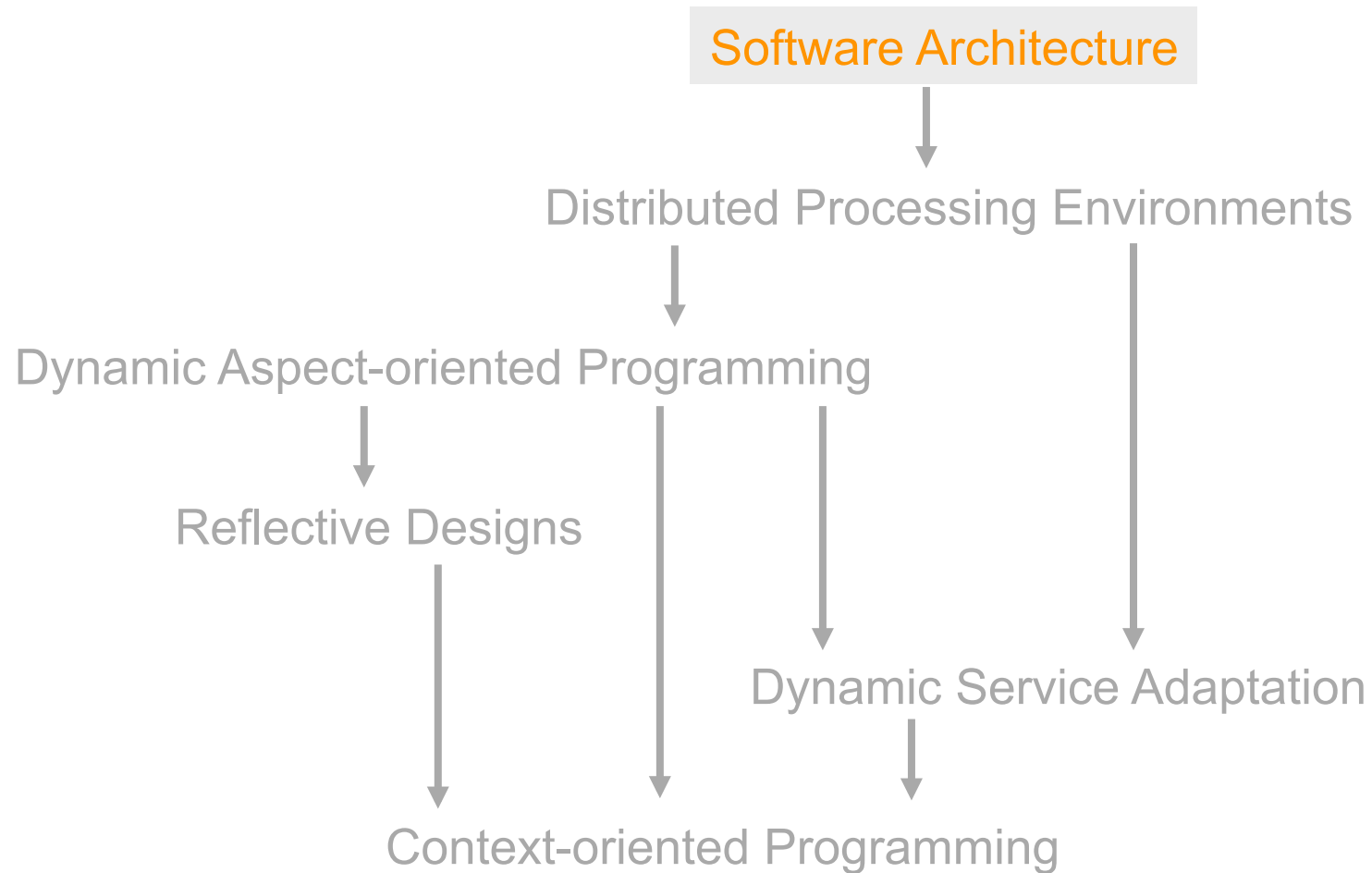
svpp 2008, Brussels, Belgium
August 8, 2008

Background

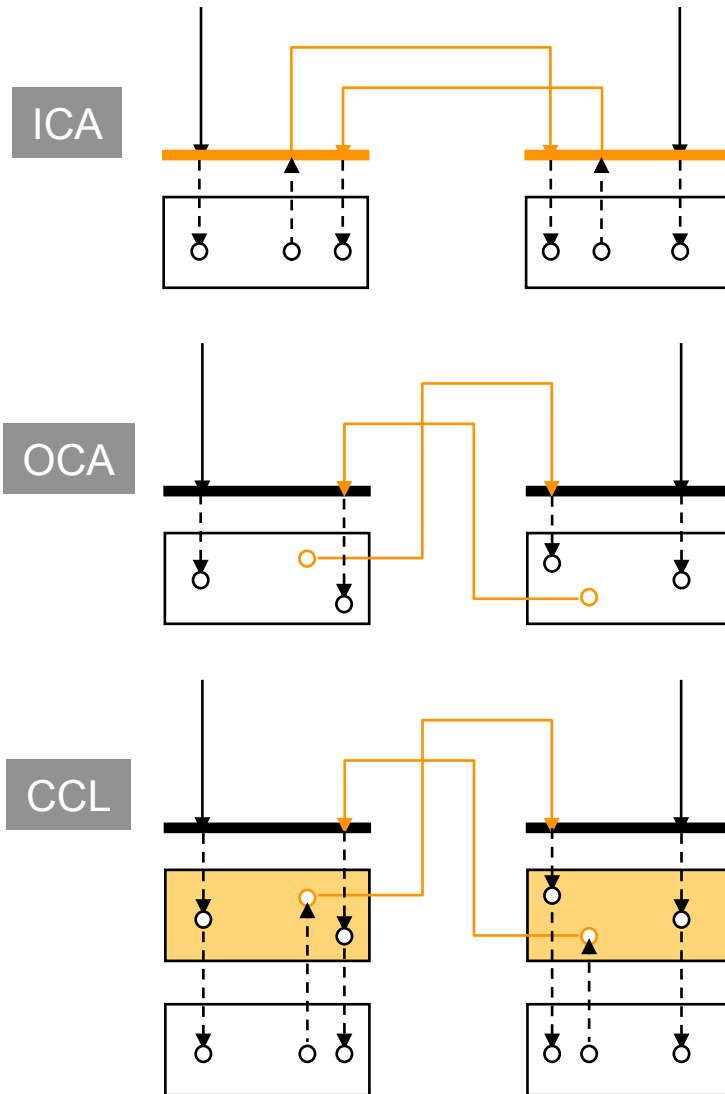
- 1994-1997
 - Mercedes-Benz & Daimler-Benz
 - Software Architecture
- 1997-2001
 - Windward Solutions
 - Distributed Processing Environments
 - CORBA & TINA
- 2001-2006
 - NTT DoCoMo Euro-Labs
 - Dynamic Aspect-oriented Programming
 - Dynamic Service Adaptation
- Since 2006
 - Hasso-Plattner-Institute, Software Architecture Group
 - Context-oriented Programming
 - Dynamic Programming Environments



Outline

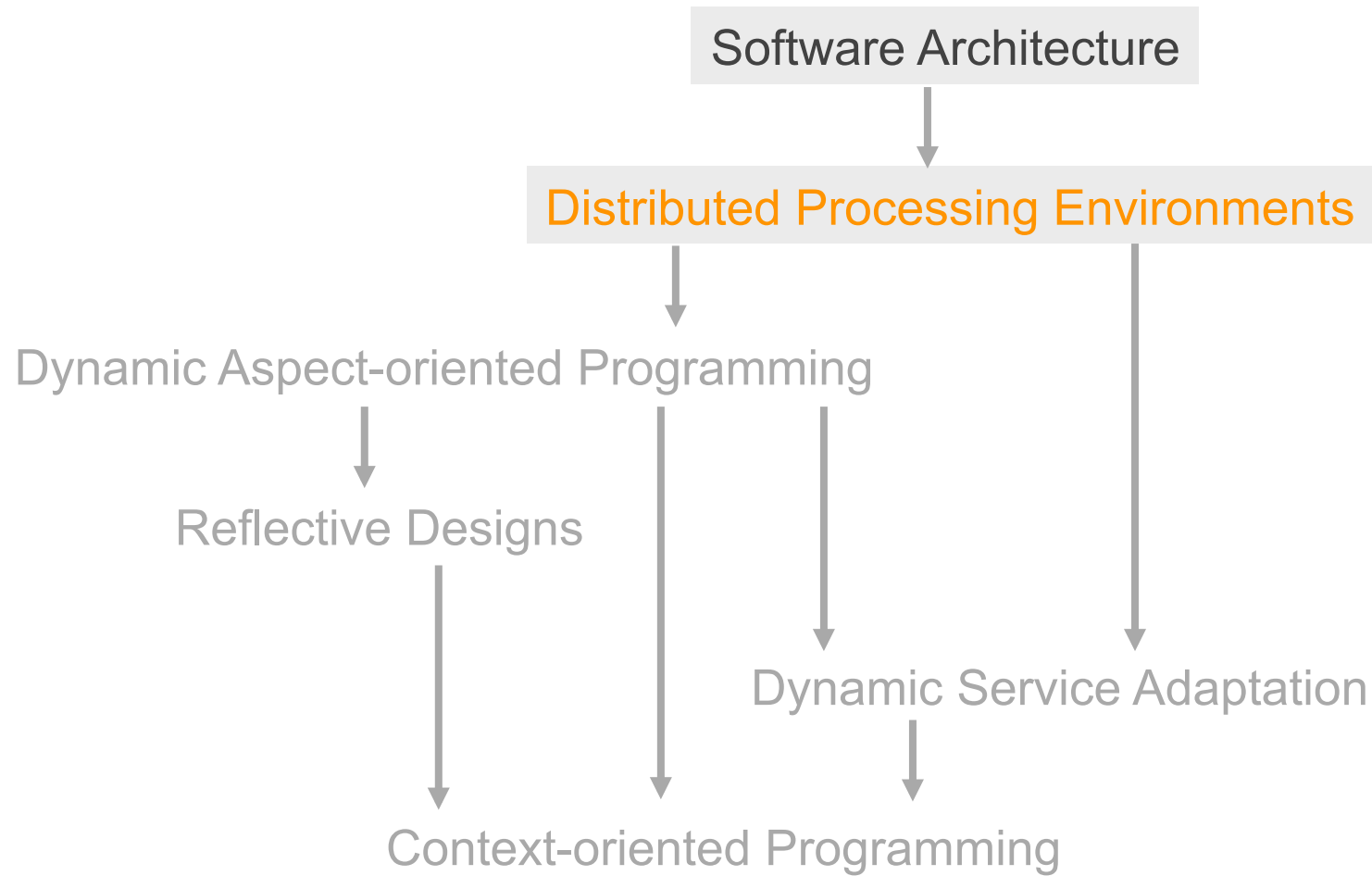


Component Connection Layers



- Interface-connection architecture (ICA)
 - Architecture description languages (ADLs)
 - Structure declared by interfaces, not their implementations
- Object-connection architecture (OCA)
 - Structure determined by implementation
- Component connection layer (CCL)
 - Framework for ICA in OCA-based systems

Outline



Aero: Dynamic Composition

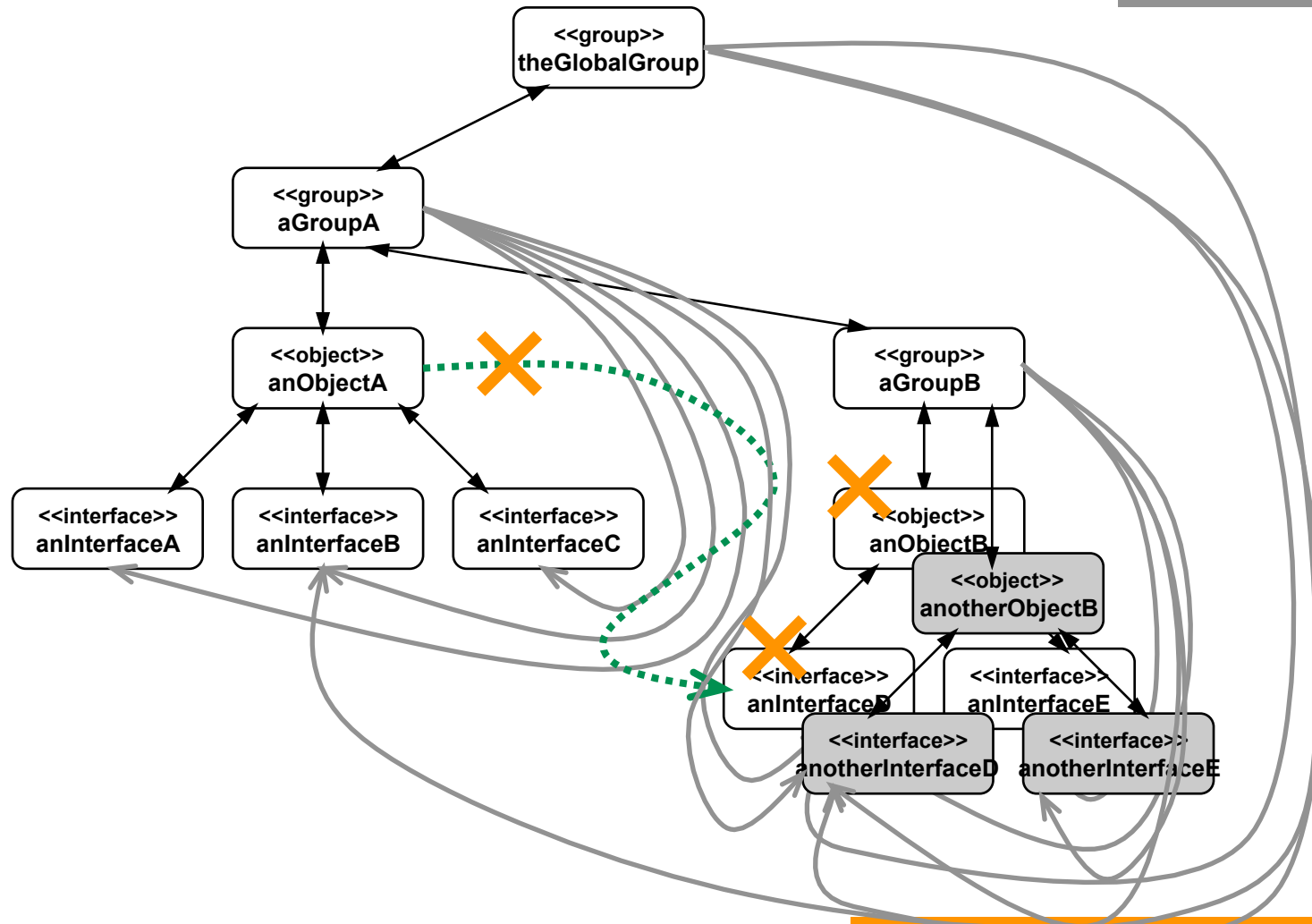
ODL module description

object definition language

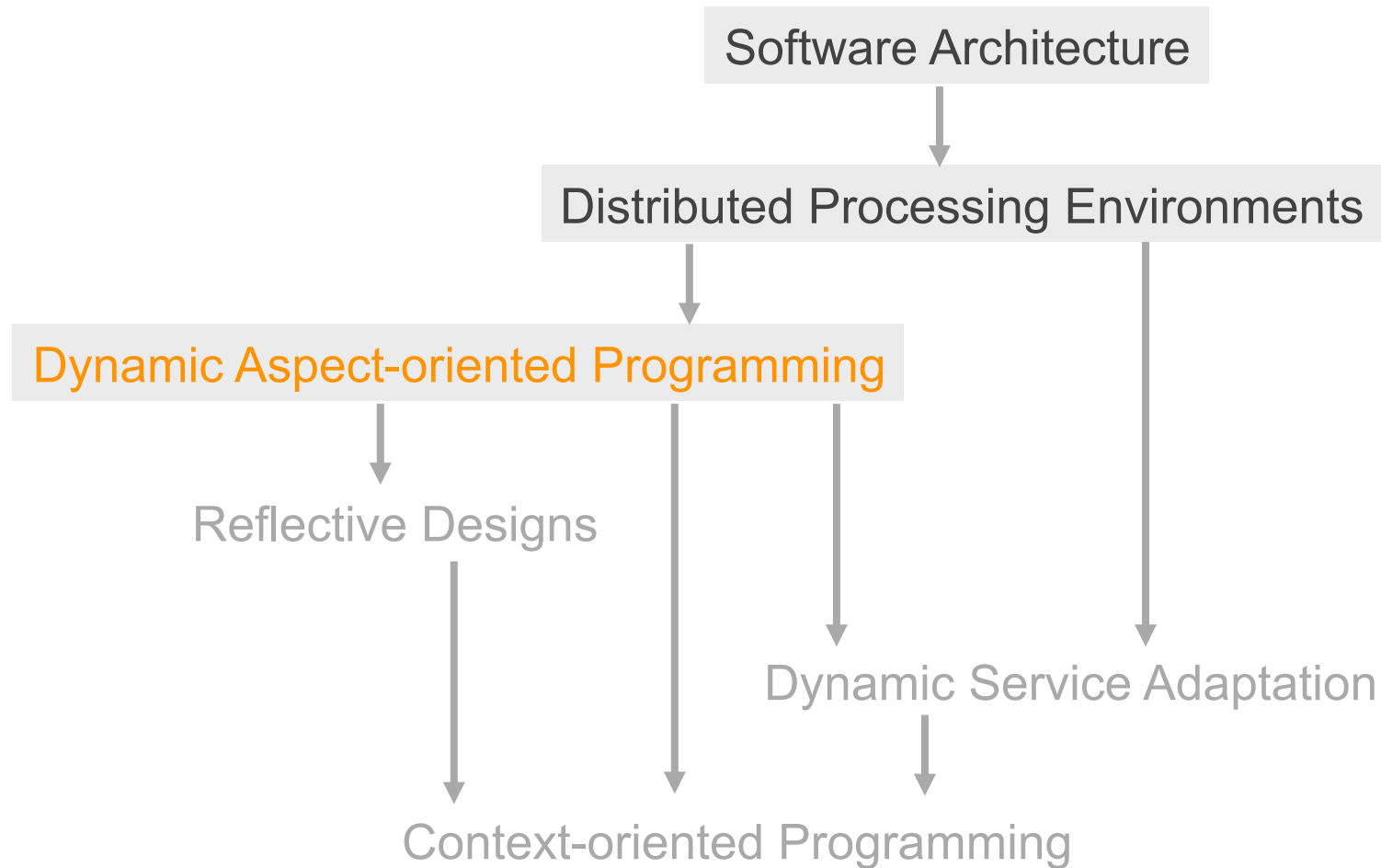
```
module Example {
  group GroupA {
    components ObjectA, GroupB;
    contracts InterfaceB, InterfaceD;
  };
  object ObjectA {
    behavior behaviorText "This object does something useful";
    requires InterfaceD;
    supports InterfaceA, InterfaceB, InterfaceC;
  };
  interface InterfaceA {};
  interface InterfaceB {};
  interface InterfaceC {};
  group GroupB {
    components ObjectB;
    contracts InterfaceD;
  };
  object ObjectB {
    behavior behaviorText "This object does something useful, too";
    supports InterfaceD, InterfaceE;
  };
  interface InterfaceD {};
  interface InterfaceE {};
};
```

Aero: Dynamic Composition

backups and alternatives

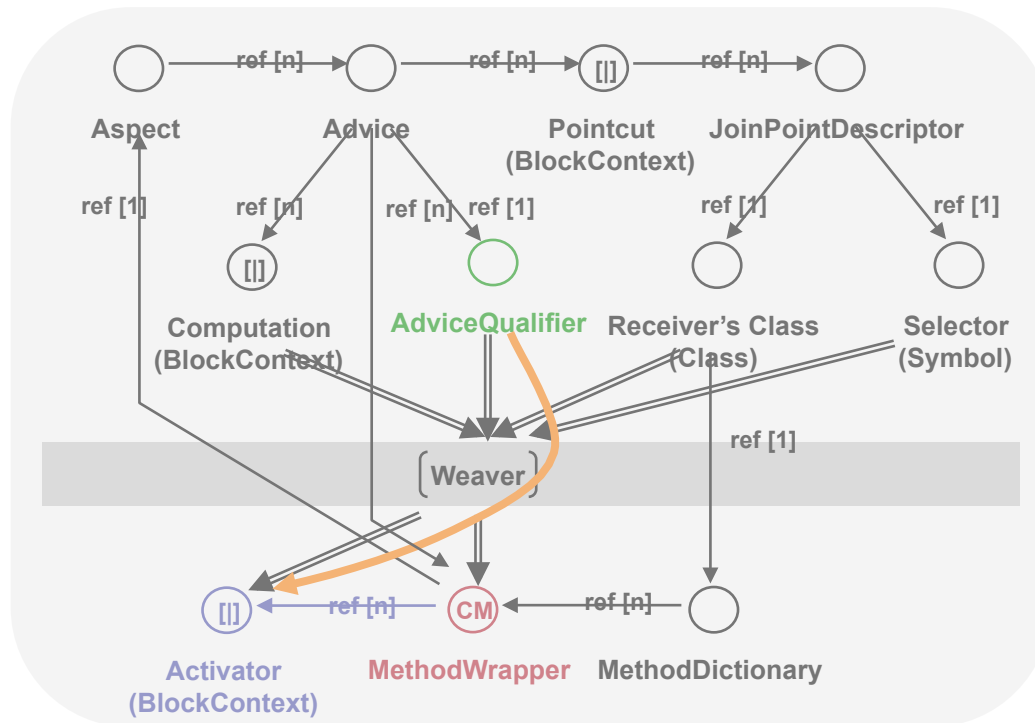
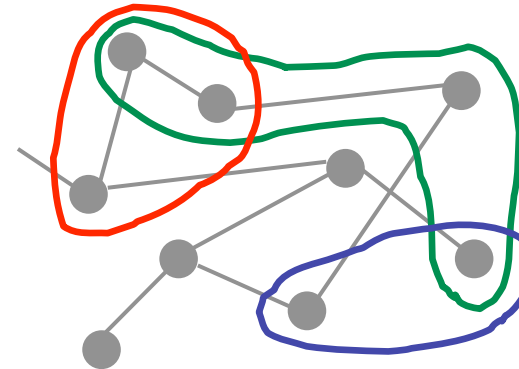
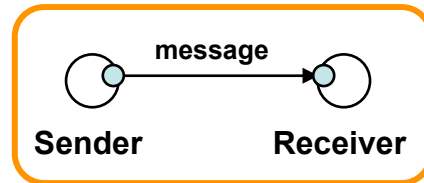


Outline

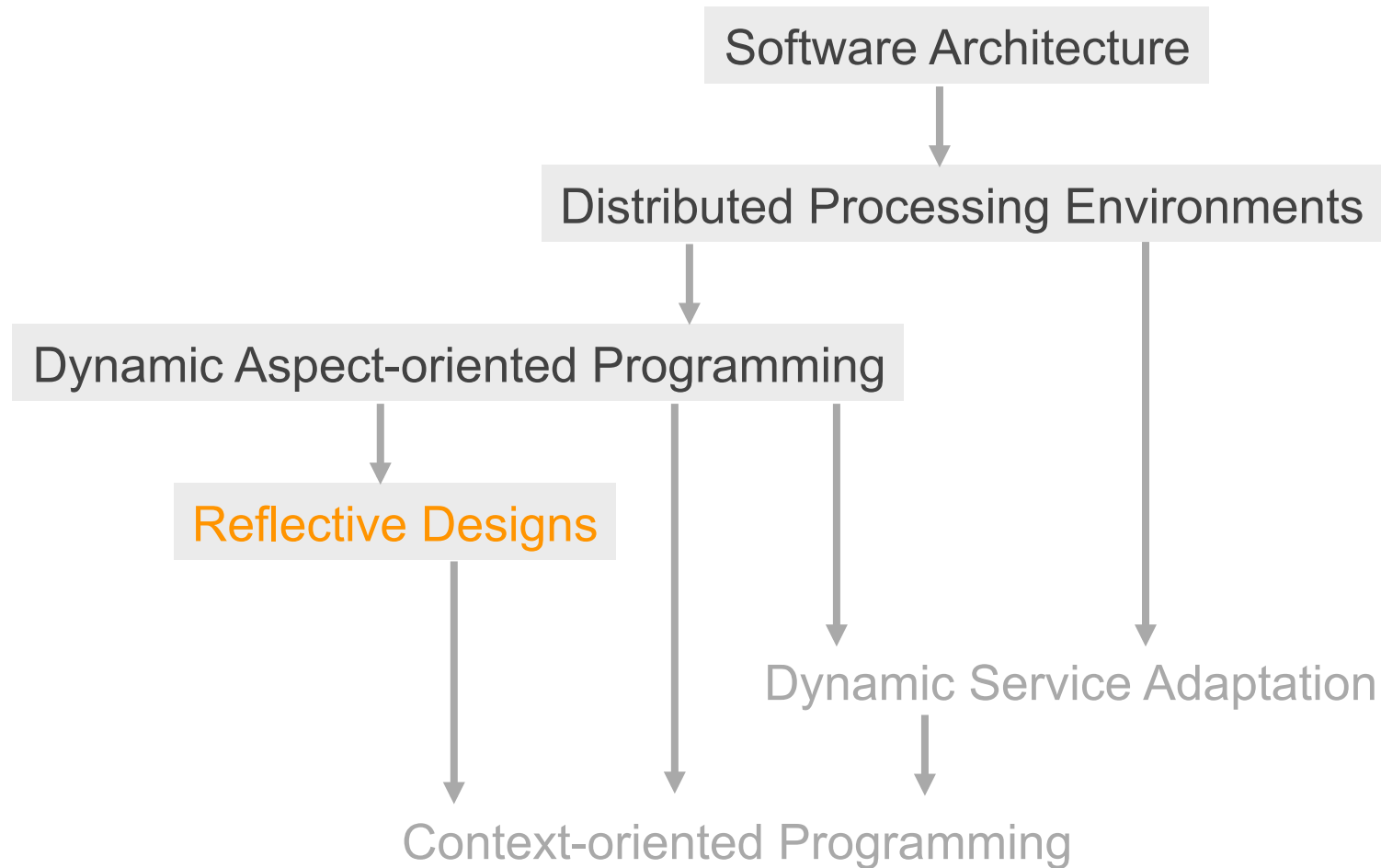


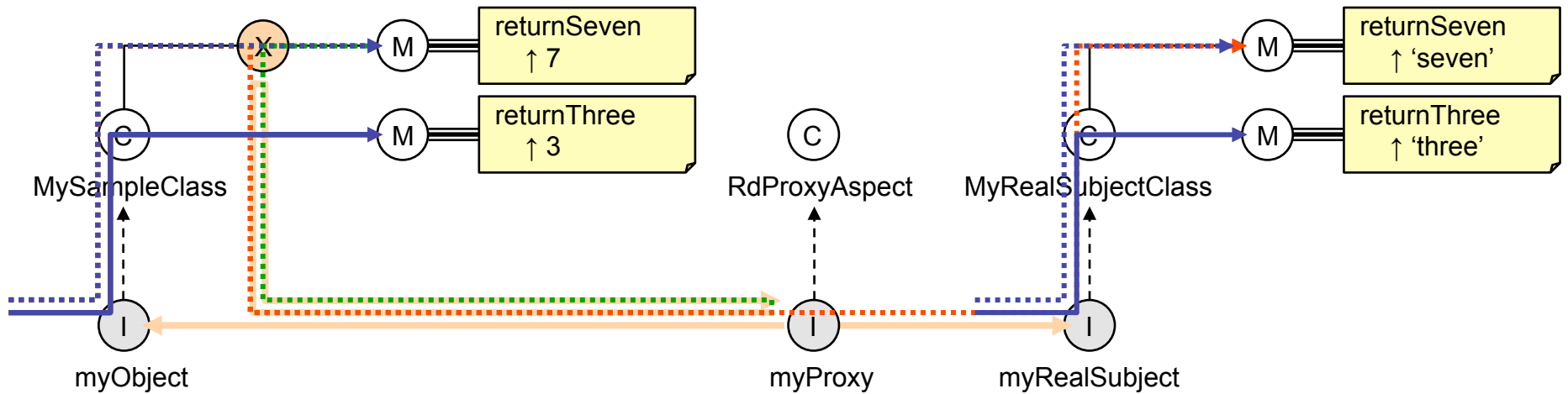
AspectS

Dynamic Aspect-oriented Programming



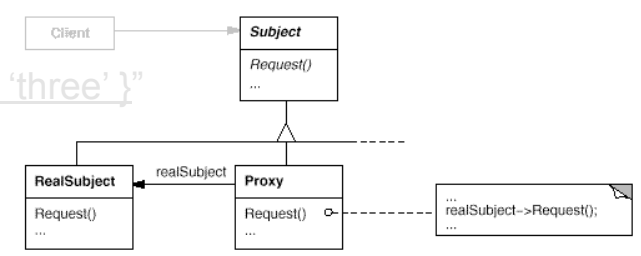
Outline



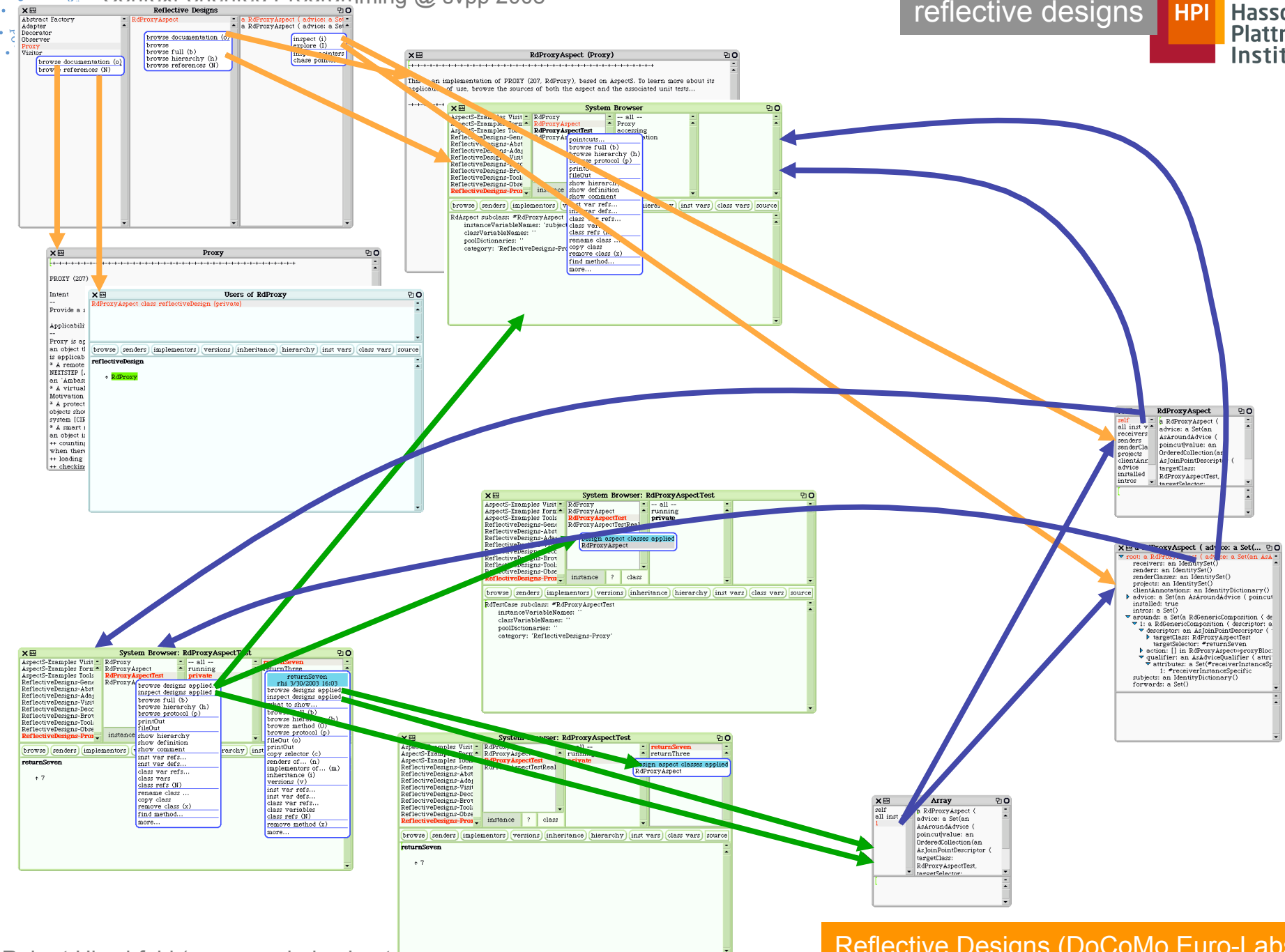


```

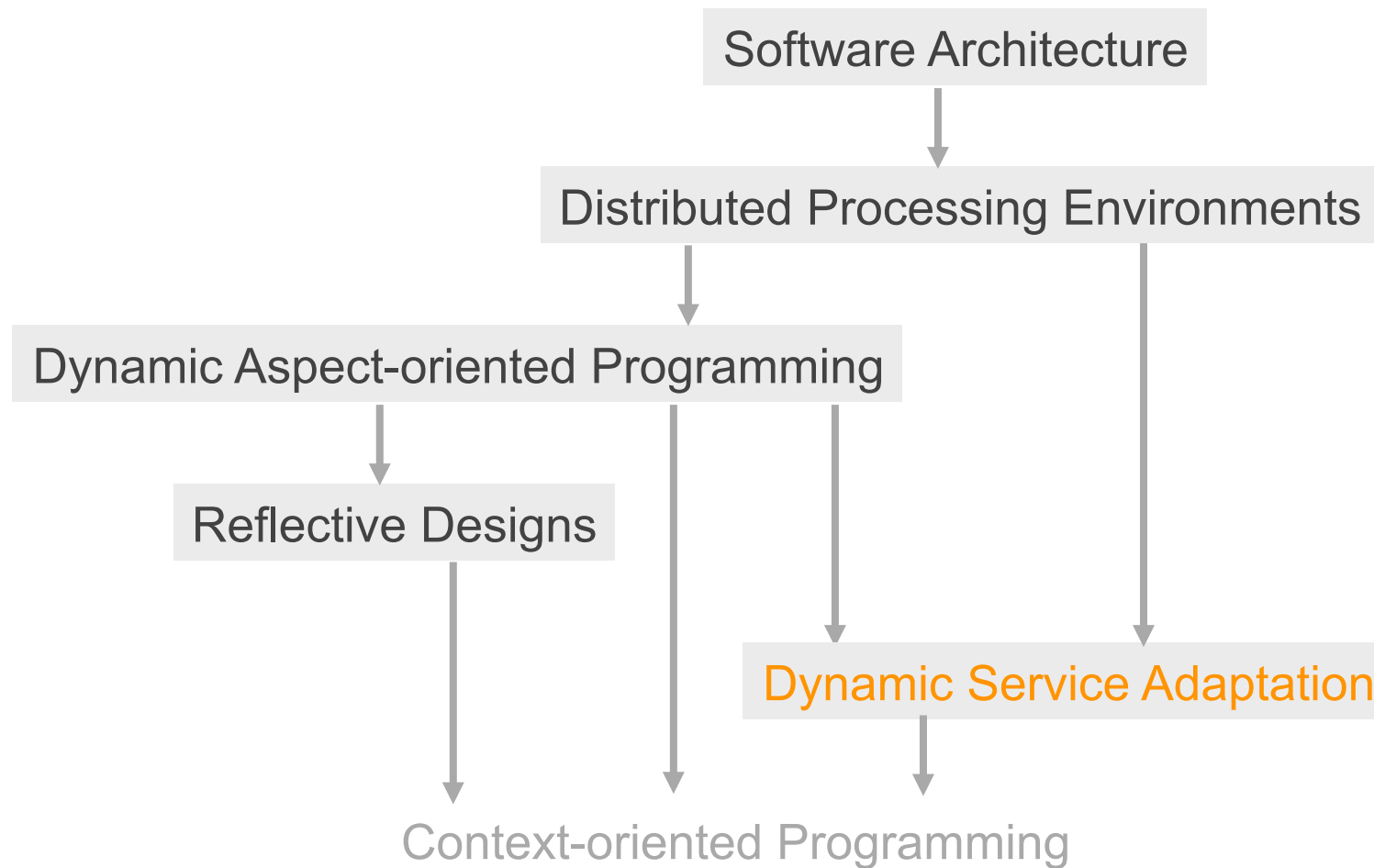
| myObject myProxy myRealSubject |
myObject ← MySampleClass new.
{ myObject returnSeven. myObject returnThree }. "→ { 7. 3 }"
myRealSubject ← MyRealSubjectClass new.
{ myRealSubject returnSeven. myRealSubject returnThree }. "→ { 'seven'. 'three' }"
myProxy ← RdProxyAspect new.
myProxy proxy: MySampleClass selectors: { #returnSeven }.
myProxy activate.
{ myObject returnSeven. myObject returnThree }. "→ { 7. 3 }"
myProxy addSubject: myObject realSubject: myRealSubject.
{ myObject returnSeven. myObject returnThree }. "→ { 'seven'. 3 }"
myProxy deactivate.
{ myObject returnSeven. myObject returnThree }. "→ { 7. 3 }"
    
```



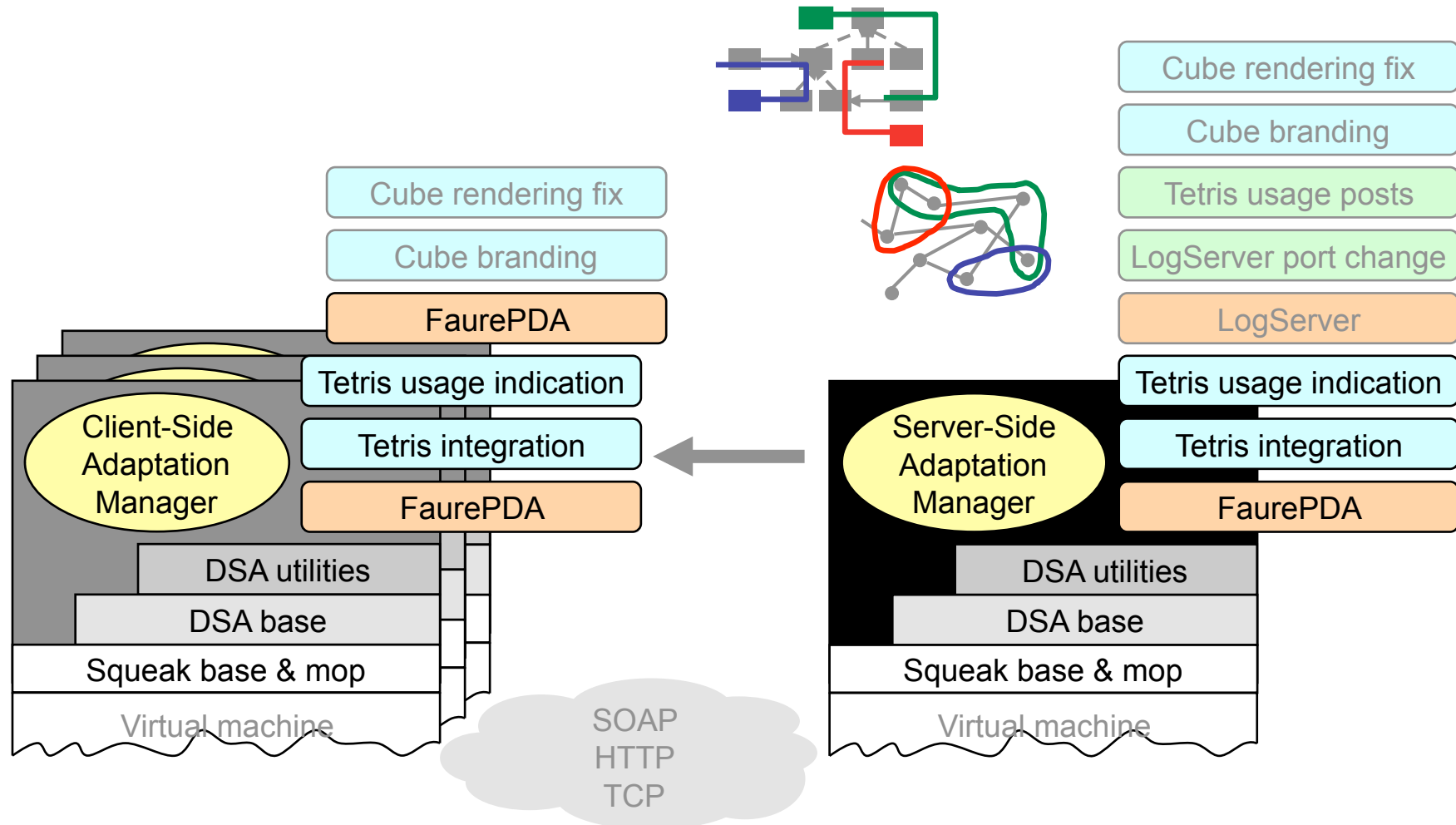
Proxy: Provide a surrogate or placeholder for another object to control access to it.



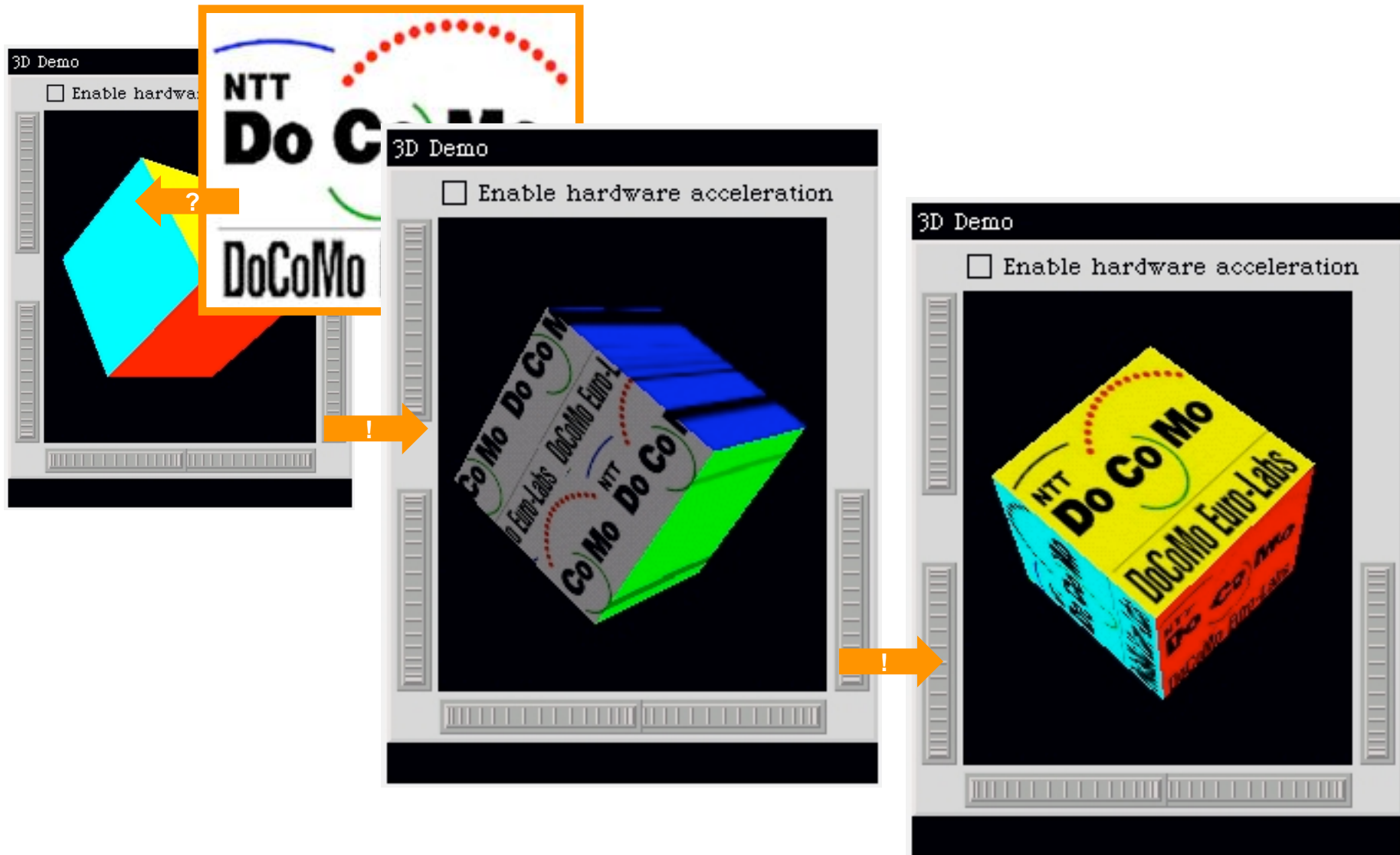
Outline



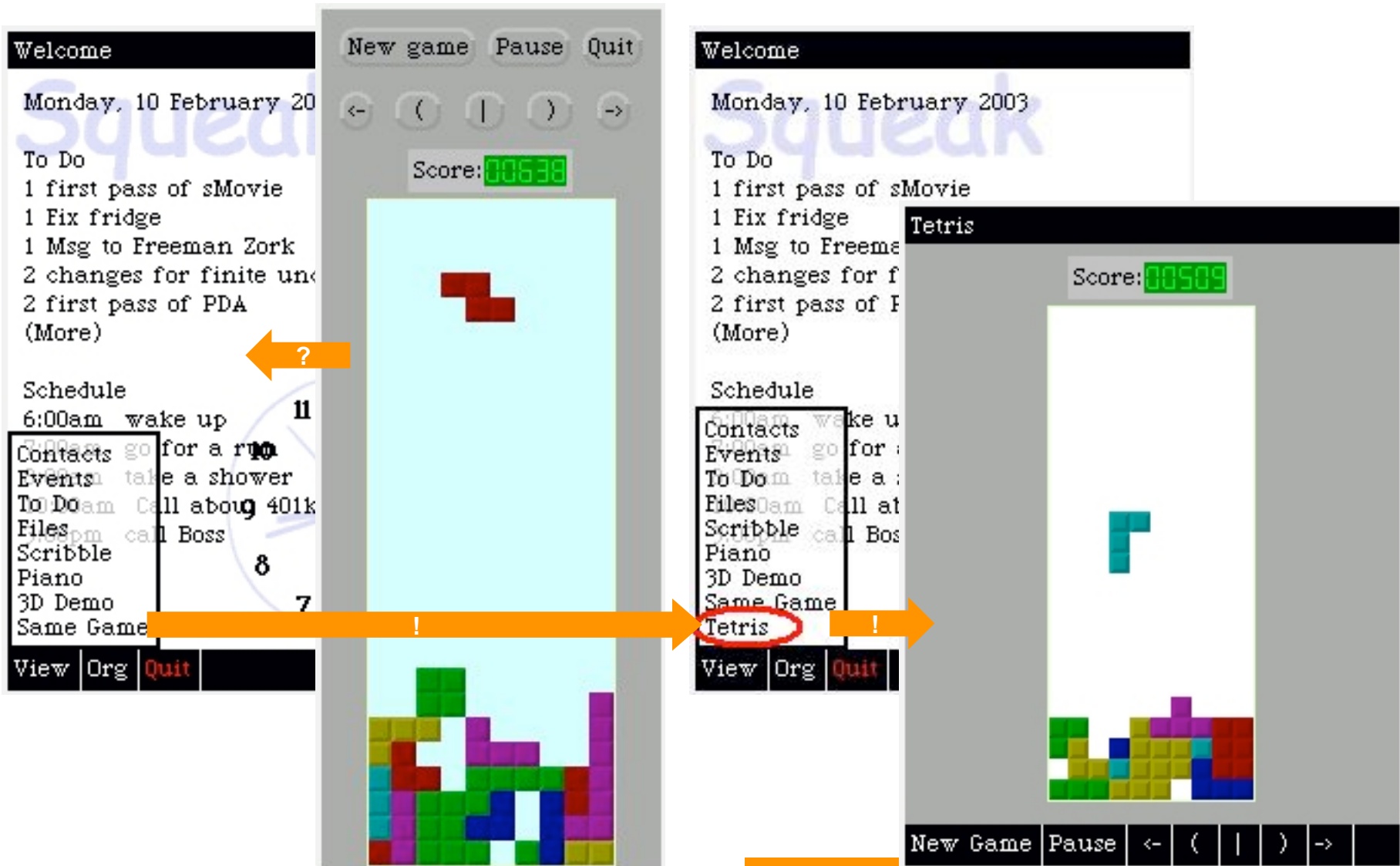
Deployment Scenarios



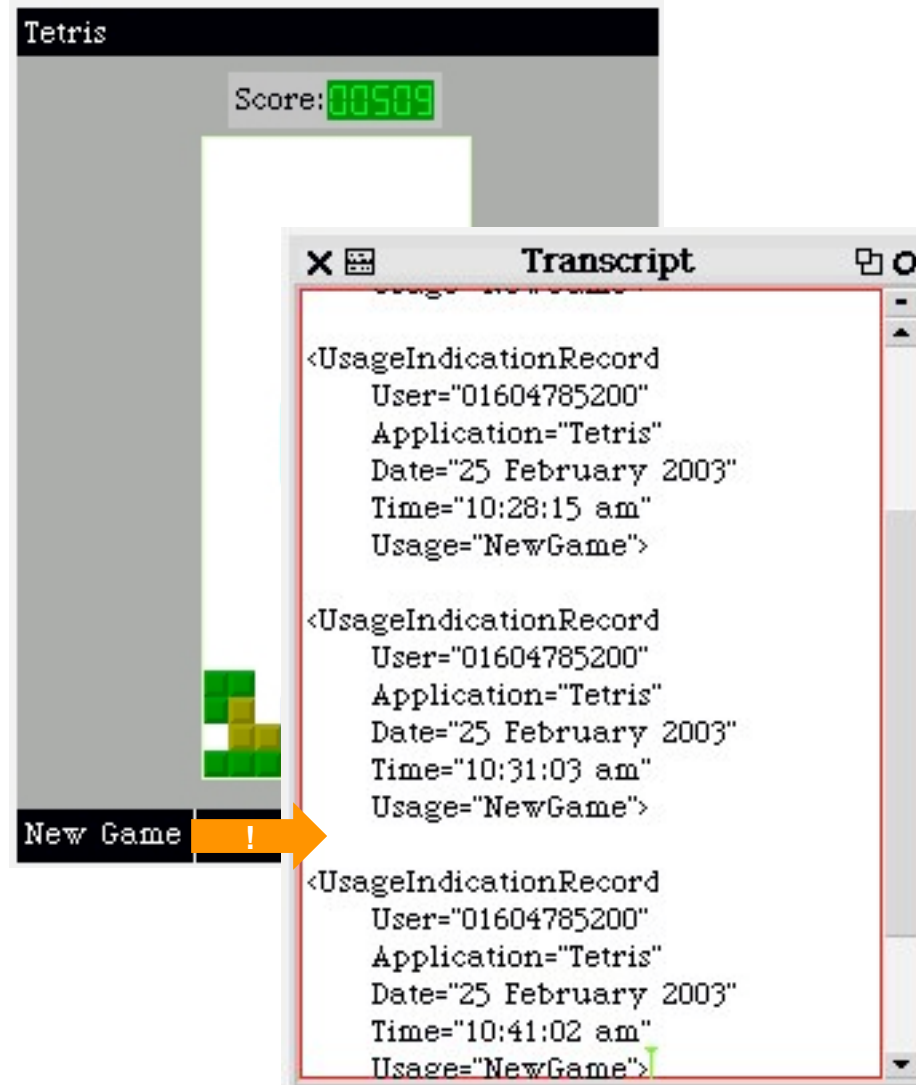
UI Branding and Bugfixing...



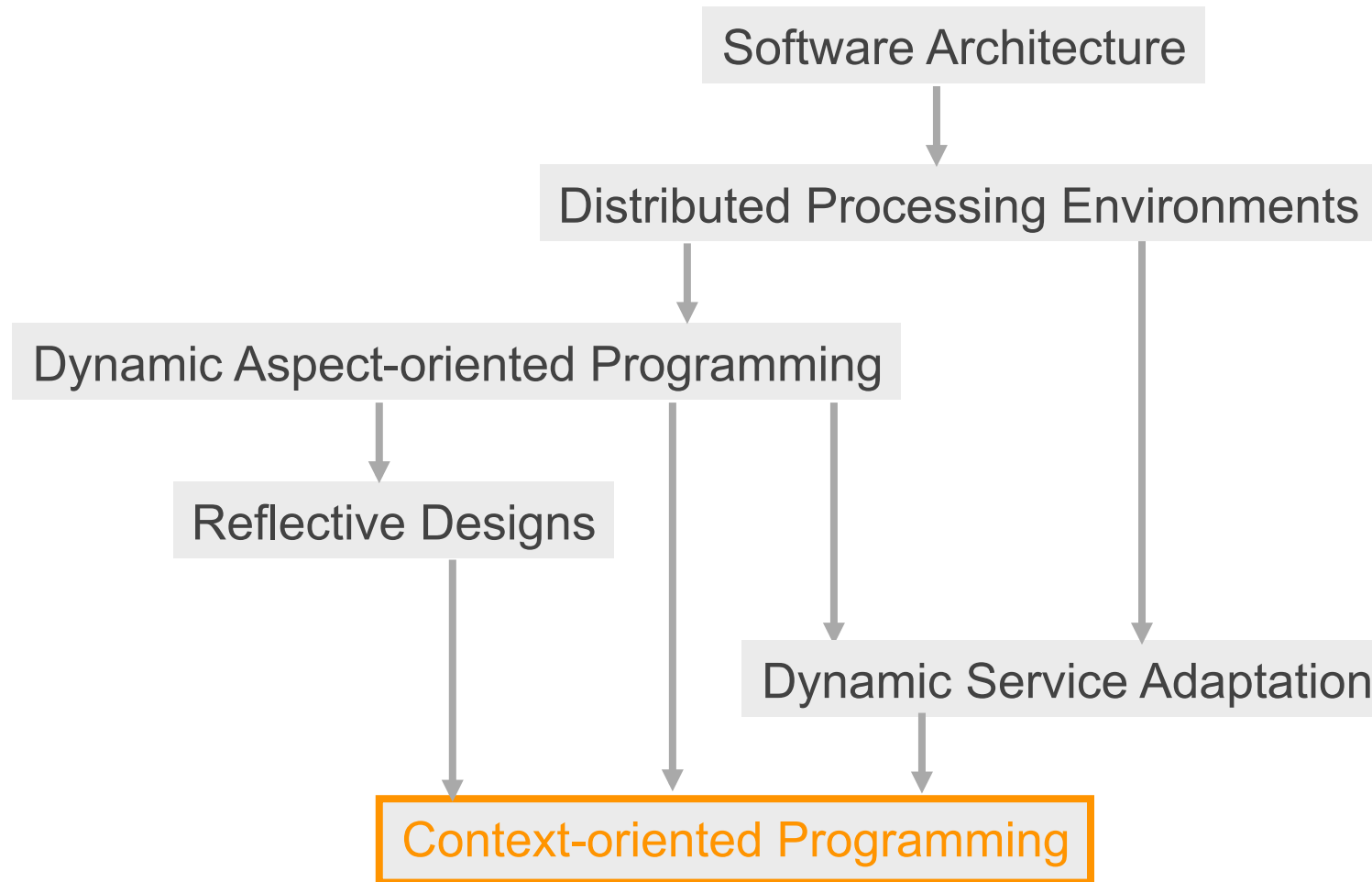
Service Integration...



...Usage Indication

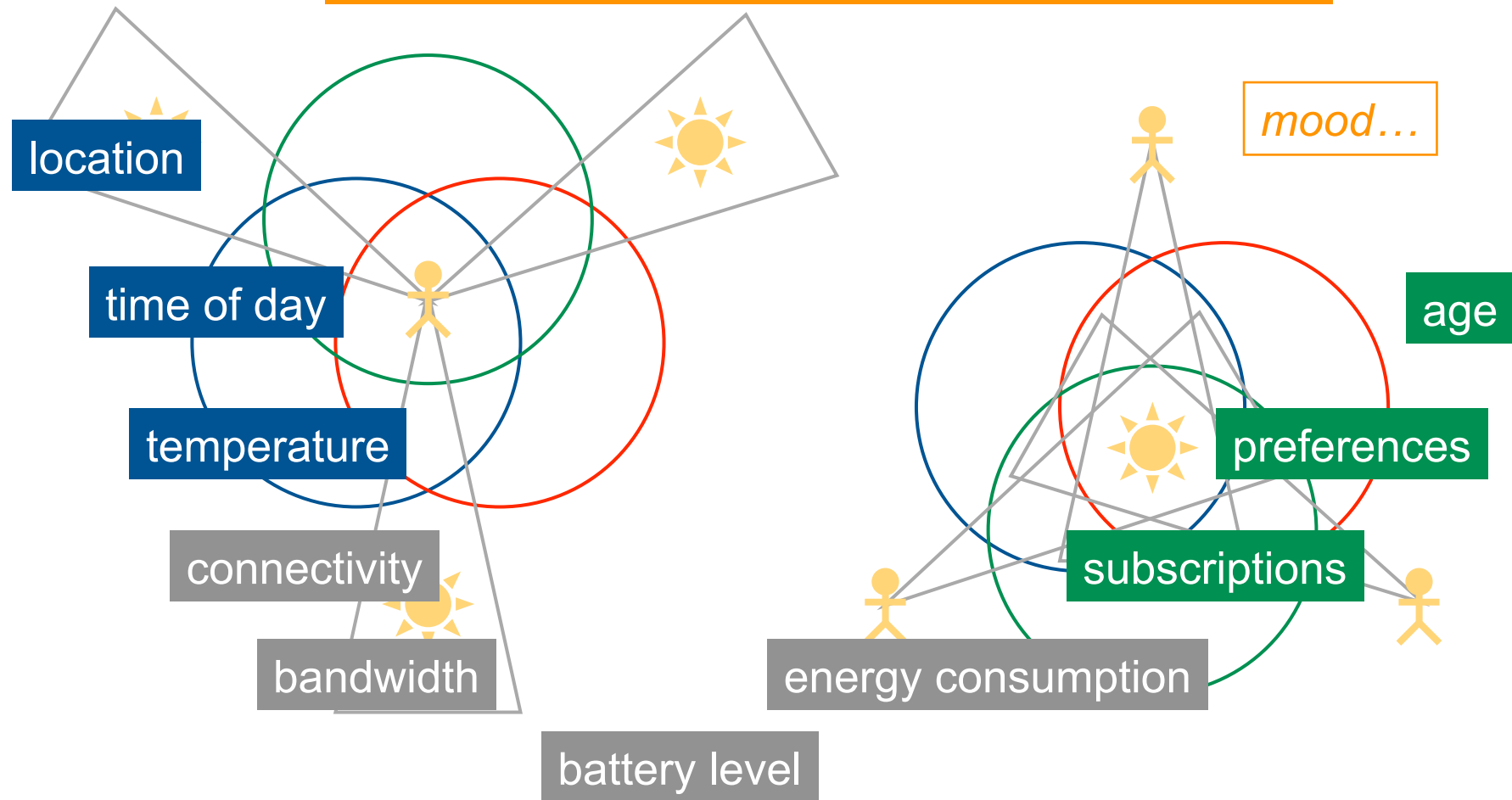


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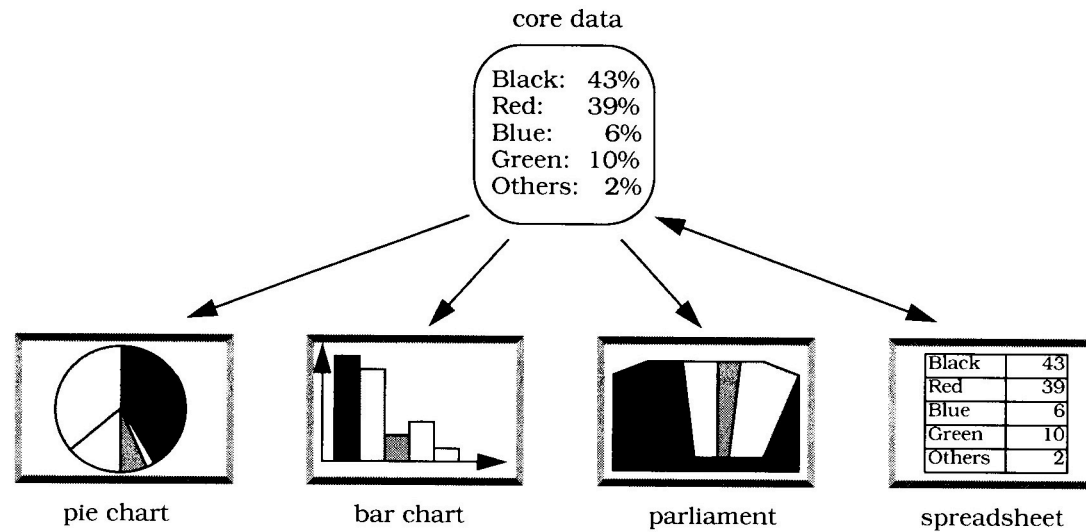


Context

context = everything computationally accessible



MVC

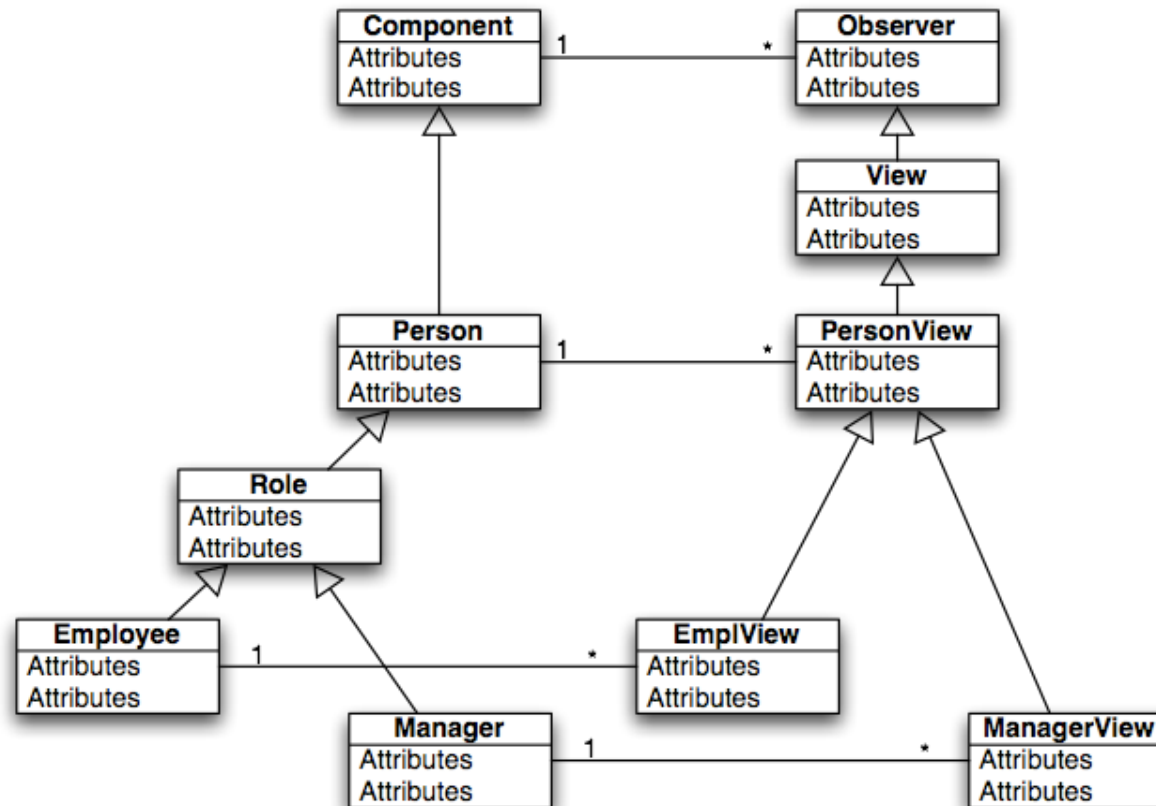


Frank Buschmann, Regine Meunier, Hans Rohnert, Peter Sommerlad:
Pattern-Oriented Software Architecture – A System of Patterns.
John Wiley and Sons 1996

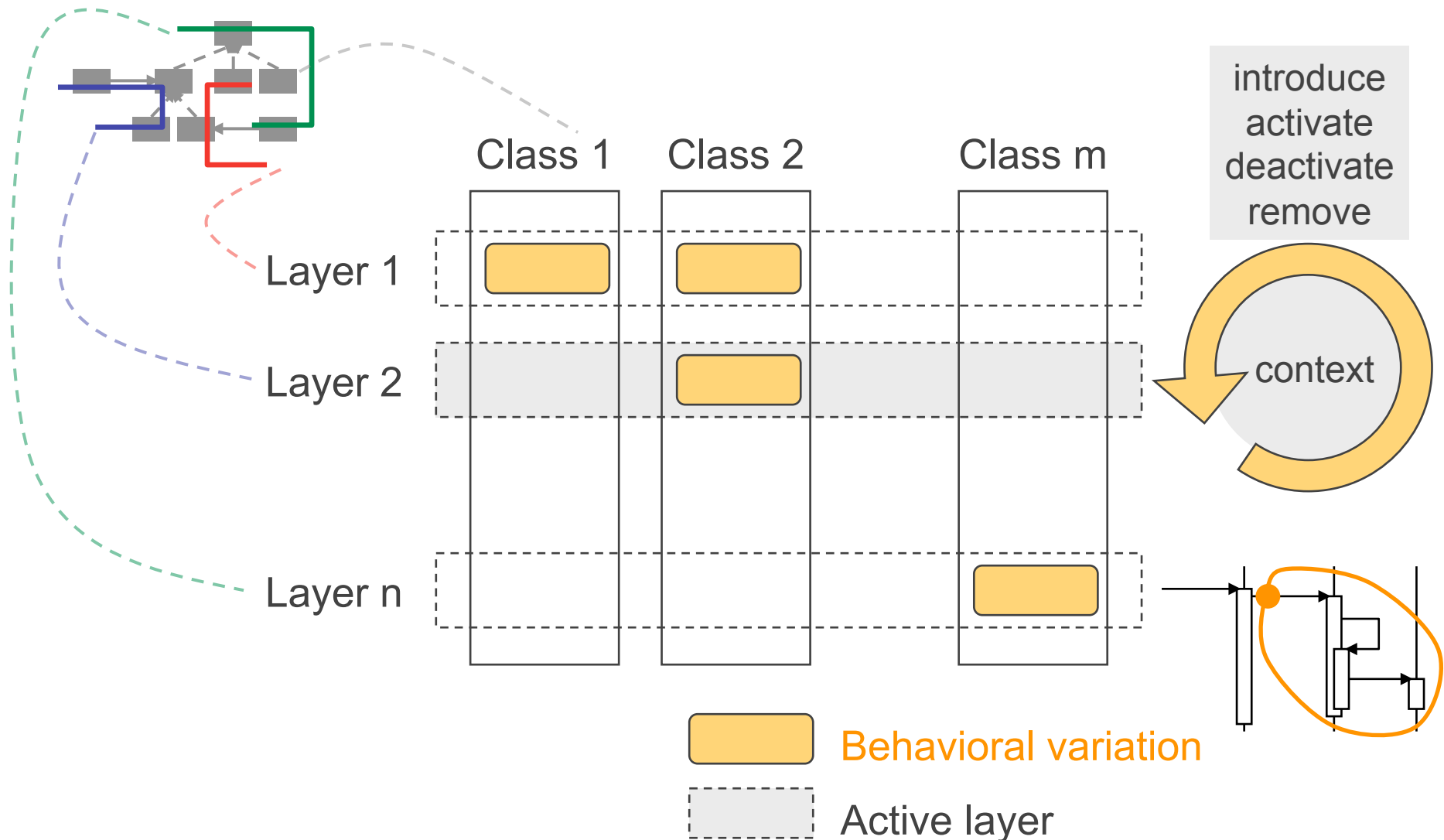
Increased Complexity

Person
Attributes
Attributes

Increased Complexity



Partial Layer and Class Definitions



COP Basics

- **Behavioral variations**
 - Partial class and method definitions
- **Layers**
 - Groups of related context-dependent behavioral variations
- **Activation**
 - Activation and deactivation of layers at runtime
- **Context**
 - Anything computationally accessible
- **Scoping**
 - Well-defined explicitly-controlled scopes

Dynamically-scoped Layer Activation

- Constructs

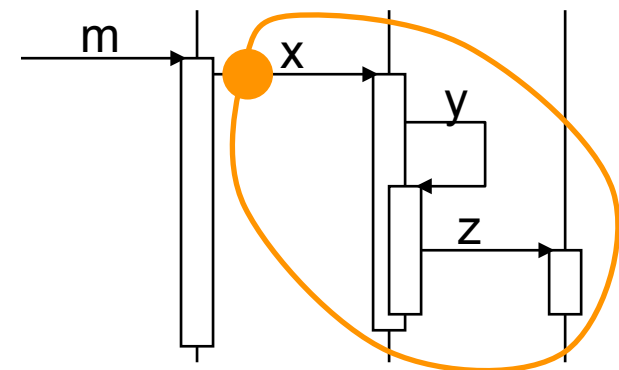
(**with-active-layers** (...) ...) ContextL

(**with-inactive-layers** (...) ...)

[...] **useAsLayersFor:** [...]

with (...) {...} ContextJ

- Activate (deactivate) layers for the current thread
 - Does not interfere with other layer activations/deactivations in other threads
- Layers are activated/deactivated only for the dynamic extent of the associated code block
- Activation order determines method precedence



Demo



AOP vs. FOP vs. COP

	AOP	FOP	COP
Inverse dependencies	●		
1:n relationships	●		
Layers		●	●
Dynamic activation			●
Scoping	●		●

first-class layers
 explicit meta-objects
 scoped adaptation
 improved comprehension

COP Implementations



- ContextL (VUB/PROG)
- ContextS (HPI/SWA)
- ContextJ* (VUB/PROG)
- ContextR (HPI/SWA)
- ContextPy (HPI/SWA)
- ContextJ (HPI/SWA)
- ContextG (HPI/SWA)
- PyContext (HPI/DCL)
- Context# (HPI/DCL)
- ...

Collaborators

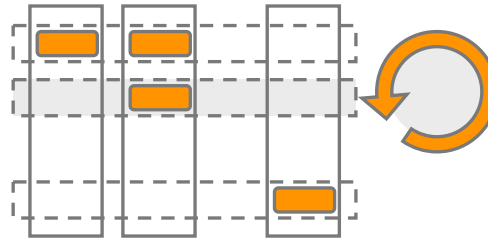


- Pascal Costanza
 - Programming Technology Lab (PROG)
 - Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB)
- Oscar Nierstrasz
 - Software Composition Group (SCG)
 - University of Bern
- Michael Haupt
 - Software Architecture Group (SWA)
 - Hasso-Plattner-Institut (HPI)
- Hans Schippers
 - Formal Techniques in Software Engineering Group (FoTS)
 - University of Antwerp



Papers and Downloads

<http://www.swa.hpi.uni-potsdam.de/cop/>



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