

CS 3110

Software Architecture

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Today's music: *Thru' These Architects Eyes* by David Bowie

Review

Previously in 3110:

- language features for modularity: modules, structures, signatures, abstract types, includes, functors
- aspects of modularity: namespaces, abstraction, code reuse

Today:

- architecture and of large programs
- (until after Prelim 1: no new language features) 🎉🎉🎉

ARCHITECTURE

Architecture

- Any large system must be divided into sub-systems
- Goal of **architectural analysis**: identify sub-systems, their interfaces, how they interact
- Architecture is the highest-level design of software system

Elements of architecture

- **Code components**
 - a unit of an executing system
 - e.g. a server, a database
- Externally visible **properties** of those components
 - aspects of its functionality
 - e.g., services provided, data maintained, performance characteristics
- **Relationships** among components
 - e.g., implemented-by, shares-data-with, independent-of

Why analyze architecture?

- **Understanding**
 - Communicate system design between implementers, testers, maintainers, clients, users
 - Reduce system to a few parts; abstract from details; simplify
 - Working memory: humans can pay attention to only a small number of things at a time (3 or 4? 7?)
- **Reuse**
 - Identify what components can be repurposed from other systems
 - Assembly line model: cheaply produce system out of stock components
 - e.g., web mashups, 3110 website
- **Construction**
 - Division of (independent) labor
 - How to add new features

Ex: Architecture of web survey system

Requirements:

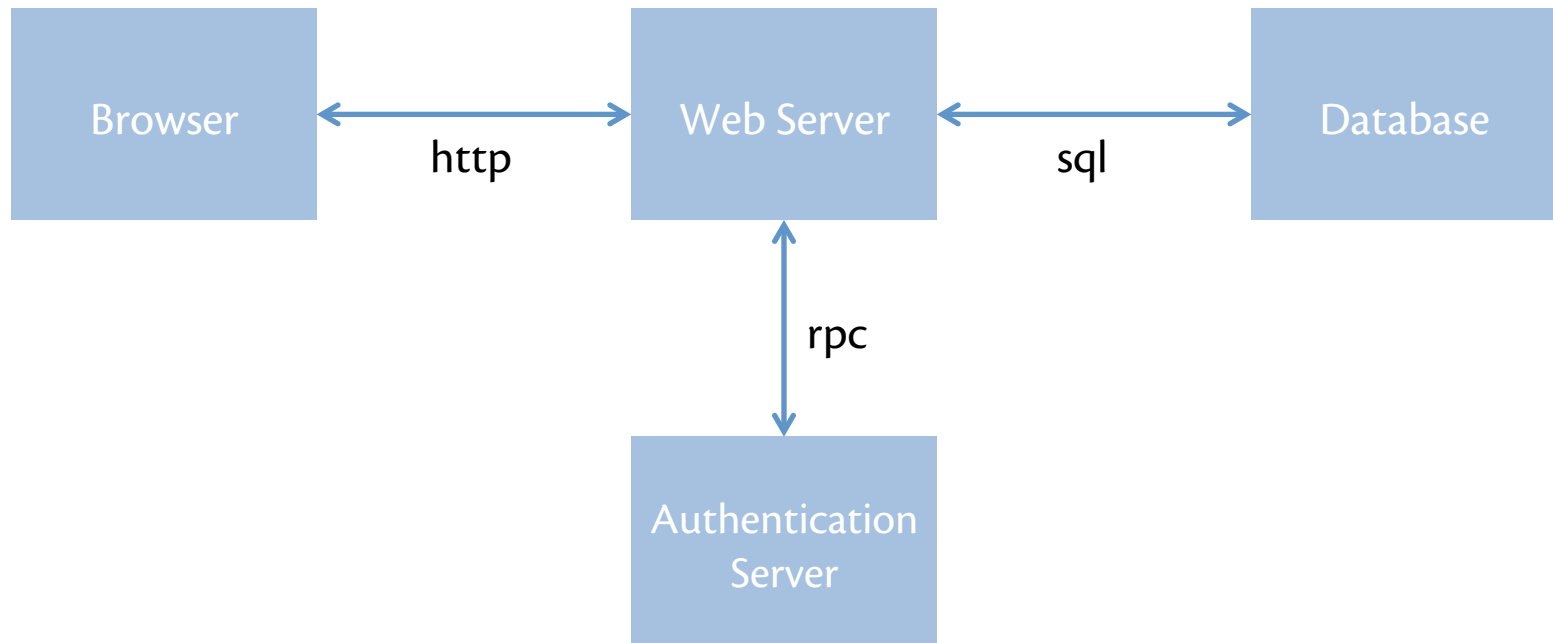
- present multiple-choice questions to user
- collect and store answers
- present results-in-progress to user after they submit



box and arrow diagram, aka
component and connector
(C&C) diagram

Ex: Architecture of web survey system

New requirement: only some users are authorized to take survey;
must authenticate users before they can register response



Ex: Architecture of web survey system

Examples of abstraction:

- No discussion of the code modules that make up components
- No details about the connectors (URLs, schema for SQL queries)

Examples of specification:

- Survey taker uses web browser
- Server must speak with all other components

Building blocks of architecture

Components:

- Computation elements or data stores
- Primarily from the view of **run time**: what happens while system is executing?
- Not necessarily from the view of **compile time**: how is code physically organized?

Building blocks of architecture

Connectors:

- Protocol: agreed upon means of communication
 - e.g., TCP, function call
- Topology could vary: binary, broadcast, ring, ...

Architectural patterns

- Architecture is a high-level creative activity, not a science
- Some common patterns:
 1. Pipe and filter
 2. Shared data
 3. Client–server

Ex 1: Pipe and filter architecture



- **Filter:** component that transforms data
 - receives data on input pipes
 - sends output data over pipes to other filters
 - might have >1 inputs, >1 outputs
 - each filter is independent of others and could operate concurrently
- **Pipe:** connector that relays data
 - unidirectional
 - does not change data
 - pipes handle storage, synchronization, rate of transfer, etc.

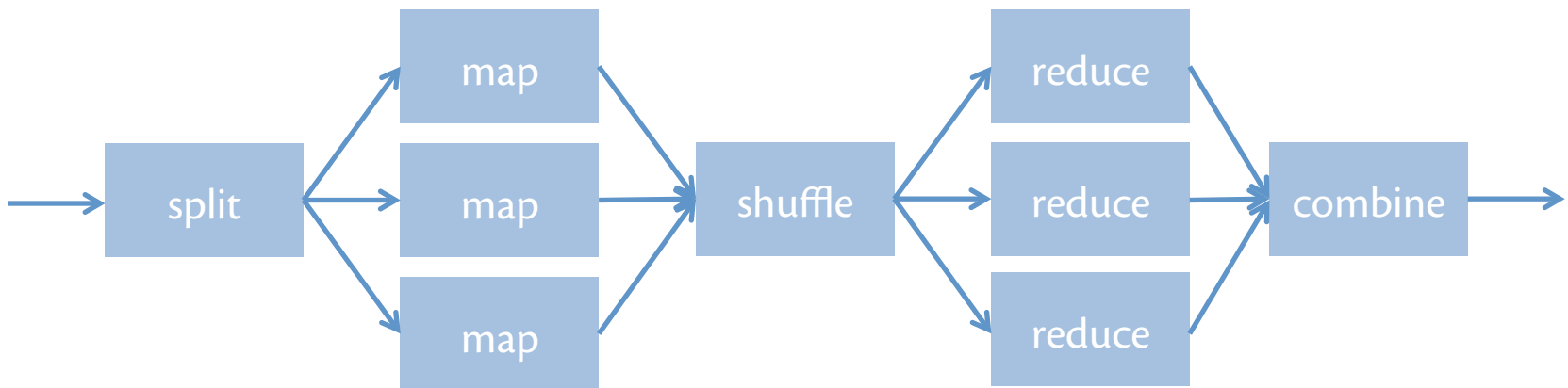
Ex 1: Pipe and filter architecture

MapReduce:

- Large amount of data comes in
 - e.g. documents whose words we want to index
- Split across multiple *workers* who concurrently process a block of data; output a *map* from keys to values
 - e.g. the key is a word, the value is the set of documents in which it appears
- Mapper outputs are *shuffled* to bring keys together at a worker
 - e.g., all the key-value pairs for a single word are brought together at a single worker
- Key-value pairs are *reduced* concurrently by workers; output new values
 - e.g., aggregate the sets of documents into a single set
- Values are *combined* into final output
 - e.g., the index: a map from all words to the set of documents in which they appear

Ex 1: Pipe and filter architecture

MapReduce as a pipe and filter architecture:



Ex 2: Shared data architecture



- **Data repository:** component that stores data
 - provides reliability, backup, access control
 - might be passive or might actively notify accessors about changes in data
- **Data accessor:** component that does computation with data
 - gets data from repository, computes, puts data back to repository
 - accessors do not directly communicate with one another
- **Interfaces:** connectors that gives read/write access to repository

Ex 2: Shared data architecture

PeopleSoft as a shared data architecture:



Ex 3: Client–server architecture



- **Server:** component that provides service/resources
 - When server provides a storage service, might reduce to shared data arch.
- **Client:** component that accesses service/resources
 - clients do not directly communicate with one another
 - clients need not be co-located with server
- **Channels:** connectors that allow client to make request, then server to return response
 - asymmetric: client can contact server, not vice-versa
 - (a)synchronous: client waits for response?
- Generalizes to *n-tier architecture*, in which server acts as client to another server, etc.

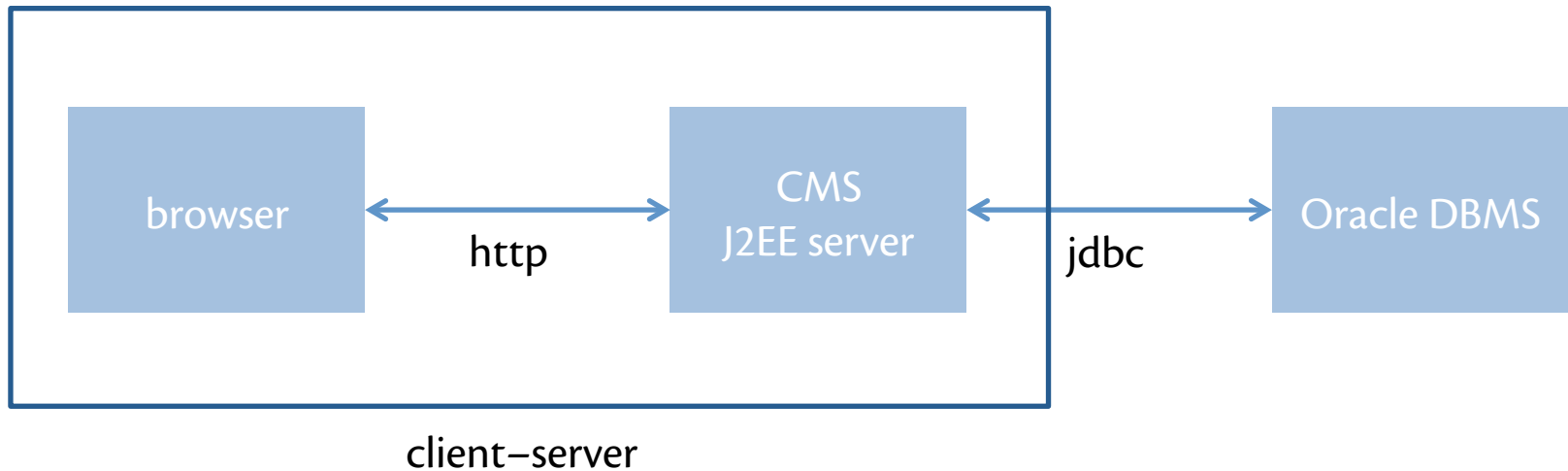
Ex 3: Client-server architecture

CMS as client-server architecture:



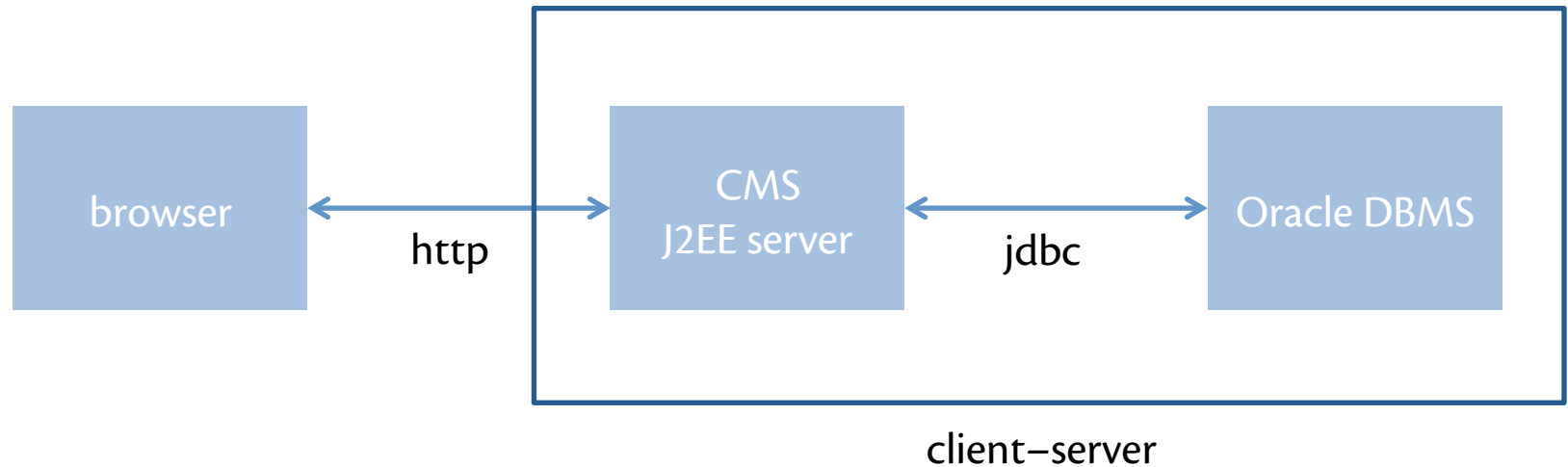
Ex 3: Client-server architecture

CMS as client-server architecture:



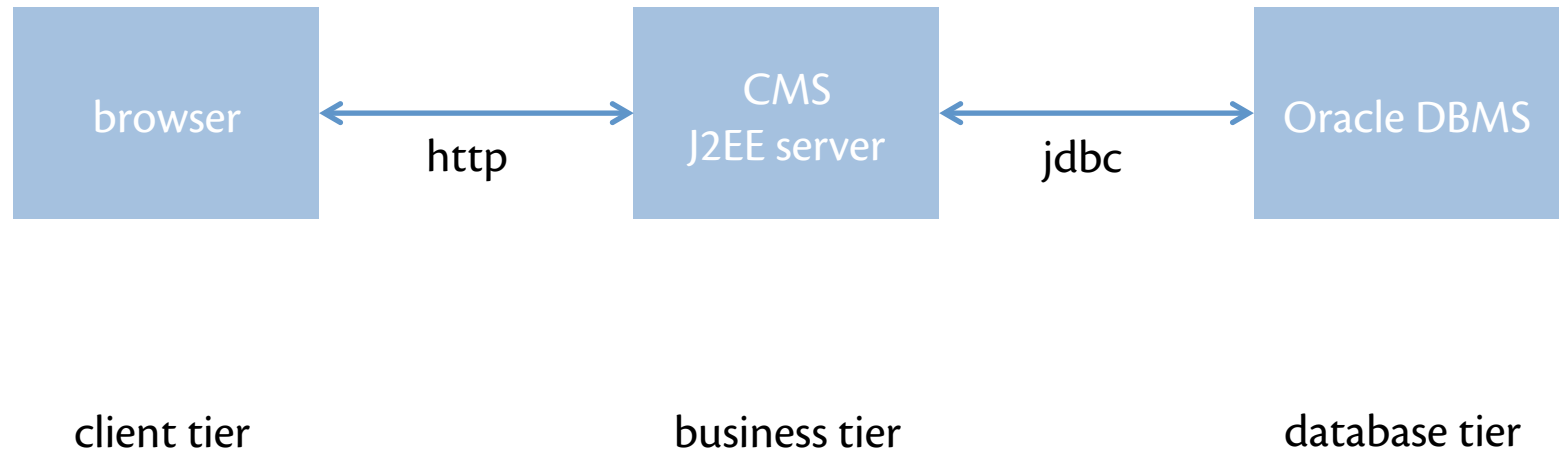
Ex 3: Client-server architecture

CMS as client-server architecture:



Ex 3: Client-server architecture

CMS as 3-tier architecture:



Question

Which architecture best describes the Enigma cipher?

- A. Pipe and filter
- B. Shared data
- C. Client–server
- D. None of the above
- E. YNOXQ

Question

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From architecture to design

- Architecture *is* a kind of design
 - focuses on highest level structure of system
 - based on principle of divide and conquer
- But architecture isn't about code per se
- As the *design process* iteratively proceeds, we get closer and closer to code
- *Design* as a phase of software development has a more specific connotation:
 - **System design:** decide what modules are needed, their specification, how they interact
 - **Detailed design:** decide how the modules themselves can be created such that they satisfy their specifications and can be implemented

Upcoming events

- [Wed] A2 due

This is architected.

THIS IS 3110

Acknowledgment

Parts of this lecture are based on this book:

Pankaj Jalote. *An Integrated Approach to Software Engineering*, third edition. Springer, 2005.