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**Marine Engineering Lecture Notes**

October 21, 2011 | SOFTWARE ENGINEERING LECTURE NOTES

- Each processing component (filter) is discrete (carries out one type of data transformation)
- Went to use
  - Data processing applications (Batch- and transaction-based)
  - Applications where inputs are processed in separate stages to generate related outputs
- Advantages
  - Easy to understand
  - Supports transformation reuse
  - Workflow style matches structure of many business processes
  - Evolution by adding transformation is straightforward
  - Implemented as sequential or concurrent system
- Disadvantages
  - Format of data transfer has to be agreed upon between communicating transformations
  - Each transformation must parse input and unparse output to the agreed form
  - Increases system overhead
  - Possibly impossible to reuse functional transformations that use incompatible data structures

Application architectures

- Intended to meet a business or organizational need
- Business characteristics: Hire people, issue invoices, keep accounts etc.
- Business operating: use common sector-specific applications
- Encapsulate the principal characteristics of a class of systems
- May be re-implemented when developing new systems
- Possible application reuse without reimplementation for many business systems (ERP, SAP, Oracle, COTS)
- Identify stable structural features of the system architectures

Ways of using models of application architectures:

- As a starting point for the architectural design process
  - If unfamiliar with type of application
  - Base initial design on a generic application architecture (specialization required)
- As a design checklist
  - Compare developed architectural design with generic application architecture
  - Check consistency
- As a way of organizing the work of the development team
  - Possible to develop application architectures in parallel
  - Assign work to group members to implement components within the architecture
- As a means of assessing components for reuse
  - Compare available components with generic structures
  - Comparable components in the application architecture?
- As a vocabulary for talking about types of applications

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