Enterprise Architecture Views and Viewpoints in ArchiMate

ArchiMate 3 – Chapter 14





The Core of Architecture Description



Prof. Dr. Knut Hinkelmann

n

2

Architecture Description

- An *Architecture Description* includes one or more views.
- A view is a subset of an architecture description
- An architecture view addresses one or more of the concerns held by a stakeholder of the system
- A concern can be framed by more than one viewpoint.



http://www.iso-architecture.org/ieee-1471/cm/



Stakeholder and Concerns

- Stakeholders are individuals, groups or organizations holding concerns for the System, i.e.
 - Examples of Stakeholders: client, owner, user, operator, maintainer, developers, suppliers, regulator, auditor, architect.
- A Concern is any interest in the system, i.e. the objective for which a model is used
 - Examples of Concerns: optimisation, efficiency, quality of service, automation, agility, behavior, business goals, customer experience, flexibility, maintainability, regulatory compliance, security.



Examples of Stakeholders and Concerns

The following examples of stakeholders and concerns are mentioned in the ArchiMate specification as a basis for the specification of viewpoints:

End Users

What are the consequences for his workplace?

Architect

• What is the consequence for the maintainability of a system?

Upper-level Management

How can we ensure that our policies are followed in the development and operation of processes and systems?

Operational Manager – responsible for exploitation or maintenance

Is there a need to adapt maintenance processes?

Project Manager – responsible for development of new applications

What is the dependence of business processes on the applications to be built?

Developer

• What are the required modification with respect to the current situation?

Architecture Views and Viewpoints

- Not everyone is interested in everything.
- Views and Viewpoints are a means to specify which part of an Architecture Description is of relevance
 - *View*: Part of an architecture description that
 - addresses a set of related *Concerns*
 - and is tailored for specific Stakeholders
 - *Viewpoint* specifies a view
 - prescribes the concepts, models, analysis techniques, and visualizations that are provided by the view
 - a characterisation of stakeholders and their concerns

A *view* is what you see and a *viewpoint* is where you are looking from



Views and Viewpoints in ArchiMate

- In ArchiMate, architects and other stakeholders can define their own views on the enterprise architecture
- A viewpoint in ArchiMate is a selection of
 - a relevant subset of the ArchiMate concepts and their relationships
 - For each viewpoint one model kind exists
- A view is (a set of) models
 - representing a part of an architecture
 - using the concepts and relationships of the corresponding viewpoint

Comparison to Databases

- The concept of views is well-known from databases
- A view is a subset of a database
- A view can be characterized by a query
- Thus
 - a *query* corresponds to a *viewpoint*: it characterizes what should be in a view
 - an answer to a query corresponds to a view: it is a table, which represents the part of the databases specified by the query



Framing Stakeholder Concerns using the Viewpoint Mechanism



Two-Dimensional Classification of Enterprise Architecture Viewpoints





Two-Dimensional Classification of Enterprise Architecture Viewpoints

Purpose dimension:

- **Designing:** support architects and designers in the design process from initial sketch to detailed design. Typically, design viewpoints consist of diagrams, e.g. those used in UML.
- **Deciding:** assist managers in the process of decision-making by offering insight into cross-domain architecture relationships. Typical examples: cross-reference tables, landscape maps, lists, and reports.
- Informing: help to inform any stakeholder about the Enterprise Architecture, in order to achieve understanding, obtain commitment, and convince adversaries. Typical examples are illustrations, animations, cartoons, flyers, etc.

Content dimension:

select relevant aspects and layers from the ArchiMate Core Framework.

- **Details**: one layer and one aspect. Typical stakeholders: a software engineer or a process owner responsible for one application/process.
- **Coherence:** multiple layers or multiple aspects. Enables to focus on architecture relationships like process-uses-system (multiple layer) or application-uses-object (multiple aspects). Typical stakeholders are operational managers responsible for a collection of IT services or business processes.
- **Overview:** multiple layers and multiple aspects. Addressed to Enterprise Architects and decision-makers, such as CEOs and CIOs.

Basic Viewpoints (1)

Category: Composition		
Name	Perspective	Scope
Organization	Structure of the enterprise in terms of roles, departments, etc.	Single layer/ Single aspect
Application Platform	Shows structure of a typical application platform and how it relates to supporting technology.	Multiple layer/ Multiple aspect
Information Structure	Shows the structure of the information used in the enterprise.	Multiple layer/ Single aspect
Technology	Infrastructure and platforms underlying the enterprise's information systems in terms of networks, devices, and system software.	Single layer/ Multiple aspect
Layered	Provides overview of architecture(s).	Multiple layer/ Multiple aspect
Physical	Physical environment and how this relates to IT infrastructure.	Multiple layer/ Multiple aspect

Prof. Dr. Knut Hinkelmann

Basic Viewpoints (2)

Category: Support			
Name	Perspective	Scope	
Product	Shows the contents of products.	Multiple layer/ Multiple aspect	
Application Usage	Relates applications to their use in, for example, business processes.	Multiple layer/ Multiple aspect	
Technology Usage	Shows how technology is used by applications.	Multiple layer/ Multiple aspect	
Category: Cooperation			
Business Process Cooperation	Shows the relationships between various business processes.	Multiple layer/ Multiple aspect	
Application Cooperation	Shows application components and their mutual relationships.	Multiple layer/ Multiple aspect	
Category: Realization			
Service Realization Shows how services are realized by the requisite behavior.		Multiple layer/ Multiple aspect	
Implementation and Deployment	Shows how applications are mapped onto the underlying technology.	Multiple layer/ Multiple aspect	

Creating an ArchiMate viewpoint

- Creating an ArchiMate viewpoint consists of two steps:
- 1. Selecting a *subset of relevant concepts* (elements and relationships) from the ArchiMate metamodel that is needed to address the stakeholder's concerns.
- 2. Defining a *representation* to depict these concepts in a way that is understood by the stakeholders.

This can be a diagram that uses standard or customized ArchiMate notation, a catalog of elements, a matrix showing the relationships between two groups of elements, or an entirely different visualization.





Examples of View and Viewpoints in ArchiMate



Layered Viewpoint

The Layered viewpoint pictures several layers and aspects of an enterprise architecture in one diagram.

The layers are the result of the use of the "grouping" relation for a natural partitioning of the entire set of objects and relations that belong to a model.

Each dedicated layer exposes, by means of the "realization" relation a layer of services, which are further on "used by" the next dedicated layer.

Layered Viewpoint		
Stakeholders	Enterprise, process, application, infrastructure, and domain architects	
Concerns	Consistency, reduction of complexity, impact of change, flexibility	
Purpose	Designing, deciding, informing	
Abstraction Level	Overview	
Layer	Business layer, application layer, technology layer (see also Figure 4)	
Aspects	Information, behavior, structure (see also Figure 4)	

Concepts and Relationships: all

Example of a Model from the Layered Viewpoint





Organization Viewpoint

- (Internal) organization of a company, a department, a network of companies.
 Could be modeled as nested diagrams or as organizational charts.
- Useful in identifying competencies, authority, and repsonsibilities

Organization Viewpoint		
Stakeholders	Enterprise, process and domain architects, managers, employees, shareholders	
Concerns	Identification of competencies, authority, and responsibilities	
Purpose	Designing, deciding, informing	
Abstraction Level	Coherence	
Layer	Business layer (see also Figure 4)	
Aspects	Structure (see also Figure 4)	



Prof. Dr. Knut Hinkelmann

Example of a Model from the Organization Viewpoint



Actor Co-operation Viewpoint

- Extending the Organization Viewpoint with a focus on the relations of actors with each other and their environment
- Useful in determining external dependencies and collaborations; shows the value chain or network in which the actor operates.
- Can show how a number of co-operating business actors and/or application components together realize a business process

Actor Co-operation Viewpoint		
Stakeholders	Enterprise, process, and domain architects	
Concerns	Relationships of actors with their environment	
Purpose	Designing, deciding, informing	
Abstraction Level	Detail	
Layer	Business layer (application layer) (see also Figure 4)	
Aspects	Structure, behavior (see also Figure 4)	



Example of a Model from the Actor Co-operation Viewpoint



Prof. Dr. Knut Hinkelmann

Business Function Viewpoint

 Shows the main business functions of an organisation and their relations in terms of flow of information, value or goods between them.

Business Function Viewpoint		
Stakeholders	Enterprise, process, and domain architects	
Concerns	Identification of competencies, identification of main activities, reduction of complexity	
Purpose	Designing	
Abstraction Level	Coherence	
Layer	Business layer (see also Figure 4)	
Aspects	Behavior, structure (see also Figure 4)	

Concepts and Relationships:



Example of a Model from the Business Function Viewpoint



Prof. Dr. Knut Hinkelmann

Business Process Viewpoint

Structure and composition of one or more business processes and directly related concepts like products, roles, and information

Concepts and Relationships:



Business Process Vie	wpoint	
Stakeholders	Process and domain architects, operational managers	
Concerns	Structure of business processes, consistency and completeness, responsibilities	
Purpose	Designing	
Abstraction Level	Detail	
Layer	Business layer (see also Figure 4)	•
Aspects	Behavior (see also Figure 4)	

Example of a Model from the Business Process Viewpoint



Business Process Co-operation Viewpoint

Relations of one or more business processes with each other and/or the environment.



Prof. Dr. Knut Hinkelmann

Example of a Model from the Business Process Cooperation Viewpoint



Prof. Dr. Knut Hinkelmann

Product Viewpoint

Composition of products, the associated contract(s) or agreements, and the products' value to customers and other external parties..



n

Example of a Model from the Product Viewpoint



Prof. Dr. Knut Hinkelmann

Application Behavior Viewpoint

Internal behavior of an application, e.g. as it realizes one or more services



Example of a Model from the Application Behavior Viewpoint



Application Cooperation Viewpoint

Relations between applications components in terms of the information flows between them, or in terms of the services they offer and use.



Example of a Model from the Application Co-operation Viewpoint

Relations between applications components in terms of the information flows between them, or in terms of the services they offer and use.



Application Structure Viewpoint

Structure of one or more applications or components. This viewpoint is useful in designing or understanding the main structure of applications or components and the associated data



Example of a Model from the Application Structure Viewpoint



Application Usage Viewpoint

Describes how applications are used to support one or more business processes, and how they are used by other applications



Example of a Model from the Application Usage Viewpoint



Infrastructure Viewpoint

Software and hardware infrastructure elements supporting the application layer, such as physical devices, networks, or system software (e.g., operating systems, databases, and middleware).



Example of a Model from the Infrastructure Viewpoint



Infrastructure Usage Viewpoint

How applications are supported by the software and hardware infrastructure: the infrastructure services are delivered by the devices; system software and networks are provided to the applications

Infrastructure Usage	e Viewpoint	
Stakeholders	Application, infrastructure architects, operational managers	
Concerns	Dependencies, performance, scalability	
Purpose	Designing	Concepts and Relationships:
Abstraction Level	Coherence	Infrastructure service
Layer	Application and technology layers (see also Figure 4)	
Aspects	Behavior, structure (see also Figure 4)	
		Infrastructure Node Communication <> function System Device Network



Example of a Model from the Infrastructure Usage Viewpoint



Implementation and Deployment Viewpoint

How one or more applications are realized on the infrastructure. This comprises the mapping of (logical) applications onto (physical) artifacts, such as Enterprise Java Beans, and the mapping of the information used by these applications onto the underlying storage infrastructure; e.g., database tables or other files.



Prof. Dr. Knut Hinkelmann

Example of a Model from the Implementation and Deployment Viewpoint



Information Structure Viewpoint

It shows the structure of the information used in the enterprise or in a specific business process or application, in terms of data types or (object-oriented) class structures. It is comparable to the traditional information models created in the development of almost any information system.

Information Structur	re Viewpoint	Concepts ar
Stakeholders	Domain and information architects	
Concerns	Structure and dependencies of the used data and information, consistency and completeness	Meaning
Purpose	Designing	Representation
Abstraction Level	Details	
Layer	Business layer, application layer, technology layer (see also Figure 4)	
Aspects	Information (see also Figure 4)	

Concepts and Relationships:



Example of a Model from the Information Structure Viewpoint



Service Realization Viewpoint

How one or more business services are realized by the underlying processes (and sometimes by application components). Thus, it forms the bridge between the business products viewpoint and the business process view.



Example of a Model from the Service Realization Viewpoint

