How Reference Architectures support the evolution of Product Families; the Darwin research project

by Gerrit Muller Embedded Systems Institute

e-mail: gaudisite@gmail.com

www.gaudisite.nl

Abstract

TBD

Distribution

This article or presentation is written as part of the Gaudí project. The Gaudí project philosophy is to improve by obtaining frequent feedback. Frequent feedback is pursued by an open creation process. This document is published as intermediate or nearly mature version to get feedback. Further distribution is allowed as long as the document remains complete and unchanged.

This work has been carried out as part of the Darwin project under the responsibility of the Embedded Systems Institute. This project is partially supported by the Netherlands Ministry of Economic Affairs under the BSIK program.

June 5, 2018 status: planned version: 0.4 logo TBD

High Level Problem Statement

Installed Base Business

Life Cycle Management

costly high effort

diversity and # of configurations

Development efficiency

costly
high effort
too late

Innovation rate

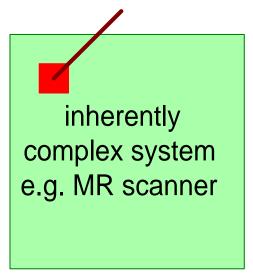
too low too late

see next slides



The Innovation Challenge

potential innovation: change



Challenge:

how to apply change locally for exploration of potential value and feasibility?

Postulate 1:

for effective exploration the following properties

must be maintained

patient throughput system responsiveness image quality safety reliability

Postulate 2:

a system architecture that supports this level of exploration also supports the next phases of innovation: scaling-up and engineering

Postulate 3:

a system architecture that supports this level of exploration also supports life cycle business over many generations



Evolvability Problem Statement

exploration is difficult

reliable realization is difficult

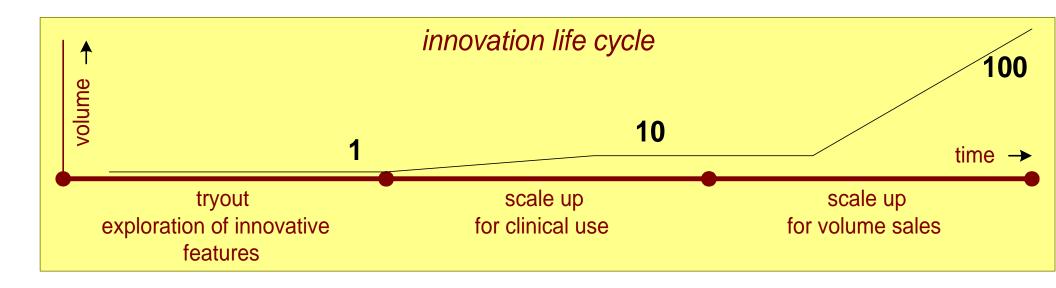
engineering is difficult

too much time, effort, cost

from idea to tryout

too much
and unpredictable
development
time, effort, cost
from tryout to realization

some new features
late relative to competition
too much
material and labor cost





Evolvability Problem Analysis

problems

too much time, effort, cost from idea to tryout

reliable realization is difficult
too much
and unpredictable
development
time, effort, cost

from tryout to realization

engineering is difficult
some new features
late relative to competition
too much
material and labor cost

observed causes

25 years of historical growth

lack of overview large amount of detailed documentation

size and complexity of realization

size and complexity of organization

inherent complexity of system and context

human and cultural factors high level of expertise conservatism

suspected more specific root causes

coupling (dependencies) higher than needed

ineffective structure (decomposition, interfaces)

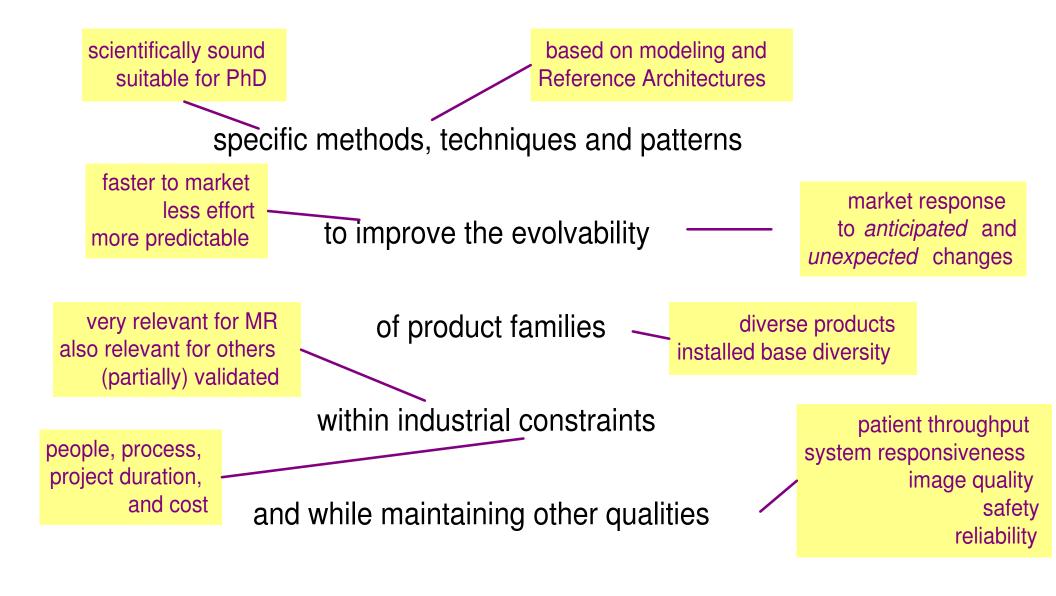
insufficient underpinning of decisions by value and cost

unbalance in core/key/base

diversity of configurations

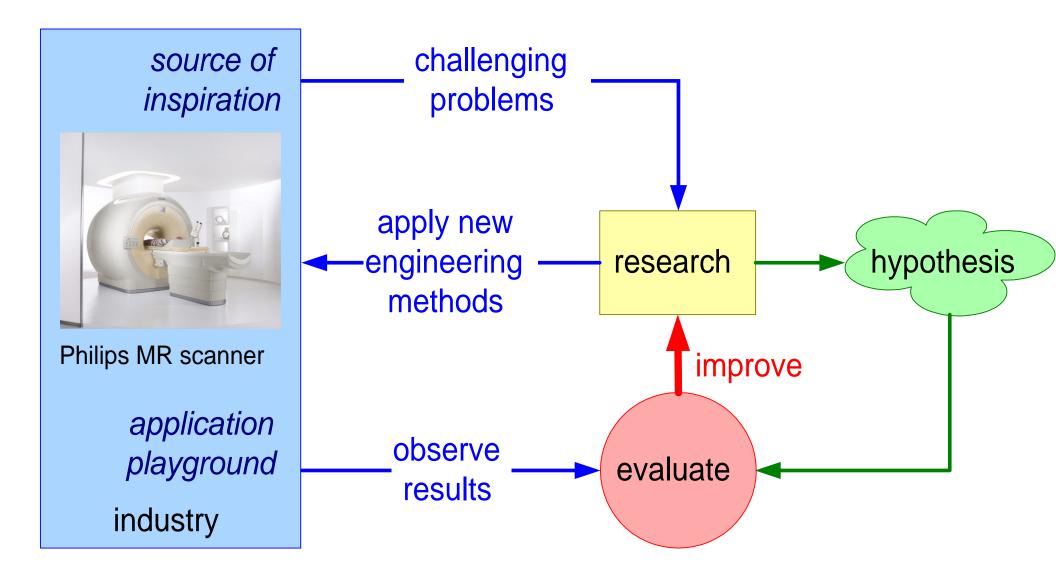


Darwin Project Goal





Darwin Research Model: Industry as Laboratory





Sources of Change

customer context

technical architecture

humans
other systems
legislation
reimbursement

clinical applications workflow applications

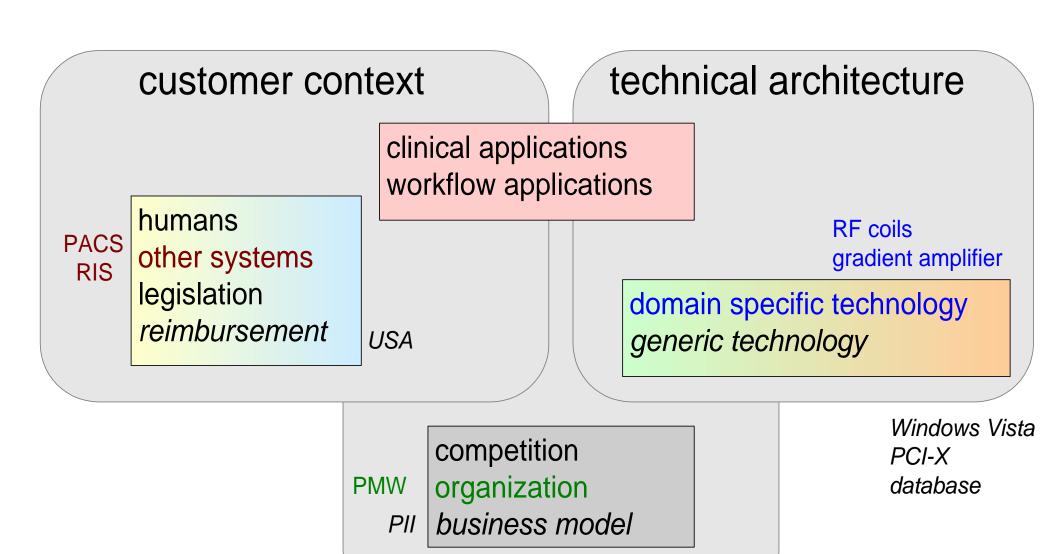
domain specific technology generic technology

competition organization business model

business architecture



Sources of Change



business architecture



Darwin Research Questions

How to transform into an evolvable product family architecture?

How to support decision making?

business wise

technological

How to create overview?

by visualization

by high-level modeling

How to mine the realization for implicit know how?

What are practical guidelines?

for decomposition

for interface definition

What are patterns that support evolvability?

related research areas

value analysis, e.g. real option roadmapping

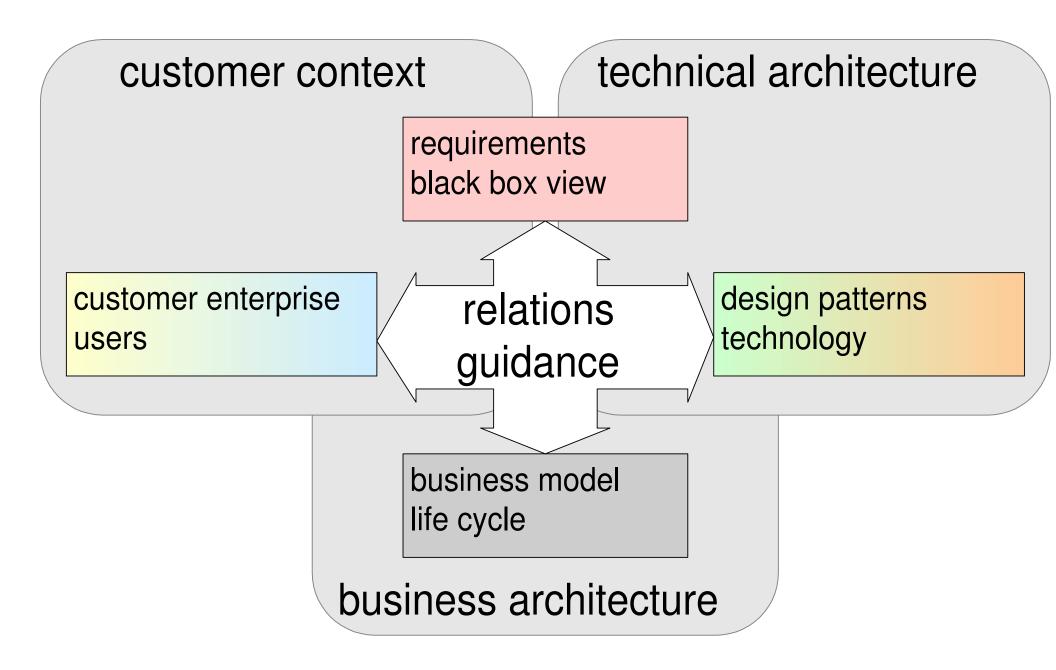
reference architecture physical models, functional models, budgeting, figures-of-merit, state-diagrams, time-lines

repository meta-data analysis dynamic dependency analysis semantic analysis

reference architecture physical models, functional models, qualities, behavior models clustering, structure, set-based design

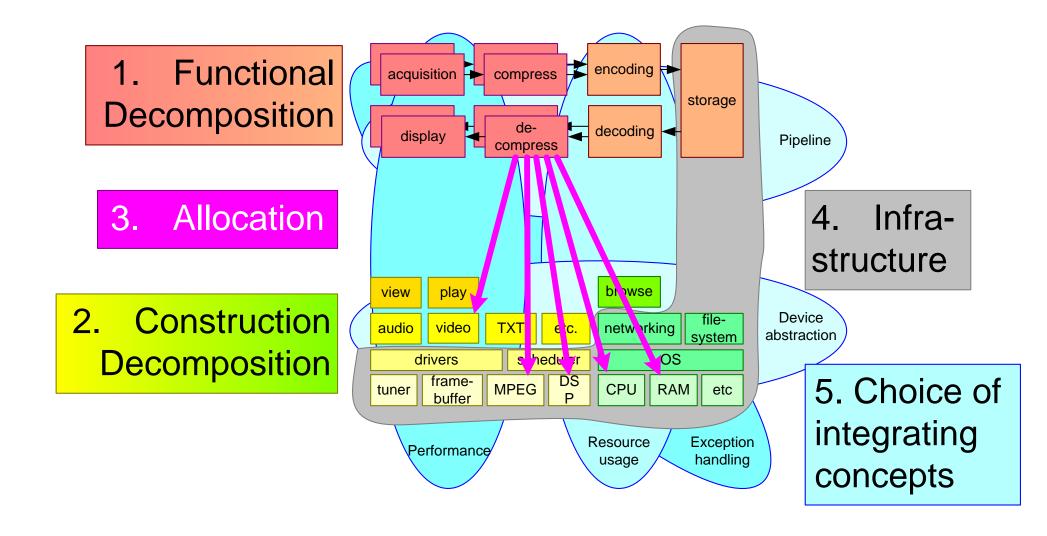


RA = Business Arch. + Technical Arch. + Customer Context



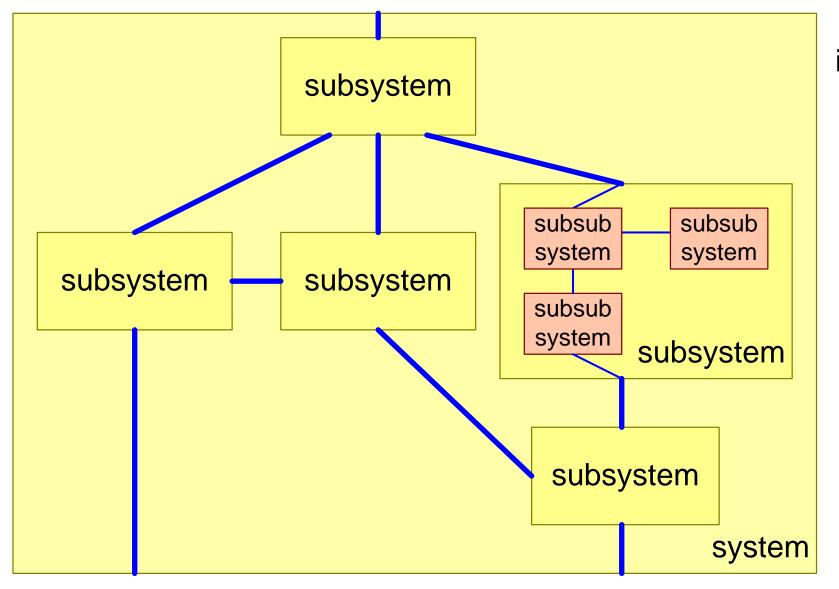


Technical Architecture





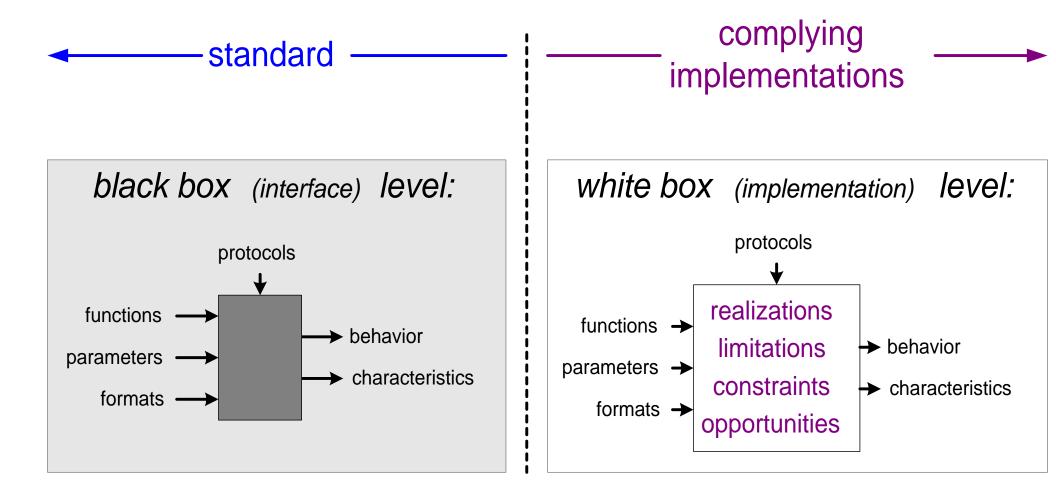
Decomposition and Interfaces



interface

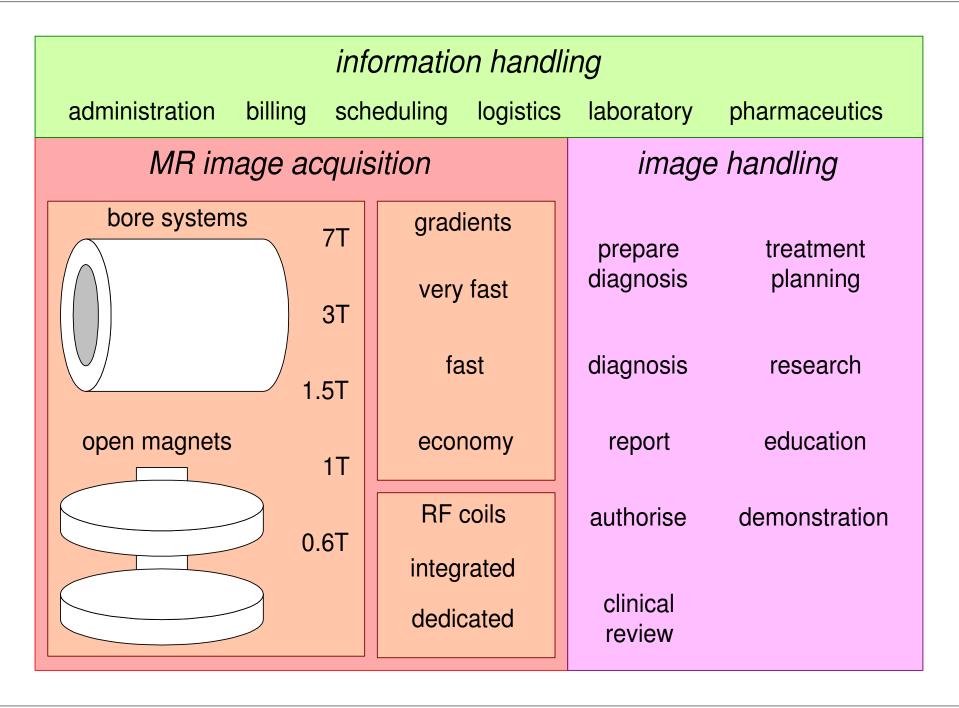


Interface much more than functions + parameters



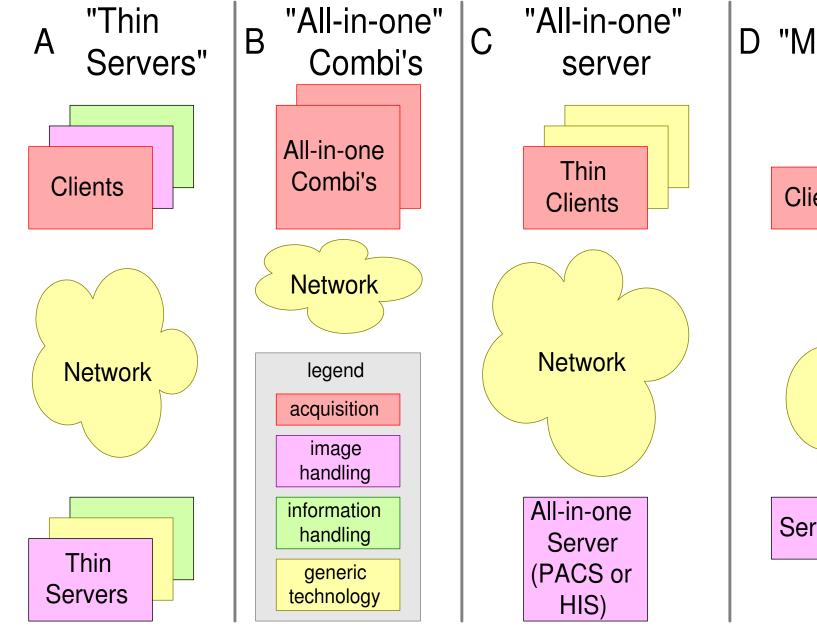


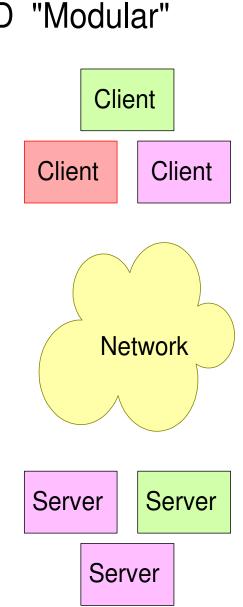
Integration and Diversity





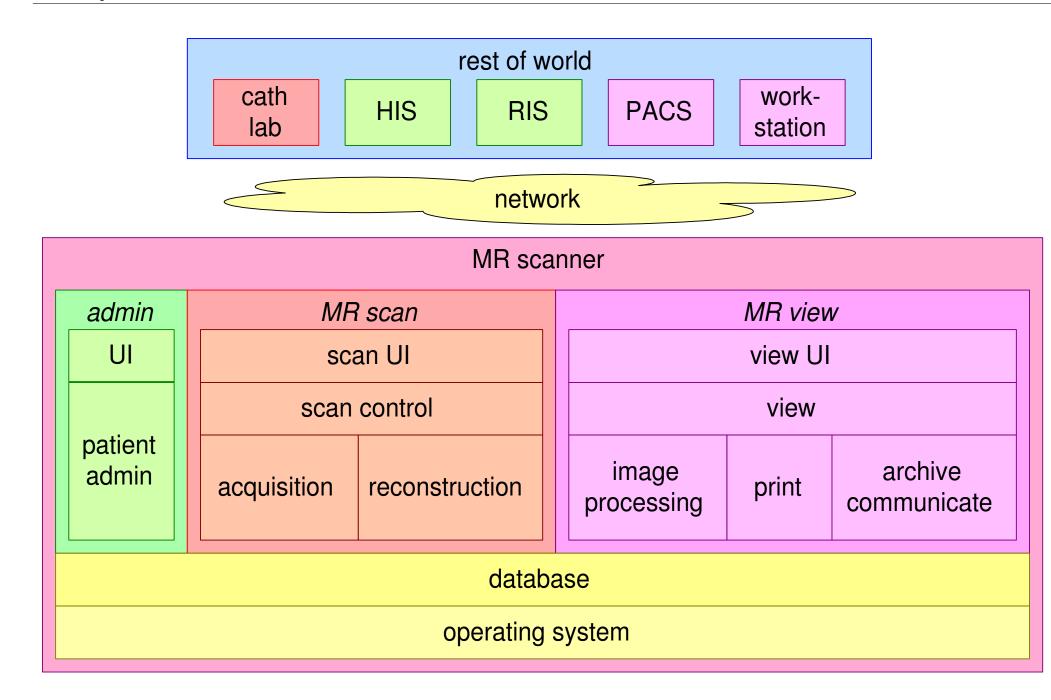
Distribution Scenario's





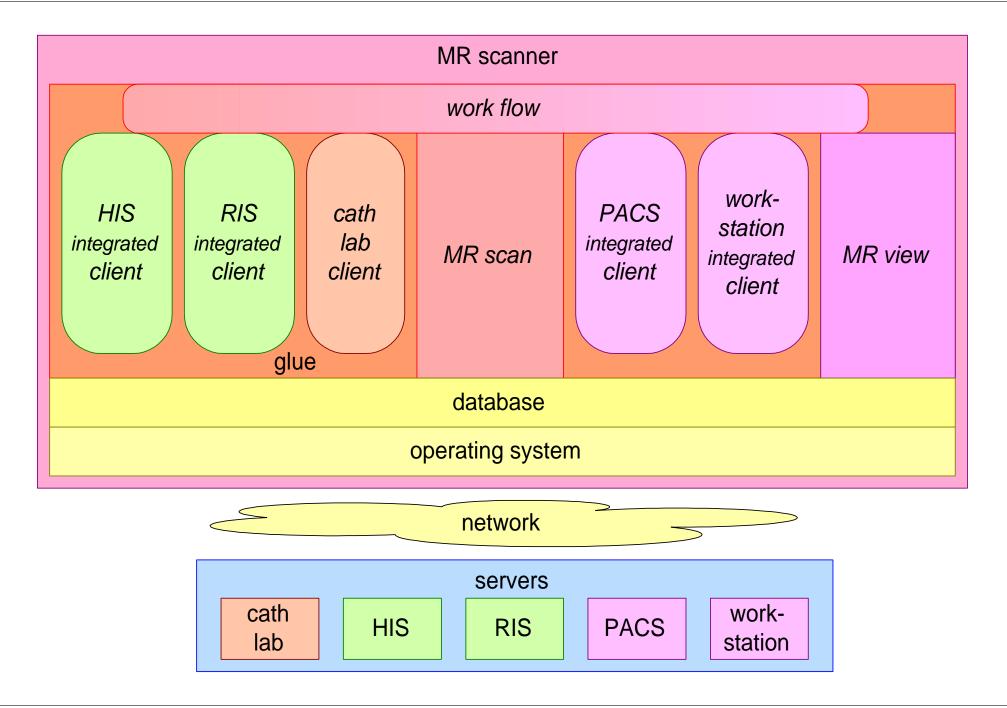


Simplistic Architecture



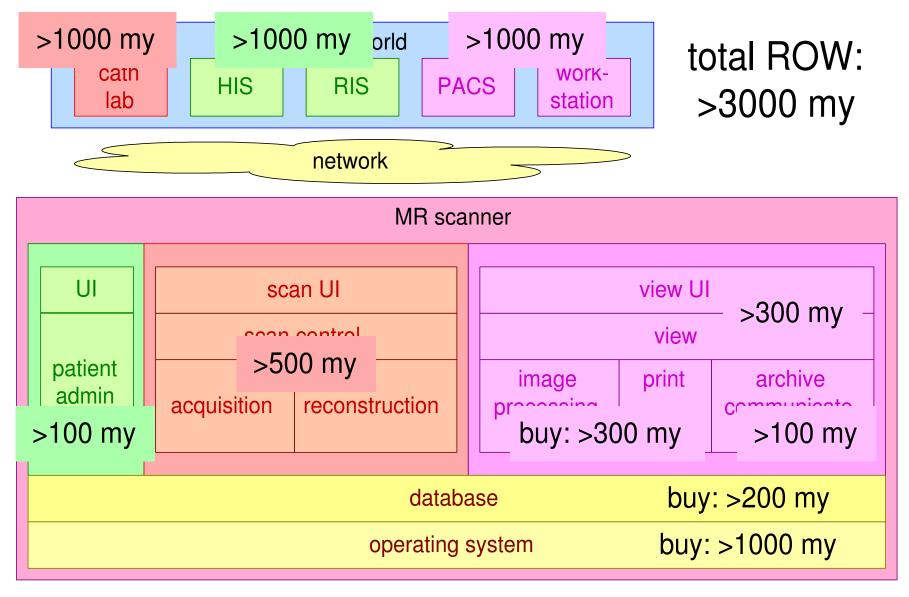


Future Simplistic Architecture





Available Code Assets

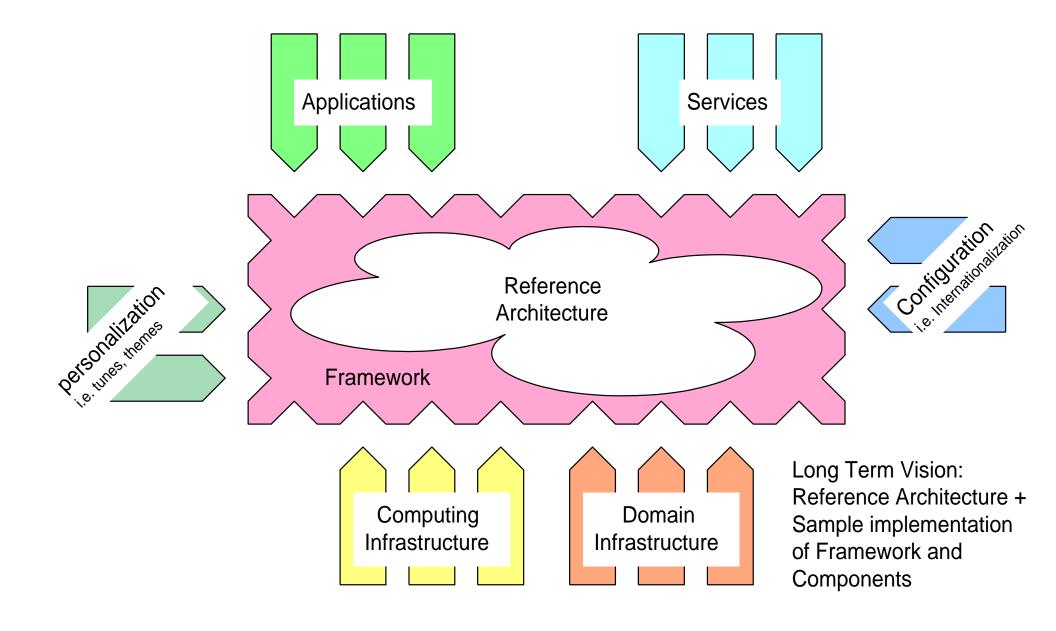


total make: >1000 my

total buy: >1500 my



Example Long Term Vision





Conclusion: Refactoring the Architecture is a must

