Avancier Methods (AM)
Enterprise Architecture

Analyse and Rationalise Application Portfolio

Motivation: the need for app rationalisation

- Solution architects are often driven to meet the immediate requirements of individual business units, using parochial technologies.

- This leads to…
  - tactical stand-alone information systems.
  - a fragmented and disparate application portfolio
  - with duplication and waste of resources.

- Edited from IT Business Edge 2010

Do you have this?

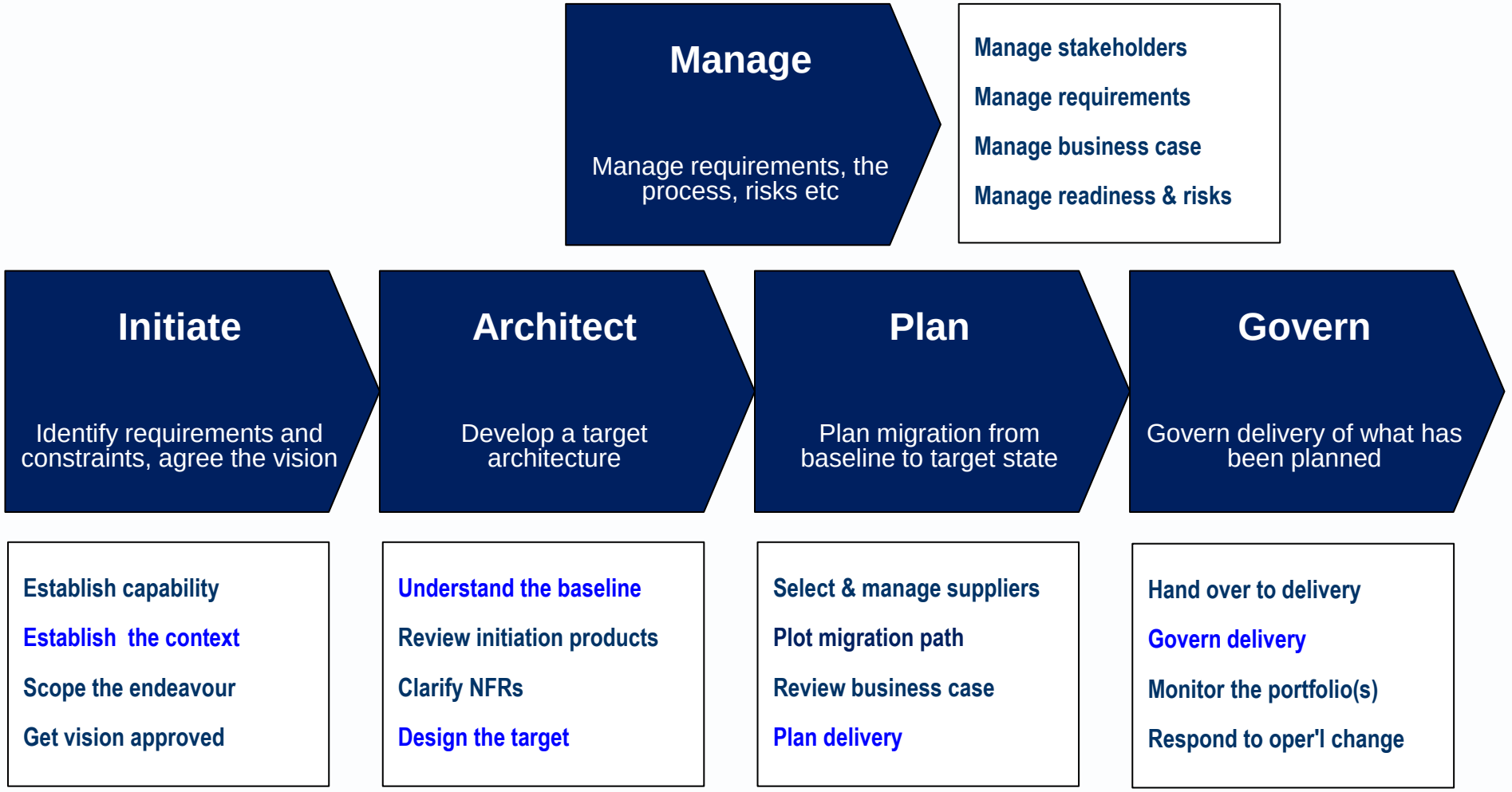
Do you have app portfolio manager?

The mess and the 4 Ds

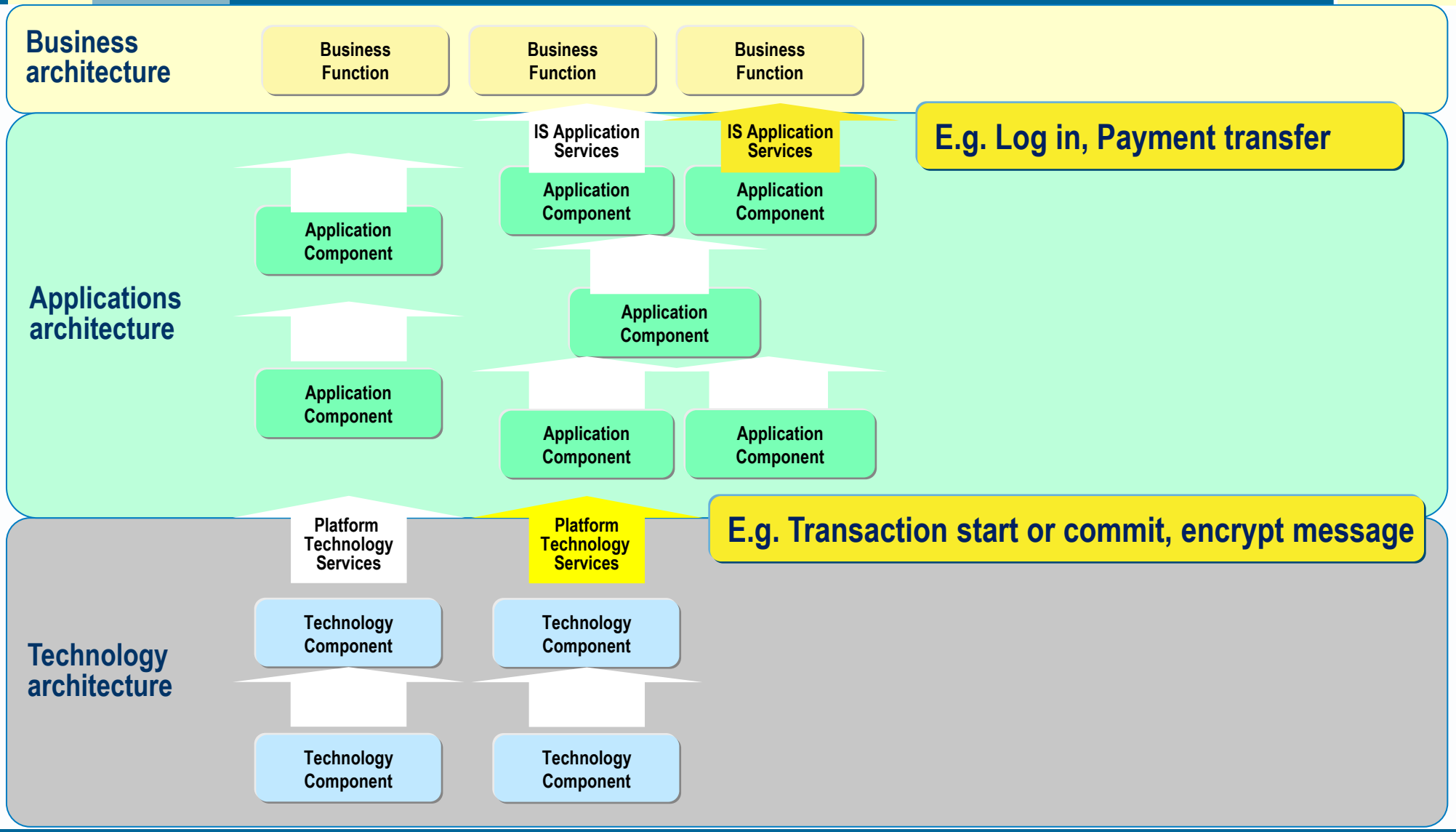
- An early motivation for EA was simply to “tidy up the mess”.
- Many large enterprises have acquired large portfolios of applications.
- The proliferation of silo applications has led to the 4 Ds:
  - Duplications of data and processes
  - Dis-integrities between data in different systems
  - Delays in completing processes
  - Difficulties with cross-organizational data analysis.
- And to the issues the 4 Ds create.

AM level 2 processes – with an EA perspective

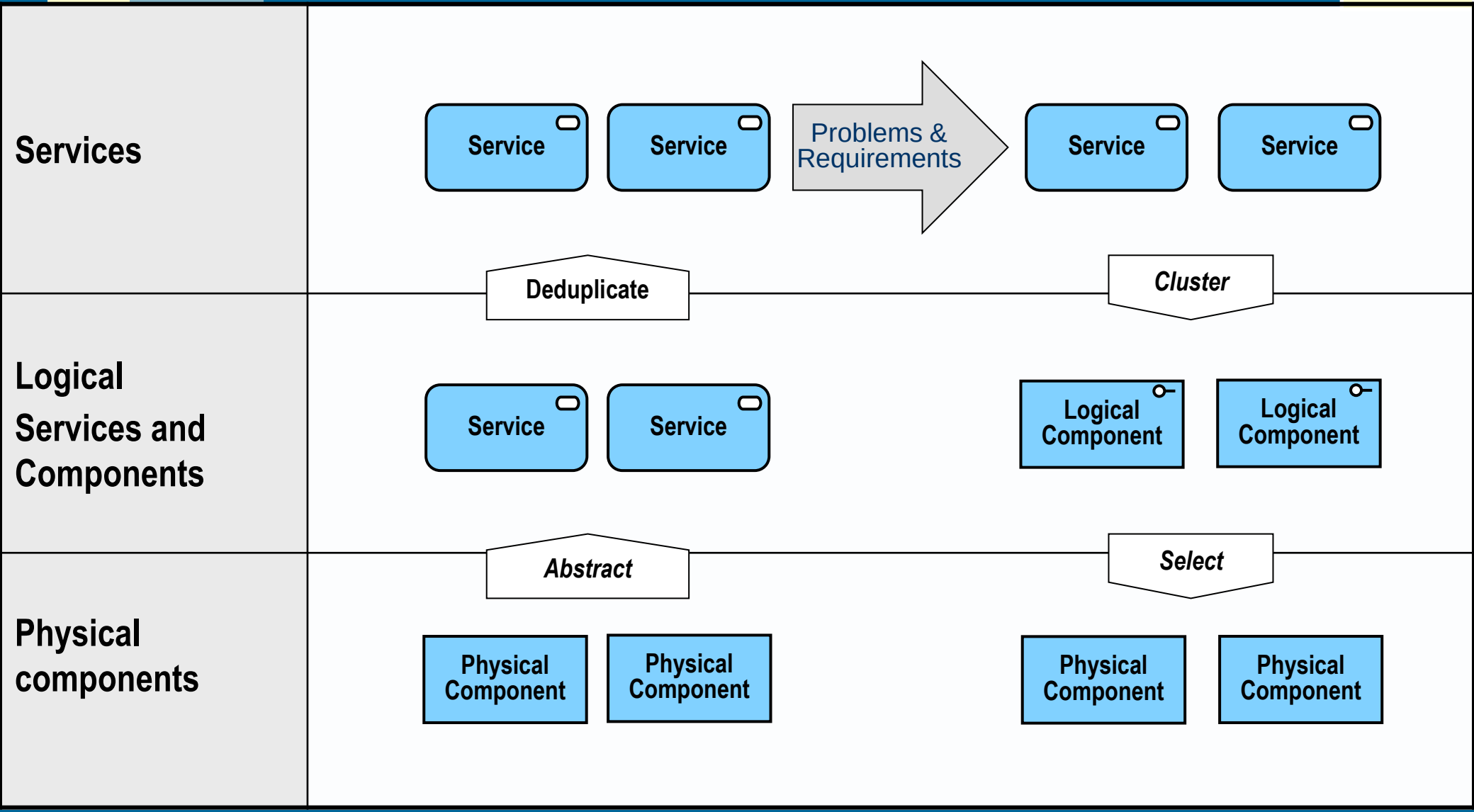
Avancier



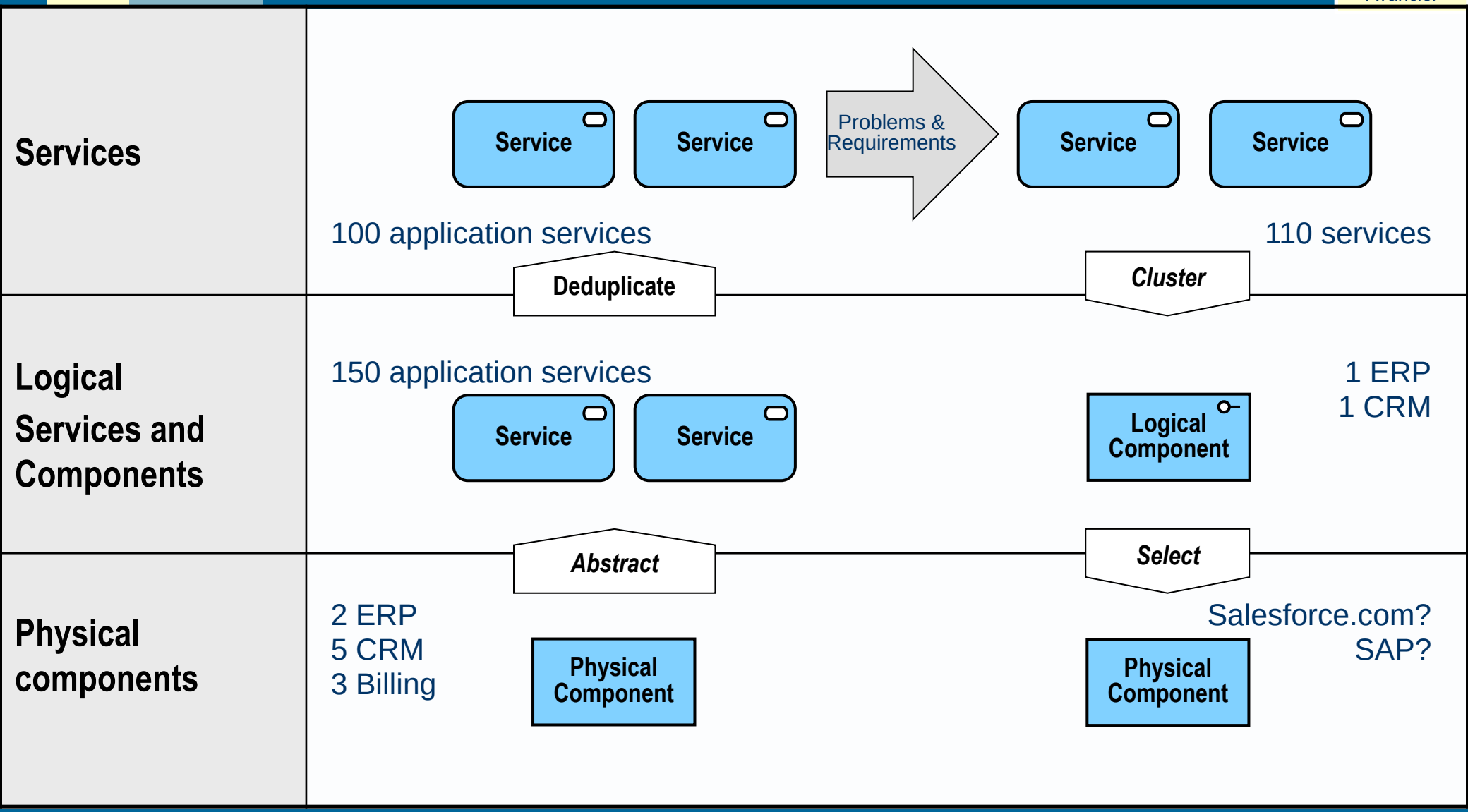
Layers architecture of components and services



Overview of the rationalisation approach



For example



Portfolio rationalization

Avancier

1. Identify the baseline components
2. Understand the baseline components
3. Evaluate baseline components
4. Review the context and motivations
5. Design the target component portfolio
6. Plan baseline-to-target migration
7. Govern delivery of the change

Common COTS applications

- Accounting
- Financial Reporting
- Data Warehousing, Business Intelligence and CPM
- Document Management, Business Process Management
- Content Management
- HR and Payroll
- Project Management

Applications within one ERP package!

- **Accounts Payable**
- **Accounts Receivable**
- Activity Management
- Benefits
- **BI Warehouse**
- **Billing**
- Bills of Material
- Capacity
- **Cash Management**
- **Claim Processing**
- Commission Calculation
- Commissions
- Cost Management
- Costing
- **Customer Contact & Call Center support**
- Engineering
- Fixed Assets
- **General Ledger**
- **Human Resources**
- Inspection of goods
- Inventory
- Manufacturing Flow
- Manufacturing Process
- Manufacturing Projects
- Order Entry
- **Payroll**
- Product Configurator
- **Purchasing**
- Quality Control
- **Rostering**
- Sales & Marketing
- Scheduling
- Service
- Supplier Scheduling
- Supply Chain Planning
- **Time & Attendance**
- Time & Expense
- **Training**
- Workflow Management

Start an Application Portfolio Catalog

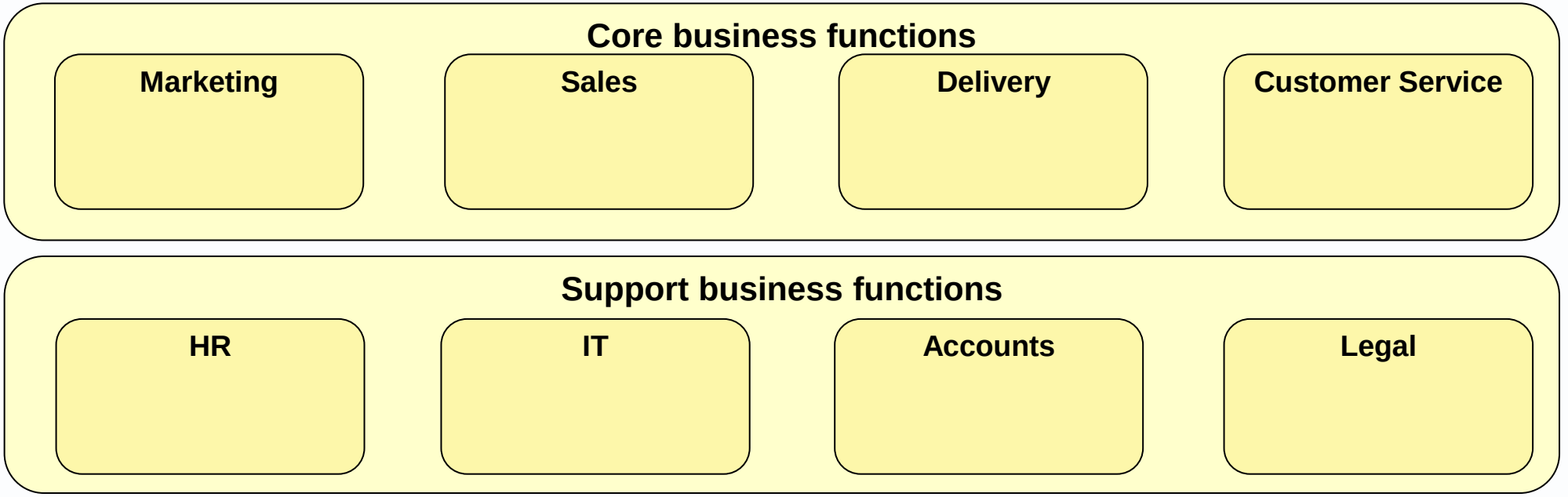
- [an artefact] listing business applications and recording their properties.
- Usually structured under the business function hierarchy.

Application portfolio catalog
Application name
Pseudonym?
Cost to buy or build
Cost to run and maintain per month
Value to the enterprise
Licence/contract expiry dates
Status
Class
Roles (owners, users, maintainers)
Business functions/capabilities supported
Organisation units supported
Applications/components communicated with
Data stores accessed
Networks used
Hardware/software platform technologies
Etc.

Map applications to function or capabilities

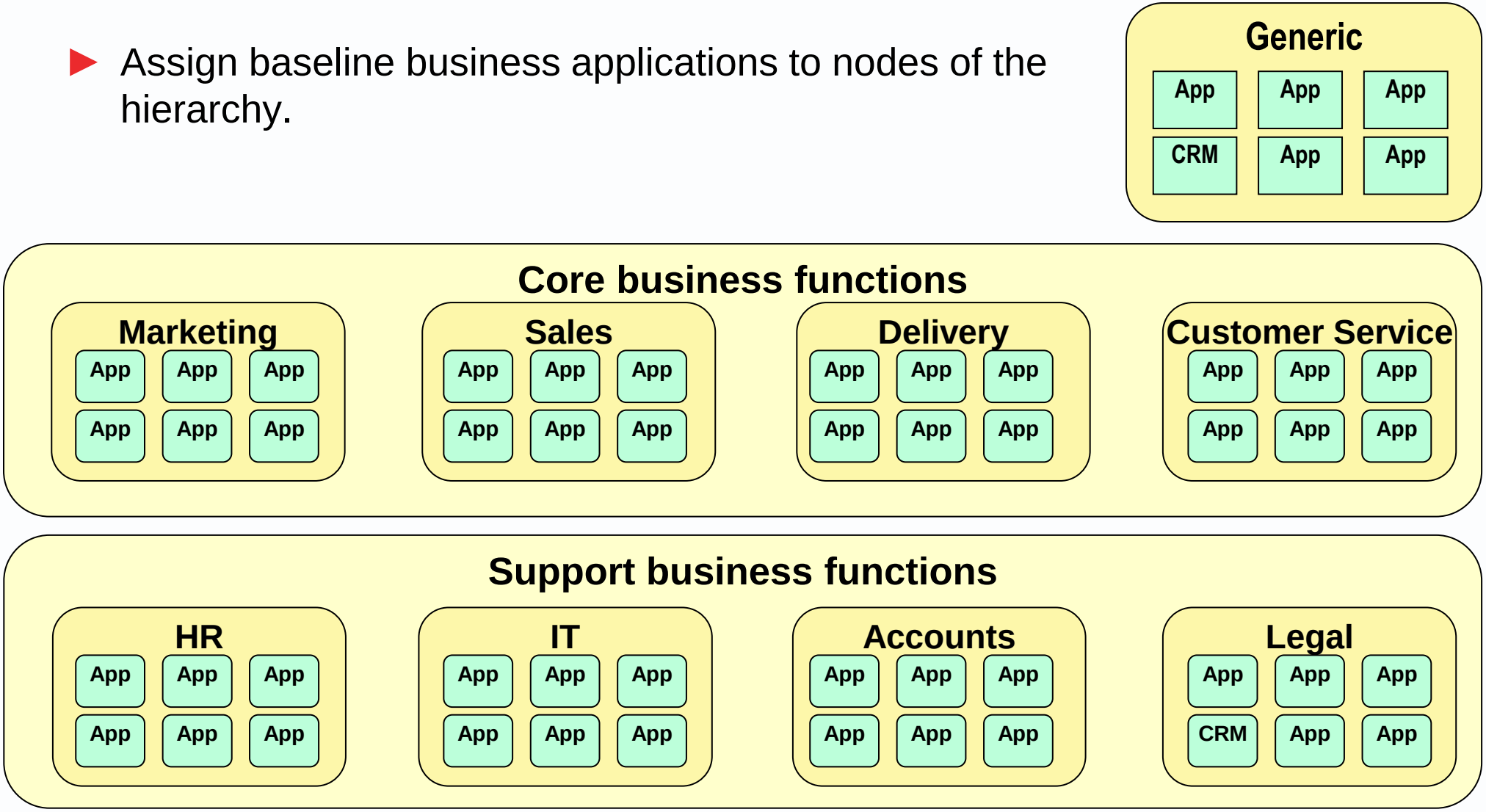
- Identify the part(s) of the organisation/function/capability hierarchy that are supported or enabled by the applications of interest.

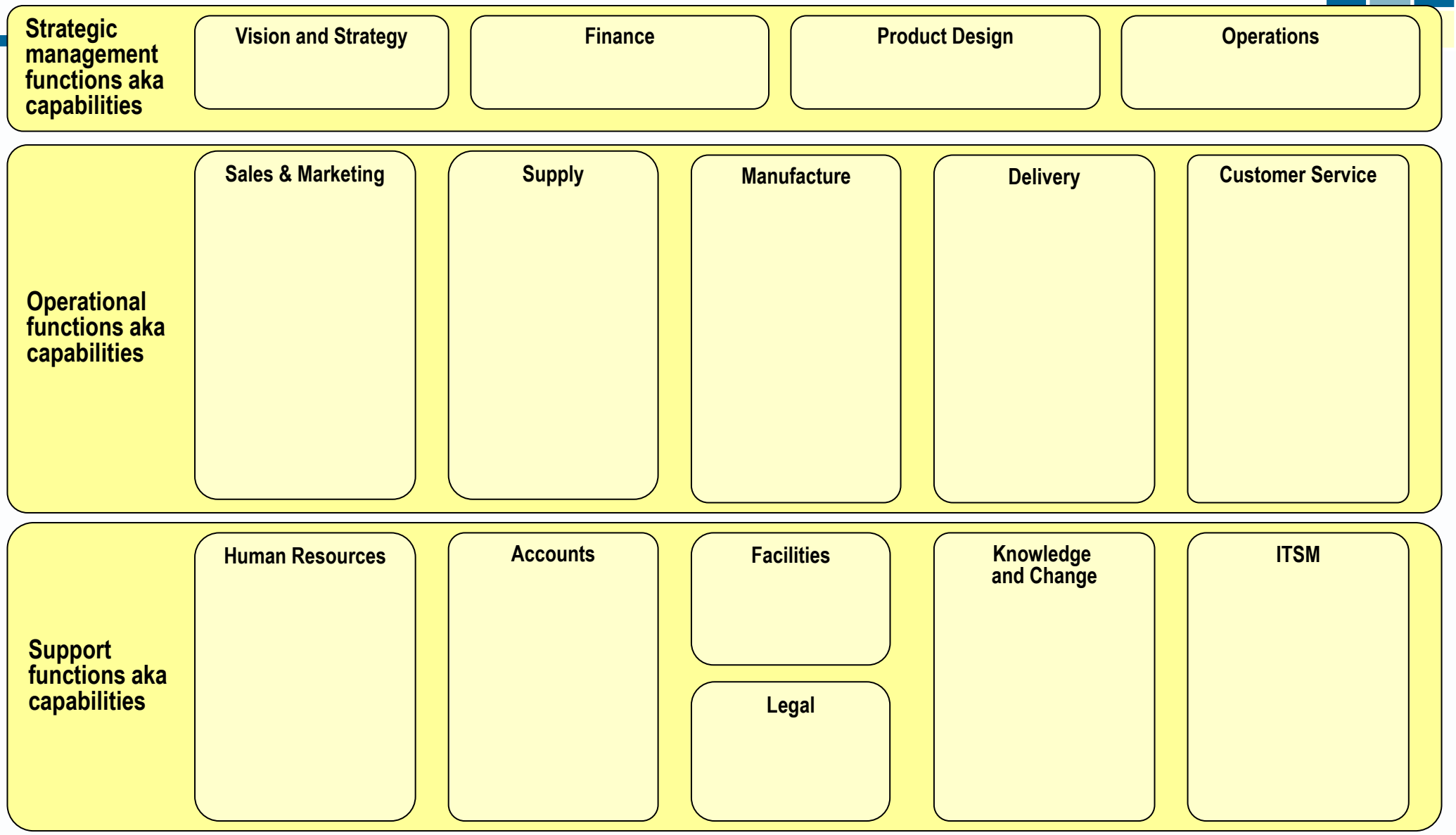
- The 2nd or 3rd level of decomposition might be sufficient

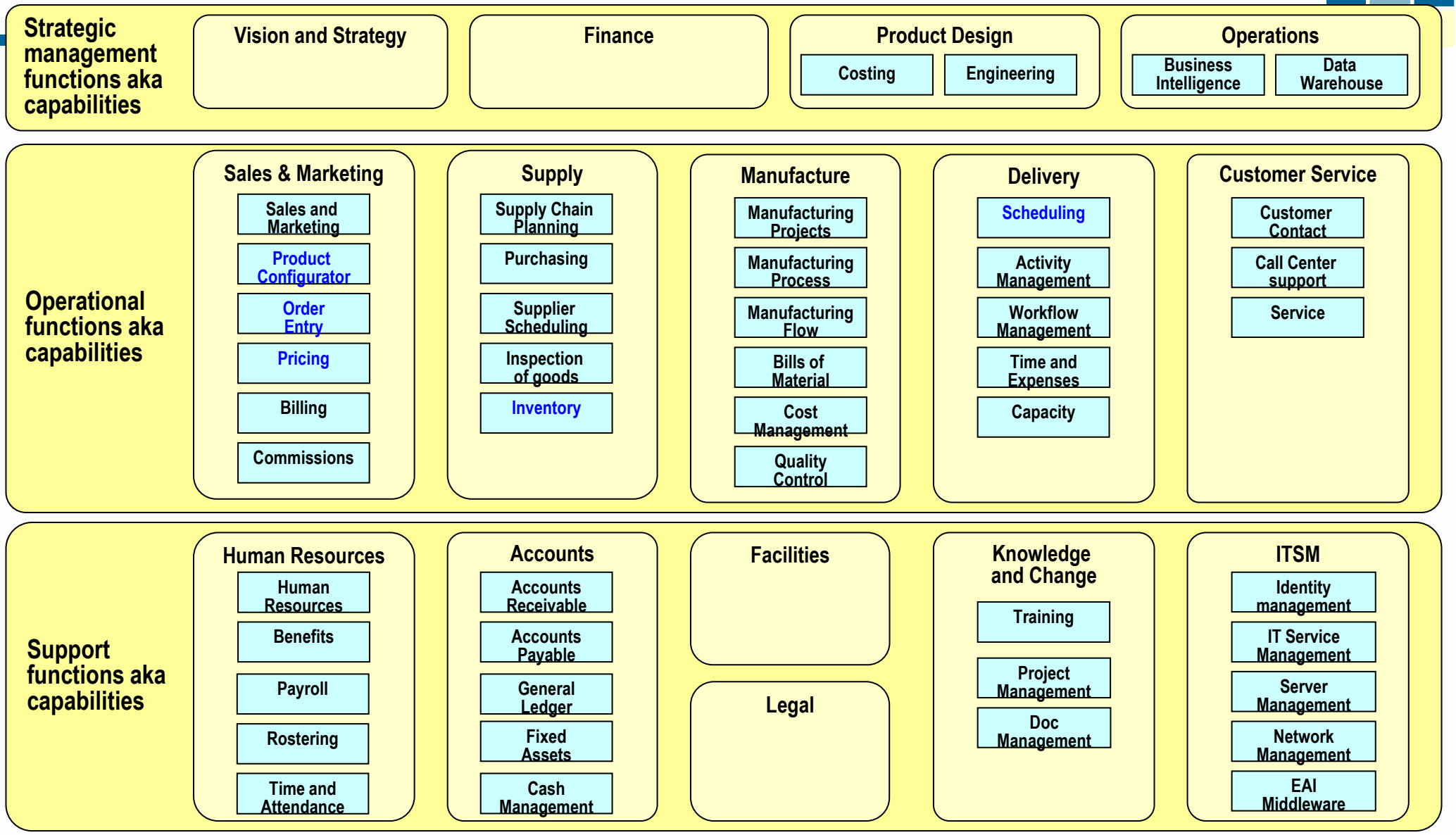


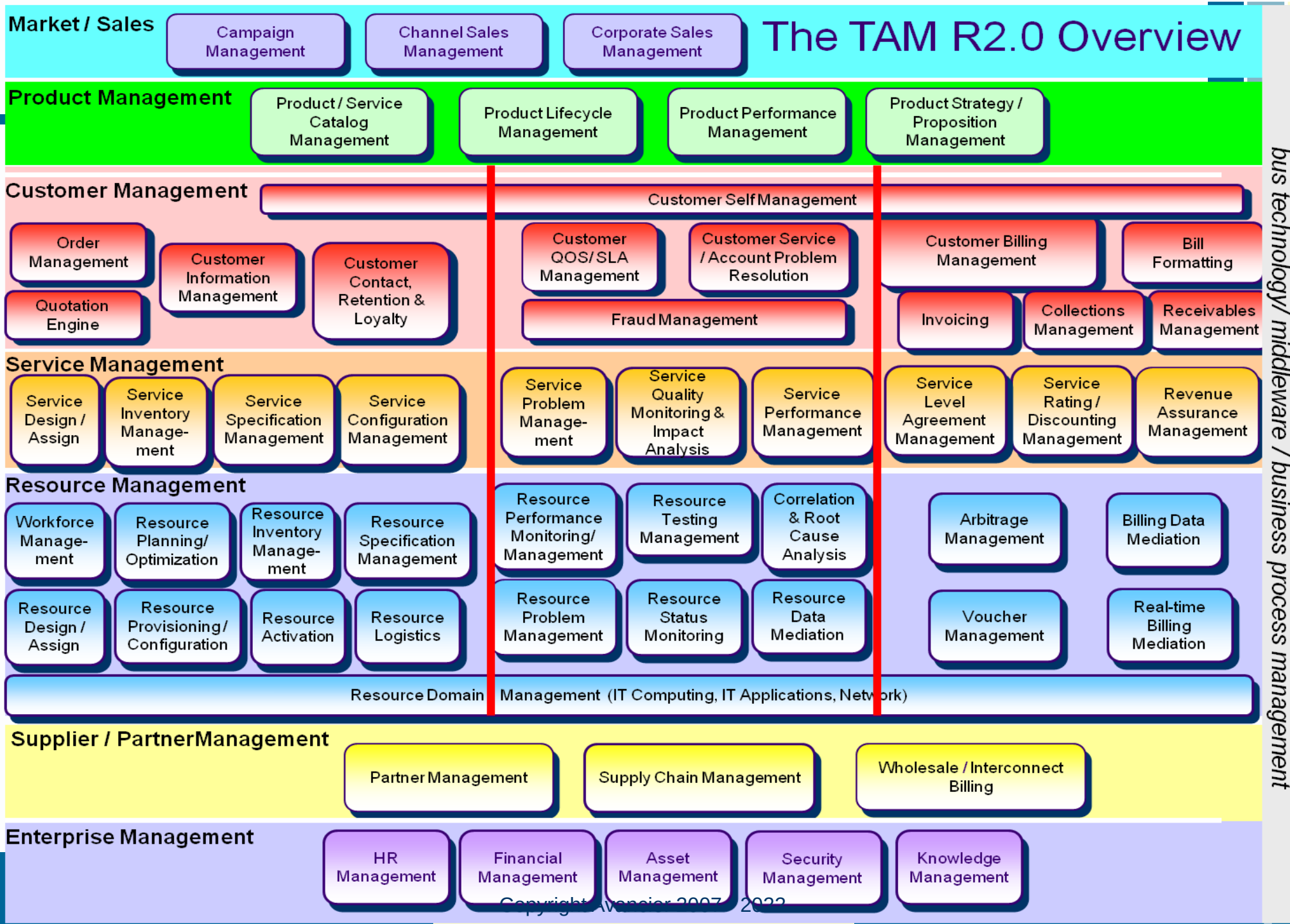
Classify the baseline components

- Assign baseline business applications to nodes of the hierarchy.









What if there are too many applications?

- Focus on applications that are
  - mission critical and/or
  - used by many actors.

- Or group related applications into “system families”,
  - map those to functions/capabilities,
  - then document each system family separately.

Note

Many enterprises have some kind of application catalog.

Many don’t.

Portfolio rationalization

Avancier

1. Identify the baseline components
2. Understand the baseline components
3. Evaluate baseline components
4. Review the context and motivations
5. Design the target component portfolio
6. Plan baseline-to-target migration
7. Govern delivery of the change

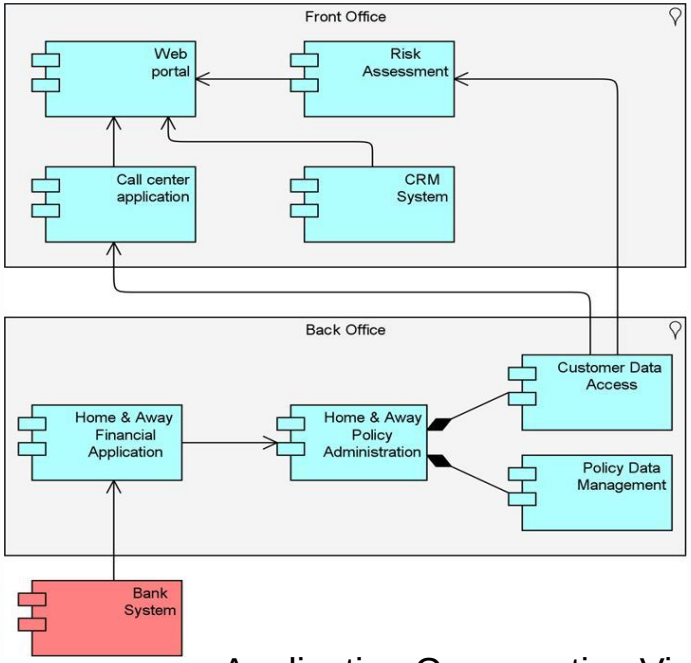
Understand the baseline components

- Catalog the services provided by components.
- List the primary use cases of each application.

Application Communication Diagram

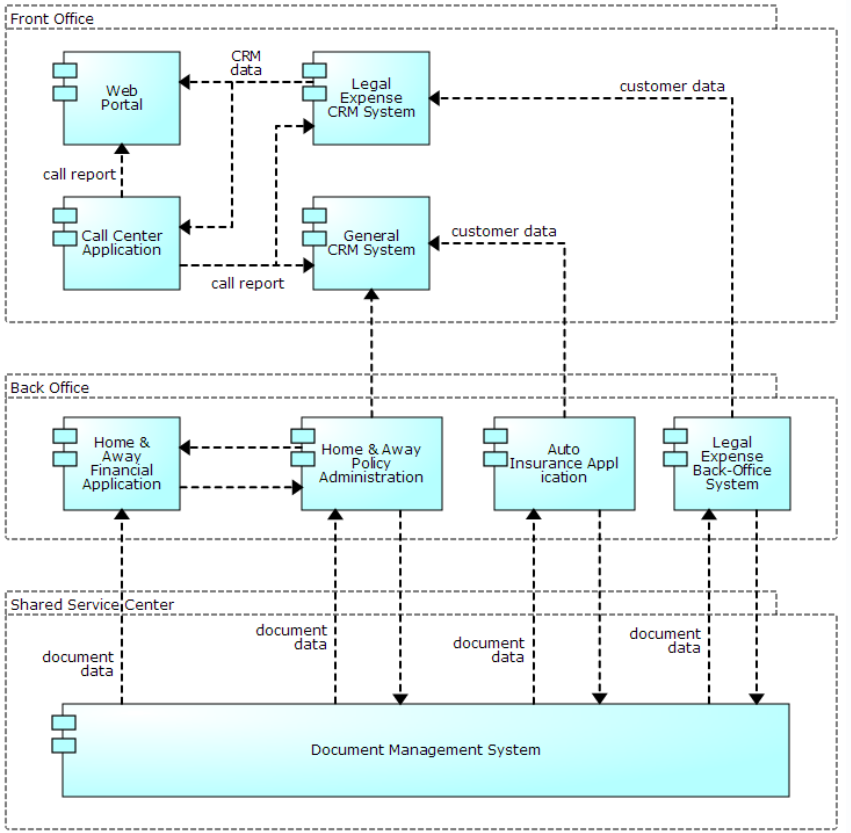
- Which apps does an app serve and depend on?
- What service or flows do they exchange?

Shows which apps *serve* which apps



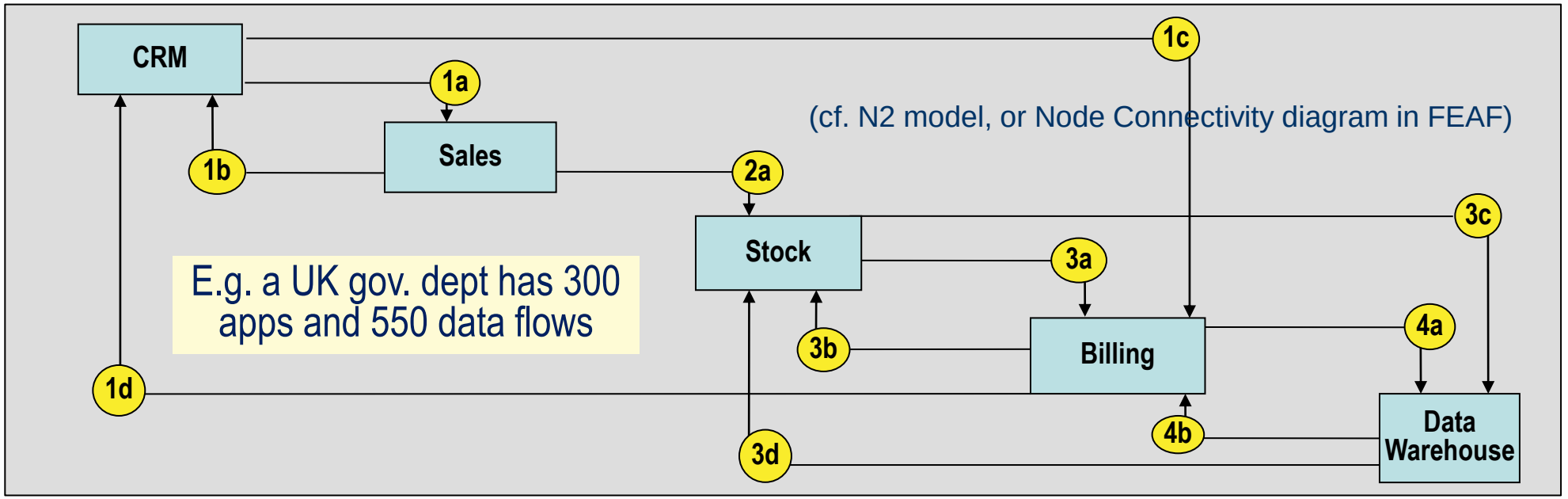
These diagrams use ArchiMate symbols

Shows which apps *send data to* which apps



Application Co-operation Viewpoint

Applications communication diagram + data flow catalogue



Data Flow id	Source App	Destination App	Data content	Trigger event
1a	CRM	Sales	Sales order request	New sales order
1b	Sales	CRM	Sales order confirmation	Order created in the Sales system
2a	Sales	Stock	Requisition	Subscribe/Publish timer

Data Flow (or Message) Catalog

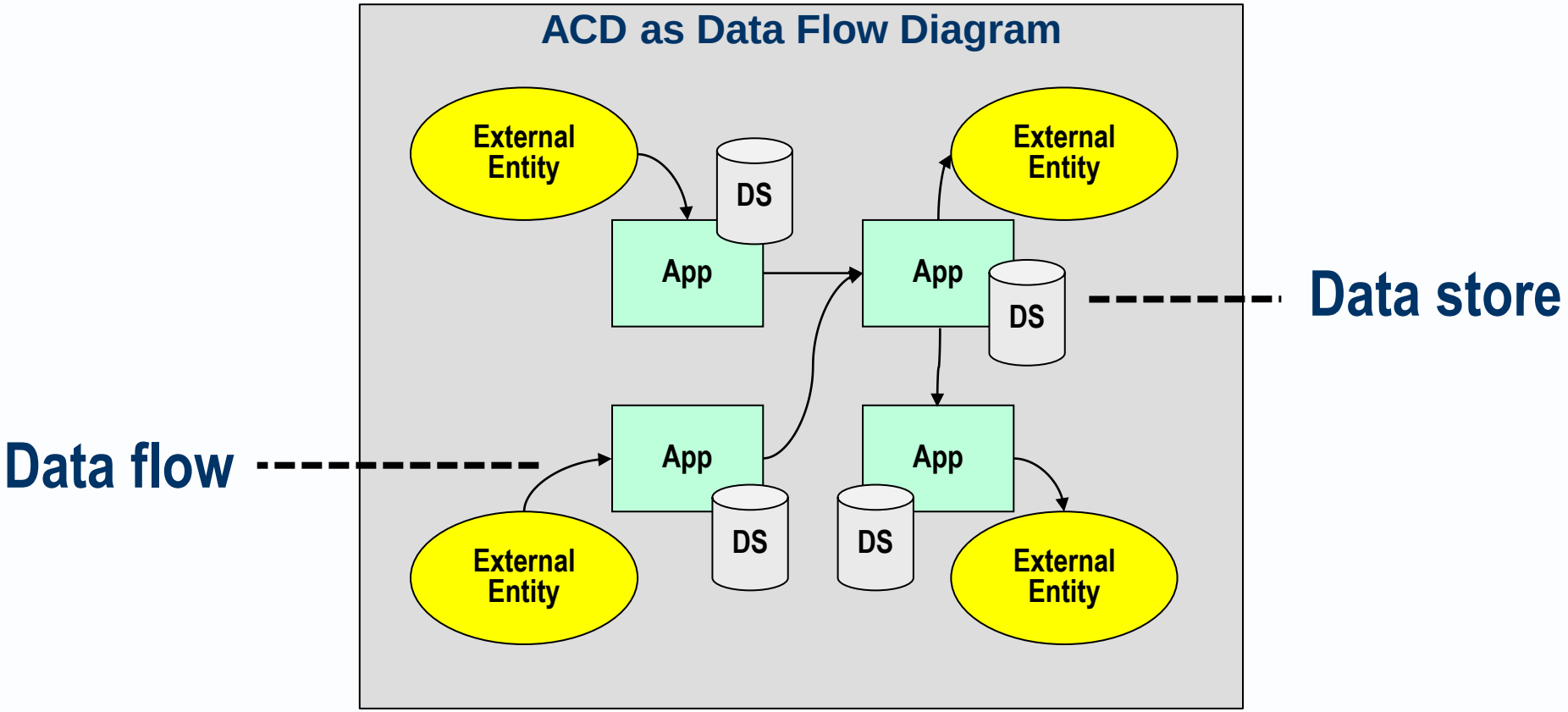
Avancier

- A flow can be detailed in terms of
  - Flow name, sender(s), receiver(s)
  - Trigger
  - Data structure transported (cross reference to)
  - Data format (Free text, CSV, JSON, XML etc.)
  - Transport mechanism or medium
  - Non-functional qualities such as throughput, CIA etc.

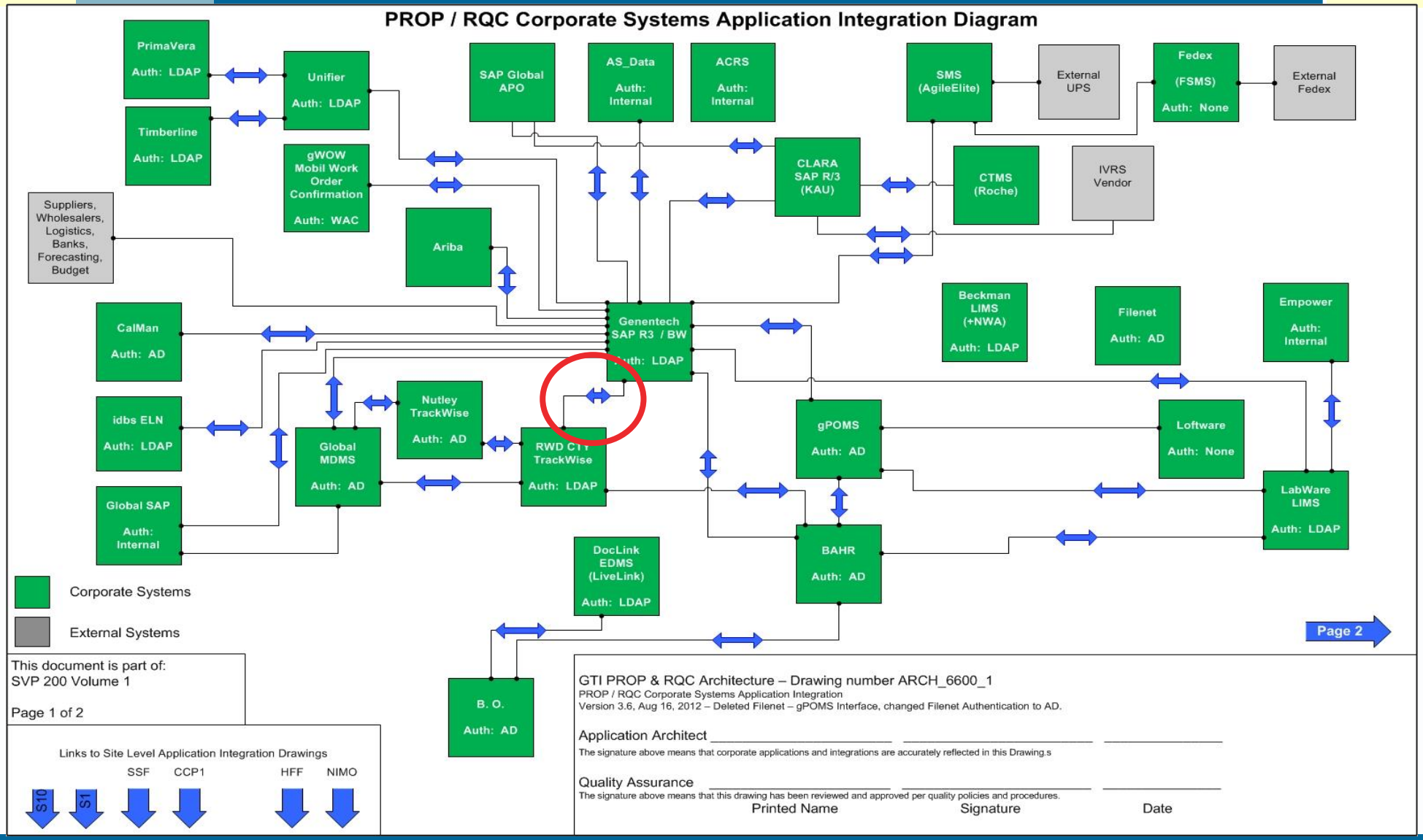
This shows what could be documented rather than what most actually do. But understanding what is possible in theory is a precursor to deciding what to do in practice.

Data flow	Sender	Receiver	Trigger	Content	Transport	Throughput	C	I	A
Enquiry	Customer	Sales	Interest	Unstructured	Email	1000/day	High	Medium	9.00 to 18.00
Order	Customer	Sales	Web site visit	Structured	Web/HTTPS	60/day	High	High	24/7

Map applications to data flows and data stores

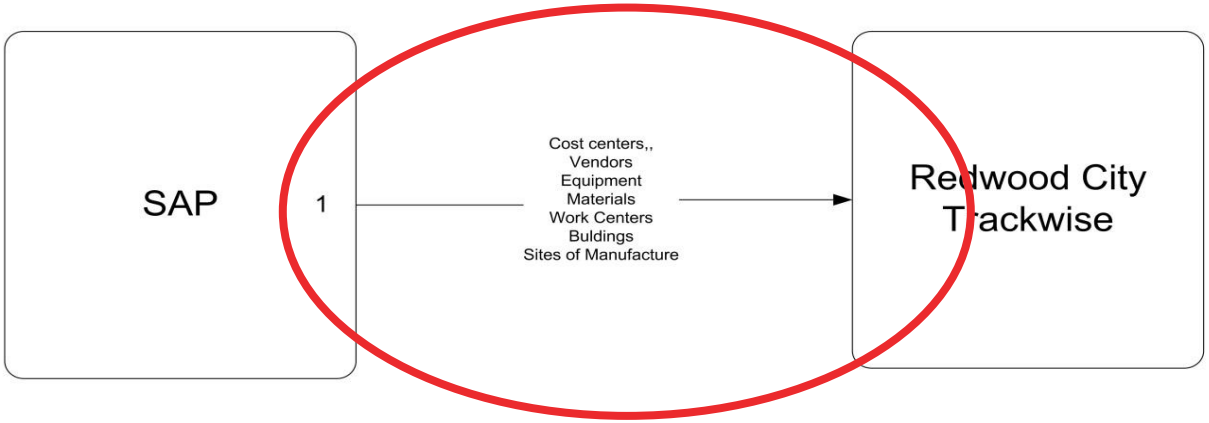


Application Communication diagram for one “system family”



CORP

Data Flow Diagram SAP - Trackwise



GTI PROP IT Architecture – Drawing number ARCH_6639
Data Flow Diagram SAP - Trackwise
Version 3.0 February 25, 2011 – Added border, changed object behavior, standardized dwg. Chanded Trackwise to “Redwood City Trackwise” to distinguish it from the Trackwise instance in Nutley.

SAP Tech Lead _____ _____ _____
The signature above means that data flows are accurately reflected in this drawing.

Trackwise Tech Lead _____ _____ _____
The signature above means that the data flows are accurately reflected in this drawing.

Quality Assurance _____ _____ _____
The signature above means that this drawing has been reviewed and approved per quality policies and procedures.

System Owner _____ _____ _____
The signature above means that the application interactions shown in this drawing are consistent with the validated functionality of this application.

Printed Name Signature Date

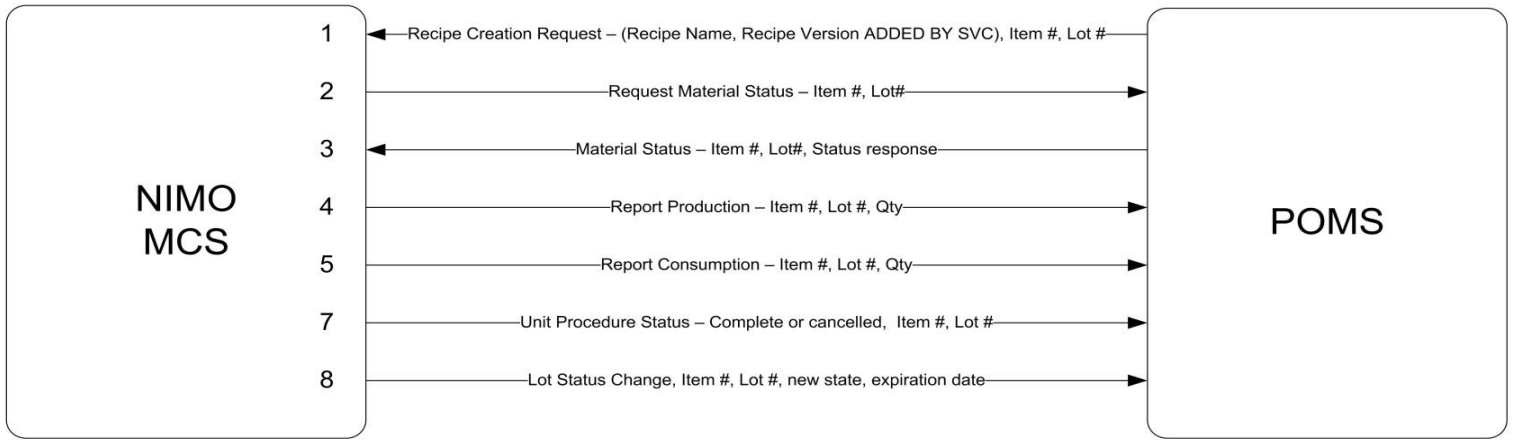
Transaction Technology:
1 - Flat file exchange

This document is part of:
SVP 200 Volume 1

Page 1 of 1

Data Flow Diagram MCS - POMS

NIMO



Transaction Technology:
1 – 5 Web Methods Web Service.
6 – Report waste transaction removed from scope – Not yet implemented.
7 – 8 Web Methods Web Service.

This document is part of:
SVP 200 Volume 1

Page 1 of 1

GTI PROP Architecture – Drawing number ARCH_6710
DFD Campaign Studio – POMS
Version 3.1 February 28, 2011 – Added border, change object behavior, standardized dwg. Assigned drawing number.

MCS Tech Lead _____ _____ _____
The signature above means that the integrations with MCS are accurately reflected in this drawing.

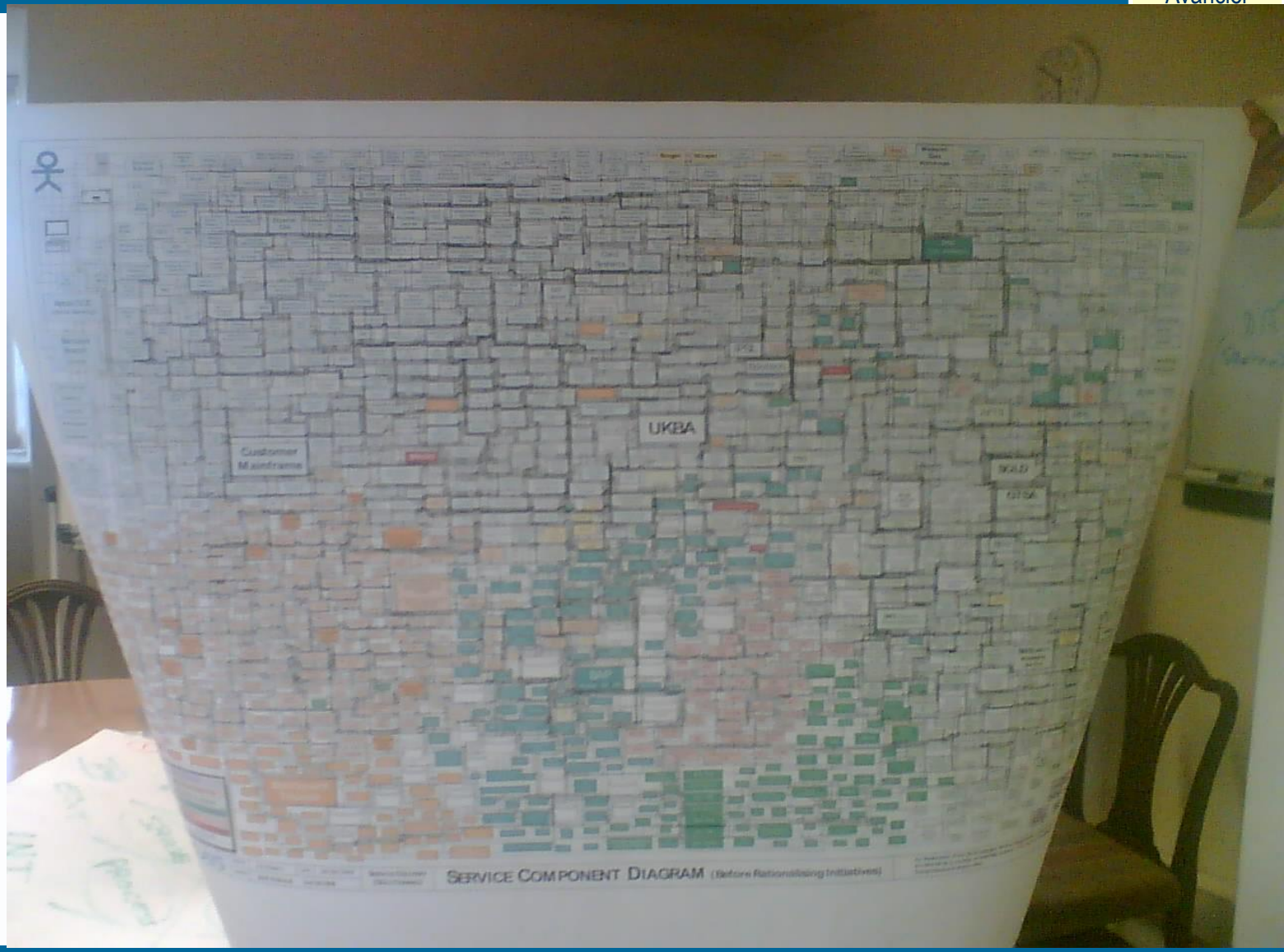
POMS Tech Lead _____ _____ _____
The signature above means that the integrations with POMS are accurately reflected in this drawing.

Quality Assurance _____ _____ _____
The signature above means that this drawing has been reviewed and approved per quality policies and procedures.

System Owner _____ _____ _____
The signature above means that the application interactions shown in this drawing are consistent with the validated functionality of this application.
Printed Name Signature Date

Another real example

- 1 higher level diagram for system families only?
- N lower level diagrams for apps within a system family?



Map applications to other architectural entities

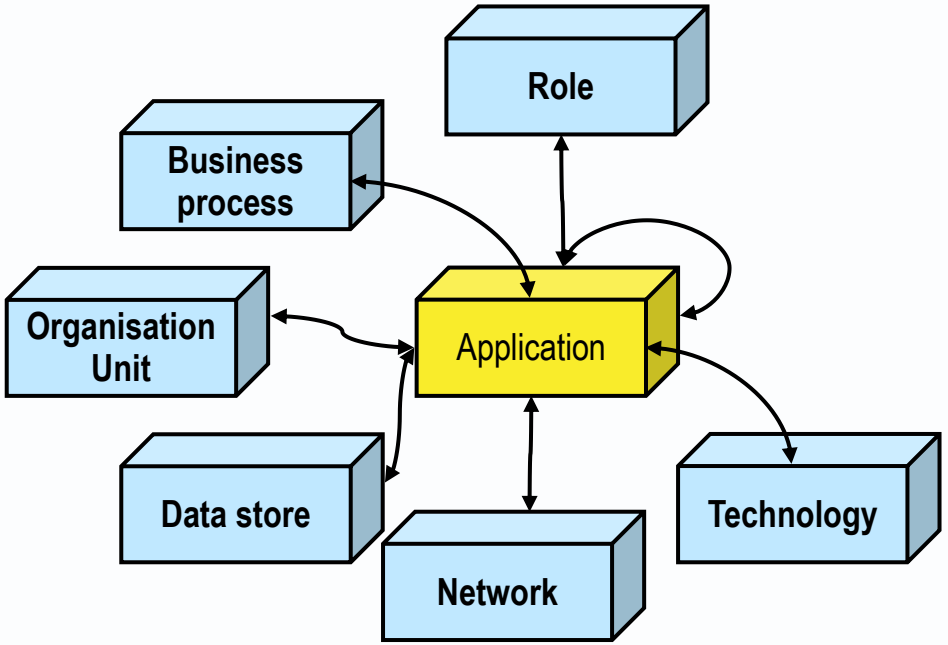
- Role/Application Matrix
- Application/Organization Matrix

Application Organisation Unit	CRM	Products	Billing	BI
Marketing	Uses			Uses
Sales	Uses		Uses	
Finance			Uses	
Management				Uses

- How widely or narrowly is a business supported by applications?
- How widely or narrowly is an application used?
- Where might better interoperability or support be needed?
- Where might security threats arise?

Define your meta model

- E.g.

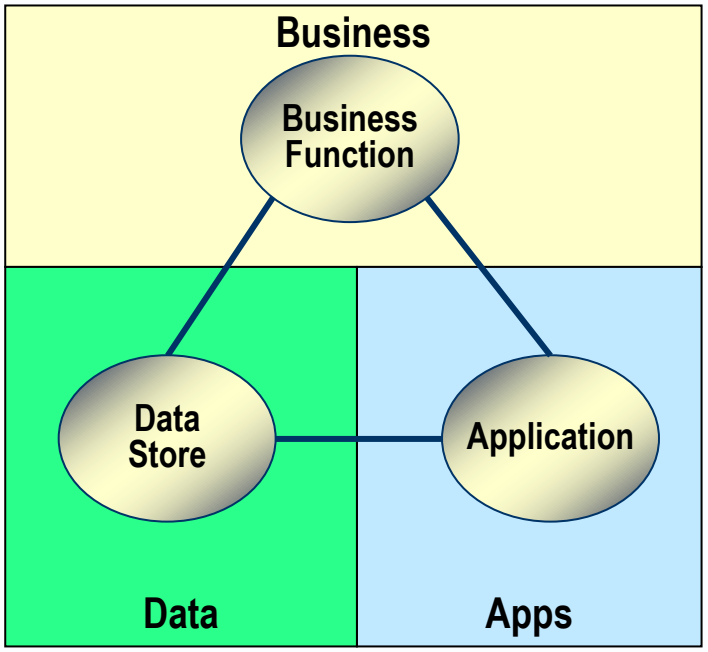


Application portfolio catalog
Application name (Primary key)
Pseudonym?
Cost to buy or build
Cost to run and maintain per month
Value to the enterprise
Licence/contract expiry dates
Status
Class (Foreign keys)
Roles (owners, users, maintainers)
Business functions/capabilities supported
Organisation units supported
Applications/components communicated with
Data stores accessed
Networks used
Hardware/software platform technologies
Etc.

Note

It seems few enterprises analyze to components to that level of detail.

In practice, few document more than this



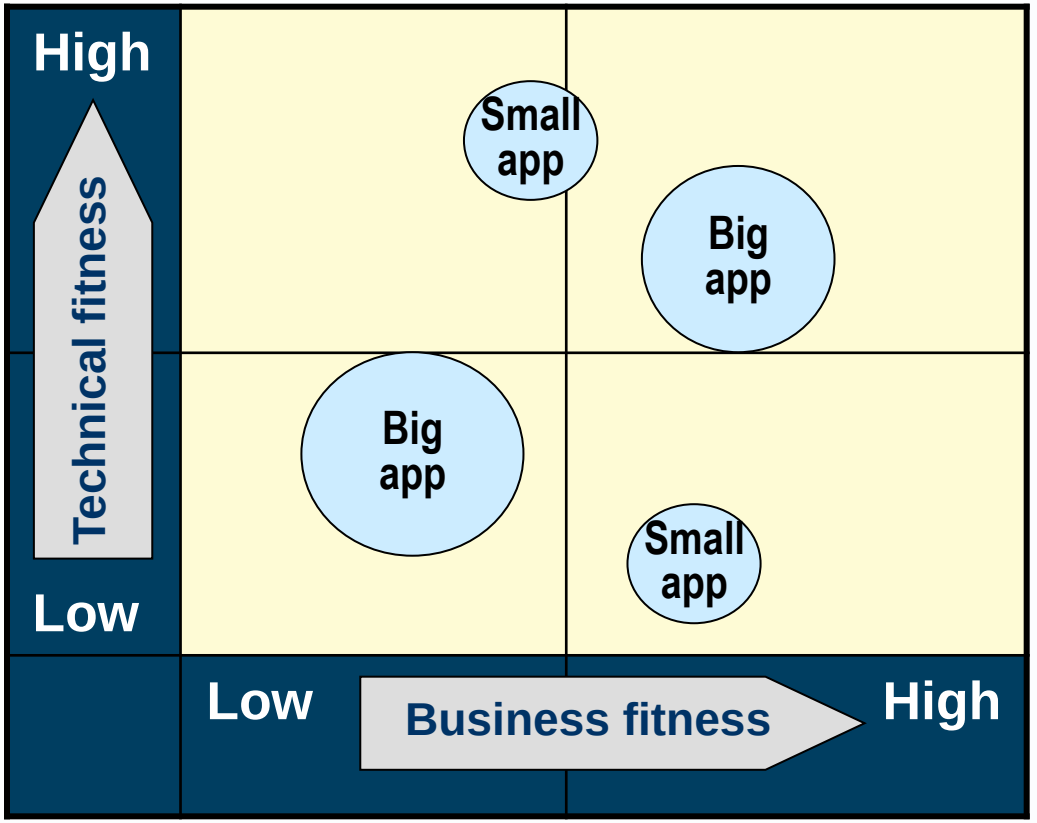
Portfolio rationalization

Avancier

1. Identify the baseline components
2. Understand the baseline components
3. Evaluate baseline components
4. Review the context and motivations
5. Design the target component portfolio
6. Plan baseline-to-target migration
7. Govern delivery of the change

Evaluate baseline components

- *Business fitness*, considering
  - Usage
  - Benefit
  - Cost per user, per transaction
- *Technological fitness*. considering
  - Supportability,
  - Technical debt
  - Compliance to standards
  - Incident/problem frequency

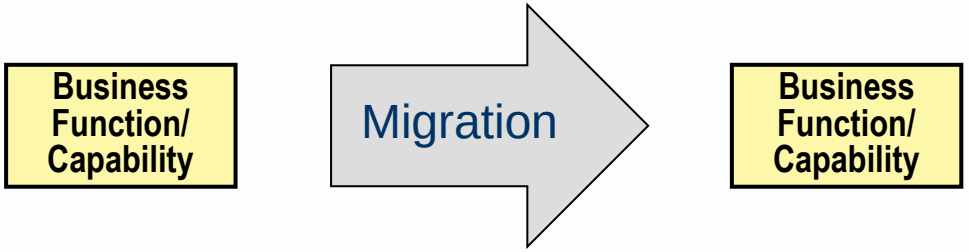


Portfolio rationalization

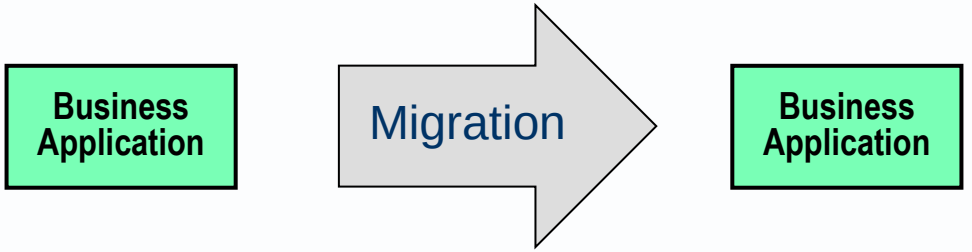
Avancier

1. Identify the baseline components
2. Understand the baseline components
3. Evaluate baseline components
4. Review the context and motivations
5. Design the target component portfolio
6. Plan baseline-to-target migration
7. Govern delivery of the change

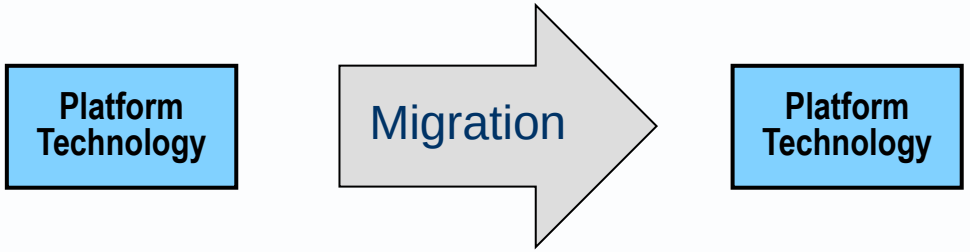
Review the context and motivations



Review any higher-level business change road map and other drivers for application change.



Review any lower-level technology change road map



Note

- Vendors (especially cloud service providers) may dictate update cycles.

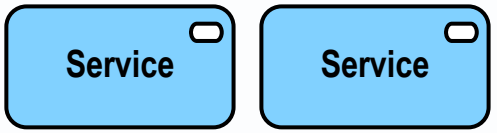
Portfolio rationalization

Avancier

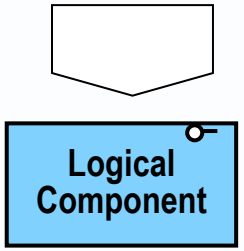
1. Identify the baseline components
2. Understand the baseline components
3. Evaluate baseline components
4. Review the context and motivations
5. Design the target component portfolio
6. Plan baseline-to-target migration
7. Govern delivery of the change

Design the target component portfolio - rationalize

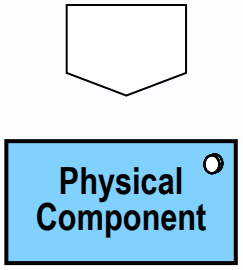
- List and deduplicate services provides
- Refine in the light of the context and motivations.



- Define target application components by clustering cohesive groups of required services,
- Mindful of what is available in the market place by way of generic application components.



- Identify procurable components
- Select and procure components



Design the target component portfolio – classify changes

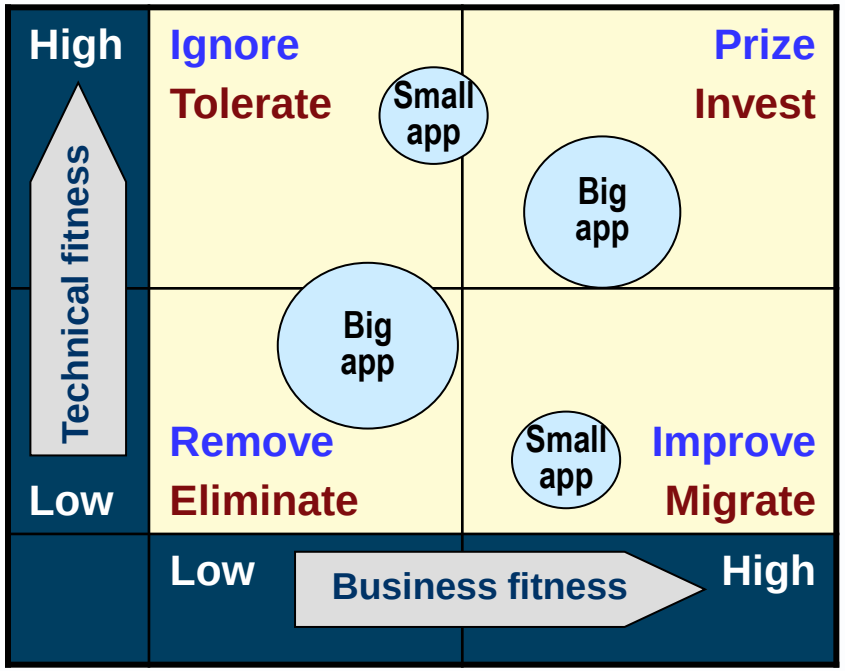
Avancier

- Define the vision for each component, that is, the end state to be reached after (say) 3 years.

- Classify actions to be taken

RIIP	TIME	MURDeR
Ignore	Tolerate	Monitor (frozen)
Prize	Invest	Update (maintain)
Improve	Invest	Rewrite
Improve	Migrate	Replace
Remove	Eliminate	Delete

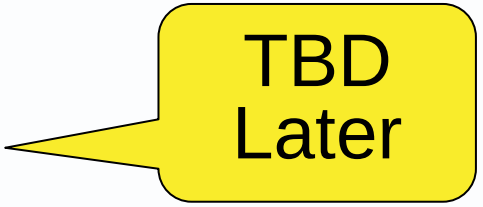
- Map actions to applications



Design the target component portfolio - integrate

Avancier

1. Look for application issues
2. Form an enterprise app road map
3. Identify data flows, data stores and applications in scope
4. Select best-fitting Application Integration Pattern
   - Swivel chair integration
   - Lipstick on a pig
   - Nosey neighbour
   - Distributed transaction
   - Run around
   - Data warehouse
   - Database/app consolidation
   - Physical master data
   - Virtual master data
5. Draw application communication diagram (aka DFD)
6. Draw sequence diagrams for key processes
7. Define integration technologies

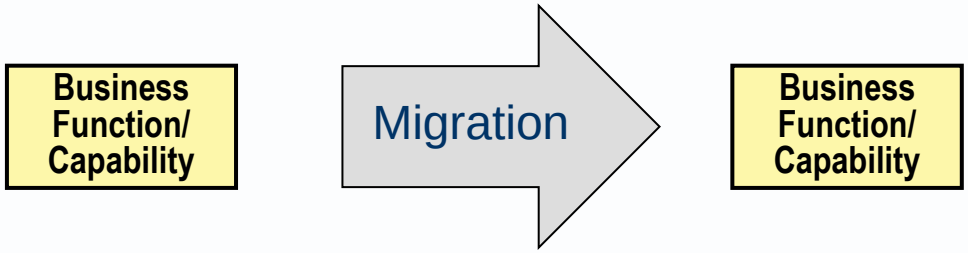


Portfolio rationalization

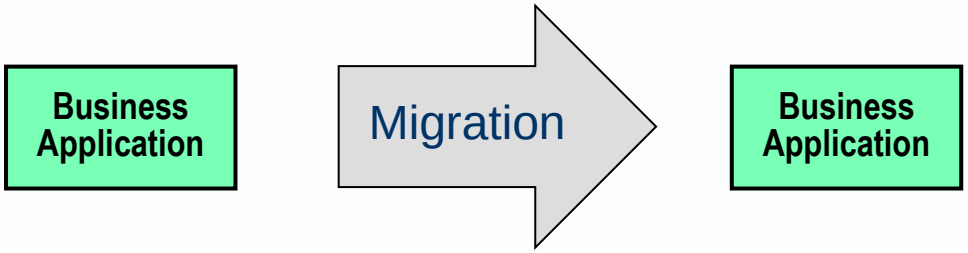
Avancier

1. Identify the baseline components
2. Understand the baseline components
3. Evaluate baseline components
4. Review the context and motivations
5. Design the target component portfolio
6. Plan baseline-to-target migration
7. Govern delivery of the change

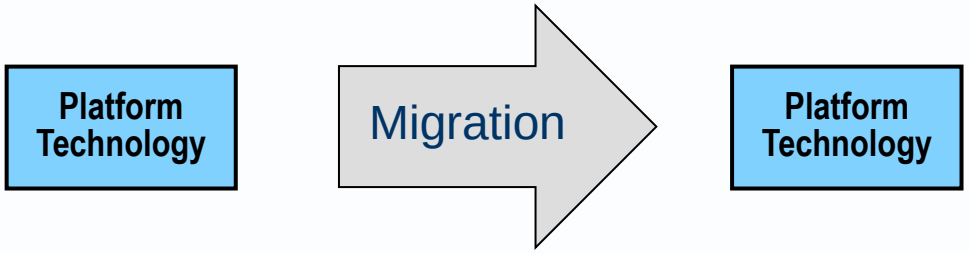
Plan baseline-to-target migration path



Align application changes with business changes.



Align application changes to technology changes.



A road map

Avancier

- A list of things and when we expect to change or replace them

Thing	Year	Year + 1	Year + 2	Year + 3

Define road map

Avancier

Define a road map for changing components to reach the target

App	Year	Year + 1	Year + 2	Year + 3
ERP 1	Ignore	Ignore	Remove	
ERP 2			Deploy	Improve
CRM 1	Remove			
CRM 2	Deploy	Improve	Prize	Prize
Billing	Prize	Prize	Prize	Prize
DW/BI	Improve	Improve	Improve	Improve
Timesheet	Ignore	Rewrite	Prize	Prize

Portfolio rationalization

Avancier

1. Identify the baseline components
2. Understand the baseline components
3. Evaluate baseline components
4. Review the context and motivations
5. Design the target component portfolio
6. Plan baseline-to-target migration
7. Govern delivery of the change

Govern delivery of the change

Finally (the most difficult step), govern delivery of the changes set out in business, application and technology change road maps.

However you do it

- This is a convoluted process that involves juggling:
  - The requirements of old and new business applications
  - Baseline applications that cannot be changed
  - Overarching principles and strategies
  - Time, cost and resource constraints on change
- Also
  - Generic applications available in the market place
- Where real applications provide services in a different way from your logical requirements, then things get messy