

Happy 20th, Architecture

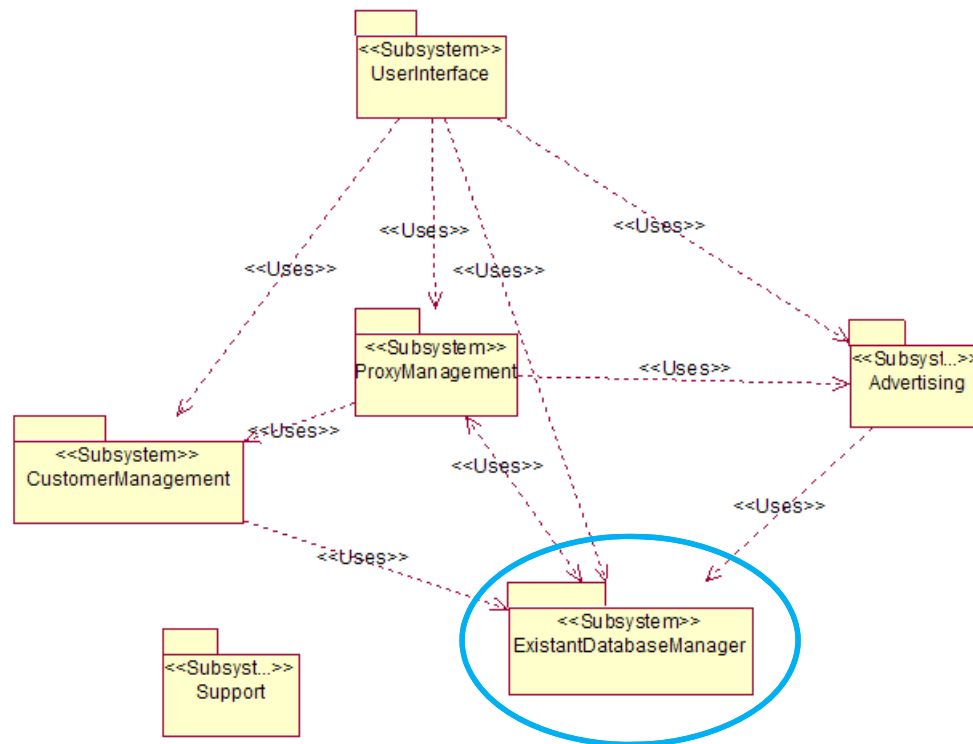
Jeromy Carrière

Chief Architect

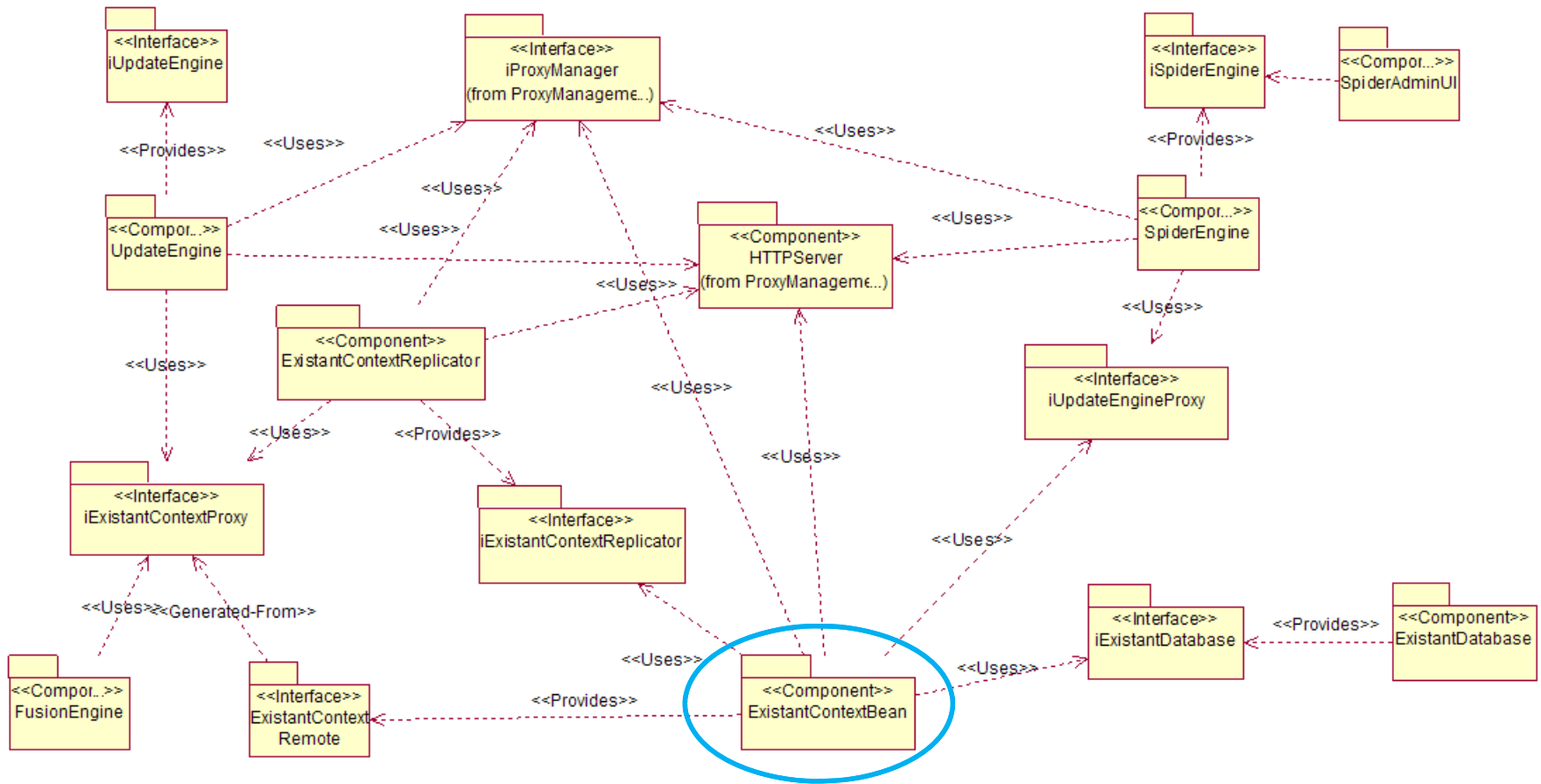


My perspective, circa 1998

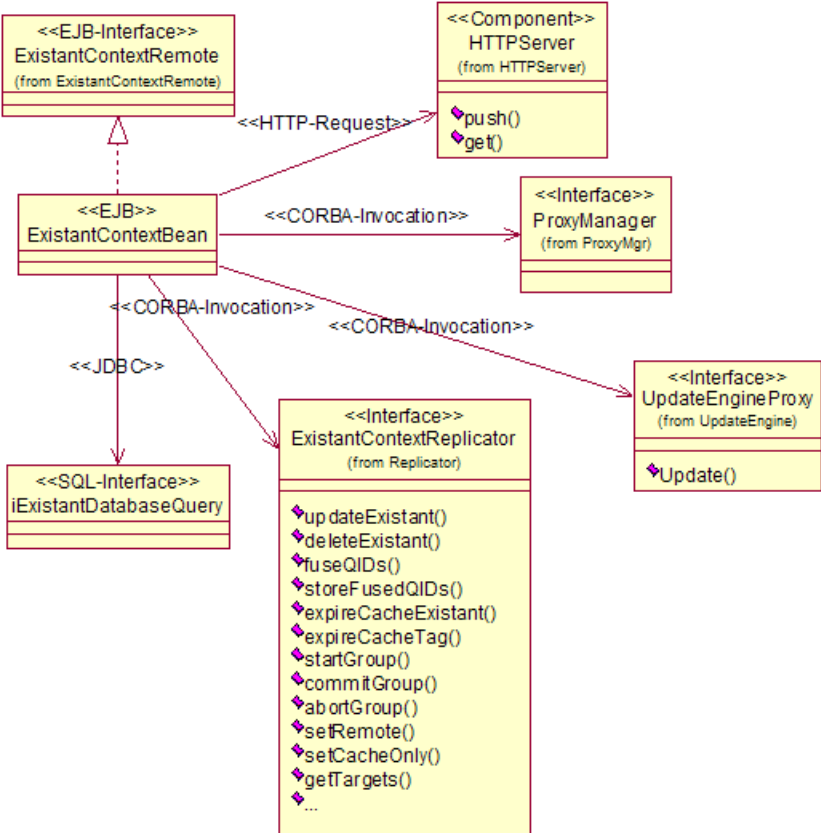
Class Diagram: Logical View / Main



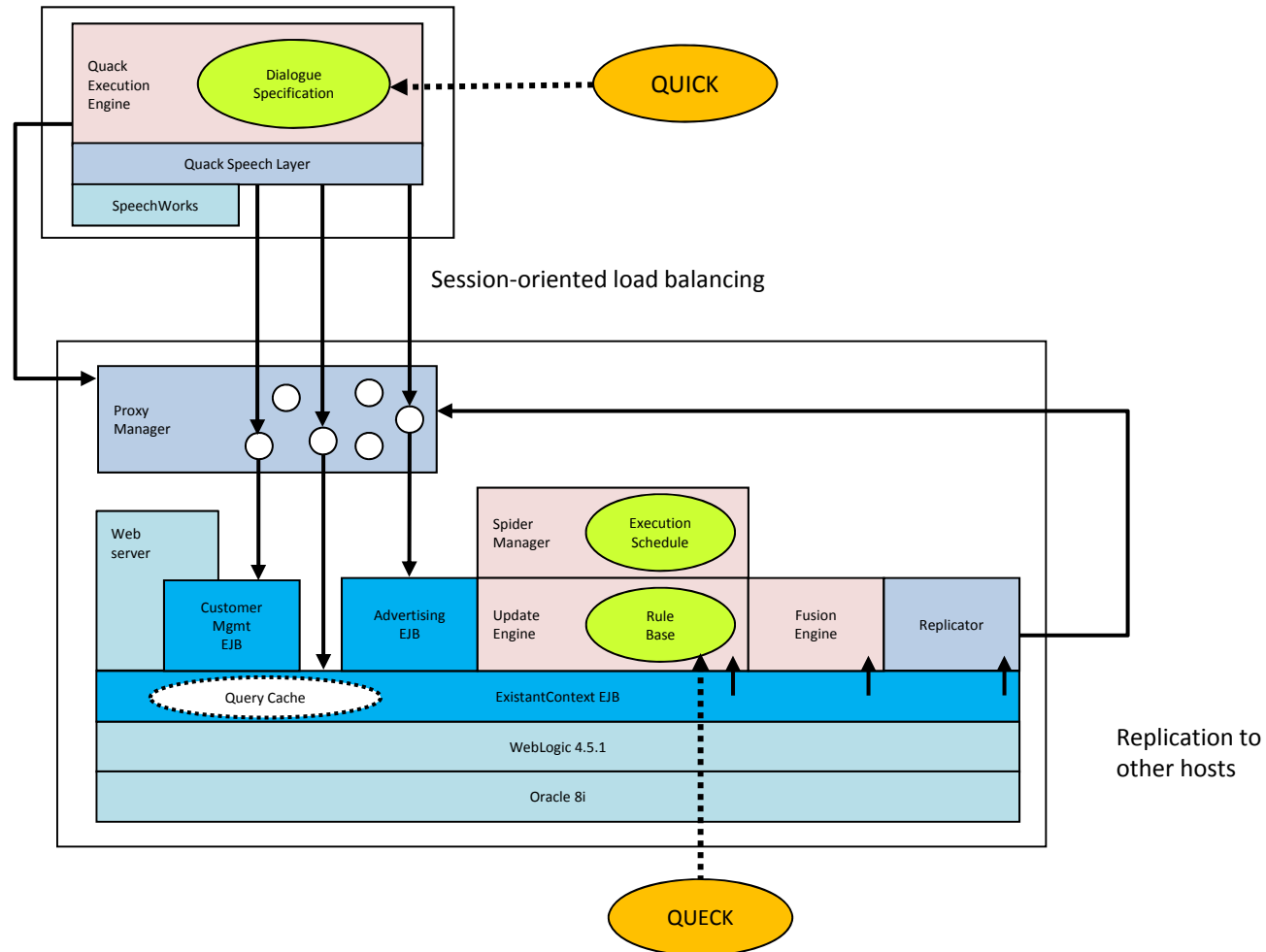
Class Diagram: ExistantDatabaseManager / ExistantDatabaseManager Conceptual View



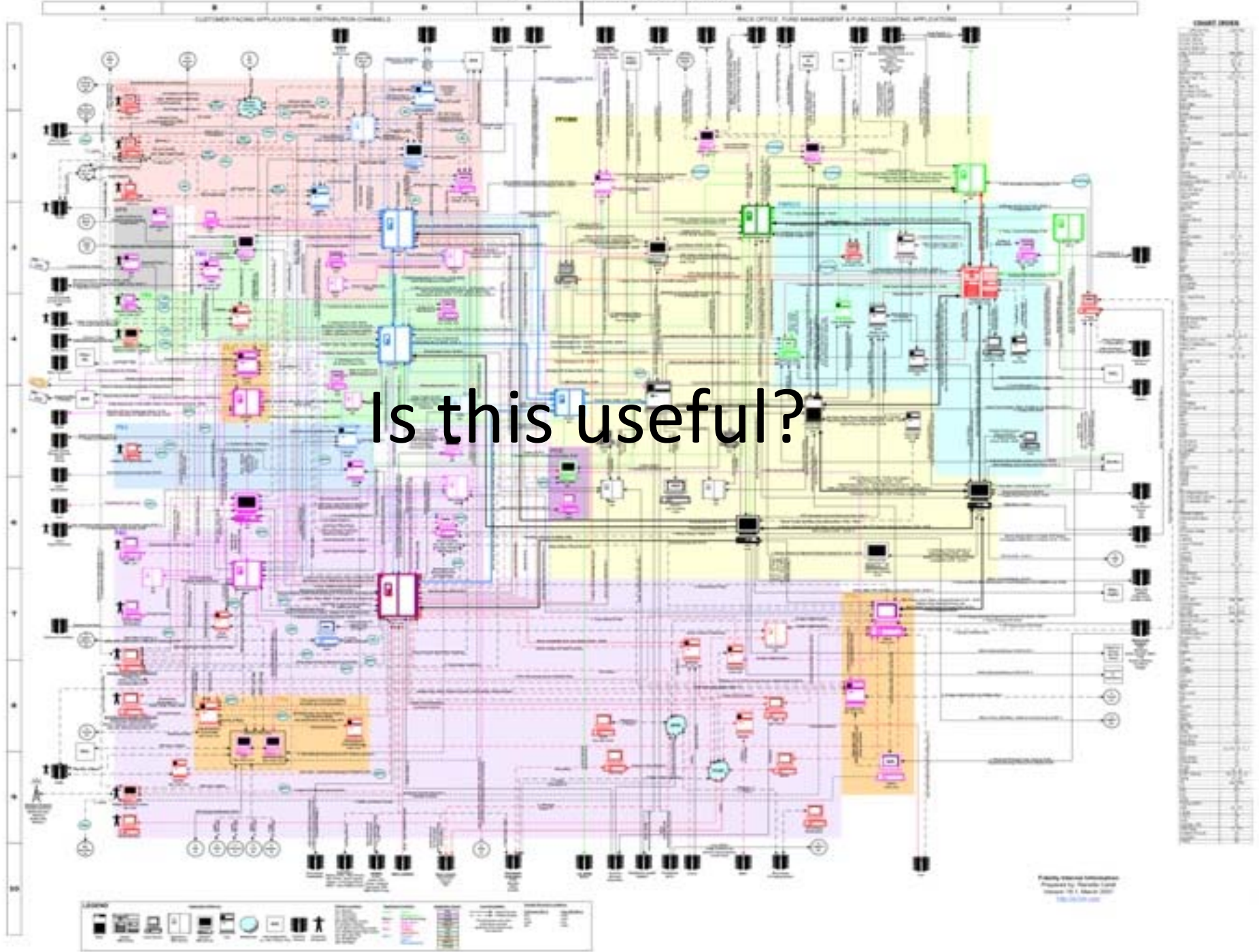
Class Diagram: ExistantContextBean / Main



A \$200M marketecture



CRITICAL SYSTEMS INTERRELATIONS OVERVIEW



Low Ceremony Architecture

(or, architect like a startup)

- Startup(-y) companies are allergic to big-“A” architecture
 - Rooted in a disconnection between “architects” and the practice of development
- Ironically, these companies need architecture practice most

My Working Definition

“A system’s architecture codifies a set of decisions that are both hardest to change and that have the most significant impact on the way the system manifests its quality attributes.”

Lessons

- Architecture is the bearer of quality, but reasoning about architecture is reasoning about potential.
- You'll rarely (never?) know in advance if a decision is right, but make sure you know afterward.
- Enabling autonomy of organizations and systems is the way you scale.
- Don't let "pragmatism" become a disguise for shortsightedness.
- Plan for technology retirement, not just adoption.
- Don't boil the frog with standards.