

# A Conflict Resolution Control Architecture for Self-Adaptive Software

*Prof. A. Taleb-Bendiab*

School of Computing and Mathematical Sciences

Liverpool John Moores University

{cmsnbadr, d.reilly, a.talebbendiab}@livjm.ac.uk

<http://www.cms.livjm.ac.uk/except>



# Dependable software

- Autonomic computing: a recent trend
  - Devolving software management, maintenance to software
    - Self-organising, self-healing, sentient, self-adaptive, self-aware, etc.
  - Requiring meta-systems and meta-reasoning to;
    - Continuous measurement and/or reflection on operational systems
- High-assurance: high- $\{$ integrity, availability, etc. $\}$ 
  - Complexity and uncertainty hiding through;
    - adaptive capability to respond to changes including: fault&intrusion-tolerance, thus masking errors, failures, etc.
    - Dynamic architecture transformation and reconfiguration strategy;
      - This requires reasoning and consideration of a set of concerns;
        - » software architecture model including; components and their interactions, the properties and policies,
        - » Style and composition rules and/or norms that limit the allowable systems adaptation operations.



# Integrity Management

- Dynamic architecture transformation often lead to inconsistencies and conflicts
  - Systems integrity
  - Quality of service, etc.
- Requirement for a software adaptation engine with;
  - Conflict detection and identification
  - Conflict resolution
    - Solution generation, negotiation
    - Change plan enactment, etc.
  - Control strategies defining;
    - Transformation rules, regulations, patterns, etc.
- Our approach is a middleware to support for self-adaptive software conflict management.

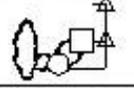
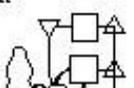
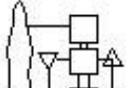
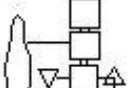


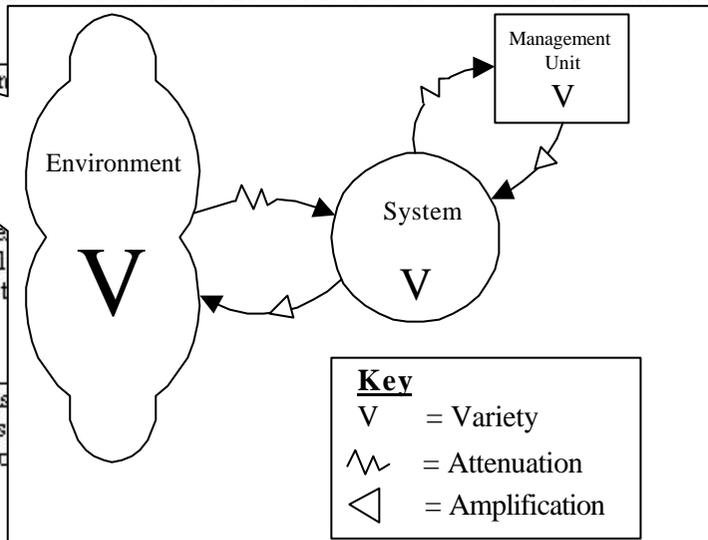
# Related Work

- Self-Adaptive Software
  - Can be defined as software with computational reasoning capabilities to monitor and change its own structure and/or behaviour to adapt to its operating environment and recover from errors.
- Reflective middleware
- Dynamic configuration control and management
- Conflict resolution
  - Negotiation Protocol
  - Exception handling

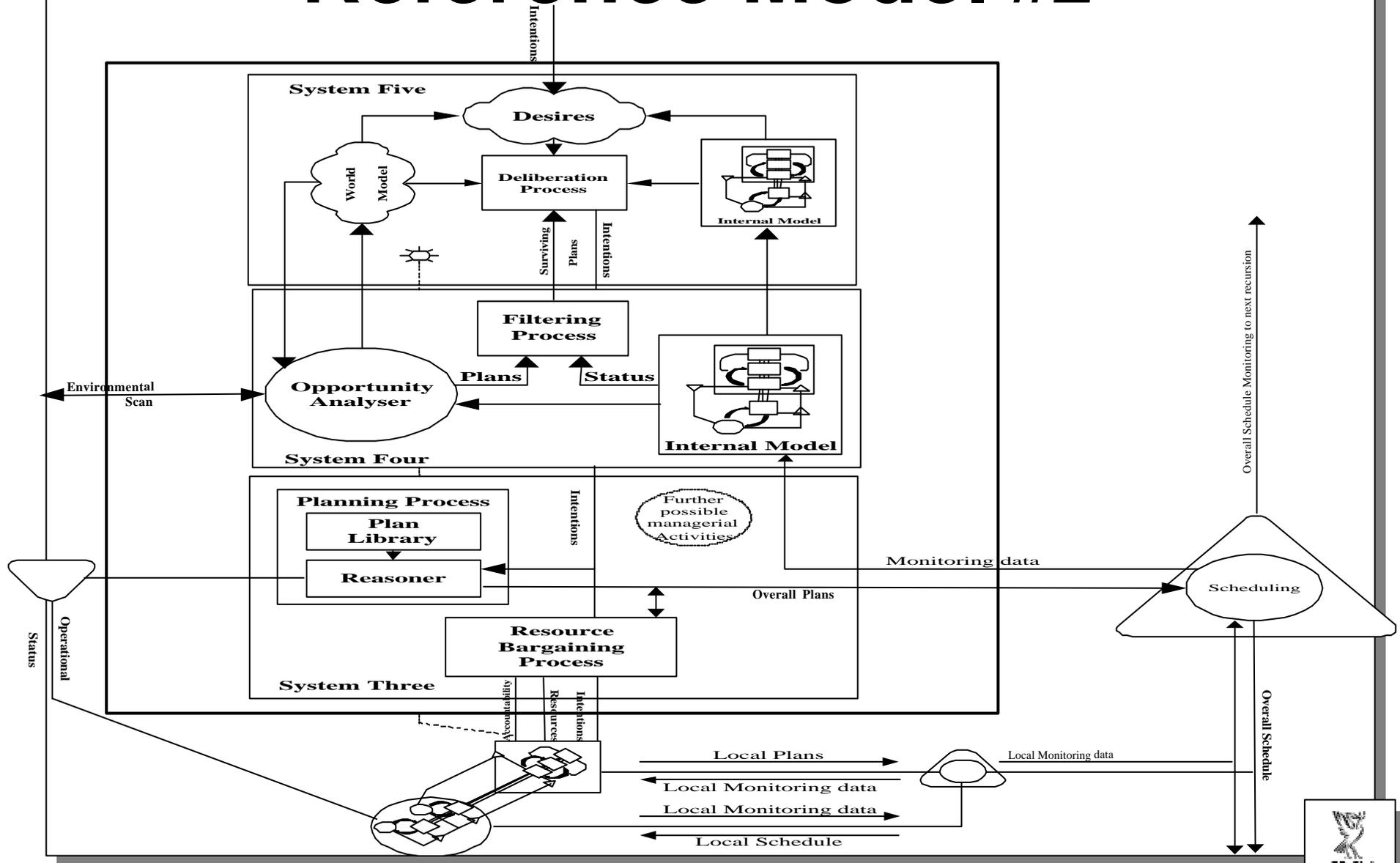


# Reference Model #1

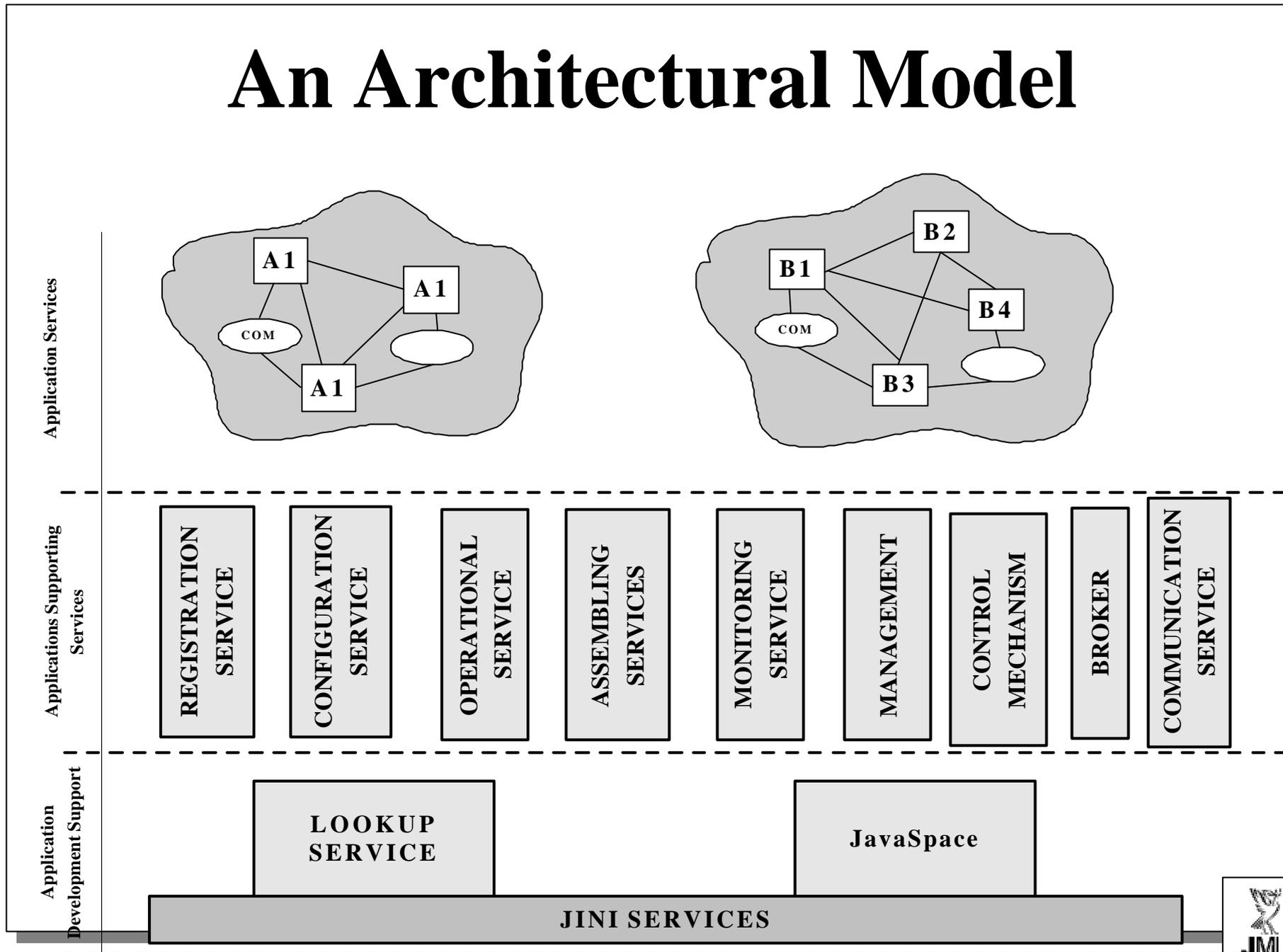
System Identifier	System Type
System One (S1) Operations 	System One performs the productive operations of the organization. An organization may be composed of a number of S1s, each providing a distinct product or service. Each S1 consists of an operational element controlled by a management process and in contact with the operational environment and is in some respects is similar to the plant/management arrangement adopted by control system theory.
System Two (S2) Coordination 	System Two is concerned with the coordination of the operations of the organization. It is concerned with minimizing the variety of the system and standardizing the operations.
System Three (S3) Control 	System Three is concerned with the control of the operations of the organization. It is concerned with maintaining the system within the limits of the environment, although standardization is also a concern.
System Three* (S3*) Audit 	System Three* (read as System Three with an asterisk) is concerned with the audit of the physical operations of the organization. It is concerned with monitoring the system over and above that provided by the control function.
System Four (S4) Intelligence 	System Four is concerned with planning the way ahead in the light of external environmental changes and internal organizational capabilities. To this end, S4 'scans' the environment for trends that may be either beneficial or detrimental to the organization and constructs developmental organizational plans accordingly. To ensure that such plans are grounded in an accurate appreciation of the current organization, the intelligence function contains an up-to-date model of organizational capability.
System Five (S5) Policy 	System Five determines the overall purpose of the organization i.e. defines the activities that are performed by S1s. As such S5 represents the policy-formulation or normative planning function. Policy formulation is informed by a "world-view" provided by S4 and representing the current beliefs and assumptions held by the system about the environment and models of current organizational capability populated by data flowing from the lower level systems in the organization.



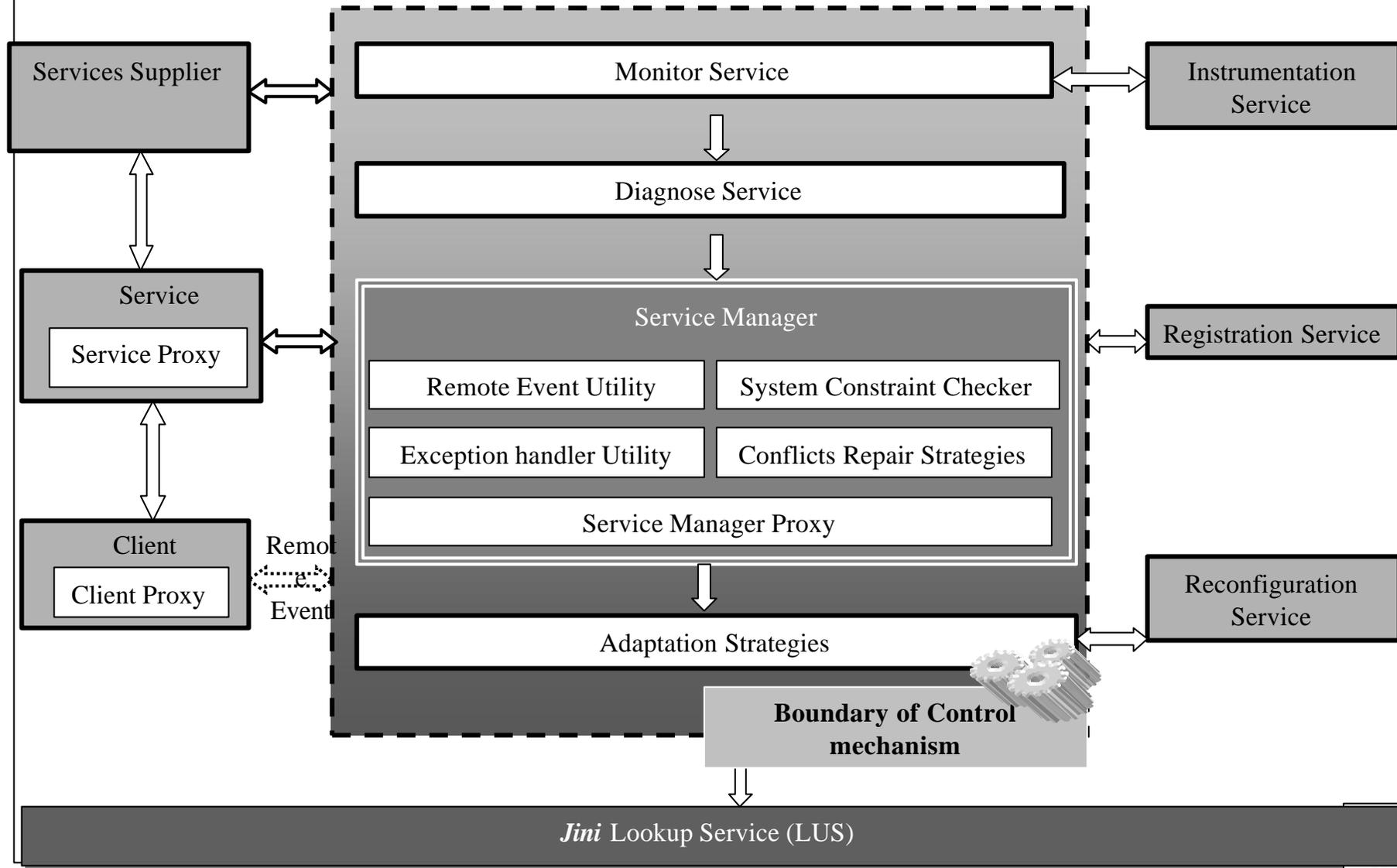
# Reference Model #2



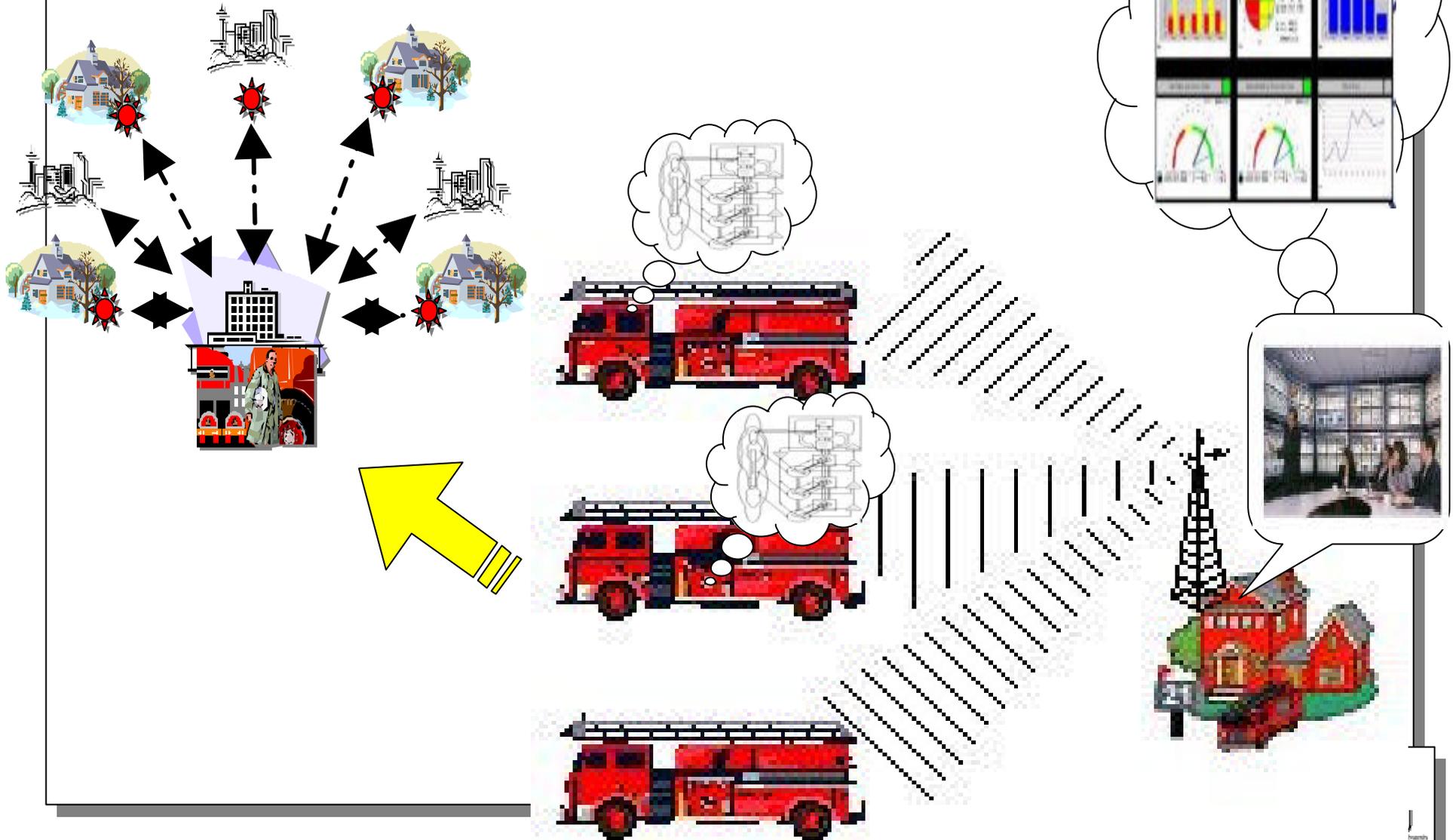
# An Architectural Model



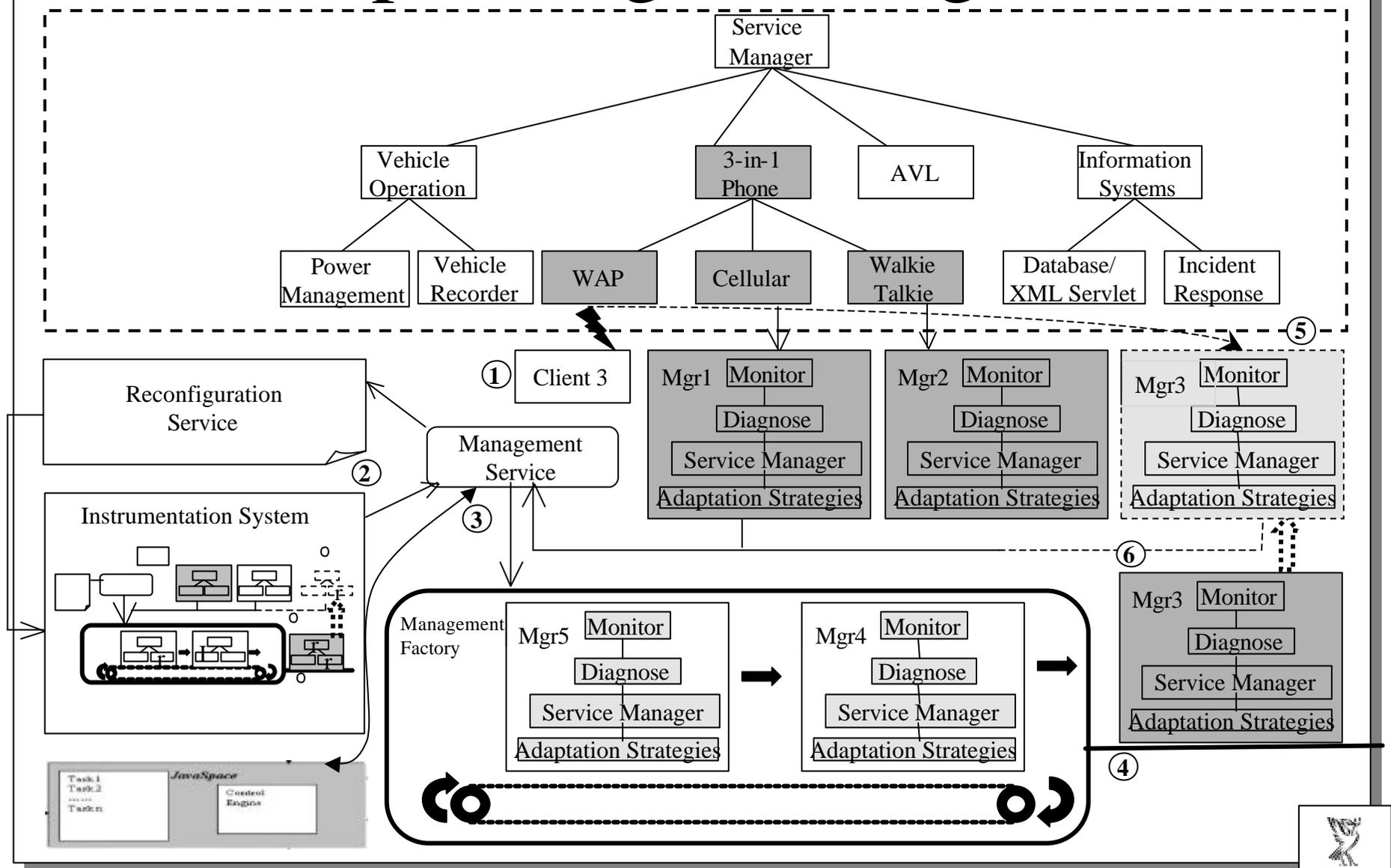
# Adaptation Usage Model



# An Example: E-Fire Services



# Example Programming Model



# Demonstrator

The image shows a screenshot of a software demonstrator interface. The main window is titled "Information System" and contains several panels. On the left, there is a "Services" menu with options like "Add New Service", "Stop Service", and "JavaSpace". Below this is a "Container" area showing a diagram with two boxes labeled "FM" and "M". A yellow callout box labeled "Ad-hoc service assembly tool" points to this diagram. In the center, there is a "Monitor" and "Logger" section. On the right, there is a "Service Dialog" panel showing a list of services and their method invocations. A yellow callout box labeled "Architecture transformation tool" points to this panel. In the foreground, there is a smaller window titled "AllservicesFrame" which contains a "3in1 Setting" section with "Communication" and "Battery" buttons. Below this is a "WAP CellNet GSM" section with input fields for X (20), Y (40), and Z (60), and a "Start" button. A yellow callout box labeled "Software instrumentation tool" points to this section. At the bottom of the "AllservicesFrame" window, there is a log of events including "GSM Client : We Are Registered on cmsdreil lo", "GSM Client : Remote Event Fired to GSM Manage", "3in1 Demonstrator: Start 3in1 Battery", and "3in1 Demonstrator: Communication Establish". The background shows a Windows taskbar with various icons and the system clock at 17:41.

Ad-hoc service assembly tool

Architecture transformation tool

Software instrumentation tool



# Conclusions & Future Work

- Presented an architecture for conflict resolution and management for
  - Self-adaptive software
  - Supplied as a middleware service
- Presented an example illustrating;
  - Propose programming model
  - Usage model
- Further work
  - Resolution session control and management
  - Evaluation.



```

      \ \
      .001.^
      u$0N=1
      z00BAI
      |..=^
      ;s<'
      NRX^=-\
      z0c^<X^
      ~B0s^~^
      @0$H^
      n$0=XN;.\
      iBB0vU1=~'\
      `$$00cRr`vul
      FAHZuqr-'
      ZZUFA0FI.\
      ;BRHv n$U^-
      `ARN1    ^0si
      'Onv~    01.'
      c0qr     rs.\
      aUU`     ul`
      `RO-     :.\
      nn^`     -=.^|-`
      =1^'..   \..
  
```

**That's the end – so I'm off !**

